North Carolina Chemical Preparedness and Response Surveillance (ChPRS) – 2025

NCDHHS Occupational and Environmental Epidemiology Branch

Keeping communities alert and prepared

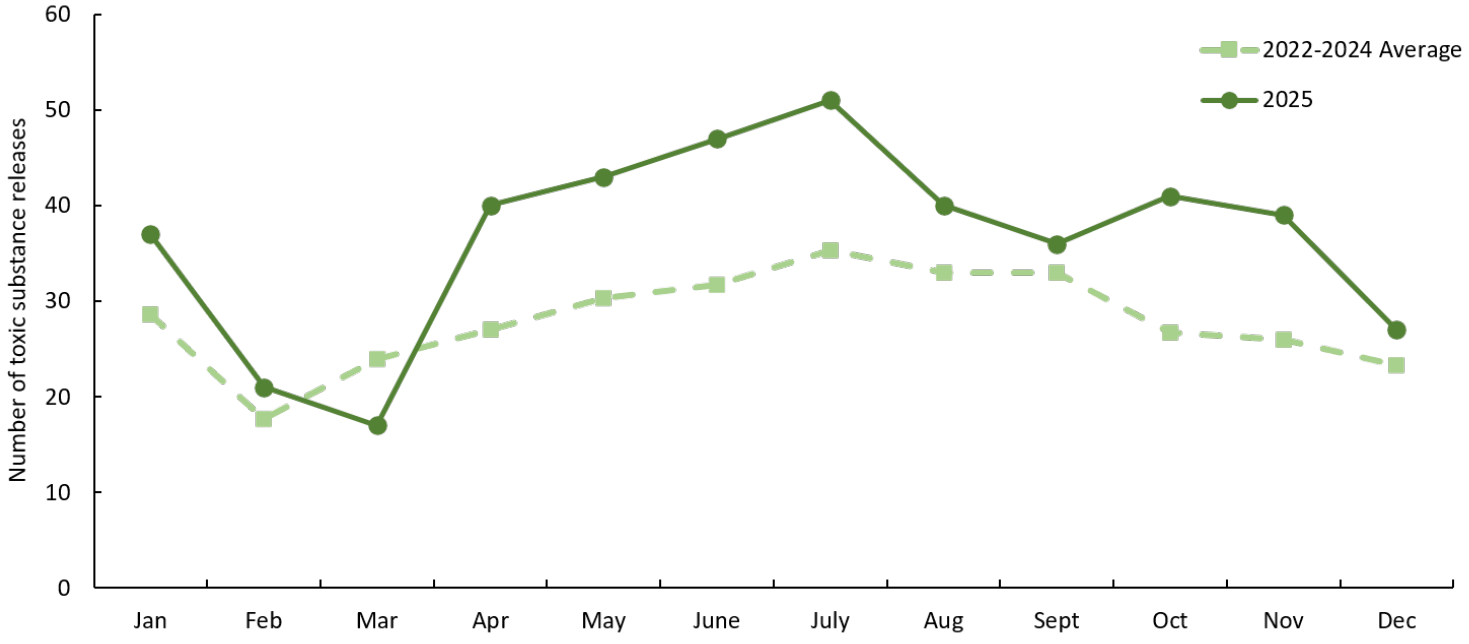
439 toxic substance releases occurred in North Carolina

23% Facilities	65% Transportation	12% Communities

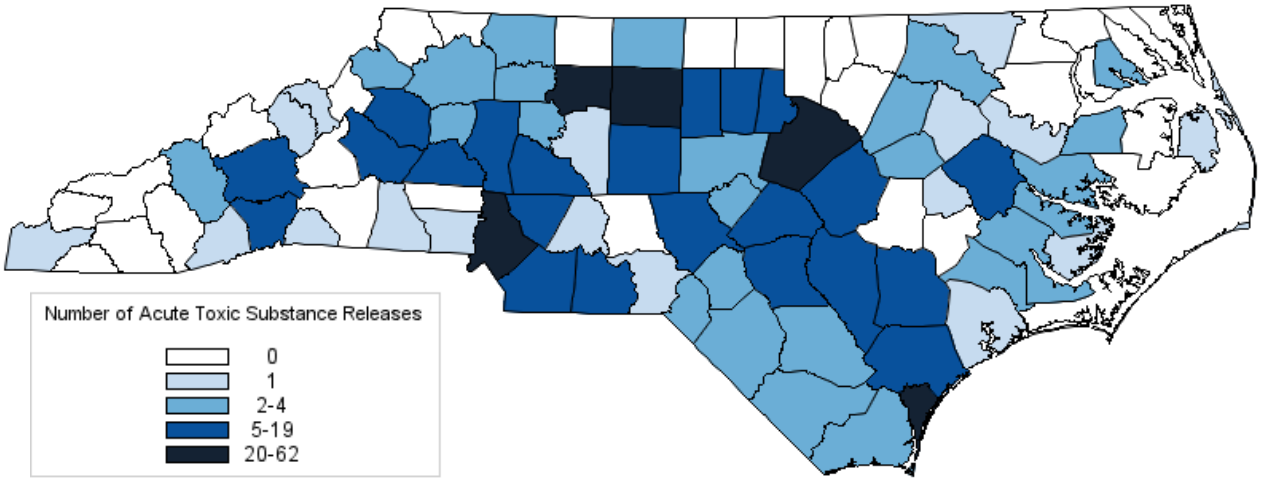
The **three** most common substances released were:

- Sodium hydroxide (24%)
- Diesel fuels (22%)
- Natural Gas (18%)

The greatest # of toxic substance releases in 2025 were in May, June, and July.



45% of all releases in 2025 occurred in 5 counties – Mecklenburg, Forsyth, Guilford, New Hanover, and Wake.



2025 Incident Highlight

Elementary school students and staff were exposed to a high concentration peroxide-based cleaner that measured high VOCs.

10 students and staff experienced symptoms.

Two evacuations occurred due to a leaking container in a janitor closet that was initially missed.

Students and staff were evaluated on scene.

Main symptoms reported were:

Headaches

Nausea

- **Annual toxic substance release data are now available** on the Environmental Health Data Dashboard: https://epi.dph.ncdhhs.gov/oee/programs/EnvPubHealthTracking.html
- **Guidance for Local Health Departments** on how to respond to chemical releases: https://epi.dph.ncdhhs.gov/oee/chemrad/chemkit.html
- **For more information please visit:** https://epi.dph.ncdhhs.gov/oee/programs/chprs.html or contact the Occupational and Environmental Epidemiology Branch at 919-707-5900 or OEEB@dhhs.nc.gov

POISON Help 1-800-222-1222

For assistance managing exposures to hazardous substances, please call North Carolina Poison Control: **1-800-222-1222**

In case of a life threatening emergency, **dial 9-1-1 immediately.**

NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Division of Public Health

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