

PERSISTENT POLLUTANTS SAMPLING REPORT

Focusing on PFAS

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ABBREVIATION LIST

| | |
|---------|---|
| COMM | Community Water System |
| DGS | Delaware Geological Survey |
| DHSS | Department of Health and Social Services |
| DNREC | Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control |
| DPH | Division of Public Health |
| DWHS | Division of Waste and Hazardous Substances |
| GenX | Hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acid or HFPO-DA |
| H.B. 8 | House Bill 8 |
| HAL | Health Advisory Level |
| HBWC | Health Based Water Concentrations |
| HFPO-DA | Hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acid (GenX) |
| HI | Hazard Index |
| HSCA | Hazardous Substance Cleanup Act |
| HSP | Health Systems Protection |
| MCL | Maximum Contaminant Level |
| NG/L | Nanograms per Liter |
| NTNC | Non-Transient Non-Community Water System |
| ODW | Office of Drinking Water |
| PFAS | Per and polyfluoroalkyl substances |
| PFBS | Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid |
| PFHxS | Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid |
| PFHpA | Perfluoroheptanoic acid |
| PFNA | Perfluorononanoic acid |
| PFOA | Perfluorooctanoic acid |
| PFOS | Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid |
| PPT | Parts per Trillion |
| PRG | Preliminary Remediation Goal |
| PWS | Public Water System |
| RS | Remediation Section |
| SDWA | Safe Drinking Water Act |
| SOPCAP | Standard Operating Procedures for Chemical Analytical Programs under HSCA |
| UCMR3 | Third Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule |
| UCMR5 | Fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule |
| USEPA | United States Environmental Protection Agency |
| USGS | United States Geological Survey |



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) have been potentially impacting humans and the environment since the 1940s. Their impacts now seem long-term and are global. A main way of PFAS exposure is through drinking water. Groundwater is used as a drinking water source for most of Delaware. This statewide groundwater survey was key for understanding the level of PFAS impact. This report details the actions taken, significant detections, and overall distribution of select PFAS compounds across Delaware.

Groundwater was sampled statewide at public water systems (PWS). Unconfined aquifer wells are more vulnerable to PFAS than confined aquifers, so priority was given to sampling unconfined wells. The focus was to sample the more vulnerable wells that serve greater populations.

Sampling started at community water systems (COMM), then shifted to non-transient-non-community water systems (NTNC). At both COMM and NTNC water systems, wells were sorted by whether they were withdrawing water from unconfined or confined aquifers. Later sampling included what was considered “sensitive” populations - water systems serving daycares, medical facilities, schools, and nursing homes that were not part of previous sampling. “Sensitive” sampling was expanded to include both confined and unconfined wells.

The results are being evaluated in detail. Early indications show the need for more work in reducing PFAS exposure at select Delaware locations. The survey has shown locations to focus future investigations.

The Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) is working with the Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) - Division of Public Health (DPH) to assist impacted water systems in finding treatment prior to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) establishing maximum contaminant levels (MCLs).



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

DNREC is working on several projects to better understand the potential impact of PFAS across the State of Delaware. These efforts would not have been possible without cooperation from the DHSS, Department of Agriculture, Department of Transportation, and the Public Water Systems (PWS) as valuable cooperative partners.

Several DNREC Divisions have contributed to the overall strategy and implementation of these actions following the 2016 listing of two PFAS compounds, perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS), as hazardous substances under the Delaware Hazardous Substance Cleanup Act (HSCA).

PFAS BACKGROUND

PFAS are a group of thousands of synthetic (human-made) chemical compounds that have similar features. They are non-reactive, stable, and very persistent in the environment. PFAS are used for lowering surface tension, scattering particles, providing chemical and heat stability; and repelling heat, water, and oil.¹ These desirable features have made PFAS useful in commercial, residential, and life-safety uses since the 1940s. Its global use and stability provide many ways of accumulating in humans, plants, and wildlife.

Residential PFAS contact can occur from drinking water, eating food, and cannot be seen, smelled, or tasted. It is found in common household waterproof, non-stick, and stain resistant items. PFAS can also be found in the air, surface water, groundwater, sediment, soil, fish, plants, animals, bio-solids, and wastewater.

PFAS detection levels, measured in parts per trillion (ppt), present challenges with sampling and laboratory analysis. Ppt concentrations are like 1 cent in \$10 billion, 30 seconds out of a million years, or one drop of water in about 20 Olympic size swimming pools.

The science behind understanding PFAS is quickly changing and improving. Very few PFAS compounds have been studied to determine their impacts to humans and the environment. However, PFOA and PFOS have been studied and are shown to negatively impact both humans and the environment.²

The DNREC Remediation Section (RS) regulates select PFAS as hazardous substances through HSCA, and analysis following the DNREC Standard Operating Procedures for Chemical Analytical Programs (SOPCAP).³

<https://documents.dnrec.delaware.gov/dwhs/SIRB/Documents/HSCA%20SOPCAP.pdf>



TIMELINE OF DELAWARE ACTIONS

Delaware agencies have been working together researching, sampling, evaluating, reporting, and addressing PFAS in various media. DNREC efforts include learning from other state and federal actions taken for addressing PFAS. Below are actions taken in Delaware.

2015

- The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) third Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR3) sought to gather data for six PFAS compounds (PFOS, PFOA, PFNA, PFHxS, PFHpA, and PFBS) in PWS. More details regarding UCMR3 data are available from the Delaware Office of Drinking Water (ODW) and the USEPA webpage.⁴ <https://www.epa.gov/dwucmr/third-unregulated-contaminant-monitoring-rule>

2016

- USEPA established a lifetime drinking water Health Advisory Limit (HAL) for PFOS and PFOA (combined or individual) of 70 ppt for groundwater that is a current or potential source of drinking water.
- DNREC listed PFOA and PFOS as hazardous substances under HSCA using the 70 ppt Screening Value for HSCA Sites.⁵
<https://documents.dnrec.delaware.gov/dwhs/remediation/HSCA-Screening-Level-Table-Guidance.pdf>

2018

- DNREC RS created a policy for Sampling and Evaluation of PFAS in Surface Water and Groundwater. An update to the 2018 policy will be final in mid-2023.⁶
<https://documents.dnrec.delaware.gov/dwhs/SIRB/Documents/DWHS%20PFAS%20Sampling%20Policy.pdf>
- DNREC funded USGS sampling from select PWS groundwater network wells that included PFAS analysis.⁷ <https://pubs.usgs.gov/of/2021/1109/ofr20211109.pdf>

2019

- Several Delaware state agencies met to create the informal Delaware PFAS Team (Team). This ad-hoc working group continues work together to address PFAS issues.
- Assistance starts for wells identified with PFAS contamination.



2020

- The workplan for the statewide groundwater survey of select PFAS at PWSs was drafted.
- Start of COMM water system unconfined well groundwater sampling.
- PFAS source investigations begin, and residential drinking water wells are sampled as follow up to statewide groundwater results.

2021

- Delaware House Bill 8 directs DNREC to conduct a statewide survey; and DHSS to establish PFOA and PFOS MCLs for public drinking water systems.
- DHSS announces plan for creating drinking water PFOA and PFOS MCLs.⁸
<https://www.dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dph/hsp/files/MCLimplementationPlanPFAS.pdf>
- The statewide groundwater results evaluation begins.

2022

- Statewide groundwater sampling workplan was finalized and placed on-line.⁹
<https://documents.dnrec.delaware.gov/dwhs/remediation/Statewide-PFAS-in-PWS-Work-Plan.pdf>
- Start of NTNC water system unconfined well groundwater sampling.
- Confirmation re-sampling of PWS PFOS/PFOA results above 12.5 ppt in line with the proposed DHSS MCL values.
- Water systems with health-sensitive populations, not sampled earlier, are sampled.
- USEPA updates proposed HALs for PFOA, PFOS, GenX, and PFBS compounds.
- PFAS source investigations continue within the Red Clay Creek watershed, the main branch of the Red Clay Creek, its tributaries, springs, and the Hoopes Reservoir.
- DNREC and the Department of Agriculture partnership sampling the pesticide monitoring network groundwater for PFAS. This effort investigates shallow groundwater away from larger populations.
- Surface water PFAS sampling at head of tide, mid-tide, and areas of interest across all watersheds.



- DNREC PFAS sampling policy updated to reflect information learned since the initial 2018 publication.

2023

- Large and small wastewater and biosolids system sampling to determine PFAS impact.
- USEPA updates HALs for PFOA, PFOS, GenX (HFPO-DA), PFBS, PFHxS, and PFNA.
- DNREC HSCA screening level tables updated to match USEPA HALs.
- Groundwater survey results evaluated for creating this statewide report.

PFAS MANDATE ACTIONS

Delaware House Bill 8 (H.B. 8)¹⁰ <https://legis.delaware.gov/BillDetail/48449> was introduced March 11, 2021. This Act amends Title 29 of Delaware Code relating to drinking water. Governor Carney signed the bill into law October 20, 2021.

H.B. 8 directs the DHSS - DPH, collaborating with DNREC, to establish MCLs for PFOS and PFOA in public drinking water systems. It also directs DNREC, collaborating with DHSS-DPH, to conduct a statewide survey of PFAS. The agencies are to report the statewide survey results. This report and PFAS updates are provided on the DNREC PFAS webpage de.gov/pfas¹¹

MCL development tasks include conducting public hearings on the proposed regulations; conducting a statewide survey; periodically reviewing and revising the MCL based upon reliable studies; reporting results; and developing a dynamic strategy for addressing PFAS across Delaware. In April 2021, DNREC pro-actively collected its first PFAS samples in response to this bill.

The 2018 DNREC Division of Waste and Hazardous Substances (WHS) PFAS policy laid the foundation for the sampling workplan [published August 2022]. The groundwater workplan assisted in sampling consistency regardless of the ever-changing PFAS information and advances.¹²

<https://documents.dnrec.delaware.gov/dwhs/remediation/Statewide-PFAS-in-PWS-Work-Plan.pdf>

The WHS PFAS policy has been updated in 2023 after research, communication, and feedback from the HSCA Advisory Committee.¹³

<https://dnrec.alpha.delaware.gov/waste-hazardous/remediation/hasca-advisory-committee>



Statewide sampling objectives included the following:

- Determining, informing, and attempting to reduce PFAS consumption for as many Delawareans as possible.
- Assisting DHSS in responding to PFAS detections above ever changing HALs.
- Providing guidance to PWSs regarding sampling, precautions, and treatment.
- Determining if compounds in Delaware aquifers should be regulated beyond USEPA select PFAS compounds.
- Broadening investigations into existence and distribution of PFAS.

GROUNDWATER AT PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS

Both surface water and groundwater are used as sources for drinking water in Delaware. New Castle County uses both groundwater and surface water, while Kent and Sussex counties use only groundwater for providing drinking water. About 67 percent of Delawareans rely on groundwater for potable drinking water.¹⁴

<https://delawaresourcewater.org/source-water-protection-plans> Around 82% of Delawareans get their water from a PWS and 18% from private residential wells.¹⁵
<https://delaware.gov/guides/environment/#drinkingwater>

Water treatment may add chemicals (E.g., fluoride or chlorine) or remove contaminants (E.g., nitrates or iron) from a water source. Based on the ODW, Safe Drinking Water Information System (SDWIS) about 64% of Delaware PWSs have some form of treatment on their water system. Of those 64% with treatment, around 50% of those have removal treatment (E.g., ion exchange, reverse osmosis, or granular activated carbon) that may assist in reducing PFAS. The ODW can be contacted at 302-741-8630 for more details regarding treatment at a PWS.¹⁶

<https://dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dph/hsp/odw.html>

PWSs are classified by consumption and population.¹⁷

<https://www.epa.gov/dwreginfo/information-about-public-water-systems>.

Working with DHSS, DNREC started statewide sampling April 2021 and ended November 2022. Only water systems that voluntarily participated with DNREC had samples collected. Teams have sampled over 140 out of 288 COMM and NTNC PWSs at least once, made over 200 PWS visits, sampled over 225 wells, and collected over 300 samples. This report details the actions taken, significant detections, and overall distribution of PFOS, PFOA, and other PFAS compounds across Delaware.



HEALTH ADVISORY LEVELS AND MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVELS

The USEPA has issued HALs for select PFAS. HALs are not regulatory or enforceable. They identify levels for protecting people from harmful health effects from exposure to contaminants in drinking water.¹⁸ <https://www.epa.gov/sdwa/drinking-water-health-advisories-has> MCLs are regulatory, enforceable, and are the maximum contaminant level allowed in PWS drinking water.

The USEPA proposed a HAL of 70 ppt for PFOA or PFOS individual or combined in April 2021.

The DHSS proposed MCLs for PFOA (21 ppt), PFOS (14 ppt), and a combined PFOA/PFOS rounded average (17 ppt) in March 2022.¹⁹

[MCLImplementationPlanPFAS.pdf \(delaware.gov\)](#)

DNREC provided responses to PFOA and/or PFOS results of 12.5 ppt or greater. Response values were determined by taking 75% of the DHSS proposed combined MCL (75% of 17 = 12.75) to account for result variation and health protection factors. Following confirmation of a 12.5 ppt or greater result, DNREC responds by informing DHSS, assisting PWSs with acquiring treatment, sampling potentially impacted residential wells, and providing treatment to impacted residential wells.

In June 2022, the USEPA lowered HALs for PFOA (0.004 ppt) and PFOS (0.02 ppt); and established new HALs for GenX (10 ppt) and PFBS (2,000 ppt). Currently available laboratory methods or instruments are unable to detect concentrations at these lower HALs. Technology limits the use of these HAL values to information only purposes.

In March 2023, the USEPA is proposing National Primary Drinking Water Regulations (NPDWR)²⁰ <https://www.epa.gov/sdwa/and-polyfluoroalkyl-substances-pfas> for establishing legally enforceable MCLs or a Health Based Water Concentrations (HBWCs)/Hazard Index (HI) approach for six select PFAS compounds in the table below. The HBWCs are calculated as a mixture/HI rather than an MCL.²¹

<https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2023-03/How%20do%20I%20calculate%20the%20Hazard%20Index.3.14.23.pdf>

| TABLE 1 (Select) PFAS COMPOUNDS | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|---|----------------|------|-------|
| Proposed HBWC (ppt) | Proposed MCL (ppt) | Proposed HBWC (ppt) with Hazard Index = 1.0 | | | |
| PFOA | PFOS | PFHxS | HFPO-DA (GenX) | PFNA | PFBS |
| 4.0 | 4.0 | 9.0 | 10.0 | 10.0 | 2,000 |



As the USEPA is changing or adding to its HAL and MCL values, DNREC is changing accordingly. For instance, DNREC started providing responses at 70 ppt, then at 12.5 ppt, to now responding at 4 ppt and associated Hazard Index values.

In the absence of USEPA finalizing drinking water regulations, DHSS will set the enforceable drinking water MCLs and monitoring timeframes. Upon establishing the MCLs, DNREC will be responding based on the USEPA proposed MCLs shown in Table 1.

DYNAMIC SAMPLING STRATEGY

DNREC working with its contract laboratory, began groundwater sampling using USEPA method 537M. The number of PFAS compounds analyzed when using this method varies from laboratory to laboratory. DNREC settled on using the same 29 compounds as the 2023-2025 fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5) ²² <https://www.epa.gov/dwucmr/fifth-unregulated-contaminant-monitoring-rule> and eight more compounds found to have significant detections. DNREC named this list of 37 compounds as “537 DNREC REM” (“REM” being short for Remediation Section). See Appendix A for the compound list.

The statewide sampling focus start was at larger COMM water system populations which includes neighborhoods, cities, towns, and private water providers. Afterwards, the sampling focus shifted to NTNC water systems which includes daycares and large businesses. Details regarding PWS classifications are found at ²³ <https://www.epa.gov/dwreginfo/information-about-public-water-systems>.

At both COMM and NTNC water systems, wells were sorted based upon whether they use unconfined or confined aquifers. Unconfined aquifer wells are more vulnerable to PFAS than confined aquifers, so priority was given to sampling unconfined wells. The focus was to sample the most vulnerable wells that serve greater populations.

Later sampling included what was considered “sensitive” populations - water systems serving daycares, medical facilities, schools, and nursing homes that were not part of earlier sampling. “Sensitive” sampling was expanded to include both confined and unconfined wells.

All results were reviewed for PFOA/PFOS detections equal to or above 12.5 ppt. Wells with results of 12.5 ppt or more were re-sampled to confirm the result, account for possible fluctuation, and serve as a health protection factor. As part of resampling, all wells of the water system, both confined and unconfined, were sampled.

If the well(s) had any type of water treatment, a sample was also collected after treatment. After-treatment results were to see if treatment is possibly removing PFAS and inform a possible public health response. If a well did not have treatment, the



groundwater sample was considered direct aquifer groundwater and an “after treatment” sample was not needed.

DATA SHARING AND ASSISTANCE

After DNREC review, the sample data was shared with each PWS to be proactive. Water systems can proceed with the data as it deems fit until regulations are finalized. Currently, water systems are not required to sample or treat drinking water for PFAS. DHSS or DNREC are available to assist water systems regarding PFAS. PFAS information and contacts are found on the DNREC PFAS webpage at de.gov/pfas.

STATEWIDE DATA SUMMARYS

The last batch of PWS sample results were received March 2023. Statewide, 226 “unique location – one well, one sample, one data point” samples were collected. The summary table is below. Included, but not specifically a well, are five New Castle County PWS surface water intake tap samples.

| | Number of Unique Locations |
|-------------------|----------------------------|
| New Castle County | 44 |
| Kent County | 34 |
| Sussex County | 148 |
| Statewide Total | 226 |

COMM water systems have at least 15 service connections or regularly serve 25 year-round residents. To note - New Castle County has the largest and most interconnected COMMs. NTNC water systems regularly serve the same 25 people over 6 months per year. Examples are daycares, schools, and large businesses. NTNC sampling was to fill in data gaps and provide data for PWSs that serve a consistent yearly population. Water system sample totals are summarized below.

| | Sampled COMM Systems | Sampled NTNC Systems | Total |
|-------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-------|
| New Castle County | 6 | 13 | 19 |
| Kent County | 12 | 14 | 26 |
| Sussex County | 71 | 25 | 96 |
| Statewide Total | 89 | 52 | 141 |

The United States Census Bureau 2020 Delaware population estimate is 989,948. ²⁴ <https://data.census.gov/all?q=delaware> Below are the current SDWIS population totals served by the sampled COMM and NTNC water systems. The sampled population total



accounts for over 80 percent of Delaware's population. Though DNREC sampled groundwater used by most of Delaware, this survey did not directly address private residential wells.

| | Sampled COMM Population* | Sampled NTNC Population* | Total |
|-------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------|
| New Castle County | 480,332 | 1,318 | 481,650 |
| Kent County | 68,495 | 5,582 | 74,077 |
| Sussex County | 259,186 | 6,164 | 265,350 |
| Statewide Total | 808,013 | 13,064 | 821,077 |

*The COMM and NTNC population numbers originate from the SDWIS database.

Sampling focused primarily on unconfined aquifer wells. Confined aquifer wells accounted for just over 10 percent of all wells sampled. The PWS unconfined/confined aquifer wells and surface water intake samples are summarized below.

| | Unconfined Aquifer Wells | Confined Aquifer Wells | Surface Water Intakes | Total |
|-------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-------|
| New Castle County | 30 | 9 | 5 | 44 |
| Kent County | 29 | 5 | 0 | 34 |
| Sussex County | 137 | 11 | 0 | 148 |
| Statewide Total | 196 | 25 | 5 | 226 |

An MDL is defined as the smallest concentration of a substance that can be measured and reported by an approved laboratory with 99% confidence that the concentration is greater than zero. MDLs vary with each batch, with dilutions, or as laboratories perform their annual MDL studies. A detect is considered any result equal to or over the MDL.

Due to the low detection levels (ppt), DNREC considers a detection below five times the MDL as "analytical noise." Detections equal to or greater than five times the MDL are considered a "Significant" detection. Below are numbers regarding unique locations, MDL detects, and Significant Detects.



| | Unique Locations Sampled | Location Count equal or greater than MDL | Location Percent over MDL detect(s) | Location Count of Significant Detects | Location Percent of Significant Detects |
|-------------------|--------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| New Castle County | 44 | 40 | 90.9 | 40 | 90.9 |
| Kent County | 34 | 21 | 61.7 | 18 | 52.9 |
| Sussex County | 148 | 100 | 67.5 | 67 | 45.2 |
| Statewide Total | 226 | 161 | 71.2 | 125 | 55.3 |

The overall result averages are equal to or higher than the overall median (middle) value which means results bend towards the lower side.

Per location, the average number of compounds detected was 6 out of the 37 analyzed PFAS compounds.

Statewide, the most seen compound was PFOA. Total PFOA detections were 134.

Breakdown of number of detections of all PFAS compounds.

| | Number of detections |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| New Castle County | 564 |
| Kent County | 161 |
| Sussex County | 708 |
| Statewide Total | 1,433 |

Breakdown of the highest number of detections and compound(s).

| | Highest Number of detections | Compound |
|-------------------|------------------------------|----------|
| New Castle County | 40 each | PFHpA |
| | | PFHxA |
| | | PPF Acid |
| Kent County | 17 | PFBS |
| Sussex County | 79 | PFOA |



Confined aquifer results confirmed that confining layers are providing a level of protection from PFAS releases at the surface. Confined aquifer wells results show a substantial decrease in Significant Detections.

| | Confined Aquifer Wells Sampled | Confined Wells with any Significant Detections | Number of Compounds with Significant Detections |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|--|---|
| New Castle County | 9 | 1 | 8 |
| Kent County | 5 | 1 | 1 |
| Sussex County | 11 | 1 | 3 |
| Statewide Total | 25 | 3 | 12 |

DNREC REM compounds with counts; average, median, and highest concentrations; and “Significant” Detections are below. Note: “ND” stands for “No Detection” which is a result below the MDL and is not included in the averages.

| Compound | Location Count equal or greater than MDL | Average Detection Concentration | Median Detection Concentration | Highest Detection Concentration | Location Count of Significant Detects | Location Percent of Significant Detects |
|--------------|--|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| PFBS | 124 | 4.6 | 2.4 | 57.1 | 85 | 37.6 |
| PFBA | 74 | 15.1 | 7.7 | 113.0 | 31 | 13.7 |
| PFDA | 29 | 0.8 | 0.7 | 2.4 | 6 | 2.7 |
| PFDaA | 1 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0 | 0.0 |
| PFHpS | 33 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 1.6 | 4 | 1.8 |
| PFHpA | 119 | 7.0 | 3.1 | 73.7 | 80 | 35.4 |
| PFHxS | 112 | 3.5 | 1.7 | 39.8 | 50 | 22.1 |
| PFHxA | 121 | 11.8 | 4.9 | 109.0 | 81 | 35.8 |
| PFNA | 81 | 3.3 | 1.6 | 44.4 | 44 | 19.5 |
| PFOS | 116 | 7.4 | 3.7 | 67.2 | 75 | 33.2 |
| PFOA | 134 | 11.9 | 5.9 | 69.1 | 86 | 38.1 |
| PFPeS | 64 | 0.7 | 0.5 | 4.4 | 6 | 2.7 |
| PFPeA | 115 | 12.5 | 5.0 | 94.5 | 79 | 35.0 |
| PPF Acid | 131 | 24.4 | 7.6 | 225.0 | 94 | 46.8 |
| PFTeA | 0 | ND | ND | ND | 0 | 0.0 |
| PFTTrDA | 0 | ND | ND | ND | 0 | 0.0 |
| PFUnA | 1 | 1.1 | 1.1 | 1.1 | 0 | 0.0 |
| 11Cl-PF3OUdS | 0 | ND | ND | ND | 0 | 0.0 |
| ADONA | 0 | ND | ND | ND | 0 | 0.0 |



| Compound | Location Count equal or greater than MDL | Average Detection Concentration | Median Detection Concentration | Highest Detection Concentration | Location Count of Significant Detects | Location Percent of Significant Detects |
|---------------|--|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| 9CI-PF3ONS | 0 | ND | ND | ND | 0 | 0.0 |
| GenX | 4 | 6.0 | 1.6 | 19.6 | 1 | 0.4 |
| PFEESA | 0 | ND | ND | ND | 0 | 0.0 |
| PFMBA | 12 | 0.7 | 0.5 | 1.9 | 2 | 0.9 |
| PFMOAA | 49 | 12.4 | 6.2 | 90.5 | 34 | 16.9 |
| PFMPA | 12 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 1.6 | 1 | 0.4 |
| PFO2HxA | 37 | 6.4 | 2.1 | 31.5 | 18 | 9.0 |
| PFO3OA | 17 | 2.2 | 1.9 | 4.8 | 3 | 1.3 |
| NFDHA | 0 | ND | ND | ND | 0 | 0.0 |
| Hydro-PS Acid | 10 | 1.3 | 0.7 | 6.5 | 0 | 0.0 |
| 4:2 FTS | 2 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0 | 0.0 |
| 5:3 FTCA | 3 | 6.1 | 0.3 | 17.6 | 1 | 0.4 |
| 6:2 FTCA | 1 | 15.2 | 15.2 | 15.2 | 1 | 0.4 |
| 6:2 FTS | 4 | 32.6 | 6.9 | 114.0 | 1 | 0.4 |
| 6:2 FTUCA | 1 | 18.1 | 18.1 | 18.1 | 1 | 0.4 |
| 8:2 FTS | 2 | 8.3 | 8.3 | 11.4 | 2 | 0.9 |
| NEtFOSAA | 2 | 9.4 | 9.4 | 16.9 | 1 | 0.4 |
| NMeFOSAA | 1 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 0 | 0.0 |

THOUGHTS AND NEXT STEPS

DNREC is evaluating this data in detail. This survey has established a PFAS baseline for other investigations. Early evaluations suggest the need for more source investigations. There appears to be widespread distribution of low level PFAS detections throughout Delaware with specific high level detection areas. The results confirm the vulnerability of unconfined wells to PFAS contamination.

DNREC currently has on-going PFAS surveys relating to air quality, ambient groundwater, bio-solids, wastewater, surface water, fish, and mollusk tissues. These results and other department, division, sections, and program's results will be used to inform and improve follow up sampling, investigations, area-wide studies, responses, and additions to the HSCA screening table.

DNREC is also developing a statewide, multi-phased sampling program for addressing impacted residential water sources and assisting public water systems. Overall, evaluating and comparing of these data sets must occur before releasing further details.



For more information regarding source water protection.

<https://delawaresourcewater.org>

For more information regarding Water System Consumer Confidence Reports.

<https://dhss.delaware.gov/dph/hsp/odwccr.html>

For information regarding PFAS in Delaware see de.gov/pfas



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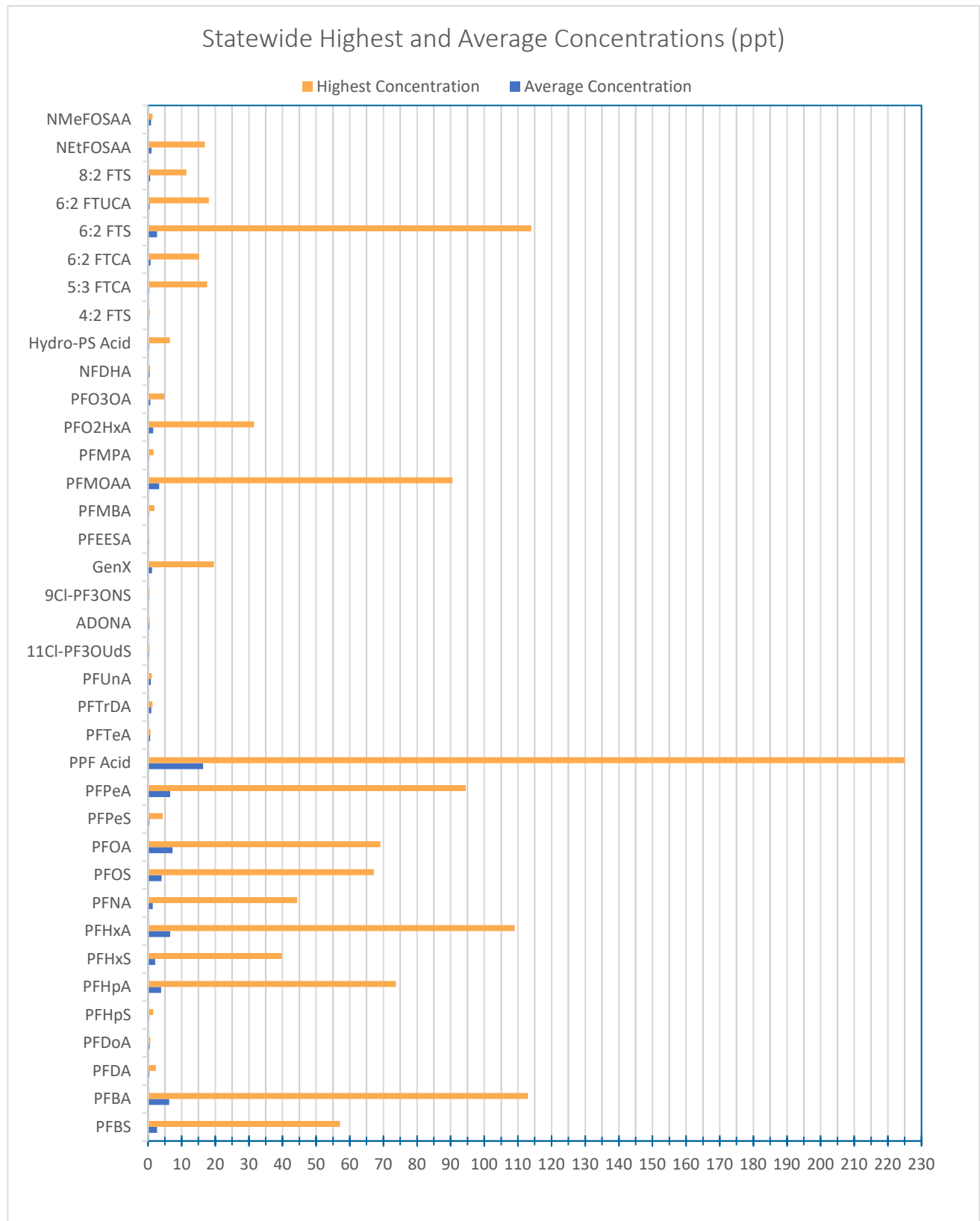
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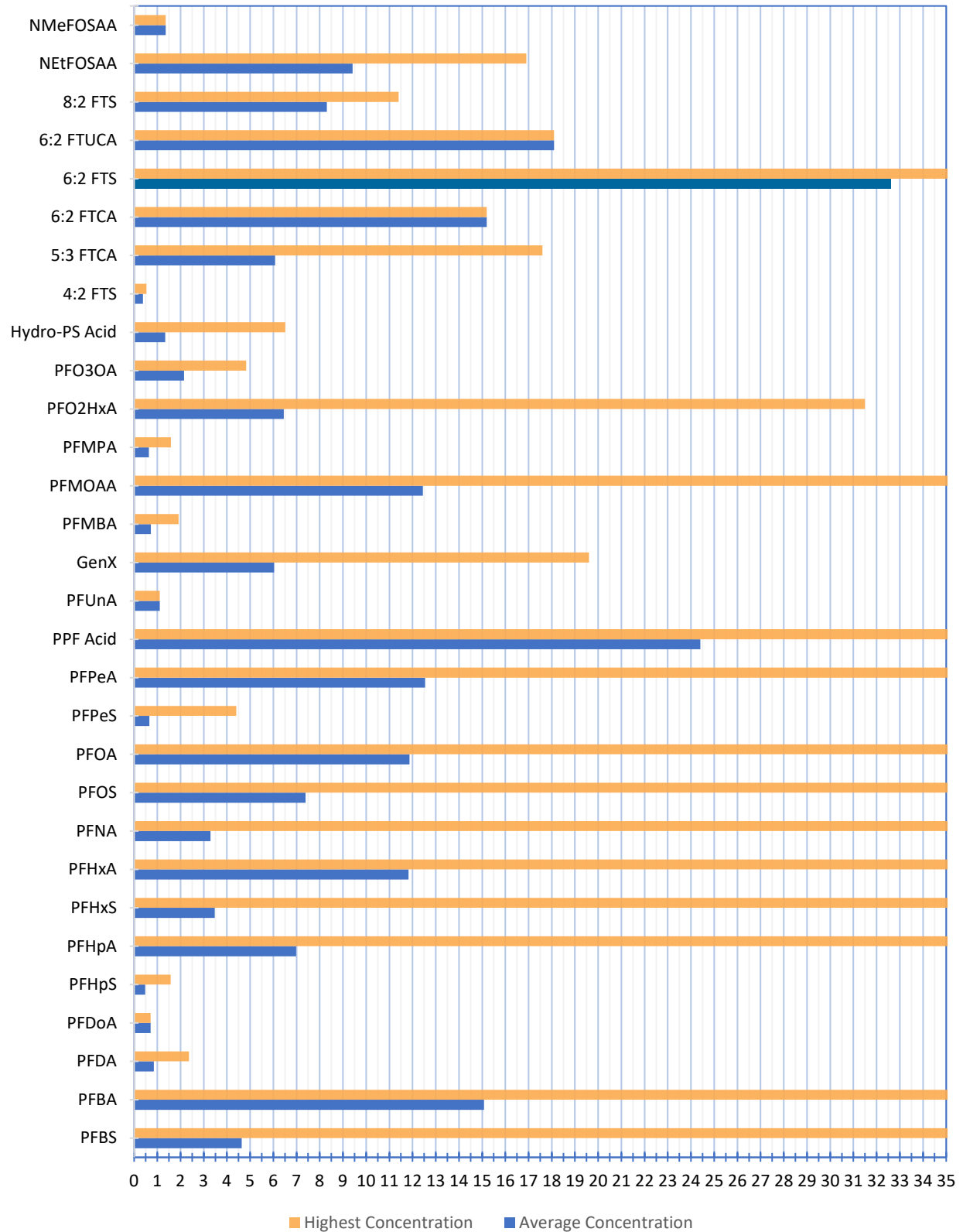


STATEWIDE AND COUNTY BAR CHARTS



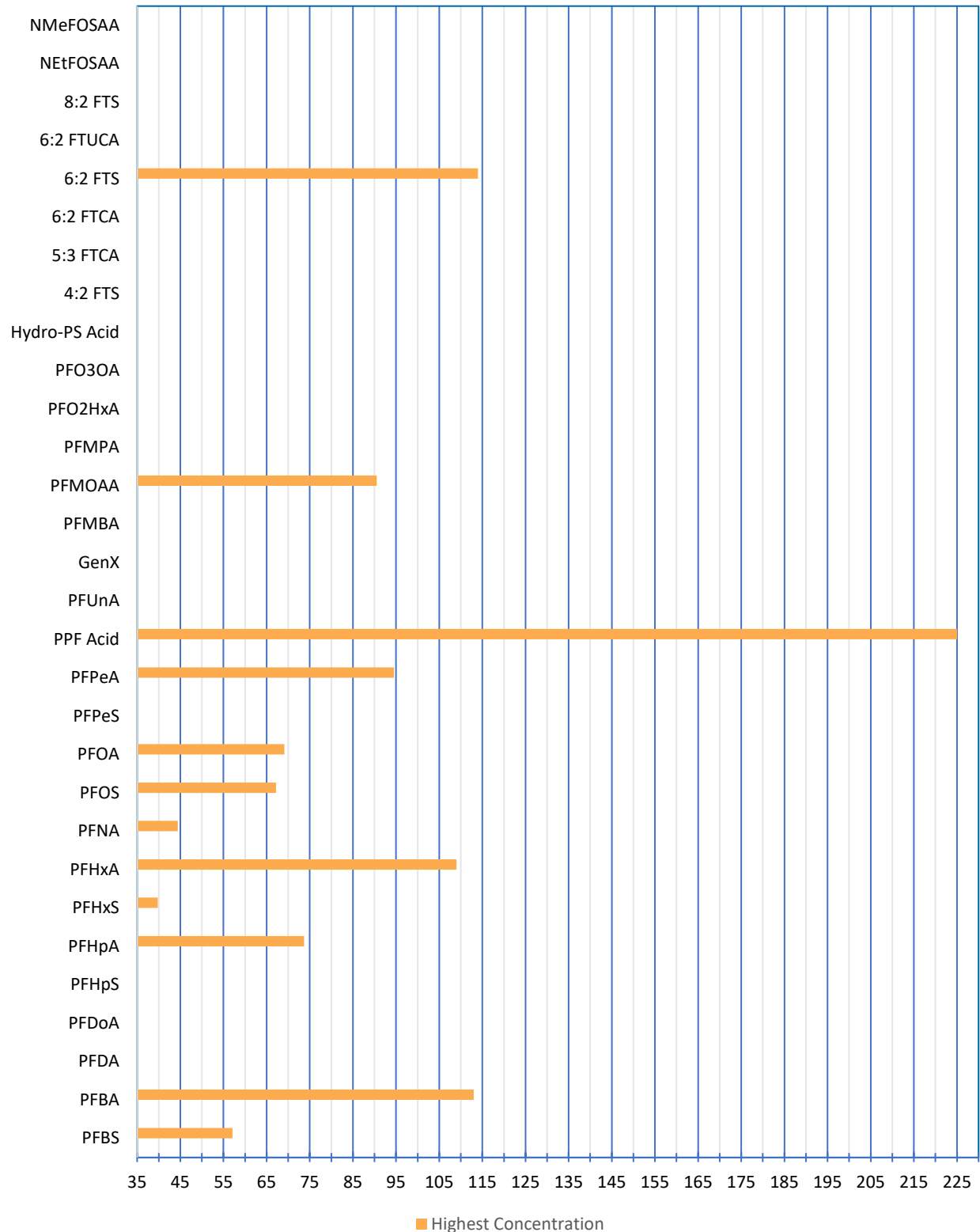


Statewide Highest and Average Concentrations (0 - 35 ppt)



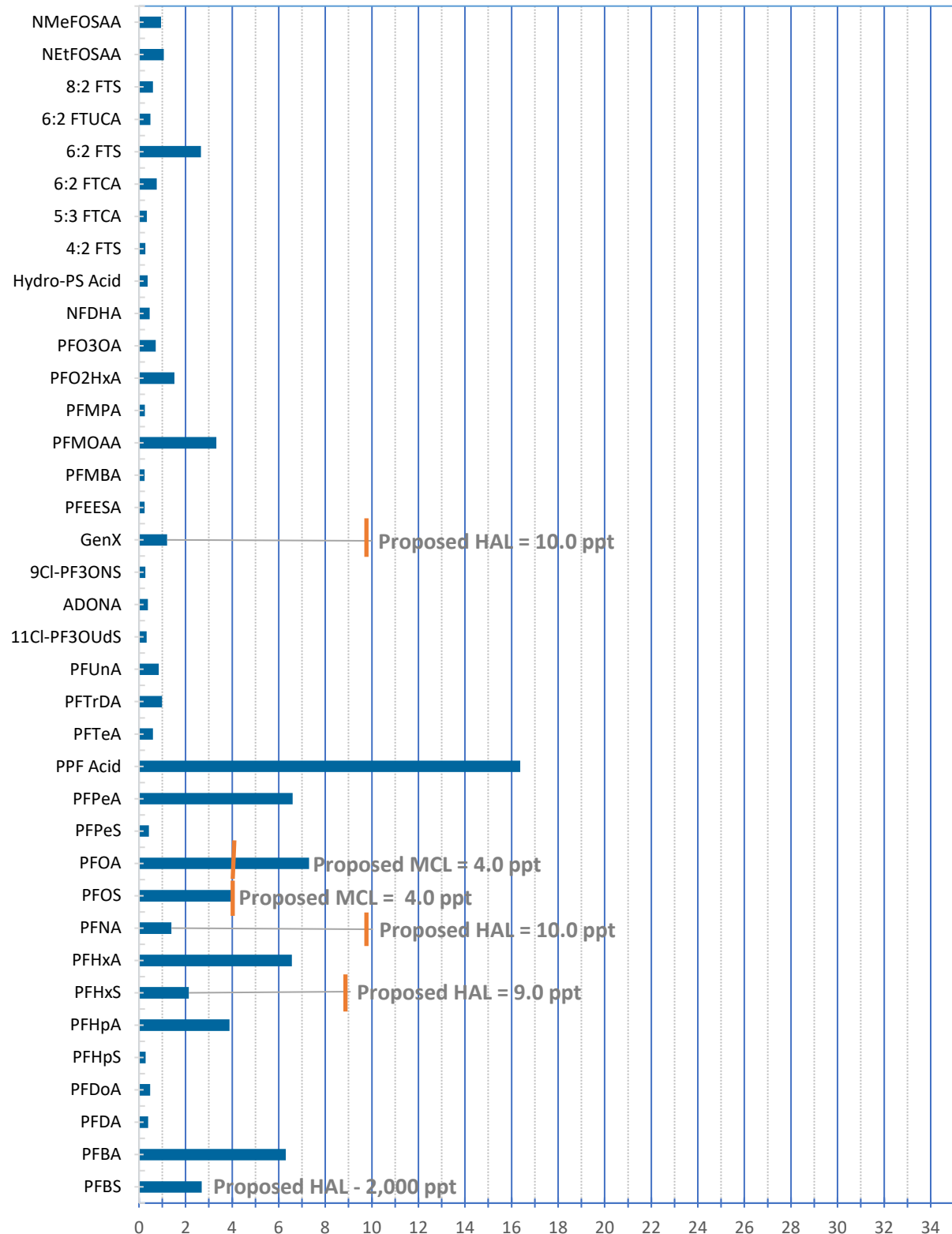


Statewide Highest Concentrations [Continued] (35-230 ppt)



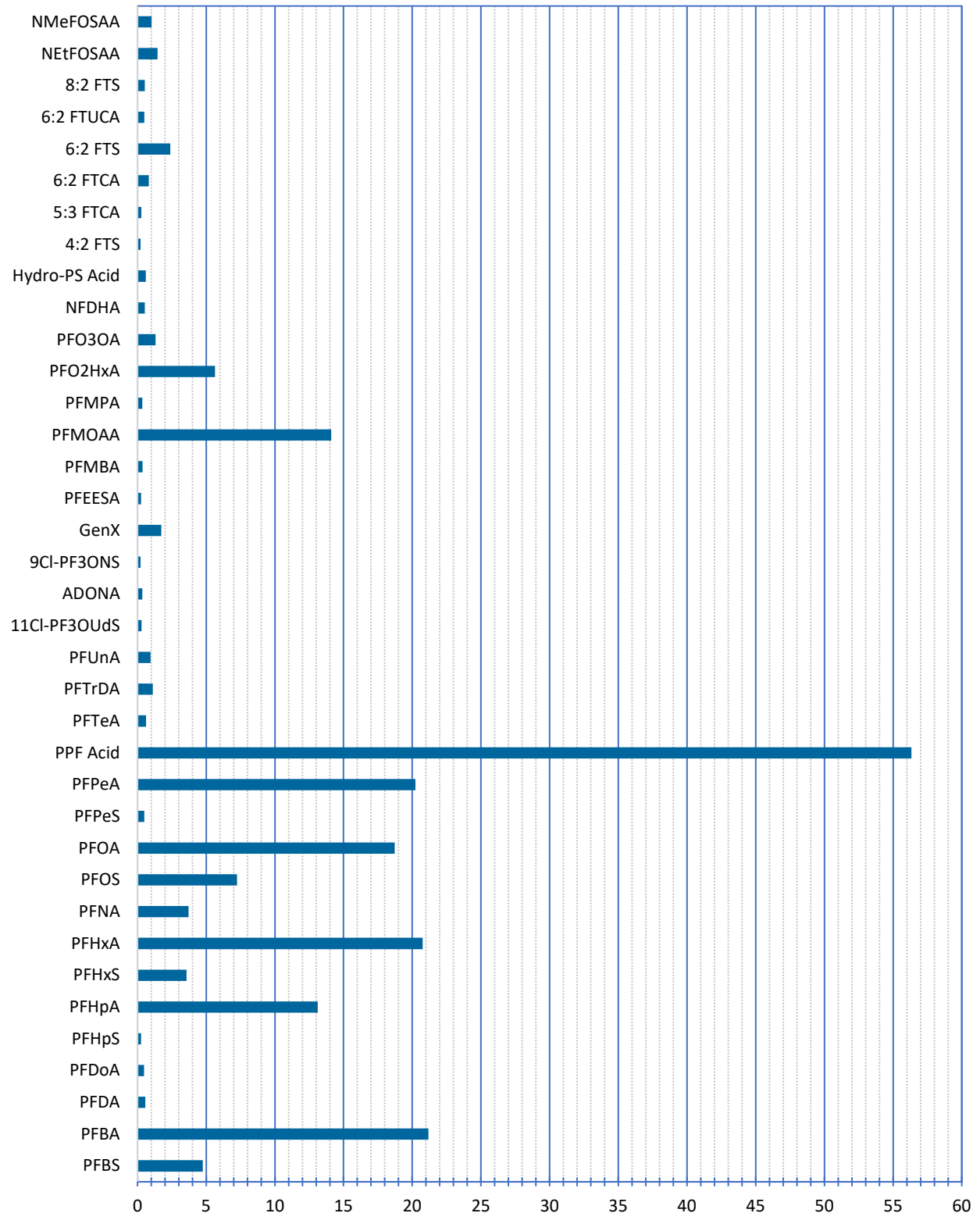


Statewide Average Concentrations (ppt)



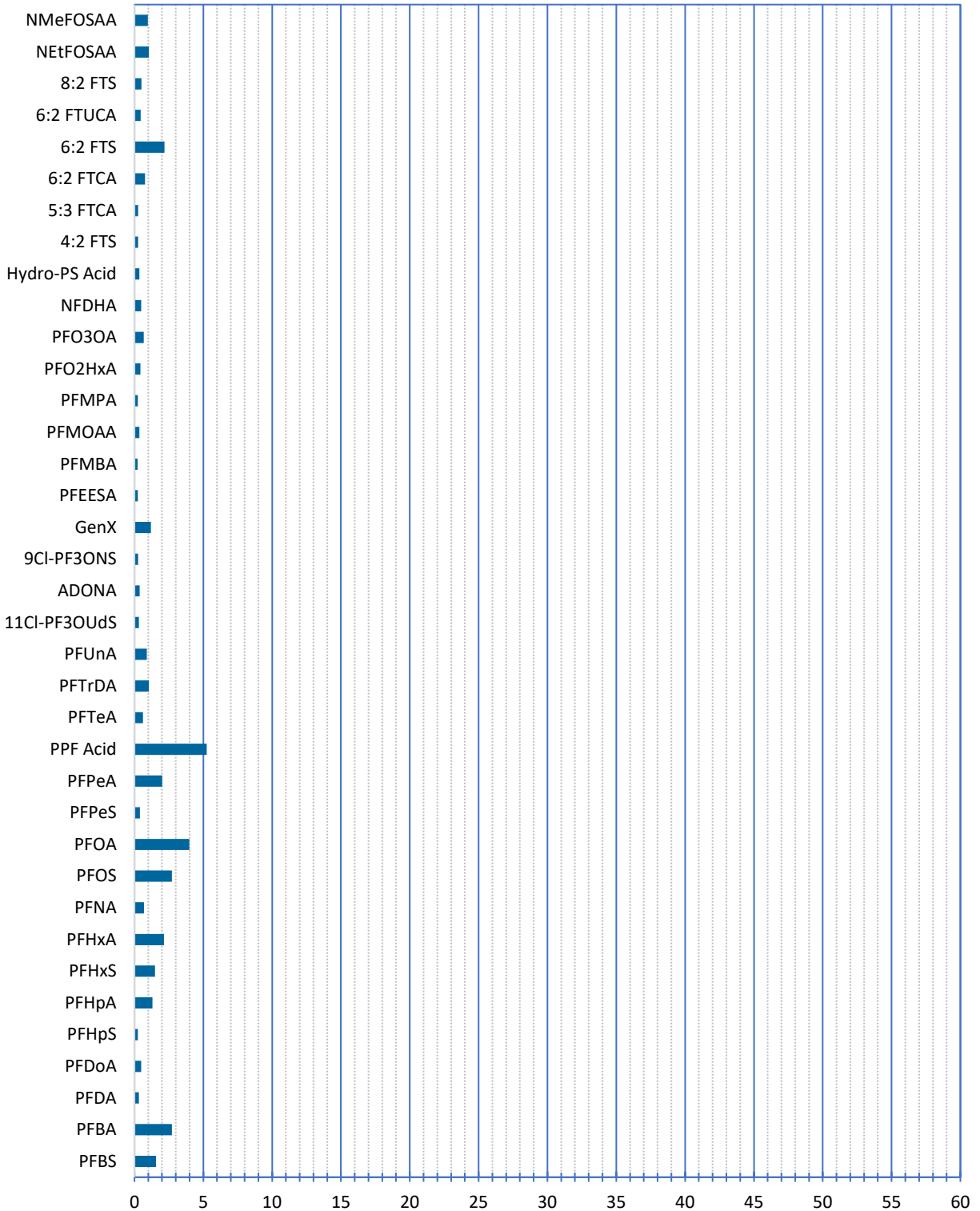


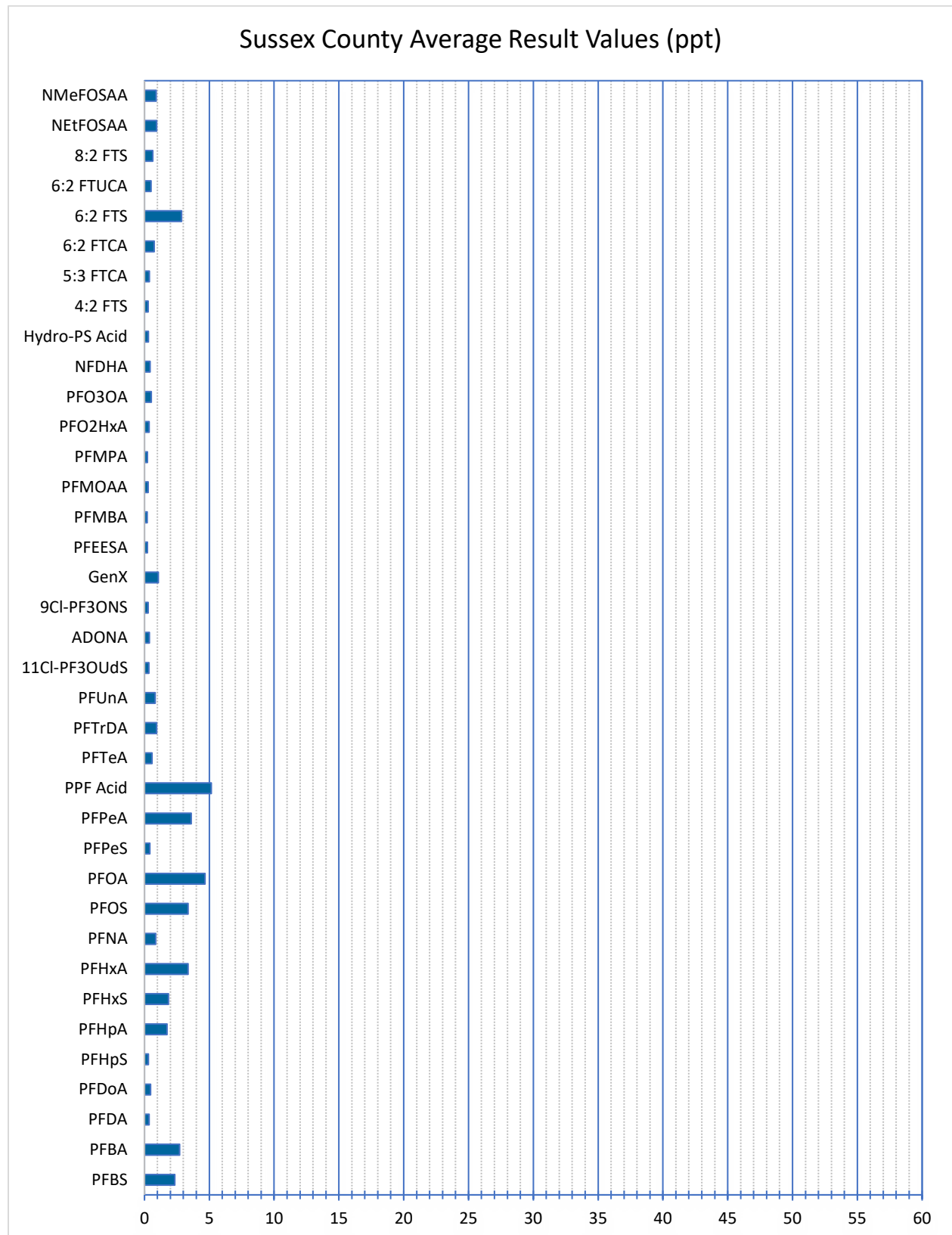
New Castle County Average Result Values (ppt)





Kent County Average Result Values (ppt)

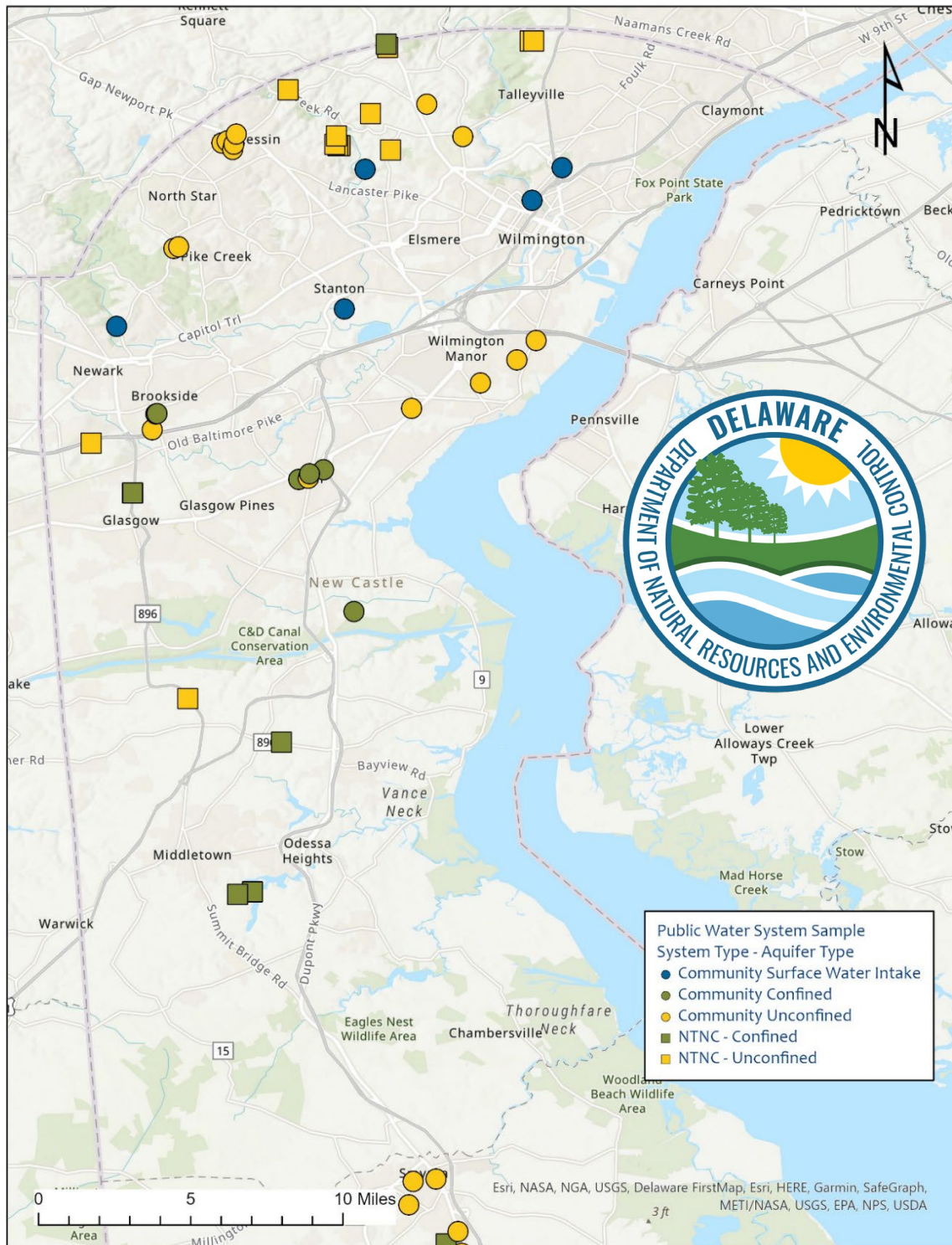






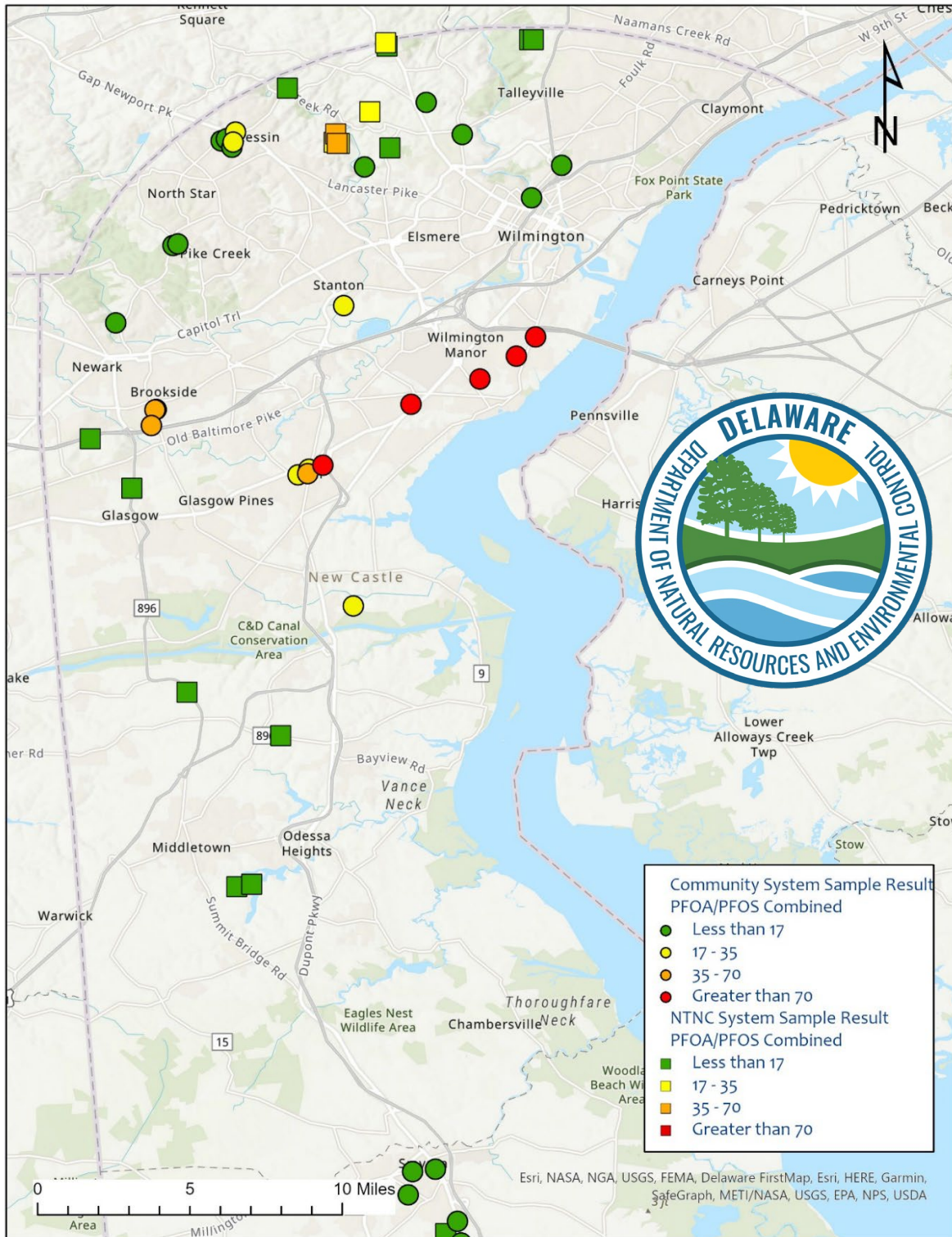
SAMPLING LOCATION AND RESULT MAPS

New Castle County Locations



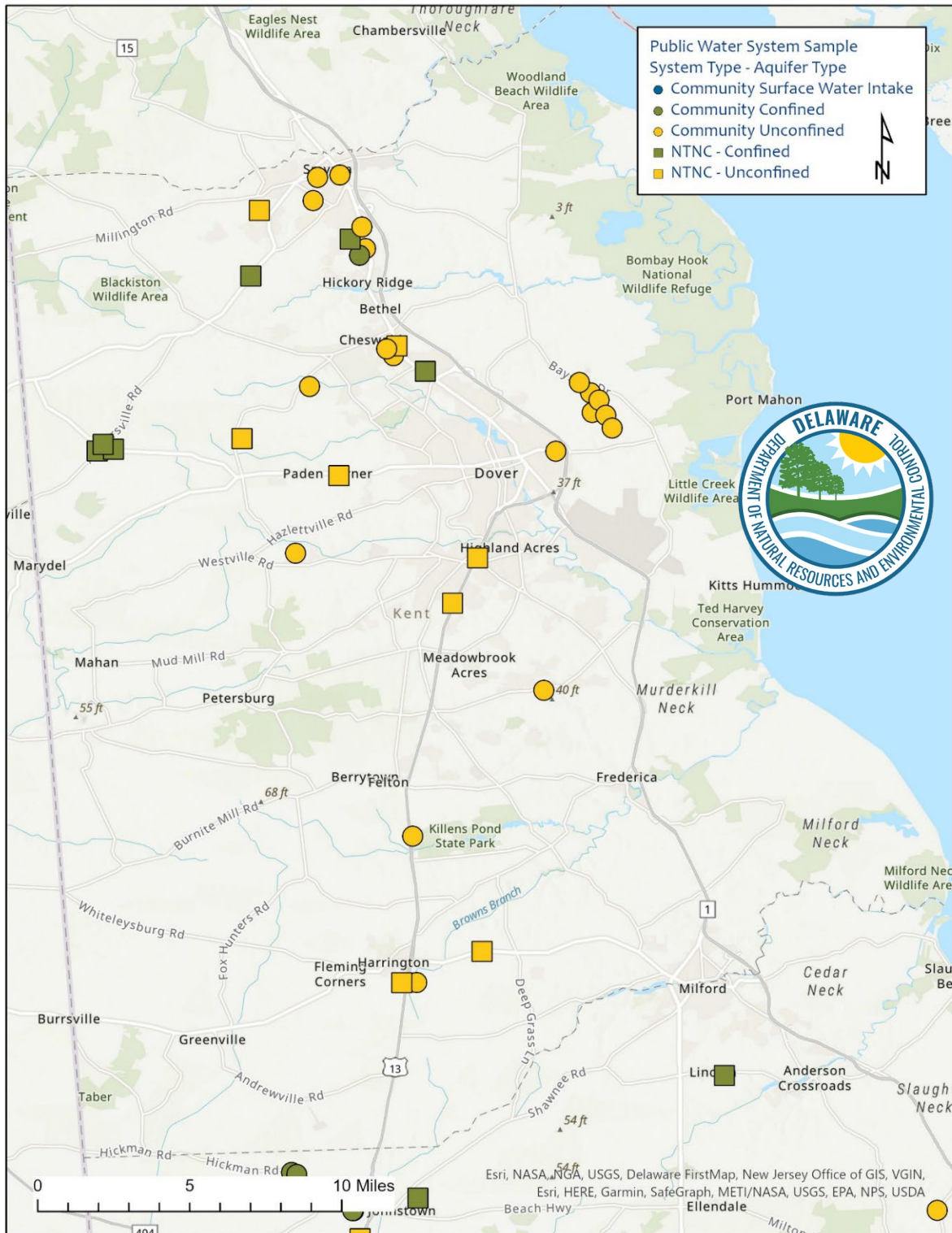


New Castle County Results



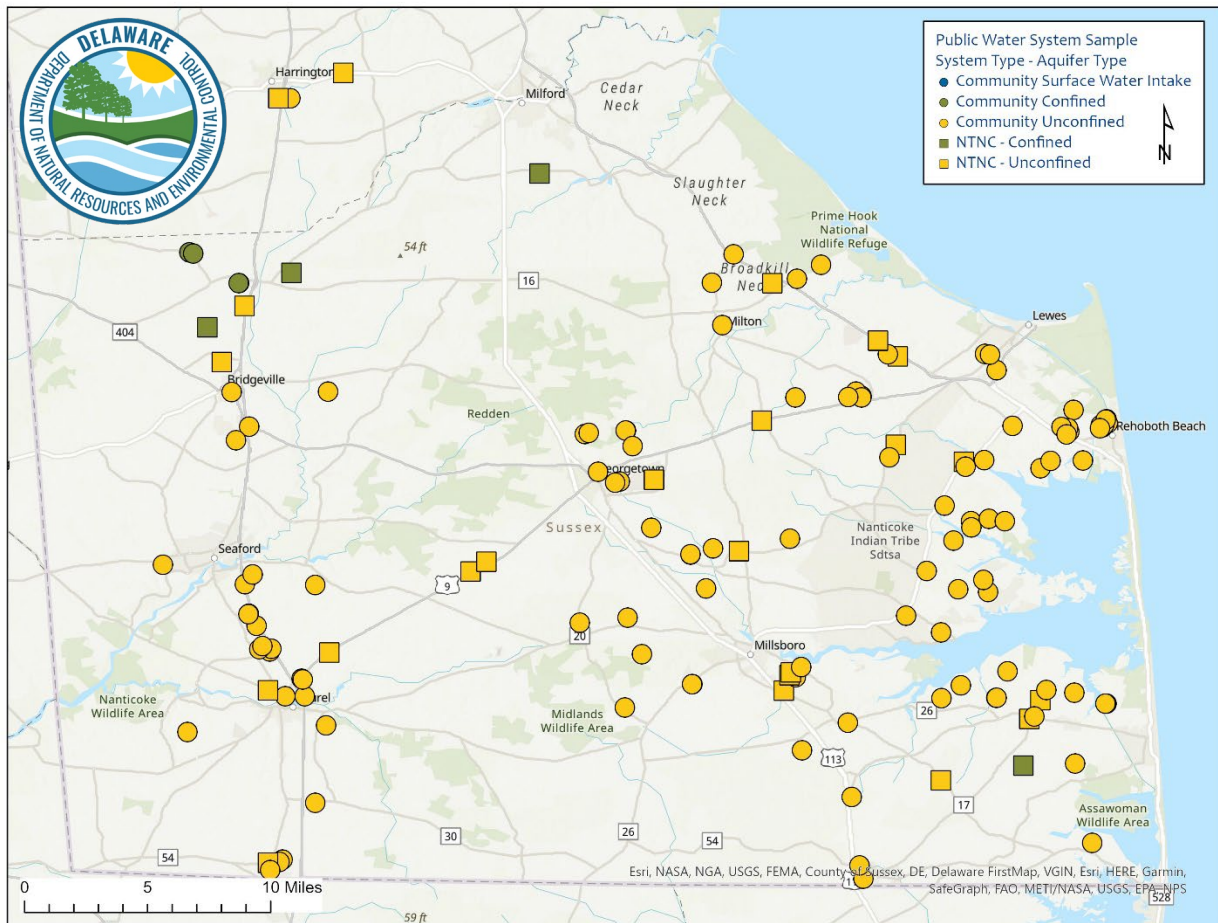


Kent County Locations



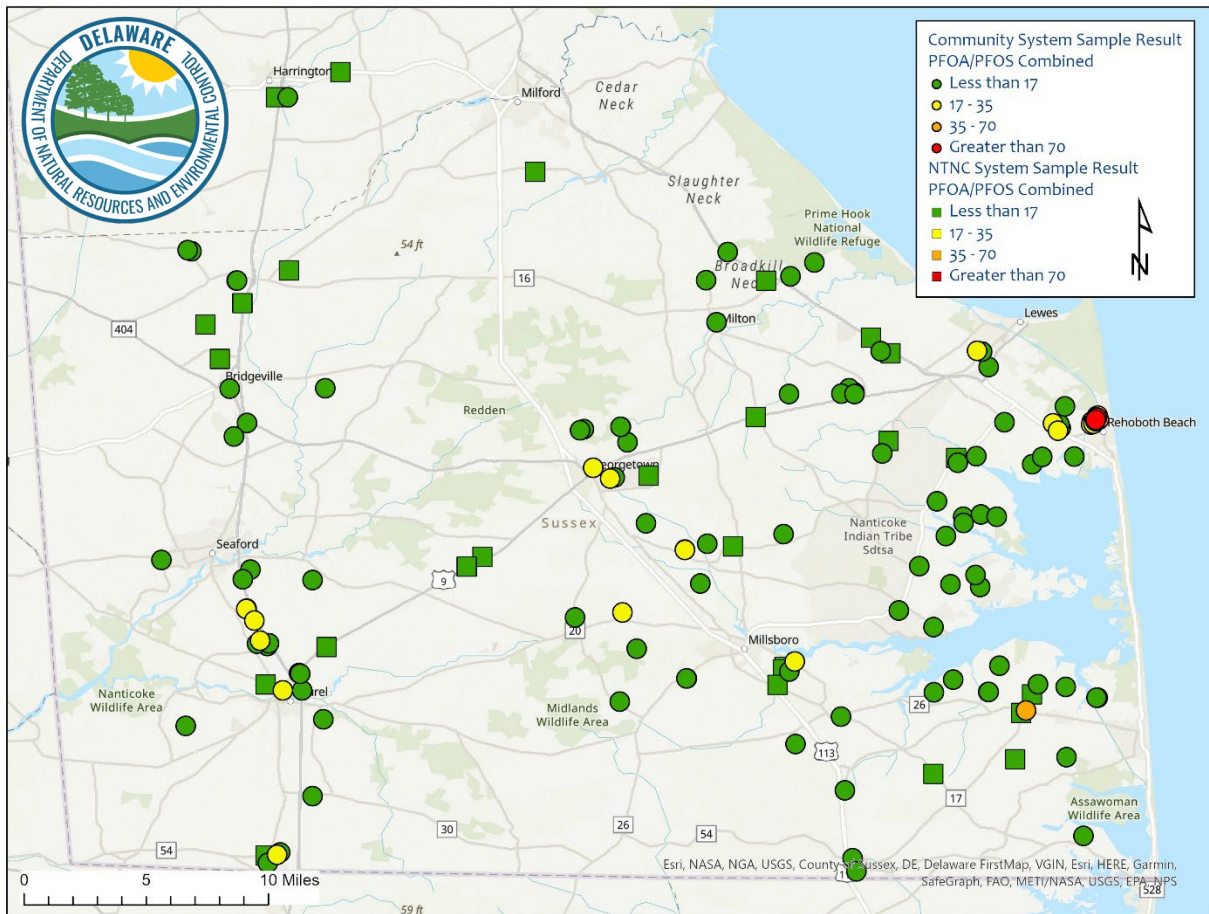


Sussex County Locations





Sussex County Results





APPENDIX A

| Method 537M DNREC REM PFAS Compounds | PFAS Acronym | CAS # |
|---|----------------|-------------|
| Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid | PFBS | 375-73-5 |
| Perfluorobutanoic acid | PFBA | 375-22-4 |
| Perfluorodecanoic acid | PFDA | 335-76-2 |
| Perfluorododecanoic acid | PFDoA | 307-55-1 |
| Perfluoroheptanesulfonic acid | PFHpS | 375-92-8 |
| Perfluoroheptanoic acid | PFHpA | 375-85-9 |
| Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid | PFHxS | 355-46-4 |
| Perfluorohexanoic acid | PFHxA | 307-24-4 |
| Perfluorononanoic acid | PFNA | 375-95-1 |
| Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid | PFOS | 1763-23-1 |
| Perfluorooctanoic acid | PFOA | 335-67-1 |
| Perfluoropentanesulfonic acid | PFPeS | 2706-91-4 |
| Perfluoropentanoic acid | PFPeA | 2706-90-3 |
| Pentafluoropropionic acid | PPF Acid | 422-64-0 |
| Perfluorotetradecanoic acid | PFTeA | 376-06-7 |
| Perfluorotridecanoic acid | PFTTrDA | 72629-94-8 |
| Perfluoroundecanoic acid | PFUnA | 2058-94-8 |
| 11CI-PF3OUdS | F-53B Minor | 763051-92-9 |
| 4,8-Dioxa-3H-perfluorononanoic acid | ADONA | 919005-14-4 |
| 9CI-PF3ONS | F-53B Major | 756426-58-1 |
| Hexafluoropropylene oxide Dimer acid | HFPO-DA (GenX) | 13252-13-6 |
| Perfluoro-2-ethoxyethanesulfonic acid | PFEESA | 113507-82-7 |
| Perfluoro-4-methoxybutanoic acid | PFMBA | 863090-89-5 |
| Perfluoro-2-methoxyacetic acid | PFMOAA | 674-13-5 |
| Perfluoro-3-methoxypropanoic acid | PFMPA | 377-73-1 |
| Perfluoro-3,5-dioxahexanoic acid | PFO2HxA | 39492-88-1 |
| Perfluoro-3,5,7-trioxaoctanoic acid | PFO3OA | 39492-89-2 |
| Perfluoro-3,6-dioxaheptanoic acid | NFDHA | 151772-58-6 |
| Hydro-PS Acid | Hydro-PS Acid | 749836-20-2 |
| 4:2 fluorotelomer sulfonic acid | 4:2 FTS | 757124-72-4 |
| 5:3 fluorotelomer carboxylic acid | 5:3 FTCA | 914637-49-3 |
| 5:3 fluorotelomer carboxylic acid | 6:2 FTCA | 53826-12-3 |
| 6:2 fluorotelomer sulfonic acid | 6:2 FTS | 27619-97-2 |
| 6:2 fluorotelomer alpha, beta-unsaturated carboxylate | 6:2 FTUCA | 70887-88-6 |
| 8:2 fluorotelomer sulfonic acid | 8:2 FTS | 39108-34-4 |
| N-ethylperfluorooctanesulfonamidoacetic acid | NEtFOSAA | 2991-50-6 |
| N-methylperfluorooctanesulfonamidoacetic acid | NMeFOSAA | 2355-31-9 |