Annual Summary of Oil and Hazardous Substance Releases

Fiscal Year 2008 (July 1, 2007-June 30, 2008)

Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
Division of Spill Prevention and Response
January 2009

Significant Responses

Sand Point Abandoned Drum Site

Location: Sand Point
*Report Date: February 15, 2007**
Product: diesel fuel, used oil, and water
Quantity: 605 drums
Cause: leaking drums

Over a 10-year period, more than 600 drums containing diesel fuel, used oil and water were placed within storage cells in an old rock quarry near the the Sand Point airport. The drums were placed there by the City of Sand Point and various other State agencies, private businesses, and local residents. During a site visit, DEC responders determined that 121 drums had ruptured and released their contents, some of which leached into the ground when it overflowed the secondary containment. In July 2007, DEC responders worked with the EPA, the City of Sand Point, and local native groups to clean up the site and properly dispose of the drums and their contents.

*NOTE: Cleanup occurred during FY 2008.

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F/V Nordic Viking Grounding

Location: Port Gravina
Spill Date: July 21, 2007
Product: diesel
Quantity: 3,500 gallons
Cause: grounding

On July 21, 2007, the *F/V Nordic Viking* ran aground at Port Gravina near Olsen Bay, Prince William Sound releasing an estimated 3,500 gallons of diesel fuel into the water. ADF&G closed the commercial salmon fishery for the Port Gravina area. The response team assisted with the lightering and salvage operations until demobilization on July 31, 2007. There were no reports of wildlife impacts.

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DS-16 Flowline D, Crude/Methanol Spill

Location: Flow Station 2, Prudhoe Bay Field
Spill Date: October 15, 2007
Product/Quantity: 630 gallons methanol;1,260 gallons 60/40 methanol/water; 42 gallons crude/water
Cause: puncture

A flow line at Flow Station 2 was punctured when it moved with sufficient force to strike an adjacent horizontal support module. An estimated 1,932 gallons of methanol, crude oil and water were released. Approximately one acre was impacted. The contaminated snow and ice were removed and treated.

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Kuparuk 2U Pad Crude Oil Spill

Location: North Slope, Kuparuk River Field
Spill Date: December 16, 2007
Product: crude oil, gas and fluids
Quantity: 4,284 gallons
Cause: external corrosion of flow line

On December 16, 2007, oil field workers at the Kuparuk 2U Pad discovered a crude oil spill from the 24-inch flowline and the oil wells feeding the flowline were shut down. Production wells were shut down for approximately five days during the repair. The spill volume was reported at 4,284 gallons (102 barrels) and affected a nearby frozen lake and the surrounding tundra.

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Selawik Tank Farm Release

Location: Selawik IRA Fuel Project
Spill Date: January 23, 2008
Product: diesel fuel No. 1
Quantity: 5,385 gallons
Cause: automatic shutoff malfunctioned

An estimated 5,385 gallons of diesel fuel was released due to the failure of an automatic shut off pump that transfers fuel from the storage tank to the day tank. The day tank overfilled and the diesel spilled into the tank farm's secondary containment. All the free-standing fuel oil was recovered and pumped back into a holding tank.

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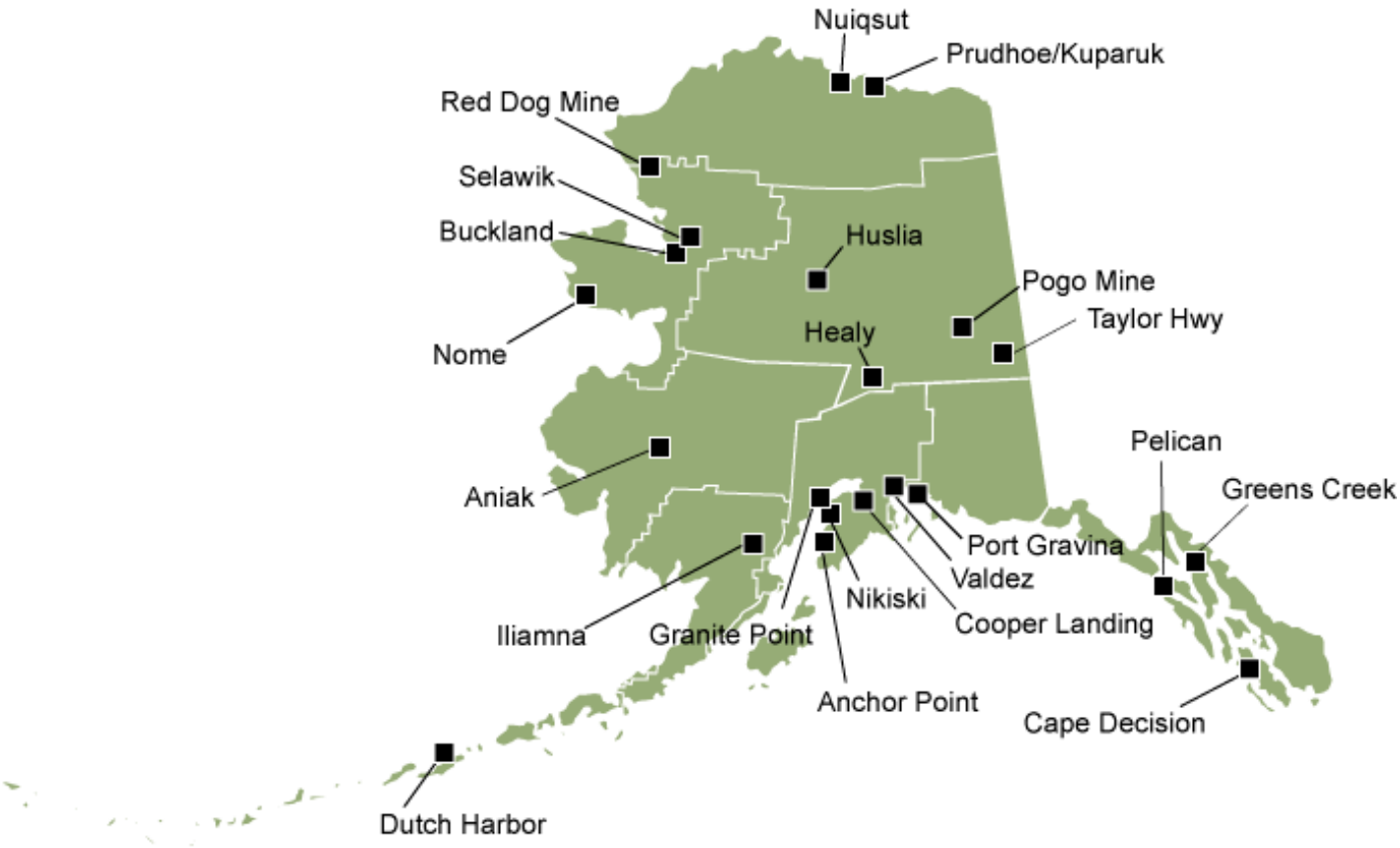
Large Spills



Large Spills, July 1, 2007-June 30,2008

Spill Date	Spill Name	Location	Product	Total Released
03/23/2008	F/V Alaska Ranger	120 miles W of Dutch Harbor	Diesel	145,000 gal
07/21/2007	Red Dog Mine	82 mi N of Kotzebue	Produced Water	78,300 gal
05/23/2008	HR Trucking	Cooper Landing	Urea (Solid)	48,300 lbs
12/22/2007	Unisea	Dutch Harbor	Ammonia (Anhydrous)	18,007 lbs
11/05/2007	Samson Tug & Barge	Cape Decision	Propane (LPG)	17,800 lbs
08/20/2007	Pogo Mine	38 mi NE of Delta Junction	Mill Slurry	15,000 gal
03/15/2008	Pogo Mine	38 mi NE of Delta Junction	Other	12,000 gal
03/26/2008	Kuparuk Gubik #3	Prudhoe Bay/Kuparuk	Drilling Muds	10,920 gal
01/23/2008	Selawik Tank Farm	Selawik	Diesel	10,000 gal
11/20/2007	MP 252 Parks Hwy	Healy	Other	9,500 lbs
10/21/2007	Red Dog Mine	82 mi N of Kotzebue	Other	8,854 lbs
04/05/2008	Buckland KAE Tank	Buckland	Diesel	7,750 gal
06/25/2008	Agrium Plant	Nikiski	Ammonia (Anhydrous)	4,500 lbs
12/16/2007	Kuparuk Drill Site 2U	Prudhoe Bay/Kuparuk	Crude	4,284 gal
07/28/2007	Taylor Highway MP 32	MP 32 Taylor Highway	Diesel	3,698 gal
07/21/2007	F/V Nordic Viking	Port Gravina	Diesel	3,500 gal
07/13/2007	Aniak Tank Farm	Aniak	Diesel	3,000 gal
10/21/2007	Red Dog Mine	82 mi N of Kotzebue	Zinc Slurry	3,000 gal
02/01/2008	Greens Creek Mine	18 mi S of Juneau	Hydrogen Peroxide	3,000 lbs

Large Spills *(continued)*

Spill Date	Spill Name	Location	Product	Total Released
09/04/2007	Iliamna Airport	Iliamna	Aviation Fuel	2,280 gal
01/30/2008	Kuparuk Gubik #3	Prudhoe Bay/Kuparuk	Drilling Muds	2,226 gal
07/16/2007	Agrium Plant	Nikiski	Unknown	2,100 gal
02/03/2008	Oooguruk Development Project	Prudhoe Bay/Kuparuk	Drilling Muds	2,100 gal
03/17/2008	West North Slope Rendezvous 2	Prudhoe Bay/Kuparuk	Crude	2,100 gal
04/28/2008	Nuiqsut Maintenance Shop	Nuiqsut	Used Oil (all types)	2,020 gal
06/04/2008	Pump Station 1	Prudhoe Bay/Kuparuk	Halon	1,800 lbs
02/11/2008	Granite Point Tank Farm	Granite Point, Cook Inlet	Produced Water	1,680 gal
06/04/2008	Pump Station 1	Prudhoe Bay/Kuparuk	Halon	1,600 lbs
02/11/2008	Pelican Power Plant	Pelican	Diesel	1,500 gal
12/29/2007	Prudhoe Bay, Well Pad W	Prudhoe Bay/Kuparuk	Drilling Muds	1,470 gal
10/15/2007	Prudhoe Bay, Drill Site 16	Prudhoe Bay/Kuparuk	Produced Water	1,260 gal
02/10/2008	Prudhoe Bay, Drill Site 13	Prudhoe Bay/Kuparuk	Produced Water	1,260 gal
11/05/2007	Samson Tug & Barge	Cape Decision	Kerosene	1,100 gal
01/06/2008	Nome Airport	Nome	Diesel	1,050 gal
09/11/2007	Pioneer Resources Hansen #1	5.5. mi N of Anchor Point	Diesel	1,018 gal
11/25/2007	Red Dog Mine	82 mi N of Kotzebue	Other	1,000 gal
05/03/2008	Huslia Water Treatment Plant	Huslia	Diesel	1,000 gal

Photo showing the puncture in the BPXA DS 16 Flowline D and the wooden blocks to prevent the flowline from shifting.

(Photo courtesy of BP)

Statewide Summary

All Spills

During Fiscal Year 2008 (July 1, 2007-June 30, 2008), 2,013 oil and hazardous substance releases were reported to the Department.

Noncrude oil comprised 75% of the spills reported and nearly 60% of the total volume. The largest noncrude spill was a 145,000 gallon diesel spill which resulted when the *F/V Alaska Ranger* sank on March 23, 2008. This spill was also the largest one for the period.

While Oil Production facilities reported more spills, Vessels and Mining facilities were responsible for the greatest volume released for FY 2008.

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Spills Reported in Gallons	2,013
Total Gallons	388,842
Spills Reported in Pounds	45
Total Pounds	117,856

Top 5 Causes (gallons)

Cause	Spills	Gallons
Sinking (HUM)	32	145,940
Line Failure (STR/MECH)	363	106,612
Equipment Failure (STR/MECH)	272	37,024
Human Error (HUM)	287	16,013
Crack (STR/MECH)	58	12,606

Top 5 Products (gallons)

Product	Spills	Gallons
Diesel	611	205,013
Produced Water	30	84,975
Drilling Muds	19	19,220
Other	85	16,180
Mill Slurry	2	15,122

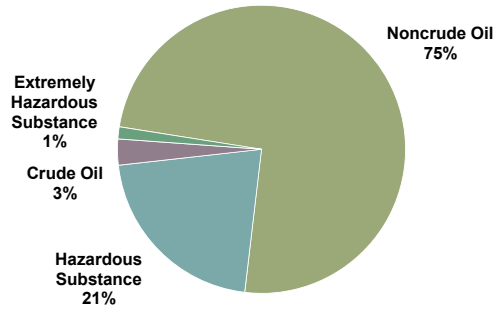
Top 5 Facility Types (gallons)

Facility Type	Spills	Gallons
Vessel (VES)	208	155,926
Mining Operation (STO)	261	116,433
Oil Production (TRA)	441	30,166
Noncrude Terminal (STO)	21	18,464
Oil Exploration (TRA)	34	16,350

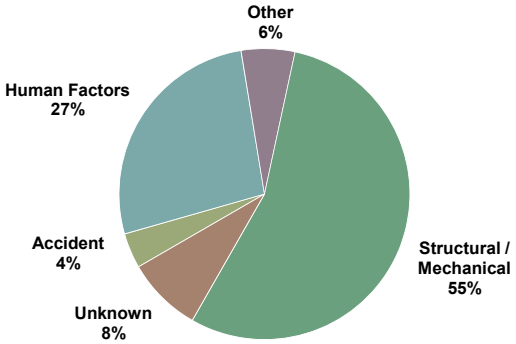
KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS

HUM	Human Factors
ACC	Accident
UNK	Unknown
OTH	Other
STR/MECH	Structural/Mechanical
STO	Storage
TRA	Transportation
VES	Vessel
OTH/UNK	Other/Unknown

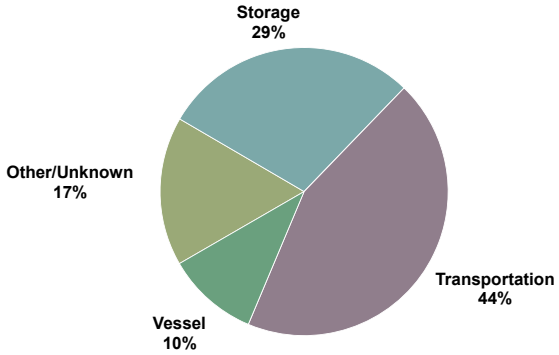
Number of Spills by Product



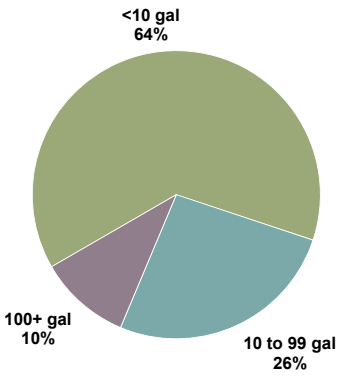
Number of Spills by Cause



Number of Spills by Facility Category



Number of Spills by Size Class



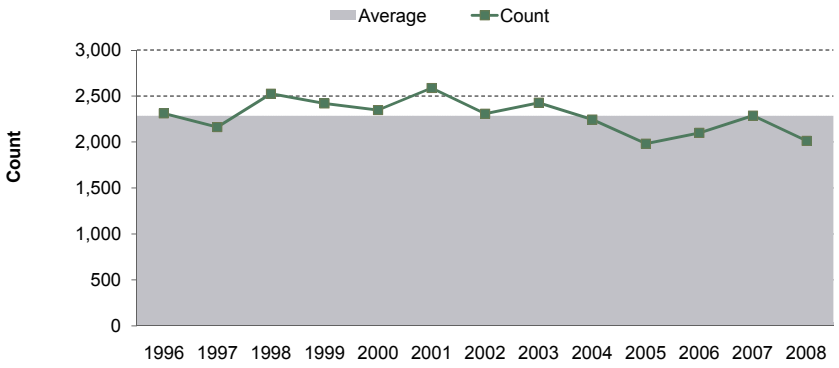
- The total number of spills *(2,013)* as well as the total volume *(388,842 gal)* released in FY 2008 was lower than the average for the 13-year period of record.*
- The North Slope subarea had the greatest number of spills *(545)* during FY 2008 compared to the other subareas. However, the total volume *(46,755 gal)* was less than 25% of the 13-year average for the subarea *(200,933 gal)*.
- Cook Inlet subarea had significantly fewer spills *(351)* than its 13-year average *(538)*.
- Total volume spilled in the Aleutians subarea *(148,554 gal)* was about three times the 13-year average due to the 145,000-gallon diesel spill resulting from the sinking of the FV Alaska Ranger.
- Spill counts for the Aleutian subarea *(97)* and the North Slope subarea *(545)* were significantly higher than average during FY 2008.
- During FY 2008, spill counts for Cook Inlet subarea *(351)*, Interior subarea *(318)*, Prince William Sound subarea *(42)*, and Western subarea *(48)* were significantly lower than average.
- The Cook Inlet subarea *(16,175 gal)*, North Slope subarea *(46,755 gal)*, Southeast subarea *(11,642 gal)*, and Western subarea *(5,091 gal)* had spill volumes in FY 2008 that were significantly lower than average.
- The total spill count *(2,013)* and spill volume *(388,842 gal)* for FY 2008 were both significantly lower than average.

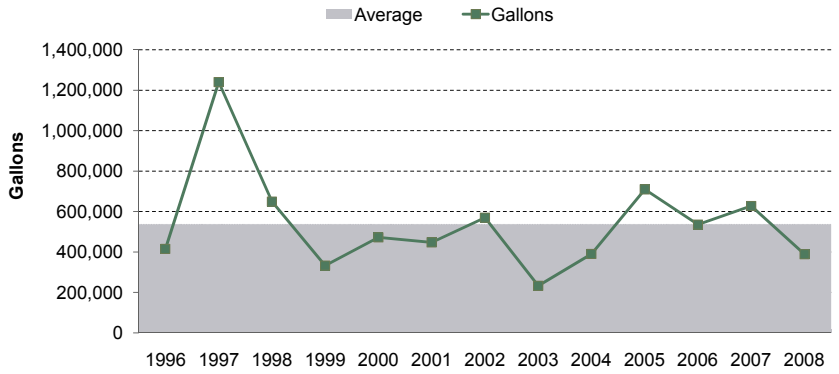
**July 1, 1995 to June 30, 2008*

KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS

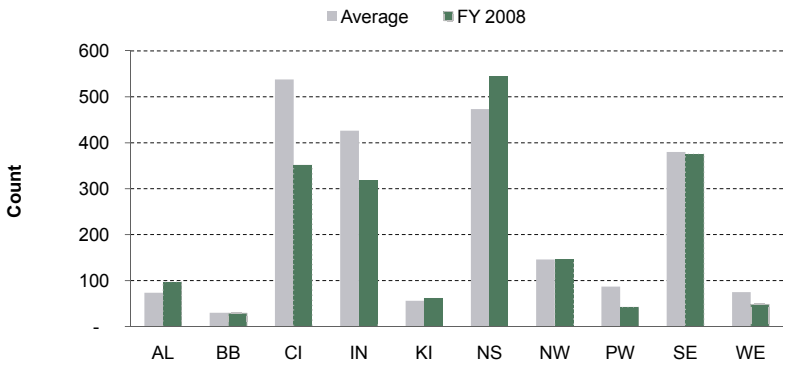
AL	Aleutian
BB	Bristol Bay
CI	Cook Inlet
IN	Interior
KI	Kodiak Island
NS	North Slope
NW	Northwest Arctic
PW	Prince William Sound
SE	Southeast Alaska
WE	Western Alaska

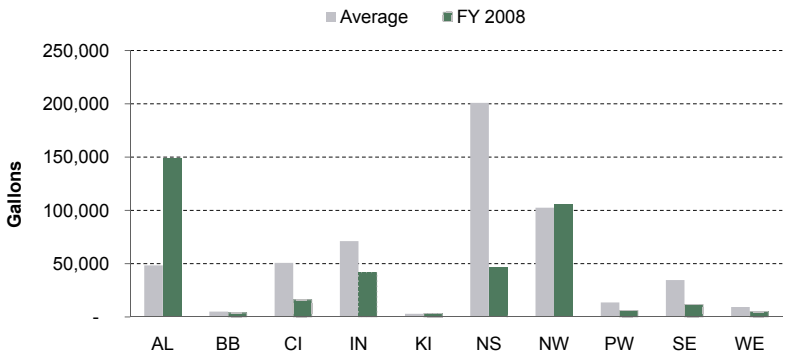
Spills by Fiscal Year





Spills by Subarea





Noncrude Oil

- Nearly two-thirds of the noncrude spills were under 10 gallons.
- Diesel comprised approximately 40% of the total number of noncrude spills and more than 80% of the total volume released during FY 2008.
- The largest noncrude spill during the reporting period was a 145,000 gallon diesel spill which occurred when the F/V Alaska Ranger sank in March 2008. This single incident comprised over half of the total noncrude volume for the year.

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Spills Reported in Gallons	1,497
Total Gallons	227,151
Spills Reported in Pounds	6
Total Pounds	17,953

Top 5 Causes (gallons)

Cause	Spills	Gallons
Sinking (HUM)	32	145,940
Unknown (UNK)	118	11,383
Crack (STR/MECH)	44	10,345
Rollover/Capsize (ACC)	31	9,515
Equipment Failure (STR/MECH)	203	7,877

Top 5 Products (gallons)

Product	Spills	Gallons
Diesel	611	205,013
Hydraulic Oil	423	5,636
Aviation Fuel	74	4,257
Used Oil (all types)	61	3,581
Other	41	1,871

Top 5 Facilities (gallons)

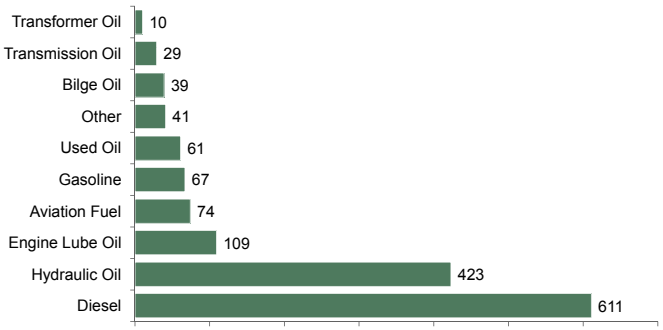
Product	Spills	Gallons
Vessel (VES)	204	155,919
Noncrude Terminal (STO)	17	18,433
Vehicle (TRA)	170	9,459
Other (OTH/UNK)	219	8,347
Residence (OTH/UNK)	96	7,395

KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS

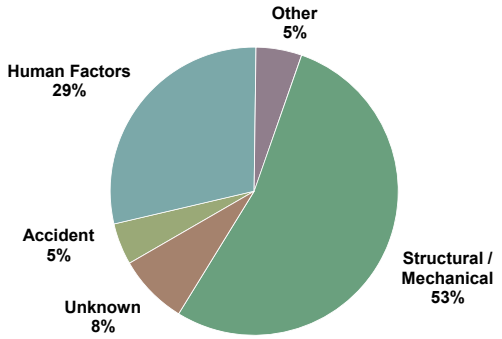
HUM	Human Factors
ACC	Accident
UNK	Unknown
OTH	Other
STR/MECH	Structural/Mechanical
STO	Storage
TRA	Transportation
VES	Vessel
OTH/UNK	Other/Unknown

Number of Spills by Product

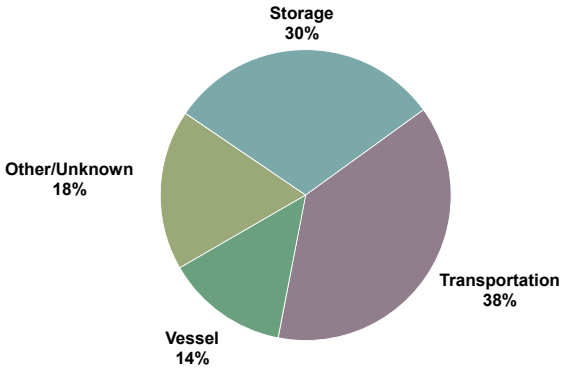
(10 or more spills reported)



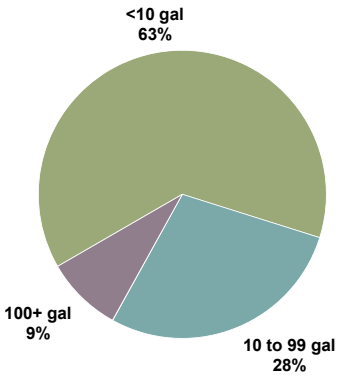
Number of Spills by Cause



Number of Spills by Facility Category

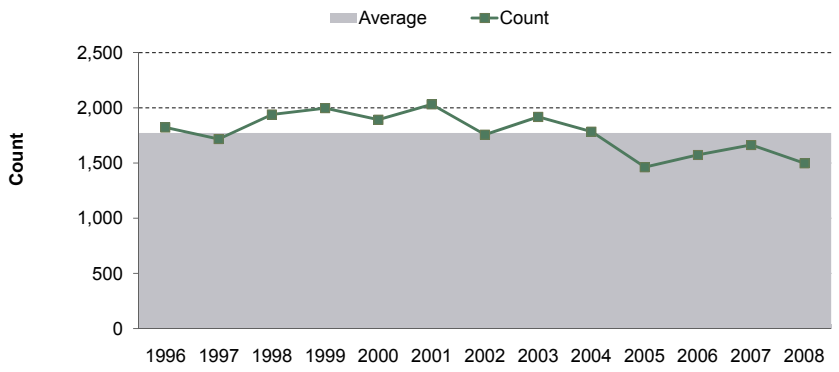


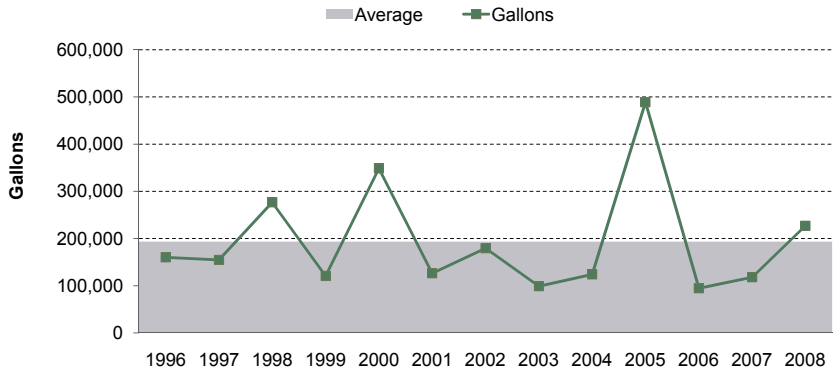
Number of Spills by Size Class



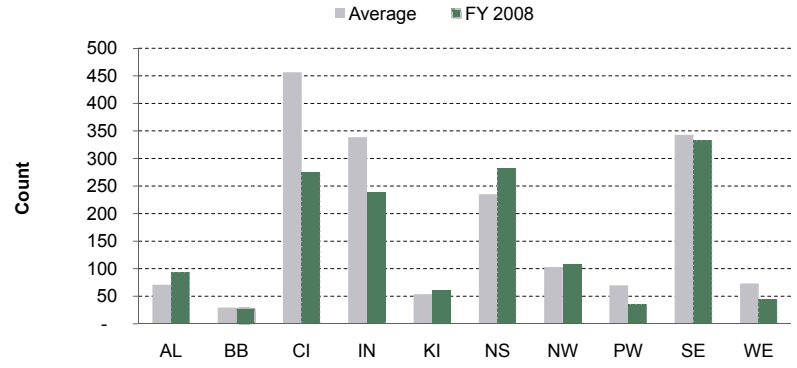
- The number of noncrude spills during FY 2008 (1,497) was significantly below the 13-year annual average.
- The total noncrude volume for FY 2008 *(227,151 gal)* was slightly above average, but about 80% of the total was due to a single 145,000 gallon release.
- Four large spills resulted in higher than average volumes:
  - FY 1998 - Elmendorf Aero Club *(100,000 gal aviation fuel)*
  - FY 2000 - West Coast Aviation Tank Farm *(84,360 gal gasoline)* and Gold Creek Derailment *(120,516 gal diesel)*
  - FY 2005 - Selendang Ayu *(321,052 gal IFO 380)*
- The Cook Inlet subarea *(275),* Interior subarea *(238)* and Prince William Sound subarea *(35)* had significantly fewer spills compared to the 13-year average. Total noncrude volume for those subareas *(8,225 gal, 11,384 gal and 6,041 gal respectively)* was also significantly below the 13-year average.
- Total noncrude volume spilled in the Aleutians subarea *(148,548 gal)* was about three times the 13-year average due to the 145,000-gallon diesel spill resulting from the sinking of the FV Alaska Ranger.
- The Aleutian subarea *(93)* and North Slope subarea *(283)* had spill counts that were significantly higher than average in FY 2008.

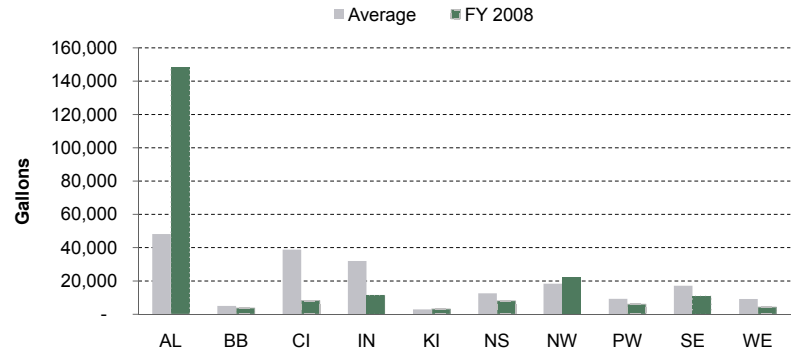
Spills by Fiscal Year





Spills by Subarea





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Statewide Summary *(continued)*

Crude Oil

- More than 80% of the Crude Oil spills occurred at Oil Production facilities.
- Corrosion and External Factors were the primary causes based on total volume released.
- Over half of all Crude Oil spills were less than 10 gallons.

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Spills Reported	59
Total Gallons	9,985

Top 5 Causes

Cause	Spills	Gallons
Corrosion (STR/MECH)	5	4,678
External Factors (OTH)	5	3,414
Valve Failure (STR/MECH)	6	549
Line Failure (STR/MECH)	4	436
Human Error (HUM)	7	324

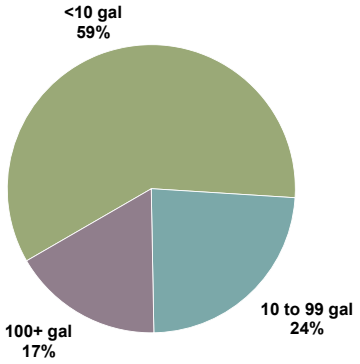
Top 5 Facilities

Product	Spills	Gallons
Oil Production (TRA)	49	9,423
Crude Oil Terminal (STO)	1	420
Refinery Operation (STO)	5	122
Transmission Pipeline (TRA)	2	10
Oil Exploration (TRA)	1	5

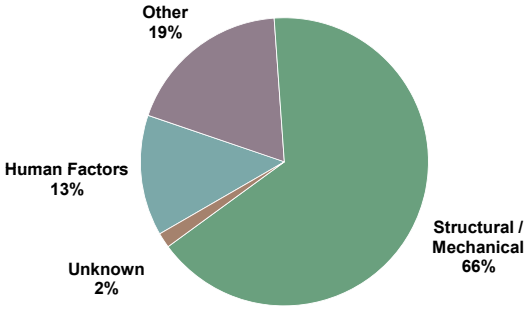
KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS

HUM	Human Factors
ACC	Accident
UNK	Unknown
OTH	Other
STR/MECH	Structural/Mechanical
STO	Storage
TRA	Transportation
VES	Vessel
OTH/UNK	Other/Unknown

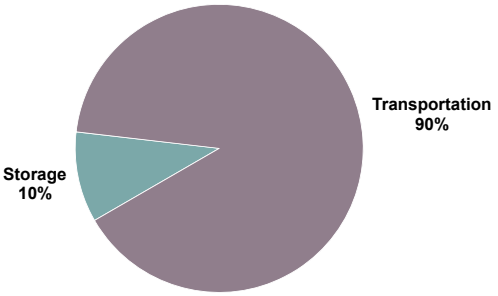
Number of Spills by Size Class



Number of Spills by Cause

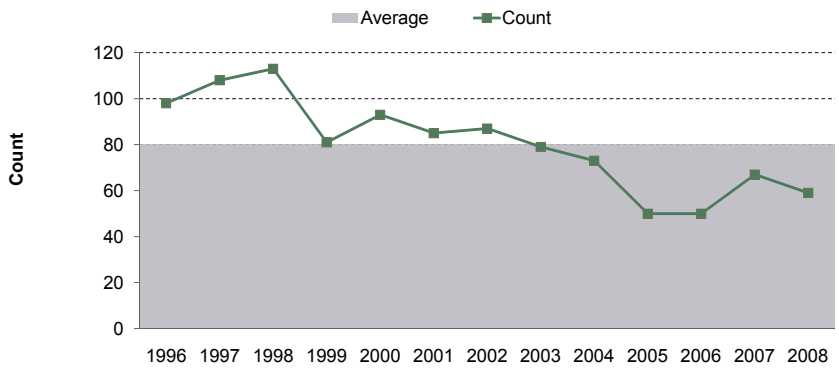


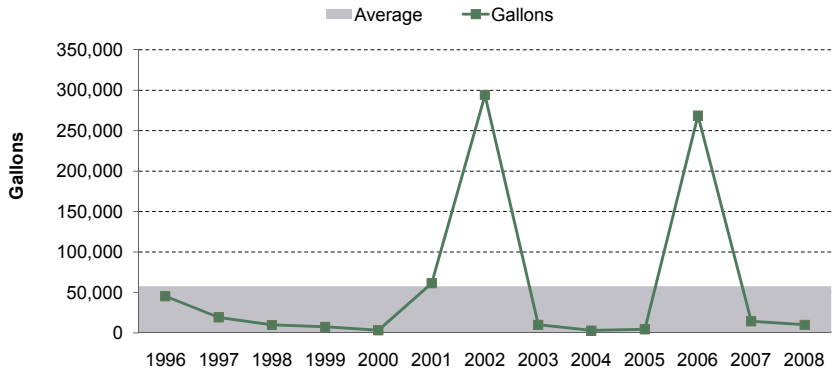
Number of Spills by Facility Category



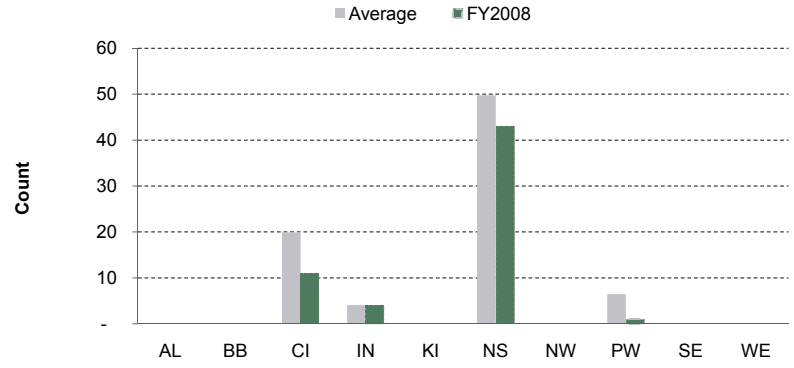
- There were 59 Crude Oil spills in FY 2008, significantly lower than average for the 13-year period.
- The average number of Crude Oil spills for the first half of the period (FY 1996-2002) was 95 compared to 63 spills for the latter half (FY 2003-2008).
- Several large crude oil spills account for higher total annual volumes:
  - FY 1996 - Check Valve 92 *(34,073 gallons)*
  - FY 2001 - GC-2 *(30,030 gallons)* and GCI D-Pad Flowline *(25,500 gallons)*
  - FY 2002 - TAPS Bullet Hole Release *(285,600 gallons)*
  - FY 2006 - GC-2 Oil Transit Line Release *(267,000 gallons)*
- Most subareas had fewer Crude Oil spills during FY 2008 compared to the 13-year average.
- Total volume for crude oil spills was substantially less than the 13-year average volume for the North Slope and Interior subareas. However, the average is inflated by a few very large spills -- in particular, the TAPS Bullet Hole release in FY 2002 and the GC-2 spill in FY 2006.
- The spill count for the Cook Inlet subarea *(20)* and the Prince William Sound subarea *(6)* was significantly below average in FY 2008.
- The spill volume for Cook Inlet *(1,649 gal)* was significantly below average in FY 2008.

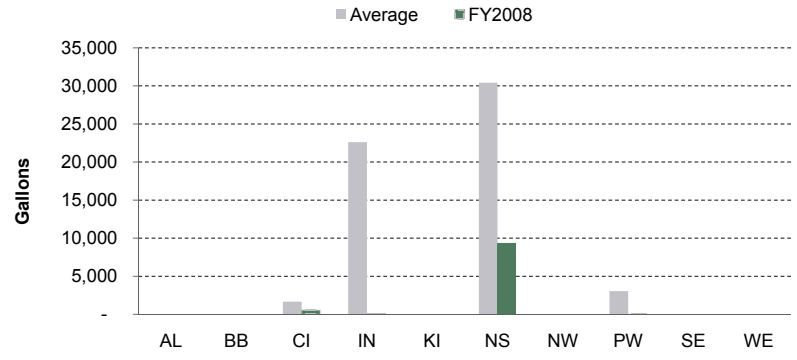
Spills by Fiscal Year





Spills by Subarea





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Hazardous Substances

- More than 60% of the Hazardous Substance spills in FY 2008 were less than 10 gallons.
- Mining facilities had more Hazardous Substance spills in terms of total volume.

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Spills Reported in Gallons	430
Total Gallons	151,595
Spills Reported in Pounds	19
Total Pounds	71,502

Top 5 Causes (gallons)

Cause	Spills	Gallons
Line Failure (STR/MECH)	56	99,567
Equipment Failure (STR/MECH)	57	28,860
Human Error (HUM)	58	8,494
Valve Failure (STR/MECH)	32	3,510
Seal Failure (STR/MECH)	35	3,423

Top 5 Products (gallons)

Product	Spills	Gallons
Produced Water	30	84,975
Drilling Muds	19	19,220
Mill Slurry	2	15,122
Other	44	14,310
Zinc Slurry	13	3,083

Top 5 Facilities (gallons)

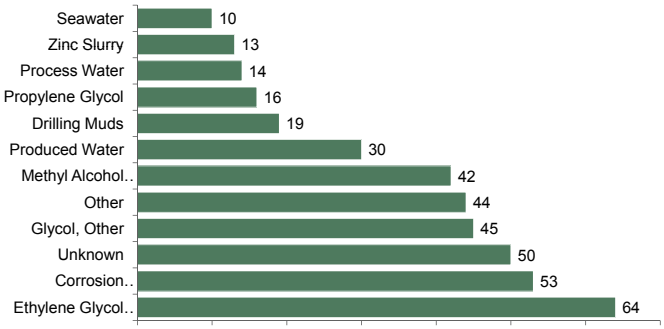
Product	Spills	Gallons
Mining Operation (STO)	74	113,119
Oil Production (TRA)	167	15,822
Oil Exploration (TRA)	12	14,246
Refinery Operation (STO)	11	2,229
Crude Oil Terminal (STO)	4	1,681

KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS

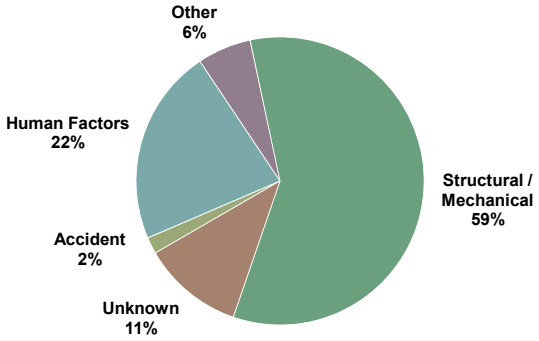
HUM	Human Factors
ACC	Accident
UNK	Unknown
OTH	Other
STR/MECH	Structural/Mechanical
STO	Storage
TRA	Transportation
VES	Vessel
OTH/UNK	Other/Unknown

Number of Spills by Product

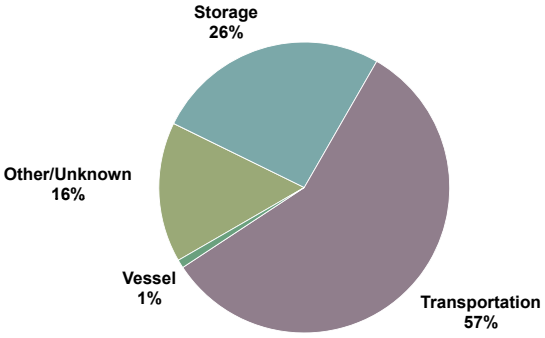
(10 or more spills reported)



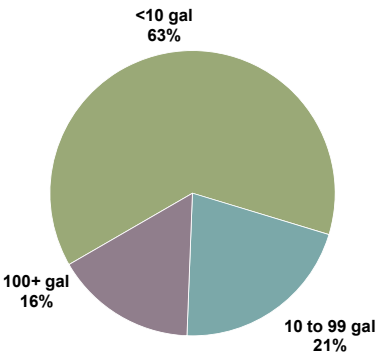
Number of Spills by Cause



Number of Spills by Facility Category



Number of Spills by Size Class



- The number of Hazardous Substance spills has been fairly steady over the 13-year period of record.
- Total volume fluctuated quite a bit in certain years due several large releases:
  - ARCO Seawater DS 4 in FY 1997 (995,400 gallons)
  - GC-2 Tank 8511 Produced Water in FY 2007 (234,738 gallons)
- The total spill volume for FY 2008 *(151,595 gal)* was significantly below average.
- The North Slope subarea *(203)* and the Interior subarea *(74)* had the greatest number of Hazardous Substance releases during FY 2008, and also the greatest average over the 13-year period.
- The Northwest Arctic subarea had the greatest volume spilled for FY 2008 *(83,561 gal)*.
- The Southeast subarea *(44)* and the Western subarea *(3)* had higher than average spill counts in FY 2008.
- The Prince William Sound subarea *(4)* had a below average spill count in FY 2008.
- The Western subarea *(752 gal)* and the Interior subarea *(30,014 gal)* had above average spill volumes in FY 2008.
- The North Slope subarea *(29,285 gal)* and the Southeast subarea *(550 gal)* had below average spill volumes in FY 2008.

KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS

AL	Aleutian
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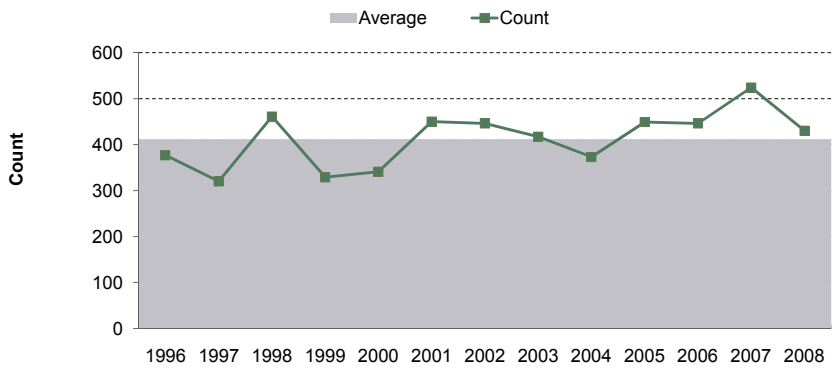
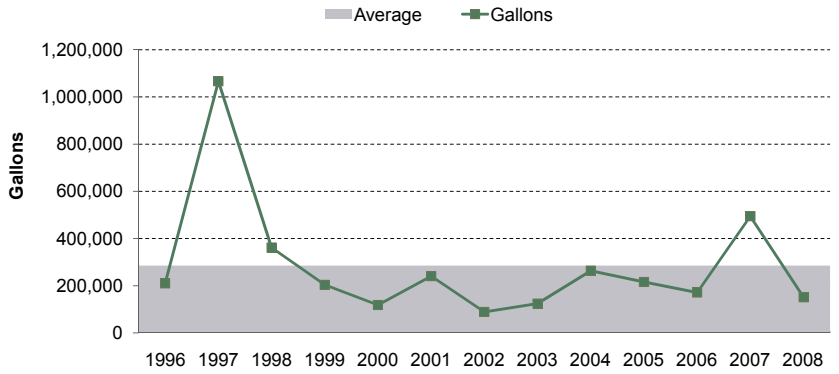
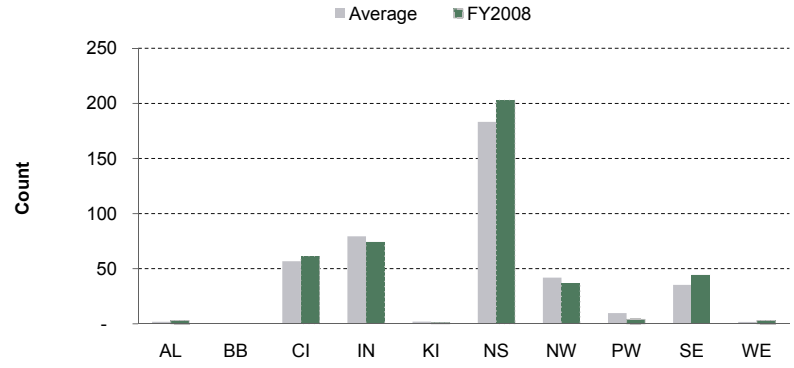
CI	Cook Inlet
IN	Interior
KI	Kodiak Island
NS	North Slope
NW	Northwest Arctic
PW	Prince William Sound
SE	Southeast Alaska
WE	Western Alaska

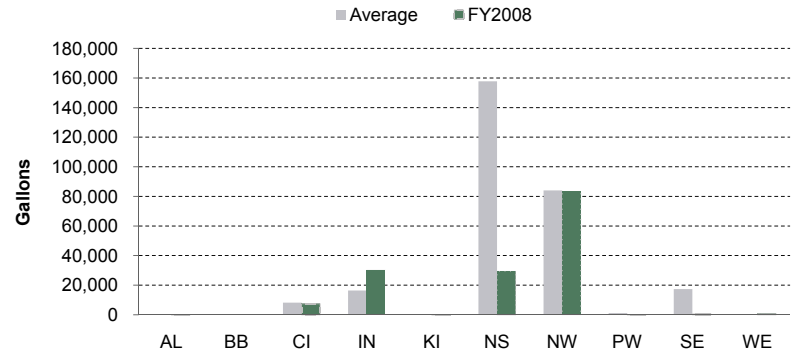
Spills by Fiscal Year





Spills by Subarea





Extremely Hazardous Substances

Spills Reported in Gallons	27
Total Gallons	110
Spills Reported in Pounds	20
Total Pounds	28,401

Top 5 Causes (pounds)

Cause	Spills	Pounds
Leak (STR/MECH)	4	18,687
Intentional Release (HUM)	1	4,500
Other (OTH)	1	3,000
Valve Failure (STR/MECH)	3	602
Unknown (UNK)	2	501

Top Products (pounds)

Product	Spills	Pounds
Anhydrous Ammonia	15	24,279
Hydrogen Peroxide	1	3,000
Sulfur Dioxide	2	1,000
Chlorine	2	122

Top 5 Facility Types (pounds)

Product	Spills	Pounds
Cannery (STO)	9	18,199
Refinery Operation (STO)	4	5,950
Mining Operation (STO)	1	3,000
Chemical Manufacturing (STO)	4	1,130
Water/Wastewater Facility (STO)	2	122

NOTE: Extremely Hazardous Substances (EHS) are designated by the US Environmental Protection Agency in federal regulations (40 CFR part 355, Emergency Planning and Notification).

KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS

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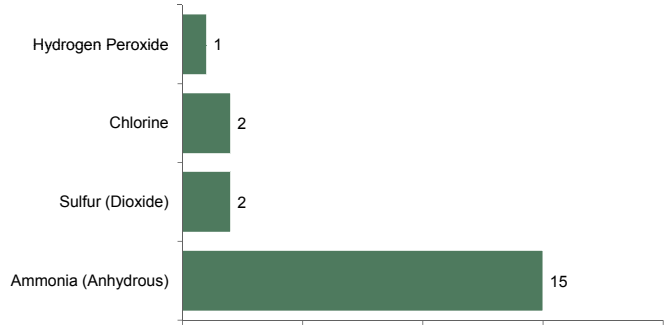
STO	Storage
TRA	Transportation
VES	Vessel
OTH/UNK	Other/Unknown

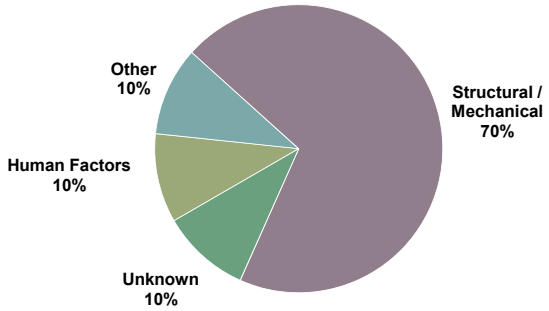
Number of Spills by Product

(spills reported in pounds)



Number of Spills by Cause

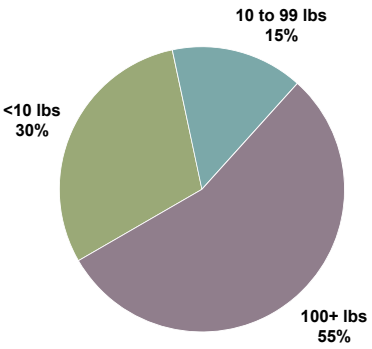
(spills reported in pounds)



Number of Spills by Facility Category

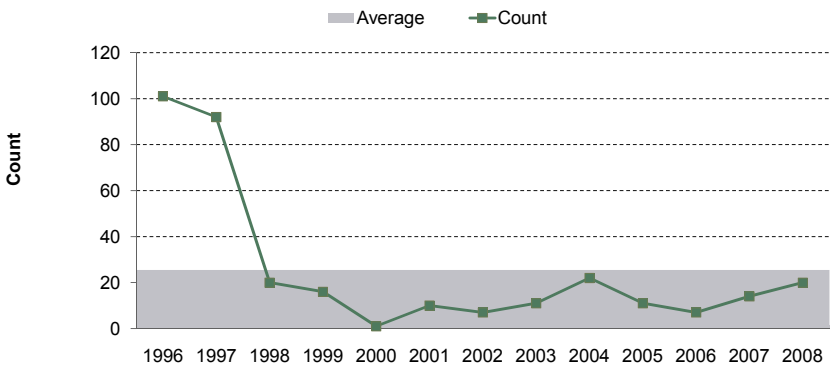
(spills reported in pounds)

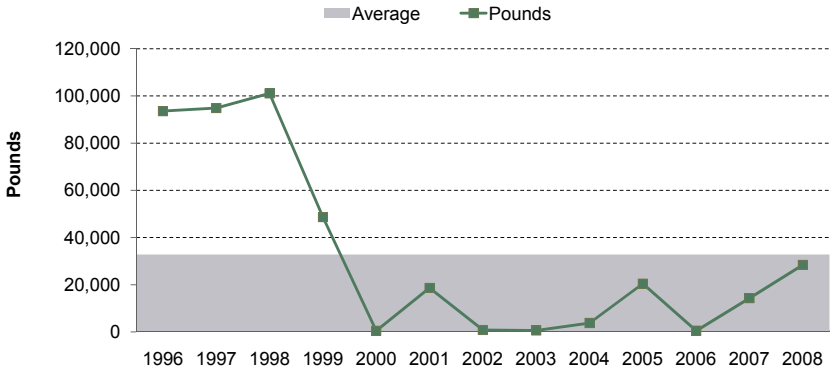
Number of Spills by Size Class



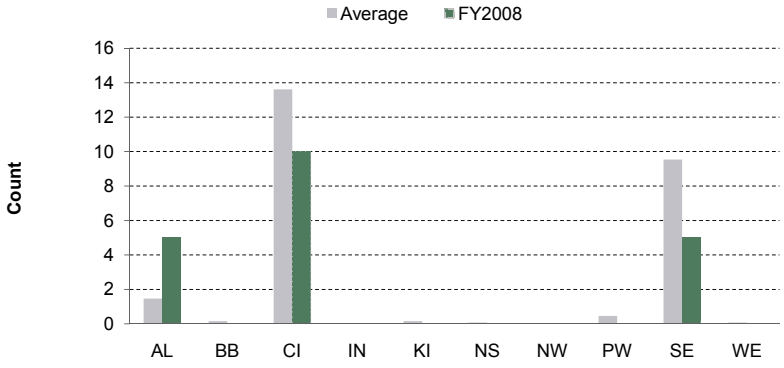
- The number of Extremely Hazardous Substance (EHS) releases and total pounds released was significantly higher in FY 1996 and FY 1997. The majority of releases during those years were from a pulp mill in Southeast Alaska which ceased operations in 1997. EHS spill counts and quantities released have been substantially less since then.
- During FY 2008, EHS releases occurred within the the Cook Inlet subarea *(10),* Aleutian subarea *(5)* and the Southeast Alaska subarea *(5)*.

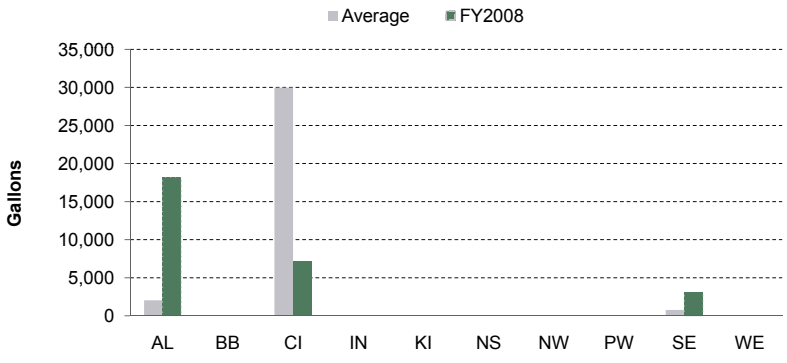
Spills by Fiscal Year *(spills reported in pounds)*





Spills by Subarea *(spills reported in pounds)*





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Special Projects

Emergency Towing System

Within the last decade, several distressed or stricken vessel incidents occurring in the Aleutian Islands have impacted the community of Unalaska and in a few cases caused environmental and economic repercussions. In each situation, the vessel was a large tramper or cargo type vessel, which generally carry fuel in bottom tanks, thus posing a significant pollution risk in a grounding. The information provided in the Vessel Traffic in the Aleutians Subarea study, illustrates roughly 67% of port calls to Unalaska/ Dutch Harbor in 2004 were either container ships or tramper/reefer vessels.

Following the near grounding of the *Salica Frigo* on March 9, 2007 the Mayor of Unalaska convened a Disabled Vessel workgroup to address the possibility of future groundings and to discuss local emergency response solutions. This initial meeting prompted the Emergency Towing System (ETS) workgroup whose goal was to develop emergency towing capabilities for disabled vessels in the Aleutian Subarea using locally available tugboats in conjunction with ETS equipment stationed in Unalaska.

The City of Unalaska purchased a system suitable for vessels up to 50,000 DWT and the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation purchased a system capable of towing vessels greater than 50,000 DWT; both systems are stored in Unalaska.

The ETS consists of a light weight towline, a messenger line to assist in deploying the towline, a line-launcher, a lighted buoy, and chaffing gear. These components may be configured to deploy to a disabled ship from the stern of a tugboat or airdropped to the ship's deck via helicopter.

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation has also purchased and stored a 10-inch Emergency Towing System (ETS) at the USCG Air Station in Kodiak. For mobilization and use of the Kodiak Emergency Towing System, please contact the USCG Sector Anchorage Command Center at (866) 396-1361 or (907) 271-6769.

Project website: http://www.dec.state.ak.us/spar/perp/aiets/home.htm

Prevention Initiatives

Home Heating Oil Tanks

Home heating oil tanks are in use throughout the state and are not regulated by the Department. Since 2001, response staff have actively worked to achieve a reduction in the number and magnitude of heating oil discharges from home heating oil systems through a variety of public outreach methods with a focus on prevention targeted primarily at the homeowner. They have attended home shows, state fairs, and local and statewide forums, and have been interviewed on radio and television. A series of public service announcements was produced and aired in over 250 Alaskan communities served by the Alaska Public Radio Network, and a print version appeared in newspapers.

Additional outreach information is being developed for fuel distributors. Greater emphasis is being placed on providing information on preventive measures to rural Alaskan communities where oil drum "tanks" are common and the high price of oil makes the impact of a spill difficult on the residents and governments of these remote Alaskan villages and towns.

Project website: http://www.dec.state.ak.us/spar/perp/hho.htm

Clean Harbors Initiative

The Clean Harbors initiative in Alaska is being sponsored jointly by Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) and Cook Inlet Regional Citizens' Advisory Council (CIRCAC), and is partially financed by a grant from the Conoco Phillips Earth Energy Partners Program. Homer Harbor is serving as a "pilot project" for launching the Clean Harbors initiative in Alaska. This program is based on Clean Marinas programs on the west coast and nationwide, promoted by NOAA and others, that encourage marina operators and recreational boaters to protect coastal water quality by engaging in environmentally sound operating and maintenance practices.

While Clean Marina Programs vary from state to state, all programs offer information, guidance, and technical assistance to marina operators, local governments, and recreational boaters on Best Management Practices that can be used to prevent or reduce pollution. Marinas that participate in the Clean Marina Program are recognized for their environmental stewardship.

The first workgroup meeting for the Clean Harbors pilot project was held in Homer on December 19, 2007. Participants at the meeting included ADEC, CIRCAC, City of Homer Port Administration, Cook Inlet Keeper, the USCG, Alaska Sea Grant, and Nuka Research. As the first step in the pilot project, a sub-group is working with a contractor, Nuka Research, to develop a Best Management Practices template for harbors in Alaska.

Project website: http://www.nukaresearch.com/projects/cleanharbor/index.shtml

Aleutians Risk Assessment

ADEC and the U.S. Coast Guard are funding a multi-stage risk assessment of maritime transportation in the Bering Sea and the Aleutian Archipelago. The first phase of this long-term risk assessment and mitigation strategy is to fund a project titled, "Risk of Oil Spills in the Aleutian Islands-A Study to Design a Comprehensive Risk Assessment". A Committee established within the Transportation Research Board of the National Academies is conducting this project and the first committee meeting was held in Anchorage and Unalaska during the last week of October 2007.

The efforts of the committee culminated with the completion of their report titled "Risk of Oil Spills in the Aleutian Islands-A Study to Design a Comprehensive Risk Assessment."

The second phase of the project – conducting the Aleutian Islands Risk Assessment is now underway. The assessment organization and management structure consists of four groups: a Management Team, an Advisory Panel, a Risk Analysis Team, and a Peer Review Panel. The management team consists of the U.S. Coast Guard, State of Alaska (ADEC), and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (the agency responsible for allocating funds). A priority for the management team is the establishment of the advisory panel and selection of a contracted facilitator for the panel.

Project website: http://www.dec.state.ak.us/spar/perp/ai_risk/ai_risk.htm

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For more information go to:
www.dec.state.ak.us/spar/perp