



MWRD Updates IWWSG November 12, 2025

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Tonight's Topics

- MWRD Industrial Waste Division Updates
- PFAS Sampling and Data
- Effluent Water Reuse
- Industrial Assistance Programs





User Charge Updates

- UC Ordinance updates were submitted for review at the November 6 Board Meeting for approval December 4.
- 2026 User Charge Rates proposed

Charge	2024	2025	2026 (proposed)
Volume (\$/MG)	287.56	292.73	298.00
BOD (\$/1000 lbs)	187.65	191.03	194.46
SS (\$/1000 lbs)	125.28	126.40	127.54
OM&R Factor	30.6%	47.4%	40.7%



User Charge Updates

- Minor language edits made throughout for consistency
- Added Section 7(m) to describe requirements and liabilities of Industrial Users (IUs) located in the Poplar Creek Service Basin, whose waste is treated by the Fox River Water Reclamation District (FRWRD).
- Appendix A, Section 1 amended to specify that documentation of monthly calibrations for flow measurement devices must be stored at an IU's facility and made available to the District upon demand, for no less than three years.
- Appendix B, Section 5 added to further explain the District's right to sample an IU's waste stream and clarify terms related to requests for split samples.
- Statement added in Appendix B, Section 6, to specify that the District has the right to reject sampling results from an IU if the sample was nonrepresentative or not collected/analyzed in accordance with District ordinances.



Phosphorus Updates

- MWRD submitted a phosphorus surcharge proposal to USEPA on September 10 to recover the cost for treatment of excess phosphorus.
- Threshold for surcharge would be $>5\%$ annual domestic phosphorus loading to the District WRP. The initial phosphorus surcharge threshold for the Calumet WRP calculated to be 184 pounds/day of total phosphorus.
- Additional WRPs are under review to determine how widespread the phosphorus program will need to be, or whether it can be limited to Calumet where chemical P removal costs have been very high.



Pretreatment Program Updates

MWRD proposed to the USEPA several updates to Sewage and Waste Control Ordinance

- Formalize and clarify the appeal process
- Create a Non-discharging Categorical Industrial User (NDCIU) category with annual certification requirements
- Streamline the process of serving notices under the Ordinance, including service on and by the MWRD.
- Add Notice of Noncompliance option in Enforcement Response Procedure for flow noncompliance.



Pretreatment Program Updates

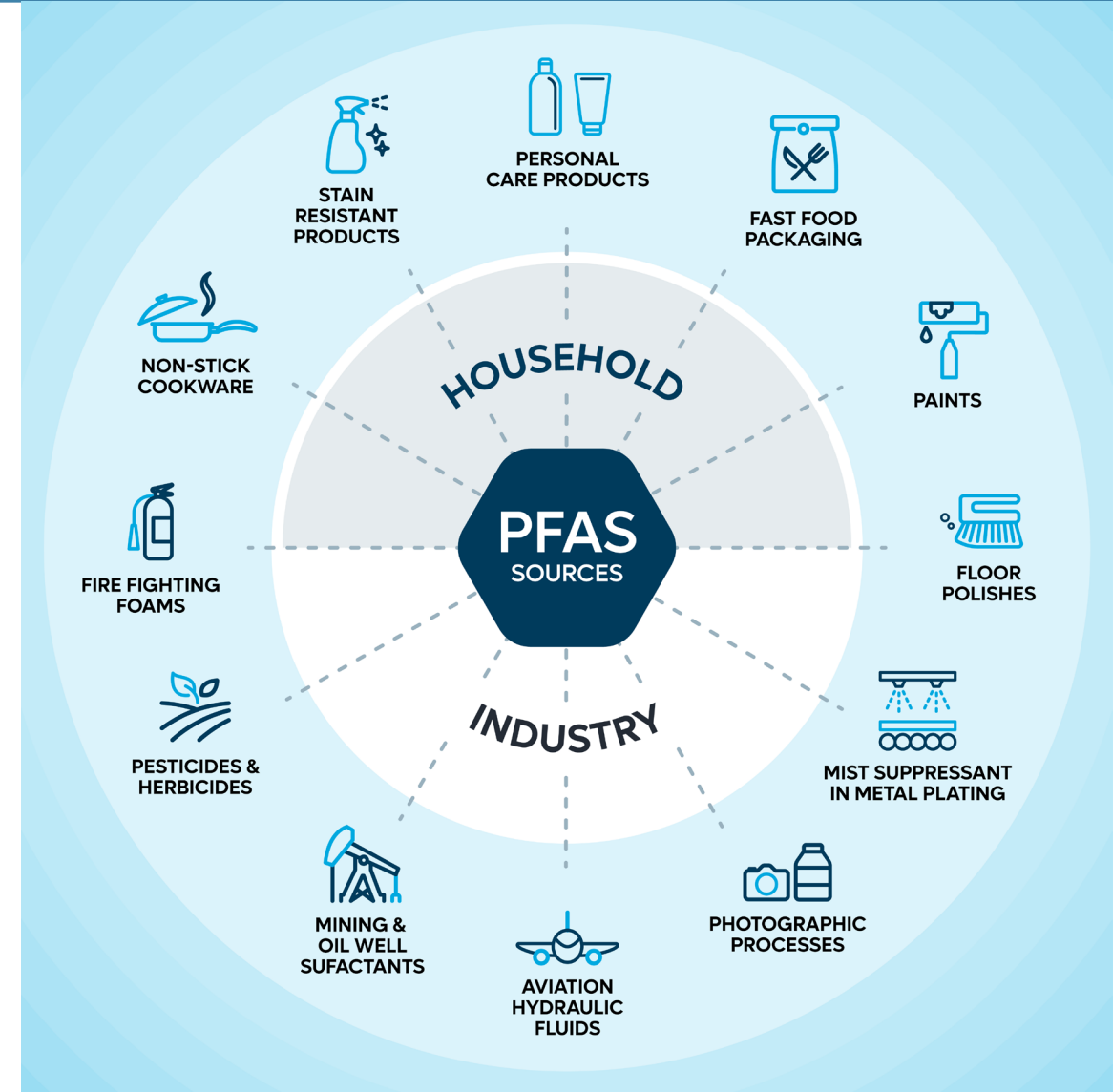
Timeline

- Received tentative approval from USEPA on 5/15/25
- 30-day public comment period
- Submitted to USEPA on 9/25/25 for final approval
- Board approval before amendment/implementation



Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)

- Interceptor, water reclamation plant, and industrial facility sampling
 - 2025 Sampling
 - Results from 2024 Sampling
- NPDES Requirements
- PFAS Loading Reduction Plans for Industrial Users
- Other Regulatory Updates





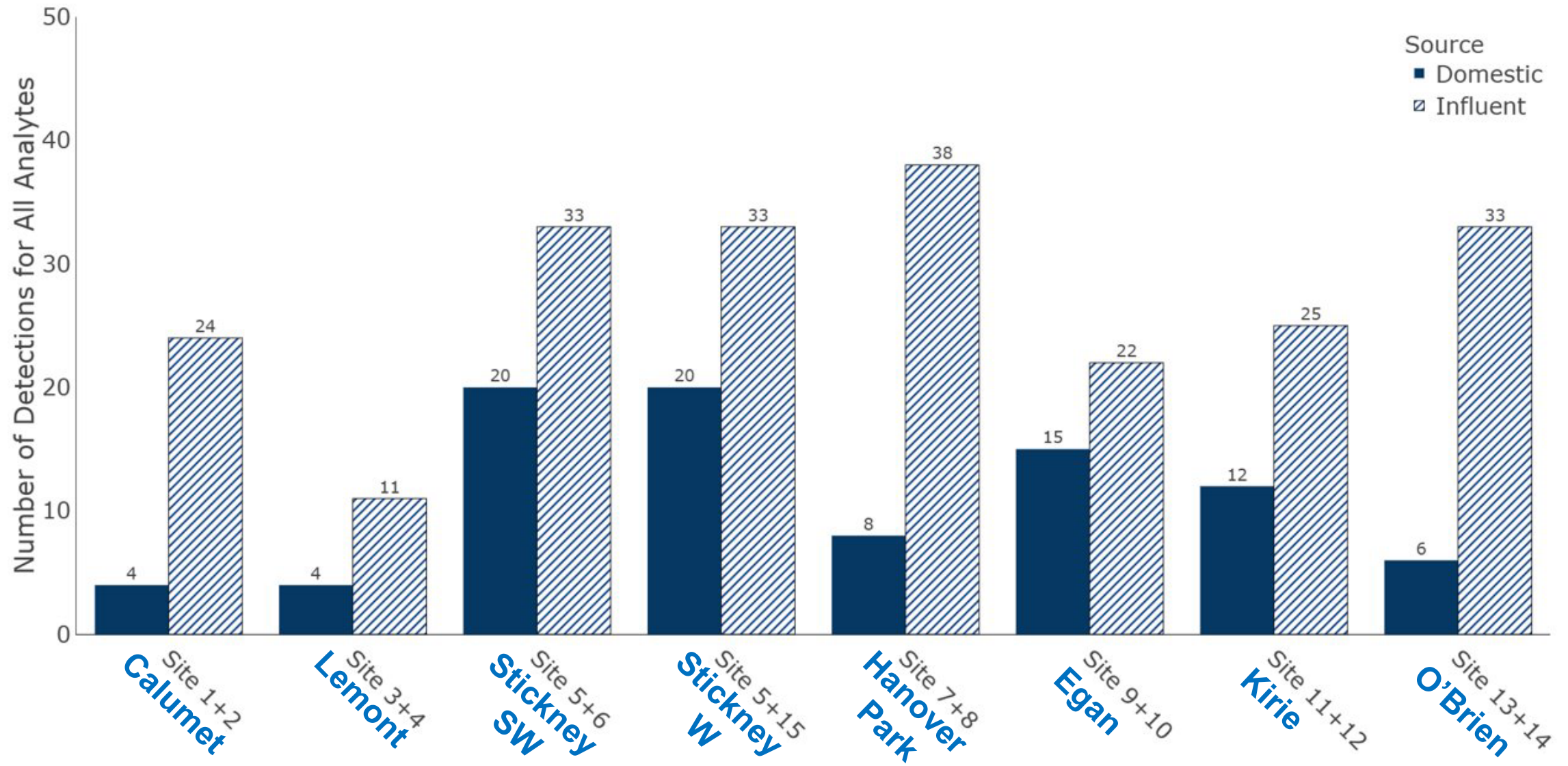
PFAS – Interceptor/Influent Sampling

- Third year of domestic intercepting sewer, influent, and effluent sampling at seven MWRD Water Reclamation Plants in 2025
 - 5 days of grab samples in September
 - Normal operations and dry weather
 - Total of 115 samples
- 2024 sampling results
 - 7 days of grab samples in October
 - Normal operations and dry weather
 - Total of 153 samples





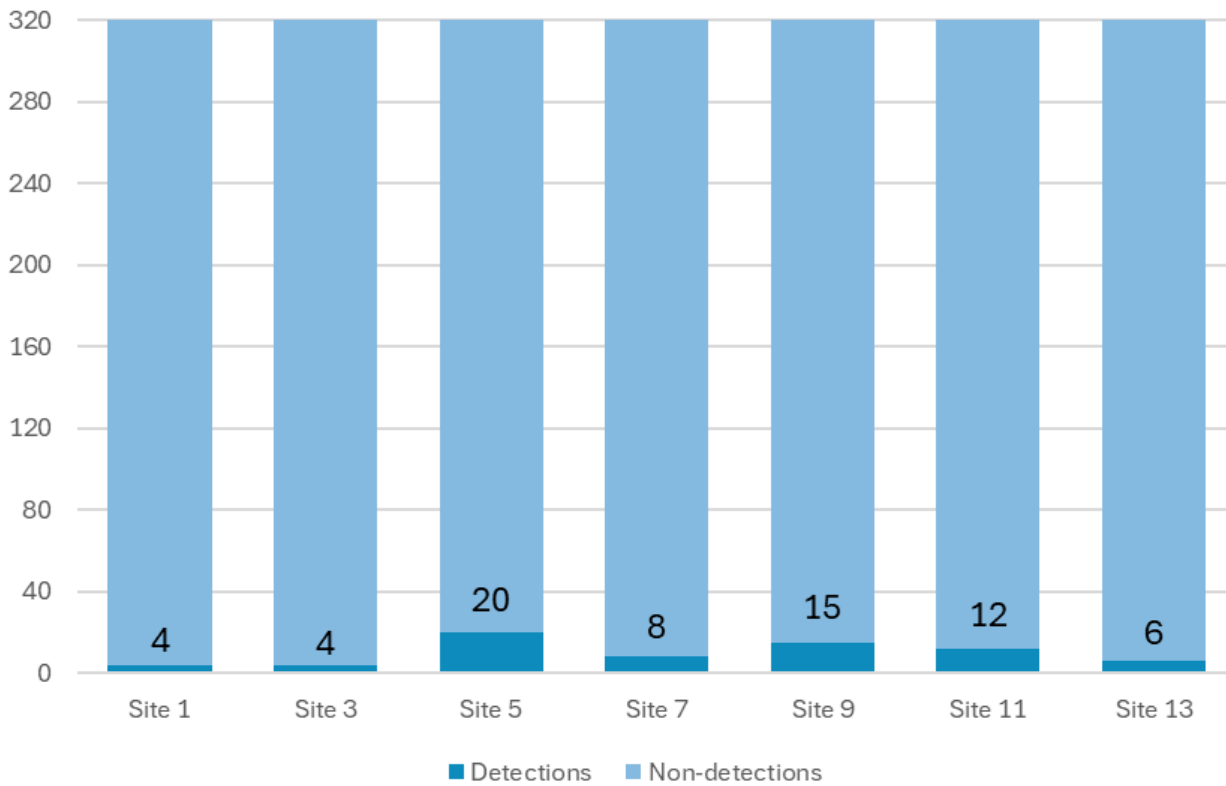
2024 Total Number of Detections above Reporting Limit



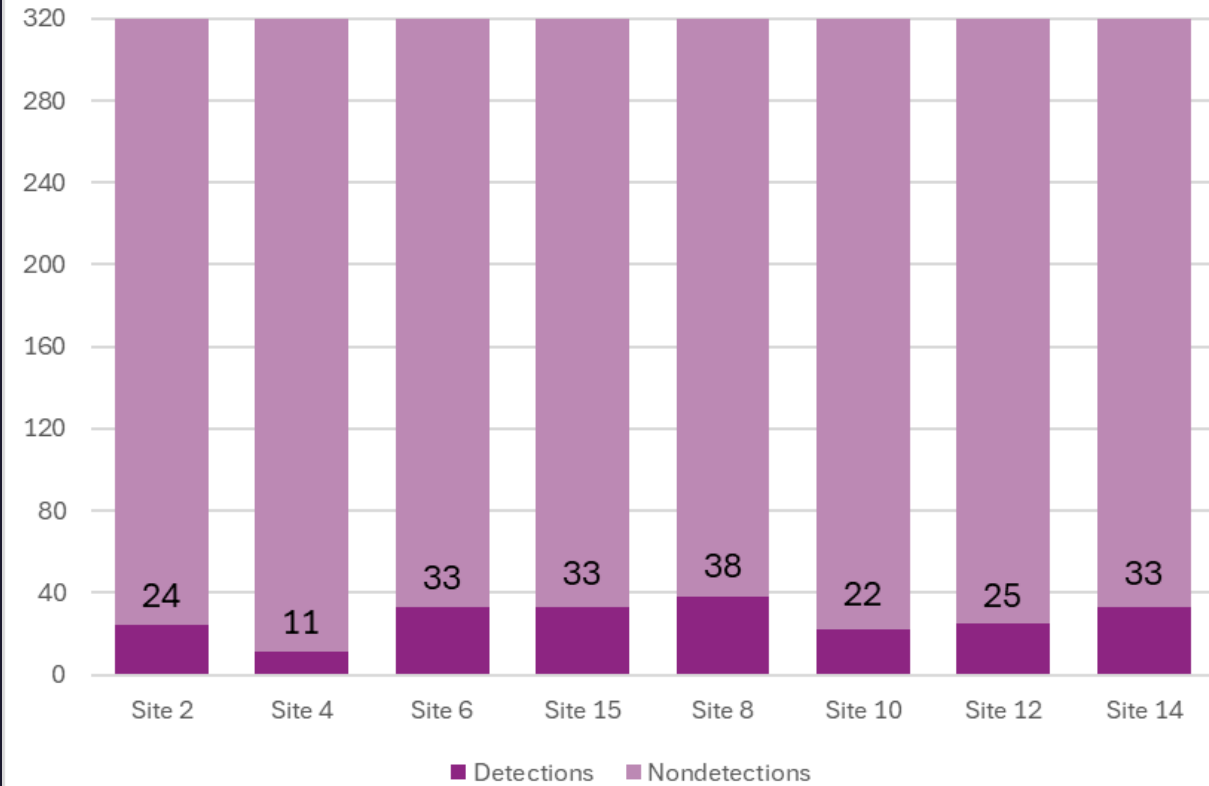


2024 total possible number of detections

Domestic detections

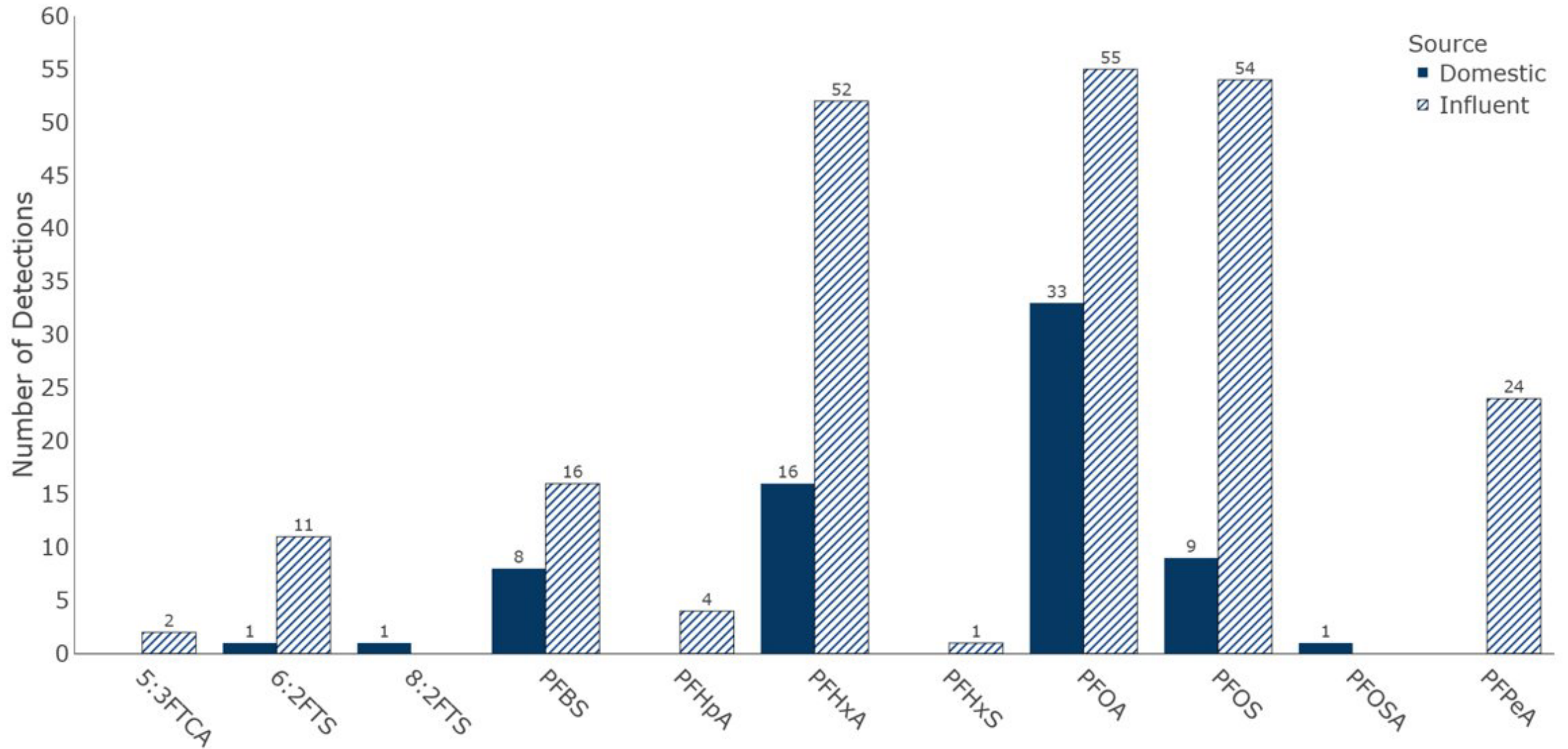


WRP Influent detections



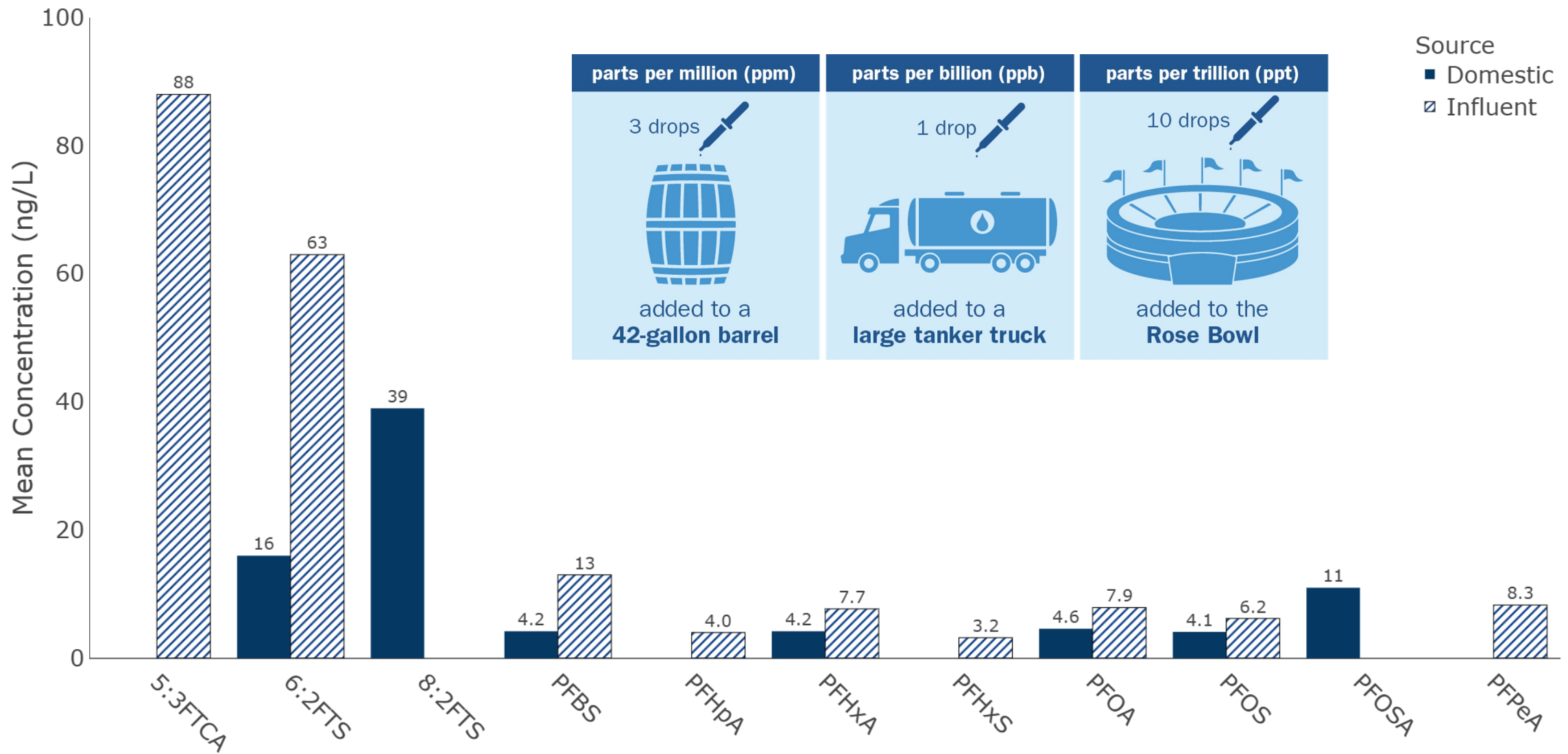


2024 number of detections by analyte



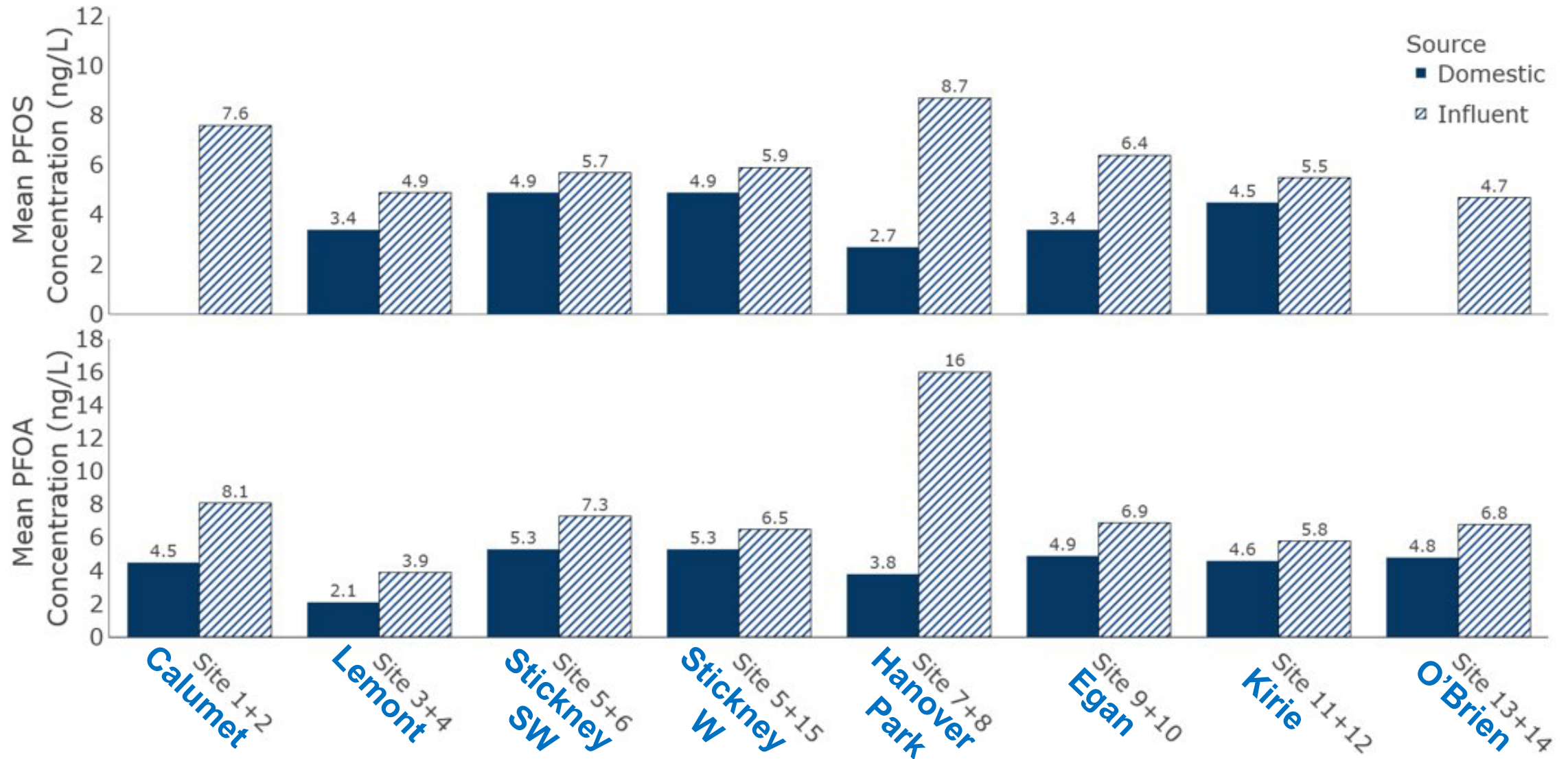


2024 mean concentrations by analyte





2024 mean concentrations PFOS & PFOA





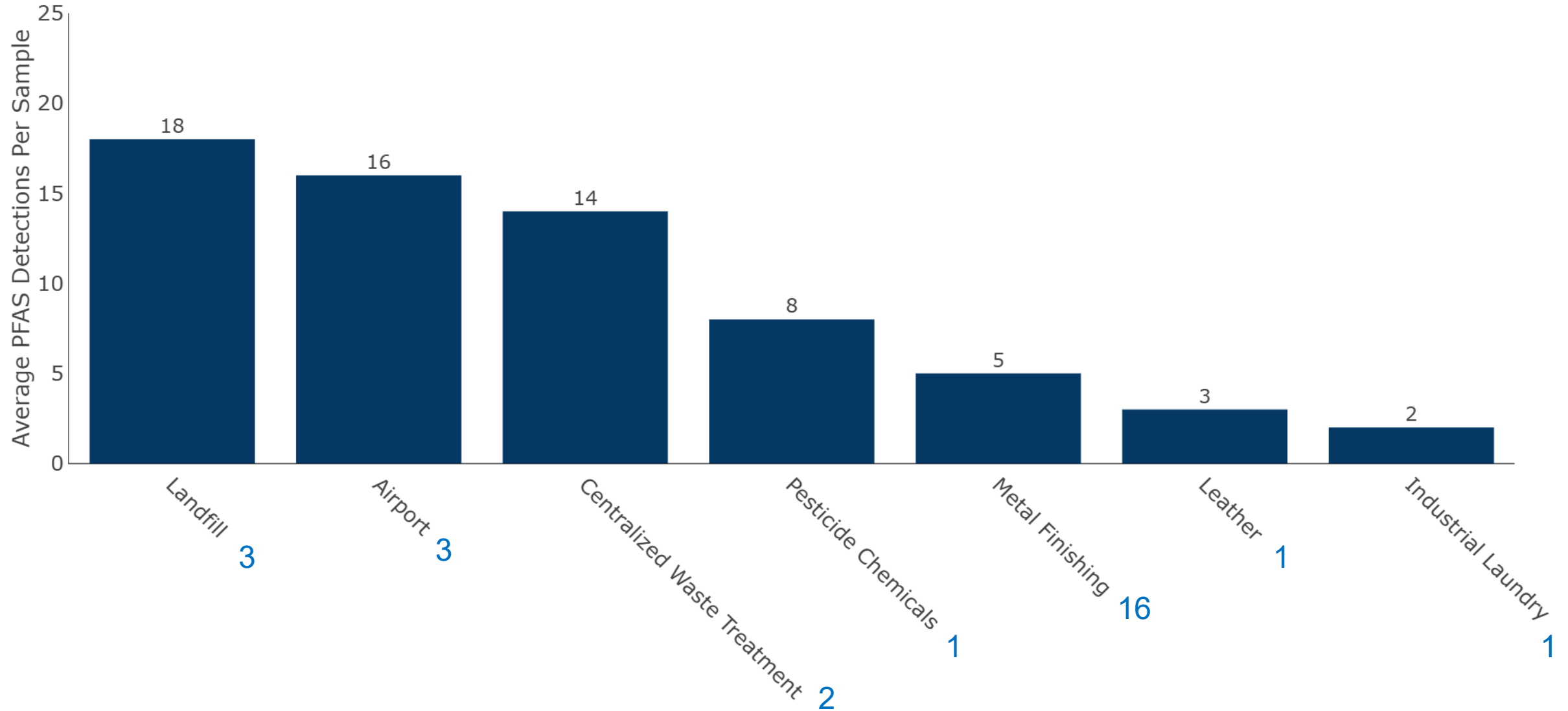
PFAS – Industrial User Effluent Sampling

- 3-day PFAS studies at industrial user facilities with potential to discharge PFAS.
 - Various services areas
 - Variety of industry types
 - Domestic interceptor/influent data.
- In 2025, about 144 samples to be taken at 36 industrial user sites.
- In 2024, 104 samples taken at 31 industrial user sites.



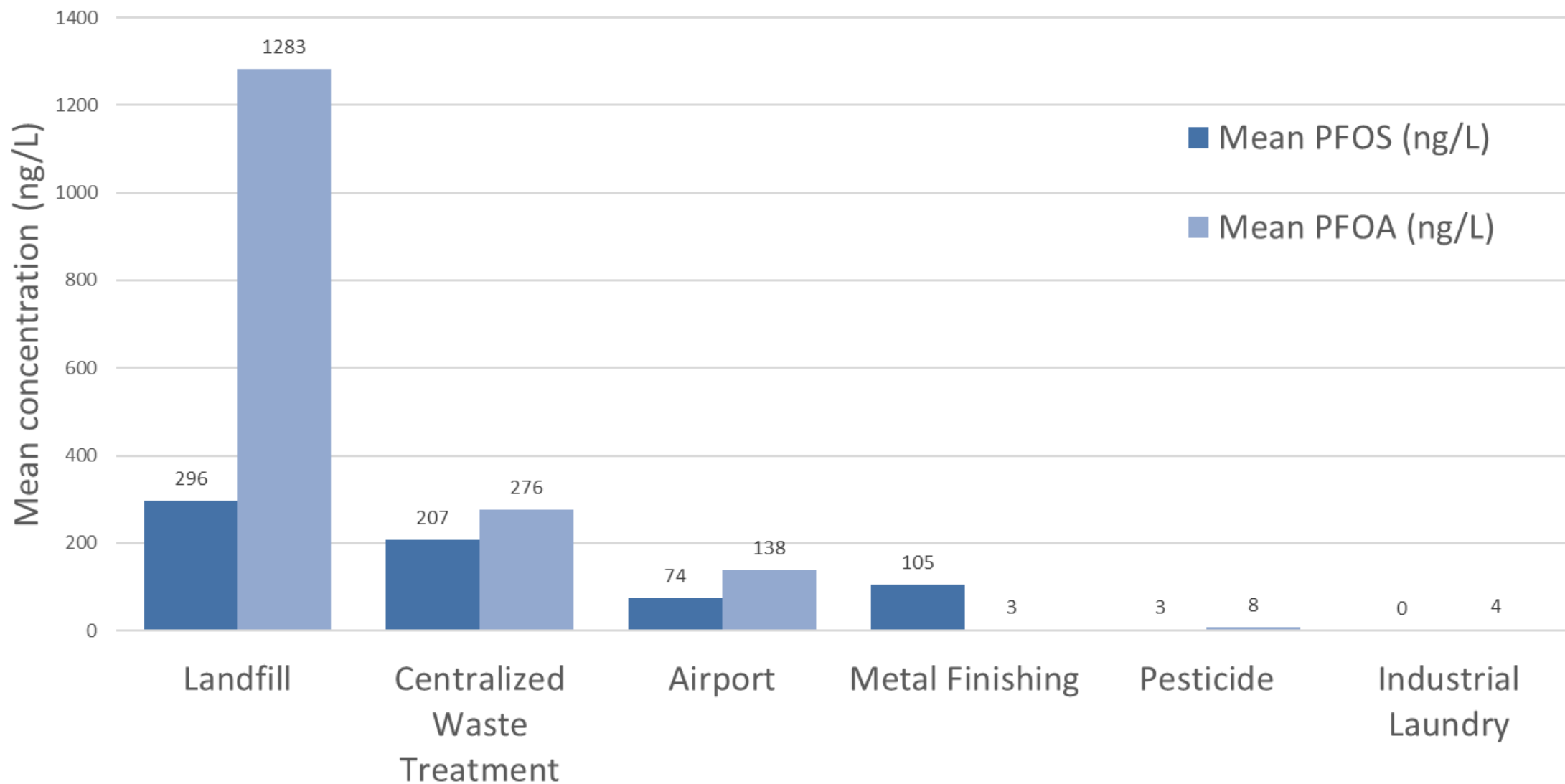


Avg detections per sample by facility type



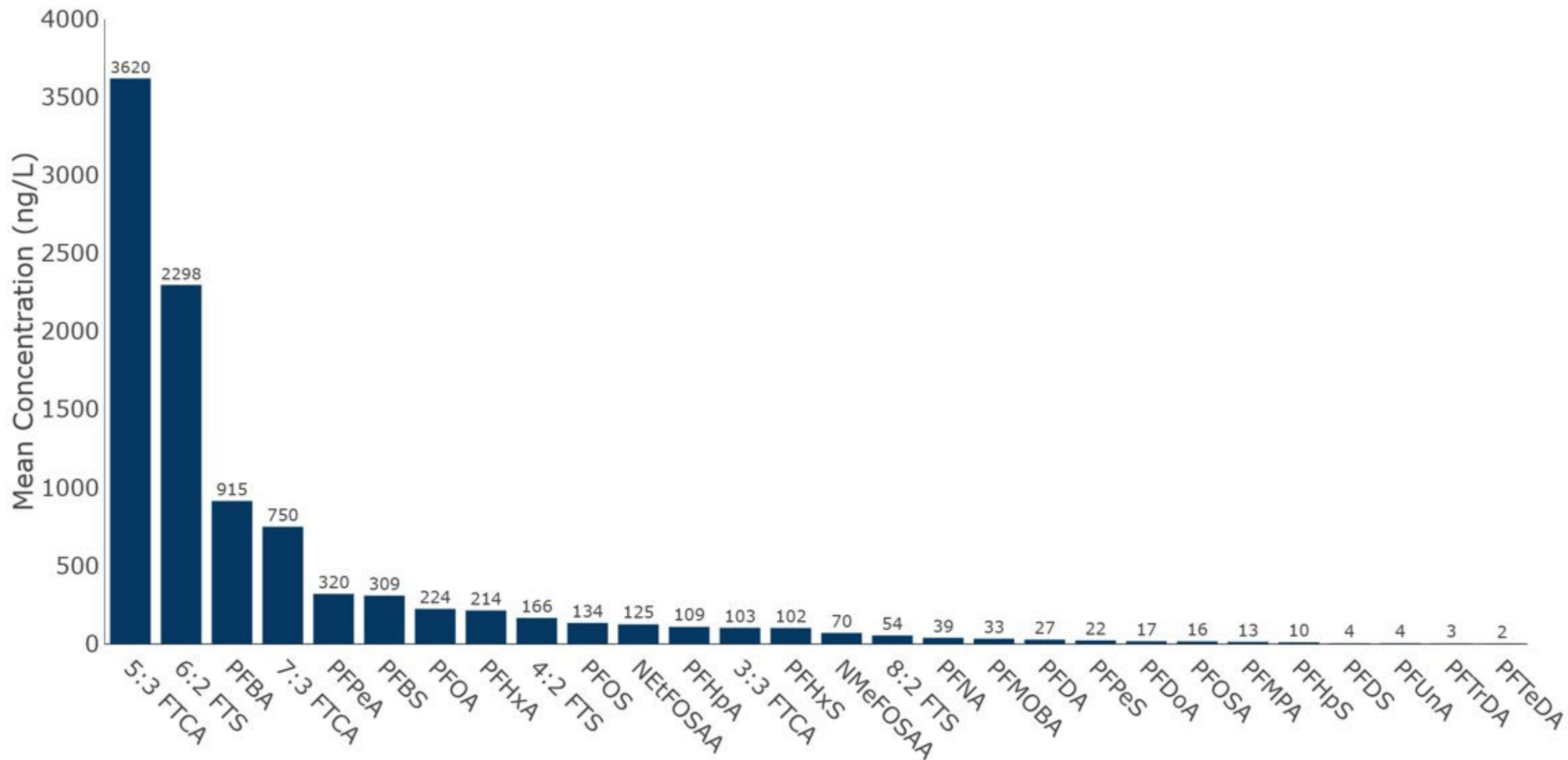


Facility PFOS and PFOA



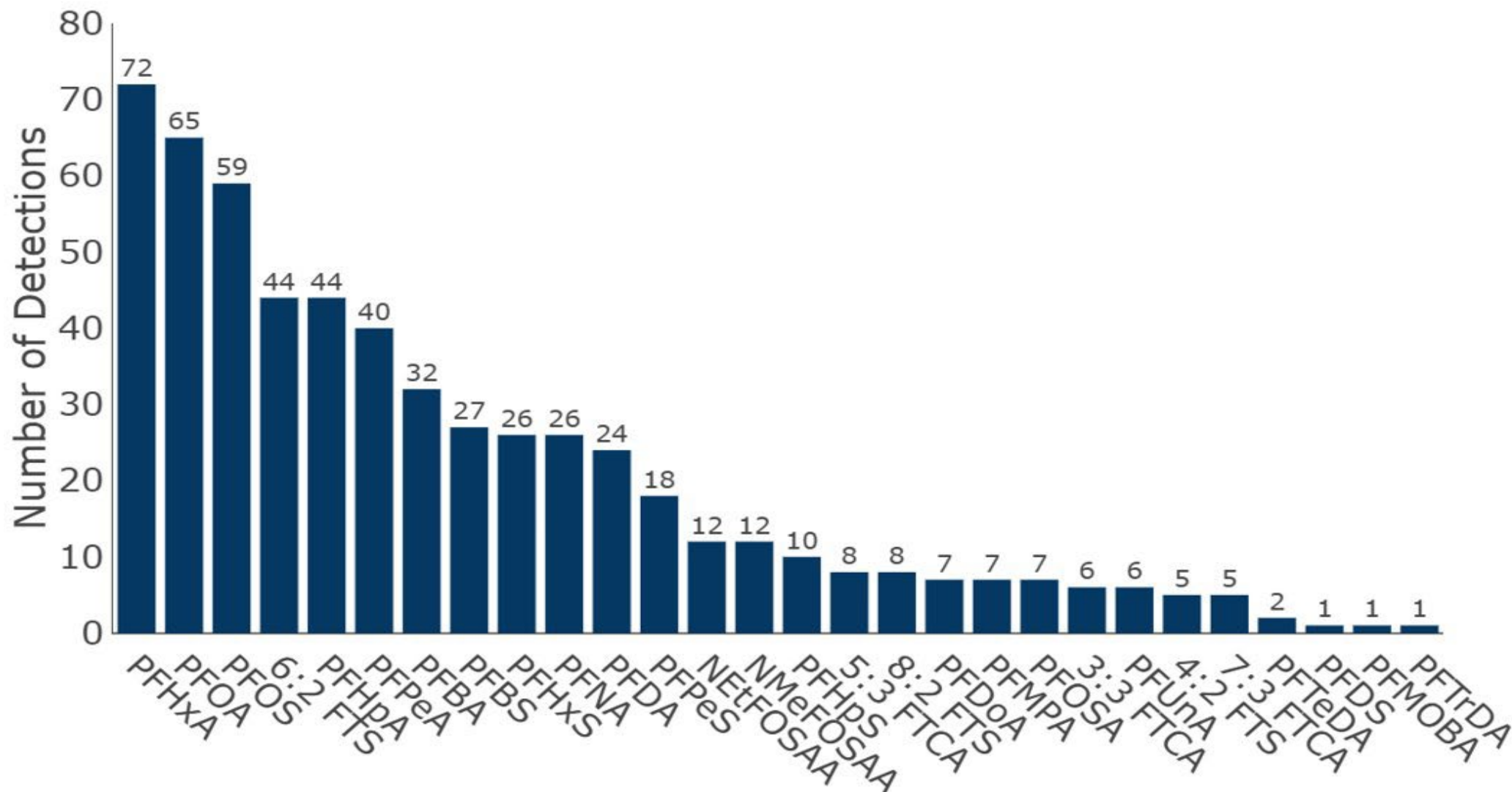


Facility mean concentrations by analyte





Facility detections by analyte





2024 facility sampling

- Collected 104 samples at 31 industrial user sites (29 IUs)
- 28 PFAS analytes (out of 40 total) were detected in facility site samples compared to only 7 detected in domestic site samples in 2024
- Concentrations higher in industrial discharges, but studies that consider loading find that overall domestic loading higher than industrial for some PFAS compounds.

PFAS Compound	Domestic avg (ng/L)	Facility avg (ng/L)	Domestic max (ng/L)	Facility max (ng/L)
PFOS	3.8	134	5.7	1,000
PFOA	4.3	224	6.2	2,200
5:3 FTCA	No detections	3,620	No detections	21,000
6:2 FTS	16	2,298	16	15,000



PFAS – Outreach to Industrial Users

Act now to better understand and characterize potential PFAS in your waste streams

- Inventory your products
- Ask your suppliers about alternatives
- Properly dispose of PFAS-containing products no longer being used
- Minimize chances of accidental discharge of PFAS
- If your processes use PFAS and discharge to sewer is necessary, consider sampling to determine if pretreatment may be needed.
- Equipment decontamination or replacement where PFAS used historically.
- Develop in-house training program to educate your employees on managing PFAS from your industrial activities at the source



PFAS – IEPA Permit Language

IEPA Special Conditions in NPDES Permits

- Quarterly influent, effluent and semiannual sludge monitoring
- Within 1 year submit inventory report of facilities in service area with potential to contribute or discharge PFAS into sewer system.
- Within 2 years, develop and implement a PFAS reduction initiative that *must include PFAS loading reduction plans for facilities identified in the inventory.*
- Within 3 years and then annually, submit a PFAS reduction report to IEPA, including all industrial facility loading reduction plans.



PFAS – IEPA Permit Language

Facility PFAS Loading Reduction Plans

- Evaluation of the potential for facility to use or discharge PFAS
- Pollution Prevention and Source Reduction opportunities
- Identification of measures being taken to reduce PFAS loading from facility and any available testing data and/or loading reduction achieved.
- PFAS loading reduction plans must be reevaluated and updated annually, identifying any changes made since previous plan.



PFAS – IL PFAS Reduction Act Amended

- Passed in 2021
- Banned manufacture, sale and distribution of PFAS AFFF by January 1, 2025
- Effective January 1, 2026, bans sale of following products with intentionally added PFAS
 - Cookware, cosmetics, dental floss, juvenile products, menstrual products, intimate apparel, or food packaging.



PFAS – USEPA Activities

- **POTW “Influent Study” on Hold**
- **Developing Effluent Guidelines for Industries**
 - Metal Finishing and Electroplating – Chrome Finishing Facilities 40 CFR 433 and 413.
 - Organic chemicals, plastics & synthetic fibers (OCPSF) 40 CFR 414
 - Landfills – 40 CFR 445
- **CERCLA Hazardous Substance Designation**
- **Drinking Water Regulation**
- **Draft Biosolids Risk Assessment**



Effluent Water Reuse

- House Bill 2391 amends the Illinois Environmental Protection Act to allow the industrial use of treated municipal wastewater; effective date of January 1, 2026.
- MWRD Board Resolution in July, 2025 committing to advance effluent water reuse
- Mapped high water use industrial users within 2, 3, and 5 miles of MWRD water reclamation plants for potential facilities.
- Plan to conduct targeted survey of potential non-potable reuse customers for potentially viable pilot reuse studies.
- Identifying external funding sources and cost sharing arrangements.
- Also looking into nearby data centers, golf courses, and park districts.
- CONTACT HEIDI WARNER AT warnerh@mwrdd.org IF YOU MIGHT BE INTERESTED!



Industry Assistance

Illinois Sustainable Technology Center's Technical Assistance Program (TAP) now **Center for Economic Impacts and Societal Benefits (CEISB)**

Our Sustainability Assessment Process



<https://go.illinois.edu/techassististc-info@illinois.edu>

- Comprehensive Assessment
- Compliance Assistance
- Implementation Assistance
- ISO 14000
- Pollution Prevention
- Process Optimization
- Climate resiliency
- Supply Chain Sustainability
- Sustainability Planning
- Water Use Assessment and Benchmarking
- Water Testing and Auditing
- Waste Characterization and Management



Industry Assistance

UIC's Industrial Training and Assessment Center Mechanical and Industrial Engineering College of Engineering <https://iac.uic.edu/>

- Free energy and waste assessments to qualified industrial facilities. If your facility qualifies, team will schedule a one-day site assessment. Within 60 days, we will deliver a report on energy and pollution saving measures.
- Are within Standard Industrial Codes (SIC) 20-39 and wastewater treatment plants
- Are located less than 150 miles away from UIC
- Have gross annual sales below \$250 million
- Have fewer than 500 employees at the plant site
- Have annual energy bills more than \$100,000 and less than \$3.5 million
- Have no professional in-house staff to perform the assessment



**Metropolitan Water
Reclamation District
of Greater Chicago**

Appreciation to:

**Heidi Warner & Dominic Brose
for PFAS Data Analysis**

**IWD staff for PFAS Planning &
Sampling**



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