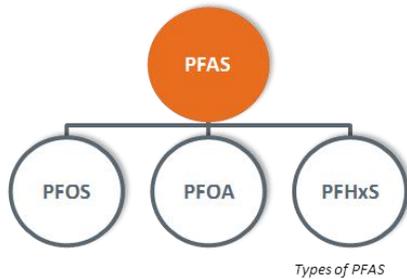


Basic Information on PFAS

What are PFAS– PFAS are a group of manmade chemicals which include a smaller group of chemicals call PFCs. PFAS repel water and oil, and are resistant to heat and chemical reaction. PFAS are used in production of some non-stick cookware, in waterproof and stain proof coating, and in fire fighting foams.

PFAS can enter drinking water through industrial release to water, air, or soil. Discharges from sewage treatment plants; land application of contaminated sludge; and use of fire fighting foam.



PFOS– Perfluorooctane sulfonate

PFOA-Perfluorooctanoic acid

PFNA-Perfluorononanoic acid

PFHxS– Perfluorohexane sulfonate

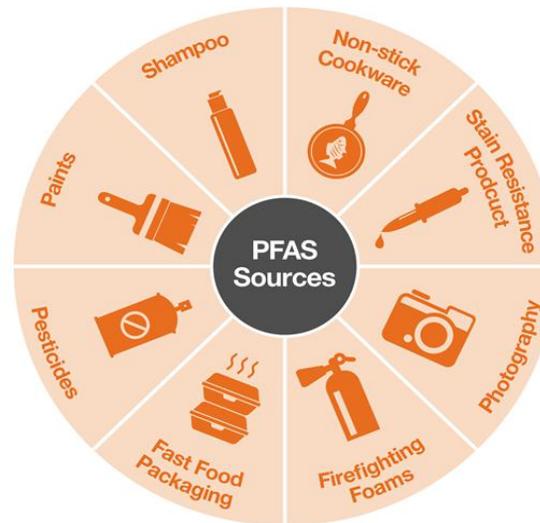
PFCs are not broken down in the body. The four types stated above have been found in the blood (serum) of greater than 98% of the United States population. These PFCs build up and stay in the human body for many years, and the amount goes down very slowly over time.

PFAS Health Risk

There is considerable information on the health effects of PFAS in humans and animals. In experimental animals, some PFAS have been found to cause developmental, immune, neurobehavioral, liver, endocrine, and metabolic toxicity.

Some studies of the general population, communities with drinking water exposures, and exposed workers suggest that PFAS increases the risk of health effects.

It increases serum cholesterol, some liver enzymes, and uric acid levels. PFOA exposure was associated with higher incidence of kidney and testicular cancers.



There are some health risks to children associated with PFAS. PFAS can cause developmental effects. In humans, exposure to PFAS before birth or in early childhood may result in decreased birth weight, decreased immune responses, and hormonal effects later in life.

More research is needed to understand the role PFAS has on developmental effects. PFAS are present in breast milk. Pregnant, nursing, and women considering having children may choose to use home water filters or bottled water for drinking and cooking to reduce exposure to PFAS in water.

PFAS and Drinking Water

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) has moved forward with setting enforceable Maximum Contaminate Levels (MCLs) for PFOA (14 parts per trillion (ppt) [ng/L] and PFNA (13ppt)

USEPA has issued a lifetime drinking water Health Advisory for PFOA and PFOS of 70 ppt individually or when concentrations of PFOA and PFOS are combined.



If your drinking water comes from a well, hire a certified lab in New Jersey to test for these certain parameters. If you are on public supply of water contact your water company to receive your results or contact the local health department or NJDEP

PFAS are not removed from water by boiling. If tap or well water is found to contain PFAS, people may choose to use home filters or bottled water for drinking and cooking to reduce exposure to PFAS in their water.