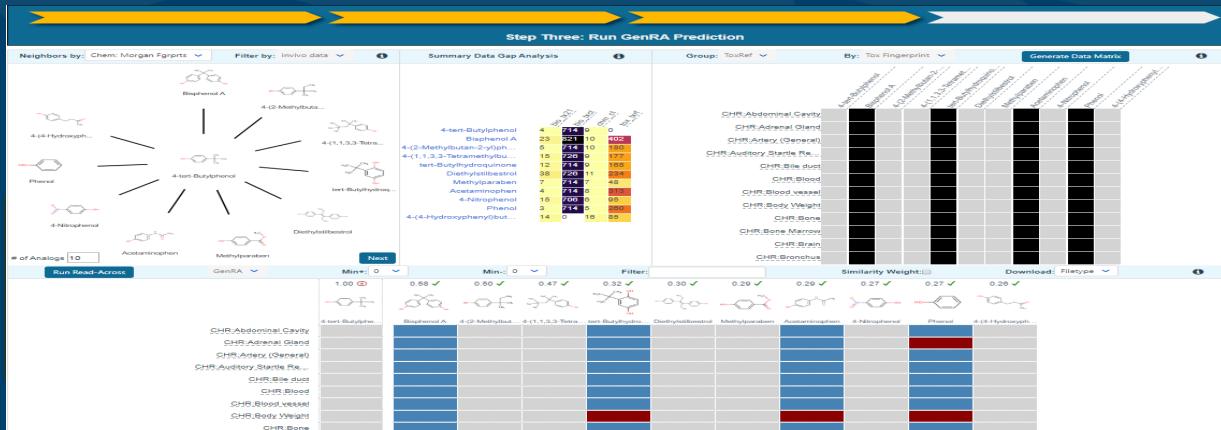


PFAS Prioritisation for Targeted Testing



Grace Patlewicz
National Center for Computational Toxicology (NCCT), US EPA

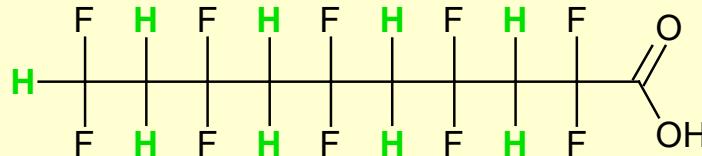
Outline

- What are PFAS?
- What is the Landscape of PFAS?
- What are PFAS of potential interest to the Agency?
- How many substances might be procurable?
- What constitutes a representative set of PFAS to propose for targeted testing?
- Structural categories - current and future
- Some next steps

Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)

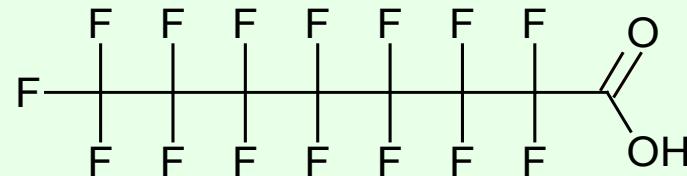
Thousands of PFAS are associated with the production of industrial and consumer products.

Poly fluorinated = many fluorines

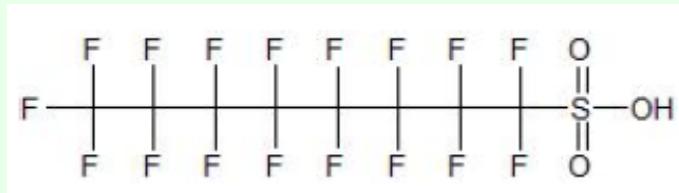


Polyfluorinated carboxylic acid from the production of polyvinylidene fluoride (PVDF) plastic

Per fluorinated = fully fluorinated



Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA ,C-8)



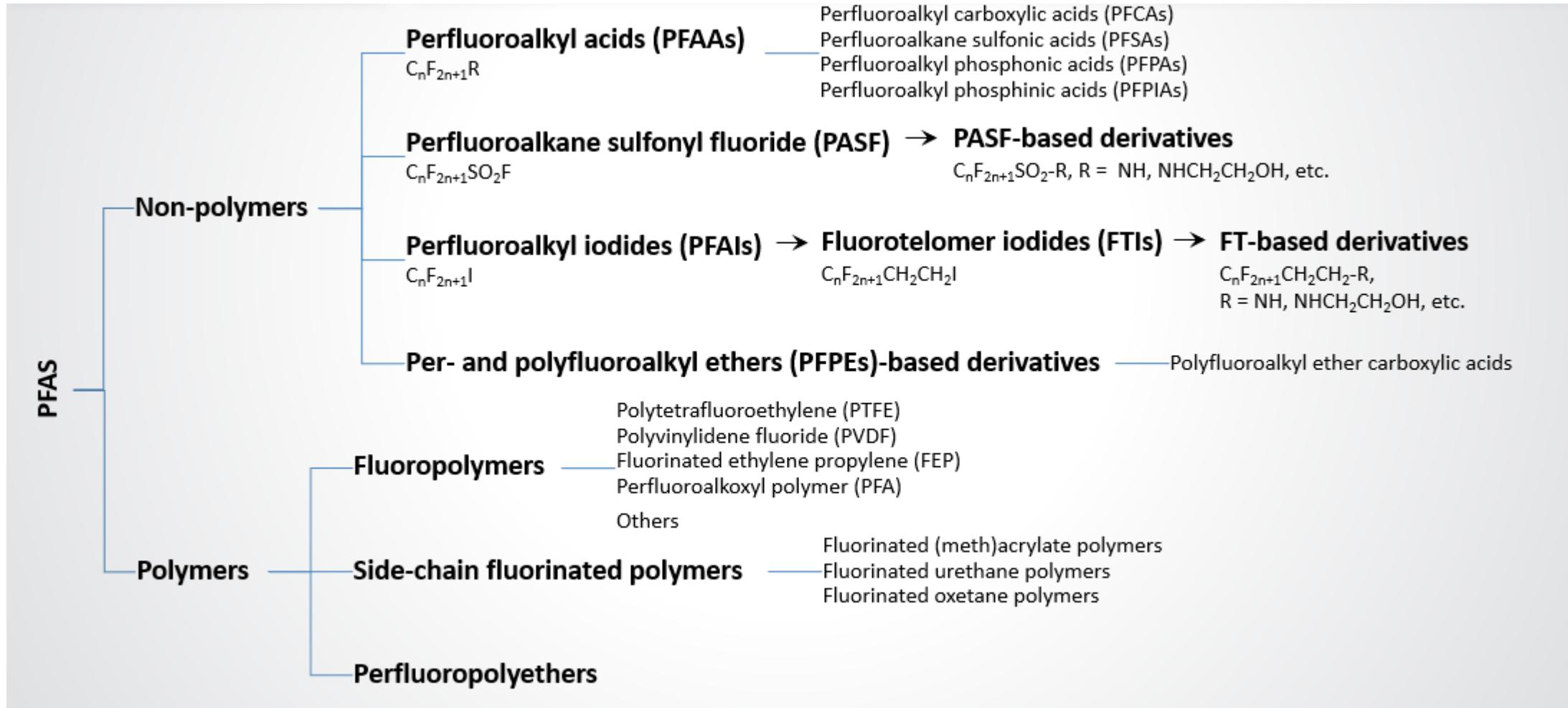
Perfluorooctanesulfonate (PFOS)

Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)

- A class of man-made chemicals that are ubiquitous due to:
 - Wide variety of industrial and consumer uses
 - Persistence
 - High mobility
- They are a concern due to:
 - Known or suspected toxicity, especially for PFOS and PFOA
 - Bioaccumulation
 - Long half lives (e.g., several years), especially in humans
 - Mobility - shorter chain PFAS tend to be highly mobile, longer chain PFAS less mobile
- Information on PFAS is rapidly evolving

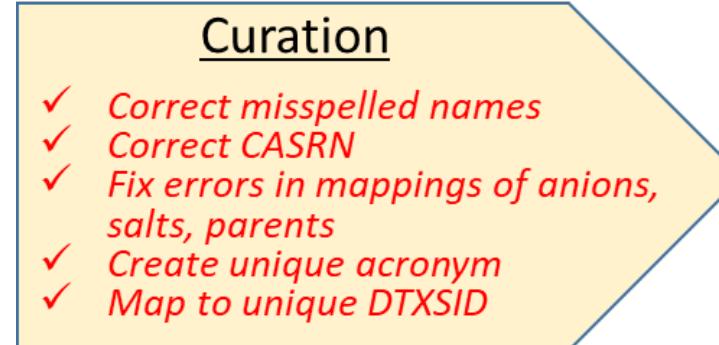
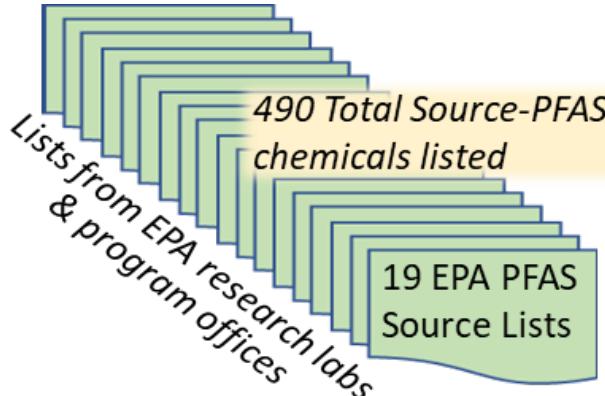


Thousands of Chemicals: More Than Just PFOA and PFOS



PFAS: EPA Cross-Agency Research List (Late 2017)

https://comptox.epa.gov/dashboard/chemical_lists/epapfasrl



EPAPFASRL
19 lists collapsed to single list of 194 unique DTXSID substances

DTXSID	Substance_Name	Substance_CASRN	Source_Name (incorrect or ambiguous)	Source_CASRN (incorrect or invalid)	Source_Acronym (incorrect or ambiguous)	Unique_Acronym
DTXSID20874028	2H,2H,3H,3H-Perfluorooctanoic acid	914637-49-3	5:3 Polyfluorinated acid	914637-49-3	5:3 acid	5:3 PFOA
DTXSID7027831	N-Methyl-N-(2-hydroxyethyl)perfluorooctanesulfonamide	24448-09-7	N-Methyl perfluorooctanesulfonamideoethanol		NMeFOSE, MeFOSE	NMeFOSE
DTXSID10892352	Perfluoro-2-[{perfluoro-3-(perfluoroethoxy)-2-propanyl}oxy]ethanesulfonic acid	749836-20-2	Ethan sulfonic acid, 2-[1-[difluoro(1,2,2,2-tetrafluoroethoxy)methyl]-1,2,2,2-tetrafluoroethoxy]-1,1,2,2-tetrafluoro	749836-20-2	PFESA Byproduct 2	PFESA Byproduct 2
DTXSID70892479	Perfluoropentanesulfonate	175905-36-9	Perfluoropentansulfonate	2706-91-4	PFPeS	PFPeS_ion
DTXSID8071354	Ammonium perfluoropentanesulfonate	68259-09-6	Ammonium perfluoropentansulfonate	68259-09-6		APFPeS
DTXSID40881350	4,8-Dioxa-3H-perfluorononanoic acid	919005-14-4	2,2,3-Trifluoro-3-(1,1,2,2,3,3-hexafluoro-3-(trifluoromethoxy)propoxy)propanoic acid	919005-14-4	ADONA	ADONA parent acid
DTXSID00874026	Ammonium 4,8-dioxa-3H-perfluorononanoate	958445-44-8	Ammonium 4,8-dioxa-3H-perfluorononanoate	958445-44-8	ADONA	ADONA
DTXSID3037707	Potassium perfluorobutanesulfonate	29420-49-3	Potassium perfluoro-1-butanesulfonate		PFBS	PFBS-K
DTXSID5030030	Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid	375-73-5	Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid	375-73-5	PFBS	PFBS

PFAS Library and Chemical Selection

<https://comptox.epa.gov/dashboard>

EPA DSSTox Database: > 758K chemicals

- Chemical structures, downloadable files
 - Predicted phys-chem properties
 - External links & list overlaps

PFAS Chemical Landscape:

DSSTox-registered >5000 PFAS substances
(>3 F, alkyl)

→ Spanning public lists
of interest to EPA

→ Attempt to procure
(chemicals w/ structures)

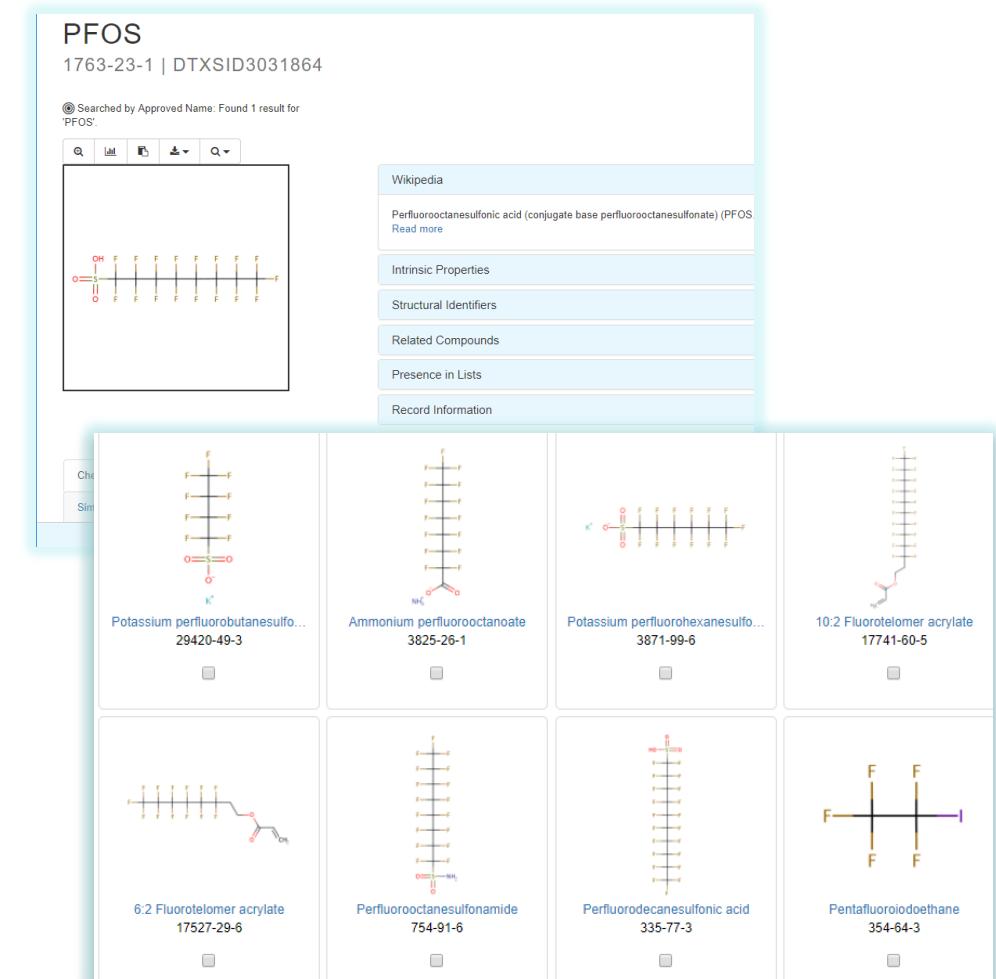
→ PFAS Standards library

← EPA's prioritized list for PFAS research *(exposure, occurrence, health data)*

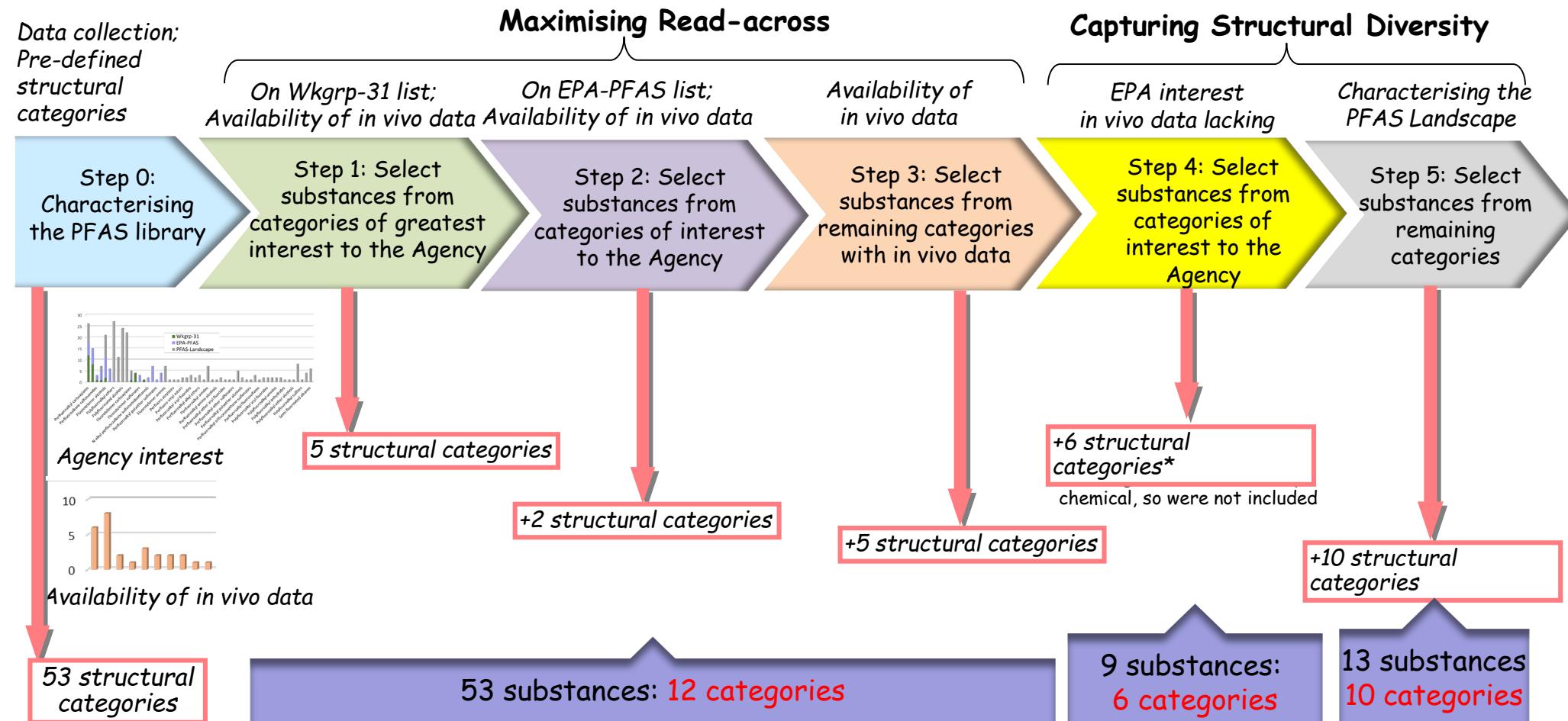
→ PFAS Reference subset (Phase 1) *(tiered toxicity & toxicokinetic testing)*

Per(poly)-fluorinated substances (PFAS)

- ❑ PFAS chemical names, acronyms, synonyms
 - ❑ PFAS chemical structure categories



Workflow to prioritise structural categories to inform the PFAS for targeted testing

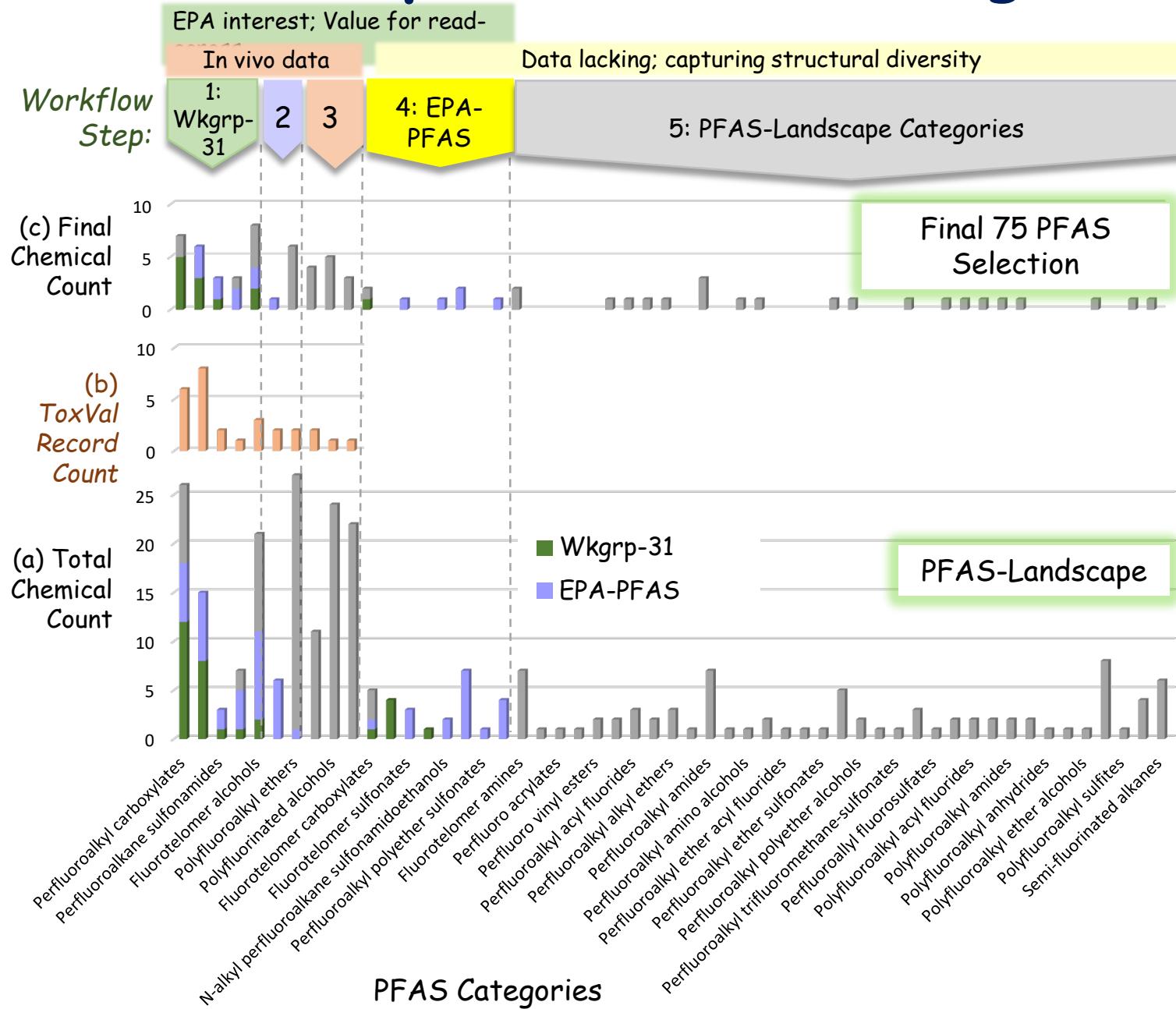


Step 0: Characterising the PFAS library

Structural Categories

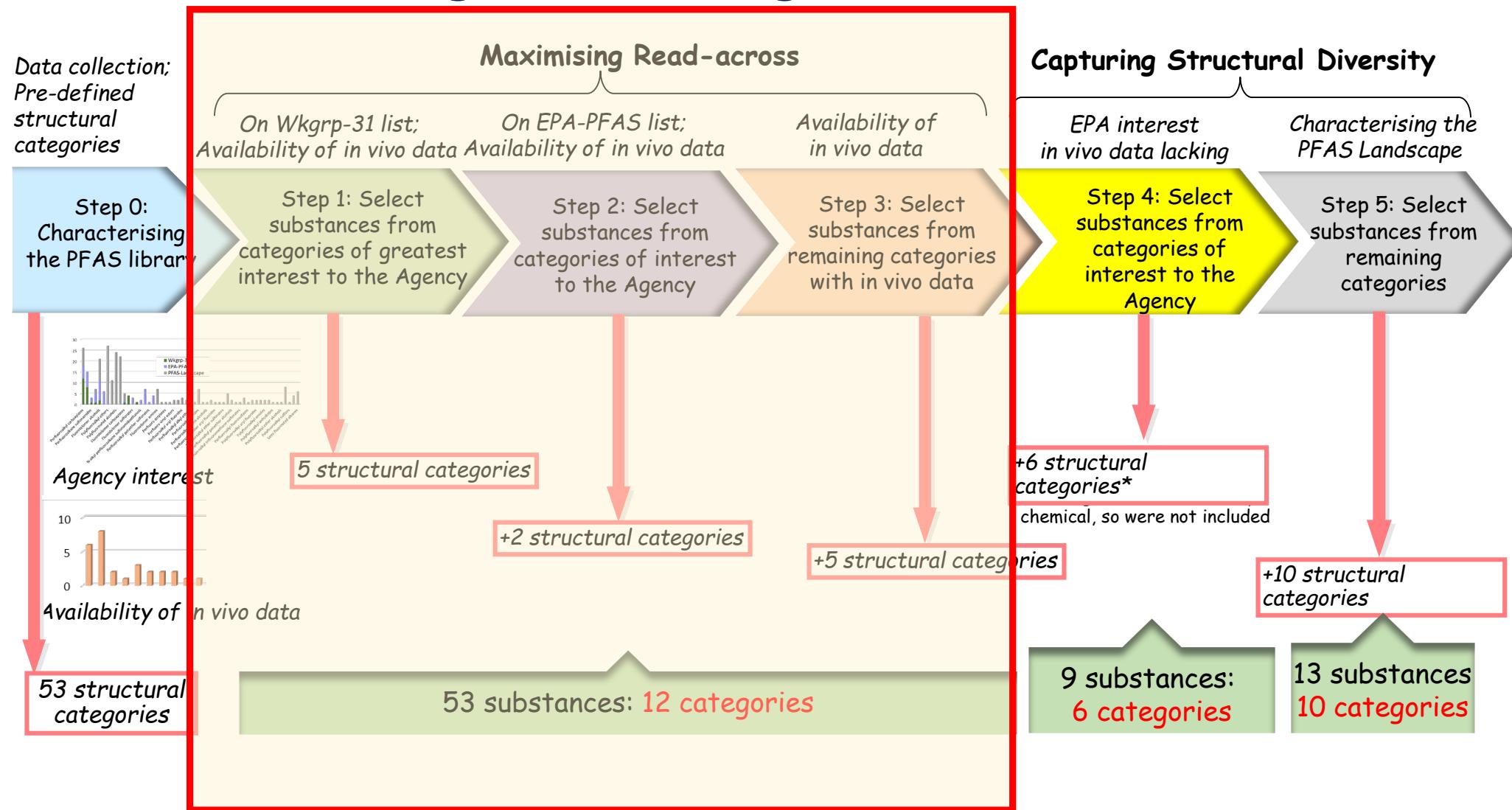
- Manually annotated the 'procurable' substances into structural categories
- Categories built upon those defined by Buck et al (2011)
- Characterised on the standard nomenclature - fluorotelomers, perfluorinated substances etc.
- Identified 53 unique structural categories
- These represent a generalised description of a category
- In some cases these can be subcategorised into greater detail
 - e.g. n:2 fluorotelomer alcohol vs fluorotelomer alcohols

Step 0: Characterising the PFAS library



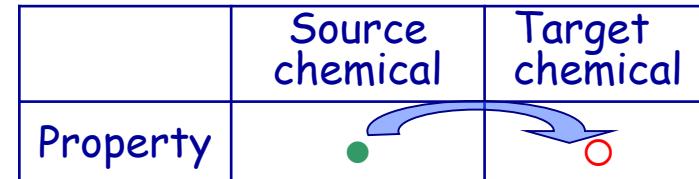
- Availability of *in vivo* toxicity information in the context of the pre-defined structural categories
- Representation of PFAS of interest to the Agency in the context of the pre-defined structural categories

Workflow to prioritise structural categories to inform the PFAS for targeted testing



Steps 1-3: Maximising read-across

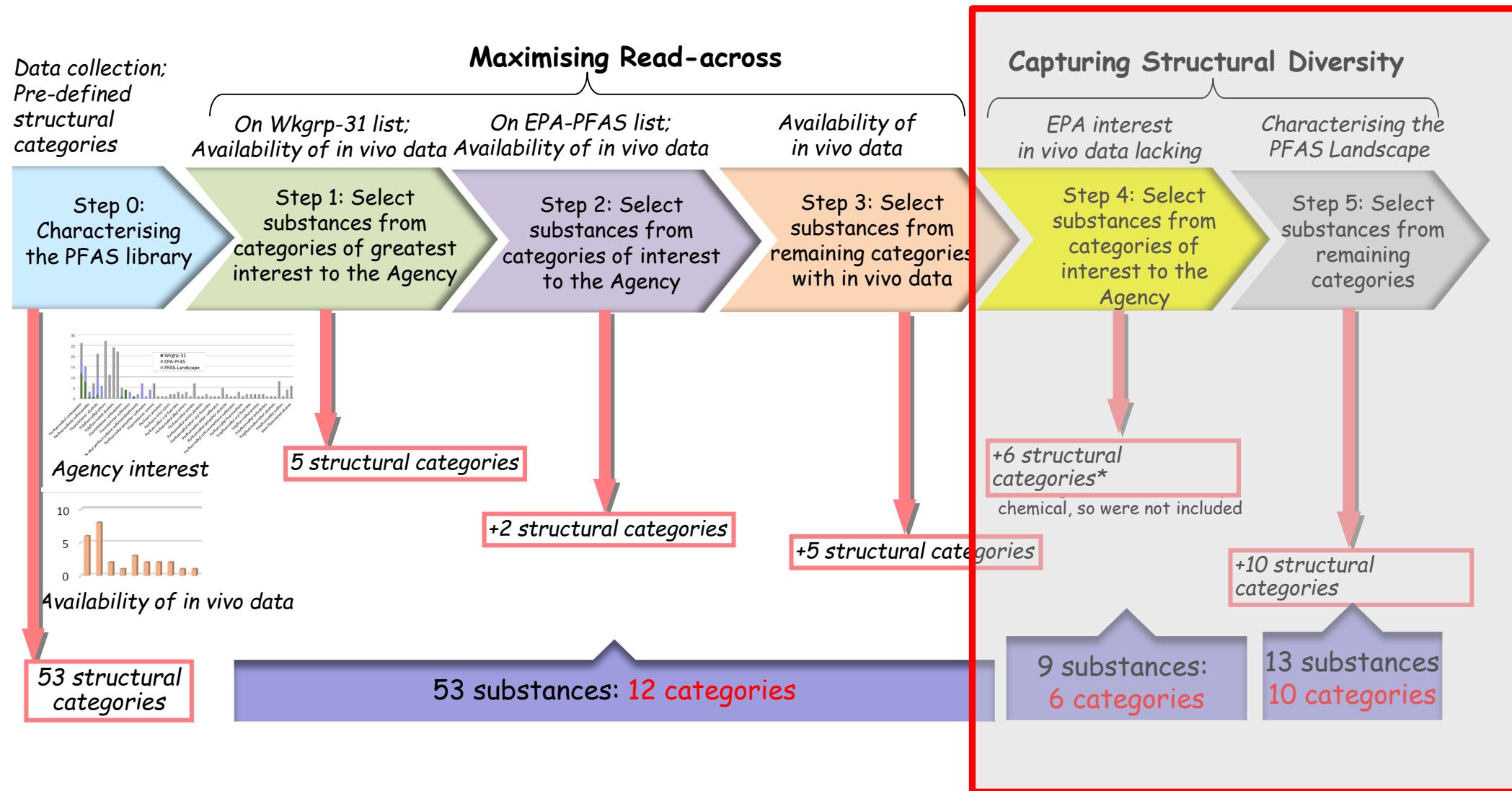
Known information on the property of a substance (**source chemical**) is used to make a prediction of the same property for another substance (**target chemical**) that is considered "similar" i.e. Endpoint & often study specific



- Reliable data
- Missing data

- Use of information for "PFAS source substances" is used to infer (read-across) missing information for a related similar PFAS target
- Similarity context as a pragmatic starting point is "structural similarity" using the structural categories that have been defined
- Requirement is *in vivo* toxicity information
- Depending on the structural diversity within the structural category - opportunities may exist to explore trends in activity - impact of chain length C4 vs C6 vs C8; impact of n:H in fluorotelomer alcohols n:3 vs n:3 vs n:1; impact of position of ether linkage etc.

Workflow to prioritise structural categories to inform the PFAS for targeted testing



Steps 4-5: Capturing Structural Diversity

- Characterising the biological activity of the PFAS landscape that comprises substances of current interest to the Agency
- Characterising the biological activity of the PFAS landscape beyond substances of current interest to the Agency
- Testing broad PFAS landscape may enable detection of hotspots in activity that could help in prioritising future PFAS research and anticipating future problem areas

Considerations for PFAS selection

Aspect Name	Scoring
1) Structural diversity within a category	Approximated by category size, with score ranging from 1 (20 or more members) to 0 (1 member)
2) Data availability	Availability of in vitro ToxCast data (score=0.5) or ToxVal in vivo data (score=0.75) or both (score=1)
3) Data quantity	Number of ToxVal records for a substance indicating a stronger source-analogue for read-across, with scores ranging from 0.15 (for 1 record) to 1 (for 20 or more records)
4) Read-across category-level weight	Value of substance for anchoring read-across trends within a category (e.g., chain length etc.), serving as a source analog (score=0.5) or target analog (score=0.25), or as a target analog for capturing structural diversity (score=0.15)
5) Numerical indicator of EPA interest	Wkgrp-31 (score=1), other EPA-PFAS (score=0.75), only in PFAS-Landscape (score=0.5)
6) Phys-chem indicators of testability	Both LogKow and Vapor Pressure favorable (score=0.75), one favorable (score=0.5), both unfavorable (score=0). E.g. LogKow < 4.5, Vapor Pressure < 10 ³ mmHg considered favorable.
7) Figure. 1 Workflow Step	Step 1 (score=1), Step 2 (score=0.75), Step 3 (score=0.5), Step 4 (score =0.25), Step 5 (score=0)
Total Score	Summation of scores from the preceding considerations used to rank each PFAS substance

Lists of PFAS on the Dashboard

https://comptox.epa.gov/dashboard/chemical_lists/?search=PFAS

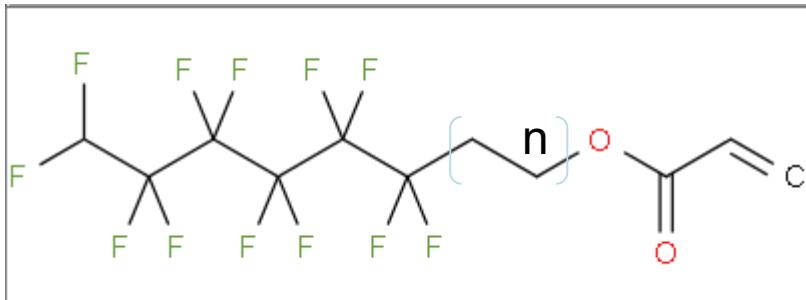
United States Environmental Protection Agency

Home Advanced Search Batch Search **Lists** Predictions Downloads Share ▾ Search all data

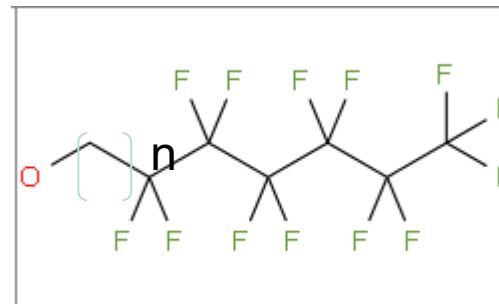
List Acronym	List Name	Last Updated	Number of Chemicals	List Description
EPAPFAS75S1	PFAS EPA: List of 75 Test Samples (Set 1)	2018-06-29	74	PFAS list corresponds to 75 samples (Set 1) submitted for initial testing screens conducted by EPA researchers in collaboration with researchers at the National Toxicology Program.
EPAPFAS75S2	PFAS EPA: List of 75 Test Samples (Set 2)	2019-02-21	75	PFAS list corresponds to a second set of 75 samples (Set 2) submitted for testing screens conducted by EPA researchers in collaboration with researchers at the National Toxicology Program.
EPAPFASCAT	PFAS EPA Structure-based Categories	2018-06-29	64	List of registered DSSTox "category substances" representing PFAS categories created using ChemAxon's Markush structure-based query representations.
EPAPFASDW	PFAS EPA: New EPA Method Drinking Water	2019-04-17	26	EPA is developing and validating a new method for detecting these PFAS in drinking water sources.
EPAPFASDW537	PFAS EPA: Existing EPA DW Method 537.1	2019-04-17	19	EPA has recently revised method 537.1 for the PFAS on this list to detect them in drinking water.
EPAPFASDWTREAT	PFAS EPA: Drinking Water Treatment Technology	2019-04-17	9	EPA is gathering and evaluating treatment effectiveness and cost data for removing these PFAS from drinking water systems.
EPAPFASINSOL	PFAS EPA: Chemical Inventory Insoluble in DMSO	2018-06-29	43	PFAS chemicals included in EPA's expanded ToxCast chemical inventory found to be insoluble in DMSO above 5mM.
EPAPFASINV	PFAS EPA: ToxCast Chemical Inventory	2018-06-29	430	PFAS chemicals included in EPA's expanded ToxCast chemical inventory and available for testing.
EPAPFASINVIVO	PFAS EPA: In Vivo Studies Available	2019-04-17	23	These PFAS have published animal toxicity studies available in the online HERO database.
EPAPFASLITSEARCH	PFAS EPA: Literature Search Completed:	2019-04-17	23	A literature review of published toxicity studies for these PFAS

Manual Structural categories: examples used

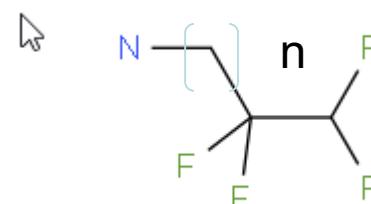
- Fluorotelomer acrylates 6 members
- Methacrylate & acrylates
- $n = 2, nCF_2 = 6-10$



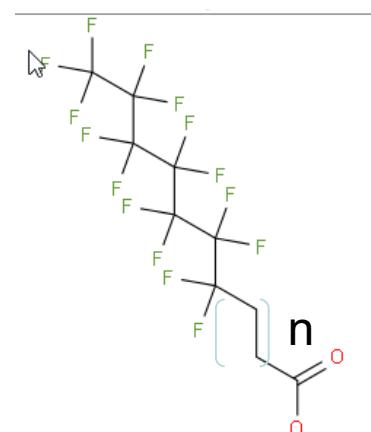
- Fluorotelomer alcohols 21 members
- $n = 1-4, nCF_2 = 2-11$



- Fluorotelomer amines 7 members
- $n = 1, nCF_2 = 2-6$



- Fluorotelomer carboxylates 5 members
- $n = 2, nCF_2 = 3-5$



Structural Categories

- Pragmatic approach for the initial PFAS library but...
- Subjective, manual..
- How to efficiently chart the PFAS landscape that is being tested against other PFAS inventories/libraries of interest e.g. OECD ?

PFAS "Categories": Per & Poly-fluorinated alkyl substances

- “Expert”-assigned PFAS categories – manual, subjective
 - Buck et al. (DuPont), based on chemical & series informed by synthetic pathways (e.g., fluorotelomers)
 - data-gathering, occurrence reports, ecotox
 - OECD PFAS listing (>4500 chemicals) – manually assigned groupings

Poly- and Perfluorochemicals

Acyclic - Pure

Atoms: N, P, O, S, Si, Cl, Br, I = NOT

AND # of Cycles = 0

Cyclic - Pure

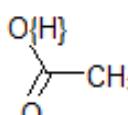
Atoms: N, P, O, S, Si, Cl, Br, I = NOT

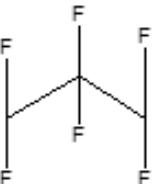
AND # of Cycles ≥ 1

Carboxylic Acids

Atoms: N, P, S, Si, Cl, Br, I = NOT

AND

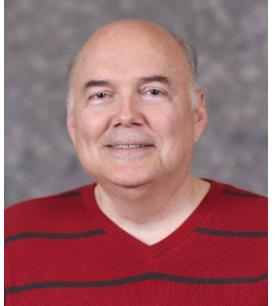




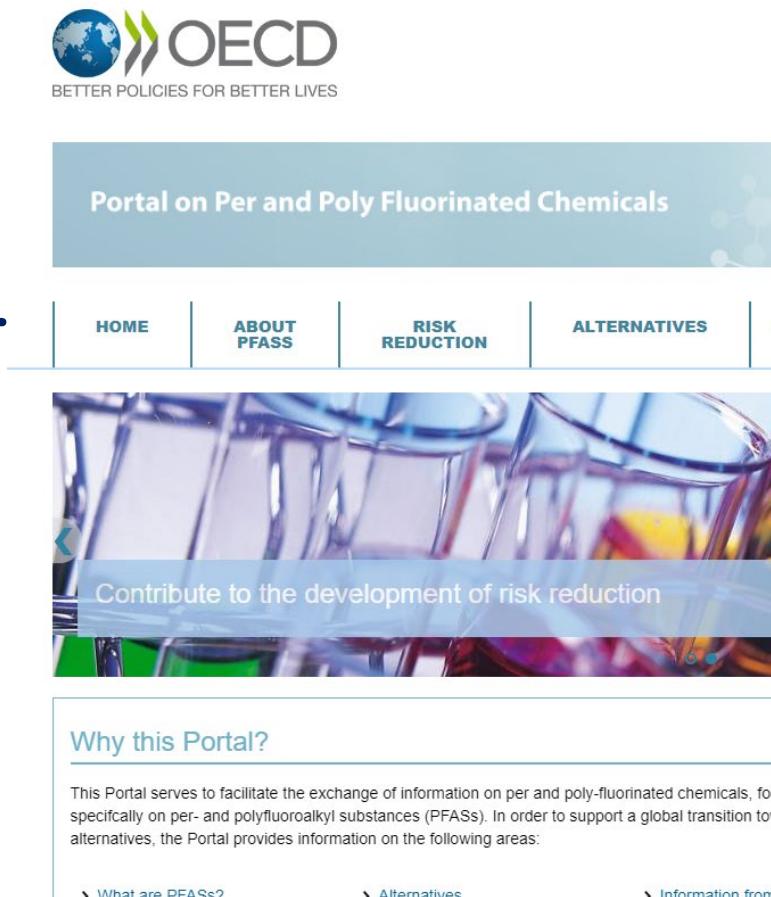
Class	Category_Name1	Category_Name2
Alcohol	Fluorotelomer alcohols	Fluorotelomer (linear) n:2 alcohols
Sulfonic Acid	Perfluoroalkyl sulfonic acids	Perfluoroalkyl (linear C4-C10) sulfonic acids

Expert category
Fluorotelomer acrylates
Fluorotelomer alcohols
Polyfluorinated alcohols
Fluorotelomer sulfonates
N-alkyl perfluoroalkyl sulfonamidoacetic acids
N-alkyl perfluoroalkyl sulfonamidoethanols
Perfluoroalkyl aldehydes
Perfluoroalkyl amides
Perfluoroalkyl carboxylates
Perfluoroalkyl acyl fluorides
Perfluoro vinyl esters
Perfluoroalkyl ketones
Semi-fluorinated alkenes
Perfluoroalkyl vinyl ethers
Perfluoroalkyl alkyl ethers
Fluorotelomer amines
Perfluoroalkyl sulfonamides
Polyfluoroalkyl carboxylates
Perfluoroalkyl ethers
Fluorotelomer phosphates

OECD Database of PFAS



- Released May 2018
- Substance Count 4729
- Category Count: 173



The screenshot shows the homepage of the OECD Portal on Per and Poly Fluorinated Chemicals. At the top, there is the OECD logo and the tagline "BETTER POLICIES FOR BETTER LIVES". Below the logo, a banner reads "Portal on Per and Poly Fluorinated Chemicals". A navigation bar at the top right includes links for "HOME", "ABOUT PFASs", "RISK REDUCTION", and "ALTERNATIVES". A main image shows laboratory glassware. A call-to-action button says "Contribute to the development of risk reduction". Below the image, a section titled "Why this Portal?" explains the purpose of the portal: "This Portal serves to facilitate the exchange of information on per and poly-fluorinated chemicals, specifically on per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs). In order to support a global transition to alternatives, the Portal provides information on the following areas: What are PFASs? Alternatives Information from".



The screenshot shows a news article titled "Toward a new comprehensive Global Database of Per- And Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFASs)". The article features a photograph of laboratory glassware. The text discusses the creation of a new comprehensive global database of PFASs and the methodology report.

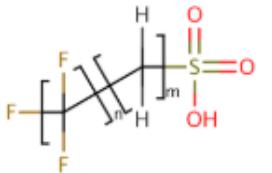
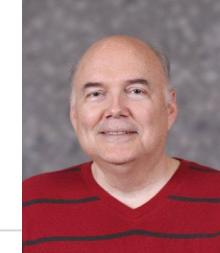
<http://www.oecd.org/chemicalsafety/portal-perfluorinated-chemicals/>

"Expert-assigned" OECD PFAS Categories, e.g.

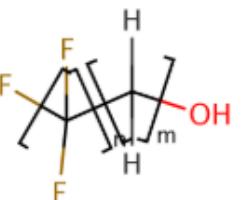
- 4730 PFAS in list
- 173 expert-assigned categories under 8 general headings (bold)
- Broad “catch-all” terms (in red)
- Structural elements, but NOT structure-based
- Requires expert to assign new chemicals to categories

perfluoroalkyl carbonyl compounds	C_nF_{2n+1}_C(O)_R
perfluoroalkyl carbonyl halides	R = F/Cl/Br/I
perfluoroalkyl carboxylic acids (PFCAs), their salts and esters	R = OH, ONa, OCH ₃ , etc.
other perfluoroalkyl carbonyl-based nonpolymers	to be refined
perfluoroalkyl carbonyl amides / amido ethanols and other alcohols	R = NH ₂ , NH(OH), etc.
perfluoroalkyl carbonyl (meth)acrylate	R = R'_OC(O)CH=CH ₂
perfluoroalkyl carbonyl (meth)acrylate polymers	
1-H perfluoroalkyl carboxylic acids	H(CF ₂) _n COOH
perfluoroalkane sulfonyl compounds	C_nF_{2n+1}_S(O)(O)_R
perfluoroalkane sulfonyl halides	R = F/Cl/Br/I
perfluoroalkane sulfonic acids (PFSAs), their salts and esters	R = OH, ONa, OCH ₃ , etc.
perfluoroalkane sulfonyl-based nonpolymers	
per- and polyfluoroalkyl ether-based compounds	C_nF_{2n+1}_O_CmF_{2m+1}_R
per- and polyfluoroalkyl ether sulfonic acids (PFESAs), their salts and esters, as well as derivatives	C _n F _{2n+1} _O_CmF _{2m+1} _SO ₃ H
fluorotelomer-related compounds	
perfluoroalkyl iodides (PFAIs)	C _n F _{2n+1} _I
n:2 fluorotelomer-based non-polymers	C _n F _{2n+1} _C ₂ H ₄ _R, to be refined

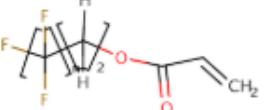
Markush Record Creation



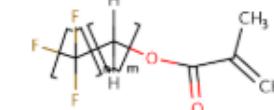
Fluorotelomer (linear) sulfonic acids
 DTXSID: DTXSID50892558
 CASRN: NOCAS_893558
 TOXCAST: -



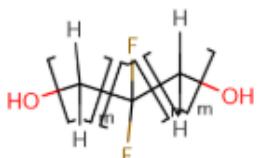
Fluorotelomer (linear) alcohols
 DTXSID: DTXSID10893581
 CASRN: NOCAS_893581
 TOXCAST: -



Fluorotelomer (linear) n:2 acrylates
 DTXSID: DTXSID70893582
 CASRN: NOCAS_893582
 TOXCAST: -



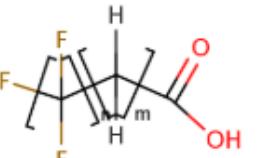
Fluorotelomer (linear) n:2 methacrylates
 DTXSID: DTXSID30893583
 CASRN: NOCAS_893583
 TOXCAST: -



Fluorotelomer symmetric diols
 DTXSID: DTXSID90893584
 CASRN: NOCAS_893584
 TOXCAST: -



Fluorotelomer (linear) amines (secondary)
 DTXSID: DTXSID50893585
 CASRN: NOCAS_893585
 TOXCAST: -



Fluorotelomer (linear) carboxylic acids
 DTXSID: DTXSID10893586
 CASRN: NOCAS_893586
 TOXCAST: -



Fluorotelomer (linear) phosphate esters ...
 DTXSID: DTXSID30893588
 CASRN: NOCAS_893588
 TOXCAST: -

Name: C10-C10 alkyl bromide

Organic Form: Parent ▾



Translating Expert Categories to Markush

Expert category

Fluorotelomer acrylates

Fluorotelomer alcohols

Polyfluorinated alcohols

Fluorotelomer sulfonates

N-alkyl perfluoroalkyl sulfonamidoacetic acids

N-alkyl perfluoroalkyl sulfonamidoethanols

Perfluoroalkyl aldehydes

Perfluoroalkyl amides

Perfluoroalkyl carboxylates

Perfluoroalkyl acyl fluorides

Perfluoro vinyl esters

Perfluoroalkyl ketones

Semi-fluorinated alkenes

Perfluoroalkyl vinyl ethers

Perfluoroalkyl alkyl ethers

Fluorotelomer amines

Perfluoroalkyl sulfonamides

Semi-fluorinated alkanes

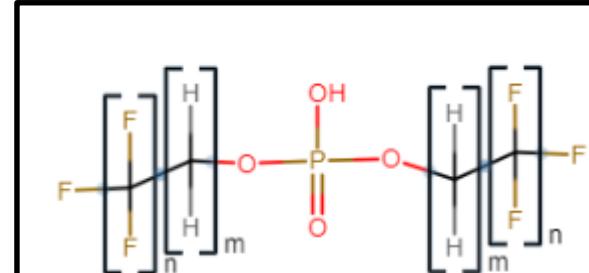
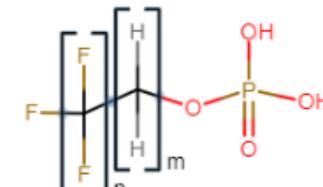
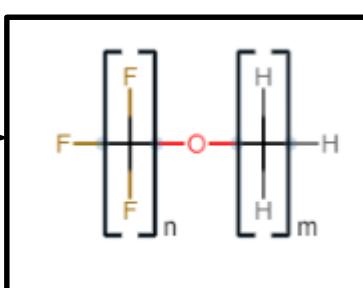
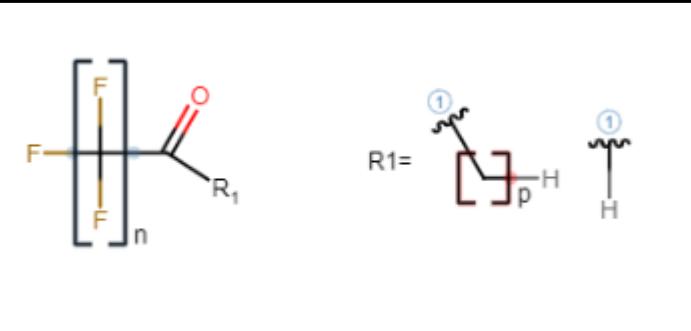
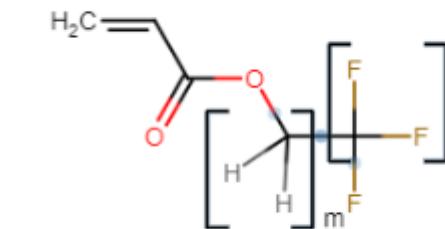
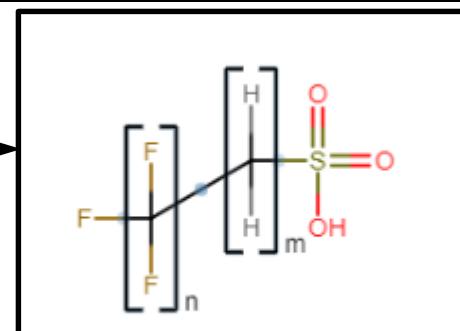
Perfluoroalkyl sulfonates

Perfluoroalkyl sulfonamido amines

Polyfluoroalkyl carboxylates

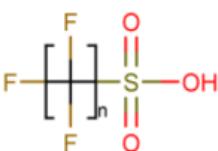
Perfluoroalkyl ethers

Fluorotelomer phosphates



Example of Markush representation

Searched Chemical



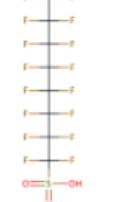
Perfluoroalkyl sulfonates
DTXSID: DTXSID70892979
CASRN: NOCAS_892979

markush



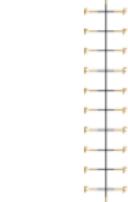
Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid
DTXSID: DTXSID5030030
CASRN: 375-73-5

markush



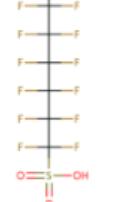
Perfluoroctanesulfonic acid
DTXSID: DTXSID3031864
CASRN: 1763-23-1

markush



Perfluorodecanesulfonic acid
DTXSID: DTXSID3040148
CASRN: 335-77-3

markush



Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid
DTXSID: DTXSID7040150
CASRN: 355-46-4

markush



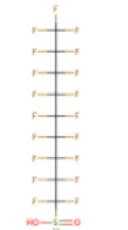
Perfluoroheptanesulfonic acid
DTXSID: DTXSID8059920
CASRN: 375-92-8

markush



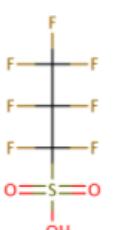
Perfluoropentanesulfonic acid
DTXSID: DTXSID8062600
CASRN: 2706-91-4

markush



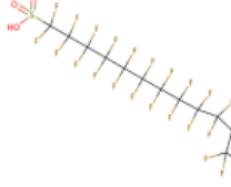
Perfluorononanesulfonic acid
DTXSID: DTXSID8071356
CASRN: 68259-12-1

markush



Perfluoropropanesulfonic acid
DTXSID: DTXSID30870531
CASRN: 423-41-6

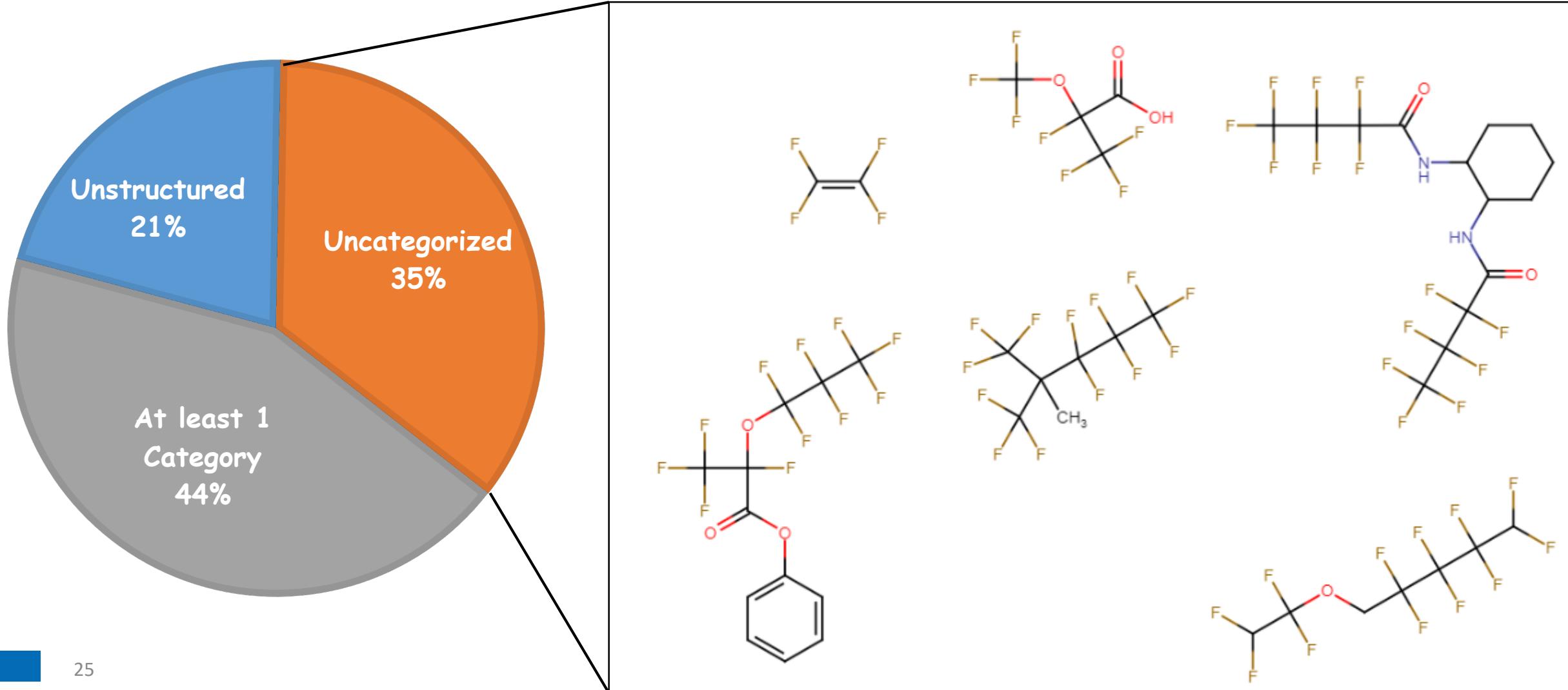
markush



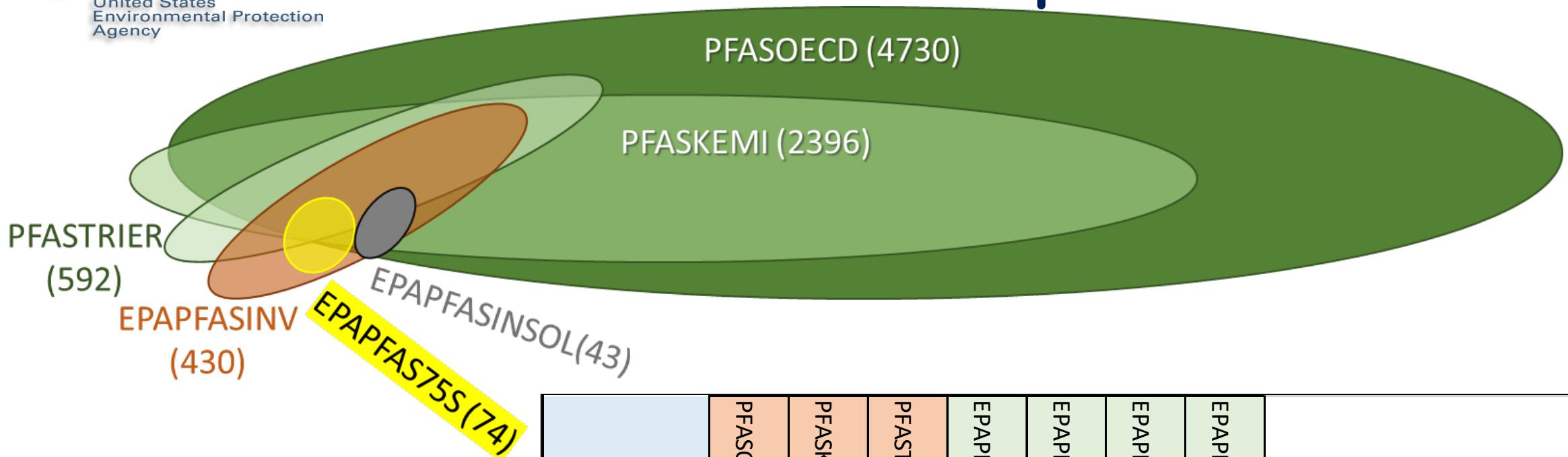
Perfluorododecanesulfonic acid (PFDOS)
DTXSID: DTXSID20873011
CASRN: 79780-39-5

PFASMASTER Markush Category Coverage

https://comptox.epa.gov/dashboard/chemical_lists/PFASMASTER



PFAS List Overlap



PFASMASTER LISTS	PFASOECD	PFASKEMI	PFASTRIER	EPAPFASRL	EPAPFASINV	EPAPFASINSOL	EPAPFAS75S1	
PFASOECD	4730							OECD PFAS List
PFASKEMI	2206	2396						KEMI (Swedish Chem Agency) PFAS List
PFASTRIER	493	578	592					Community PFAS List (2015)
EPAPFASRL	132	116	71	199				EPA PFAS Research List
EPAPFASINV	309	324	226	61	430			EPA PFAS Inventory (DMSO Soluble)
EPAPFASINSOL	43	42	24	12	0	43		EPA PFAS Inventory (DMSO Insoluble)
EPAPFAS75S1	51	47	38	25	74	0	74	EPA PFAS 75 Test Sample (Set 1)

Next steps

- Complete targeted testing
- Data analysis per NAM technology and integrated across technologies to inform both read-across efforts and structural categories
- Work to extend objective structural categories to facilitate harmonisation across different inventories

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