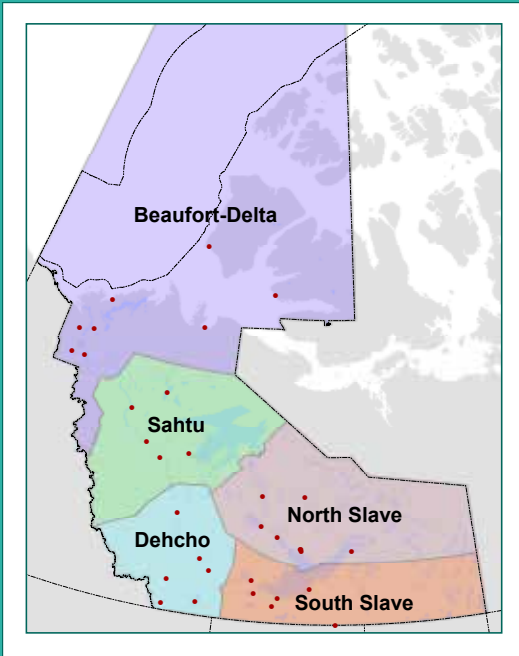


# 2022 NWT Spills Report



The GNWT has maintained a database of all hazardous material spills reported in the NWT since 1971. This report briefly summarizes the data collected for spills reported in 2022.

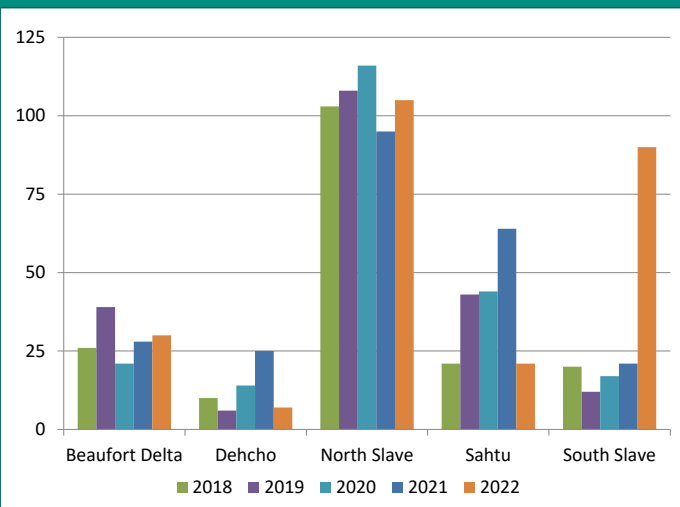
- 253 spills were reported in 2022, an increase of 20 spills or 8.6% compared to 2021.
- 61% of the reported spills were less than 100 L or 100 kg.
- 42% of the spills reported occurred in the North Slave region.
- Spills at mining operations accounted for 30% of reported spills in 2022.
- Spills at all government operations combined (municipal, territorial, and federal) accounted for 29% of reported spills.
- 36% of spills reported in 2022 involved fuel oil.
- The number of spills from home oil tanks is down by 80% since 2010, when ECC released the Homeowners' Guide to Oil Tanks.

## Reported spills in 2022

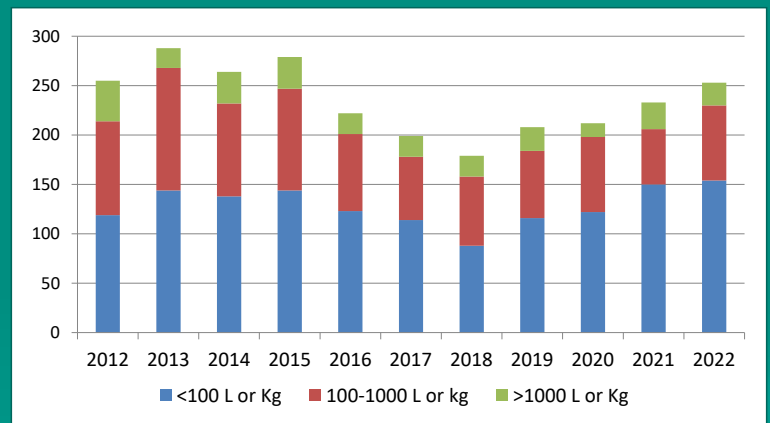
Of the 253 reported spills in 2022, 42% occurred in the North Slave region. Below is a breakdown of reported spills by sector for 2022:

- Mining operations 30%
- Government operations (municipal, territorial, and federal) 29%
- Transportation companies 9%
- Private individuals 25%
- Petroleum operations 3%
- Other 1%
- Construction sites 2%
- Unknown parties 1%

## Number of spills by region



## Number of spills by volume between 2012 – 2022



Of the 253 reported spills in 2022, 61% were less than 100 litres.

## What and how much was spilled?

**Wastewater:** includes sewage, mine tailings and other types of contaminated water accounting for 19% of reported spills.

**2022:** 48 spills for a total volume of 2,232,733 L spilled  
**2021:** 86 spills for a total volume of 918,315 L spilled

**Chemical:** includes transformer oils, glycol spills, commercial polymers, and more, accounting for 3.5% of reported spills.

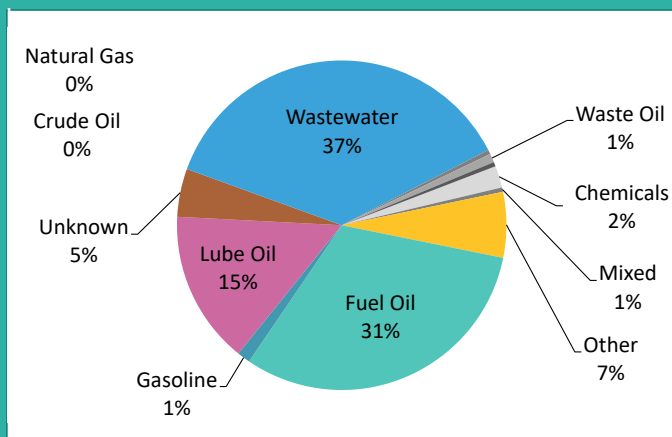
**2022:** 42,335 L and kg spilled \*  
**2021:** 5,303 L spilled

\* This large increase is mainly due to a tanker truck carrying 40,000 kg of ammonium nitrate pellets crashed on Hwy 3. This instance was cleaned up and has since been fully remediated.

Other significant events in 2022:

- May 2022 saw unprecedented flooding in the South Slave region increasing spill numbers for the region substantially. Hay River had 43 property spill reports primarily of heating oil, sewage, and mixed hydrocarbons. In addition, assessment of impacted sites brought to light an additional 12 historic spills on flood impacted properties.
- In July, a tanker truck carrying 57,399 L of gasoline caught fire 5km outside of Fort Providence. The truck was melted to the asphalt, the ground was stained, and strong hydrocarbon odours were observed. No waterbodies were impacted.

## Number of spills by product category



To report a spill, call or email:  
**(867) 920-8130**  
**spills@gov.nt.ca**

## Volume (L or kg) of product spilled by category

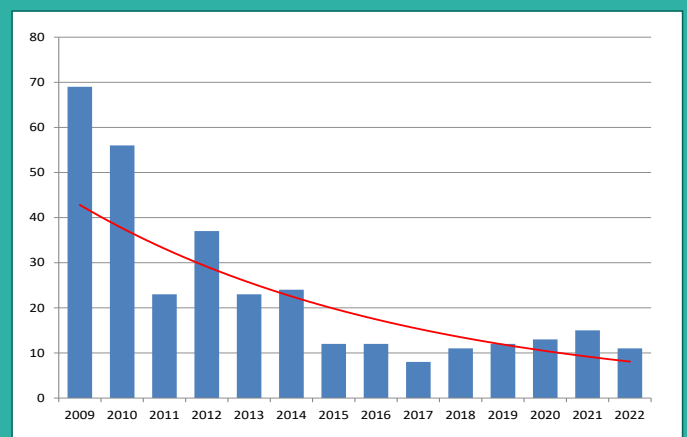
	2022	2021
Wastewater	2,636,673	918,315
Other	67,357	102,647
Gasoline	58,149	15
Chemicals	42,335	5,303
Fuel Oil	40,085	9,432
Unknown	12,655	1,571
Lube Oil	6,146	14,567
Mixed Load	132	0
Natural Gas	0	57,600,000
Waste Oil	0	100
Crude Oil	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,863,532</b>	<b>58,653,450</b>

## Residential oil tank spills

Since the release of the Homeowners' Guide to Oil Tanks and the requirement for new oil tanks to be double walled in 2010, the number of spills reported from residential oil tanks (defined as tanks under 1,136 L) has followed a continuous downward trend.

The guide was developed to inform individual homeowners and commercial building and property owners of the potential environmental and financial liabilities associated with an oil spill. It also provides some simple, practical steps that can minimize the chances of an oil spill.

## Number of spills from residential oil tanks



For up to date spill information visit  
**[www.gov.nt.ca/ecc/en/spills](http://www.gov.nt.ca/ecc/en/spills)**  
 or contact (867) 767-9236 ex. 53176  
[environmental\\_protection@gov.nt.ca](mailto:environmental_protection@gov.nt.ca)

*"Preventing a spill is more desirable than even the best clean up!"*