Louisiana has seventeen oil refineries including some of the largest in the country.\textsuperscript{1,2} Chronic, on-going emissions and large accidents from refineries and chemical plants pollute and endanger all of us, but especially neighboring communities. Since 2005, there have been 4,135 accidents at refineries and associated chemical plants in Louisiana, an average of more than 8 per week. To find out more about the refinery near you, visit \textcolor{blue}{labucketbrigade.org} and click on \textcolor{blue}{Refinery Accident Database}.

### Pollution Facts

**Top Pollutants released in 2013**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pollutant</th>
<th>Pounds Released</th>
<th>Health Effects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sulfur Dioxide</td>
<td>809,720</td>
<td>Impacts lung function, triggers asthma\textsuperscript{4}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carbon Monoxide</td>
<td>206,574</td>
<td>Reduces oxygen delivery to organs, chest pains, fatal in high doses\textsuperscript{5}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hydrogen Cyanide</td>
<td>200,422</td>
<td>Lightheadedness, nausea, dizziness, seizures, fatal in high doses\textsuperscript{6}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)</td>
<td>128,424</td>
<td>Eye, nose and throat irritation, liver, kidney and nervous system damage\textsuperscript{7}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Propylene</td>
<td>111,559</td>
<td>Large doses cause unconsciousness\textsuperscript{8}</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Refinery Accidents

Louisiana refineries and associated chemical plants reported 340 accidents in 2013. That’s over 6 accidents every week.\textsuperscript{3}

These accidents released over 1,750,000 pounds and over 62,000 gallons of pollution in 2013.\textsuperscript{3} Residents are rarely notified during these accidents.

The only data we have on refinery pollution comes from self-reporting, so pollution totals are likely underestimated.

### Major 2013 Accidents

- **Exxon Chemical, Baton Rouge**
  - Propylene 65,179 lbs
  - Sulfur dioxide 71,417 lbs
  - VOCs 58,038 lbs

- **Motiva, Norco**
  - Propylene 71,417 lbs
  - Sulfur dioxide 73,410 lbs

- **Valero, Norco**
  - Sulfur dioxide 93,651 lbs
  - Hydrogen sulfide 58,038 lbs

- **Marathon, Garyville**
  - Sulfur dioxide 106,280 lbs

- **Shell Chemical, Norco**
  - Sulfur dioxide 58,038 lbs
  - Nitrogen oxide 71,417 lbs

- **Valero, Norco**
  - Carbon monoxide 58,038 lbs
  - Sulfur dioxide 58,038 lbs

- **Valero, Meraux**
  - Carbon monoxide 102,789 lbs
  - Sulfur dioxide 106,280 lbs

- **Valero, Norco**
  - Nitrogen oxide 88,841 lbs

- **ExxonMobil, Baton Rouge**
  - Sulfur dioxide 106,280 lbs
  - Hydrogen sulfide 58,038 lbs

- **Shell Chemical, Norco**
  - Sulfur dioxide 88,841 lbs
Over 1 million people live within five miles of a refinery in Louisiana. These communities are routinely exposed to pollution from accidents and daily emissions at refineries and associated chemical plants.

Minority and low income communities bear the brunt of the illness and economic impact of Louisiana’s refinery pollution.

Report pollution
If you don’t report pollution, it’s like it never happened. Call or text 504-272-7645. See other reports at iWitnesspollution.org

Organize your community
There is power in numbers and facilities are more likely to take complaints from groups seriously.

Call parish officials
who are elected to protect residents. Contact your local officials when pollution occurs.

Ronesha Johnson, Velma White and Shamieka Jackson are members of Residents for Air Neutralization in Shreveport, LA.

COMMUNITY VOICES

Ronesha, on Calumet’s faulty reporting:
“Calumet always says there was no offsite impact, but our bucket samples—the results show that we are being impacted by what’s going on at this refinery.”

Shamieka, on how pollution has impacted her children’s health and quality of life:
“When we come outside into the neighborhood it flares up. Like his bronchitis acts up, his respiratory acts up. So I rarely let my kids come outside. They be like, ‘Why you holding them inside, it’s not gonna help.’ It helps a little bit. It stops me from coming into the ER every week with one child, and then the next week I’m there with another child.”

References
3. www.louisianarefineryaccidentdatabase.org
7. http://www.epa.gov/iaq/voc.html#Health_Effects

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