

Oil pollution and fuel storage on HGVs

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Environment Agency

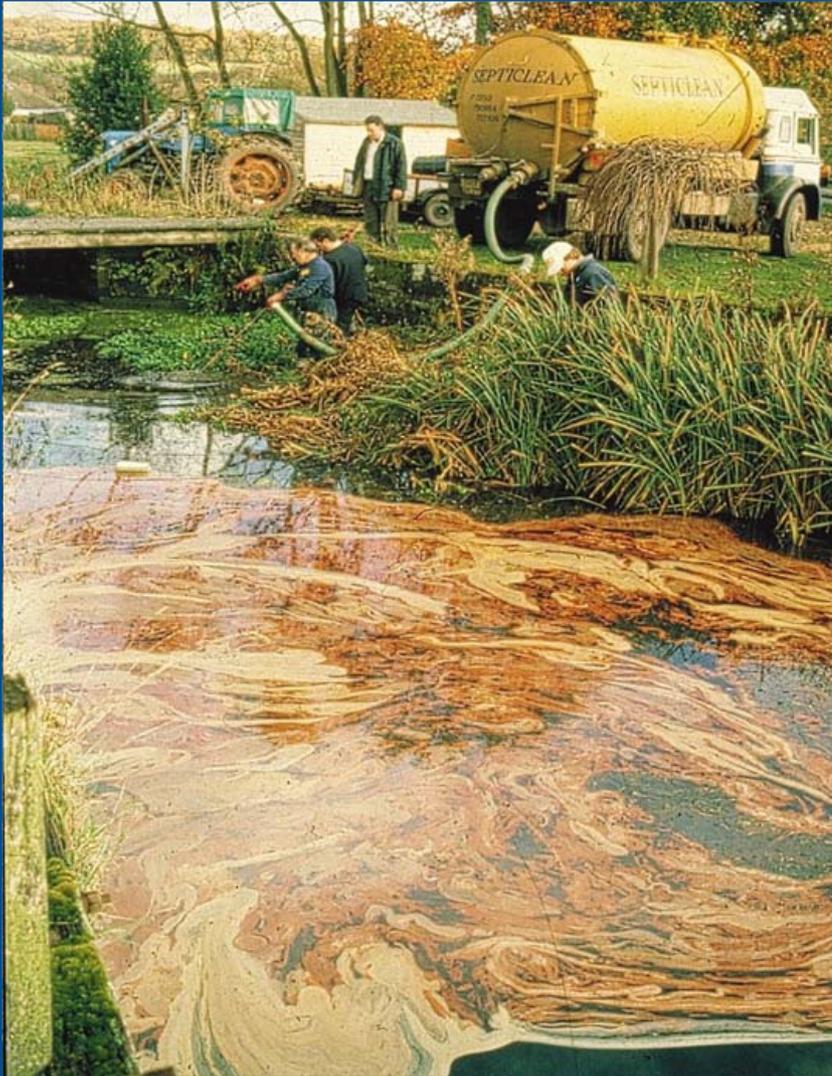
Why am I here



Environment
Agency

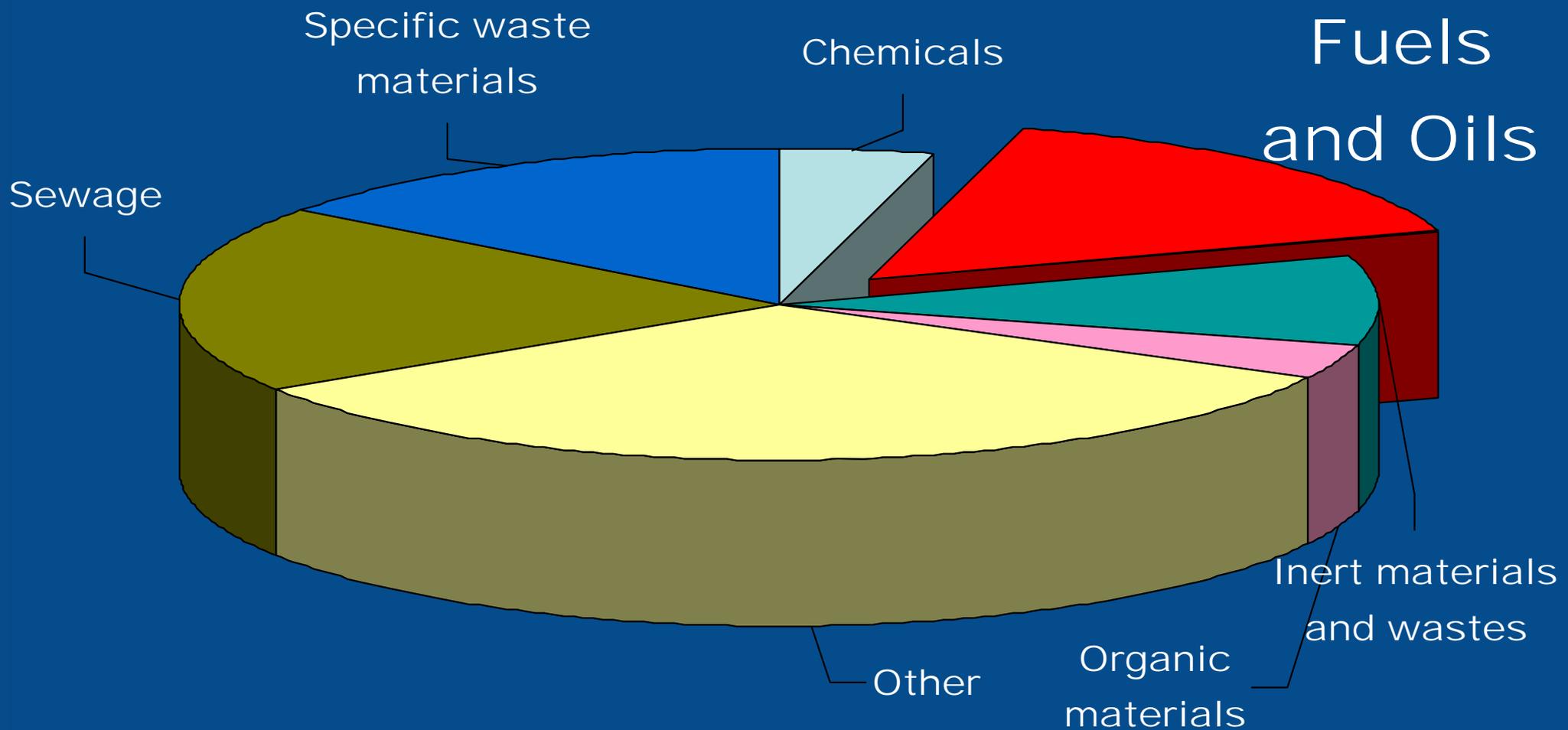


The effect of oil

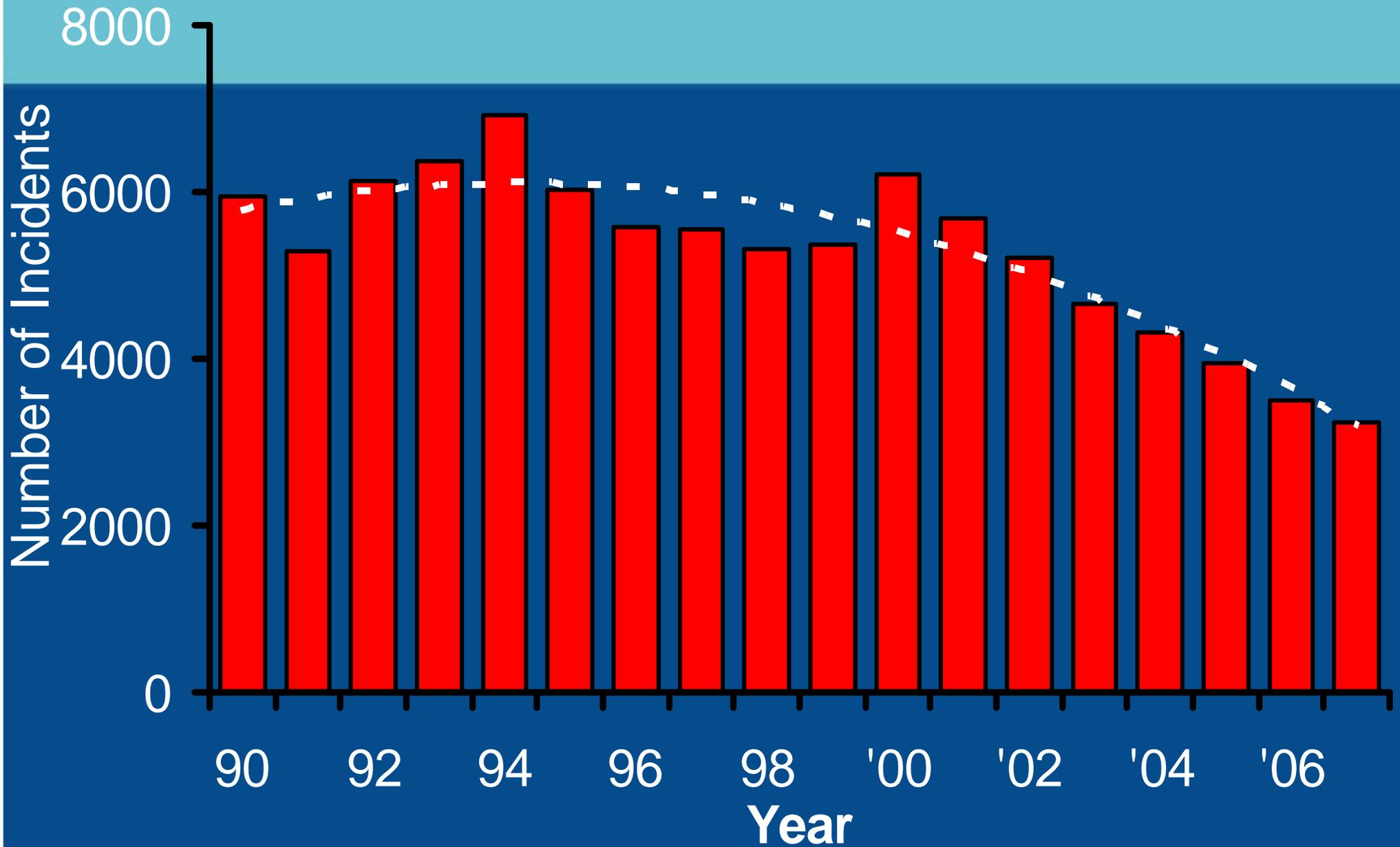


- Smooths the surface of water preventing oxygen exchange
- Tiny quantities can effect the taste of large amounts of drinking water
- Small quantities can take out treatment plants
- Most common reason for water abstraction stoppages
- Impacts groundwater
- Sterilizes land

Pollution Incident 2005



Number of Oil Pollution Incidents 1990-2007





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Monthly Spill Reporting by Accredited Contractors

The Regulators and the Oil Care Scheme monitor pollution in the UK through spill reporting by the Scheme on numbers and type of oil spills that occur across the UK.

Accredited Contractors are required to complete all the sections of this form each month in order to remain in compliance, failure to report will result in their status being put under review, and if no report is received for 3 months then Accreditation will be suspended.

Contractors should complete ALL sections for each Spill attended in a month. If you have not attended a Spill in the month, a NIL report must be submitted by entering your name and company and pressing Submit.

Reporting Confidentiality. The Scheme Manager undertakes not to disclose the contents of ALL Spill Reports submitted by Accredited Contractor's to Spillonline in any circumstances, excepting after analysis into a national survey for the use of the Environment and Maritime Agencies. This survey will not include any reference to individual spills or companies. All reports will remain confidential, and will be used to compile a national report for the Environment Agency and the Oil Care Campaign.



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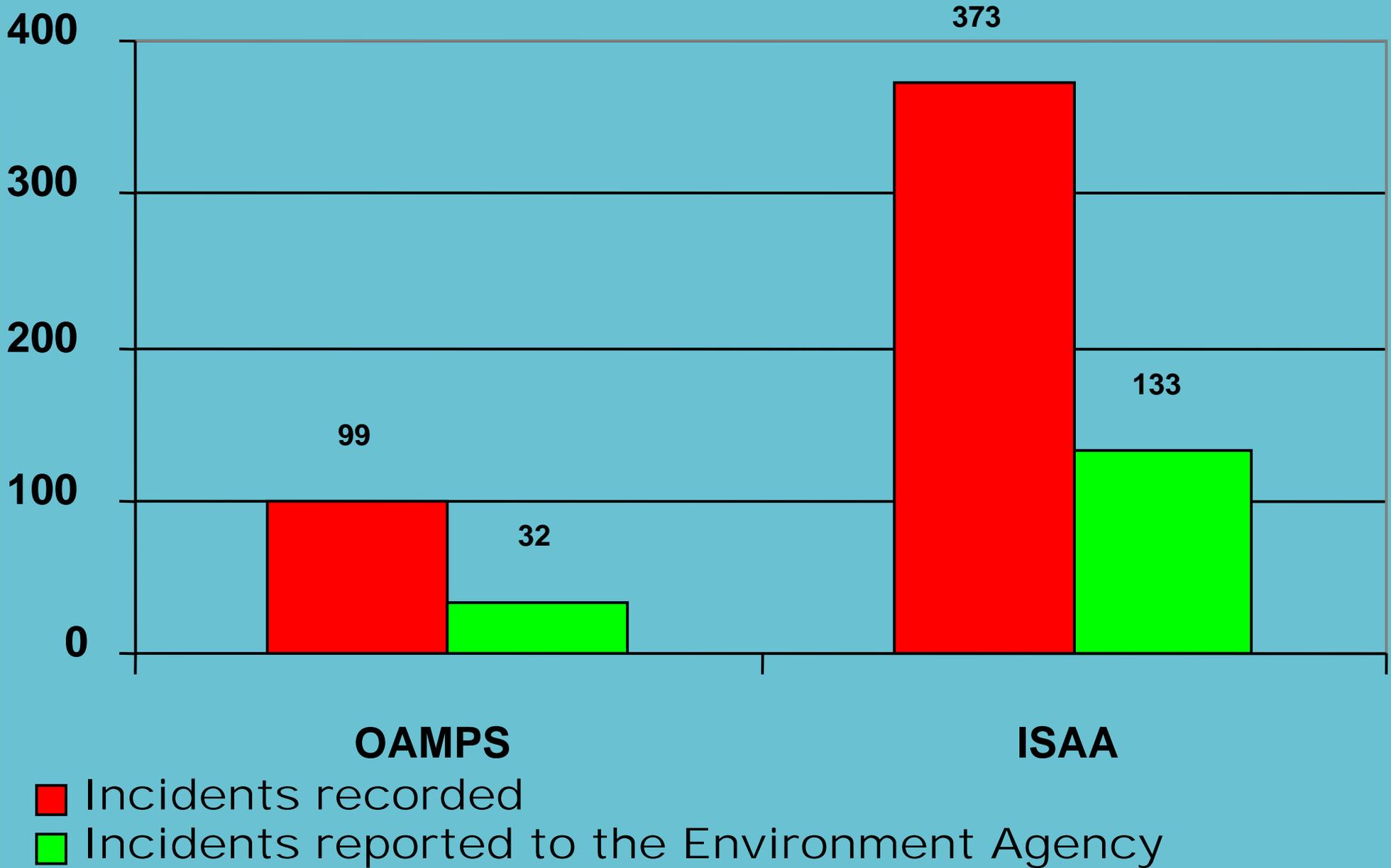
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What gets reported



Why am I here

- Fuel tanks are 4th on the list
- 500 litres of diesel is a significant polluter
- Fast source-path-receptor route
- The tanks construction is of thin steel
- Only occasionally do fuel tanks have impact protection, then only from the side
- Because I don't think it would add a huge amount to the unit cost of a HGV
- There is a health and safety implication of spilt diesel

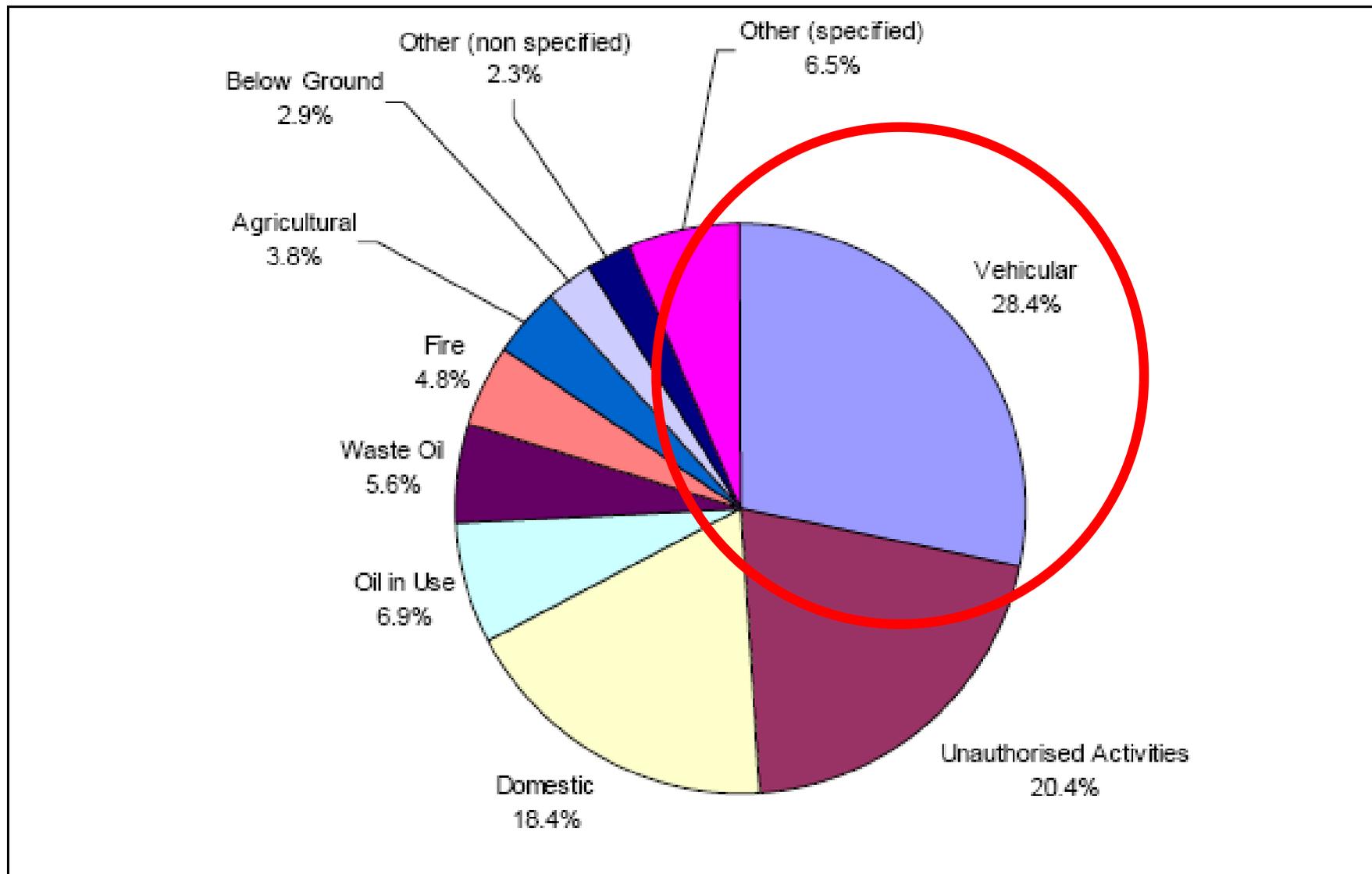
Society of Automotive Engineers Transactions

“Trucks have a higher crash-fire frequency than passenger vehicles, notwithstanding their superior size and weight. Even a cursory examination of the crash vulnerable fuel system of most trucks provides the explanation for this undesirable record. The archaic outside plumbing designs of truck fuel systems obviate any safety advantage the use of fuel may provide over gasoline”

From a report in 1974

Scale of the problem

Fig. 12: An Analysis of Non-OSR Related Incidents in 2006

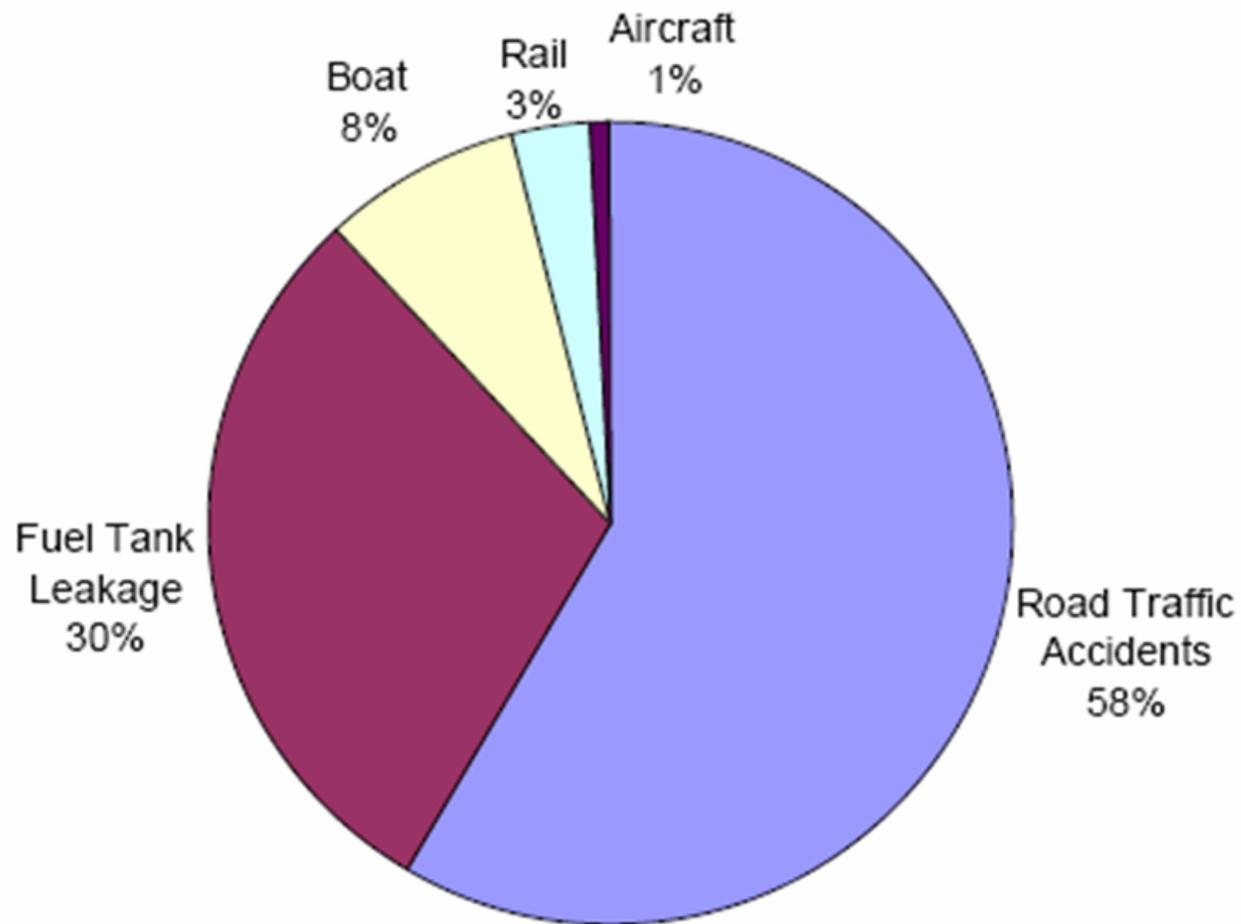


Report comments

- Ruptured tank
- Due to collision or accidental damage
- No reduction since 2005 report

Vehicular related incidents or, more specifically, ruptured fuel tanks due to road traffic accidents or accidental damage were cited as a significant causative factor in the study undertaken by Oakdene Hollins for the Oil Care Campaign in 2005^a. Figure 13 shows that this has not changed with 88% of vehicular related incidents being classified as either road traffic accidents or fuel tank leakages.

How it breaks down



Report recommendations



- Not to be included in Oil Storage Regulations
- Reinforce, relocate or reinforce fuel tank
- Spill cleaning equipment to be carried in all vehicles

It is considered impractical to include vehicle tanks within the OSR and hence the recommendations made within the previous study remain, i.e. to encourage the vehicle manufacturers to redesign or relocate tanks to improve their crashworthiness or to introduce a mandatory system for all vehicles with a certain size fuel tank to carry pollution prevention equipment to minimise the severity of spillages.

What I would like

- SMMT or individual members to write to either Defra or the Environment Agency and commit to a programme of change, that will reduce oil related incidents from this source.

I leave it in your hands...

A photograph of a red fire truck. The truck is parked on a paved surface. A blue bucket is placed on the ground next to a fire hose. The text "Any Questions?" is overlaid on the image in white. The truck has a large black tire on the left side. The background shows a grassy area and a white building.

Any Questions?