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Additional information on the draft risk profile on long-chain perfluorocarboxylic acids (PFCAs), their salts and related compounds

2.1.2 Uses

Unintentional production of long-chain PFCAs

1. Long-chain (C₉–C₂₁) PFCAs and related compounds may be unintentionally produced during the manufacturing of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs), including those containing a carbon chain of less than nine carbon atoms.
2. The manufacture of ammonium perfluorononanoate (APFN) leads to a technical mixture of PFCAs; Prevedouros et al. (2006) described the homologue profile for commercial APFN to consist primarily of C₉ PFCA (73.6%), C₁₁ PFCA (20.0%) and C₁₃ PFCA (5.0%).
3. During the manufacturing of the perfluorohexanoic acid- (C₆ PFCA) based substances, the fraction containing mainly long-chain PFCAs (referred to as the C₈-fraction) can include up to 30% C₉–C₁₄ PFCAs and related compounds (ECHA 2018b). The other fraction (the C₆-fraction) has a reduced concentration of C₉–C₁₄ PFCAs, in the low parts per million (ppm) range (ECHA 2018b). These fractions can be reworked or further processed to reduce the concentration of C₉–C₁₄ PFCAs in mixtures and articles placed on the market (ECHA 2018b). C₉–C₁₄ PFCAs can also be an impurity produced during the manufacturing of perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA, C₈ PFCA) (i.e., up to 0.21% C₉–C₁₄ PFCAs) and PFOA-related compounds (i.e., 20 to 45% C₉–C₁₄ related compounds to long-chain PFCAs) (ECHA 2018b).

Composition of fluorinated starting materials

4. Based on the available commercial information, starting materials that may be used for the production of compounds related to long-chain PFCAs consist of fluorotelomer alcohol mixtures of fluorinated chain lengths ranging from 4 to 20 carbons (see Table 1).

Table 1. Description of starting material used for the production of compounds related to long-chain PFCAs

Use	Description of the starting material	Reference																																
Fluorinated lubricant additives	<p>“[...] suitable fluorinated alcohols [...] may be selected from the following species:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • F(CF₂)_xCH₂OH, wherein x is from 1 to about 20 [...]; • H(CF₂)_xCH₂OH, wherein x is from 1 to about 20 [...]; • F(CF₂CF₂)_xCH₂CH₂OH, wherein x is from 1 to about 10 [...]; • F(CF₂CF₂)_x(CH₂CH₂O)_yOH, a telomer ethoxylate alcohol wherein x is from 1 to about 10 and y is from 1 to about 20 [...].” 	Beatty 2003																																
Fluorochemical oil and water repellents	<p>Compositions of fluoroalcohols of formula F(CF₂CF₂)_nCH₂CH₂OH:</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">n</th> <th colspan="2">Composition by weight %</th> </tr> <tr> <th>(i)</th> <th>(ii)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>0-3</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>27-37</td> <td>0-3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>28-32</td> <td>45-52</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td> <td>14-20</td> <td>26-32</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6</td> <td>8-13</td> <td>10-14</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7</td> <td>3-6</td> <td>2-5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8</td> <td>0-2</td> <td>0-2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9</td> <td>0-1</td> <td>0-1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10</td> <td>0-1</td> <td>0-1</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	n	Composition by weight %		(i)	(ii)	2	0-3		3	27-37	0-3	4	28-32	45-52	5	14-20	26-32	6	8-13	10-14	7	3-6	2-5	8	0-2	0-2	9	0-1	0-1	10	0-1	0-1	Sherman et al. 2001
n	Composition by weight %																																	
	(i)	(ii)																																
2	0-3																																	
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4	28-32	45-52																																
5	14-20	26-32																																
6	8-13	10-14																																
7	3-6	2-5																																
8	0-2	0-2																																
9	0-1	0-1																																
10	0-1	0-1																																

2.1.3 Releases to the environment

Table 2. Detection of long-chain PFCAs and their related compounds in environmental matrices and other matrices from impacted sites

Matrix	Country/ Region	Year(s)	Study site	Type of location or samples	Concentration	Mean	Reference
Wastewater treatment plants (WWTPs)							
Sludge	Switzerland	2011	WTTP	45 WWTPs	C ₉ PFCA: 0.9-23 µg/kg of dry matter C ₁₀ PFCA: 0.9-73 µg/kg of dry matter		Alder and von der Voet 2014
Wastewater	United States	2005	WTTP	2 WWTPs	C ₉ PFCA: 0.59-54 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: <0.5-18 ng/L C ₁₁ PFCA: <LOD-1.9 ng/L C ₁₂ PFCA: <LOD		Loganathan et al. 2007
Sludge	United States	2005	WTTP	2 WWTPs	C ₉ PFCA: <2.5-67 ng/g dw C ₁₀ PFCA: 12-201 ng/g dw C ₁₁ PFCA: 5.9-37 ng/g dw C ₁₂ PFCA: 7.2-48 ng/g dw		Loganathan et al. 2007
Wastewater (final effluent)	United States	2004	WWTP	1 WWTP	C ₉ PFCA: 1.5-5.9 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: 0.6-5.1 ng/L	C ₉ PFCA: 3.4 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: 2.3 ng/L	Schultz et al. 2006
Sludge (digested)	United States	2004	WWTP	1 WWTP	C ₉ PFCA: 9.2-10.3 ng/g dw C ₁₀ PFCA: 5.4-6.4 ng/g dw C ₁₁ PFCA: 5.9-8.4 ng/g dw C ₁₂ PFCA: 3.6-4.2 ng/g dw	C ₉ PFCA: 9.9 ng/g dw C ₁₀ PFCA: 5.9 ng/g dw C ₁₁ PFCA: 6.8 ng/g dw C ₁₂ PFCA: 3.8 ng/g dw C ₁₃ PFCA: <3 ng/g dw	Schultz et al. 2006
Biosolids	United States	2020	Agricultural sites	Class B biosolids samples collected from a wastewater reclamation facility	C ₉ PFCA: n.d.-2 µg/kg C ₁₀ PFCA: 12-13 µg/kg C ₁₁ PFCA: 1.8-2.4 µg/kg C ₁₂ PFCA: 6.5-8 µg/kg C ₁₃ PFCA: n.d. C ₁₄ PFCA: n.d.-3.3		Pepper et al. 2021
WWTP influent	Mexico	2019	WWTP	1 WWTP	C ₁₁ PFCA: 24.1 (±2.5)-35.2 (±2.4) ng/L		Rodríguez-Varela et al. 2021
WWTP effluent	Mexico	2019	WWTP	1 WWTP	C ₁₁ PFCA: 25.5 (±1.8)-31.1 (±3.3) ng/L		Rodríguez-Varela et al. 2021
Wastewater	Mexico	2019	WWTP	Irrigation canal receiving raw wastewater	C ₁₁ PFCA: 38.3 (±3.4)-76.8 (±1.4) ng/L		Rodríguez-Varela et al. 2021
WWTP influent	Denmark	Not specified	WWTP	11 samples from 6 municipal WWTPs	C ₉ PFCA: <0.8-8.4 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: <1.6 ng/L		Bossi et al. 2008
WWTP effluent	Denmark	Not specified	WWTP	11 samples from 6 municipal WWTPs	C ₉ PFCA: <0.8-3.1 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: <1.6-3.6 ng/L		Bossi et al. 2008
Sludge	Denmark	Not specified	WWTP	7 municipal WWTPs	C ₉ PFCA: 0.4-8.0 µg/kg dw C ₁₀ PFCA: 1.2-32 µg/kg dw C ₁₁ PFCA: 0.4-4.4 µg/kg dw		Bossi et al. 2008
Effluent water	Denmark	Not specified	WWTP	7 samples from 4 industrial WWTPs from textile, large chemical and wood floor production industries, and	C ₉ PFCA: <0.8-76.0 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: <1.6-35.7 ng/L C ₁₁ PFCA: <2.2-18.8 ng/L		Bossi et al. 2008

Matrix	Country/ Region	Year(s)	Study site	Type of location or samples	Concentration	Mean	Reference
				a facility handling various waste products			
Biosolids	Australia	Not specified	WWTP	Samples from 19 WWTPs	C ₉ PFCA: n.d.-4.9 ng/kg dw C ₁₀ PFCA: <MRL-34 ng/kg dw C ₁₁ PFCA: n.d.-3.0 ng/kg dw C ₁₂ PFCA: <MRL-18 ng/kg dw C ₁₃ PFCA: n.d.-1.8 ng/kg dw C ₁₄ PFCA: <MRL-4.2 ng/kg dw 8:2 FTSA: n.d.-4.0 ng/kg dw 10:2 FTSA: n.d.-1.9 ng/kg dw 8:2 diPAP: n.d.-240 ng/kg dw	C ₉ PFCA: 0.90 (±1.1) ng/kg dw C ₁₀ PFCA: 14 (±11.2) ng/kg dw C ₁₁ PFCA: 0.60 (±0.8) ng/kg dw C ₁₂ PFCA: 5.9 (±5.4) ng/kg dw C ₁₃ PFCA: 0.5 (±0.5) ng/kg dw C ₁₄ PFCA: 1.2 (±1.3) ng/kg dw 8:2 FTSA: 0.7 (±1.3) ng/kg dw 10:2 FTSA: 0.7 (±0.7) ng/kg dw 8:2 diPAP: 67 (±76) ng/kg dw	Moodie et al. 2021
Air	Canada	2009	WWTPs	Air samples collected using sorbent-impregnated polyurethane foam (SIP) disk passive air samplers (PAS), deployed for 63 days around a municipal WWTP	C ₉ PFCA: 0.88-4.84 pg/m ³ C ₁₀ PFCA: 0.57-8.82 pg/m ³ C ₁₁ PFCA: <0.04-5.83 pg/m ³ C ₁₂ PFCA: <0.24-3.44 pg/m ³ C ₁₄ PFCA: <0.28-1.43 pg/m ³ 8:2 FTOH: 144-10 309 pg/m ³ 10:2 FTOH: 70.4-1111 pg/m ³		Ahrens et al. 2011
Air	Canada	2013-2014	WWTPs	Air samples collected using SIP disk PAS, installed at WWTPs	C ₉ PFCA: BDL-77.9 pg/m ³ C ₁₀ PFCA: n.d.-84.2 pg/m ³ C ₁₁ PFCA: n.d.-15.9 pg/m ³ C ₁₂ PFCA: n.d.-101 pg/m ³ C ₁₃ PFCA: n.d.-0.966 pg/m ³ C ₁₄ PFCA: n.d.-5.13 pg/m ³ 8:2 FTOH: 12.3-1440 pg/m ³ 10:2 FTOH: 6-84.7 pg/m ³		Shoeb et al. 2016
Air	China	2013	WWTPs	Air samples collected collected using SIP disk PAS, installed at two WWTPs	C ₉ PFCA: 7.98-26.7 pg/m ³ C ₁₀ PFCA: 2.34-17.0 pg/m ³ C ₁₁ PFCA: 0.95-4.28 pg/m ³ C ₁₂ PFCA: 0.47-3.21 pg/m ³ 8:2 FTOH: 46.1-122 pg/m ³ 10:2 FTOH: 7.49-39.2 pg/m ³		Yao et al. 2016
WWTPs influent	Australia	2016	WWTPs	76 samples collected from 76 municipal WWTPs	C ₉ PFCA: 1.6-3.3 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: 2.0-6.3 ng/L C ₁₁ PFCA: n.d. C ₁₂ PFCA: n.d. 8:2 FTSA: 2.3-59 ng/L	C ₉ PFCA: 2.1 (±0.61) ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: 3.4 (±1.3) ng/L C ₁₁ PFCA: n/a C ₁₂ PFCA: n/a 8:2 FTSA: 15 (±14) ng/L	Nguyen et al. 2022
Wastewater	Austria	Not specified	Not specified	Number of samples analysed: C ₉ PFCA (5), C ₁₀ PFCA (9) C ₁₁ PFCA (10) C ₁₂ PFCA (10)	C ₉ PFCA: n.d.-0.0018 µg/L C ₁₀ PFCA: n.d.- 0.0024 µg/L C ₁₁ PFCA: <LOQ C ₁₂ PFCA: <LOQ		Austria Annex E information, 2022
Sewage sludge	Austria	Not specified	Not specified	2 samples analyzed	C ₉ PFCA: n.d.-0.77 µg/kg TM C ₁₀ PFCA: 1.1-7.7 µg/kg TM C ₁₁ PFCA: n.d.-2.1 µg/kg TM C ₁₂ PFCA: 0.77-2.7 µg/kg TM		Austria Annex E information, 2022
Sewage sludge compost	Austria	Not specified	Not specified	2 samples analyzed	C ₉ PFCA: 0.53-0.93 µg/kg TM C ₁₀ PFCA: 1.9-3.4 µg/kg TM		Austria Annex E information,

Matrix	Country/ Region	Year(s)	Study site	Type of location or samples	Concentration	Mean	Reference
					C ₁₁ PFCA: n.d.-3.7 µg/kg TM C ₁₂ PFCA: 0.44-0.65 µg/kg TM		2022
WTTP influent	Denmark	2011- 2016	WTTPs	Data reported in response to HELCOM data call in.	C ₉ PFCA: 0.8-10 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: 2-1100 ng/L C ₁₁ PFCA: 2-56 ng/L	C ₉ PFCA: 2.5 ng/L (average) C ₁₀ PFCA: 32 ng/L (average) C ₁₁ PFCA: 8.5 ng/L (average)	HELCOM 2022
WTTP effluent	Denmark	Not specified	WTTPs	Data reported in response to HELCOM data call in.	C ₉ PFCA: 0.24-43 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: 2-470 ng/L C ₁₁ PFCA: 0.01-140 ng/L C ₁₂ PFCA: 0.003-8.1 ng/L	C ₉ PFCA: 3.5 ng/L (average) C ₁₀ PFCA: 12.2 ng/L (average) C ₁₁ PFCA: 7.2 ng/L (average) C ₁₂ PFCA: 1 ng/L (average)	HELCOM 2022
Sludge	Sweden	2004- 2015	WWTPs	Data reported in response to HELCOM data call in.	C ₉ PFCA: 0.13-1.2 ng/g dw C ₁₁ PFCA: 0.37-15 ng/g dw C ₁₂ PFCA: 0.069-15 ng/g dw C ₁₃ PFCA: 0.1-1.9 ng/g dw C ₁₄ PFCA: 0.12-8 ng/g dw	C ₉ PFCA: 0.5 ng/g dw (average) C ₁₁ PFCA: 2.4 ng/g dw (average) C ₁₂ PFCA: 2.7 ng/g dw (average) C ₁₃ PFCA: 0.5 ng/g dw (average) C ₁₄ PFCA: 1 ng/g dw (average) C ₁₅ PFCA: 0.5 ng/g dw (average)	HELCOM 2022
Landfills, incineration plants							
Leachate	United States	2013- 2014	Landfills	18 landfills sites	10:2 FTCA: n.d.-0.3 µg/L 8:2 FTUCA: n.d.-0.02 µg/L Note: C ₁₁ – C ₁₈ PFCAs also detected above the LOD in <20% of samples, but concentrations were not specified.	C ₉ PFCA: 0.005-0.1 µg/L C ₁₀ PFCA: 0.003-0.1 µg/L 8:2 FTCA: 0.01-0.4 µg/L	Lang et al. 2017
Leachate	China	2015- 2017	Municipal solid wastes (MSW) incineration plants	3 MSW incineration plants	C ₉ PFCA: n.d. C ₁₀ PFCA: 0.362-1.26 ng/ml C ₁₁ PFCA: 0.0894-0.142 ng/ml C ₁₂ PFCA: 0.371-0.704 ng/ml C ₁₃ PFCA: 0.138-0.156 ng/ml C ₁₄ PFCA: 0.140-0.261 ng/ml 8:2 diPAP: 0.267-0.323 ng/L		Liu et al. 2021
Fly ash	China	2015- 2017	Municipal solid wastes (MSW) incineration plants	3 MSW incineration plants	C ₉ PFCA: 0.111-0.441 ng/g C ₁₀ PFCA: 0.0218-0.0915 ng/g C ₁₁ PFCA: n.d.-0.0195 ng/g C ₁₂ PFCA: 0.0109-0.0158 ng/g C ₁₃ PFCA: n.d.-0.0358 ng/g C ₁₄ PFCA: 0.0311-0.0540 ng/g 8:2 diPAP: n.d.-0.120 ng/g		Liu et al. 2021
Bottom ash	China	2015- 2017	Municipal solid wastes (MSW) incineration plants	3 MSW incineration plants	C ₉ PFCA: 0.243-0.403 ng/g C ₁₀ PFCA: 0.0298-0.0578 ng/g C ₁₁ PFCA: 0.0165-0.0790 ng/g C ₁₂ PFCA: 0.0944-0.121 ng/g C ₁₃ PFCA: n.d.-0.0755 ng/g C ₁₄ PFCA: n.d.-0.0263 ng/g 8:2 diPAP: 0.119-0.250 ng/g		Liu et al. 2021
Soil	South Korea	2017	Landfills	8 soil samples collected from vacant lots in municipal and industrial landfill sites	C ₉ PFCA: n.d.-0.479 ng/g dw C ₁₀ PFCA: 0.058-2.85 ng/g dw C ₁₁ PFCA: n.d.-1.03 ng/g dw C ₁₂ PFCA: n.d.-3.16 ng/g dw C ₁₃ PFCA: n.d.-0.985 ng/g dw	C ₉ PFCA: 0.252 ng/g dw C ₁₀ PFCA: 0.614 ng/g dw C ₁₁ PFCA: 0.275 ng/g dw C ₁₂ PFCA: 0.460 ng/g dw C ₁₃ PFCA: 0.192 ng/g dw	Sim et al. 2021

Matrix	Country/ Region	Year(s)	Study site	Type of location or samples	Concentration	Mean	Reference
Leachate	Canada	2010	Landfills	33 samples of leachate (flow-through or recirculated) from two municipal landfills	C ₁₄ PFCA: n.d.-0.812 ng/g dw	C ₁₄ PFCA: 0.162 ng/g dw	Benskin et al. 2012
Percolate	Denmark	Not specified	Landfills	3 samples from 2 landfills	C ₉ PFCA: <0.8 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: <1.6 ng/L C ₁₁ PFCA: <2.2 ng/L		Bossi et al. 2008
Leachate	Germany	Not specified	Landfills	Treated leachate from 22 landfill sites	C ₉ PFCA: n.d.-80.06 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: n.d.-55.09 ng/L C ₁₁ PFCA: n.d.-2.98 ng/L C ₁₂ PFCA: n.d.-2.45 ng/L C ₁₃ PFCA: n.d.-0.62 ng/L C ₁₄ PFCA: n.d.-0.39 ng/L C ₁₅ PFCA: n.d.-0.42 ng/L C ₁₆ PFCA: n.d.-1.91 ng/L C ₁₇ PFCA: n.d.-1.04 ng/L C ₁₈ PFCA: n.d.-2.96 ng/L		Busch et al. 2010
Leachate	Spain	2015	Landfills	6 samples from 4 municipal solid waste landfill sites	C ₉ PFCA: <LOD C ₁₀ PFCA: <LOD C ₁₁ PFCA: <LOD C ₁₂ PFCA: <LOD C ₁₃ PFCA: <LOD C ₁₄ PFCA: <LOD-68.4 ng/L		Fuertes et al. 2017
Leachate	Japan	2019-2021	Landfills	Industrial waste landfills	C ₉ PFCA: 12-1200 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: 14-18 ng/L C ₁₁ PFCA: 13-120 ng/L C ₁₂ PFCA: 5.4-8.3 ng/L C ₁₃ PFCA: n.d. C ₁₄ PFCA: n.d. C ₁₆ PFCA: n.d. C ₁₈ PFCA: n.d.	C ₉ PFCA: 500 (±350) ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: 16 (±3.0) ng/L C ₁₁ PFCA: 86 (±48) ng/L C ₁₂ PFCA: 6.8 (±2.0) ng/L	Kameoka et al. 2021
Leachate	Japan	2019-2021	Landfills	Municipal solid waste landfills	C ₉ PFCA: 4.2-12 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: 18 ng/L C ₁₁ PFCA: 8.7-9.1 ng/L C ₁₂ PFCA: n.d. C ₁₃ PFCA: n.d. C ₁₄ PFCA: n.d. C ₁₆ PFCA: n.d. C ₁₈ PFCA: 110 ng/L	C ₉ PFCA: 7.2 (±3.4) ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: 18 ng/L C ₁₁ PFCA: 8.9 (±0.23) ng/L C ₁₈ PFCA: 110 (±0.058) ng/L	Kameoka et al. 2021
Air	Canada	2009	Landfills	Air samples collected using SIP disk PAS, deployed for 55 days at 2	C ₉ PFCA: 0.97-15.8 pg/m ³ C ₁₀ PFCA: 0.84-18.9 pg/m ³ C ₁₁ PFCA: <0.04-17.4 pg/m ³		Ahrens et al. 2011

Matrix	Country/ Region	Year(s)	Study site	Type of location or samples	Concentration	Mean	Reference
				municipal solid waste landfill sites	C ₁₂ PFCA: 0.71-17.4 pg/m ³ C ₁₄ PFCA: <0.28-4.30 pg/m ³ 8:2 FTOH: 223-17 381 pg/m ³ 10:2 FTOH: 125-2151 pg/m ³		
Air (gas-phase)	Germany	2009	Landfills	Air samples collected from two landfills	8:2 FTOH: 17.6-433.6 pg/m ³ 10:2 FTOH: 5.7-92.7 pg/m ³ 12:2 FTOH: 2.3-38.0 pg/m ³ 8:2 FTA: 0.2-12.6 pg/m ³ 10:2 FTA: n.d.-7.3 pg/m ³		Weinberg et al. 2011
Air (particle-phase)	Germany	2009	Landfills	Air samples collected from two landfills	C ₉ PFCA: n.d.-0.7 pg/m ³ C ₁₀ PFCA: n.d.-0.8 pg/m ³ C ₁₁ PFCA: n.d.-0.8 pg/m ³ C ₁₂ PFCA: n.d.-0.3 pg/m ³		Weinberg et al. 2011
Military bases, airports							
Groundwater	United States	1942- 1990	Military bases	4 archived groundwater samples	C ₉ PFCA: 40-390 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: <LOD-17 ng/L C ₁₁ PFCA: <LOD-<3.1 ng/L C ₁₂ PFCA: <LOD C ₁₃ PFCA: <LOD C ₁₄ PFCA: <LOD		Backe et al. 2013
Groundwater	United States	1950- 1993	Military bases	8 archived groundwater samples	C ₉ PFCA: <LOD-680 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: <3.1-19 ng/L C ₁₁ PFCA: <LOD-5.2 ng/L C ₁₂ PFCA: <LOD-<3.4 ng/L C ₁₃ PFCA: <LOD C ₁₄ PFCA: <LOD		Backe et al. 2013
Surface soil	Canada	2016- 2017	Airports	Soil samples from aqueous film-forming foam (AFFF)-impacted sites of four airports	C ₉ PFCA: n.d.-13.8 µg/kg dw C ₁₀ PFCA: n.d.-15.8 µg/kg dw C ₁₁ PFCA: n.d.-8.3 µg/kg dw C ₁₂ PFCA: n.d.-9.0 µg/kg dw C ₁₃ PFCA: n.d.-1.1 µg/kg dw C ₁₄ PFCA: n.d.-1.3 µg/kg dw C ₁₆ PFCA: n.d.-0.2 µg/kg dw 8:3 FTCA: n.d.-1.2 µg/kg dw 9:3 FTCA: n.d.-9.9 µg/kg dw 11:3 FTCA: n.d.-1.8 µg/kg dw 8:2 FTUA: n.d.-0.5 µg/kg dw 8:2 FTSA: n.d.-1684.4 µg/kg dw 10:2 FTSA: n.d.-46.9 µg/kg dw 12:2 FTSA: n.d. 14:2 FTSA: n.d.-13.9 µg/kg dw		Liu et al. 2022
Subsurface soil	Canada	2016- 2017	Airports	Subsurface soil samples from aqueous film-forming foam (AFFF)-impacted sites of four airports	C ₉ PFCA: n.d.-2.2 µg/kg dw C ₁₀ PFCA: n.d.-0.9 µg/kg dw C ₁₁ PFCA: n.d.-0.3 µg/kg dw C ₁₂ PFCA: n.d. C ₁₃ PFCA: n.d. C ₁₄ PFCA: n.d. C ₁₆ PFCA: n.d.		Liu et al. 2022

Matrix	Country/ Region	Year(s)	Study site	Type of location or samples	Concentration	Mean	Reference
					8:3 FTCA: n.d. 9:3 FTCA: n.d. 11:3 FTCA: n.d. 8:2 FTUA: n.d.-0.2 µg/kg dw 8:2 FTSA: n.d.-56.4 µg/kg dw 10:2 FTSA: n.d.-0.5 µg/kg dw 12:2 FTSA: n.d. 14:2 FTSA: n.d.		
Groundwater	Canada	2016- 2017	Airports	Groundwater samples from aqueous film-forming foam (AFFF)-impacted sites of four airports	C ₉ PFCA: n.d.-2.0 µg/L C ₁₀ PFCA: n.d.-0.5 µg/L C ₁₁ PFCA: n.d.-0.2 µg/L C ₁₂ PFCA: n.d. C ₁₃ PFCA: n.d. C ₁₄ PFCA: n.d. C ₁₆ PFCA: n.d. 8:2 FTUA: n.d. 10:2 FTUA: n.d. 8:2 FTSA: n.d.-230.0 µg/L 10:2 FTSA: n.d.-0.5 µg/L		Liu et al. 2022
Land application of biosolids, agricultural sites							
Well water	United States	2009	Farms	21 farms with historical land application of fluorochemical industry impacted biosolids	C ₉ PFCA: <LOD-25.7 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: <LOD		Lindstrom et al. 2011
Surface water	United States	2009	Farms	21 farms with historical land application of fluorochemical industry impacted biosolids	C ₉ PFCA: <LOD-285.6 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: <LOD-838.2 ng/L		Lindstrom et al. 2011
Soil	United States	2020	Agricultural sites	72 soil samples collected at various depths	C ₉ PFCA: n.d.-0.61 µg/kg C ₁₀ PFCA: n.d.-4.1 µg/kg C ₁₁ PFCA: n.d.-0.41 µg/kg C ₁₂ PFCA: n.d.- 0.48 µg/kg C ₁₃ PFCA: n.d. C ₁₄ PFCA: n.d.- 0.16 µg/kg		Pepper et al. 2021
Groundwater	United States	2020	Agricultural sites	Samples collected from nine irrigation wells associated with the agricultural sites	C ₉ PFCA: n.d.-3.4 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: n.d.-19 ng/L		Pepper et al. 2021
Soil	South Korea	2017	Farmland	4 soil samples collected from farmlands	C ₉ PFCA: 0.69-0.379 ng/g dw C ₁₀ PFCA: 0.164-0.300 ng/g dw C ₁₁ PFCA: n.d.-0.491 ng/g dw C ₁₂ PFCA: 0.059-0.150 ng/g dw C ₁₃ PFCA: n.d.-0.172 ng/g dw C ₁₄ PFCA: n.d	C ₉ PFCA: 0.281 ng/g dw C ₁₀ PFCA: 0.241 ng/g dw C ₁₁ PFCA: 0.279 ng/g dw C ₁₂ PFCA: 0.103 ng/g dw C ₁₃ PFCA: 0.081 ng/g dw C ₁₄ PFCA: n.d	Sim et al. 2021
Soil	United States	2015	Agricultural site	34 surface soil samples from agricultural feedstock station with history of land application of biosolids		C ₉ PFCA: 5.1 µg/kg (average) C ₁₀ PFCA: 26 µg/kg (average) C ₁₁ PFCA: 3.0 µg/kg (average) C ₁₂ PFCA: 6.2 µg/kg (average)	Johnson 2022

Matrix	Country/ Region	Year(s)	Study site	Type of location or samples	Concentration	Mean	Reference
				since mid-1990s			
Ski areas							
Snow	United States	2020	Skiing area	Snow samples after cross-country ski races	C ₉ PFCA: n.d.-211 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: 1.87-1180 ng/L C ₁₁ PFCA: n.d.-606 ng/L C ₁₂ PFCA: 3.74-1800 ng/L C ₁₃ PFCA: 2.38-1000 ng/L C ₁₄ PFCA: 12.9-4210 ng/L 8:2 FTSA: n.d.-7.2 ng/L		Carlson and Tupper 2020
Soil	United States	2020	Skiing area	Soil samples collected after snowmelt in a skiing area	C ₉ PFCA: n.d. C ₁₀ PFCA: n.d.-1.75 ng/g dw C ₁₁ PFCA: n.d. C ₁₂ PFCA: n.d.-2.82 ng/g dw C ₁₃ PFCA: n.d.-3.61 ng/g dw C ₁₄ PFCA: 1.97-3.91 ng/g dw 8:2 FTSA: n.d.		Carlson and Tupper 2020
Soil	Norway	2017-2018	Skiing area	5 soil samples collected after snowmelt in a skiing area	C ₉ PFCA: <LOQ-0.602 ng/g dw C ₁₀ PFCA: <LOQ-1.96 ng/g dw C ₁₁ PFCA: <LOQ-0.294 ng/g dw C ₁₂ PFCA: <LOQ-0.401 ng/g dw C ₁₃ PFCA: <LOQ-0.203 ng/g dw C ₁₄ PFCA: <LOQ-0.138 ng/g dw	C ₉ PFCA: 0.179 (±0.177) ng/g dw C ₁₀ PFCA: 0.417 (±0.632) ng/g dw C ₁₁ PFCA: 0.134 (±0.112) ng/g dw C ₁₂ PFCA: 0.159 (±0.139) ng/g dw C ₁₃ PFCA: 0.090 (±0.067) ng/g dw C ₁₄ PFCA: 0.122 (±0.140) ng/g dw	Grønnestad et al. 2019
Snow	Sweden	2010	Skiing area	Snow samples collected after a ski competition	C ₉ PFCA: n.d.-19.6 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: n.d.-17.2 ng/L C ₁₁ PFCA: n.d.-12.8 ng/L C ₁₂ PFCA: n.d.-21.8 ng/L C ₁₃ PFCA: n.d.-22.0 ng/L C ₁₄ PFCA: n.d.-57.9 ng/L C ₁₅ PFCA: n.d.-16.8 ng/L C ₁₆ PFCA: n.d.-108 ng/L C ₁₇ PFCA: n.d.-55.9 ng/L C ₁₈ PFCA: n.d.-786 ng/L C ₁₉ PFCA: n.d.-60.6 ng/L C ₂₀ PFCA: n.d.-113 ng/L C ₂₁ PFCA: n.d.		Plassman and Berger 2013
Soil	Sweden	2010	Skiing area	Soil samples collected after snowmelt in a skiing area	C ₉ PFCA: n.d.-1.15 ng/g dw C ₁₀ PFCA: n.d.-3.38 ng/g dw C ₁₁ PFCA: n.d.-1.82 ng/g dw C ₁₂ PFCA: n.d.-2.48 ng/g dw C ₁₃ PFCA: n.d.-1.43 ng/g dw C ₁₄ PFCA: n.d.-2.28 ng/g dw C ₁₅ PFCA: n.d.-0.623 ng/g dw C ₁₆ PFCA: n.d.-0.709 ng/g dw C ₁₇ PFCA: n.d.-0.307 ng/g dw C ₁₈ PFCA: n.d.-1.89 ng/g dw C ₁₉ PFCA: n.d.-0.141 ng/g dw C ₂₀ PFCA: n.d.-0.175 ng/g dw C ₂₁ PFCA: n.d.-0.021 ng/g dw		Plassman and Berger 2013

Matrix	Country/ Region	Year(s)	Study site	Type of location or samples	Concentration	Mean	Reference
Industrial and urban areas							
River water	India	2014	Ganges River	14 samples collected in nine locations, including in industrialized areas	C ₉ PFCA: <MQL-0.19 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: <MQL-0.19 ng/L C ₁₁ PFCA: <MQL C ₁₂ PFCA: <MQL-0.05 ng/L C ₁₃ PFCA: <MQL-0.03 ng/L C ₁₄ PFCA: <MQL		Sharma et al. 2016
Groundwater water	India	2014	Ganges River bank	14 samples collected from wells in the vicinity of the Ganges River bank	C ₉ PFCA: <MQL-0.22 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: <MQL-0.10 ng/L C ₁₁ PFCA: <MQL C ₁₂ PFCA: <MQL-0.05 ng/L C ₁₃ PFCA: <MQL-0.02 ng/L C ₁₄ PFCA: <MQL		Sharma et al. 2016
Surface sediment	China	Not specified	Plain river network of Changshu (Tasin Basin)	17 sampling sites located in residential, agricultural and industrial areas	C ₉ PFCA: 0.99-9.65 ng/g dw C ₁₀ PFCA: 1.33-24.99 ng/g dw C ₁₁ PFCA: 0.99-15.67 ng/g dw C ₁₂ PFCA: 0.27-18.32 ng/g dw C ₁₃ PFCA: <3.25-25.91 ng/g dw C ₁₄ PFCA: <0.20-11.97 ng/g dw	C ₉ PFCA: 4.71 ng/g dw C ₁₀ PFCA: 7.11 ng/g dw C ₁₁ PFCA: 4.86 ng/g dw C ₁₂ PFCA: 6.86 ng/g dw C ₁₃ PFCA: 8.44 ng/g dw C ₁₄ PFCA: 4.33 ng/g dw	Li and Hua 2021
Suspended particles	China	Not specified	Plain river network of Changshu (Tasin Basin)	17 sampling sites located in residential, agricultural and industrial areas	C ₉ PFCA: 3.26-178.37 ng/g dw C ₁₀ PFCA: 3.60-30.40 ng/g dw C ₁₁ PFCA: 1.79-85.35 ng/g dw C ₁₂ PFCA: 3.42-159.01 ng/g dw C ₁₃ PFCA: 3.96-85.69 ng/g dw C ₁₄ PFCA: 1.99-42.57 ng/g dw	C ₉ PFCA: 20.05 ng/g dw C ₁₀ PFCA: 13.58 ng/g dw C ₁₁ PFCA: 25.10 ng/g dw C ₁₂ PFCA: 29.97 ng/g dw C ₁₃ PFCA: 23.49 ng/g dw C ₁₄ PFCA: 16.64 ng/g dw	Li and Hua 2021
Dissolved phase	China	Not specified	Plain river network of Changshu (Tasin Basin)	17 sampling sites located in residential, agricultural and industrial areas	C ₉ PFCA: 0.54-48.83 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: 2.88-264.30 ng/L C ₁₁ PFCA: 0.18-221.87 ng/L C ₁₂ PFCA: 0.44-12.85 ng/L C ₁₃ PFCA: <0.47-8.56 ng/L C ₁₄ PFCA: <0.23-5.08 ng/L	C ₉ PFCA: 18.69 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: 35.57 ng/L C ₁₁ PFCA: 57.66 ng/L C ₁₂ PFCA: 5.04 ng/L C ₁₃ PFCA: 3.56 ng/L C ₁₄ PFCA: 1.90 ng/L	Li and Hua 2021
Colloidal phase	China	Not specified	Plain river network of Changshu (Tasin Basin)	17 sampling sites located in residential, agricultural and industrial areas	C ₉ PFCA: <0.21-44.36 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: 0.44-258.46 ng/L C ₁₁ PFCA: 0.12-210.38 ng/L C ₁₂ PFCA: 0.26-10.88 ng/L C ₁₃ PFCA: <0.24-8.18 ng/L C ₁₄ PFCA: <0.15-4.65 ng/L	C ₉ PFCA: 15.72 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: 40.25 ng/L C ₁₁ PFCA: 55.09 ng/L C ₁₂ PFCA: 3.84 ng/L C ₁₃ PFCA: 2.70 ng/L C ₁₄ PFCA: 1.77 ng/L	Li and Hua 2021
Soluble phase	China	Not specified	Plain river network of Changshu (Tasin Basin)	17 sampling sites located in residential, agricultural and industrial areas	C ₉ PFCA: <0.21-20.67 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: 0.96-26.81 ng/L C ₁₁ PFCA: 0.06-46.43 ng/L C ₁₂ PFCA: 0.18-4.98 ng/L C ₁₃ PFCA: <0.06-5.33 ng/L C ₁₄ PFCA: <0.08-1.02 ng/L	C ₉ PFCA: 7.47 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: 7.57 ng/L C ₁₁ PFCA: 11.82 ng/L C ₁₂ PFCA: 1.62 ng/L C ₁₃ PFCA: 1.27 ng/L C ₁₄ PFCA: 0.55 ng/L	Li and Hua 2021
Rain	China	2016	Fluorochemical manufacturing parks (FMPs) in Fuxin	94 multimedia samples collected in the area surrounding two FMPs	C ₉ PFCA: n.d.-13 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: 0.57-22 ng/L C ₁₁ PFCA: n.d.-2.1 ng/L C ₁₂ PFCA: 0.37-1.7 ng/L 8:2 FTUCA: n.d.-3.0 ng/L		Chen et al. 2018

Matrix	Country/ Region	Year(s)	Study site	Type of location or samples	Concentration	Mean	Reference
Shallow groundwater	China	2016	Fluorochemical manufacturing parks (FMPs) in Fuxin	94 multimedia samples collected in the area surrounding two FMPs	C ₉ PFCA: n.d.-3.7 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: n.d.-3.9 ng/L C ₁₁ PFCA: n.d. C ₁₂ PFCA: n.d. 8:2 FTUCA: n.d.		Chen et al. 2018
Surface reservoir and river water	China	2016	Fluorochemical manufacturing parks (FMPs) in Fuxin	94 multimedia samples collected in the area surrounding two FMPs	C ₉ PFCA: n.d.-32 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: n.d.-86 ng/L C ₁₁ PFCA: n.d.-51 ng/L C ₁₂ PFCA: n.d.-14 ng/L 8:2 FTUCA: n.d.-0.46 ng/L		Chen et al. 2018
Surface sediment	China	2016	Fluorochemical manufacturing parks (FMPs) in Fuxin	94 multimedia samples collected in the area surrounding two FMPs	C ₉ PFCA: n.d.-0.43 ng/g C ₁₀ PFCA: n.d.-0.77 ng/g C ₁₁ PFCA: n.d.-9.3 ng/g C ₁₂ PFCA: n.d.-0.92 ng/g 8:2 FTUCA: n.d.-0.24 ng/g		Chen et al. 2018
Soil	China	2016	Fluorochemical manufacturing parks (FMPs) in Fuxin	94 multimedia samples collected in the area surrounding two FMPs	C ₉ PFCA: 0.066-9.9 ng/g C ₁₀ PFCA: 0.046-50 ng/g C ₁₁ PFCA: 0.022.-12 ng/g C ₁₂ PFCA: n.d.-42 ng/g 8:2 FTUCA: n.d.-2.7 ng/g		Chen et al. 2018
Outdoor settled dust	China	2016	Fluorochemical manufacturing parks (FMPs) in Fuxin	94 multimedia samples collected in the area surrounding two FMPs	C ₉ PFCA: n.d.-160 ng/g C ₁₀ PFCA: n.d.-160 ng/g C ₁₁ PFCA: n.d.-96 ng/g C ₁₂ PFCA: n.d.-100 ng/g 8:2 FTUCA: n.d.-32 ng/g		Chen et al. 2018
Leaves	China	2016	Fluorochemical manufacturing parks (FMPs) in Fuxin	94 multimedia samples collected in the area surrounding two FMPs	C ₉ PFCA: n.d.-220 ng/g C ₁₀ PFCA: n.d. C ₁₁ PFCA: n.d. C ₁₂ PFCA: n.d.-56 ng/g 8:2 FTUCA: n.d.		Chen et al. 2018
Air	China	2016	Fluorochemical manufacturing parks (FMPs) in Fuxin	94 multimedia samples collected in the area surrounding two FMPs	C ₉ PFCA: 9.9-370 pg/m ³ C ₁₀ PFCA: n.d.-650 pg/m ³ C ₁₁ PFCA: n.d.-220 pg/m ³ C ₁₂ PFCA: n.d.-120 pg/m ³ 8:2 FTUCA: 7.9-340 pg/m ³		Chen et al. 2018
Air	China	2014	Textile manufacturing plant located in the Yangtze River Delta	34 multimedia samples collected in four workshops	C ₉ PFCA: 44-49 pg/m ³ C ₁₀ PFCA: 99-114 pg/m ³ C ₁₁ PFCA: 24-27 pg/m ³ C ₁₂ PFCA: n.d.-7 pg/m ³ C ₁₃ PFCA: n.d. C ₁₄ PFCA: n.d. 8:2 FTOH: 9.7-23.0 pg/m ³ 10:2 FTOH: 2.6-2.7 pg/m ³		Heydebreck et al. 2016
WWTP effluent	China	2014	Textile manufacturing plant located in the Yangtze River Delta	34 multimedia samples collected in four workshops	C ₉ PFCA: 255.7-279.7 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: 723.9-911.9 ng/L C ₁₁ PFCA: 40.6-47.0 ng/L C ₁₂ PFCA: 0.65-0.74 ng/L C ₁₃ PFCA: n.d.		Heydebreck et al. 2016

Matrix	Country/ Region	Year(s)	Study site	Type of location or samples	Concentration	Mean	Reference
					C ₁₄ PFCA: n.d. 8:2 FTUCA: 628.0-742.0 ng/L 10:2 FTUCA: 41.6-52.0 ng/L		
WWTP effluent – suspended particulate matter	China	2014	Textile manufacturing plant located in the Yangtze River Delta	34 multimedia samples collected in four workshops	C ₉ PFCA: 15.7-18.2 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: 144.3-153.0 ng/L C ₁₁ PFCA: 17.6-18.4 ng/L C ₁₂ PFCA: 0.93-1.03 ng/L C ₁₃ PFCA: 1.86-1.96 ng/L C ₁₄ PFCA: 0.32-0.36 ng/L 8:2 FTUCA: 37.6-48.4 ng/L 10:2 FTUCA: 37.0-40.0 ng/L		Heydebreck et al. 2016
River	China	2014	Textile manufacturing plant located in the Yangtze River Delta	34 multimedia samples collected in four workshops	C ₉ PFCA: 2.56-2.96 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: 3.06-3.82 ng/L C ₁₁ PFCA: 2.68-3.20 ng/L C ₁₂ PFCA: 0.15-0.20 ng/L C ₁₃ PFCA: n.d. C ₁₄ PFCA: n.d. 8:2 FTUCA: n.d. 10:2 FTUCA: n.d.		Heydebreck et al. 2016
River – suspended particulate matter	China	2014	Textile manufacturing plant located in the Yangtze River Delta	34 multimedia samples collected in four workshops	C ₉ PFCA: 0.49-0.60 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: 1.35-1.86 ng/L C ₁₁ PFCA: 2.90-3.68 ng/L C ₁₂ PFCA: 0.96-1.14 ng/L C ₁₃ PFCA: 1.43-1.64 ng/L C ₁₄ PFCA: 0.56-0.82 ng/L 8:2 FTUCA: n.d. 10:2 FTUCA: n.d.		Heydebreck et al. 2016
Water	South Korea	2010- 2012	Nakdong River	3 sampling sites in a river located in a highly industrialized area	C ₉ PFCA: 0.83-4.49 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: 0.53-4.80 ng/L C ₁₁ PFCA: 0.28-1.13 ng/L C ₁₂ PFCA: 0.13-0.33 ng/L	C ₉ PFCA: 2.32 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: 2.13 ng/L C ₁₁ PFCA: 0.59 ng/L C ₁₂ PFCA: 0.20 ng/L	Lam et al. 2014
Water	South Korea	2010- 2012	Yeongsan River	3 sampling sites in a river located in a highly industrialized area	C ₉ PFCA: 0.54-1.08 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: 0.14-1.10 ng/L C ₁₁ PFCA: 0.13-0.73 ng/L C ₁₂ PFCA: 0.10-0.31 ng/L	C ₉ PFCA: 0.85 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: 0.64 ng/L C ₁₁ PFCA: 0.41 ng/L C ₁₂ PFCA: 0.21 ng/L	Lam et al. 2014
Sediment	South Korea	2010- 2012	Nakdong River	3 sampling sites in a river located in a highly industrialized area	C ₉ PFCA: n.d.-0.03 ng/g dw C ₁₀ PFCA: 0.02-0.07 ng/g dw C ₁₁ PFCA: 0.03-0.08 ng/g dw C ₁₂ PFCA: 0.07-0.08 ng/g dw	C ₉ PFCA: 0.01 ng/g dw C ₁₀ PFCA: 0.05 ng/g dw C ₁₁ PFCA: 0.06 ng/g dw C ₁₂ PFCA: 0.08 ng/g dw	Lam et al. 2014
Sediment	South Korea	2010- 2012	Yeongsan River	3 sampling sites in a river located in a highly industrialized area	C ₉ PFCA: 0.09-0.15 ng/g dw C ₁₀ PFCA: 0.03-0.04 ng/g dw C ₁₁ PFCA: 0.02-0.04 ng/g dw C ₁₂ PFCA: 0.06-0.08 ng/g dw	C ₉ PFCA: 0.12 ng/g dw C ₁₀ PFCA: 0.03 ng/g dw C ₁₁ PFCA: 0.03 ng/g dw C ₁₂ PFCA: 0.07 ng/g dw	Lam et al. 2014
Soil	South Korea	2017	Industrial complexes (chemical, textile, electronics and metal)	33 soil samples collected from industrial complexes from major industrial areas	C ₉ PFCA: n.d.-1.52 ng/g dw C ₁₀ PFCA: 0.086-1.73 ng/g dw C ₁₁ PFCA: n.d.-1.06 ng/g dw C ₁₂ PFCA: n.d.-2.10 ng/g dw C ₁₃ PFCA: n.d.-0.952 ng/g dw	C ₉ PFCA: 0.387 ng/g dw C ₁₀ PFCA: 0.553 ng/g dw C ₁₁ PFCA: 0.382 ng/g dw C ₁₂ PFCA: 0.435 ng/g dw C ₁₃ PFCA: 0.167 ng/g dw	Sim et al. 2021

Matrix	Country/ Region	Year(s)	Study site	Type of location or samples	Concentration	Mean	Reference
					C ₁₄ PFCA: n.d.-0.977 ng/g dw	C ₁₄ PFCA: 0.130 ng/g dw	
Suspended particulate matter	Germany	2005-2019	River Mulde located downstream of a large industrial park	Samples from riverine sampling sites of the Greman Environmental Specimen Bank collected between 2005 and 2019	C ₉ PFCA: 0.056-0.647 µg/kg dw C ₁₀ PFCA: 0.809-3.492 µg/kg dw C ₁₁ PFCA: 0.136-1.804 µg/kg dw C ₁₂ PFCA: <0.05-2.319 µg/kg dw C ₁₃ PFCA: <LOQ C ₁₄ PFCA: <LOQ C ₁₅ PFCA: <LOQ C ₁₆ PFCA: <LOQ 8:2 diPAP: 2,537-44,418 µg/kg dw 8:2 FTCA: <LOQ		Göckener et al. 2022
Water	Japan	2010	Rivers located in the Hyogo prefecture	Samples from 41 rivers, including a site downstream of a perfluorinated compounds production facility	C ₉ PFCA: <0.5-39 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: <0.5-47 ng/L C ₁₁ PFCA: <0.5-39 ng/L C ₁₂ PFCA: <0.5-4.1 ng/L		Takemine et al. 2014
Water	Japan	2011	Samondogawa River	Sample from a location downstream of a perfluorinated compounds production facility	C ₉ PFCA: 12 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: 3.5 ng/L C ₁₁ PFCA: <1.5 ng/L C ₁₂ PFCA: <0.5 ng/L		Takemine et al. 2014
Water	Japan	2012	Samondogawa River	Sample from a location downstream of a perfluorinated compounds production facility	C ₉ PFCA: 8.1 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: 2.7 ng/L C ₁₁ PFCA: <0.5 ng/L C ₁₂ PFCA: <0.5 ng/L		Takemine et al. 2014
Water	China	2021	Taihu Lake	32 water samples collected at various locations, including in proximity to industrial areas	C ₉ PFCA: 7.75-63.8 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: 4.55-118 ng/L	C ₉ PFCA: 15.9 (±11.4) ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: 17.7 (±22.6) ng/L	Yu et al. 2022
Air	China	2013	Tianjin City	Air samples collected collected using SIP disk PAS, installed at various sites, including in urban areas	C ₉ PFCA: 8.57-23.7 pg/m ³ C ₁₀ PFCA: 1.47-7.67 pg/m ³ C ₁₁ PFCA: 1.13-3.23 pg/m ³ C ₁₂ PFCA: 0.31-2.11 pg/m ³ 8:2 FTOH: 43.9-89.9 pg/m ³ 10:2 FTOH: 14.1-39.8 pg/m ³		Yao et al. 2016
Wastewater	China	Not specified	Electroplating industrial parks	23 water samples collected in production workshops and treatment units	C ₉ PFCA: 2.4-714.5 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: 2.95-364.5 ng/L C ₁₁ PFCA: concentration not specified		Jiawei et al. 2019
Sediment	Norway	2018-2019	PFASs-coated paper products factory	Sediment samples collected downstream of the factory		C ₉ PFCA: 6.9 (±6.6) µg/kg dw C ₁₀ PFCA: 69.4 (±66.2) µg/kg dw C ₁₁ PFCA: 19.9 (±18.5) µg/kg dw C ₁₂ PFCA: 21.0 (±18.3) µg/kg dw C ₁₃ PFCA: 3.2 (±2.4) µg/kg dw C ₁₄ PFCA: 23.3 (±20.1) µg/kg dw C ₁₅ PFCA: 1.5 (±1.1) µg/kg dw C ₁₆ PFCA: 2.8 (±2.3) µg/kg dw 8:2 FTSA: 253 (±212) µg/kg dw 10:2 FTSA: 472 (±269) µg/kg dw 12:2 FTSA: 370 (±182) µg/kg dw	Langberg et al. 2020

Matrix	Country/ Region	Year(s)	Study site	Type of location or samples	Concentration	Mean	Reference
Industrial WWTPs influent	South Korea	2018- 2019	Industrial complex containing 77 industrial plants producing ceramics, electronic equipment, electroplated metals, polymers, textiles, and other items	79 samples from influent wastewater	C ₉ PFCA: n.d.-13.8 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: n.d.-<LOQ ng/L C ₁₁ PFCA: n.d.-14.7 ng/L C ₁₂ PFCA: n.d.-26.0 ng/L C ₁₃ PFCA: n.d.-15.2 ng/L 8:2 FTSA: n.d.-2.35 ng/L	14:2 FTSA: 106 (±68.2) µg/kg dw C ₉ PFCA: 13.5 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: < LOQ C ₁₁ PFCA: 14.7 ng/L C ₁₂ PFCA: 26.0 ng/L C ₁₃ PFCA: 15.2 ng/L 8:2 FTSA: 2.35 ng/L	Kim et al. 2021
Industrial WWTPs effluent	South Korea	2018- 2019	Industrial complex containing 77 industrial plants producing ceramics, electronic equipment, electroplated metals, polymers, textiles, and other items	66 samples from effluent wastewater	C ₉ PFCA: n.d.-20.9 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: n.d.-9.5 ng/L C ₁₁ PFCA: n.d.-<LOQ C ₁₂ PFCA: n.d.-40.2 ng/L 8:2 FTSA: n.d.-9.3 ng/L	C ₉ PFCA: 14.5 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: 8.9 ng/L C ₁₁ PFCA: <LOQ C ₁₂ PFCA: 35.0 ng/L 8:2 FTSA: 9.3 ng/L	Kim et al. 2021
Municipal WWTP influent	South Korea	2018- 2019	Municipal WWTPs receiving treated wastewater from an industrial complex	Samples from two municipal WWTPs plants	C ₉ PFCA: <LOQ ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: n.d. C ₁₁ PFCA: n.d. C ₁₂ PFCA: <LOQ C ₁₃ PFCA: n.d. 8:2 FTSA: n.d.		Kim et al. 2021
Municipal WWTP effluent	South Korea	2018- 2019	Municipal WWTPs receiving treated wastewater from an industrial complex	Samples from two municipal WWTPs plants	C ₉ PFCA: n.d.- 7.86 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCA: n.d.-<LOQ C ₁₁ PFCA: n.d. C ₁₂ PFCA: n.d. C ₁₃ PFCA: n.d. 8:2 FTSA: n.d.		Kim et al. 2021

Abbreviations: n.d., not detected; LOD, limit of detection; dw, dry weight; diPAP, polyfluoroalkyl phosphoric acid diesters; FTA, fluorotelomer acrylate; FTCA, fluorotelomer carboxylic acids; FTUCA, fluorotelomer unsaturated carboxylates; FTOH, fluorotelomer alcohols; FTSA, fluorotelomer sulfonate; MQL, method quantification limit; MRL, method reporting limit; PFCA, perfluorocarboxylic acid.

Table 3. Estimated global cumulative emissions of C₄–C₁₄ PFCA homologues (1951–2030) from quantified sources in tonnes* (Wang et al. 2014)

C _n PFCA	1951–2002 [t]		2003–2015 [t]		2016–2030 [t]		Total [t]	
	Lower	Higher	Lower	Higher	Lower	Higher	Lower	Higher
C ₄ PFCA / PFBA	5 (72%)	402 (50%)	5 (58%)	220 (14%)	6 (17%)	293 (3%)	15 (47%)	915 (26%)
C ₅ PFCA / PFPeA	14 (39%)	690 (20%)	5 (37%)	305 (7%)	7 (8%)	382 (2%)	26 (31%)	1377 (12%)
C ₆ PFCA / PFHxA	16 (26%)	1061 (26%)	17 (80%)	513 (16%)	5 (98%)	117 (48%)	39 (59%)	1691 (24%)
C ₇ PFCA / PFHpA	44 (17%)	2123 (19%)	13 (51%)	774 (24%)	2 (94%)	358 (64%)	59 (26%)	3264 (26%)
C ₈ PFCA / PFOA	1344 (100%)	8184 (98%)	730 (100%)	4773 (96%)	3 (100%)	5408 (100%)	2078 (100%)	18366 (98%)
C ₉ PFCA / PFNA	222 (100%)	1371 (85%)	28 (96%)	469 (51%)	0 (0%)	62 (72%)	250 (99%)	1901 (76%)
C ₁₀ PFCA / PFDA	3 (91%)	109 (22%)	4 (89%)	93 (17%)	1 (100%)	20 (66%)	8 (91%)	222 (24%)
C ₁₁ PFCA / PFUnA	59 (99%)	471 (80%)	7 (93%)	173 (50%)	0 (N.A.)	45 (83%)	67 (99%)	689 (73%)
C ₁₂ PFCA / PFDoA	0 (80%)	40 (4%)	0 (0%)	20 (1%)	0 (N.A.)	3 (0%)	0 (63%)	63 (3%)
C ₁₃ PFCA / PFTTrA	15 (99%)	109 (67%)	2 (94%)	35 (39%)	0 (N.A.)	3 (0%)	17 (99%)	147 (59%)
C ₁₄ PFCA / PFTeA	0 (0%)	16 (1%)	0 (0%)	2 (0%)	0 (N.A.)	1 (0%)	0 (0%)	19 (1%)

* Numbers in brackets indicate the percentage of emissions from direct sources. The percentage of emissions from indirect sources can be calculated as 100% minus these percentages. N.A. – not applicable.

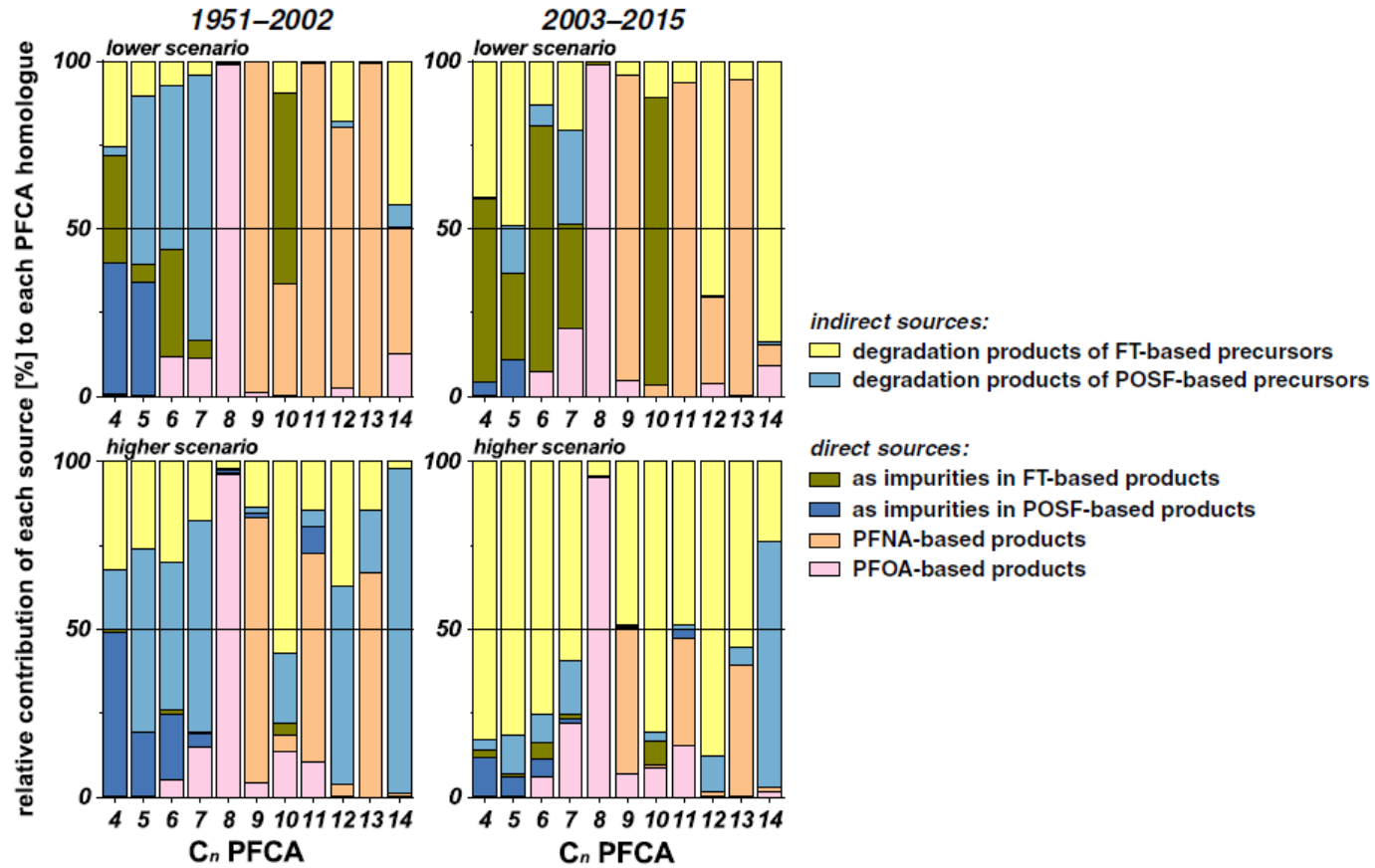


Figure 1. Relative contributions of each source to estimated total global emissions from all quantified sources for individual C_4 - C_{14} PFCA homologues in 1951-2002 (pre-phase-out) and 2003-2015 (transition after phase-out) (Wang et al. 2014)

2.2.1 Persistence

5. Examples of conditions considered not environmentally relevant include a study where 30–35% photolysis was observed for C₁₀ PFCA at high altitudes (2500 m and 4200 m) when exposed to solar irradiation for 106 d (Taniyasu et al. 2013) and a study where C₉–C₁₈ PFCAs underwent 38% defluorination in river water using electrooxidation (Barisci and Suri 2020).

2.2.3 Bioaccumulation

6. The unique characteristics and physicochemical properties of long-chain PFCAs are relevant to the potential for bioaccumulation. Long-chain PFCAs are non-volatile substances with combined properties of ionization, lipophobicity, hydrophobicity, and hydrophilicity over different portions of the molecule. The carboxylate functional group attached to the perfluorinated chain also imparts polarity to the molecule. Due to these properties, the hydrophobic and lipophilic interactions between long-chain PFCAs and the substrate are not the main mechanisms that govern their bioaccumulation, which is unlike most organic chemicals (Hekster et al. 2002). Hydrophobicity is unlikely to be the main driving force for partitioning to tissues, as the lipophobic tendencies oppose this partitioning process; instead, electrostatic interactions may be more important (Hekster et al. 2002).

7. Octanol-water partitioning coefficient (log K_{ow}) values are used to describe the partitioning from water to lipids and are also traditionally used as an indicator for bioaccumulation. Modelled log K_{ow} values are available but empirical log K_{ow} values are not available for long-chain PFCAs. However, meaningful log K_{ow} values cannot be reliably measured or modelled for surface-active and ionizing substances such as long-chain PFCAs. Wang et al. (2011) modelled log K_{ow} values for the neutral form of C₉–C₁₄ PFCAs with log K_{ow} values that ranged from 5.9 to 8.9 and which represent high bioaccumulation potential. However, Wang et al. (2011) cautioned that these values have high and unquantifiable uncertainties due to the modelling estimates being highly dependent on the chosen conformation of the neutral and anionic forms. Recent studies point to an acid dissociation constant (pK_a) between 0 and 1 for PFCAs suggesting that long-chain PFCAs are almost completely ionized at environmental pH values and thus, the neutral form is unlikely to be present in the environment (Wang et al. 2011; Ng and Hungerbuhler 2014). Rather, long-chain PFCAs tend to migrate to the interface of the organic (lipid) and aqueous phases rather than partition between the two phases (Houde et al. 2006b; OECD 2002). Some portions of the perfluorinated molecule can interact with phospholipids (Armitage et al. 2012; Dassuncao et al. 2019; Droge et al. 2019) but most studies show that, at the organismal level, protein-rich tissues (i.e., yolk, liver, and blood), rather than lipids, are the primary repositories for long-chain PFCAs. The transport of these substances into cells results in binding to fatty acid-binding proteins and lipoproteins/albumin, and then sequestering into protein-rich tissues (Jones et al. 2003; Bischel et al. 2010; Woodcroft et al. 2010; Bischel et al. 2011; Ng and Hungerbuhler 2013; Cheng and Ng 2018; Zhong et al. 2019). On this basis, it is inappropriate to use log K_{ow} as a descriptor for bioaccumulation and for predictive purposes (e.g., bioaccumulation models) for long-chain PFCAs (OECD 2002; Conder et al. 2008). Instead, empirical bioaccumulation data, rather than modelled data, is more relevant.

8. Both bioconcentration and bioaccumulation empirical data are available for some long-chain PFCAs. Laboratory-derived bioconcentration factors (BCF, L/kg) and bioaccumulation factors (BAF, L/kg) have been reported (up to C₁₈ PFCA) in three freshwater fish species (i.e., zebrafish (*Danio rerio*), common carp (*Cyprinus carpio* L.) and rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*)) and one green mussel species (*Perna viridis*) and for saltwater species blackrock fish (*Sebastes schlegeli*). Zebrafish embryos exposed to 1 mg/L C₉ PFCA for 144 hours post-fertilization had BCFs that ranged from 582 to 638 (Menger et al. 2020). Steady-state whole-body BCFs in adult zebrafish ranged from 1202 (C₉ PFCA) to 257 039 (C₁₄ PFCA) and steady-state liver BCFs ranged from 1514 (C₉ PFCA) to 363 078 (C₁₄ PFCA) (Chen et al. 2016). In common carp, whole body BCFs were determined for C₁₁ PFCA (2300 – 3700), C₁₂ PFCA (10 000 – 16 000), C₁₃ PFCA (16 000 – 17 000), C₁₆ PFCA (4700 – 4800) and C₁₈ PFCA (320 – 430) (Inoue et al. 2012). For juvenile rainbow trout, steady-state whole-body and liver BCFs were determined for C₁₀–C₁₄ PFCAs after 12 d of exposure followed by 33 d of depuration (Martin et al. 2003b). Steady-state whole-body BCFs ranged from 450 (C₁₀ PFCA) to 23 000 (C₁₄ PFCA). Steady-state liver BCF values ranged from 1100 (C₁₀ PFCA) to 30 000 (C₁₄ PFCA). Steady-state carcass BAFs for C₁₀–C₁₃ PFCAs ranged from 0.04 to 1.0 in juvenile rainbow trout after 34 d exposure followed by a 41 d depuration period (Martin et al. 2003a). For market-size rainbow trout, the BAF for C₉ PFCA was < 0.4 after a 28 d exposure followed by a 28 d depuration period (Goeritz et al. 2013). For the green mussel, BAFs were determined for C₉ and C₁₀ PFCAs after 56 d exposure at 1 µg L and 10 µg L (Liu et al. 2011a). BAFs for green mussel ranged from 109 to 144 (C₉ PFCA) and 464 to 838 (C₁₀ PFCA). Serum and BCFs for blackrock fish (*Sebastes schlegeli*) ranged from 4321 to 5239 and 667 to 811 (C₁₀), respectively, and 13 553 to 16 370 and 1070 to 1345 (C₁₁), respectively (Jeon et al. 2010). In summary,

laboratory BCF/BAF values were variable depending on the species and age of the test organism. BCF and BAF values generally increased from C₉ PFCA (<0.4 – 1514) to C₁₄ PFCA (17 000 – 363 078) and then decreased for C₁₆ to C₁₈ PFCAs (20 – 4800).

9. Field-derived BCFs and BAFs in freshwater and marine aquatic organisms have been reported up to C₁₅ PFCA. For example, whole-body BAFs were determined in 4-year old lake trout (*Salvelinus namaycush*) (Great Lakes, Canada) for C₉ PFCA (1259 – 6309) and C₁₀ PFCA (5011 – 19 952) (Furdui et al. 2007). BAFs in European chub (*Leuciscus cephalus*) (Orge River, France) had liver BAFs from 79 (C₉ PFCA) to 501 187 L/kg (C₁₂ PFCA) and plasma BAFs from 631 (C₉ PFCA) to 5 011 872 L/kg (C₁₂ PFCA) (Labadie and Chevreuil 2011). BAFs were determined for common carp collected from a drainage canal near a sewage treatment plant outfall (Tokyo, Japan) with liver BAFs that ranged from 69 (C₉ PFCA) to > 26 000 (C₁₃ PFCA) and kidney BAFs that ranged from 2600 (C₉ PFCA) to > 40 000 (C₁₃ PFCA) (Murakami et al. 2011). BAFs were reported for common carp, tilapia (*Tilapia aurea*), snakehead (*Ophicephalus argus*), and catfish (*Clarias fuscus*) from the Pearl River Delta (China) (Pan et al. 2014). Across all species, liver BAFs for C₉–C₁₁ PFCAs ranged from 501 to 100 000 with increasing BAF from C₉ to C₁₁. This is consistent with other studies that observed that bioaccumulation increases with fluorinated carbon chain length (Conder et al. 2008). Whole body BCFs for European perch (*Perca fluviatilis*) from Lake Halmjön (Sweden) ranged from 42 to 54 L/kg (C₉ PFCA) and 140 to 220 L/kg (C₁₀ PFCA) (Ahrens et al. 2015). Whole-body BAFs were determined in Chinese icefish (*Neosalanx tangkahkeii taihuensis*), a top predator in Lake Chaohu (China) where values ranged from 93 (C₁₃ PFCA) to 2041 L/kg (C₉ PFCA) (Pan et al. 2019). At Baiyangdian Lake (China), BAFs were measured in five freshwater fish species (grass carp (*Ctenopharyngodon idellus*), goldfish (*Carassius auratus*), common carp, silver carp (*Hypophthalmichthys molitrix*), and northern snakehead (*Channa argus*)). Across species, BAFs were 3.9 to 1892 (C₉ PFCA), 45 to 8672 (C₁₀ PFCA), 26 to 30 475 (C₁₁ PFCA), and 91 to 9874 mL/g ww (C₁₂ PFCA) (Liu et al. 2019a). C₉ PFCA BCFs were estimated in female crabs (species unknown, collected from South Korean fish markets) with BCF values of 440 in legs, 660 in eggs, 879 in body, and 1040 in offal (Choi et al. 2020). BAFs were determined for eel (*Anguilla Anguilla*; collected from 21 rivers, lakes and canals in the Netherlands) for C₉ PFCA (105 to 1380 L/kg ww) and C₁₀ PFCA (331 to 5623 L/kg ww) (Kwadijk et al. 2010). BAFs were determined for a variety of fish, crab, and snail species in Baiyangdian Lake (China) (Zhou et al. 2012). Across all species, BAFs were determined for C₉ PFCA (59 to 60 L/kg ww), C₁₀ PFCA (1230 to 69 183 L/kg ww) and C₁₁ PFCA (589 to 7762 L/kg ww). BAFs were determined in a variety of copepod, mysid, and shrimp species from a macrotidal estuary in Aquitaine (France) (Munoz et al. 2019). Across all species, BAFs were determined for C₉–C₁₁ PFCA (631 to 12 589 L/kg ww). BCFs were reported in various fish, crab, gastropod, and bivalve species collected along the western coast of Korea (Naile et al. 2013). Across all species, whole-body BCFs for C₉–C₁₁ PFCAs ranged from 7 to 269 L/kg ww. BAFs were determined for plankton species in Taihu Lake (China) that ranged from 462 (C₁₀ PFCA) to 17788 L/kg ww (C₁₂ PFCA) (Fang et al. 2014). BAFs were determined for herring (*Clupea* sp.) and sprat (*Sprattus* sp.) collected from the Baltic Sea where BAFs for herring ranged from > 224 (C₁₅ PFCA) to 218 776 L/kg ww (C₁₁ PFCA) and, for sprat, BAFs ranged from > 59 (C₁₅ PFCA) to 158 489 L/kg ww (C₁₁ PFCA) (Gebbinck et al. 2016). BAFs were determined for various shrimp, snail, and fish species in Lake Chaohu (China) that ranged from 118 (C₉ PFCA) to 12 370 L/g (C₁₁ PFCA) (Liu et al. 2019b). In summary, field-derived BCFs and BAFs were variable depending on the species and ranged from 3.9 (C₉ PFCA) to 5 011 872 (C₁₂ PFCA). Field-derived BCFs and BAFs also generally increased from C₉ PFCA to C₁₄ PFCA and then declined at C₁₅ PFCA (> 59 – 224).

10. Field biomagnification or trophic magnification studies on long-chain PFCAs (up to C₁₆ PFCA) that focused on multiple fish species and/or top predator species (i.e., birds or terrestrial/marine mammals) show higher biomagnification potential. Biomagnification factor (BMF) and trophic magnification factor (TMF) values above one are considered bioaccumulative. For example, a marine food web (Liaodong Bay, China) with black-tailed gulls (*Larus crassirostris*) as the top predator species had TMFs that ranged from 1.78 to 4.88 for C₉–C₁₄ PFCAs, based on whole body concentration estimates using muscle and liver data (Zhang et al. 2015). A eutrophic freshwater food web (Taihu Lake, China) with egrets and carnivorous fish as the top predator species had TMFs that ranged from 2.1 to 3.7 for C₉–C₁₂ PFCAs (Xu et al. 2014). The Orge River (France) foodweb with eight freshwater fish species as top predators but with varying feeding behaviours (e.g., benthic, benthic-pelagic, omnivorous, carnivorous) had BMFs that ranged from 0.3 to 25.2 and TMFs that ranged from 1.5 to 3.0 (Simonnet-Laprade et al. 2019a). Five riverine foodwebs (France) with chub (*Squalius cephalus*) and common barbel (*Barbus barbus*) as top predator species had TMFs that ranged from 0.9 to 14.9 for C₉–C₁₄ PFCAs (Simonnet-Laprade et al. 2019b). A marine food web in the western Canadian Arctic with ringed seal (*Phoca hispida*) and beluga whales (*Delphinapterus leucas*) as top predator species had TMFs for C₉–C₁₁ PFCAs that ranged from 3.8 to 19.8 (Tomy et al. 2009). In other food webs, TMFs ranged from 1.00 to 8.29 for C₉–C₁₃ PFCAs in the Lake Ontario (Canada) freshwater food web, in the

Lake Taihu (China) freshwater food web, in the Hudson Bay (Canadian Arctic) marine food web, and in the subtropical food web of the Mai Po Marshes Nature Reserve (Hong Kong) (Martin et al. 2004b; Kelly et al. 2009; Loi et al. 2013; Fang et al. 2014). In East Greenland, mean BMFs for C₉–C₁₆ PFCAs were above one for the top predator species, polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*) consuming ringed seal (*Pusa hispida*). Mean BMFs ranged from 1 to 10 for ringed seal blubber to polar bear liver for C₉–C₁₆ PFCAs and mean BMFs ranged from 100 to 10 000 for ringed seal liver to polar bear liver for C₉–C₁₃ PFCAs (Boisvert et al. 2019). In the Canadian Arctic, geometric mean BMFs calculated for ringed seal liver to polar bear liver for C₉–C₁₅ PFCAs ranged from 2.2 (C₁₃ PFCAs) to 56 (C₉ PFCAs) (Butt et al. 2008). A western Canadian Arctic food web with seal as the top predator species had BMFs for C₁₀–C₁₂ PFCAs that ranged from 0.8 to 3.1 (Powley et al. 2008). From the Yukon, Northwest Territories, and Nunavut (Canada), BMFs and TMFs were determined for two barren ground caribou (*Rangifer tarandus groenlandicus*) herds with wolf (*Canis lupus*) as the top predator species (Müller et al. 2011). Whole-body caribou/wolf BMFs for C₉–C₁₃ PFCAs ranged from 0.8 to 5.4 and whole-body caribou/wolf TMFs ranged from 1.9 to 2.9. BMFs were determined for the bottlenose dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus*) food web at Charleston (South Carolina, USA) and Sarasota Bay (Florida, USA) (Houde et al. 2006a). In the Charleston food web, BMFs and TMFs for C₉–C₁₁ PFCAs ranged from 0.1 to 8.8. In Sarasota Bay food web, BMFs for C₁₂ PFCAs ranged from 0.1 to 2.0. The Barents Sea (Svalbard) ice edge food web with predator species such as black guillemot (*Cepphus grylle*) and glaucous gull (*Larus hyperboreus*) had C₉ PFCAs BMFs that ranged from 8.76 to 11.6 (Haukås et al. 2007). Lake trout (*Salvelinus namaycush*), as top predator species in Lake Ontario (Canada), had adjusted whole-body BMFs (i.e., a diet-weighted BMF that accounted for the abundance of each of three forage fish species in the lake trout diet) that ranged from 1.6 to 3.4 for C₉–C₁₄ PFCAs (Martin et al. 2004b). A temperate macrotidal estuary foodweb (Gironde Estuary, France) with seabass (i.e., common seabass, *Dicentrarchus labrax*; spotted seabass, *Dicentrarchus punctatus*) and meagre (*Argyrosomus regius*) as top predator species had TMF values that ranged from 0.88 to 1.3 for C₉–C₁₄ PFCAs (Munoz et al. 2017b). In summary, TMF values ranged from 0.3 to 19.8 and BMF values ranged from 0.1 to 25.2 with top predator species (e.g., black-tailed gulls, egrets, carnivorous fish, ringed seal, beluga whales, polar bears and wolves) having values consistently above 1. Where some studies found that BMF/TMFs decreased with increasing chain length (e.g., Zhang et al. 2015, Munoz et al. 2017b, Boisvert et al. 2019), other studies found that TMF increased with chain length (e.g., Tomy et al. 2009, Simonnet-Laprade et al. 2019b).

2.2.4 Potential for long-range environmental transport

Table 4. Environmental concentrations of long-chain PFCAs and their related compounds in locations distant from sources

Location	Compartment / Species	Concentration	Reference
Arctic			
North Atlantic and Canadian Archipelago	Air	8:2 FTOH: 5.8-26 pg/m ³ 10:2 FTOH: 1.9-17 pg/m ³	Shoeb et al. 2006
Canadian and Norwegian Arctic	Air	8:2 FTOH: <0.065-21 pg/m ³ 10:2 FTOH: <0.015-8.7 pg/m ³ C ₉ –C ₁₈ PFCAs: <0.0063-0.77 pg/m ³	Wong et al. 2018
Japan Sea to the Arctic Ocean	Gas-phase Particle-phase	FTOH (10:2, 12:2 and 10:2): 1.8-47 pg/m ³ ; 0.1 – 2.5 pg/m ³	Cai et al. 2012a
Livingston Island (Antarctica)	Snow	C ₉ –C ₁₄ PFCAs: n.d.-0.04 ng/L	Casal et al. 2017
Lake Hazen (Nunavut, Canada)	Snowpack	C ₉ –C ₁₄ PFCAs: < 0.002-3.1 ng/L	MacInnis et al. 2019
Oceans			
Atlantic, Indian and Pacific Oceans	Depth of 20 – 160 m	C ₉ PFCAs: n.d.-1.15 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCAs: n.d.-2.19 ng/L	Gonzalez-Gaya et al. 2019
Greenland Sea and East Atlantic Ocean	Surface water	C ₉ PFCAs: <0.012-0.039 ng/L C ₁₀ PFCAs: <0.021 ng/L C ₁₁ PFCAs: n.d.-<0.013 ng/L C ₁₂ PFCAs: <0.025 ng/L	Zhao et al. 2012
South Shetland Islands (Maritime Antarctica)	Coastal surface seawater	C ₁₆ PFCAs: <0.007.5-0.0082 ng/L	Cai et al. 2012b
Livingston Island	Seawater	C ₉ –C ₁₄ PFCAs: n.d.-0.11 ng/L	Casal et al. 2017

(Antarctica)			
Biota			
East Greenland	Polar bear – liver; blood; brain; muscle; adipose tissue	C ₁₅ PFCA: 0.73-0.89 ng/g ww; 1.22-1.48 ng/g ww; 9.9-10.9 ng/g ww; 0.58-0.72 ng/g ww; 0.5-0.64 ng/g ww	Greaves et al. 2012
East Greenland	Polar bear – liver	C ₁₆ PFCA: 0.1-0.2 ng/g ww C ₁₈ PFCA: 0.2-0.4 ng/g ww	Boisvert et al. 2019
	Ringed seal (<i>Phoca hispida</i>) – liver	C ₁₆ PFCA: n.d.-0.2 ww C ₁₈ PFCA: 0.1-0.5 ng/g ww	
Yukon (Canada)	Caribou (<i>Rangifer tarandus groenlandicus</i>) – liver	C ₉ –C ₁₃ PFCA: < 0.5-3.20 ng/g ww	Katz et al. 2009; Müller et al. 2011
	Wolf (<i>Canis lupus</i>) – liver	C ₉ –C ₁₃ PFCA: 0.19-7.79 ng/g ww	
East and South Greenland	Reindeer – liver	C ₉ –C ₁₃ PFCA: n.d.-2.06 ng/g ww	Bossi et al. 2015
East and South Greenland	Muskox – liver	C ₉ –C ₁₃ PFCA: 0.21-5.25 ng/g ww	
Antarctica	Weddell seal (<i>Leptonychotes weddellii</i>) – liver	C ₉ –C ₁₂ PFCA: < 0.01-0.23 ng/g ww	Routti et al. 2015
Antarctica	Adelie penguin (<i>Pygoscelis adeliae</i>) – eggs; blood; muscle	C ₉ –C ₁₂ PFCA: < 0.1-2.5 ng/g ww; < 0.5 ng/ml; < 1.4 ng/g ww	Schiaivone et al. 2009; Tao et al. 2006; Bengtson Nash et al. 2010; Llorca et al. 2012
	Gentoo penguin (<i>Pygoscelis papua</i>) – eggs; muscle	C ₉ –C ₁₂ PFCA: 0.1-0.5 ng/g ww; n.d.-0.34 ng/g ww	
Canada	Caribou and reindeer (<i>Rangifer tarandus</i>) – liver	C ₉ –C ₁₃ PFCA: <0.008-5.25 ng/g ww	Roos et al. 2021
Greenland		C ₉ –C ₁₃ PFCA: <0.01-35.25 ng/g ww	
Norway		C ₉ –C ₁₃ PFCA: <0.4-1.83 ng/g ww	
Sweden		C ₉ –C ₁₃ PFCA: <0.17-3.30 ng/g ww	

n.d. = not detected

2.3.1 Environmental monitoring data

Environmental concentrations of long-chain PFCAs

11. Worldwide concentrations of long-chain PFCAs are illustrated in Figure 2 below. Reported concentrations of long-chain PFCAs in biota (bird, fish, invertebrate, mammal, plant, reptile), separated by continent, are illustrated in Figure 3. The list of references used to generate these figures is provided in the Appendix to this document. The detailed reported environmental concentrations of long-chain PFCAs are provided in UNEP/POPS/POPRC.18/INF/2.

World-wide Concentrations of Long-chain PFCAs in Environmental Compartments

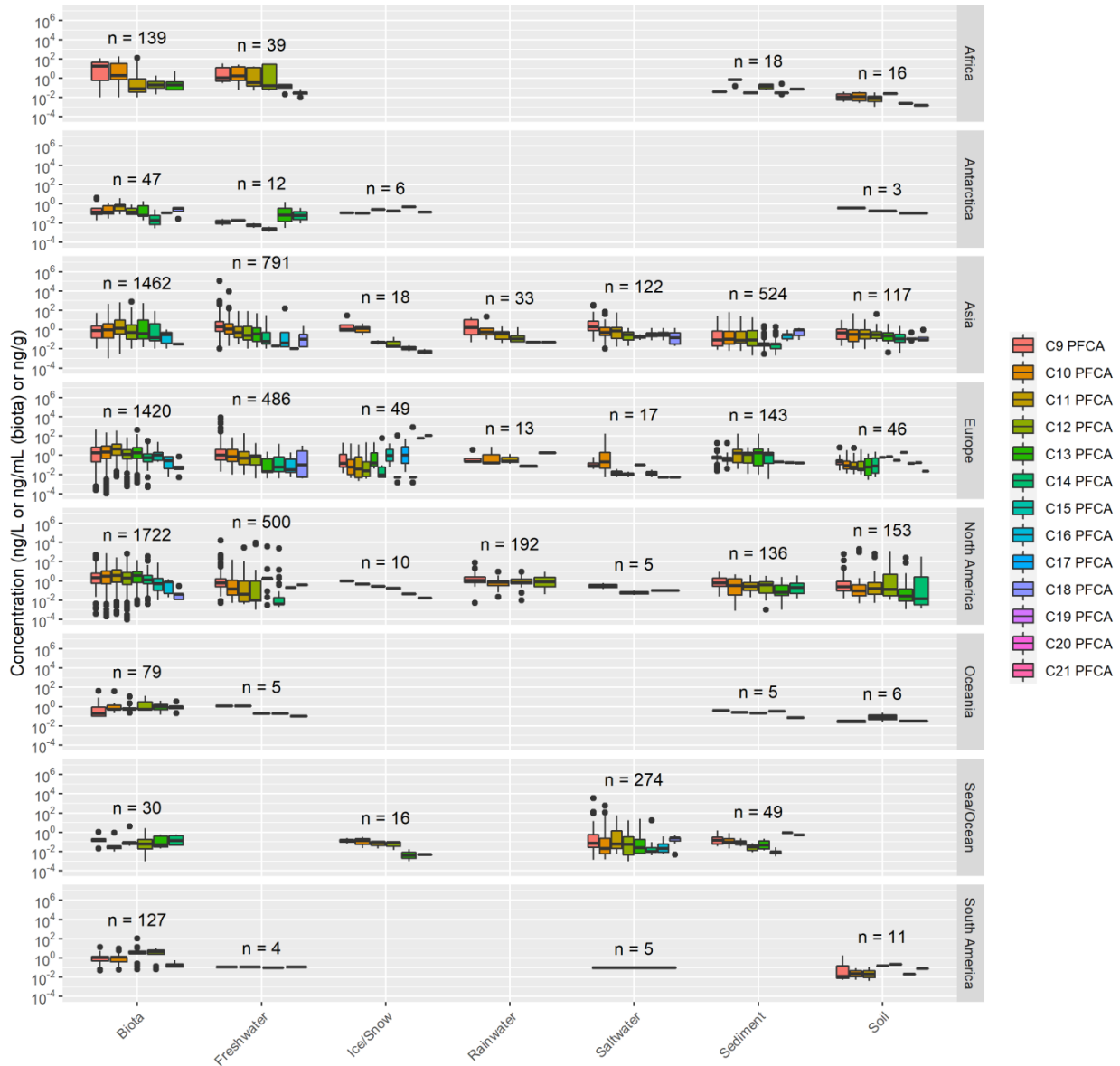


Figure 2. World-wide concentrations of long-chain PFCAs (C₉–C₂₁) in different environmental compartments, by chain length. Tukey box plots are interpreted as follows: the numbers above the bars indicate the number of data points and the lower and upper hinges (edges) of the box represent the first and third quantiles (Q₁ and Q₃), which are the 25th and 75th percentiles, respectively, while the black horizontal line within the box represents the second quantile, or the 50th percentile (median). The distance between the 25th and 75th percentile is called the interquartile range (IQR). The lower whisker represents the lowest data that are within the Q₁ – 1.5 x IQR threshold, and the upper whisker represents the highest data that are within the Q₃ + 1.5 x IQR threshold. Data exceeding these thresholds appear as circles. However, if the minimum and maximum are within these thresholds, they represent the lower and upper whiskers and no outliers are present.

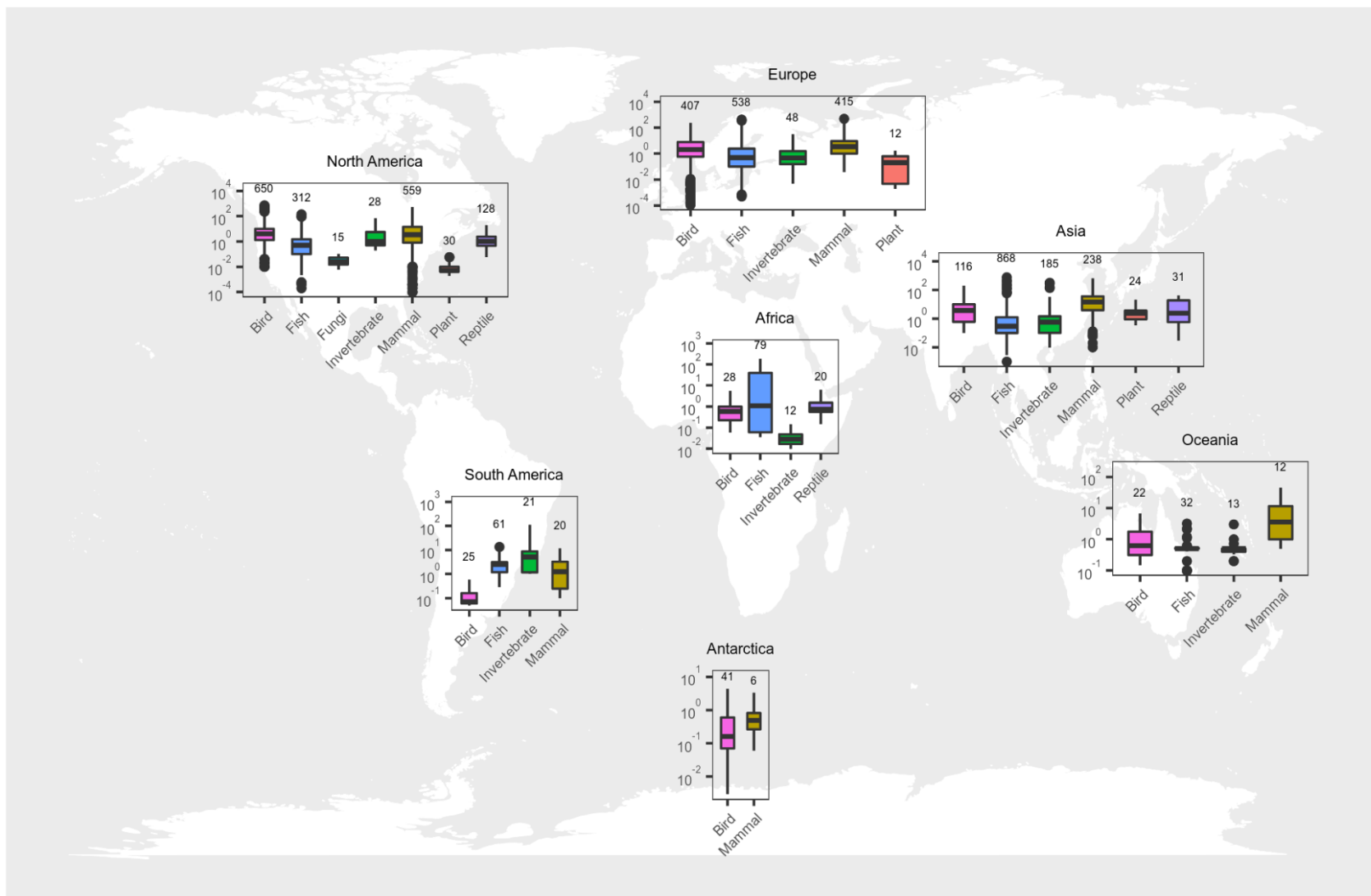


Figure 3. World-wide map representing the concentrations of long-chain PFCAs (C₉-C₂₁) in biota (bird, fish, invertebrate, mammal, plant, reptile, fungi), separated by continent. All measurements are reported in ng/mL or ng/g.

2.3.2 Human exposure

Table 5. Concentrations of long-chain PFCAs in indoor air and dust (units are in ng/g unless otherwise specified)

Media	Country/ Region	Year of sampling (Months)	Type of location (n)	Long-chain PFCa concentrations in ng/g Range (median), detection frequency %							Reference
				C ₉	C ₁₀	C ₁₁	C ₁₂	C ₁₃	C ₁₄	C ₁₅	
Dust	China/ Tianjin	2015 (June-Sept)	Private homes (n=18)	0.96-13.1 (2.36), 100	n.d.-10.8 (2.22), 94	0.51-4.14 (1.91), 100	0.55-7.37 (1.71), 100	NM	NM	NM	Yao et al. 2018
Dust	China/ Tianjin	2015 (June-Sept)	Hotels (n=11)	n.d.-20.2 (2.46), 91	n.d.-1.68 (n.d.), 18	n.d.-0.82 (n.d.), 9	n.d.-0.64 (n.d.), 18	NM	NM	NM	Yao et al. 2018
Air	China/ Tianjin	2015 (June-Sept)	Private homes (n=22)	n.d.-380 pg/m ³ (38.1 pg/m ³), 95	<MDL-57.6 pg/m ³ (13.4 pg/m ³), 100	n.d.-178 pg/m ³ (18.5 pg/m ³), 91	n.d.-20.1 pg/m ³ (6.54 pg/m ³), 91	NM	NM	NM	Yao et al. 2018
Air	China/ Tianjin	2015 (June-Sept)	Hotels (n=19)	n.d.-220 pg/m ³ (13.1 pg/m ³), 95	n.d.-110 pg/m ³ (12.2 pg/m ³), 79	n.d.-142 pg/m ³ (4.92 pg/m ³), 63	n.d.-20.1 pg/m ³ (5.28 pg/m ³), 84	NM	NM	NM	Yao et al. 2018
Dust	USA/Boston, Massachusetts	2009	Offices (n=31)	10.9-639 (63.0) ^a , 94	5.30-492 (46.5) ^a , 97	9.22-373 (19.0) ^a , 52	6.56-481 (40) ^a , 87	8.67-768 (21.6) ^a , 58	9.35-367 (18.6) ^a , 71	NM	Fraser et al. 2013
Dust	USA/Boston, Massachusetts	2009	Private homes (n=30)	6.21-1420 (10.9) ^a , 67	6.97-26.8 (NR), 43	10.8-39.4 (NR), 7	5.09-13.3 (NR), 23	10.3-10.3 (NR), 3	11.2-11.2 (NR), 3	NM	Fraser et al. 2013
Dust	USA/Boston, MA	2009	Vehicles (n=12)	4.95-101 (14.7) ^a , 85	5.42-70.1 (8.40) ^a , 69	5.24-6.30 (NR), 15	4.96-24.6 (6.76) ^a , 77	n.d.-n.d. (NR), 0	14.3-14.3 (NR), 8	NM	Fraser et al. 2013
Dust	USA/Ohio & North Carolina	2000/01	Private homes (n=102) & daycares (n=10)	<DL-263 (7.99), 42.9	<DL-267 (6.65), 30.4	<DL-588 (7.57), 36.6	<DL-520 (7.78), 18.7	NM	NM	NM	Strynar and Lindstrom 2008
Dust	USA/ Wisconsin	2008 (Mar-Apr)	Private homes (n=39)	1.3-280 (12), 100	ND-60 (5.7), 72	ND-48 (3.1), 87	ND-41 (5.0), 95	ND-11 (2.1), 92	ND-24 (3.7), 97	NM	Knobeloch et al. 2012
Dust	Norway/ Oslo	2018 (Feb-May)	Private homes (n=41)	3.9-92 (23), 61	1.1-12 (4.1), 24	n.d.-n.d. (NR), 0	1.4-78 (19), 98	1.1-46 (6.8), 95	1.1-35 (3.3), 7	NM	Haug et al. 2011
Dust	Norway/ Oslo	2016 (Oct)	Hotel (n=2)	<4-<8.3 µg/kg dw	<43-<90 µg/kg dw	<0.93-<2 µg/kg dw	<21-<45 µg/kg dw	<24-<51 µg/kg dw	<24-<51 µg/kg dw	NM	Konieczny et al. 2017
Dust	Norway/ Tromso	2007/08 (Winter)	Private homes (n=7)	3.3-26.7 (7)	2-10.5 (7.5)	0.9-322 (96.8)	0.2-3.0 (0.8)	NM	NM	NM	Huber et al. 2011
Dust	Norway/ Tromso	2007/08 (Winter)	Office (n=1)	(10.6)	(12.1)	(1.4)	(3.7)	NM	NM	NM	Huber et al. 2011

Media	Country/ Region	Year of sampling (Months)	Type of location (n)	Long-chain PFCA concentrations in ng/g Range (median), detection frequency %							Reference
				C ₉	C ₁₀	C ₁₁	C ₁₂	C ₁₃	C ₁₄	C ₁₅	
Dust	Norway/ Tromso	2007/08 (Winter)	Storage room in office building (n=1) ^b	(43.4)	(22.4)	(614)	(<4.7)	NM	NM	NM	Huber et al. 2011
Dust	Norway/ Tromso	2015	Private homes (n=6)	<0.05-20.9	<0.05-6.68	<0.05-6.81	<0.05-2.97	<0.05-1.74	<0.05-1.31	NM	Bohlin Nizzetto et al. 2015
Dust	Norway	Not provided	Private homes (n=7)	n.d.-3, 71 ^d	n.d.-6, 57 ^d	n.d.-2, 43 ^d	n.d.-5, 57 ^d	n.d.-0.11, 14 ^d	n.d.-n.d., 0 ^d	NM	Padilla- Sanchez et al. 2016
Dust	Czech Republic	2013 (April- Aug)	Private homes (n=16)	n.d.-11 (<MQL), 50	n.d.-17.1 (<MQL), 31.3	n.d.-4.3 (<IQL), 6.3	n.d.-13.1 (0.5), 56.3	n.d.-3.5 (<IQL), 6.3	n.d.-14.8 (<MQL), 43.8	NM	Karaskova et al. 2016
Dust	Canada	2013 (April- Aug)	Private homes (n=20)	<MQL-195 (4.4), 95	0.9-86.2 (2.4), 100	n.d.-49.6 (1.1), 60	n.d.-61.1 (1.1), 75	n.d.-19.4 (<MQL), 29	<MQL-33.6 (1.4), 65	NM	Karaskova et al. 2016
Dust	USA	2013 (April- Aug)	Private homes (n=20)	1.1-62.9 (3.9), 100	0.4-64.0 (1.8), 100	n.d.-13.1 (1.2), 60	n.d.-9.0 (0.6), 60	n.d.-2.1 (<MQL), 15.0	<MQL-3.0 (0.8), 50	NM	Karaskova et al. 2016
Dust	UK, Australia, Germany, USA	2004	Private homes (n=39)	<MQL-832 (<MQL), 25.6	<MQL-1965 (<MQL), 38.5	<MQL-732 (<MQL), 20.5	<MQL-1048 (<MQL), 43.6	NM	NM	NM	Kato et al. 2009
Dust	Canada	2007	Private homes of pregnant women (n=18)	1.4-220 (15), 100	1.7-250 (15), 100	<0.5-240 (6.1), 100	1.4-160 (10), 100	<0.5-67 (2.4), 78	<0.5-24 (3.3), 94	NM	Beeson et al. 2011
Air	Canada/ Vancouver, BC	2007/08	Private homes (n=39)	<DL-2166 pg/m ³ (89 pg/m ³) ^e , 62	<DL-977 pg/m ³ (7.9 pg/m ³) ^e , 97	<DL-79 pg/m ³ (3.4 pg/m ³) ^e , 23	<DL-263 pg/m ³ (9.8 pg/m ³) ^e , 28	NM	<DL-3.7 pg/m ³ (0.16 pg/m ³) ^e , 5	NM	Shoeib et al. 2011
Dust	Canada/ Vancouver, BC	2007/08	Private homes (n=132)	<DL-680 (26) ^e , 70	<DL-251 (8.4) ^e , 55	<DL-370 (7.8) ^e , 49	<DL-301 (6.3) ^e , 42	NM	<DL-478 (7.3) ^e , 39	NM	Shoeib et al. 2011
Dust	USA	Not provided	Childcare facilities (n=20) ^f	0.11-13 (1.7), 100	0.22-2.4 (0.59), 100	0.05-3.0 (0.65), 100	0.26-3.1 (0.58), 100	n.d.-2.2 (0.31), 50	n.d.-4.4 (0.29), 85	NM	Zheng et al. 2020
Dust	Catalania, Spain	2009	Private homes (n=10) ^g	0.4-37	0.75-41	0.30-15	<DL-17	0.047-25	<DL-6.7	NM	Ericson Jogsten et al. 2012
Air	Finland/Kuopio	2014/15	Children's bedrooms (n=57)	0.95-16.5 pg/m ³ (2.41 pg/m ³), 100	1.27-20.6 pg/m ³ (4.21 pg/m ³), 100	<DL-8.24 pg/m ³ (0.75 pg/m ³), 98	<DL-5.65 pg/m ³ (0.84 pg/m ³), 96	<DL-2.22 pg/m ³ (<DL), 21	<DL-1.79 pg/m ³ (0.33 pg/m ³), 63	<DL-1.06 pg/m ³ (<DL), 7	Winkens et al. 2017

n.d. = non-detect; NR = not reported due to low percentage of detection (<50%); NM = not measured; MQL = method quantification limit; MDL = method detection limit; IQL = instrumental quantification limit; DL = detection limit

^a Geometric mean

^b The storage room was being used to store highly contaminated PFAS samples, technical mixtures and chemicals for several years.

^c The main production of the manufacturing plant included perfluoroalkyl sulfonic acid, perfluoroalkyl carboxylic acid, perfluorotertiary amine and their derivatives using the electro-chemical fluorination process. Dust samples were mainly collected from inside the plant (offices, storage rooms, raw material stock rooms, electrolysis and sulfonation workshops, and a laboratory building). Three samples were collect outside next to roads near the facility.

^d The detection frequency % was not explicitly provided by Padilla-Sanchez et al. (2016), and was calculated manually.

^e Arithmetic mean

^f C₁₆ PFCA was also measured in this study, but was not detected in any dust sample.

^g C₁₈ PFCA was also measured in this study, but was not detected in any dust sample.

Table 6. Concentrations of long-chain PFCAs in drinking water at the tap

Location	Year	N	Tap water concentration in ng/L range, detection frequency						Reference
			C ₉	C ₁₀	C ₁₁	C ₁₂	C ₁₃	C ₁₄	
The Netherlands	2016	6	<0.03-0.28	<0.03-0.10	NM	NM	NM	NM	Gebbink et al. 2017
The Netherlands	2013-2014	37	<0.6	<0.6	<0.6	NM	NM	NM	Zafeiraki, et al. 2015
Greece	2013-2014	43	<0.6	<0.6	<0.6	NM	NM	NM	
Sweden	2012-2014	30	<10	<10	<10	<10	NM	NM	Gyllenhammar et al. 2015
Germany	Not provided	26	1.4, 4%	<1	<1	<1	<1	NM	Gellrich et al. 2013
Spain	2008	40	<0.15-58.21, 58%	<0.12-10.00, 33%	<0.07-4.23, 13%	<0.04	<0.06	NM	Ericson et al. 2009
Europe	2010	7	<MLQ-0.522	<MLQ-0.612	ND-<MLQ	<MLQ	NM	NM	Ullah et al. 2011
Canada, USA, Chile, Africa, Europe, Asia	2015-2016	59	median=0.15, max=4.5, 64%	median <0.030, max=1.0, 66%	<0.010-1.6, 14%	<0.010-1.1, 12%	<0.010-0.94, 8%	<0.010-0.62, 8%	Kaboré et al. 2018
Canada ^a	2012-2016	226	<0.5-1.2, 18%	<0.5-0.63, 2%	<1	<1	NM	NM	Kleywegt et al. 2020
France ^a	2009	41	median <1, max=11, 24%	<1	NM	NM	NM	NM	Boiteux et al. 2012
Austria ^b		10	ND-0.85, 60%	ND	ND	ND	NM	NM	Austria Annex E information 2022

LOQ = limit of quantification; MLQ = method limits of quantification; ND = not detected; NM = not measured

^a Long-chain PFCAs were measured in treated water leaving the water treatment plant

^b Long-chain PFCAs were measured in well water

Concentrations of long-chain PFCAs in food

12. The diet has been suggested as a principal exposure route for long-chain PFCAs (Vestergren et al. 2012; Poothong et al. 2020) and a number of studies have investigated the presence of long-chain PFCAs in food items (see EFSA 2020 Annex A4; Table 7). However, due in part to methodological challenges associated with targeted analyses in varied and complex food matrices, the measurements of long-chain PFCAs often fall below of the limit of detection/quantification (LOD/LOQ). For example, in the 2019-2021 analyses of regional and national food samples collected under the USA Total Diet Study, only 3 out of 532 samples had concentrations of long-chain PFCAs that were above the method detection limit. C₉ PFCA was detected in a cod sample (233 ng/kg) and a frozen fish stick/patty (50 ng/kg) whereas C₁₀ PFCA was detected in canned tuna (72 ng/kg)(FDA 2021). Similarly, concentrations of C₉, C₁₀ and C₁₂ PFCAs were below the LOD for 31 different types of food (310 individual food samples) purchased from supermarkets in Dallas, Texas (USA) in 2009 (Schechter et al. 2010). In an analysis of 54 food composites collected during Canadian Total Diet studies from 1992 to 2004, C₁₀–C₁₂ PFCAs were not detected in any food sample and C₉ PFCA was detected only in beef steak at 4.5 ng/g, wet weight (Tittlemier et al. 2007). The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) reported that 93.5% or more of their results for C₉–C₁₆ and C₁₈ PFCA concentrations in foods were left-censored (i.e., below the LOQ or LOD) (EFSA 2020). Fish was the best studied of all food types and several long-chain PFCAs were present in fish at higher concentrations than in other food groups with upper bound mean concentrations ranging from 0.072 µg/kg (C₁₂ PFCA in halibut) to 5.85 µg/kg (C₁₃ PFCA in fish offal) (EFSA 2020). Relatively high values were also noted for edible offal from game animals, with upper bound mean concentrations ranging from 0.24 µg/kg (C₁₁ PFCA) to 9.87 µg/kg (C₉ PFCA) and a maximum 95th percentile concentration of 22 µg/kg (C₉ PFCA) (EFSA 2020). In addition, there is some indication that food contact materials (e.g., paper cups, paper trays, microwave popcorn bags) may be a source of exposure to long-chain PFCAs and their related products (Yuan et al. 2016; Granby and Tesdal Haland 2018). However, data on the migration of long-chain PFCAs into food is limited. EFSA has estimated the chronic dietary exposure to 17 PFASs (including C₉–C₁₄ PFCA) to be at the level of a few ng/kg bw/d (EFSA 2020). However, due to the left-censored nature of the data, the reliability of dietary intake estimates in general for long-chain PFCAs is considered to be low.

13. The relationship between dietary exposure and body burden of long-chain PFCAs remains uncertain with few correlations having been observed. This may be due to limitations associated with estimating dietary exposure or because serum concentrations reflect longer term exposure while dietary intake estimates tend to reflect a shorter period of time. When considering the results of a food frequency questionnaire covering a longer time period (e.g., 12 months vs 7 days or less), Haug et al. (2010a) found a significant association between estimated dietary intakes of C₁₁ PFCA and body burden. Despite the absence of a consistent correlation between body burden and total dietary intake estimates of long-chain PFCAs, regular consumption of several dietary items (e.g., fish, eggs, meat, popcorn, junk food) has been associated with increases in internal levels of long-chain PFCAs (Averina et al. 2018; Tian et al. 2018; Susmann et al. 2019; Zhou et al. 2019; Lin et al. 2020).

Table 7. Concentrations of long-chain PFCAs in food (see also Annex A4 of EFSA 2020)

Food Category	Country/Region (n)	Year of sampling	Food Sample Type	Long-chain PFCa concentrations – Means or Ranges in pg/g						Reference
				C ₉	C ₁₀	C ₁₁	C ₁₂	C ₁₃	C ₁₄	
Fish	Netherlands	2009	Fatty fish	5	4	36	10	41	3	Noorlander et al. 2011
			Lean fish	77	48	177	56	229	24	
	Sweden	1999	Fillets of fish, canned fish, shellfish	70	40	111	32	86	10	Gebbink et al. 2015
	Norway/Oslo	2008/09	Fish sticks	<11	17	18	<13	NM	NM	Haug et al. 2010b
			Canned mackerel	<11	<31	19	<12	NM	NM	
			Salmon	10	26	4.5	<12	NM	NM	
			Cod	5.9	13	21	<7.5	NM	NM	
			Cod liver	14	39	230	<33	NM	NM	
	USA/Dallas (n=70)	2009	Salmon, tuna, catfish, tilapia, cod, sardines, fish sticks	<LOD	<LOD	NM	<LOD	NM	NM	Schechter et al. 2010
	Canada	2004	Marine fish	<1 ng/g	<2 ng/g	<1 ng/g	<0.8 ng/g	NM	<5	Tittlemier et al. 2007
			Freshwater fish	<1 ng/g	<2 ng/g	<1 ng/g	<0.9 ng/g	NM	<5	
	Canada	1998	Freshwater fish	<1 ng/g	<2 ng/g	<2 ng/g	<2 ng/g	NM	<2	
Sweden	2010	Fillets of fish, canned fish, shellfish	72	92	316	72	123	12	Vestergren et al. 2012	
Sweden	2005	Fillets of fish, canned fish, shellfish	90	79	214	54	113	8.6		
Sweden	1999	Fillets of fish, canned fish, shellfish	90	44	130	36	68	9.8		
USA	2020/21	Tilapia, shrimp, salmon, catfish, cod	<MDL-233 ng/kg ^a	<MDL	NM	NM	NM	NM	FDA 2021	
Crustaceans	Netherlands	2009	Muscles, shrimp, crab	58	90	157	45	268	45	Noorlander et al. 2011
Dairy	Netherlands	2009	Butter	2	6	<3	2	<19	<1	Noorlander et al. 2011
			Cheese	7	8	<16	<11	<92	<5	
			Milk	<1	1	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	<2	
	Sweden	1999	Milk, cream, yogurt, cheese	0.5	<0.3	<1	<0.5	<0.2	<0.05	Gebbink et al. 2015
	Norway/Oslo	2008/09	Cheese	16	6.6	4.1	<15	NM	NM	Haug et al. 2010b
			Milk	<2.1	4.0	<2.5	<2.4	NM	NM	
	USA/Dallas (n=80)	2009	Butter, milk, cheese, ice cream, frozen yogurt, yogurt	<LOD	<LOD	NM	<LOD	NM	NM	Schechter et al. 2010
	Sweden	2010	Milk, cream, yogurt, cheese	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	Vestergren et al. 2012
	Sweden	2005	Milk, cream, yogurt, cheese	<MDL	6.6	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	
	Sweden	1999	Milk, cream, yogurt, cheese	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	
USA	2020/21	Ice cream, milk shake, frozen yogurt, cheese, milk, cream	<MDL	<MDL	NM	NM	NM	NM	FDA 2021	
Eggs	Netherlands	2009	Chicken eggs	6	11	<19	<13	<107	<5	Noorlander et al. 2011
	Sweden	1999	Hen eggs	24	5.6	41	9.9	16	2.8	Gebbink et al. 2015
	Netherlands (n=73)	2013/14	Domestic eggs	<0.5-2.0 ng/g ww (0.9 ng/g ww), 18 ^b	<0.5-3.0 ng/g ww (0.9 ng/g ww), 32 ^b	<0.5-2.3 ng/g ww (0.9 ng/g ww), 21 ^b	NM	NM	NM	Zafeiraki et al. 2016

Food Category	Country/Region (n)	Year of sampling	Food Sample Type	Long-chain PFCA concentrations – Means or Ranges in pg/g						Reference	
				C ₉	C ₁₀	C ₁₁	C ₁₂	C ₁₃	C ₁₄		
	Netherlands (n=22)	2013/14	Commercial eggs	<0.5-<0.5 ng/g ww	<0.5-<0.5 ng/g ww	<0.5-<0.5 ng/g ww	NM	NM	NM	Zafeiraki et al. 2016	
	Greece (n=45)	2013/14	Domestic eggs	<0.5-3.0 ng/g ww (0.8 ng/g ww), 20 ^b	<0.5-8.0 ng/g ww (0.9 ng/g ww), 36 ^b	<0.5-4.5 ng/g ww (0.7 ng/g ww), 24 ^b	NM	NM	NM	Zafeiraki et al. 2016	
	Greece (n=31)	2013/14	Commercial eggs	<0.5-<0.5 ng/g ww	<0.5-<0.5 ng/g ww	<0.5-<0.5 ng/g ww	NM	NM	NM	Zafeiraki et al. 2016	
	Norway/Oslo	2008/09	NP	<7.4	12	9.9	<8.1	NM	NM	Haug et al. 2010b	
	USA/Dallas (n=10)	2009	NP	<LOD	<LOD	NM	<LOD	NM	NM	Schechter et al. 2010	
	Sweden	2010	Hen eggs	<MDL	3.3	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	Vestergren et al. 2012	
	Sweden	2005	Hen eggs	5.6	4.9	3.3	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL		
	Sweden	1999	Hen eggs	22	15	3.8	10	14	<MDL		
	USA	2020/21	Hard boiled	<MDL	<MDL	NM	NM	NM	NM	FDA 2021	
	Meat	Netherlands	2009	Pork	2	2	<4	<3	<23	<1	Noorlander et al. 2011
Beef				4	6	2	<2	<14	<0.7		
Chicken/poultry				1	<1	<3	<2	<17	<0.8		
Sweden		1999	Beef, pork, lamb, poultry, cured, sausage		6.7	<0.3	9.1	12.3	<0.2	7.1	Gebbink et al. 2015
			Norway/Oslo	2008/09	Pork	5.5	16	<8.2	<8.0	NM	NM
Beef		15			23	<6.4	<6.2	NM	NM		
Chicken		6.8			<23	13	<9.2	NM	NM		
USA/Dallas (n=80)		2009	Beef, pork, chicken/poultry, sausage, canned chili		<LOD	<LOD	NM	<LOD	NM	NM	Schechter et al. 2010
Canada		2004	Beef steak		4.5 ng/g	<2 ng/g	<1 ng/g	<1 ng/g	NM	<3	Tittlemier et al. 2007
			Roast beef		<1 ng/g	<2 ng/g	<2 ng/g	<1 ng/g	NM	<3	
			Ground beef		<1 ng/g	<4 ng/g	<1 ng/g	<1 ng/g	NM	<3	
			Luncheon meat, cold cuts		<1 ng/g	<2 ng/g	<1 ng/g	<1 ng/g	NM	<3	
Sweden		2010	Beef, pork, lamb, poultry, cured, sausage		5.8	6.3	2.5	1.1	<MDL	<MDL	Vestergren et al. 2012
Sweden	2005	Beef, pork, lamb, poultry, cured, sausage		9.2	6.4	7.8	2.1	3.8	<MDL		
Sweden	1999	Beef, pork, lamb, poultry, cured, sausage		7.1	5.2	4.8	1.9	<MDL	<MDL		
USA	2020/21	Beef, pork, lamb, poultry, salami		<MDL	<MDL	NM	NM	NM	NM	FDA 2021	
Pastries/ Baked Goods	Netherlands	2009	Cake, almond paste, biscuits, pie		1	1	<1	<0.7	<6	<0.3	Noorlander et al. 2011
			Sweden	1999	Biscuits, buns, cakes		1.2	<0.3	<1	<0.5	<0.2
	Sweden	2010	Biscuits, buns, cakes		<MDL	2.5	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	Vestergren et al. 2012
	Sweden	2005	Biscuits, buns, cakes		<MDL	2.9	1.5	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	
	Sweden	1999	Biscuits, buns, cakes		<MDL	2.0	1.0	1.6	<MDL	<MDL	
	USA	2020/21	Biscuits, cake, muffin, cinnamon roll		<MDL	<MDL	NM	NM	NM	NM	FDA 2021
Fruits/ Vegetables	Netherlands	2009	Fruits & vegetables ^c		1	2	<2	<2	<14	<0.7	Noorlander et al. 2011
			Sweden	1999	Vegetables (fresh, frozen, and canned)		<0.3	<0.3	<1	<0.5	<0.2

Food Category	Country/Region (n)	Year of sampling	Food Sample Type	Long-chain PFCA concentrations – Means or Ranges in pg/g						Reference
				C ₉	C ₁₀	C ₁₁	C ₁₂	C ₁₃	C ₁₄	
	Sweden	1999	Fruits (fresh, frozen, and canned)	0.6	<0.3	<1	<0.5	<0.2	<0.05	Gebbink et al. 2015
	Sweden	1999	Potatoes (fresh, French-fries, crisps)	<0.3	<0.3	<1	<0.5	<0.2	<0.05	Gebbink et al. 2015
	Norway/Oslo	2008/09	Lettuce	<1.0	0.78	<1.3	1.3	NM	NM	Haug et al. 2010b
			Carrot	<2.1	<1.4	<2.5	<2.4	NM	NM	
			Potato	<4.1	3.0	2.2	<4.8	NM	NM	
	Sweden	2010	Vegetables (fresh, frozen, and canned)	<MDL	2.5	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	Vestergren et al. 2012
	Sweden	2005	Vegetables (fresh, frozen, and canned)	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	
	Sweden	1999	Vegetables (fresh, frozen, and canned)	<MDL	3.1	<MDL	1.6	<MDL	<MDL	
	Sweden	2010	Fruits (fresh, frozen, and canned)	<MDL	2.4	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	
	Sweden	2005	Fruits (fresh, frozen, and canned)	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	
	Sweden	1999	Fruits (fresh, frozen, and canned)	1.9	1.8	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	
	Sweden	2010	Potatoes (fresh, French-fries, crisps)	<MDL	2.6	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	
	Sweden	2005	Potatoes (fresh, French-fries, crisps)	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	
	Sweden	1999	Potatoes (fresh, French-fries, crisps)	<MDL	1.7	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	
USA	2020/21	Fruits & vegetables	<MDL	<MDL	NM	NM	NM	NM	FDA 2021	
		Potatoes (boiled, baked, Fresh-fries)	<MDL	<MDL	NM	NM	NM	NM		
Fats/ Vegetable-based foods	Netherlands	2009	Vegetable oil	<0.1	<0.6	<2	<1	<11	<0.6	Noorlander et al. 2011
			Industrial oil	<0.3	2	<3	<2	<16	<0.8	
			Butter, margarine, cooking oil, mayo	3.7	<0.3	1.2	<0.5	<0.2	<0.05	
	Norway/Oslo	2008/09	Margarine	<13	<8.6	<16	<16	NM	NM	Haug et al. 2010b
	USA/Dallas (n=70)	2009	Olive oil, canola oil, margarine, cereal, apples, potatoes, peanut butter	<LOD	<LOD	NM	<LOD	NM	NM	Schechter et al. 2010
	Sweden	2010	Butter, margarine, cooking oil, mayo	<MDL	<MDL	5.8	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	Vestergren et al. 2012
	Sweden	2005	Butter, margarine, cooking oil, mayo	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	
	Sweden	1999	Butter, margarine, cooking oil, mayo	<MDL	3.8	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	
Grains/ Cereals	Netherlands	2009	Flour	15	9	4	4	<9	<0.4	Noorlander et al. 2011
	Sweden	1999	Flour, grain, corn flakes, pasta, bread	<0.3	<0.3	<1	<0.5	<0.2	0.3	Gebbink et al. 2015
	Norway/Oslo	2008/09	Bread	9.5	17	<15	<15	NM	NM	Haug et al. 2010b
	Canada	1998	Pizza	<1	<1	<1	<1	NM	<1	Tittlemier et al. 2007
			Microwave popcorn	<1 ng/g	<1 ng/g	<0.9 ng/g	<1 ng/g	NM	<1 ng/g	
	Sweden	2010	Flour, grain, corn flakes, pasta, bread	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	Vestergren et al. 2012
	Sweden	2005	Flour, grain, corn flakes, pasta, bread	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	
	Sweden	1999	Flour, grain, corn flakes, pasta, bread	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	
USA	2020/21	Breads, rice, cereal, pizza	<MDL	<MDL	NM	NM	NM	NM	FDA 2021	
Sugar/ Sweets/ Sauces	Sweden	1999	Sugar, chocolate, candy, sauces	<0.3	<0.3	<1	<0.5	<0.2	<0.05	Gebbink et al. 2015
	Norway/Oslo	2008/09	Strawberry jam	3.7	8.70	<13	<13	NM	NM	Haug et al. 2010b
	Sweden	2010	Sugar, chocolate, candy, sauces	<MDL	2.0	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	Vestergren et al. 2012
	Sweden	2005	Sugar, chocolate, candy, sauces	<MDL	2.0	1.1	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	

Food Category	Country/Region (n)	Year of sampling	Food Sample Type	Long-chain PFCA concentrations – Means or Ranges in pg/g						Reference
				C ₉	C ₁₀	C ₁₁	C ₁₂	C ₁₃	C ₁₄	
Soft drinks	Sweden	1999	Sugar, chocolate, candy, sauces	<MDL	1.7	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	FDA 2021
	USA	2020/21	Barbeque sauce	<MDL	<MDL	NM	NM	NM		
	Sweden	1999	Soft drinks, mineral water, beer	0.5	<0.3	<1	<0.5	<0.2	<0.05	Gebbink et al. 2015
	Sweden	2010	Soft drinks, mineral water, beer	<MDL	1.0	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	Vestergren et al. 2012
	Sweden	2005	Soft drinks, mineral water, beer	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	
Sweden	1999	Soft drinks, mineral water, beer	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL		

NM = not measured; NP = not provided; LOD = limit of detection; MDL = method detection limit

^a The detectable value of PFNA (233 ng/kg) was found in cod, and was the only detectable value.

^b Range (median), detection frequency

^c Apple, orange, grape, banana, potato, onion, carrot, beat, chicory, leak, tomato, cucumber, paprika, mushroom, cauliflower, broccoli, cabbage, brussel sprouts, spinach, endive, lettuce, beans

Concentrations of long-chain PFCAs in humans

Table 8. Concentrations of long-chain PFCAs in human milk

Location (n)	Year	Human milk concentration in pg/mL mean (range), % detection						Reference
		C ₉	C ₁₀	C ₁₁	C ₁₂	C ₁₃	C ₁₄	
Czech Republic (n=232)	2017	7 (<3-29), 98.7	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	Černá et al. 2020
France (n=48)	2007	(< LOD-64), 2	< LOQ	< LOQ	< LOQ	NM	NM	Antignac et al. 2013
France (n=30)	2010	< LOQ	< LOQ	< LOQ	< LOQ	NM	NM	Kadar et al. 2011
France (n=61)	2010-2013	< LOQ	< LOQ	< LOQ	NM	NM	NM	Cariou et al. 2015
Spain (n=10)	2007	< LOQ	< LOQ	< LOQ	< LOQ	< LOQ	NM	Kärman et al. 2010
Spain (n=20)	2008	< LOQ	666, (< LOQ-1095), 10	NM	< LOQ	NM	NM	Llorca et al. 2010
Spain (n=10)	2012	4 (2-21), 30	43 (1.4-306), 70	88 (18-370), 60	ND	ND	ND ^a	Lorenzo et al. 2016
Spain (n=67)	2014	41 (15-70), 6	24 (< LOQ-34), 4	29 (16-57), 10	21 (16-26), 3	NM	NM	Motas Guzman et al. 2016
Sweden (n=12)	2004	17 (< 0.005–0.020), 17 ^b	< LOQ	< LOQ	NM	NM	NM	Kärman et al. 2007
Ireland (n=92)	Not provided	26 (<10-100), 69	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	Abdallah et al. 2020
USA (n=45)	2004	7.26 (<5.2-18.4), 64	(< 7.72-11.1), 9	(<4.99-8.84), 7	(<4.40-9.74), 2	NM	NM	Tao et al. 2008a
USA (n=50)	2019	5.98 ^c (2.00-36.3), 100	7.40 ^c (<0.80-697), 94	4.43 ^c (<0.20-18.0), 84	5.26 ^c (<1.0-374), 94	3.16 ^c (<1.2-313), 78	<15 ^c (<15-409), 18	Zheng et al. 2021
China (n=19)	2004	(6.3-62), 100	(3.8-15), 100	(9.1-56), 100	NM	NM	NM	So et al. 2006
China (n=30)	2008-2009	15.3 (<10-47), 70.0	<15 (<15-29), 13.3	16.0 (<10-47), 56.7	<10 (<10-25), 10.0	<10 (<10-43), 23.3	NM	Fujii et al. 2012
China (n=1237)	2007	9.9 (6-76), 100	(<1.44–63), 87.5	(<1.30-196), 83	NM	NM	NM	Liu et al. 2010
China (n=50)	2009	26 (5-95), 100	20 (< 1–70), 78	26 (< 1–70), 72	<LOQ	<LOQ	NM	Liu et al. 2011b
China (n=174)	2018, 2019	12 (<LOD-115), 55	12 (<LOD-138),	13 (<LOD-92), 84	(<LOD-11), 0.57	<LOQ	<LOQ	Jin et al. 2020

Location (n)	Year	Human milk concentration in pg/mL mean (range), % detection						Reference
		C ₉	C ₁₀	C ₁₁	C ₁₂	C ₁₃	C ₁₄	
			67					
Japan (n=30)	2010	32.1 (<10-72), 90.0	21.3 (<15-65), 66.7	36.6 (<10-100), 93.3	<10 (<10-29), 16.7	15.2(<10-91), 33.3	NM	Fujii et al. 2012
Japan (n=24)	1999	(<8.82-23.9), 13	< LOQ	< LOQ	< LOQ	NM	NM	Tao et al. 2008b
Korea (n=30)	2010	14.7 (10-41), 66.7	<15 (<15-19), 13.3	19.6 (<10-51), 73.3	<10 (<10-41), 13.3	11.7 (<10-43), 50	NM	Fujii et al. 2012
Korea (n=293) ^d	Beginning 2011	19.4 (<10-127), 63	0.88 (<10-58.1), 3.1	23.7 (<10-119), 86	1.57 (<10-129), 4.1	0.70 (<10-52.1), 2.4	0.38 (<10-82.6), 0.7	Lee et al. 2018
Malaysia (n=13)	2003	(<8.82-14.9), 8	< LOQ	< LOQ	< LOQ	NM	NM	Tao et al. 2008b
Phillipines (n=24)	2000, 2004	(<8.82-25.0), 17	< LOQ	< LOQ	< LOQ	NM	NM	Tao et al. 2008b
Indonesia (n=20)	2001	(<8.82-135), 5	< LOQ	< LOQ	< LOQ	NM	NM	Tao et al. 2008b
Vietnam (n=40)	2000-2001	(<8.82-10.9), 5	< LOQ	< LOQ	< LOQ	NM	NM	Tao et al. 2008b
Cambodia (n=24)	2000	(<8.82-12.3), 13	< LOQ	< LOQ	< LOQ	NM	NM	Tao et al. 2008b
India (n=34)	2002, 2004, 2005	<8.82	< LOQ	< LOQ	< LOQ	NM	NM	Tao et al. 2008b

LOD = limit of detection; LOQ = limit of quantification; ND = not detected; NM = not measured

^a One measurement for C₁₄ was below the LOQ. C₁₆ and C₁₈ PFCAs were also measured in this study. All values for C₁₆ were non-detects and all values for C₁₈ were non-detects except for one which was below the LOQ.

^b The detection frequency % was not explicitly provided but was calculated manually.

^c Median

^d C₁₆ and C₁₈ PFCAs were also measured in this study with the mean (range), % detection as follows: C₁₆ = 0.43 (<10-96.4), 0.7; C₁₈ = 0.27 (<10-54.2), 0.7

Table 9. Concentrations of long-chain PFCAs in plasma or serum as detected in larger scale biomonitoring programs

Country/ Region	Year of sampling	Population (n)	Long-chain PFCA concentrations in ng/mL Geometric mean (range), detection frequency %						Reference
			C ₉	C ₁₀	C ₁₁	C ₁₂	C ₁₃	C ₁₄	
Canada	2009-2011	CHMS, 12-79yrs (1524)	0.82, 99.4	0.20, 79.3	0.12, 59.3	NM	NM	NM	Health Canada 2021
Canada	2016-2017	CHMS 12-79yrs (1497)	0.51, 98.8	0.18, 91.4	NC, 38.5	NM	NM	NM	Health Canada 2021
Canada	2018-2019	CHMS 12-79yrs (1457)	0.44, 98.4	0.12, 69.0	NC, 39.0	NM	NM	NM	Health Canada 2021
USA	2011-2012	NHANES, 12-19yrs (344)	0.680	0.146	NC	NM	NM	NM	CDC 2021
USA	2013-2014	NHANES, 12-19yrs (402)	0.500	0.136	NC	NM	NM	NM	CDC 2021
USA	2015-2016	NHANES, 12-19yrs (353)	0.500	NC	NC	NM	NM	NM	CDC 2021
USA	2017-2018	NHANES, 12-19yrs (313)	0.400	0.153	NC	NM	NM	NM	CDC 2021
USA	2011-2012	NHANES, 20+yrs (1560)	0.890	0.209	0.146	NM	NM	NM	CDC 2021
USA	2013-2014	NHANES, 20+yrs (1766)	0.700	0.193	NC	NM	NM	NM	CDC 2021
USA	2015-2016	NHANES, 20+yrs (1640)	0.600	0.160	NC	NM	NM	NM	CDC 2021
USA	2017-2018	NHANES, 20+yrs (1616)	0.400	0.199	0.129	NM	NM	NM	CDC 2021
USA	2000-2001	Red cross blood donors (645)	0.56	0.16	NC	NC	NM	NM	Olsen et al. 2017
USA	2006	Red cross blood donors (600)	0.96	0.34	NC	NC	NM	NM	Olsen et al. 2017
USA	2010	Red cross blood donors (600)	0.83	0.27	NC	NC	NM	NM	Olsen et al. 2017

Country/ Region	Year of sampling	Population (n)	Long-chain PFCA concentrations in ng/mL Geometric mean (range), detection frequency %						Reference
			C ₉	C ₁₀	C ₁₁	C ₁₂	C ₁₃	C ₁₄	
USA	2015	Red cross blood donors (616)	0.43	0.15	NC	NC	NM	NM	Olsen et al. 2017
USA/ New Hampshire	2015–2016	All ages (1,578)	0.73, 85.2	0.22, 42.1	0.19, 30.0	0.08, 4.7	NM	NM	NH DHHS 2016
USA/ Ohio	2005-2007	Girls, 6-8yrs (353)	1.4, 99.9	0.3, 75.8	NM	NM	NM	NM	Pinney et al. 2014
USA/ California	2007-2009	Girls, 6-8yrs (351)	1.7, 100	0.3, 78.7	NM	NM	NM	NM	Pinney et al. 2014
USA/ Massachusetts	2007-2010	Girls, 6-10yrs (653)	1.7, 99.5	0.3, 88.2	NM	NM	NM	NM	Harris et al. 2017
9 European Countries	1979-2015	-	(<LOD-38.6)	(<LOD-11.2)	(<LOD-24.9)	(<LOD-6.5)	(<LOD-0.90)	(<LOD-0.43)	ECHA 2018a (see Appendix I for details)
Sweden	2016-2017	Riksmaten Adolescents (1098)	0.382 ^a b (<LOD-2.80)	0.162 (<LOD-1.35)	0.097 (<LOD-1.01)	<LOD (<LOD-0.182)	<LOD (<LOD-0.168)	(<LOD-0.136)	Nystrom et al. 2022
Sweden	2017	Adolescents 17-21yrs (197)	0.41 (0.10-1.56), 100	0.21 (0.07-0.87), 100	0.14 (0.01-0.66), 100	0.02 (<LOD-0.09), 88	NM	NM	Norén et al. 2019
Sweden	2017-2019	First time mothers (110)	0.5 (0.13-1.59), 100	0.5 (<0.082-1.10), 94	0.5 (<0.082-0.46), 86	<LOQ	(<0.082-0.14), 8	<LOQ	Gyllenhammar et al. 2020
Germany	2014-2017	Children 3-17yrs (997-1108)	<LOQ (<LOQ-3.54), 10	<LOQ (<LOQ-3.00), 10	<LOQ (<LOQ-0.78), 1	<LOQ (<LOQ-0.96), 0	NM	NM	Duffek et al. 2020
France	2014-2016	Adults (744)	0.80, 99.5	0.34, 89.2	0.17, 99.5	NC, 22.3	NM	NM	Fillol et al. 2021
France	2014-2016	Children (249)	0.61, 99.6	0.24, 71.1	0.12, 95.6	NC, 8.0	NM	NM	Fillol et al. 2021
Belgium	Various	Newborns (269)	0.20 (<LOQ-1.39), 89.6	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	Colles et al. 2020
Belgium	Various	Adults (205)	0.86 (0.18-7.70), 100	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	Colles et al. 2020
Greenland	2010-2015	Pregnant women (499)	1.15 ^a (0.21–7.87), 100	0.71 ^a (0.12–7.84), 99.9	1.42 ^a (0.08–18.2), 99.7	NA	NA	NM	Hjermitslev et al. 2020
Korea/ Siheung	2008	>12 yrs (633)	2.09 ^a (1.49-2.74), 100	0.91 ^a (0.58-1.45), 100	1.75 ^a (1.11-4.58), 100	0.92 ^a (0.21-1.13), 76.3	0.39 ^a (1.27-0.57), 99.7	Detection <7.4%	Ji et al. 2012
Korea/ Seoul and Gyeonggi	2012-2014	KorEHS-C 3-18 yrs (150)	0.939, 100	0.0501, 79.3	0.545, 98.7	<LOQ	NC, 32.7	<LOQ	Kang et al. 2018
Korea/ Seoul	2006-2015	HASSC Adults (786)	2.03 (<LOD-12.64)	1.29 (<LOD-5.36)	1.83 (<LOD-9.80)	0.36 (<LOD-2.87)	0.59 (<LOD-3.41)	0.15 (<LOD-7.69)	Seo et al. 2018
Japan	2009-2010	JECS Mothers (339)	1.8 ^a (0.39-11) 100	0.59 ^a (<LCMRL-3.1), 99.7	1.5 ^a (<LCMRL-5.3), 100	0.17 ^a (<LCMRL-0.76), 79.6	0.38 ^a (<LCMRL-1.6), 98.8	<LCMRL	Nakayama et al. 2020
Japan	2003-2012	Hokkaido Study Mothers (2689)	1.54	0.51	1.43	0.17	0.33	<MDL	Ait Bamai et al. 2020
Australia	2016-2017	1-4yrs (400)	0.52, 100	0.26, 100	<LOQ	<LOQ	<LOQ	<LOQ	Toms et al. 2019
Australia	2016-2017	5-15yrs (400)	0.38, 100	0.24, 100	<LOQ	<LOQ	<LOQ	<LOQ	Toms et al. 2019
Australia	2016-2017	16-30yrs (400)	0.46, 100	0.26, 100	<LOQ	<LOQ	<LOQ	<LOQ	Toms et al. 2019
Australia	2016-2017	31-45yrs (400)	0.46, 100	0.25, 100	<LOQ	<LOQ	<LOQ	<LOQ	Toms et al. 2019
Australia	2016-2017	46-60yrs (400)	0.47, 100	0.27, 100	<LOQ	<LOQ	<LOQ	<LOQ	Toms et al. 2019

Country/ Region	Year of sampling	Population (n)	Long-chain PFCA concentrations in ng/mL Geometric mean (range), detection frequency %						Reference
			C ₉	C ₁₀	C ₁₁	C ₁₂	C ₁₃	C ₁₄	
Australia	2016-2017	>60yrs (400)	0.56, 100	0.27, 100	<LOQ	<LOQ	<LOQ	<LOQ	Toms et al. 2019

CHMS = Canadian Health Measures Survey; HASSC = Health Assessment Study of Seoul Citizens; JECS= Japan Environment and Children's Study

KorEHS-C = Korea Environmental Health Survey in Children and Adolescents; LCMRL = lowest concentration minimum reporting level

LOD = limit of detection; LOQ = limit of quantification; NA = data not available; NC = not calculated (the proportion of results below the detection limit was too high to provide a valid result);

NHANES = National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey; NM = not measured

^a Median

^b Concentrations for all long-chain PFCAs in this study were measured in ng/g (as opposed to ng/mL). C₁₅, C₁₆ and C₁₈ PFCAs measured in this study were detected in less than 2% of samples and had a range of values of <LOD-0.359 ng/g; <LOD-1.482ng/g and <LOD-8.520 ng/g, respectively.

^c Concentrations for all long-chain PFCAs in this study were measured in ng/g (as opposed to ng/mL). C₁₅, C₁₆ and C₁₈ PFCAs were measured in this study but were all below the LOQ.

2.4 Hazard assessment for endpoints of concern

14. Laboratory toxicity studies assessing endpoints such as growth, reproduction, and lethality include the following studies. For C₉–C₁₂ PFCAs, the 48h median effective concentration (EC₅₀) values for a pelagic cladoceran (*Daphnia magna*) and a benthic cladoceran (*Chydorus sphaericus*) ranged from 12.4 to 181 mg/L with the benthic cladoceran showing greater sensitivity (Ding et al. 2012). Vitellogenin induction occurred in juvenile rainbow trout after dietary exposure to C₉–C₁₁ PFCAs at 250 ppm (Benninghoff et al. 2011). However, in male medaka (*Oryzias latipes*) exposed to C₉ PFCA (464 mg/L) or C₁₀ PFCA (51 or 514 mg/L) induction of vitellogenesis was not observed (Ishibashi et al. 2008c). C₁₀ PFCA had a 96h median lethal concentration (LC₅₀) of 32 mg/L for rainbow trout, a 48h LC₅₀ > 100 mg/L for *Daphnia magna*, and a 72h EC₅₀ of 10.6 mg/L for green algae (*Pseudokirchneriella subcapitata*) whereas C₉ PFCA had acute toxicity values > 100 mg/L for both *Daphnia* and algae (Hoke et al. 2012). For C₉ PFCA, 72h EC₅₀ values for green algae (*Chlorella vulgaris*), diatom (*Skeletonema marinoi*) and the blue-green algae (*Geitlerinema amphibium*) ranged from 125 to 473 mg/L (Latala et al. 2009). The 48-hour EC₅₀ (based on acute lethality) for C₉ PFCA for the soil-dwelling nematode (*Caenorhabditis elegans*) was 306.3 mg/L (Tominaga et al. 2004). However, multi-generation effects were seen at 0.000464 mg/L (C₉ PFCA) which induced a 70% decline in nematode fecundity by the fourth generation (Tominaga et al. 2004). C₁₂ and C₁₄ PFCAs inhibited algal (*Scenedesmus obliquus*) growth rate in a concentration-dependent manner (i.e., inhibition increased with increasing exposure concentration) and with an increase in cell membrane permeability (Liu et al. 2008a). African clawed frog (*Xenopus laevis*) embryos exposure to 10 μM to 2 mM of C₉–C₁₁ PFCAs resulted in retardation of development, growth inhibition, and multiple edemas, with each PFCA having unique effects on development and teratogenesis at different points in time (Kim et al. 2013).

15. Additional laboratory toxicity studies assessing exposure include the following studies. Rainbow trout fry were fed 200 ppm C₁₀ PFCA or 1000 ppm C₉ PFCA for 6 months to determine the impact on hepatic tumorigenesis. Results show that C₉ and C₁₀ PFCAs can promote liver cancer, and that the mechanism of promotion may be similar to that of 17β-estradiol (Benninghoff et al. 2012). C₉ PFCA at 0.93 mg/L resulted in altered responses in locomotion and gene expression in embryo-larval zebrafish as well as biochemical and behavioural changes in young adult zebrafish exposed embryonically (Jantzen et al. 2016a,b). Zebrafish larvae exposure to C₁₀ PFCA (0.01 – 10 mg/L) or C₁₃ PFCA (0.01 – 10 mg/L) can modulate the production of the sex steroid hormone and related gene transcription of the hypothalamic-pituitary-gonad axis (Jo et al. 2014). Green mussels exposed to C₉ PFCA (0.1 – 1000 μg/L) or C₁₀ PFCA (0.1 – 1000 μg/L) for 7 d showed reduced immune function, but this effect was reversible (Liu and Gin 2018). Genotoxicity was observed in green mussels for C₉ PFCA (EC₅₀ values: 144 – 265 μg/L) and C₁₀ PFCA (EC₅₀ values: 73 – 84 μg/L) (Liu et al. 2014a). One-day old male chickens exposed to C₁₀ PFCA (0.1 and 1.0 mg/kg body weight, three times a week for three weeks) had no adverse effects on body weight, organ indexes, blood clinical parameters or organ histopathology (Yeung et al. 2009).

16. As mentioned in the risk profile, field-based wildlife studies are difficult to interpret due to the exposure of mixtures of other PFASs and other contaminants. For example, a mixture of PFASs (perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS), perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS), PFOA, and C₉ – C₁₄ PFCAs) was associated with the disruption of thyroid hormone homeostasis in polar bears (*Ursus maritimus*) from the Barents Sea (Bourgeon et al. 2017). However, these polar bears also had concentrations of organochlorine compounds, including polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs), phenolic compounds, as well as other PFASs that may also have contributed to the effect observed. Liu et al. (2018a) analyzed pooled polar bear serum from the Hudson Bay and Beaufort Sea subpopulations in the Canadian Arctic and found PCB metabolites, perfluorinated sulfonates, and other polychlorinated compounds. Knudsen et al. (2007) measured insecticides (e.g., mirex), PFASs, hexachlorocyclohexanes, toxaphenes, dioxins, furans, PCBs, brominated compounds, endosulfans, and mercury in northern fulmars (*Fulmarus glacialis*) from the Barents Sea. Gao et al. (2020b) measured 3108 substances (388 contaminants and 2720 metabolites) in wild crucian carp (*Carassius auratus*) from Taihu Lake (China). Further, field-based wildlife studies have shown statistical correlations with observed effects for long-chain PFCA mixtures. For example, total PFASs (includes PFOS, PFOA, PFHxS, perfluorooctanesulfonamides (PFOSA), and C₉–C₁₃ PFCAs) concentrations in liver (114 – 3052 ng/g ww) may be associated with liver lesions in East Greenland polar bears (Sonne et al. 2008). Correlations were found for the ΣPFCA concentrations in the brain at 88 ng/g ww (includes C₆–C₈ PFCAs, C₁₂ and C₁₃ PFCAs) with neurochemical transmitter systems and brain-specific bioaccumulation in the East Greenland polar bears. However, results were inconclusive as to whether observed alterations in neurochemical signaling were having negative effects (Eggers Pedersen et al. 2015). C₈–C₁₄ PFCAs and PFOS at plasma concentrations of 0.03 – 29.7 ng/L ww were associated with reduced hatching and breeding success in adult chick-rearing black-legged kittiwakes (*Rissa tridactyla*) (Tartu et al. 2014). Positive correlations

were found for PFCAs in plasma at 3.6 – 35.5 ng/g ww (includes PFOA, C₉–C₁₄ PFCAs) with thyroid hormone concentrations in the northern fulmar and the black-legged kittiwake chicks that may result in developmental effects in young birds (Nøst et al. 2012). Concentrations of the ΣPFCAs (includes C₈–C₁₅ PFCAs) in plasma (at 0.0002 mg/ml for ΣPFCAs) were associated with altered immune parameters in bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*) that may affect immune, hematopoietic, kidney and liver function (Fair et al. 2013). Nakayama et al. (2008) studied the common cormorant, a fish-eating bird that is the top predator in the Lake Biwa (Japan) ecosystem. C₉ PFCA liver concentrations (< 0.005 – 0.043 µg/g-ww) were related to gene expression. Significant positive relationships were shown between C₉ PFCA and glutathione peroxidase 1 (enzyme in the antioxidant system) and heterogenous nuclear ribonucleoprotein U (RNA processing). Sun et al. (2020) studied the effects between the ΣPFCAs and body condition of peregrine falcon nestlings and found that the body condition of peregrine falcon nestlings were significantly and negatively associated with higher ΣPFCA burdens.

17. There is evidence from acute and intermediate oral laboratory studies in rats and mice that the liver is a sensitive target of C₉–C₁₂ PFCAs toxicity (ATSDR 2021). For example, rats and mice experienced increased relative liver weights, increased hepatic triglycerides and total cholesterol, and altered expression of genes related to lipid metabolism when exposed to 1 mg/kg bw/d of C₉ PFCA for 14 days. In addition, at 5 mg/kg bw/d, substantial lipid accumulation in the liver and disrupted hepatic glucose metabolism were noted (Fang et al. 2012a, 2012b, 2012c; Wang et al. 2015). Increased liver weights, and hepatocellular hypertrophy, degeneration, and necrosis were observed in rats exposed for 90 days to a mixture of PFASs (about 74% of which was C₉ PFCA). The no-observed effect levels (NOELs) were 0.025 mg/kg bw/d for males and 0.125 mg/kg bw/d for females (Mertens et al. 2010). Hepatocyte necrosis and hepatomegaly were observed in rats treated with 0.5 mg/kg bw/d of C₁₀ PFCA for 28 days (Frawley et al. 2018). Exposure to C₁₁ PFCA for 42 days resulted in increased liver weights in male rats at 0.3 mg/kg bw/day and in females at 1.0 mg/kg bw/day, and centrilobular hepatocellular hypertrophy was observed in both males and females at 1.0 mg/kg bw/day (Takahashi et al. 2014). Increased liver weights and hepatotoxicity (liver hypertrophy, necrosis, and inflammatory cholestasis) were noted in rats exposed for 42 days to 0.5 and 2.5 mg/kg bw/d of C₁₂ PFCA respectively (Kato et al. 2015). Exposure to C₁₂ PFCA induced hepatic steatosis in rats exposed to 0.2 mg/kg bw/d for 110 days. Accompanying gene expression studies provided supporting evidence that these liver effects likely occurred as a result of perturbations to fatty acid uptake, lipogenesis, and fatty acid oxidation (Ding et al. 2009). The result of a recent meta-analysis indicates that exposure of rodents to C₉ PFCA is consistently associated with elevated ALT, steatosis, and hepatocellular hypertrophy (Costello et al. 2022).

18. The effects of long-chain PFCAs on the liver is believed to be mediated in part by peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor alpha (PPAR α) activation which affects lipid homeostasis by altering the expression of genes involved in fatty acid uptake, activation, and oxidation (Cheng and Klaassen 2008a, 2008b; Maher et al. 2008; Liu et al. 2016; Zhang et al. 2018). However, studies in PPAR α -null mice dosed with 10 mg/kg bw/d of C₉ PFCA for 10 days also found increases in liver weight, steatosis, and increases in liver triglyceride levels (Das et al. 2017). This suggests that mechanisms other than PPAR α activation are also involved.

19. There are indications that exposure to C₉–C₁₁ PFCAs can result in effects on the immune system. In a series of studies examining the immunotoxicity of C₉ PFCA, rats and mice were exposed to 1, 3 or 5 mg/kg bw/d for 14 days (Fang et al. 2008; Fang et al. 2009; Fang et al. 2010). Decreased thymus and/or spleen weights were observed in rats and mice typically at ≥ 3 mg/kg/day. Atrophy of the lymphoid organs were noted and effects on innate immune cell homeostasis were observed in mice as evidenced by decreased percentages of F4/80+ and CD49b+ cells in the spleen of all treated groups and decreases in CD11c+ cells in the 3 and 5 mg/kg bw/d groups (Fang et al. 2008). Thymocyte apoptosis was observed in rats at 5 mg/kg bw/d, likely due to increased serum cortisol and decreased expression of Bcl-2 (which regulates cell death). Increases in pro-inflammatory cytokines were observed at ≥ 3 mg/kg/day (Fang et al. 2009). C₉-induced apoptosis was observed in rat splenocytes and the production of pro-inflammatory and anti-inflammatory cytokines was significantly increased and decreased respectively at 5 mg/kg bw/d (Fang et al. 2010). C₉ PFCA also caused marked splenic and thymic atrophy and an altered balance of immune cell populations in the spleen and thymus of mice 14 days after administration of a single i.p. dose of 0.1 mmol/kg-bw (Rockwell et al. 2013). A follow-up study showed that a single high dose of C₉ PFCA still had effects on the immune system 28 days later (Rockwell et al. 2017). In a 28-day study, rats were exposed 0.125–0.5 mg/kg/d and mice were exposed to 0.3125–5.0 mg/kg/week C₁₀ PFCA. A reduction in immune cell populations in the spleen of mice was observed at ≥ 1.25 mg/kg bw/week. However, exposure to C₁₀ PFCA had little effect on humoral- and cell-mediated immunity, developing hematopoietic cells in the bone marrow, or host resistance to influenza virus in either rats or mice (Frawley et al. 2018). Although exposure of rats to 0–25 mg/kg/day C₉ and C₁₀ PFCA for 28 days also resulted in thymic atrophy and decreased spleen and thymus weights, these changes were attributed to stress

(NTP 2019). Non-obese diabetic mice were exposed during gestation, lactation and early life to C₁₁ PFCA in drinking water (3, 30 and 300 g/L) to determine the effect on the early stages of diabetes development (an autoimmune disorder). Exposure to C₁₁ PFCA was associated with accelerated development of pancreatic insulinitis, decreased peritoneal macrophage phagocytosis and altered splenocyte cytokine secretion, but it did not increase the incidence of diabetes (Bodin et al. 2016).

20. No clear mode of action for the immunotoxic effects of PFASs (including long-chain PFCAs) has been established. Suppressed adaptive immunity may arise from the interaction of PFASs with PPAR α which alters cytokine secretion. However, other PPAR-independent mechanisms are also likely involved including the inhibition of NF κ B activation, which directly suppresses cytokine production by immune cells (Corsini et al. 2012; Dewitt et al. 2015). Other possible immune toxicity mechanisms include AIM2 inflammasome activation, gene dysregulation, and signal pathway disorders (Liang et al. 2021).

21. Several long-chain PFCAs (C₉–C₁₂, C₁₄ and C₁₈) have been studied for reproductive toxicity in rodents. Effects observed include altered reproductive organ weight, histological changes in reproductive tissues, altered reproductive hormone level and impaired reproductive functions. For example, exposure of male rats and mice to 5 mg/kg bw/d of C₉ PFCA for 14 days resulted in decreased serum testosterone levels, increased serum estradiol levels, atrophy of the seminiferous tubules, large vacuoles between the Sertoli cells and spermatogonia in the testes, and alterations in spermatogenesis and testosterone production (Feng et al. 2009, 2010; Singh and Singh 2019a, 2019b). Short term exposure of male rats to C₁₄ resulted in delays in Leydig cell regeneration, reduced serum testosterone level, down-regulated steroidogenic gene/protein expression and lower AKT1 and ERK1/2 phosphorylation (Zhang et al. 2021). In a longer 90-day study, degenerative changes in the seminiferous tubules and adverse effects on sperm parameters and serum levels of testosterone were observed in male mice administered 0.5 mg/kg bw/d of C₉ PFCA. A significant decrease in litter size was also noted when unexposed females were mated with males treated with 0.5 mg/kg bw/d of C₉ PFCA (Singh and Singh 2018). Multiple histopathologic findings in the testis were noted in rats exposed to 2.5 mg/kg bw/d of C₁₀ PFCA for 28 days (NTP 2019). No significant reproductive findings were noted for rats exposed to C₁₁ or C₁₄ PFCAs in reproductive and development toxicity assays (Takahashi et al. 2014; Hirata-Koizumi et al. 2015). Decreased spermatid and spermatozoa counts in males, as well as a continuous dioestrus in unmated females was observed in rats dosed with 2.5 mg/kg bw/d of C₁₂ PFCA for 42 days. In pregnant females dosed with 2.5 mg/kg bw/d, hemorrhages were observed at the implantation sites and only one female delivered live pups (Kato et al. 2015). Decreased serum testosterone levels were observed in rats treated with 0.2 mg/kg bw/d C₁₂ PFCA for 110 days (Shi et al. 2009). Reduced implantation numbers, reduced total number of born pups and number of live pups occurred only at much higher exposures (1,000 mg/kg bw/d) to C₁₈ PFCA in rats (Hirata-Koizumi et al. 2012).

22. Developmental effects related to long-chain PFCA exposure (C₉–C₁₂, C₁₄, C₁₈) include postnatal mortality, reduced body weight, and developmental delays (eye opening and onset of puberty). For example, surviving pups (20% survival at weaning) born to dams exposed to 5 mg/kg bw/d of C₉ PFCA during gestational day (GD) 1-17 experienced decreased postnatal growth and a dose-dependent delay in developmental landmarks (eye opening, preputial separation and vaginal opening) (Das et al. 2015). Delays in eye opening and decreased in pup body weight gain were also observed in offspring of mice dosed at 2 mg/kg bw/d C₉ PFCA on GDs 1–18. Notably, these effects were not observed in transgenic mice whose PPAR α was functionally knocked out, suggesting this nuclear receptor is involved in mediating C₉ PFCA-induced developmental toxicity (Wolf et al. 2010). Decreases in fetal body weight were observed at 1 mg/kg bw/d in the offspring of mice exposed to C₁₀ PFCA (Harris and Birnbaum 1989) and C₁₁ PFCA (Takahasi et al. 2014). In rats exposed to 2.5 mg/kg bw/d of C₁₂ PFCA, only 1 of the 12 dams delivered live pups and decreases in pup body weight gain were noted (Kato et al. 2015). Inhibition of postnatal body weight gain in pups was observed in the offspring of rats exposed to 10 mg/kg bw/d of C₁₄ PFCA (Hirata-Koizumi et al. 2015).

23. Short-term studies performed in rats show that oral (gavage) exposure to C₉, C₁₀ and C₁₄ PFCAs can effect the thyroid. Rats exposed up to 25 mg/kg bw/d of C₉ or C₁₀ PFCA for 28 days experienced altered thyroid weight and altered thyroid hormone levels (NTP 2019). Levels of T3 and T4 hormones increased 2- and 4-fold in female mice 30 days after being exposed to a single doses of 20 to 80 mg/kg of C₁₀ PFCA (Harris et al. 1989). Follicular cell hypertrophy was noted in the thyroid of male rats exposed to ≥ 3 mg/kg bw/d C₁₄ for 42 days (Hirata-Koizumi et al. 2015).

24. Several epidemiological studies evaluated hepatic endpoints and noted associations between exposure to C₉–C₁₄ PFCAs and increased levels of serum lipid levels and clinical biomarkers of liver function. Associations were

strongest for C₉ and C₁₀ PFCA whereas studies regarding C₁₁–C₁₄ PFCAs were either too few in number or the results were too inconsistent to determine if they also had an effect on serum lipid levels. In its overall analysis of the data, EFSA has concluded that epidemiological studies provide clear evidence for an association between exposure to C₉ PFCA and increased serum levels of cholesterol (EFSA 2020). Similarly, the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) has indicated that the preponderance of the evidence is suggestive of a link between serum levels of C₉ and C₁₀ PFCA and increased serum lipid levels, particularly for total cholesterol and LDL cholesterol (ATSDR 2021). The results of a prospective cohort study from the Faroe Islands, published after these reviews, support their findings. Serum concentrations of C₉ and C₁₀ PFCA were measured in 490 children at birth, infancy and childhood. Serum levels at ages five and nine were positively associated with lipid concentrations at age nine (Blomberg et al. 2021). Notably, cholesterol concentrations in childhood are a risk factor for adult cardiovascular disease (Daniels and Greer 2008).

25. Associations between exposure to long-chain PFCAs (C₉–C₁₄) and immunological outcomes, including incidence of infectious diseases, efficacy of vaccinations, asthma and allergic diseases, and immune marker levels (e.g., serum cytokine levels, antibody levels) have been investigated in several epidemiological studies. In humans, the strongest evidence of immunotoxicity comes from investigations into antibody response to vaccines (see Table 10). In its evaluation of the data, ATSDR indicates that there is suggestive evidence of a link between serum C₁₀ PFCA levels and decreased antibody responses to vaccines (ATSDR 2021). This is based largely on studies examining decreased antibody response to diphtheria and tetanus vaccines in children (Grandjean et al. 2012, 2017) and decreased response to diphtheria vaccines in adults (Kielsen et al. 2016). In a systematic review of the literature, Kirk et al. (2018) also concluded there was evidence of a negative association between C₁₀ PFCA and diphtheria antibody levels after vaccination of children or adults. The evidence was considered to be “limited” because some of the studies were on the same cohort in the Faroe Islands, making it difficult to assess the consistency of evidence across populations. Since this systematic review, the results of a study in West African children (with substantially different lifestyles and exposure profiles), were published. The study found a doubling of serum C₁₀ PFCA concentrations in vaccinated children to be associated with 25% lower measles antibody concentrations (Timmerman et al. 2020). In addition, another study in children from Greenland noted that for every 1 ng/g increase in C₁₀ PFCA, the odds of not having protective levels of diphtheria antibodies were increased by 5.08 times (95 % CI: 1.32–19.51) (Timmerman et al. 2022). With respect to other long-chain PFCAs, one study noted reduced diphtheria and tetanus antibody levels in adults in relation to serum concentrations of C₁₁ and C₁₂ PFCA (unadjusted for potential confounders) (Kielsen et al. 2016). Another study noted reduced diphtheria antibody levels in children in relation to serum concentrations of C₁₁ PFCA (Timmermann et al. 2022). In regards to C₉ PFCA, the data were mixed with some studies showing associations with a reduced antibody response to vaccines and others not (Grandjean et al. 2012; Granum et al. 2013; Kielsen et al. 2016; Stein et al. 2016a, 2016b; Grandjean et al. 2017; Timmerman et al. 2020, 2022).

Table 10. Associations of long-chain PFCAs and antibody levels after vaccination

Type of Study	Study Population	N	Association with Antibody Response	PFCA	Positive, Negative, or No Association with Antibody Response	Reference
Cohort (INUENDO and IVAAQ)	Children	314	diphtheria and tetanus	C ₉	Negative associations between diphtheria antibody levels and serum C ₉ levels (adjusted for confounders). Weak negative association for tetanus antibody levels.	Timmermann et al. 2022
				C ₁₀	Negative associations between diphtheria antibody levels and serum C ₁₀ levels (adjusted for confounders). Weak negative association for tetanus antibody levels.	
				C ₁₁	Negative associations between diphtheria antibody levels and serum C ₁₁ levels (adjusted for confounders). Weak negative association for tetanus antibody levels.	
Randomized controlled trial	Children (inclusion, 9 months and 2 years)	237	measles	C ₉	Significant negative association between measles antibodies and serum C ₉ levels at 9-month visit after inclusion (adjusted analyses). Non-significant negative association at 2-year visit.	Timmermann et al. 2020
				C ₁₀	Significant negative association between measles antibodies and serum C ₁₀ levels at 9-month visit after	

					inclusion (adjusted analyses). Non-significant negative association at 2-year visit.	
				C ₁₁	Significant negative association between measles antibodies and serum C ₁₁ levels at 9-month visit after inclusion (adjusted analyses). Non-significant negative association at 2-year visit.	
Birth Cohort	Children (7 and 13 year old)	516	diphtheria and tetanus	C ₉	No association for antibody levels at age 13 and C ₉ levels at age 7 or 13.	Grandjean et al. 2017
				C ₁₀	Negative association between diphtheria or tetanus antibody levels at age 13 and serum C ₁₀ levels at age 7.	
Birth Cohort	Mother-child pairs	587	diphtheria and tetanus	C ₉	Significant negative association between C ₉ and diphtheria antibodies levels at age 5. No associations between maternal or child C ₉ levels and tetanus antibody levels at ages 5 or 7.	Grandjean et al. 2012
				C ₁₀	Negative association between C ₁₀ levels and tetanus antibody levels at ages 5 and 7. No association between C ₁₀ and diphtheria antibody levels at ages 5 or 7.	
Birth Cohort	Mother-child pairs	56	measles, rubella, tetanus, and Haemophilus influenza type b	C ₉	Negative association between maternal serum C ₉ and rubella antibody levels in children of three years. Positive association between maternal C ₉ and the number of episodes of common cold for the children.	Granum et al. 2013
Cross-sectional	Adults	12	diphtheria and tetanus	C ₉	Negative associations between diphtheria antibody levels and serum C ₉ levels. No association for tetanus antibody levels.	Kielsen et al. 2016
				C ₁₀	Negative associations between diphtheria antibody levels and serum C ₁₀ levels. No association for tetanus antibody levels.	
				C ₁₁	Negative associations between serum C ₁₁ (not adjusted for potential confounders) and diphtheria and tetanus antibody levels.	
				C ₁₂	Negative associations between serum C ₁₂ levels (not adjusted for potential confounders) and diphtheria and tetanus antibody levels.	
Cross-sectional (NHANES 1999-2000 and 2003-2004)	Adolescents	1191	Measles, mumps, and rubella	C ₉	No associations between recent C ₉ serum levels and measles, mumps, or rubella antibody titers.	Stein et al. 2016a
Cohort	Adults	78	Influenza (FluMist)	C ₉	No associations between C ₉ levels and response to influenza vaccine.	Stein et al. 2016b

26. Several epidemiological studies evaluated possible associations between exposure to long-chain PFCAs (C₉–C₁₄) and reproductive outcomes. Overall, there were only a small number of studies for each long-chain PFCA and for each endpoint. A number of epidemiological studies showed either equivocal, null, or potentially protective outcomes. However, several other studies showed positive associations. For example, associations were observed between alterations in reproductive hormones levels in women and adolescents and exposure to C₉–C₁₂ PFCAs (Joensen et al. 2013; Tsai et al. 2015; Lopez-Espinosa et al. 2016; Zhou et al. 2016, 2017; Heffernan et al. 2018). Some associations were also found between serum C₉ and C₁₀ PFCAs and sperm parameters (e.g., head length, percentage of sperm with coiled tails) (Buck Louis et al. 2015). In addition, altered female reproductive health (i.e., miscarriage, increased risk of polycystic ovarian syndrome, decreased blastocyst conversion rate) was linked with C₉–C₁₂ PFCAs (Jensen et al. 2015; McCoy et al. 2017; Wang et al. 2019). There is suggestive evidence of associations between exposure to C₉ PFCA and issues related to endometriosis, earlier menopause and hysterectomy (Louis et al. 2012; Taylor et al. 2014). However, in terms of the earlier menopause, it's possible that reverse causation could be a factor (i.e., earlier menopause leads to increased PFASs levels, due to decreased elimination through menstruation).

27. In some studies, reduced birth weight has been associated with exposure to some long-chain PFCAs (Kwon et al. 2016; Lind et al. 2017; Starling et al. 2017; Cao et al. 2018; Gyllenhammar et al. 2018; Shoaff et al. 2018; Wikstrom et al. 2019). For example, median cord blood concentrations of C₉ (0.2 ng/mL), C₁₀ (0.1 ng/mL) and C₁₁ (0.3 ng/mL) PFCAs were inversely associated with birth weight in 268 infants that were part of the Ewha Birth and Growth Cohort in South Korea. In the same study, no associations were found for C₁₂ (0.1 ng/mL) and C₁₃ (0.4

ng/mL) PFCAs (Kwon et al. 2016). In the Taiwan Maternal and Infant Cohort Study of 233 maternal-infant pairs, inverse associations were noted between median maternal serum concentrations (taken during third trimester) of C₉ (1.6 ng/mL), C₁₀ (0.4 ng/mL), C₁₁ (3.4 ng/mL), and C₁₂ (0.4 ng/mL) PFCAs and birth weight among female infants. (Wang et al. 2016). In other studies, associations have been observed between C₉–C₁₁ and C₁₃ PFCAs and reproductive outcomes (shorter anogenital distance, altered hormonal levels, and altered onset of puberty) in infants and children (Lind et al., 2016, 2017; Ernst et al. 2019; Tian et al. 2019; Yao et al. 2019; Jensen et al. 2020). In addition, associations have been noted between C₉–C₁₀ PFCAs and altered bone development (i.e. size, mass, length, and bone density health) in children (Buck Louis et al. 2018; Jeddy et al. 2018; Khalil et al. 2018; Cluett et al. 2019). Associations have also been detected between prenatal or child serum levels of C₉–C₁₂ PFCAs and neurobehavioral and neuropsychological endpoints (i.e. increased attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), hyperactivity, risk of personal-social difficulties, and poor executive functions) (Lien et al. 2016; Oulhote et al. 2016; Høyer et al. 2018; Vuong et al., 2018a, 2018b; Niu et al., 2019) as well as cognitive dysfunction (Weng et al. 2020).

28. Concern about the endocrine disrupting properties of PFASs has led to research into the effects on thyroid outcomes, including thyroid hormone levels in infants (in umbilical cord blood, maternal blood and infant blood), children, adults and pregnant women, and thyroid diseases in infants. One study found an association between infant serum concentrations of C₉–C₁₁ PFCAs and an increased incidence of congenital hypothyroidism (Kim et al. 2016). In a systematic review of thyroid outcomes in children and pregnant women a positive association was found between levels of thyroid stimulating hormone (TSH) and C₉ PFCA levels in boys \geq 11 years old (Ballesteros et al. 2017). Various associations were also found between levels of TSH, triiodothyronine (T3), or thyroxine (T4), thyroglobulin, and thyroid peroxidase antibodies in adults, pregnant women, children and infants and levels of C₉–C₁₄ PFCAs (e.g., Ballesteros et al. 2017; Aimuzi et al. 2019; Itoh et al. 2019; Coperchini et al. 2021; ATSDR 2021). However, the associations were not always consistent across studies and a number of investigations identified no associations with effects on the thyroid (ATSDR 2021).

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Appendix

List of references used to generate Figure 1 of the Risk Profile and Figures 2 and 3 of this document

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