

Investigating the Persistence and Impact of Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances in the Environment and Food



Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of highly inert and heat-resistant human-made chemicals known for their water and grease-resistant properties

PFAS have been widely used in the manufacturing and food packaging industries since the 1940s

They can be found in:



Non-stick cookware manufacturing



Food packaging



Waterproof clothing



Firefighting foam

Growing evidence suggests that exposure to these chemicals may have adverse short-term and long-term health effects



Coughing, wheezing, and shortness of breath



Serious health issues including hormone disruption, liver damage, kidney disease, immune system dysfunction, and an increased risk of certain types of cancers



PFAS in the air

PFAS can enter the air through various pathways



Volatilization of PFAS-containing products



Burning of PFAS-containing materials



Release of PFAS from industrial emissions



Once airborne, these chemicals can travel long distances and settle in both rural and urban areas



PFAS have been detected in indoor air, outdoor air, and even in remote regions such as the Arctic!

⚠ Who is at risk of exposure?

Individuals working in industries that manufacture or use PFAS-containing products

Individuals living near industrial sites where PFAS are produced or used

Military bases where PFAS-containing firefighting foam is used



PFAS can persist in the environment for long periods, making it difficult to minimize exposure



Avoid products that contain PFAS



Use ventilation systems to filter the air indoors

On-demand webinar: [Measuring PFAS in Air Using Thermal Desorption Gas Chromatography-Mass Spectrometry](#)