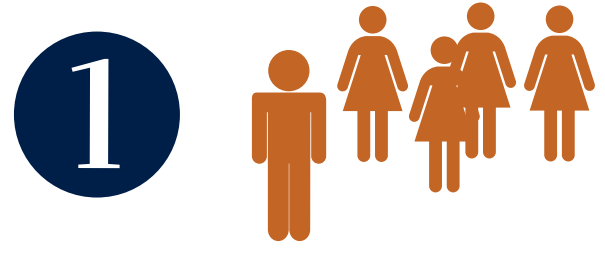


# PFAS' Footprint Through the Apparel Supply Chain



## 1 PFAS in the Workplace

Within the most unregulated factories, workers can face exposure to harmful PFAS, especially in the wet processing stage. This is when chemicals and colourants are added (ex. pre-treatment, dyeing, digital printing, etc.)



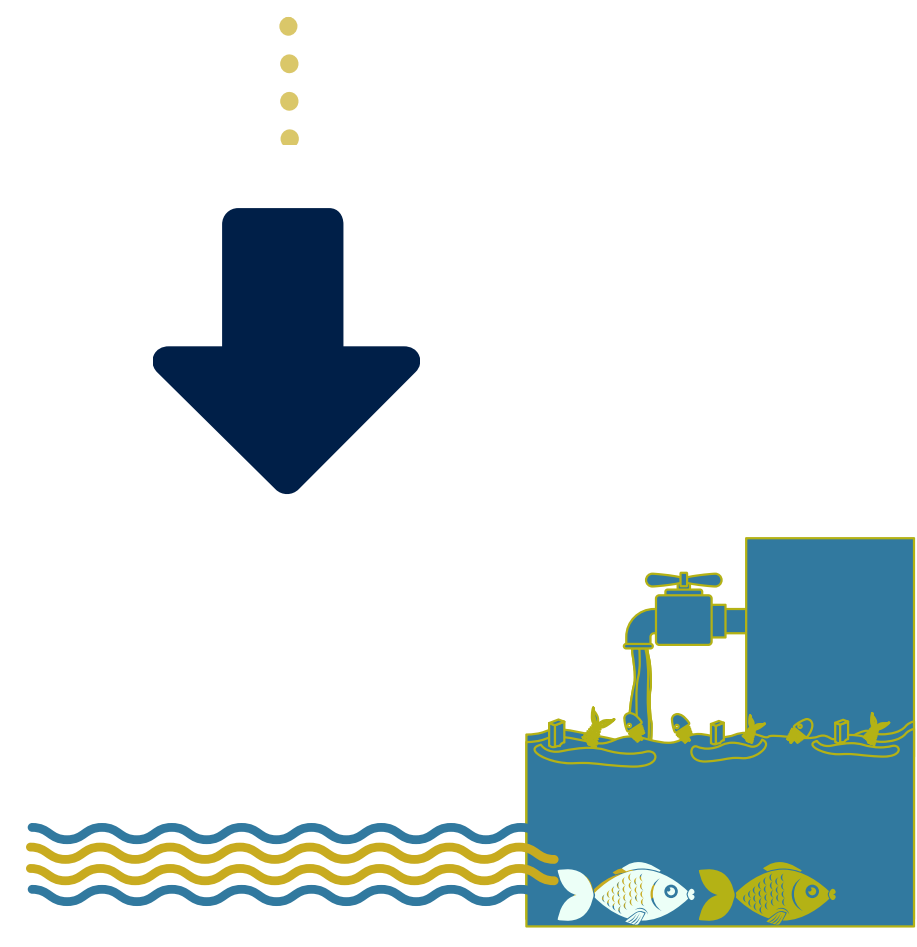
## 2 Air Pollution

PFAS released into the air by manufacturing facilities falls into the ocean, lakes, rivers, and streams – directly or via rainwater - across the world.



## 4 Community Agriculture

PFAS flow into community water streams and can reach soil used for agriculture. The closer agriculture is to a major garment factory, the greater the risk.



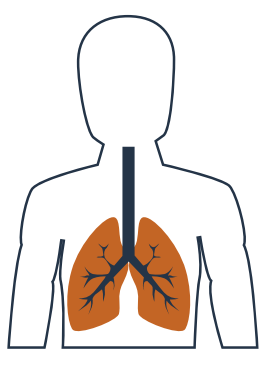
## 3 Waterway Pollution

### Waterway Pollution

Large amounts of runoff from production facilities lacking wastewater treatment has led to PFAS contamination in local waterways. PFAS chemicals don't break down well, making them very mobile and widespread in the U.S. and across the globe.



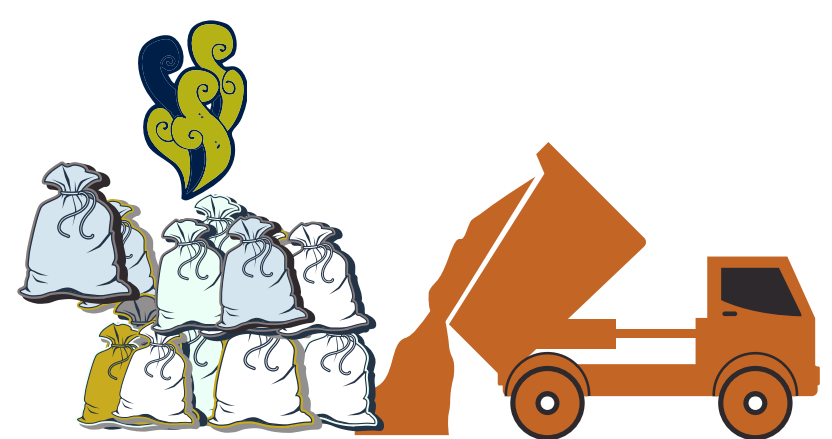
## 5 Ingesting PFAS



Clothing can also shed PFAS, which can attach to dust in homes and be breathed in or ingested by children, especially when they put their hands or clothes in their mouth.

## 6 PFAS in Landfills

Clothing coated with PFAS are often sent to landfills or incinerated, which can release PFAS pollution into our waterways. A 2021 study found 70 PFAS chemicals contained in carpet and clothing are likely sources of PFAS contamination in water seeping from landfills.



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