

MERCURY MOVEMENT FROM SOURCES TO THE ENVIRONMENT

1. Where does mercury come from?

Natural Sources



Volcanoes and other geological processes

Man-made Sources



Fossil-fuel consumption (such as coal-fired powerplants)



Medical and dental waste incineration



Cement and chlorine production



Gold mining



Metal production

2. How does mercury get into the environment?

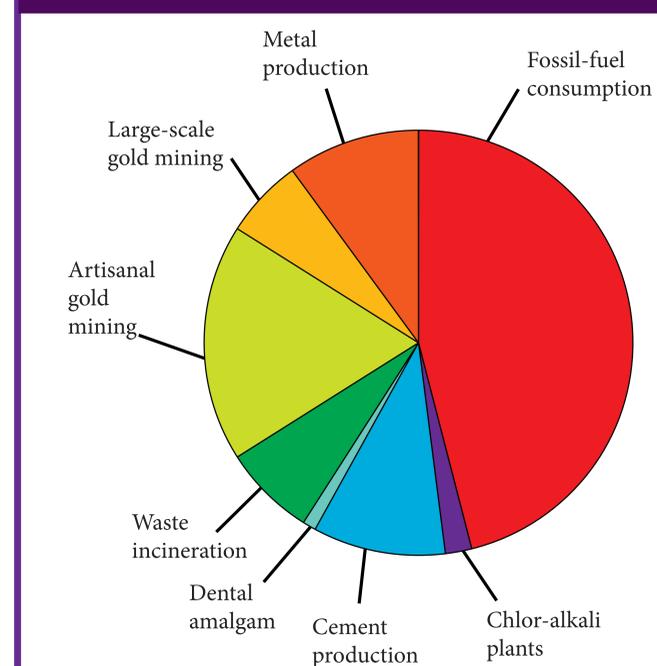
Atmospheric mercury emissions

Mercury released as a gas and in dust enters the atmosphere, where it can move on wind currents far away from its original source

Point-source mercury emissions

Mercury released in liquid form enters the terrestrial environment at a specific point, but can be distributed far away from its original source

2005 Global Emissions of Mercury by Industry¹



3. How does mercury (Hg) move within the environment?

