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A national survey of trace organic contaminants in Australian rivers

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33		
34	List of abbreviation	ons
35	APCI	Atmospheric Pressure Chemical Ionization
36	DEET	N,N-Diethyl- <i>meta</i> -toluamide
37	ESI	Electrospray Ionization
38	EU	European Union
39	HPLC	High Performance Liquid Chromatography
40	HQ	Hazard Quotient
41	LC-MS/MS	Liquid Chromatography Tandem Mass Spectrometry
42	LOQ	Limit of Quantification
43	MRM	Multiple Reaction Monitoring
44	NOEC	No Observable Effect Concentration

45	NSW	New South Wales (state of Australia)
46	NT	Northern Territory (territory of Australia)
47	PCP	Personal Care Product
48	PNEC	Predicted No Effect Concentration
49	PPCP	Pharmaceutical and Personal Care Product
50	QLD	Queensland (state of Australia)
51	SA	South Australia (state of Australia)
52	SEM	Standard Error of the Mean
53	SPE	Solid Phase Extraction
54	TCEP	tris(2-Chloroethyl) Phosphate
55	TrOC	Trace Organic Contaminant
56	US	United States
57	VIC	Victoria (state of Australia)
58	WA	Western Australia (state of Australia)
59	WWTP	Wastewater Treatment Plant
60		
61	Abstract	
62	Trace organic conta	aminant (TrOC) studies in Australia have focused on wastewater effluents,
63	leaving a knowledg	ge gap of their occurrence and risk in freshwater environments. This study

measured 42 TrOCs including industrial compounds, pesticides, pharmaceuticals and
personal care products (PPCPs) by liquid chromatography tandem mass spectrometry at 73
river sites across Australia quarterly for one year. TrOCs were found in 92% of samples, with
a median of three compounds detected per sample (maximum 18). The five most commonly
detected TrOCs were the pharmaceuticals salicylic acid (82%; $max = 1,530 \text{ ng/L}$),
paracetamol (also known as acetaminophen; 45%; max = 7,150 ng/L) and carbamazepine
$(27\%; \max = 682 \text{ ng/L})$, caffeine $(65\%; \max = 3,770 \text{ ng/L})$, and the flame retardant $tris(2-1)$
chloroethyl) phosphate (TCEP; 44%; max = 184 ng/L). Pesticides were detected in 28% of
the samples. To determine the risk posed by the detected TrOCs to the aquatic environment,
hazard quotients were calculated by dividing the maximum concentration detected for each
compound by Predicted No Effect Concentrations (PNEC). Three of the 42 compounds
monitored (the pharmaceuticals carbamazepine and sulfamethoxazole and the herbicide
simazine) had a hazard quotient >1 suggesting that they may be causing adverse effects at the
most polluted sites. A further 10 compounds had hazard quotients >0.1 indicating a potential
risk; these included four pharmaceuticals, three personal care products and three pesticides.
Most compounds had hazard quotients significantly <0.1. The number of TrOCs measured in
this study was limited and further investigations are required to fully assess the risk posed by
complex mixtures of TrOCs on exposed biota.

Keywords

83 Hazard quotient; micropollutant; surface water; TrOC; water quality.

1. Introduction

With the human population surpassing seven billion, freshwater demand for municipal, agricultural and industrial use has never been higher. There are over 100,000 registered

88	chemicals in the European Union (EU) alone (Schwarzenbach et al. 2006) and recent
89	improvements in analytical chemistry methodologies have enabled the study of trace organic
90	contaminants (TrOCs) in freshwater at relevant environmental concentrations. There are over
91	4,000 pharmaceutical and personal care products (PPCPs) on the market (Boxall et al. 2012)
92	and studies on their fate in the environment are lacking, along with an understanding of the
93	nature and toxicity of their environmental transformation products (Brausch and Rand 2011,
94	Fent et al. 2006). This is particularly the case in Australia (reviewed in Santos et al. 2010).
95	A 2002 study detected 76 out of 95 wastewater-associated TrOCs monitored in 139 streams
96	across the United States (US; Kolpin et al. 2002). A follow up study targeted 74 groundwater
97	and surface water sources of drinking water for 100 TrOCs and found at least one TrOC at
98	92% of the sites (Focazio et al. 2008). These two nation-wide studies established TrOC
99	concentration patterns across US impacted waterways. The first EU-wide assessment of
100	TrOCs covered 122 surface water sites across 27 countries where 90% of the samples had a
101	detection of at least one of the target TrOCs (Loos et al. 2009).
102	Australian research on TrOCs has predominantly focused on wastewater treatment plant
103	(WWTP) processes and effluent rather than the receiving environment (Braga et al. 2005a, b,
104	Chapman 2003, Coleman et al. 2008, Leusch et al. 2006, Mispagel et al. 2009, Williams et al.
105	2007, Ying et al. 2009). Khan and Ongerth (2004) used fugacity models to predict WWTP
106	effluent concentrations of at least 50 pharmaceuticals and prioritised subsequent efforts for
107	analytical investigation. A recent study of 39 Victorian WWTP effluents confirmed the
108	presence of various TrOCs including PPCPs, pesticides, food additives and alkylphenols
109	(Allinson et al. 2012). Concentrations were typically in the 1-1000 ng/L range but some
110	compounds like carbamazepine were found above this range. Another study detected
111	antibiotics in WWTP effluents at concentrations up to 3,400 ng/L, while rivers typically had
112	low ng/L concentrations (but a maximum of 2,000 ng/L) (Watkinson et al. 2009).

For this study, 285 grab water samples were collected from 73 river sites across Australia
every quarter over a one-year period. Samples were concentrated using solid phase extraction
(SPE) and specific TrOCs analyzed by liquid chromatography tandem mass spectrometry
(LC-MS/MS). The objective was to assess the risk of TrOCs to the environment by
determining their concentrations in impacted freshwater environments to better understand
the relationship between land-use activities and aquatic contamination.
2. Experimental section
2.1. Site selection
Sites were selected after extensive consultation with academics, regulators and water industry
partners. Sample locations consisted of 19 sites each in New South Wales (NSW),
Queensland (QLD), and Victoria (VIC), 10 sites in Western Australia (WA), and three sites
each in the Northern Territory (NT) and South Australia (SA) (Fig. 1). Sampling locations
(Fig. 1) reflect the fact that most Australians live in close proximity to the coast and the
center of the continent receives little rain. Sites were categorized based on the primary land-
use activity upstream in the catchment. Sites were rarely influenced by just one land-use and
so the dominant land-use dictated site categorization. Detailed catchment information can be
found in SI Table S1. Freshwater aquatic environments in catchments with agricultural,
industrial, residential and WWTP activities were selected, along with sites in catchments with
less anthropogenic influences (i.e., "undeveloped" or "reference" sites) from each
state/territory (Table 1). QLD consisted of five undeveloped sites, while NSW and VIC both
had three. NT, SA and WA had only one undeveloped site per territory/state. Other land-uses

137 [INSERT FIG 1 HERE]

had to be prioritized due to a smaller number of sampling locations.

138	
139	[INSERT TABLE 1 HERE]
140	
141	2.2. Water sampling
142	Grab river water sampling started at the project commencement and samples were obtained
143	every three months, in Autumn (May 2011), Winter (August 2011), Spring (November 2011)
144	and Summer (February 2012) from each site (with the exception of NT sites, which were
145	only sampled twice, due to in-kind service personnel relocation) (Table 1). Two solvent-
146	rinsed 1 L amber glass bottles were submerged to approximately 20-30 cm depth in fast
147	flowing water as far towards the centre of the channel as possible from the water's edge in
148	order to collect 2 L grab water samples. To prevent biological degradation, 1.5 mL of 12 M
149	HCl (Merck, Victoria, Australia) was added to each bottle to lower the pH to approximately
150	2. Samples were packaged with ice blocks and sent by overnight courier to the laboratory for
151	solid-phase extraction (SPE). Geographic location and budgetary constraints made field
152	blanks unfeasible; however, one laboratory blank was generated for each sampling event.
153	
154	2.3. General water quality parameters
155	Basic water chemistry (dissolved oxygen, electrical conductivity, pH, temperature) was
156	measured in the field for each sample prior to acidification (SI Table S2). To minimize risk of
157	contamination, a small volume of water from each sample was decanted into a small vial for
158	determination of nitrate and nitrite concentrations with Hach AquaChek Nitrate Nitrite strips
159	(Notting Hill, Australia). Total chlorine, free chlorine, total hardness, total alkalinity and pH
160	were then measured using Hach AquaChek 5-in-1 strips (Notting Hill, Australia) following
161	the manufacturer's instructions (SI Table S2), and the decanted sample was discarded.

162	Stream flow data were not available at the time of sampling; however, rainfall (and
163	atmospheric temperature) data were obtained for one week prior to sampling (SI Table S2).
164	
165	2.4. Solid-phase extraction (SPE)
166	Upon arrival in the laboratory, water samples were adjusted to precisely pH 2 using 12 M
167	HCl and extracted within 24 h. Samples were vacuum filtered through 2 μm glass fibre filters
168	(47 mm diameter; Millipore, Kilsyth, Australia). One L of sample was passed through a
169	preconditioned SPE cartridge (Oasis HLB SPE cartridges; 500 mg sorbent, 6 cc; Waters,
170	Rydalmere, Australia) at 10 mL/min. Cartridges were pre-conditioned with 2× 5 mL of
171	acetone: hexane (1: 1) (analytical reagent grade; Merck, Victoria, Australia) followed by 2× 5
172	mL methanol (analytical reagent grade; Labscan, Thailand) and finally 2× 5 mL distilled
173	water. After passing the full water sample, the SPE cartridges were dried under vacuum at 20
174	mmHg for 2 h (or until dry). Dried cartridges were wrapped in aluminium foil and stored at
175	4°C until elution (up to two weeks). A polar fraction was eluted with 2× 5 mL methanol and a
176	non-polar fraction was eluted with 2×5 mL acetone: hexane (1: 1). This was repeated for the
177	second 1 L bottle. Fractions from both cartridges were combined and evaporated under
178	nitrogen until dry and immediately reconstituted into 1 mL methanol for chemical analysis.
179	One laboratory blank was generated for each sampling event.
180	
181	2.5. Liquid chromatography
182	TrOCs were selected for monitoring based on their occurrence in WWTP effluents and
183	environmental waters, availability of deuterated standards and previously established
184	methods. Analytes were separated using an Agilent (Palo Alto, CA, USA) 1200 series high
185	performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) system equipped with a 150 \times 4.6 mm, 5 μm
186	particle size, Luna C18(2) column (Phenomenex, Torrence CA, USA). A binary gradient

consisting of 5 mM ammonium acetate in water (A) and 100% methanol (B) at a flow rate of
$800~\mu L/min$ was used. For ESI positive analyses, the gradient was as follows: $10\%~B$ held for
0.50 min, stepped to 50% B at 0.51 min and increased linearly to 100% B at 8 min, then held
at 100% B for 2 min. For ESI negative analyses, the gradient was as follows: 10% B held for
$0.50 \ \mathrm{min}$, stepped to $60\% \ \mathrm{B}$ at $0.51 \ \mathrm{min}$ and increased linearly to $100\% \ \mathrm{B}$ at $8 \ \mathrm{min}$, then held
at 100% B for 3 min. A 5 min equilibration step at 10% B was used at the beginning of each
run. For APCI analysis the eluents consisted of milli-Q grade water (A) and 0.1% v/v formic
acid in methanol with the following ramp at a flow rate of 700 μ L/min: 60% B held for 5
min, increased linearly to 100% B at 20 min, then held at 100% B for 3 min. A 3 min
equilibrium step preceded injection. An injection volume of 10 μL was used for all methods.
Analytical methods using electrospray ionization (ESI) were based on Vanderford and
Snyder (2006).

2.6. Mass spectrometry

Mass spectrometry was performed using an API 4000 triple quadrupole mass spectrometer (Applied Biosystems, Foster City, CA, USA) equipped with a turbo-V ion source employed in both positive and negative electro-spray modes. Using multiple reaction monitoring (MRM), two mass transitions for all but three of the analytes were monitored for unequivocal confirmation. One mass transition for the labeled internal standard was monitored. Only the first transition was used for quantification. Relative retention times of the analyte and isotopically labeled internal standard were also monitored to ensure correct identification. A table of transitions can be found in the Supplementary Information (SI Tables S3 and S4).

2.7. Calibration and limits of quantification

Standard solutions of all analytes were prepared at 1, 5, 10, 50, 100, 500 and 1000 ng/mL. A
relative response ratio of analyte/ internal standard over a 1-1000 ng concentration range was
generated enabling quantitation with correction for losses due to ion suppression. All
calibration curves had a correlation coefficient of 0.99 or better. The limits of quantification
(LOQs) were determined as an s/n ratio greater than 10.

2.8. Statistical analysis

California, USA).

When required, statistical analysis was performed using the Kruskal-Wallis nonparametric test, followed by Dunn's multiple comparison test, on Prism 5 software (GraphPad Software,

3. Results and discussion

223 3.1. Chemical analysis

The monitored TrOCs were found in 92% of samples, with a median of three compounds detected per sample (maximum of 18). In contrast, Kolpin et al. (2002) reported a median of seven chemical detects per sample and a maximum of 38 (out of 95) in a study that investigated many overlapping chemical classes. Focazio et al. (2008) indicated that a median of four chemicals detected per sample, with a maximum of 31 (out of 100) in surface water and groundwater. These studies used LC-MS with detections typically between 10-500 ng/L. The most chemically diverse sample had 45% of the targeted compounds compared to 40% found in a US study (Kolpin et al. 2002). However, a subsequent US-based surface water and groundwater study reported 63% of targeted TrOCs present in the most chemically complex sample (Focazio et al. 2008). Overall, the six most frequently detected compounds in this study were salicylic acid (82%), caffeine (65%; not analyzed in Spring sampling),

235	paracetamol (also known as acetaminophen; 45%; not analyzed in Spring sampling), TCEP
236	(44%), carbamazepine (27%) and triclosan (25%). Four compounds were detected at least
237	once at concentrations in excess of 1,000 ng/L: paracetamol (7,200 ng/L), simazine (3,900
238	ng/L), caffeine (3,800 ng/L) and salicylic acid (1,500 ng/L).
239	
240	[INSERT FIG 2 HERE]
241	
242	[INSERT TABLE 2 HERE]
243	
244	[INSERT TABLE 3 HERE]
245	
246	3.1.1. Land-use
247	The analytical methods were initially developed for wastewater contaminants such as
248	pharmaceuticals and personal care products (PPCPs). Of the five land-uses targeted, samples
249	collected downstream of WWTPs (n=50 out of 285) had the highest median number of
250	detections with 7 chemicals per sample (average = 6.5) although this was not significantly
251	different (Kruskal-Wallis test; p>0.05) from industrial, residential, or agricultural samples.
252	Industrial (n=28), residential (n=74) and agricultural (n=80) samples had medians of 6, 4 and
253	2 TrOCs per sample, respectively (averages of 6.2, 4.3 and 2.6 TrOCs respectively). Finally,
254	undeveloped sites had the lowest number of TrOCs with an average of 1.5 per sample
255	(median = 1); this value was significantly different (Kruskal-Wallis test; p<0.05) from other
256	land-uses. These results indicate that TrOCs are widespread across land-uses and not simply
257	in rivers receiving WWTP discharges. This may be due to the presence of septic tank
258	systems, leaking sewer lines, the result of combined sewer overflows into waterways

259	following intense wet weather events, or some other unknown source. There is clearly a need
260	for further research investigating TrOCs from other land-uses activities.
261	Fig. 2 (top) indicates that the top five most frequently detected compounds did not vary
262	greatly across the different land-uses. The most frequently detected TrOCs were: salicylic
263	acid, caffeine, paracetamol, TCEP, carbamazepine, triclosan, 2-phenylphenol and
264	propylparaben (Tables 2 and 3). Of those, salicylic acid (64-100%) and caffeine (34-90%)
265	were in the top five compounds for all land-use categories (Fig. 2, top). Caffeine is a common
266	wastewater contaminant and has occasionally been used as a marker compound for human
267	wastewater (Metcalfe et al. 2003). The prevalence of caffeine and PPCPs suggests
268	widespread (but low) wastewater pollution, from an unknown source(s), possibly septic tank
269	leakage, or sewage overflow during heavy rainfall, which was common in the sampling
270	period (SI Table S2). 3.1.2. Location
271	
272	3.1.2. Location
272273	3.1.2. Location Geographic location (Fig. 1, SI Table S2) was used to sort number of TrOCs per sample by
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273274275276	Geographic location (Fig. 1, SI Table S2) was used to sort number of TrOCs per sample by Australian state or territory. Samples from NT (n=6) had the highest average number of detections per sample (6.5 compounds per sample). NSW (n=76) had 4.4, WA (n=40) had 4.3, SA (n=12) had 4.2, and VIC (n=76) had 4.1 detections per sample. QLD samples (n=75)
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273 274 275 276 277 278 279 280	Geographic location (Fig. 1, SI Table S2) was used to sort number of TrOCs per sample by Australian state or territory. Samples from NT (n=6) had the highest average number of detections per sample (6.5 compounds per sample). NSW (n=76) had 4.4, WA (n=40) had 4.3, SA (n=12) had 4.2, and VIC (n=76) had 4.1 detections per sample. QLD samples (n=75) had the lowest national average with 2.7 compounds detected per sample. Salicylic acid was the most frequently detected compound in each state (Fig. 2, bottom) and detection frequencies varied from 61% in QLD to 100% in SA. It was interesting to see that salicylic acid was one of the most commonly detected compounds despite its relatively high

Qualitative assessment of the dataset indicated that most analytes had similar frequencies of
detection throughout all four sampling events with a few exceptions (Table 2). Primidone
was detected more frequently in Autumn (May-2011) and Spring (Nov-2011), compared to
Winter (Aug-2011) and Summer (Feb-2012). Phenytoin was found consistently in Autumn,
Winter and Spring (11, 15 and 13 times, respectively), but not once in Summer.
Propylparaben was detected 23 times in Spring, but not as often in other sampling events (0
times in Autumn; 3 times in Winter; 8 times in Summer). The biocide 2-phenylphenol was
only identified twice each in Autumn and Winter, seven times Spring, and 27 times in the
Summer. Australia, a continent the size of Europe, experiences vast climatic and seasonal
differences between states/territories and even between sites within states/territories.
Temperature can significantly influence WWTP removal efficiencies of TrOCs (Ternes et al.
1999), and rainfall can impact their dilution in receiving environments (Ternes 1998).
Analysis of chemical data sub-divided by land-use did not indicate any trends. Sites were
categorized based on the most influential point (e.g. WWTP) or non-point sources (e.g.
agricultural, industrial, or residential) and many had influence from multiple land-use
categories. The data suggest that the water quality does not necessarily reflect the dominant
proximal land-use influence.
3.1.4. Pharmaceuticals.
Six pharmaceuticals were detected in more than 10% of samples: salicylic acid (82%),
paracetamol (45%), carbamazepine (27%), primidone (14%), phenytoin (14%) and
gemfibrozil (11%). Nine pharmaceuticals were never detected (Table 2) and paracetamol and
salicylic acid were detected at concentrations above 1,000 ng/L.
Salicylic acid, the most frequently detected compound, is an important metabolite of
acetylsalicylic acid (aspirin), but is also a plant hormone and can be found in many species,

309	most notably in willow tree bark (Krantz et al. 2010, National Center for Biotechnology
310	Information 1999). Willows are a pest species in many Australian waterways and may partly
311	explain the broad presence of salicylic acid in this study. Salicylic acid is relatively non-toxic
312	to aquatic wildlife with a predicted no effect concentration (PNEC) usually ranging from
313	60,000 - 170,000 ng/L (Schowanek and Webb 2002, Wang et al. 2010), and the
314	concentrations reported here represent a negligible risk. Many metabolites and degradation
315	products exhibit toxicological effects (Lambropoulou and Nollet, 2014), so further research
316	into these chemical products is required.
317	Paracetamol was detected in 45% of the samples, with a maximum of 7,150 ng/L (the highest
318	concentration in this entire study). In two USA studies, maximum concentrations ranged
319	from 160-10,000 ng/L (Focazio et al. 2008, Kolpin et al. 2002). With a PNEC of 9,200 ng/L
320	(Schowanek and Webb 2002), our data suggests that paracetamol represents a low risk in
321	Australian rivers, although it should be highlighted that the highest concentration detected
322	provided only a narrow margin of safety (Table 3).
323	The next most common pharmaceutical was carbamazepine, an anticonvulsant, with a
324	frequency of 27% and a maximum of 682 ng/L (Table 3). In a USA surface water and
325	groundwater study, the frequency of detection was 22% and the maximum concentration was
326	200 ng/L (Focazio et al. 2008). However, in an EU-wide study of surface waters,
327	carbamazepine was detected more frequently (95%) with a maximum concentration ~20×
328	higher (Loos et al. 2009). Carbamazepine was one of five most frequently detected
329	compounds in each land-use category, except for undeveloped. It was found most commonly
330	in NSW and VIC. The PNEC for carbamazepine is 500 ng/L (Agerstrand and Ruden 2010),
331	suggesting that while there is little cause for concern in most situations, carbamazepine may
332	pose a risk to the receiving environment at some sites (carbamazepine was above 500 ng/L in
333	five out of 285 measurements, i.e., 1.7% of samples). Phenytoin (an antiepileptic also known

334	as dilantin) and primidone (an anticonvulsant) had maximum concentrations of 145 and 259
335	ng/L, respectively (Table 3). In four USA streams, concentrations of phenytoin ranged from
336	3.7–391 ng/L (Snyder et al. 2007), while the maximum concentration in Japanese river water
337	was 51 ng/L (Komori et al. 2013). Primidone was found in 10 German rivers at
338	concentrations ranging from 10–594 ng/L, but typical concentrations were >300 ng/L
339	(Hummel et al. 2006). In Japan, primidone was detected with a maximum concentration of 38
340	ng/L (Komori et al. 2013). Both phenytoin and primidone are relatively non-toxic to aquatic
341	organisms with PNECs of >100,000 ng/L (Komori et al. 2013), suggesting that the
342	concentrations found in this study are unlikely to be of environmental concern.
343	Gemfibrozil (an antiepileptic; LOQ = 5 ng/L) had a maximum concentration of 213 ng/L and
344	a detection frequency of 11% (Table 3). In comparison, it was detected 3.5% of the time in
345	one US-wide study (with a maximum concentration of 790 ng/L; LOQ = 15 ng/L) (Kolpin et
346	al. 2002), and not at all in a follow-up study (LOQ = 15 ng/L; Focazio et al. 2008). However,
347	gemfibrozil was found more frequently in a European study (35%; LOQ = 1 ng/L), which
348	also reported a higher maximum concentration of 900 ng/L (Loos et al. 2009). While the
349	maximum concentration is less than in other studies, the detection frequency is in a similar
350	range. With a PNEC of 1,000 ng/L (Wang et al. 2010), the concentrations detected here
351	represent negligible risk.
352	Sulfamethoxazole, an antibiotic often used in combination with trimethoprim (another
353	antibiotic), was detected in nine percent of samples, with a maximum concentration of 67
354	ng/L (Table 3). Four samples had concentrations that exceeded the PNEC of 26.8 ng/L
355	(Agerstrand and Ruden 2010), while two additional samples were close. Further effects
356	monitoring at the most polluted sites would help assess the environmental risk of
357	sulfamethoxazole.

Although trimethoprim was only detected in 5% of samples, it was present at the sixth overall
highest concentration (657 ng/L; Table 3). It was detected more frequently (12.5%) and had a
higher maximum concentration of 710 ng/L in a US study (Kolpin et al. 2002). However,
another US study had a much lower maximum concentration (20 ng/L) (Focazio et al. 2008).
With a comparatively high PNEC of 180,000 ng/L (Halling-Sorensen et al. 2000), the
concentrations of trimethoprim detected here are unlikely to cause direct environmental
effects, however indirect antibiotic resistance could be a potential problem.
3.1.5. Personal care products (PCPs)
Caffeine was the most commonly detected PCP, occurring in 65% of samples, followed by
triclosan (25%) and propylparaben (12%). Caffeine was the second most common TrOC in
this study (median = 19 ng/L) and had the third highest reported concentration overall (3,770
ng/L; Table 3). The maximum concentration was measured in a NSW industrial sample.
There were seven other samples with caffeine concentrations above 1,000 ng/L; four
residential, three industrial and one WWTP samples. The maximum concentration of caffeine
falls between that reported in Focazio et al. (2008) (270 ng/L) and Kolpin et al. (2002) (6,000
ng/L). All three mentioned maximums fall significantly short of 39,813 ng/L reported in a
European surface water sample (Loos et al. 2009). The frequency of detection for caffeine
corresponded closely with that reported in Kolpin et al (2002) (71%). With a PNEC for
caffeine of 5,200 ng/L (Komori et al. 2013), caffeine generally poses a low risk, although it
should be noted that some of the data points above 1,000 ng/L only leave a slim margin of
safety.
Triclosan, a widely used broad spectrum antibacterial compound, was the second most
commonly detected PCP (25%), with a maximum concentration of 87 ng/L. Kolpin et al.
(2002) detected triclosan in 57% of samples with a maximum concentration of 2,300 ng/L

383	and a median concentration of 140 ng/L. Triclosan was also found in wild fish in WWTP
384	effluent receiving environments in Sweden at concentrations up to 0.90 mg/kg fresh weight
385	of bile (Adolfsson-Erici et al. 2002). New evidence suggests that the risk from exposure to
386	triclosan could be underestimated and as such, the PNEC of 500 ng/L (Perez et al. 2013) may
387	not be adequate. For instance, triclosan was found to negatively affect larval fathead minnow
388	(Pimephales promelas) swimming performance at 151 ng/L, an exposure concentration less
389	than twice the maximum concentration reported herein (87 ng/L; Table 3; Cherednichenko et
390	al. 2012). Drury et al. (2013) reported that sediment triclosan concentrations (a maximum
391	concentration of 107 ± 18 ng/g) were directly proportional to the relative abundance of
392	resistant bacteria. In light of this information, some triclosan concentrations in Australian
393	rivers may pose considerable risk to aquatic organisms.
394	Propylparaben which is both a natural substance and a PCP, was the third most commonly
395	detected PCP (12%) with a maximum concentration of 218 ng/L (Table 3). The maximum
396	concentration reported is much less than that found in Spanish surface waters (32,000 ng/L)
397	(Regueiro et al. 2009), while another Spanish study did not detect propylparaben in surface
398	waters (<5 ng/L) (Pedrouzo et al. 2009). A UK study reported a maximum concentration of
399	11 ng/L in surface waters (Kasprzyk-Hordern et al. 2008). With a PNEC of approximately
400	20,000 ng/L (Yamamoto et al. 2011), the risk of propylparaben to the Australian aquatic
401	environment appears negligible.
402	Triclocarban, used as an anti-bacterial and anti-fungal disinfectant in soaps and other
403	household products, was detected in one percent of the samples, with a maximum
404	concentration of 58 ng/L. A PNEC of 190 ng/L was recently derived for triclocarban (Tamura
405	et al. 2012). A LOEC of 130 ng/L (NOEC of 60 ng/L) was previously reported for
406	Mysidopsis bahia reproduction rate (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 2008). There is
407	limited information about the occurrence of triclocarban in the environment in general,

408	compared to triclosan. Halden and Paull (2005) predicted mean and median concentrations of
409	213 and 109 ng/L, respectively, in US streams, which warrants further chemical monitoring
410	efforts.
411	DEET was analyzed but results were not presented due to concerns that some LC-MS/MS
412	methods, including ours, may overestimate DEET concentrations due to an unidentified
413	natural substance that is being incorrectly measured as DEET (Snyder, pers. comm.). A more
414	robust chemical analysis methodology for DEET may be required to accurately quantify this
415	compound in the environment.
416	
417	3.1.6. Industrial compounds
418	The flame retardant TCEP was the only industrial compound examined. TCEP was detected
419	in 44% of samples, with a maximum concentration of 184 ng/L (detected in a SA sample
420	downstream of a WWTP; Table 3). Similarly, Kolpin et al. (2002) detected TCEP in 60% of
421	samples, but reported significantly higher maximum and median concentrations (54,000
422	ng/L, 100 ng/L). Focazio et al. (2008) detected TCEP in 20% of samples, but concentrations
423	were less than the quantification limit (500 ng/L). Mean and maximum concentrations of 203
424	ng/L and 2,019 ng/L, respectively, were found in five German rivers (Quednow and
425	Puttmann 2009). While it was frequently detected, TCEP poses a negligible risk considering
426	its PNEC of 65,000 ng/L (Quednow and Puttmann 2009).
427	
428	3.1.7. Pesticides
429	Pesticides were not commonly detected in our water samples. As of 2002, simazine (LOQ = 5
430	ng/L) and atrazine (LOQ = 5 ng/L) were the most widely used herbicides in Australia
431	(Radcliffe, 2002), however they were only detected in 14% and 11% of samples,
432	respectively. The fungicide 2-phenylphenol (LOQ = 10 ng/L) was detected in 13% of

433	samples, although it was not among the most frequently used fungicides in Australia
434	(Radcliffe 2002). Linuron (LOQ = 5 ng/L), which has the same mode of action as atrazine
435	and simazine, has also been used frequently in Australia, but was only detected in three
436	percent of samples; predominantly in agricultural samples (66% of detections). Chlorpyrifos
437	(LOQ = 5 ng/L) and diazinon $(LOQ = 5 ng/L)$ have been the most widely used insecticides in
438	Australia (Radcliffe, 2002); but despite its wide use, chlorpyrifos was detected only twice at
439	very low concentrations (5 ng/L) and diazinon was never detected. Trifluralin was not
440	detected either (LOQ = 150 ng/L), despite its wide use as a pre-emergent control for weeds
441	(Radcliffe, 2002). It is, however, important to note that chlorpyrifos, diazinon and trifluralin
442	were only analyzed in the Spring sampling event.
443	Simazine had a maximum concentration of 3,930 ng/L (Table 3), which exceeded the PNEC
444	of 3,200 ng/L derived using the 95 th percentile and may pose a risk (ANZECC/ARMCANZ
445	2000). However it should be noted that it was only exceeded in one sampling event. The
446	maximum concentration was also higher than those found in different studies in Australia, the
447	US and Europe. An Australian study of 39 WWTP effluents reported a maximum
448	concentration for simazine of 1,727 ng/L (Allinson et al. 2012). A European survey of river
449	waters reported a detection frequency of 26%, a maximum concentration of 169 ng/L and an
450	average concentrations of 10 ng/L (Loos et al. 2009). An EU ground water survey reported a
451	higher detection frequency of 43% but a lower maximum concentration of 127 ng/L and an
452	average of 7 ng/L (Loos et al. 2010). In a US shallow groundwater study of 1,034 sites,
453	simazine had a detection frequency of 18% and a maximum concentration of 1,300 ng/L
454	(Kolpin et al. 1998), while a surface water study including 151 water samples from 71
455	streams (and five reservoirs) detected simazine in $7-47\%$ of samples (depending on sample
456	type) and a maximum concentration of 14,150 ng/L, while median concentrations were all
457	below the reporting limit (<50 ng/L; Battaglin et al. 2003).

The maximum concentration for 2-phenylphenol (92 ng/L) occurred in a sample collected
downstream of a WWTP in VIC. This concentration was lower than the sole concentration
measured from 39 different WWTP effluent samples in the same state (240 ng/L) (Allinson et
al. 2012). A PNEC of 900 ng/L was determined using a reproduction test with Daphnia
magna (Bayer 2001), which results in a Hazard Quotient (HQ) of 0.1 for 2-phenylphenol.
This indicates that there may be cause for concern at the maximum concentration.
Atrazine was detected in 11% of samples, with a maximum concentration of 209 ng/L (Table
3). Kolpin et al. (1998) reported a much higher detection frequency (38%) and maximum
concentration (3,600 ng/L). In Europe, a detection frequency of 68%, a maximum
concentration of 46 ng/L and an average concentration of 3 ng/L were reported in surface
waters (Loos et al. 2009). Atrazine was detected in 56% of groundwater samples in Europe
with a maximum concentration of 253 ng/L and an average of 8 ng/L (Loos et al. 2010).
Atrazine was detected twice in WWTP effluents from across VIC with a maximum
concentration of 63 ng/L (Allinson et al. 2012). Interestingly, Australian WWTP effluent
contained less atrazine than river waters investigated in this study, again clearly indicating
that pesticides are likely to be attributable to other activities (such as agriculture, road
maintenance, etc). Atrazine has a PNEC of 13,000 ng/L (ANZECC/ARMCANZ 2000) and as
such, the maximum concentration of 209 ng/L is unlikely to be cause for concern, although
sampling design did not take into account run-off events, when environmental concentrations
could be elevated. Furthermore, there is still a vigorous scientific debate about its potential
endocrine effects (APVMA 2008).
It should be noted that we only measured a small number of pesticides, and that there is a
large and growing body of literature on many different types of pesticides detected in
Australian rivers (e.g., Allinson et al. 2012; Church et al. 2004; Davis et al. 2008; Lewis et al.
2009: Sanchez-Bayo and Hyne 2014: Schäfer et al. 2011).

windows.

483	
484	3.2. Conclusions
485	A median of three TrOCs out of 42 was detected per sample, with a maximum of 18. The six
486	most frequently detected compounds in this study were: salicylic acid (82%), caffeine (65%),
487	paracetamol (45%), TCEP (44%), carbamazepine (27%) and triclosan (25%). Most
488	pharmaceutical detected were at concentrations posing negligible risk. However,
489	carbamazepine and sulfamethoxazole exceeded their PNECs five and four times each,
490	respectively. Maximum concentrations of other pharmaceuticals (fluoxetine, gemfibrozil,
491	naproxen, paracetamol) and PCPs (caffeine, triclocarban and triclosan) left only small
492	margins of safety when compared to their respective PNECs. The pesticide simazine
493	exceeded its PNEC in one sample, indicating potential risk. Chlorpyrifos, linuron and 2-
494	phenylphenol concentrations were below their respective PNECs, but had thin margins of
495	safety. TCEP was commonly detected but unlikely to be cause for concern.
496	
497	3.3. Limitations and future research
498	The PNEC values used to calculate Hazard Quotients (HQs) and margins of safety were
499	based on international studies, and it is unclear at this stage whether those levels would
500	protect the unique Australian wildlife. Further work is needed to establish PNECs specific to
501	the Australian environment.
502	The analytical issues with DEET and salicylic acid need to be overcome in the future to
503	determine the actual impact that anthropogenic use of these chemicals have on the
504	environment. This study relied on grab sampling, and further studies with composite or
505	passive sampling techniques may provide a better measure of concentrations over longer time

507	This study measured "only" 42 TrOCs and many more are likely present in the Australian
508	environment, including environmental transformation products. While most compounds were
509	present below PNEC values, their potential for interaction and mixture toxicity needs to be
510	investigated using effects based assessment (e.g., using in vitro and in vivo techniques).
511	Finally, in situ studies at the most polluted sites identified would help determine if the PNEC
512	exceedances reported lead to significant environmental disturbances.
513	
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526	
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Figure	titles	-
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Figure 1 - Location of sampling sites across mainland Australia. State and territory capitals are depicted by white stars, while black circles represent sampling locations. The population density graph was obtained from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (2012).

Figure 2. (top) Frequency of detection for the five most detected compounds for each land-use. Salicylic acid and caffeine were the most and second most commonly detected compounds in each land-use. (bottom) Frequency of detection for the five most detected compounds in each state. Salicylic acid and caffeine were again the first and second most detected compounds, respectively, in all six states and territories. Numbers in brackets represent the total number of samples analyzed for the respective compound. "TCEP" = tris(2-Chloroethyl) phosphate.

Tables –

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Table 1. The number of samples collected during the four separate sampling events and the dominant land-use at each site. WWTP = wastewater treatment plant.

Dominant adjoining	Autumn	Winter	Spring	Summer		
land-use	May-11	Aug-11	Nov-11	Feb-12		
Agricultural	20	20	20	20		
Industrial	7	7	7	7		
Residential	19	19	18	18		
WWTP	13	13	12	12		
Undeveloped	14	14	12	13		
Total	73	73	69	70		

Table 2. Chemical limit of quantification (LOQ) and number of detections above the LOQ throughout four sampling events during a one-year period for targeted trace organic pollutants (TrOCs). "CASRN" = Chemical Abstracts Service Registry Number; "NA" = not analyzed; "NR" = not reported (DEET only).

				Detection Frequency (%)			
				Autumn	Winter	Spring	Summer
			LOQ	May-11	Aug-11	Nov-11	Feb-12
Contaminant	CASRN	Use	(ng/L)	n=73	n=73	n=69	n=70
Industrial compound							
tris(2-Chloroethyl) phosphate (TCEP)	115-96-8	flame retardant	10	33	42	45	56
Pharmaceuticals							
Amitriptyline	50-48-6	antidepressant	10	0	3	3	0
Atenolol	29122-68-7	beta blocker	5	7	7	4	9
Atorvastatin	134523-00-5	antilipidemic	5	0	NA	NA	NA
o-Hydroxy atorvastatin	265989-46-6	atorvastatin metabolite	5	7	NA	NA	NA
p-Hydroxy atorvastatin	214217-86-6	atorvastatin metabolite	5	5	NA	NA	NA
Carbamazepine	298-46-4	anticonvulsant	5	25	33	25	27
Clozapine	5786-21-0	antipsychotic	5	3	7	1	3
Diazepam	439-14-5	benzodiazepine tranquilizer	5	0	1	0	1
Enalapril	75847-73-3	angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor	10	0	NA	NA	0
Fluoxetine	54910-89-3	selective serotonin uptake inhibitor	5	1	1	3	1
Gemfibrozil	25812-30-0	antilipidemic	5	10	16	10	6
Hydroxyzine	68-88-2	antihistamine	10	0	NA	0	0
Ibuprofen	15687-27-1	anti-inflammatory	5	7	5	3	3
Ketoprofen	22071-15-4	anti-inflammatory	10	0	0	0	0
Meprobamate	57-53-4	anti-anxiety agent	10	0	NA	0	0

Methotrexate	21672	antifolate	50	NA	NA	0	NA
Naproxen	22204-53-1	anti-inflammatory	5	4	4	4	1
Omeprazole	73590-58-6	antigastroesophageal reflux	5	0	1	0	0
Paracetamol	103-90-2	antipyretic	5	38	47	NA	50
Phenytoin	57-41-0	antiepileptic	5	16	21	19	0
Primidone	125-33-7	anticonvulsant	5	22	8	16	10
Risperidone	106266-06-2	antipsychotic	5	0	0	0	0
Salicylic acid	69-72-7	antiacne, acetylsalicylic acid metabolite	20	78	64	100	86
Simvastatin	79902-63-9	antilipidemic	5	0	0	0	0
Simvastatin-hydroxyacid	121009-77-6	simvastatin metabolite	5	0	0	0	0
Sulfamethoxazole	723-46-6	antibiotic	5	11	10	10	4
Triamterene	396-01-0	for hypertension and edema	5	0	1	3	0
Trimethoprim	738-70-5	antibiotic	5	5	7	4	3
Verapamil	52-53-9	antiarrhythmic	5	0	1	1	0
Personal care products							
Caffeine	1958-08-02	stimulant	10	71	49	NA	76
<i>N,N</i> -Diethyl- <i>meta</i> -toluamide (DEET)*	134-62-3	insect repellent	5	NR*	NR*	NR*	NR*
Propylparaben	94-13-3	preservative	10	0	4	33	11
Triclocarban	101-20-2	antibacterial	10	0	0	6	0
Triclosan	3380-34-5	antibacterial	10	33	19	22	26
Pesticides							
Atrazine	1912-24-9	herbicide	5	5	16	9	13
Chlorpyrifos	2921-88-2	insecticide	5	NA	NA	3	NA
Diazinon	333-41-5	insecticide	5	NA	NA	0	NA
Linuron	330-55-2	herbicide	5	1	4	4	3
2-Phenylphenol	90-43-7	biocide	10	3	3	10	39
Simazine	122-34-9	herbicide	5	NA	NA	10	17

Trifluralin	1582-09-8 herbicide	150	NA	NA	0	NA

*Not reported, see section 3.1.5 for more information.



Table 3. Summary of the monitoring data of trace organic compounds from 285 samples, spanning 73 locations across mainland Australia, with four sampling events over a one-year period. "NA" = Not available. Compounds with a hazard quotient >0.1 are highlighted in bold.

Compound	# samples analyzed (n)	Detection frequency (%)	Mean ± SE (ng/L)	50 th percentile (ng/L)	95 th percentile (ng/L)	Maximum value (ng/L)	Predicted No Effect Concentrations (PNEC)* (ng/L)	Hazard Quotient (Max/PNEC)
Industrial compound								
tris(2-Chloroethyl) phosphate (TCEP)	285	44%	19 ± 2	<10	89	184	65,000 ^a	0.0028
Pharmaceuticals								
Amtriptyline	285	1%	<10	<10	<10	62	2500 ^b	0.025
Atenolol	285	7%	<5	<5	7	133	10,000 ^c	0.013
Atorvastatin	73	0	<5	<5	<5	<5	24,000 ^b	< 0.00021
o-Hydroxy atorvastatin	73	7%	<5	<5	7	20	NA	NA
p-Hydroxy atorvastatin	73	5%	<5	<5	7	34	NA	NA
Carbamazepine	285	27%	30 ± 6	<5	171	682	500 b	1.4
Clozapine	285	4%	<5	<5	<5	90	16,000 ^d	0.0056
Diazepam	285	1%	<5	<5	<5	8	4,300 ^e	0.0019
Enalapril	212	0	<10	<10	<10	<10	180,000 ^b	< 0.00006
Fluoxetine	285	2%	<5	<5	<5	22	47 ^b	0.47
Gemfibrozil	285	11%	7 ± 1	<5	15	213	1,000 ^f	0.21
Hydroxyzine	212	0	<10	<10	<10	<10	[3,900 ^g]	< 0.0025
Ibuprofen	285	5%	<5	<5	<5	44	1,650 ^b	0.027
Ketoprofen	285	0	<10	<10	<10	<10	2,000 ^h	< 0.005
Meprobamate	212	0	<10	<10	<10	<10	NA	NA

Methotrexate	69	0	<50	<50	<50	<50	45,000 ⁱ	< 0.0011
Naproxen	285	4%	<5	<5	<5	347	640 ^b	0.54
Omeprazole	285	< 1%	<5	<5	<5	5	[210 ^j]	0.024
Paracetamol	216	45%	85 ± 38	<5	271	7,150	9,200 ^k	0.78
Phenytoin	285	14%	8 ± 1	<5	32	145	>100,000 1	< 0.0015
Primidone	285	14%	6 ± 1	<5	18	259	>100,000 1	< 0.0025
Risperidone	212	0	<5	<5	<5	<5	[690 ^m]	< 0.0073
Salicylic acid	285	82%	82 ± 9	42	278	1,530	60,000 ^f	0.025
Simvastatin	285	0	<5	<5	<5	<5	9,600 ^b	< 0.0005
Simvastatin-hydroxyacid	285	0	<5	<5	<5	<5	NA	NA
Sulfamethoxazole	284	9%	<5	<5	10	67	26.8 b	2.5
Triamterene	285	1%	<5	<5	<5	14	[1,900 ⁿ]	0.0074
Trimethoprim	285	5%	5 ± 2	<5	<5	657	180,000 °	0.0037
Verapamil	284	1%	<5	<5	<5	36	54,000 ^b	0.00067
ersonal care products								
Caffeine	216	65%	130 ± 28	19	453	3,770	5,200 ¹	0.73
DEET**	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Propylparaben	285	12%	<10	<10	20	218	20,000 ^p	0.011
Triclocarban	285	1%	<10	<10	<10	58	190 ^q	0.31
Triclosan	285	25%	<10	<10	24	87	500 ^r	0.17
esticides								
Atrazine	285	11%	5 ± 1	<5	12	209	13,000 ^s	0.017
Chlorpyrifos	69	3%	<5	<5	<5	5	10 ^s	0.5
Diazinon	69	0	<5	<5	<5	<5	10 ^s	< 0.5
Linuron	285	3%	<5	<5	<5	72	500 ^t	0.14
2-Phenylphenol	285	13%	<10	<10	19	92	900 ^u	0.10
Simazine	139	14%	52 ± 29	<5	122	3,930	3,200 s	1.2

Trifluralin	69	0	<150	<150	<150	<150	2,600 °	< 0.058

^aQuednow and Puttmann 2009 ^bAgerstrand and Ruden 2010 ^cDerived based on no observable effect concentration (NOEC) for condition index in fathead minnow of 1 mg/L, as reported in Winter et al. (2008) with an uncertainty factor (UF) of 100 ^dEscher et al. 2011 ^eCarlsson et al. 2006 ^fWang et al. 2010 ^gDerived based on EC₅₀ for green algae (96h) of 3.9 mg/L, as calculated by ECOSAR, with a UF of 1000 ^hDerived based on EC₅₀ for growth inhibition of *P. subcapitata* of 2 mg/L, as reported in Harada et al. 2008, with a UF of 1000 ⁱDerived based on EC₅₀ for growth inhibition of *T. pyriformis* of 45 mg/L, as reported in Henschel et al. 1997, with a UF of 1000 ^jDerived based on EC₅₀ for green algae (96h) of 0.21 mg/L, as calculated by ECOSAR, with a UF of 1000 ^kSchowanek and Webb 2002 ^lKomori et al. 2013 ^mDerived based on EC₅₀ for green algae (96h) of 0.69 mg/L, as calculated by ECOSAR, with a UF of 1000 ⁿDerived based on LC₅₀ for daphnid (48h) of 1.9 mg/L, as calculated by ECOSAR, with a UF of 1000 ^oHalling-Sorensen et al. 2000 ^pYamamoto et al. 2011 ^qDerived from a NOEC based on an 8d chronic toxicity test with *C. dubia* reported in Tamura et al. (2012), with a UF of 10 ^fPerez et al. 2013 ^sANZECC/ARMCANZ 2000 95th percentile ^tCrane et al. 2007 ^uDerived from a NOEC based on a *D. magna* reproduction test in Bayer 2001, with a UF of 10 ^vANZECC/ARMCANZ 2000, 99th percentile

* low reliability PNEC derived from QSAR data are indicated in brackets, **Not reported, see section 3.1.5 for more information.

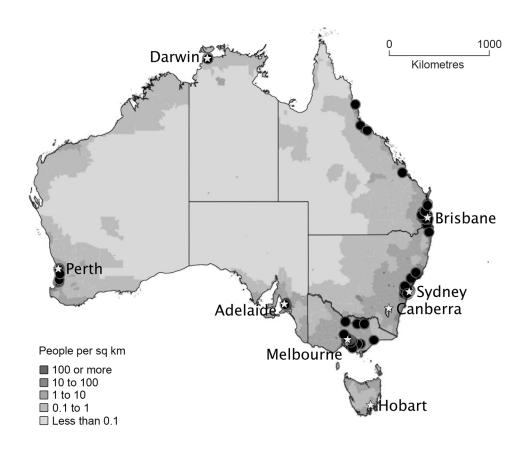


Figure 1 - Location of sampling sites across mainland Australia. State and territory capitals are depicted by white stars, while black circles represent sampling locations. The population density graph was obtained from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (2012).

285x240mm (150 x 150 DPI)

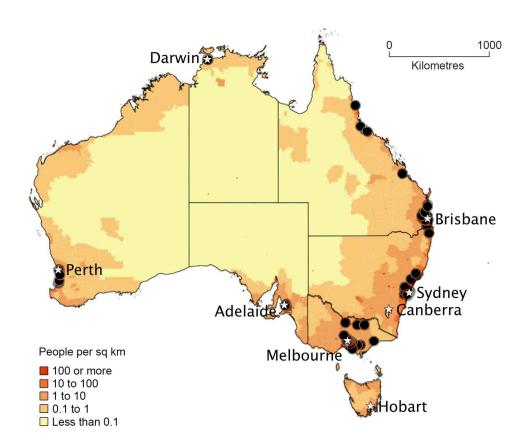


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285x240mm (150 x 150 DPI)

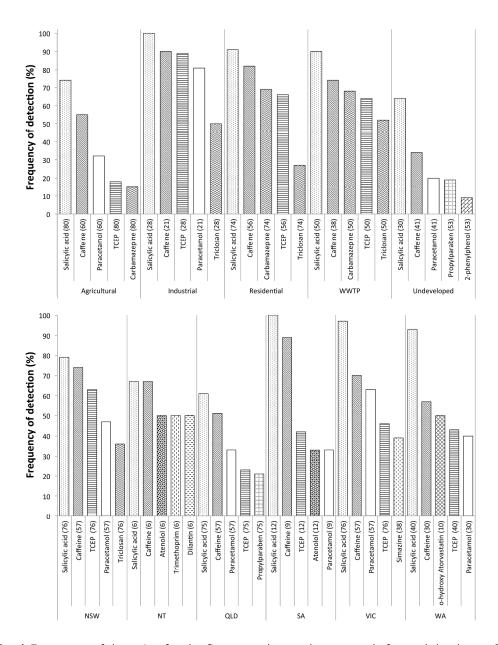


Figure 2. (top) Frequency of detection for the five most detected compounds for each land-use. Salicylic acid and caffeine were the most and second most commonly detected compounds in each land-use. (bottom) Frequency of detection for the five most detected compounds in each state. Salicylic acid and caffeine were again the first and second most detected compounds, respectively, in all six states and territories. Numbers in brackets represent the total number of samples analysed for the respective compound. "TCEP" = tris(2-Chloroethyl) phosphate.

255x327mm (300 x 300 DPI)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FOR

A national survey of trace organic contaminants in Australian

rivers

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Table S1. Catchment composition based on primary land-use. Catchment assessments were performed for each sampling site to assess the impact of agricultural, industrial, residential, wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) effluent, and undeveloped inputs at each sampling location. The dominant land-use was used for grouping.

Catchment composition (percent total catchment)										
Site	Agricultural	Industrial	Residential	WWTP	Undeveloped					
Agricultura	ıl sites (n=20)									
1	40	0	20	30	10					
2	70	10	10	10	0					
3	50	0	10	20	20					
4	60	0	0	0	40					
5	95	0	0	0	5					
6	90	0	10	0	0					
7	90	0	10	0	0					
8	80	20	0	0	0					
9	80	10	10	0	0					
10	80	0	10	0	10					
11	100	0	0	0	0					
12	100	0	0	0	0					
13	90	0	0	0	10					
14	80	0	20	0	0					
15	70	0	30	0	0					
16	100	0	0	0	0					
17	75	0	5	0	20					
18	70	0	30	0	0					
19	100	0	0	0	0					
20	60	0	0	0	40					
ndustrial s	ites (n=7)									
21	0	60	40	0	0					
22	0	80	20	0	0					
23	0	80	20	0	0					
24	0	80	20	0	0					
25	0	100	0	0	0					
26	0	100	0	0	0					
27	0	90	10	0	0					
Residential	sites (n=19)									
28	0	20	80	0	0					
29	0	20	60	20	0					
30	0	0	90	0	10					
31	0	0	100	0	0					
32	0	0	50	0	50					
33	0	5	65	0	30					
34	0	0	60	0	40					
35	0	20	80	0	0					
36	0	10	90	0	0					

37	0	30	70	0	0
38	0	20	80	0	0
39	0	20	80	0	0
40	0	0	100	0	0
41	0	0	100	0	0
42	20	0	60	0	20
43	0	20	80	0	0
44	0	0	80	0	20
45	0	20	80	0	0
46	0	0	80	0	20
WWTP sites ((n=13)				
47	0	0	0	60	40
48	15	5	30	50	0
49	5	15	40	40	0
50	0	10	40	50	0
51	0	20	20	60	0
52	20	0	0	60	20
53	0	0	0	100	0
54	20	0	20	50	10
55	20	0	0	60	20
56	30	0	0	70	0
57	20	0	0	80	0
58	0	0	0	80	20
59	30	0	0	60	10
Undeveloped	sites (n=14)				
60	0	0	10	0	90
61	10	0	10	0	80
62	20	0	0	0	80
63	0	0	10	0	90
64	20	0	10	0	70
65	0	0	0	0	100
66	0	0	0	0	100
67	0	0	10	0	90
68	30	0	0	30	40
69	40	0	0	0	60
70	0	0	0	0	100
71	0	0	0	0	100
72	0	10	0	0	90
73	0	0	10	0	90

Table S2. Basic water parameters and meteorological data. Ranges reported here are based on four sampling events. pH, water temperature, dissolved oxygen (DO) and electro-conductivity (EC) determined via multi-meter. Nitrate, nitrite, total chlorine, free chlorine, total hardness, total alkalinity, pH (Hach strip) all determined using Hach strips (Section 2.3). Average atmospheric temperature and total precipitation values calculated for the week prior to sampling day (data downloaded for the nearest weather station from the Australian Bureau of Meteorology). "NA" = not available.

Site Number	рН	Water temperature (ºC)	Dissolved oxygen (mg/L)	Electro- conductivity (μS/cm²)	Nitrate (ppm)	Nitrite (ppm)	Total chlorine (ppm)	Free chlorine (ppm)	Total hardness (ppm; CaCO₃)	Total alkalinity (ppm; CaCO₃)	pH (Hach strip)	Atmospheric temperature (°C)	Precipitation (mm)
New South	Wales												
1	7.1 - 7.9	14 - 25	8.2 - 10.1	182 - 243	0.15 - 0.5	0 - 1	0 - 0.01	0	50 - 120	40 - 80	6.8 - 7.2	9.8 - 21.7	1.4 - 66.4
2	7 - 7.8	15 - 26	7.7 -8 10.5	185 - 277	0 - 0.5	0 - 0.5	0 - 0.06	0	50 - 50	40 - 80	6.8 - 7.2	10.3 - 22.1	0.4 - 46.2
3	7.3 - 7.7	13.4 - 26.2	6.1 - 8.9	643 - 1421	0.15 - 1	0 - 1.5	0	0	7 - 120	80 - 120	7.2 - 7.6	10.3 - 22.1	0.4 - 46.2
4	7.2 - 8	13.9 - 23.2	6.3 - 8.5	185 - 1078	0 - 0.5	0.15 - 1.5	0	0	7 - 250	50 - 180	7.2 - 7.8	11.7 - 23.2	5.8 - 44.1
5	5.2 - 7.8	17.7 - 26.3	6.2 - 9.5	0 - 1262	0.15 - 2	0 - 1	0	0	50 - 120	40 - 120	6.8 - 7.2	14.5 - 21.5	1.2 - 72.4
6	7.1 - 8	22.4 - 24.1	4.3 - 8.3	200 - 325	0.15 - 0.5	0 - 1	0	0	50 - 50	40 - 80	6.8 - 7.8	9.2 - 23.6	2.6 - 82.2
7	6.9 - 7.8	15.4 - 22	4.5 - 9.3	63 - 4686	0 - 1	0 - 1	0	0	25 - 425	60 - 120	6.8 - 7.8	11.2 - 22.6	7.8 - 40.8
8	7.3 - 7.5	10.2 - 20.7	5.4 - 90	230 - 397	0 - 2	0 - 0.15	0	0	120 - 120	60 - 80	6.8 - 7.2	12 - 23.2	2 - 71
9	7.2 - 7.6	12.2 - 24.4	6.3 - 10.4	89 - 224	0.15 - 2	0 - 0.15	0	0	50 - 50	40 - 120	6.8 - 7.2	14.3 - 22.9	10.6 - 120.2
10	6.2 - 7.6	17 - 25.5	3.4 - 6.6	9 - 41	0.15 - 2	0 - 1	0	0	25 - 425	180 - 240	7.2 - 7.8	12.9 - 22.2	1.2 - 58.8
11	7.3 - 8.7	15 - 24	1.9 - 19.2	9 - 1055	0 - 2	0 - 1	0	0	25 - 425	120 - 240	7.2 - 8.4	11.7 - 20.8	8 - 63
12	6.9 - 7.9	17 - 25.2	1.9 - 8.3	16 - 47	0 - 2	0 - 0.15	0	0	25 - 425	120 - 240	6.8 - 7.8	12.9 - 22.2	1.2 - 58.8
13	7.1 - 7.7	12.5 - 21.2	2.3 - 8.7	102 - 977	0 - 1.5	0.15 - 0.65	0	0	50 - 250	120 - 240	6.8 - 7.6	20.6 - 21.1	67.4 - 74.4
14	7.2 - 7.5	11 - 22.7	1.6 - 6.6	685 - 1414	0 - 0.5	0.05 - 1	0	0	10 - 120	120 - 180	6.8 - 7.8	11.1 - 23.2	2.4 - 39.6
15	6.8 - 7.6	12.4 - 22	4.2 - 8.8	307 - 1038	0.15 - 3.5	0 - 0.5	0	0	120 - 250	40 - 240	7 - 7.8	11.1 - 21.8	6.4 - 60.4
16	7.1 - 8	10.8 - 22.5	7.1 - 10.8	60 - 148	0.15 - 1.5	0 - 1	0	0	25 - 50	20 - 100	6.8 - 7.2	12 - 20.3	41.4 - 109.4
17	6.9 - 7.6	11.1 - 26.8	8 - 10.4	75 - 121	0 - 1.5	0 - 0.5	0	0	25 - 50	20 - 40	6.8 - 7.2	10.9 - 23.7	0.6 - 51.6
18	5 - 6	10.1 - 18	9.1 - 10.7	138 - 172	0.15 - 1	0 - 0.5	0	0	25 - 50	20 - 40	6.2 - 7	11.1 - 20.6	0 - 83.6
19	6.4 - 7.7	11.3 - 20.9	9.1 - 10.9	109 - 171	0 - 0.15	0 - 1	0	0	25 - 85	40 - 80	6.8 - 6.8	11.1 - 20.6	0 - 83.6
Northern T	erritory												
20	7.2 - 7.2	25.6 - 25.6	NA	NA	1.5 - 1.5	0.23 - 2	0	0	50 - 120	120 - 180	7.8 - 8.4	0 - 31.2	0

21	7.1 - 7.7	27 - 27	5.3 - 6.9	NA	0.5 - 1.5	0.15 - 1	0	0	50 - 50	120 - 120	7.2 - 8.4	0 - 26.1	0 - 0.6
22	7.9 - 8.1	25.7 - 25.7	0.5 - 6.4	NA	0	0 - 1.5	0	0	25 - 425	180 - 220	7.8 - 7.9	0 - 25.7	0 - 0.6
Queenslan	d												
23	7.8 - 8.4	13.3 - 24.2	2.8 - 8.2	464 - 729	0 - 0.15	0 - 0.5	0	0	120 - 250	160 - 240	7.2 - 8.4	11.7 - 22.9	0 - 69.2
24	7.7 - 8.3	16 - 26.2	7.7 - 11.3	513 - 780	0 - 1	0 - 1	0	0	120 - 338	120 - 240	7.8 - 7.8	11.1 - 25.1	0 - 32.8
25	8.1 - 8.2	15.4 - 24.8	7.2 - 9.5	303 - 684	0 - 0.2	0 - 0.05	0	0	120 - 200	120 - 180	7.8 - 7.8	13.8 - 24.9	0.2 - 12.8
26	6.4 - 7.5	20.1 - 31.2	2.2 - 7.6	227 - 1049	0 - 1	0 - 0.15	0	0	120 - 250	80 - 240	6.8 - 8.4	19.1 - 28.4	0 - 155.2
27	6.1 - 6.8	20.2 - 27.5	7.7 - 8.5	38 - 41	0 - 1	0 - 1	0	0	0 - 25	0 - 80	6.2 - 6.8	19.2 - 28.4	0 - 230.5
28	7.5 - 8.6	20.4 - 29.4	8.1 - 9	237 - 729	0 - 1	0 - 0.5	0	0	50 - 250	180 - 240	7.8 - 8.4	16 - 27.6	0.2 - 86.2
29	7.9 - 8.3	14.8 - 26.6	6.1 - 13.5	452 - 1732	0 - 0.25	0 - 0.15	0	0	120 - 425	180 - 240	7.8 - 8.4	13.8 - 24.9	0.2 - 12.8
30	7.9 - 8.2	15.6 - 26	7.4 - 9.7	371 - 701	0 - 0.5	0 - 0.15	0	0	120 - 425	80 - 240	7.2 - 7.8	16.4 - 25.3	0 - 38.4
31	6.2 - 7.6	16.1 - 28.7	2.7 - 7.1	310 - 440	0 - 2	0 - 0.15	0	0	120 - 120	40 - 120	6.2 - 7.8	14.5 - 24.7	0 - 28.2
32	7.9 - 8.9	17.5 - 29.2	1.2 - 9	48 - 672	0 - 0	0 - 0.5	0	0	120 - 250	120 - 240	7.8 - 8.4	15.7 - 25.2	0 - 38.4
33	7.3 - 7.5	15.8 - 25.2	7.8 - 9.5	160 - 578	0.1 - 1	0 - 1	0	0	100 - 120	40 - 180	7 - 7.9	13.6 - 24.9	0 - 29.6
34	7.3 - 8	26.5 - 27.6	4.1 - 4.4	370 - 864	0.1 - 2	0 - 0.5	0	0	120 - 250	8 - 240	7.5 - 19.1	12.2 - 24.2	0 - 11.8
35	7.7 - 8.2	13 - 25.2	6 - 10.2	818 - 2309	0 - 0.15	0 - 0.05	0	0	250 - 425	240 - 240	7.8 - 8.4	14 - 25.2	0 - 48
36	6.3 - 7.7	22 - 30	2.4 - 7.1	69 - 278	0 - 0.15	0 - 0.15	0	0	25 - 75	40 - 120	6 - 6.8	20.9 - 27.8	0.2 - 74
37	6.8 - 8.2	21.9 - 26.3	5.6 - 10.2	45 - 100	0 - 0.15	0 - 0.5	0	0	25 - 50	40 - 240	7.2 - 7.2	19.1 - 28.3	0 - 126.6
38	7.7 - 8.9	15.2 - 25.8	9.4 - 10.3	57 - 70	0 - 0	0	0	0	25 - 120	40 - 40	6.8 - 7.8	14.8 - 24.7	4.8 - 14
39	4.9 - 7.8	28.7 - 29.1	5.1 - 8.2	70 - 1023	0.15 - 1	0 - 0.15	0	0	0 - 425	0 - 80	6.8 - 19.2	16.1 - 25.6	0 - 54.2
40	7.8 - 8.2	14.6 - 22	1.2 - 7.7	210 - 432	0 - 0.1	0 - 0.5	0	0	50 - 120	40 - 120	6.8 - 7.2	14.1 - 22.8	0.2 - 46.8
41	7.1 - 8.2	10 - 26.9	7.1 - 7.9	370 - 590	0 - 1	0 - 0.15	0	0	7 - 425	8 - 240	6.8 - 18	16.1 - 25.6	0 - 54.2
South Aust	ralia												
42	6.9 - 11.3	11.8 - 20.8	6.9 - 9.1	1154 - 2167	0 - 2	0 - 1	0 - 0.5	0	25 - 120	240 - 240	7.2 - 8.4	9.8 - 21.6	0 - 19.2
43	6.8 - 8.3	11.9 - 20.2	6.7 - 10.6	622 - 821	0 - 1	0	0	0	7 - 250	180 - 240	8.4 - 8.4	9.8 - 18	0.2 - 19.2
44	7.3 - 8	11.5 - 19.7	7.2 - 24.1	271 - 385	0 - 1	0 - 0.15	0	0	3 - 120	40 - 80	6.8 - 7.2	8.2 - 18	0.2 - 19.2
Victoria													
45	6.9 - 7.2	13.4 - 26.9	5.2 - 7.3	90 - 142	0 - 1	0 - 0.15	0	0	50 - 50	40 - 80	6.8 - 8.8	10.1 - 28.9	0 - 23.9
46	6.1 - 6.7	12 - 30.1	5 - 6.8	102 - 437	0 - 1	0 - 0.15	0	0	50 - 120	40 - 40	6.8 - 7.2	9.9 - 18.7	6 - 42
47	6.7 - 7.1	13.6 - 27.3	5.7 - 7.9	42 - 54	0 - 1	0 - 0.15	0	0	25 - 25	0 - 80	6.8 - 6.8	9.8 - 19.9	0.2 - 45.2

48	6.6 - 7.1	8.3 - 21.4	6.4 - 9.6	112 - 246	0 - 1	0 - 0.15	0	0	50 - 50	40 - 40	6.8 - 6.8	8.8 - 19.9	2.6 - 29.8
49	6.2 - 6.9	9 - 23.9	5.9 - 9.5	217 - 260	0.15 - 1	0 - 1	0	0	3 - 50	40 - 80	6.2 - 6.8	8.2 - 19.9	2.6 - 29.8
50	6.4 - 7.5	12.1 - 25.4	3.8 - 6.9	400 - 1774	0 - 1	0 - 1	0	0	7 - 425	40 - 120	6.8 - 7.8	9.7 - 19.8	5 - 58.4
51	6.1 - 8.3	11 - 20.5	6 - 7.2	101 - 148	0 - 1	0	0	0	2 - 50	40 - 40	6.8 - 6.8	6.9 - 17.5	13.6 - 62.4
52	6.8 - 7.5	15 - 26.6	6.5 - 7.4	15 - 686	0 - 1	0 - 1	0	0	50 - 120	40 - 120	6.8 - 7.2	10.1 - 21	0.4 - 37.4
53	6.4 - 7.8	9.8 - 26.3	5 - 7.9	159 - 2550	0 - 1	0 - 1	0	0	0 - 425	40 - 240	6.8 - 7.8	11.4 - 20.8	6 - 37.8
54	7 - 7.4	12.3 - 22.2	5 - 6.9	9 - 780	0 - 1	0 - 0.15	0	0	50 - 120	40 - 120	6.8 - 68	11.9 - 20.8	6.6 - 20.4
55	5.9 - 7.1	13.3 - 22.5	3.1 - 4.9	509 - 1231	0.15 - 1	0 - 0.15	0	0	120 - 120	40 - 120	6.2 - 7.2	11.1 - 19.2	12.2 - 48.3
56	6.1 - 7.1	14.1 - 20.4	4.7 - 5.7	176 - 242	0 - 1	0 - 1	0	0	50 - 120	40 - 80	6.8 - 6.8	11 - 19.5	11.4 - 45.8
57	6 - 7.1	13.2 - 19.2	3.1 - 6.9	266 - 2089	0.15 - 1	0 - 0.15	0	0	120 - 425	40 - 240	6.8 - 68	11.2 - 20.1	1.2 - 51.8
58	6.8 - 7.9	10.1 - 18.8	4.4 - 6	125 - 600	0.15 - 1	0 - 0.3	0	0	50 - 120	80 - 120	6.8 - 7.8	11.6 - 20.8	6.6 - 31.4
59	6.9 - 8	11 - 19.9	5.9 - 7.8	167 - 1123	0.15 - 1	0 - 0.15	0	0	50 - 250	80 - 240	6.8 - 8.4	10.5 - 19.6	3.2 - 39.4
60	6.9 - 8	11.3 - 23.9	7.2 - 8.8	1384 - 2129	0 - 1	0 - 0.15	0	0	120 - 250	240 - 240	7.8 - 8.5	10.6 - 19.8	3.2 - 39.4
61	7 - 8.5	11.6 - 24.5	7 - 9.7	211 - 572	0 - 1	0 - 0.15	0	0	50 - 120	80 - 240	7.2 - 8.4	10.7 - 20.1	1.2 - 17.8
62	5.6 - 7.3	10.5 - 22.3	4.4 - 10.2	375 - 3120	0 - 1	0 - 0.15	0	0	25 - 425	240 - 240	6.8 - 8.4	10.6 - 19.7	1.4 - 6.4
63	6.1 - 7.1	6 - 16.7	4.4 - 9.7	76 - 151	0 - 1	0 - 0.15	0	0	0 - 25	40 - 40	6.2 - 6.8	7.1 - 17.5	3 - 14.4
Western A	ustralia												
64	7.2 - 8	15.4 - 23	5.2 - 11.1	485 - 694	0.15 - 1	0 - 1	0 - 1	0	120 - 120	40 - 180	7 - 7.8	12.8 - 21.7	5.2 - 75.8
65	7.4 - 7.7	16.7 - 22.4	3.3 - 10.1	394 - 905	0.15 - 2	0 - 1	0	0	50 - 120	80 - 240	6.2 - 7.2	11.9 - 22.1	0 - 64.1
66	7.2 - 9.2	15.2 - 26.6	5.6 - 13	107 - 1282	0 - 1.5	0 - 1	0	0	120 - 250	80 - 120	7.2 - 7.2	12.8 - 21.7	5.2 - 75.8
67	7.3 - 9.2	16 - 29.4	8.1 - 16.4	148 - 767	0.3 - 1	1 - 2	0	0	120 - 120	80 - 180	7.2 - 7.2	12.4 - 21.7	5.2 - 154.4
68	7.1 - 8.2	12.5 - 21.4	7.9 - 10.1	225 - 314	0 - 2	0 - 1	0	0	50 - 120	40 - 40	6.8 - 7.2	11.8 - 22.1	0 - 156.9
69	7.1 - 7.5	19.9 - 26.7	4.5 - 10.8	146 - 865	0 - 2	0 - 1	0	0	50 - 250	80 - 240	6.2 - 7.8	14.6 - 25.5	0 - 33.2
70	6.9 - 7.9	18.6 - 26.5	2.1 - 8.5	547 - 696	0 - 1	0 - 1	0	0	120 - 120	40 - 80	6.2 - 7.2	14.9 - 25.3	0 - 29.4
71	6.9 - 7.6	19.8 - 27.5	6.1 - 7.6	434 - 918	0.15 - 2	0 - 1	0	0	25 - 425	80 - 180	7.2 - 7.8	14.9 - 25.3	0 - 35.6
72	7.3 - 7.9	19.3 - 25.4	7 - 7.3	146 - 665	0 - 1	0.15 - 1	0	0	50 - 120	40 - 120	6.8 - 7.2	14.6 - 24.1	0 - 33.2
73	7 - 8	12.2 - 21.7	6 - 10.6	248 - 309	0.15 - 5	0 - 1	0	0	3 - 50	40 - 40	6.8 - 7.2	12.1 - 21.7	6.7 - 70
Laboratory	Blank												
74	8.4 - 8.8	21.7 - 22.1	5.2 - 7.6	0 - 2	0	0	0	0	25 - 25	40 - 40	6.2 - 7.8	NA	NA
											· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	·	

 Table S3. Transition for compounds using ESI positive mode.

Compound	Precursor Ion (m/z)	Product Ion (m/z)
Atenolol 1	267.2	145.1
Atenolol 2	267.2	190.2
Atenolol-D7	274.1	145.1
Paracetamol	152.1	110.1
Paracetamol- ¹⁵ N ¹³ C	155	111
Sulfamethoxazole 1	254	156.1
Sulfamethoxazole 2	254	92
Sulfamethoxazole-D4	258.1	160.1
Caffeine 1	195	138.1
Caffeine 2	195	110.1
Caffeine-D9	204.1	144.2
Trimethoprim 1	291.1	230.2
Frimethoprim 2	291.1	261.1
Trimethoprim-D9	300.3	234.2
tris(2-Chloroethyl) phosphate (TCEP) 1	284.9	223
tris(2-Chloroethyl) phosphate (TCEP) 2	284.9	62.9
Phenytoin 1	253.1	182.1
Phenytoin 2	253.1	104.1
Phenytoin -D10	263.1	192.2
Carbamazepine 1	237	194.2
Carbamazepine 2	237	192.1
Carbamazepine-D10	247.1	204.3
Fluoxetine 1	310	44.1
Fluoxetine 2	310	148.2
Fluoxetine-D5	315.1	44.2
Enalapril 1	377.1	234.1
Enalapril 2	377.1	91.1
Enalapril-D5	382.2	239.2
Risperidone 1	411.1	191.2
Risperidone 2	411.3	110
Risperidone-D4	415.1	195.2
Atrazine 1	216	174.2
Atrazine 2	216	96.1
Atrazine-D5	221.3	179.1
Linuron 1	249	182.2
Linuron 2	249	160.1
Linuron-D6	255	160.1
Atorvastatin 1	559.1	440.1
Atorvastatin 2	559.1	250.3
Atorvastatin-D5	564.2	445.4
o-Hydroxy atorvastatin 1	575.2	440.2
o-Hydroxy atorvastatin 2	575.2	466.1
o-Hydroxy atorvastatin D5	580.2	445.1

Compound	Precursor Ion (m/z)	Product Ion (m/z)
p-Hydroxy atorvastatin 1	575.2	440.2
p-Hydroxy atorvastatin 2	575.2	466.1
p-Hydroxy atorvastatin D5	580.2	445.1
Omeprazole 1	346.2	198.2
Omeprazole 2	346.2	136.1
Omeprazole D3	349.2	198
Clozapine 1	327.1	270.2
Clozapine 2	327.1	192.1
Clozapine_D4	331.2	272
Amtriptyline 1	278.2	233
Amtriptyline 2	278.2	117.1
Amtriptyline-D6	284.4	233.1
DEET 1	192.2	119
DEET 2	192.2	108.9
DEET-D7	199.2	126.1
Primidone 1	219.2	162.2
Primidone 2	219.2	119
Primidone-D5	224.2	167
Verapamil 1	455.4	165.1
Verapamil 2	455.4	150
Verapamil-D6	461.4	165.2
Triamterene 1	254.2	237
Triamterene 2	254.2	104
Triamterene-D5	259.2	242.2
Propylparaben 1	181.2	139.1
Propylparaben 2	181.2	121
Meprobamate 1	218.9	158.2
Meprobamate 2	218.9	115.1
Meprobamate-D3	221.9	161.2
Hydroxyzine 1	375.3	201.1
Hydroxyzine 2	375.3	165.1
Hydroxyzine-D8	383.3	201.1
Methotraxate 1	455.2	
	455.2	308.2
Methotraxate 2		175
Chloryrifos 1	349.9	197.9
Chlorpyrifos 2	349.9	115
Diazinon 1	305.1	169.1
Diazinon 2	305.1	115
Simazine 1	202.1	132.1
Simazine 2	202.1	124.1
Simazine-D10	212.2	137.1
Trifluralin 1	336.2	236.1
Trifluralin 2	336.2	251.8
Trifluralin-D14	350.2	238
Diazepam 1	285.1	193.1

Compound	Precursor Ion (m/z)	Product Ion (m/z)
Diazepam 2	285.1	154.2
Diazepam-D5	290.1	198.1



 Table S4. Transitions for compounds using ESI negative mode.

Compound	Precursor Ion	Product Ion
	(m/z)	(m/z)
Ketoprofen	252.8	208.8
Ketoprofen-D3	255.6	211.7
Naproxen 1	228.9	184.6
Naproxen 2	228.9	169.8
Naproxen-D3	231.9	187.8
Ibuprofen 1	204.9	160.8
Ibuprofen 2	204.9	158.8
Ibuprofen-D3	208	163.9
Gemfibrozil 1	248.9	120.8
Gemfibrozil 2	248.9	126.8
Gemfibrozil-D6	254.9	120.9
Triclosan	286.6	35
Triclosan-D3	289.7	34.9
Simvastatin-hydroxyacid 1	435.1	318.9
Simvastatin-hydroxyacid 2	435.1	114.9
Simvastatin-hydroxyacid-D6	441.1	319
Simvastatin 1	399	114.9
Simvastatin 2	399	282.8
Simvastatin-D6	405.4	121.1
Salicilic acid 1	136.9	92.8
Salicilic acid 2	136.9	65
Salicilic acid-D6	140.9	96.9
Triclocarban 1	312.9	159.8
Triclocarban 2	312.9	125.7
Triclocarban-D4	317	159.8
Propylparaben 1	179	135.7
Propylparaben 2	179	136.9
2-Phenylphenol 1	168.9	114.8
2-Phenylphenol 2	168.9	140.8