

## Overview

Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) are inadvertently generated during pigment manufacturing and can contaminate printing inks. This document provides results from Washington Department of Ecology's sampling of 20 printing inks from five companies in 2021. The testing measured total (PCB) concentrations in parts per billion (ppb) using EPA Method 1668C. We tested five different product lines consisting of cyan, magenta, yellow, and black ink from five different manufacturers. Find more information about the methods in our [Quality Assurance Project Plan](#).<sup>1</sup>

Results are summarized below (Table 1) and in our [product testing database](#).<sup>2</sup> You can review these materials along with the [draft report on regulatory determinations](#)<sup>3</sup> during the 2021 public comment period. Please contact us at [SaferProductsWA@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:SaferProductsWA@ecy.wa.gov) if you have questions about this information.

**Table 1. Concentrations of inadvertent PCBs (in ppb) measured in printing inks purchased and tested by Ecology's Product Testing Program.**

Color (manufacturer)	Total PCB concentration (ppb)
Epple Druckfarben Stability Black	Reliable quantification of target compounds for this sample could not be performed.
Flint Group Arowlith Low Rub Super Black	6.32 — J
HP PWP A50 Black	Reliable quantification of target compounds for this sample could not be performed.
Siegwerk Pro Black Sicura Plast 770	431
Sun Chemical Standard Black	3.93 — U
Epple Druckfarben Stability Cyan	547
Flint Group ROP Process Cyan	438
HP PWP A50 Cyan	0.0683 — J
Siegwerk Pro Cyan Sicura Plast 770	31.5
Sun Chemical Process Blue	0.881 — J
Epple Druckfarben Stability Magenta	15.2
Flint Group ROP Process Magenta	298
HP PWP A50 Magenta	0.0207 — J
Siegwerk Pro Magenta Sicura Plast 770	105
Sun Chemical Process Red	7.72 — J
Epple Druckfarben Stability Yellow	323
Flint Group ROP Process Yellow	545
HP PWP A50 Yellow	0.00959 — J
Siegwerk Pro Yellow Sicura Plast 770	40,200
Sun Chemical Process Yellow	101

### Table notes:

- J indicates analyte was positively identified below the analysis reporting limit. The reported result is an estimate.
- U indicates analyte was not detected above the method reporting limit.

<sup>1</sup> <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/SummaryPages/2103121.html>

<sup>2</sup> <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/ptdbreporting/Default.aspx>

<sup>3</sup> <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/summarypages/2104047.html>