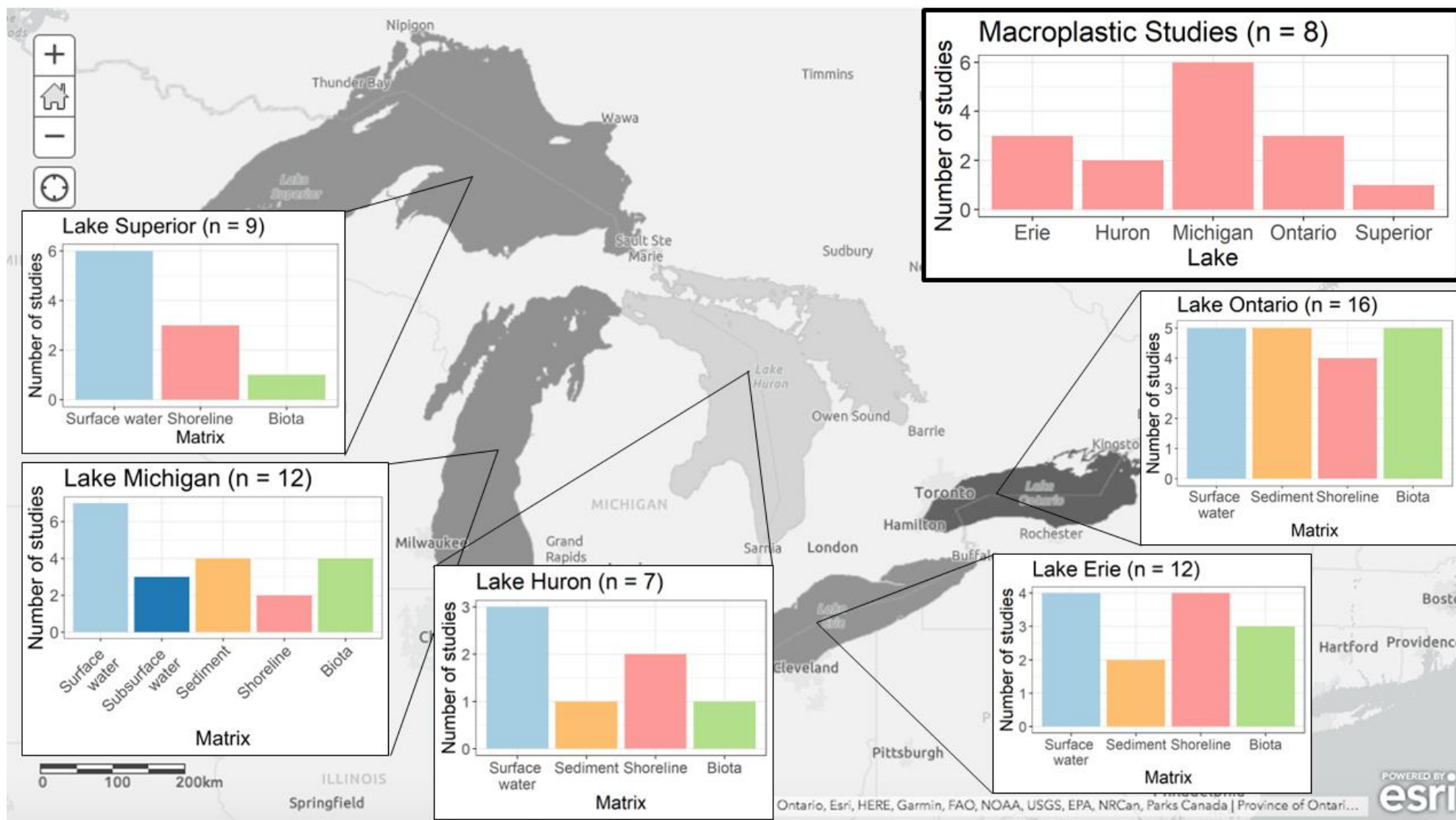
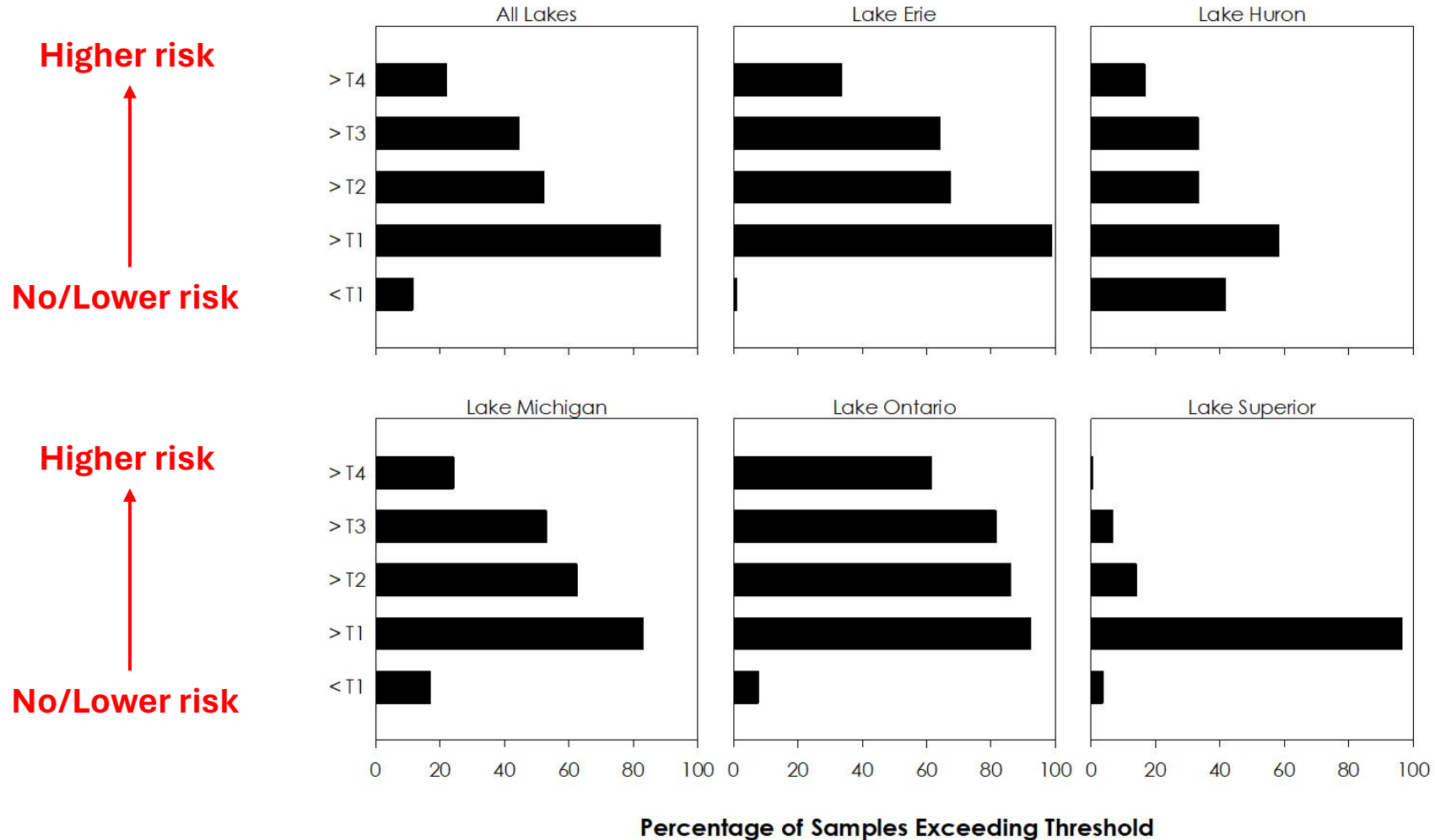


Plastics, particularly microplastics, are present across the Laurentian Great Lakes basin

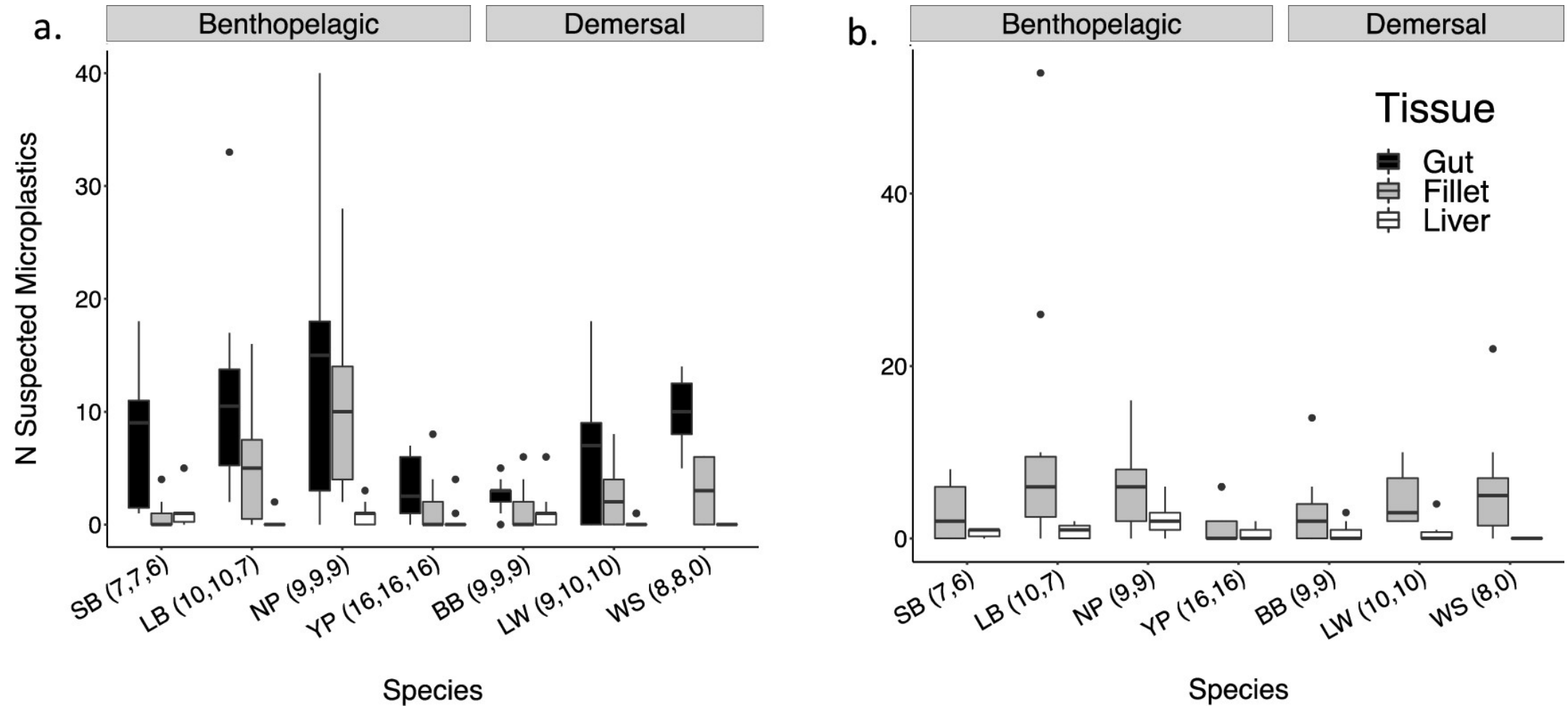


In some parts of the basin, current concentrations of microplastics likely exceed safe limits for wildlife



Humans are exposed to microplastics, but risks to human health remain unknown

Wild-caught sportfish from Lake Simcoe:



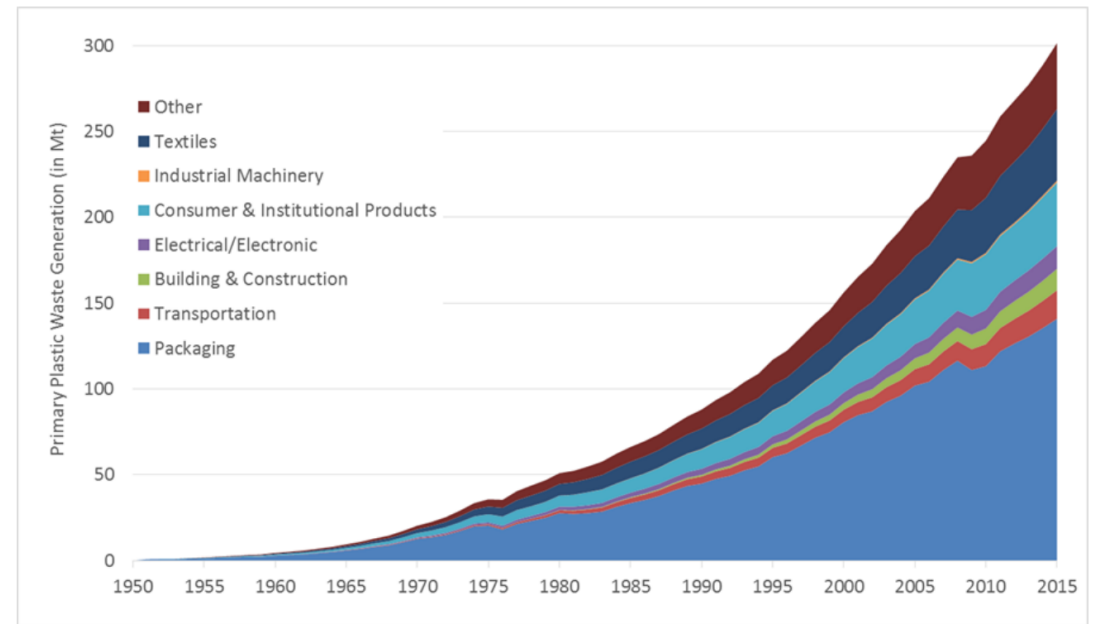
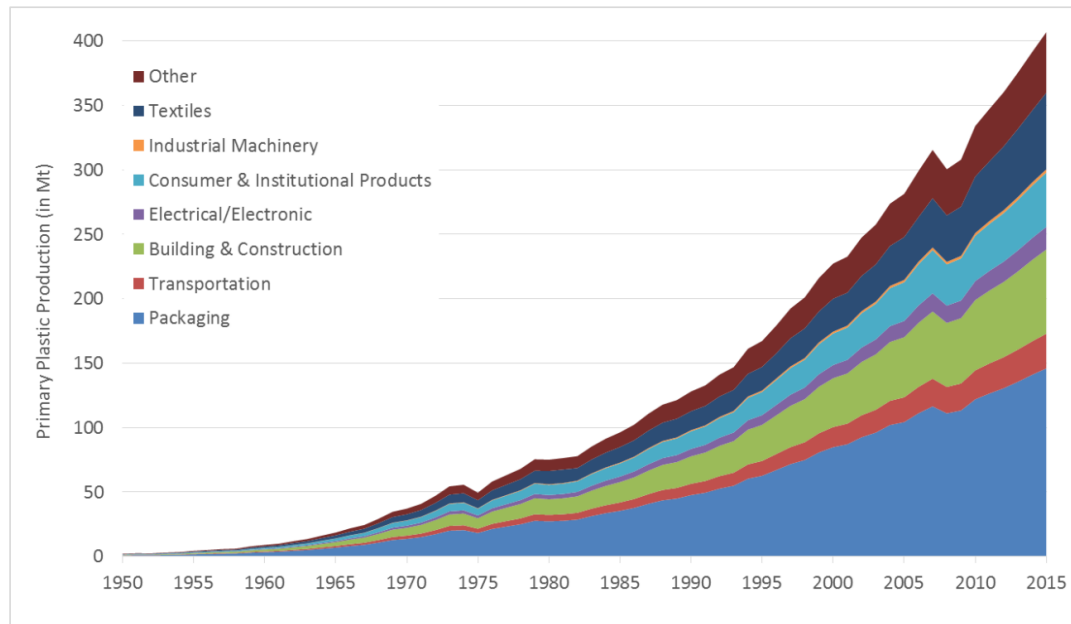
Microfibres are a type of microplastic



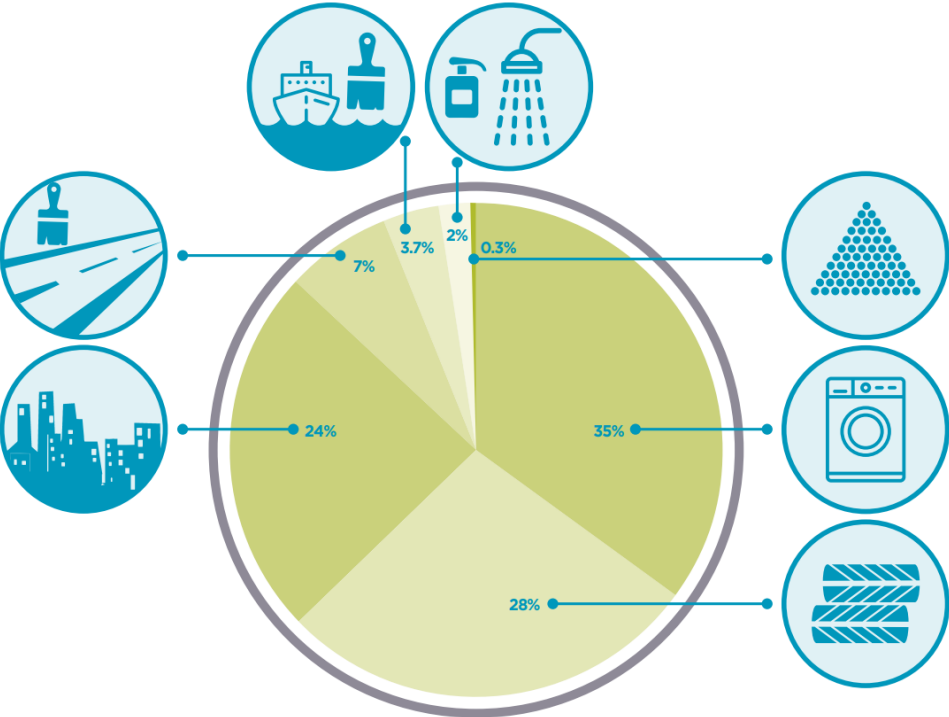
Microfibres = small threads (<5mm) that shed from textiles

- Can be natural (e.g., cotton), semi-synthetic (e.g., rayon), and synthetic (e.g., polyester)
- Enter the environment through the production, use, and disposal of textiles

By sector, textiles make up ~10% of all primary (non-recycled) plastic produced and plastic waste generated



By source, microfibres make up 35% of all primary microplastics released to the world's oceans



Synthetic
microfibres

