

Controversies: Braskem

- In May 2020, a [study showed](#) that only 20 companies are behind more than half of the world's single-use plastic waste. Braskem was one of them.
- In August of 2019, Brazil's Federal Public Ministry [filed a public civil action](#) holding Braskem responsible for societal and environmental damage worth 5.07 billion USD. This was based on the findings of Brazil's Geological Survey that linked the company's salt mining operations with fissures and other [geological damage](#) in Maceio, a city in the Brazilian state of Alagoas. Braskem operated chlor-alkali and polyvinyl chloride plants in Maceoi.
- In December of 2016, Braskem and another company, Odebrecht, pleaded guilty and agreed to pay [3.5 billion USD](#) in combined global penalties to resolve the largest foreign bribery case in history, according to the US Department of Justice that was involved in the investigation. Braskem paid [957 million USD](#), which includes [a criminal penalty of 632 million USD](#) imposed by a US district court in Brooklyn.
- On 15 October 2015, an accident was reported at the [Capuava Petrochemical Complex in Mauá](#), Brazil that resulted in injuries among 6 workers.
- In May of 2011, Braskem's chlor-alkali plant in the city of Maceio, Brazil reported a [chlorine leak on 21 May followed by an accident](#) on 24 May that injured 5 workers. The chlorine leak detected on May 21 resulted in around [130 residents living near the factory being taken to hospital](#) for treatment.
- Between 2011 and 2020, Braskem paid more than [80,000 USD in penalties for 5 environmental violations](#), according to the violation tracker project of Good Jobs First.