

Controversies: Formosa Chemicals & Fibre Corporation

- In July 2020, [three people were injured after an explosion and fire](#) at parent company Formosa Plastics refinery in Yunlin County, Taiwan. The company was fined for breaching the Air Pollution Control law.
- In May 2020, a [study showed](#) that only 20 companies are behind more than half of the world's single-use plastic waste. Formosa Plastics was one of them.
- In November 2019, there was a [chemical leak and explosion](#) at parent company Formosa Plastics' plant in Linyuan, Kaohsiung, Taiwan. The company was fined close to 15,000 USD over the incident.
- In October 2019, a Texas federal judge found the parent company Formosa Plastics liable for [polluting waterways with billions of plastic pellets](#). As the trial moved into the penalty phase, Formosa faced fines of up to 184 million USD, but ultimately made a [settlement of 50 million USD](#), paying for pollution clean-up and promising no future discharges of plastic pellets or other plastic materials [from the plant](#).
- In September 2019, Formosa Chemicals & Fibre Corporation's third aromatic hydrocarbons plant in Mailiao in Yunlin County, Taiwan was accused of manipulating [Continuous Emissions Monitoring System \(CEMS\)](#) data and fined 100,000 NT (about 3,500 USD) by the Yunlin County government, because it could not produce the minimum amount of valid emissions data from the CEMS programme required by law.
- On 7 April 2019, more than 10,000 villagers from Mailiao, Yunlin county, in Taiwan had to be evacuated following an [explosion at the aromatics plant operated by Formosa Chemical & Fiber Corporation](#). A preliminary fine of 5 million NT (about 162,000 USD) was issued by the county government to the company over a violation of air pollution regulations.
- On 17 November 2017, the company was hit with a fine of [41.2 million USD](#) for environmental breaches at one of its plants. The environmental bureau in Changhua County, Taiwan said the company's textile fibre plant had used a type of coal that does not comply with its environmental impact assessment.
- On 7 March 2017, a Formosa Chemicals & Fibre Corporation plant in Mailiao, Yunlin County, Taiwan [suffered an explosion, leaving four employees injured](#). The Ministry of Labour and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration ordered the area around the accident to be immediately shut down for investigation.

- In 2016, parent company Formosa Plastics was linked to the [worst water pollution scandal in Vietnamese history](#). A Formosa plant [spilled toxic waste](#), including cyanide, and polluted more than 200 kilometres of Vietnam's coastline. According to government officials, the incident [caused a massive fish kill](#) in which at least 100 tons of dead fish washed ashore. The company was [fined 500 million USD](#) by the government for [damages caused by the spill](#).
- In May 2013, a [flash fire injured 14 workers](#) in a polyethylene production unit at parent company Formosa Plastics' petrochemical complex in Point Comfort, Texas.