

Controversies: Asahi Kasei

- In December 2023, [a fire occurred at the Daramic building](#) in Owensboro, Kentucky, USA. No injuries were reported, but it took nearly five hours to extinguish it.
- In April 2022, a [fire occurred at Asahi Kasei's Cupra plant](#) in Nobeoka, Miyazaki. There were no casualties. The plant was shut down for [more than a year](#).
- In March 2022, [a huge explosion occurred at a Nobeoka plant](#), Miyazaki, of Asahi Kasei's subsidiary, Kayaku Japan, killing one employee and damaging about a hundred nearby houses. The plant manufactures industrial explosives.
- In October 2020, there was a [big fire at a semiconductor fabrication plant](#) of Asahi Kasei Microsystem at Nobeoka, Miyazaki. There were no deaths, but [the cause of the fire still remains unknown](#), and it is uncertain whether the plant can resume operations. During the fire, an [irritating odour of hydrogen chloride](#) was observed. After the fire, dioxin was detected, and fluoride was left in the water on the floor, which was left by the fire engines.
- In June 2020, [an employee died due to an explosion](#) at a plant manufacturing lithium-ion batteries in Moriyama, Shiga. The cause was methyl ethyl ketone, which contaminated and ignited. As a result, two superintendents were prosecuted.
- In August 2019, there was a leak of high-temperature chemical gas at Asahi Kasei FineChem, a plant in Nobeoka, Miyazaki. Two employees received mild burns.
- In January 2019, [arsenic and lead levels exceeding the environmental criteria were detected](#) in the groundwater of an old artificial silk (rayon) factory of Asahi Kasei at Nobeoka, Miyazaki. No health problems were reported.
- Between 2019 and 2023, Asahi Kasei and its subsidiaries paid [over 150.000 USD in environmental liabilities for 3 cases](#), according to the violation tracker project of Good Jobs First.