U.S. Department of Transportation
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

CHECK THE BOX®

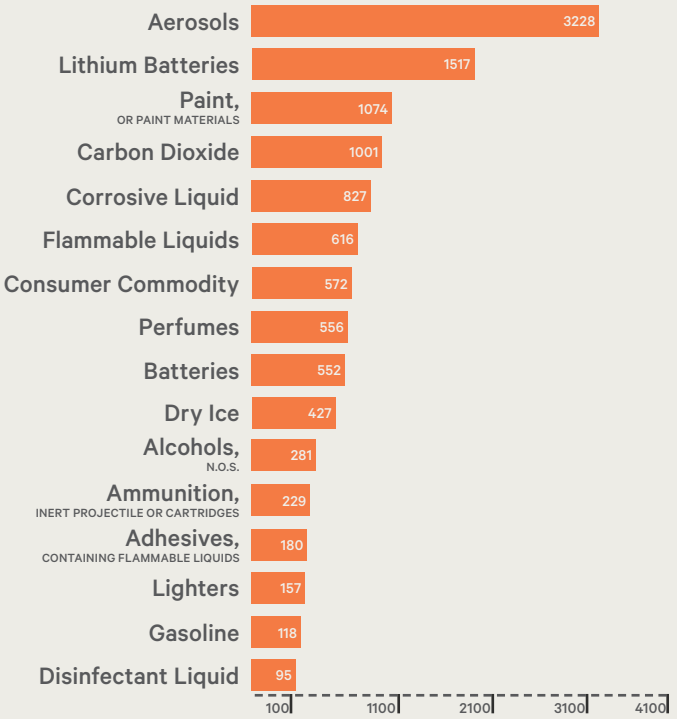
IS HAZARDOUS MATT HIDING IN YOUR PACKAGE?

CHECKTHEBOX.DOT.GOV

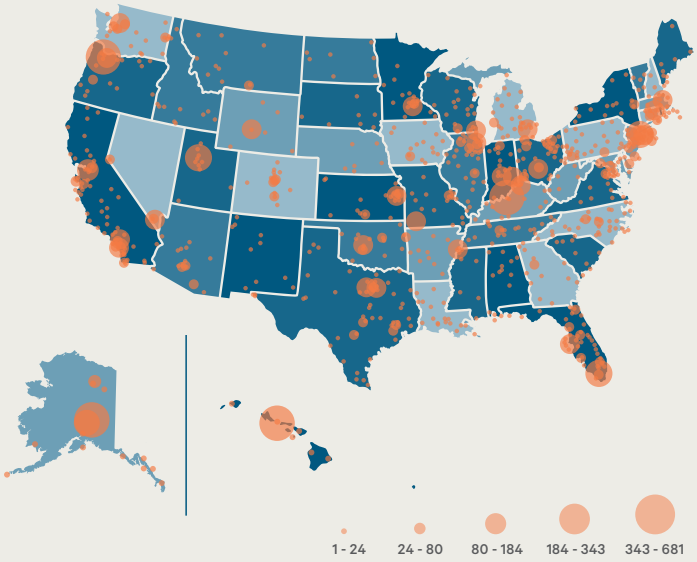
EACH YEAR, APPROXIMATELY 1,500 TRANSPORTATION INCIDENTS OCCUR WHEN UNDECLARED HAZARDOUS MATERIALS ARE SHIPPED.

THESE INCIDENTS INVOLVE DIVERSE TYPES OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AND CAUSE SERIOUS SAFETY CONSEQUENCES FOR TRANSPORTATION WORKERS, EMERGENCY RESPONDERS, AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

INCIDENTS BY COMMODITY (2013 - 2023)



INCIDENTS BY LOCATION (2013 - 2023)



NOTABLE INCIDENTS



LYNBROOK, NY: 2019 - An undeclared shipment containing drain cleaner classified as a corrosive liquid leaked in the package during transportation via UPS. Upon arriving to the destination an employee unloading the material was exposed the material and hospitalized as a result.



HOUSTON, TX: 2022 - During unloading, an undeclared shipment of loose gunpowder and ammunition in a gaylord box listed on the shipping paper as “brass” exploded while being moved using a forklift. The explosion led to the death of the forklift operator.



DETROIT, MI: 2020 - An undeclared package containing hydrogen peroxide was discovered leaking at a FedEx facility. Employees contained the leak and secured the package, but five employees and one responder suffered injuries because of the incident.



LONG BEACH, CA: 2022 - The U.S. Coast Guard discovered sixteen shipping containers of undeclared lithium batteries labeled as “Synthetic Resins” on a cargo ship at the Port of Long Beach. There was a fire in one of shipping containers and the clean-up took 363 days, causing significant supply chain disruptions.