

Get to know the risks of undoing the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA)

The most common chemicals in our environment:



Vinyl chloride

WHERE IT'S FOUND: Vinyl chloride is used to make PVC, a widely used plastic found in packaging, construction materials, such as vinyl flooring, and electrical products. Exposure can occur during production or transport—highlighted by incidents like the East Palestine derailment—and is closely linked to phthalates, since over 80% of phthalates are used to make PVC more flexible.

WHY IT'S BAD: Causes liver toxicity and liver cancer.

Formaldehyde

WHERE IT'S FOUND: Glues, adhesives, paints, carpets, wrinkle-resistant or “easy care” fabrics, particle board used in furniture.

WHY IT'S BAD: Formaldehyde causes cancer, including childhood leukemia, and asthma.

PFAS or “forever chemicals”

WHERE IT'S FOUND: Non-stick cookware coating, athletic clothes, upholstered furniture. Over 96% of Americans have PFAS in their blood.

WHY IT'S BAD: PFAS do not breakdown but instead build up in the environment, and often, our bodies. They are linked to decreased fertility; harm to development; endocrine disruption; prostate, kidney and testicular cancer; and more.

Phthalates

WHERE IT'S FOUND: Vinyl flooring, shower curtains, fragranced cleaning products/air fresheners, malleable plastic children's toys, like balls or rubber duckies, and PVC packaging.

WHY IT'S BAD: Harms the development of the male reproductive system including through reduced sperm mobility, also linked to neurological harm.

Why is TSCA important?

It gives EPA the authority and responsibility to review chemicals for harm — before and after they enter the market — and to protect vulnerable populations such as children, pregnant women, workers and frontline communities.

It's universally popular, with 82% of Americans favoring the law regardless of gender, race, age, education level or party affiliation. Rolling back TSCA would undo years of hard-fought progress for our health and safety.



LEARN MORE

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