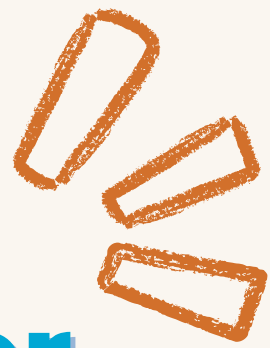


Problem Plastic: PET and Polyester can be Unsafe, Unjust, and Unsustainable Materials



The most widely produced plastic is known as polyethylene terephthalate (PET), PET is used in plastic bottles & packaging, and polyester clothing & other textiles.

Health Threat -- PET Plastic Threatens Children's Health

- Scientists found that 150 chemicals migrate from plastic bottles into beverages
- Our tests found cancer-causing antimony in all 20 name brand beverages
- Antimony exceeded the California Public Health Goal in 40% of drinks tested
- Children are exposed to unsafe levels of antimony from all sources combined
- Our tests also found cancer-causing cobalt in 8 of 20 name brand beverages
- Antimony migration increases with greater heat, storage time, light exposure, and acid content (as in juice and soda)

Unjust Disparities -- PET Plastic Adds to Environmental Racism

- Latinx and Black consumers are exposed to more antimony than white consumers
- Most PET plastics-related chemical plants are located in communities of color

Climate Crisis -- Fossil Fuels are Burned to Make PET Plastic

- More than 99% of PET plastic is made from non-renewable oil and fossil gas
- Plastics production is the fastest growing source of greenhouse gas emissions

Wasted Resource -- PET Contributes to the Plastic Waste Crisis

- Only 11% of all PET and polyester is ever recycled, and then usually just once
- More PET plastic is found littering the world's beaches than any other type

Too Much ! -- New Chemical Plants Mean More PET, if Approved

- Corpus Christi Polymers would increase North American PET capacity by 25%
- Formosa Plastics proposes to make a PET chemical in Cancer Alley, Louisiana

To see the full report and authoritative sources,
visit <https://defendourhealth.org/campaigns/plastic-pollution/problem-plastic/>

