

Examples of major chemical incidents (1974–2006)

Year	Location	Type of incident	Chemical(s) involved	Deaths	Injured	Evacuated
1974	Flixborough, United Kingdom	Chemical plant (explosion)	Cyclohexane	28	104	3000
1976	Seveso, Italy	Chemical plant (explosion)	Dioxin		193	226 000
1979	Novosibirsk, Russian Federation	Chemical plant (explosion)	Uncharacterized	300		
1981	Madrid, Spain	Foodstuff contamination (oil)	Uncharacterized	430	20 000	220 000
1982	Tacoa, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	Tank (explosion)	Fuel oil	153	20 000	40 000
1984	San Juanico, Mexico	Tank (explosion)	Liquified petroleum gas (LPG)	452	4248	200 000
1984	Bhopal, India	Chemical plant (leak)	Methyl isocyanate	2800	50 000	200 000
1992	Kwangju, Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Gas store (explosion)	LPG		163	20 000
1993	Bangkok, Thailand	Toy factory (fire)	Plastics	240	547	
1993	Remeios, Colombia	Spillage	Crude oil	430		
1996	Haiti	Poisoned medicine	Diethylene glycol	>60		
1998	Yaoundé, Cameroon	Transport accident	Petroleum products	220	130	
2000	Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo	Munitions depot (explosion)	Munitions	109	216	
2000	Enschede, Netherlands	Factory (explosion)	Fireworks	20	950	
2001	Toulouse, France	Factory (explosion)	Ammonium nitrate	30	>2500	
2002	Lagos, Nigeria	Munitions depot (explosion)	Munitions	1000		
2003	Gaoqiao, China	Gas well (release)	Hydrogen sulphide	240	9000	64 000
2005	Huaian, China	Truck (release)	Chlorine	27	300	10 000
2005	Graniteville, United States of America	Train tanker (release)	Chlorine	9	250	5400
2006	Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire	Toxic waste	Hydrogen sulphide, mercaptans, sodium hydroxide	10	>100 000 ^a	

^a The number of consultations, not necessarily the number of people made directly ill.

Data source: (22). Data from 2000 onwards from the Major Hazard Incident Data Service (MHIDAS), Health and Safety Executive, London, United Kingdom, except for Gaoqiao and Abidjan, which are from WHO.