

PBDEs

(Polybrominated Diethyl Ethers)



What are PBDEs?

One of the chemical classes (see also PCBs) used as flame retardants in some plastics.

PBDEs have been detected in polyurethane (PU) foams, polyethylene (PE), polyvinyl chloride (PVC) and polystyrene (PS) plastic materials.

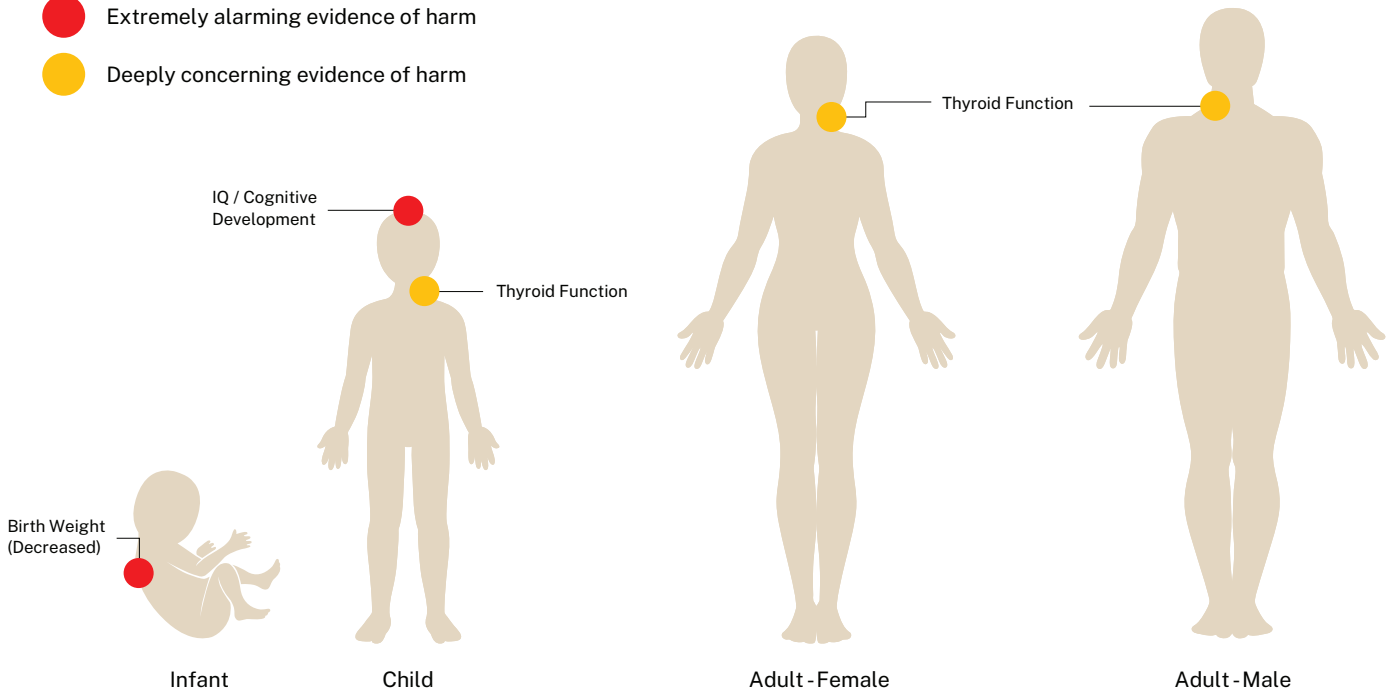
PBDE exposure often occurs through the use of these products:

- TV and computer casing/housings
- Wire and cable sheathing
- Some electrical appliances
- Insulation
- Textiles
- Car seats
- Infant mattresses
- Furniture foams
- Rebonded carpet padding
- Paints and coatings
- Printed circuit boards (found in electrical devices)



PBDE exposure increases the risk of a number of health issues:

- Extremely alarming evidence of harm
- Deeply concerning evidence of harm



Sources:

Symeonides C, Aromataris E, Mulders Y, Dizon J, Stern C, Barker TH, Whitehorn A, Pollock D, Marin T, Dunlop S. An Umbrella Review of Meta-Analyses of Plastic-Associated Chemical Exposure and Human Health. *Annals of Global Health*. 2024; 90 (1) : 00, 1–52. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5334/aogh.4459>

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