

Many fast food chains use packaging containing potentially harmful fluorinated chemicals

We tested samples of paper wrappers and paperboard packaging from 27 fast food chains throughout the United States. The samples were collected in 2014 and 2015. The findings provide a snapshot of the market, which shows that fast food packaging containing fluorinated chemicals is widely available in the U.S.

Fast Food Chain	Did we find fluorinated chemicals?	Fast Food Chain	Did we find fluorinated chemicals?
Arby's	✓	KFC	✓
Burger King	✓	Krispy Kreme	✓
Carl's Jr.	?	McDonald's	✓
Checkers	?	Panera	✓
Chick-Fil-A	✓	Pizza Hut	✓
Chipotle	✓	Quiznos	✓
Church's Chicken	✓	Round Table Pizza	?
Culver's	?	Starbucks	✓
Dairy Queen	✓	Steak 'n Shake	✓
Domino Pizza	?	Subway	✓
Dunkin' Donuts	✓	Taco Bell	✓
Five Guys	?	Taco Time	✓
Jack in the Box	✓	Wendy's	✓
Jimmy John's	✓		

- ✓ Fluorinated chemicals were detected in at least one paper wrapper or paperboard sample tested.
- ? Information is limited. Fluorinated chemicals were not detected in any samples, however fewer than 6 samples were tested. Other packaging available at these chains may contain fluorinated chemicals.

Reference:

Schaider LA, Balan SA, Blum A, Andrews DQ, Strynar MJ, Dickinson ME, Lunderberg DM, Lang JR, Peaslee GF. 2017. Fluorinated Compounds in U.S. Fast Food Packaging. *Environmental Science & Technology Letters*. <http://pubs.acs.org/doi/abs/10.1021/acs.estlett.6b00435>.

Credit: Silent Spring Institute