

IATA Global Safety Campaign Lithium Batteries



3.3 Lithium Batteries – IATA Global Campaign

Travelers Are Carrying More Devices but with Incomplete Knowledge

A recent IATA passenger survey found that most travelers fly with lithium-powered devices:

83% of travelers carry a phone

60% carry a laptop

44% carry a power bank

While 93% of travelers consider themselves knowledgeable on the rules for carrying lithium-powered devices (including 57% rating themselves as very familiar with the rules), critical misconceptions persist:

50% incorrectly believe it's OK to pack small lithium-powered devices in checked luggage

45% incorrectly believe it's OK to pack power banks in checked luggage

33% incorrectly believe that there are no power limits on power banks or spare batteries

Travel Smart with Lithium Batteries

Industry-Wide Rollout

The multilingual campaign will be rolled out through digital assets that airlines and other partners can adapt and share with passengers, ensuring consistent safety messaging across the industry. A short, animated video, designed to make the rules simple, engaging, and easy to remember, can be used by airlines and airports on their digital and social channels.

Campaign assets will also be available to media and other entities in the aviation value chain to help educate travelers on flying safely with their lithium-powered devices.



Seven Safety Rules

- 1. Pack light:** Only bring the devices and batteries you really need.
- 2. Stay alert:** If a device is hot, smoking, or damaged, tell the crew immediately.
- 3. Check battery size:** For larger batteries (over 100 watt-hours, such as those used in cameras, drones, or power tools), check with your airline as approval may be required.
- 4. Keep devices with you:** Always carry phones, laptops, cameras, vapes (if allowed) and other battery-powered items in your hand baggage, not in checked baggage.
- 5. Gate check reminder:** If your hand baggage is taken at the gate to go in the hold, remove all lithium batteries and devices first.
- 6. Protect loose batteries:** Keep spare batteries and power banks in their original packaging or cover the terminals with tape to prevent short-circuits.
- 7. Check with your airline:** Always confirm your airline's policies, as requirements may differ in compliance with local regulations.

Travel Smart with Lithium Batteries

1. PACK LIGHT

Only bring the devices and batteries you really need.

2. STAY ALERT

If a device is hot, smoking, or damaged, tell the crew immediately.

3. CHECK BATTERY SIZE

Drones, and devices with larger batteries must be cleared with airlines before travel.

4. KEEP DEVICES WITH YOU

Always keep electronic devices in your hand baggage, not checked in with hold luggage.

5. GATE CHECK REMINDER

If your bag gets checked in at the gate, remove all devices first and take in your carry-on luggage.

6. PROTECT LOOSE BATTERIES

If you're carrying spare batteries, ensure the terminals are covered with tape, or keep them in the original packaging.

7. CHECK WITH YOUR AIRLINE

Every airline has different rules, so always check in advance of your travel.



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<https://www.iata.org/en/youandiata/travelers/batteries/#airlines>

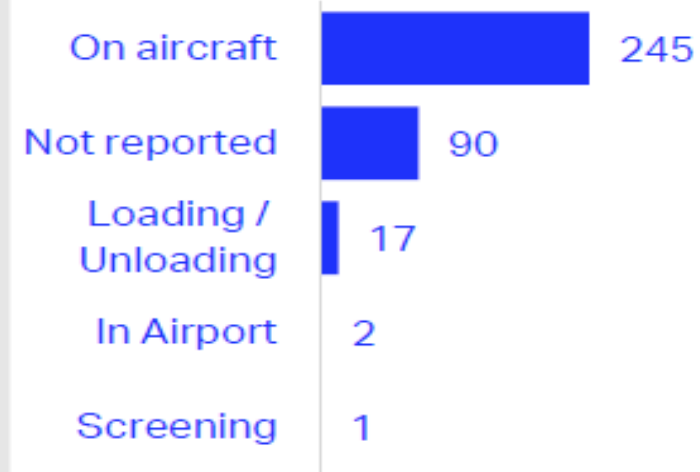
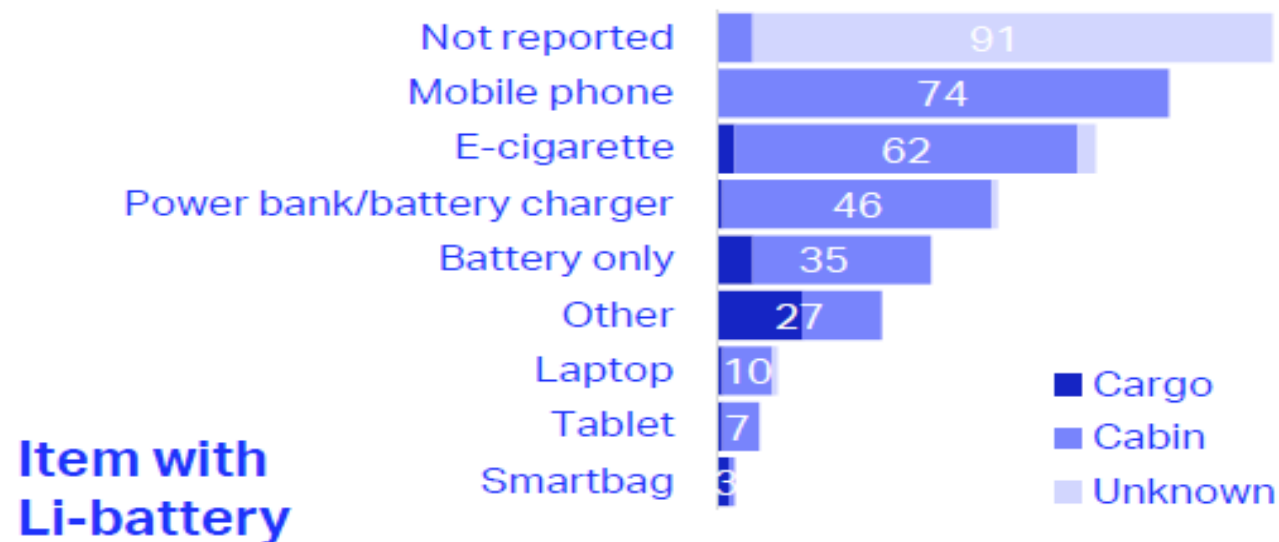
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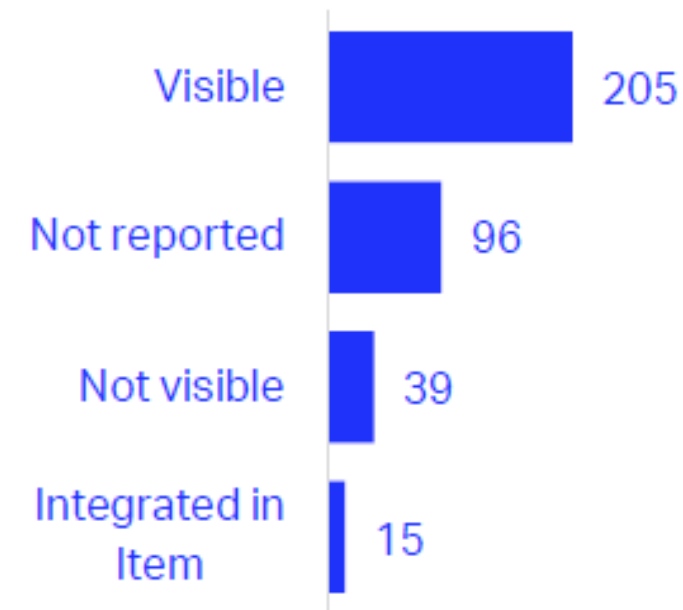
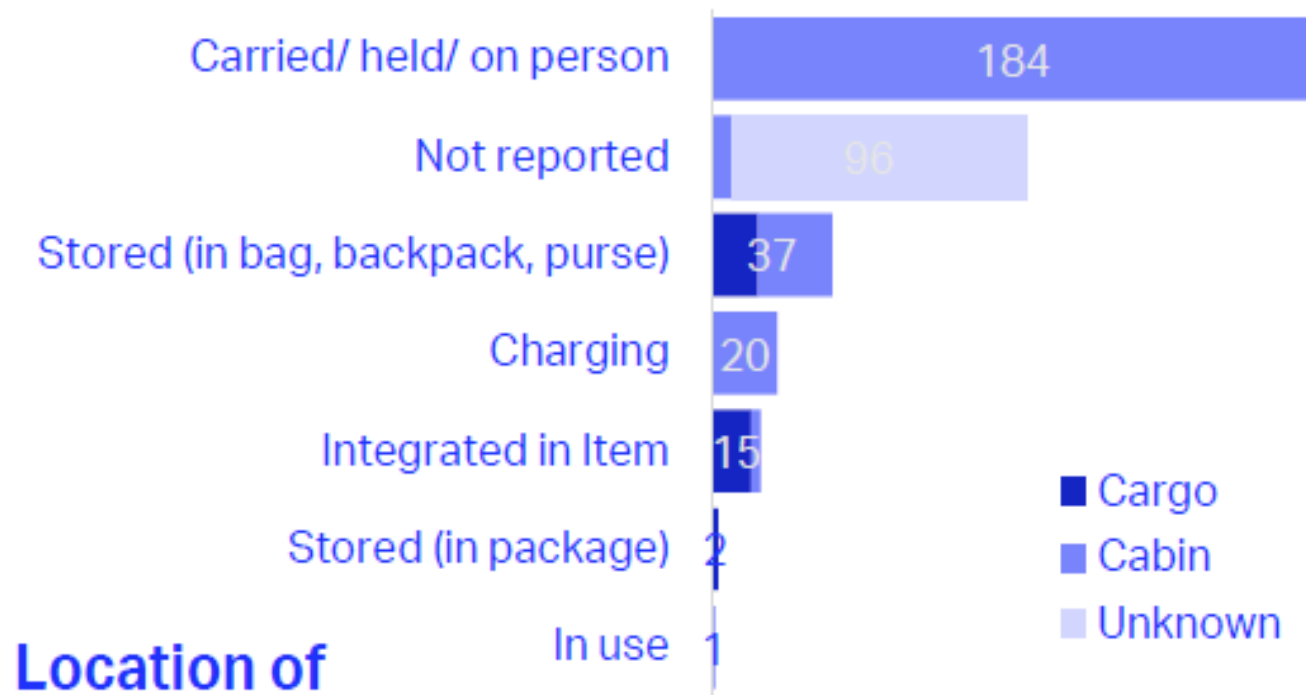
Where do pax store items containing Li-batteries that are involved in events?

Consequential IDX Events
January 2024 – March 2025
Pax events only

50 Operators
355 events



Where do pax store items containing Li-batteries that are involved in events?



Summary

- 69% of events occurred on aircraft, although 25% of events had no location identified
- 58% of the Li-battery items were visible, e.g. carried, held or on the pax, being used or charging
- 21% of events involved mobile/cell phones, 17% e-cigarettes and 13% power banks

Conclusion:

most consequential Li-battery events occurred on-board in the cabin, with items being held or used, and are generally small hand-held PEDs

Thank you!



... to represent, lead and serve the airline industry

