

**Table 517. Prohibited Items Intercepted at U.S. Airport Screening Checkpoints: 2003 to 2007**

[Passengers boarding aircraft in thousands (646,275 represents 646,275,000). For the calendar year. Transportation Security Administration (TSA) assumed responsibility for airport security on February 17, 2002, and by November 19, 2002, TSA assumed control over all passenger screenings from private contractors]

Year	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
<b>Passengers boarding aircraft total</b> <sup>1</sup> . . . . .	<b>646,275</b>	<b>702,921</b>	<b>738,327</b>	<b>744,242</b>	<b>769,186</b>
Domestic . . . . .	592,412	640,698	670,418	671,796	693,190
International . . . . .	53,863	62,222	67,908	72,445	75,996
<b>Total prohibited items</b> . . . . .	<b>6,167,497</b>	<b>7,103,560</b>	<b>15,886,014</b>	<b>13,709,065</b>	<b>6,515,995</b>
Knife <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	1,969,003	2,055,306	1,822,846	1,607,014	1,056,662
Other cutting items <sup>3</sup> . . . . .	3,029,318	3,409,724	3,276,936	163,419	(X)
Club <sup>4</sup> . . . . .	25,578	28,998	20,531	12,295	9,443
Box cutter . . . . .	21,396	22,428	21,319	15,999	11,908
Firearm <sup>5</sup> . . . . .	638	254	850	820	769
Flammables and irritants <sup>6</sup> . . . . .	485,792	697,242	371,711	94,096	73,165
Lighters <sup>7</sup> . . . . .	(X)	(X)	9,420,653	11,616,217	5,124,344
Other <sup>8</sup> . . . . .	635,772	889,608	952,018	200,025	240,473

X Not applicable. <sup>1</sup> Data comes from the Air Transport Association. Data are for U.S. passenger and cargo airlines only. <sup>2</sup> Knife includes any length and type except round-bladed, butter, and plastic cutlery. <sup>3</sup> Other cutting instruments refer to, e.g., scissors, screwdrivers, swords, sabers, and ice picks. <sup>4</sup> Club refers to baseball bats, night sticks, billy clubs, bludgeons; etc. <sup>5</sup> Firearm refers to items like pistols, revolvers, rifles, automatic weapons, shotguns, parts of guns and firearms. <sup>6</sup> Incendiaries refer to categories of ammunition and gunpowder, flammables/irritants, and explosives. <sup>7</sup> As of April 14, 2005, passengers are prohibited from carrying all lighters on their person or in carry-on luggage or onboard an airplane. <sup>8</sup> Beginning December 22, scissors with a cutting edge of 4 inches or less and tools such as screwdrivers, wrenches, and pliers smaller than 7 inches will be permitted on board. Scissors longer than 4 inches and tools such as crowbars, drills, hammers, and saws will continue to be prohibited from carry-on bags.

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Transportation Security Administration, unpublished data; 13 May 2008; <<http://www.tsa.gov>>. Air Transport Association of America, Washington, DC. Annual Traffic and Operations: U.S. Airlines; <<http://www.airlines.org/home/default.aspx>>.