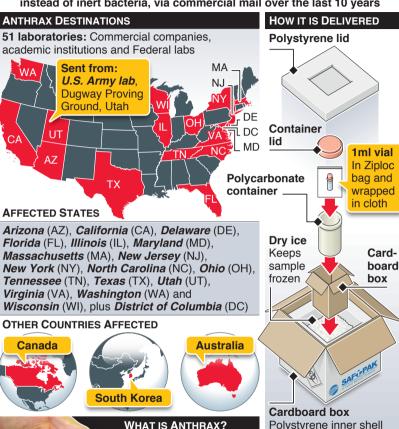
## **U.S.** postal anthrax scare widens

The Pentagon has admitted that more than 50 laboratories in 17 U.S. states and three foreign countries have received samples of live anthrax, instead of inert bacteria, via commercial mail over the last 10 years



## WHAT IS ANTHRAX?

**Bacillus anthracis.** found naturally in soil, produces dormant spores that can live in environment for years

- If spores get into body (via skin cut, ingestion or inhalation), they become active
- Active growing cells multiply and spread around body, producing toxins that can cause severe illness and lead to death