



# **CASP 2024**

## **Final Report**

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>List of abbreviations.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Executive summary .....</b>	<b>4</b>
Overview of CASP 2024 and its activities.....	4
Main results and conclusions of CASP 2024.....	4
Main recommendations .....	7
<b>CASP 2024 project .....</b>	<b>8</b>
Description of CASP 2024 and its activities.....	8
Participating MSAs .....	9
<b>Product-specific activities.....</b>	<b>11</b>
Baby soothers .....	11
High chairs .....	13
Lighting chains.....	14
Mini electric heaters .....	16
Disposable electronic cigarettes .....	18
Bicycles for children.....	20
Slime toys (re-testing) .....	22
<b>Horizontal activities .....</b>	<b>24</b>
Standardisation .....	24
Starter kit for newcomers .....	25
<b>Conclusions.....</b>	<b>26</b>
General conclusions.....	26
Recommendations .....	27

## List of abbreviations

<b>CASP</b>	Coordinated Activities on the Safety of Products
<b>CEN</b>	European Committee for Standardisation
<b>DG JUST</b>	Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers
<b>EC</b>	European Commission
<b>EEA</b>	European Economic Area
<b>EFTA</b>	European Free Trade Agreement
<b>EN</b>	European standard
<b>EU</b>	European Union
<b>HA</b>	Horizontal activity
<b>GPSD</b>	General Product Safety Directive 2001/95/EC
<b>GPSR</b>	General Product Safety Regulation 2023/988
<b>ISO</b>	International Standardisation Organisation
<b>LVD</b>	Low Voltage Directive 2014/35/EU
<b>MSA</b>	Market surveillance authority
<b>OJEU</b>	Official Journal of the European Union
<b>PSA</b>	Product-specific activity
<b>SAGA</b>	Safety Gate Risk Assessment tool
<b>REACH</b>	Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 - Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals
<b>TC</b>	Technical Committee
<b>TPD</b>	Tobacco Products Directive 2014/40
<b>TS</b>	Technical specification
<b>TSD</b>	Toy Safety Directive 2009/48/EC

## Executive summary

### Overview of CASP 2024 and its activities

#### General description

The CASP project fosters cooperation between market surveillance authorities (MSAs) from EU and EFTA countries to ensure the safety of products sold in the Single Market.

The primary objective of CASP is to ensure a safe Single Market by equipping MSAs with the tools to jointly test products placed on the market, assess the risks they pose and formulate common positions and procedures for market surveillance. Additionally, CASP aims to facilitate discussions

and establish a meaningful exchange of ideas to develop common approaches, methodologies, practical tools and guidelines. CASP contributes to creating greater awareness about product safety among economic operators and consumers through an engaging communication strategy about its activities and results.

#### Description of the activities

The CASP project brings together MSAs to collaborate based on their priorities. Every year, CASP encompasses a range of activities, grouped into Product Specific Activities (PSAs) and Horizontal Activities (HAs). The tasks undertaken by the MSAs within these two categories differ significantly. Participants in PSAs test the jointly selected products sam-

pled on their respective national markets. The products are tested in accredited laboratories across the EU/EFTA according to the agreed testing criteria. Meanwhile, HAs serve as a platform for knowledge-exchange among MSAs, to develop common approaches, procedures and practical tools for market surveillance.

Product Specific Activities	Horizontal Activities
PSA1 – Baby soothers PSA2 – High chairs PSA3 – Lighting chains PSA4 – Mini electric heaters PSA5 – Disposable electronic cigarettes PSA6 – Bicycles for children PSA7 – Slime toys (re-testing)	HA1 – Standardisation HA2 - Starter kit for newcomers

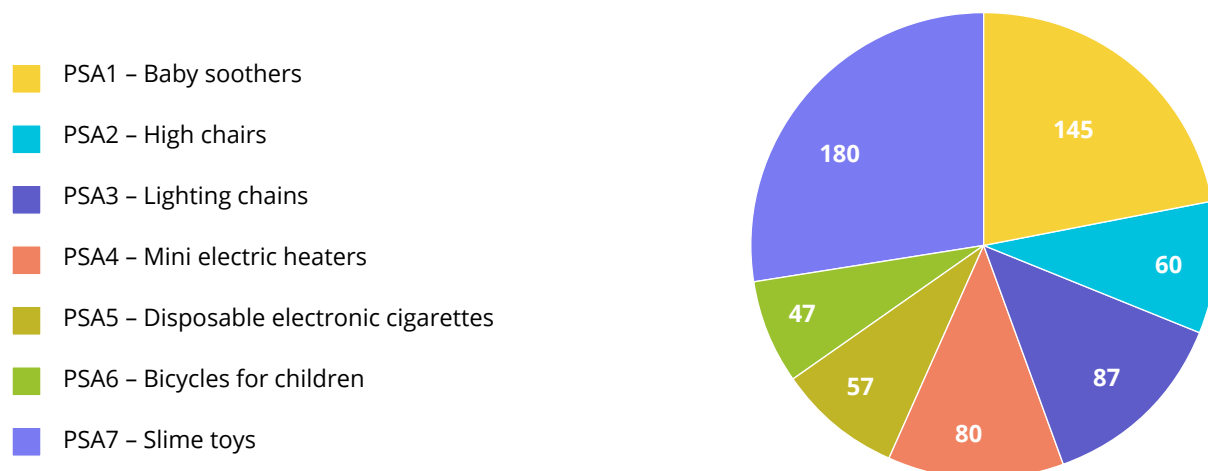
### Main results and conclusions of CASP 2024

#### Product-specific activities

Combining the seven product-specific activities, 656 products were collected by participating MSAs, following a sampling methodology defined for each product category. The sampling was carried out based on the distribution agreed upon by the authorities, in line with the peculiarities and availabilities of each market. Although the approaches may vary slightly, MSAs typically adopt a risk-based sampling method.

For each PSA, the samples were tested in an accredited testing laboratory using a common testing plan. In addition to the laboratory tests, the MSAs performed checks on warnings, markings and instructions in their national language(s).

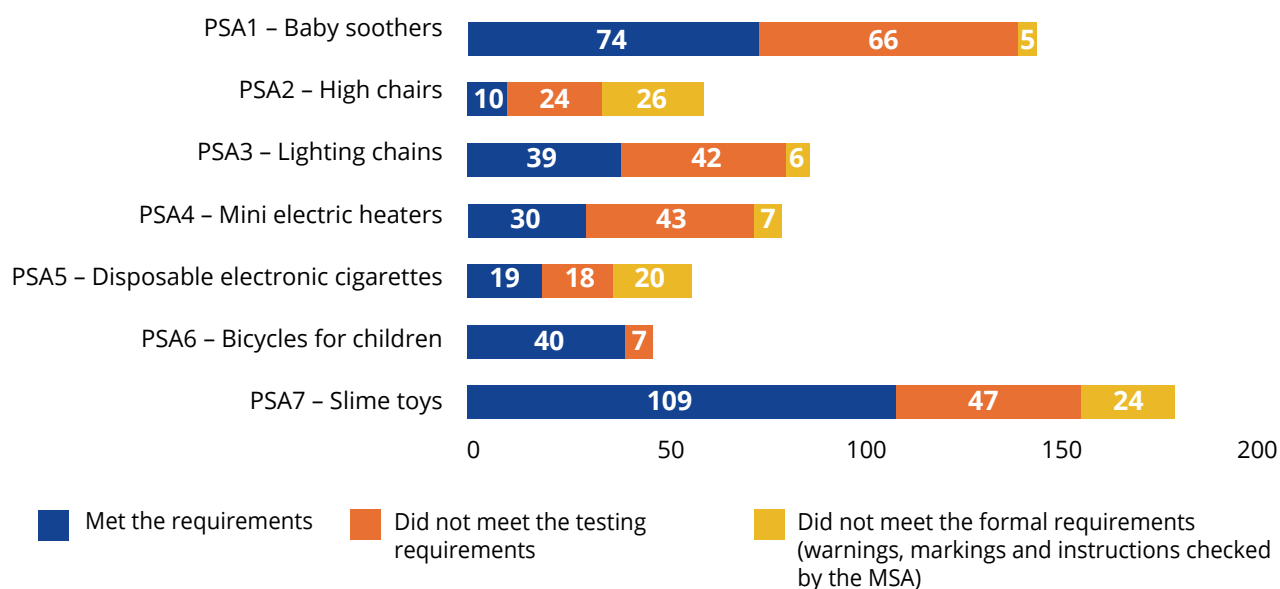
**Figure 1: Total number of samples tested (N=656)**



Corrective measures taken for the tested samples primarily aim to remove those products from the market that pose risks to consumers' health and safety. The final results do not offer a statistically robust representation of the European Single Market.

The graph below illustrates the overall results for each PSA.

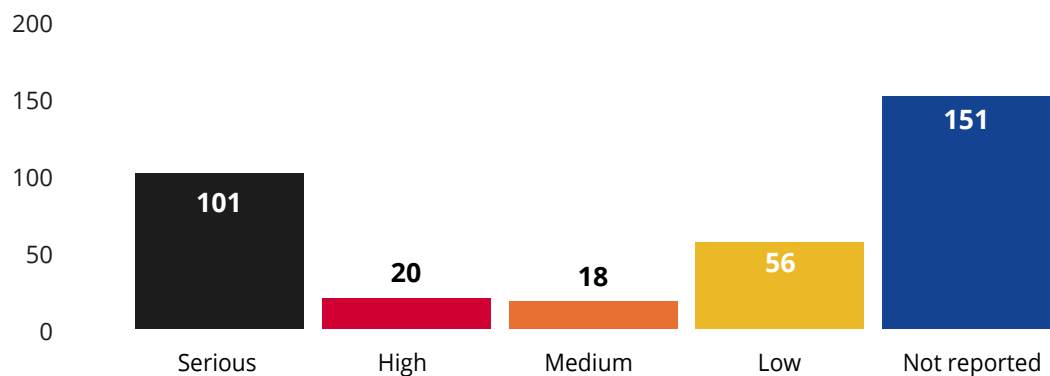
**Figure 2: Overall test results, including warnings, markings and instructions (N=656)**



The MSAs conducted risk assessments for samples that did not meet the requirements. This exercise involved evaluating the potential injuries to end consumers and the likelihood of such injuries occurring. Joint risk assessments are a crucial component of the PSA laboratory

meetings, allowing MSAs to develop common approaches and discuss complex cases. Additionally, the MSAs had the opportunity to report on and discuss the corrective measures to be implemented.

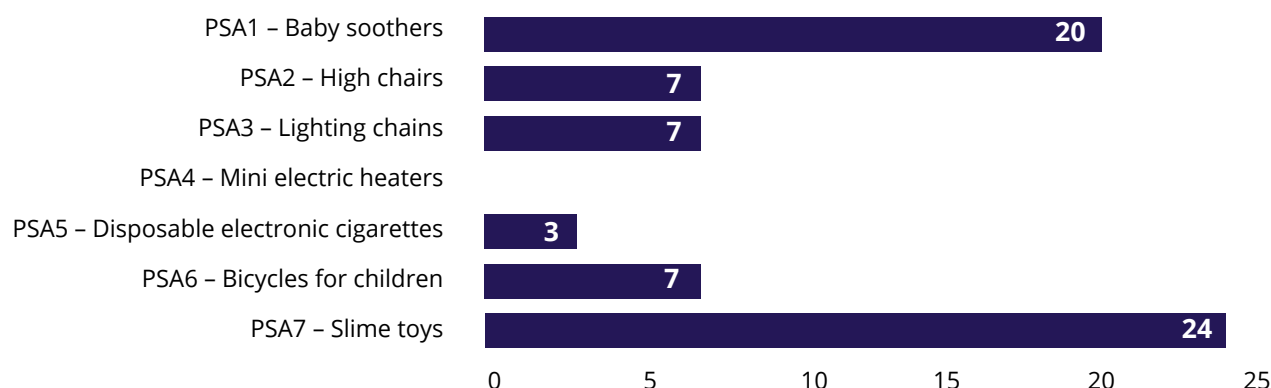
**Figure 3: Overview of risks levels for samples that did not meet the testing requirements (N=346)**



**Table 1: Summary of corrective measures taken per PSA**

Type of measures	PSA1	PSA2	PSA3	PSA4	PSA5	PSA6	PSA7	TOTAL
Recall of the product from end users	21	2	7	2	1	14	17	64
Withdrawal of the product from the market	6	9	2	3	5	8	12	45
Ban on the sale of the product	21	2	5	2	4	5	37	76
Destruction of the product	1	0	1	0	0	0	8	10
Stop of sales	3	0	3	1	0	11	18	36
Removal of the product listing by the online marketplace/webshop	6	0	0	2	0	0	8	16
Import rejected at border	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Sanctions against the economic operator	0	0	6	4	16	0	2	28
Requesting the economic operator to change/improve the product	14	11	2	9	0	3	6	45
Requesting the economic operator to mark the product with appropriate warnings	2	13	13	3	0	1	2	34
Warning consumers of the risks	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	11
Informed responsible MSA	2	0	1	2	0	0	0	5
Other	1	1	6	5	1	0	3	17
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>387</b>

**Figure 4: Safety Gate notifications based on the CASP 2024 test results (N=68)**



## Horizontal activities

Horizontal activities serve as a knowledge-exchange platform for MSAs, allowing them to address challenges, share perspectives and best practices and develop effective solutions. The manual, guidance and supporting

documents produced from these two activities are designed to enhance the effectiveness of market surveillance across all EU/EFTA authorities.

**Table 2: Summary of main outcomes of the CASP 2024 horizontal activities**

Horizontal activities	Outcomes
Standardisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Handbook on the use of standards by analogy;</li> <li>▶ Compilation of 10 case studies;</li> <li>▶ List of GPSR products that are currently not covered by a specific European standards cited in the OJEU.</li> </ul>
Starter kit for newcomers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ List of most essential information for a colleague joining an MSA;</li> <li>▶ DG JUST SharePoint platform reorganised and updated;</li> <li>▶ Development of a comprehensive compilation of resources and training materials to guide MSA newcomers (tutorial-style videos, infographics and graphs).</li> </ul>

## Main recommendations

Based on the discussions among MSAs during the project and the outcomes of the activities, a comprehensive set of recommendations was developed for each activity, targeting economic operators and consumers.

The complete version of these recommendations can be found at the end of this report. Specific recommendations related to each activity are included in the dedicated activity reports.

## CASP 2024 project

### Description of CASP 2024 and its activities

CASP 2024 is the fifth edition of the large annual CASP projects. CASP 2024 encompasses two distinct types of activities:

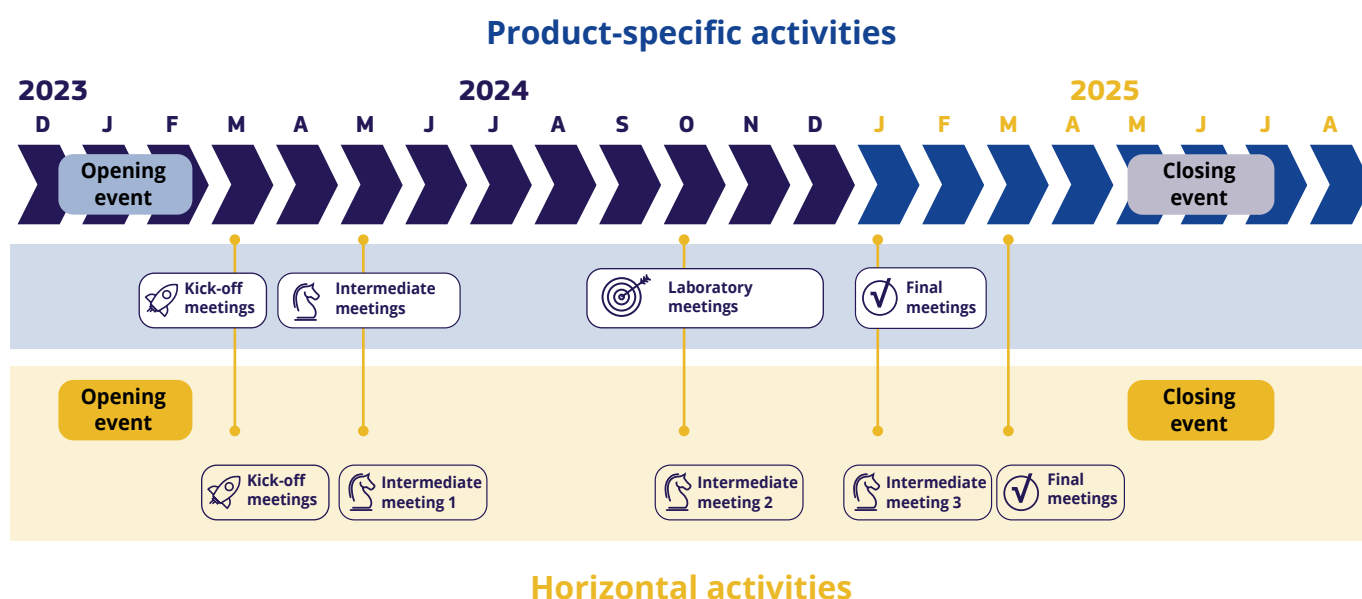
- **Product Specific Activities:** Participants test jointly selected products, sampled from their national markets, in accredited laboratories within the EU/EFTA, adhering to commonly agreed testing criteria. CASP 2024 also incorporates a re-testing initiative. Re-testing initiatives repeat large-scale market surveillance activities (in this case, CASP 2019 Slime) for products which previously had high failure rates and which resulted in many Safety Gate notifications;

- **Horizontal Activities:** These activities provide a knowledge-exchange forum for MSAs, allowing them to collaborate with technical experts to develop common approaches, procedures and tools to enhance the effectiveness of market surveillance.

Before the start of CASP 2024, the European Commission consulted MSAs to identify their interests and priorities. Based on this input, the MSAs selected a range of product-specific and horizontal activities, ensuring alignment with their market surveillance objectives.

PSAs	HAs
PSA1 – Baby soothers	HA1 – Standardisation
PSA2 – High chairs	HA2 – Starter kit for newcomers
PSA3 – Lighting chains	
PSA4 – Mini electric heaters	
PSA5 – Disposable electronic cigarettes	
PSA6 – Bicycles for children	
PSA7 – Slime toys (re-testing)	

Figure 5: Timeline of CASP 2024





## Participating MSAs

A total of 41 authorities from 25 EU Member States/EFTA countries participated in CASP 2024<sup>1</sup>.

Country	MSA	PSA1	PSA2	PSA3	PSA4	PSA5	PSA6	PSA7	HA1	HA2
Austria	Federal Ministry of Social Affairs, Health, Care and Consumer Protection	x				x		x	x	
	Federal Ministry of Social Affairs, Health, Care and Consumer Protection Unit III/A/3 Product Safety						x		x	
Belgium	Federal public service health - Inspection consumption product unit					x				x
	Federal Public Service Economy - Directorate General Quality and Safety	x								
Bulgaria	Commission for Consumer Protection	x	x				x			
Croatia	State Inspectorate	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
Cyprus	Department of Labour Inspection				x*					
	Consumer Protection Service	x	x							
	Department of Electrical and Mechanical Services, Ministry of Transport, Communications and Works								x	x
Czechia	Czech Trade Inspection Authority		x	x*			x	x*		
Estonia	Consumer Protection and Technical Regulatory Authority	x			x			x		
Finland	Finnish Transport and Communications Agency						x			
France	General Directorate for competition, consumer protection and fraud control		x					x		
Germany	State Directory of Saxony	x						x*	x	
	Government of Middle Franconia - Trade Supervisory Office						x			x
	Labour Inspectorate State of Bremen	x*								
	Detmold District Government	x*								
	Competence Centre Market Surveillance - Trade Supervisory Authority - Government of Upper Bavaria		x		x			x		
	Tübingen Regional Council			x						
	District Government of Düsseldorf				x					
Hungary	Ministry of Justice, Consumer protection and Market surveillance department	x*		x*				x*		
Iceland	Housing and Construction Authority		x			x	x*			

<sup>1</sup> The authorities indicated with (\*) are testing-only participants. They are allowed to participate in the testing process, but are not involved in activity meetings, discussions and decision-making processes.

Ireland	Competition and Consumer Protection Commission	x	x	x	x					
Italy	Torino Chamber of Commerce				x			x	x	
	Chamber of Commerce of Milan Monza Brianza Lodi			x	x			x		x
	Chamber of Commerce of Venezia Rovigo			x*				x*		
	Chamber of Commerce of Reggio Calabria			x*				x*		
	Pistoia-Prato Chamber of Commerce							x		
Latvia	Consumer Rights Protection Centre				x			x		
Lithuania	State Consumer Rights Protection Authority	x	x*	x	x	x	x	x		x
Luxembourg	ILNAS - Market Surveillance Department	x			x					
Malta	Malta Competition and Consumer Affairs Authority	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
	Environmental Health Directorate					x				
Norway	Norwegian Directorate for Civil Protection	x						x		
Poland	Office of Competition and Consumer Protection (UOKiK)			x				x		
Portugal	Economic and Food Safety Authority		x							
Slovak Republic	Slovak Trade Inspection			x				x	x	
Spain	Ministry of Social Rights, Consumer Affairs and 2030 Agenda	x*								
	Ministry of Industry and Tourism							x*	x*	
Sweden	Swedish National Electrical Safety Board			x	x				x	x
The Netherlands	Netherlands Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority							x		
TOTAL		16	11	13	13	7	13	19	6	6

## Product-specific activities

### Baby soothers

This activity focused on two product categories: **baby soothers** (commonly referred to as pacifiers or dummies) and **soother holders** (with or without play elements). A total of 145 products were collected by

participating MSAs: 81 baby soothers and 64 soother holders, of which 14 included a play element. A total of 111 samples were obtained in physical stores and 34 were purchased online.

#### Testing criteria

Baby soothers were tested in accordance with **EN 1400:2013+A2:2018** (including corrigendum January 2019) and the **REACH** Annex XVII regarding phthalate restrictions (entries 51 and 52);

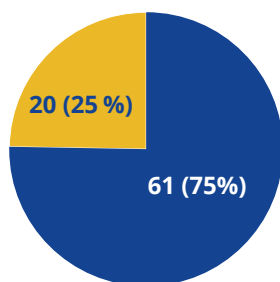
All soother holders were tested according to **EN 12586:2007+A1:2011**. Those with a play element were also tested according to **EN 71-1:2014+A1:2018** for toy safety and mechanical properties.

#### Test results

Out of 81 baby soothers, 20 (25%) failed at least one testing requirement. Including the checks performed by MSAs, 25 samples (31%) did not meet at least one requirement. The clauses with the highest failure rates were Clause 9.1 (impact resistance), Clause 8.4 (shield ventilation) and Clause 9.3 (tear resistance).

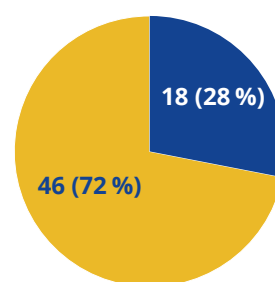
Out of 64 soother holders, 46 (72%) failed to meet the necessary requirements. The highest failure rates were for Clause 5.1 (general requirements) and Clause 5.2 (mechanical requirements). Additionally, 7 of 13 soother holders with a play element (54%) failed to meet the requirements, specifically Clause 5.1.12.6 (supplementary components as toys).

**Figure 6: Overall test results for baby soothers (excluding checks on warnings, markings and instructions) (N=81)**



■ Met the requirements

**Figure 7: Overall test results for soother holders (excluding checks on warnings, markings and instructions) (N=64)**



■ Did not meet the requirements

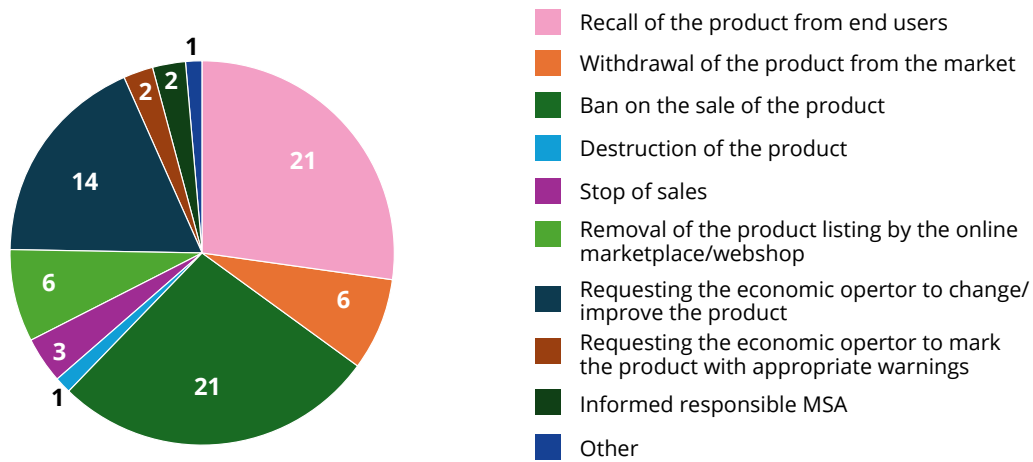
#### Risks levels and measures taken

Based on the test results, the MSAs performed risk assessments and decided which corrective measures to take<sup>2</sup>. A total of 9 baby soothers and 23 soother holders were assessed as posing serious risk.

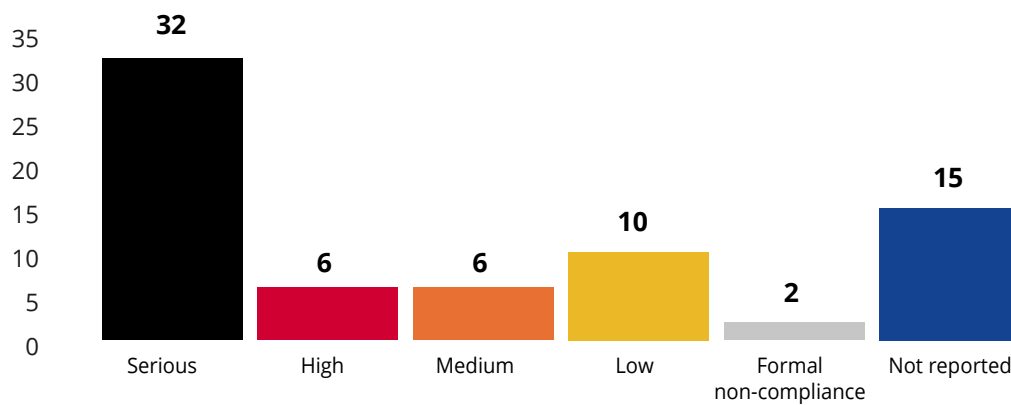
Safety Gate notifications were issued for 20 products (9 for baby soothers and 11 for soother holders).

<sup>2</sup> Reported results based on the information available until 26.05.2025.

**Figure 8: Measures taken for products that did not meet the requirements (N=77)<sup>3</sup>**



**Figure 9: Risk levels of samples (N=71)**



<sup>3</sup> The measures are numbered in order of severity (descending order).

## High chairs

The activity focused on traditional high chairs, high chairs with a folding element, high chairs with a dual function as toys or swings and high chairs with a table that can be separated. The participating MSAs collected 60 samples in total. Of these, 39 were obtained in physical stores and 21 were purchased online. This was a joint activity with the Canadian MSA, Health Canada, enabling to share testing results and risk assessment approaches, final results and communication campaigns.

### Testing criteria

The testing plan for this activity included mechanical and chemical tests according to **EN 14988:2017+A1:2020**:

- ▶ Mechanical tests (Clauses 8.1 to 8.12, Clause 9) were conducted on all samples;
- ▶ Chemical tests, Clause 6 (migration of certain elements) were carried out on 22 samples from 4 MSAs.

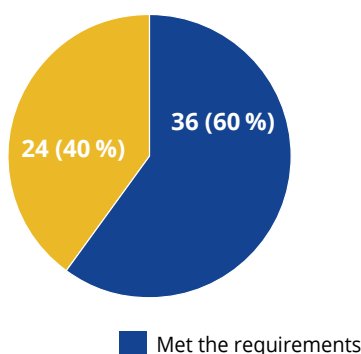
### Test results

Out of 60 samples, 24 (40%) failed to meet all requirements in the testing plan, excluding Clause 9 (markings). When both laboratory tests and the checks of warnings, markings and instructions by the MSAs are combined, 50 (83%) of the samples did not meet the requirements.

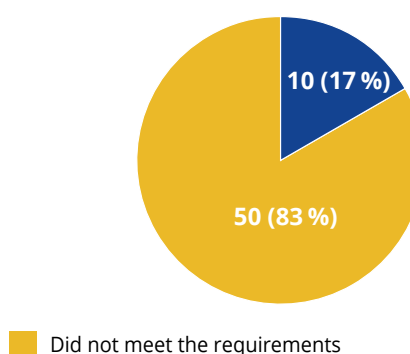
All 22 samples tested for chemical migration met the requirements. However, the amendment to EN 14988:2017+A2:2024 has introduced stricter chemical testing limits for elements like chromium VI, aluminum and lead, to align with EN 71-3:2019+A1:2021. Consequently, three samples that passed would now fail to meet the new requirements. After the campaign, the MSAs submitted two interpretation requests to CEN TC 364, which were discussed in a dedicated meeting and subsequently published on CEN's web repository.

**Figure 10: Overall test results (N=60)**

#### Excluding warnings, markings and instructions



#### Including warnings, markings and instructions

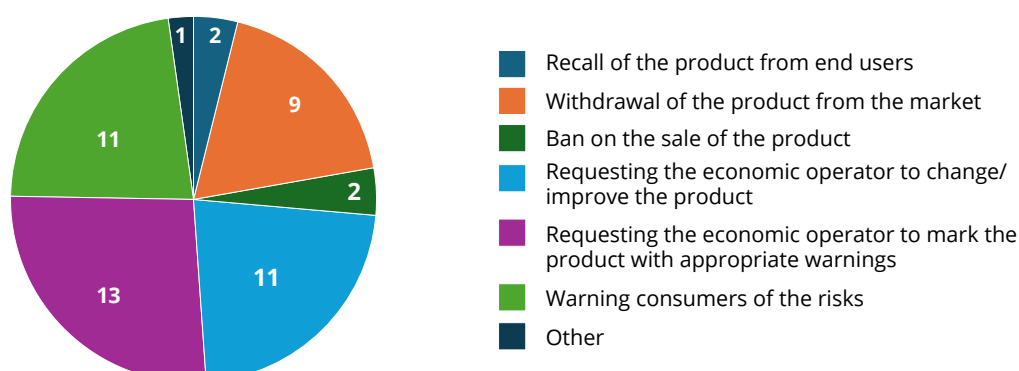


### Risks levels and measures taken<sup>4</sup>

Based on the test results, the MSAs performed risk assessments and decided on corrective measures. Eleven samples were assessed as posing a serious risk and one a high risk.

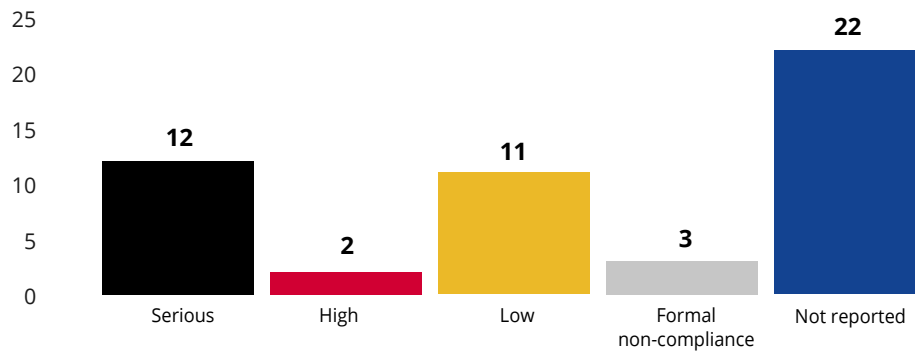
Safety Gate notifications were issued for seven products.

**Figure 11: Measures taken for products that did not meet the requirements (N=49)**



<sup>4</sup> Reported results based on information available until 26.05.2025.

**Figure 12: Risk levels of samples (N=50)**



## Lighting chains

This activity focused on testing lighting chains, both with and without control units, that fall under the Low Voltage Directive (LVD) and are to be plugged into a standard outlet. It included both traditional and sealed lighting

chains (rope lights). A total of 87 samples were collected by MSAs, both from online (20) and physical stores (67), of which 78 were traditional lighting chains and 9 were rope lights.

### Testing criteria

The testing plan for this activity included mechanical tests according to standards **EN 60598-2-20:2015** for traditional lighting chains and **EN 60598-2-21:2015** for sealed lighting chains, as well as **EN 61347-2-11** or **EN 61347-2-13:2014+A1:2017** for chains with control units.

- ▶ Mechanical tests (clauses 20/21.5, 20/21.7, 20/21.11 to 20/21.16) were conducted on all lighting chains;
- ▶ Mechanical tests (clauses 8, 12, 14 to 18) were conducted on 68 lighting chains with control units.

### Test results

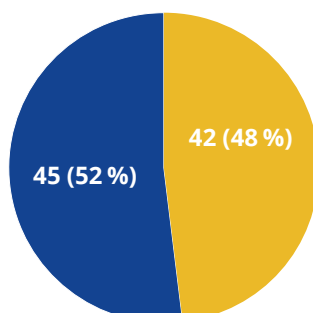
Out of 87 samples, 42 (48%) failed to meet at least one of the requirements of the testing plan. Of the 42 failures, 29 samples did not meet the requirements of Clause 20.11 (external and internal wiring).

Combining the laboratory tests and the checks of warnings, markings and instructions by MSAs, 48 (55%) samples did not meet the requirements. The main reasons

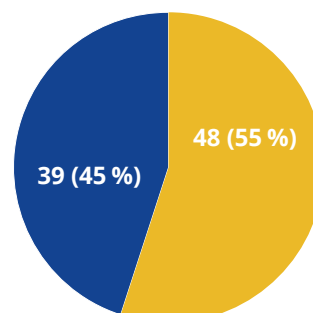
for non-compliance were missing or incorrect name and address of the manufacturer/importer (15 samples), electric shock warnings if the lamps are broken (15 samples), warnings about connecting to the power supply while the product is in the packaging (11 samples) and voltage-related information about the chain itself (9 samples).

**Figure 13: Overall test results (N=87)**

#### Excluding warnings, markings and instructions



#### Including warnings, markings and instructions

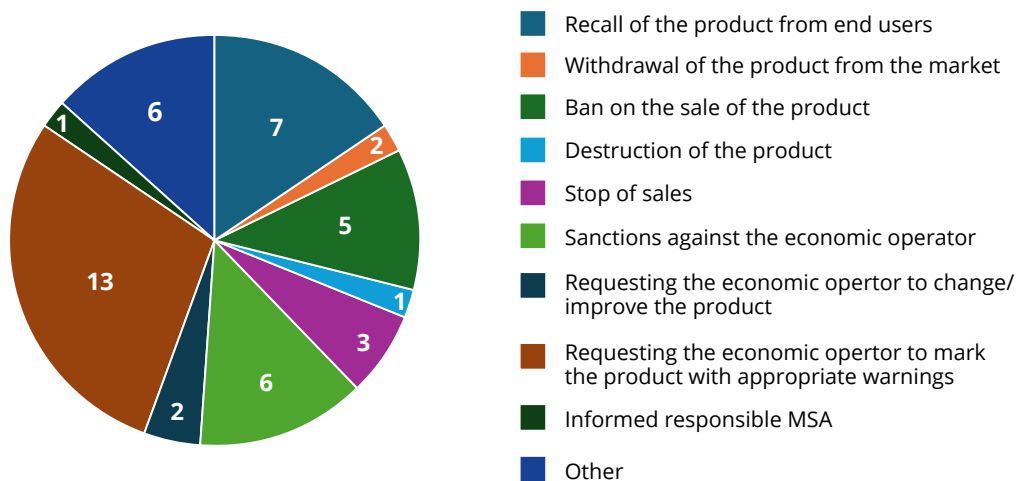


## Risks levels and measures taken<sup>5</sup>

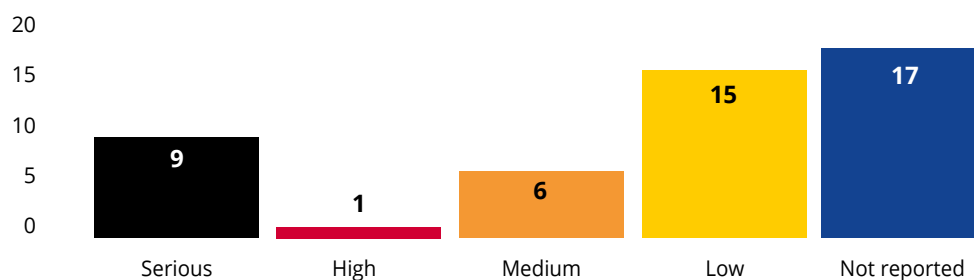
Based on the test results, the MSAs performed risk assessments and decided on corrective measures to take. In total, 9 samples were assessed as serious risk, 1 as high risk, 6 as medium risk and 15 as low risk.

Following the actions triggered by this testing campaign, Safety Gate notifications were issued for 7 products.

**Figure 14: Measures taken for products that did not meet the requirements (N=46)**



**Figure 15: Risk levels of samples (N=48)**



<sup>5</sup> Reported results based on information available until 26.05.2025.

## Mini electric heaters

This activity focused on testing mini electric heaters with a width and height not exceeding 40 cm and 30 cm respectively. It included portable fan heaters, radiant heat-

ers, plug-in heaters and ceramic heaters. A total of 80 samples were tested: 41 were collected by the MSAs from online channels and 39 from physical stores.

### Testing criteria

The testing plan included mechanical tests according to standard **EN 60335-2-30:2009 + A13:2022** (including amendment A2:2022), dealing with the safety of electric

room heaters for household purposes. Mechanical tests as per clauses 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, 15, 19 to 23, 25, 27, 29, and 30 were conducted on all samples.

### Test results

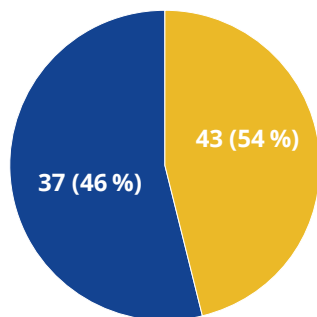
Out of 80 samples, 43 (54%) failed to meet at least one of the requirements of the testing plan, including 8 samples that did not meet the requirements of Clause 10 (power input and current).

Combining the laboratory tests and the MSAs' checks of warnings, markings and instructions, 50 (62%) samples did not meet the requirements. The main reasons

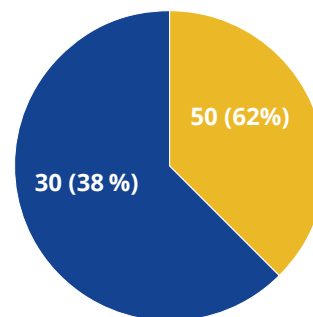
for non-compliance were information not provided in the official language of the country of sale (15 samples), missing warnings to keep 3-year-old children away from the heater (7 samples) and missing identifiers for the manufacturer inside or outside the EU/EEA (5 samples).

**Figure 16: Overall test results (N=80)**

#### Excluding warnings, markings and instructions



#### Including warnings, markings and instructions



■ Met the requirements ■ Did not meet the requirements

### Risks levels and measures taken<sup>6</sup>

Based on the test results, the MSAs performed risk assessments and decided on corrective measures.

A total of 7 samples were assessed as serious risk, 1 as high risk, 3 as medium risk and 12 low risk.

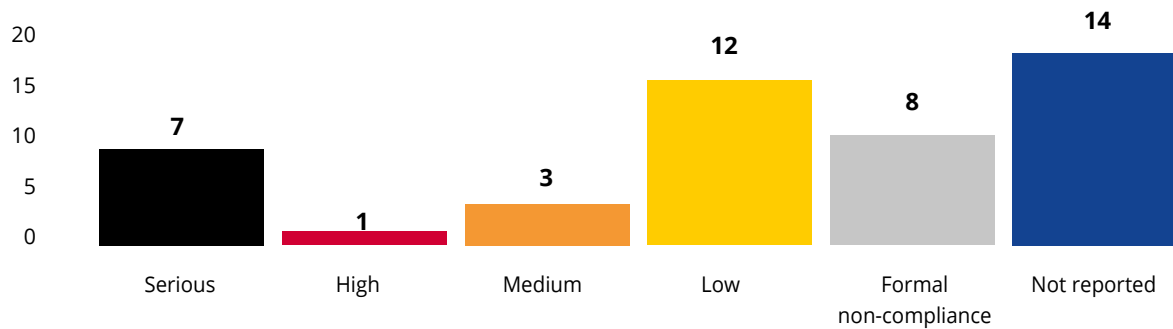
<sup>6</sup> Reported results based on the information available until 26.05.2025.



**Figure 17: Measures taken for products that did not meet the requirements (N=33)**



**Figure 18: Risk levels of samples (N=45)**



## Disposable electronic cigarettes

This activity focused on testing single-use and limited-use disposable cigarettes containing a pre-filled e-liquid reservoir with or without nicotine, which fall under the To-

bacco Products Directive (TPD) and the GPSR. A total of 57 samples were collected by participants MSAs: 55 from physical stores and 2 online.

### Testing criteria

The plan for this activity included mechanical testing according to **CEN/TS 17287:2019**, and tests of the content composition according to **ISO 20714:2021** and **EN 17746:2023**:

- ▶ Mechanical tests (clauses 4.2.1, 4.5 and 5.2);
- ▶ Content composition tests (nicotine content and purity, unauthorised additives and nicotine delivery and puff count).

### Test results

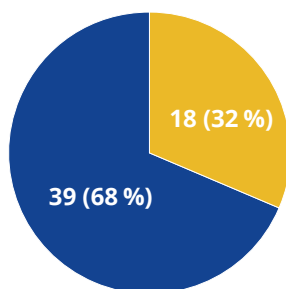
Out of 57 samples, 18 (32%) failed to meet at least one of the requirements of the testing plan. Of the failures, 16 samples did not meet the requirements of Clause 4.5 (e-liquid reservoir).

Including both laboratory tests and the MSAs' checks of warnings, markings and instructions, 38 (67%) of the

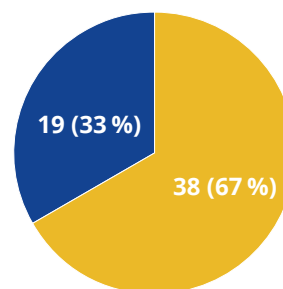
samples did not meet the requirements. The main reasons for non-compliance were problems with the list of ingredients in descending order or weight (15 samples), health warnings (8 samples) and containers exceeding the 2 ml limit for single-use cartridges (8 samples).

**Figure 19: Overall test results (N=57)**

**Excluding warnings, markings and instructions**



**Including warnings, markings and instructions**



■ Met the requirements    ■ Did not meet the requirements

### Risks levels and measures taken<sup>7</sup>

Based on the test results, the MSAs performed risk assessments and decided which corrective measures to take. In total, 4 samples were assessed as posing a serious risk, 2 a high risk, 1 a medium risk and 5 a low risk.

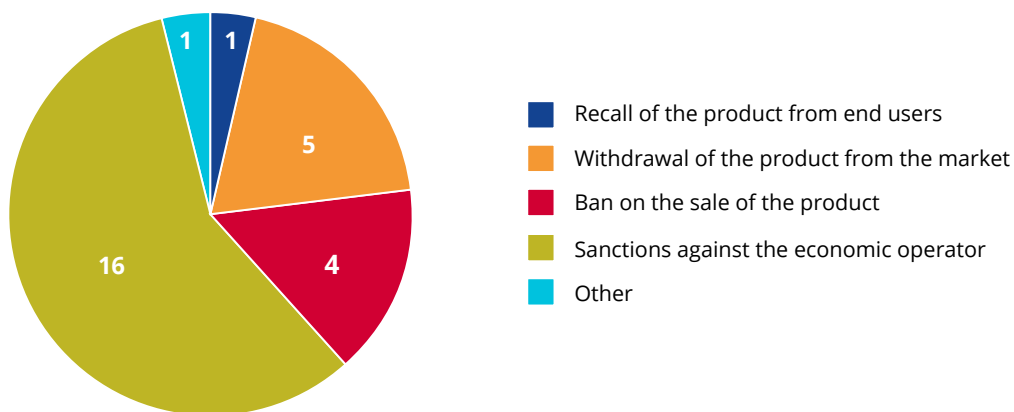
MSAs issued 3 Safety Gate notifications.

<sup>7</sup> Reported results based on the information available until 26.05.2025.

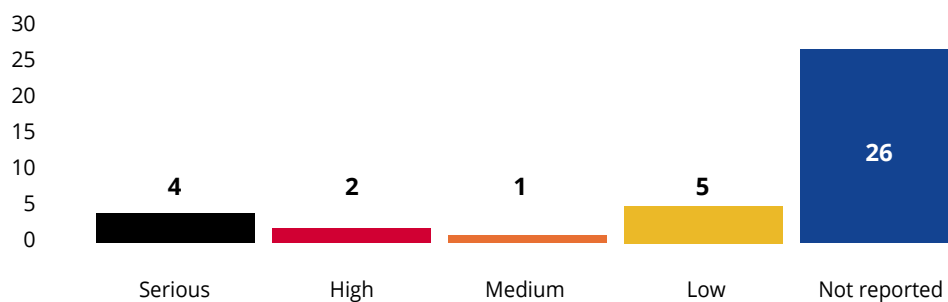
## Recommendations for regulators

- ▶ Rules about child safety requirements (especially child-proof activation systems) and labelling (e.g. by commission delegated acts) for disposable electronic cigarettes are needed.
- ▶ The TPD does not require the declaration of e-cigarette liquid volume. It is proposed to make the declaration of volume and the units of delivery per dose mandatory. Moreover, it is proposed to prohibit stating the puff count of devices on the packaging. This number is often used by manufacturers to promote their products, which is not allowed by the TPD;
- ▶ Consider implementing traceability measures for related tobacco products (e-cigarettes) to facilitate MSAs' management of non-compliant items;
- ▶ Address the legislative gap on nicotine pouches. These products are currently only covered by the GPSR. Two standards are being drafted for these products: ISO/DIS 21109 (test method for pH) and ISO/AWI 21114 (test method for nicotine). However, regulations regarding the safety of this product are missing and maximum amounts of substances (e.g. nicotine) have not been established yet.

**Figure 20: Measures taken for products that did not meet the requirements (N=27)**



**Figure 21: Risk levels of samples (N=38)**



## Bicycles for children

The activity focused on two product categories: children's bicycles and toy bicycles. Children's bicycles have saddle heights between 436 mm and 635 mm and use a chain mechanism to drive the rear wheel. Toy bicycles

are designed for play, lacking functional brakes or gears. A total of 47 samples were tested: 26 children's bicycles and 21 toy bicycles.

### Testing criteria

The testing plan included the following standards:

- ▶ Children's bicycles: tests for safety and durability per **EN ISO 8098:2023**, including sharp edges, exposed protrusions, brakes, steering, frames, wheels, pedals, saddles, chain protection and stabilisers;
- ▶ Toy bicycles: tests for braking, acoustics, strength, transmission, wheel arrangement, adjustable seat and handlebar insertion marks, along with warnings and instructions (per **EN 71-1:2014+A1:2018**).

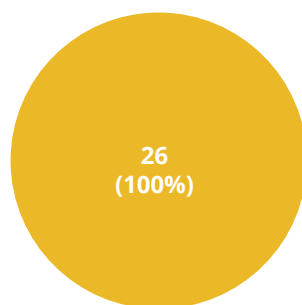
### Test results

All tested samples did not meet at least one of the requirements outlined in the testing plan.

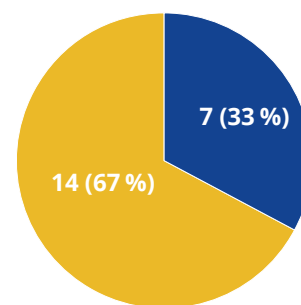
- ▶ For EN ISO 8098:2023, the highest failure rates were for the chain wheel and chain protection (96%), steering (96%) and brakes (92%);
- ▶ For EN 71-1:2014+A1:2018 the highest failures were in Clause 5 (release of small parts for toys for children under 3), Clause 4.15.2.3 (braking requirements)

and Clause 4.15.1.6 (inadequate drive chain/belt guards). Seven samples met the mechanical requirements, but did not pass the checks of warnings, markings and instructions.

**Figure 22: Overall test results for children's bicycles (excluding checks of warnings, markings and instructions) (N=26)**



**Figure 23: Overall test results for toy bicycles (excluding checks of warnings, markings and instructions) (N=21)**



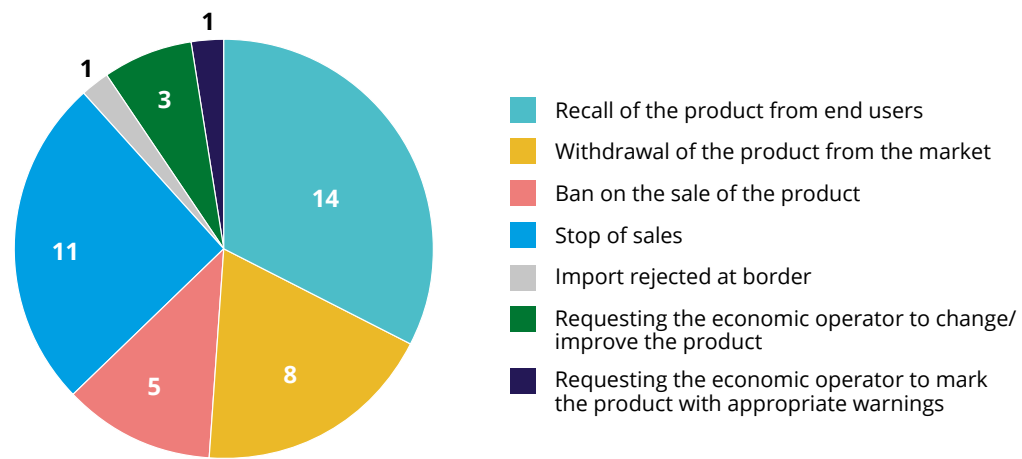
■ Met the requirements    ■ Did not meet the requirements

## Risks levels and measures taken<sup>8</sup>

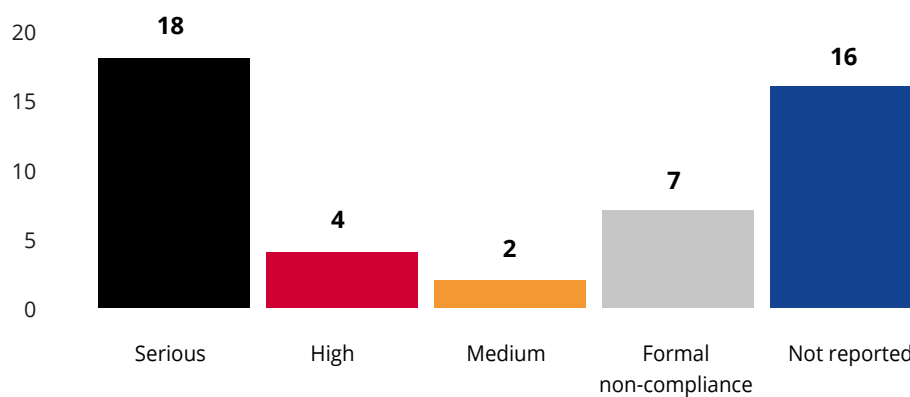
Based on the test results, the MSAs performed risk assessments and decided on corrective measures to take. A total of 18 bicycles (15 children's bicycles and 3 toy bicycles) were assessed as posing a serious risk.

Safety Gate notifications were issued for seven products.

**Figure 24: Measures taken for products that did not meet the requirements (N=43)**



**Figure 25: Risk levels of samples (N=47)**



<sup>8</sup> Reported results based on information available until 26.05.2025.

## Slime toys (re-testing)

The activity focused on slime toys and slime-like materials belonging to Category I (dry, brittle, powder-like or pliable toy material) and Category II (liquid or sticky toy material). The slime toys activity is the first re-testing activity of the CASP projects. By employing the testing plan of the CASP 2019 slime activity, this re-testing initiative enables

the repetition of the large-scale market surveillance of slime toys, in light of the high failure rate and many Safety Gate notifications for this product. MSAs collected 180 samples in total: 148 from physical stores, 31 online and 1 from customs.

### Testing criteria

The testing plan focused on the migration of all 19 metal and metalloid elements included in the TSD and EN 71-3:2013 + A3:2018, as opposed to the CASP 2019 slime activity which only focused on boron. Product categori-

sation was performed on the samples according to the newly published technical specification for categorising slime toys (PD CEN/TS 17973:2023).

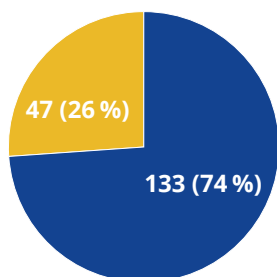
### Test results

Out of 180 samples tested, 47 (26%) failed to meet the requirements outlined in the testing plan: 46 for boron migration and 1 for lead migration. Of the samples, 56 were classified as Category I toys, of which only 1 (2%) failed the tests, while 46 (37%) of the 124 Category II toys did not meet the criteria.

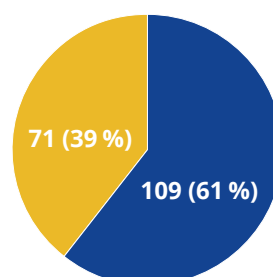
During CASP 2019, 195 slime samples were tested, revealing that 10 out of 66 (15%) Category I samples failed the boron migration test, compared to 29 out of 129 (22%) for Category II. This indicates an improvement in the failure rate for Category I slime toys, while the failure rate for Category II samples increased.

**Figure 26: Overall test results (N=180)**

**Excluding warnings, markings and instructions**



**Including warnings, markings and instructions**



■ Met the requirements    ■ Did not meet the requirements

### Risks levels and measures taken

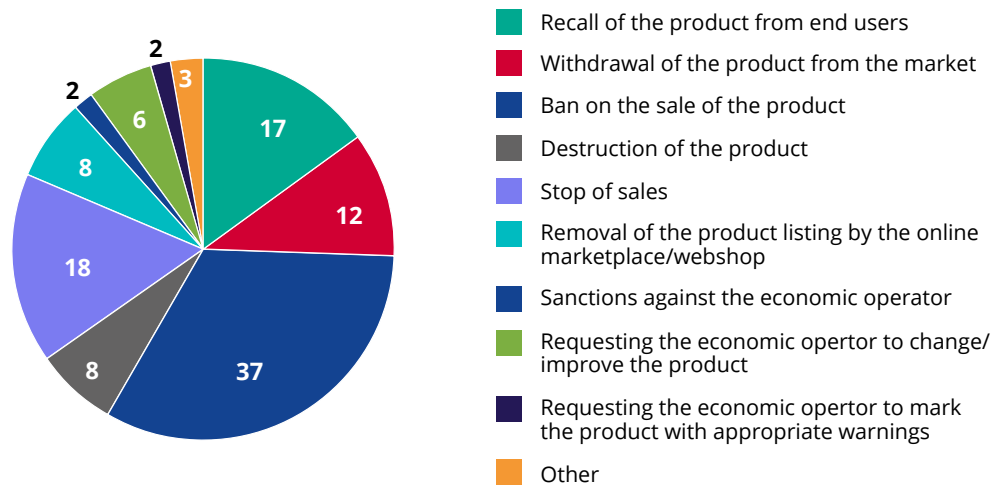
Based on the test results, the MSAs decided on corrective measures to take<sup>9</sup>.

Safety Gate notifications were issued for 24 products.

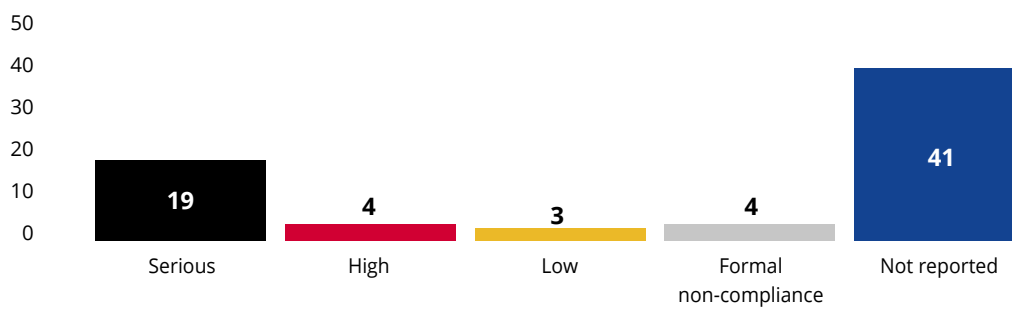
Detection of a banned chemical substance, or of a substance that exceeds limits set in European legislation, automatically classifies the risk as serious, eliminating the need for an individual risk assessment. Based on boron and lead migration thresholds, 23 samples were assessed as posing a serious or high risk.

<sup>9</sup> Reported results based on the information available until 26.05.2025.

**Figure 27: Measures taken for products that did not meet the requirements (N=113)**



**Figure 28: Risk levels of samples (N=71)**



# Horizontal activities

## Standardisation

### Context and scope

The GPSR ensures a high level of product safety across the EU by requiring consumer products to be safe before they are made available on the single market. It entered into application on 13 December 2024.

While enforcing the GPSR, MSAs are identifying unsafe products and mitigating risks. However, when specific European standards are not available for a product, MSAs face challenges in safety assessment and must rely on alternative methods. In such cases, MSAs can refer to standards for similar or related products.

The Standardisation HA aimed to develop a strategy for the use of standards by analogy when products are not covered by standards cited in the EU's Official Journal. In addition, participants discussed cases of GPSR products that are currently not covered by a specific European standard cited in the Official Journal of the EU. This is important, as the absence of harmonised procedures for using standards by analogy can create uncertainty for both MSAs and economic operators.

### Process

During the three intermediate meetings a five-step methodology was developed, which then formed the basis of the activity's other deliverables, the case studies:

1. Examine the product markings and manufacturer's risk assessment;
2. Define the product's characteristics and risks;
3. Identify similar product categories covered by existing standards;

4. Analyse the standards applicable to similar products;
5. Address the identified gaps and over-assessment.

In addition to these five steps, the methodology also includes two horizontal actions to be applied throughout the process:

- ▶ Consulting with colleagues, experts and stakeholders and
- ▶ Documentation and record-keeping.

### Outcomes

Handbook on the use of standards by analogy	A comprehensive guide for MSAs of existing practices, challenges and methodologies for risk assessment and testing of products that are currently not covered by existing standards. This document is based on the five-stage methodology.
Compilation of 10 case studies	A compilation of 10 case studies that use real-life examples to illustrate the handbook's methodology for applying standards by analogy in practice, following the five-stage approach. The 10 product categories are: coffee machines, air fryers, learning towers, soda machines, handcarts, ozone/UV purifiers, hygiene products, wireless chargers, electronic cigarettes and remote control devices.
List of GPSR products that are currently not covered by a specific European standard cited in the OJEU	A list of product categories products that are currently not covered by specific European standards cited in the EU's Official Journal, identified as priority areas for future standardisation under the GPSR. The selected products were determined based on their associated risks and complaints received by the MSAs. They are: soda machines, baby bean bags and baby sleep positioners, nursery pillows, sensory swings, combination strollers, children's tables, sports and playground equipment (including ziplines), elastic straps with hooks at the ends for fastenings (octopus), hot-water bags, button batteries, decorative products or hygiene or cleaning products with a misleading appearance (food), children's footwear and products worn by children.



## Starter kit for newcomers

### Context and scope

The Starter Kit for Newcomers HA aimed to identify and consolidate critical information necessary for a new colleague joining an MSA, to address the cross-cutting challenges experienced by MSA newcomers across the EU.

During the activity, participants contributed to the update and reorganisation of the existing CASP [SharePoint platform](#) created by DG JUST, which hosts general information about market surveillance and all previously developed guidance documents from CASP projects for MSAs exclusive use. This was supported by the development of training materials to be integrated into SharePoint.

### Process

The activity followed a five-stage process, starting with determining the needs and expectations of participating MSAs through preparatory work and meetings. Feedback from these sessions was used to draft the methodology and work plan, which included the development of in-

fographics, graphs and videos covering topics such as EU projects, Safety Gate and sector-specific legislation. The SharePoint structure was revised based on the input from MSAs and the training materials were co-developed through feedback sessions, both online and in-person.

### Outcomes

A list of the most essential information for newcomers served as the foundation for developing the training materials. The CASP SharePoint was reorganised and updated to create a more accessible and user-friendly interface, allowing it to act as a centralised resource hub for MSAs.

The following training materials were produced under this activity:

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#### 12 infographics

The infographics present crucial information in a concise, comprehensive and user-friendly manner. They are consistently integrated into topic-specific sections on the CASP SharePoint.

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#### 16 graphs

Visual representations of the latest trends and statistics related to Safety Gate notifications of dangerous products, and of the findings from previous CASP projects.

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#### Two tutorial-style videos

One video explains why market surveillance plays a crucial role in consumer protection and product safety providing an overview of the legislative framework and market surveillance powers. The second video provides practical instructions on how to create a notification in the Safety Gate system.

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# Conclusions

## General conclusions

A total of 41 authorities from 25 EU Member States and EFTA countries combined their market surveillance efforts to enhance the safety of products placed on the European market by:

- ▶ Sampling 656 products from 7 different categories in their respective markets and sending them for testing to jointly selected accredited laboratories within the EU;
- ▶ Analysing the outcomes of the tests, jointly assessing the risks identified, and determining the appropriate corrective measures for non-compliant products that pose health and safety risks to consumers;
- ▶ Submitting **68** notifications on Safety Gate;

- ▶ Co-developing several documents that address key horizontal topics related to market surveillance practices.

The insights gathered through the CASP 2024 activities on product testing and market surveillance-related topics are valuable not only for MSAs, but also directly relevant to consumers and economic operators. This report provides an overview of all the activities and results of CASP 2024. Further detailed information can be found in the separate activity reports. All public materials and reports are available on the dedicated CASP website.

## Product-specific activities

The priority-setting exercise conducted prior to the project's launch effectively identified product categories requiring enhanced market surveillance within the European market. Out of 656 products tested, a total of **287** did not comply with at least one of the requirements outlined in the testing plans. Among these, 102 products were classified as posing serious risks, 19 were deemed high risk, 18 medium risk and 56 low risk.

MSAs implemented measures based on their risk assessments. Notifications about **68** products were published on Safety Gate to ensure information is shared with other MSAs, consumers and economic operators.

The joint risk assessment exercises on products that failed the tests provided unique, hands-on opportunities to harmonise how MSAs deal with non-compliant products. These collaborative sessions not only facilitated the exchange of ideas and best practices, but also allowed participants to align their approaches and clarify any doubts regarding the assessment processes. This open dialogue fostered a deeper understanding among the MSAs, ultimately strengthening the overall effectiveness of market surveillance efforts.

## Horizontal activities

Collaboration among MSAs across the EU/EFTA countries is essential for addressing various challenges in market surveillance. These include adapting to market developments that result in products lacking available standards, gaps in the application of standards by analogy and integrating new colleagues into MSAs.

In addition to discussing common challenges and best practices, and developing harmonised approaches and tools for market surveillance, horizontal activities also focus on fostering cooperation among authorities. These initiatives enable the use of available tools and resources to help authorities tackle emerging challenges:

- ▶ The **Standardisation** activity focused on developing a comprehensive methodology for the use of standards by analogy, which was applied to 10 different case studies. This groundwork will facilitate making risk assessments for products that are not covered by standards cited in the EU's Official Journal. Additionally, it aimed to identify existing gaps and priorities in standardisation under the GPSR;
- ▶ The **Starter kit for newcomers** activity focused on creating training materials for MSA newcomers. It emphasised structured and ongoing support for new colleagues and the need for tools that can adapt to the evolving landscape of market surveillance. Providing newcomers with a solid foundation is crucial for ensuring the quality of enforcement and protecting consumers from dangerous products in the Single Market.

## Recommendations

### For consumers

- ▶ **Check for manufacturer information:** Always verify that the product has clear contact details for the manufacturer or importer based in the European Economic Area. This ensures you can report any safety issues or defects.
- ▶ **Read instructions carefully:** Before using any product, ensure that you read and understand the safety instructions and warnings provided. These should be available in your language and are essential for safe use.
- ▶ **Inspect products regularly:** Before each use, check the product for any signs of wear, damage, or for small detachable parts that could pose choking hazards to small children. Replace or discontinue use if any defects are found.
- ▶ **Purchase from reputable sources:** Buy products from trustworthy retailers and brands to ensure safety and compliance with safety standards.
- ▶ **Stay informed about recalls:** Regularly check the Safety Gate system for any recalls or safety alerts related to the products you own. If a product is recalled, stop using it immediately and follow the provided instructions.
- ▶ **Report safety issues:** If you encounter safety concerns or accidents related to a product, report them to your consumer protection authority through the [Consumer Safety Gateway](#). Your feedback helps improve product safety for everyone.

### For economic operators

- ▶ **Understand legal obligations:** Be fully aware of your responsibilities under applicable legislation, including the General Product Safety Regulation (GPSR). Ensure compliance before placing any product on the market.
- ▶ **Provide clear warnings and instructions:** Ensure that all products come with comprehensive, durable and easily visible warnings, markings and instructions. This information must be available in the national language(s) of the country where the product is sold.
- ▶ **Know your suppliers:** Carefully assess and verify the identity of your suppliers to ensure traceability in case of defects. Maintain open communication to mitigate risks associated with supplier changes.
- ▶ **Monitor product safety:** Regularly check your products for compliance with safety standards and be proactive in addressing risks. Implement a strategy for managing recalls, including clear communication with consumers about hazards and compensation procedures.
- ▶ **Report safety issues:** Immediately inform the relevant authorities of any known safety issues or accidents related to your products through the Safety Business Gateway. Timely reporting is essential for consumer protection.

**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**

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