



How safe are children's bicycles and toy bicycles sold in the EU?



National market surveillance authorities collaborated in a product safety campaign, funded through the European Commission, to test selected children's bicycles and toy bicycles sold on their markets for compliance with EU rules and standards.



What was tested?

47 bicycle samples, consisting of **26 bicycles for children** and **21 toy bicycles**, bought online and from physical stores in **13 countries** were analysed by an accredited laboratory in the EU. Laboratory tests included checks on warnings, markings, instructions and mechanics, such as brakes, steering and chain-wheel and chain protection. Labelling and marking were verified by the relevant national authorities.



What should you do?

- **Beware** of the difference between bicycles for children and toy bicycles: those with saddle heights below 435 mm are not suitable for use on public roads.
- **Ensure** children wear protective equipment, such as helmets, elbow and knee pads.

- **Inspect** the bicycle regularly to make sure it is in good working order.
- **Check [Safety Gate](#)** for reported problems for the bicycle you want to buy.
- **Report safety issues** or accidents with the product to your consumer protection authority on [Consumer Safety Gateway](#).

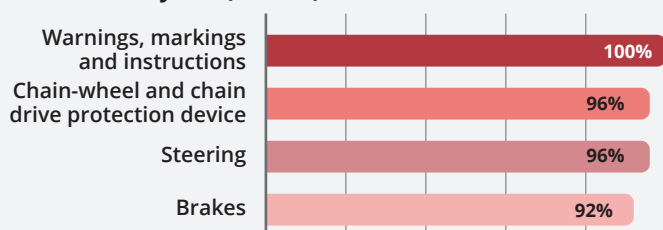


Test results

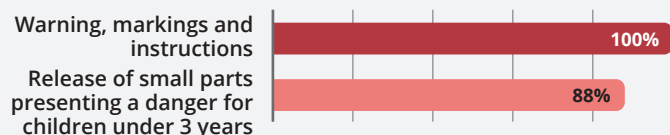
Of the 47 samples of children and toy bicycles, **none** met at least one of the testing requirements. Issues for children's bicycles were due to failures in the chain-wheel and chain protection, steering and brakes. For toy bicycles, failures were related to braking requirements, as well as due to the release of small parts on bicycles for under 3-year-olds.

Checks on warnings, markings and instructions found that **83%** did not meet the requirements.

Children's bicycles (failure)



Toy bicycles (failure)



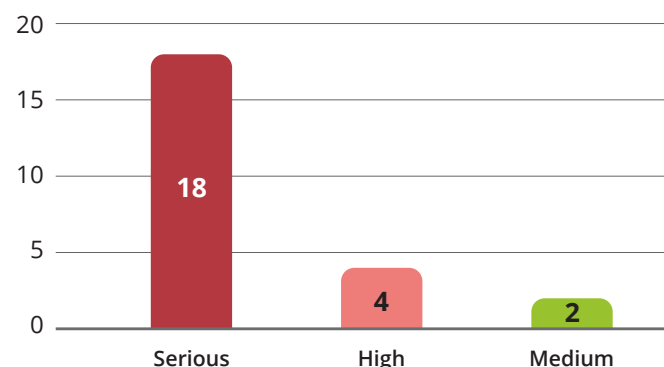
What are the risks?

Both categories of bicycles can pose significant risks for children, such as injuries, including due to sharp edges, the risk of clothing getting caught in the chain and finger entrapment.



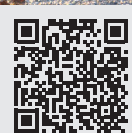
What did national authorities do?

15 children's bicycles and 3 toy bicycles were found to pose a **serious risk** to safety, 4 a high risk, 2 a medium risk and 7 were non-compliant.



Notifications for **two products** of serious risk were posted on [Safety Gate](#), the EU's rapid alert system for dangerous non-food products. Manufacturers and distributors were instructed to:

- recall their products from consumers;
- withdraw them from the market;
- stop further sales;
- correct shortcomings with labels, warnings and instructions.



Scan the QR code for the detailed report and for more information