



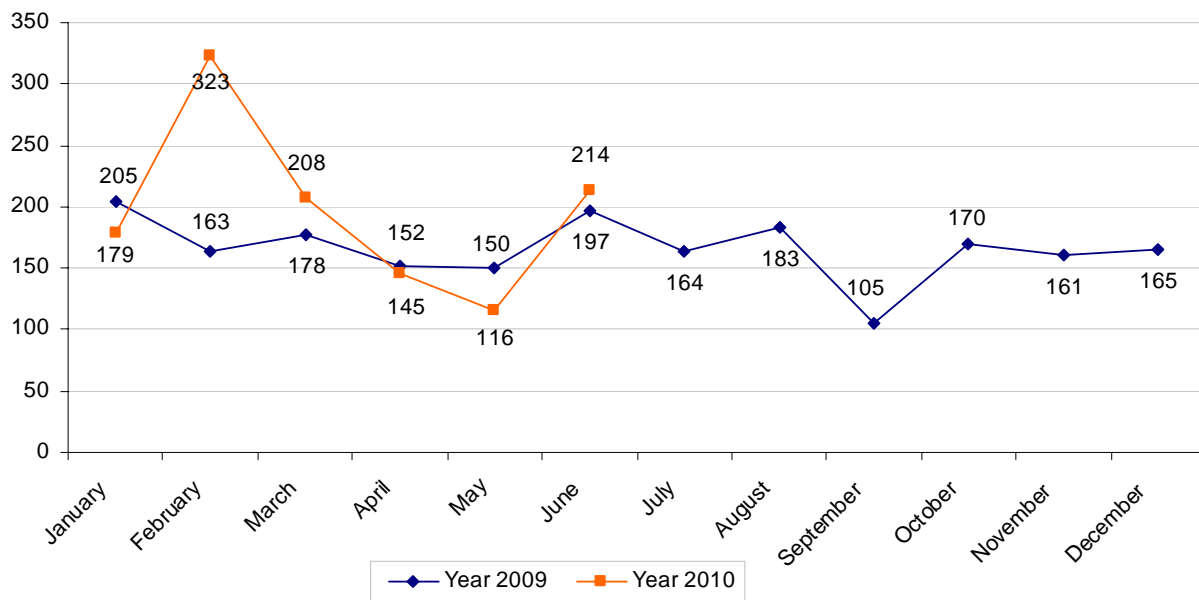
Brussels, 29 July 2010

RAPEX statistics (1 January – 30 June 2010)

In accordance with the General Product Safety Directive 2001/95/EC (GPSD), from January to June 2010 inclusive, the Commission validated **1.185 RAPEX notifications** and transmitted them to the Member States and the EFTA/EEA countries:

- **Article 12** (serious risk): **1.030** notifications (87%) compared to 901 for the same period in 2009 (14% increase),
- **Article 11** (moderate risk): **13** notifications (1%) compared to 4 for the same period in 2009 (225% increase),
- **For information:** **142** notifications (12%) compared to 140 for the same period in 2009 (1% increase).

The total number of RAPEX notifications has continued to increase compared to the same period in 2009 (1.045 notifications). There has been an overall increase of **13%** in the total number of notifications distributed through RAPEX in the first six months of 2010.

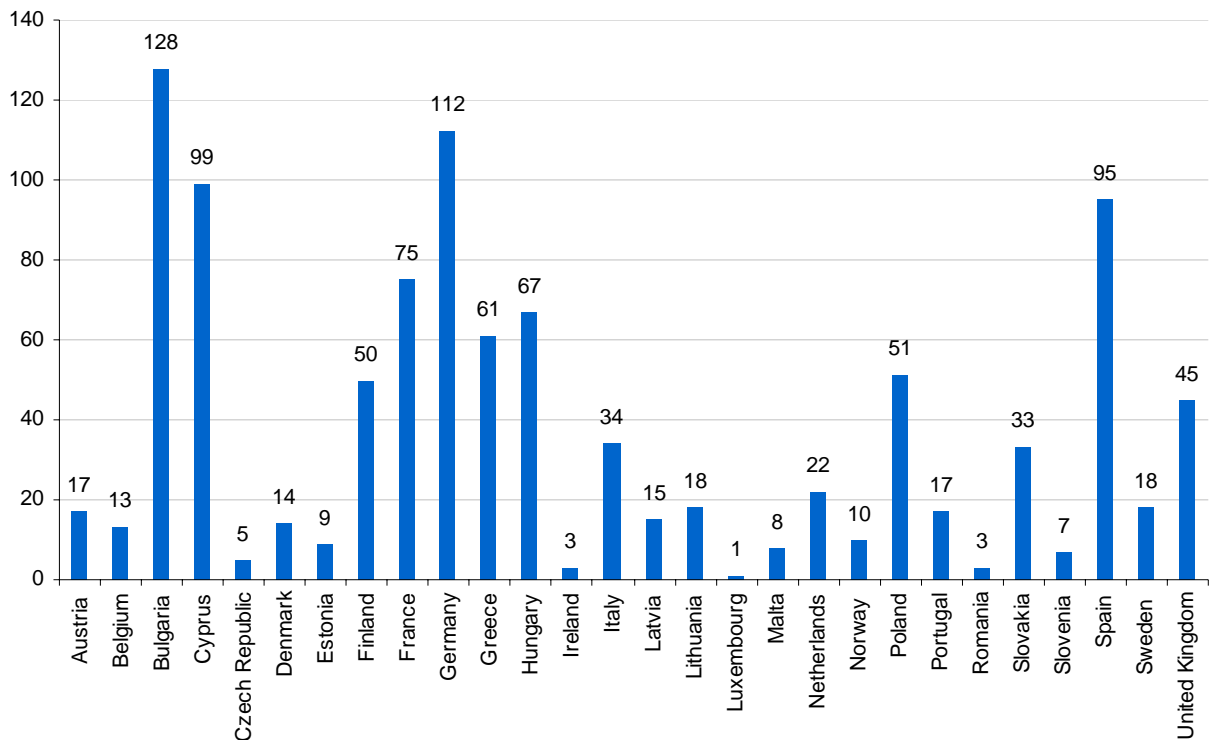


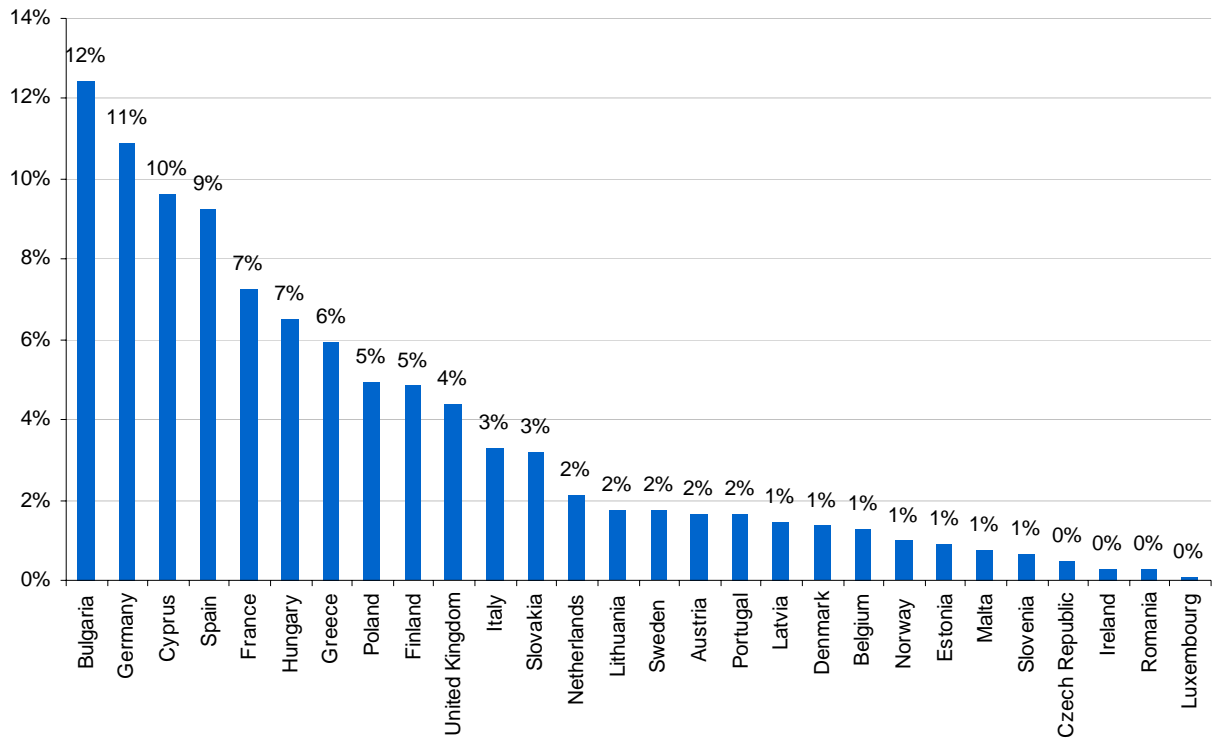
In the following charts, the figures concern only notifications on products posing a serious risk, which were validated by the European Commission under Article 12 of the GPSD.

1. Notifying country

During January-June 2010, the Commission validated notifications from 27 Member States and Norway. The following five countries accounted for 49% of all notifications:

- Bulgaria: 128 notifications (12%),
- Germany: 112 notifications (11%),
- Cyprus: 99 notifications (10%),
- Spain: 95 notifications (9%),
- France: 75 notifications (7%).

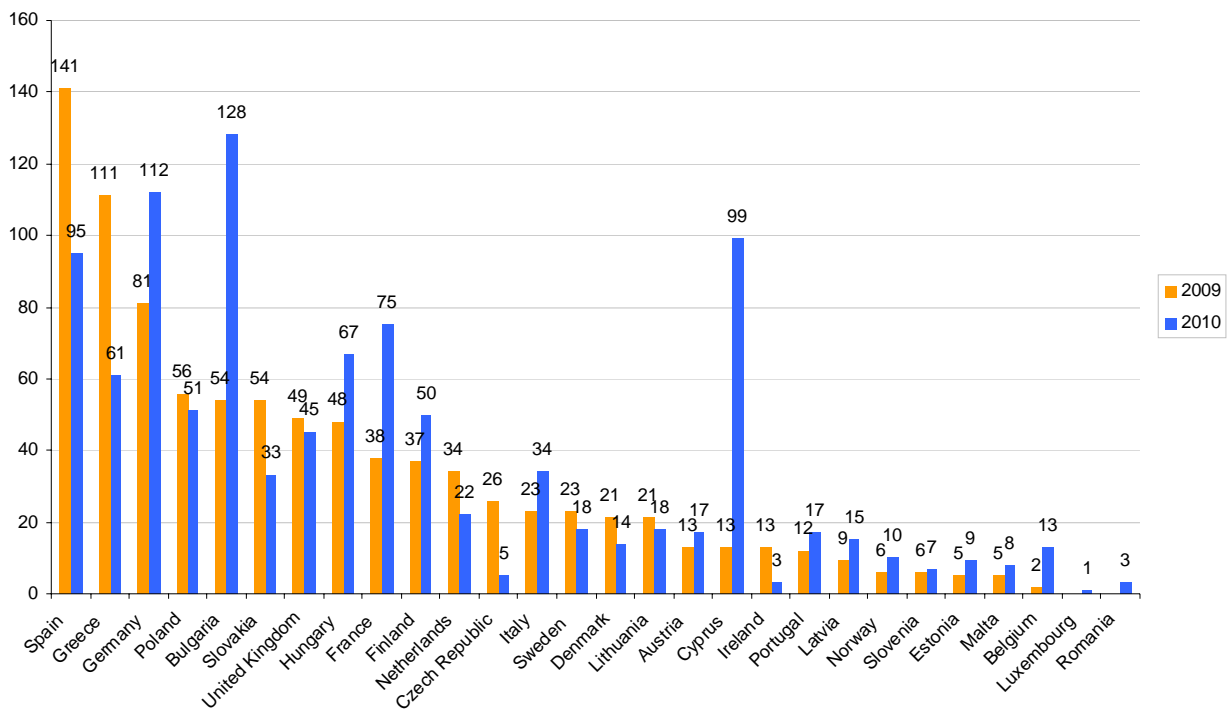




The three main notifying countries of January-June 2009 were Spain, Greece and Germany. Bulgaria and Cyprus are joining Germany in the top 3 in the same reference period of 2010.

The share of the top 5 countries of the total number of notifications is decreasing (from 48% in 2009 to 43% in 2010).

All EU-countries have sent at least one notification in January-June 2010. Last year, 25 out of 27 EU-countries had sent notifications in the same reference period.

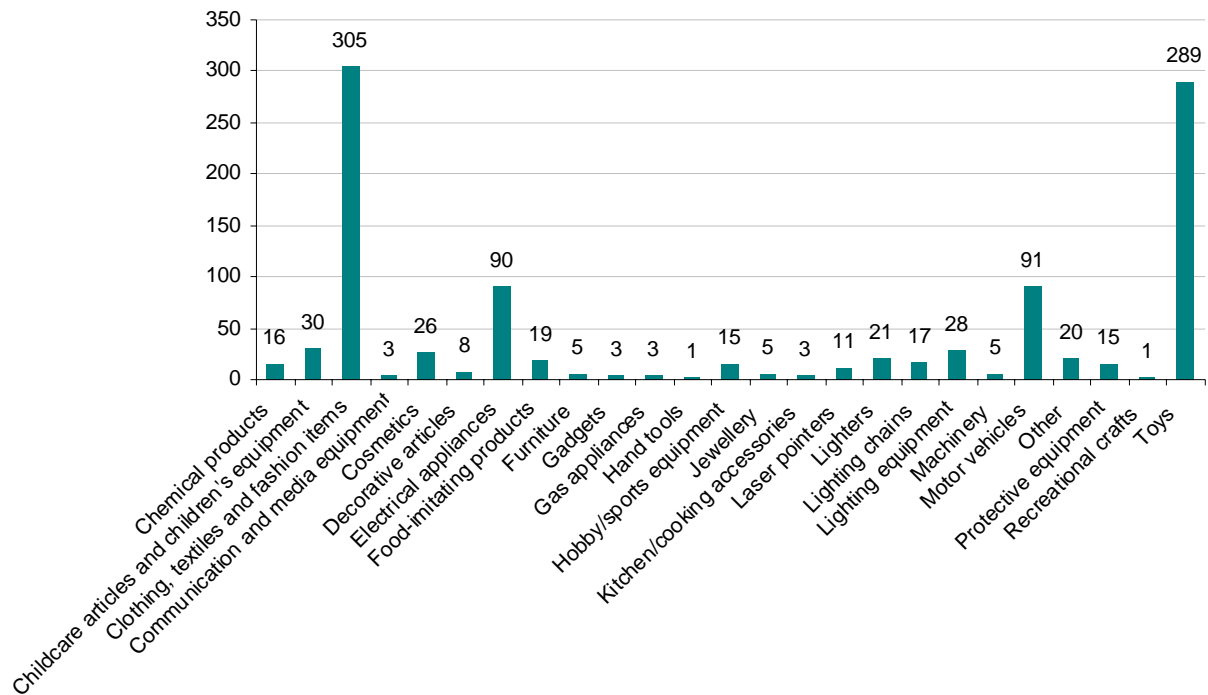


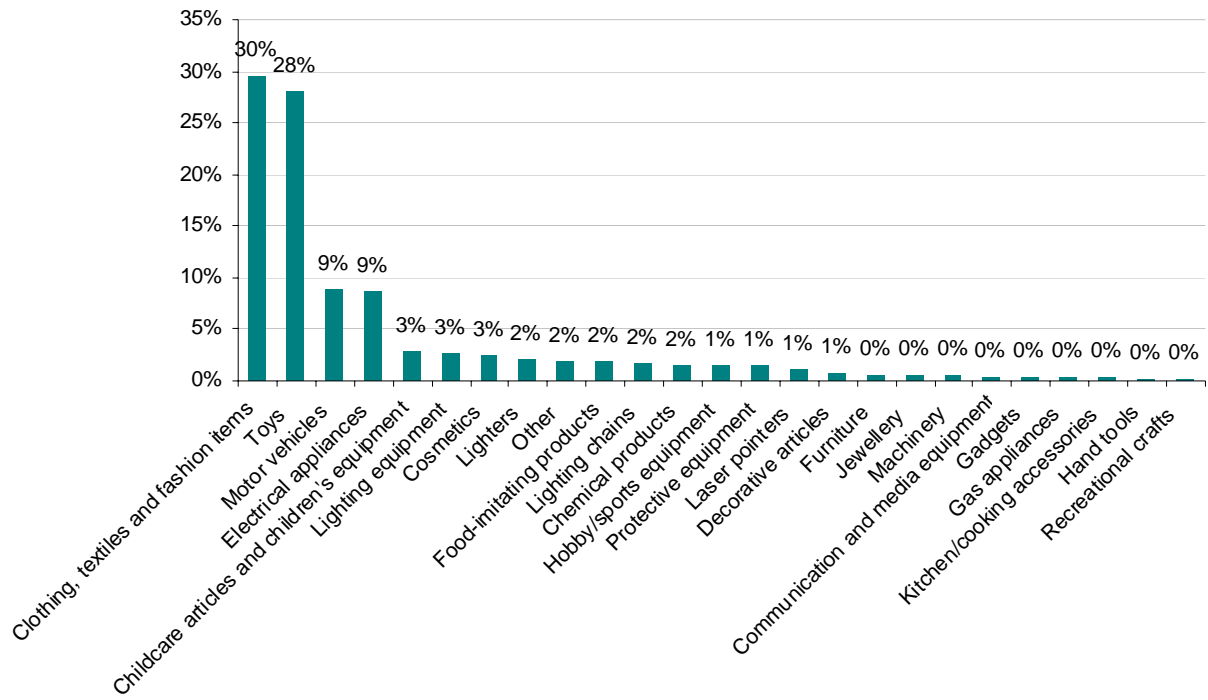
2. Product category

2.1. Product category

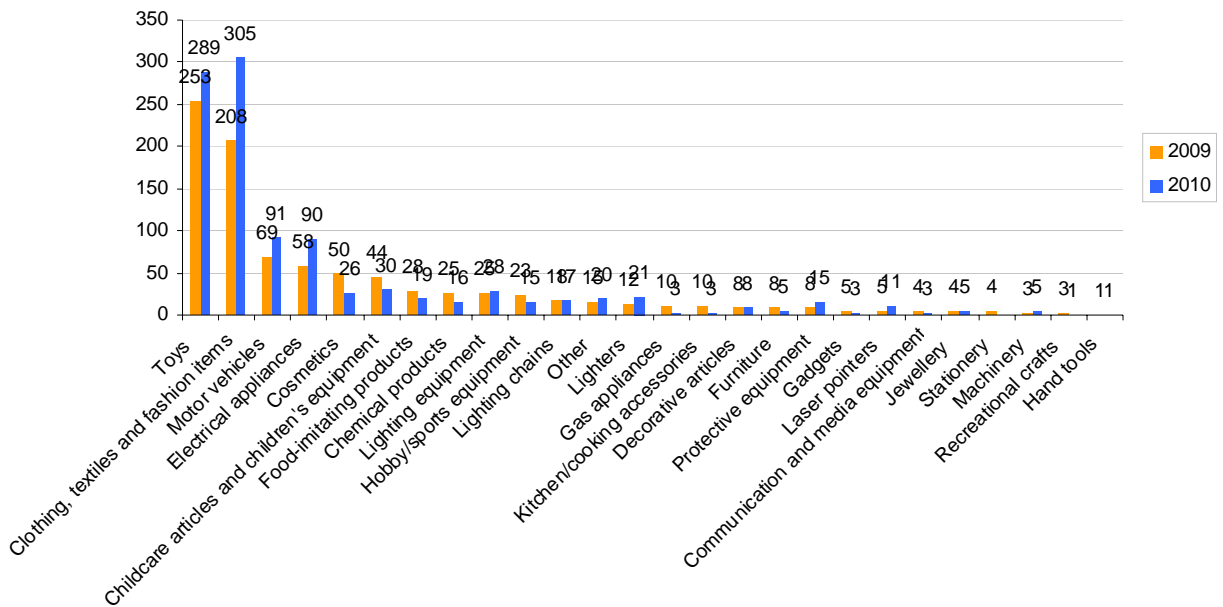
The notifications validated between January and June cover 25 categories of products. The following five most frequently notified product categories accounted for 79% of all notifications:

- Clothing, textiles and fashion items: 305 notifications (30%),
- Toys: 289 notifications (28%),
- Motor vehicles: 91 notifications (9%),
- Electrical appliances: 90 notifications (9%),
- Childcare articles and children's equipment: 30 notifications (3%).





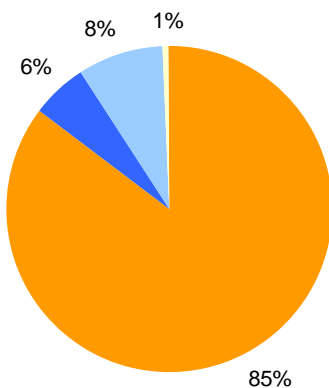
The product categories so far in 2010 are more or less coherent with the product categories of the same reference period, January-June, in 2009. The three main product categories of January-June 2009 were 'Toys', 'Clothing, textiles and fashion items' and 'Motor vehicles'. These categories are again the three main product categories but the product category 'Clothing, textiles and fashion items' has become the most frequently notified category (increasing from 23% to 30%) instead of 'Toys' (still 28% of the notified products, i.e. the same as last year).



2.2. Brand and Type/number of model of the notified products

85% of the notifications validated in January-June concerned products of which the Brand and the Type/number of model were both known. There were only 7 notifications (1%) validated concerning products of which both the Brand and the Type/number of model were unknown.

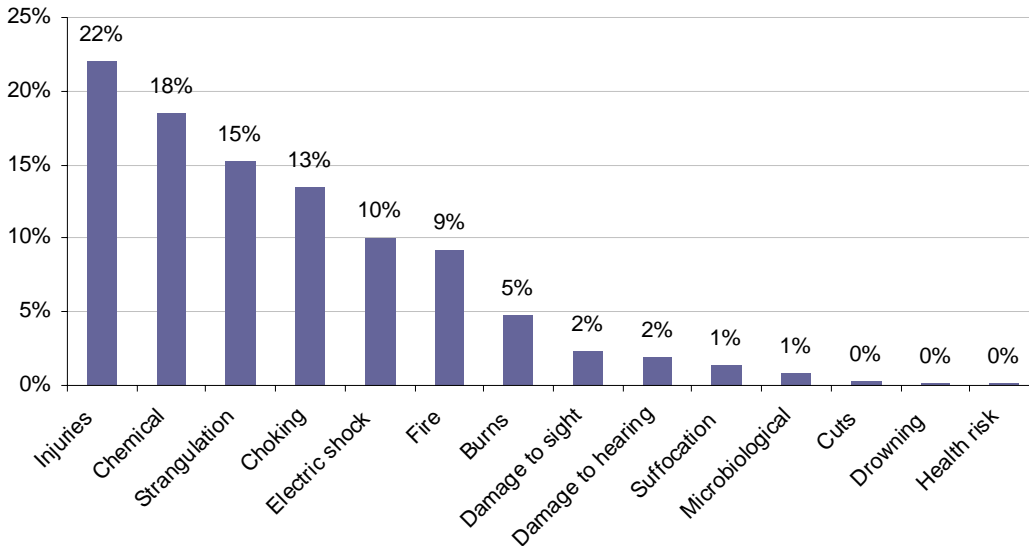
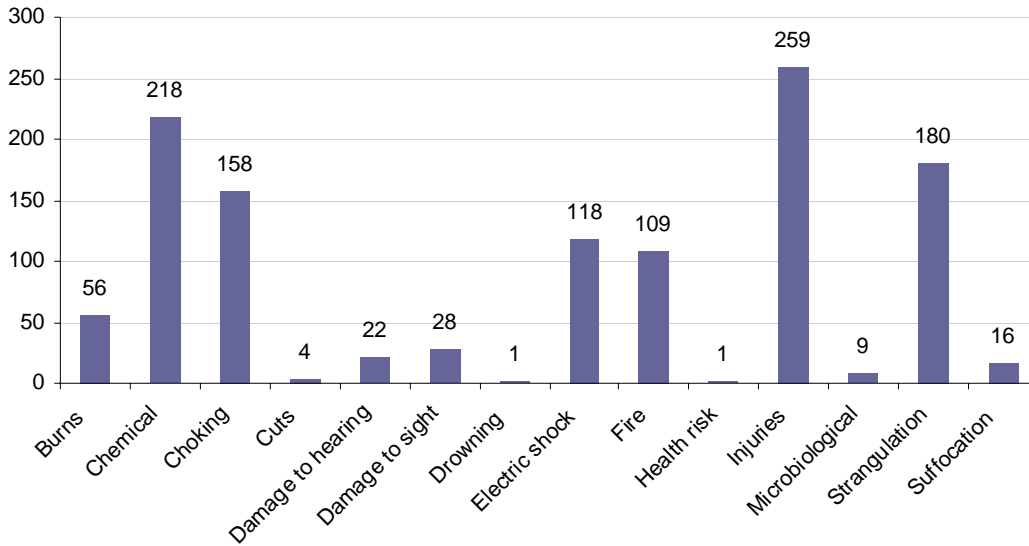
| | Type/number of model Known | Type/number of model Unknown | Total |
|----------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|--------------|
| Brand Known | 879 | 87 | 966 |
| Brand Unknown | 57 | 7 | 64 |
| | 936 | 94 | 1.030 |



3. Type of risk¹

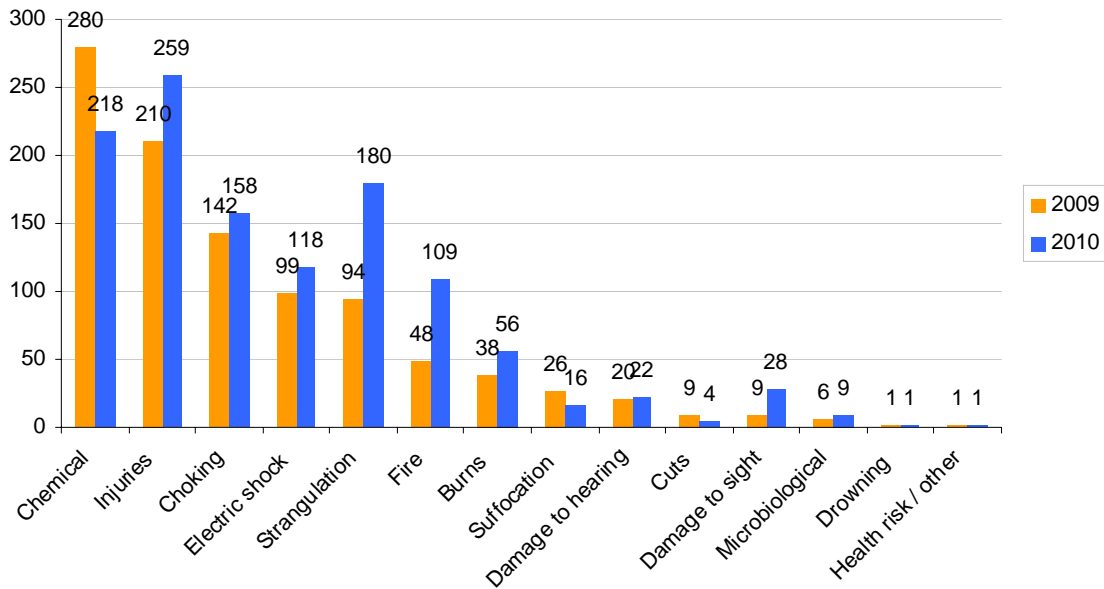
The notifications validated between January and June covered 14 different types of risk. The following five most frequently notified risk categories accounted for 78% of all notifications:

- Injuries: 259 notifications (22%),
- Chemical: 218 notifications (18%),
- Strangulation: 180 notifications (15%),
- Choking: 158 notifications (13%),
- Electric shock: 118 notifications (10%).



¹ The number here is different from the number of notifications, because one notified product can present more than one specific risk.

The risk categories so far in 2010 are more or less coherent with the product categories of the same reference period, January-June, in 2009. The five main risk categories of January-June 2009 were 'Chemical', 'Injuries', 'Choking', 'Electric shock' and 'Strangulation'. The risk category 'Chemical' is less frequently notified in 2010. The risk categories 'Injuries' and 'Strangulation' on the other hand are more frequently notified. This is linked to the increase of notifications of product category 'Clothing, textiles and fashion items'.



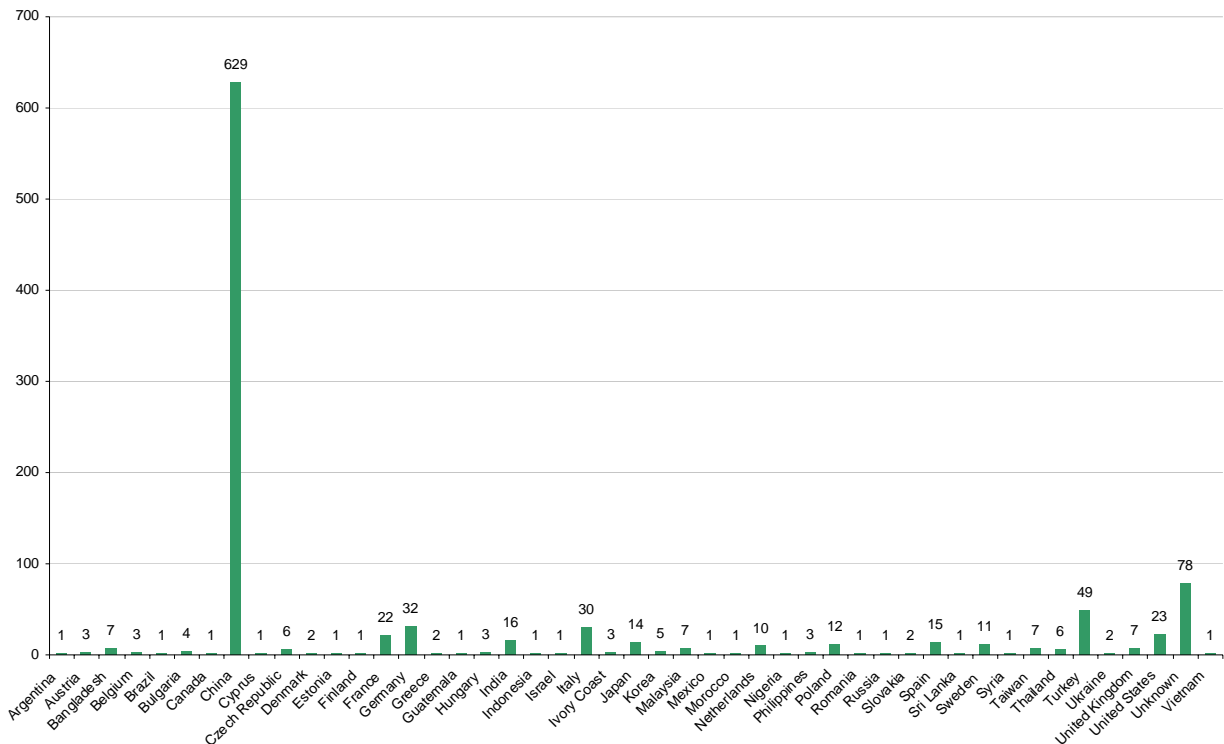
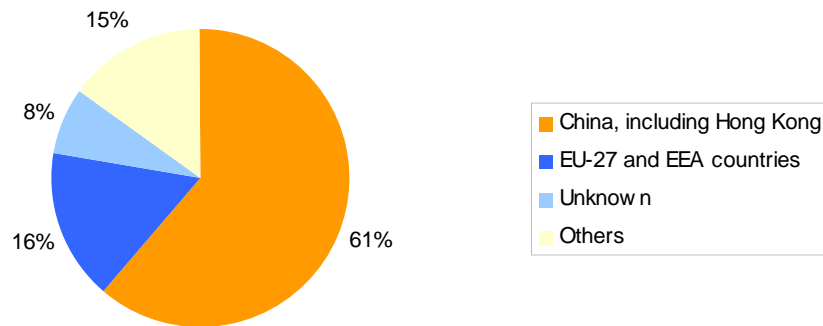
4. Country of origin of the notified product

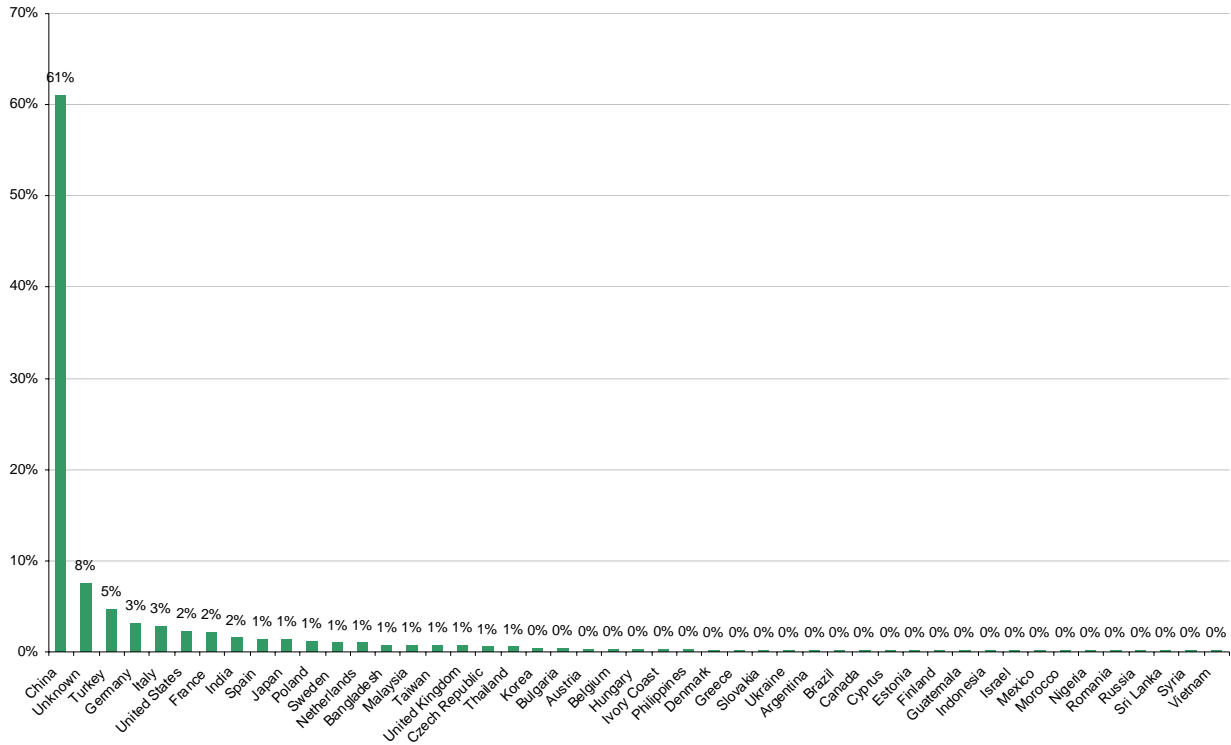
More than half of the dangerous products notified during January-June 2010 originated from China, including Hong Kong (629 notifications, 61%).

168 notifications (16%) submitted during January-June concerned products originating from the Member States or the EEA/EFTA countries. In total, 20 Member States of the EU were reported as the country of origin for the notified products.

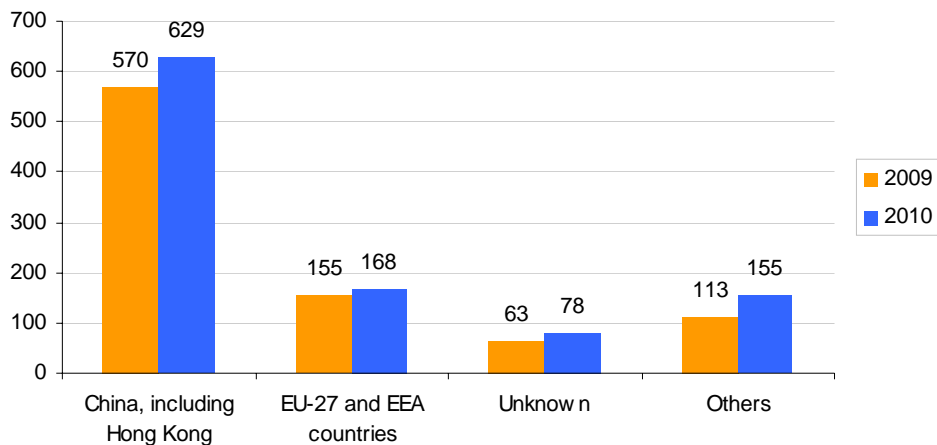
155 notifications (15%) concerned products originating in Other countries.

78 notifications (8%) did not contain information about the origin of the product during January-June.





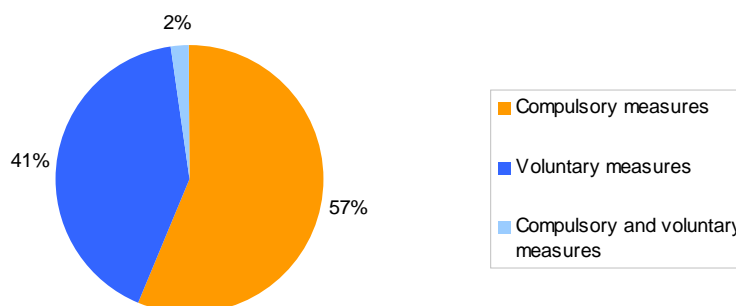
The situation is comparable to the same reference period last year. The share of 'China, including Hong Kong' decreases from 63% to 61%; the share of the other third countries ('Others') rise from 13% to 15%. The number of notifications for which the country of origin has been declared 'Unknown' is slightly increasing (from 7% to 8%). The number of notifications on products originating from the Member States and the EEA/EFTA-countries remains more or less the same; their share decreases from 17% to 16%.



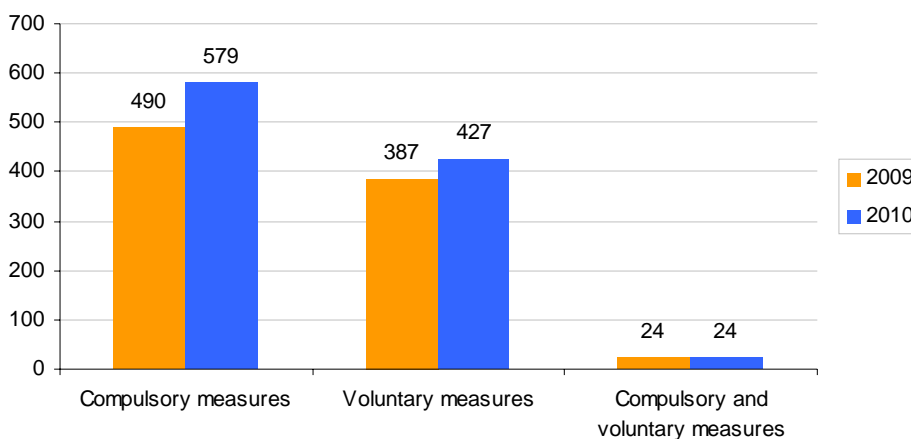
5. Measures adopted

From January to June, 579 notifications (57%) concerned measures adopted by the market surveillance authorities of Member States ('compulsory measures'). In 427 other notifications (41%), notified measures were initiated by the producers and/or distributors ('voluntary measures'). In 24 cases (2%), corrective actions taken by businesses were complemented by compulsory measures.

In most cases, there is more than one measure adopted in relation to a notified product, *e.g.*, in a majority of cases where the authorities ordered a sales ban, they also ordered a withdrawal from the market.



For the period January-June last year, most notifications concerned measures initiated by the authorities. For the period January-June 2010, this is still the case: the share of the compulsory measures increases from 54% to 56%; the share of the voluntary measures decreases from 43% to 41%; the share of cases where measures were taken both on a compulsory and a voluntary basis remains about 2-3%.



Out of the 579 compulsory measures, 77 (13%) were initiated by the customs authorities, in particular:

- 43 in Spain,
- 22 in Finland,
- 3 in France and Italy,
- 2 in Germany and Norway,
- 1 in Bulgaria and Portugal.

This is an increase compared to the same reference period in 2009, where 57 (12%) out of the 490 notifications with compulsory measures were initiated by the customs authorities.

Voluntary versus compulsory measures per country are indicated in the table below.

| | Compulsory measures | Voluntary measures | Compulsory and voluntary measures | Total |
|----------------|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|-------|
| Austria | 1 | 16 | | 17 |
| Belgium | 2 | 11 | | 13 |
| Bulgaria | 12 | 4 | | 128 |
| Cyprus | 73 | 16 | 10 | 99 |
| Czech Republic | 5 | | | 5 |
| Denmark | | 14 | | 14 |
| Estonia | 7 | 2 | | 9 |
| Finland | 35 | 15 | | 50 |
| France | 6 | 69 | | 75 |
| Germany | 10 | 10 | 2 | 112 |
| Greece | 32 | 29 | | 61 |
| Hungary | 66 | | 1 | 67 |
| Ireland | 1 | 2 | | 3 |
| Italy | 34 | | | 34 |
| Latvia | 2 | 13 | | 15 |
| Lithuania | 16 | 2 | | 18 |
| Luxembourg | 1 | | | 1 |
| Malta | 1 | 7 | | 8 |
| Netherlands | 9 | 13 | | 22 |
| Norway | 7 | 3 | | 10 |
| Poland | 8 | 42 | 1 | 51 |
| Portugal | 7 | 10 | | 17 |
| Romania | 3 | | | 3 |
| Slovakia | 21 | 6 | 6 | 33 |
| Slovenia | 1 | 6 | | 7 |
| Spain | 90 | 5 | | 95 |
| Sweden | 4 | 14 | | 18 |
| United Kingdom | 13 | 28 | 4 | 45 |
| | 57 | 42 | | 103 |
| | 9 | 7 | 24 | 0 |

