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Latest News

It is estimated that at least 15% of toys bought in the UK are now from an online marketplace

Safety concerns over online toy purchases

A recent toy safety investigation by EuroSafe member the British Toy and Hobby Association found 81% of the toys it purchased through major online marketplaces failed to meet the UK's robust toy safety standards, posing a danger to children. The safety concerns found include small parts in toys targeted at children under three which if swallowed can cause choking; easy access to coin batteries that if swallowed can burn a hole in the food pipe causing internal bleeding; and toys with sharp points and wires protruding which can puncture the skin and eyes.

Toy safety investigation

Firework injuries rose in last year before Netherlands's ban

More than half of the people needing emergency treatment in the Netherlands after being injured by fireworks during the recent New Year celebrations were under the age of 20, analysis by EuroSafe member VeiligheidNL has found. In total, 1,239 people with

The 2025/26 New Year celebrations are expected to be the last in which the

firework injuries needed treatment in a hospital emergency room or at a GP emergency station, a rise of 7% on the previous year.
Many of the injuries were caused by fireworks that were picked up and set off again – most of these cases involved children under the age of 14.

general public in the Netherlands can buy and set off fireworks after a nationwide ban on individual consumers buying and setting off fireworks at New Year was agreed by the Dutch Parliament.

Firework injuries

Safety tips include installing stove guards and oven safety devices, making sure pan handles never protrude over the front edge of the stove, and placing kettles and hot drinks away from the edges of surfaces so they can't be reached by children.

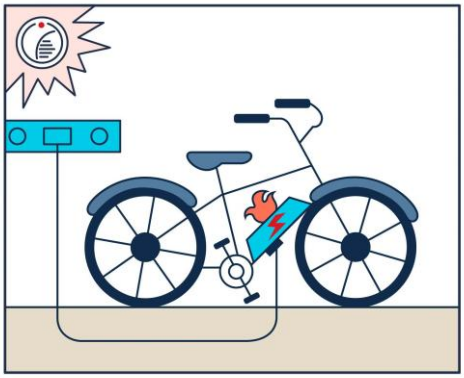
Tips for cooking safely with children

Grosse Schützen Kleine (the Austrian Committee for Accident Prevention and Health Promotion in Childhood and Adolescence) has published its top tips for safe baking and cooking with children. In Austria, around 1,600 children (0-14 years) are treated in hospital every year with scalds or burns. Eight out of ten are infants under the age of five. The majority of these hospital-treated scalds and burns in children occur in the home. About 60% are scalds from hot liquids and 40% are burns, mainly from stoves/hotplates and ovens.

Top safety tips

Lithium-ion battery warning for e-bike users

EuroSafe member UL Solutions tests, which inspects and certifies e-bikes, e-scooters and other personal mobility devices, **has published an illustrated case study** highlighting the dangers consumers face when they buy uncertified or counterfeit lithium-ion batteries for these mobility devices. Consumers often don't fully understand the fire risks associated with lithium-ion batteries and the phenomenon known as thermal runaway – an uncontrollable state that can result in lithium-ion batteries catching fire, exploding and the release of toxic smoke. Fires caused by thermal runaway are particularly hazardous because they can reignite after they appear to be extinguished.



Worldwide, e-bikes and e-scooters powered by lithium-ion batteries have been a factor in numerous fires caused by thermal runaway events.

Read the case study

RoSPA highlights global toll of accidents

A new report from the UK's Royal Society for the Prevention of Accident's (RoSPA) highlights the global scale of accidents (or unintentional injuries) each year and calls on governments, businesses, NGOs, and international institutions to act to make the world safer and save lives. Accidents are the sixth leading cause of death worldwide, claiming an estimated 3.1 million lives

Although often labelled 'unintentional', RoSPA says these deaths stem from predictable and preventable risks such as unsafe roads, hazardous workplaces, poorly regulated products, and inadequate emergency infrastructure.
They kill more people each year than malaria, HIV/Aids, and Alzheimer's disease, yet receive far less global attention.

RoSPA global accident report

each year, or more than 8,000 people every day.

EU-Safety 25: abstracts & images now online

Following on from the success of the 2025 European Conference on Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion (EU-Safety25) which was held in Heraklion, Crete, photographs are now available online. The conference was co-organised by the Hellenic Mediterranean University and the Laboratory of Health and Road Safety (LaHeRS), Department of Social Work, in collaboration with EuroSafe. It hosted a large number of scientific paper sessions, thematic symposia and skill-building workshops, some of which are included in a special supplement to The European Journal for Public Health, which was guest edited by chair of EuroSafe Executive Board Maria Papadakaki alongside Elena Petelos and Marco Giustini. The conference highlighted that injuries remain one of the most preventable, yet often neglected, public health problems in Europe, with delegates calling for harmonised data collection and collaboration at European level to save lives and reduce injuries.

EU-Safety online photos

Simple measures reduce ice fall risk

The Norwegian Safety Forum (NSF) is highlighting the significant increase in the risk of falling that walkways and

Falls are the most common cause of accidental injury in Norway, with the elderly often suffering the most serious injuries such as hip fractures which can lead to permanent disability, loss of independence and increased need for municipal health and care services. Many falls on slippery roads can be prevented with simple and well-known measures, the NSF says. These measures include early plowing and

sidewalks covered in snow and ice present.

gritting of walking areas and free distribution of spikes for shoes.

Ice fall risk

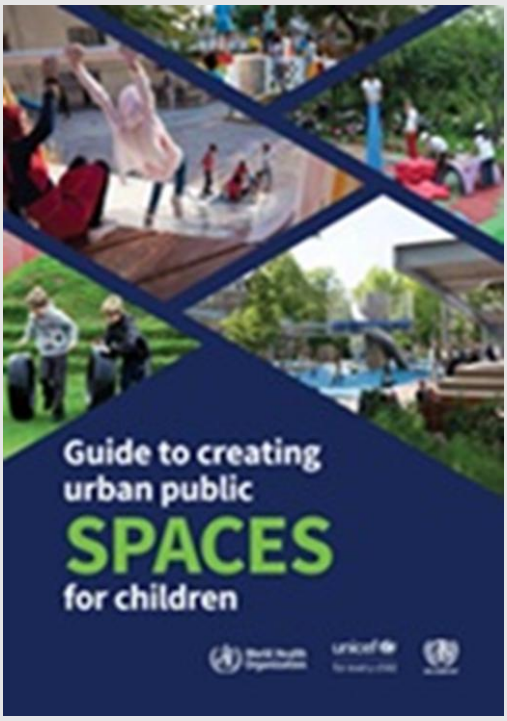
Road safety compliance concerns across EU

Read more

There are significant gaps in compliance with basic road safety measures across EU Member States, research by the European Commission has found. In many countries, the research found compliance with speed limits falls below 50% on city roads, which is precisely where pedestrians, cyclists, and other vulnerable road users are most at risk. And while driver seat-belt use shows strong compliance, some countries report rear seat-belt compliance rates below 50%, representing a significant safety gap. Child restraint systems were found to be widely used in vehicles but frequently installed or used incorrectly. 19,940 people were killed in road collisions in the EU in 2024.

WHO calls for more safe play areas

As cities continue to grow, safe public spaces for children to play, move and connect are shrinking. A new guide released by the World Health Organization (WHO), UNICEF and UN-Habitat calls on governments and city leaders to put children at the centre of urban design, arguing that public spaces are essential to children's health, development and well-being. The guide provides practical, evidence-informed guidance to help cities create streets, parks and public places that are safer and more inclusive. It draws on global evidence, expert input, consultations with children and city examples from diverse contexts.



Read the WHO guide

EuroSafe

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