

CRISIS MANAGEMENT // NEWSLETTER //
AUSTRALIA

Product Recall Monitor January to June 2021

August 2021

The Liberty Specialty Markets (Liberty) Product Recall Monitor summarises recent product recalls that have taken place across a variety of industries in Australia.

We also look at the differences between product recalls and product withdrawals, how these events can affect small manufacturers and distributors, and what can be done in advance to prepare, should one or both occur to your business.

In this edition we share the latest recalls in:

- ▶ Food & beverage
- ▶ Allergens
- ▶ Microbiological
- ▶ Babies & kids
- ▶ Home & living
- ▶ Health & lifestyle

TRENDING
TOPICS

AUSTRALIA

The difference between a product recall and product withdrawal

They sound similar but are different events, especially when it comes to insurance cover.

A product recall – a significant health or safety threat	A product withdrawal – quality related factors
A product recall occurs when products are removed from sale because of a significant health or safety threat.	A product withdrawal occurs when a product is removed from sale because of quality-related factors which have no potential to injure customers.

Companies providing goods to any of the major retailers in Australia, that are sold to the general public can incur a cost to recall or withdraw the product from the stream of commerce, regardless of a threat to bodily injury or not.

Historically, insurance for voluntary product withdrawals has been out of reach for small to medium manufacturers and distributors.

Both can be expensive

Product recalls and withdrawals occur for different reasons, but both can be expensive. The distinction becomes particularly important when it comes to insurance.

While insurance to help mitigate the costs of a product recall is readily available, not many insurers also offer coverage for a product withdrawal.

Product withdrawals occur more frequently

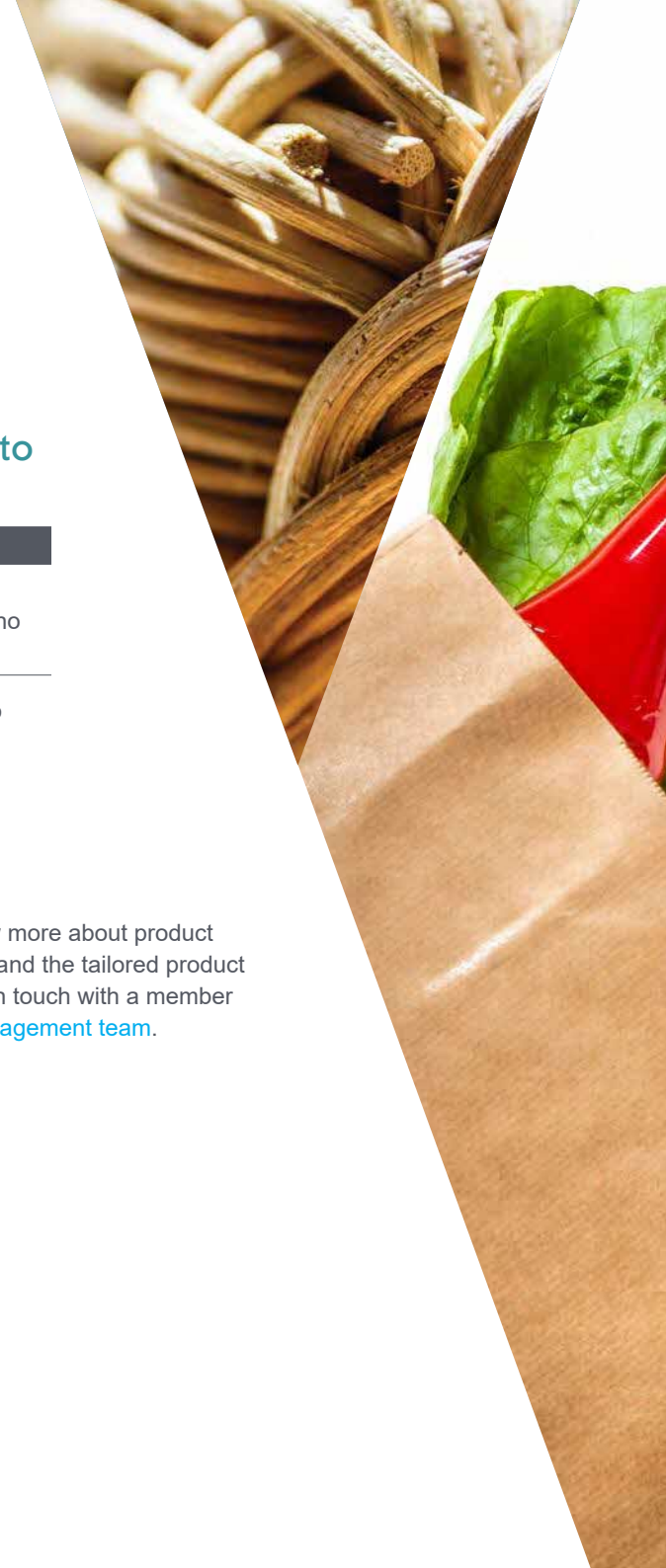
There's generally quite widespread awareness amongst manufacturers and distributors about the value of product recall insurance, but consideration of product withdrawal insurance is much lower, even though product withdrawals occur more frequently.

Not having an insurance solution can leave manufacturers and distributors vulnerable to the subsequent financial impact a product withdrawal can have on their business.

Liberty offers small to medium-sized manufacturers and distributors the option to cover both events as part of their insurance solution.

Find out more

If you would like to know more about product recalls and withdrawals and the tailored product we provide, please get in touch with a member of the [Liberty Crisis Management team](#).



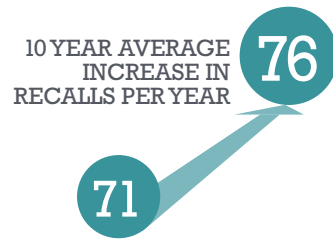


What's been recalled recently in Australia

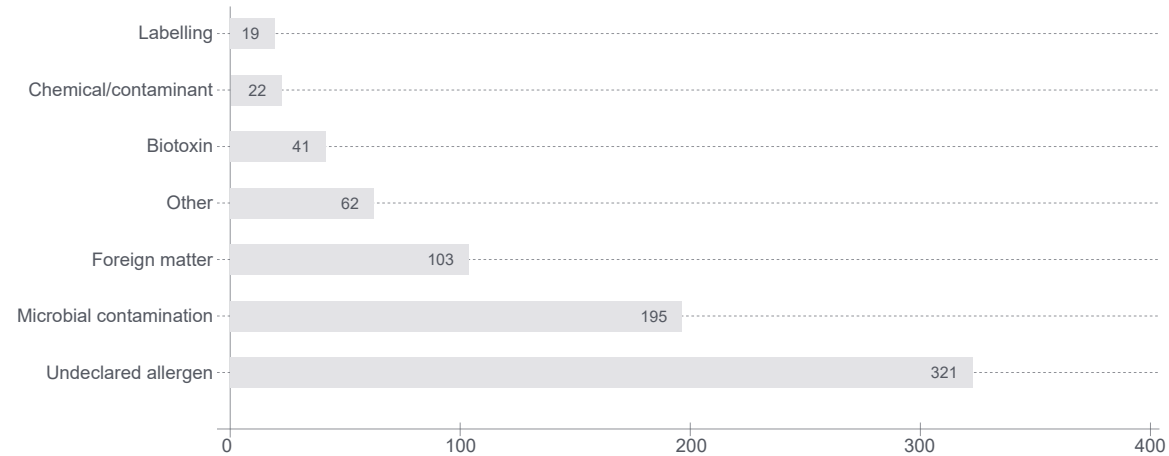
Food and grocery examples



ACCC 2021



Total Food and Grocery Recalls 2011-2021



(foodstandards.gov.au)





Food and groceries

6 January 2021 – Cocktail onions

The recall is due to the potential presence of foreign matter (glass). Food products containing glass fragments may cause injury if consumed.

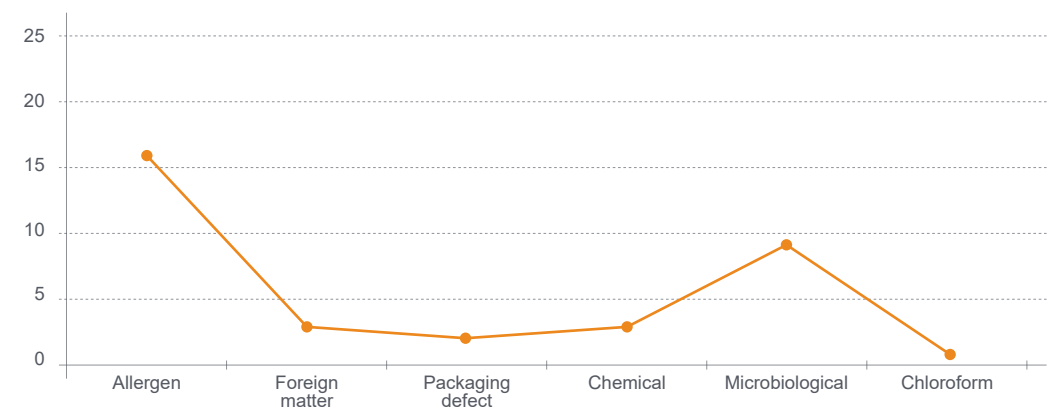
6 June 2021 – Ice cream

The recall is due to the possible presence of foreign matter (rubber). Food products containing rubber fragments may cause injury if consumed.

15 April 2021 – Frozen pizza

The presence of an undeclared allergen (fish). Any consumers who have a fish allergy or intolerance may have a reaction if the product is consumed.

Reasons for recalls January to June 2021



Allergens



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People can be allergic, or have an intolerance, to any type of food which is why it's so important all ingredients are clearly listed. Here are some interesting facts:

One in 10 infants **and** **Two in 100** adults
have food allergies



Peanuts	Sesame seeds
Eggs	Gluten
Wheat	Soybeans
Fish	Treenuts
Milk	Crustaceans

Changes to the Food Standards Code

From 25 February 2021, food businesses must comply with new standards for listing ingredients on food labels and have three years to transition.

[Find out more](#)

To find out more about allergy intolerance, visit www.safefood.eu.

Allergen examples

4 March 2021 – Cookies

The presence of an undeclared allergen (milk). Any consumers who have a milk allergy or intolerance may have a reaction if the product is consumed.

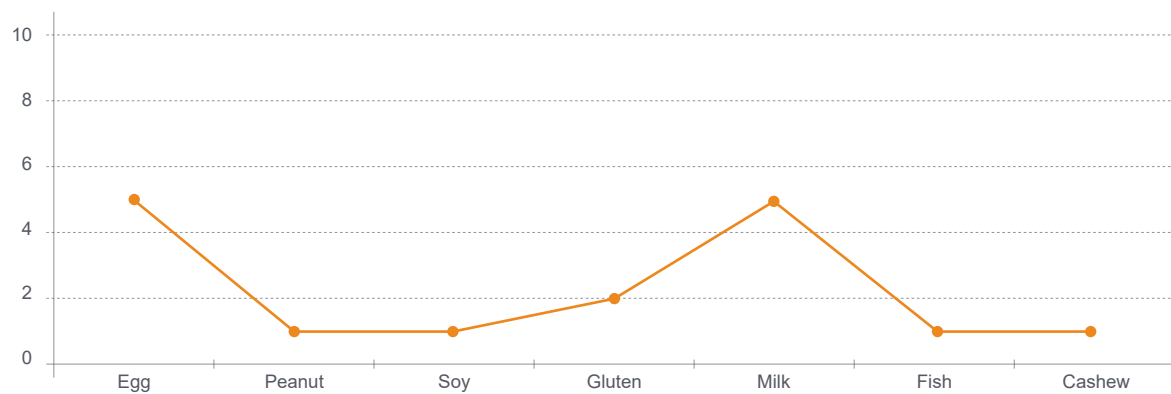
16 May 2021 – Nut & chocolate packs

The presence of an undeclared allergen (soy and wheat). Any consumers who have a soy or wheat allergy or intolerance may have a reaction if the product is consumed.

29 April 2021 – Protein bars

The presence of an undeclared allergen (peanut). Any consumers who have a peanut allergy or intolerance may have a reaction if the product is consumed.

Categories for recalls January to June 2021



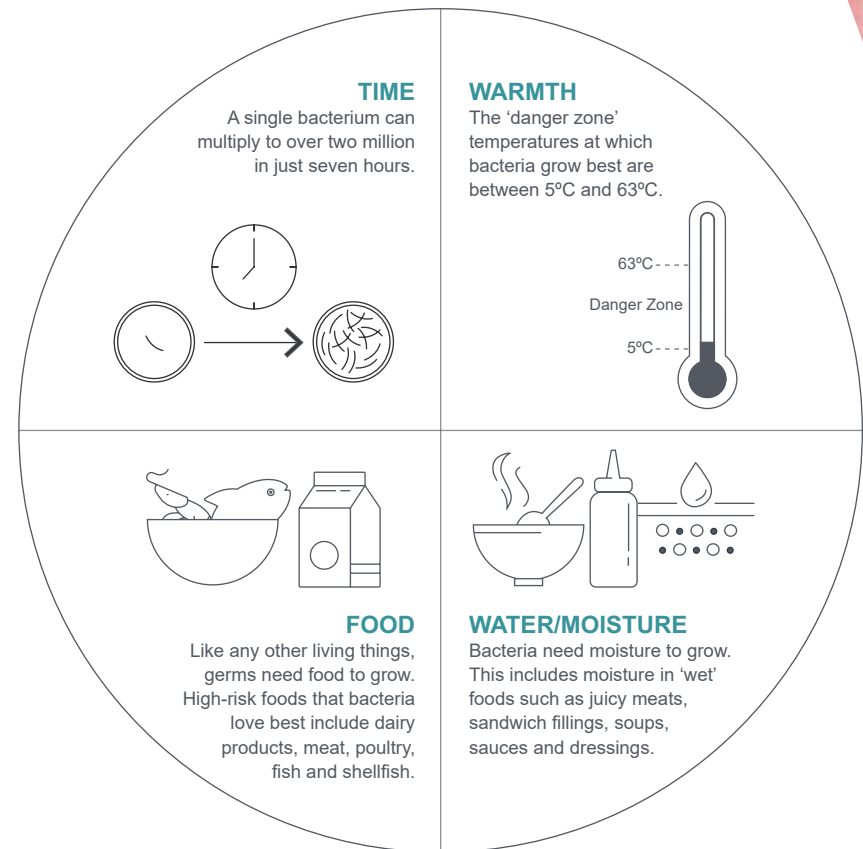
Microbiological

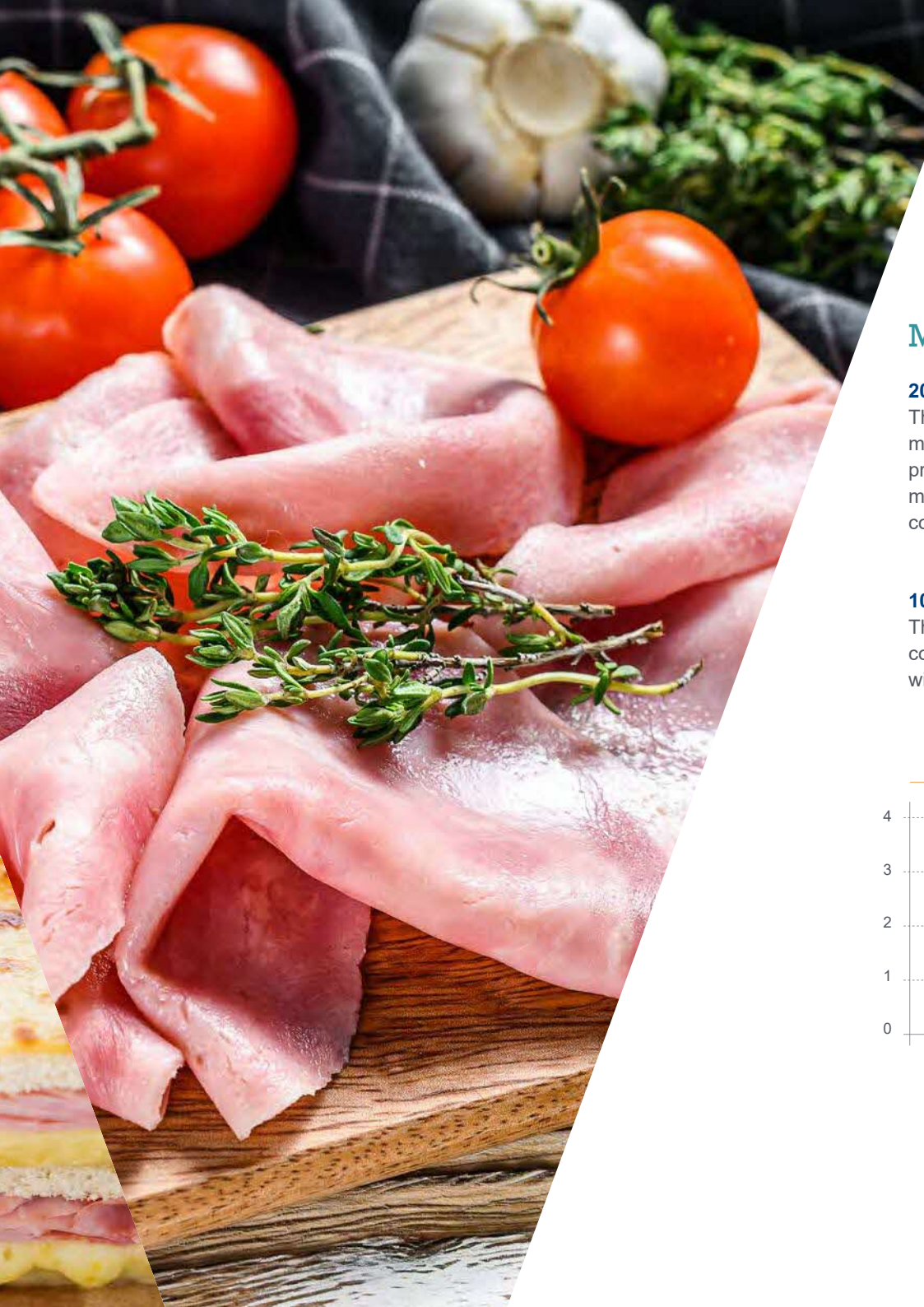


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For a healthy adult the probability of getting sick from contaminated food is dependent on both the type and number of harmful microorganisms present in the food. For those who are susceptible, namely the very young, and those who are sick or pregnant, whose immune systems are less effective, lower numbers of microorganisms may cause illness. Read more about microbiological food safety risks at www.safefood.eu.

Given the right conditions, millions of bacteria can grow on common, everyday foods





Microbiological examples

20 January 2021 – Leg ham

The recall is due to a microbial (*Listeria monocytogenes*) contamination. Food products contaminated with *Listeria monocytogenes* may cause illness if consumed.

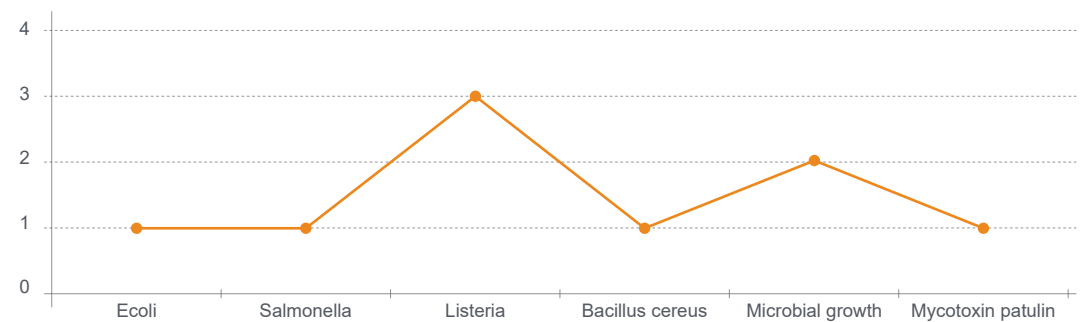
14 March 2021 – Chilli bean curd

The recall is due to a microbial (*Bacillus cereus*) contamination. Food products contaminated with *Bacillus cereus* may cause illness if consumed.

10 March 2021 – Full cream milk

The recall is due to a microbial (*E. coli*) contamination. Food products contaminated with *E. coli* may cause illness if consumed.

Categories for recalls January to June 2021





Babies and kids



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40%

Baby & Kids
Product Recalls



CHOICE 2020

25 April 2021 – Teether baby rattle set

The product may break and release small parts. Small parts may pose a choking or suffocation hazard for young children, which can lead to severe injury or death.

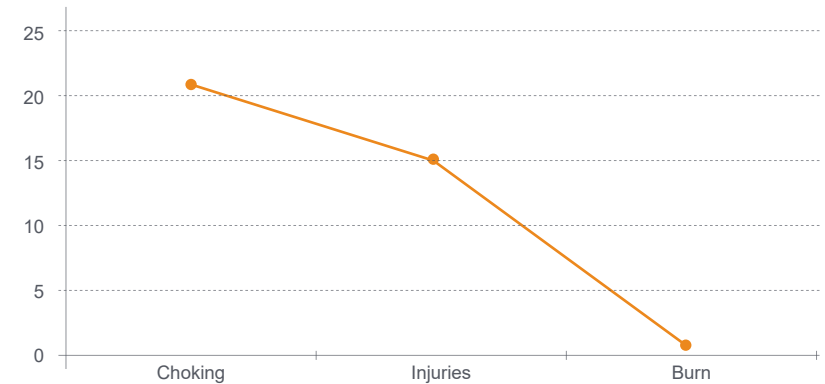
6 June 2021 – Sleep pouch

The sleep pouch neck opening is wider than necessary. This opening could allow an infant to pull the pouch over their head and may pose an entrapment hazard. If the child becomes trapped in the pouch this increases the risk of suffocation or the child may overheat.

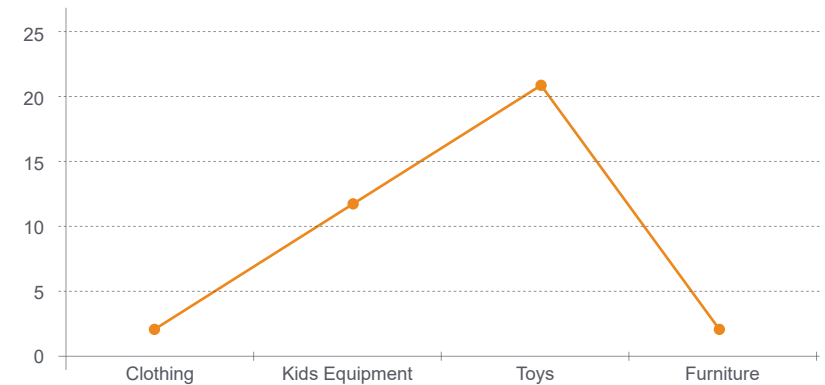
20 June 2021 – Kid's novelty watch

The button battery compartment of the product may not be adequately secured, so the button battery in the product may be easily accessible. If young children gain access to the button battery and ingest it, they may suffer internal burn injuries, which can result in serious illness and even death.

Reasons for recalls January to June 2021



Categories for recalls January to June 2021





Home and living



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15 February 2021 – Duvet cover

If the trim becomes detached it poses an entrapment or strangulation hazard. The trim may get caught around an infant/child's throat and pose a strangulation hazard.

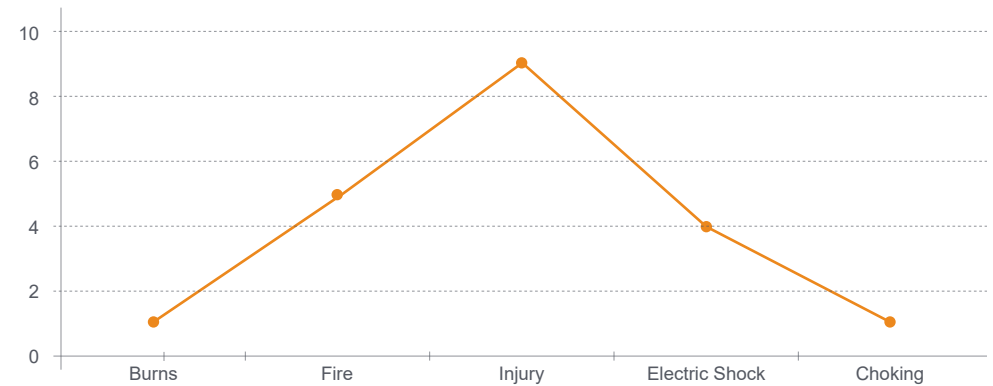
18 April 2021 – Electric fan

An internal fault with the fan can cause it to melt or catch fire during or after charging. If a fire occurs, there is a risk of serious injury to the user and other household occupants and damage to property.

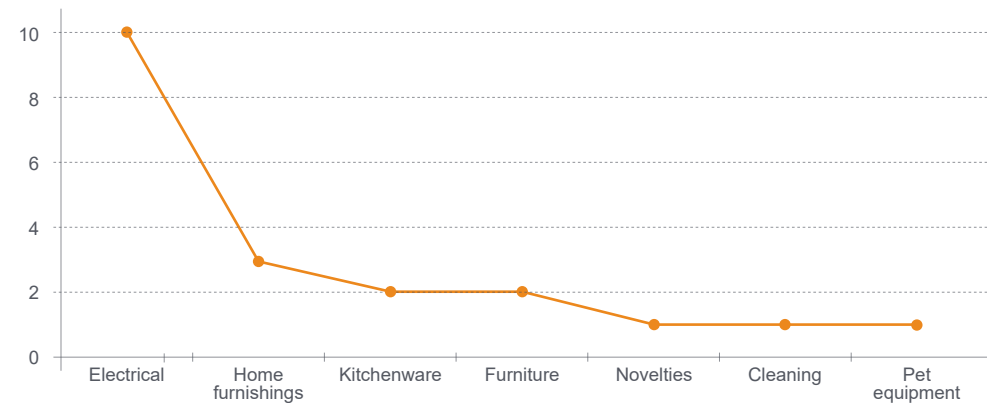
20 June 2021 – Powerboard

The back on/off switch cover may break and separate from the product, exposing live parts which can result in an electric shock. If an electric shock occurs there is a risk of serious injury or death.

Reasons for recalls January to June 2021



Categories for recalls January to June 2021





Health and lifestyle



ACCC 2021

1 April 2021 – Face shield

If airborne particles are present in the environment and the face shield does not fully protect the user against exposure to those particles, this may lead to serious illness.

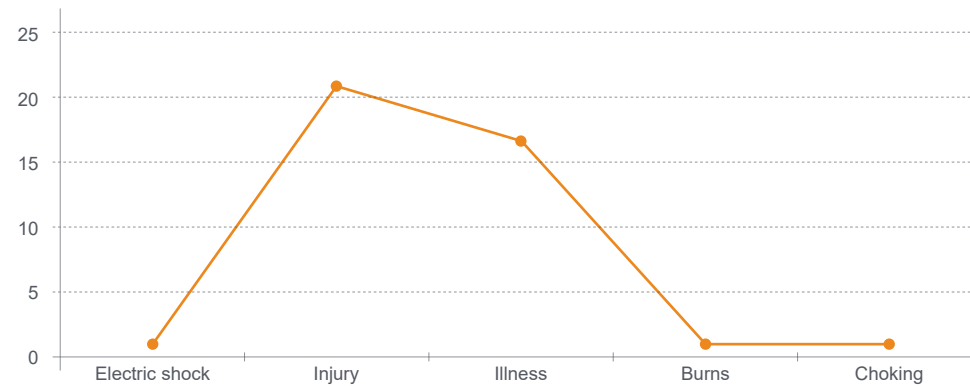
2 May 2021 – Vitamin E gel capsules

The presence of an undeclared allergen (sulphites). Any consumers who have a sulphite allergy, or intolerance, may have a reaction if the product is consumed.

2 June 2021 – Face serum

The recall is due to potential microbial contamination. If it's applied to damaged skin, or gets into someone's eyes, the product may cause irritation or infection.

Reasons for recalls January to June 2021



Categories for recalls January to June 2021





Contact us

If you're looking for more information regarding product recall insurance, please get in touch with our specialist crisis management underwriters.

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