

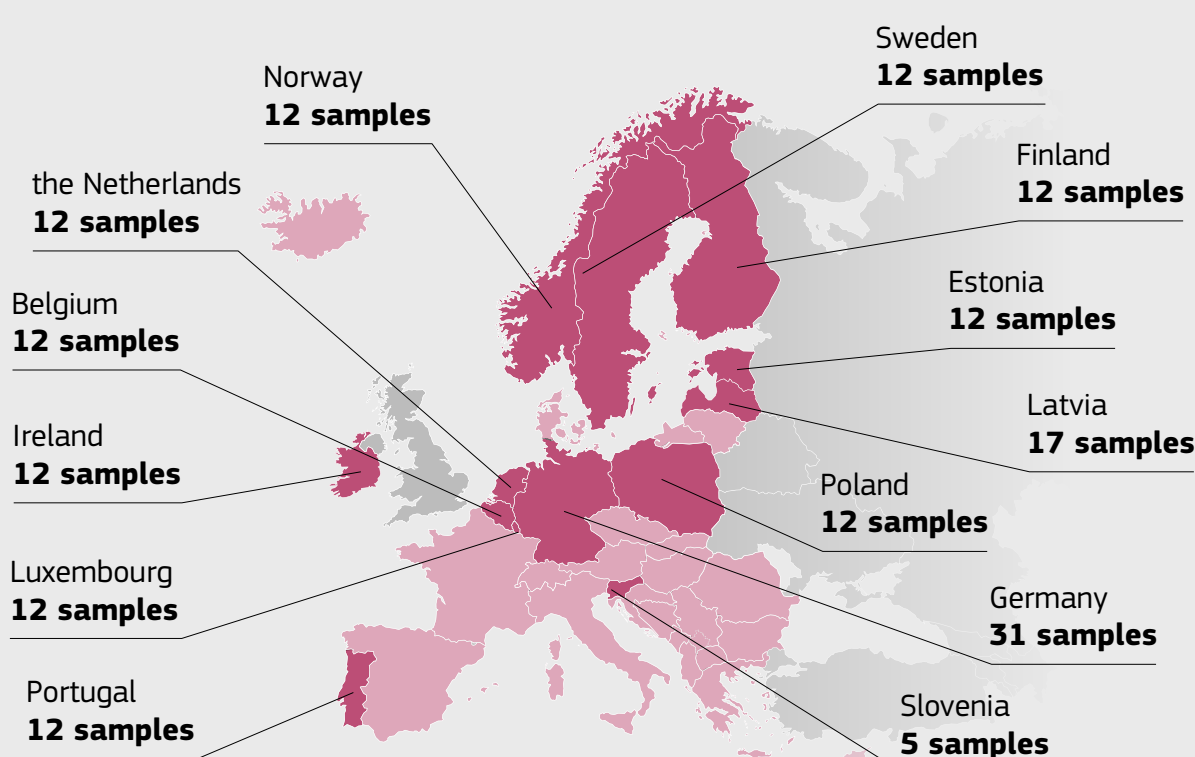


Do common household gadgets contain hazardous substances?

An EU-funded campaign tested a selection of electronic goods for hazardous substances listed in the RoHS directive.

Which products were tested?

173 items sourced online and in shops in 13 countries: gadgets with USB connectors or solar panels, kitchen appliances and personal care electronics.



What was tested?

Presence of heavy metals and chemicals:

Pb

Lead

Cd

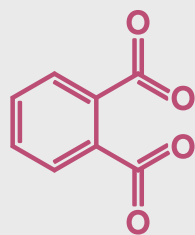
Cadmium

Cr⁶⁺

Hexavalent chromium

Hg

Mercury



Plasticisers
(phthalates: DEHP, BBP, DBP, DIBP)

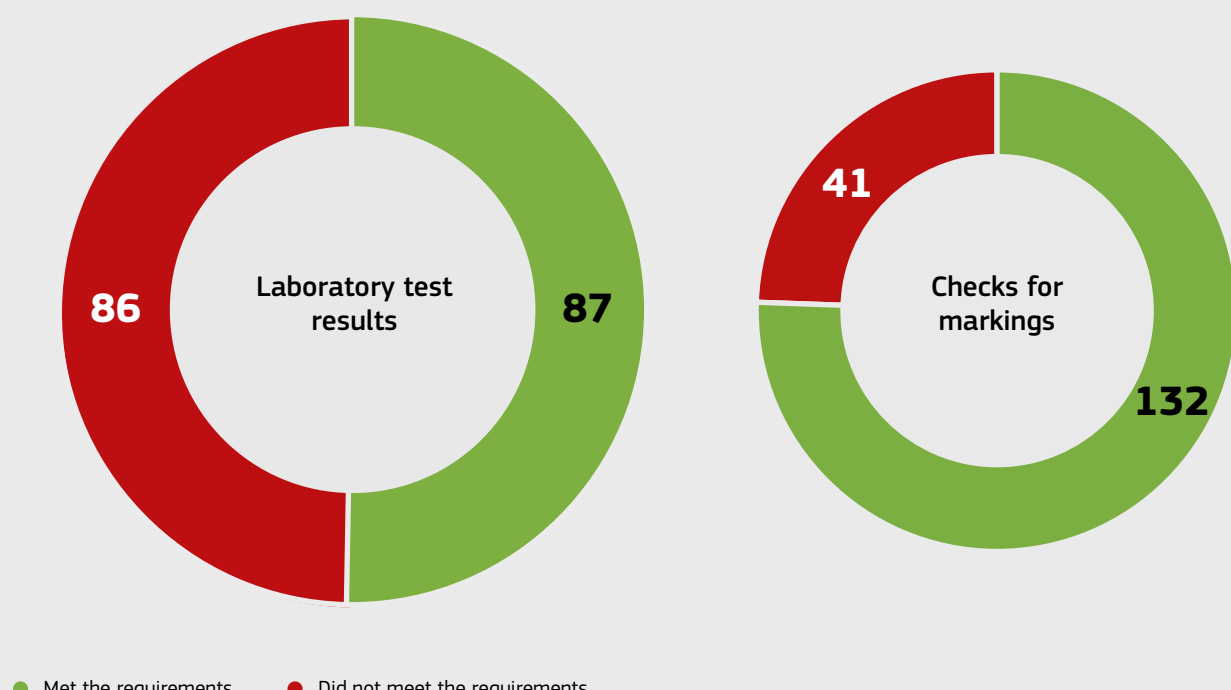


Flame retardants
(PBBs and PBDEs)

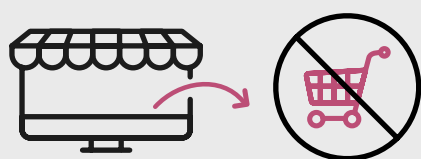
Checks for markings:



The results



What did market surveillance authorities do?



70 products withdrawn from the market and/or banned from sale

What can you do as an economic operator?



Distributors: work with reliable business partners



Before you sell a product on the EU market, ensure it's RoHS-compliant.



Manufacturers/importers: check and re-check all required documentation before manufacturing/ordering