



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
HEALTH & CONSUMER PROTECTION DIRECTORATE-GENERAL
Directorate B - Consumer Affairs
B3 - Product and service safety

RAPEX STATISTICS

RAPEX statistics (1st January -30th April 2006)

In accordance with the General Product Safety Directive 2001/95 (GPSD), the Commission has treated **338** notifications in the first four months of 2006 and disseminated them to the Member States: **291** were Article 12 (RAPEX-notifications, serious risk), **6** Article 11 notifications (less serious risk) and **41** notifications for information.

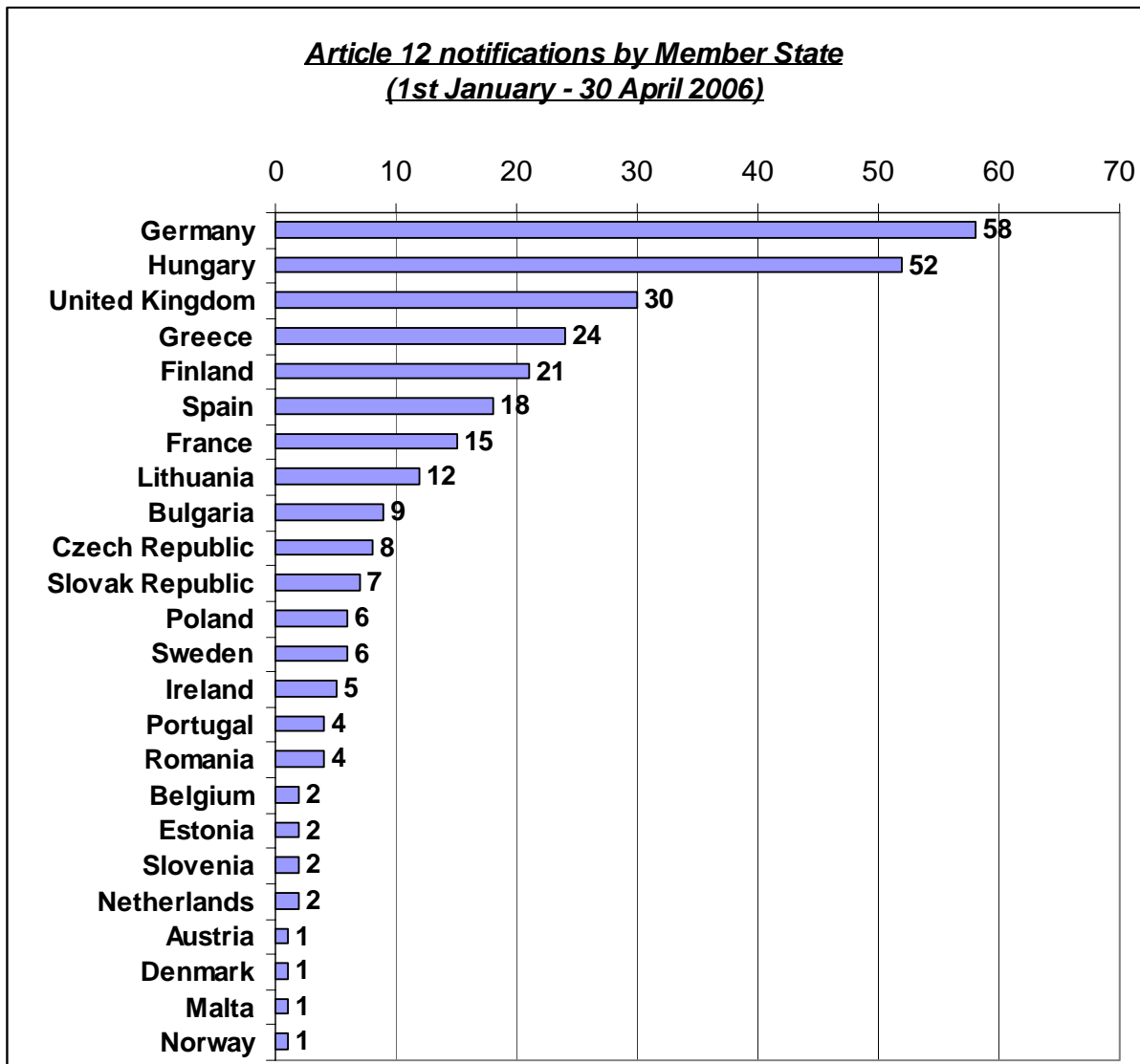
Concerning the Article 12 RAPEX-notifications, in comparison with the same period in 2005 (221 notifications), the tendency of an increase in the number of RAPEX notifications has continued. There has been a global raise of 32 % in these four months.

The following statistics only cover the RAPEX notifications (Article 12) submitted by Member States and EEA-EFTA countries, which were validated by the Commission services from the period of January to April 2006.

1) Notifications under Article 12 by Member States¹

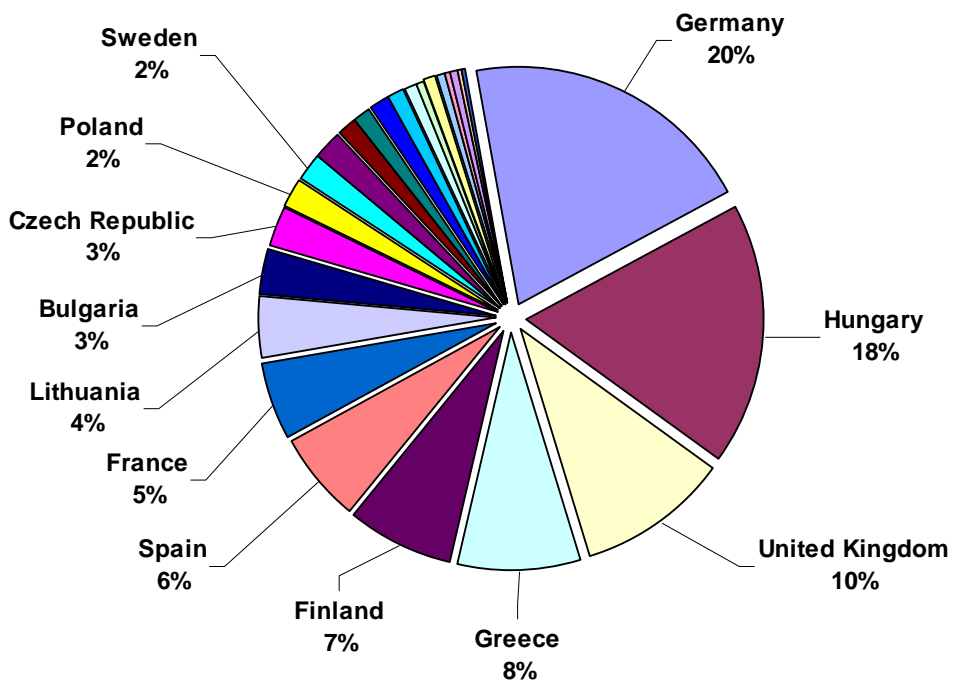
During the period January to April 2006, the Commission validated notifications from 24 Member States and Norway. The chart below presents the distribution between the notifying countries.

Three Member States have clearly been the most active in notifying; Germany with 58, Hungary with 52 and United Kingdom with 30. These three countries represent 48 % of all notifications.



¹ We have taken into account only notifications validated by the Commission and consequently transmitted to Member state

Article 12 notifications by Member State
(1st January - 30 April 2006)

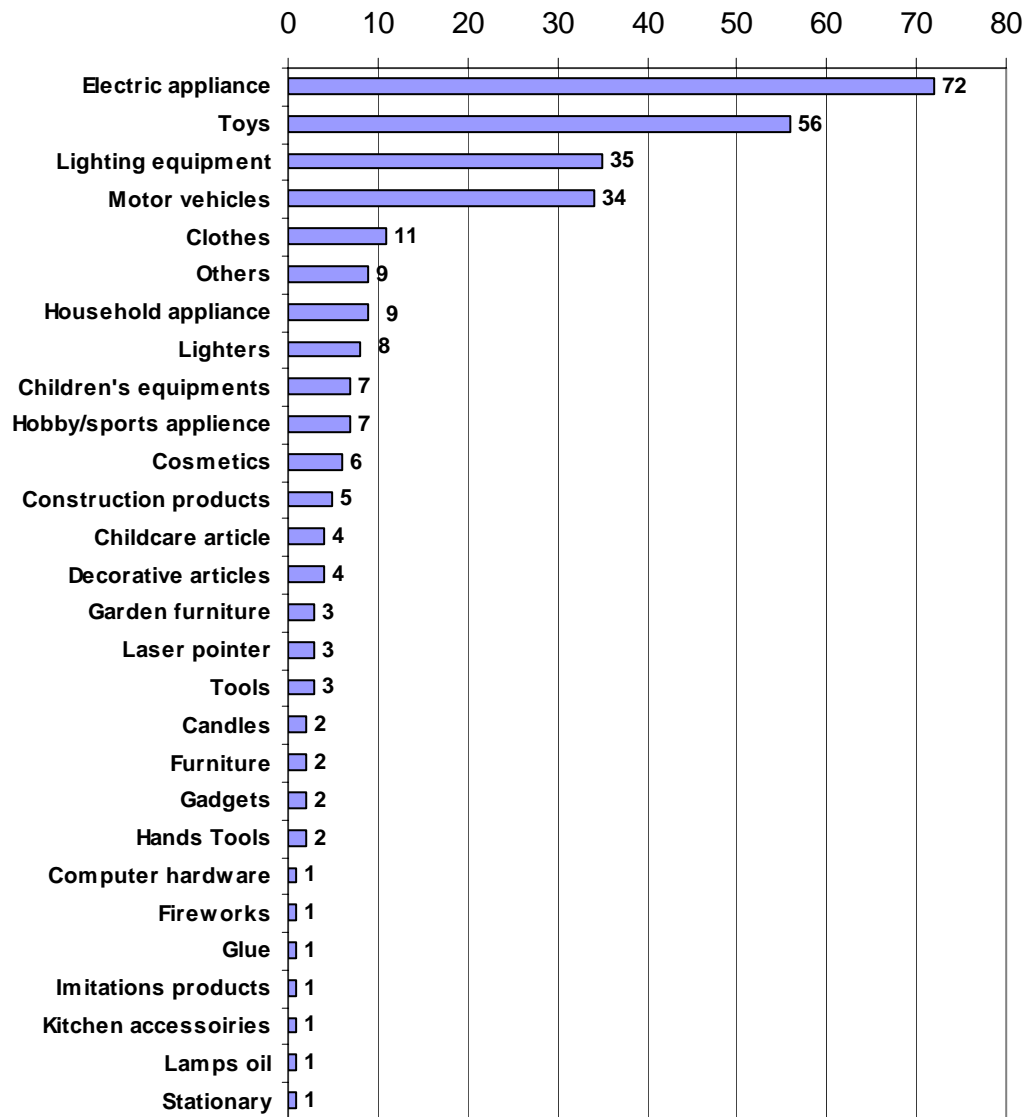


(2) *Products notified*

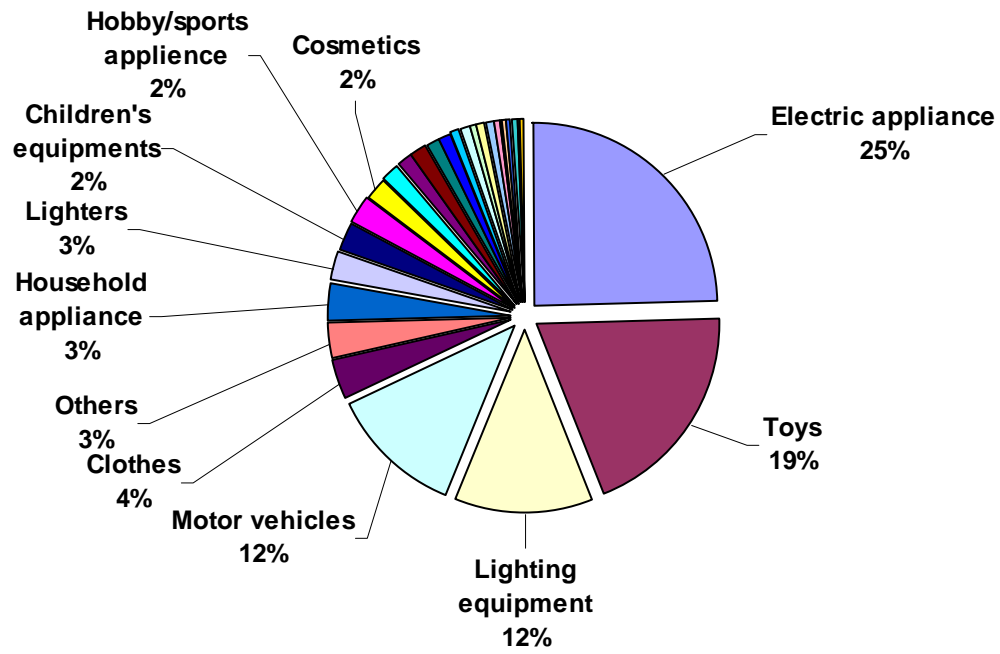
The notifications in the period of reference covered 28 categories of products. The most frequently notified category was “Electric appliances” with 72 notifications (25%), and within that category, the most recurrent was “domestic electrical products”. The second most frequently notified product was “Toys” with 56 notifications, representing 19% of all notified products: these notifications very often concern risks related to detaching of small parts. Two other categories “Lighting equipment” with 35 notifications and “Motor vehicles” with 34 notifications represented 12% each.

The above-mentioned four categories represent 68% of the total number of Article 12 notifications received during these four months.

Categories of products notified
(1st January - 30th April 2006)

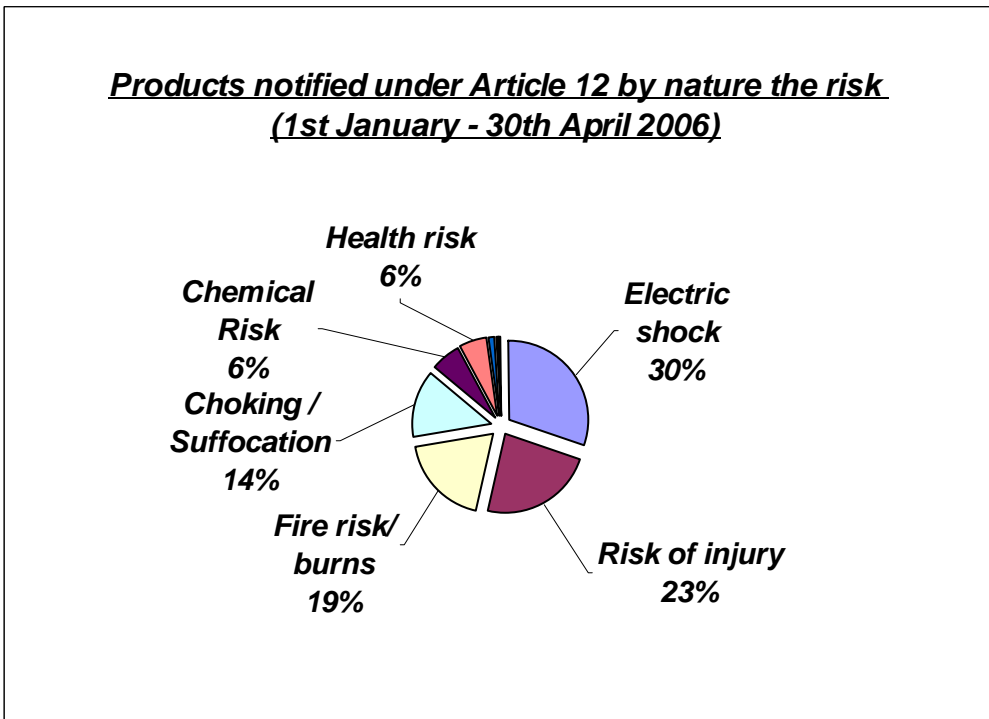
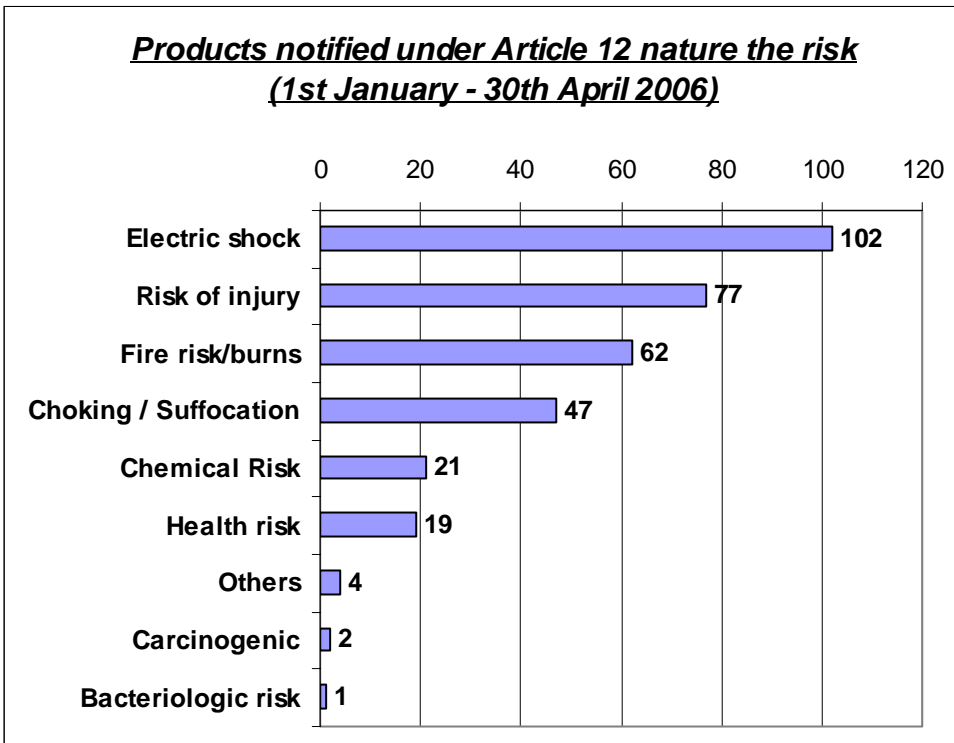


Categories of products notified under Article 12
(1st January - 30 th April 2006)



(3) *Nature of the risks*²

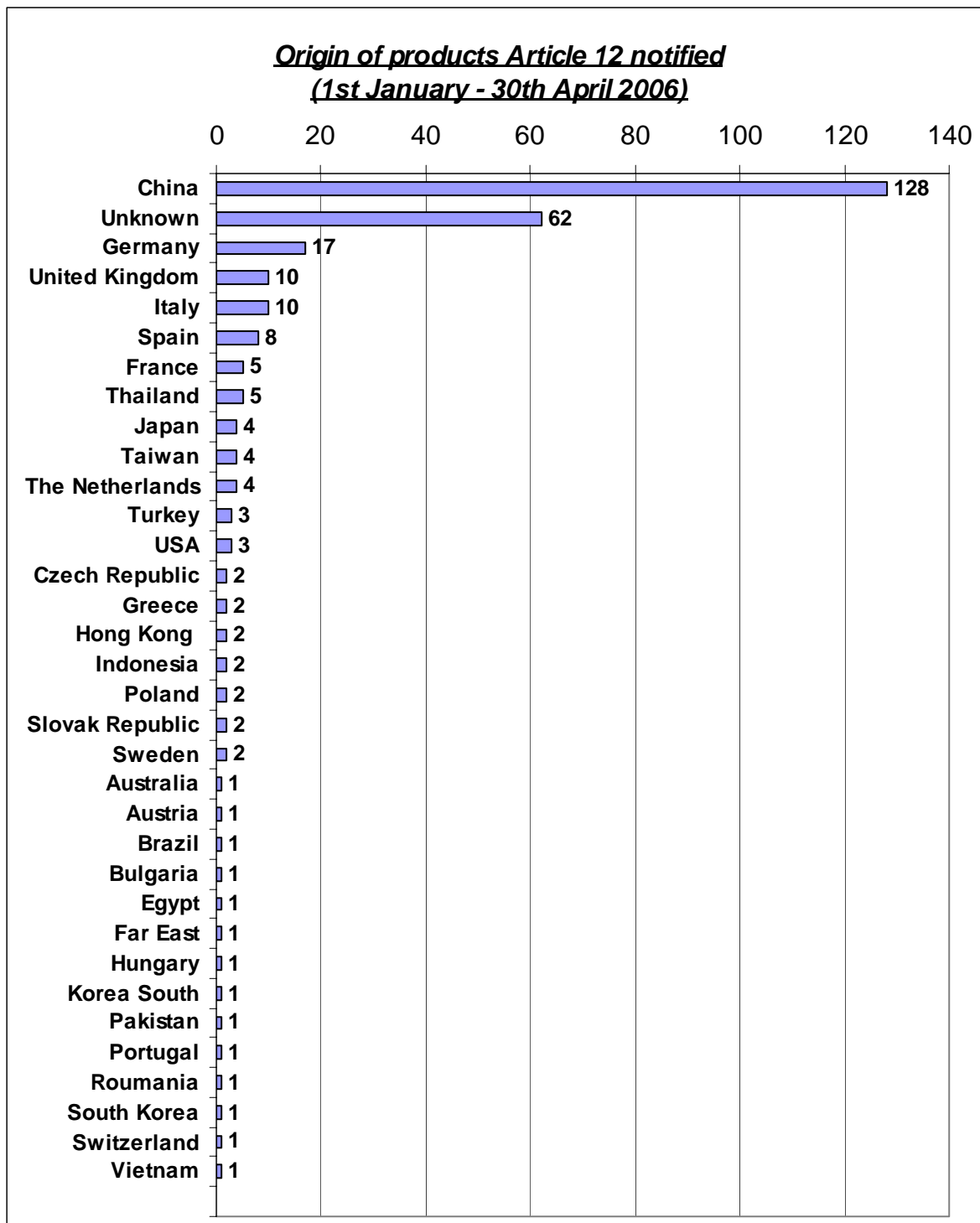
With 102 (30 %) cases, “Electric shock” was the most frequently notified risk. The second most notified nature of risk was “Risk of injury”: 77 cases, representing 23% of all notifications. “Fire risk/burns” comes in third place with 62 cases (19%).



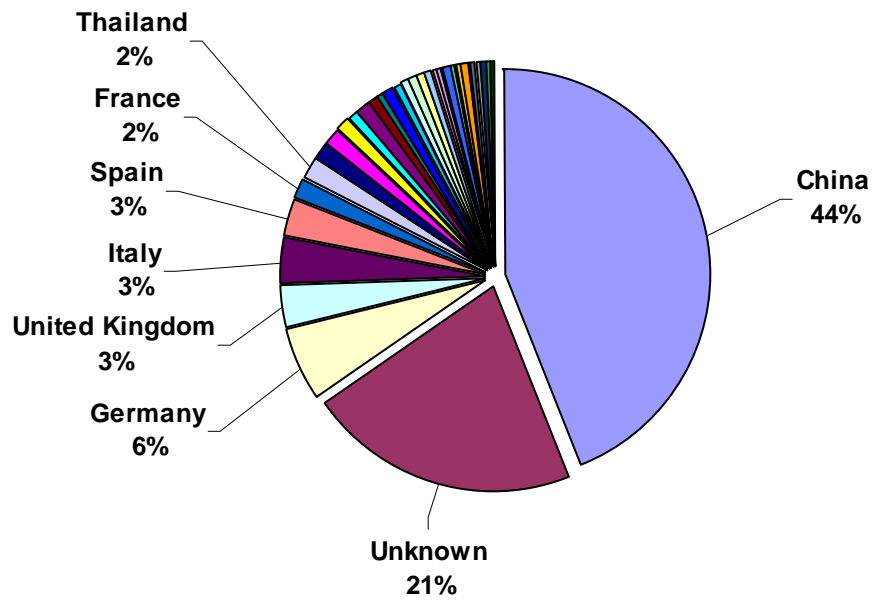
² The number here is different from the number of notifications, because one notification can present more than one specific risk.

4) *Origin of the products notified*

Almost half of the serious risk products notified during this period originated from China (128 cases, 44%). Unfortunately, too many notifications continued to not indicate the country of origin (62 notifications) representing 21%. This high number is unsatisfactory, as it makes an appropriate follow-up with manufacturers impossible.



Origin of the products notified
(1st January - 30th April 2006)



5) *Measures adopted*

The most frequently adopted measures were “withdrawal from market”, either voluntary (78 cases, 27%) or obligatory (74 cases, 25%). An obligatory ban of sale was issued in 51 cases, representing 17%.

Five voluntary “public warnings” **have been issued** in the period January/April 2006.

