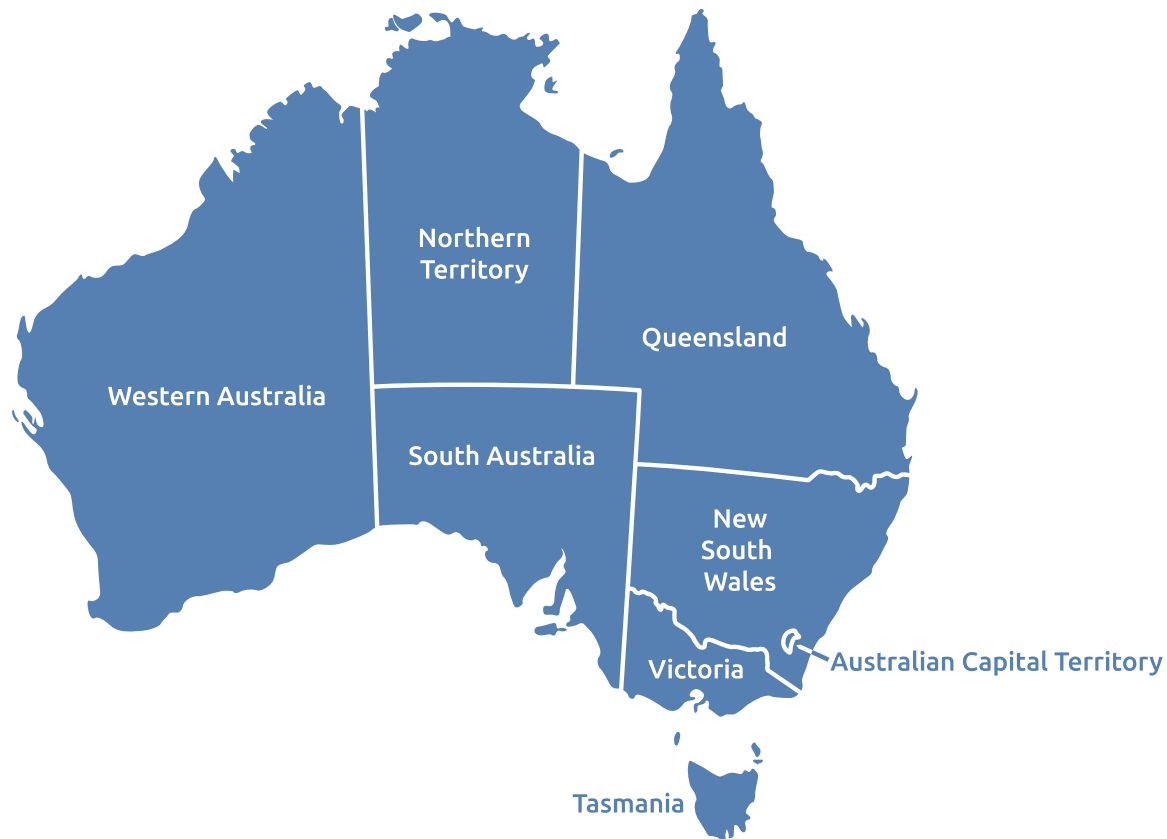




PRODUCT RECALL

AUSTRALIA
JULY to DECEMBER 2017



Home and Living



Food and Grocery



Allergen



Babies and Kids



Health and Lifestyle

What's new

LIU, GS1 and the GS1 Recall portal?

GS1 is a not-for-profit organisation that develops and helps quickly and efficiently remove unsafe or unsuitable products from your supply chain, retailers and the wider marketplace.

GS1's main benefits are:

- reduce risks and costs through efficient product withdrawal
- send secure notifications to selected customers, giving them tailored information and updates
- satisfy hazard analysis and critical control point (HACCP) certification and best-practice audit requirements through conducting mock recalls
- communicate important business information through the use of global standards, the best known of which is the barcode.

These standards form a business language that identifies and shares key information about products and locations in order to enhance the efficiency and safety of supply chains.

The GS1 Recall portal is a secure, web-based system designed to support the food, grocery and general merchandising industries. It can significantly streamline and improve the product recall and withdrawal process - ensuring the right information is delivered to the right people at the right time.

GS1's Recall portal has been helping companies create, communicate and manage product recall and withdrawal notices since 2011. It was created with the assistance of industry, including Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) and the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) and its use is endorsed in the FSANZ Food Industry Recall Protocol.

The GS1 Recall portal can help you:

- simplify, speed up and automate the exchange of information between suppliers, distributors and retailers via a single, whole-of-industry portal
- ensure compliance, by providing mandatory notifications to regulators such as FSANZ, ACCC and Therapeutic Goods Administration.

LIU will pay the annual subscription to the GS1 Recall portal for all clients of LIU Australia Crisis Management. Once a client has bound a policy with LIU, we will provide them with a log in and password to the GS1 Recall portal.

Visit <https://www.gs1au.org/our-services/recall/preform/>. Enter your basic company details and user details and enter the last 6 digits of your LIU policy code in the 'Promo Code' field.

Should you have any questions or require further assistance, please call the GS1 Recall support team on 03 8581 5976.





Home and Living

Recalls due to fire and electrical shock account for nearly half of the total recalls in this category. Some recent examples include:

22nd November, 2017 – Isolator switch

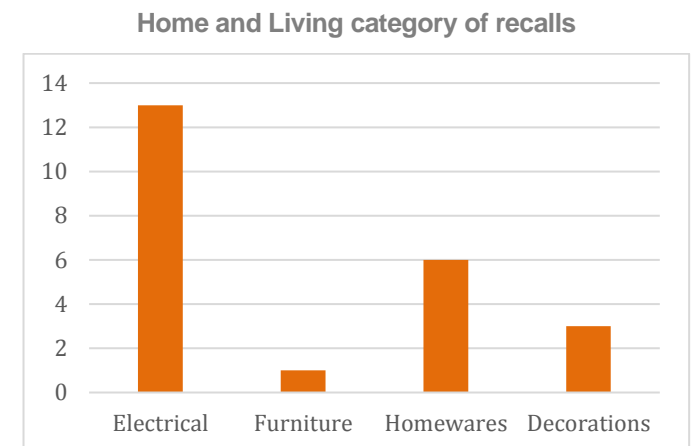
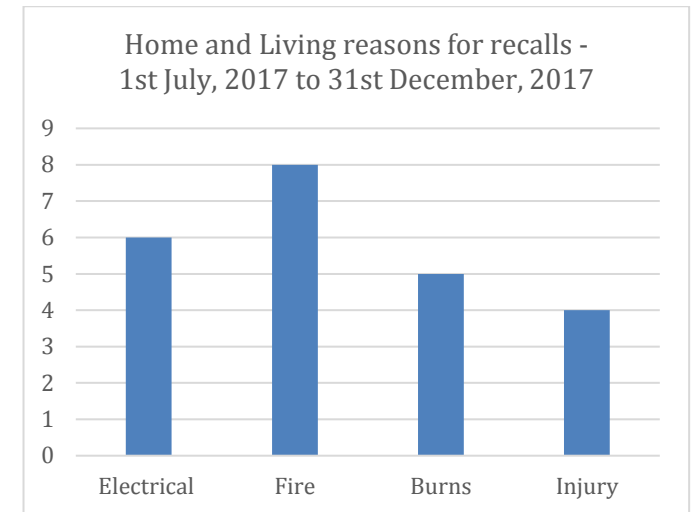
A manufacturing defect may cause the heater control panel to overheat and in some cases to melt and char causing localised smoke and heat damage.

4th September, 2017 – DC Adapter

In some cases the housing can split apart causing exposure of electrical components. This could potentially result in an electric shock.

9th November, 2017 – Plastic Dining Chair

The chair may experience structural failure and the legs may break during use. This could lead to a possible risk of the chair collapsing which can cause injury to the user.





Food and Grocery

Recalls due to allergens account for nearly half of the total recalls in the food and grocery category. Some recent examples include:

20th August, 2017 – Yoghurt pouches

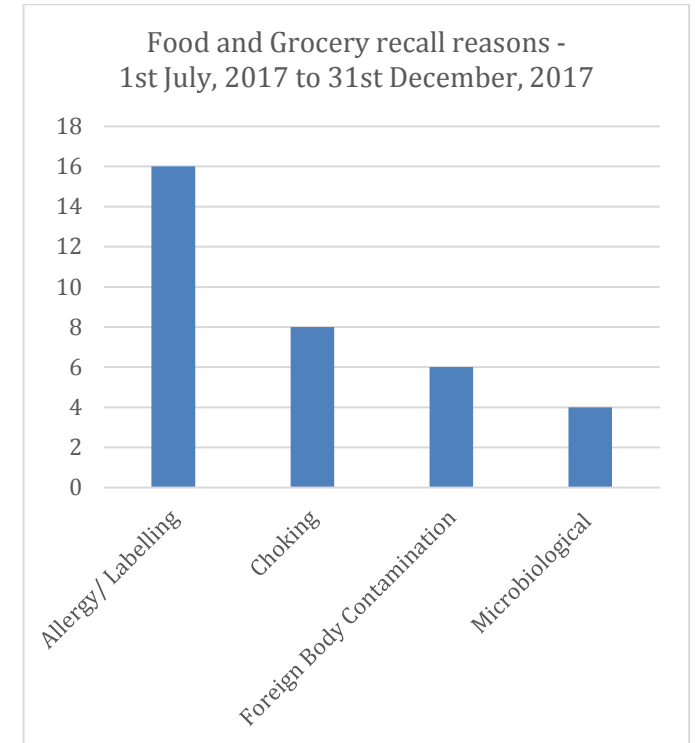
Packaging fault involving caps. Recall is related to packaging only, not the yoghurt itself. Potential choking hazard.

30th August, 2017 – Hot Sauce

Presence of an undeclared allergen (peanut, shellfish and fish), which are not declared in the allergen statement. Consumers with a peanut, shellfish or fish allergy or intolerance may have a reaction if this product is consumed.

29th December, 2017 – Sparkling Shiraz

The recall is due to the risk of the bottle shattering if exposed to heat for extended periods of time. There is a risk of injury if the bottle shatters.





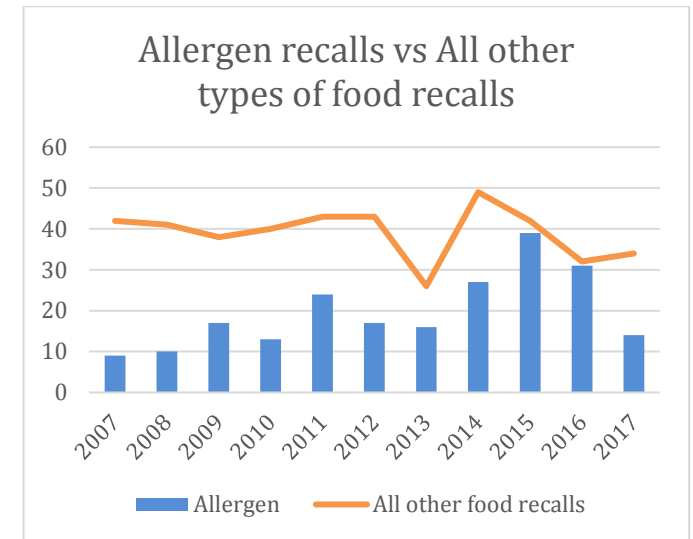
Allergens

The presence of allergens is the most common reason for triggering a product recall in Australia and data shows a disturbing trend. This trend is occurring at the same time as an increase in the number of allergen susceptible individuals.

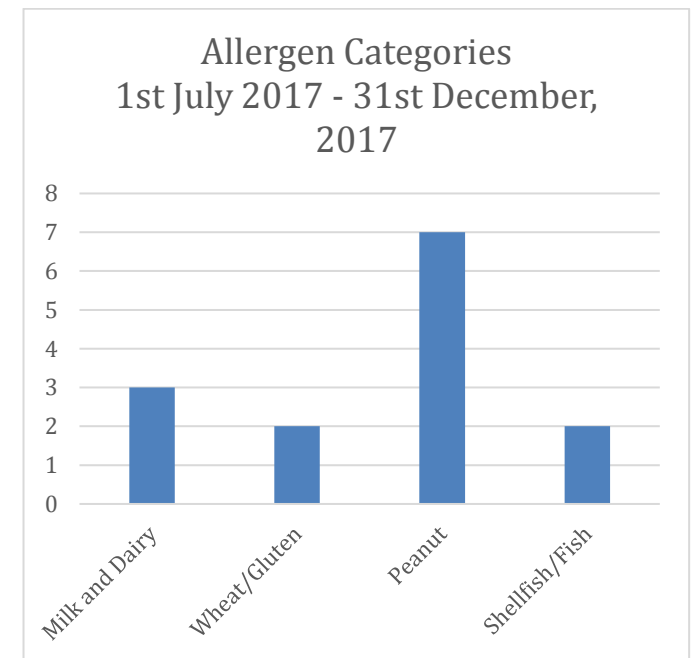
Recently released figures by the Australian Bureau of Statistics reveal that almost 4 million people in Australia reported avoiding a food type because of allergy or intolerance. Of those, about 560,000 were children aged between 2 and 18 years. In this group, girls were more likely than boys to be susceptible. The Australasian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy (ASCI) reports that food allergy occurs in around 1 in 20 children and in about 2 in 100 adults.

Over the last 10 years there has been a clear increase in the amount of recalls due to allergens. The number of allergen recalls in 2016 is over triple that for 2007 – **and in both 2016 and 2017 accounted for almost half of all food recalls.** The majority of allergens based recalls come from complex foods including Chilled and frozen (64%), Beverages (14%), baked goods (7%) and Confectionery (7%).

These alarming trends pose concern with the regulators and within the food industry.



Allergens category of recalls





Babies and Kids

Choking hazards and injury are the most common reason for recalls in Australia. There were a total of 33 recalls in Australia for this period and this category was 24% of the total recalls. Some recent examples include:

4th July, 2017 – Walking Novelty Pet Toy

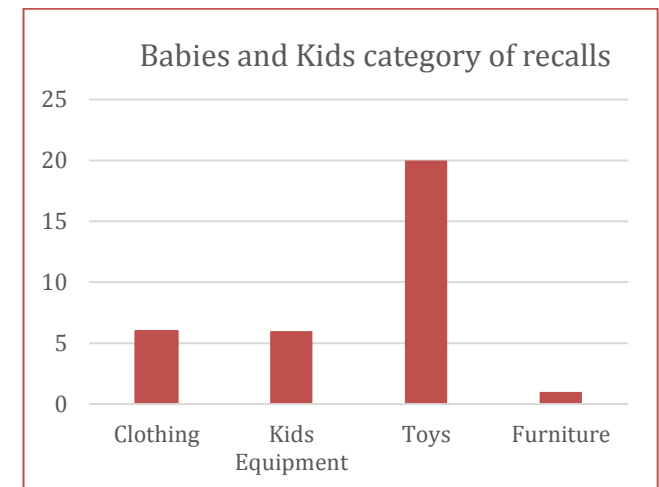
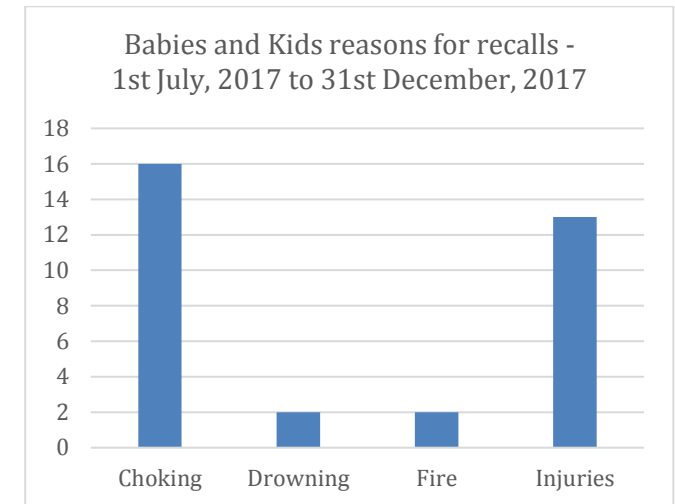
If the toy is pulled hard enough the button eyes on the product could become detached. In addition, the button eyes may pose a choking hazard to young children.

12th December, 2017 – Teether

The silicone teether's are smaller than the permitted dimensions. The product may get lodged in an infant/child's throat and pose a choking or suffocation hazard.

6th December, 2017 – Stacking Owl

The owl's beak may become detached from the product. These small parts can present a choking hazard for children under 36 months.





Health and Lifestyle

Injury is the most common reason for recalls in this category. Some recent examples include:

23rd November, 2017 – Brow Gel

The product may be contaminated with bacteria. If the product comes in contact with eyes it could cause an eye irritation.

10th October, 2017 – Body Wash

The product has been found to contain an unacceptably high level of Gram positive bacterium (*Staphylococcus Cohni*). This can cause infection in immunocompromised patients.

11th July, 2017 – Insulin Cartridge Holder

There is a risk that the cartridge holder may crack or break if exposed to certain cleaning agents. Using a cracked or broken insulin cartridge holder could result in the device delivering a smaller doses of insulin than expected, which can lead to serious health consequences including hyperglycemia (high blood sugar).

