

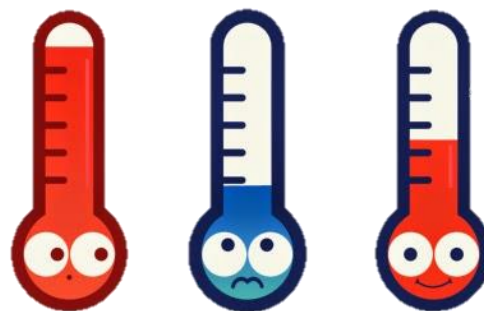
Spring's longer days and stronger sunlight can be enough to make the inside of a car dangerously hot<sup>1</sup>. While most people affiliate heatstroke deaths of children in vehicles with heat waves in the summer, the dangers still exist during early spring.



***Leaving children unattended in the car, even if only for a short time, can be FATAL!***  
***Thus never leave small children unattended in cars!***  
**We are responsible for their life and they require our care!**

Every year, children suffer and die due to **hyperthermia** when left unattended in parked vehicles.

In the U.S., **744** children have died due to vehicular heatstroke since 1998 (average number per year: **37**).



In the U.S., **400** of the 744 child deaths were children **"forgotten"** by caregiver in the car.



<sup>1</sup><https://tinyurl.com/yat63x3g>

In Europe, no national or European data sources track heat related incidents to children in motor vehicles, thus this cause of deaths is invisible.

But this does not mean it does not happen in Europe as press articles and internet search demonstrate in addition to the European Child Safety Alliance factsheet<sup>2</sup>. Having the same weather conditions in the countries of the EU (especially in the Southern part of Europe) and the same behaviour (attitudes) of the average European driver one can suppose the same statistical data regarding these tragic accidents in the EU.

Cars are not meant to be used as babysitters.

On a **29 °C** day a car can reach **44 °C** in just **10** minutes & a deadly **60 °C** in **20** minutes<sup>3</sup>.

A child's body temperature can rise up to five times faster than an adult's, due to their much less weight compared to the body of an adult person. A child dies with a **41 °C** body temperature.

Adopt a **'look before lock'** routine whenever you get out of the car and leave something important on the backseat that you need to take with you (e.g. your wallet).



To avoid forgetting your child in the car



Cracking a window and parking in the shade aren't sufficient safeguards.

Your car could also get stolen or someone could break in — so don't leave your child in the car at any time, regardless of the weather.

<sup>2</sup> <https://tinyurl.com/y9v9kzqz> <sup>3</sup> Depending on the colour of the car (especially in case of black colour) and position of the sunshine this process of warming up can be quicker.

# How fast your car becomes too hot...



20°C

30°C

OUTSIDE TEMPERATURE 40°C

INSIDE TEMPERATURE 10 min

10 min



27°C

10 min



37°C



47°C

60 min



66°C

30 min



36°C

30 min



46°C

30 min



56°C

# DON'T LEAVE CHILDREN UNATTENDED IN CARS

## About ANEC

ANEC is the European consumer voice in standardisation, defending consumer interests in the processes of technical standardisation and conformity assessment, as well as related legislation and public policies.

ANEC was established in 1995 as an international non-profit association under Belgian law and is open to the representation of national consumer organisations in 34 countries.

ANEC is funded by the European Union and EFTA, with national consumer organisations contributing in kind. Its Secretariat is based in Brussels.



*Raising standards for consumers*

**European association for the coordination  
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