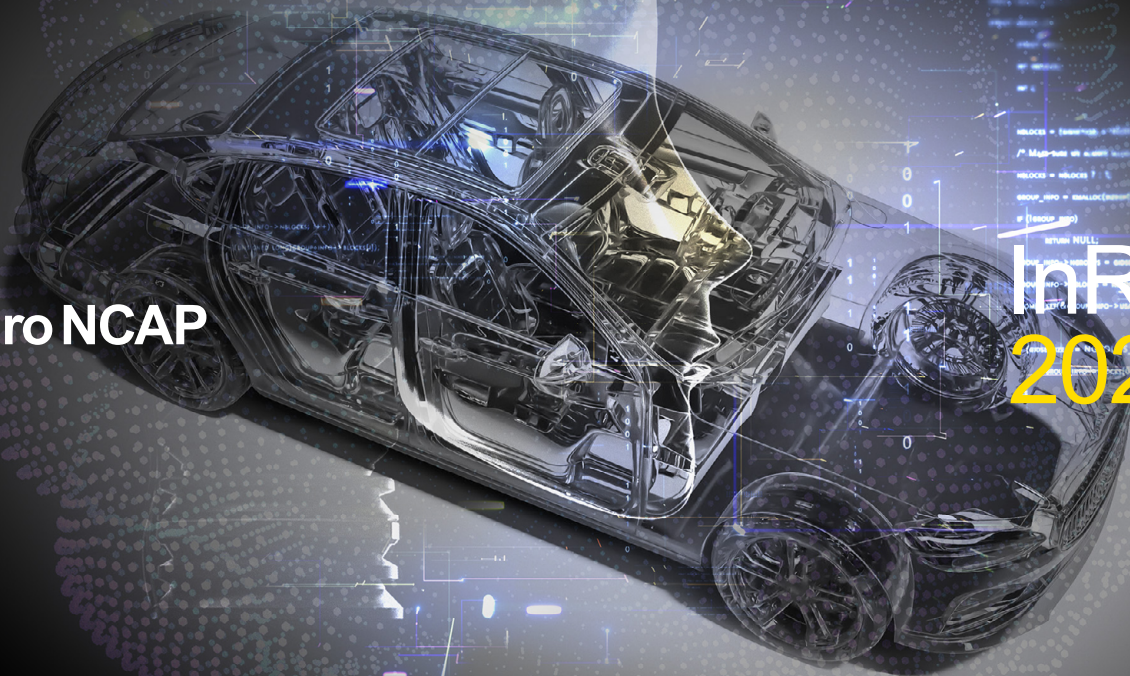




Euro NCAP



InReview
2025

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2025 was a landmark year for Euro NCAP. We tested more vehicles than ever – from cars to commercial vans and heavy trucks. We also strengthened international cooperation and set the stage for the organisation's most ambitious overhaul of passenger car safety ratings in 2026.

Dr. Michiel van Ratingen
Secretary General

Record-setting in 2025



In 2025, Euro NCAP set new records, testing more new cars and delivering more impartial safety ratings for consumers than any year since 1997, when it first began crash testing cars.

108 new cars were assessed by experts, from more than 50 brands, marking an important milestone for the organisation. Impressively, 98 per cent of models tested scored four stars or more, illustrating how Euro NCAP continues to elevate vehicle safety standards across the car industry. Last year also saw the introduction of new testing protocols and an expanding global footprint.

The progress was achieved against a challenging backdrop for the European automotive industry, characterised by a turbulent market, intensifying global competition, a costly transition to electric vehicles, and rising production costs. Although European car sales in 2025 are estimated to have grown modestly, reaching around 13.4 million vehicles by year-end, consumer confidence remained cautious amid continued economic uncertainty.

New cars
tested

108

Brands
tested

50

Models that scored
four stars or more

98%

European car
sales 2025

13.4M

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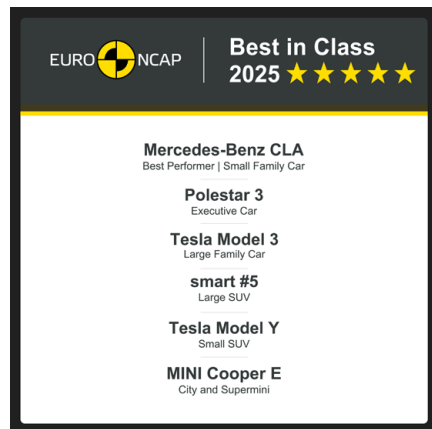
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Best Performer of 2025

Mercedes-Benz CLA



The Mercedes-Benz CLA emerged as Euro NCAP's best overall performer of 2025, achieving outstanding results across all safety categories. Its performance reflects the growing maturity of integrated safety systems and strong manufacturer alignment with Euro NCAP's evolving protocols.

The CLA is the first car to be named Best Performer twice: the most recent generation in 2025 and the 2019 model, which was assessed using the previous test protocols.

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2025 Highlights

Euro NCAP recorded its highest volume of car assessments to date, underlining both industry engagement and growing consumer demand for transparent information around the safety of new cars. This increase was driven by the announcement of tighter protocols for 2026, new market entrants, and the continued rise of electric and hybrid vehicles.

Focus on electric & more hybrids

Fully **battery-electric vehicles (BEVs)** represented a 58.33 per cent share of the cars tested in 2025, proving especially popular among SUVs, family cars, and premium categories where new BEV models are common. This mirrors broader European market data showing BEVs made up roughly 17–20 per cent of passenger car registrations in 2025 year-to-date.

Last year also saw the introduction of several smaller, affordable BEV models with a kerb weight below 1500 kg, including the Hyundai INSTER, the BYD DOLPHIN SURF, and NIO's sub-brand firefly. These vehicles demonstrate that meeting high safety requirements is not a primary obstacle to the broader market success of smaller electric cars.



Hyundai INSTER



BYD DOLPHIN SURF



firefly

New market entrants

2025 saw a **significant rise in new manufacturers entering the Euro NCAP programme**, particularly from emerging EV brands.

In September, Turkey's electric-vehicle brand Togg made its official entrance into the Euro NCAP safety testing programme with outstanding results, marking a milestone for the company. Both the Spanish brand EBRO and the French brand Alpine have been successfully revived in recent years and saw their models first assessed by Euro NCAP. VOYAH, Geely, Dongfeng, AION, Hongqi, firefly and EXLANTIX were among the new Chinese brands that, with few exceptions, received excellent Euro NCAP safety scores in 2025, indicating the growing maturity of these manufacturers and how consumers are benefitting from increased market competition. The widespread drive among emerging brands to achieve an impressive star rating underscores how Euro NCAP ratings are increasingly regarded as essential to compete in the European car market.



ALPINE

VOYAH

GEELY



AION



EXLANTIX

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Award-Winning Truck Programme

Launched in November 2024, Euro NCAP's Truck Safety Programme gained international recognition in 2025, winning the **Public Awareness Campaign of the Year Award** from the ADAS & Autonomous Vehicle International (AAVI) magazine, as well as the **2025 Prince Michael International Road Safety Award**. The programme, which aims to improve truck safety by providing independent and transparent ratings for heavy goods vehicles (HGVs) and encouraging the adoption of advanced safety technologies, continues to influence regulations, fleet purchasing decisions, and original equipment manufacturers' (OEM) safety strategies, with 15 new truck ratings released in 2025.



Spotlight

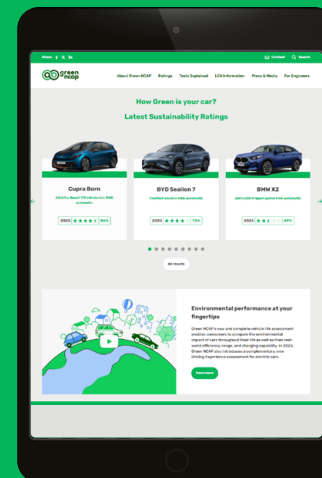
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Safe & Sustainable



Euro NCAP's **Green NCAP initiative** took a major step forward with the launch of a revised rating that better reflects a car's real-world sustainability and environmental performance. This included moving to a full Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) approach, considering a vehicle's environmental impact from manufacturing through use to end-of-life, rather than focusing primarily on emissions during driving.

Green NCAP also began evaluating additional Driving Experience aspects for electric vehicles, such as charging performance, V2X capability (Vehicle to Grid/Home/Load), and thermal comfort. This update, along with Euro NCAP's continued investment in Green NCAP, reinforces the message that safety and sustainability must progress hand in hand.

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New look

A small but significant change for 2026 comes as Euro NCAP updates its visual identity to better communicate the expansion of its testing programme. For car buyers, that brings clarity. When they see a Euro NCAP logo and rating, they know it's a marque of trust, independence and innovation, empowering them to make the right purchasing decision.

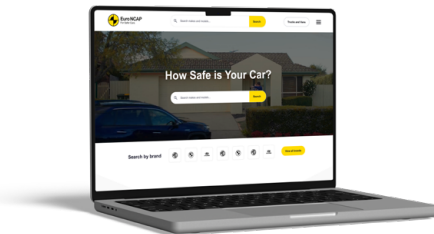


Euro NCAP
Driving a Safer Future



New website

Attracting several million visitors each year, Euro NCAP's website serves as the authoritative platform for **independent vehicle safety information**. In 2025, Euro NCAP began working on a **redesigned website**, focused on improved usability, clearer ratings communication, and enhanced data access for media and consumers. The new website, prepared for the revised rating scheme scheduled for 2026, goes live in the first quarter of the year.



New testing

During 2025, Euro NCAP implemented major changes in its test data processing, including fully automated measurements during on-road driving, standardised calculations of active safety scores and injury criteria, and automated verification of virtual testing data. Not only is this approach more time-efficient and less prone to errors, but it enables a more holistic assessment of increasingly integrated vehicle safety systems.



The expert team behind Euro NCAP have worked tirelessly to devise new protocols that better reflect the four key stages of safety and the increasingly integrated technology on modern cars.

Richard Schram,
Technical Director,
Euro NCAP

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Progress in Safety

2025 was the final year for the **protocols introduced in 2023**, and the updated requirements encouraged manufacturers to improve the safety of their newest models.



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YEAR	2023	2024	2025	All years
TOTAL MODELS	17	41	108	166 (100%)
★★★★★	14	28	76	118 (71%)
★★★★☆	3	8	30	41 (25%)
★★★☆☆	0	5	2	7 (4%)
★★☆☆☆ (OR LESS)	0	0	0	0

Key changes included new driver monitoring and speed assistance criteria; expanded collision avoidance tests, covering motorcycles, crossing traffic, and dooring scenarios; enhanced protection for vulnerable road users such as pedestrians and cyclists; the introduction of child presence detection and vehicle submergence safety features; and strengthened post-crash safety measures, including improved rescue information.

Despite these new and often very challenging requirements, 118 of the 166 cars tested since 2023 (71%) achieved five stars, 41 (25%) earned four stars, and seven cars (4%) received three stars.

Vehicle Compatibility



A key consideration of road safety is how well different size vehicles protect occupants during a collision. Larger cars should not be disproportionately more damaging to smaller cars, and our testing rewards those models that best manage the forces at work during a frontal collision.

Matthew Avery,
Director of Strategic Development, Euro NCAP

Last year, Euro NCAP highlighted **vehicle compatibility** as a key safety priority, noting that while many new models provide excellent occupant protection, some heavier vehicles, particularly certain SUVs, showed poor compatibility in barrier tests, meaning they could pose a higher risk to occupants of other cars. Euro NCAP encouraged manufacturers to improve front-structure design to better manage crash energy, reflecting its ongoing mission to enhance overall road safety, not just individual vehicle crash performance.

Safety Comebacks

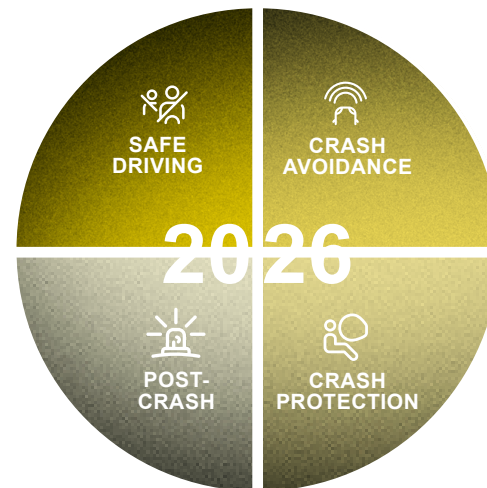


When the MG 3 suffered a seat latch failure during Euro NCAP testing, we were pleased that MG took our findings seriously and initiated both redesign of the component and a market action for affected models already in the hands of consumers.

Dr. Aled Williams
Programme Director, Euro NCAP

In 2025, several models returned to Euro NCAP with **significant safety improvements**. The BYD ATTO 3's Assisted Driving Grading moved from 'Not Recommended' to 'Good' after OTA updates and hardware upgrades, while a critical safety issue in the MG 3 prompted market action around recalling affected models. These examples highlight Euro NCAP's role in driving real change in the marketplace.

The Stages of Safety



2025 marked the release of new test and rating protocols that will come into effect in 2026. Euro NCAP's safety assessment will become more comprehensive and future-focused, with a new four-stage rating framework designed around four key stages of safety: safe driving, crash avoidance, crash protection, and post-crash safety. The new approach, drawing on the principles of the Haddon Matrix, tests safety technologies by stage, yet also enables evaluation of those solutions that operate across multiple stages.

The new protocols will ensure stronger real-world testing of driver aids, broader occupant protection, rigorous post-crash criteria, integration of real-time data, and formalised virtual testing, all aimed at encouraging innovation and aligning safety ratings with how vehicles are used on the road today.

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First Manufacturers' Viewing in China

Euro NCAP hosted its first overseas **Manufacturers' Viewing** in Tianjin and **Industry Liaison Meeting** in Chongqing, with the support of Chinese laboratories CATARC and CAERI, respectively. Both events focused on local manufacturers exporting to Europe, providing valuable opportunities for dialogue and technical exchange with industry and test partners in China, signalling the growth of active market competition.

Global Collaboration



The **NCAP25 World Congress** in Shanghai brought together NCAP representatives from around the world alongside regulators, manufacturers, civil society, and safety advocates for discussions, demonstrations, and plenary sessions. A central outcome was the Shanghai Declaration, reaffirming the NCAP community's commitment to independent testing and stronger vehicle safety regulations, with Euro NCAP as a signatory. NCAP25 also provided a platform for technical exchange and alignment on future safety and green initiatives, such as the **Sino-European cooperation initiative** to align automotive carbon footprint assessments between Green NCAP and CATARC.



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Press Releases
in 2025

20

Media interest

421,650

Up

54% 

Year in Numbers

Digital footprint

Digital presence 2025

3,773,592

page and profile impressions

47.7% 

from 2024

Social media posts

271

posts

4,208,251
post impressions

239% 

from 2024

Top-performing post

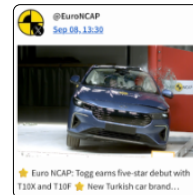
581,689

impressions

7,798
reactions

1,080
shares

193
comments



Average post engagement

4.79%

54,316

website link clicks

Website visits

12,788,352

Top ten visiting countries of 2025



Top website visits (Car safety ratings in 2025)



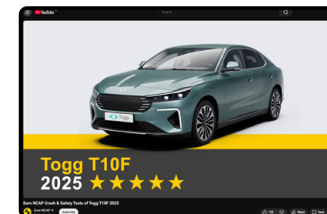
Most watched video on YouTube in 2025

449,611

views

12,325.7

hours



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Euro NCAP's results continued to shape consumer choice, fleet purchasing, and regulatory discussion worldwide.

What's Next: Viewings & Beyond

Looking ahead, Euro NCAP will continue testing the latest cars, vans, and trucks, refining its protocols, and strengthening international partnerships to make vehicles cleaner and safer while keeping pace with rapid technological changes.

Stay tuned for more results and Live Events in 2026.

17-18
March
2026

Media Event: From Protocols to Practice

Helmond, the Netherlands, Lommel & Brussels, Belgium

18-19
March
2026

Euro NCAP Manufacturers' Viewing Europe

Brussels, Belgium

22-24
April
2026

Euro NCAP Manufacturers' Viewing China, NCAP Update & HGV Seminar

Chongqing, China, in cooperation with CAERI

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About Euro NCAP

Euro NCAP provides consumers with an Independent assessment of the safety level of the most popular cars sold in Europe.

Euro NCAP is a catalyst for encouraging significant safety improvements to new car design. We hope that when buying a new car, **Euro NCAP** will help you choose for safety.

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Euro NCAP

Driving a Safer Future