

European Sales and Use of Antimicrobials for veterinary medicine (ESUAvet)

Annual surveillance report for
2023 (1st ESUAvet report)

AMR One Health Network meeting – 3 April 2025



European Surveillance of Veterinary Antimicrobial Consumption (ESVAC) project: 2009-2023

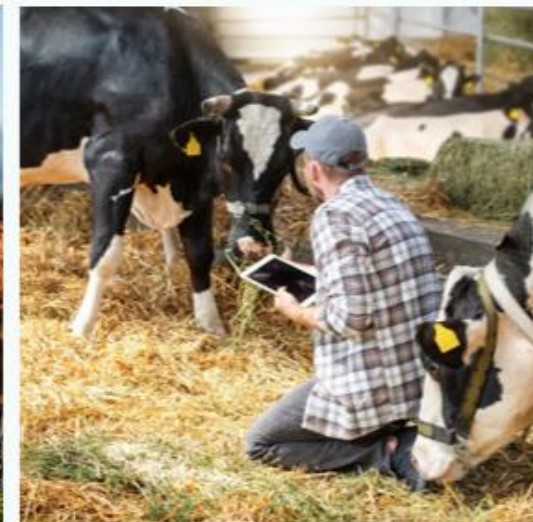
Voluntary reporting of veterinary antibiotics sales data



The first ESUAvet report with 2023 data is now published



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European sales and use of antimicrobials for veterinary medicine

Annual surveillance report for 2023



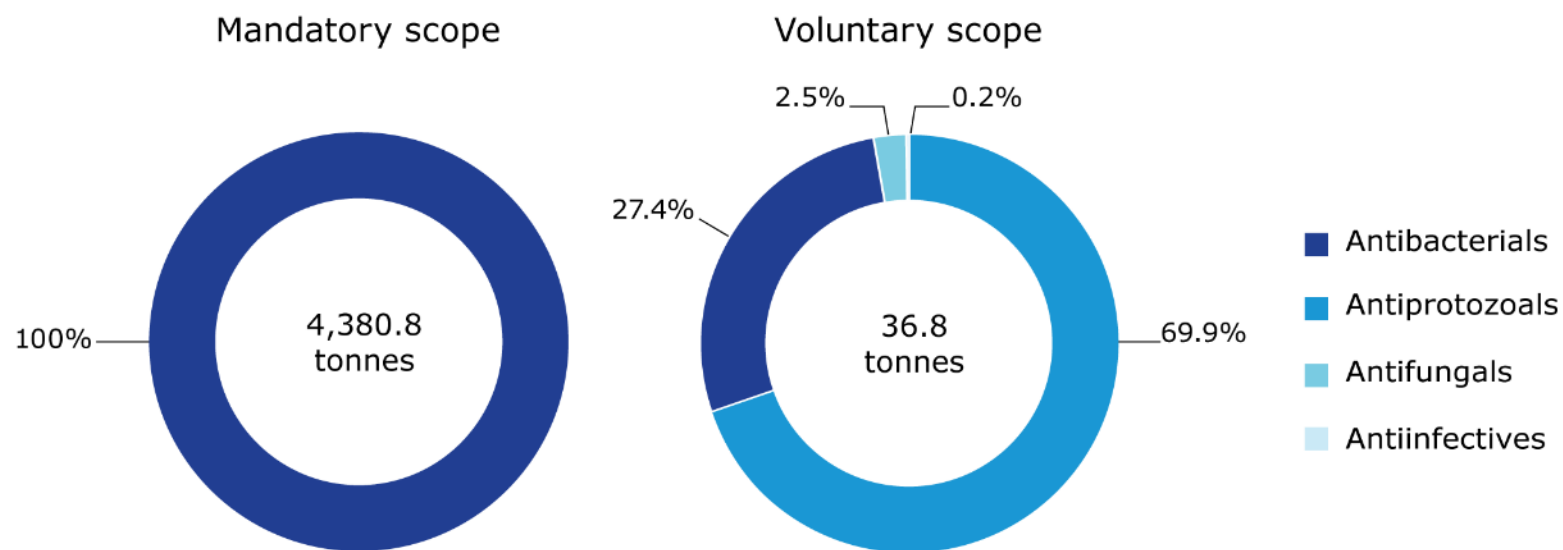
An agency of the European Union

Sales data



Volume of sales of antimicrobial VMPs in 2023 - overview

Figure 2. Proportion of reported sales of antimicrobial VMPs by antimicrobial class¹ and scope² in the EU in 2023³



Mandatory scope

Antibiotics for systemic use
Coverage assumed as full
for nearly all MSs.

Voluntary scope

Other antimicrobials
Reported by 17 MSs.
Coverage and
completeness unknown.

Sales of antimicrobial VMPs for food-producing animals (mandatory scope)



Tonnes sold, proportion of tonnes sold and mg (antimicrobial active substance)/kg (animal biomass)

By product form and by antimicrobial class.

Sales of AMEG categories B, C and D.

Sales of 3rd- and 4th-generation cephalosporins, fluoroquinolones, other quinolones, and polymyxins (AMEG B).

Sales of antimicrobials for food-producing animals in 2023 (mandatory scope)

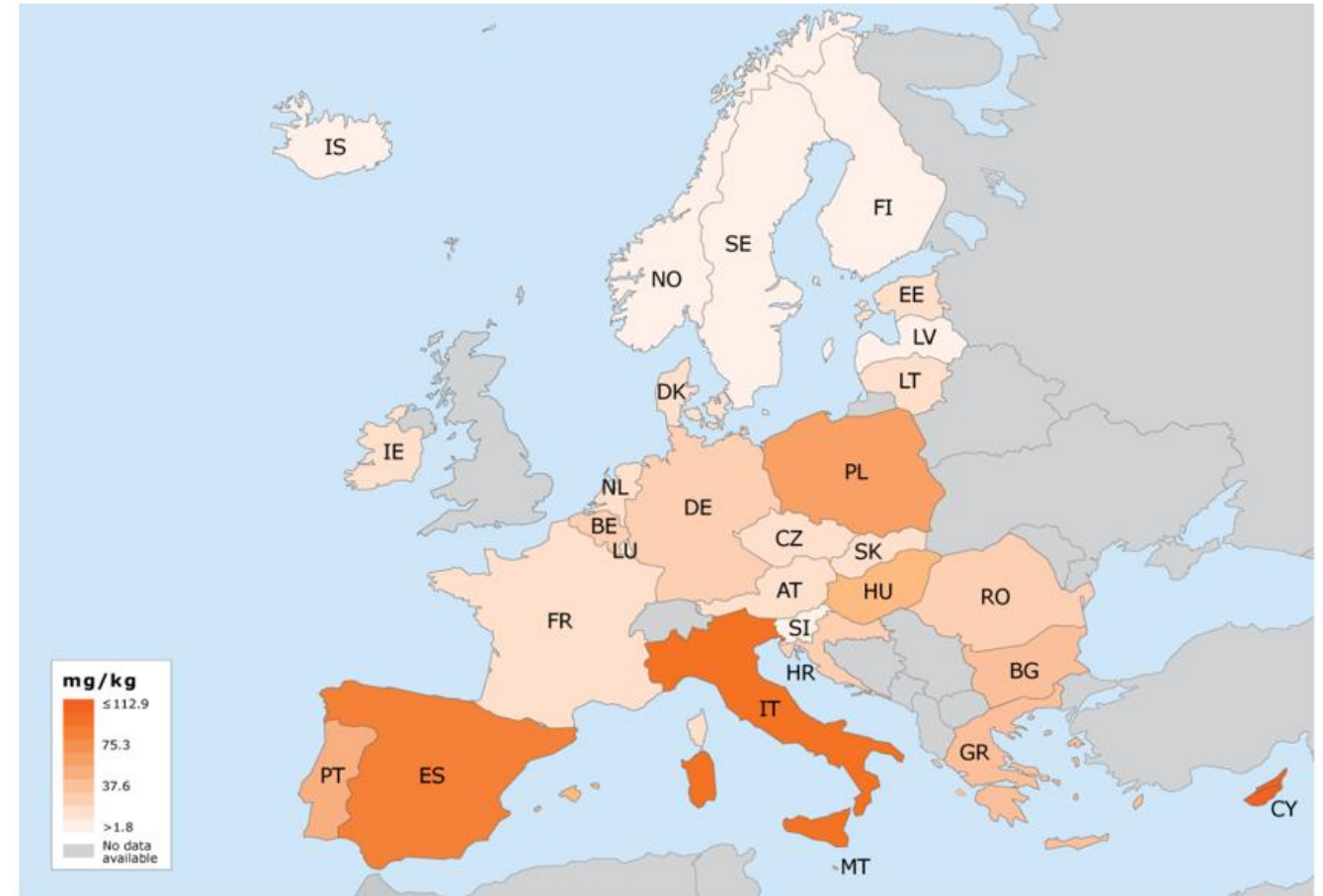
EU: 45.1 mg/kg

Across countries: 1.8 mg/kg to 112.9 mg/kg

ESUAvet mandatory sales

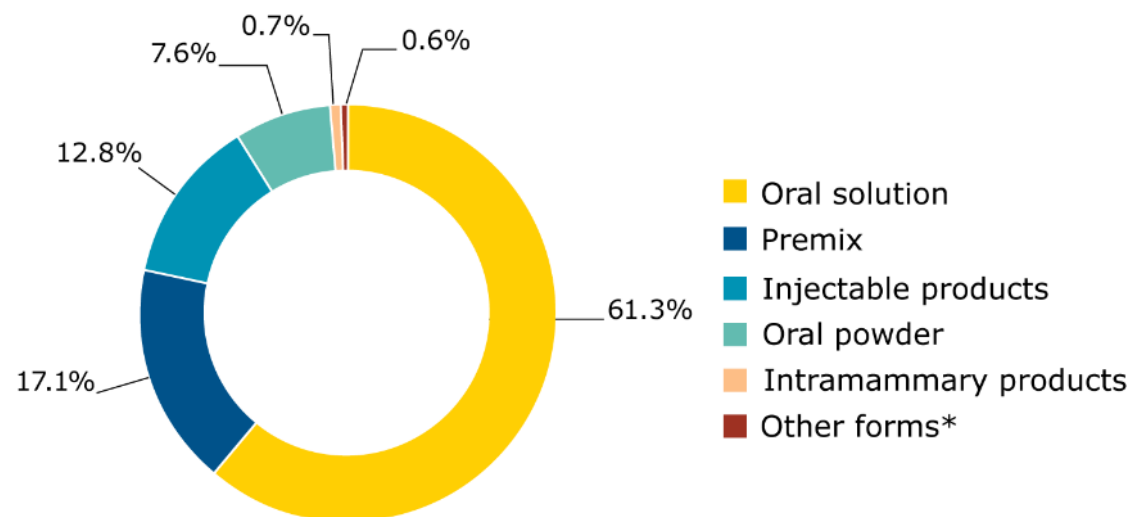
Note: Not to be compared against ESVAC maps. Although the ESUAvet mandatory data covers the same ATCvet codes as for ESVAC during the period 2010-2022, the ESUAvet and ESVAC normalised sales indicators are different (explained in Annex 5).

Figure 3. Sales of antimicrobial VMPs for food-producing animals (mg/kg) in the EU, IS and NO, in 2023^{1,2}



Sales of antimicrobial for food-producing animals in 2023 (mandatory scope)

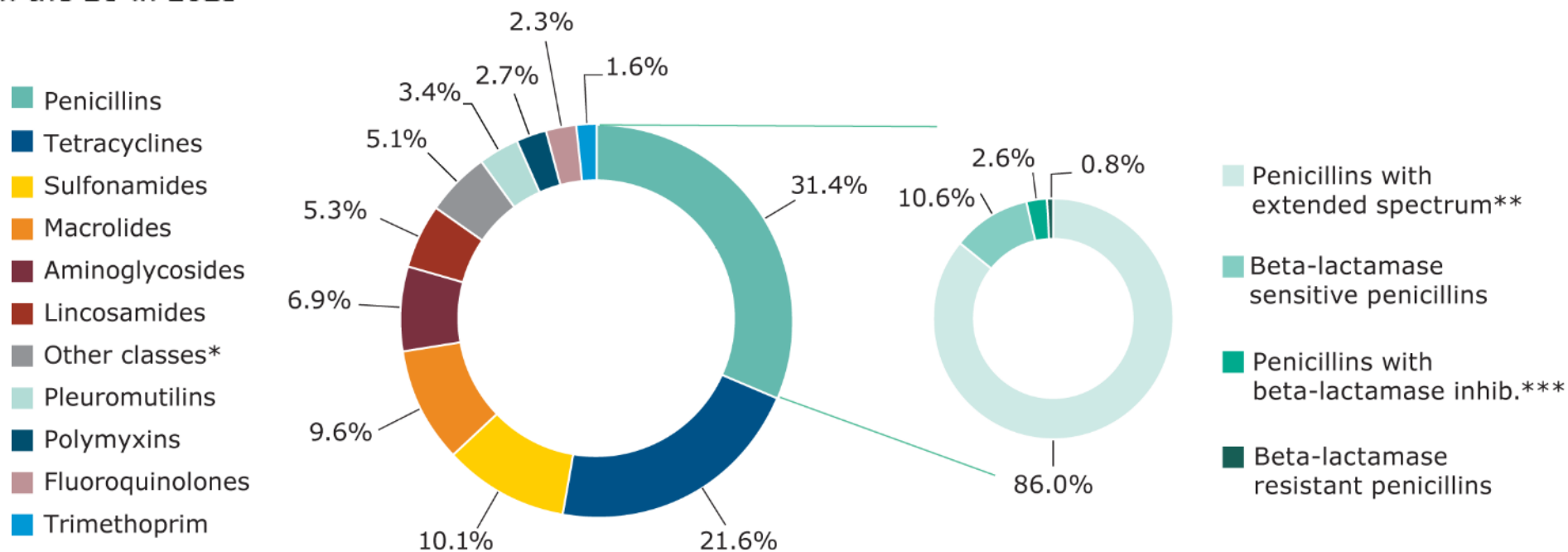
Figure 5. Proportion of sales of antimicrobial VMPs for food-producing animals by product form in the EU in 2023¹



86% of all antimicrobials sold for use in food-producing animals were oral powders, oral solutions and premix.

Sales of antimicrobial for food-producing animals in 2023 (mandatory scope)

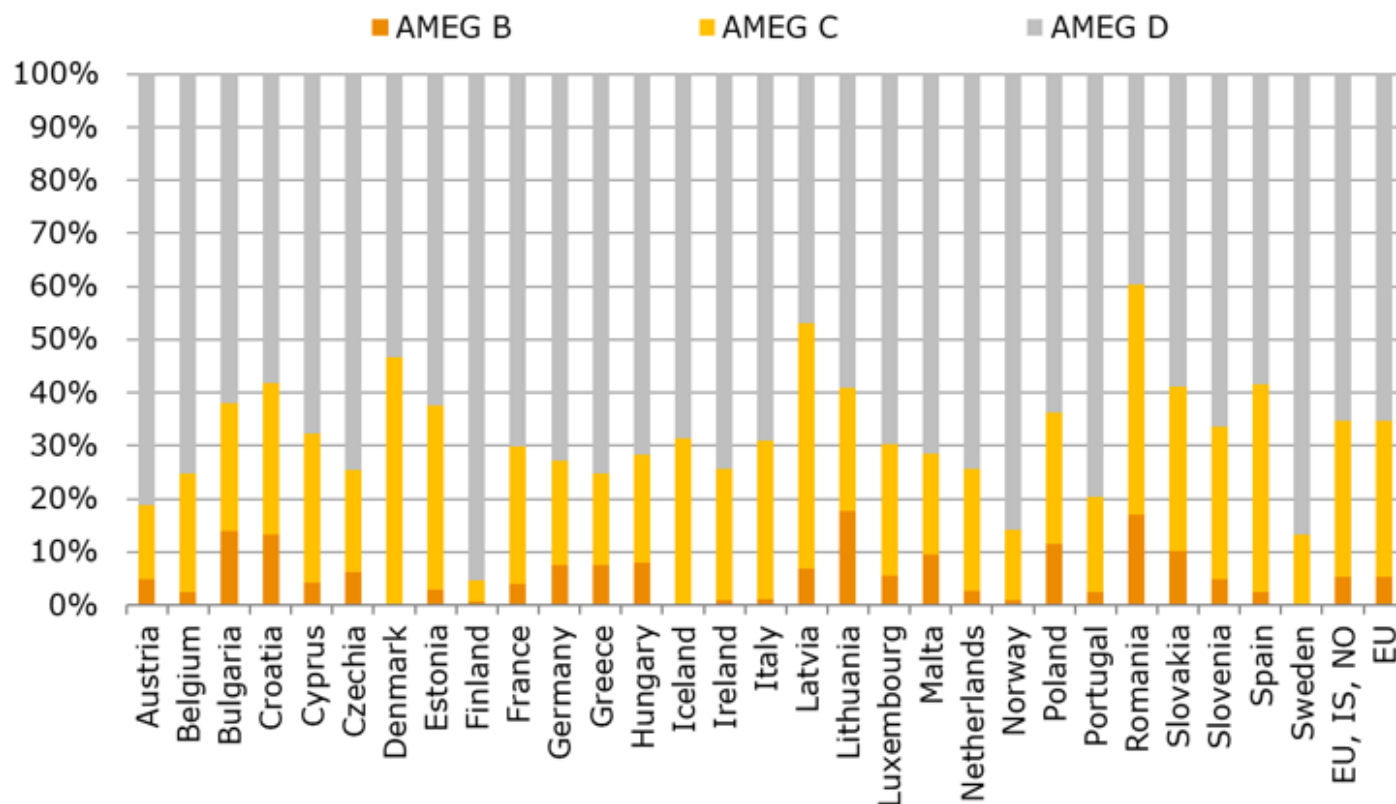
Figure 6. Proportion of sales of antimicrobial VMPs for food-producing animals by antimicrobial class in the EU in 2023¹



Three main classes account for more than 60% of antibacterial sales for food-producing animals: penicillins, tetracyclines and sulfonamides.

Sales of antimicrobial for food-producing animals in 2023 (mandatory scope)

Figure 7. Proportion of sales of antimicrobial VMPs¹ for food-producing animals by AMEG Category² per country in 2023^{1,2,3}



AMEG D (prudence): 65.3%

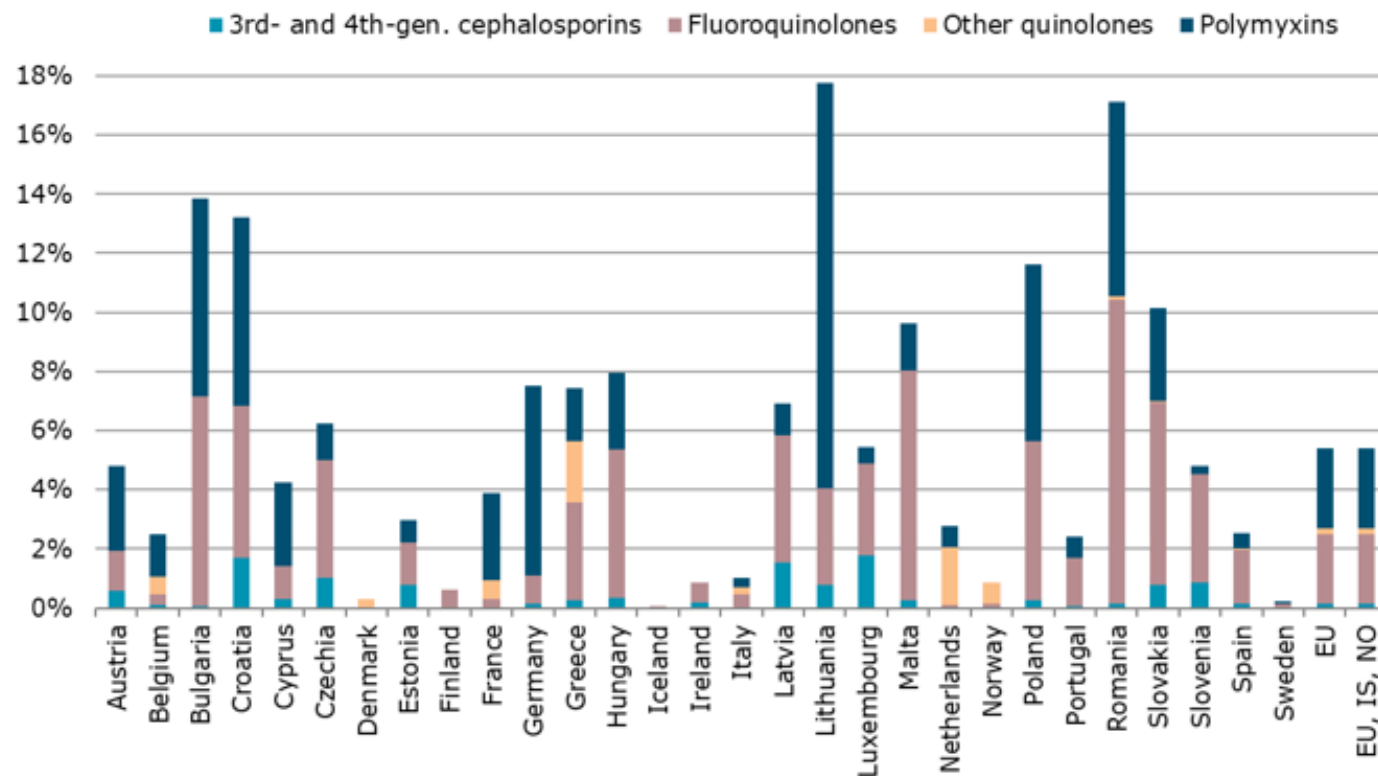
AMEG C (caution): 29.3%

AMEG B (restrict): 5.4%

% of total EU sales

Sales of antimicrobial for food-producing animals in 2023 (mandatory scope)

Figure 8. Proportion of sales of 3rd- and 4th-generation cephalosporins, fluoroquinolones, other quinolones and polymyxins of total antimicrobial VMP sales for food-producing animals, by country in 2023¹⁻⁴

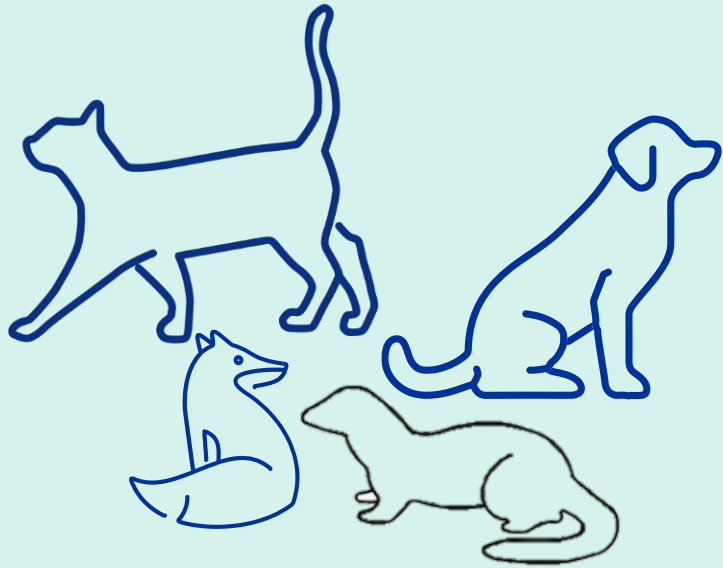


AMEG B (restrict): 5.4%

- 3rd- and 4th-generation cephalosporins: **0.2%**
- Fluoroquinolones: **2.3%**
- Other quinolones: **0.2%**
- Polymyxins: **2.7%**

% EU sales

Sales of antimicrobial VMPs for other animals kept or bred (mandatory scope)



dogs, cats, fur animals (minks and foxes)

Tonnes sold, proportion of tonnes sold and mg (antimicrobial active substance)/kg (animal biomass)

By product form and by antimicrobial class.

Sales of AMEG categories B, C and D.

Sales of antimicrobial for other animals kept or bred in 2023 (mandatory scope)

1.6% total tonnes sold under mandatory scope reported in 2023 (68.3 tonnes)

TOP Product form

- **90%** tablets
- **4.2%** premix
- **2.9%** oral solutions

TOP Antimicrobial class

- **50% penicillins** (of which app. 90% were sales of penicillins in combination with beta-lactamase inhibitors).
- **17% 1st and 2nd-generation cephalosporins**
- **11% imidazole derivatives**

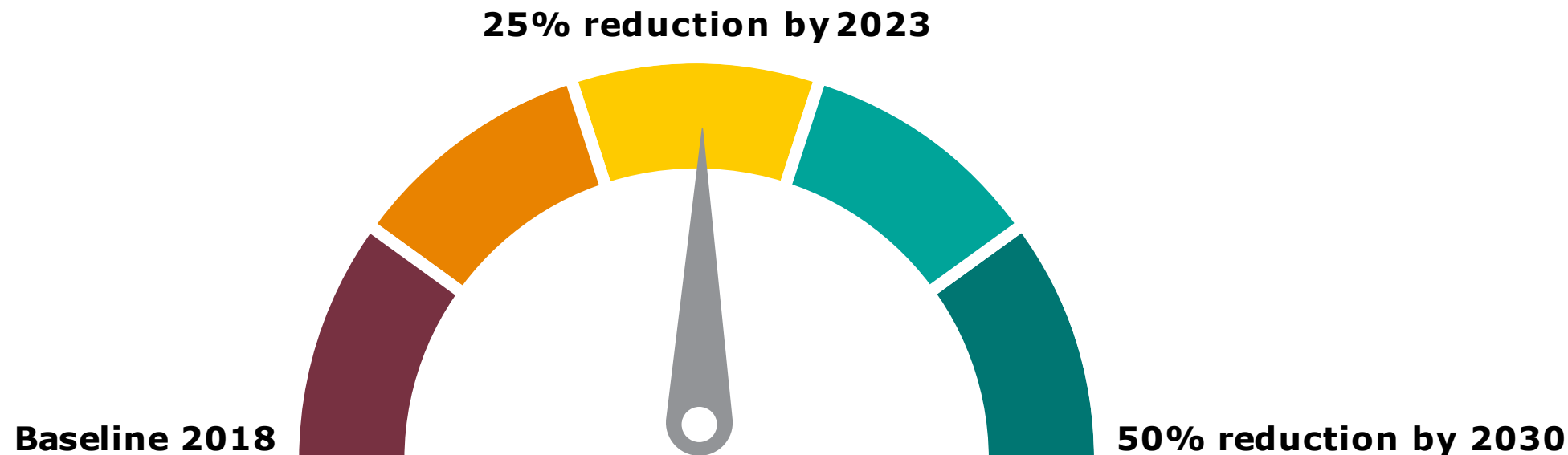
AMEG categories

- **AMEG D** (prudence): **26.0%**
- **AMEG C** (caution): **71.6%**
- **AMEG B** (restrict): **2.4%**



EU antimicrobial sales reduction target

Farm to Fork Strategy target: to reduce overall EU sales of antimicrobials for farmed animals and in aquaculture by 50% by 2030



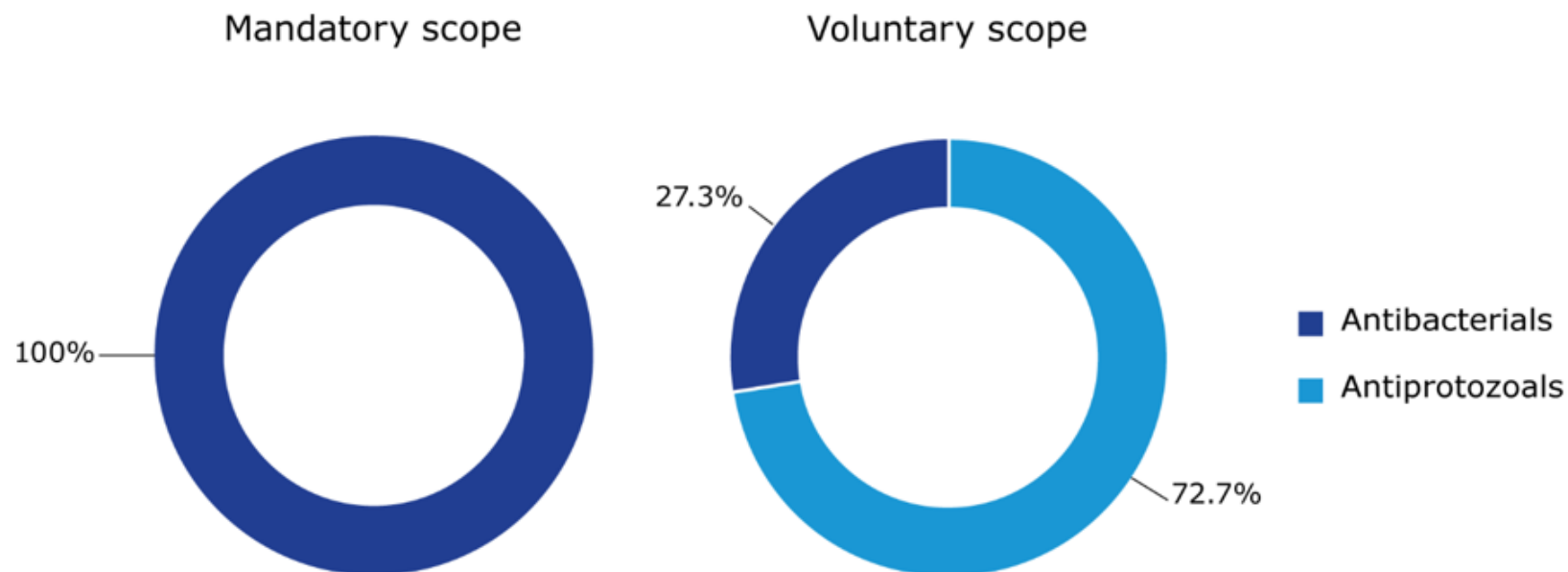
Compared to 2018 (ESVAC), EU sales decreased by 25%, but increased 5% mainly compared to 2022 mainly due to change in data providers and underreporting in 2022.



Use data

Reported use of antimicrobial medicinal products in animals in 2023 - overview

Figure 13. Proportion of reported use (in tonnes) of antimicrobial medicinal products by antimicrobial class in the EU in 2023¹⁻⁴



Mandatory scope

Antibiotics for systemic use

Coverage assumed as full for nearly all MSs.

Voluntary scope

Other antimicrobials

Reported by 17 MSs.

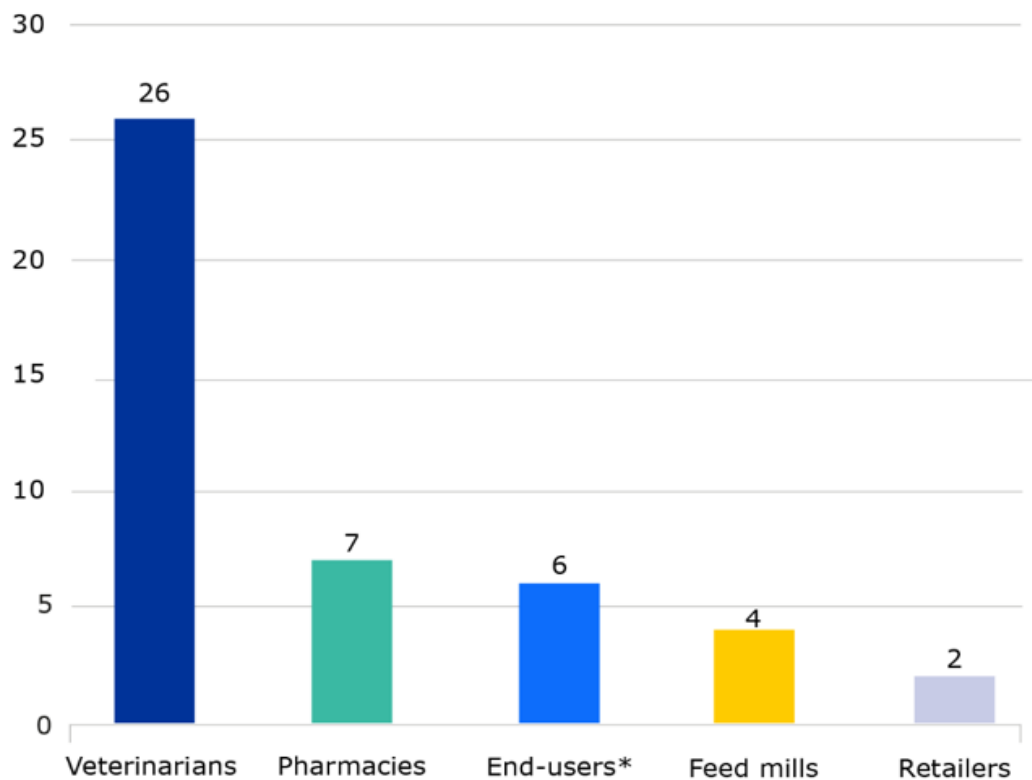
Coverage and completeness unknown.

Species concerned:

cattle, pigs, chickens and turkeys (in the first cycle of reporting for 2023).

Reported use of antimicrobial medicinal products in animals in 2023 - overview

Figure 14. Number of countries that used each type of use data provider to collect use data for cattle, pigs, chickens and turkeys in 2023^{1,2}



Main data providers were veterinarians.

Veterinarians were the sole data providers selected by 16 MSs.

Other MSs used a combination of data providers.

Reported use of antimicrobial medicinal products in animals in 2023 - overview

- 27 countries provided use data for cattle
- 28 countries provided use data for pigs
- 29 countries provided use data for chickens
- 25 countries provided use data for turkeys
- Not all countries reported use data at species category level (as per Article 15 of DA 2021/578).
- The coverage of the reported use data (mandatory scope), as interpreted and reported by each Member State, varied greatly across countries and species, ranging from 10% to 100%.
- No specific information provided for the data reported at species category level.

Reported use of antimicrobial medicinal products in animals in 2023 - overview

Cattle

- **5 MSs reported 100% coverage.**
- Cattle biomass of these 5 MSs accounts for only 20% of the total EU cattle biomass.

Pigs

- **6 MSs reported 100% coverage.**
- Pig biomass of these 6 MSs accounts for 50% of the total EU pig biomass.

Chickens

- **9 MSs reported 100% coverage.**
- Chicken biomass of these 9 MSs accounts for only 32% of the total EU chicken biomass.

Turkeys

- **10 MSs reported 100% coverage.**
- Turkey biomass of these 10 MSs accounts for only 33% of the total EU turkey biomass.

Reported use of antimicrobial medicinal products in animals in 2023 - overview

2023 use data does not provide the level of completeness and quality required for meaningful analysis.

- 2023 use data are not representative of real use, a conservative approach for the first ESUAvet report.
- Qualitative description of the use data EMA received

The second ESUAvet
report with 2024
data will be
published in
December 2025





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