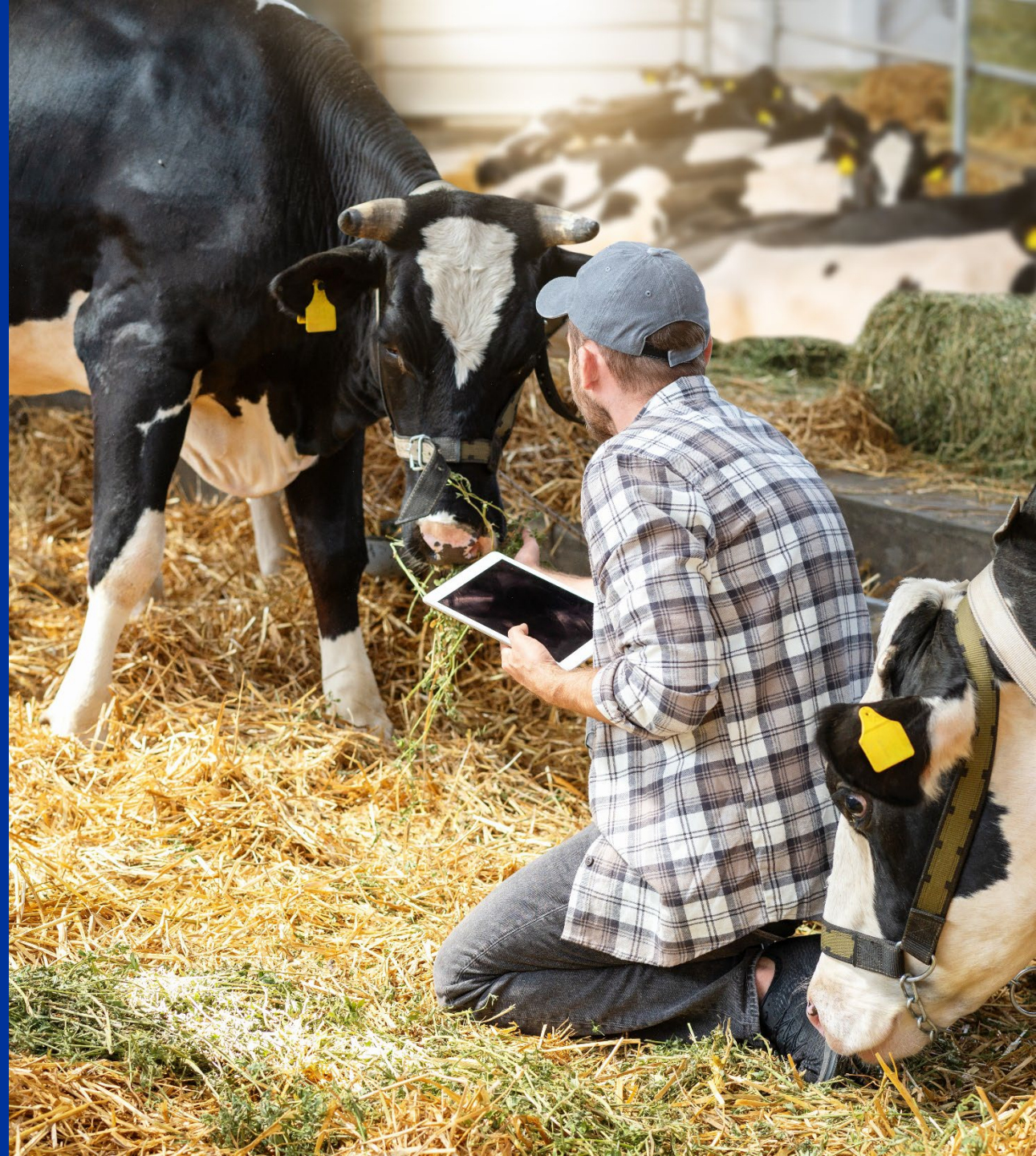
EMA
EUROPEAN MEDICINES AGENCY

Understanding the first report of sales and use of antimicrobials in animals

Info session for veterinary practitioners
3 June 2025



Introduction

Why surveil antimicrobial consumption in animals?

Understand the use of antimicrobials in livestock and other animals.

Study how antimicrobial use relates to the occurrence and prevalence of resistant microorganisms.

Monitor the effectiveness of implemented measures aimed at reducing antimicrobial use.

Guide policy making related to antimicrobial resistance.

Preserve the possibility of effective treatment of infections in humans and animals.

Vital component of the **One Health** approach against antimicrobial resistance.

Building on the success of ESVAC project

European Surveillance of Veterinary Antimicrobial Consumption (ESVAC)

- A former voluntary initiative of the European regulatory network.
- Harmonised approach for the collection and annual reporting of sales of veterinary antibiotics.

Successful monitoring and promotion of behaviour change

50% reduction of total sales for food-producing animals between 2011 and 2022.

Reduction of AMEG B sales

- 49% reduction of 3rd- and 4th –generation cephalosporin sales
- 44% reduction quinolone sales
- 81% reduction polymyxin (colistin) sales

ESVAC principles are now embedded in EU legislation.

ESUAvet

A new chapter in the surveillance of antimicrobial consumption in animals

EMA

New rules, new requirements, new tools

New legal framework
data collection and reporting

Mandatory and voluntary scopes

New requirements
types of data, data format, quality

Use data by species

New IT systems and tools
for EMA and Member States

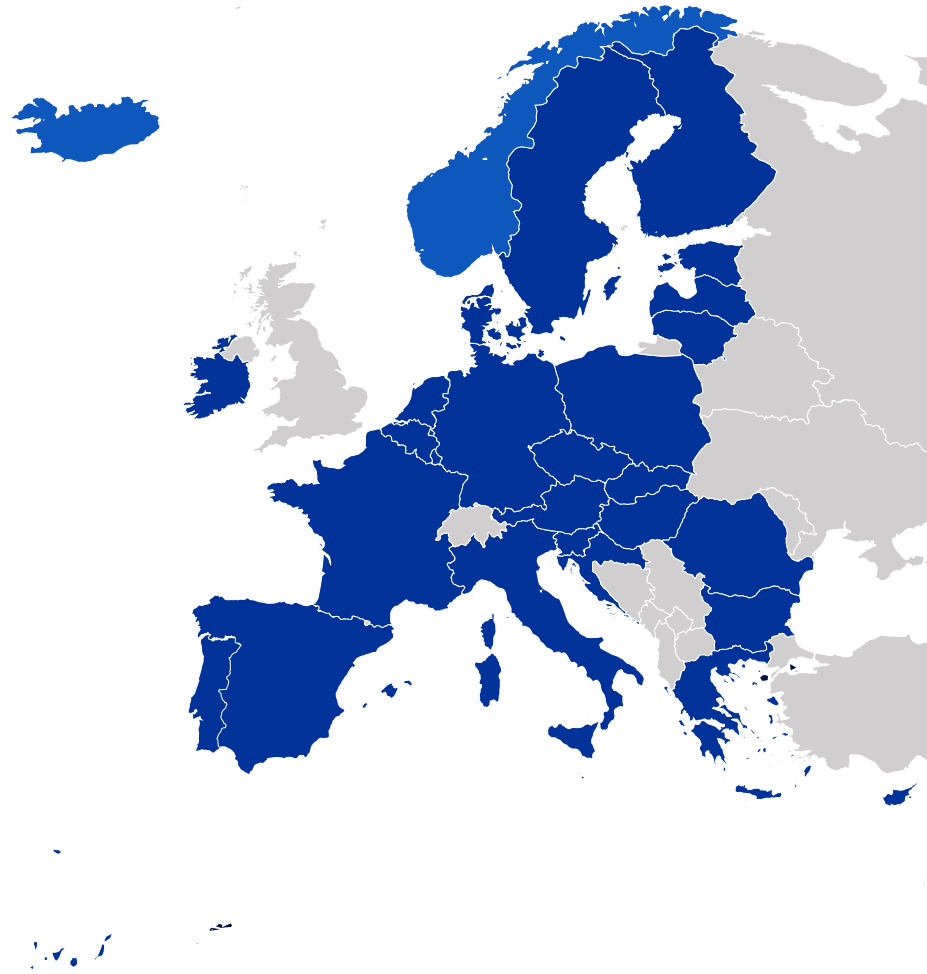
ASU Platform and Power BI application

How does it work?

1. EU countries, Iceland and Norway collect data in their territory on:
   - Sales of antimicrobial veterinary medicinal products.
   - Use of antimicrobial medicinal products by animal species and categories.

2. Transmit the data to EMA in a **standardised format** per package presentation:
   - **Number of packages sold.**
   - **Number of packages used by species (and categories)**.

3. EMA analyses and publishes annual **ESUAvet reports**.

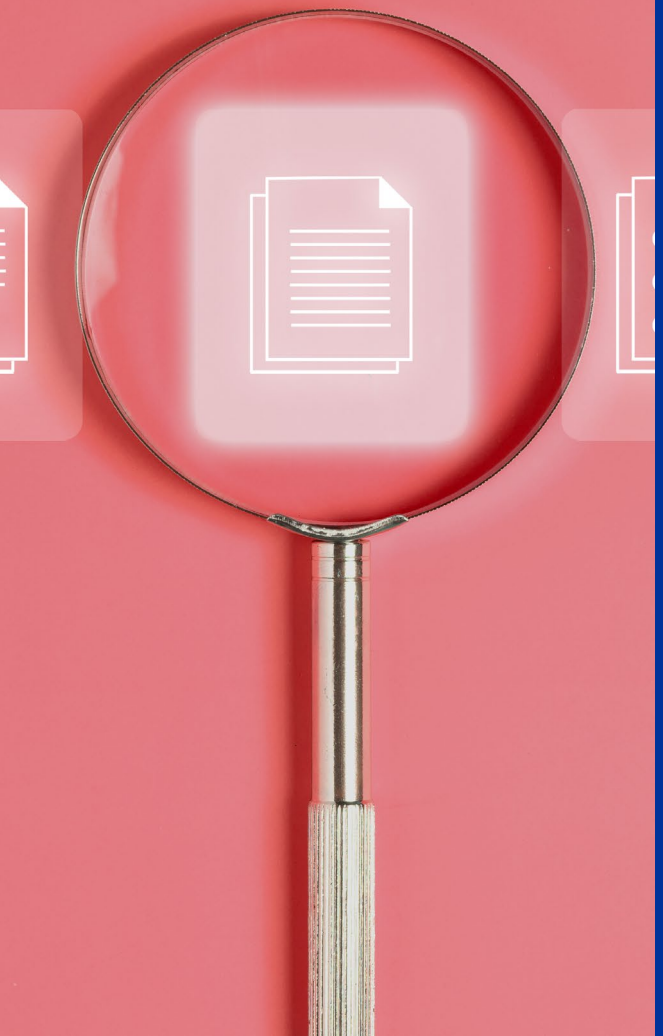


Calculating consumption, capturing trends

Pack size
x
Strength
x
packs sold/used

$$\frac{\textbf{\textit{Quantity antimicrobial active substance}}\ (mg)}{\textbf{\textit{Animal biomass}}\ (kg)}$$

Number of animals
x
average weight



Insights from the first ESUAvet report

First ESUAvet report

Highlights

Introduction

- Legal framework
- Aim and scope (mandatory and voluntary data)
- The Antimicrobial Sales and Use (ASU) Platform

Results

- Sales data (focus on mandatory scope)
- Use data (focus on mandatory scope)
- Progress towards the EU antimicrobial sales reduction target (Farm to Fork)

Concluding remarks

[European sales and use of antimicrobials for veterinary medicine (ESUAvet) 2023 surveillance report]

First ESUAvet report

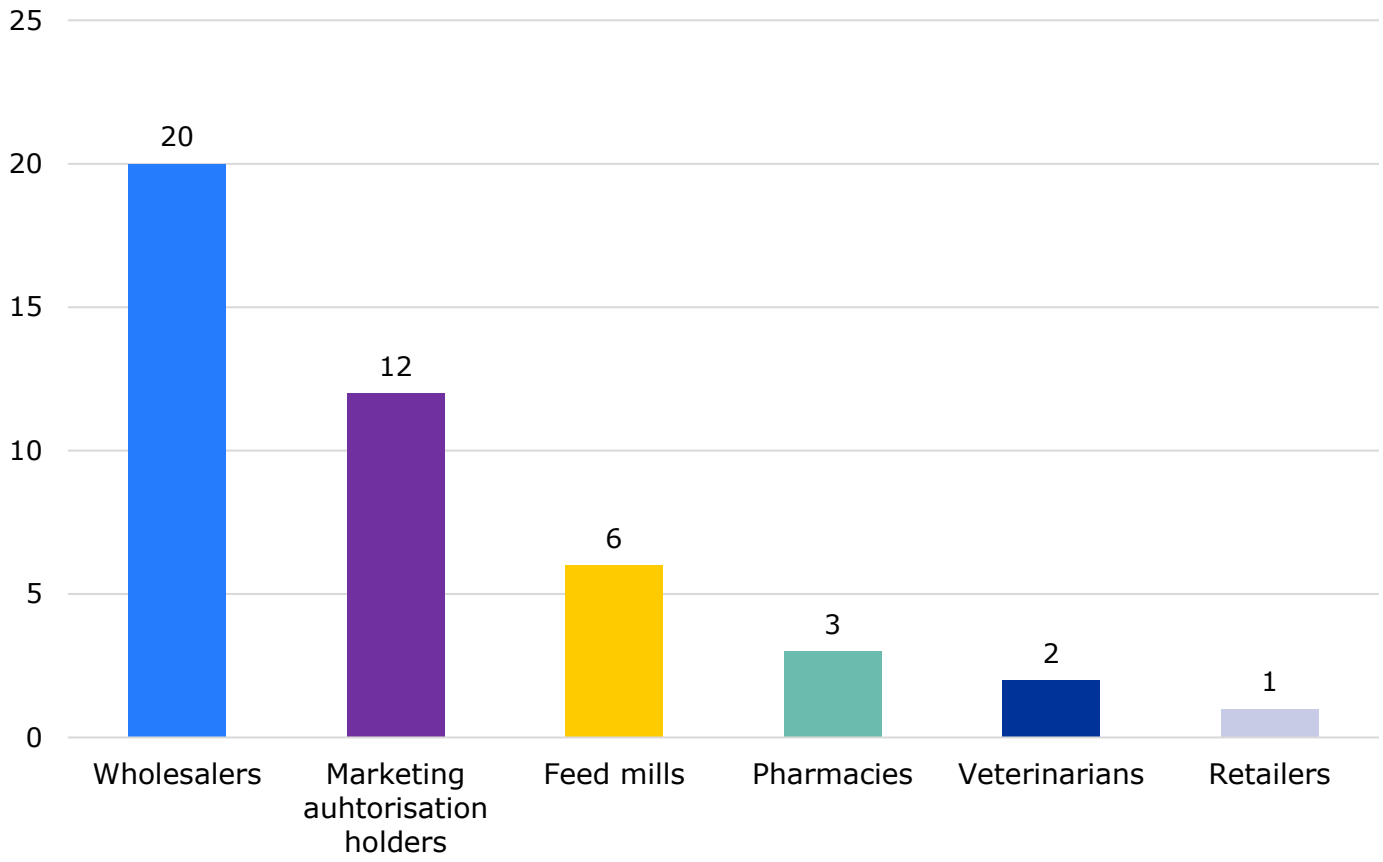
Annexes

- Additional figures and tables (only sales)
- Technical notes
- Data quality
- Transition from ESVAC to ESUAvet sales reporting
- Country trends from preceding reporting periods (ESVAC)
- Distribution of VMPs, antimicrobial use data collection systems, and AMR policy initiatives at country level

[European sales and use of antimicrobials for veterinary medicine (ESUAvet) 2023 surveillance report]

Sales data results

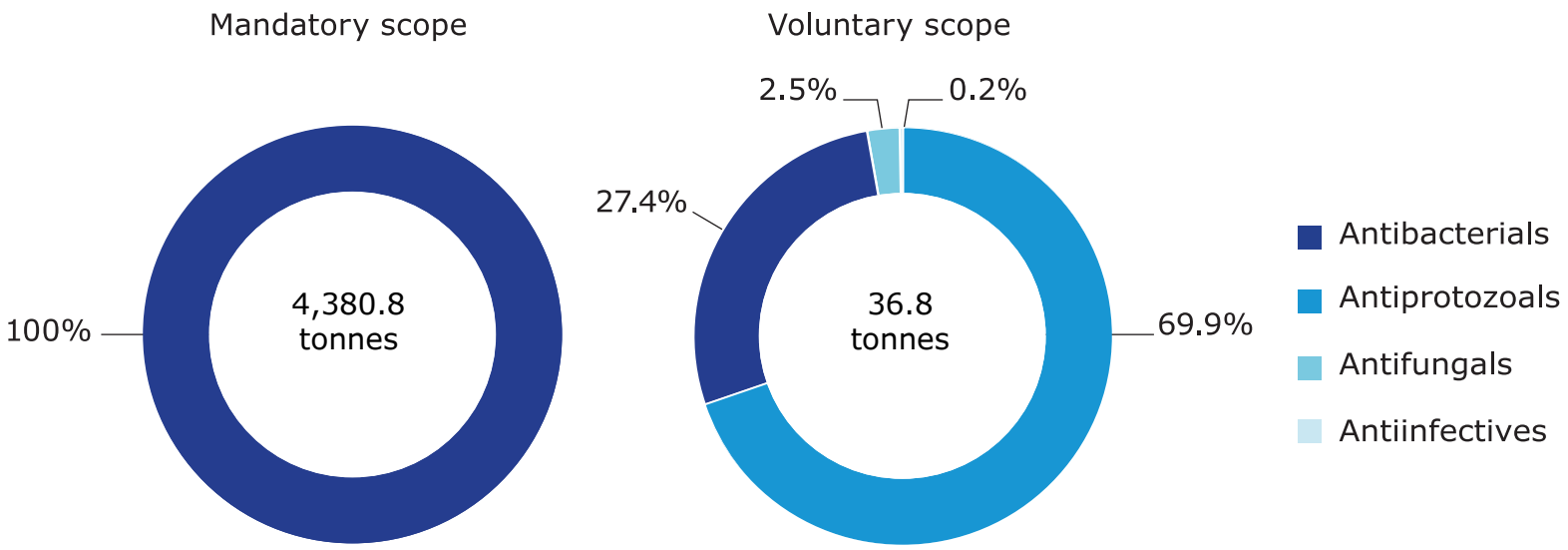
Data providers for sales data



Main sales data providers were **wholesalers**.

Different countries used different combinations of sales data providers.

2023 sales of antimicrobial VMPs



Mandatory scope

Antibiotics for systemic use.

Full coverage for nearly all countries.

Voluntary scope

Reported by 17 countries.

Coverage and completeness unknown.

Figure 2 of the report.

Sales for food-producing animals by country in 2023

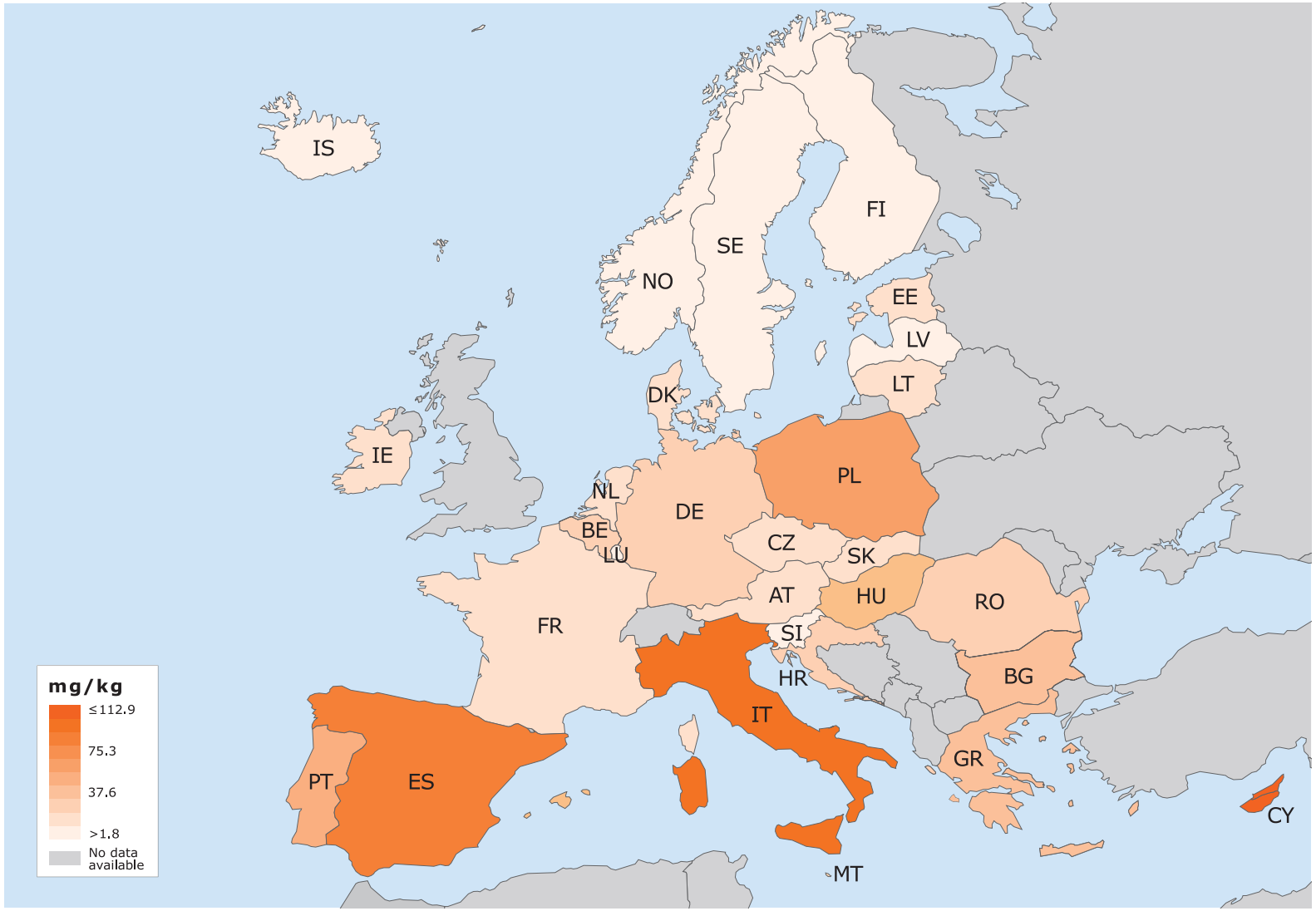
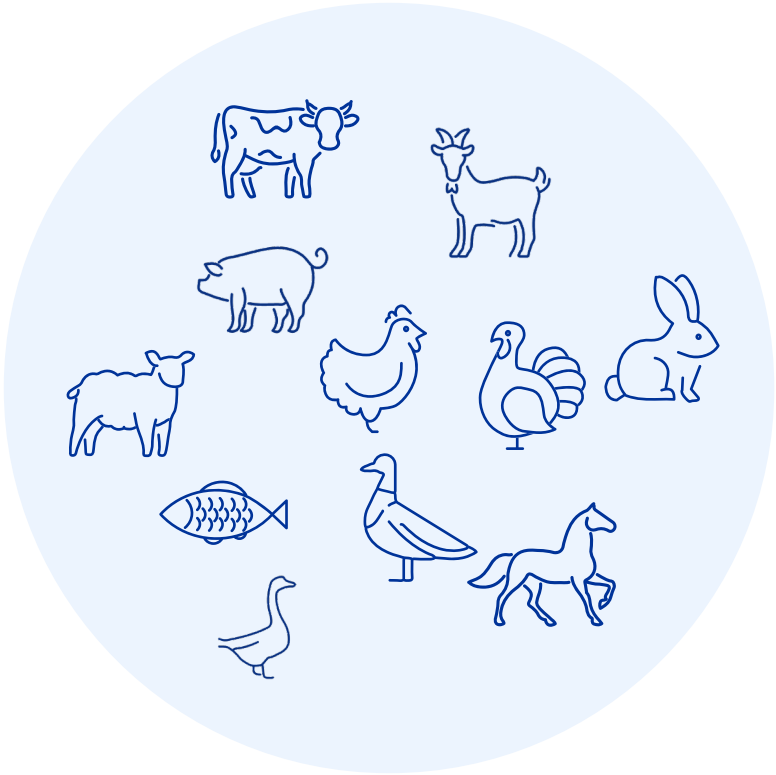


Figure 3 of the report

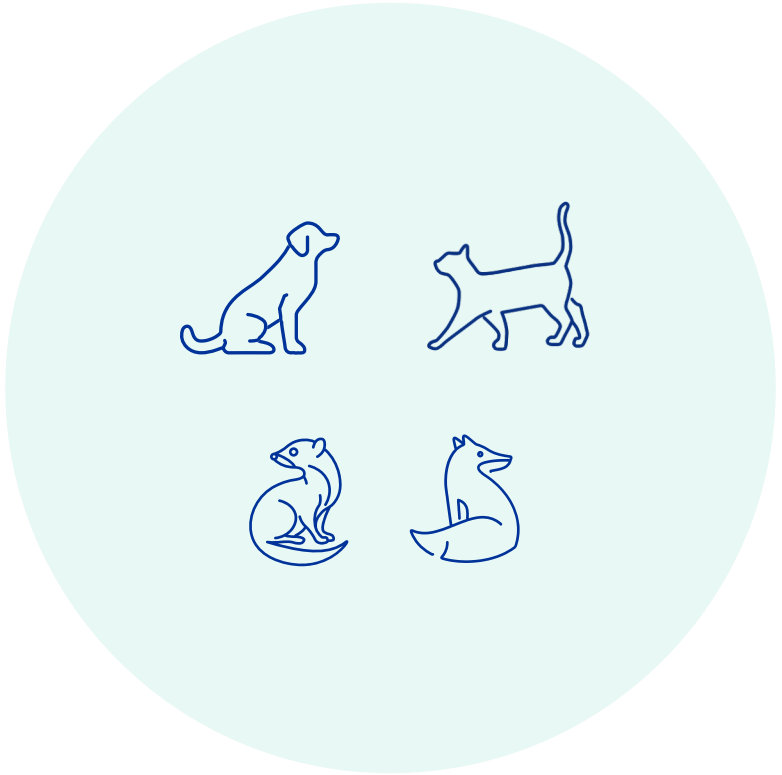
Sales per animal group in 2023

Sales for food-producing animals



98.4% of all mandatory sales

Sales for other animals kept or bred



1.6% of all mandatory sales

Sales per product form in 2023

Food-producing animals

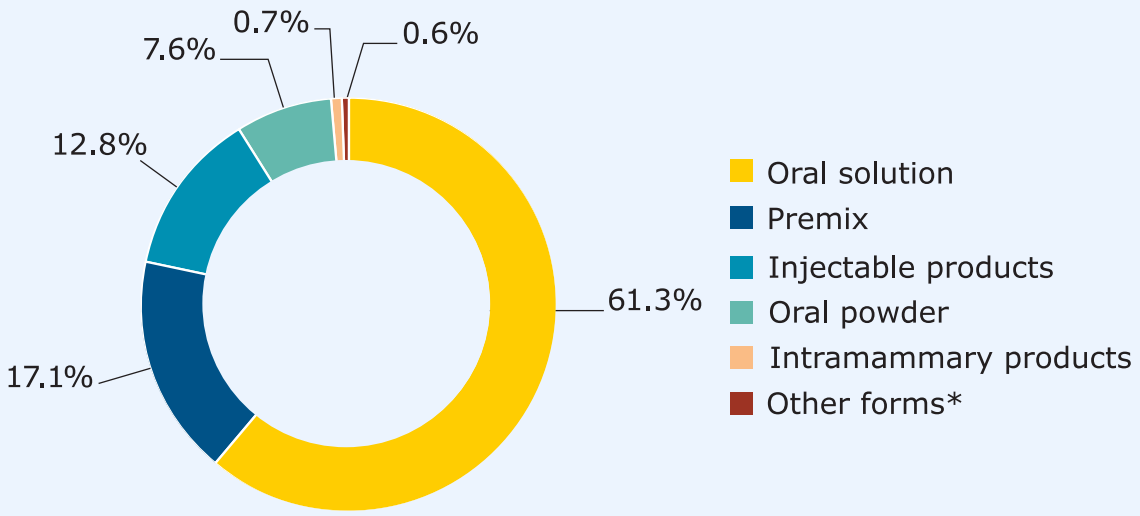


Figure 5 of the report.

Other animals kept or bred

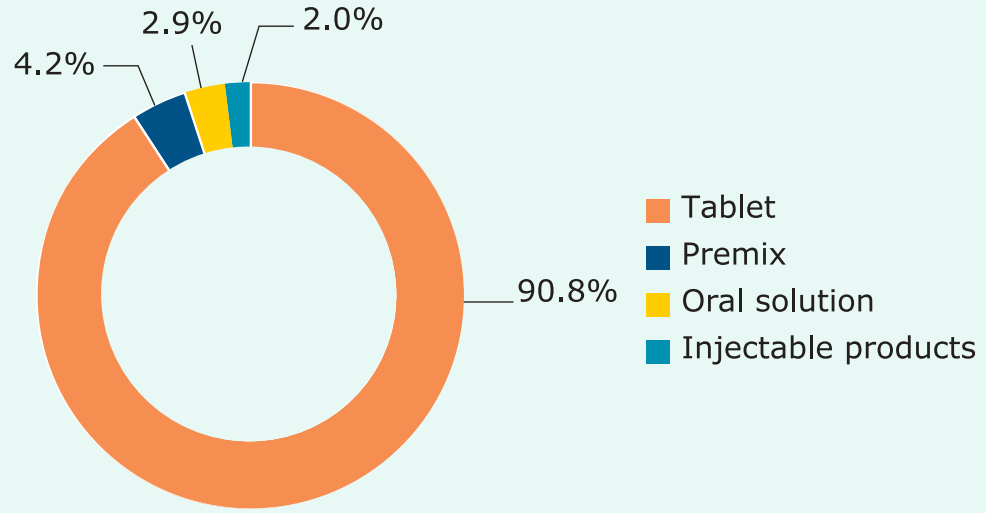


Figure 10 of the report.

Sales per antimicrobial class in 2023

Food-producing animals

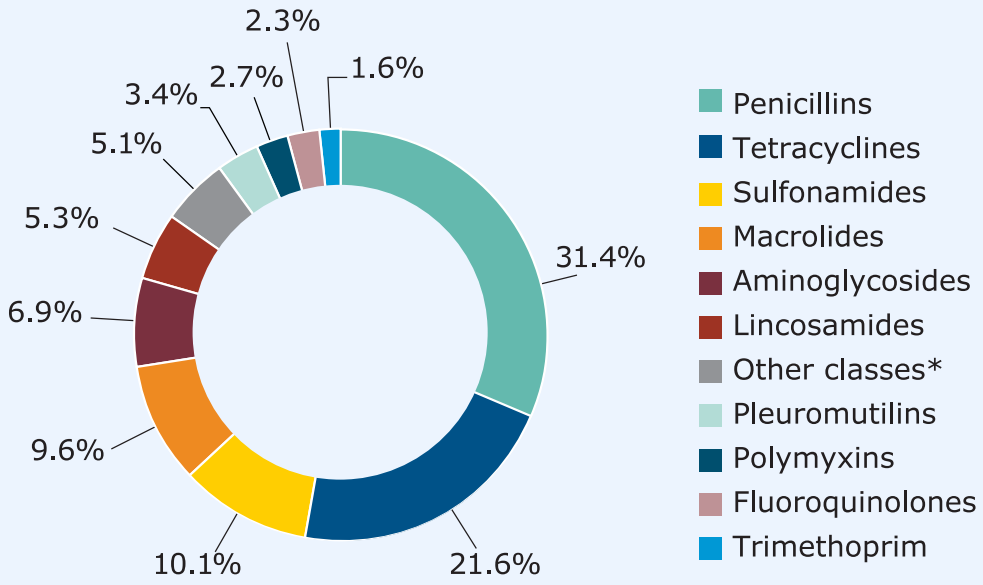


Figure 6 of the report.

Other animals kept or bred

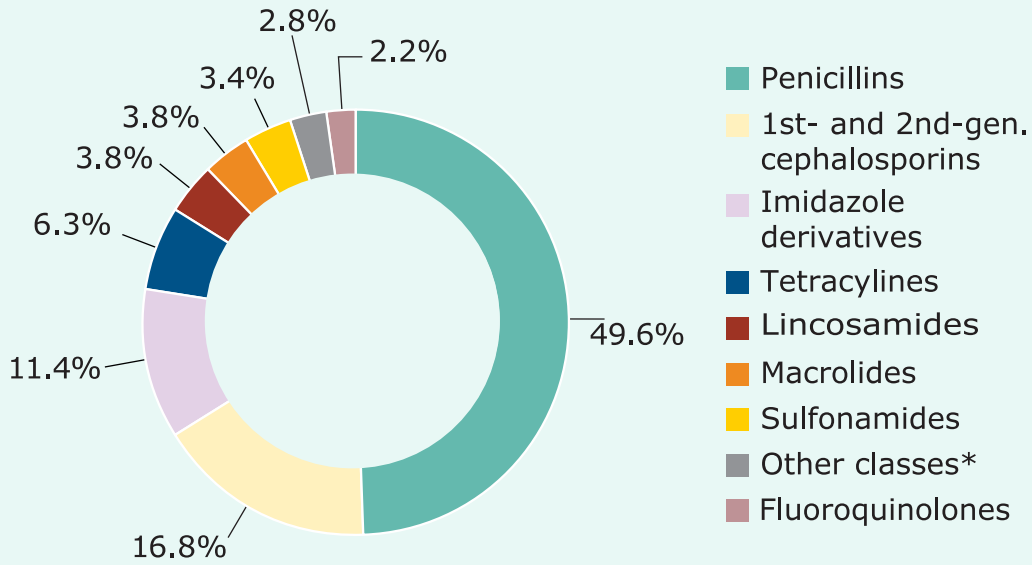


Figure 11 of the report.

Sales of penicillins in 2023

Food-producing animals

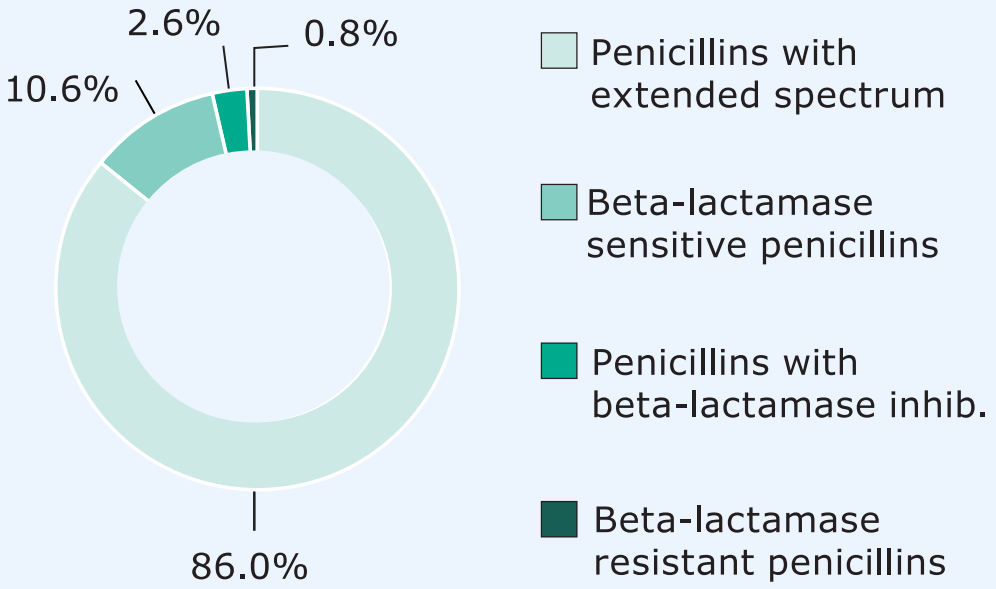


Figure 6 of the report.

Other animals kept or bred

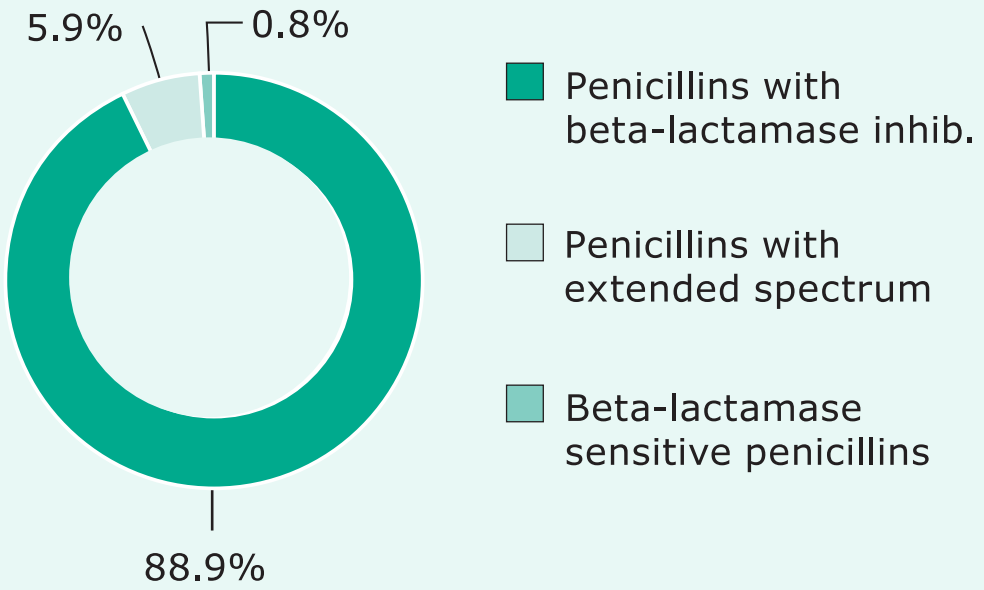


Figure 11 of the report.

Sales by AMEG category in 2023

Food-producing animals

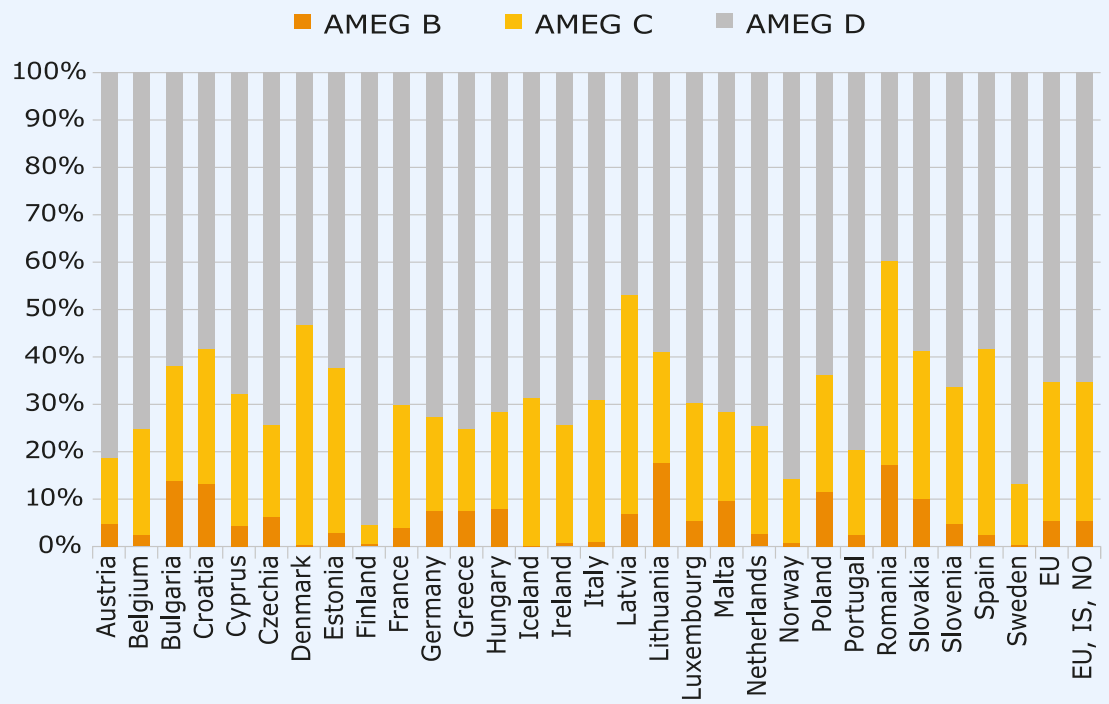


Figure 7 of the report.

Other animals kept or bred

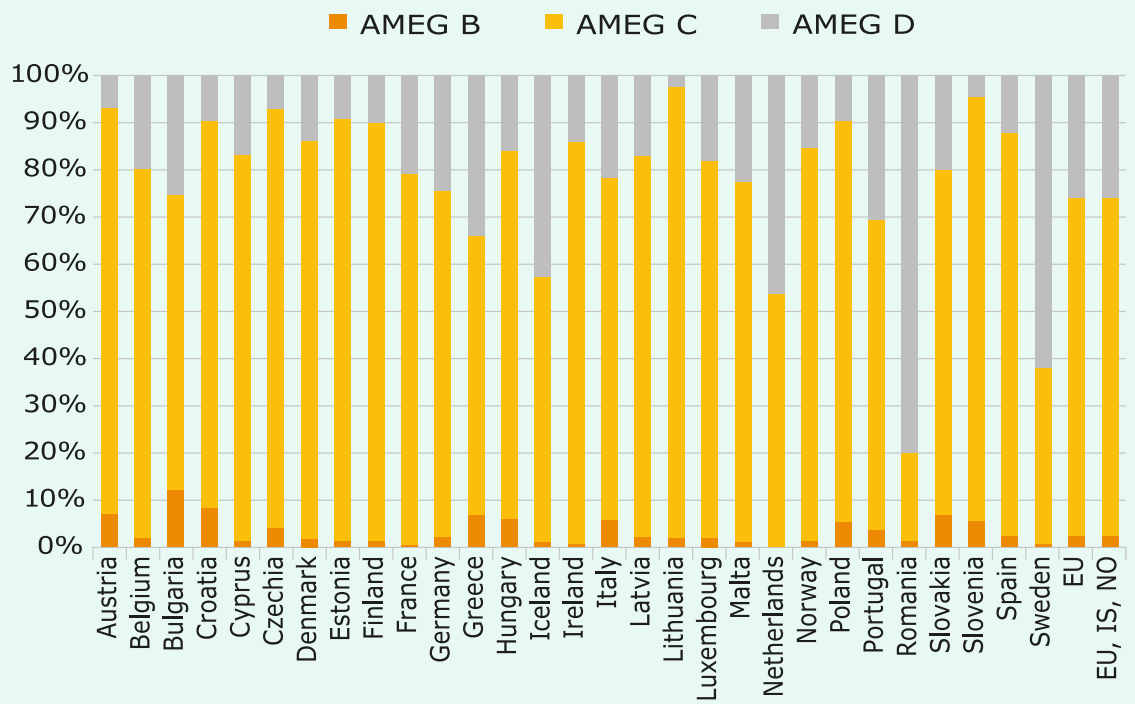
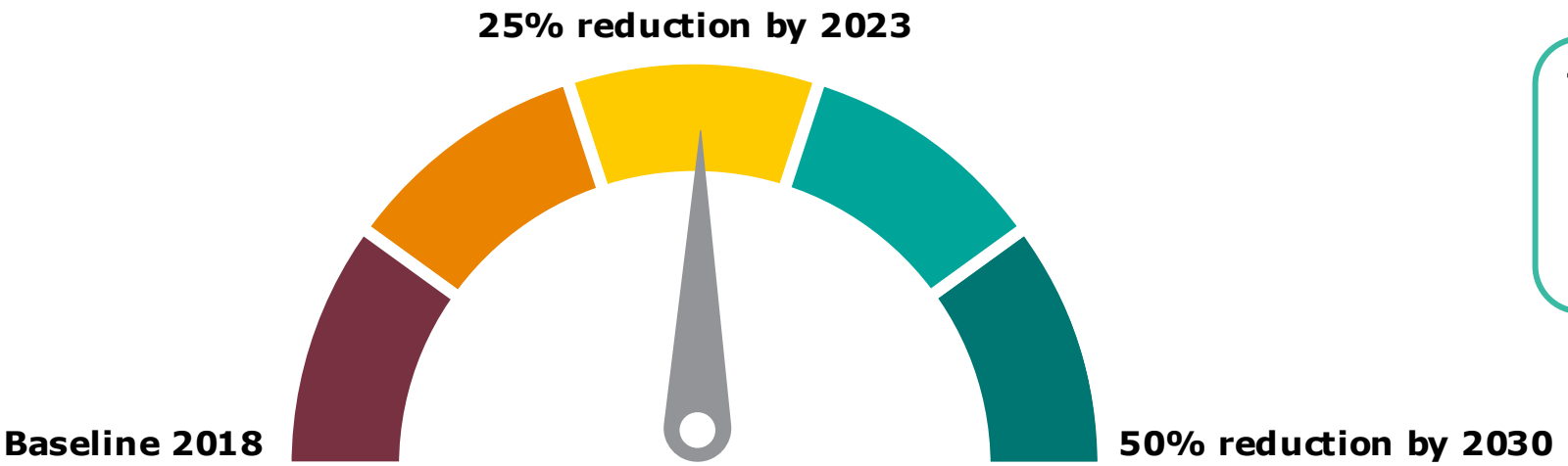


Figure 12 of the report.

EU antimicrobial sales reduction target

Farm to Fork Strategy



Target: reduce **overall EU sales** of antimicrobials for farmed animals and in aquaculture by **50% by 2030**.

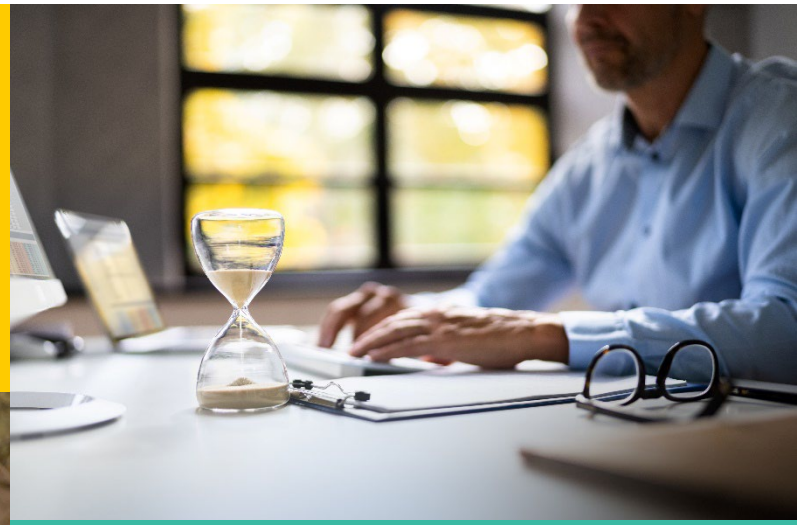
Figure 18 of the report.

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

Importance of sales data

Reliable proxy for estimation of antimicrobial consumption in animals in the EU.

Essential approach for monitoring antimicrobial consumption in the animal sector (e.g. Farm to Fork target)

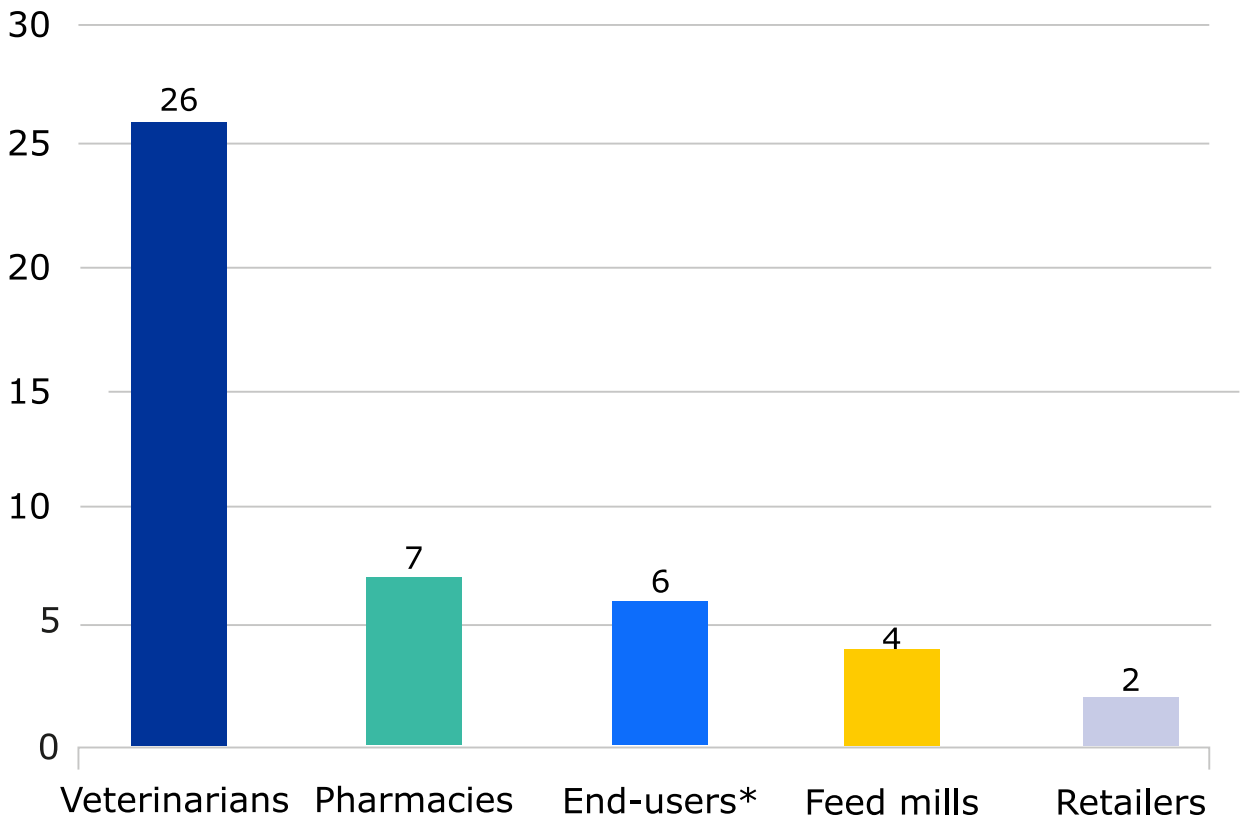


Gives time to enhance the quality and reliability of antimicrobial use data by species.

Main limitations: not possible to know the final amount of antimicrobial administered, nor in which species

Use data results

Data providers for use data

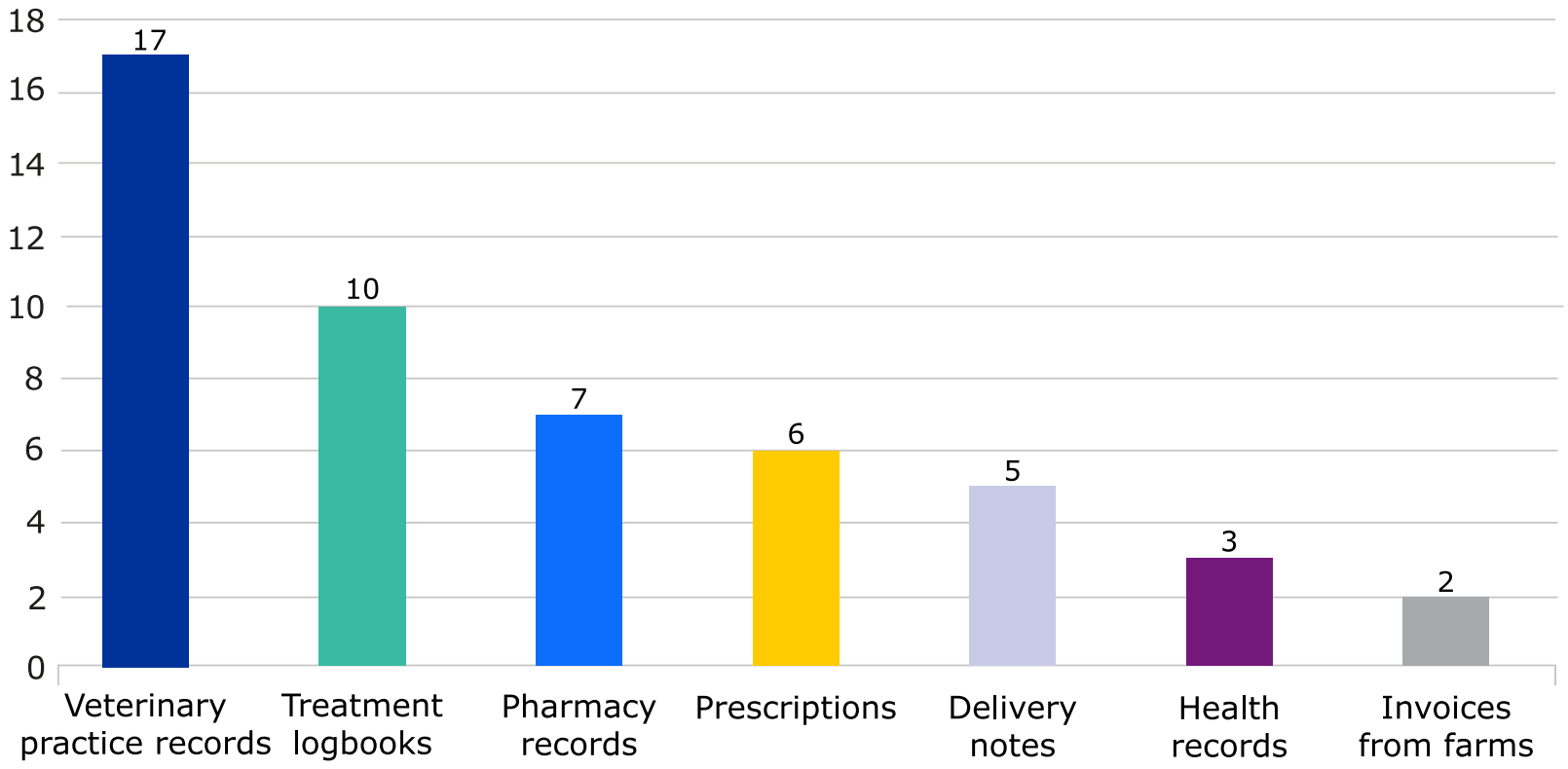


Veterinarians were the **main data providers** in countries:

- sole data providers in 16 countries.
- other countries used a combination of data providers.

Figure 14 of the report.

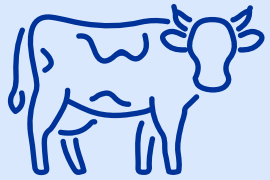
Data sources for use data



The main data sources were **veterinary practice** records.

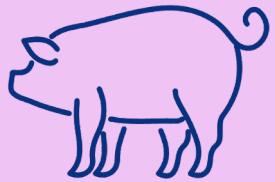
Figure 15 of the report.

Use data to be reported for 2023



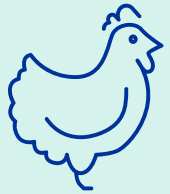
Cattle

- Dairy cattle
- Beef cattle
- Other cattle
- Beef cattle for slaughter <1 year



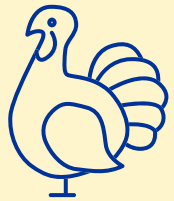
Pigs

- Fattening pigs
- Other pigs



Chickens

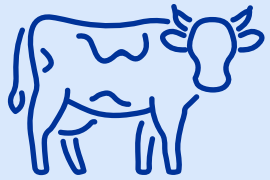
- Laying hens
- Broilers
- Other chickens



Turkeys

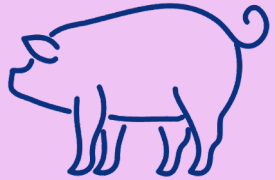
- Fattening turkeys
- Other turkeys

Reported 2023 use data



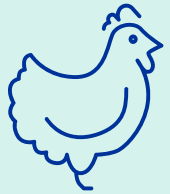
26/29 countries

6 countries 100% coverage



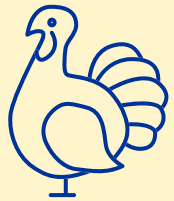
28/29 countries

8 countries 100% coverage



29/29 countries

11 countries 100% coverage



27/29 countries

14 countries 100% coverage

- Majority of countries reported use data at species category level.
- Coverage of the reported use data varied greatly between countries and species.
- A conservative approach was adopted for the first ESUAvet report (qualitative description).

Importance of use data

2023: first year of EU-level collection of antimicrobial use data in animals.

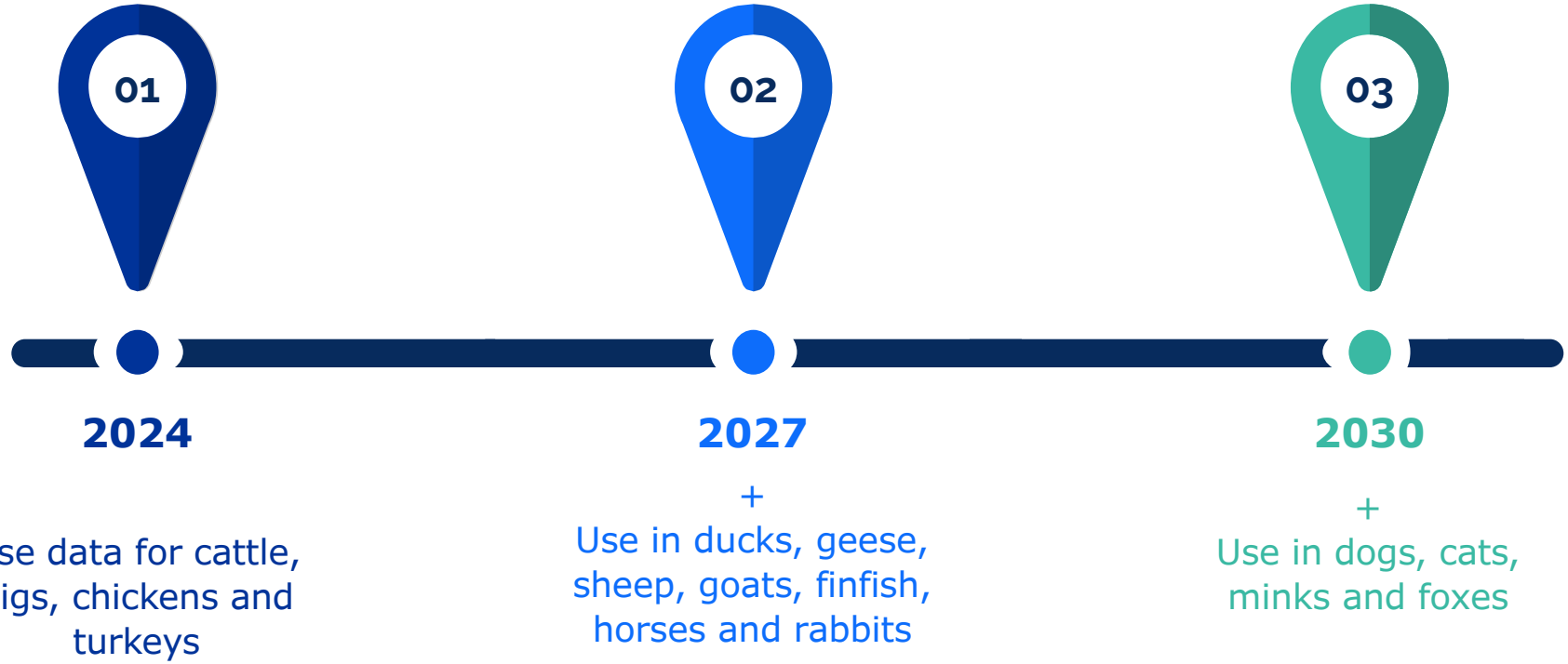
More granular data of antimicrobial consumption by animal species and categories.

Identify need for targeted actions, monitor effect of implemented measures and support One Health approach.

Accuracy and coverage of reported use data must improve to enable meaningful and representative analysis at species level

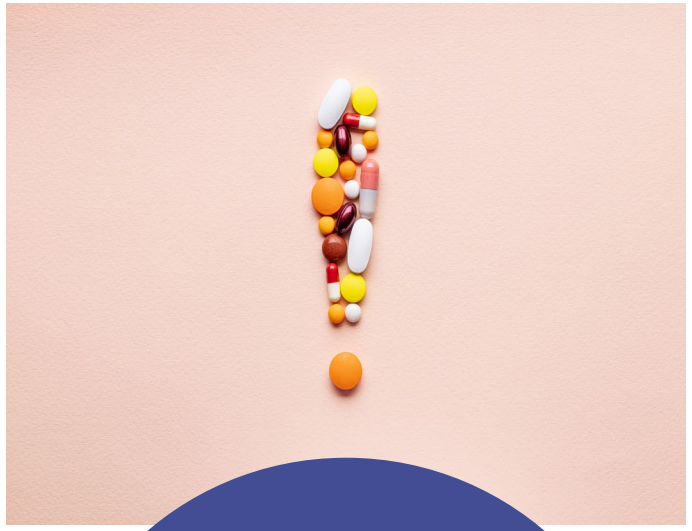
Challenges and next steps

- Publish the 2024 ESUAvet report by December 2025.
- Make ESUAvet data available in public dashboards.
- Improve coverage of use data by species.
- Scale up of data collection and reporting.



Takeaway messages

Data are fundamental



Your needs are important for us!

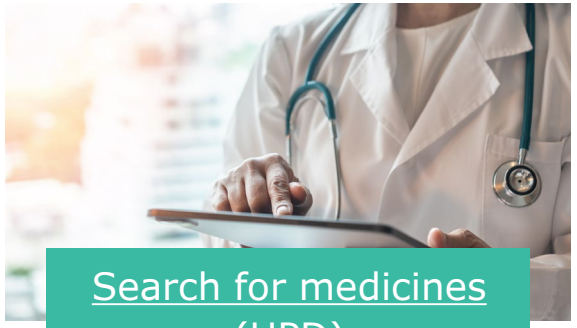
Use data coverage must improve

Links for veterinarians to use in their daily practice

EMA corporate website

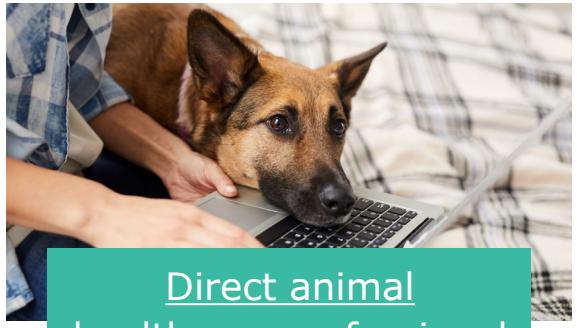
Animal health practitioners' webpage

European database of suspected adverse drug reaction reports



Search for medicines (UPD)

How to report adverse events



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