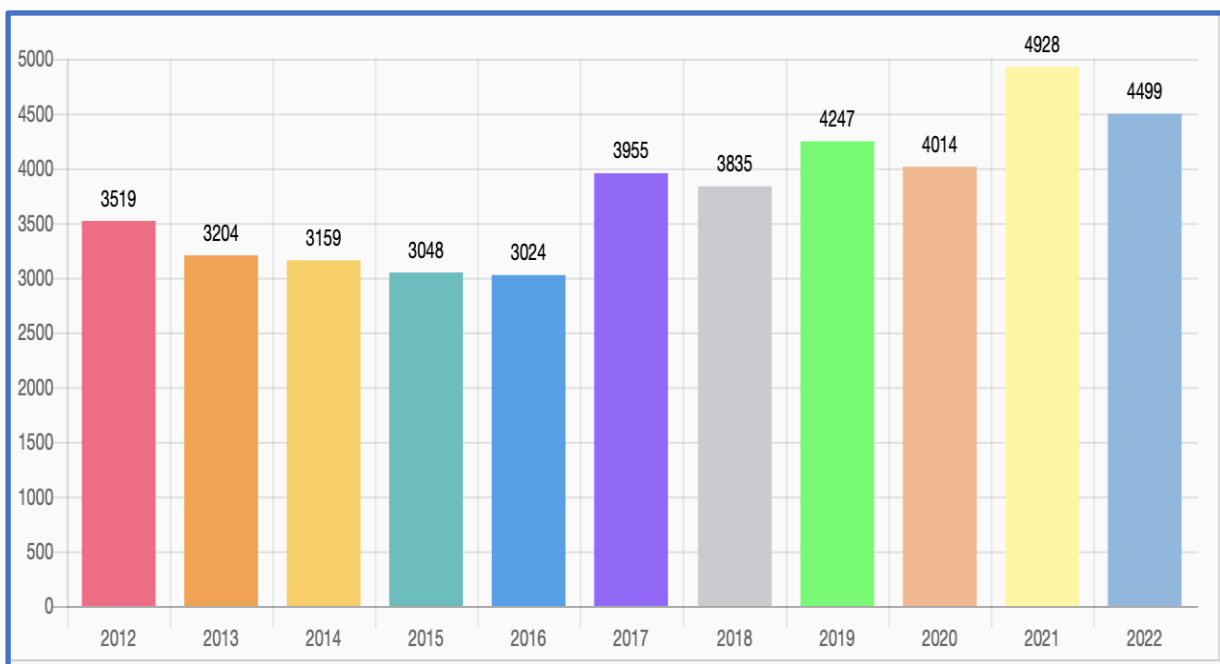


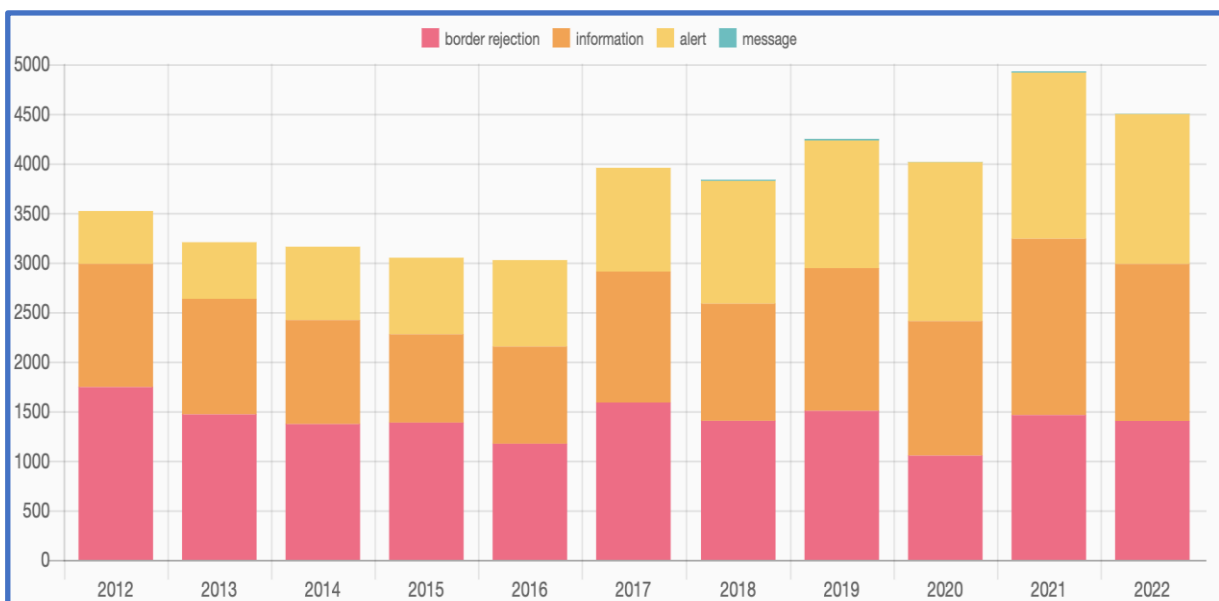


## Safefood-Online

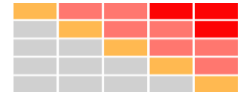
## Newsletter



RASFF notifications and notifications from the Monthly Food Fraud Summary Reports (EU)



Notifications according to the type of notification from the dashboard on [www.safefood.online.de](http://www.safefood.online.de)



Dear Safefood-Online users,

In Safefood-Online there were 371 new notifications in November. Under point 1 of this newsletter you will find, as usual, the evaluation according to product groups, products, hazard categories, hazards and countries of origin.

Item 2 "News on pesticides and contaminants" provides an overview about new or amended maximum levels for dioxins and dioxin-like PCBs as well as a BfR study on the long-term intake of nickel via foodstuffs.

As usual, you will receive a compilation of new notifications on the topics of food safety (item 3) and food fraud (item 4).

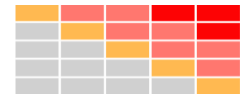
In the last months, there have been some publications on the topic of foodborne outbreaks. More details on this topic can be found under point 5.



In Germany the Federal Institute for Food Safety publishes every 6 months the BfR Consumer Monitor. Consumers are asked, among other things, which topics from the field of consumer health protection are important or which topics are known or unknown and how the safety of food is assessed. Currently, the [BfR Consumer Monitor August 2022](#) is available.

We hope that this issue of the Safefood-Online Newsletter will also be of interest to you and, of course, we welcome your opinion, as this is the only way we can improve.

Your Safefood-Online Team

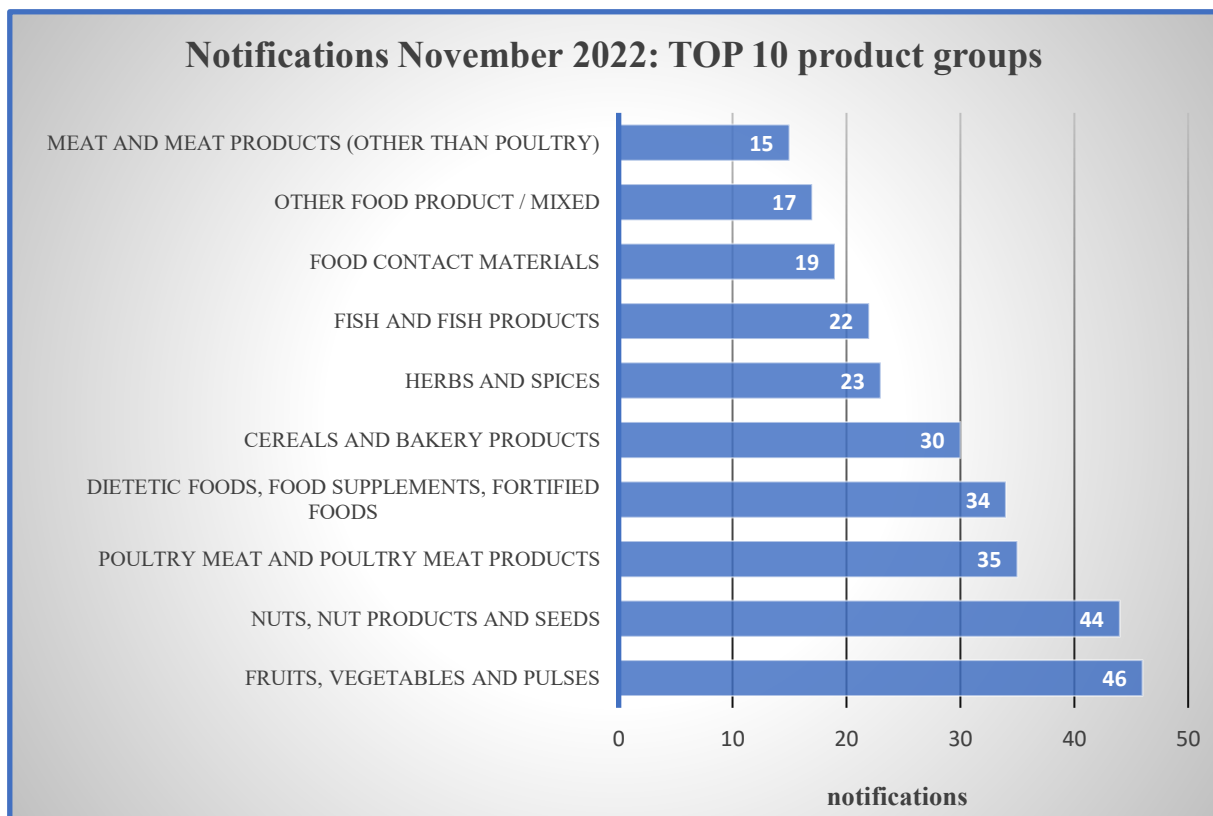


## 1 Notifications in Safefood Online: November 2022

In November, Safefood-Online recorded 371 new notifications; with 7 notifications, this was only a slight increase compared to the previous month.

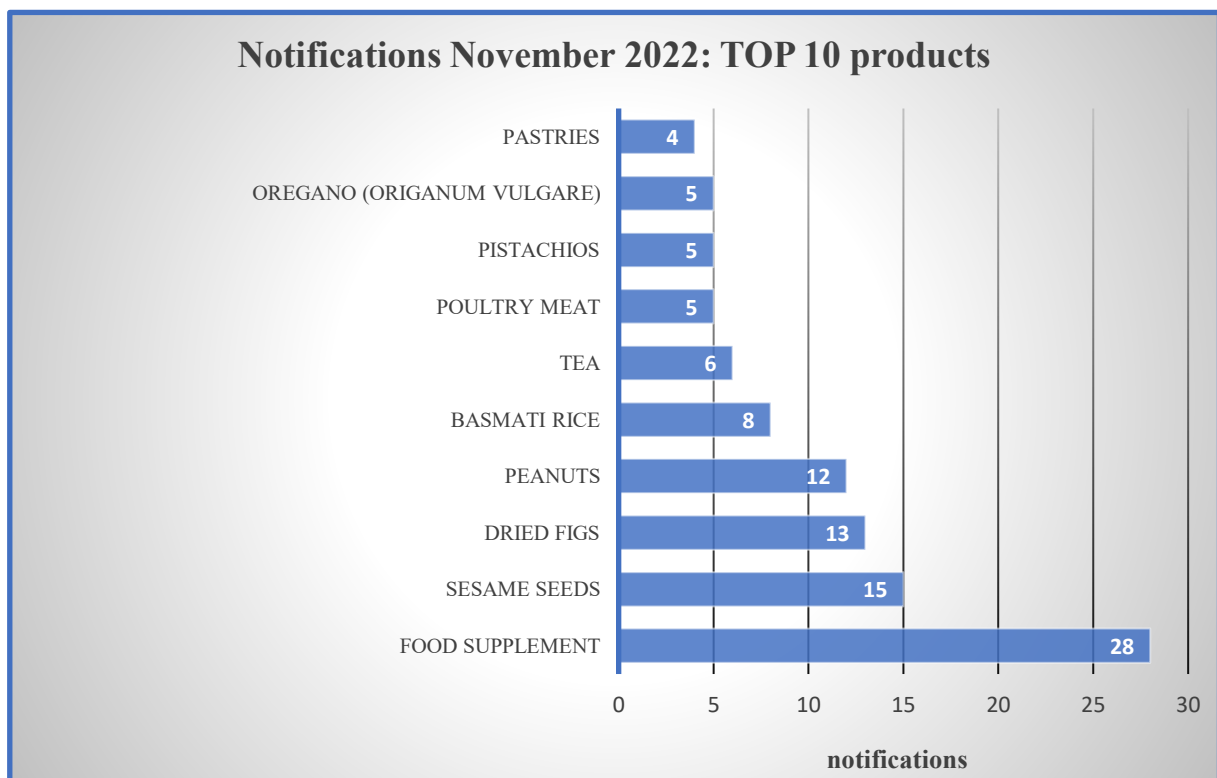
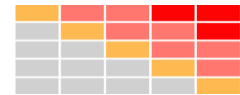
*Note: Only the RASFF notifications are included in the comparison, as the notifications from the EU Monthly Food Fraud Summary Report are not published until the middle of the following month.*

The top ranking of notifications by product group in November remained unchanged from the previous month, with the product group fruit, vegetables and legumes leading with 46 notifications, followed by nuts, nut products and seeds with 44 notifications and poultry meat and poultry meat products with 35 notifications:



The highest number of notifications in the product group fruits, vegetables and legumes was for dried figs due to aflatoxins (13 notifications). In the product group nuts, nut products and seeds, there were 15 notifications for sesame seeds (11 of them due to missing health certificates) and 12 notifications on peanuts due to aflatoxins.

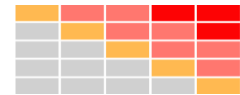
As in October, food supplements were ranked first in November with 28 notifications, followed by sesame seeds with 15 notifications and dried figs with 13 notifications:



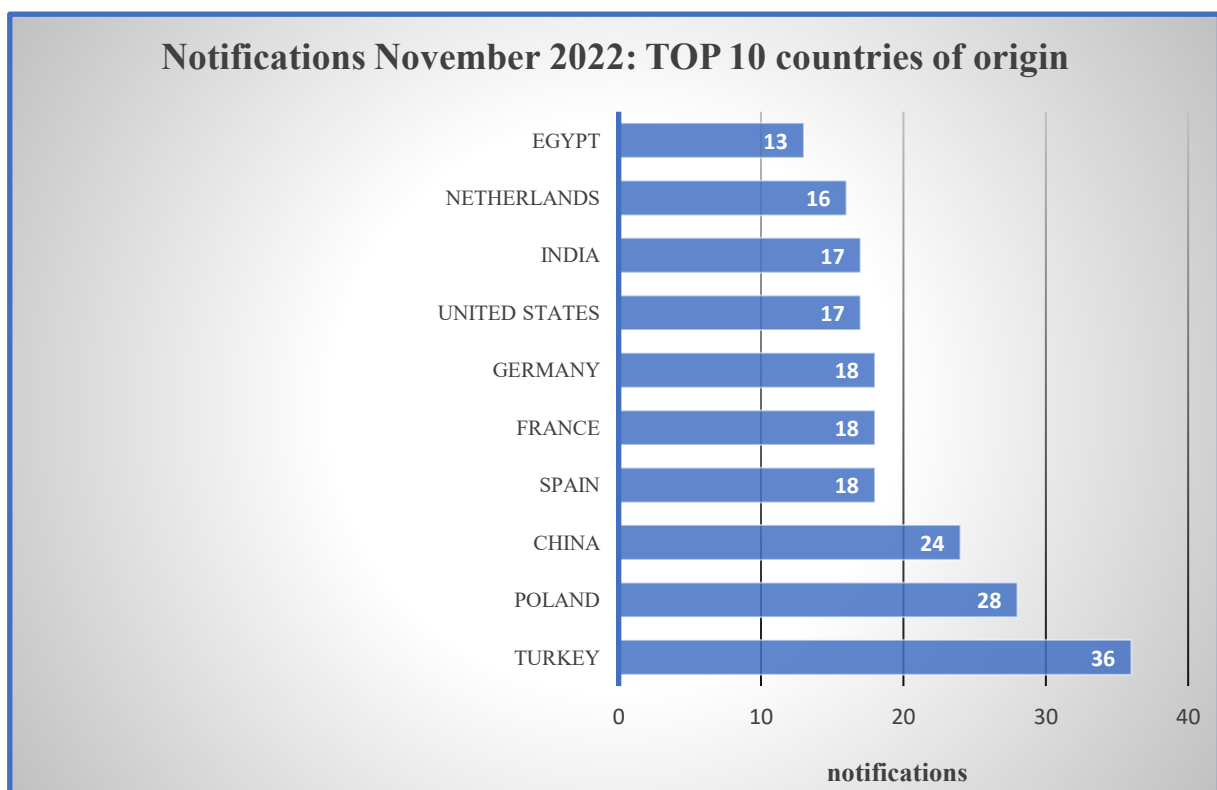
In the evaluation of the notifications according to hazard categories, pathogenic germs were again in the lead in November with 93 notifications, followed by pesticides (55 notifications) and mycotoxins (44 notifications):



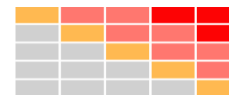
In November, 54 notifications were due to Salmonella findings. This was followed by aflatoxins with 33 notifications and Listeria monocytogenes with 20 notifications:



The following chart shows the notifications by country of origin:



The highest number of notifications were for products from Turkey with 36 notifications, with all notifications (13) for dried figs this month coming from Turkey. Poland (28 notifications) and China (24 notifications) are in second and third place.



## 2 Update on pesticides and contaminants

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### 2.1 Maximum levels of dioxins and dioxin like PCBs

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With [Regulation \(EU\) 2022/2002](#), new or amended maximum levels for dioxins or dioxin-like PCBs were included in Regulation (EC) 1881/2006. The regulation was published in the Official Journal of the European Commission on October, 24 and will apply from January, 01 2023. Food that was lawfully placed on the market before January 01, 2023 may still remain on the market until its best-before or use-by date. For more information on the changes, please refer to the regulation text.

### 2.2 Regulation (EU) 2019/1021 on persistent organic

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Persistent organic pollutants are particularly harmful substances that are no longer used in new products, but can still be found in waste from e.g., waterproof textiles, furniture, plastics and electronic devices. With the present amending regulation, further chemicals have been added to the POP list, such as:

- Per- and polyfluorinated alkyl substances (PFAS)
- Hexabromocyclododecane (HBCD)
- Dioxin-like PCBs

For further information on this topic, please refer to the [publications of the EU Commission](#)

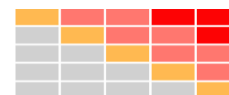
### 2.3 Nickel

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Based on the MEAL study, the German BfR (German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment) made an estimate of the long-term intake of nickel via food and comes to the following conclusion:

*“In adults and adolescents, the dietary intake of nickel calculated on the basis of MEAL data exhausts the health-based guideline value (TDI) by an average of 11%. The intake in children leads to an average exhaustion of the TDI of 42 %. For some (< 5%) highly exposed children (0.5-5 years), nickel intake exceeds the TDI. In comparison, in EFSA's estimate, the high intake of children is mostly above the TDI. From EFSA's point of view, there may therefore be health concerns for the young age groups with regard to the intake of nickel via food. Nickel can cause or aggravate allergic skin reactions in individuals with an existing contact allergy, even when ingested orally. However, the evaluation of nickel exposure via food with regard to this acute effect is not possible with the available data for methodological reasons”.*

More information (also on the MEAL-Study) is available here (for the time being only in German language): <https://www.bfr.bund.de/cm/343/nickel-schaetzung-der-langfristigen-aufnahme-ueber-lebensmittel-auf-grundlage-der-bfr-meal-studie.pdf>



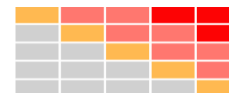
## 3 NEWS – Food Safety

content
<a href="#">Spain: Listeriosis outbreak caused by contaminated stuffed pork</a>
<a href="#">Austria: rise in reports of E. coli infections in 2021</a>
<a href="#">US: more than 15 tons of fish recalled because of Salmonella contamination</a>
<a href="#">Italy: 14 tons of food seized and stopped at 23 companies as part of food safety checks triggered by a large Listeria outbreak</a>
<a href="#">US: Requirements for additional traceability records for certain foods</a>
<a href="#">EFSA: Annual report of the Scientific Network on BSE-TSE 2022</a>
<a href="#">EEA (European Environment Agency): Climate change as a threat to health and well-being in Europe: focus on heat and infectious diseases</a>
<a href="#">EFSA: Advancing food safety: strategic recommendations from "ONE - Health, Environment" Society - Conference 2022</a>
<a href="#">UK: Report of UK National Reference Laboratory for Food Microbiology 2021 to 2022</a>
<a href="#">EFSA Podcast: Science on the Menu</a>
<a href="#">Slovakia: recall of infant formula due to Cronobacter</a>
<a href="#">Australia: poppy seed linked to illness</a>
<a href="#">ECDC: Salmonellosis: Annual epidemiological report for 2020/21</a>
<a href="#">ECDC: antimicrobial resistance in the EU/ EEA (EARS-Net): Annual Epidemiological report 2021</a>
<a href="#">Sweden: rise in Cryptosporidium infections has been attributed to contaminated salad by public health officials</a>
<a href="#">WHO: „World-Antimicrobial-Awareness“ week</a>
<a href="#">EFSA: Follow-up of the re-evaluation of sulfur dioxide (E 220), sodium sulfite (E 221), sodium bisulfite (E 222), sodium metabisulfite (E 223), potassium metabisulfite (E 224), calcium sulfite (E 226), calcium bisulfite (E 227) and potassium bisulfite (E 228)</a>
<a href="#">Overturning TiO2 ban? EU judges annul Europe's titanium dioxide regulation</a>
<a href="#">Sweden: Sweden has noted an increase in foodborne outbreaks and illnesses in 2021 but levels were still below pre-COVID-19 pandemic figures</a>

## 4 NEWS – Food Fraud

<a href="#">Bangladesh: Food adulteration increases alarmingly across Bangladesh</a>
<a href="#">A sense of ginger fraud: prevalence and deconstruction of the China-European union supply chain</a>
<a href="#">Pakistan: 500 kg tainted chili seized</a>
<a href="#">Scotland: Meat, seafood, and alcohol are among industries identified as being at high risk for food crime, according to a Scottish food crime unit.</a>
<a href="#">India: Six dairy farmers in Pune arrested for injecting buffaloes with oxytocin</a>
<a href="#">Tea &amp; Herbal Infusions Europe (THIE): Best Practice Guidance on the prevention of FOOD FRAUD</a>





[Food Fraud: A joint Nordic Threat assessment](#)

[Jordan: Olive oil adulteration cases decline in 2022](#)

[Europol: Europol: Operation Opson XI \(December 2021 until May 2022\): about 27 000 tonnes off the shelves](#)

[Pakistan: 3,000 litre hazardous oil confiscated](#)

[Sri Lanka: Behörden beschlagnahmen Chiliflocken wegen Verfälschung mit Salz und Weizenmehl](#)

[Poland: chilli flakes adulterated with salt and wheat flour.](#)

## 5 Publications on foodborne outbreaks

At European level, the ECDC (European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control) has published the [annual epidemiological report 2020 on salmonellosis](#). The key facts of the report are:

Salmonellosis is the second most commonly reported gastrointestinal infection, and an important cause of food-borne outbreaks in the EU/EEA.

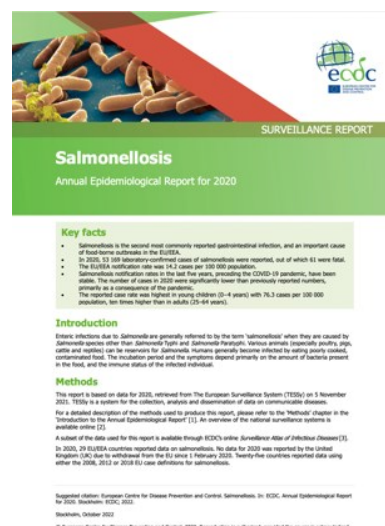
In 2020, 53.169 laboratory-confirmed cases of salmonellosis were reported, out of which 61 were fatal.

The EU/EEA notification rate was 14.2 cases per 100 000 population.

Salmonellosis notification rates in the last five years, preceding the COVID-19 pandemic, have been stable. The number of cases in 2020 were significantly lower than previously reported numbers, primarily as a consequence of the pandemic.

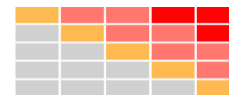
The reported case rate was highest in young children (0–4 years) with 76.3 cases per 100 000 population, ten times higher than in adults (25–64 years).

In Germany the Federal Office of Consumer Protection and Food Safety (BVL) is publishing an annual report “[Zoonoses Monitoring – Summary findings and conclusions](#)”. The last report is covering the year 2020. For further information please refer to the linked report.



Please forward your suggestions, questions and requests regarding this newsletter directly to: [info@safefood-online.de](mailto:info@safefood-online.de)





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