




Antibiotic usage data in pigs from the electronic Medicines Book (eMB): 2023

Scope and limitations of the data

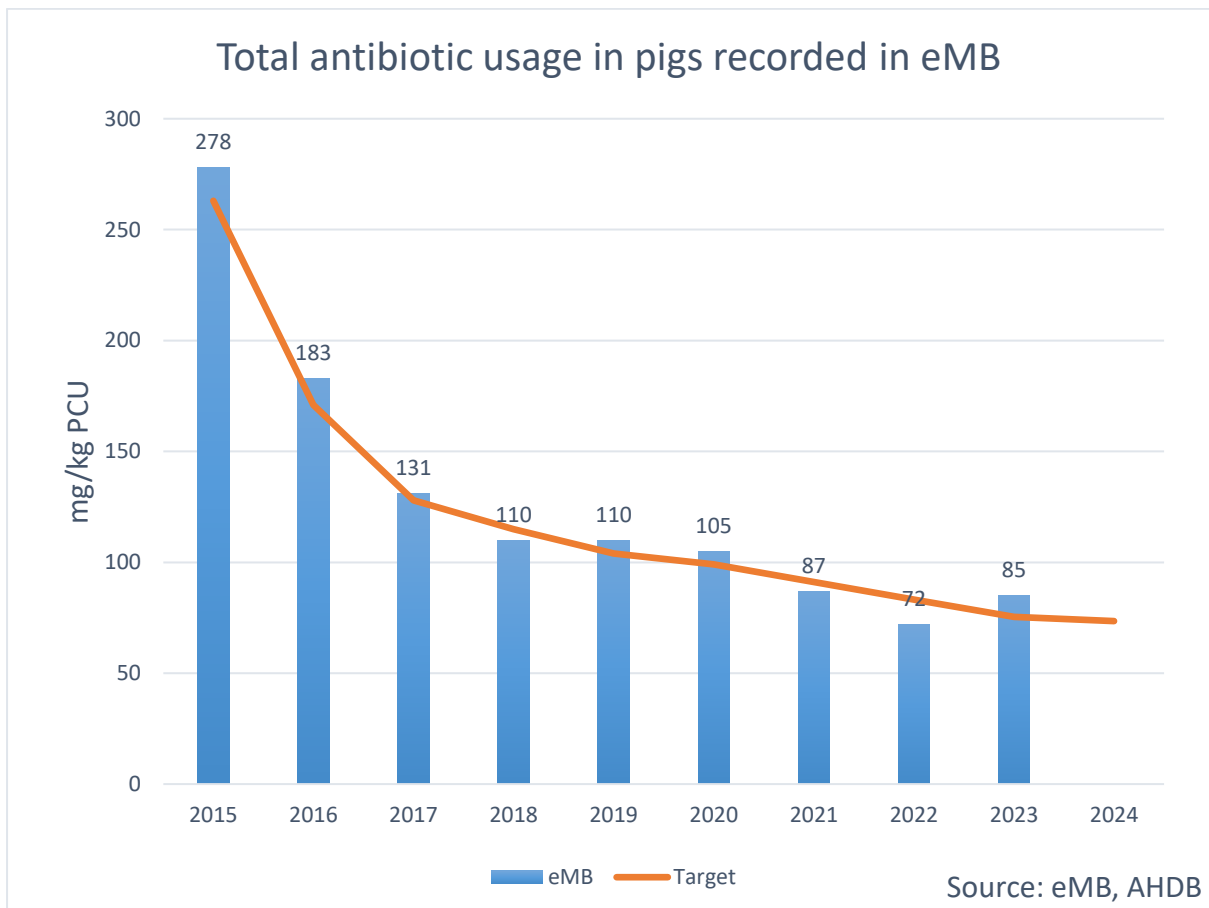
1. These data are national, aggregated figures for antibiotic usage calculated from individual unit data held in the eMB for pig farms across the UK. eMB uptake to date has been voluntary and this sample may not be representative for the whole of the UK.
2. In terms of UK pig production, these eMB data cover over 96% of slaughter pigs for 2023. As in previous years, UK clean pig slaughter data are sourced from Defra and Daera. We regularly review this measure of coverage to ensure it continues to be appropriate.
3. The data are inputted by producers and, although clear outliers have been identified and queried, AHDB is not able to validate every individual producer's data. However, at a national, aggregated level, the data provide an estimation of national usage and allow year-on-year comparisons to be made.
4. These data were extracted from eMB on 29 May 2024 and these figures will now be fixed as the reference levels for 2023. Producers may still add 2023 data to eMB for their own usage, but data entered or modified after this date will not be used to further amend the national aggregated figures.
5. The eMB database and the calculations within it are regularly subjected to a series of quality assurance checks to ensure national aggregated figures are as accurate as possible. As a result of this process, the eMB system is continuing to develop and work to further improve data accuracy is ongoing.
6. The calculations used for the eMB data are in-line with the methods used by the European Surveillance of Veterinary Antimicrobial Consumption (ESVAC) project, to allow comparisons to be made with European counterparts.

	Name and title	Signature	Date
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Total antibiotic usage recorded in eMB

Total antibiotic usage in pigs for 2023 was 85 mg/PCU (milligrams per population correction unit). This is an increase of 18% from 72 mg/PCU in 2022 and represents a 69% reduction in antibiotic use since 2015.

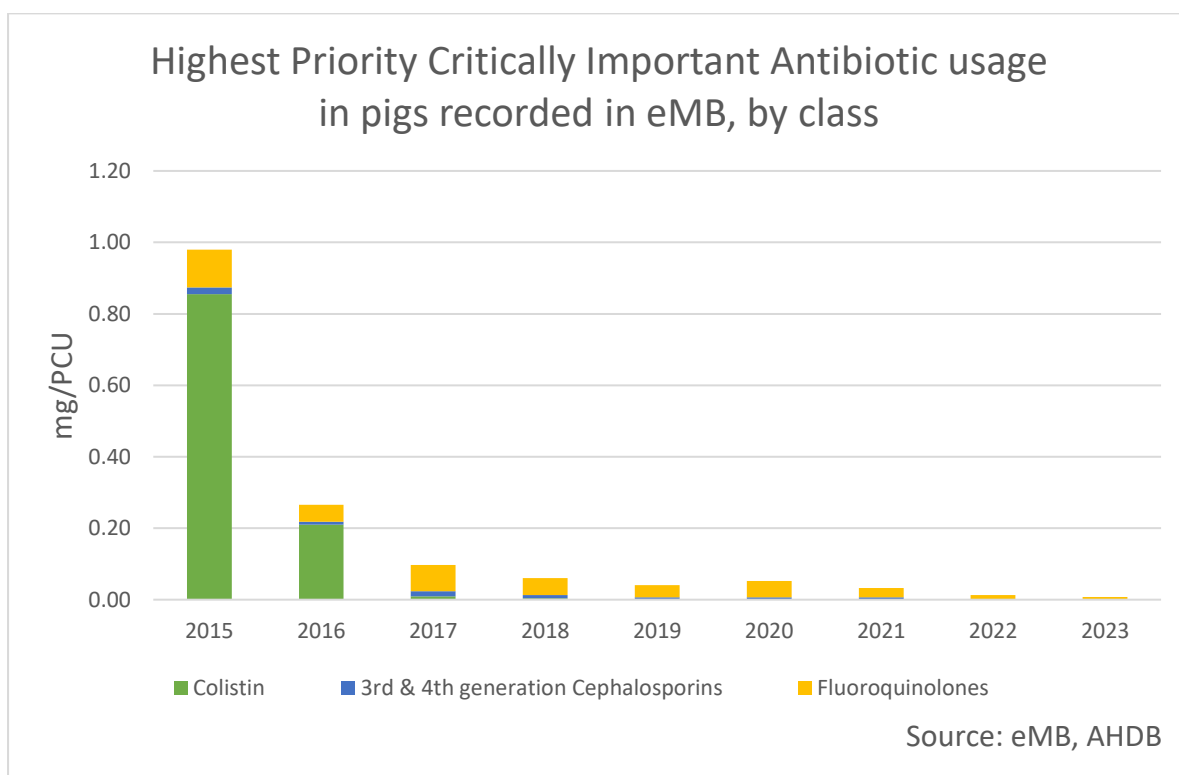
	mg/PCU	Year-on-year change
2015	278	
2016	183	-34%
2017	131	-28%
2018	110	-16%
2019	110	0%
2020	105	-5%
2021	87	-17%
2022	72	-17%
2023	85	+18%



Highest Priority Critically Important Antibiotic (HP-CIA) usage recorded in eMB

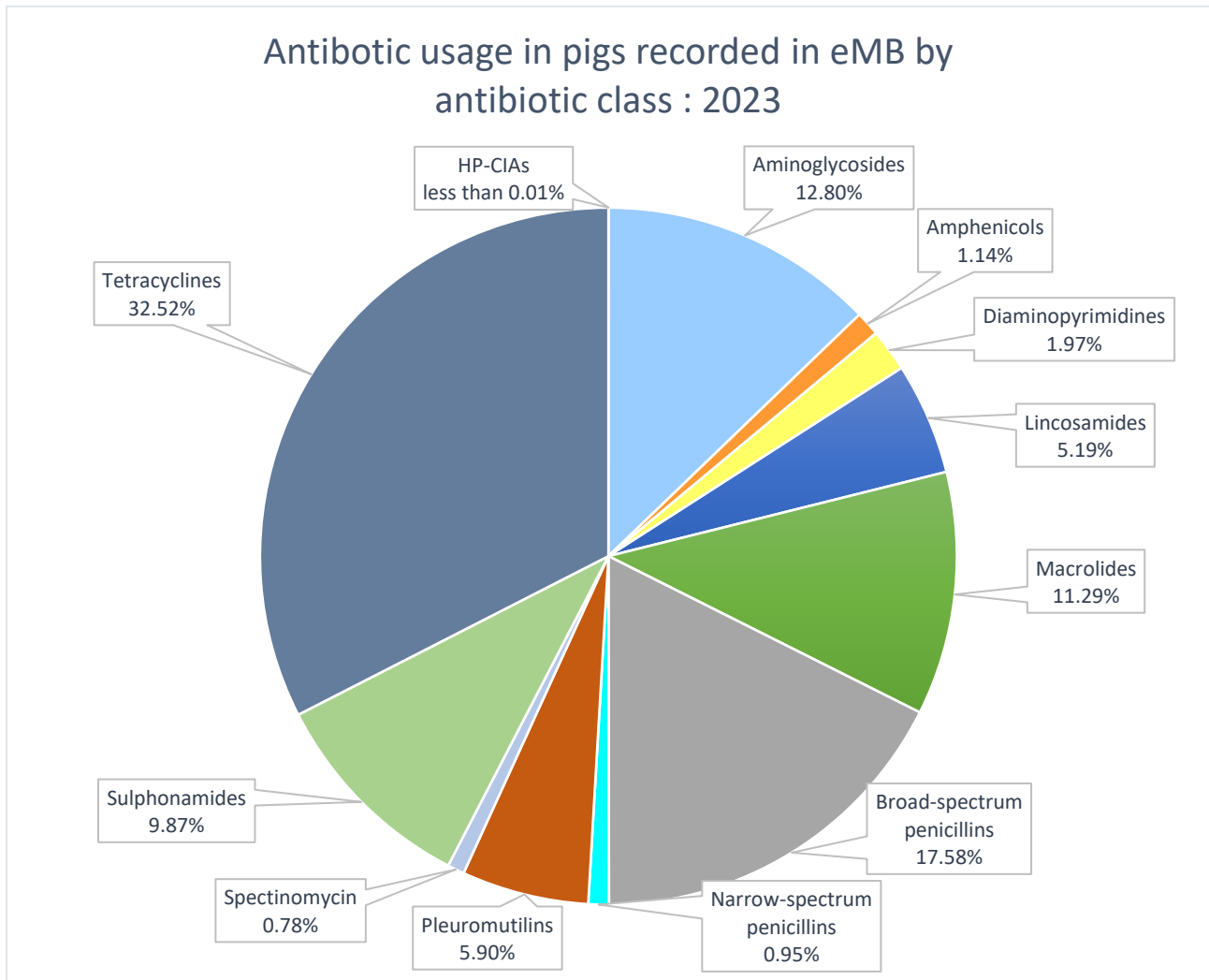
Use of highest priority critically important antibiotics remains at a very low level; a slight decrease from 0.013 mg/PCU to 0.007 mg/PCU has been recorded in 2023. No Colistin use has been reported in pigs in 2023.

	HP-CIAs (mg/PCU)	Colistin (mg/PCU)
2015	1.0	0.9
2016	0.3	0.2
2017	0.1	0.012
2018	0.06	0.004
2019	0.04	0.002
2020	0.052	0
2021	0.033	0
2022	0.013	0
2023	0.007	0



Antibiotic usage recorded in eMB by antibiotic class

While HP-CIA use continued to decrease, all other antibiotic classes have seen increases in usage. The largest increases, of between 3 and 4.8mg/PCU have been recorded in Broad-spectrum penicillins, Tetracyclines and Aminoglycosides.



The HP-CIAs segment includes Colistin, third and fourth generation Cephalosporins and Fluoroquinolones, as defined by the European Medicines Agency.