


Antibiotic usage data in pigs from the electronic Medicines Book (eMB): 2021

Scope and limitations of the data

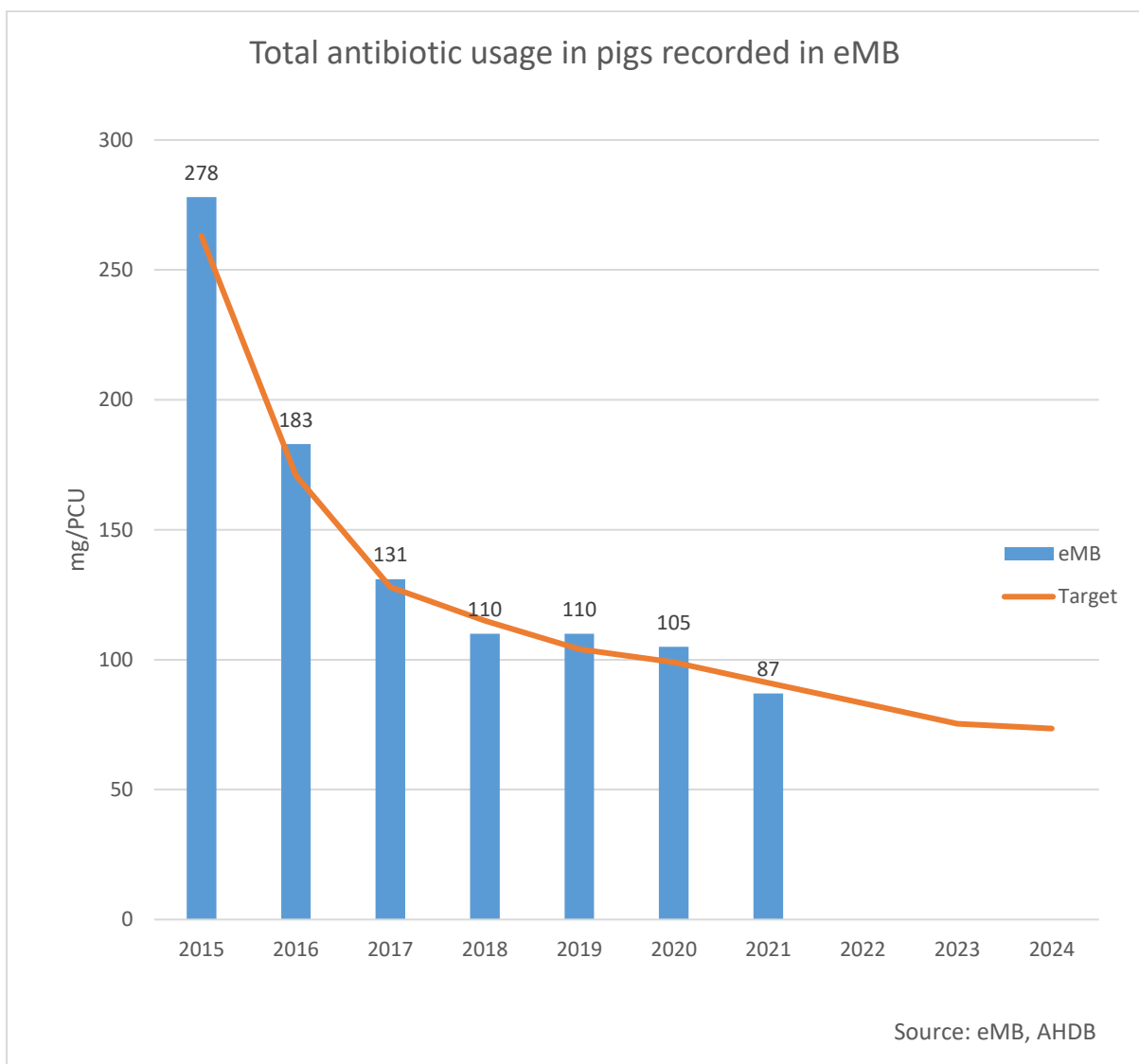
1. These data are national, aggregated figures for antibiotic usage calculated from individual unit data held in the eMB for pig farms across the UK. eMB uptake to date has been voluntary and this sample may not be representative for the whole of the UK.
2. In terms of UK pig production, these eMB data cover over 95% of slaughter pigs for 2021 (slaughter pig data sourced from Defra and Daera).
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 15 June 2022 and these figures will now be fixed as the reference levels for 2021. Producers may still add 2021 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.

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Total antibiotic usage recorded in eMB

Total recorded antibiotic usage in pigs reduced by 17% from 105 mg/PCU in 2020 to 87 mg/PCU in 2021 (milligrams per population correction unit).

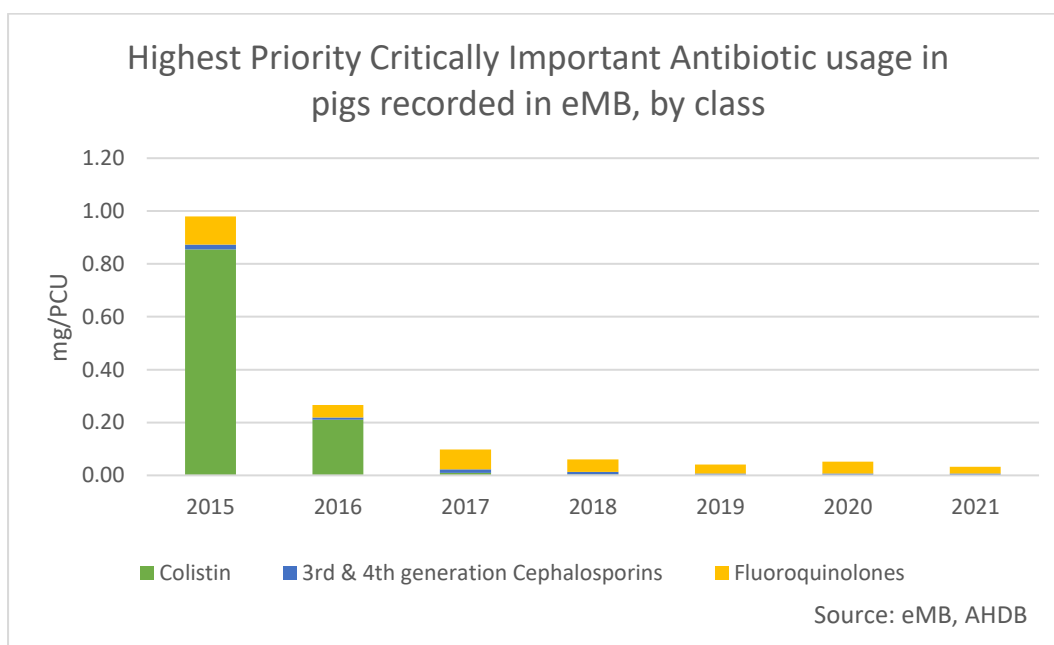
	mg/PCU	Year-on-year change
2015	278	
2016	183	-34%
2017	131	-28%
2018	110	-16%
2019	110	0%
2020	105	-5%
2021	87	-17%



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

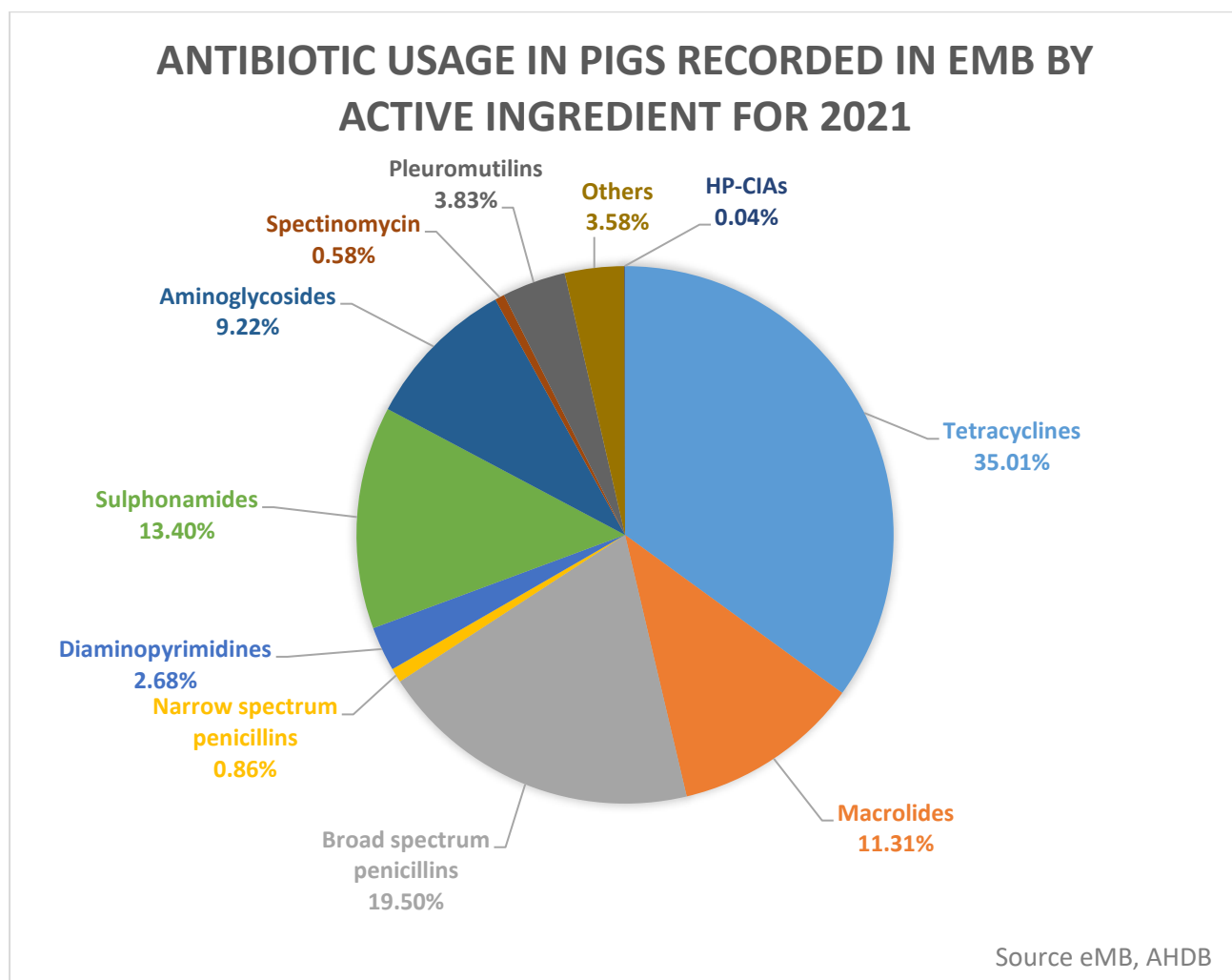
Use of highest priority critically important antibiotics remains at a very low level; a slight decrease from 0.05 mg/PCU to 0.03 mg/PCU has been recorded in 2021. No Colistin use has been reported in pigs in 2021.

	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



Antibiotic usage recorded in eMB by antibiotic class

Use has fallen across all antibiotic classes except for aminoglycosides, which have increased slightly, 8.06 mg/PCU in 2021 up from 7.89 mg/PCU in 2020, continuing the trend noticed in the 2020 data.



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

The Others segment includes lincosamides and amphenicols.