Less antimicrobials are used in animals. Improvement is needed in monitoring and reporting.

In short

1 Global antimicrobial use is decreasing

2 Non-responsible practices remain

3 Transparency on AMU is improving

The 9th antimicrobial use (AMU) report by WOAH publishes data on antimicrobial use in animals provided by countries through ANIMUSE. It is a reminder of **the importance of responsibly using antimicrobials by investing in prevention, biosecurity and surveillance**, in line with the commitments taken in 2024 by countries undersigning the Political Declaration of the High-level Meeting on Antimicrobial Resistance at the United Nations (UN) General Assembly.

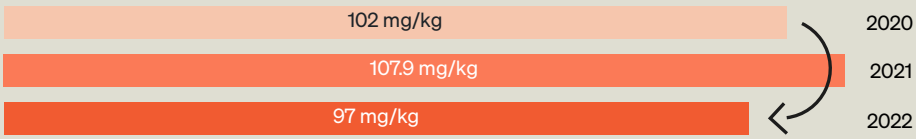
Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is a global threat to animals and humans. In 2022, AMR was responsible for 1.15 million human deaths. Increased AMR in livestock could result in **production losses equivalent to the consumption needs of more than 2 billion people annually** by 2050. Without action, AMR in humans could cause **39 million deaths between 2025 and 2050**—reaching a 60% higher annual toll than today.

An overview of antimicrobial use in animals

-5%

antimicrobial use in three years

Global antimicrobial use (mg/kg) between 2020 and 2022



Data from 85 participating countries (62% of global biomass) that consistently provided quantitative data on AMU in animals from 2020 to 2022.

Terrestrial and aquatic food-producing animals

For the first time, antimicrobial quantities normalised by estimated animal biomass were compared between terrestrial and aquatic food-producing animals by antimicrobial classes.

Terrestrial food-producing animals

47% covered by AMU data

98 milligram of antimicrobials adjusted by kilogram of animal biomass

Aquatic food-producing animals

64% covered by AMU data

21 milligram of antimicrobials adjusted by kilogram of animal biomass

Antimicrobial use is expressed in mg/kg of animal biomass.

It is determined by adjusting the quantity of antimicrobial agents reported (mg) by the live domestic animal biomass (kg) each year. This indicator elaborated by WOAH can be compared between regions and over time.

Data transparency has significantly improved. Countries making their data publicly available passed from 12 to 48 in just one year.

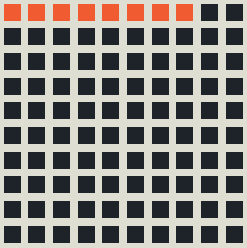
World Organisation for Animal Health

Read the full interactive report on ANIMUSE at amu.woah.org

There is room for improvement to optimise antimicrobial use

Use of antimicrobials critical to human health

Only 8% of antimicrobials used in animals in 2022 are considered as highest priority critically important (HPCIA) for human health. We must preserve their efficacy by using them in a responsible way.



Importance of antimicrobials to human health
- HPCIA
- Others

Non-responsible use of antimicrobials

Growth promotion means using antimicrobials in healthy animals to boost productivity. Some countries have implemented legislative or regulatory measures to phase out this practice. Yet further efforts are needed as these drugs are still being inappropriately used as growth promoters.

Use of antimicrobial growth promoters among countries participating in the survey (%)

In detail

- 22% of countries participating in the survey still use antimicrobials as growth promoters.
- 80% of the countries using antimicrobials as growth promoters are located in the Americas and Asia and the Pacific.
- 7% of participating countries still use as growth promoters at least one of the highest priority critically important antimicrobials for human medicine.

Global coverage by the 9th annual antimicrobial use report

71%

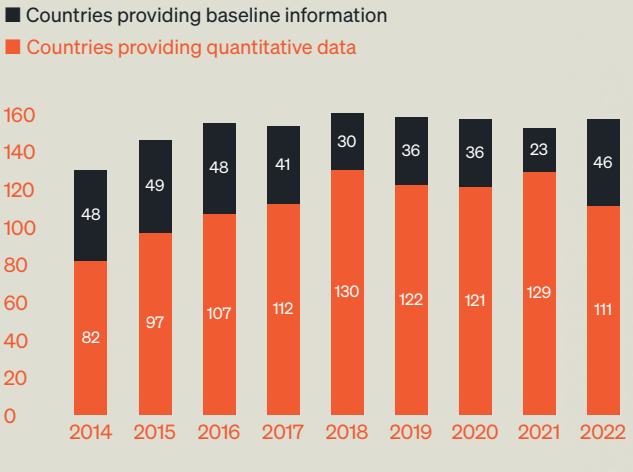
of global animal biomass covered by AMU data

85%

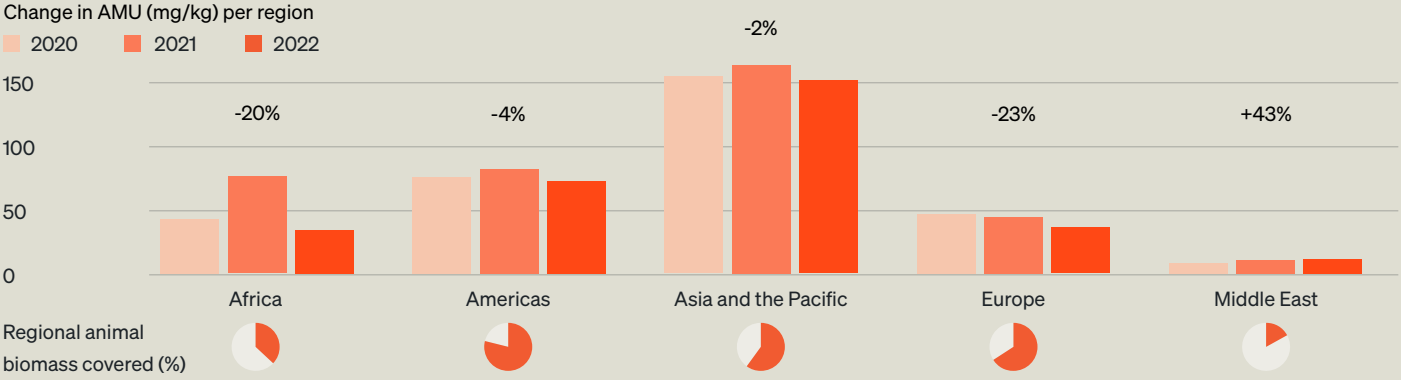
of global geography

157 countries contributed to the 9th AMU report

46 countries provided baseline data, with 111 providing detailed reports.



Regional trends of antimicrobial use between 2020 and 2022



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