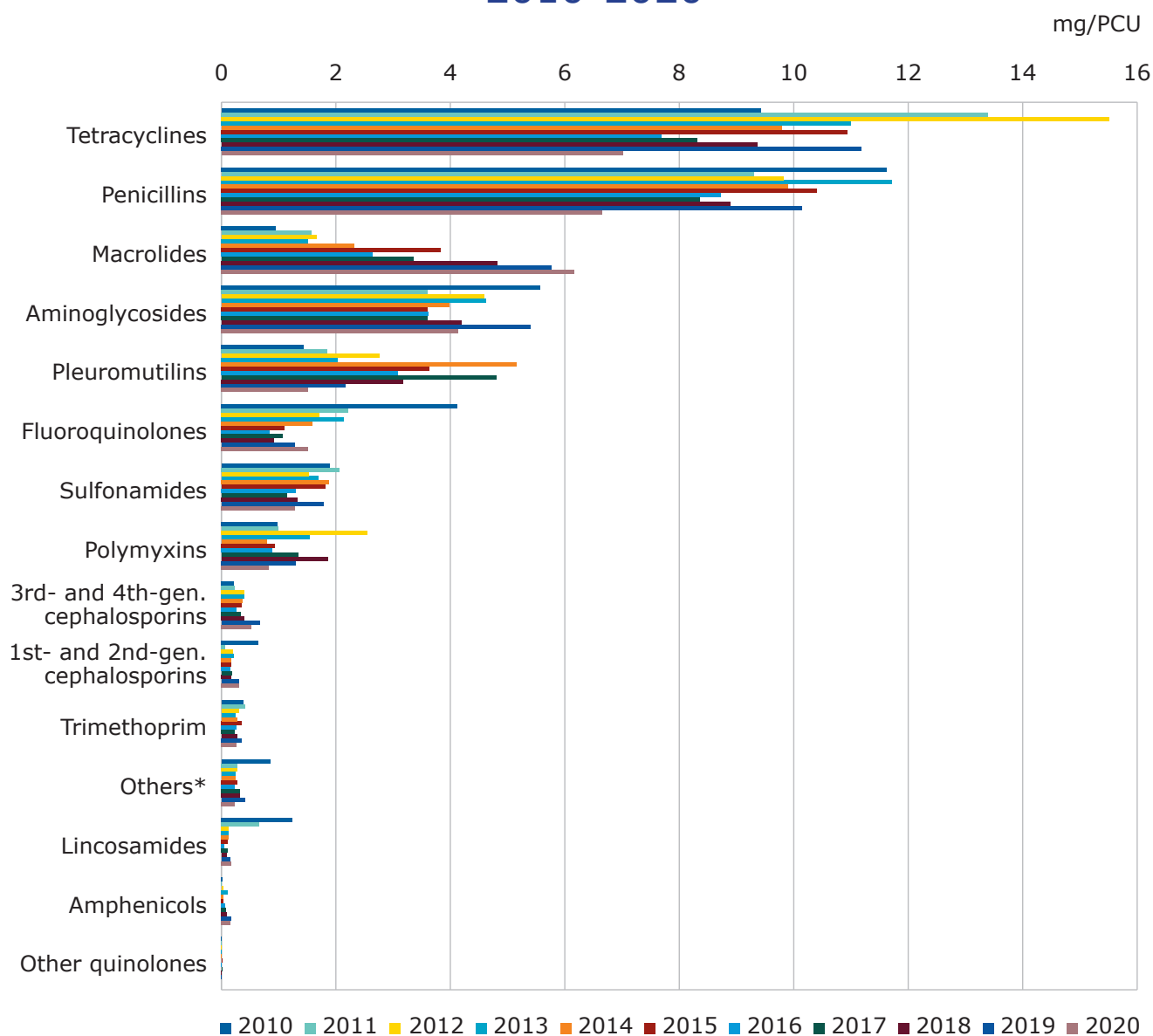




SALES TRENDS (MG/PCU) OF ANTIMICROBIAL VMPs FOR FOOD-PRODUCING ANIMALS

2010-2020



No sales of other quinolones were reported in 2020.

* The class 'Others' includes sales of bacitracin, novobiocin, rifaximin and spectinomycin (classified as 'Other antibacterials' in the ATCvet system).

Annual sales (mg/PCU) of antimicrobial VMPs in Latvia have fluctuated over the years, with peaks observed for 2012 (41.5 mg/PCU) and 2019 (41.1 mg/PCU). Relative to 2011 (36.7 mg/PCU), overall sales in 2020 were 16.1% lower (30.8 mg/PCU).

Tetracyclines and penicillins are the highest-selling antimicrobial classes for all of the study years. A peak in sales of tetracyclines was observed for 2012 (15.51 mg/PCU) and a trough was seen in 2020 (7.01 mg/PCU). Overall, sales of tetracyclines were 47.7% lower in 2020 than in 2011 (13.39 mg/PCU). The most widely sold VMPs in the tetracycline class were oral solutions with doxycycline.

Sales of macrolides increased from 1.57 mg/PCU to 6.17 mg/PCU from 2011 to 2020, a four-fold increase.

Sales of 3rd- and 4th-generation cephalosporins fluctuated over the years, with a peak in 2019 (0.67 mg/PCU). In comparison to 2011 levels (0.23 mg/PCU), sales rose by 125% in 2020 to 0.52 mg/PCU. The total sales figure for the 25 countries was 0.16 mg/PCU in 2020.

Although sales of fluoroquinolones fluctuated in Latvia between 2011 (2.22 mg/PCU) and 2020 (1.51 mg/PCU), they declined by 32% over the whole period. In 2020, aggregated sales in the 25 countries were 2.21 mg/PCU.

Sales of other quinolones were 0.01 mg/PCU or lower throughout the study period and no sales were reported in 2020.

Sales of polymyxins fluctuated during the period 2011 to 2020, with peaks observed for 2012 (2.55 mg/PCU) and 2018 (1.86 mg/PCU). In 2020 (0.83 mg/PCU), sales of polymyxins were 15.9% lower than in 2011 (0.99 mg/PCU) and 36% lower in comparison to 2019 (1.3 mg/PCU). Also in 2020, aggregated sales in the 25 countries were 2.58 mg/PCU.

Collection of sales data by animal species started in mid-2016.

In 2020, the Food and Veterinary Service carried out random in-depth inspections on the use of antimicrobials on cattle and pig farms. These inspections were launched in 2018. The three-year in-depth examination programme provided information on patterns of antibacterial use, the most common indications and the doses used. The information obtained during the three years shows the same trends: in general, VMPs are used as specified in the package leaflet. However, in some cases there are deviations from the specified conditions of use. These concern the use of medicinal products for prophylaxis, pre-initiation testing for pathogens and their susceptibility to antibiotics, and preference for a wide range of last-generation antibiotics.

Information obtained in 2020 on the use of antimicrobials in pig holdings indicates an upward trend in their use for metaphylaxis and treatment. Every year, the most common diseases in pigs are related to respiratory and gastrointestinal system infections. As the consumption of colistin has decreased, the distribution of macrolide antimicrobials has increased.

In cattle, the most common diagnosis every year is mastitis during lactation or dry periods. Intramammary udder suspensions are regularly used for the prevention of mastitis during the dry period and for prevention of acute mastitis after calving.

From 2021, the collection of information on the specifics and trends of antimicrobial use in food-producing animals in individual holdings will be discontinued, as it is more expedient to invest in automatic or semi-automatic data collection systems that will regularly collect information on antimicrobials in all food-producing animals on the basis of the requirements laid down in Article 57 of Regulation (EU) 2019/6 on veterinary medicinal products.

