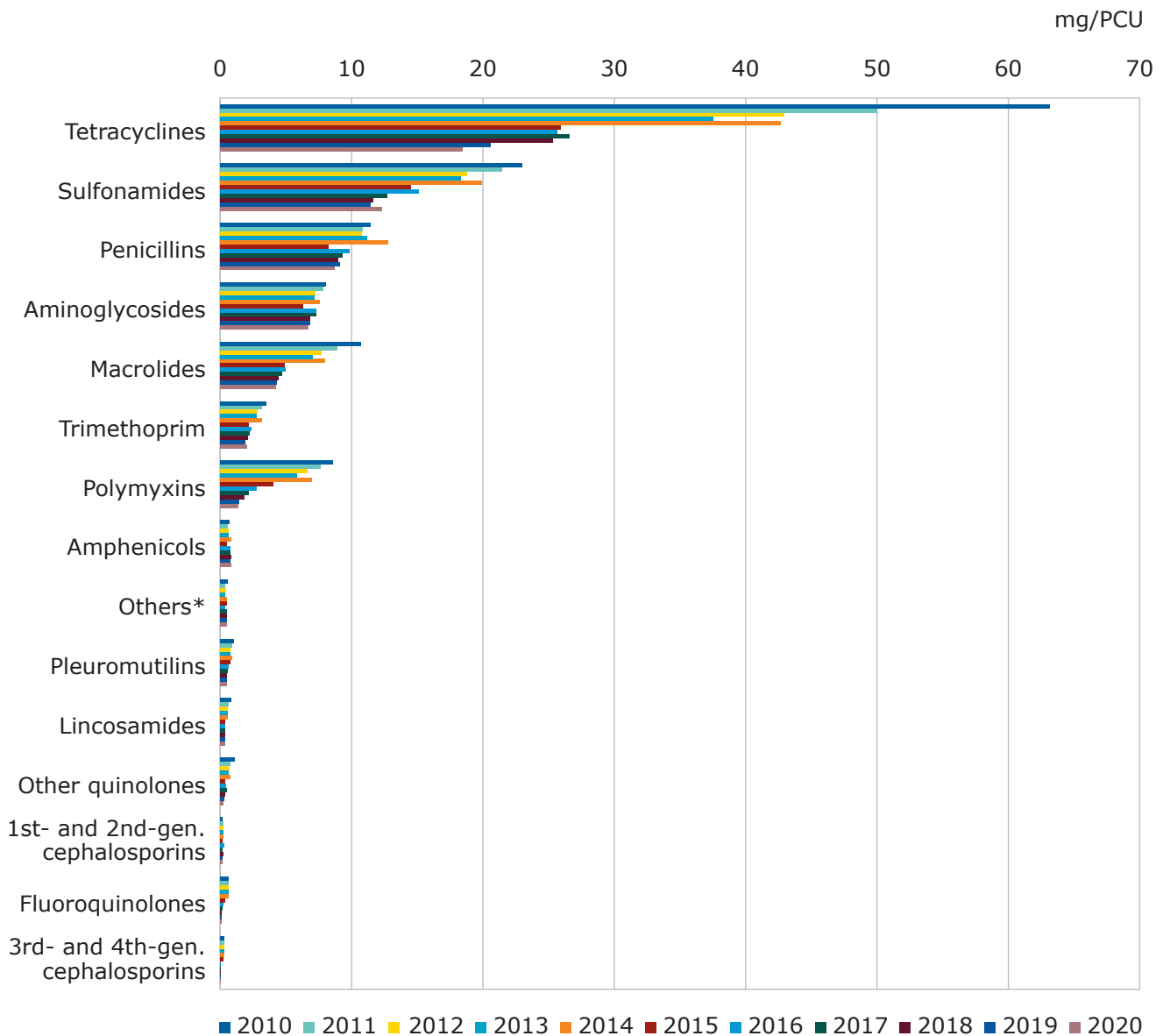




SALES TRENDS (MG/PCU) OF ANTIMICROBIAL VMPs FOR FOOD-PRODUCING ANIMALS

2010-2020



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

A 44% drop in sales (in mg/PCU) of veterinary antimicrobial agents was observed in France from 2011 to 2020. This is the result of efforts by the major production sectors and veterinarians to reduce the use of antimicrobial agents in food-producing animals. The declining trends were observed for nearly all antimicrobial classes, except for amphenicols and other antibacterials. In 2020, the highest-selling antimicrobial classes were tetracyclines (32.6%), sulfonamides (21.8%), penicillins (15.4%) and aminoglycosides (11.8%).

Sales of 3rd- and 4th-generation cephalosporins, fluoroquinolones, other quinolones and polymyxins were low, accounting for 0.03%, 0.2%, 0.4% and 2.4%, respectively, of total annual sales.

Sales of 3rd- and 4th-generation cephalosporins fell by almost 95% between 2011 (0.30 mg/PCU) and 2020 (0.015 mg/PCU), and by almost 4% between 2019 (0.016 mg/PCU) and 2020. Aggregated sales for the 25 countries were 0.16 mg/PCU.

From 2011 (0.62 mg/PCU) to 2020 (0.10 mg/PCU), sales of fluoroquinolones fell by almost 84% and from 2019 (0.13 mg/PCU) to 2020, they decreased by 21.1%. Aggregated sales for the 25 countries were 2.21 mg/PCU.

For other quinolones, sales decreased by 68.4% from 2011 (0.80 mg/PCU) to 2020 (0.25 mg/PCU) and 24.2% from 2019 (0.33 mg/PCU) to 2020. Aggregated sales for the 25 countries were 0.16 mg/PCU.

Sales of polymyxins decreased by 82.1% between 2011 (7.67 mg/PCU) and 2020 (1.37 mg/PCU) and by 3.9% between 2019 (1.43 mg/PCU) and 2020. Aggregated sales for the 25 countries were 2.58 mg/PCU.

Sales of macrolides dropped by 52.5% from 2011 to 2020, and accounted for 7.5% of total annual sales in 2020.

The large decrease in antimicrobials used in animals in France is the result of collective action by all stakeholders to implement the 2012–2017 French Action Plan 'EcoAntibio'. During the period covered by the plan, overall exposure to antimicrobials decreased by 32.8%, significantly exceeding the plan's target of a 25% reduction in the use of antimicrobials. Treatment guidelines were developed, supporting veterinarians in their therapeutic decision-making; the guidelines are updated regularly, addressing both food-producing and companion animals.

Specific measures have been undertaken for critically important antimicrobials through a decree limiting the use of 3rd- and 4th-generation cephalosporins and fluoroquinolones. Antimicrobial susceptibility testing is mandatory for veterinarians before using 3rd- and 4th-generation cephalosporins and fluoroquinolones. The objective of reducing the use of fluoroquinolones and 3rd- and 4th-generation cephalosporins by 25% was enshrined in law and was exceeded.

The second action plan, EcoAntibio2, which covers the 2017–2021 period, aims to maintain the good results obtained previously and set the goal of a 50% reduction in exposure to colistin in the cattle, pig and poultry sectors over five years, with the average exposure for 2014–2015 as reference point. Between 2015 and 2020, sales of polymyxins decreased by 66%. The objective set by the plan to reduce colistin exposure by 50% has thus been achieved and exceeded for the cattle, pig and poultry sectors.

