

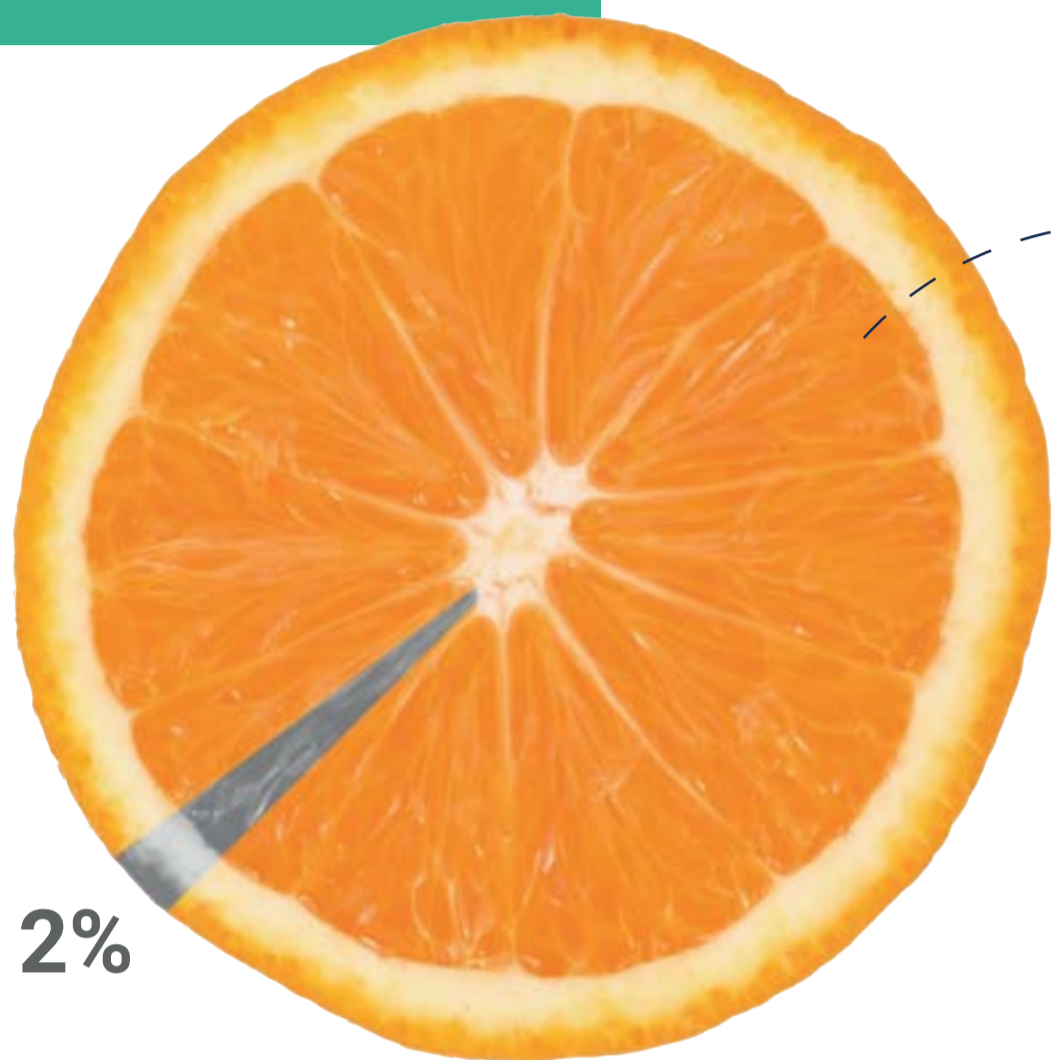
A closer look at pesticides in food



Food authorities in EU countries monitor pesticide residues in food **to ensure they do not exceed EU limits**, and prevent health risks.

125,000
FOOD SAMPLES

were collected in the EU, Iceland and Norway in 2024 (the latest reporting year) **covering food from all continents**.



98.8%

of the samples from the EU-coordinated sampling subset, which aims to represent the EU market, were **compliant** with legal limits

The percentage of compliant samples has been very high and **stable over the past 10 years**, with an average of 99.18%

Origin of the samples

75.9% produced in the EU

4% of unknown origin

20.1% from outside the European Economic Area



What happens when a sample is non-compliant?



STOP

Authorities can stop a food batch at the EU border



SANCTION

Authorities can impose penalties such as fines



WITHDRAW

In serious cases, authorities can take products off the market and/or customers are warned or reimbursed

Would you like to know more?

Access additional data on pesticide residues in food on EFSA's interactive tool that allows you to browse the data in charts and graphs.

EFSA is the keystone of EU risk assessment regarding food and feed safety. In close collaboration with national authorities in open consultation with its stakeholders, EFSA provides independent scientific advice and clear communication on existing and emerging risks.

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