

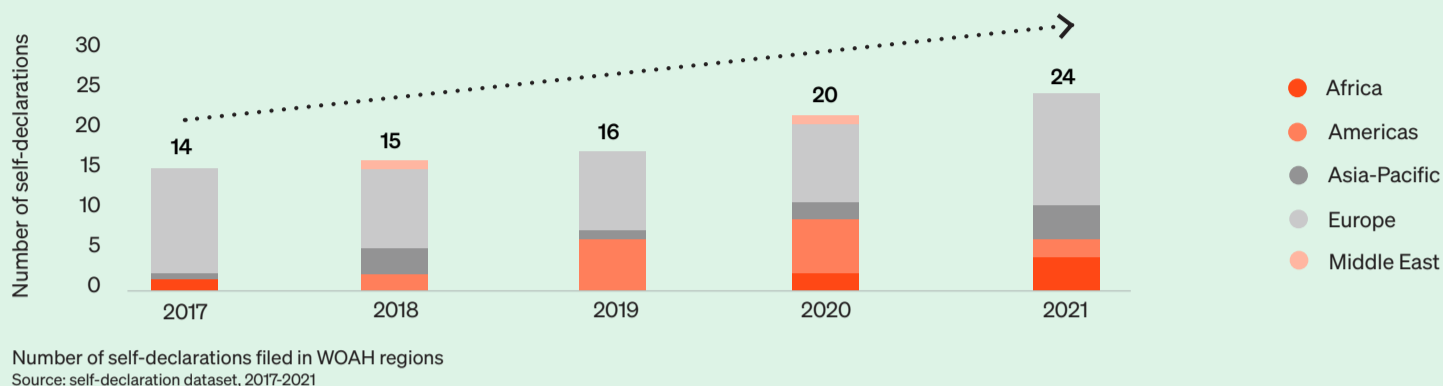
Self-declarations of animal health status

Members of the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH, founded as OIE) can self-declare the animal health status of their territory (country, zone or compartment) in line with WOAH standards. They can have their self-declarations published on WOAH's website to increase their visibility. Yet, these self-declarations cannot relate to the six diseases subject to official status recognition. Through its Annual Report, the **Observatory** presents a selection of data that contributes to monitoring the uptake of these standards and the use of self-declarations by Members.

The use of self-declarations has increased in recent years

Between 2017 and 2021, the annual number of self-declarations increased by

71%



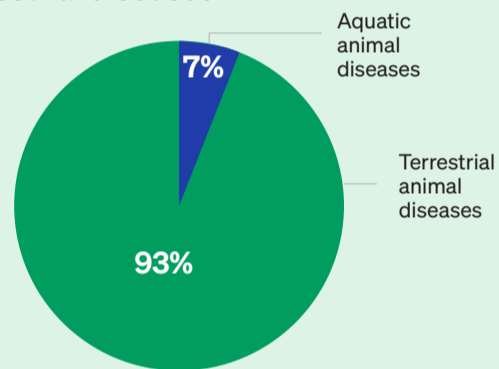
However, this service is not used to its full capacity

Around **40%** of Members submitted a self-declaration between 2000 and 2021

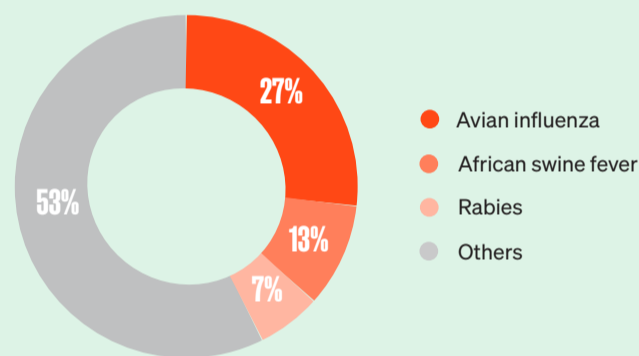
They published a total of **251** self-declarations.

Over **60%** of these declarations were filed by Members of the European region.

Most Members self-declare country-wide freedom from terrestrial diseases



The diseases with the highest number of self-declarations are avian influenza, African swine fever and rabies.



91% of self-declarations refer to country-wide disease freedom

Only **9%** of self-declarations relate to the animal health status of zones and compartments



A low percentage of Members that reported the absence of a disease also published a self-declaration



Rabies
26%



African swine fever
25%



Avian influenza
19%

Source: self-declaration dataset and WAHIS six-monthly reports, 2nd semester 2019



After outbreaks, most Members did not submit new declarations to recover their self-declared animal health status Between 2000 and 2021:

31% of self-declared animal health status were lost due to an outbreak

Just **37%** of these lost status were recovered after submission of another self-declaration

Source: self-declaration dataset and WAHIS six-monthly reports, 2000-2021

Recommendations

World Organisation for Animal Health

- Identify and address the challenges that prevent Members from using the self-declaration service to its full capacity.
- Continue to improve the process of managing, storing, displaying and tracking self-declarations.
- Promote the benefits of issuing self-declarations.

Members

- Engage with stakeholders and policymakers to increase the use of self-declarations.
- Consider submitting self-declarations for diseases absent from the territory, including aquatic animal diseases.
- Consider submitting self-declarations for zones and compartments.

Access the full information [here](#)

Please consider the data limitations outlined in the full Annual Report when consulting this document.

