



FACTSHEET

OIE Third Annual Report on Antimicrobial Agents Intended for Use in Animals



OVERVIEW

Persistent misuse and overuse of antimicrobials in animals and humans have contributed to the **emergence of resistant bacteria** which do not respond to antibiotic treatment. This phenomenon, known as antimicrobial resistance, is arguably **the 21st century's most challenging global health issue**.

The World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) is a global leader in the fight against antimicrobial resistance in animals and has developed a wide range of **International Standards to guide the responsible and prudent use of antimicrobial agents** as part of good veterinary and agricultural practice.

Currently, very little information is available worldwide on antimicrobial use patterns in animal health. **Surveillance of antimicrobial use in animal health is an important component to understanding the level and evolution of antimicrobial resistance in animals**. To support this work, the OIE has taken the lead to develop **a database on antimicrobial agents intended for use in animals**, built with data voluntarily submitted by countries through a collaborative process to build national and global surveillance capacity.

This report is an analysis of the third round of data collection for that database and shows **significant progress in the monitoring and control of these important drugs**.

GUIDE TO THE DATA

The OIE has developed a **participatory data collection system** to which any country can report, regardless of their capacity to provide quantitative data on antimicrobials use in animals. For this reason, the database is compiled of both qualitative and quantitative reporting by countries.

In order to encourage participation, the report does not break down the data by country but **provides comprehensive regional overviews**. Countries are encouraged to self-publish their submissions and several of them have chosen to do so.

For many countries, **the process of establishing data collection systems at national level is as important as the data itself**. Fluctuations in country data collection and results reflect the challenges encountered. Through the process of data collection, barriers to the collection of quality data are better understood and important lessons have been learnt and shared to improve the quality of data reported.

As this is only the OIE's third round of data collection on the use of antimicrobials, the quantitative data was collected for 2015 and data was also accepted from 2016 and 2017. This provides an opportunity for countries to correct and enrich the quality of the data. Over time, and once the reporting systems are better established, the OIE will request data from only one calendar year. In doing so, **the OIE reporting will progress in parallel with the development of countries' data collection systems**, as global monitoring on the use of antimicrobial agents becomes more systematic and reliable.



WORLD ORGANISATION FOR ANIMAL HEALTH
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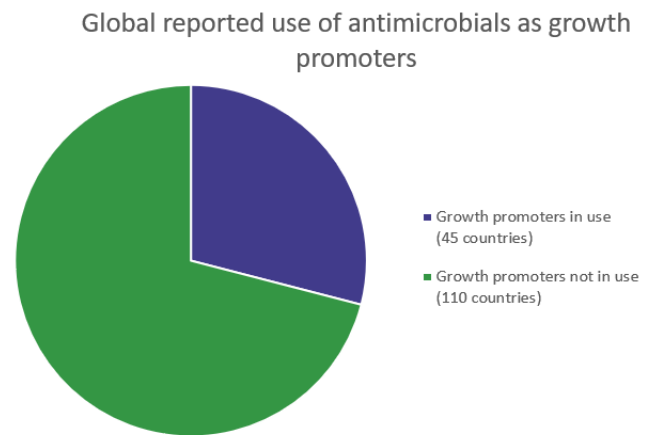
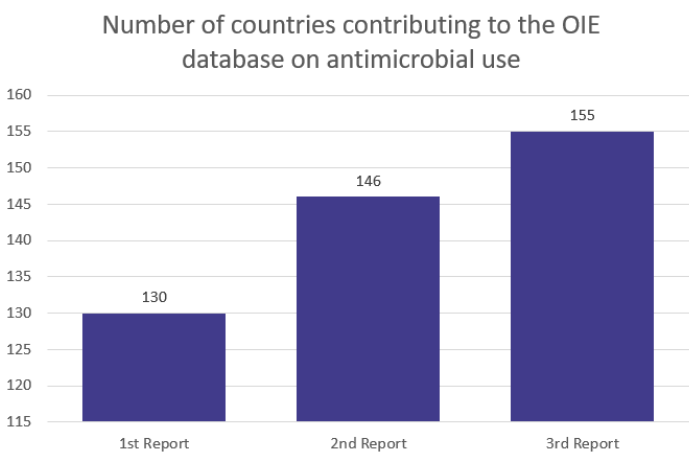


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HIGHLIGHTS

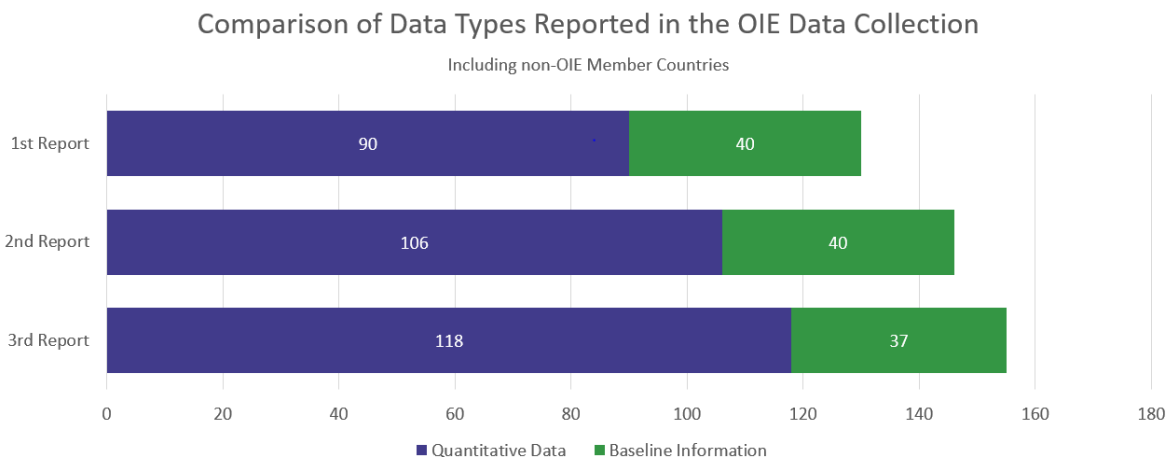
155 countries contributed data for this Database Report, an increase of 19% since the data collection started. Engagement between OIE and national governments is growing.

45 countries reported use of antimicrobials for growth promotion, compared to 60 countries in the Second Database Report.



38 more countries now report having a regulatory framework, since in the first database report.

32% increase in the number of countries reporting quantitative data, in addition to reporting qualitative data since the data collection started.





RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The OIE and other international organisations must work collaboratively with all governments to **strengthen their capacity to monitor and regulate the use of antimicrobials in animal health**, with a view of enabling all countries to adopt the OIE Standards.
2. All countries should implement **veterinary oversight for the use of antimicrobials** in animals.
3. Governments should phase out **the use of antimicrobials as growth promoters** without risk analysis, and in particular bring an **immediate end** to use of those classified as highest priority by the World Health Organisation's Critically Important Antimicrobials for Human Medicine.
4. To emphasise transparency and accountability, all governments should make their **national reports publicly available online** and use the results to measure progress within their National Action Plans.
5. Governments must continue to **engage all stakeholders in the fight against antimicrobial resistance**, ranging from regulators, to veterinarians, to farmers, to business and the food industry.
6. OIE should continue its work to improve **awareness and understanding of AMR** and strengthen knowledge of existing and future data and evidence as set out in the Global Action Plan on AMR developed by the World Health Organisation in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organisation and the OIE.



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