

Epidemiologia

disciplina che studia la frequenza e la distribuzione delle malattie nelle popolazioni, le cause ed i fattori di rischio ad esse associati, al fine di attuarne il controllo

Epidemiologia delle MTA

- **osservare l'andamento delle MTA (A)**
- individuare le cause ed i fattori di rischio che ne inducono l'insorgenza e ne condizionano la diffusione (B)
- studiare gli interventi atti a rendere maggiormente efficace il loro controllo (C)



European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control

An agency of the European Union

All sections | Enter your keyword |

Home > Infectious disease topics > A-Z disease list > Food- and waterborne diseases and zoonoses

Food- and waterborne diseases and zoonoses

Most human foodborne diseases are caused by *Campylobacter*, *Salmonella*, *Yersinia*, *E. coli* and *Listeria* bacteria. The most frequent way of getting infected is through the consumption of contaminated food or water.



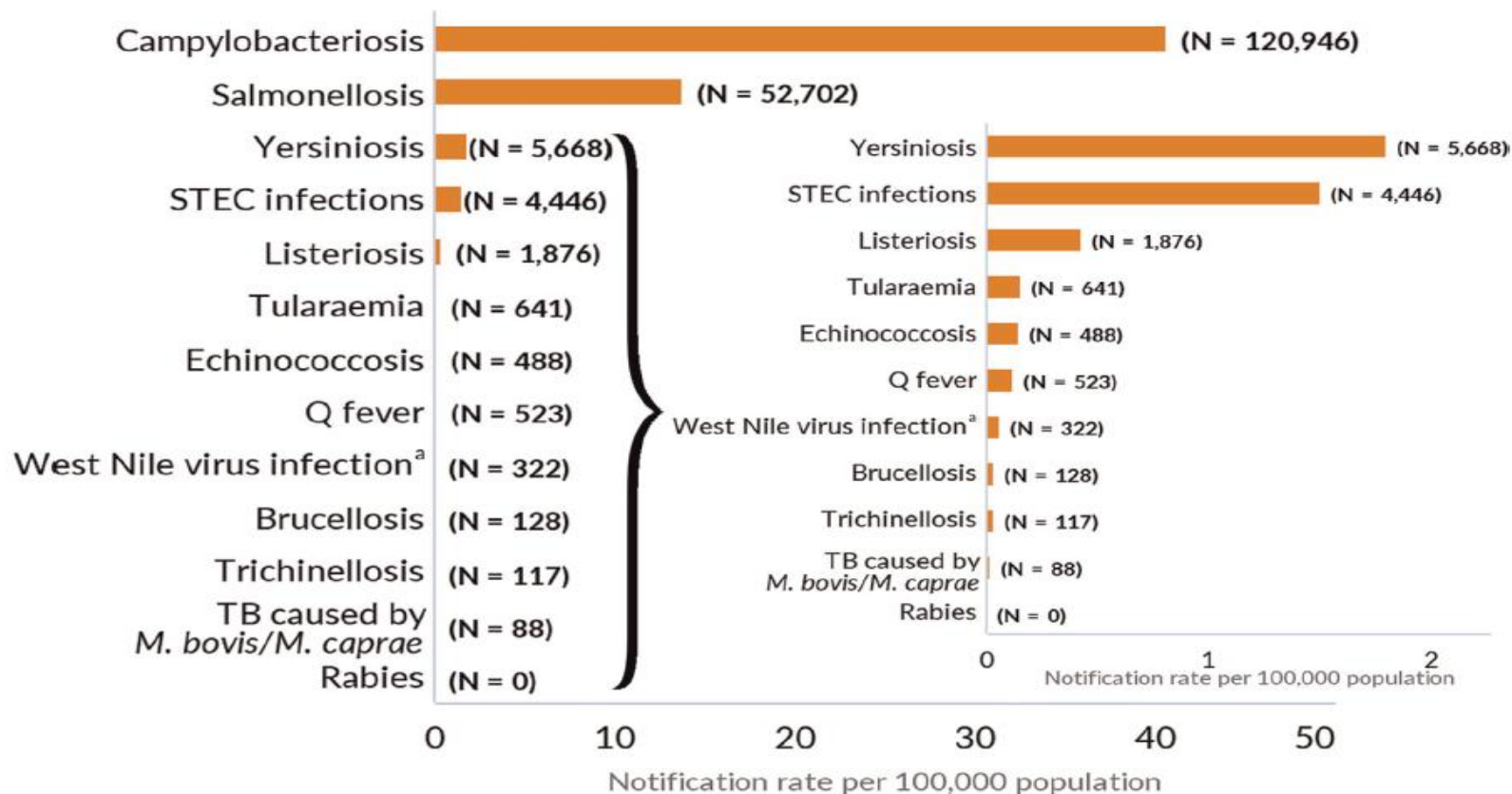
Surveillance and disease data ▶

- EU Summary Reports on AMR ▶
- EU summary reports on trends and sources of zoonoses ▶

Threats and outbreaks ▶

Rapid outbreaks assessment aim at supporting the countries and the European Commission in their preparedness and response to a public health threat.

EU One Health Zoonoses Report 2020



Note: The total number of confirmed cases is indicated in parentheses at the end of each bar.
 (a): Regarding West Nile virus infection, the total number of cases was used (includes probable and confirmed cases).

Figure 1: Reported numbers of cases and notification rates of confirmed human zoonoses in the EU, 2020

Table 2: Reported hospitalisations and case fatalities due to zoonoses in confirmed human cases in the EU, 2020

Disease	Number of confirmed human cases	Hospitalisation					Deaths				
		Status available (N)	Status available (%)	Number of reporting MS ^(b)	Reported hospitalised cases	Proportion hospitalised (%)	Outcome available (N)	Outcome available (%)	Number of reporting MS ^(b)	Reported deaths	Case fatality (%)
Campylobacteriosis	120,946	41,037	33.9	14	8,605	21.0	83,744	69.2	15	45	0.05
Salmonellosis	52,702	20,562	39.0	13	6,149	29.9	30,355	57.6	15	57	0.19
Yersiniosis	5,668	1,214	21.4	12	353	29.1	3,072	54.2	13	2	0.07
STEC infections	4,446	1,593	35.8	16	652	40.9	3,094	69.6	19	13	0.42
Listeriosis	1,876	803	42.8	18	780	97.1	1,283	68.4	18	167	13.0
Tularaemia	641	123	19.2	9	64	52.0	200	31.2	10	0	0
Echinococcosis	488	73	15.0	12	44	60.3	204	41.8	14	0	0
Q fever	523	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	235	44.9	14	5	2.1
West Nile virus infection ^(a)	322	239	74.2	8	219	91.6	322	100	8	39	12.1
Brucellosis	128	56	43.8	8	36	64.3	55	43.0	9	2	3.6
Trichinellosis	117	22	18.8	5	16	72.7	24	20.5	6	0	0
Rabies	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

MS: Member State(s); NA: Not applicable, as information is not collected for this disease.

(a): Locally acquired infections – for West Nile virus infection, the total number of cases was used (includes probable and confirmed cases).

(b): Not all countries observed cases for all diseases.

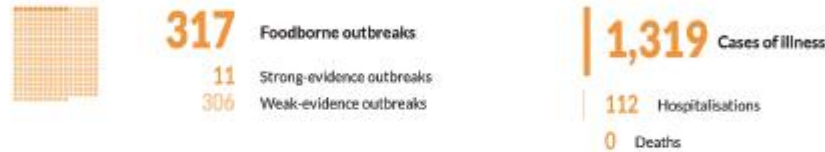
Campylobacter

Human cases

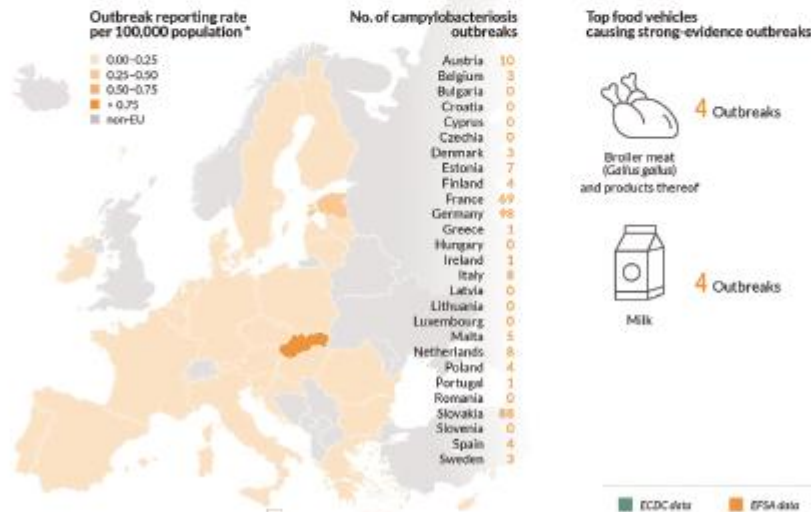
Notification rate (per 100,000 population) **40.35** Trend (2016–2020)



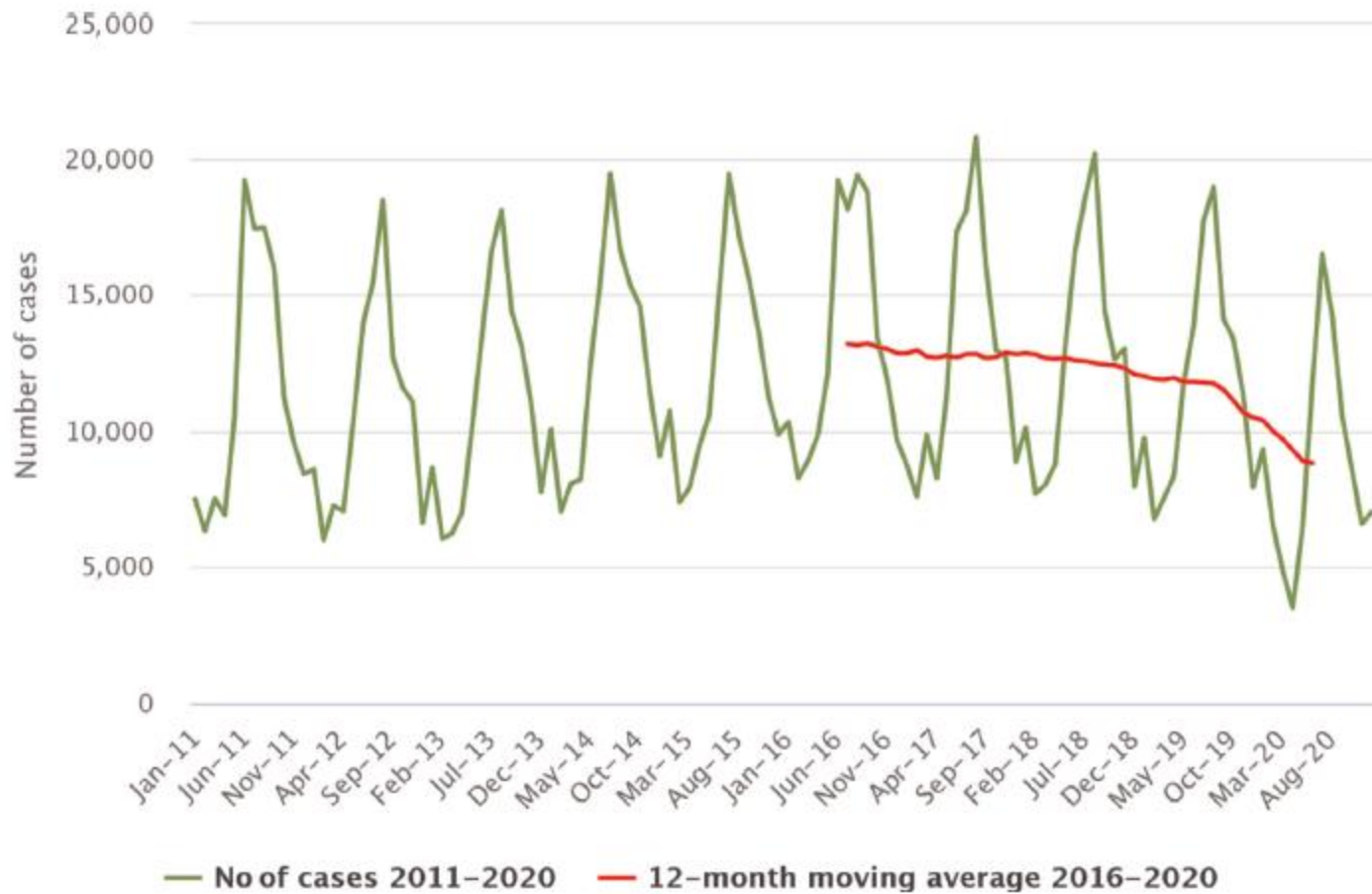
Human cases in foodborne outbreaks



Foodborne outbreaks in the EU



*Differences among countries shall be interpreted with caution as this indicator depends on several factors including the type of outbreak under surveillance and does not necessarily reflect the level of food safety in each country.



Source: Austria, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and Sweden.

Figure 2: Trends in reported confirmed human cases of campylobacteriosis in the EU, by month, 2016–2020

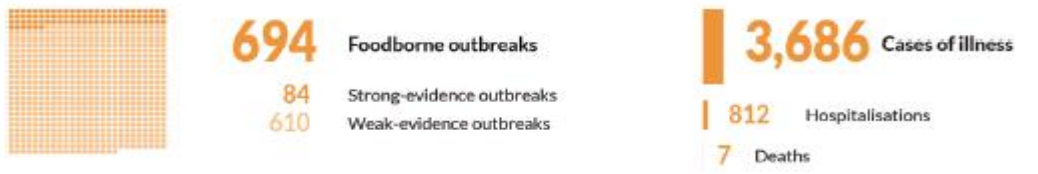
Salmonellosis

Human cases

Notification rate (per 100,000 population) **13.71** Trend (2016-2020) — — —
↑ increasing ↓ decreasing — stable



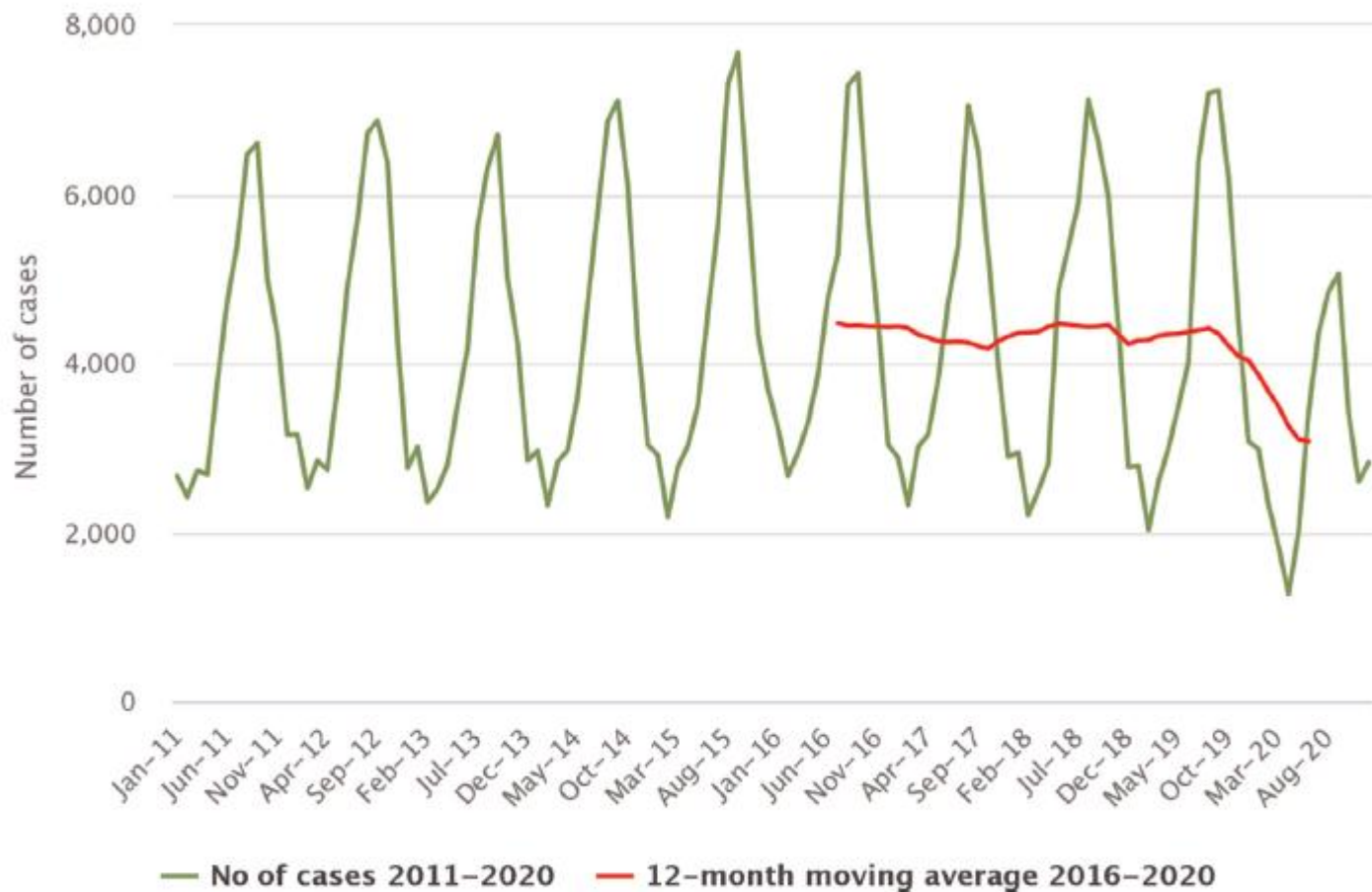
Human cases in foodborne outbreaks



Foodborne outbreaks in the EU



* Differences among countries shall be interpreted with caution as this indicator depends on several factors including the type of outbreaks under surveillance and does not necessarily reflect the level of food safety in each country.



Source: Austria, Belgium, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Greece, Finland, France, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Latvia, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Sweden, Slovenia, Slovakia.

Figure 3: Trend in reported confirmed human cases of non-typhoidal salmonellosis in the EU by month, 2016–2020

Listeria

Human cases

Notification rate (per 100,000 population) **0.42**

Trend (2016–2020) Increasing

1,876 Cases of illness

1,285 Infections acquired in the EU

5 Infections acquired outside the EU

586 Unknown travel status or unknown country of infection

780 Hospitalisations

167 Deaths

Human cases in foodborne outbreaks

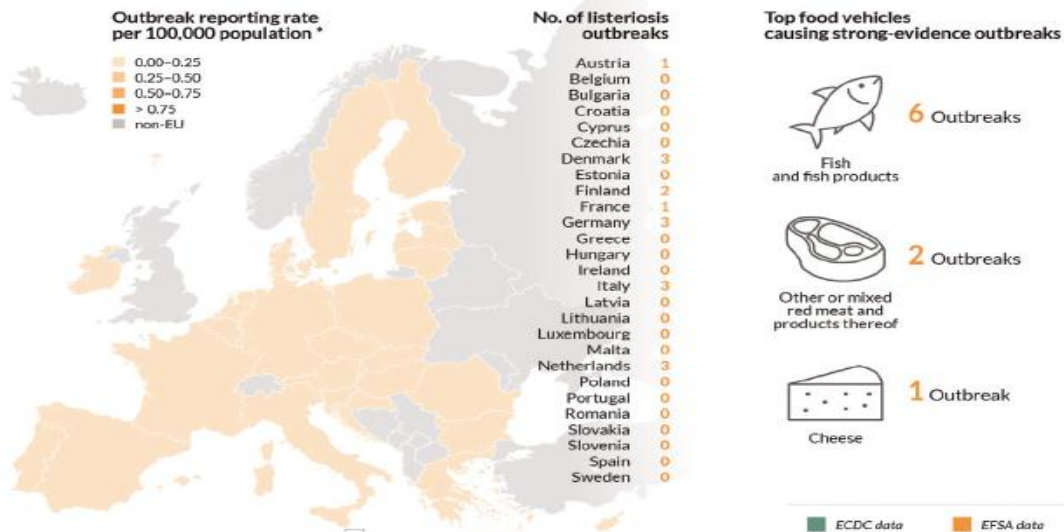
16 Foodborne outbreaks
 9 Strong-evidence outbreaks
 7 Weak-evidence outbreaks

120 Cases of illness

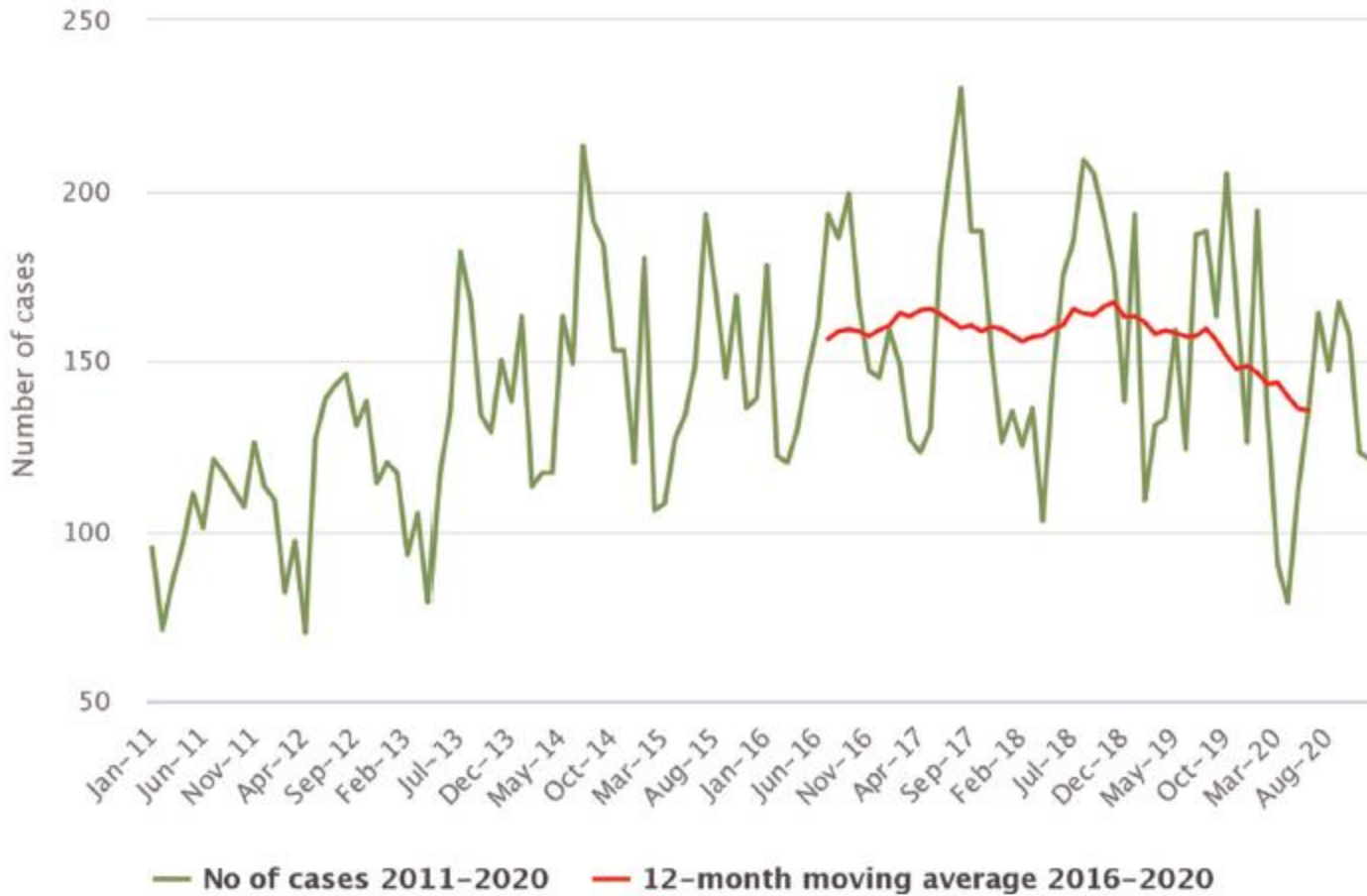
83 Hospitalisations

17 Deaths

Foodborne outbreaks in the EU



* Differences among countries shall be interpreted with caution as this indicator depends on several factors including the type of outbreaks under surveillance and does not necessarily reflect the level of food safety in each country.



Source: Austria, Belgium, Czechia, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Germany, Greece, Finland, France, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Sweden, Slovakia, Slovenia.

Figure 19: Trends in reported confirmed human cases of listeriosis in the EU by month, 2016–2020

Shiga toxin-producing *Escherichia coli* (STEC)

Human cases

Notification rate (per 100,000 population) **1.49**

Trend (2016–2020)  Increasing
 Decreasing
 Stable

4,446 Cases of illness

3,327 Infections acquired in the EU

652 Hospitalisations

148 Infections acquired outside the EU

13 Deaths

971 Unknown travel status or unknown country of infection

Human cases in foodborne outbreaks

34 Foodborne outbreaks

208 Cases of illness

5 Strong-evidence outbreaks

30 Hospitalisations

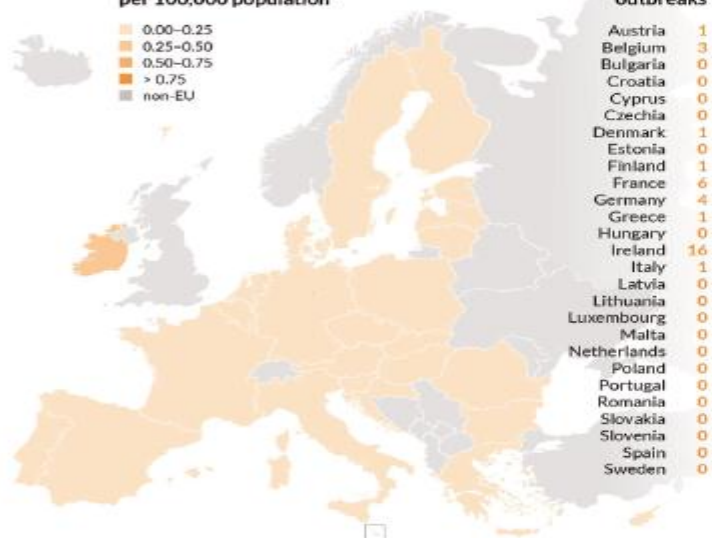
29 Weak-evidence outbreaks

1 Death

Foodborne outbreaks in the EU

Outbreak reporting rate per 100,000 population *

0.00–0.25
 0.25–0.50
 0.50–0.75
 > 0.75
 non-EU





Top food vehicles causing strong-evidence outbreaks

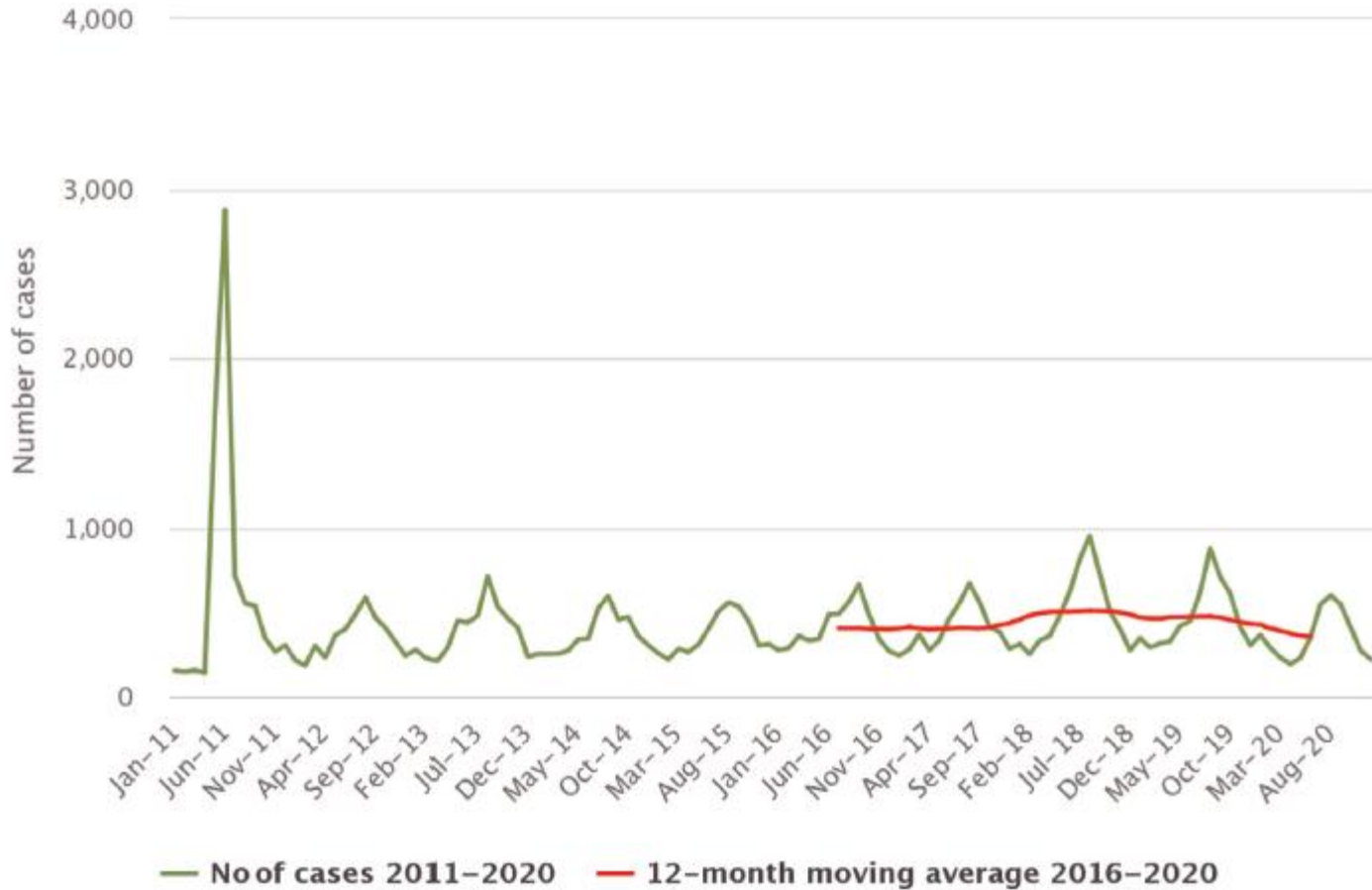
 **2** Outbreaks
 Tap water, including well water

 **2** Outbreaks
 Cheese and dairies other than cheese

 **1** Outbreak
 Other or mixed red meat and products thereof

 ECDC data  EFSA data

* Differences among countries shall be interpreted with caution as this indicator depends on several factors including the type of outbreaks under surveillance and does not necessarily reflect the level of food safety in each country.



Source: Austria, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden.

Figure 24: Trends in reported confirmed human cases of STEC infection in the EU by month, 2016–2020

Epidemiologia

disciplina che studia la frequenza e la distribuzione delle malattie nelle popolazioni, le cause ed i fattori di rischio ad esse associati, al fine di attuarne il controllo

Epidemiologia delle MTA

- osservare l'andamento delle MTA (A)
- **individuare le cause ed i fattori di rischio che ne inducono l'insorgenza e ne condizionano la diffusione (B)**
- studiare gli interventi atti a rendere maggiormente efficace il loro controllo (C)

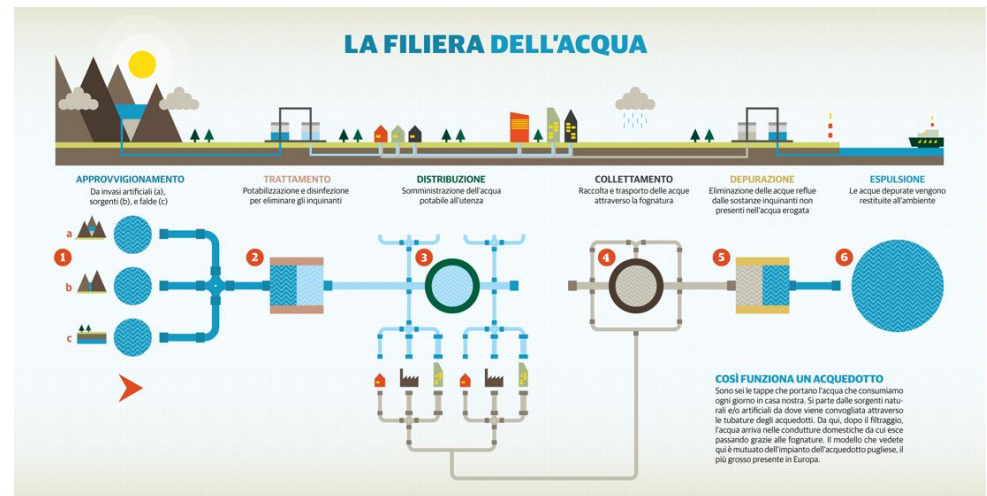
FATTORI FAVORENTI LA DIFFUSIONE DELLE MTA (FD) NEI PAESI INDUSTRIALIZZATI

- **danneggiamento o assenza di infrastrutture* in insediamenti urbani [eventi bellici, sismici o meteorologici (inondazioni o alluvioni)]**

***(impianti di depurazione dei reflui civili o di potabilizzazione delle acque destinate al consumo umano)**



Impianto di depurazione e riuso SMAT
Società Metropolitana Acque Torino a Collegno (TO)



FATTORI FAVORENTI LA DIFFUSIONE DELLE MTA (FD) NEI PAESI INDUSTRIALIZZATI

- **comportamenti della popolazione**
 - **incremento consumi alimenti non trattati**
(pesce crudo, carne cruda, latte crudo,)
 - **incremento consumi vegetali crudi** (frutta e verdure)
senza un accurato lavaggio
 - **incremento del movimento/turismo**
(viaggi in paesi con standard igienici più bassi)
 - **incremento del consumo di cibi pronti al consumo**
(ristorazione collettiva, gastronomie, venditori ambulanti)

FATTORI FAVORENTI LA DIFFUSIONE DELLE MTA (FD) NEI PAESI INDUSTRIALIZZATI

▪ globalizzazione della produzione alimentare

- **filiera alimentare corta** (produzione locale, trattamento casalingo e consumo familiare)



- **filiera alimentare lunga** (produzione centralizzata, distribuzione su vaste aree)



- **trasporto del mo da aree endemiche ad aree non endemiche**

FATTORI FAVORENTI LA DIFFUSIONE DELLE MTA (FD) NEI PAESI INDUSTRIALIZZATI

▪ tecnologie alimentari che favoriscono alcuni mo

- sottovuoto → botulismo
- refrigerazione → listeriosi

▪ fattori demografici

- aumento della suscettibilità alle infezioni a causa dell'aumento di alcuni gruppi della popolazione (anziani, soggetti diabetici, sottoposti a trapianti, a chemioterapie, a radioterapie, a terapie con cortisonici)

▪ negazione dell'esistenza di epidemie

- per non bloccare le esportazioni ed il turismo

▪ limiti della reale azione preventiva

- carenze nell'educazione degli addetti (OSA) e dei consumatori

▪ variabilità genetica dei mo

- sviluppo naturale di ceppi virulenti (*E. coli patogeni*,) o resistenti agli antibiotici (*S. typhimurium*)

▪ fattori climatici e ambientali

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41579-019-0222-5>

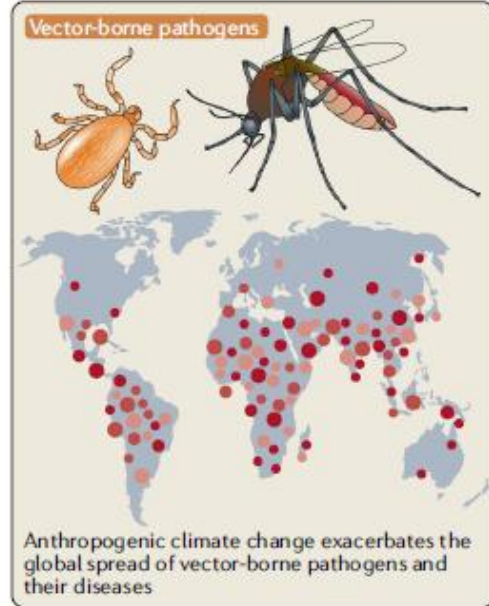
CONSENSUS STATEMENT

OPEN

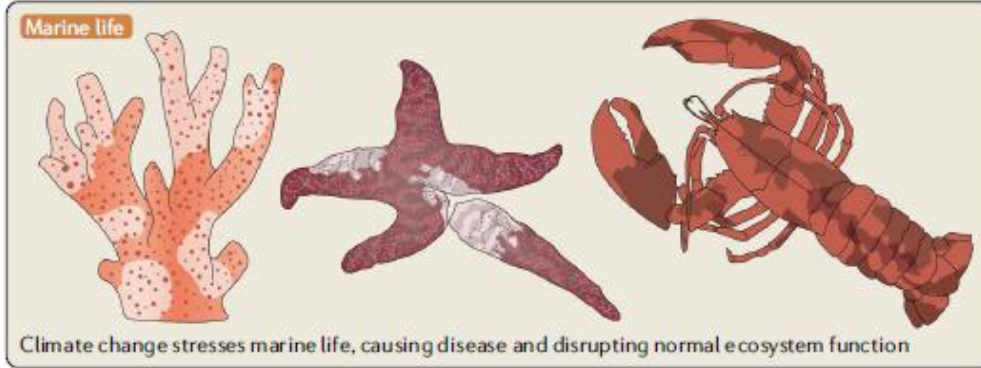
Scientists' warning to humanity: microorganisms and climate change

Ricardo Cavicchioli^{1*}, William J. Ripple², Kenneth N. Timmis³, Farooq Azam⁴, Lars R. Bakken⁵, Matthew Baylis⁶, Michael J. Behrenfeld⁷, Antje Boetius^{8,9}, Philip W. Boyd¹⁰, Aimée T. Classen¹¹, Thomas W. Crowther¹², Roberto Danovaro^{13,14}, Christine M. Foreman¹⁵, Jef Huisman¹⁶, David A. Hutchins¹⁷, Janet K. Jansson¹⁸, David M. Karl¹⁹, Britt Koskella²⁰, David B. Mark Welch²¹, Jennifer B. H. Martiny²², Mary Ann Moran²³, Victoria J. Orphan²⁴, David S. Reay²⁵, Justin V. Remais²⁶, Virginia I. Rich²⁷, Brajesh K. Singh²⁸, Lisa Y. Stein²⁹, Frank J. Stewart³⁰, Matthew B. Sullivan³¹, Madeleine J. H. van Oppen^{32,33}, Scott C. Weaver³⁴, Eric A. Webb¹⁷ and Nicole S. Webster^{33,35}

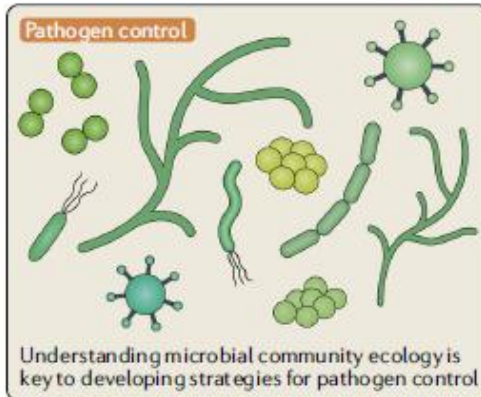
Abstract | In the Anthropocene, in which we now live, climate change is impacting most life on Earth. Microorganisms support the existence of all higher trophic life forms. To understand how humans and other life forms on Earth (including those we are yet to discover) can withstand anthropogenic climate change, it is vital to incorporate knowledge of the microbial 'unseen majority'. We must learn not just how microorganisms affect climate change (including production and consumption of greenhouse gases) but also how they will be affected by climate change and other human activities. This Consensus Statement documents the central role and global importance of microorganisms in climate change biology. It also puts humanity on notice that the impact of climate change will depend heavily on responses of microorganisms, which are essential for achieving an environmentally sustainable future.



Anthropogenic climate change exacerbates the global spread of vector-borne pathogens and their diseases



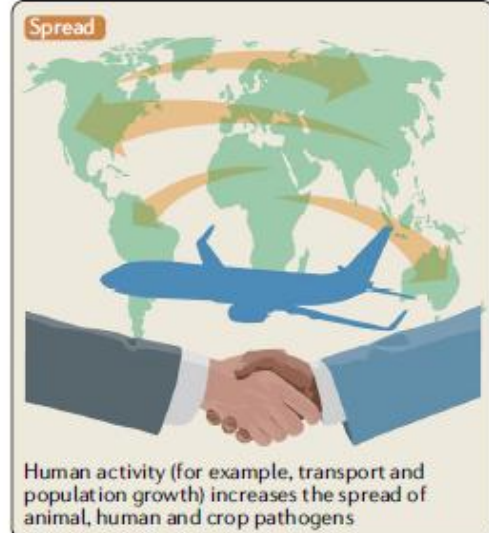
Climate change stresses marine life, causing disease and disrupting normal ecosystem function



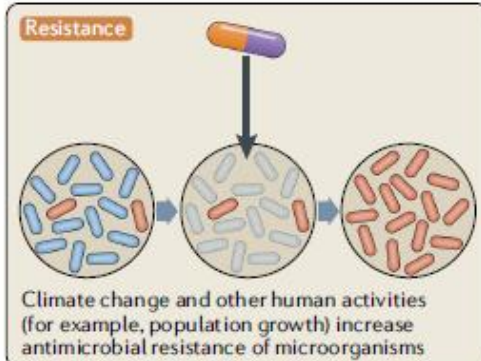
Understanding microbial community ecology is key to developing strategies for pathogen control



Anthropogenic climate change increases diseases caused by crop pathogens and threatens global food security



Human activity (for example, transport and population growth) increases the spread of animal, human and crop pathogens

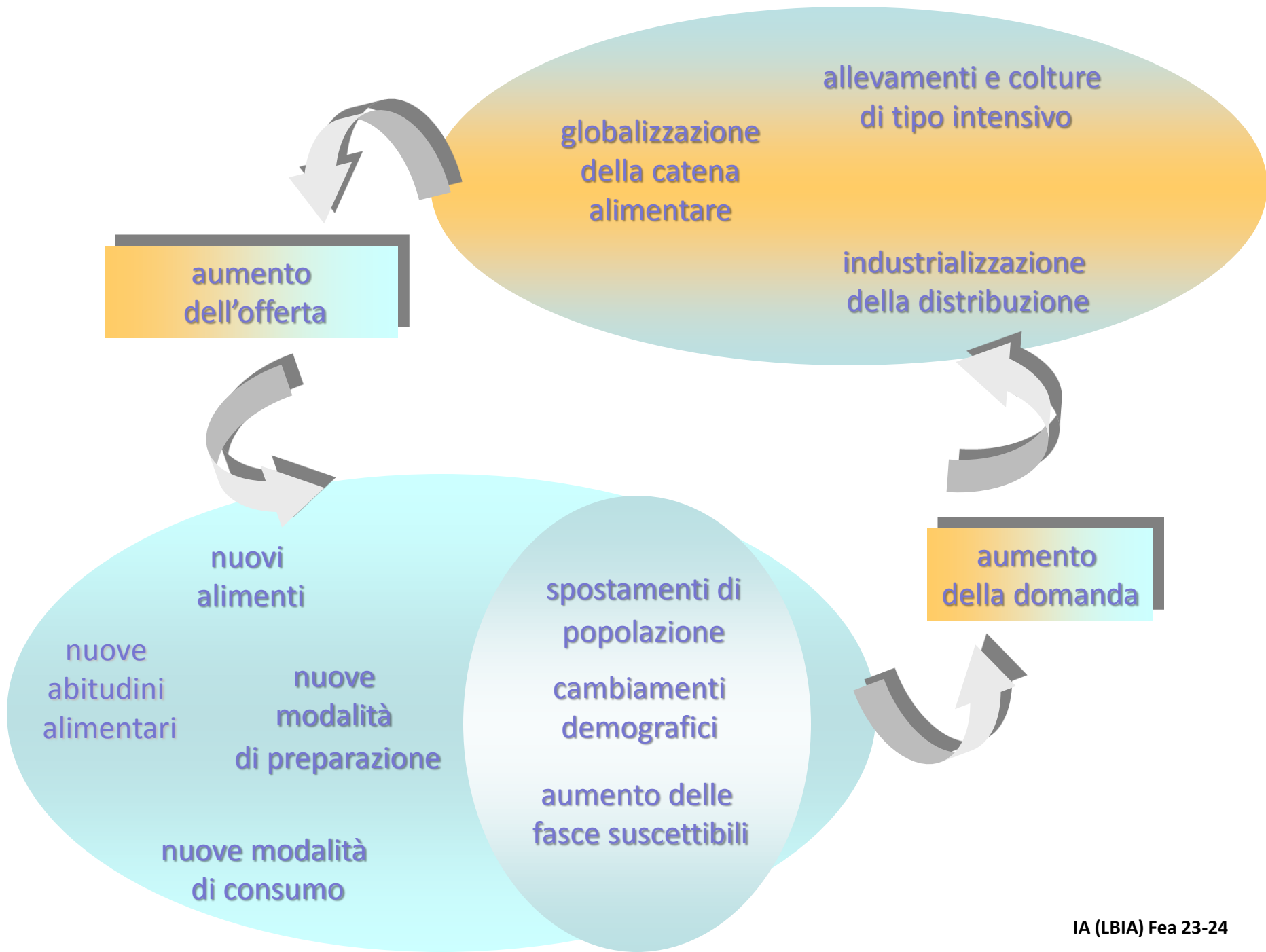


Climate change and other human activities (for example, population growth) increase antimicrobial resistance of microorganisms

Fig. 3 | Climate change exacerbates the impact of pathogens. Anthropogenic climate change stresses native life, thereby enabling pathogens to increasingly cause disease. The impact on aquaculture, food-producing animals and crops threatens global food supply. Human activities, such as population growth and transport, combined with climate change increase antibiotic resistance of pathogens and the spread of waterborne and vector-borne pathogens, thereby increasing diseases of humans, other animals and plants.

Table 1 | Transmission response of pathogens to climatic and environmental factors

Example pathogens or diseases	Climatic and environmental factors	Transmission parameters
Vector-borne		
West Nile virus	Precipitation, relative humidity, temperature, El Niño Southern Oscillation	Vector abundance, longevity and biting rate, pathogen replication rate in vector ^{273–276}
Malaria		
Dengue fever		
Lyme disease		
Waterborne		
Cholera	Temperature, precipitation variability, salinity, El Niño Southern Oscillation	Pathogen survival, pathogen replication in environment, pathogen transport ^{244,277–279}
Non-cholera <i>Vibrio</i> spp.		
<i>Cryptosporidium</i> spp.		
Rotavirus		
Airborne		
Influenza	Relative humidity, temperature, wind	Pathogen survival, pathogen and/or host dispersal ^{280–284}
Hantavirus		
Coccidioidomycosis		
Foodborne		
<i>Salmonella</i> spp.	Temperature, precipitation	Pathogen replication, human behaviour ^{239,240}
<i>Campylobacter</i> spp.		



Patologie e mo trasmessi attraverso gli alimenti (1)

inizio 1900

- febbre tifoide (*Salmonella typhi* e *paratyphi*)
- colera (*Vibrio cholerae*)
- tubercolosi trasmessa attraverso il latte crudo (*Mycobacterium bovis*)* *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* è quello trasmesso per via aerea

anni 1990 - oggi

- *Campylobacter* spp (sorgente animale - intestino di volatili, pollame in particolare)
- *Salmonella* spp (sorgente animale - intestino di volatili, rettili e mammiferi)
- *E. coli* O157:H7 (sorgente animale - intestino bovini ed erbivori)
- Norovirus - NoV (sorgente umana - intestino umano - si diffonde principalmente attraverso una persona contagiosa/malata che manipola i cibi)

Patologie e mo trasmessi attraverso gli alimenti (2)

- **patogeni occasionalmente di origine alimentare, possono essere trasmessi attraverso altre vie (acqua, ecc)**
 - virus dell'epatite A (HAV) ed E (HEV)
 - *Giardia lamblia*
 - *Cryptosporidium parvum*

- **patogeni che producono tossine dopo aver contaminato ed essersi moltiplicate sull'alimento**
 - *Staphylococcus aureus*
 - *Clostridium botulinum*

Agenti patogeni responsabili MTA

**range di microrganismi responsabili MTA:
circa 20 specie sono coinvolte nel 90% dei casi**

patogeni considerati “emergenti” in ambito alimentare

- **patogeni opportunisti** microrganismi che si sono spostati in nuove nicchie determinate dai cambiamenti della produzione alimentare e delle tecnologie della manipolazione (*Listeria* → refrigerazione)
- **agenti non rilevabili** microrganismi “nascosti” fino allo sviluppo di appropriate tecniche di coltivazione (*Campylobacter* ambiente microaerofilo)
- **nuovi microrganismi** nuovi ceppi virulenti emersi attraverso variazioni genetiche (*E. coli* O157 e *Vibrio cholerae* O139)

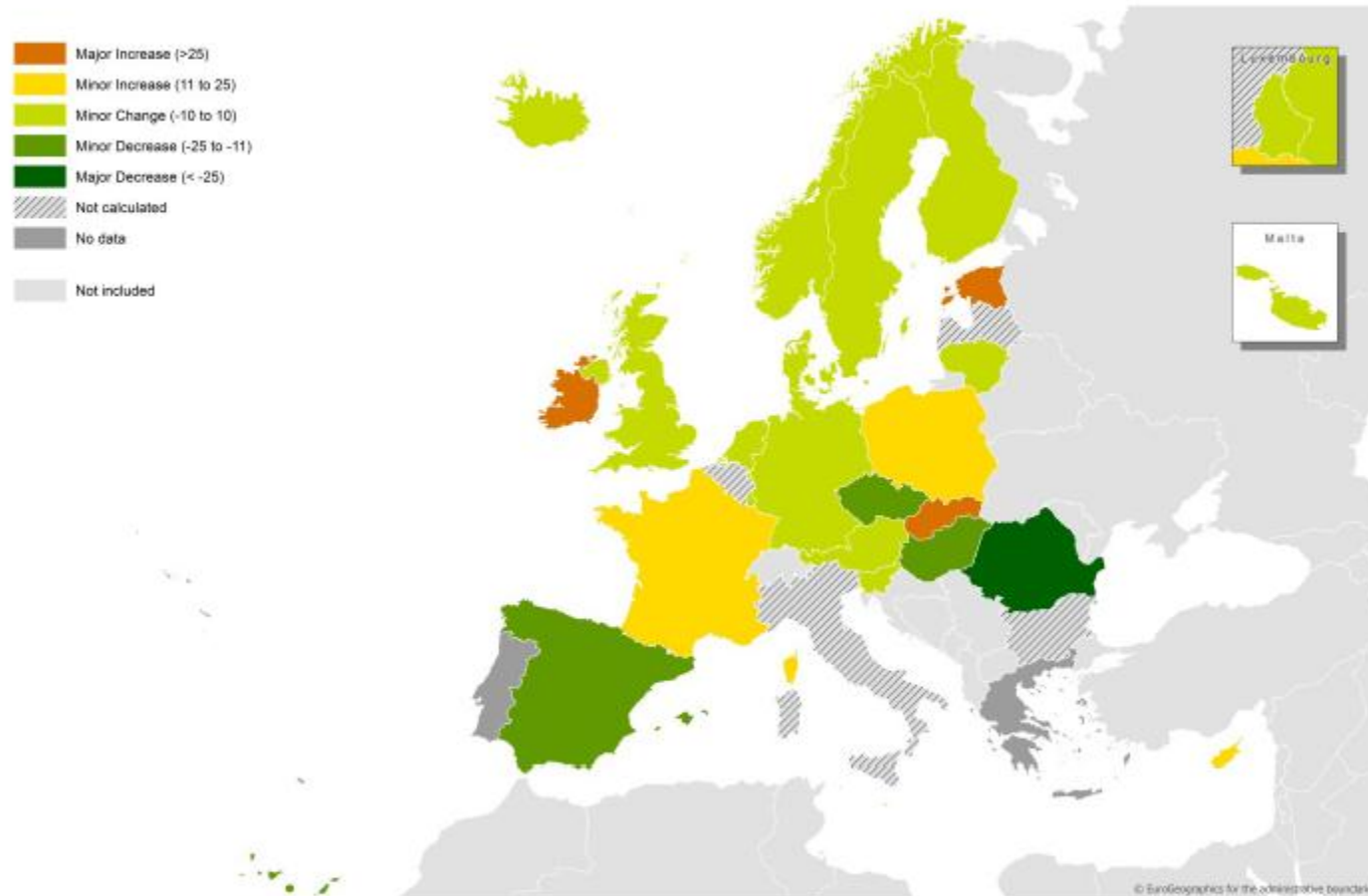
Differenze nell'incidenza delle MTA nei diversi paesi

- **variabilità nella distribuzione geografica dei patogeni**
- **diversa suscettibilità genetica del bestiame**
- **influenza delle condizioni climatiche**
- **fattore ospite (suscettibilità)**
- **abitudini culturali della popolazione**
- **educazione soggettiva**

Difficoltà nell'acquisizione delle informazioni su MTA

- **differenza nelle modalità di notifica dei dati nei Paesi**
- **solo il colera è notificato a livello internazionale**
- **differenza di notifica a livello nazionale ed anche regionale**
- **problematiche legate alla diagnosi di laboratorio**
- **bassa percezione della popolazione nei confronti delle MTA**
- **indagini inconcludenti: le autorità non hanno i mezzi e l'organizzazione per fare delle indagini corrette sulle epidemie**

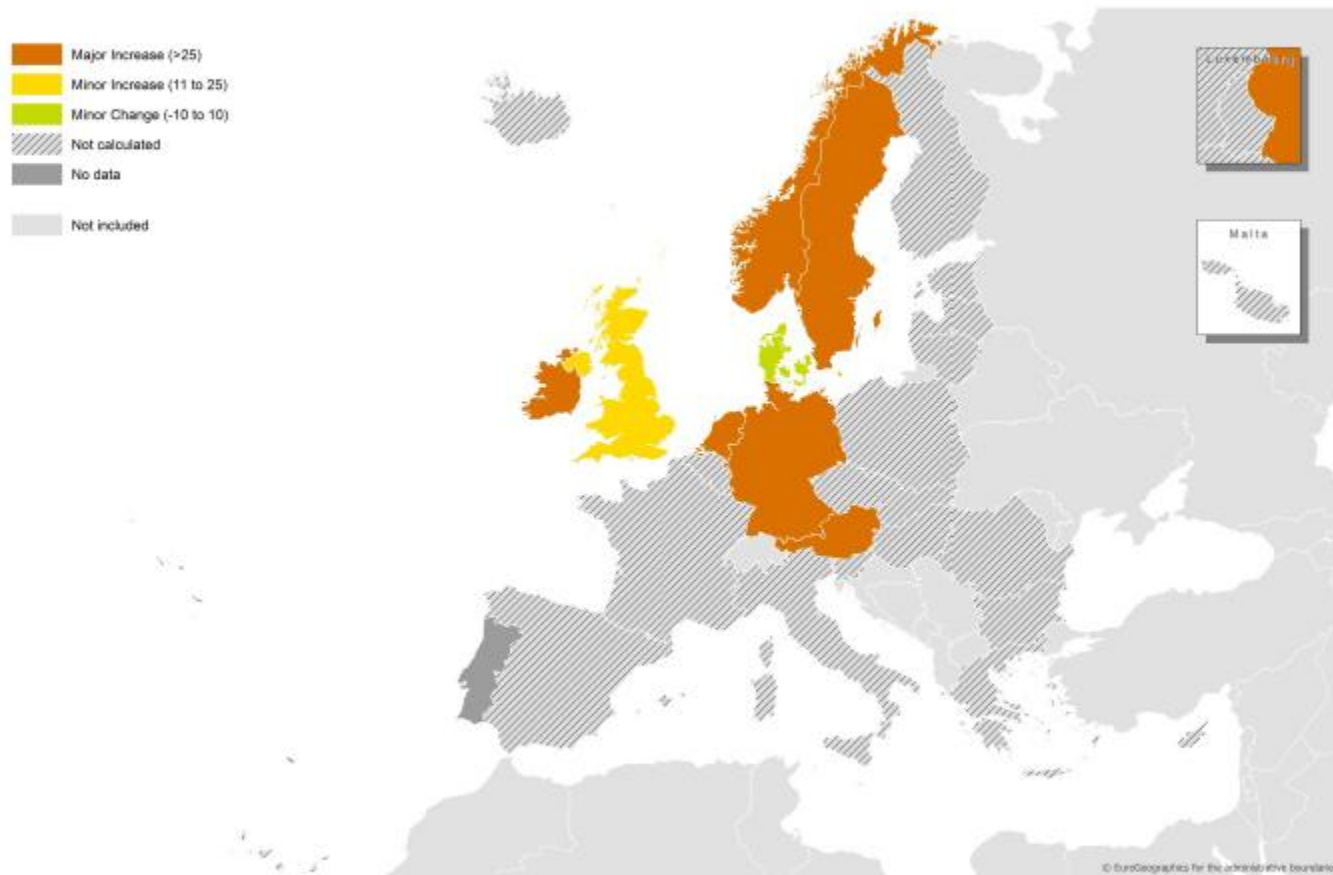
Figure 1.2. Percentage change in notification rates of campylobacteriosis cases in EU/EEA countries, 2010–2012



Not calculated: Country-specific percentage changes in notification rates were not calculated if the number of confirmed cases reported for one or more years during 2010–2012 was lower than 25, if sentinel surveillance systems had unknown population coverage, or if there was incomplete reporting for one of the reporting years.

Source: The European Surveillance System (TESSy) data, 2010–2012

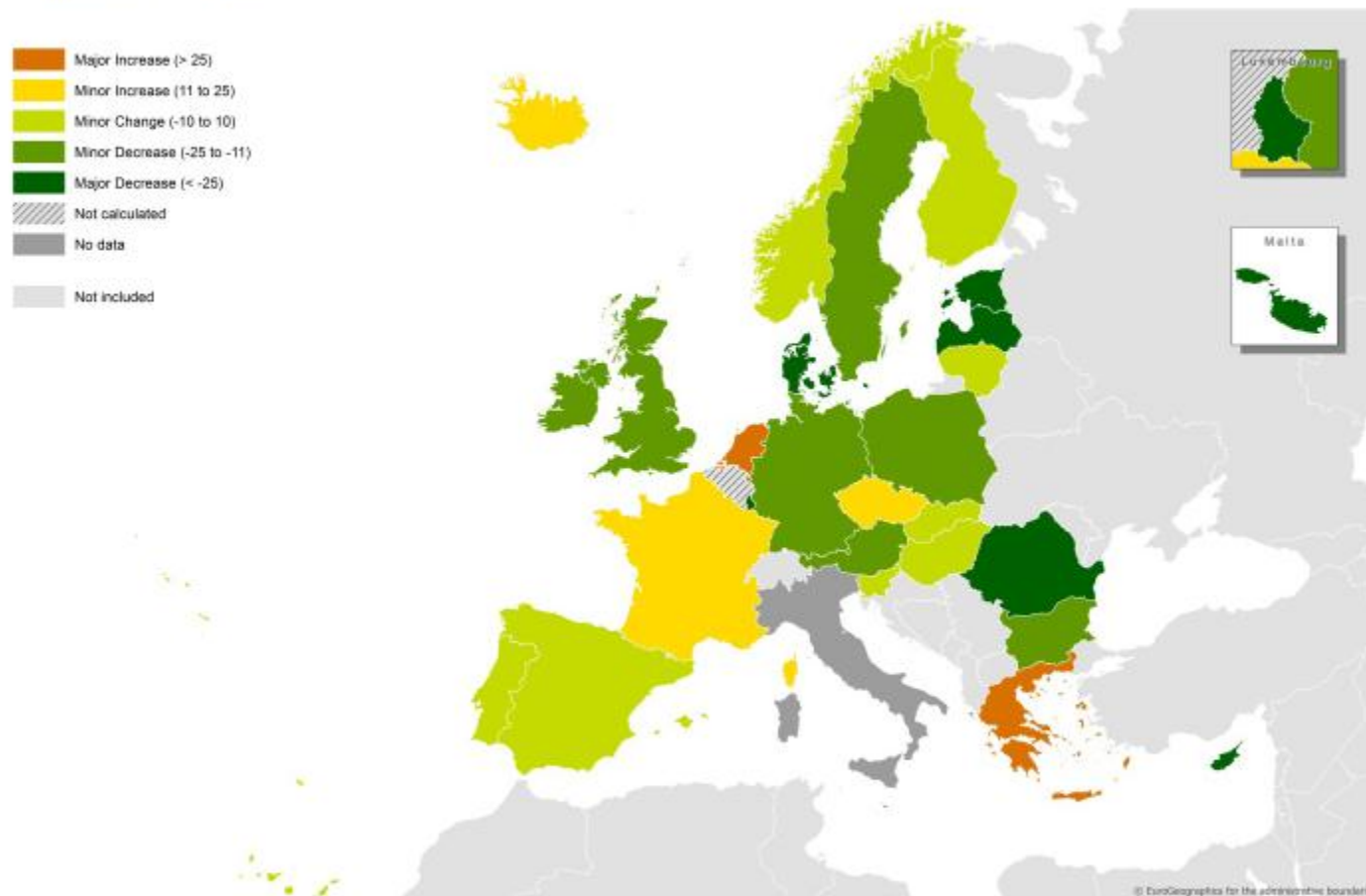
Figure 5.2. Percentage change in notification rates of STEC/VTEC cases in EU/EEA countries, 2010–2012



Not calculated: Country-specific percentage changes in notification rates were not calculated if the number of confirmed cases reported for one or more years during 2010–2012 was lower than 25, if sentinel surveillance systems had unknown population coverage, or if there was incomplete reporting for one of the reporting years.

Source: The European Surveillance System (TESSy) data, 2010–2012

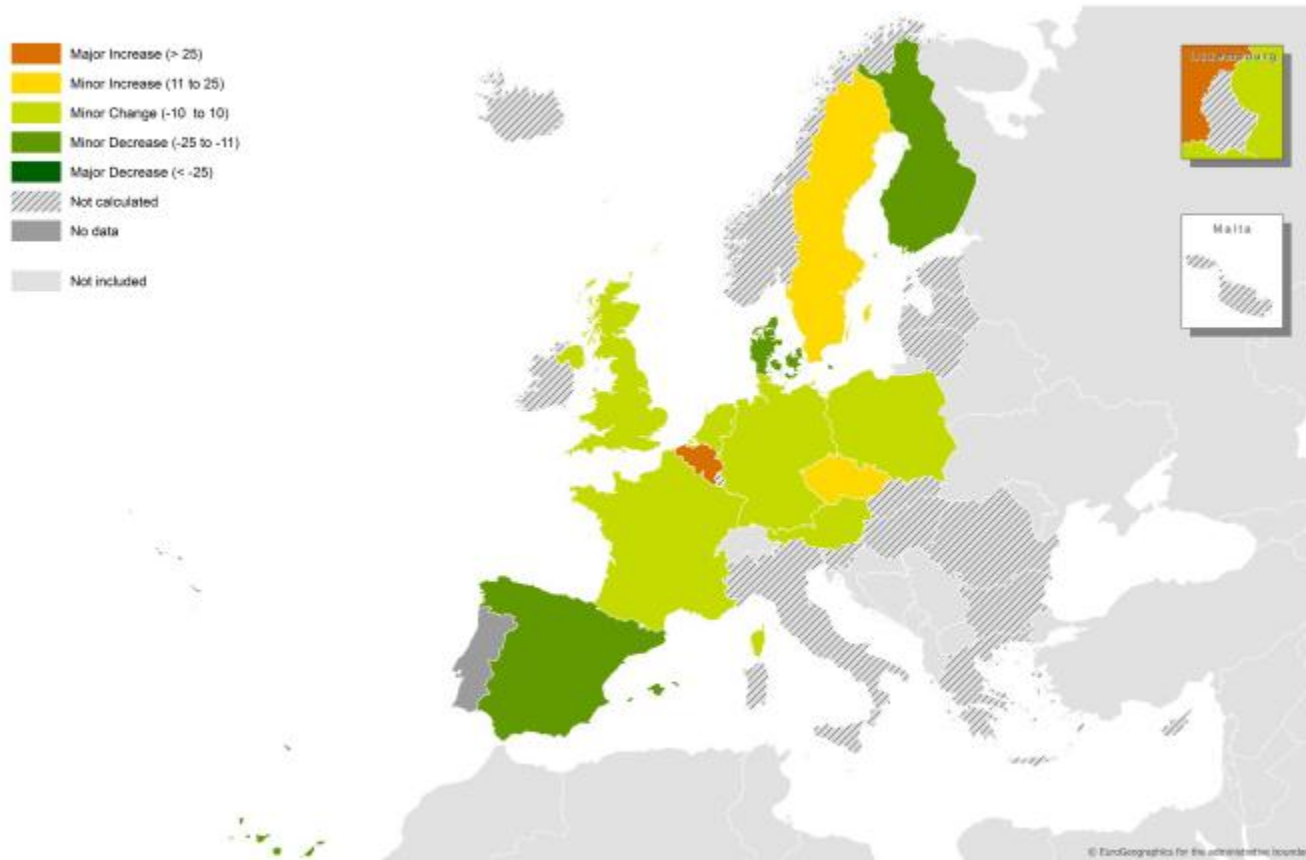
Figure 3.2. Percentage change in notification rates of non-typhoidal salmonellosis cases in EU/EEA countries, 2010–2012



Not calculated: Country-specific percentage changes in notification rates were not calculated if the number of confirmed cases reported for one or more years during 2010–2012 was lower than 25, if sentinel surveillance systems had unknown population coverage, or if there was incomplete reporting for one of the reporting years.

Source: The European Surveillance System (TESSy) data, 2010–2012

Figure 2.2. Percentage change in notification rates of listeriosis cases in EU/EEA countries, 2010–2012

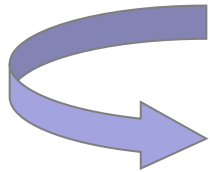


Not calculated: Country-specific percentage changes in notification rates were not calculated if the number of confirmed cases reported for one or more years during 2010–2012 was lower than 25, if sentinel surveillance systems had unknown population coverage, or if there was incomplete reporting for one of the reporting years.

Source: The European Surveillance System (TESSy) data, 2010–2012

FATTORI DI CONTAMINAZIONE DEGLI ALIMENTI

biologici – chimici – fisici
(tipologia di contaminazione)



contaminanti di natura biologica
microrganismi vitali e/o loro tossine
(batteri, virus, lieviti, miceti, protozoi)

risulta necessario che il microrganismo si moltiplichi e/o superi una certa quantità e/o produca tossine per determinare la patologia

- **contaminazione primaria:** presenza del microrganismo nell'alimento in origine o durante la produzione primaria degli alimenti di origine animale (allevamento) e vegetale (coltivazione in campo)
- **contaminazione secondaria:** penetrazione del microrganismo nelle diverse fasi di lavorazione (es macellazione), distribuzione, commercializzazione e somministrazione dell'alimento (produzione secondaria)

Fattori che determinano una MTA

1. la presenza di un microrganismo (mo)
2. la presenza di un alimento (adatto)
3. la contaminazione dell'alimento da parte del mo
4. la presenza di un numero adeguato di mo
dose minima infettante (DMI) necessaria per determinare la patologia
 - 4a batteri, miceti, lieviti → tempo e temperatura di conservazione dell'alimento
 - 4b virus e protozoi
5. l'ingestione dell'alimento contaminato (4) da un numero di mo pari alla DMI

azione di prevenzione primaria 3

→ evitare la contaminazione mo-alimento

azione di prevenzione primaria 4

→ evitare la moltiplicazione del mo