

5 FACTS

about antibiotic use in pigs

The VETSTAT monitoring system provides precise figures on antibiotic use in pigs



In Denmark, antibiotic use in pigs is monitored with the help of the VETSTAT database, which is managed by the Danish Veterinary and Food Administration (DVFA). The DVFA and official meat inspectors have access to VETSTAT, and it is actively used to monitor conditions in individual herds.

Antibiotics can only be purchased at pharmacies



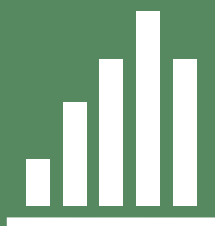
Medicine can only be purchased after a veterinarian has made a diagnosis and written a prescription. Only then is a pharmacy able to dispense the medicine. Veterinarians are not allowed to sell medicine in Denmark. This ensures that nobody profits from unnecessary medicine.

Health management system that is available to everyone



The Danish SPF system (www.spf.sus.dk) was established in 1971 and now covers over 70 per cent of Danish pig production. The system is managed by SEGES the Danish Pig Research Centre and provides information about which diseases are found at each pig farm. The specific health status of a herd is available to everyone.

In the EU, an average of 107,0 mg of antibiotics per kg domestic animal was used in 2017



The EU average conceals major differences between the individual countries. Sweden's antibiotic use was 11,8 mg per kg while Germany's use was 89,0 mg per kg. Antibiotic use in Denmark was 39,4 mg per kg (European Medicines Agency).

Pig producers in Denmark have managed to reduce antibiotic use by 32 % since 2009



Denmark is one of the European countries that uses the least reserve antibiotics as defined by WHO. In Denmark, the critical third and fourth-generation cephalosporins have been phased out since 2019. Fluoroquinolones have not been used in Danish pig production for several years and Colistin has been phased out by Danish agriculture.