

National Monitoring Plan for POAO: Data Analysis Report 2022-23 - Sampling for heavy metals

A summary of the heavy metals sampling results of imported products of animal origin (POAO) undertaken at UK Border Inspection Posts (BCPs), under the UK's National Monitoring Plan (NMP), between April 2022 and March 2023.

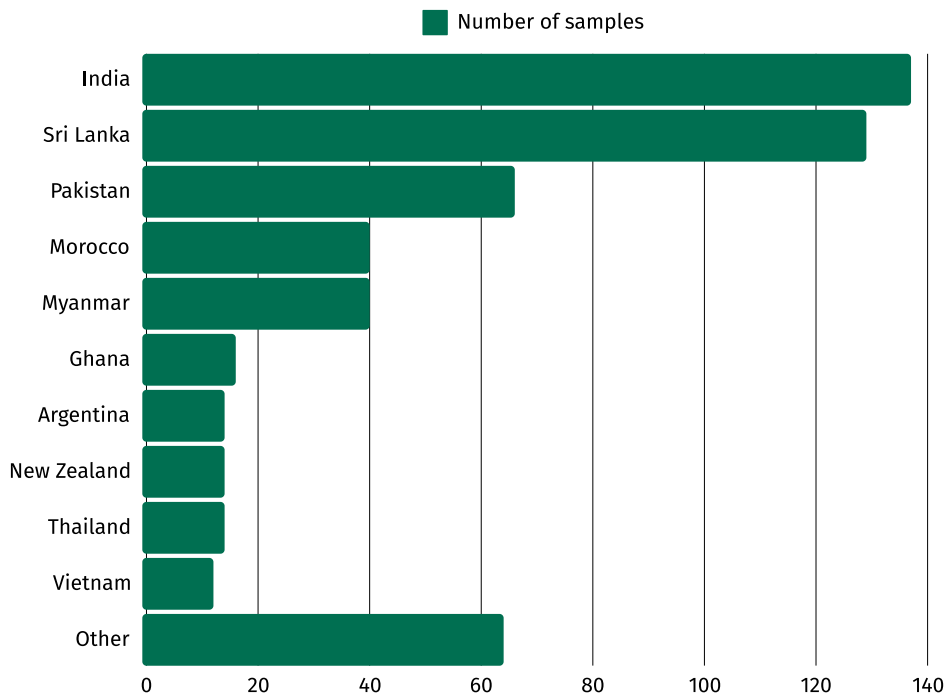
There were 546 samples from 22 countries taken and checked for the presence of heavy metals. There was one non-compliant sample for Cadmium Cd from Thailand.

The greatest number of heavy metal samples were taken from India (137 or 25%), followed by Sri Lanka (129 or 24%), Pakistan (66 or 12%), Morocco (40 or 7%) and Myanmar (40 or 7%). Countries marked with an asterisk in the table are shown together as 'other' on the chart.

Figure 9 - Samples taken by country of origin and percentage of total

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?Country of origin	Number of samples	Percentage
India	137	25%
Sri Lanka	129	24%
Pakistan	66	12%
Morocco	40	7%
Myanmar	40	7%
Ghana	16	3%
Argentina	14	3%
New Zealand	14	3%
Thailand	14	3%
Vietnam	12	2%
Chile*	8	-
China*	8	-
Ecuador*	8	-
Seychelles*	8	-
Papua New Guinea*	7	-
Bangladesh*	4	-
Indonesia*	4	-
Peru*	4	-
South Africa*	4	-
Taiwan*	4	-
Turkey*	4	-
Brazil*	1	-
Total	546	100%

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Of the samples tested for heavy metals, the highest numbers were for cadmium Cd (178) followed by mercury Hg (144), lead Pb (120) and arsenic As (72).

Figure 10 - Samples tested for heavy metals

?Hazard	Number of samples
Cadmium Cd	178
Mercury Hg	144
Lead Pb	120
Arsenic As	72
Zinc Zn	12
Chromium Cr	11
Copper Cu	8
Tin for canned products	1
Total	546

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