

Animal Welfare 2022-2023 Annex 2

Animal welfare compliance data

Total throughput and non-compliances

This data shows the total annual throughput and incidences of major and critical animal welfare related non-compliances in slaughterhouses. The table below summarises the figures for FY 2017 to FY 2022. It shows that since 2017 the proportion of animals involved in major and critical incidents has remained very low, at a fraction of 1% of all animals.

Note, for comparison purposes we can only use the data from 2020/21 onwards because legacy systems did not routinely capture the number animals processed not in compliance with welfare.

Level 3 (major) and level 4 (critical) slaughterhouse animal welfare non-compliances

Non-compliances	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/23
Total number of animals processed (throughput)	999,303,970	1,045,801,000	1,055,611,000	1,038,234,124	1,036,098,739	1,013,294,689
Animals processed in compliance with welfare	999,287,248	1,045,790,000	1,055,592,000	1,038,194,198	1,036,047,607	1,013,244,791
Animals processed not in compliance with welfare	16,722	11,000	19,000 (A)	39,926 (B)	51,132 (C)	49,898 (D)
Percentage of animals processed compliantly	99.99833%	99.99895%	99.99820%	99.99615%	99.99506%	99.99400%
Percentage of animals involved in non-compliance	0.00167%	0.00105%	0.00180%	0.00384%	0.00494%	0.00492%

(A) includes a single incident involving 10,000 birds "Gas stunning equipment not optimised" scored as level 3 for potential to cause animal suffering.

(B) includes three instances, totalling 20,573 birds of mechanical breakdowns that delayed processing. There was no evidence that the birds experienced suffering or distress.

(C) three instances, totalling 46,281 birds where food / water / ventilation was not adequately provided. There was no evidence that the birds experienced suffering or distress.

(D) 40,089 of the 49,898 animals were scored at level 3 (potential for suffering). Of that, there was an incident of 17,400 birds in which unloading was delayed, however the birds were prioritised for slaughter and did not suffer from the delay.

Back to [the Annual Animal Welfare Report 2022/23 main report](#).