

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-003153/25
to the Commission
Günther Sidl (S&D)
(30 July 2025)**

Subject: Threat to health from PFAS in food — follow-on question

In the answer to Written Question E-001626/2025 ⁽¹⁾, Commissioner Várhelyi referred to Recommendation (EU) 2022/1431, which encourages Member States to monitor PFAS in a wide range of foods, and further referred to discussions on new maximum levels ‘once these data are available’. Point 8 of the above-mentioned Recommendation stipulates that Member States should provide the monitoring data on a regular basis.

1. For which years since 2022 have full data sets been compiled in accordance with Recommendation (EU) 2022/1431?
2. What conclusions can be drawn for consumer protection from the data collected to date, and in which regions have excessively high levels of contamination been detected?
3. By when will the entire dataset, including for the current year 2025, be completed?

Submitted: 30.7.2025

**Answer given by Mr Várhelyi on behalf of the European Commission
(23 September 2025)**

The data from the monitoring of perfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in food carried out as part of Commission Recommendation (EU) 2022/1431 ⁽¹⁾ have been submitted to the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) for the samples collected in 2022, 2023 and 2024.

An updated exposure assessment that considers the data on the presence of PFAS in food that have become available since the publication of the EFSA opinion ⁽²⁾ in 2020 has not yet been conducted. Therefore, no conclusions regarding consumer protection can be drawn from the data collected to date.

The recommendation states that data submitted to EFSA should specify whether the samples originate from areas with high environmental pollution (commonly referred to as ‘hotspots’).

However, it is not anticipated that the occurrence data in food will enable to reliably distinguish the regions in the EU with higher levels of contamination from those with lower levels of contamination.

The aim of this request is mainly to ensure that any potential future review of the maximum levels considers only occurrence data reflecting overall background contamination and not specific hotspots.

The entire dataset, including samples collected during 2025, is expected to be completed by October 2026.

¹ https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-10-2025-001626-ASW_EN.html

⁽¹⁾ Commission Recommendation (EU) 2022/1431 of 24 August 2022 on the monitoring of perfluoroalkyl substances in food. OJ L221/105, 26.8.2022, P.105
ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reco/2022/1431/oj>.

⁽²⁾ EFSA Panel on Contaminants in the Food Chain (CONTAM); Scientific opinion on the risk to human health related to the presence of perfluoroalkyl substances in food, EFSA Journal 2020;18(9):6223. <https://doi.org/10.2903/j.efsa.2020.6223>.