

# **Annex C - Statement for use of the 2020 EFSA Opinion on the risks to human health related to the presence of perfluoroalkyl substances in food in UK risk assessments**

## **In this guide**

### [In this guide](#)

1. [Introduction - Statement on the EFSA Opinion on the risks to human health related to the presence of perfluoroalkyl substances in food](#)
2. [Background - Statement on the EFSA Opinion on the risks to human health related to the presence of perfluoroalkyl substances in food](#)
3. [Summary of 2020 EFSA evaluation](#)
4. [Toxicity - Statement on the EFSA Opinion on the risks to human health related to the presence of perfluoroalkyl substances in food](#)
5. [Exposures - Statement on the EFSA Opinion on the risks to human health related to the presence of perfluoroalkyl substances in food](#)
6. [Critical effects, dose-response assessment and derivation of a health-based guidance value- Statement on the EFSA Opinion on the risks of perfluoroalkyl substances](#)
7. [Risk Characterisation - Statement on the EFSA Opinion on the risks to human health related to the presence of perfluoroalkyl substances in food](#)
8. [Uncertainties in the critical effects, dose-response assessment and derivation of an HBG](#)
9. [COT Conclusions - Statement on the EFSA Opinion on the risks to human health related to the presence of perfluoroalkyl substances in food](#)

10. [References - Statement on the EFSA Opinion on the risks to human health related to the presence of perfluoroalkyl substances in food](#)
11. [Abbreviations - Statement on the EFSA Opinion on the risks to human health related to the presence of perfluoroalkyl substances in food](#)
12. [Technical Information - Statement on the EFSA Opinion on the risks to human health related to the presence of perfluoroalkyl substances in food](#)
13. [Annex A - Statement for use of the EFSA 2020 Opinion on the risks to human health related to the presence of perfluoroalkyl substances in food in UK risk assessments](#)
14. [Annex B - Statement for use of the 2020 EFSA Opinion on the risks to human health related to the presence of perfluoroalkyl substances in food in UK risk assessments](#)
15. [Annex C - Statement for use of the 2020 EFSA Opinion on the risks to human health related to the presence of perfluoroalkyl substances in food in UK risk assessments](#)
16. [Annex D - Statement for use of the EFSA 2020 Opinion on the risks to human health related to the presence of perfluoroalkyl substances in food in UK risk assessments](#)

## **Dust exposures**

1. A literature search was carried out for concentrations of PFAS in dust. There were few UK data. Therefore, data from countries in the EU where dust samples in the home had been collected, were also considered. Only studies with samples collected in homes that had median and/or maximum values were included in the exposure calculations. Tables 1 to 4 show the study information and dust concentrations for PFOS and PFOA, PFHxS and PFNA, respectively.

Table 1. Concentrations of PFOS in dust (ng/g) in UK and EU studies where samples were taken in homes, after 2008.

Region, country	Year of sampling	No. of samples	Mean LB-UB (ng/g) (SEM <sup>a</sup> , SDb or 95% CI <sup>c</sup> )	Median (ng/g)	Range (ng/g)	LOD <sup>a</sup> LOQ <sup>b</sup> (ng/g)	Detection frequency (%)	Reference
Birmingham, UK	2007 - 2009	45	450	140	3.5 - 7400		100	Goosey and Harrad, 2011
Annecy, France	2007 - 2009	10	330	160	54 - 1700		100	Goosey and Harrad, 2011
Augsburg and Michelstadt, Germany	2007 - 2009	10	310	170	47 - 1000		100	Goosey and Harrad, 2011
Ireland	2016 - 2017	32	6	0.96	0.1 - 140	0.1	63	Harrad et al., 2020
Belgium	2016 - 2017	22	NC	0.77	ND - 6.81	0.04	73	de la Torre et al., 2019
Italy	2016 - 2017	22	NC	0.33	ND - 11.9	0.04	73	de la Torre et al., 2019

Spain	2016 - 2017	21	NC	0.03	ND - 2.45	0.04	43	de la Torre et al., 2019
Catalonia, Spain	2009	10	2.8 <sup>#</sup>	2.5 <sup>#</sup>	1.1 - 12	0.13 <sup>a</sup>	100	Jogsten et al., 2012

Values are given to 2 significant figures. SEM – standard error of the mean; LB - lower bound assigns the value of zero to non-quantified data; UB - upper bound assigns the value of the LOD/LOQ to non-quantified data; SD – standard deviation; 95% CI – 95th percent confidence interval; NC not calculated; ND – not determined; LOD – limit of detection; LOQ – limit of quantification; <sup>#</sup>calculated from individual data in the published paper.

Table 2. Concentrations of PFOA in dust (ng/g) in UK and EU studies where samples were taken in homes, after 2008.

Region, country	Year of sampling	No. of samples	Mean LB-UB (ng/g) (SEM <sup>a</sup> , SD <sup>b</sup> or 95% CI <sup>c</sup> )	Median (ng/g)	Range (ng/g)	LOD <sup>a</sup> LOQ <sup>b</sup> (ng/g)	Detection frequency (%)	Reference
Birmingham, UK	2007 - 2009	45	310	190	0.98 - 4100	0.98	98	Goosey and Harrad, 2011
Annecy, France	2007 - 2009	10	52	31	15 - 220	0.98	100	Goosey and Harrad, 2011

Augsburg and Michelstadt, Germany	2007 - 2009	10	290	300	19 - 730	0.98	100	Goosey and Harrad, 2011
Ireland	2016 - 2017	32	4.7	0.42	0.05 - 83	0.05	66	Harrad et al., 2020
Belgium	2016 - 2017	22	NC	1.54	0.31 - 24.2	0.11	100	de la Torre et al., 2019
Italy	2016 - 2017	22	NC	1.56	0.21 - 53	0.11	100	de la Torre et al., 2019
Spain	2016 - 2017	21	NC	1	0.42 - 12.5	0.11	100	de la Torre et al., 2019
Catalonia, Spain	2009	10	5.4 <sup>#</sup>	4.2 <sup>#</sup>	1.5 - 36	0.16 <sup>a</sup>	100	Jogsten et al., 2012

Values are given to 2 significant figures. SEM – standard error of the mean; LB - lower bound assigns the value of zero to non-quantified data; UB - upper bound assigns the value of the LOD/LOQ to non-quantified data; SD – standard deviation; 95% CI – 95th percent confidence interval; NC not calculated; LOD – limit of detection; LOQ – limit of quantification; #calculated from individual data in the published paper.

Table 3. Concentrations of PFHxS in dust (ng/g) in UK and EU studies where samples were taken in homes, after 2008.

Region, country	Year of sampling	No. of samples	Mean LB-UB (ng/g) (SEM <sup>a</sup> , SD <sup>b</sup> or 95% CI <sup>c</sup> )	Median (ng/g)	Range (ng/g)	LOD <sup>a</sup> LOQ <sup>b</sup> (ng/g)	Detection frequency (%)	Reference
Birmingham, UK	2007 - 2009	45	450	210	7.6 - 6100		100	Goosey and Harrad, 2011
Annecy, France	2007 - 2009	10	130	77	54 - 320		100	Goosey and Harrad, 2011
Augsburg and Michelstadt, Germany	2007 - 2009	10	290	150	16 - 790		100	Goosey and Harrad, 2011
Ireland	2016 - 2017	32	1.4	0.1	0.1 - 9.9	0.1	47	Harrad et al., 2020
Belgium	2016 - 2017	22	NC	0.13	ND - 11.3	0.18	23	de la Torre et al., 2019
Italy	2016 - 2017	22	NC	0.13	ND - 3.62	0.18	36	de la Torre et al., 2019

Spain	2016 - 2017	21	NC	0.95	ND - 7.16	0.18	76	de la Torre et al., 2019
Catalonia, Spain	2009	10	0.57 <sup>#</sup>	0.45 <sup>#</sup>	0.17 - 5.3	0.003 <sup>a</sup>	100	Jogsten et al., 2012

Values are given to 2 significant figures. SEM – standard error of the mean; LB - lower bound assigns the value of zero to non-quantified data; UB - upper bound assigns the value of the LOD/LOQ to non-quantified data; SD – standard deviation; 95% CI – 95th percent confidence interval; NC not calculated; ND – not determined; LOD – limit of detection; LOQ – limit of quantification; <sup>#</sup>calculated from individual data in the published paper.

Table 4. Concentrations of PFNA in dust (ng/g) in UK and EU studies where samples were taken in homes, after 2008.

Region, country	Year of sampling	No. of samples	Mean LB-UB (ng/g) (SEM <sup>a</sup> , SD <sup>b</sup> or 95% CI <sup>c</sup> )	Median (ng/g)	Range (ng/g)	LOD <sup>a</sup> LOQ <sup>b</sup> (ng/g)	Detection frequency (%)	Reference
<b>Ireland</b>	2016 - 2017	32	0.52	0.05	0.05 - 14	0.05	9	Harrad et al., 2020
<b>Belgium</b>	2016 - 2017	22	NC	0.04	ND - 9.04	0.06	36	de la Torre et al., 2019
<b>Italy</b>	2016 - 2017	22	NC	0.1	ND - 6.54	0.06	55	de la Torre et al., 2019

<b>Spain</b>	2016 - 2017	21	NC	0.04	ND - 5.7	0.06	48	de la Torre et al., 2019
<b>Catalonia, Spain</b>	2009	10	1.9 <sup>#</sup>	0.87 <sup>#</sup>	0.4 - 37	0.038 <sup>a</sup>	100	Jogsten et al., 2012

Values are given to 2 significant figures. SEM – standard error of the mean; LB - lower bound assigns the value of zero to non-quantified data; UB - upper bound assigns the value of the LOD/LOQ to non-quantified data; SD – standard deviation; 95% CI – 95th percent confidence interval; NC not calculated; ND – not determined; LOD – limit of detection; LOQ – limit of quantification; <sup>#</sup>calculated from individual data in the published paper.

2. The exposure estimates are based on concentrations derived as an average of the median (Table 5) or maximum (Table 6) values reported in the literature.

Table 5. Concentrations derived (ng/g) as an average of the median values reported in the literature.

<b>Chemical</b>	<b>Average of reported median values (ng/g)</b>	<b>References</b>
<b>PFOS</b>	59	Goosey and Harrad, 2011; Harrad et al., 2020; de la Torre et al., 2019; and Jogsten et al., 2012
<b>PFOA</b>	66	Goosey and Harrad, 2011; Harrad et al., 2020; de la Torre et al., 2019; and Jogsten et al., 2012
<b>PFHxS</b>	55	Goosey and Harrad, 2011; Harrad et al., 2020; de la Torre et al., 2019; and Jogsten et al., 2012



<b>PFNA</b>	0.22	Harrad et al., 2020; de la Torre et al., 2019; and Jogsten et al., 2012
-------------	------	---

Concentrations are given to 2 sig. figs.

Table 6. Concentrations derived as an average of the maximum values reported in the literature.

<b>Chemical</b>	<b>Average of reported maximum values (ng/g)</b>	<b>References</b>
<b>PFOS</b>	1300	Goosey and Harrad, 2011; Harrad et al., 2020; de la Torre et al., 2019; and Jogsten et al., 2012
<b>PFOA</b>	660	Goosey and Harrad, 2011; Harrad et al., 2020; de la Torre et al., 2019; and Jogsten et al., 2012
<b>PFHxS</b>	910	Goosey and Harrad, 2011; Harrad et al., 2020; de la Torre et al., 2019; and Jogsten et al., 2012
<b>PFNA</b>	14	Harrad et al., 2020; de la Torre et al., 2019; and Jogsten et al., 2012

Concentrations are given to 2 sig. figs.

3. Dust ingestion rates were taken from the EPA Exposure Factors Handbook (2011) Exposure Factors Handbook 2011 Edition (Final Report) | Science Inventory | US EPA which had been updated in 2017. Average bodyweights for the UK populations were calculated from NDNS (18 months – 95 years) and DNSIYC (4 – 18 months) data for different age groups. These are all shown in Table 7. Two bodyweights were provided for the toddler age group: 10 Kg for the 7 - 18 months age group and 16 Kg for those aged 18 months to 4

years. As the 16 Kg represented a wider age range, that was used in the exposure calculations.

4. Exposures from dust ingestion were calculated for median and high concentrations of PFOS, PFOA, PFHxS and PFNA and mean median ingestion rates, for each UK population group (Table 8).

Table 7. Dust ingestion rates and average UK bodyweights for UK population groups.

<b>Population group (age range)</b>	<b>dust ingestion (mg/day), mean +/- SD</b>	<b>average UK bodyweight (Kg)</b>
<b>Infants (0 - 6 months)</b>	36 ± 130	7.8
<b>Toddlers (7 months - 4 yrs)</b>	41 ± 71	16
<b>Children (5 - 11 yrs)</b>	32 ± 59	31
Teenagers (12 - 19 yrs)	2.2 ± 3.6	63
Adults (20 - 59 yrs)	2.6 ± 4.2	79
Seniors (60+ yrs)	2.6 ± 4.2	77

5. For the average median PFASs concentrations in dust, the following ranges of exposures were calculated for all UK population groups for each of the compounds (Table 8):

- PFOS (59 ng/g): 0.014 – 1.9 ng/kg bw per week
- PFOA (66 ng/g): 0.015 – 2.1 ng/kg bw per week
- PFHxS (55 ng/g): 0.013 – 1.8 ng/kg bw per week
- PFNA (0.22 ng/g): 0.000051 – 0.0071 ng/kg bw per week

6. For the average maximum PFASs concentrations in dust, the following ranges of exposures were calculated for all UK population groups for each of the compounds (Table 8):

- PFOS (1300 ng/g): 0.30 - 42 ng/kg bw per week
- PFOA (660 ng/g): 0.15 – 21 ng/kg bw per week
- PFHxS (910 ng/g): 0.21 – 29 ng/kg bw per week
- PFNA (14 ng/g): 0.0032 – 0.45 ng/kg bw per week

7. For all PFASs considered, infants had the highest exposures and teenagers, adults and seniors had the lowest exposures.

Table 8. Estimated exposures for PFOS, PFOA, PFHxS and PFNA (ng/kg bw per week) for UK population groups (mean dust ingestion rates (mg/day)).

<b>Exposure (ng/kg bw/week)</b>	<b>Infants</b>	<b>Toddlers</b>	<b>Children</b>	<b>Teenagers</b>	<b>Adults</b>	<b>Seniors</b>
<b>PFOS (59 ng/g)</b>	1.9	1.1	0.43	0.014	0.014	0.014
<b>PFOS (1300 ng/g)</b>	42	23	9.4	0.32	0.30	0.31
<b>PFOA (66 ng/g)</b>	2.1	1.2	0.48	0.016	0.015	0.016
<b>PFOA (660 ng/g)</b>	21	12	4.8	0.16	0.15	0.16

<b>PFHxS</b> <b>(55 ng/g)</b>	1.8	0.99	0.40	0.013	0.013	0.013
<b>PFHxS</b> <b>(910 ng/g)</b>	29	16	6.6	0.22	0.21	0.22
<b>PFNA</b> <b>(0.22 ng/g)</b>	0.0071	0.0039	0.0016	0.000054	0.000051	0.000052
<b>PFNA</b> <b>(14 ng/g)</b>	0.45	0.25	0.10	0.0034	0.0032	0.0033

Mean dust ingestion rates: infants 36 mg/day; toddlers 41 mg/day; children 32 mg/day; teenagers 2.2 mg/day; adults and seniors 2.6 mg/day.

## **COT**

**October 2022**

**Statement Number 04/22**

## **References**

Bates, B.; Collins, D.; Jones, K.; Page, P.; Roberts, C.; Steer, T.; Swan, G. (2020) National Diet and Nutrition Survey Results from years 9, 10 and 11 (combined) of the Rolling Programme (2016/2017 to 2018/2019)

Available at: [National Diet and Nutrition Survey \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/911111/nutrition_survey_years_9_10_11_combined_2016_2017_to_2018_2019.pdf)

Bates, B.; Cox, L.; Nicholson, S.; Page, P.; Prentice, A.; Steer, T.; Swan, G. (2016) National Diet and Nutrition Survey Results from Years 5 and 6 (combined) of the Rolling Programme (2012/2013 – 2013/2014)

Available at: [Main heading \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/544111/nutrition_survey_years_5_6_combined_2012_2013_to_2013_2014.pdf)

Bates, B.; Lennox, A.; Prentice, A.; Bates, C.; Page, P.; Nicholson, S.; Swan, G. (2014) National Diet and Nutrition Survey Results from Years 1, 2, 3 and 4

(combined) of the Rolling Programme (2008/2009 – 2011/2012) Available at: [Main](https://publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/284111/nutrition_survey_years_1_2_3_4_combined_2008_2009_to_2011_2012.pdf)

[heading \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)

de la Torre A, Navarro I, Sanz P, de los Ángeles Martínez M. (2019). Occurrence and human exposure assessment of perfluorinated

substances in house dust from three European countries. *Science of the Total Environment*. **685**: 308-314.

DH (2013). Diet and Nutrition Survey of Infants and Young Children (DNSIYC), 2011.

Available at: [Diet and nutrition survey of infants and young children, 2011 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/diet-and-nutrition-survey-of-infants-and-young-children-2011)

Goosey E and Harrad S. (2011). Perfluoroalkyl compounds in dust from Asian, Australian, European, and North American homes and UK cars, classrooms, and offices. *Environment International*. **37**: 86-92.

Harrad S, Wemken N, Drage DS, Abdallah MA-E and Coggins A-M. (2020). Perfluoroalkyl Substances in Drinking Water, Indoor Air and Dust from Ireland: Implications for Human Exposure. *Environmental Science and Technology*. 53, 22, 13449–13457.

Jogsten IE, Nadal M, van Bavel B, Lindström G and Domingo JL. (2012). Per- and polyfluorinated compounds (PFCs) in house dust and indoor air in Catalonia, Spain: Implications for human exposure. *Environment International*. **39**: 172-180

Roberts, C.; Steer, T.; Maplethorpe, N.; Cox, L.; Meadows, S.; Page, P.; Nicholson, S.; Swan, G. (2018) National Diet and Nutrition Survey Results

from Years 7 and 8 (combined) of the Rolling Programme (2014/2015 – 2015/2016)

Available at: [National Diet and Nutrition Survey \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk/government/publications/national-diet-and-nutrition-survey-results)

U.S. EPA. (2011). Exposure Factors Handbook 2011 Edition (Final Report). U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, DC, EPA/600/R-09/052F, 2011.

Available at: [Exposure Factors Handbook 2011 Edition \(Final Report\) | Science Inventory | US EPA](https://www.epa.gov/exposure-factors-handbook-2011-edition-final-report)