

FOOD FRAUD INCIDENT REPORT NOV 2022 | Food categories & related products



WHERE IN THE WORLD



- 1 North America
- 2 South America
- 3 Africa
- 4 Europe
- 5 Asia
- 6 Australia & Oceania



FRAUD CATEGORIES & TYPES

- Adulteration:** Product tampering by dilution, substitution, unapproved enhancement and/or concealment.
- Mislabelling:** Product misrepresentation by false claims or distorted information on product label.
- Counterfeiting:** Fake copies of popular brands and intellectual property infringements.
- Grey market:** Illegal trade including smuggling, diversion, theft and contraband products.
- Document forgery:** Falsified or fraudulent documentation.



FISH & SEAFOOD

- 2 Columbia:** Shark meat (mainly fins) illegally fished for the black market
- 4 Italy:** Seafood illegally fished or without traceability documentation
- Italy:** Cans of generic tuna fish mislabelled as a more expensive variety of tuna
- Italy:** Study performed on the mislabelling of seafood products sold on the Italian market revealed a mislabelling rate of 28.4%
- UK:** Fish species, cut, weight and freshness were misrepresented
- 5 Hong Kong:** Contraband hairy crabs (Chinese mitten crab) without health certificates, and contraband dried seafood



NUTRITIVE (INCL. SYRUPS) & NON-NUTRITIVE SWEETENERS

- 5 Bangladesh:** Sugar stored illegally



LEGUMES & PULSES

- 2 Argentina:** Smuggled soybeans and contraband beans



FRUITS & VEGETABLES

- 2 Paraguay:** Contraband tomatoes and bell peppers



CEREALS & GRAINS

- 2 Argentina:** Contraband corn
- 5 India:** Contraband rice meant for the Public Distribution System
- India:** Rice misbranded as basmati rice, with labels and packaging mimicking those of another brand
- India:** Contraband wheat and flour



HERBS, SPICES & SEASONINGS

- 5 Pakistan:** Spices adulterated with range of substances, such as bran, oil, flour, rice and harmful dyes
- Pakistan:** Red chili adulterated with substandard colours and other hazardous ingredients
- Pakistan:** Adulterated fennel and cumin seized
- India:** Cinnamon adulterated with non-food-grade cassia cinnamon



FATS & OILS

- 2 Brazil:** Compound oil (soybean oil and other vegetable oils) mislabelled as containing olive oil
- 5 India:** 27% of 56 samples of cooking oil and other food items found to be adulterated or with false claims; palm olein oil was mixed in sunflower and soyabean oil, rice bran oil was mixed in mustard oil, and vegetable oil was mixed in products claimed to be milk cream and ghee



MILK & DAIRY

- 1 Costa Rica:** Cheese without veterinary certificates
- 4 Italy:** Modification of dairy product labels and expiry dates
- 5 Pakistan:** Milk adulterated with a range of substances, such as hazardous chemicals, ghee, whey powder and oil



UNSPECIFIED FOOD

- 2 Bolivia:** Contraband food



ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

- 1 Mexico:** Alcoholic beverages with fake labels from famous brands
- 2 Columbia:** Clandestine factory illegally producing alcohol
- Columbia:** Contraband alcohol
- Ecuador:** Illegal liquor
- 4 Ireland:** Contraband beer and wine
- 5 India:** Contraband liquor and Indian-made foreign liquor (IMFL)
- Indonesia:** Contraband whiskey and vodka
- Turkey:** A number of people died after consuming alcohol adulterated with methanol



COFFEE

- 1 USA:** World's largest coffeehouse chain suspected of adding high levels of potassium to some of its "100% Arabica Coffee"
- 5 India:** Trader jailed for selling adulterated coffee with misrepresentative labelling, such as the caffeine content



MEAT & POULTRY

- 2 Paraguay:** Contraband beef from Argentina
- 4 France:** Spanish pork ready to be smuggled to Switzerland
- Italy:** Meat products (beef or pork) without traceability documentation
- UK:** Restaurateur fined after analysis revealed the meat in a lamb curry was 50% beef
- 5 Pakistan:** Meat ready to be illegally supplied to city markets and restaurants
- Hong Kong:** Contraband frozen meat



TEA

- 4 UK:** Businessman accused of misrepresenting tea origin as Scotland



CONFECTIONERY & SNACKS

- 1 USA:** Sweets and snacks with packages resembling those of well-known brands; products also contained tetrahydrocannabinol (THC)