

Annex

Request

1, How many vegan and vegetarian products have been recalled in the last twelve months as a result of meat being present?

2, How many vegan and vegetarian products were recalled in 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014 as a result of meat being present?

3, Which particular vegetarian/vegan food has been recalled the most over the past five years as a result of meat being present (Eg packets of onions, bean burgers, sources etc)?

4, If you are able to break down this data by region of the country too please do so.

Response

With regard to the above request, please see below information as requested. The information provided relates to issues with allergen labelling, and the majority required an allergy alert to be issued by the FSA. Guidance on when the FSA should be notified by a business or Local Authority is available on the FSA website. It is the responsibility of Food Business Operators to recall foods that are unsafe. The FSA provide Risk Management advice and share information about a food recall by publishing a Product Recall Information Notice or an Allergy Alert.

Please note:

- The FSA does not record whether recalled products were labelled as being 'vegetarian' or 'vegan' in most cases as this is not a safety issue, so we are unable to say how many products specifically labelled as such have been recalled. We will only hold this information where these terms might be part of the product's title or where the incorrect use of those terms on the labelling is the reason for the recall.
- Often, the presence of meat or fish in a product might indicate that a production, labelling or packaging fault may have taken place. This could introduce allergens (including fish or crustaceans) associated to the fault.
- However, we have provided information for the products that were recalled and contained undeclared non-vegan/vegetarian products such as meat, crustaceans, fish, etc. These products would not be suitable for consumers expecting a vegan or vegetarian product.
- The FSA publishes all food recalls that result in the FSA issuing a food alert to make consumers aware of an issue with a particular product. These can be found on our website at the link <https://www.food.gov.uk/news-alerts/search/alerts>
- The FSA does not break down recalls by regions and most recalls will involve affected products being distributed UK wide.

Year	Number of Recalls	Product Type	Region
2014	1	Stuffed Green Olives (undeclared fish)	National
2015	3	1. Cheese & Onion Pasty (undeclared fish)	National
		2. Empanada (undeclared crustaceans – prawns)	
		3. Thai Take-Away (undeclared fish)	
2016	6	1. Sauces (undeclared molluscs – oyster)	National
		2. Soup (undeclared meat - chicken)	
		3. Crackers (undeclared crustaceans – prawns)	
		4. Pasta (undeclared meat - chicken)	
		5. Pattie (undeclared fish)	
		6. Bruschetta (undeclared fish)	
2017	4	1. Spring Rolls (undeclared crustaceans – prawns)	National
		2. Samosas (undeclared meat - chicken)	
		3. Sushi (undeclared fish and crustaceans – prawns)	
		4. Cupcakes (undeclared fish)	
2018	2	1. Supplements (undeclared fish, molluscs and crustaceans)	National
		2. Crisps (undeclared meat - chicken)	
2019	1	Spring rolls (undeclared meat – duck)	National