



CIVIL DIALOGUE GROUP ANIMAL PRODUCTS (CDG)

Poultry and eggs
17 May 2021

EFSA ECDC EURL scientific reports on the latest epidemic of avian influenza

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Trusted science for safe food

Avian influenza monitoring reports

- Quarterly reports up to 2020 and outside the EU

- Joint

- 15 reports

SCIENTIFIC REPORT

APPROVED: 19 November 2020

doi:10.2903/j.efsa.2020.6379

Avian influenza

Cornelia Adlhoch, Alice Fusaro, José L Gonzales, Thijs Kuiken, Stefano Marangon, Éric Niqueux, Christoph Staubach, Krzysztof Smietanka, Calogero Terregino, Yves Van der Stede, Inma Aznar, and Francesca Baldinelli

SCIENTIFIC REPORT

APPROVED: 10 December 2020

doi:10.2903/j.efsa.2020.6379

Avian influenza

Cornelia Adlhoch, Alice Fusaro, José L Gonzales, Thijs Kuiken, Stefano Marangon, Éric Niqueux, Christoph Staubach, Calogero Terregino and Francesca Baldinelli

SCIENTIFIC REPORT



APPROVED: 25 February 2021

doi:10.2903/j.efsa.2021.6497

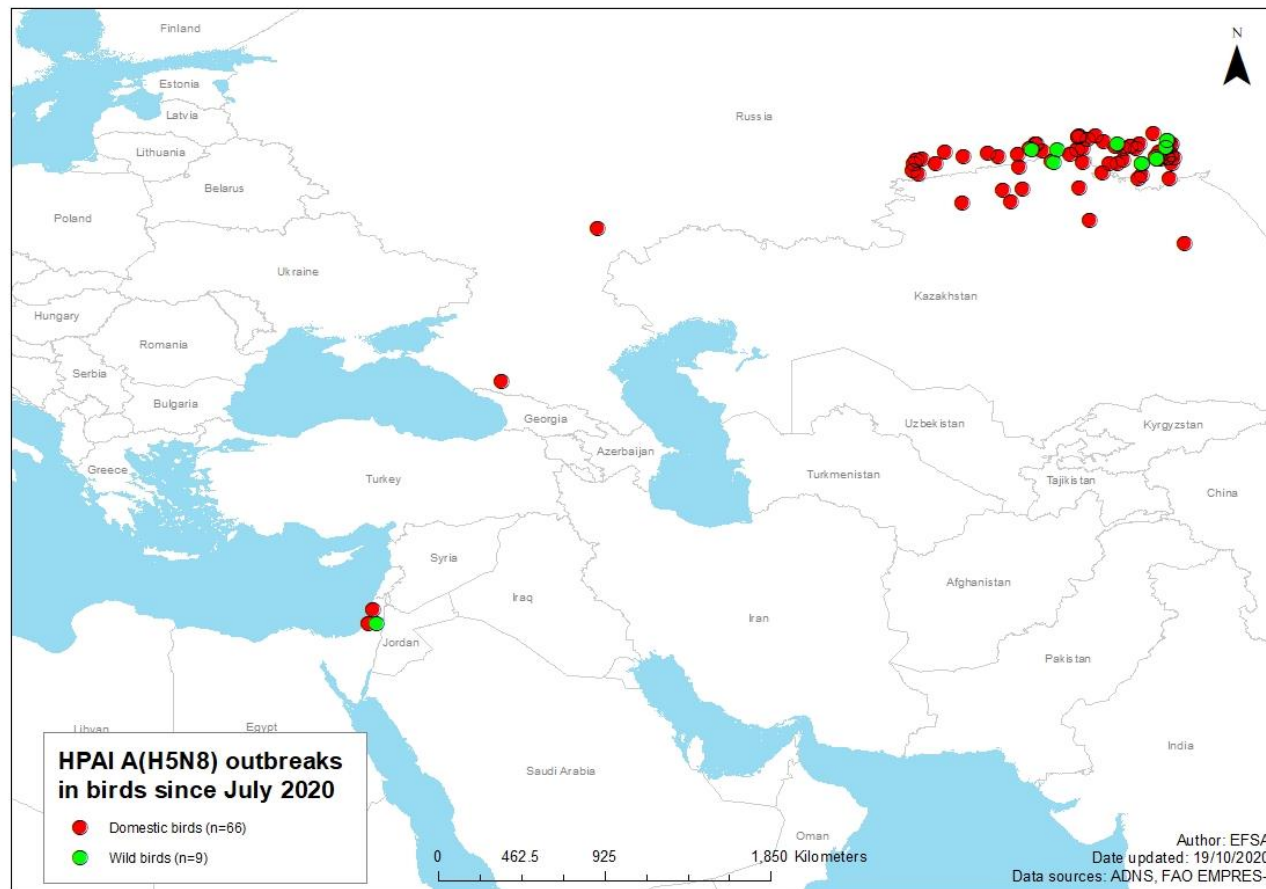
Avian influenza overview December 2020 – February 2021

European Food Safety Authority,
European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control and
European Union Reference Laboratory for Avian Influenza

Cornelia Adlhoch, Alice Fusaro, José L Gonzales, Thijs Kuiken, Stefano Marangon, Éric Niqueux, Christoph Staubach, Calogero Terregino, Irene Muñoz Guajardo, Eliana Lima and Francesca Baldinelli

HPAI outside Europe in summer 2020

Between July and October 2020, 75 HPAI A(H5N8) outbreaks have been detected in Russia (n=61), Kazakhstan (n=11) and Israel (n=3)

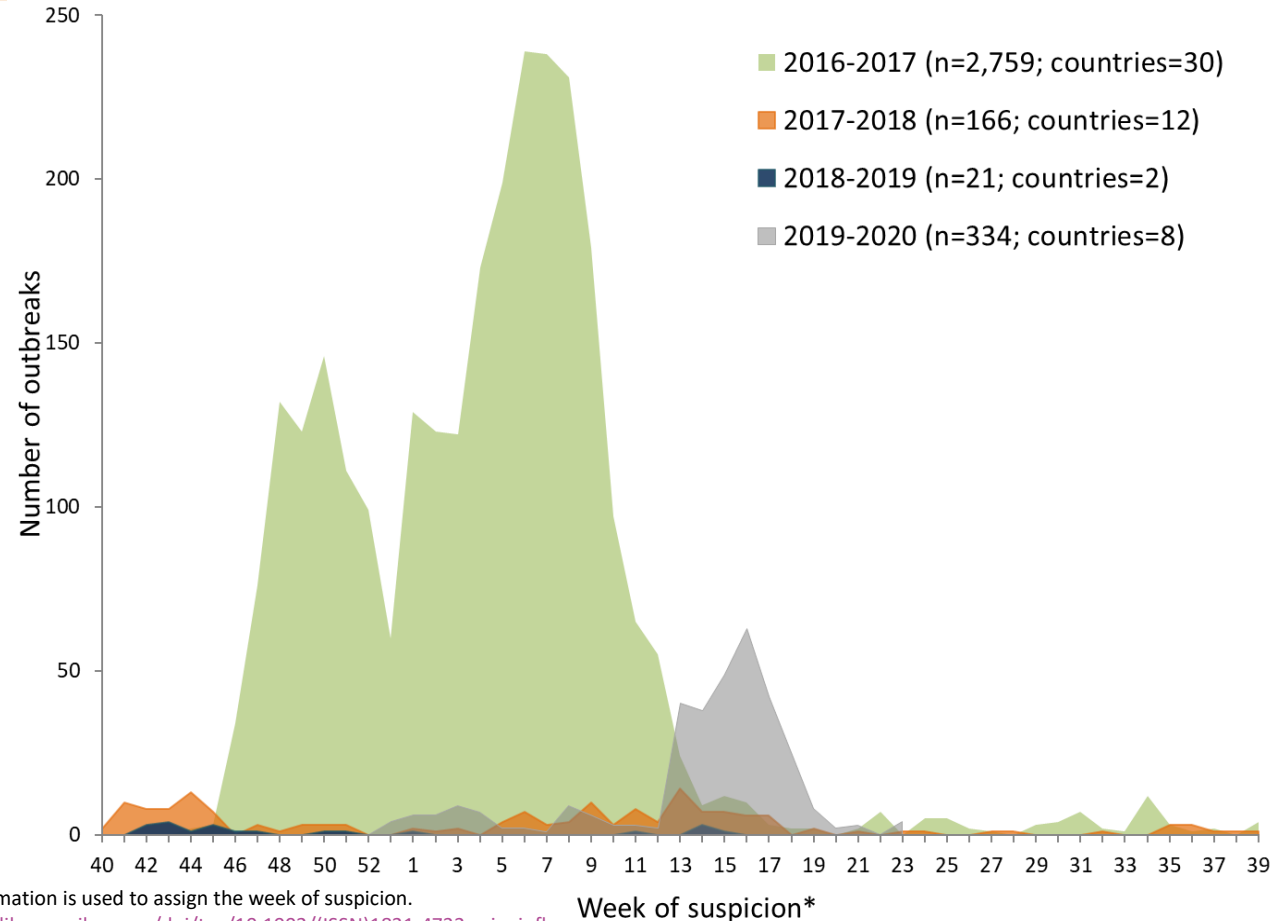


ESFA launched an alert and recommended to stay vigilant:

- The presence of HPAI virus in western Russia and north Kazakhstan spatially associated with autumn migration routes of wild waterbirds are of **concern for the possible spread of the virus** via wild birds migrating to the EU
- Member States should take appropriate measures to **promptly detect suspected cases** of HPAI virus and to **increase biosecurity measures**

Number of HPAI outbreaks by week of suspicion and season, 2016/17-2020/21, EU/EEA and the UK

- Distribution of total number of HPAI virus detections reported in Europe by epidemic seasons and by week of suspicion
- 28 September 2016 – 15 August 2021 (n=3,280)

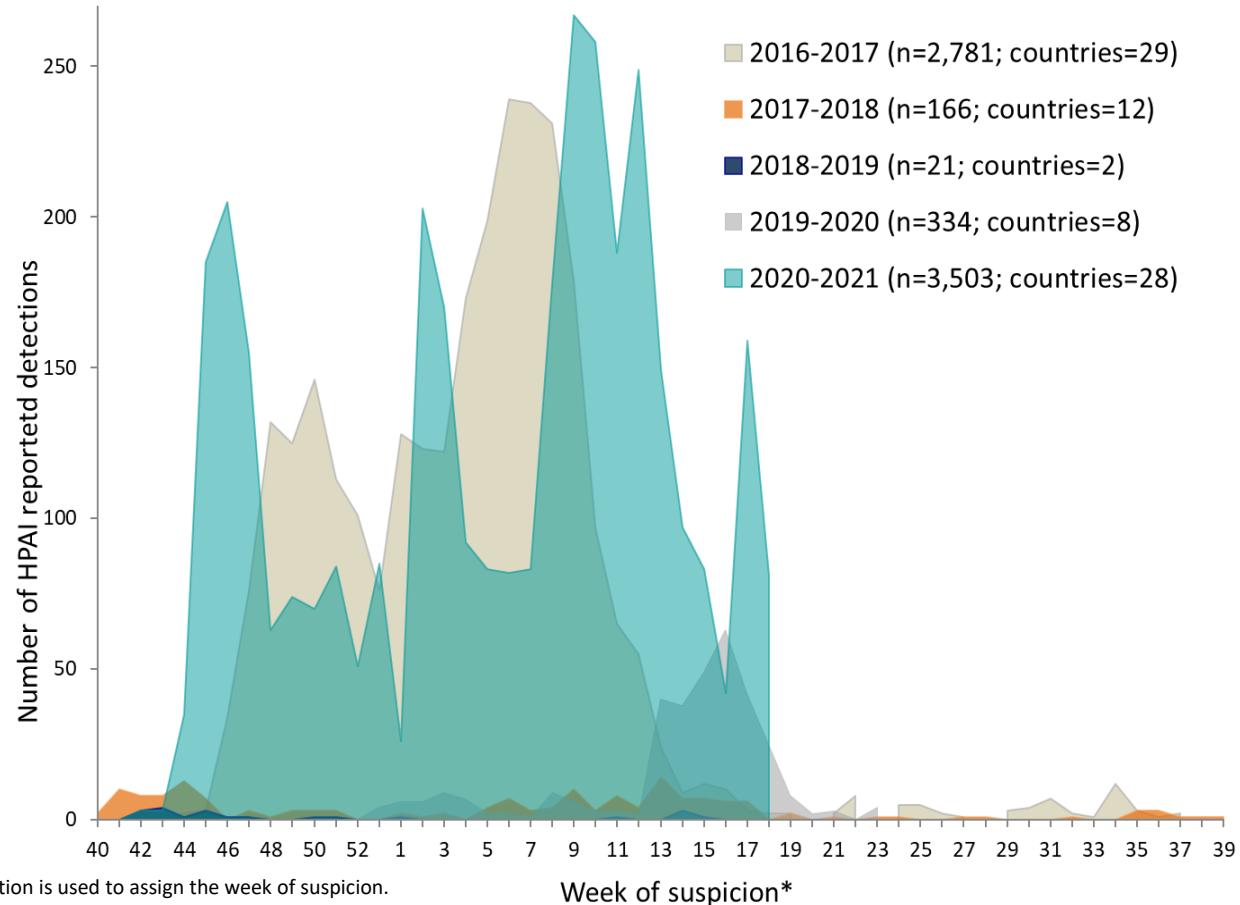


*When the date of suspicion is not available then the date of confirmation is used to assign the week of suspicion.

Source: EFSA/ECDC/EURL avian influenza reports [https://efsa.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/toc/10.1002/\(ISSN\)1831-4732.avianinfluenza](https://efsa.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/toc/10.1002/(ISSN)1831-4732.avianinfluenza)

Number of HPAI outbreaks by week of suspicion and season, 2016/17-2020/21, EU/EEA and the UK

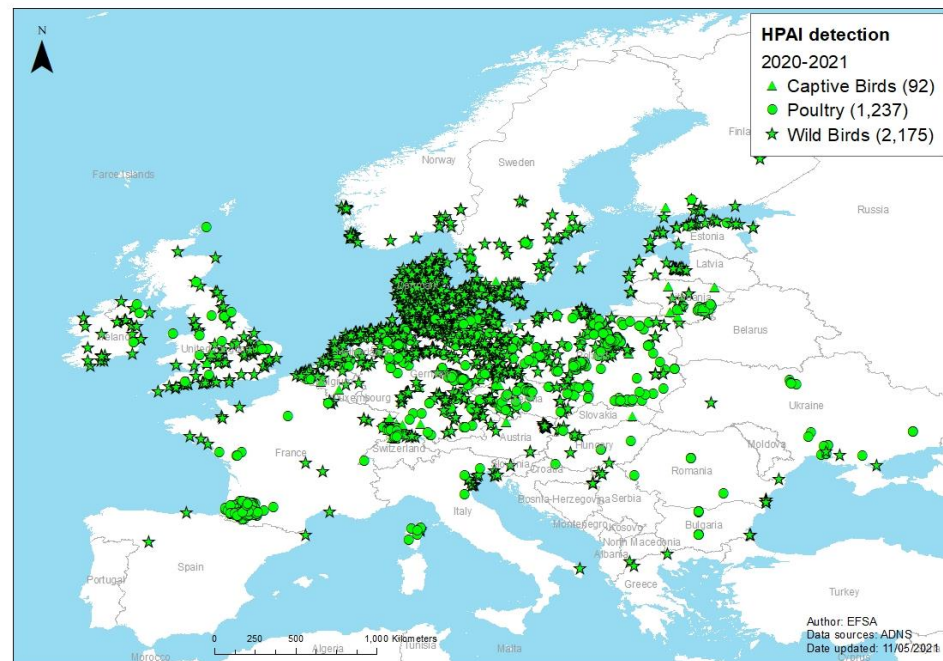
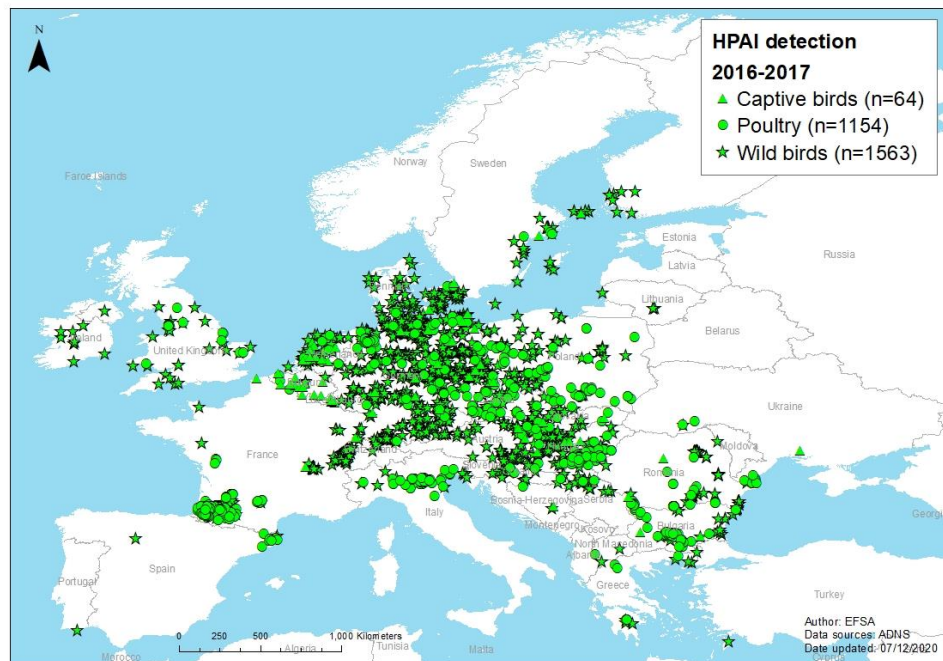
- Distribution of total number of HPAI virus detections reported in Europe by epidemic seasons and by week of suspicion
- 28 September 2016 – 10 May 2021 (n=6,805)



*When the date of suspicion is not available then the date of confirmation is used to assign the week of suspicion.

Source: EFSA/ECDC/EURL avian influenza reports [https://efsa.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/toc/10.1002/\(ISSN\)1831-4732.avianinfluenza](https://efsa.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/toc/10.1002/(ISSN)1831-4732.avianinfluenza)

HPAI detections, 2016/17 and 2020/21



* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status and is in line with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 and the International Court of Justice Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence.

Source: EFSA/ECDC/EURL avian influenza reports [https://efsa.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/toc/10.1002/\(ISSN\)1831-4732.avianinfluenza](https://efsa.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/toc/10.1002/(ISSN)1831-4732.avianinfluenza)

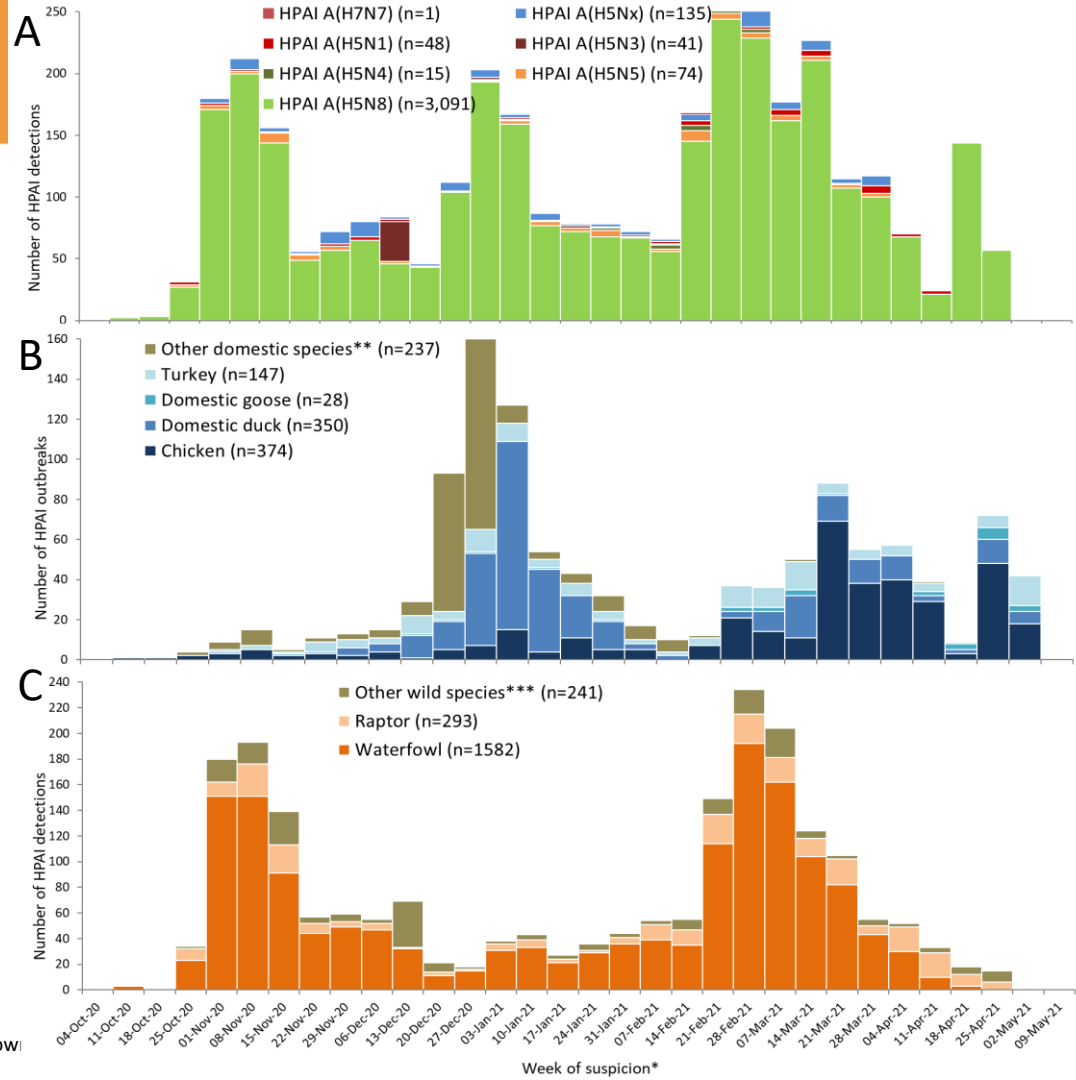
Distribution of HPAI detections

Distribution of total number of HPAI virus detections reported in Europe by week of suspicion (dates indicate the first day of the week) and

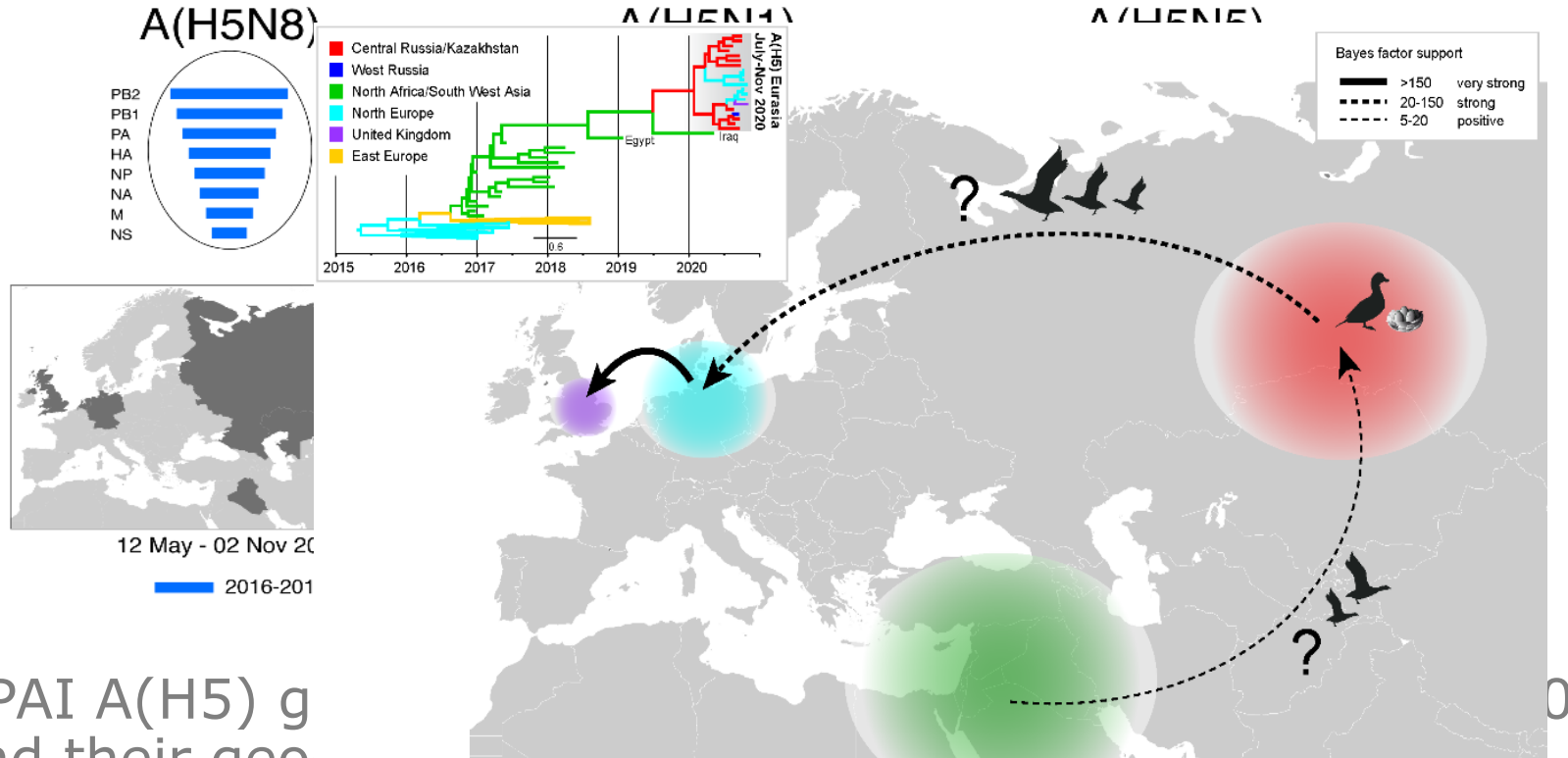
- A. virus subtype (3,405)
- B. affected poultry categories (1,136)
- C. affected wild bird categories (2,116)

5 October 2020 – 10 May 2021

* When the date of suspicion is not available then the date of confirmation is used to assign the week of suspicion. ** 'Other domestic species' category contains mixed, unknown bird species, or categories different from those displayed (i.e guinea fowl, peacock, pheasant and quail). *** 'Other wild species' category contains mixed, unknown bird species, or categories different from those displayed

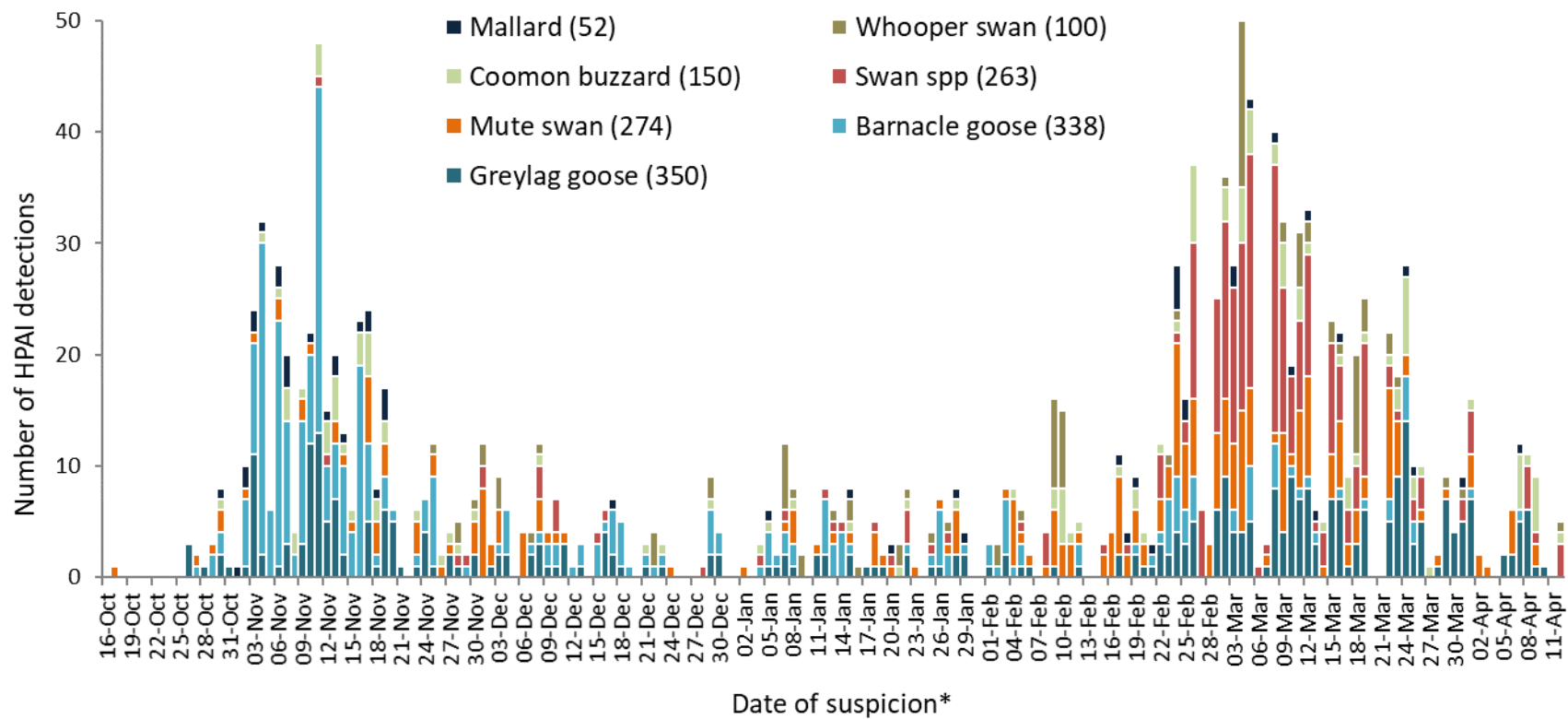


Genetic characterisation of HPAI viruses

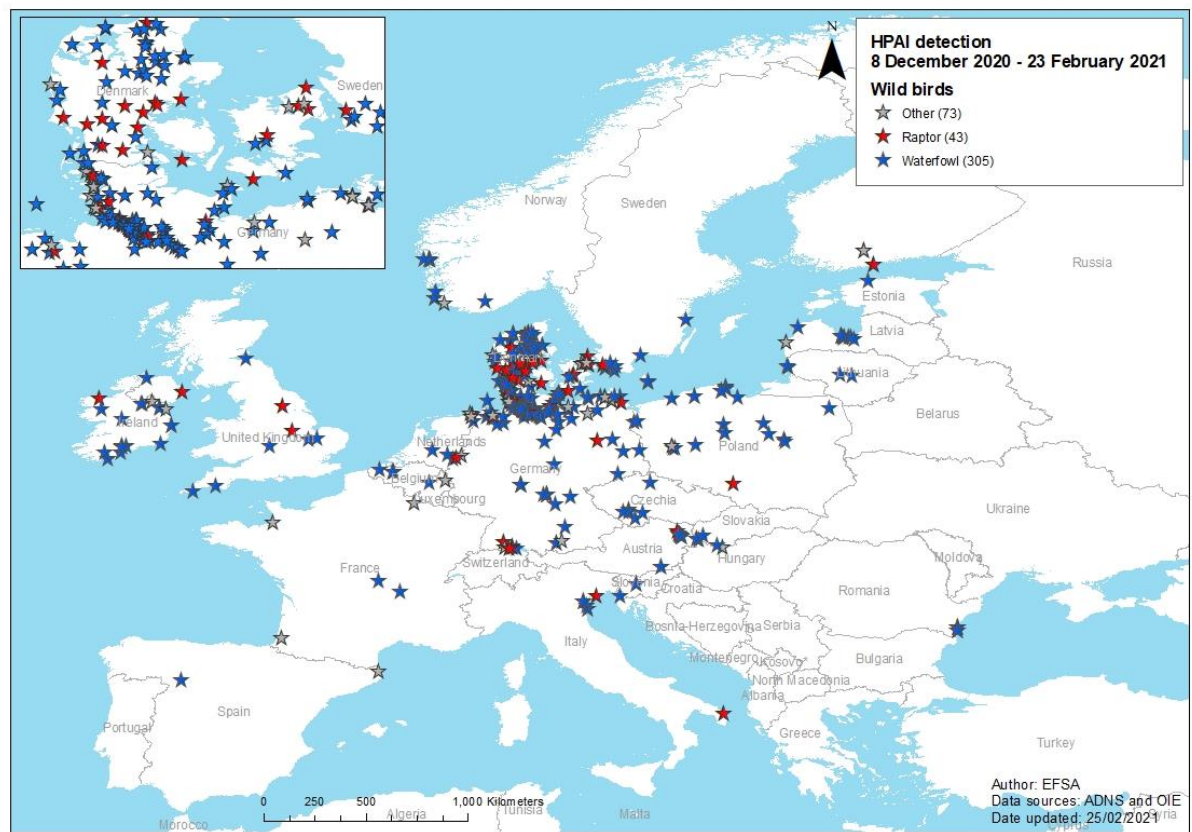
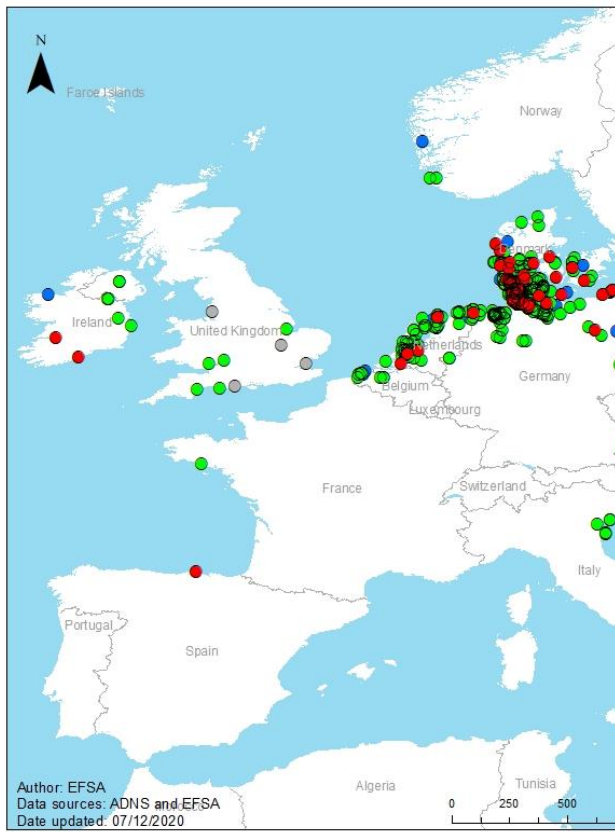


Distribution of HPAI detections in wild birds

Wild birds species with more than 50 detections



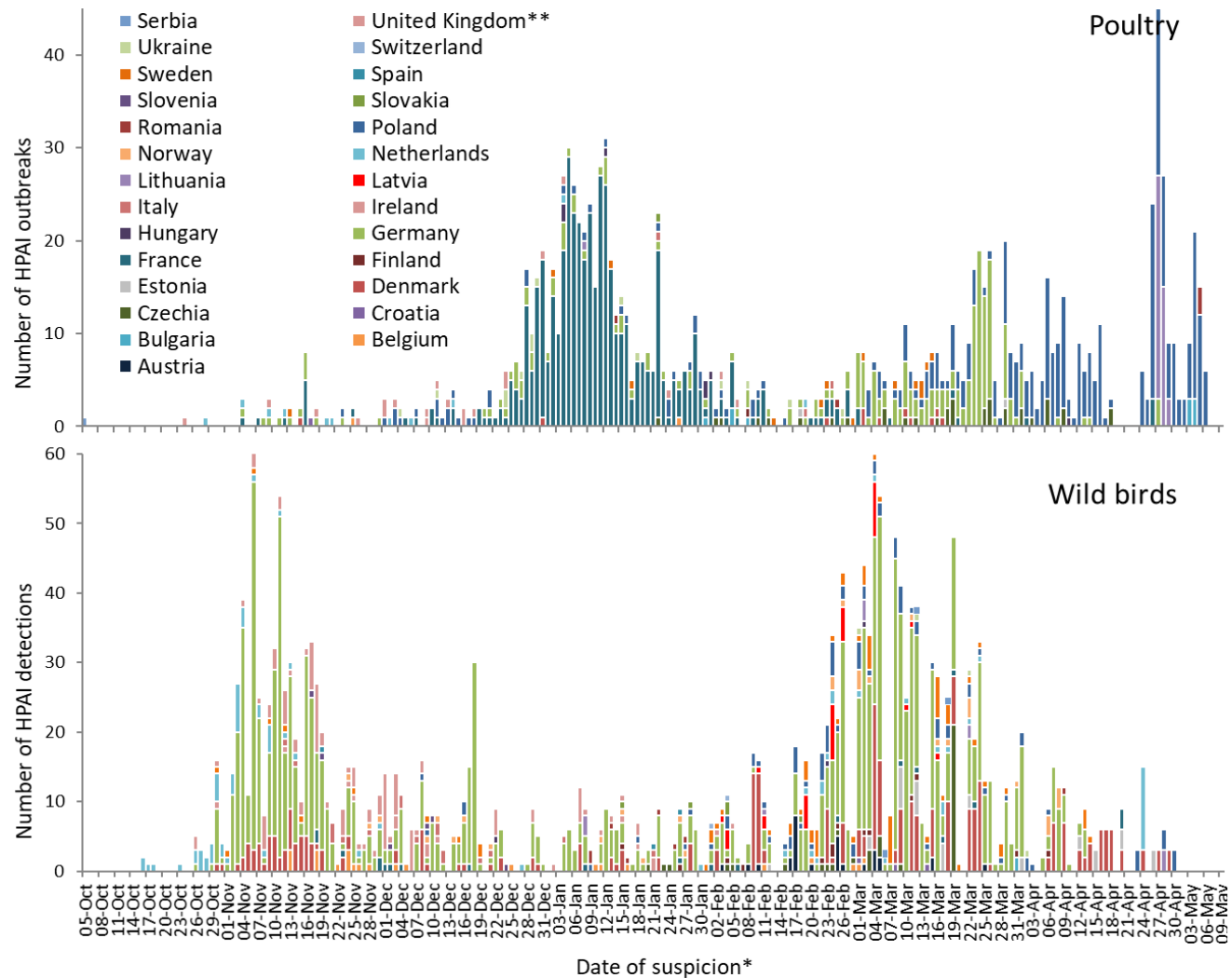
Distribution of HPAI detections in wild birds



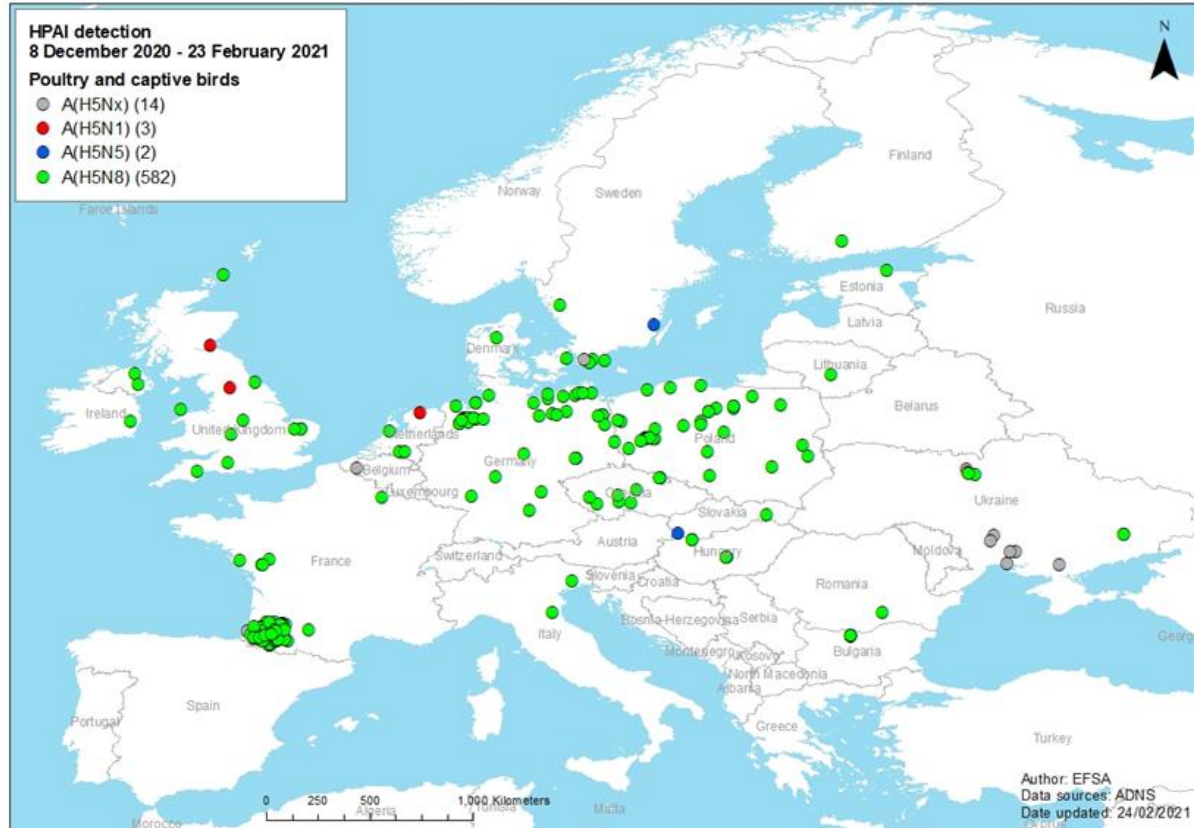
Distribution of HPAI detections

Daily distribution of total number of HPAI virus detections reported in Europe by affected country

5 October 2020 – 10 May 2021



Distribution of HPAI in poultry

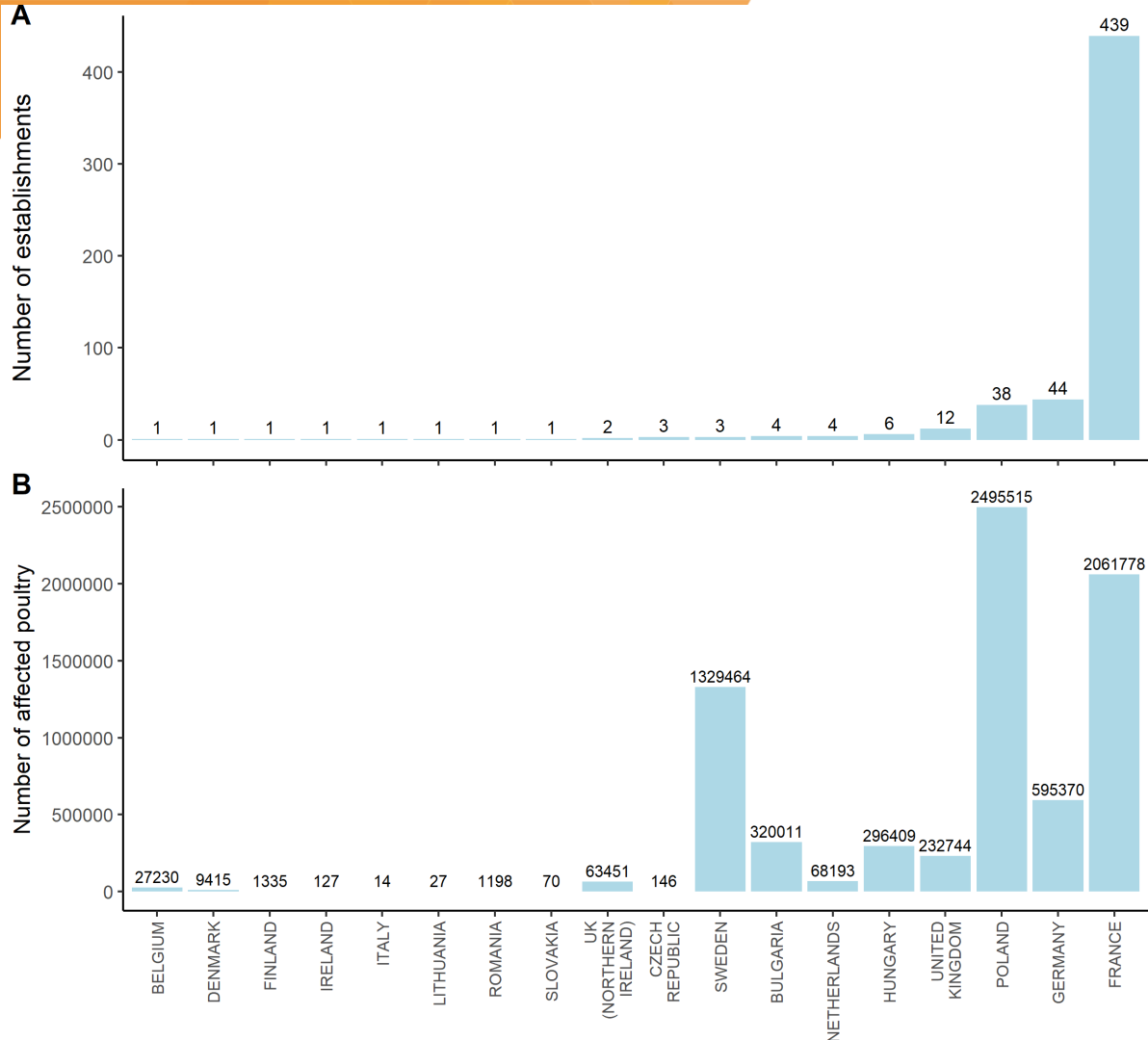


Distribution of HPAI in poultry

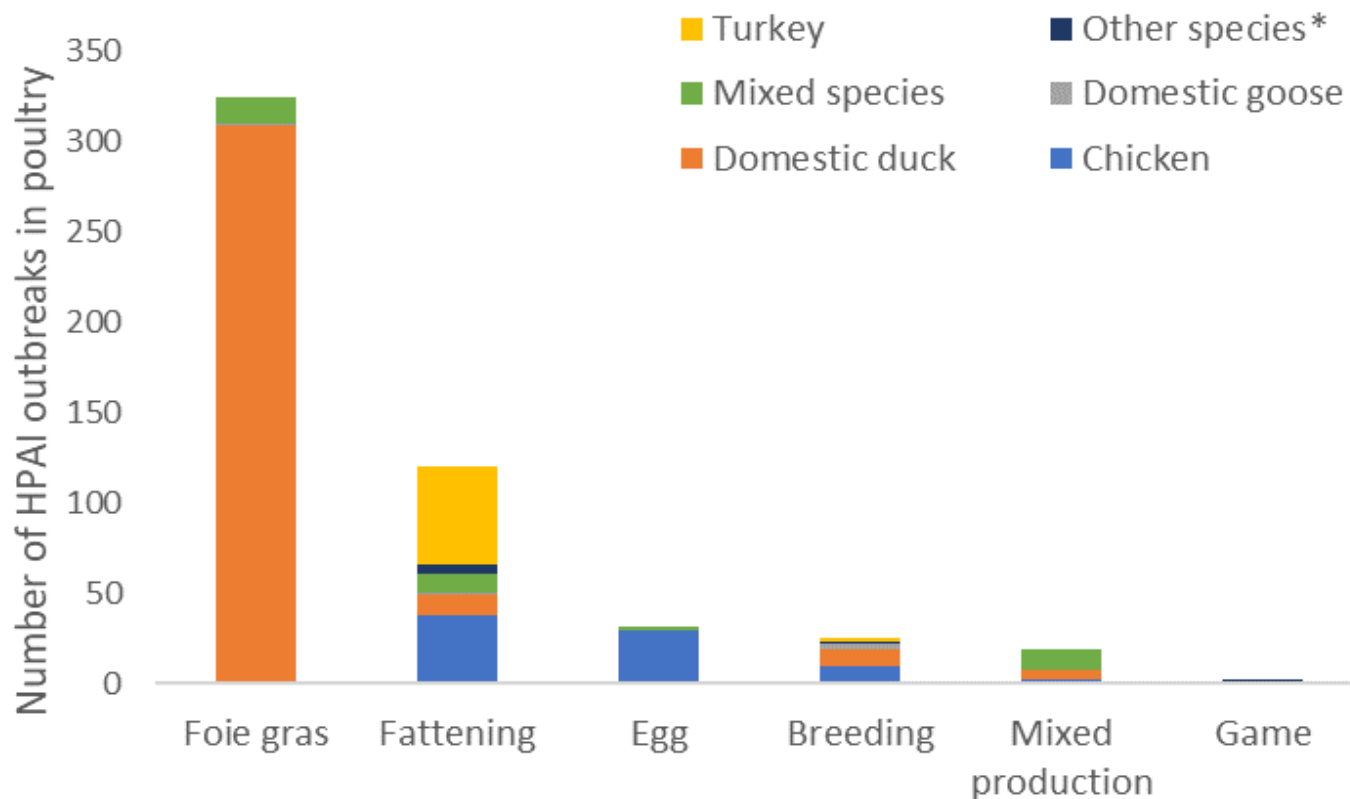
Number of establishments (A) and domestic birds (poultry) (B) affected by HPAI in the EU

8 December 2020 – 23 February 2021

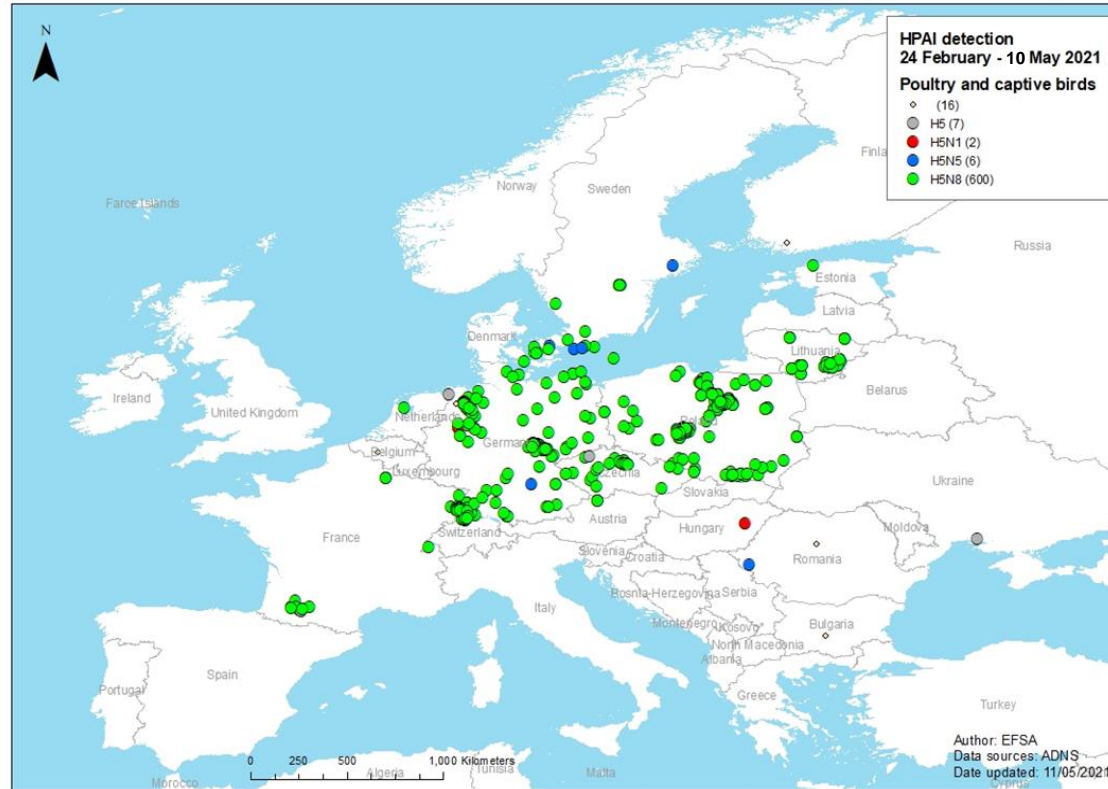
- 566 HPAI outbreaks
- 8 million birds affected



Production
type of
affected
establishments
in the the EU
26 November
2020 – 11
February 2021



Distribution of HPAI in poultry

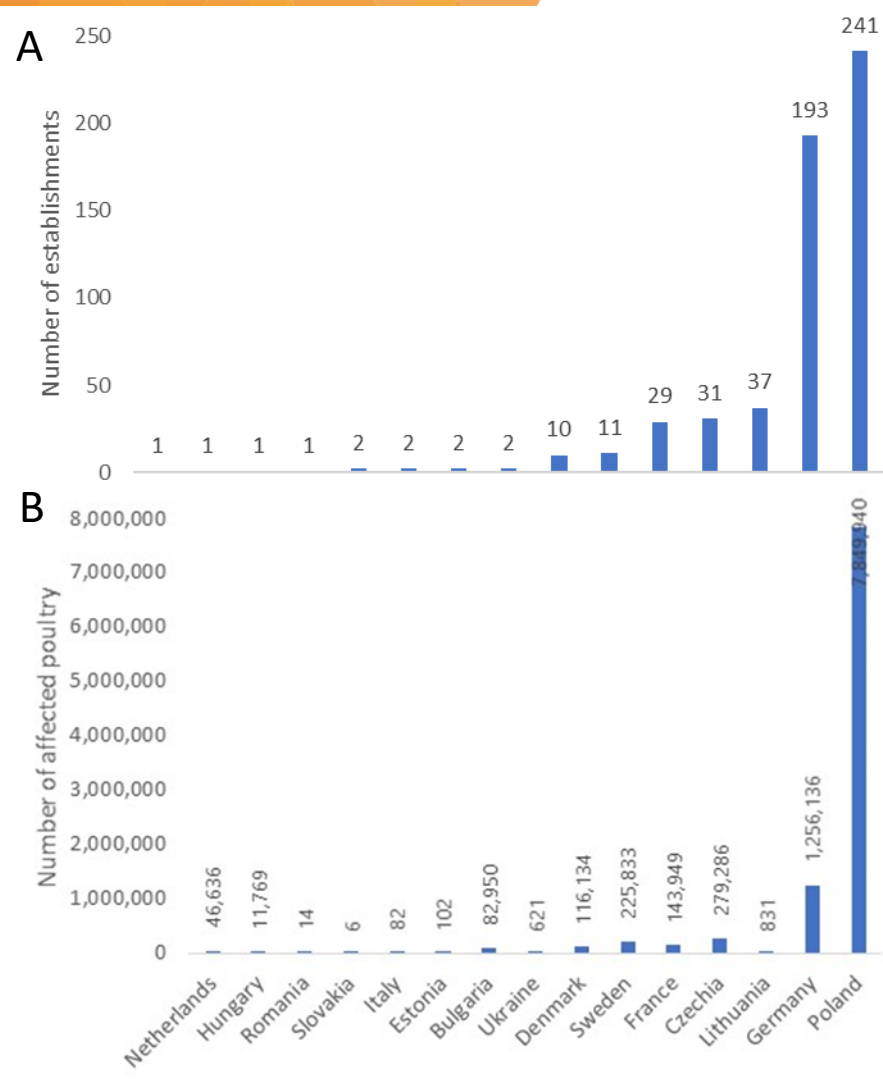


Distribution of HPAI in poultry

Number of establishments (A) and domestic birds (poultry) (B) affected by HPAI in the EU

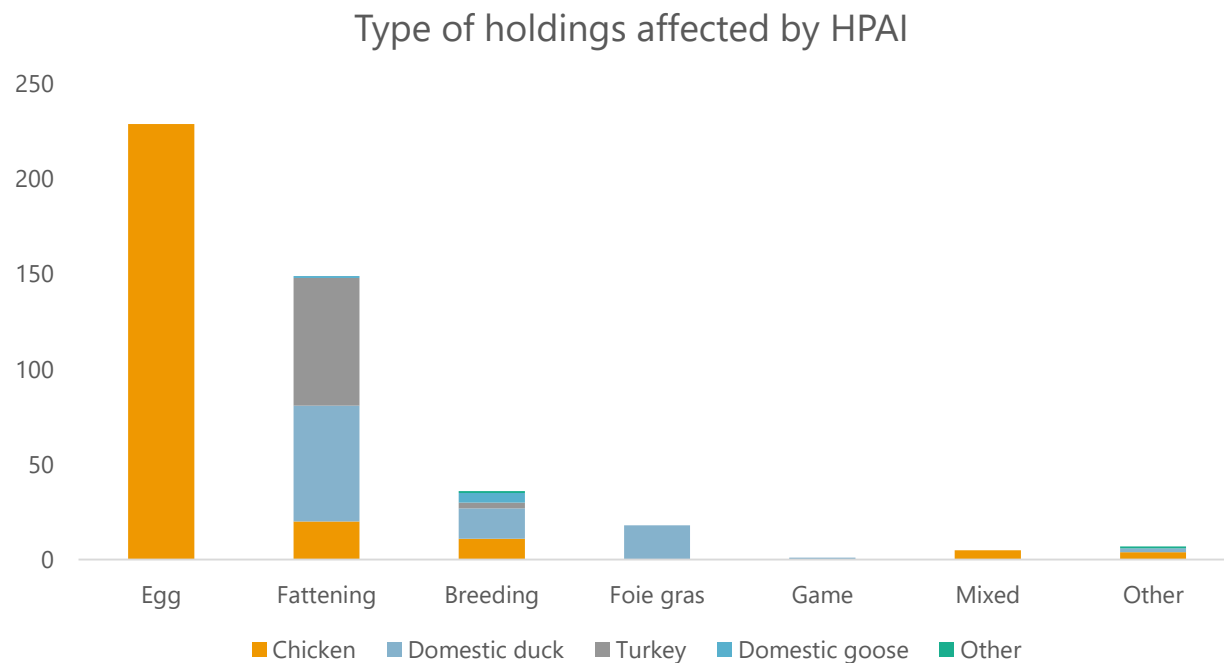
12 February – 30 April 2021

- 564 HPAI outbreaks
- 10 millions birds affected



Production type of
affected
establishments in
the EU

12 February – 30
April 2021



- In 2020-2021 Europe experienced the **largest HPAI epidemic season**
- EFSA launched an **alert** of possible HPAI virus introduction in the EU **in September**
- A better understanding of the factors regulating **wild bird** migration is of the utmost importance to improve our ability **to detect the virus early** and monitor its spread
- To **improve early detection** of infections in poultry, enhanced **awareness among farmers** to monitor and report increases in daily mortality and drops in production parameters are recommended

- The **long duration of the avian influenza risk period** could represent a **challenge** for the sustainability of the reinforced biosecurity measures implemented along the poultry chain in high-risk areas or production sectors
- Given that there have also been avian influenza introductions in **breeder farms**, it is of the utmost importance to reinforce and maintain **high and sustainable biosecurity** and surveillance standards along the chain

- The evolution and increasing occurrence of **reassortment events** need to be closely monitored for the potential risk that avian influenza viruses transmit from birds to human, and subsequently between humans, and/or to other wild or domestic mammals
- People should **avoid touching sick or dead birds** or bird droppings unprotected and wear personal protection equipment when exposed to birds potentially infected or contaminated with avian influenza viruses
- **People exposed unprotected** to infected birds, should be **actively monitored** for respiratory symptoms or conjunctivitis following exposure

Member State representatives for avian influenza

Working group members

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- BALDINELLI Francesca (EFSA)
- FUSARO Alice (EURL)
- GONZALES José (WUR)
- KUIKEN Thijs (Erasmus MC)
- MARANGON Stefano
- NIQUEUX Eric (ANSES)

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