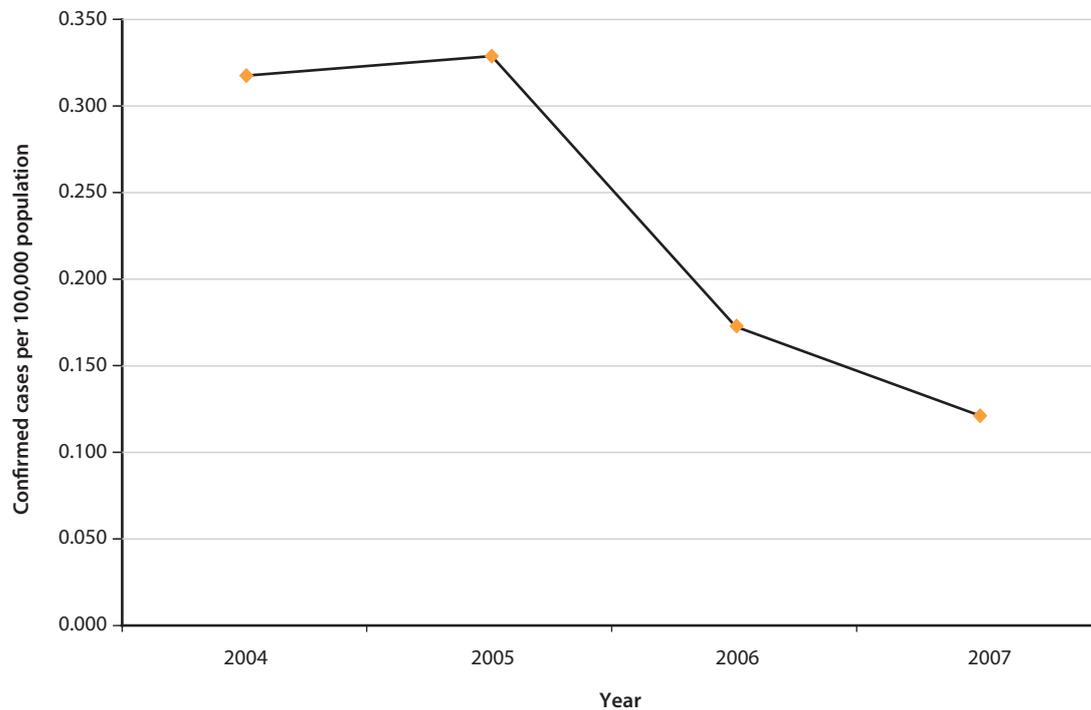


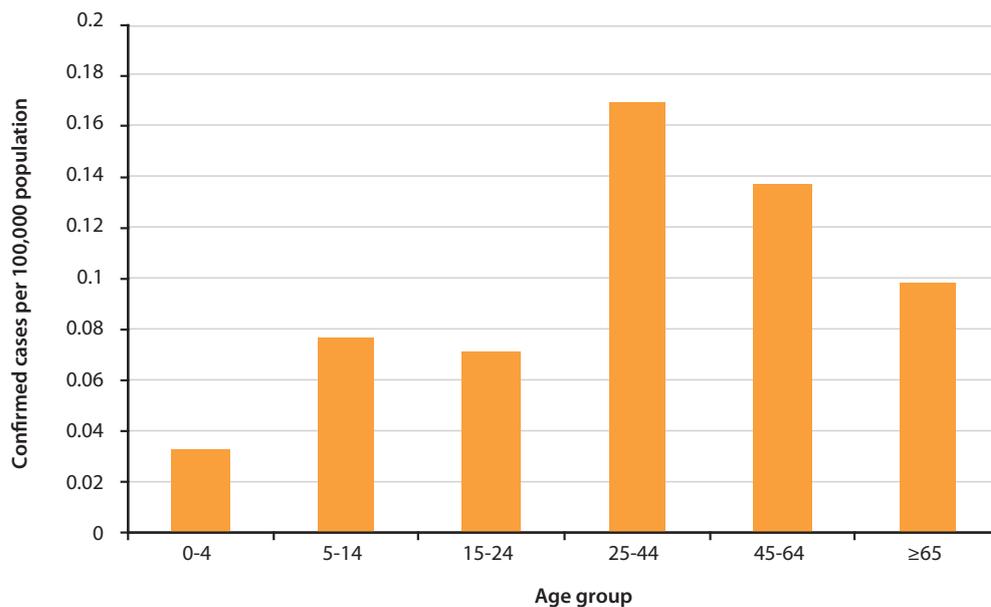
Figure BR1. | **Notification rate of reported¹ confirmed cases of human brucellosis in the EU², 2004-2007**



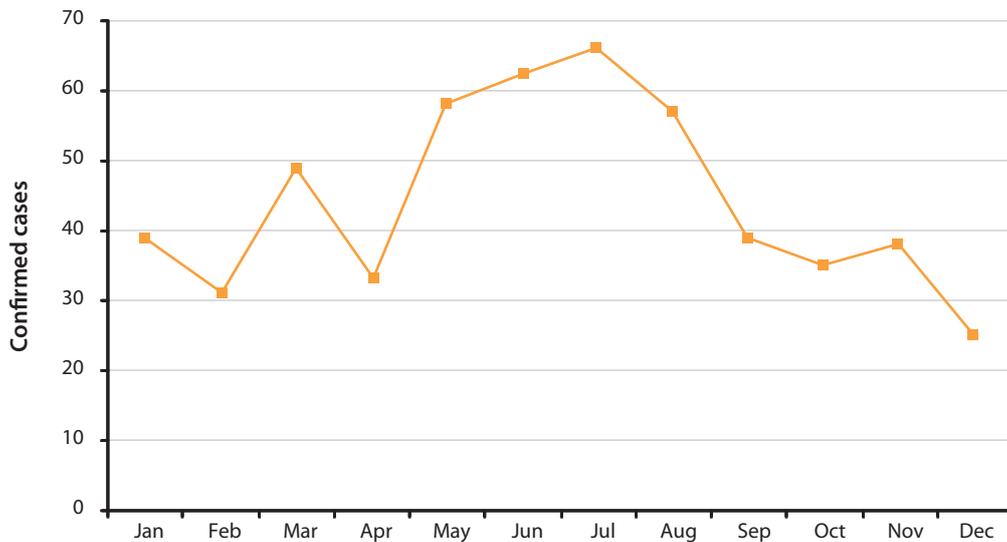
1. Includes total cases for 2004 and confirmed cases from 2005-2007
2. Includes data from: AT, BE, CY, EE, FI, FR, DE, GR, IE, IT, LT, NL, PL, PT, ES, SE, UK

The highest notification rate of human brucellosis was noted in the age group 25-44 followed by the age group 45-64, (36.3% and 31.2% of confirmed cases, respectively) (Figure BR2). Brucellosis exhibited a slight seasonal pattern in 2007 with more cases occurring in the summer (Figure BR3).

Figure BR2. | **Age-specific notification rate of reported confirmed human cases of brucellosis, TESSy data for reporting MSs¹, 2007**



1. Includes data from all EU MSs, except CY, CZ, DK, EE, LV, LT, LU, MT, SK (N=526)

Figure BR3. | *Seasonal distribution of reported confirmed human cases of brucellosis in reporting MSs¹, 2007*

1. Includes data from: BE, FI, FR, DE, GR, HU, IE, IT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SI, ES, SE and UK (N = 532)

Nine MSs with confirmed human cases reported whether the cases were imported or domestically acquired. All brucellosis cases in Austria, France, Hungary, Slovenia and Sweden were reported to be imported, whereas in Spain, all cases were reported to be acquired domestically (Table BR3). Also Germany and the Netherlands reported most of their cases as imported. Less than half (42.2%) of the infections at EU level remain of unknown geographical origin.

The suspected vehicle of transmission was reported for 306 of the confirmed cases, however in 251 of these cases the vehicle was reported as unknown. The known vehicles reported were contact with farm animals (31 cases), cheese (21 cases), milk (two cases) and sheep meat (one case). Portugal contributed with the most information.

3. | INFORMATION ON SPECIFIC ZOOSES

Table BR3. | **Reported confirmed brucellosis cases in humans by reporting countries and origin of case (imported/domestic), 2007**

Country	Domestic (%)	Imported (%)	Unknown (%)	Total (n)
Austria	0	100	0	1
Belgium	0	0	100	3
Bulgaria	0	0	100	9
Finland	0	0	100	2
France	0	100	0	14
Germany	14.3	76.2	9.5	21
Hungary	0	100	0	1
Ireland	0	0	100	7
Italy	0	0	100	76
Netherlands	0	80.0	20.0	5
Poland	0	0	100	1
Portugal	0	0	100	74
Romania	0	0	100	4
Slovenia	0	100	0	1
Spain	100	0	0	201
Sweden	0	100	0	8
United Kingdom	0	46.2	53.9	13
EU Total	46.3	11.6	42.2	441

Only 12% of *Brucella* isolates in the EU were further speciated. *B. melitensis* represented 8% and *B. abortus* 4% of reported confirmed cases (n= 357).

3.5.2 | *Brucella* in food

Only Belgium and Italy reported investigations including more than 25 samples of milk and cheese for the presence of *Brucella*. The majority of samples were of raw or low heat-treated milk and cheeses. Belgium did not detect any positive samples out of the 70,067 batches of raw cow's milk tested. Italy reported investigations where 20% and 9% of the batches of raw cow's milk and raw sheep's milk were positive, respectively. These findings are relatively high and indicate a human health risk related to the consumption of raw milk products present in the country (Table BR4). Only few positive samples of raw cow's milk have previously been reported by Italy (2001, 2003, 2004 and 2006). *Brucella* was also isolated from (single) raw milk samples from Italian sheep and Italy also reported one sample of cheese made from cow's milk to be positive for *Brucella*.

Overall, since 2001, only Greece, Italy and Portugal have reported findings of *Brucella* in raw cow's milk.

All data on *Brucella* in food are presented in Level 3.