Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code – Standard 1.4.1 – Contaminants and Natural Toxicants, and Schedule 19 – Maximum Levels of Contaminants and Natural Toxicants

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The instrument

This page records the heavy-metal maximum levels set by Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code – Standard 1.4.1 – Contaminants and Natural Toxicants, and Schedule 19 – Maximum Levels of Contaminants and Natural Toxicants, the instrument of Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ); Standard made under the Food Standards Australia New Zealand Act 1991 (Cth); administered by the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing, 2016. Every value below is transcribed into the Heavy Metal Index register from the primary text and is the value an HMTc standard cites when this jurisdiction binds a certification limit. It is a record of law, not an HMTc threshold.

Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code, official text

Published by Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ); Standard made under the Food Standards Australia New Zealand Act 1991 (Cth); administered by the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing.

PRIMARY SOURCE ↗

Maximum levels

All values µg/kg (ppb), in the basis the instrument states. 28 maximum levels across 7 analytes and 24 product categories, grouped by analyte and ordered by limit.

LIMIT MG/KG	BASIS	PRODUCT SCOPE	PROVISION
LEAD (PB) 10 LIMITS			

LIMIT MG/KG	BASIS	PRODUCT SCOPE	PROVISION
10	portion ordinarily consumed	infant formula products	maximum level
100	portion ordinarily consumed	fruit	Dried/dehydrated foods calculated on the pre-drying basis per Schedule 19.
100	portion ordinarily consumed	meat of cattle, sheep, pig, and poultry, excluding offal	maximum level
100	portion ordinarily consumed	vegetables except brassicas	maximum level
200	portion ordinarily consumed	cereals except sweet corn, pulses, and legumes	maximum level
300	portion ordinarily consumed	brassicas	maximum level
500	portion ordinarily consumed	edible offal of cattle, sheep, pig, and poultry	maximum level
500	portion ordinarily consumed	fish	maximum level
2000	portion ordinarily consumed	molluscs	maximum level
2000	portion ordinarily consumed	salt	maximum level
INORGANIC ARSENIC (IAS) 1 LIMIT			
1000	portion ordinarily consumed	seaweed	Inorganic arsenic.
TOTAL ARSENIC (TAS) 5 LIMITS			
500	portion ordinarily consumed	salt	Total arsenic.
1000	portion ordinarily consumed	cereal grains and milled cereal products except sweet corn	Total arsenic.
1000	portion ordinarily consumed	molluscs	Total arsenic.

LIMIT MG/KG	BASIS	PRODUCT SCOPE	PROVISION
2000	portion ordinarily consumed	crustacea	Total arsenic.
2000	portion ordinarily consumed	fish	Total arsenic.
CADMIUM (CD) 6 LIMITS			
100	portion ordinarily consumed	leafy vegetables	maximum level
100	portion ordinarily consumed	rice	maximum level
100	portion ordinarily consumed	root and tuber vegetables	maximum level
100	portion ordinarily consumed	wheat	maximum level
500	portion ordinarily consumed	chocolate and cocoa products	maximum level
500	portion ordinarily consumed	peanuts	maximum level
MERCURY, TOTAL (THG) 3 LIMITS			
100	portion ordinarily consumed	salt	maximum level
500	portion ordinarily consumed	other fish, fish products, crustacea, and molluscs (mean)	Mean ML
1000	portion ordinarily consumed	gemfish, billfish, southern bluefin tuna, barramundi, ling, orange roughy, rays, and all shark species (mean)	Mean ML
ALUMINIUM (AL) 2 LIMITS			
500	portion ordinarily consumed	infant formula, follow-on formula, and special medical purpose product for infants other than preterm-infant products	Standard 1.4.1 / Schedule 19.
1000	portion ordinarily consumed	soy-based infant formula products	Standard 1.4.1 / Schedule 19.
TIN (SN) 1 LIMIT			

LIMIT MG/KG	BASIS	PRODUCT SCOPE	PROVISION
250000	portion ordinarily consumed	all canned foods	maximum level

Where HMTc cites it

Cells where this instrument holds the strictest government value in force among credible regulators, and therefore binds a published HMTc limit. 2 published standards cite it.

Infant formula (powder)

STRICTEST

BINDS ALUMINIUM (AL)

Infant formula (ready-to-feed, liquid)

STRICTEST

BINDS ALUMINIUM (AL)

Rows appear here only once the citing standard is published. A limit recorded above that binds nothing today may still bind later, as other jurisdictions relax or as a new subcategory is published.

How this interacts with HMTc

HMTc certification standards adopt the *strictest existing* maximum level set by any credible government, applied cell-by-cell. Where this instrument holds the strictest value for a (product, analyte) cell, it binds the HMTc limit and the standard cites this page. This page does not set or justify any HMTc threshold; it records the sovereign requirement the program measures against.

> A reference page is a record of law, not an HMTc threshold. It states what a government requires; the standard page states what the program requires, and names which instrument binds each cell.