

General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed

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Karen Pendergrass. "General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed".
<https://heavymetalcertified.com/regulations/codex-cxs-193>. Retrieved 2026-09-20.

The instrument

This page records the heavy-metal maximum levels set by General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed, the instrument of Codex Alimentarius Commission (Food and Agriculture Organization / World Health Organization), 1995. 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.

General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins..., official text

Published by Codex Alimentarius Commission (Food and Agriculture Organization / World Health Organization).

PRIMARY SOURCE ↗

Maximum levels

All values µg/kg (ppb), in the basis the instrument states. 6 maximum levels across 2 analytes and 6 product categories, grouped by analyte and ordered by limit.

LIMIT MG/KG	BASIS	PRODUCT SCOPE	PROVISION
LEAD (PB) 5 LIMITS			
10	as consumed	Infant formula, formula for special medical purposes intended for infants and follow-up formula	Worldwide-ingest 2026-08-03 (verified). Basis detail: 0.01 mg/kg. Portion: Whole commodity
20	as sold	Cereal-based foods for infants and young children (up to 12 months and 12-36 months)	Worldwide-ingest 2026-08-03 (verified). Basis detail: 0.02 mg/kg. Portion: 'Whole commodity as...
20	as consumed	Ready-to-eat meals for infants and young children (up to 12 months and 12-36 months); corresponds to canned baby foods CXS 73-1981	Worldwide-ingest 2026-08-03 (verified). Basis detail: 0.02 mg/kg. Portion: 'Whole commodity' (r...

LIMIT MG/KG	BASIS	PRODUCT SCOPE	PROVISION
30	as consumed	Fruit juices (whole commodity or reconstituted to original concentration, ready-to-drink; also applies to nectars; note explicitly extends M	Worldwide-ingest 2026-08-03 (verified). Basis detail: 0.03 mg/kg. Portion: 'Whole commodity (no...
40	as consumed	Grape juice (whole commodity or reconstituted to original concentration, ready-to-drink; also applies to nectars; note explicitly extends ML	Worldwide-ingest 2026-08-03 (verified). Basis detail: 0.04 mg/kg. Portion: 'Whole commodity (no...
TIN (SN) 1 LIMIT			
250000	product as placed on market	canned foods	CXS 193-1995 tin ML for canned foods.

BASIS Values appear in the basis the instrument states; no conversion is applied on this page. A standard citing a value in a different basis discloses the conversion on its own derivation table.

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.

NO PUBLISHED STANDARD IS BOUND BY THIS INSTRUMENT YET

A limit recorded above binds nothing today only because another government holds a stricter value for every published cell. It 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.