

Guidance for Industry: Action Level for Inorganic Arsenic in Rice Cereals for Infants

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The instrument

This page records the heavy-metal maximum levels set by Guidance for Industry: Action Level for [Inorganic Arsenic](#) in Rice Cereals for Infants, the instrument of U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Human Foods Program / Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition. 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.

Guidance for Industry: Action Level for Inorg..., official text

Published by U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Human Foods Program / Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition.

PRIMARY SOURCE ↗

Maximum levels

All values µg/kg (ppb), in the basis the instrument states. 14 maximum levels across 2 analytes and 14 product categories, grouped by analyte and ordered by limit.

LIMIT MG/KG	BASIS	PRODUCT SCOPE	PROVISION
LEAD (PB) 10 LIMITS			
10	as consumed	Apple juice, single-strength (ready-to-drink): DRAFT/proposed action level, not yet finalized	Worldwide-ingest 2026-08-03 (verified). Basis detail: Single-strength (ready-to-drink) as consu...
10	as sold or ready-to-eat as applicable	fruits; vegetables excluding single-ingredient root vegetables; mixtures including grain- and meat-based mixtures; yogurts; custards/puddings; single-ingredient meats for children under 2	Nonbinding FDA final guidance

LIMIT MG/KG	BASIS	PRODUCT SCOPE	PROVISION
10	product as placed on market	Processed food packaged for babies and young children <2 yr: fruits, vegetables (excluding single-ingredient root vegetables), mixtures (gra	Worldwide-ingest 2026-08-03 (verified). Basis detail: As packaged / ready-to-eat (as sold). Ref...
10	single-strength ready-to-drink juice	single-strength apple juice	Draft only
20	dry infant cereal	dry infant cereals for children under 2	This is a lead action level, not an arsenic or cadmium standard.
20	single-strength ready-to-drink juice	other single-strength juices and juice blends	Draft only
20	as consumed	Other single-strength juices and juice blends (including blends containing apple juice), excluding single-strength apple juice: DRAFT/propo	Worldwide-ingest 2026-08-03 (verified). Basis detail: Single-strength (ready-to-drink) as consu...
20	as consumed	Processed food packaged for babies and young children <2 yr: dry infant cereals	Worldwide-ingest 2026-08-03 (verified). Basis detail: Dry infant cereal, as sold / as packaged...
20	product as placed on market	Processed food packaged for babies and young children <2 yr: single-ingredient root vegetables	Worldwide-ingest 2026-08-03 (verified). Basis detail: As packaged / ready-to-eat (as sold). Ref...
20	as sold or ready-to-eat as applicable	single-ingredient root vegetables for children under 2	Applies only where the product is a single-ingredient root vegetable covered by the guidance.
INORGANIC ARSENIC (IAS) 4 LIMITS			
10	juice	apple juice	Apple-juice-specific
10	as consumed	Apple juice (single-strength / ready-to-drink)	Worldwide-ingest 2026-08-03 (verified). Basis detail: Single-strength (ready-to-drink) as consu...
100	as sold infant rice cereal	all types of infant rice cereals	Does not automatically apply to all rice-containing snacks or mixed meals.
100	product as placed on market	Rice cereals for infants (all types: white-rice, brown-rice, organic, conventional)	Worldwide-ingest 2026-08-03 (verified). Basis detail: Infant rice cereal as sold (dry semi-prep...

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.