



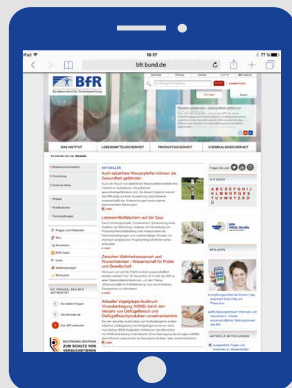
The BfR in brief:
FACTS & FIGURES

LOCATIONS



9 DEPARTMENTS

- ▶ Administration
- ▶ Risk Communication
- ▶ Exposure
- ▶ Biological Safety
- ▶ Food Safety
- ▶ Pesticides Safety
- ▶ Chemical and Product Safety
- ▶ Safety in the Food Chain
- ▶ Experimental Toxicology and ZEBET



4,033,782
VISITS TO THE BfR WEBSITE

EMPLOYEES

1,075



BUDGET

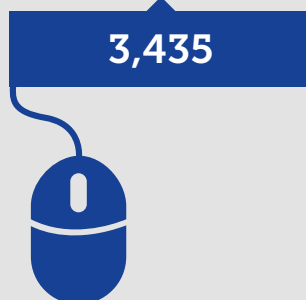


approximately
108 million euros

OPINIONS



3,435



MOST CLICKED:
Food supplements –
High intake of isolated
branched-chain amino
acids can lead to
health impairments

THIRD-PARTY FUNDED PROJECTS



107

PRESS RELEASES



52

EVENTS



155

2019

The BfR in brief:

FACTS & FIGURES

*“The protection of human health
is at the centre of our work.”*

Work areas

Food and feed safety

Whether ingredients or additives, residues, contaminants or germs and parasites, the BfR assesses food and feed with regard to toxicological, microbiological and nutritional aspects. Possible risks associated with the use of genetically modified organisms in the food sector are also taken into account.

Product safety

The BfR investigates ingredients and their release from products such as cosmetics, toys, clothing or food packaging and containers, and assesses whether the contained substances could be a hazard to human health.

Chemical safety

The BfR also assesses the risks of chemicals, plant protection products, biocide products and hazardous materials to quickly identify undesirable effects.

Risk communication

The BfR talks to various societal stakeholder groups to inform the public about health risks. Social science research projects analyse the population's risk perception, among other things.

Alternatives to animal experiments

The BfR performs the tasks of the "German Centre for the Protection of Laboratory Animals (Bf3R)" and coordinates all activities nationwide with the goal of restricting animal experiments and ensuring the best possible care for laboratory animals.

How can food, chemicals, cosmetics, toys, and many other everyday products be made as safe as possible? The German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment – BfR for short – provides the answers.

Science in the service of humanity

The BfR was founded in 2002 to strengthen consumer health protection in Germany. As a federal authority with legal capacity within the portfolio of the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture, it advises the federal government and German federal states (“Laender”) on food and feed safety issues and on the safety of chemicals and products.

The BfR’s main tasks include assessing existing health risks and identifying new ones, preparing recommendations on risk mitigation and communicating this process transparently.

All working areas of the BfR – science, assessment, communication, and administration – have been certified in accordance with quality standard DIN EN ISO 9001 since 2010.

At the BfR, there are also National Reference Laboratories under Regulation (EC) No. 882/2004 and (EU) 2017/625 in the domains of food and feed safety and food hygiene. This means that the BfR is part of an EU-wide network for improved food monitoring.

Networks and cooperations

The BfR is supported in its risk assessment and risk communication by an independent scientific expert network made up of 15 commissions and is advised in its strategic focus by the Scientific Advisory Board.



Dear Readers,

We are on the right track with our strategies for scientific risk assessment and risk communication for policy consultation – this was once again confirmed to the BfR by the Science Council in 2019.

Transparency at all levels is necessary to further strengthen trust in scientific institutions. This means, for example, that we present the complex results of health risk assessments in a comprehensible way. Providing answers to the “simple” questions is also part of this: how is the Institute funded, how many people work at the BfR, or in which national and international committees are they represented?

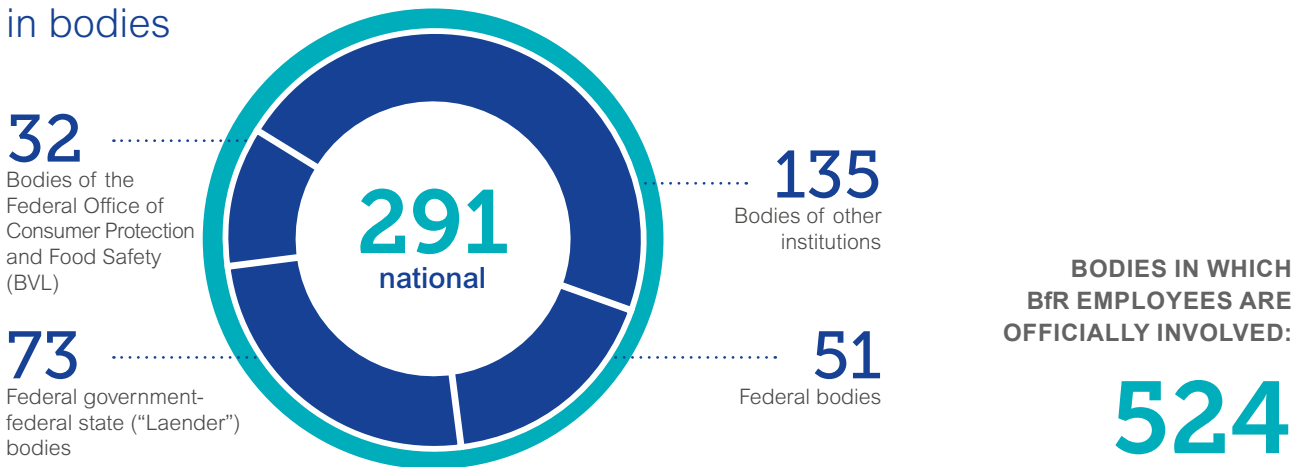
The new format “The BfR in brief: facts & figures” provides a quick overview of the BfR’s key figures for the reporting year 2019. If you are curious and want to learn more about the publications and projects behind the figures, more detailed information is available on the BfR website. And anyone with an interest in the BfR’s core research areas and content can read all about them in the BfR2GO science magazine.

Professor Dr. Dr. Andreas Hensel,
President

Networks

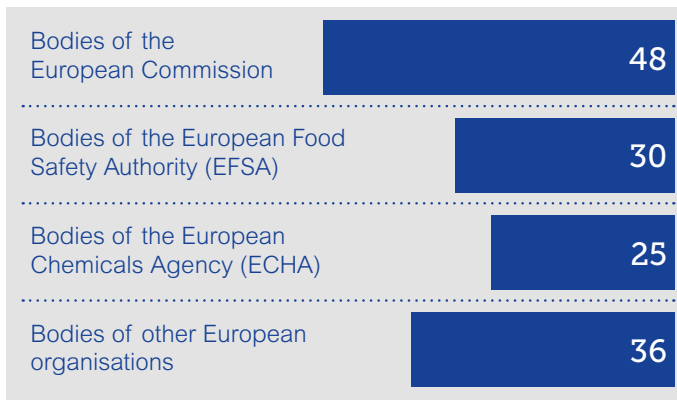
Partnerships exist in the form of institutional cooperation or joint research projects. Scientists at the BfR actively contribute to the work of a variety of bodies. Institutional exchange between experts is also becoming more important.

Participation in bodies



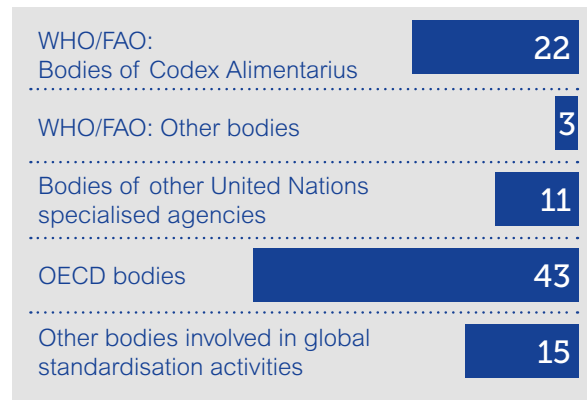
139

European level ...



94

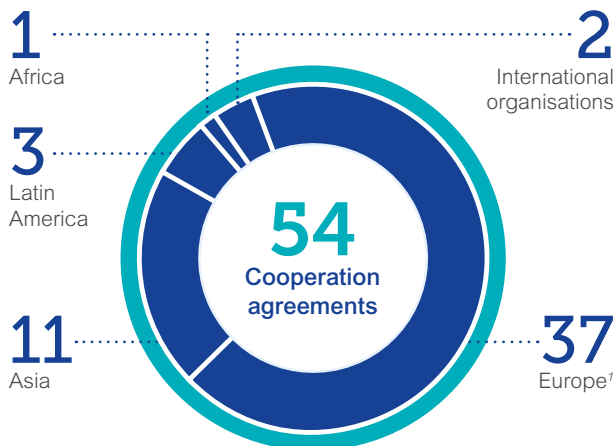
Worldwide ...



As the national point of contact for the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) and partner of the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA), the BfR cooperates with more than 50 national, international, governmental and non-governmental institutions worldwide and provides advice on building governmental risk assessment structures.

International cooperations

- 2005: First cooperation agreements concluded
- 2013: Over 30 cooperation agreements
- 2019: Over 50 cooperation agreements



New cooperation agreements²: **Georgia and China**

¹ EU 27, EU Candidate Countries, EFTA Member States, Russia

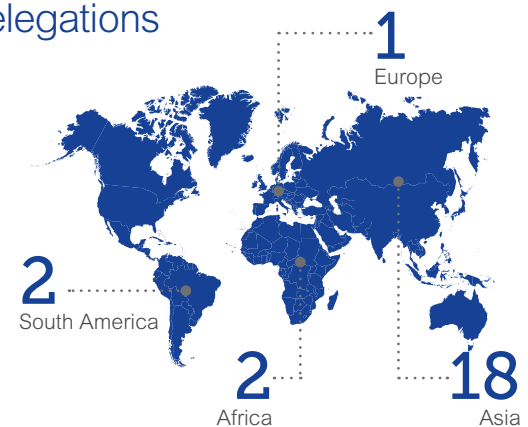
² Newly signed cooperation agreements or renewal of existing cooperation agreements

Guest researchers



In **2019** a total of **15** international guest researchers were employed at the BfR.

Delegations



The BfR received **23** delegations from abroad.

www.bfr.bund.de/en
 > The Institute > Cooperation
 > International cooperation

Capacity Building

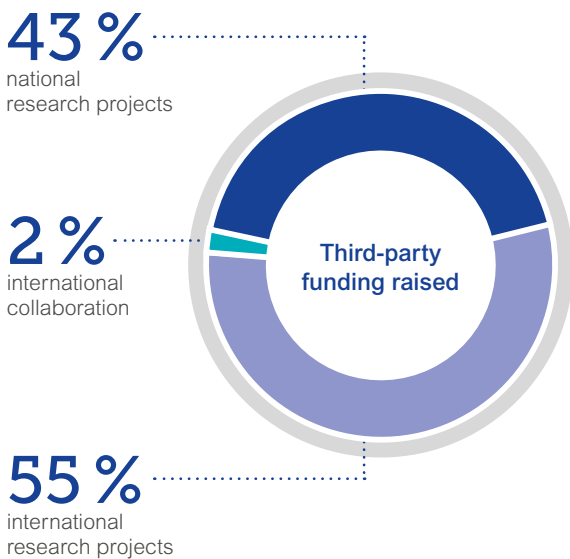
Together with its local cooperation partners, the BfR is strengthening capacities for action in the field of food safety.

- ▶ TAIEX “Study Visit on Food Hygiene and Management of Foodborne disease outbreaks”, Tunisia, February 2019
- ▶ TAIEX “Expert Mission on Risk Management and Risk Assessment at EU level, legislation and implementation”, Albania, October 2019
- ▶ Latin American Risk Assessment Symposium (LARAS), Uruguay, August 2019
- ▶ Sino-German Summer School on Risk Assessment of Agro-products Quality and Safety, China, September 2019

Research

One of the BfR's key competences is independent, application-orientated, and cause-related research. The topics are closely related to its assessment tasks. One aim is to close knowledge gaps. Another is to constantly expand the Institute's scientific expertise in risk assessment and risk communication independent of economic, political and social interests. The BfR is actively involved in numerous national and international research projects.

Third-party funded projects



Third-party funding raised	Funding (in thousands of euros)	Number of projects
national research projects	2,827	49
Federal government	2,059	
DFG	732	
Other	36	
international research projects	2,226	51
EU	1,919	
EFSA	227	
Other	80	
international collaboration (EU, EFSA, BMZ etc.)	108	7
Total	5,161	107

THIRD-PARTY FUNDING IN 2019 AMOUNTED TO

5,2 Mio. Euro.



JUNIOR RESEARCH GROUPS

Junior research groups provide young scientists with research and scientific qualification opportunities shortly after completing their PhD. In doing so, the BfR specifically boosts core research areas and junior scientists.



STUDY CENTRES

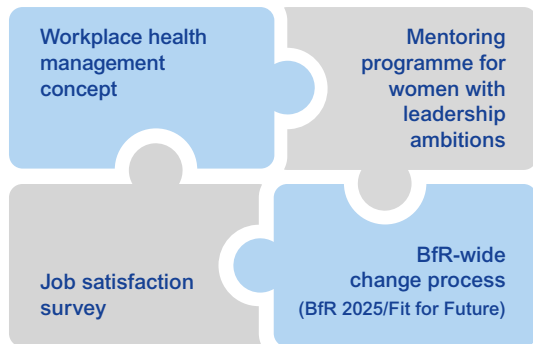
The study centres provide long-term prioritisation in strategically important areas of the BfR and bundle specialist expertise on interdepartmental topics.

i *Third-party funded projects:*
www.bfr.bund.de/en > **Research**
> **Third-party projects**

Main areas of research:
www.bfr.bund.de/en > **Research**
> **Main research**

Personnel and training

Focus on staff development



168
NEW APPOINTMENTS
PER YEAR, OF WHICH
6 ARE TRAINEES

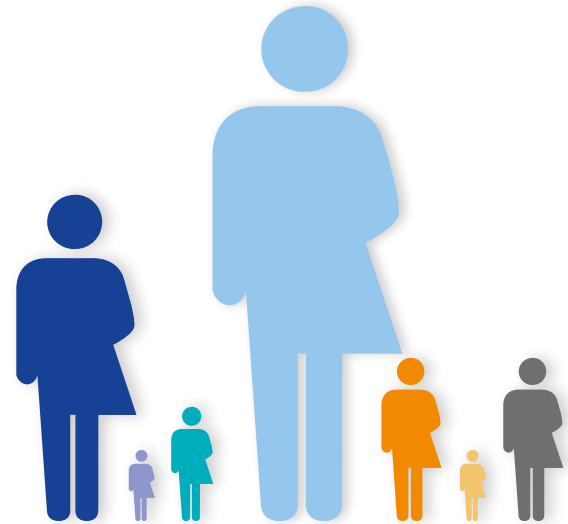
www.bfr.bund.de/en > Job advertisements
www.bfr.bund.de/en > The Institute > Working at the BfR

Trade fair appearances

Berlin
STICKS & STONES, JOBEVECTOR CAREER DAY

London/UK
NATUREJOBS CAREER EXPO

San Francisco/USA GERMAN
ACADEMIC INTERNATIONAL NETWORK (GAIN)



Scientists	473
Administrative Staff	242
Technical assistants	115
PhD candidates	75
Apprentices/trainees	24
Animals carers	25
Other (e.g. librarians, laboratory assistants, etc.)	121

A TOTAL OF
1,075 employees

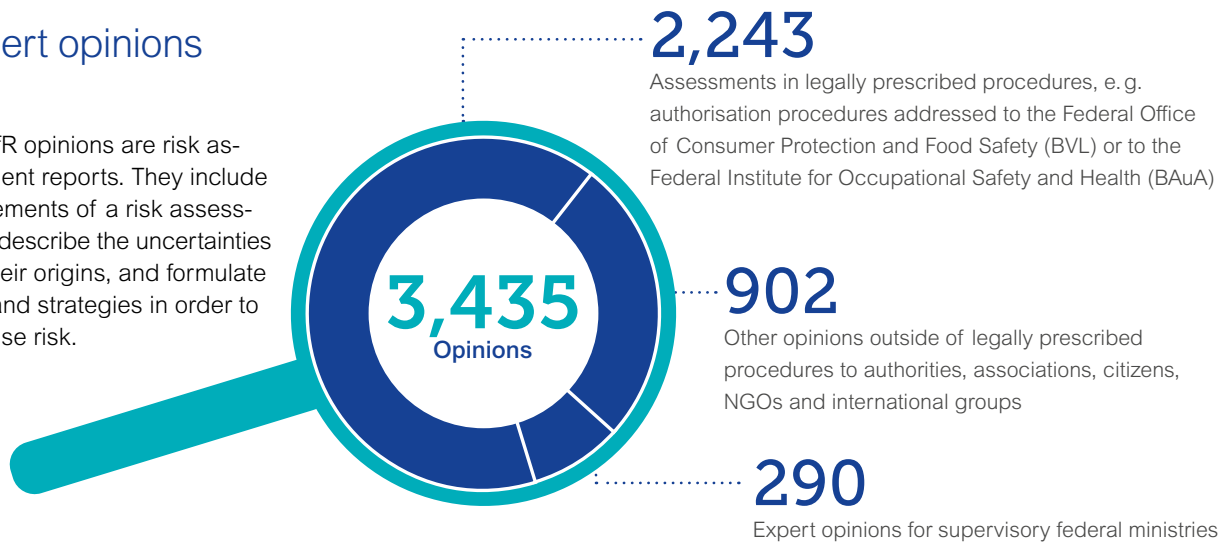
Training professions

- ▶ Laboratory chemist
- ▶ Office management clerk
- ▶ Animal carer
- ▶ Plant mechanic
- ▶ Electronic technician
- ▶ Laboratory biologist
- ▶ IT specialist

Publications

Expert opinions

The BfR opinions are risk assessment reports. They include the elements of a risk assessment, describe the uncertainties and their origins, and formulate aims and strategies in order to minimise risk.



KEY OPINIONS PUBLISHED IN 2019:

Food supplements – High intake of isolated branched-chain amino acids can lead to health impairments (No. 052/2019)

Reducing aluminium intake can minimise potential health risks (No. 045/2019)

Fillable articles made from melamine formaldehyde resin, such as coffee-to-go cups sold as 'bambooware', may leak harmful substances into hot foods (No. 046/2019)

Publications

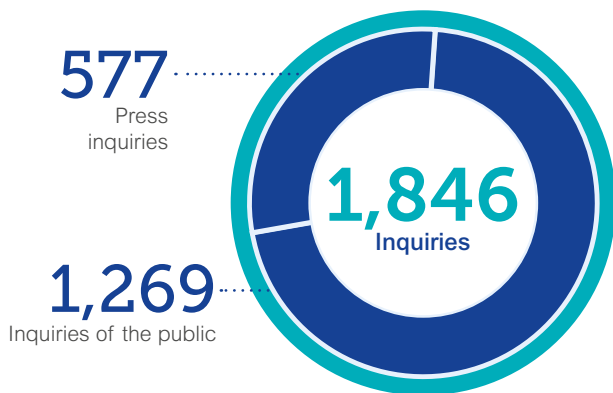
	Number
Book publications	5
Contributions to compilations	43
Journal publications	219
Contributions to conference proceedings	157
Poster contributions	271
Presentations (including conference speakers)	862
Dissertations/postdoctoral papers/ master theses/ diploma theses/ bachelor theses	34
Reports/EFSA	11

KEY PUBLICATIONS IN 2019:

- ▶ Bert, B. et al. 2019. **Refining animal research: The Animal Study Registry.** *PLoS Biology* 17(10): e3000463.
- ▶ Schreiver, I. et al. 2019. **Distribution of nickel and chromium containing particles from tattoo needle wear in humans and its possible impact on allergic reactions.** *Particle and Fibre Toxicology* 16(1): 33.
- ▶ Johne, R. et al. 2019. **Distantly Related Rotaviruses in Common Shrews, Germany, 2004–2014.** *Emerging Infectious Diseases* 25(12): 2310-2314.

i Overview of all publications
www.bfr.bund.de/en > Publications
www.bfr.bund.de/en > Science News
www.openagar.de

Public relations



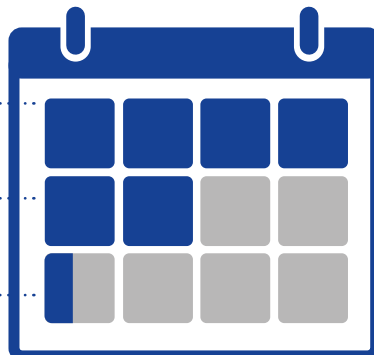
The BfR received **577** inquiries from TV, print/online media, news agencies as well as from radio, including on ...

Glyphosate/Plant protection products	48
E-Cigarettes	31
Tattoos	24
Aluminium	23
Microplastics	21

96
Scientific dialogue

51
Information events

8
Training courses

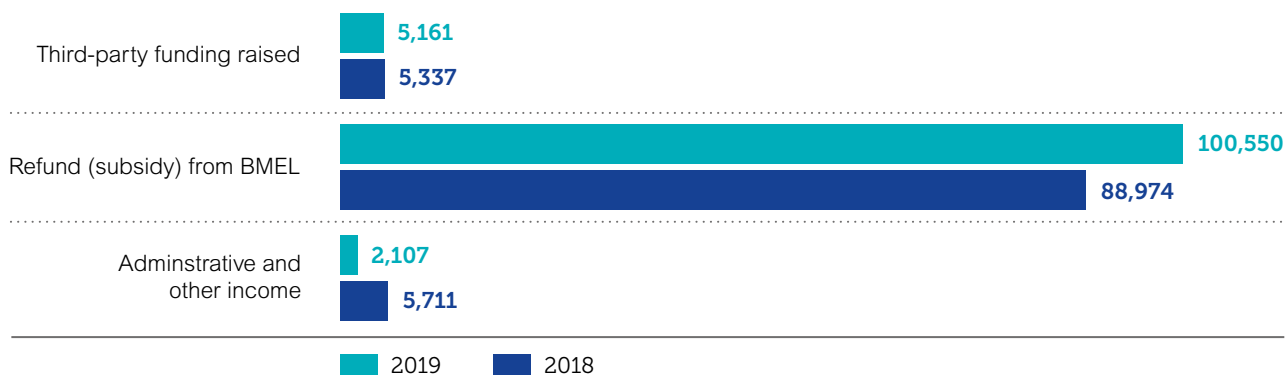


155
events were organised
by the BfR.

Overview of all BfR events
www.bfr-akademie.de/english

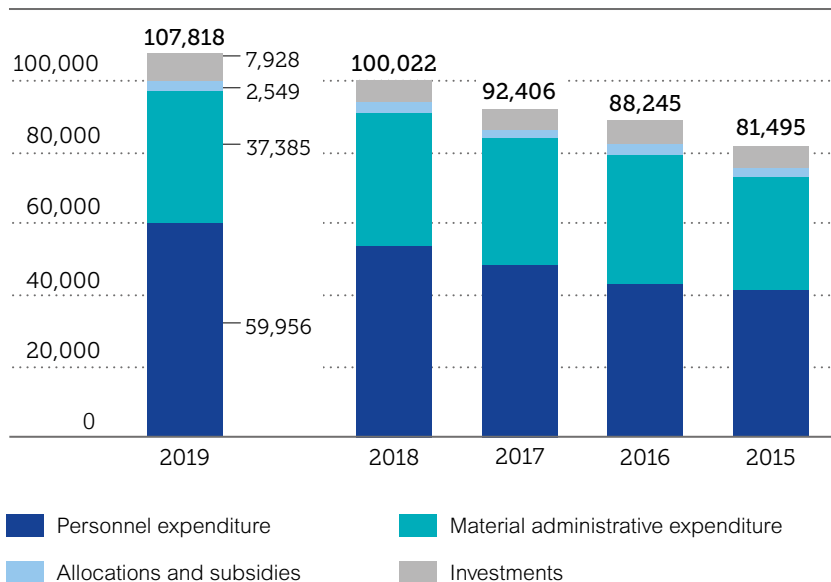
Budget

Income (in thousands of euros)



IN 2019, THE BfR SPENT APPROXIMATELY
108 million euros.

Expenditure (in thousands of euros)



Selected expenditure

Scientific collections and libraries	600,443 €
Initial and further training	482,385 €
Public relations work, publishing and documentation	1,181,487 €
Conferences, trade fairs, exhibitions	476,506 €

BfR
2
GO

Consumer protection to go:

Twice a year, the compact and knowledge-packed BfR2GO scientific magazine provides current and well-founded information on the research on and assessment of possible health risks of food and feed, chemicals and consumer products. Order, subscribe to or download the magazine free of charge at: www.bfr.bund.de/en



Imprint

The BfR in brief: facts & figures 2019

Publisher: German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR)
Editor: BfR Press and Public Relations
Photos: Freepiks of www.flaticon.com; fjstudio
Layout/Realisation: www.tangram.de, Rostock
Print: Druck- und Verlagshaus Zarbock GmbH & Co. KG, Frankfurt am Main
Copies printed: 100 (German), 50 (English)

This text version is a translation of the original German text which is the only legally binding version.

ISBN 978-3-948484-19-4

ISSN 2702-7929 (Druck)

ISSN 2702-7937 (Online)

German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR)

Max-Dohrn-Straße 8–10
10589 Berlin
GERMANY

Phone +49 30 18412-0
Fax +49 30 18412-99099
bfr@bfr.bund.de
www.bfr.bund.de/en



Bundesinstitut für Risikobewertung