



Reducing food loss and waste (edible) in Sweden

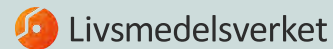
Karin Fritz, Swedish Food Agency

Government commission to reduce food loss and waste 2020–2025

Ministry of Rural Affairs and Infrastructure

Ministry of Climate and Enterprise

Swedish Food Agency



Food law

Food supply chain

Consumers food waste
(edible)

Swedish Board of Agriculture



Food losses

Knowledge and tools

Swedish Environmental Protection Agency



National food waste statistics

Waste legislation and
guidance

Knowledge and Reseach
funding

Action plan

- Action plan launched in June 2018
- Evaluated 2024
- New updated action plan in February 2025

- New government commission 2026-2030 within the Swedish Food strategy
- To work with measures in the action plan



4 key areas to reducing food loss and edible food waste

- Goals and monitoring methods
- Activities and cooperation between stakeholders in the food supply chain
- Changing consumer behavior
- Increased knowledge, research and innovation

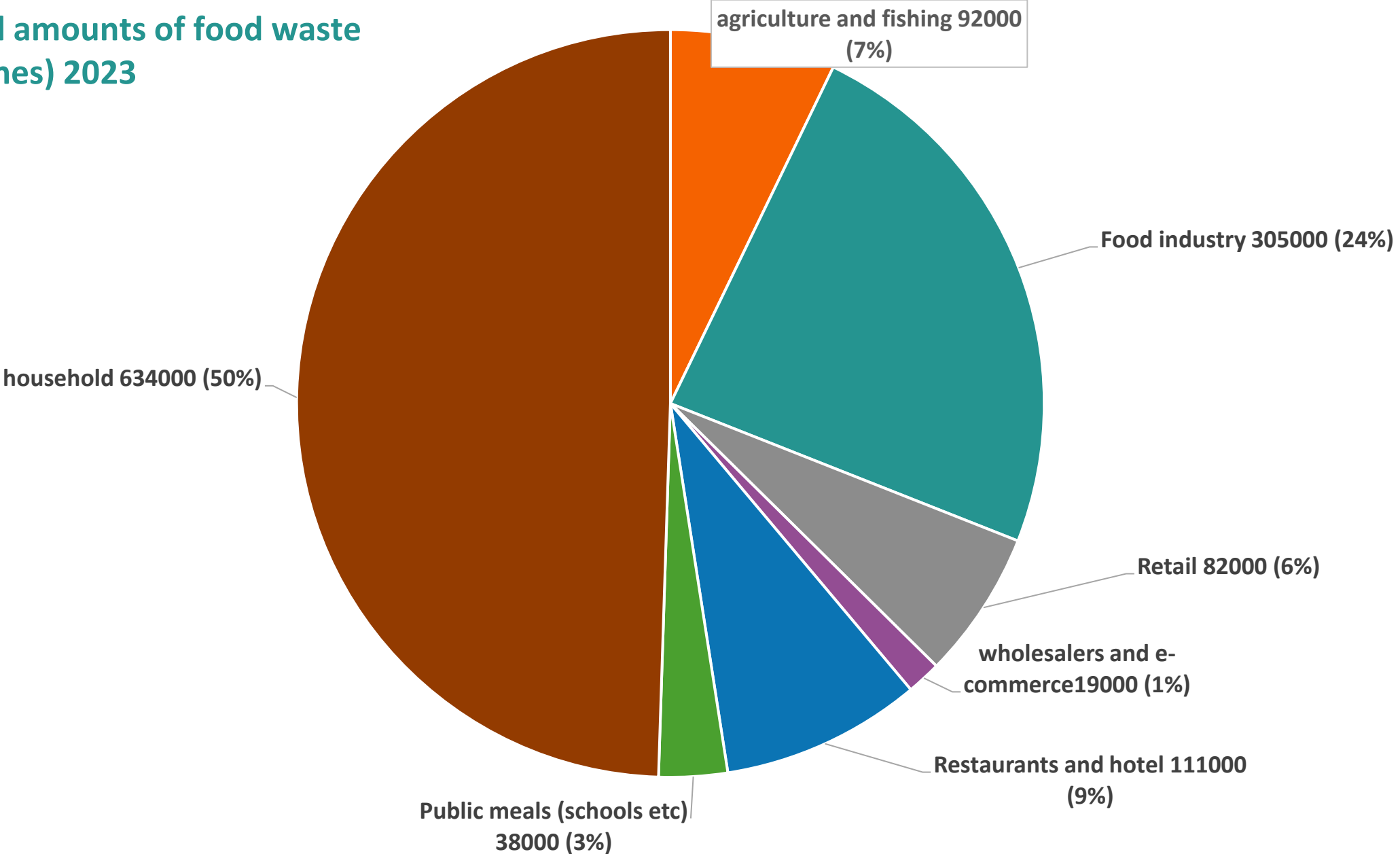


10 measures in the action plan

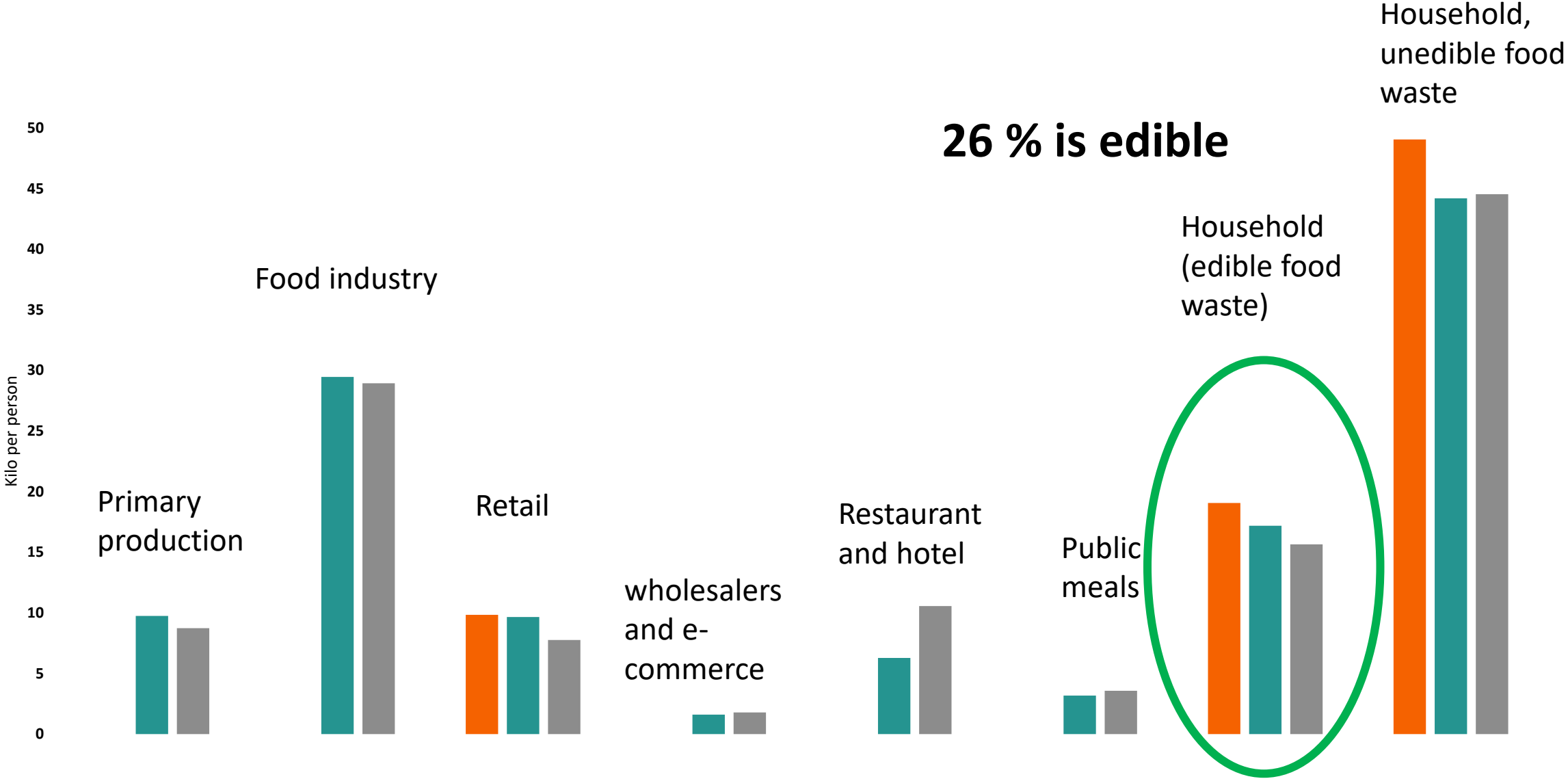
The actions are primarily targeted at public authorities – national, regional and local. Public authorities have an important part to play in facilitating for stakeholders and encouraging them to reduce food loss and waste.

However, all stakeholders involved in food supply need to work on actions and step up the pace.

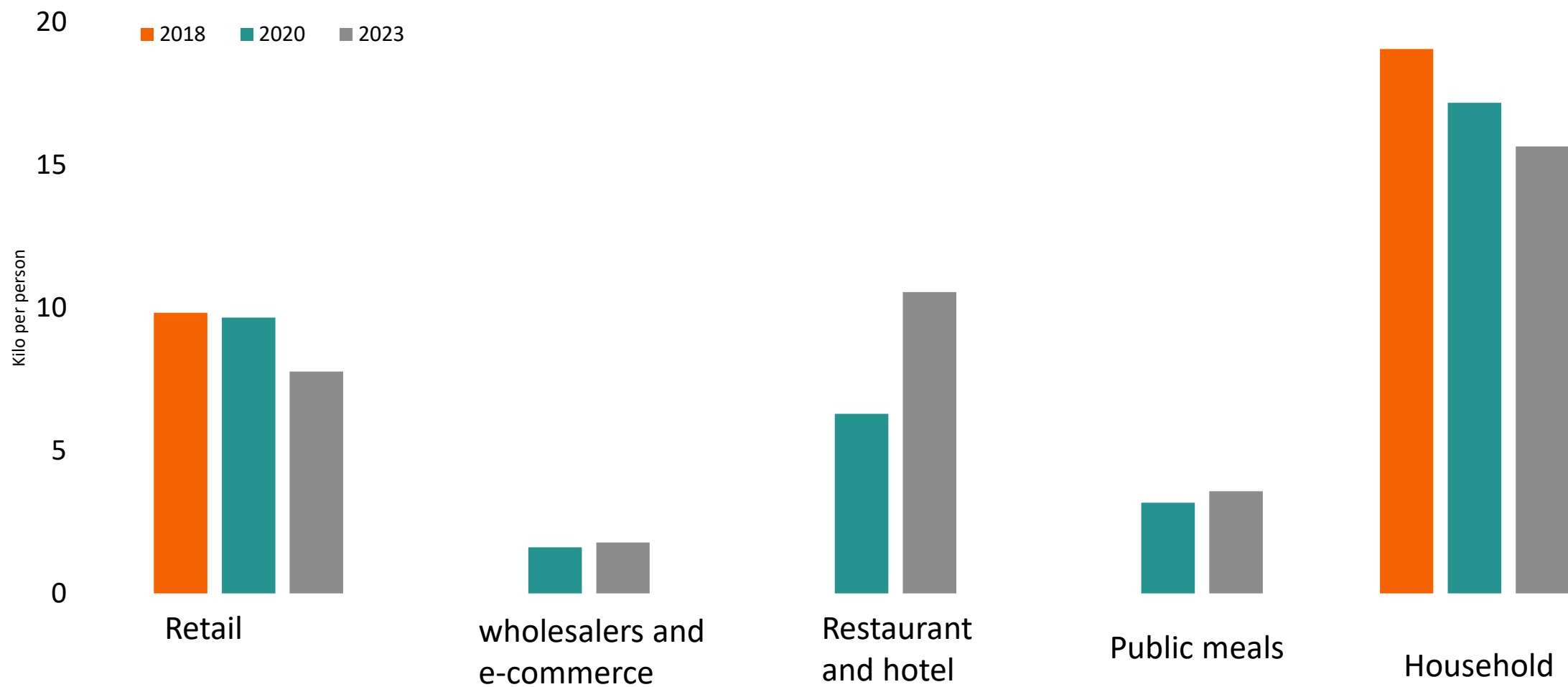
Total amounts of food waste (tonnes) 2023



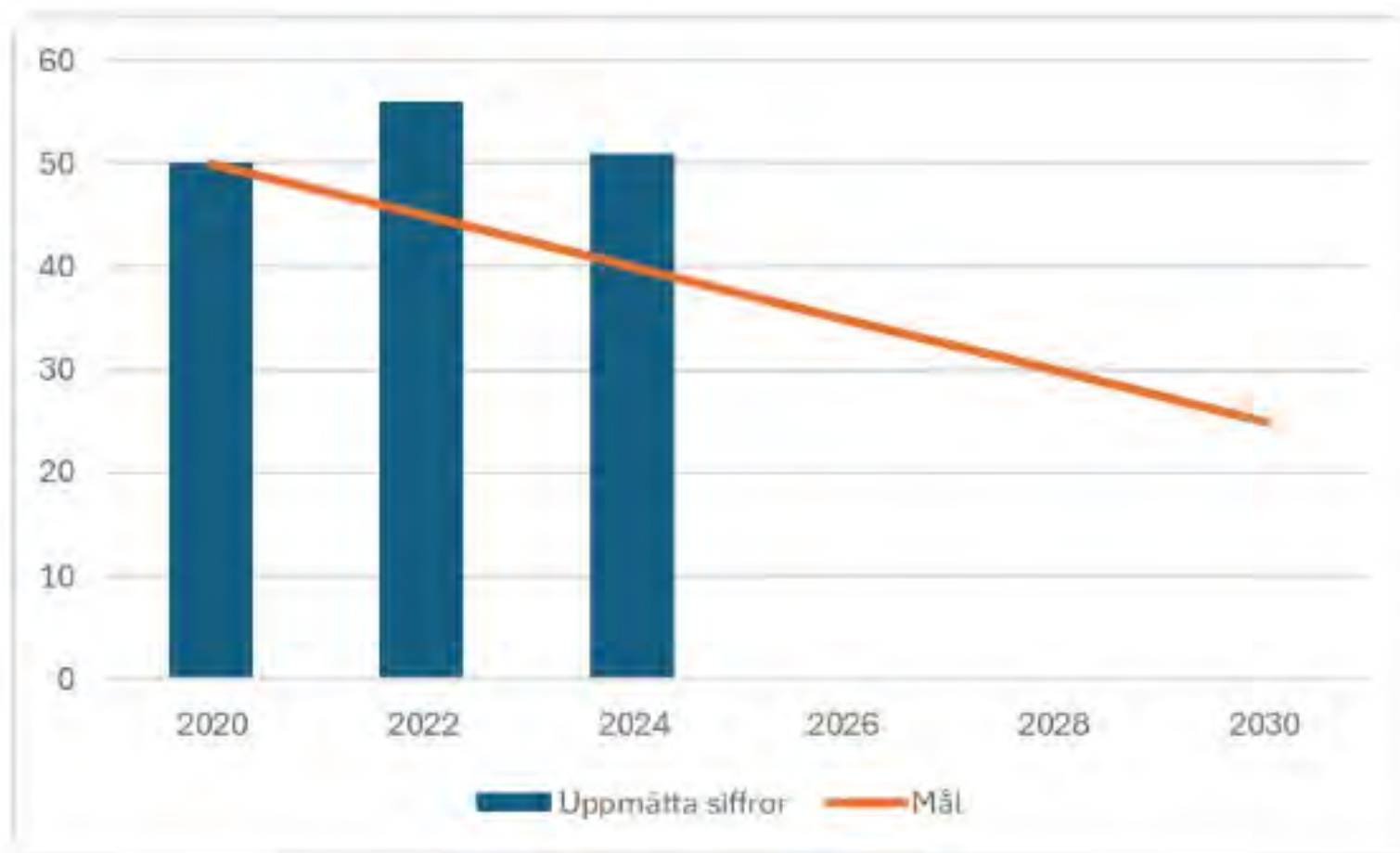
Food waste in Sweden (kilo per person) 2020 to 2023 (2018)



Edible food waste 2020 and 2023 (2018)



Edible food waste in schools (in gram)



Edible food waste in schools from lunches

- 51 gram per pupil (excluding drinks)
- 10 600 tons of edible food per year
- **Around 35 million lunches**
- To the cost of around 34 000 Euro



Handbook to reduce food waste – released 2020

Measures for:

- Preschools
 - Schools
 - Elderly care
 - Hospitals
-
- National measuring method



Handbook to reduce food waste

– för verksamheter inom vård, skola och omsorg.

Edible food waste in households per year (2023)

16 kilo in the bin

18 kilo down the drain

To a total cost of 1,3 billion euro



Consumer surveys every other year

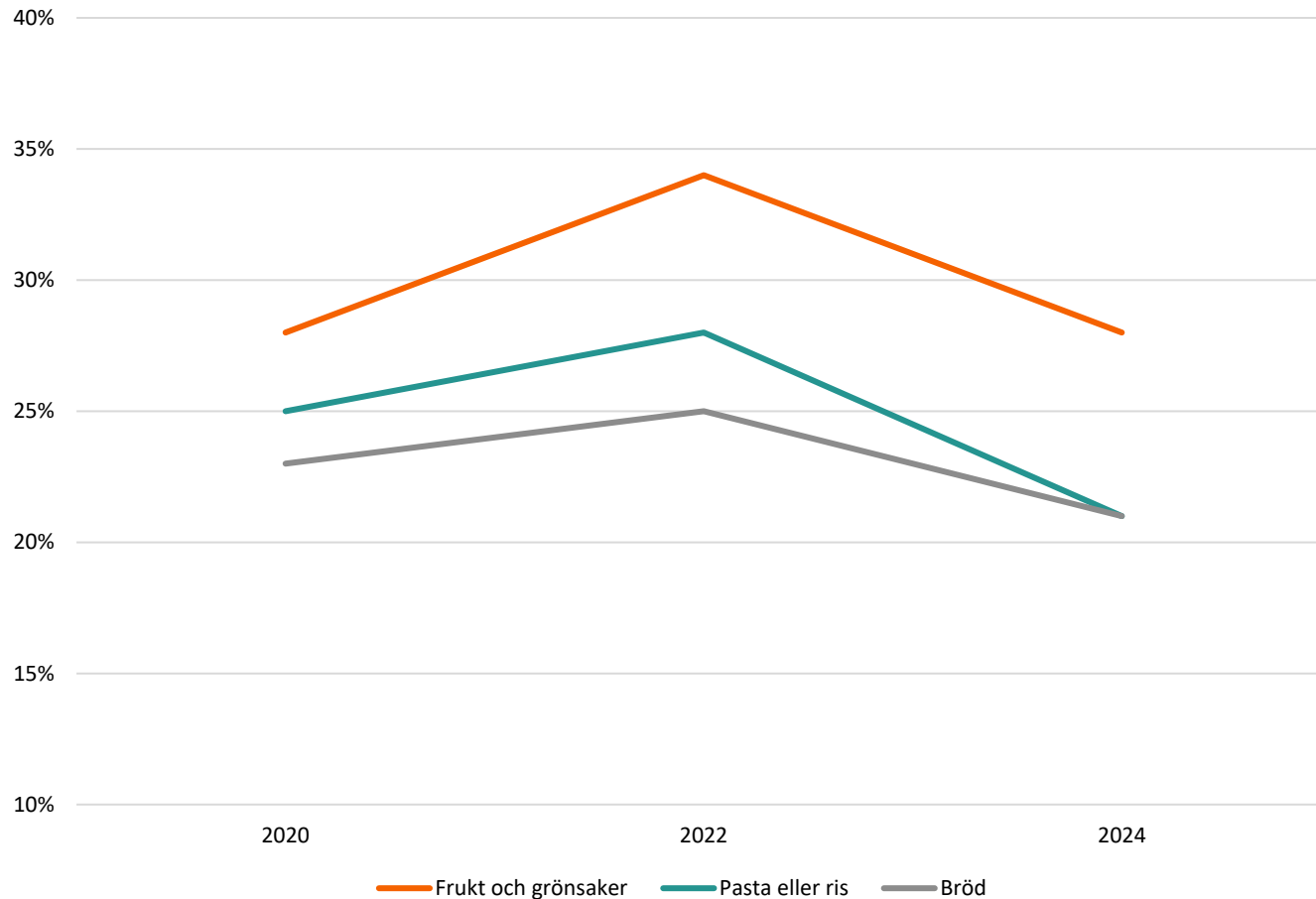
 Livsmedelsverket

Matsvinn i hemmet 2024

Kännedom, attityd och beteende
en konsumentundersökning

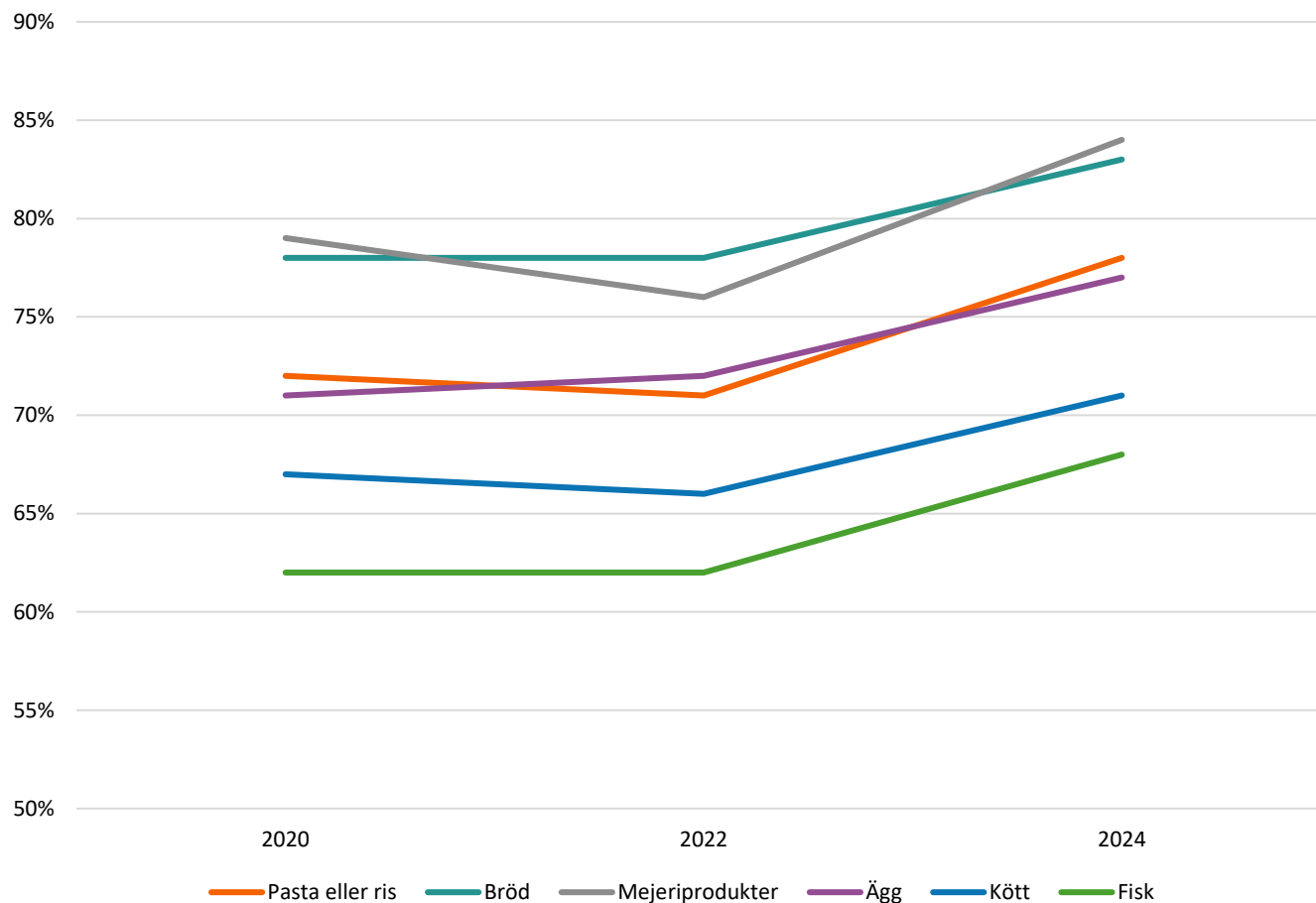


Fruit and vegetables are most often thrown away, followed by pasta or rice and bread



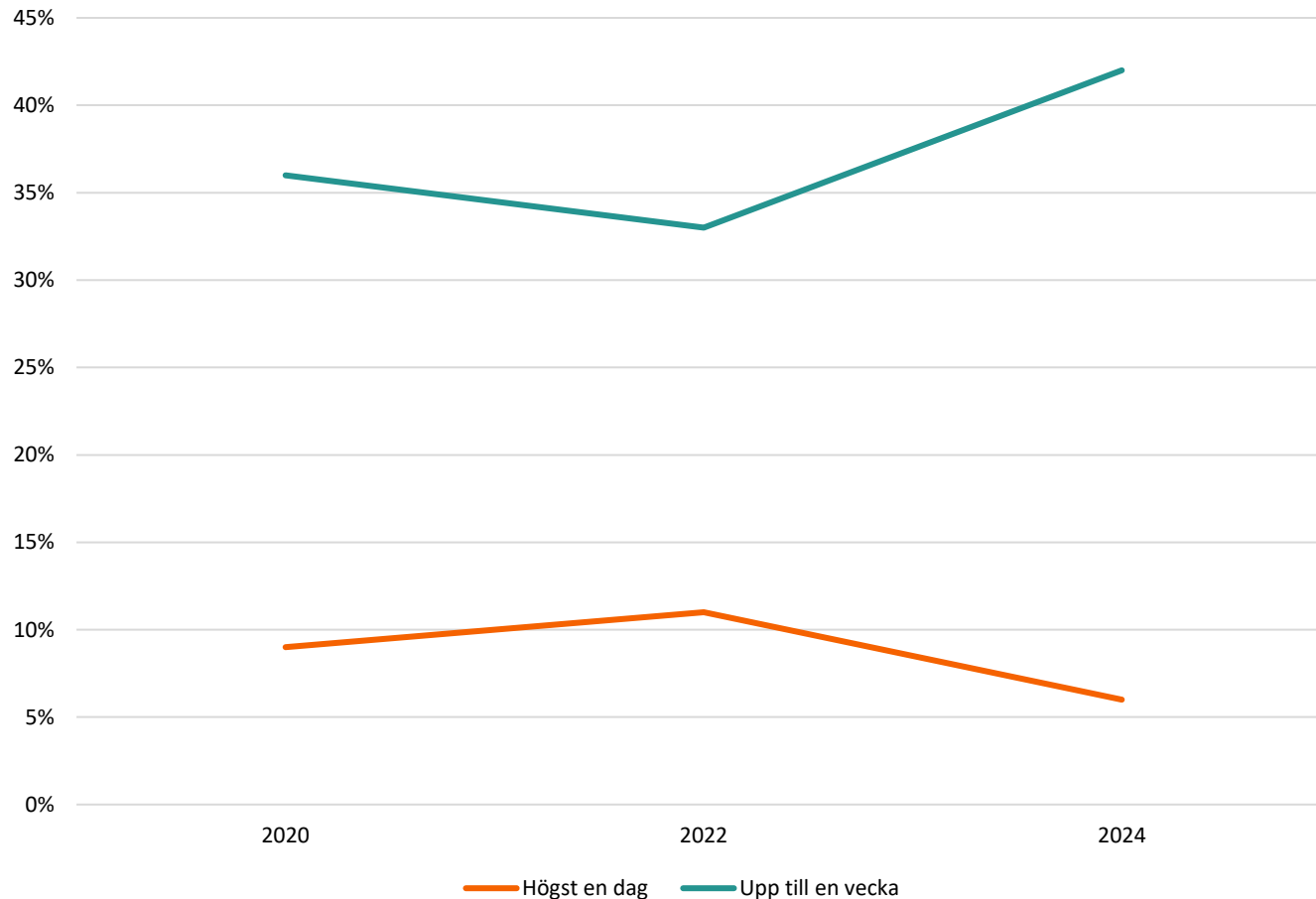
Percentage of consumers who respond that they throw away fruit and vegetables, pasta or rice or bread at least once a week

More consumers use their senses to decide if the food can be eaten



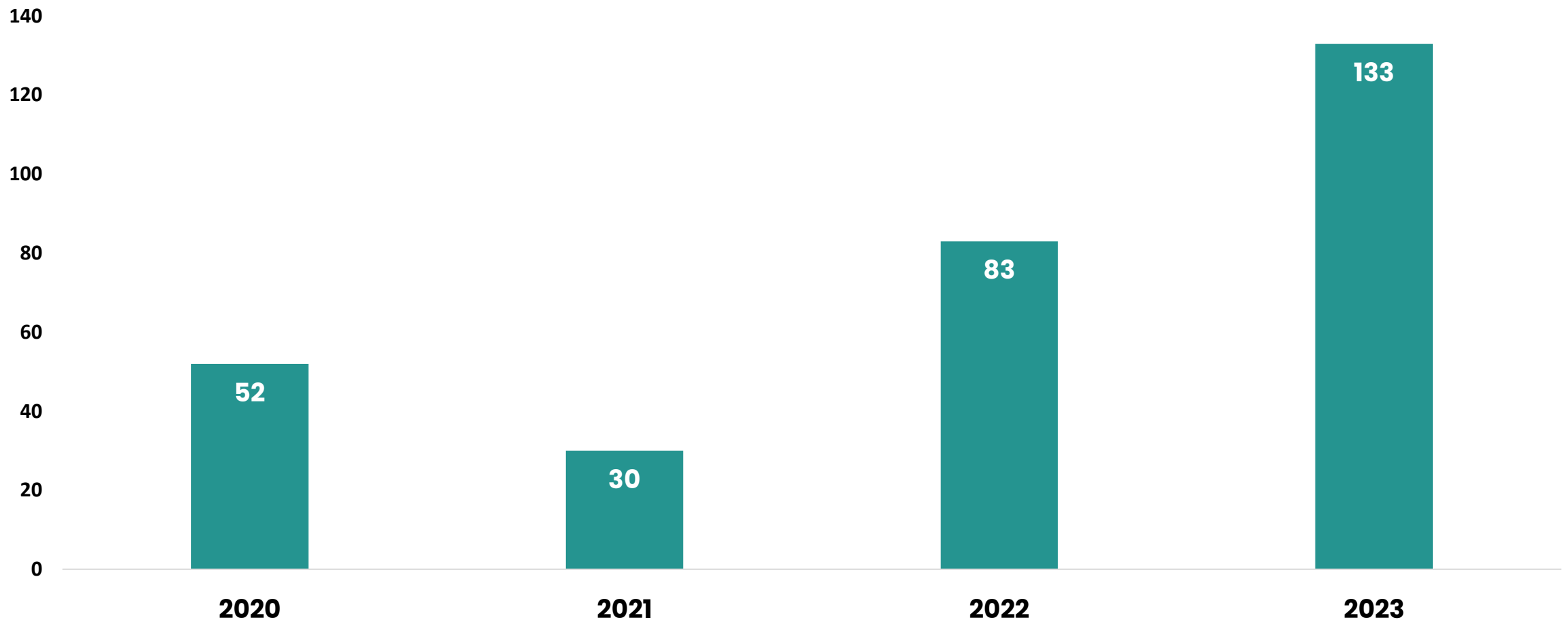
Percentage of consumers who respond that they use their senses and look, smell and taste to see whether food is edible or not

More consumers know that cooked food lasts up to a week



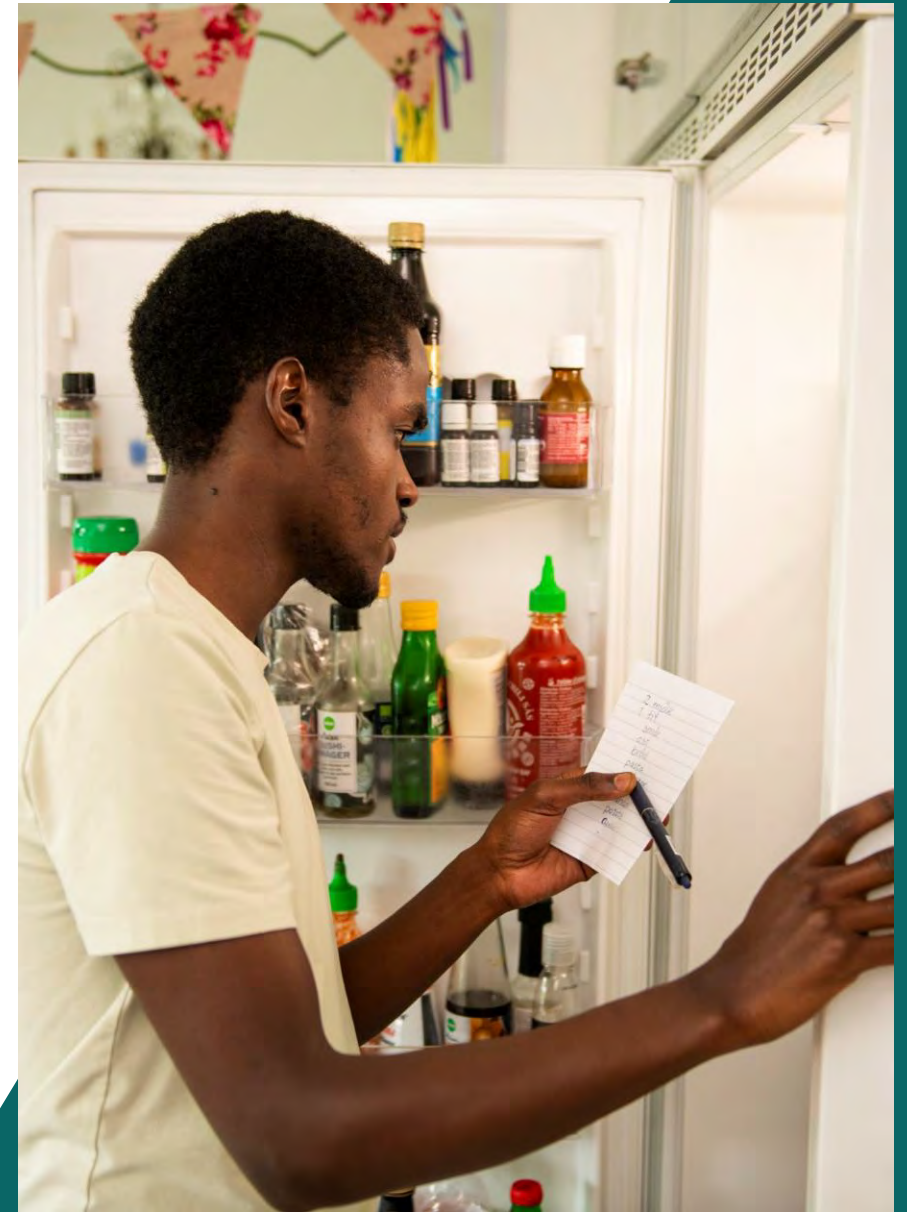
Percentage of consumers who know how long cooked food lasts in the refrigerator

International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste – in Swedish media



We need to continue to communicate

- Increase consumer awareness and knowledge
- Create opportunities for consumers
- Take the lead and engage more





**Thanks for
listening!**

Swedish Food Agency

Karin Fritz

Swedish Action plan

Action plan (in Swedish, summary in English):

[FLER GÖR MER - Handlingsplan för minskat matsvinn 2030](#)