

The Role of FSIS' Data Analysis and Integration Group

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Response



Data from Other Sources
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Data and FSIS Decision Making

- Sound science is essential to protect the food supply and achieve FSIS' public health mission
- Valid and high quality data are the underpinning of sound science
- The use of data in FSIS' actions needs to be transparent, consistent and appropriate

External Comments

- External groups have made comments on FSIS data deficiencies:
 - NACMPI
 - Input through the RBI process
 - OIG reports
- FSIS needs a stronger focus on
 - Identifying data needs
 - Analyzing data
 - Integrating data

Agency Response

- FSIS has formed two groups to improve data and data analysis
 - Data Analysis and Integration Group (DAIG) - comprised of senior agency scientists
 - Data Coordination Committee (DCC)

What will the DAIG do?

- Evaluate individual data streams and integrate data analyses across FSIS program offices
- Ensure data analyses are relevant to program offices' business processes and the agency mission
- Ensure data analyses are consistent and of high quality

What will the DAIG do?

- Conduct data analyses to inform agency decisions
- Conduct analyses to identify data gaps/needs within and across program offices
- Ensure data analysis is consistent with FSIS policies and OMB guidelines

Who will the DAIG Interact With?

- **Data Coordination Committee (DCC)**
 - Comprised of senior representatives from each FSIS program office
 - Act as liaisons between the DAIG and program offices
 - Provide resources and advice to the DAIG on data and data analyses
 - Identify data and analyses needs

Who will the DAIG Interact With?

- **External Experts**
 - augment expertise with scientists, statisticians, etc.
- **Stakeholders**
 - provide feedback on agency data (collection, validation, analysis, and application)

Who will the DAIG Interact With?

- **FSIS' Office of Policy, Program and Employee Development**
 - Provide input on the agency's data needs and data analysis priorities
- **Office of the Chief Information Officer**
 - Create the IT structure to facilitate data analysis, integration and reporting
 - Ensure the security of electronic databases

Summary

- As a regulatory government agency, FSIS' actions need to be transparent, consistent, appropriate, and data-driven
- The DAIG and DCC will strengthen the agency's focus on data and data analysis, and strengthen the foundations of agency decisions