

Quarterly Livestock Humane Handling Inspection

Data Documentation

Overview

The Humane Methods of Slaughter Act (7 U.S.C. 1901, 1902, and 1906) requires that the handling and slaughtering of livestock be carried out only by humane methods. Inspection Program Personnel (IPP) and Public Health Veterinarians (PHVs) perform Humane Handling tasks, issue noncompliance records (NRs), and take enforcement action when appropriate. When conducting Humane Handling tasks, IPP and PHVs use the Humane Handling Activities Tracking System (HATS) to record the number of hours spent observing and verifying the humane treatment of livestock.

This report represents a yearlong snapshot of Humane Handling activities at federally inspected establishments as recorded in the Public Health Information System (PHIS), Data Warehouse (DW), and HATS as of the report creation date listed in the heading of the data set. The report is posted on a quarterly basis and reflects data from the most recent four fiscal quarters. Each new posting will reflect the most updated data for all four quarters. The report contains three tables, presenting information by (1) district, (2) HACCP size, and (3) quarter.

Additional information regarding [Humane Handling](#) can be found on the FSIS website.

Data Dictionary

Data elements are listed in the order in which they appear in the dataset and are identical in all three tables.

- **Number of Slaughter Establishments**
 - Definition: The number of federally inspected establishments that have slaughtered livestock in the past year. This does not include custom only slaughter establishments or state inspected establishments.
- **Slaughter Volume (in Heads)**
 - Definition: The number of livestock head slaughtered at federally inspected establishments.
- **Number of Suspensions**
 - Definition: The number of Humane Handling suspensions. This number includes suspensions and reinstatement of suspensions, which may be imposed for egregious inhumane handling or slaughtering of livestock.
- **Number of Notices of Intended Enforcement**
 - Definition: The number of Humane Handling Notices of Intended Enforcement (NOIE). An NOIE is given to an establishment prior to an enforcement action and gives the establishment the opportunity to demonstrate or achieve compliance.
- **Number of Humane Handling Tasks Performed**
 - Definition: The number of Humane Handling tasks performed under the 04C02 task code.

- **Number of Humane Handling Tasks Noncompliant**
 - Definition: The number of Humane Handling tasks conducted under the 04C02 task code that resulted in a noncompliance record.
- **Percentage of Humane Handling Tasks Noncompliant**
 - Definition: This item is calculated by dividing the number of Humane Handling tasks noncompliant by the number of humane handling tasks performed.
- **Number of Humane Handling Noncompliances**
 - Definition: The number of noncompliances recorded within noncompliance records (NRs) as a result of performing Humane Handling tasks. Note: For each task, no more than one NR may be generated. Each NR may contain one or more noncompliances found during performance of a single verification task.
- **HATS Hours**
 - Definition: The time in hours recorded by Inspection Program Personnel and Public Health Veterinarians in the Humane Handling Activities Tracking System while conducting Humane Handling tasks.