2012 Chicken Parts Microbiological Baseline Study Data Dictionary

Overview

This datafile accompanies FSIS' *Quantitative Microbial Risk Assessment for Salmonella in Raw Chicken and Raw Chicken Products* (referred to here as the chicken risk assessment).

The CSV file **2012_ChickenParts_Baseline_Blind.csv** contains the sample-level data from the FSIS Chicken Parts Microbiological Baseline Study from January through August 2012. It contains only those variables and data that are used in the chicken risk assessment and specifics of the data analyses are described in that document.

This dataset is available in an open, non-proprietary, publicly accessible CSV format instead of XLSX, consistent with requirements set by the Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act of 2018. For further description of the sample collection, laboratory methods used, and data summaries for all collected variables see Nationwide Microbiological Baseline Data Collection Program: Raw Chicken Parts Survey.

Data Dictionary

- ProjectID
  - A short name given to easily identify an FSIS sampling project. The project code used in this dataset is B49PARTS.
- ID
  - A number uniquely identifying each establishment in this dataset. It does not correspond across the risk assessment baseline datasets, or other FSIS datasets.
- Date_Received
  - The date the sample was received by the laboratory.
- Sal_Screen
  - The result of the preliminary analysis for *Salmonella* species in the sample.
    - Negative = *Salmonella* species was not found in the sample.
    - Positive = *Salmonella* species was found in the sample.
- Sal_MPN
  - Result of the analysis to estimate the population density of viable *Salmonella*. Results are reported as the number of tubes that were observed to have positive growth responses in a standard dilution series of sample inoculum placed into a set number of culture media tubes. Samples with no observed growth are reported as NA.
- Sal_Qual
  - Qualitative result of the analysis to estimate the population density of viable *Salmonella*.
    - Positive = observed growth responses in at least one culture tube of a standard dilution series of the sample inoculum.

- - Negative = no growth observed.
- Sal_Quan
  - Result of the analysis to estimate the population density of viable *Salmonella*. Results are reported as an estimate of the most probable number (MPN/mL) of observed positive growth responses in a standard dilution series of sample inoculum. Samples with no observed growth are reported as NA.
- APC
  - Result of the analysis for enumeration of total viable aerobic mesophilic flora, Aerobic Plate Count (CFU/mL) in a sample. The lower limit of detection of this method was 10 CFU/mL, and sample which were not enumerable are reported as <10.
- EB
  - Result of the analysis for enumeration of total viable Enterobacteriaceae (CFU/mL) in a sample. The lower limit of detection of this method was 10 CFU/mL, and sample which were not enumerable are reported as <10.

Notes and Limitations

Data elements with the same or similar names across baseline data sets should not be considered comparable. Data users should reference the collection methods described in the baseline reports to verify if and when elements are comparable.

Any data elements with the same or similar names as data in current data postings should not be considered comparable. These baseline data are historical, and data users should consider changes in FSIS laboratory technologies, sampling methods, and policy changes to contextualize them.

Information about current FSIS sampling laboratories and procedures can be found on the FSIS website on the Laboratories & Procedures web page and the Microbiology Laboratory Guidebook (MLG) web page.

These data can be used to provide insight into *Salmonella* contamination in FSIS regulated poultry industry. These data cannot and should not be used to describe any single establishment. Rather, by fitting appropriate distributions to these historical *Salmonella* concentration data and the current FSIS *Salmonella* prevalence estimates, a cohesive understanding of the overall industry can be developed. FSIS utilized such methods in the chicken risk assessment and recommends these additional references as guidance: ref (1), ref (2), ref (3), ref (4), ref (5).

Data contained in this dataset on tested product from establishments are not sufficient to determine an association with human illnesses. Further epidemiologic information is needed to determine if there is an association among the non-clinical isolates and human illnesses.