

Import Volume Data – Data Documentation

Overview

These data represent the volume of imported meat, poultry, and egg products presented for reinspection to the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) at port of entry. Federal law requires every commercial shipment of imported meat, poultry, and egg products to be inspected prior to product entering U.S. commerce. FSIS inspects each shipment to verify labeling, proper certification, general condition, any signs of tampering and to identify product adulterated by transportation damage. FSIS also performs additional activities on a random and/or for-cause basis such as physical product examination and laboratory sampling for pathogens and chemical residues. (See [Notes and Limitations section](#) for additional information.)

Depending on the report execution date and the ongoing reinspection process, the data are subject to change. To accommodate the changing nature of this data, there will be two data sets provided, archived and current. The current data set will include the prior fiscal year of data in addition to the current fiscal year up through the most recent completed quarter prior to the report execution date. The current dataset will be updated quarterly. The archived dataset will provide data starting from October 1, 2013 up through the month proceeding the first date available in the current data set. The archived data set will be updated annually.

Each row in this data set represents the net weight in pounds presented for reinspection to FSIS at port of entry for the specified year, month, country, process category, product category, slaughter class, and product group.

Data Dictionary

- Year
 - Definition: The year of the date the FSIS inspector received the shipment in the Public Health Inspection System (PHIS).
 - The value is subject to change depending on the report execution date. Please see the Notes and Limitations section.
- Month
 - Definition: The month of the date the FSIS inspector received the shipment in PHIS.
 - The value is subject to change depending on the report execution date. Please see the Notes and Limitations section.
- Country
 - Definition: The name of the country that issued the inspection certificate for the imported product on the FSIS 9540-1 Import Inspection Application.
- ProcessCategory

- Definition: The nine process categories used for imported products. ([See Notes and Limitations section.](#))
- ProductCategory
 - Definition: Further describes process category to include slaughter class name. ([See Notes and Limitations section.](#))
- SlaughterClass
 - Definition: The name of the predominant slaughter class in the product. ([See Notes and Limitations section.](#))
- ProductGroup
 - Definition: Further describes the product down to the finished product information. ([See Notes and Limitations section.](#))
- NetWeightPresented
 - Definition: The net weight of lot in pounds presented for reinspection to FSIS at port of entry.

Relationship to Other Data

These data can be combined with other FSIS datasets using the country, process category, product category, slaughter class, and product group variables. However, you must aggregate the other FSIS datasets to the year and month based on the ReceivedLotDate variable. Also, slaughter class may be referred to as species in other FSIS datasets.

Notes and Limitations

This dataset is in response to the demand for easier access to information that is frequently requested under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA.) Please visit the FSIS website for more information on available datasets and the Establishment-Specific Data Release Strategic Plan.

(<https://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsis/topics/data-collection-and-reports/data>)

Information about the FSIS Product Categorization can be found on the FSIS website. Slaughter Class is equivalent to Species in the FSIS Product Categorization.

(<https://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/wcm/connect/abbf595d-7fc7-4170-b7be-37f812882388/Product-Categorization.pdf?MOD=AJPERES>)

Year and month variables are based on the ReceivedLotDate data in PHIS which are as of the report execution date. These data are subject to change whenever an FSIS inspector re-receives the lot. This may occur if the inspector re-opens the application.

Prior Analysis

These data provide a variety of variables that can be used in analysis; however, this dataset, as a whole, has not been previously used for analysis.