

Livestock Humane Handling Inspection Task

Data Documentation

Overview

The Humane Methods of Slaughter Act (7 U.S.C. 1901, 1902, and 1906) requires the handling and slaughtering of livestock be carried out only by humane methods. Inspection program personnel (IPP) perform the Livestock Humane Handling Verification Task at least once per slaughter shift. This task is performed when slaughter operations are being conducted by the official establishment or when animals are on the official establishment premise, even when slaughter operations are not scheduled to be conducted. Regulations verified during the performance of the Livestock Humane Handling Verification Task can include any combination of humane handling regulations in Title 9 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 313.1-313.50. The [Regulations](#) verified during the performance of a Livestock Humane Handling Verification Task may vary due to differences in inspected establishments and the processes available for IPP to verify at the time verification task is performed.

Records are eligible for inclusion if the Inspection Task Code value is 04C02 (Livestock Humane Handling).

These data contain information on livestock humane handling inspection task verifications. Also, noncompliance records (NRs) or Memorandum of Interview (MOIs) associated with the task are reported. NRs are only eligible for inclusion if the NR regulations (NRRegs) or NR description (NRDescription) field is populated. Rows in the data that don't contain NR fields indicate instances of the task where inspectors did not find regulatory noncompliance.

This dataset is a snapshot in time of a dynamic process. Datasets are posted by fiscal quarter with a quarter lag on the first Friday of the next quarter. For example, data for Fiscal Year 2023 Quarter 1 was posted on April 7, 2023. This information will be updated on a quarterly basis and will be made available to the public in future datasets.

Establishments may present objections to content within a MOI and may appeal an NR per 9 CFR 306.5. Appeals and objections may result in revised data reflected in future data sets. More information regarding appeals can be found in the [FSIS Fact Sheet: Appealing Inspection Decisions](#).

All personally identifiable information (e.g., names, phone numbers, etc.) and any corporate proprietary information has been redacted.

Additional information regarding [humane handling](#) can be found on the FSIS website. Please note that as of September 24, 2020, FSIS modified the definition of egregious inhumane treatment and updated instructions to IPP. IPP are now instructed to document egregious inhumane treatment as a NR instead of an MOI as was the instruction prior to September 24, 2020.

Data Dictionary

Data elements are listed in the order in which they appear in the dataset.

- EstablishmentID
 - Definition: A unique number identifier that is used to identify an establishment across data tables in FSIS databases.
- EstablishmentNumber
 - Definition: A letter/number combination uniquely identifying each establishment.
 - Each establishment is assigned a number for each FSIS grant of inspection or approval for voluntary inspection. Each number is preceded by a variable prefix to indicate the type of grant or approval.
 - M = Meat
 - P = Poultry
 - I = Imports
 - G = Eggs
 - V = Voluntary
 - Some establishment numbers also have a suffix letter. These letters indicate different establishments.
 - Establishments with multiple numbers have multiple grants of inspection or approval. When this happens, the different numbers are joined with a '+’.
 - Examples
 - *M1234* – The prefix ‘M’ indicates that the establishment has a meat grant. The ‘1234’ is the numerical portion that goes with the meat grant.
 - *P1234* – The prefix ‘P’ indicates that the establishment has a poultry grant. The ‘1234’ is the numerical portion that goes with the poultry grant.
 - Note: If an establishment has more than one grant or approval, the numerical portions may be the same, but that is not required.
 - If establishment *M234* has a poultry grant as well, the poultry number might be *P234*, but it could be a different number.
 - If *M234* has a poultry number that is different than *P234*, (e.g., *M234+P567*), then *P234* could be the number of a different establishment.
 - *M1234A* and *M1234B* would be different establishments because they have different suffixes.
- EstablishmentName
 - Definition: The name of an establishment on the FSIS grant of inspection.
- InspectionDate
 - Definition: The date of the inspection task.
- InspectionTypeCategory
 - Definition: A category that denotes whether the inspection was routine or directed.
 - Routine: Inspection verification activities conducted on a routine, ongoing, or planned basis whenever the establishment is in operation.
 - Directed: Inspection verification activities performed on an as-needed basis.
- ShiftTypeID
 - Definition: An identifier to distinguish between Shift 1 and Shift 2.
 - Values:
 - 1: Shift 1
 - 2: Shift 2

- InspectionTaskCode
 - Definition: A short name given to identify an inspection task. The task code in this data set is '04C02'.
- InspectionTaskName
 - Definition: The name for a given taskcode. For example, a value of '04C02' represents tasks associated with Livestock Humane Handling.
- TaskId
 - Definition: A unique identifier that is used to identify each inspection task.
- RegsVerified
 - Definition: The regulations that were verified in the inspection task.
- RegsVerifiedCount
 - Definition: The number of regulations that were verified in the inspection task.
- NoncomplianceID
 - Definition: A unique identifier for a specific noncompliance within a noncompliance record.
- NRNumber
 - Definition: The noncompliance record number.
- NRRegs
 - Definition: The regulations associated with the specific noncompliance in the noncompliance record.
- NRRegsCount
 - Definition: The number of regulations associated with the specific noncompliance in the noncompliance record.
- NRDescription
 - Definition: The description of the specific noncompliance within the noncompliance record.
- MOINumber
 - Definition: The unique identifier that identifies each MOI.
- MOIDate
 - Definition: The date that the MOI record was opened.
- MOIDescription
 - Definition: The narrative portion of the MOI documentation.

Relationship to Other Data

The data can be combined with other FSIS datasets using the EstablishmentID variable.

Notes and Limitations

To calculate the noncompliance rate, take the sum of the NRRegsCount column and divide it by the sum of the RegsVerifiedCount column.

Information about FSIS' noncompliance reports can be found in FSIS' ["What is a Noncompliance Report"](#) article. More information regarding appealing NRs can be found in Directives [13,000.3](#) and [5000.1](#) as well as the [FSIS Fact Sheet: Appeal Inspection Decisions](#).

Information on the objection to the content in an MOI can be found in Directives [5000.1](#), [5010.1](#), and [6900.2](#). Directive [6900.2](#) also provides information regarding egregious inhumane handling. Per a change in policy as of September 24, 2020, egregious humane handling violations are documented as a noncompliance record and may result in a Notice of Intended Enforcement or suspension. Information on official enforcement actions FSIS has taken against establishments that have been found in violation of the Humane Methods of Slaughter Act is available [on the FSIS website](#).

For data with inspection dates between April 1, 2021 and September 30, 2021, FSIS did not redact the name of Plant Managers or Owners within the NRDescription or MOIDescription field.

Datasets released July 7, 2023 and later reflect changes to FSIS' redaction guidelines that were applied to both Current and Archive datasets across all records. Roles (e.g., Supervisory Public Health Veterinarian, plant owner) and titles (e.g., Dr., Jr., Mr.) are no longer redacted.

Converting from CSV to PDF

1. Select "View" and then "Page Break Preview" from the top menu bar in Excel -or- select the "Page Break Preview" icon located to the left of the "Zoom Out" slider button in the lower right-hand corner of the document.
2. Move the blue vertical lines to include the desired columns for each page.
3. Move the blue horizontal lines to include the desired rows for each page.
4. Select "File".
 - a. Select "File" and then "Save As" from the top menu bar.
 - b. In the drop down, select "Save As Adobe PDF" or select "Save As" and then select PDF (*.pdf) from the drop-down list.

Another option to convert CSV files to PDF is to use [Adobe's PDF Converter](#). This enables the user to upload Excel files, convert the files to PDF, and to download the files onto the user's computer.

Filtering Tips

If it is desired to only view records that have a populated field for NRDescription or MOIDescription, then follow these steps:

NRDescription

1. Select the drop-down arrow from NRDescription.
2. Deselect "Blanks".
3. Click "OK".

To clear the filter:

4. Click the drop down for NRDescription.
5. Click "Clear filter from NRDescription".

MOIDescription

1. Select the drop-down arrow from MOIDescription.
2. Deselect "Blanks".
3. Click "OK".

To clear the filter:

4. Click the drop-down for MOIDescription.
5. Click "Clear filter from MOIDescription".

Note: It is highly recommended to filter on one field at a time.