



OIG Audit Report
Risk-Based Inspection
Findings and Recommendations

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Findings and Recommendations

A solid foundation for a risk –based program that focuses FSIS inspection resources to protect public health should be based upon a system that uses four driving principles:

1. Science and statistical analysis based upon high-quality, relevant data that focuses on risk analysis and prevention
2. Effective integration of FSIS data management systems
3. Strong Information technology and infrastructure
4. Effective management controls over inspection activities



Principle 1: Science and Statistically Relevant Data

- Identify how Food Safety Assessments will influence the assignment of resources as they play a significant role in providing the most comprehensive assessment of an establishment's food safety system
- Clearly define the scientific basis of how components of in-plant inspection results, laboratory sampling, enforcement actions, in commerce information such as recalls and consumer complaints will be utilized as an accurate characterization of an establishment's food safety controls.



Principle 2: Effective Integration of FSIS Data Management Systems

- Clearly articulate how the accuracy of inspection and production data will be substantiated
- Clearly define the comprehensive use of data by the Agency to focus FSIS inspection resources on those areas of greatest food safety risk to protect public health
- Complete a comprehensive Agency-wide examination of analytical and information needs including how or who should perform analysis, who needs the analysis and who takes action (assess risk, develop policy, or take action) based upon the analysis.



Principle 3: Strong Information Technology and Infrastructure

- **Assure the validity of data**
- **Institute proper oversight and control during development and testing of critical IT applications integral in supporting the public health system**
- **Ensure the capacity and security of the IT infrastructure meet the requirements for implementing a public health system**



Principle 4: Effective Management Controls over Inspection Activities

- Fully implement management controls that
 - Measure organizational performance of the FSIS inspection program at all levels of the organization
 - Hold management and supervisory personnel accountable for development of inspection methodology, training of inspection processes and implementation of corrective measures when objectives or standards are not met.



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Findings and Recommendations

FSIS has reached management agreement on the 35 recommendations in the OIG audit Report. The agreed upon Agency actions meet the 4 OIG main principles:

- Science and statistical analysis based upon high-quality, relevant data that focuses on risk analysis and prevention
- Effective integration of FSIS data management systems
- Strong Information technology and infrastructure
- Effective management controls over inspection activities