



## Inspection Coverage in Official Establishments That Slaughter Fish of the Order Siluriformes

On May 17, 2017, FSIS published a *Federal Register* Notice announcing its plan to adjust inspection coverage at official fish slaughter establishments, starting Sept. 1, 2017, from all hours of operation to once per production shift. In addition, FSIS will inspect all fish processing operations at least once per production shift, as discussed in the final rule. In the December 2015 final rule, "Mandatory Inspection of Fish of the Order Siluriformes and Products Derived from Such Fish," the Agency stated that upon initial implementation of fish inspection on March 1, 2016, it would assign inspection personnel during all hours of operation at official establishments that slaughter live fish (80 FR 75590). The Agency also stated that, based on its findings during the 18-month transitional period which ends Sept. 1, 2017, it may adjust inspection frequency in official fish establishments in the future, meaning that although inspection would be provided when an establishment is operational, it may not be during all hours of operation (80 FR 75606). FSIS is announcing this plan to adjust inspection frequency to once per production shift based on its in-plant experience to date confirming that fish slaughter establishments are most similar in operation and design to meat processing-only establishments and to facilitate the efficient use of inspection personnel.

## FSIS Posts Aggregate Results for Chicken Parts, Comminuted Poultry and Poultry Carcasses Tested for *Salmonella* and *Campylobacter*

On May 22, 2017, FSIS will update the publicly posted aggregate sampling results (not individual establishments) relative to process control categories for establishments producing young chicken or turkey carcasses, raw chicken parts or Not Ready-To-Eat (NRTE) comminuted poultry products at <https://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsis/topics/data-collection-and-reports/microbiology/salmonella-verification-testing-program>.

FSIS intends to resume individual establishment Category web posting in the future once additional results from follow-up sampling for establishments that are in Category three have been used to help assess establishment corrective actions. FSIS will be regularly assessing the aggregate data to determine if the follow-up sampling is working effectively.

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### Export Requirements Updates

The Library of Export Requirements has been updated for the following countries:

- Barbados
- Guatemala
- Philippines
- Qatar

For a complete list of countries, visit <https://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsis/topics/international-affairs/exporting-products>.

**UPDATE:**

## FSIS Testing for *E.coli*



FSIS Constituent Update is prepared by the Congressional and Public Affairs Staff, Office of Public Affairs and Consumer Education

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FSIS posts biweekly updates of the Agency's raw ground beef *E. coli* sampling program, which includes testing results of raw ground beef component samples for *E. coli* O157:H7 and Shiga toxin-producing *E. coli* (STECs) from FSIS routine and follow-up sampling programs. Data are also presented for non-O157 STECs by each non-O157 STEC serogroup.

Between June 4, 2012 and May 14, 2017, FSIS laboratory services analyzed a total of 18,043 beef trim samples (15,175 domestic and 2,868 imported) 3,993 routine follow-up samples (3,879 domestic and 114 imported) and 348 non-routine follow-up/traceback samples. One-hundred and ninety two samples were found to be positive; 115 were domestic trim samples, nine were imported trim samples, 64 were domestic follow-up samples and four were non-routine follow-up/traceback samples. To date, three samples have been positive for both O157:H7 and at least one non-O157 STEC strain and ten samples have been positive for two different non-O157 O-groups. To review testing results, visit the *E. coli* data tables at <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/FSIS/topics/data-collection-and-reports/microbiology/ec>

## Policy Updates

FSIS notices and directives on public health and regulatory issues are available at <https://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/FSIS/topics/regulations>. The following policy updates were recently issued:

**Notice 27-17** - *Religious Exempt and Very Low Volume Raw Poultry Exploratory Sampling Program*

**Directive 9900.2 Rev. 1** - *Import Reinspection of Meat, Poultry, and Egg Products*

**Docket No. FSIS-2017-0003** - *Changes to the Inspection Coverage in Official Establishments That Slaughter Fish of the Order Siluriformes*

**Docket No. FSIS-2017-0019** - *Meeting of the Codex Alimentarius Commission*

## Sign Up for Siluriformes Fish Inspection Email Updates

Want the latest news and information about Siluriformes fish inspection? FSIS' email subscription service is an easy way to keep up with Agency news. You can receive e-mail notifications when new Siluriformes fish inspection information is posted. You can add or delete your subscription updates at any time and you have the option to password protect your account. For more information, visit <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/subscribe>.

## Get Answers at AskFSIS

AskFSIS is a web-based technology and policy question-and-answer forum on topics such as exporting, labeling, inspection, programs and procedures. In addition, AskFSIS offers Really Simple Syndication (RSS) feeds that link back to the Q and As.

To view recently posted topics, please visit <http://askfsis.custhelp.com/>.