



United States Department of Agriculture

Food Safety and
Inspection Service

1400 Independence
Avenue, SW.
Washington, D.C.
20250

January 17, 2023

TRANSMITTED VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Matthew Stasiewicz
Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
103 Agricultural Bioprocess Laboratory
1302 W Pennsylvania Avenue
Urbana, IL 61801
mstasie@illinois.edu

RE: 2023-FSIS-00047-F
Poultry Sampling Data

Dear Mr. Stasiewicz:

This is the final response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the Department of Agriculture (USDA), Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), dated December 13, 2022. You requested a copy of the following:

- Disaggregated sample-level data for salmonella testing in chicken products, from October 1, 2015 to November 30, 2022, along with related salmonella quantification in raw poultry rinse samples, from July 8, 2022 to November 30, 2022;
- Rehang Salmonella results for the “Revised Young Chicken Carcass Exploratory Sampling Program”, from August 11, 2022 to December 10, 2022;
- The disaggregated raw data for the 2,496 samples as described on page 23 of the “The Nationwide Microbiological Baseline Data Collection Program: Raw Chicken Parts Survey” (2012); and
- The disaggregated raw data for the 3,275 rehang and post chill samples as described in Table 1 of the “The Nationwide Microbiological Baseline Data Collection Program: Young Chicken Survey” (2007-2008).

FSIS received your request on December 13, 2022.

The FSIS FOIA staff works with subject matter experts across the Agency to locate responsive documents. For this request, we conducted a records search in the Office of Public Health Science. FSIS’ search began on December 14, 2022 and includes responsive records in our control on that date.

We have located four (4) Excel spreadsheets that are responsive to your request. After a thorough review of the responsive records, we are releasing them in their entirety. Accordingly, this request is granted in full.

You may appeal this determination by email to FSIS.FOIA@USDA.GOV. Your appeal must be in writing, and it must be received electronically no later than 90 days from the date of this letter. FSIS will not consider appeals received after the 90 calendar-day limit. Appeals received after 5:00 PM EST will be considered received the next business day. Your appeal should include the FOIA tracking number, a copy of your original request, FSIS's response to your original request, as well as reasons supporting your appeal.

For quickest possible handling, please email your appeal to FSIS.FOIA@USDA.GOV, and in the subject line of your email and the appeal letter, mark "Freedom of Information Act Appeal" and reference FOIA No. 2023-FSIS-00047-F.

If you do not have access to email, or are otherwise unable to email your appeal, you may mail your appeal to:

Paul Kiecker
Administrator
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Food Safety and Inspection Service
1400 Independence Avenue, SW.
Room 1170, South Building
Washington, DC 20250-3700

Provisions of the FOIA allow us to recover part of the cost of processing your request. In this instance, no fees will be charged.

If you have any questions about the processing of your request or about the USDA's FOIA regulations, please contact Ethan Pickrell at 202-260-8912 or via email at Ethan.Pickrell@usda.gov. If you have general questions about FSIS' FOIA procedures or regulations, please contact me, the FOIA Director/ FOIA Public Liaison at 202-853-6166 or via email at Dexter.Johnson@usda.gov.

You also have the option to seek assistance from the Office of Government Information. Services (OGIS). Please visit <https://www.archives.gov/ogis/mediation-program/request-assistance> for information about how to request OGIS assistance in relation to a FOIA request.

Thank you for your interest in FSIS programs and policies.

Sincerely,

Dexter Johnson
Director, Freedom of Information Act Staff
Office of Public Affairs and Consumer Education

Enclosure: 4 Excel spreadsheets