

Microbiological Results of Raw Ground Beef Products Analyzed for *Escherichia coli* O157:H7

The table below displays the microbiological results of raw ground beef products analyzed for *E. coli* O157:H7 since 1994. As the data represents, although the amount of positive samples compared to the amount of samples is relatively low, *E. coli* O157:H7 contamination of ground beef still occurs. Furthermore, not all contamination is discovered through USDA/FSIS and/or establishment product testing because it is not possible to test all ground beef products. Therefore, there still remains a level of risk that *E. coli* O157:H7 contamination may still reach the consumer, food service outlet, and/or restaurant.

| Year | | Federal Inspected Establishments | State Inspected Establishments | Retail Exempt Establishments |
|------|------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1994 | Samples Analyzed | 293 | 10 | 588 |
| | Positive Samples | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 1995 | Samples Analyzed | 1,459 | 29 | 2,787 |
| | Positive Samples | 2 | 0 | 1 |
| 1996 | Samples Analyzed | 1,459 | 44 | 3,972 |
| | Positive Samples | 1 | 0 | 3 |
| 1997 | Samples Analyzed | 1,120 | 8 | 4,849 |
| | Positive Samples | 2 | 0 | 1 |
| 1998 | Samples Analyzed | 4,281 | 55 | 3,731 |
| | Positive Samples | 12 | 0 | 2 |
| 1999 | Samples Analyzed | 4,514 | 43 | 3,212 |
| | Positive Samples | 21 | 0 | 11 |
| 2000 | Samples Analyzed | 5,020 | 50 | 1,292 |
| | Positive Samples | 36 | 1 | 17 |
| 2001 | Samples Analyzed | 5,514 | 27 | 1,463 |
| | Positive Samples | 48 | 0 | 11 |
| 2002 | Samples Analyzed | 5,745 | 39 | 1,240 |
| | Positive Samples | 42 | 0 | 13 |
| 2003 | Samples Analyzed | 5,735 | 39 | 779 |
| | Positive Samples | 20 | 0 | 0 |

| Year | | Federal Inspected Establishments | State Inspected Establishments | Retail Exempt Establishments |
|-------|------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 2004 | Samples Analyzed | 7,683 | 0 | 311 |
| | Positive Samples | 14 | 0 | 0 |
| 2005 | Samples Analyzed | 10,866 | 0 | 95 |
| | Positive Samples | 18 | 0 | 0 |
| 2006 | Samples Analyzed | 11,626 | 0 | 133 |
| | Positive Samples | 20 | 0 | 0 |
| 2007 | Samples Analyzed | 12,046 | 0 | 184 |
| | Positive Samples | 29 | 0 | 0 |
| 2008 | Samples Analyzed | 11,230 | 0 | 362 |
| | Positive Samples | 53 | 0 | 0 |
| 2009 | Samples Analyzed | 12,070 | 0 | 631 |
| | Positive Samples | 36 | 0 | 2 |
| 2010* | Samples Analyzed | 11,616 | 0 | 906 |
| | Positive Samples | 29 | 0 | 0 |

* In Quarter 3 (weeks of Aug 5 through Sep 2) approximately 1,100 fewer sample forms were sent out than were scheduled.

Note: No data is available on non-O157 STECs because it was only declared as an adulterant by USDA/FSIS on September 13, 2011, and microbiological testing at USDA/FSIS inspected establishments will not begin until March 5, 2012.