

# THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES

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## **Standing Committee on the Use of Public Health Data in FSIS Food Safety Programs**

### Statement of Task

A standing Committee on the Use of Public Health Data in FSIS Food Safety Programs will be formed to oversee the work of separately appointed ad hoc committees that will review data collected by the USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) and methods used by the agency in risk assessments and in planning for risk-based food inspection. The ad hoc committees are expected to be formed from selected members of the standing committee and other non-committee members with the necessary expertise, to review specific data, risk assessments, vulnerability assessments, algorithms for using data to support risk-based food inspection, and other information of concern to FSIS. The ad hoc committees will prepare consensus reports that include the evaluation of the materials reviewed and detailed findings and recommendations.

The full standing committee will meet twice each year to review the performance of past studies and the progress of ongoing studies; be briefed by agency liaisons about prospective study needs; identify emerging issues that the agency might wish to have addressed in a study; investigate new scientific methods or approaches relative to risk assessments or other issues of interest; and, discuss areas of expertise that should be added to or dropped from the standing committee. During the remainder of the year, the committee will operate by conference calls and email correspondence to discuss new studies, recommend the appropriate composition of study subcommittees, and conduct other business.