

Food and Drug Administration Fact Sheet - Arkansas

FDA Presence: 71 field and 225 research center employees in Arkansas
Dallas District Resident Post in Little Rock, Arkansas: (3 investigators)
reports to: Southwest Region, Dallas, Texas
Import entries are handled out of the Dallas Southwest Import District Office and through the Dallas District Staff located in Arkansas
Arkansas Regional Laboratory: Jefferson (66)
reports to: Southwest Region, Dallas, Texas
Office of Shared Services (1), HHS (1)
National Center for Toxicological Research (NCTR/FDA), Jefferson (225 + 318 contractors)

Industry Presence in State

There are 1,341 FDA-regulated establishments in the State of Arkansas.

- Food establishments (includes cosmetics) - 61 percent
- Animal drug and feed establishments - 15 percent
- Medical device and Radiological establishments - 13 percent
- Human drug establishments – 9 percent
- Biologic establishments (includes blood banks) - 2 percent

Industry Highlights

Eggs - Arkansas is a major egg production state.
Poultry - Arkansas is the home of Tyson poultry productions
Canning - Arkansas is the home of Allen's, Gerber and Bush canning manufacturers
Grains - Arkansas includes a significant rice, wheat, and soybean production.
Farming - Arkansas includes productive animal feed production and catfish farming.
Southwest Import District: Line entries received for fiscal 06 was approximately 327 line entries.

Contracts, Partnerships & Local Activities

State Contracts

Arkansas Department of Health

Conducts food sanitation inspections and inspections of mammography facilities.

Arkansas State Plant Board

Conducts feed mill inspections; determines compliance with BSE Rule.

State Partnerships

Arkansas Department of Health

Establish a partnership with the Arkansas Department of Health to share oversight & authority of regulated dairy manufacturing facilities.

Has an agreement with the Jefferson Labs (NCTR) for emergency space and also shares in an informal reciprocal agreement with ARL for the FERN.

Local Activities, FERN

NCTR, a FDA research center, employs 225 government scientists and 318 contract support personnel who develop, modify or validate FDA regulatory standards. Current work includes studies applying new technologies (such as genomics, proteomics, and metabolomics) in conjunction with traditional biomarkers to provide data more easily extrapolated to the human; investigating the possibility of interspecies transfer of antimicrobial resistance mechanisms to humans; developing knowledge and techniques that will lead to the development of more effective drugs and more personalized medicine; defining methods of identifying subpopulations that are susceptible to particular chemical carcinogens, and likely to experience adverse drug reactions or decreased drug efficacy; and studying the interaction of light with cosmetic ingredients and tattoo pigments.

Dallas District Public Affairs Specialists respond to consumers and media inquires and conduct consumer education outreach to diverse constituents.

Southwest Import District Public Affairs Specialist: Focuses on Import issues. Conducts education and outreach to the Import industry, State and other government officials and supports border health issues.