

**Food and Drug Administration  
Fact Sheet – Arkansas  
(2 pages)**

**FDA Presence:** 71 field and 225 research center employees in Arkansas  
Dallas District Resident Post in Little Rock, Arkansas: (2 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 1,270 FDA-regulated establishments in the State of Arkansas  
(Some firms are in more than one category)  
Food establishments (includes cosmetics) - 55 percent  
Animal drug and feed establishments - 16 percent  
Medical device and Radiological establishments - 15 percent  
Human drug establishments – 11 percent  
Biologic establishments (includes blood banks) - 3 percent

**Industry Highlights**

Retail/Warehousing- Wal-Mart World headquarters  
Eggs - Arkansas is a major egg production state.  
Poultry - Arkansas is the home of several Tyson poultry production facilities  
Canning - Arkansas is the home of Allen Canning, Gerber and Bush food manufacturers  
Grains - Arkansas includes a significant rice, wheat, corn, and soybean production.  
Farming - Arkansas includes productive animal feed production and catfish farming.  
Drug/Medical Devices-Baxter is located in Mountain Home, AR.  
Southwest Import District: Line entries received for fiscal year 07 was approximately  
647. Primary products imported are alcoholic beverages, cosmetics, and animal drugs.

**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

Established 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.

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### **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, including a growing number of Hispanic workers employed by the poultry industry.

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.