

RFR Dashboard Glossary

Amended Report – additional information supplied by an industry or public health submitter to correct or complete a primary or subsequent report.

Commissioned Official – Section 702 (a) (1) of the FD&C Act authorizes the Secretary of Health and Human Services to commission any health, food, or drug officer or employee of any state, territory, or political subdivision thereof as an officer of the Department, to conduct examinations and investigations for the purposes of the FD&C Act. Commissioned Officials must meet the requirements the state has established to credential its own officials to carry out state government regulatory or enforcement responsibilities, and provide written assurances regarding conflict of interest and prohibited financial interests, and maintain the confidentiality of non-public information provided.

Commodities – in summarizing the statistics generated by reports to the RFR during its first year, FDA has sorted the data by type of report (primary, subsequent, and amended), by food safety hazard, and by commodity. For explanations of the commodity categories, please scroll to page three of this document for commodity definitions and examples.

Drug Contamination – a food that contains an unintended drug.

Entries – reportable food submissions that meet the definition of a reportable food and are entered into the Registry.

Excessive Urea – the amount of urea present in feed for an animal species that would cause a serious adverse health consequence or death in that species.

FDA District Offices – FDA's Office of Regulatory Affairs maintains 19 district offices at locations throughout the United States. They are responsible for obtaining compliance with the laws and regulations enforced by FDA, conducting investigations and inspections and collecting samples of foods, drugs, and other commodities for which the Agency has regulatory responsibility, carrying out educational and voluntary compliance programs for FDA-regulated industries, providing assistance to states and localities in emergencies, and conducting consumer affairs and information programs.

Field Assignments – specific instructions and compliance information sent to FDA district offices to address a particular problem relating to FDA-regulated domestic or imported products.

Food Safety Hazards – any biological, chemical, or physical agent that may cause a food/feed to be unsafe for human or animal consumption.

Foreign Objects – objects, typically hard or sharp, that pose physical hazards that can result in injury, e.g. choking, lacerations and perforation of tissues of the mouth, tongue, throat, stomach or intestines. Reportable physical hazards may include, for example, glass, brittle plastic, and metal. For more information concerning foreign objects in human food, see "[Adulteration Involving Hard or Sharp Foreign Objects](#)".

ICSR number- stands for the Individual Case Safety Report (ICSR) number and it is the unique number that identifies a report.

Import Alerts – guidance documents for FDA field staff concerning significant recurring, new or unusual problems affecting import coverage. They include background data and guidance for appropriate enforcement action (generally, detention without physical examination) regarding each product and/or problem.

Import Bulletins – generally provide information for FDA field staff on a suspected problem affecting FDA-regulated imported products. Import bulletins generally call for increased surveillance (field examination and/or sample collection) of suspected problem products. The results of that increased surveillance may lead to subjecting a firm and/or product to an import alert.

Industry Report – a mandatory report from a facility that manufactures, processes, packs or holds human food or animal food/feed (including pet food) for consumption in the United States.

Nonreportable Submission – a report concerning a food that the FDA Risk Control Review (RCR) determines does not meet the definition of a reportable food, or does not concern a food regulated by FDA, or is not submitted by a manufacturer, processor, packer or holder of food registered with the FDA as required under Section 415 of the FD&C Act.

Nutrient Imbalance—excessive or deficient nutrient levels or inappropriate proportions of essential nutrients in an animal food that can compromise the health of the intended animal being fed.

Other – food safety hazards other than *E. coli* O157:H7, *Listeria monocytogenes*, *Salmonella*, Uneviscerated Fish, Foreign Objects, Excessive Urea, Undeclared Sulfites, or Undeclared Allergens, for which there were two reports or less during the period of this report. Note: For simplicity, excessive urea was broken out in Y1 tables for this report although only two reports were received regarding this agent in Year 1.

Reportable Food Registry (RFR) Dashboard Glossary and Commodity Definitions

Pathogen – an agent that causes disease. Pathogens of foodborne origin are typically bacteria, parasites and viruses. Reportable food reports involving pathogens submitted to date have included *Salmonella*, *Listeria monocytogenes*, and *E. coli* O157:H7.

Primary Report – the initial report concerning a reportable food from either industry or public health officials, such as federal, state, or local regulators.

Voluntary Report – a voluntary report by a federal, state or local public health official.

Reportable Food – an article of food/feed for which there is a reasonable probability that the use of, or exposure to, such article of food will cause serious adverse health consequences or death to humans or animals. All foods regulated by FDA are subject to the Reportable Food Registry requirements, with the exception of dietary supplements and infant formula. Other mandatory reporting systems exist for problems with infant formula and dietary supplements.

Reportable Food Registry – an FDA database in which reportable food reports are entered per the "[Risk Control Review \(RCR\) Process for Assessing Reportable Food Reports](#)."

Reportable Food Reports – mandatory reports from industry and voluntary reports from public health officials regarding reportable foods submitted to FDA through the reportable food electronic portal and referred to in this document as "submissions."

Responsible Party – the person who submits the registration information to FDA for a food/feed facility that manufactures, processes, packs, or holds food for human or animal consumption in the United States. The term "person" is defined in section 201(e) of the FD&C Act (21 U.S.C. 321(e)) as including individuals, partnerships, corporations and associations.

Safety Reporting Portal - a Department of Health and Human Services portal that receives various safety reports including the Reportable Food Registry program.

Submissions – all RFR reports that come through the Safety Reporting Portal, including primary, subsequent, and amended reports.

Subsequent Report – a report by either a supplier (upstream) or a recipient (downstream) of a food/feed (including ingredients) for which a primary report has been submitted. The number of subsequent reports depends on whether the primary report is on a widely used ingredient or a **finished** food distributed to many different locations.

Undeclared Major Food Allergens – failure to declare on human food labels the presence of any of the eight major human food allergens (milk, eggs, fish, crustacean shellfish, tree nuts, peanuts, wheat, and soybeans) or proteins derived from them.

Undeclared Sulfites – failure to declare on the associated human food label the presence of any sulfiting agent as described in 21 CFR Part 101.100 (a) (4).

Uneviscerated Fish – internal organs not carefully and/or completely removed from fish.

Commodity Definitions

Number	Commodity Name	Product Examples	Not Included
1	Acidified/LACF	soups, chicken/beef broths, diet and nutritional drinks, pickles, beans, baby food, baby food, canned clams	
2	Animal Feed/Pet Food	animal feed, pet food	
3	Bakery	dough, fresh and frozen bread, pastries, cookies, tortilla, pies, cakes, scones, wafers, biscuits, croutons, bread crumbs, croissants, cookie dough, mixes (cake, muffin, biscuit, pancake), batters and breading	
4	Beverages	water, soft drinks, juices, coffee/tea, hot chocolate, chocolate powders/mixes, flavored drunk syrups, beverage mixes, alcoholic beverages, cocktail mixes, nondairy milk	
5	Breakfast Cereals	boxed cereal, granola, instant cereal	
6	Chocolate/Confections/Candy	chocolate, confections/coatings, candy bars, chewing gum, fudge, caramel apples, frosting, marshmallows	
7	Dairy	Fluid white milk, flavored milks, buttermilk, condensed milk, creams, eggnog, cheeses, cultured products (sour cream, cottage cheese), dairy based dips and spreads (includes seafood dips), dried milk, ice cream, whey, butter	Pudding, nondairy, or cheese analog products
8	Dressing/Sauces/Gravies	condiments, salad dressings, salsa, marinades, soy sauce, barbecue sauce, specialty sauce, dry powder dips, gravies (dry and liquid), vinegar, white and red pasta sauce	Acidified/LACF products
9	Egg	Shell eggs, hardboiled eggs	Dried egg powers or Pasteurized Liquid Egg (USDA regulated) products
10	Frozen Foods	fruits and vegetables (including IQF), frozen meals, TV dinners, pizza	Bakery, Seafood, Pasta, or Dairy products
11	Fruit and Vegetable	processed fruits and vegetables, dried fruits and vegetables, jams, jellies, apple butter, apple sauce, fruit concentrates, raisins, tofu, dried celery, dried onion, dried spinach	Fresh or Frozen produce or Acidified/LACF products
12	Game Meats	snake, bush meats, rabbit, guinea pigs, bison, venison	USDA regulated meat (horse, cattle, sheep, goats, swine, ratites, poultry) products
13	Meal Replacement/Nutritional Food and Beverages	powdered drinks, granola bars, medical foods, energy shakes, dry instant breakfast	Acidified/LACF products
14	Multiple Food Products	Use this classification when an RFR has multiple products listed that are not from the same category.	
15	Nuts/Nut Products/Seed Products	whole or shelled tree nuts, peanuts, coconut, nut butters, tahini, hummus	Sesame seeds, poppy seeds (these are spices)
16	Oil/Margarine	fats, oils (vegetable, cooking), margarine, shortenings	
17	Pasta	pasta (fresh, refrigerated, frozen, filled, dried), macaroni, noodles	
18	Prepared Foods	RTE salads, closed faced sandwiches, appetizers, pasta and rice side dishes with multiple components	Open faced sandwiches (USDA regulated), Frozen Foods, Produce-Fresh Cut, or Acidified/LACF products
19	Produce- Fresh Cut	bagged leafy greens, fresh cut fruits and vegetables, apple slices	Frozen, Raw Agricultural Commodities, or Acidified/LACF products
20	Produce- Raw Agricultural Commodities (RAC)	fresh produce, cored head lettuce, fresh herbs	Processed, Frozen, Dried, Fresh Cut, or Acidified/LACF products
21	Seafood	fishery and seafood products (refrigerated, frozen, fresh), finfish, shellfish, turtles, frogs, alligators	Acidified/LACF products
22	Snack Food	chips, pretzels, pudding, gelatin, popcorn, novelty snacks, sorbet, trail mix	
23	Soup	refrigerated soups, dry mixes, ramen, bouillon cubes	Acidified/LACF products
24	Spices and Seasonings	spices identified in 21 CFR 182.10, rooibos, sesame, poppy, caraway, anise, and fenugreek seeds, meat coatings and rubs, seafood seasoning, dried herbs, dried ginger	

Reportable Food Registry (RFR) Dashboard Glossary and Commodity Definitions

25	Stabilizers, Emulsifiers, Flavors, Colors, and Texture Enhancers	soy lecithin, egg lecithin, gums and thickeners, hydrolyzed vegetable proteins, flavor enhancers, monosodium glutamate, flavorings, pectin, starches, yeast and yeast extracts, leavening agents, food colorings	
26	Sweeteners	corn syrups, sugar, sugar substitutes, honey	
27	Whole and Milled Grains and Flours	flours (wheat, rice, soy), corn meal, oatmeal, grits, rice	
28	Other	includes products that cannot be categorized within one of the 27 categories above. Examples may be non-dairy products, analog cheese	