

SLAUGHTERHOUSE VIOLATIONS & GOVERNMENT RECORDS

Animal handling • Poultry practices • Worker safety • Pollution • Enforcement

GO VEGAN | Public records, direct evidence, clickable sources | Prepared October 2026

WHAT THE RECORDS SHOW

Federal agencies publish slaughterhouse inspection findings, enforcement actions, worker-safety citations and pollution records. No single database covers every facility, every incident or every state inspection.

IMPORTANT: An inspection finding is not necessarily a final legal judgment. Some actions are appealed, corrected, deferred or withdrawn. A facility without a public citation is not proof that no abuse occurred.

ANIMAL HANDLING: USDA ENFORCEMENT

USDA publishes named slaughterhouse enforcement actions

USDA FSIS lists establishment names, notice types and dates for humane-handling enforcement. Public notice letters generally remain online for about one year.

OFFICIAL SOURCE: <https://www.fsis.usda.gov/inspection/regulatory-enforcement/humane-handling-enforcement>

Herscher Halal Meat Locker — June 9, 2025

USDA listed a suspension dated June 9, 2025 and a suspension held in abeyance on the same date. These are enforcement actions, not a count of animals affected.

OFFICIAL SOURCE: <https://www.fsis.usda.gov/inspection/regulatory-enforcement/humane-handling-enforcement>

Puro Alentejano Iberian Pork Corp. — May 2025

USDA listed a suspension dated May 15, 2025 and a suspension held in abeyance dated May 27, 2025; the same establishment also had earlier actions listed in 2024.

OFFICIAL SOURCE: <https://www.fsis.usda.gov/inspection/regulatory-enforcement/humane-handling-enforcement>

Creekstone Farms Premium Beef — April 2025

USDA listed a suspension dated April 7, 2025 and a suspension held in abeyance dated April 8, 2025.

OFFICIAL SOURCE: <https://www.fsis.usda.gov/inspection/regulatory-enforcement/humane-handling-enforcement>

USDA inspection records include findings without suspensions

The livestock humane-handling inspection-task data identify inspection tasks and associated noncompliance records. Rows without noncompliance fields may represent tasks where no regulatory noncompliance was found.

OFFICIAL SOURCE: <https://www.fsis.usda.gov/science-data/data-sets-visualizations/inspection-task-data>

USDA publishes quarterly humane-handling totals

Reports include administrative enforcement actions, humane-handling verification tasks, tasks producing noncompliance records, and inspection observation hours.

OFFICIAL SOURCE: <https://www.fsis.usda.gov/science-data/data-sets-visualizations/humane-handling-data>

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POULTRY: A DIFFERENT FEDERAL FRAMEWORK

Poultry is tracked separately from livestock humane handling

USDA publishes Poultry Good Commercial Practices inspection-task data separately from livestock humane-handling records. The Humane Methods of Slaughter Act does not apply to poultry in the same way as covered livestock.

OFFICIAL SOURCE: <https://www.fsis.usda.gov/science-data/data-sets-visualizations/inspection-task-data>

DO NOT CONFUSE: Different legal coverage does not mean there are no poultry handling rules. Inspectors assess poultry practices under a separate regulatory framework.

FOOD SAFETY & OTHER USDA ACTIONS

USDA can suspend inspection operations

FSIS reports describe withholding, suspension and other enforcement for insanitary conditions, adulterated products and, in applicable cases, inhumane livestock handling. A food-safety suspension is not automatically an animal-cruelty finding.

OFFICIAL SOURCE: <https://www.fsis.usda.gov/inspection/regulatory-enforcement/quarterly-enforcement-reports>

USDA publishes establishment-level and inspection data

FSIS scientific data pages link establishment directories, inspection data, sampling results and other datasets useful for verifying a facility and its records.

OFFICIAL SOURCE: <https://www.fsis.usda.gov/science-data/scientific-reports>

WORKERS: OSHA VIOLATIONS

Search workplace citations by slaughterhouse or company

OSHA's establishment search can show inspection dates, cited standards, proposed penalties and case status. Search by company name and verify the exact facility address.

OFFICIAL SOURCE: <https://www.osha.gov/ords/imis/establishment.html?lv=true>

Search workplace fatalities and catastrophes

OSHA publishes investigation and enforcement resources, including establishment search tools. A workplace violation documents worker-safety enforcement, not necessarily animal handling.

OFFICIAL SOURCE: <https://www.osha.gov/ords/imis/establishment.html?lv=true>

POLLUTION: EPA & WATER DISCHARGES

Slaughterhouse wastewater is federally regulated

EPA's meat and poultry products effluent guidelines cover wastewater from slaughterhouses, further processors, renderers and poultry processors under 40 CFR Part 432.

OFFICIAL SOURCE: <https://www.epa.gov/eg/meat-and-poultry-products-effluent-guidelines>

Search pollution inspections, violations and penalties

EPA ECHO provides facility-level compliance and enforcement information. Match facilities by address and permit number; a permit does not itself establish a violation.

OFFICIAL SOURCE: <https://echo.epa.gov/>

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LAWS & PUBLIC RECORDS

Humane Methods of Slaughter Act

Federal statute establishing humane slaughter requirements for covered livestock; the scope is narrower than all animals killed for food.

OFFICIAL SOURCE: <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/USCODE-2023-title7/pdf/USCODE-2023-title7-chap48.pdf>

Federal humane-slaughter regulations

9 CFR Part 313 covers humane slaughter of livestock, including handling and stunning requirements.

OFFICIAL SOURCE: <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-9/chapter-III/subchapter-A/part-313>

Poultry inspection regulations

9 CFR Part 381 is a separate federal regulatory framework for poultry inspection.

OFFICIAL SOURCE: <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-9/chapter-III/subchapter-A/part-381>

HOW TO VERIFY A SPECIFIC SLAUGHTERHOUSE

1. Find the exact establishment name, location and USDA establishment number.
2. Check USDA humane-handling enforcement letters and livestock/poultry inspection data.
3. Search OSHA using the facility name and street address; distinguish open from final cases.
4. Search EPA ECHO using the same address and any permit identifiers.
5. Record incident date, inspection date, alleged violation, agency action, appeal status and source URL.
6. For older letters or missing records, request records through the relevant agency's FOIA process.

WHAT THESE RECORDS DO — AND DO NOT — PROVE

They establish that government agencies document and sometimes penalize slaughterhouse-related noncompliance. They do not, by themselves, establish that every slaughterhouse violates the law or measure all suffering that occurs within legal slaughter.

To calculate a violation rate, use a defined period and denominator: number of inspected establishments or tasks, not just the number of notices. Separate livestock, poultry, worker safety, food safety and environmental records.

PUBLICATION NOTE: Named examples above are historical entries visible in USDA's 2025 listings; agency pages may remove older notices. Dates and statuses should be rechecked before publishing updated facility allegations.

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