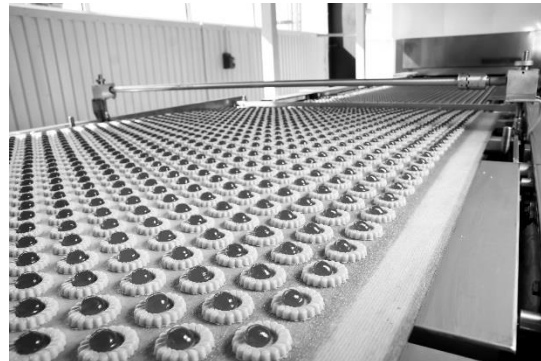




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## IFPTI Fellowship Cohort VI: Research Presentation

JoAnna Beck

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# *Indiana Food Safety Regulator Enumeration*

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- There is a need for an enumeration of food safety regulators by count and job title/classification.
- There is a common belief and understanding among the food regulator community that there are not enough regulators for the number of establishments requiring inspection.

**Currently there is no comprehensive survey of the number, job classification, and organizational affiliation of Indiana food safety regulators.**

1. Which state and local agencies employ food safety regulators?
2. What job classifications exist in each agency?
3. How many food safety regulators are employed in each job classification?
4. How many food safety regulators are employed in each agency?

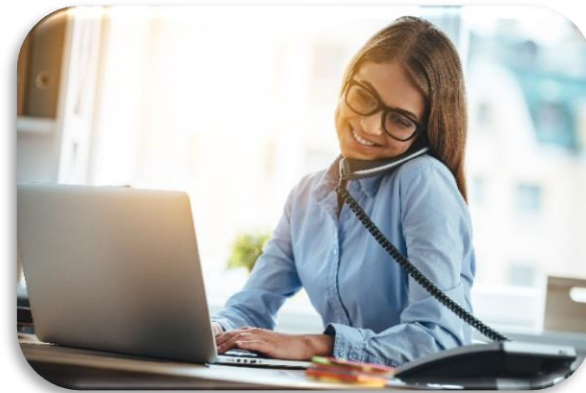
- Started with identifying all food safety regulators within the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH), Food Protection Division



Indiana State  
Department of Health

Image source: ISDH.gov

- Conducted interviews (in-person and by phone) with supervisory staff to obtain contact information for additional state and federal agencies with food regulatory responsibilities in Indiana



- Utilizing the information obtained, email interviews were conducted with the following agencies:
  - Indiana Board of Animal Health
  - Indiana State Egg Board
  - Indiana State Department of Health Acute and Long Term Care divisions
  - United States Department of Agriculture Food Safety Inspection Service (USDA FSIS)
  - U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

- Additionally, a survey was sent via email to all 92 counties in Indiana using contact information from an ISDH Food Protection database





- Data collected from 92 county health departments
- Data collected from Federal Agencies including:
  - FDA
  - USDA
- Data collected from state agencies including:
  - ISDH Food Protection
  - Indiana State Egg Board
  - ISDH Board of Animal Health (BOAH)
  - ISDH Acute and Long Term Care

## Local Health Departments

| Job Title                       | Total Positions | % Regulatory Food Work | Food Regulatory FTE |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Environmental Health Specialist | 87              | 52%                    | 45.24               |
| Food Inspection Officer         | 2               | 100%                   | 2                   |
| Food Inspector                  | 1               | 50%                    | 0.5                 |
| Food Service                    | 1               | 20%                    | 0.2                 |
| Inspector                       | 1               | 95%                    | 0.95                |
| Specialist                      | 5               | 50%                    | 2.5                 |
| Supervisor                      | 7               | 50%                    | 3.5                 |
| Support Staff                   | 2               | 50%                    | 1                   |
| <b>Total</b>                    | <b>106</b>      |                        | <b>55.89</b>        |



## Results (continued)

| <b>State &amp; Federal Agencies</b> |                         |                        |                                 |                            |  |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| <b>Agency</b>                       | <b>Job Title</b>        | <b>Total Positions</b> | <b>% Food Regulatory Effort</b> | <b>Food Regulatory FTE</b> |  |
| <b>FDA</b>                          | Consumer Safety Officer | 6                      | 100%                            | 6                          |  |
| <b>USDA FSIS</b>                    | Food Inspector          | 150                    | 100%                            | 150                        |  |
| <b>ISDH FOOD PROTECTION</b>         | Food Scientist          | 12                     | 100%                            | 12                         |  |
|                                     | Supervisor              | 4                      | 100%                            | 4                          |  |
| <b>ISDH ACUTE CARE</b>              | Inspector               | 4                      | 5%                              | 0.2                        |  |
| <b>ISDH LONG TERM CARE</b>          | Surveyor                | 100                    | 6%                              | 6                          |  |
| <b>ISDH BOAH</b>                    | Supervisor              | 8                      | 100%                            | 8                          |  |
|                                     | Inspector               | 33                     | 100%                            | 33                         |  |
|                                     | Auditor                 | 4                      | 100%                            | 4                          |  |
| <b>EGG BOARD</b>                    | Inspector               | 4                      | 80%                             | 3.2                        |  |
|                                     | Supervisor              | 1                      | 80%                             | 0.8                        |  |
| <b>Total</b>                        |                         | <b>326</b>             |                                 | <b>227.2</b>               |  |

1. Prior to initiating data collection, ensure correct contact information for each regulatory agency to be surveyed.
2. Enlist the assistance of professional organizations that have a significant number of members from the local agencies to communicate background details about the survey and benefits of responding.
3. Initiate a variety of tactics to stimulate response from audiences that have unique needs or do not respond to initial requests for information.
4. When developing a larger survey, researchers should utilize the titles in this study as check boxes to standardize responses.

- Because this was an enumeration study, the target response rate was 100%.
- One of the keys to successful completion of this research was identifying which agencies regulated food, and then finding correct contact information for each agency.
- Getting a 100% response rate and complete information from state and federal respondents was a relatively easy task.

- Polling local health departments proved difficult:
  - There was no accurate, comprehensive contact information for local health departments in Indiana
- Getting all of the local health departments to respond to the survey proved impossible for this study:
  - Short time frame available
  - Methodology employed

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  - Krista Click, Director
  - George Jones, Deputy Director
- The International Food Protection and Training Institute (IFPTI)
  - Steve Steinhoff, Mentor
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  - All IFPTI staff
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# Questions?

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