

TENNESSEE

Food Safety Jurisdictions and Enforcement Authorities



Agency jurisdiction and responsibility for regulating food safety varies from state to state. While an agency may have jurisdiction over a facility or commodity, not all agencies issue licenses or routinely inspect every facility or commodity type. All of the State agencies which have jurisdiction to regulate food safety within the state are listed in the tables below, with their jurisdiction over a particular facility type or commodity denoted by the word “Authority” or “Split Authority” in the row of the facility or commodity type within their column.





MANUFACTURER/PROCESSOR

FACILITY TYPE	TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE	TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH	LOCAL AGENCIES
Food Processor	Authority		
Food Repacked	Authority		
Food Salvager	Authority		
Bottled Water	Authority		
Ice	Authority		
Dietary Supplements	Authority		
Warehouse	Authority		
Food Banks	Authority		
Seafood	Authority		
Food Transport	Authority		
Beer/Wine	Authority		
Distilled Spirits	Authority		
COMMENTS:			





DAIRY

FACILITY TYPE	TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE	TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH	LOCAL AGENCIES
Grade-A Plant	Authority		
Raw Milk	Authority		
Cheese	Authority		
Yogurt	Authority		
Cream/Sour Cream	Authority		
Butter	Authority		
Ice Cream	Authority		
Milk Pooling	Authority		
COMMENTS:			





MEAT/POULTRY

FACILITY TYPE	TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE	TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH	LOCAL AGENCIES
Meat	*		
Poultry	*		
Rabbit	*		
Other Non-Amenable Species	*		
Custom Slaughter	Authority		
Livestock Inspection	Authority		
Pet Food – Raw	Authority		
Pet Food – Processed	Authority		
Egg Inspection/Grading	Authority		
COMMENTS: * Defers to USDA.			





ANIMAL FEED

FACILITY TYPE	TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE	TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH	LOCAL AGENCIES
Feed	Authority		
Medicated Feed	Authority		
BSE Inspections	Authority		
Rendering Plant	Authority		
Grain	Authority		
COMMENTS:			





RETAIL FOOD

FACILITY TYPE	TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE	TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH	LOCAL AGENCIES
Restaurant		Authority	Authority ⁴
Food Service		Authority	Authority ⁴
Grocery Store	Authority		Authority ⁵
Market	Authority		Authority ⁵
Convenience Stores	Authority		Authority ⁵
Public/Private Schools		Authority	Authority ⁴
Correctional Facilities		Authority	Authority ⁴
Hospitals		Authority	Authority ⁴
Long-Term Care		Authority	Authority ⁴
Nursing Homes		Authority	Authority ⁴
Other Institutions		Authority	Authority ⁴
Vending Machines		Authority	Authority ⁴
Mobile Food Facilities		Authority	Authority ⁴
Caterers		Authority	Authority ⁴

Retail Food list continued on next page.



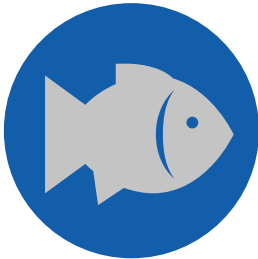


RETAIL FOOD (continued)

FACILITY TYPE	TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE	TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH	LOCAL AGENCIES
Home Based Processors	Authority ¹		
Temporary Food Facilities		Authority ⁴	
Water Vending Machines	N ²	N ²	
Ice Vending Machines	N ²	N ²	
Farm Stands	N ³		
Farmers Markets	N ³		
Live Poultry Markets	N ³		
Food Pantry	N ³		

COMMENTS:
¹ Cottage Food not inspected.
² Exempt from inspection.
³ Exempt from state regulation.
⁴ Hamilton, Knox, Madison, Nashville/Davidson, and Shelby counties conduct restaurant, food service, temporary food, and mobile food facility inspections within their jurisdiction, under contract with the Tennessee Department of Health.
⁵ Knox and Shelby counties conduct inspections of markets, grocery, and convenience stores within their jurisdiction, under contract with the Tennessee Department of Agriculture.

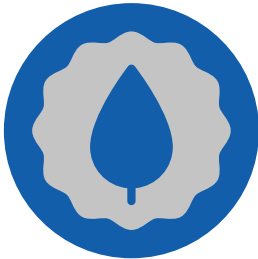




SHELLFISH/AQUACULTURE

FACILITY TYPE	TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE	TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH	LOCAL AGENCIES
Shellfish Growing Areas	Authority		
Shellfish Post Harvest Handling	Authority		
Shellfish Depuration	Authority		
Shellfish Patrol	Authority		
Biotoxin Monitoring	Authority		
Aquaculture	Authority		
COMMENTS:			





ORGANIC FOODS

FACILITY TYPE	TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE	TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH	LOCAL AGENCIES
Organic Production	Authority		
Organic Food Handling	Authority		
Organic Food Processing	Authority		
COMMENTS:			





PRODUCE

FACILITY TYPE	TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE	TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH	LOCAL AGENCIES
Farms	Authority		
Packing Sheds	Authority		
Repackers	Authority		
Terminal Markets	Authority		
COMMENTS:			





ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY

Each state regulatory agency has enforcement authorities that are established through state laws, regulations, or administrative rules. These enforcement authorities enable the agency to perform their regulatory functions and ensure the safety of the food supply. Below are the authorities of each agency.

FACILITY TYPE	TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE	TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH	LOCAL AGENCIES
Embargo/Quarantine	Authority	Authority	Authority ¹
Seizure	Authority	Authority	Authority ¹
Condemnation & Destruction	Authority	Authority	Authority ¹
Voluntary Condemnation & Destruction	Authority	Authority	Authority ¹
Stop Sale Orders	Authority	Authority	Authority ¹
Health Advisories	Authority	Authority	Authority ¹
Administrative Penalties	Authority	Authority	Authority ¹
Criminal Penalties	Authority	Authority	Authority ¹
Civil Penalties	Authority	Authority	Authority ¹

Enforcement Authority list continued on next page.





ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY (continued)

FACILITY TYPE	TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE	TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH	LOCAL AGENCIES
Injunction		Authority	Authority ¹
Warning Letters	Authority	Authority	Authority ¹
License Suspension	Authority	Authority	Authority ¹
License Revocation	Authority	Authority	Authority ¹
Hearings	Authority	Authority	Authority ¹
Closure	Authority	Authority	Authority ¹
Mandatory Recall	Authority	Authority	Authority ¹
Inspection Warrant		Authority	Authority ¹
COMMENTS: ¹ Hamilton, Knox, Madison, Nashville/Davidson, and Shelby counties have enforcement authority for facilities they have jurisdiction to inspect under contract with the Tennessee Department of Health or Tennessee Department of Agriculture.			

