FOOD SAFETY

DETECTING AND PREVENTING FOODBORNE ILLNESS NATIONWIDE

2020

FOOD SAFETY OVERVIEW

Robust food safety surveillance systems are essential to assuring the safety of our food. State and local public health and agricultural laboratories help prevent foodborne illnesses in the US by

- Conducting specialized testing for disease-causing pathogens in food, such as *Salmonella*, *Campylobacter,* Shiga Toxin-producing *Escherichia coli* and *Listeria*.
- Detecting clusters of related illnesses that may later be identified as outbreaks.
- Performing routine food testing to prevent possible exposure to the many hazards that may contaminate the food supply.
- Testing food during incidents involving suspected microbial, chemical or radiological contamination of food products.
- Evaluating and implementing new technologies, such as Whole Genome Sequencing.

1 OUT OF 6 AMERICANS

is affected by foodborne illness each year[1]

	CURRENTLY FUNDED ACTIVITIES	FY FUNDING REQUESTS	INCREASED FUNDING WILL SAVE MORE LIVES BY:
CDC	**PulseNet Laboratory Data Network** **Detect Outbreaks:** Allows laboratories to compare bacterial DNA from human illness cases to detect foodborne outbreaks. **Technology Modernization:** Helps PulseNet laboratories transition to new, more effective techniques, enabling them to detect outbreaks more quickly and precisely.	FY 2020 **$63 MILLION*** FY 2021 **$83.8 MILLION** (necessary) * **$9.25 MILLION** should be directed to state/local laboratories	**Improving Testing Capabilities** Enabling more states to implement modern sequencing techniques will expand critical testing and tracking of foodborne pathogens and prevent illness.
FDA	**GenomeTrakr Laboratory Data Network** **Track Outbreaks:** Allows laboratories to compare genetic and geographic data from illness-causing organisms in food and the environment, helping to identify problems in the food supply. **Outbreak Response and Prevention** **Laboratory Accreditation:** Supports governmental laboratory accreditation so data can be used for recalls faster and more efficiently. **Collaboration:** Works with USDA to respond to food emergencies via the Food Emergency Response Network (FERN). Works with CDC and USDA to track antimicrobial resistance (NARMS). **Prevention:** Implements the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) to help ensure a safer food system.	FY 2020 **$342 MILLION*** FY 2021 **$372 MILLION** (necessary) * **$25 MILLION** should be directed to state/local laboratories	**Bolstering Laboratory Accreditation** Increasing the number of accredited laboratories will allow for faster life-saving action in emergencies and allow FDA to operate more efficiently. **Expanding FSMA Implementation** Enabling more robust FSMA implementation—including increased cooperation with states and finalization of guidances, such as traceability—will allow fewer foodborne pathogens to reach consumers.

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