



Opportunities and Solutions in the Complex World of Meat Safety

Capital Area Food Protection Association
Scott Goltry, American Meat Institute
October 28, 2011



American Meat Institute

- Convention Services and Professional Development
- Public Affairs and Member Services
- Scientific and Technical Group
 - Inspection Policy Committee
 - Scientific Advisory Committee
- Legislative Affairs
- Regulatory Affairs

AMI Foundation

- Founded in 1944
- Governed by AMIF Board of Directors
- Functions in 3 primary areas:
 - Research
 - Information
 - Education
- Food Safety Initiative launched in 1999
 - \$7.8 million research funded
 - Over 1,000 proposals evaluated / 87 funded
 - Cooperation with NCBA, CBB, NPB, USDA and Land Grant Universities

Food Safety Drivers

- Research
- Emerging issues-how to deal with
- Consumer education and behavior change
- Industry results



Research

- Dollars
- Research at commercial facilities
- New processing tools

Emerging Issues

- What are the indicators-illness data or market trends
- How can policy be written or trends be detected when attribution data is weak
- Does a road map exist for the development of regulatory policy?

Recommendations for Microbiological Regulations*

- Focus on prevention
- Conduct public health risk assessment
- Validate analytical laboratory test methods
- Conduct baseline survey of organism of concern
- Measure progress based on public health outcome
- Expedite approval of new microbial interventions
- Determine impact on international trade
- Provide open and transparent public policy process

*Referenced in August 18, 2010 letter to Secretary Vilsack from AMI



Consumer education and behavior change

- FSIS strategic goal 3: Consumers, including vulnerable and underserved populations, adopt food safety best practices
- Average percentage of consumers who follow the four key safety “best practices” and thermometer use
- Ad Council initiative

Is there a better way?

- Listeriosis education for future mothers
- Cooking instruction on a raw meat products?

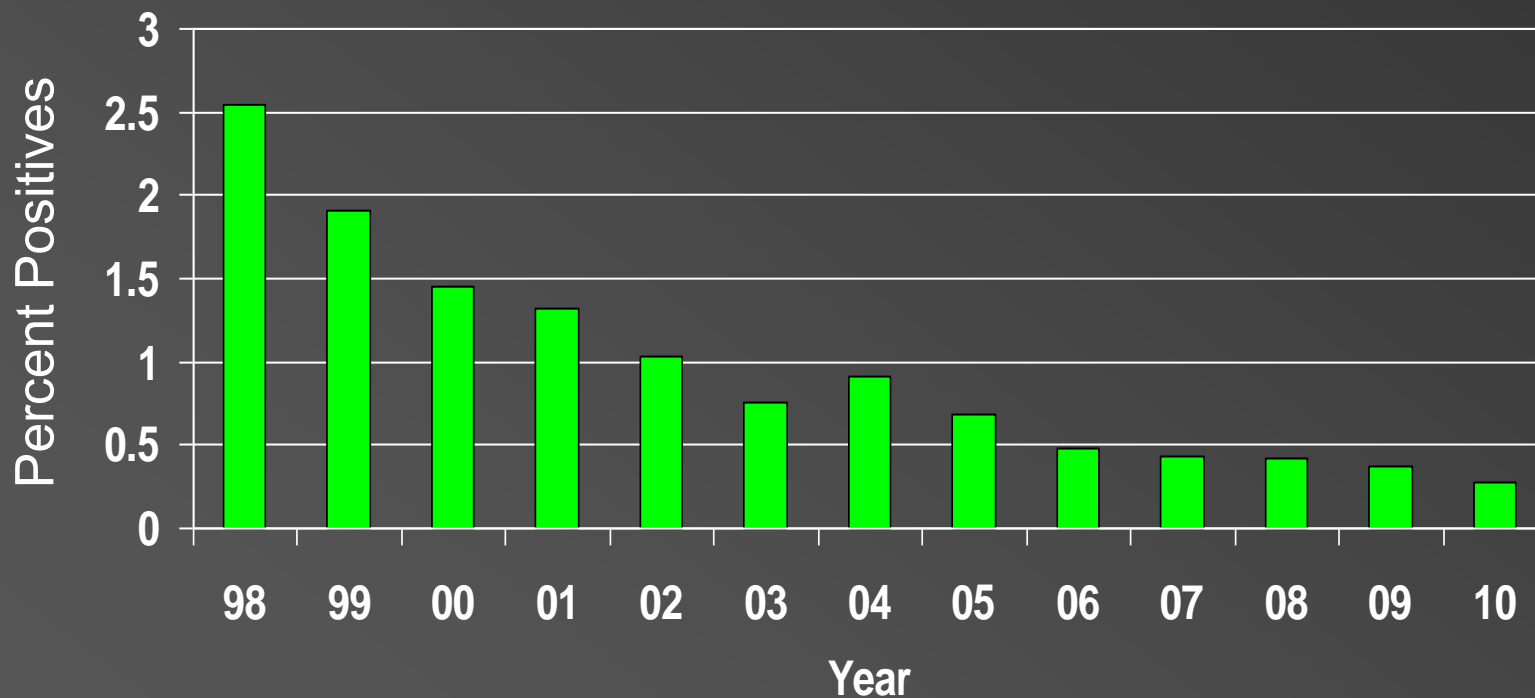


Industry Results and Trends

- Producing safe food is *the* reason to be in business
- FSIS verification results should be a factor to drive change
- The industry is driven by good science. Our members expect policy to be based on the same.

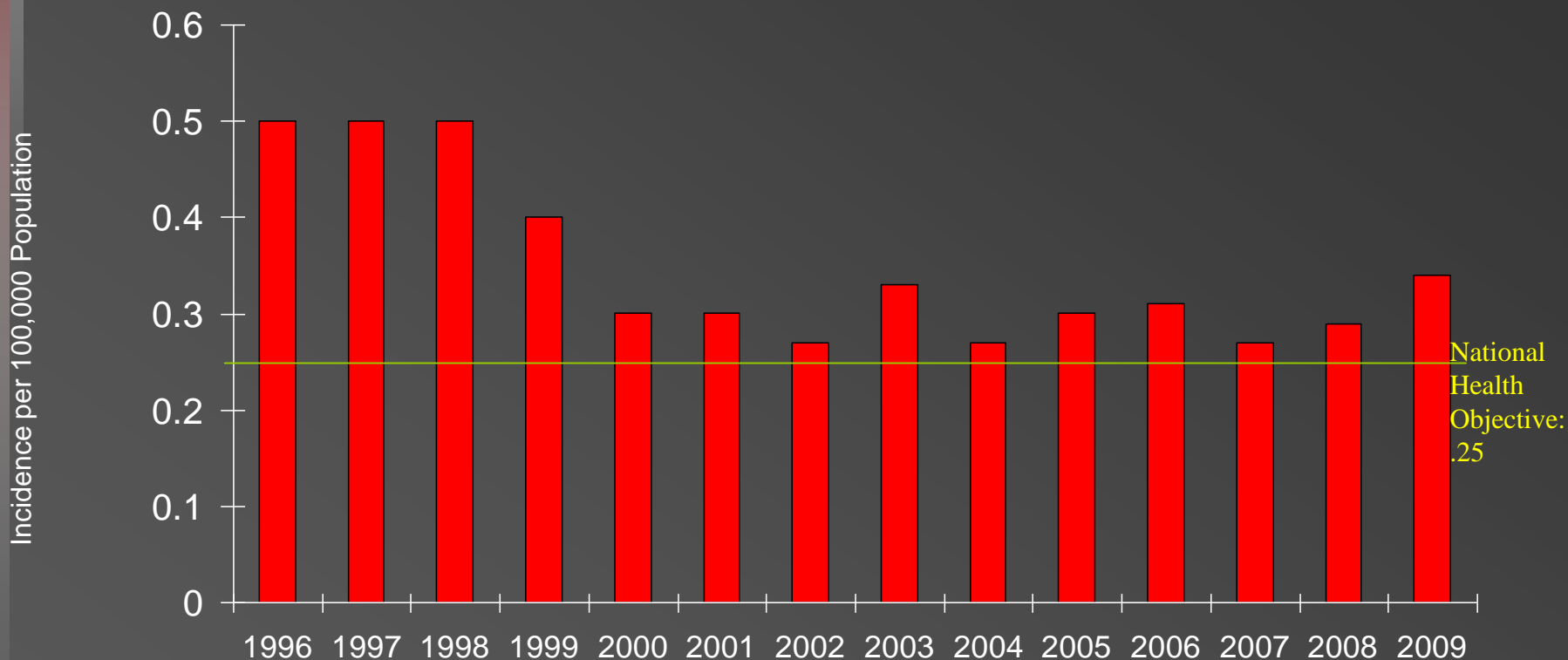


FSIS Regulatory Testing for *Listeria monocytogenes* in RTE Meat and Poultry Products*



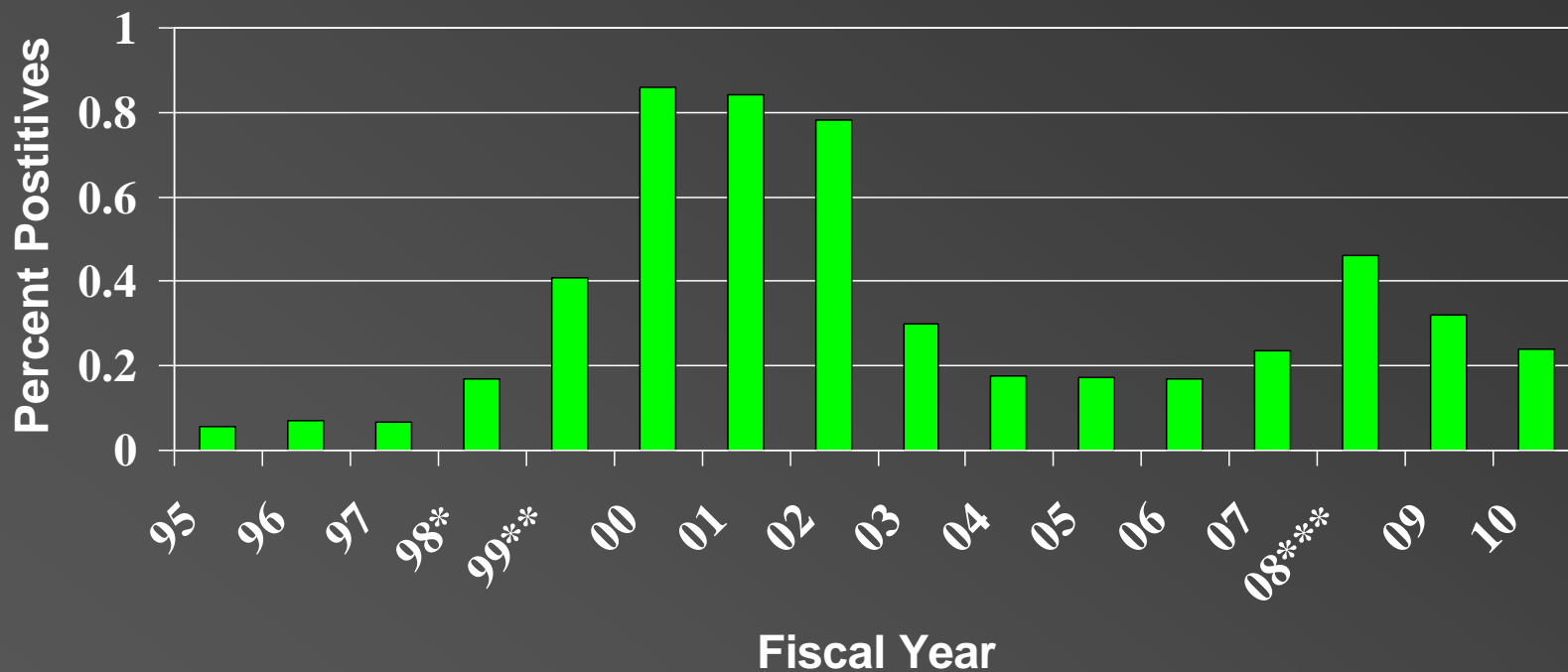
* FSIS results of ready-to-eat products analyzed for *Listeria monocytogenes* – summary by all projects

Incidence of Foodborne Illness 1996-2009: *Listeria**



*Preliminary FoodNet Data on the Incidence of Infection with Pathogens Transmitted Commonly Through Food --- 10 states, 2009

Prevalence of *E. coli* O157:H7 in Ground Beef¹



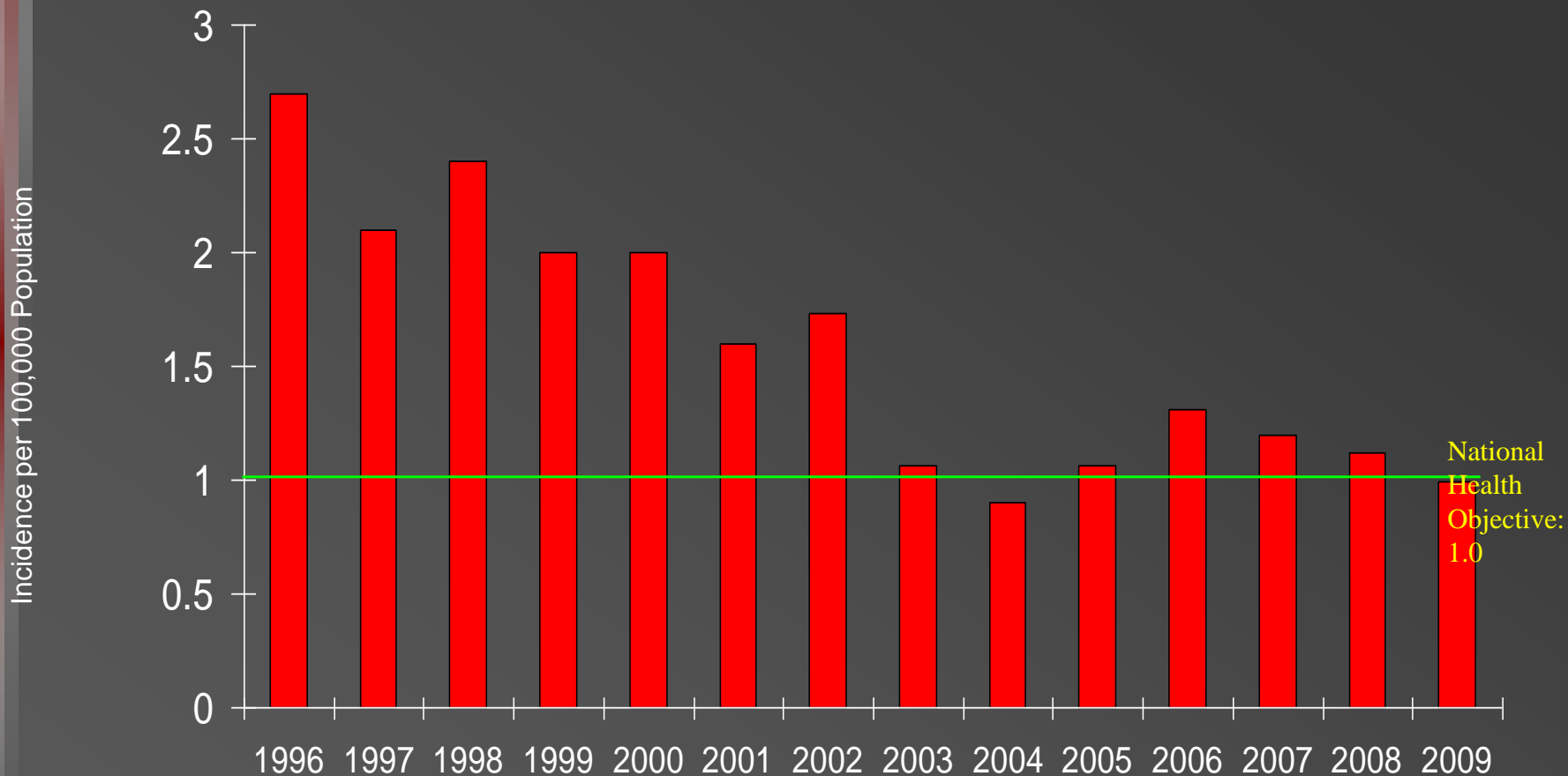
¹ Microbiological results of raw ground beef products analyzed for *Escherichia coli* O157:H7.

* In 1998 FSIS increased sample size from 25 g to 375 g.

** In July 1999 FSIS changed to a more sensitive analytical method.

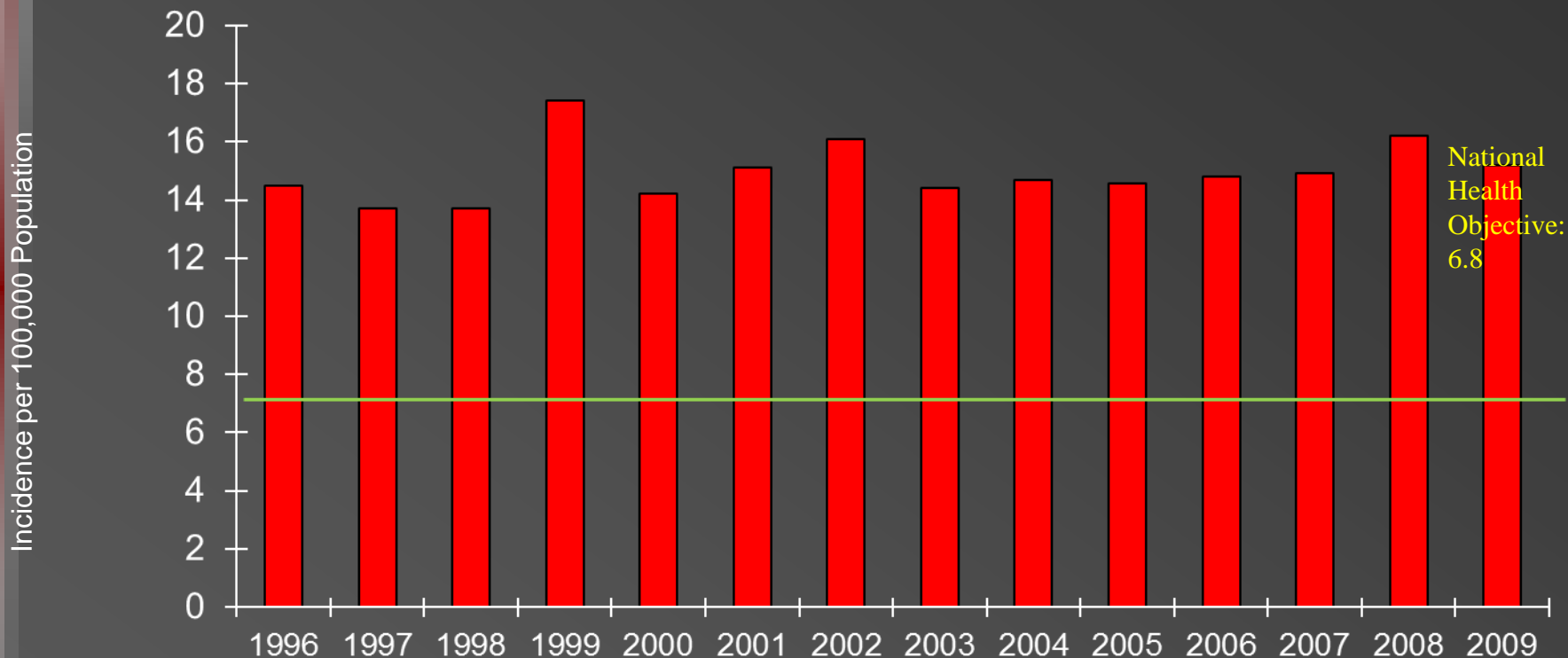
*** In 2008, FSIS changed to a more sensitive enrichment broth

Incidence of Foodborne Illness 1996-2009: *E. coli* O157*



*Preliminary FoodNet Data on the Incidence of Infection with Pathogens Transmitted Commonly Through Food --- 10 states, 2009

Incidence of Foodborne Illness 1996-2009: *Salmonella**



*Preliminary FoodNet Data on the Incidence of Infection with Pathogens Transmitted Commonly Through Food --- 10 states, 2009

Scientifically Aware Adult

- Bases opinion on fact and observable evidence rather than on prejudice or assumption
- Is willing to change opinion based on new evidence
- Understands cause-and-effect relationships

Scientifically Aware Adult Is

- Understands the role played by observation and experiment in establishing a scientific conclusion
- Knows what the terms “scientific theory” and “scientific fact” mean
 - Dr. Keith Devlin, Most Americans Aren’t Keeping Up With Science, Knight Ridder News Service

“Without some knowledge of the scientific process, people tend to be whipsawed by speculation, pseudo-science, and preliminary hints, many of which are contradictory.”

Science on Trial-The Clash of Medical Evidence and The Law in the Breast Implant Case.

Marcia Angell, MD



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