

Consistency of food regulatory approaches Stakeholder survey questions

Guidance for Respondents

This survey has been divided into:

- [Questions for Food Industry Stakeholders](#)
- [Questions for Government Stakeholders](#)
- [Questions for Other Stakeholders](#) (e.g. third party auditors, general public, consumer organisations, public health professionals).

We encourage you to respond to the questions that best represent your sector.

All respondents should respond to the '[Introductory Questions](#)' and are encouraged to respond to the '[Other General Comments](#)' section of the survey.

A supporting [Consultation Paper](#) has been developed to assist stakeholders in responding to the online consultation.

Please note that you should respond to this survey in the format most appropriate for you and your organisation. You may respond to any of the survey questions or provide a written submission. You are also invited to provide case studies, examples, reports and any other evidence regarding the impact of inconsistencies. You can upload these in the '[Other General Comments](#)' section of the survey.

All information provided as part of this survey will be treated as confidential and will only be used to inform the identification of potential areas for reform. If we wish to use any of the information or examples you provide as part of your submission, this will be de-identified and we will contact you to seek permission first.

Introductory Questions (Required)

1. **What is your organisation?**
2. **What is your name?**
3. **What is your email address?**
4. **What is your phone number?**
5. **Do you give us permission to contact you to seek further details about any of the information included in your submission?**

Yes

No

6. What sector do you represent?

- Food industry - respond to the questions for 'Food Industry' stakeholders
- Government - respond to the questions for 'Government' stakeholders
- Third party auditor - respond to the questions for 'Other' stakeholders
- Other - respond to the questions for 'Other' stakeholders

7. Which country are you responding from?

- Australia
- New Zealand
- Trans-Tasman organisation
- Other (please specify)
- Prefer not to say

8. What jurisdictions do you operate in?

- NZ
- ACT
- NSW
- NT
- QLD
- SA
- TAS
- VIC
- WA
- Other (please specify)

9. Is there any information about your organisation you would like to provide?

An opportunity to provide any other information about your organisation.
(Upload file here)

Questions for Food Industry Stakeholders

1. What food industry sector do you represent?

- Association
- Primary Producer (e.g. agriculture, farming, fishing)
- Food processing and manufacturing (e.g. flour mills, canneries, bakeries, breweries, wine makers)
- Transport and distribution (e.g. water carriers, warehouses, food delivery vehicles)
- Supplier (e.g. wholesale supplies to cafes and restaurants)
- Retail (e.g. supermarkets, delicatessens, convenience stores)
- Imports
- Exports

- Hospitality (e.g. restaurants, cafes, hotels, take-away stores, events)
- Health and community (e.g. hospital catering, meals on wheels, nursing home catering)
- Complementary Medicines
- Other (please specify)

2. What size is your organisation?

- Micro (1-4 employees)
- Small (5-19 employees)
- Medium (20-199 employees)
- Large (200+ employees)

3. Has your business been impacted by inconsistent regulatory approaches (or inconsistent interpretation or enforcement of regulation) in any of the following areas:

- Food labelling (identification, warning statements, statements of ingredients, date markings, directions for use)
- Nutrition health and related claims (labelling)
- Foods requiring pre-market clearance (novel foods, food produced using gene technology and irradiation)
- Substances added to or present in foods (processing aids, vitamins and minerals, food additives)
- Microbiological limits, processing requirements, contaminants and residues
- Food safety standards (Australia only)
- Food safety programs (Australia only)
- Food safety practices (Australia only)
- Food premises and equipment (Australia only)
- Primary production and processing standards (Australia only)
- Other – please specify
- No

If yes – go to Question 5

If no – go to Question 7

4. What was the nature of the inconsistency?

5. What was the impact on your business?

Please provide examples or case studies of the impact this issue has on your business and where possible, try to quantify the impact (in terms of the associated cost, compliance burden, market disadvantage, lost opportunity, duplication of effort, etc.).

6. Are there any other areas of food regulation (law or practice) that are inconsistent between States and Territories, or between Australia and New Zealand, that adversely impact your business?

For each identified area, please describe the issue and how it impacts on your business. Provide examples or case studies and where possible, try to quantify the impact (in terms of the associated cost, compliance burden, market disadvantage, lost opportunity, duplication of effort, etc.).

7. Are there any areas of duplication between the food regulatory system and related regulatory systems?

Other regulatory systems could include consumer affairs, biosecurity, agriculture, therapeutic goods, etc.

Please describe these below.

8. Inconsistency in food regulation is:

- Not an issue for my business
- A minor issue for my business
- A somewhat major issue for my business
- A significant issue for my business

Questions for Government Stakeholders

1. What level of Government do you represent?

- Local Government
- State Government
- Federal Government

2. Identify any areas of food regulation that are inconsistent between States and Territories, or between Australia and New Zealand, that you consider adversely impact food businesses and/or regulatory outcomes. For each of these, please describe:

a) the nature or source of the inconsistency

b) the impact of the inconsistency

Please provide examples or case studies and where possible, try to quantify the impact.

Impacts might include undermining food safety objectives, challenges in monitoring and enforcing regulation, poor regulatory outcomes, reputational damage to the food regulatory system or adverse outcomes for food businesses (in terms of cost,

compliance burden, market disadvantage, lost opportunity, duplication of effort, etc.).

3. Are there any areas of duplication between the food regulatory system and related regulatory systems?

Other regulatory systems could include consumer affairs, biosecurity, agriculture, therapeutic goods, etc.

Please describe these below.

4. Are there any other areas of the food regulatory system that could be adjusted to improve the way regulation is implemented, monitored and enforced?

Consider for example, changes to the Food Standards Code or the Model Food Provisions, providing additional guidance to regulators/industry, improving coordination across regulators, better using data and technology to regulate food businesses, etc.

5. I consider inconsistency in food regulation to be:

- Not an issue for government
- A minor issue for government
- A somewhat major issue for government
- A significant issue for government

Questions for Other Stakeholders

1. What other sector do you represent?

- Third party auditor
- General Public
- Consumer Organisation
- Public Health Professional
- Public Health Organisation
- Not-for-Profit Organisation
- Researcher
- Academic Institution
- Consultant
- Other (please specify)
- Prefer not to say

2. Identify any areas of food regulation that are inconsistent between States and Territories, or between Australia and New Zealand, that you consider adversely impact food businesses and/or regulatory outcomes. For each of these, please describe:

a) the nature or cause of the inconsistency

b) the impact of the inconsistency

Please provide examples or case studies and where possible, try to quantify the impact.

Impacts might include undermining food safety objectives, challenges in monitoring and enforcing regulation, poor regulatory outcomes, reputational damage to the food regulatory system or adverse outcomes for food businesses (in terms of cost, compliance burden, market disadvantage, lost opportunity, duplication of effort, etc.).

3. Are there any areas of duplication between the food regulatory system and related regulatory systems?

Other regulatory system could include consumer affairs, biosecurity, agriculture, therapeutic goods, etc.

Please describe these below.

4. I consider inconsistency in food regulation to be:

- Not an issue
- A minor issue
- A somewhat major issue
- A significant issue

Other General Comments

An opportunity to provide general comments on the consistency of food regulatory approaches.

- 1. Do you have any other general comments on the consistency of food regulatory approaches?**
- 2. Please upload any additional examples, case studies or other supporting evidence here.**