

United States Department of Agriculture
Food Safety and Inspection Service



Why Should Veterinarians Consider Public Practice?

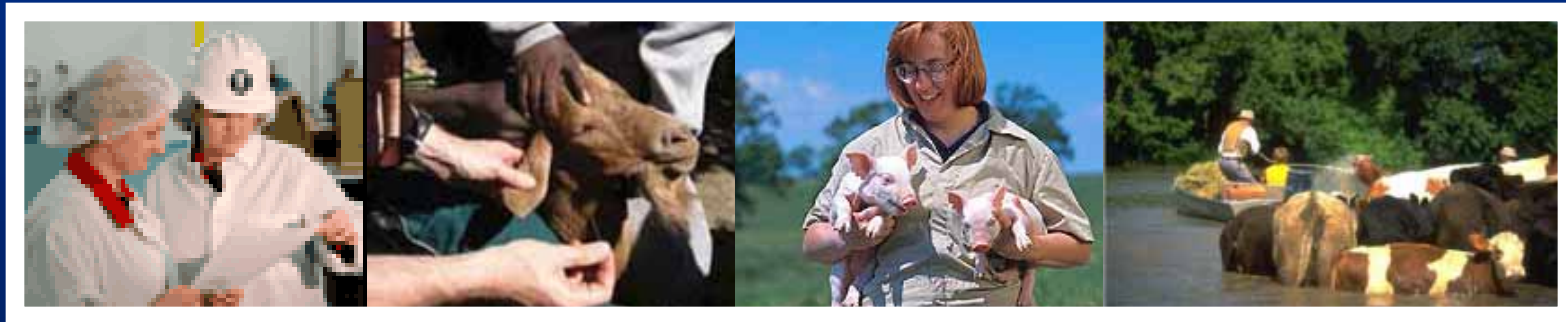


Dr. Barbara J. Masters
FSIS Administrator

July 18, 2006
American Veterinary Medical Association's
Annual Meeting

Veterinarians in Public Service

Why should you consider public service?

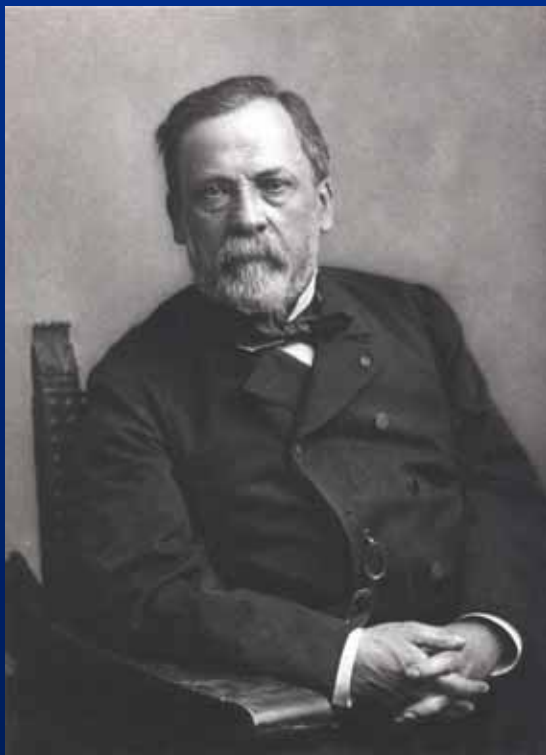


- ◆ Many exciting opportunities
- ◆ Strong demand for veterinarians' diverse skills

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Proud Record of Public Service



Louis Pasteur

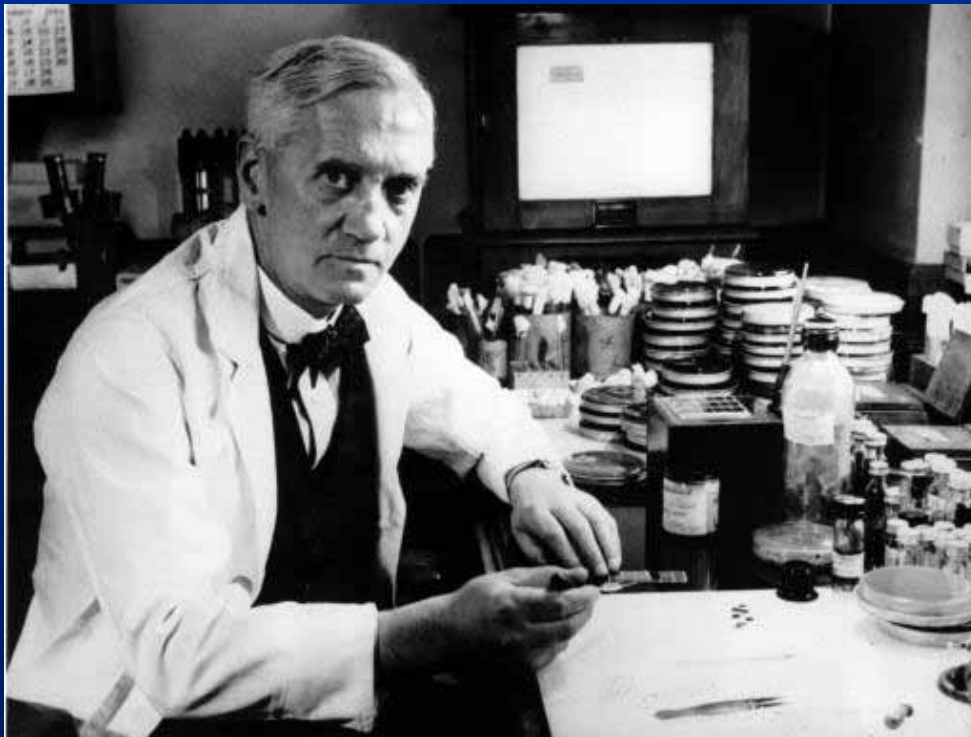


Jonas Salk

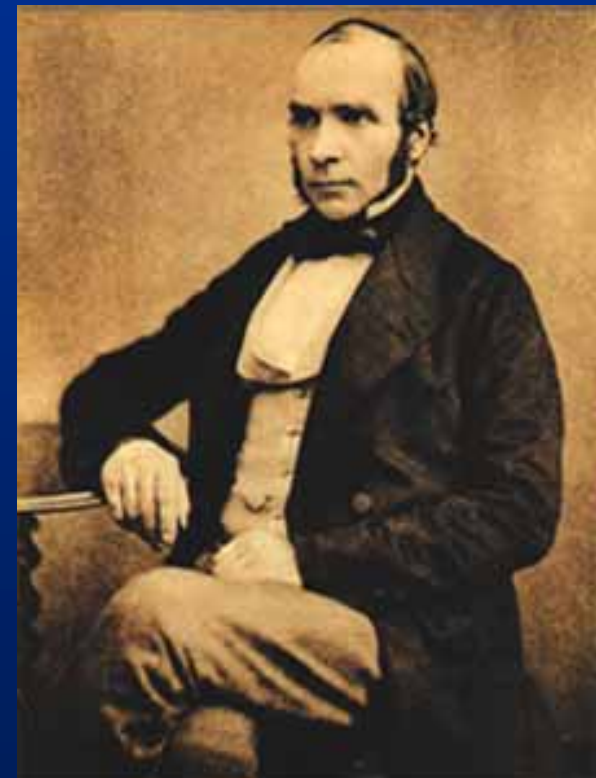
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Proud Record of Public Service



Sir Alexander Fleming



John Snow

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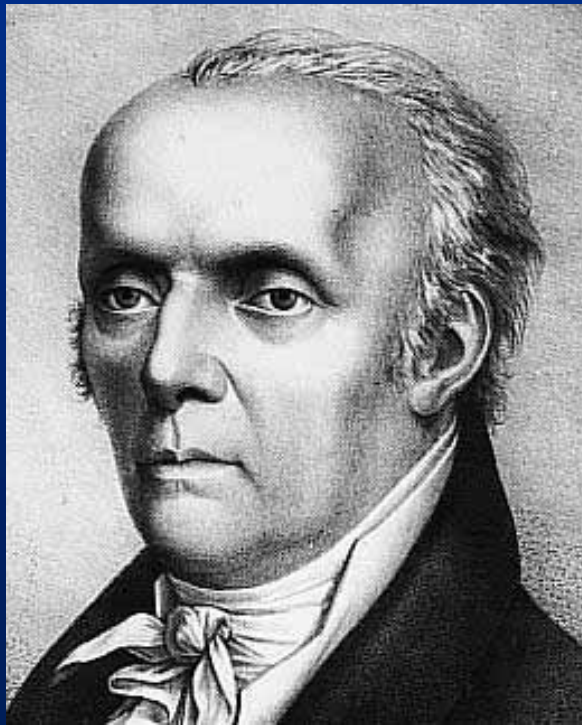
Why the Government?

U.S. Agriculture
Secretary
Mike Johanns

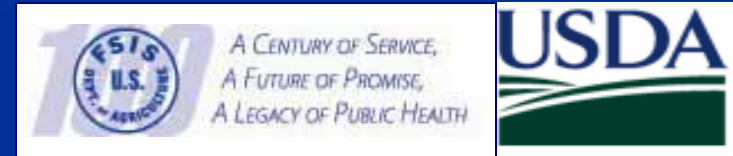


“Public Service is more than a job; it’s a calling.”

Veterinarians Answering the Call to Public Service in Europe

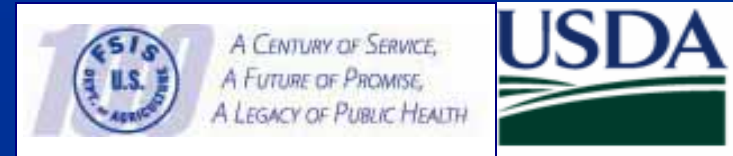


Between 1779 and 1819, Johann Peter Frank, advocated the need for inspection of slaughter animals and meat for zoonotic disease by specially trained veterinarians.



Veterinarians Answering the Call to Public Service in the Europe

Robert Van Ostertag, also known as the “Father of Veterinary Meat Inspection” developed a rigorous scientific inspection program in Berlin in the 1890s.



Veterinarians Answering the Call to Public Service in the United States

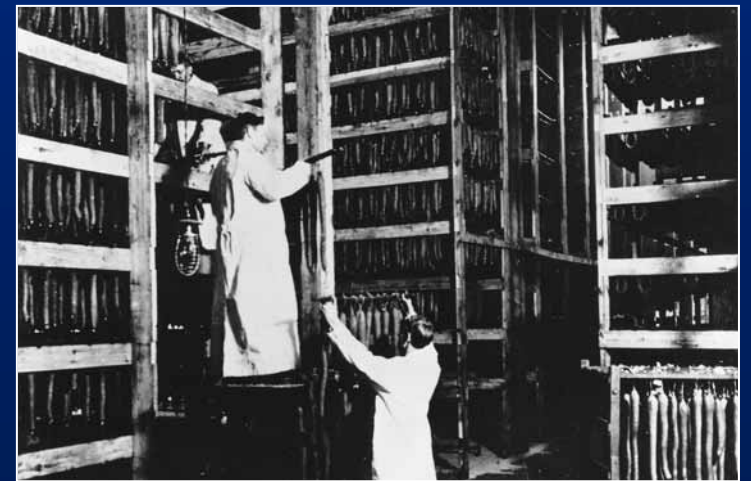
In 1879, Lachlan McLean was the 1st veterinary inspector appointed in Brooklyn, New York. McLean strongly believed in veterinary oversight for meat inspection.

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A decade later, a growing number of industry and government leaders echoed McLean's call.

Therefore in 1890, The United States enacted a requiring veterinary inspection of live animals for export and inspection of cured meat for both export and interstate commerce.

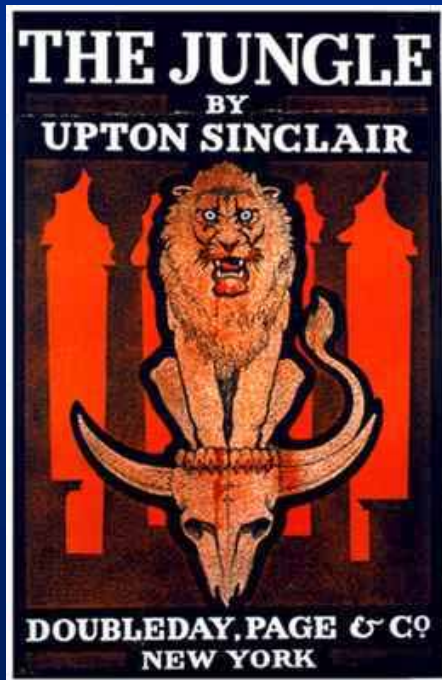




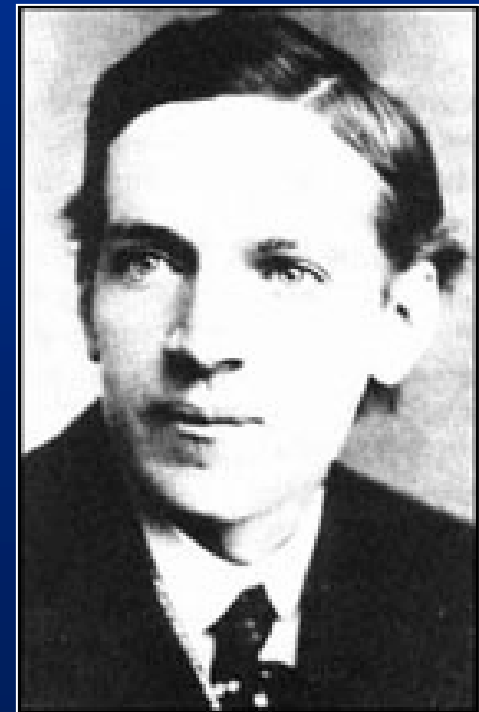
The Guide to Practical Meat Inspection, written in 1900, stated...

“veterinarians are the profession
appointed for this work. Therefore the
practice of meat inspection rest in the
hands of veterinarians.”

The Jungle



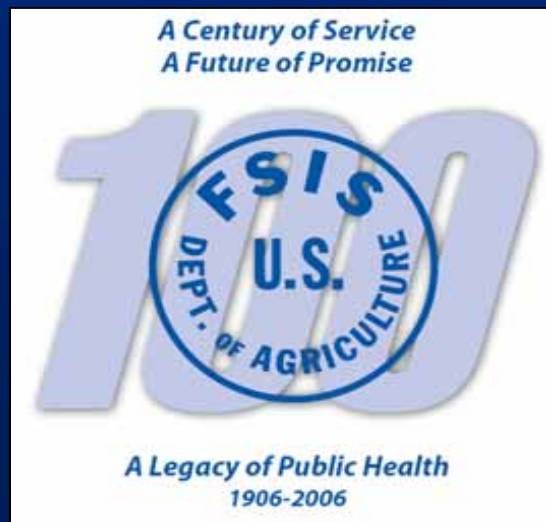
Upton Sinclair's book
The Jungle was a
catalyst for change.
One year later, The
Meat Inspection Act of
1906 was passed.



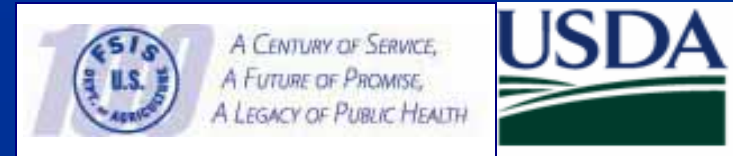
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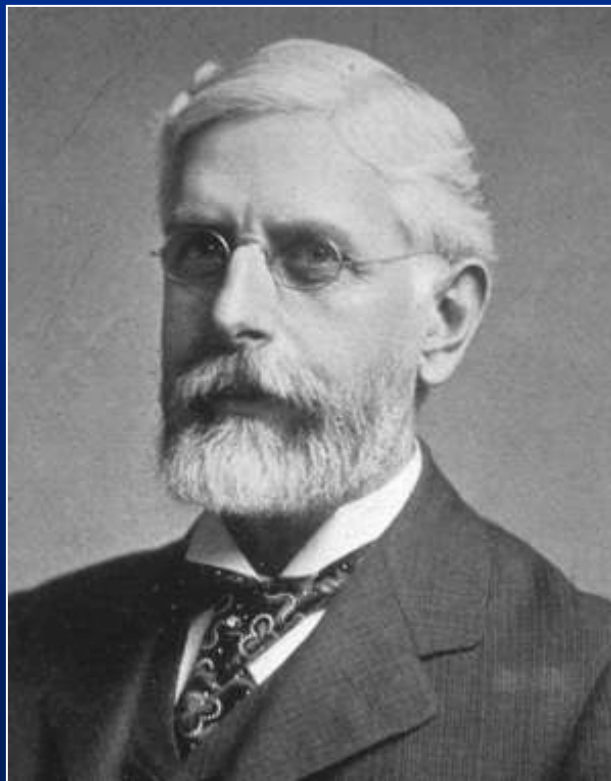
2006 marks the 100th anniversary of the Federal Meat Inspection Act.



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Veterinary Pioneers



Daniel Salmon, DVM, was the first chief of USDA's Bureau of Animal Industry.

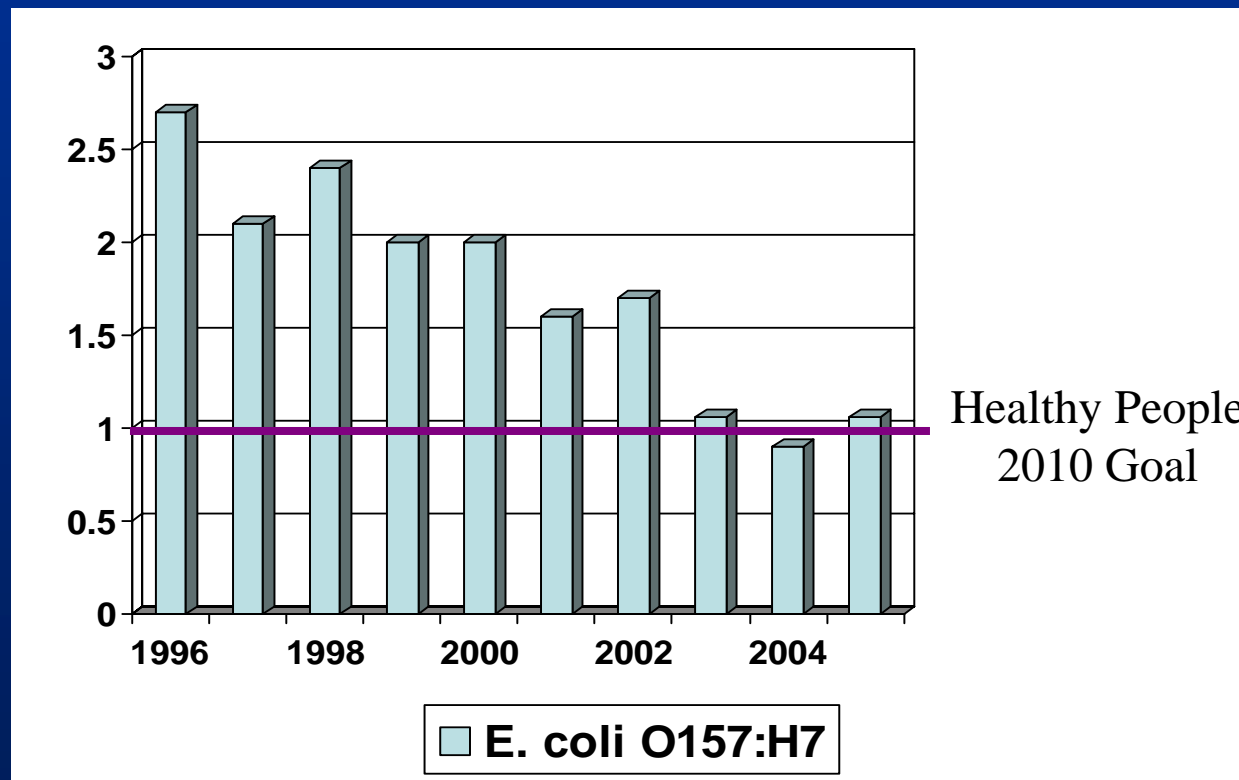
Veterinary Pioneers

Dr. Jim Steele promoted the awareness of the significant role of the animal reservoir to the major human health hazards.



Fewer Becoming Ill

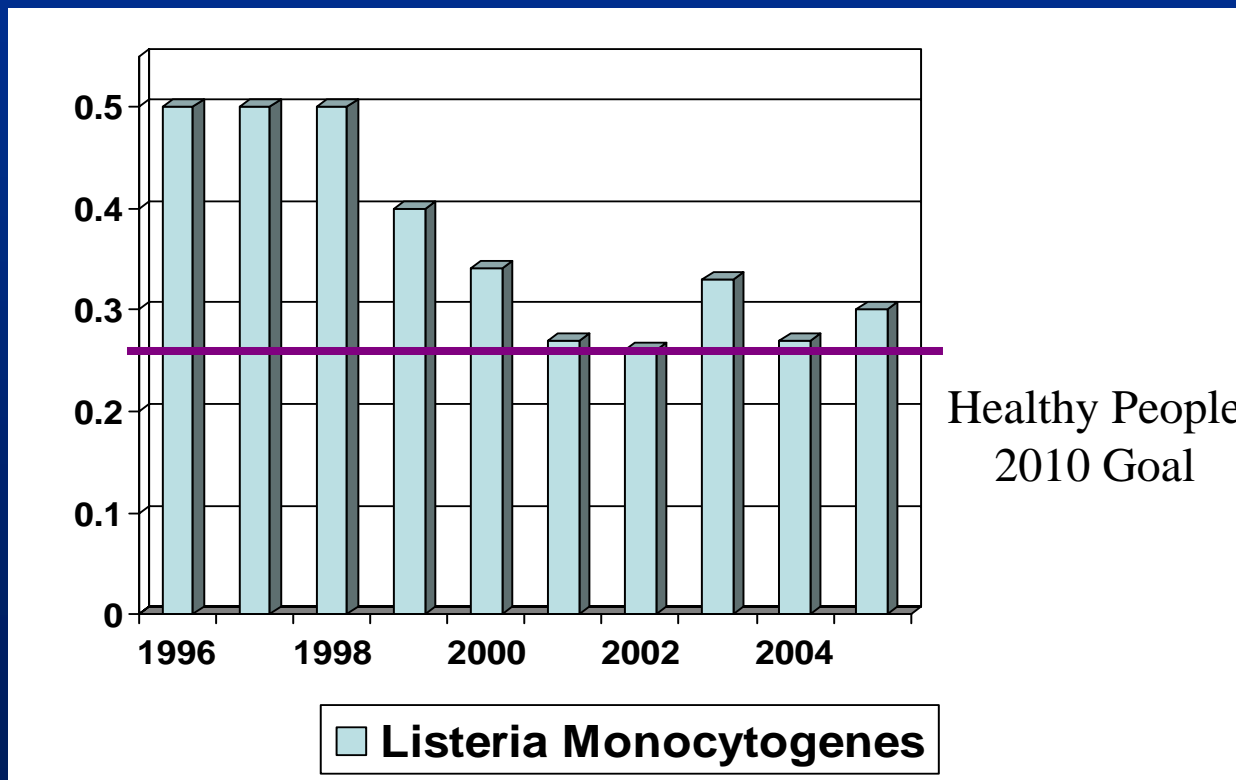
Foodborne illnesses from *E. coli* O157:H7 have decreased by 29% since 1996.



1996-2005 FoodNet Foodborne Illness Incidence Data
(Cases per 100,000 persons)

Fewer Becoming Ill

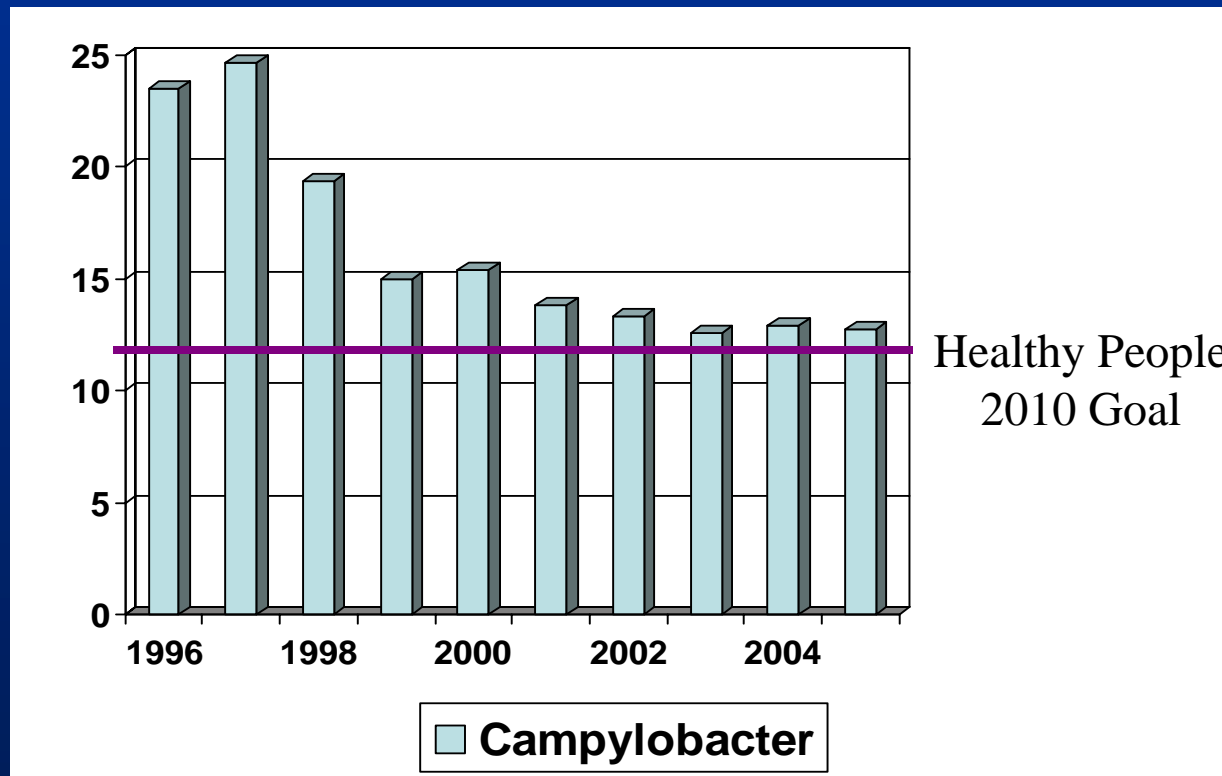
Foodborne illnesses from *Listeria* have decreased by 32% since 1996.



1996-2005 FoodNet Foodborne Illness Incidence Data
(Cases per 100,000 persons)

Fewer Becoming Ill

Foodborne illnesses from *Campylobacter* have decreased by 30% since 1996.



1996-2005 FoodNet Foodborne Illness Incidence Data
(Cases per 100,000 persons)

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Veterinary Opportunities in Homeland Security



**Tyler McAlpin, DVM, Office of Food Defense
and Emergency Response, FSIS**

Disaster Recovery

Disaster recovery is another area where veterinarians are greatly needed by many government agencies.



Biomedical Research



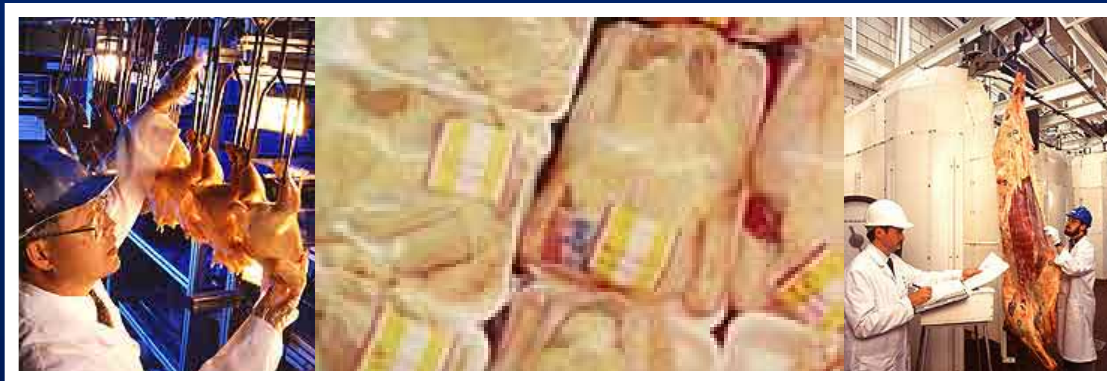
Biomedical research is also an area for veterinarians to consider in public service.

The Department of Health and Human Services needs veterinarians to support the development of animal models for human diseases.



Food Safety

- The demand for veterinarians will continue to grow
 - Implementing a more risk-based approach to meat and poultry inspection
 - Tracing back the sources of foodborne illnesses





The Future for the Public Sector

- Potential large-scale retirements in all sectors of veterinary medicine
- Many diverse and enormous issues face the public sector

A major challenge we will face in the near future:



Senator Wayne Allard (R-CO)

Recognizing a potential large-scale labor shortage in veterinary medicine, Senator Wayne Allard, proposed Senate Bill 914, The Veterinary Workforce Expansion Act.

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Career Opportunities



Perfecto Santiago, DVM, Deputy Assistant
Administrator, Office of Food Defense and
Emergency Response, FSIS



If You Want to Make a Difference...

This session is made for you.

Throughout the day you will:

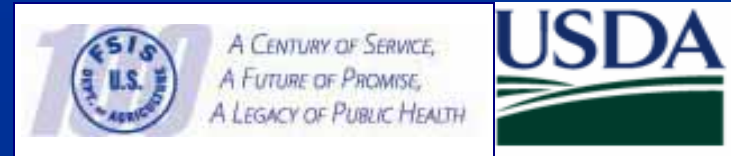
- Understand challenges for veterinary medicine both domestically and internationally.
- Focus on latest recommendations for colleges of veterinary medicine

If You Want to Make a Difference...

- Look at predictions on the supply and demand for food supply veterinary medicine and obtain recommendations.
- Look at what specifically public practice organizations are doing to attract and keep veterinarians.



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Make a Difference!

