



ARAPAHOE COUNTY





ACPH Retail Food Inspection and Enforcement Overview

Board of Health Meeting

June 17, 2026

EH Manager Dylan Garrison and EH Supervisor Josh Skeggs

Agenda



Authority and Purpose

Retail Food Landscape in Arapahoe County

ACPH Inspection Philosophy

Inspection Basics

Compliance Rates

Enforcement Overview

Review of Board of Health Responsibilities

Authority and Purpose

Authority

CDPHE derives its primary authority to establish a food protection program and set statewide retail food regulations from the **Colorado Food Protection Act**, which is found in Colorado Revised Statutes (C.R.S.) 25-4-1601 et seq. At the discretion of CDPHE, this authority may be *delegated* to local public health agencies through a “scope of work” agreement.

Purpose

The purpose of the retail food regulations is to establish minimum food safety standards and protect public health and safety.

Retail Food Inspection & Training Landscape

- ~2,300 “Retail Food Establishments” (RFE's) in AC
 - ~150 facilities per Environmental Health Specialist (EHS)
- ~300 Mobile Food Units licensed by ACPH in 2025
- In 2025: 169 Temporary Food Vendor Licenses issued spanning 68 Special Events
- ~3,100 total inspections in 2025: includes reinspections, mobile units and special events
- All EHS staff in CP are trained internally and eventually “standardized” by CDPHE staff
- All EHS are required to complete a suite of FDA training courses

ACPH Inspection Philosophy

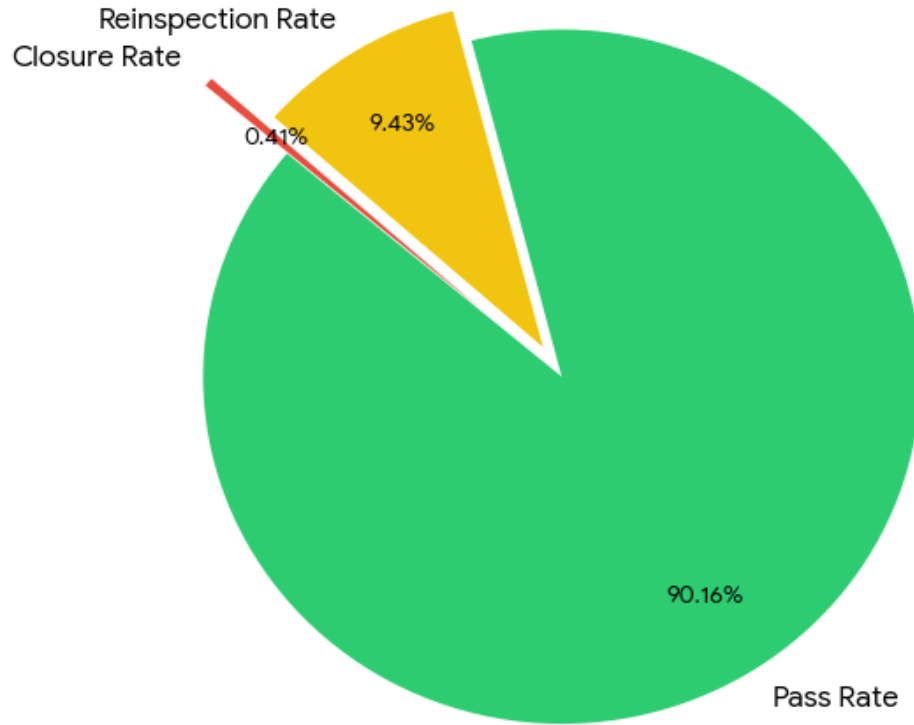
- Prioritizing education and partnership
- Emphasizing collaboration and working with operators to find solutions
- Establishing rapport and building relationships
- Avoiding a picky or overly punitive approach
- Recognizing the value of entrepreneurship and the importance of small business
- Embracing equity and promoting cultural awareness

Retail Food Inspection Basics

- **Inspection Frequency**
- **Violations**
 - Categorized by Risk
 - Assigned points or a point range based on risk
 - Assigned points based on "pervasiveness"
- **Inspection Outcomes:**



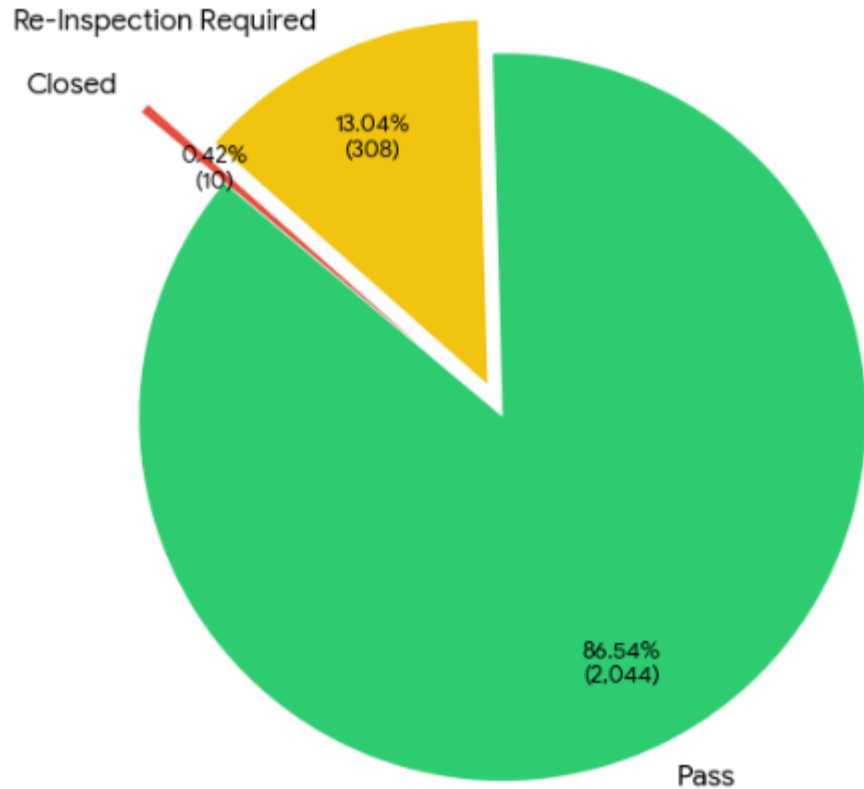
Inspection Status Breakdown



Statewide Inspection Results Fiscal Year 2025

- Total Inspections: 22,485
- Average Score: 22.20

Inspection Results Breakdown



ACPH Inspection Results Fiscal Year 2025

- Total Inspections: 2362
- Average Score: 26.14

Enforcement Overview

- May suspend license for imminent health hazard
 - No water, outbreaks, pest infestations, fires, lack of managerial control, grossly unsanitary conditions
- Penalties of \$250-\$1000 after repeated offenses
 - 4 strikes rule
 - No more than 3 civil penalties assessed per 12 month period
 - Increases inspection frequency
 - Other immediate violations: operating without a license; failure to pay a civil penalty; etc.
- Voluntary condemnation of adulterated or unsafe food
- Compliance agreements

Enforcement Overview

License Suspension

- Violations remain after third reinspection
- Violations found requiring reinspection in 4 out of 5 inspections in 12 month period- Up to 3 day suspension
- Imminent health hazard- Until corrected

License Revocation

- Initiated after severe noncompliance to protect public health
- Initiated when all other options exhausted
- Requires hearing for due process - Hearing conducted by BOH
- None so far with ACPH

Injunctions

- Enjoins business or individual from violating laws and regulations
- Temporary or permanent
- County or District court

Arapahoe County Board of Health Responsibilities

Public Health Act – C.R.S. 25-1-508(5)

- To hold hearings, administer oaths, subpoena witnesses, and take testimony.
- To issue orders necessary to exercise its powers and duties.

Food Protection Act – C.R.S. 25-4-1604(1)(i)

- BOH delegated powers and duties to grant, refuse, suspend or revoke licenses.
- To hear and determine all complaints against licensees.

Administrative Procedures Act – C.R.S. 25-5-104 and 105

- An agency shall not revoke a previously issued license until after holding a hearing as provided by APA.
- BOH makes ultimate determination on license revocation or other remedies.





Thank You
and
Questions