



Canadian Food
Inspection Agency

Agence canadienne
d'inspection des aliments

Canadian Food Inspection Agency



Our vision:

To excel as a science-based regulator, trusted and respected by Canadians and the international community.

Our mission:

Dedicated to safeguarding food, animals and plants, which enhances the health and well-being of Canada's people, environment and economy.

Food Safety Issues in Canada CFIA Update

CASA May 2011

***Dr. Bill Teeter
Vice President
Business Transformation***

Canada

CFIA - What we do

Food Safety

- ❖ Safeguarding Canada's food supply
- ❖ All food sold in Canada: domestic and imported
- ❖ Health and safety, nutrition, labelling

Animal Health

- ❖ Protecting Canada's animal resource base
- ❖ Livestock, poultry, fish and seafood
- ❖ Animal feeds
- ❖ Imports, exports and domestic production

Plant Health

- ❖ Protecting Canada's plant resource base
- ❖ Crops, forests, horticulture, greenhouses, nurseries
- ❖ Seeds, fertilizers, plants with novel traits (GMOs)



Where we operate - A continuum approach



Production

- Animal diseases and plant pests, including alien species
- Agricultural inputs
- Zoonotic diseases (e.g. BSE, AI)
- Humane transportation



Processing

- Slaughter of animals
- Food processing
- Packaging and labelling
- Transportation



Distribution

- Product handling and storage
- Packaging and labelling (i.e. retail, bakeries)
- Transportation



Consumption

- Safe food handling and consumer awareness
- Post-incident investigation and corrective action (e.g. recall)



Where we are located

Approximately 7000 staff employed across the country:

Headquarters in NCR

Four operational areas:
Western, Ontario, Quebec,
Atlantic

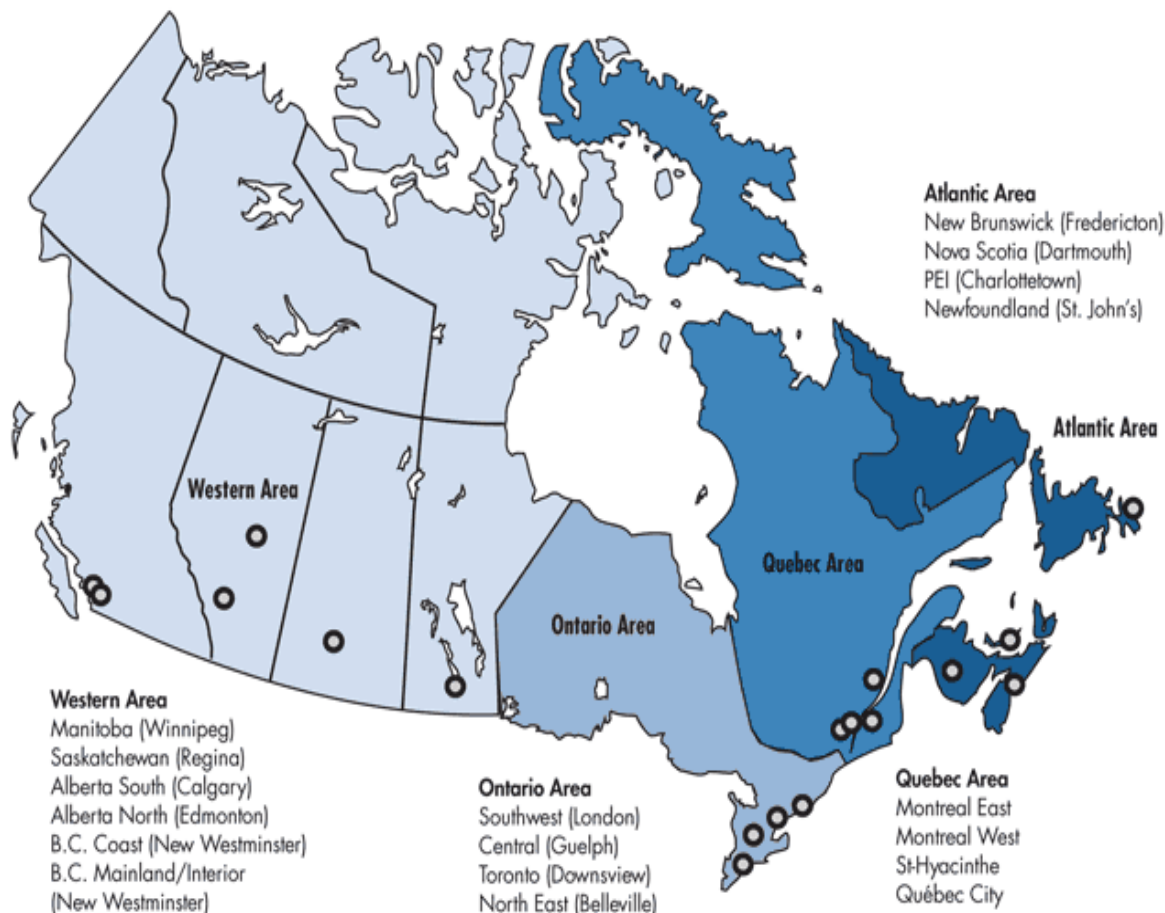
18 regional offices

185 field offices

408 offices in
non-government
establishments

laboratories:
12 owned or leased
4 OGD

Canadian Food Inspection Agency Area and Regional Offices



CFIA's Legislative Authority

Canadian Food Inspection Agency Act

Food and Drugs Act
Meat Inspection Act
Canada Agricultural Products Act
Fish Inspection Act

Consumer Packaging and
Labelling Act
(as it relates to food)

Health of Animals Act
Plant Protection Act

Feeds Act
Seeds Act
Fertilizers Act

Agriculture and Agri-Food Administrative Monetary Penalties Act
Plant Breeders Rights Act

Canada's food safety partnership

- Health Canada and the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) are responsible for human health, surveillance and risk assessments
- The CFIA is responsible for food safety regulatory compliance



Provincial/ municipal agencies	PHAC	Health Canada	CFIA	Industry	International partners
Outbreak Investigations (human illnesses, institutions)	Outbreak surveillance/ Investigations related to human health	Develops health policies and standards; Conducts health risk assessments	Regulatory compliance and enforcement; food safety investigations; risk assessment; recall warnings; and effectiveness checks	Implements food safety control investigations; Initiates/ conducts recalls	Information exchange

Effective response to a potential or confirmed food safety issue requires cooperation and collaboration among all parties to ensure timely response

Perspective: Canada – US Trade

- World's Largest Trading Partnership **\$530 Billion**
- 80% of Canadian exports go to the US.
- Over 50% of Canadian imports come from the US
- Over 22% of US exports are bound for Canada
- Over 16% of US imports come from Canada
- Canada is the number one foreign market for goods and exports for 36 of 50 states



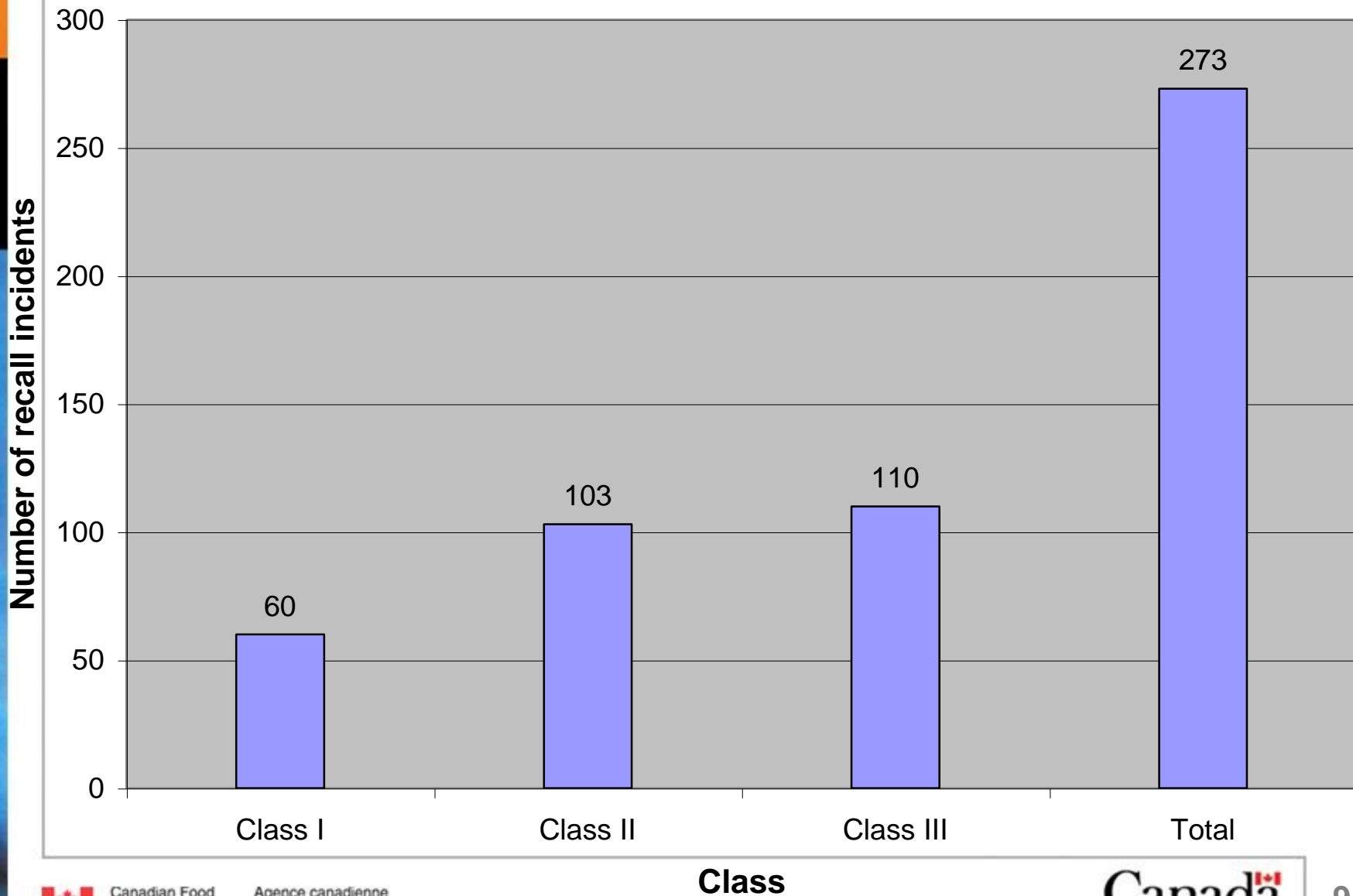
Food Recalls

- Statistics - generally steady numbers; slight increase in 2010/11
- High Profile Recalls - All major US recalls have similar and direct impact in Canada
- Hydrolysed Vegetable Protein
- E. coli in beef
- Listeria in cheese



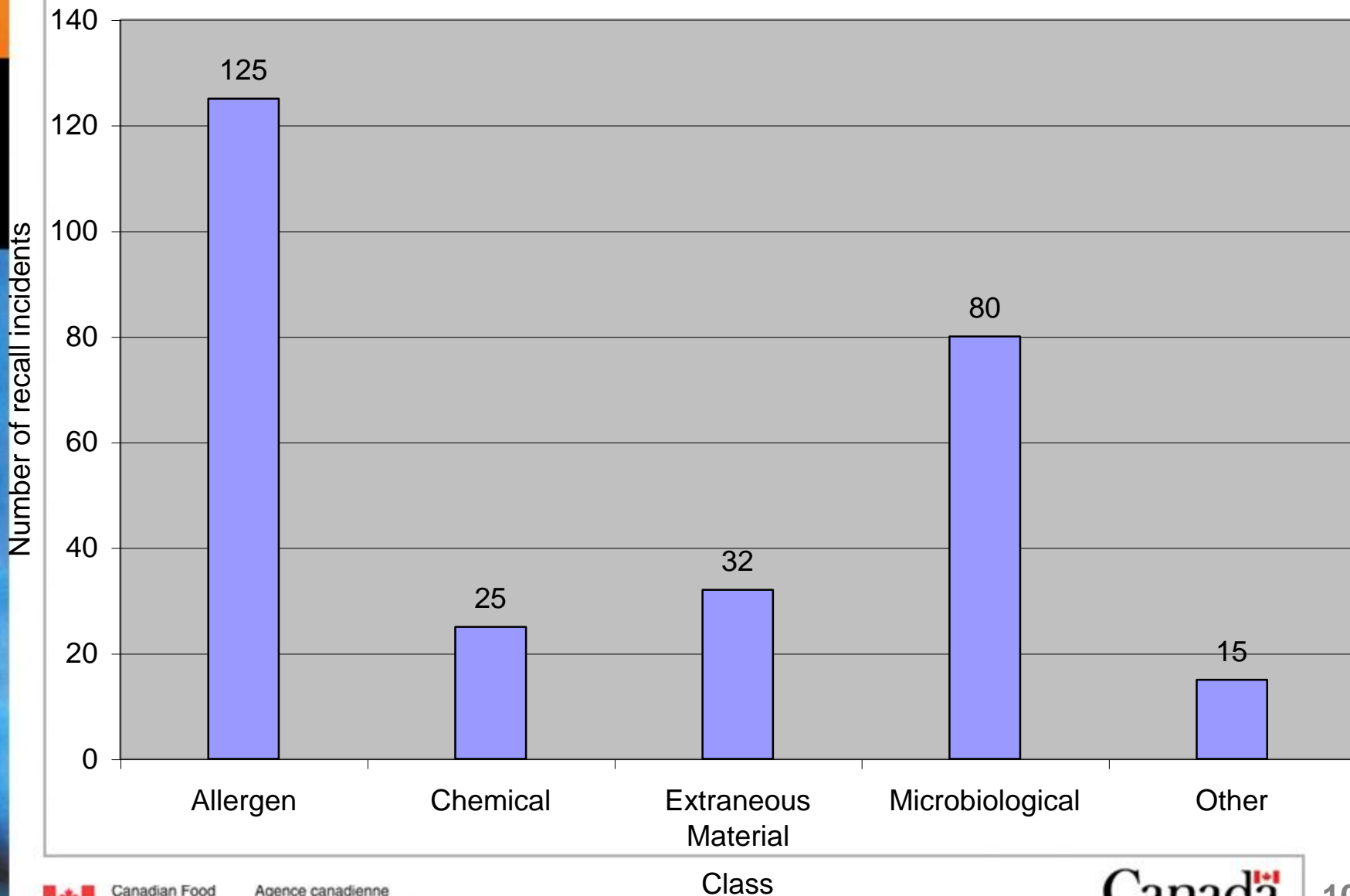
Recall Incidents by Class

April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011



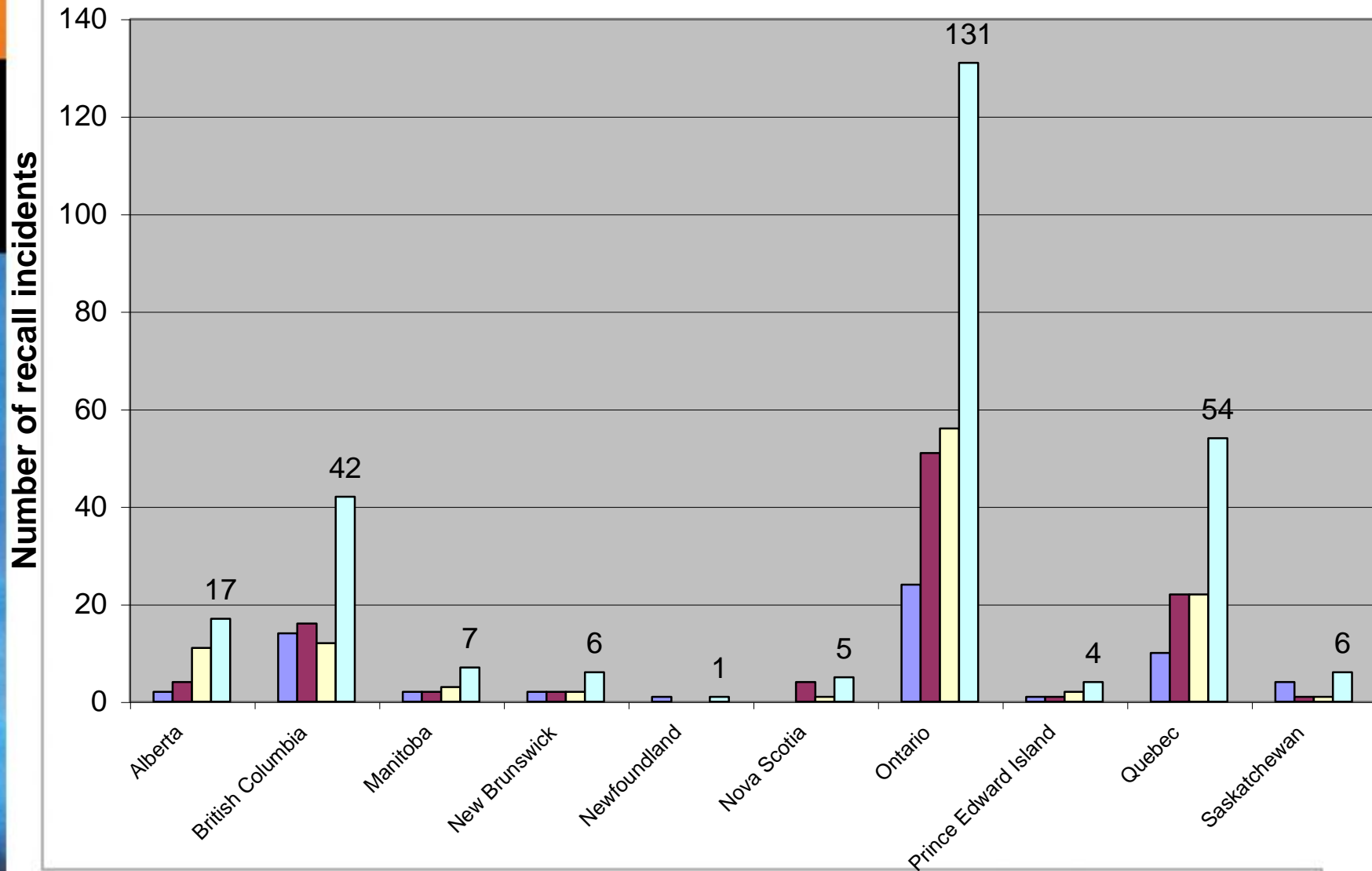
Recall Incidents by Hazard

April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011



Recall Incidents by Class by Province

April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011



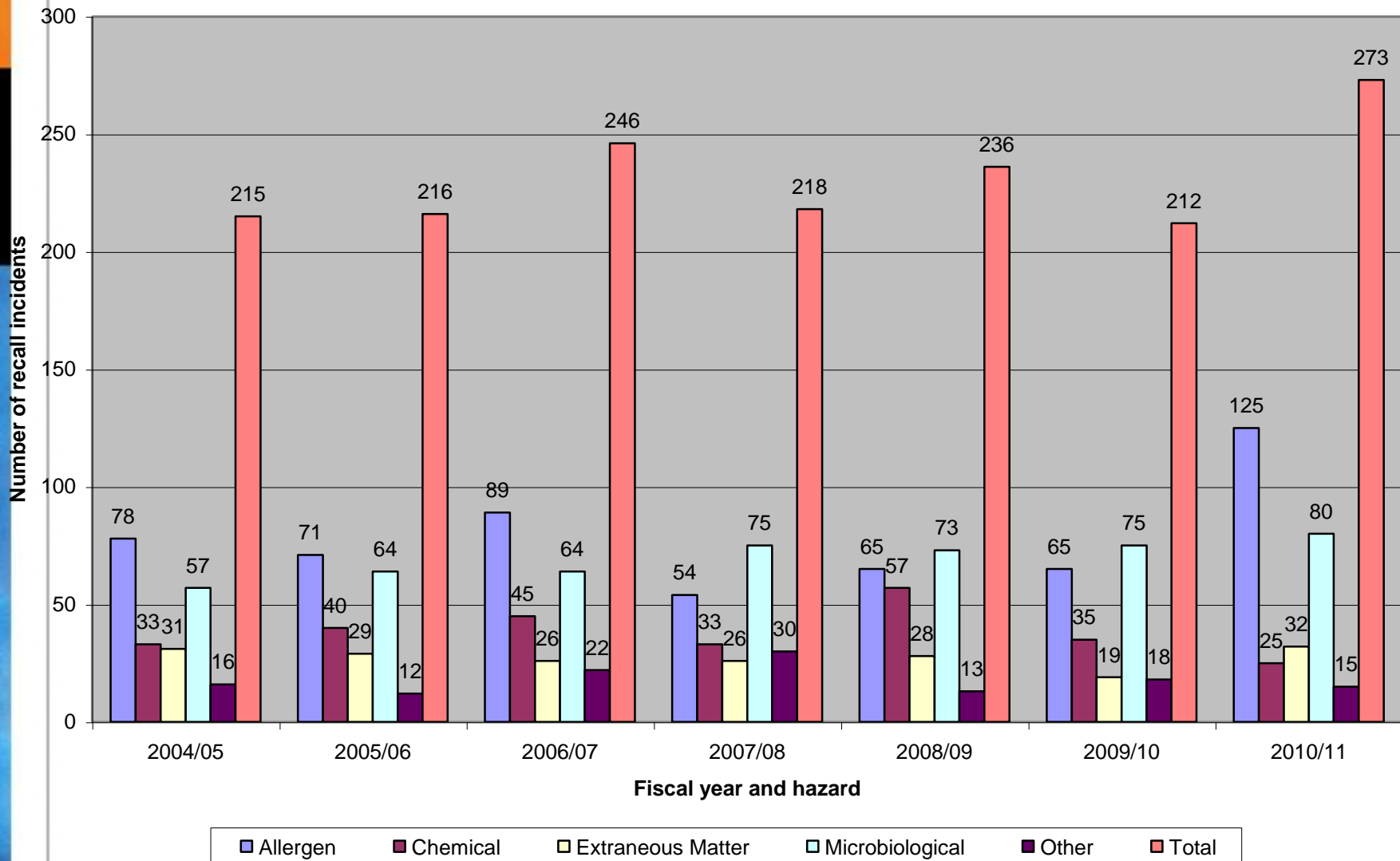
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■ Class I
 ■ Class II
 ■ Class III
 ■ Total



Recall Incidents by Area of Concern per Fiscal Year



Key Food Safety Initiatives

- Modernize legislation to enable consistent, risk-based and flexible approaches across all foods
- Strengthen food safety preventative approaches and inspection programs
- Pathogen reduction in meat and poultry
- National meat hygiene standard
- Enhanced surveillance to collect and integrate food safety surveillance data



Food and Consumer Safety Action Plan

- Food Safety Action Plan (FSAP)
 - 5 year (2008-2013) program to modernize Canada's food safety system
- Three key pillars of action:
 - **Active prevention**: measures to improve identification of food safety risks and work with industry to implement effective food safety risk mitigation strategies;
 - **Targeted oversight**: enhanced inspection in identified high-risk food sectors; targeted import control measures (border blitzes);
 - **Rapid response**: enhanced ability to respond to food safety issues including enhanced recall capacity.

FIGHT BAC!



Keep Food Safe From Bacteria®

Food Safety Action Plan – Progress to Date

- **Enhanced CFIA's offshore efforts** – stronger working relationships with key trading partners in promoting best practices in food safety and addressing and managing food safety incidents as they occur.
- **Increased import surveillance** – delivery of enhanced inspections and border blitzes targeting “high-risk” areas.
- **Importer licensing strategy** – enhancing CFIA oversight of the ‘non-federally regulated’ food importers by introducing mandatory licensing requirements.



Modernized Inspection System

- The CFIA's existing inspection programs are a combination of traditional inspection and systems-based verification systems.
- Efforts are underway to develop a modernized inspection system that:
 - standardizes inspection approaches across all programs; and,
 - transforms the inspector's role from a traditional inspection to audit and verification.



Modernized inspection system (cont.)

- Elements of a modernized inspection system:

- Modernized legislative authorities;
- Common inspection frameworks (Food, Animal, Plant);
- Common inspection activities and procedures;
- Traditional inspection combined with audit methodologies;
- Consistency in inspector profile (skill sets, competencies, etc.); and,
- IM/IT system that supports management decision-making.



Enforcement Transparency Initiative

- Beginning March 2011, expanded information on enforcement activities published on CFIA public website:
 - Prosecution bulletins regarding convictions;
 - Imported shipments of food refused entry into Canada;
 - Administrative Monetary Penalties (AMPs);
 - Suspensions, cancellations and/or reinstatements of establishment licenses;
 - Repeat offenders – Animal Transport;
 - Respecting privacy issues – company names



Enforcement Transparency Initiative

- Transparency with respect to this type of information is consistent with other regulators (Canadian and abroad)
 - e.g., Health Canada, Transportation Safety Board of Canada, US FDA, FSIS, etc.
- Contributes to demonstrated public need for such disclosure
- Intention to expand scope of data published



Nuclear Emergency in Japan



- March 11, 2011 earthquake and tsunami.
- Resulted in damage to nuclear sites and radioactive emissions were released into the environment and detected in the domestic food and water supply in parts of Japan.
- The CFIA took part in a coordinated response with Federal and International partners, to protect Canada's food system.
- Federal partners include the Canadian Border Services Agency, Health Canada, Canadian Nuclear Commission, Department of Foreign Affairs & International Trade among others.

CFIA Specific Response

Import Controls

- Implemented enhanced import controls on all food and animal feed products from affected areas
- Products not allowed entry without acceptable documentation or test results verifying their safety and origin



Sampling and Testing Protocols

- Ongoing response includes sampling and testing of imported food from Japan as well as domestic milk from British Columbia.
- Health Canada is performing radionuclide analysis for the CFIA
- Test results to date are negative
- Results are being updated and posted weekly on the CFIA website

Collaboration



CFIA Website: www.inspection.gc.ca



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