

Food Official Inspection Report (FOIR) Point Deduction Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

May 2025

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
Public Health

The Food Official Inspection Report (FOIR) includes additional point deductions that have been identified as probable causes of foodborne illnesses, with multiple Major Critical Risk violations and specific closure violations.

What is a Major Critical Risk Violation?

A Major Critical Risk Violation poses an imminent health hazard that requires immediate correction and may require a food facility's permit to be suspended. Major Critical Violations are those listed on the left (red-shaded) side of the inspection report and identified by the "4" or "11" under the "Major" column.

What are Some Examples of a Major Critical Risk Violation?

- Food employee hands are not clean/properly washed.
- Improper hot and cold holding food temperatures.
- Food not from an approved source.
- Food-contact surfaces not clean and sanitized.
- Improper cooking temperature.

How are the FOIR Additional Points Deducted?

When a Major Critical Risk Violation is marked on the FOIR, **four points** are deducted from the inspection score. With the point deduction modification, in addition to the four-point deduction, additional points will be deducted (a) for two or more Major Critical Risk Violations and/or (b) for specific closure violations.

a) Two or More Major Critical Risk Violations:

If two or more Major Critical Risk violations are marked on the FOIR, an additional **three points** will be deducted from the inspection score.

Example 1: Two Major Critical Risk violations.

MAJOR CRITICAL RISK VIOLATION MARKED	POINT DEDUCTION
Hands clean and properly washed; proper glove use	4 points
Proper hot and cold holding temperatures	4 points
<i>Additional point deduction for multiple critical violations</i>	3 points
Total Points Deducted	11 points

b) Specific Closure Violations – No Water Available, Sewage, and/or Vermin Infestation:

If a restaurant or market's permit is suspended due to No Water Available, Sewage and/or Vermin Infestation, an additional **seven-point** deduction will be applied for each of these specific closure violations, in addition to the standard four-point deduction for Major Critical Risk Violations.

The FOIR reflects an 11-point deduction for each of these closure violations.

Example 2: Permit suspended for one of the three specified closure violations marked.

MAJOR CRITICAL RISK VIOLATION MARKED	POINT DEDUCTION
Water available	4 points
<i>Additional point deduction for specified permit suspension violations</i>	7 points
Total Points Deducted	11 points

Example 3: Permit suspended for all three specified closure violations.

MAJOR CRITICAL RISK VIOLATION MARKED	POINT DEDUCTION
Water available	4 points
<i>Additional point deduction for specified permit suspension violations</i>	7 points
Sewage and wastewater properly disposed	4 points
<i>Additional point deduction for specified permit suspension violations</i>	7 points
No insects, rodent, birds, or animals present	4 points
<i>Additional point deduction for specified permit suspension violations</i>	7 points
Total Points Deducted	33 points

If a food facility's permit is suspended for No Water Available, Sewage, and/or Vermin Infestation **AND** two or more additional Major Critical Risk Violations are marked, an additional seven (7) points will be deducted for each of the three specified closure types marked. The 3- point deduction for the two or more Major Critical Risk Violations will not be marked.

Example 4: Permit suspended for two of the three specified closure types and two Major Critical Risk violations.

MAJOR CRITICAL RISK VIOLATION MARKED	POINT DEDUCTION
Proper cooking time and temperature	4 points
Food in good condition, safe and unadulterated	4 points
Water available	4 points
<i>Additional point deduction for specified permit suspension violations</i>	7 points
No insects, rodents, birds, or animals present	4 points
<i>Additional point deduction for specified permit suspension violations</i>	7 points
Total Points Deducted	33 points

For additional information, please visit the Environmental Health website at:

www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/eh, call us at (888) 700-9995, or email at ehmail@ph.lacounty.gov.