



Cyclosporiasis Outbreak Investigations – United States, 2015

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UPDATES WILL BE PROVIDED WHEN MORE INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE

CDC and federal, state, and local public health partners are investigating an increase in reported cases of *Cyclospora* infection.

Highlights

- **Read the related statement from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration** (<http://www.fda.gov/Food/RecallsOutbreaksEmergencies/Outbreaks/ucm456755.htm>)
(<http://www.cdc.gov/Other/disclaimer.html>)
- **Read the Advice to Consumers** (<http://www.cdc.gov/parasites/cyclosporiasis/outbreaks/advice-consumers.html>)
- *Cyclospora cayentanensis* is a single-celled parasite that causes an intestinal infection called cyclosporiasis (<http://www.cdc.gov/parasites/cyclosporiasis/disease.html>).
- As of August 21, 2015 (3pm EDT), CDC had been notified of 495 ill persons with confirmed *Cyclospora* infection from 30 states in 2015.
 - Most of these persons—293 (59%) of 495—experienced onset of illness on or after May 1, 2015, and did not have a history of international travel within 2 weeks before illness onset. These 293 persons were from the following 23 states: Arkansas (3), California (2), Connecticut (3), Florida (10), Georgia (23), Illinois (8), Iowa (1), Kansas (2), Maryland (1), Massachusetts (10), Michigan (2), Missouri (1), Montana (3), Nebraska (1), New Jersey (6), New Mexico (2), New York (excluding NYC) (9), New York City (21), North Carolina (1), Texas (168), Utah (1), Virginia (3), Washington (2), and Wisconsin (10).
 - Clusters of illness linked to restaurants or events have been identified in Texas (<https://www.dshs.state.tx.us/news/updates.shtm>) (<http://www.cdc.gov/Other/disclaimer.html>), Wisconsin, and Georgia.
 - Cluster investigations are ongoing in Texas and Georgia.
 - Cluster investigations in Wisconsin and Texas have preliminarily identified cilantro as a suspect vehicle.
 - Investigations are ongoing to identify specific food item(s) linked to the cases that are not part of the identified clusters.
- Previous U.S. outbreaks of cyclosporiasis have been linked to imported fresh produce, including cilantro from the Puebla region of Mexico. Read the related FDA Import Alert (http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/cmis/ia/importalert_1148.html) (<http://www.cdc.gov/Other/disclaimer.html>).
- Consumers should continue to enjoy the health benefits of eating fresh fruits and vegetables as part of a well-balanced diet.
- Consumers and retailers should always follow safe produce handling recommendations (<http://www.cdc.gov/foodsafety/consumers.html#print>).
- More information about *Cyclospora* can be found on CDC's *Cyclospora* pages (<http://www.cdc.gov/parasites/cyclosporiasis/index.html>).

Progression of the Outbreak Investigation

August Updates

August 25, 2015

Case Count Update

As of August 21, 2015 (3pm EDT), a total of 495 ill persons with confirmed *Cyclospora* infection were reported to CDC in 2015. Most of these persons—293 (59%) of 495—experienced onset of illness on or after May 1, 2015, and did not have a history of international travel within 2 weeks before illness onset. These 293 persons were from the following 23 states: Arkansas (3), California (2), Connecticut (3), Florida (10), Georgia (23), Illinois (8), Iowa (1), Kansas (2), Maryland (1), Massachusetts (10), Michigan (2), Missouri (1), Montana (3), Nebraska (1), New Jersey (6), New Mexico (2), New York (excluding NYC) (9), New York City (21), North Carolina (1), Texas (168), Utah (1), Virginia (3), Washington (2), and Wisconsin (10). Clusters of illness linked to restaurants or events have been identified in Texas, Wisconsin, and Georgia. Cluster investigations are ongoing in Texas and Georgia. Cluster investigations in Wisconsin and Texas have preliminarily identified cilantro as a suspect vehicle. Investigations are ongoing to identify specific food item(s) linked to the cases that are not part of the identified clusters.

August 18, 2015

Case Count Update

As of August 17, 2015 (3pm EDT), a total of 476 ill persons with confirmed *Cyclospora* infection were reported to CDC in 2015. Most of these persons—282 (59%) of 476—experienced onset of illness on or after May 1, 2015, and did not have a history of international travel within 2 weeks before illness onset. These 282 persons were from the following 22 states: Arkansas (2), California (2), Connecticut (3), Florida (10), Georgia (23), Illinois (7), Iowa (1), Kansas (2), Maryland (1), Massachusetts (9), Michigan (2), Missouri (1), Montana (3), Nebraska (1), New Jersey (6), New Mexico (2), New York (excluding NYC) (8), New York City (21), Texas (162), Utah (1), Virginia (3), Washington (2), and Wisconsin (10). Clusters of illness linked to restaurants or events have been identified in Texas, Wisconsin, and Georgia. Cluster investigations are ongoing in Texas and Georgia. Cluster investigations in Wisconsin and Texas have preliminarily identified cilantro as a suspect vehicle. Investigations are ongoing to identify specific food item(s) linked to the cases that are not part of the identified clusters.

August 11, 2015

Case Count Update

As of August 10, 2015 (3pm EDT), a total of 457 ill persons with confirmed *Cyclospora* infection were reported to CDC in 2015. Most of these persons—275 (60%) of 457—experienced onset of illness on or after May 1, 2015, and did not have a history of international travel within 2 weeks before illness onset. These 275 persons were from the following 22 states: Arkansas (2), California (2), Connecticut (3), Florida (11), Georgia (22), Illinois (6), Iowa (1), Kansas (2), Maryland (1), Massachusetts (9), Michigan (2), Missouri (1), Montana (3), Nebraska (1), New Jersey (6), New Mexico (1), New York (excluding NYC) (8), New York City (21), Texas (157), Utah (1), Virginia (3), Washington (2), and Wisconsin (10). Clusters of illness linked to restaurants or events have been identified in Texas, Wisconsin, and Georgia. Cluster investigations are ongoing in Texas and Georgia. Cluster investigations in Wisconsin and Texas have preliminarily identified cilantro as a suspect vehicle. Investigations are ongoing to identify specific food item(s) linked to the cases that are not part of the identified clusters.

August 4, 2015

Case Count Update

As of August 3, 2015 (4pm EDT), a total of 384 ill persons with confirmed *Cyclospora* infection were reported to CDC in 2015. Most (226; 59%) ill persons reported onset of illness on or after May 1, 2015 and no international travel. Clusters of illness linked to restaurants or events have

been identified in Texas, Wisconsin, and Georgia. Cluster investigations are ongoing in Texas and Georgia. Cluster investigations in Wisconsin and Texas have preliminarily identified cilantro as a suspect vehicle. Investigations are ongoing to identify specific food item(s) linked to the cases that are not part of the identified clusters.

More information about *Cyclospora* can be found on CDC's *Cyclospora* pages (<http://www.cdc.gov/parasites/cyclosporiasis/>).

INITIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

July 31, 2015

As of July 30, 2015 (11am EDT), a total of 358 ill persons with confirmed *Cyclospora* infection were reported to CDC in 2015. Most (199; 56%) ill persons reported onset of illness on or after May 1, 2015 and no international travel. Clusters of illness linked to restaurants or events have been identified in Texas, Wisconsin, and Georgia. Cluster investigations are ongoing in Texas and Georgia. Cluster investigations in Wisconsin and Texas have preliminarily identified cilantro as a suspect vehicle. Investigations are ongoing to identify specific food item(s) linked to the cases that are not part of the identified clusters.

More information about *Cyclospora* can be found on CDC's *Cyclospora* pages (<http://www.cdc.gov/parasites/cyclosporiasis/>).

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