

Multistate Outbreak of *E. coli* O157:H7 Infections Linked to Romaine Lettuce

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What's New?

- Fourteen more ill people from eight states were added to this investigation since the last update on April 25, 2018.
- Three more states have reported ill people: Mississippi, Tennessee, and Wisconsin.
- The most recent illness started on April 20, 2018. Illnesses that occurred in the last two to three weeks might not yet be reported because of the time between when a person becomes ill with *E. coli* and when the illness is reported to CDC.
- For the latest information about the traceback investigation, visit the [U.S. Food and Drug Administration website](#).

Highlights

- Information collected to date indicates that romaine lettuce from the Yuma, Arizona growing region could be contaminated with *E. coli* O157:H7 and could make people sick.
 - For the latest information about the traceback investigation, visit the [U.S. Food and Drug Administration \(FDA\) website](#).
- [Advice to Consumers:](#)
 - Do not eat or buy romaine lettuce unless you can confirm it is not from the Yuma, Arizona, growing region.
 - Product labels often do not identify growing regions; so, do not eat or buy romaine lettuce if you do not know where it was grown.
 - This advice includes whole heads and hearts of romaine, chopped romaine, baby romaine, organic romaine, and salads and salad mixes containing romaine lettuce. If you do not know if the lettuce in a salad mix is romaine, do not eat it.
- [Advice to Restaurants and Retailers:](#)
 - Do not serve or sell any romaine lettuce from the Yuma, Arizona growing region. This includes whole heads and hearts of romaine, chopped romaine, baby romaine, organic romaine, and salads and salad mixes containing romaine lettuce.
 - Restaurants and retailers should ask their suppliers about the source of their romaine lettuce.

- CDC, public health and regulatory officials in several states, and the FDA are investigating a multistate outbreak of Shiga toxin-producing *Escherichia coli* O157:H7 (*E. coli* O157:H7) infections.
- Ninety-eight people infected with the outbreak strain of *E. coli* O157:H7 have been reported from 22 states.
 - Forty-six people have been hospitalized, including 10 people who have developed a type of kidney failure called hemolytic uremic syndrome.
 - No deaths have been reported.
- This investigation is ongoing, and CDC will provide updates when more information is available.

Case Count Update

Since the last update on April 25, 2018, 14 more ill people were added to this outbreak.

As of April 26, 2018, 98 people infected with the outbreak strain of *E. coli* O157:H7 have been reported from 22 states. A list of the states and the number of cases in each can be found on the [Case Count Map page](#). Illnesses started on dates ranging from [March 13, 2018 to April 20, 2018](#). Ill people range in age from 1 to 88 years, with a median age of 31. Sixty-five percent of ill people are female. Of 87 people with information available, 46 (53%) have been hospitalized, including 10 people who developed hemolytic uremic syndrome, a type of kidney failure. No deaths have been reported.

Illnesses that occurred after April 7, 2018, might not yet be reported due to the time it takes between when a person becomes ill with *E. coli* and when the illness is reported. This takes an average of [two to three weeks](#).