Investigation of Multistate Outbreak of Cyclospora Illnesses: Iceberg Lettuce (July 2026)

FDA's outbreak investigation has closed. FDA will provide updates on post-outbreak response activities.

Product

The best-by dates for the recalled lettuce have passed and product should no longer be available in stores or restaurants.

On July 17, 2026, Taylor Farms de Mexico, announced that they are voluntarily removing all iceberg lettuce sourced from central Mexico from the U.S. market. On July 17, Taylor Farms initiated a recall, which includes Marketside-brand product available at Walmart described as "Iceberg Salad 12-oz or 24-oz" and "Shredded Lettuce 8-oz or 16-oz" with Best if Used By dates of 7/18/2026 to 8/3/2026 and July 18 to Aug 3, 2026, respectively. A complete list of other recalled products distributed to food service customers is included in the recall notice. More information will be provided as it becomes available.

Symptoms of *Cyclospora* Infection

Most people infected with *Cyclospora* develop diarrhea, with frequent bowel movements. Other common symptoms include loss of appetite, weight loss, stomach cramps/pain, bloating, increased gas, nausea, and fatigue. Vomiting, body aches, headache, and fever may be noted. Some people who are infected with *Cyclospora* do not have any symptoms. If not treated, the illness can lead to dehydration and severe complications that may require higher levels of care. These complications may last from a few days to a month or longer. Symptoms may seem to go away and then return one or more times (relapse). Immunocompromised persons may experience more severe illness of longer duration along with complications requiring close medical attention.

Stores Affected (updated 8/13/2026)

The best-by dates for this recalled lettuce have passed and product should no longer be available in stores or restaurants. Additionally, Taco Bell has indicated they are no longer using lettuce from Taylor Farms de MexicoExternal Link Disclaimer as of July 17, 2026.

Foodservice:

- Distribution of recalled iceberg lettuce products from Taylor Fresh Foods from June 29th through July 16th was **confirmed** in the following states: AL, AR, CT, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, ME, MD, MI, MO, MS, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NY, OH, OK, PA, SC, TN, TX, VA, WI, and WV.

- Based on additional information, recalled product **may have** been further distributed to: DC, DE, ND, PR, RI, SD, VT, and WA.

Retail Stores:

- Recalled Marketside-brand products were sold at select Walmart stores in: AL, AR, FL, GA, IN, KS, KY, LA, MO, MS, OK, TN, TX, VA, WV.

More information will be provided as it becomes available.

Status:

Ended

Recommendations:

- Recalled products should no longer be available for sale. If you previously purchased or received food items with recalled iceberg lettuce from Taylor Farms de Mexico, carefully clean and sanitize any surfaces or containers that it touched.
- If you have symptoms of cyclosporiasis, contact your health care provider to report symptoms and receive care, especially if you ate shredded iceberg lettuce in the two weeks before you got sick.
- Consumers should follow FDA's safe handling and cleaning advice to reduce the risk of cross-contamination. Restaurants and retailers should follow FDA's Food Safety Tips.
- Read FDA's *Cyclospora* information for additional information about *Cyclospora* and what consumers, restaurants, and retailers can do.

Current Update

October 2, 2026

FDA has concluded its outbreak investigation of *Cyclospora* infections linked to iceberg lettuce sourced from central Mexico and recalled by Taylor Farms de Mexico. CDC previously declared the outbreak over on September 11, 2026. FDA will continue post-outbreak response activities and will collaborate with CDC as well as state, local, and international partners, as appropriate.

The FDA's traceback investigation identified several farms and a processing facility in Mexico that provided recalled lettuce distributed by Taylor Fresh Foods. As part of this investigation, the FDA conducted onsite inspections and sample collection at multiple

iceberg lettuce growers and the processing facility in Mexico, in coordination with Mexican officials.

As with other investigations, the FDA took a comprehensive approach to include sampling of water, soil, sediment, and iceberg lettuce. Of the samples collected during the onsite inspections in Mexico, two samples tested positive for *Cyclospora*. One positive sample was from a tank that held outgoing wastewater from the Taylor Farms de Mexico processing facility. The second positive sample was collected from a drainage ditch of an iceberg lettuce grower identified in the FDA's traceback investigation.

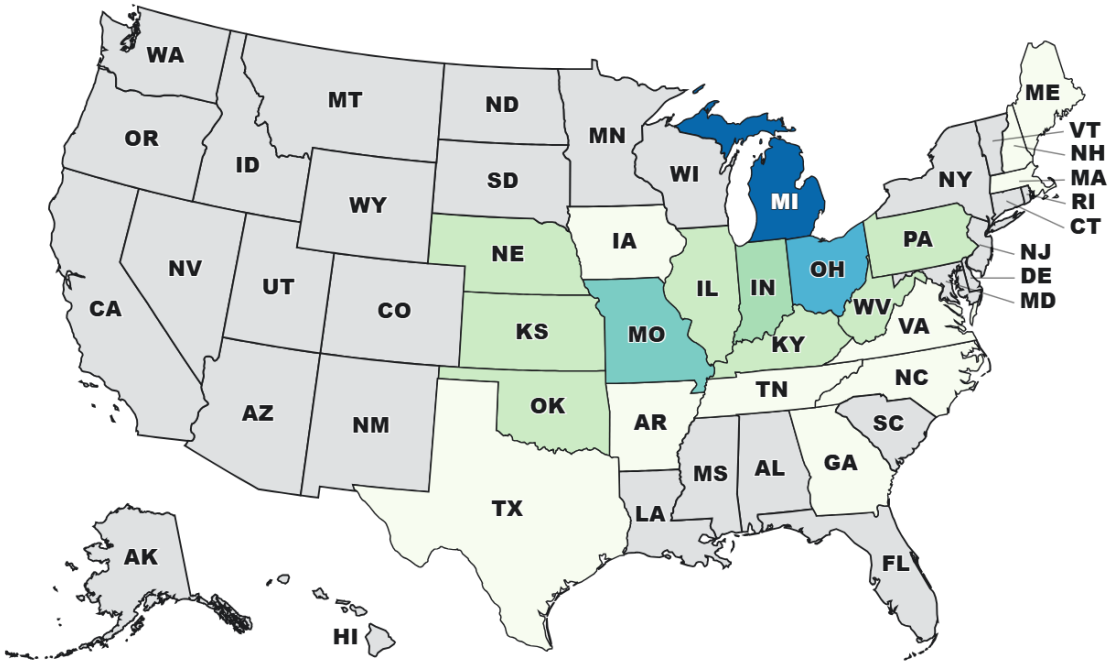
Genotyping of both positive environmental samples collected during onsite inspections in Mexico has been completed. FDA is continuing its analysis to determine how results for these samples relate to ongoing genotyping of clinical specimens.

While there is currently not enough evidence to conclusively determine how contamination occurred in this outbreak, the positive samples show that *Cyclospora* was present in the environment where lettuce was grown and processed. This adds to the strong epidemiological data and traceback convergence supporting the link between this outbreak and recalled shredded iceberg lettuce from Taylor Farms de Mexico.

The FDA will continue to work with federal, state, and international partners to complete post-outbreak response activities, to help advance what we know about *Cyclospora*, and gain insight on important clues to help refine preventive measures. The FDA remains confident that all recalled iceberg lettuce related to this specific *Cyclospora* outbreak is off the market.

FDA is also providing updates on *Cyclospora* prevention planned activities to be conducted prior to the 2027 growing season. These and other *Cyclospora* prevention updates can be found on Post-Outbreak Response Activities: Multistate Outbreaks of *Cyclospora* Illnesses.

Case Count Map Provided by CDC

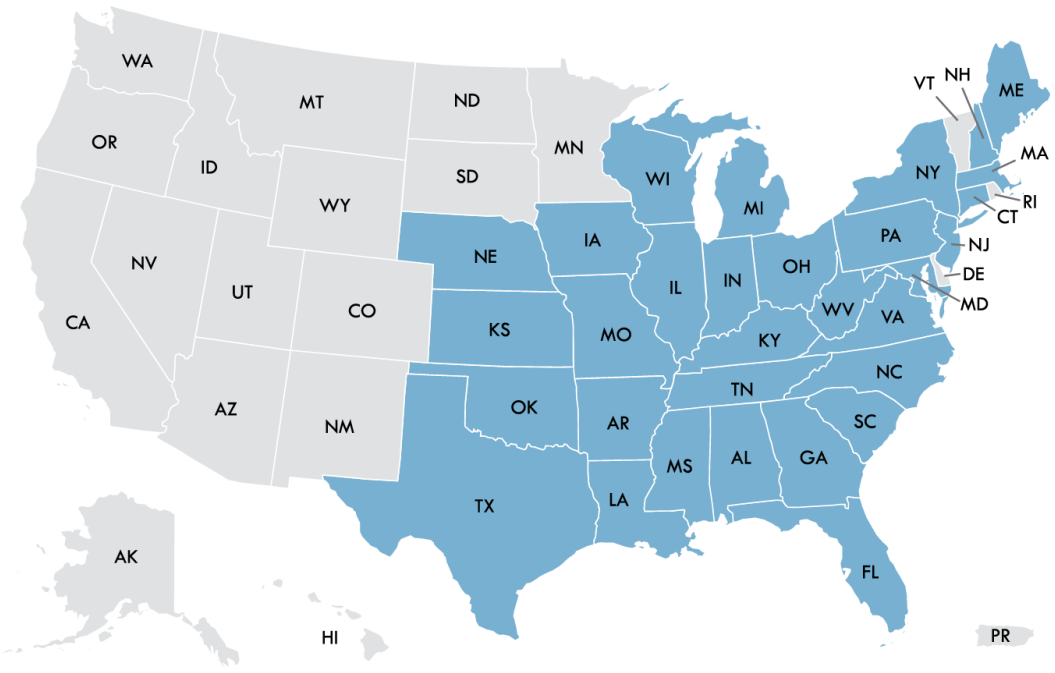


Number of Sick People

- 1 to 150
- 151 to 450
- 451 to 1000
- 1001 to 2500
- 2501 to 5000
- 5001 to 7500

Product Distribution Map

Distribution of recalled products has been **confirmed** for the states shown below. Recalled product may have been distributed further, reaching additional states.



Case Counts

Total Illnesses: 12,883
Hospitalizations: 570
Deaths: 2
Last Illness Onset: August 17, 2026
States with Cases: AR, GA, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, MA, ME, MI, MO, NE, NH, NC, OH, OK, PA, TN, TX, VA, and WV

U.S. Product Distribution*: AL, AR, CT, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MO, MS, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NY, OH, OK, PA, SC, TN, TX, VA, WI, and WV

*Distribution has been confirmed for states listed above, but product may have been distributed further, reaching additional states: DC, DE, ND, PR, RI, SD, VT, and WA

International Distribution

The Taylor Farms de Mexico recall impacts markets outside of the United States. Customer information provided by the firm shows that recalled product was sold to consumers in Mexico.

Previous Updates

September 11, 2026

As of September 11, 2026, CDC has declared this outbreak over. While the outbreak is over, FDA continues the outbreak investigation of *Cyclospora* infections linked to iceberg lettuce sourced from central Mexico and recalled by Taylor Farms de Mexico. FDA will continue to collaborate with CDC as well as state and local partners as necessary.

Since the last update on August 27, 2026, state and local health officials have continued to interview additional sick people with cyclosporiasis and CDC has added them to this multistate outbreak. The outbreak includes people who reported exposure to processed iceberg lettuce from Taylor Farms de Mexico served or purchased at various locations, including people who previously reported eating at Taco Bell. Most of these illnesses began before the Taylor Farms de Mexico iceberg lettuce recall on July 17, 2026. The total case count associated with this multistate outbreak is now 12,883 illnesses reported from 21 states. Since the last update, one additional state has been added: Virginia.

FDA's onsite inspections and sample collection at iceberg lettuce growers and the processing facility in Mexico, in coordination with Mexican officials, have ended. Samples from the onsite inspections are pending analysis.

FDA remains confident that all recalled iceberg lettuce related to this specific *Cyclospora* outbreak is off the market. Although the outbreak is over, FDA's outbreak investigation remains ongoing. FDA will continue to work with federal, state, and international partners to complete its investigation and will provide updates as they become available. In addition, FDA will provide updates on *Cyclospora* prevention efforts on a new page: Post-Outbreak Response Activities: Multistate Outbreaks of Cyclospora Illnesses.

August 27, 2026

The FDA and CDC, in collaboration with state and local partners, are investigating a multistate outbreak of *Cyclospora* infections linked to iceberg lettuce sourced from central Mexico and recalled by Taylor Farms de Mexico.

Since the last update on August 20, 2026, state and local health officials have continued to interview additional sick people with cyclosporiasis and CDC has added them to this multistate outbreak. The outbreak includes people who reported exposure to processed iceberg lettuce from Taylor Farms de Mexico served or purchased at various locations, including people who previously reported eating at Taco Bell. Most of these illnesses began before the Taylor Farms de Mexico iceberg lettuce recall on July 17, 2026. The total case count associated with this multistate outbreak is now 11,458 illnesses reported from 20

states. Since the last update, three additional states have been added: Georgia, Tennessee, and Texas.

FDA's onsite inspections and sampling at iceberg lettuce growers and the processing facility in Mexico in coordination with Mexican officials are ongoing. FDA remains confident that all recalled iceberg lettuce related to this specific *Cyclospora* outbreak is off the market. FDA will continue to work with federal and state and international partners to investigate this multistate outbreak.

August 20, 2026

The FDA and CDC, in collaboration with state and local partners, are investigating a multistate outbreak of *Cyclospora* infections linked to iceberg lettuce sourced from central Mexico and recalled by Taylor Farms de Mexico.

Since the last update on August 13, 2026, state and local health officials have continued to interview additional sick people with cyclosporiasis and CDC has added them to this multistate outbreak. The outbreak includes people who reported exposure to processed iceberg lettuce from Taylor Farms de Mexico served or purchased at various locations, including people who previously reported eating at Taco Bell. Most of these illnesses began before the Taylor Farms de Mexico iceberg lettuce recall on July 17, 2026. The total case count associated with this multistate outbreak is now 10,930 illnesses reported from 17 states. Since the last update, no additional states have been added.

FDA has initiated onsite inspections and sampling at iceberg lettuce growers in Mexico in coordination with Mexican officials. FDA remains confident that all recalled iceberg lettuce related to this specific *Cyclospora* outbreak is off the market. FDA will continue to work with federal and state and international partners to investigate this multistate outbreak.

August 13, 2026

The FDA and CDC, in collaboration with state and local partners, are investigating a multistate outbreak of *Cyclospora* infections linked to iceberg lettuce sourced from central Mexico and recalled by Taylor Farms de Mexico.

Since the last update on August 5, 2026, state and local health officials have continued to interview additional cases of cyclosporiasis and CDC has added them to this multistate outbreak. The outbreak includes people who reported exposure to processed iceberg lettuce from Taylor Farms de Mexico served or purchased at various locations, including people who previously reported eating at Taco Bell. Most of these illnesses began before the Taylor Farms de Mexico iceberg lettuce recall on July 17, 2026. The total case count

associated with this multistate outbreak is now 9,481 illnesses reported from 17 states. Since the last update, 2 additional states have been added: Maine and Massachusetts.

FDA has initiated an onsite inspection and sampling at Taylor Farms de Mexico in coordination with Mexican officials. FDA remains confident that all recalled iceberg lettuce related to this specific *Cyclospora* outbreak is off the market. FDA will continue to work with federal and state partners to investigate this multistate outbreak.

August 5, 2026

The FDA and CDC, in collaboration with state and local partners, are investigating a multistate outbreak of *Cyclospora* infections linked to iceberg lettuce sourced from central Mexico and recalled by Taylor Farms de Mexico.

Since the last update on July 24, 2026, state and local health officials have continued to interview additional cases of cyclosporiasis and CDC has added them to this multistate outbreak. Due to the additional interview data, the outbreak now includes people who reported exposure to Taco Bell or recalled Taylor Farms de Mexico iceberg lettuce. Many of these illnesses began before the Taylor Farms de Mexico iceberg lettuce recall on July 17, 2026. The total case count associated with this multistate outbreak is now 6,358 illnesses reported from 15 states. This includes the addition of 6 states since the last update: Arkansas, Iowa, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, and North Carolina.

This increase in cases is due, in part, to the inclusion of people who reported exposure to Taco Bell or recalled Taylor Farms de Mexico iceberg lettuce and the identification and addition of six new states that are now linked to this outbreak. We also expect to continue to see the number of confirmed cases rise, despite the recall, due to the fact that it can take as long as six weeks for CDC and state officials to determine if a sick person is part of this outbreak.

Illnesses linked to this outbreak began on June 22 and onset dates have continued through July 31, 2026. There have been at least 278 hospitalizations. Two deaths have been reported in Michigan. Both of these individuals had significant underlying health conditions that may have been adversely impacted by cyclosporiasis and dehydration. Based on information provided to FDA by the state of Michigan, both of these individuals had illness onset dates prior to the date of Taylor Farms de Mexico's voluntary recall on July 17, 2026.

The true number of sick people in this multistate outbreak is likely higher than the number reported, and the outbreak may not be limited to the states with known illnesses. This is because some people recover without medical care and are not tested for Cyclospora. In addition, recent illnesses may not yet be reported because it can take as long as 6 weeks to

determine if a sick person is part of a *Cyclospora* outbreak. States in this outbreak may show different illness counts on their websites, as they may also include probable illnesses or update their websites at different frequencies. CDC and FDA are only reporting laboratory confirmed cases.

After receiving information that identified potential food vehicles as potential source of illness, FDA immediately began traceback activities. These efforts ultimately traced the potentially contaminated product to central Mexico. At the same time, FDA increased screening and sampling of products at the border to help prevent additional contaminated lettuce from entering the U.S. food supply.

FDA will continue to work with federal and state partners to investigate this multistate outbreak and help ensure products linked to this outbreak have been removed from the market.

July 24, 2026

The FDA and CDC, in collaboration with state and local partners, are investigating a multistate outbreak of *Cyclospora* infections linked to iceberg lettuce sourced from central Mexico and recalled by Taylor Farms de Mexico. The illnesses included in this outbreak are a subset of the *Cyclospora* infections identified nationwide. This outbreak now includes illnesses from 9 states: Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia.

Based on epidemiological information collected by CDC, a total of 1,947 people infected with *Cyclospora* and reporting exposure to Taco Bell have been reported by nine states. Illnesses started on dates ranging from June 22, 2026, to July 20, 2026. There have been at least 98 hospitalizations, and no deaths have been reported. This increase in cases is, in part, due to the identification and addition of four new states that are now considered part of this outbreak. We also expect to continue to see the number of confirmed cases rise, despite the recall, due to the fact that it can take as long as six weeks for CDC and state officials to determine if a sick person is part of this outbreak.

On July 19, 2026, FDA provided an update about a false positive sample collected at the border. To clarify, this false-positive lab sample DOES NOT change the basis for FDA's ongoing outbreak investigation or the overwhelming epidemiological data supporting the current voluntary recall by Taylor Farms. FDA's traceback investigation and outbreak data continue to converge on shredded iceberg lettuce from Taylor Farms from growers in central Mexico. We encourage the public to continue to avoid all products listed in Taylor Farms' voluntary recall.

FDA will continue to work with federal and state partners to investigate this multistate outbreak and ensure products implicated in this outbreak have been removed from the market.

July 19, 2026

FDA is providing an update regarding the sample of lettuce supplied by Taylor Farms de Mexico which was reported positive on July 18, 2026. Due to the complexity in detection of *Cyclospora*, FDA laboratory experts re-reviewed the sample results and have concluded that the finding does not represent true amplification and should be considered a false positive. Information about the sample has been removed from the July 18, 2026, update below. FDA has notified Taylor Farms and continues working with the firm to ensure product implicated in this outbreak has been removed from the market. FDA and state partners continue to collect and analyze product samples. As of July 19, 2026, there are no confirmed positive sample results for product testing for *Cyclospora*.

July 18, 2026

On July 17, Taylor Farms de Mexico of Guanajuato, Mexico, announced that they are voluntarily removing all iceberg lettuce sourced from central Mexico from the U.S. market. Taylor Fresh Foods' recall notice included Marketside-brand product available at Walmart:

- 12-oz and 24-oz Iceberg Salad with Best if Used By dates 7/18/2026 to 8/3/2026
- 8-oz and 16-oz Shredded Lettuce with Best if Used By dates July 18th to Aug 3rd 2026

A complete list of affected products distributed to Taylor Fresh Foods food service customers including lot codes, use-by dates, and instructions for returning or disposing of the affected product is available on the company's recall notice.

July 17, 2026

FDA's traceback investigation identified convergence on a single supplier, Taylor Farms de Mexico, that provided shredded iceberg lettuce used by Taco Bell locations where sick people ate before becoming ill.

On July 17, 2026, Taylor Farms de Mexico announced that they are voluntarily removing all iceberg lettuce sourced from central Mexico from the U.S. market. Taylor Farms also informed FDA that they would initiate a recall. More information will be provided as it becomes available.

July 16, 2026

The FDA and CDC, in collaboration with state and local partners, are investigating a multistate outbreak of *Cyclospora* illnesses linked to shredded iceberg lettuce served at Taco Bell locations in Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, and West Virginia. The illnesses included in this outbreak are a subset of the *Cyclospora* illnesses identified nationwide.

Based on epidemiological information collected by CDC, a total of 1,644 people infected with *Cyclospora* and reporting exposure to Taco Bell have been reported by five states. Illnesses started on dates ranging from May 13, 2026, to July 13, 2026. There have been 94 hospitalizations, and no deaths have been reported. MI analyzed food exposure details from 190 of the cases who reported eating at Taco Bell and shared these findings with CDC. Ingredient level analyses on meals eaten by these cases indicate that 90% of those interviewed reported eating iceberg lettuce.

FDA's traceback investigation has identified convergence on a single supplier of iceberg lettuce from Mexico used by Taco Bell locations where sick people ate before becoming ill.

FDA is working directly with the identified supplier to determine if potentially contaminated shredded iceberg lettuce remains on the market. As part of this investigation, FDA and state partners have initiated collection of product samples for testing and analysis. Additionally, FDA has increased screening at the border for products implicated in the outbreak.

FDA is also working with Taco Bell and they have committed to stop using any lettuce from the supplier identified by FDA's traceback investigation.

FDA and state partners are actively investigating the source and scope of the contamination. Because the investigation remains ongoing, additional implicated brands, restaurants, retailers, or distribution channels may be identified as the investigation continues. This advisory will be updated promptly as new information becomes available.

FDA is aware that the case counts in this advisory may not match what is being reported by individual states. State data may include both probable and confirmed cases, while CDC and FDA include confirmed cases only. State case counts may also include initial case reports that have not yet been reported to CDC. As cases are confirmed, these numbers will continue to update.

Additionally, 2026 national surveillance numbers reported by the CDC track laboratory-confirmed cases in the U.S. overall, which include this outbreak as well as illnesses that are not a part of this outbreak.