

Multistate Outbreak of *Salmonella* Adelaide Infections Linked to Pre-Cut Melon

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Highlights

Important advice for consumers and retailers in Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Missouri, North Carolina, and Ohio:

- On June 8, 2018, Caito Foods, LLC [recalled](#) fresh cut watermelon, honeydew melon, cantaloupe, and fresh-cut fruit medley products containing one of these melons produced at the Caito Foods facility in Indianapolis, Indiana.
 - Recalled products were distributed to Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Missouri, North Carolina, and Ohio.
 - Recalled products were sold in clear, plastic clamshell containers at Costco, Jay C, Kroger, Payless, Owen's, Sprouts, Trader Joe's, Walgreens, Walmart, and Whole Foods/Amazon.
 - The investigation is ongoing to determine if products went to additional stores or states.
- Do not eat recalled products. Check your fridge and freezer for them and throw them away or return them to the place of purchase for a refund.
 - If you don't remember where you bought pre-cut melon, don't eat it and throw it away.
- Retailers should not sell or serve recalled pre-cut melon products distributed by Caito Foods Distribution, Gordon Food Service, and SpartanNash Distribution.
- CDC will update the advice to consumers and retailers if more information becomes available.

Investigation details:

- CDC, public health and regulatory officials in several states, and the [U.S. Food and Drug Administration](#) are investigating an outbreak of *Salmonella* Adelaide infections in five Midwestern states.
 - 60 people infected with the outbreak strain have been reported.
 - 31 people have been hospitalized, and no deaths have been reported.
- [Epidemiologic and preliminary traceback evidence](#) indicates that pre-cut melon supplied by Caito Foods, LLC of Indianapolis, Indiana is a likely source of this multistate outbreak.
 - Most of the ill people reported eating pre-cut cantaloupe, watermelon, or a fruit salad mix with melon purchased from grocery stores.

- Information collected from stores where ill people shopped indicates that Caito Foods, LLC supplied pre-cut melon to these stores.
- CDC will provide updates when more information is available.

June 8, 2018

CDC, public health and regulatory officials in several states, and the [U.S. Food and Drug Administration](#) are investigating a multistate outbreak of *Salmonella* Adelaide infections.

Public health investigators are using the [PulseNet](#) system to identify illnesses that may be part of this outbreak. PulseNet is the national subtyping network of public health and food regulatory agency laboratories coordinated by CDC. DNA fingerprinting is performed on *Salmonella* bacteria isolated from ill people by using techniques called [pulsed-field gel electrophoresis](#) (PFGE) and [whole genome sequencing](#) (WGS). CDC PulseNet manages a national database of these DNA fingerprints to identify possible outbreaks. WGS gives a more detailed DNA fingerprint than PFGE.

As of June 7, 2018, 60 people infected with the outbreak strain of *Salmonella* Adelaide have been reported from five 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 [April 30, 2018, to May 28, 2018](#). Ill people range in age from less than 1 year to 97, with a median age of 67. Sixty-five percent are female. Out of 47 people with information available, 31 (66%) have been hospitalized. No deaths have been reported.

Illnesses that occurred after May 20, 2018, might not yet be reported due to the time it takes between when a person becomes ill and when the illness is reported. This takes an average of 2 to 4 weeks. Please see the [Timeline for Reporting Cases of *Salmonella* Infection](#) for more details.

Investigation of the Outbreak

[Epidemiologic and preliminary traceback evidence](#) indicates that pre-cut melon supplied by the Caito Foods, LLC of Indianapolis, Indiana is a likely source of this multistate outbreak.

In interviews, ill people answered [questions about the foods they ate and other exposures](#) in the week before they became ill. Twenty-five (64%) of 39 people interviewed reported eating pre-cut

melon purchased from grocery stores, including cantaloupe, watermelon, or a fruit salad mix with melon. An additional seven people reported consuming melons but did not specify if it was pre-cut.

Information collected from stores where ill people shopped indicates that Caito Foods, LLC supplied pre-cut melon to these stores. On June 8, 2018, Caito Foods, LLC [recalled](#) fresh cut watermelon, honeydew melon, cantaloupe, and fresh-cut fruit medley products containing one of these melons produced at the Caito Foods facility in Indianapolis, Indiana.

CDC will provide updates when more information is available.