

Officials Report Increasing Cyclospora Cases, First Fatalities in Michigan

According to Michigan's Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS), two people who had contracted cyclosporiasis have died. A news release explained that both individuals had "significant underlying health conditions that may have been impacted by cyclosporiasis and dehydration." The [MDHHS](#) reports that more than 11,000 cases of cyclosporiasis have been confirmed in Michigan, and 193 people have been hospitalized since early May.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, and public health officials in several states are still investigating multiple clusters of Cyclospora cases. The outbreaks in Michigan and nine other states have been linked to lettuce at Taco Bell that was supplied by Taylor Farms and sourced from central Mexico. Taylor Farms de Mexico issued a voluntary recall on July 17 of all iceberg lettuce supplied from central Mexico.

According to the CDC, the deaths in Michigan come amid an unusually severe cyclosporiasis season with cases reported in 45 states.

Nationally, the numbers have climbed sharply since the season began. Since May 1, 2026, the CDC has received reports of more than 6,700 laboratory-confirmed domestic cases, and this total doesn't include additional cases that are not yet laboratory-confirmed and require further investigation. Many of the additional pending cases have been reported by Michigan and Ohio.

What You Should Do

Cyclospora is a waterborne parasite that is often found on fresh produce, especially bagged or processed salad greens, basil, cilantro, parsley, raspberries, blackberries, snow peas and sugar snap peas. Outbreaks are more common during the summer.

Anyone with symptoms of cyclosporiasis, most notably watery diarrhea, should contact a healthcare provider immediately and stay well-hydrated. Other primary symptoms include fatigue and loss of appetite. Symptoms typically begin about a week after infection and can last from a few days to a month or longer without treatment. MDHHS officials said that cyclosporiasis is generally not considered life-threatening, and it is unusual for fatalities to occur in the United States.

The CDC's website emphasizes not to eat the recalled iceberg lettuce from Taylor Farms de Mexico. If you purchased recalled lettuce, throw it out or return it. In addition, consider the following measures to reduce your risk of cyclosporiasis:

- Choose whole, unprocessed produce when possible, such as choosing a head of lettuce instead of bagged lettuce.
- Wash fruits and vegetables thoroughly before eating them.
- Cook produce when appropriate, as cooking can help reduce contamination.

If you're sick with cyclosporiasis, local or state health officials may contact you to find out what you ate in the two weeks before you got sick. Contact your healthcare provider if you have symptoms of cyclosporiasis. Finally, it's important to stay up to date on food recalls and outbreak notices to protect your household.

The CDC expects illnesses to keep climbing through the end of August, the typical close of cyclosporiasis season. Visit [the CDC's Cyclospora outbreak page](#) to learn more and monitor the situation.