

Virginia Statewide Cyclosporiasis Outbreak Investigation - 2019



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Cyclosporiasis

Infection of the intestine caused by a parasite called *Cyclospora*.



2019 Statewide Situation

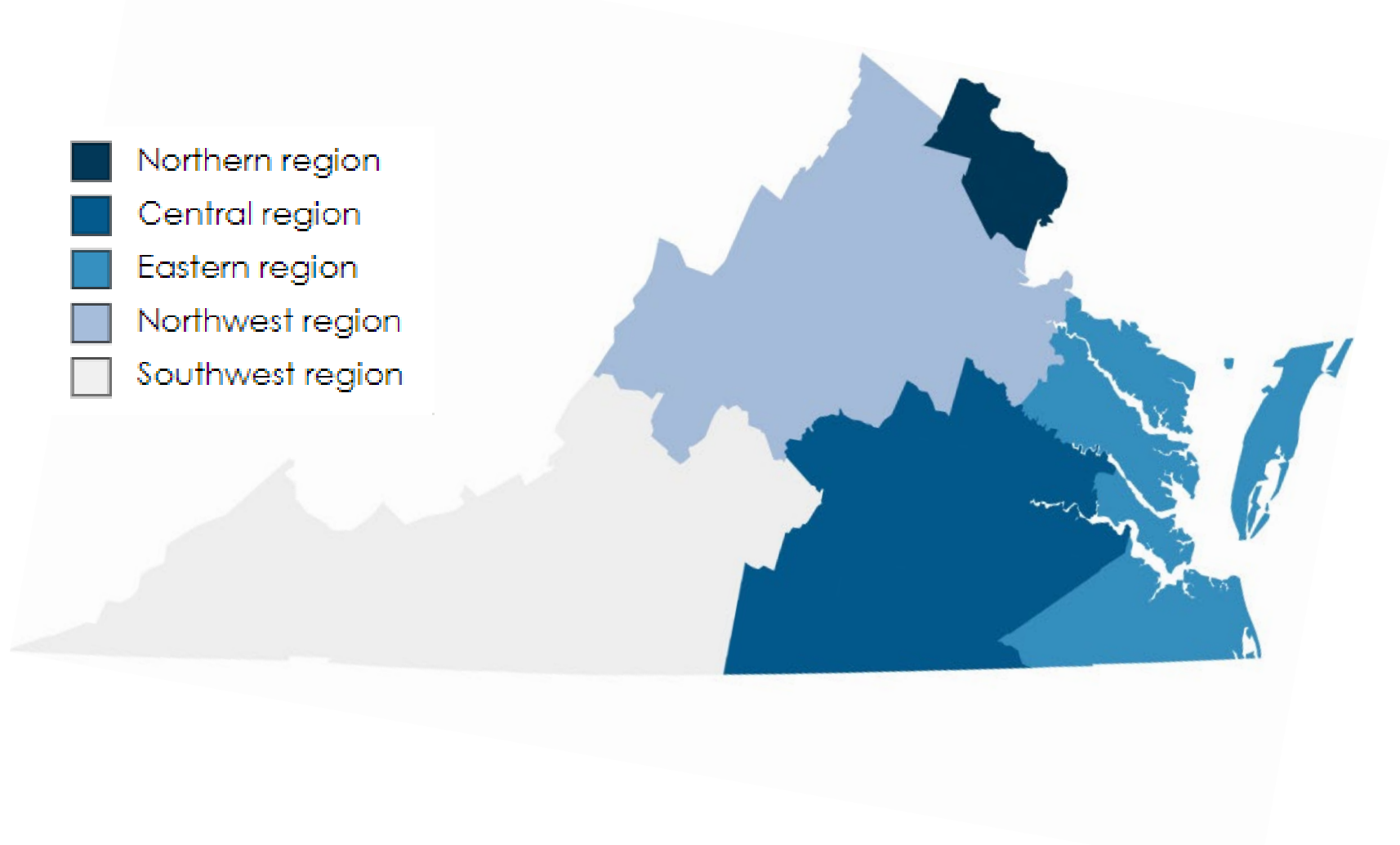
- Began seeing an increase in cyclosporiasis cases around mid-July 2019
- Individual outbreaks were reported
 - Several workplace cafeterias
 - Two weddings
 - Restaurant
- Statewide press release issued on July 25, 2019

2019 SURVEILLANCE DATA VIRGINIA

Statewide Surveillance Data - 2019

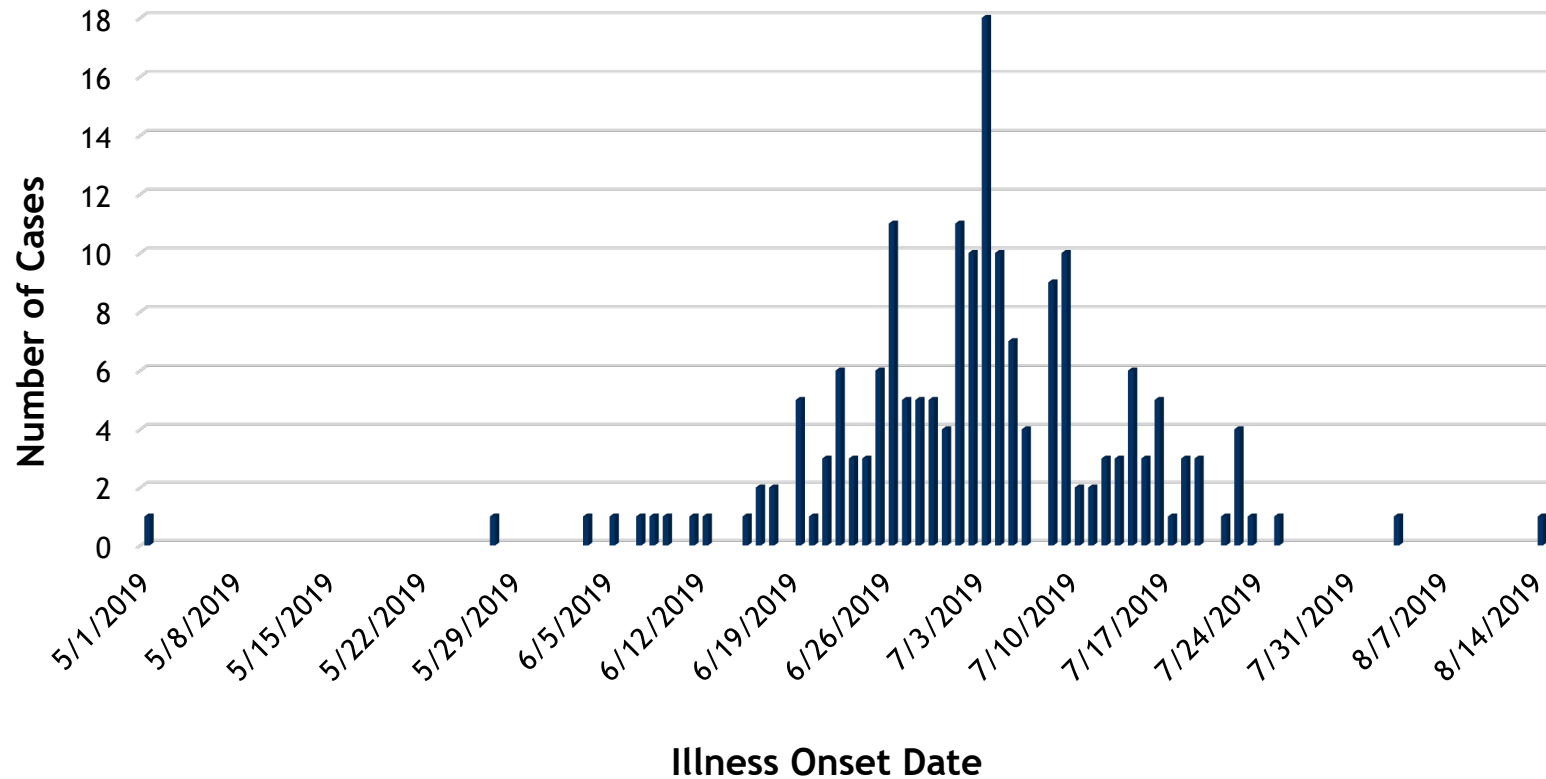
Outcomes	N (%)
Total cases	204
Laboratory confirmed	109 (53%)
Probable	95 (47%)
Age (Years)	
Range	13 - 86
Median	45
Sex	
Female	124 (61%)
Male	80 (39%)
Hospitalized	3 (1%)

Virginia Case Count Map



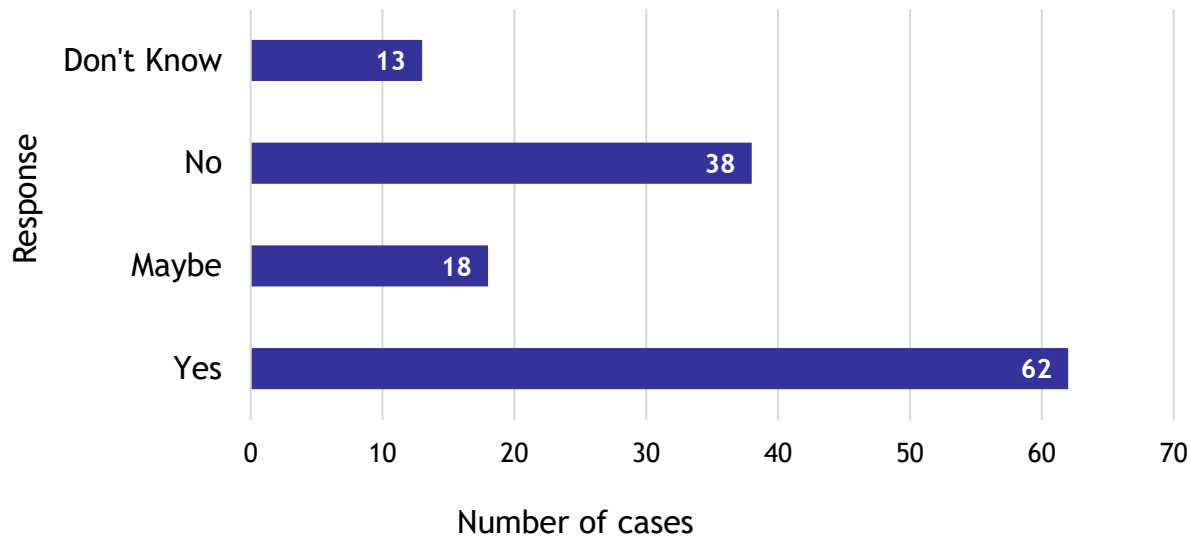
Epidemic Curve

Number of Cases by Illness Onset Date (N=190)

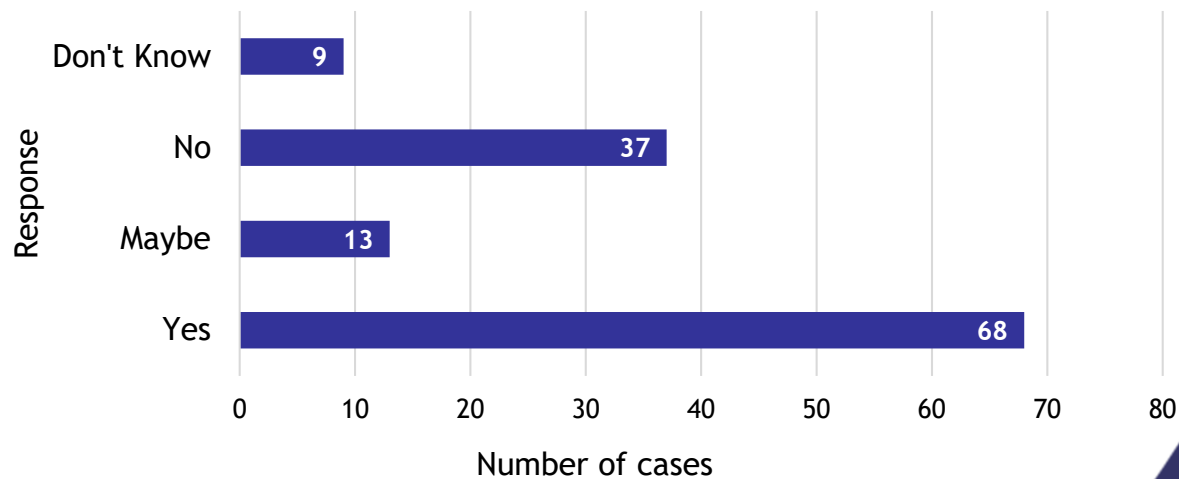


Foods Reported

Basil (N=131)

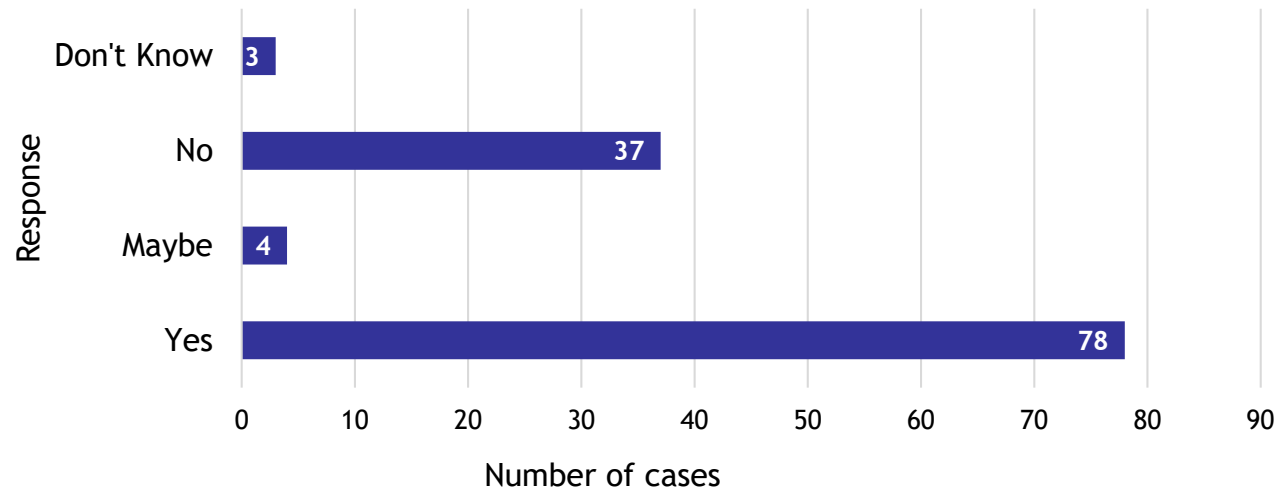


Cilantro (N=127)

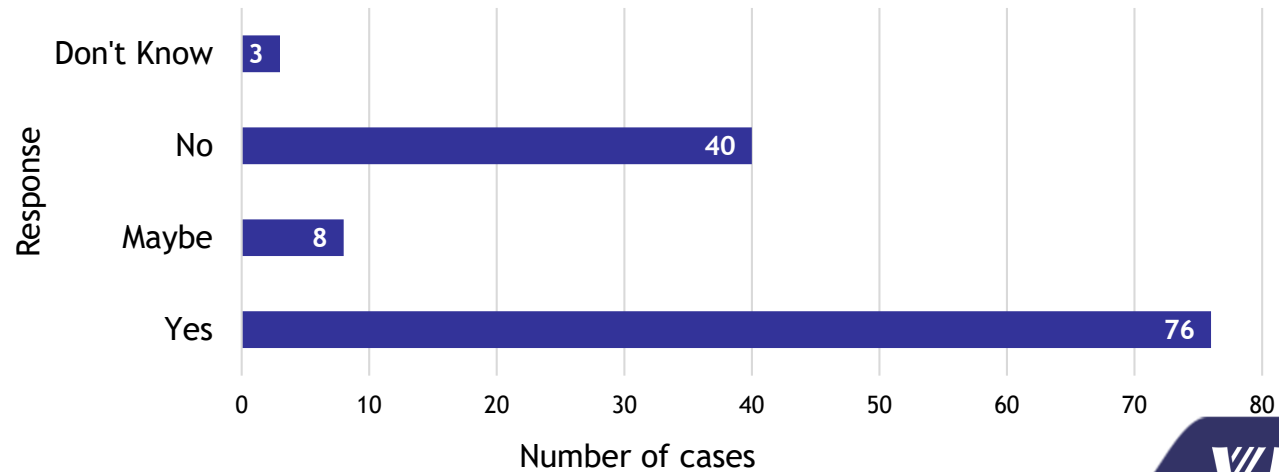


Foods Reported

Strawberries (N=122)

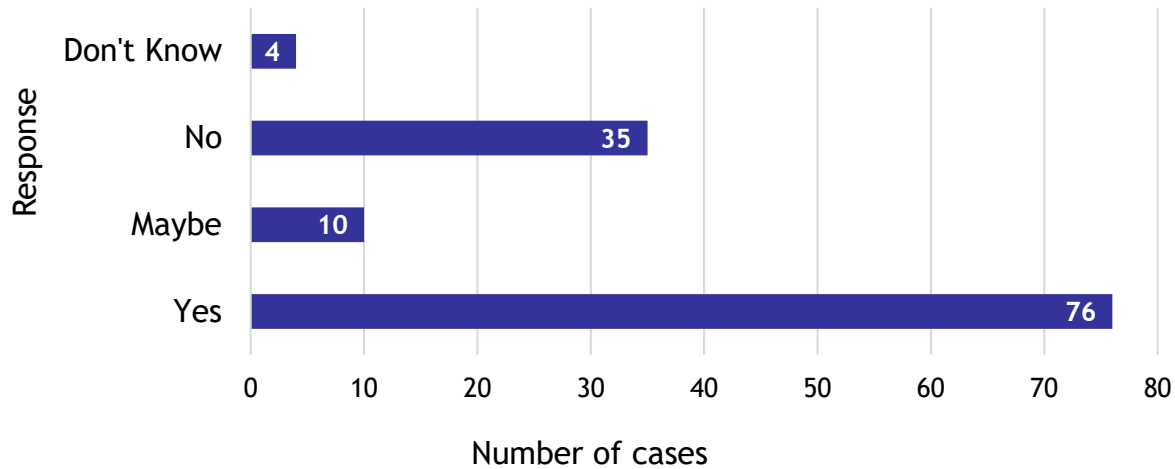


Blueberries (N=127)

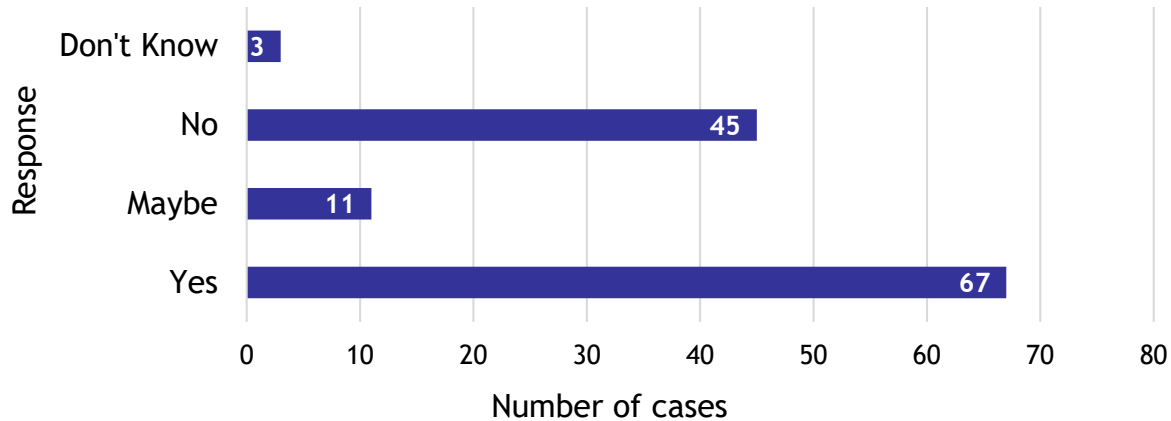


Foods Reported

Romaine lettuce (N=125)



Mesclun lettuce (N=126)



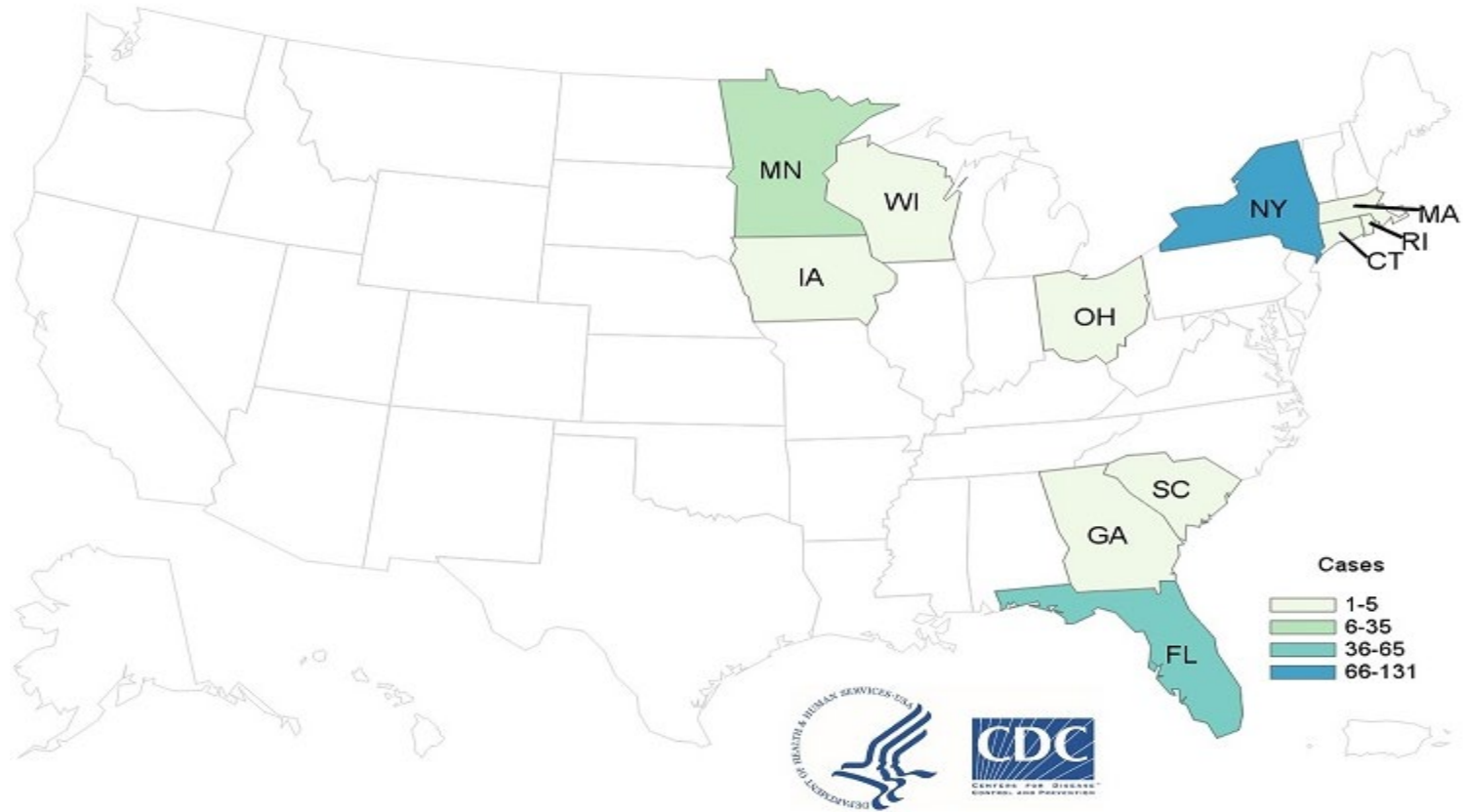
NATIONAL CYCLOSPORIASIS OUTBREAK INVESTIGATION

2019 Nationwide Outbreak



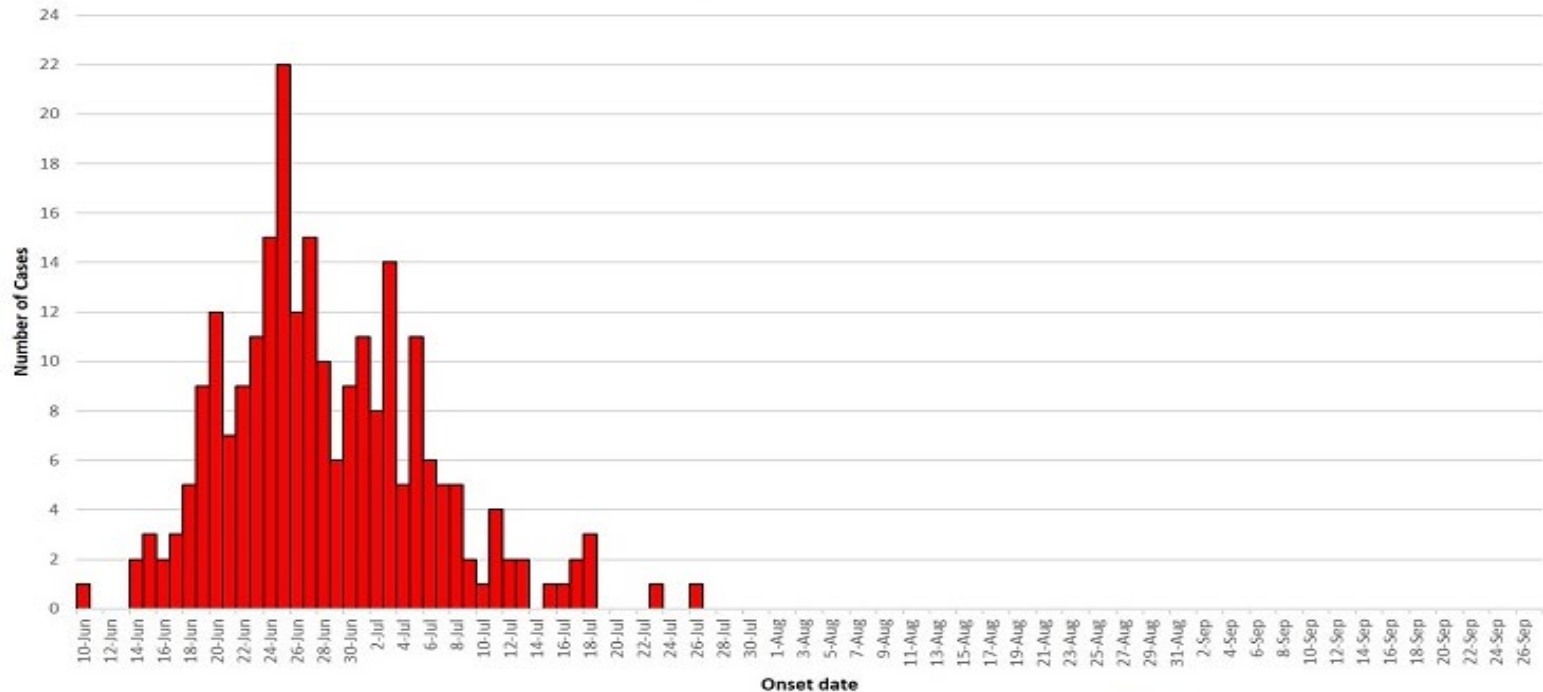
- 241 laboratory-confirmed cases from 11 states
 - Exposures occurred in 5 states
- Epidemiologic and traceback evidence indicated fresh basil from Mexico as a likely source of this outbreak.
 - Recall of fresh basil issued on July 24, 2019

Nationwide Case Count Map



Nationwide Outbreak Epidemic Curve

People who reportedly consumed fresh basil from Siga Logistics de RL de CV located in Morelos, Mexico and were infected with Cyclospora as of September 27, 2019 (n=238)*





Rapid Response Team Activation

July 17, 2019

Food and Drug
Administration
(FDA)



Division of
Consolidated
Laboratory Services
(DCLS)

Virginia Department
of Health (VDH) -
Environmental
Health

Virginia Department
of Agriculture and
Consumer Services
(VDACS) Food Safety
Program

Virginia Department
of Health (VDH) -
Foodborne
Epidemiology

Local VA Outbreak 1

Reported July 17, 2019

Over 500
potentially exposed



106 cases
(confirmed &
probable)

Large workplace cafeteria

Local VA Outbreak 2

Reported July 17, 2019

Over 500
potentially exposed



77 cases (confirmed
& probable)

Two different workplace cafeterias

Local VA Outbreak 3

Reported July 24, 2019

250 potentially
exposed



30 attendees
reported illness

Wedding reception

Local VA Outbreak 4

Reported July 26, 2019

Group of 5
exposed



4 cases
(confirmed &
probable)

Restaurant associated

Local VA Outbreak 5

Reported August 6, 2019

250 potentially
exposed



13 cases (confirmed
& probable)

Wedding reception

Conclusions

- Time between exposure and illness reporting for some of these outbreaks limited potential public health response and control measures
- Traceback investigation
 - 4/5 food establishments/caterers involved in these outbreaks had the same produce distributor
- Over 200 cases potentially linked to these outbreaks
- Dishes containing fresh basil and other fresh herbs were served at all of these events linked to the outbreaks
- Outbreaks likely due to consumption of fresh basil

Questions



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Division of Surveillance and Investigation

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