

Deaths from tainted cantaloupe increase to 3 in U.S. and 5 in Canada

December 8 2023, by Jonel Aleccia



Cut cantaloupe is displayed for sale at a supermarket in Philadelphia on Sunday, Dec. 3, 2023. On Thursday, Dec. 7, 2023, U.S. and Canadian officials reported additional deaths and illnesses in a salmonella outbreak tied to tainted cantaloupe. Credit: AP Photo/Jonathan Poet

A salmonella outbreak tied to tainted cantaloupe has now killed eight

people—three in the U.S. and five in Canada, health officials reported Thursday.

Dozens more illnesses were reported by both countries. In the U.S., at least 230 people have been ill in 38 states and 96 have been hospitalized since mid-November, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The tainted cantaloupe was also shipped to Canada, where 129 cases have been reported, including 44 hospitalizations, [health officials](#) reported.

Many of the people who fell ill reported eating pre-cut cantaloupe in clamshell packages and trays sold in stores. Consumers should not buy, eat or serve cantaloupe, if they don't know the source, the CDC said.

New recalls of whole and pre-cut fruit have been added to a [growing list](#), the U.S. Food and Drug Administration said. Last week, [Cut Fruit Express](#) initiated a recall of cantaloupe chunks and fruit mixes containing cantaloupe. On Tuesday, [TGD Cuts, LLC](#) launched a recall of specific fresh fruit cup, clamshell and tray products that contained cantaloupe from the company TruFresh.

Health officials are still working to determine whether additional products are linked to the illnesses.

Salmonella can cause serious illness in young children, people older than 65 and those with weakened immune systems.

© 2023 The Associated Press. All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed without permission.

Citation: Deaths from tainted cantaloupe increase to 3 in U.S. and 5 in Canada (2023, December

8) retrieved 27 April 2024 from

<https://medicalxpress.com/news/2023-12-deaths-tainted-cantaloupe-canada.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.