

Report finds increases in incidence of certain foodborne diseases during 2023

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During 2023, there were increases in the incidences of certain foodborne disease, which may reflect changes in diagnostic practices, according to research [published](#) in the July 4 issue of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*.

Hazel J. Shah, M.P.H., from the CDC in Atlanta, and colleagues summarized preliminary 2023 Foodborne Diseases Active Surveillance Network (FoodNet) data, and discussed efforts to increase FoodNet representativeness.

The researchers observed increases in the incidences of domestically acquired campylobacteriosis, Shiga toxin-producing *Escherichia coli* [infection](#), yersiniosis, vibriosis, and cyclosporiasis during 2023 compared with 2016 to 2018, while the incidences of listeriosis, salmonellosis, and shigellosis remained stable.

The incidence and percentage of infections diagnosed by culture-independent diagnostic tests (CIDTs) reported to FoodNet continued to increase during 2023, and there was a decrease seen in the percentage of cases yielding an isolate, affecting observed incidence trends. Since CIDTs allow for diagnosis of infections that would previously have gone undetected, increasing numbers of infections may reflect changing diagnostic practices.

"Continued [surveillance](#) is needed to monitor the impact of changing diagnostic practices on disease trends and evaluate the efficacy of prevention efforts in reducing incidence," the authors write.

More information: Hazel J. Shah et al, Reported Incidence of Infections Caused by Pathogens Transmitted Commonly Through Food: Impact of Increased Use of Culture-Independent Diagnostic Tests — Foodborne Diseases Active Surveillance Network, 1996–2023, *MMWR. Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* (2024). [DOI: 10.15585/mmwr.mm7326a1](#)

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