
Report a Problem with Food

What do you do if you think that you or a member of your family has food poisoning? Or if you suspect that food from a store or restaurant is contaminated? Follow these tips to report the problem quickly and effectively.

Report Food Poisoning

If you think you have food poisoning or an allergic reaction to food, call your doctor. If it's an emergency, call 911. If you believe you or someone you know became ill from eating a certain food, contact your county or city health department.

Reporting illnesses to your local health department helps them identify potential outbreaks of foodborne disease. Public health officials investigate outbreaks to control them, so more people do not get sick in the outbreak, and to learn how to prevent similar outbreaks from happening in the future.

Where to Report a Problem with Food

If you suspect that a food is contaminated or has made you or someone that you know sick, follow these guidelines to report it.

Report a Problem with...

Meat, Poultry, or Processed Egg Products

Do This

Phone the toll-free [USDA Meat and Poultry Hotline](#) at 1-888-MPHotline (1-888-674-6854) [or report the complaint online](#).

For details, see [Problems with Food Products](#) (USDA).

Food (Except Meat, Poultry or Processed Egg Products)

Phone the [FDA Main Emergency Number](#) at 866-300-4374 or phone the [Consumer Complaint Coordinator](#) for your state or area.

Pet Food

Get help with [Food, Dietary Supplements, and Cosmetics](#) questions.

[How to Report a Pet Food Complaint](#) (FDA)

Guidelines for reporting problems with pet food and animal feed.

Restaurant Food

Call the health department in your city, county, or

Report a Problem with...

Do This
state. See [State Departments of Public Health](#) for
contact information.

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