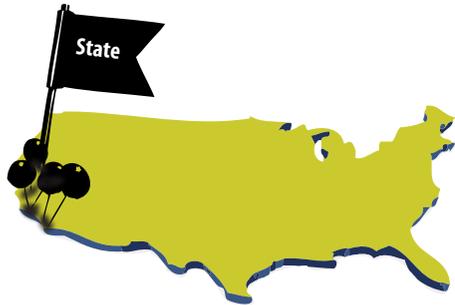


Sizes of Foodborne Disease Outbreaks

An outbreak occurs when two or more people become ill after eating the same food. An outbreak's size varies depending on many factors, including which germ, toxin, or chemical caused it; the contaminated food; where contamination occurred; how the food was prepared; and number of people who ate it.

Example of a Local Outbreak

A contaminated casserole served at a community supper causes an outbreak among local residents.



Example of a Statewide or Regional Outbreak

A contaminated batch of beef sold at several locations of a grocery store chain leads to illnesses in several counties.



Example of a National Outbreak

Contaminated produce from one farm is shipped to grocery stores nationwide and sickens hundreds of people in many states.

