



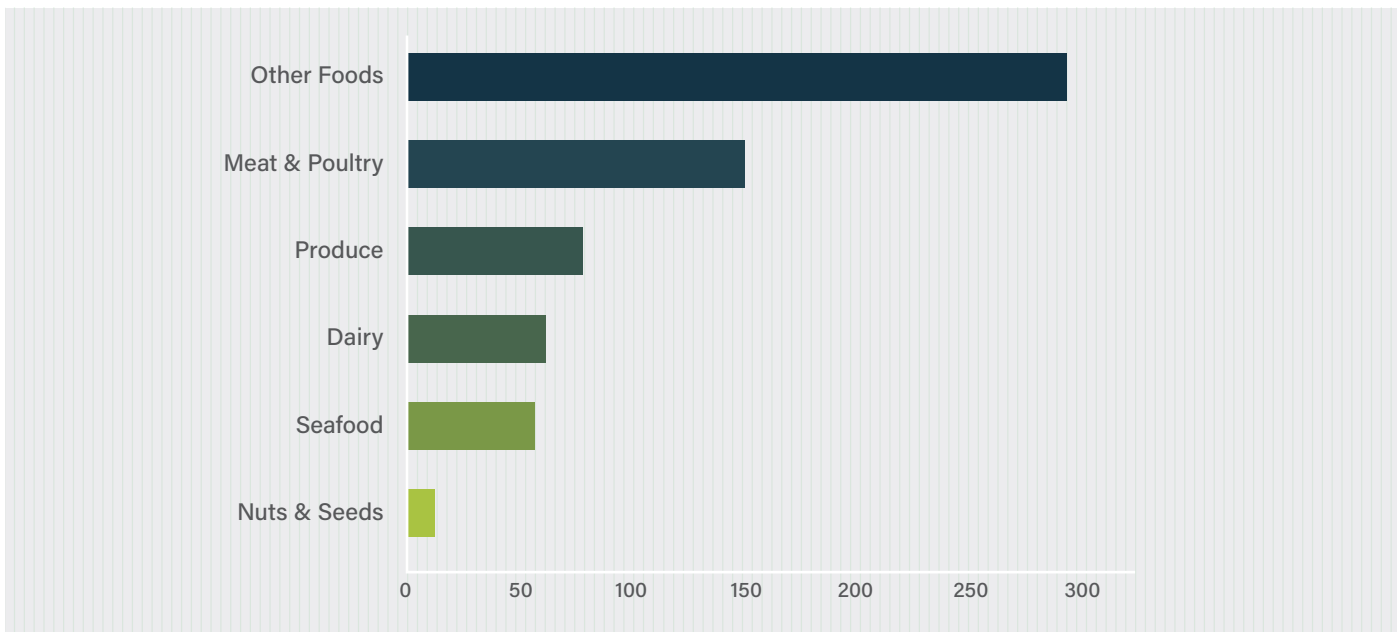
Q2 Newsletter

JULY 2020

Recall Recap

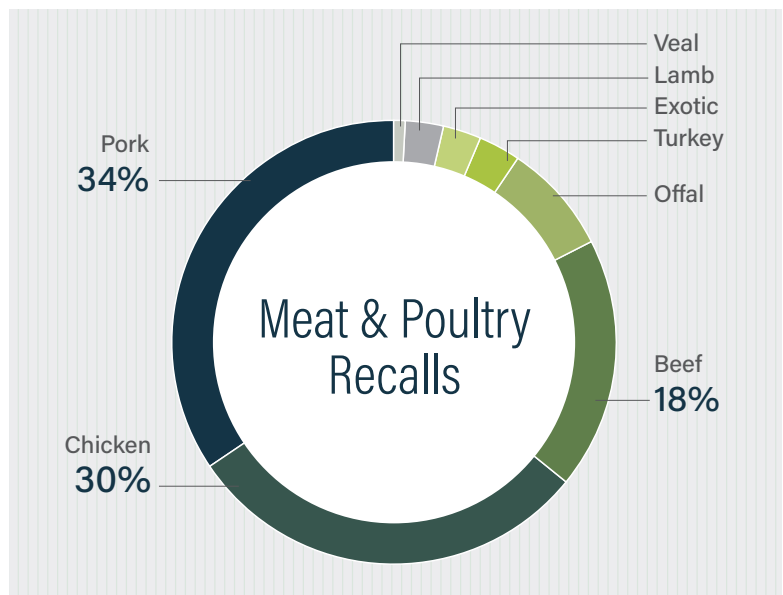
In Q2 2020, there were:

581 food-related alerts reported	Almost 500 reports from non-agency sources	33 Class I Recalls (US & Canada)	34% reports caught outside of business hrs
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Data Spotlight

Beef and pork recalls were disproportionately high due to just a handful of events: Minced meat in Europe and New Zealand were reported due to the presence of foreign matter in beef, and ham products from Belgium and France were contaminated with Salmonella and Listeria, respectively.

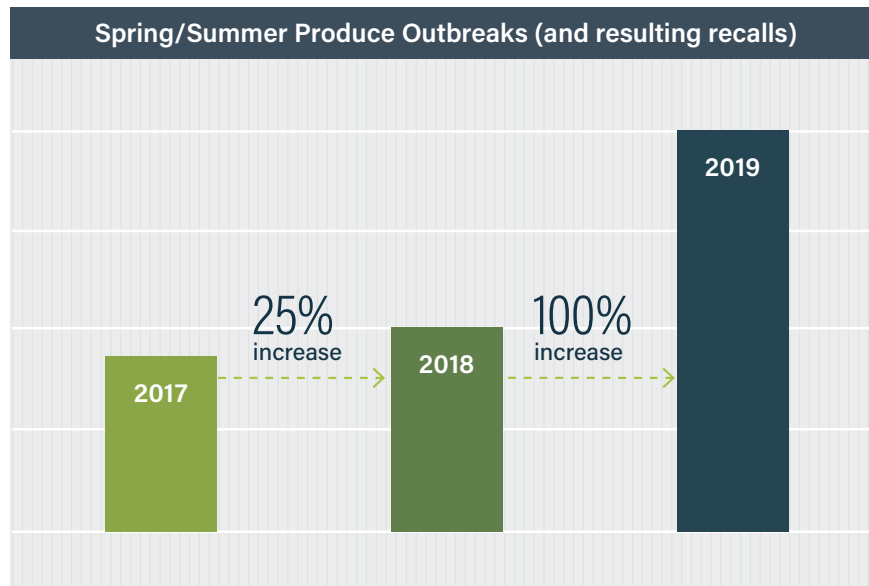


Seasonal Trend:

Foodborne Pathogen Outbreaks

Q2 of 2020 showed pathogenic outbreaks ramping up as we enter the summer months. Larger outbreaks included enoki mushrooms from Korea due to Listeria and, most recently, bagged salad mix due to Cyclospora. In addition to these larger outbreaks, there was E.coli found in clover sprouts and dried cranberries, Salmonella in shredded coconut and baby spinach, and Cyclospora in basil.

Warmer summer temperatures are ideal for exponential bacterial growth, making it more challenging to mitigate the spread of bacteria during food preparation. During these months, there are typically several clusters of pathogenic infections. Recurrent outbreaks affecting the same commodity over and over have also become common; melons, flour, and romaine are just a few examples of outbreaks that have repeatedly affected an entire commodity rather than one producer or manufacturer.



Our outbreak data is sourced from the CDC and state & local health departments.

As of July 10th, the outbreak of Cyclospora in bagged salad mixes in the U.S. has impacted 8 states, led to 23 hospitalizations, and resulted in multiple product recalls from 7 retailers. With so many recalls stemming from just one outbreak, 2020 is on course to continue the upward trend in the number of recalls/outbreaks seen during the spring and summer months over the past few years — increasing by 25% from 2017 to 2018 and jumping by 100% between 2018 and 2019.

If you have any inquiries about this report or if you are not already subscribing to our COVID-19 Daily Round-up, please email amelesius@foodtrack.net.