



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

Texas Rapid Response Team (TRRT) & Outbreak Response

Tishara Coleman

Texas Department of State Health Services



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

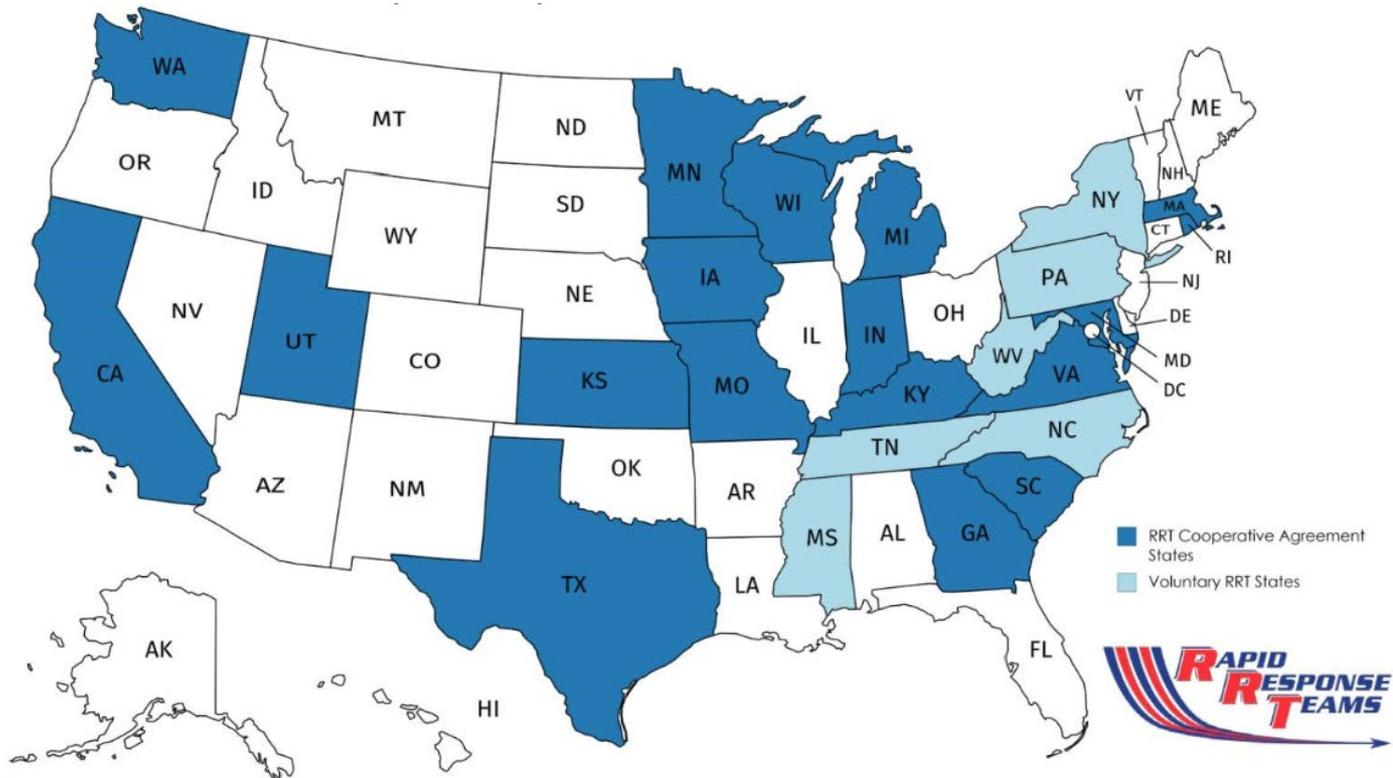
What is a RRT?

- Rapid Response Team (RRT)
 - The Food Protection RRTs conduct integrated, multiagency responses to all-hazards food and feed emergencies in various states across the Nation.
- Multi-year cooperative
 - FDA
 - State food regulatory partners.



What is a RRT?

- There are currently 24 RRTs nationwide.



TEXAS

Health and Human Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services



TEXAS

Health and Human Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

RRT History

- The RRT program was created to address the need for improved, integrated rapid response to food and feed emergencies.
- Multi-Agency Collaboration
 - Between disciplines
 - Between RRTs
 - Incident Command System (ICS) principles

Texas Rapid Response Team

Multiple agencies make up the TRRT and work together to provide preparedness, prevention, and timely response to food and/or feed related disasters that may affect the citizens of Texas.



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services



TRRT Organizational Structure



TEXAS

Health and Human Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

The TRRT follows **Incident Command System** principles

- What is an Incident Command System (ICS)?
 - ICS is a standardized on-scene incident management concept designed to allow responders to adopt an integrated organizational structure equal to the complexity and demands of any single incident or multiple incidents without being hindered by jurisdictional boundaries. -OSHA



TRRT Organizational Structure



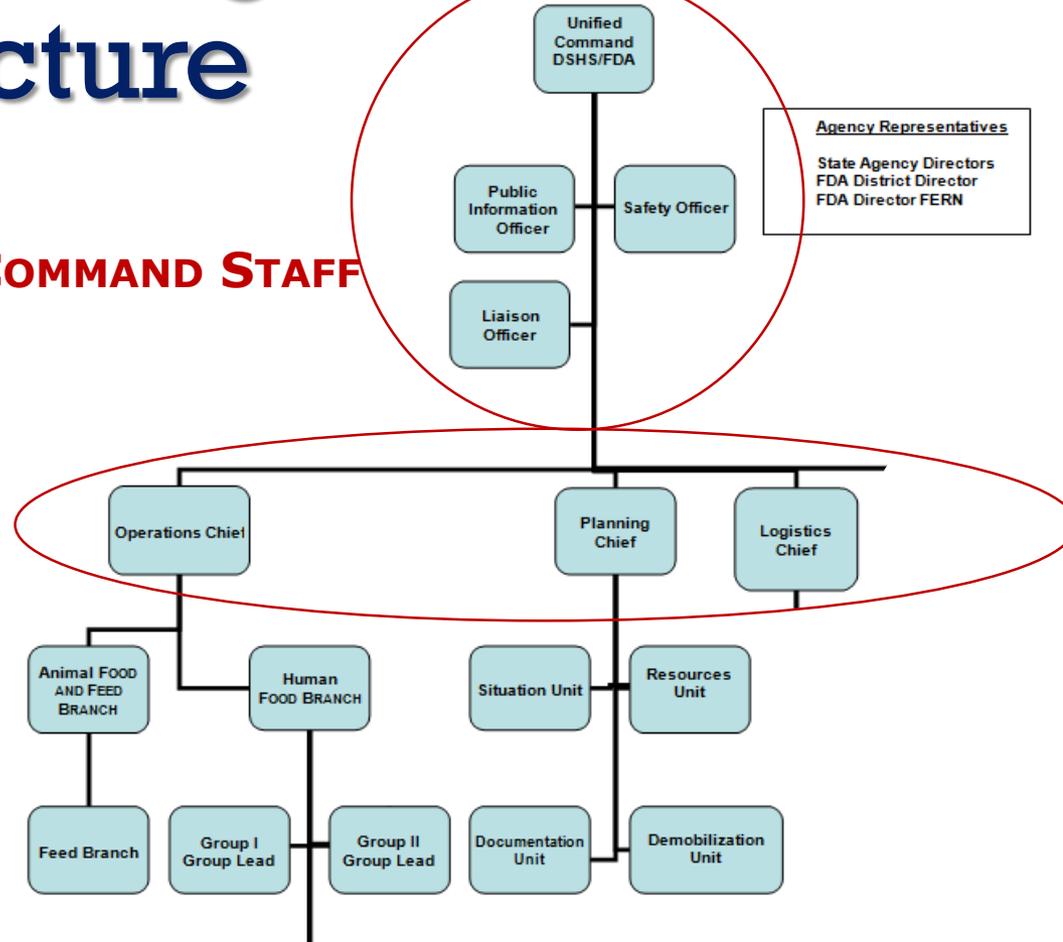
TEXAS

Health and Human Services

Texas Department of State Health Services

COMMAND STAFF

GENERAL STAFF



Agency Representatives
State Agency Directors
FDA District Director
FDA Director FERN

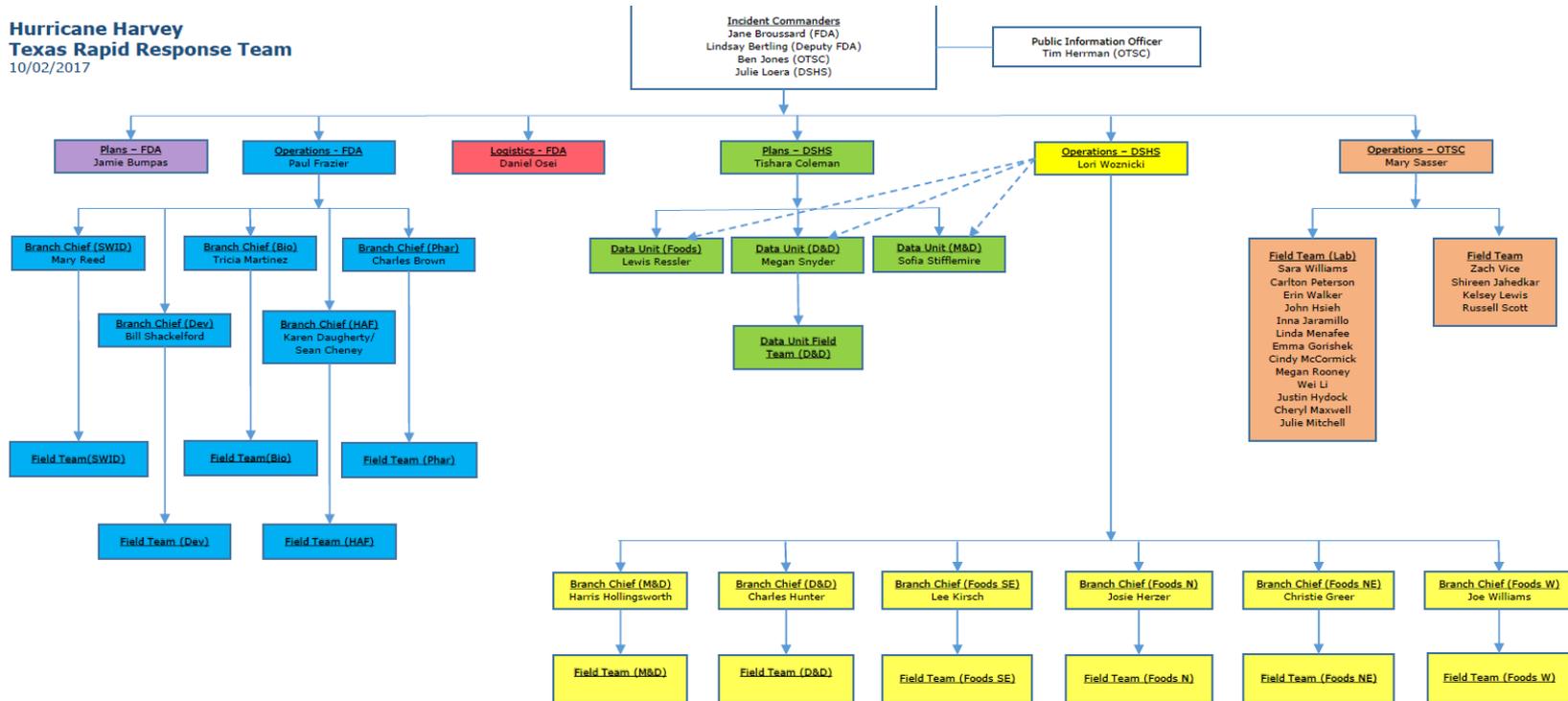
Harvey 2017



TEXAS
Health and Human Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

Hurricane Harvey Texas Rapid Response Team 10/02/2017



Cyclospora 2019

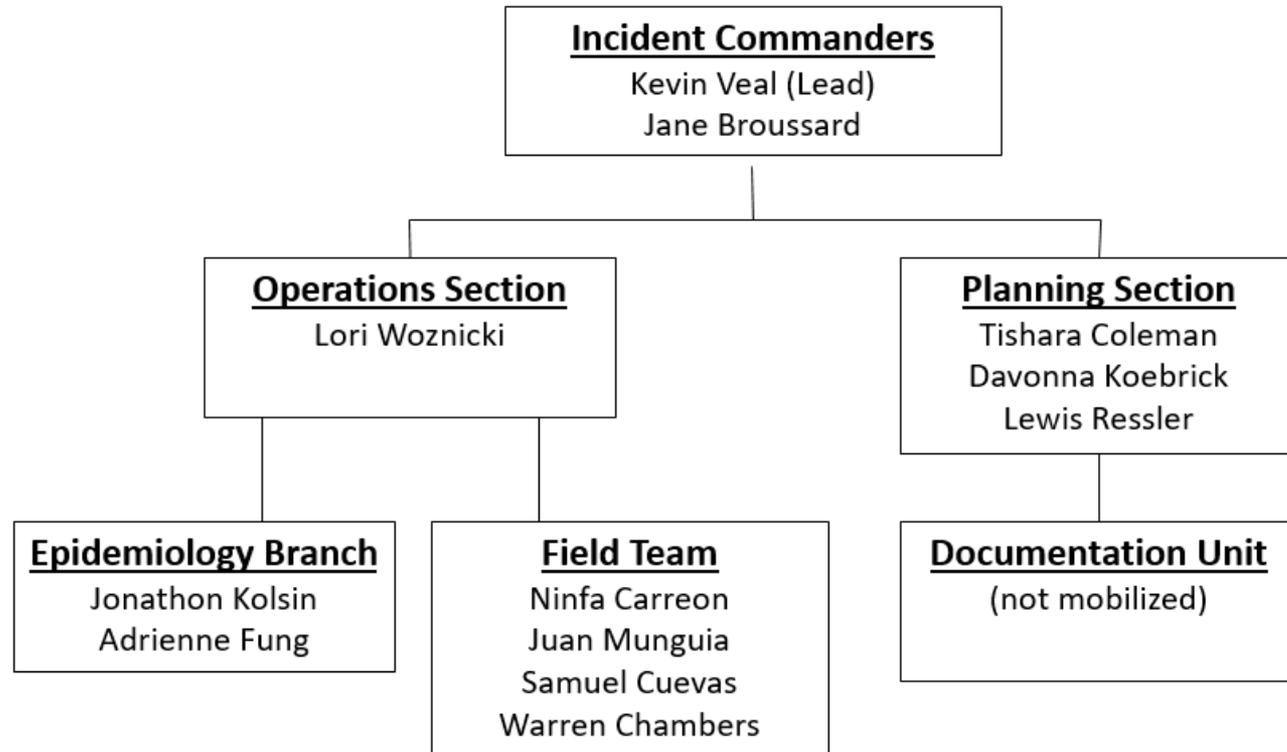


TEXAS

Health and Human Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

Cyclospora 2019
Updated 8/26/2019



TRRT Operations

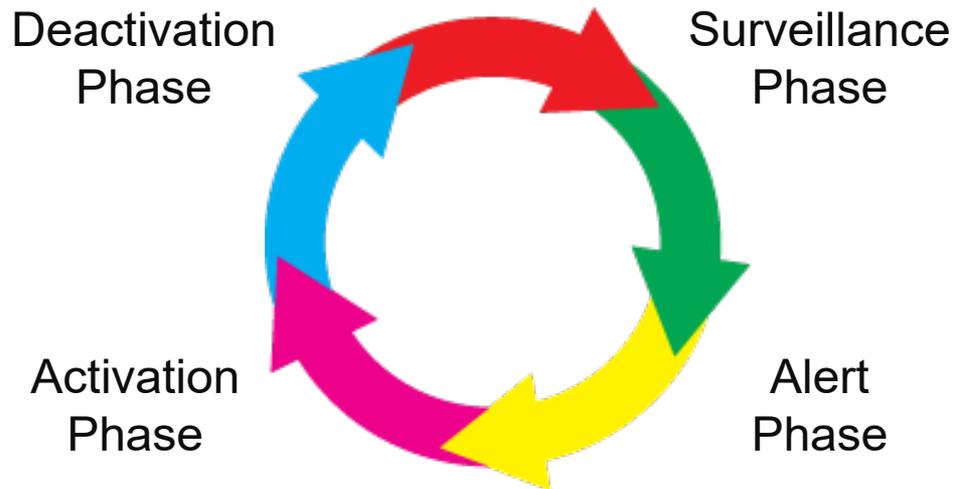


TEXAS

Health and Human Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

- There are four phases of the RRT food and/or feed emergency cycle. All four of these phases must be completed in sequence. This cycle is continuous.





TEXAS

Health and Human Services

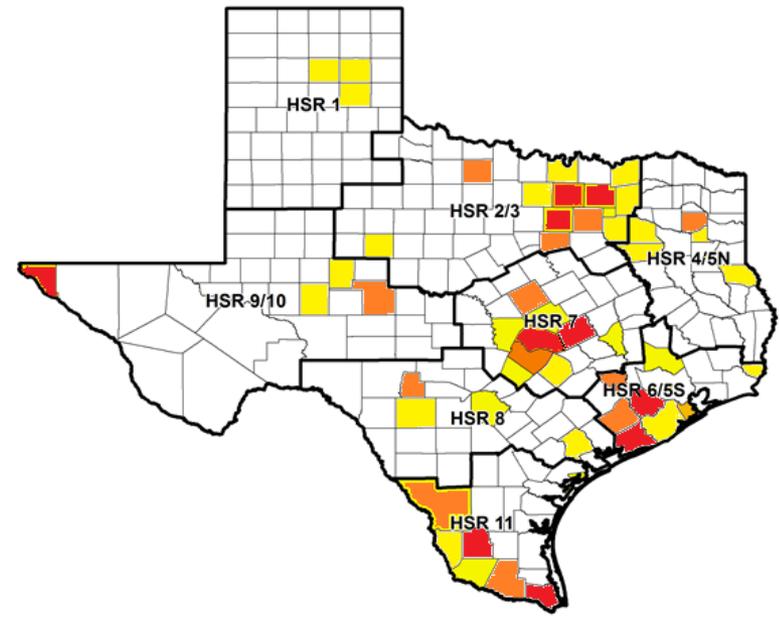
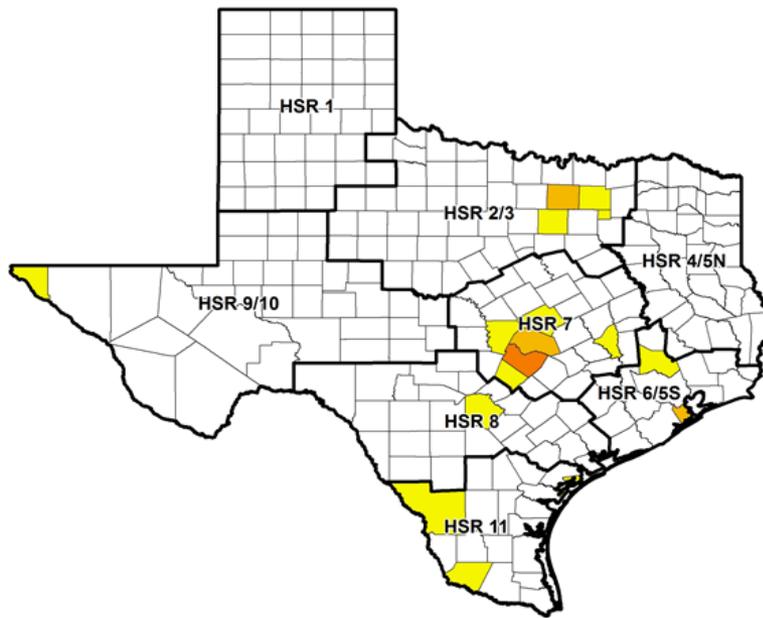
Texas Department of State
Health Services

Activate vs. Response

- May ***activate*** for large scale investigations involving food and/or feed and large scale recalls of food and/or feed.
- May ***respond*** to events with increased potential public risk.

Activation

- Why activate?
 - to prevent both ongoing transmission of disease and similar outbreaks in the future



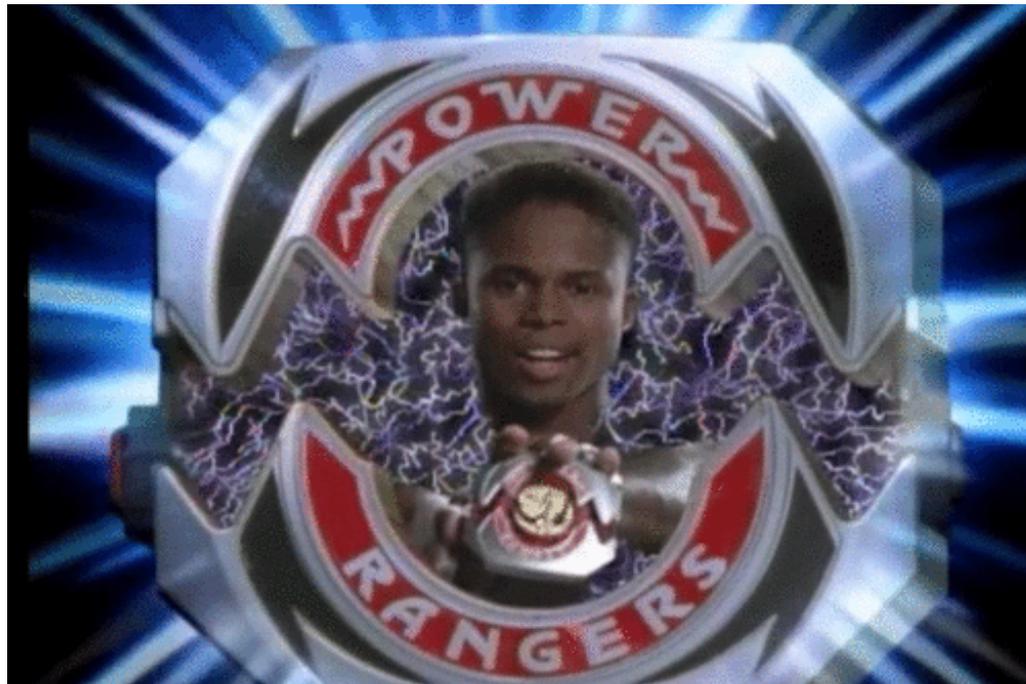


TEXAS

Health and Human Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

Activation



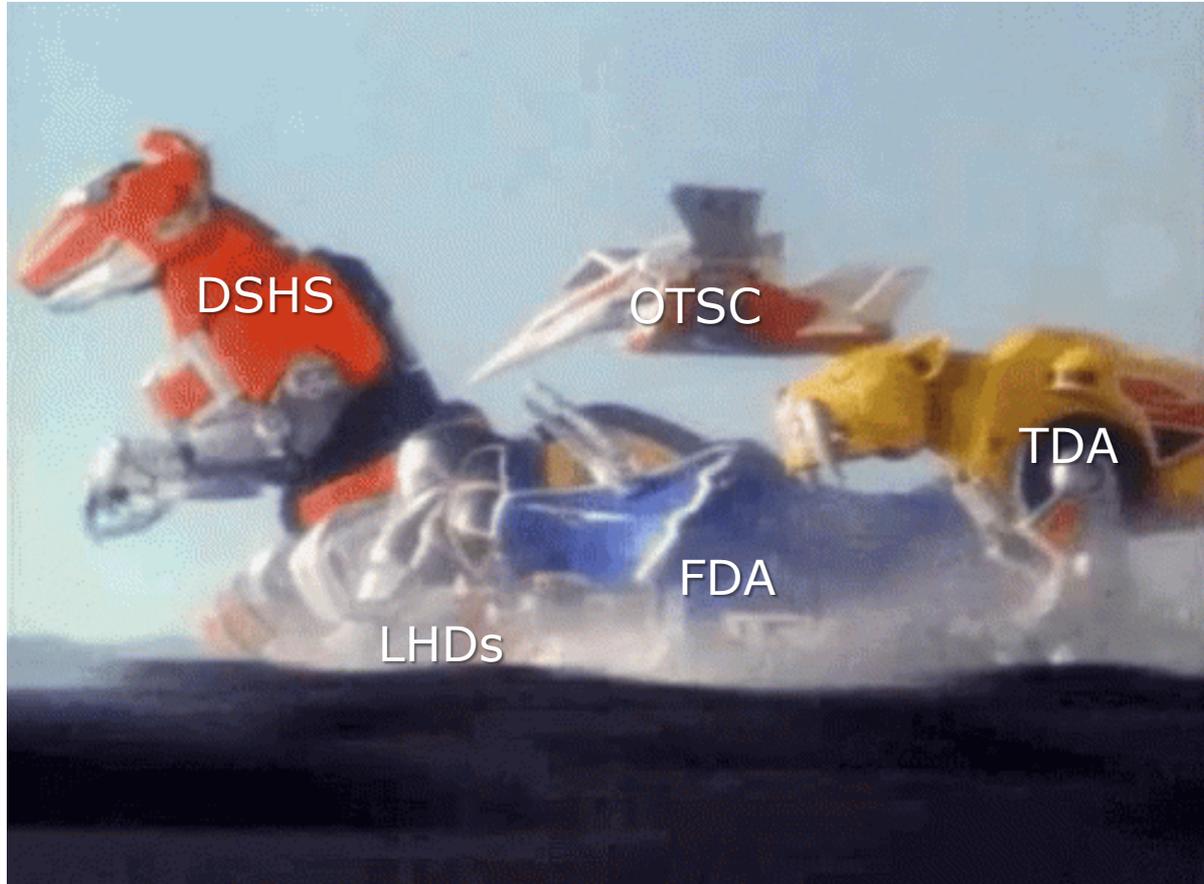
Activation



TEXAS

Health and Human Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services





TEXAS

Health and Human Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

Activation



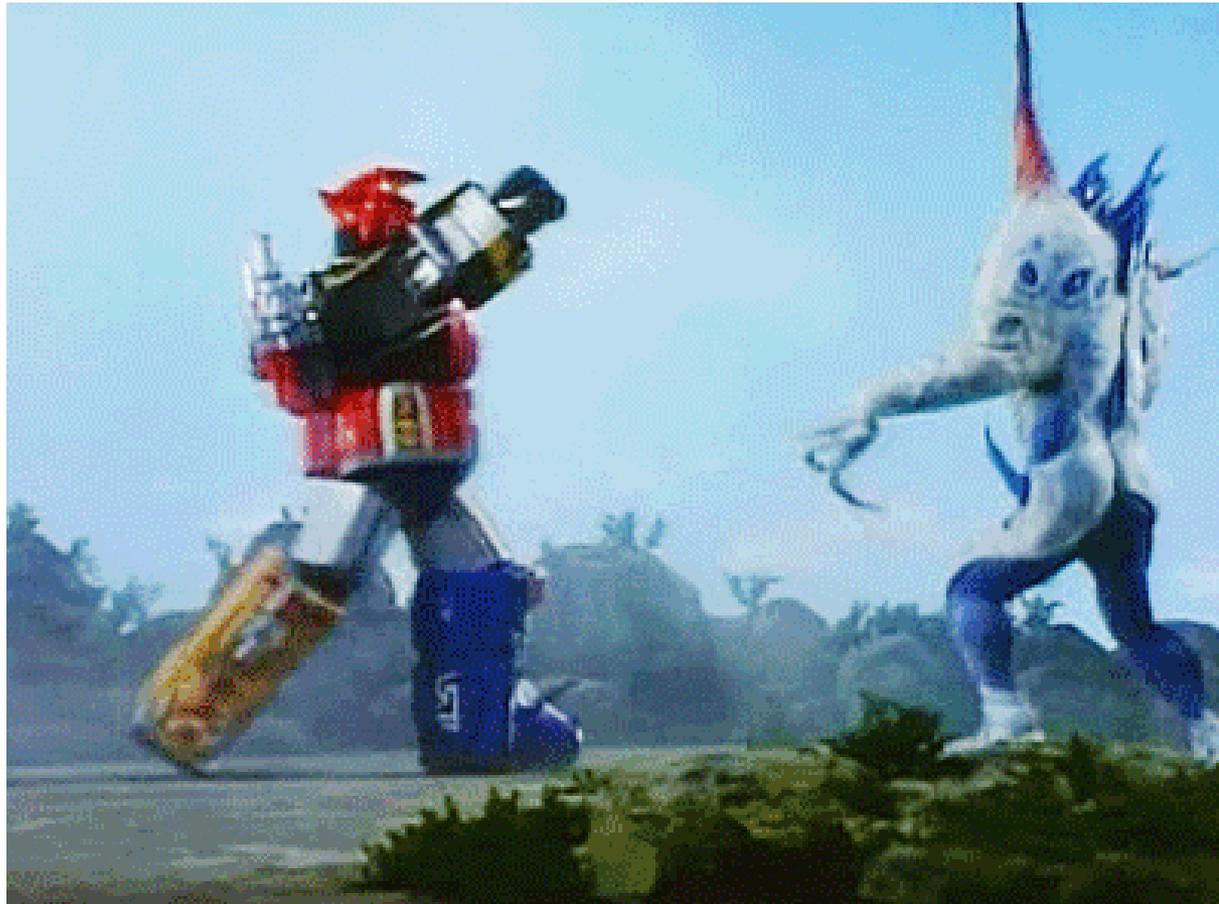


TEXAS

Health and Human Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

Activation





TEXAS

Health and Human Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

Activation Triggers

- What triggers an activation?
 - High probability that an adverse food and/or feed related incident exists.
 - Positive pathogen results
 - What is the number of cases?
 - How quickly is the event escalating?
 - Is the event localized, statewide or national?



What happens during an activation?



TEXAS

Health and Human Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

- What does the TRRT do?
 - Emergency evaluation of food firms and establishments
 - Disaster
 - Traceback/Product tracing
 - Foodborne illness outbreak





TEXAS

Health and Human Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

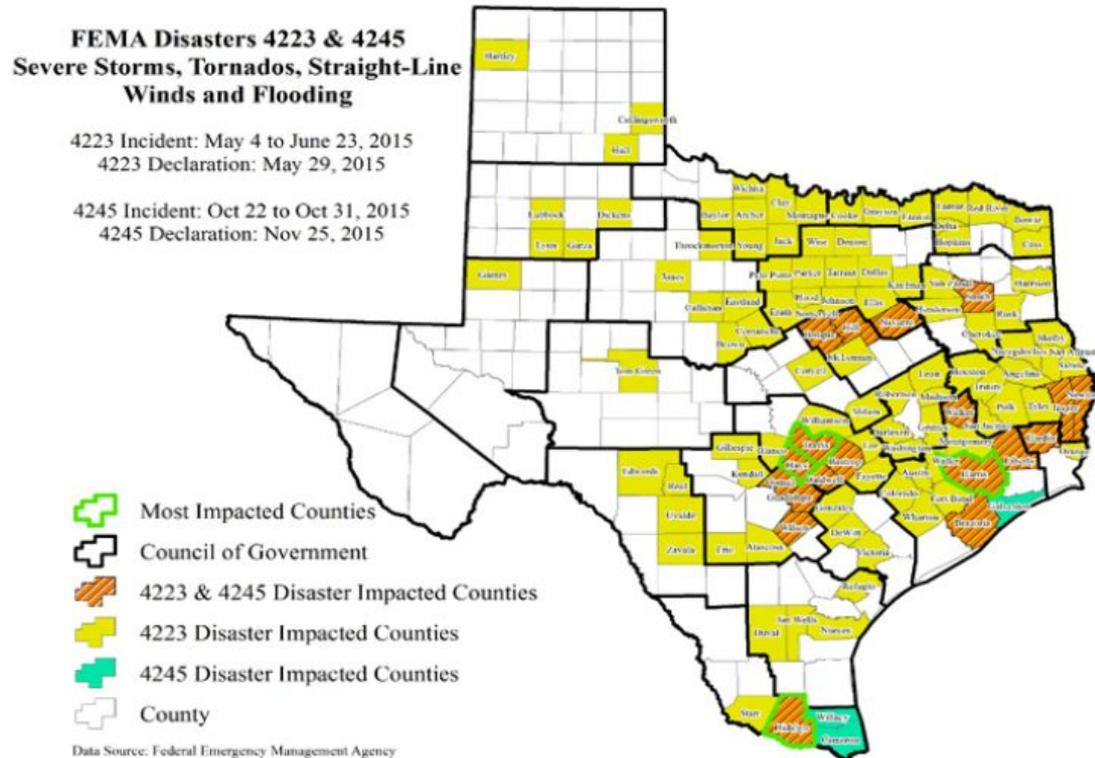
Emergency evaluation

- Natural or man-made emergency events
- Ensure that food put in commerce is safe for consumption



Emergency evaluation

- Identify affected areas
- Survey food firms and establishments
- Conduct onsite visit if needed



Traceback



TEXAS

Health and Human Services

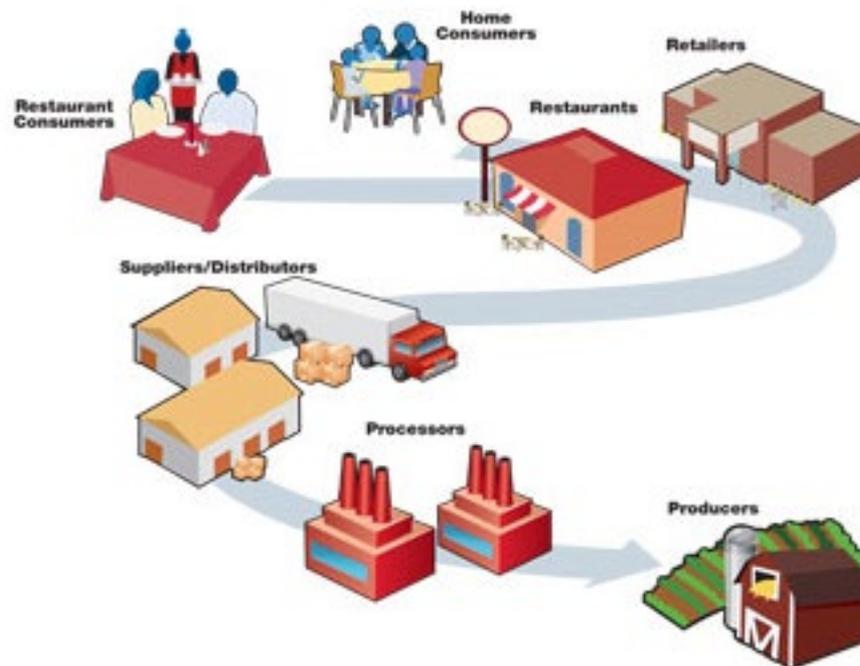
Texas Department of State
Health Services

- **Product Tracing**

Verifying the *records* of a food/feed item from its source to final distribution.

- **Traceback**

An investigation that starts with the consumer or the point-of-service and traces the distribution of the product back to the source.





TEXAS

Health and Human Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

Traceback

- Foodborne illness outbreak
 - Confirmed cases
 - Suspect food item



Traceback



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

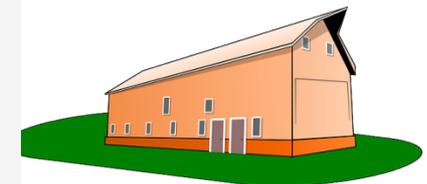
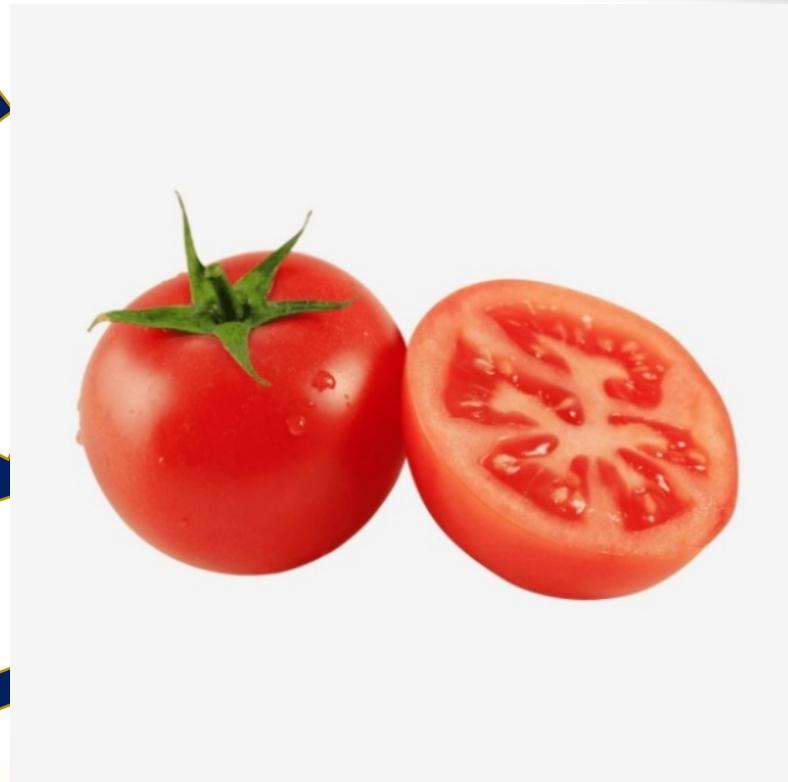


Traceback



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services



Traceback



TEXAS

Health and Human Services

Texas Department of State Health Services

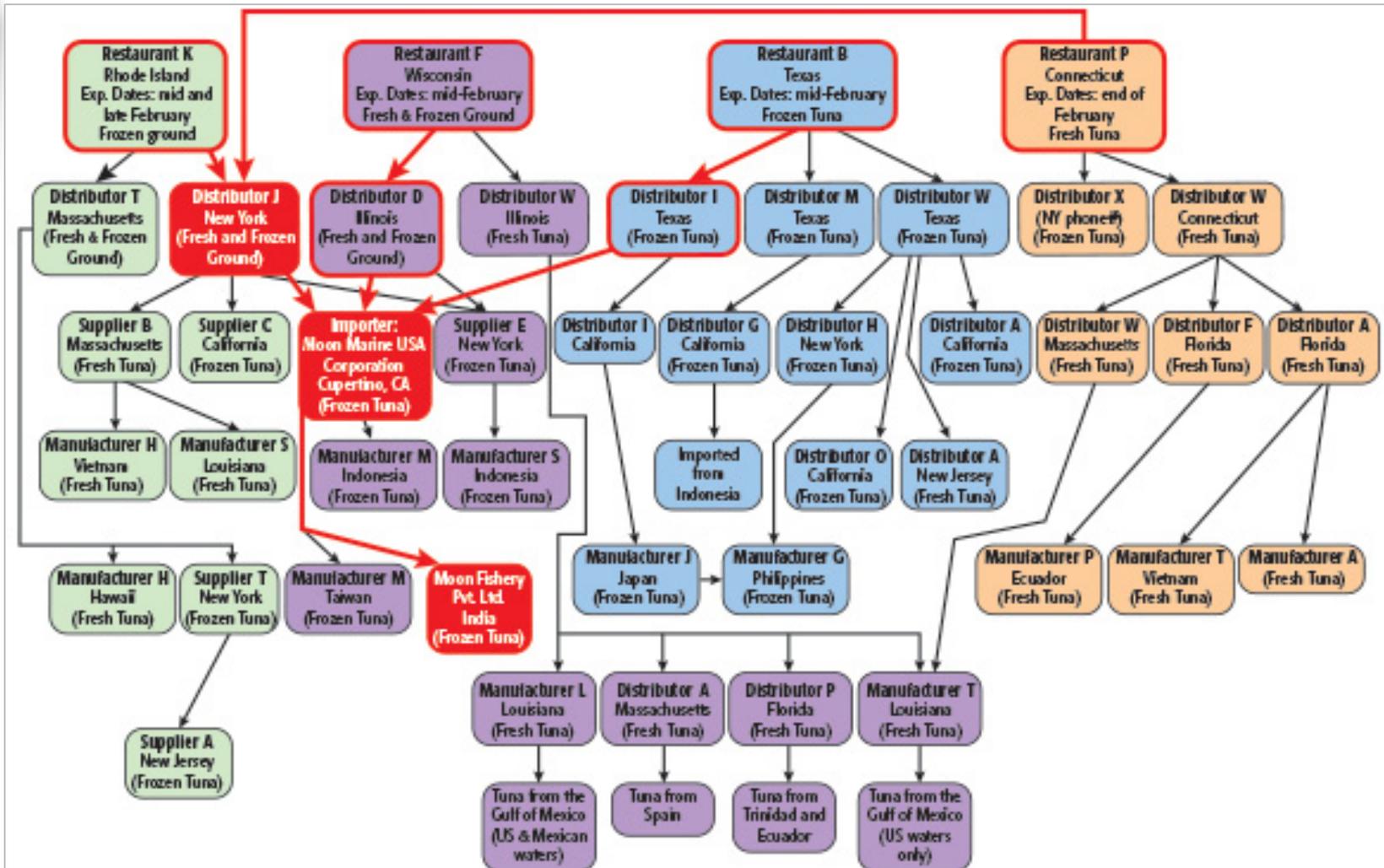


Figure 2: Salmonella Bareilly Traceback (The distribution of the contaminated tuna is outlined in red.)

TRRT

Past Activations and Responses



TEXAS

Health and Human Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

- 2011 - *Salmonella* Agona*
- 2013 - *Cyclospora*
- 2014 - *Cyclospora*
- 2015 - May Weather Incident
- 2015 - *Cyclospora*
- 2016 - *Cyclospora**
- 2017 - *Cyclospora*
- 2017 - Hurricane Harvey
- 2018 - *Cyclospora**
- 2019 - *Cyclospora*



TEXAS
Health and Human Services
Texas Department of State
Health Services



Cyclospora

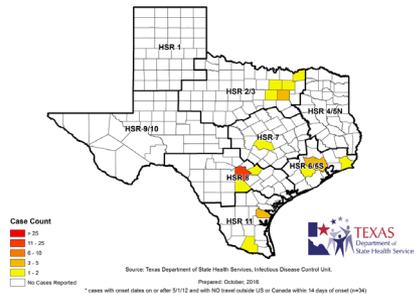
Past Activations and Responses



TEXAS
Health and Human Services

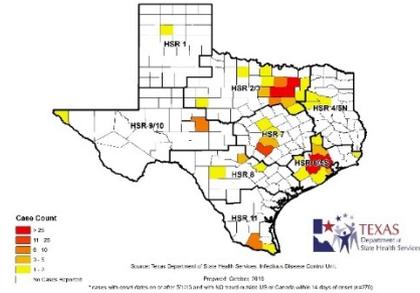
Texas Department of State
Health Services

Case Count of Cyclosporiasis in Texas, 2012 *



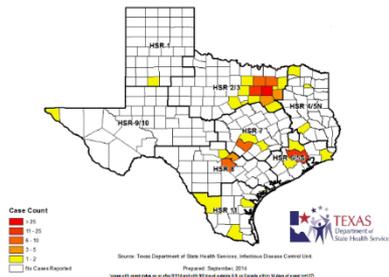
2012 - 44/9 cases

Case Count of Cyclosporiasis in Texas, 2013 *



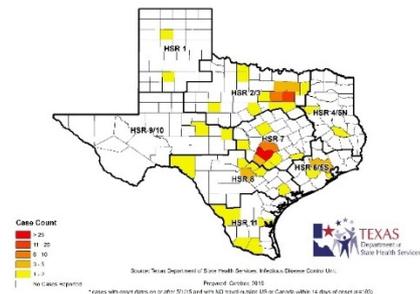
2013 - 351/270 cases

Cyclosporiasis in Texas, 2014*



2014 - 200/130 cases

Case Count of Cyclosporiasis in Texas, 2015 *



2015 - 316/184 cases

Cyclospora

FDA Import Alert



TEXAS

Health and Human Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

Home > Import Program > Import Alerts > Imports Alerts by Number

Import Alert 24-23

Based on epidemiological evidence collected by affected domestic states, the CDC and traceback evaluations conducted by FDA, ***cilantro from the state of Puebla, Mexico was implicated as the vehicle*** for some of the U.S. cyclosporiasis infections in 2013 and 2014. In addition, after cyclosporiasis illnesses from the 2013 outbreak were linked to cilantro from Puebla...

Revision to this Import Alert dated August 27, 2015 updates the guidance section to provide clarification to SENASICA and COFEPRIS processes. Changes are noted and bracketed by three asterisks (***)

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and state public health officials have identified annually recurring outbreaks (in 2012, 2013, and 2014) of cyclosporiasis in the United States which have been associated with fresh cilantro from the state of Puebla, Mexico. There is currently (in July 2015) another ongoing outbreak of cyclosporiasis in the United States in which both the Texas Department of State Health Services and the Wisconsin Department of Health Services and the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection have identified cilantro from the Mexican state of Puebla as a suspect vehicle with respect to separate illness clusters.

Cyclospora cayetanensis is a human-specific protozoan parasite that causes a prolonged and severe diarrheal illness known as cyclosporiasis. In order to become infectious, the organism requires a period outside of its host. Illnesses are known to be seasonal and the parasite is not known to be endemic to the United States. Cyclosporiasis occurs in many countries, but it seems to be most common in tropical and subtropical regions. People become infected with *C. cayetanensis* by ingesting sporulated oocysts, which are the infective form of the parasite. This most commonly occurs when food or water contaminated with feces is consumed. An infected person sheds unsporulated (immature, non-infective) *C. cayetanensis* oocysts in the feces.



TEXAS
Health and Human Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

Cyclospora

Post Import Alert

2016

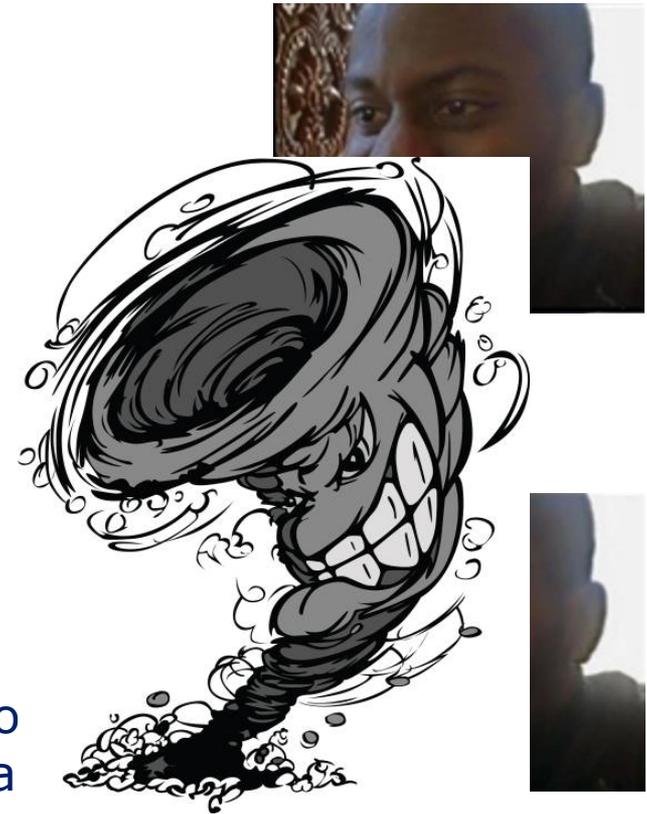
- DSHS received **120** reports of cyclosporiasis
- **48** domestically acquired cases

2017

- DSHS received **281** reports of cyclosporiasis
- **174** domestically acquired cases

2018

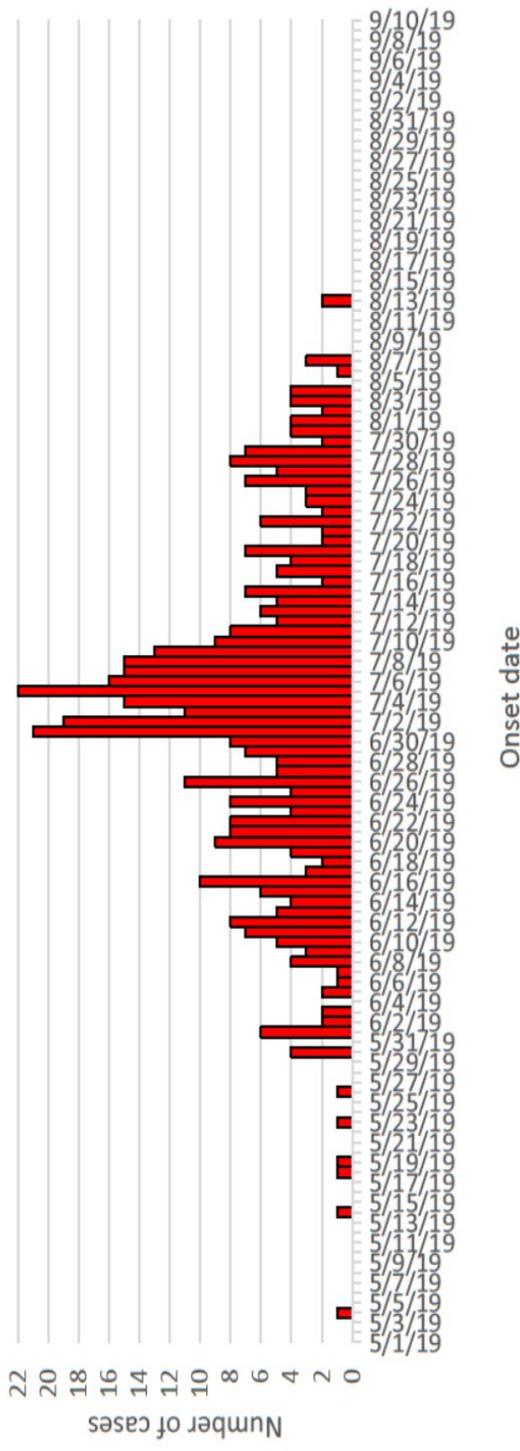
- DSHS received **349** reports of cyclo
- **225** cases domestically acquired ca



Activation In Depth Cyclospora 2019

- DSHS received **632** reports of cyclosporiasis
- **438** domestically acquired cases
- Several clusters identified
- Different suspect vehicles

REPORTED CASES OF LAB-CONFIRMED, NON-TRAVEL ASSOCIATED CYCLOSPORIASIS CASES WITH ILLNESS ONSET ON/AFTER MAY 1, 2019, TEXAS (N=438)



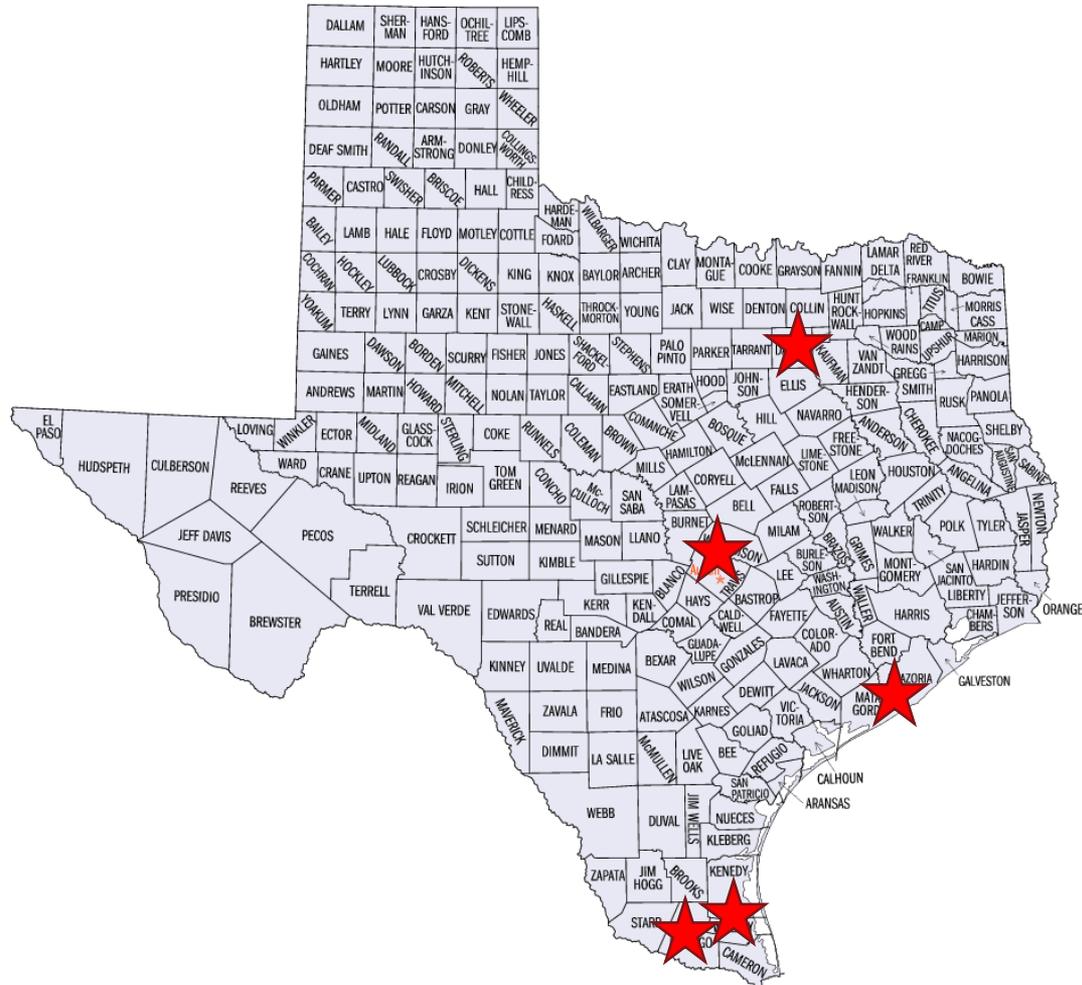
Activation In Depth Cyclospora 2019



TEXAS

Health and Human Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services



Activation In Depth Cyclospora 2019



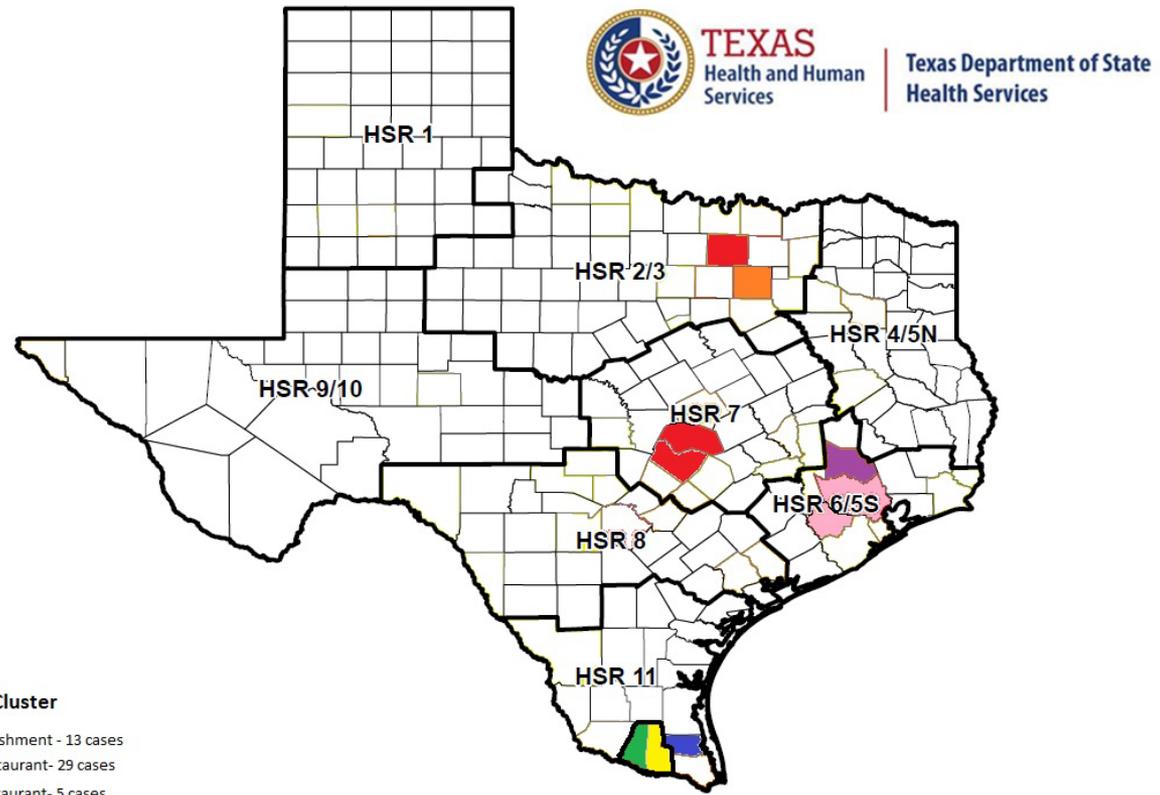
TEXAS

Health and Human Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

Outbreak-Related Cyclosporiasis Cases in Texas, 2019*

* As of 9/25/2019



Source: Texas Department of State Health Services, Infectious Disease Control Unit.

Prepared: September, 2019
(n = 91)

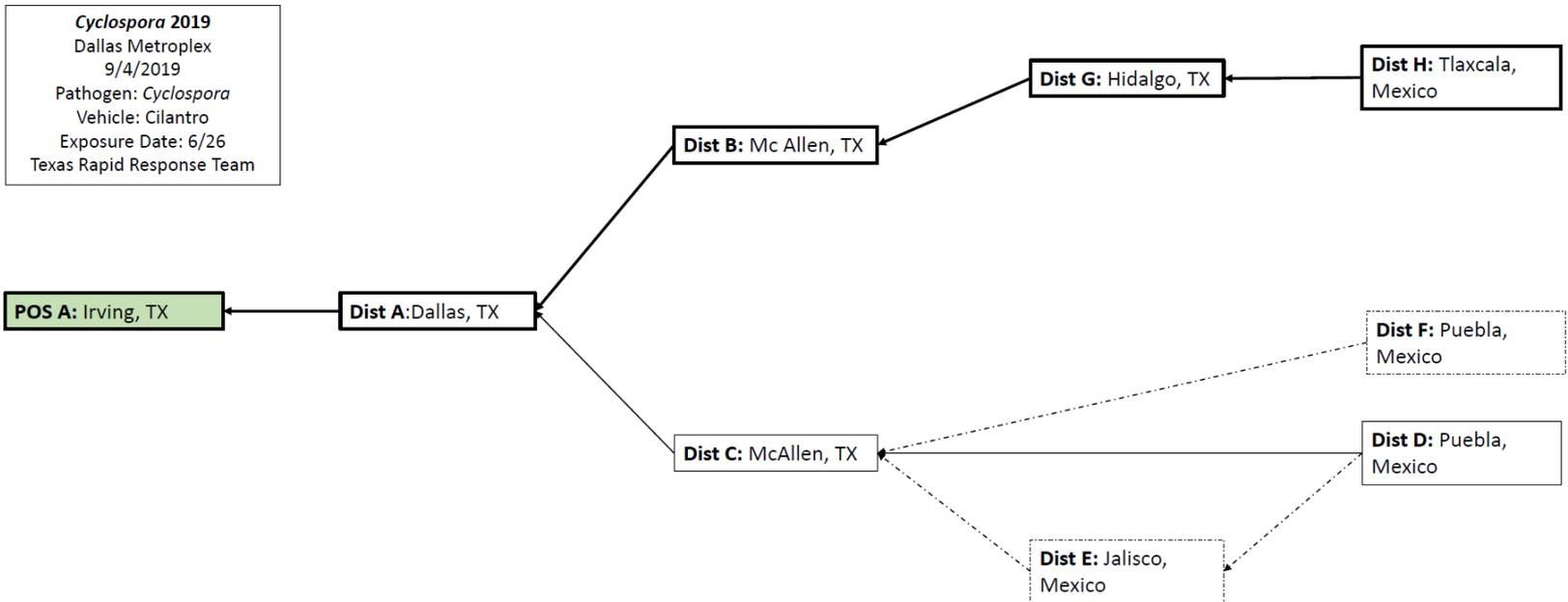
Activation In Depth Cyclospora 2019



TEXAS

Health and Human Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services



Cyclospora in Texas

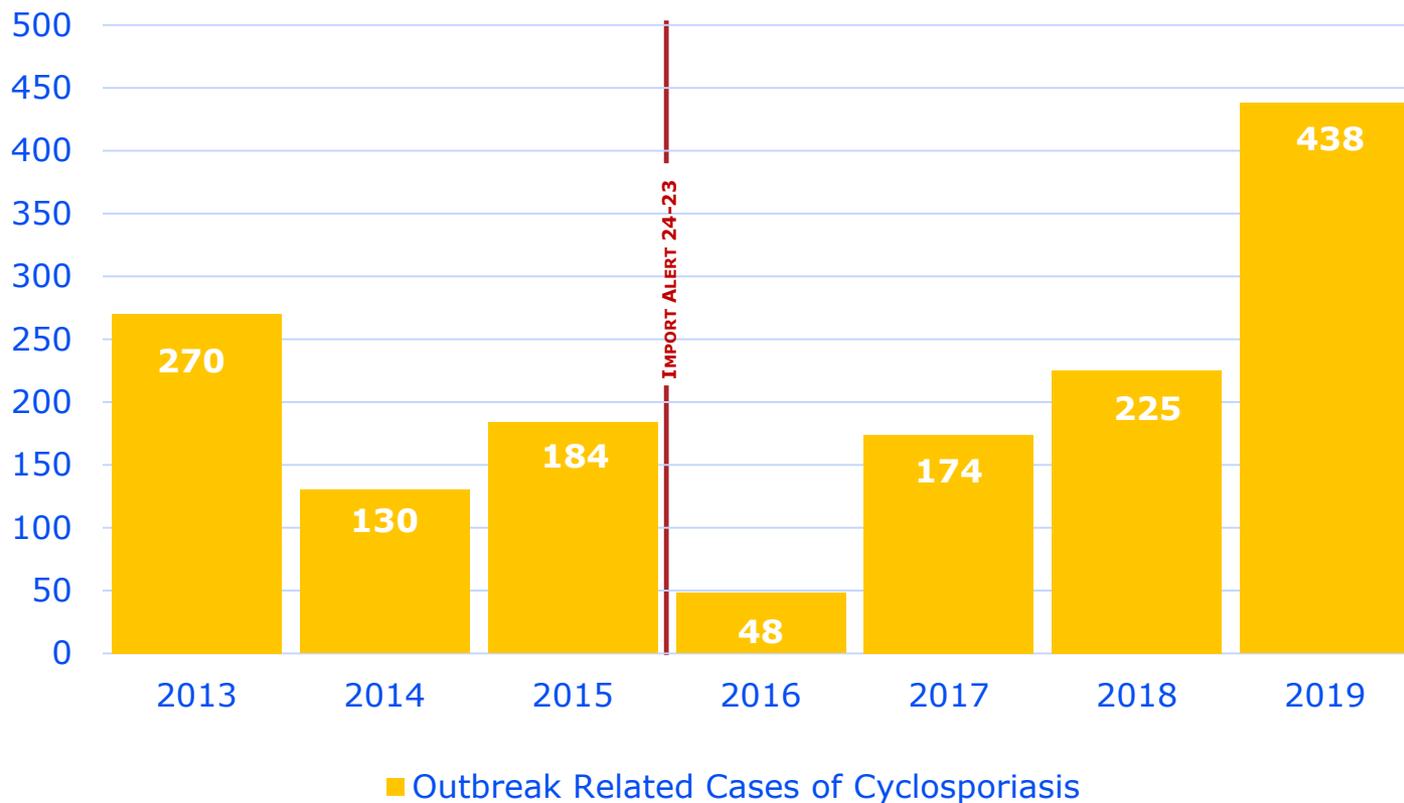


TEXAS

Health and Human Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

Outbreak Related Cases of Cyclosporiasis in Texas from 2013-2019



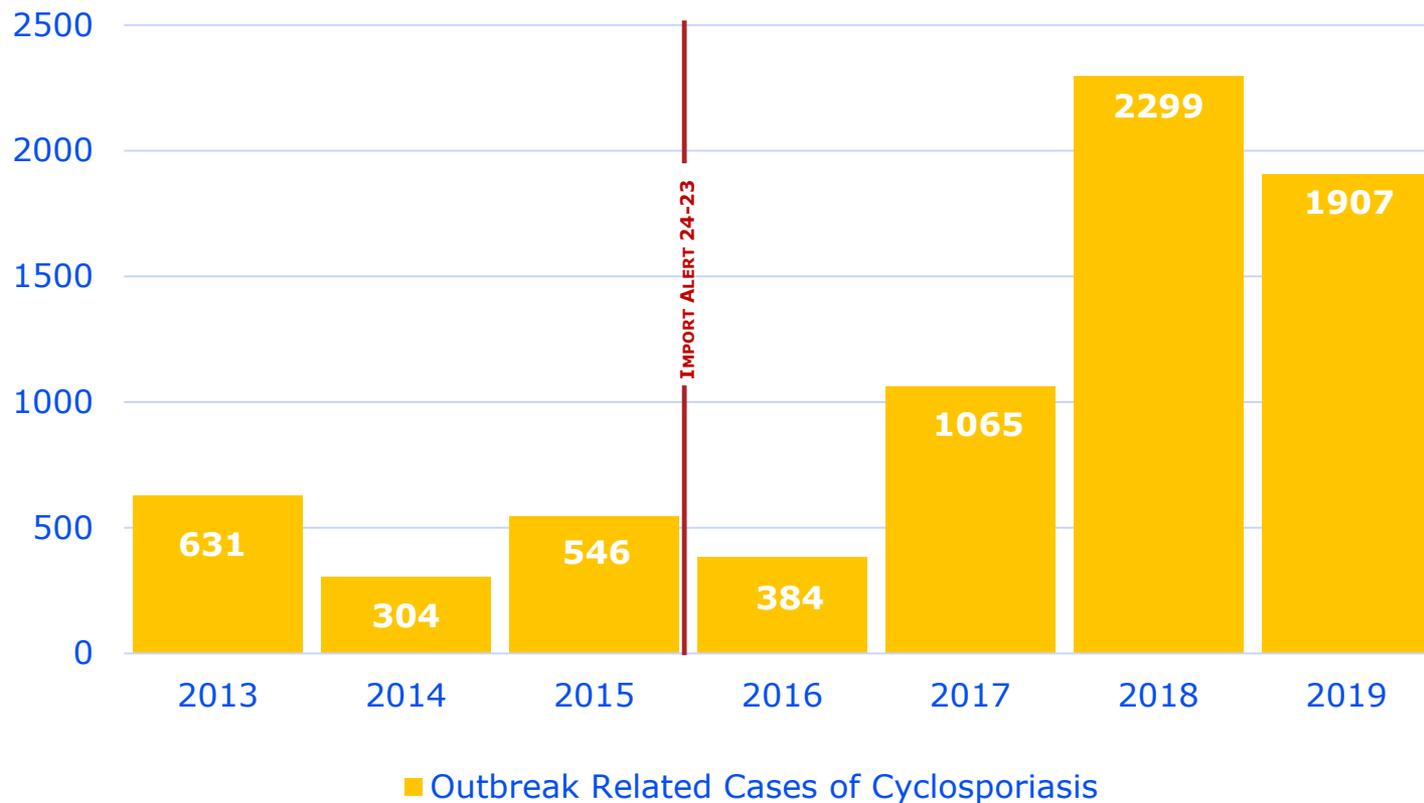
Cyclospora in the U.S.



TEXAS
Health and Human Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

Outbreak Related Cases of Cyclosporiasis in U.S. from 2013-2019



What's Next?



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

- FDA Food Testing
- CDC Sequencing Project



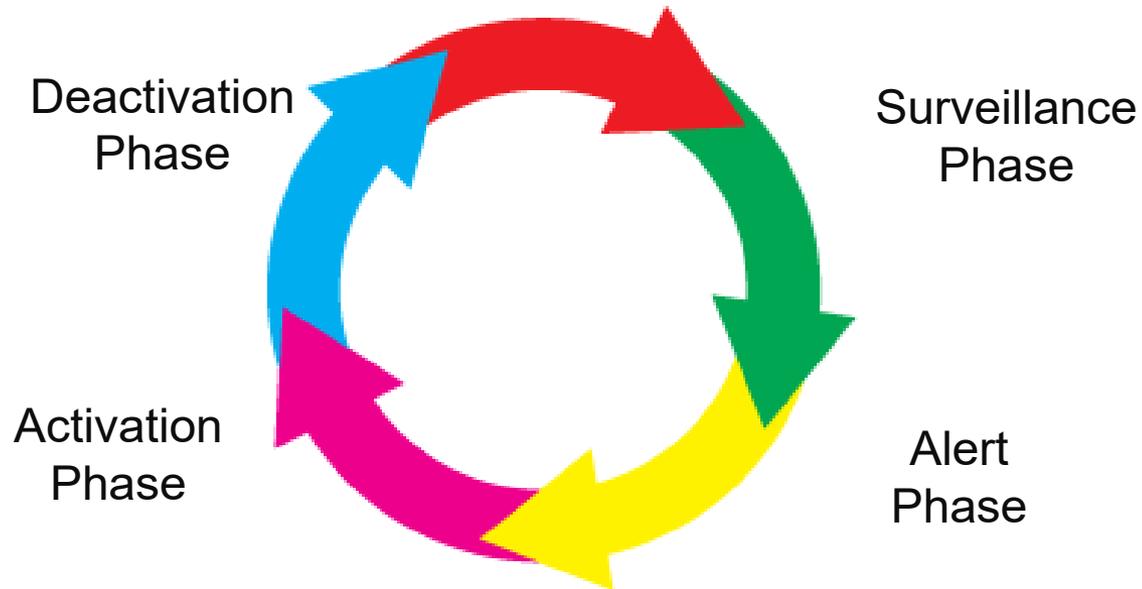
In the meantime...



TEXAS

Health and Human Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services





TEXAS

Health and Human Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

In the meantime...

- TRRT is still active while not activated
 - Surveillance phase
 - Monitor current outbreaks
 - Networking/collaboration
 - Conferences
 - Calls



2018 RRT Face-2-Face Meeting



TEXAS

Health and Human Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

In the meantime...

- TRRT is still active while not activated
 - Training
 - Traceback course
 - Online training
 - Webinars
 - Exercises
 - ICS
 - Tabletops
 - Outreach
 - Relationship building
 - LHDs
 - Industry



Traceback Investigations course

Response Operating Guide (ROG)

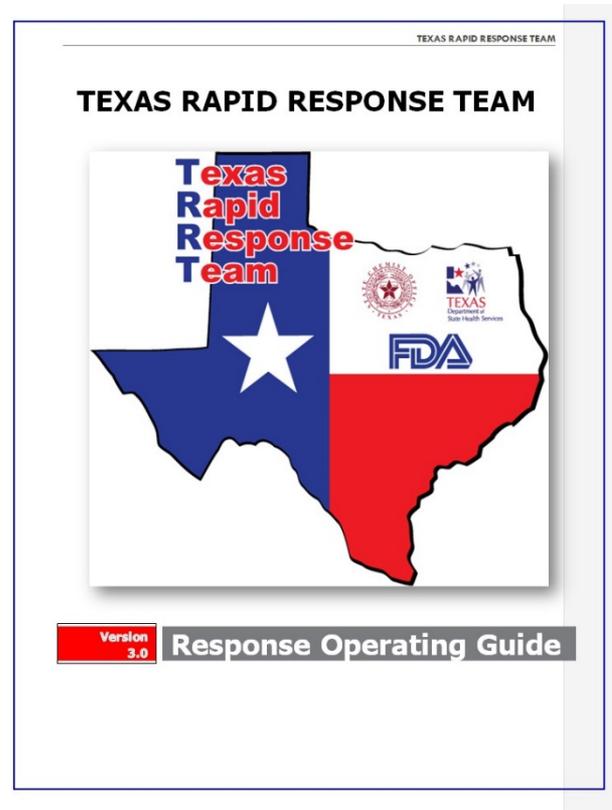


TEXAS

Health and Human Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

The **TRRT Response Operating Guidelines (ROG)** outlines policies for TRRT preparedness, activation, operation, and deactivation.



- Definitions
- TRRT members
- Policies and responsibilities
- Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)
- Reviewed and revised as needed

FoodSHIELD



TEXAS

Health and Human Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

FoodSHIELD is the communication platform for the TRRT.

- Provides public and private food and agriculture sectors an on-line platform to coordinate their efforts in a secure and efficient way.
- Serves as the primary communication and coordination tool during all phases of a the TRRT emergency cycle.



FoodSHIELD

TRRT Local and Regional Partners



TEXAS

Health and Human Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

The screenshot shows the FoodSHIELD interface for the 'TRRT Local and Regional Partners' workgroup. The top navigation bar includes the FoodSHIELD logo and a 'My Groups' dropdown menu. The main content area is titled 'Latest Activity' and features a text input field for posting messages or files. Below the input field, two activity entries are visible:

- 1/18/17**: Tishara Coleman replaced Version 1 .0 of Updated ROG 05242016.docx. The entry includes a document icon, the name 'Tishara Coleman', and two links: 'Read Current Version' and 'Download Current Version'. The time '1:57 PM' is displayed to the left.
- 7/22/16**: Catherine Thibodaux posted a document At Tolbets From Gordon Food Service 05182016_07152016.pdf. The entry includes a document icon, the name 'Catherine Thibodaux', and two links: 'Read' and 'Download Current Version 1 .0'. The time '10:42 AM' is displayed to the left.

TRRT Contact Information



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

Tishara Coleman

Texas Rapid Response Team Coordinator

tishara.coleman@dshs.texas.gov