







FoodNet Timeline

1995


- With support from USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), CDC establishes the Foodborne Diseases Active Surveillance Network (FoodNet), an active, population-based sentinel surveillance system to track trends for infections transmitted commonly through food.
- FoodNet conducts an initial [survey of clinical laboratory practices](#), providing a foundation for monitoring changes in laboratory practices over time.

1996

- FoodNet becomes a collaboration among CDC, FSIS, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and several state and local health departments.
- FoodNet begins conducting surveillance for infections caused by *Campylobacter*, *Listeria*, *Salmonella*, *Shiga toxin-producing Escherichia coli* (STEC) O157, *Shigella*, *Vibrio*, and *Yersinia* bacteria in five surveillance sites: [Minnesota](#)  , [Oregon](#)  , and selected counties in [California](#)  (Alameda, San Francisco), [Connecticut](#)  (Hartford, New Haven), and [Georgia](#)  (Clayton, Cobb, Dekalb, Douglas, Fulton, Gwinnett, Newton, and Rockdale).

The five sites cover 14.3 million people representing 5% of the U.S. population.
- FoodNet launches its first [population survey](#) to collect information on how often people are exposed to sources of diarrheal illness, how often people get these illnesses, and how often they seek medical care for them.
- FoodNet conducts its first physician survey to understand [practices regarding the diagnosis of acute diarrheal diseases](#)  .
- FoodNet conducts a case-control study to identify [risk factors for non-typhoidal Salmonella serogroup B or D infection](#).

1997

- FoodNet adds 12 additional counties in Georgia to its surveillance area.
FoodNet's five sites now cover a combined population of 16.1 million people representing 6% of the U.S. population.
- A second [clinical laboratory practices survey](#) is conducted.
- FoodNet conducts a case-control study to identify [risk factors for STEC O157:H7 infection](#)  .
- FoodNet begins conducting surveillance for infections caused by the parasites *Cyclospora* and *Cryptosporidium*.
- Surveillance also begins for cases of pediatric [hemolytic uremic syndrome](#) (HUS), a life-threatening complication of STEC infection.

1998

- FoodNet expands its surveillance area to include seven counties in [New York](#) and six in [Maryland](#) . It also adds six more counties in Connecticut.
The seven sites cover a combined population of 20.7 million people representing 8% of the U.S. population.
- A second [population survey](#) is launched.
- FoodNet conducts a case-control study to identify [risk factors for *Campylobacter* infection](#) .

1999

- FoodNet adds eight counties in New York and the remaining 139 counties in Georgia.
The seven sites cover a combined population of 25.9 million people, representing 9% of the U.S. population.
- FoodNet conducts a case-control study to identify [sources and risk factors for *Cryptosporidium* infection](#) .

2000

- FoodNet begins conducting surveillance for [STEC non-O157](#).
- FoodNet expands its surveillance area to include 11 counties in [Tennessee](#) . It also adds one more county in California.
The eight sites cover a combined population of 30.6 million people, representing 11% of the U.S. population.
- FoodNet launches its third [population survey](#) and conducts its third [clinical laboratory practices](#) survey.
- FoodNet conducts a second STEC O157 case-control study to identify [risk factors for STEC O157:H7 infection](#) .
- FoodNet conducts a case-control study to identify [risk factors for sporadic \(non-outbreak-related\) *Listeria* infections](#) .
- FoodNet conducts a survey to learn about the [knowledge, attitudes, and practices of physicians as food safety educators](#) .

2001

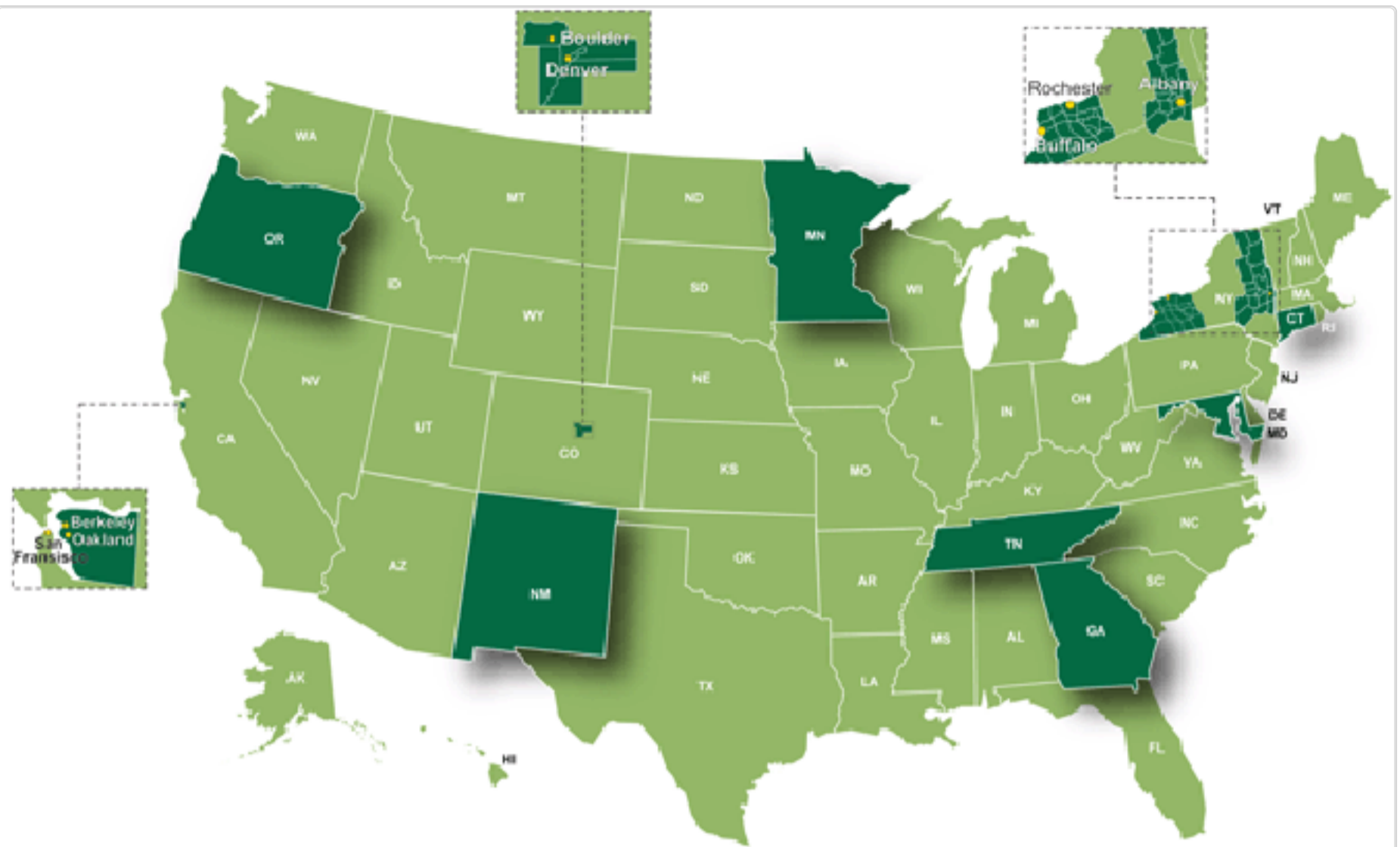
- FoodNet expands its surveillance area to include five counties in [Colorado](#) .
The nine sites cover a combined population of 34.8 million people, representing 12% of the U.S. population.

2002

- FoodNet adds two more counties in Colorado, 15 in Maryland, and three in New York.
The nine sites cover a combined population of 37.9 million people, representing 13% of the U.S. population.
- FoodNet launches its [fourth population survey](#). This survey is the first conducted in both English and Spanish.
- FoodNet conducts a retrospective cohort study to examine the [reduced susceptibility of *Salmonella* Typhi infections to fluoroquinolones](#) [↗](#) .
- FoodNet conducts a case-control study to identify [risk factors for *Salmonella* infection in infants younger than 2 months](#) [↗](#) .
- FoodNet conducts a case-control study to identify [behavioral, dietary, and medical risk factors for *Campylobacter* infection in infants](#) [↗](#) .
- FoodNet conducts a case-control study to determine [sources and risk factors for *Salmonella* Enteritidis and *Salmonella* Newport infections](#).
- Two FoodNet sites – Minnesota and Oregon – conduct a population-based study on [reactive arthritis linked to *Campylobacter*, *Salmonella*, *Shigella*, *Yersinia*, and STEC infections](#) [↗](#) . This study is the first in the United States to examine links between reactive arthritis and bacterial enteric infections.

2003

- FoodNet adds nine more counties in New York and the remaining 11 counties in Tennessee.
The nine sites cover a combined population of 41.8 million people, representing 14% of the U.S. population.



2004

- FoodNet expands its surveillance area to [New Mexico](#) . It also adds seven more counties in New York. The 10 sites cover a combined population of 44.3 million people, representing 15% of the U.S. population.

This is the last expansion of FoodNet's surveillance area. Sites under consistent surveillance since then include seven full states ([Connecticut](#) , [Georgia](#) , [Maryland](#) , [Minnesota](#) , [New Mexico](#) , [Oregon](#) , and [Tennessee](#)) and specific counties within three other states ([California](#) , [Colorado](#) , [New York](#)).

2005

- FoodNet conducts a survey to learn about [clinical laboratory practices specific to *Campylobacter*](#) .
- FoodNet conducts a survey to assess [food preparation practices of long-term care facilities](#) .

2006

- The 10 sites cover a combined population of 45.3 million people, representing 15% of the U.S. population.
- FoodNet launches its [fifth population survey](#).
- FoodNet conducts a cohort study to evaluate [patient outcomes from antibiotic-resistant *Salmonella* infections](#) .
- FoodNet begins a four-year cohort study of people diagnosed with STEC O157 infection to describe [exposures to antibiotics and the risk of developing HUS](#).

2007

- FoodNet conducts a survey to learn about clinical laboratory practices to describe culture-based and culture-independent testing practices for STEC identification [↗](#) .



2009

- FoodNet begins collecting data on STEC and *Campylobacter* infections detected by culture-independent diagnostic tests.
- FoodNet conducts a pilot surveillance program for community-acquired *Clostridioides difficile* infections (formerly known as *Clostridium difficile*) in Connecticut and New York.
- FoodNet conducts a survey to understand physician knowledge of testing and treatment practices for STEC infections and knowledge of STEC-related HUS [↗](#) .

2010

- FoodNet conducts a retrospective study [↗](#) for laboratory-confirmed *Cronobacter sakazakii* infections reported from 2003 through 2009.

2011

- FoodNet begins collecting data on *Listeria*, *Salmonella*, *Shigella*, *Yersinia*, and *Vibrio* infections detected by CIDTs.

2012

- FoodNet begins conducting annual surveys of clinical laboratory practices for 10 pathogens – the nine FoodNet already reports on plus [norovirus](#).

2015

- FoodNet publishes its [first report on CIDTs](#), describing the increasing use of the tests to detect bacterial enteric infections.



A user-friendly data tool from FoodNet

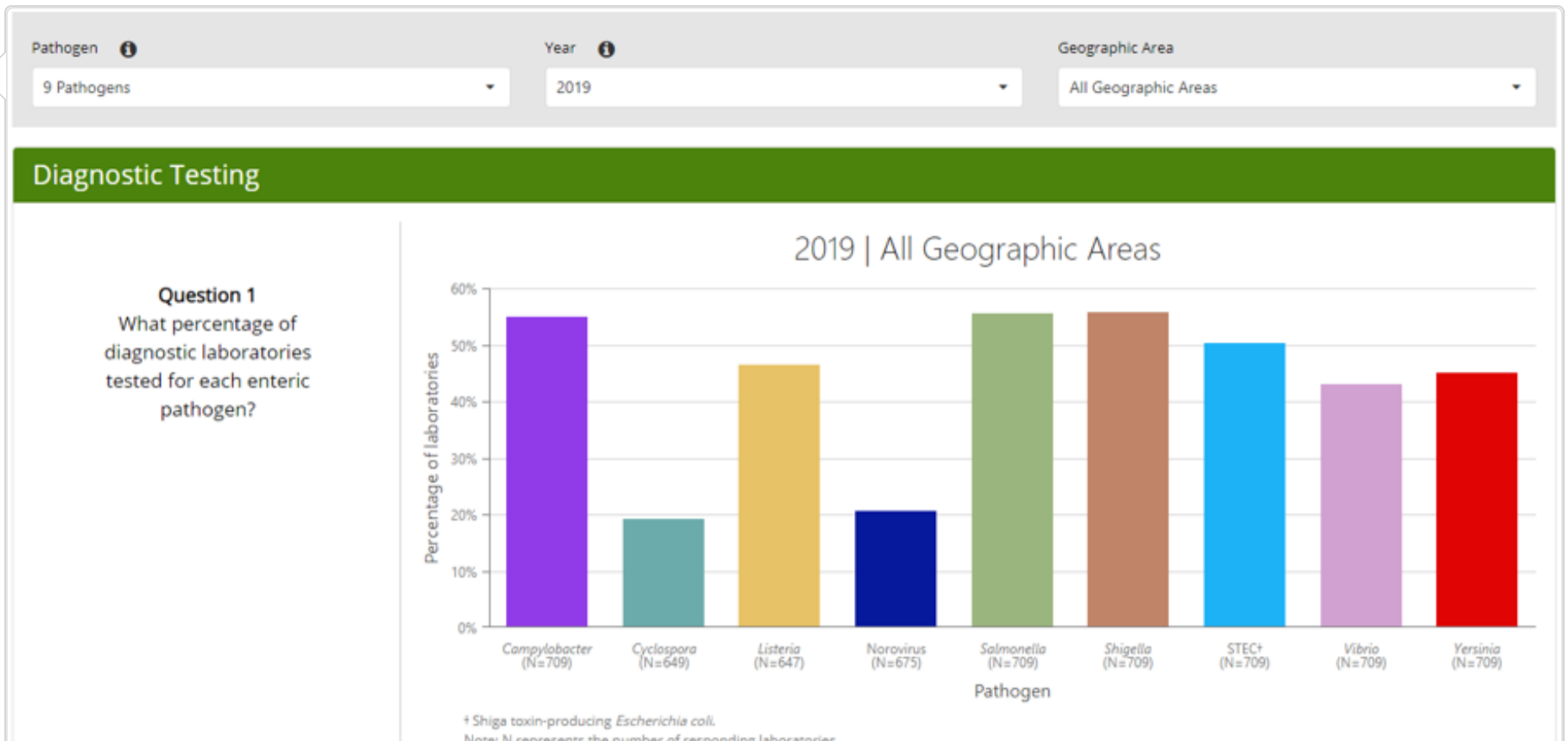
Get started now »

2016

- FoodNet launches [FoodNet Fast](#), an online toolbox for accessing information reported to FoodNet. The tools in FoodNet Fast let users search and download data and see results displayed on interactive graphs, maps, and charts.
- FoodNet publishes its [second report on CIDTs](#), describing the effects of increasing use of CIDTs on surveillance of enteric illnesses.

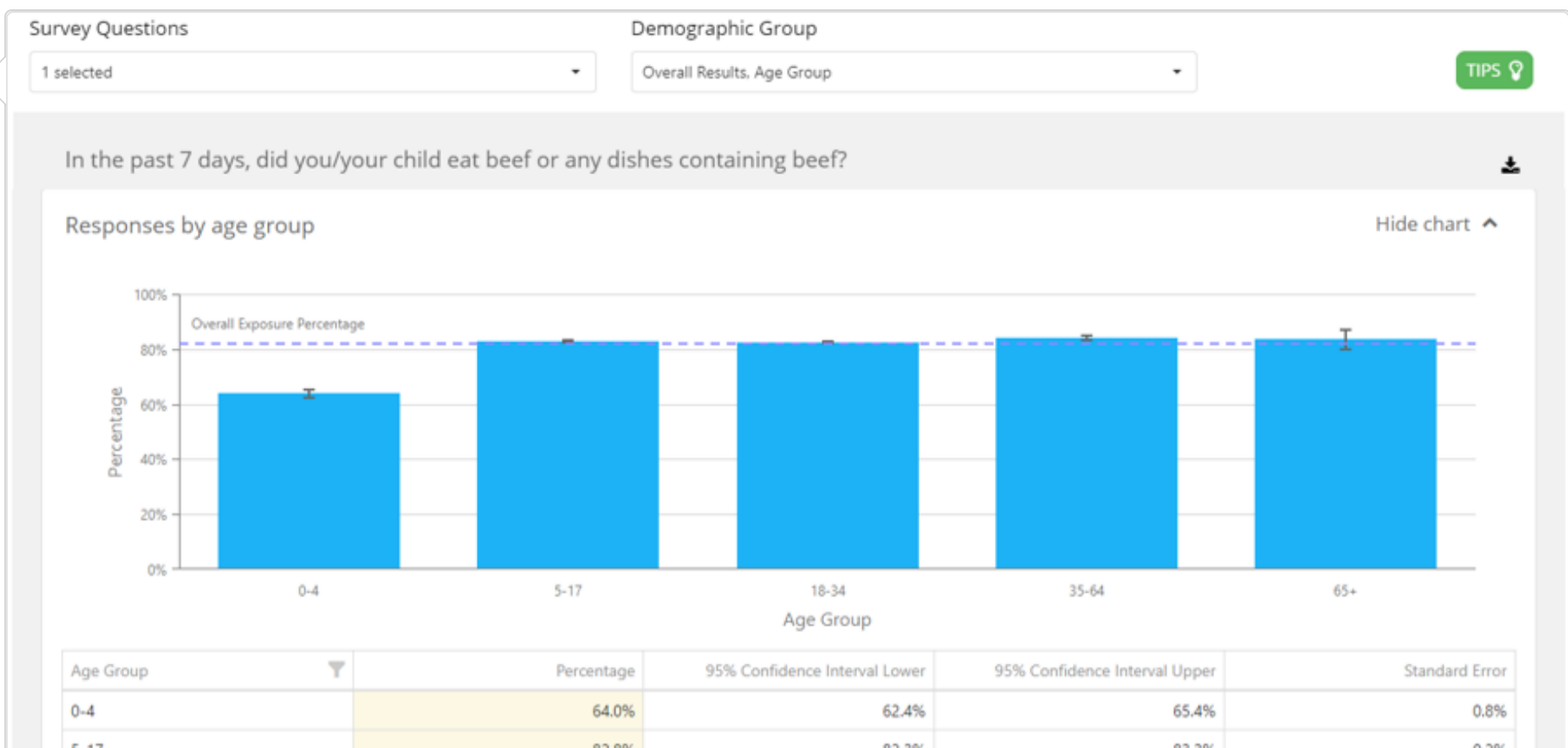
2018

- FoodNet ends surveillance for *Cryptosporidium*. Surveillance for the parasite continues through other CDC systems.
- FoodNet's surveillance area covers 50 million, representing 15% of the U.S. population.
- FoodNet launches its [sixth population survey](#).



2019

- FoodNet expands and improves the visualization of the data available on FoodNet Fast in three new modules.
 - [Pathogen Surveillance Tool](#): Data initially in FoodNet Fast now comprise this dynamic visualization tool, which lets users see how rates of illness have changed in FoodNet's surveillance area since 1996 for nine pathogens transmitted commonly through food.
 - [Diagnostic Laboratory Practices Tool](#): Users can see how diagnostic testing practices in FoodNet's surveillance area have changed over time for 10 pathogens.
 - [Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome Surveillance Tool](#): Users can see how rates of pediatric HUS and STEC infection have changed in FoodNet's surveillance area since 1997.



2021

- FoodNet adds the [Population Survey Tool](#) to FoodNet Fast. Users can examine how often people in FoodNet’s surveillance area eat certain foods and have other exposures linked to diarrheal illness. Users can also compare exposures for different groups of people.
- FoodNet [publishes a report](#) describing marked declines during the COVID-19 pandemic in reported infections from pathogens transmitted commonly through food.
- FoodNet adds more data to the FoodNet Fast [Population Survey Tool](#). Users can delve into information about people’s drinking water consumption, recreational water contact, and recent travel history.