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Department of Health and Human Services
Food and Drug Administration
CFSAN/PRB Comments/HFS-24
5100 Paint Branch Parkway
College Park, MD 20740-3835.

["Real Time" Survey of Consumer Knowledge, Perception, and Reported Behavior Concerning Salmonella Outbreak and Tomato Recall]

[Screener and Questionnaire]

Thank you for responding to the invitation to participate in this survey on a recent salmonella outbreak and tomato recall.

Please answer a few questions to see if you are eligible to participate in the study. Please be assured that all of your answers are kept confidential and no personal identifying information is retained with your answers. If any part of the survey makes you uncomfortable, please feel free to stop at any time.

S1. Are you at least 18 years old?

- YES
- NO ["You must be at least 18 years old to participate in this study. Thank you very much for your interest in our research."] [eliminate]

S2. Have you shopped for groceries for yourself or others in the last month?

- Yes
- No ["We are looking for participants who have shopped for groceries in the past month. Thank you very much for your interest in our research."] [eliminate]

- S3. Do you or does someone from your immediate family work for any of the following:
- Market Research Firm ["We are recruiting individuals with certain characteristics. Thank you very much for your interest in our research."] [eliminate]
 - The Food and Drug Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture,
 - or State or local food agency ["We are recruiting individuals with certain characteristics. Thank you very much for your interest in our research."] [eliminate]
 - Food Industry or Food Retailer ["We are recruiting individuals with certain characteristics. Thank you very much for your interest in our research."] [eliminate]

We are interested in what you have heard about the current salmonella problem in tomatoes. We are interested in tomatoes that you would buy at a store or have at a food establishment away from home. This survey will take about 10 minutes to complete. Please allow enough time to complete the entire survey in one sitting. All responses will be kept confidential.

[Knowledge/Information Seeking]

1. Have you heard or read anything in the last week about health risks related to eating raw tomatoes?

- 0. No
- 1. Yes
- 98. DON'T KNOW

1a. Have you heard or read anything in the last week about a raw tomatoes recall? That is, have you heard or read anything in the last week about returning raw tomatoes to the store, or that some raw tomatoes are potentially contaminated with disease-causing organisms?

- 0. No
- 1. Yes
- 98. DON'T KNOW

2. Have you seen anything on television in the last week about a tomato recall?

- 0. No
- 1. Yes
- 98. DON'T KNOW

3. Have you seen anything in the newspaper in the last week about a tomato recall?

- 0. No
- 1. Yes
- 98. DON'T KNOW

4. Have you seen anything on the internet in the last week about a tomato recall?

- 0. No
- 1. Yes
- 98. DON'T KNOW

4a. Have you heard anything on the radio in the last week about a tomato recall?

- 0. No
- 1. Yes
- 98. DON'T KNOW

[If Q1 thru Q4a=0, skip to Q12]

5. Do you remember what you heard or read about raw tomatoes?

Did you hear . . . ?

- 5a. Do not eat any tomatoes
- 5b. Do not eat certain types of tomatoes
- 5c. Do not eat certain brands of tomatoes
- 5d. Cook tomatoes well before eating
- 5e. Return tomatoes to the food store
- 5f. Discard tomatoes
- 5g. Other _____ [specify]

- 0. No
- 1. Yes
- 98. DON'T KNOW

[6a for 1st wave only] [If Q5a thru Q5g=0, skip to Q7]

6a to 6g. How likely are you to follow that advice [insert item from list above]? Would you say . . . ?

- 1. not very likely,
- 2. somewhat likely, or
- 3. very likely?
- 8. DON'T KNOW

7. Did you go to any of the following sources for information about the tomato recall?

[y/n for each source]

- 7a. The Centers for Disease Control, or CDC, website
- 7b. The Food and Drug Administration, or FDA, website
- 7c. The U.S. Department of Agriculture, or USDA, website
- 7d. The Foodsafety.gov website

- 7e. News websites
- 7f. Food company websites
- 7g. The Centers for Disease Control, or CDC, 1-800 number
- 7h. The Food and Drug Administration, or FDA, 1-800 number
- 7i. Your State department of health
- 7j. Newspapers or television
- 7k. Blog articles, podcasts, or other social media sources

- 0. No
- 1. Yes
- 98. DON'T KNOW

8. How informed would you say you are about the current tomato recall, if one means you are not at all informed and ten means you are very well informed?

- 1. Not at all informed
- 10. Very well informed
- 98. DON'T KNOW

9. On the same 10-point scale, how informed would you say you are about....

- a. The causes of Salmonella contamination in the current tomato recall
- b. What the government is doing to find the source of the Salmonella problem for the tomato recall
- c. What manufacturers/retailers are doing to find the source of the Salmonella problem for the tomato recall
- d. The number of U.S. States involved in the tomato recall.
- e. Whether the State where you live is involved in the tomato recall.
- f. What the government is doing to make sure the tomato recall doesn't happen again
- g. Ways to protect yourself from tomatoes contaminated with Salmonella

- 1. Not at all informed
- 10. Very well informed
- 98. DON'T KNOW

10. Using a 10-point scale, how informed about the current tomato recall would you say are the grocery stores or markets where you usually purchase food?

- 1. Not at all informed
- 10. Very well informed
- 98. DON'T KNOW

11. Using a 10-point scale, how safe do you think it is currently to eat raw tomatoes associated with the tomato recall?

- 1. Not at all safe
- 10. Very safe
- 98. DON'T KNOW

[Behavior]

12. In the past year, have you eaten raw tomatoes?

- 0. No
- 1. Yes
- 98. DON'T KNOW

13. In the past month, did you eat any raw tomatoes?

- 0. No
- 1. Yes
- 98. DON'T KNOW

14. Have you eaten any raw tomatoes this week?

- 0. No
- 1. Yes
- 98. DON'T KNOW

15. Do you currently have any raw tomatoes in your home?

- 0. No
- 1. Yes
- 98. DON'T KNOW

16. Would you say that raw tomatoes are a regular part of your daily food intake?

- 0. No
- 1. Yes
- 98. DON'T KNOW

17. Weekly food intake?

- 0. No
- 1. Yes
- 98. DON'T KNOW

18. Monthly food intake?

- 0. No
- 1. Yes
- 98. DON'T KNOW

[If Q1 thru Q4a=0, skip to Q24]

19. Since hearing about the recall, have you changed how much raw tomatoes you eat?

Are you eating [select one best answer]

1. more raw tomatoes.
2. the same amount of raw tomatoes.
3. less raw tomatoes.
4. no raw tomatoes at all since hearing about the recall.
5. only raw tomatoes that are not part of the recall.
8. DON'T KNOW

19a. If you selected "no raw tomatoes at all," which of the following is true?

I have not eaten raw tomatoes because . . .

- 19.a.1. no particular reason
- 19.a.2. I have not had a taste for tomatoes
- 19.a.3. I have not had the opportunity
- 19.a.4. I want to avoid becoming ill
- 19.a.5. I want to follow the health advisory
- 19.a.6. tomatoes are unavailable for purchase

[If Q19=4, skip to Q20]

19b. Since hearing about the recall, have you changed how often you eat tomatoes?

Have you eaten tomatoes [select one best answer]

1. more often.
2. as often as usual.
3. less often.
8. DON'T KNOW

20. Once you hear that the raw tomatoes available in stores and restaurants are no longer part of the problem that caused the salmonella outbreak, how soon will you resume eating raw tomatoes?

1. I have not stopped eating raw tomatoes
2. Immediately or as soon as I have an occasion to eat it
3. I plan to wait awhile.
4. I do not intend to eat raw tomatoes again.

21. If you were unable to eat raw tomatoes for three months, do you have other foods to choose from that could *easily* take its place?

0. No
1. Yes
98. DON'T KNOW

22. On a 10-point scale, how difficult would it be for you and your family to limit how much you eat of raw tomatoes? Would you say . . .?

- 1. not at all difficult
- 10. very difficult
- 98. DON'T KNOW

23. Does what you know about the tomato recall make you more or less likely to eat at restaurants, or does it have no impact?

- 1. More likely
- 2. Less likely
- 3. No impact

[Perception]

24. On a scale from strongly disagree to strongly agree, please indicate your response about the following

24a. I want to prevent foodborne illnesses (or getting sick from food)

- 1. Strongly disagree
- 10. Strongly agree
- 98. DON'T KNOW

24b. I want the ability to protect myself from foodborne illnesses (or getting sick from food)

- 1. Strongly disagree
- 10. Strongly agree
- 98. DON'T KNOW

24c. I really don't care about foodborne illnesses (getting sick from food)

- 1. Strongly disagree
- 10. Strongly agree
- 98. DON'T KNOW

[If Q1 thru Q4a=0, skip to Q32]

25. In terms of protecting your health, how important do you think it is to follow the tomato recall recommendations?

- 1. Not at all important
- 10. Very important
- 98. DON'T KNOW

26. Do you believe you have the information you need to keep yourself and your family safe from salmonella associated with the tomato recall?

- 0. No
- 1. Yes
- 98. DON'T KNOW

27. How believable to you is the information about salmonella outbreak from raw tomatoes?

- 1. not at all believable
- 10. Completely believable
- 98. DON'T KNOW

28. How worried are you about becoming infected or getting ill from tomatoes or salmonella?

- Not at all worried
- Not too worried
- Somewhat worried
- Very worried
- 98. DON'T KNOW

29. How angry are you that tomatoes were contaminated with salmonella?

- Not at all angry
- Not too angry
- Somewhat angry
- Very angry
- 98. DON'T KNOW

30. Using a 10-point scale, how likely do you think it is that you or members of your family would get sick from eating raw tomatoes associated with the current tomato recall?

- 1. Not at all likely
- 10. Very likely
- 98. DON'T KNOW

31. How likely is it that you or members of your family would have serious long-term health problems from eating raw tomatoes associated with the current tomato recall? Would you say...

- 1. Not at all likely
- 10. Very likely
- 98. DON'T KNOW

32. Would you now like to have more information about the current tomato recall advisory?

- 0. No
- 1. Yes (provide link to advisory)
- 98. DON'T KNOW

[Demographics.]

33. How many total people, including yourself, live in your household? (Range = 1-97)

(Include foster children, roommates or housemates, and people staying with you last night who have no permanent place to stay. This includes people living with you most of the time while working, even if they have another place to live. Do not include college students living away while attending college, people in a correctional facility, nursing home or psychiatric hospital last night, armed forces personnel living somewhere else, people who live or stay at another place most of the time.

_____ NUMBER
98. DON'T KNOW

[If Q33 <2, skip to Q37]

How many of these people in your household are . . .

34. Children younger than five years old?

_____ (Range = 0 to 20)
98. DON'T KNOW

35. Children between 5 and 18 years?

_____ (Range = 0 to 20)
98. DON'T KNOW

36. Adults 60 years of age or older?

_____ (Range = 0 to 20)
98. DON'T KNOW

37. Are you or is anyone in your household pregnant?

1. YES, I am pregnant.
2. Yes, someone in my household is pregnant

- 3. NO
- 8. DON'T KNOW

38. Please read the following list of health conditions and indicate if you have been told by a doctor that you have any of them: liver disease, currently receiving chemotherapy or radiation therapy, HIV, AIDS, organ transplant, or weakened immune system.

- 1. Yes, I have at least one of the conditions listed.
- 2. No, I do not have any of the conditions listed.
- 8. DON'T KNOW

39. Please select one of the following. Are you:

- 0. Male
- 1. Female

40. What is your age in years? **[Open ended]**

41. What is the highest level of education that you have completed?

- 1. Less than high school
- 2. High school graduate or GED
- 3. Technical/vocational school
- 4. Community college
- 5. Some college (1-3 years towards Bachelor's degree)
- 6. College (Bachelor's degree)
- 7. Advanced degree (post graduate degree)

42. Are you of Hispanic or Latino origin?

- 0. No
- 1. Yes

43. What is your race? You may choose one or more categories. Are you?

- 1. White
- 2. Black or African American
- 3. Asian
- 4. Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
- 5. American Indian or Alaska Native
- 6. Other

44. Please provide any comments you wish. **[Open-ended]**

