

**USUAL INCUBATION / ONSET PERIOD RANGES FOR SELECT FOODBORNE DISEASES**

ILLNESS AGENT	ONSET TIME																											
	HOURS						DAYS																					
	1	2	3	4	8	16	1	2	3	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	25	30	35	40	45	50				
Allergen, chemical poison, minutes to a few hours	█	█	█																									
<i>Bacillus cereus</i> , vomit 30 minutes to 5 hours; diarrhea 8 to 16 hours, mean 12 hours	█	█	█	█	█	█																						
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> 1 to 8 hours; mean 2 to 4 hours		█	█	█	█																							
<i>Vibrio parahaemolyticus</i> 4 to 96 hours					█	█	█	█	█	█																		
<i>Salmonella</i> , non-typhoidal, 6 to 72 hours; mean 18-36 hours					█	█	█	█	█																			
<i>Clostridium perfringens</i> , 8-24 hours; mean 10 hours					█	█																						
Norwalk-like viruses, 16 to 48 hours							█	█																				
<i>Yersinia enterocolitica</i> , 1 to 3 days								█	█																			
<i>Shigella</i> , 1 to 7 days									█	█	█	█	█															
<i>Campylobacter</i> , 2 to 7 days mean 3 to 5 days										█	█	█	█															
<i>Cyclospora cayentanensis</i> , 2 to 8 days; mean 7 days										█	█	█	█															
<i>E. coli</i> O157:H7, 3 to 7 days										█	█	█																
<i>Listeria monocytogenes</i> , 4 to 21 days												█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█									
Hepatitis A, 10 to 50 days, mean 25 days																█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█			

Sources:  
 Data on the "usual" incubation period obtained from the CDC, "Surveillance for Foodborne-Disease Outbreaks—United States, 1988-1992." MMWR 45, SS-5 (October 25, 1996):58-66.  
 Economic Research Service / USDA. Product Liability and Microbial Foodborne Illness / AER-799.