

Appendix A: Mode of Transmission for Certain Beverages and Foods or Drinks Containing Ice

It may be difficult to determine whether some outbreaks should be reported as foodborne or waterborne. Use the following table to help you decide which type of report to enter.

Source of Outbreak (Known or Suspected)	If...	Select Primary Mode of Transmission:
FOOD	Contaminated food goes in your mouth and makes you sick	Foodborne
	Food is produced or prepared using contaminated water and then the contaminated food is consumed	Foodborne
WATER	Contaminated water goes in your mouth, you breathe it, or you contact it in another way, and it makes you sick	Waterborne
ICE	Ice is made with contaminated water	Waterborne
	Ice is made with contaminated water and then added to a beverage (e.g., ice was made with contaminated water and only people who consume drinks containing ice became ill)	Waterborne
	Ice is made with contaminated water and is used to cool an implicated food product	Foodborne
	Ice is already made and then becomes contaminated through handling	Foodborne
	Unknown how the ice became contaminated	Foodborne
BEVERAGES PREPARED WITH WATER	Beverage is made with contaminated water	Waterborne
	Beverage is already made and then becomes contaminated through handling	Foodborne
	Flavoring (e.g., frozen orange juice concentrate) is contaminated	Foodborne
	Unknown how the beverage became contaminated	Foodborne
DRINK MIX/SODA MACHINES	Water entering the machine is contaminated or if there is a problem with the internal plumbing of the machine resulting in contamination (e.g., cross-connections, backflow of carbonated water resulting in copper leaching)	Waterborne
	Drink is contaminated through handling after it is dispensed or contamination of the spout on the machine	Foodborne
	Flavoring is contaminated before it is put into the machine	Foodborne
	Unknown how the beverage became contaminated	Foodborne
BOTTLED WATER	Bottled water is contaminated anywhere in the chain from source water through production, storage, transportation, distribution, or point of use	Waterborne
FLAVORED DRINKS (Note: flavoring does not include carbonation)	Flavoring is added to bottled water and then it becomes contaminated or if the flavoring is contaminated	Foodborne
	Water is contaminated before the flavoring is added	Waterborne
	Unknown how the flavored bottled water became contaminated	Foodborne