FoodSafety.gov

Select Safer Alternatives to High Risk Foods

Type of Food	High Risk	Lower Risk
Meat and Poultry	Raw or undercooked meat or poultry	Meat or poultry cooked to a safe minimum internal temperature
Seafood	 Any raw or undercooked fish, or shellfish, or food containing raw or undercooked seafood (e.g., sashimi, sushi, or ceviche) Cold smoked fish or products containing cold smoked fish 	 Previously cooked seafood heated to 165°F (74°C) Canned fish and seafood Seafood cooked to 145°F (63°C) Fish, Smoked fish and seafood casserole heated to 165°F (74°C)
Milk	 Unpasteurized (raw) milk 	Pasteurized milk
Eggs	Foods that contain raw/undercooked eggs, such as: • Homemade Caesar salad dressings • Homemade raw cookie dough • Homemade eggnog • Homemade mayonnaise	Use pasteurized eggs/egg products when preparing recipes that call for raw or undercooked eggs
Sprouts	Raw sprouts (alfalfa, bean, or any other sprout)	Cooked sprouts
Vegetables	Unwashed fresh vegetables, including lettuce/salads	 Washed fresh vegetables, including salads Cooked vegetables
Cheese	Soft cheeses made from unpasteurized (raw) milk, such as: • Feta, Brie • Camembert • Blue-veined	 Hard cheeses Processed cheeses Cream cheese Mozzarella Soft cheeses that are clearly labeled "made from pasteurized milk"

Type of Food	High Risk	Lower Risk
	Queso fresco	
Hot Dogs and Deli Meats	Hot dogs, deli and luncheon meats that have not been reheated	Reheat hot dogs, luncheon meats, and deli meats to steaming hot or 165°F (74°C)
Pâtés	Unpasteurized and/or refrigerated pâtés or meat spreads	Canned or shelf-stable pâtés or meat spreads

Date Last Reviewed September 21, 2023