

The CDC is not aware of any reports that suggest COVID-19 can be transmitted by food or food packaging.

What is my risk of getting COVID-19 from takeout/drive-thru foods?

- There currently is no evidence that takeout or drive-thru meals will increase illness.
- This option is a good choice, especially for high risk and elderly groups, since it helps maintain social distancing.

Can I get COVID-19 from touching food or packaging exposed to the virus?

- Currently there is no evidence of food or food packaging being associated with transmission of COVID-19.
- To further minimize risk, handling food packaging should be followed by handwashing and/or using hand sanitizer.

What are the risks of food delivered to your home?

- Similar to takeout, food delivery helps maintain social distancing and reduces the risk of coming into contact with COVID-19.
- Many delivery programs have also instituted no touch/no interaction options, which further reduces risk.

What happens if you ingest COVID-19 through food?

- If you consume food that is contaminated with COVID-19, your stomach acid should inactivate the virus.
 - Even if your stomach acid did not inactivate the virus, there is no evidence the COVID-19 virus can cause illness if ingested.

For more information please visit:

Tennessee Department of Health (TDH): www.tn.gov/health

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): www.cdc.gov

Food and Drug Administration (FDA): www.fda.gov

Association for Food and Drug Officials (AFDO): www.afdo.org

References: **North Carolina Department of Health and FDA**

