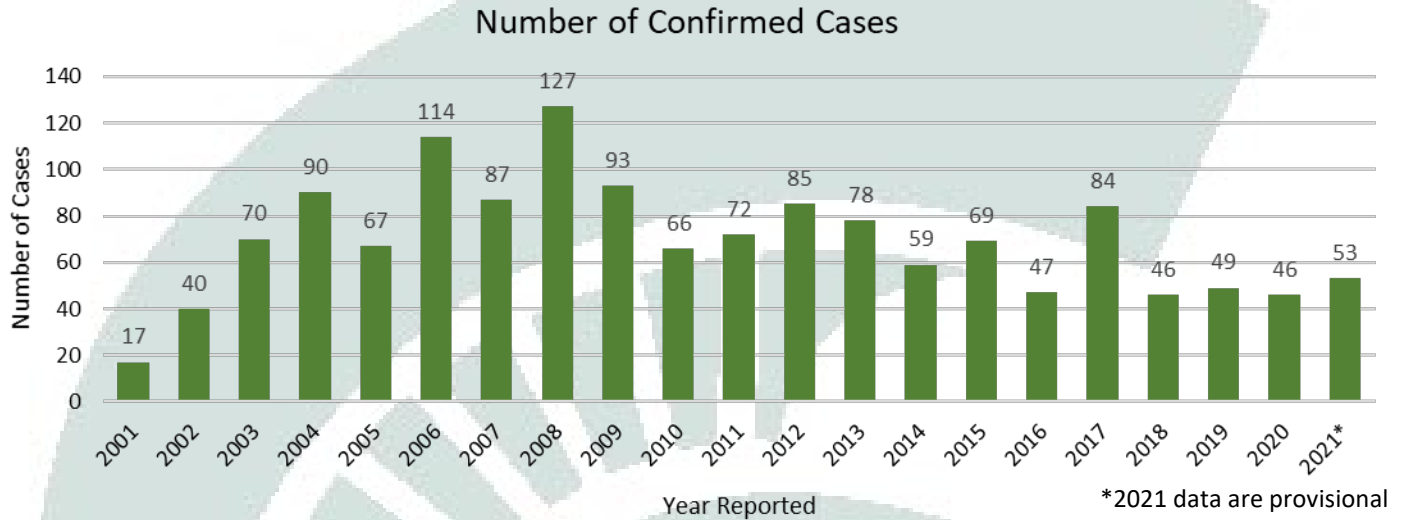


Occupational Pesticide-Related Illnesses and Injuries in Michigan 2020

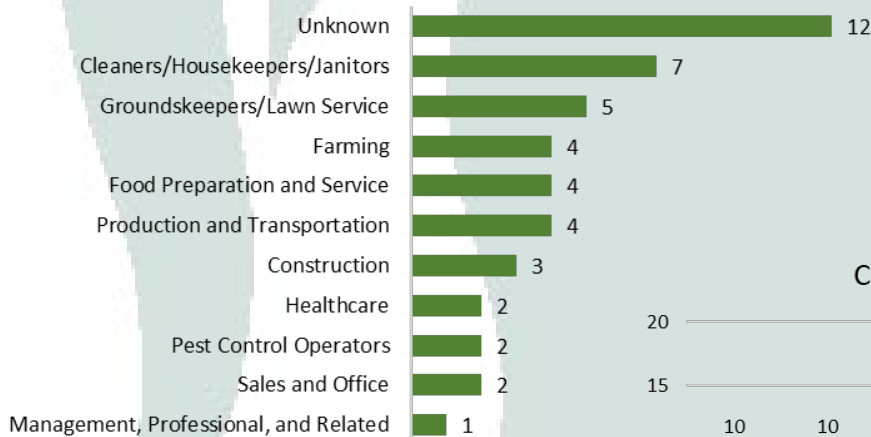
Additional Information Available at: www.oem.msu.edu

Summary Statistics

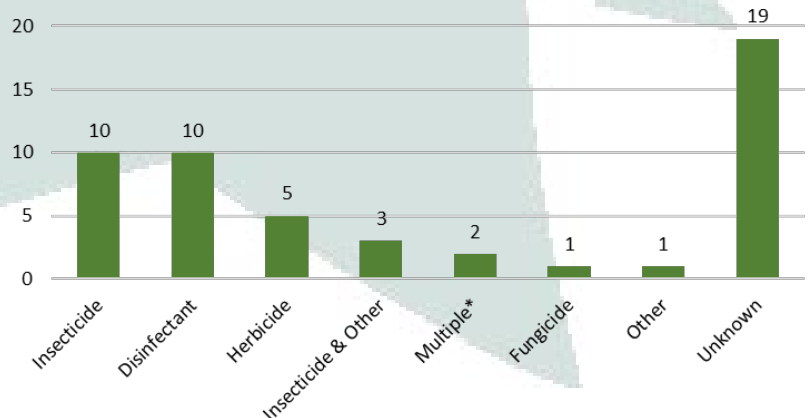


The number of confirmed work-related pesticide illness and injury cases in Michigan has varied since the surveillance system became fully operational in 2003, ranging from 46 to 127. Overall, 55% of the cases were men.

Cases by Industry Sector, 2020



Cases by Pesticide Type, 2020

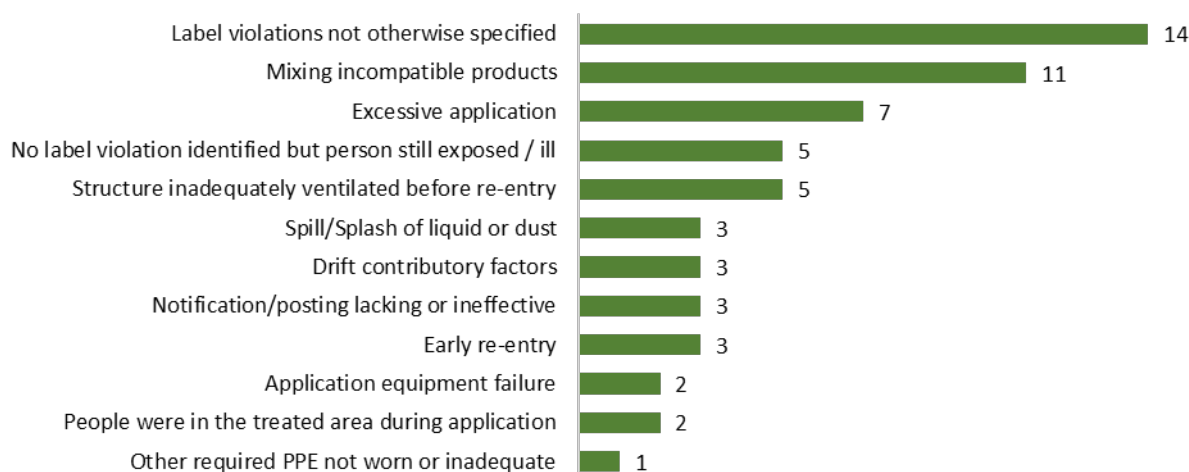


*Multiple means the product had more than one type of pesticide. A case could also be exposed to more than one product.

Background

The Michigan Occupational Pesticide-related Illness and Injury Surveillance program began in 2001. The goals are to: 1) identify groups at risk for pesticide-related illnesses and injuries, 2) detect trends, 3) identify high-risk active ingredients, 4) identify and refer cases to regulatory agencies as appropriate, and 5) provide information for interventions including education and outreach programs. Pesticide-related Illness and Injury Surveillance is funded under a cooperative agreement with the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH). A pesticide is any substance or mixture of substances intended to prevent, destroy, repel, or mitigate any pest. The term pesticide can refer to insecticides, herbicides, fungicides, rodenticides, disinfectants, and various other substances. Reported cases are classified based on criteria related to (1) documentation of exposure, (2) documentation of at least two adverse health effects, and (3) evidence supporting a causal relationship between pesticide exposure and health effects. Cases that meet all three criteria are considered confirmed cases.

Contributing Factors*, 2020



*Each case may have more than one factor contributing to the exposure.

2020 Work-related Pesticide Illness and Injury Narratives

- A male in his 20s lives and works on his family farm. He was handling a urea-substituted herbicide and developed ocular irritation and pain, lacrimation, and conjunctivitis. He went to the emergency department to receive medical care and there they called poison control.
- A female in her 30s works for a cleaning company. She was cleaning banks more frequently and with stronger products because of COVID-19. She developed a cough, shortness of breath, headaches, dizziness, burns, throat irritation, and nausea. She called poison control for medical advice.
- A female in her 40s was cleaning the bathroom at work and mixed bleach with another cleaning product. She inhaled the fumes and developed a cough, shortness of breath, and a sore throat. She called poison control and then sought medical treatment in the emergency department.
- A female in her teens was cleaning with a high concentration of bleach at work in a poorly ventilated area. She developed chest pain, shortness of breath, and throat irritation. Her husband called poison control and they then went to the emergency department where she was given an inhaler.
- A male in his 40's was working as a cook in a restaurant when his coworker mixed bleach and citric acid. He inhaled the fumes from this incompatible chemical mixture and developed throat irritation. He went to the emergency department for medical treatment. They called poison control at the emergency department for medical advice.