

Occupational Pesticide-Related Illnesses and Injuries in Michigan 2023

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

Summary Statistics



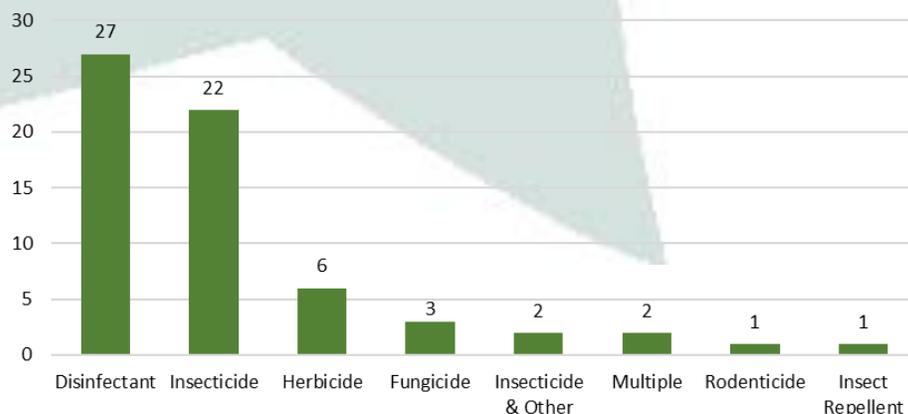
The number of confirmed work-related pesticide illness and injury cases in Michigan has varied since the surveillance system became fully operational in 2003, ranging from 46 to 125. Overall, 54% of the cases were men/45% women.

Cases by Occupation*, 2023



*Occupation was missing for 13 cases

Cases by Pesticide Type*, 2023

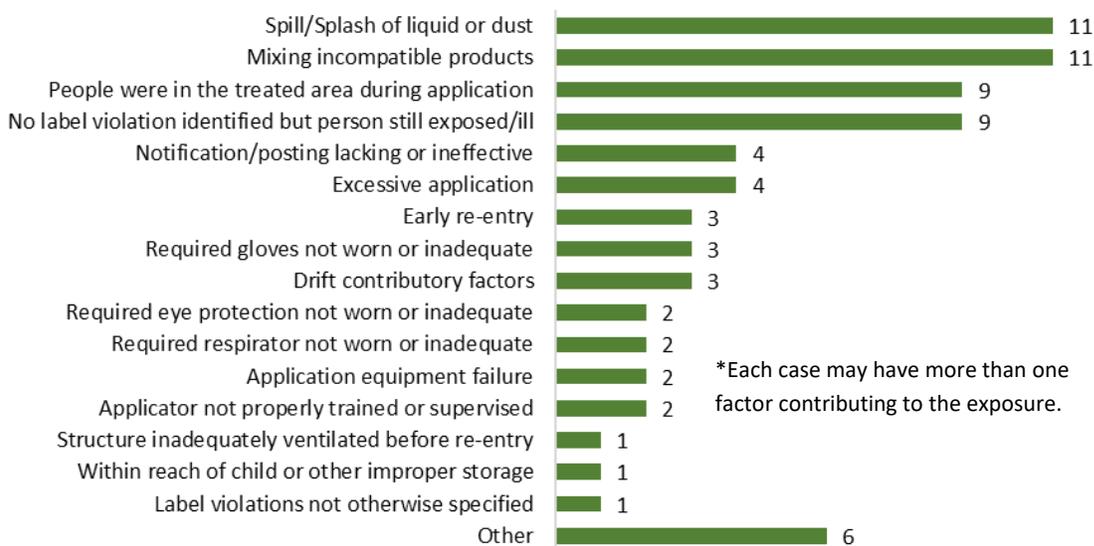


*Type of pesticide was missing for 23 cases; there may be more than one type of pesticide per case.

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*, 2023



2023 Work-related Pesticide Illness and Injury Select Narratives

- Eight male workers, in their 20s to 60s, were installing solar panels in a field when an insecticide and a fungicide drifted on them from an aerial application over an adjoining corn field. The workers developed respiratory symptoms, dizziness, nausea, headaches, and skin irritation. Poison control was called, and all of the workers received medical treatment in the emergency department. This case was referred to MDARD and the US EPA.
- A male in his 40s was working for a pest control company when he was spraying a broad application outdoor mosquito repellent and despite wearing a respirator, developed numbness and itching in his face and itching in his eyes. He called poison control.
- A male in his 20s was working as a flower room manager at a cannabis production facility when he inhaled a single product used as a fungicide, bactericide, and algaecide. The product was diluted and used in a humidifier while he was in the room. He developed a cough, shortness of breath, and chest pain. He called poison control. This case was referred to MDARD for potential violation of the re-entry time regulations.
- A female in her 20s was working as a housekeeper in a residential home when she mixed bleach and an ammonia-based product to clean the bathroom. She became lightheaded and developed shortness of breath, a headache, and blurry vision. She called EMS who transported her to the emergency department.