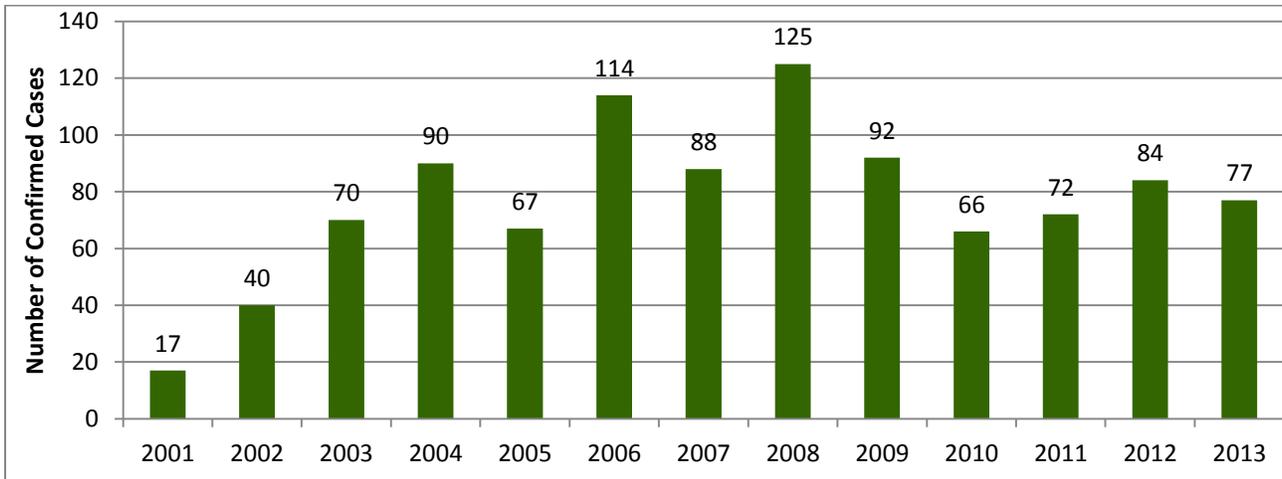


Occupational Pesticide-related Illnesses and Injuries in Michigan. 2013

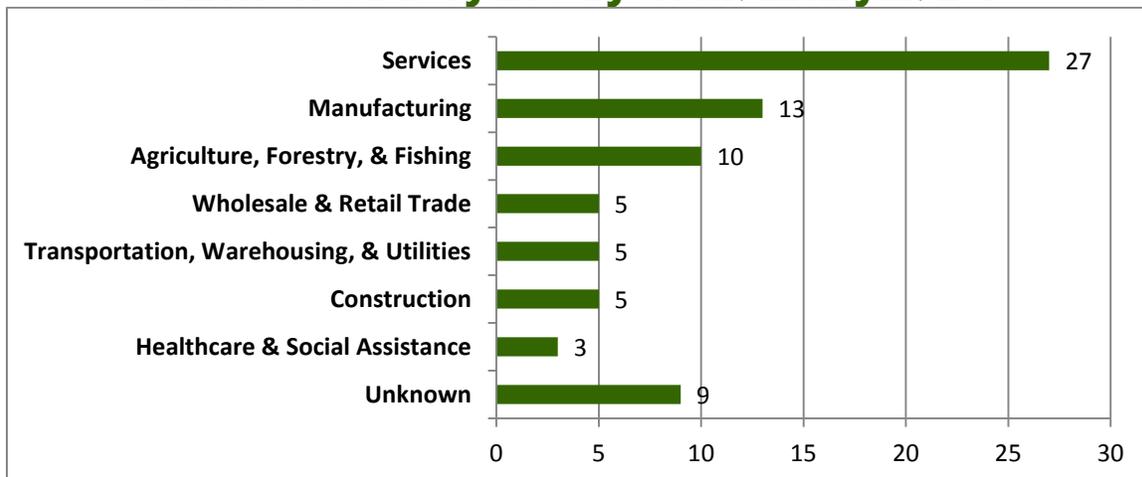
[http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0.4612.7-132-54783_54784-127397-.00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,4612,7-132-54783_54784-127397-.00.html)

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 approximately 70 to 130. The “Services” sector has been the most common industry sector where cases were exposed; this sector includes “Services to Buildings and Dwellings”, such as structural pest control or landscaping, and “Accommodation and Food Services” such as hotels and restaurants, where many disinfectant exposures occurred. In 2013 Manufacturing was the next most common industry sector, followed by Agriculture. In 2013 57.1% of the cases were men. Over 85% were between the ages of 20 and 59. When race was known, over 80% of the cases were among Caucasians.

Numbers of Cases by Industry Sector. Michigan. 2013

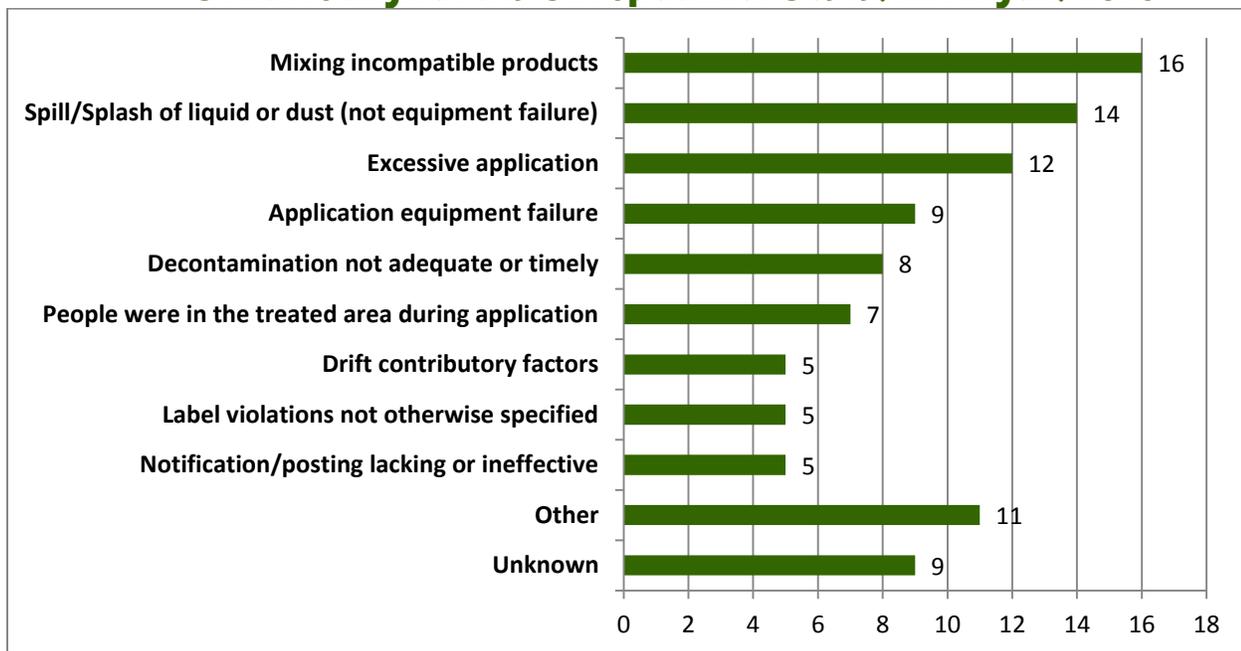


Background

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 planning and interventions including education and outreach programs. Pesticide-related Illnesses 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 the criteria are considered confirmed cases.

2013 Results

Contributing Factors Occupational Cases, Michigan, 2013



Work-related Pesticide Illness and Injury Narratives

- A teenage salesperson at an auto parts store was spraying an insecticide (signal word: Caution) for spiders on the front window. The hose came out of bottle and some blew back into his eyes and on his arms. He developed eye irritation, itchy arms, nausea, throat and nose irritation and shortness of breath. He called poison control and went to an emergency department the next day.
- The owner of a lawn care company in his 20s was spraying with two herbicides. He wore all required protective equipment and also wore an organic vapor respirator, which was not required. He could smell the herbicides and developed a cough, sinusitis, headache, nausea, vomiting, muscle twitches in his face and a metallic taste in his mouth. He called poison control and went to an urgent care center.
- A maintenance worker at a health club in his 60s checked on the pool room and discovered that the pump was leaking. He inhaled some disinfectant before putting on a respirator. He also got some on his hands while trying to clean it up. He developed difficulty breathing, a cough, and a sore throat. The building was evacuated and he and two members were taken to a hospital.