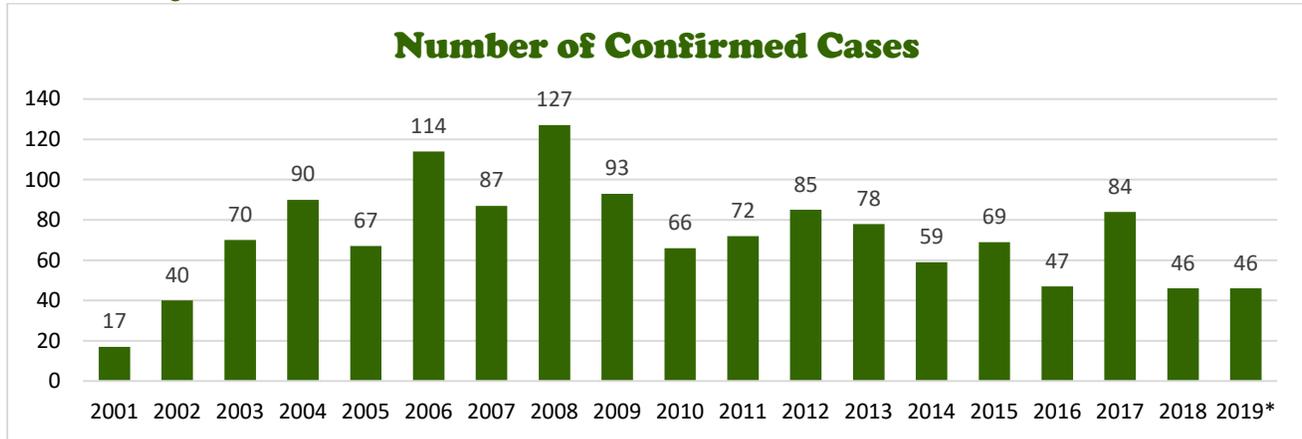


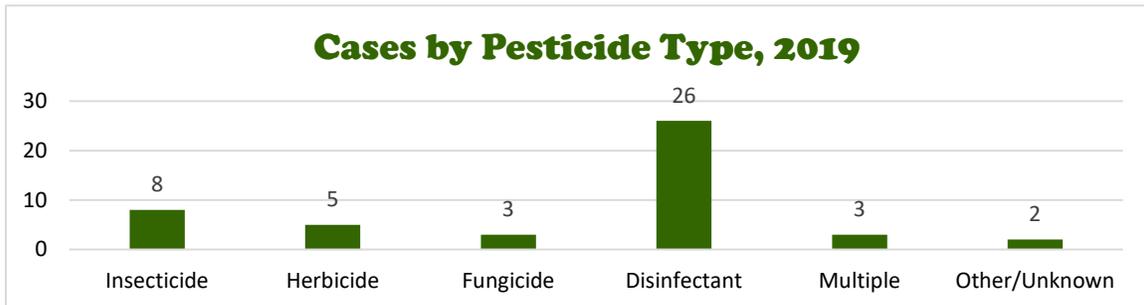
Occupational Pesticide-related Illnesses and Injuries in Michigan, 2019

Summary Statistics

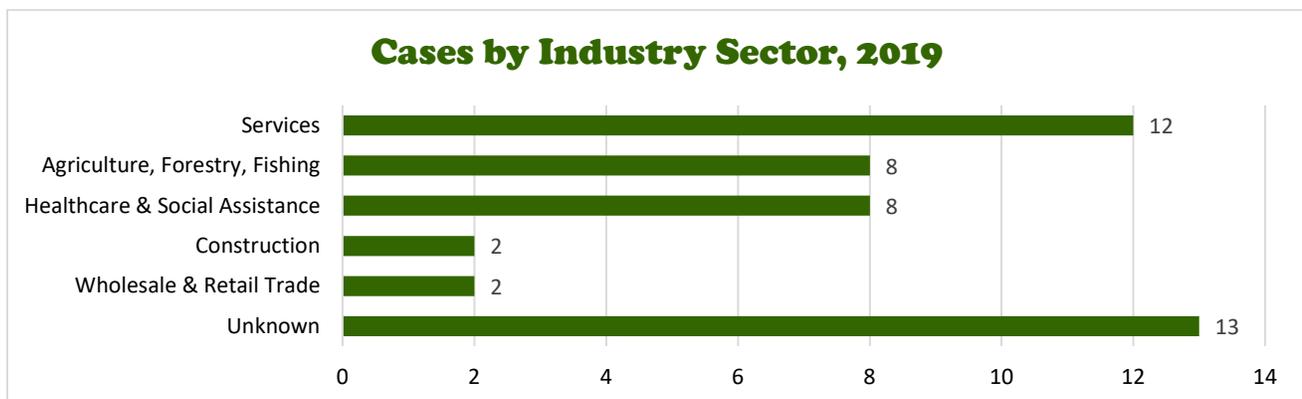


* 2019 preliminary data as of 1/23/2020

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 percent of the cases were men.



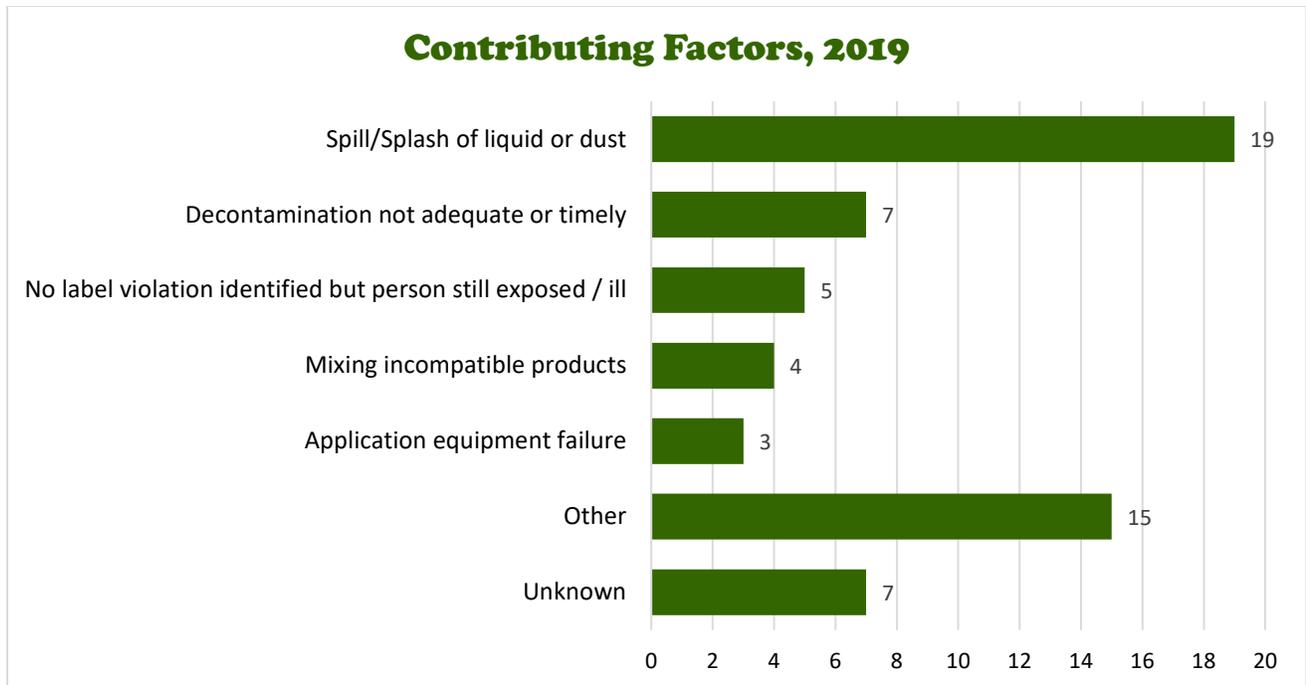
*Multiple means the product had more than one type of pesticide or the person was exposed to more than one product.



The “Services” sector includes “Services to Buildings and Dwellings” such as structural pest control or landscaping, as well as “Accommodation and Food Services” such as hotels and restaurants, where many disinfectant exposures occurred.

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.



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

2019 Work-related Pesticide Illness and Injury Narratives

- A worker in his 50s was spraying sugar beets with a fungicide and the hose became plugged. He tried to unplug the hose and was exposed to the fungicide, which covered his clothing from the waist down. This happened at noon and he didn't shower until he got home at 10 pm. The next morning, he was nauseous and had three bouts of vomiting and two of diarrhea. He went to an emergency department.
- A school custodian in his 30s was exposed to disinfectant (signal word: Danger) fumes while cleaning. He developed fatigue, respiratory irritation, nausea and vomiting, and hallucinations. He called poison control. The district turns off the ventilation system when the children leave the building to save money, so when he is cleaning there is no ventilation. In addition, they were using trigger pump spray bottles. He has switched to using a bucket and rags and has started wearing a mask (not required) when he cleans. He feels better since making these changes.
- A construction worker in his 20s working on a municipal water line was carrying a bucket of sodium hypochlorite. He tripped and some splashed in his left eye and ear. He developed eye pain, tearing, blurred vision and light sensitivity. He went to an emergency department and had five follow-up visits with an ophthalmologist. He had a corneal abrasion, edema, a dilated pupil, sloughing of the epithelium, and ear irritation.