

2018

CALIFORNIA SCHOOL & CHILD CARE PESTICIDE USE REPORT SUMMARY

THE HEALTHY SCHOOLS ACT

Legal Reference and Intent Food and Agricultural Code section 13182: It is the policy of the state that effective least toxic pest management practices should be the preferred method of managing pests at schoolsites and that the state, in order to reduce children's exposure to toxic pesticides, shall take the necessary steps, pursuant to this article, to facilitate the adoption of effective least toxic pest management practices at schoolsites.

Lead Agency for Compliance Assistance California Environmental Protection Agency
Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR)
Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Branch
School and Child Care IPM Programs
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About Us

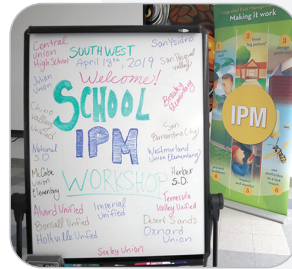
The Department of Pesticide Regulation's School & Child Care Integrated Pest Management Programs provide Healthy Schools Act compliance support to California schoolsites—a term defined in the Healthy Schools Act—which includes public K–12 schools and many licensed child care centers. Our IPM Programs communicate frequently with our stakeholders and are readily available to the public to help with pest management related inquiries.

We are committed to assisting California schoolsites with their pest management goals and encouraging the use of effective least toxic pest management practices. We are pleased to bring you this summary, which provides an overview of 2018 pesticide use at schools and child care centers and highlights our work with the public.

Sincerely,



Lisa Estridge



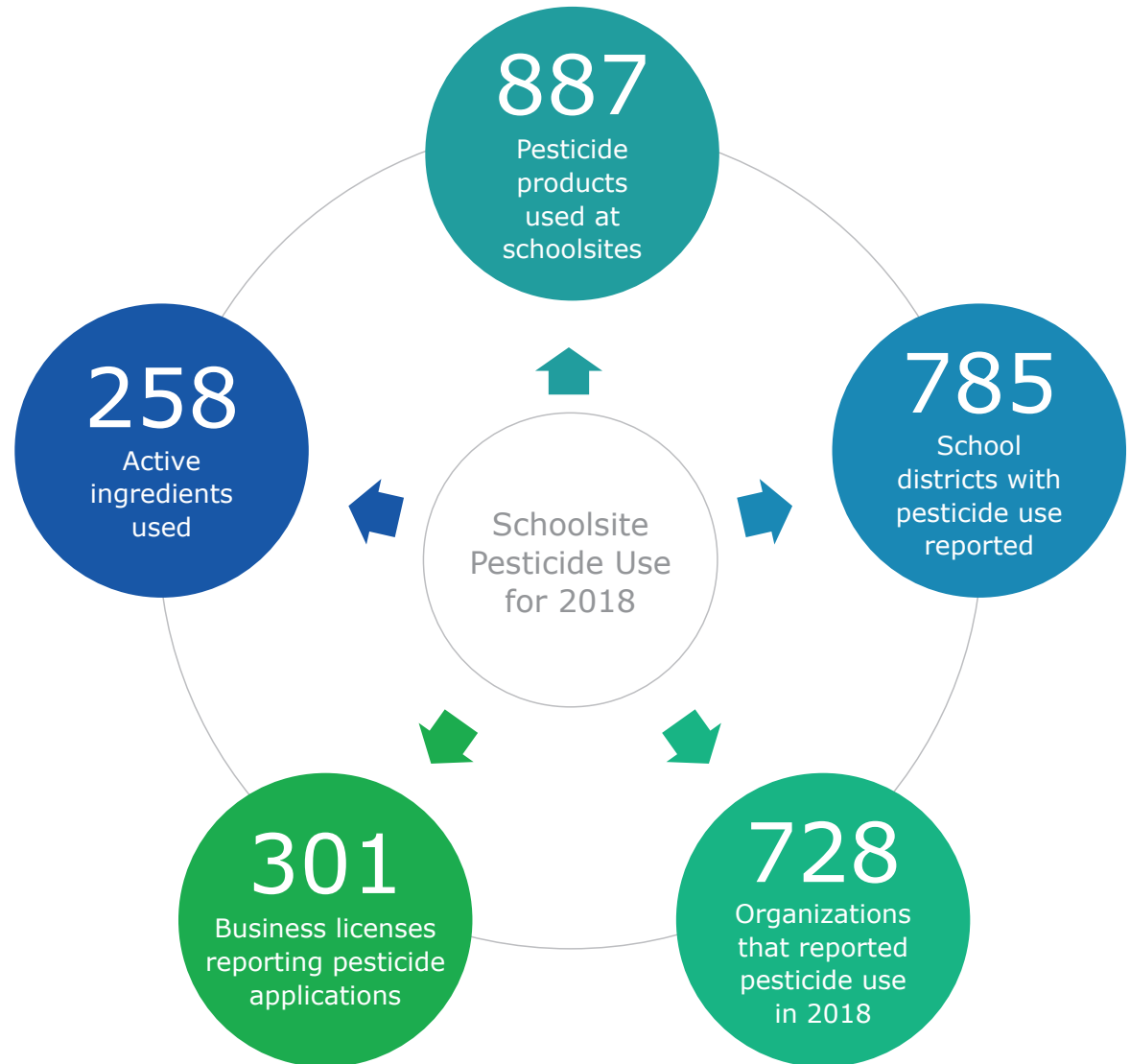
OUTREACH
& EDUCATION



Introduction

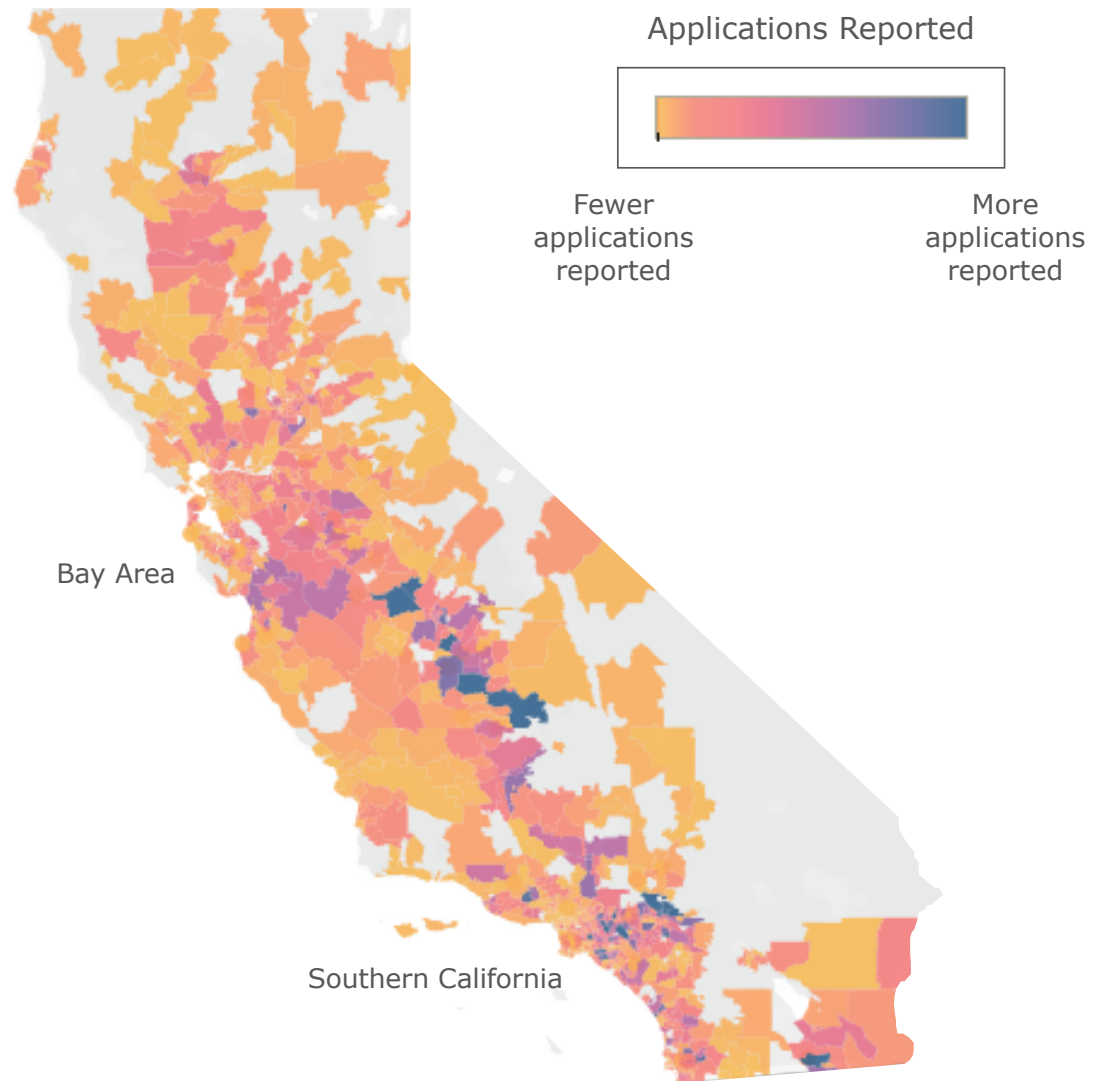
The Healthy Schools Act requires most pesticide applications made at California schoolsites to be reported to the Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR). Our Programs' outreach and training efforts are guided by this data which allows us to track the frequency of applications, the organizations applying pesticides, and the active ingredients being used to manage pests at California schoolsites every year.

For 2018, we received reports from 7,103 schools and 1,521 child care centers across California. Access to and analysis of this data is critical in supporting DPR's ongoing work to foster reduced-risk integrated pest management strategies at schoolsites. Here are a few key numbers reflecting critical data points collected on pesticide use at schools and child care centers for the 2018 calendar year.



Pesticide Use at California Schoolsites

In 2018, we received School and Child Care Pesticide Use Reports from 1,258 ZIP Codes representing 57 counties. The map to the right shows all reported pesticide applications for 2018 within a ZIP code, with darker colors representing a greater number of applications reported. The dark purple color clusters around Southern California and the Bay Area are indicative of dense metropolitan areas containing many schools and child care centers.



92%

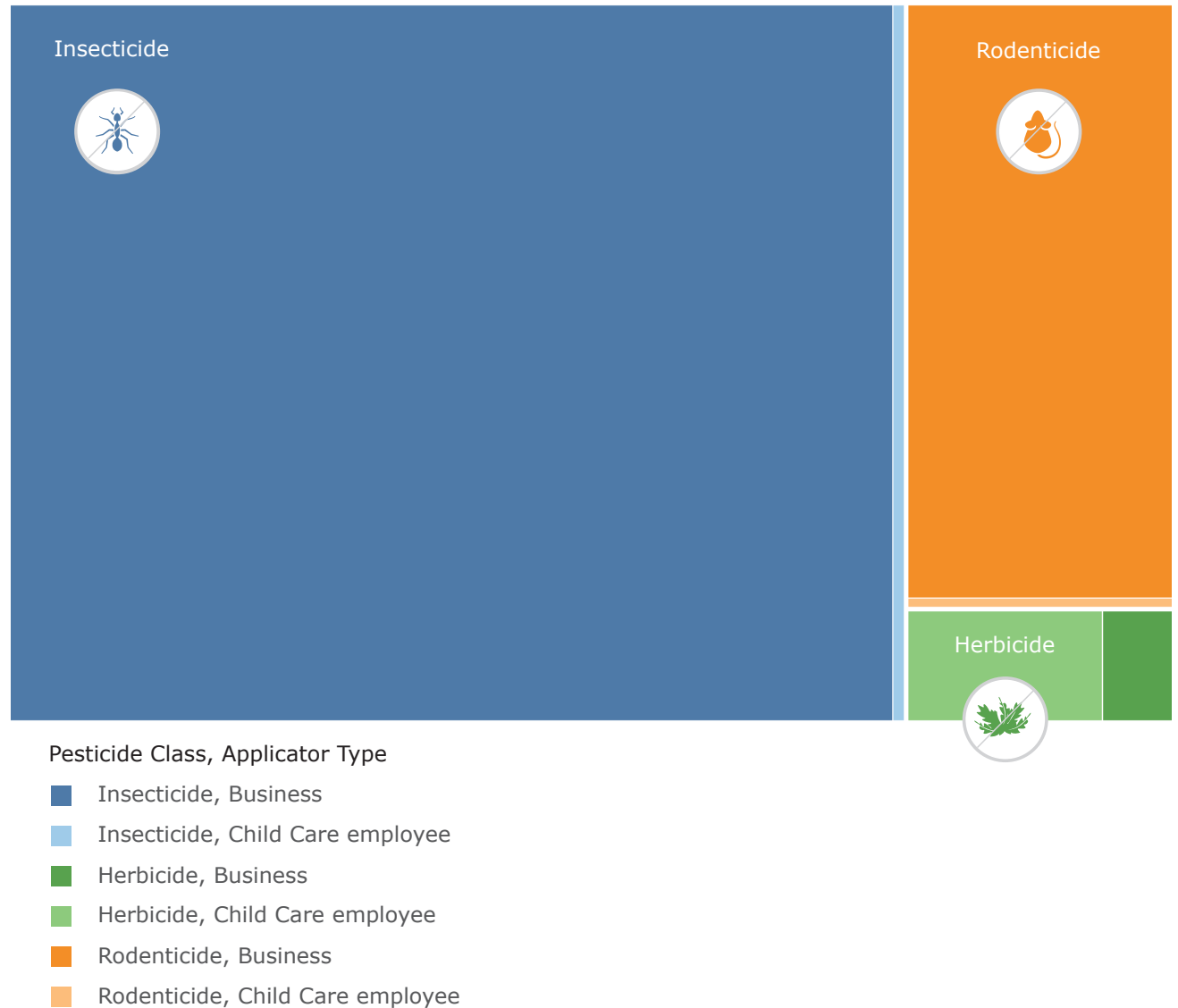
Of applications were made at primary and secondary schools

California's Child Care Centers

Pesticide use patterns reported at child care centers differ from schools. Approximately 95% of the Pesticide Use Reports received from applications at child care centers were submitted by pest control businesses. Child care centers typically hire businesses for most pest management needs.

Insecticides are by far the most applied pesticide class at child care centers, which is consistent with a 2010 DPR-funded study done in collaboration with the Center for Children's Environmental Health Research and the California Childcare Health Program. In this study, surveyed child care centers cited insects as their most common pest problem, and a majority reported that pesticide applications are assigned to pest control businesses.

Submitted Pesticide Use Reports by Child Care Centers

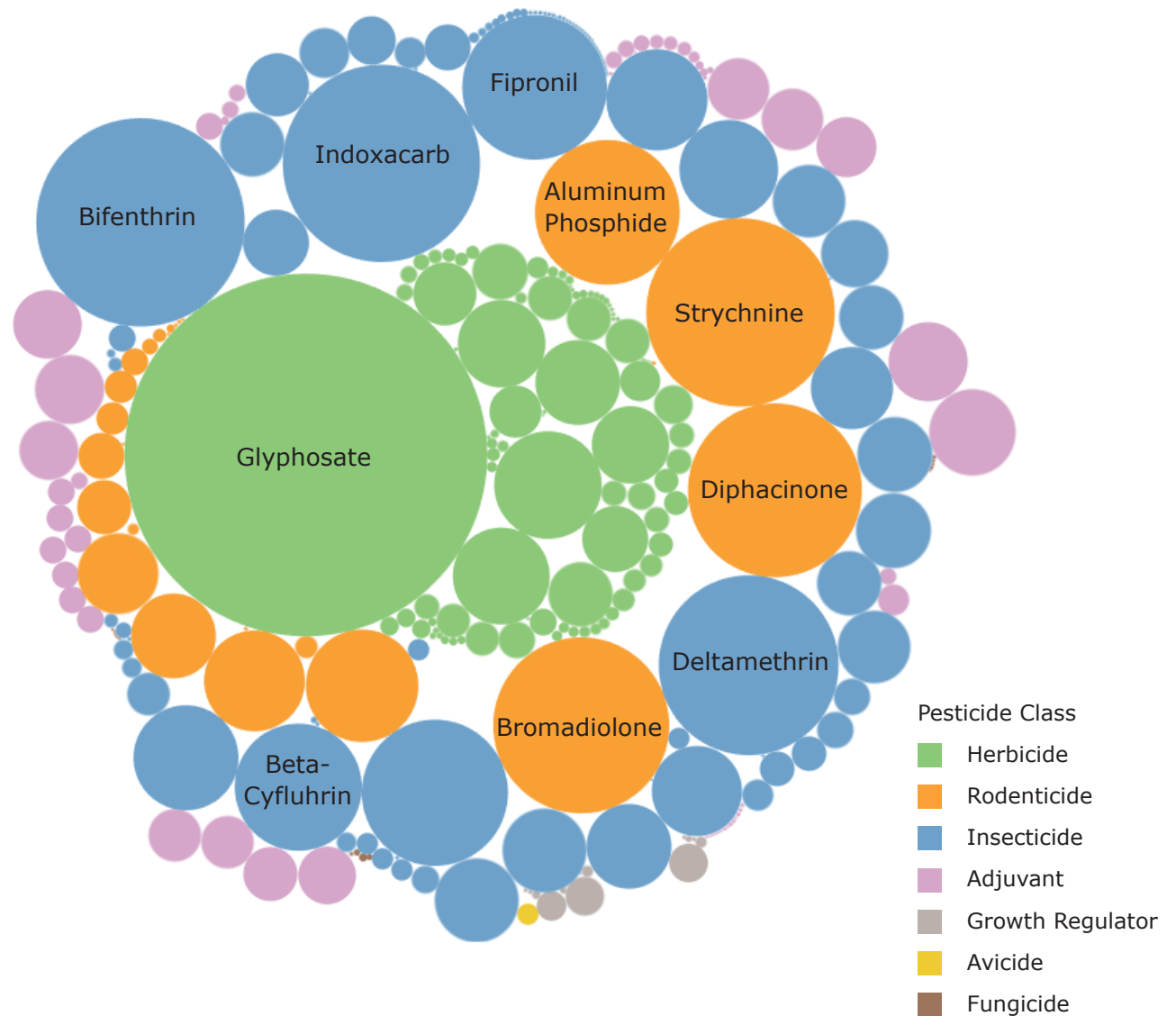


Active Ingredients Applied

In 2018, a total of 97,629 pesticide applications were reported at California schoolsites.

The visual to the right illustrates the active ingredients reported at schoolsites in 2018. Each circle represents a different active ingredient, is colored by pesticide class, and sized by the number of applications reported. The top 10 most reported active ingredients are labeled. Insecticides were the most applied class of pesticide, followed by herbicides and rodenticides.

Our Programs use data to understand pesticide use patterns at schoolsites, to perform targeted outreach, and to track changes over time.



Targeted Outreach & Training

DPR's School and Child Care IPM Programs successfully promote HSA compliance through education, outreach, and training activities. Our Programs provide broad-based support and are responsive to emerging needs. As an example, we received a complaint about a pesticide application occurring near school children. DPR staff immediately reached out to the school district. Within a month, School IPM Program staff were on the school district's campus providing HSA training to the employees involved with pest management at the school district.

The training focused on addressing the complaint, assisting the district with meeting all HSA requirements, and providing recommendations on reducing pesticide use based on their pesticide use reporting data.

Our Program is available when needed to quickly respond to concerns surrounding pesticide use at schoolsites, thereby helping reduce children's exposure to toxic chemicals while building supportive relationships with a California school district and school personnel.



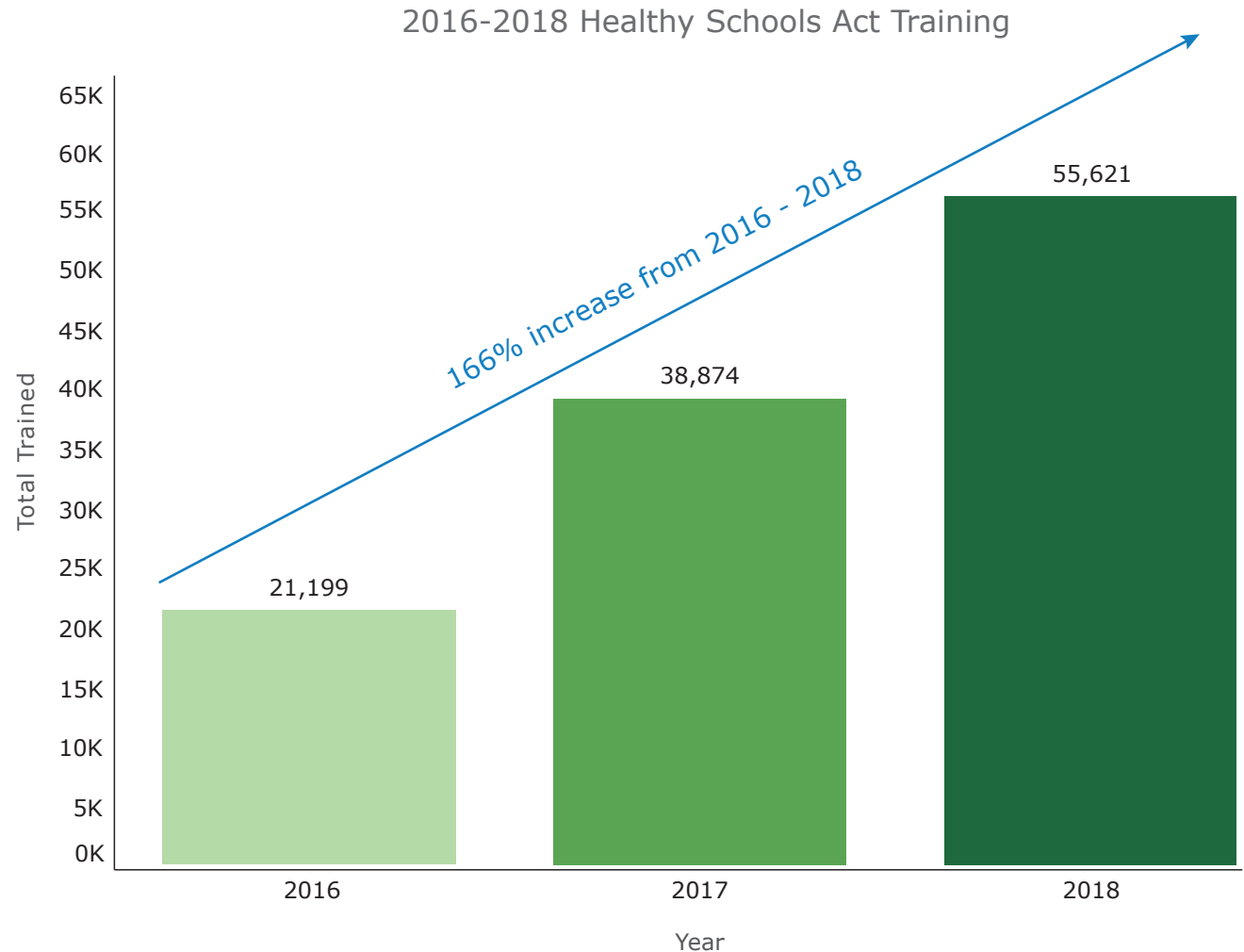
Estela Navarro providing HSA Training to School District employees

Healthy Schools Act Training Activities

DPR's School and Child Care IPM Programs provide annual Healthy Schools Act training to all teachers, staff, and volunteers who use pesticides at schoolsites. These trainings are offered online, as group training kits, and at in-person workshops.

From 2016 to 2018, we saw a consistent increase in the number of completed trainings. According to a public survey* conducted by DPR in 2019, the HSA training requirement was viewed as the requirement that has the most positive impact on pest management at schoolsites.

Overall, there has been a 166% increase in completed trainings and a 15% increase in the number of school districts reporting pesticide use applications made by their staff.



**(Department of Pesticide Regulation, Healthy Schools Act Legislative Report Survey, April–November 2019)*

Thank You

School pesticide use reporting data is an integral part of the School and Child Care IPM Programs. We use data analysis to direct our outreach and training and focus on priority pest management issues schoolsites face currently.

Throughout 2018, we worked closely with pest control businesses, school staff, and parents to reduce risk in pest management at California schoolsites. We continue to work with our stakeholders to support effective pest management at California schoolsites in the future.



CSPUR data entry team



Our mission is to protect human health
and the environment by regulating
pesticide sales and use, and by fostering
reduced-risk pest management.

www.cdpr.ca.gov