Illnesses and Injuries in California[1] Associated With Pesticide Residue in Agricultural Fields, 1982-2010

Year	Systemic/Repiratory[2]		Topical[2]		TOTAL
	Definite/ Probable[3]	Possible[3]	Definite/ Probable[3]	Possible[3]	
1982	23	43	48	117	231
1983	19	29	41	96	185
1984	8	9	49	112	178
1985	25	24	156	164	370
1986	30	14	155	60	259
1987	58	83	52	180	375
1988	57	37	74	202	370
1989	17	22	30	93	162
1990	3	32	11	119	165
1991	16	38	7	87	148
1992	11	57	19	112	199
1993	10	38	2	67	117
1994	33	31	5	42	111
1995	20	48	74	89	231
1996	29	37	15	60	141
1997	83	44	20	62	209
1998	40	19	5	47	111
1999	23	17	0	42	82
2000	21	30	2	22	75
2001	7	22	0	17	46
2002	30	23	13	12	78
2003	4	17	4	33	58
2004	15	27	1	25	68
2005	1	9	2	16	28
2006	1	9	2	13	25
2007	24	15	1	18	58
2008	48	16	2	7	73

	Systemic/Repiratory[2]		Topical[2]		
Year	Definite/ Probable[3]	Possible[3]	Definite/ Probable[3]	Possible[3]	TOTAL
2009	80	9	7	4	100
2010	8	8	1	2	19
TOTAL	**744**	**807**	**798**	**1920**	**4272**

1 **Source:** California Department of Pesticide Regulation, Pesticide Illness Surveillance Program.

2 **Type of Illness:** Categorization of the type of symptoms experienced.

Systemic : Any health effects not limited to the respiratory, skin and/or eye. Cases involving multiple illness symptom types including systemic symptoms are included in the systemic category.

Respiratory : Health effects involving any part of the respiratory tree.

Topical : Health effects involving only the eyes and/or skin. This excludes outward physical signs (miosis and lacrimation) related to effects on internal bodily systems. These signs are classified under 'Systemic.'

3 **Associated With:** Includes cases classified as definitely, probably or possibly related to pesticide exposure.

Definite : High degree of correlation between pattern of exposure and resulting symptomatology. Requires both medical evidence (such as measured cholinesterase inhibition, positive allergy tests, characteristic signs observed by medical professional) and physical evidence of exposure (environmental and/or biological samples, exposure history) to support the conclusions.

Probable : Relatively high degree of correlation exists between the pattern of exposure and the resulting symptomatology. Either medical or physical evidence is inconclusive or unavailable.

Possible : Health effects correspond generally to the reported exposure, but evidence is not available to support a relationship.

Whom to Contact:

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About the Pesticide Illness Surveillance Program Data

Pesticide-related illnesses have been tracked within the state of California for more than 50 years. The California Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) maintains a surveillance program which records human health effects of pesticide exposure. The Pesticide Illness Surveillance Program (PISP) documents information on adverse effects from pesticide products, whether elicited by the active ingredients, inert ingredients, impurities, or breakdown products. This program maintains a database, which is utilized for evaluating the circumstances of pesticide exposures resulting in illness. This database is consulted regularly by staff who evaluate(s) the effectiveness of the DPR pesticide safety programs and recommend changes when appropriate.