



Pesticide Farm Worker Survey June 2021

**By
The United Farm
Workers Foundation**

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I. Introduction

In a national text messaging survey, the UFW Foundation explored the workplace conditions, employment training, pesticide exposure, medical history, and knowledge of related resources within the agricultural worker community.

Before conducting the survey, the foundation actively researched and collaborated with Earth Justice in regard to what questions should be included and what information was hoped to be collected. Question structure was strategic in identifying workplace conditions and access to resources when faced with pesticide exposure.

II. Respondents

The UFW Foundation sent out this survey to individuals within our text messaging program (Mobile Commons) on Tuesday, June 22nd, 2020. 70% of respondents came from CA, 28% from WA, and 2% from Oregon. One-thousand nine hundred and ninety-three (1,993) self-identified agriculture workers responded to the survey.

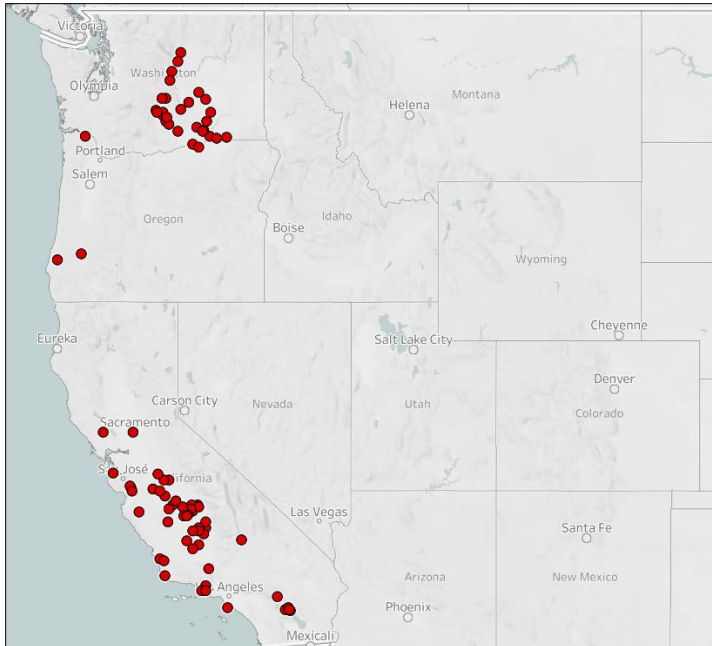
III. Methodology and Key Findings

The survey of 1,993 self-identified agriculture workers within California, Washington, and Oregon from June 22 to June 25 contained questions relating to workplace conditions and pesticide exposure. This section provides an insight and summary of the findings of the survey.

As the foundation has previously seen through testimonials and outreach efforts, many agricultural workers face exposure to pesticide while working and many times do not have access to the proper resources. Our analysis of the survey data identifies information on the extent of pesticide exposure, accessible resources, and concentrated areas of those affected.

The survey employed skip logic to ensure respondents had the ability to expand on the extent of their exposure to pesticide. This gave the foundation the ability to display different questions depending on a respondent's response to a specific question. Agricultural workers were asked if they had been exposed to pesticide at work. This question determined whether they would then be asked a series of questions that expanded on pesticide exposure or skipped to the last series of questions relating to workplace training and knowledge of resources.

Key Findings:



Top Responses by City:

1. Pasco, WA
2. Oxnard, CA
3. Yakima, WA
4. Sunnyside, WA
5. Salinas, CA
6. Thermal, CA
7. Mecca, CA
8. Coachella, CA

1. **38%** of agricultural workers have been exposed to pesticide at work. (N=762)
2. **38%** (N=586) of agricultural workers reported having experienced a symptom associated with pesticide exposure within the last year.
3. **7%** (N=108) of agricultural workers have gone to the doctor or emergency room due to pesticide exposure.
4. **35%** (N=693) reported that their employer/supervisor did not inform them of where to locate pesticide application information.
5. **54%** (N=1082) were unaware they could designate a representative to ask for information on their behalf regarding pesticide exposure at their workplace.