

# Pesticide Exposure Surveillance in Texas (PEST) Program

## Occupational Health Indicators

*November 15, 2013*

Texas Department of State Health Services



# Occupational Injuries and Illnesses

- Occupational pesticide exposure is one category of work-related injuries and illnesses
- Collectively, all categories of illnesses and injuries are referred to as occupational health indicators

# Occupational Health Indicators

- Provide an assessment of the health and safety status of our workforce
- An accurate assessment of the farmworker health status is dependent on the reporting of their pesticide exposure

# Texas Statutes Mandate Reporting of Occupational Pesticide Exposures

- Health and Safety Code (HSC) - Texas Occupational Conditions Reporting Act (TOCRA), 1985
- Texas Administrative Code (TAC) – Title 25, Part 1, Chapter 99 – Occupational Diseases
- Acute pesticide poisoning – a reportable health condition under TOCRA

# Who Should Report?

- A physician who diagnoses or treats the individual with the condition
- Other health professionals
- Facilities where laboratory analyses render evidence of pesticide exposure

# HIPPA - Patient Consent not Required

- 2003, HIPPA deletes requirement for patient consent to report protected information for treatment, payment and healthcare operations
- Texas statutes, HSC and TAC, allow for the reporting of a case's protected information to the department of health

# How to Report – Healthcare Providers

- Fax exposure report to 512-776-7222

[www.dshs.state.tx.us/epitox/Pesticide-Exposure/#reporting](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/epitox/Pesticide-Exposure/#reporting)

- Consulting the Texas Poison Center Network (TPCN) automatically generates a report
- Call central office at 800-588-1248
- Submit report to local health department

# General Types of Pesticides

● Disinfectants

● Fumigants

● Sanitizers

● Herbicides

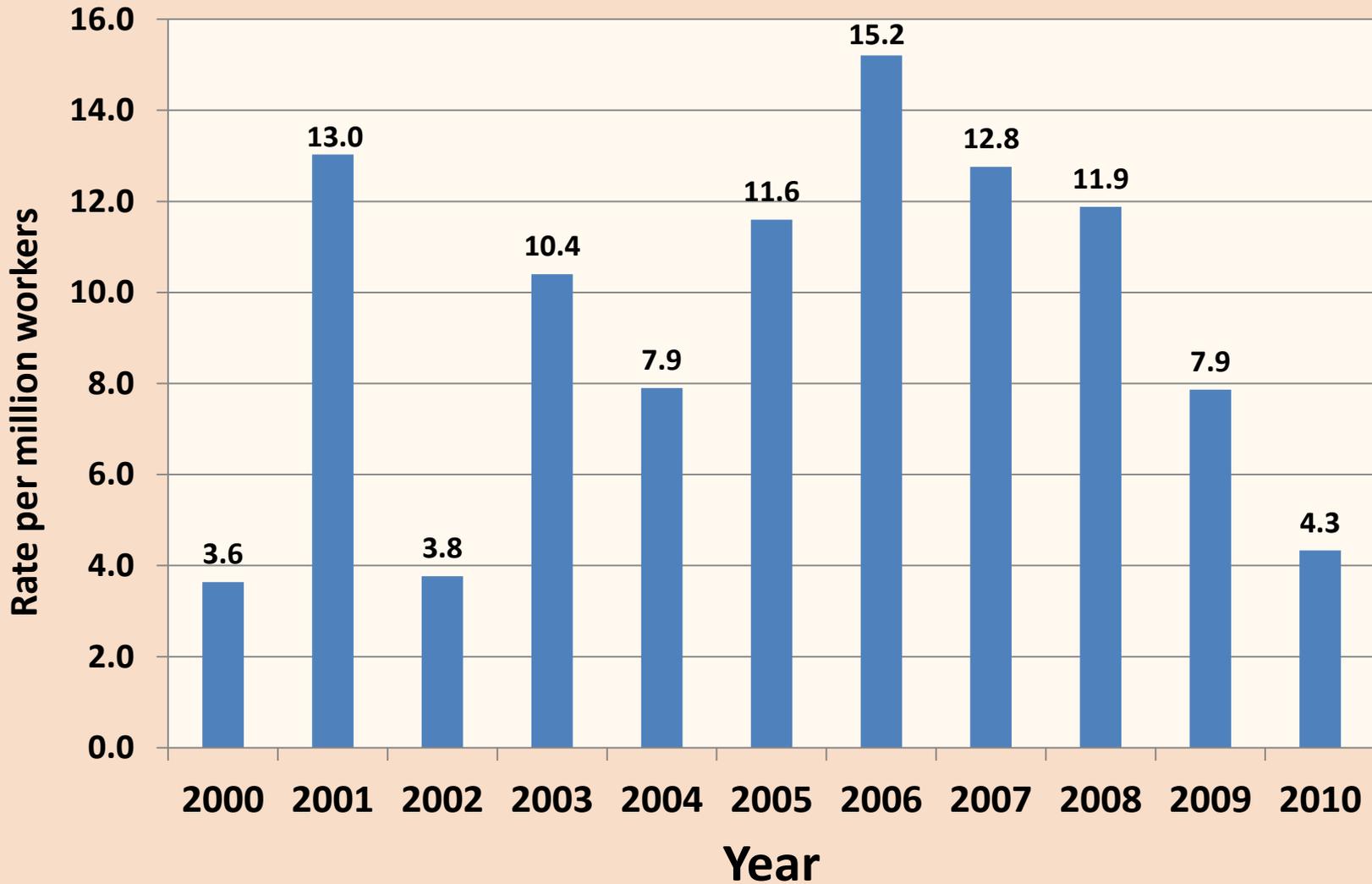
● Sterilizers

● Fungicides

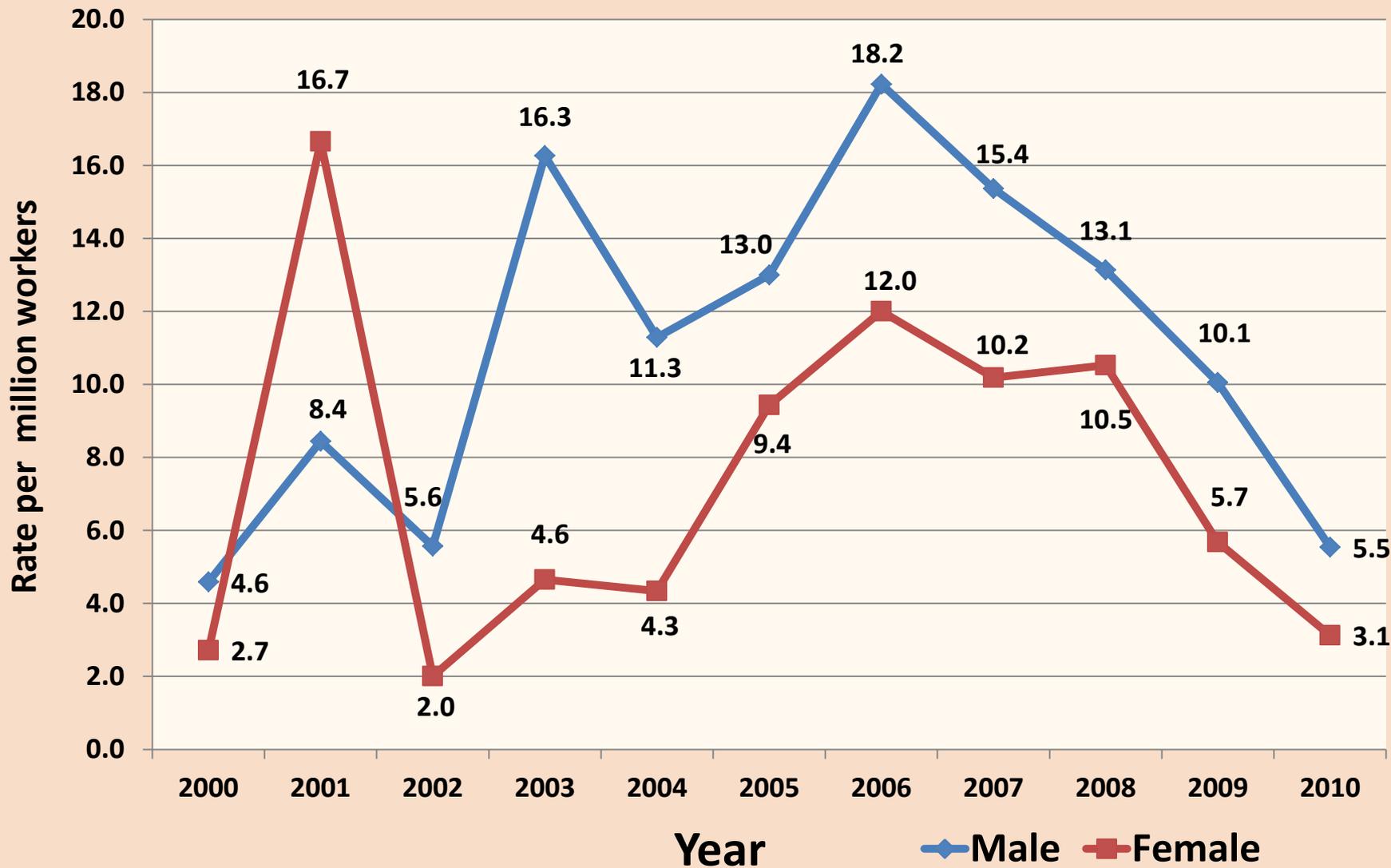
● Insecticides

● Rodenticides

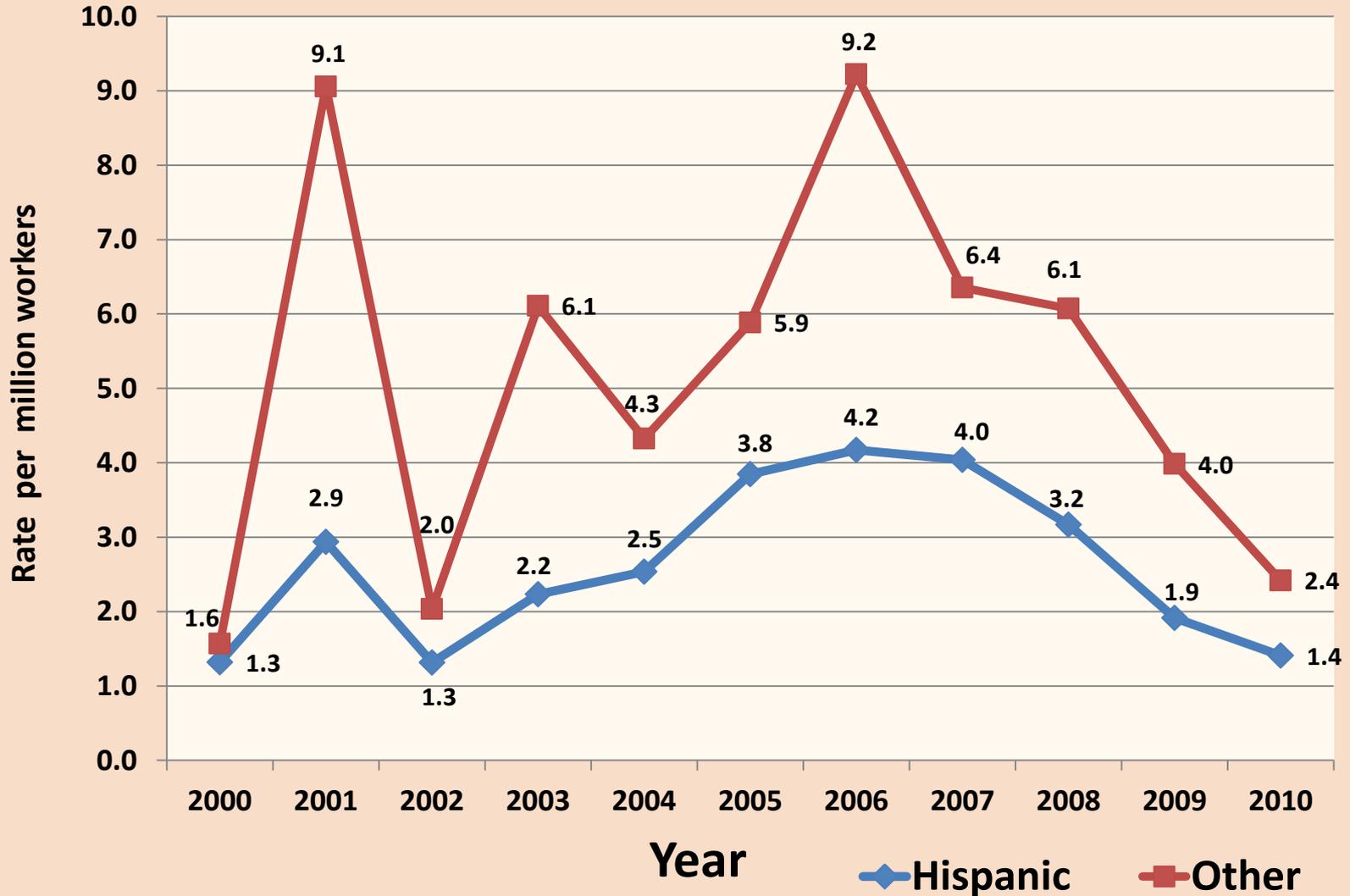
# Texas Pesticide Exposure Rate 2000 - 2010



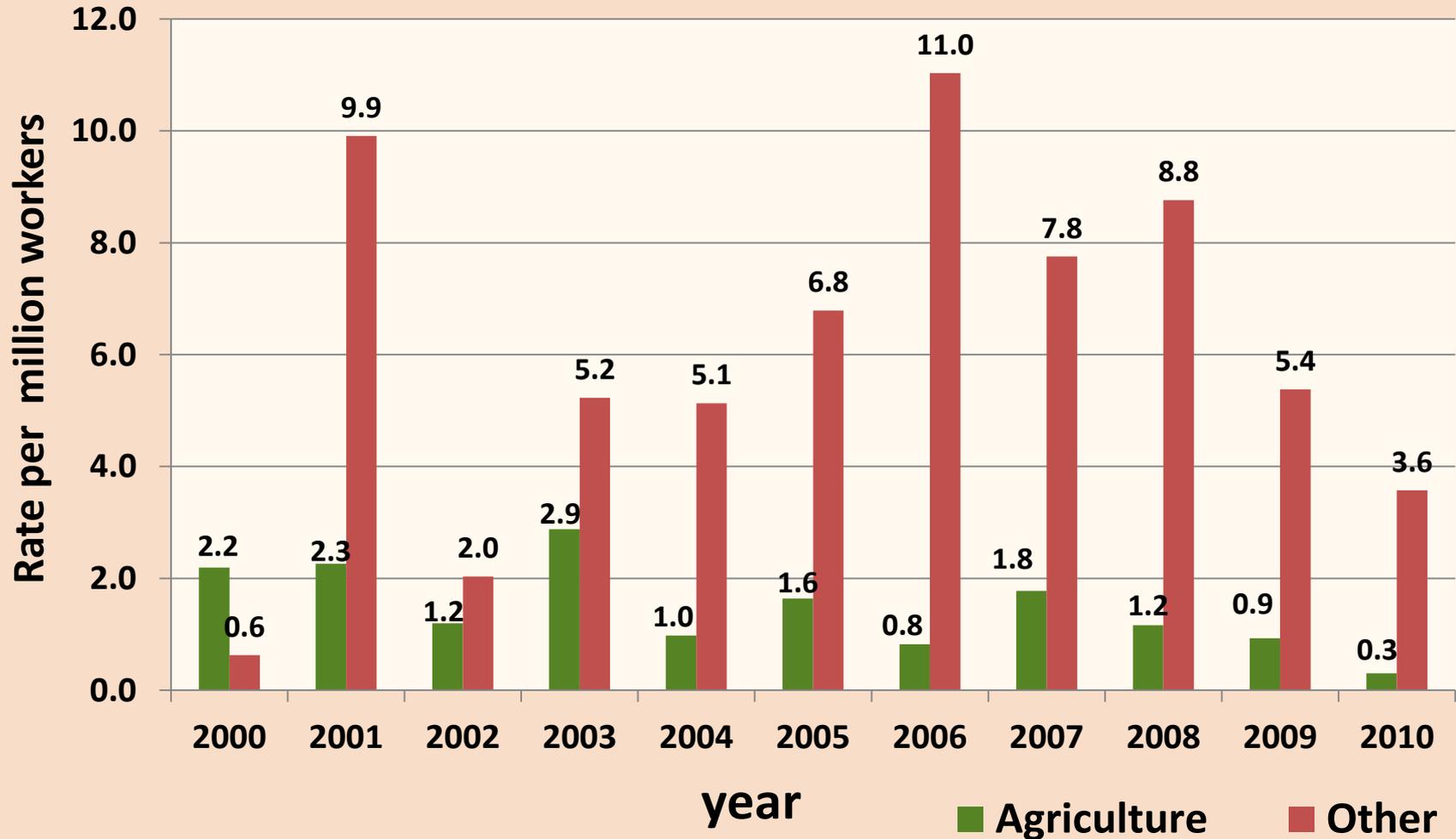
# Pesticide Exposure Rate by Gender Texas 2000 - 2010



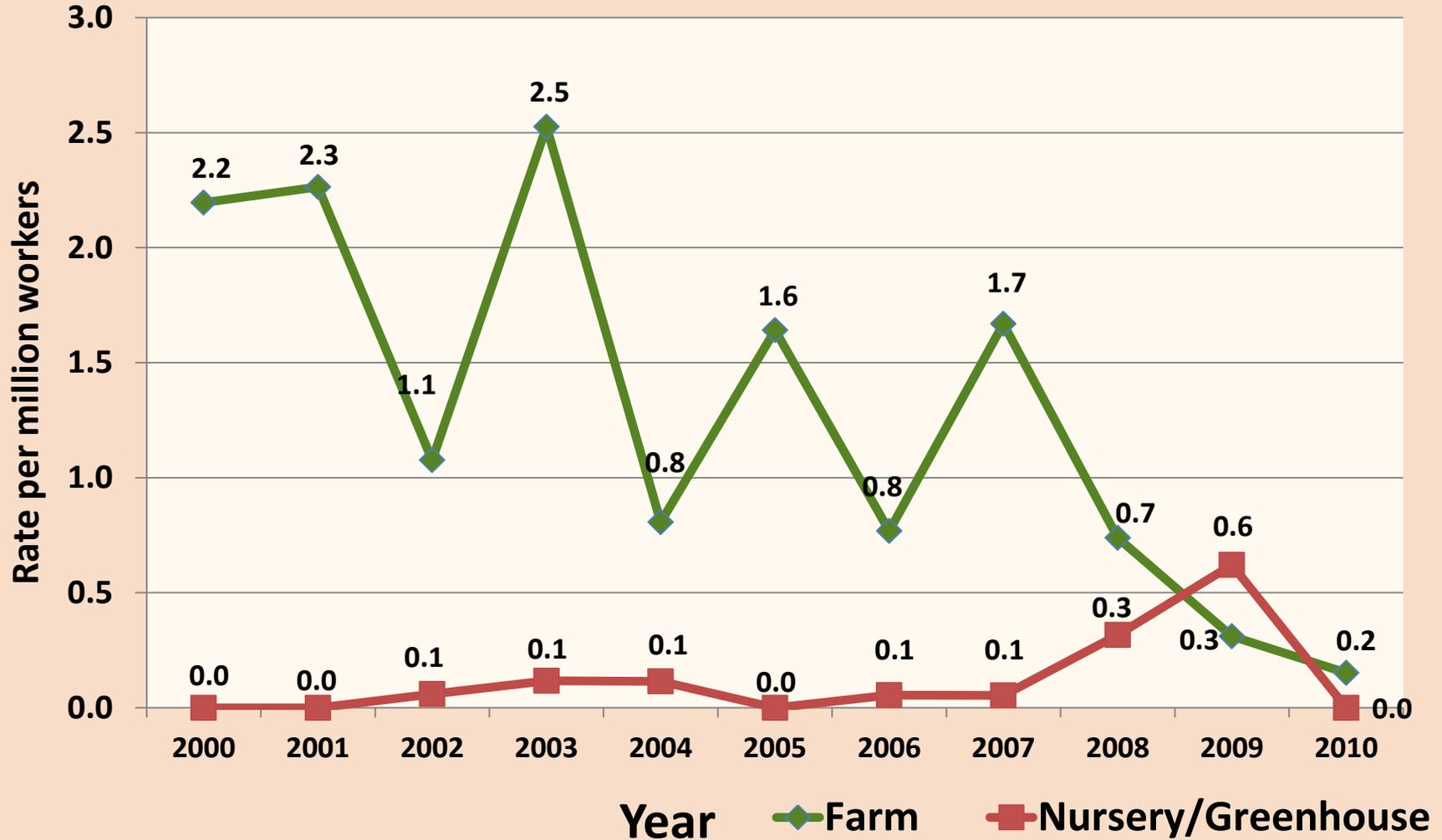
# Pesticide Exposure Rate by Ethnicity Texas 2000 - 2010



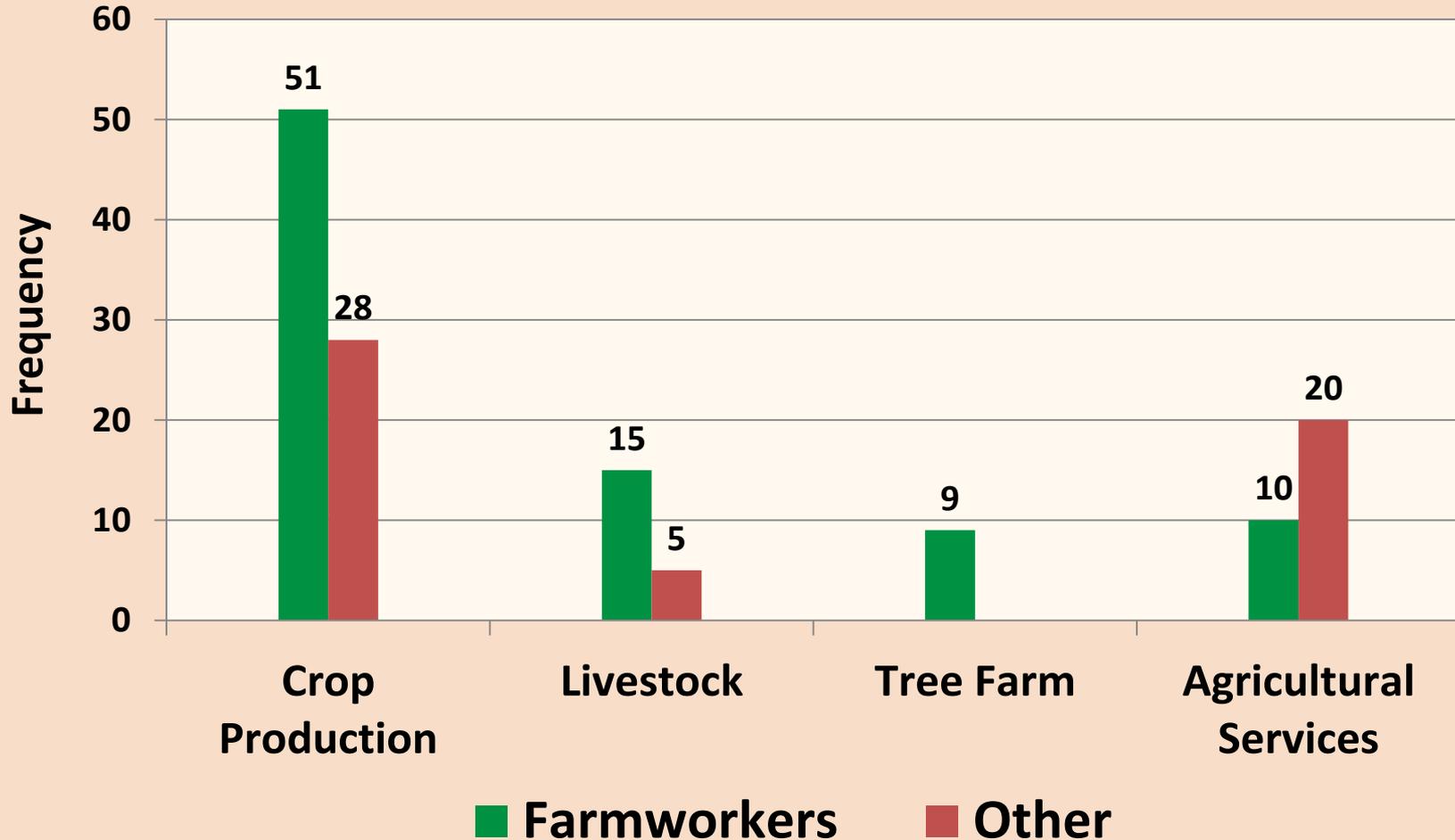
# Pesticide Exposure Rate by Agriculture – Other Industries Texas 2000 - 2010



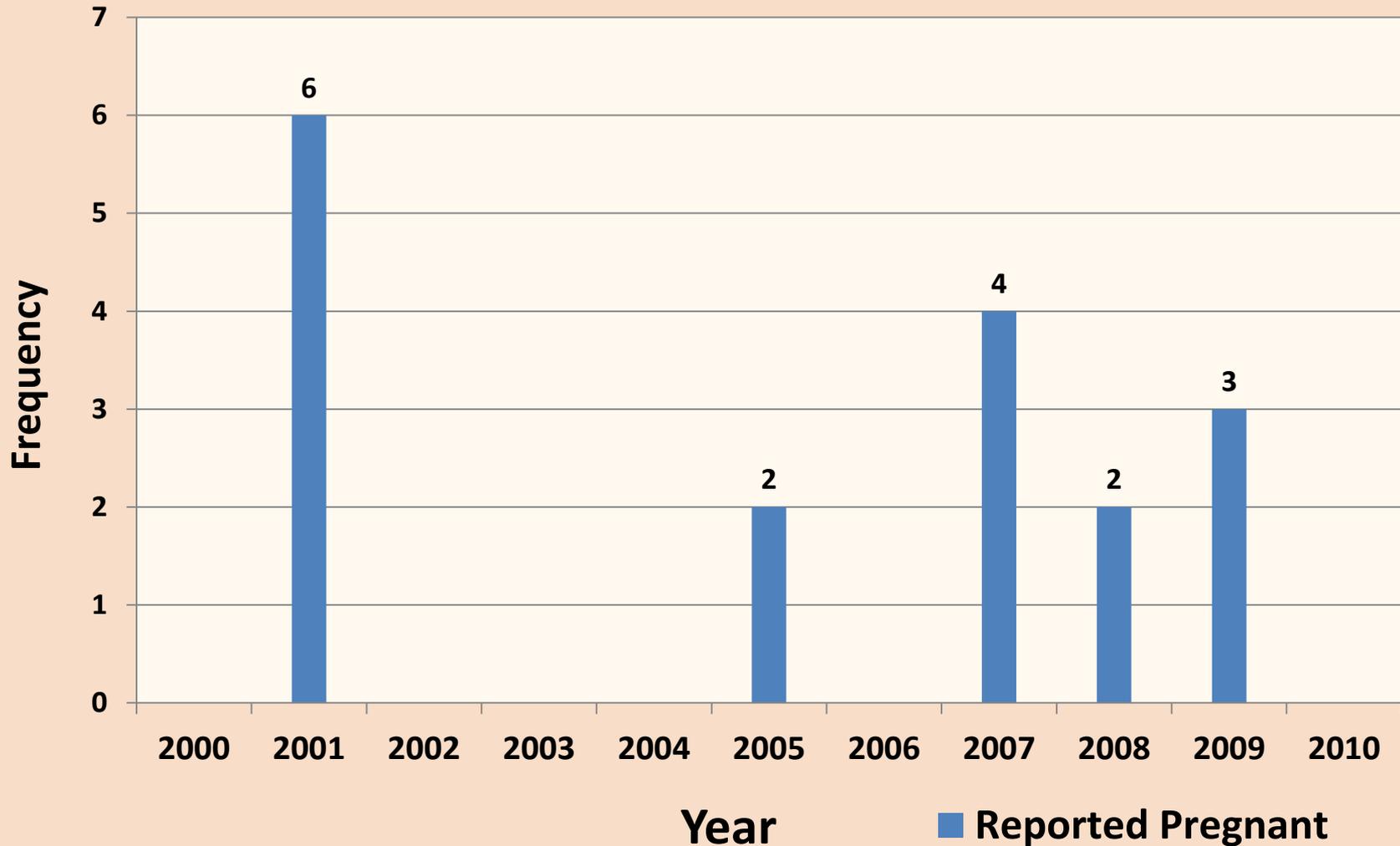
# Pesticide Exposure Rate by Agricultural Exposure by Location Texas 2000 - 2010



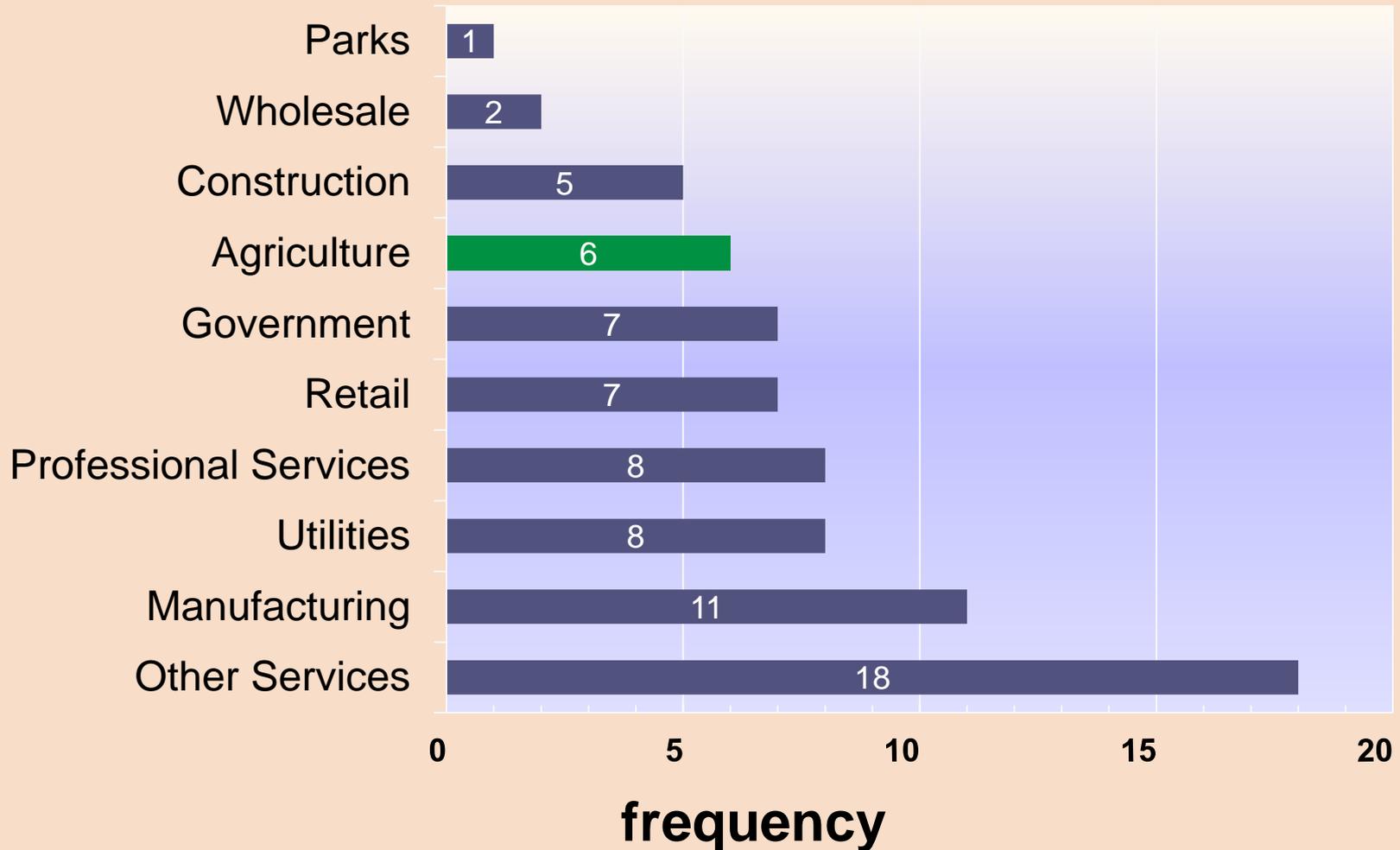
# Reported Cases in Agriculture by Farmworkers – Other 2000 - 2010



# Exposed Pregnant Texas 2000 - 2010



# Pesticide Exposure Cases by Industry Groups 2010



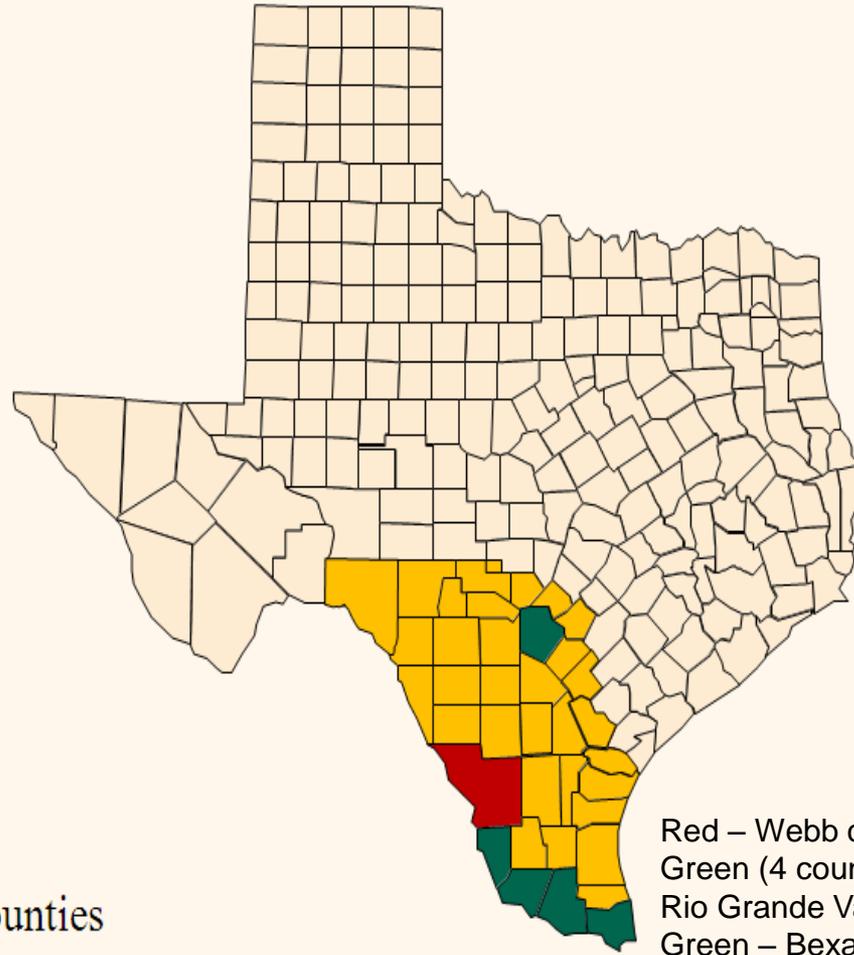
# South Texas – 38 Counties

## Pesticide Exposure Assessment

### 2006-2010

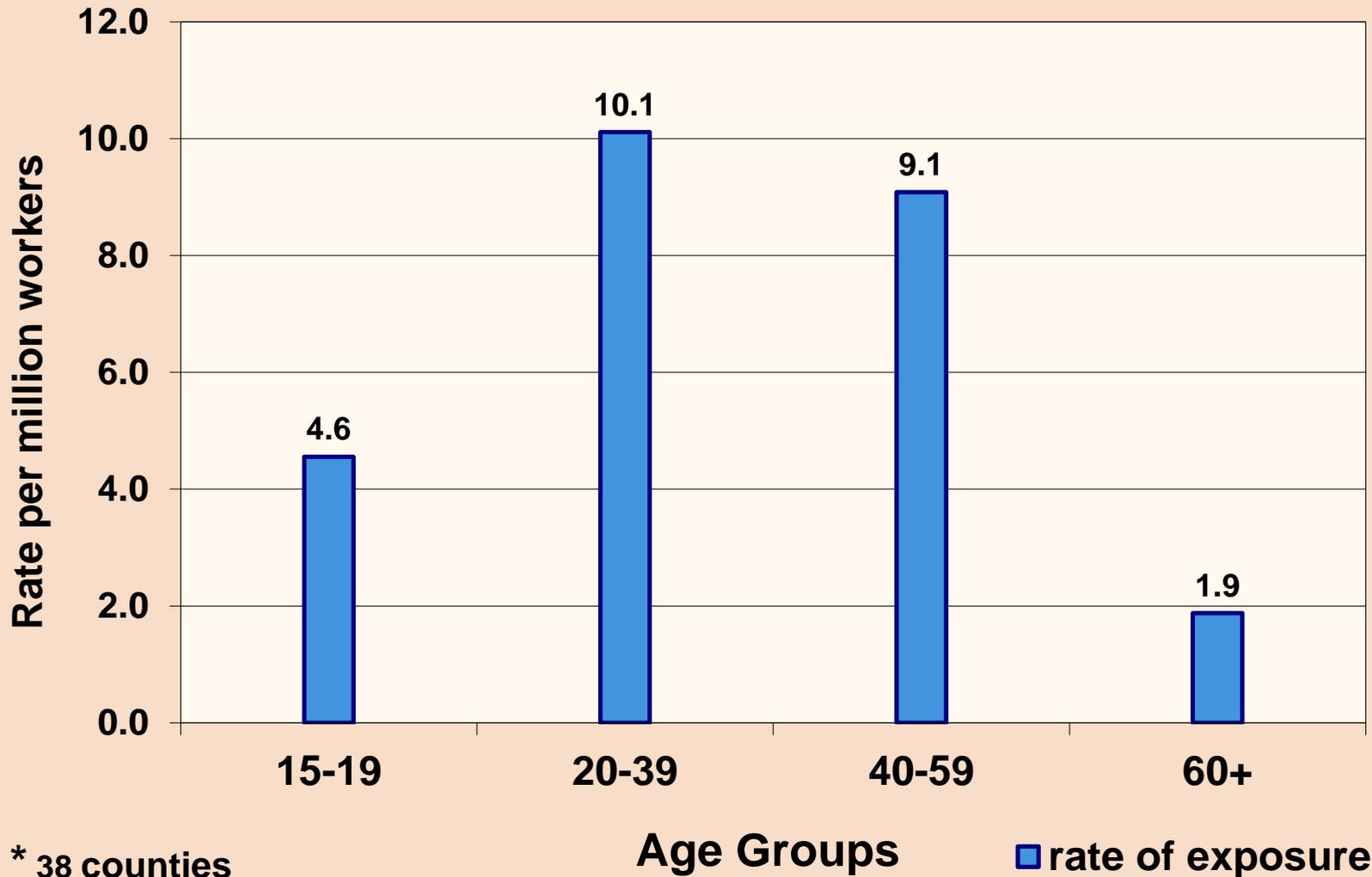
<b>Bandera</b>	<b>Gillespie</b>	<b>Kleberg</b>	<b>Uvalde</b>
<b>Bee</b>	<b>Guadalupe</b>	<b>La Salle</b>	<b>Val Verde</b>
<b>Bexar</b>	<b>Hidalgo</b>	<b>Live Oak</b>	<b>Webb</b>
<b>Brooks</b>	<b>Jim Hogg</b>	<b>Maverick</b>	<b>Willacy</b>
<b>Cameron</b>	<b>Jim Wells</b>	<b>McMullen</b>	<b>Wilson</b>
<b>Comal</b>	<b>Karnes</b>	<b>Medina</b>	<b>Zapata</b>
<b>Dimmit</b>	<b>Kendall</b>	<b>Nueces</b>	<b>Zavala</b>
<b>Duval</b>	<b>Kenedy</b>	<b>Real</b>	
<b>Edwards</b>	<b>Kerr</b>	<b>San Patricio</b>	

# South Texas\* Major Areas 2006 – 2010



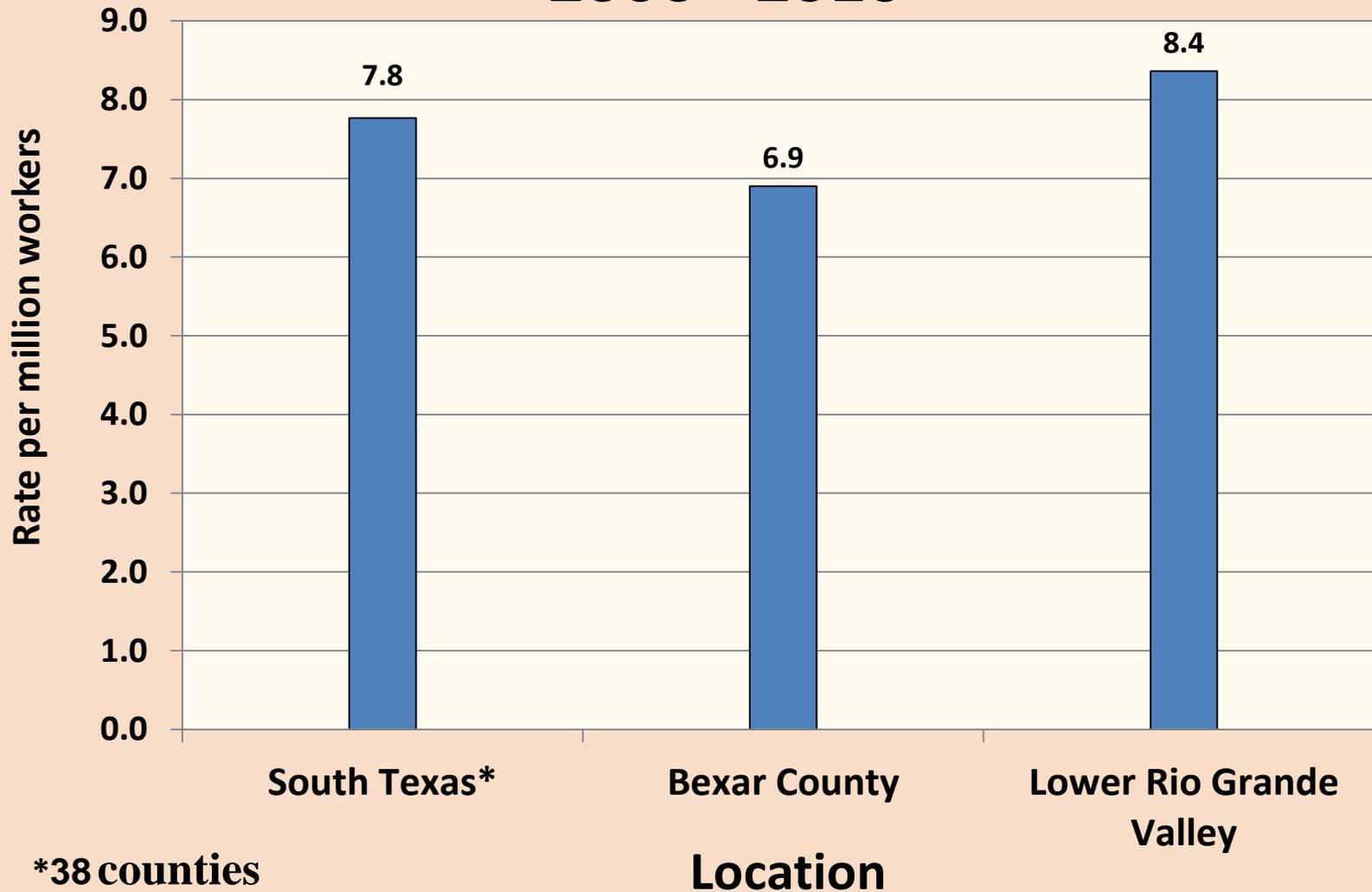
\*38 counties

# South Texas Pesticide Exposure Rate per Age Groups 2006 – 2010\*



\* 38 counties

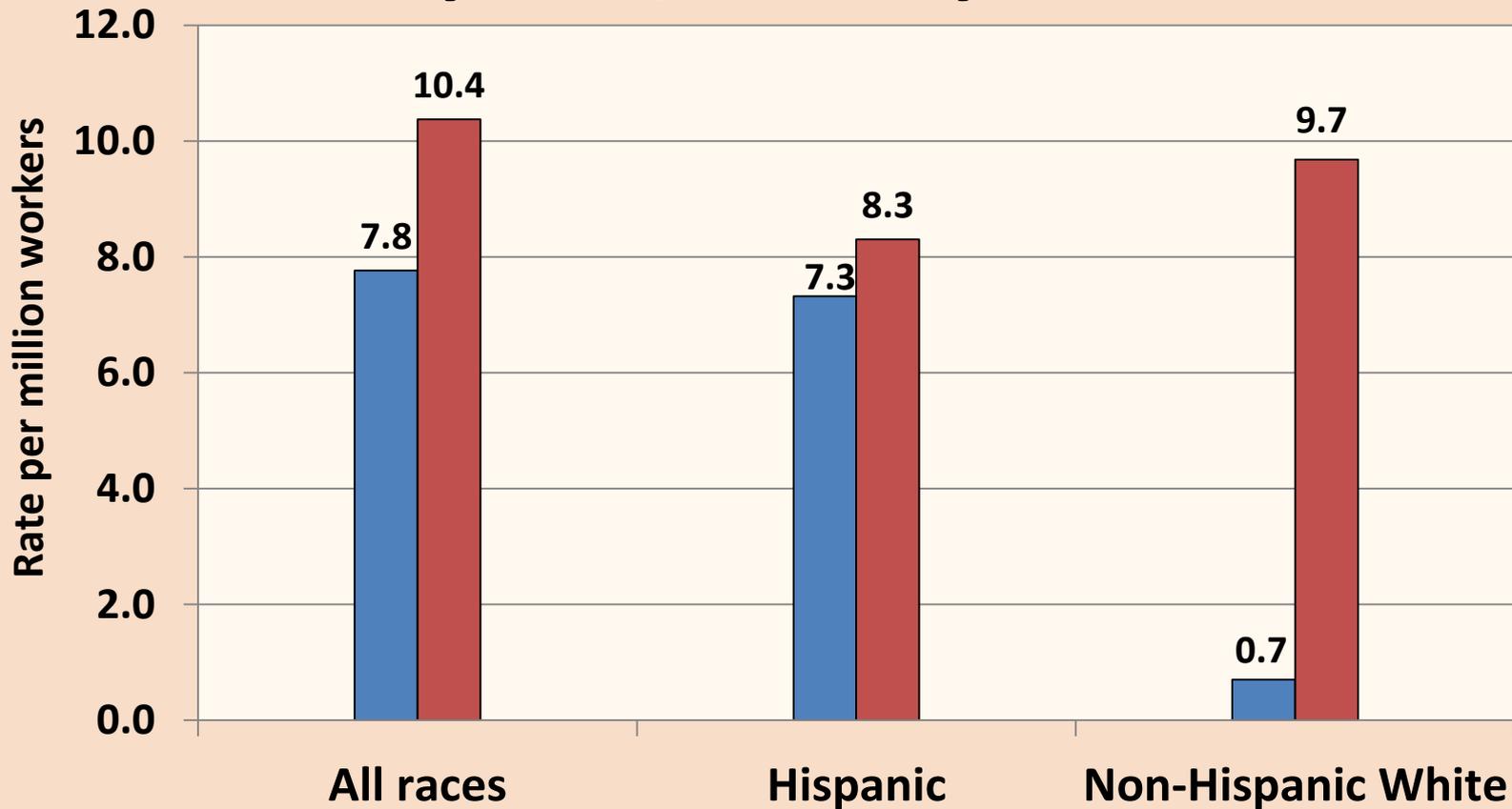
# South Texas\* Major Areas Pesticide Exposure Rate 2006 - 2010



# South Texas\* – Rest of Texas

## Pesticide Exposure Rate

### by Race/Ethnicity 2006-2010



\* 38 counties

■ South Texas

■ Rest of Texas

# Summary

- Reporting of pesticide exposure for agriculture remains low with marked underreporting for Texas farmworkers
- In general, industries outside of agriculture report pesticide exposure commensurate with pesticide usage typical to their industry
- Pesticide exposure reports for all industries, as a whole, has steadily declined since its peak in 2006
- Texas DSHS actively encourages and promotes reporting by healthcare providers and the various industry sectors

<http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/epitox>

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