

FY 2023 Pesticide Registration Improvement Act (PRIA) Annual Report

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Executive Summary

The Pesticide Registration Improvement Act, or PRIA, was first authorized in 2004 and created a registration service fee system to provide additional resources to the Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP) to achieve more predictable and faster registration decisions. PRIA provides two funding sources: 1) one-time registration service fees (i.e., PRIA fees) to evaluate new applications; and 2) annual Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) maintenance fees assessed to products currently in the marketplace and that mainly fund EPA's reevaluation of older chemicals under the registration review program. PRIA has been reauthorized four times, the most recent being the Pesticide Registration Improvement Act of 2022, or PRIA 5, which was signed into law December 29, 2022.

PRIA 5 extended authority for EPA to collect pesticide registration service fees and maintenance fees through fiscal year 2027. PRIA 5 also increased EPA's responsibilities, including establishing a bilingual pesticide labeling program, enhancing funding for farmworker protection and health clinician training programs, requiring development of Endangered Species Act (ESA) guidance for registrants, prioritizing upgrades to information technology systems, and directing process changes related to how EPA reviews fee for service actions.

Historically, fees authorized by PRIA provide about one third of pesticide program funding; the remaining two thirds come from annual appropriations. The funding is used to support EPA's FIFRA pesticide regulatory activities, including the review and registration of pesticide products and periodic reevaluation of existing pesticide registrations, and the establishment of maximum limits for pesticide residues in or on food and animal feed under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA). To ensure the balance between PRIA fees and appropriations funding is maintained, FIFRA prohibits EPA from assessing PRIA fees if the annual appropriation falls below \$166.0 million (i.e., the minimum appropriations trigger level). EPA's ability to meet PRIA 5 statutory timeframes for registration applications and registration review case completions, as well as fully implement the many provisions in PRIA 5, depends on both fees and pesticide program appropriations at the \$166 million level. In FY 2023, Congress appropriated \$138.6 million to support pesticide program activities, \$27.4 million dollars below the trigger level. The FY 2023 appropriation, however, also included language preserving EPA's ability to collect PRIA fees, even though funding was below the trigger level. Despite this lower level of funding, EPA continues to receive a high level of PRIA fee-for-service and non-PRIA applications, and thus continues to experience delays in completing regulatory determinations compared to the statutory timeframes due to this reduced funding.

Despite the budget constraints, EPA continues to improve its regulatory processes where possible. In FY 2023, for example, EPA reduced the number of outstanding PRIA and non-PRIA registration actions. Specifically, EPA began implementing a holistic strategy to address a non-PRIA backlog of pending actions and prevent future backlogs. This strategy includes (1) improving the efficiency of EPA's review of non-PRIA actions by obtaining better submissions from applicants through EPA outreach and training and implementing a partial label amendment review process, (2) reducing the number of new and pending submissions by working with registrants to withdraw applications no longer needed and consolidate new requests, and (3) increasing resources for non-PRIA work by establishing days for staff to focus only on that type of work. For example, working with industry, EPA piloted a new effort to close out notifications received prior to October 1, 2022, under Pesticide Registration Notice 98-10 as minor label or product formulation changes to reduce the backlog of those types of applications. As a

result, this effort reduced EPA’s notification backlog by over 2,000 actions, allowing EPA to focus its resources on more recent non-PRIA submissions. EPA also implemented an efficiency project to improve its success in receiving all required registration review labels within the prescribed 60-day timeframe after completion of the Interim or Final Registration Review Decision by sending the initial label letter from EPA to registrants within 20 business days of the Interim or Final Decision publication. The project reduced the time between the completion of an Interim or Final Decision and sending of the initial label letter to registrants by more than 70 percent, and an increase in the number of labels submitted on time. EPA’s continued work on its information technology (IT) modernization also offers opportunity for evaluating and streamlining existing processes and for improving access to and visualization of the workflow. These improvements cannot make up for the resources constraints but will lessen the impacts of the budget shortfalls.

Along with the increase in minimum appropriations and fees, PRIA 5 requires the Agency to meet several milestones reflecting substantial changes to the registration processes. In FY 2023, EPA made significant and timely progress on PRIA 5 milestones, including:

- Conducting significant outreach to and seeking feedback from a broad array of stakeholders—including farmworkers and farmworker advocacy groups, the National Environmental Justice Advisory Council, the Pesticide Program Dialogue Committee, pesticide companies, states, and EPA regions—on implementation of bilingual pesticide labeling including improving accessibility to farmworkers;
- Providing required funding through an interagency agreement between EPA and CDC/NIOSH to support the SENSOR program to monitor incidents of occupational pesticide-related injury and illness;
- Publishing a Notice of Funding Opportunity in June 2023 and reviewing applications for the PRIA set-aside “partnership grant” that will be awarded in early 2024 to fund the National Pesticide Information Center, which responds to public inquiries about pesticide issues such as pesticide use and health effects;
- Centralizing more than 1,000 pesticide guidance documents related to pesticide regulation and pesticide-related resources on a new webpage, featuring an easy-to-use search tool;
- Implementing efficiency and transparency improvements to EPA’s review of fee-related actions, most notably those relating to the renegotiation of PRIA due dates;
- Providing farmworker training and education grants through existing cooperative agreements, including subawards to non-profit, community-based organizations;
- Publishing a Request for Information to solicit stakeholder input on the program design for the Health Care Provider Training cooperative agreement Notice of Funding Opportunity;
- Issuing guidance to improve the efficiency of EPA’s ESA analyses for new conventional pesticide active ingredient applications and active ingredients undergoing registration review, as well as guidance for review of new outdoor uses of conventional pesticides;
- Awarding a new five-year cooperative agreement for the Pesticide Safety Education Program (PSEP), which includes environmental justice components such as collaboration between PSEPs and minority serving institutions and translation of pesticide safety materials;

- Successfully migrating all divisions within OPP into the new information technology (IT) workflow on the Salesforce platform, thus meeting IT upgrade requirements specified in PRIA 5;
- Establishing the Vector Expedited Review Voucher program that incentivizes the development and submission of applications for new insecticides to control the spread of vector-borne disease; and
- Establishing a process for sharing EPA’s review of studies, known as data evaluation records, with the applicant at the time of the regulatory decision.

For FY 2024, appropriations for the pesticide program are approximately \$132.5 million, reducing EPA’s budget for the pesticide program by approximately \$6 million from FY 2023, and over \$38 million below the President’s budget request of \$170.6 million. As in FY 2023, this funding level falls below the appropriations trigger and Congress again included language preserving EPA’s ability to collect PRIA fees, even though funding was below the trigger level. The reduction means that OPP will need to reduce the size of its office by as many as 30 full-time equivalents (FTE) or significantly cut its contract support. Despite PRIA 5 fees, the reduced appropriation level will mean additional delays in processing pesticide registration applications and completing registration review cases. Further, the FY 2023 pesticide registration service fee collections and FY 2024 PRIA fee collections to date are significantly less than anticipated (by about \$6 million), leaving EPA with even fewer resources than expected. With lower than anticipated resources in FY 2023 and FY 2024, EPA is unlikely to improve its ability to routinely meet the review timeframes envisioned by pesticide stakeholders and Congress with the passage of PRIA 5.

Pesticide Registration Service Fee Actions

Section 33(k)(1)(B)(i) of the FIFRA requires that, to the extent practicable, EPA provide data for each fee for service action that is completed during the fiscal year covered by the report or pending at the conclusion of that fiscal year, organized by registering division. The following data are to be provided:

- Action code
- Application receipt date
- Tracking number assigned at time of submission in the Pesticide Submission Portal
- PRIA due date assigned to the action based on the statutory decision time-frame
- Renegotiated due date(s) and the dates those renegotiated dates were approved, if applicable
- Reasons for renegotiation, if applicable
- If submission recoded, reassigned code and date of recode, if applicable
- Completion date, if completed
- Status of action (e.g., completed, pending, rejected, withdrawn)
- Reason for denial or do not grant decision, if applicable

EPA is in the middle of a multiyear upgrade to its IT systems for tracking and reviewing applications. PRIA fee for service applications in Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 were reviewed both in EPA’s legacy

workflow tracking system, OPPIN, and its new workflow tracking system in the Salesforce platform. Actions handled by the Antimicrobials Division (AD) and the Biopesticides and Pollution Prevention Division (BPPD) were handled in the new platform. Actions handled by the Registration Division (RD)—including conventional pesticide products, inert ingredient petitions, and the majority of PRIA actions under the Miscellaneous categories—were handled in OPPIN.

EPA is able to provide the required information for most but not all of the required data. EPA is unable to provide some of the data because the data are not captured in OPPIN or functionality to track in and report from the new workflow platform has not yet been developed. Specifically, for individual applications, EPA is unable to provide information on 1) electronic tracking ID from the Pesticide Submission Portal for PRIA actions captured in OPPIN; 2) application receipt date for some actions in the new workflow platform; and 3) recoding information from either system. “Do not grant” reasons are not currently captured in the new workflow platform, but there were no decisions in this category in FY 2023 for AD or BPPD. Once all of the Office of Pesticide Program’s (OPP) legacy information and registration workflow have migrated to the new platform and full tracking ability and visual displays for the new annual reporting requirements have been developed, EPA will be able to fully address the annual reporting requirements relating to screens of applications. EPA is hopeful that this development will occur in FY 2024 such that EPA can fully report on these metrics in the FY 2024 annual report, but cuts in IT contract funding due to resource constraints in FY 2024 would delay that development.

FY 2023 Completions

EPA completed 1,787 actions subject to PRIA during FY 2023. The breakouts of these completions are provided in Table 1 below, and the number of completions by category, along with average time exceedance (in days) for each category, is found in [Table I](#) in Appendix A. Table 2 provides the number of actions within the decision review time period and the number of actions completed past the statutory decision time period (late).

Table 1: FY 2023 PRIA Completions by PRIA Category Type

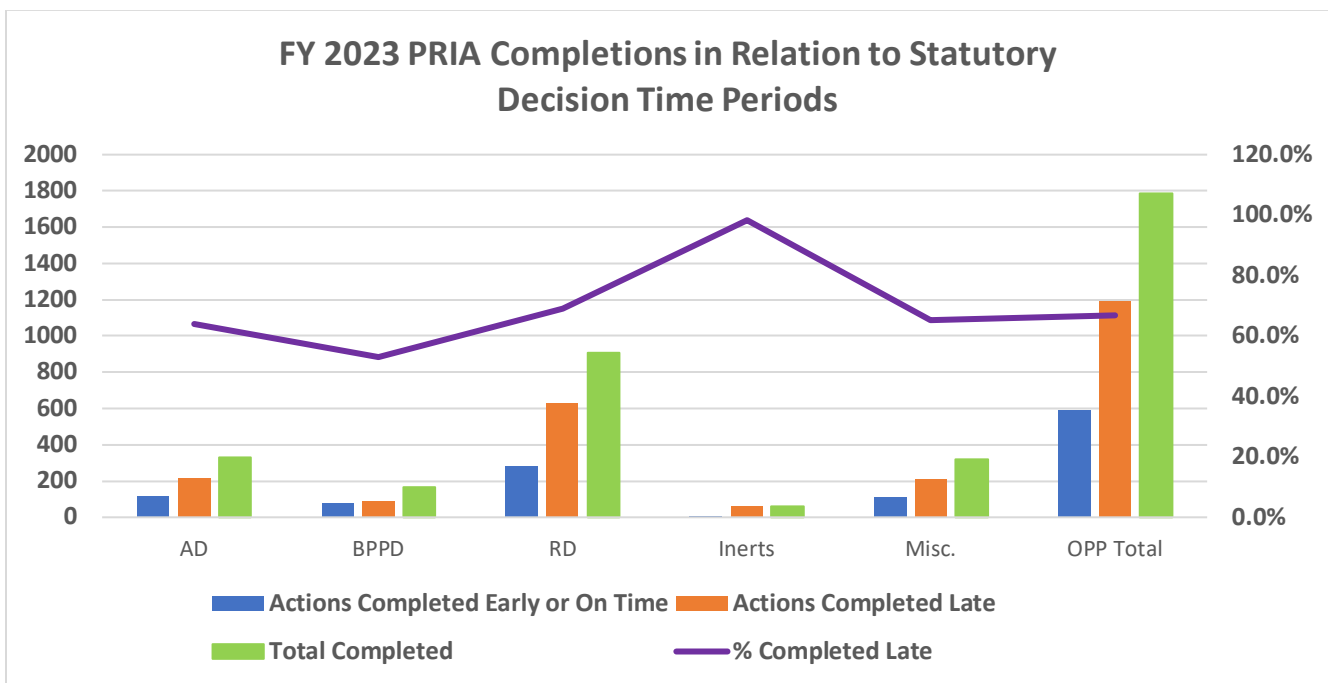
	A Codes	B Codes	R Codes	Inerts	Misc.	OPP Total
Overall Completions	332	166	908	59	322	1,787
Withdrawn/Rejected for Non-Payment	--	2	1	--	--	3
Withdrawn/Rejected in 21-day Completeness Screen	--	--	--	--	--	--
Withdrawn/Rejected in Preliminary Tech Screen	3/1	5/3	3/2	--	1/0	12/6
Withdrawn	25	17	99	4	3	148

Table 2: FY 2023 PRIA Completions Early or On Time vs. Past Statutory Decision Time Period

PRIA Category Type	Completed Early/On Time	Completed Late	Total Completed	% Completed Late

A Codes	120	166	332	64%
B Codes	78	88	166	53%
R Codes	281	627	908	69%
Inerts	1	58	59	98%
Miscellaneous	112	210	322	65%
OPP Total	25	17	1,787	67%

In FY 2023, 67 percent of all PRIA applications were completed after their statutory decision time periods. Looking across divisions and pesticide category types (Inerts, Miscellaneous categories), these percentages ranged from 54 percent (B codes) to 98 percent (inert ingredient petitions). This measure is replacing EPA’s previous approach of reporting “on-time” completions as including PRIA actions whose decision timeframes had been renegotiated out further than the statutory decision review time period. FY 2023 was an atypical year in that resources were going towards PRIA 5 implementation as well as preparation for the migration of the rest of the PRIA workload into the Salesforce platform, but these results also reflect serious resource challenges that exist for OPP, as mentioned in the Executive Summary.



Files for individual PRIA actions completed in FY 2023 are as follows:

- [AD PRIA Completed FY23.xlsx](#)
- [BPPD PRIA Completed FY23.xlsx](#)
- [RD PRIA Completed FY23.xlsx](#)

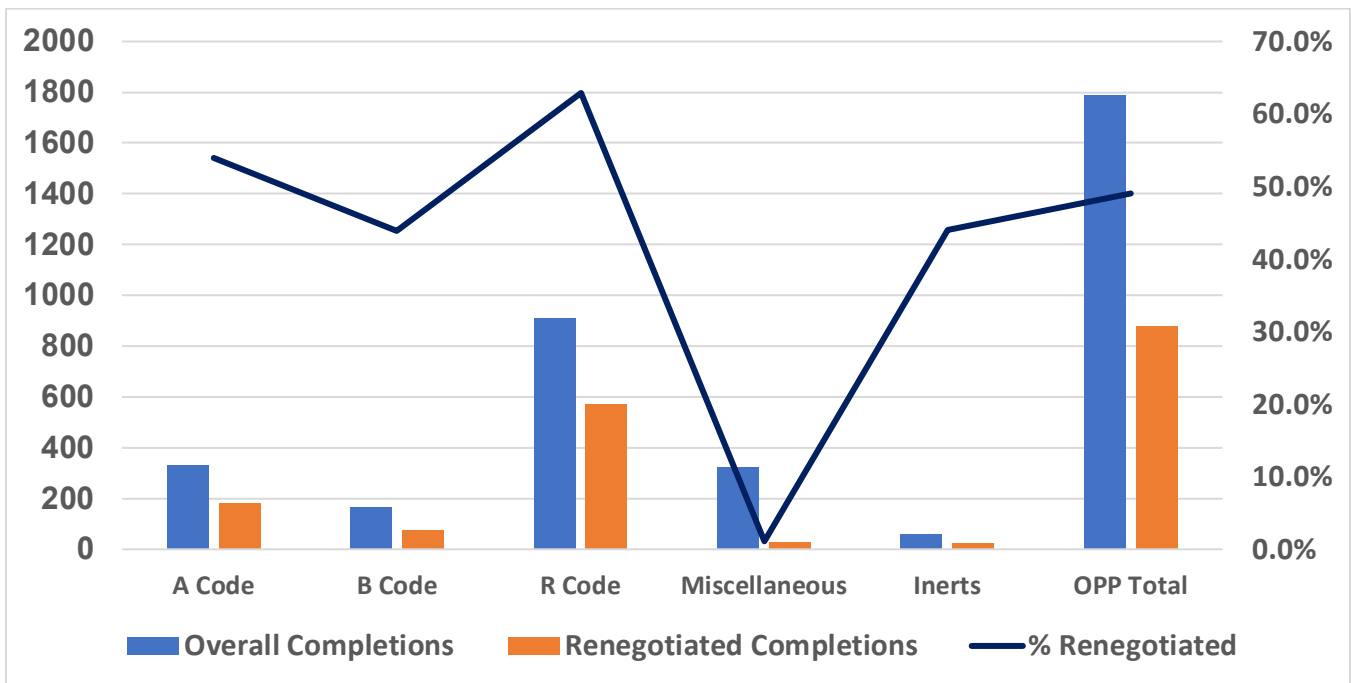
Renegotiation of the PRIA due date

The passage of PRIA 5 in December 2022 changed the circumstances under which decision review time periods can be extended through negotiation of the due date. Prior to PRIA 5, there were no limitations on reasons for renegotiation as long as the renegotiation was mutually agreed to by both EPA and the applicant. Because PRIA 5 limited the reasons for renegotiations, EPA sharply curtailed renegotiations beginning in the spring of 2023 as it implemented a new renegotiation process that was consistent with PRIA 5 requirements. A flow chart diagram of this process is included further down in the PRIA Process Changes section on page 8. However, many of the PRIA actions completed in FY 2023 had already been renegotiated prior to the enactment of PRIA 5 and full implementation of these new requirements across the registering divisions. Renegotiation rates described in Table 3 below partially reflect these earlier renegotiations.

Table 3: FY 2023 Actions Renegotiated and Percentage of Overall Completions

	A Codes	B Codes	R Codes	Inerts	Misc.	OPP Total
Overall Completions	332	166	908	59	322	1,787
Completions that were Renegotiated	179	73	572	26	29	879
Percentage of Completions Renegotiated	53.9%	43.9%	62.9%	44%	1.1%	49.1%

FY 2023 Renegotiations by PRIA Category Type



Number of PRIA Applications Pending at the End of FY 2023

Table 4 summarizes the pending registration applications (counted as decisions) in each of the PRIA categories as required by FIFRA section 33(k)(1)(B)(i). As of September 30, 2023, there were 1,755 actions subject to PRIA that were pending in the agency’s registration queue.

Table 4: PRIA Applications Pending as of the End of FY 2023

PRIA Category Type	# of Pending Actions as of 9/30/23
R	1,124
A	223
B	217
I	35
M	156
OPP Total	1,755

Pending actions for RD (R code and Inert Ingredient actions), AD, and BPPD are captured from the Salesforce platform in the “Salesforce PRIA Pending End of FY23.xlsx” file; Miscellaneous (M code) actions are captured from OPPIN in the “RD Miscellaneous Pending PRIA End of FY23.xlsx” file. Files for individual PRIA Actions pending as of the end of FY 2023 are as follows:

- [Salesforce PRIA Pending End of FY23.xlsx](#)
- [RD Miscellaneous Pending PRIA End of FY23.xlsx](#)

The number of PRIA actions pending, by category, as of September 30, 2023, is found in [Table II](#) in Appendix A.

Denial or Do Not Grant Decisions

FIFRA section 33(k)(1)(B)(i)(X) requires that EPA, to the extent practicable, provide a summary of the reason for any denial or do not grant decision, if applicable. There were three PRIA applications denied in FY 2023, all for inert ingredient actions. Thirty-one conventional PRIA applications were closed out with a “Do Not Grant” determination, which closes the PRIA action but keeps the registration or amendment application itself pending. Deficiencies are communicated to the registrant, which is provided the opportunity to submit additional information for review so that EPA can make a determination on the application. Thirty of these were R code actions and one of these was an inert ingredient action. There were no Antimicrobial Division (AD) or Biopesticide and Pollution Prevention Division (BPPD) PRIA actions closed out with Do Not Grant determinations in FY 2023.

The most common reasons for Do Not Grant determinations in FY 2023 were as follows:

- No evidence that active ingredient (a.i.) source is being purchased from the stated supplier and that source of a.i. was used in product chemistry studies supporting the application;
- Guideline study(ies) deficient;

- Guideline study(ies) not submitted or cited;
- Submission of product chemistry data that did not match the composition of the formulated product; and
- Risk concerns not addressed by additional data/information from registrant.

A spreadsheet listing the PRIA applications for which a Do Not Grant determination was made and Do Not Grant letter sent, including the reasons(s) for the determination, is included as [Table III](#) in Appendix A. In addition to the 31 actions close out with the “Do Not Grant” determination, additional actions are included in this spreadsheet which were withdrawn by the applicant or closed as being superseded by another submission.

Implementation of PRIA Process Changes

FIFRA section 33(k)(1)(B)(i)(XII) requires that EPA, to the extent practicable, provide a review of progress made by EPA in carrying out each requirement of FIFRA sections 33(e) and (f), including recommendations for the allowance and use of summaries of acute toxicity studies.

Avoiding Overpayment when Multiple Categories Applied

FIFRA section 33(e) addresses EPA efforts to identify and evaluate reforms to the pesticide registration process with the goal of reducing decision time periods for fee for service actions, as well as efforts by EPA to develop and implement a process to determine the appropriate fee category or categories for an application that qualifies for more than one category to assist applicants and prevent unnecessary payment of fees for multiple categories.

In FY 2023, EPA began identifying scenarios where multiple fee for service categories are applied to a single application. Most commonly, this occurs when multiple amendments are requested on a single proposed label. An example is a proposal to add a new use to a registered product label (e.g., R170) concurrent with a proposed label amendment requiring science review with an associated amendment of an established tolerance (e.g., R298). Another scenario where multiple codes can be applied is when new active ingredients or new use submissions require review across registering divisions. While the M005 category exists for new products which require cross divisional review, these combination categories do not exist for new uses or new active ingredients.

EPA has historically used the discretionary refund provision of PRIA to avoid overcharging an applicant based on the activity being requested. Under FIFRA section 33(b)(8)(C), EPA has discretionary authority to issue a partial refund (up to 75 percent) of the registration service fee for one the following reasons:

- In reviewing the application, EPA has considered data submitted in support of another pesticide registration application;
- EPA has completed portions of the review of the application before the effective date of section 33 of FIFRA; or
- EPA has rejected the application under the initial content or preliminary technical screen.

The first condition is the most common for a discretionary refund. The primary/secondary [guidance](#) provided on EPA's PRIA webpage is an example of the discretionary refund provision being used up front to reduce a fee when the first condition is met.

As part of conversations with industry counterparts in the development and review of PRIA category interpretations, industry trade groups highlighted certain scenarios where they perceive overpayment to be occurring. As a result of those discussions, EPA developed internal guidance on coding, for certain scenarios, to address the scenarios.

EPA will continue identifying and evaluating reforms to the pesticide registration process as part of and outside of its digital transformation effort.

Recoding, Renegotiation, and Additional Preliminary Technical Screen Requirements

FIFRA Section 33(f) goes over the calculation of decision time review periods. New requirements introduced by PRIA 5 include:

- rules around the recoding of PRIA applications by EPA (including recoding of an application which was submitted under a reduced risk action code but was determined by EPA to not qualify and is therefore recoded);
- specific activities that EPA shall include in the preliminary technical screen;
- conditions under which EPA and the applicant can pursue negotiation of the decision time review period; and
- prioritization of applications for which the decision time review period is missed or extended.

Reduced Risk Determinations

FIFRA section 33(f)(4)(B)(iv) was amended by PRIA 5 to require that EPA determine whether an application qualifies as reduced risk within the preliminary technical screen period of 90 days from the fee for service start date. Furthermore, PRIA 5 also specifies that if the application for a reduced risk new active ingredient or a reduced risk new use is determined not to qualify as reduced risk, the applicant shall pay the difference in fee for the corresponding non-reduced risk application and the new decision time review period for the non-reduced risk category will be based on the submission date of the original application.

In FY 2023, EPA did not experience a scenario where an application submitted under a "reduced risk" PRIA category and decision time frame was denied "reduced risk" status and therefore was recoded to the counterpart non-reduced risk PRIA category. If this had occurred, EPA processes were adjusted in FY 2023 after the passage of PRIA 5 such that reviewers are aware that the new PRIA timeframe would be calculated from the submission due date.

EPA experienced delays in the front end-processing of PRIA applications in FY 2023. As such, while the reduced risk process was revised such that the committee meeting on the reduced risk application should occur before the conclusion of the preliminary technical screen, it is possible that this did not occur for all PRIA actions for which reduced risk status was requested. As part of the workflow development for

the new IT system, EPA will develop the ability to track when reduced risk determinations are made in relation to the preliminary technical screen due date and report those metrics.

Data Waiver Determinations

PRIA 5 also amended FIFRA section 33(f)(4)(B)(iv) to require that EPA grant or deny any data waiver request submitted with a covered application as part of the preliminary technical screen. EPA is developing the capacity in its workflow tracking system to report on data waiver completion dates in relation to the preliminary technical screen due date. EPA expects to have this functionality in place for the FY 2024 annual report. In general, EPA has not been able to complete waiver determinations before the due date for the preliminary technical screen and expects this will continue to be a challenge, especially if EPA continues to be funded below the minimum appropriation level specified in PRIA 5.

Recoding of PRIA Applications

PRIA 5 amended FIFRA section 33(f)(4)(B)(iv) to require that EPA verify and validate the accuracy of the fee category selected by the applicant and notify the applicant, in writing, if a new or different fee category is required. Additionally, if a new category is required, the new decision review time is to be calculated based on the original submission date. In FY 2023, EPA began to assess compliance with the requirement that PRIA actions be recoded prior to the conclusion of the preliminary technical screen, where appropriate. Some later recoding of PRIA actions occur based on the submission of additional information by applicants or following a partial analysis of the application. Additionally, delays in front-end processing of PRIA actions in FY 2023 presented a challenge to the registering divisions when applications were not received from the front end until near to or after the preliminary technical screen due date. EPA did implement the provision to the extent that the decision timeframe of a recoded application would be based on the original submission date.

Section 33(4)(4)(B)(i)(III) specifies that the fee category for a covered application may not be changed, without providing the information to the applicant, after completion of the preliminary technical screen.

In FY 2023, EPA began developing guidance regarding these provisions. Guidance will be finalized in FY 2024, but in the absence of such guidance, recoding past the preliminary technical screen was generally avoided last fiscal year after the enactment of PRIA 5.

Renegotiation Process Changes

PRIA 5 amended the language of FIFRA section 33(f)(5) to introduce specific requirements for when EPA and the applicant can renegotiate a decision review time period, with mutual agreement, in writing. The only two scenarios under which renegotiation is allowed are:

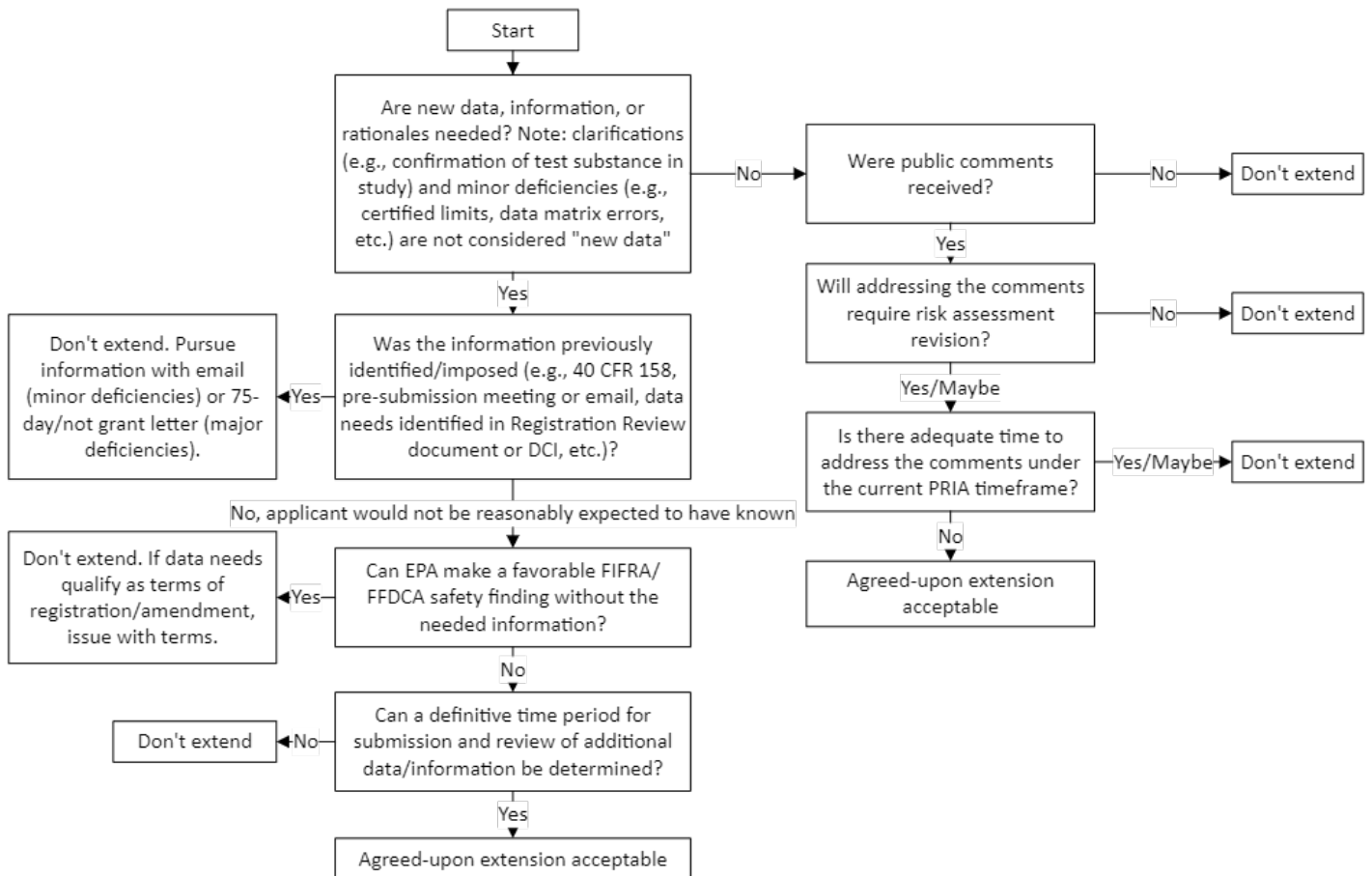
- There is new or additional data or information from the applicant that is necessary for EPA to make a decision on the application that cannot be made available within the original decision time review period; and
- A public comment period associated with the application generates significant comments that cannot be addressed within the original decision time review period.

Prior to PRIA 5, renegotiations could be pursued for any reason that was mutually agreed upon between EPA and the applicant.

In FY 2023, guidance was developed and implemented across the registering divisions. EPA no longer pursues renegotiation with the applicant of the decision review time period for reasons other than those specified in the law.

The following chart demonstrates the decision logic which has been implemented across the registering divisions regarding the decision on whether renegotiation is available or not for the application.

Renegotiation Decision Flow Diagram



Registration Review

The FY 2023 Consolidated Appropriations Act set a new deadline of October 1, 2026, for completing the first round of registration review. There are 789 registration review cases due by October 1, 2026 – 726 cases carried forward and 63 new active ingredients were registered after FY 2007 with registration review due dates before October 2026.

Of the 789 registration review cases, as of the end of FY 2023 there were:

- 717 cases (or 91 percent) for which draft risk assessments are completed (71 remain)
- 618 cases (or 78 percent) for which final or interim decisions are completed (171 remain)

FIFRA section 33(k)(1)(B)(i)(XIII) requires that EPA review the progress in carrying out registration review under FIFRA section 3(g). The specific reporting elements and results by division are reported below in Table 5.

Table 5: Registration Review Metrics as of the end of FY 2023

Data Element	AD	BPPD	PRD
# of pesticides or pesticide cases reviewed and the # completed, including	88	142	388
# of cases canceled	29	29	88
# of cases requiring risk mitigation measures	33	0	272
# of cases removing risk mitigation measures	0	0	0
# of cases with no risk mitigation needed	26	113	28
# of cases in which risk mitigation has been fully implemented	2	0	33

Many of the remaining 171 registration review cases are scientifically complex. EPA’s ability to meet the 10/1/26 deadline for completion of all 789 cases, while incorporating compliance with ESA, depends on both maintenance fees and pesticide program appropriations at the minimum level specified in PRIA 5 of \$166 million. The pesticide programs appropriations in FY 2023 were \$27.4 million below this level, and FY 2024 appropriations were \$38 million below the PRIA 5 minimum level.

Database Enhancements

FIFRA section 33(k)(1)(B)(i)(XIV) requires EPA to provide a review of progress made towards implementing enhancements to the electronic tracking of conditional registrations and the endangered species database.

Data Associated with Conditional Registrations

The Pesticide Registration Improvement Extension Act of 2012 (PRIA 3) amended FIFRA to provide funding to improve information systems capabilities for EPA. The amendments provided this funding to support enhancing EPA's information system capacity to track pesticide registration decisions, including the status of conditional registration decisions and the data required to be submitted by registrants to meet the conditions of the registration. While this maintenance fee set-aside was discontinued in the next reauthorization of PRIA (PRIA 4), PRIA 4 and 5 continued to require EPA to report on progress towards enhancing the electronic tracking of conditional registrations.

EPA maintains a consolidated spreadsheet that covers all new pesticides conditionally registered since October 1, 1999. It lists by active ingredient each of the data requirements imposed as a condition of registration and identifies when the data were due, when received, and the status of the agency's review. The office is using this spreadsheet to ensure either that registrants submit data in a timely fashion or that EPA takes appropriate regulatory action under FIFRA section 6(e) to cancel products with delinquent data. The office is also monitoring the review of conditionally required studies to determine whether the new data would warrant changes in the terms of the registration. This compilation of information is publicly available from EPA's [webpage](#) titled "Status of Conditional Registrations under FIFRA section 3(c)(7)(C) from 2000 through 2023." The webpage is updated annually to add information on new conditions of registration and progress made in the submission and review of data associated with existing conditional registrations. As of FY 2023, there are few remaining data requirements that have not been completed. The website also highlights new conditions of registration added each year. Tracking of these requirements is being transitioned into the new workforce tracking platform as part of EPA's overall IT upgrade.

Endangered Species Database

EPA previously used a database referred to as the ESA Knowledgebase to store endangered species information that EPA staff gathered from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services and National Marine Fisheries Services documents relevant to conducting a biological evaluation (BE). The PRIA 3 reporting requirement, which was continued in PRIA 4 and PRIA 5, relates to providing update on enhancements made to that database. However, EPA's process for conducting BEs has evolved considerably since the Knowledgebase was created and populated over a decade ago. As EPA began to automate its BE processes and respond to the 2013 National Academy of Science's recommendations regarding its ESA assessment methodology, EPA needed to store information in a manner that could more readily be extracted and integrated into its evolving processes. As a result, EPA has transitioned away from use of the ESA Knowledgebase, which was a repository of data that might be used in ESA assessment, and is now using a spreadsheet-based system to store its endangered species information in a way that helps its scientists determine how a pesticide registration might impact a listed species. This new system more closely aligns with EPA's current analyses included in its BEs and contains all the information EPA needs to make effects determinations for listed species. EPA's process for storing data necessary to perform its evaluations will continue to evolve as its evaluation methods and associated tools continue to evolve.

Pesticide Incident Data System

FIFRA section 33(k)(1)(B)(i)(XV) requires EPA to report on progress in updating the Incident Data System (IDS) and making the data available to the public. EPA has made improvements in the collection and electronic recording of incident data received pursuant to FIFRA section 6(a)(2) as well as from consumer reporting. OPP created a new [website](#) in July 2023 containing ten years of incident data. OPP published two sets of data: 1) one of individual incidents that were submitted to EPA with a description of the incident (e.g., how and where the incident occurred); and 2) another of incidents that were submitted in aggregate (and only contain information on the product and the severity of the incident, aggregated under the conditions outlined in the Agency's [Pesticide Registration Notice 98-3](#)). EPA released these data to help the public understand the nature and frequency of reported incidents, including in response to recommendations from environmental justice, public health, and farmworker organizations. The Agency continues to make monthly updates to the data by adding the most recent month's reports to the online databases. Users can filter and sort the data by location (down to the county level), product, date, or severity of the incident. The data may also be downloaded in different formats (CSV, Excel, PDF) to allow for more complex analysis and use.

EPA is continuing to work with a variety of organizations to improve incident data sharing (e.g., through EPA's continued cooperative agreement with the National Pesticide Information Center at Oregon State University; via periodic interactions with Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency; via a Memorandum of Understanding being developed with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; and through FIFRA cooperative agreements with states). EPA uses incident information when developing risk mitigation options to ensure the continued safe use of pesticide products. To help improve the timeliness of responses that may be needed quickly, EPA has also implemented a process that will screen incidents as they come into the Agency to identify those that may need immediate attention.

Sources of Pesticide Usage Data

Section 33(k)(1)(B)(i)(XVI) of FIFRA requires that EPA summarize the sources of publicly available pesticide usage data.

The following are the primary sources of usage data used by EPA from Federal, State, and proprietary sources. Examples of supplementary sources are also included. EPA routinely seeks and reviews additional sources of usage data to determine appropriate use.

Federal Government Sources

United States Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service (USDA NASS) Chemical Use Surveys - https://www.nass.usda.gov/Surveys/Guide_to_NASS_Surveys/Chemical_Use/
USDA NASS conducts grower surveys to collect pesticide usage data on approximately 90 use sites including major field (e.g., corn, cotton, and soybean), vegetable, and fruit crops in states that account for the bulk of production of these crops. Currently, USDA NASS conducts chemical use surveys for

field crops in cooperation with USDA Economic Research Service (ERS) as part of the [Agricultural Resource Management Survey](#) (ARMS) program. USDA NASS also develops partnerships with state agencies either to use data a state collects itself (e.g., California) or to collect additional data for a state (e.g., Minnesota, North Dakota, Washington, and Wisconsin). The USDA NASS survey design targets a minimum of 80 percent of the acreage/production for every fruit, vegetable, and field crop surveyed. These data are collected via crop surveys that are conducted on various schedules, determined by USDA NASS.

USDA NASS Census of Agriculture - <https://www.nass.usda.gov/AgCensus/> USDA NASS also produces the Census of Agriculture, which consists of uniform, comprehensive data on agricultural production, operator characteristics, and pesticide usage data in each county and state, as well as the U.S. as a whole. The Census aims to capture all farming operations that produce at least \$1,000 in food, and some animal commodities, annually. The Census is conducted at 5-year intervals.

United States Department of Agriculture National Institute of Food and Agriculture (USDA NIFA) Supported Crop Profiles managed by the Southern Integrated Pest Management Center - <https://www.northeastipm.org/ipm-planning/crop-profiles/> With USDA NIFA funding, the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Centers produce Crop Profiles that provide information about crop production (e.g., production regions and cultural practices) and insect pests (e.g., common pests and chemical and non-chemical pest management options). Each Crop Profile describes how a commodity is produced, with emphasis on critical pest management needs and strategies used for their management, including the role of chemical pesticides in integrated pest management (IPM) and resistance management programs. These are usually produced on a state-by-state basis.

United States Department of Agricultural Foreign Agricultural Service (USDA FAS) World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates (WASDE) Production Supply and Distribution Online Database (PS&D) - <https://apps.fas.usda.gov/psdonline/app/index.html#/app/downloads> The data housed in the PS&D database include summaries of global agricultural production as well as the annual supply, import, and distribution volumes of selected agricultural commodities. Data for those commodities published in the WASDE Report are reviewed and updated monthly.

United States Department of Agriculture Economic Research Service (USDA ERS) Commodity Cost and Returns Reports - <https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/commodity-costs-and-returns> Cost and return estimates and crop budgets are reported at the national and regional level for high acreage field crops and animal products. The cost of production estimates is updated frequently, and the database retains historical data.

Supplementary Federal Government Sources

EPA consults with other federal agencies (USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), USDA Office of Pest Management Policy (OPMP), Department of Defense (DoD), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Forest Service (USFS), etc.) as needed for inquiries on available usage data relating to pesticide products that are limited to federal programs or programs that function under specific federal oversight such as invasive species eradication, disease quarantine, and federally recognized state managed phytosanitary programs.

State Government Sources

Primary source

California Department of Pesticide Regulation (CDPR) -

<https://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/pur/purmain.htm> The California Department of Pesticide Regulation collects usage information by conducting a pesticide-usage census in the state. The database contains detailed records and summaries of agricultural applications of pesticides on crops based on application permits. All agricultural growers must submit their production agricultural pesticide use reports monthly and pest control businesses must submit pesticide use reports within seven days after their application. As such, CDPR data is a census of all usage rather than a survey and is published annually. Pesticide usage reports are published annually for all agricultural uses and some non-agricultural uses.

Supplementary Sources

Ag Risk & Farm Management Library - <https://agrisk.umn.edu/> The Ag Risk & Farm Management Library compiles a variety of state and county-level crop budgets. This database includes a variety of field crops, as well as vegetables, livestock, fruits, nuts, pasture, and rangeland. The geographic breadth of these studies encompasses 37 states.

New Jersey - <https://www.nj.gov/dep/enforcement/pcp/pcp-pubs.htm> Through collaboration with Rutgers University, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Pesticide Control Program (NJDEP) collects pesticide use information from private applicators in New Jersey. These surveys are typically conducted every three years.

New York - <https://psur.cce.cornell.edu/> In collaboration with Cornell University, the State of New York collects Pesticide Use data from commercial applicators, who are required to report each pesticide application, at least annually.

Minnesota - <https://www.mda.state.mn.us/pesticide-fertilizer/pesticide-use-sales-data> The Minnesota Department of Agriculture publishes annual pesticide sales data for pesticide active ingredients based on registrant reporting requirements.

Proprietary Sources

Kynetec USA Inc. - <https://www.kynetec.com/> Kynetec is a primary source of proprietary pesticide usage data for agricultural crops. The data are widely used by government entities as well as industry. The data are collected by annual surveys of agricultural users in the continental United States and provides pesticide usage data for about 60 crops, including both specialty and row crops. The survey design targets at least 80 percent of US acreage/production of the surveyed commodities. The survey methodology provides statistically valid results, typically at the state and national levels. These data are available for insecticides, fungicides, herbicides, nematicides, and growth regulators.

Kline and Company - <https://www.klinegroup.com/> Kline is a source of proprietary non-food and non-agricultural pesticide usage data of various market segments including but not limited to seed treatment, consumers, professional pest management, turf and ornamental plants, biopesticides, mosquito control, and industrial vegetation management. Kline also includes some data on antimicrobial pesticide usage.

Surveys cover sales and usage of pesticides in these markets. Data are collected via surveys of pest management companies, suppliers, dealers, distributors, food-handling establishments, trade associations, consumers, and retailers. Market sizes and brand shares are determined by analyses of sales and other data obtained through interviews and are sufficiently accurate for screening-level needs at the national level. Market reports reflect usage by class/market segment and chemical and are based on sales information (manufacturer and retail) and end-user surveys. Study frequency varies by market sector.

Ben Kirk Seed Treatment study – The Ben Kirk Seed Treatment study is a primary source of information on the usage of seed treatment products on a limited number of major agricultural crops at a national level. The data are collected annually via structured and unstructured interviews with seed treatment market professionals from the supplier, distributor, and retailer company levels as well as from universities and crop associations. The report covers the product sales, area treated, and volume applied.

Design for the Environment for Pesticide Products

FIFRA section 33(k)(1)(B)(i)(XVII) requires that EPA provide a review of pesticide products that have received the Design for the Environment (DfE) certification, specifically the number of the active ingredients, new uses, and pesticide end use products granted in connection with the DfE program (or any successor program).

EPA approved four new products or amendments with the DfE logo in FY 2023. In all, 47 pesticide products, representing five different active ingredients, have received DfE certification.

For a full listing of EPA registered pesticide products that have received DfE certification, please visit the Design for the Environment Logo for Pesticide Products [webpage](#).

Maintenance Fee Set-asides for Farmworker Training and Education, Health Care Provider Training, Partnership Grants, and the Pesticide Safety Education Program

FIFRA section 33(k)(1)(B)(i) (XVIII) of FIFRA requires EPA to provide a review of the amounts and use of maintenance fees to carry out activities under set-asides for grants relating to farmworker protection through farmworker and health care provider training and education, as well as partnership grants and the pesticide safety education program. This information is included in Table 7 further down in this document.

In addition to reporting on the amounts and use of maintenance fees to carry out activities under these set-asides, EPA is also required to include in its review:

- an evaluation of the appropriateness and effectiveness of the activities, grants, and program under subparagraphs (G), (H), (I), and (J) of FIFRA section 4(i)(1);
- a description of how stakeholders are engaged in the decision to fund such activities, grants, and program in accordance with the stakeholder input provided under such subparagraphs; and
- with respect to activities relating to worker protection carried out under subparagraphs (G) and (H) of section 4(i)(1), a summary of the analyses from stakeholders, including from worker community-based organizations, on the appropriateness and effectiveness of such activities.

Set-aside Provisions

Under FIFRA section 4(i)(1)(G), EPA is authorized to use not more than \$7.5 million of maintenance fees from the Reregistration and Expedited Processing Fund over FY 2023 through 2027 to provide grants to community-based organizations for farmworker training and education.

Under section 4(i)(1)(H), EPA is authorized to use not more than \$2.5 million of maintenance fees from the Reregistration and Expedited Processing Fund over FY 2023 through 2027 to provide grants to community-based organizations for technical assistance and training of health care providers relating to the recognition, treatment, and management of pesticide-related injuries and illnesses.

Under section 4(i)(1)(I), EPA is authorized to use not more than \$500,000 of maintenance fees from the Reregistration and Expedited Processing Fund for each of FY 2023 through 2027 for partnership grants.

Under section 4(i)(1)(J), EPA is authorized to use not more than \$500,000 of maintenance fees from the Reregistration and Expedited Processing Fund for each of FY 2023 through 2027 to carry out the pesticide safety education program.

Measuring Outcomes and Stakeholder Outreach

Consistent with the Congressional mandates of PRIA, EPA seeks to incorporate feedback and input from stakeholders on worker safety projects, activities, grants, and programs in many ways. For example, in Notice of Funding Opportunities (NOFO) published in Grants.gov, we require applicants to explain how they would get input and feedback on grant activities. Specifically, grant recipients must seek input from stakeholders on projects ideas and draft materials, and on the effectiveness of completed materials. Similarly, applicants must explain in their proposals how they would solicit project ideas and proposals from stakeholders.

EPA's cooperative agreements recipients have and continue to work collaboratively with

farmworker support organizations; growers; crew leaders; agricultural extension professionals; health clinics; local, state and federal governments; and others in educating farmworkers, farmworker families and other members of the agricultural community about the importance of pesticide safety. For example, one cooperative agreement recipient, the Pesticide Educational Resources Collaborative (PERC), has regularly solicited ideas from all stakeholders for national projects annually for more than five years. PERC's advisory board, which is representative of key stakeholders, evaluate and choose which projects will be funded for the coming year.

EPA has also received input from stakeholders on the need for community-based projects. Subsequently, in a NOFO for worker safety and applicator certification materials development, EPA required applicants to give subawards to NGOs for community-based worker safety programs. As a result, PERC is in its second year of funding Agricultural Community-Based Projects (AgCBP) that serve farmworkers, their families, and their communities. The six AgCBP funded projects are: (1) Hands-on workshops by the Ag Health and Safety Alliance for agricultural pesticide handlers on safe pesticide handling and PPE usage in Mississippi; (2) Pesticide safety training by the National Center for Farmworker Health for Mesoamerican Indigenous farmworkers who speak languages other than Spanish in the Texas Rio Grande Valley; (3) Training of migrant and seasonal farm workers in North Carolina on the hazards of pesticides from the health clinic perspective of Surry Medical Ministries; (4) Campesinos Sin Fronteras educating Spanish-speaking Latino farmworkers and their families living in communities surrounding Yuma County, Arizona on the risks associated with living by or working in agricultural fields; (5) Toxic Free North Carolina's outreach to migrant and seasonal farmworkers, the agricultural community, and adjacent stakeholders on the protections in the Worker Protection Standard (WPS); and (6) Community engagement and focus groups to produce videos on key WPS content for farmworkers and/or agricultural pesticide handlers by the Farmworker Association of Florida.

EPA continues to regularly seek input from stakeholders on national worker safety project needs and priorities. For example, EPA receives input from Federal Advisory Committees such as the Pesticide Program Dialogue Committee (PPDC). A PPDC Farmworker and Clinician Training workgroup recommended EPA involve farm worker and training-related stakeholders in the development and evaluation of WPS training projects. Apart from FACAs, EPA regularly discusses WPS projects quarterly with NGOs and stakeholders. Recently, EPA began using a new channel for input by way of a Request for Information (RFI) published in the Federal Register. In one such RFI, EPA sought more input from stakeholders on the future scope and activities of a Health Care Provider (HCP) Training program on the prevention, recognition, treatment, management and reporting of pesticide-related illnesses. Furthermore, on January 25, 2024, EPA issued an RFI to seek public input for the development of a new National Farmworker Training and Education Program (NFTEP). The NFTEP will support a

series of assistance agreements to conduct pesticide safety education and training for farmworkers and farmworker communities, create pesticide safety educational and training materials, and develop innovative outreach and delivery strategies. EPA is using the RFI public comments in the development of upcoming NOFO application solicitations to fund both the HCP and NFTEP Training programs.

Under a presently funded cooperative agreement, EPA's National Farmworker Training Program (NFTP) cooperative agreement partner, the Association of Farmworker Opportunity Programs (AFOP), is a regular source on the effectiveness of WPS training. AFOP regularly evaluates and reports on the effectiveness of its WPS pesticide safety training with a pre- and post-evaluation of agricultural workers trained each year resulting in 98 percent correct answers after the WPS trainings.

During 2023, EPA published a NOFO and awarded a cooperative agreement seeking a grantee to administer a national program (the Pesticide Safety Education Funds Management Program (PSEFMP)) on education and training for people that apply restricted use pesticides (RUPs). The program administered under this cooperative agreement supports land-grant university Pesticide Safety Education Programs (PSEPs) nationwide that provide this important training.

In addition, EPA developed, published, and competed a new NOFO for the administration of the National Pesticide Information Center (NPIC). The grantee selection and award funding process were completed in FY 2024. The NPIC program, supported by PRIA Partnership set asides funds, provides unbiased, accurate information and responses to inquiries through a toll-free, bi-lingual telephone information service, an extensive website, and individual outreach and training.

With the continued funding support, EPA's pesticide's worker safety and education cooperative agreements will continue enhancing the capabilities of partners and stakeholders to develop and implement programs and activities that prevent and reduce pesticide risks to humans, communities, and ecosystems.

In FY 2023, \$1.1 million was awarded under the farmworker training set aside, \$500,000 for health care provider training, \$500,000 for pesticide safety education programs, and \$500,000 for partnership grants. Table 7 below describes each of the set asides, the grants (that is, cooperative agreements) receiving the funds, and activities under those agreements. Funding for these activities in FY 2023 came from both pesticide registration fees and maintenance fees depending on whether funds were awarded under either PRIA 4, which stipulated these set-asides come from pesticide registration service fees, or PRIA 5, which stipulates these set asides be taken from maintenance fees. For more details, see Table 6 below.

Table 6: Farmworker Training, Health Care Provider Training, Partnership and Pesticide Safety Education and Pesticide Cooperative Agreement Activities in FY 2023

Maintenance fee set-aside type Program Title Recipient Fees amount provided in FY 2023 (if applicable)	Summarized description of set aside activities Detailed description of activities and accomplishments for the set aside in FY 2023
Farmworker training grant program National Farmworker Training Program Association of Farmworker Opportunity Programs (AFOP) \$500,000	<p>PRIA provides funds to support activities such as pesticide safety training, materials development, and outreach to farmworkers.</p> <p>The Association of Farmworker Opportunity Programs (AFOP) has been an advocate for migrant and seasonal farmworkers in the United States since 1971. In 2019, initiated under the support of PRIA 4, EPA awarded AFOP a five-year cooperative assistance to conduct the National Farmworker Training Program (NFTP), a national program to educate farmworkers about how to reduce risks from pesticides. As part of this program, AFOP also trains pesticide safety educators who work with farmworker service organizations, growers and other members of the agricultural community in key rural, agricultural areas with high pesticide use and large numbers of farmworkers to conduct interactive pesticide safety programs for agricultural workers and their families. The characteristics of these communities are high risk, low literacy, non-English speakers, low income, high mobility, and children at risk from take-home exposure.</p> <p>The NFTP is currently ending its third operational year of a five-year grant performance period (2019-2026).</p> <p>AFOP’s Health & Safety Training Program has a network of 213 trainers located in 33 participating sites. Trainers from community-based organizations deliver training on Worker Protection Standard (WPS) pesticide safety and heat stress prevention for those working in agricultural production.</p> <p>In FY 2023 AFOP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Held 18 Train-the-Trainer courses for WPS pesticide safety trainers. • Trained 36,938 farmworkers.

- Provided Limiting Exposure Around Families (LEAF) trainings to 7,901 farmworkers and family members.
- Provided Pesticide Exposure & Pregnancy (PEP) trainings to 3,760 workers and pesticide safety trainings to 535 children with the “Jose Aprende” (“Jose Learns About Pesticides”) module.
- Trained 15,155 farmworkers in WPS.
- Trained 15,152 farmworkers in Heat Stress Prevention.
- Conducted 9,447 WPS pre/post knowledge evaluation tests.
- Trained 831 employers.
- Distributed 56,400 “take-home materials”.
- AFOP partnered with the Hispanic Communication Network (HCN) to broadcast PSAs related to pesticide safety.

AFOP’s trainers network and partner with local agencies, organizations, community leaders, and agricultural employers in order to deliver pesticide safety and heat stress prevention trainings. Often, growers, community leaders and other organizations such as Departments of Agriculture or agricultural extension services and Farm Bureaus reach out to AFOP trainers and request a training for certain farm or group of agricultural workers.

Trainers work closely with agricultural employers, their local county extension agents, growers’ associations, local Farm Bureaus, faith-based organizations and community-based migrant service providers to gain access to workers. These partnerships have been successful in providing annual safety training to migrant workers as they arrive for the seasonal harvests.

AFOP continues to maintain a high presence in social media. In 2023, AFOP conducted a strong social media awareness campaign for farmworkers with key messages on how to prevent pesticide exposure.

- October 2022- AFOP participated in the Global Handwashing Day Campaign
- March 2023- AFOP celebrated the *National Farmworker Awareness Week* and held its annual *National Long-Sleeve Shirt Campaign*.
 - AFOP partnered with 72 organizations and collected and distributed over 18,392 long sleeve shirts.
- May 2023- National Farmworker Women’s Health Week
 - AFOP partnered with 45 organizations to expand their voice via social media.
 - AFOP, in partnership with the Hispanic Communications Network, disseminated radio PSAs with *La Red Hispana* and other affiliates radio stations to deliver key messages for farmworkers with tips on how to protect themselves and their families from pesticide exposure.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>La Red Hispana</i> Radio Mini-Programs (PSAs) gross impressions: 2,947,700 ▪ <i>Bienvenidos a América</i> Sponsorship gross impressions: 127,300 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • July 2023– National Heat Stress Prevention Training Marathon Week <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ AFOP partnered with non-AFOP members and AFOP’s membership, to deliver key messages about the potential health risks of suffering from a heat related illness. ○ 1,652 farmworkers were trained during the training marathon. • AFOP uses multiple social media platforms to reach multiple target populations to educate and raise awareness about pesticide safety. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ AFOP held a social media awareness campaign and developed resources for its 25 partners with a comprehensive social media TOOL KIT, that included daily posts (English & Spanish), daily editable banners, and educational short videos. <p>Limiting Exposure Around Families (LEAF) is a curriculum that increases awareness of take-home exposure risks to families through training and educational materials. All training and materials are in a bilingual, low-literacy format that offers advice on how to reduce or even eliminate the possibility of exposing their children to pesticide residues.</p>
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<p>Farmworker training grant program</p> <p><i>Pesticide Educational Resources Collaborative (PERC) 2.0</i></p> <p>University of California Davis, in partnership with Oregon State University</p> <p>\$600,000</p>	<p>PRIA provides funds to support activities such as pesticide safety training, materials development, and outreach to farmworkers. Activities under this set aside in FY 2023 reflect the activities from two cooperative agreements and the initiation of a new grant program.</p> <p>The Pesticide Educational Resources Collaborative 2.0's (PERC 2.0) goal is to develop and make available pesticide safety educational materials and resources to implement the Worker Protection Standard and Certification of Pesticide Applicators regulations. This cooperative agreement was initiated under the support of PRIA 4. Its advisory board includes representatives of pesticide federal agencies, state-lead agencies, state cooperative extension services, farmworker advocacy groups, and a pesticide applicator/business owner. The board selects national project ideas, which PERC then develops, and helps promote educational materials. In 2023, PERC 2.0 also continued their subawards program for Agricultural Community-Based Projects to support nonprofit organizations in executing local and regional projects to reduce pesticide risk related to pesticides in agricultural settings. Current subaward projects entered their second year, while PERC ran a competition and selected three new projects.</p> <p>In FY 2023, PERC 2.0 accomplished the following deliverables:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Manuals and Exams for Certification of Pesticide Applicators</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Began updating the manual and exam item bank on Soil Fumigation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Hired staff (National Project Coordinator and Lead Technical Writer). ▪ Hosted two listening sessions to recruit volunteers and identify national needs. ○ Continued work on the third edition of the National Core Manual and Exam for the certification of pesticide applicators. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Hosted a listening session to share and gather perspectives on who to update the manual and exam bank. ▪ Developed 141 draft Learning Objectives and drafted an 18-chapter outline of the manual. • <u>National Projects</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ National Call for Projects was released and resulted in a total of 8 project ideas proposed for new educational resources/projects that address stakeholders' national needs – 4 of which were selected. ○ Started work on <i>Building Bridges: Overcoming Cultural</i>
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and Language Barriers During WPS Inspections.

- PERC is developing a manual, flipchart, and interview guide to support English-speaking WPS inspectors in their work with Spanish-speaking agricultural workers.
- Hired staff (Project Coordinator, Lead Writer, Technical Writer).
- Completed focus groups with inspectors and farmworkers.
- Completed WPS educational resource.
 - PERC developed a magnet with washing instructions on safe handling of pesticide-contaminated clothing in English and Spanish to affix to washing machines.
 - 83,450 magnets have been ordered (33,300 English & 50,150 Spanish).
- Subawards/Agricultural Community-Based Projects
 - Funded the second round of Agricultural Community-Based (AgCBP) subaward projects.
 - Scored applications and conducted interviews to select three new projects.
 - Conducted debriefs, providing technical assistance to unsuccessful applicants to improve future applications.
 - Finalized three new subaward contracts.
 - First round AgCBP subaward projects trained 205 farmworkers on pesticide safety; held 5 large-scale WPS training sessions; created and distributed pesticide safety educational materials to farmworkers; launched two Public Safety Announcements on FM Radio reaching over 12,000 listeners; and began work on WPS educational videos.
- Resource Distribution
 - Over 39,000 copies of WPS training resources distributed (including resources in 9 different languages); over 115,000 impressions on PERC posts across social media platforms; nearly 135,000 website views.
 - Over 4,500 PERC materials were sold through the National Pesticide Safety Education Center (NPSEC).
 - Participated in conferences, symposia, and other events to raise awareness of PERC resources.
 - Completed a redesign of the PERC website.

<p>Farmworker training grant program</p> <p><i>National Farmworker Training and Education Program (NFTEP) Request for Information (RFI)</i></p> <p>Recipient(s) to be determined</p>	<p>PRIA provides funds to support activities such as pesticide safety training, materials development, and outreach to farmworkers. Activities under this set aside in FY 2023 reflect the activities from two cooperative agreements and the initiation of a new grant program.</p> <p>In FY 2023, under PRIA 5, EPA began developing a new National Farmworker Training and Education Program (NFTEP) to help reduce the risk of pesticide injury and illness to farmworkers. The NFTEP will also support the implementation of the WPS, offering required annual pesticide safety trainings for workers. This work led to EPA publishing a notice seeking public input through a Request for Information (RFI) on the design of the NFTEP on January 25, 2024. EPA will report on the results of this activity in FY 2024.</p> <p>The RFI lays out potential program design elements and activities to be funded under the NFTEP. The RFI also posed a series of questions to stakeholders about barriers to involvement in safety trainings and education programs and applying for grant funding. Individuals and organizations with experience conducting farmworker education and training were encouraged to comment. Generally, EPA sought comments about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how to meaningfully involve farmworker communities in the NFTEP grant agreements; • farmworker communities’ specific language and training needs that should be incorporated into the safety education program materials; • successful outreach and delivery strategies; and • topic areas that should be prioritized for grant agreements. <p>Feedback collected through the RFI in FY 2024 will shape the final program and inform the Notice of Funding Opportunity that will be issued so organizations can apply for grant funding. Up to \$7.5 million is expected to be awarded in grants over five years.</p>
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<p>Health care provider training program</p> <p><i>The Pesticide Educational Resources Collaborative for medical professionals (PERC-med)</i></p> <p>University of California Davis & Oregon State University</p>	<p>PRIA provides funding to support training of health care providers on pesticide-related illnesses and injuries. Activities under this set aside in FY 2023 reflect the start of existing agreement’s final year and the initiation of a new grant program.</p> <p>The Pesticide Educational Resources Collaborative for medical professionals (PERC-med) was initiated under PRIA 4 and aimed to educate the medical community on how to prevent, recognize, and treat pesticide- related health conditions. PERC-med represented a multi-disciplinary approach to continue, expand, and enhance EPA's National Strategies for Health Care Providers: Pesticides Initiative (HCPPI). PERC-med had an advisory board of medical professionals, toxicologists, occupational health officials, and university professors to achieve that goal. The five-year performance period for this cooperative agreement was 2018 – 2023. No funds were added in FY 2023 because the agreement was nearing the end of its grant cycle and project activities.</p> <p>PERC-med and their advisory board members have attended conferences and had poster presentations accepted. Additionally, PERC-med updated existing and/or developed new materials and resources, advertised pesticide-related webinars and conferences, and developed networks and partnerships to enhance the knowledge of medical professionals and spread more awareness about how to prevent, recognize, and treat pesticide-related illness and injuries.</p> <p>PERC-med engaged with stakeholders and subject matter experts on a routine basis by seeking information on gaps in pesticide recognition and management in healthcare education and healthcare setting; collaborated on resource development, review, and curation; and presenting at conferences, lectures, and webinars.</p> <p>In FY 2023, PERC-med focused efforts on the Advisory Board-approved Clinical Champions Network pilot program and tribal outreach, delivered a variety of presentations, hired a Clinician Peer Educator, developed a pesticide-specific tribal resource, co-led new CME-accredited trainings with partner organizations, accelerated marketing efforts, and expanded partnerships with key stakeholder groups. The performance period for this cooperative agreement concluded in February 2023, at which point PERC-med received a no-cost extension from March 2023 to August 2023. During that time PERC-med continued to provide and market resources. Before concluding the cooperative agreement at the end of August, PERC-</p>
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med completed the redesign of their website that will continue to house its resources.

FY 2023 Deliverables:

- PERC-med started a [YouTube Channel](#) where they posted interviews with health care providers and public health specialists on a variety of topics.
- PERC-med published a case study on Doximity titled “Pyrethrins 101: A Primer in Pesticide Exposure and Toxicity”.
- PERC-med developed new resources, including:
 - A tribal resource for clinicians titled “Tribal Pesticide Exposure Pathways: An Overview.” The resource was distributed to over 119 TPPC members, 63 PERC-med listserv subscribers, and 27 additional tribal contacts;
 - A “Reproductive Health and Pesticide Safety Factsheet”.
- PERC-med presented at the following conferences and webinars:
 - PERC-med collaborated with Clinical Professor of Environmental and Occupational Health at the University of California, Irvine, Scott Hardy, MD, on an oral presentation on paraquat at the Western Occupational Health Conference (WOHC) in October 2022.
 - Clinician Champion Paola Gonzalez presented an in-person round table talk at the annual American Public Health Association conference in Boston on November 8. The presentation was titled, “Latinx Communities and Pesticide Exposure: Reducing Risk by Increasing Healthcare Provider Awareness.” The presentation was accepted through the APHA Latino Caucus and touched upon environmental justice issues affecting Latinx communities in urban settings.
 - Clinician peer educator, Micah Bicker, presented to the Physician Assistant Program at Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science, College of Science and Health in Southern California on November 10. This university is community-founded, student-centered, and committed to cultivating diverse health professions leaders dedicated to social justice and health equity for underserved populations through outstanding education, clinical service, and community engagement.

- PERC-med Pesticide Education Director, Diana Simmes, presented a CME-accredited webinar “Disinfectants: What Clinicians Need to Know to Reduce Risk” alongside the National Pesticide Information Center. The webinar was hosted by the Oregon Area Health Education Center (AHEC).
- PERC-med continued to collaborate on and host continuing education courses and materials, including in the following:
 - [Farm Toxicology for Primary Care course](#). As of July 10, 2023, 242 participants have registered for the program and 64 participants have completed the course. Of those who have completed the course in the United States, 32 are registered nurses, 15 are physicians, seven are nurse practitioners, five are physician assistants, one is a resident, and one is a medical interpreter/translator.
 - PERC-med’s [national pesticide reporting module](#) continues to be included in the California OEHHA Recognition, Management and Reporting of Pesticide Illness course for health care providers.
- PERC-med partnered with the following groups to distribute educational content:
 - AgriSafe Network
 - Doximity
 - Eastern Area Health Education Center
 - Kashia Band of Pomo Indians
 - National Nurse-led Care Consortium’s (NNCC) CHW Certification Training Program
 - National Pesticide Information Center (NPIC)
 - North Carolina Agromedicine Institute
 - Northwest Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit (PEHSU)
 - Occupational and Environmental Health, University of Iowa
 - Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA), and
 - Tribal Pesticide Program Council (TPPC)

<p>Health care provider training program</p> <p><i>Health Care Provider (HCP) Training Program RFI</i></p> <p>Recipient(s) to be determined</p>	<p>PRIA provides funding to support training of health care providers on pesticide-related illnesses and injuries. Activities under this set aside in FY 2023 reflect the start of existing agreement’s final year and the initiation of a new grant program.</p> <p>In FY 2023, under PRIA 5, EPA began developing a new health care provider (HCP) training program. On September 25, 2023, EPA sought public comment on the design of aHCP training program on pesticide-related illness and injury. EPA sought feedback from the public through a request for information (RFI) on the design of a future EPA-funded cooperative agreement.</p> <p>Pesticide-related illness is widely misdiagnosed and underreported, in part because healthcare providers receive only limited training on occupational and environmental health. In response, EPA is developing an HCP Training Program that will support the training of healthcare providers on the prevention, recognition, treatment, management, and reporting of pesticide-related illness.</p> <p>The RFI laid out a proposed design for the training program, which would build on the work of past HCP training while incorporating new environmental justice elements, namely expanded partnerships with groups that serve populations at high risk of pesticide exposure. The proposal had two objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Administer a national training and technical assistance program for HCPs about pesticide-related illnesses, and 2. Administer a partnership program to ensure that the training and technical assistance program is culturally responsive and has both national reach and local applicability. <p>The RFI posed specific questions to stakeholders on the proposed program design. Specifically, EPA was interested in comments about the types of activities the program could support; about populations at high-risk of pesticide-related illness (and who would benefit from more highly trained clinicians); and about additional ways to ensure that training and technical assistance under the program accounts for the cultural context, social determinants of health, and vulnerabilities of these populations.</p> <p>Feedback collected through the RFI will shape the final cooperative agreement and inform the Notice of Funding Opportunity for the HCP Training Program.</p>
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<p>Pesticide Safety Education Programs (PSEPs)</p> <p><i>Powered Up</i></p> <p>Extension Foundation</p>	<p>PRIA provides funding to carry out the pesticide safety education program. Activities under this set aside in FY 2023 reflect the final year of the existing agreement and awarding of a new cooperative agreement.</p> <p>Under this EPA cooperative agreement, which ran from 2017-2023 and was supported under PRIA 4, \$5.5 million in total funding was available to manage Pesticide Safety Education Funds Management Program (PSEFMP), of which \$500,000 annually were set aside under PRIA 4. A total of \$4,853,675 were distributed to PSEPs within land-grant institutions to develop pesticide safety and training materials.</p> <p>The grantee, Extension Foundation (EXF), has over the course of the cooperative agreement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Created and implemented an online application process for Pesticide Safety Education Program Coordinators (PSEP) for the Pesticide Safety Education Funds Management Program (PSEFMP) funding opportunity. • Used an online application process that was created for the 2018 - 2022 funding years, for PSEP coordinators to submit applications. • Provided review of applications by an advisory committee; • Awarded applications. • Provided post award services including ongoing communication with awardees. <p>The cooperative agreement reached its full funding capacity and last distributed funds to PSEPs in FY 2022. Due to a different funding timeline for the cooperative agreement project period and the subsequent distribution of the funds to the PSEPs, the EXF operated under a no-cost extension from August 1, 2022, until July 31, 2023, in order to for the PSEP sub-awardees to continue and complete their work initiated as result of the 2022 distribution of funds. The cooperative agreement’s extended timeline also allowed EXF to coordinate the administrative close-out of the grant with the PSEPs and to develop and submit required end-of-grant reports to EPA.</p>
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<p>Pesticide Safety Education Programs</p> <p><i>Empowered Up: A Comprehensive PSEFMP Promoting Efficiency & Environmental Justice</i></p> <p>Extension Foundation</p> <p>\$500,000</p>	<p>Activities under this set aside in FY 2023 reflect the final year of the existing agreement and awarding of a new cooperative agreement.</p> <p>In 2023, EPA published a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) seeking an applicant to administer a national program (the Pesticide Safety Education Funds Management Program (PSEFMP) on education and training for people that apply restricted use pesticides (RUPs), meaning pesticides that can only be applied by people that are specially certified and trained to handle them. This program will help ensure that RUPs are used safely by teaching applicators how to avoid pesticide misuse, clean up spills, and properly use personal protective equipment. The program administered under this grant supports over 50 land-grant university Pesticide Safety Education Programs (PSEPs) nationwide that provide this important training. Certification and training programs ensure pesticide applicators are trained to apply RUPs properly, in accordance with the label. In addition to core pesticide safety and practical use concepts, these programs provide applicators with critical information on a wide range of environmental issues, such as the protection of endangered species, water quality, workers and bystanders, and non-target organisms.</p> <p>After the Agency completed its application review and competition, the Extension Foundation (EXF) was selected as the grantee for the new cooperative agreement and received the Notice of Award in September 2023. EPA anticipates awarding the recipient up to \$3 million per year in a five-year cooperative agreement, depending on the Agency’s budget. Total funding for the five-year cooperative agreement (2023 through 2027) is not to exceed \$15 million, of which \$500,000 is set aside annually under PRIA 5.</p>
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<p>Partnership Grants</p> <p><i>National Pesticide Information Center (NPIC)</i></p> <p>Oregon State University</p> <p>\$500,000</p>	<p>PRIA supports partnership grant. Activities under this set aside in FY 2023 reflected the start of existing agreement’s final year and the solicitation for applications to initiate a new cooperative agreement.</p> <p>NPIC responds to public inquiries regarding pesticide-related issues such as pesticide product usage, pest identification, health effects, and enforcement contacts. The program provides unbiased, accurate information and responses to inquiries through a toll-free, bi-lingual telephone information service, an extensive website, and individual outreach and training. This cooperative agreement was initiated under PRIA 4 and is set to be completed in FY 2024.</p> <p>General pesticide-related inquiries, including questions on the risks associated with a pesticide, usage restrictions, and local contact information for enforcement of pesticide regulations are addressed by trained experts in toxicology, environmental health and science, public health, and veterinary medicine.</p> <p>Callers contacting the program regarding medical or veterinary emergencies are promptly relayed to appropriate poison control programs for emergency medical assistance. Suspected non-emergency cases of a potentially adverse effect from pesticide exposures are offered a rapid response, including risk mitigation information and enforcement contacts when appropriate.</p> <p>NPIC also provides a route for veterinarians, clinicians, state environmental, agricultural, and public health offices, consumers, parents, researchers, and members of the public to report suspected pesticide incidents to a national database. NPIC provides data and analysis of inquiries and potential incidents to EPA for national pesticide surveillance efforts, enforcement priority setting and EPA risk assessment analysis.</p> <p>FY 2023 Deliverables:</p> <p>NPIC responded to over 7,000 inquiries.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most inquiries to NPIC came from members of the general public (90 percent). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ NPIC also responded to 66 inquiries from government/enforcement agencies, 69 inquiries from medical professionals, 12 inquiries from health agencies and 23 inquiries from pesticide retail or nursery employees.
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- NPIC responded to inquiries in languages other than English including 220 inquiries in Spanish, and some in other languages including: Indonesian, Portuguese and American Sign language.
- NPIC shared 90 noteworthy cases with EPA.
- The NPIC website received over 5 million page views.
- 25 incident reports were submitted using NPIC’s Ecological Incident Reporting Portal (Eco-Portal).
- NPIC created six new webpages:
 - [Pesticides in Schools](#)
 - [A guide to using NPIC’s Herbicide Properties Tool](#)
 - [Prodiamine Fact Sheet](#)
 - [Prodiamine Overview](#)
 - [What are Quaternary Ammonium Compounds?](#)
 - [What are the risks of CCA-treated wood?](#)
- NPIC significantly updated nine new web pages:
 - [Treated Wood and Wood Preservatives](#)
 - [Specific Wood Preservatives and Components](#)
 - [Consumer and Handler Safety](#)
 - [Home and Garden Use](#)
 - [Regulation and Disposal](#)
 - [Treated Wood in the Environment](#)
 - Disinfectant Safety for Workers (English | Spanish)
 - Pesticides and the Environment
 - Plant Incorporated Protectants
- NPIC discussed trends and data with OPP during Quarterly Coordination Meetings:
 - Seresto collar concerns and incidents
 - Hazard vs risk assessment for glyphosate
 - Misuse of disinfectants
 - Rodenticide concerns from Spanish language emailers
 - Drift in agricultural areas adjacent to residential communities
 - The death of an inmate suspected to be related to “Waspings”
 - Top active ingredients for all inquiries
 - Public interest in the efficacy of ultrasonic devices that claim to remove pesticide residue from produce
 - Calls that NPIC suspects to be related to cases of delusory parasitosis have become common in recent years

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Trends in sulfuryl fluoride incidents reported to NPIC over the past decade ○ Lack of availability of financial resources and other assistance for elderly callers, particularly related to bed bug infestations in the home <p>Stakeholders Engagement and environmental justice-focused activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● NPIC collaborated with several organizations to provide outreach and expert risk communication instruction to multilingual communities, ag workers, the pest control community, educators, healthcare professionals, and the public to increase awareness of the NPIC program. ● NPIC created and significantly updated 15 webpages including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Disinfectant Safety for Workers (English Spanish) ○ Pesticides in Schools ● NPIC developed one Spanish infographic in FY 2023. <p>Also in FY 2023, in addition to the activities conducted under the existing cooperative agreement, EPA published a NOFO for a new cooperative agreement to support the administration of the National Pesticide Information Center (NPIC). Applications were solicited and reviewed in FY 2023. The new NPIC program, scheduled to be funded and begin in FY 2024, supported under PRIA 5, is anticipated to continue providing unbiased, accurate information and responses to inquiries through a toll-free, bi-lingual telephone information service, an extensive website, and individual outreach and training.</p>
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Pesticide Surveillance (SENSOR) Program

FIFRA section 33(k)(1)(B)(i)(XX) requires that EPA provide a review of the progress made in implementing the pesticide surveillance program. FIFRA section 4(k)(8) created a new maintenance fee set-aside to support the Sentinel Event Notification System for Occupational Risk (SENSOR) pesticide program. For each of fiscal years 2023 through 2027, EPA is to use not more than \$500,000 of pesticide maintenance fees in the Reregistration and Expedited Processing Fund to support the interagency agreement with the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) to support the SENSOR-Pesticides program, with a goal of increasing the number of participating states, prioritizing expansion in states with the highest numbers of agricultural workers, and to improve reporting by participating States.

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC)'s National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) manages the SENSOR-Pesticides program. The SENSOR-Pesticides program was created to monitor incidents of occupational pesticide-related injury and illness, including incidents among agricultural workers and their families. With EPA's support, NIOSH funds, trains, and advises the participating states on how to monitor, investigate, and report pesticide incidents. NIOSH maintains the database that compiles pesticide incident data from states and provides this dataset to EPA. NIOSH works with state partners to analyze the data and publish papers on important findings in pesticide incident trends. Participating states include California, Florida, Illinois, Iowa, Louisiana, Michigan, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oregon, Texas, and Washington.

In FY 2023, EPA provided \$500,000 of maintenance fees in support of the interagency agreement with CDC/NIOSH in support of the SENSOR program. The funding was used to support ongoing activities as states get their funding mechanisms in place and start to focus on collection of incident data.

In FY 2023, NIOSH:

- Awarded three new funding agreements to unfunded SENSOR-Pesticides states in need of federal support to bolster and continue their pesticide surveillance work. Texas, North Carolina, and Washington were the recipients of the awarded funding;
- Initiated contact with the Lead Surveillance Epidemiologist with Georgia's Department of Health. NIOSH is working to onboard Georgia as the first a new SENSOR-Pesticides state participant in over a decade; and
- Hired an ORISE (Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education) fellow to conduct SENSOR-Pesticides data analysis. Additional duties will include frequent communication with state partners, and planning and coordinating the annual SENSOR-Pesticides meeting and leading the annually required case-coding training exercise for states based on real incident data.

Budget constraints may impact levels at which funding is provided through the interagency agreement.

Registrant Submissions Not Covered by Fee Tables (Non-PRIA Actions)

Under FIFRA Section 33(k)(1)(B)(ii), the Agency is to provide data for each registrant submission not covered by section 33(b)(3)(B) that is completed during the fiscal year covered by the report or pending at the conclusion of that fiscal year, organized by registering division, including:

- the submission date;

- the electronic portal tracking number assigned to the application at the time of the submission of the application to the electronic submission portal;
- the type of regulatory action, as defined by statute or guidance document, and the specific label action;
- the status of the action;
- the due date;
- the reason for the outcome; and
- the completion date, if applicable.

EPA is able to report on all of the required information except for the reason for the outcome. This information is captured neither in EPA’s legacy OPPIN system nor in the new system in Salesforce. EPA will be engaging with stakeholders in FY 2024 to receive feedback on the intent of this requirement and what specific information is being sought, so that EPA can develop that capacity for future annual reports.

Table 7: Action Codes by Application Type

Application Type	AD	BPPD	RD
Fast Track and Minor Formulation Amendments	300	300	300
	302	345	310
	307	392	345
	345		392
	362		397
Notification	332	332	332

Table 8: Non-PRIA Actions Completed in FY 2023

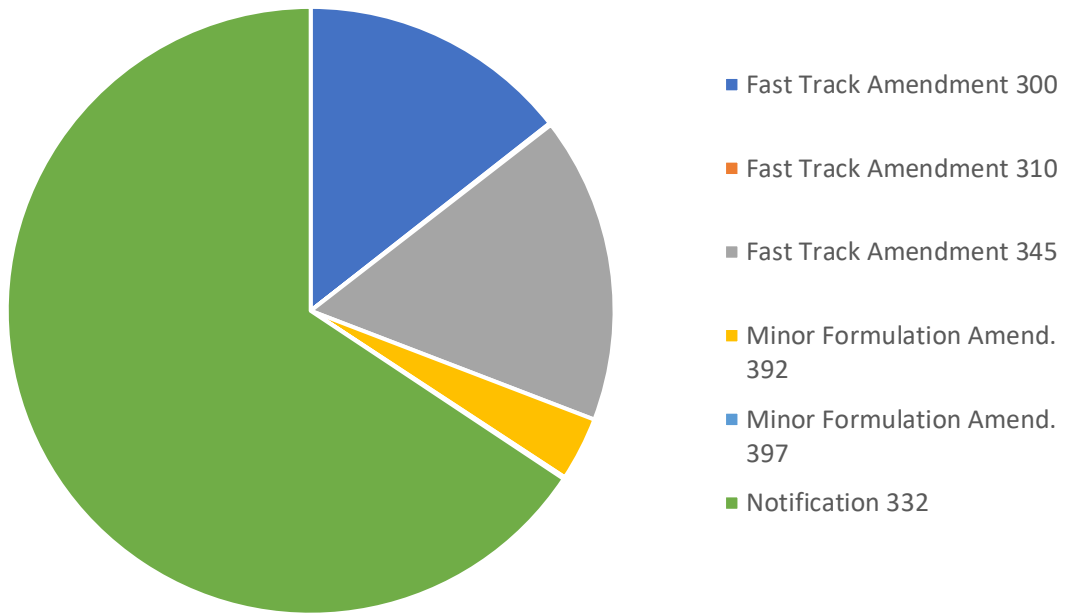
Application Type	AD	BPPD	RD	OPP Total
Fast Track and Minor Formulation Amendments	1,259	380	686	2,325
Notification	2,859	229	1312	4,400

Note: For AD action, the total number of completions also reflect the closeout of Fast Track, Minor Formulation Amendments and notifications for cancelled products (~1000 actions) and the closeout of all notifications submitted before October 1, 2022 (~2000 products).

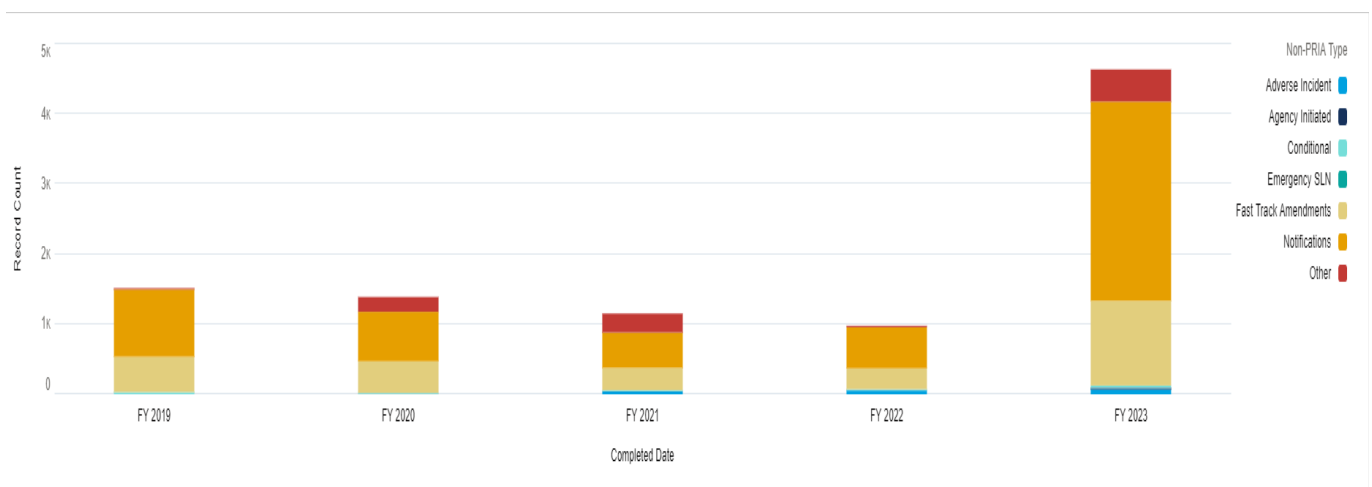
Files for individual Non-PRIA actions completed in FY 2023 are as follows:

- [AD FY23 NonPRIA Completed.xlsx](#)
- [BPPD FY23 NonPRIA Completed.xlsx](#)
- [RD FY23 NonPRIA Completed.xlsx](#)

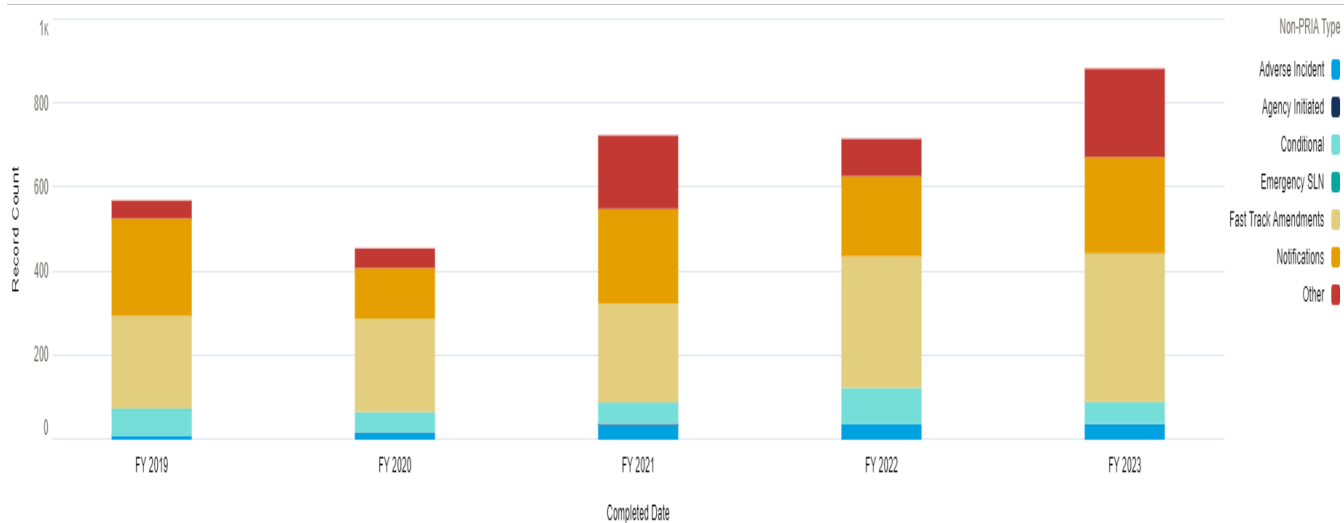
RD Non-PRIA FY 2023 Completions



AD Non-PRIA Completions FY 2019 – FY 2023



BPPD Non-PRIA Completion FY 2019 – FY 2023



Non-PRIA Actions Pending as of the end of FY 2023

For purposes of this reporting, EPA is presenting results for fast track/minor formulation amendment and notification actions which were received from FY 2020 on. EPA is also currently evaluating older pending applications to determine whether they have been superseded by more recent actions, as well as engaging with industry stakeholders to identify those applications for which EPA review is still desired. The reporting below and the files attached in the Appendix reflect non-fee PRIA applications which were received from FY 2020 and later.

For purposes of analyzing the results in the Tables, the following codes are applicable to the fast track and minor formulation amendment and notification application types.

Because of the need to retroactively capture actions that were pending on September 30, 2023, but have been completed since then, Table II in Appendix A includes actions received before October 1, 2023, but completed after September 30, 2023.

Table 9: Fast Track and Minor Formulation Amendment, Notification Pending at the end of FY 2023

Application Type	AD	BPPD	RD	OPP Total
Fast Track and Minor Formulation Amendments	776	152	1537	2,465
Notification	572	49	1685	2,306

Files for individual Non-PRIA Actions Pending as of the end of FY 2023 are as follows:

- [AD Pending NonPRIA End of FY23.xlsx](#)
- [BPPD Pending NonPRIA End of FY23.xlsx](#)
- [RD Pending NonPRIA End of FY23.xlsx](#)

EPA’s ability to both reduce the backlog of these actions and to review all incoming actions according to applicable deadlines is dependent on EPA having the full resources to do its work. While maintenance fees were increased in PRIA 5 and a set-aside was created directing funds specifically to this purpose are helpful, the majority of funding for these activities comes from appropriations. Reduced appropriation levels in FY 2024 will hinder EPA’s efforts to reduce the backlog of pending non-PRIA actions as well as completing new submissions in their applicable timeframes.

Initial Content and Preliminary Technical Screens

FIFRA section 33(k)(1)(B)(iii) requires that EPA provide data for the initial content screens and preliminary technical screens that are completed during the fiscal year covered by the report or pending at the conclusion of that fiscal year, organized by registering division. These metrics related to EPA screens of fee-for-service actions under the 21-day Completeness Screen and the 45/90-day Preliminary Technical Screen, as well as notifications to applicants of deficiencies under 40 C.F.R. section 152.105, otherwise known as FIFRA 75-day letters.

PRIA applications in FY 2023 were reviewed both in EPA’s legacy workflow tracking system (OPPIN) as well as its new tracking system in the Salesforce platform. Actions handled by the Antimicrobials Division (AD) and the Biopesticides and Pollution Prevention Division (BPPD) were handled in the Salesforce workflow. Actions handled by the Registration Division, including conventional pesticide products, inert ingredient petitions, and the majority of PRIA actions under the Miscellaneous categories, were handled using OPPIN.

The ability to report on certain metrics relating to the 21-day Completeness and Preliminary Technical screens has not yet been developed within the new workflow platform. Likewise, reporting on 75-day deficiency letters is not possible from OPPIN. Once all of OPP’s legacy information and registration workflow have migrated to the new platform and full tracking

ability and visual displays for the new annual reporting requirements have been developed, EPA will be able to fully address the screening reporting requirements. This functionality is expected to be completed in FY 2024 but could be delayed due to budget constraints.

FIFRA section 33(f)(4)(B) directs the agency, not later than 21 days after receiving an application and the required registration service fee, to conduct an initial screening of the contents of the application, and if the application fails the content screen and cannot be corrected by the applicant within the 21-day period, the agency is to reject the application. During FY 2023, no applications were rejected or withdrawn for significant “content” deficiencies, but three applications were rejected or withdrawn for non-payment of PRIA fees.

FIFRA section 33(f)(4)(B) also directs the agency to conduct a preliminary technical screening of the application to determine if the data are accurate, complete, and consistent with the proposed labeling and any proposal for a tolerance or exemption. The technical screen is to be completed not later than 45 or 90 days after the PRIA start date, and if the application fails the technical screen and cannot be corrected within 10 business days, the agency is to reject the application. During FY 2023, Preliminary Technical Screens were completed for 985 PRIA submissions. From OPPIN reports, 16 10-day deficiency letters were sent out for pesticides resulting in six conventional or miscellaneous applications being rejected or withdrawn at this stage. Three conventional chemical applications were withdrawn and two were rejected; three antimicrobial packages were withdrawn and one was rejected; and five biopesticide applications were withdrawn, while three applications were rejected. One miscellaneous PRIA action was withdrawn as a result of the preliminary technical screen. Gold Seal letter requests under the category M006 were removed from consideration as these are one-month actions, and a screen is not conducted.

For the conventional, inerts, and miscellaneous actions that were rejected and tracked in OPPIN, the reasons for applications being rejected or withdrawn in association with the Preliminary Technical Screen include:

- Data deficiencies/missing data, rationale, or waiver request
- Uncleared inerts/missing or invalid inert data
- Inert ingredient mis-identified
- Data matrix/data compensation issues
- Unacceptable bridging arguments

Table 10: Reporting Metrics for PRIA Screens and 75-Day Deficiency Letters

Reporting Requirement	AD	BPPD	RD	I	M
the number of applications successfully passing each type of screen			931	39	15
the number of applications that failed the screening process for each type of screen			16	0	1
the number of notifications issued under FIFRA section 33(f)(4)(B)(ii)(II) (10-day letters sent)			15	0	1
the number of notifications issued under section (f)(4)(B)(ii)(I) and the number of applications resulting in a rejection (actions rejected/withdrawn as a result of preliminary technical screen)	1 rejected 3 w/d	3 rejected 5 w/d	2 rejected; 3 w/d	0	1 w/d
the number of notifications issued under 40 C.F.R section 152.105, and to the extent practicable, the reasons for that issuance (75-day letters sent)	43	14		N/A	N/A

Not available at this time

Staffing

FIFRA section 33(k)(1)(B)(iv) requires that EPA provide data on the staffing relating to work covered under PRIA 5, organized by registering division, including:

- the number of new hires and personnel departures
- the number of full-time equivalents at the end of each fiscal year
- the number of full-time equivalents working on registration review activities; and
- the number of full-time equivalents working on registrant submissions not covered by FIFRA section 33(b)(3)(B).

Table 11: Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP) New Hires and Departures in FY 2023

Division	New Hires	Departures
AD	4	6
BEAD	5	5
BPPD	5	2
EFED	6	8
HED	1	5
PRD	4	7
RD	4	5
IO	1	2
OPP Total	30	40

The values in Table 1 represent actual staff who were hired or departed, not full-time equivalents, or FTEs, as provided below.

Full Time Equivalent (FTE) metrics

A full-time equivalent, or FTE, is the number of scheduled hours worked for an employee divided by the employer’s hours. In an employer’s 40-hour work week, employees who are scheduled to work 40 hours are 1.0 FTEs. If an employee is scheduled for 20 hours in that work week, this represents 0.5 FTE. Overtime and holiday hours worked by an employee are not counted in FTE calculation. Annual leave, sick leave, compensatory time off, and other approved leave categories are considered “hours worked” for purposes of FTE calculation. In a 52-week year, one full time employee would count as 2,080 work hours.

Table 12: OPP FTEs at the End of FY 2023

Division	FTE at end of FY 2023
AD	76.2
BEAD	53.5
BPPD	66.9
EFED	76.2
HED	100.9
PRD	62.4
RD	104.2
IO	12.4
OPP Total	552.7

There were 120.7 FTEs working on re-evaluation activities in FY 2023. FTE breakouts by division and OPP total are provided in Table 14 below.

Table 13: FY 2023 FTEs- Reevaluation

Division	FTEs: Reevaluation
AD	14.7
BEAD	20.4
BPPD	4.6
EFED	14.0
HED	32.7
PRD	33.0
RD	1.4
IO	0
OPP Total	120.7

The number of FTEs spent working on registrant submissions not covered by FIFRA section 33(b)(3)(B) was 32.2 FTE. FTE breakouts by division and OPP total are provided in Table 15 below.

Table 14: FY 2023 FTEs- Review of Non-PRIA Actions

Division	FTEs: Non-PRIA
AD	6.3
BEAD	1.0
BPPD	4.8
EFED	3.5
HED	4.0
PRD	0
RD	12.6
IO	0
OPP Total	32.2

Non-PRIA FTE levels are calculated by adding OPP tracking categories for “FIFRA (non-PRIA) registration” and “Fast Track Amendments.” “Non-PRIA registration” would include a variety of activities, including but not limited to EPA review of notifications, minor formulation amendments, and FIFRA section 6(a)(2) incident data.

The following graph displays FTE levels at the end of each fiscal year from FY 2004, the beginning of PRIA, through FY 2023. It demonstrates a gradual decline in resources for OPP over the duration of PRIA 5, broken by an increase in FTE levels starting in FY 2019 after the passage of PRIA 4, which eliminated an appropriations constraint (the “one to one” provision) which prevented EPA from being able to fully spend maintenance fees and resulted in a surplus. EPA began spending down the \$51 million surplus in FY 2020. The increase in FTE levels from FY 2019 to FY 2021 reflects increased hiring as the maintenance fee surplus was spent down. As of the end of FY 2023, the surplus has been reduced and elevated maintenance fee spending above collections is not available moving forward. FY 2024 reductions in appropriations mean that OPP will need to reduce the size of its office by as many as 31 full-time equivalents (FTE) or significantly cut its contract support. The reduced appropriation level will mean additional delays in processing pesticide registration applications and completing registration review cases.

