



MTCA

December 2016

Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) Funds Support the Department of Health Mission

Preventing or reducing the risk of human exposure to hazardous chemicals is an important part of MTCA, and a critical part of public health protection. Whether the source of hazardous chemical contamination is one of the thousands of contaminated sites in Washington or non-point sources of legacy or emerging persistent and bioaccumulative toxics (PBTs), they all have the potential to contribute to major adverse health outcomes for the people of Washington State.

Toxicology (\$1,446,676 per biennium) Works closely with other agencies and the scientific community to evaluate scientific information on toxic substances released into the environment, identify their potential impacts on people's health, and recommend steps to reduce that impact. Staff:

- Conduct public health assessments by evaluating the toxicity of contaminants and potential human exposures at MTCA sites. These assessments have helped to guide the development of environmental sampling and cleanup plans for some MTCA sites.
- Work with the Department of Ecology to develop public education and outreach programs that help people reduce their exposure to harmful contaminants from MTCA sites prior to, and during cleanup.
- Evaluate the potential impact to public health from consumption of fish and shellfish that contain contaminants released from hazardous waste sites along Puget Sound and Washington's rivers. Issue fish consumption advisories to help people reduce their exposure to contaminants in fish.
- Promote the efficient use of limited resources by weighing the relative hazards of different chemical releases, and identifying priority public health concerns.

Pesticides Surveillance and Exposure Prevention (\$848,801 per biennium) Investigates reported cases of pesticide-related illness statewide and uses the data to recommend actions that reduce rates of illness in the population. Staff:

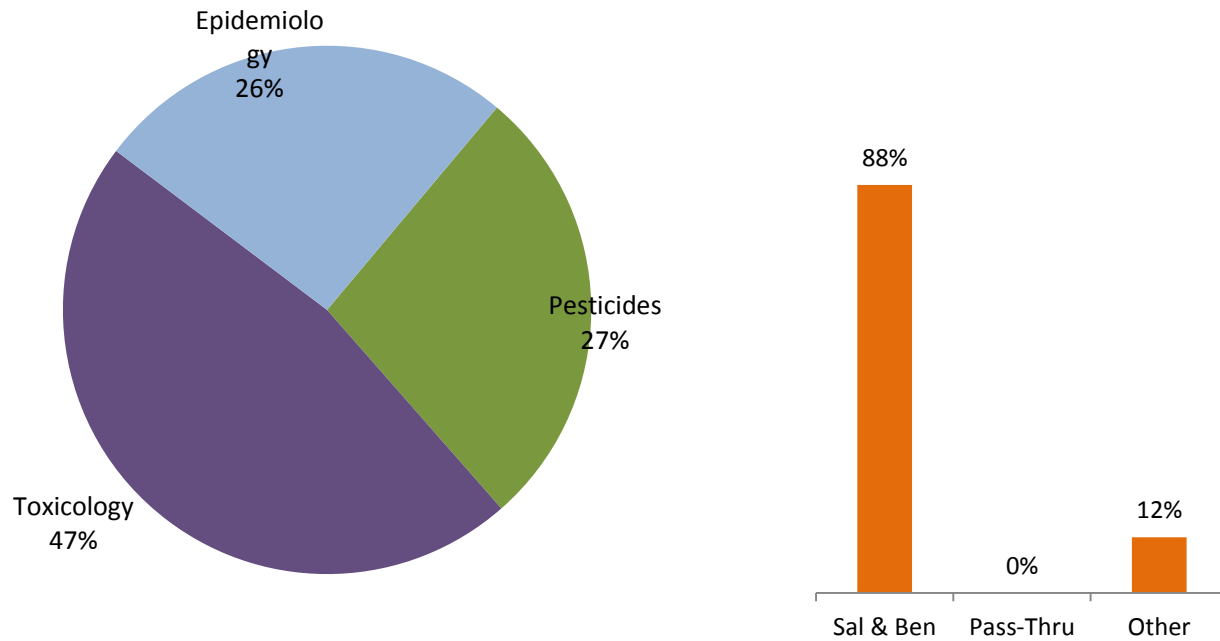
- Evaluate pesticide label instructions for adequacy to protect public health. Make recommendations to industry, and state and federal regulators regarding label changes.
- Carry out studies that help identify risk factors for human exposure, and make recommendations for exposure reduction.
- Compile, analyze, and publish pesticide event, illness, compliance, and prevention data from sister agencies and academia. State policy makers, advocacy groups, and industry use the data to make informed decisions about pesticides in Washington State.

Environmental Epidemiology Program (\$799,585 per biennium) Provides information to agency programs about the patterns, causes, and effects of health and disease conditions related to hazardous environmental contaminants. Staff:

- Conduct health surveys and investigate reports of disease clusters, including cancer, potentially related to contamination at MTCA sites.
- Analyze Department of Ecology-supplied ambient air quality data to characterize and communicate impacts on public health.

MTCA Fiscal Information

2015-17 biennium



	Pesticides	Toxicology	Epidemiology		Total	Sal & Ben	Investments	Other
Total	848,801	1,446,676	799,585	0	3,095,062	2,714,295	0	380,767

Recent Funding History

MTCA funding has remained steady over the last four biennia.