As shown in Table 13, China was the largest pesticide user in 2018 with 1.8 million tonnes, or 43 percent of the world total, far ahead of the United States of America and Brazil (0.4 million tonnes each).

Global pesticides use per cropland area went up 28 percent in the 2000s, from 2.1 kg/ha to 2.6 kg/ha, and levelled out after 2010 (see Figure 16), although with some important regional differences. Pesticides application rates in 2018 were highest in Asia, followed by the Americas, Oceania, Europe and Africa. In the 2010s, Oceania surpassed Europe, but both regions remained below the global average. Asia and Africa were the only two regions where pesticides use per cropland area increased.