

Year to date, numbers as of December 31, 2016

Occupational diseases are usually gradual in onset and result from exposure to work-related conditions that cause disease resulting in the workers' death. The fatalities listed represent disease claims that have been accepted by the Workers' Compensation Board as recorded by the month accepted.

Occupational disease fatalities consist mostly of recognized occupational disease, meaning disease known to be primarily or exclusively work-related e.g. asbestosis, black lung disease. Occupational diseases are frequently diagnosed many years after the initial or crucial exposure to the toxic substance, and it can often be very difficult to determine when the exposure occurred. *The occupational disease category should not be interpreted to reflect present work site hazardous conditions or exposures.* Occupational disease also includes heart attacks suffered on the job. The most frequent occupational disease fatalities accepted by the Workers' Compensation Board in recent years concern exposure to asbestos fibres.

Industry Descriptions

Industry Sector	Description
Agriculture and Forestry	Includes greenhouses and market gardens, feed lots, timber management, logging and related woodlands operations including the trucking of logs.
Business, Personal and Professional Services	Includes building and grounds maintenance, financial services, restaurants, hotels and recreation facilities, security services, and professional services such as engineering.
Construction and Construction Trades	Includes the construction of houses, apartments, industrial plants, roads, bridges and pipelines, and specialized construction trades (e.g. plumbing, painting, roofing, and bricklaying).
Manufacturing and Processing	Involves manufacturing beyond the raw product: includes saw mills, pulp mills, food and beverages, metal fabrication, petrochemicals, and oil refineries.
Mining and Petroleum Development	Includes underground and open pit mining, oil sands mining and processing, operation of oil and gas wells, drilling and servicing of wells, and related services in the oil fields.
Public Administration, Education and Health Services	Includes the provincial government, all forms of local government, universities, colleges, business schools, libraries, hospitals and long term care facilities.
Transportation, Communication and Utilities	Includes public transportation (air, rail, bus), trucking, radio, television, live theatre, electricity, natural gas and garbage collection.
Wholesale And Retail Trade	Includes food and beverage stores, department stores, home improvement centers, and sale and service of automobiles and equipment.

Industry Sector	2016 Number of Fatalities (Year-to-date)	2015 Number of Fatalities (Year-to-date)
Agriculture and Forestry	0	0
Business, Personal and Professional Services	3	2
Construction and Construction Trades	32	25
Federal Government	0	0
Manufacturing and Processing	17	17
Mining and Petroleum Development	4	3
Public Administration, Education and Health Services	11	14
Transportation, Communication and Utilities	8	3
Wholesale and Retail Trade	2	2
TOTAL	77	66
Delayed Fatalities ¹		

Date of Acceptance	Description
Business, Personal and Professional Services	
March 2016	A 62-year-old service worker died of lung cancer related to second hand cigarette smoke exposure in the workplace.
July 2016	A 50-year old hairdresser died from mesothelioma as a result of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
August 2016	A 72- year old construction worker died from respiratory failure due to mesothelioma as a result of workplace exposure to asbestos.
Construction and Construction Trades	
February 2016	A 61-year-old plumber was diagnosed with mesothelioma caused by occupational exposure to asbestos.
February 2016	A 64-year-old commercial and industrial plumber/pipefitter died from mesothelioma caused by 40 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
February 2016	An 85-year-old pipefitter developed an asbestos related respiratory condition due to workplace exposure.
March 2016	A 62-year-old laborer died from asbestos related pleural disease as a result of workplace asbestos exposure over a period of 38 years.
March 2016	A 77-year-old laborer died due to asbestos related lung disease and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) caused by asbestos exposure while performing industrial plant maintenance work over a period of 50 years.
March 2016	An 85-year-old pipefitter died from respiratory failure as a result of workplace exposure to asbestos over a period of eight years.

¹ Delayed or latent occupational disease fatalities include workers who that did not become a fatality until a much later date, often years later. From 2007, these incidents are to be categorized under the original incident. Delayed fatalities have not been included in the year-to-date total as they do not reflect present hazards or exposures.

Date of Acceptance	Description
May 2016	A 77-year old retired electrician died from respiratory failure caused by exposure to asbestos in the workplace over a 30 year career.
May 2016	A 69-year old boilermaker died from mesothelioma as a result of exposure to asbestos during his working career of 49 years.
May 2016	A 60-year old scaffolder was diagnosed with mesothelioma due to workplace exposure to asbestos.
June 2016	An 81-year old retired carpenter/insulator died from respiratory failure caused by exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
June 2016	A 59-year old welder developed renal cancer as a result of workplace exposure to asbestos over a period of 22 years.
July 2016	A 78-year old steamfitter died from lung cancer due to 46 years of exposure to asbestos.
July 2016	An 84-year old steamfitter/pipefitter died of lung cancer due to exposure to asbestos over his 26 year working career.
July 2016	A 64-year old glass installer developed mesothelioma as a result of asbestos exposure in the workplace for 40 years.
July 2016	A 76-year old carpenter died from respiratory failure caused by 26 years of workplace exposure to asbestos.
August 2016	A 69-year old industrial insulator and equipment operator died from asbestosis as a result of workplace exposure to asbestos.
August 2016	A 75-year old welder developed chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and lung cancer due to workplace exposures.
August 2016	A 74-year old pipefitter developed asbestosis due to exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
August 2016	An 83-year old welder/pipefitter was diagnosed with lung cancer caused by 43 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
August 2016	A 78-year old industrial insulator died from lung cancer as a result of workplace exposure to asbestos over 24 years.
September 2016	A 58-year old sheet metal worker died from mesothelioma related to workplace exposure to asbestos dating back to 1974.
September 2016	An 82-year old plumber was diagnosed with mesothelioma due to workplace exposure to asbestos dating back to 1958.
September 2016	An 88-year old retired sheet metal worker developed asbestosis due to workplace exposure to asbestos and died from respiratory failure.
October 2016	A 77-year old tile cutter/installer died from lung cancer due to workplace exposure to asbestos dating back to 1960.
October 2016	An 83-year old plumber was diagnosed with pulmonary fibrosis/asbestosis due to workplace exposure to asbestos dating back to 1971.
October 2016	A 65-year old retired laborer developed asbestos pleural disease and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) due to exposures in the workplace.
October 2016	A 70-year old insulator/supervisor was diagnosed with mesothelioma due to 25 years of workplace exposure.
October 2016	An 84-year old welder was diagnosed with asbestos-related pleural disease, asbestosis, pulmonary hypertension and emphysema as a result of 46 years of

Date of Acceptance	Description
	workplace exposure.
November 2016	A 72-year old retired tile painter died from mesothelioma related to asbestos exposure dating back to the 1960's.
November 2016	An 83-year old plumber was diagnosed with asbestos related lung disease due to workplace exposure to asbestos during his employment.
November 2016	A 69-year old retired insulator worker was diagnosed with asbestos-related lung disease and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) due to workplace exposure.
December 2016	A 73-year old pipefitter developed asbestos related lung disease and cancer due to workplace exposure to air-borne asbestos.
Manufacturing and Processing	
January 2016	A 75-year-old retired iron worker died from mesothelioma caused by 31 years of work-related exposure to asbestos.
February 2016	A 65-year-old graphic designer was exposed to toxic fumes causing COPD and respiratory failure.
February 2016	An 81-year-old retired operator died from mesothelioma caused by 30 years of exposure to asbestos while working in manufacturing of fertilizer.
March 2016	A 55-year-old millwright/mechanic died from renal cancer as a result of workplace exposure to trichloroethylene used as a degreasing solvent.
April 2016	A 66-year-old welder died from lung cancer as a result of exposure to chemicals, dust, and fumes.
June 2016	A 70-year old welder died from COPD as a result of work place exposure to dust and fumes over a period of 41 years.
July 2016	An 86-year old maintenance worker died from malignant mesothelioma as a result of 30 years exposure to asbestos.
July 2016	A 67-year old welder died from COPD due to 47 years of exposure to welding fumes and dust from industrial and commercial welding.
July 2016	An 83-year old instrumentation technician died from pulmonary asbestosis and COPD caused by 16 years of workplace exposure to asbestos.
July 2016	A 72-year old carpenter developed asbestosis and interstitial lung disease due to workplace exposure to asbestos.
July 2016	A 79-year old welder developed lung disease, asbestosis and COPD due to workplace exposure to asbestos.
July 2016	A 63-year old welder died from mesothelioma due to workplace exposure to asbestos over 17 years.
August 2016	An 81-year old retired sheet metal worker developed asbestosis and pleural plaque as a result of 36 years of workplace exposure to asbestos.
August 2016	A 69-year old electrician developed mesothelioma due to 36 years of workplace exposure to asbestos.
August 2016	An 83-year old iron worker and fertilizer bagger developed mesothelioma due to 19 years of workplace exposure to asbestos.

Date of Acceptance	Description
October 2016	A 74-year old welder and heavy duty mechanic was diagnosed with mesothelioma due to workplace exposure to asbestos.
December 2016	A 61-year old former welder died from lymphoma as a result of workplace exposure causing his occupational lung disease.
Mining and Petroleum Development	
March 2016	An 83-year-old retired engineer died from mesothelioma as a result of exposure to asbestos on construction sites over a 32 year period.
May 2016	An 89-year old retired production foreman for 30 years was diagnosed with mesothelioma caused by workplace exposure to asbestos.
September 2016	A 76-year old retired oil production operator developed asbestosis and pleural plaque due to 18 years of workplace exposure to asbestos.
October, 2016	An 82-year old welder developed asbestosis and pleural plaque due to air-borne asbestosis during his employment.
Public Administration, Education and Health Services	
March 2016	A 70-year-old firefighter died from malignant mesothelioma caused by workplace exposure to asbestos over a 30 year period.
May 2016	A 74-year old mechanic helper/painter died from asbestos related pleural disease due to workplace exposure over a 30 year period.
May 2016	An 87 year old former firefighter, regularly exposed to the hazards of a fire scene for over 30 years, died from non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. This fatality claim was accepted by WCB on the basis of s. 24.1 of the Workers' Compensation Act.
July 2016	A 67-year old firefighter regularly exposed to the hazards of a fire scene for over 20 years, died from renal cancer. A fatality claim was accepted by WCB on the basis of s. 24.1 of the Workers' Compensation Act.
July 2016	A 70-year old firefighter regularly exposed to the hazards of a fire scene for over 15 years, died from prostate cancer. A fatality claim was accepted by WCB on the basis of s. 24.1 of the Workers' Compensation Act.
September 2016	A 71-year old firefighter regularly exposed to the hazards of a fire scene for over 30 years, died from lung disease. A fatality claim was accepted by WCB on the basis of s. 24.1 of the Workers' Compensation Act.
November 2016	A 77-year old retired utility worker developed lung disease due to exposure to asbestos in the workplace in the 1960's.
December 2016	A 73-year old water sanitation worker died from lung cancer and asbestos-related pleural plaques as a result of workplace exposure.
December 2016	A 66-year old firefighter regularly exposed to the hazards of a fire scene for over 33 years, died from lung cancer. A fatality claim was accepted by WCB on the basis of s. 24.1 of the Workers' Compensation Act.
December 2016	A 79-year old bridge inspector died due to complications of carcinoma and pleural disease caused by occupational exposure to air-borne asbestos.
December 2016	A 58-year old firefighter regularly exposed to the hazards of a fire scene for over 25 years, died from prostate cancer. A fatality claim was accepted by

Date of Acceptance	Description
	WCB on the basis of s. 24.1 of the Workers' Compensation Act.
Transportation, Communication and Utilities	
February 2016	An 86-year-old retired railway worker was diagnosed with mesothelioma caused by 39 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
March 2016	An 83-year-old electrician died from mesothelioma as a result of asbestos exposure from wire insulation over a period of 25 years.
April 2016	A 75-year-old retired plumber died from asbestos related lung cancer as a result of work place exposure.
May 2016	A 79-year old retired utility worker died from mesothelioma as a result of workplace exposure to asbestos over a 35 year period.
August 2016	An 81-year old mechanic died from mesothelioma due to 19 years of workplace exposure to asbestos.
September 2016	A 43-year old gravel truck driver with silicosis and lung cancer from workplace exposures, died from complications of cancer.
December 2016	A 65-year old former worker of a fertilizer plant suffered lung cancer and died of respiratory failure due to his exposure to asbestos.
December 2016	An 84-year old aircraft mechanic died from mesothelioma as a result of workplace exposure to asbestos.
Wholesale and Retail Trade	
August 2016	A 64-year old mechanic diagnosed with lung cancer and findings of pleural plaque and asbestosis.
September 2016	A 76-year old former mechanic died from asbestos-related lung disease due to workplace exposure over 43 years of employment.