

Occupational Disease Fatalities Accepted by the Workers' Compensation Board

Year to date, numbers as of December 31, 2014

Occupational disease fatalities 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 fatal 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	2014 Number of Fatalities (Year-to-date)	2013 Number of Fatalities (Year-to-date)
Agriculture and Forestry	0	0
Business, Personal and Professional Services	2	0
Construction and Construction Trades	39	40
Federal Government	0	0
Manufacturing and Processing	14	24
Mining and Petroleum Development	5	7
Public Administration, Education and Health Services	16	23
Transportation, Communication and Utilities	4	4
Wholesale and Retail Trade	1	1
TOTAL	81	99
Delayed Fatalities ¹		

Date of Acceptance	Description
Business, Personal and Professional	
August 2014	An 88-year-old retired civil engineer died from mesothelioma as a result of 15 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
December 2014	A 69-year-old former insulator died from mesothelioma as a result of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
Construction and Construction Trades	
January 2014	An 86-year-old former boilermaker died from mesothelioma as a result of 10 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
January 2014	A 70-year-old former plumber/pipefitter died from asbestos-related lung disease and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease as a result of 25 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
January 2014	A 77-year-old former painter and sandblaster died from mesothelioma as a result of exposure to asbestos in the workplace approximately 40 years earlier.
March 2014	A 71-year-old former oilfield worker died from mesothelioma as a result of 6 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
March 2014	An 81-year-old former painter died from asbestosis as a result of approximately 40 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
March 2014	An 87-year-old former electrical instrumentation supervisor died from mesothelioma as a result of over 30 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.

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
March 2014	A 54-year-old pipefitter died from cancer of the larynx as a result of 31 years of exposure to asbestos and toxic fumes in the workplace.
March 2014	A 74-year-old former plasterer died from asbestosis as a result of 20 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
March 2014	An 82-year-old former ironworker died from asbestos pleural disease as a result of two years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
April 2014	An 81-year-old former construction worker died from peritoneal mesothelioma as a result of over 35 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
May 2014	An 80-year-old former oilfield radiographer, plumber, and welder died from lung disease as a result of approximately 40 years exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
May 2014	A 48-year-old former oilfield construction supervisor died from lung cancer as a result of eight years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
June 2014	An 81-year-old former plumber died from asbestos-related pleural disease as a result of over 20 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
June 2014	A 79-year-old former construction and oilfield labourer died from mesothelioma as a result of several years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
July 2014	A 79-year-old former bricklayer died from pulmonary fibrosis as a result of approximately 50 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
August 2014	A 71-year-old former electrician died from mesothelioma as a result of 10 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
August 2014	A 69-year-old former miner, smelter operator, and labourer died from chronic obstructive pulmonary disease as a result of more than 16 years of exposure to hazardous materials in the workplace such as coal dust, sulfur dioxide, chlorine, mercury, etc.
August 2014	A 66-year-old former plumber died from small cell carcinoma of the lung as a result more than 30 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
August 2014	A 79-year-old former sheet metal worker died from asbestos as a result of over 50 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
September 2014	A 73-year-old former drywall finisher died from asbestosis as a result of approximately 40 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
September 2014	A 67-year-old former drywall installer died from asbestosis as a result of exposure to asbestos in the workplace dating back approximately 40 years.
September 2014	A 66-year-old former maintenance worker died from mesothelioma as a result of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
September 2014	A 76-year-old former pipefitter died from asbestosis as a result of exposure to asbestos in the workplace dating back approximately 50 years.
October 2014	A 71-year-old former insulator died from mesothelioma as a result of 21 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.

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October 2014	A 74-year-old former carpenter died from mesothelioma as a result of exposure to asbestos in the workplace dating back to 1955.
October 2014	An 85-year-old former sheet metal worker died from mesothelioma as a result of 45 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
October 2014	A 66-year-old former construction worker died from mesothelioma as a result of approximately 30 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
November 2014	A 72-year-old former plumber died from lung cancer as a result of approximately 45 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
November 2014	A 78-year-old former iron worker died from atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease as a result of approximately 25 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
December 2014	An 80-year-old former construction helper died from lung cancer as a result of 23 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
December 2014	An 86-year-old former carpenter died from mesothelioma as a result of two years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
December 2014	A 75-year-old former sheet metal worker died from mesothelioma as a result of 48 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
December 2014	A 75-year-old former refinery worker died from acute myeloid leukemia as a result of 30 years of exposure to chemicals in the workplace.
December 2014	A 58-year-old former labourer/plasterer died from mesothelioma as a result of two years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
December 2014	A 79-year-old former floor/tile setter died from interstitial lung disease as a result of 20 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
December 2014	An 81-year-old former electrician died from mesothelioma as a result of exposure to asbestos in the workplace more than 60 years ago.
December 2014	A 68-year-old former insulator died from severe chronic obstructive pulmonary disease as a result of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
December 2014	A 67-year-old former drywaller died from mesothelioma as a result of multiple years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
December 2014	An 83-year-old former construction labourer died from asbestos related pleural disease as a result of 26 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
Manufacturing and Processing	
February 2014	A 72-year-old former fork-lift driver died from lymphadenopathy and chronic lung disease as a result of 30 years of exposure to asbestos, silica and paint fumes in the workplace.
March 2014	A 70-year-old former sheet metal worker died from mesothelioma as a result of nine years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
March 2014	A 71-year-old former pipe coater and sandblaster died from asbestosis and chronic obstructive lung disease as a result of 54 years of exposure to

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	asbestos, silica dust and other toxic fumes in the workplace.
March 2014	An 81-year-old former gas plant technician died from mesothelioma as a result of approximately 40 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
April 2014	A 54-year-old former tire plant worker died from bladder cancer as a result of 27 years of exposure to toxic fumes and chemicals in the workplace.
April 2014	A 58-year-old former asbestos bagging operator died from esophageal cancer as a result of five years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
April 2014	An 80-year-old former plant operator and carpenter died from mesothelioma as a result of 21 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
August 2014	An 84-year old former sheet metal worker died from asbestosis as a result of 16 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
September 2014	A 78-year-old former steam engineer died from lung cancer as a result of 37 years of exposure to asbestos and chlorine in the workplace.
November 2014	An 86-year-old former oil refinery worker died from mesothelioma as a result of approximately 15 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
December 2014	A 70-year-old former sandblaster and welder died from chronic obstructive pulmonary disease as a result of exposure to smoke, dust and fumes in the workplace.
December 2014	A 73-year-old former machinist died from lung cancer as a result of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
December 2014	A 76-year-old former welder died from lung cancer as a result of 28 years of exposure to asbestos and chemicals in the workplace from.
December 2014	A 68-year-old former welder and heavy duty mechanic died from medical complications related to his previous lung transplants, which resulted from 28 years of exposure to welding fumes and iron fillings in the workplace.
Mining and Petroleum Development	
May 2014	A 76-year-old former gas plant worker died from asbestos-related pleural disease as a result of approximately 35 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
June 2014	A 77-year-old former miner died from pneumoconiosis as a result of 40 years of exposure to silica in the workplace.
June 2014	An 81-year-old former gas plant worker died from mesothelioma as a result of 36 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
October 2014	A 78-year-old former miner died from chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and asbestos-related pleural disease as a result of approximately 50 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
December 2014	A 97-year-old former miner died from silicosis as a result of exposure to chemicals in the workplace more than 40 years ago.
Public Administration, Education and Health Services	

Date of Acceptance	Description
January 2014	A 69-year-old former firefighter, who was employed as a firefighter and regularly exposed to the hazards of a fire scene for over 30 years, died from renal cell carcinoma. A fatality claim was accepted by WCB on the basis of s. 24.1 of the Workers' Compensation Act, which presumes that the condition was caused by employment.
March 2014	A 93-year-old former firefighter, who was employed as a firefighter and regularly exposed to the hazards of a fire scene for over 26 years, died from leukemia. A fatality claim was accepted by WCB on the basis of s. 24.1 of the Workers' Compensation Act, which presumes that the condition was caused by employment.
March 2014	A 70-year-old former firefighter, who was employed as a firefighter and regularly exposed to the hazards of a fire scene for over 30 years, died from leukemia. A fatality claim was accepted by WCB on the basis of s. 24.1 of the Workers' Compensation Act, which presumes that the condition was caused by employment.
March 2014	An 81-year-old former firefighter, who was employed as a firefighter and regularly exposed to the hazards of a fire scene for over 30 years, died from renal cell carcinoma. A fatality claim was accepted by WCB on the basis of s. 24.1 of the Workers' Compensation Act, which presumes that the condition was caused by employment.
April 2014	An 85-year-old former auto mechanic died from atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease and asbestosis as a result of 25 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
April 2014	A 66-year-old former labourer died from asbestosis and small cell lung cancer as a result of exposure to asbestos in the workplace in 1968.
July 2014	An 86-year-old former firefighter, who was employed as a firefighter and regularly exposed to the hazards of a fire scene for over 25 years, died from mesothelioma. A fatality claim was accepted by WCB on the basis of s. 24.1 of the Workers' Compensation Act, which presumes that the condition was caused by employment.
August 2014	A 62-year-old former firefighter, who was employed as a firefighter and regularly exposed to the hazards of a fire scene for over 33 years, died from colon cancer. A fatality claim was accepted by WCB on the basis of s. 24.1 of the Workers' Compensation Act, which presumes that the condition was caused by employment.
October 2014	An 88-year-old former firefighter, who was employed as a firefighter and regularly exposed to the hazards of a fire scene for over 33 years, died from colon cancer. A fatality claim was accepted by WCB on the basis of s. 24.1 of the Workers' Compensation Act, which presumes that the condition was caused by employment.
October 2014	A 73-year-old former firefighter, who was employed as a firefighter and regularly exposed to the hazards of a fire scene for over 27 years, died from esophageal cancer. A fatality claim was accepted by WCB on the basis of s. 24.1 of the Workers' Compensation Act, which presumes that the condition

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	was caused by employment.
November 2014	A 71-year-old former firefighter, who was employed as a firefighter and regularly exposed to the hazards of a fire scene for over 27 years, died from bladder cancer. A fatality claim was accepted by WCB on the basis of s. 24.1 of the Workers' Compensation Act, which presumes that the condition was caused by employment.
November 2014	A 79-year-old former firefighter, who was employed as a firefighter and regularly exposed to the hazards of a fire scene for over 31 years, died from lung cancer. A fatality claim was accepted by WCB on the basis of s. 24.1 of the Workers' Compensation Act, which presumes that the condition was caused by employment.
November 2014	A 46-year-old former dietary aide died from mesothelioma as a result of two years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
December 2014	A 78-year-old former miner and heavy duty mechanic died from mesothelioma as a result of 22 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
December 2014	A 57-year-old former firefighter, who was employed as a firefighter and regularly exposed to the hazards of a fire scene for over 28 years, died from kidney cancer. A fatality claim was accepted by WCB on the basis of s. 24.1 of the Workers' Compensation Act, which presumes that the condition was caused by employment.
December 2014	An 84-year-old former stationary engineer and mechanic died from mesothelioma as a result of 39 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
Transportation, Communication and Utilities	
April 2014	An 83-year-old former linesman and electrician died from squamous cell carcinoma as a result of approximately 30 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
May 2014	A 74-year-old former mechanic died from asbestos as a result of approximately 35 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
June 2014	An 80-year-old former millwright died from mesothelioma as a result of six years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
December 2014	A 93-year-old former millworker and mechanic died from lung cancer as a result of 22 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
Wholesale and Retail Trade	
April 2014	An 80-year-old former general labourer died from asbestosis as a result of 11 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.