

Occupational Disease Fatalities Accepted by the Workers' Compensation Board

Year to date, numbers as of December 31, 2010

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	2010 Number of Fatalities (Year-to-date)	2009 Number of Fatalities (Year-to-date)
Agriculture and Forestry	0	0
Business, Personal and Professional Services	0	0
Construction and Construction Trades	37	17
Federal Government	0	0
Manufacturing and Processing	7	12
Mining and Petroleum Development	3	5
Public Administration, Education and Health Services	8	10
Transportation, Communication and Utilities	3	2
Wholesale and Retail Trade	4	4
TOTAL	62	50
Delayed Fatalities ¹		

Date of Acceptance	Description
Construction and Construction Trade	
January 2010	A 67-year old insulator developed asbestos related pleural disease from years of occupational asbestos exposure, resulting in respiratory failure.
January 2010	A 77-year old labourer developed chronic obstructive pulmonary disease from exposure to gas and chemicals in the workplace from 1978 – 1992.
February 2010	A 66-year old carpenter developed malignant mesothelioma from exposure to asbestos while working in the construction industry in the 1970's.
February 2010	A 61-year old worker died from metastatic mesothelioma as a result of exposure to solvents, including asbestos, during a career in the industrial machine industry.
February 2010	A 57-year old welder died from acute myeloid leukemia as a result of occupational exposure to benzene and other chemicals between the 1970's and 1990's.
March 2010	A 75-year old electrician died due to asbestos related pulmonary and pleural disease after exposure to asbestos between 1953 and 1961.
March 2010	A 68-year old construction supervisor died due to mesothelioma after long term asbestos exposure between 1966 and 1996.
March 2010	A 73-year old mill and plant worker died from mesothelioma after asbestos exposure in the late 1960s and 1970s.
March 2010	A 70-year old insulator died due to mesothelioma after exposure to asbestos while working in a power plant for the summer in 1955.

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 2010	An 83-year old electrician died due to complications related to asbestosis after exposure while working in a power plant in 1971.
March 2010	A 78-year old insulator died due to complications related to asbestosis after exposure during a long working career of over 30 years.
March 2010	A 62-year old insulator died due to mesothelioma after exposure to asbestos between 1967 and 1974 and then again between 1981 and 1993.
April 2010	A 90-year old miner passed away from asbestosis after exposure while working in a mine during the 1940s.
April 2010	An 83-year old carpenter passed away from asbestosis after exposure during a lengthy career.
April 2010	An 82-year old carpenter passed away from asbestosis after exposure while working in a factory from 1959 to 1987.
April 2010	An 84-year old carpenter foreman passed away from mesothelioma after exposure to asbestos between 1948 and 1987 at various job sites.
May 2010	An 80-year old painter passed away from COPD after working for 48 years with exposure to asbestos and paint fumes.
May 2010	A 75-year old electrician passed away from asbestos plural disease after exposure between 1959 and 1974.
May 2010	A 96-year old pipe fitter passed away from asbestosis after exposure between 1947 and 1979.
July 2010	A 67-year old plumber passed away due to mesothelioma after exposure to asbestos between 1968 and 2003
July 2010	A 67-year old equipment operator passed away due to silicosis after exposure to particulates in 1980-81.
August 2010	A 71-year old construction worker passed away due to asbestosis after exposure to asbestos and wood dust between 1984 and 2003.
August 2010	A 71-year old insulator developed mesothelioma after exposure to asbestos between 1957 and 1959.
August 2010	A 71-year old pipefitter developed mesothelioma after exposure to asbestos between 1957 and 2000.
August 2010	A 76-year old welder developed mesothelioma after exposure to asbestos between 1956 and 1978.
August 2010	A 69-year old electrician passed away due to asbestosis after exposure between 1958 and 1985.
August 2010	An 84-year old floor installer passed away due to asbestosis after exposure between 1962 and 1972.
September 2010	An 85-year old marine fitter passed away due to asbestosis after exposure between 1940 and 1950.

Date of Acceptance	Description
September 2010	A 59-year old sheet metal worker developed mesothelioma after exposure to asbestos during the 1970s.
September 2010	A 79-year old iron worker passed away due to asbestosis after exposure between 1956 and 1958.
September 2010	A 60-year old operator and metal worker developed mesothelioma after exposure to asbestos between 1988 and 2005.
October 2010	An 80-year old bricklayer developed asbestosis after exposure between 1967 and 2005.
October 2010	A 68-year old foundry manager developed mesothelioma after exposure to various chemicals between 1965 and 2005.
October 2010	A 63-year old plumber developed mesothelioma after exposure to asbestos between 1978 and 2003.
October 2010	A 78-year old painter developed mesothelioma after exposure to various irritants and paint chemicals between 1952 and 1991.
November 2010	A 72-year old electrician developed mesothelioma after exposure to asbestos during a 50 year career.
November 2010	A 62-year old insulator developed asbestosis after exposure between 1965 and 1985.

Manufacturing and Processing

March 2010	A 56-year old millwright died due to complications from asbestosis due to exposure between 1974 and 2008.
April 2010	A 71-year old operations foreman developed mesothelioma after working in oil and chemical plants between 1965 and 1993.
April 2010	A 71-year old steam engineer passed away from asbestosis complications after exposure between 1956 and 1993.
May 2010	A 73-year old carpenter passed away from asbestosis after exposure between 1957 and 2009.
July 2010	A 71-year old welder passed away from asbestosis after exposure to asbestos and welding dust between 1969 and 1989.
August 2010	A 63-year old millwright passed away due to asbestosis after exposure between 1963 and 1998.
September 2010	A 66-year old worker with various jobs developed COPD from exposure to various chemicals throughout his working career between 1961 and 1995.

Mining and Petroleum Development

July 2010	A 59-year old rig worker developed mesothelioma after exposure to toxins and asbestos during the 1970s.
November 2010	An 80-year old worker developed asthmatic bronchitis from cement dust exposure during working career.

Date of Acceptance	Description
December 2010	A 66-year old mechanical fitter developed mesothelioma after being exposed to various chemicals and asbestos between 1959 and 1980.
Public Administration, Education and Health Services	
January 2010	A 75-year old worker developed malignant mesothelioma resulting from asbestos exposure during the 1950's.
February 2010	An 83-year old spray painter died from myeloid leukemia as a result of exposure to benzene during the course of employment from 1949 to 1982.
March 2010	A 71-year old carpenter died due to mesothelioma after being exposed to asbestos between 1985 and 1997.
March 2010	A 61-year old hairdresser died due to COPD after exposure in the workplace for the majority of working career.
April 2010	A 68-year old fire fighter passed away from colon cancer after employed from 1965 to 1996.
July 2010	A 53-year old firefighter developed colorectal cancer after exposure to toxic fumes during a 30 year career.
October 2010	A 72-year old teacher developed mesothelioma after exposure to asbestos while working in schools during the 1960s.
October 2010	A 97-year old maintenance worker developed mesothelioma after exposure to asbestos between 1962 and 1977.
Transportation and Utilities	
January 2010	A 73-year old truck driver developed pulmonary interstitial fibrosis from years of occupational asbestos exposure resulting in asbestosis and respiratory failure.
January 2010	An 86-year old electrician died as a consequence of aspiration pneumonia due to pulmonary asbestosis.
July 2010	An 83-year old gas fitter passed away due to asbestosis after exposure between 1949 and 1984.
Wholesale and Retail	
May 2010	A 72-year old mechanic manager passed away from mesothelioma after exposure to asbestos while working on vehicle brake pads between 1962 and 1988.
July 2010	A 73-year old maintenance welder developed mesothelioma after exposure to asbestos between 1957 and 1996.
September 2010	An 80-year old plant operator developed mesothelioma after exposure to asbestos between 1957 and 1986.
September 2010	A 79-year old worker developed asbestosis after exposure during prior years of employment.