

Occupational Disease Fatalities Accepted by the Workers' Compensation Board

Year to date, numbers as of December 31, 2013

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	2013 Number of Fatalities (Year-to-date)	2012 Number of Fatalities (Year-to-date)
Agriculture and Forestry	0	0
Business, Personal and Professional Services	0	0
Construction and Construction Trades	40	22
Federal Government	0	0
Manufacturing and Processing	24	7
Mining and Petroleum Development	7	7
Public Administration, Education and Health Services	23	17
Transportation, Communication and Utilities	4	4
Wholesale and Retail Trade	1	1
TOTAL	99	58
Delayed Fatalities ¹		

Date of Acceptance	Description
Construction and Construction Trades	
January 2013	A 78-year-old former tile setter died from asbestosis as a result of over 15 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
February 2013	A 91-year-old former insulator died from asbestos-related pleural disease as a result of 15 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
February 2013	A 63-year-old former oilfield worker and insulator died from mesothelioma as a result of previous exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
February 2013	An 85-year-old former plumber/pipefitter died from asbestosis as a result of previous exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
March 2013	An 81-year-old former insulator died from asbestosis as a result of approximately 15 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
April 2013	A 65-year-old former plumber died from mesothelioma as a result 30 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
April 2013	A 64-year-old former plumber/pipefitter died from mesothelioma as a result of over 15 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
April 2013	A 66-year-old former mechanical technician died from mesothelioma as a result of 40 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
April 2013	A 78-year-old former labourer died from asbestosis as a result of over 10 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
April 2013	A 76-year old former pipefitter died from lung cancer as a result of over 15 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
May 2013	A 44-year-old former coatings inspector died from scleroderma as a result of 20 years of exposure to silica and toxic chemicals in the workplace.
May 2013	A 71-year-old former elevator mechanic died from mesothelioma as a result of approximately 16 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
May 2013	An 80-year-old former carpenter died from mesothelioma as a result of approximately 30 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
May 2013	A 74-year-old former insulating labourer died from mesothelioma as a result of exposure to asbestos in the workplace in the 1950s.
May 2013	A 75-year-old former electrician died from asbestos pleural disease as a result of 46 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
June 2013	A 64-year-old former sandblaster died from silicosis as a result of approximately two years of exposure to silica in the workplace.
June 2013	An 86-year-old former electrician died from asbestosis as a result of several years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
June 2013	A 65-year-old former industrial radiographer died from mesothelioma as a result of approximately 40 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
August 2013	A 77-year-old former cement mason died from lung cancer as a result of 30 years of exposure to silica and concrete dust in the workplace.
August 2013	A 77-year-old former plant and steam system designer died from mesothelioma as a result of several years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
August 2013	A 61-year-old plumber died from mesothelioma as a result of approximately 10 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
September 2013	A 75-year-old former electrician died from mesothelioma as a result of 40 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
September 2013	A 72-year-old former bricklayer and drywaller died from mesothelioma as a result of over 50 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
September 2013	An 81-year-old former electrician died from mesothelioma as a result of over 30 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
September 2013	A 66-year-old former electrician and insulator died from asbestosis as a result of over 40 of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
October 2013	A 71-year-old former bulldozer operator died from mesothelioma as a result of approximately 50 years of exposure to asbestos from building demolition and heavy equipment brake lining repair in the workplace.
October 2013	An 81-year-old former floor layer died from silicosis as a result of 40 years of exposure to asbestos tiles in the workplace.
October 2013	A 74-year-old former insulator died from mesothelioma as a result of two months of exposure to asbestos in the workplace in 1956.

Date of Acceptance	Description
October 2013	A 66-year-old former carpenter died from mesothelioma as a result of over 10 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
October 2013	An 85-year-old former boiler operator died from asbestos related pleural disease as a result of over 30 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
November 2013	A 77-year-old former electrician died from atherosclerotic coronary artery disease related to a myocardial infarction which occurred at work in 1984.
November 2013	A 68-year-old former pipefitter died from lung cancer as a result of approximately 20 years of exposure to fumes, gases and asbestos in the workplace.
November 2013	A 73-year-old former electrician died from lung cancer as a result of more than 20 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
November 2013	A 71-year-old former insulator died from asbestosis as a result of approximately 23 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
November 2013	An 80-year-old former chemical plant worker died from mesothelioma as a result of approximately 20 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
November 2013	A 91-year-old former plumbing and heating business owner died from mesothelioma as a result of exposure to asbestos in the workplace for several decades, commencing in 1939.
December 2013	A 77-year-old former pipefitter died from mesothelioma as a result of over 40 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
December 2013	A 49-year-old former construction labourer died from mesothelioma as a result of three years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
December 2013	A 79-year-old former bricklayer died as a result of complications from a lung transplant, acquired as a result of approximately 40 years of exposure to silica, lime, insulation and other toxins in the workplace.
December 2013	A 75-year-old former pipe layer died from mesothelioma as a result of 14 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
Manufacturing and Processing	
January 2013	A 79-year-old retired shingle manufacturer worker died from asbestosis as a result of over 20 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
January 2013	A 79-year-old retired pipefitter died from mesothelioma as a result of over 20 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
February 2013	An 88-year-old former chemical plant process operator died from asbestosis as a result of over 25 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
February 2013	A 66-year-old former powder coater and metal worker died from pneumoconiosis as a result of over 10 years of exposure to asbestos, dust and chemicals in the workplace.
February 2013	A 77-year-old former welder died from asbestosis as a result of approximately 27 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.

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February 2013	A 77-year-old former chemical plant operator died from asbestosis pleural disease as a result of more than 30 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
March 2013	An 85-year-old former foundry worker died as a result of 30 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
March 2013	A 60-year-old former pipefitter died from mesothelioma as a result of more than 25 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
March 2013	A 75-year-old former welder died from lung cancer as a result of over 45 years of exposure to toxic fumes in the workplace.
March 2013	A 75-year-old former millwright supervisor died from chronic obstructive pulmonary disease as a result of approximately 34 years of exposure to asbestos and toxic fumes in the workplace.
March 2013	A 58-year-old former plumber/pipefitter died from mesothelioma as a result of approximately 10 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
April 2013	A 57-year-old former salvage worker died from chronic obstructive pulmonary disease as a result of 15 years of exposure to dust and fumes in the workplace.
April 2013	A 65-year-old former chemical plant worker died from leukemia as a result of over 10 years of exposure to benzene and other toxic chemicals in the workplace.
April 2013	An 80-year-old former chemical plant worker died from asbestosis as a result of 10 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
July 2013	A 73-year-old asphalt paving labourer died from malignant mesothelioma as a result of exposure to asbestos in the workplace in the 1970s.
August 2013	An 84-year-old former welder died from malignant mesothelioma as a result of approximately 20 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
August 2013	An 80-year-old former industrial plant operator died from mesothelioma as a result of over 35 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
August 2013	A 66-year-old former instrumentation technician died from mesothelioma as a result of exposure to asbestos while working in refineries in the 1960s.
August 2013	A 66-year-old former steam engineer died from mesothelioma as a result of exposure to asbestos covered pipes and vessels while working in an industrial plant from 1976 to 1977.
August 2013	A 79-year-old former underground mining superintendent died from mesothelioma as a result of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
September 2013	An 86-year-old former processing plant electrician died from atherosclerotic coronary artery disease and pulmonary asbestosis as a result of 30 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
October 2013	A 74-year-old former carpenter died from asbestos related pleural disease as a result of approximately 15 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
November 2013	A 75-year-old former boilermaker helper died from mesothelioma as a result of approximately five years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
December 2013	A 58-year-old former aircraft painter died from chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) as a result of years of exposure to isocyanates in

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	the workplace.
Mining and Petroleum Development	
January 2013	A 56-year-old former oilfield equipment operator died from lung cancer as a result of approximately ten years of exposure to silica, coke dust, benzene, and other contaminants in the workplace.
January 2013	A 92-year-old former coal miner died from silicosis as a result of many years of exposure to silica and coal dust in the workplace.
February 2013	A 74-year-old former coal miner died from interstitial lung disease as a result of approximately 40 years of exposure to stone and coal dust in the workplace.
March 2013	An 84-year-old former coal miner died from mesothelioma as a result of over ten years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
May 2013	A 64-year-old former welder and oilfield worker died from mesothelioma as a result of 29 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
August 2013	A 64-year-old former safety manager working in underground coal mining died from lung cancer as a result of approximately 19 years of exposure to coal dust in the workplace.
August 2013	A 56-year-old oilfield worker died from mesothelioma as a result of approximately 20 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
Public Administration, Education and Health Services	
January 2013	A 71-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 prostate cancer. A fatality claim was accepted by WCB on the basis of s. 24.1 of the Workers' Compensation Act, which presumes that the cancer was caused by employment.
January 2013	An 83-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 cancer was caused by employment.
January 2013	A 78-year-old former medical prosthetist/orthotist died from mesothelioma as a result of over 15 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
February 2013	An 82-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 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 cancer was caused by employment.
April 2013	A 77-year-old former psychiatric ward nurse died from chronic obstructive pulmonary disease as a result of over eight years of exposure to cigarette smoke in the workplace.

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April 2013	An 86-year-old former plant maintenance labourer died from mesothelioma as a result of over 20 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
April 2013	A 64-year-old former firefighter, who was employed as a firefighter and regularly exposed to the hazards of a fire scene for over 20 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 cancer was caused by employment.
April 2013	A 76-year-old former maintenance supervisor died from asbestosis as a result of over 20 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
May 2013	A 66-year-old former firefighter, who was employed as a firefighter and regularly exposed to the hazards of a fire scene for over 29 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 cancer was caused by employment.
May 2013	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 cancer was caused by employment.
May 2013	A 61-year-old former government systems analyst died from mesothelioma as a result of exposure to asbestos in the workplace during building renovations from 1983 to 1986.
May 2013	A 55-year-old former arson detective died as a result of approximately ten years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace
June 2013	A 70-year-old former engineering technologist died from mesothelioma as a result of approximately 37 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
June 2013	A 54-year-old former firefighter, who was employed as a firefighter and regularly exposed to the hazards of a fire scene for over 18 years, died from prostate cancer. A fatality claim was accepted by WCB on the basis of s. 24.1 of the Workers' Compensation Act, which presumes that the cancer was caused by employment.
July 2013	A 69-year-old former firefighter, who was employed as a firefighter and regularly exposed to the hazards of a fire scene for 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 cancer was caused by employment.
July 2013	A 76-year-old former firefighter, who was employed as a firefighter and regularly exposed to the hazards of a fire scene for 30 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 cancer was caused by employment.
August 2013	An 80-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 cancer. A fatality claim was accepted by WCB on the basis of s. 24.1 of

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	the Workers' Compensation Act, which presumes that the cancer was caused by employment.
August 2013	A 74-year-old former firefighter, who was employed as a firefighter and regularly exposed to the hazards of a fire scene for over 34 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 cancer was caused by employment.
September 2013	A 75-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 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 cancer was caused by employment.
September 2013	A 77-year-old former meteorological services inspector/upper air technician died from mesothelioma as a result of over 30 years of exposure to asbestos in specialized equipment in the workplace.
October 2013	A 65-year-old former carpenter died from chronic obstructive pulmonary disease as a result of approximately 15 years of exposure to asbestos and wood dust in the workplace.
November 2013	An 83-year-old former firefighter, who was regularly exposed to the hazards of a fire scene for over 30 years, died from chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. 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 2013	A 46-year-old former maintenance worker died from mesothelioma as a result of three years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
Transportation and Utilities	
January 2013	A 90-year-old retired maintenance worker died of asbestos-related lung disease as a result of over 30 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
February 2013	An 83-year-old former power plant worker died from mesothelioma as a result of over 35 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
August 2013	A 79-year-old former truck driver died from mesothelioma as a result of handling asbestos products in the workplace in the 1960s.
November 2013	A 78-year-old former power lineman died from throat cancer and asbestosis as a result of 35 years of exposure to asbestos in the workplace.
Wholesale and Retail Trade	
June 2013	A 64-year-old former autobody repairman died from multiple neurological and respiratory complications as a result of approximately 40 years of exposure to benzene and other toxic chemicals in the workplace.