

Table 4-12. Cotton Dust: Number of samples, geometric mean exposures, and percent exceeding designated occupational exposure limits by industries with elevated byssinosis mortality, OSHA samples, 1990-1999

Byssinosis Mortality, Selected States and Years, 1990-1999				Number of Samples	GM (mg/m³)	% > PEL	% > REL
CIC	Industries with elevated PMRs and most frequently recorded on death certificates	Number of Deaths	PMR				
142	Yarn, thread, and fabric mills	39	22.26	404	0.133	23.3	31.9
	All other industries	41		64	0.086	17.2	31.3
	TOTAL			468	0.125	22.4	31.8

CIC - Census Industry Code PEL - permissible exposure limit REL - recommended exposure limit PMR - proportionate mortality ratio
 GM - geometric mean mg/m³ - milligrams per cubic meter

NOTE: The OSHA PEL is 0.2 mg/m³ for yarn manufacturing and cotton washing operations, 0.5 mg/m³ for textile mill waste house operations or for dust from lower grade washed cotton used during yarn manufacturing, 0.75 mg/m³ for textile slashing and weaving operations, and 1.0 mg/m³ for cotton waste processing operations or waste recycling (i.e., sorting, blending, cleaning, and willowing) and garnetting. The NIOSH REL is 0.2 mg/m³. See appendices for source description, methods, ICD codes, industry codes, agents, and list of selected states (and years) for which usual industry has been reported.

SOURCE: Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Integrated Management Information System. National Center for Health Statistics multiple cause of death data.