

Table 2-15. Respirable coal mine dust: Number of samples, geometric mean exposures, and percent exceeding designated occupational exposure limits by industries with elevated coal workers' pneumoconiosis mortality, MSHA inspector and mine operator samples, 1990-1999

Coal Workers' Pneumoconiosis Mortality, Selected States and Years, 1990-1999								
CIC	Industries with elevated PMRs and most frequently recorded on death certificates	Number of Deaths	PMR	Number of Samples	GM (mg/m³)	% > PEL	% > REL 1995-1999	
041	Coal mining	3,765	53.18	794,637	0.509	8.6	26.2	
	All other industries	935		0	-	-	-	
	TOTAL			794,637	0.509	8.6	26.2	

- indicates incalculable field

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 MRE - Mining Research Establishment

NOTE: In coal mining, for respirable dust containing less than 5% quartz, the MSHA PEL is 2 mg/m³MRE; for respirable dust containing greater than 5% quartz, the MSHA PEL is [(10 mg/m³ MRE) / (% quartz)]. The NIOSH REL of 1 mg/m³ MRE for respirable coal mine dust was adopted in September of 1995. Geometric means are reported in MRE equivalent. All samples are compared to the MSHA PEL of 2 mg/m³ MRE for respirable coal mine dust containing less than 5% quartz, regardless of actual quartz content. 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: Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) coal mine inspector and mine operator dust data. National Center for Health Statistics multiple cause of death data.