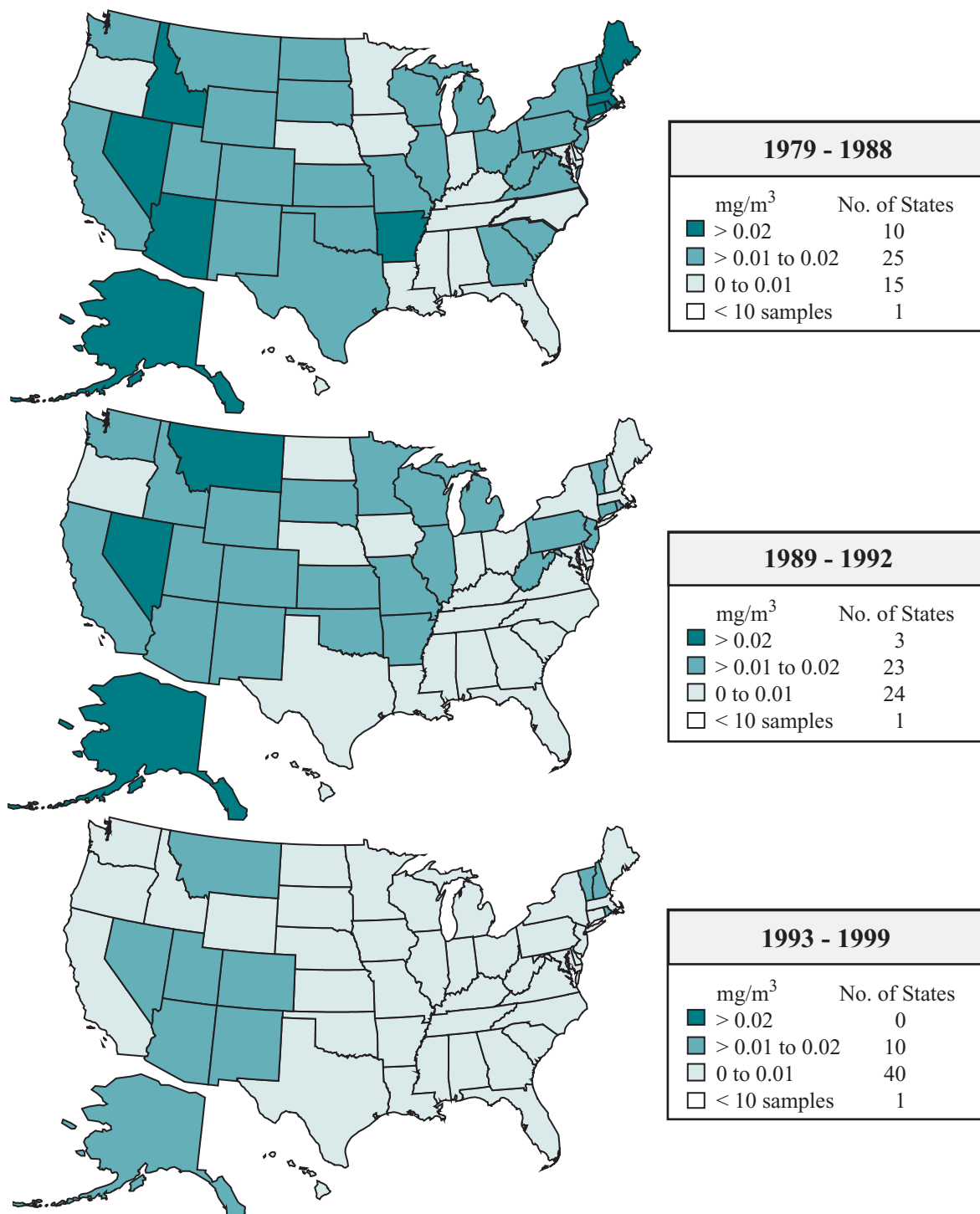


Figure 3-8. Respirable quartz: Geometric mean metal/nonmetal mining exposures by state, MSHA samples, 1979-1999



PEL - permissible exposure limit REL - recommended exposure limit mg/m³ - milligrams per cubic meter

NOTE: For metal/nonmetal mining, the MSHA PEL is $[(10 \text{ mg/m}^3) / (\% \text{ quartz} + 2)]$ for respirable dust containing at least 1 percent quartz. The NIOSH REL is 0.05 mg/m³. See appendices for source description, methods, and agents.

SOURCE: Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) metal/nonmetal mine data.