

Table 6-15b. Pneumoconiotic agents: Percent of exposures exceeding designated occupational exposure limits by major industry division, OSHA samples, 1979-1999

Major Industry											OSHA PELs changed. See note.													
	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999			
Construction SIC 15-17																								
No. of samples with PEL	132	309	194	218	599	796	658	435	396	435	405	523	526	655	521	296	195	433	498	368	294			
% > PEL	11.4	16.2	6.2	11.0	7.0	7.4	9.1	5.1	8.3	9.2	10.9	8.6	7.2	5.5	4.8	7.1	10.8	13.2	8.4	22.8	29.6			
No. of samples with REL	124	262	144	204	498	731	596	357	337	363	328	362	374	472	359	250	165	334	395	454	238			
% > REL	39.5	38.2	26.4	34.3	36.3	31.1	30.4	13.7	14.8	13.5	13.4	12.2	8.3	8.5	6.4	7.6	7.3	10.8	12.9	19.8	43.3			
Manufacturing SIC 20-39																								
No. of samples with PEL	1,944	3,212	3,194	3,665	3,192	4,768	5,678	4,391	5,512	5,682	4,827	5,664	4,981	4,788	3,686	2,998	3,612	3,558	4,087	2,893	2,721			
% > PEL	15.0	16.1	16.2	14.5	13.3	7.9	10.0	6.4	6.8	5.7	5.8	7.1	8.1	6.6	5.4	4.1	3.2	2.6	3.7	9.1	9.9			
No. of samples with REL	1,395	2,322	1,959	2,189	1,962	3,005	3,455	2,630	3,346	3,262	2,644	3,099	2,809	2,761	2,447	2,713	3,947	5,903	6,510	6,090	1,974			
% > REL	36.3	34.8	35.8	35.6	32.4	19.5	21.7	15.1	13.9	12.2	7.7	11.0	13.2	10.3	8.3	6.3	3.5	1.9	2.7	5.6	18.9			
Other SIC 1-9, 13, 40-99																								
No. of samples with PEL	219	239	144	92	591	1,188	962	1,023	1,168	1,068	1,104	1,089	1,056	769	657	615	656	773	663	340	260			
% > PEL	3.7	4.6	5.6	4.3	1.2	0.9	1.7	2.0	4.3	3.5	2.7	3.7	1.4	1.7	0.6	2.6	3.5	1.3	1.2	3.2	4.2			
No. of samples with REL	138	185	93	77	530	1,033	870	798	1,040	818	899	783	793	577	538	613	794	798	833	362	209			
% > REL	14.5	13.5	7.5	14.3	3.0	3.2	4.3	2.8	5.4	5.0	2.9	3.8	2.0	1.9	1.5	1.6	3.7	1.3	1.1	4.4	5.7			

PEL - permissible exposure limit REL - recommended exposure limit SIC - Standard Industrial Classification

NOTE: From March 1, 1989 to March 22, 1993, the OSHA PELs in force differed from those employed before and after those dates. See appendices for source description, methods, and agents.

SOURCE: Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Integrated Management Information System.