



Occupational
Cancer
Research
Centre

Asbestos Exposure and the Burden of Asbestos-related Disease in Canada

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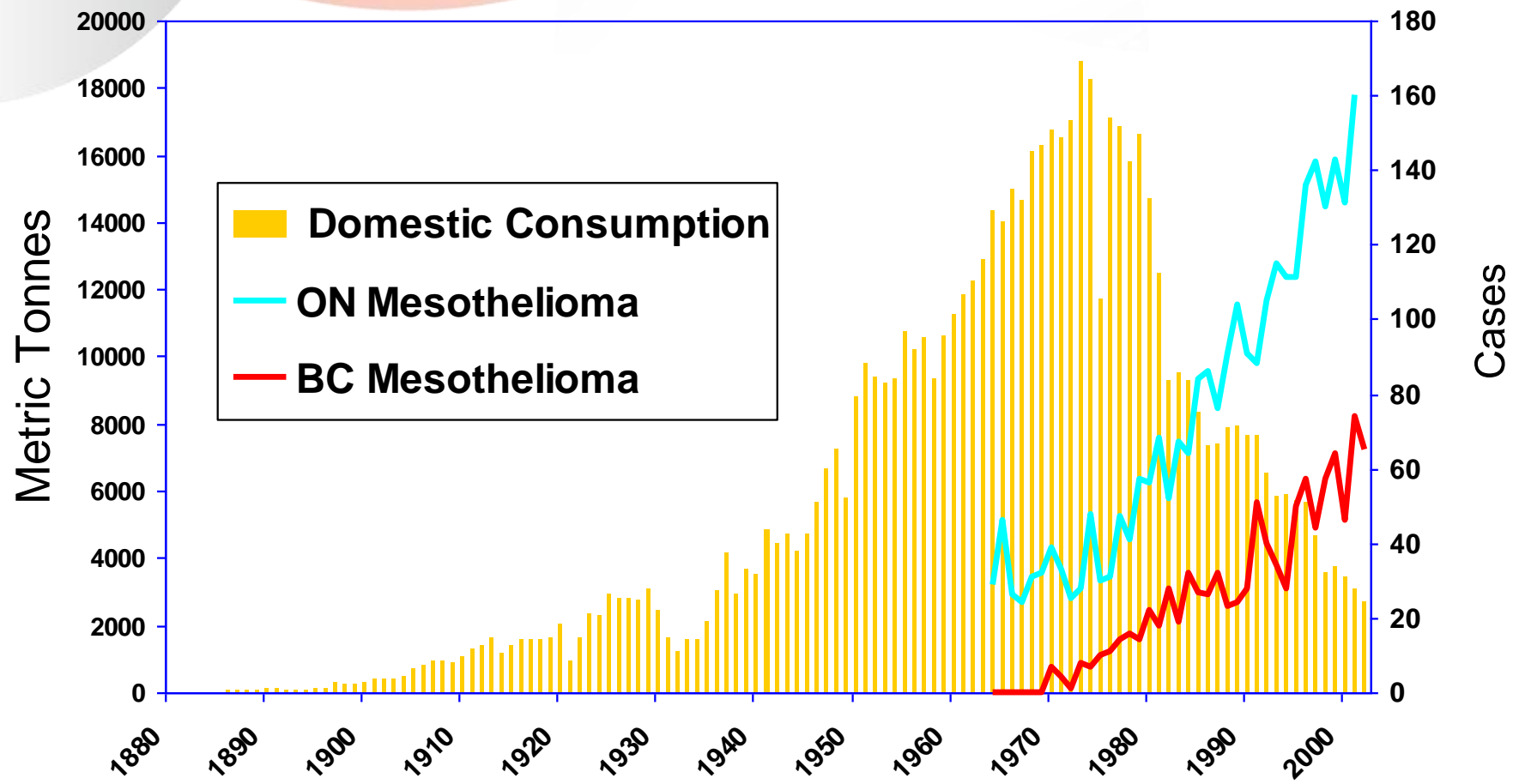
Workplace Safety &
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Commission de la sécurité
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Asbestos Use in Canada and New Cases of Mesothelioma in Ontario and British Columbia





Northern Ontario asbestos mine 'worst yet' with workers covered in fibre, Lewis says

By JOAN HOLLOBON

Asbestos workers in a mine-mill operation at Matachewan, about 40 miles southeast of Timmins, were seen last fall with their coveralls and faces "totally covered with asbestos fibres," according to an Ontario Government report quoted last night by New Democratic Party

mine was then producing about 4,000 tons of asbestos a day.

Mr. Rajhans's report also noted that "the poor working conditions created by these spillages cannot be overemphasized. The floors and equipment were covered with a thick layer of asbestos dust which appeared to get air-

borne by the slightest vibration created by the work-

The engineer said workers in the areas with high asbestos fibre were not wearing respirators. "According to Mr. (I) Cook (mine manager) there is no general requirement for the workers to wear respirators," Mr. Rajhans said.

Mr. Lewis said a check this

Fibre in asbestos mill 16 times safety level, B.C. union man says

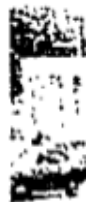
Health hazard extremely low, asbestos firm's doctor says

10 THE GLOBE AND MAIL, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28, 1976

Lung cancer produced one out of five deaths of asbestos workers

By JOAN HOLLOBON

Lung cancer is the cause of one in five deaths among asbestos workers, according to Dr. Irving Selikoff of the Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York.

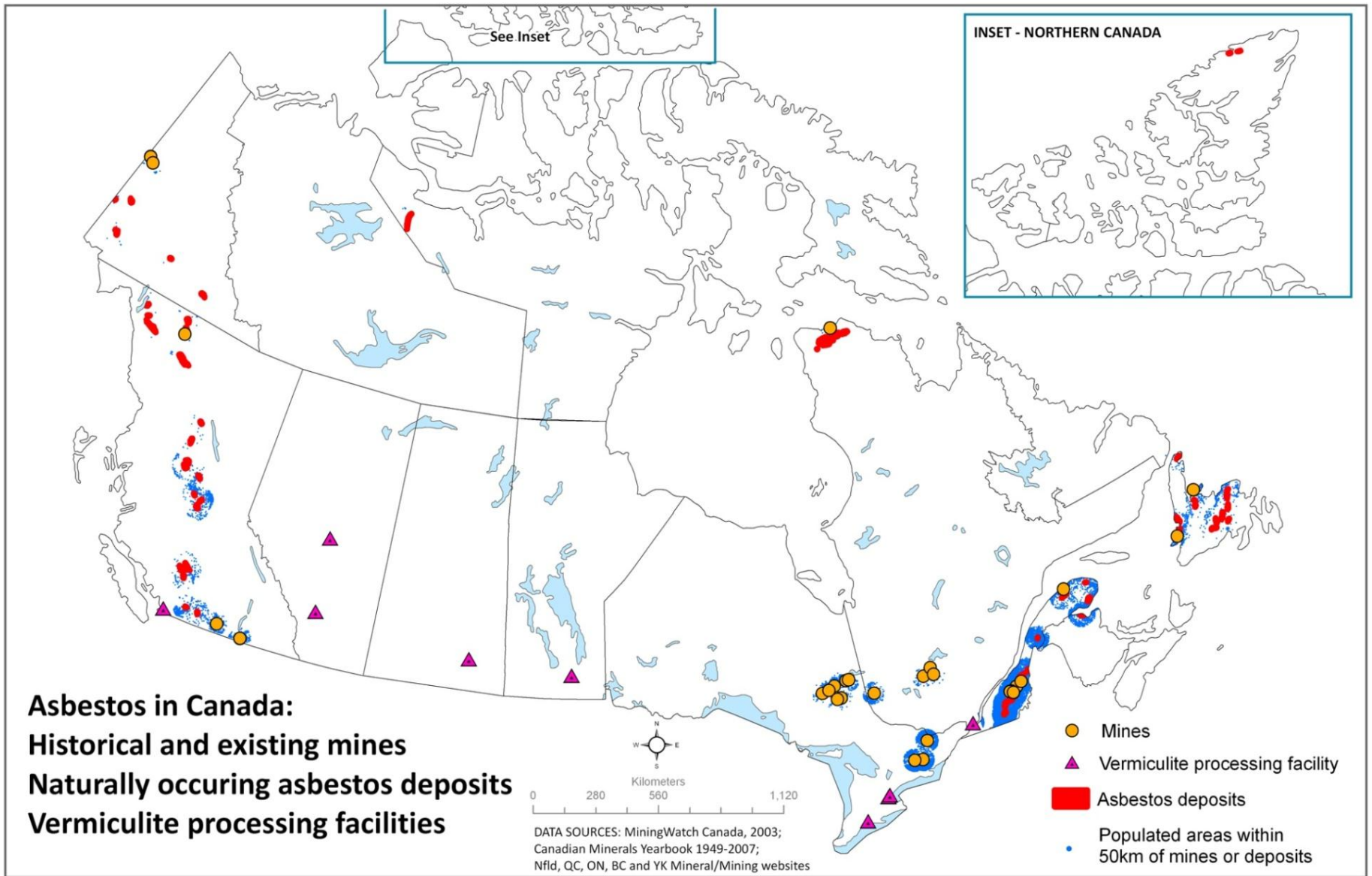


Delivered lunches at asbestos plant, woman has cancer

By THOMAS COLEMAN

The daughter of a Scarborough asbestos worker who de-

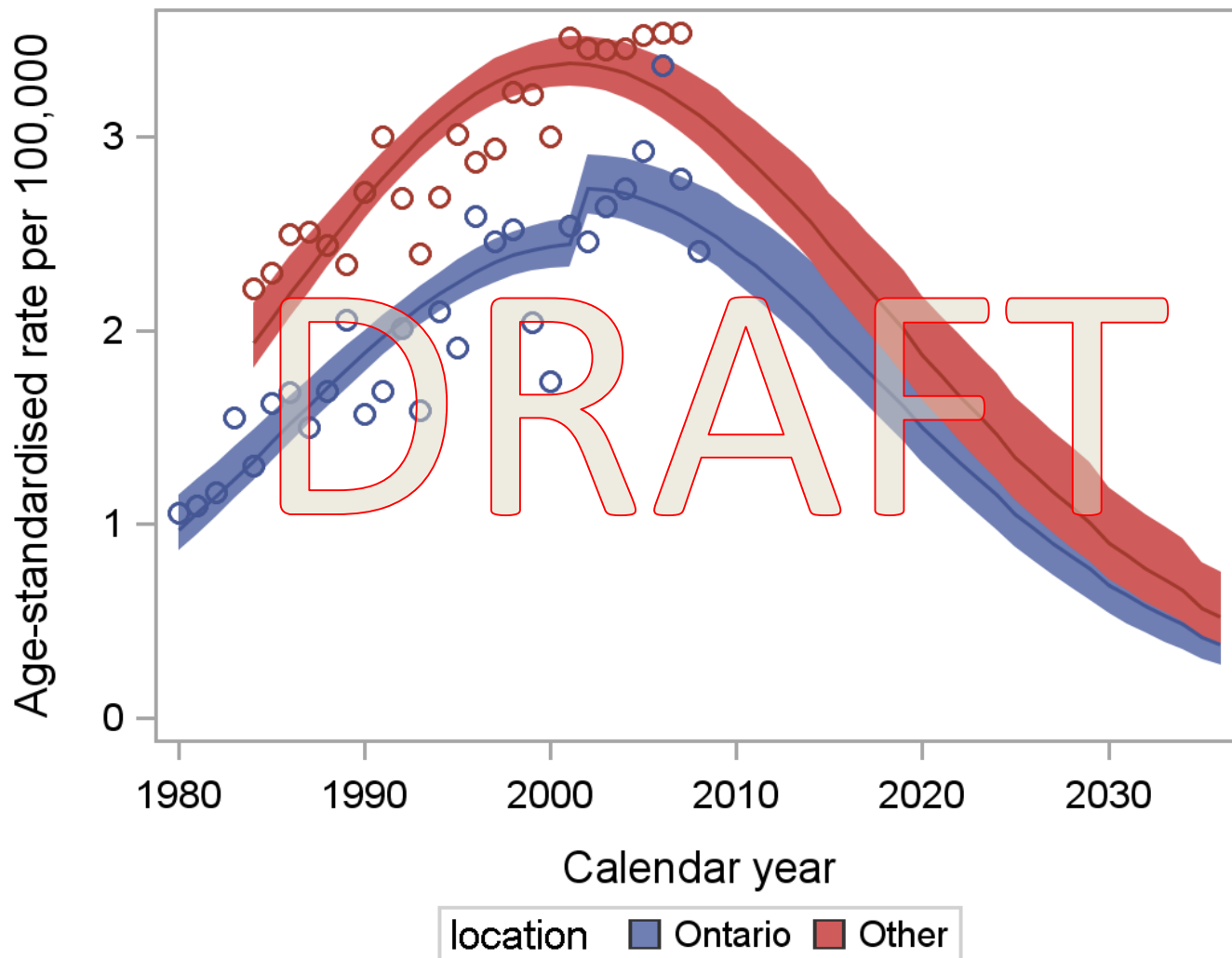
Mr. MacBeth said such cases "originated years ago" and that Ontario now has a



Source CAREX Canada, for more information see:

http://www.carexcanada.ca/en/asbestos/environmental_estimate/#provincial_tables_and_maps

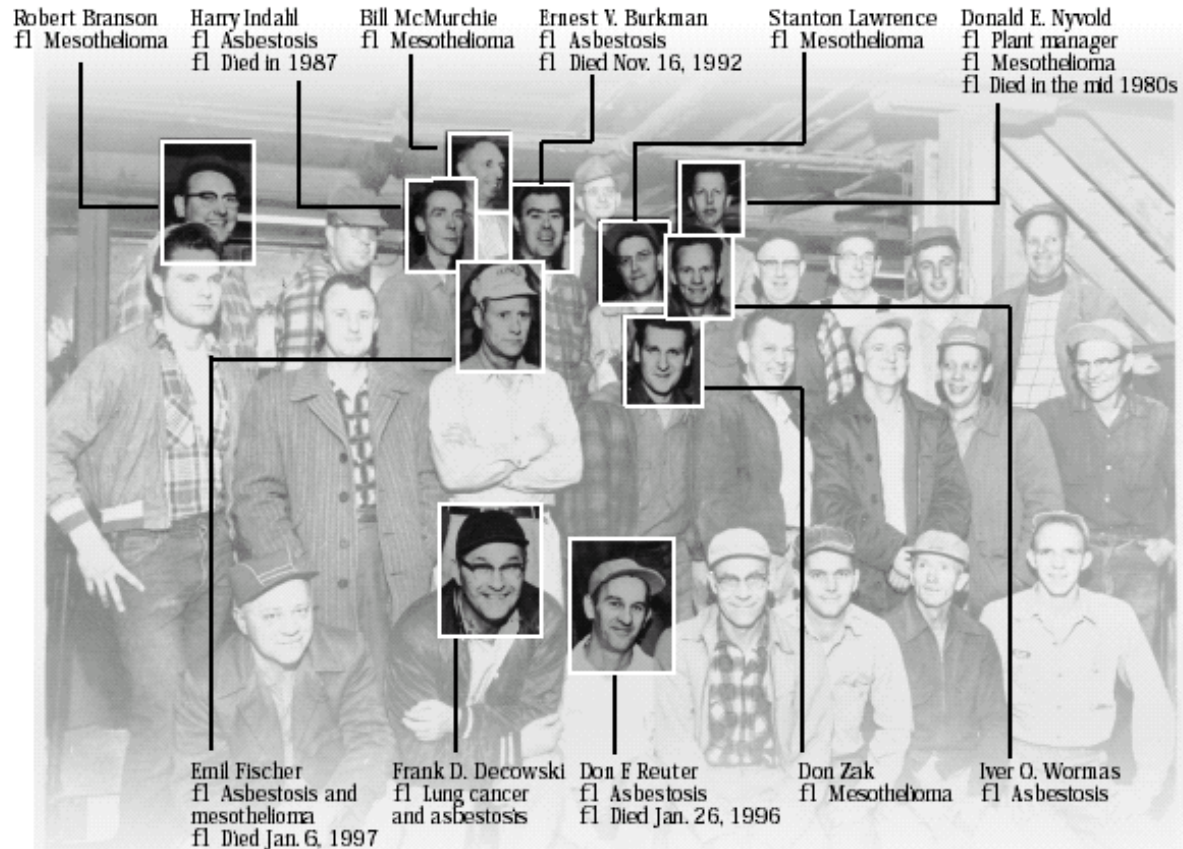
Mesothelioma incidence rates with *preliminary* projections, males in Ontario and Other Canada



Libby Vermiculite Processing Sites

A hard-hit plant

This 1964 photo of workers in W.R. Grace Co.'s former Northeast Minneapolis plant was introduced in a court case by Hastings lawyer Michael Polk. Polk and surviving family members say that asbestos-related illnesses killed or contributed substantially to the deaths of at least 11 of the 28 employees photographed.



Source : Hastings law firm Sieben, Polk, LaVerdiere, Jones & Hawn; Star Tribune research Star Tribune graphic by Ray Grumney

Minneapolis Star Tribune article; Feb. 2000

Towards a cancer-free workplace

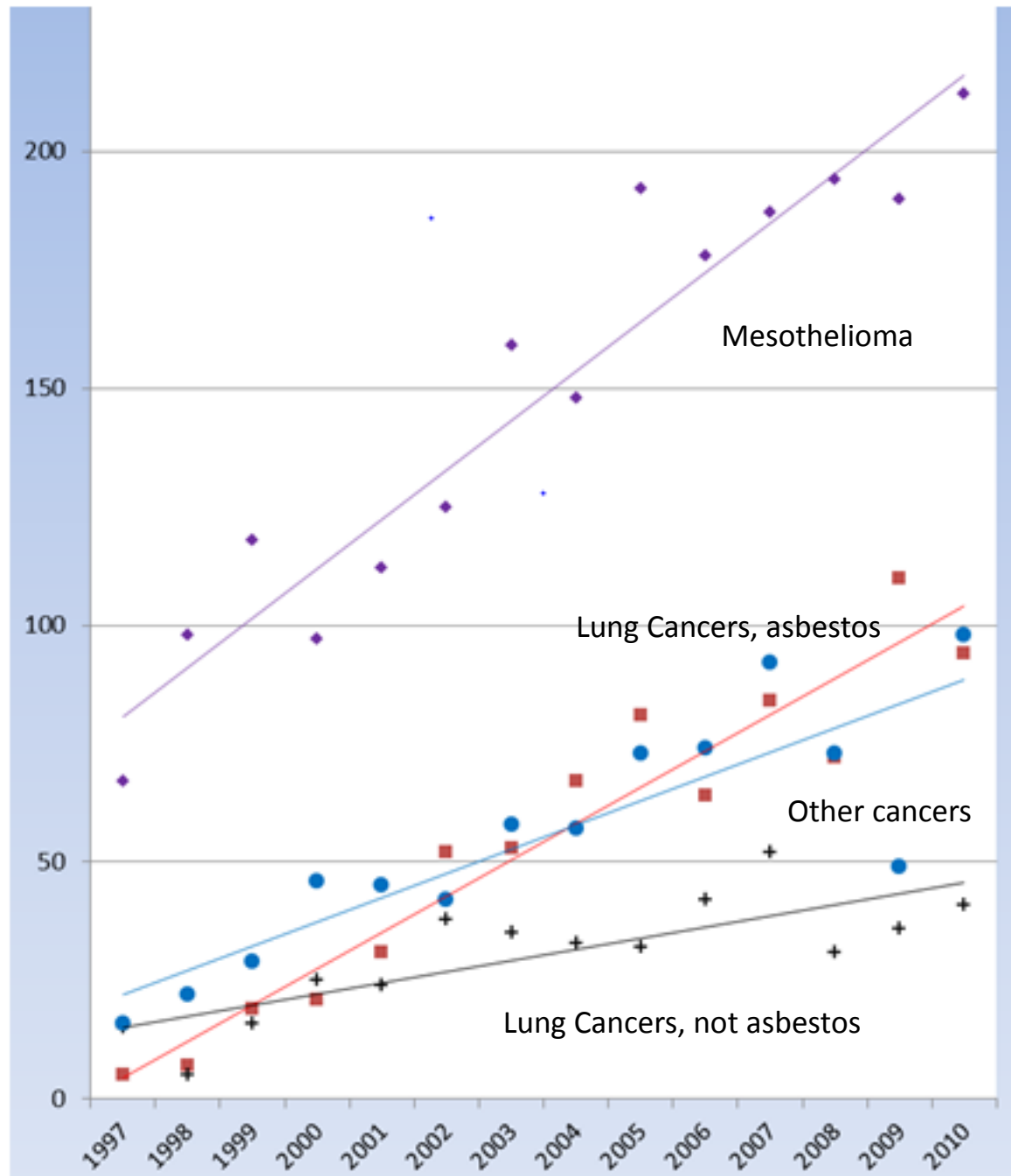
Examples of asbestos-containing products



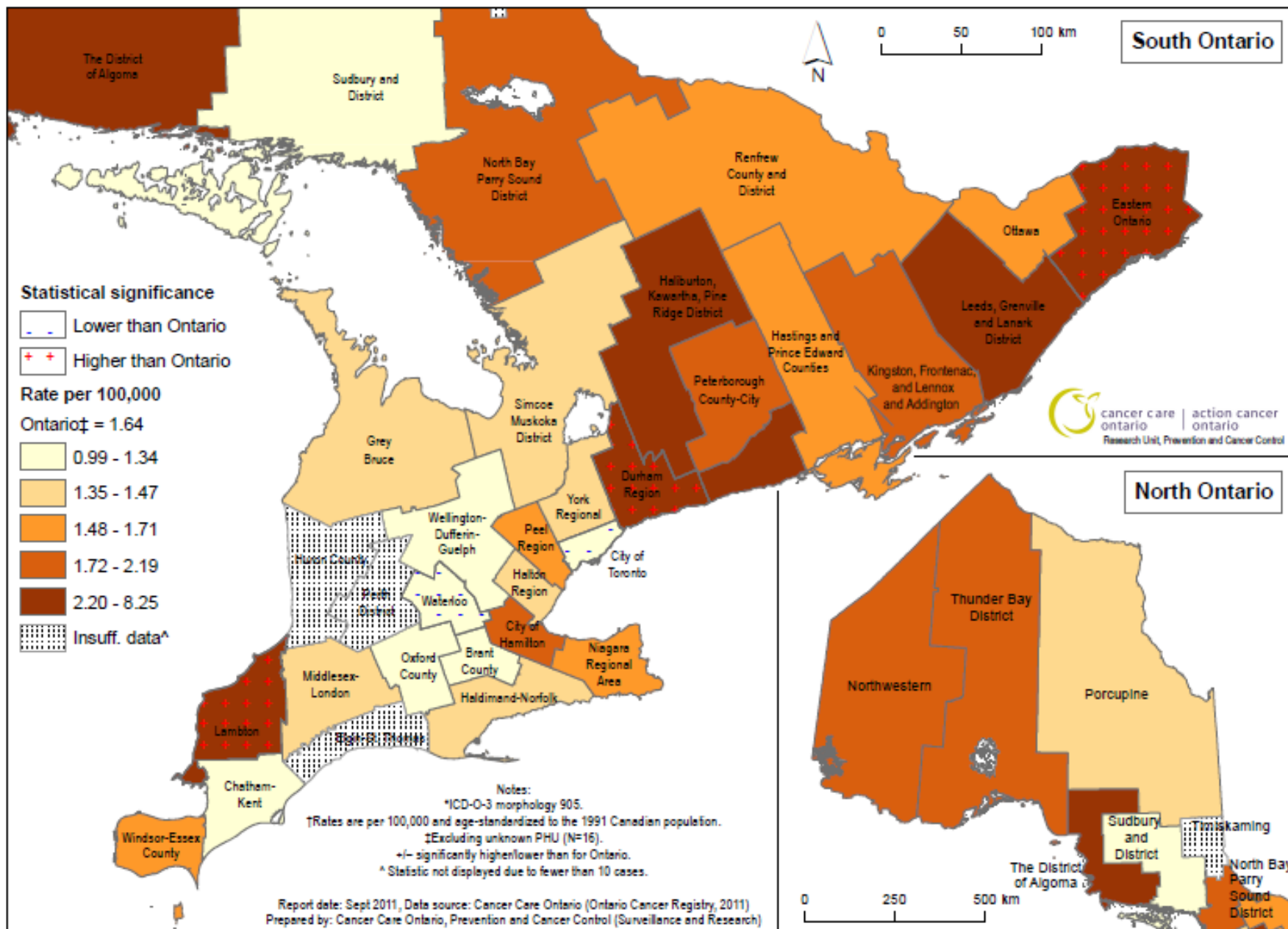
Building Product	Friability	Dates of Use
Mechanical insulation	high	1926 - mid 1970's
Spray insulation	high	1935 - 1974
Texture coat	moderate - high	1950 - mid 1970's
Floor tile	low	1950 - late 1970's
Drywall taping compound	low - moderate	1945 - late 1970's
Cement pipe	low	1935 - present
Brake linings	low	1940 - present
Duct wrap	moderate - high	1920 - mid 1970's
Textiles/gaskets	low - moderate	1920 - mid 1970's
Roofing material	low	1920 - late 1970's
Ceiling tiles	low - moderate	1950 - 1970's
Cement board	low	1930 - present

Trends in Compensated Fatal Cancers in Canada

- Del Bianco A, Demers P. Occupational cancer Fatalities on the rise: The Examination of Accepted Workplace Fatality Claims within Ontario and Canada. Toronto: Occupational Cancer Research Centre, 2012.
- Data from AWCBC. National Work Injury Statistics Program, extracted March 12, 2012.



Mesothelioma* age-standardized incidence rates† by Public Health Unit, Males, 1986–2007



Asbestos-Related Cancers in Canada

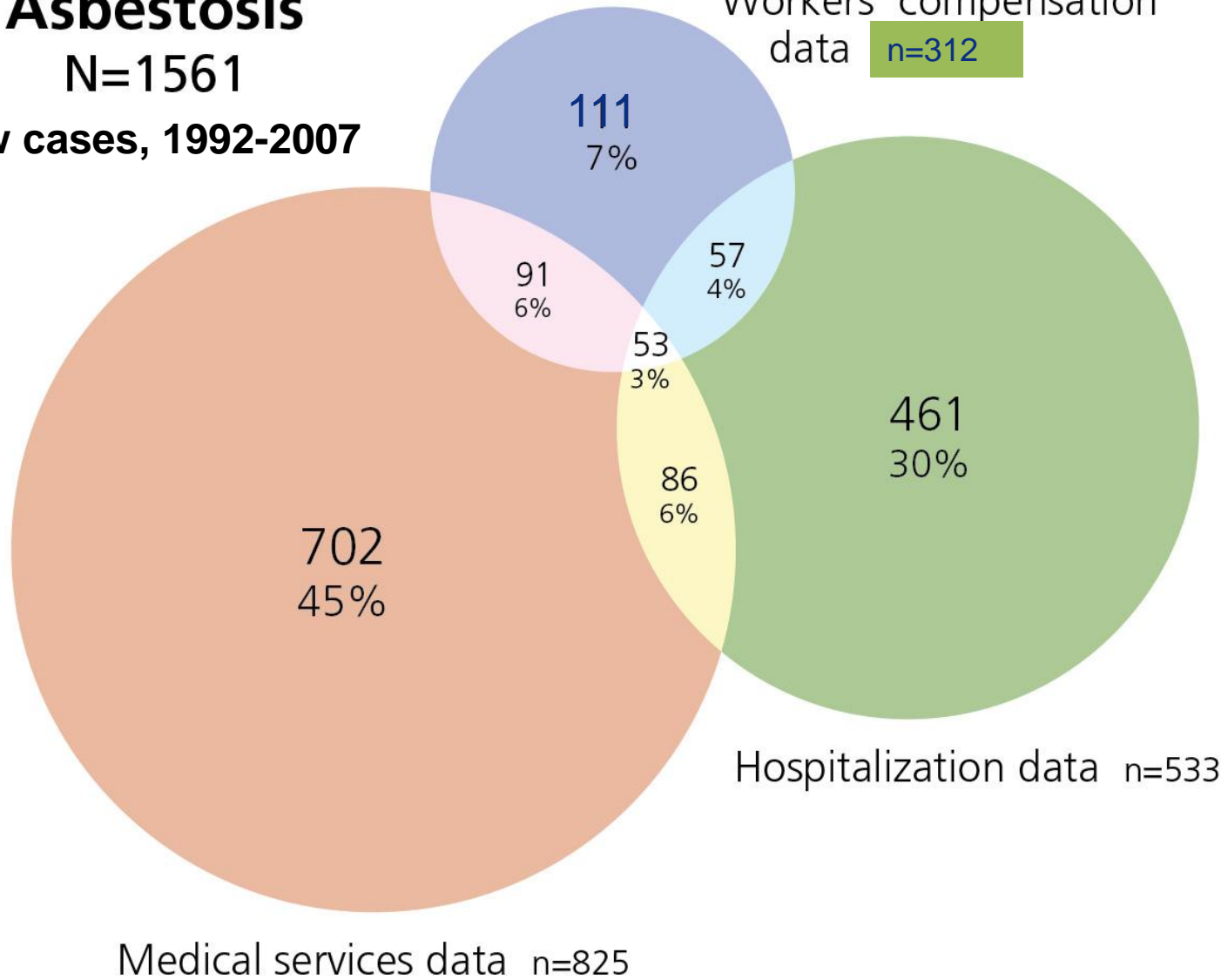
- There are as many as 500 mesotheliomas diagnosed each year
- Based on estimates from epidemiologic studies there are 1300-2100 lung cancers each year
- Asbestos has also been associated with larynx, ovary, pharynx, stomach, and colorectal cancer
 - ⇒ Asbestos may be responsible for at least 2000 new cancers each year in Canada, mostly fatal.

Asbestosis

N=1561

New cases, 1992-2007

Workers' compensation data n=312



Source: Gan WQ, Demers PA, McLeod CB, Koehoorn M. Population-based asbestosis surveillance in British Columbia. *Occup Environ Med* 2009;66(11):766-71.

CAREX Canada Initial Estimates of Occupational Exposure to Asbestos



Industry Sector	Number of Workers
Specialty trade contractors	82,000
Building construction	52,000
Automotive repair and maintenance	4,300
Ship and boat building	4,200
Remediation & other waste management	1,700
Architectural, engineering & related services	1,100
Pulp, paper & paperboard mills	1,000
Management, scientific & consulting services	600
Deep sea, coastal, great lakes water transport	500
Other	4,600
Total	152,000

See http://www.carexcanada.ca/en/asbestos/occupational_estimate/

Towards a cancer-free workplace