

*Project
S E.N.S.O.R.

News

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Now Available
the 2003 Annual Reports on

Acute Traumatic Fatalities in Michigan
Asthma Fatalities in Michigan
Elevated Blood Lead Levels in Michigan
Occupational Diseases in Michigan
Silicosis in Michigan
Work-Related Asthma in Michigan
Work-Related Noise-Induced Hearing Loss in Michigan

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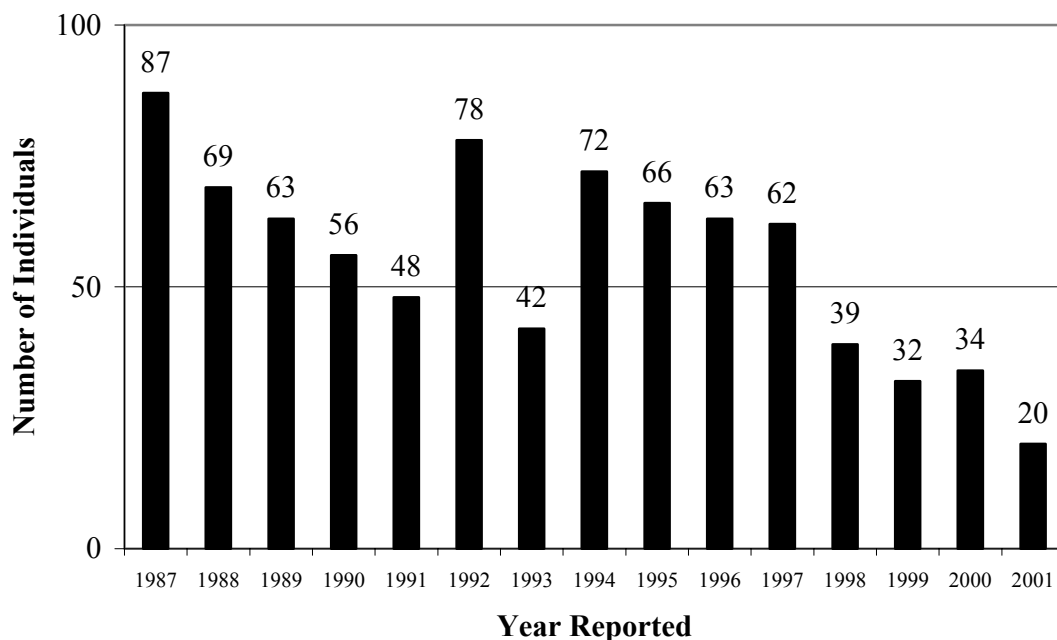
Excerpts from the 2003 Annual Reports

SILICOSIS

The number of reports of silicosis has been decreasing. The major source of exposure to silica has been exposure in foundries. The workforce in foundries peaked in the early 1980's, so workers from that time are just now in

the period when the radiographic changes of silicosis first appear (> 20 years). There are still 75 ferrous foundries operating in the state and we are continuing to monitor the occurrence of silicosis (Figure 1).

Figure 1. Number of Individuals Confirmed with Silicosis by Year Reported*



*Total number of individuals: 831.

ASTHMA

The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) is a random-digit-dialed telephone interview of adults in the state. This survey is the source of the estimate of adults in the state with various health conditions such as asthma or risk factors such as cigarette smoking. The same questions were used in California, Massachusetts and Michigan. The

percentage of individuals in the three states told by a doctor that their asthma was related to work is similar between the three states. However, the percentage of individuals who told their doctor that their asthma was related to any job was greater in Michigan than the other two states. This percentage was as high as 18% in men with adult onset asthma (Table 1).

Table 1. Prevalence of Adults with Current Asthma Reporting an Association with Work in 3 States: California, Massachusetts, and Michigan Behavioral Risk Ractor Surveillance System (BRFSS) Results, 2001

	California n=4,188	Massachusetts n=8,268	Michigan n=3,830
Possible WRA (yes to either Q1 or Q2)			
All	7	8	10
Male	10		13
Female	6		8
Childhood Onset*			
All	-	4	5
Male	-	1	6
Female	-	5	5
Adult Onset*			
All	-	12	13
Male	-	15	20
Female	-	10	10
Q1. Did you ever tell a doctor or other medical person that your asthma was related to any job you ever had?			
All	4	5	7
Male	6		10
Female	3		5
Childhood Onset*			
All	-	2	4
Male	-	1	5
Female	-	2	3
Adult Onset*			
All	-	7	9
Male	-	7	18
Female	-	6	6
Q2. Were you ever told by a doctor or other medical person that your asthma was related to any job you ever had?			
All	6	6	6
Male	8		6
Female	4		6
Childhood Onset*			
All	-	3	3
Male	-	1	4
Female	-	4	3
Adult Onset*			
All	-	8	7
Male	-	12	8
Female	-	7	7

*Age of onset not asked in California.

BLOOD LEAD LEVELS

The Michigan OSHA program has been inspecting companies with blood leads $\geq 25 \mu\text{g/dL}$. Review of blood leads before and after an

OSHA inspection has shown the inspections have been successful in decreasing blood lead levels of workers at the workplaces inspected (Table 2).

Table 2. Average Blood Lead Levels Before and After a MIOSHA Enforcement Inspection in Sixty-Five Companies by Initiating Blood Lead Level, Michigan: 1998 to 2003

Blood Lead Level that Initiated Inspection ($\mu\text{g/dL}$)	Number of Companies Inspected	Pre-Inspection Blood Lead Average ($\mu\text{g/dL}$)	Post-Inspection Blood Lead Average ($\mu\text{g/dL}$)	Difference Post-Pre ($\mu\text{g/dL}$)
< 30	21	14	10	4*
30-39	19	22	14	8*
40-49	11	28	24	5
≥ 50	14	29	21	8*
All	65	22	16	7*

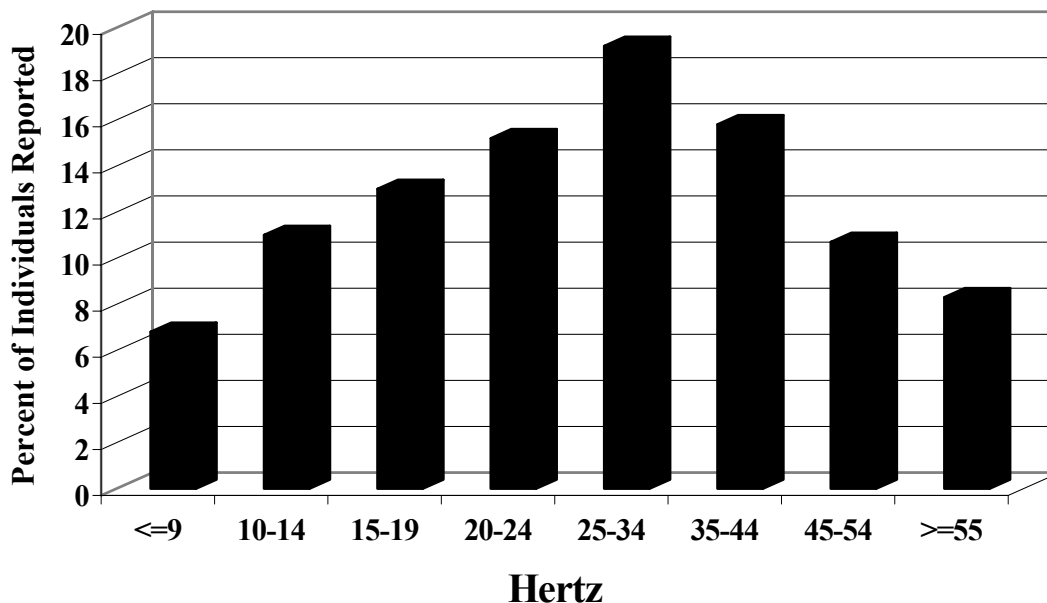
* $p < 0.05$

NOISE-INDUCED HEARING LOSS

The severity of hearing loss being reported is significant. Fifty-five percent of the individuals reported had an average hearing loss equal to or greater than 25 decibels at 1000, 2000, 3000

Hertz. These individuals meet the NIOSH criteria for “material hearing impairment.” (Figure 2) Approximately half have tinnitus.

Figure 2. All Interviewed Individuals with Hearing Loss: Average 1000, 2000, 3000 Hertz Hearing Loss in Both Ears: Michigan 2003



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In this issue:
Excerpts from the 2003 Annual Reports

***P**
S Remember to report all cases of occupational disease!

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the Reporting of
Known or Suspected
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FAX (517) 432-3606
Telephone 1-800-446-7805
E-Mail ODRREPORT@ht.msu.edu
Web www.chm.msu.edu/oem
Mail Michigan Occupational Safety &
Health Administration (MIOSHA)
Management and Technical
Services Division
P.O. Box 30649
Lansing, MI 48909-8149
Reporting forms can be obtained by
calling (517) 322-1817
Or
1-800-446-7805

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