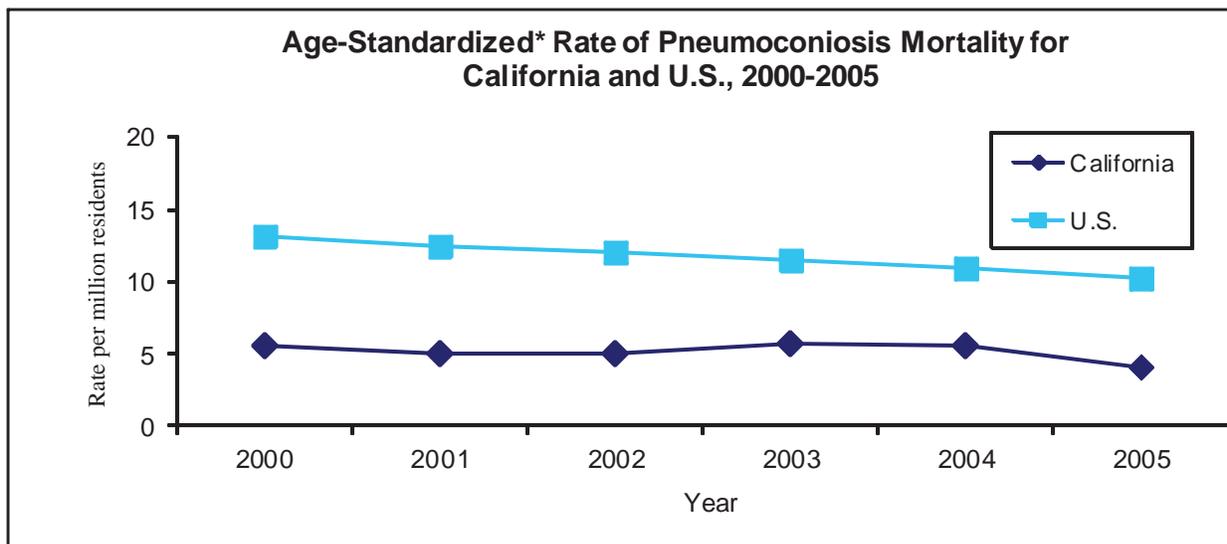


## Pneumoconiosis Mortality

Pneumoconiosis is term for lung diseases caused by the inhalation of mineral dust, nearly always in a work setting. Most cases of pneumoconiosis develop only after many years of exposure to agents such as asbestos or coal dust; thus they are usually diagnosed in older individuals. These diseases are incurable and may ultimately result in death. Types of pneumoconioses include silicosis, asbestosis, and coal workers' pneumoconiosis. Death certificates are used to estimate the number of deaths due to pneumoconiosis or with pneumoconiosis as a contributing factor. The causes of death on death certificates may be recorded or coded inaccurately or incompletely, resulting in an underestimate of mortality due to pneumoconiosis. In addition, workers with these conditions may remain undiagnosed or die of other causes. See also the Indicator "Pneumoconiosis Hospitalizations".



Age-Standardized Mortality Rate and Number of Pneumoconiosis Deaths for California and U.S., 2000-2005							
Year	California						U.S.
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2005
Age-Standardized* Rate of Total Pneumoconiosis Mortality per Million Residents	5.5	4.9	5.0	5.7	5.5	4.1	10.2
Number of Pneumoconiosis Deaths	143	130	131	138	123	102	2,430

Data Sources: California Department of Public Health Vital Records, U.S. Census Bureau Population Estimates

Rate and Number of Coal Worker Pneumoconiosis, Asbestosis, Silicosis, and Unspecified Pneumoconiosis Deaths for California and U.S., 2000-2005							
Year	California						U.S.
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2005
Age-Standardized* Rate of Coal Worker Pneumoconiosis Mortality per Million Residents	0.3	N/A	0.3	N/A	N/A	N/A	2.7
Number of Coal Worker Pneumoconiosis Deaths	8	<5	7	<5	<5	<5	653
Age-Standardized* Rate of Asbestosis Mortality per Million Residents	4.7	4.3	4.3	5.3	5.0	3.6	6.0
Number of Asbestosis Deaths	122	113	113	127	113	89	1,423
Age-Standardized* Rate of Silicosis Mortality per Million Residents	0.3	0.3	N/A	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.7
Number of Silicosis Deaths	8	9	<5	6	6	8	161
Age-Standardized* Rate of Unspecified Pneumoconiosis Mortality per Million Residents	0.2	0.2	0.3	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.9
Number of Unspecified Pneumoconiosis Deaths	5	5	7	<5	<5	<5	227

\* Age-standardized rates provide an estimate of what the rates of each condition would be if the age distribution in California were the same as the age distribution in the US as a whole; this allows comparison between states.

Data Sources: California Department of Public Health Vital Records, U.S. Census Bureau Population Estimates