

Before leaving this comparison of the Province with the miners, it should be shown that their age distributions are reasonably the same. That this is the case can be observed from the following tabulation:

Age Distribution of Adult Males for the Province of Quebec, 1951  
(Rapport, 1954)

| <u>Age Group</u> | <u>Number</u> | <u>Percentage</u> | <u>Percentage<br/>Combined Cohorts</u> |
|------------------|---------------|-------------------|----------------------------------------|
| 20-44            | 727,135       | 63                | 66                                     |
| 45-54            | 188,952       | 16                | 19                                     |
| 55-64            | 128,944       | 11                | 10                                     |
| 65 +             | 113,467       | 10                | 5                                      |
| Total            | 1,158,498     | 100               | 100                                    |

It should be remembered that the miners retire and consequently, it can be expected that the oldest age group will be larger in the general population. The data presented in Table 23 indicates that the lung cancer rate generally decreases after age 70, and we could expect the rate for all people over 65 would be smaller than the rate for a group of 65 to 75, which would apply to the oldest group of miners. It is felt that by using the whole adult male population, we have developed rates which are somewhat lower than if we had been able to exclude the general population over 75.