

These figures show strikingly the increase in rates between 1951 and 1952, and this increase is particularly marked after age 50, confirming an observation previously made, to the effect that until recently lung cancer has probably been under-diagnosed in the older age groups in the general population.

To use these figures for purposes of comparison, it is necessary to combine the rates for certain age groups in order to conform to the age distributions used in this study. Since the exact populations in each age group for the years indicated is not known, this must be an approximation. However, the rates would be somewhat as follows:

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>Rate</u>
20-44	5
45-54	27
55-64	69
65 +	90-95

These rates are, in general, lower than those developed for the total (proved and suspected) cases of lung cancer among the asbestos miners. The only large difference, however, is in the age group of 65 years and over, and it is quite possible that the rate for this group may have increased for Canada between 1952 and 1954 as it did for the Province of Quebec. (See Table 15.) 17