calculated for workers exposed to asbestos dust is not much greater than that for the unexposed population.

Comparison Between Eight Counties Adjacent to the Asbestos-Producing Areas and Eight Selected Counties

To compare lung cancer mortality rates in the counties surrounding the asbestos-producing areas with another group of counties in which no asbestos miners are likely to reside, the rates were computed on the basis of figures for the years 1950 through 1955. The eight counties selected for comparison were Argenteuil, Chateauguay, Montmagny, Portneuf, Richlieu, Riviere-du-Loup, St. Hyacinthe, and Terrebonne, mainly because they represent a wide geographic distribution throughout the Province. The counties selected because of their proximity to the asbestos mines include Arthabaska, Beauce, Drummond, Frontenac, Megantic, Richmond, Sherbrooke, and Wolfe. Table 22 shows the number of lung cancer deaths for the years 1950 through 1955 for each of these counties, and a mortality rate, based on the adult male population in 1952. To emphasise the comparison, Megantic County has been shown separately, as has the Province of Quebec and also the Province with the eight "asbestos-producing" counties subtracted. Because of its unique lung cancer death rate, Montreal et Isle de Jesus has also been listed in order to provide further comparison.