

Table 2 combines the three industries and compares deaths in three time periods. Of interest here is the fact that the "asbestos lung cancer" deaths did not start showing up in the cohorts in the study until the latter part of the follow-up period, whereas asbestosis deaths occurred more uniformly throughout the period. This is probably a reflection of a longer latent period for lung cancer, although from this table one cannot determine whether it might not also be a reflection of a longer duration of exposure and thus a greater total exposure. Table 2 also suggests that were a longer follow-up period possible, more lung cancer might have been observed, relative to asbestosis, so that the death rates shown in Table 1 for "asbestos lung cancer" may be understated relative to the death rates for asbestosis. Doubling the numbers of lung cancer deaths in Table 1, for example, would make the gradients for lung cancer closer to those for asbestosis.

Table 2

U. S. ASBESTOS PRODUCTS WORKERS EMPLOYED
AT SOME TIME DURING 1948-1951
SHOWING PERSON YEARS LIVED AND DEATHS
AT AGES 15-64 DURING THREE TIME PERIODS

	<u>1948- 1952</u>	<u>1953- 1957</u>	<u>1958- 1963</u>
PERSON YEARS	87, 792	102, 441	104, 985
"ASBESTOS LUNG CANCER"			
NO. OF DEATHS	0	12	20
RATE PER 100, 000	0.0	11.7	19.1
ASBESTOSIS			
NO. OF DEATHS	13	21	24
RATE PER 100, 000	14.8	20.5	22.9

Additional Data

In addition to the cohort of 21, 755 men upon which Tables 1 and 2 are based, some data are now available on a cohort of 1, 151 white males who were working in three asbestos textile plants during the period 1938-41, or some ten years earlier than the cohort previously reported on. This provides an additional period of follow-up for workers in an environment where asbestos dust exposures were probably fairly heavy.