

**Occupational diseases confirmed in Hong Kong
from 2000 to 2009**

Occupational disease	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Silicosis	105	122	110	74	69	68	109	67	65	86*
Occupational deafness	206	121	114	74	52	60	51	47	58	77*
Tenosynovitis of the hand or forearm	81	90	35	34	43	75	63	35	40	39
Tuberculosis	39	41	29	30	42	30	18	16	25	18
Gas poisoning	36	11	30	26	28	4	5	1	4	17*
Mesothelioma [#]	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	15
Occupational dermatitis	17	24	29	10	7	10	8	7	3	10*
Asbestosis	11	9	9	6	4	2	7	2	5	5
Streptococcus suis infection	0	1	0	0	1	6	0	1	3	0
Others	9	11	8	4	5	1	3	1	0	1
Total	504	430	364	258	251	256	264	177	204	268

Note:

Mesothelioma was prescribed as a new occupational disease under the Pneumoconiosis and Mesothelioma (Compensation) Ordinance in 2008.

* Against the general trend of a decline in the confirmed cases of occupational diseases, the year-on-year fluctuation in the number of cases had resulted in a relatively large increase in the 2009 figures for chronic diseases. It is important to note that these diseases (such as silicosis and occupational deafness) have long latent periods. Therefore, the change in the number of cases over a long period, rather than year-on-year fluctuation, better reflects their trend. As for gas poisoning, the large increase in the 2009 figure was due to an accident involving a large number of workers.