

*How do I love data?.....Let me count the ways.
Using linked data for environmental health research*

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May 2, 2008

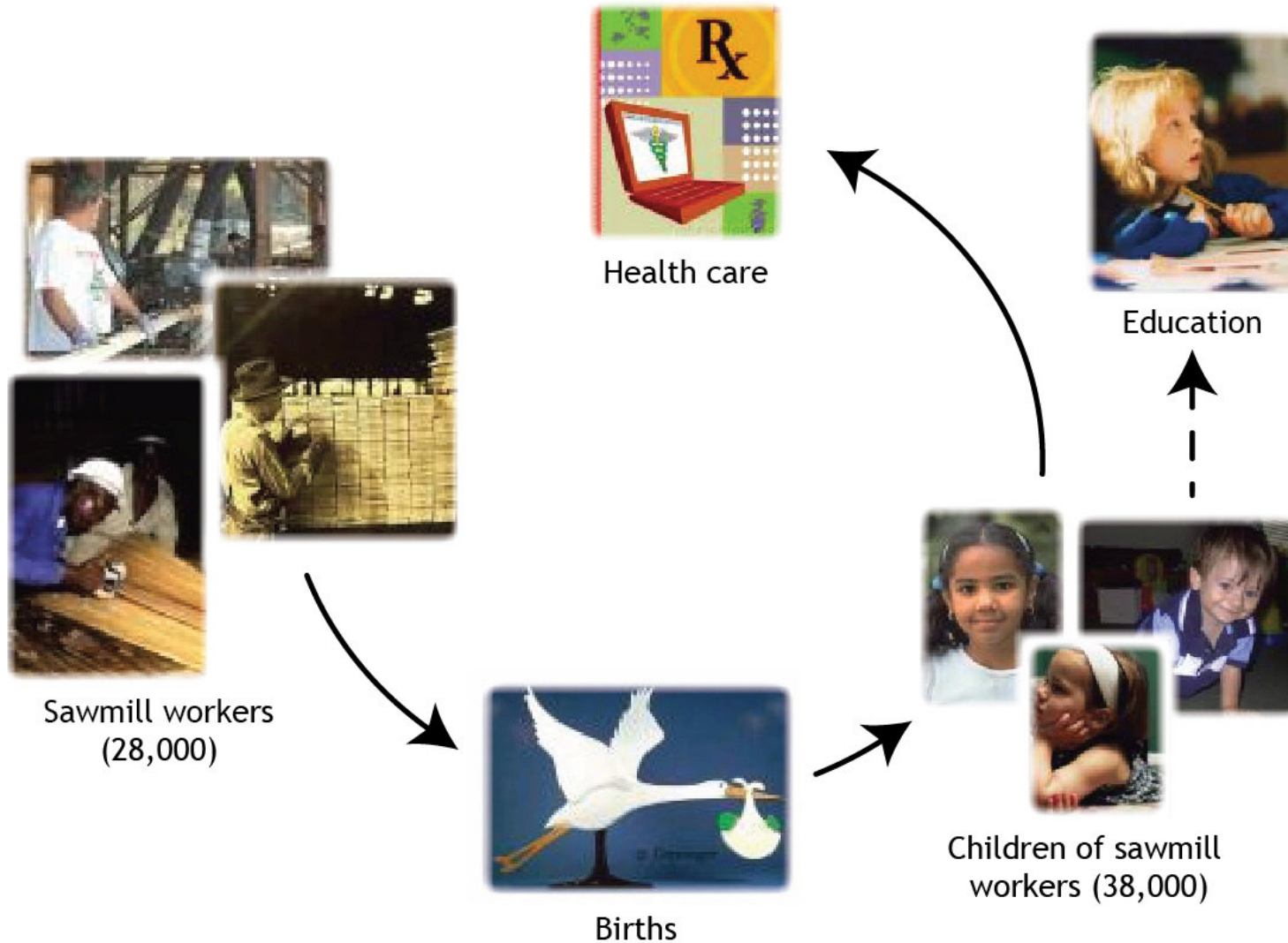


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Examples of research using linked health data

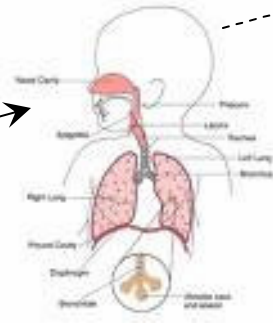
Sawmill workers cohort

(Hertzman, Teschke, Demers, Ostry et al)



Air pollution and health studies

(Brauer, Davies, Demers, Clark, Lencar, Karr, Koeboorn, McIntyre, Nethery et al)





Heart Disease Among Firefighters



Demers PA, Koeboorn M, Kirkham T, Wong I et al.

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STUDY UPDATE:

Personal exposure monitoring and Environmental sampling of firefighters is scheduled to begin soon. Check back for information on when this will begin. Check [here](#) to find out about what this is.

The next instalment of the interim report will be posted soon. This report details what has been happening in the past six months and what is planned for the next six months. Look for the report soon on the ['Results'](#) page.

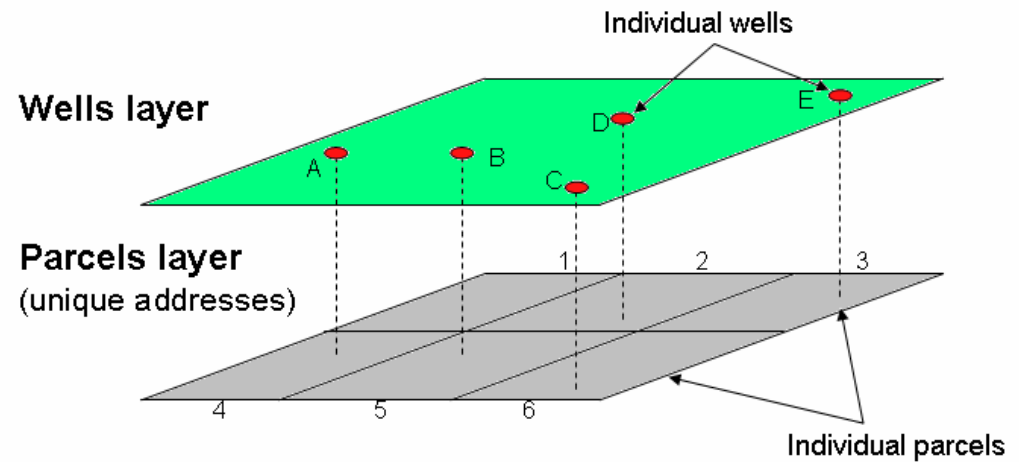
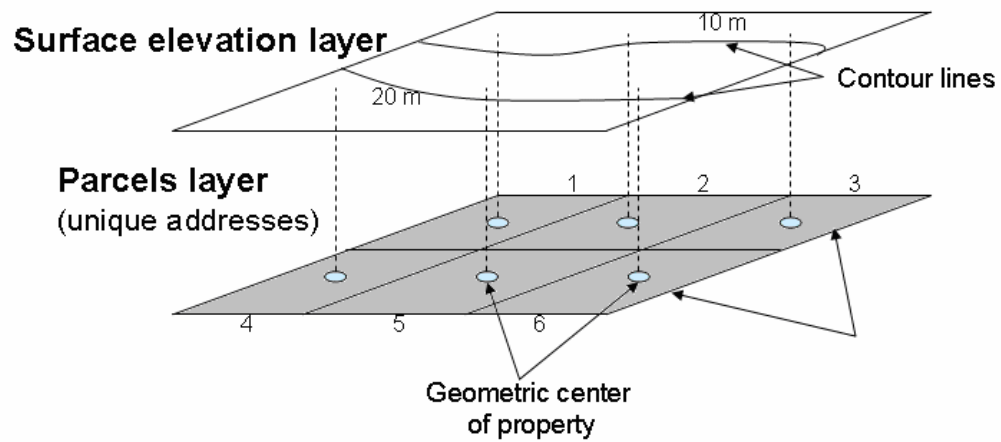
This research is being conducted in cooperation with the cities of Vancouver, Victoria, Burnaby, Prince George, Port Moody, Surrey, the District of North Vancouver, and the British Columbia Professional Fire Fighting Association and is funded in part by WorkSafeBC. All research is carried out by scientists at the University of British Columbia with the assistance of participating Fire Departments throughout B.C.

For more information regarding this or any of our studies please [Contact Us](#).





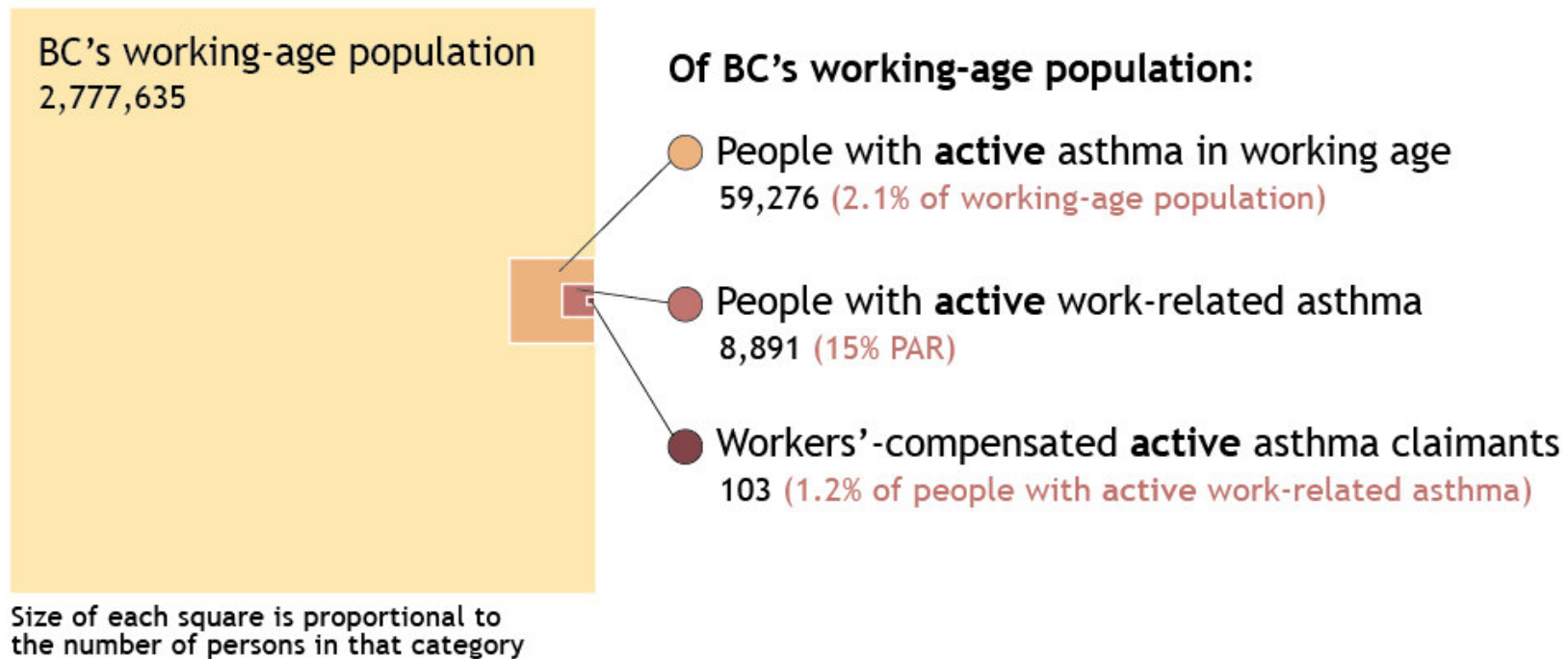
Teschke, Isaac-Renton, Bellack et al



Work-related asthma

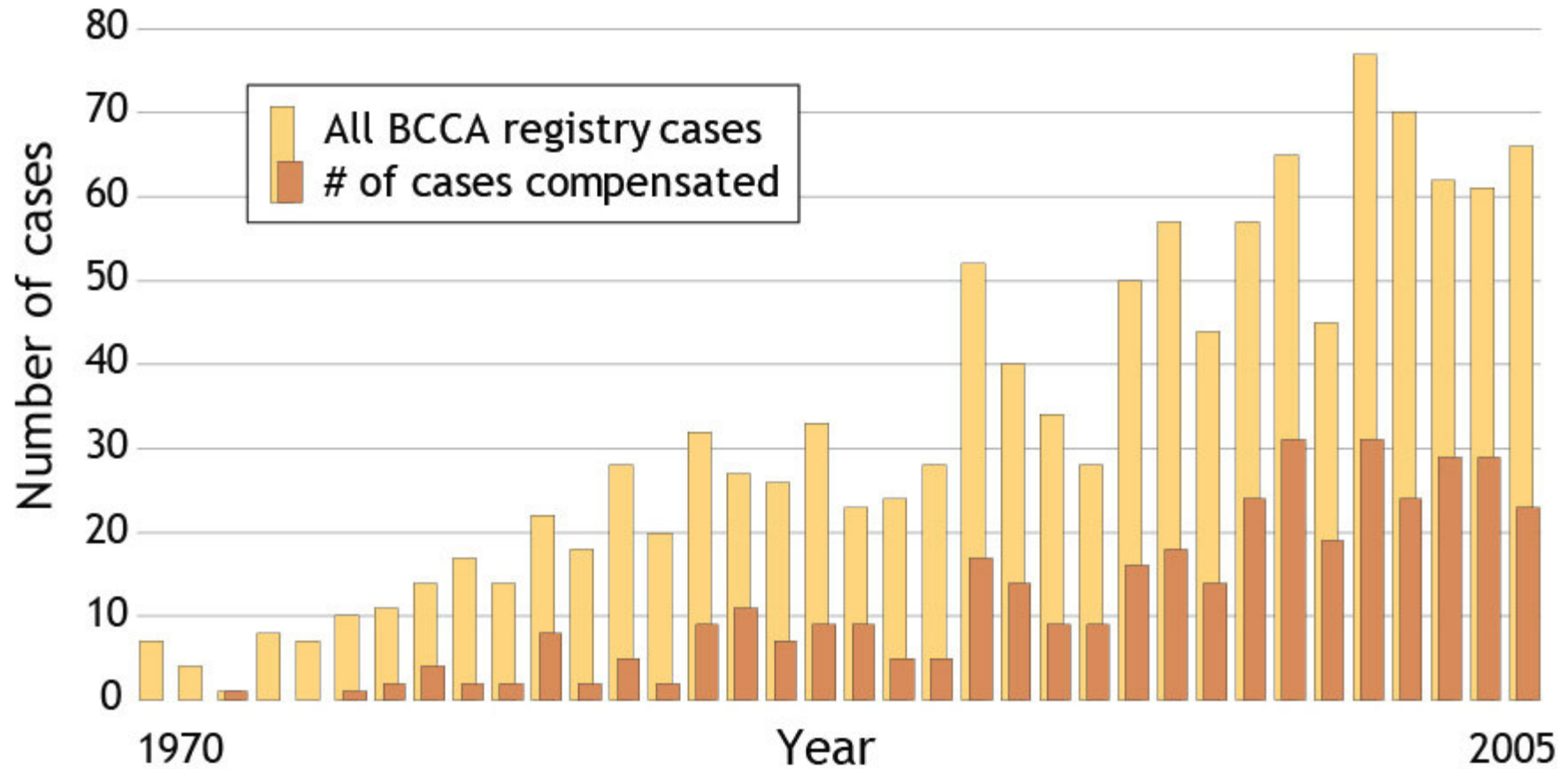
C McLeod, M Koeboorn, Tamburic L et al

Comparison of workers'-compensated active asthma claims to individuals with active work-related asthma



Mesothelioma cases, 1970-2005

PA Demers, T Kirkham et al



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Thursday, January 10, 2008



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Privacy law freezes health research

Law puts B.C.'s medical reputation at risk

Pamela Fayerman, Vancouver Sun

Published: Wednesday, January 09, 2008

Numerous B.C. health studies are not proceeding, languishing on hold or facing long delays because privacy legislation prevents researchers from actively recruiting participants.

A sample of taxpayer-funded studies actually or potentially affected by the legislation include ones on Parkinson's disease, back injuries, prostate cancer, breast cancer, ovarian cancer, multiple myeloma, and the quality of life and health-care needs of childhood cancer survivors.

Scientists say the problem is a 2003 amendment to the B.C. Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act prohibiting government from releasing information to scientists for the purpose of contacting individuals about participating in research.

Previously, the legislation allowed the government to disclose contact information to research scientists, without the consent of individuals, as long as confidentiality was protected.

The reasons for the amendment are not clear, but prior to 2003, scientists were allowed to collect a random sample of names from data banks such as the Medical Services Plan

(MSP) registry and election lists to recruit control subjects for studies.

Medical studies have yielded important findings and led to major shifts in

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CAREX CANADA *Demers PA et al . School of Environmental Health, UBC*

THE INFORMATION SYSTEM ON OCCUPATIONAL EXPOSURE TO CARCINOGENS

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CAREX Canada: The Information System on Occupational Exposure to Carcinogens

Welcome to the CAREX Canada Website

The objective of the CAREX Canada project is to develop estimates of the numbers of workers occupationally exposed to British Columbia's most common workplace carcinogens.

CAREX Canada is based on [the International Information System on Occupational Exposure to Carcinogens](#), which was developed by the Finnish Institute for Occupational Health (FIOH).

This CAREX website provides descriptive reports and data tables on carcinogen exposure. It also contains some background information about how CAREX Canada was developed, and on our future research plans.

We hope you find this website helpful, and encourage you to [contact us](#) with any suggestions on how to improve CAREX Canada.





Population Data BC

Health (BC Linked Health Database)	Education (Edudata)	Early Childhood Development (HELP)	Environmental + Occupational (SOEH)
Births / Deaths	BC K-12 Student	EDI	
Medical Visits	FSA		
Hospital Visits	School & District		
Continuing Care	Educator		
Pharmacare			
Mental Health		Children in Care	Exposure
Worker's Comp		Child Protection	Air Quality
BCAS/EMHS	MAVED	NLSCY	Nat'l Dose Registry
Perinatal	University	Childcare Licensing	BC Assessment
Cancer Tx			