



# Occupational Health Rulemaking

*Eric Berg, Deputy Chief of Health*

# Cal/OSHA Research & Standards Branch

- **Medical Unit** (Margaret Murray, Mary Kochie)
- **Epidemiology** (Nitin Sing)
- **Research and Standards Health Unit** (Kevin Graulich)
  - Asbestos and Carcinogen Unit (Dean Mochrie)
- **Research and Standards Safety Unit** (Jason Denning)
  - Crane Unit (Philip Yow)
- **Research Data Unit** (Joanne Rodrigues)
  - Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries Unit
  - Research Program Office
- **Educational Program and Technical Services Unit** (Stephanie Winn)
  - Publications Unit
  - Training Unit
  - CALICO Laboratory (Supinda Wadsantad)

# Occupational Health Rulemaking



California Code of  
Regulations Title 8

2024 – 2025 Completed  
Rulemaking

# 2024 - 2025 Completed Occupational Health Rulemaking

- **§3396** Indoor Heat Illness Prevention
- **§1531.1, 5155, 5198** Lead in Construction and Lead in General Industry
- **§5204** Occupational Exposure to Respirable Crystalline Silica

# 3396 Indoor Heat Illness Prevention

- Effective July 23, 2024
- Provides heat illness prevention measures to indoor workers that previously only applied to outdoor workers.



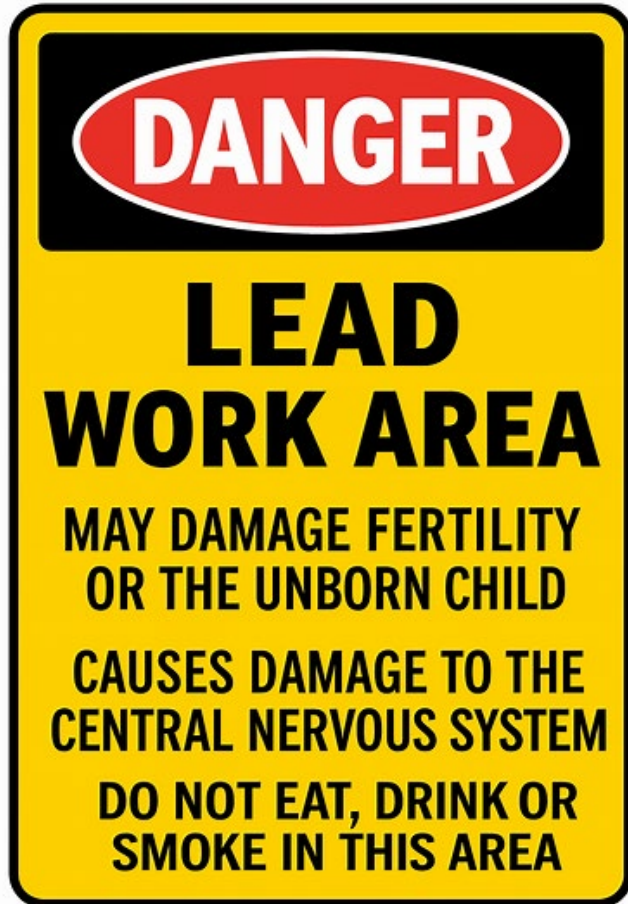


# California Worker Heat Protections

## Title 8 California Code of Regulations

<b>3395 Outdoor Heat</b> ( <i>Maria Isabel Vasquez Jimenez</i> Heat Illness Standard)	<b>3396 Indoor Heat</b>
(a) Scope	(a) Scope
(b) Definitions	(b) Definitions
(c) Provision of Water	(c) Provision of Water
(d) Access to shade	(d) Access to Cool-Down Areas
(e) High-heat procedures	(e) Assessment and Control Measures
(f) Emergency Response Procedures	(f) Emergency Response Procedures
(g) Acclimatization	(g) Acclimatization
(h) Training	(h) Training
(i) Heat Illness Prevention Plan	(i) Heat Illness Prevention Plan

# §1532.1, 5155, 5198 Lead



## Effective January 1, 2025

- Lowers action level –  $2 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$
- Lowers PEL –  $10 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$
- Lowers medical removal blood lead level
  - 2 tests  $\geq 20\mu\text{g}/\text{dl}$  or 1 test  $\geq 30 \mu\text{g}/\text{dl}$
- Lowers return to work blood lead level
  - 2 tests  $< 15 \mu\text{g}/\text{dl}$

# §5204 - Silica in Countertop Fabrication

- Emergency Regulation Effective December 29, 2023
- Permanent Regulation Effective February 2, 2025
- Requires wet methods, respiratory protection (**1000x** APF), housekeeping, medical removal, and other protections **regardless of exposure levels** for countertop fabrication.
- **Order Prohibiting Use** for dry methods, incorrect respiratory protection, etc.

# California Engineered Stone (ES) Silicosis Surveillance Dashboard

529

Confirmed ES Silicosis Cases

29

Deaths

46

Median Age at Diagnosis

49

Median Age at Death

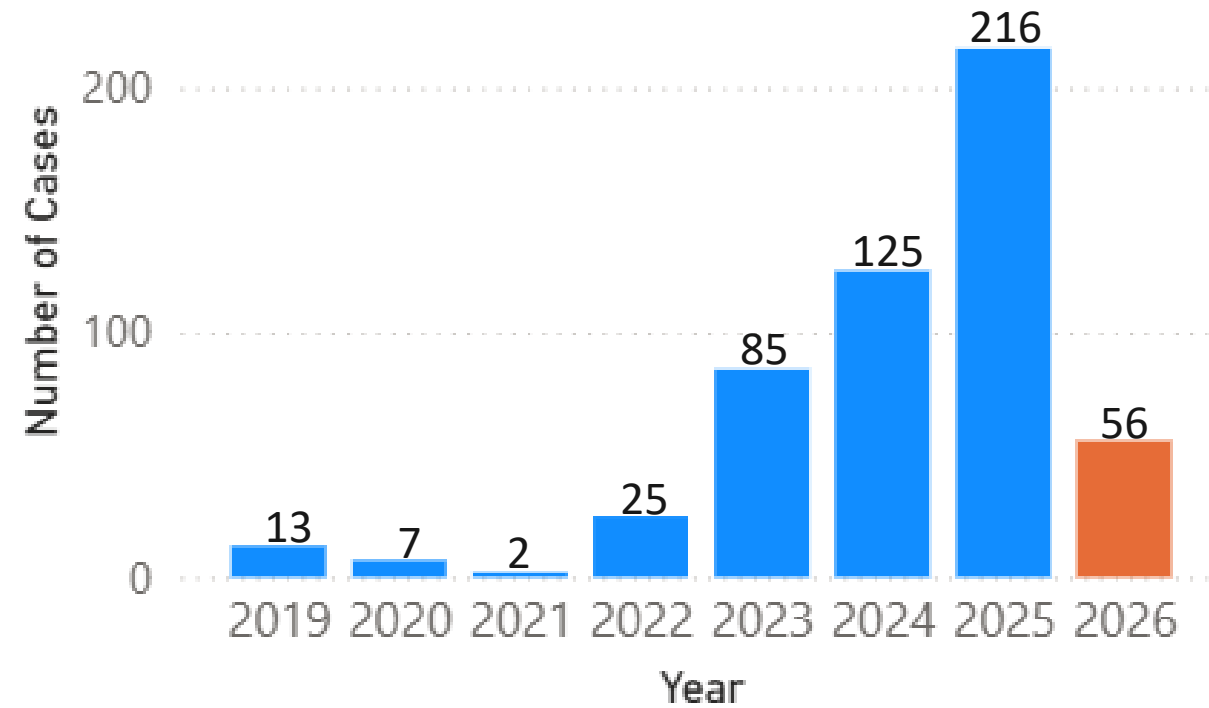
99.8%

Percent of all cases male

98%

Percent of all cases Latino

Year confirmed ES Silicosis cases identified by CDPH



Cases identified in 2026 are expected to increase

Number of Cases

50

0

Underwent  
lung  
transplant

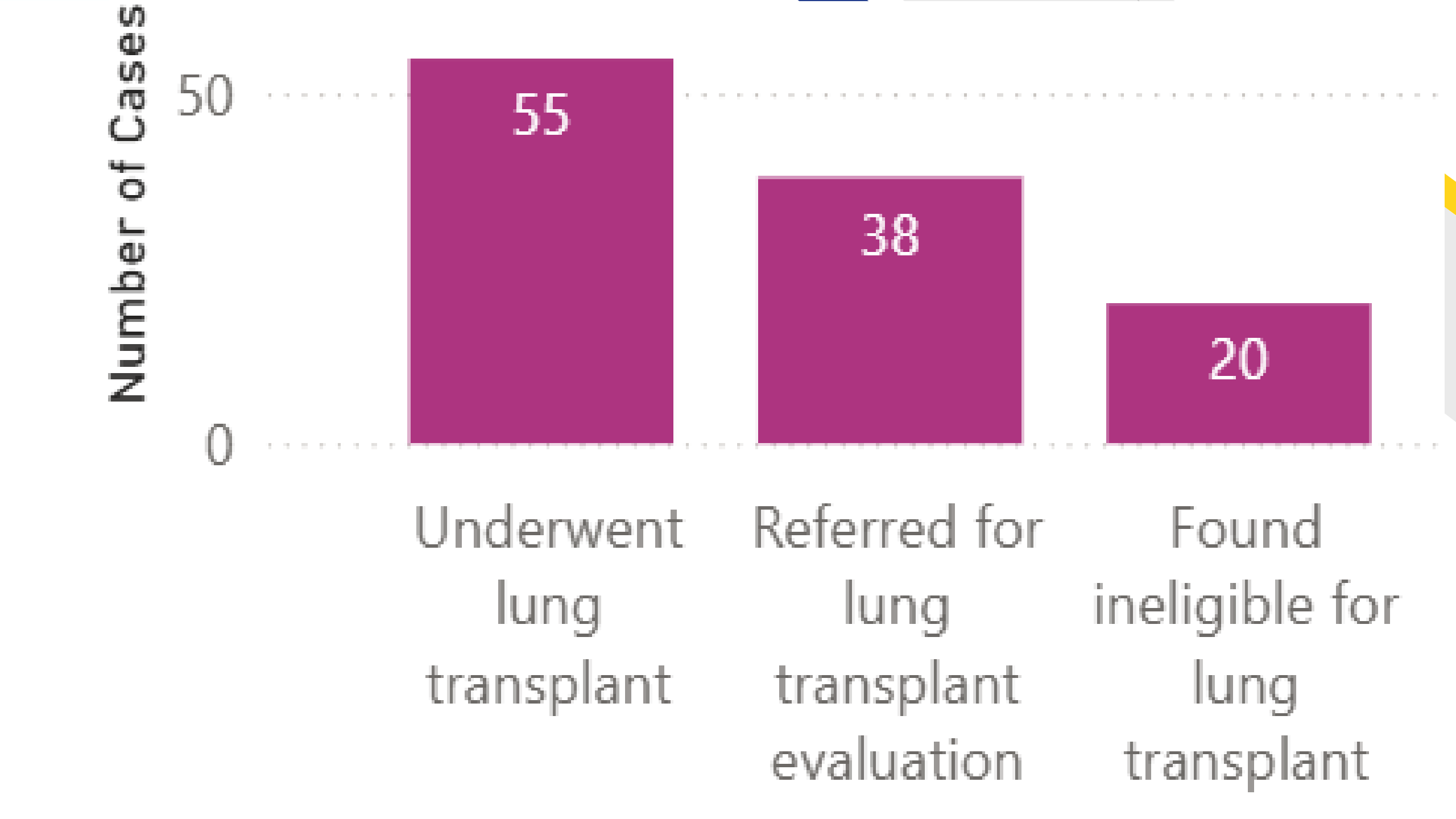
Referred for  
lung  
transplant  
evaluation

Found  
ineligible for  
lung  
transplant

55

38

20



**Illustration of  
wet methods  
and  
respiratory  
protection**



Microsoft CoPilot generated image



# 2026 - 2028 Planned Occupational Health Rulemaking

- First Aid Kits
- Heat Illness Prevention
- Wildfire Smoke
- PELs
- Workplace Violence in General Industry
- Process Safety Management in Refineries
- Opioid Reversal Medications
- Plume in Health Care
- Workplace Violence in Healthcare
- Firefighter Respiratory Protection
- Hazardous Drugs in Healthcare
- Naturally Occurring Asbestos

