

# Asbestos Removal Laws & Regulations Timeline

## Early Recognition

1900



Asbestos is recognized as a cause of occupational disease

Asbestos is established as a cause of death



1924

1931



First asbestos control law passed in the UK

## Carcinogen and Initial PELs

The first product-liability lawsuit is brought against asbestos manufacturers



1969

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In the US, a federal limit of 12 asbestos fibers per cubic centimeter of air (f/cc) is established

OSHA establishes the first federal guidelines for workplace asbestos exposure



1970

1972



The American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists lists asbestos as a human carcinogen.

Permissible exposure limit (PEL) is reduced to 5 f/cc



1972

1973



Asbestos use in the US hits an all-time high

The use of asbestos in thermal insulation is banned



1975

## Tightening Standards and Ban Attempts

1976



PEL is reduced to 2 f/cc

PEL is reduced to 0.2 f/cc



1986

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Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) is passed

EPA issues AHERA regulations, announces Asbestos Worker Protection Rule



1987

1990



Asbestos School Hazard Abatement Reauthorization Act is passed

PEL is reduced to 0.1 f/cc (the current standard as of 2025)



1994

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All Thermal System Insulation, floor tiles, and surfacing materials installed before 1981 are presumed to be asbestos-containing unless demonstrated otherwise



If you need asbestos testing services for your laboratory, AGT Labs can help!

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\*source: <https://www.ehcassociates.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/Timeline-of-Asbestos-Regulation-edited.pdf>