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KCIC

ASBESTOS LITIGATION:

2016 YEAR IN REVIEW

KCIC Industry Report

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INTRODUCTION

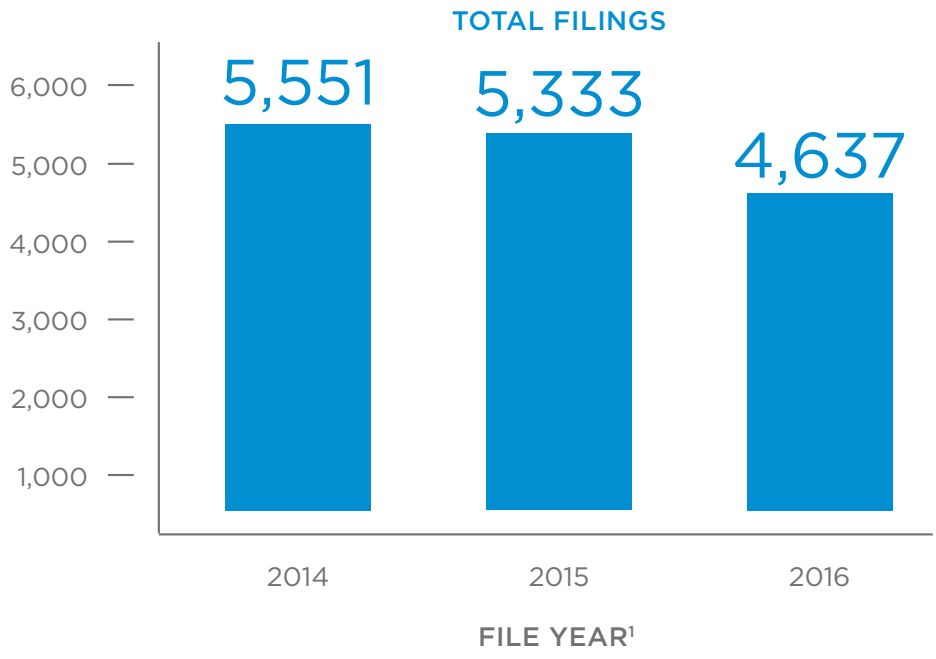
Welcome to the latest KCIC Asbestos Litigation Report. This is our most extensive report to date. It includes both a refresh of previous reports, as well as several new in-depth analyses. Our findings reflect three years of data as received through January 31, 2017, including data for 2014 and 2015 received from other data sources since the last report. As in previous reports, the data used in preparing this report came from complaints received and processed by KCIC. We believe it is inclusive of over 90% of all lawsuits in asbestos litigation nationwide.

In this report, we delve into filing statistics by disease, jurisdiction, and plaintiff firm. We look at jurisdictions that have seen changes over the past few years and analyze defendant company naming statistics by plaintiff firm and jurisdiction. Further, we take a look at secondary exposures, as well as out-of-state filings, to get a better picture of the nuances behind asbestos litigation across the country.

The same dynamics of the asbestos litigation we observed in previous reports — and which have been observed for many years — continue to characterize this litigation. Mesothelioma filings are holding steady, and we continue to see a large number of defendant companies named on complaints, with the same top defendants named on most lawsuits. Along with this, we continue to see a large and increasing level of concentration among both plaintiff firms and jurisdictions. Madison County, Ill., continues to be the jurisdiction of choice and the epicenter for this litigation.

HIGH-LEVEL FILINGS OVERVIEW

While our data show a downward trend in the total number of asbestos lawsuit filings, this trend is driven by non-malignant disease types, while mesothelioma and lung cancer filings are steady and increasing.



[1] The average lag between the date of filing and when the lawsuit is received is about one month. However, at the end of 2015, a significant number of lawsuits — most of which were for non-malignant allegations — were filed in Baltimore City, Md.; Middlesex County, Mass.; and Newport News, Va. These filings were not received until late February and early March of 2016. As of 1/31/2017, we have not seen a similar surge in 2016 filings from complaints received in 2017.

DISEASE TRENDS

Disease from Complaint	2014 Filings	2015 Filings	2016 Filings
Mesothelioma	2,413	2,291	2,296
Lung Cancer	1,508	1,156	1,189
Non-Malignant	1,079	1,340	629
Unknown	407	390	371
Other Cancer	144	156	152
Total Filings	**5,551**	**5,333**	**4,637**

When comparing 2016 to 2014, we see an overall decrease of 16.5% in total filings. For 2016, while other cancer, non-malignant, and unknown disease filings have decreased, filings for mesothelioma and lung cancer have not. Mesothelioma filings are steady, up only slightly (0.2%) over 2015, and lung cancer filings have increased 2.9%. We will dig deeper into this data by plaintiff firm, jurisdiction and disease in the remainder of this report.

JURISDICTION TRENDS

There has been little change in the top jurisdictions from 2014 through 2016. Eight of the top 10 jurisdictions in 2016 have been in the top 10 each year since 2014. The percentage of claims concentrated within these jurisdictions has also stayed relatively stable. In 2016, these 10 jurisdictions accounted for almost 72% of the total filings (versus 71% in 2014 and 69% in 2015).

The number of individual jurisdictions we are seeing with asbestos filings has also increased in 2016. We saw filings in 171 individual jurisdictions in 2014, 168 jurisdictions in 2015, and 178 jurisdictions in 2016. As a result, in 2016, the top 10 jurisdictions accounted for only 5.6% of the total jurisdictions receiving asbestos claims, but accounted for over 71.6% of all filings.

Top 10 Jurisdictions 2016	2014 Filings	2015 Filings	2016 Filings
Madison County, IL	1,244	1,191	1,299
Baltimore City, MD	604	693	414
New York, NY	422	401	368
St. Louis, MO	322	236	311
Philadelphia, PA	230	233	245
Wayne, MI	295	312	188
Cook County, IL	181	187	143
New Castle, DE	369	132	142
Newport News, VA	108	190	114
Los Angeles, CA	164	114	98
Subtotal of Top 10 Jurisdictions 2016	**3,939**	**3,689**	**3,322**
Grand Total of All Jurisdictions	**5,551**	**5,333**	**4,637**

The increased share of the top 10 jurisdictions for 2016 is driven by Madison County, Ill. In 2014 and 2015, Madison County accounted for approximately 22% of all filings, compared to 28% in 2016. The second largest jurisdiction in 2016 was Baltimore City, Md., only accounting for 9% of total filings. The jurisdictions continue to decrease after that. In 2014 and 2015, Madison County received approximately double the filings of Baltimore City. In 2016, the filings in Madison County grew to about three times that of the second-ranked jurisdiction. Madison County is the only jurisdiction among the top 10 that has seen a significant increase in filings between 2014 and 2016.

Madison County has grown to have almost 40% of the filings within the top 10 jurisdictions in 2016. In 2014 and 2015, Madison County contained about 32% of filings among these same jurisdictions. As a result of this concentration, over 50% of the filings among the top 10 jurisdictions are contained within the top two jurisdictions.

TOP 10 JURISDICTIONS BY TOTAL FILING COUNT

Top 10 Jurisdictions 2016	% of 2014	% of 2015	% of 2016	% Among Top 10 2016
Madison County, IL	22.4%	22.3%	28.0%	39.1%
Baltimore City, MD	10.9%	13.0%	8.9%	12.5%
New York, NY	7.6%	7.5%	7.9%	11.1%
St. Louis, MO	5.8%	4.4%	6.7%	9.4%
Philadelphia, PA	4.1%	4.4%	5.3%	7.4%
Wayne, MI	5.3%	5.9%	4.1%	5.7%
Cook County, IL	3.3%	3.5%	3.1%	4.3%
New Castle, DE	6.6%	2.5%	3.1%	4.3%
Newport News, VA	1.9%	3.6%	2.5%	3.4%
Los Angeles, CA	3.0%	2.1%	2.1%	3.0%
% of Top 10 Jurisdictions	**71.0%**	**69.2%**	**71.6%**	**100.0%**

JURISDICTION – MESOTHELIOMA FOCUS

If we restrict our analysis to mesothelioma claims only, the concentration among the top 10 jurisdictions in 2016 is even more pronounced – driven again mainly by the level of claims filed in Madison County, Ill. In 2014, the claims filed in these jurisdictions accounted for 74% of the total mesothelioma claims filed. In 2015, these jurisdictions grew to about 76% of the filings, and in 2016, they increase even a little bit more to about 76.5% of the total mesothelioma filings.

Top 10 Mesothelioma Jurisdictions 2016	2014 Filings	2015 Filings	2016 Filings
Madison County, IL	1,008	1,068	1,078
St. Louis, MO	145	94	119
Philadelphia, PA	89	88	96
Cook County, IL	124	116	94
New York, NY	62	88	89
Los Angeles, CA	113	97	88
New Castle, DE	115	64	59
Middlesex, NJ	60	52	54
Alameda, CA	50	40	42
Allegheny County, PA	27	34	38
Subtotal for Top 10 Mesothelioma Jurisdictions 2016	**1,793**	**1,741**	**1,757**
Grand Total for All Mesothelioma	**2,413**	**2,291**	**2,296**

Madison County has consistently been the top jurisdiction for mesothelioma filings over the last three years, receiving vastly more mesothelioma filings than any other jurisdiction, including nearly 10 times the filings of St. Louis, Mo., the second largest jurisdiction. Madison County's share of mesothelioma filings has seen an increase from 2014 through 2016. The jurisdiction received approximately 42% of the mesothelioma filings in 2014, and 47% in both 2015 and 2016.

By comparison, St. Louis received a far smaller share. In 2016, St. Louis saw approximately 5% of the mesothelioma claims, and that has stayed relatively constant each year since 2014. Even though St. Louis is a relatively small jurisdiction compared to Madison County, St. Louis has seen some significant growth in 2016 compared to 2015. The increase is due mainly to mesothelioma filings in 2016 by the Flint Firm and Gori Julian & Associates.

Typically the next largest jurisdiction for mesothelioma claims has been Cook County, Ill. Cook County, however, has seen a significant decrease in filings from 2014 through 2016. Over the past three years, the firm Cooney & Conway has made up almost 90% of the mesothelioma filings in Cook County. Their filings in Cook County were 111 in 2014 and only 84 in 2016. Conversely, Cooney & Conway's presence in Madison County has increased dramatically over this same period. Our data shows that Cooney & Conway filed one mesothelioma claim in 2014 in Madison County, seven in 2015, and then 44 in 2016.

In the remaining top 10 jurisdictions, we have found that mesothelioma filings for 2016 stayed the same or decreased from 2014 and 2015. One exception is Philadelphia, Pa. In 2014 and 2015, Philadelphia received a very similar number of mesothelioma claims: 89 and 88 claims, respectively. In 2016, however, that jurisdiction saw an uptick of closer to 100 filings. The change is driven mainly by Weitz & Luxenberg filing over 10 more complaints in Philadelphia in 2016 than in 2015.

Top 10 Mesothelioma Jurisdictions 2016	% of 2014	% of 2015	% of 2016	% Among Top 10 2016
Madison County, IL	41.8%	46.6%	47.0%	61.3%
St. Louis, MO	6.0%	4.1%	5.2%	6.8%
Philadelphia, PA	3.7%	3.8%	4.2%	5.5%
Cook County, IL	5.1%	5.1%	4.1%	5.4%
New York, NY	2.6%	3.8%	3.9%	5.1%
Los Angeles, CA	4.7%	4.2%	3.8%	5.0%
New Castle, DE	4.8%	2.8%	2.6%	3.4%
Middlesex, NJ	2.5%	2.3%	2.4%	3.1%
Alameda, CA	2.1%	1.7%	1.8%	2.4%
Allegheny, PA	1.1%	1.5%	1.7%	2.0%
Total for Top 10 Mesothelioma Jurisdictions 2016	**74.3%**	**76.0%**	**76.5%**	**100.0%**

JURISDICTION – LUNG CANCER FOCUS

The distribution of lung cancer lawsuits across the country is similar to that of mesothelioma filings in that Madison County, Ill., and St. Louis, Mo., are the top two jurisdictions in 2016. The top 10 jurisdictions account for over 75% of the total lung cancer filings each year from 2014 to 2016. Continuing to parallel what is happening with mesothelioma claims, lung cancer claims have become increasingly concentrated in Madison County and St. Louis over the last two years. In 2015, Madison County and St. Louis received 21% of all lung cancer filings, increasing to 33% in 2016.

In contrast to mesothelioma, lung cancer filings are at a comparable level in both St. Louis and Madison County. In 2015, St. Louis actually received more lung cancer filings than Madison County.

Lung Cancer Jurisdictions 2016	2014 Filings	2015 Filings	2016 Filings
Madison County, IL	223	113	212
St. Louis, MO	168	134	185
Baltimore City, MD	140	174	132
Philadelphia, PA	90	86	88
New Castle, DE	248	61	79
Kanawha County, WV	80	99	57
St. Clair County, IL	67	59	57
Wayne, MI	72	56	51
New York, NY	54	49	46
Cook County, IL	38	49	32
Subtotal for Top 10 Lung Cancer Jurisdictions 2016	**1,180**	**880**	**939**
Grand Total For Lung Cancer	**1,508**	**1,156**	**1,189**

Madison County has experienced significant fluctuations in lung cancer filings between 2014 and 2016. In 2014, there were 223 lung cancer filings in Madison County, 113 in 2015, and 212 in 2016. This significant movement is due to the drastic changes in filings from two law firms: Napoli Shkolnik (previously Napoli Bern Ripka Shkolnik) and Simmons Hanly Conroy. Napoli filed 120 lung cancer claims in Madison County in 2014, 10 in 2015, and 25 in 2016. Conversely, Simmons filed five Madison County claims in 2014, four in 2015, and 122 in 2016. In 2016, Simmons' filings alone account for over 57% of the lung cancer filings in Madison County.

Similarly, St. Louis has seen a swing in lung cancer filings over the past three years. There were 168 filings in 2014, 134 filings in 2015, and 185 filings in 2016. Again, this movement can be attributed to two firms: Napoli and Gori Julian & Associates. As with Madison County, Napoli has significantly decreased its presence in St. Louis since 2014. In 2014, Napoli filed 91 of the 168 lung cancer filings in St. Louis. In 2015, they only filed 12 lung cancer cases there and then doubled their lung cancer filings to 25 cases in 2016. The significant increase in lung cancer filings in St. Louis is due to the filings by Gori. In 2014, Gori only filed 29 of the 168 cases. Filings by Gori increased to 77 filings in 2015, and in 2016, Gori accounted for 60% of all St. Louis lung cancer filings — 111 of the jurisdiction's 185 lung cancer cases.

The change in St. Louis filings as a result of Gori is offset by a corresponding decrease in St. Clair County, Ill. The lung cancer filings in St. Clair County have drastically decreased – mainly due to Gori's reduction in filings in this county. In 2014 and 2015, Gori filed 78 and 95 lung cancer claims, respectively. Then in 2016, the filings decreased to 56. That is a decrease of about 40 claims — of similar magnitude to their increased filings in St. Louis.

Top 10 Lung Cancer Jurisdictions 2016	% of 2014	% of 2015	% of 2016	% Among Top 10 2016
Madison County, IL	14.8%	9.8%	17.8%	22.6%
St. Louis, MO	11.1%	11.6%	15.6%	19.7%
Baltimore City, MD	9.3%	15.1%	11.1%	14.1%
Philadelphia, PA	6.0%	7.4%	7.4%	9.4%
New Castle, DE	16.4%	5.3%	6.6%	8.4%
Kanawha County, WV	4.4%	5.1%	4.8%	6.1%
St. Clair County, IL	5.3%	8.6%	4.8%	6.1%
Wayne, MI	4.8%	4.8%	4.3%	5.4%
New York, NY	3.6%	4.2%	3.9%	4.9%
Cook County, IL	2.5%	4.2%	2.7%	3.4%
Total for Top 10 Lung Cancer Jurisdictions 2016	**78.3%**	**76.1%**	**79.0%**	**100.0%**

MATURING / EMERGING / CAUSE-AND-EFFECT JURISDICTIONS

In order to accurately compare our data for 2016 — which reflects lawsuits received through 1/31/2017 — this analysis limits year-end totals for 2014 and 2015 to only lawsuits received by January 31 of the following year (1/31/2015 and 1/31/2016, respectively). For purposes of this section, we classified jurisdictions into three categories: maturing, emerging, and cause-and-effect.

Maturing jurisdictions have the highest number of total filings, show patterns of consolidation of plaintiff firms, and often can be classified as a hot spot for a specific disease. This section will highlight Madison County, Ill., and St. Louis, Mo.

Emerging jurisdictions often have substantially lower total filing numbers, an increasing number of plaintiff firms entering the jurisdiction, and a more diverse disease mix. The emerging section will highlight key jurisdictions in Louisiana and Pennsylvania.

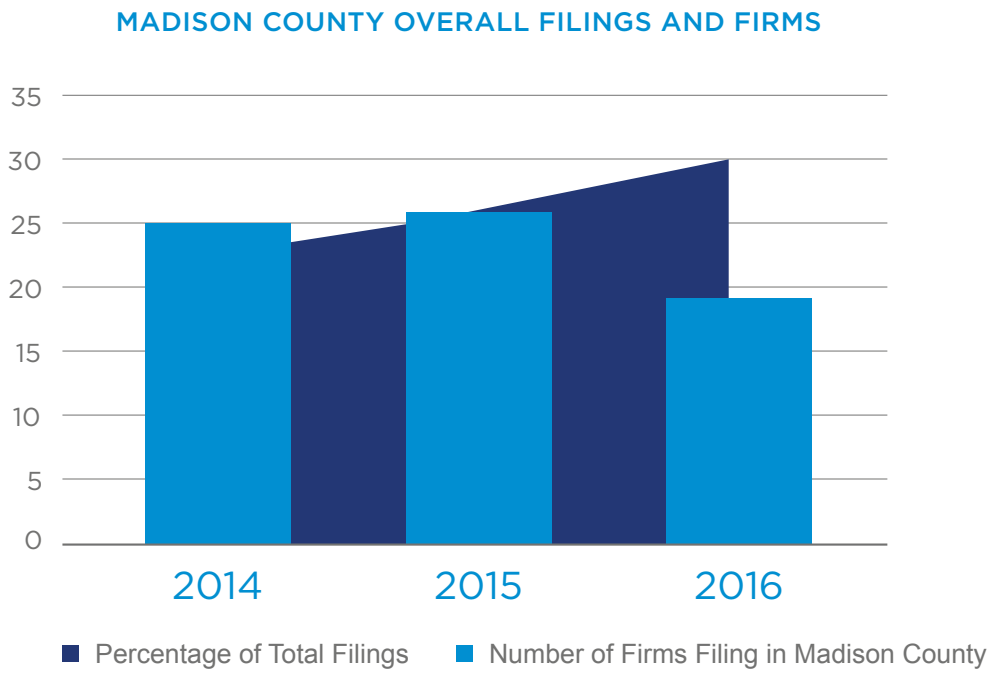
Finally, cause-and-effect jurisdictions can be defined as regions where significant changes in filings directly correlate to either plaintiff firm changes or disease trends. Key jurisdictions in California and Michigan, along with Cook and St. Clair counties in Illinois, will highlight these trends.

MATURING JURISDICTIONS

Madison County, Ill., is the preeminent mature jurisdiction for asbestos filings. We recorded 1,299 filings in 2016, a three-year high for the county.

	2014 Filings	2015 Filings	2016 Filings
Madison County, IL	1,215	1,170	1,299
St. Louis, MO	310	236	311

Despite a year-over-year increase of 129 filings, six plaintiff firms exited the jurisdiction entirely in 2016, leaving the three most dominant filers in Madison County — Gori Julian & Associates, Simmons Hanly Conroy, and Maune, Raichle, Hartley, French & Mudd — driving this upward trend. These three firms increased their aggregate filings by 198 claims. In contrast, the 16 other plaintiff firms that filed in Madison County in 2016 decreased their aggregate filing count by 58.



St. Louis, Mo., has been previously highlighted as a jurisdiction largely defined by its proximity to Madison County, as the same plaintiff firms with significant activity in Madison County have steadily increased their filings in St. Louis over the past three years. However, St. Louis has a slightly different disease profile than its neighbor. Lung cancer claims are the dominant allegation in St. Louis. A year-over-year increase of 75 filings is largely driven by two active national firms: Gori and Napoli Shkolnik, which increased their lung cancer filings in St. Louis by 50 and 14, respectively.

Plaintiff Firm	2014 Filings		2015 Filings		2016 Filings	
	Madison County, IL	St. Louis, MO	Madison County, IL	St. Louis, MO	Madison County, IL	St. Louis, MO
Gori Julian & Associates, PC	232	47	280	87	330	137
Napoli Shkolnik, PLLC	126	94	11	16	25	30

EMERGING JURISDICTIONS

Louisiana and Pennsylvania both showed an increase in filings as well as an influx of plaintiff firms filing there for the first time. Both states exhibited unique filing patterns that diverge from those of the mature jurisdictions.

Louisiana's filing pattern is highly fragmented. Louisiana's 85 asbestos lawsuits in 2016 were filed in nine different jurisdictions by 34 unique plaintiff firms. The 17 additional lawsuits filed in Louisiana in 2016 can be attributed to the 10 plaintiff firms filing in the state for the first time. Although 79% of filings were in Orleans (50) and East Baton Rouge (17), there is very little concentration by plaintiff firm. Baron & Budd filed the highest number, but the firm still only accounts for 20% of the 2016 filings. In contrast to mature jurisdictions like Madison County, where large firms filed 99% of 2016 cases, only 50% of filings in Louisiana were made by firms filing more than five claims. The distribution of cases in Louisiana is much more dispersed.

Pennsylvania's year-over-year increase of 14 filings is reflected in three key jurisdictions: Philadelphia, Bucks County, and Allegheny County. Philadelphia and Allegheny County recorded an increasing number of plaintiff firms filing, paralleling Louisiana. Pennsylvania's disease mix is also unique in comparison to mature jurisdictions, which are typically defined by a dominant one-disease allegation. Pennsylvania's 2016 filings were spread much more evenly among mesothelioma (33%), lung cancer (29%) and non-malignant (27%).

Pennsylvania Jurisdictions	2014 Filings	2015 Filings	2016 Filings
Philadelphia	229	230	245
Allegheny County	57	64	77
Bucks County	4	10	15
% of Total Pennsylvania Filings	**69.5%**	**72.5%**	**77.8%**

CAUSE-AND-EFFECT JURISDICTIONS

In 2016, the most apparent example of plaintiff firms driving jurisdictional filing changes occurred in California. Filings there decreased by 15% in 2016, which can largely be attributed to the apparent exit of the plaintiff firm Brayton Purcell, previously California's highest filing firm in 2015. Over a three-year period (2014-2016), there is a direct correlation between the number of firms filing in California and the count of total filings for the year.

California Lawsuits	2014 Filings	2015 Filings	2016 Filings
Unique Plaintiff Firms Filing	26	24	20
Lawsuits Filed	268	223	189

Changes in Michigan can also largely be tied to the movement of various plaintiff firms to different jurisdictions within the state. The city of Wayne decreased by 35% in 2016. Goldberg, Persky & White, the highest filing firm in Michigan, decreased their filings in Wayne from 112 to 51, but is responsible for the upticks in Muskegon, Alpena, Manistee, and St. Clair — an increase in aggregate of 43 filings. The plaintiff firms Mazur & Kittel as well as Zamler, Mellen & Shiffman also decreased their Michigan filings by 13% and 43%, respectively.

Plaintiff firm trends may only partially account for declining filings in Michigan, where a high percentage of lawsuits have alleged non-malignant diseases (72% in 2015, 67% in 2016). For all jurisdictions, we have recorded a decline in non-malignant filings in 2016. Michigan's experience parallels what other non-malignant hot spots like Baltimore City, Md., and Newport News, Va., have demonstrated as well.

The two largest Illinois jurisdictions behind Madison County, Ill., also meet our description of cause-and-effect jurisdictions. St. Clair County, Ill., previously considered a lung cancer hot spot, showed a decline of 34 filings in 2016 as Gori Julian & Associates moved a significant portion of their lung cancer filings across the border into St. Louis, Mo. Similarly in Cook County, Ill., the year-over-year decrease of 43 filings directly correlates to the firm Cooney & Conway's filing count, which dropped in Cook County by 39 lawsuits this year.

PLAINTIFF FIRM TRENDS

As with previous years, 2016 jurisdictional filing trends are heavily influenced by specific plaintiff firm filing activity. The overall filing of asbestos claims is heavily concentrated among a few firms. The top 10 filing plaintiff firms in 2016 account for just under 62% of all filings. This is a slight increase over 2014 and 2015, indicating that filings are consolidating among the bigger firms even while overall asbestos filings are decreasing.

CONCENTRATION OF 2016 FILINGS IN TOP PLAINTIFF FIRMS

Top 10 Plaintiff Firms 2016	2016 Filings	% of Total 2016 Filings	Cumulative % of Total 2016 Filings
Gori Julian & Associates, PC	541	11.7%	11.7%
Simmons Hanly Conroy, LLC	504	10.9%	22.5%
Weitz & Luxenberg, PC	435	9.4%	31.9%
Law Offices of Peter G. Angelos, PC	422	9.1%	41.0%
Maune, Raichle, Hartley, French & Mudd, LLC	244	5.3%	46.3%
Goldberg, Persky & White, PC	198	4.3%	50.5%
Cooney & Conway	176	3.8%	54.3%
Napoli Shkolnik, PLLC	128	2.8%	57.1%
SWMK Law, LLC	121	2.6%	59.7%
The Law Offices of Paul A. Weykamp	94	2.0%	61.7%

It is interesting to note that for 2016, two firms, Gori Julian & Associates and Simmons Hanly Conroy, have increased their percentage to hold over 20% of total filings combined. In fact, over the past three years, these two firms have outgrown the others by increasing their percentage of overall asbestos filings more considerably than the rest.

Top 10 Plaintiff Firms 2016	Change in Concentration 2014 - 2016
Gori Julian & Associates, PC	5.2%
Simmons Hanly Conroy, LLC	3.8%
Weitz & Luxenberg, PC	0.3%
Law Offices of Peter G. Angelos, PC	-1.4%
Maune, Raichle, Hartley, French & Mudd, LLC	1.2%
Goldberg, Persky & White, PC	-0.3%
Cooney & Conway	0.8%
Napoli Shkolnik, PLLC	-6.2%
SWMK Law, LLC	0.4%
The Law Offices of Paul A. Weykamp	0.6%

With the top 10 firms accounting for over 61% of all filings, it is interesting to see similar concentration among the mesothelioma filings for these same firms. They comprise just under 59% of total mesothelioma filings nationwide. Unlike with the overall filings, these firms do not seem to be changing their concentrations dramatically year to year – with the exception of Gori, which has increased its mesothelioma filing concentration by almost 4% from 2014 to 2016.

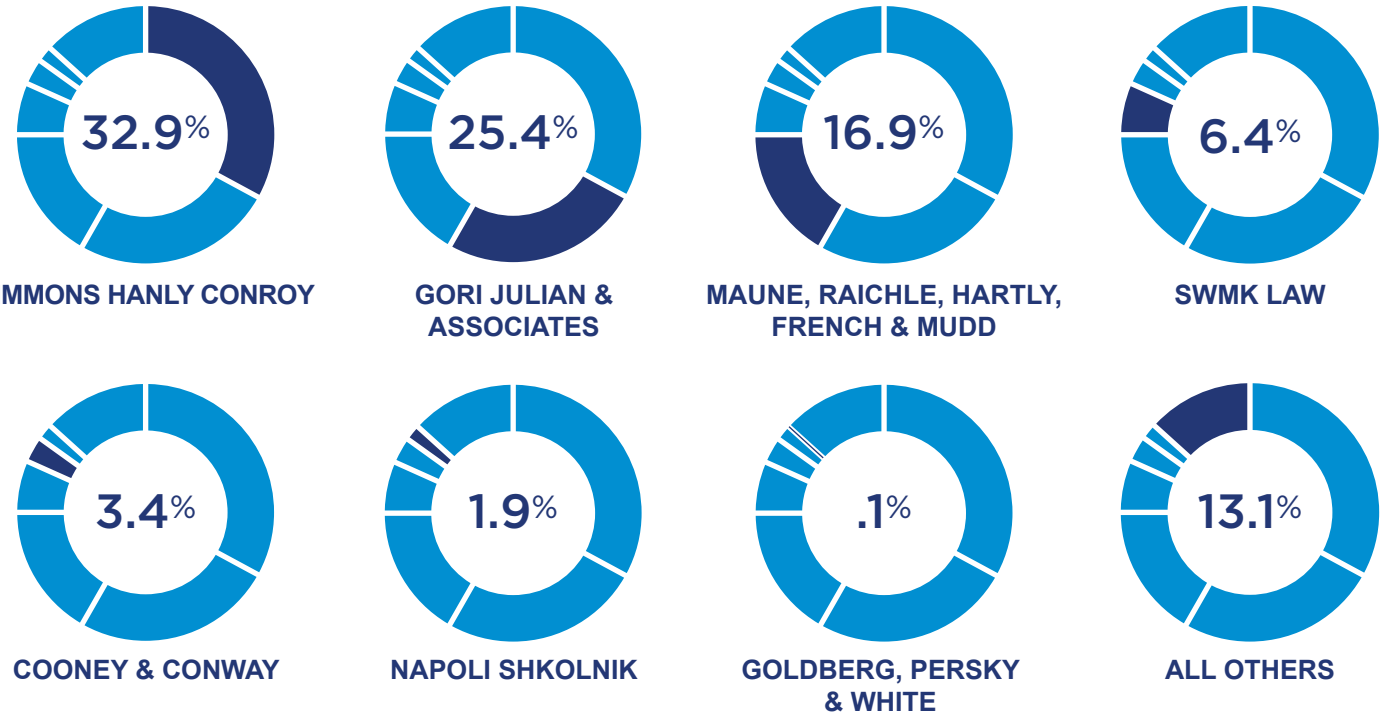
Top 10 Plaintiff Firms 2016	% of 2014 Mesothelioma	% of 2015 Mesothelioma	% of 2016 Mesothelioma	% Change 2014-2016 Mesothelioma
Simmons Hanly Conroy, LLC	15.9%	16.4%	16.4%	0.5%
Gori Julian & Associates, PC	10.4%	11.9%	14.3%	3.9%
Maune, Raichle, Hartley, French & Mudd, LLC	9.2%	10.2%	10.6%	1.4%
Cooney & Conway	4.6%	4.8%	5.6%	1.0%
Weitz & Luxenberg, PC	5.7%	4.3%	5.1%	-0.6%
SWMK Law, LLC	2.9%	3.5%	4.2%	1.3%
Law Offices of Peter G. Angelos, PC	1.4%	1.0%	1.0%	-0.4%
Goldberg, Persky & White, PC	0.9%	0.8%	1.0%	0.1%
Napoli Shkolnik, PLLC	0.9%	0.3%	0.4%	-0.5%
The Law Offices of Paul A. Weykamp	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%
Top 10 Plaintiff Firms Total Mesothelioma Filings	**51.8%**	**53.2%**	**58.7%**	**6.9%**

For 2016's top 10 overall filers nationwide, even more concentrated than mesothelioma filings are the locations of these filings, specifically in Madison County.

	% of Filings for Top 10 Plaintiff Firms		
File Year	Total Filings	Total Mesothelioma Filings	Total Madison County, IL Filings
2014	57.4%	51.8%	77.2%
2015	54.7%	53.2%	76.2%
2016	61.7%	58.7%	86.9%

In Madison County, just seven plaintiff firms are responsible for 87% of asbestos filings. The top two filers, Simmons and Gori, account for 58%. That is a notable consolidation of filing power between just two firms in the nation's most popular jurisdiction.

PERCENT OF 2016 MADISON COUNTY FILINGS



SPECIFIC FIRM EXPERIENCES

Overall, Gori Julian & Associates continues to lead the pack for asbestos claim filings. Their filings for 2016 increased by just over 13% from their overall filings in 2015. This signifies a considerable increase in number of filings and may increase as additional filings from 2016 are received in 2017. Overall, Gori has concentrated on filings in Madison County, Ill., and the disease mix has remained consistent over the years – focusing mainly on mesothelioma and lung cancer cases.

GORI JULIAN & ASSOCIATES FILINGS

File Year	Mesothelioma	Lung Cancer	Other Cancer	Non-Malignant	Unknown
2014	69.7%	30.0%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%
2015	56.9%	42.3%	0.8%	0.0%	0.0%
2016	60.4%	38.4%	0.9%	0.0%	0.2%

GORI JULIAN & ASSOCIATES FILINGS

Jurisdiction	Total 2016 Filings
Madison County, IL	330
St. Louis, MO	137
St. Clair County, IL	59
Orleans, LA	7
Los Angeles, CA	4
New York, NY	2
Philadelphia, PA	1
Jackson, MO	1
Total 2016 Filings	**541**

In 2016, Gori began to file in a few other jurisdictions, such as Orleans, La., as well as various jurisdictions in New York and Pennsylvania. While these filings are not significant in number for Gori, they do represent a notable percentage of the filings in these areas.

The next largest filer of asbestos claims is Simmons Hanly Conroy. The firm had consistent filing numbers between 2014 and 2015 but saw a dramatic increase of filings in 2016 with 31% (an increase of over 100 filings in a year). Previously, their mesothelioma filing numbers had remained consistent between 2014 and 2015, however, there is about a 22% decrease in mesothelioma filings in 2016 and an increase of 22% in lung cancer filings. There has been little change in other disease filings. Based on these numbers, it seems that Simmons is shifting its focus of filings to lung cancer cases.

SIMMONS HANLY CONROY FILINGS

File Year	Mesothelioma	Lung Cancer	Other Cancer	Non-Malignant	Unknown
2014	97.2%	1.8%	0.5%	0.0%	0.5%
2015	97.4%	1.8%	0.0%	0.3%	0.5%
2016	74.6%	24.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.8%

Also of interest is the fact that Simmons focuses on the jurisdictions of Madison County, Ill., St. Louis, Mo., and Los Angeles, Calif. In the past three years, filings for Simmons in these three jurisdictions have remained consistently at 94% of this firm's filings. While 2016 did show a small diversification into other jurisdictions, it wasn't enough to change its the overall filing trend.

One last firm to highlight for 2016 is Napoli Shkolnik. While not with the same vigor as in 2014, when they spiked with an abnormal number of lung cancer filings, it appears that the firm is back and filing again. While 2015 brought relatively few filings (less than 50 total), in 2016 there is an increase in filings of 167% over 2015. Although the total number of 2016 filings is only about half the total for 2014, it is a sign that the firm may be coming back to full force.

A final area of note for 2015 was the number of firms that filed cases in late December, so the cases were not received until early to mid-2016. These filings from The Ferraro Law Firm, The Law Offices of Paul A Weykamp, and Law Offices of Peter G. Angelos in 2015 appear to be an anomaly, as these "blips" were not seen in 2014 and, so far, haven't been seen in 2016.

New Firms

While we have seen many of the same players across the country and tremendous concentration among the top plaintiff firms, there also appears to be an emergence of a few new firms. None of the new firms yet comprise a significant percentage of overall filings. However, one that does appear to be worth keeping an eye on is Dean Omar & Branham, which had one filing in 2014, 10 in 2015, and 23 in 2016. This firm also files in a range of jurisdictions: Texas, South Carolina, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Missouri, and Oklahoma.

Decreasing Firms

Between 2014 and 2015, The Lanier Law Firm decreased its filings by over 80%. The number of filings remained consistent from 2015 to 2016. The concentration of filings remains for mesothelioma filings. With their filings in 2014, they would have been a top 15 filer, but at the levels of 2015 and 2016, they barely register in the top 40.

Plaintiff Firm Trends – Mesothelioma Focus

Looking at the top 10 firms filing mesothelioma claims, several on the list did not make the overall top 10 list (all diseases). Clearly, mesothelioma claims are not the driver of all of the top 10 filing firms.

Top 10 Plaintiff Firms - Mesothelioma 2016	2016 Mesothelioma Filings	% of Cumulative Filings
Simmons Hanly Conroy, LLC	376	16.4%
Gori Julian & Associates, PC	327	30.6%
Maune, Raichle, Hartley, French & Mudd, LLC	244	41.2%
Cooney & Conway	128	46.8%
Weitz & Luxenberg, PC	118	52.0%
SWMK Law, LLC	96	56.1%
Shrader & Associates, LLP	74	59.4%
Flint Firm, LLC	62	62.1%
Belluck & Fox, LLP	58	64.6%
Simon Greenstone Panatier Bartlett, PC	41	66.4%

Considering firms that showed a significant change in filings over the past year, we only observed one notable increase in mesothelioma filings. Dean Omar & Branham is the only small firm showing an increase of filings; the other plaintiff firms are top 10 filers. It is also worth noting that these five firms with significant increases in mesothelioma filings only make up 30% of all mesothelioma filings.

Increasing Mesothelioma Filings by Plaintiff Firm	% Change in Mesothelioma Filings 2015-2016	% of Total 2016 Mesothelioma Filings
Gori Julian & Associates, PC	20.2%	14.3%
Weitz & Luxenberg, PC	19.2%	5.1%
Cooney & Conway	16.4%	5.6%
SWMK Law, LLC	21.5%	4.2%
Dean Omar & Branham, LLP	155.6%	1.0%

The firms listed below have the most statistically significant decreases in mesothelioma filings from 2015 to 2016. Overall, these five firms comprise only 6% of total mesothelioma filings. Approximately 63% of firms filing mesothelioma claims did not have any significant changes in their filings over the past year.

Decreasing Mesothelioma Filings: Plaintiff Firm	% Change in Mesothelioma Filings 2015-2016	% of Total 2016 Mesothelioma Filings
Bullock Campbell Bullock & Harris, PC	-71.4%	0.3%
O'Brien Law Firm	-65.5%	0.4%
Thornton Law Firm, LLP	-59.4%	0.6%
Early, Lucarelli, Sweeney & Meisenkothen, LLC	-33.3%	1.5%
Shrader & Associates, LLP	-27.5%	3.2%

Plaintiff Firm Trends – Lung Cancer Focus

Again, when we look at the top 10 firms filing lung cancer cases, we see even greater concentration. The top 10 lung cancer filers made up 68% of all lung cancer filings in 2016. We see firms on this list that do not make the top 10 plaintiff firms for overall filings (all diseases).

Top 10 Plaintiff Firms - Lung Cancer 2016	2016 Lung Cancer Filings	% of Cumulative Filings
Gori Julian & Associates, PC	208	17.5%
Simmons Hanly Conroy, LLC	122	27.8%
Law Offices of Peter G. Angelos, PC	119	37.8%
Napoli Shkolnik, PLLC	117	47.6%
Weitz & Luxenberg, PC	75	53.9%
Goldberg, Persky & White, PC	45	57.7%
Mazur & Kittel, PLLC	42	61.2%
Cooney & Conway	31	63.8%
Nass Cancelliere Brenner	27	66.1%
SWMK Law, LLC	25	68.2%

We also looked at firms that had a significant change in filings over the past year. The following four firms with the largest increases in filings represent over 38% of all lung cancer filings.

Increasing Lung Cancer Filings by Plaintiff Firm	% Change in Lung Cancer Filings 2015-2016	% of Total 2016 Lung Cancer Filings
Simmons Hanly Conroy, LLC	1,642.9%	10.3%
Napoli Shkolnik, PLLC	185.4%	9.8%
Bailey Peavy Bailey Cowan Heckaman, PLLC	700.0%	0.7%
Gori Julian & Associates, PC	3.0%	17.5%

For decreases, the following four firms comprise just under 12% of all lung cancer filings. Two of these four firms, Cooney & Conway and Weitz & Luxenberg, are also top 10 filers for lung cancer claims. Overall decreases from top 10 firms are smaller than the increases; lung cancer filings nationwide continue to increase.

Decreasing Lung Cancer Filings by Plaintiff Firm	% Change in Lung Cancer Filings 2015-2016	% of Total 2016 Lung Cancer Filings
Flint Firm, LLC	-70.6%	0.8%
The Law Offices of Peter T. Nicholl	-65.2%	1.9%
Cooney & Conway	-32.6%	2.6%
Weitz & Luxenberg, PC	-17.6%	6.3%

The firms that represent the greatest significance in change comprise over 50% of all lung cancer filings in 2016. This is a much greater percentage than we saw when looking at changes by plaintiff firms filing mesothelioma claims.

DEFENDANT COMPANY TRENDS

We continue to observe a large number of individual defendant companies being named on complaints. In 2016, we recorded 10,000 unique company namings. While the number of defendants named is increasing, it is rare for any of the new defendant namings to be seen on more than five complaints. The majority of complaints are still naming the same top defendant companies.

While the maximum number of defendants named on a given complaint has increased over time to a staggering 458 in 2016, on average, the number of defendant companies named has remained steady at 66.

File Year	Average # of Defendants Named	Maximum # of Defendants Named
2014	59	317
2015	66	361
2016	66	458

In 2016, at least one of the top 10 most-named defendants was named on 98.9% of received lawsuits. The most commonly named defendant was named on 87.8% of lawsuits. These are similar statistics to 2015. The top 10 defendant company namings in 2016 did not change from 2015.

Defendant Company Rank by Namings	Count of 2016 Namings	% of Total 2016 Lawsuits Naming Defendant Company
#1	4,073	87.8%
#2	3,695	79.7%
#3	3,542	76.4%
#4	3,501	75.5%
#5	2,970	64.1%
#6	2,934	63.3%
#7	2,406	51.9%
#8	2,194	47.3%
#9	2,175	46.9%
#10	2,142	46.2%

The average number of defendant companies named per 2016 complaint (66) disguises a great deal of variation, both by jurisdiction and plaintiff firm. Looking at the top jurisdictions in 2016, the average number of defendants named ranged from 27 in New Castle, Del., to 212 in Kanawha, W.Va. Similarly, when looking at the top filing plaintiff firms, there is also a wide range from an average of 19 defendants named by Napoli Shkolnik to 150 by Goldberg, Persky & White. Over the past three years, there have not been widespread changes in the average number of namings across top jurisdictions or firms.

Top 15 Jurisdictions by 2016 Filings	Average # of Defendants Named		
	2014 Filings	2015 Filings	2016 Filings
Madison County, IL	74	82	72
Baltimore City, MD	48	60	59
New York, NY	41	46	49
St. Louis, MO	62	84	79
Philadelphia, PA	41	40	35
Wayne, MI	109	120	117
Cook County, IL	55	64	62
New Castle, DE	27	33	27
Newport News, VA	35	39	38
Los Angeles, CA	51	64	69
Kanawha County, WV	134	186	212
Middlesex, NJ	31	41	36
Allegheny County, PA	75	76	106
St. Clair County, IL	92	93	100
Middlesex County, MA	51	39	58

Top 15 Plaintiff Firms by 2016 Filings	Average # of Defendants Named		
	2014 Filings	2015 Filings	2016 Filings
Gori Julian & Associates, PC	116	118	117
Simmons Hanly Conroy, LLC	54	59	45
Weitz & Luxenberg, PC	36	38	37
Law Offices of Peter G. Angelos, PC	52	66	64
Maune, Raichle, Hartley, French & Mudd, LLC	32	29	32
Goldberg, Persky & White, PC	125	143	150
Cooney & Conway	57	68	64
Napoli Shkolnik, PLLC	27	23	19
SWMK Law, LLC	106	112	98
The Law Offices of Paul A. Weykamp	42	42	43
Shrader & Associates, LLP	132	124	121
The Law Offices of Peter T. Nicholl	36	39	43
Flint Firm, LLC	61	66	65
Mazur & Kittel, PLLC	104	114	116
Belluck & Fox, LLP	87	84	77

As can be expected, the jurisdictional and plaintiff firm trends coincide in certain cases. Kanawha County, W.Va., has a high average driven by Goldberg, which is the main firm filing in that jurisdiction. While Goldberg on average names 150 defendants, its average number in West Virginia is 296.

In contrast, in Madison County, Ill., Gori Julian & Associates, which dominates in that jurisdiction, names on average 117 defendant companies. The overall average for Madison County is 72 – much closer to the national average of 66. This is due to the fact that other top filers in that jurisdiction, such as Simmons Hanly Conroy, average only 45 namings on their complaints.

It also appears that while certain firms name many more companies than others, they may do so only in certain jurisdictions. We looked at three of the plaintiff firms with the highest average number of defendant company namings.

For Goldberg, they are well above the average of 66 in West Virginia, Illinois, and Michigan. However, when they file in Pennsylvania, they are only naming an average of 72 entities.

State of Filing	Average # of Defendants Named by Goldberg, Persky & White, PC		
	2014 Filings	2015 Filings	2016 Filings
IL	188	103	200
MI	136	139	141
PA	44	43	72
WV	151	288	296
Overall Average	**125**	**143**	**150**

Similarly, Shrader & Associates names more than twice the overall average when it files in Illinois or Missouri, but in Louisiana and New York the number of companies named is far lower.

State of Filing	Average # of Defendants Named by Shrader & Associates, LLP		
	2014 Filings	2015 Filings	2016 Filings
FL	0	12	0
IL	132	128	122
LA	162	72	51
MN	0	74	0
MO	80	0	142
NY	0	82	71
Overall Average	**132**	**124**	**121**

A third example is Gori. Again, their filings in California, Illinois, and Missouri name far more companies as defendants than their filings in New York, Louisiana, and Pennsylvania.

State of Filing	Average # of Defendants Named by Gori Julian & Associates, PC		
	2014 Filings	2015 Filings	2016 Filings
CA	0	0	154
IL	119	122	125
LA	0	0	66
MO	91	102	96
NY	0	0	73
PA	0	0	40
Overall Average	**116**	**118**	**117**

SECONDARY EXPOSURE TRENDS

The landmark epidemiological and demographic studies undertaken by Nicholson Perkel & Selikoff and others have projected that the number of mesothelioma deaths would have begun to decrease by now. In fact, they have remained quite steady. It has been suggested that this is explained by non-occupational rather than occupational exposure. To explore this further, we investigated filings alleging secondary exposure, a subset of the non-occupational population.

There are two ways to isolate secondary exposure filings: filings that allege a secondary exposure only, or filings with secondary exposure and possible primary exposure. The mixed exposure filings represent a considerably larger subset of the filings in 2014-2016 (18.5%), but the profiles of the two groups are quite different.

Secondary Exposure Only	Mixed: Primary and Secondary Exposure
1. 4.7% of 2016 filings; consistent 2014-2016 2. 90% female; consistent 2014-2016 3. 61% mesothelioma (2016) 4. Filings have decreased 18% over this time last year, but overall mesothelioma filings have not 5. Lung cancer and non-malignant filings are consistent with overall disease trends	1. 21.6% of 2016 filings; showing a slightly upward trajectory 2014-2016 • 2014: 15.2% • 2015: 19.3% • 2016: 21.6% 2. 50% male; 50% female 3. 66% mesothelioma (2016)

The plaintiff firms we have established as dominant in terms of filing rates earlier in this report do not have a strong correlation with the plaintiff firms that are filing secondary exposure complaints at the highest rates. As expected, there is considerable overlap between the firms with the highest percentage of secondary exposure filings and the highest number of female claimants. Neither of the two firms with the highest percentages of secondary exposure only filings — The Law Offices of Paul A Weykamp (28%) or Law Offices of Peter G. Angelos (12%) — predominantly files mesothelioma claims.

Additionally, both firms have higher percentages of female claimants than they do of secondary exposure claimants, meaning they have a significant number of female claimants alleging only primary exposure. A possible explaination is that the jurisdictions where these plaintiff firms file may provide them with this somewhat unique mix of claimants. For example Baltimore City, Md., and Newport News, Va., are both major naval cities, where females and males would have worked in proximity to asbestos at higher rates than other types of occupations.[2]

Most of the claims that allege secondary exposure only are filed at the highest rates within the top 10 jurisdictions for overall filings in 2016. This observation is expected given that 72% of the total filings for 2016 are concentrated in these jurisdictions. However, when we look at the percentage of the filings that allege secondary exposure only within each jurisdiction, rather than the actual count of secondary exposure only claims, the ranking of the top jurisdictions changes. For example, Newport News becomes #1 when ranked by percentage of filings alleging secondary exposure only as opposed to #9 for overall filings.

Top 5 Jurisdictions	% of Secondary Exposure Only Claims to Total 2016 Filings	2016 Secondary Exposure Only Filings	2016 Filings	Ranking Based on 2016 Total Filings
Newport News, VA	26.3%	30	114	9
Middlesex, NJ	13.1%	11	84	15
Baltimore City, MD	8.7%	36	414	2
Madison County, IL	4.0%	52	1,299	1
St. Louis, MO	3.5%	11	311	4

The narrative behind the secondary exposure filings seems to be more interesting than important for future projections of asbestos liabilities. Given the data reviewed here, we do not see evidence supporting the theory that the steady filing rate for asbestos claims is being supported by secondary exposures while primary exposures decline.

[2] Naval occupations are the branch of U.S. military with the highest identified risk of asbestos exposures. During WWII, with women participating in the workforce at much higher rates — including in historically male-dominated fields — an estimated 4.5 million men and women worked in shipyard occupations. Between 1946 and 1976, an estimated 200,000 men and women worked in shipyards each year. The extended assembly and disassembly of various naval crafts on shipyard grounds contribute to the increased exposure risk for men and women living and working in close proximity. (Becket 2007; Selikoff and Cuyler 2008; Asbestos Exposure on Navy Ships, n.d.)

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OUT-OF-STATE FILINGS

This year, we examined our data to look for cases where plaintiff firms may be picking and choosing more favorable jurisdictions in which to file. One way to measure this is to look at the number of filings where the plaintiff's state of residence does not match the state in which they file. While there are factors that may affect this analysis — such as a plaintiff moving to a different state after exposure — we believe these factors would not be more true for one state than another and, therefore, would not substantially skew the analysis. For this analysis, we exclude jurisdictions where more than 25% of complaints did not include the state of residence. For the top five jurisdictions, the percentage of plaintiffs filing in those jurisdictions who also reside in those states has remained relatively consistent for the past three years.

Unsurprisingly, we find that Madison County, Ill., has an overwhelmingly high percentage of out-of-state residents, roughly 83%. Moreover, the percentage of Illinois residents filing in Madison County has actually declined by approximately 3% from 2014 to 2016. However, compared to the state overall, 72% of the Illinois filings are from out-of-state residents. In contrast, we discover that Baltimore City, Md., had a high percentage of Maryland residents filing in 2014, however the percentage has declined significantly in 2016 by roughly 15%. It is worth noting that the percentage of Baltimore City complaints that do not list plaintiff state-of-residence information has increased in the same period, which could explain this apparent decrease of in-state filings.

Jurisdiction	2014 Filings			2015 Filings			2016 Filings		
	Not Listed	Out of State	In State	Not Listed	Out of State	In State	Not Listed	Out of State	In State
Madison County, IL	8.6%	83.4%	7.9%	10.5%	83.9%	5.6%	11.2%	83.4%	5.3%
Baltimore City, MD	6.8%	12.1%	81.1%	7.8%	14.0%	78.2%	23.0%	11.6%	65.5%
Wayne, MI	3.4%	6.8%	89.8%	3.8%	5.1%	91.0%	5.3%	9.0%	85.6%
Philadelphia, PA	1.7%	34.3%	63.9%	6.9%	35.2%	57.9%	5.3%	38.4%	56.3%
New Castle, DE	3.3%	93.5%	3.3%	1.5%	92.4%	6.1%	2.1%	93.0%	4.9%

State	2014 Filings			2015 Filings			2016 Filings		
	Not Listed	Out of State	In State	Not Listed	Out of State	In State	Not Listed	Out of State	In State
IL	23.3%	69.7%	6.9%	25.2%	69.6%	5.2%	22.6%	72.1%	5.4%
MD	6.8%	12.1%	81.1%	7.8%	14.0%	78.2%	22.9%	11.8%	65.3%
MI	3.2%	6.5%	90.3%	4.6%	6.2%	89.3%	5.7%	7.8%	86.5%
PA	4.8%	20.5%	74.8%	6.6%	20.9%	72.5%	6.2%	25.4%	68.4%
DE	3.2%	93.3%	3.5%	1.5%	92.4%	6.1%	2.0%	91.8%	6.1%

If we analyze disease in the same five jurisdictions, there is no distinct correlation between disease and if the plaintiff is filing out of state. It is difficult to align this practice to any one disease; rather, the data indicates that out-of-state filing is jurisdiction-specific. For example, Philadelphia, Pa., has a consistent 60/40 percentage split between in-state filings and out-of-state filings for all filings with known diseases. Meanwhile, Wayne, Mich., has over 75% in-state filings for lung cancer, mesothelioma, and other cancer cases, but has 95% in-state filings for non-malignant cases.

Jurisdiction	Mesothelioma			Lung Cancer			Non-Malignant			Other Cancer			Unknown		
	Not Listed	Out of State	In State	Not Listed	Out of State	In State	Not Listed	Out of State	In State	Not Listed	Out of State	In State	Not Listed	Out of State	In State
Madison County, IL	9.2%	85.9%	4.8%	15.4%	72.0%	12.7%	8.3%	50.0%	41.7%	7.7%	46.2%	46.2%	14.3%	71.4%	14.3%
Baltimore City, MD	8.1%	23.0%	68.9%	23.7%	14.1%	62.2%	2.5%	11.9%	85.6%	16.2%	11.5%	72.3%	83.3%	0.0%	16.7%
Wayne, MI	10.7%	10.7%	78.6%	14.0%	8.9%	77.1%	0.0%	5.1%	94.9%	8.1%	16.2%	75.7%	50.0%	0.0%	50.0%
Philadelphia, PA	5.1%	32.2%	62.6%	5.7%	36.7%	57.6%	1.0%	41.3%	57.7%	3.9%	35.3%	60.8%	6.3%	56.3%	37.5%
New Castle, DE	1.7%	95.0%	3.4%	3.4%	94.6%	2.1%	0.0%	35.7%	64.3%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%

Examining the top three plaintiff firms filing in Madison County indicates that these firms are responsible for the high percentage of out-of-state filings. Likewise, the percentage of in-state filings seems to be declining for these firms. In 2016, the average percentage of out-of-state residents filing in Madison County for these three firms was 90%.

Top 3 Plaintiff Firms in Madison County, IL	2014 Filings			2015 Filings			2016 Filings		
	Not Listed	Out of State	In State	Not Listed	Out of State	In State	Not Listed	Out of State	In State
Simmons Hanly Conroy, LLC	3.6%	85.7%	10.7%	3.1%	87.7%	9.2%	4.2%	89.2%	6.6%
Gori Julian & Associates, PC	3.4%	90.2%	6.4%	6.5%	89.1%	4.4%	4.8%	90.3%	4.8%
Maune, Raichle, Hartley, French & Mudd, LLC	1.0%	94.0%	5.0%	1.4%	95.3%	3.3%	2.3%	92.7%	5.0%
Total Madison County, IL	**8.6%**	**83.4%**	**7.9%**	**10.5%**	**83.9%**	**5.6%**	**11.2%**	**83.4%**	**5.3%**

If we take a step back and review the top 10 plaintiff firms, we notice that there is quite a variety in the percentage of in-state and out-of-state filings per firm. The high in-state percentage of filings from the Law Offices of Peter G. Angelos is the primary reason why Baltimore City has such a high percentage of in-state filings. Likewise, in Michigan, the filings of Goldberg, Persky & White influence the high in-state percentage of filings in the city of Wayne. Additionally, New York has a high percentage of complaints without the plaintiff's state of residence, which can be largely attributed to Weitz & Luxenburg filings.

TOP 10 PLAINTIFF FIRMS

	2014			2015			2016		
	Not Listed	Out of State	In State	Not Listed	Out of State	In State	Not Listed	Out of State	In State
Gori Julian & Associates, PC	30.7%	63.7%	5.5%	30.5%	65.8%	3.8%	27.8%	66.1%	6.1%
Simmons Hanly Conroy, LLC	15.0%	70.8%	14.2%	8.0%	73.1%	18.9%	6.5%	79.6%	13.9%
Weitz & Luxenberg, PC	56.6%	32.5%	10.8%	51.9%	32.0%	16.1%	52.4%	30.6%	17.0%
Law Offices of Peter G. Angelos, PC	7.7%	10.9%	81.4%	6.7%	14.0%	79.3%	15.9%	13.5%	70.6%
Maune, Raichle, Hartley, French & Mudd, LLC	6.3%	86.2%	7.6%	6.4%	87.7%	5.9%	5.7%	87.3%	7.0%
Goldberg, Persky & White, PC	1.9%	16.3%	81.7%	0.4%	9.1%	90.5%	2.4%	9.4%	88.2%
Cooney & Conway	97.6%	1.2%	1.2%	95.5%	3.9%	0.6%	77.3%	19.9%	2.8%
Napoli Shkolnik, PLLC	4.4%	78.9%	16.7%	20.8%	58.3%	20.8%	25.0%	54.7%	20.3%
SWMK Law, LLC	39.5%	55.6%	4.8%	39.2%	59.2%	1.5%	68.6%	30.6%	0.8%
The Law Offices of Peter T. Nicholl	0.7%	5.2%	94.1%	10.7%	8.1%	81.2%	19.5%	6.1%	74.4%

CONCLUSION

There are many factors at play in asbestos litigation across the country, and KCIC will continue to monitor the data for these and other arising trends. We will also watch the impact on filing patterns in jurisdictions where laws have been passed mandating that information regarding plaintiff's bankruptcy trust submissions be disseminated to defendants. We have also begun preparing for future analyses that will delve into topics such as observations regarding non-occupational exposures, as well as other industry changes/trends as they occur. While certain trends are unlikely to change, such as concentration among the top plaintiff firms and jurisdictions, we will continue to monitor these filings, along with the impact of emerging trends such as lung cancer and talc filings, for future reports.

ABOUT KCIC

KCIC is a privately held consulting firm that partners with corporations in managing mass tort and other complex products liabilities in industries such as manufacturing, chemicals, and pharmaceuticals. Founded in 2002 and based in Washington, D.C., KCIC combines leading-edge technology and consulting expertise to solve data-intensive challenges. KCIC was named a 2016 Future 50 Award winner by Washington SmartCEO magazine, which recognizes the region's 50 fastest-growing mid-sized companies.

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