

H3. How many explosions are we talking about per year on average?

It is estimated that about 50 such blasts occur each year involving some 20 mining companies. While single blasts of 300 tonnes are very rare in Canada, other chemical explosions such as "ripple-fired" blasts in mining, where drilled holes in rows each are filled with explosive and detonated over a period of seconds over an area roughly the size of a football field are more common. In addition, on occasion, some construction projects such as dam building or rock cuts for highway construction may use similarly large explosions.