
Mine safety performance report

2023–24

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1 **2**

NOTIFY AN INCIDENT
24/7

To notify a safety incident, or to enquire about an incident you have already notified, **PRESS 1**

2 **3** **4** **5**

2 AUTHORISATIONS, PLANT REGISTRATION, LICENCES AND EXEMPTIONS PRESS 2

3 COMPETENCE, PRACTISING CERTIFICATES AND MUTUAL RECOGNITION PRESS 3

4 MINE SAFETY GENERAL PRESS 4

5 MINING ACT COMPLIANCE PRESS 5

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Mine safety performance overview



0 fatal injuries

↓ Decrease from 1 in 2022-23



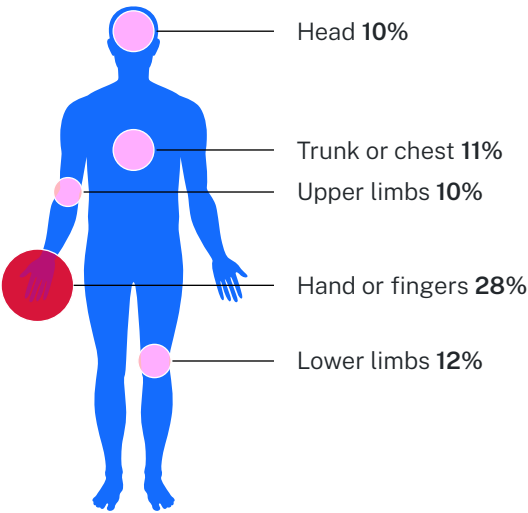
105 serious injuries

↑ Increase from 88 in 2022-23



Fatal and serious injuries

Fatal and serious injuries snapshot



Represents 71% of the total

Mechanism

Being hit by moving objects	46%
Falls, trips and slips of a person	33%

Represents 79% of the total

Nature of injury

Fractures	57%
Wounds, lacerations, amputations and internal organ damage	30%

Represents 88% of the total

Fatal and serious injuries by sector



256 lost time injuries

↑ Increase from 207 in 2022-23

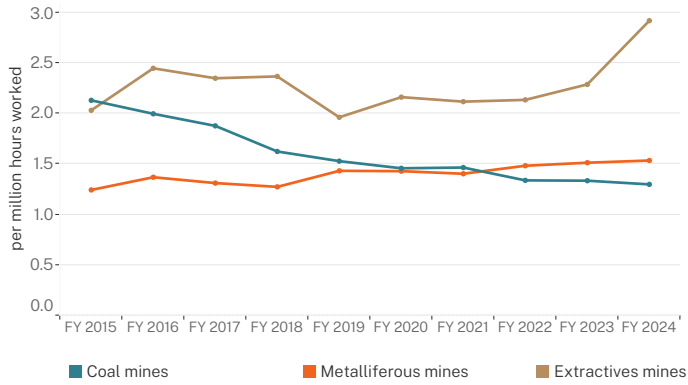


834 total recordable injuries

↑ Increase from 772 in 2022-23

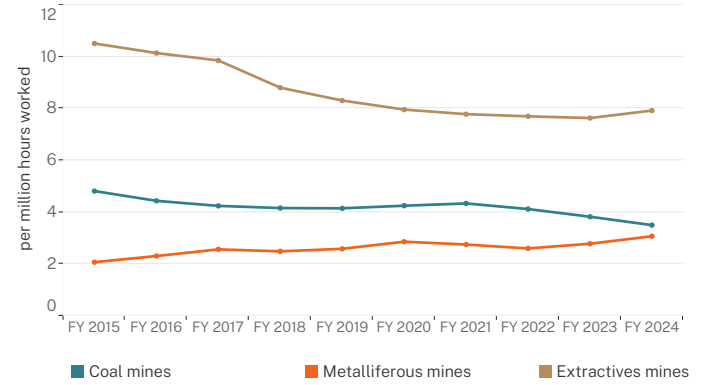
SIFR

Five-year average serious injury frequency rate



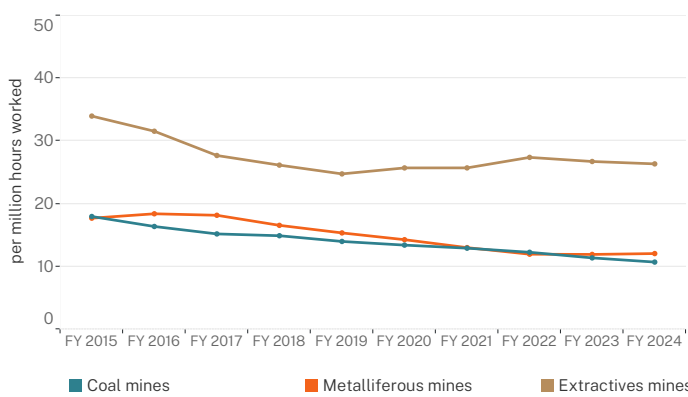
LTIFR

Five-year average lost time injury frequency rate



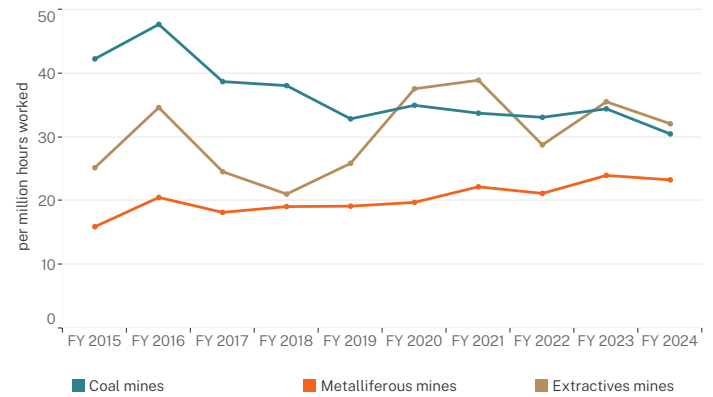
TRIFR

Five-year average total recordable injury frequency rate



INFR

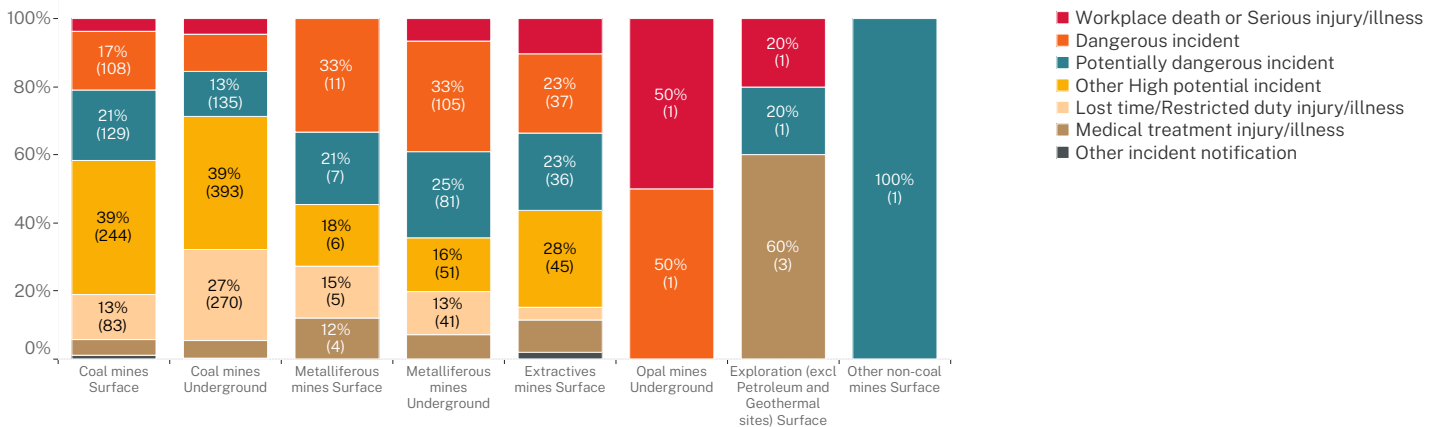
Annual incident notification frequency rate



2,149 incidents

↓ Decrease from 2,167 in 2022-23

Incident notification profile 2023-24

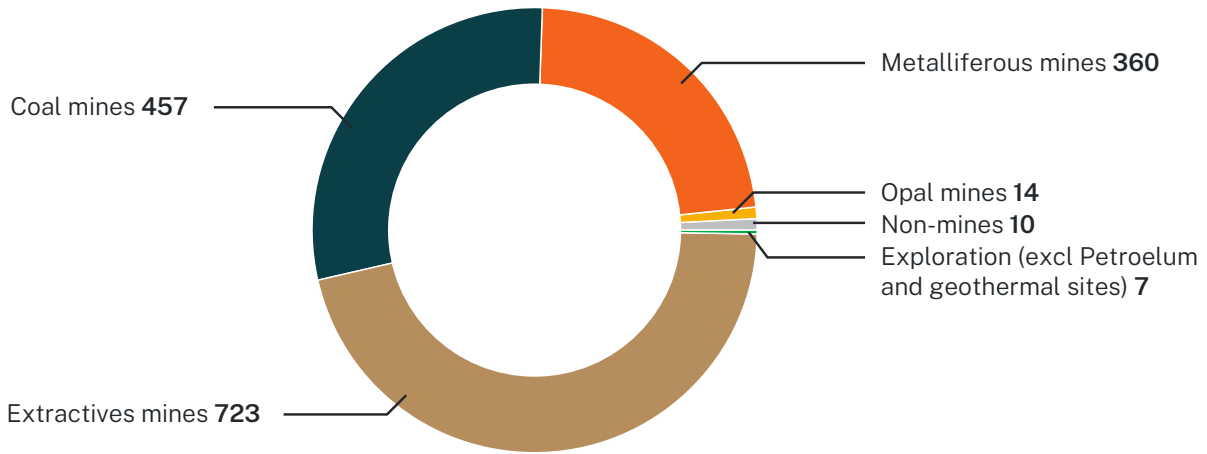




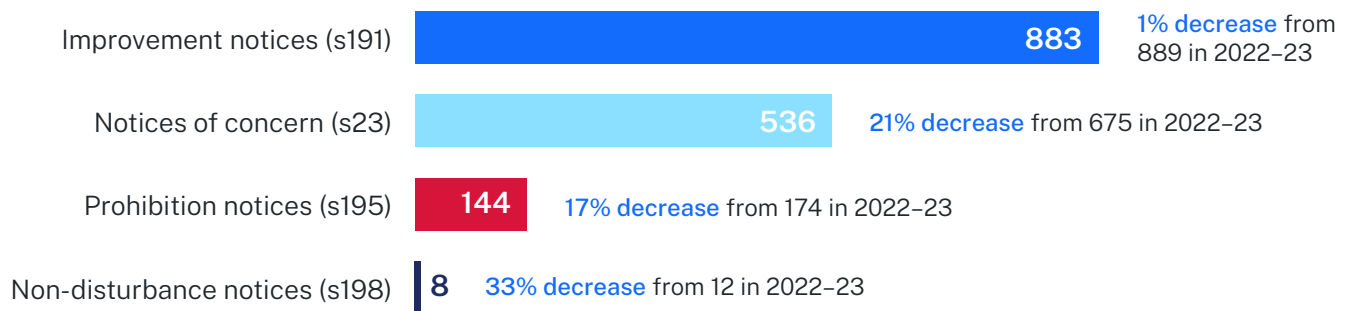
1,571 notices issued

↓ Decrease from 1,750 in 2022-23

Notices issued by sector

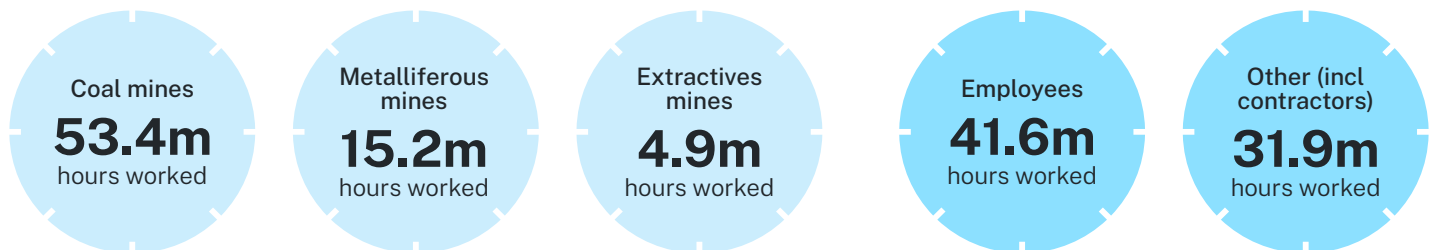


Notices issued by type



73.5m hours worked

↑ Increase from 67.1m in 2022-23



Note: Exploration, petroleum and geothermal sites, underground small gemstone mines, tier 3 quarries, opal mines, tourist mines and non-coal mines with total worker hours less than 10,000 hours are not represented in NSW hours worked figures because mining operators in these sectors are not required to submit work health and safety reports to the Regulator.

Further information

This overview was first published in February 2025 with data current at November 2024.

Visit [our website](#) for more information.

Executive summary

This report provides an overview of the NSW mining industry's health and safety performance for financial year 2023–24, as reported to the NSW Resources Regulator. It compares safety indicators over the 10 years from 2014–15 and includes details of selected regulatory activities over the same period. In this report, the NSW mining industry includes the coal, metalliferous, extractives, petroleum and geothermal, opal and exploration sectors.

For mine and petroleum site operators, this report presents measures to guide future improvements in health and safety performance and to benchmark performance against other operators in their sector. It also provides a valuable source of information on the types of injuries occurring to guide regulatory activity.

Work health and safety regulatory intervention has been in place in the Australian mining industry for more than a century. Significant ongoing efforts continue by the NSW mining industry and the Regulator to minimise the health and safety risks to workers. In 2023–24, there were 73.5 million hours worked in the coal, metalliferous and extractives mines sectors representing an increase of 6.4 million additional hours from 67.1 million in 2022–23. There were zero work-related fatalities, 105 serious injuries, 256 lost time injuries and 834 total recordable injuries reported to the Regulator.

The rolling 5-year average fatal injury frequency rate in the NSW mining industry has trended down since 2016–17, in line with a long-term progression in fatal injuries over the past 100 years. The past 5 years has seen 4 fatalities with 2 each in the metalliferous/extractives mines and opal mines sectors. During the past 10 years, the most common bodily location involved in fatal injuries has been multiple or other locations.

The total number of serious injuries has increased compared to 2022–23, representing the fourth highest number (105) in the last decade. Injuries to the hands or fingers account for 28% of all serious injuries. Lost time injuries also increased, recording the fourth highest number (256) seen in the past 10 years. Despite this year's increase in serious and lost time injuries, the overall trend for combined sectors continues to move downwards.

Notified incidents decreased by 1% compared to 2022–23 but still recorded the fourth highest figure of the past 10 years. The annual incident notification frequency rate (INFR) for the combined coal, metalliferous and extractives sectors decreased by 9% in 2023–24 after a rise in 2022–23. Overall, the INFR trend shows a decrease of 17% since 2014–15.

In 2023–24, the breakdown analysis by type of incident and operation type revealed dangerous incidents, potentially dangerous incidents and other high potential incidents figure prominently throughout most sectors, although each sector has its own specific breakdown.

Since 2014–15 the proportion of mines notifying safety incidents has remained steady. On average, 6% of mines notified the Regulator of an incident each year during the 10-year reporting period. In 2023–24, 76% of incidents occurred in the coal sector, 17% in the metalliferous sector and 7% in the extractives sector.

Explanatory notes

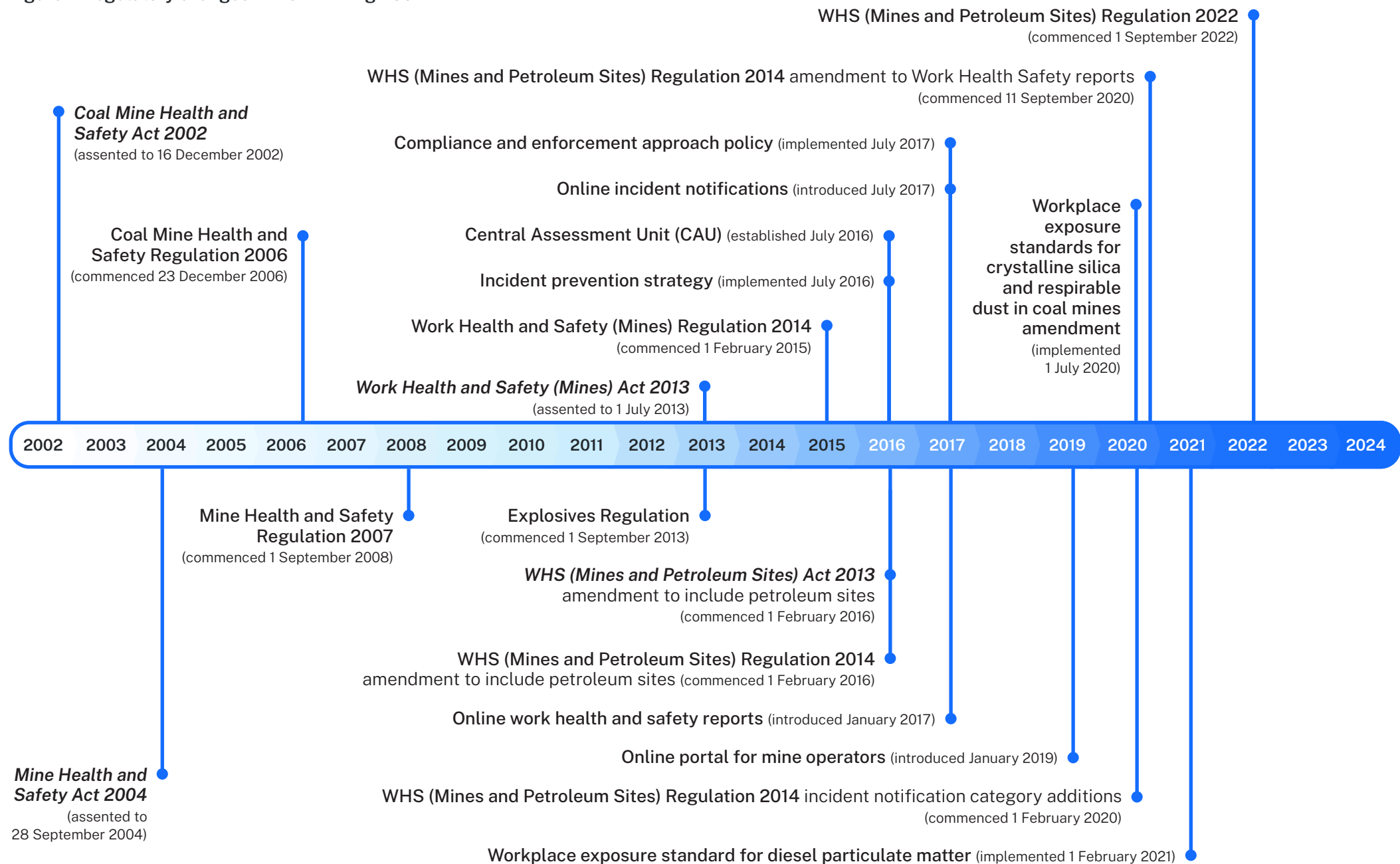
Health and safety performance data from the NSW mining sector

This report presents data on injuries (fatal, serious, lost time and total recordable injuries), notified incidents, notices issued to mining operators and hours worked. All information presented was either reported to the Regulator by the NSW mining industry through work health and safety reporting and incident notifications, or was information obtained from compliance and enforcement activities undertaken by the Regulator. Operators of non-coal mines with total worker hours of less than 10,000 hours per year, exploration sites, petroleum and geothermal sites, underground small gemstone mines, opal mines, tourist mines and tier 3 quarries are not required to submit work health and safety reports to the Regulator. See injury classification definitions in [Appendix 1](#).

Key regulatory changes timeline

Amendments to mine safety legislation in NSW and refined compliance and enforcement practices by the Regulator have impacted data in this report. The timeline in Figure 1 highlights key dates since 2002, including those in relation to notified incidents, injuries, illnesses and work health and safety reporting. While at times it may be difficult to distinguish between real changes in occurrences of an event, the implication of certain changes to the legislation or the implementation of certain strategies are clear.

Figure 1. Regulatory changes in NSW mining 2002–24



Rate-based frequency measures are calculated using work health and safety reports

The information provided by mine and petroleum site operators in work health and safety reports is used to generate frequency rates and total recordable injuries.

Frequency rates (per million hours worked) have been calculated for each injury and incident notification measure. Rates were based on hours worked data submitted by the coal, metalliferous and extractives sectors as part of work health and safety reporting.

Frequency rates are not available for the petroleum and geothermal, opal and exploration sectors.

Rates for injury measures were calculated using a rolling 5-year average. This smoothing technique shows the value for the past 5 years combined, enabling a long-term trend to be produced directly from raw data. This is particularly useful where values may vary widely from year to year. Annual rates were calculated for incident notification data. See [Appendix 3](#) for detailed sector level data and [Appendix 4](#) for data for the other sectors including petroleum and geothermal sector, opal sector and exploration sector.

It is worth noting the timeframes for mandatory work health and safety reporting:

- coal mining sector – commenced 1 July 2007
- coal exploration sites – 1 February 2015 to 30 June 2020
- metalliferous and extractives sectors (including exploration) – 1 October 2008 to 30 June 2020
- metalliferous and extractives sectors (greater than 10,000 hours worked, excluding exploration only and tier 3 quarries) – commenced 11 September 2020.

Until 1 July 2007, hours worked and lost time injury data for the coal sector were sourced from Coal Services Pty Ltd. Until 1 October 2008, metalliferous and extractives hours worked and lost time injuries were compiled from several sources and included some estimation.

Data extraction

This report covers 10 financial years from 2014–15 to 2023–24. The rolling 5-year average frequency rate calculations were based on 14 years of data from 2010–11 to 2023–24 . The data in this report was extracted from the Regulator's compliance database in November 2024. All data is subject to continuous improvement due to changes to reporting requirements, internal audit and validation processes and updates from external sources. Incorrectly classified information from past reporting periods is sometimes found and reclassified in source databases. The Regulator's reporting employs the best available data at the time of data extraction, which may differ from previously published figures.

Industry overview



Key performance measures 2023–24

0 fatal injuries

105 serious injuries

256 lost time injuries

834 total recordable injuries

2,149 notified incidents

1,571 notices issued

In the NSW mining industry in 2023–24:

- There were zero work-related fatalities in 2023–24. The rolling 5-year average fatal injury frequency rate (FIFR) for the combined coal, metalliferous and extractives sectors continued to decrease from 2016–17. Overall, being hit by a moving object accounted for 5 of the 12 fatalities that occurred during the 10-year period, followed by falls, trips and slips with 3 fatalities. Of these 12 fatal injuries, 50% were multiple or other locations injuries, 25% were trunk or chest injuries and 17% were head or neck injuries (Figures 4–9).
- A steady downward trend has been observed in the rolling 5-year average serious injury frequency rate (SIFR) for the combined coal, metalliferous and extractives sectors since 2014–15. Despite the overall trend for combined sectors, serious injuries in the extractives sector have increased by 43% overall, including a notable escalation of 28% in 2023–24 compared to 2022–23 (figure 12).
- In 2023, increases were seen in serious injuries to every category except upper limbs which remained constant at 10 for the year. Trunk or chest and foot/toes/ankle injuries increased by 50%, whilst head or neck injuries increased by 40%. Serious injuries to the hand/fingers/wrist still account for the largest proportion with 36% in 2023–24. Notable increases were also seen in these key breakdown agencies: environmental agencies (in head or neck, trunk or chest, lower limbs, foot/toes/ankle and other locations injuries; materials and substances (in hand/fingers/wrist injuries); lower limbs (in mobile plant and transport); and non-powered handtools, appliances and equipment (in trunk or chest and hands/fingers/wrist injuries). A notable increase was observed in serious injuries to hands/fingers/wrist in contractor employees (12 to 19) (Figures 10–17).
- There were 256 lost time injuries reported in the combined coal, metalliferous and extractives sectors, representing the fourth highest number in the 10-year reporting period. The combined rolling 5-year average lost time injury frequency rate (LTIFR) continues an overall downward trend observed since 2014–15 led by a reduction in the coal sector. The rolling 5-year average LTIFR for the extractives sector in 2023–24 remains the highest of the 3 sectors and is more than double both the coal and metalliferous sectors (Figure 18–19).
- There were 834 total recordable injuries in the combined coal, metalliferous and extractives sectors, an 8% increase from 2022–23. Since 2014–15 a steady downward trend has been observed in the rolling 5-year average total recordable injury frequency rate (TRIFR) for the combined coal, metalliferous and extractives sectors (Figure 20–21).
- Notified incidents decreased by 1% compared to 2022–23 but still recorded the fourth highest figure of the past 10 years. The annual incident notification frequency rate (INFR) for the combined coal, metalliferous and extractives sectors decreased by 9% in 2023–24 after a rise in 2022–23. In 2023–24, the breakdown analysis by type of incident and operation type revealed dangerous incidents, potentially dangerous incidents and other high potential incidents figure prominently throughout most sectors, although each sector has its own specific breakdown. Multiple factors including legislative framework, inherent hazards and characteristics of each sector and commodity produced contribute to the differences observed across each sector and operation type (Figure 22–24 and Table 3).
- There were 1,571 notices issued to the combined sectors, a decrease of 10% from 2022–23. More than 56% of notices issued in 2023–24 were improvement notices. The extractives sector received the highest proportion of notices in 2023–24 in line with each of the previous 10 years (Figures 25–26).

Table 1. NSW coal, metalliferous and extractives comparison of key performance indicators 2022–23 and 2023–24

Key performance indicators	Coal surface		Coal underground		Coal total		Metalliferous surface		Metalliferous underground		Metalliferous total		Extractives surface		Coal, metalliferous and surface extractives total	
	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2024
Active mines	61	63	40	39	101	102	46	45	49	52	95	97	2,430	2,232	2,626	2,431
Million hours worked	33.63	36.72	13.23	16.64	46.86	53.36	5.65	4.03	9.68	11.20	15.33	15.23	4.52	4.92	66.73	73.51
Full time equivalent workers	16,815	18,358	6,617	8,322	23,432	26,680	2,827	2,014	4,840	5,602	7,667	7,616	2,264	2,461	33,363	36,756
Fatal injuries	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fatal injury 5-year average frequency rate	0.006	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.004	0.000	0.067	0.048	0.000	0.000	0.027	0.013	0.043	0.044	0.012	0.006
Permanent incapacity injuries	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	2	1
Lost time injuries	53	65	77	91	130	157	12	9	33	45	45	54	30	45	205	256
Lost time injury 5-year average frequency rate	2.29	2.09	7.46	6.80	3.82	3.50	2.14	2.57	3.21	3.26	2.78	3.07	7.66	7.92	3.86	3.70
Restricted duty injuries	64	54	210	233	274	287	21	8	47	59	68	67	32	34	374	388
Medical treatment injuries	30	27	50	47	80	74	32	8	30	0	62	67	44	49	186	190
Total recordable injuries	147	146	337	373	484	519	65	25	111	104	176	188	107	128	767	835
Total recordable injury 5-year average frequency rate	5.15	4.76	26.25	24.69	11.39	10.71	6.68	7.94	15.49	9.78	11.90	12.07	26.77	26.36	12.59	12.07
Serious injuries	21	23	36	41	57	64	4	0	10	23	14	23	12	16	83	103
Serious injury 5-year average frequency rate	0.65	0.70	2.97	2.71	1.33	1.30	0.84	0.87	1.97	1.79	1.51	1.54	2.30	2.92	1.44	1.46
Incident notifications	604	621	1,013	1,007	1,617	1,628	73	33	289	322	362	355	164	158	2,143	2,141
Incident notification annual frequency rate	17.96	16.91	76.54	60.50	34.50	30.51	12.91	8.19	29.86	28.74	23.61	23.31	36.21	32.10	32.12	29.12
Mines that notified an incident	70%	62%	65%	59%	68%	61%	22%	9%	43%	35%	33%	23%	3%	4%	7%	7%
Notices issued	208	197	294	260	502	457	103	50	225	310	328	360	810	723	1,640	1,540

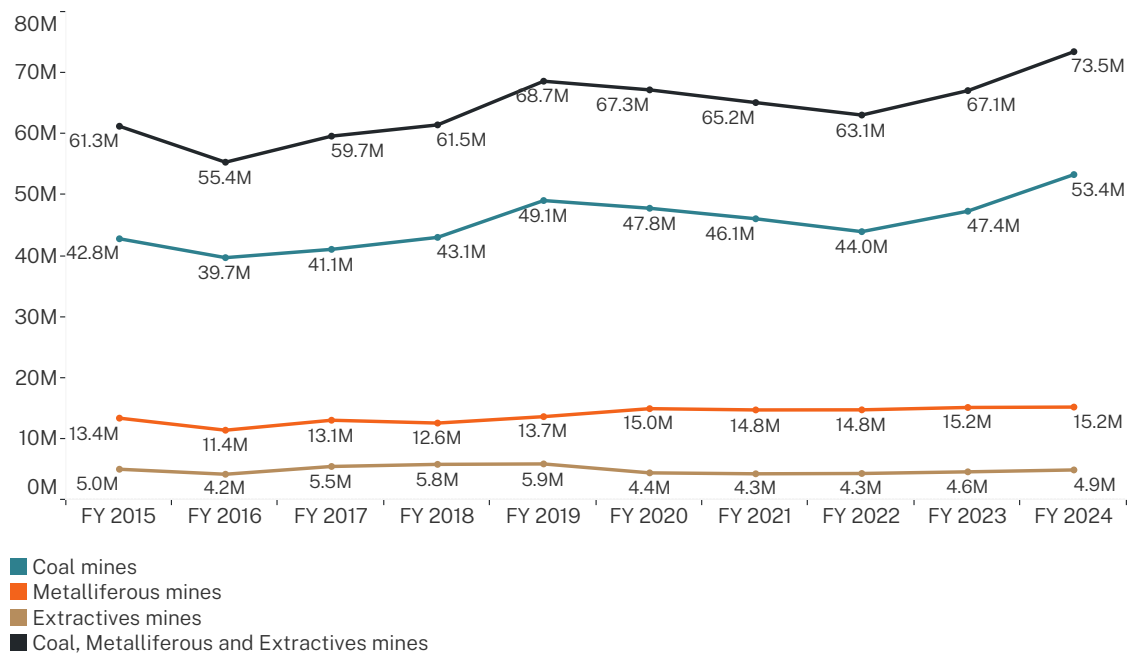
Hours worked

In 2023–24, hours worked in the combined coal, metalliferous and extractives sectors increased by nearly 10% compared to 2022–23 from 67.1 to 73.5 million hours. This is the highest recorded figure in the last 10 years. In 2023–24, 73% of hours worked were in the coal sector, 20% in the metalliferous sector and 7% in the extractives sector.

Over the 10-year reporting period, the total number of hours worked has fluctuated between a low of 55.4 million hours in 2014–15 and the high recorded in 2023–24. The coal sector has primarily driven the variations in hours, whereas metalliferous sector and extractives sector working hours have remained consistent over the decade.

Exploration, petroleum and geothermal sites, underground small gemstone mines, opal mines, tourist mines, tier 3 quarries and non-coal mines with total worker hours less than 10,000 hours are not represented in NSW hours worked figures because mining operators in these sectors are not required to submit work health and safety reports to the Regulator. See Explanatory notes for more information about work health and safety reporting.

Figure 2. Coal, metalliferous and extractives hours worked by sector 2014–15 to 2023–24



Fatal injuries

Fatal injuries 2023–24

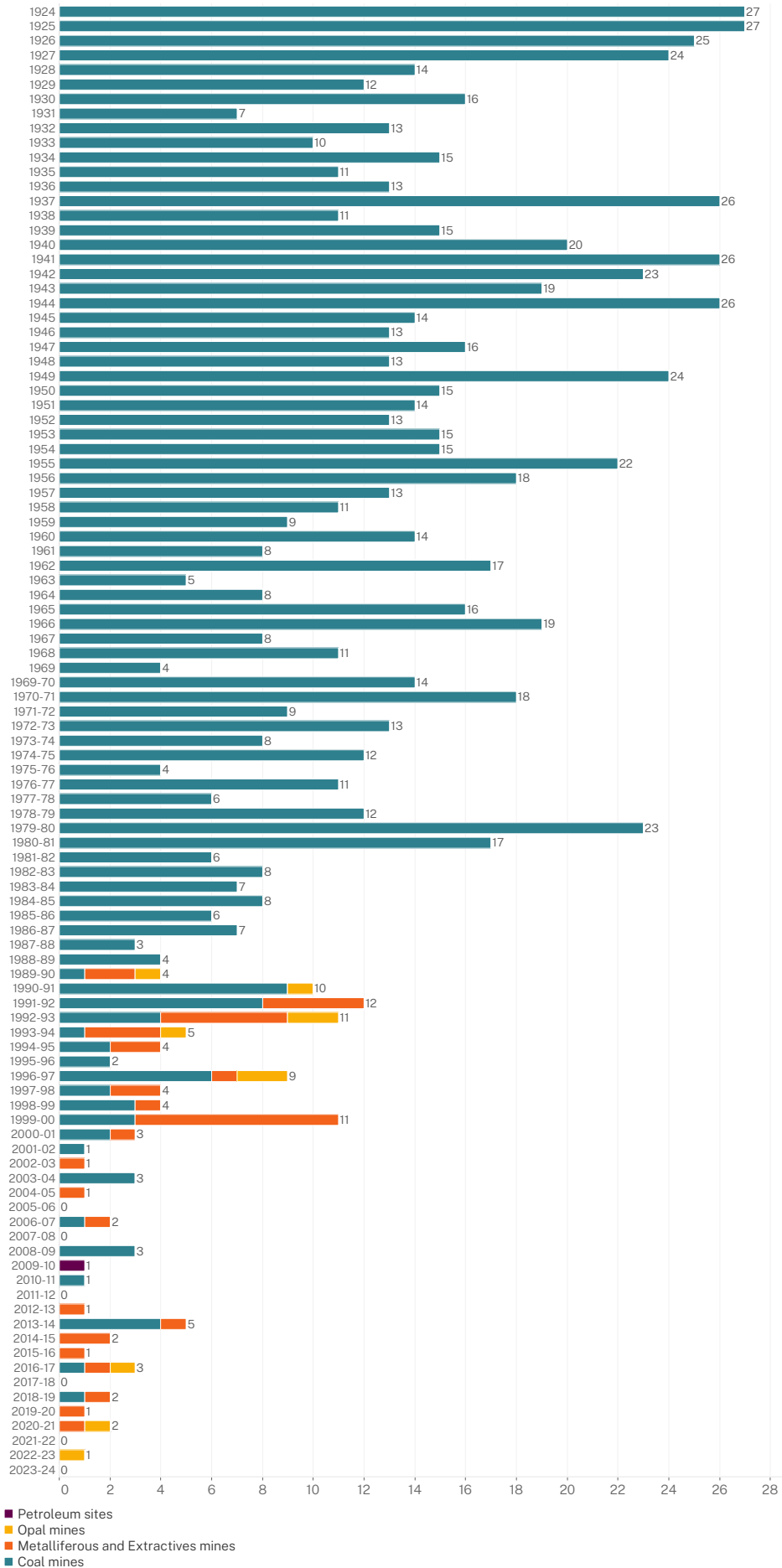
In 2023–24 there were no work-related fatalities at a mine in NSW.

Fatal injuries in NSW mining, last 100 years

Note: The sector breakdowns for fatal injury numbers became available from 1989 onwards.

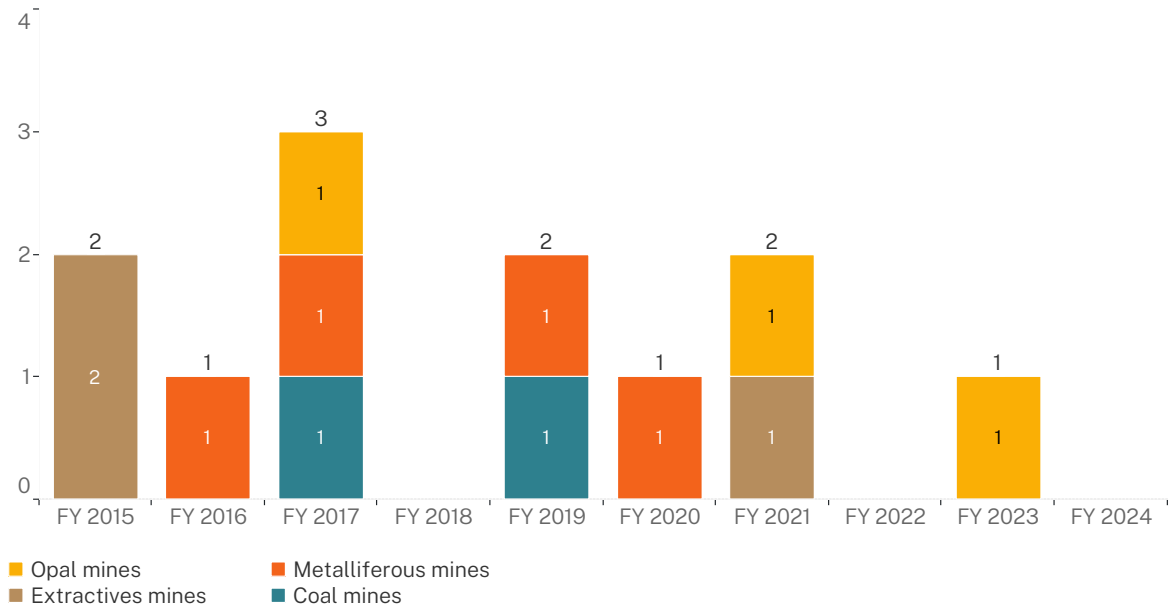


Figure 3. Fatal injuries by sector 1924 to FY 2023–24



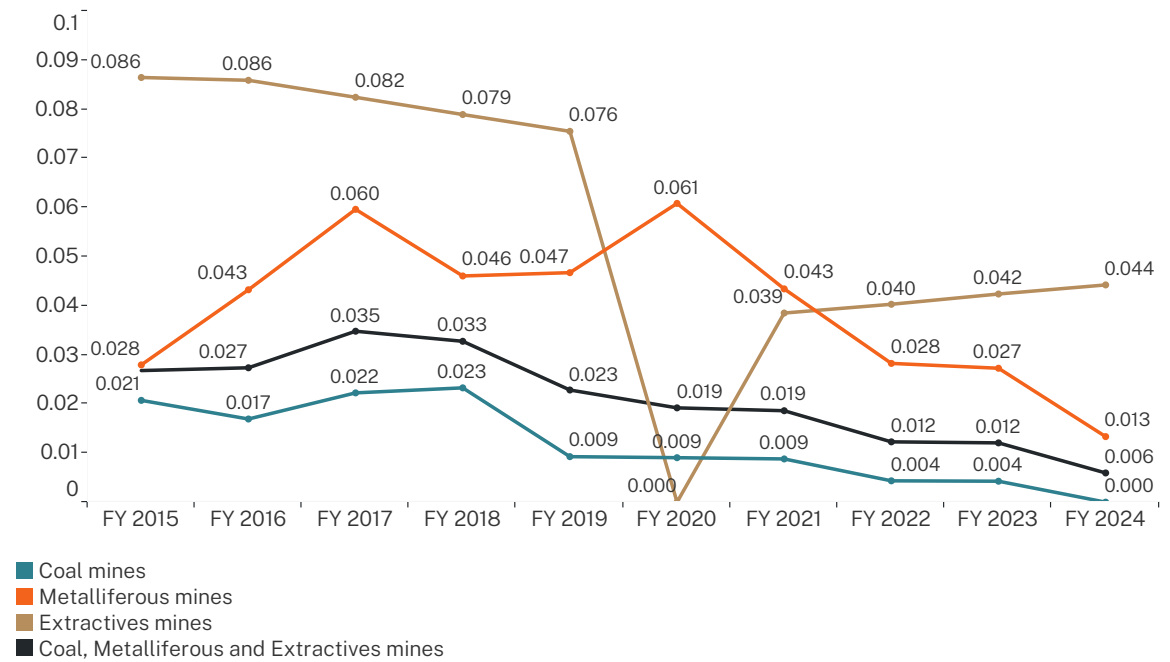
Fatal injuries by sector

Figure 4. Fatal injuries by sector 2014–15 to 2023–24



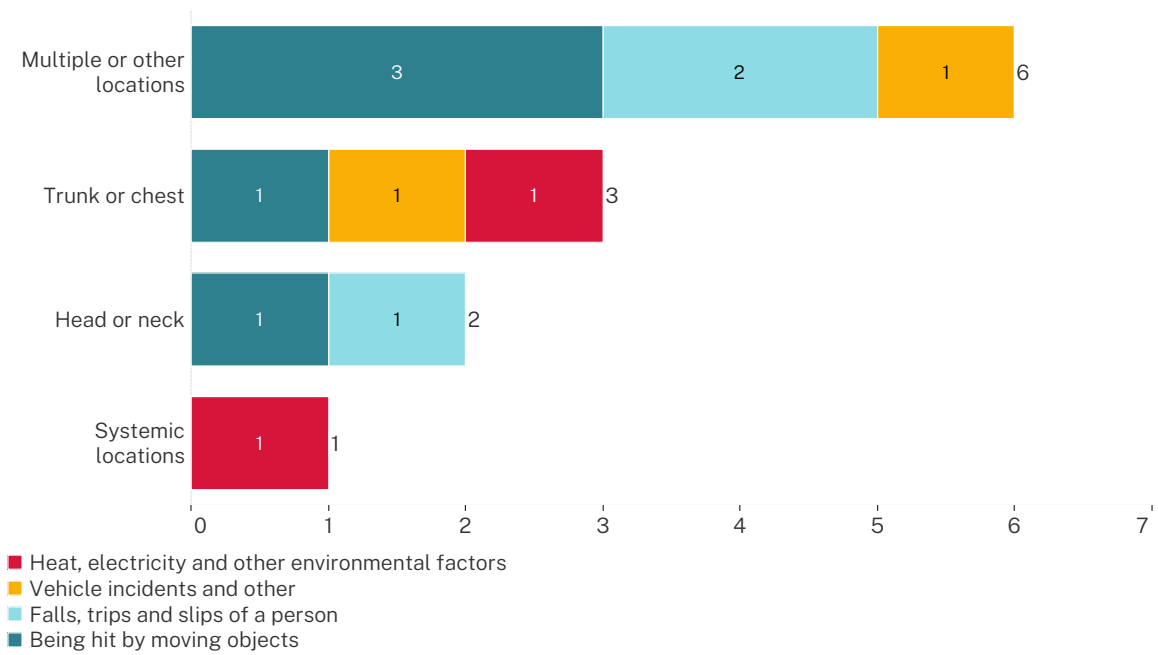
Fatal injury frequency rates

Figure 5. Coal, metalliferous and extractives rolling 5-year average FIFR 2014–15 to 2023–24



Fatal injury hazard mechanism

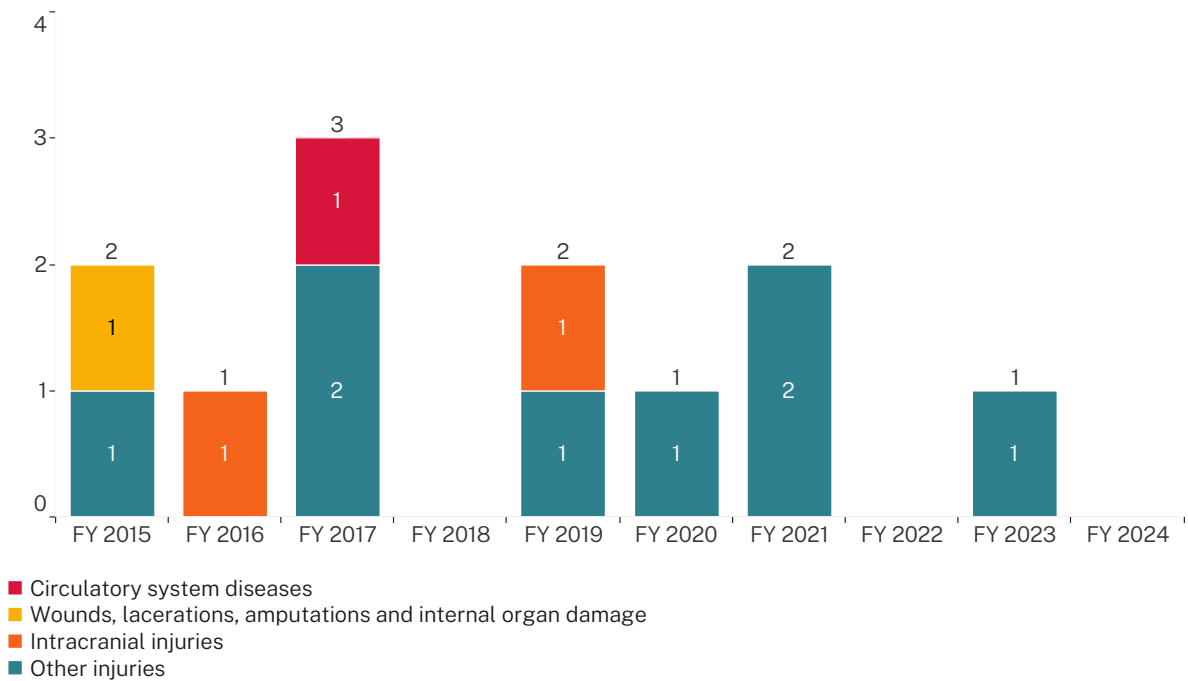
Figure 6. Fatal injuries by bodily location and hazard mechanism 2014–15 to 2023–24



Fatal injury nature of injury

Since 2014–15, the nature of fatal injuries was most often classified as ‘other injuries’ (8) and ‘intercranial injuries’ (2). Note: ‘Other injuries’ includes effects of weather, exposure, air pressure and other external causes not elsewhere classified, electrocution, shock from electric current and multiple injuries.

Figure 7. Fatal injuries by nature of injury 2014–15 to 2023–24



Fatal injury bodily location

Figure 8. Fatal injuries by bodily location 2014–15 to 2023–24

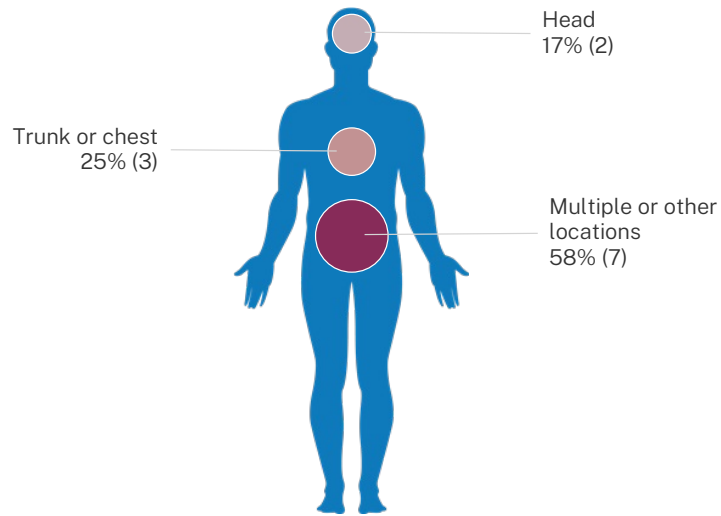
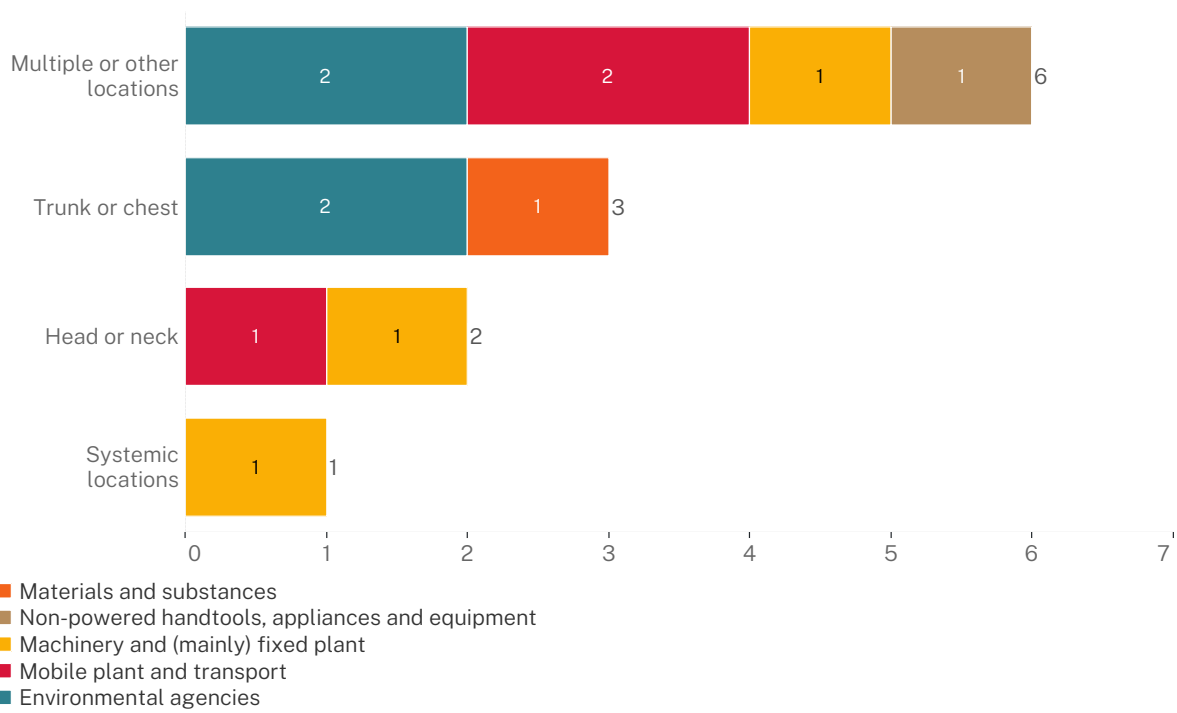


Figure 9. Bodily location of fatal injuries by breakdown agency 2014–15 to 2023–24



Serious injuries

Previously published Mine Safety Performance reports presented serious injury details based on definitions applicable to the legislation that was current at the time.

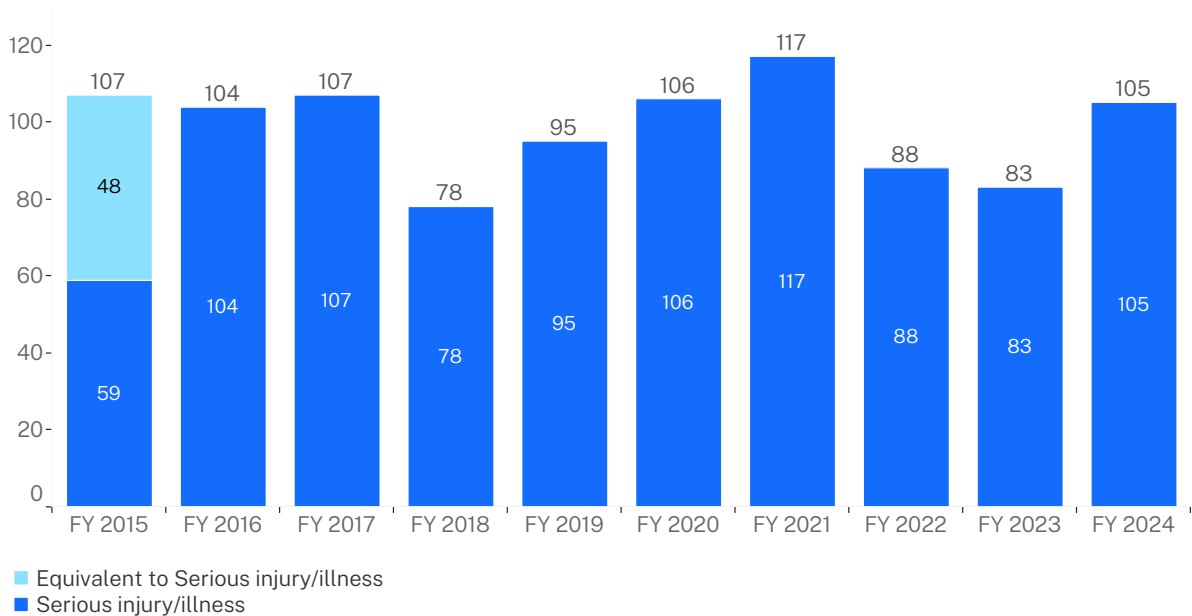
Following the introduction of the Work Health and Safety (Mines) Regulation 2014 in February 2015, the definition of a serious injury was expanded to include additional injury and illness types, as well as any injury or illness, irrespective of its nature, that results in immediate treatment as an inpatient in a hospital.

To provide equivalence in serious injuries across the serious injury definitions in the previous legislation and current legislation (Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Regulation 2022), the serious injuries in this report consist of:

- Injuries classified with an injury classification of Injury | Serious | Work-related, or Illness | Serious | Work-related
- Any non-serious injuries with outcomes that resulted in-hospital inpatient admission and/or loss of consciousness.

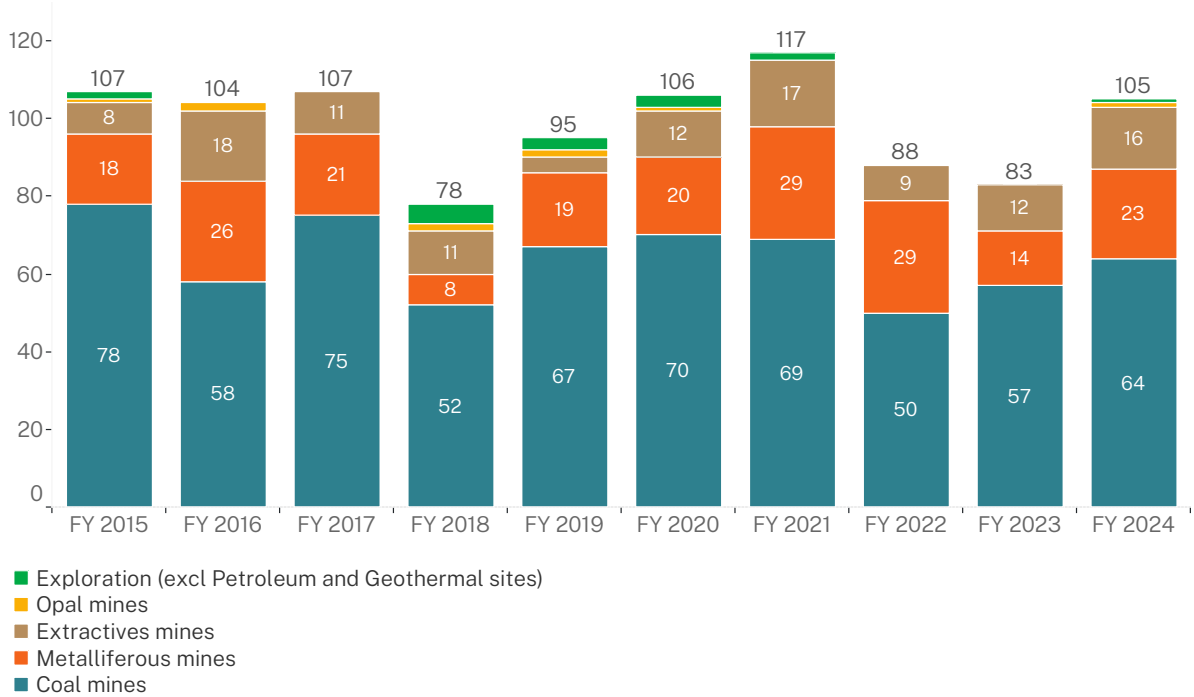
Note: It is recognised that while the injuries classified under the previous legislation were recorded with hospital inpatient admission clauses, some of these may have only resulted in hospital treatment (e.g. for sutures), rather than inpatient admission.

Figure 10. Serious injuries with re-classified historical serious injuries 2014–15 to 2023–24



Serious injuries by sector

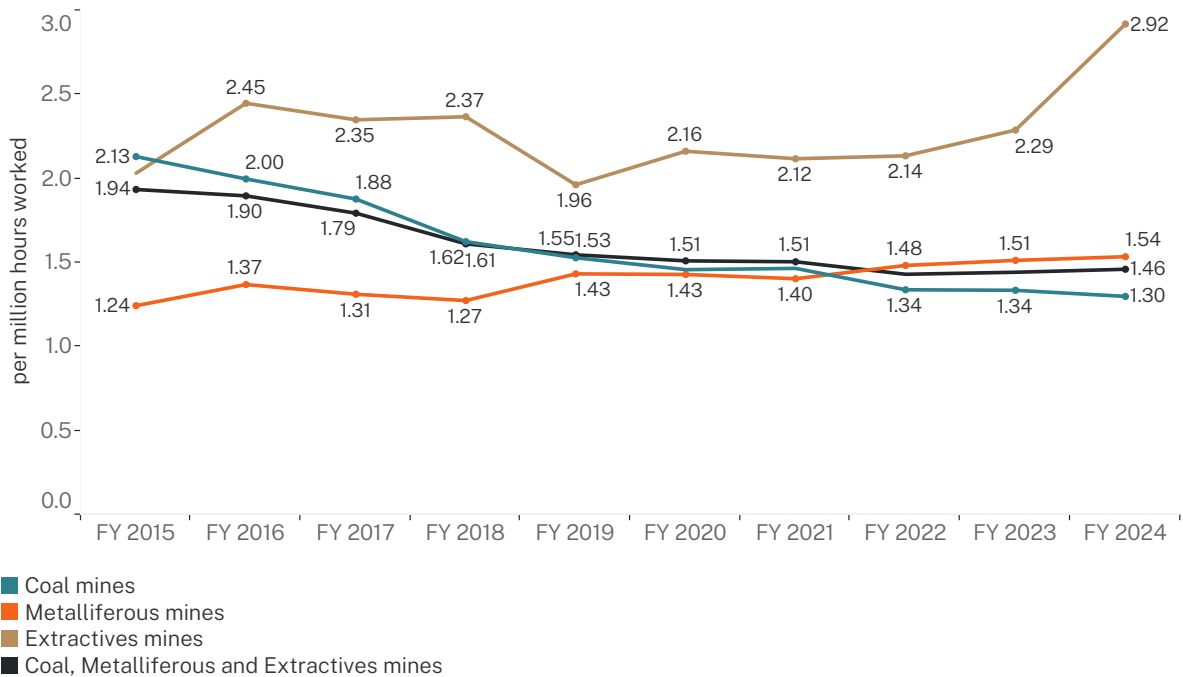
Figure 11. Serious injuries by sector 2014–15 to 2023–24



Serious injury frequency rates

Since 2014–15, rolling 5-year average serious injury frequency rates in the extractives sector have trended up, increasing by 43% overall, including a notable increase of 28% alone in this sector compared to 2022–23. Over the 10-year period, the metalliferous sector has increased by 24% but the coal sector has trended down by 39%.

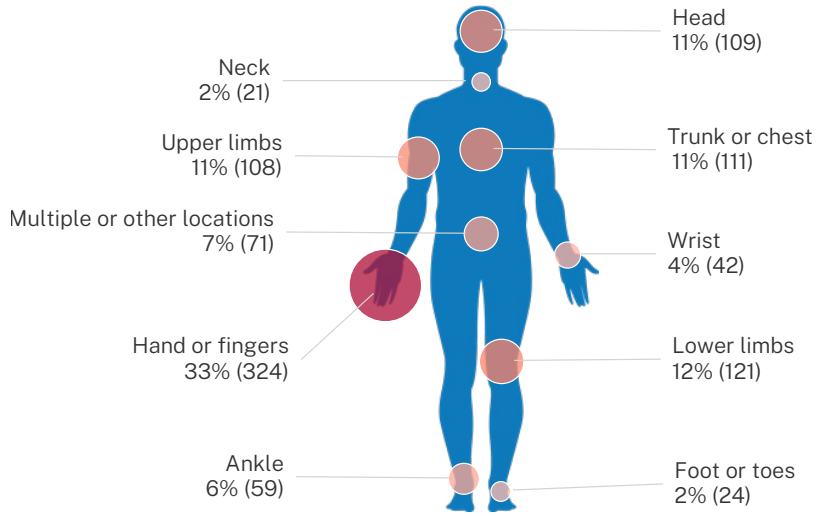
Figure 12. Coal, metalliferous and extractives rolling 5-year average SIFR 2014–15 to 2023–24



Serious injuries by bodily location

Bodily location has been used to examine change in the severity and nature of serious injuries from 2014–15, by mechanism, breakdown agency and employment type.

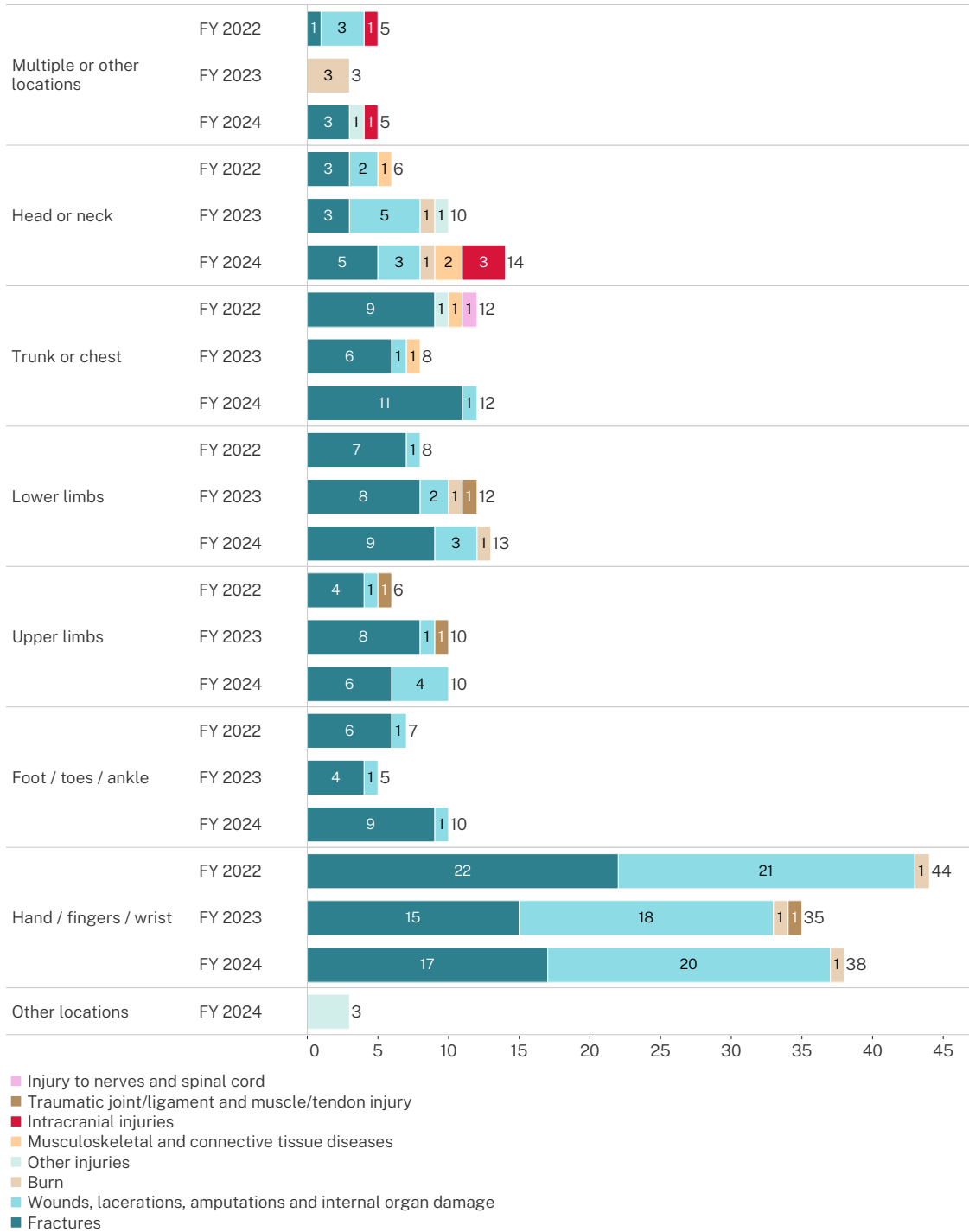
Figure 13. Bodily location of serious injuries 2014–15 to 2023–24



Serious injury nature of injury

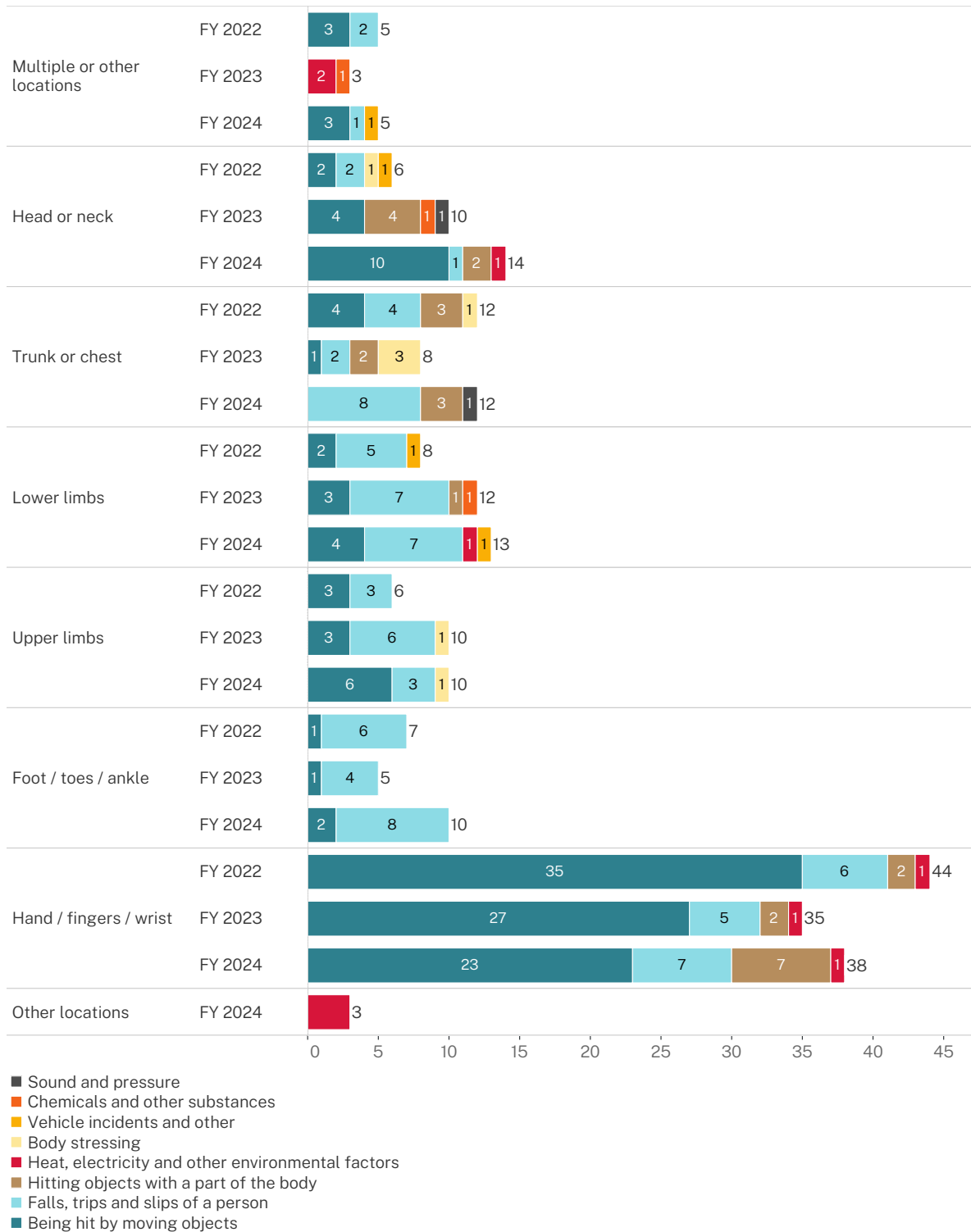
Note: 'Other injuries' includes effects of weather, exposure, air pressure and other external causes not elsewhere classified, electrocution, shock from electric current and multiple injuries.

Figure 14. Bodily location of serious injuries by nature of injury 2021–22 to 2023–24



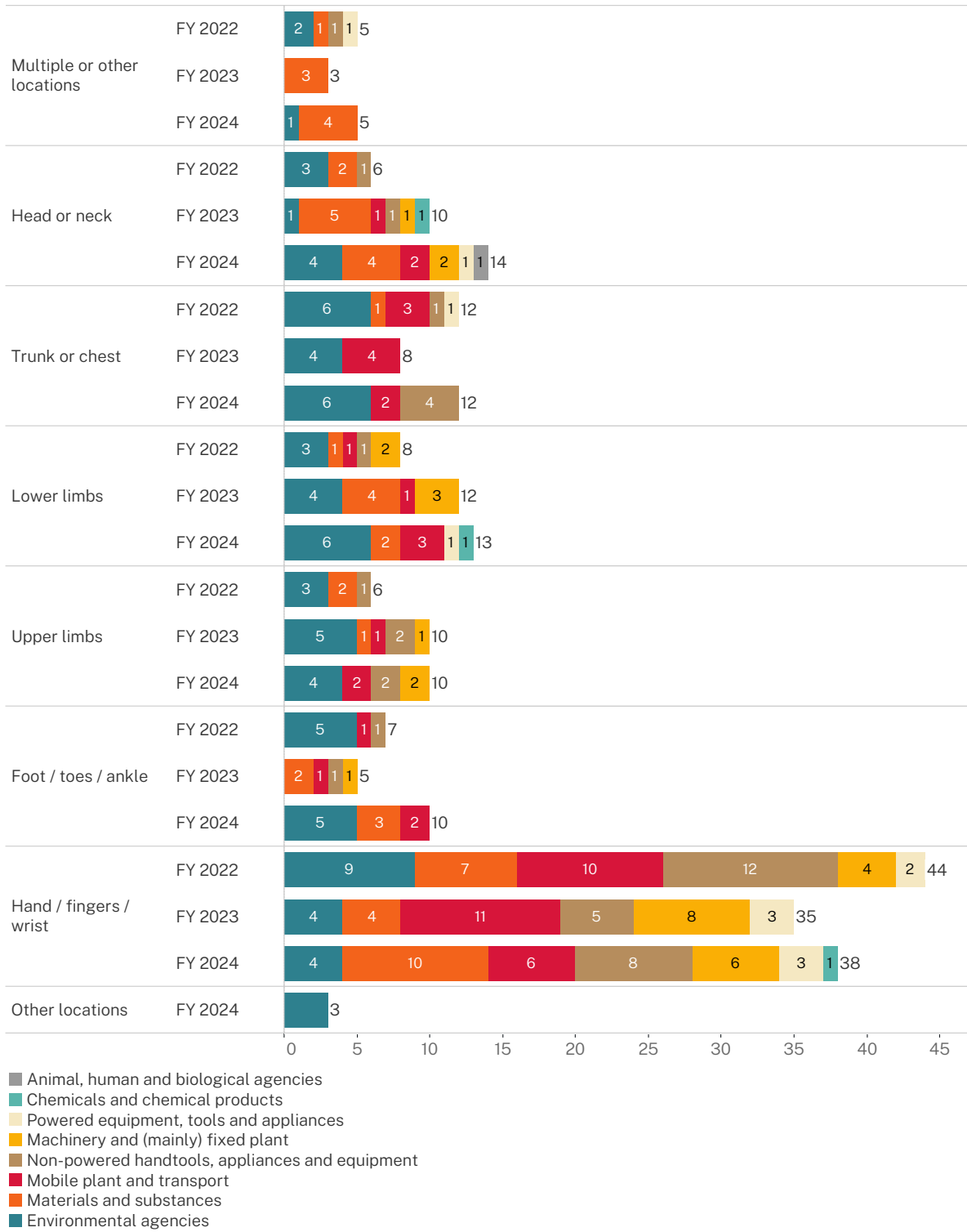
Serious injury mechanism

Figure 15. Bodily location of serious injuries by mechanism 2021–22 to 2023–24



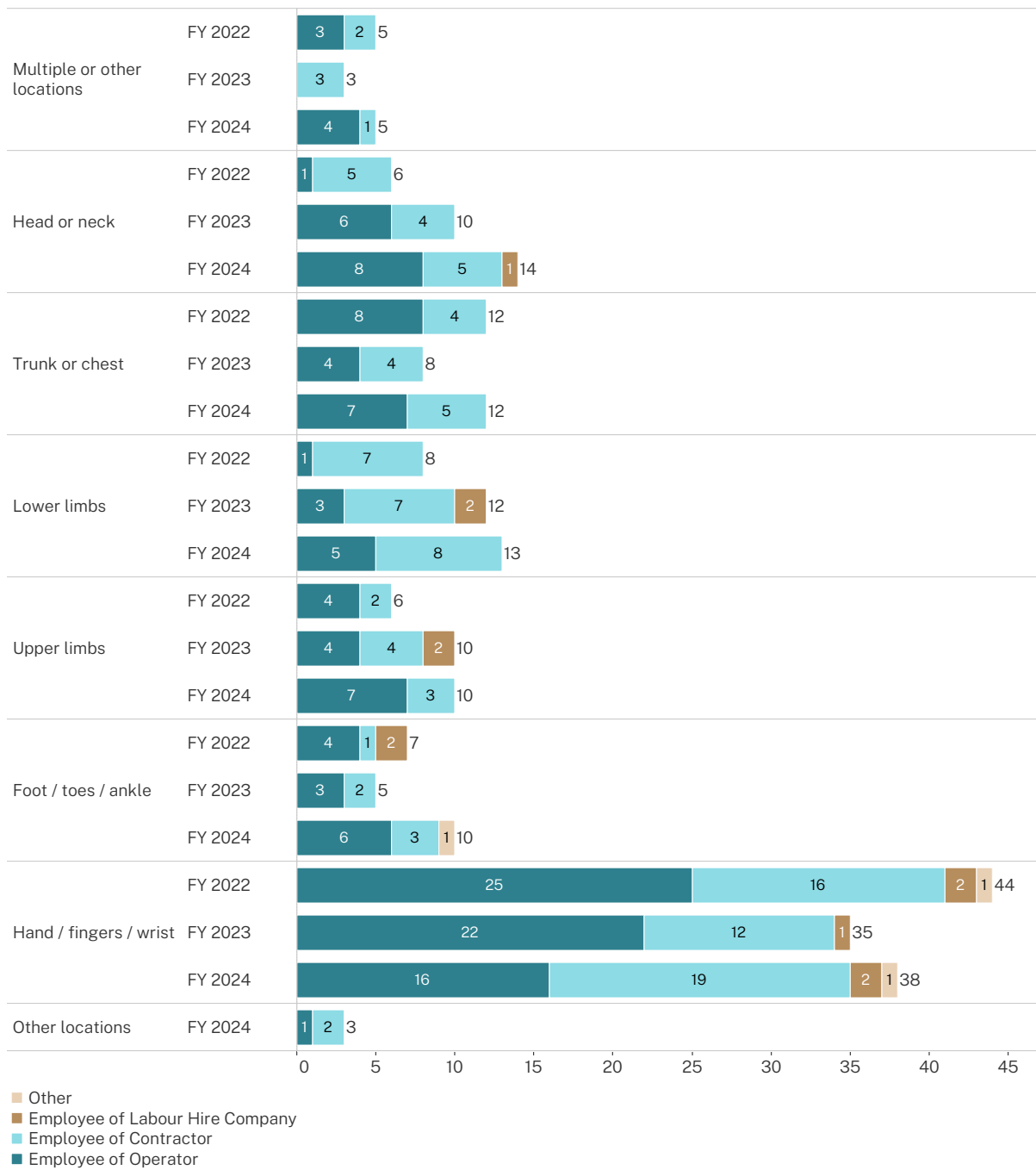
Serious injury breakdown agency

Figure 16. Bodily location of serious injuries by breakdown agency 2021–22 to 2023–24



Serious injury employment type

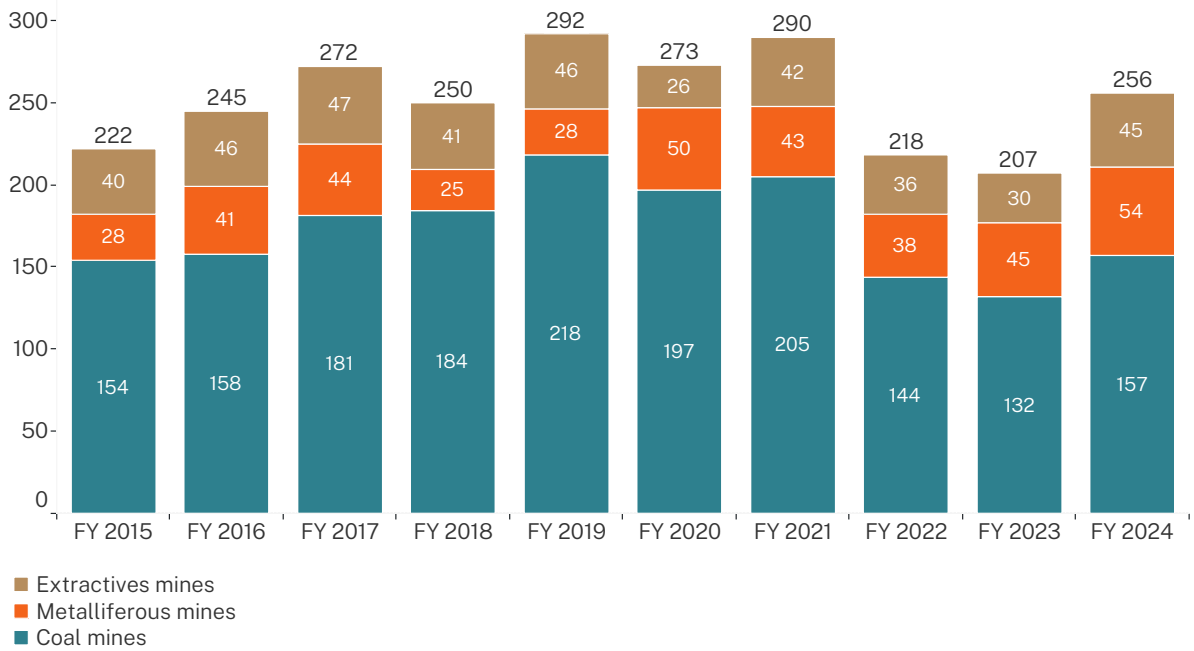
Figure 17. Bodily location of serious injuries by employment type 2021–22 to 2023–24



Lost time injuries

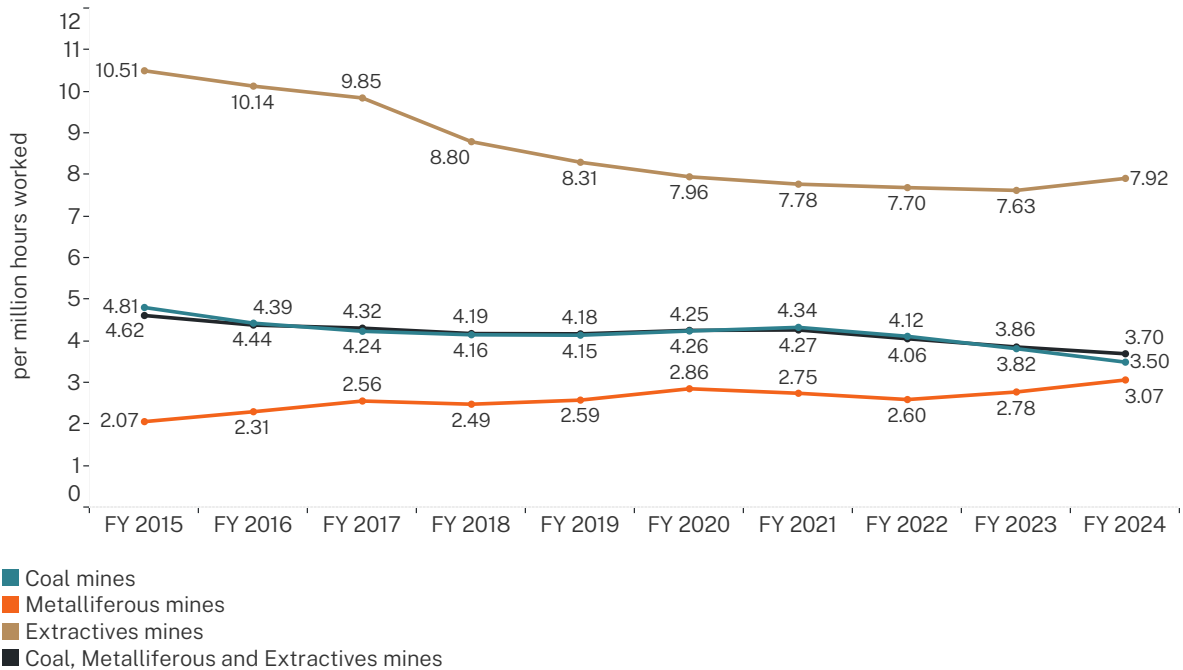
Lost time injuries by sector

Figure 18. Coal, metalliferous and extractives lost time injuries by sector 2014–15 to 2023–24



Lost time injury frequency rates

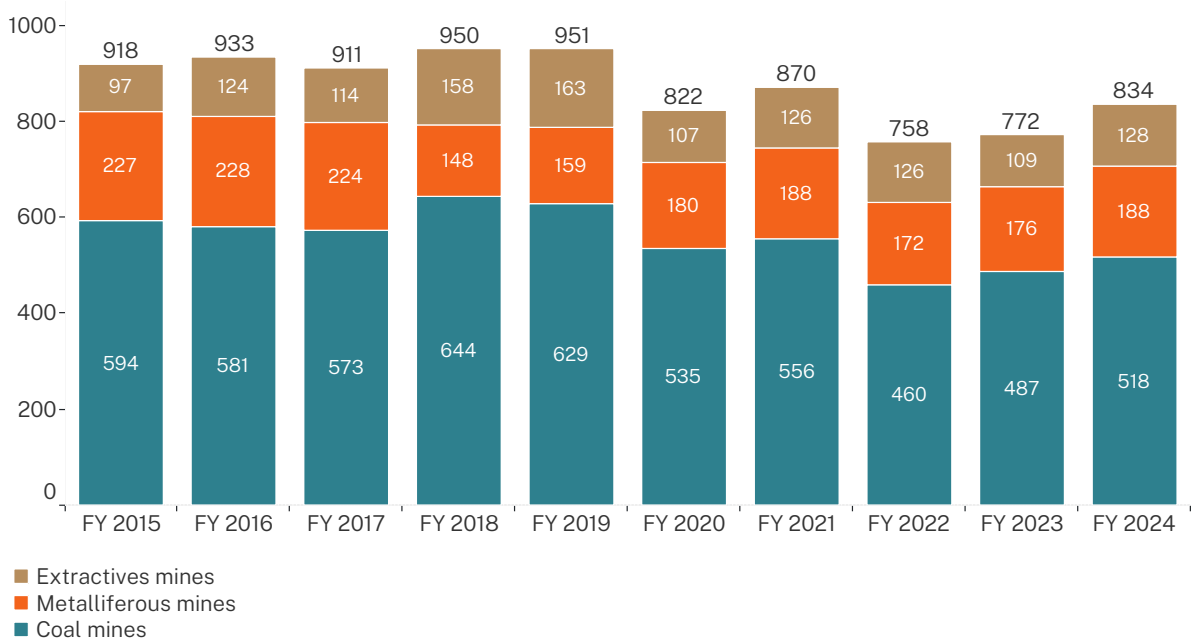
Figure 19. Coal, metalliferous and extractives rolling 5-year average LTIFR 2014–15 to 2023–24



Total recordable injuries

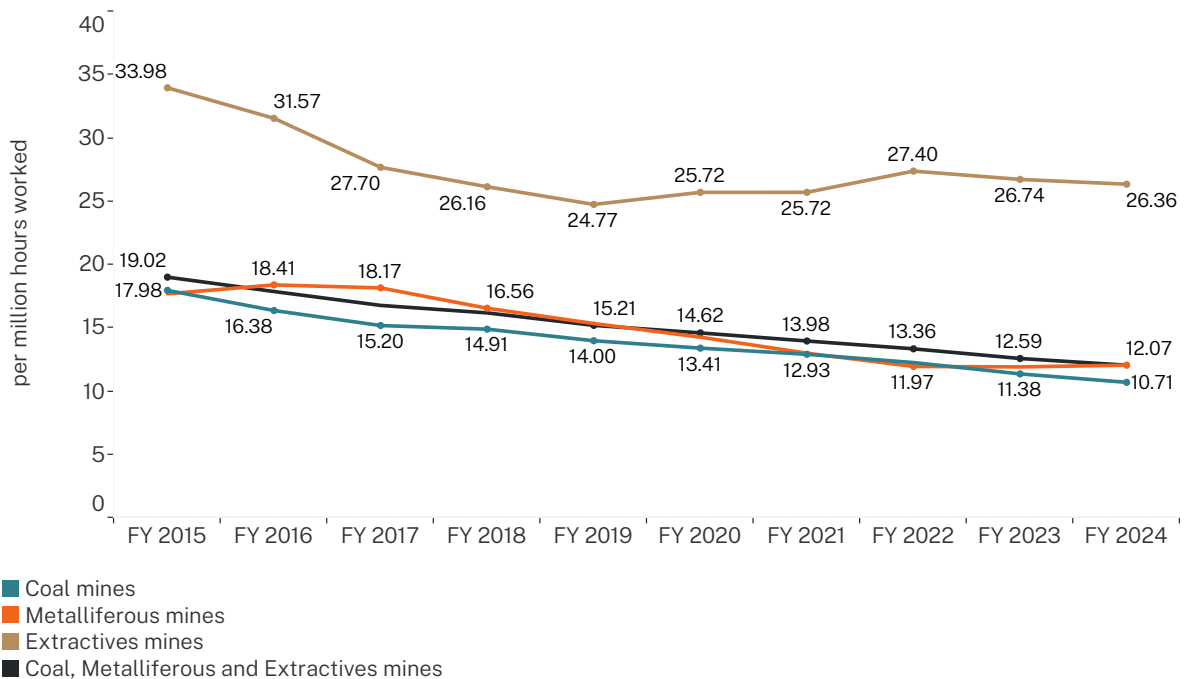
Total recordable injuries by sector

Figure 20. Coal, metalliferous and extractives total recordable injuries 2014–15 to 2023–24



Total recordable injury frequency rates

Figure 21. Coal, metalliferous and extractives rolling 5-year average TRIFR 2014–15 to 2023–24

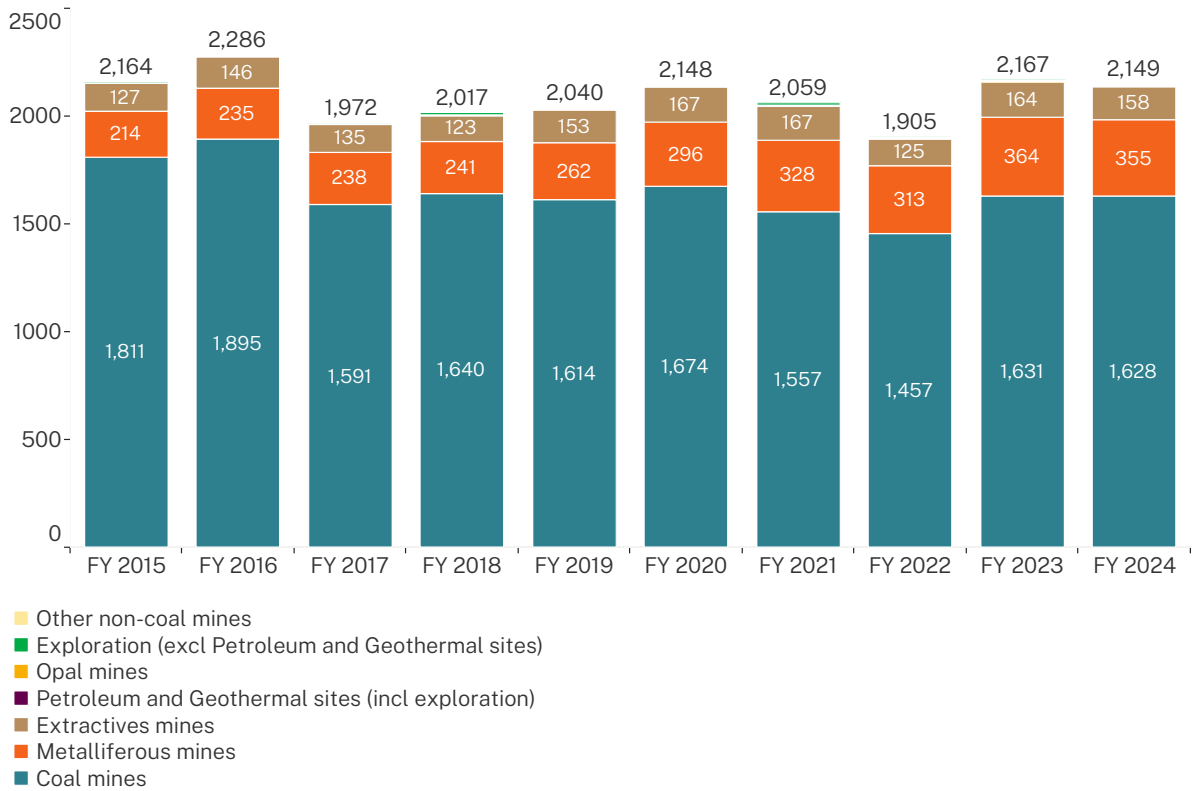


Notified incidents

Notified incidents by sector

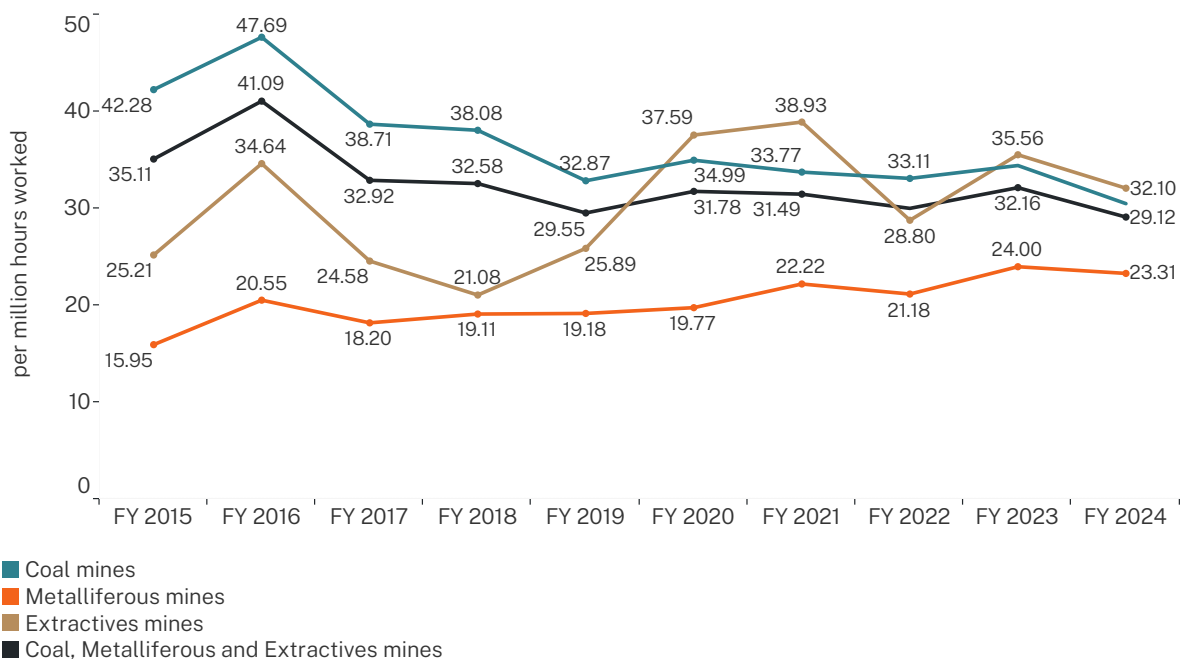
Note: Any multiple gas exceedances that were reported to the Regulator in a single incident notification have been included as individual incident notifications in this report. See [Appendix 3](#) for details of notified incidents by sector.

Figure 22. Notified incidents by sector 2014–15 to 2023–24



Incident notification frequency rates

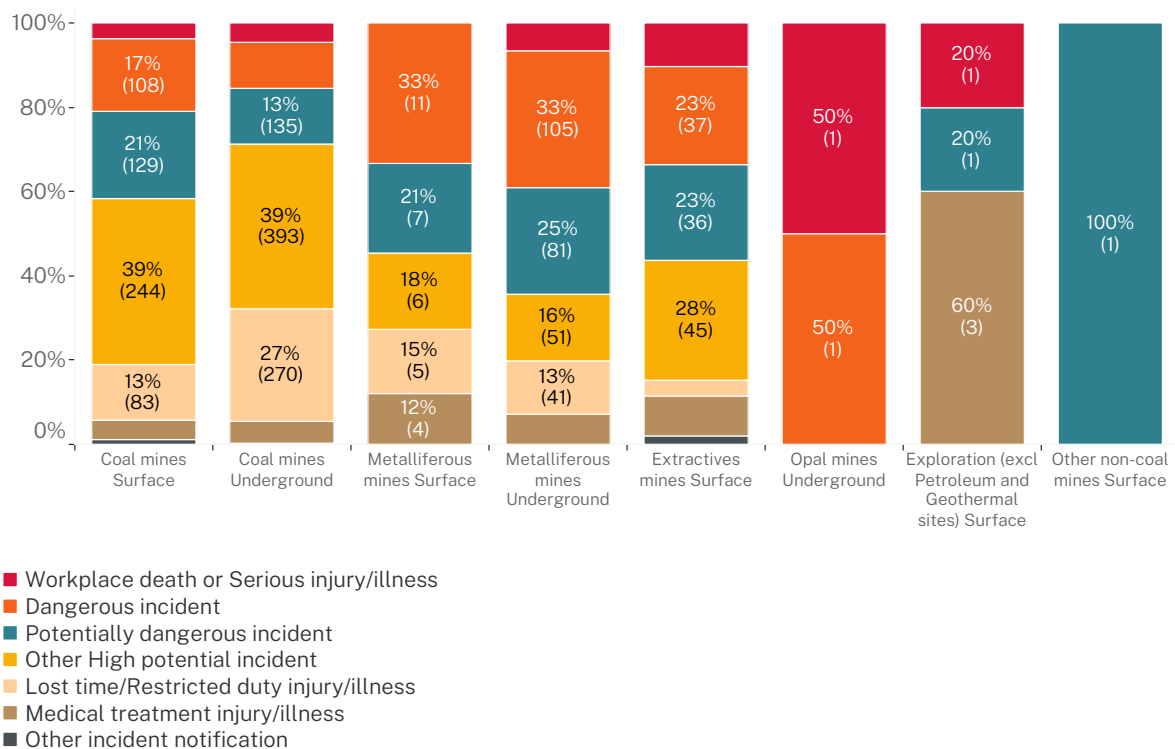
Figure 23. Coal, metalliferous and extractives sector annual incident notification frequency rate 2014–15 to 2023–24



Incident notification reporting trends

Incident notification profile

Figure 24. Incident notification profile by sector and operation type 2023–24



Proportion of mines notifying incidents

Since 2014–15 the proportion of mines notifying incidents has remained steady. On average, 6% of mines notified the Regulator of an incident every year during the 10-year reporting period.

The table below excludes the exploration.

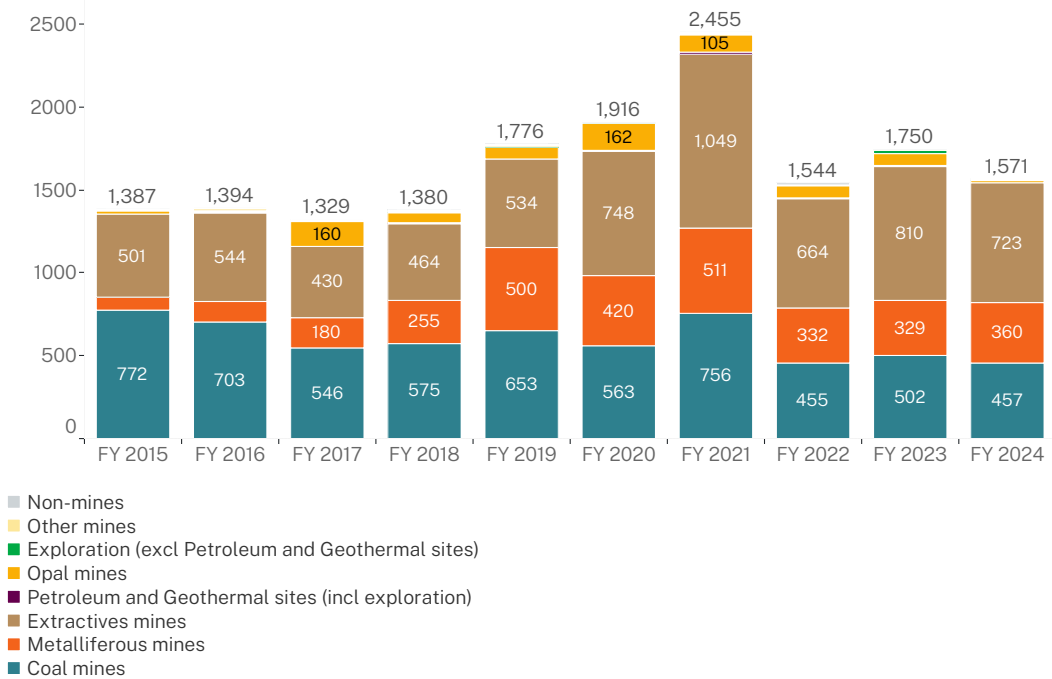
Table 2. Proportion of coal, metalliferous and extractives mines that notified an incident 2014–15 to 2023–24

Measure	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Number of notified incidents	2,152	2,276	1,964	2,004	2,029	2,137	2,052	1,895	2,159	2,141
Number of active mines	2,644	2,776	2,744	2,771	2,740	2,761	2,700	2,681	2,626	2,431
Number of mines that notified an incident	165	173	163	174	172	178	186	172	175	181
% of mines that notified an incident	6%	6%	6%	6%	6%	6%	7%	6%	7%	7%

Notices issued

Notices issued by sector

Figure 25. Notices issued by sector 2014–15 to 2023–24

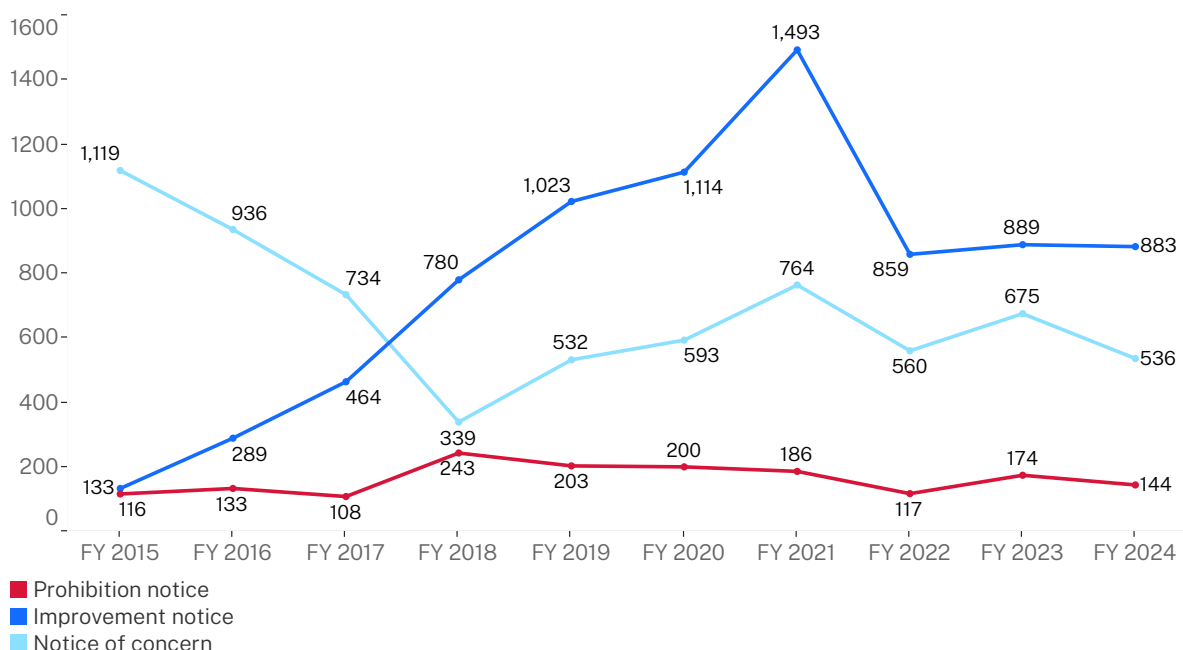


Notices issued by notice type

Since 2017–18, changes to the type of notices issued reflect the Regulator’s renewed focus on incident prevention as outlined in its [Compliance and Enforcement Approach \(2017\)](#). The approach sought to clearly identify matters that necessitate the issue of an improvement notice rather than a written notice of concern. Decreases were observed in all categories in 2023-24 compared to the previous year. The largest decrease was notices of concern (21%), followed by prohibition notices (17%). Improvement notices plateaued, recording a 1% decrease.

Due to the small numbers of non-disturbance and explosives notices, these have not been included in the figure below.

Figure 26. Notices issued by notice type 2014–15 to 2023–24



Sector profiles

Resources Regulator sector reporting

Coal

Includes open cut, underground and processing plants, and excludes exploration

Metalliferous

Includes metals and mineral sands, and excludes exploration

Extractives

Includes construction materials and industrial minerals, and excludes exploration

Refer to [Appendix 2](#) for definitions.

Coal sector



Key performance measures 2023–24

0 fatal injuries

64 serious injuries

157 lost time injuries

518 total recordable injuries

1,628 notified incidents

457 notices issued

In the coal sector in 2023–24:

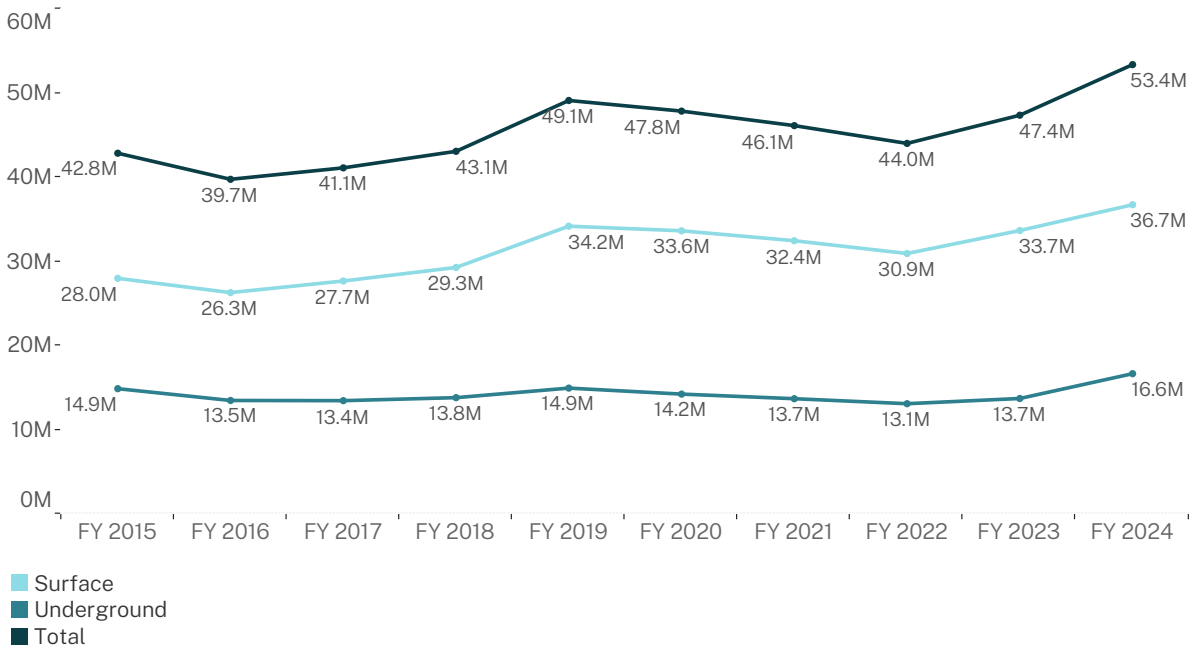
- There were no work-related fatalities. The last such event in the coal sector was in 2018–19. During the past 10 years, there have been 2 work-related mining fatalities in the NSW coal sector, both in surface operations (Figure 28).
- Downward trends have continued since 2014–15 in the rolling 5-year average frequency rates for serious injuries, lost time injuries and total recordable injuries across the coal sector (Figures 30, 32 and 34), despite a 13% increase in hours worked across both operation types in 2023–24 (Figure 27).
- Serious injuries recorded in the coal sector increased by 12% in 2023–24 compared to the previous year. Of the 64 serious injuries notified, the majority (64%) occurred in underground coal mines. Although serious injuries in the coal sector have increased by 28% since 2021–22, hours worked have also increased by 21%, and the overall rolling 5-year average serious injury frequency rate (SIFR) for the coal sector has continued to show a steady downward trend since 2014–15 (Figures 29–30).
- There were 157 lost time injuries reported in 2023–24, a 19% increase from the previous year, with 59% occurring in underground operations. The rolling 5-year average lost time injury frequency rate (LTIFR) has steadily declined over the reporting decade, recording an 27% decrease overall since 2014–15 (Figures 31–32).
- There were 518 total recordable injuries, up 6% from 2022–23. In the 10 years since 2014–15, total recordable injuries in the coal sector have decreased by 13%. A downward trend in the rolling 5-year average total recordable injury frequency rate (TRIFR) was observed across the coal sector, with an overall decrease of 40% since 2014–15 (Figures 33–34).
- There were 1,628 incidents notified to the Regulator by the coal sector, a decrease of 3 from the previous year. In the 10 years since 2014–15, incidents notified by the coal sector have decreased by 10% despite the rise in work hours. Notified incidents in underground operations have decreased by 26% since 2014–15 but incidents in surface operations have increased by 38% in the same period. Underground operations accounted for 62% of incidents notified in 2023–24. The annual incident notification frequency rate (INFR) for the coal sector decreased slightly in 2023–24 after a minimal rise the previous year. An overall downward trend has been observed since 2014–15. (Figures 35–36).
- Other high potential incidents were the predominant incidents notified in surface and underground coal mines. A decrease in dangerous incident notifications (from 21% to 17%) was observed in surface coal mines, whereas underground coal mines showed an increase in lost time/restricted duty injuries/illnesses notifications. The proportion of coal mines that notified an incident has decreased from 87% in 2014–15 to 61% in 2023–24. Multiple factors including legislative framework, inherent hazards and characteristics of each operation type contribute to the differences observed. While each operation type presents a distinct notification profile, comparable results were observed across the 5-year period (Figures 35–37 and Table 3).
- There were 457 notices issued in the coal sector in 2023–24 which is the second lowest number over the last decade and a 9% decrease from the previous year. Conversely, notices of concern increased by 9% and accounted for the highest proportion in 2023–24 with 48% of all notices issued. Nearly 57% of notices were issued to underground coal mines. This aligns with most previous years of the 10-year reporting period, except for 2019–20 where most notices were issued to surface coal mines (Figures 38–39).

See [Appendix 3](#) for sector summary data.

Hours worked

In 2023–24 the total hours worked in the coal sector recorded a 10-year high of 53.4 million hours. This is a 13% increase from the previous year. Most hours worked (69%) were in surface coal operations.

Figure 27. Coal sector hours worked by operation type 2014–15 to 2023–24

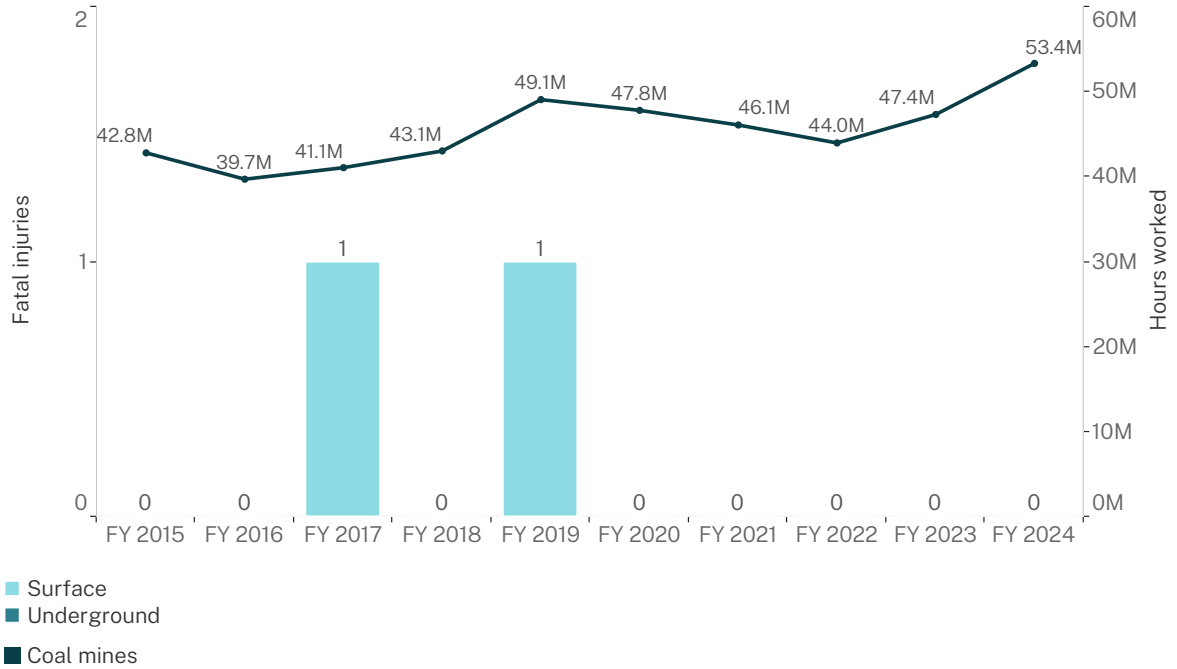


Fatal injuries

Fatal injuries and hours worked

For more information on the number of fatal injuries in NSW coal mines for the last 100 years refer to [Figure 3](#) which shows the sustained long-term decrease in coal mining fatal injuries.

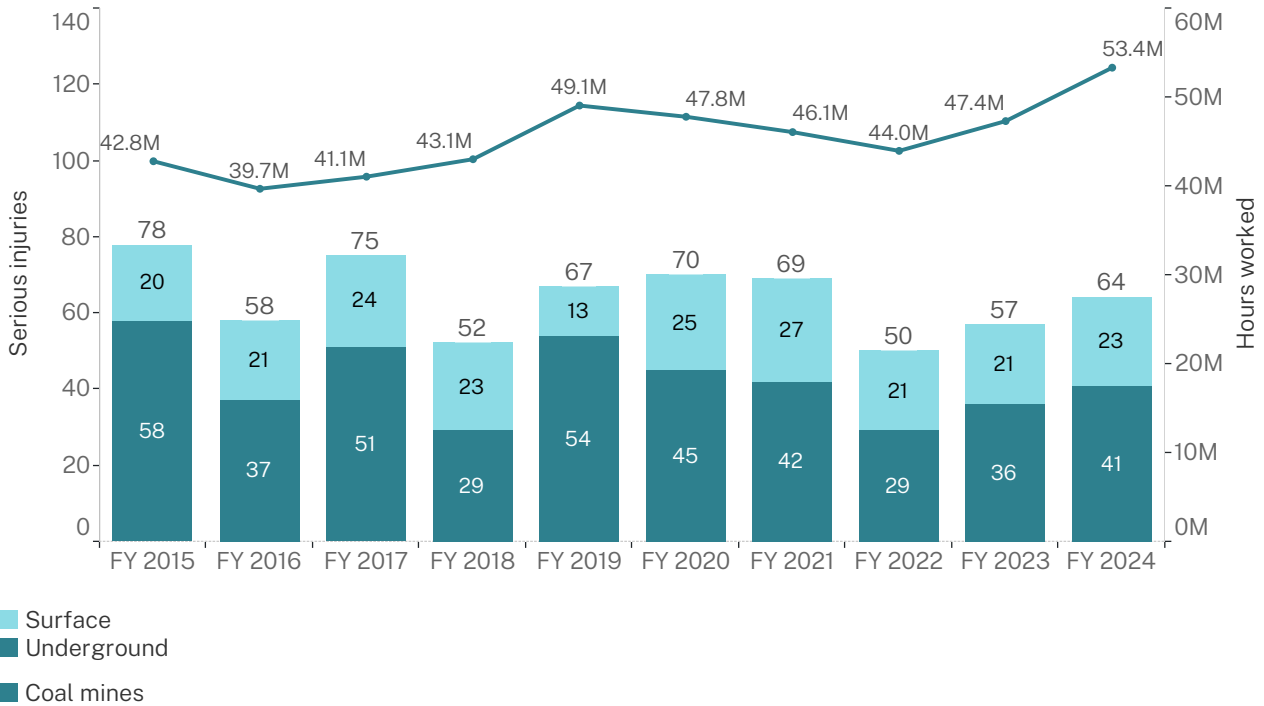
Figure 28. Coal sector fatal injuries and hours worked 2014–15 to 2023–24



Serious injuries

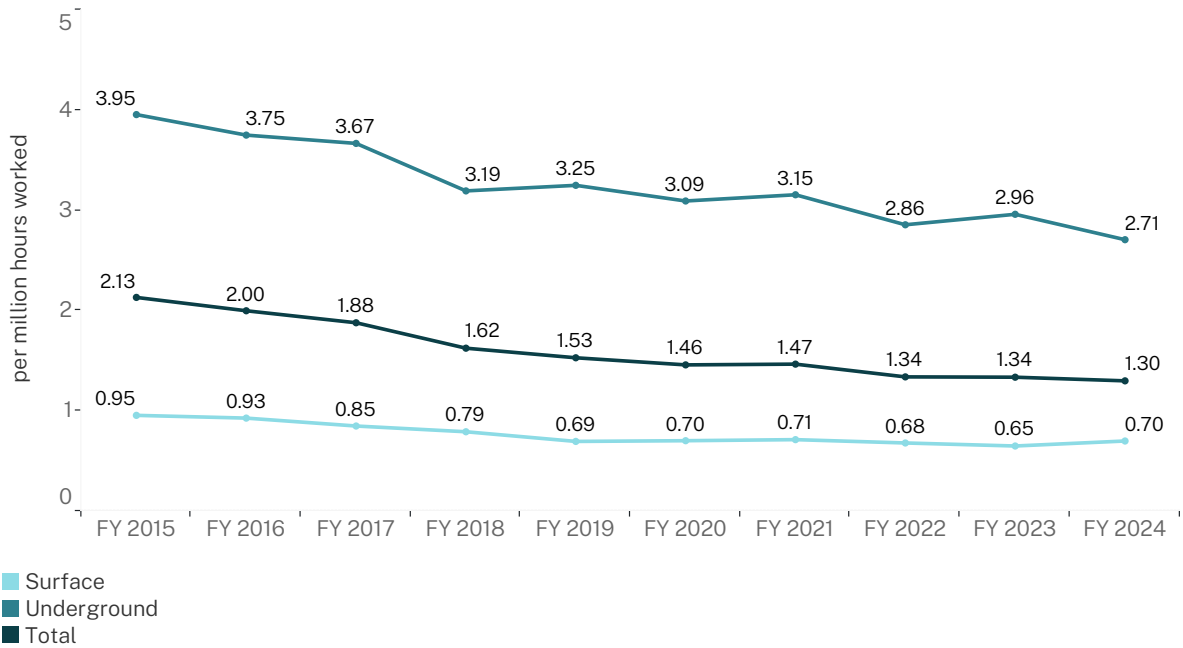
Serious injuries and hours worked

Figure 29. Coal sector serious injuries and hours worked 2014–15 to 2023–24



Serious injury frequency rates

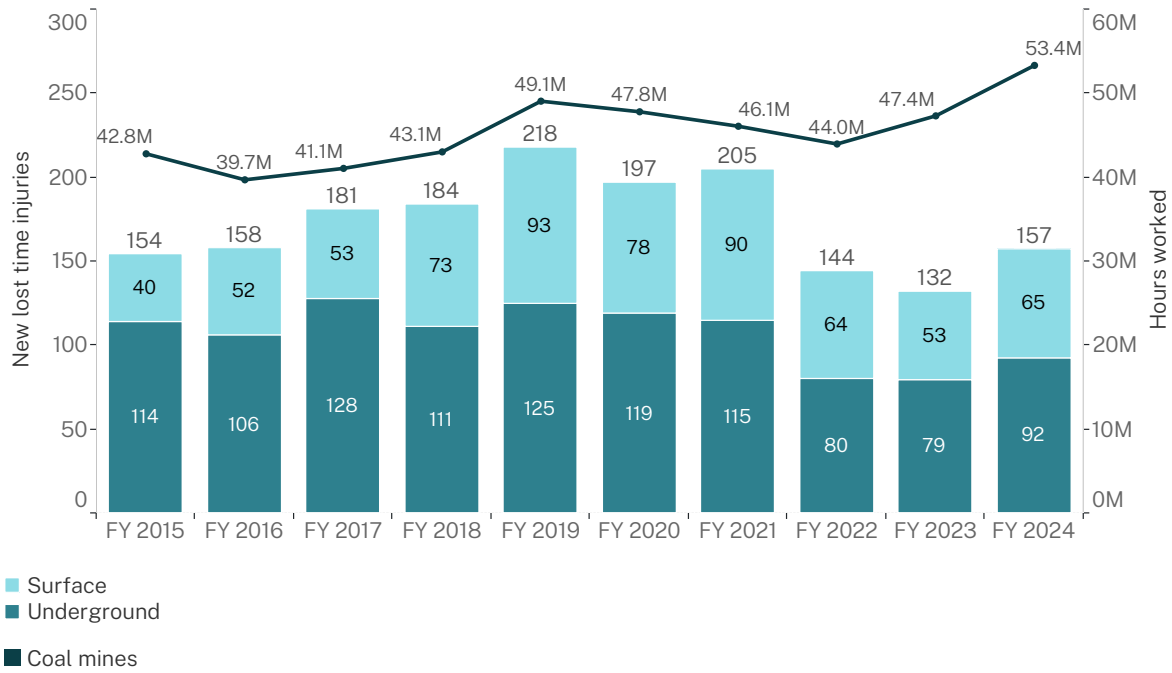
Figure 30. Coal sector rolling 5-year average SIFR 2014–15 to 2023–24



Lost time injuries

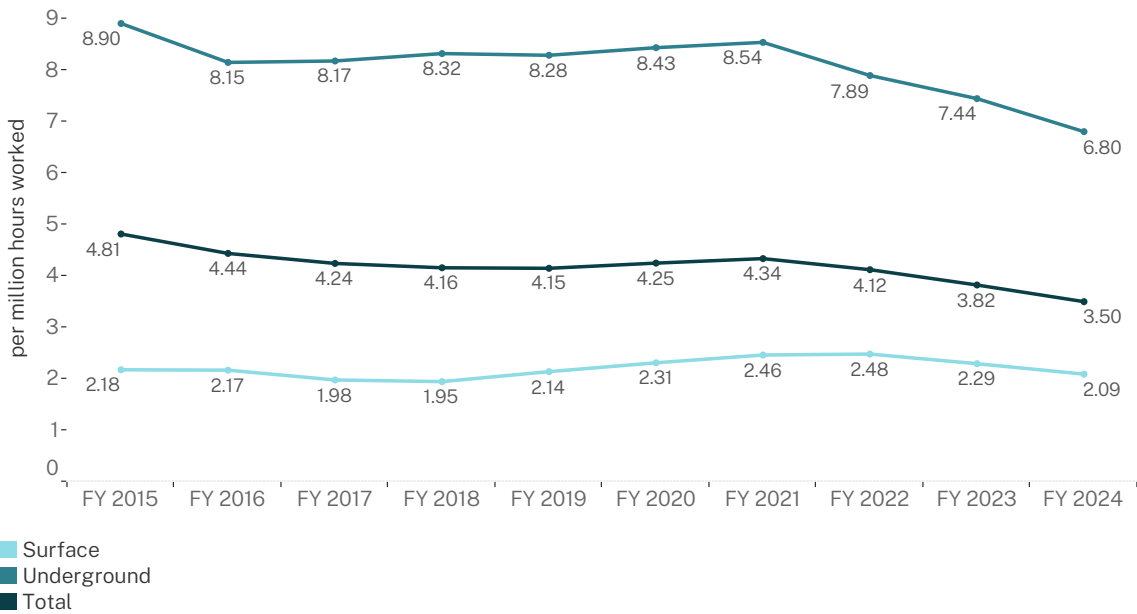
Lost time injuries and hours worked

Figure 31. Coal sector lost time injuries and hours worked 2014–15 to 2023–24



Lost time injury frequency rates

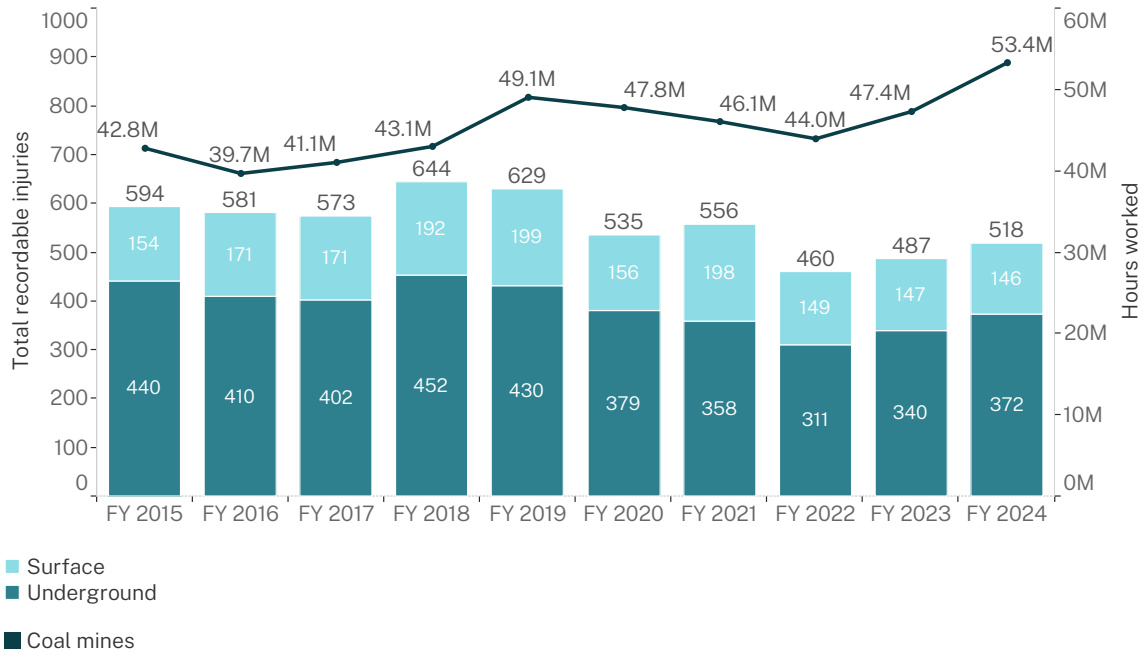
Figure 32. Coal sector rolling 5-year average LTIFR 2014–15 to 2023–24



Total recordable injuries

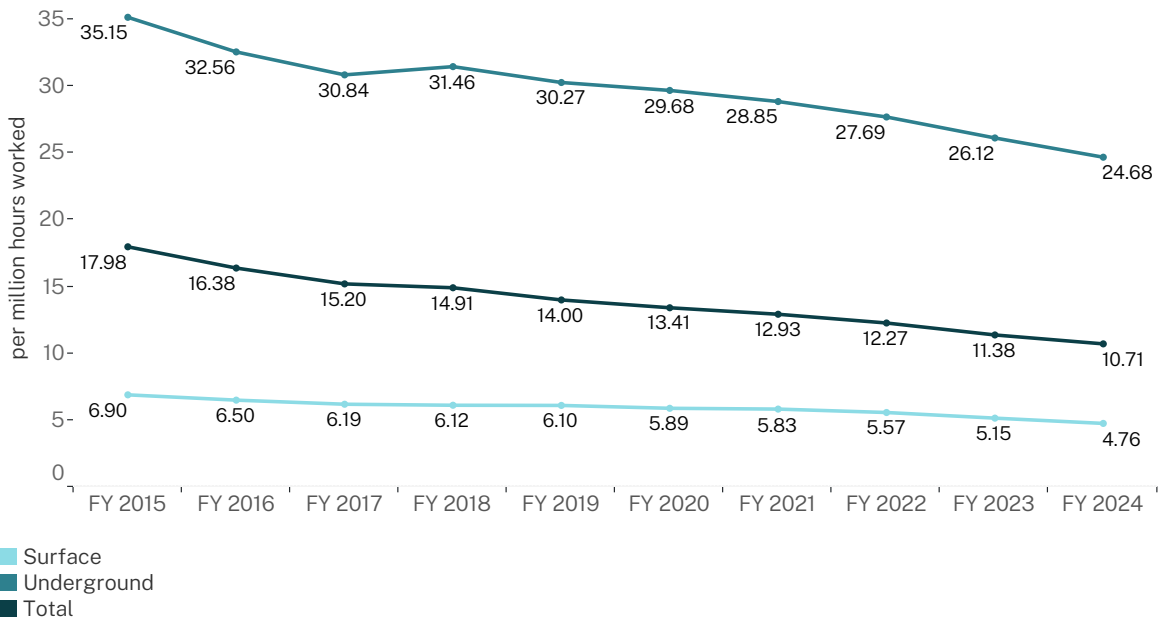
Total recordable injuries and hours worked

Figure 33. Coal sector total recordable injuries and hours worked 2014–15 to 2023–24



Total recordable injuries frequency rates

Figure 34. Coal sector rolling 5-year average TRIFR 2014–15 to 2023–24

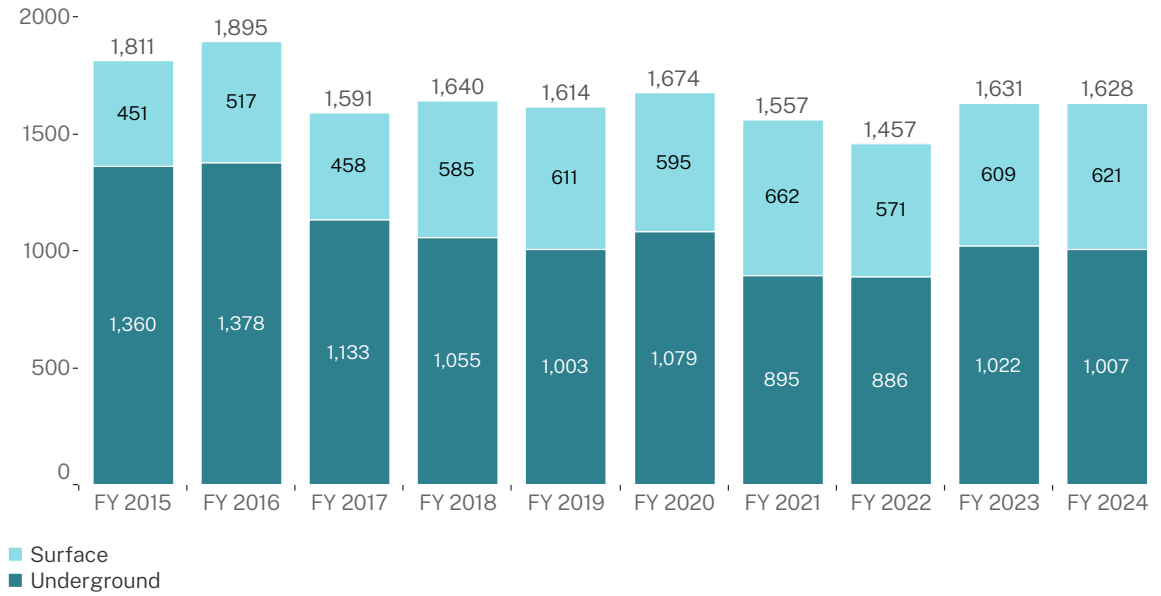


Notified incidents

Notified incidents by operation type

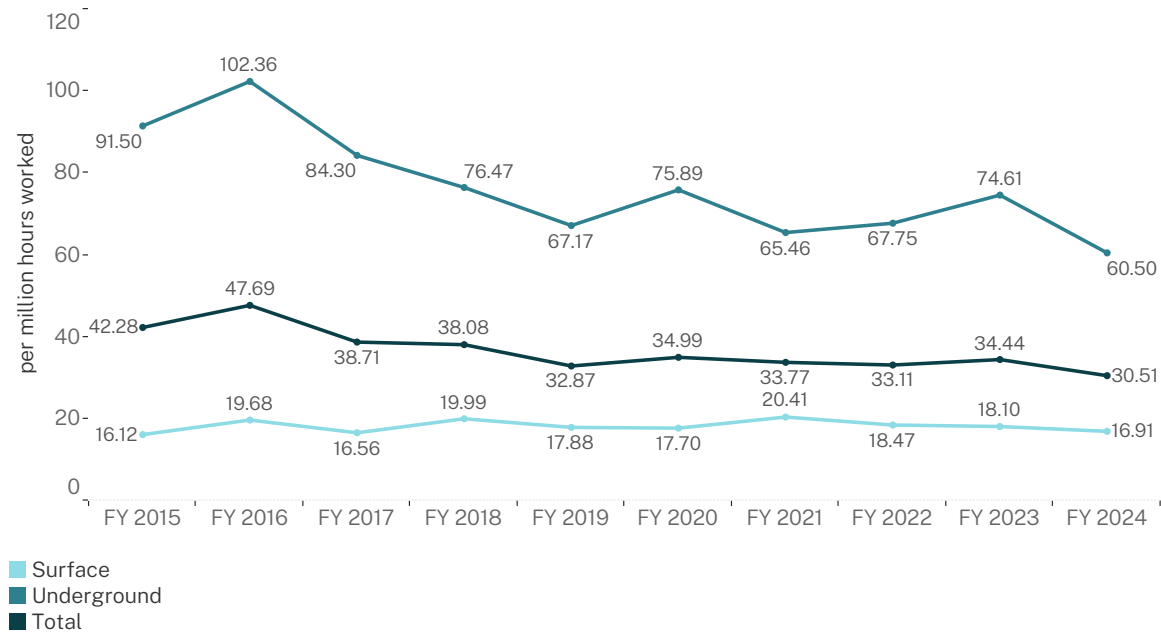
Note: Any multiple gas exceedances that were reported to the Regulator in a single incident notification have been included as individual incident notifications in this report.

Figure 35. Coal sector notified incidents by operation type 2014–15 to 2023–24



Incident notification frequency rates

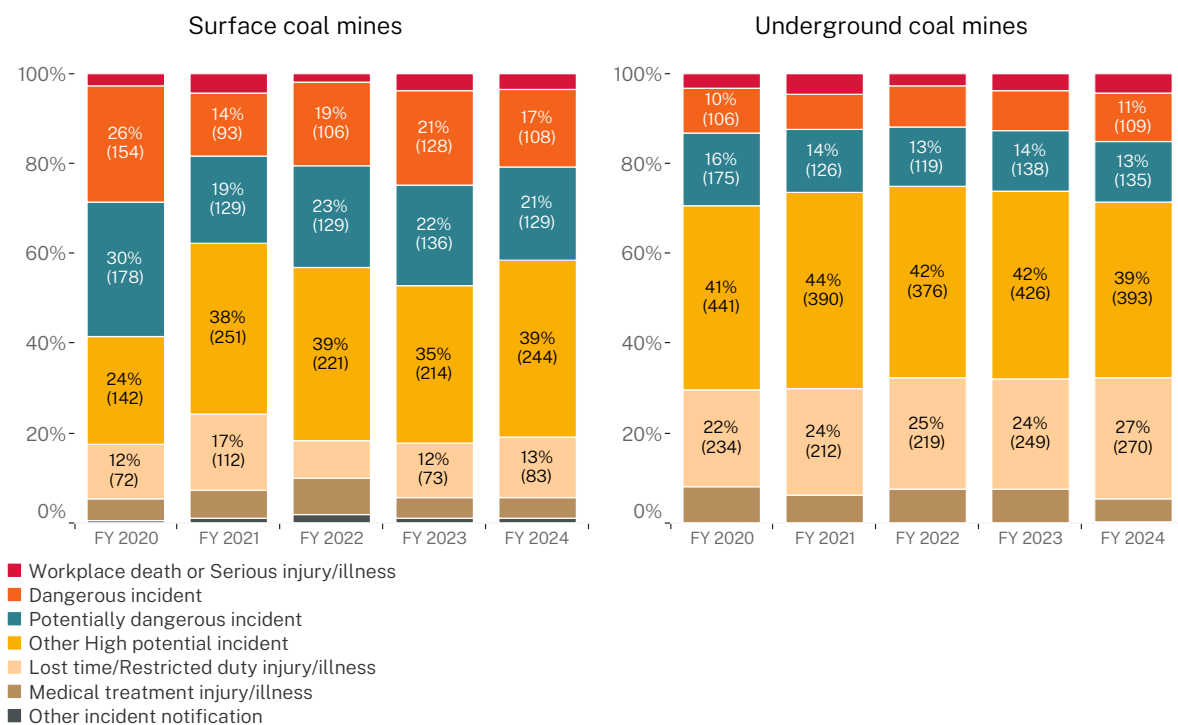
Figure 36. Coal sector annual incident notification frequency rate 2014–15 to 2023–24



Incident notification reporting trends

Incident notification profile

Figure 37. Coal sector incident notification profile by operation type 2019–20 to 2023–24



Proportion of coal mines notifying incidents

The proportion of coal mines notifying incidents has decreased significantly over the 10-year reporting period. In 2014-15, 87% of coal mines notified an incident, whereas that figure has decreased to 61% in 2023-24. On average, 66% of coal mines notified incidents during the 10-year reporting period.

The table below excludes exploration.

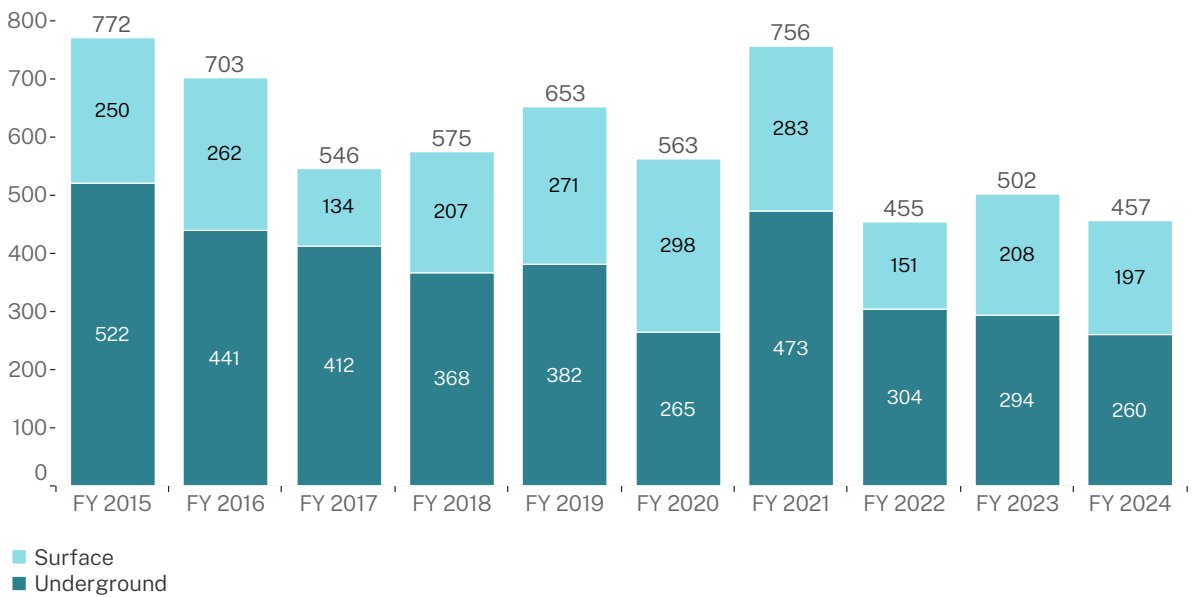
Table 3. Coal sector proportion of mines that notified an incident 2014–15 to 2023–24

Measure	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Number of notified incidents	1,811	1,895	1,591	1,640	1,614	1,674	1,557	1,457	1,631	1,628
Number of active mines	83	95	111	111	123	122	118	104	101	102
Number of mines that notified an incident	72	69	71	75	70	75	69	65	69	62
% of mines that notified an incident	87%	73%	64%	68%	57%	61%	58%	63%	68%	61%

Notices issued

Notices issued by operation type

Figure 38. Coal sector notices issued by operation type 2014–15 to 2023–24

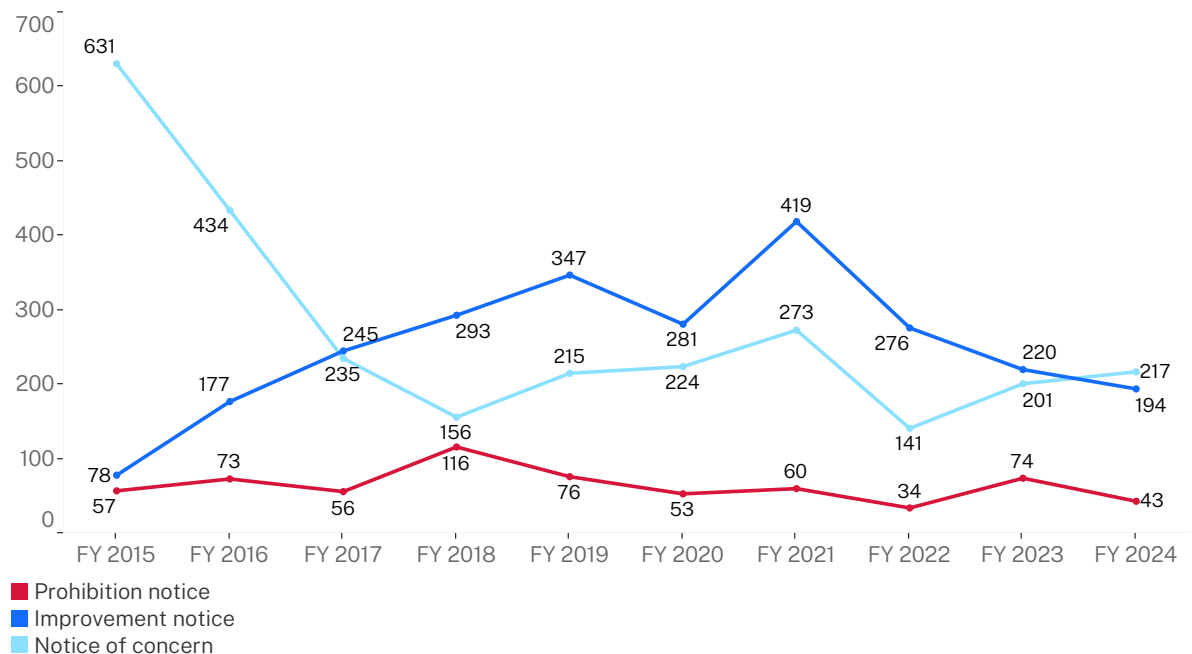


Notices issued by notice type

Since 2017-18, changes to the type of notices issued reflect the Regulator’s renewed focus on incident prevention as outlined in its [Compliance and Enforcement Approach \(2017\)](#). The approach sought to clearly identify matters that necessitate the issue of an improvement notice rather than a written notice of concern. Decreases were observed in improvement notices for the third year running, whilst prohibition notices recorded their second lowest figure of the decade. Notices of concern increased by 8% compared to the previous year.

Due to the small numbers of non-disturbance and explosives notices, these have not been included in the figure below.

Figure 39. Coal sector notices issued by notice type 2014–15 to 2023–24



Metalliferous sector



Key performance measures 2023–24

0 fatal injuries

23 serious injuries

54 lost time injuries

188 total recordable injuries

355 notified incidents

360 notices issued

In the metalliferous sector in 2023–24:

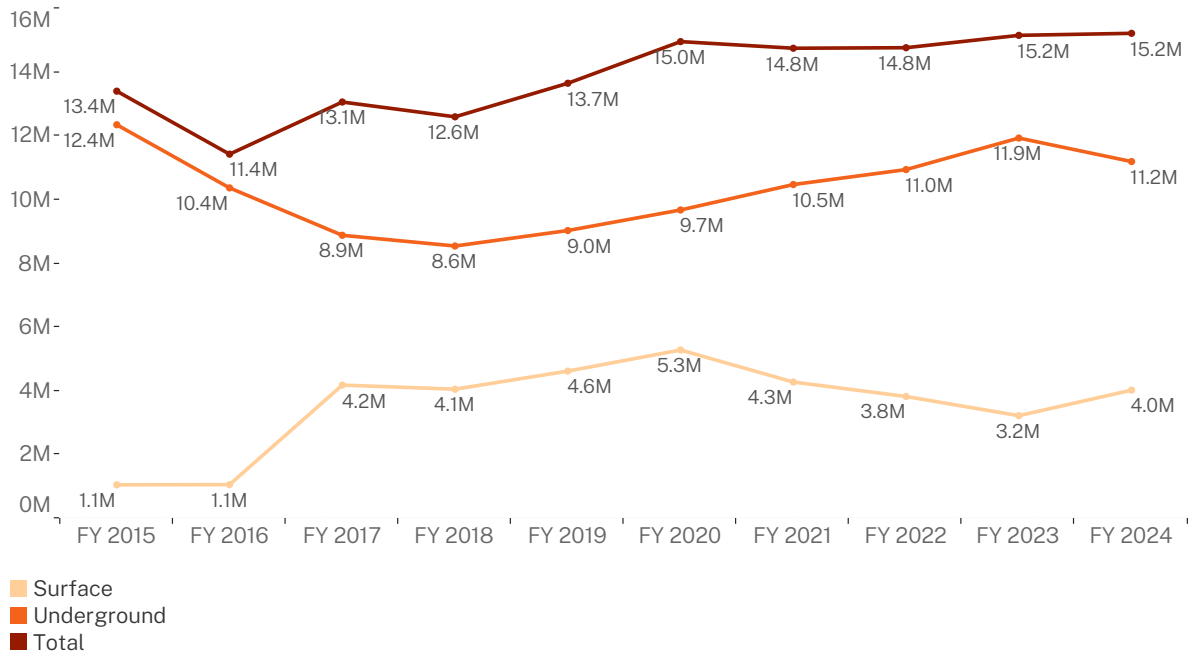
- There were no work-related fatalities in 2023–24. The last work-related fatality in the metalliferous sector was in 2019–20. During the past 10 years, there have been 4 work-related mining fatalities in the NSW metalliferous sector, 2 in underground operations and 2 in surface operations (Figure 41).
- The total number of serious injuries recorded increased by 11% compared to the 10-year average. After a significant decrease by over 50% in 2022–23, serious injuries notified increased by 64% in 2023–24. All 23 serious injuries occurred in underground metalliferous mines (Figures 42–43).
- The overall rolling 5-year average serious injury frequency rate increased in 2023–24, representing a slight decrease in surface mines and a slight increase in underground mines. An increase of 10% was observed in the overall rolling 5-year average lost time injury frequency rate in 2023–24. The 2023–24 overall rolling 5-year average total recordable injury rate is less than the 10-year average. (Figures 43, 45 and 47).
- There were 54 lost time injuries reported, a 20% increase from 2022–23, with 83% occurring in underground operations. The rolling 5-year average lost time injury frequency rate (LTIFR) increased in both surface and underground operations in 2023–24. The underground operations rolling 5-year average LTIFR increased by 10% following an 8% increase the previous year. The surface operations rolling 5-year average LTIFR increased by 9% and continues an upward trend (Figures 44–45).
- Total recordable injuries have remained steady from 2019–20. The underground rolling 5-year average total recordable injury frequency rate (TRIFR) in 2023–24 has continued the downward trend, however due to a 7% increase in the surface rolling 5-year average TRIFR, the overall rolling 5-year average total recordable injury frequency rate in 2023–24 has increased by 1% (Figures 46–47).
- Incidents notified decreased by 2% in 2023–24 after a 16% increase in 2022–23. The annual incident notification frequency rate (INFR) for surface operations decreased by 49% while underground operations increased by 10%. (Figures 40, 48–49).
- In 2023–24 dangerous incident notifications accounted for 33% of reported incidents for both underground and surface operations. Surface metalliferous mines have seen a decrease in the number of dangerous incident notifications (from 57% in 2019–20 to 33% in 2023–24) and a decrease in potentially dangerous incident notifications. Multiple factors including legislative framework, inherent hazards and characteristics of each operation type contribute to the differences observed. While each operation type presents a distinct notification profile, comparable results were observed across the 5-year period (Figures 48–50 and Table 4).
- There were 360 notices issued in the metalliferous sector, a 9% increase from 2022–23 with improvement notices accounting for 54% of all notices issued in the year. More than two-thirds of all notices were issued to underground operations in line with the 10-year reporting period (Figures 51–52).

Hours worked

In 2023–24 the total hours worked for the metalliferous sector remained steady following the slight increase observed in 2022–23. Most hours worked were in underground metalliferous operations. A 25% increase in hours worked in surface operations was offset by a 6% decrease in underground operations. As a result, these opposing variances balanced out, leaving the overall total hours worked unchanged.

Note: There was a change in work health and safety reporting requirements from June 2020, where non-coal mines with total worker hours of less than 10,000 hours per year became exempt from having to submit work health and safety reports to the Regulator, and from September 2022, tier 3 quarries became exempt from having to submit work health and safety reports.

Figure 40. Metalliferous sector hours worked by operation type 2014–15 to 2023–24

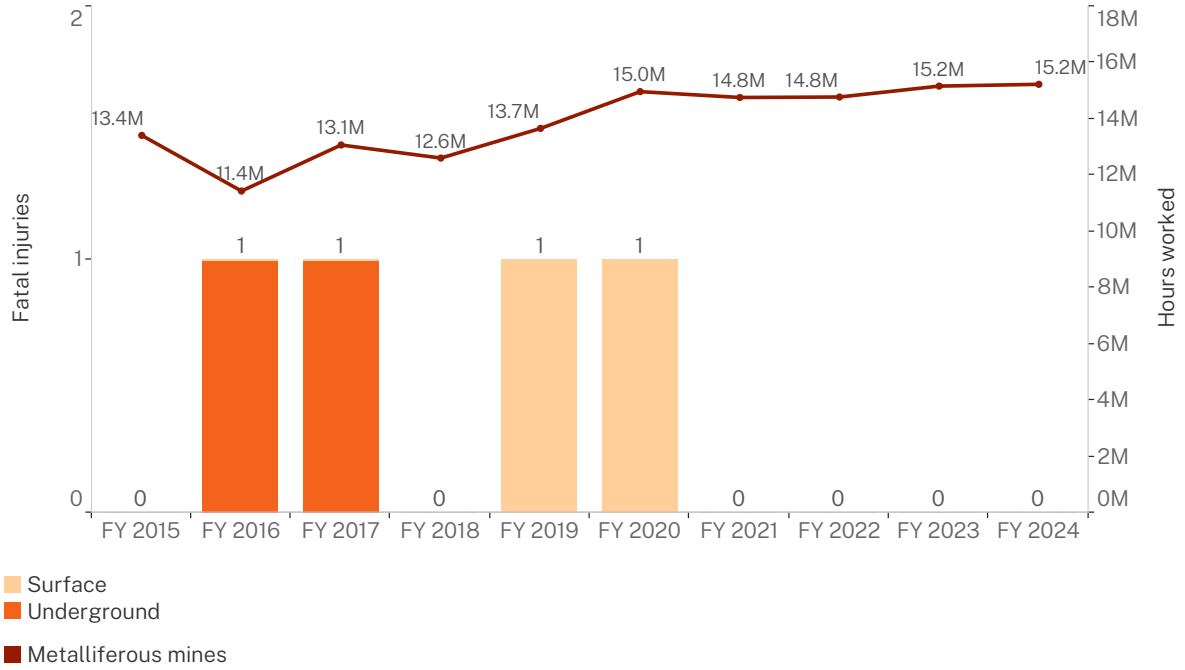


Fatal injuries

Fatal injuries and hours worked

For more information on the number of fatal injuries in NSW metalliferous mines since 1989 refer to [Figure 3](#).

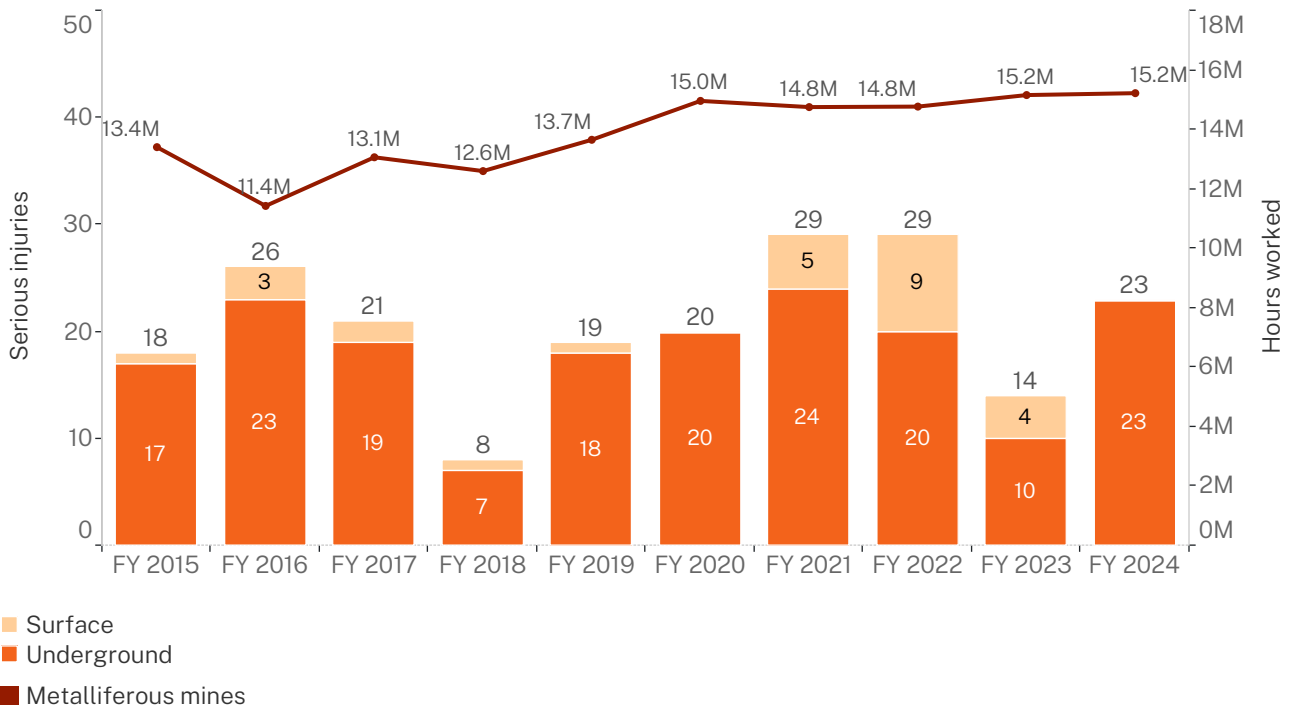
Figure 41. Metalliferous sector fatal injuries and hours worked 2014–15 to 2023–24



Serious injuries

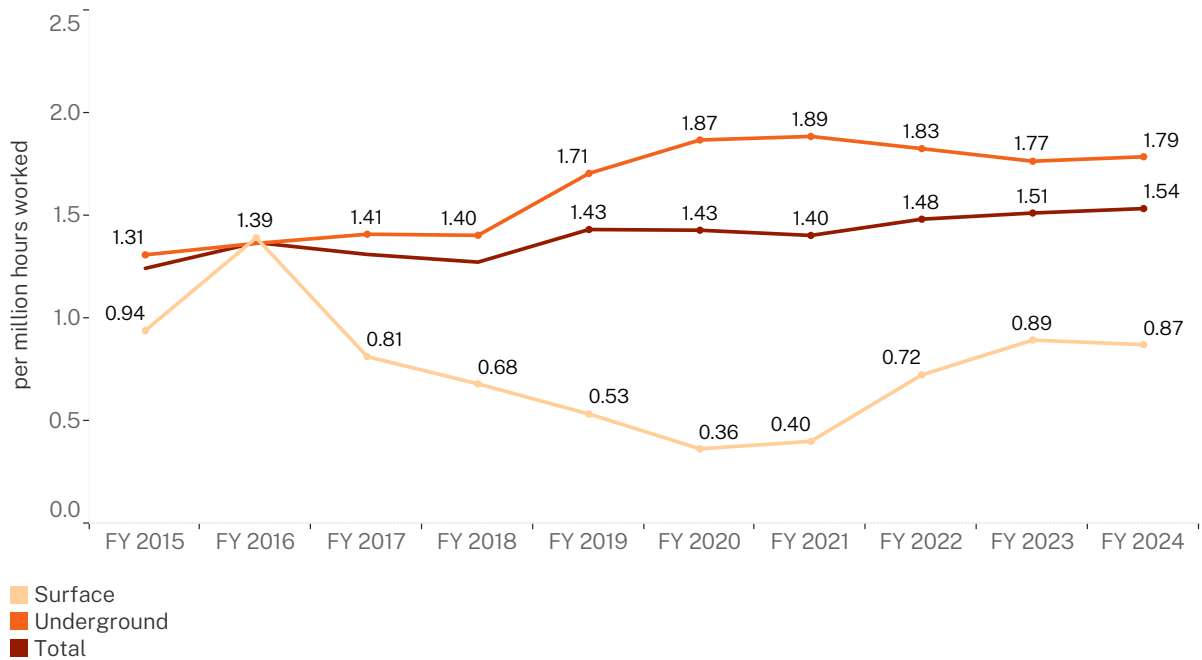
Serious injuries and hours worked

Figure 42. Metalliferous sector serious injuries and hours worked 2014–15 to 2023–24



Serious injury frequency rates

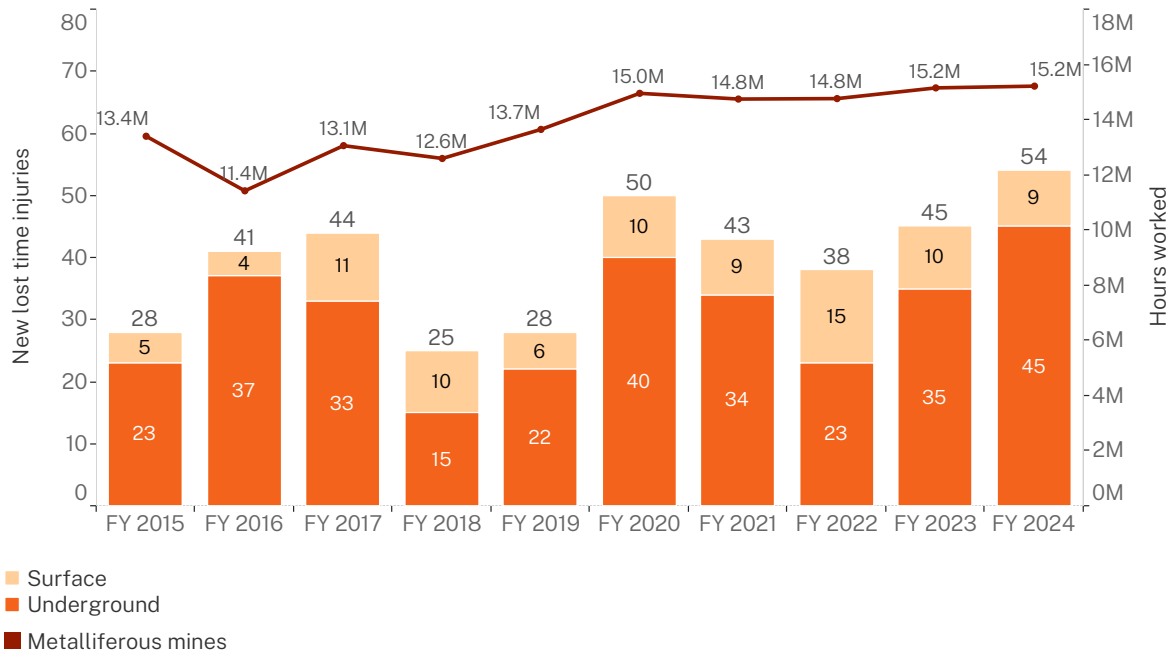
Figure 43. Metalliferous sector rolling 5-year average SIFR 2014–15 to 2023–24



Lost time injuries

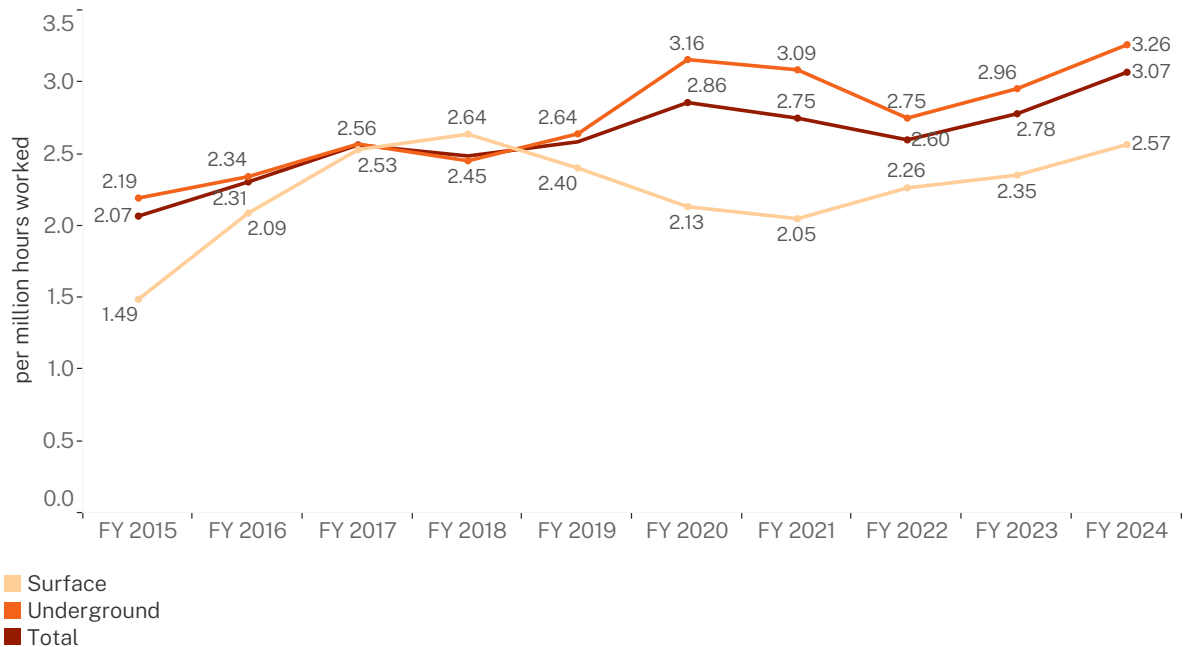
Lost time injuries and hours worked

Figure 44. Metalliferous sector lost time injuries and hours worked 2014–15 to 2023–24



Lost time injury frequency rates

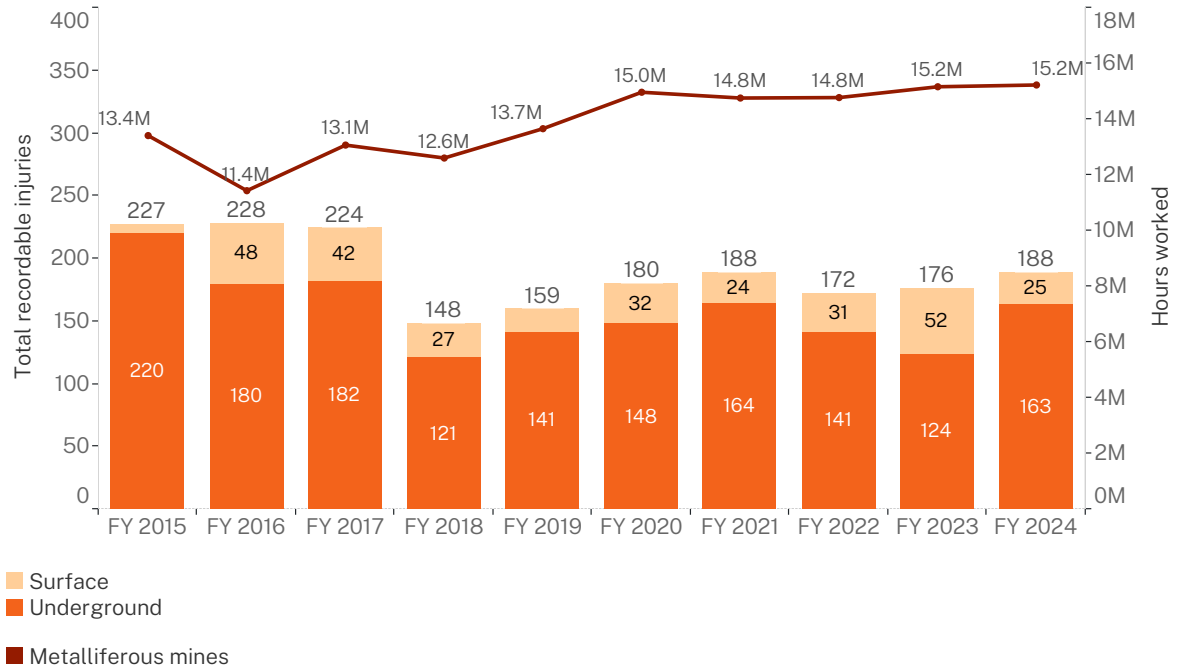
Figure 45. Metalliferous sector rolling 5-year average LTIFR 2014–15 to 2023–24



Total recordable injuries

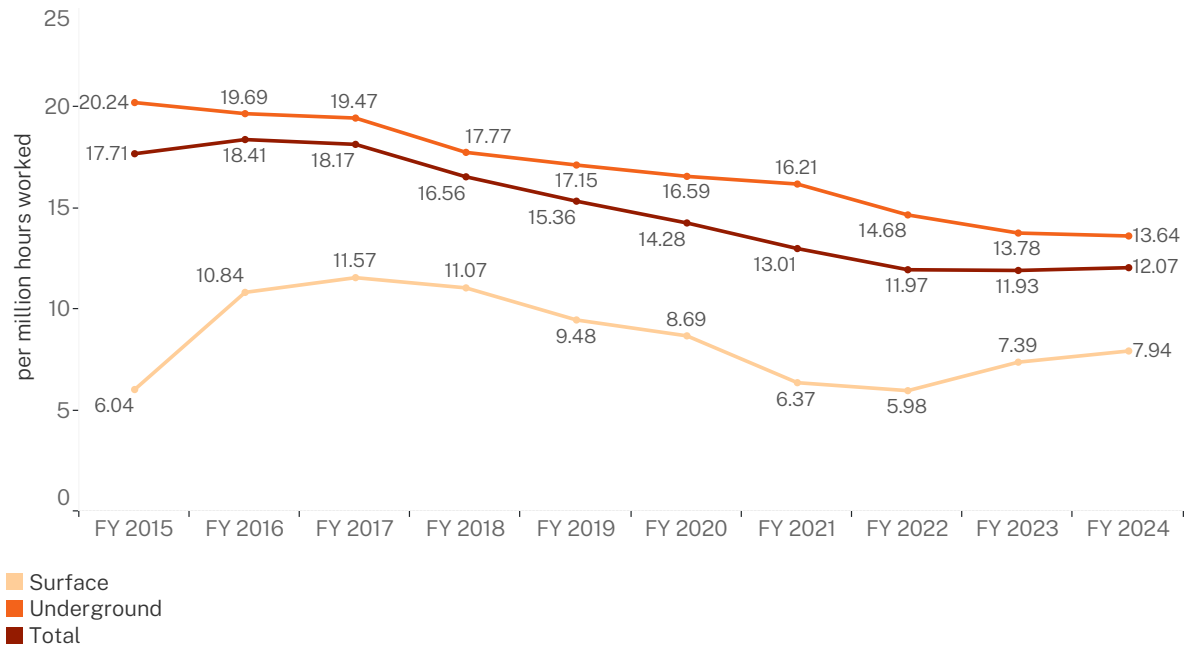
Total recordable injuries and hours worked

Figure 46. Metalliferous sector total recordable injuries and hours worked 2014–15 to 2023–24



Total recordable injuries frequency rates

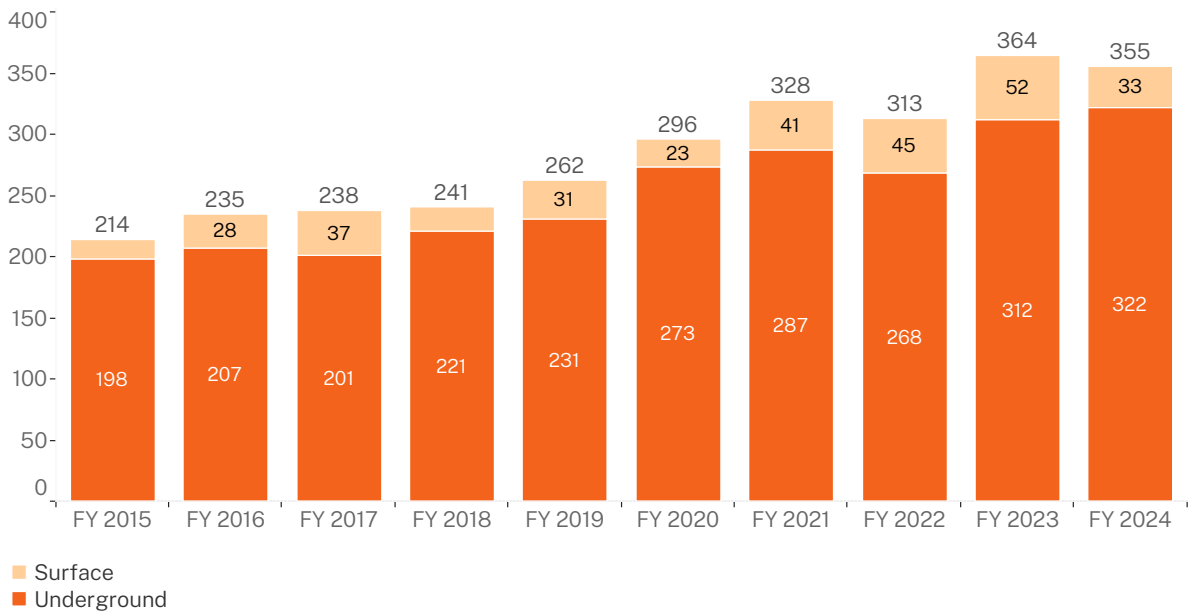
Figure 47. Metalliferous sector 5-year average TRIFR 2014–15 to 2023–24



Notified incidents

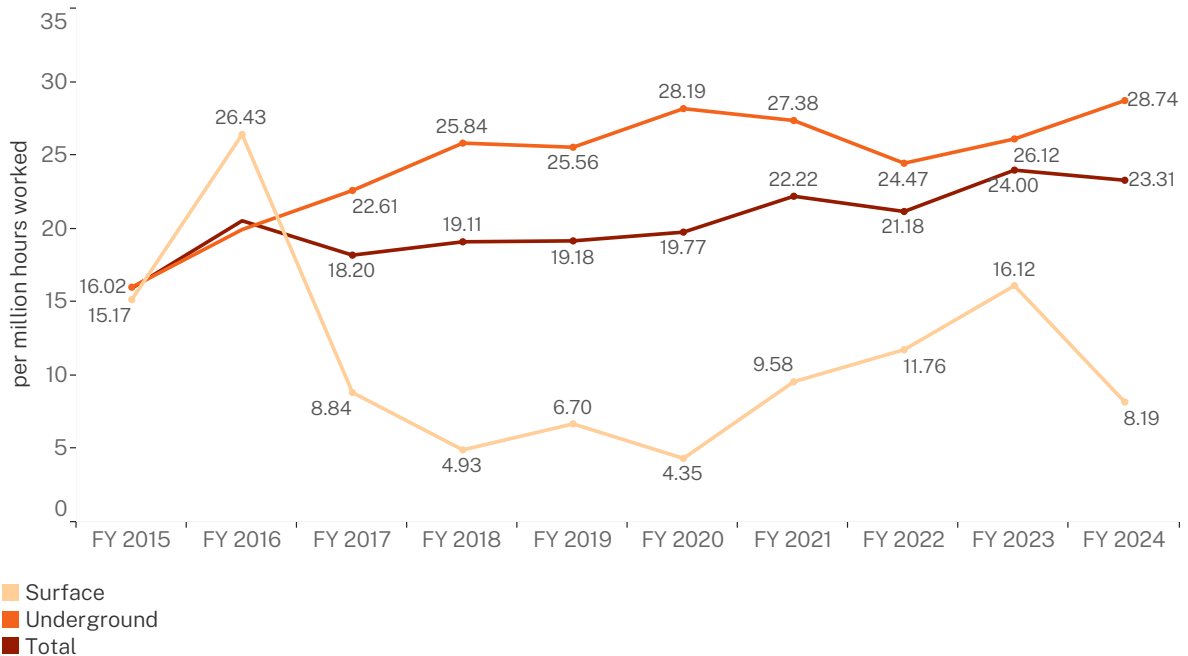
Notified incidents by operation type

Figure 48. Metalliferous sector notified incidents by operation type 2014–15 to 2023–24



Incident notification rates

Figure 49. Metalliferous sector annual incident notification frequency rate 2014–15 to 2023–24

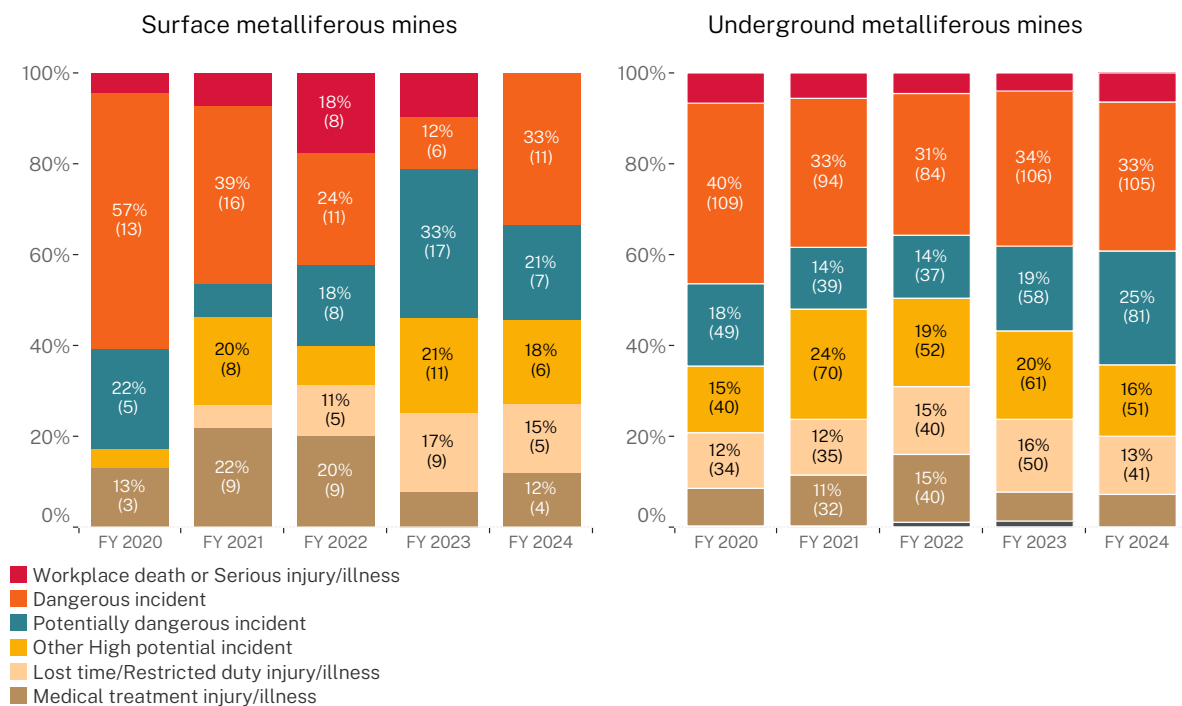


Incident notification reporting trends

Incident notification profile

Incident notification data allows the Regulator to monitor compliance and respond to sector specific reporting trends. Multiple contributing factors influence the types of incidents notified by each sector and operation type. These include, but are not limited to, the legislative framework, inherent hazards and characteristics of each sector and operation type as well as the commodity produced.

Figure 50. Metalliferous sector incident notification profile by operation type 2019–20 to 2023–24



Proportion of metalliferous mines notifying incidents

While the number of metalliferous mines has increased by 14% in the 10 years since 2014–15 (from 85 mines to 97 in 2023–24), the proportion of mines notifying incidents has remained relatively steady. On average, 26% of active metalliferous mines notified the Regulator of an incident every year within the 10-year reporting period.

The table below excludes exploration.

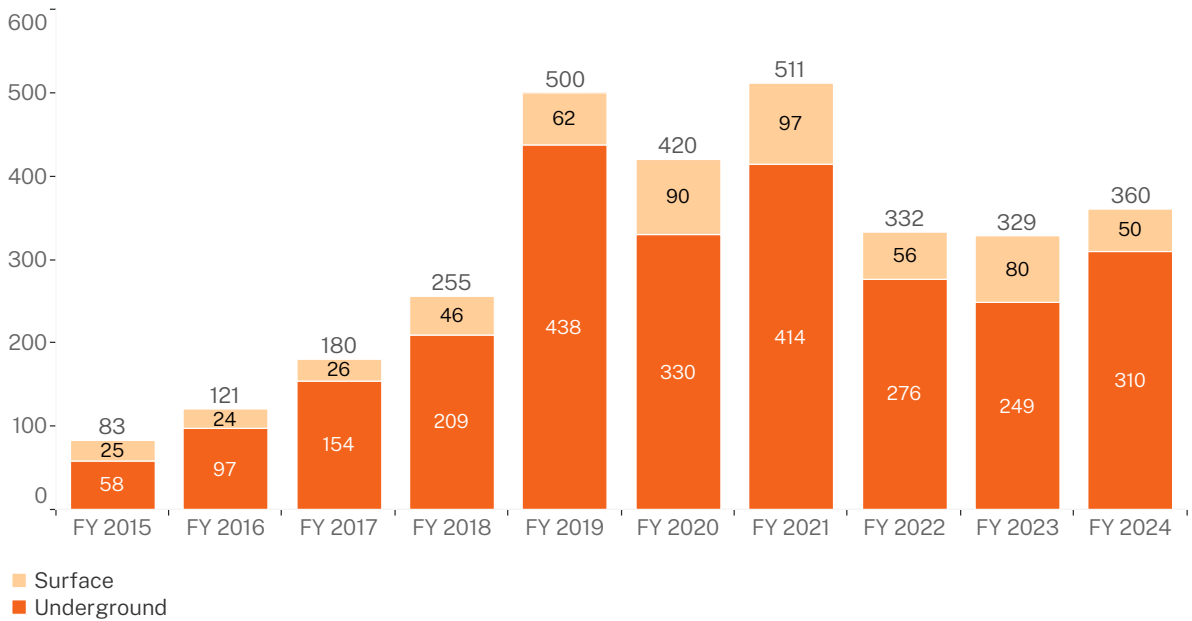
Table 4. Metalliferous sector proportion of mines that notified an incident 2014–15 to 2023–24

Measure	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Number of notified incidents	214	235	238	241	262	296	328	313	364	355
Number of active mines	85	98	109	107	116	105	93	96	95	97
Number of mines that notified an incident	25	26	23	26	23	27	26	25	30	22
% of mines that notified an incident	29%	27%	21%	24%	20%	26%	28%	26%	32%	23%

Notices issued

Notices issued by operation type

Figure 51. Metalliferous sector notices issued by operation type 2014–15 to 2023–24

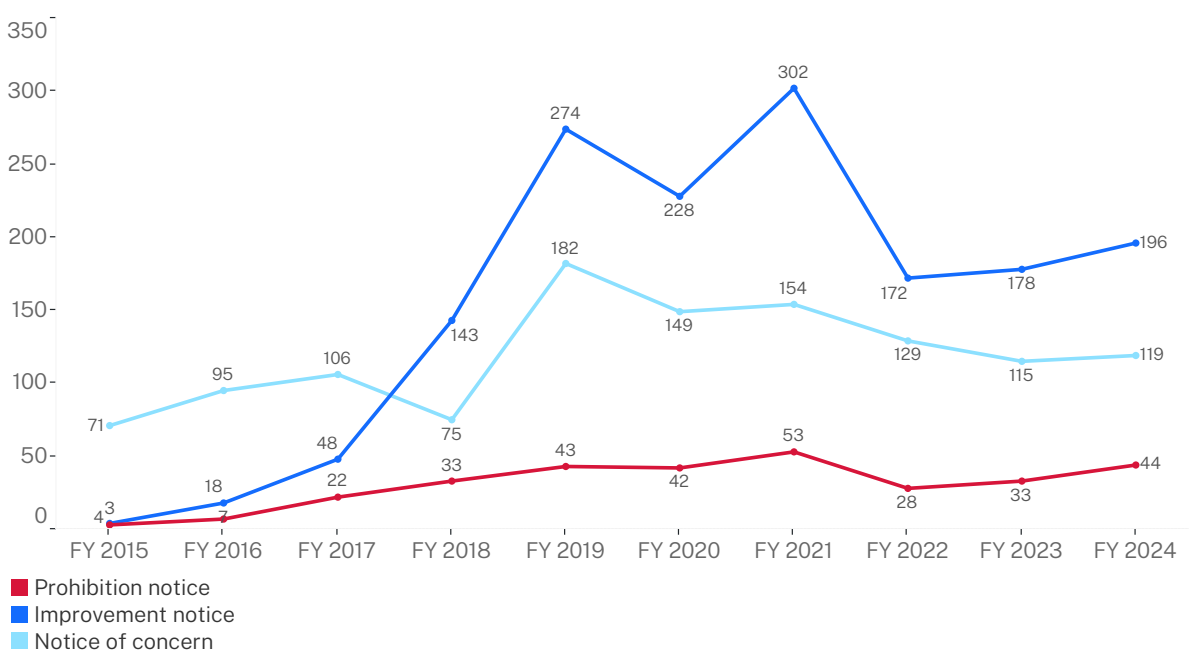


Notices issued by notice type

Since 2017-18, changes to the type of notices issued reflect the Regulator’s renewed focus on incident prevention as outlined in its [Compliance and Enforcement Approach \(2017\)](#). The approach sought to clearly identify matters that necessitate the issue of an improvement notice rather than a written notice of concern.

Due to the small numbers of non-disturbance and explosives notices, these have not been included in the figure below.

Figure 52. Metalliferous sector notices issued by notice type 2014–15 to 2023–24



Extractives sector



Key performance measures 2023–24

0 fatal injuries

45 lost time injuries

158 notified incidents

16 serious injuries

128 total recordable injuries

723 noticed issued

In the extractives sector in 2023–24:

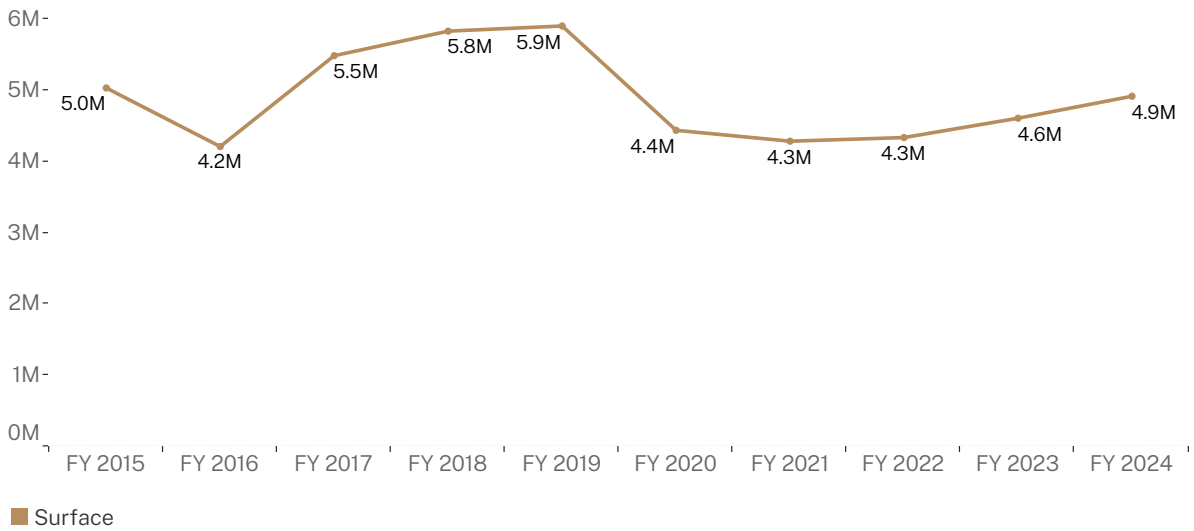
- There were no work-related fatalities. The last work-related fatality in the extractives sector was in 2020–21 (Figure 54).
- There were 16 serious injuries recorded, an increase of 33% from 2022–23. The rolling 5-year average serious injury frequency rate (SIFR) for the extractives sector increased by 28% from the previous year (Figures 55–56).
- There were 45 lost time injuries reported, an increase of 50% from 2022–23. The rolling 5-year average lost time injury frequency rate (LTIFR) increased slightly by 4% (Figures 57–58).
- There were 128 total recordable injuries marking a 17% increase from 2022–23. The rolling 5-year average total recordable injury frequency rate (TRIFR) experienced a slight decrease compared to the previous year, and a downward trend has been observed overall since 2014–15 (Figures 59–60).
- There were 158 incidents notified to the Regulator, a 4% decrease compared to 2022–23. The annual incident notification frequency rate (INFR) also decreased by 10% compared to 2022–23. (Figures 61–62).
- Between 2019–20 and 2023–24, the greatest proportion of incident notifications in the extractives sector related to dangerous incidents, potentially dangerous incidents and other high potential incidents (Figure 63 and Table 5).
- There were 723 notices issued, an overall decrease of 11% from 2022–23. Improvement notices (66%) and notices of concern (27%) accounted for most notices issued. (Figures 63–64).

Hours worked

In 2023–24 the total hours worked in the surface extractives sector increased by 7% from 4.6m hours in 2022–23 to 4.9m hours.

Note: There was a change in work health and safety reporting requirements from June 2020, where non-coal mines with total worker hours of less than 10,000 hours per year became exempt from having to submit work health and safety reports to the Regulator, and from September 2022, tier 3 quarries became exempt from having to submit work health and safety reports.

Figure 53. Extractives sector hours worked by operation type 2014–15 to 2023–24



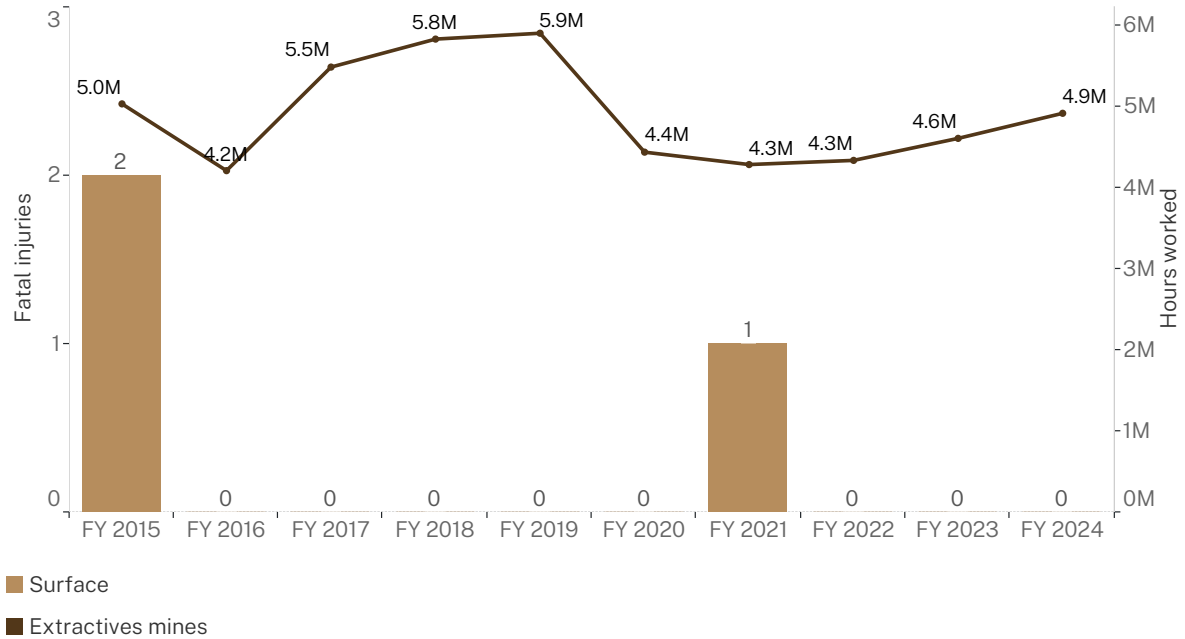
Fatal injuries

Fatal injuries and hours worked

In 2023–24 there were no mining fatalities in the extractives sector.

During the past 10 years, there have been 3 work-related mining fatalities in the extractives sector. For more information on the number of fatal injuries in NSW extractives mines since 1989, refer to [Figure 3](#).

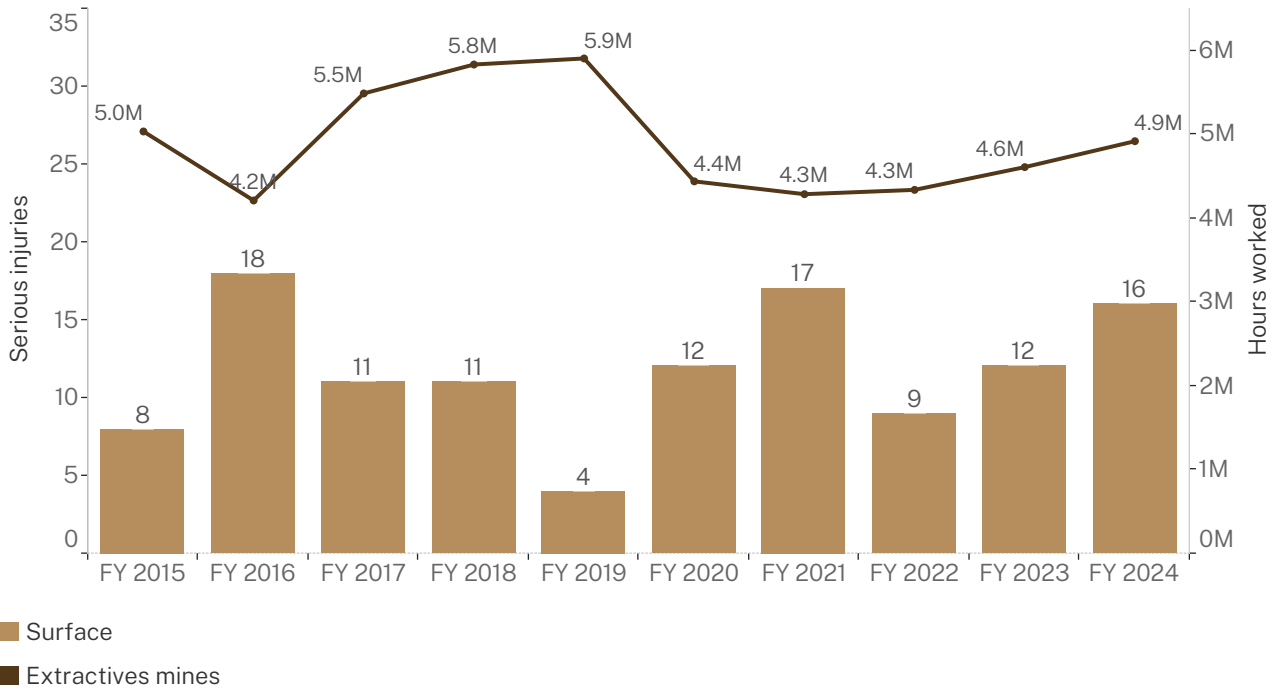
Figure 54. Extractives sector fatal injuries and hours worked 2014–15 to 2023–24



Serious injuries

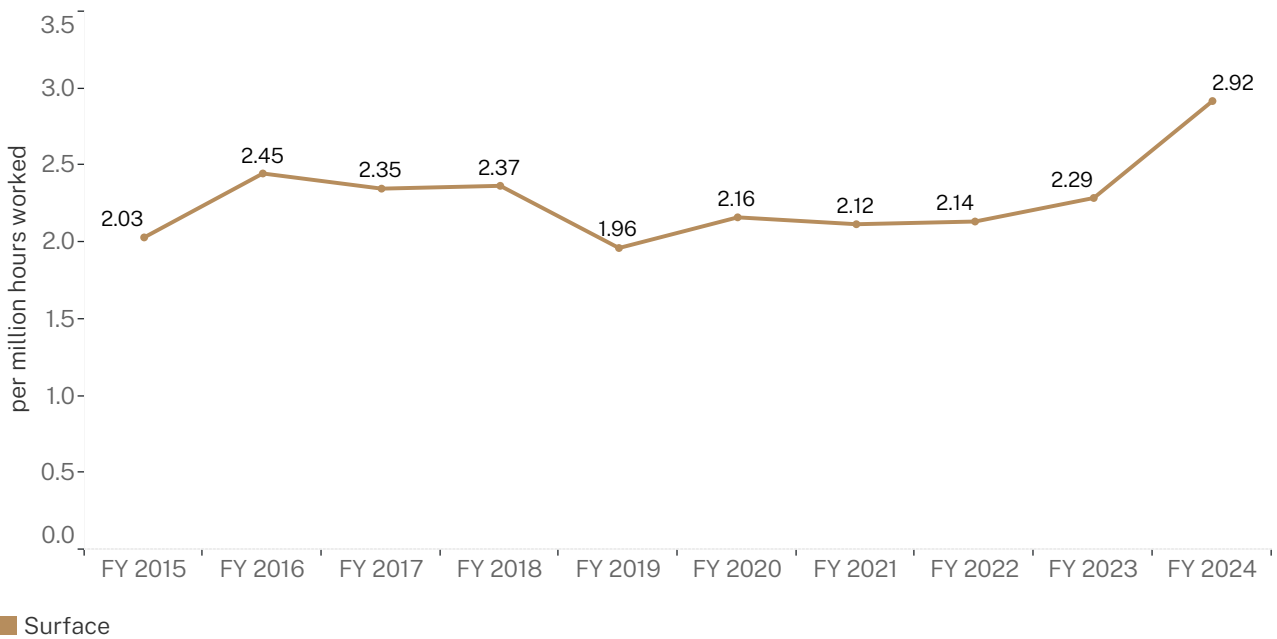
Serious injuries and hours worked

Figure 55. Extractives sector serious injuries and hours worked 2014–15 to 2023–24



Serious injury frequency rates

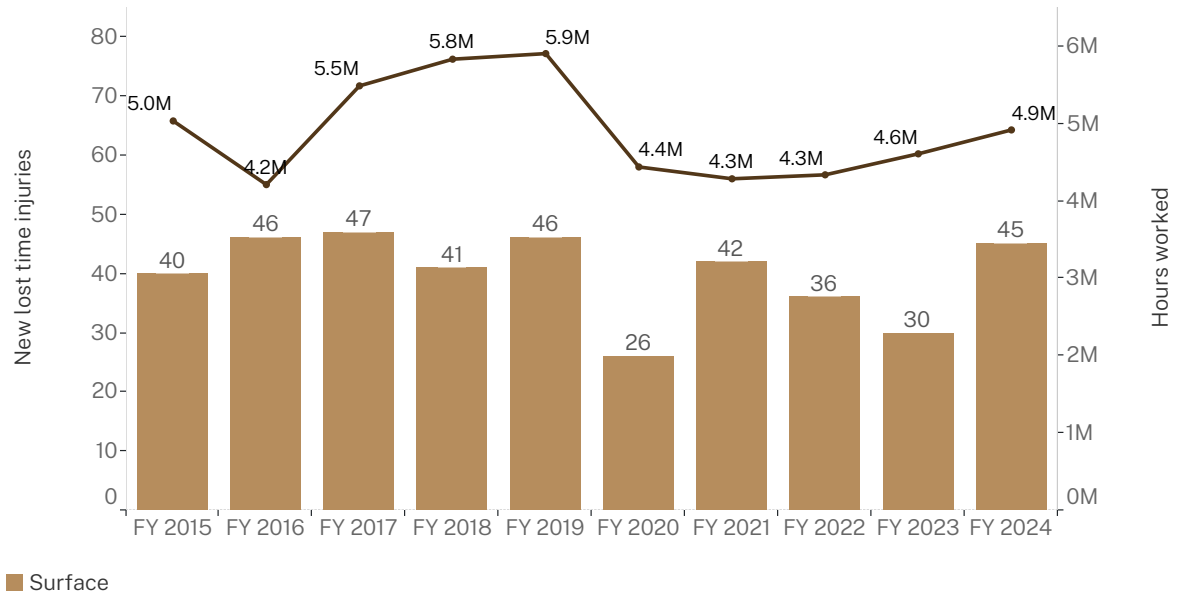
Figure 56. Extractives sector rolling 5-year average SIFR 2014–15 to 2023–24



Lost time injuries

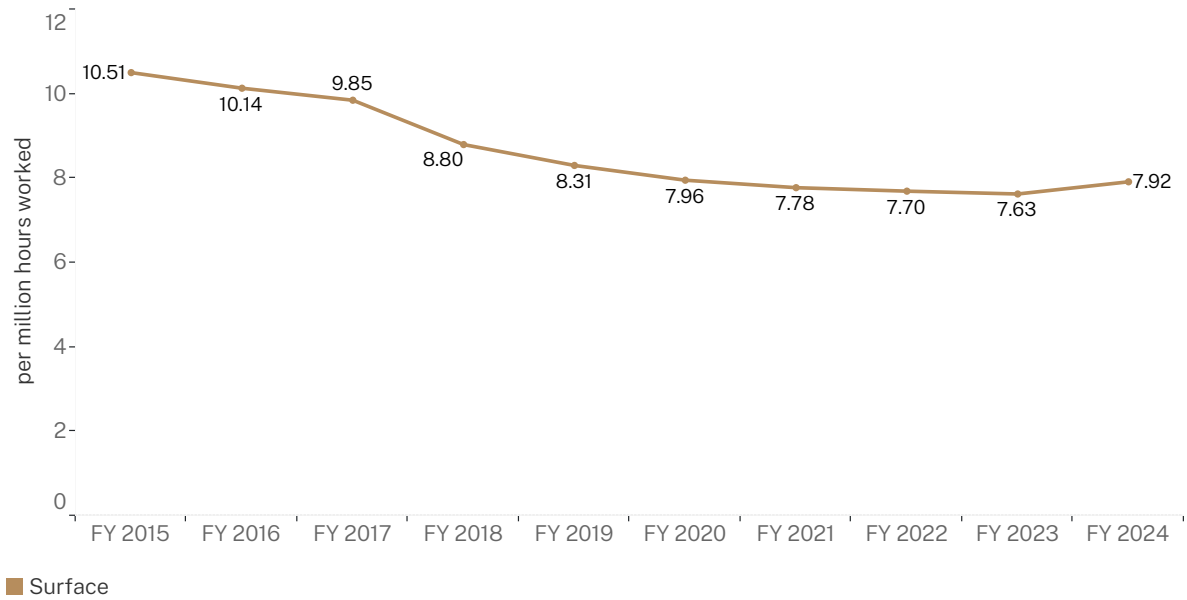
Lost time injuries and hours worked

Figure 57. Extractives sector lost time injuries and hours worked 2014–15 to 2023–24



Lost time injury frequency rates

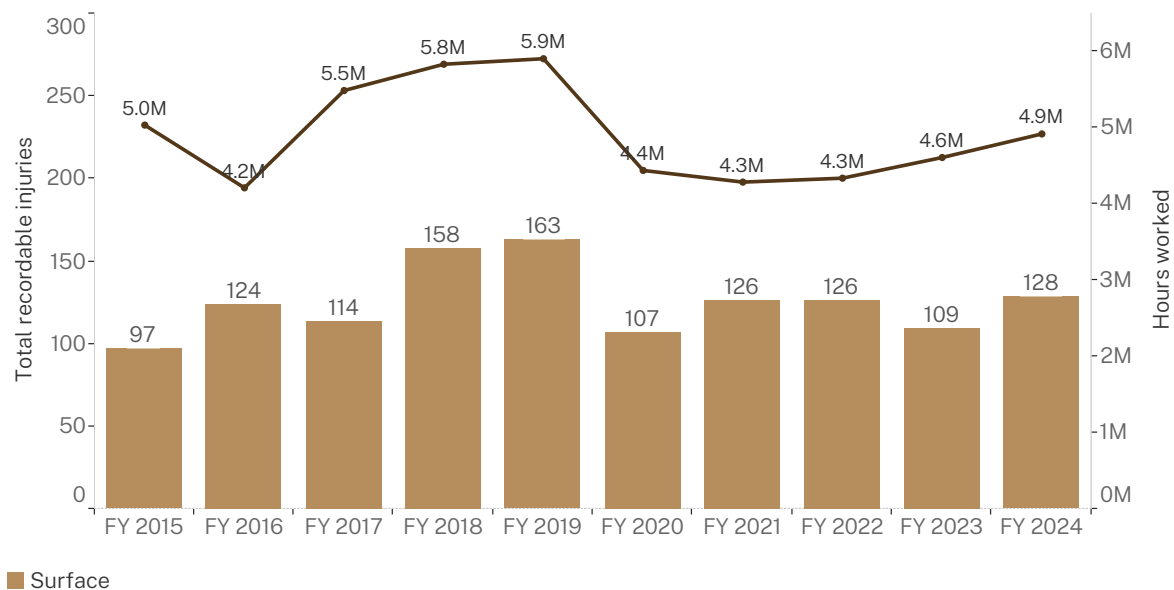
Figure 58. Extractives sector rolling 5-year average LTIFR 2014–15 to 2023–24



Total recordable injuries

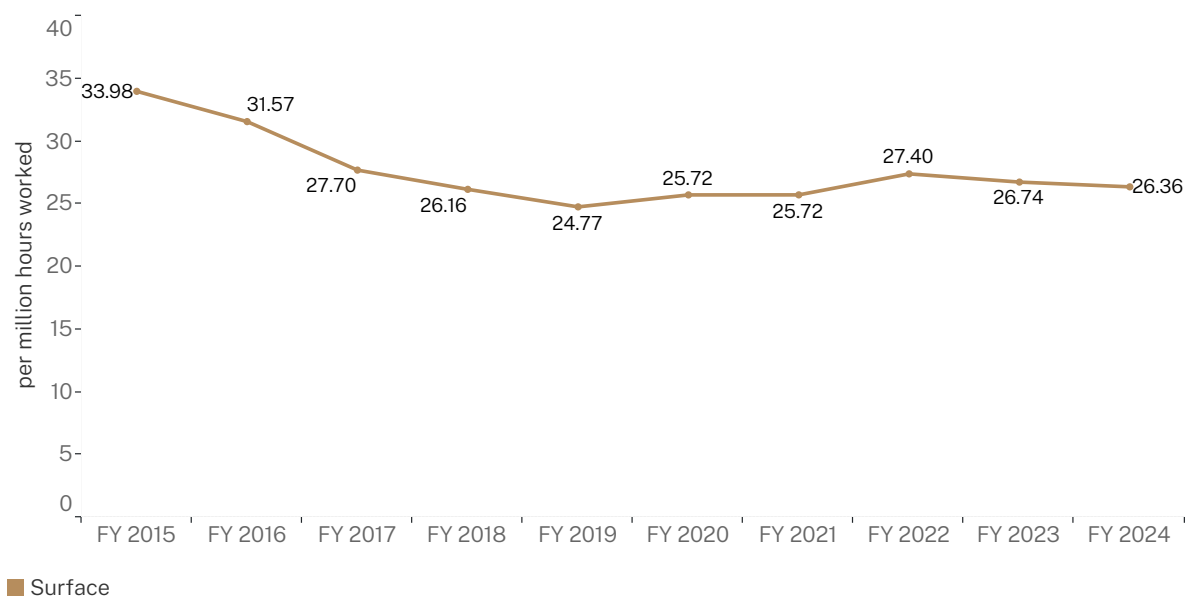
Total recordable injuries and hours worked

Figure 59. Extractives sector total recordable injuries and hours worked 2014–15 to 2023–24



Total recordable injury frequency rates

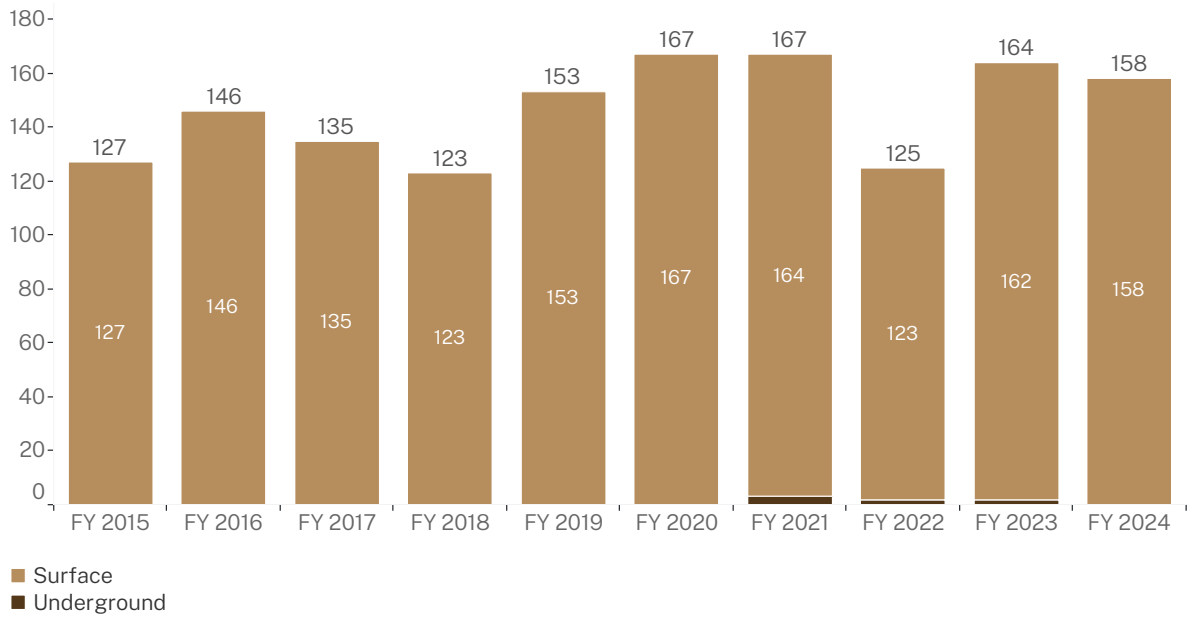
Figure 60. Extractives sector rolling 5-year average TRIFR 2014–15 to 2023–24



Notified incidents

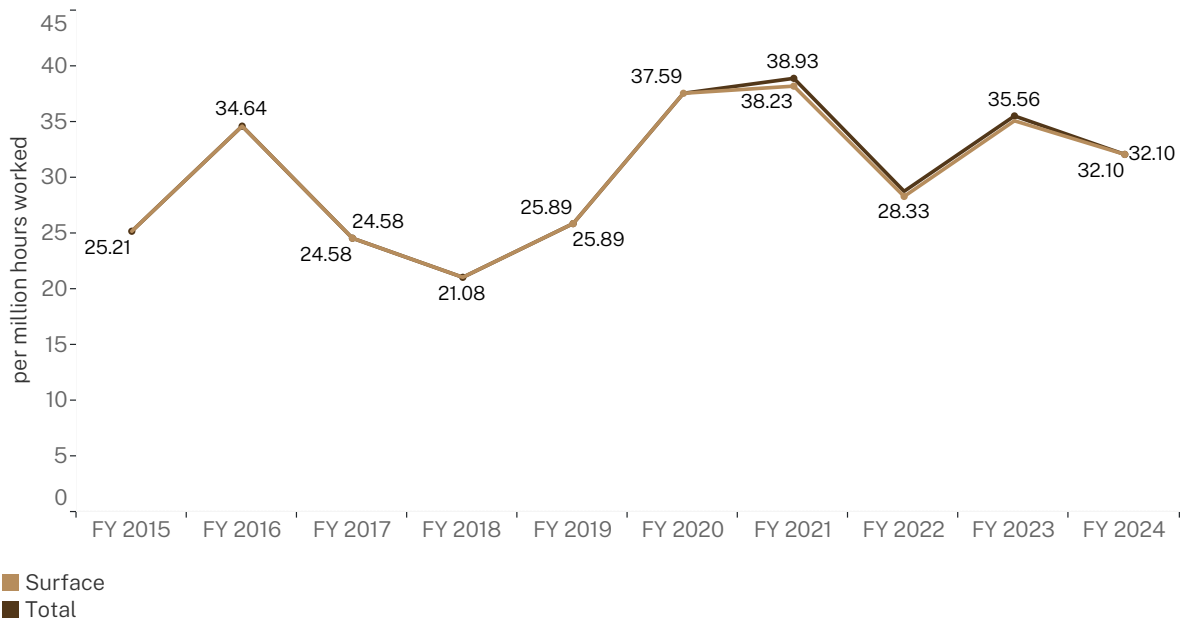
Notified incidents by operation type

Figure 61. Extractives sector notified incidents by operation type 2014–15 to 2023–24



Incident notification frequency rates

Figure 62. Extractives sector annual incident notification frequency rate 2014–15 to 2023–24



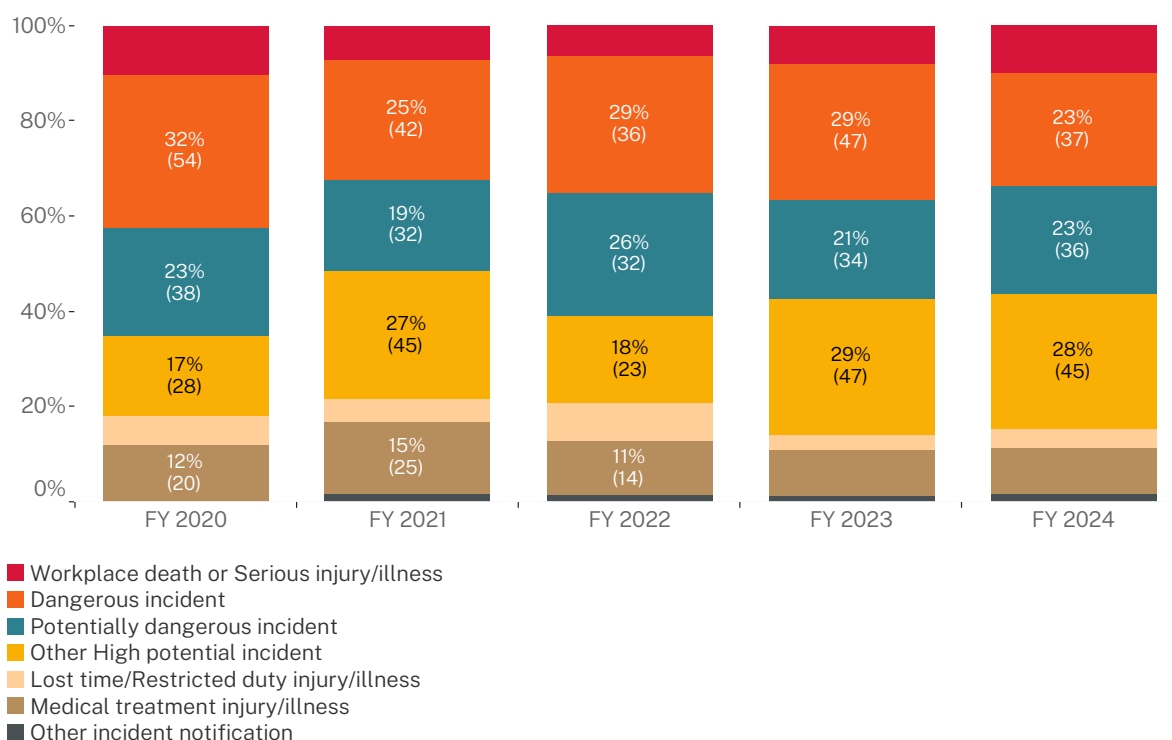
Incident notification reporting trends

Incident notification profile

Incident notification data allows the Regulator to monitor compliance and respond to sector specific reporting trends. Multiple contributing factors influence the types of incidents notified by each sector. These include, but are not limited to, the legislative framework, inherent hazards and characteristics of each operation as well as the commodity produced.

Figure 63 shows a breakdown of the types of incidents notified by the extractives sector since 2019-20, including notifications for incidents unrelated to injury and illness. Comparable results were observed across the 5-year period.

Figure 63. Extractives sector incident notification profile 2019–20 to 2023–24



Proportion of extractives mines notifying incidents

While the number of extractives mines notifying incidents has increased by 43% in the 10 years since 2014-15 (from 68 to 97 in 2023-24), the proportion of mines notifying incidents has remained relatively steady. On average, only 3% of active extractives mines notified the Regulator of an incident every year within the 10-year reporting period.

The table below excludes exploration.

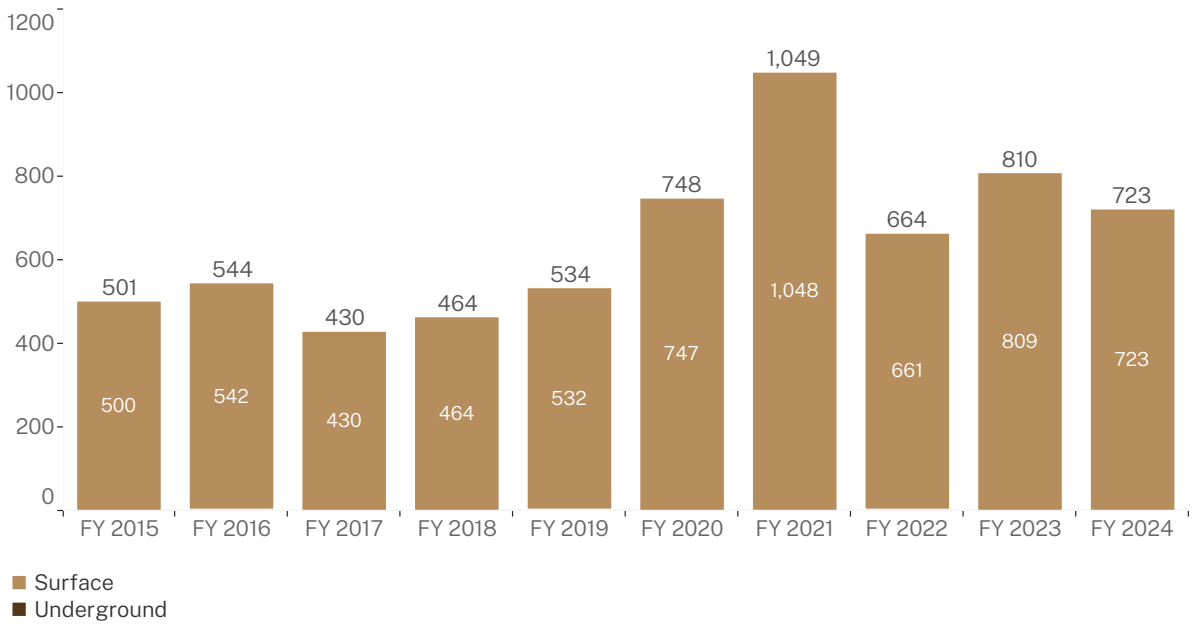
Table 5. Extractives sector proportion of mines that notified an incident 2014–15 to 2023–24

Measure	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Number of notified incidents	127	146	135	123	153	167	167	125	164	158
Number of active mines	2,476	2,583	2,524	2,553	2,501	2,534	2,489	2,481	2,430	2,232
Number of mines that notified an incident	68	78	69	73	79	76	91	82	76	97
% of mines that notified an incident	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	4%	3%	3%	4%

Notices issued

Notices issued by operation type

Figure 64. Extractives sector notices issued by operation type 2014–15 to 2023–24

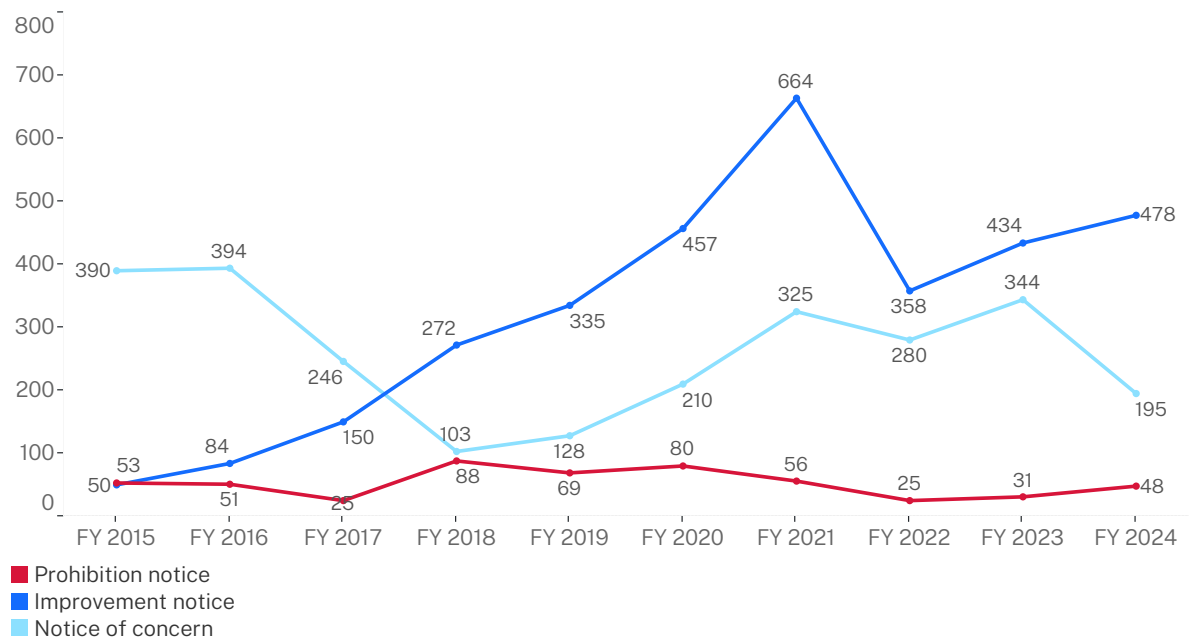


Notices issued by notice type

Since 2017-18, changes to the type of notices issued reflect the Regulator’s renewed focus on incident prevention as outlined in its [Compliance and Enforcement Approach \(2017\)](#). The approach sought to clearly identify matters that necessitate the issue of an improvement notice rather than a written notice of concern.

Due to the minimal numbers of non-disturbance and explosives notices, these have not been included in Figure 65.

Figure 65. Extractives sector notices issued by notice type 2014–15 to 2023–24



Appendices



Appendix 1. Definitions

Injury type

Injury type	Definition
Fatal injury (FI)	A work-related injury or illness that results in death.
Permanent incapacity injury (PII)	A work-related injury or illness that resulted in permanent incapacity that occurred during the reporting period - with an upper limit of 12 months assigned to the days lost.
Lost time injury (LTI)	A work-related injury or illness that results in a minimum of one full shift absence (AS1885.1-1990).
Restricted duty injury (RDI)	A work-related injury or illness resulting in the affected person returning to alternative or restricted duties.
Medical treatment injury (MTI)	A work-related injury or illness requiring medical treatment.
Total recordable injuries (TRI)	The sum of fatal injuries, permanent incapacity injuries, lost time injuries, restricted duty injuries and medical treatment injuries.
Serious injury (SI)	<p>A serious injury is a work-related injury or illness where the nature of injury or illness is defined by the relevant legislation.</p> <p>Serious injuries and illnesses for the reporting period provided (from 2010-11 to 2023-24) are defined under:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Section 189 of the Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Regulation 2022. Applicable from 1 September 2022.• Section 178 of the Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Regulation 2014. Applicable from 1 February 2015 to 31 August 2022.• Clauses 55(a)(i)-(vi) or 55(c)(v) of the Coal Mine Health and Safety Regulation 2006 (CMHSR). Applicable from 23 December 2006 to 31 January 2015.• Clauses 145(a)(i)-(vi) or 145(c)(iv) of the Mine Health and Safety Regulation 2007 (MHSR). Applicable from 1 September 2008 to 31 January 2015 <p>Note: Under the Coal Mine Health and Safety Regulation 2006 (CMHSR) and under the Mine Health and Safety Regulation 2007 (MHSR), any injury that resulted solely in an outcome of hospital inpatient admission and/or loss of consciousness (CMHSR 55(a)(vii) and 55(b) and MHSR 145(a)(vii) and 145(b)) was classified as non-serious.</p> <p>To provide equivalence in serious injuries across the serious injury definitions in the previous legislation and current legislation, the serious injuries included for the reporting period (from 2009-10 to 2023-24) consist of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Injuries classified with an injury classification of 'injury serious work-related' or 'illness serious work-related'• Any non-serious injuries with outcomes that resulted in hospital inpatient admission and/or loss of consciousness. <p>Note: It is recognised that while the injuries classified under the previous legislation were recorded with hospital inpatient admission clauses, some of these may have only resulted in hospital treatment (e.g. for sutures), rather than inpatient admission.</p>

Injury classifications

Fatal and serious injuries and illnesses are classified according to the Australian Safety and Compensation Council 'Type of occurrence classification system (TOOCS)' and in this report are based on the TOOCS major groups.

Note that to provide further detail of bodily locations on the fatal and serious body maps in Figures 8 and 13, 'hand or fingers' and 'wrist' are shown separately from the major group 'upper limbs', and 'foot or toes' and 'ankle' are shown separately from the major group 'lower limbs'.

For further details of the Australian Safety and Compensation Council Type of occurrence classification system (TOOCS), visit the [SafeWork Australia website](#).

Incidents

Term	Definition
Notified incident	<p>Mine operators must report certain types of safety incidents if they arise out of conducting business or performing any mining activities at a mine or petroleum site.</p> <p>The legislation applicable to the incident notifications in this report, and the incident notification types under the current legislation are listed below.</p> <p>Note that any multiple gas exceedances that were reported to the Regulator in a single incident notification have been included as individual incident notifications in this report.</p>

Legislation applicable to incident notifications in this report

Legislation	Commenced	Status
Petroleum (Onshore) Schedule 1992	1/08/1992	Repealed
<i>Coal Industry Act 2001</i>	1/01/2002	Current
Explosives Regulation 2005	1/09/2005	Repealed
<i>Coal Mine Health and Safety Act 2002</i>	23/12/2006	Repealed
Coal Mine Health and Safety Regulation 2006		
<i>Mine Health and Safety Act 2004</i>	1/09/2008	Repealed
Mine Health and Safety Regulation 2007		
Explosives Regulation 2013	1/09/2013	Current
<i>Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Act 2013</i>	1/02/2015	Current
Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Regulation 2014	01/09/2022	Current

Incident notification types under current legislation (as at 30 June 2022)

Incident type		Legislation	Section or clause
Death of a person		<i>Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Act 2013</i>	s 14(a)
Serious injury		<i>Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Act 2013</i>	s 14(b)
		Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Regulation 2022	s 189
Dangerous incident		<i>Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Act 2013</i>	s 14(c)
		Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Regulation 2022	s 190
High potential incident	Potentially dangerous incident	Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Regulation 2022	s 124(5)(a)
	Other high potential incident	Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Regulation 2022	s 124(5)(b)-(w) (except those notified under s 124 (5)(n) and s 124(5)(o))
	Lost time/Restricted duty injury/illness ≥ 7 days	Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Regulation 2022	s 124(5)(n) s 124(5)(o)
Medical treatment injury		Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Regulation 2022	s 124(1)(a)
Other incidents	Loss or theft of explosives	Explosives Regulation 2013	cl 102
	Serious incident involving explosives		cl 103
	Event at mine rescue station	<i>Coal Industry Act 2001</i>	s 45

Work health and safety report

Under clause 126 of the Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Regulation 2022 (and relevant former legislation), mine operators are required to submit work health and safety reports to the Regulator. In accordance with Schedule 9 to the regulation, reports must contain relevant information about injuries and illness occurring in the year, as well as other information such as the total number of hours worked at the mine. This information is used for preparing key injury measures for coal, metalliferous and extractives mining sectors including frequency rates.

Operators of non-coal mines with total worker hours of less than 10,000 hours per year, exploration sites, petroleum sites, underground small gemstone mines, opal mines, tourist mines and tier 3 quarries are not required to submit work health and safety reports to the Regulator.

Notice categories

Notice category	Definition	Legislation and notice type		
Notice of concern	Notice raising concerns regarding health, safety or welfare to the attention of operators.	<i>Coal Mine Health and Safety Act 2002</i> (repealed 1 Feb 2015)	s 150	Bringing of concerns regarding health, safety or welfare to the attention of operators
		<i>Mine Health and Safety Act 2004</i> (repealed 1 Feb 2015)	s 131	Bringing of concerns regarding health, safety or welfare to the attention of operators
		<i>Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Act 2022</i>	s 23	Notice of concern
Improvement notice	Notice directing remedy or prevention of a contravention or potential contravention.	<i>Occupational Health and Safety Act 2000</i> (repealed 1 Jan 2012)	s 91	Issue of improvement notices
		<i>Work Health and Safety Act 2011</i>	s 191	Issue of improvement notices
		<i>Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Act 2022</i>	s 49	Issue of improvement notices
Prohibition notice	Notice prohibiting carrying on of an activity or carrying on of an activity in a way that involves or will involve serious risk to health and safety. In an underground mine this may require removal of workers from underground areas.	<i>Occupational Health and Safety Act 2000</i> (repealed 1 Jan 2012)	s 93	Issue of prohibition notices
		Coal Mine Health and Safety Regulation 2006 (repealed 1 Feb 2015)	cl 51	Chief Inspector may impose prohibitions or restrictions or direct evacuation or closure of coal operation
		Mine Health and Safety Regulation 2007 (repealed 1 Feb 2015)	cl 158	Chief Inspector may impose prohibitions or restrictions or direct evacuation or closure of mine
		<i>Work Health and Safety Act 2011</i>	s 195	Power to issue prohibition notices
		<i>Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Act 2013</i>	s 50	Issue of prohibition notices
Non-disturbance notice	Notice requiring the person to preserve the site or prevent the disturbance of a particular site.	<i>Occupational Health and Safety Act 2000</i> (repealed 1 Jan 2012)	s 89	Investigation notice to stop plant or prevent disturbance of premises to allow investigation
		<i>Work Health and Safety Act 2011</i>	s 198	Issue of a non-disturbance notice

Frequency rates

Term	Definition
Fatal injury frequency rate (FIFR)	The number of fatal injuries and illnesses, per million hours worked.
Lost time injury frequency rate (LITFR)	The number of lost time injuries and illnesses, per million hours worked.
Serious injury frequency rate (SIFR)	The number of serious injuries and illnesses, per million hours worked.
Total recordable injury frequency rate (TRIFR)	The total number of fatal, lost time, medical treatment and restricted duties injuries and illnesses, per million hours worked.
Incident notification frequency rate (INFR)	The number of notified incidents per million hours worked.
Rolling 5-year average rates	The total number of injuries/illnesses or incidents in the 5 years divided by total hours worked in the 5 years, per million hours worked.

Appendix 2. Mine definitions

This appendix is included to help readers understand the different types of mines and how they are classified into mining sectors. In this report exploration is included in surface operations. Both surface and underground activity occurring at an underground operation is considered as underground activity.

Mining sectors and mine types

Mining sector	Mine type
Coal mines	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Coal• Declared plant –CPP Excludes exploration
Metalliferous mines	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Metals• Mineral sands Excludes exploration
Extractives mines	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Construction materials• Industrial minerals Excludes exploration
Petroleum and geothermal sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Petroleum• Geothermal Excludes exploration
Opal mines	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Small scale titles• Opal claims• Gemstones or precious stones with operation type of opal mining (all types) Excludes exploration
Exploration sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Excludes petroleum and geothermal sites
Other mines	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gemstones or precious stones (excluding operation type of opal mining (all types))• Ancillary to mining• Treatment plant Includes exploration

Mine operation types

Mining sector operation type	Mine operation type
Underground	Underground
Surface	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Open cut• Processing• Borrow pit• Dredging• Drilling• Exploration• Opal mining (all types)• Pilot• Production

Active mines

Active mines include mines that are:

- open
- operate intermittently
- under care and maintenance
- open tourist mines
- small-scale titles that are current or pending
- petroleum and geothermal sites with a status of suspended.

Appendix 3. Sector data

Surface coal mines	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Active mines	53	57	68	68	77	79	76	65	61	63
Hours worked	27,971,027	26,274,561	27,656,810	29,264,621	34,168,786	33,619,129	32,440,480	30,922,788	33,652,297	36,715,217
Full time equivalent workers	13,986	13,137	13,828	14,632	17,084	16,810	16,220	15,461	16,826	18,358
Fatal injuries	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Fatal injury 5-year average frequency rate	0.014	0.014	0.021	0.021	0.014	0.013	0.013	0.006	0.006	0.000
Serious injuries	20	21	24	23	13	25	27	21	21	23
Serious injury 5-year average frequency rate	0.95	0.93	0.85	0.79	0.69	0.70	0.71	0.68	0.65	0.70
Lost time injuries	40	52	53	73	93	78	90	64	53	65
Lost time injury 5-year average frequency rate	2.18	2.17	1.98	1.95	2.14	2.31	2.46	2.48	2.29	2.09
Total recordable injuries	154	171	171	192	199	156	198	149	147	146
Total recordable injury 5-year average frequency rate	6.90	6.50	6.19	6.12	6.10	5.89	5.83	5.57	5.15	4.76
Incident notifications	451	517	458	585	611	595	662	571	609	621
Incident notification annual frequency rate	16.12	19.68	16.56	19.99	17.88	17.70	20.41	18.47	18.10	16.91
% of mines that notified an incident	75%	72%	62%	66%	57%	59%	59%	65%	70%	62%
Incident rate per notifying mine	11.28	12.61	10.90	13.00	13.89	12.66	14.71	13.60	14.16	15.92
Workplace death or serious injury/illness notifications			17	23	13	17	29	11	23	22
Dangerous Incident notifications			117	173	165	154	93	106	128	108
Potentially dangerous incident notifications			168	176	190	178	129	129	136	129
Other High Potential incident notifications			65	103	115	142	251	221	214	244
Lost time/Restricted duty injury/illness ≥ 7 days notifications			38	48	84	72	112	47	73	83
Medical treatment injury notifications			48	58	36	28	40	47	29	28
Other incident notifications			5	4	8	4	8	10	6	7
Notices issued	250	262	134	207	271	298	283	151	208	197
Notices of concern issued	199	156	63	65	78	121	107	48	68	81
Improvement notices issued	31	71	58	105	153	151	146	80	98	92
Prohibition notices issued	18	22	13	33	34	21	29	21	39	22
Non-disturbance notices issued	2	13	0	4	6	5	1	2	3	2

Underground coal mines	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Active mines	30	38	43	43	46	43	42	39	40	39
Hours worked	14,863,344	13,461,814	13,439,336	13,797,079	14,932,163	14,218,301	13,672,292	13,078,213	13,698,595	16,644,616
Full time equivalent workers	7,432	6,731	6,720	6,899	7,466	7,109	6,836	6,539	6,849	8,322
Fatal injuries	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fatal injury 5-year average frequency rate	0.032	0.022	0.024	0.027	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Serious injuries	58	37	51	29	54	45	42	29	36	41
Serious injury 5-year average frequency rate	3.95	3.75	3.67	3.19	3.25	3.09	3.15	2.86	2.96	2.71
Lost time injuries	114	106	128	111	125	119	115	80	79	92
Lost time injury 5-year average frequency rate	8.90	8.15	8.17	8.32	8.28	8.43	8.54	7.89	7.44	6.80
Total recordable injuries	440	410	402	452	430	379	358	311	340	372
Total recordable injury 5-year average frequency rate	35.15	32.56	30.84	31.46	30.27	29.68	28.85	27.69	26.12	24.68
Incident notifications	1,360	1,378	1,133	1,055	1,003	1,079	895	886	1,022	1,007
Incident notification annual frequency rate	91.50	102.36	84.30	76.47	67.17	75.89	65.46	67.75	74.61	60.50
% of mines that notified an incident	107%	74%	67%	70%	57%	65%	57%	59%	65%	59%
Incident rate per notifying mine	43	49	39	35	39	39	37	39	39	44
Workplace death or serious injury/illness notifications			41	30	44	37	43	24	40	45
Dangerous Incident notifications			112	90	89	106	68	81	91	109
Potentially dangerous incident notifications			212	212	175	175	126	119	138	135
Other High Potential incident notifications			538	480	414	441	390	376	426	393
Lost time/Restricted duty injury/illness ≥ 7 days notifications			147	108	186	234	212	219	249	270
Medical treatment injury notifications			83	135	95	86	56	67	77	51
Other incident notifications			0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4
Notices issued	522	441	412	368	382	265	473	304	294	260
Notices of concern issued	432	278	172	91	137	103	166	93	133	136
Improvement notices issued	47	106	187	188	194	130	273	196	122	102
Prohibition notices issued	39	51	43	83	42	32	31	13	35	21
Non-disturbance notices issued	4	6	10	6	9	0	3	2	4	1

All coal mines	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Active mines	83	95	111	111	123	122	118	104	101	102
Hours worked	42,834,371	39,736,375	41,096,146	43,061,700	49,100,948	47,837,430	46,112,772	44,001,001	47,350,892	53,359,833
Full time equivalent workers	21,417	19,868	20,548	21,531	24,550	23,919	23,056	22,001	23,675	26,680
Fatal injuries	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Fatal injury 5-year average frequency rate	0.021	0.017	0.022	0.023	0.009	0.009	0.009	0.004	0.004	0.000
Serious injuries	78	58	75	52	67	70	69	50	57	64
Serious injury 5-year average frequency rate	2.13	2.00	1.88	1.62	1.53	1.46	1.47	1.34	1.34	1.30
Lost time injuries	154	158	181	184	218	197	205	144	132	157
Lost time injury 5-year average frequency rate	4.81	4.44	4.24	4.16	4.15	4.25	4.34	4.12	3.82	3.50
Total recordable injuries	594	581	573	644	629	535	556	460	487	518
Total recordable injury 5-year average frequency rate	17.98	16.38	15.20	14.91	14.00	13.41	12.93	12.27	11.38	10.71
Incident notifications	1,811	1,895	1,591	1,640	1,614	1,674	1,557	1,457	1,631	1,628
Incident notification annual frequency rate	42.28	47.69	38.71	38.08	32.87	34.99	33.77	33.11	34.44	30.51
% of mines that notified an incident	87%	73%	64%	68%	57%	61%	58%	63%	68%	61%
Incident rate per notifying mine	25	27	22	22	23	22	23	22	24	26
Workplace death or serious injury/illness notifications			58	53	57	54	72	35	63	67
Dangerous Incident notifications			229	263	254	260	161	187	219	217
Potentially dangerous incident notifications			380	388	365	353	255	248	274	264
Other High Potential incident notifications			603	583	529	583	641	597	640	637
Lost time/Restricted duty injury/illness ≥ 7 days notifications			185	156	270	306	324	266	322	353
Medical treatment injury notifications			131	193	131	114	96	114	106	79
Other incident notifications			5	4	8	4	8	10	7	11
Notices issued	772	703	546	575	653	563	756	455	502	457
Notices of concern issued	631	434	235	156	215	224	273	141	201	217
Improvement notices issued	78	177	245	293	347	281	419	276	220	194
Prohibition notices issued	57	73	56	116	76	53	60	34	74	43
Non-disturbance notices issued	6	19	10	10	15	5	4	4	7	3

Surface metalliferous mines	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Active mines	46	52	68	65	69	58	47	47	46	45
Hours worked	1,054,466	1,059,495	4,185,071	4,056,551	4,624,268	5,287,044	4,280,836	3,826,861	3,224,837	4,027,085
Full time equivalent workers	527	530	2,093	2,028	2,312	2,644	2,140	1,913	1,612	2,014
Fatal injuries	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Fatal injury 5-year average frequency rate	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.067	0.104	0.089	0.091	0.094	0.048
Serious injuries	1	3	2	1	1	0	5	9	4	0
Serious injury 5-year average frequency rate	0.94	1.39	0.81	0.68	0.53	0.36	0.40	0.72	0.89	0.87
Lost time injuries	5	4	11	10	6	10	9	15	10	9
Lost time injury 5-year average frequency rate	1.49	2.09	2.53	2.64	2.40	2.13	2.05	2.26	2.35	2.57
Total recordable injuries	7	48	42	27	18	32	24	31	52	25
Total recordable injury 5-year average frequency rate	6.04	10.84	11.57	11.07	9.48	8.69	6.37	5.98	7.39	7.94
Incident notifications	16	28	37	20	31	23	41	45	52	33
Incident notification annual frequency rate	15.17	26.43	8.84	4.93	6.70	4.35	9.58	11.76	16.12	8.19
% of mines that notified an incident	13%	10%	6%	11%	6%	16%	15%	17%	17%	9%
Incident rate per notifying mine	3	6	9	3	8	3	6	6	7	8
Workplace death or serious injury/illness notifications			1	1	1	1	3	8	5	0
Dangerous Incident notifications			17	8	16	13	16	11	6	11
Potentially dangerous incident notifications			12	7	6	5	3	8	17	7
Other High Potential incident notifications			0	1	2	1	8	4	11	6
Lost time/Restricted duty injury/illness ≥ 7 days notifications			0	0	2	0	2	5	9	5
Medical treatment injury notifications			7	3	4	3	9	9	4	4
Other incident notifications			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Notices issued	25	24	26	46	62	90	97	56	80	50
Notices of concern issued	23	19	18	15	26	22	26	20	21	17
Improvement notices issued	1	5	5	23	33	52	63	31	56	31
Prohibition notices issued	1	0	3	8	3	16	8	4	2	2
Non-disturbance notices issued	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0

Underground metalliferous mines	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Active mines	39	46	41	42	47	47	46	49	49	52
Hours worked	12,360,723	10,377,656	8,889,336	8,552,875	9,038,535	9,684,298	10,482,416	10,952,831	11,943,076	11,204,488
Full time equivalent workers	6,180	5,189	4,445	4,276	4,519	4,842	5,241	5,476	5,972	5,602
Fatal injuries	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fatal injury 5-year average frequency rate	0.034	0.051	0.071	0.056	0.041	0.043	0.021	0.000	0.000	0.000
Serious injuries	17	23	19	7	18	20	24	20	10	23
Serious injury 5-year average frequency rate	1.31	1.37	1.41	1.40	1.71	1.87	1.89	1.83	1.77	1.79
Lost time injuries	23	37	33	15	22	40	34	23	35	45
Lost time injury 5-year average frequency rate	2.19	2.34	2.57	2.45	2.64	3.16	3.09	2.75	2.96	3.26
Total recordable injuries	153	132	137	91	101	117	126	93	91	104
Total recordable injury 5-year average frequency rate	13.06	12.81	13.40	12.77	12.47	12.42	12.26	10.84	10.13	9.78
Incident notifications	198	207	201	221	231	273	287	268	312	322
Incident notification annual frequency rate	16.02	19.95	22.61	25.84	25.56	28.19	27.38	24.47	26.12	28.74
% of mines that notified an incident	49%	46%	46%	45%	40%	38%	41%	35%	45%	35%
Incident rate per notifying mine	10	10	11	12	12	15	15	16	14	18
Workplace death or serious injury/illness notifications			18	7	16	18	16	12	13	21
Dangerous Incident notifications			79	89	96	109	94	84	106	105
Potentially dangerous incident notifications			46	55	49	49	39	37	58	81
Other High Potential incident notifications			19	36	36	40	70	52	61	51
Lost time/Restricted duty injury/illness ≥ 7 days notifications			5	2	14	34	35	40	50	41
Medical treatment injury notifications			32	30	19	22	32	40	20	23
Other incident notifications			2	1	1	1	1	3	4	0
Notices issued	58	97	154	209	438	330	414	276	249	310
Notices of concern issued	48	76	88	60	156	127	128	109	94	102
Improvement notices issued	3	13	43	120	241	176	239	141	122	165
Prohibition notices issued	2	7	19	25	40	26	45	24	31	42
Non-disturbance notices issued	5	1	4	4	1	1	2	2	2	1

All metalliferous mines	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Active mines	85	98	109	107	116	105	93	96	95	97
Hours worked	13,415,189	11,437,151	13,074,407	12,609,426	13,662,803	14,971,342	14,763,252	14,779,692	15,167,913	15,231,573
Full time equivalent workers	6,708	5,719	6,537	6,305	6,831	7,486	7,382	7,390	7,584	7,616
Fatal injuries	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Fatal injury 5-year average frequency rate	0.028	0.043	0.060	0.046	0.047	0.061	0.043	0.028	0.027	0.013
Serious injuries	18	26	21	8	19	20	29	29	14	23
Serious injury 5-year average frequency rate	1.24	1.37	1.31	1.27	1.43	1.43	1.40	1.48	1.51	1.54
Lost time injuries	28	41	44	25	28	50	43	38	45	54
Lost time injury 5-year average frequency rate	2.07	2.31	2.56	2.49	2.59	2.86	2.75	2.60	2.78	3.07
Total recordable injuries	227	228	224	148	159	180	188	172	176	188
Total recordable injury 5-year average frequency rate	17.71	18.41	18.17	16.56	15.36	14.28	13.01	11.97	11.93	12.07
Incident notifications	214	235	238	241	262	296	328	313	364	355
Incident notification annual frequency rate	15.95	20.55	18.20	19.11	19.18	19.77	22.22	21.18	24.00	23.31
% of mines that notified an incident	29%	27%	21%	24%	20%	26%	28%	26%	32%	23%
Incident rate per notifying mine	9	9	10	9	11	11	13	13	12	16
Workplace death or serious injury/illness notifications			19	8	17	19	19	20	18	21
Dangerous Incident notifications			96	97	112	122	110	95	112	116
Potentially dangerous incident notifications			58	62	55	54	42	45	75	88
Other High Potential incident notifications			19	37	38	41	78	56	72	57
Lost time/Restricted duty injury/illness ≥ 7 days notifications			5	3	16	34	37	45	59	46
Medical treatment injury notifications			39	33	23	25	41	49	24	27
Other incident notifications			2	1	1	1	1	3	4	0
Notices issued	83	121	180	255	500	420	511	332	329	360
Notices of concern issued	71	95	106	75	182	149	154	129	115	119
Improvement notices issued	4	18	48	143	274	228	302	172	178	196
Prohibition notices issued	3	7	22	33	43	42	53	28	33	44
Non-disturbance notices issued	5	1	4	4	1	1	2	3	3	1

All extractives mines	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Active mines	2,476	2,583	2,524	2,553	2,501	2,534	2,489	2,481	2,430	2,232
Hours worked	5,037,677	4,214,459	5,491,300	5,836,284	5,908,653	4,442,643	4,289,589	4,341,023	4,612,458	4,921,561
Full time equivalent workers	2,519	2,107	2,746	2,918	2,954	2,221	2,145	2,171	2,306	2,461
Fatal injuries	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Fatal injury 5-year average frequency rate	0.086	0.086	0.082	0.079	0.076	0.000	0.039	0.040	0.042	0.044
Serious injuries	8	18	11	11	4	12	17	9	12	16
Serious injury 5-year average frequency rate	2.03	2.45	2.35	2.37	1.96	2.16	2.12	2.14	2.29	2.92
Lost time injuries	40	46	47	41	46	26	42	36	30	45
Lost time injury 5-year average frequency rate	10.51	10.14	9.85	8.80	8.31	7.96	7.78	7.70	7.63	7.92
Total recordable injuries	97	124	114	158	163	107	126	126	109	128
Total recordable injury 5-year average frequency rate	33.98	31.57	27.70	26.16	24.77	25.72	25.72	27.40	26.74	26.36
Incident notifications	127	146	135	123	153	167	167	126	164	158
Incident notification annual frequency rate	25.21	34.64	24.58	21.08	25.89	37.59	38.93	28.80	35.56	32.10
% of mines that notified an incident	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	4%	3%	3%	4%
Incident rate per notifying mine	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Workplace death or serious injury/illness notifications			11	10	3	17	12	8	13	16
Dangerous Incident notifications			51	47	66	54	42	36	47	37
Potentially dangerous incident notifications			41	27	38	38	32	32	34	36
Other High Potential incident notifications			12	6	18	28	45	23	47	45
Lost time/Restricted duty injury/illness ≥ 7 days notifications			5	3	9	10	8	10	5	6
Medical treatment injury notifications			14	29	18	20	25	14	16	15
Other incident notifications			1	1	1	0	3	2	2	3
Notices issued	501	544	430	464	534	748	1,049	664	810	723
Notices of concern issued	390	394	246	103	128	210	325	280	344	195
Improvement notices issued	50	84	150	272	335	457	664	358	434	478
Prohibition notices issued	53	51	25	88	69	80	56	25	31	48
Non-disturbance notices issued	8	15	9	1	2	1	4	1	1	2

All coal, metalliferous and extractives mines	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Active mines	2,644	2,776	2,744	2,771	2,740	2,761	2,700	2,681	2,626	2,431
Hours worked	61,287,237	55,387,985	59,661,853	61,507,410	68,672,404	67,251,415	65,165,613	63,121,716	67,131,262	73,512,967
Full time equivalent workers	30,644	27,694	29,831	30,754	2,954	33,626	32,583	31,561	33,566	36,756
Fatal injuries	2	1	2	0	2	1	1	0	0	0
Fatal injury 5-year average frequency rate	0.027	0.027	0.035	0.033	0.023	0.019	0.019	0.012	0.012	0.006
Serious injuries	104	102	107	71	90	102	115	88	83	103
Serious injury 5-year average frequency rate	1.94	1.90	1.79	1.61	1.55	1.51	1.51	1.43	1.44	1.46
Lost time injuries	222	245	272	250	292	273	290	218	207	256
Lost time injury 5-year average frequency rate	4.62	4.39	4.32	4.19	4.18	4.26	4.27	4.06	3.86	3.70
Total recordable injuries	918	933	911	950	951	822	870	758	772	834
Total recordable injury 5-year average frequency rate	19.02	17.89	16.79	16.20	15.21	14.62	13.98	13.36	12.59	12.06
Incident notifications	2,152	2,276	1,964	2,004	2,029	2,137	2,052	1,895	2,159	2,141
Incident notification annual frequency rate	35.11	41.09	32.92	32.58	29.55	31.78	31.49	30.02	32.16	29.12
% of mines that notified an incident	6%	6%	6%	6%	6%	7%	7%	6%	7%	7%
Incident rate per notifying mine	13	13	12	12	12	12	11	11	12	12
Workplace death or serious injury/illness notifications			88	71	77	90	103	63	94	104
Dangerous Incident notifications			376	407	432	436	313	318	378	370
Potentially dangerous incident notifications			479	477	458	445	329	325	383	388
Other High Potential incident notifications			634	626	585	652	764	676	759	739
Lost time/Restricted duty injury/illness ≥ 7 days notifications			195	162	295	350	369	321	386	405
Medical treatment injury notifications			184	255	172	159	162	177	146	121
Other incident notifications			8	6	10	5	12	15	13	14
Notices issued	1,356	1,368	1,156	1,294	1,687	1,731	2,316	1,451	1,641	1,540
Notices of concern issued	1,092	923	587	334	525	583	752	550	660	531
Improvement notices issued	132	279	443	708	956	966	1,385	806	832	868
Prohibition notices issued	113	131	103	237	188	175	169	87	138	135
Non-disturbance notices issued	19	35	23	15	18	7	10	8	11	6

NSW Resources Regulator sector reporting

Petroleum and geothermal

Includes onshore petroleum and geothermal sites, and includes exploration

Opal

Includes small scale titles, opal claims, gemstones or precious stones with operation types of opal mining (all types) and processing, and excludes exploration

Exploration

Includes exploration sites, and excludes petroleum and geothermal

Petroleum and geothermal sector

Fatal injuries, serious injuries, notified incidents and active mines

In 2023–24 there were no incidents notified in the petroleum and geothermal sector, in line with the previous 8 years. No fatal or serious injuries have been notified in the 10 years since 2014–15.

The petroleum and geothermal sector is not required to submit work health and safety reports and so frequency rates for these measures are not able to be calculated.

In 2023–24 there were 110 active petroleum and geothermal sites (including exploration), a decrease of 13 compared to 2022–23 and a decrease of 73% from a peak of 405 in 2016–17.

Table 6. Petroleum and geothermal sector fatal injuries, serious injuries and notified incidents 2014–15 to 2023–24

Measure	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Fatal injuries	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Serious injuries	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Notified incidents	4	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Active mines	258	239	405	403	267	194	181	122	123	110

Notices issued

In 2023–24 the Regulator issued no notices of concern to the petroleum and geothermal sector. This represented a decrease from 4 from in the previous year.

Table 7. Petroleum and geothermal sector notices issued 2014–15 to 2023–24

Measure	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Notices issued	0	1	0	9	0	8	15	1	4	0

Opal sector

Fatal injuries, serious injuries, notified incidents and active mines

In 2023–24 there were 2 incidents notified in the opal sector, one serious injury and zero fatalities notified. In the 10 years since 2014–15 there have been 3 fatal injuries, 9 serious injuries and 23 notified incidents in the opal sector.

The opal sector is not required to submit work health and safety reports so frequency rates for these measures are not able to be calculated.

In 2023–24 there were 3,322 active opal mines, an increase of 39% from 2022–23.

Table 8. Opal sector fatal injuries, serious injuries, notified incidents and number of active mines 2014–15 to 2023–24

Measure	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Fatal injuries	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
Serious injuries	1	2	0	2	2	1	0	0	0	1
Notified incidents	1	4	1	4	4	2	1	2	2	2
Active mines	3288	3354	3487	3478	3564	3944	3342	3448	2385	3322

Notices issued

In 2023–24 the Regulator issued 14 notices in the opal sector, comprising 7 improvement notices, 6 prohibition notices and non-disturbance notice. This represents a decrease of 82% from the previous year. Due to the minimal numbers of non-disturbance and explosives notices, these have not been included in Table 9.

Table 9. Opal sector notices issued 2014–15 to 2023–24

Measure	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Notices issued	16	1	160	63	72	162	105	76	76	14

Exploration sector

Fatal injuries, serious injuries, notified incidents and active mines

In 2023–24 there were no fatalities, one serious injury and 5 notified incidents in the exploration sector. In the 10 years since 2014–15, there have been no fatal injuries, 16 serious injuries and 66 notified incidents.

From June 2020 the exploration sector has not been required to submit work health and safety reports and therefore frequency rates for these measures have not been calculated.

In 2023–24 there were 864 active exploration sites excluding petroleum and geothermal, a 1% decrease from 2022–23.

Table 10. Exploration sector fatal injuries, serious injuries, notified incidents and number of active mines 2014–15 to 2023–24

Measure	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Fatal injuries	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Serious injuries	2	0	0	5	3	3	2	0	0	1
Notified incidents	7	3	7	9	6	9	6	8	6	5
Active mines	876	822	714	715	753	785	839	856	871	864

Notices issued

In 2023–24 the Regulator issued 7 notices to the exploration sector, comprising 4 notices of concern, and 3 improvement notices.

Table 11. Exploration sector notices issued 2014–15 to 2023–24

Measure	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Notices issued	5	6	1	3	5	11	8	5	21	7

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