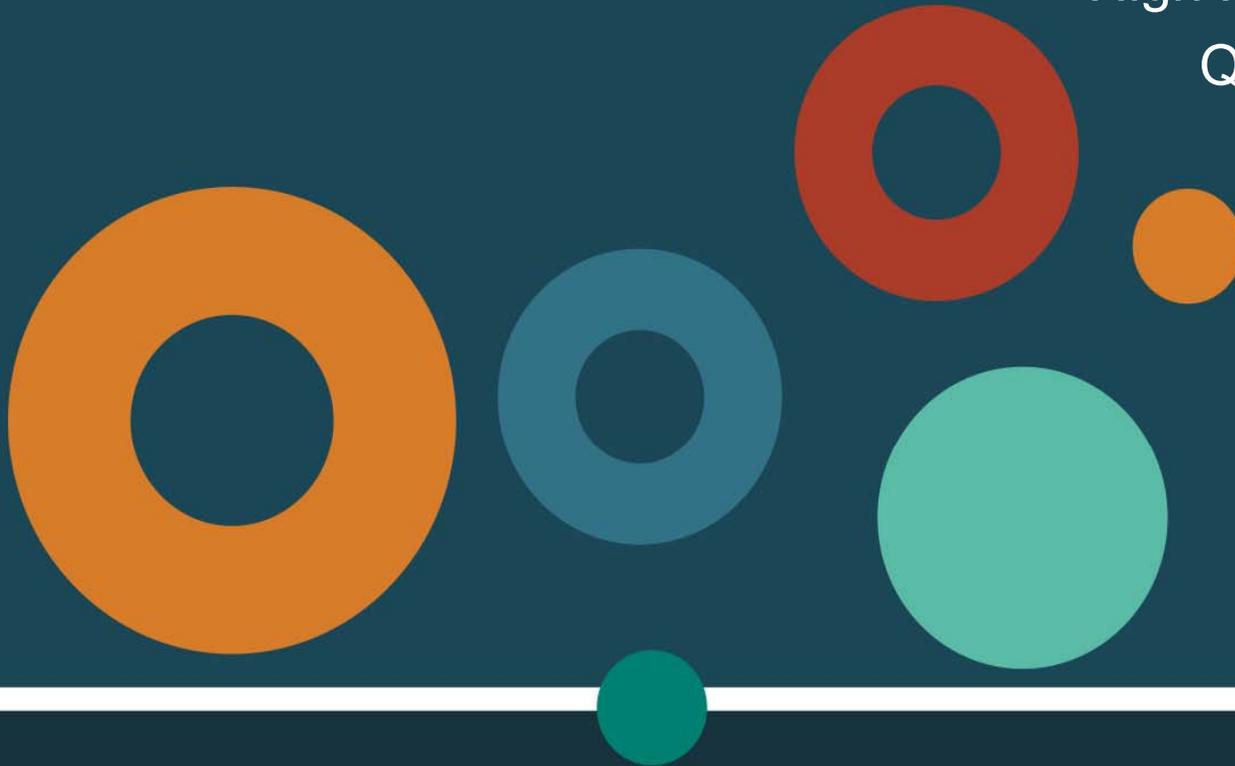


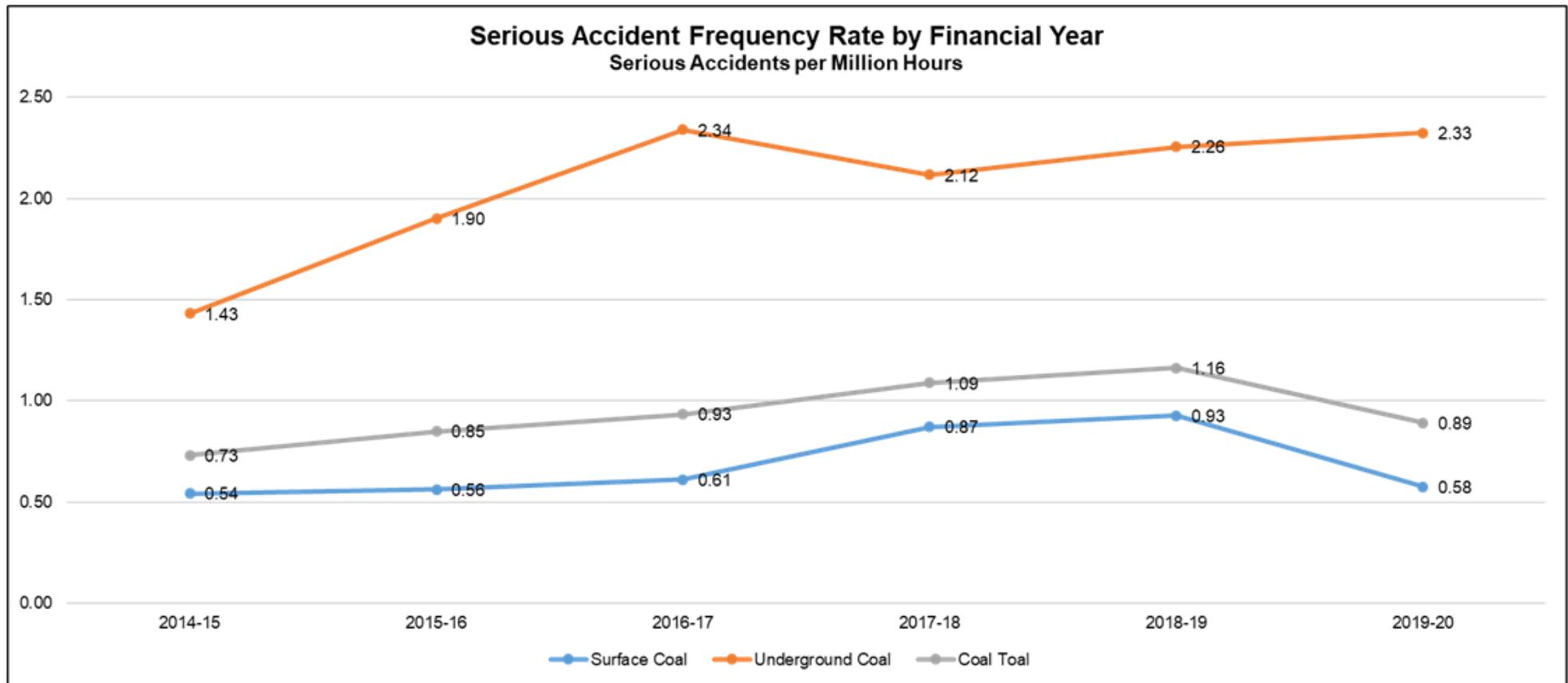
# Incident periodical

High Potential Incidents – Lessons Learnt  
Queensland Coal Mines Inspectorate  
March 2020

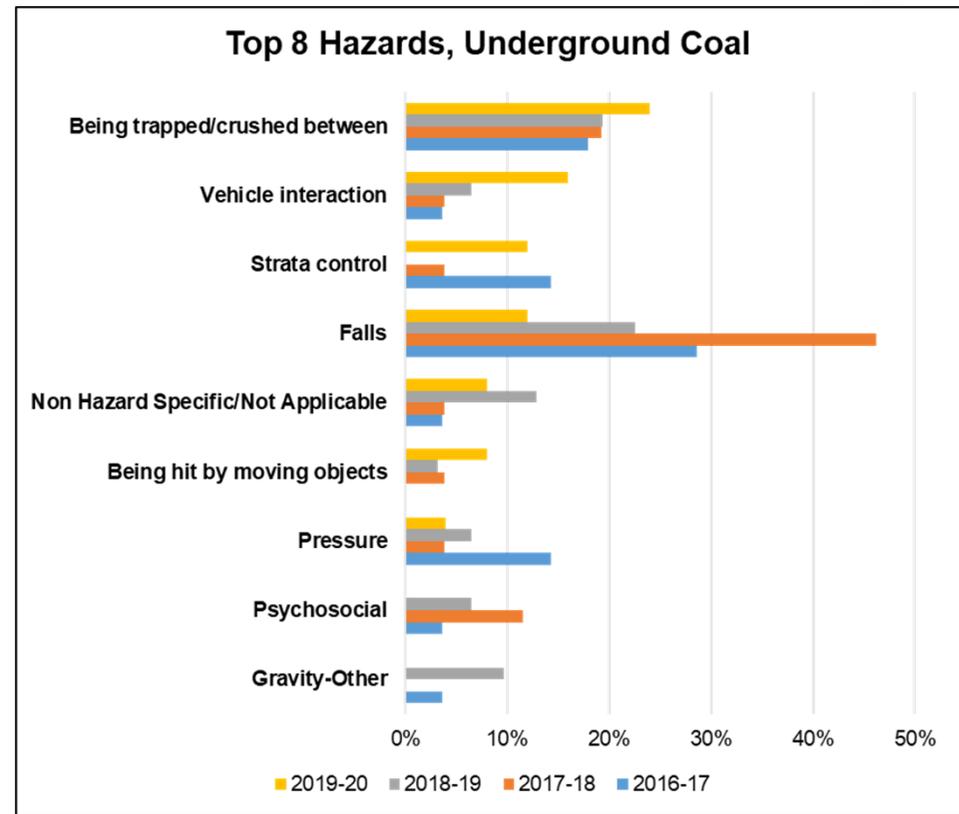
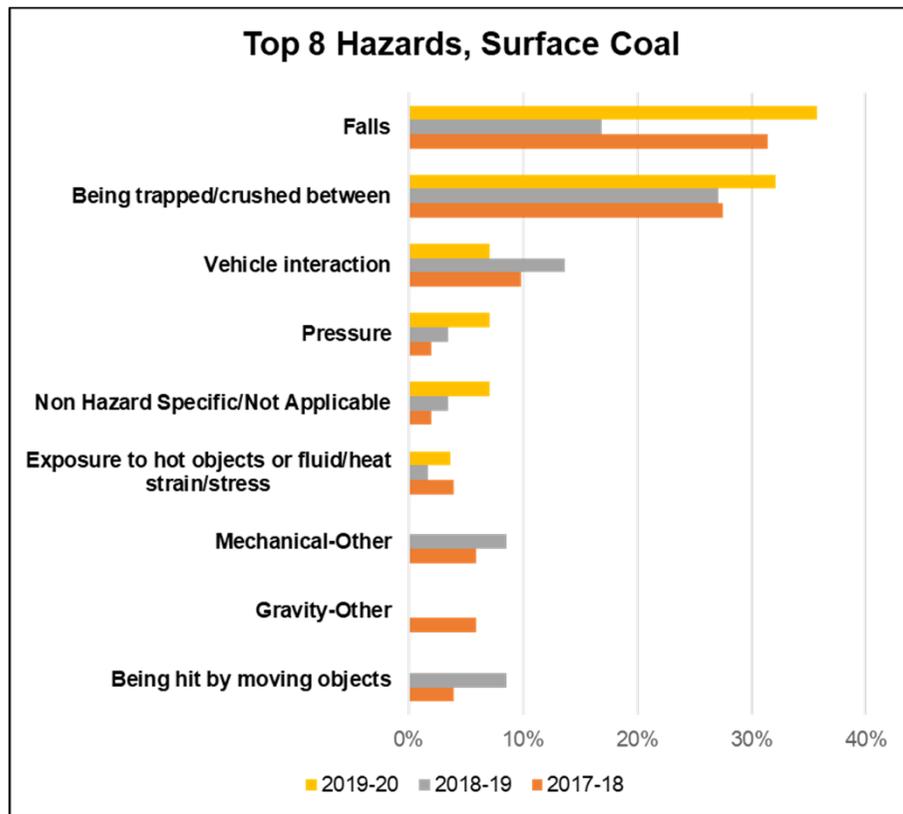


# Serious Injury Frequency Rate

## Summary of Industry Serious Injury Performance



# Top 8 Hazards involving Serious Injuries



# Failure: Slump of drill bench

The advancing endwall slumped beneath a large blast hole drill that was drilling the holes at the edge of the drill pattern.

The drill moved with the slumped material, initially coming to rest at approximately 15 degrees from vertical, allowing the operator to evacuate.

The material continued to move over time, causing the drill to slump further.

Blasted material was pushed into position at the toe to buttress the face and support the drill.

A recovery plan was initiated and the drill was recovered to stable ground.



# Slump of drill bench

## Recommendations:

1. The design of drill patterns must consider the hazards associated with the loss of strata control on drill benches
2. The positioning of drills on the drill pattern must take into account stand off distances and the stability of the bench edge.



# Failure of drill mast component

Blasthole drill rig conducting drilling operations during nightshift.

Drill operator halted operation to investigate movement caught in their peripheral vision.

The operator found two lengths of steel handrail on the ground near the drill deck.

Investigation determined the steel lengths had detached and fallen from the mast.



# Structural failure

## Recommendations:

1. Ensure the mine maintenance practices result in effective inspection and securing of elevated structures that have a drop zone through which coal mine workers pass.
2. Be alert to overhead structures and potential of components to fail.
3. Look up and be Alert



# Failure to manage energy release

When conducting repairs to an electric rope shovel two tasks were undertaken in parallel and impacted the safety of the maintainers.

- the tracks were broken to provide access for maintainers to replace parts.
- A second task required the dipper to be raised and swung 90 degrees.

When the dipper was lifted off the ground, the shovel rolled forward and came off the tracks.



# Failure to manage energy release

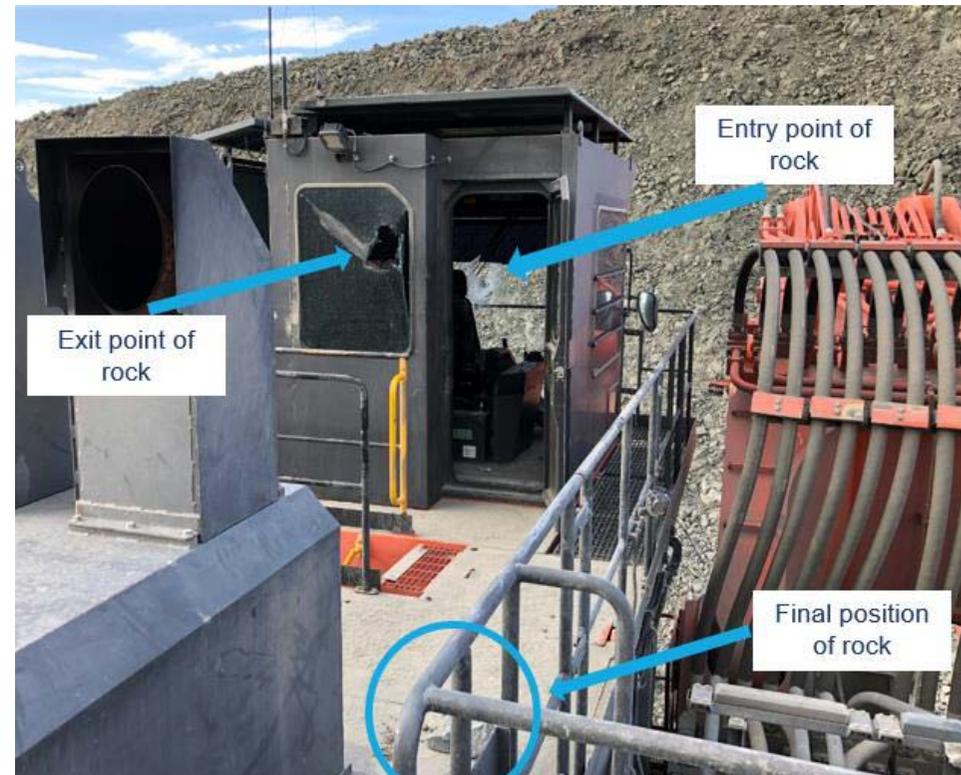
## **Recommendations:**

1. Coal mine workers must ensure that isolation of energy is in place and effective before commencing maintenance work.
2. Supervisors must ensure that coal mine workers follow isolation of energy procedures effectively.
3. The SSE must ensure that coal mine workers at the mine are competent in the risk management procedures required for work to be conducted at an acceptable level of risk.



# Failure to manage energy release

An excavator operator has placed the first bucket load of rock in a truck tray and slewed for the next pass. A rock has bounced off the side of the rear dump tray and come through the front windscreen, struck the cabin roof, and exited via the rear windscreen. The operator had superficial physical injuries from the broken glass.



# Failure to manage energy release

## **Recommendations:**

1. Excavator operators should be protected from the entry of objects into the operator's cabin via windows and windscreens.
2. Site senior executives should ensure that plant design ensures effective hard barriers are placed in the line of fire between coal mine workers and moving objects.

