

Serious accidents and high potential incidents Mineral mines and quarries

Compilation of reports for July 2017

Gravity

Fall of ground (2)

- While checking pumps, workers came across three 30 kg rocks that had fallen onto an access road.
- A 400 t rockfall occurred during a seismic event.

Fall of equipment/material (2)

- A hydraulic ram failed while a road train was tipping concentrate out of the trailer container.
- A hand tool was dropped 19 m into an accessible drop zone.

Thermal

Fire (4)

- A blown hydraulic hose sprayed oil onto the operator cabin and engine causing a fire.
- A boilermaker was patching the outside of a SAG mill chute when the rubber lining caught on fire.
- As a Normet water truck was travelling down the decline, a fuel line burst and sprayed onto turbo.
- A turbo boost hose detached on an Atlas Copco 6020 haul truck spraying engine oil onto the turbo causing a fire.

Explosives

Security (1)

- In the process of firing accretion build up off the smelter furnace walls, a shotfirer failed to sound the warning whistle prior to the blast and was not aware of the possible presence of people inside exclusion zone.

Electrical

Electric shock (1)

- A 240 V extension lead was severed when an item fell off a work bench.

Vehicle

Collision with another vehicle (2)

- Two trucks were travelling along a mine entry road and intended to turn off to the right. The driver of the rear truck was momentarily distracted and did not slow down at the same rate as the front truck, resulting in the second truck having to brake hard and swerve to the left to avoid a collision.
- As a bogger operator was leaving a tag board, contact was made with a light vehicle that had been parked in the bunded park area.

Rollover (2)

- The operator of an excavator attempted to move the excavator backwards, but moved forward instead, tipping the tracks over the front edge of the working platform and the excavator to roll onto its side.
- One set of wheels on the trailer of a Moxi rode up onto a stockpile while a truck was being reversed. This caused the bowl section of the trailer to roll over.

Mechanical

Struck by projectile (1)

- While washing an agitator with chemicals and a broom, foreign material entered a person's eye.

Other (1)

- As an IT was travelling down a decline, the man basket broke away due to fatigue failure of the attachment points.

Chemical

Ammonia (2)

- Workers noticed a gas plume coming from the top of an ammonia vessel in a granulation plant. The control room was advised immediately and were able to reduce throughput eliminating the plume.
- An isolation valve on the ammonia surge tank at K61 leaked, resulting in an ammonia leak triggering a 130 ppm status 3 alarm. The control system was shut down and the deluge system activated.

Entry into an irrespirable atmosphere (1)

- Three of the 6 gas monitors had some gas sensors switched off. These monitors are used when working in confined spaces, mixing xanthate and MIBC.

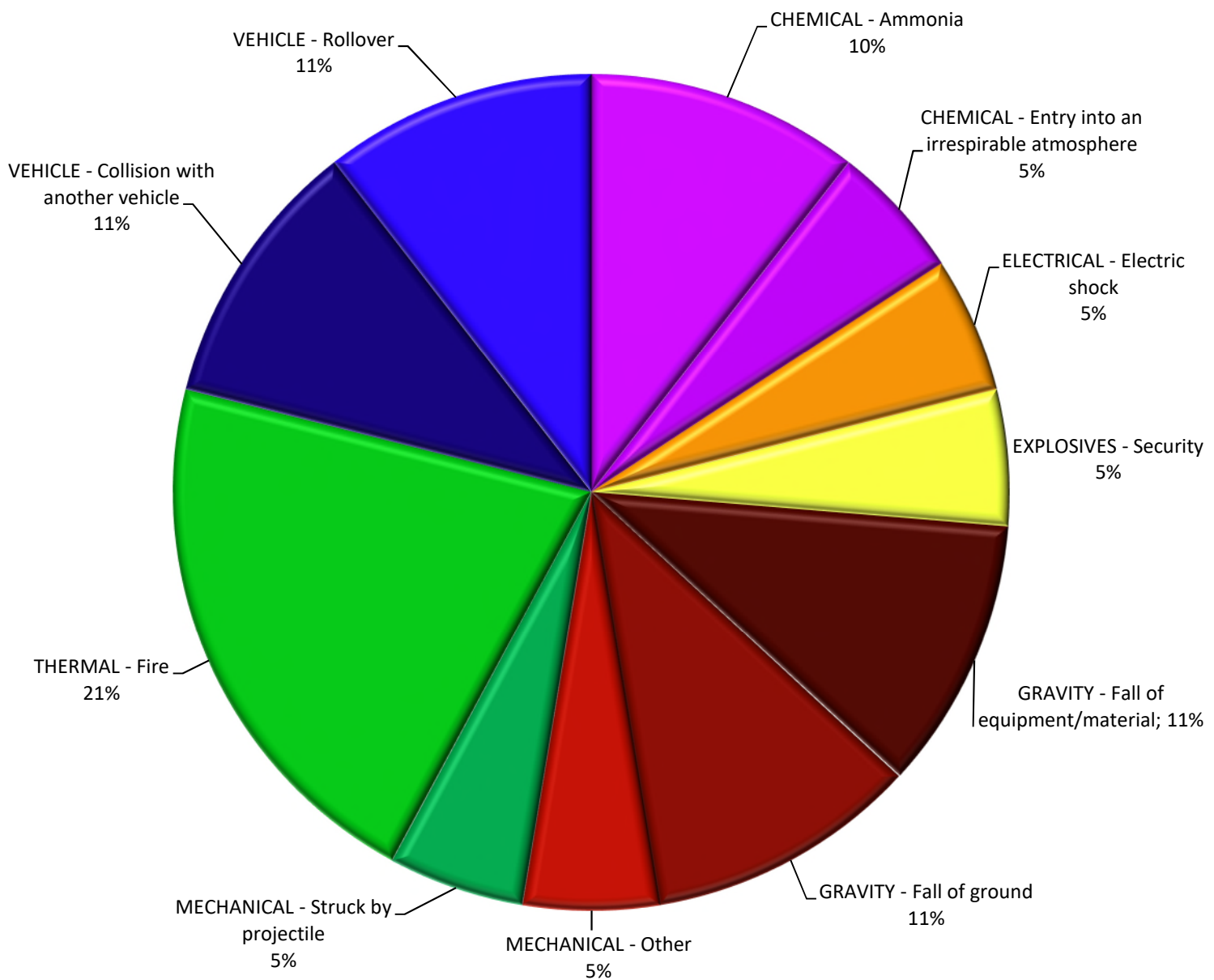


Chart 1- July 2017 (19 Incidents)

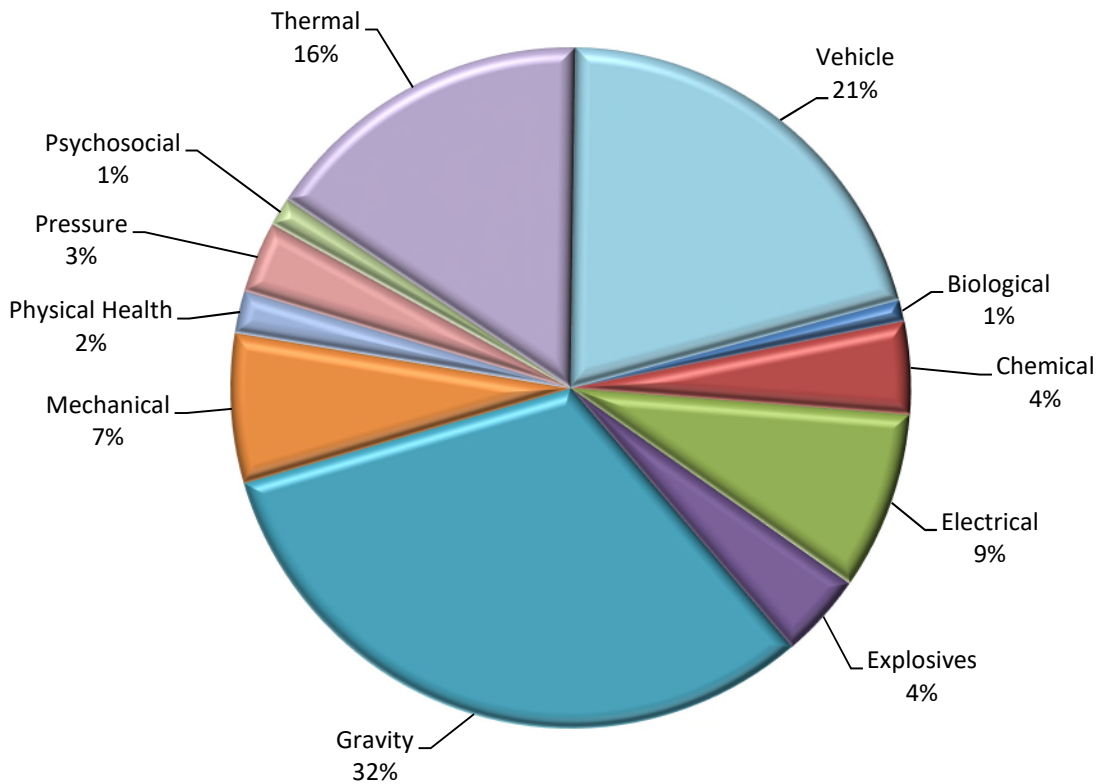


Chart 2 - 12 month rolling average to end July 2017 by Hazard Category (296 Incidents)

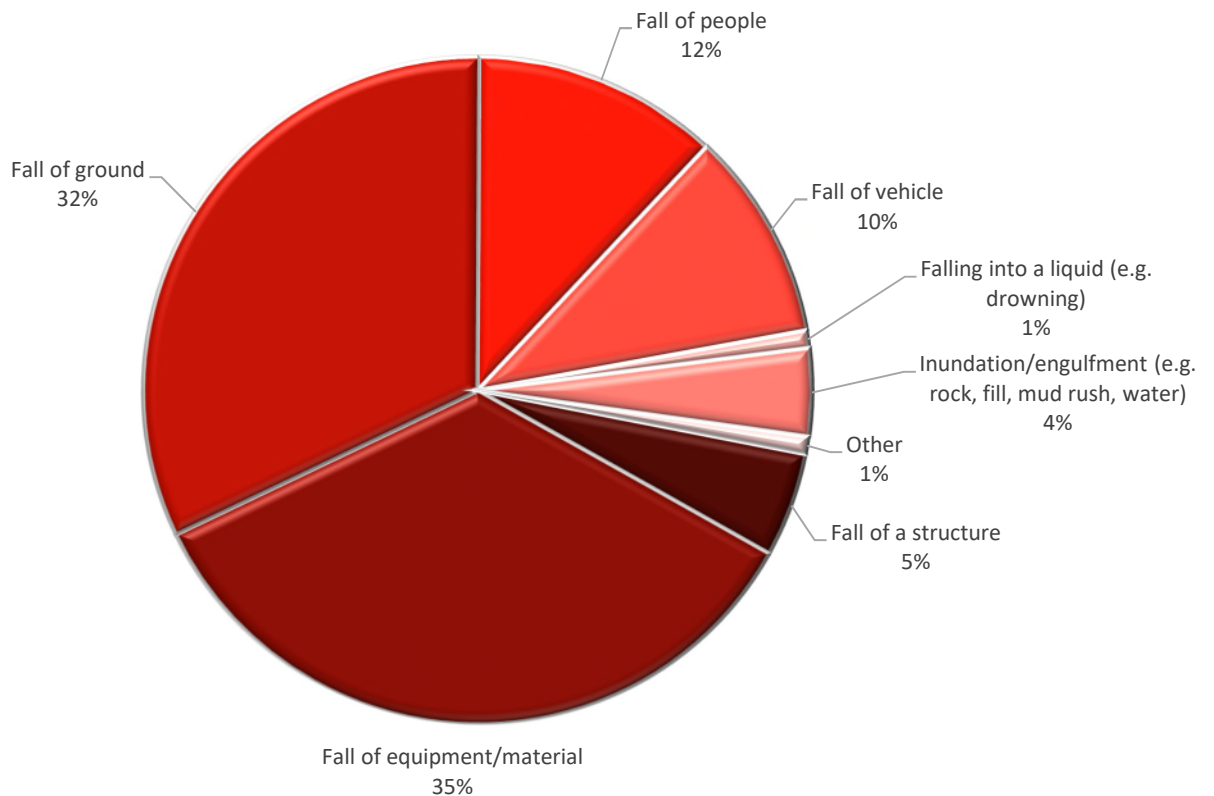


Chart 3 - July 2016 to July 2017 Breakdown of Gravity hazard category (118 Incidents)

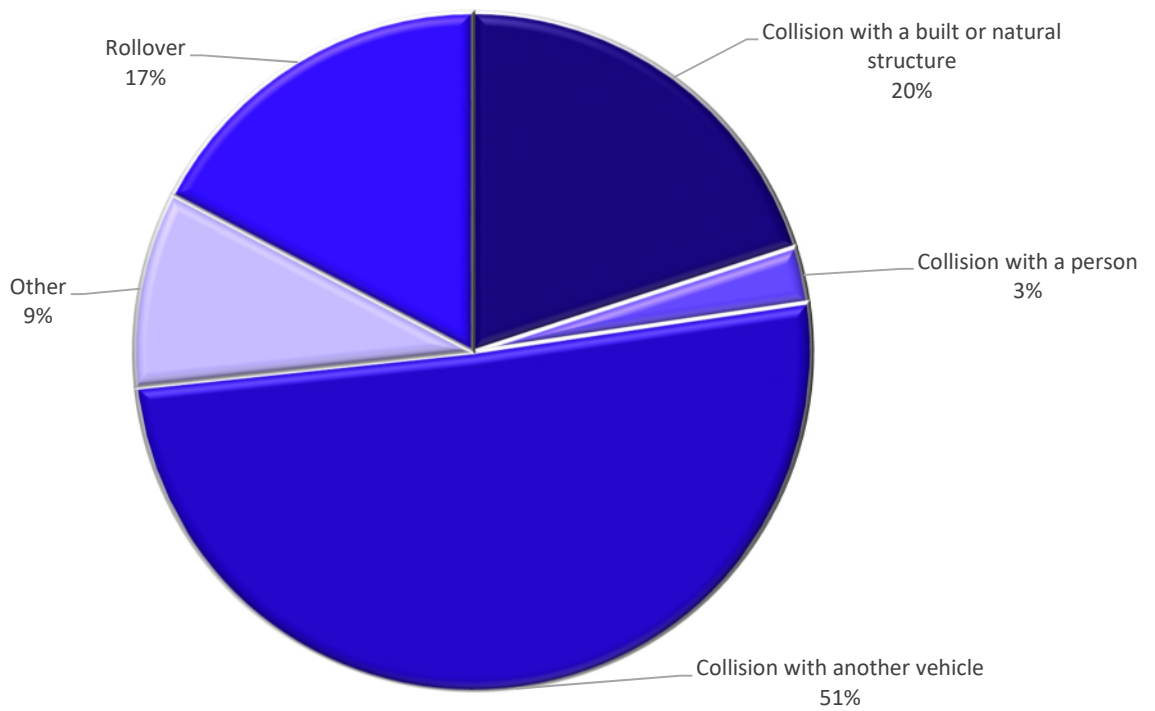


Chart 4 - July 2016 to July 2017 Breakdown of Vehicle hazard category (75 Incidents)

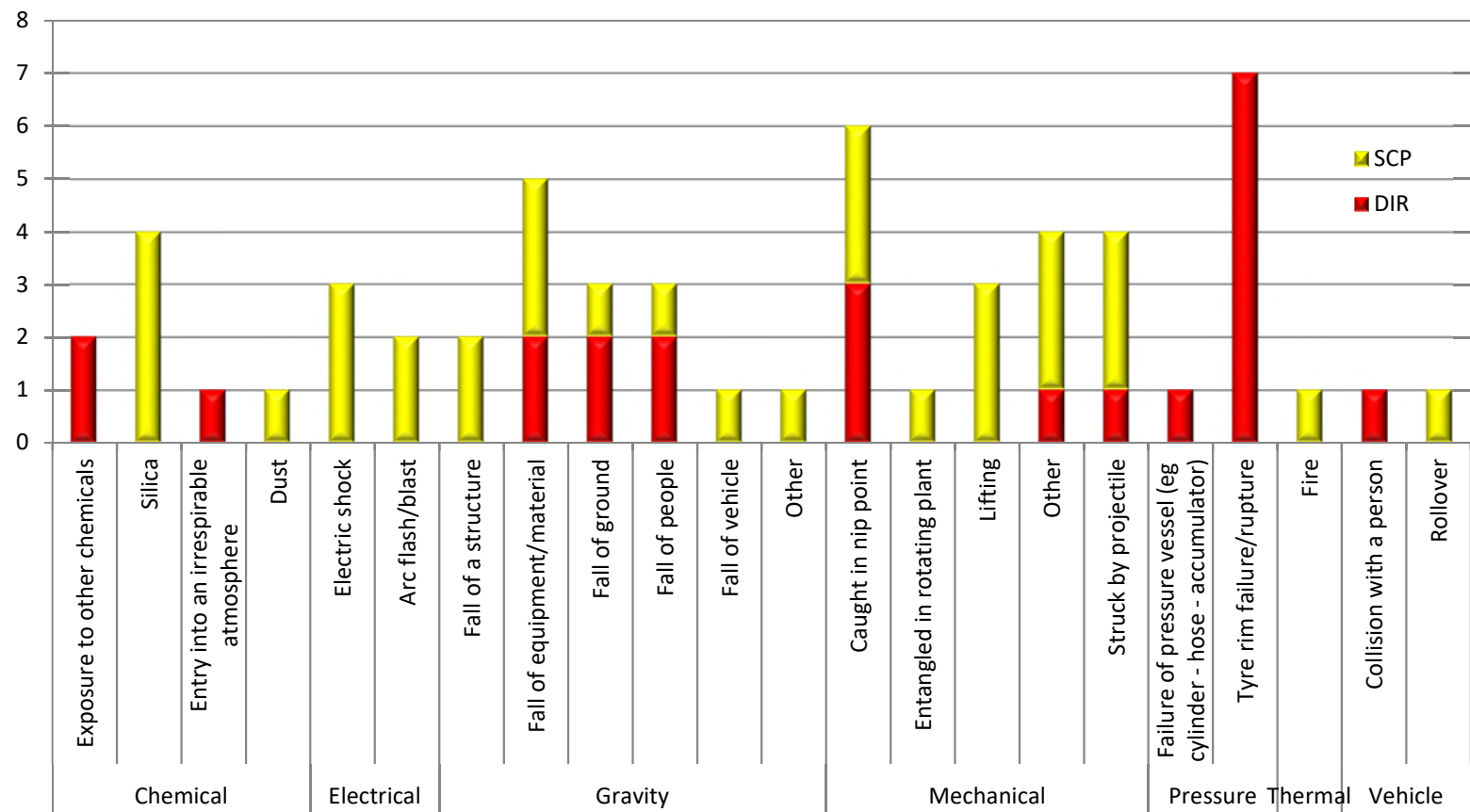


Chart 5 - July 2017 Compliance matters issued by Hazard category (57 Issued)

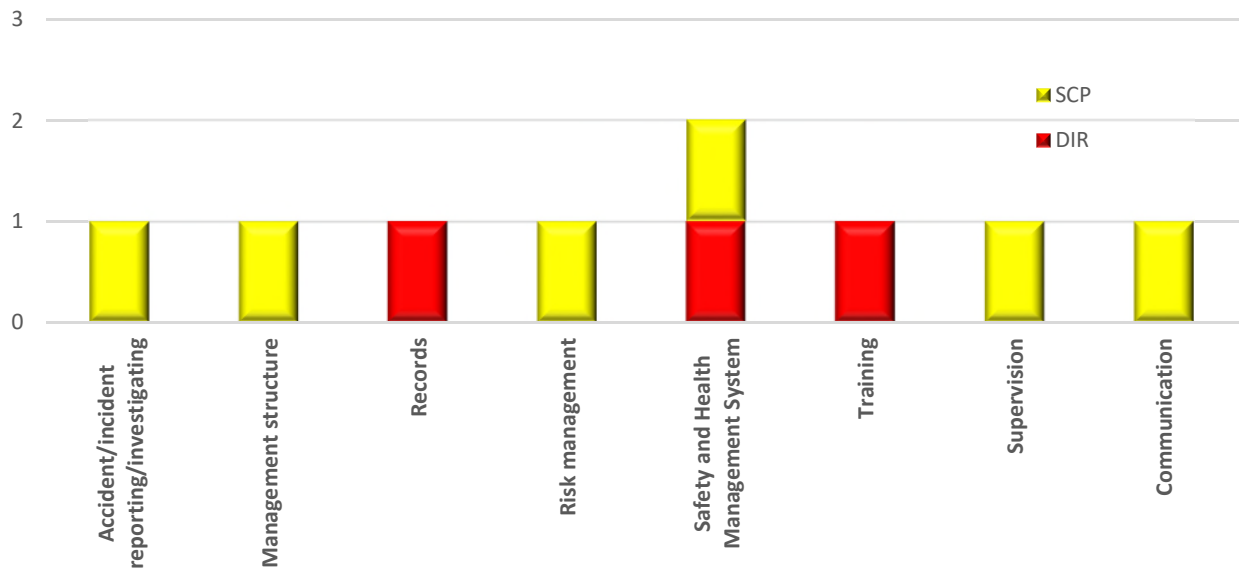


Chart 6 - July 2017 Compliance matters issued by Non-Hazard category (9 Issued)

Past Mineral Mines and Quarry summary reports can be sourced at <https://www.business.qld.gov.au/industry/mining/safety-health/mining-safety-health/accidents-incidents/serious-and-high-potential>