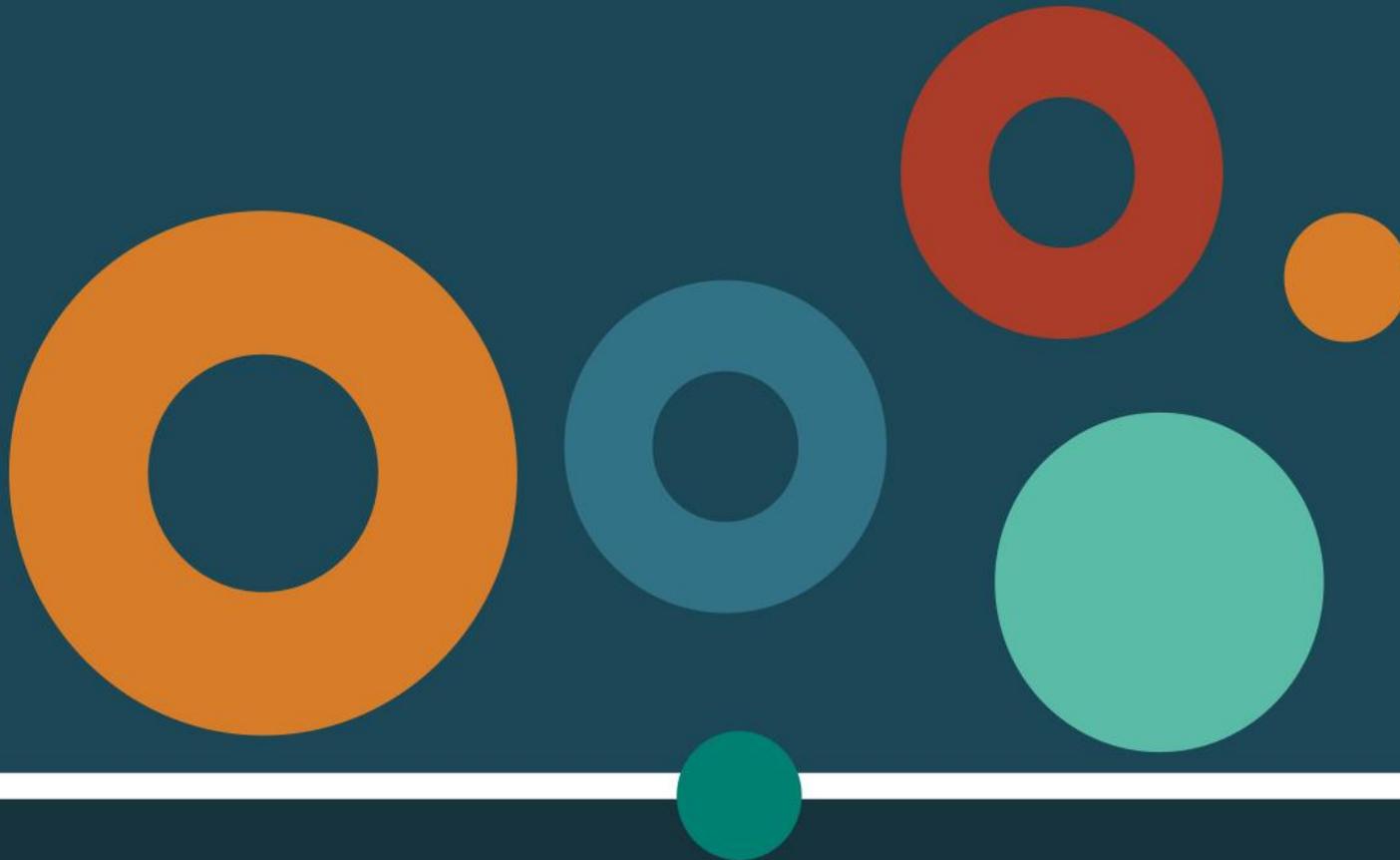


Incident periodical

Queensland Mines Inspectorate

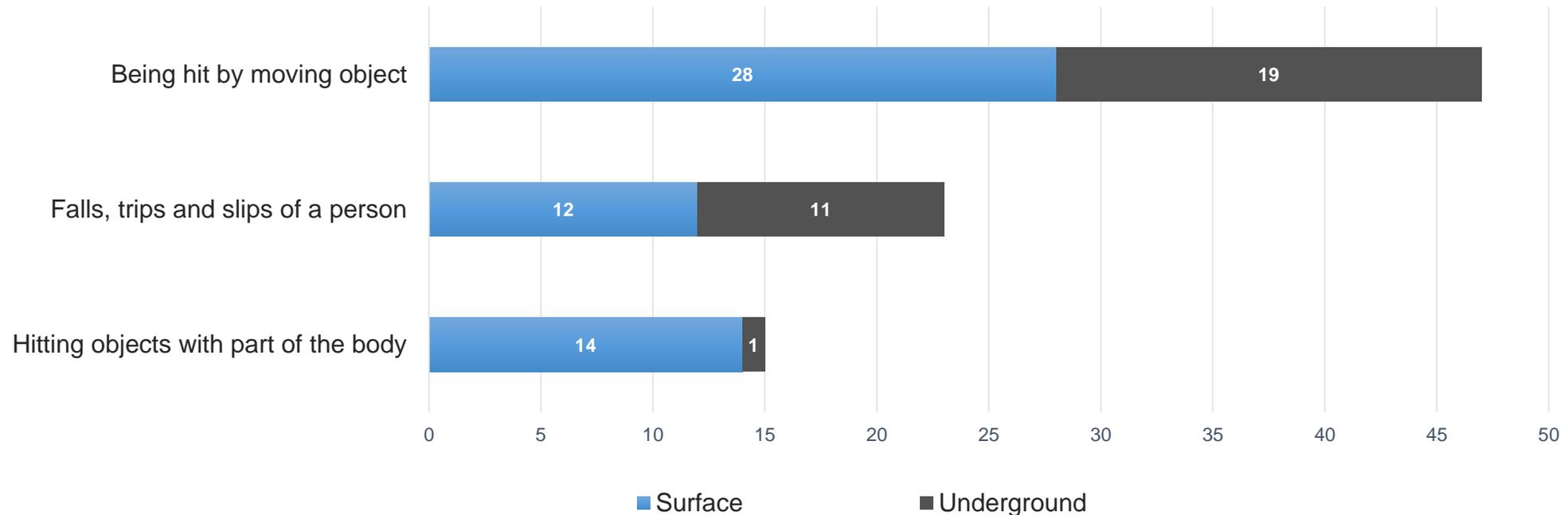
October 2019



Coal mine incidents

Summary

Top 3 serious accidents (hospitalisation) during 2018/19 and YTD



Failure to isolate

While undertaking maintenance tasks at the CHPP, a worker stepped onto a slow moving HBF Filter Belt. The worker walked to the centre of the belt and started cleaning clay out of filter belt vacuum holes.

Findings

The filter belt was not isolated and was operating.

Recommendations

- Plant and equipment must be isolated before work commences.
- Supervisors and workers must ensure energy isolation and tagging procedures are adhered to.





Position of
worker



Strata failure

During dragline operations, the dragline bench has failed and the machine has listed towards the pit void. The speed of failure prevented the operators moving the dragline to stable ground; requiring them to evacuate to safety.

Findings

The bench was constructed on unsuitable base material.

Failure planes developed below the bench material and were not identified.

Recommendations

- Dragline operators should regularly check the integrity of their working benches.
- Work must not proceed until OCEs and geotechnical engineers have ensured and communicated to operators that pit floors and dragline benches are adequately prepared, constructed and maintained.

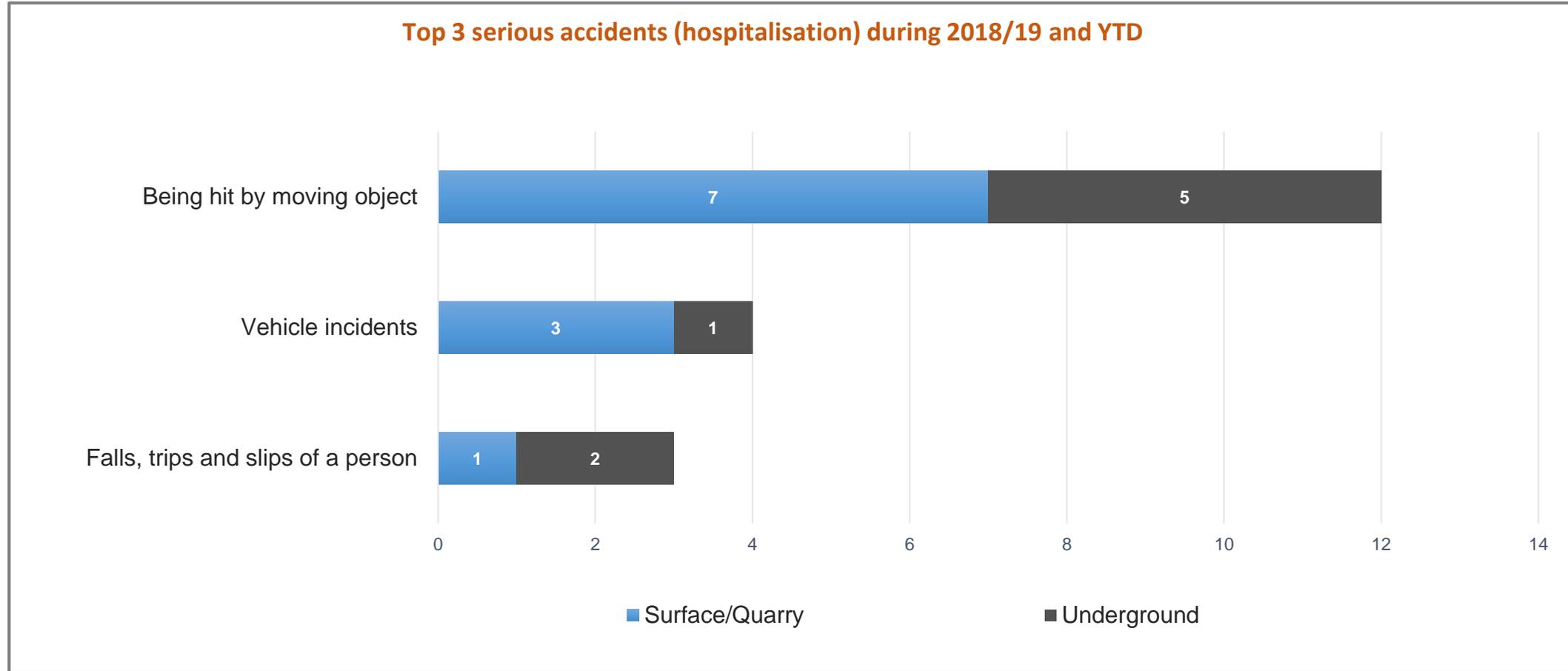




Mineral mines and quarries



Summary



Worker crushed by conveyor

While undertaking repairs to a mobile screening plant, an apprentice fitter became trapped between the conveyor and a chassis rail cross brace. He had removed a hydraulic ram from the rear of the main conveyor allowing it to slide downwards under gravity. Fortunately, nearby workers who saw the incident were able to rescue the worker.

Findings

The apprentice was working alone. The supervisor was absent from site.

The experience and competency of the apprentice could not be verified before work started.

The plant was not isolated and de-energised prior to work commencing.

Information on how to safely maintain the plant was not available to the worker.



Recommendations

- Workers must ensure that plant is effectively isolated before work is undertaken. This includes verification and testing that ALL energy sources have been isolated.
- Supervisors must ensure that workers are appropriately supervised based on the nature of the task, experience and skills of the worker/s.
- SSEs must ensure workers are competent to perform the task, and that this information is readily available to supervisors. They must also ensure that information on safely maintaining and operating plant is available to workers.



Truck hits overhead power lines at quarry

The elevated body of a dog trailer made contact with an overhead 110kV power line when leaving a screening plant stockpile.

Findings

Quarry was operating the stockpile in proximity to an overhead power line.

Control in place to prevent contact with the power line was administrative and did not remove or control the potentially fatal hazard.

Recommendations

- SSE must implement measures (engineering controls) to ensure mobile plant is not operated under nor adjacent to an overhead power line.
- Supervisors must ensure stockpiling, or other operational activities, do not occur beneath or adjacent to power lines.
- Workers should never leave a tipping point without first lowering the trailer body.





More safety information

- Search [Qld mine safety alerts](#) for incidents, cause and mitigation actions
- Previous Queensland mines incident reports searchable at [Serious accidents and high-potential reports](#)

We welcome your feedback on this report, and your suggestions on other information that will help you create a safer site.

Contact us at QLDMinesInspectorate@dnrme.qld.gov.au
or [contact your local inspector](#).

