

Explosives incidents

May 2020 report

This document presents statistics for all explosives safety and security incidents reported during May 2020. It also includes a cumulative summary of all safety and security incidents for the last twelve month period. The number of injuries and fatalities occurring in the community and industry are presented for the month of May 2020, as well as the cumulative total for the financial year 2019-20.

	May 2020	Financial year to date (2019-20)
Community	0 fatality 0 injury	0 fatality 1 injury
Industry	0 fatality 0 injuries	0 fatality 2 injuries

Figure 1: Explosives incidents and complaints May 2020

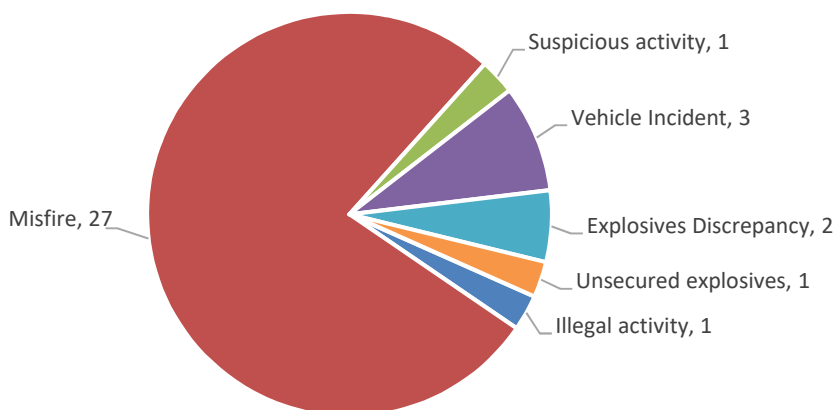
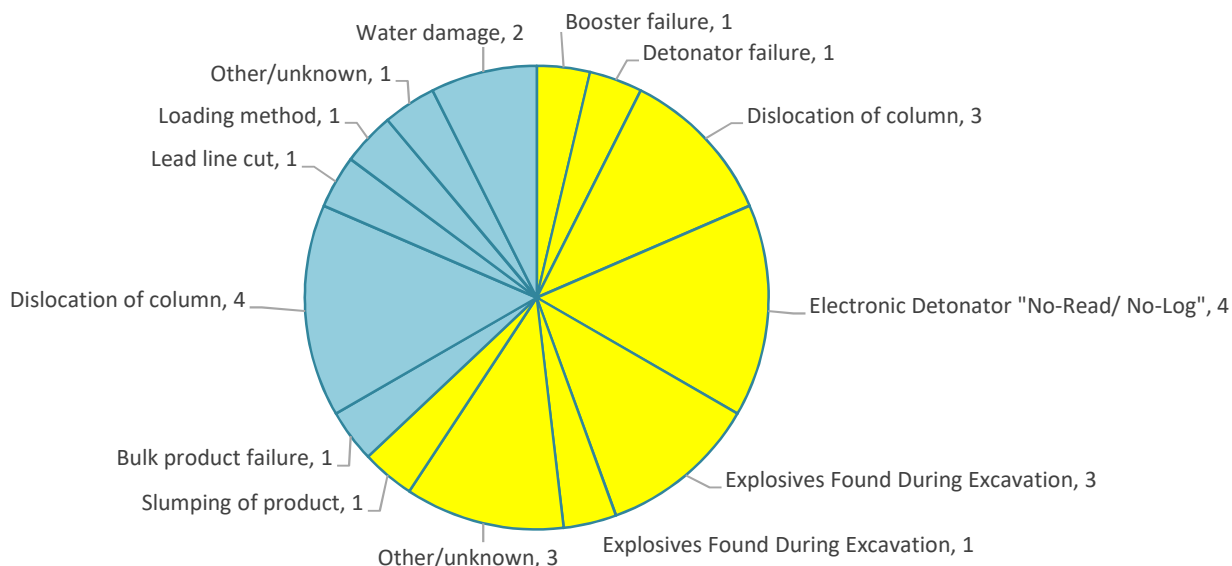


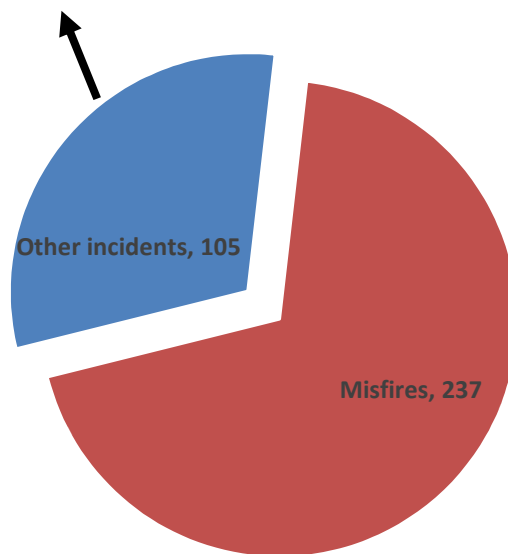
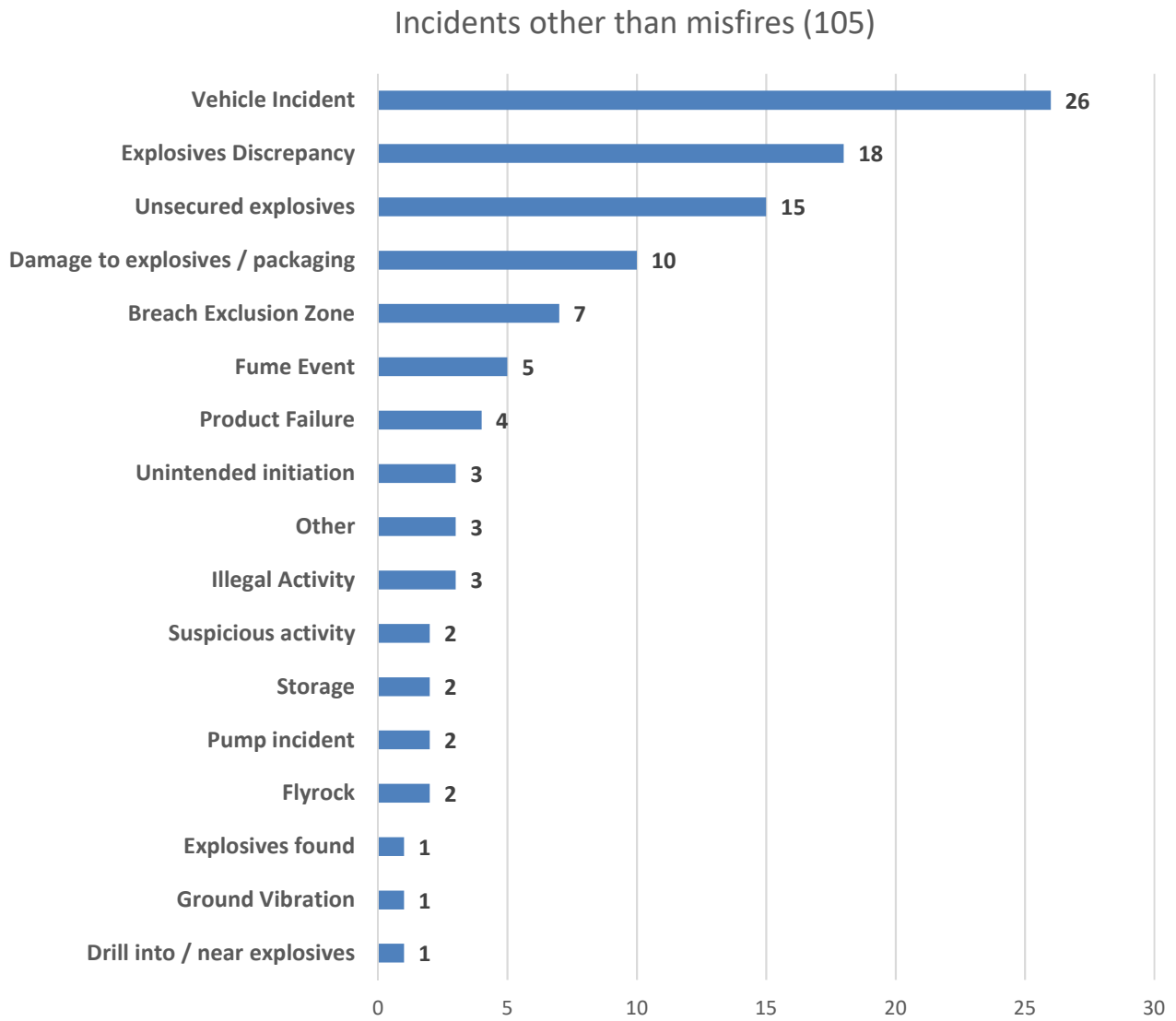
Figure 2: Breakdown of misfire causes May 2020



General

Underground

Figure 3: Past year incidents June 2019 – May 2020



Breakdown of incidents for May 2020

Security

Description	Explosives involved	Outcome/Possible causes
Explosives discrepancy (2 incidents)		
Discrepancy discovered during stocktake of stored explosives	Detonators	Consignment note error identified as cause. No loss of explosives.
A sealed box of packaged blasting explosives was found to be short by one unit of the specified full quantity.	Packaged blasting explosives	Manufacturer notified by mine site. Supplier investigation ongoing.
Unsecured explosives (1 incident)		
Magazine keys left inside of a vehicle overnight at a mine site.	Blasting explosives	Electronic key safe failed to notify that keys were missing. Software update to Win10 removed programmed security alerts.

Safety

Description	Explosives involved	Outcome/Possible causes
Misfires – aboveground (17 incidents)		
Booster failure x 1 Detonator failure x 1 Dislocation of column x 3 Electronic detonator “no read/no log” x 4 Explosives found during excavation x 4 Other/unknown x 3 Slumping of product x 1	Blasting explosives	No adverse outcomes
Misfires – underground (10 incidents)		
Bulk product failure x 1 Dislocation of column x 4 Lead line cut x 1 Loading method x 1 Other/unknown x 1 Water damage x 2	Blasting explosives	No adverse outcomes
Illegal activity (1 incident)		
An intruder has breached security fence of a compound on a mine site.	Blasting explosives	No explosives, or explosives areas, were affected during breach.
Suspicious activity (1 incident)		
An unauthorised vehicle has been observed entering a manufacturing plant by a worker on site outside of business hours.	Security sensitive ammonium nitrate	Security plan risk assessment conducted. Workers to ensure gates locked after entering site after hours to prevent unauthorised access.
Vehicle incident (3 incidents)		
A fire has occurred on an air compressor attached to a trailer within an explosives reload facility.	Security sensitive ammonium nitrate	Investigation ongoing. Compressor pulled out of service. No explosives involved in fire.
A mobile processing unit has driven for a distance after reloading with hose still attached.	Ammonium nitrate emulsion	Spillage of approximately 3kgs of product. Minor damage to manufacturing plant occurred. Operator did not follow procedures.
A light vehicle carrying explosives has contacted a wall in an underground mine.	Blasting explosives	Misjudgment of a turn. No injuries. Minor damage to vehicle. No impact to explosives.