

Explosives incidents

April 2020 report

This document presents statistics for all explosives safety and security incidents reported during April 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 April 2020, as well as the cumulative total for the financial year 2019-20.

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

Figure 1: Explosives incidents and complaints April 2020

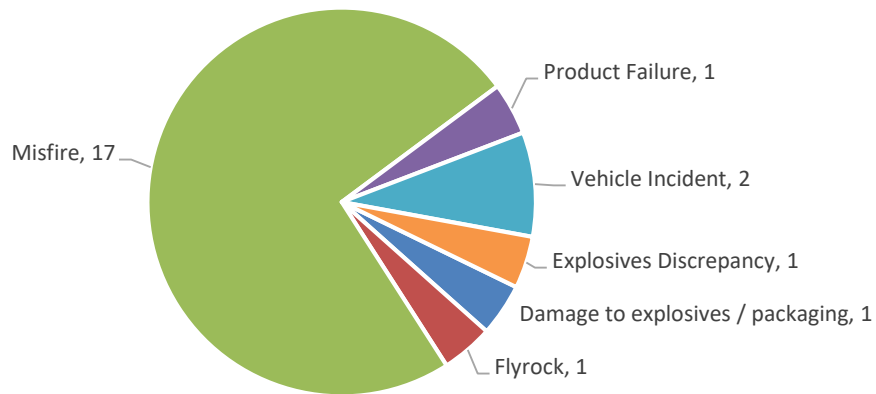


Figure 2: Breakdown of misfire causes April 2020

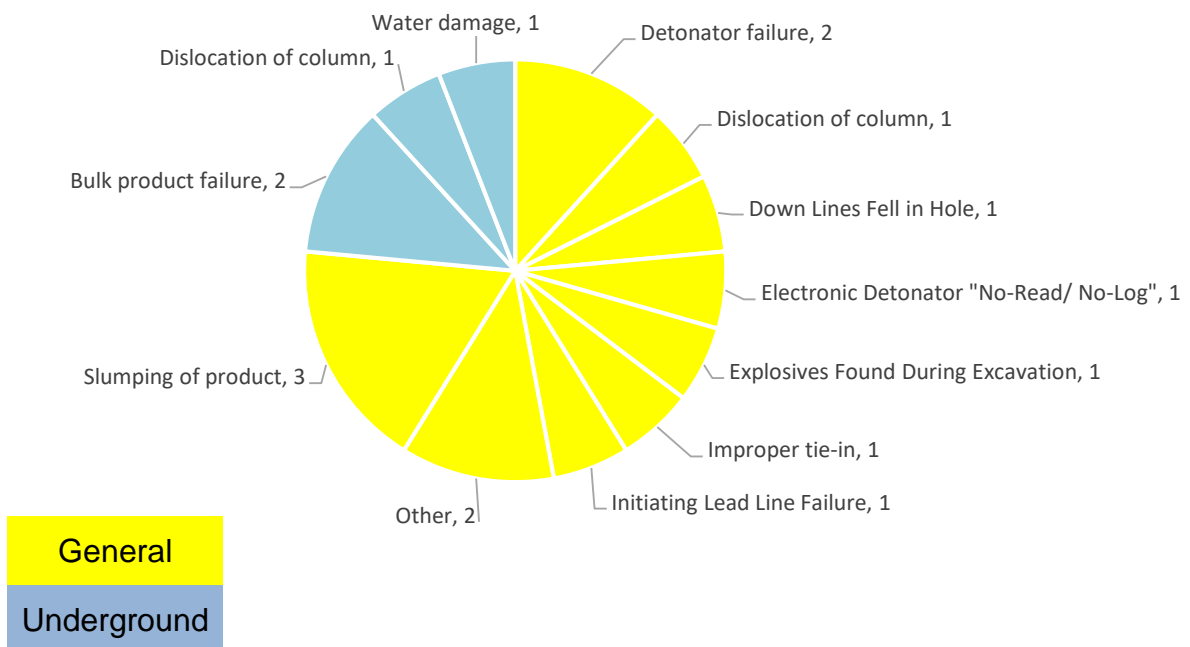
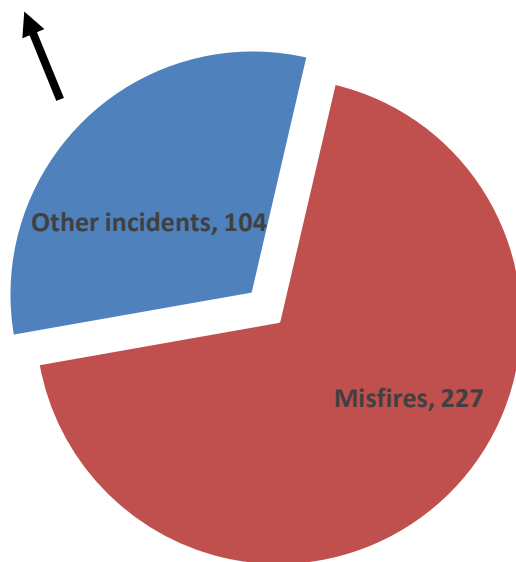
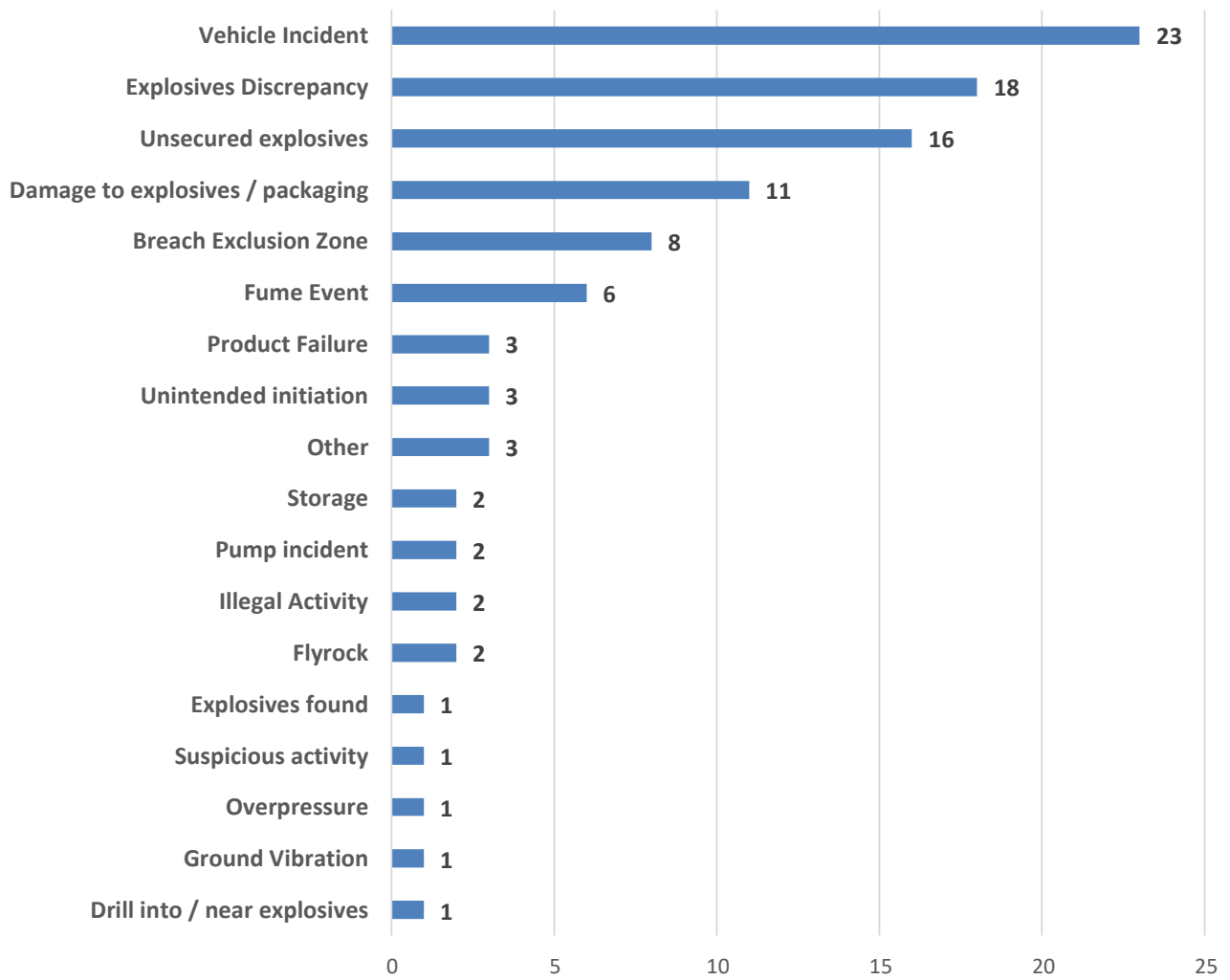


Figure 3: Past year incidents May 2019 – April 2020

Incidents other than misfires (104)



Breakdown of incidents for April 2020

Security

Description	Explosives involved	Outcome/Possible causes
Explosives discrepancy (1 incident)		
A booster unaccounted for after reconciliation of explosives remaining prior to blast.	Booster	Immediate inspection of bench conducted to ensure explosives weren't left unsecured. A number of discrepancies in associated bench procedures noted that contributed to belief booster has fallen down drill hole.

Safety

Description	Explosives involved	Outcome/Possible causes
Misfires – aboveground (13 incidents)		
Detonator failure x 2 Dislocation of column x 1 Downlines fell in hole x 1 Electronic detonator “no read/no log” x 1 Explosives found during excavation x 1 Improper tie-in x 1 Initiating lead line failure x 1 Other/unknown x 2 Slumping of product x 3	Blasting explosives	No adverse outcomes
Misfires – underground (4 incidents)		
Bulk product failure x 2 Dislocation of column x 1 (reported late - occurred March 2020) Water damage x 1	Blasting explosives	No adverse outcomes
Damage to explosives/packaging (1 incident)		
A rock has fallen on two mine workers while a blast was being prepared in an underground mine.	Blasting explosives	Injuries sustained by workers. Both were discharged from hospital. No impacted explosives.
Flyrock (1 incident)		
Damage to floor of section of underground mine.	Blasting explosives	Damage found to be rifling through a drill hole which intersected the area of a stope firing on a lower level of the mine.
Product failure (1 incident)		
Faulty packaged explosives discovered during loading. Packaged explosives not completely filled, producing air pockets that allowed product to distort its shape.	Blasting explosives	Supplier investigating matter with manufacturer.
Vehicle incident (2 incidents)		
A dewatering vehicle has reversed and made contact with a water truck on a mine site.	Nil	Driver reversing without required spotter. Minor damage only. No effect on explosives.
A gasser tank had been dislodged from a mobile processing unit while travelling on a road near a mine site.	Ammonium nitrate emulsion	Mines Inspectorate task. Investigation into cause ongoing.