



MHSC

Mine Health and Safety Council

MHSC NEWS

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE MINE HEALTH AND SAFETY COUNCIL

March 2025



National Mine Health and Safety Statistics
Honorable Minister Mantashe

Annual TB Commemoration, highlights - Industry Perspective address

Cover Story:

Reflections on Mine Health & Safety Tripartite Summit - 2024



MHSC

Mine Health and Safety Council



ELIMINATION OF OCCUPATIONAL LUNG DISEASES

*“Every mine worker returning home
from work unharmed everyday.
Striving for Zero harm in our lifetime.”*

ABOUT MHSC

The Mine Health and Safety Council (MHSC) is a national public entity (Schedule 3A) established in terms of the Mine Health and Safety Act, Act No. 29 of 1996, as amended. The entity comprises a tripartite board represented by state, employer and labour members under the chairmanship of the Chief Inspector of mines.

The MHSC's mandate is to advise the Minister of Mineral and Petroleum Resources on mine health and safety legislation and research outcomes focused on improving and promoting mine health and safety in South African mining industry.

The Council also oversees activities of its committees, promotes a culture of health and safety in the mining industry, plans and coordinates the summit to review the state of occupational health and safety at mines every two years, and liaises with the Mining Qualifications Authority (MQA).

Publication information Mine Health and Safety Council

145 Western Service Road
Western Woods Office Park
B7 Maple Place Woodmead,
2191
Contact number: +27 (0) 11 656 1797
www.mhsc.org.za | communications@mhsc.org.za

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THE CEO'S VIEWS

Mr. David Mamphitha



The health and safety of mineworkers is everyone's responsibility, as we reflect and continue to engage in the new financial year on the state of mine health and safety in the mining sector, let us also keep in mind that the long-term sustainability of mining is dependent not only on its growth, competitiveness, and transformation, but also on how well its workforce is cared for.

I trust that all said and done, the South African mining sector will continue to be a bedrock of the South African economy.

As we endeavour to ensure that it continues to be a leading industry and a contributor to our GDP, we must nonetheless not lose sight of the ball on health and safety, towards **"Zero Harm in our lifetime"**.

The demographics of our workforce have changed over the years, and we need to customise our strategies to cater to a workforce which has been diversifying and advancing with regards to technology, education, and workstyles.

This is also a workforce that is faced with many challenges in and outside the workplace, which may affect their wellbeing such as mental health issues. One of the major contributing factors to mental health issues related to stress, and mine workers work in a highly pressurised environment. The MHSC's Research, Development, and Innovation Programme is focused on ensuring that health and safety remains at the forefront of all technological advancements.

We are committed to developing and commercialising technologies that will improve health and safety mine workers across the entire value chain. Collaboration with international and local partners will be key to achieving this, as we work together to identify, customise, and implement the best solutions for the SAMI.

Despite these challenges, there is hope. In the last few years, we have witnessed incredible advancements in the technologies that support mine health and safety. The Fourth Industrial Revolution presents us with opportunities to significantly improve working conditions in mines. From real-time monitoring, predictive safety systems and smart personal protective equipment to remote monitoring and automation, these technologies have the potential to transform how we approach mine health and safety.

FROM THE EDITOR

Reflecting on the new milestones adopted at the 2024 Tripartite Mine Health and Safety Summit

The 2024 Mine Health and Safety Tripartite Summit was hosted just a week after Cabinet approved the submission of the draft Mine Health and Safety Amendment Bill (MHSA Bill) to Parliament for its deliberation and adoption.



Cabinet’s approval of the Bill serves as a major breakthrough in industry’s concerted efforts to strengthen compliance and enforcement provisions, reinforce offences, and penalties, and thereby remove ambiguity by amending certain definitions and expressions in the Mine Health and Safety Act (MHSA).

The Mine Health and Safety Council (MHSC) has been at the forefront of research and development aimed at enhancing the occupational health and safety of mineworkers in the South African Mining Industry (SAMI).

Since 1998, the MHSC has spearheaded several Summits during which government, business, and organised labour frankly engaged one another on measures to, eliminate occupational diseases, injuries, and fatalities across the SAMI including communities around mining operations, thereby attain the goal of “Zero Harm in our lifetime”.



New health and safety milestones have been welcome and adopted by the entire mining sector. In this edition you will read more about the milestones, highlights of the health and safety statistics as announced by the Minister of Mineral and Petroleum Resources.

Goodwill Shivuri

COVER PAGE STORY

Summit 2024 milestones adopted

Minerals Council South Africa commits to new milestones on the mining industry's journey to Zero Harm

The Minerals Council South Africa is fully committed to supporting the third iteration of health and safety milestones agreed by the Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources, organised labour and the Minerals Council as the industry strives to realise its ambition of Zero Harm.



Minerals Council of South Africa CEO, **Mr. Mzila Mthenjane**

The first milestones to improve mineworkers' health and safety were agreed by the tripartite Mine Health and Safety Council in 2003 to deliver step-change improvements in the working environment for all people working in the mining industry. The second set of milestones were revised and agreed in 2014.

Since 2014, incidents of occupational diseases in the mining industry have decreased by 72%. The number of fatalities related to safety incidents have declined by 35% between 2014 and 2023.

The industry came close to meeting – and in some instances surpassed - the milestones set for 2024. The milestones included eliminating fatalities and serious injuries, reducing occupational lung diseases caused by inhalation of silica, coal and platinum group metal dust, reducing noise-induced hearing loss, reducing the tuberculosis incidence rate below the national average, and providing counselling, testing and treatment of mineworkers living with HIV.

The three stakeholders have agreed on the next set of milestones to be achieved by December 2034, including mental health screening and interventions to improve safety of women in mining including personal protective equipment specifically designed for women, as well as reducing gender-based violence and femicide in the workplace.

“We commit ourselves to achieving the new milestones that we have collectively set to accelerate our quest for Zero Harm in our industry,” says Dr Nombasa Tsengwa, President of the Minerals Council. “We are unrelenting in our ambition to eliminate health and safety incidents across the mining industry, including beyond employment.

The Minerals Council remains committed to the industry goal of Zero Harm in which every mine worker returns from work without harm every day,” she said. 2 The Minerals Council and its members have implemented interventions and programmes to improve health and safety of all employees. “Today, we have a workplace where there are less airborne pollutants, less noise and generally fewer hazards.

Mining is a far safer place than when we started on this journey. Jointly, with the Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources and organised labour, we are striving for an inclusive working environment where health and safety are of paramount importance,” says Japie Fullard, Chair of the Minerals Council’s CEO Zero Harm Forum.

Since 1994, the number of fatalities on mines has decreased by 88% from 484 to 55 in 2023. Injuries have decreased by 75% to 2,080 from 8,347 in that period. The industry reported a record low 49 fatalities in 2022. The mining industry has made significant inroads into reducing cases of silicosis and noise induced hearing loss (NIHL), with reductions of 90% and 86% respectively between 2003 and 2022.

“We will review our initiatives and interventions as we strive to achieve our ambition of Zero Harm. We are working with all stakeholders on research, technology and innovation to modernise our industry and to make it safer and healthier. We look forward to our collaboration in reaching the milestones as tripartite partners in the coming years,” says Mr Fullard. In 2011, the Minerals Council initiated CEO-level discussions on health and safety which are now institutionalised as the CEO Zero Harm Forum.

This forum meets quarterly to review and advise on our performance regarding health and safety.

The Minerals Council Board has initiated a monthly Safety Hour of Learning where recent incidents are shared with the sole purpose of learning from each other and preventing similar incidents in the future.



Minister of Mineral and Petroleum Resources, Mr. Gwede Mantashe during the principles meeting to adopt new milestones.

The Minerals Council augmented our CEO-led initiatives in 2019 by adopting the Khumbul’ekhaya Health and Safety Strategy which is holistic in its approach and is a rallying cry for step-change efforts on health and safety. The Minerals Council is reviewing the industry’s health and safety performance and is enhancing the Khumbul’ekhaya Strategy to implement a second version to achieve the 2034 milestones.



MHSC
Mine Health and Safety Council

2024 MINE HEALTH AND SAFETY TRIPARTITE SUMMIT

MHSC TRIPARTITE PRINCIPALS PLEDGE

AND COMMITMENT TO ACHIEVING 2024 MILESTONES

Summary of the 2024 Milestones

1. Elimination of fatalities
2. Elimination of reportable accidents
3. Review of the effectiveness of initiatives around elimination of fatalities and reportable accidents
4. Elimination of occupational lung diseases
5. Elimination of noise induced hearing loss
6. Mental health awareness in SAMI
7. Prevention and reduction of TB and HIV in SAMI
8. Implementation of the MHSC's Centre of Excellence
9. Implementation of Culture Transformation Pillars
10. Health of Women in Mining
11. Safety and Security of Women in Mining

CULTURE TRANSFORMATION FRAMEWORK

- Implementation of Culture Transformation Pillars**
- 100% Implementation of the Leadership Pillar by December 2026
 - 100% Implementation of the Risk Management Pillar by December 2026
 - 100% Implementation of the Bonus and Incentives Pillar by December 2026
 - 100% Implementation of the Diversity Management Pillar by December 2026
 - 100% Implementation of the Leading Practices and Technology Pillar

WOMEN IN MINING

- Safety and security of women in mining**
- Elimination of GBVF incidents in the SAMI
- Personal Hygiene of women in mining**
- Provision of lactation facilities for nursing female employees
 - Provide adequate and well-maintained ablution facilities for WM

SAFETY

- Elimination of fatalities and reportable accidents:**
- Every fatality is one too many. The mining industry aspires to reach the goal of eliminating all fatalities
 - Every mining company must have a target of zero fatalities.
 - Reduction of falls of ground (FOG) related reportable accidents by 20% per annum
 - Reduction of reportable transportation and mining, machinery and conveyance reportable accidents by 20% per annum

CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

- Implementation of the Centre of Excellence**
- Implement Phase 2 of the Centre of Excellence (CoE) by December 2030

HEALTH

Elimination of occupational lung diseases through: Reduction of over exposure to dust

By December 2024, 95% of all exposure measurement results will be below the following limits for the respective respirable dust:

- 0.03mg/m³ for respirable crystalline silica dust
- 1.25mg/m³ for respirable coal dust
- 1.0mg/m³ for respirable platinum mine dust

[these results are individual readings and not average results, and the milestones will be reviewed in 2029 (after 5 years)]

Elimination of occupational lung diseases/ pneumoconiosis

- By December 2024, using current diagnostic techniques, no novice pneumoconiosis cases of, silicosis, coal worker's pneumoconiosis, and pneumoconiosis as a result of respirable platinum mine dust will occur amongst previously unexposed individuals. ("Previously unexposed individual" are those unexposed to mining dust prior to December 2024 i.e. Equivalent to a new person who entered the industry in January 2025)

Elimination of noise induced hearing loss through quietening of equipment

- By December 2024, the noise emitted by individual pieces of equipment operated by employees and individual process equipment should not exceed a milestone sound pressure level of 104 dB(A)

Elimination of noise induced hearing loss

- Using current diagnostic methods, by December 2024, there should be no novice cases of noise induced hearing loss amongst previously unexposed individuals. ("Previously unexposed individual" are those unexposed to occupational noise prior to December 2024 i.e. Equivalent to a new person who entered the industry in January 2025)

Mental Health Awareness in SAMI

- 95% of employees should be screened annually for mental health
- 100% of screened employees with mental health challenges to be linked to care annually (this includes in-house or referral)

Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) Awareness in the SAMI

- 100% of employees presenting during medical surveillance programme should be screened for NCD metabolic risk factors

Reduction and prevention of TB, HIV and AIDS in the SAMI

- By December 2024, the TB incidence rate of all commodities in the SAMI should be at or below the national TB incident rate
- 95% of employees should be offered HIV counseling and testing (HCT) annually with all eligible employees linked and retained to an antiretroviral therapy treatment (ART) programme as per the national strategic plan (NSP)

(This covers both in house and outsourced testing)

WE THE PRINCIPALS OF THE TRIPARTITE STAKEHOLDERS IN THE SAMI COMMIT TO ACHIEVING THE 2024 MINE HEALTH AND SAFETY TRIPARTITE SUMMIT MILESTONES

SIGNED BY:

DATE: 16 OCTOBER 2024

On behalf of the State

Name: *Judith Nenezi-Phabakala*
 Organisation: *Department of Mineral Resources*
 Signature: *[Signature]* Deputy Minister

On behalf of Organised Labour

Name: *Audrey Maphahle*
 Organisation: *AMCU*
 Signature: *[Signature]*

Name: *Zwambiso Miki*
 Organisation: *NUMSA*
 Signature: *[Signature]*

Name: *Lucia Mafu*
 Organisation: *UAM*
 Signature: *[Signature]*

Name: *Gideon du Plessis*
 Organisation: *Solidarity*
 Signature: *[Signature]*

Name: *Ernie Boleph*
 Organisation: *NUM*
 Signature: *[Signature]*

On behalf of Employers

Name: *René Duvet*
 Organisation: *Minerals Council of South Africa*
 Signature: *[Signature]*

Name: *[Signature]*
 Organisation: *CCO 2020 Mine Forum - Minerals Council*

Name: *[Signature]*
 Organisation: *Lesedi with the Berg ASBMA South African Mine Association*

Departmental Perspective

Mining Indaba - 2025

DMPR at the 2025 Mining Indaba [2 -6 February 2025]

The Department of Mineral Resources and Energy took centre stage at the 2025 Mining Indaba, proudly showcasing South Africa's commitment to responsible mining, economic growth, and investment opportunities. This premier event, held annually in Cape Town, brought together industry leaders, investors, and government representatives to discuss the future of mining on the continent under the theme: - "Future Proofing African Mining, Today"!

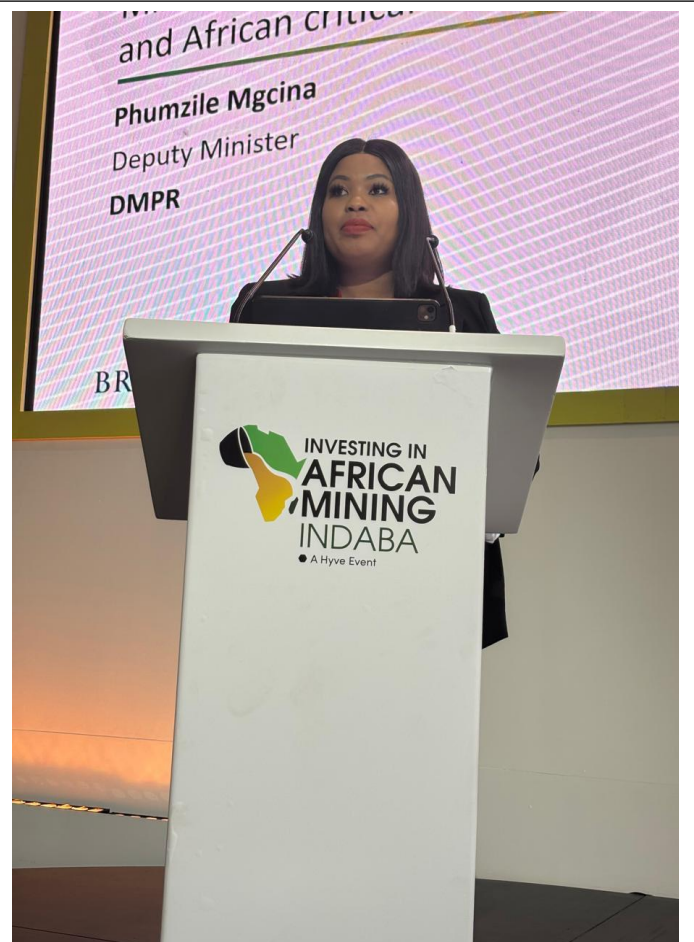
Minister Sets the Tone

Minister of Mineral and Petroleum Resources, Mr Gwede Mantashe, kicked off the event with a warm welcome address, emphasizing South Africa's rich mining heritage and the sector's role in driving sustainable economic development. His speech set the stage for fruitful engagements and highlighted key priorities such as innovation, transformation, and environmental responsibility in mining.

Empowering Women in Mining

A key highlight was the Deputy Minister, Ms Phumzile Mgcina's, keynote speech at the Women in Mining South Africa event. She reinforced the Department's commitment to gender inclusivity, calling for greater opportunities for women across all levels of the mining industry.

Her message was clear, women are essential to the future of mining, and breaking down barriers will drive progress for the sector and the country as a whole.



Deputy Minister, Ms Phumzile Mgcina's, during the Mining Indaba 2025 – edition in Cape Town

Attracting Investments for Growth

The Director General, Jacob Mbele, represented DMRE at South Africa's Investment Seminar, where he provided an update on the country's mining landscape and opportunities for investors. With a strong focus on attracting new investments, he reassured stakeholders of the government's commitment to creating a stable and business-friendly environment. His presentation showcased South Africa's vast mineral wealth and ongoing efforts to modernize the sector.

The DMPR delegation also engaged in various panel discussions, networking sessions, and bilateral meetings, ensuring that South Africa remains a key player in the global mining industry.

Advancing Mining Licensing Efficiency

DMPR Official Mr. Siyabonga Vezi showcased a live update of the currently in development Mining License System. This new system is designed to streamline applications, enhance transparency, and improve efficiency in South Africa's mining sector, ensuring that processes are more accessible and effective for all stakeholders.

The DMPR delegation also engaged in various panel discussions, networking sessions, and bilateral meetings, ensuring that South Africa remains a key player in the global mining industry.

The 2025 Mining Indaba was a success, and as a department, we continue to work towards a thriving and inclusive mining sector for the benefit of all South Africans.



Departmental Perspective

Minister Gwede Mantashe: Releases 2024 mine health and safety statistics

The Honourable Minister of Mineral and Petroleum Resources Mr Gwede Mantashe on the release of the 2024 mine health and safety statistics

Deputy Minister of Mineral and Petroleum Resources, Ms Phumzile Mgcina, Director General, Mr Jacob Mbele Chief Inspector of Mines, Mr David Msiza Leadership of Organised Business – Minerals Council SA Leadership of Organised Labour – AMCU, NUM, NUMSA, Solidarity and UASA Professional Associations – AMMSA, SACMA, and SAIMM, Members of the Media Representatives of the MHSC

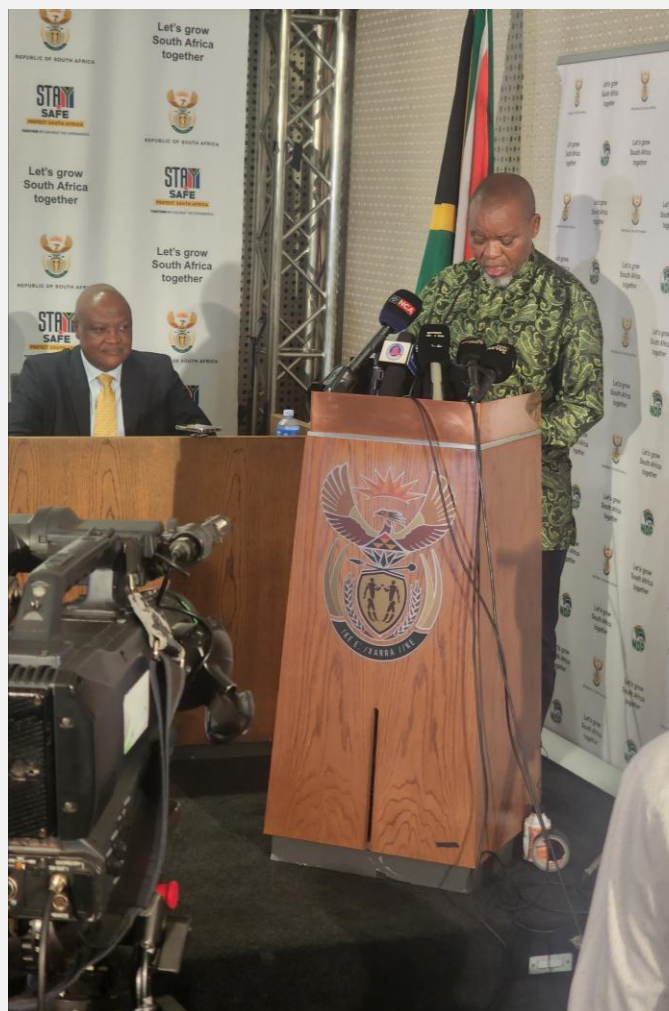
Speech transcript.

Let us start by expressing our gratitude to you for joining us today as we officially release the 2024 Occupational Health and Safety Statistics of the South African mining industry. Just two days ago, on the 21st of January, we were commemorating the sixty fifth (65th) anniversary of the Coalbrook disaster which killed four hundred and thirty-five (435) mineworkers.

Twenty-six years later, in 1986, one hundred seventy-seven (177) mineworkers lost their lives during the Kinross mine disaster, while a further one hundred and four (104) mineworkers perished during the Vaal Reefs mining disaster in 1995.

We have just concluded a meeting with our social partners that are represented here, during which we assessed the progress made on occupational health and safety in the South African mining industry during the 2024 calendar year. The statistics that we will be releasing will show the significant strides that we are making in improving the state of health and safety at our mines, albeit not without challenges.

As we deliver these statistics, we are conscious of the fact that we are not talking about numbers, but we are talking about the lives of people. In actual fact, we are talking about the people who convert investments into wealth. Hence, our emphasis on the fact that our gathering today is not just another event on our calendar, but a demonstration of our untiring commitment to safeguarding the health and safety of every mineworker.



Honourable Minister of Mineral and Petroleum Resources Mr Gwede Mantashe on the release of the 2024 mine health and safety statistics

The health and safety of mineworkers remains at the centre of the work we do as government, just as it remains central to the long-term sustainability of the South African mining industry. Hence, we continue to strengthen the enforcement provisions, reinforce offences, and penalties, and remove ambiguity by amending certain definitions and expressions in the Mine Health and Safety Act, and thereby empower the South African mining to attain the goal of Zero Harm.

We are, therefore, encouraged that our efforts continue to show a sustainable downward trend in occupational diseases, injuries, and fatalities.

Whereas the Chief Inspector of Mines will give you a detailed presentation of our performance during the period under review, allow me to take this opportunity to briefly reflect on some significant milestones we have recorded during the period under review.



Occupational fatalities

The South African mining industry recorded forty-two (42) fatalities in 2024 marking the lowest ever number of fatalities in the history of mining in South Africa

This represents a 24% improvement, year-on-year, compared to 2023 when we had fifty-five (55) fatalities.

There were no disaster type accidents reported in 2024 compared to one (1) disaster type accident in 2023, where thirteen (13) mine employees lost their lives in a conveyance accident in the platinum sector. A disaster type accident is an accident where five (5) or more mine workers lose their lives in a single accident. However, all accidents are undesirable and regrettable. This record is as a result of concerted effort by all parties that are involved in providing and maintaining a working environment that is safe and without risk to the health and safety of employees and all those that may be directly affected by the activities of mining.

The continued collaboration and implementation of the necessary measures on health and safety throughout the year have demonstrated that significant improvements in results can be achieved. We, therefore, commend the collective efforts which have gotten us here, and urge all stakeholders to redouble our efforts to reach the goal of Zero Harm.

The fatalities per commodity in 2024 were as follows:

- 11 in the gold sector, compared to 20 in 2023, a year-on-year improvement of 45 %.
- 19 in platinum, compared to 22 in 2023, a year-on-year improvement of 14 %.
- 6 fatalities in the coal sector, compared to 7 in 2023, a year-on-year improvement of 14 %.
- 6 fatalities for the category of other mines, compared to 6 in 2023, showing no improvement year-on-year.

This category of other mines includes diamonds, chrome, copper, zinc, sand, lime, granite, manganese, nickel, bricks, etc.

The most significant progress thus far is in the reduction of fatalities from fall of ground (FOG), machinery and shaft conveyance types of accidents. FOG categories of accidents reduced by 13% from fifteen (15) in 2023 to thirteen (13) in 2024. The machinery category of accidents reduced by 67% from six (6) in 2023 to two (2) in 2024. There was no shaft conveyance related fatal accident during 2024 compared to one during 2023 where thirteen (13) mine employees lost their lives in the platinum sector.

As part of addressing transportation related accidents at mines, we urge all stakeholders to support and implement collision avoidance systems brought about by the introduction of new regulations on trackless mobile machinery (TMM).

The current overall improvement in the safety performance of all the commodities in the mining sector is encouraging. However, we must caution the industry that complacency can be dangerous and must, therefore, be avoided at all costs.

Occupational injuries

A total of one thousand eight hundred and forty-one (1 841) occupational injuries were reported in 2024, compared to the two thousand one hundred and eighty-one (2 181) reported during the 2023 calendar year. This translated to a 16% improvement year-on-year. Of great concern to us is that most of these injuries are mainly because of repeat accidents categorised as fall of ground, transportation and mining and general types of accidents.

We, therefore, urge the employers and labour to be explicit about their respective roles and programs for the provision and maintenance of a safe working environment that is free of risks.

Occupational diseases

Significant progress has been made in reported occupational diseases, with a drop of 17% from two thousand two hundred and thirty-three (2 233) in 2022 to one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four (1864) cases in 2023. Much of the progress is attributable to the manganese, iron, chrome, coal, diamond, copper, and platinum sectors.



Chief Inspector of Mines, Mr. David Msiza presenting details of health and safety stats during a media briefing in Pretoria.

There was also a decrease in silicosis, Pulmonary TB (PTB), Coal Workers Pneumoconiosis (CWP) and other diseases.

It is, however, regrettable that during the reporting year 2023, the gold sector reported the highest number of occupational diseases for both silicosis and pulmonary tuberculosis cases, whereas the platinum sector reported the highest number of noise induced hearing loss cases.

It is worth noting that non-communicable diseases, including cardiovascular diseases, cancers, chronic respiratory diseases, and diabetes exacerbate the burden of disease in the industry. The sector should, therefore, make concerted effort in the prevention and management of health matters because they impact the average work life expectancy of the workforce. As a result, crucial resources are lost due to medical incapacitation and mine related fatalities.

Women in Mining

Whereas the mining industry is making notable transformation improvements by including women in mining activities, we would like to emphasise that their health and safety is paramount. Women, including female mineworkers, must feel and be safe in society and in the workplace.

We are pleased to report that during the period under review, there were no fatal accidents involving female mineworkers, as compared to the single fatality that was reported during the 2023 calendar year. It is, however, regrettable that the injury accidents affecting women remain high with one hundred and eighty-five (185) injuries reported in 2024, compared to the two hundred and thirty-four (234) injuries reported in 2023.

Illegal Mining

As we release these statistics, we are conscious of the severity of illegal mining that has engulfed the South African mining industry. Our view on illegal mining remains unchanged. Illegal mining is a criminal activity and a war on the economy. There can be no two ways about it.

The truth of the matter is that those that are involved in illegal mining, both the syndicates and the active illegal miners, have no regard for the health and safety of others, nor are they concerned about the laws that regulate the industry. They are in it for their own selfish gains and have no regard for the country. In 2024 alone, the country lost an estimated R60 billion to illicit precious metal trade.



As government, we will continue our fight against illegal mining through initiatives such as the Operation Vala Umgodi which continues to help us deal decisively with illegal mining in Limpopo, Gauteng, Mpumalanga, Free State, Northern Cape and the North West. We wish to assure the nation that the state will not take responsibility for the reckless actions of illegal miners.

Jet Fuel Supply

We have noted the concerns regarding the state of jet fuel supply to the International OR Tambo Airport following the fire that occurred at the Natref refinery early this year. Whereas the concerns are justified, we can assure the nation that contingency plans have been put in place to ensure uninterrupted supply of jet fuel in the country.

Working together with various stakeholders - Fuels Industry Association of South Africa (FIASA), Airports Company South Africa (ACSA), and Transnet – we have ensured that jet fuel continues to be transported from the coast to inland with a particular focus on the International OR Tambo Airport.

Health and Safety Improvement Measures

Our collective efforts as social partners in the South African mining industry are proving that stakeholder collaboration is critical for us to attain the goal of zero harm.

These efforts resulted in Cabinet's approval for the submission of the draft Mine Health and Safety Amendment Bill (MHSA Bill) to Parliament for its consideration and adoption. Further, we successfully hosted the Tripartite Summit during which we robustly engaged one another on the implementation of the milestones to improve occupational health and safety performance in the industry.

Furthermore, our efforts resulted in several directives being issued by the Department to ensure significant improvements in the health and safety of the mineworkers.

We continue to also address all risks associated with exploitation of mine pillars and residue deposits/tailings dams.

We reiterate that, collaboration and the spirit of genuine tripartism should be our anchor going forward. Let us continue working together and share good practices to attain the goal of zero harm.

All employers and employees are encouraged to work safely and apply zero tolerance on sub-standard work and conditions. All mineworkers and supervisors are reminded that unsafe work practices always lead to undesirable circumstances.



We, therefore, urge all mineworkers not to risk their lives and, thereby urge them to exercise their right to refuse dangerous workplaces.

By so doing, every mineworker will return home unharmed, and our ultimate goal of zero harm will be attained.



ATTENTION

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

Effective from 1st April 2025

Following the 2024 Proclamation on the National Macro Organisation of Government (NMOG) by the President, the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE) has been reconfigured in line with Section 7(5)(a) of the Public Service Act, 1994, as amended.

This reconfiguration has resulted in the establishment of:

- **Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources (DMPR)** – Responsible for minerals and petroleum resource management.
- **Department of Electricity and Energy (DEE)** – Driving electricity supply and energy security for the nation.

This transformation marks a new era of governance, ensuring **efficient service delivery, energy security, and responsible resource management.**

Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources (DMPR)



mineral & petroleum resources

Department:
Mineral and Petroleum Resources
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Physical Address: Trevenna Campus, Building
Cnr Meintjes & Francis Baard Streets,
Pretoria, 0001

Tel: 012 444 3000

Department of Electricity and Energy (DEE)



electricity & energy

Department:
Electricity and Energy
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Physical Address: Matimba House
192 Visagie Street,
Pretoria, 0001

Tel: 012 406 8000



Health Matters

The MHSC hosts the 2025 World TB Commemoration for the South African Mining Industry (SAMI)

Held under the theme “Yes! We Can End TB in the SAMI: Commit, Invest, deliver”, this year’s commemoration focused on implementable initiatives aimed at Ending TB. It was held on 20 March 2025 through Microsoft Webinar, with over 180 attendees, ranging from various health professionals, government entities, organised labour, civil society, mine management and employees in the SAMI.



The commemoration was led by MHSC’s Mining Industry TB, HIV and AIDS Advisory Committee (MITHAC). Through the committee the SAMI is advised on policy, research outcomes, awareness and advocacy as well as on industry milestones on TB and HIV. As part of raising awareness and strengthening partnerships, MITHAC runs annual TB and HIV commemoration activities in the SAMI. The committee in solidarity with the globe and national focus, also releases themes and focus points for each TB and HIV commemoration in the SAMI.

24 March marks the day in which Dr Robert Koch announced the bacteria that causes TB in 1882, hence globally TB Commemoration takes place in March. TB remains the leading infectious disease killer globally after having been displaced briefly by the COVID-19. Although TB trends show mixed progress, with the total number of people falling ill with TB having risen to an estimated 10.8 million in 2023 compared to 7.5 million in 2022 globally. The number of TB-related deaths has decreased globally from 1.32 million in 2022 to 1.25 million in 2023.

South Africa also remains among 30 countries that account for 87% of global burden and among 10 countries with triple burden of TB, TB/HIV coinfection and drug-resistant TB. On the positive side, the country managed to reduce TB incidence to 57% in 2023, surpassing the 2025 global TB incidence milestone of 50% reduction. 2024 data shows that we have also surpassed pre-COVID-19 testing rates.

The SAMI has also progressed well, consistently reducing the TB incidence rate to below the national rate since 2017. By 2024, we had achieved our TB milestone as an industry. It is also encouraging to see that there are initiatives underway to reduce this TB incidence in the gold sector. By end of 2023, almost 97% of employees were screened for TB, with 100% of those who tested positive for TB, on treatment as presented by the Department of Mineral Petroleum and Resources.

Key highlights from the 2025 Commemoration:

Organised Labour led ‘Lest we forget’ item, which is a tradition in the industry followed to remember loved ones we have lost to accidents and diseases. A special focus was on those we lost due to TB and related diseases. During this moment, attendees were also encouraged to remember those currently fighting TB.



Dr. Mokoboto, Acting MITHAC Chairperson

MITHAC members also presented on key changes in the incoming revised DMRE 164 form for TB and HIV reporting, as well as the gazetted Guidance note for management of latent TB infection in SAMI.

The Department of Health presented on the Impact of USAID’s Funding Freeze in TB and HIV programmes, while tripartite stakeholders shared their messages of support.

The Keynote addressed was shared by chairperson of the MHSC board who is also the chief inspector of mines. In the address, the global burden of TB was as well as initiatives to end TB were highlighted.

The SAMI’s contribution to ending TB over the years were shared.

The keynote explained 10 Focus points that supports this year’s TB Commemoration theme, and they include: Implementation of Policy, legislation, milestones and programmes.

The focus points also include financing of integrated TB and HIV programmes and initiatives, education and awareness, improvement of living conditions, reduction of exposure to Respirable Crystalline Silica, advocacy for research and innovation as and the strengthening of partnerships.

As globally we approach the year 2030 which is the year that South Africa alongside other UN member states have committed to end TB as a global epidemic:

The Chairperson of the MHSC reminded the industry that together “we have achieved many things that seemed impossible at first to the critics and so even with ending TB and reaching ZERO HARM, it is possible to achieve this goal when there are no spectators, and we work together. Collaboration is key.”

2025 TB commemoration theme **“Yes! We Can End TB in the SAMI: Commit, Invest, deliver”**,



MHSC

Mine Health and Safety Council



EMERGING HEALTH ISSUES

*“Every mine worker returning home
from work unharmed everyday.
Striving for Zero harm in our lifetime.”*

Mining Indaba, SA Brand Perspective

The 2025 Mining Indaba: A New Era for South African Mining

The 2025 Mining Indaba took place on 3–6 February in Cape Town, marking one of the most transformative editions in history. Industry leaders, investors, policymakers, and, for the first time, local communities and traditional leaders converged to shape the future of sustainable mining in Africa.

As the world’s largest African mining investment event, the Indaba has long been a platform for innovation, economic opportunities, and policy development. However, 2025 marked a turning point, the industry placed communities at the centre of the conversation, ensuring that the people most affected by mining had a voice in its future.



With global shifts towards responsible resource extraction, green energy transitions, and technological advancements, this year’s Indaba drove crucial discussions and deal-making. Here’s what took place at the 2025 Investing in African Mining Indaba.

A Historic First: Community and Traditional Leader Participation

One of the most anticipated aspects of this year’s Indaba was the inclusion of communities and traditional leaders in discussions about the future of mining.

For years, industry giants debated policies affecting local populations, but this marked the first time that affected communities were part of the official agenda.

The introduction of the Communities Interactive Workshop provided a space where local stakeholders engaged directly with mining companies and government officials. With growing concerns over land use, expropriation policies, and environmental sustainability, this initiative ensured that mining benefited not just corporations but also the people living near mining operations.

This engagement aligned with South Africa’s broader efforts to ensure sustainable development in the mining sector. To learn more about South Africa’s mining policies, visit Brand South Africa’s mining page.

Key Themes at the 2025 Mining Indaba

The 2025 Mining Indaba explored the theme was: “Building a Unified African Mining Value Chain: Enhancing Best Practice”

This theme reflected the need for greater collaboration between governments, mining companies, investors, and local communities to create a mining industry that was:

- Socially responsible
- Environmentally sustainable
- Economically beneficial for all stakeholders

Key topics addressed included:

Sustainable Mining and the Energy Transition:

With global demand rising for critical minerals used in solar panels, electric vehicle batteries, and green energy storage, African countries were uniquely positioned to lead in sustainable mining. South Africa, rich in platinum, lithium, and rare earth elements, played a crucial role in this transition.

Industry experts discussed how South Africa's mining sector could balance economic growth with environmental responsibility while maintaining a competitive edge in the global market.

Investment in Africa's Mining Future:

Mining remains one of South Africa's most significant economic drivers, contributing to GDP growth and employment. With a renewed focus on foreign investment, major announcements were made regarding:

- New exploration projects
- Infrastructure development
- Innovation in mining technology

The Role of Digital Transformation in Mining:

Artificial Intelligence (AI), automation, and Internet of Things (IoT) technologies continued to revolutionize the mining sector. Panel discussions explored how these innovations were boosting efficiency, safety, and sustainability.

Policy and Regulatory Developments:

Mining laws and regulations evolved, with a strong emphasis on land reform, expropriation policies, and social responsibility.

The recent signing of the Expropriation Act by President Cyril Ramaphosa signalled a shift towards greater government involvement in land redistribution and ownership in the mining sector.

Legal experts and policymakers broke down what these changes meant for:

- Mining rights and permits
- Investment security
- Community compensation models

Most Anticipated Sessions and Speakers

This year's Mining Indaba featured an impressive lineup of industry leaders, government officials, and community representatives, including South Africa's Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy, Gwede Mantashe; Minister of Electricity, Kgosi Ramokgopa;



Minister of Mineral and Petroleum Resources, Mr. Gwede Mantashe, addressing delegates at mining indaba

The Economic and Global Significance of Mining Indaba 2025

The Mining Indaba, held annually in Cape Town, is more than just a conference; it is a pivotal economic event that significantly influences Africa's mining landscape. Over the years, the Indaba has been instrumental in facilitating substantial mining investments, driving policy reforms, and fostering partnerships that enhance Africa's position in the global mining sector.

Economic Contributions:

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) Impact: In 2022, the Mining Indaba contributed approximately R156 million to South Africa's GDP, with 73% of this stemming from international sources. This economic activity supported the creation of 214 full-time equivalent jobs and generated R19 million in national taxes.

Post-Pandemic Recovery: The 2022 event marked a significant milestone as the first major in-person gathering in Cape Town following the COVID-19 pandemic, attracting over 6,500 delegates, including three Heads of State and 67 ministers and ambassadors. This turnout underscored the Indaba's role in revitalizing business tourism and stimulating economic recovery in the region.

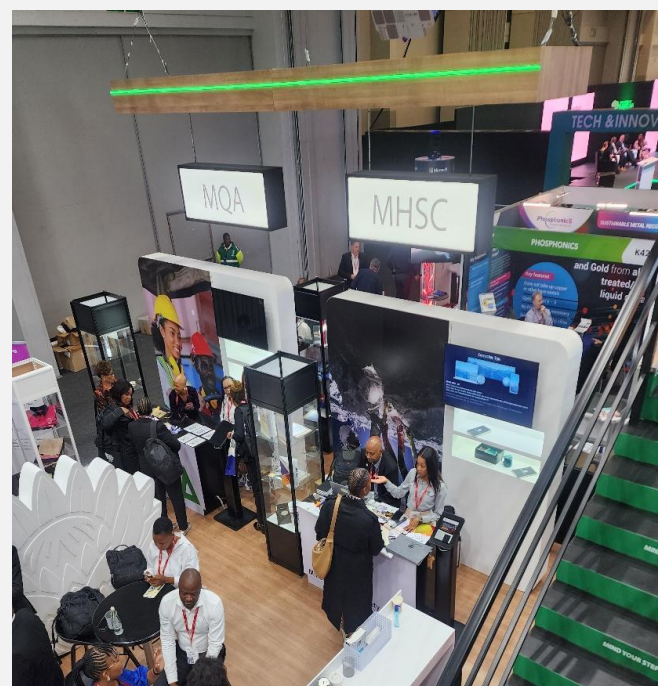
With South Africa set to host the G20 Summit in November 2025, the Mining Indaba served as a key milestone in the country's economic diplomacy. By showcasing sustainable mining policies and investment potential, South Africa positioned itself as a leader in ethical resource extraction.

The MHSC participation at Mining Indaba

The MHSC took part at the mining indaba edition of 2025, with the CEO Mr. David Mamphitha participating as a panelist. He focused his discussion on how technology be of aid in improving health and safety of personnel in the mining sector.



The MHSC also used the platform to exhibit at the South African pavilion with other DMPR entities successfully showcasing various research outcomes beneficial to the SAMI. The exhibition took place over a period of five days, where MHSC brand was exposed to thousands of both local and international delegates.





MHSC

Mine Health and Safety Council

ZERO HARM

in our lifetime

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