

OHS Performance in the South African Mining Industry (SAMI)

Women in Mining (WIM) Indaba

Mr. Tumelo Mateta
Plom, Northern Cape region
20 August 2026



mineral &
petroleum resources
Department:
Mineral and Petroleum Resources
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

A **NATION** 
THAT **WORKS** **FOR ALL**



Presentation Outline



INTRODUCTION



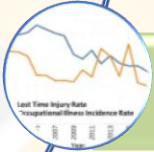
OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY TRENDS



OCCUPATIONAL EXPOSURE TRENDS



OCCUPATIONAL HEATH TRENDS



NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES



CONCLUSION



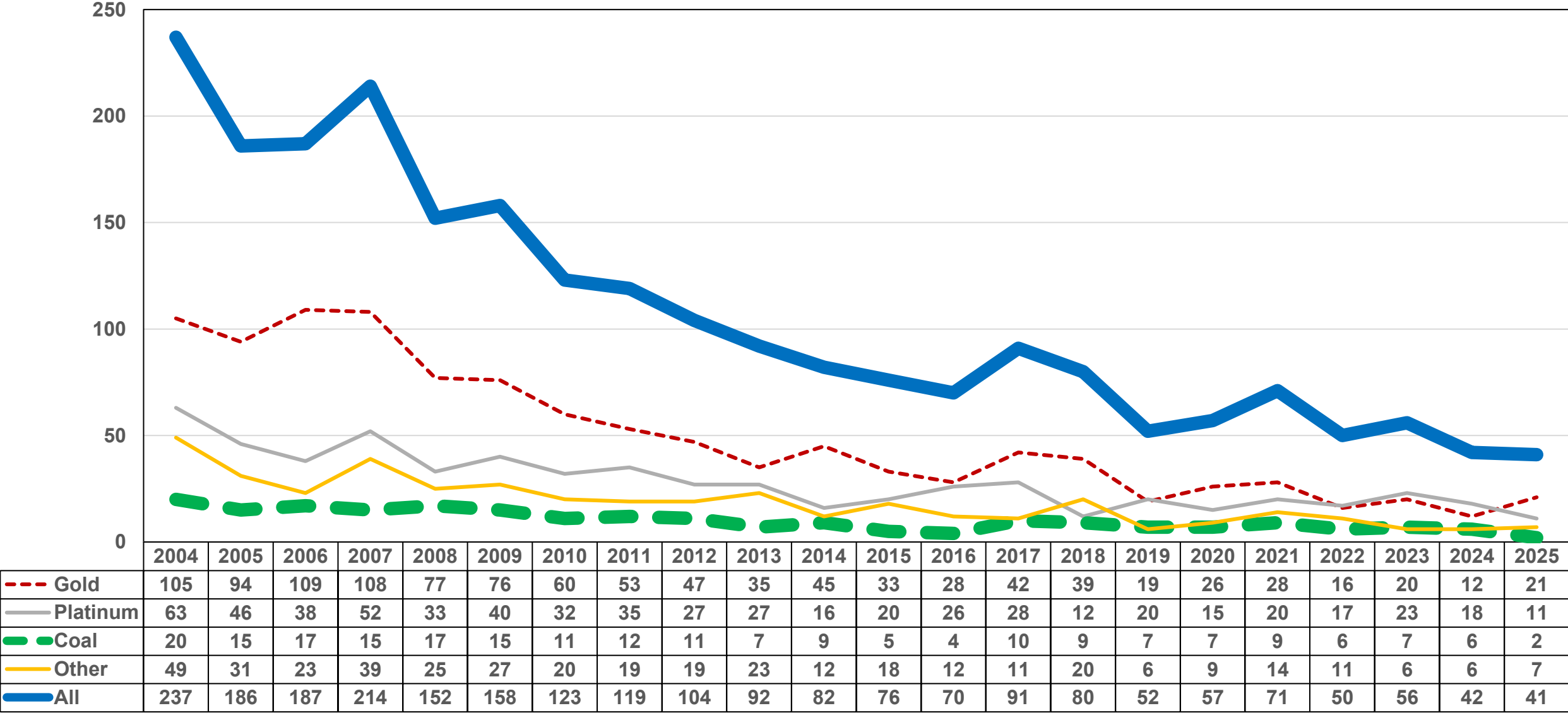
Introduction



- The theme of WIM indaba 2026:” **Reinvigorating the Integration of Health and Safety of Women in the South African Mining industry**”. is extremely befitting because of the need to recognise and address challenges that have led to the regression the health and safety statistics in the South African Mining Industry.
- It is with deep regret that the sector mainly the platinum and diamond mines, has experienced a regression on occupational fatalities. The disaster at Ekapa claimed the live of five (5) mine workers.
- Our sincere condolences and deepest sympathy to all the families and friends of the now deceased as result of accidents and diseases in the mining sector.
- It is of great importance to continue with our collaborative efforts as it is through working together that we could navigate through the changes and ultimately attain the goal of zero harm.



Fatalities by Commodity



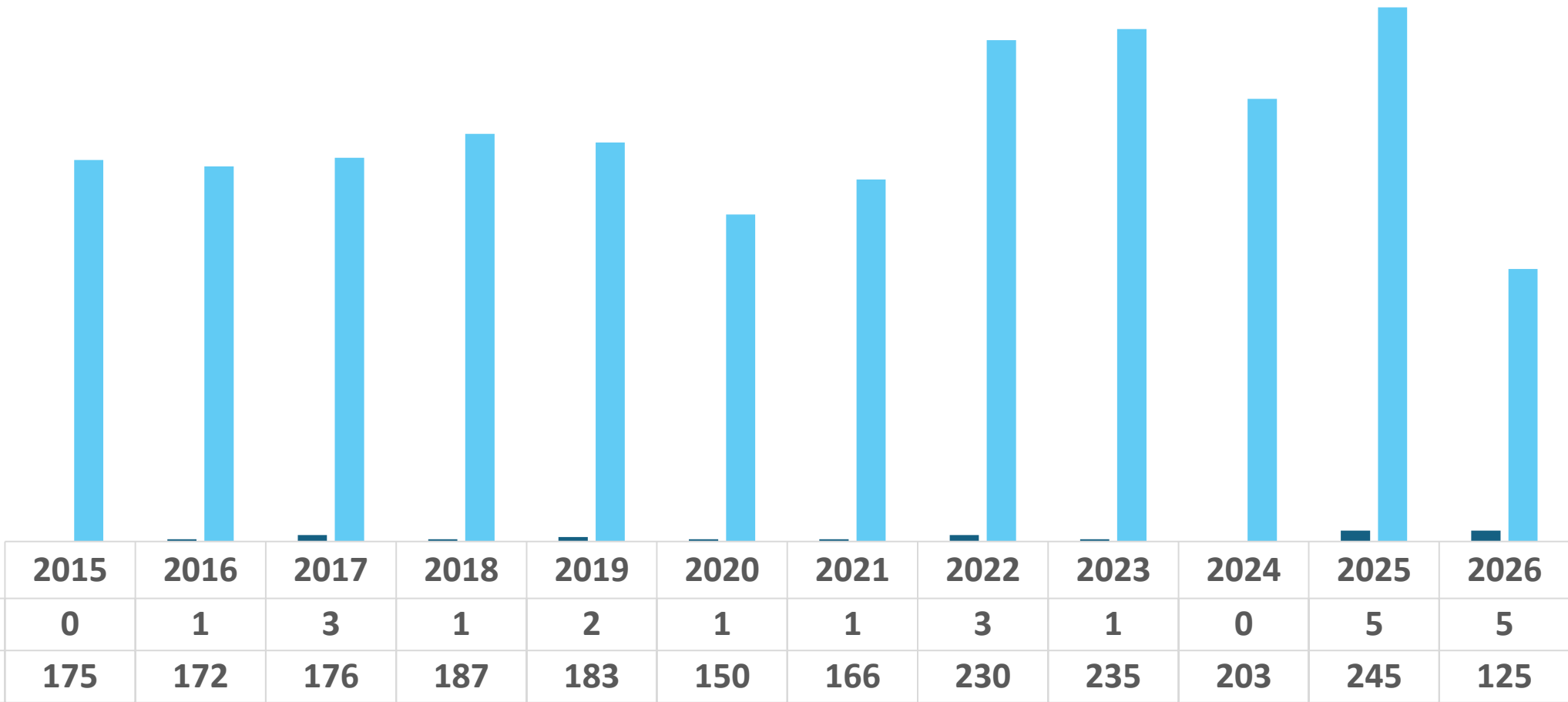
Fatalities in the Sector



	01/01/2025 - 17/08/2025	01/01/2026 - 17/08/2026	% change
Total	32	43	34
Gold	18	15	-17
Coal	0	2	200
Chrome	2	2	0
Copper	1	0	-100
Diamonds	1	5	400
Iron ore	0	0	0
Manganese	1	1	0
Platinum	9	16	78
Other mines	0	2	200



WIM Fatalities and Injuries



Fatalities per Classification



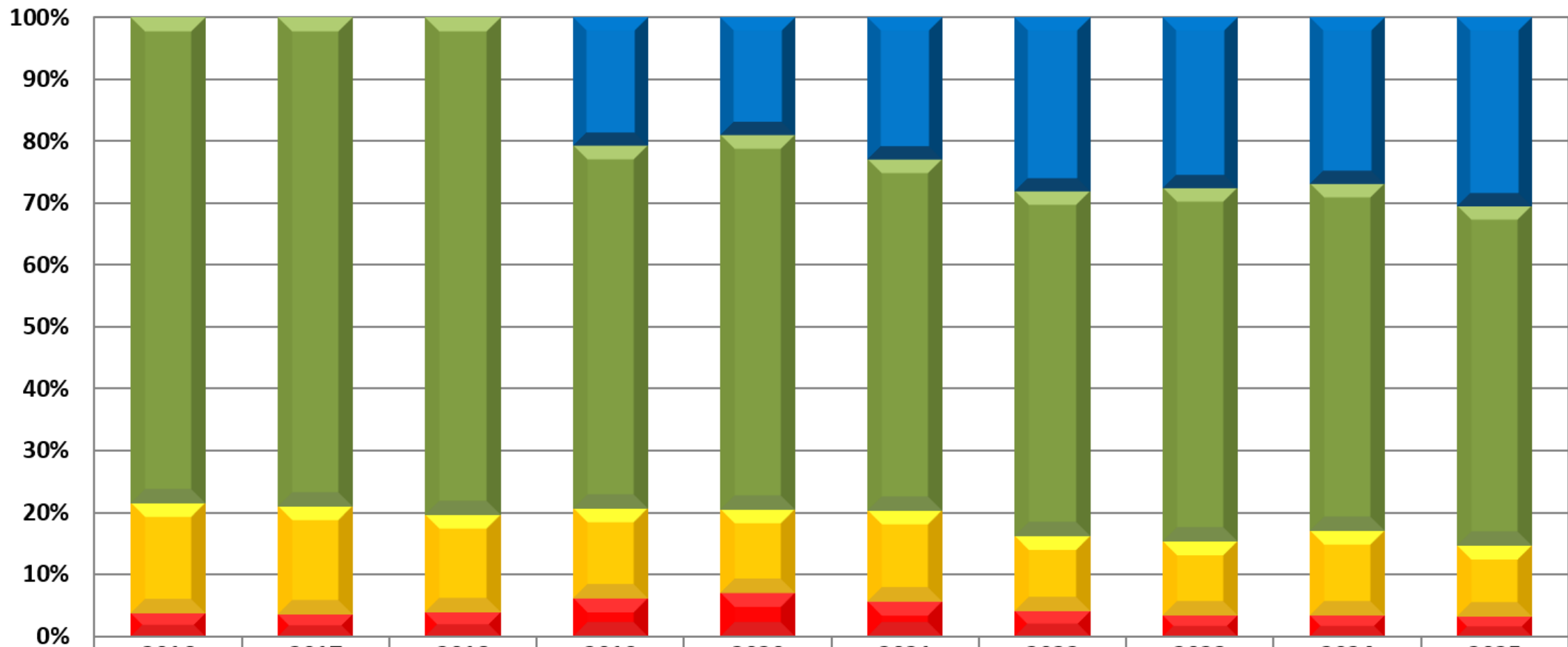
	01/01/2025 17/08/2025	01/01/2026- 17/08/2026	% Change
FALL OF GROUND/rockfall	12	5	-58
MACHINERY	1	2	0
TRANSPORTATION AND MINING	11	12	27
GENERAL	7	22	200
CONVEYANCE ACCIDENTS (SHAFT/WINZE)	0	1	100
ELECTRICITY	1	0	-100
FIRES	0	0	0
EXPLOSIVES	0	0	0
SUBSIDENCE OR CAVING	0	0	0
HEAT SICKNESS	0	0	0
DIVING SICKNESS	0	0	0
OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES	0	0	0
MISCELLANEOUS (specify)	0	1	100
TOTAL	32	43	34



EXPOSURE TO AIRBORNE POLLUTANTS NATIONALLY



Percentage of employees exposed

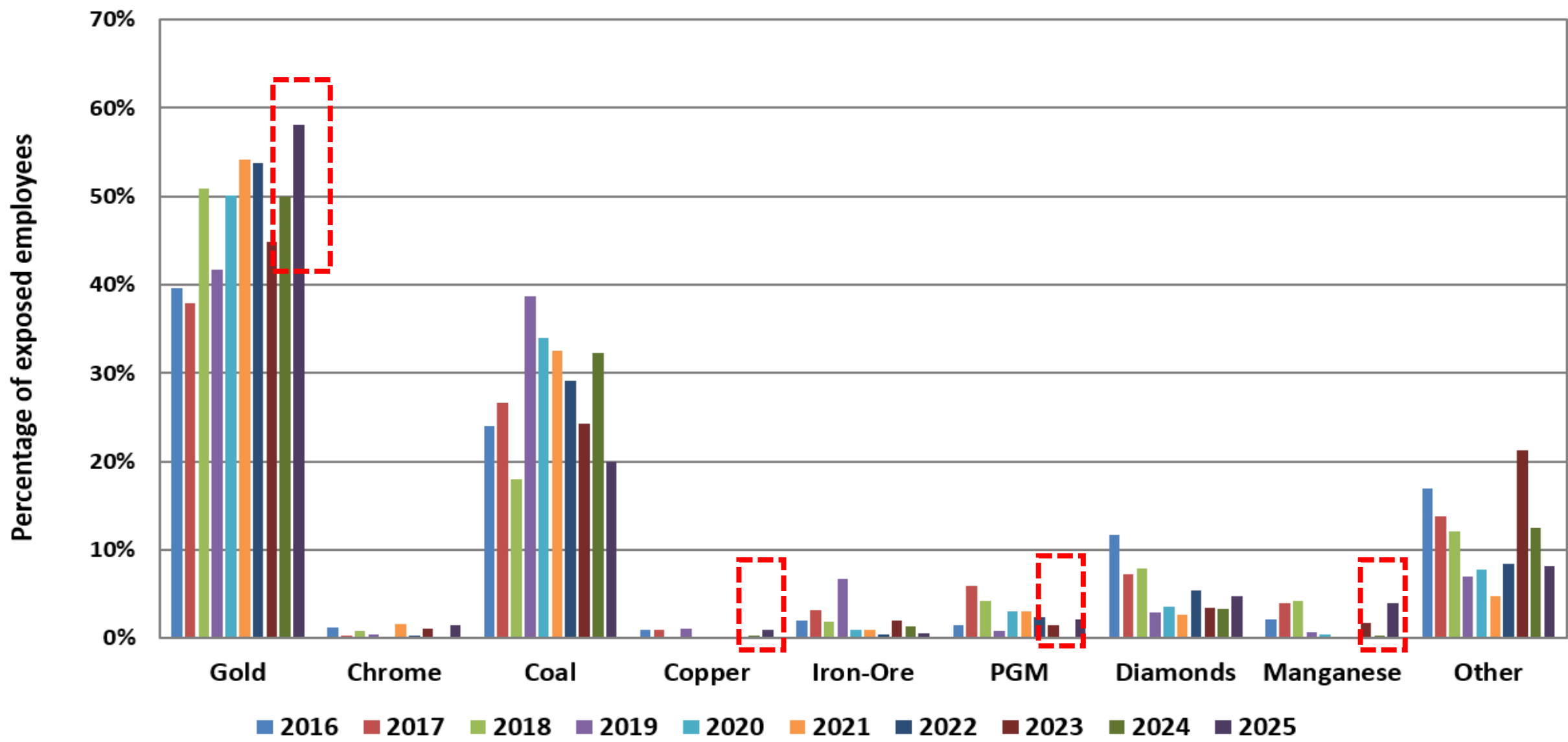


HEG D				20.64	18.90	22.91	27.90	27.51	26.81	30.43
HEG C	78.55	79.07	80.44	58.84	60.61	56.86	55.90	57.26	56.13	54.90
HEG B	17.79	17.45	15.68	14.39	13.61	14.69	12.12	11.82	13.70	11.47
HEG A	3.66	3.52	3.89	6.13	6.87	5.54	4.08	3.41	3.36	3.20

EXPOSURE TO AIRBORNE POLLUTANTS – COMMODITY



Exposure to Airborne Pollutants > OEL

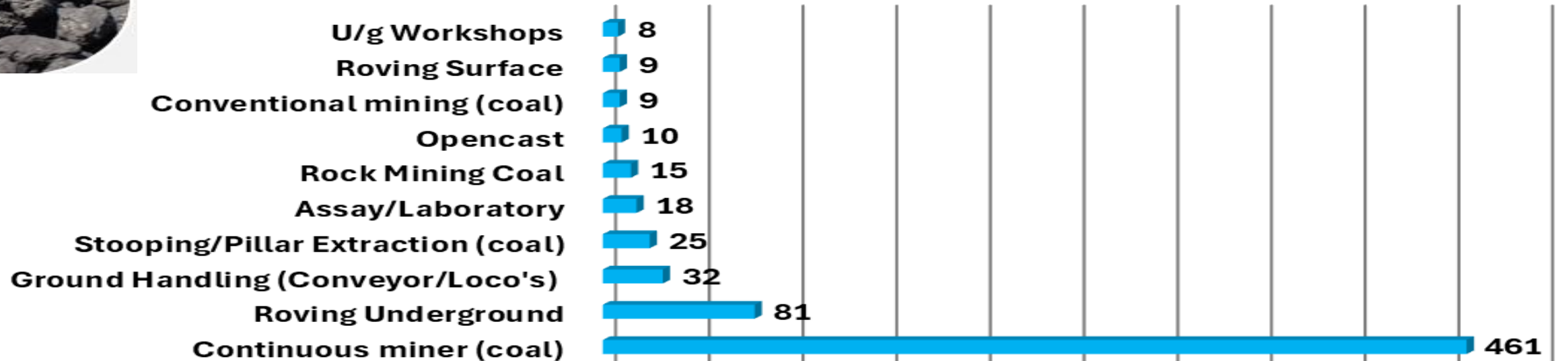


HIGH RISK OCCUPATION

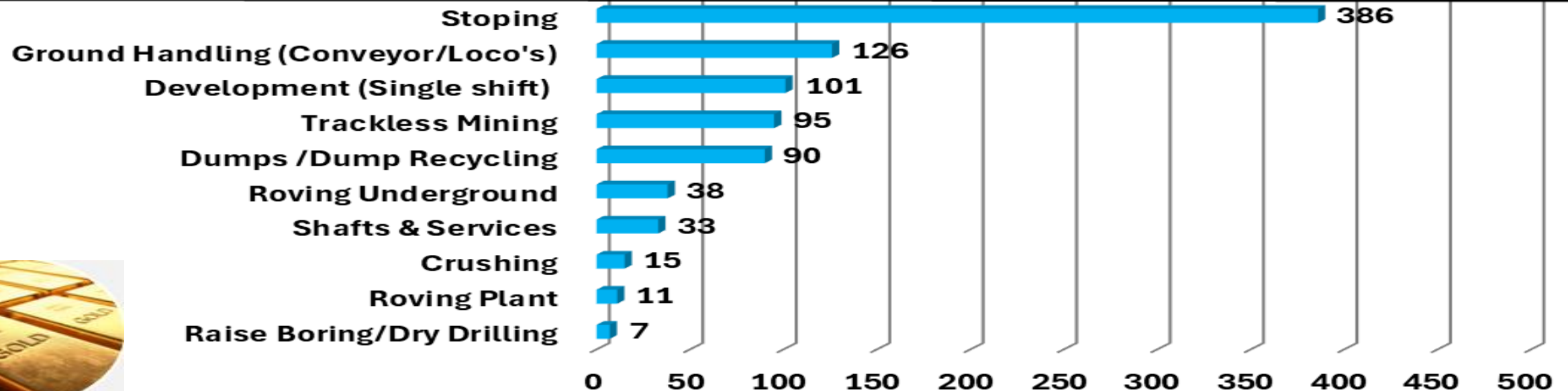


Top 10 Occupations > OEL: Airborne Pollutants

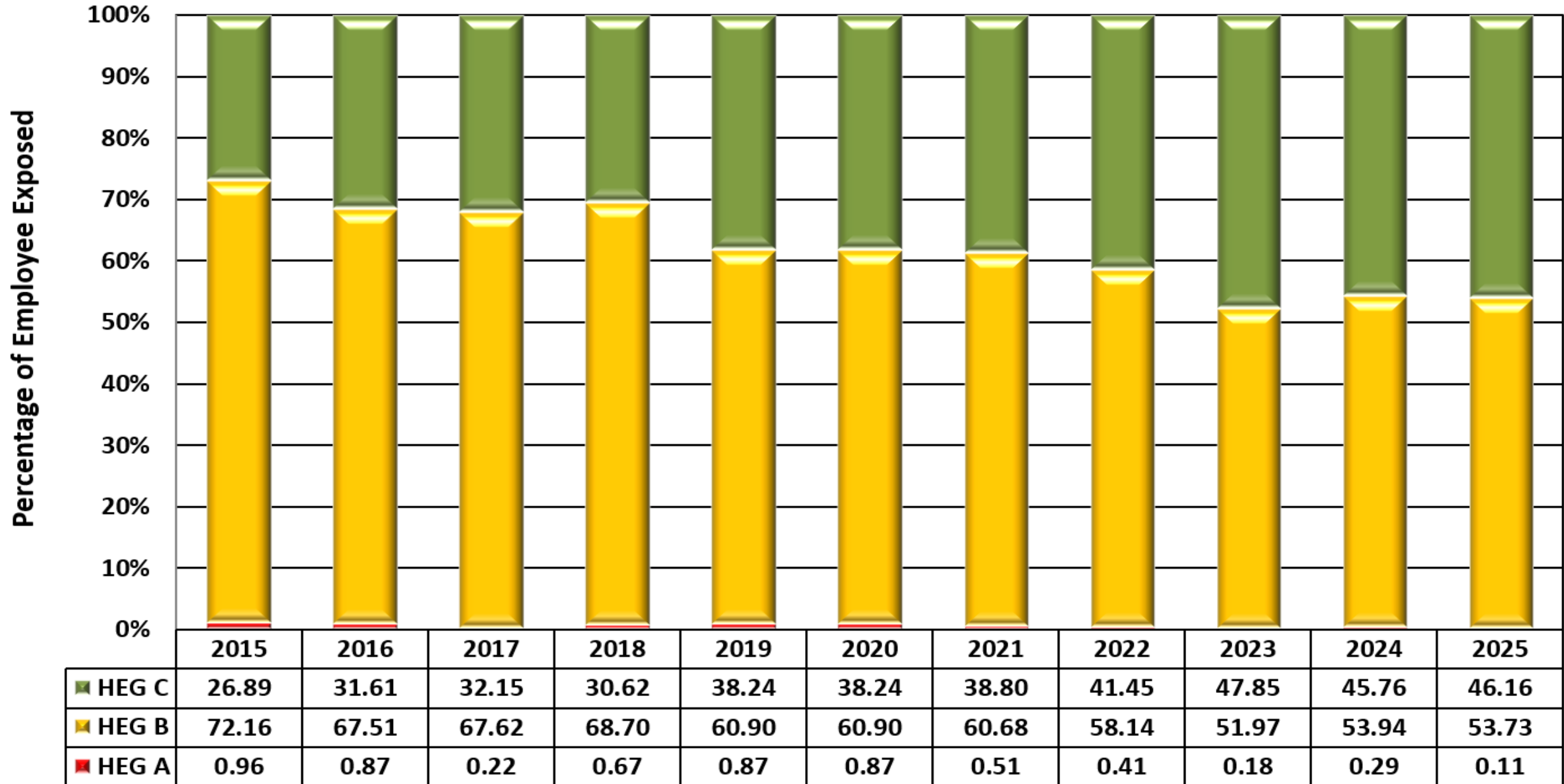
COAL



GOLD



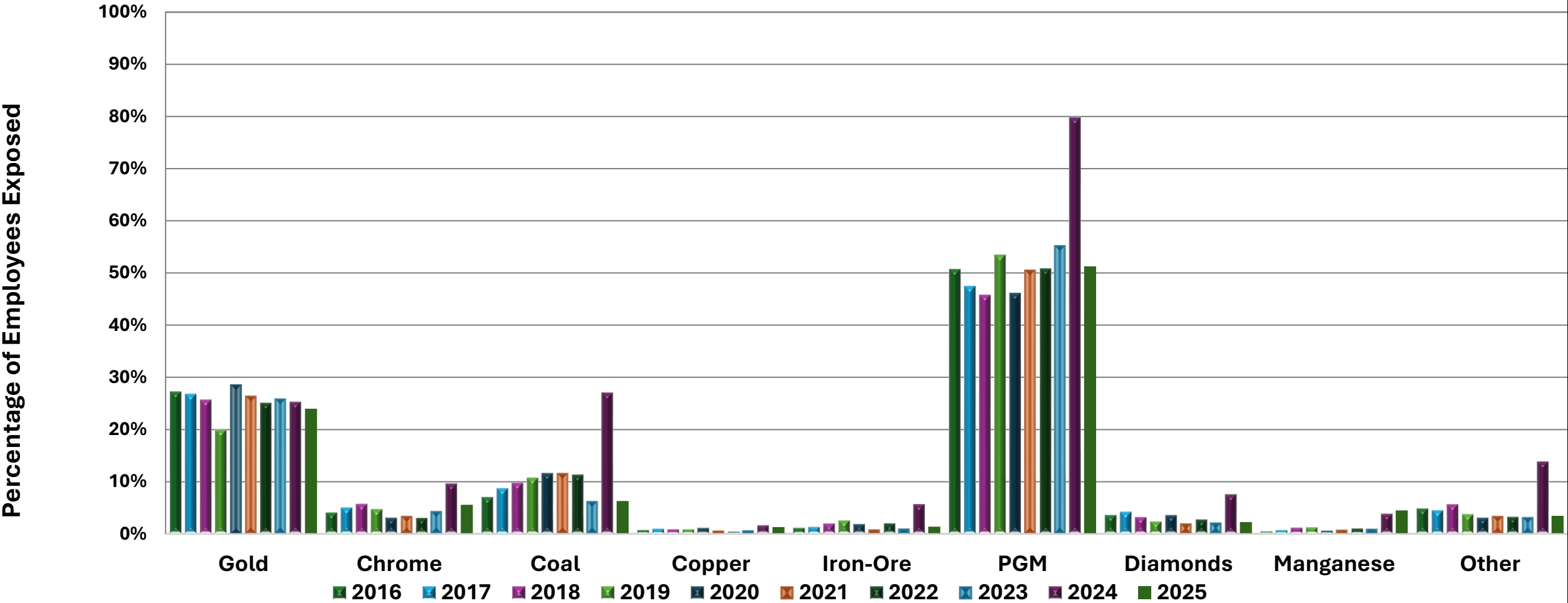
EXPOSURE TO NOISE—NATIONALLY



EXPOSURE TO NOISE—COMMODITY



Exposure to Noise $\geq$ OEL (85 dB(A))



Employees' exposure above OEL

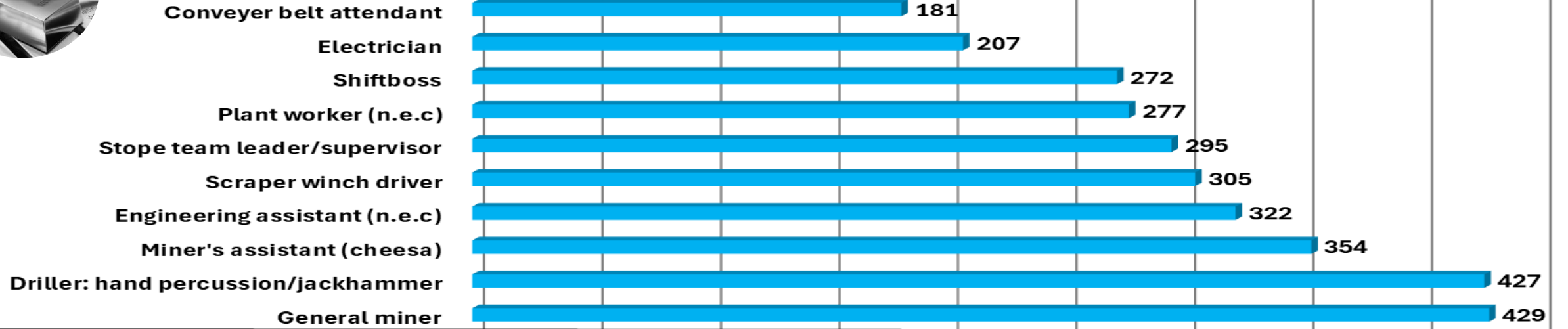
Gold	Chrome	Coal	Copper	Iron-Ore	PGM	Diamonds	Manganese	Other	TOTAL RSA
56115	13040	14740	3014	3233	120010	5285	10530	8105	234072

HIGH-RISK OCCUPATIONS

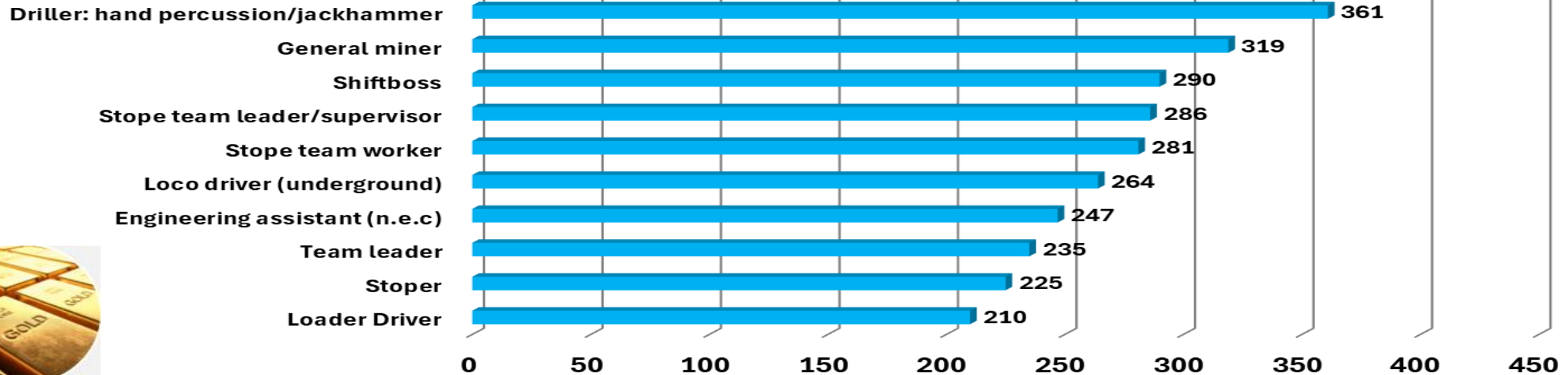


PGM

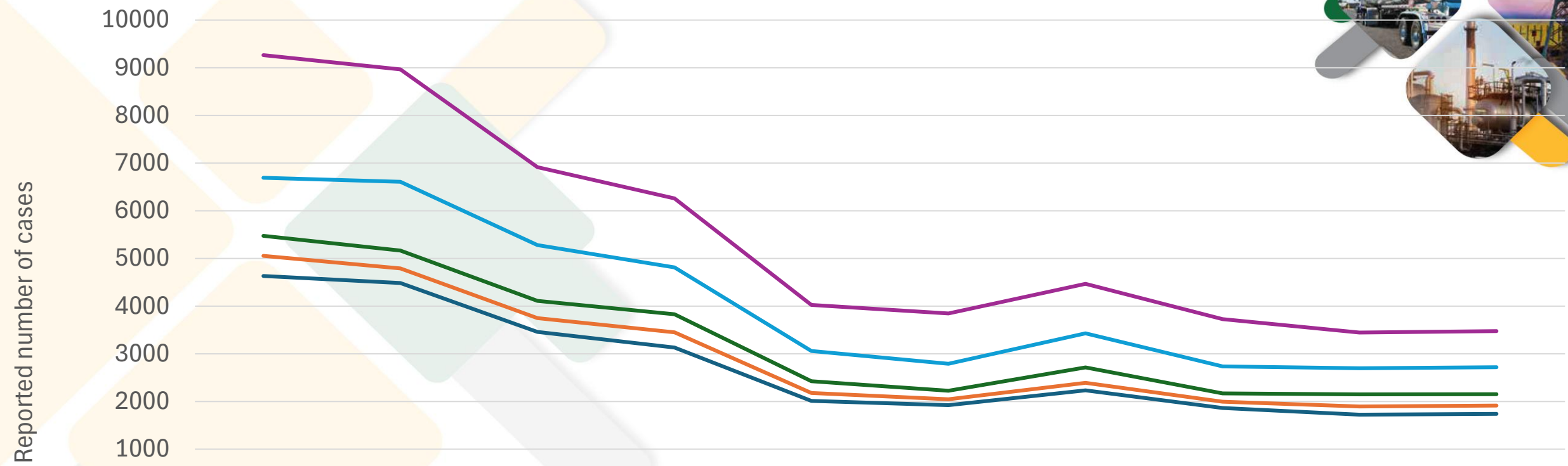
Top 10 Occupations > OEL (85 dB(A))



GOLD

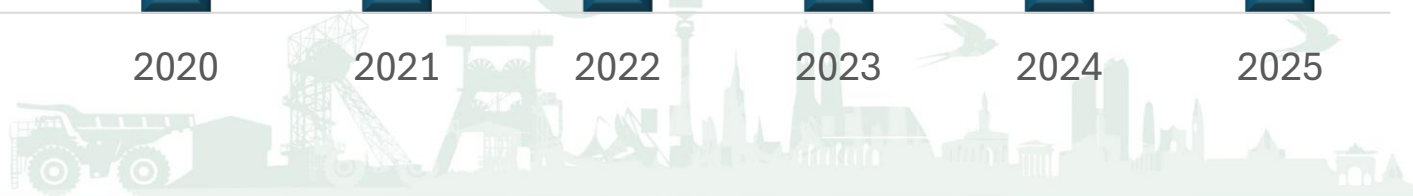
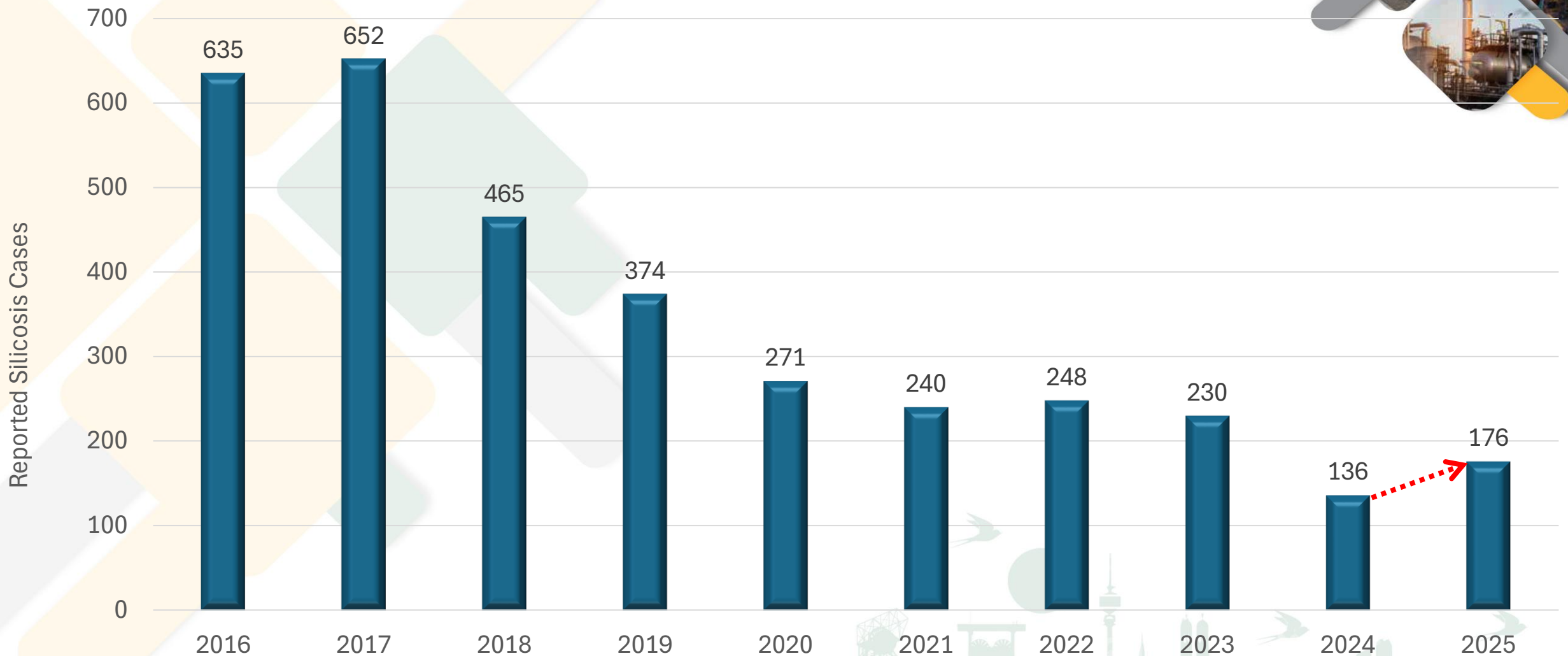


TOTAL OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES BY COMMODITY

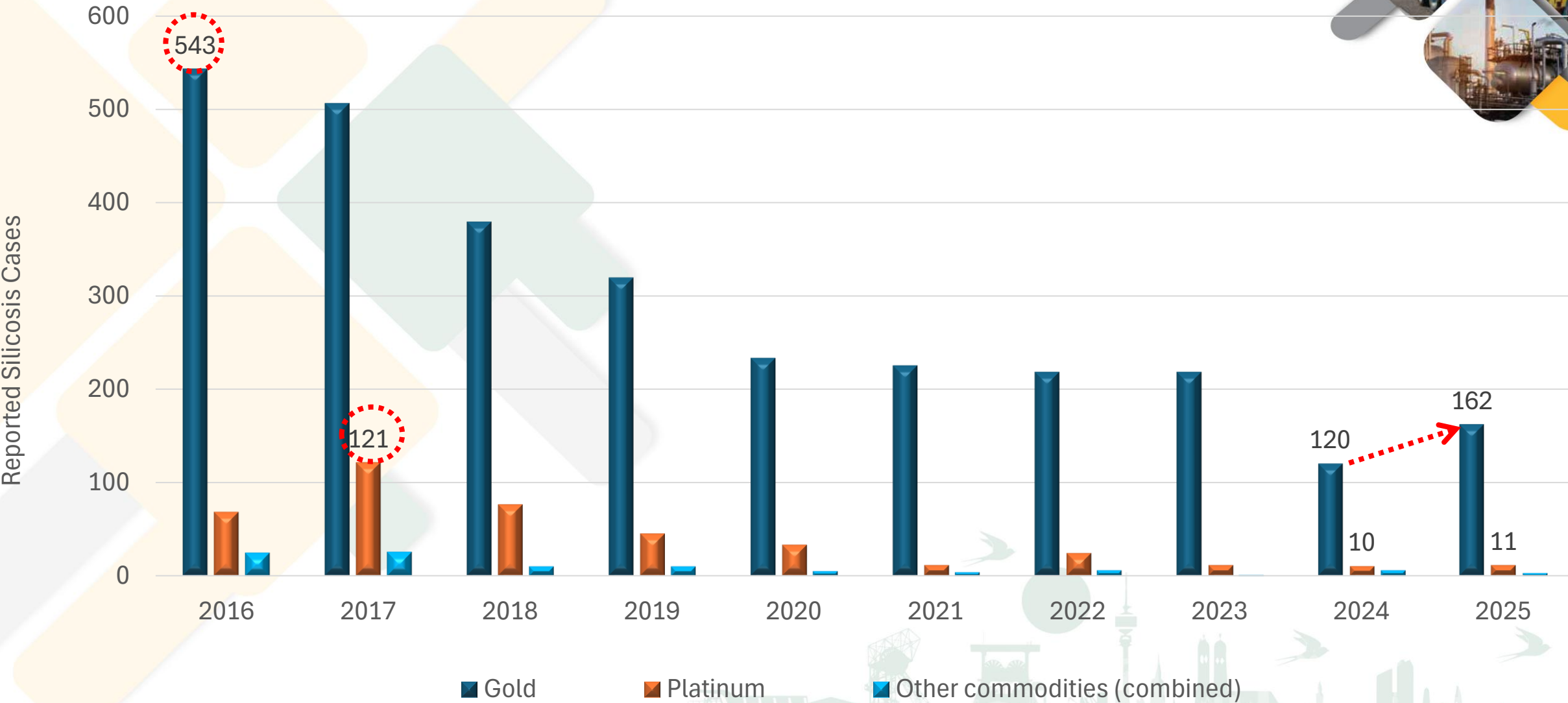


	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Gold	2572	2360	1637	1449	967	1058	1037	991	749	760
Platinum	1218	1440	1169	983	632	563	716	568	548	564
Coal	420	375	360	379	247	181	324	172	254	239
Other	422	308	292	319	167	122	156	133	172	176
All mines	4632	4483	3458	3130	2013	1924	2233	1864	1723	1739

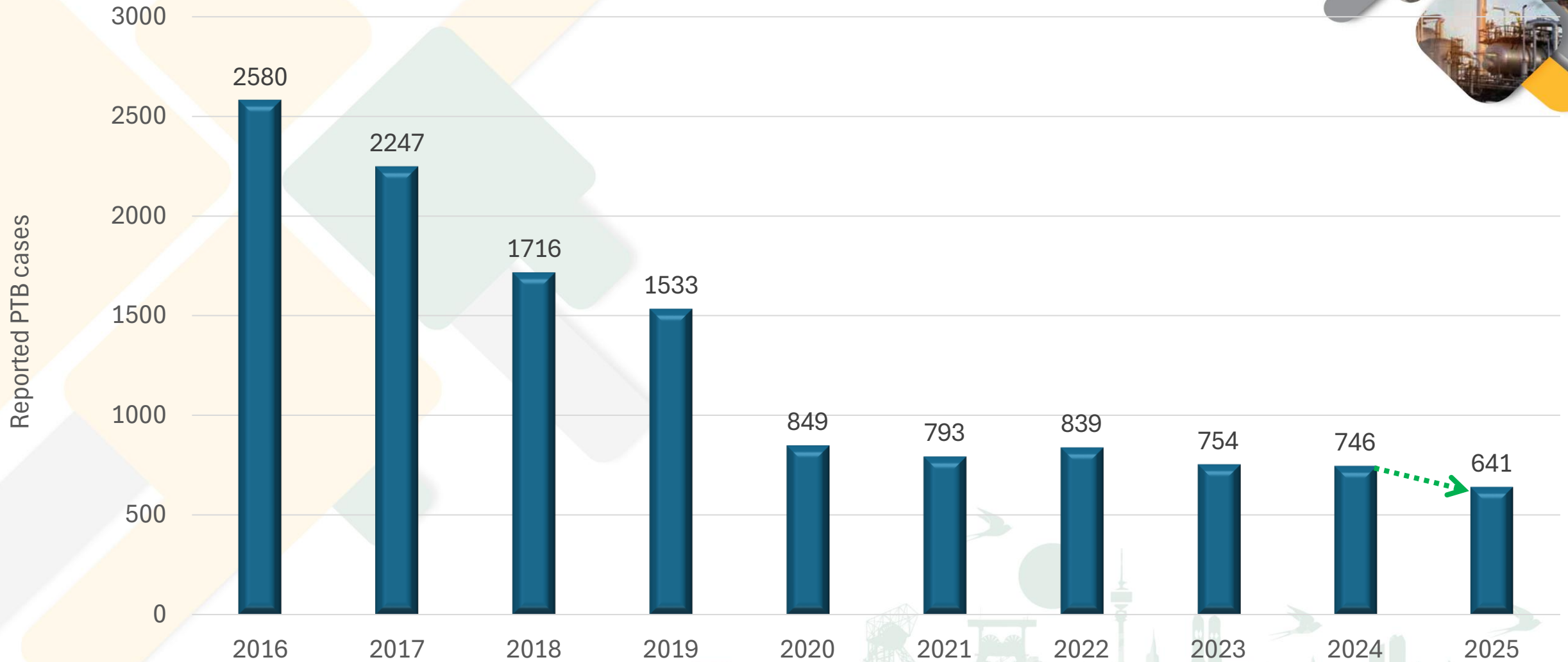
SILICOSIS CASES



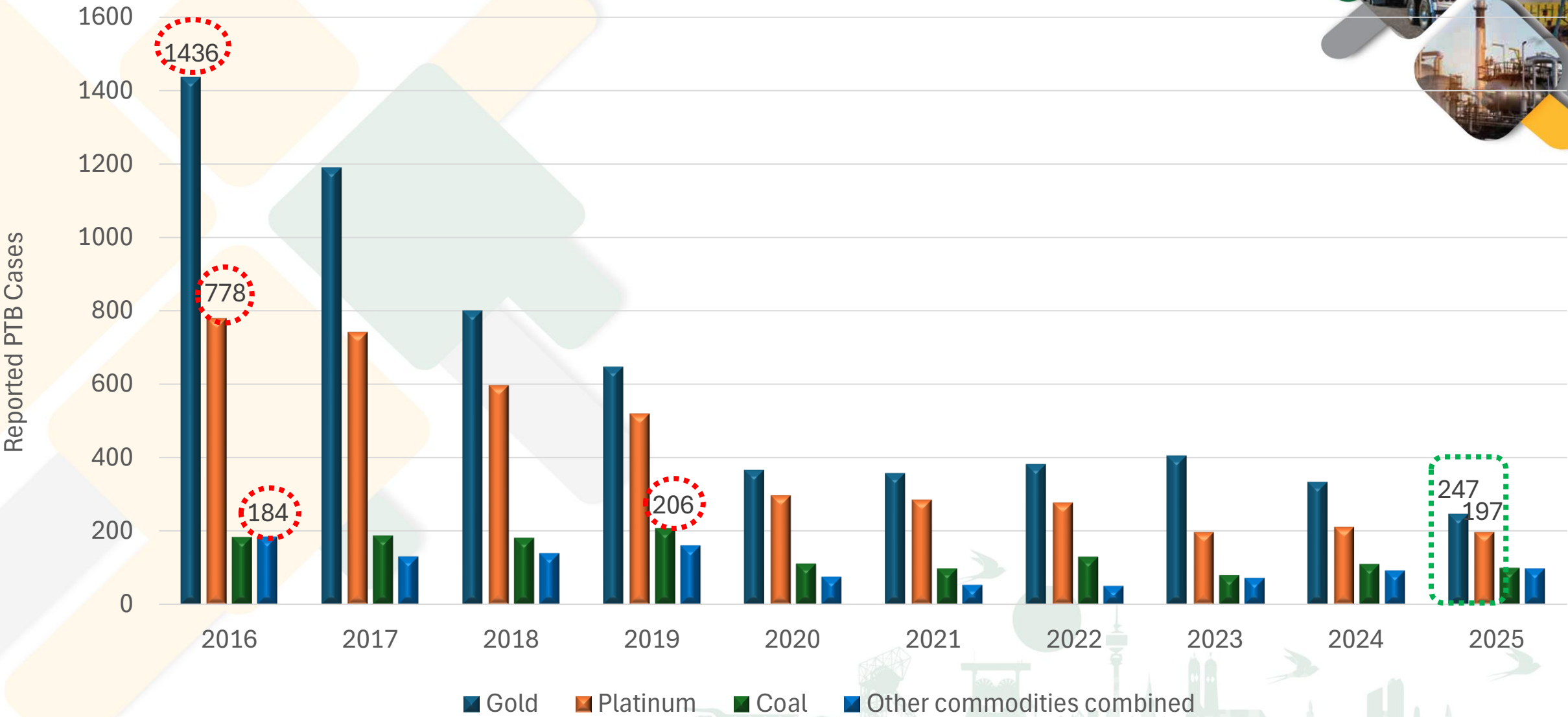
REPORTED SILICOSIS CASES BY MAJOR CONTRIBUTING COMMODITY



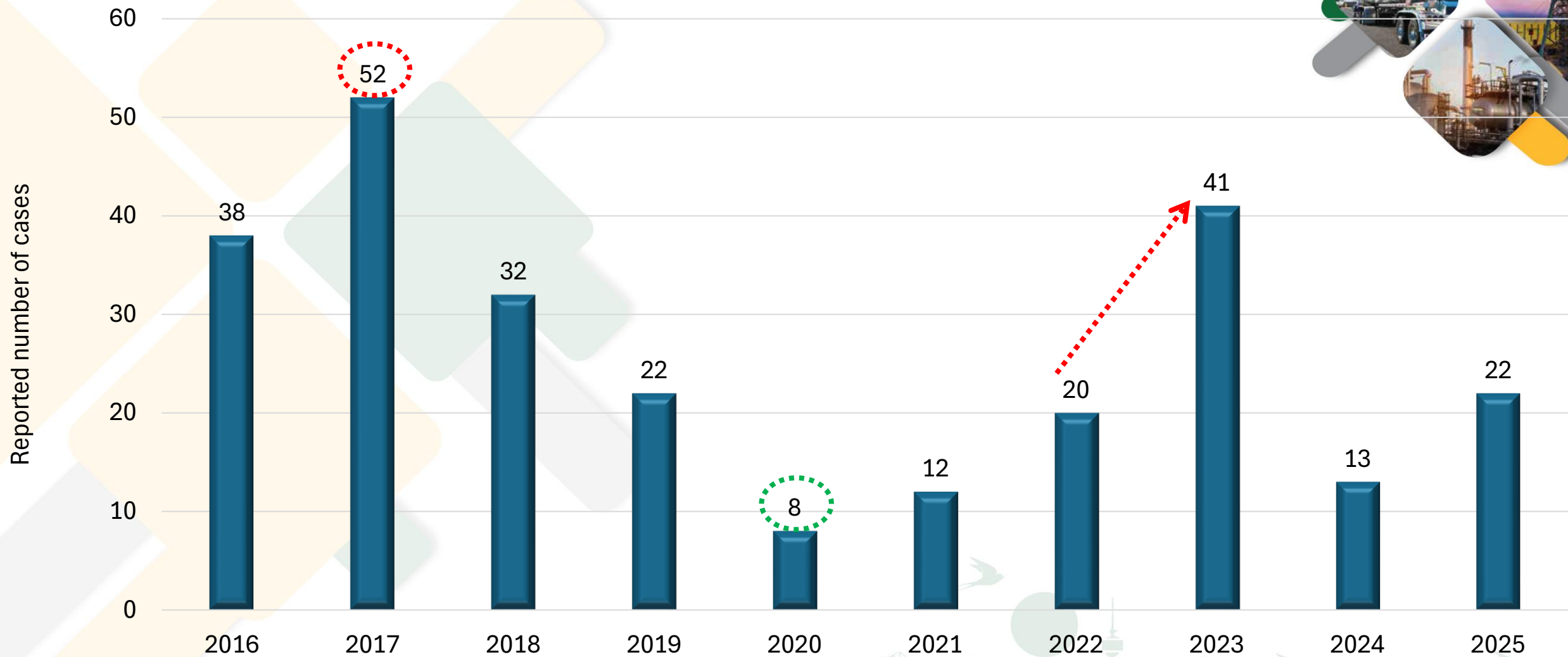
PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS (PTB) CASES



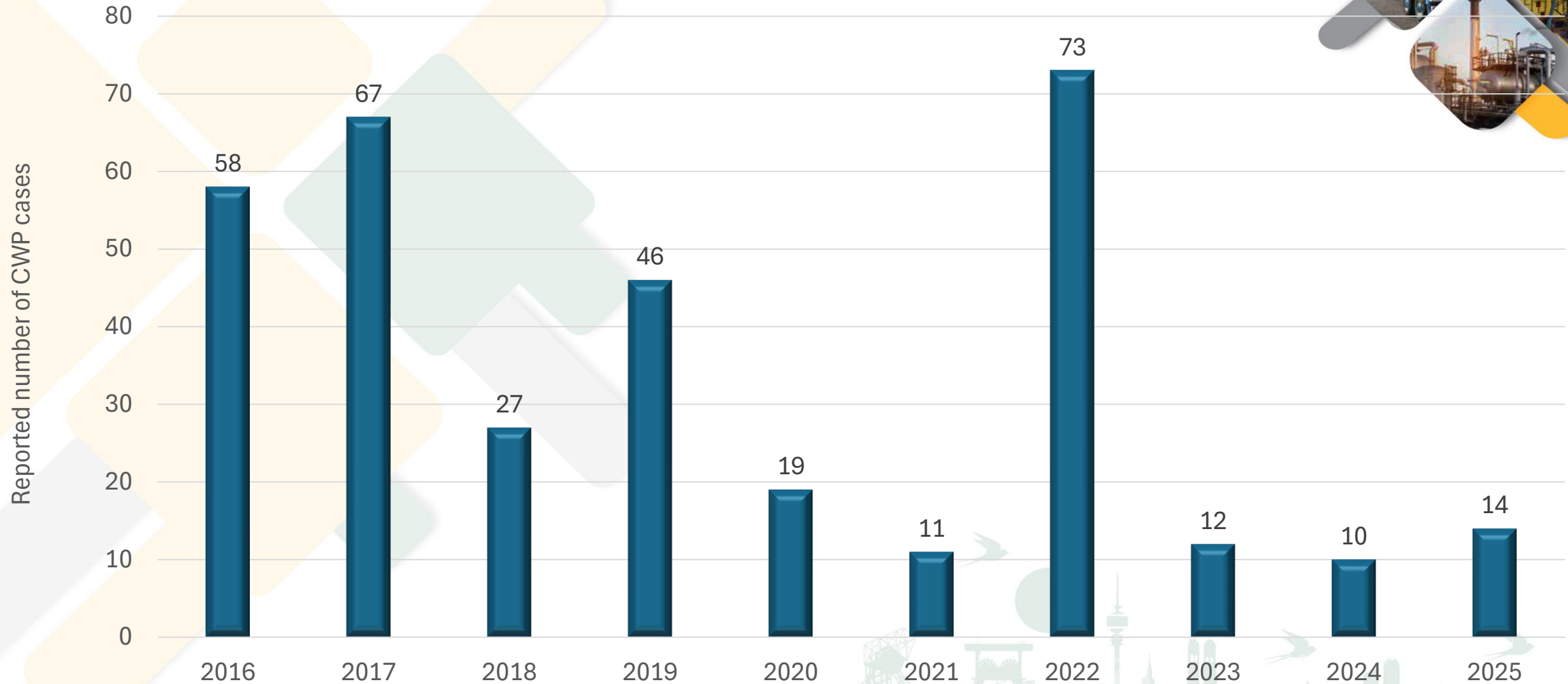
REPORTED PTB CASES BY MAJOR CONTRIBUTING COMMODITY



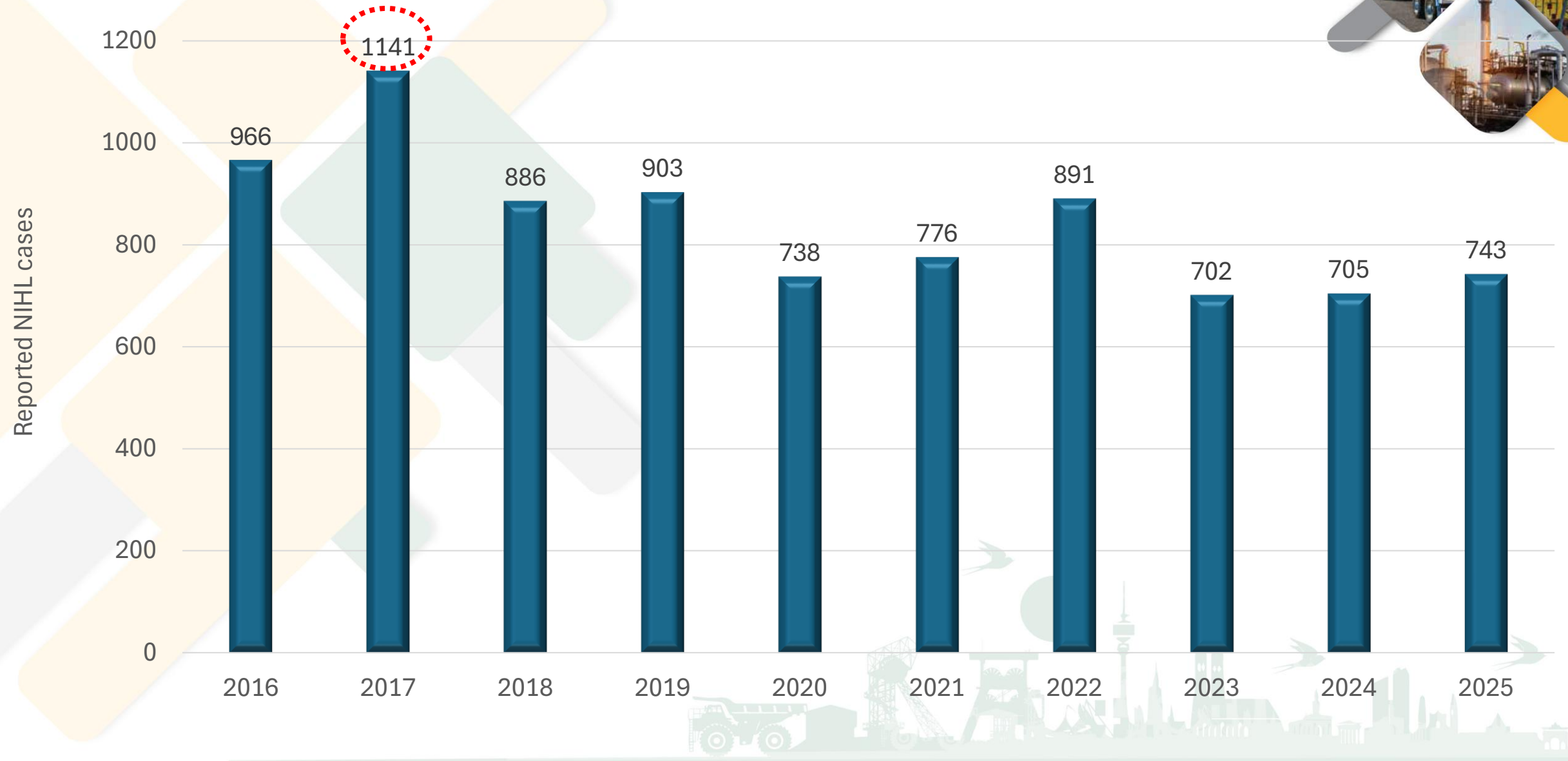
SILICOTUBERCULOSIS (SIL-TB) CASES



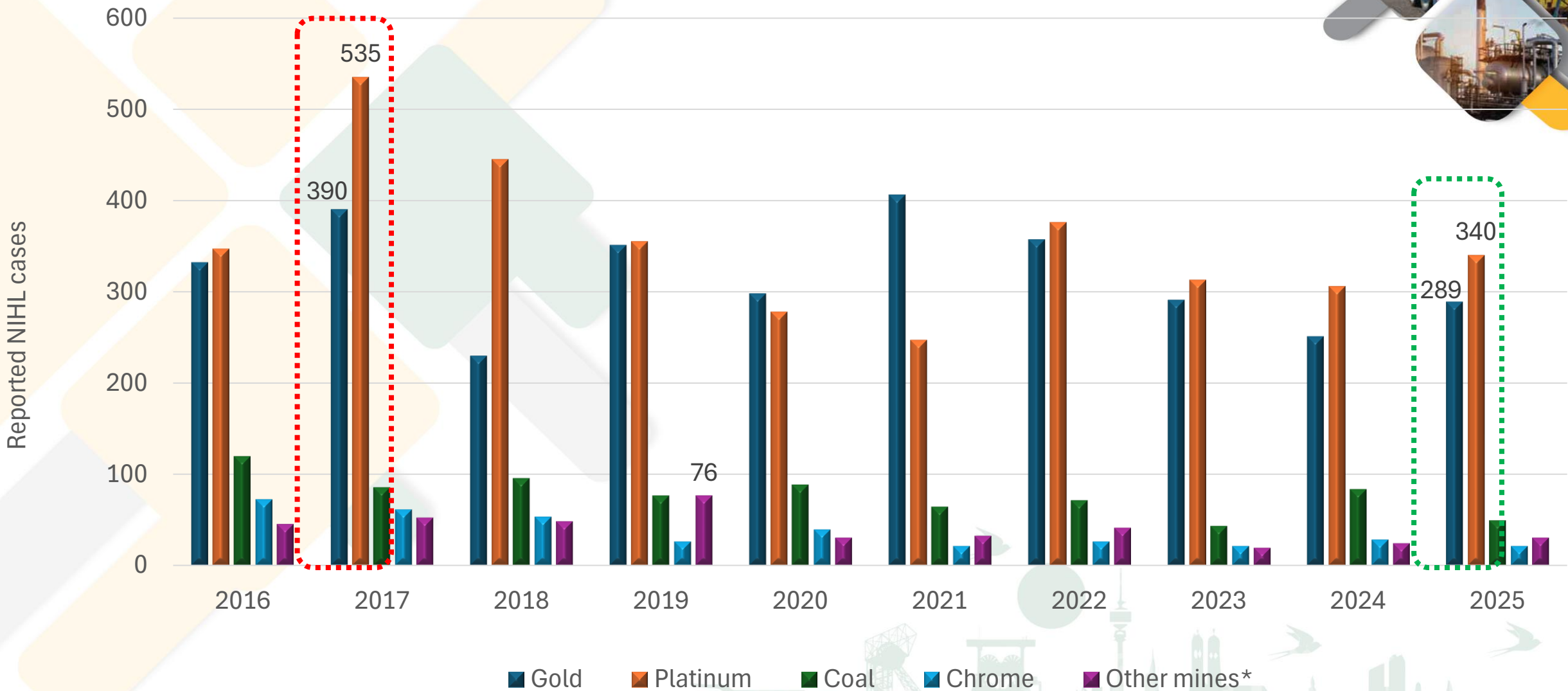
COAL WORKERS' PNEUMOCONIOSIS (CWP) CASES



NOISE-INDUCED HEARING LOSS (NIHL) CASES



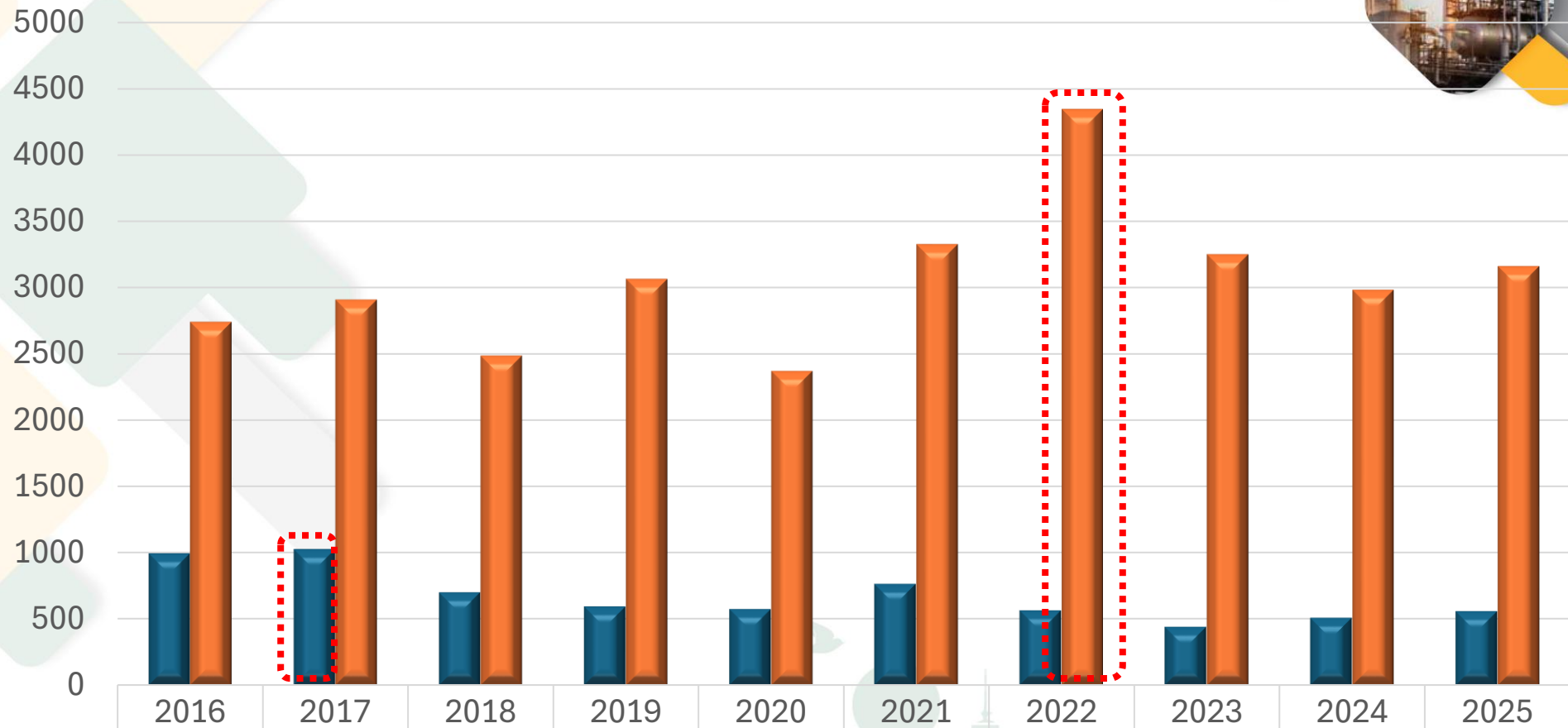
REPORTED NIHL CASES BY MAJOR CONTRIBUTING COMMODITY



MEDICAL INCAPACITY CASES

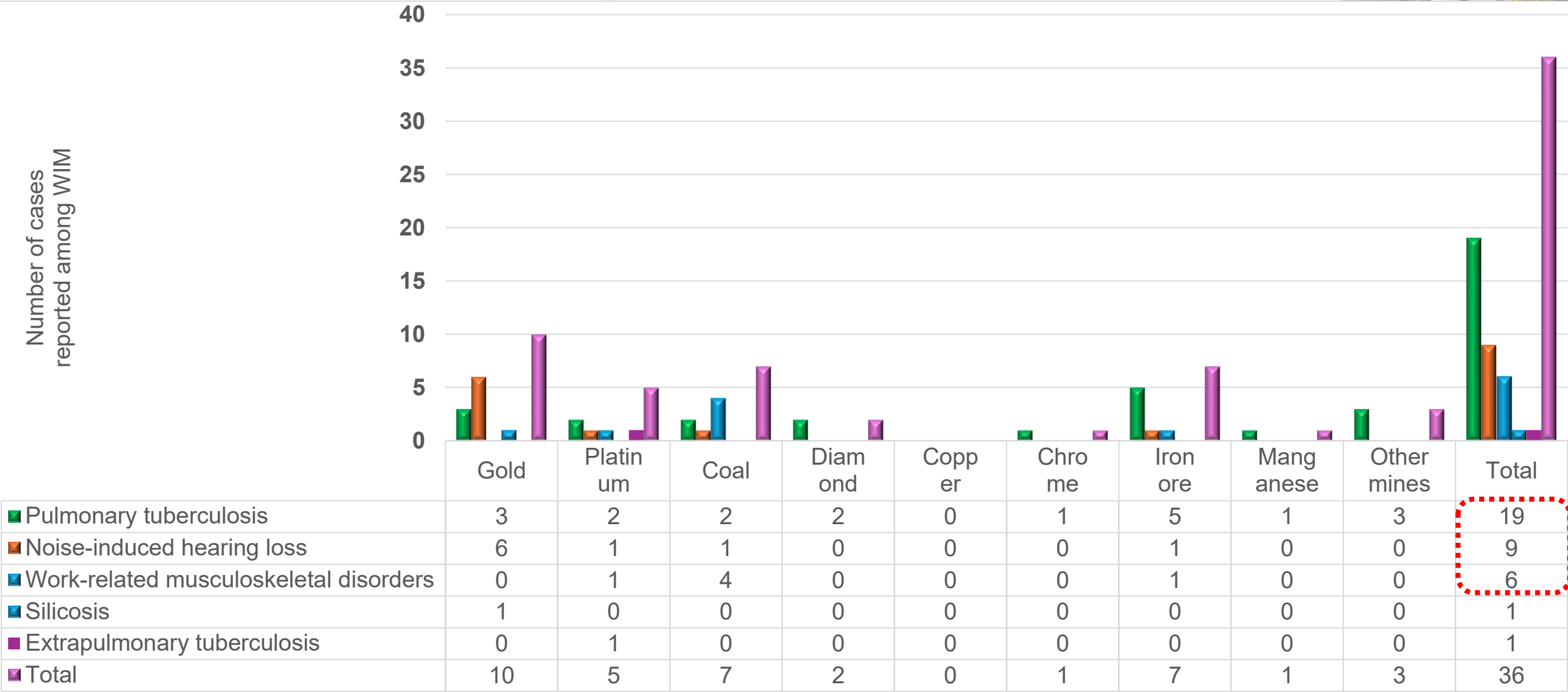


Reported number of cases



■ Medical incapacity (occ diseases)	995	1026	700	594	575	765	564	440	508	558
■ Medical incapacity (Non-occ diseases)	2741	2908	2487	3065	2371	3326	4343	3250	2982	3160

OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES REPORTED AMONG WIM: FY 2025/2026 (APRIL 2025-MARCH 2026)





NCD AND MENTAL HEALTH BURDEN: OVERVIEW, SAMI 2021–2025

Reported cases/conditions across key health domains

Health domain	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Metabolic risk factors (<i>Hypertension • Obesity • Dyslipidaemia • Other metabolic risk factors</i>)	79,319	83,473	100,882	132,879	188,222
Diabetes mellitus (<i>Type 2 diabetes • Type 1 diabetes</i>)	14,302	15,761	16,937	16,648	17,632
Major downstream NCDs (<i>Chronic respiratory diseases • Cardiovascular diseases • Cancers</i>)	2,491	2,441	2,897	2,696	3,291
Other priority chronic conditions (<i>Neurological/sense-organ disorder • Musculoskeletal/rheumatologic disorder • Genitourinary, including chronic kidney disease (CKD) and other reported priority chronic conditions</i>)	1,656	3,502	2,314	3,025	2,315
Mental health disorders (<i>Depressive disorder, • Anxiety disorder • Bipolar disorder • PTSD • Substance-use disorders • Psychotic disorders • Other MHDs</i>)	599	468	650	1,570	1,289
Total reported cases/conditions across all health domains	98,367	105,645	123,680	156,818	212,749
Total reported NCDs and MHDs excluding metabolic risk factors	19,048	22,172	22,798	23,939	24,527

CONCLUSION



- Collaboration amongst stakeholders remains key in achieving the goal of zero harm in the sector.
- Effective change management remains key in navigating through the changing mining landscape.
- Placing great emphasis on the mitigation of challenges impacting Women in Mining employees.
- Implementation of the Instructions (Exposures and Fire Prevention), Quality risk assessments
- Occupational disease burden declined substantially over 2016–2025, driven mainly by reductions in PTB and silicosis, while NIHL remains a persistent burden.
- NCDs and mental health disorders are emerging as major workforce-health priorities, with the significant increase in reported upstream metabolic risk factors signalling an important opportunity for population-risk identification, prevention and early intervention through coordinated, sector-wide strategic action.





THANK YOU



Mr. Tumelo Mateta



is the Principal Inspector of Mines for the Northern Cape Region, a position he has held since 2018. He holds a BSc in Mining Engineering from the University of the Witwatersrand and a Mine Manager's Certificate of Competency, and brings operational experience across the coal, platinum, manganese and iron ore sectors.

He has served on several advisory committees of the Mine Health and Safety Council and is a current member of the Mining Regulations Advisory Committee, which is responsible for developing the policy, regulation and legislation aimed at improving the health and safety of mining employees.

He is driven by a deep commitment to the safety and wellbeing of workers in the mining industry.

Every mine worker returning from work unharmed every day. Striving for zero harm in our lifetime.