

# Quarterly Performance Snapshot for the Western Australian minerals sector

For three-month period 1 January – 31 March 2024

Issued September 2024

The quarterly performance snapshot shows lost time and restricted work injury and incident data provided to WorkSafe by the minerals sector for a three-month period. The snapshot can be used by employers and workers to assist in the development and promotion of safe work practices on mining operations.

For more information about injuries and incidents in the minerals sector, please visit our website:

[www.worksafe.wa.gov.au](http://www.worksafe.wa.gov.au)

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## Injuries by age

Age range with the greatest percentage of injuries was **30-39 years (28%)**



Age range **20-29** and **50-59** were the equal second highest (**22%**)

## Injuries by severity



**0**

fatal injuries



**149**

lost time injuries



**259**

restricted work injuries

## Injuries by occupation

Surface



**Processing plant occupations** had the **most injuries** with **15%**

**Mechanical fitters** had the second highest with **14%**

Underground



**Long hole drill and blast occupations** had the **most injuries** with **17%**

**Services occupations** had the second highest with **14%**

## Injuries by location

Surface



**Treatment plants / ore processing** had the **most injuries** with **27%**

**Open pit production / development areas** had the second highest with **18%**

Underground



**Production / development areas** had the **most injuries** with **67%**

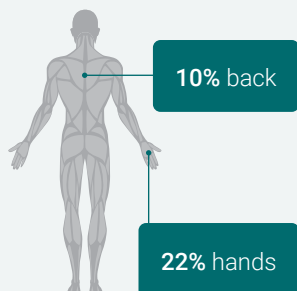
**Access / haulage ways** had the second highest with **10%**

## Injuries by part of body

**Hands** were the **most injured body part** with **22%**



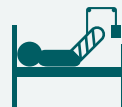
Backs were the second highest with **10%**



## Injuries by nature



**Sprains and strains** were the **most common nature of injury** with **47%**

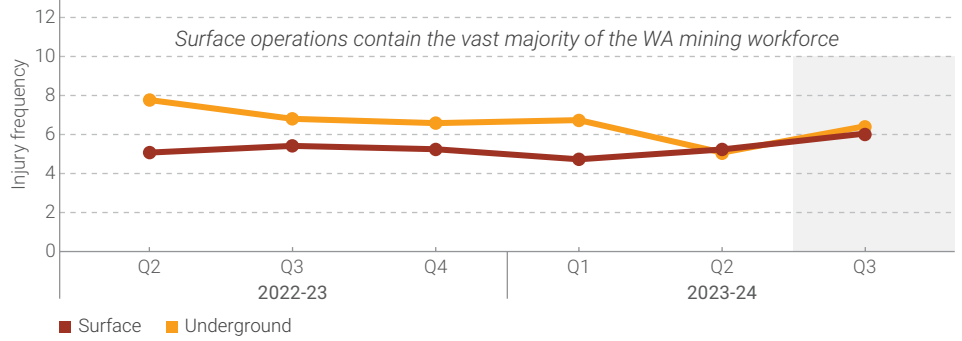


**Fractures** were the second highest with **16%**

**Injury frequency rate (number of injuries per million hours worked)**

The overall frequency rate increased to 6.1 in 2023–24 Q3 (Jan–Mar) from 5.3 in the previous quarter.

Make sure you can recognise the hazards associated with your workplace and the work you do, understand the risks, and know how to implement the control measures.

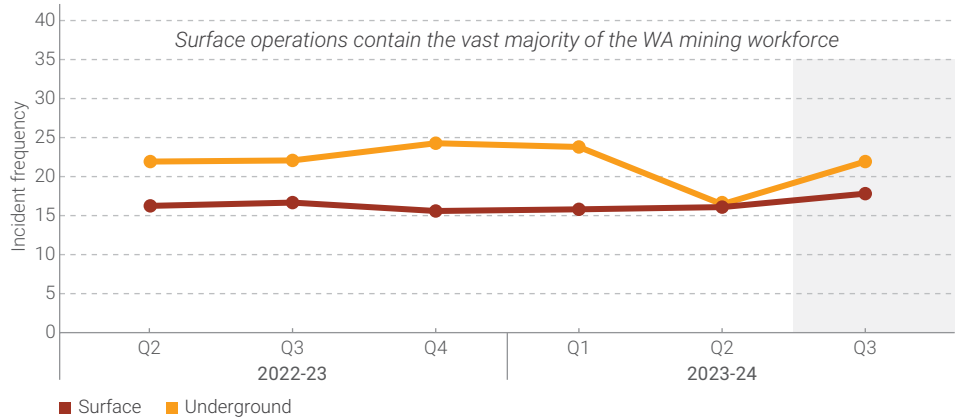


**Notifiable incidents frequency rate (number of incidents per million hours worked)**

Specific types of incidents, including near misses, are required to be reported to WorkSafe.

This reporting is important to identify trends and clusters of incidents that need to be addressed to help prevent injuries.

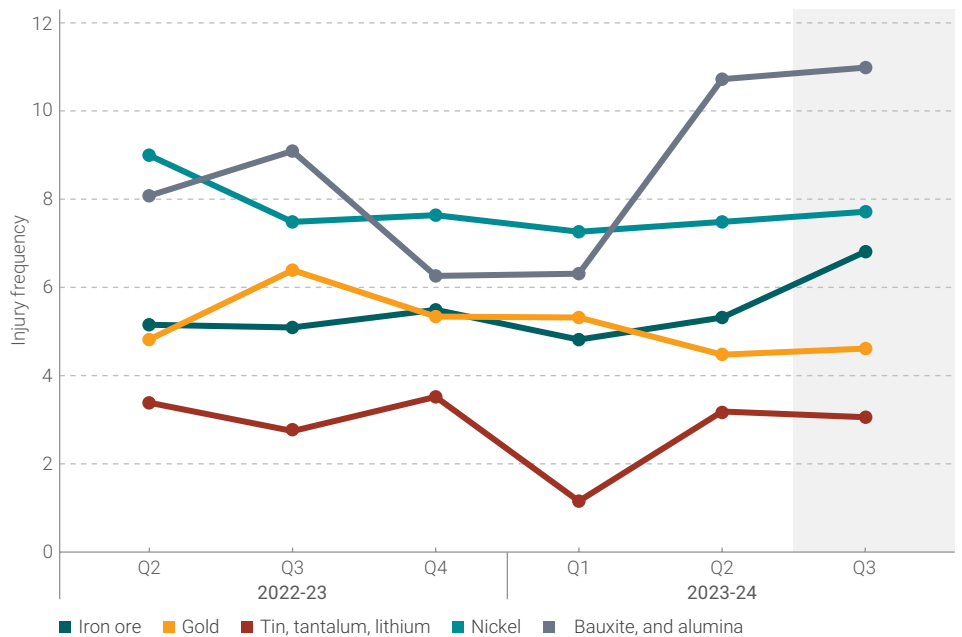
**?** What is the reporting culture like at your site?



**Injury frequency rate by most worked commodity (number of injuries by commodity per million hours worked)**

**2023–24 Q3:**

| Commodity              | Hours (mil) | Frequency |
|------------------------|-------------|-----------|
| Iron ore               | 31.4        | 6.8       |
| Gold                   | 15.8        | 4.6       |
| Tin, tantalum, lithium | 5.9         | 3.1       |
| Nickel                 | 5.1         | 7.7       |
| Bauxite and alumina    | 3.5         | 11.0      |



*Injury statistics in this document include lost time injuries and restricted work injuries. Information for the three-month reporting period may be subject to minor changes due to late and corrected returns.*