



Virginia Coal & Energy Alliance

Lebanon, Virginia

March 28, 2019

MSHA: 2018 in Review and a Look Ahead

David G. Zatezalo

Assistant Secretary of Labor

Mine Safety and Health Administration



The MSHA Mission

“to prevent death, illness, and injury from mining and promote safe and healthful workplaces for U.S. miners”



MSHA's Tools

- Fair and consistent enforcement, including mandated inspections
- Compliance and technical assistance
- Training and education
- Rulemaking and policy guidance



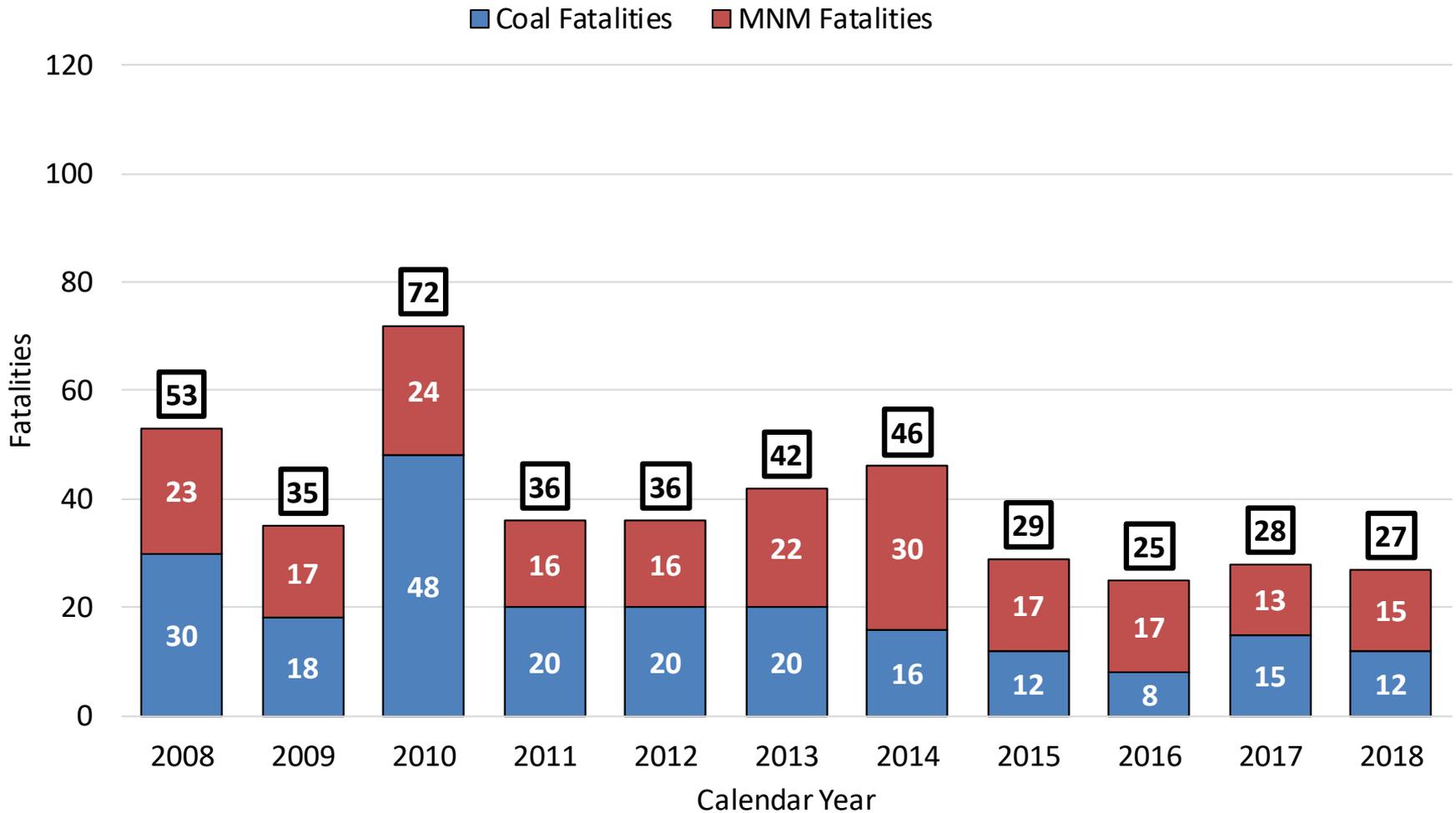
MSHA Data for 2018

	VIRGINIA	NATION
# of Mines Reporting Employment	271	13,021
- Coal Mines Only	97	1,187
- Metal/Nonmetal Mines Only	174	11,834
Total Operator Employment*	6,108	229,002
MSHA E01 Inspections Completed	578	19,215
Citations & Orders Issued	4,303	97,872
Dollars Assessed	\$601k	\$53.4M

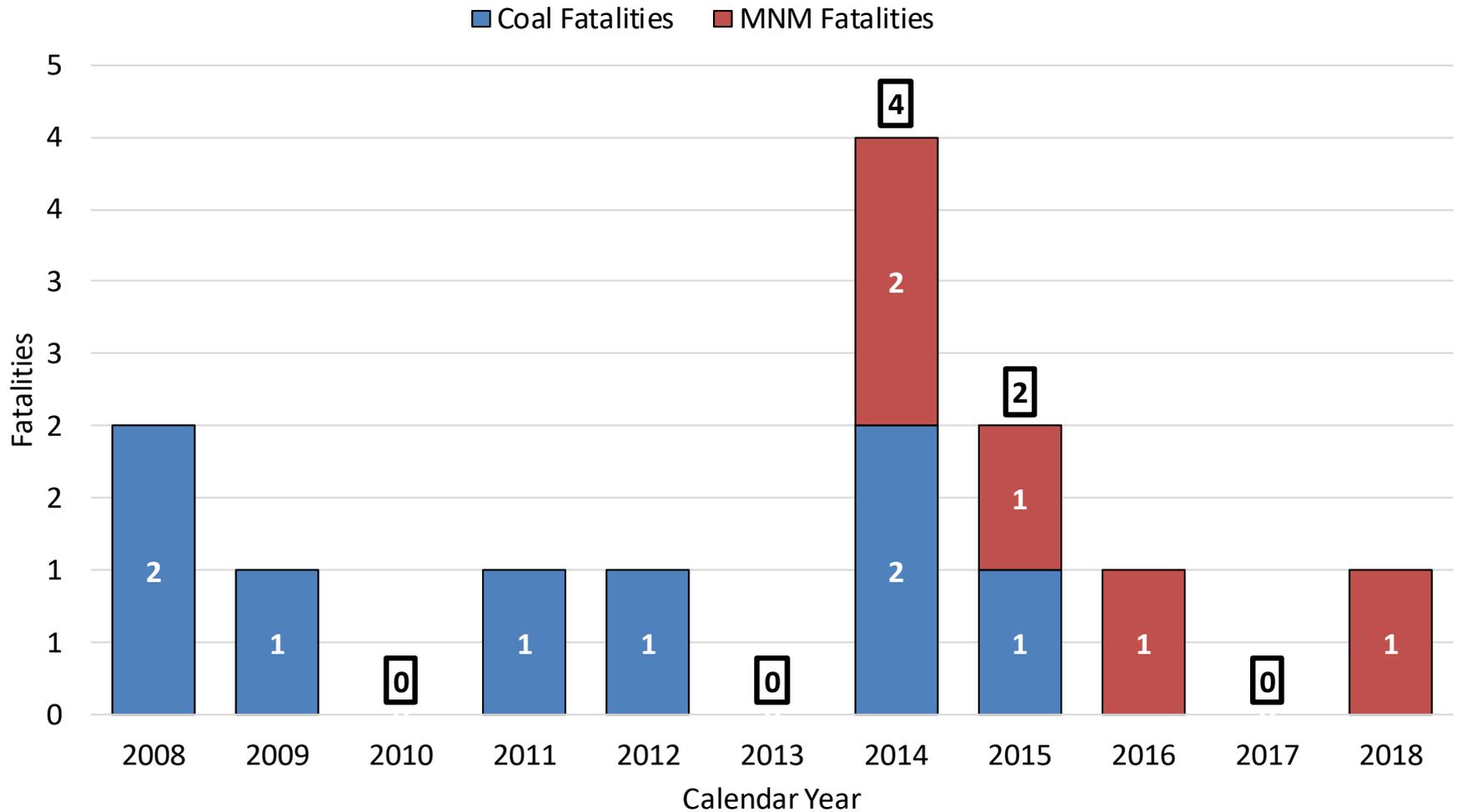
*The Nation's total employment, including contractors is 331,170. Given contractor data limitations, a similar breakout of employment inclusive of contractors cannot be provided for Virginia.



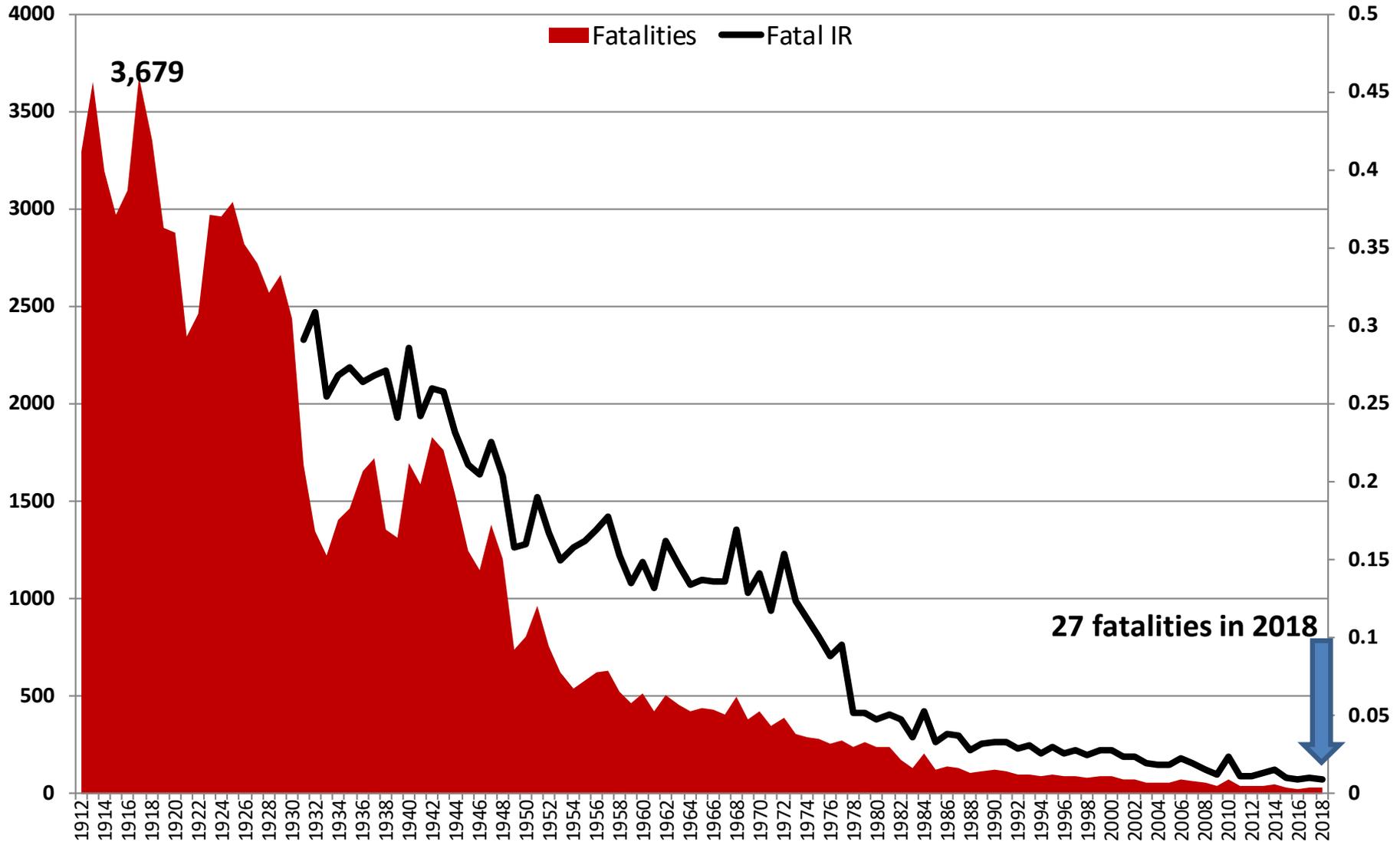
U.S. MINING FATALITIES 2008 – 2018



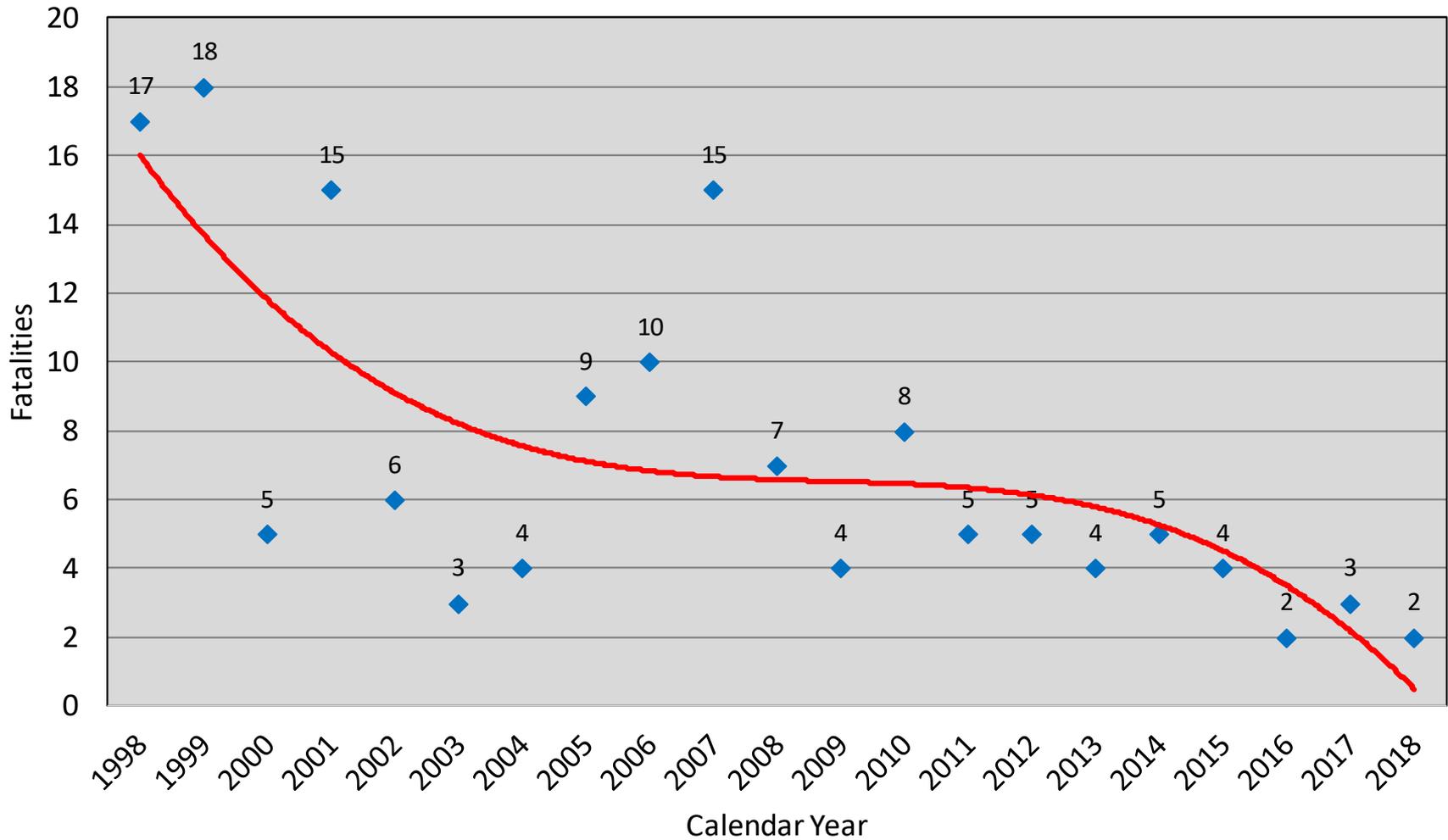
VIRGINIA MINING FATALITIES 2008 – 2018



U.S. Mining Fatalities 1912-2018



U.S. MINING INDUSTRY FATALITIES FALL OF ROOF & RIB (1998-2018)

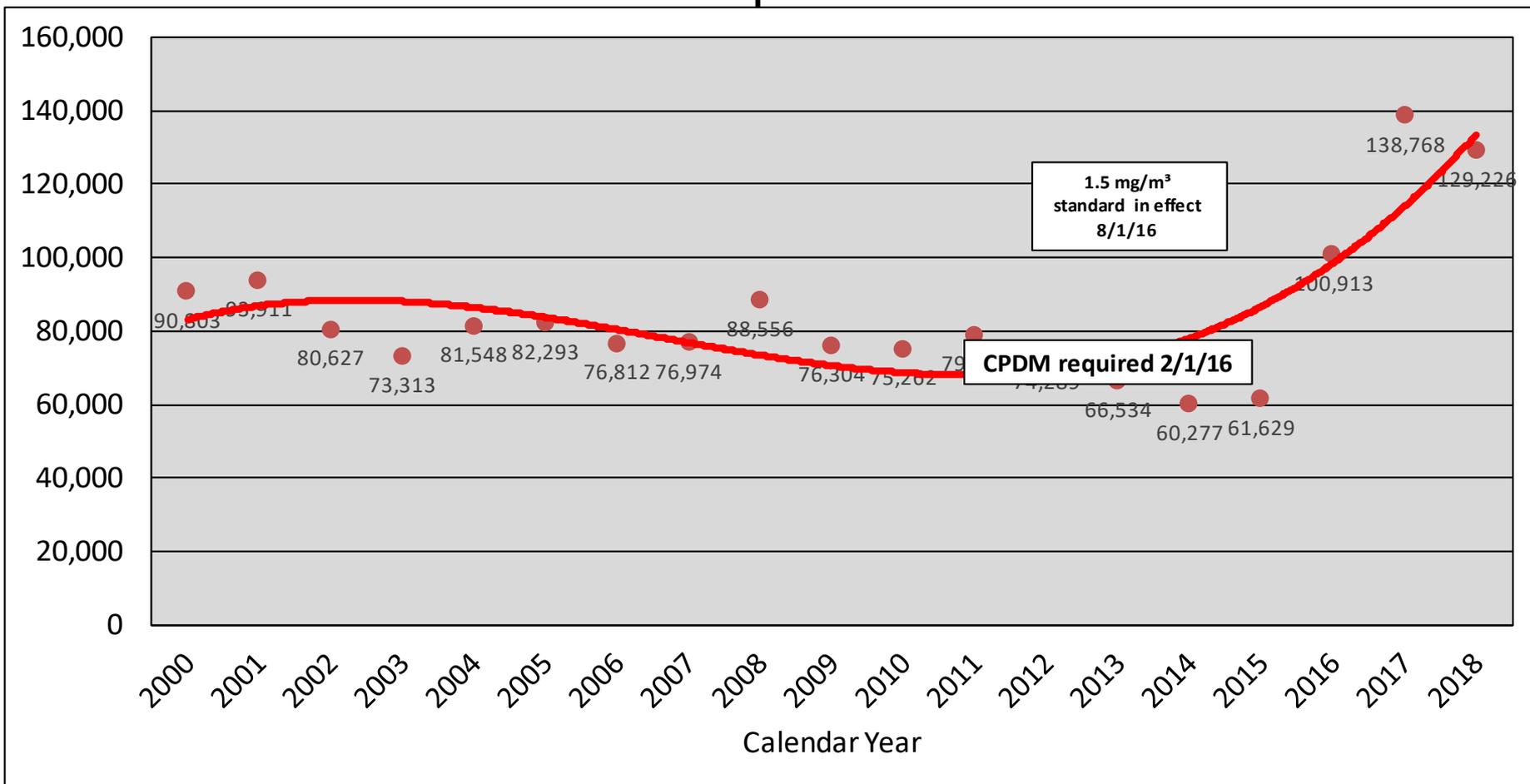


Dust Sampling Trends

- Increased sampling of key positions in coal mines was mandated by 2014 dust rule
- What trends are we seeing?



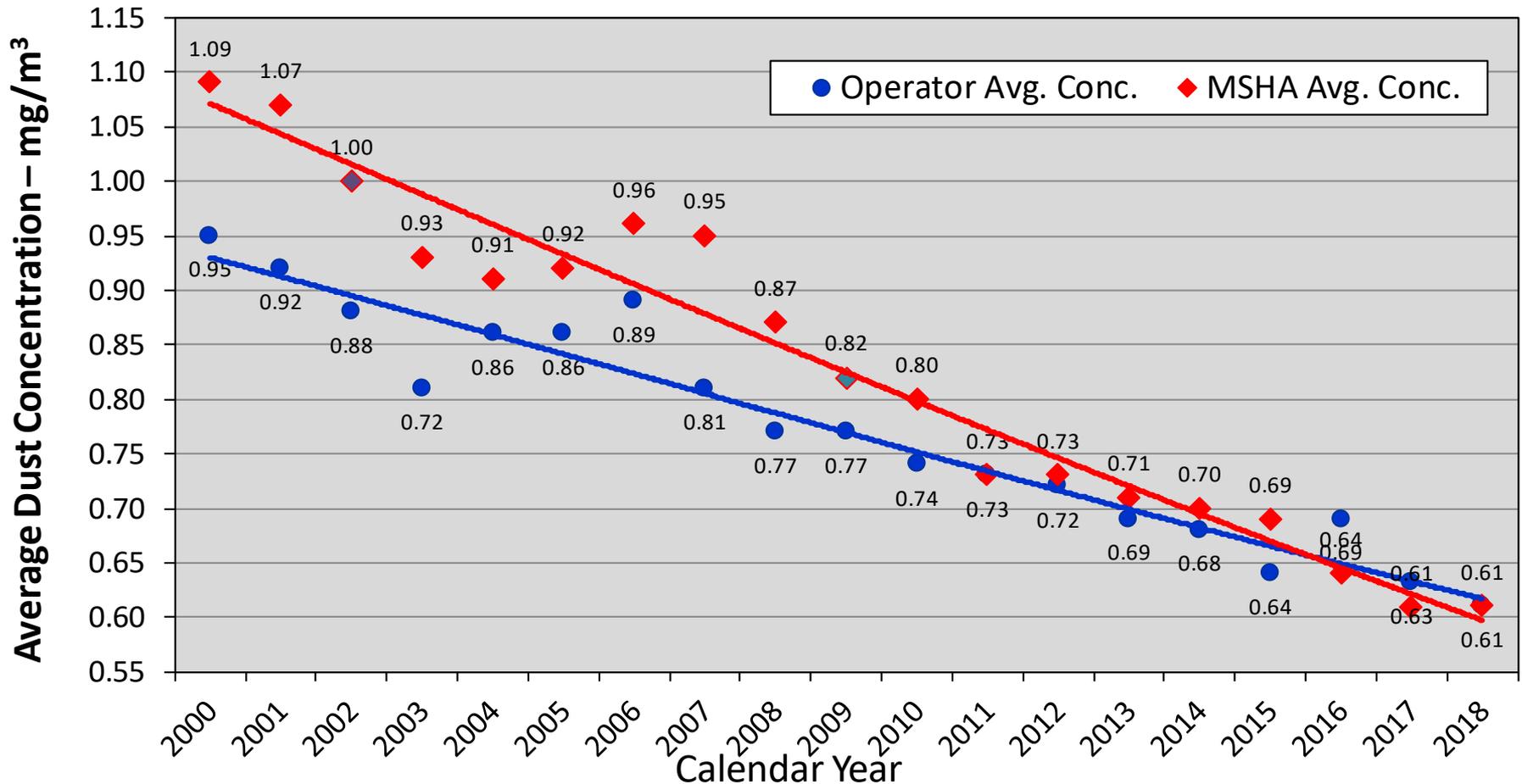
Coal - Number of Valid MSHA & Operator Respirable Dust Samples



Data as of 1/30/2019



Average DO* Dust Concentration in Underground Coal Mines, by MSHA and Operator Samples

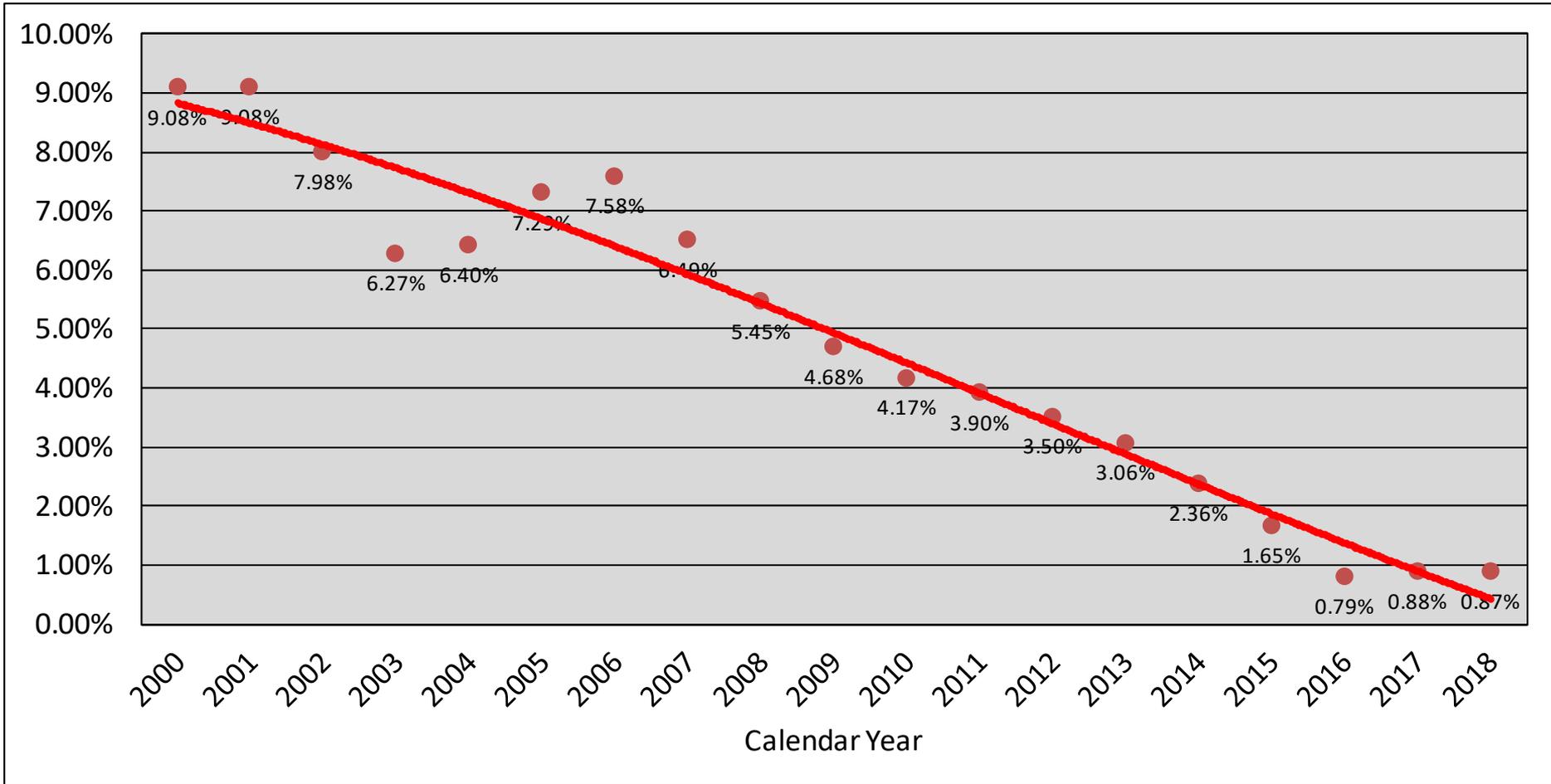


* Designated occupations (DO) exposed to the highest levels of respirable coal mine dust.

Data as of 1/30/2019



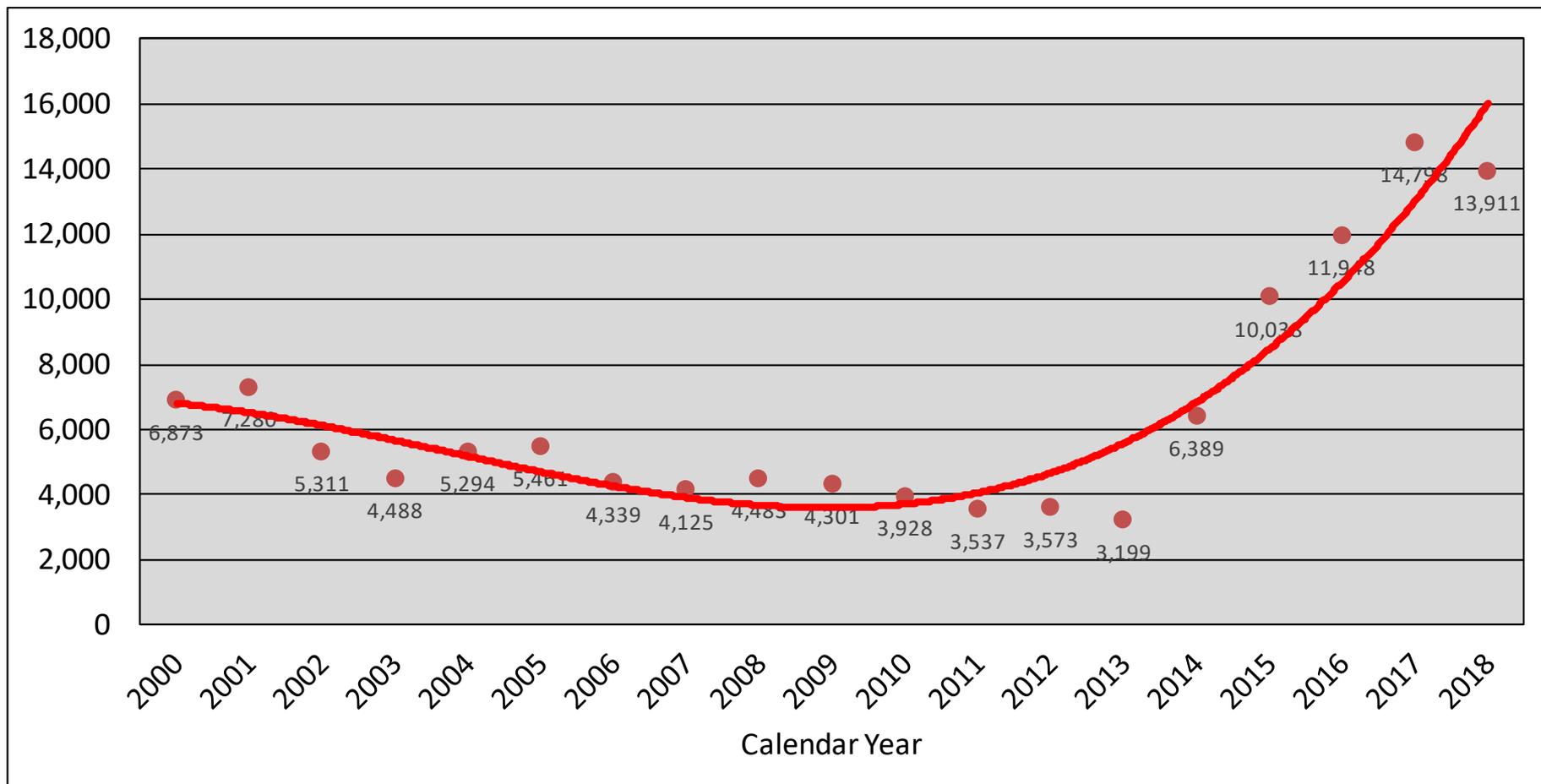
Coal - MSHA & Operator Respirable Dust Samples % > Standard



Data as of 1/30/2019



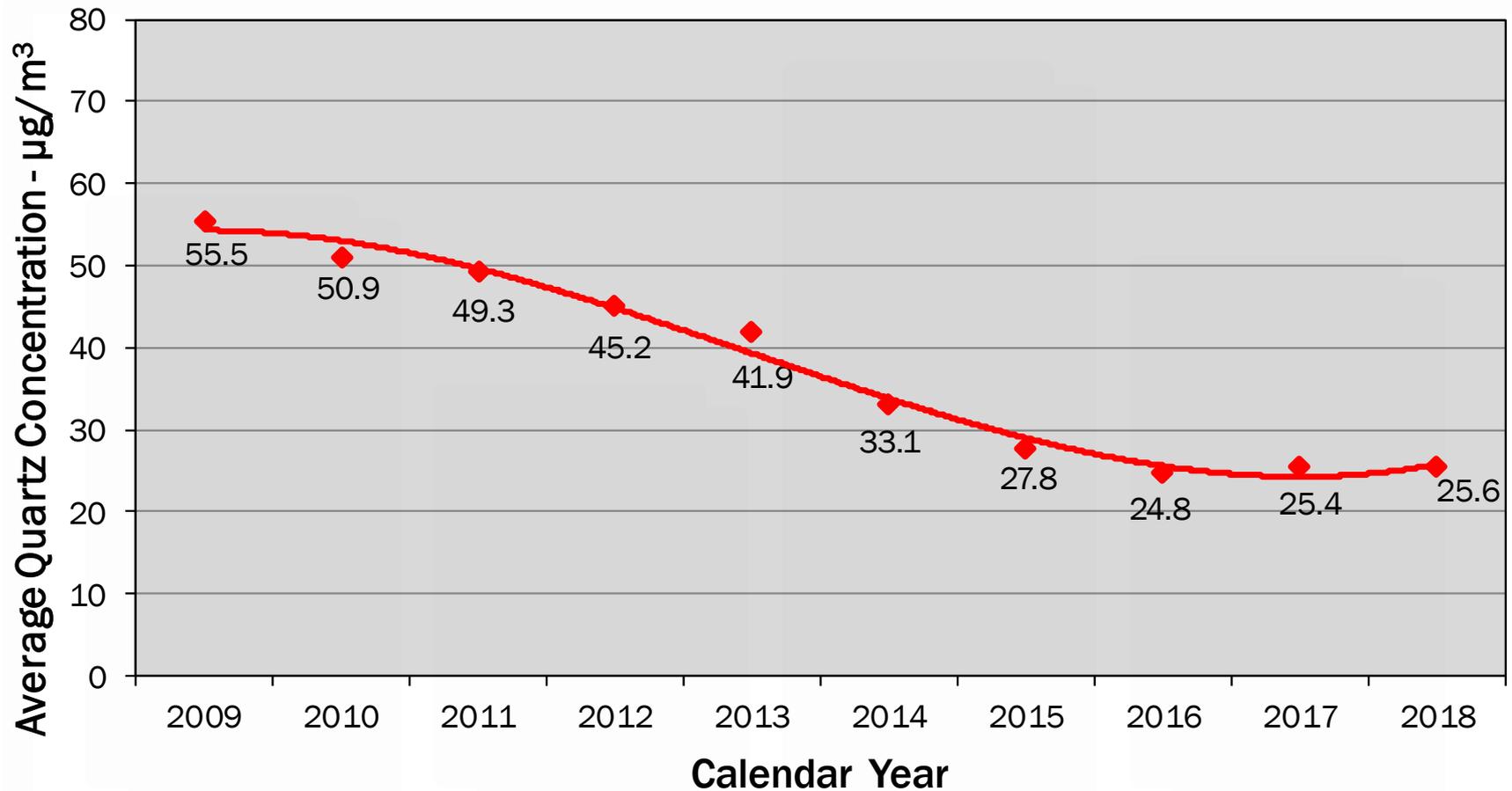
Coal - Number of Valid MSHA Quartz Samples



Data as of 2/5/2019



Underground Coal Mines MSHA Average Designated Occupation* Quartz Concentration by Calendar Year

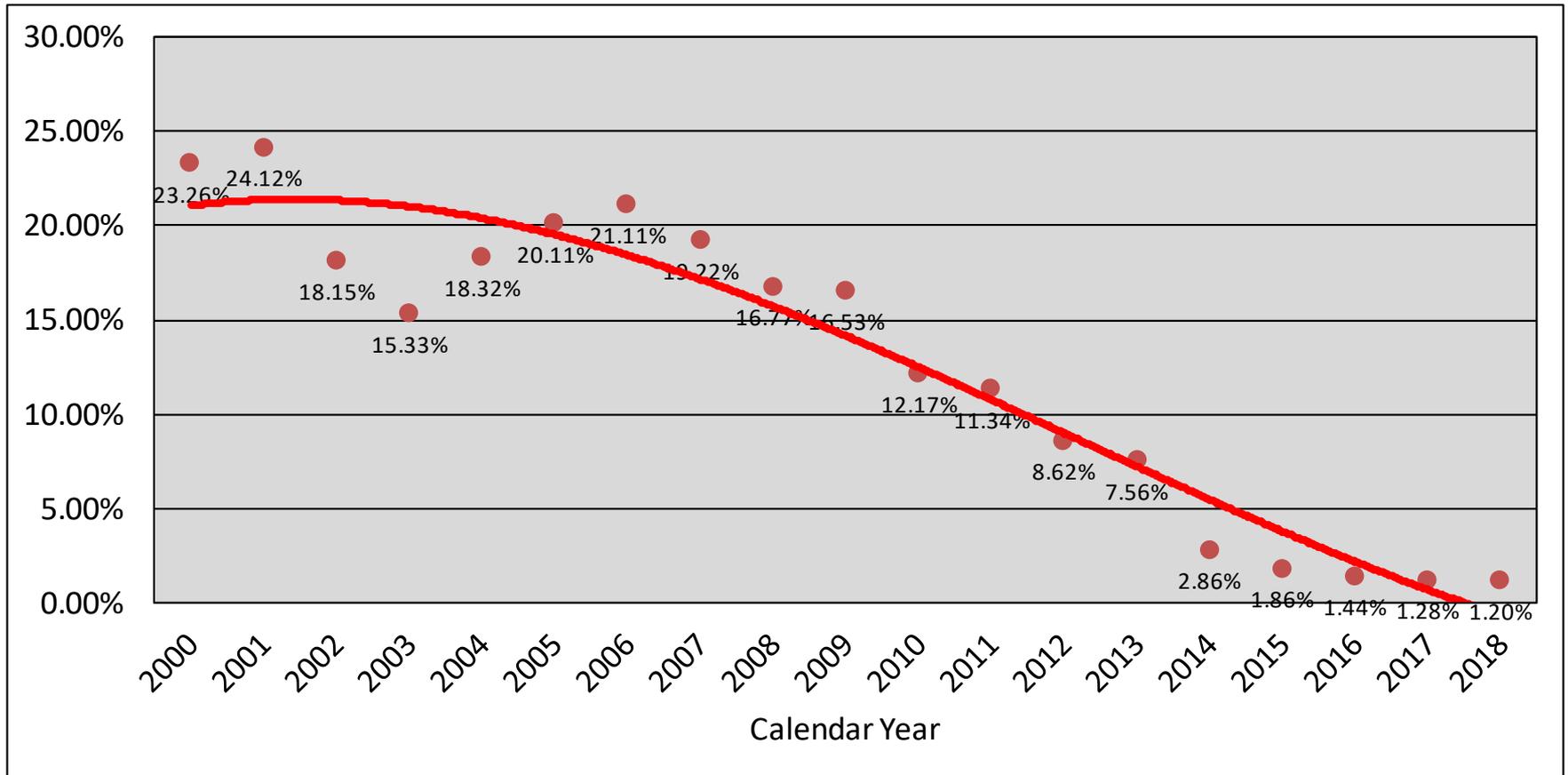


* Designated occupations (DO) exposed to the highest levels of respirable coal mine dust.

Data as of 1/30/2019



Coal - MSHA Quartz Samples % >100 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$



Data as of 2/5/2019



Powered Haulage Safety Initiative

Powered Haulage accidents were responsible for 50% of fatalities in recent years; 13 of 27 (48%) in 2018

Preventing these accidents is a priority for MSHA, with a focus on:

- Mobile Equipment
- Belt Conveyors
- Seat Belt Safety



Mobile Equipment

Large vehicles striking other vehicles or pedestrians have killed 24 miners since 2003





Belt Conveyors

- Seven miners killed working around belt conveyors since January 2017; four in coal, three in MNM
- Since 2008, 19 fatalities and more than 40 permanent injuries
- Guarding, lock-out tag-out, properly using crossovers - all essential for safety



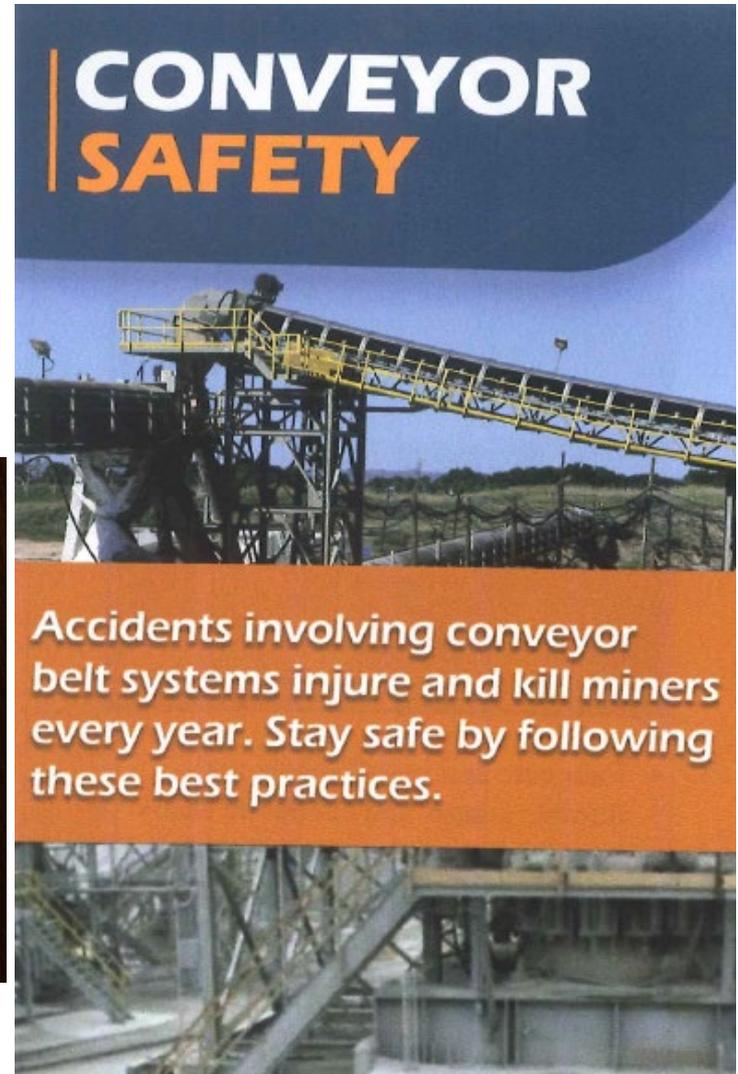
Seat Belt Safety

- Three fatalities in 2017 and 2018, and 38 fatalities since 2007, involved miners not wearing seat belts
- 6000+ MSHA citations issued for failure to wear seatbelts since 2007 (most in MNM mines)



Powered Haulage Safety Outreach

We are distributing stickers, brochures and more to spread the word



Fire Suppression Failures

- In 2018, four mobile equipment fires in one month; fire suppression systems failed in all
- One miner killed, another injured
- Fire suppression equipment must be properly installed
- Miners should have a means to escape
- MSHA has inspected mine mobile equipment for effective suppression systems



One MSHA Initiative

- Blurring the distinction between Coal and Metal/Nonmetal enforcement for more efficient use of resources
- Cross training inspectors and updating systems to accommodate change where it makes sense
- Inspector expertise still required for certain mines
- 90 mines are involved so far



Scofflaw Initiative

- Small share of operators are chronically delinquent and have poor safety records; worst violators selected each month
- Payment plans proposed/established or operator paid in full with total commitment of \$7.1 million
- 23 mines paid in full for \$1.7 million
- 42 104(a) citations issued; 18 104(b) orders issued, but none currently active



In Summary: MSHA Today & Tomorrow

- IT Modernization
- Health Focus
- Regulatory Review
 - Dust
 - Diesel Emissions
 - Powered Haulage
- Mine Rescue Contests
- 2020 Budget Proposal





Questions?

*"Daddy
© Way*



MSHA.GOV | @USDOL #MSHA