

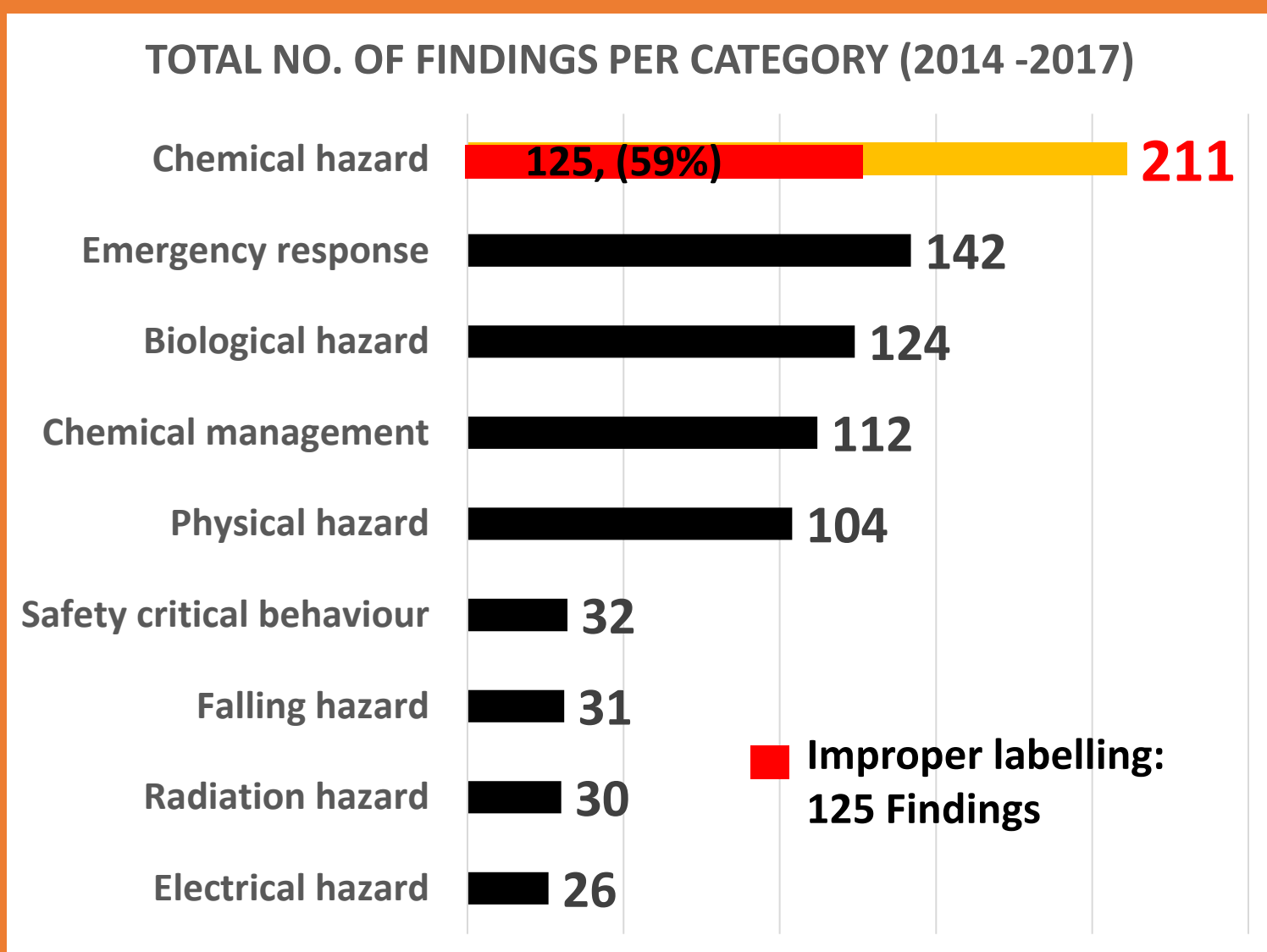


REDUCED SAFETY INSPECTION FINDINGS THROUGH EFFECTIVE SAFETY TRAINING

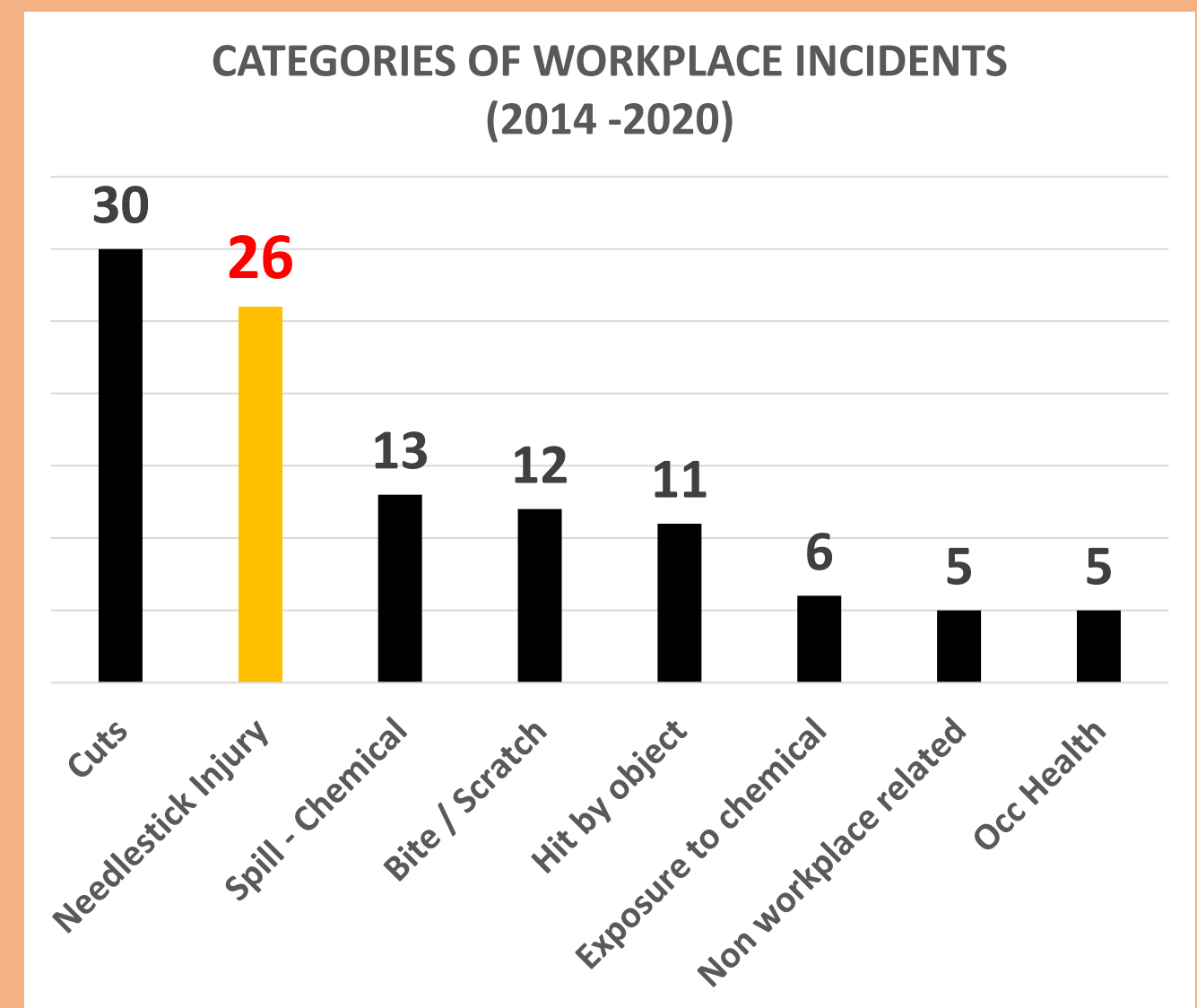
Singapore Healthcare Management 2023

June LIN, Majidah REZLAN
NG Chai Lim, WEE Yong Hao
SingHealth Office of Biosafety

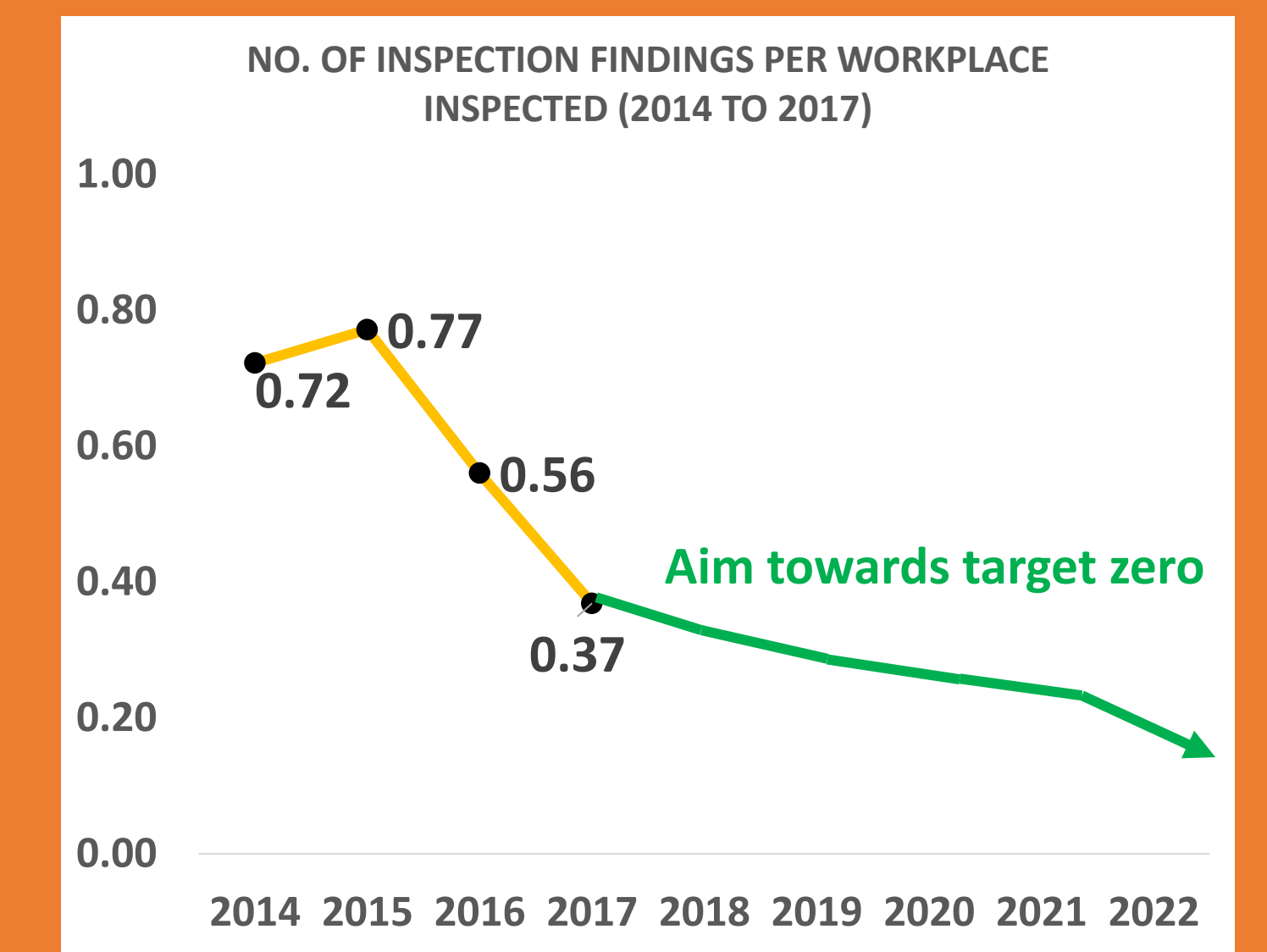
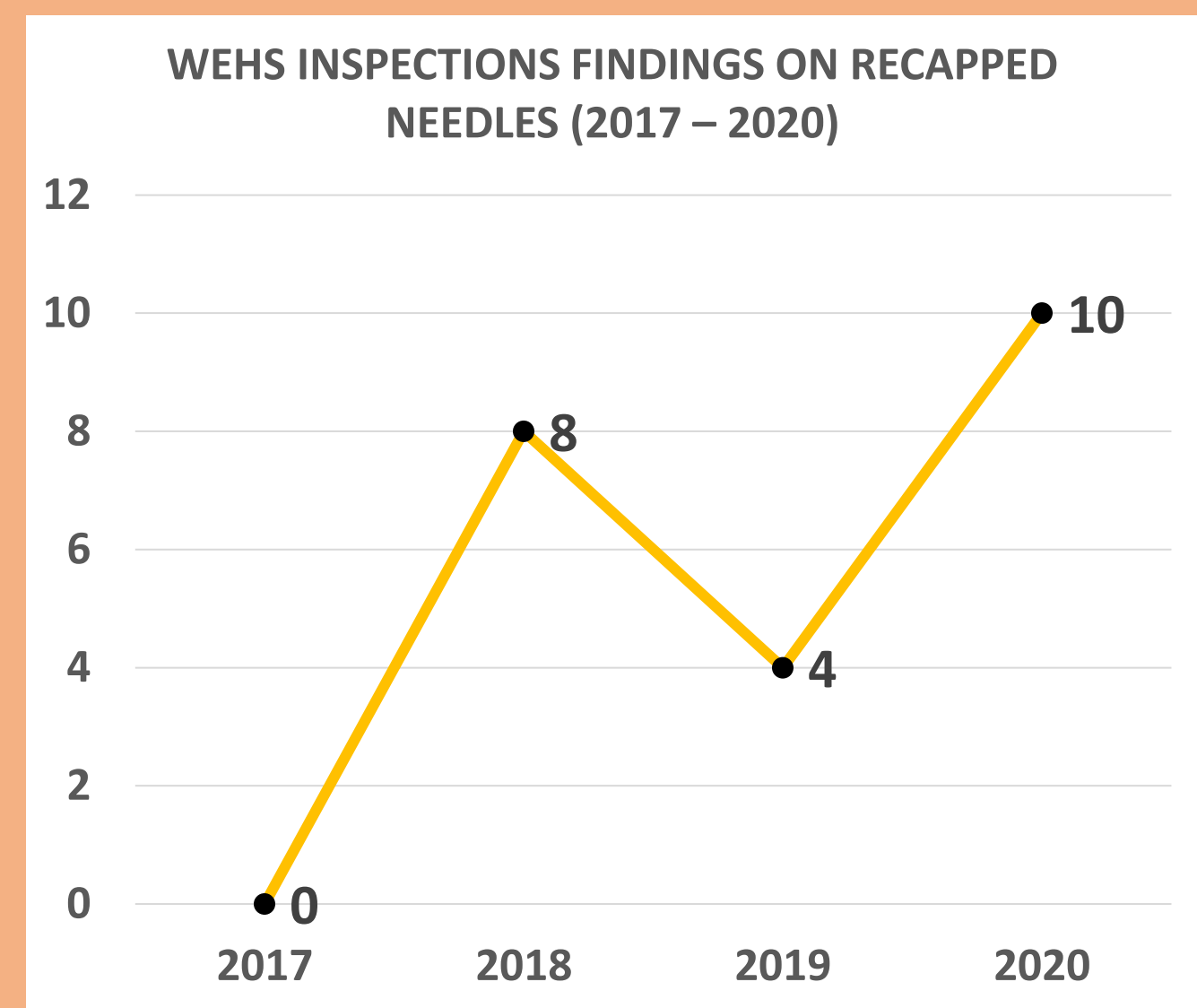
FINDING



Chemical Hazard:
Highest category of inspection finding since 2014 with improper labelling making up 59% of the Chemical Hazard findings.



Needle safety:
Needlestick injury (NSI) was one of the highest number of accumulated reported incident since 2014 (left chart). Significant number of recapped needles in sharps bin were also observed during WEHS inspections since 2018 (right chart).



Workplace safety performance:
OoB is constantly working towards ensuring a safe working environment realised through reduced inspection findings.

INTERVENTION

i. Build on established TRAINING programme

Core Lab safety training

- Fastest way to reach out to the research community and impart safety knowledge
- Improved medium of communication from physical classes to online platform available 24/7
- Develop new specialise programmes based on the needs of the workplace.

'Fundamentals of GHS Labelling' & 'Needle Safety for Research Laboratories' courses were developed in 2021 to educate the research community and address the safety concerns observed.

ii. Recognition and support from senior management

- ✓ Course incorporated into SingHealth research institutions' training policy and training matrix
- ✓ Compulsory Core Lab Safety training to be completed before commencement of work

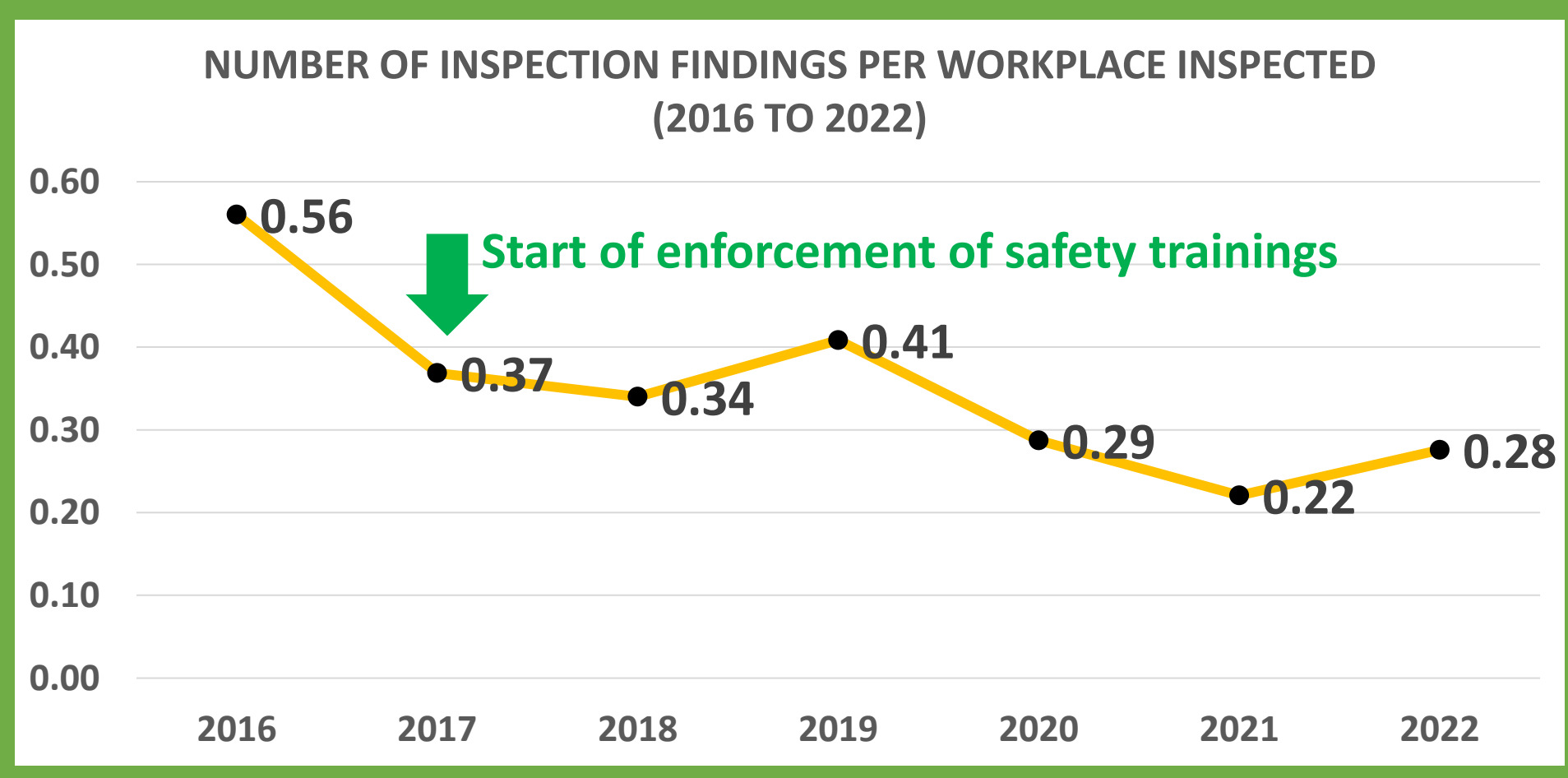
iii. Ensuring effective training

- Develop competency through assessment with minimum 80% passing criteria to challenge the learners.
- Learners to complete Core Lab safety refresher training every 3 years
- Safety trainings contents are reviewed at least once every 3 years

RESULTS

Increase level of safety awareness
2900+ Researchers completed Core Lab safety training since 2017

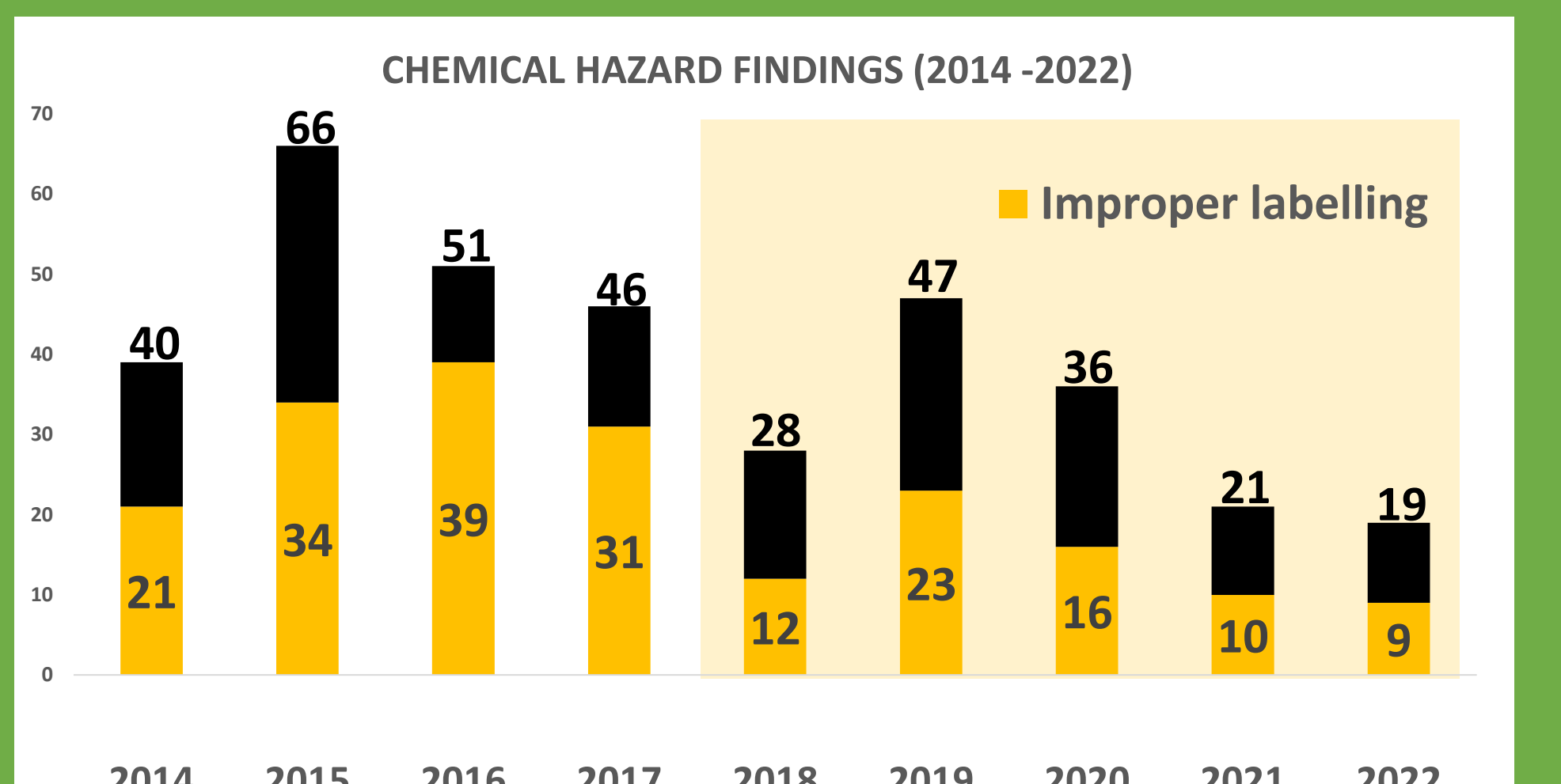
Reduced number of safety inspection findings
50% Reduction in the number of workplace inspection findings



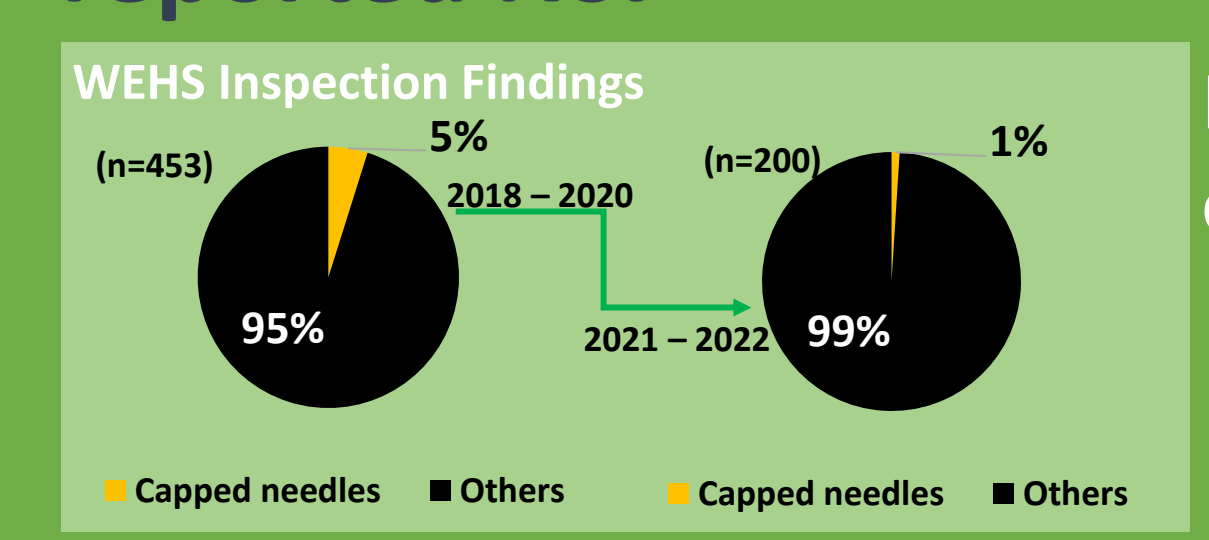
Trainings well received by learners
95% Satisfaction rating from learners who have completed the trainings

Decreased Chemical Hazard findings
31% Reduction in number of Chemical Hazard findings from 2018 - 2022

Downward trend on the number of improper labelling of chemicals



Decline in number of Recapped Needles & reported NSI



Reduction in number of Recapped needles

Decrease number of needlestick injuries reported as compared to before 2020

CONCLUSION

Safety trainings have proven effective and shown improvement in reducing the number of safety inspection findings over the years.

OoB will continue to monitor key safety concerns and feedbacks from researchers and cater dedicated safety trainings to promote safe work practices and environment to work in.

