ICMM Report 2026

Prelims: *Current events of national and international importance | Reports & Indices*

Why in News?

Nearly two-thirds of the world's mining and metals facilities are exposed to at least one significant physical water risk.

- It was the new report by the **International Council on Mining and Metals (ICMM).**
- The study analysed more than 12,000 facilities across 148 countries and regions.
- Baseline water stress is the most common threat, affecting 38% of facilities, while drought risk affects 27% globally.
- The report identifies compound water-risk hotspots in Chile, Peru, southern Africa, northern China, central India, western Australia and the western United States.
- It was the first comprehensive cross-commodity analysis of water risks across the mining and metals sector.
- The assessment looks at 5 physical water risk indicators –
    - Floods,
    - Droughts,
    - Baseline water stress,
    - Baseline water depletion and
    - Interannual variability.
- ***Baseline water stress is the most common risk*** facing the mining and metals sector.
- Drought is the 2nd most widespread water risk.
- Flood exposure is particularly pronounced for alumina, aluminum, steel and molybdenum production facilities.

The International Council on Mining and Metals was founded in 2001, as a CEO-led leadership organisation on the premise of improving

sustainable development in the mining and metals industry.

Reference

Down to Earth | Global Mining and Metals Water Dataset