

Corporate Alignment to the Paris Agreement: from Ambition to Action CCSI's Conference – October 25

How reliable and credible are the corporate net-zero pledges?

Sectors: Food processing, Cement, Chemical, Mining, Oil & Gas, Power utilities

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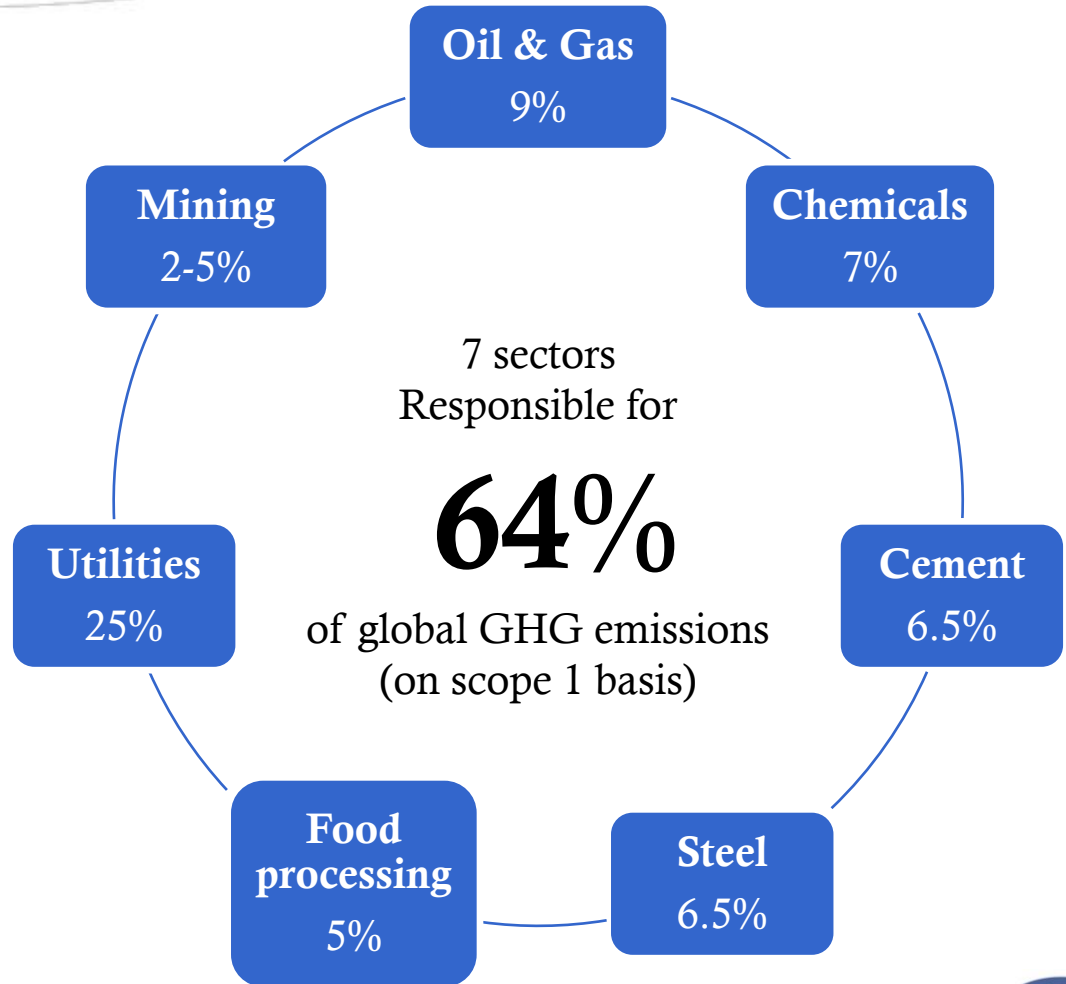
**Columbia Center
on Sustainable Investment**

A JOINT CENTER OF COLUMBIA LAW SCHOOL
AND THE EARTH INSTITUTE, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Company Selection

The company must:

1. Have net-zero emissions pathway
 2. Top ten rank by market cap in their sector
- > 5 assessed companies per sector



Assessed Companies

Utilities	Steel	Oil & Gas	Mining	Food & Beverage	Cement	Chemicals
NextEra Energy, Inc.	Arcelor Mittal	Shell	BHP Group	Nestle	Cement Roadstone Holding	Merck KGaA
Enel SpA	POSCO	Total Energies	Rio Tinto	McDonald's Corp.	Siam Cement	Air Liquide
Iberdrola	JSW Steel	BP	Vale	Unilever	Holcim	BASF
Duke Energy	Nippon Steel	Enbridge	Glencore	Danone	Taiwan Cement	Bayer
The Southern Company	Steel Dynamics	Conoco-Phillips	Anglo-American	Coca Cola	Buzzi Unicem	Wesfarmers



Key Questions

1. Does the Company have short- and medium-term targets?
2. Are the targets absolute-based or intensity-based?
3. Are the targets aligned with science-based climate goals?
4. Do the Company's Net Zero target include Scope 3 GHG emissions?
5. Does the Company consider targets in planning for Capex and/or use an internal carbon price?
6. Does the Company rely on the use of biodiversity offsets or CCS?
7. Does the Company have a governance structure that incentivizes taking positive action?
8. Does the Company have a policy to avoid lobbying against climate policies?



Sources of Information



[Climate Action 100+](#) is an investor-led initiative pushing the world's largest corporate greenhouse gas emitters to align with the PA through engagement and benchmarking.



[Influence Map's](#) analysis provides third party clarity and detailed measurement of how corporations influence / lobby policy needed to address climate change.



[TPI](#) assesses companies' preparedness for the transition to a low-carbon economy, including measuring and benchmarking their self-declared carbon intensity.



[SBTi](#) enables companies to set science-based emissions reduction targets.

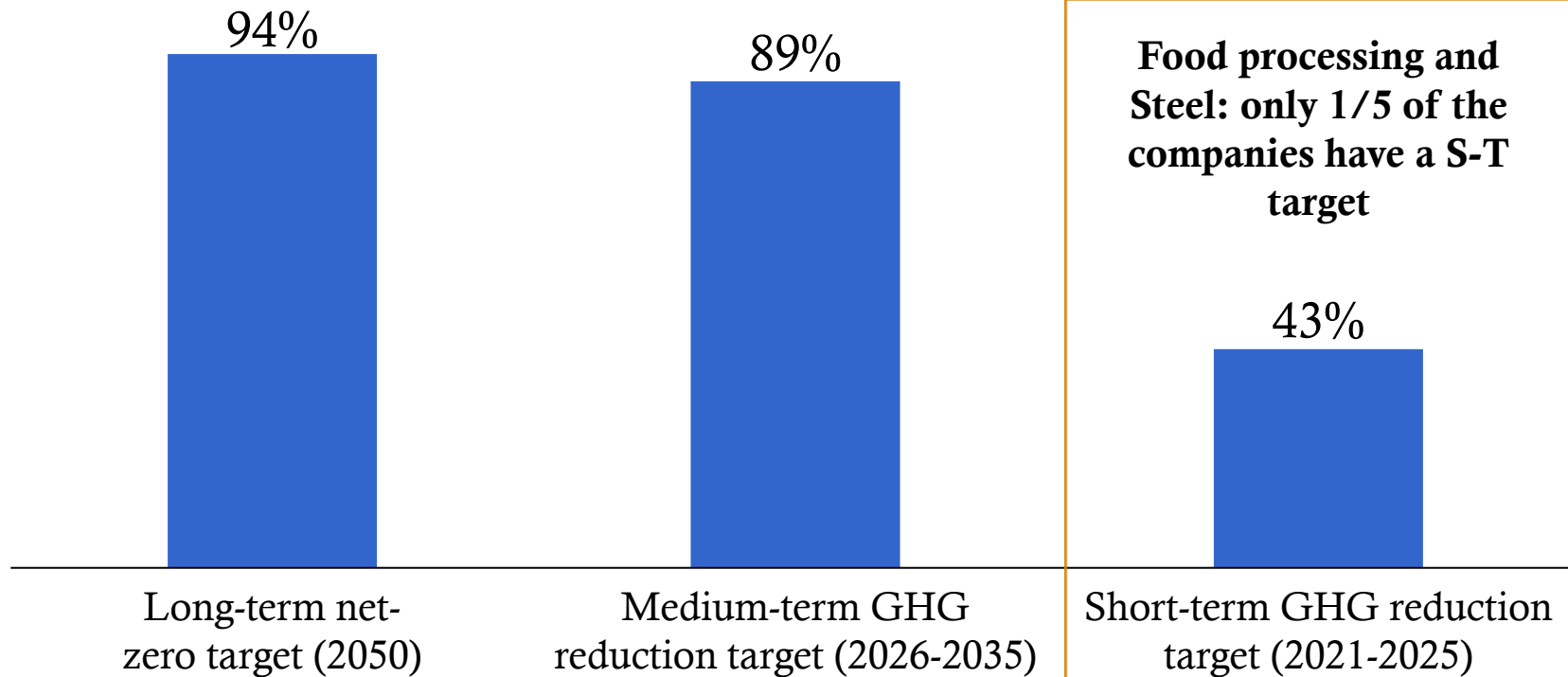
+ Company Climate Reports



While Long-Term Ambition is Set, Short-Term Steps Remains Unassured

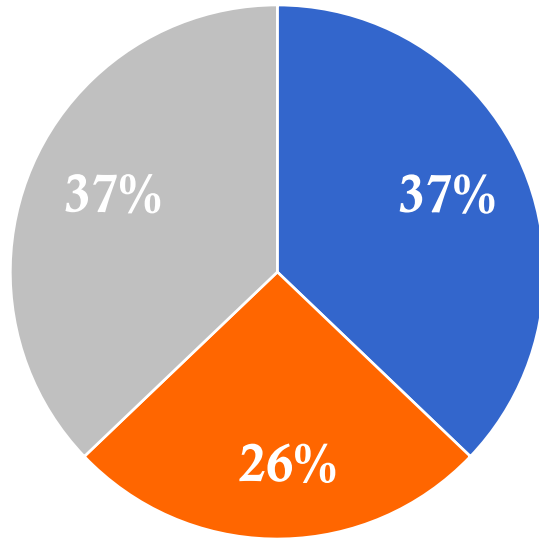
Types of targets set (scopes 1 & 2)

% of analyzed companies fulfilling criteria



Intensity Targets Can Be Misleading, and Some Sectors Heavily Rely On Them

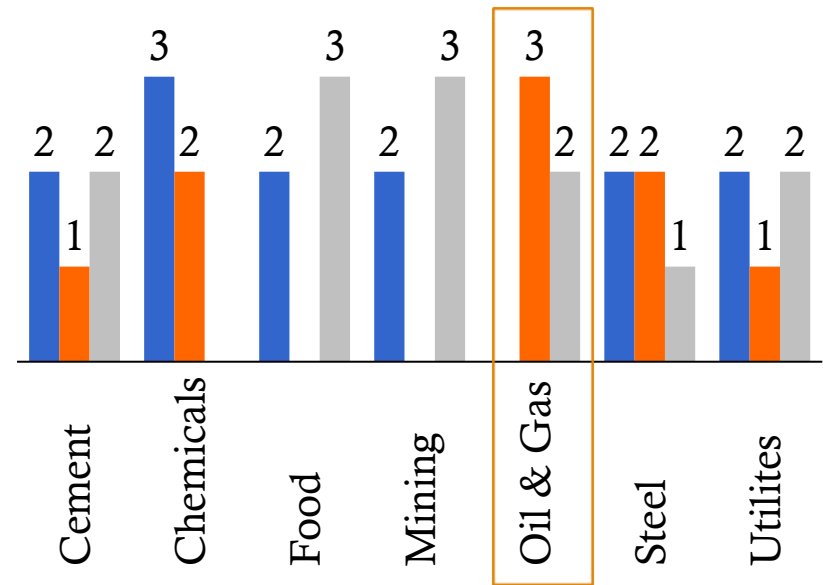
Types of GHG reduction targets across sectors



- Absolute (set amount)
- Intensity (emissions target/economic output)
- Blended (both)

Emissions reduction targets by sector

of companies



- Absolute (set amount)
- Intensity (emissions target/economic output)
- Blended (both)

Intensity targets can be misleading, and some sectors heavily rely on them



Variety of Baseline Year For Emission Reduction Targets Makes GHG Metrics Incomparable

Industry	Most recent base year	Most distant base year
Cement	2018	1990 ←
Utilities	2017	2005
Food	2018	2010
Steel	2018	2013
Oil & Gas	2019	2015
Mining	2019	2016
Chemicals	2020	2018



**The
different**

**futures
that**

**lie
ahead.**

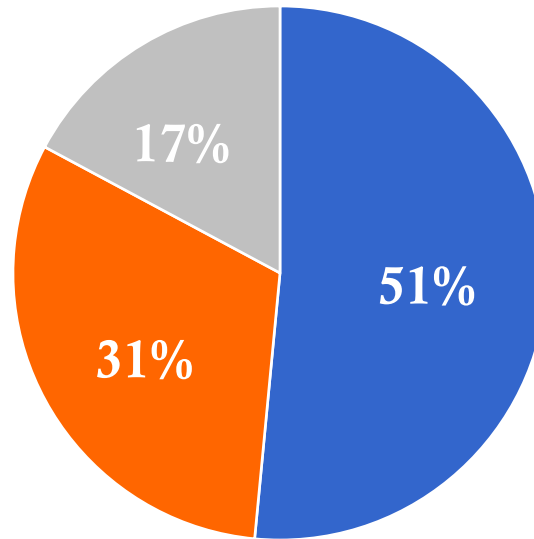
+1.5°C

+2°C

+3°C

Expected Emission Trajectory Alignment: More Than Half Are Not aligned

Climate goals from 35 analyzed companies



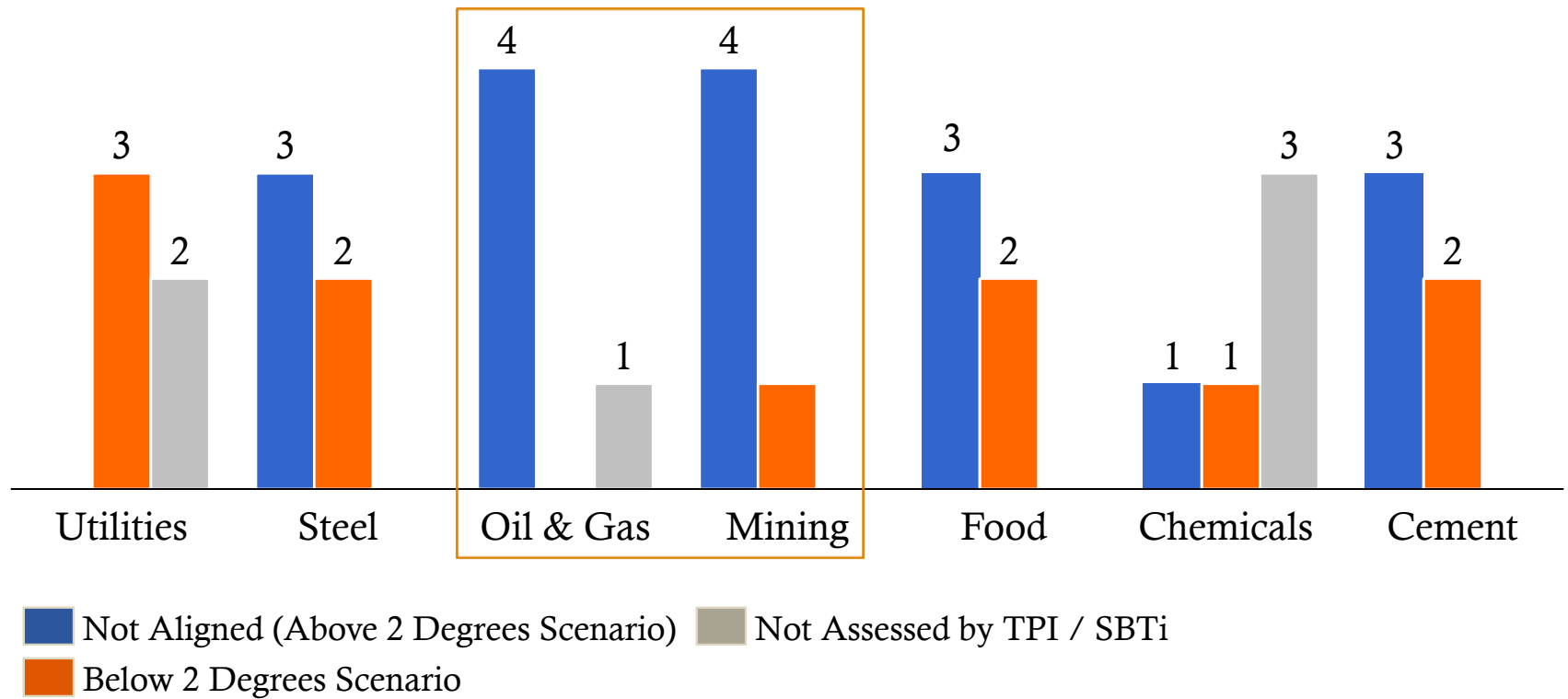
- Not Aligned (Above 2 Degrees Scenario)
- Well below 2 Degrees Scenario
- Not Assessed by TPI/SBTi



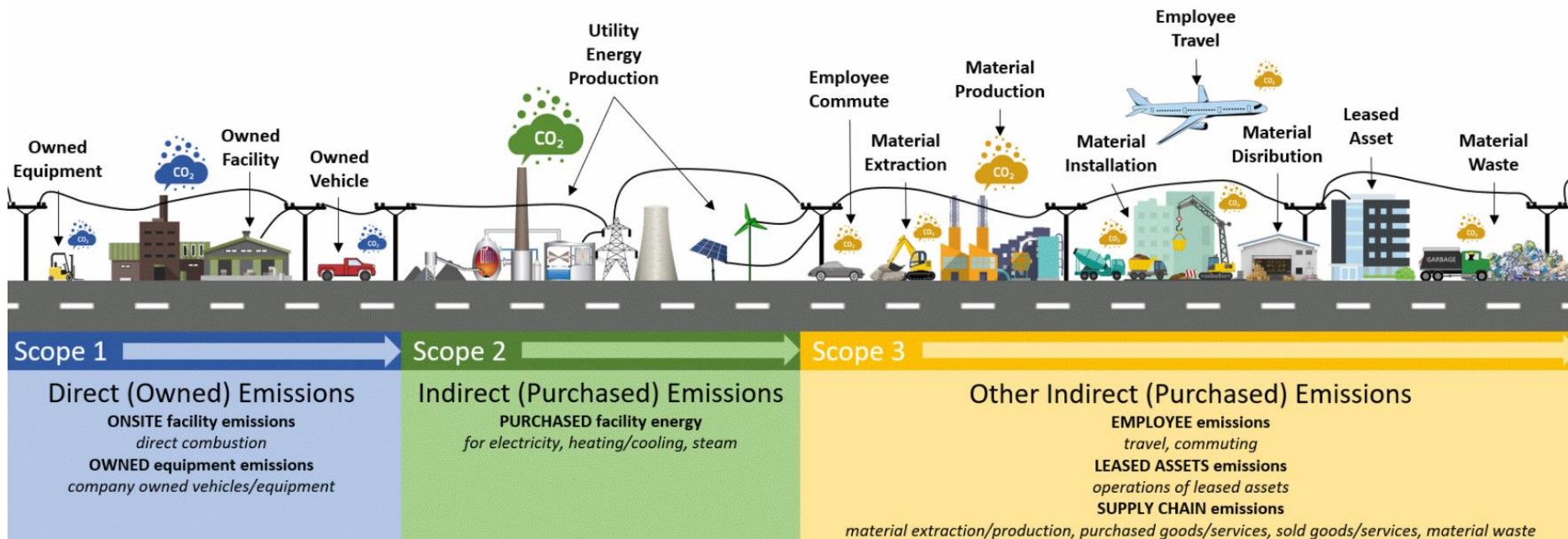
Extractive Sector is Overwhelmingly Not Aligned; Better Results for the Hard-to-Abate Sectors (Steel and Cement)

Sectoral breakdown of alignment with climate goals

of companies



Understanding Scope 1, 2, and 3 Emissions



Tackling Scope 3 Is The Priority For Most Sectors

Unit: MmT CO2e

	Utility company	Steel Company	Oil & Gas company	Mining company	Food Processing Company	Cement company	Chemical company
Company	<u>The Southern Company (2020)</u>	<u>Nippon Steel (2019)</u>	<u>Shell (2020)</u>	<u>Rio Tinto (2020)</u>	<u>McDonalds (2020)</u>	<u>Holcim (2020)</u>	<u>Air Liquide (2020)</u>
Scope 1 Emissions	75.1	9	98	22.8	0.1	110	15
Scope 2 Emissions	0.2	84	9	8.7	0.4	7	12.5
Scope 3 Emissions	36.6	7.5	1304	519	53,7	29	19.5
Scope 3 Percentage	33%	7%	92%	94%	99%	20%	41%

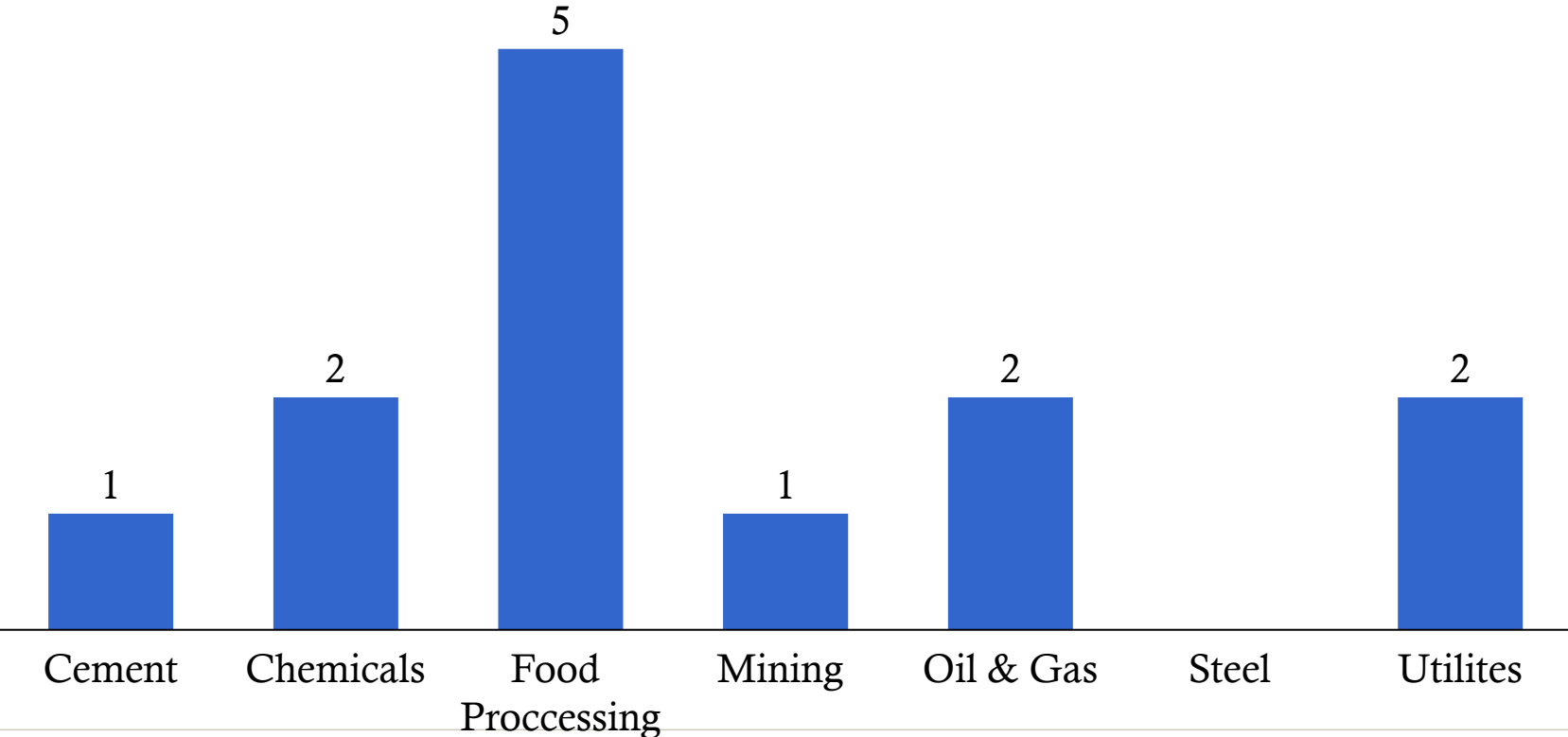
Mmt CO2e = Million Metric Tonnes of Carbon Dioxide Equivalent Emissions



Scope 3: Beyond the Food Sector, Scope 3 is Hardly Targeted

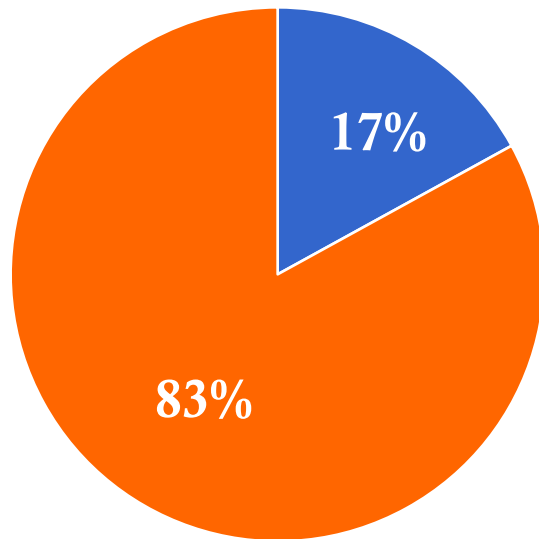
Inclusion of material scope 3 into reduction targets by industry

of companies



Outside Of Oil And Gas, Companies Generally Do Not Consider GHG Emission Reduction Targets In Planning For Future CAPEX

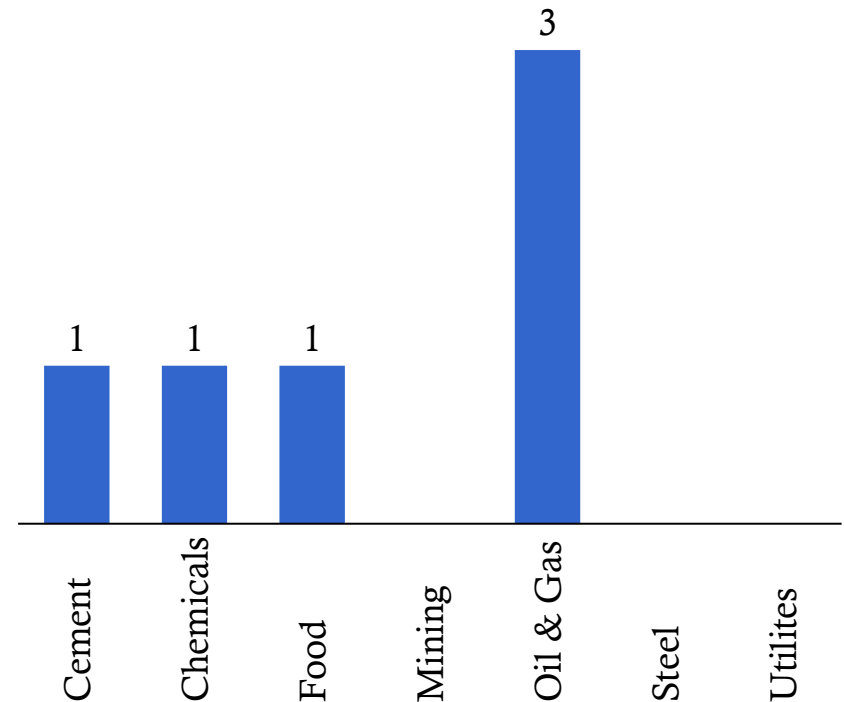
Has the corporation stated that it considers its GHG reduction target commitments as a component of its assessment of future CAPEX?



■ GHG consideration in future CAPEX
■ No GHG consideration in future CAPEX

GHG consideration in future CAPEX

of companies



Only 1 company across the entire sample states to align assessment of future CAPEX with 1.5° scenario



Internal Carbon Price: Split Practice and Set Too Low to Shift CAPEX

Industry	Highest carbon price	Lowest carbon price
Cement (3 use it, only 1 discloses)	\$18/ton	
Chemicals (4 use it, 3 disclose)	\$115/ton	\$18/ton
Food (no one has it)	NA	
Mining (5 use it, only 2 disclose)	\$120/ton	\$50/ton
Oil & Gas (4 use it , 3 disclose)	\$100/ton (2030)	\$40/ton
Steel (only 2 use it , only 1 company discloses)	\$17.5/ton	
Utilities (4 use it, 4 disclose)	\$50/ton	\$7/ton

“

Further burdens such as carbon pricing will mean for the industry to be deprived of the source of innovation toward decarbonization – (a steel company in the sample)

VS.

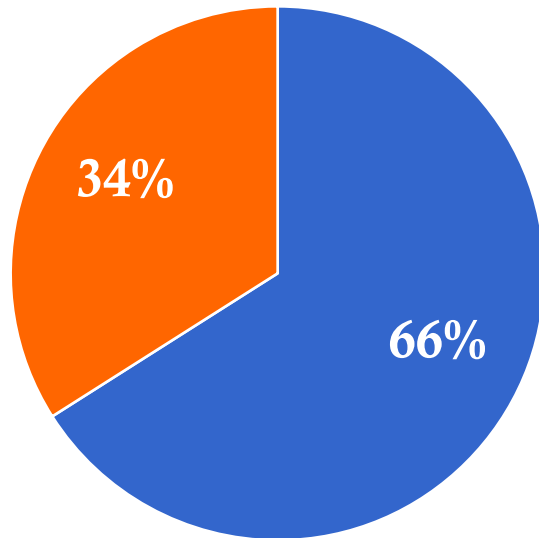
“

We align our capex spending with our ambition to achieve net zero GHG emissions by 2050, in line with the global goal to limit global warming to 1.5C. To drive internal change, we have set ourselves an internal carbon price of €100 per metric ton when calculating our capital expenditure projects and additionally conduct ecological assessments of relevant investments – (a chemical company in the sample)



High Reliance on Nature-Based Carbon Offsets to Achieve Net-Zero

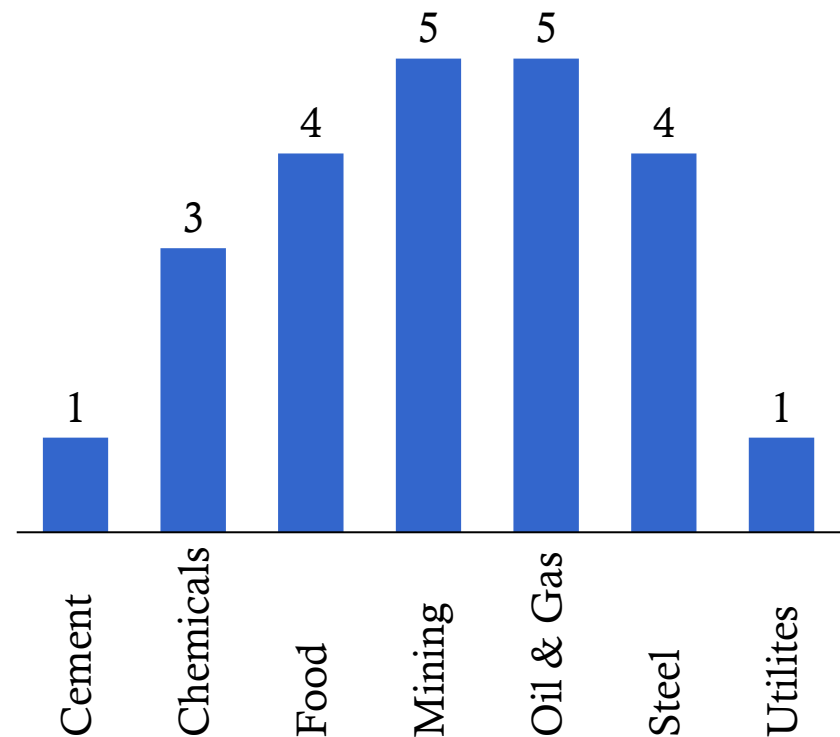
Reliance on carbon offsets



■ Rely on Carbon Offsets
■ Do not rely on Carbon Offsets

Purchase of carbon offsets

of companies



Only 50% of the companies using nature-based offsets report details and only 2 companies consider biodiversity as a residual measure



Offsets Don't Stop Climate Change

Natural reasons

- Carbon storage in natural ecosystems is inherently temporary and highly reversible
- Carbon offsets cannot properly quantify the amount of carbon being captured

Regulatory/ Economic reasons

- The system is voluntary and unregulated
- Companies are not required to disclose offset purchases
- The cheap availability of offsets is unlikely to persuade companies to make significant emissions cuts
- The offset market is fragmented and distrusted

Offsetting projects often do not deliver the results they promise while enabling polluters to continue emitting



Some Companies Have Understood It And Some Have Not!

“

*The Group selects projects focused on such solutions as **reforestation, deforestation prevention or biodigesters** that generate **high-quality carbon credits verified by independent international bodies, such as the Verified Carbon Standard or Gold Standard program**, and that also yield multiple environmental and social benefits for local communities – (an Oil Company of the sample)*

“

*Given the **high cost of emissions reductions** and lack of commercially viable low-carbon alternative technology for parts of our business, **our long-term ambition is for our operations to be net zero emissions by 2050, rather than zero emissions.** **Carbon offsets and removals** will therefore form part of our decarbonization strategy – (a Mining Company in the sample)*

“

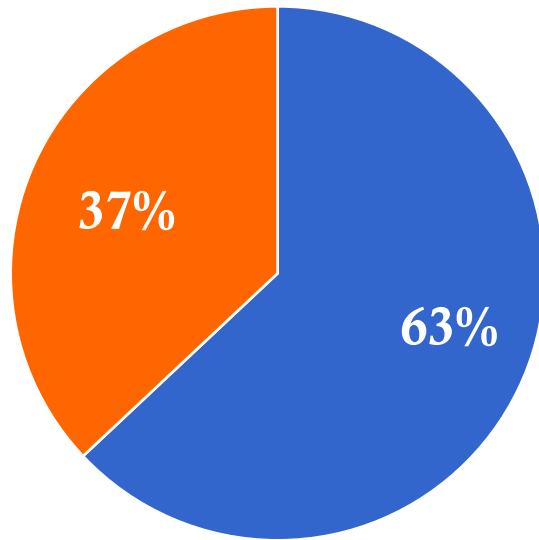
*Our primary focus in the 2020s and 2030s will be on **emissions reduction, not offsetting** [...]this means ensuring that the emissions associated with our business and products are reduced towards zero as far as possible, with residual emissions balanced by carbon removals, through either natural or technological carbon sequestration (for example, reforestation or carbon capture and storage), thereby achieving a ‘net zero’ position – (a Food Company in the sample)*



VS.



Reliance on CCS is Mainstreamed and Led By the Hard-To-Abate Sectors

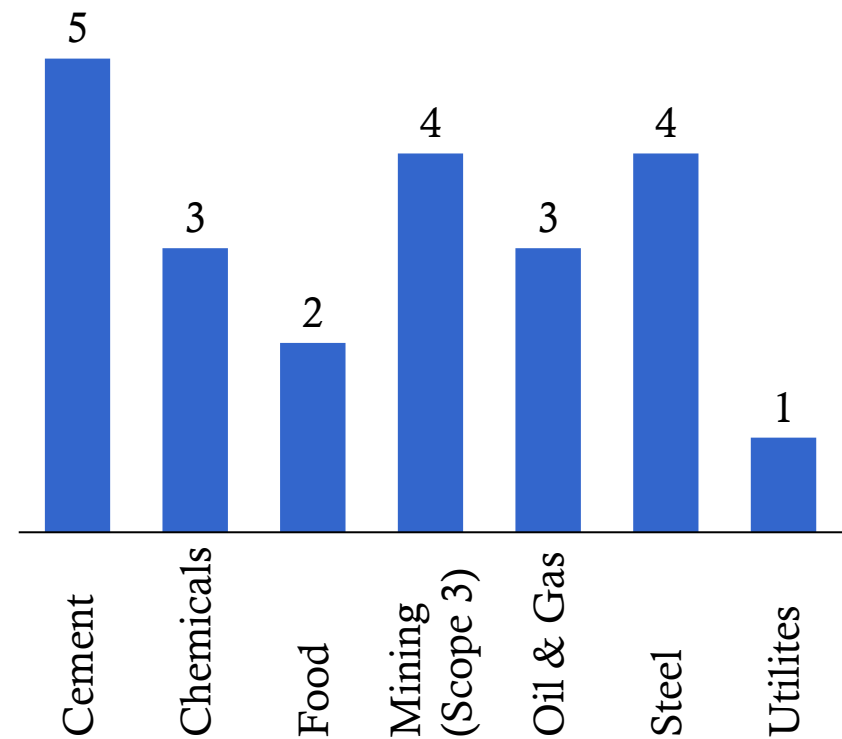
Reliance on CCS



 Rely on CCS
 Do not rely on CCS

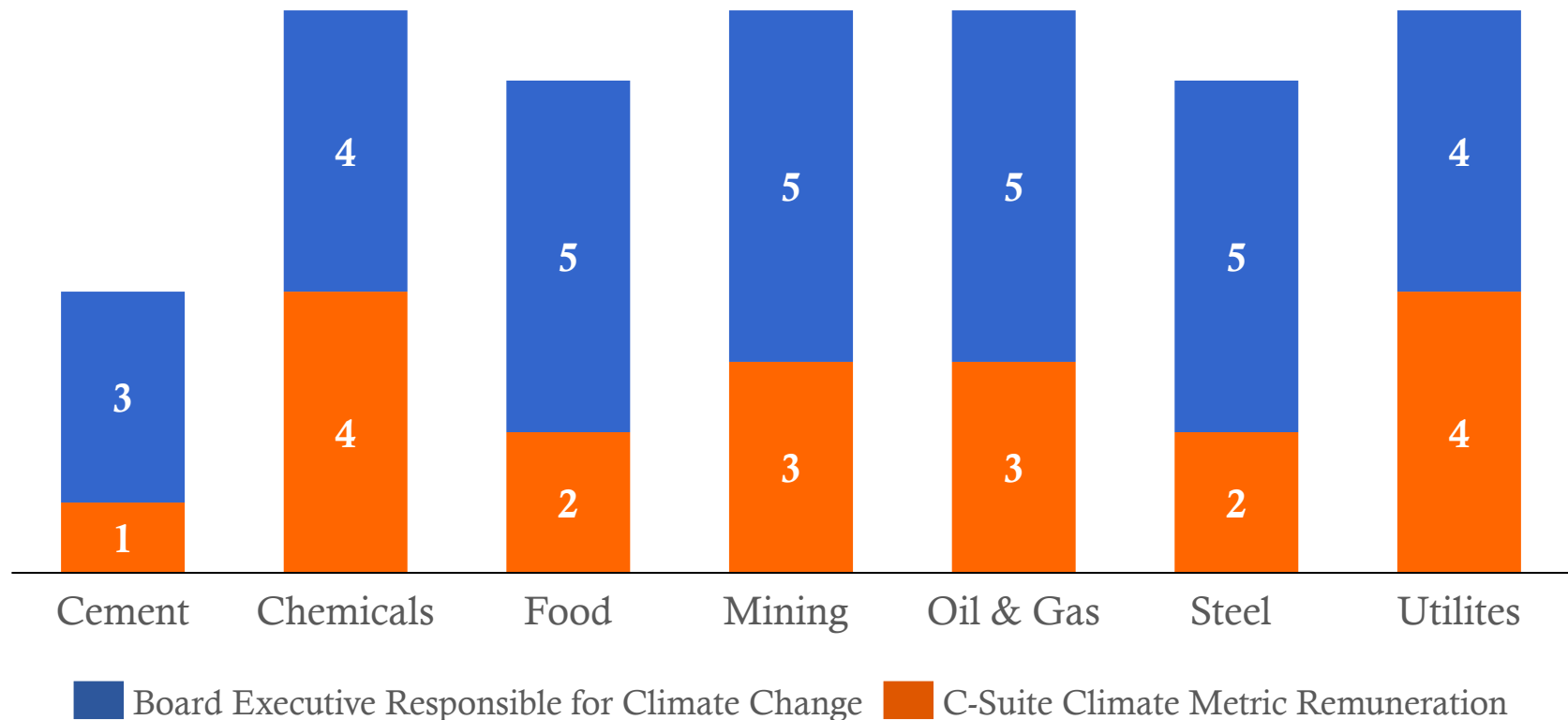
Use of CCS technologies by sector

of companies



While Climate Oversight At Board Level Is Well Established, Climate-Based Remuneration For C-suite Is Not Yet Mainstreamed Beyond Chemicals And Utilities

Corporate climate governance structure



Direct And Indirect Lobbying Efforts Are Mostly Not Contained By Corporate Policies ...

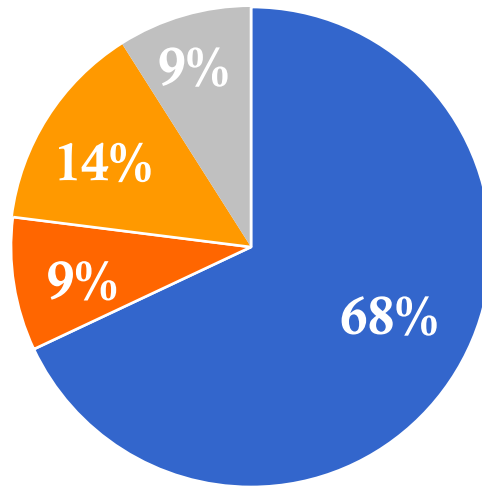
Direct lobbying

Any attempt to influence legislation on the company's behalf

Industry trade association lobbying

An association of business firms that voice their members' views on matters of common interest

Does the corporation have a policy requiring that the firm's lobbying activities – whether direct or through a trade association – align with the objectives of the Paris Agreement?

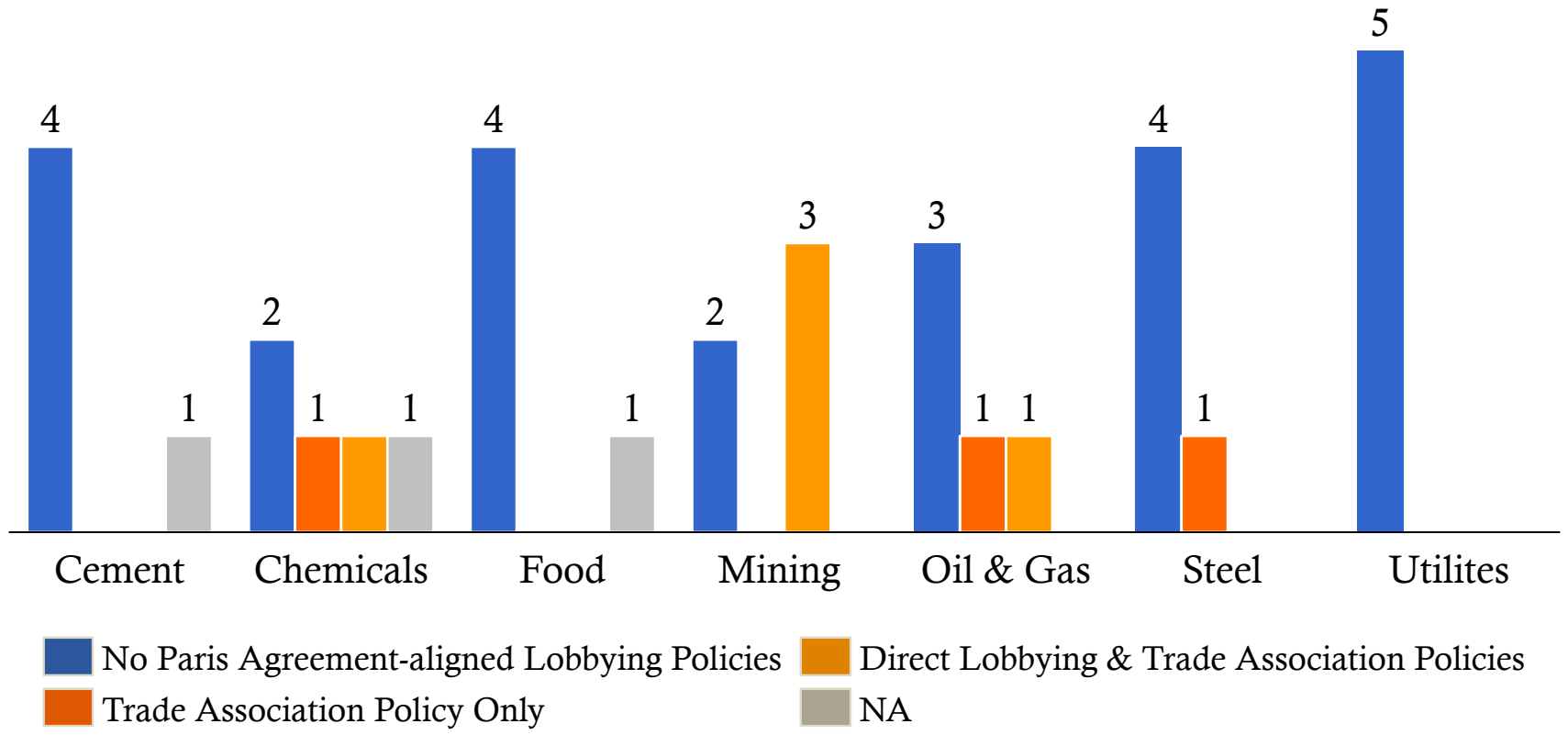


- No Paris Agreement-aligned Lobbying Policies
- Trade Association Policy Only
- Direct Lobbying & Trade Association Policies
- NA



Lobbying Policies: Is The Mining Sector An Exception..

of companies



All assessed oil *AND* mining companies and
50% of our assessed food companies retain
memberships in trade association lobbying **against**
climate change;
3 out of 5 assessed utilities lobby **against** climate
change



The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly of the Net-Zero Pledges

Good shift in practice

- Use of medium term targets
- Climate change oversight at board level

Split practice amongst various industries

- Use of intensity targets instead of absolute
- Climate metrics included in C-suite remuneration

Widely deficient practice

- Reliance on biodiversity offsets and CCS
- Lack of short term targets
- Misalignment of existing targets
- Absence of GHG consideration in CAPEX plan (let alone alignment) and internal carbon price set too low or inexistent
- Absence of Scope 3 measurement and target
- Counter productive lobbying

