



# Mountain Rescue Council

Charity No. 222596

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## Mountain Rescue Council England & Wales

### **Incident Report 1999**

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All enquiries please direct to :-

Ged Feeney  
MRC Statistics Collator  
57 Castlesteads Drive  
CARLISLE  
Cumbria  
CA2 7XD  
Tel: (+44) (0)1228 525709  
Email: [ged@gfeeney.demon.co.uk](mailto:ged@gfeeney.demon.co.uk)

## Mountain Rescue Council – England and Wales

### Incident Report 1999

This year's mountain incident and accidents in England and Wales are summarised as follows:-

| Year | Incidents | Fatalities | Injured | Persons assisted |
|------|-----------|------------|---------|------------------|
| 1999 | 635       | 37         | 390     | 835              |
| 1998 | 628       | 26         | 444     | 810              |
| 1997 | 695       | 19         | 512     | 925              |
| 1996 | 697       | 27         | 538     | 1059             |
| 1995 | 656       | 52         | 474     | 900              |
| 1994 | 634       | 39         | 486     | 929              |

During the year 1999, concern was expressed by a region about the number of head injuries sustained while climbing without a helmet. The evidence is very clear; the chance of receiving significant head injuries is three time greater when not wearing a helmet than when wearing one. Helmets do not eliminate head injury, but they do reduce their significance.

Amongst the other causes for concern are the increase in incident were persons are cragfast from 11 in 1998 to 31 in 1999; this may well be indicative of poor judgement as a result of lack of experience. Fatal heart attacks whilst fell walking have risen from 9 in 1998 to 17 in 1999, the highest for 5 years; awareness of the physical nature of the activity and strains placed on the unfit person are clear to see.

There has been a massive increase in use of mobile phone to alert the emergency services, from 94 in 1998 to 157 in 1999. This trend will continue to increase; whilst it is good news for the casualty of a genuine accident, it has become the bane in the life of team leaders called to assist people confronted with a minor difficulty – often so trivial as to be farcical.

This year's non-mountain incidents are summarised as follows:

| Year | Incidents | Fatalities | Injured <sup>1</sup> | Persons assisted |
|------|-----------|------------|----------------------|------------------|
| 1999 | 277       | 29         | 87                   | 260              |
| 1998 | 250       | 44         | 71                   | 240              |
| 1997 | 185       | 26         | 49                   | 163              |
| 1996 | 213       | 21         |                      | 411              |
| 1995 | 144       | 18         |                      | 147              |
| 1994 | 106       | 23         |                      | 116              |

1. comparable figures before 1997 are not available

Whilst most regions saw a decrease in the number of non-mountain searches, the large urban area in Mid Pennine reported an increase from 46 in 1998 to 82 in 1999. These days, mountain rescue team form a valued and disciplined resource for the police; they are called in at a very early stage in operations for missing persons and provide an important management function.

I do not know if this is a record, but one day in 1999, one team responded to six different accident sites; it started at 12:30 and continued until 19:30. It included a 150 ft fall off a ridge, someone separated from the main party, someone collapsed on Helvellyn, a crashed parapenter on Skiddaw, a fell walker unable to continue his walk and another parapenter who fell 25 ft when his take off failed. I dread to think of the impact of this Saturday on the families of those members involved.

*Ged Feeney.*

Ged Feeney  
MRC Statistics Collator

## Mountain Incident Report

This report covers the period from: 01/01/1999 to 31/12/1999.

The report confines itself to those leisure activities that are mountain or wilderness-related to which Mountain Rescue Teams were summoned. It lists the number of incidents and the number of persons assisted, regardless of degree of injury. The percentages are rounded to 1 dec. place. Please note that the percentage totals do not sum to 100% because of round up error in the rows.

'Fellwalking' is a general category covering all instances of walking, away from easy road or track access. The categories of 'summer' and 'winter' refer to the prevailing conditions reported at the time of the incident; it does not refer to a calendar period.

| Activity                   |           | Lake District | Mid Pennine | N.E. England | North Wales | Peak District | South Wales | S.W. England | Yorks Dales | Total | %    |
|----------------------------|-----------|---------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|-------|------|
| Abseiling                  | Incidents | 1             | 0           | 0            | 1           | 0             | 0           | 0            | 4           | 6     | 0.9  |
|                            | Subjects  | 1             | 0           | 0            | 1           | 0             | 0           | 0            | 2           | 4     | 0.5  |
| Fellrunning                | Incidents | 5             | 5           | 2            | 0           | 2             | 0           | 0            | 2           | 16    | 2.5  |
|                            | Subjects  | 7             | 7           | 4            | 0           | 2             | 0           | 0            | 2           | 22    | 2.6  |
| Fellwalking - Summer       | Incidents | 217           | 19          | 10           | 70          | 34            | 10          | 14           | 24          | 398   | 62.6 |
|                            | Subjects  | 304           | 20          | 15           | 87          | 41            | 13          | 26           | 28          | 534   | 63.9 |
| Fellwalking - Summer (DoE) | Incidents | 8             | 0           | 1            | 2           | 3             | 0           | 1            | 0           | 15    | 2.4  |
|                            | Subjects  | 18            | 0           | 1            | 4           | 4             | 0           | 5            | 0           | 32    | 3.8  |
| Fellwalking - Winter       | Incidents | 15            | 0           | 1            | 6           | 4             | 1           | 0            | 1           | 28    | 4.4  |
|                            | Subjects  | 16            | 0           | 1            | 10          | 5             | 3           | 0            | 1           | 36    | 4.3  |
| Fellwalking - Winter (DoE) | Incidents | 0             | 0           | 0            | 2           | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 2     | 0.3  |
|                            | Subjects  | 0             | 0           | 0            | 15          | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 15    | 1.8  |
| Hang Gliding               | Incidents | 1             | 1           | 0            | 0           | 1             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 3     | 0.5  |
|                            | Subjects  | 0             | 1           | 0            | 0           | 1             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 2     | 0.2  |
| Mountain Biking            | Incidents | 6             | 5           | 5            | 0           | 5             | 0           | 1            | 2           | 24    | 3.8  |
|                            | Subjects  | 12            | 5           | 5            | 0           | 4             | 0           | 1            | 3           | 30    | 3.6  |
| Orienteering               | Incidents | 4             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 4     | 0.6  |
|                            | Subjects  | 4             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 4     | 0.5  |
| Parapenting                | Incidents | 4             | 1           | 0            | 2           | 2             | 0           | 0            | 1           | 10    | 1.6  |
|                            | Subjects  | 6             | 1           | 0            | 2           | 2             | 0           | 0            | 1           | 12    | 1.4  |
| Rescue Team Exercise       | Incidents | 0             | 1           | 0            | 0           | 0             | 1           | 0            | 0           | 2     | 0.3  |
|                            | Subjects  | 0             | 1           | 0            | 0           | 0             | 1           | 0            | 0           | 2     | 0.2  |
| Rock Climbing              | Incidents | 5             | 0           | 0            | 15          | 17            | 0           | 3            | 3           | 43    | 6.8  |
|                            | Subjects  | 5             | 0           | 0            | 20          | 20            | 0           | 6            | 3           | 54    | 6.5  |
| Rock Scrambling            | Incidents | 8             | 0           | 0            | 18          | 4             | 0           | 0            | 2           | 32    | 5.0  |
|                            | Subjects  | 9             | 0           | 0            | 33          | 6             | 0           | 0            | 3           | 51    | 6.1  |
| Searches *                 | Incidents | 20            | 9           | 0            | 8           | 4             | 3           | 4            | 1           | 49    | 7.7  |
|                            | Subjects  | 12            | 8           | 0            | 2           | 2             | 2           | 3            | 0           | 29    | 3.5  |
| Snow/Ice Climbing          | Incidents | 2             | 0           | 0            | 1           | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 3     | 0.5  |
|                            | Subjects  | 6             | 0           | 0            | 2           | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 8     | 1.0  |
| Totals                     | Incidents | 296           | 41          | 19           | 125         | 76            | 15          | 23           | 40          | 635   | 99.9 |
|                            | Subjects  | 400           | 43          | 26           | 176         | 87            | 19          | 41           | 43          | 835   | 99.9 |

\* This category includes those activities not covered by the rest, where the subjects had either strayed, become lost, or whose whereabouts were otherwise unknown.

## Mountain Casualty Report

This report covers the period from: 01/01/1999 to: 31/12/1999.

The report confines itself to those leisure activities that are mountain or wilderness-related to which Mountain Rescue Teams were summoned. It lists the number of persons assisted by condition of subjects. The percentages are rounded to 1 dec. place. Please note that the percentage totals do not sum to 100% because of round up error in the rows.

'Fellwalking' is a general category covering all instances of walking, away from easy road or track access. The categories of 'summer' and 'winter' refer to the prevailing conditions reported at the time of the incident; it does not refer to a calendar period.

| Activity                   |           | Lake District | Mid Pennine | N.E. England | North Wales | Peak District | South Wales | S.W. England | Yorks Dales | Total | Perce |
|----------------------------|-----------|---------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|-------|-------|
| Abseiling                  | Uninjured | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0     | 0.0   |
|                            | Injured   | 1             | 0           | 0            | 1           | 0             | 0           | 0            | 2           | 4     | 0.5   |
|                            | Fatal     | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0     | 0.0   |
| Fellrunning                | Uninjured | 4             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 4     | 0.5   |
|                            | Injured   | 3             | 7           | 4            | 0           | 2             | 0           | 0            | 2           | 18    | 2.2   |
|                            | Fatal     | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0     | 0.0   |
| Fellwalking - Summer       | Uninjured | 167           | 1           | 4            | 44          | 13            | 8           | 22           | 14          | 273   | 32.7  |
|                            | Injured   | 124           | 18          | 10           | 39          | 24            | 5           | 3            | 14          | 237   | 28.3  |
|                            | Fatal     | 13            | 1           | 1            | 4           | 4             | 0           | 1            | 0           | 24    | 2.9   |
| Fellwalking - Summer (DoE) | Uninjured | 12            | 0           | 0            | 4           | 0             | 0           | 5            | 0           | 21    | 2.5   |
|                            | Injured   | 6             | 0           | 1            | 0           | 4             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 11    | 1.3   |
|                            | Fatal     | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0     | 0.0   |
| Fellwalking - Winter       | Uninjured | 5             | 0           | 0            | 8           | 0             | 3           | 0            | 0           | 16    | 1.9   |
|                            | Injured   | 10            | 0           | 0            | 2           | 5             | 0           | 0            | 1           | 18    | 2.2   |
|                            | Fatal     | 1             | 0           | 1            | 0           | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 2     | 0.2   |
| Fellwalking - Winter (DoE) | Uninjured | 0             | 0           | 0            | 15          | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 15    | 1.8   |
|                            | Injured   | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0     | 0.0   |
|                            | Fatal     | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0     | 0.0   |
| Hang Gliding               | Uninjured | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0     | 0.0   |
|                            | Injured   | 0             | 1           | 0            | 0           | 1             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 2     | 0.2   |
|                            | Fatal     | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0     | 0.0   |
| Mountain Biking            | Uninjured | 10            | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0             | 0           | 1            | 0           | 11    | 1.3   |
|                            | Injured   | 2             | 5           | 5            | 0           | 3             | 0           | 0            | 2           | 17    | 2.0   |
|                            | Fatal     | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 1             | 0           | 0            | 1           | 2     | 0.2   |
| Orienteering               | Uninjured | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0     | 0.0   |
|                            | Injured   | 4             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 4     | 0.5   |
|                            | Fatal     | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0     | 0.0   |
| Parapenting                | Uninjured | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0     | 0.0   |
|                            | Injured   | 6             | 1           | 0            | 2           | 2             | 0           | 0            | 1           | 12    | 1.4   |
|                            | Fatal     | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0     | 0.0   |
| Rescue Team Exercise       | Uninjured | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0     | 0.0   |
|                            | Injured   | 0             | 1           | 0            | 0           | 0             | 1           | 0            | 0           | 2     | 0.2   |
|                            | Fatal     | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0     | 0.0   |
| Rock Climbing              | Uninjured | 0             | 0           | 0            | 9           | 5             | 0           | 6            | 0           | 20    | 2.4   |
|                            | Injured   | 5             | 0           | 0            | 10          | 14            | 0           | 0            | 3           | 32    | 3.8   |
|                            | Fatal     | 0             | 0           | 0            | 1           | 1             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 2     | 0.2   |
| Rock Scrambling            | Uninjured | 2             | 0           | 0            | 21          | 2             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 25    | 3.0   |
|                            | Injured   | 5             | 0           | 0            | 11          | 4             | 0           | 0            | 3           | 23    | 2.8   |
|                            | Fatal     | 2             | 0           | 0            | 1           | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 3     | 0.4   |
| Searches *                 | Uninjured | 11            | 6           | 0            | 2           | 1             | 2           | 0            | 0           | 22    | 2.6   |
|                            | Injured   | 0             | 2           | 0            | 0           | 0             | 0           | 2            | 0           | 4     | 0.5   |
|                            | Fatal     | 1             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 1             | 0           | 1            | 0           | 3     | 0.4   |
| Snow/Ice Climbing          | Uninjured | 1             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 1     | 0.1   |
|                            | Injured   | 5             | 0           | 0            | 1           | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 6     | 0.7   |
|                            | Fatal     | 0             | 0           | 0            | 1           | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 1     | 0.1   |
| Totals                     | Uninjured | 212           | 7           | 4            | 103         | 21            | 13          | 34           | 14          | 408   | 48.8  |
|                            | Injured   | 171           | 35          | 20           | 66          | 59            | 6           | 5            | 28          | 390   | 46.6  |
|                            | Fatal     | 17            | 1           | 2            | 7           | 7             | 0           | 2            | 1           | 37    | 4.4   |

\* This category includes those activities not covered by the rest, where the subjects had either strayed, become lost, or whose whereabouts were otherwise unknown.

## Non-Mountain Incident Report

This report covers the period from: 01/01/1999 to: 31/12/1999.

This report restricts itself to those incidents not directly related to mountain or wilderness related activities. It lists the number of incidents and the number of persons assisted, regardless of degree of injury. The percentages are rounded to 1 dec. place. Please note that the totals do not sum to 100% because of round up error in the rows.

The search category covers mainly urban, coastline or lowland areas with good road access. Local incidents reflect assistance given to local communities during severe weather etc.

| Action/Activity       |           | Lake District | Mid Pennine | N.E. England | North Wales | Peak District | South Wales | S.W. England | Yorks Dales | Total | Perce |
|-----------------------|-----------|---------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|-------|-------|
| Aircrash - Civil      | Incidents | 0             | 0           | 0            | 1           | 0             | 2           | 0            | 0           | 3     | 1.1   |
|                       | Subjects  | 0             | 0           | 0            | 1           | 0             | 4           | 0            | 0           | 5     | 1.9   |
| Cave/Mine Exploration | Incidents | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0             | 1           | 0            | 0           | 1     | 0.4   |
|                       | Subjects  | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0             | 1           | 0            | 0           | 1     | 0.4   |
| Horse / Pony Trekking | Incidents | 1             | 4           | 1            | 0           | 1             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 7     | 2.5   |
|                       | Subjects  | 1             | 3           | 1            | 0           | 1             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 6     | 2.3   |
| Local Incident        | Incidents | 8             | 23          | 5            | 1           | 1             | 3           | 3            | 0           | 44    | 15.9  |
|                       | Subjects  | 8             | 16          | 5            | 1           | 0             | 1           | 2            | 0           | 33    | 12.7  |
| Non-Mountain Search   | Incidents | 2             | 82          | 25           | 28          | 32            | 17          | 22           | 0           | 208   | 75.1  |
|                       | Subjects  | 1             | 84          | 24           | 24          | 31            | 14          | 21           | 0           | 199   | 76.5  |
| Road Traffic Accident | Incidents | 1             | 8           | 0            | 0           | 0             | 1           | 0            | 0           | 10    | 3.6   |
|                       | Subjects  | 0             | 8           | 0            | 0           | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 8     | 3.1   |
| Sledging              | Incidents | 1             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 1     | 0.4   |
|                       | Subjects  | 1             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 1     | 0.4   |
| Water Sport           | Incidents | 1             | 1           | 0            | 0           | 0             | 0           | 1            | 0           | 3     | 1.1   |
|                       | Subjects  | 5             | 1           | 0            | 0           | 0             | 0           | 1            | 0           | 7     | 2.7   |
| Totals                | Incidents | 14            | 118         | 31           | 30          | 34            | 24          | 26           | 0           | 277   | 100.1 |
|                       | Subjects  | 16            | 112         | 30           | 26          | 32            | 20          | 24           | 0           | 260   | 100.0 |

## Non-Mountain Casualty Report

This report covers the period from: 01/01/1999 to: 31/12/1999.

This report restricts itself to those incidents not directly related to mountain or wilderness related activities. It lists the number of persons assisted by Condition of subjects. The percentages are rounded to 1 dec. place. Please note that the totals do not sum to 100% because of round up error in the rows.

The search category covers mainly urban, coastline or lowland areas with good road access. Local incidents reflect assistance given to local communities during severe weather etc.

| Action / Activity     |           | Lake District | Mid Pennine | N.E. England | North Wales | Peak District | South Wales | S.W. England | Yorks Dales | Total | Perce |
|-----------------------|-----------|---------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|-------|-------|
| Aircrash - Civil      | Uninjured | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0     | 0.0   |
|                       | Injured   | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0             | 1           | 0            | 0           | 1     | 0.4   |
|                       | Fatal     | 0             | 0           | 0            | 1           | 0             | 3           | 0            | 0           | 4     | 1.5   |
| Cave/Mine Exploration | Uninjured | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0     | 0.0   |
|                       | Injured   | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0     | 0.0   |
|                       | Fatal     | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0             | 1           | 0            | 0           | 1     | 0.4   |
| Horse / Pony Trekking | Uninjured | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0     | 0.0   |
|                       | Injured   | 1             | 3           | 1            | 0           | 1             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 6     | 2.3   |
|                       | Fatal     | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0     | 0.0   |
| Local Incident        | Uninjured | 4             | 3           | 0            | 0           | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 7     | 2.7   |
|                       | Injured   | 4             | 12          | 3            | 0           | 0             | 0           | 2            | 0           | 21    | 8.1   |
|                       | Fatal     | 0             | 1           | 2            | 1           | 0             | 1           | 0            | 0           | 5     | 1.9   |
| Non-Mountain Search   | Uninjured | 1             | 63          | 16           | 15          | 14            | 10          | 13           | 0           | 132   | 50.8  |
|                       | Injured   | 0             | 17          | 5            | 8           | 13            | 2           | 3            | 0           | 48    | 18.5  |
|                       | Fatal     | 0             | 4           | 3            | 1           | 4             | 2           | 5            | 0           | 19    | 7.3   |
| Road Traffic Accident | Uninjured | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0     | 0.0   |
|                       | Injured   | 0             | 8           | 0            | 0           | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 8     | 3.1   |
|                       | Fatal     | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0     | 0.0   |
| Sledging              | Uninjured | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0     | 0.0   |
|                       | Injured   | 1             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 1     | 0.4   |
|                       | Fatal     | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0     | 0.0   |
| Water Sport           | Uninjured | 5             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 5     | 1.9   |
|                       | Injured   | 0             | 1           | 0            | 0           | 0             | 0           | 1            | 0           | 2     | 0.8   |
|                       | Fatal     | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 0     | 0.0   |
| Totals                | Uninjured | 10            | 66          | 16           | 15          | 14            | 10          | 13           | 0           | 144   | 55.4  |
|                       | Injured   | 6             | 41          | 9            | 8           | 14            | 3           | 6            | 0           | 87    | 33.6  |
|                       | Fatal     | 0             | 5           | 5            | 3           | 4             | 7           | 5            | 0           | 29    | 11.1  |

## Main Causes of Mountain Incidents

This report covers the period from: 01/01/1999 to 31/12/1999, during which 634 incidents were reported.

This report summarises the main causes of Mountain Accidents. It is based on a search of key words used in incident reports. All causes have not been listed, so the column totals may not agree with the total number of incidents. A typical report will illustrate another problem with totals:-

*"... tripped on footpath whilst walking and fell 2 metres onto rocky ground."*

This will result in contributions to the 'Slip, Trip or Stumble' and the 'Fall or Tumble' categories.

| Cause                            | Col. 1<br>Fellwalking<br>(summer) | Col. 2<br>Fellwalking<br>(winter) | Col. 3<br>Rock<br>Climbing | Col. 4<br>Snow / Ice<br>Climbing | Col. 5<br>Other<br>Activities | Col. 6<br>Total | Col. 7<br>Percentage |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| Avalanche                        | 0                                 | 0                                 | 0                          | 1                                | 0                             | 1               | 0.2                  |
| Belay / Runner Failure           | 1                                 | 0                                 | 13                         | 0                                | 0                             | 14              | 2.2                  |
| Benighted                        | 9                                 | 1                                 | 4                          | 0                                | 0                             | 14              | 2.2                  |
| Cragfast                         | 20                                | 2                                 | 10                         | 0                                | 0                             | 32              | 5.0                  |
| Fall or Tumble                   | 79                                | 3                                 | 50                         | 3                                | 16                            | 151             | 23.8                 |
| Lightening                       | 0                                 | 0                                 | 0                          | 0                                | 0                             | 0               | 0.0                  |
| Lost                             | 63                                | 4                                 | 4                          | 0                                | 2                             | 73              | 11.5                 |
| Medical Collapse or<br>Illness   | 50                                | 2                                 | 0                          | 0                                | 1                             | 53              | 8.4                  |
| Overdue or Missing               | 64                                | 2                                 | 1                          | 0                                | 19                            | 86              | 13.6                 |
| Rockfall                         | 0                                 | 0                                 | 0                          | 0                                | 0                             | 0               | 0.0                  |
| Shouts/Lights/Flares<br>Reported | 5                                 | 1                                 | 0                          | 0                                | 18                            | 24              | 3.8                  |
| Slip, Trip or Stumble            | 146                               | 12                                | 18                         | 0                                | 2                             | 178             | 28.1                 |
| Unable to Continue               | 36                                | 3                                 | 1                          | 0                                | 4                             | 44              | 6.9                  |

Notes:

Col. 1 This category also includes Fellrunning and Orienteering incidents

Col. 2 This category is based on the prevailing weather and ground conditions at the time, not on a calendar period. It includes those incidents involving D of E expeditions conducted in wintry conditions.

Col. 3 This includes incidents of Rock Scrambling and Abseiling.

Col. 5 This groups all the remaining mountain activities of Mountain Biking, Hanggliding, Parapenting, Ski-ing and Mountain searches.

Col. 7 This is a percentage of all Mountain Incidents reported.

## Main Sites & Types of Injury

This report covers the period from: 01/01/1999 to 31/12/1999, during which 634 casualties were reported.

This report summarises the main types and sites of injuries dealt with by MR Teams. It is based on a search of key words used in incident reports.

| Injury Type / Site        | Col. 1<br>Fellwalking<br>(summer) | Col. 2<br>Fellwalking<br>(winter) | Col. 3<br>Rock<br>Climbing | Col. 4<br>Snow / Ice<br>Climbing | Col. 5<br>Other<br>Activities | Col. 6<br>Non -<br>Mountain | Col. 7<br>Total |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| Lower Leg & Foot          | 112                               | 10                                | 14                         | 2                                | 8                             | 10                          | 156             |
| Upper Leg & Knee          | 38                                | 1                                 | 8                          | 0                                | 2                             | 8                           | 57              |
| Pelvis                    | 8                                 | 1                                 | 5                          | 0                                | 1                             | 2                           | 17              |
| Abdomen                   | 2                                 | 1                                 | 1                          | 0                                | 0                             | 1                           | 5               |
| Chest & Shoulder          | 16                                | 1                                 | 13                         | 1                                | 3                             | 8                           | 42              |
| Back & Neck               | 13                                | 1                                 | 16                         | 1                                | 6                             | 8                           | 45              |
| Arm & Hand                | 13                                | 0                                 | 11                         | 1                                | 2                             | 5                           | 32              |
| Head                      | 29                                | 3                                 | 22                         | 1                                | 4                             | 7                           | 66              |
| Fractures                 | 111                               | 11                                | 29                         | 3                                | 10                            | 17                          | 181             |
| Lacerations Etc           | 28                                | 1                                 | 13                         | 2                                | 8                             | 9                           | 61              |
| Exhaustion                | 17                                | 2                                 | 0                          | 0                                | 3                             | 0                           | 22              |
| Hypothermia               | 7                                 | 3                                 | 0                          | 0                                | 1                             | 14                          | 25              |
| Heart Attack (non-fatal)  | 10                                | 0                                 | 0                          | 0                                | 0                             | 1                           | 11              |
| Heart Attack (fatalities) | 15                                | 2                                 | 0                          | 0                                | 0                             | 2                           | 19              |
| Illness                   | 0                                 | 0                                 | 0                          | 0                                | 0                             | 0                           | 0               |

Notes:  
 Col. 1 This category also includes Fellrunning and Orienteering incidents  
 Col. 2 The category of Fellwalking (winter) is based on the prevailing weather and ground conditions at the time, not on a calendar period.  
 Col. 3 This includes incidents of Rock Scrambling and Abseiling.  
 Col. 5 This groups all the remaining mountain activities of Mountain Biking, Hanggliding, Parapenting, Ski-ing and Mountain searches.  
 Col. 6 This groups all the non-mountain incidents as detailed on pages 4 & 5 of this report.



## Specialist Resources & Other Details

This report covers the period from: 01/01/1999 to 31/12/1999, during which time 955 incidents were reported.

This report summarises the specialist resources used during incidents dealt with by MR Teams. It is detailed on a regional basis, with explanations given as footnotes to each row. The percentage calculations (rounded to 1 dec. pl.) are based on the total number of incidents reported by MR Teams.

| Category                              | Lake District | Mid Pennine | N.E. England | North Wales | Peak District | South Wales | S.W. England | Yorks Dales | Total | Perce |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|-------|-------|
| 1 Incidents Attended by Helicopters   | 59            | 49          | 5            | 93          | 37            | 12          | 10           | 2           | 267   | 28.0  |
| 2 Helicopters Used for Evacuation     | 48            | 7           | 3            | 58          | 13            | 4           | 5            | 2           | 140   | 14.7  |
| 3 Helicopters Used for Searching      | 8             | 42          | 3            | 35          | 19            | 8           | 7            | 0           | 122   | 12.8  |
| 4 Helicopters Used for Deployment     | 11            | 0           | 0            | 7           | 2             | 0           | 0            | 0           | 20    | 2.1   |
| 5 Incidents Attended by SARDA Dogs    | 22            | 54          | 12           | 45          | 33            | 8           | 16           | 0           | 190   | 19.9  |
| 6 Search Dog Finds                    | 2             | 0           | 2            | 2           | 1             | 0           | 1            | 0           | 8     | 0.8   |
| 7 Incidents Attended by a Doctor      | 109           | 12          | 17           | 3           | 57            | 5           | 4            | 0           | 207   | 21.7  |
| 8 Incidents Initiated by Mobile Phone | 101           | 2           | 1            | 41          | 6             | 5           | 2            | 0           | 158   | 16.5  |
| 9 Animal Rescues                      | 25            | 0           | 0            | 1           | 0             | 2           | 1            | 0           | 29    | 3.0   |

### Notes:

Row 1. The number of incidents where a helicopter (military, police or ambulance) was called to or attended the scene of an incident.

Row 2. The number of times the helicopter was used to evacuate the casualty(ies) from the scene of the incident.

Row 3. The number of occasions when the helicopter was employed to search for the missing subject(s).

Row 4. The number of times the helicopters were used to deploy personnel and/or equipment to remote locations.

Row 5. The number of incidents where MR Search Dogs was called to or attended an incident.

Row 6. The number of instances where the subject was located by a Search Dog and handler.

Row 7. The number of incidents where a doctor attended the scene of the incident - in most cases, these doctors were members of MR Teams.

Row 8. The number of incidents initiated by the person(s) requiring assistance using a mobile phone. In addition, the mobile phone may also have been used by this person during the course of the incident, especially in a search.

Row 9. The number of animal rescues where a Team has been requested by the police, local farmer or owner - these include cragfast sheep, dogs stuck on crags or down sink holes or larger animals unable to exit a deep gorge or stream bed.