

Table I summarizes the overall results obtained at that time. Many possible sources of error could have modified these results. There was no way of being sure of the precision of the estimated number of man-mountain days, and in all probability it was an underestimate since the data only referred to climbing organized under club auspices. The number of accidents was also probably under-reported. On the other hand the number of deaths probably was well documented, a fact of doubtful satisfaction.

In an effort to obtain data that should have better validity but might not be representative of climbing in general, a further survey was conducted. The National Parks in which climbing is done require registration and would, therefore, have good estimates of the man-mountain days. Also because of their rescue operations, they should have good data on accidents. These parks were surveyed and asked for their experience over the past five years. The results are summarized in Table II.

**TABLE II**  
**Accident and Mortality Rates for Mountaineers**  
**in National Parks, and National Monuments †**  
**1958-62**

Rates per 1000 registered climbers in parentheses	Number of registered climbers	Number of persons involved in accidents	Number injured	Number killed
	36,375	202 (5.6)	106 (2.9)	26 (0.72)

† Devil's Tower, Glacier, Grand Teton, Mount McKinley, Mt. Rainier\*, Olympic\*, Rocky Mountain, and Yosemite.

\*1957-61.

When these results are compared with the earlier data, the mortality rates are the same but the accident frequency is higher. It should be emphasized that the type of climbing done in most of these parks requires a higher degree of technical skill than the average type of climbing. In addition a certain amount of screening of climbers is done so that only the more competent are doing the climbing. On the other hand, many of these areas are readily accessible and, therefore, attract many climbers. These data are also subject to the same criticisms of those obtained earlier, namely possible under-registration, and under-reporting of minor injuries by the climbers. These are probably less important in this more recent compilation, and, therefore, more credence can be given to the data. It would be more likely that they may be overestimates because of the type of climbing involved. Also no correction has been made for the number of days an individual may have climbed. For example in Mt. McKinley, an individual may be exposed for 20 or more days.

A further analysis was done to try to evaluate the risk of rock climbing versus snow climbing. For this purpose the data from Mt. Rainier, Mt. McKinley, and the Olympics have been pooled for data on snow climbs, and the rest have been pooled for rock climbing. The results are presented in Table III.