

TABLE III

	1951-95 USA	1959-95 CAN.	1996 USA	1996 CAN.
Terrain				
Rock	3369	398	95	
Snow	2000	297	38	
Ice	180	84	2	
River	12	3	1	
Unknown	22	6	0	
Ascent or Descent				
Ascent	2969	422	91	
Descent	1843	286	48	
Unknown ³	247	3	0	
Immediate Cause				
Fall or slip on rock	2324	212	68	
Slip on snow or ice	754	152	20	
Falling rock, ice or object	467	105	12	
Exceeding abilities	381	27	18	
Avalanche	249	105	4	
Exposure	231	12	3	
Illness ¹	255	20	14	
Stranded	249	48	9	
Rappel Failure/Error	188	33	8	
Loss of control/glissade	164	15	2	
Fall into crevasse/moat	125	38	4	
Failure to follow route	113	20	8	
Piton pulled out	84	12	0	
Nut/chock pulled out	88	3	9	
Faulty use of crampons	60	5	5	
Lightning	39	6	0	
Skiing	45	9	3	
Ascending too fast	43	0	0	
Equipment failure	7	2	0	
Other ²	166	18	15	
Unknown ³	59	8	0	
Contributory Causes				
Climbing unroped	875	143	14	
Exceeding abilities	819	154	9	
Inadequate equipment/clothing	531	68	10	
Placed no/inadequate protection	417	51	46	
Weather	362	46	7	
Climbing alone	307	53	9	
No hard hat	216	22	11	
Nut/chock pulled out	160	16	9	
Darkness	110	15	4	
Party separated	95	16	2	
Piton pulled out	82	10	0	

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Contributory Causes (cont.)				
Poor position	103	13	4	
Inadequate belay	100	18	7	
Failure to test holds	65	18	1	
Exposure	54	10	1	
Failed to follow directions	56	5	4	
Illness ¹	32	4	0	
Equipment failure	9	4	0	
Other ²	220	79	7	
Age of Individuals				
Under 15	112	11	0	
15-20	1123	196	19	
21-25	1392	222	30	
26-30	995	186	28	
31-35	654	93	15	
36-50	800	105	24	
Over 50	124	18	4	
Unknown	836	466	52	
Experience Level				
None/Little	1440	269	31	
Moderate (1 to 3 years)	1303	334	29	
Experienced	1286	350	50	
Unknown	1375	241	62	
Month of Year				
January	173	12	5	
February	175	37	2	
March	236	44	82	
April	320	28	8	
May	683	43	22	
June	804	51	26	
July	895	209	16	
August	811	119	29	
September	1035	46	13	
October	323	29	12	
November	149	5	3	
December	60	16	1	
Unknown	4	0	0	
Type of Injury/Illness (Data since 1984)				
Fracture	633	120	58	
Laceration	332	46	32	
Abrasion	182	37	21	
Bruise	208	50	16	
Sprain/strain	165	18	13	
Concussion	109	12	6	
Frostbite	76	6	1	
Hypothermia	83	10	14	

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Type of Injury/Illness (cont.)				
Dislocation	64	6	3	
Puncture	25	4	2	
Acute Mountain Sickness	14	0	3	
HAPE	47	0	2	
HACE	14	0	2	
Other ¹	173	27	10	
None	82	31	21	

¹These included: AMS (3), HAPE, HACE (2), exhaustion (4), frostbite, appendicitis, twisted/strained back, allergic reaction—bees, hemo/pneumothorax, punctured lung, slight hangover.

²These included: multiple stings, distraction, unable to self-arrest (5), inadequate food (2), inadequate fuel, failure to turn back (3), bolt broke when loaded, route selected had extreme objective dangers (2), unable to extricate—crevasse, rope jammed—rappel device, late start, haste (3), carabiner broke (loaded with gate open), carabiner lock gate jammed shut, miscommunication, psychological (2), misperception: rappelled into deep pool—unable to ascend rope (drowned—exhaustion/hypothermia), dead cell phone battery.

(Editor's Note: Under the "other" category, many of the particular items will have been recorded under a general category. For example, the climber who fell into his unanchored partner knocking him off would be coded as Fall on Rock, Falling Rock/Object, and Placed Inadequate Protection. The point in this category is to provide the reader with some added detail. It should be apparent that many of these details can be translated into a few basic categories.)