



AME BC-PDAC 2008 Health and Safety Survey

20 January 2010

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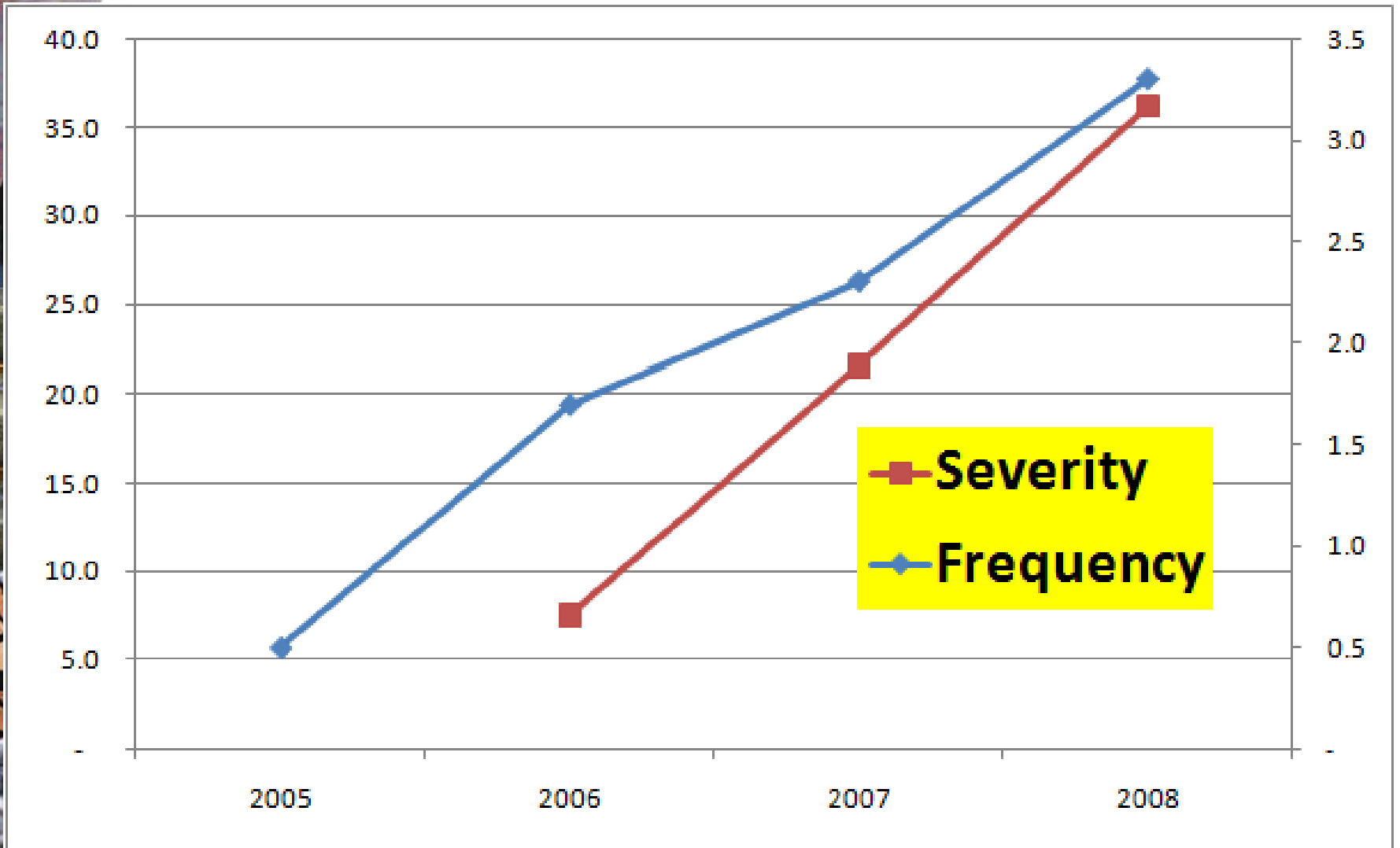


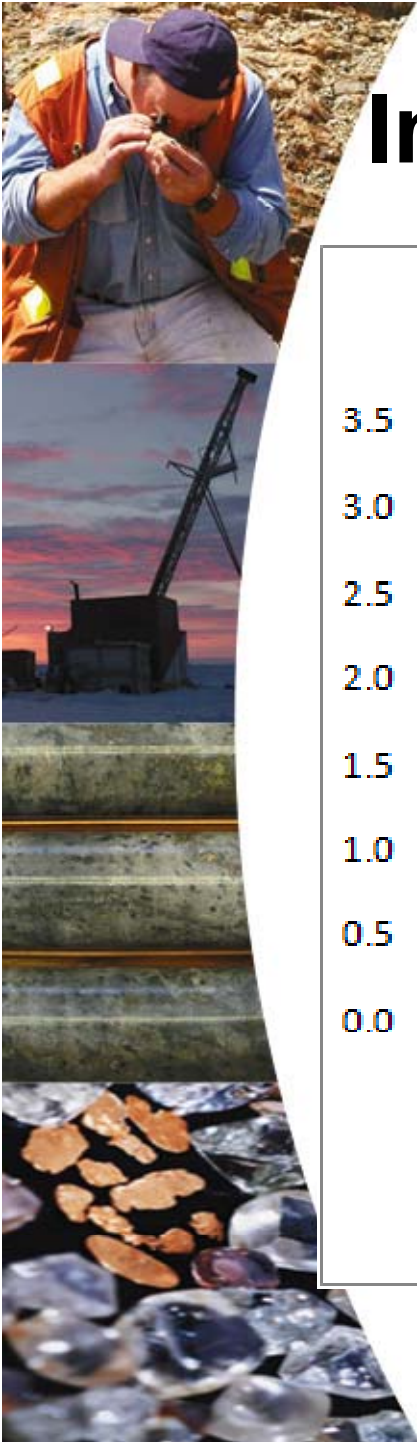
Basic Statistics

- >1,100 companies and geol surveys contacted by phone or email
- 237 (22%) were interviewed or submitted information
- 101 (9%) active in Canada
- 94 (9%) had health and safety statistics
- 72 (7%) had no lost time accidents

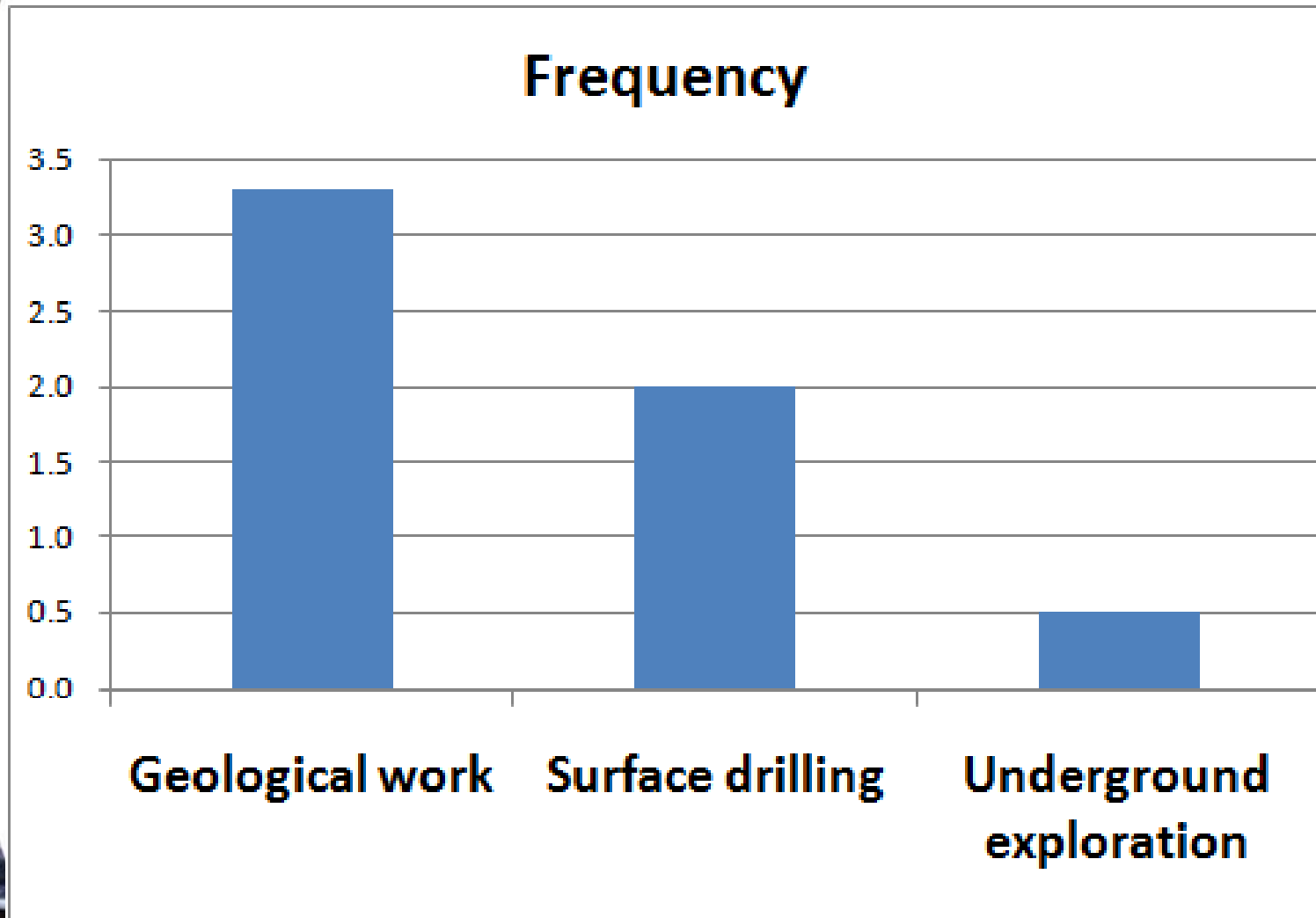


Surface Exploration Frequency and Severity





Incident Frequency by Work Type

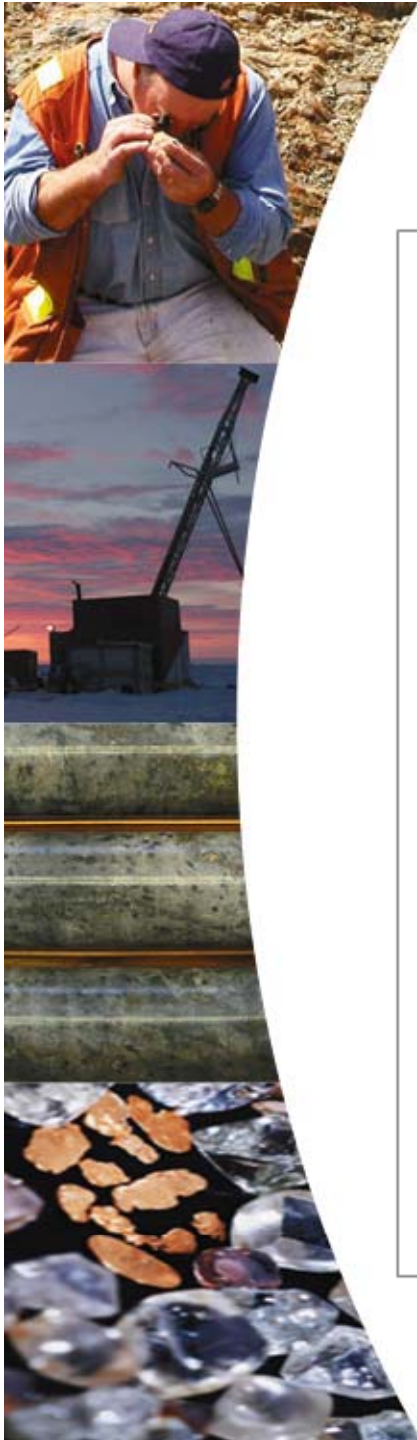




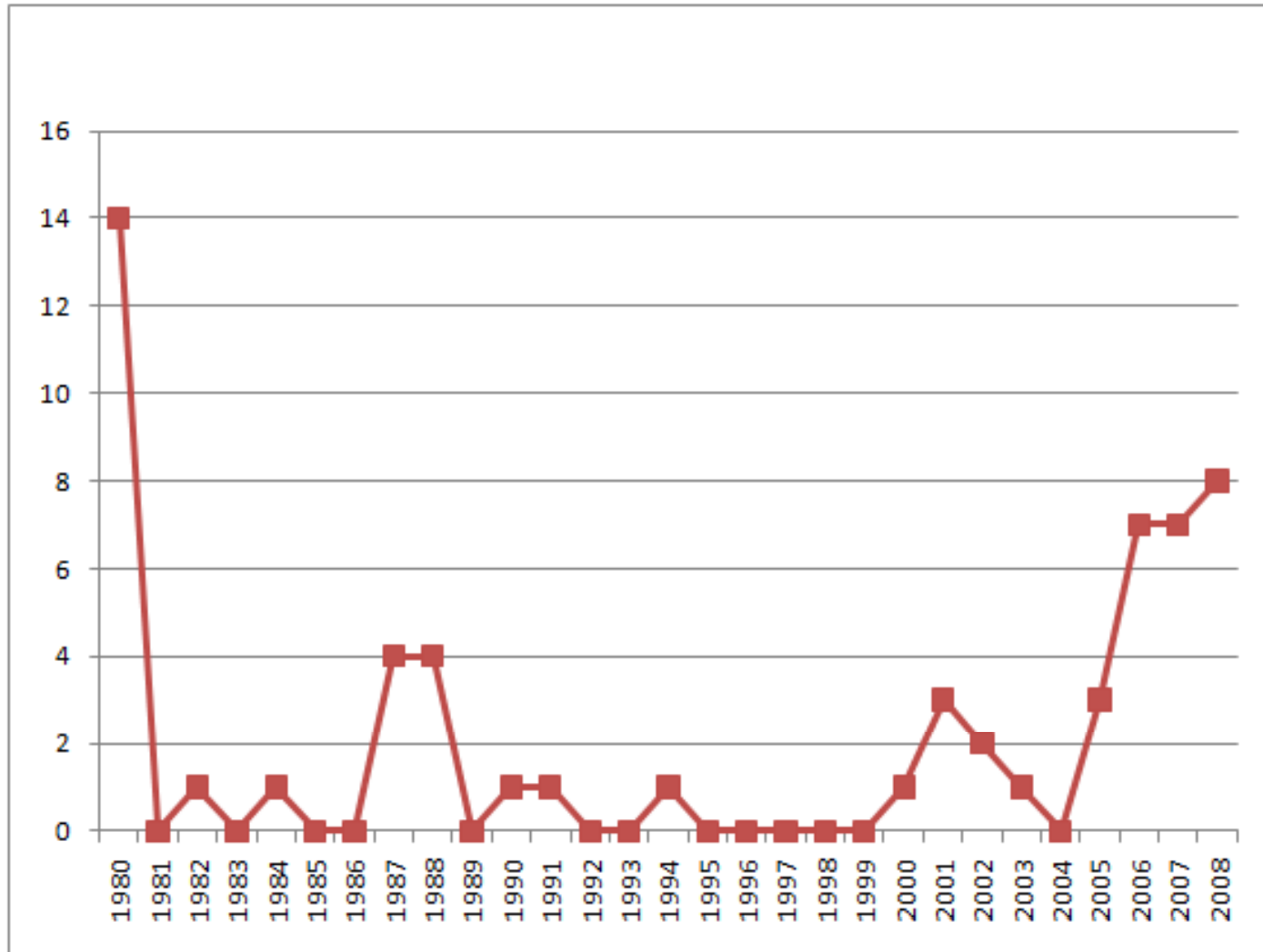
Causes of Lost Time Incidents

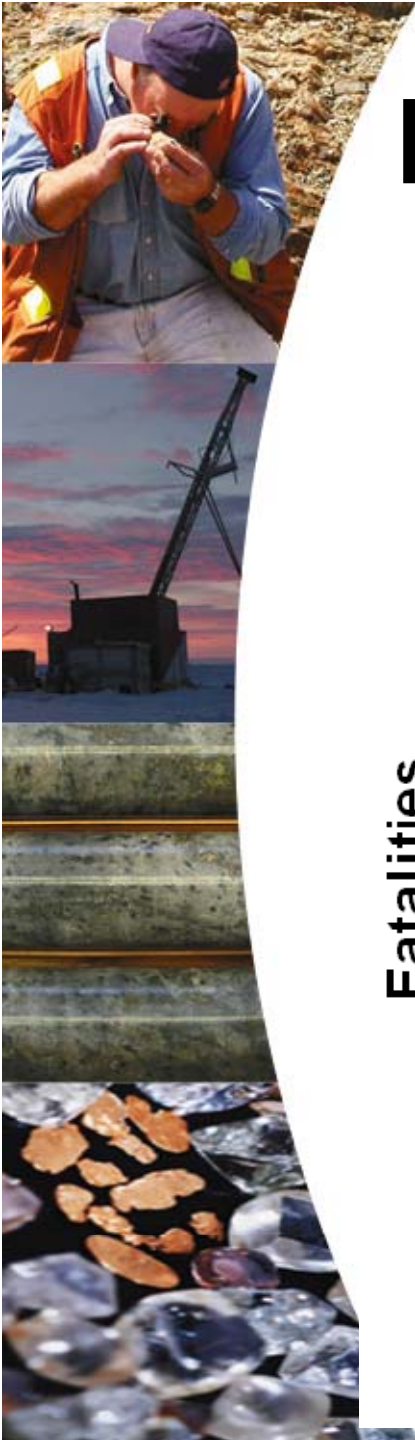
- Slips and falls: 7
- Tools/equipment: 7
- Medical: 4
- ATV/snowmachine: 3
- Alcohol: 2

Total = 23

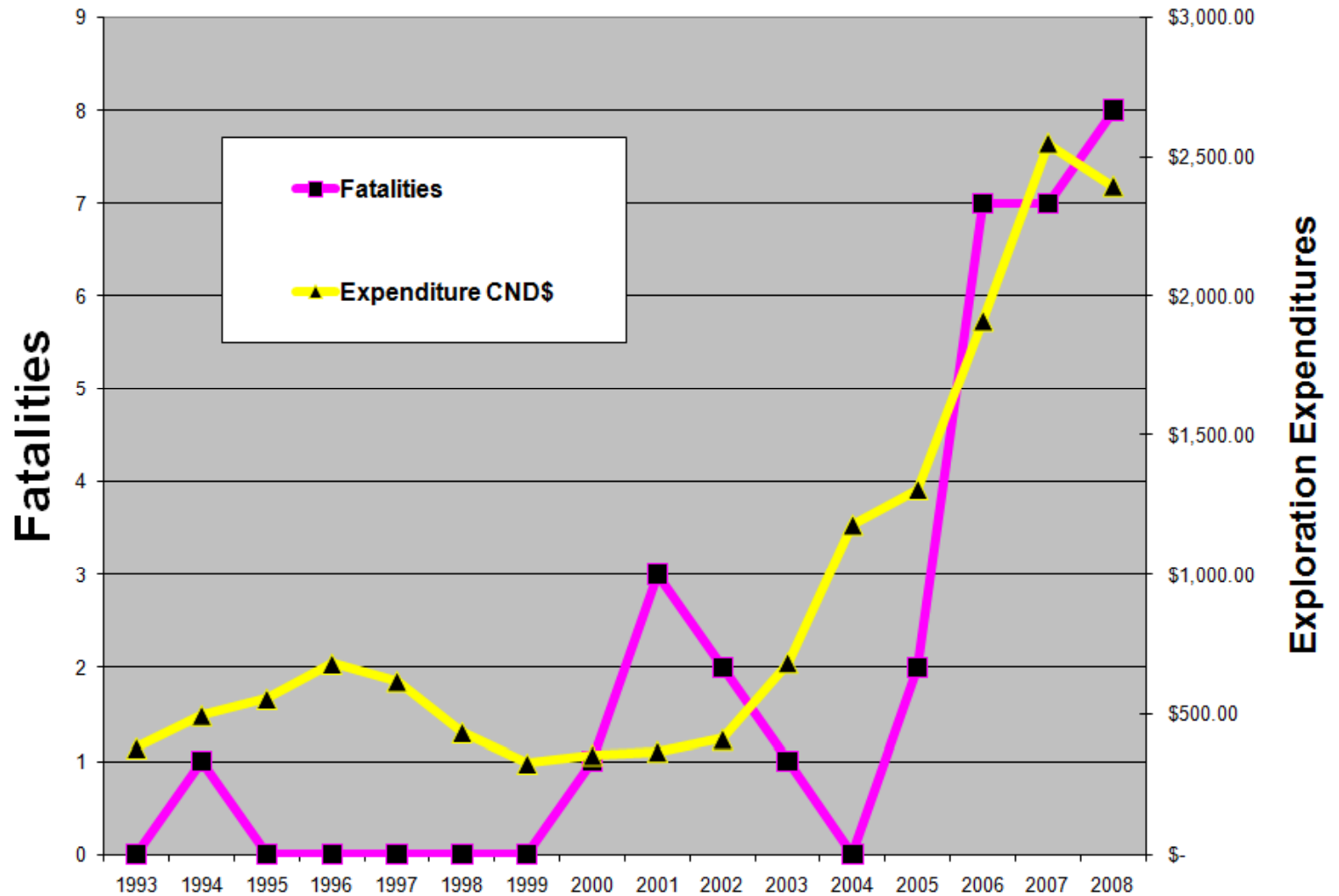


Exploration Fatalities



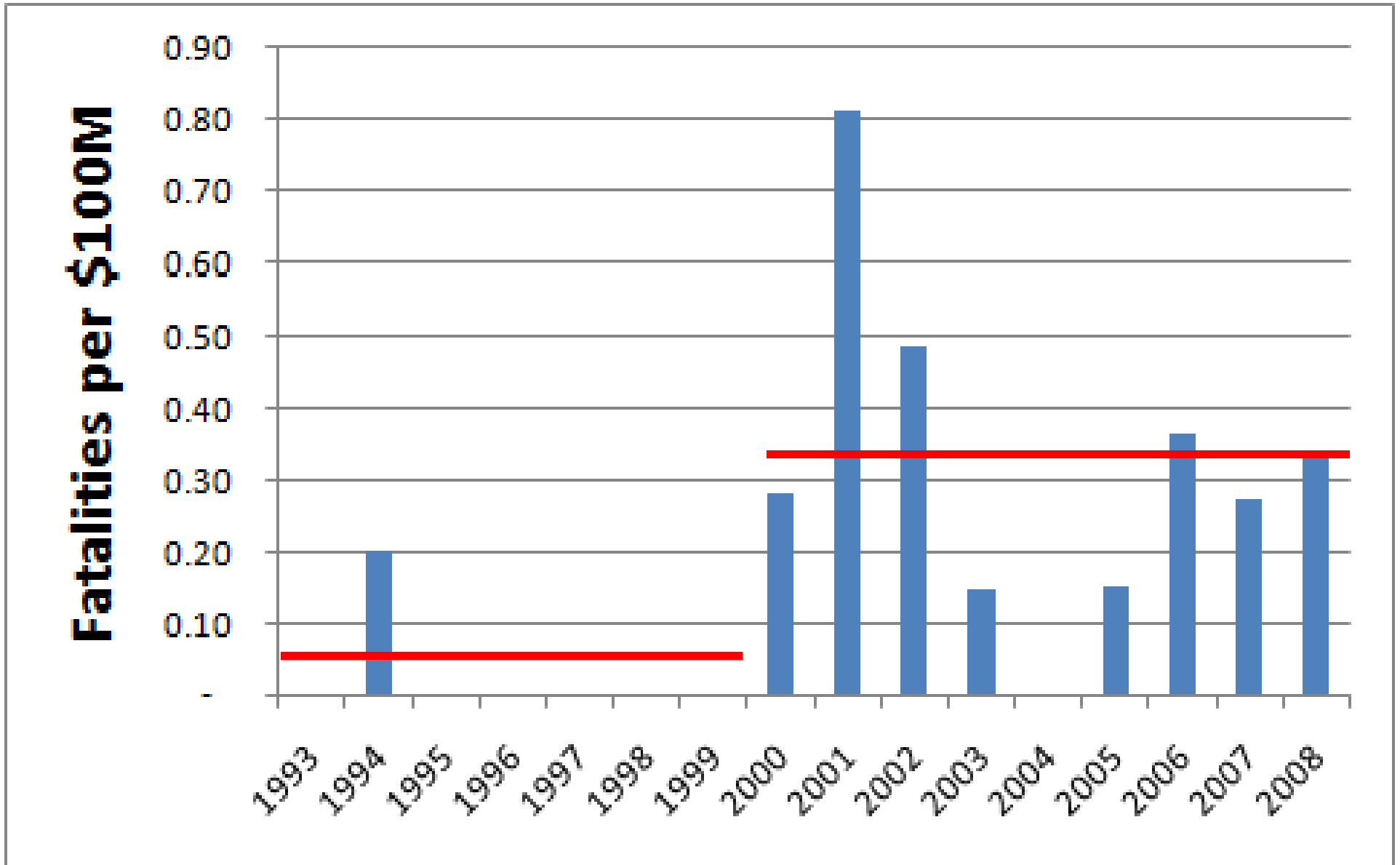


Fatalities Relative to Expenditures





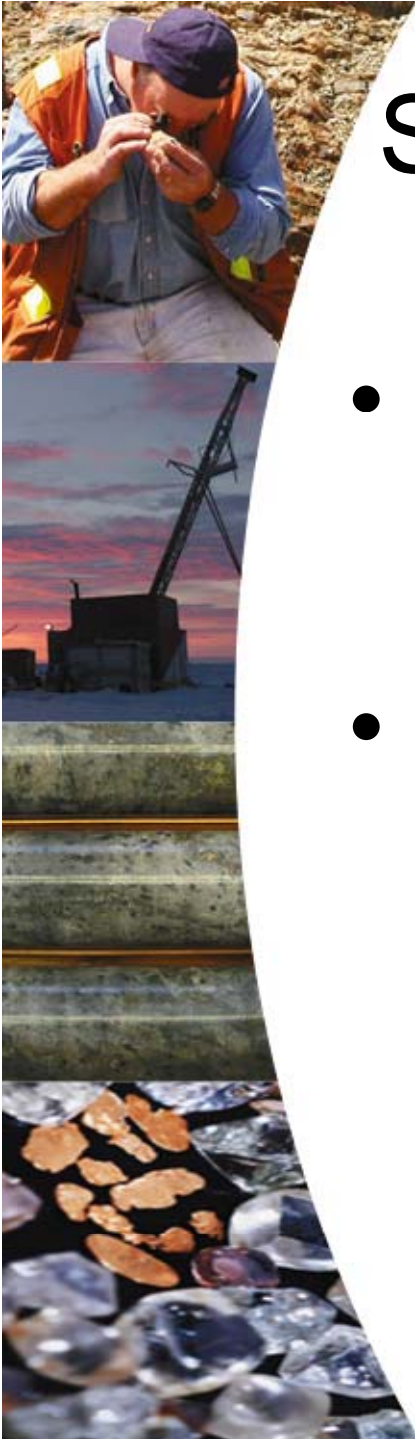
Fatality Rate – Decade Trends





Some thoughts about H&S - 1

- Point: Surface mineral exploration shows higher accident rates than underground or drilling.
- Meaning: drillers and u/g operations are stricter on safety?
- Meaning: drillers and u/g operations have more uniform and controllable conditions?



Some thoughts about H&S - 2

- Point: Surface mineral exploration pays some high WCB (WSSCC) rates (e.g. in NWT highest industrial rate).
- Meaning: exploration is just like remote location high risk sports?



Some thoughts about H&S - 3

- Point: many of the lost time incidents occur to “field assistant” or “other”, not to “geologist”.
- Meaning: younger less experienced employees have more accidents because:
 - Less experienced?
 - Less trained?
 - More risky work?



Fatalities – Some Thoughts

- HELICOPTER
- 29 of 62 fatalities (1980-2008)
- 19 of 32 fatalities (2000-2008)

- Helicopter fatalities are increasing.
- Aviation authorities are unable to prevent?
- Perhaps beyond exploration industry to solve?



The good news

Year	Companies operating in Canada	Lost time incident free	H&S program
2005	76	71	49%
2006	88	71	63%
2007	94	65	73%
2008	94	72	78%



What do we need to do?

- Learn from those accident-free
- Destroy the myth that we are safer than other industries – before you can improve you need to admit you have a problem
- Bring health and safety to the forefront in exploration
- Talk about it to everyone who will listen
- Keep gathering information and disseminating knowledge
- Create more education opportunities
- Keep working together on this

