



# Irish Mountain Rescue Association

## Incident Statistic Report – 2007

### Member Teams:

- Donegal
- Dublin/Wicklow
- Galway
- Glen of Imaal
- Kerry
- Mayo
- Mourne
- North West
- SARDA
- Sligo/Leitrim
- South East
- Tramore

### Co-operating Agencies:

- An Garda Síochána
- P.S.N.I.
- Air Corps
- Irish Coast Guard
- NI Coast Guard
- R.A.F.
- H.S.E.
- Fire Service
- Irish Army
- Civil Defence
- Irish Red Cross
- Order of Malta
- Irish Cave Rescue Organisation
- National Park and Wildlife Service

### Website:

[www.mountainrescue.ie](http://www.mountainrescue.ie)

### TYPE OF INCIDENTS AND TIME INVESTED

The 12 teams in the Irish Mountain Rescue Association reported involvement in 201 separate incidents in 2007. This compares with 229 in 2006, 179 in 2005 and 176 in 2004. The table below shows the number of incidents each team was involved in.

#### Team Involvement in Incidents

Teams	Incidents
Donegal	18
Dublin/Wicklow	35
Galway	9
Glen of Imaal	37
Kerry	26
Mayo	29
Mourne	13
North West	20
SARDA	11
Sligo/Leitrim	11
South East	23
Tramore	14
<b>Total</b>	<b>246</b>

A total of 246 returns were made which referred to 201 incidents, allowing for situations where more than one team was involved. Data regarding the number of IMRA hours on 193 incidents was available - a total of 10,674 person hours. The equivalent of almost 1,335 working days, were invested by teams to deal with these incidents in 2007.

**Other organisations and services assisted in approximately 48% of incidents.**

IMRA teams responded in 2007 to search incidents (41%), rescues (44%), and provided requested standby/assistance for organized events (14%). Excluding standbys, which are previously arranged with the requesting group, 68% of callouts came through the 112/999 system via the Gardaí, the PSNI or the Irish or HM Coast Guards.

### Source of Callouts

	%
Gardai/PSNI/Coastguards	68
Other Team/Organisation	21
Family/Guardian	1
Friend/Member of the Group	3
Member of the Public	3
On Site/Came across incident/etc	4

Summer and Autumn were the busiest times - Autumn (46%) was busier than Summer (28%) in 2007. Over half of all incidents occurred at weekends with more incidents occurring on Saturdays compared to Sundays.

322 people were directly assisted by mountain rescue personnel in 2007 during 156 incidents where information was recorded: 136 of these were injured including 11 fatally. Where injuries were noted, lower limb injuries were most common (44%). However there were a number of more serious injuries, with 5 involving head/spinal, 7 serious multiple injuries, 4 heart attacks and 9 other medical instances. In addition, there were 23 cases of hypothermia.

For searches, the mean distance between the point where an individual was located and the point they were last seen was 2.1 km (range 0 – 6 km; median 2 km). Teams conducted 81 stretcher evacuations, (33 of these during the Croagh Patrick Reek Sunday operation) ranging in distance from 0.5 to 1.5 km – the average being 0.5 km. Evacuation by helicopter took place in 66 cases indicating the increased level of collaboration between IMRA teams and helicopter services on the island.