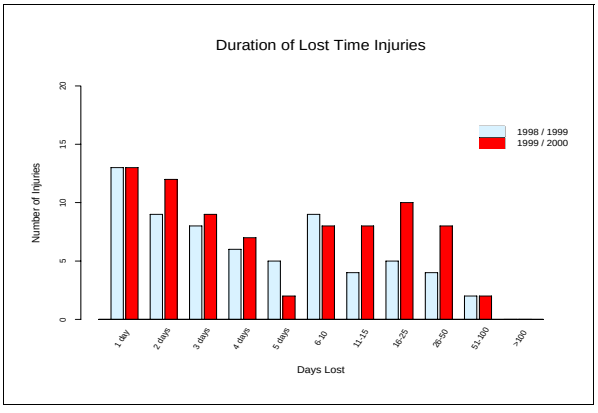
Northern Territory

Department of Mines & Energy Northern Territory

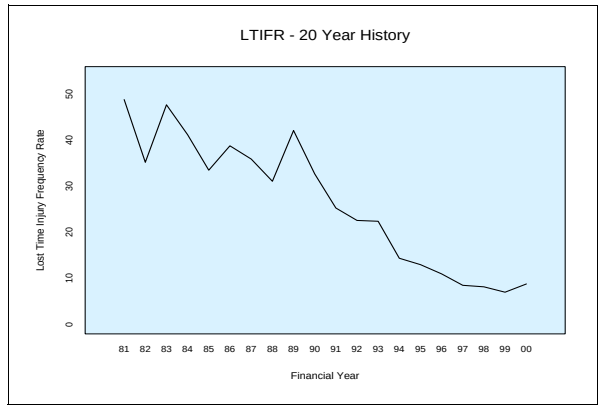
MINING ACCIDENT and INJURY SUMMARY 1999 / 2000

DEFINITIONS

- **LOST TIME INJURY** - work injury that results in time lost from work of 1 full day (shift) or more.
- **LTIFR** - Lost Time Injury Frequency Rate is the number of lost time injuries per million hours worked.
- **DURATION RATE** - average number of days lost per lost time injury.
- **INCIDENCE RATE** - number of lost time injuries per hundred workers.



5 Year Summary					
	1995 / 96	1996 / 97	1997 / 98	1998 / 99	1999 / 2000
Average Number of Mine Workers	3,909	4,551	4,257	4,105	3,670
Work Hours Exposure	9,512,230	11,134,841	10,144,297	9,694,963	9,127,095
Number of Lost Time Injuries	104	93	83	67	79
Number of Days Lost due to Injuries	1,325	1,174	1,223	626	877
Lost Time Injury Frequency Rate	10.9	8.4	8.2	6.9	8.7
Incidence Rate	2.7	2.0	1.9	1.6	2.2
Duration Rate	12.7	12.6	14.7	9.3	11.1



Produced by the Department of Mines and Energy. The data used for this report has been provided by Northern Territory minerals industry operators as required under Sections 19, 22 and 26 of the Mine Management Act.
For safety information and/or copies of this poster please contact Project Officer - Safety, Mines Division on
Phone: (08) 8999 5324, Fax: (08) 8999 6527 or Email: mineral.info@dme.nt.gov.au
Web: http://www.dme.nt.gov.au [Minerals]

Serious Incidents

- An employee was sitting in his vehicle at a blast checkpoint 450m from the blast area with the driver's door facing the blast area. A piece of fly-rock hit the door window sill, smashing the window and impacting the driver.
- A development face was fired by the shift supervisor without first clearing the tag board. A driller was still underground at the time of the blast.
- Five lost time injuries were incurred at crushing plants, all of which occurred while barring down or removing jammed rocks from crusher feed bins.
- A transfer pump used to pressurise an acid line was shut down and the intake valve closed. The resulting "hammer" pressure ruptured a flexible coupling on the intake side of the pump. The operator was sprayed with acid and suffered extensive burns.
- A worker fell 6.4m through a hole in the floor of a process building to the floor below, despite the area being barricaded to prevent access. His injuries included internal bleeding.
- Drilling rigs were involved in two serious incidents.

  A drillers offsider was struck when the swivel on the clam-shell rod handling device failed, dropping the drill rod.

  A drill operator was using his foot to operate the carousel swing lever. The carousel moved in the wrong direction crushing his foot between the carousel and head stop.
- Several workers were affected when accessing process pipes without proper preparation. Cyanide fumes caused nausea in one case, two contractors doused with slurry containing cyanide in a second case and serious acid burns resulted from another with hospital treatment required.
- While shutting down a water blasting machine, an employee caught his foot with the blast nozzle, air and water passing through the boot and into his foot.
- Fifteen incidents involving electrical shock / burns occurred during the year although most resulted in only minor injury. Significant factors involving tradespeople were over reliance on residual current devices, poor welding practices and failure to follow isolation procedures.