

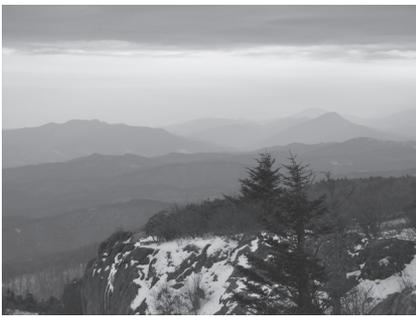
4. Overall ISRID Findings

The International Search & Rescue Incident Database (ISRID) examines lost person data in several ways. It looks at:

- Population density (urban versus non-urban incidents)
- Group behavior
- Special groups
- Subject scenarios

Population Density

Much like the error of combining data from Iceland and southern Florida, combining data from a vast New Zealand wilderness and the urban streets of San Francisco makes little sense. Therefore, ISRID contains a data field that describes population density. The choices are wilderness, rural, suburban, urban, and water.



Wilderness

An area essentially undisturbed and uninhabited by humans. Although even in a wilderness area a network of trails and roads may be found. The term is much broader than the definition used by federal land managers.



Rural

An area relating to the countryside, marked by farming or raising livestock, which is sparsely populated. It is often mixed with open spaces and woods.