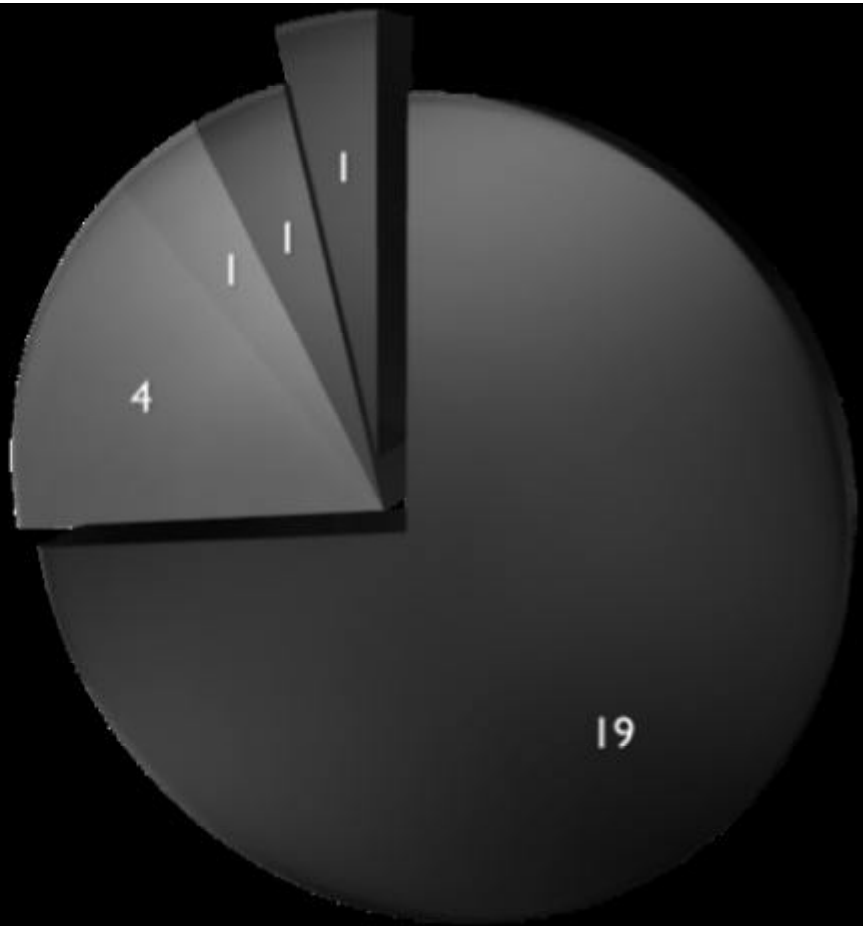


Canadian Avalanche Fatality Review

2008-09 Winter

08-09 -
10yr aver



- Snowmobiler
- Out of Bounds Skier
- Hiker
- Guided (Heliski)
- Ski Tourer

10yr average - 14/winter

Harvey Pass, Dec 28

- Group of 11 snowmobilers
- First avalanche completely buried 3
- 8 responded, recovered 2
- Second avalanche completely buried everyone
- 3 self rescues, started searching
- Third avalanche dusted 3 rescuers, called off rescue, went for help

Harvey Pass...

- Over 30 agencies involved in response
- >50 rescuers on site
- started late afternoon of 28, but postponed until first light on 29th
- search finished on 30th

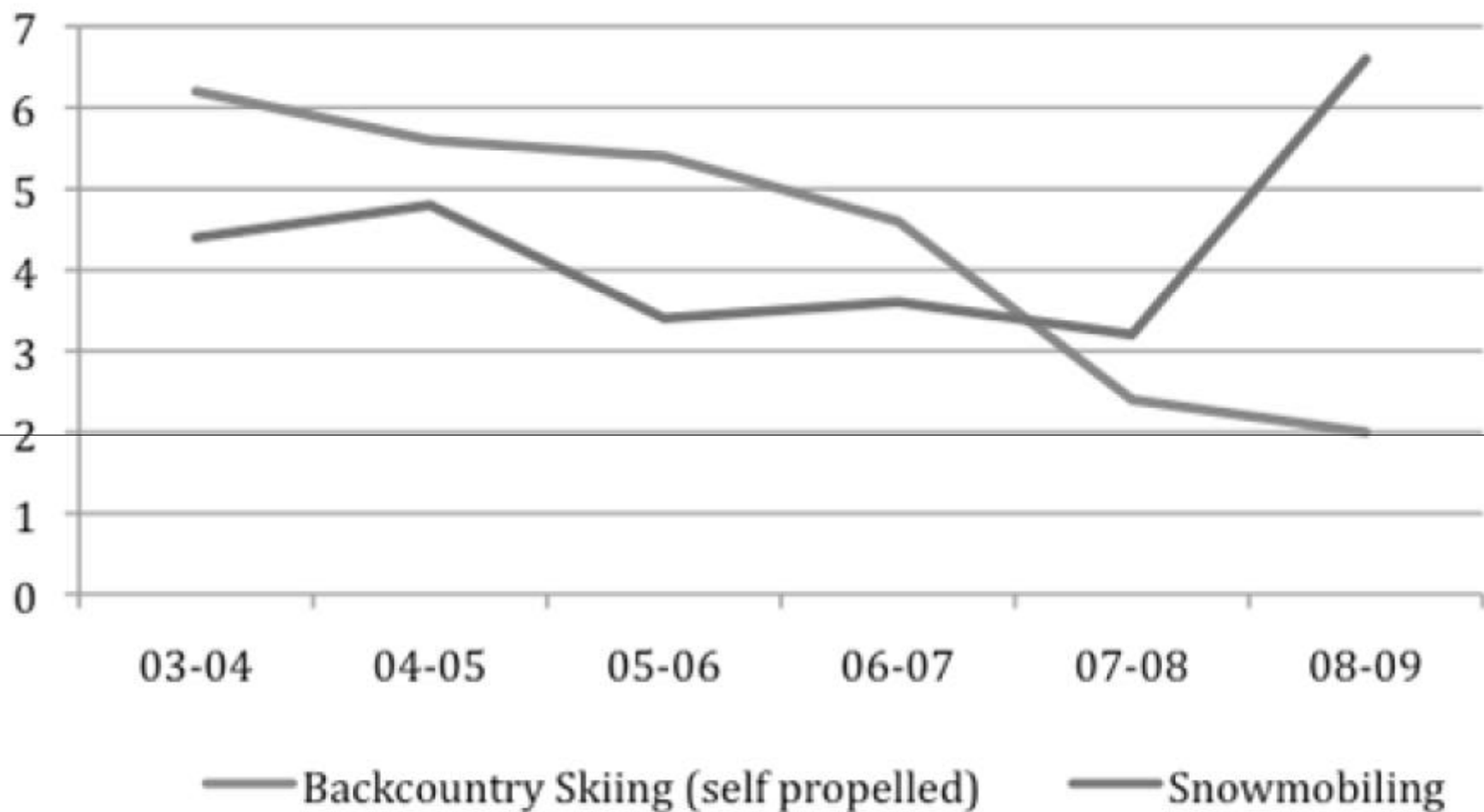
Harvey Pass...

- Intense media coverage (international)
- Politicians in media making uninformed statements
- Media widely reported that victims were very experienced





Five Year Running Average Avalanche Fatalities



Notable...

- Government not providing adequate support for professional SAR responders
- There have now been more snowmobilers killed in avalanches than skiers in the past 30 yrs
- 33% of 08-09 fatalities involved airbags in some way (all snowmobiling)
- Government investigating airbags for 'avalanche workers'.