

# **2005 AAR CAR REPAIR BILLING WHEEL REMOVAL ANALYSIS**

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# **RWMEC**

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**Who we are**

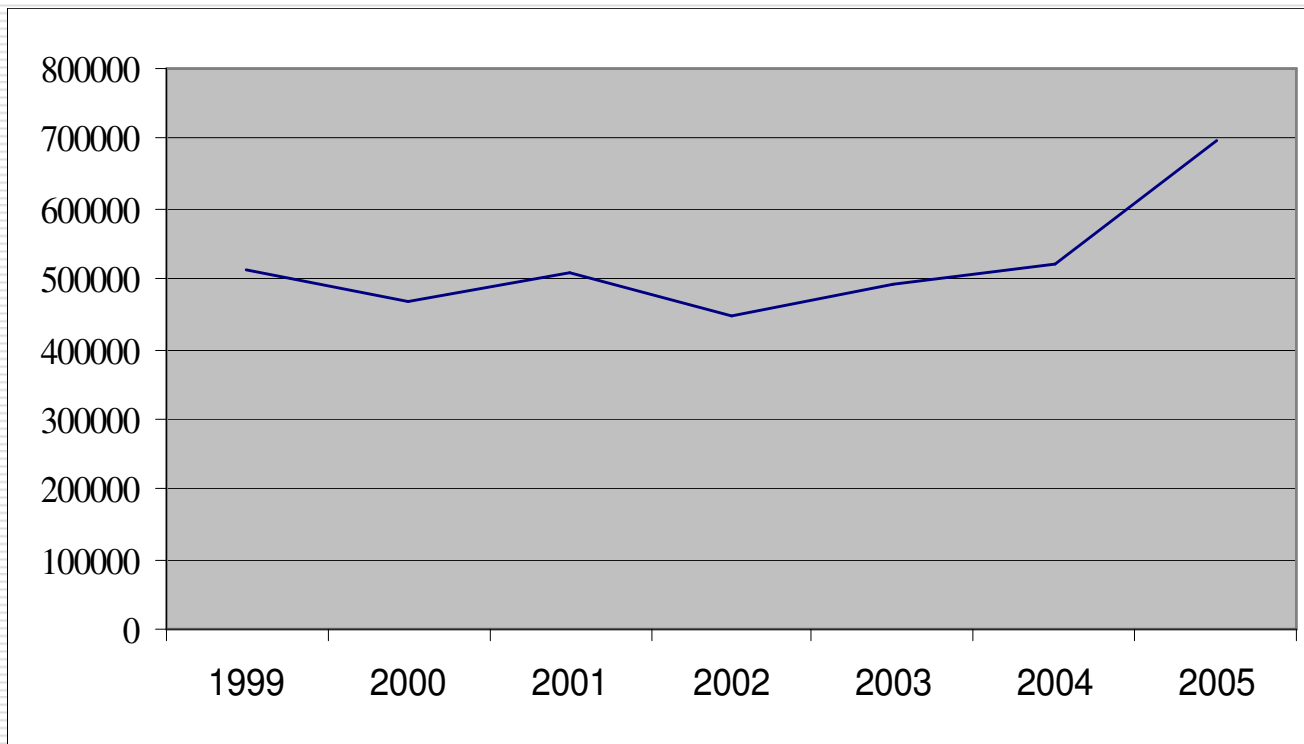
**Approved AAR Wheel Manufacturers**

**Mission - Support the WABL Committee  
and the Railroad Industry**

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# 7 Year Trend for Wheel Removals

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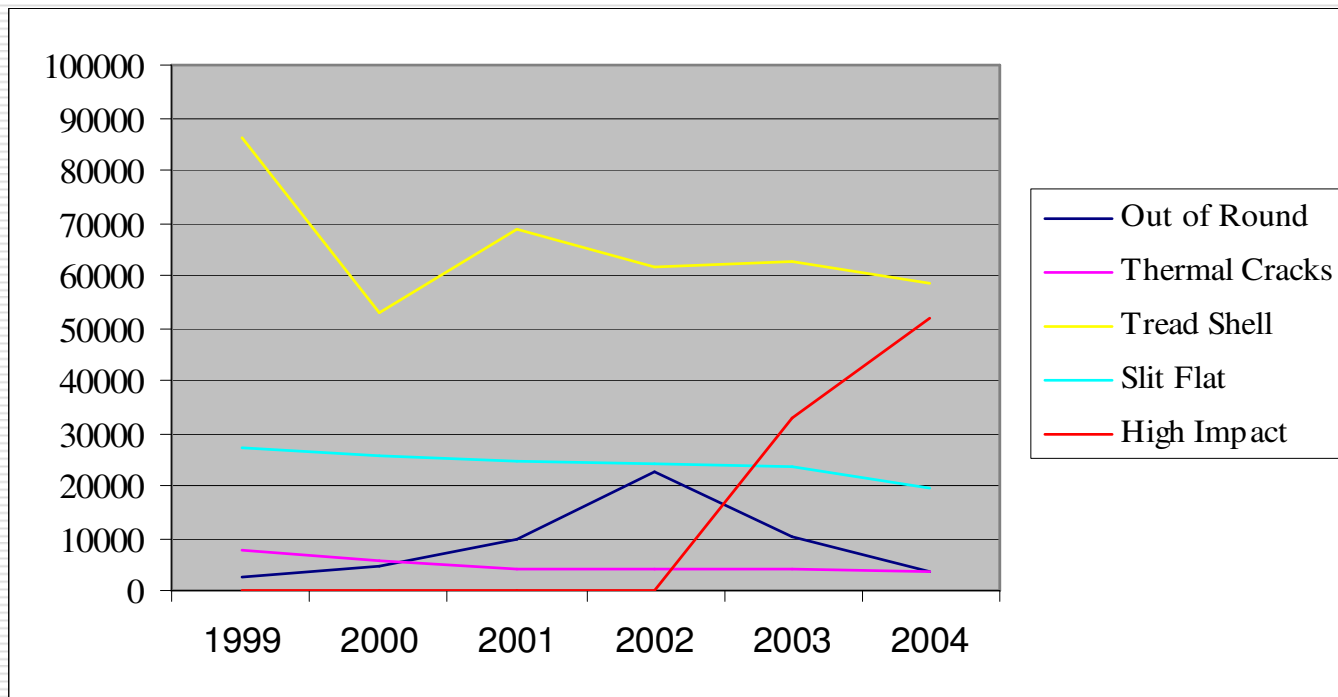
# Reasons for Increase

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- A. Increase in Traffic
  - B. Change in Rules for Condemning Axles
  - C. Increase in Usage of Why Made Code 65
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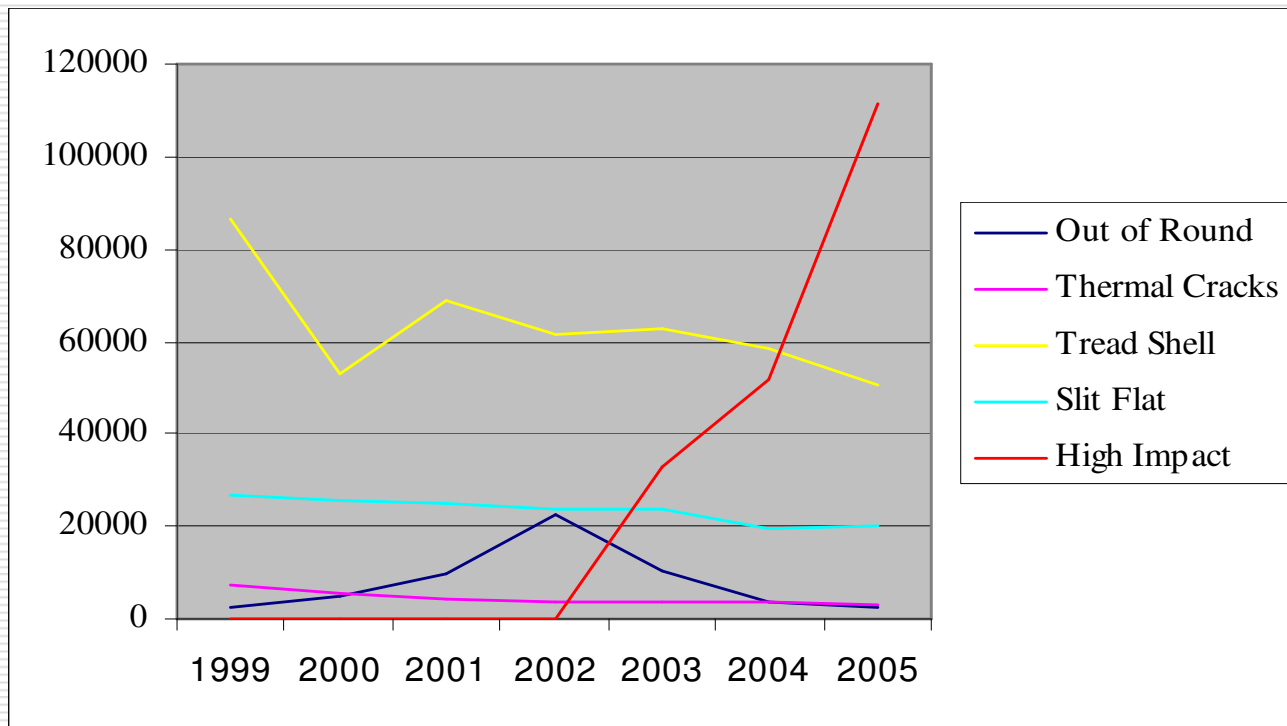
# 2004 Effect of High Impact Usage

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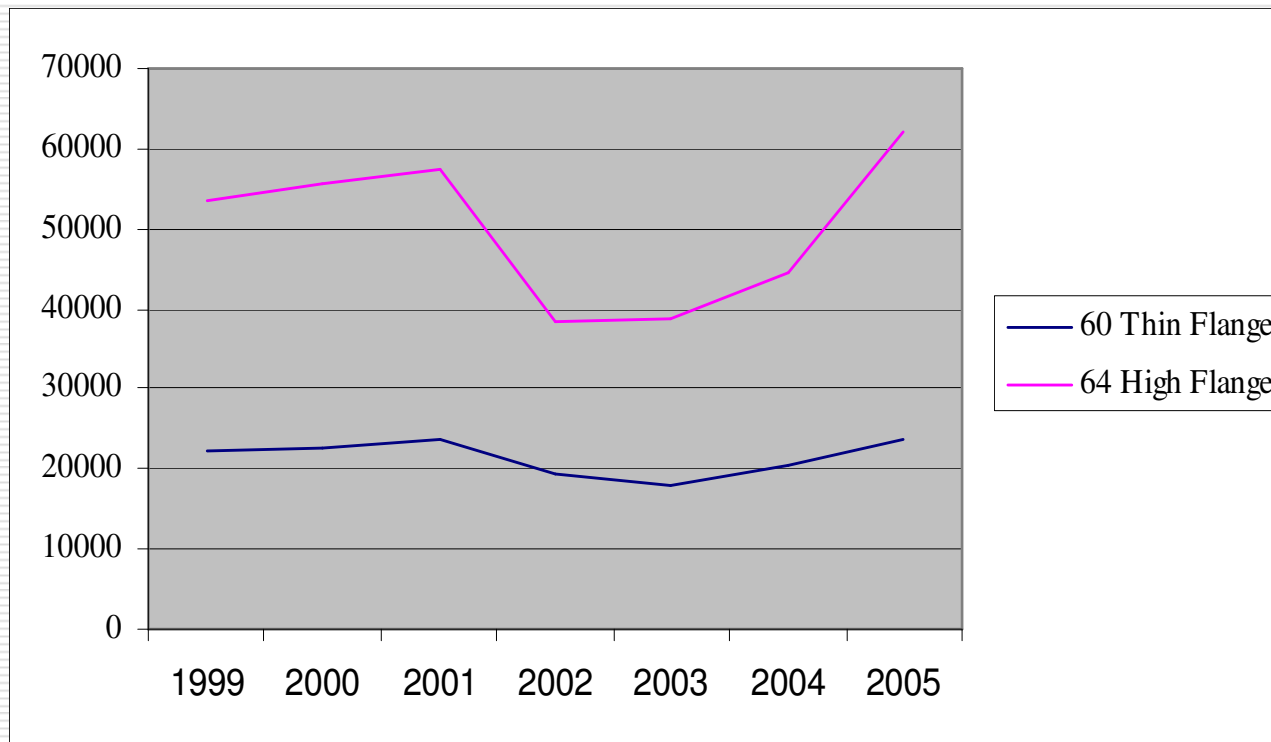
# 2005 Effect of High Impact Usage

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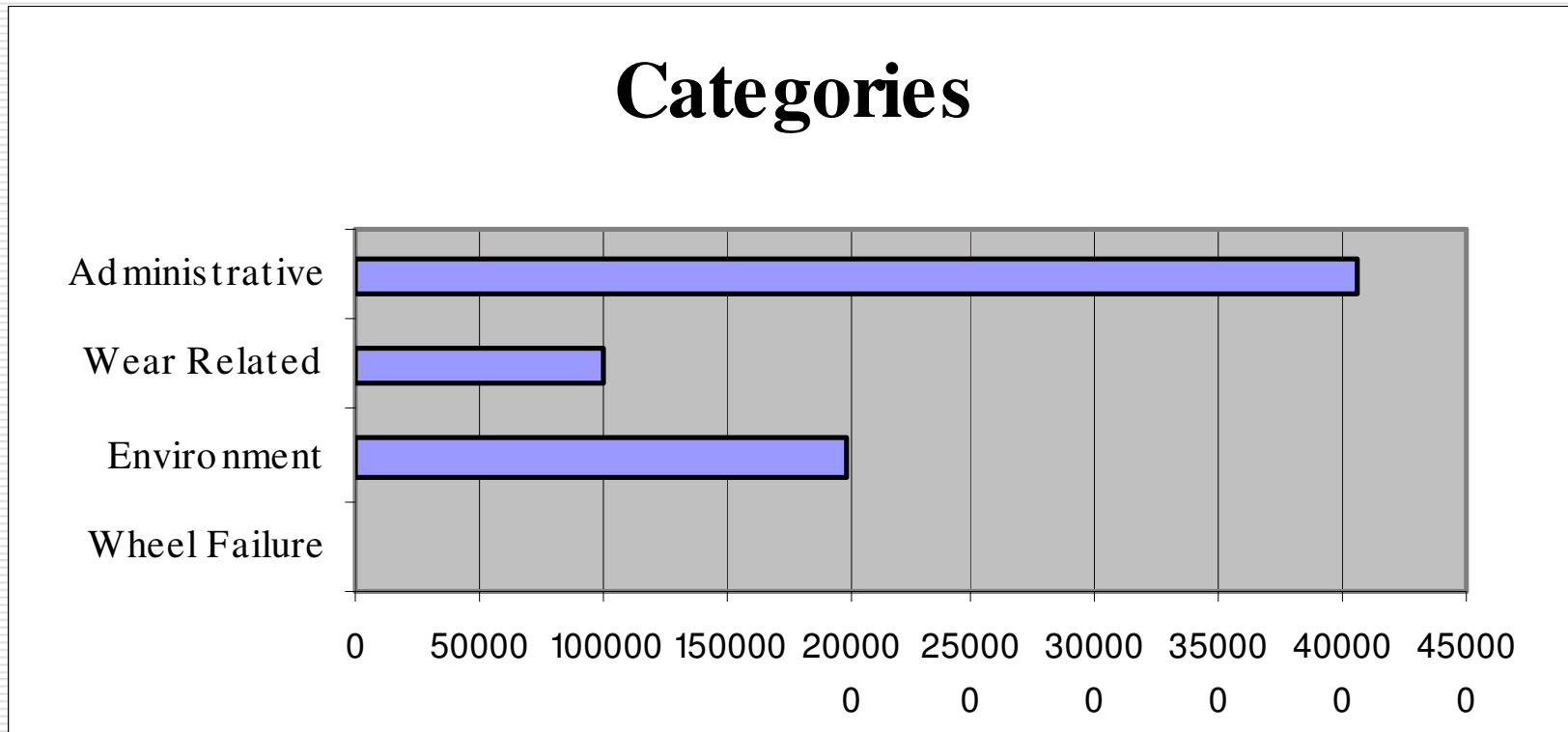
# 7 Year Trend for Thin Flange and High Flange

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# WHEEL REMOVAL CATEGORIES

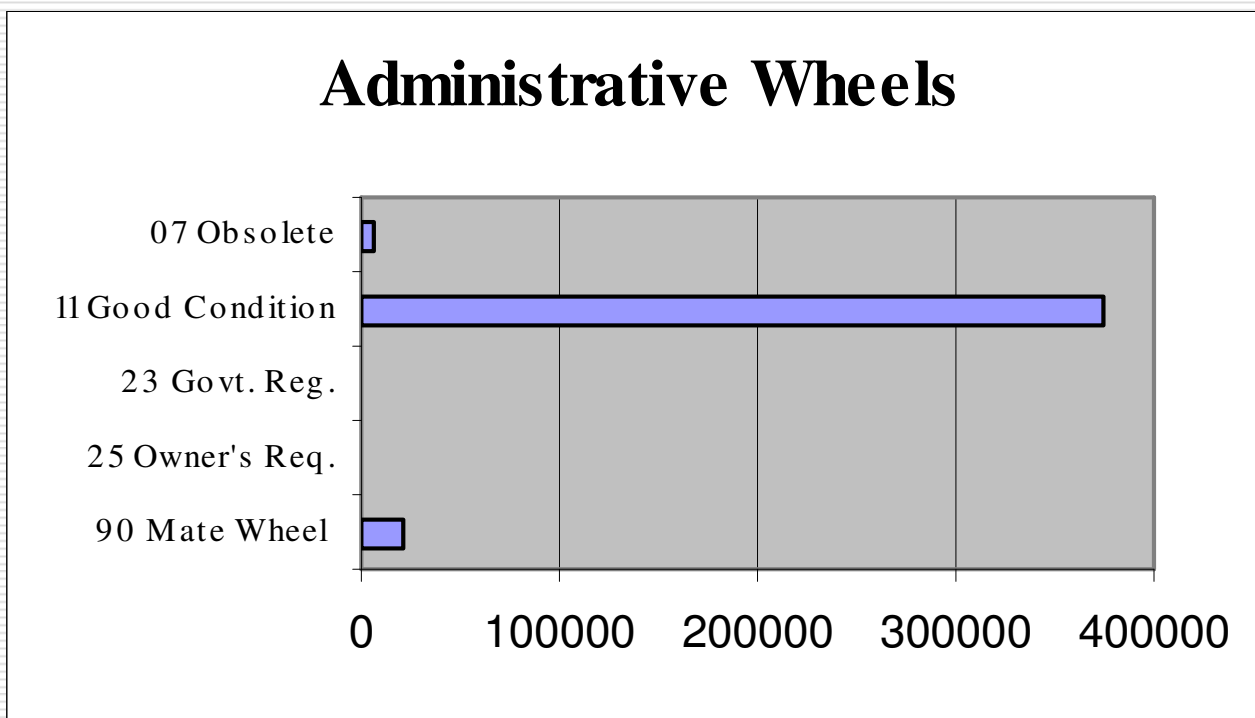
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# Administrative

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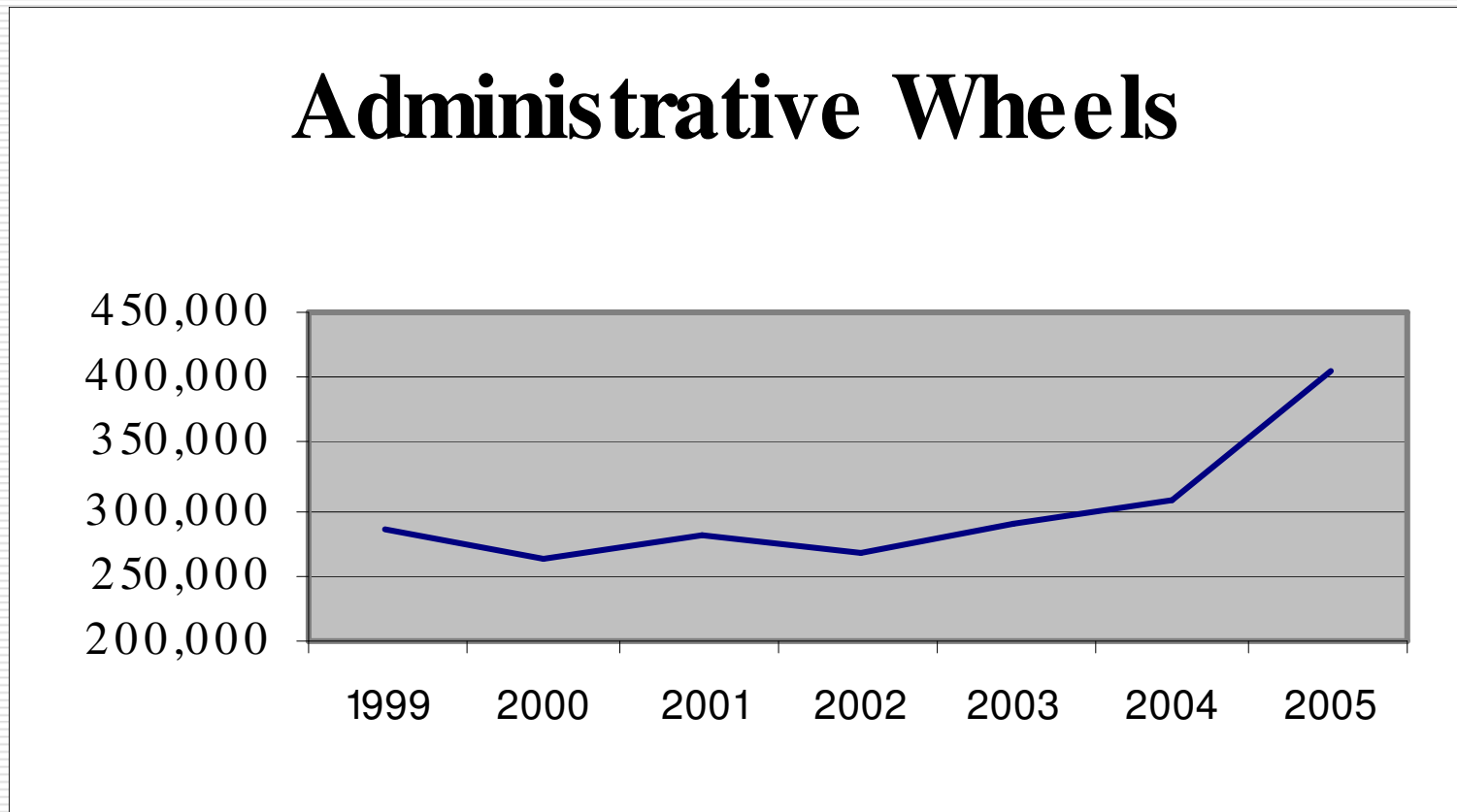
# Unusual Trends

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- Why Made Code 11 Removals have increased 175,000 during the past three years.**
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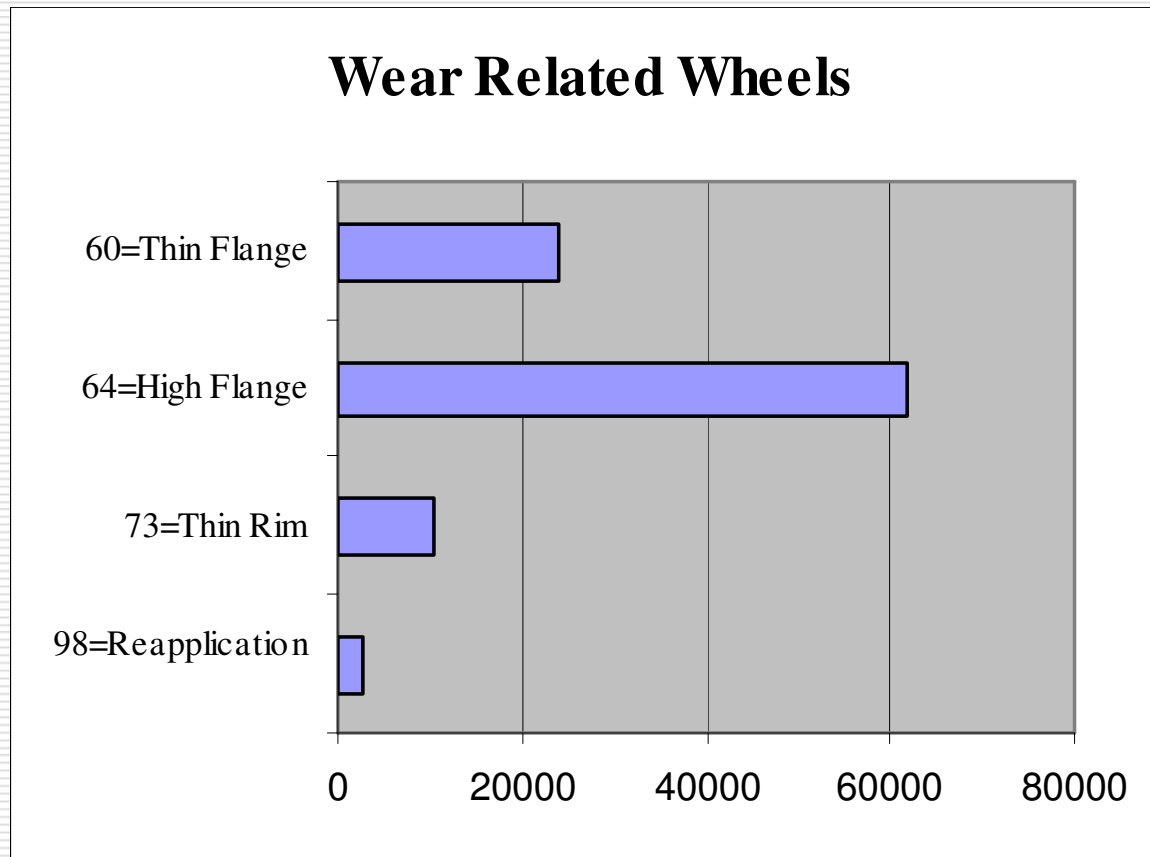
# 7 Year Trend – Administrative Wheels

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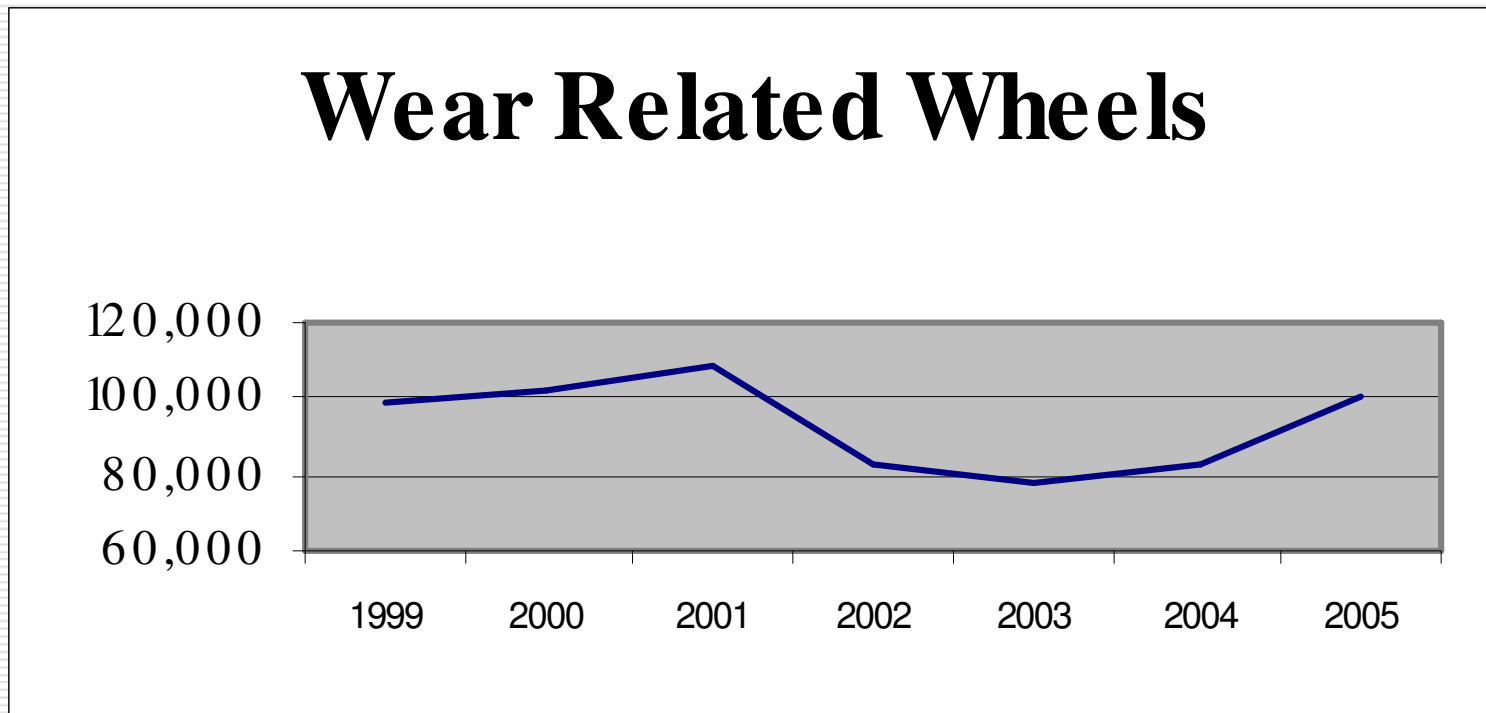
# Wear Related

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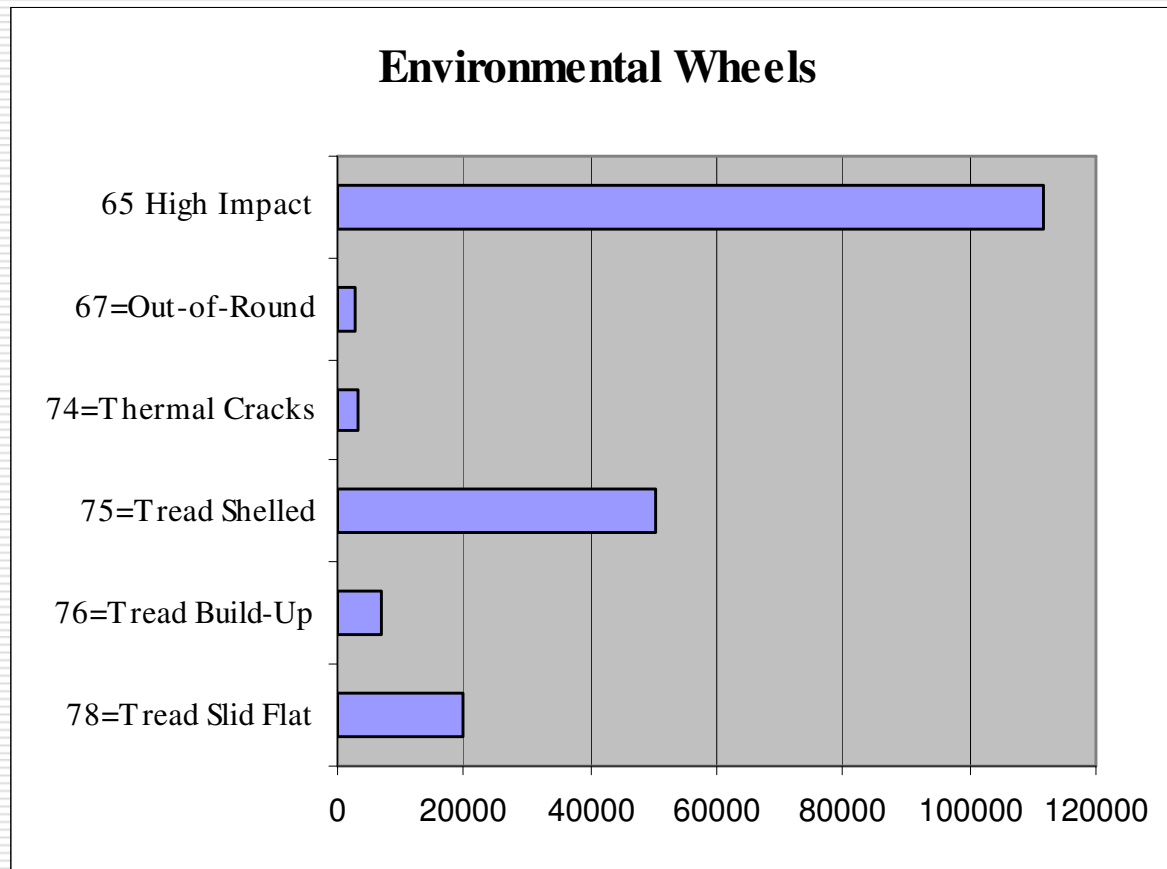
# 7 Year Trend – Wear Related Wheels

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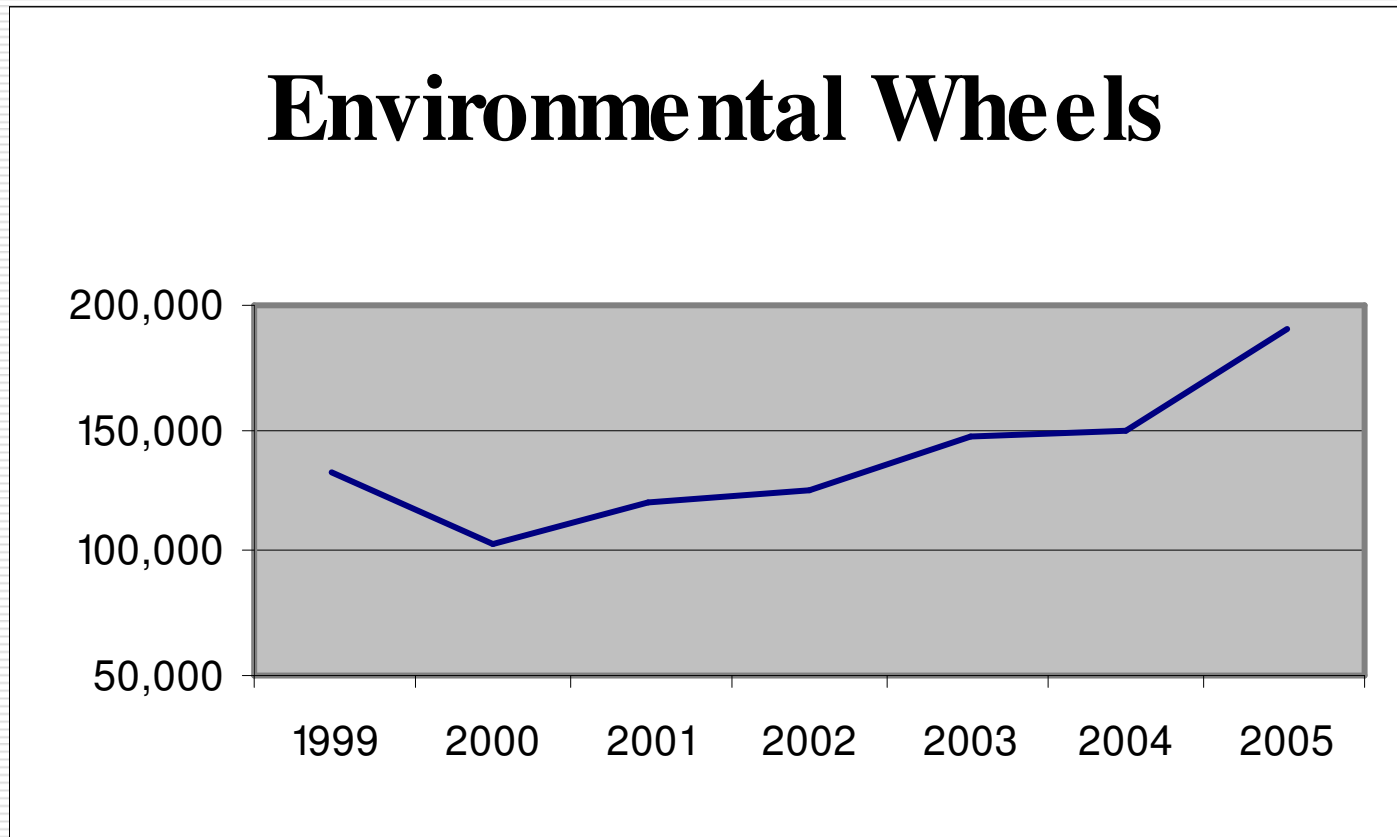
# Environmental

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# 7 Year Trend- Environmental Wheels

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# Spalling

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- Spalling starts when a thin localized layer of tread metal is transformed to martensite. The martensite, being very hard and brittle, forms cracks that propagate into the non-transformed material. These cracks turn and grow in fatigue roughly parallel to the tread. When these cracks link together material vacates the tread leaving a pitted surface.
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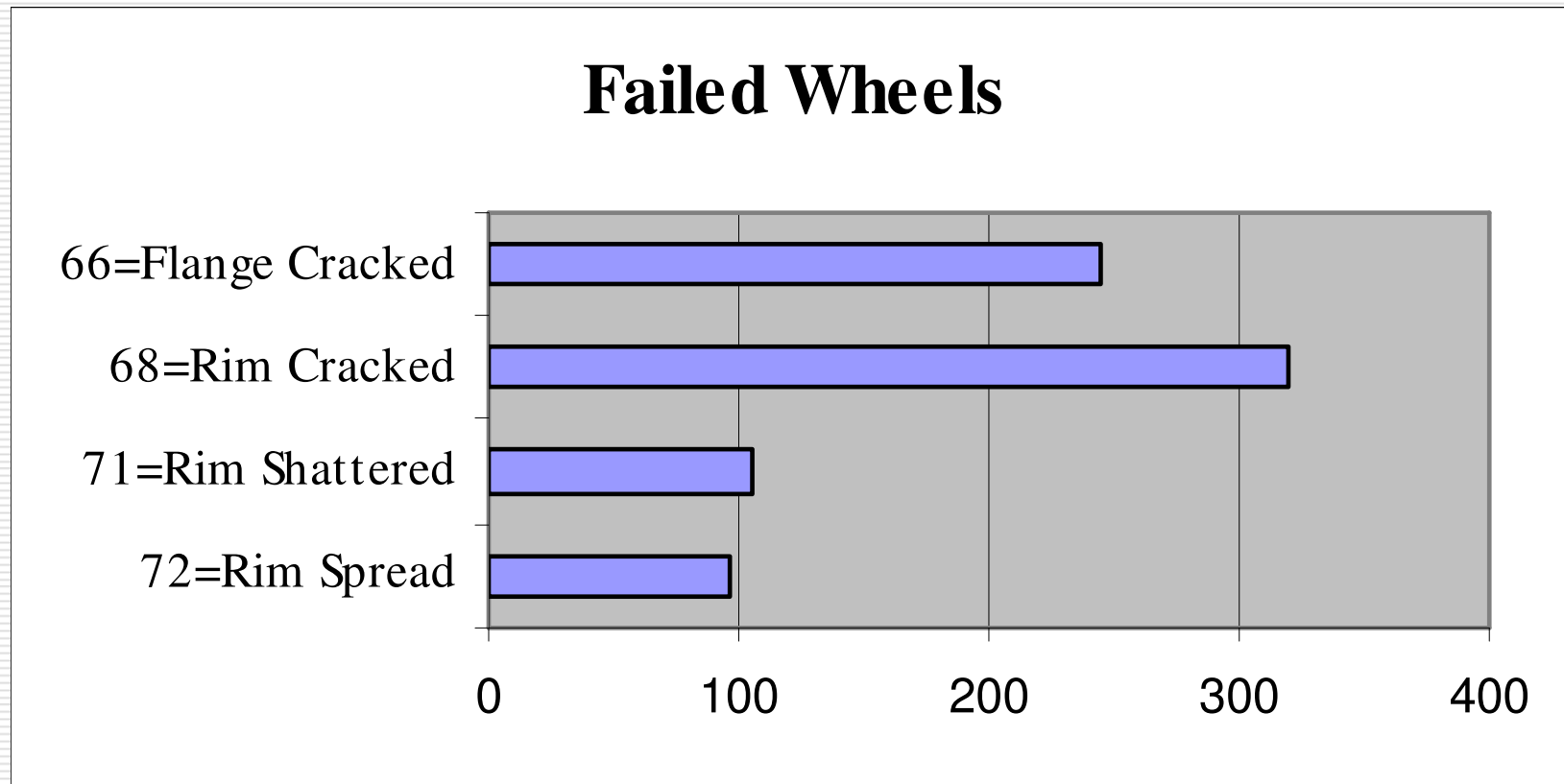
# Thermal Mechanical Shelling

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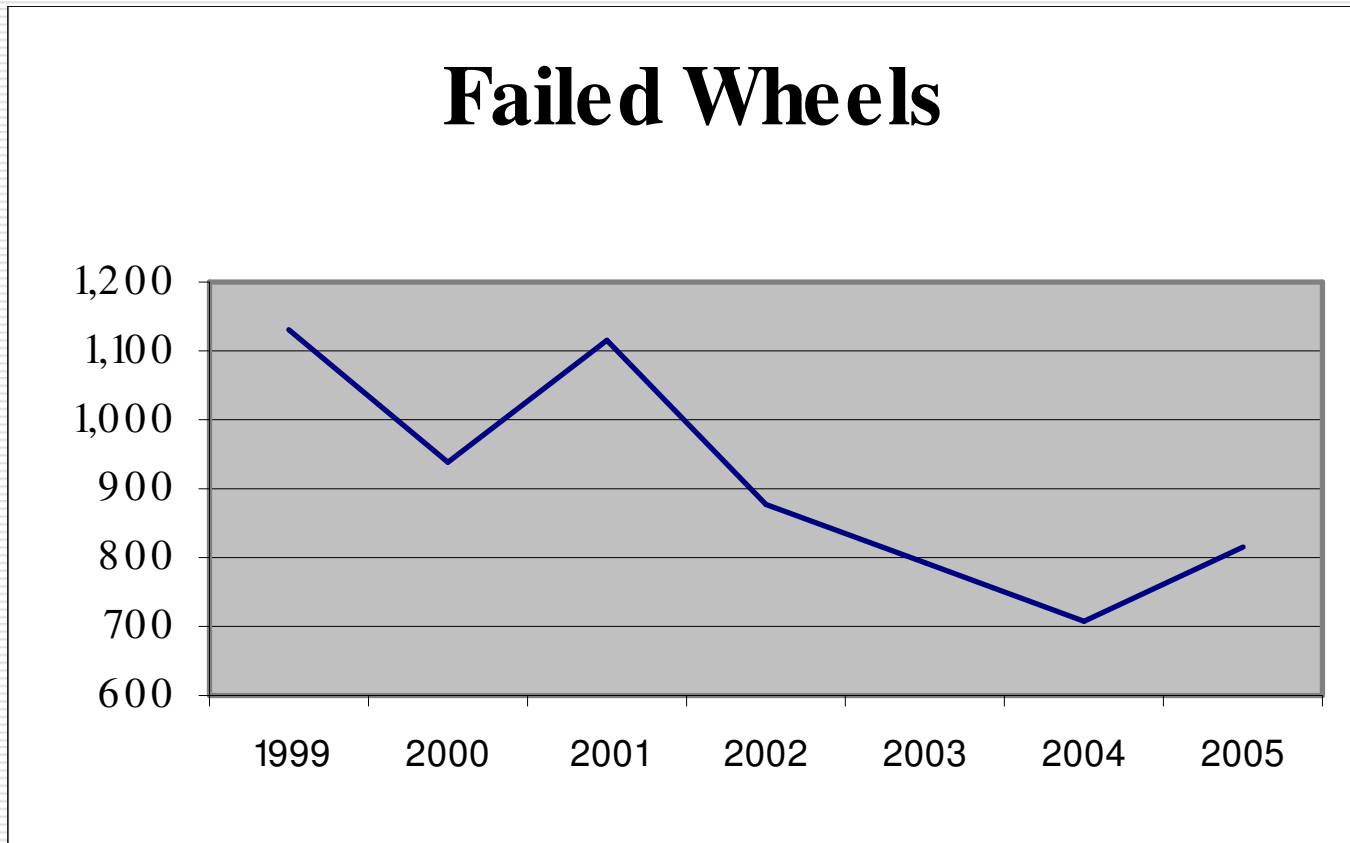
# Failed Wheels

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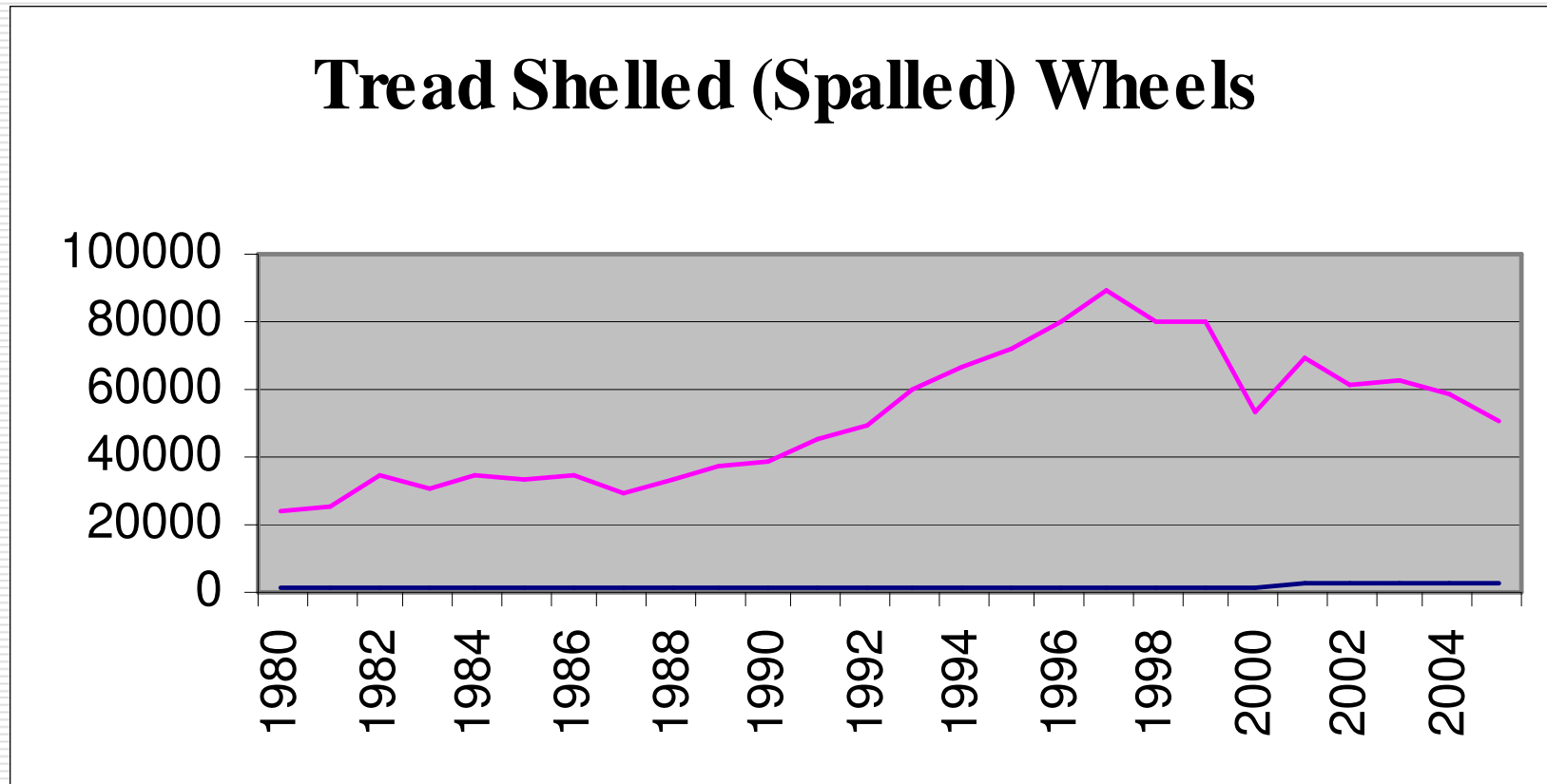
# 7 Year Trend – Failed Wheels

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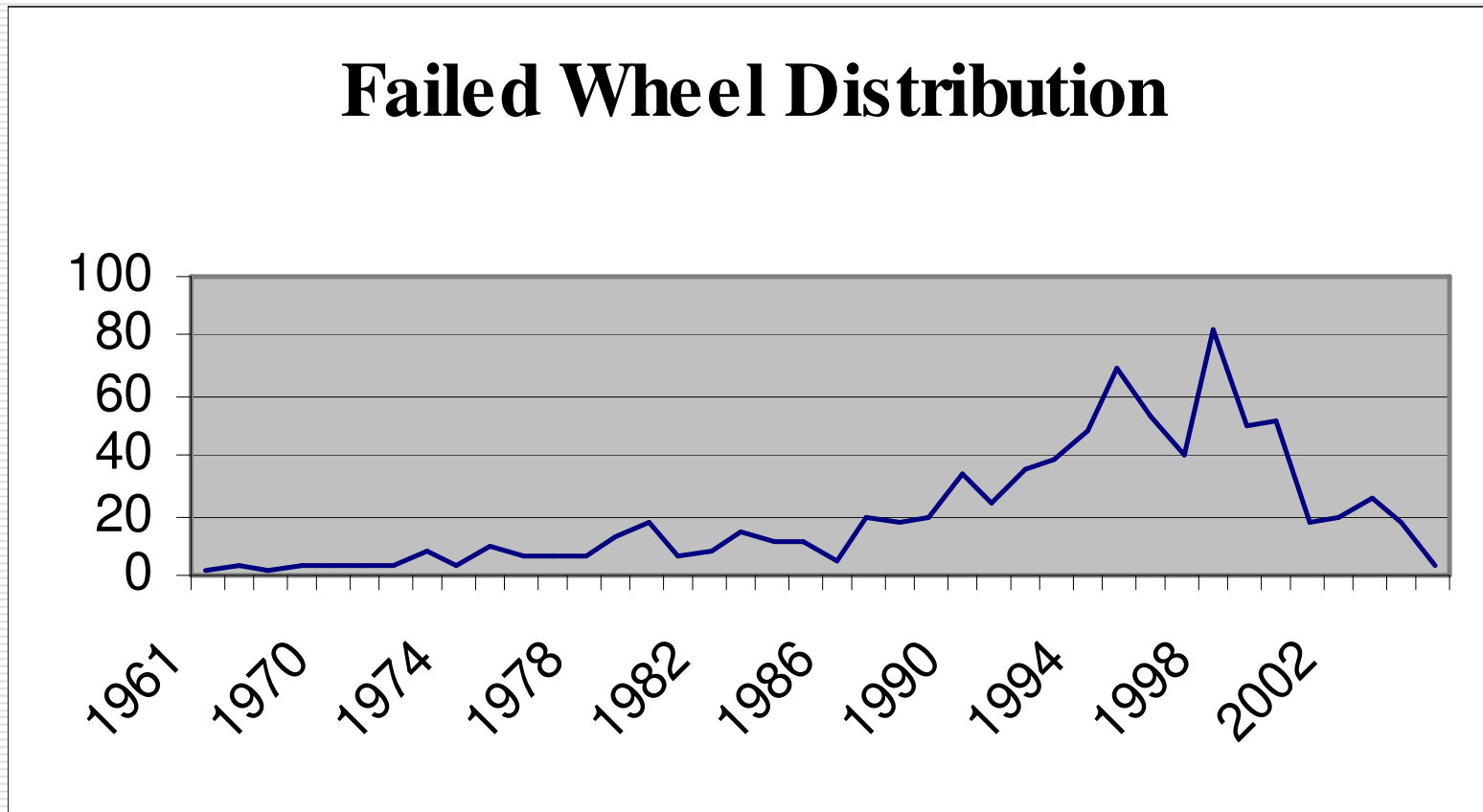
# 26-Year Trend Shell/Spall Wheels

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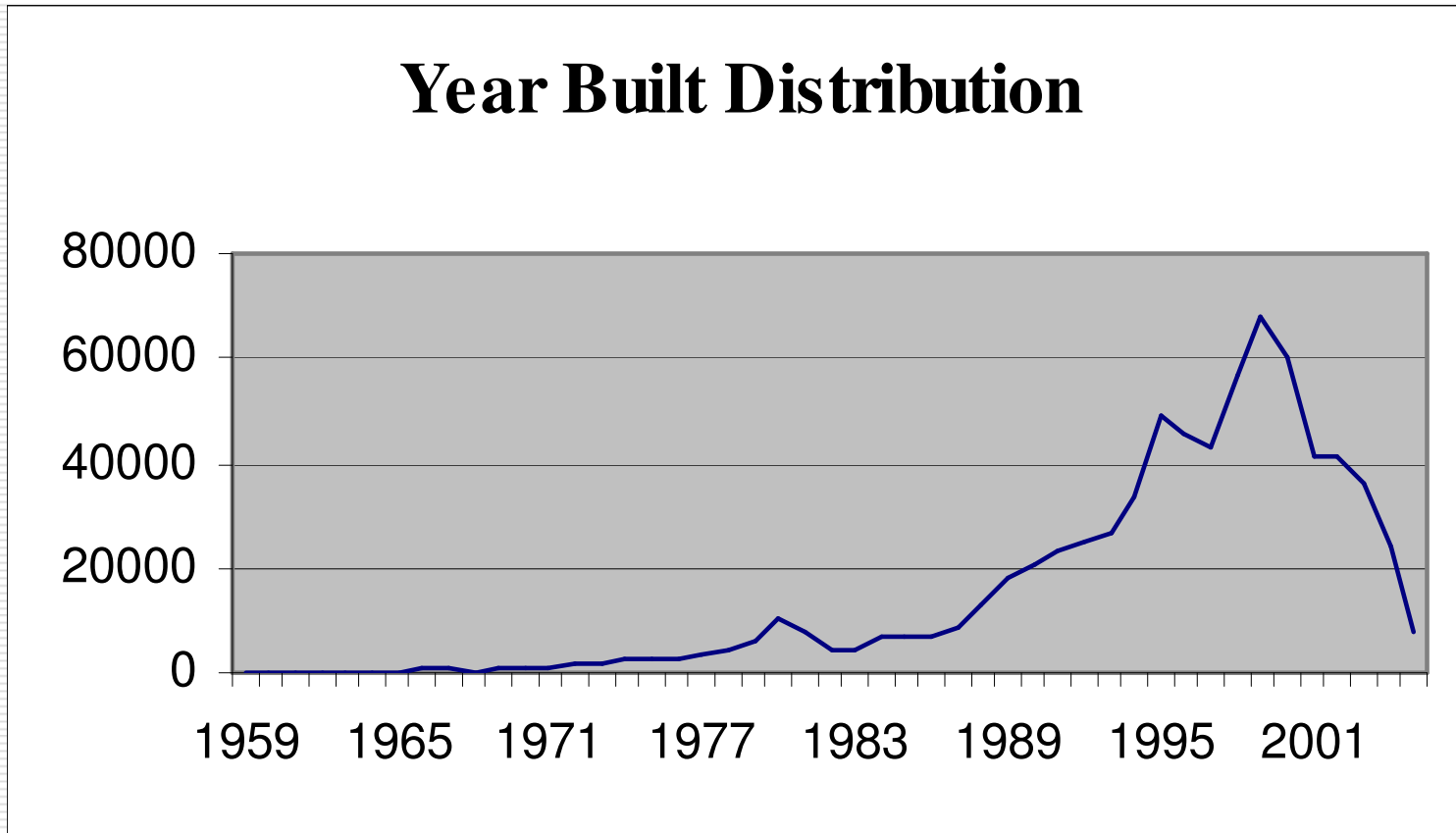
# Distribution of Failed Wheels by Year

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# Wheel Removals by Year Manufactured

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# Average Wheel Life/Category

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<input type="checkbox"/> Administrative	9.8 Years
<input type="checkbox"/> Wear Related	11.0 Years
<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental	8.8 Years
<input type="checkbox"/> Wheel Failure	12.2 Years

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# Average Wheel Life/Car Type

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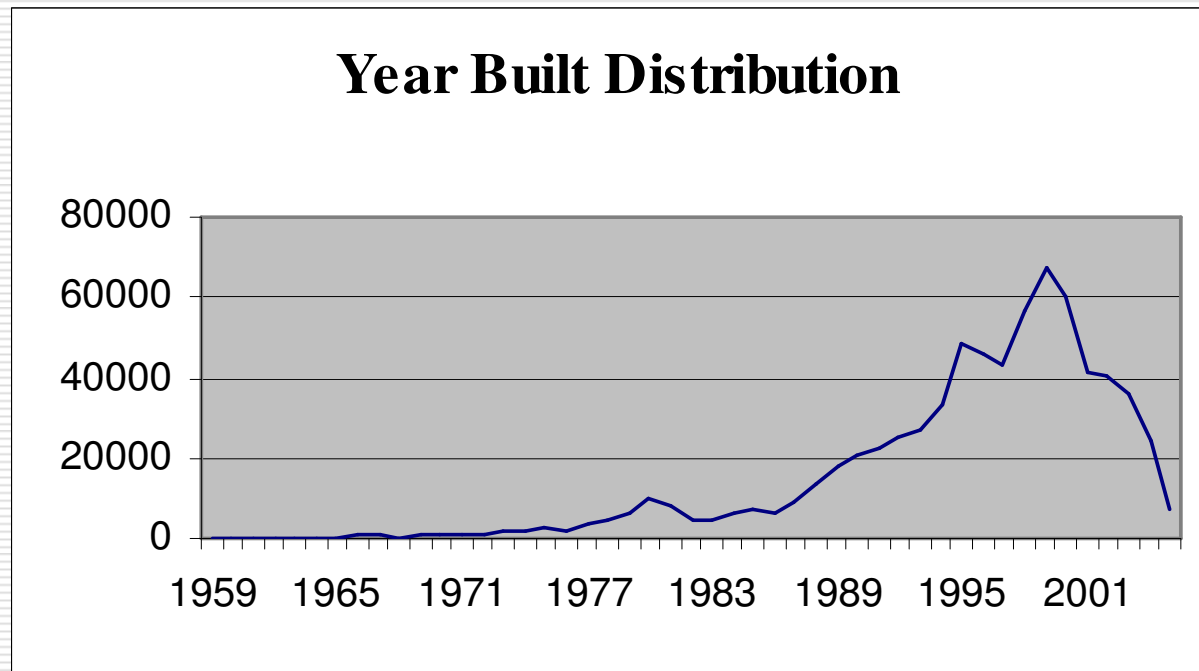
<input type="checkbox"/> Type of Car	Wheel Life, Years
<input type="checkbox"/> Box	12.5
<input type="checkbox"/> Gondola	8.5
<input type="checkbox"/> Hopper	9.5
<input type="checkbox"/> Covered Hopper	12.6
<input type="checkbox"/> Tank	12.5
<input type="checkbox"/> Flat	7.8
<input type="checkbox"/> Articulated	4.5

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# Wheel Removals by Year Manufactured

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# Distribution of Wheel Types

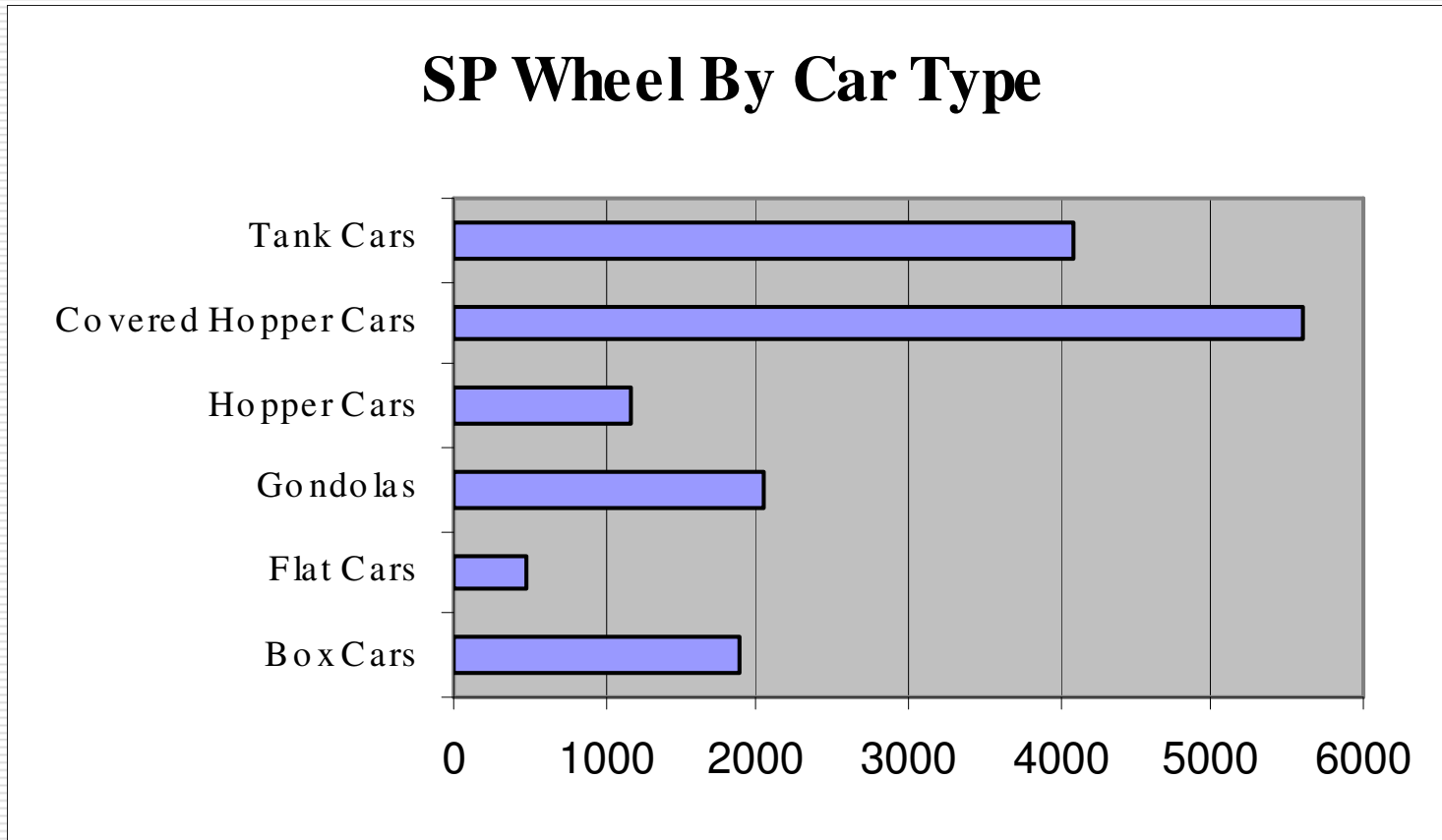
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Wheel Type	HT-CP	NHT-CP	HT-SP	NHT-SP
AAR Raw	91.7%	5.7%	.7%	1.8%
AAR Accel.	92.1%	6.2%	0.6%	1.1%

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# Distribution of SP Wheels

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# RWMEC Recommendations

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- Already Implemented
    - Accelerate removal of straight plate wheels
    - Proposal to accelerate earlier removal of Non-Heat Treated Curve Plate Wheels
    - Improving their wheel marking procedures
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# RWMEC Recommendations

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- Improve air brake testing methods.
  - Train employees about the proper use of hand brakes.
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# Comparisons

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- ❑ Removals for high impact are more common for 36-inch and 38-inch wheels.
  - ❑ 36-inch wheels have a higher percentage of wheels removed for slid flat, thin flange, built-up-tread and out-of-round.
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# Comparisons

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- Articulated cars have many unique characteristics.
  - The wheels wear out faster.
  - They have the most wheels removed for High Flange.
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# Comparisons

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- Covered Hopper Cars have the most wheels for all causes.
  - Tank cars and covered hopper cars have the most wheel removals for Why Made Code 78, Slid Flat.
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# Comparisons

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- The primary reasons for wheel removals from flat cars:
    - Why Made 64, High Flange
    - Why Made 65, High Impact
    - Why Made 75, Tread shelled
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# Comparisons

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- Tank cars have the second highest wheel removals for Why Made 74, Thermal Cracks.
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# Comparisons

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- Gondolas, Hoppers and Box Cars have a similar pattern. The most frequent causes for removal for these car types are:
    - Why Made 65, High Impact
    - Why Made 64, High Flange
    - Why Made 60, Thin Flange
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# Thanks

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- ❑ RWMEC thanks the AAR for providing 2005 wheel repair data for this analysis and report.
  - ❑ RWMEC thanks the Railway Supply Institute and MARTS for the opportunity to present this information at the 2006 RSI conference.
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# Questions

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