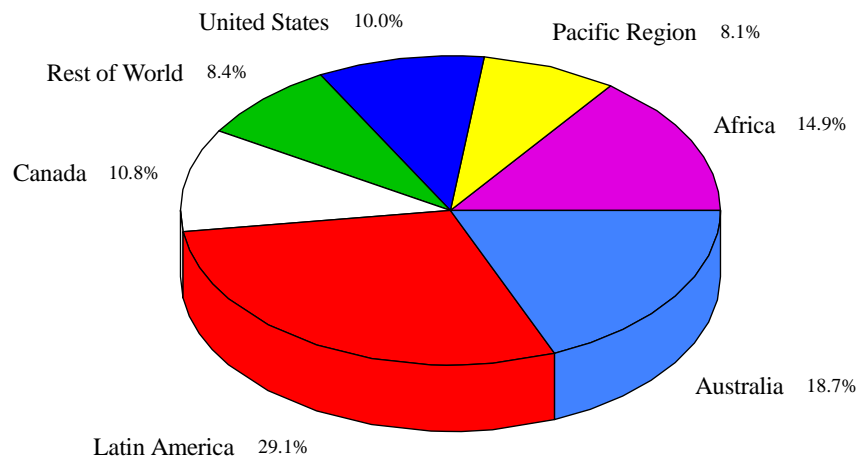


Figure 1.--1999 reported worldwide exploration budgets<sup>1</sup> by region  
(132 companies' budgets totaling \$2.17 billion)



<sup>1</sup> Exploration spending for nonfuel minerals, excluding iron ore.

Data Source: Metals Economics Group