

Date: Tuesday, 6 May 2025
Time: 10.00am
Meeting Room: Room 1, Level 26
Venue: Te Wharau o Tāmaki - Auckland House
 135 Albert Street
 Auckland

Te Komiti mō te Waeture me te Haumaru / Regulatory and Safety Committee

OPEN ATTACHMENTS

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Water Safety New Zealand Drowning Prevention Report 2024

Item 9

Attachment A



Karakia for Tangaroa

He huanui, he huaroa ki te Ao
From the energies of the extensive and
intensive ocean we will learn

Omāio ki tua e
To maintain balance

Ka rongō ki te Waitai e
Reciprocation of healing is needed

Haramai e te Taipari – Haramai e te Taitimu
Celebrate the provisions of the full and low tides

Nāu e Hinemoana – Nāu Tangaroa ē
The sacred domain of Hinemoana and Tangaroa.

Water Safety New Zealand

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Water Safety New Zealand

Introduction

The 2024 National Drowning Prevention Report is the official account of preventable drownings across Aotearoa over the past year. Compiled by Water Safety New Zealand, using data from DrownBase™, New Zealand's authoritative drowning database, the report synthesises information from coronial findings, incident reports, and other verified sources. It provides an accurate and thorough representation of drowning incidents and remains a cornerstone resource for the water safety community, designed to inform strategy, guide interventions, aid policymakers, and support collaborative efforts to reduce drowning fatalities and promote safer water practices.

This year's report incorporates several key amendments aimed at enhancing clarity, relevance, and usability. One change is renaming the youth category (15–24 years) to Young Adults, reflecting a more accurate description of this life stage. Additionally, while Kai Gathering remains an important theme, this year we have reverted to examining leading activities, specifically land-based fishing and underwater categories, for a more focused discussion. Ongoing research is needed to better understand the "intent" or motivation behind gathering kai and its link to a broader group of activities. The "offshore" category has been reclassified to include only incidents occurring more than 1 kilometre from shore, whereas incidents less than 1 kilometre from shore are now classified as coastal. This change provides clearer distinctions between the two environments.

The report has also undergone cosmetic improvements to enhance readability and accessibility. Its overall structure remains consistent, beginning with a summary of preventable drowning events in 2024 and examining the challenge through the lenses of life stage, activity, and environment. Regional snapshots are provided for all areas, with deeper analysis focused on those regions contributing significantly to overall statistics or nearing their 10-year average.

Further work has been done to refine the identification and analysis of national high-fatality areas, or blackspots. This has added valuable context to our understanding of where and why incidents occur, enabling more targeted interventions in critical locations.

By incorporating these amendments, the 2024 National Drowning Prevention Report records the year's drowning incidents and also strengthens our ability to turn data into actionable insights. It remains a vital tool for guiding efforts and fostering a collective commitment to water safety across New Zealand.

As we reflect on the progress captured in this report, we acknowledge the 72 lives tragically lost to drowning in 2024. Behind each number is a person—a friend, family member, or loved one—whose absence leaves an irreplaceable void. Our thoughts are with their families, whānau, and communities who bear this enduring loss.

Their memories remind us why we strive for safer waters and stronger prevention efforts.

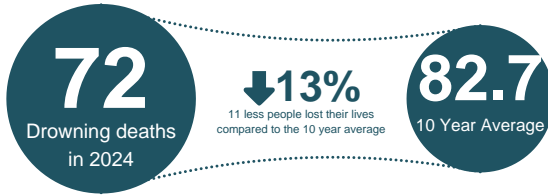
Ka maumahara tonu tātou ki a rātou — We will remember them.

“Drowning is a solvable problem, and the power is in prevention. By using data to drive our solutions, providing water safety education for all, and by taking personal responsibility, we can save lives and strive for a New Zealand free from the burden of drowning.”

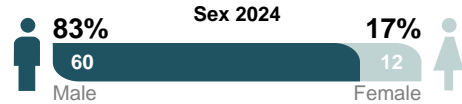
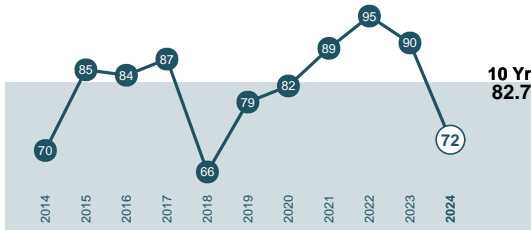
Daniel Gerrard BPhEd BSc BMLSc
Chief Executive
Water Safety New Zealand

Executive Summary

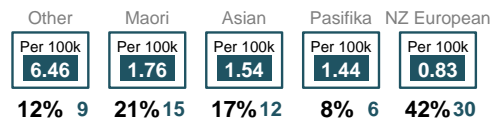
Key Statistics



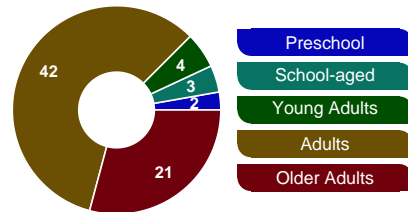
Fatalities 2024 (with trailing 10 Yr Average)



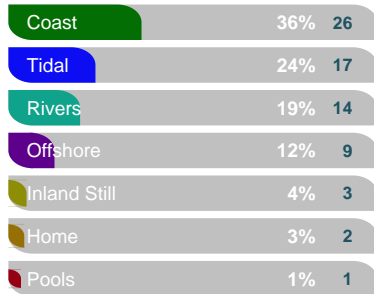
Ethnicity (with Rates) 2024



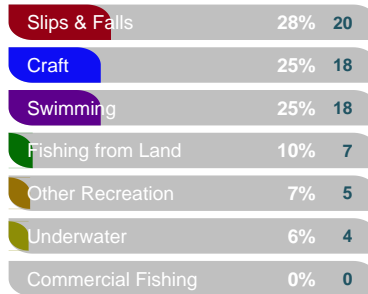
LifeStage 2024



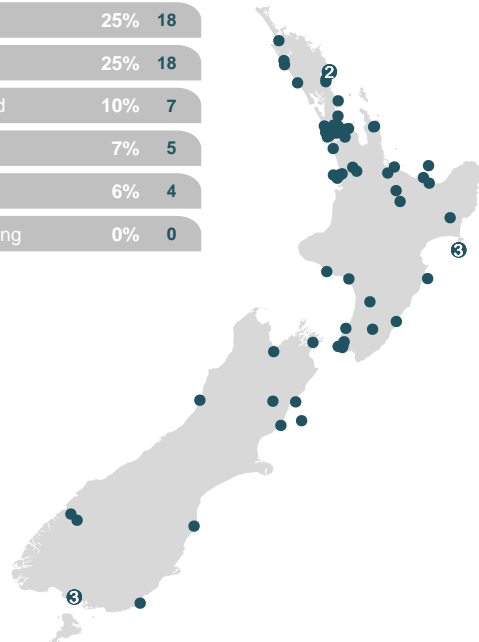
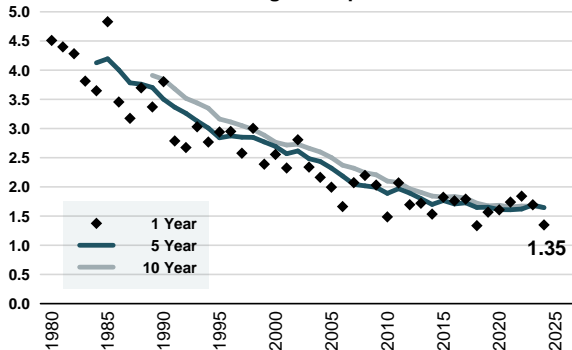
Environment 2024



Activity 2024



Drowning Rates per 100k



Executive Summary

Key Insights

New Zealand recorded 72 drowning fatalities in 2024, our lowest since 2018, a significant decline from 90 in 2023 and falling well below the 10-year average of 82.7. This reduction reflects increasing levels of personal responsibility and New Zealanders making smarter decisions around water. This is an achievement to be acknowledged and presents an opportunity to examine the dynamics influencing drowning in New Zealand in 2024.

A Global perspective

New Zealand has made significant gains over the past 45 years that have steadily reduced the risk of drowning. Since 2000, remarkable progress has been made in drowning prevention to achieve a reduction in drowning rates that aligns with the World Health Organisation global benchmark for improvement. While the global drowning rate has fallen by 38% over the same period, from 6.1 to 3.8 per 100,000 population, our achievements are even more substantial. Over the last 25 years, we have reduced our national drowning rate from 2.56 in 2000 to 1.35 in 2024, representing a 47% decline.

New Zealand's Drowning Prevention Plateau

Changes in how Kiwi engage with water, combined with a range of targeted interventions, have been the key drivers of this dramatic reduction. Of greatest impact was the introduction of mandatory swimming pool fencing. The risk of drowning is now three times lower than in the 1980s.

But over recent years our rate of progress in reducing drowning risk has stalled. By reviewing the graph 'Drowning Rates per 100k,' the convergence of the ten-year and five-year averages (grey and teal lines) indicates slowing and potential plateauing of the long-term downward trend. This convergence suggests the reduced pace of improvement, reflected by a narrowing gap between short- and long-term trends.

This pattern of potential stagnation suggests the need for another circuit breaker to ensure the current downward trend in drowning rates continues. It's time for fresh thinking, new strategies, increased targeted resources, and innovative intervention.

Declining Drowning Rates Among Under-25s

In 2024, 88% of all drownings involved individuals over the age of 25, a demographic representing 69% of the population with high participation in recreational water activities. New Zealanders under-25 years make up 31% of our population, but account for only 12% of total drownings.

This significant difference highlights the steady decline in drowning rates in those under 25. This decline mirrors sustained and focused water safety education initiatives of the past 15 years. The collective effort of the water safety community to improve aquatic skills, knowledge and competence in young New Zealanders appears to be paying off.

We are seeing sustained low rates of drowning of school-aged children and reduced risk for younger New Zealanders over time as illustrated by the graph 'Young Adults 10-year,' (p16).

Maintenance of this trend demands continued focus and sustained interest in delivering high-quality, survival-focused education, to all school-aged children.

Weather Patterns-Impact on Drowning

Initial analysis of weather patterns reveals strong correlation between extreme weather events and increased drowning risk. A three-year period of high drowning fatalities, in 2021 (89), 2022 (94), and 2023 (90), coincided with severe weather conditions, including heavy rainfall, storms, and floods, driven by active El Niño–Southern Oscillation (ENSO) phases like La Niña and El Niño. Conversely, low drowning years, including 2014 (77), 2018 (66), and 2024 (72), were marked by more stable weather patterns. These findings, while unsurprising, suggest that monitoring weather phases and their potential impact, could provide critical insight for tailoring cyclical, drowning prevention strategies and focused public messaging.

Understanding Drowning Risks Across Ethnicities

In 2024, the distribution of drownings by ethnicity reveals significant disparity when compared to population on a per capita basis (per 100,000 of the population).

The "Other" category (including Middle Eastern, Latin American, and African populations) had a rate of 6.46 drownings per 100,000, accounting for 12% (9) of the total. However, this group comprise only 3% of the population. Māori (15) were also overrepresented, with 21% of total drownings (18% of population) with a rate of 1.76 per 100,000. Asians (12) matched their proportional representation (17% and 17% of the total population) with a rate of 1.54 per 100,000. Pasifika, slightly underrepresented, accounted for 8% of drownings with a rate of 1.44 per 100,000, while NZ Europeans, the majority population at 68%, were significantly underrepresented, comprising 42% of drownings with the lowest rate of 0.83 per 100,000.

Refining the Identification of High-Risk Drowning Locations

The concept of high-risk drowning locations (blackspots) was introduced in last year's drowning report. In 2024, Water Safety New Zealand revisited these locations, applying fresh methodology and enhanced data analysis to refine our understanding of these blackspot locations. This has expanded our understanding of these locations, revealing that a small number have significant impact on New Zealand drowning numbers.

Executive Summary

In 2024, blackspots accounted for 18% of all drownings, up from a reported 4.3% in 1999. Newly identified or reclassified locations, such as Manukau Harbour, Waikato River (Hamilton city limits), and expanded areas like Piha (North & South), highlight the scale of risk associated with these identified sites.

In Auckland, seven drownings occurred at identified blackspots. This accounted for nearly 40% of all Auckland drownings. Clearly, a pattern of repeated fatalities at identified, high-risk locations demand a refreshed, collaborative approach.

Lifejackets: A Simple Solution to Save Lives

Lifejacket use remains one of the simplest and most effective ways to prevent drowning fatalities in New Zealand, particularly in small vessels. In 2024, 94% of craft-related fatalities involved individuals not wearing lifejackets. Long-term data indicates that nearly two-thirds of all craft-related fatalities were influenced by the absence of lifejacket use. These figures don't account for other activities, such as fishing from land, where lifejacket use could also have prevented fatality.

Central and local governments must eliminate confusion by establishing a single, consistent national rule. Backed by clear, unequivocal data, this represents a vital step toward implementing long-overdue legislative changes. It is crucial to normalise lifejacket use in New Zealand, encouraging all Kiwis to make the conscious choice to wear one.

Further investigation is needed to identify environments, specific locations, and activities where promoting, enforcing, and supporting lifejacket use would be most beneficial.

Understanding Alcohol's Contribution to Drowning

There is a disturbing, emerging theme reflecting the role alcohol plays in drowning, particularly among males. This warrants further investigation. Over the past decade, alcohol was involved in 30-40% of drowning deaths, though underreporting may mask the true impact of alcohol. Significant prevalence patterns include males aged 15-24 years, involving public holiday activity, and in freshwater environments. Common descriptors include accidental immersion ('falls' - 62%) and swimming/'playing in water' and boating incidents, often reflecting non-use of lifejackets despite availability. While these initial findings demand further investigation the logic for urgent focus on alcohol-related behaviour around water is inescapable.

The Burden of Drowning

Refreshed investigation of hospitalisation data, has provided Water Safety New Zealand a better understanding of the human cost as well as a clear indication of the financial burden of drowning to New Zealand.

In 2024¹, a total of 214 non-fatal, water-related hospitalisations, aligned with the 10-year average of 209. Put another way, for every fatal drowning in New Zealand each year there are approximately three hospitalisations for non-fatal drownings.

Based on the Ministry of Transport's Value of Statistical Life (VoSL) calculation of \$739,197 per serious injury, these hospitalisations add an estimated burden to the public health system of \$158.2 million. When applying the VoSL fatality cost of \$12.5 million per death to drowning fatalities, the economic impact in 2024 is estimated at \$900 million. This over \$1 billion burden highlights the financial and societal impact of drowning, and must serve as a powerful call for increased, targeted, prevention investment by politicians and policymakers. The significant economic strain is both preventable and inescapable.

Acknowledging Persistent Drowning Challenges

While 2024 demonstrated overall improvement with encouraging positive trends, stubborn challenges still persist. These include areas identified as 'blackspot' locations, high-risk activities such as land-based fishing, and demographic vulnerability, particularly among older males. These remain the focus of the water safety community.

Regional disparities, including Auckland's persistently high representation, emphasise the need for targeted, location-specific intervention. Addressing these challenges requires innovative, evidence-based strategies that promote informed decision-making and personal responsibility at high-risk locations.

Future efforts should ensure access for all children to high quality water safety education, support for individuals to choose safer aquatic environments, support for local communities to create local solutions, and continued effort to strengthen frontline rescue services and infrastructure in areas with elevated drowning risk.

The National Drowning Prevention Report underscores the importance of long-term, sustained commitment to prevention-focused initiatives. Crucial government investment into frontline rescue agencies needs to be complemented with support for long term drowning prevention programmes. The real human costs of drowning, the pain, suffering and disruption to families and work can be reduced, and critical rescue services will not be overwhelmed. This shift demands fresh thinking and innovation to maintain momentum and build on collective, historic success.

Findings of this report highlight that while drowning remains a complex, persisting challenge, it is becoming an increasingly solvable problem.

[1] The data from the Ministry of Health covers the period from October 1, 2023, to September 30, 2024.

Blackspots

NZ's High Fatality Locations

The Shift to Identifying National Drowning Blackspots

The identification of national high fatality locations, drowning blackspots, represents a crucial evolution in targeted, evidence-based interventions. Much like high-risk areas on state highways and local roads, drowning blackspots are locations with alarmingly high rates of drowning incidents and fatalities. Publicised for the first time in the 2023 National Drowning Report, Water Safety New Zealand has made it a priority to spotlight these high-risk locations.

This initiative aims to focus the attention of the public, the media, and our partners across the water safety community to drive meaningful action. By shining a light on specific geographical areas, we aim to foster increased collaboration among local government, mana whenua, the private sector, aquatic educators, and other organisations to usher in a new era of community-driven water safety efforts across New Zealand.

Reflecting Increased Capability in 2024

The updated 2024 blackspot data reflects Water Safety New Zealand's growing capability and commitment to refining our understanding of drowning risks in New Zealand.

The most significant driver behind the changes in blackspot numbers is the comprehensive work undertaken over the past 12 months to review each DrownBase™ case. By meticulously examining every synopsis, dating back to 1980, we were able to log precise GPS locations for many incidents. This refinement has provided unparalleled accuracy, enabling us to identify new and emerging blackspots that had previously gone unrecognised or were underreported.

In 2023, our methodology focused on identifying fatal incidents within a two-kilometre radius of every locality in New Zealand since 1999. This has now evolved to bespoke polygons for each location provided more complete data. While DrownBase™ has recorded drowning data since 1980, location data had only begun to be included since 1999. By revisiting historical data and incorporating GPS precision, we now have a clearer and more reliable understanding of high-risk areas.

Key Changes in 2024 Blackspots

The updated blackspot list for 2024 shows both continuity and significant changes compared to 2023. These changes reflect Water Safety New Zealand's enhanced data capabilities and a broader and widening scope of analysis:

- 1. Manukau Harbour:** Newly identified as the highest-risk blackspot with 54 reported incidents, highlighting risks within the harbour.
- 2. Piha (North & South):** Reclassified to include both northern and southern areas, increasing to a reported 52 incidents.
- 3. Waikato River (Hamilton city limits):** Newly added with 46 reported incidents, emphasising the dangers of urban waterways.
- 4. Muriwai Beach:** Reclassified and expanded area resulted in 33 recorded incidents, reflecting its treacherous surf conditions and ongoing challenges.
- 5. Manukau Heads:** Reclassified area with a focus on bar crossing fatalities. 29 recorded incidents.

6. Wellington Harbour: Reclassified and expanded area resulted in 27 reported incidents, highlighting the growing risks in this busy central city location.

7. Te Henga/Bethells Beach: Reclassified and expanded area resulted 21 reported incidents, consistent with its identification as a high-risk coastal location.

8. Papanui Point: Increased 19 reported incidents, underscoring the need for targeted land-based fishing interventions.

9. Mt Maunganui: Increased to 19 reported incidents, reflecting its popularity and associated risks.

10. Karioitahi Beach: Increased to 17 reported incidents.

Locations such as Auckland's Princes Wharf and Lake Pupuke, which appeared in the 2023 list, have been replaced by new high-risk areas in 2024. This shift underscores the importance of refining our data and focusing resources on emerging priorities.

Emerging Trends

In 1999, based on data available, blackspot locations accounted for 4 drownings out of the national total of 92 (4.3%). Over the years, this percentage has steadily increased. By 2024, blackspots contributed 18% of all New Zealand drownings. 40 percent (7) of Auckland drownings occurred at blackspot locations in 2024.

The Road Ahead

Complementing the refined geographic analysis, we are incorporating additional datasets such as participation rates, exposure data, weather and climate data, and information from other partners. This multi-faceted approach enables us to better understand the dynamics of drowning risks and inform more effective interventions.

The expanded scope of blackspot analysis represents a proactive step toward reducing the burden of drowning in New Zealand. By leveraging data, fostering collaboration, and engaging communities, we are making strides toward a future where every drowning is preventable.

Blackspots

Papanui Point

Drowning at Papanui Point: Lessons in Risk and Responsibility

Papanui Point, a hazardous fishing spot on the west coast of New Zealand's North Island (south of Raglan) has claimed 19 lives since 1989. This tragic legacy, explored in depth by Dr. Chanel Meads in a report commissioned by Water Safety New Zealand as part of its obligations to the Wai Ora Aotearoa strategy and the water safety community, highlights the pressing need for greater community engagement, improved safety practices, education, and cultural alignment in prevention strategies.

Understanding the Risks

Papanui Point serves as a shared boundary marker (pou whenua) between the Tainui hapū of Raglan and Ngāti Whakamarungī of Ruapuke to Aotea, highlighting its longstanding ancestral connections to the land and sea. Papanui Point's rugged beauty masks its dangers. Steep, slippery paths, jagged rocks, and unpredictable ocean currents make it a perilous destination for even seasoned fishers. Analysis reveals that most fatalities occurred during rough sea conditions, with high swells and strong winds creating insurmountable hazards. Yet even calm seas have proven deadly, reflecting the unpredictability of this popular spot.

Compounding these risks, Papanui Point's remote location limits emergency response times. Tragically, none of the 19 people wore a life jacket, and many engaged in high-risk behaviours such as fishing alone or standing too close to the water's edge.

Those at Risk

Key demographic trends emerge from the analysis of each tragedy and 'regular-user' interviews:

Middle-Aged Men (35–44): Most fatalities fall within this group. Potential overconfidence in physical ability, coupled with familiarity with the location, could often lead to risky decisions.

Non-local visitors and new residents: A user lacking local knowledge or understanding of safety warnings, could contribute to increased vulnerability.

Solo Activities: Fishing alone, a common practice, leaves individuals without support in emergencies, compounding the risk.

Behavioural Challenges

Human behaviour played a critical role in these tragedies:

Safety Gear Neglect: None of the victims wore life jackets—a single preventative measure that could have drastically reduced fatalities.

Risky Practices: Alcohol consumption and dangerous actions, such as retrieving snagged lines from rocks

Overconfidence: Many users believed that either their local knowledge or 'swimming ability' would protect them, leading to complacency and misjudgement.

Lack of connectivity: limited mobile coverage increased rescue response time combined with limited weather monitoring (swell buoy).

Respecting wāhi tūpatō

For local Māori, Papanui Point is wāhi tūpatō, a place of caution and reverence. The Wai Puna framework¹ integrates ancestral wisdom with modern safety strategies.

Whakapapa: Recognising historical connections and understanding of the inherent risks of Papanui Point

Mātauranga: Understanding and utilising data to inform prevention strategies

Tikanga: Implementing safety measures that honour cultural values and practices

This culturally grounded approach ensures safety interventions resonate deeply with local communities and users while preserving the spiritual significance of the waters.

From Data to Action

The initial report offers clear, actionable steps to reduce drowning risks:

Mandate Life Jackets: Require life jackets and appropriate footwear for all visitors, with free or subsidised gear at high-risk sites like Papanui Point.

Develop targeted localised campaigns for high-risk user-groups

Enhance Community Engagement: Partner with local user-groups to promote not fishing alone, responsible alcohol use, and respect for changing environmental conditions.

Strengthen Emergency Infrastructure: Install wave monitoring buoys to provide accessible weather alerts tailored to the area.

Improve Safety Messaging: Implement location and risk specific multilingual signage and universally recognised symbols.

Behavioural Nudges: Normalise life jacket use and address stigmas around safety gear through public campaigns.

Improved use of technology: provide mobile phone notifications to fishers on days where weather modelling suggests higher risk.

Provide on-site support: work with the local community, Iwi and land managers to provide community 'patrol' or wardens to share local knowledge and weather/condition insights.

Turning Tragedy into Prevention

Papanui Point exemplifies the delicate balance between nature's allure and its dangers. Its tragic history serves as a call to action for building a culture of respect for the sea and responsibility for safety. By combining robust data analysis, community engagement, and culturally aligned interventions. Let Papanui Point not only remind us of the lives lost but inspire a collective commitment to protecting others and honouring the sacredness of our waterways.

[1] Phillips, Chanel Ph.D. (2020) *Wai Puna: An Indigenous Model of Māori Water Safety and Health in Aotearoa, New Zealand*, *International Journal of Aquatic Research and Education*. 12: No. 3, Article 7.

The Burden of Drowning

What does drowning cost NZ?

Public health implication of drowning – hospitalisations

Non-fatal drowning occurs when an individual survives respiratory impairment caused by submersion or immersion in water. These incidents often lead to significant health impacts, including hospitalisation and potential long-term complications such as neurological damage due to oxygen deprivation. Water-related injuries, which include non-fatal drownings, also encompass a broader range of aquatic incidents such as spinal injuries and fractures sustained during activities like diving, jumping or boating.

From data we receive from Ministry of Health, New Zealand recorded 214 hospitalisations for drowning and water-related injuries in 2024, slightly increased from the 10-year average of 205.

However, examining hospitalisations shows us that there is a lack of details available to analyse the data. Unreliable data restricts us in how we can better target New Zealanders to not only prevent deaths, but expensive, time consuming and painful injuries. We are working to collaborate with our partners in health to generate better data. With current limitations, below is what we know about hospitalisations in New Zealand, but we believe the true burden on our health system from drowning and water related injuries is still to be discovered.

Even with imperfect data, the Ministry of Transport's Value of Statistical Life (VoSL) calculation of \$739,197 per serious injury means that the 2024 hospitalisations equate to a \$158,188,158 burden on New Zealand's public health system this past year.

The 2024 data showed a total of 448 days spent in the hospital by non-fatal drowning patients, with an average stay of 2 days per patient and a range from 0 to 25 days in hospital, without follow-up care data added. The total hospital days emphasises the on-going burden of non-fatal drowning on healthcare systems.

Non-fatal drownings place a significant and costly burden on New Zealand's health system, yet gaps in data limit our ability to fully understand and address this issue. To prevent these life-altering injuries and reduce their impact, we must prioritize better data collection and collaboration across sectors. Together, we can uncover the true extent of the problem and take targeted action to protect New Zealanders in and around water.

DrownBase™

Insights from Data

DrownBase™: Transforming Drowning Prevention Through Data

Launched in 1995 by Water Safety New Zealand, DrownBase™ has revolutionised drowning prevention by centralising and leveraging data. Once reliant on fragmented and unreliable data, New Zealand is now a world leader in understanding the drowning problem through this pioneering system.

From Fragmentation to Innovation

Before DrownBase™, drowning data was inconsistently collected and stored, hampering efforts to identify risks or evaluate prevention strategies. The 1970s introduced standardised questionnaires, but inefficiencies persisted. Recognising these challenges, Water Safety New Zealand developed DrownBase™. By integrating data from sources like police reports, coronial findings, and health records, DrownBase™ transformed how risks were identified and addressed, enabling real-time insights and precise trend analysis.

Key Tools and Recent Advancements from DrownBase™

DrownBase™ has become more than just a database, it is the foundation for cutting-edge tools and methodologies that drive effective drowning prevention strategies. Recent advancements include:

Predictive Modelling: Using statistical analysis, this tool estimates drowning risks daily.

Categorised Insight Tools: These pre-coded summaries of key data points enable rapid visualisation of data segments and categories—such as environment, activity and demographics to inform the water safety community.

High Fatality Location Identification: Launched in 2023, this tool uses coded mapping applications and layered data analysis to pinpoint high-fatality areas (blackspots). By combining quantitative data with qualitative insights from local communities, it supports tailored interventions to address specific site risks.

Trend Regression Analysis: Leveraging linear regression techniques, this tool identifies long-term trends in drowning rates, highlighting both progress and emerging challenges.

Refreshed Blackspot Mapping: Ongoing updates to high-fatality area identification will reflect changes in environmental conditions, demographic behaviours, and usage patterns, ensuring interventions remain effective and relevant.

The Future of Data-Driven Prevention

As Water Safety New Zealand advances its mission, data science will remain central to combating drowning. The development of DrownBase™ and its associated tools highlights the vital role evidence-based decision-making plays in saving lives. Moving forward, Water Safety New Zealand is dedicated to enhancing its data capabilities, ensuring that interventions are increasingly precise and impactful.

DrownBase™ is more than a database—it is a cornerstone of drowning prevention, enabling communities, practitioners and user groups to understand their specific challenges and to focus limited resources on the highest-risk areas. By continuing to prioritise data science and evidence-based strategies, Water Safety New Zealand is paving the way for safer waterways and working toward the ultimate goal: a drowning-free New Zealand.

For nations seeking to enhance their water safety strategies, DrownBase™ offers a proven framework.

Water Safety New Zealand remains committed to sharing the lessons of DrownBase™ demonstrating that data is not just numbers – it is a powerful tool to save lives.

'We haven't the money, so we've got to think'. Ernest Rutherford, New Zealand physicist

Item 9

Attachment A



Life Stages

Overview

Drowning remains a complex and preventable issue, impacting individuals across all stages of life. By examining these incidents through the lens of life stages, we gain a deeper understanding of the vulnerabilities, behaviours, and environments that contribute to these fatalities. This approach allows us to develop life-stage-specific recommendations that can save lives and guide the efforts of water safety organisations, policymakers, and communities.

While some encouraging trends are emerging—such as the significant reduction in drownings among Pre-schoolers (2), School-aged (3) and Young Adult (4)—Adults aged 25–54 (42) continue to account for a disproportionate share of fatalities, representing 55% of all drownings despite comprising only 40% of the population. This finding underscores the urgent need to address risky behaviours, complacency, and the lack of adherence to basic water safety practices, particularly during recreational activities.

Older Adults (55+), who account for 29% of drownings in 2024 (21), face unique challenges, including reduced physical agility and increased medical events, which increase their susceptibility to incidents, particularly from falls near water.



SUPPORT FOR OUR MOST VULNERABLE

Across developed and undeveloped nations, drowning disproportionately impacts children and young people. **World Health Organisation** drowning data shows children aged under five years account for nearly a quarter of the 300,000 annual drowning deaths worldwide.

New Zealand's drowning statistics for pre-schoolers are drastically different from this stark global reality. While the drowning risk profile for children under five differs from country to country, and variations with undeveloped nations are high, we can look to locations with vast coastlines similar to New Zealand – such as Australia, Canada, and Vietnam, where most drowning happens inland.

For very young children almost all water is a risk for drowning - whether that is in a bucket, bathtub, pond, or pool.

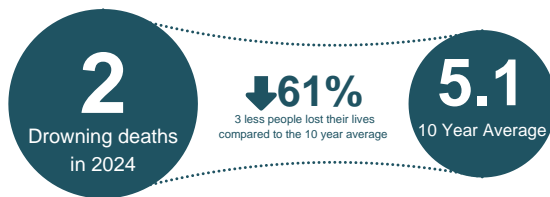
The collective impact of New Zealand's water safety and child safety sectors since the early 2010s has made incredible progress by targeting drowning prevention initiatives for three sub-groups of little people – Babies (under 18 months), Toddlers (18 months to three years), and pre-schoolers.

Increasing knowledge about drowning risks, changing attitudes, and reducing risk-taking behaviour continues to save lives.

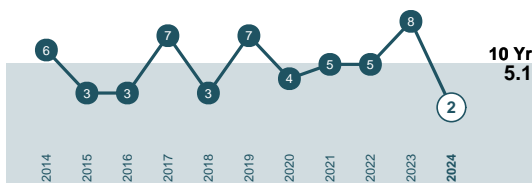
Back in 2000, an **average of 12** New Zealand children aged under five drowned every year. The massive reductions in pre-schooler drownings noted in the 2024 National Drowning Report is a significant difference.

Life Stages

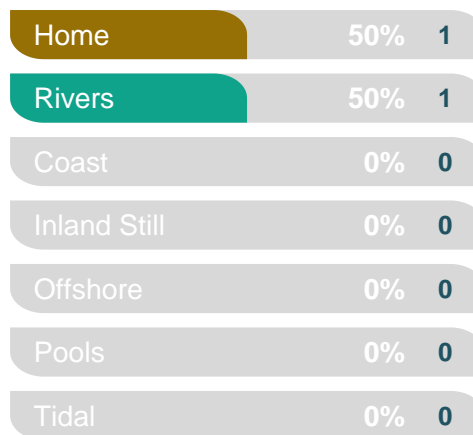
Preschool



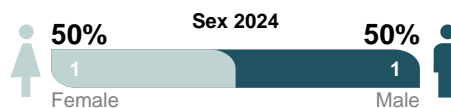
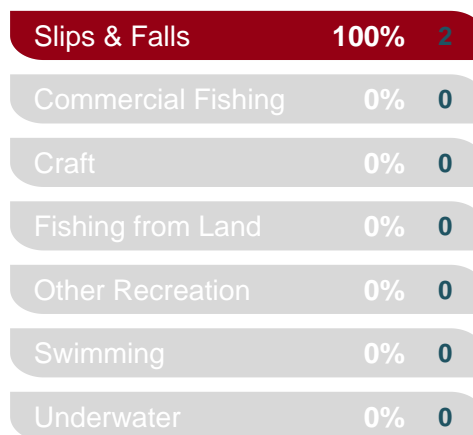
Fatalities 2024 (with trailing 10 Yr Average)



Environment 2024



Activity 2024



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Item 9

Life Stages

Preschool

Pre-school (0–4 Years)

Pre-schoolers, who account for 6% of New Zealand's population, remain one of the most vulnerable groups due to their limited ability to assess risks and lack of basic aquatic ability. Significant progress has been made in reducing drowning fatalities in this life stage. In 2024, there were two (2) drowning deaths among pre-schoolers, representing 3% of all fatalities. This marks a significant decrease compared to the 10-year average of 5.1 fatalities per year and the eight (8) fatalities recorded in 2023.

The reduction in preschool drownings reflects the success of long-standing water safety initiatives such as improved pool fencing regulations and public awareness campaigns focused on caregiver's active supervision. Nonetheless, moments of distraction or lapses in supervision remain key contributors to incidents in this group. Effective safety measures, including the use of barriers and alarms around water, have proven effective but must continue to be enforced and expanded.

Making a difference

To sustain this positive trend, continued efforts are required. Public education campaigns should emphasise the importance of constant supervision and the proper use of pool barriers. Tailored initiatives targeting high-risk communities could help to further reduce fatalities in this group.



POOL FENCING LEGISLATION HAS WORKED

New Zealand's bold implementation of mandatory pool fencing legislation has proven to be a pivotal step in reducing child drowning rates.

Introduced in 1987 as part of the Fencing of Swimming Pools Act, the legislation required all private pools to be properly fenced, creating a critical barrier between young children and potential drowning hazards.

This prevention measure has since been credited as one of the most effective public health policies in New Zealand's history. **Child pool deaths dropped almost 80%** from an average of eight fatalities every year in the 1980s to a **ten-year average of 1.7** child pool drownings annually (2014-2023).

The legislation's impact is evident in the significant reduction in drowning fatalities among children under 5 years old.

Prior to the introduction of the law, drowning was a leading cause of preventable death for toddlers, with many incidents occurring in unfenced backyard pools.

This success is a perfect example of the value of sustained legislative action combined with public education to address preventable tragedies.

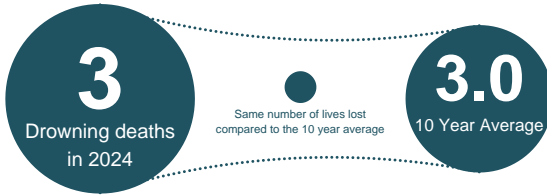
While pool fencing has transformed child water safety, the broader lesson is clear: well-enforced laws, supported by community awareness, can create meaningful change. The positive outcomes of pool fencing legislation serve as a model for future safety policies, proving that prevention is not only possible but profoundly effective.

Are Lifejackets next?

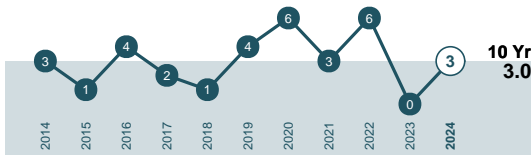
Attachment A

Life Stages

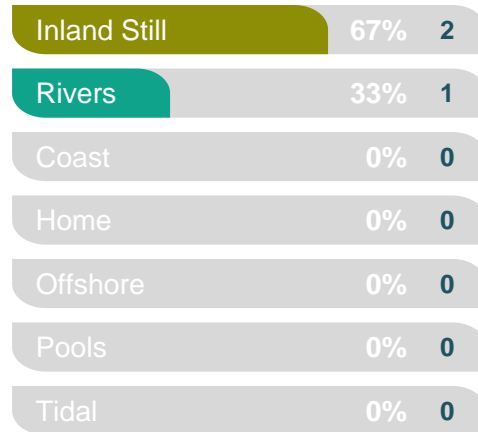
School-aged



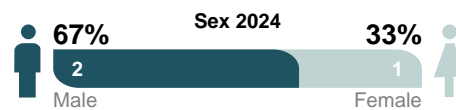
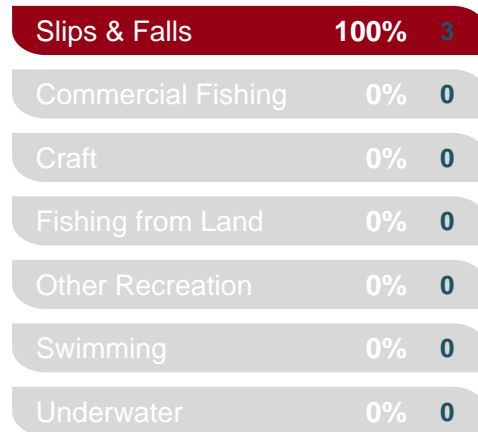
Fatalities 2024 (with trailing 10 Yr Average)



Environment 2024



Activity 2024



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Life Stages

School-aged

School-aged (5–14 Years)

School-aged children represent 13% of New Zealand's population and accounted for 4% of drowning fatalities in 2024, with three (3) deaths recorded. This figure aligns with the 10-year average of three fatalities per year, indicating that the risks for this life stage remain consistent despite ongoing interventions.

Children in this age group often engage in outdoor activities near rivers, lakes, and beaches. Many incidents occur during unsupervised swimming or accidental falls into water. While learning basic aquatic skills (like Water Skills for Life™) and school-based education programmes (like Water Skills for Life™-Beach and River) have helped reduce risks, there remains a need for greater awareness of the hazards posed by natural waterways.

Making a difference

Given the persistent nature of these risks, water safety education programmes (like Water Skills for Life™) should remain a priority, with a focus on developing basic aquatic competency and teaching children to recognise dangerous water conditions. Family-oriented safety initiatives could also encourage greater supervision during outdoor activities near water.



WATER SKILLS FOR LIFE™

Reducing Drowning Through Survival Education

Drowning is a preventable tragedy, and **Water Skills for Life™** is dedicated to reducing these incidents by equipping students with the skills and mindset needed for open water survival. It's not about being the strongest swimmer; survival in open water is about having the right tools to respond effectively when things go wrong.

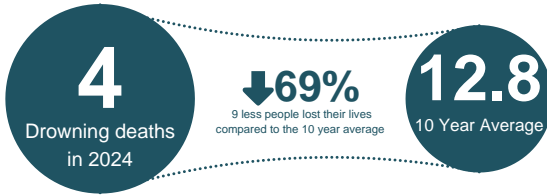
Water Skills for Life™ focuses on teaching age-appropriate competencies that prepare students for real-world challenges. For younger learners, foundational skills like floating, calming techniques, and signalling for help are taught. As students grow older, more advanced skills such as sculling, treading water, and handling moving water are introduced.

Simulated open water scenarios play a crucial role in bridging the gap between controlled environments and real-life conditions. By offering hands-on practice in unpredictable situations, **Water Skills for Life™** helps students build confidence, ensuring they are equipped to handle open water risks and ultimately reduce drowning incidents.

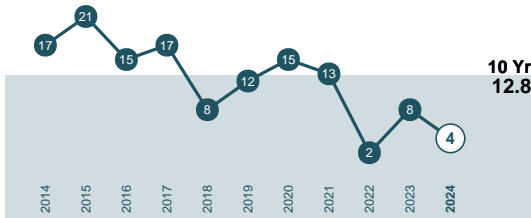


Life Stages

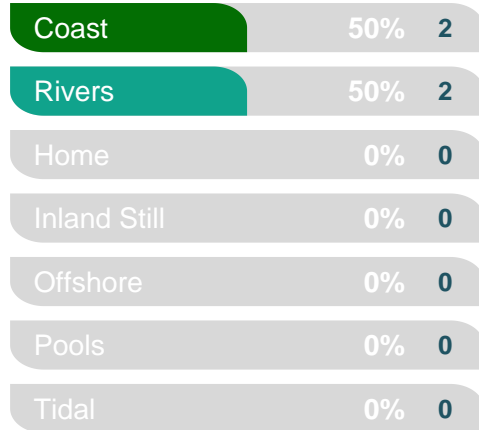
Young Adults



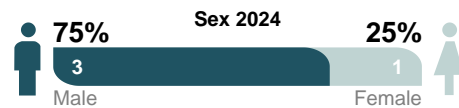
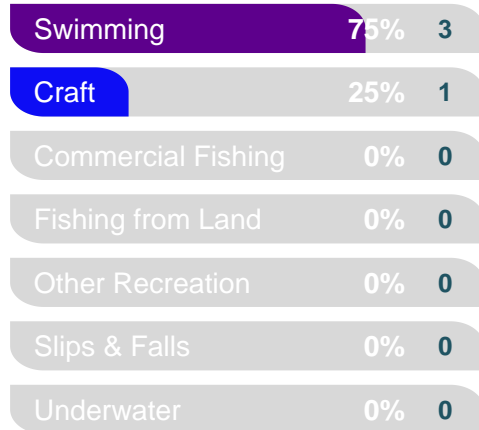
Fatalities 2024 (with trailing 10 Yr Average)



Environment 2024



Activity 2024



Life Stages

Young Adults

Young Adults (15–24 Years)

Young Adults, formerly classified as Youth, comprising 13% of the population, accounted for 6% of drowning fatalities in 2024, with four (4) deaths recorded. This represents a marked improvement compared to the 10-year average of 12.8 fatalities per year and the eight (8) deaths reported in 2023.

This reduction can be attributed to increased awareness campaigns targeting risk-taking behaviours, which are prevalent in this age group. Young Adults often engage in recreational activities such as swimming (playing in the water), diving (jumping/Manu), and social gatherings near beaches and rivers, where they may underestimate risks or overestimate their swimming abilities. Alcohol use during these activities remains a contributing factor.

Making a difference

To build on this progress, the water safety community should continue to deliver targeted campaigns using engaging, peer-led initiatives and social media platforms. Expanding programmes that teach river and beach safety, as well as advanced aquatic skills, will further reduce risks for this group.

THE POWER OF TARGETED CAMPAIGNS

Supporting national sporting event, **Z-Manu World Champs** is one way Water Safety New Zealand contributes to the safety culture of young adults. For many New Zealanders, *“bombing is a way of life.”*

DrownBase™ data tells us Māori and Pasifika young adults are over-represented in national drowning statistics, particularly around rivers and often involving jumping.

In line with our mission to target the highest drowning risks, we reinforce critical safety behaviours relevant to the Manu environments.

Sharing consistent messages, over time, aims to increase knowledge about drowning risks, change attitudes, and reducing risk-taking behaviour.

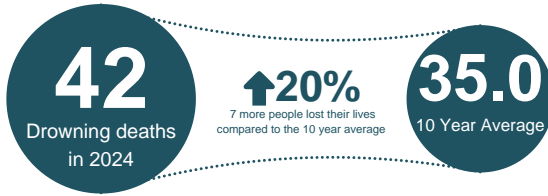
Consistent safety messages reinforce **The Five Ways to Survive** – New Zealand’s Water Safety Code, they include:

- **Jumping in appropriate locations**
- **Checking before jumping**
- **Not jumping alone**

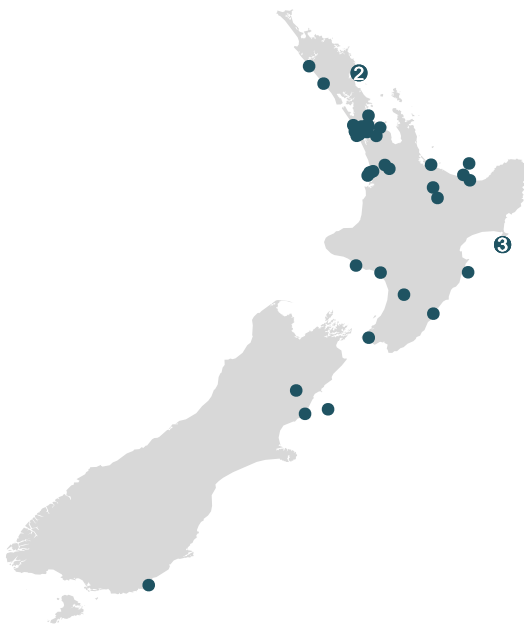
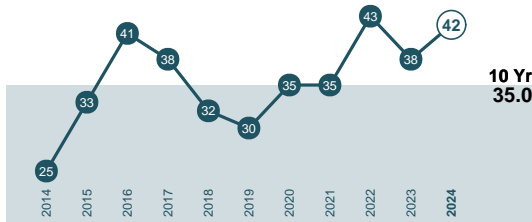


Life Stages

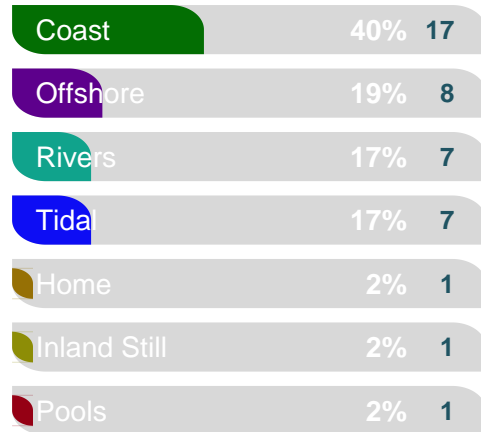
Adults



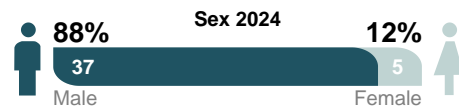
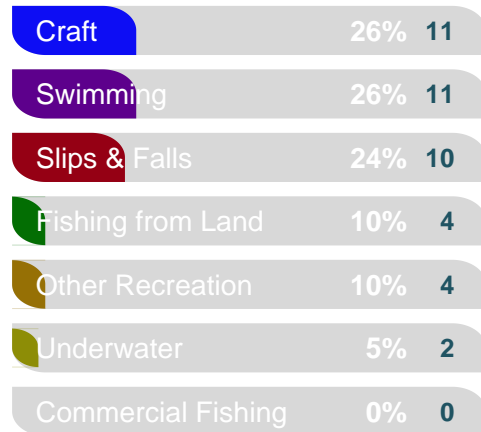
Fatalities 2024 (with trailing 10 Yr Average)



Environment 2024



Activity 2024



Life Stages

Adults

Adults (25–54 Years)

Adults make up 40% of New Zealand's population but accounted for 58% of drowning fatalities in 2024, with 42 deaths recorded. This overrepresentation highlights the challenges facing this group, which has the highest drowning rate of all life stages at 2.0 per 100,000 people.

Many incidents in this life stage occur during recreational activities such as fishing, powered craft use, and swimming (playing in the water or "having a dip"). Complacency or familiarity with water environments often leads to neglect of basic safety precautions, such as wearing life jackets. Alcohol use is also a contributing factor in many incidents.

The increase in fatalities compared to the 10-year average (35), where adults represented 42% of drownings, underscores the need for targeted interventions.

Making a difference

Mandatory life jacket use for powered and non-powered craft (under 6m), along with stricter regulations for boating activities (licensing), and refreshed basic aquatic skills (being able to float) should be prioritised. Public campaigns emphasising the dangers of complacency and the importance of personal responsibility in water safety are critical to reducing risks in this group.



ALCOHOL AND WATER DON'T MIX

Alcohol consumption may be a much more significant contributor to drowning fatalities and injury than has been prioritised in the past.

Alcohol increases the risk of drowning and injury by impairing judgement, reducing coordination, and delaying reaction time. Drowning fatalities attributable to **slips and falls** – formally categorised as 'unintentional entry into water' remain a consistent feature of New Zealand's drowning statistics.

Making conclusions on alcohol-related drowning and slips and falls is a complex challenge, partly through the nature of formal inquiries and evidence gathering. Through increased analytical use of **DrownBase™** more definitive work is possible to target drowning prevention in this area.

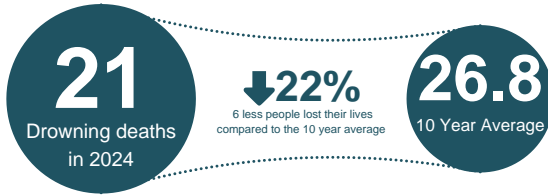
Promotion of safety messages and new partnerships with both the health and hospitality sectors will play a role in emerging work.

Alcohol and water don't mix:

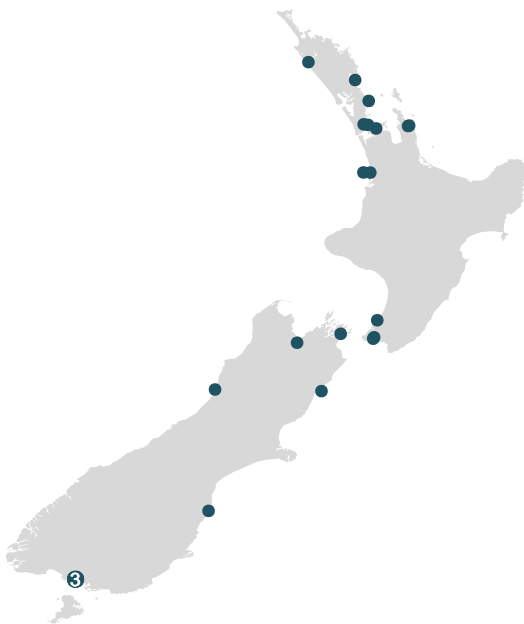
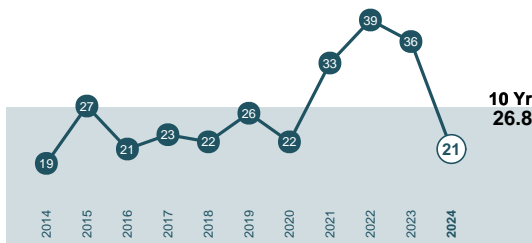
- Activity in or on the water, it is safest to avoid alcohol altogether
- If you are planning to consume alcohol around a body of water, ensure all water-based activity is finished before consuming alcohol
- Plan your route home after a night out – and don't walk alone around water after consuming alcohol
- If you have consumed alcohol do not get back in the water
- Do not consume alcohol if you are the driver or in charge of a powered boat
- Do not consume alcohol if supervising children around the water.

Life Stages

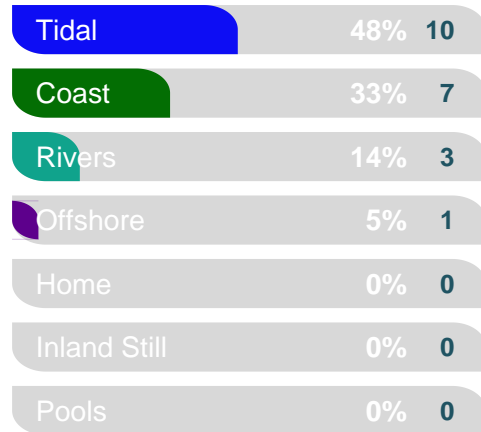
Older Adults



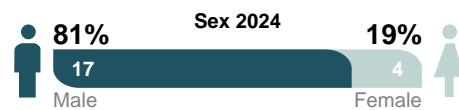
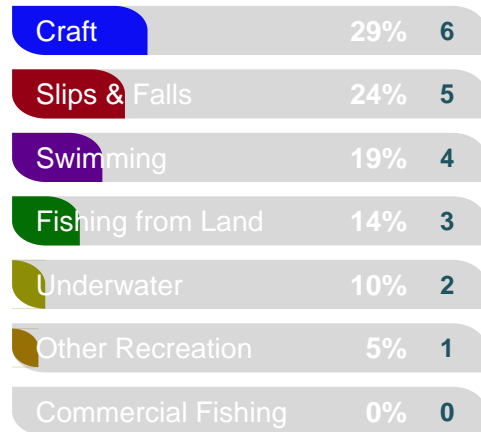
Fatalities 2024 (with trailing 10 Yr Average)



Environment 2024



Activity 2024



Life Stages

Older Adults

Older Adults (55+ Years)

Older Adults account for 29% of the population and represented 28% of drowning fatalities in 2024, with 21 deaths recorded. This group has a drowning rate of 1.39 per 100,000 people, second only to Adults aged 25–54 (2.0).

In 2024 drownings among Older Adults predominantly occurred in tidal waters (10) or on the coast (7) and were strongly linked to kai gathering activities. Physical limitations or underlying medical conditions, including reduced agility and slower reaction times, increase the likelihood of incidents. Isolation can also play a role, as many incidents involve individuals alone at the time of the event.

While fatalities in this life stage have decreased slightly in 2024 (21) compared to the 10-year average (26.8), addressing the unique risks faced by the increasingly active Older Adults group remains crucial.

Making a difference

Whilst traditional programmes focused on fall prevention, a greater emphasis should be placed on personal competency in the water (e.g. floating abilities) and greater use and encouragement of lifejacket use and the use of buddy systems for water-based activities.



LIFE JACKETS SAVE LIVES

The importance of lifejacket use cannot be overstated.

Water Safety New Zealand applauds all parts of local government who are strengthening and enforcing bylaws for lifejacket use and making the water safer for their communities.

In 2024 the Bay of Plenty and Tairāwhiti joined other regions, like the Waiakto, and took the initiative to amend their local navigational bylaws.

These changes, show real wisdom and leadership, setting a strong example for others to follow.

The alignment of regional approaches to lifejacket safety is a welcome development, reinforcing the message across multiple areas that wearing a lifejacket is a key factor, like wearing a seatbelt, in staying safe on the water.

The water safety community has advocated for many many years to successive Governments and Ministers of Transport to amend Rule 91 of the Maritime Transport Act.

The call is to introduce clear national consistency – make lifejackets mandatory on all vessels under 6 metres. The numerous and varied interpretations of Rule 91 have resulted in a patchwork of regional variations, creating confusion for the public regarding lifejacket requirements and water safety rules across different areas in New Zealand.

Item 9

Attachment A

Environments



**Komiti mō te Waeture me te Haumarū ā-Hapori / Regulatory and Safety Committee
Forward Work Programme 2025**

This committee deals with regulatory hearings, appointing independent commissioners and regulatory policy and bylaws. The full terms of reference can be found here: [Auckland Council Governing Body Terms of Reference](#)

Area of work and Lead Department	Pūnga / Reason for work	Committee role (whakatau / decision and/or tika / direction)	Expected timeframes Highlight the month(s) this is expected to come to committee in 2025												Attachment A
			Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
Bylaws															
Health and Hygiene Bylaw Control Policy, Planning and Governance	To review minimum standards to protect public health associated with commercial services that pierce, risk breaking or risk burning the skin or tissue, therapeutic massage, colon hydrotherapy, swimming pools, water play parks and splash pads under the Health and Hygiene Bylaw 2013.	Decision on form of updated bylaw control and whether formal public consultation is required. Progress to date: Initiation of bylaw projects in 2022 - 8 March 2022 at the Regulatory Committee Link to decision Findings from a review of Council's Health and Hygiene Code – 8 October 2024 at the Regulatory and Safety Committee Link to decision													
Vape Retail Bylaw	Notice of Motion to introduce a bylaw restricting the visibility of vape products in specialist vape retailers from external view	Chair to be briefed and determine next steps. Progress to date: Notice of Motion – 13 February 2024 at the Regulatory Committee Link to decision Retrospective approval of Auckland Council's Smokefree Submission – 8 October 2024 at the Regulatory and Safety Committee Link to decision													
Public Safety and Nuisance By-Law Enforcement Licensing and Regulatory Compliance	To advise the committee of a proposed review of the enforcement of the Public Safety and Nuisance Bylaw 2013 (PSN Bylaw) in the central city and whether that approach could be enhanced to address ongoing concerns with city centre safety and nuisance.	Address ongoing concerns with city centre safety and nuisance. Progress to date: Proposed review of the Public Safety and Nuisance Bylaw enforcement – 9 April 2024 at the Regulatory and Community Safety Committee Link to decision Public Safety and Nuisance Bylaw Enforcement Update – 2 July 2024 at the Regulatory and Community Safety Committee Link to decision													

Area of work and Lead Department	Pūnga / Reason for work	Committee role (whakatau / decision and/or tika / direction)	Expected timeframes Highlight the month(s) this is expected to come to committee in 2025												
			Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
Bylaw review initiation report Policy, Planning and Governance	To meet legislative requirements to periodically review bylaws to ensure they are still required and 'fit for purpose'.	Decision on the commencement, scope and timeframes of a review bylaws about waste, food safety and navigation. Progress to date: Initiation of navigation, waste and food bylaw reviews – 1 April 2025 at the Regulatory and Safety Committee Link to decision													
Waste Management and Minimisation Bylaw 2019 Policy, Planning and Governance	To review the bylaw that helps to manage and minimise rubbish, recycling and compost in Auckland. It includes rules about kerbside collections and requirements for the waste industry, businesses and multi-unit residential properties.	Decision on whether a bylaw (and bylaw controls) is still needed. If required, recommend a proposal to adopt a new bylaw and appoint a Bylaw Panel. Expected timeframes to be determined in Bylaw review initiation report. Progress to date: New Waste Management and Minimisation Bylaw Control – 5 December 2023 at the Regulatory and Community Safety Committee Link to decision Initiation of navigation, waste and food bylaw reviews – 1 April 2025 at the Regulatory and Safety Committee Link to decision													
Food Safety Information Bylaw 2020 Policy, Planning and Governance	To review the bylaw that promotes high food safety standards.	Decision on whether a bylaw is still needed to confirm, amend, replace or revoke the bylaw. If required, recommend a proposal and appoint a Bylaw Panel. Expected timeframes to be determined in Bylaw review initiation report. Progress to date: Initiation of navigation, waste and food bylaw reviews – 1 April 2025 at the Regulatory and Safety Committee Link to decision													

Area of work and Lead Department	Pūnga / Reason for work	Committee role (whakataua / decision and/or tika / direction)	Expected timeframes Highlight the month(s) this is expected to come to committee in 2025														
			Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec			
<p>Navigation Bylaw 2021 Policy, Planning and Governance</p>	<p>To review the bylaw that promotes safe recreational and commercial use of Auckland's waters, including the wearing of personal flotation devices on small recreational vessels.</p>	<p>Decision on whether a bylaw is still needed to confirm, amend, replace or revoke the bylaw. If required, recommend a proposal and appoint a Bylaw Panel. Expected timeframes to be determined in Bylaw review initiation report.</p> <p>Progress to date: Initiation of navigation, waste and food bylaw reviews – 1 April 2025 at the Regulatory and Safety Committee Link to decision</p>														Item	
Reporting																	
<p>Animal Management Licensing and Regulatory Compliance</p>	<p>Report on Animal Management activities for the year ending June 2024 as required by Section 10A of the Dog Control Act 1996.</p>	<p>Note that the Animal Management Annual Report is required under Section 10A of the Dog Control Act 1996 and staff will provide the 2023/24 report to the Secretary of Local Government.</p> <p>Progress to date: 2023/2024 report still to be prepared by Animal Management for presentation and approval during September/October 2024. Animal Management Annual Report 2023-2024 – 8 October 2024 at the Regulatory and Safety Committee Link to decision</p>															Attachment A
<p>Resource Consent Appeals Resource Consents</p>	<p>To provide an update on all resource consent appeals</p>	<p>Information purposes. Bi-monthly report.</p> <p>Progress to date: Resource Consents Appeals: Status Report 4 February 2025 – 4 February at the Regulatory and Safety Committee Link to decision</p>															
<p>Boarding House Inspections Licensing and Regulatory Compliance</p>	<p>Update on the Auckland proactive boarding house inspections programme, including consideration of a boarding house register.</p>	<p>Information purposes and to inform next steps / further direction from the committee.</p> <p>Progress to date: Boarding House Inspection Programme Update – 20 April 2021 at the Regulatory Committee Link to decision Boarding House Inspection Programme Update – 4 June 2024 at the Regulatory and Community Safety Committee Link to decision</p>															

Area of work and Lead Department	Pūnga / Reason for work	Committee role (whakatau / decision and/or tika / direction)	Expected timeframes Highlight the month(s) this is expected to come to committee in 2025											
			Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Community Safety and Wellbeing Community Wellbeing	To provide updates on the Regional Community Safety Work Programme and the City Centre Community Safety Action Plan.	Information purposes. Six-monthly report. Progress to date: Regional Community Safety Work Programme – 13 August 2024 at the Regulatory and Community Safety Committee Link to decision City Centre Community Safety Action Plan – 13 August 2024 at the Regulatory and Community Safety Committee Link to decision City Centre Community Safety Plan update – 1 April 2025 at the Regulatory and Safety Committee Link to decision												
Policies														
Gambling Venue Policies Review 2020	Review required under the Gambling Act 2003	To approve the review findings Progress to date: Gambling Venue Policies Review 2020 – 13 October 2020 at the Regulatory Committee Link to decision Start of gambling and dog policy/bylaw reviews – 5 September 2023 at the Regulatory and Community Safety Committee Link to decision Gambling Venue Policies Review 2023 – 5 March 2024 at the Regulatory and Community Safety Committee Link to decision												
Regulatory and Safety Committee Policy		To produce and obtain approval for an amended Regulatory and Safety Committee Policy Progress to date: Adoption of a Regulatory and Safety Committee Policy – 4 April 2023 at the Regulatory Committee Link to decision												

Area of work and Lead Department	Pūnga / Reason for work	Committee role (whakataua / decision and/or tika / direction)	Expected timeframes Highlight the month(s) this is expected to come to committee in 2025													
			Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec		
Dangerous Dams Policy Building regulations	The Building (Dam Safety) Regulations 2022 are Aotearoa New Zealand’s first consistent regulatory dam safety framework which provides a nationally consistent approach to ensuring that dams are, and continue to be, safe, protect people, property, infrastructure, and the environment. The Building (Dam Safety) Regulations 2022 come into effect on 13 May 2024.	Under the Building Act 2004, all regional councils are required to ‘adopt and implement a policy on dangerous dams, flood-prone dams, and earthquake prone dams.’ Auckland Council developed its proposed Dam Safety policy, which is due to come into effect on 13 May 2024. The Regulatory and Community Safety committee is expected to adopt the proposed Dangerous Dams policy in April 2024, in time for it come into effect on 13 May 2024. Progress to date: Update on submissions received during the consultation period on the Dam Safety policy – 5 March 2024 at the Regulatory and Community Safety Committee Link to decision Decision to adopt dangerous dams policy – 9 April 2024 at the Regulatory and Community Safety Committee Link to decision														Item Attachment A
Funding																
Local Crime Fund	Through the Ministry of Social Development, the Government allocated \$2 million from the Proceeds of Crime Fund to invest in community safety initiatives in Auckland.	To approve the distribution model and ratio for the Local Crime Fund of \$2 million. Progress to date: Local Crime Fund – 30 May 2023 at the Regulatory Committee Link to decision Update on accountability for Local Crime Fund grants provided to Business Improvement Districts as of 31 December 2023 – 9 April 2024 Regulatory and Community Safety Committee Link to decision														
Hearings																

Area of work and Lead Department	Pūnga / Reason for work	Committee role (whakatau / decision and/or tika / direction)	Expected timeframes Highlight the month(s) this is expected to come to committee in 2025												
			Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
Objection hearings under section 181 of the Local Government Act	The committee hears and determines objections to proposed stormwater works on private properties pursuant to section 181 of the Local Government Act 2002.	Hear and determine the objections according to clause 1(e) of Schedule 12 of the Local Government Act 2022. Hearings will be undertaken by the committee as the need arises. Progress to date: Objection to stormwater works at 116A Forrest Hill Road – 4 February 2025 at the Regulatory and Safety Committee Link to decision Objection to stormwater works at 78 Onewa Road – 4 February 2025 at the Regulatory and Safety Committee Link to decision												As required	
Objections under section 22 of the Dog Control Act 1996	The committee hears and determines objections to the probationary classification of dog owners pursuant to section 22(1) of the Dog Control Act 1996.	Hear and determine the objections according to sections 22(3) and 22(4) of the Dog Control Act 1996. Hearings will be undertaken by the committee as the need arises.													As required
Objections under section 26 of the Dog Control Act 1996	The committee hears and determines objections to the disqualification of persons to own dogs pursuant to section 26(1) of the Dog Control Act 1996.	Hear and determine the objections according to sections 26(3) and 26(4) of the Dog Control Act 1996. Hearings will be undertaken by the committee as the need arises.													As required
Objections under section 31 of the Dog Control Act 1996	The committee hears and determines objections to the dangerous classification of dogs pursuant to section 31(3) of the Dog Control Act 1996.	Hear and determine the objections according to section 31(4) of the Dog Control Act 1996. Hearings will be undertaken by the committee as the need arises.													As required
Objections under section 33B of the Dog Control Act 1996	The committee hears and determines objections to the menacing classification of dogs by deed pursuant to section 33B(1) of the Dog Control Act 1996.	Hear and determine the objections according to section 33B(2) of the Dog Control Act 1996. Hearings will be undertaken by the committee as the need arises.													As required
Objections under section 33D of the Dog Control Act 1996	The committee hears and determines objections to the menacing classification of dogs by breed pursuant to section 33D(1) of the Dog Control Act 1996.	Hear and determine the objections according to section 33D(3) of the Dog Control Act 1996. Hearings will be undertaken by the committee as the need arises.													As required
Objections under section 55 of the Dog Control Act 1996	The committee hears and determines objections to the issue of nuisance abatement notices for barking dogs pursuant to section 55(2) of the Dog Control Act 1996.	Hear and determine the objections according to section 55(3) of the Dog Control Act 1996. Hearings will be undertaken by the committee as the need arises.													As required

Completed

Item 11

Attachment A

Area of work and Lead Department	Pūnga / Reason for work	Committee role (whakatau / decision and/or tika / direction)	Whakatau / Decision
Air Quality Bylaw for Indoor Domestic Fires Community and Social Policy	This Bylaw sets standards for indoor domestic fires and what may be burnt in them. New Bylaw must be made by 25 May 2024 to avoid a regulatory gap.	Decision on key components of a new bylaw (April) to recommend a proposal and appoint a Bylaw Panel (June) Progress to date: Options in response to review of Indoor Domestic Fires Bylaw – 4 April 2023 at the Regulatory and Safety Committee It was recommended that the bylaw be allowed to expire as it added no regulatory value. Link to decision	whakaae / approve allowing the Auckland Council Air Quality Bylaw for Indoor Domestic Fires 2017 to expire on 25 May 2024. Link to decision
Signage at off-license premises Community and Social Policy	To investigate regulatory options to restrict the size, number, content and marketing of alcohol on signage and the use of neutral colours on buildings associated with off-license premises and visible from a council controlled public place.	Decision on preferred regulatory option in relation to signs at off-license premises and determination of next steps. Progress to date: Signage Bylaw 2015 Review High-Level Options Report – 13 October 2020 at the Regulatory Committee Link to decision Findings from further investigation of regulatory options to reduce alcohol signage outside off-license premises – 27 June 2023 at the Regulatory and Safety Committee Link to decision.	a) whakaae / agree to the key findings in the ‘Report on further investigation of regulatory options to reduce alcohol advertising outside off-licence premises’ in Attachment A of this agenda report. b) ohia / endorse the Auckland District Licensing Committee Practice Note on off-licence advertising as the most appropriate option to reduce alcohol advertising outside off-licence premises as detailed in Option three of this agenda report. c) request the Auckland District Licensing Committee consider adding to their Practice note on off-license advertising the following: i) require that all alcohol signage comply with the Advertising Standard Authority code ii) clarify that the stricter rule will apply where there is any conflict between the signage Bylaw and the 25% façade limit d) tuhi ā-taipitopito / note that including discretionary conditions about alcohol advertising outside off-licence premises can be considered during the first statutory review of the Auckland Local Alcohol Policy, if and when it becomes operative.
Waste Management and Minimisation Bylaw Control Community and Social Policy	To review the kerbside collection rules for waste management and minimisation.	Decision on form of updated bylaw control and whether formal public consultation is required. Progress to date: New Wase Management and Minimisation Bylaw Control – 5 December 2023 at the Regulatory and Community Safety Committee Link to decision	

Area of work and Lead Department	Pūnga / Reason for work	Committee role (whakatau / decision and/or tika / direction)	Whakatau / Decision
<p>Traffic Bylaw Review Policy, Planning and Governance</p>	<p>To review the bylaw that regulates the use of vehicles on council-controlled land that is not part of the Auckland transport system, like parks and beaches.</p> <p>NB: This Bylaw was made solely under the Land Transport Act 1998 and does not expire.</p> <p>This is a joint project led by Auckland Transport to create a single traffic bylaw for Auckland.</p>	<p>Decision on whether a bylaw is still needed to confirm, amend, replace or revoke the bylaw. If required, recommend a proposal and appoint a Bylaw Panel.</p> <p>Progress to date:</p> <p>Initiation of Bylaw Reviews in 2020 – 18 February 2020 at the Regulatory Committee Link to decision</p> <p><i>Process and timeline clarified with Auckland Transport.</i></p> <p><i>Combined draft findings, options and proposal report scheduled for Mid-2024 for endorsement to seek local board views. Report on recommended proposal scheduled for 3rd Quarter 2024.</i></p> <p>Findings from joint review of Auckland's traffic-related bylaws – 2 July 2024 at the Regulatory and Community Safety Committee Link to decision</p> <p><i>Staff to prepare a report in response to the findings that develops options and a proposal to improve the regulation of vehicle use and parking in Auckland in a collaboration led by Auckland Transport</i></p> <p>Proposed joint traffic-related bylaw for Auckland - 8 October 2024 at the Regulatory and Safety Committee Link to decision</p> <p>Completed on 8 October 2024. Link to decision</p>	

Area of work and Lead Department	Pūnga / Reason for work	Committee role (whakatau / decision and/or tika / direction)	Whakatau / Decision
Cemeteries and Crematoria Bylaw Control Policy, Planning and Governance	To review the rules to manage activities at council cemeteries and crematoria relating to burial, cremation, disinterment, built structures and record-keeping under the Cemeteries and Crematoria Bylaw 2014.	Decision on whether a bylaw (and code) is still needed to confirm, amend, replace or revoke the bylaw. If required, recommend a proposal and appoint a Bylaw Panel. Progress to date: Recommendations from Regulatory Committee, Proposal to amend the Cemeteries and Crematoria Bylaw 2014 – 24 September 2020 at the Governing Body Link to decision Cemeteries and Crematoria Bylaw 2014: Bylaw Panel report – 22 October 2021 at the Governing Body Link to decision Proposal to Initiation of bylaw projects in 2022 - 8 March 2022 at the Regulatory Committee Link to decision Findings from 2024 Review of Council's Cemetery Bylaw and Code. – 2 July 2024 at the Regulatory and Community Safety Committee Link to decision <i>Decision to endorse the findings, start the statutory review, and prepare a report in response to the findings that completes a statutory bylaw review, develops options for improvements, and includes a proposal on the preferred option.</i> Proposed amended Bylaw – 3 December 2024 at the Regulatory and Safety Committee Link to decision Completed on 3 December 2024 Link to decision	
Dog Policy and Bylaw Review Community and Social Policy	To review the Policy and Bylaw on dogs that regulates the keeping and control of dogs in Auckland.	Decision on whether policy fit for purpose and whether a bylaw is still needed to confirm, amend, replace or revoke the bylaw. If required, recommend a proposal and appoint a Panel. Progress to date: Start of gambling and dog policy/bylaw reviews – 5 September 2023 at the Regulatory and Community Safety Committee Link to decision Findings from review of Council's policy and bylaw on dogs – 2 July 2025 at the Regulatory and Community Safety Committee Link to decision <i>Prepare options report and proposal on improvements in response to the findings for consultation in 2025.</i> Proposed amended Policy and Bylaw – 3 December 2024 at the Regulatory and Safety Committee Link to decision Completed on 3 December 2024 Link to decision	

Last edited 01/04/25

