New Zealand Drowning Statistics Summary



Drowning data is sourced from Water Safety New Zealand's DrownBase[™] and the figures provided are provisional as at 05/01/2015.

The following information relates to drowning deaths in New Zealand between 1 January 2014 –31 December 2014 and the five year average between 1 January 2009 – 31 December 2013.

• There were 90 drowning deaths in 2014. This is compared with 107 in 2013.

Environment	2014	2013	5 year average (2009-2013)
Beaches	11	22	23
Domestic	6	8	8
Home Pools	3	4	4
Inland Still Waters	18	9	13
Offshore	16	16	17
Public Pools	2	5	2
Rivers	20	26	26
Tidal Waters	14	17	15
Total	90	107	108

• The tables set out below provide further information required:

Ethnicity	2014	2013	5 year average (2009-2013)
Asian	10	10	9
Maori	19	21	22
New Zealand European	38	52	56
Other Nationality	14	11	8
Pacific Peoples	6	7	9
Unknown	3	6	4
Total	90	107	108

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Age Group	2014	2013	5 year average (2009-2013)
00-04	8	5	7
05-14	4	6	3
15-24	18	22	19
25-34	11	10	13
35-44	11	15	16
45-54	9	17	19
55-64	15	10	14
65+	14	22	17
Total	90	107	108

Regions	2014	2013	5 year average (2009-2013)
Auckland	14	18	14
Bay of Plenty	7	12	7
Canterbury	4	7	4
Gisborne	2	1	2
Hawkes Bay	6	6	6
Manawatu-Wanganui	4	6	4
Marlborough	-	7	-
Northland	12	14	12
Otago	6	7	6
Southland	7	3	7
Taranaki	-	2	-
Tasman	3	1	3
Waikato	14	11	14
Wellington	7	6	7
West Coast	4	6	4
Total	90	107	90

Gender	2014	2013	5 year average (2009-2013)
Female	21	26	22
Male	69	81	86
Total	90	107	108

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Activity	2014	2013	5 year average (2009-2013)
Immersion Incident	30	23	26
Land Based Fishing	5	9	8
Non-Powered Boat	4	3	6
Occupational Related	-	2	1
Other Activities*	16	28	26
Powered Boat	10	8	11
Sailing	5	3	1
Underwater	4	4	7
Unknown	1	2	1
Water Sport/Recreation	4	4	5
Swimming	11	21	16
Total	90	107	108

*Other activities refers to road vehicle accidents, suicides etc.

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