

New Zealand Drowning Statistics Summary



Drowning data is sourced from Water Safety New Zealand's DrownBase™ and the figures provided are provisional as at 09/01/2017.

The following information relates to drowning deaths in New Zealand between 1 January 2016 – 31 December 2016 and the five year average between 1 January 2011 – 31 December 2015.

- There were 81 preventable drowning deaths in 2016. This is compared with 86 in 2015 and the five year average of 81.

Preventable fatalities include recreational and non-recreational drowning deaths. They do not include those fatalities classified as 'other' (arising as a result of road or air vehicle accidents, homicide, suicide or of unknown origin) as these are not considered applicable to the prevention and rescue efforts of the water safety sector

- New Zealand's total per 100,000 preventable drowning death rate for 2016 is 1.8, this is the same as the 5 year per 100,000 rate of 1.9.
- The tables set out below provide further information on preventable drowning deaths:

Environment	2016 preventable	2015 preventable	5 year average preventable (2011-2015)
Beaches	21	20	18
Domestic	4	5	5
Home Pools	1	1	3
Inland Still Waters	1	7	10
Offshore	12	21	18
Public Pools	2	-	2
Rivers	24	18	15
Tidal Waters	16	14	10
Total	81	86	81*

**Note: five year average might not total 81 due to rounding*

Gender	2016 preventable	2015 preventable	5 year average preventable (2011-2015)
Female	12	17	14
Male	69	69	67
Total	81	86	81*

**Note: five year average might not total 81 due to rounding*

Water Safety New Zealand (WSNZ) gives no warranty as to the correctness of the information or the data provided as it is supplied to WSNZ by third parties not under its control. While WSNZ is satisfied as to its accuracy for the purposes for which it is supplied to it, WSNZ shall not be liable for any loss or damage arising directly or indirectly from the use of any data supplied. All reported statistics are provisional.

Activity	2016 preventable	2015 preventable	5 year average preventable (2011-2015)
Immersion Incident	23	30	28
Land Based Fishing	5	4	7
Non-Powered Boat	3	8	5
Occupational Related	2	3	2
Powered Boat	14	10	11
Sailing	-	1	2
Underwater	6	9	6
Water Sport/Recreation	6	5	4
Swimming	22	16	16
Total	81	86	81*

**Note: five year average might not total 81 due to rounding*

Ethnicity	2016 preventable	2015 preventable	5 year average preventable (2011-2015)
Asian	4	14	10
Maori	17	18	19
New Zealand European	33	43	37
Other Nationality	13	3	6
Pacific Peoples	13	8	8
Unknown	1	-	2
Total	81	86	81*

**Note: five year average might not total 81 due to rounding*

Age Group	2016 preventable	2015 preventable	5 year average preventable (2011-2015)
00-04	3	3	6
05-14	3	1	3
15-24	14	19	14
25-34	11	10	10
35-44	12	13	12
45-54	17	10	11
55-64	11	16	12
65+	10	14	12
Total	81	86	81*

**Note: five year average might not total 81 due to rounding*

Water Safety New Zealand (WSNZ) gives no warranty as to the correctness of the information or the data provided as it is supplied to WSNZ by third parties not under its control. While WSNZ is satisfied as to its accuracy for the purposes for which it is supplied to it, WSNZ shall not be liable for any loss or damage arising directly or indirectly from the use of any data supplied. All reported statistics are provisional.

Regions	2016 preventable	2015 preventable	5 year average preventable (2011-2015)
Auckland	12	10	15
Bay of Plenty	8	6	8
Canterbury	1	11	6
Gisborne	-	4	2
Hawkes Bay	6	3	3
Manawatu-Wanganui	3	4	4
Marlborough	1	1	2
Northland	17	11	10
Otago	2	4	4
Southland	4	5	5
Taranaki	4	3	2
Tasman	2	-	2
Waikato	17	13	11
Wellington	1	10	6
West Coast	3	1	2
Total	81	86	81*

**Note: five year average might not total 81 due to rounding*

Water Safety New Zealand (WSNZ) gives no warranty as to the correctness of the information or the data provided as it is supplied to WSNZ by third parties not under its control. While WSNZ is satisfied as to its accuracy for the purposes for which it is supplied to it, WSNZ shall not be liable for any loss or damage arising directly or indirectly from the use of any data supplied. All reported statistics are provisional.