

Drowning Fact Sheet

Age Group – 65+ Years



The following facts represent fatal drownings of 65+ year olds in New Zealand from 2006-2010.

All data is sourced from Water Safety New Zealand's DrownBase™.

Drownings by Age Group – 65+ Years

Activity	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Total
Recreational	6	6	6	7	9	34
Non-Recreational	9	6	5	5	6	31
Total	15	12	11	12	15	65

- 16% of total drowning victims are aged 65+ years.
- 73% of 65+ year old victims are Male.
- 6% of 65+ year old drownings involved Alcohol.
- 40% of 65+ year old drownings occurred from a Recreational activity.
- Activity Breakdown
 - 48% Immersion Incident
 - 19% Water Sport / Recreation
 - 22% Boating
 - 6% Underwater Activities
 - 5% Land Based Fishing
- Environment Breakdown
 - 28% Beaches (eg. Surf, calm water beaches or rocky foreshores)
 - 32% Rivers (eg. Rivers, streams or creeks)
 - 14% Tidal Waters (eg. Estuary, harbour, river/harbour bar or marina)
 - 11% Offshore (eg. 0-1, 1-5 or 5+ Km from Shore)
 - 6% Home Pools (eg. Home, spa or portable pools)
 - 3% Domestic (eg. Baths or buckets)
 - 6% Inland Still Waters (eg. Lakes, ponds, drains or other waters)
- Ethnic Breakdown
 - 66% NZ European
 - 13% Maori
 - 8% Asian
 - 3% Other Nationalities
 - 10% Unknown

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