

NZ drowning fatalities 2020 YTD



Drowning data is sourced from Water Safety New Zealand's DrownBase™ and the figures provided are provisional as at 20/03/20

- There have been 34 preventable drowning deaths within New Zealand in the year to date (20 Mar 2020).

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.

- At the same time last year, there had been 24 preventable drowning deaths.
- There have been a total of 406 preventable drowning deaths within New Zealand for the five year period 1 January 2015 – 31 December 2019. This is a five year average of 81* preventable fatalities per year.
- The tables below show more information:

Gender	NZ fatalities five year avg 2015-2019	NZ fatalities 2019 YTD	NZ fatalities 2020 YTD
PREVENTABLE			
Female	16	3	5
Male	65	21	29
Total Preventable	81*	24	34

NON-PREVENTABLE			
Female	7	1	1
Male	15	2	2
Total Non-preventable	22*	3	3

TOTAL			
Female	23	4	6
Male	81	23	31
Total	103*	27	37

** Totals may not equal due to rounding*

Age Group	NZ fatalities five year avg 2015-2019	NZ fatalities 2019 YTD	NZ fatalities 2020 YTD
PREVENTABLE			
00 - 04	5	4	0
05 - 14	2	1	4
15 - 24	14	5	7
25 - 34	12	5	3
35 - 44	11	3	3
45 - 54	12	3	4
55 - 64	11	2	7
65+	13	1	6
Total Preventable	81*	24	34

NON-PREVENTABLE			
00 - 04	1	0	0
05 - 14	1	0	0
15 - 24	2	0	0
25 - 34	4	1	0
35 - 44	2	1	1
45 - 54	3	0	0
55 - 64	4	0	1
65+	6	1	1
Total Non-preventable	22*	3	3

TOTAL			
00 - 04	5	4	0
05 - 14	3	1	4
15 - 24	16	5	7
25 - 34	16	6	3
35 - 44	14	4	4
45 - 54	15	3	4
55 - 64	15	2	8
65+	19	2	7
Total	103*	27	37

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Ethnicity	NZ fatalities five year avg 2015-2019	NZ fatalities 2019 YTD	NZ fatalities 2020 YTD
PREVENTABLE			
Asian	11	6	3
Maori	16	6	4
NZ European	38	5	8
Other	6	0	7
Pacific Peoples	8	2	4
Unknown	3	5	8
Total Preventable	81*	24	34

NON-PREVENTABLE			
Asian	2	0	0
Maori	4	0	1
NZ European	13	1	2
Other	3	2	0
Pacific Peoples	0	0	0
Unknown	0	0	0
Total Non-preventable	22*	3	3

TOTAL			
Asian	13	6	3
Maori	20	6	5
NZ European	51	6	10
Other	9	2	7
Pacific Peoples	8	2	4
Unknown	3	5	8
Total	103*	27	37

** Totals may not equal due to rounding*

Environment		NZ fatalities five year avg 2015-2019	NZ fatalities 2019 YTD	NZ fatalities 2020 YTD
PREVENTABLE				
Beaches		22	11	12
Domestic	Bath	4	0	1
	Domestic Location	0	0	0
Home Pools		4	1	1
Inland Still Waters	Drains	1	0	0
	Lakes	4	0	2
	Other Waters	1	2	0
	Ponds	2	0	0
Offshore		12	1	2
Public Pools		1	0	0
Rivers		17	7	13
Tidal Waters	Estuary	1	1	0
	Harbour	5	1	3
	Marinas	2	0	0
	River/Harbour Bar	5	0	0
Total Preventable		81*	24	34

NON-PREVENTABLE				
Beaches		4	1	0
Domestic	Bath	0	0	0
	Domestic Location	0	0	0
Home Pools		1	0	0
Inland Still Waters	Drains	2	0	1
	Lakes	1	0	1
	Other Waters	0	0	0
	Ponds	1	0	0
Offshore		1	1	0
Public Pools		0	0	0
Rivers		10	1	0
Tidal Waters	Estuary	1	0	0
	Harbour	1	0	1
	Marinas	1	0	0
	River/Harbour Bar	0	0	0
Total Non-preventable		22*	3	3

** Totals may not equal due to rounding*

Environment		NZ fatalities five year avg 2015-2019	NZ fatalities 2019 YTD	NZ fatalities 2020 YTD
TOTAL				
Beaches		25	12	12
Domestic	Bath	4	0	1
	Domestic Location	0	0	0
Home Pools		5	1	1
Inland Still Waters	Drains	2	0	1
	Lakes	5	0	3
	Other Waters	1	2	0
	Ponds	2	0	0
Offshore		13	2	2
Public Pools		1	0	0
Rivers		28	8	13
Tidal Waters	Estuary	2	1	0
	Harbour	6	1	4
	Marinas	2	0	0
	River/Harbour Bar	5	0	0
Total		103*	27	37

** Totals may not equal due to rounding*

Activity		NZ fatalities five year avg 2015-2019	NZ fatalities 2019 YTD	NZ fatalities 2020 YTD
PREVENTABLE				
Immersion Incident	Accidental Immersion	26	5	6
	Flood/Civil Emergency	0	0	0
	Rescuing Others	2	0	2
Land Based Fishing	Angling	5	3	1
	Net Fishing	1	1	0
	Shellfishing	1	0	0
Non Powered Boat	Canoeing	0	0	0
	Kayaking	2	0	2
	Rafting	1	0	1
	Rowing Craft / Dinghy	1	1	1
	Stand Up Paddle Boarding	0	1	0
Occupational Related		1	0	0
Powered Boat	Jet Boat	1	0	0
	Jet Skis	1	0	0
	Over 4m	6	0	1
	Under 4m	3	0	1
Sailing		2	0	0
Underwater	Free Diving	4	2	0
	Scuba Diving	3	1	1
	Snorkelling	1	1	3
Water Sport / Recreation	Board Riding	1	0	0
	Boogie Boarding	0	0	0
	Diving / Jumping	2	0	1
	Other Recreation	0	0	1
	Swimming	18	9	13
	Tubing / Canyoning	0	0	0
	Water Skiing	0	0	0
Total Preventable		81*	24*	34*

NON-PREVENTABLE				
Other Activities**		22	3	3
Total Non-preventable		22*	3	3

* Totals may not equal due to rounding

** Other activities includes road and air vehicles, suicides, homicides and unknown

Activity		NZ fatalities five year avg 2015-2019	NZ fatalities 2019 YTD	NZ fatalities 2020 YTD
TOTAL				
Immersion Incident	Accidental Immersion	26	5	6
	Flood / Civil Emergency	0	0	0
	Rescuing Others	2	0	2
Land Based Fishing	Angling	5	3	1
	Net Fishing	1	1	0
	Shellfishing	1	0	0
Non Powered Boat	Canoeing	0	0	0
	Kayaking	2	0	2
	Rafting	1	0	1
	Rowing Craft / Dinghy	1	1	1
	Stand Up Paddle Boarding	0	1	0
Occupational Related		1	0	0
Other Activities**		22	3	3
Powered Boat	Jet Boat	1	0	0
	Jet Skis	1	0	0
	Over 4m	6	0	1
	Under 4m	3	0	1
Sailing		2	0	0
Underwater	Free Diving	4	2	0
	Scuba Diving	3	1	1
	Snorkelling	1	1	3
Water Sport / Recreation	Board Riding	1	0	0
	Boogie Boarding	0	0	0
	Diving / Jumping	2	0	1
	Other Recreation	0	0	1
	Swimming	18	9	13
	Tubing / Canyoning	0	0	0
	Water Skiing	0	0	0
Total		103*	27	37

Region	NZ fatalities five year avg 2015-2019	NZ fatalities 2019 YTD	NZ fatalities 2020 YTD
PREVENTABLE			
Auckland	18	6	7
Bay of Plenty	7	0	4
Canterbury	7	1	2
Gisborne	2	0	0
Hawke's Bay	4	0	2
Manawatu-Wanganui	2	1	2
Marlborough	1	0	0
Northland	10	6	3
Otago	4	2	4
Southland	4	4	1
Taranaki	2	0	1
Tasman	2	0	1
Waikato	10	2	2
Wellington	6	2	3
West Coast	3	0	2
Total Preventable	81*	24	34

NON-PREVENTABLE			
Auckland	4	1	0
Bay of Plenty	2	1	0
Canterbury	2	0	0
Gisborne	0	0	0
Hawke's Bay	0	0	0
Manawatu-Wanganui	1	0	0
Marlborough	0	0	0
Northland	2	1	0
Otago	1	0	1
Southland	1	0	0
Taranaki	0	0	1
Tasman	1	0	0
Waikato	4	0	1
Wellington	1	0	0
West Coast	1	0	0
Total Non-preventable	22*	3	3

** Totals may not equal due to rounding*

Region	NZ fatalities five year avg 2015-2019	NZ fatalities 2019 YTD	NZ fatalities 2020 YTD
TOTAL			
Auckland	22	7	7
Bay of Plenty	10	1	4
Canterbury	9	1	2
Gisborne	2	0	0
Hawke's Bay	4	0	2
Manawatu-Wanganui	3	1	2
Marlborough	1	0	0
Northland	12	7	3
Otago	6	2	5
Southland	5	4	1
Taranaki	3	0	2
Tasman	2	0	1
Waikato	14	2	3
Wellington	7	2	3
West Coast	4	0	2
Total	103*	27	37

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