

There were **86 drowning incidents** recorded in the Midwest region

There were
40
drowning
deaths

and
46
hospital
admissions

a rate of 12.9 drownings per 100,000

it has the
#2
drowning
rate in WA

Males (189.4/100,000) were **3.2 times more likely to drown** than females (60.2/100,000)

76.7% of those who drowned in Midwest were male

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Top 3 local areas (per 100,000)

405.5 Shire of Exmouth

(271.0) Shire of Shark Bay

177.2 Shire of Coorow

Top 3 locations (%)

50.0 Ocean/Harbour

37.5 Beach

5.0 River/Creek

Top 3 activities (%)

26.9 Fishing

26.9 Diving

25.0 Boating





Of these, **72.7%**were from a non-English speaking country

Overall, 11.6% of people who drowned were Aboriginal, with drowning rates similar for both Aboriginal Australians (12.1/100,000) and non-Aboriginal Australians (13.0/100,000).

Tourists and/or visitors to the area were involved in 52.5% of fatal drowning incidents, which is higher than the state average (31.8%).

Rescue Attempted (57.5%) CPR performed (52.5%)

Av. length of hospital stay (non-fatal)

1.5 days



Drowning risk was greatest amongst toddlers, older adults, and young people

(Rate per 100,000)

26.1 Toddlers (0-4 years)

5.6 Children (5-14 years)

15.2 Young People (15-24 years)

11.8 Adults (25-64 years)

15.3 Older Adults (65+ years)

High-risk times for drowning



33.7% Summer months



60.0%Weekdays
5.0% Public Holiday



45.0% Mornings 6AM - 12PM

Key risk factors for drowning

> 77.5% Remoteness of location

> **47.5%** Environmental factors such as poor weather/water conditions

> 47.5% Medical condition

42.5% Low socio-economic status

> **30.0%** Participating at unfamiliar locations

> **35.0%** Participating alone

> 22.5% Lack of safety equipment including lifejacket use

> 15.0% Injury

> 15.0% Inexperience with activity

> 12.5% Poor swimming ability

> **7.5%** Consumption of alcohol (BAC >0.05)

> **7.5%** Consumption of diconol (BAC > 0.0)
> **2.5%** Lack of supervision

> 2.5% Faulty or absent barrier

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