

AUSTRALIA

POPULATION^c

26 451 124

INCOME GROUP^d

High income

GROSS NATIONAL INCOME PER CAPITA

63 140

^c UN World Population Prospects (2023)^d World Bank Income Groups

REPORTED FATALITIES (YEAR)^a:

351 (2023)

WHO ESTIMATED DROWNING FATALITIES (YEAR)^b: 200 (2021)

WHO ESTIMATED DEATH RATE PER

100 000 POPULATION (YEAR)^b:

0.8 (2021)

^a Data from Royal Life Saving Society - Australia^b Data from WHO Global Health Estimates. Numbers of deaths have been rounded according to the following scheme: < 100 rounded to nearest 1; 100–999 rounded to nearest 10; 1000–9999 rounded to nearest 100; and ≥ 10 000 rounded to nearest 1000.

GOVERNANCE AND COORDINATION

NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR DROWNING PREVENTION



NATIONAL DROWNING PREVENTION STRATEGY



NATIONAL COORDINATION MECHANISM FOR DROWNING PREVENTION



GOVERNMENT SECTORS CONTRIBUTING TO DROWNING PREVENTION:

Health | Police | Transport | Maritime Safety | Disaster Risk Reduction | Sport and Leisure | Education | Tourism | Military / Coastguard | Fisheries | Emergency Management

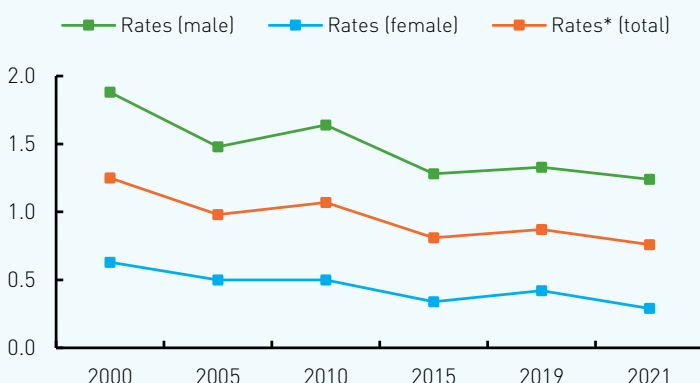
NON-GOVERNMENT SECTORS CONTRIBUTING TO DROWNING PREVENTION:

Lifesaving organizations | Swimming associations | Research organizations | Search and rescue organizations | Fisher associations | KidSafe | FarmSafe | Emergency service providers | Indigenous land and sea managers

POLICY AND LEGISLATION

Policy for disaster risk management which specifies drowning	NATIONAL
Legislation for fencing around private swimming pools	SUB-NATIONAL
Legislation for fencing around public swimming pools	NATIONAL
Legislation to ensure safety of domestic passenger water transport	NATIONAL
Legislation mandating lifejacket use when boating	SUB-NATIONAL
Regulations preventing alcohol consumption and/or sales near public waterbodies	SUB-NATIONAL

RATE OF DROWNING DEATHS OVER TIME



* Rate = age standardized death rate

Source: Global Health Estimates Data, 2000–2021

DATA

DROWNING DEATHS CAPTURED IN VITAL REGISTRY SYSTEM



MOST DETAILED NATIONAL DATA SOURCE CAPTURES:

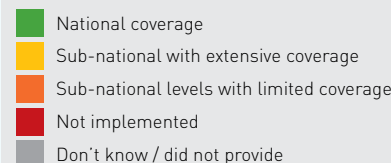
Age of victim	✓	Sex of victim	✓
Type of water body	✓	Activity at time of drowning	✓

INTERVENTIONS

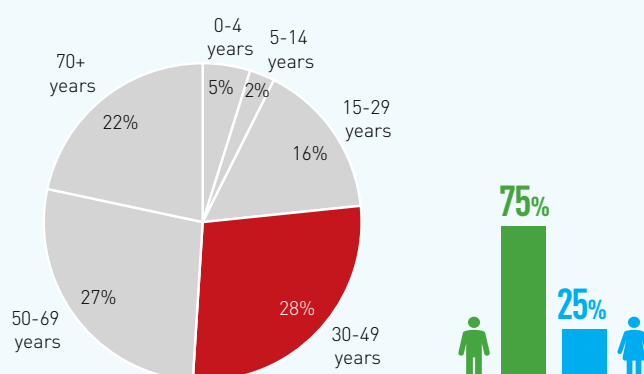
Daycare services provided for pre-school children	■
Swimming and water safety included in school curriculum	■
Barriers installed to limit access to water	■
Lifeguards present at public swimming venues	■
Rescue and resuscitation training programmes available	■
Operational search and rescue service present	■
Free weather alerts available	■
Operational disaster warning systems	■
Community resilience for managing flood risk exists	■
Community disaster resilience programs exist which specify drowning	■

AWARENESS RAISING

Drowning prevention mass media campaigns	■
Campaigns on child safety	■
Campaigns highlighting the dangers of consuming alcohol before or during aquatic activities	■



SHARE OF DROWNING DEATHS BY AGE GROUP AND SEX



Source: Royal Life Saving Society - Australia (2023)