**PALAU**

**Population:** 18,008  
**Income group:** High  
**Gross national income per capita:** US$ 16,500 (2019)

**Does Palau Have a National Coordination Mechanism for Drowning Prevention?**

No

**Selected Sectors and Agencies Involved in Drowning Prevention:**

Ministry of Health | Ministry of Education | Police | National Emergency Management Office | Marine law enforcement | Ministry of Tourism | Red Cross | Koror (State) Rangers | Palau Swimming Association

**Interventions for Drowning Prevention**

### AVAILABLE | COVERAGE | EVALUATED

**Physical barriers**

**Swim skills training**

- MED

**Childcare**

- HIGH

**Public awareness on drowning**

- HIGH

**Manage flood risks**

- HIGH

**Disaster warning systems**

- HIGH

**Public awareness on alcohol and swimming/boating**

- MED

**Rescue and resuscitation**

- MED

**Lifeguards**

- HIGH

**Search and rescue**

- MED

**Maritime safety**

- HIGH

**Media**

- MED

**Sources of Drowning Data**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Drowning Captured</th>
<th>Vital registry</th>
<th>Verbal autopsy</th>
<th>Hospital admission data</th>
<th>Hospital emergency department data</th>
<th>Police</th>
<th>Transport sector</th>
<th>Education sector</th>
<th>Maritime safety</th>
<th>Coastguard</th>
<th>Tourism sector</th>
<th>National community survey</th>
<th>Media</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fatal</td>
<td>INFORMATION COLLECTED</td>
<td>INFORMATION COLLECTED*</td>
<td>NON-FATAL</td>
<td>INFORMATION COLLECTED*</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-fatal</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Drowning deaths in community settings are captured**

- NO

**Persons missing at sea are assumed to have died**

- NO

**Prosecution of neglect against children**

- YES

**Proportion of drowning deaths associated with alcohol**

- GHE data not available

**Strategy and Targets for Drowning Prevention**

**Does Palau Have a National Water Safety Strategy?**

No

**Are measurable targets to reduce drowning included?**

If yes, please specify:

- No response or not applicable

**Do these strategies align with relevant SDGs?**

- No response or not applicable

**Are plans underway, or is there interest, to develop a national water strategy?**

Yes

**Legislation and Regulation for Drowning Prevention**

### MARITIME SAFETY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mandated registration of watercraft</th>
<th>YES</th>
<th>-</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mandated licensing of watercraft</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mandated periodic safety inspections of watercraft</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mandated licensing of the operator</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individuals responsible for overall safety of watercraft</td>
<td>Owner/Operator/Crew</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**If yes, specify blood alcohol concentration limit:**

- 0.1 mg

**Restrictions on watercraft passenger capacity**

- YES

**Restrictions on watercraft load capacity**

- YES

**Mandated provision of lifejackets on board watercraft**

- YES

**Specific standard of lifejacket required**

- EN ISO 12402

**Specific number of lifejackets required**

- YES

**Watercraft often exempt from national maritime legislation:**

- Vessels that are not propelled by mechanical systems

**Child Safety**

**Fencing to exclude children from swimming pools**

- NO

**Swimming lessons in school curricula**

- NO

**Structured adult supervision of preschool children**

- YES

**Prosecution of neglect against children**

- YES

**Water Safety Competencies**

**Required competencies for swimming instructors**

- NO

**Required competencies for lifeguards**

- NO

**Disaster Risk Reduction**

**Private communication channels broadcast disaster warnings**

- YES

**Drowning Data**

- One agency maintains all vital registry statistics

**Share of Drowning Deaths by Age Group**

- GHE data not available

**Rate of Drowning Deaths**

- GHE data not available

---

*Data based on national consensus and cleared by the Ministry of Health.*