

DROWNING IN THE RIVERLAND (SOUTH AUSTRALIA)



ROYAL LIFE SAVING AUSTRALIA

> 20 year analysis 2002/03 to 2022/23

AGE BREAKDOWN



people have **fatally drowned** in the Riverland region, South Australia



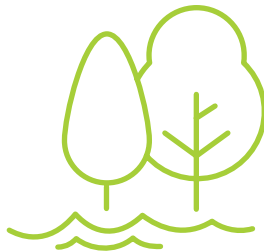
estimated **non-fatal drowning** incidents in the Riverland region

100% OF DROWNING DEATHS WERE MALES



In comparison, males account for approximately 80% of drowning deaths nationally

LOCATION OF DROWNING



94% IN A RIVER/CREEK

All except one occurred in the River Murray

ACTIVITY PRIOR TO DROWNING



41%
BOATING & WATERCRAFT



29%
SWIMMING & RECREATING

30%
OTHER

52%

of drowning deaths **occurred within 10km** of where the person lived.

16 of the 17 occurred in the river (not home) and the other occurred in a public pool (not home).

29%

of drowning incidents were people who **lived 100km or further away** (both intra- and inter-state visitors).

24%

of those who fatally drowned were known to be **born overseas**.

None were known to be international visitors or international students.

WHEN DOES DROWNING OCCUR?



41% IN THE SUMMER
41% IN THE SPRING



24% OCCURRED
ON A TUESDAY



53% IN THE
AFTERNOON
(12:01PM TO 6PM)

LEADING RISK FACTORS



36%
RECORDED PRESENCE
OF ALCOHOL



29%
RECORDED A
PRE-EXISTING
MEDICAL CONDITION



18%
OCCURRED AT NIGHT
(EVENING OR
EARLY MORNING)



SWIMMING ABILITY WAS
UNKNOWN IN ALL CASES,
EXCEPT 1, THOUGHT TO
BE A STRONG SWIMMER



BOATING AND WATERCRAFT DROWNING DEATHS:

100% WERE NOT WEARING A LIFEJACKET
29% OCCURRED WHEN ON A HOUSEBOAT