

Child Drowning Deaths, Australia

Data published in the 2009 Royal Life Saving National Drowning Report showed that there were 50 children aged 0-17 years who drowned in Australia in the 12 months to June 30, 2009, nearly two thirds (64%) of whom were under 5 years of age.

Thirty two children aged 0-4 years drowned in 2008/9, which is consistent with the average over the last five years.

Of the 32 children under five who drowned:

- almost 60% lost their lives in a swimming pool
- the majority had fallen or wandered into the water

Drowning in children under five has more than halved since 1999¹.

¹ Royal Life Saving Society Australia. National Drowning Report.