



Injury Fatalities by Territorial Local Authority Regions in New Zealand 2002

This factsheet presents data on injury deaths including numbers, rates and the three leading causes for 73 of the 74 Territorial Local Authorities (TLAs) excluding the Chatham Islands in New Zealand. The data for injury deaths were sourced via the Injury Prevention Research Unit from the New Zealand Health Information Service for the year 2002 (the most recent year for which injury death data were available). Percentage figures for leading causes are provided where available. This factsheet should be read alongside factsheet 9 which shows fatalities due to injuries by TLAs for the period 2000-2001 to allow for a comparison in the rates for each TLA.

- ⇒ In 2002, 1,604 New Zealanders died as the result of an injury.
- ⇒ Motor vehicle traffic crashes were the leading cause of injury deaths for TLAs (n=34).
- ⇒ The second cause of injury death across the TLAs was falls (n=18).
- ⇒ Rates on injury fatalities varied considerably across the TLA regions with Mackenzie District Council with no deaths recorded and Westland District Council having the highest injury fatality rate (125.94).

Fatalities due to injuries by Territorial Local Authorities [TLAs], including rates & leading causes in ascending order of rates 2002

Territorial Local Authorities	Number of Injury Deaths	Rate per 100,000 person years	Leading Cause of Injury Death	Second Cause of Injury Death	Third Cause of Injury Death
Mackenzie	0				
South Wairarapa	1	11.19	Motor Vehicle Traffic: 100%		
Waimate	1	13.98	Motor Vehicle Traffic: 100%		
Clutha	3	17.14	Fire/Hot object or substance: 33%	Poisoning: 33%	Struck by or against: 33%
Wairoa	2	22.00	Natural/Environmental: 50%	Other Specified: 50%	
Kaikoura	1	27.85	Falls: 100%		
Wellington	49	28.06	Falls: 39%	Poisoning: 16%	Motor Vehicle Traffic: 24% Drowning: 24% Suicide: 24%
Lower Hutt	28	28.11	Suicide: 29%	Falls: 25%	Poisoning: 21%
South Taranaki	8	28.46	Motor Vehicle Traffic: 50%	Drowning	Firearms
Western Bay of Plenty	12	30.07	Motor Vehicle Traffic: 25%	Falls	Poisoning
Tauranga	29	30.33	Poisoning: 24%	Suicide: 6%	Falls: 6%

Territorial Local Authorities	Number of Injury Deaths	Rate per 100,000 person years	Leading Cause of Injury Death	Second Cause of Injury Death	Third Cause of Injury Death
Waitakere	55	30.43	Suicide: 31%	Motor Vehicle Traffic: 27%	Poisoning: 9%
Auckland	124	30.88	Falls: 34%	Motor Vehicle Traffic: 17%	Poisoning: 16%
Waitomo	3	30.95	Machinery: 33%	Falls: 33%	Drowning: 33%
North Shore	62	31.17	Motor Vehicle Traffic: 26%	Falls: 21%	Poisoning: 15% Suicide: 15%
Hamilton	39	31.57	Suicide: 23%	Poisoning: 18%	Falls: 15%
Upper Hutt	12	31.83	Poisoning: 33.33%	Motor Vehicle Traffic: 25%	Suicide
Dunedin	39	32.41	Falls: 38%	Poisoning: 23%	Motor Vehicle Traffic: 13%
Rangitikei	5	32.67	Motor Vehicle Traffic	Falls	Poisoning
Tararua	6	33.05	Firearms	Motor Vehicle Traffic	Poisoning
Waimakariri	13	33.50	Motor Vehicle Traffic: 38%	Poisoning: 23%	Falls: 23%
South Waikato	8	33.61	Falls	Poisoning	Other Transport
Manukau	104	33.84	Suicide: 25%	Motor Vehicle Traffic: 21%	Poisoning: 12%
Franklin	19	34.99	Motor Vehicle Traffic: 47%	Drowning: 16%	Poisoning: 16%
Hauraki	6	35.08	Suicide	Falls	Poisoning
Hastings	25	35.61	Motor Vehicle Traffic: 24%	Falls: 16%	Poisoning: 16%
Christchurch	126	37.95	Falls: 23%	Suicide: 19%	Motor Vehicle Traffic: 16%
Waitaki	8	39.40	Falls	Suicide	Pedestrian, Other
Palmerston North	30	39.52	Poisoning: 30%	Falls: 23%	Motor Vehicle Traffic: 20%
Rodney	33	40.69	Motor Vehicle Traffic: 24%	Falls: 24%	Suicide: 15%
Southland	12	40.81	Motor Vehicle Traffic: 33%	Suicide: 25%	Other Land Transport
Nelson	18	41.37	Falls: 33%	Suicide: 17%	Poisoning
Otorohanga	4	41.75	Motor Vehicle Traffic	Drowning	Falls
Kawerau	3	41.84	Motor Vehicle Traffic	Firearms	
Ashburton	11	42.14	Firearms: 36%	Suicide	Other Land Transport
Carterton	3	42.67	Falls: 33%	Motor Vehicle Traffic: 30%	Pedestrian, other: 33%

Territorial Local Authorities	Number of Injury Deaths	Rate per 100,000 person years	Leading Cause of Injury Death	Second Cause of Injury Death	Third Cause of Injury Death
Masterton	10	42.91	Falls: 40%	Motor Vehicle Traffic: 30%	Other Transport
Tasman	19	43.67	Motor Vehicle Traffic: 32%	Falls: 16%	Poisoning
Papakura	19	44.49	Falls: 21%	Suicide: 21%	Motor Vehicle Traffic: 16%
Kaipara	8	44.56	Motor Vehicle Traffic: 62%	Other Land Transport	Machinery
Taupo	15	45.73	Motor Vehicle Traffic: 40%	Suicide: 20%	Falls: 20%
Horowhenua	14	45.75	Falls: 36%	Motor Vehicle Traffic: 21%	Suicide
Porirua	23	46.09	Suicide: 35%	Motor Vehicle Traffic: 17%	Drowning: 13% Falls: 13%
New Plymouth	32	46.57	Falls: 28%	Suicide: 19%	Motor Vehicle Traffic: 19%
Gore	6	47.43	Other Transport	Drowning	Motor Vehicle Traffic
Selwyn	14	47.94	Suicide: 36%	Motor Vehicle Traffic: 21%	Other Land Transport
Banks Peninsula	4	49.14	Suicide	Motor Vehicle Traffic	Other Transport
Waipa	20	49.50	Motor Vehicle Traffic: 35%	Falls: 15%	Other Land Transport: 15%
Kapiti Coast	22	49.54	Falls: 33%	Cut/Pierce: 18%	Motor Vehicle Traffic: 18%
Queenstown Lakes	10	51.94	Motor Vehicle Traffic: 30%	Suicide: 30%	Struck by or against
Napier	29	52.25	Suicide: 34%	Falls: 24%	Poisoning: 10%
Opotiki	5	52.35	Motor Vehicle Traffic: 60%	Suicide: 40%	
Manawatu	15	53.19	Motor Vehicle Traffic: 40%	Suicide: 20%	Poisoning
Whangarei	38	53.74	Motor Vehicle Traffic: 32%	Suicide: 24%	Falls: 11%
Thames/Coromandel	14	53.84	Falls: 29%	Suicide: 21%	Firearms
Ruapehu	8	54.98	Motor Vehicle Traffic: 30%	Suicide	Struck by or Against
Rotorua	37	55.05	Motor Vehicle Traffic: 30%	Suicide: 22%	Falls: 14%
Timaru	25	58.27	Falls: 32%	Motor Vehicle Traffic: 24%	Poisoning: 12%
Wanganui	26	58.82	Motor Vehicle Traffic: 19%	Poisoning: 19%	Falls: 19% Suicide: 19%
Matamata-Piako	18	59.40	Suicide: 33%	Motor Vehicle Traffic: 22%	Falls: 17%

Territorial Local Authorities	Number of Injury Deaths	Rate per 100,000 person years	Leading Cause of Injury Death	Second Cause of Injury Death	Third Cause of Injury Death
Gisborne	27	59.73	Falls: 26%	Motor Vehicle Traffic: 22%	Poisoning: 11% Suicide: 11% Other Land Transport: 11%
Far North	34	59.85	Motor Vehicle Traffic: 32%	Suicide: 18%	Falls: 15%
Invercargill	31	60.31	Motor Vehicle Traffic: 35%	Falls: 19%	Poisoning: 10%
Stratford	6	67.11	Motor Vehicle Traffic	Pedal Cyclist, Other	Other Land Transport
Waikato	28	67.14	Motor Vehicle Traffic: 39%	Suicide: 14%	Other Specified: 11%
Central Otago	10	67.56	Other Land Transport	Falls	Other Transport
Whakatane	23	67.64	Suicide: 30%	Motor Vehicle Traffic: 30%	Firearms
Central Hawkes Bay	9	68.18	Motor Vehicle Traffic: 56%	Other Specified	Falls
Grey	9	68.70	Falls: 56%	Motor Vehicle Traffic	Other Transport
Marlborough	31	75.42	Motor Vehicle Traffic: 35%	Poisoning: 19%	Suicide: 16%
Buller	8	81.96	Motor Vehicle Traffic: 50%	Cut/Pierce	Falls
Hurunui	10	97.08	Motor Vehicle Traffic: 50%	Falls: 30%	Drowning
Westland	10	125.94	Motor Vehicle Traffic: 40%	Other Transport	Poisoning
Other	34		Motor Vehicle Traffic: 47%	Other Transport: 24%	Falls: 15%

Why is local government leadership so important in building Safe Communities?

Consider these real life examples:

- A child drowns in an unfenced swimming pool.
- A woman is raped in an unlit Council car park.
- A toddler is run over in a poorly designed road.
- A senior citizen is found dead from smoke inhalation in his council flat.
- A child breaks her leg at a Council playground.
- A teenager is hit by a car at a pedestrian crossing, & breaks his skull.
- A woman trips on an uneven footpath & breaks her hip.
- During scheduled maintenance on a sewer, a gas explosion occurs resulting in severe injuries to workers.



Local government has a leading role in ensuring that these kinds of situations are avoided & when they do occur, coordinating all steps to prevent them from happening again.

Councils can contribute to the reduction of injury & crime rates by:

- ⇒ Systematically incorporating safety provisions & risk management considerations into their planning & approval processes for the built, natural & social environments; and
- ⇒ Leading & facilitating safe community partnerships with a broad range of community organisations, industry groups, employers & individuals, to coordinate preventative programmes & community actions that promote safety.

This factsheet was funded with support from the Accident Compensation Corporation, Wellington, New Zealand.

Safe Communities Foundation New Zealand (SCFNZ)

Hurstmere House, Suite 5A, 128 Hurstmere Road, Takapuna, PO Box 331399, Takapuna, North Shore 0740, New Zealand.

Tel: +64 9 488 7601 Fax: +64 9 488 7602 Email: contact@scfnz.org Web: www.safecommunities.org.nz

SCFNZ is a: Certifying Centre and

Affiliate Safe Community Support Centre of the WHO Collaborating Centre on Community Safety Promotion;
Accrediting Centre for Safe School Community International Designation Programme.

Factsheet Updated May, 2008