

# Drownings in the UK 1997

## BY ACTIVITIES/BEHAVIOUR

Angling		Swimming	55
From Land	7	Playing	9
From Boat	10	Canoeing	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>17</b>	Rescue	1
Fell In	66	Cycling	1
Boating	35	Sub-aqua	17
In Vehicles	16		

1997 saw a small decline in the number of annual drownings, to 440. Of this total, rivers and stream incidents remained high at 133 (30%). The summer months are represented by a corresponding rise in drownings, many of which are associated with hot weather swimming.

The most noticeable change in the statistics for 1997, is in the swimming pool category. Drownings have more than doubled, to 24 (5%). This increase is seen in public, private and home swimming pools.

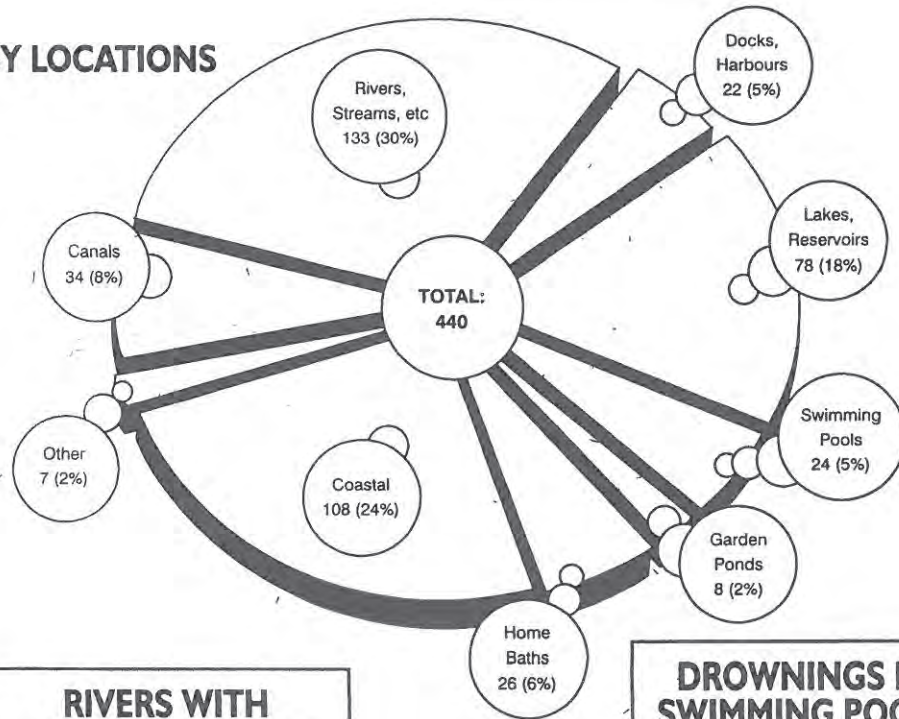
Male drownings continue to be four times more prevalent than female. Rather worryingly the age group most at risk has increased even further than last year to encompass the male 30-34 range, along with the original 15-29 year old group.

Following patterns of recent years, alcohol continues to play a key role in many of these incidents; both 1996 and 1997 had 69 alcohol related drownings.

Encouragingly the under 5's age group experienced fewer incidents in 1997. Significant reductions can also be seen in home bath drownings with a decrease from 39 (9%) in 1996, to 26 (6%) in 1997.

Further breakdowns of drowning data to meet individual statistical requirements can be obtained from RoSPA for a small charge. Contact the water and leisure safety department for details.

## BY LOCATIONS



## RIVERS WITH MOST DROWNINGS

Thames	17	Clyde	7
Severn/Dee	4	Wear	6

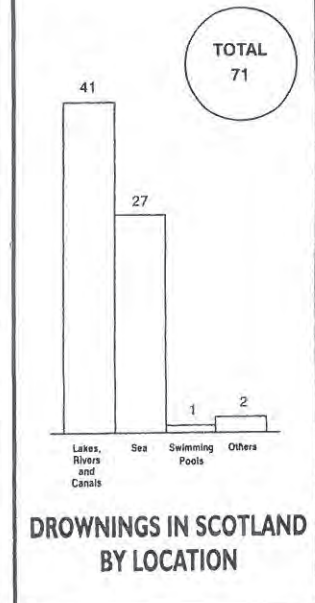
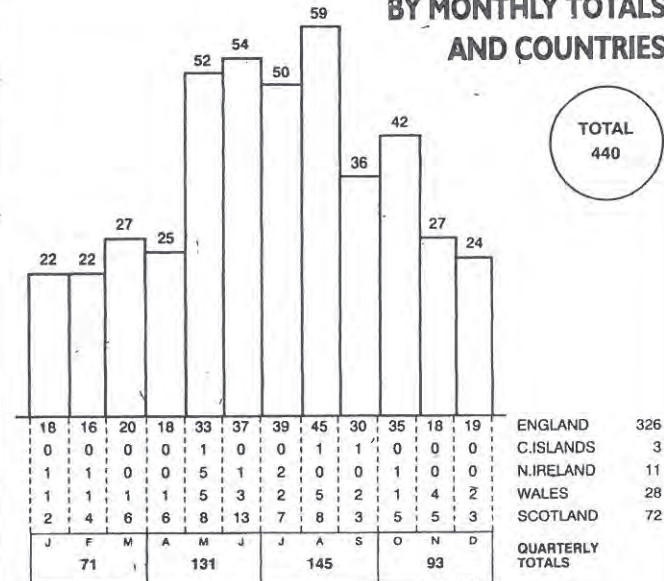
## DROWNINGS IN SWIMMING POOLS

<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>24</b>	Public	7
		Home	9
		Private	7
		Jacuzzi	1

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents  
Rospa.com/statistics



## BY MONTHLY TOTALS AND COUNTRIES



## DROWNINGS IN SCOTLAND BY LOCATION

## BY AGE GROUP AND SEX

