

2023/24 Summer Drowning Toll Update

Royal Life Saving projects Summer 2023/24 will be one of the worst summers for drowning with over 100 fatalities before the end of February.

Two-thirds of the way through summer, the 2023/24 holiday season has shaped up to be a tragic period for drowning with **72** confirmed drowning deaths reported in the media between December 1st and January 30th. This is a **4%** increase on the 5-year average for this point in the summer, and a **24%** increase from last summer.

The week between Christmas and New Years day has historically been a high incidence time for drowning, and this year was no different. A total of **25** people died from drowning between the 24th of December and the 2nd of January, nine fatal drowning incidents occurred on Boxing Day alone.

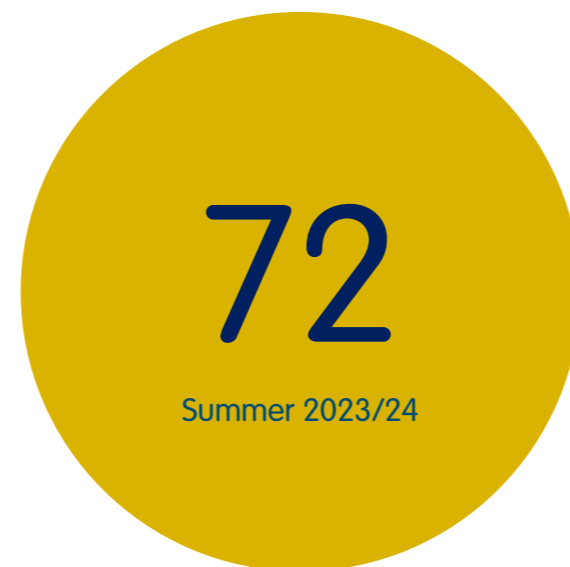
If drowning deaths continue to occur at the rate they have so far this summer, there will be **over 100 drowning deaths** Australia-wide before the end of February - making this one of the worst summers for drowning in recent memory. Importantly, the projected 107 drowning deaths are based on current trends and are not guaranteed. Everyone can do their part to prevent drowning and help ensure the final summer drowning toll is much lower.

To stay safe around the water, make sure to:

- Always supervise children around water
- Avoid alcohol around water
- Wear a lifejacket when boating and fishing
- Know the conditions
- Avoid going alone

End of January

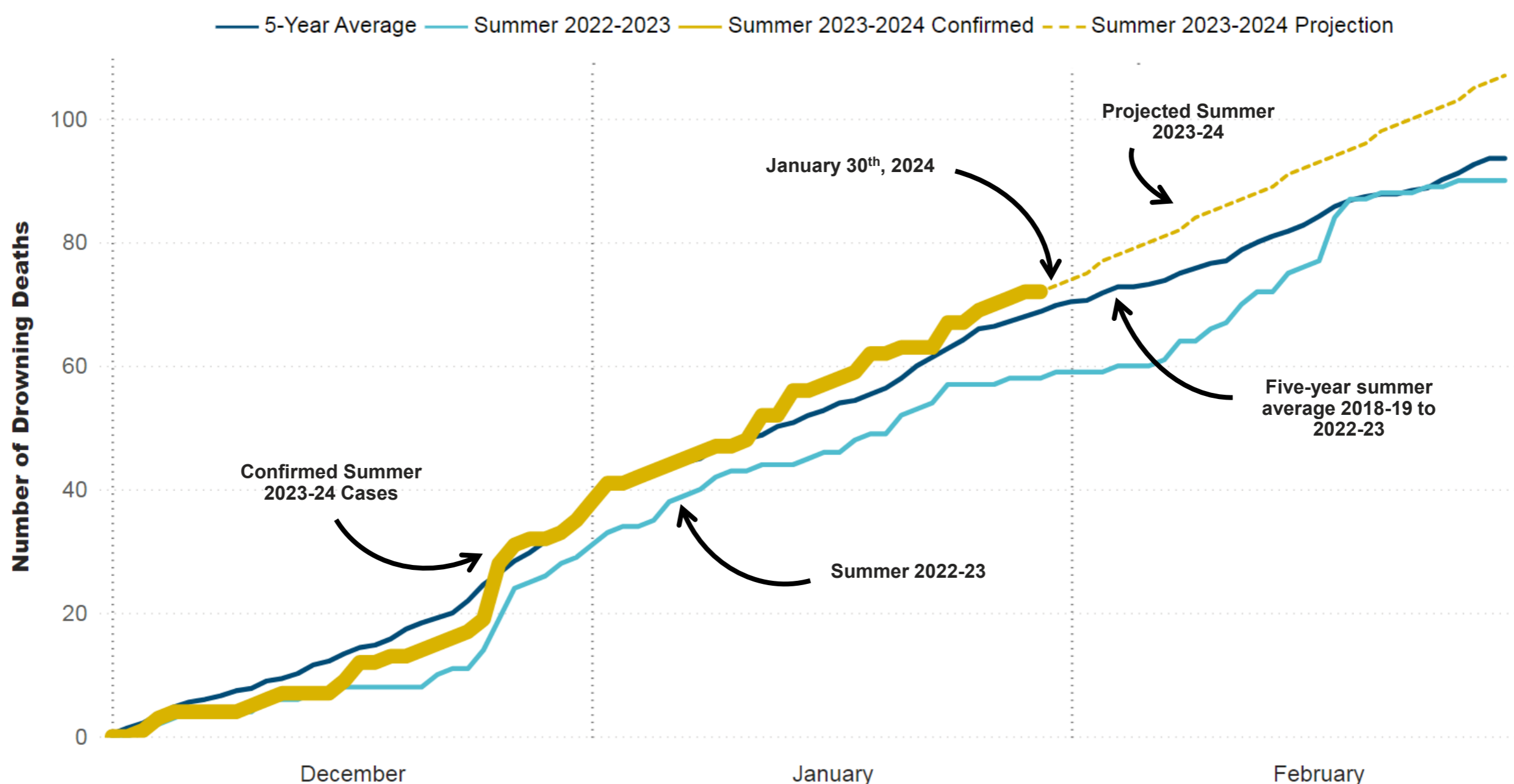
Data as of 30th January



End of Summer

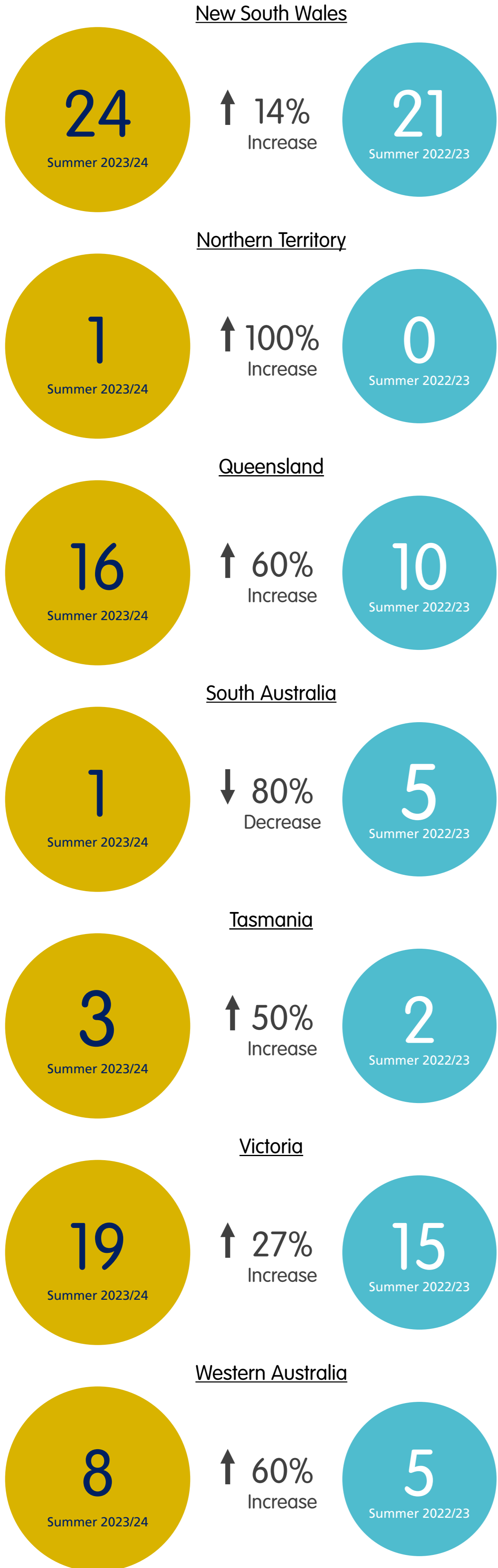


2023/24 Summer Drowning Toll: Count, Projection, and Comparison as of January 30th, 2024

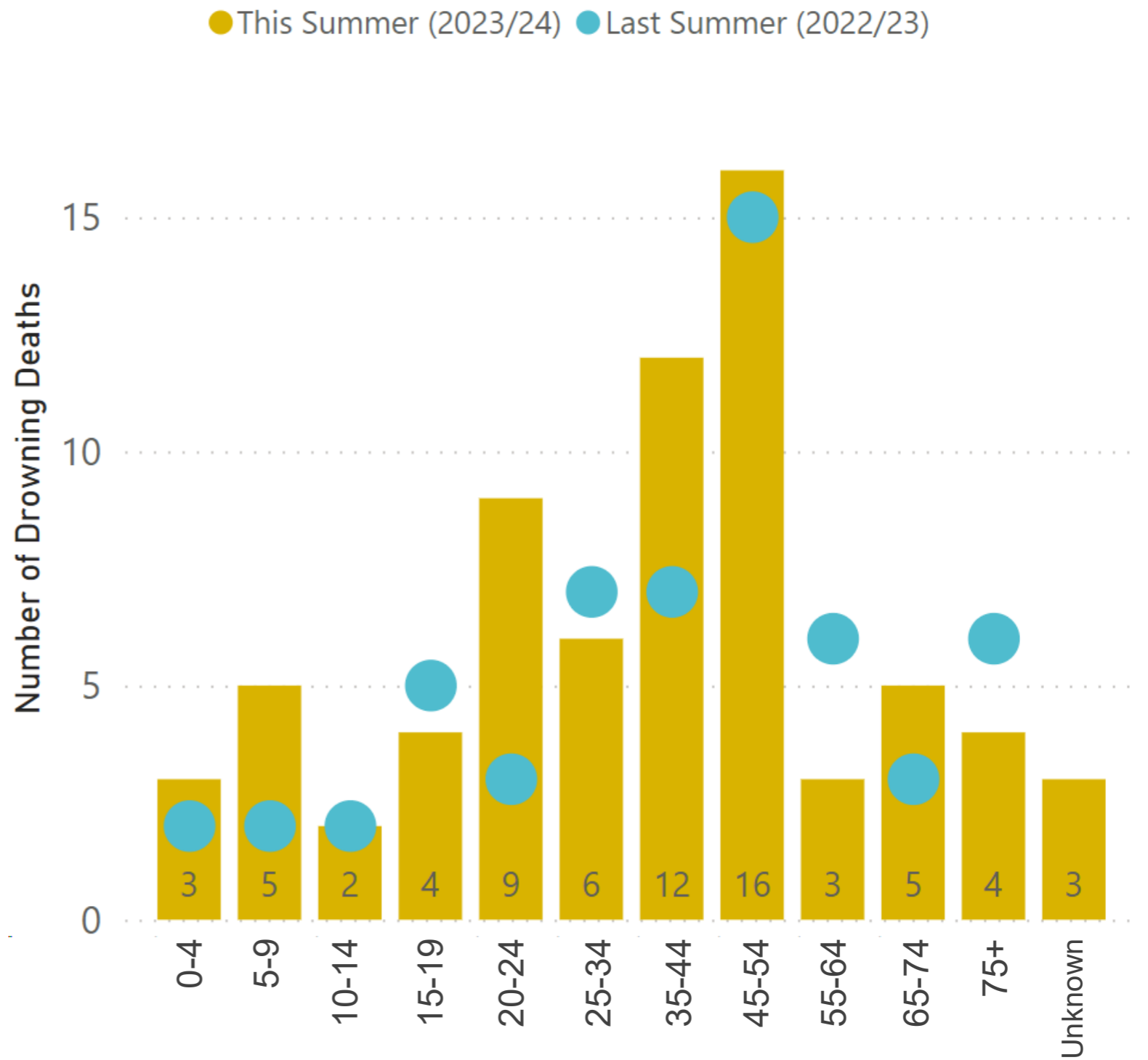


Summer Drowning Toll as of 30 January 2024

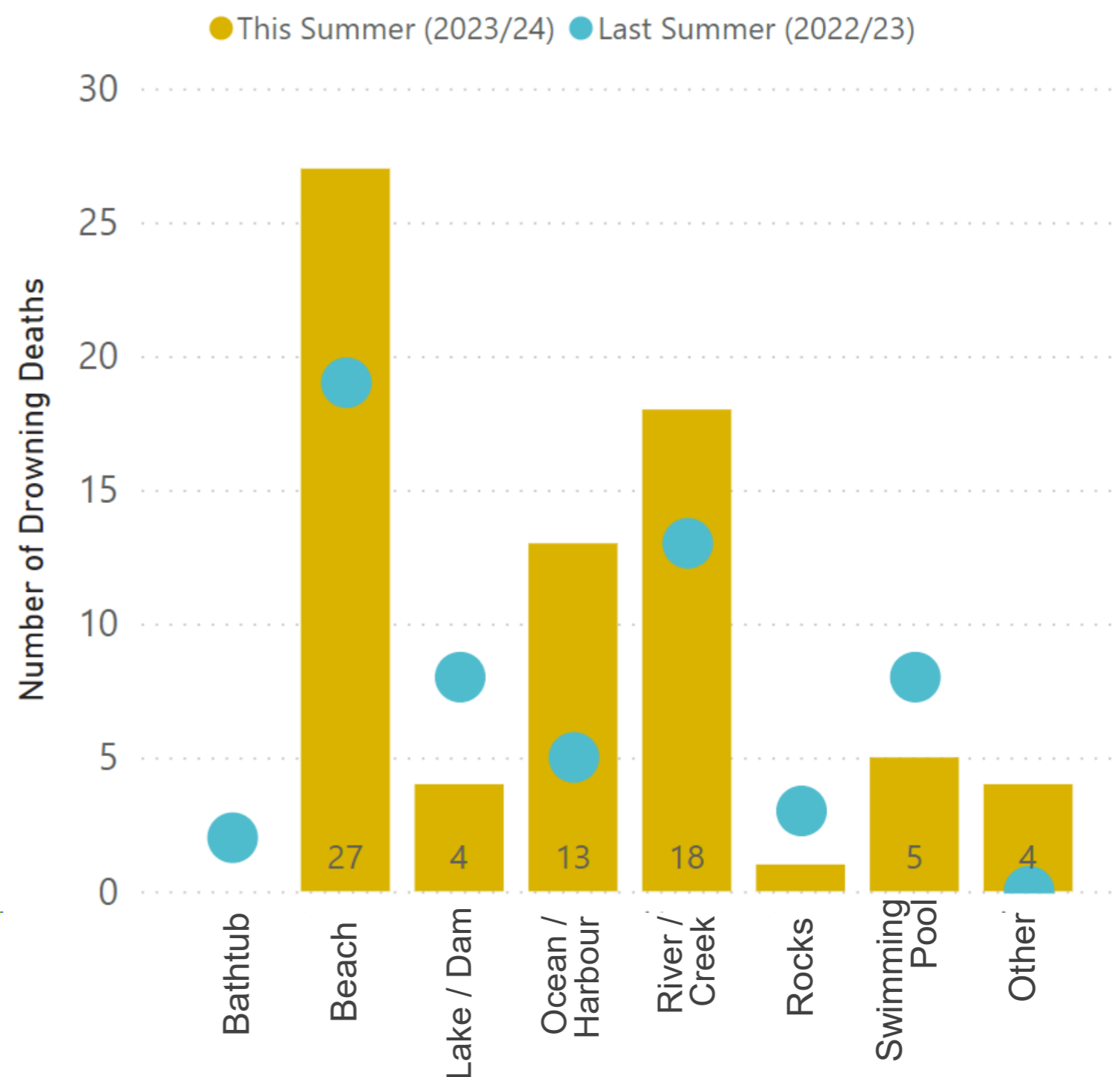
State comparison to this point last Summer



Age comparison to this point last summer



Body of water comparison to this point last summer



The Royal Life Saving Summer Drowning Toll Dashboard is updated daily and allows you to view additional data variables and filters by state. See more by visiting:

<https://www.royallifesaving.com.au/research-and-policy/drowning-research/summer-drowning-toll>

Royal Life Saving Society – Australia

Online [royallifesaving.com.au](https://www.royallifesaving.com.au)
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