



What can recent research into rock fishing fatalities tell us about strategies for prevention?

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Rock Fishing

- On average there have been 13 coastal drowning deaths related to rock fishing annually (2004-2014)
- The 3rd most common activity when coastal drowning deaths occur, after swimming/wading and boating
- There are an estimated .9 million land-based fishers in Australia, 19% report choosing rock locations (n=171,000)*

* Surf Life Saving Australia National Coastal Safety Survey 2014 (Newspoll)

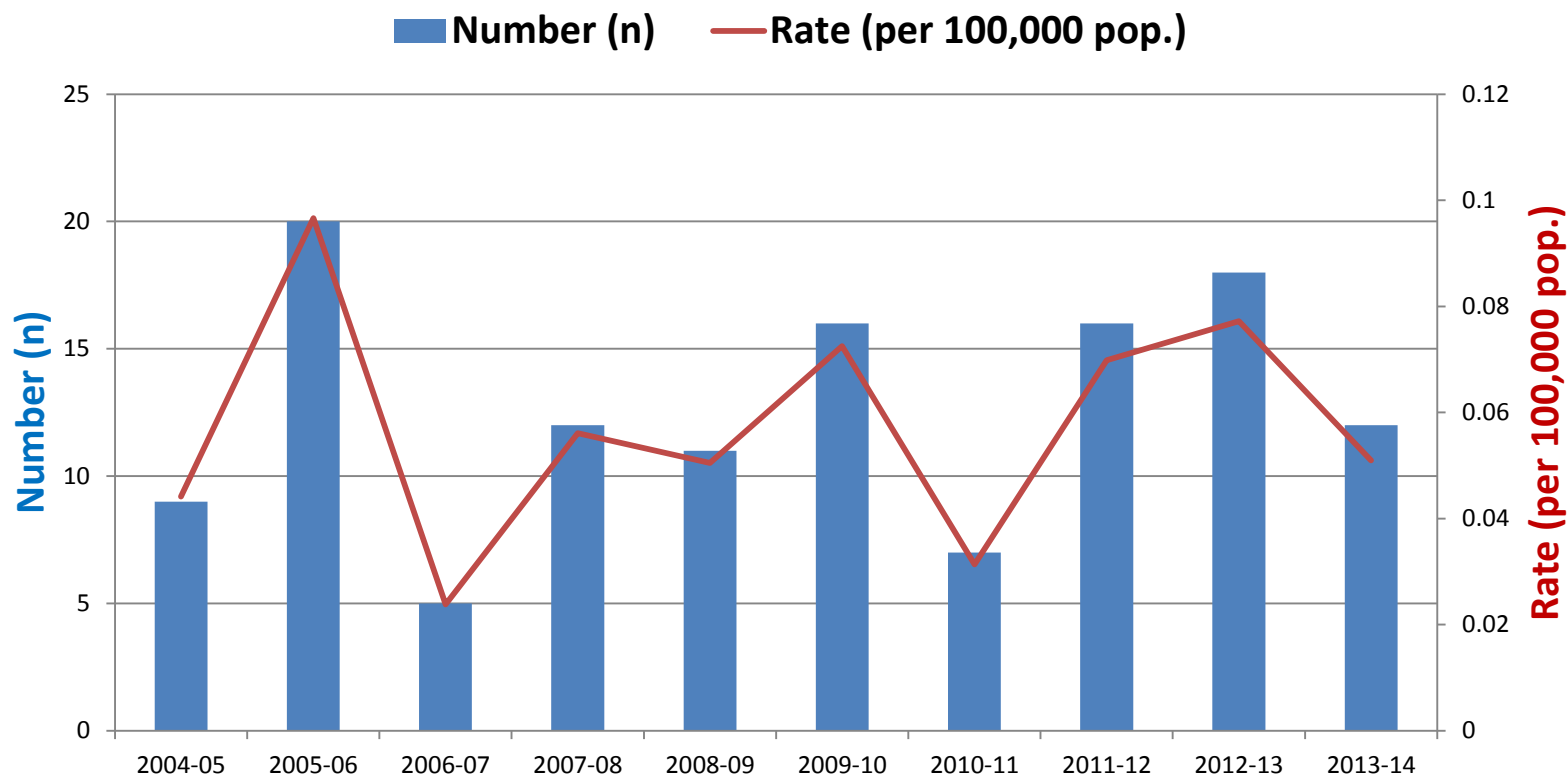
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2004-14 Rock fishing-related Drowning Deaths In Australia



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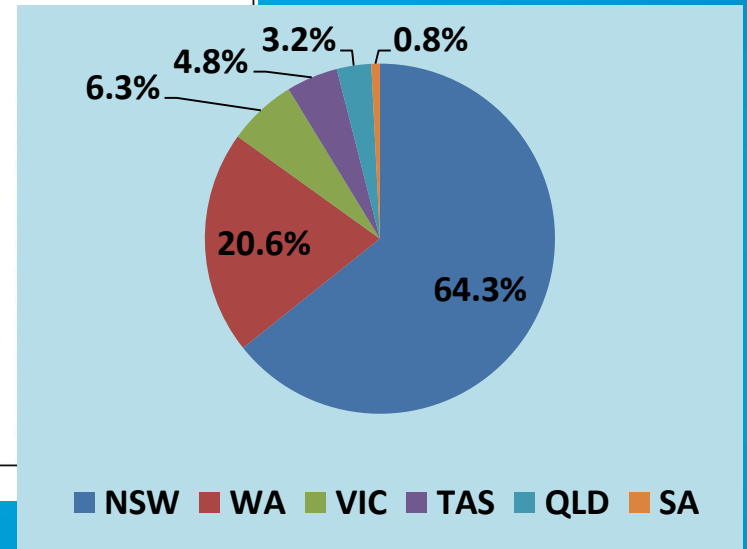
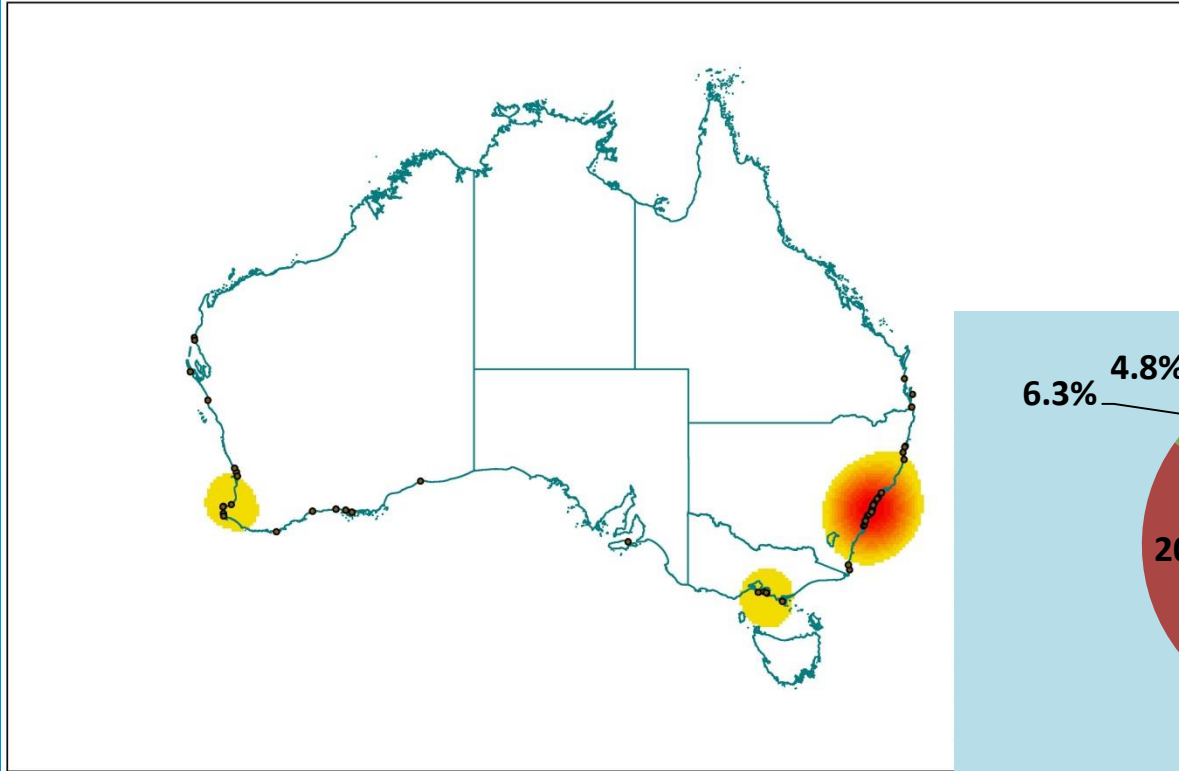




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ACTIVITIES

Location

Rock Fishing Drowning Deaths (2004-2013)



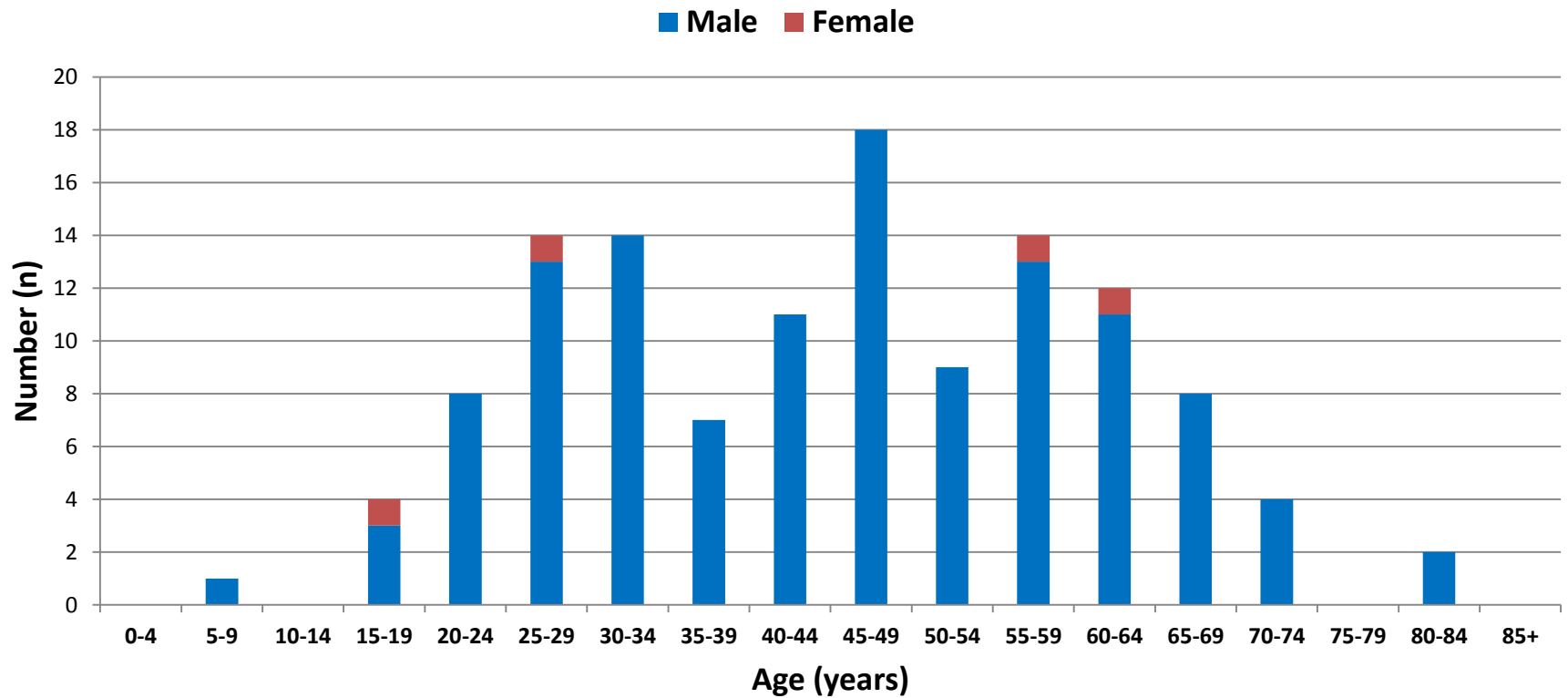
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Demographics



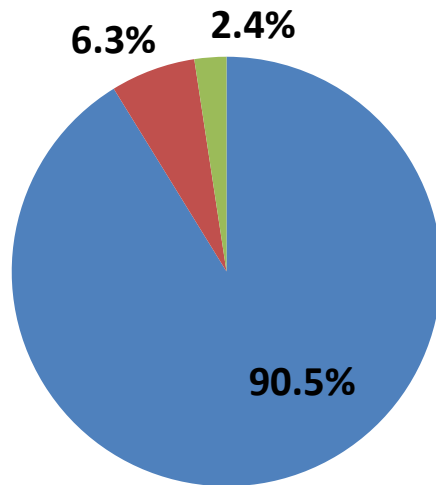
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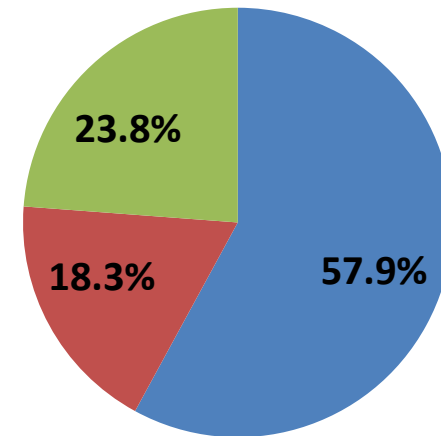


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Residency



■ Resident ■ International Visitor ■ Unknown

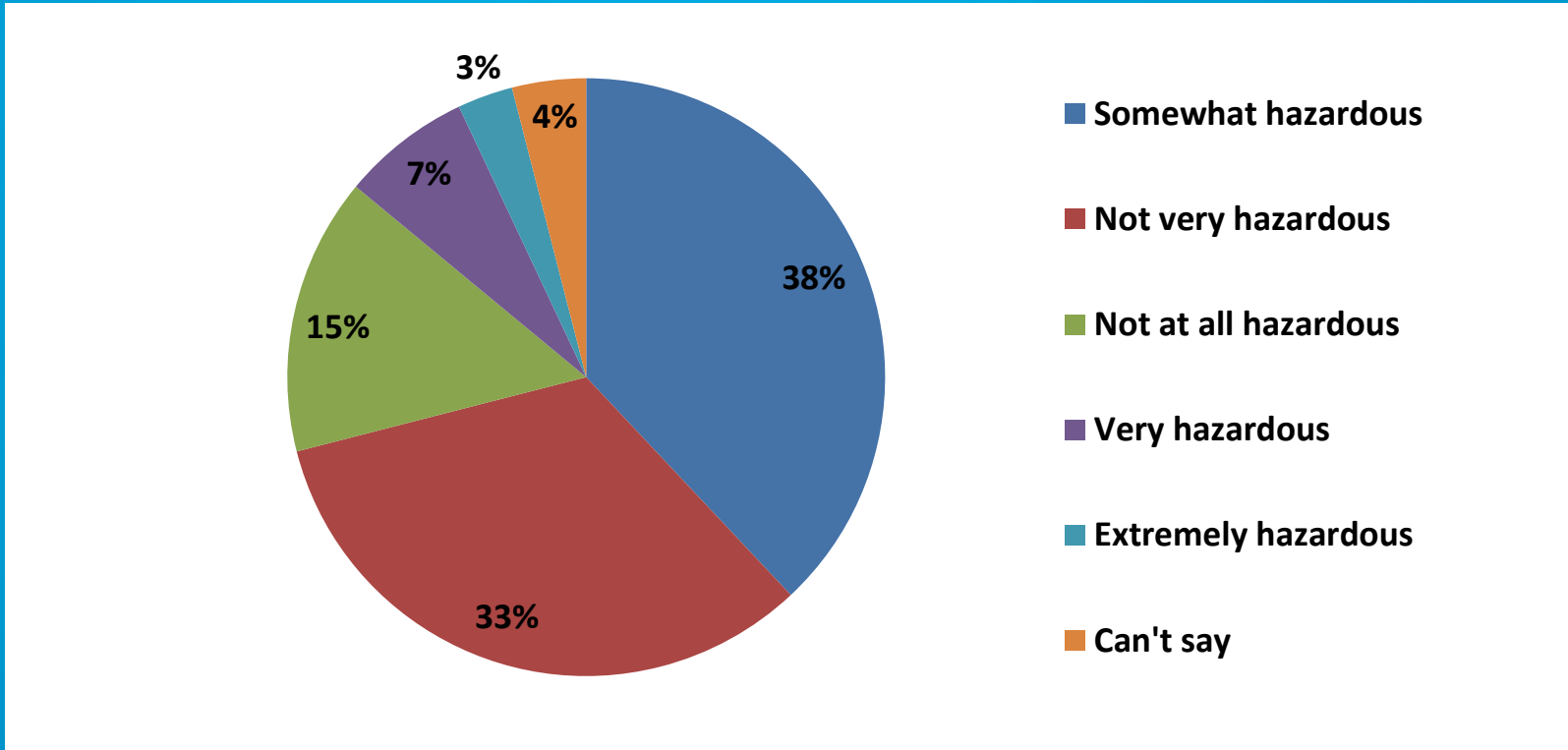


■ Foreign Ethnicity ■ Australian ■ Unknown



Perception of Coastal Hazards

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Surf Life Saving Australia National Coastal Safety Survey 2014 (Newspoll)
Base: respondents aged 16-69 nationally (n= 1396),post-weighted, nationally representative, stratified sample

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Population Risk Rate Estimate

- National Rock Fishing Population-Risk Rate: 7.6 per 100,000 population
 - 7 times riskier than ocean swimming (1.1 per 100,000 population)*

***Surf Life Saving Australia National Coastal Safety Survey 2014 (Newspoll)**
Base: respondents aged 16-69 nationally (n= 1396),post-weighted, nationally representative, stratified sample

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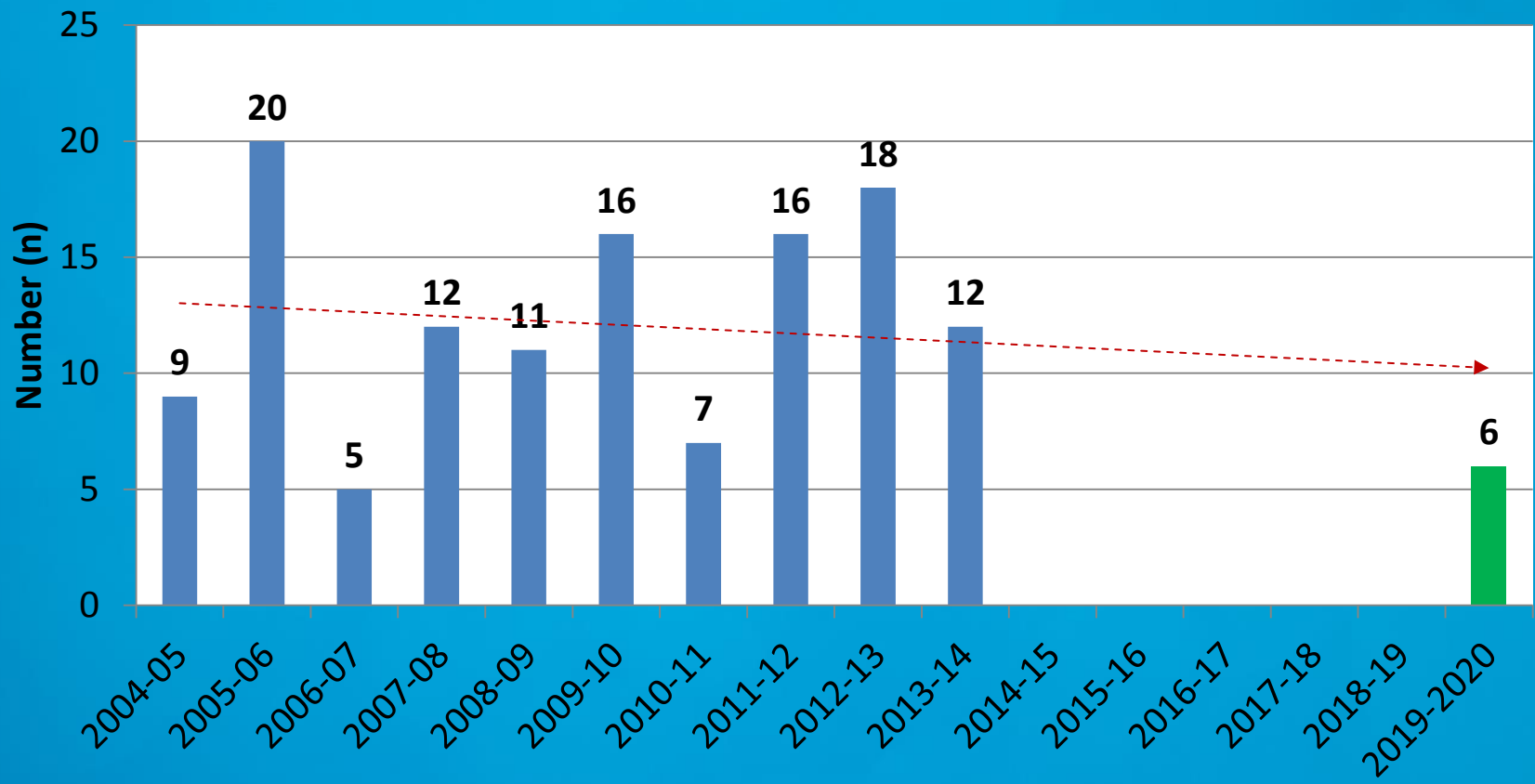


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Tracking towards 2020



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Strategies for Prevention

- Increase wearing of PPE particularly in NSW
- Improve fit-for-purpose lifejacket design
- Public education and communication
- National dangerous surf condition warnings
- Increase safer accessibility to rock platforms

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