

Fatal Drowning in Relation to Drowning Prevention Training and Education Activities

Inferences from Data Analysis

Figure 1 and Appendix 1 show illustrations of fatal drowning hotspots across South Africa between 2016 and 2023, in comparison to the Drowning Prevention (DP) Training and Education activities. The districts marked in red indicate areas with over one hundred fatal drownings, while the orange and yellow categories represent districts with 26 to 99, and fewer than twenty-five drownings, respectively. Purple markers signify districts where DP Training and Education instructors are based.



Figure 1: Fatal Drowning Hotspots in Comparison to Drowning Prevention Training and Education Activities; 2016 – 2023

Table 1 is a depiction of the districts with the highest number of drownings between January 2016 and March 2023. The Eastern Cape and KwaZulu-Natal have the most districts with higher numbers of drownings. Mthatha has the highest number of fatal drownings (210) across all listed districts. KwaZulu-Natal stands out with multiple districts reporting high numbers: King Cetshwayo (155), eThekweni (153), and Zululand (129), which suggests a widespread

drowning problem throughout the province. Districts in Gauteng and Mpumalanga also show notable drowning rates, suggesting that inland is a concern in those provinces.

Table 1: Number of Drownings per District - January 2016 to March 2023, South Africa

District	Number Of Fatal Drownings
Eastern Cape	
Mthatha	210
Butterworth	121
Cofimvaba	120
Port St Johns	109
Mthatha CC	103
KwaZulu Natal	
King Cetshwayo	155
eThekwini District	153
Zululand	129
Ugu	120
uMkhanyakude	115
uThukela	114
iLembe	107
eThekwini Outer/S	100
Mpumalanga	
Ehlanzeni District	119
Gauteng	
Ekurhuleni District	137
Johannesburg District	129
Tshwane District	108
Limpopo	
Sekhukhune District	100

References

1. Google Map Chart: Fatal Drowning Hotspots

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/edit?mid=1EOnVILumlqb-tbFdbYNcQ5i7yOYUYwI&usp=sharing>

2. MS Excel: Fatal Drowning Data Analysis: January 2016 - March 2023

https://searescue-my.sharepoint.com/:x:/g/personal/nongcebo_searescue_org_za/ETta4xDWhcxLg6oMgcvMzD0BE5MI6lxbMQvDibKk6-AbVw?e=98SLZT

3. MS Excel: Fatal Drowning Data Analysis: January 2016 - March 2023 - Hotspots Per District

https://searescue-my.sharepoint.com/:x:/g/personal/nongcebo_searescue_org_za/EXhNP_1QQLBGpm9aUVLwjvcB7s0lrRhjmYIwp_2969gTxw?e=9Ixbha