

Annual Report on Drowning Deaths in New York City: Provisional Data from 2023 Death Certificates

This report is submitted pursuant to Local Law No. 159 and the New York City Administrative Code 17-199.23, which requires the Commissioner of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) to submit the information enumerated below, as available, to the Mayor and City Council Speaker by January 1, for the prior calendar year.

- 1. The manner in which the drowning death occurred;*
- 2. The age group of the decedent;*
- 3. The gender identity of the decedent;*
- 4. The race and ethnicity of the decedent;*
- 5. Whether the decedent had any physical, medical, mental, or psychological impairment, or a history or record of such impairment, such as a seizure disorder;*
- 6. Whether alcohol, drugs, or prescription medication was a contributing factor regarding the drowning death;*
- 7. The type of location or facility at which the drowning death occurred, including, but not limited to, a beach, public outdoor pool, public indoor pool, private outdoor pool, or private indoor pool, and whether such location or facility has lifeguard supervision;*
- 8. The council district in which the drowning death occurred; and*
- 9. The community district in which the drowning death occurred.*

Decedent characteristics, drowning deaths in NYC, 2024

	N	%
Total	83	100.00
Manner		
Accident	26	31.33
Suicide	29	34.94
Homicide	2	2.41
Undetermined Intent	26	31.33
Age group		
0-24	20	24.10
25-34	14	16.87
35-44	16	19.28
45-54	11	13.25
55-64	9	10.84
65+	13	15.66
Gender		
Male	63	75.90
Female	20	24.10
Race/ethnicity		
Hispanic/Latino	16	19.28
Asian & Pacific Islander	14	16.87
Non-Hispanic White	23	27.71
Non-Hispanic Black	24	28.92
Other or Unknown	6	7.23

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2024 data are provisional

Contributing causes, drowning deaths in NYC, 2024

	N	%
Total	83	100.00
Physical or mental health conditions, excl. substance use	8	9.64
<i>Cardiometabolic</i>	3	3.61
<i>Other conditions</i>	9	10.84
Substance use	10	12.05
<i>Alcohol</i>	5	6.02
<i>Other substances, including illicit or prescription drugs</i>	6	7.23
<i>Other substances, including tobacco</i>	1	1.20

N's are not mutually exclusive

Other injuries are not listed in table (e.g., blunt force trauma)

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Injury location, drowning deaths in NYC, 2024

	N	%
Total	83	100.00
Outdoors (e.g., open body of water)	71	85.54
Beach	8	9.64
Pool	*	
Bathtub	9	10.84
Unknown	*	

* Numbers smaller than 5 are suppressed

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Drowning Deaths in NYC by City Council District of Injury, 2024

	N	%
Total	83	100
Lower Manhattan (1, 3, 4)	9	10.84
Upper Manhattan + Bronx (5, 6, 8, 13, 17)	11	13.25
Eastern Queens (19, 20, 24, 32)	12	14.46
Northern Brooklyn (33, 38, 40, 42)	7	8.43
Southern Brooklyn (46, 47, 48)	8	9.64
Staten Island (49, 51)	5	6.02
Unknown	31	37.35

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Drowning Deaths in NYC by Community District of Injury, 2024

	N	%
Total	83	100.00
Lower Manhattan (101, 102, 103, 104, 106)	8	9.64
Upper Manhattan (107, 108, 111)	7	8.43
Bronx (201, 203, 210)	5	6.02
Northern Brooklyn (301, 302, 306, 307)	5	6.02
Southern Brooklyn (310, 313, 315, 317, 318)	10	12.05
Eastern Queens (407, 411, 414)	11	13.25
Staten Island (501, 502, 503)	5	6.02
Unknown	32	38.55

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