



**BIGGER,
BETTER, SAFER**
**AQUATIC RECREATION
INDUSTRY REPORT
2020**

Western Australia

“A WATER LOVING NATION FREE FROM DROWNING”

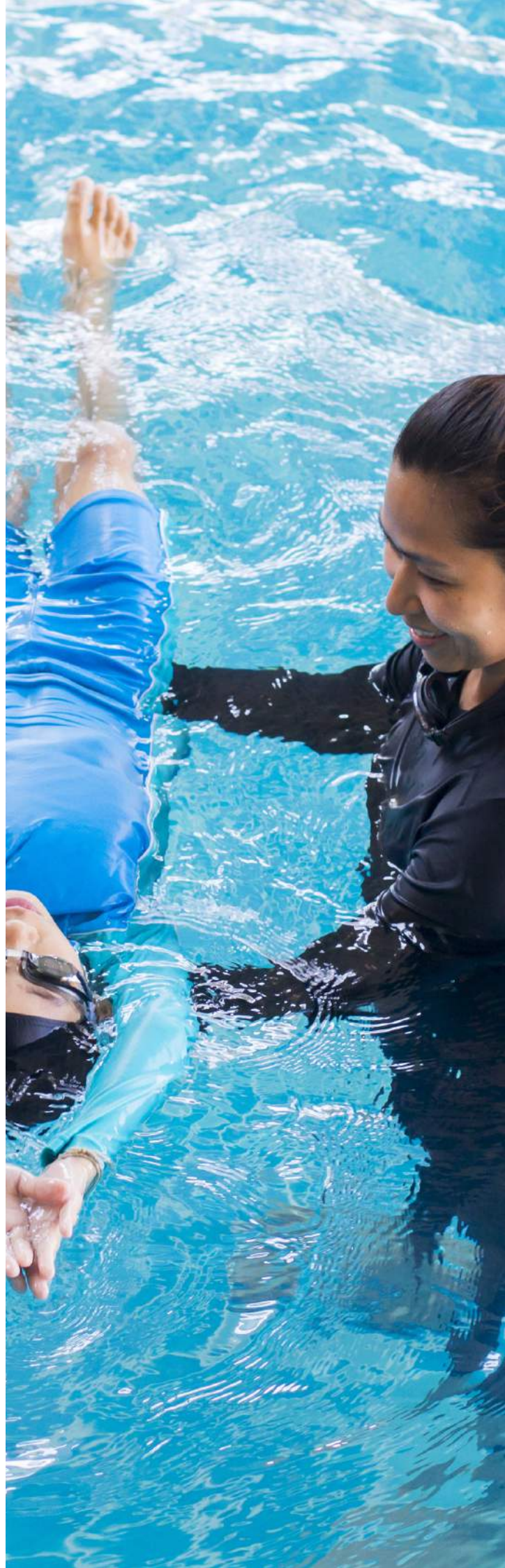
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Royal Life Saving WA are committed to reducing the impact of drowning in our communities through evidence-informed policies and practices. To lead efforts to reduce drowning & increase swimming, water safety and lifesaving skills.

LIWA Aquatics is focused on supporting the WA aquatics industry by providing advocacy, accreditation and regular professional development opportunities to ensure a strong workforce and safe recreation venues for the community.

This report was prepared by the Royal Life Saving Society WA in collaboration with the Leisure Institute of Western Australia (LIWA) Aquatics and key contributors.



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



3972

PEOPLE WERE EMPLOYED WITHIN THE AQUATIC RECREATION INDUSTRY IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA IN 2019/20.

10.3M

VISITS RECORDED AT WA PUBLIC SWIMMING POOLS IN 2019/20

4.0

POOL VISITS RECORDED PER HEAD OF POPULATION

20.3

INJURIES RECORDED PER 100,000 VISITS IN 2019-20

\$273M

ECONOMIC BENEFIT FROM VISITS TO PUBLIC POOLS 2019/20



- 1,931 NEW STAFF ENTERED THE AQUATICS INDUSTRY.
- THE WORKFORCE IS LARGELY CASUAL WITH 79% EMPLOYED ON A CASUAL BASIS.
- 66% OF THE WORKFORCE ARE EMPLOYED IN METROPOLITAN PERTH.
- 79% OF STAFF EMPLOYED ACROSS WA WERE BORN IN AUSTRALIA.

96.8%

AVERAGE SAFETY ASSESSMENT SCORE 2019/20

2.3% ✓

DECREASE IN WATER CONSUMPTION FROM 2018/19

72.4%

OF POOLS INCREASED THEIR SAFETY SCORE FROM THE PREVIOUS ASSESSMENT

-31%

DECREASE IN 2020 REGIONAL SWIM ENROLMENTS COMPARED TO 2019 ENROLMENTS

TOP 3 INCIDENTS

- 1 PRE-EXISTING MEDICAL CONDITION
- 2 FALL/TRIP
- 3 SPONTANEOUS FAINTING

TOP 3 INJURIES

- 1 LOSS OF CONCIIOUSNESS
- 2 HEART ATTACK
- 3 SEIZURE



IMPACT OF COVID-19

PUBLIC POOLS

10%

of staff worked at their centre during the COVID shutdowns.

64%

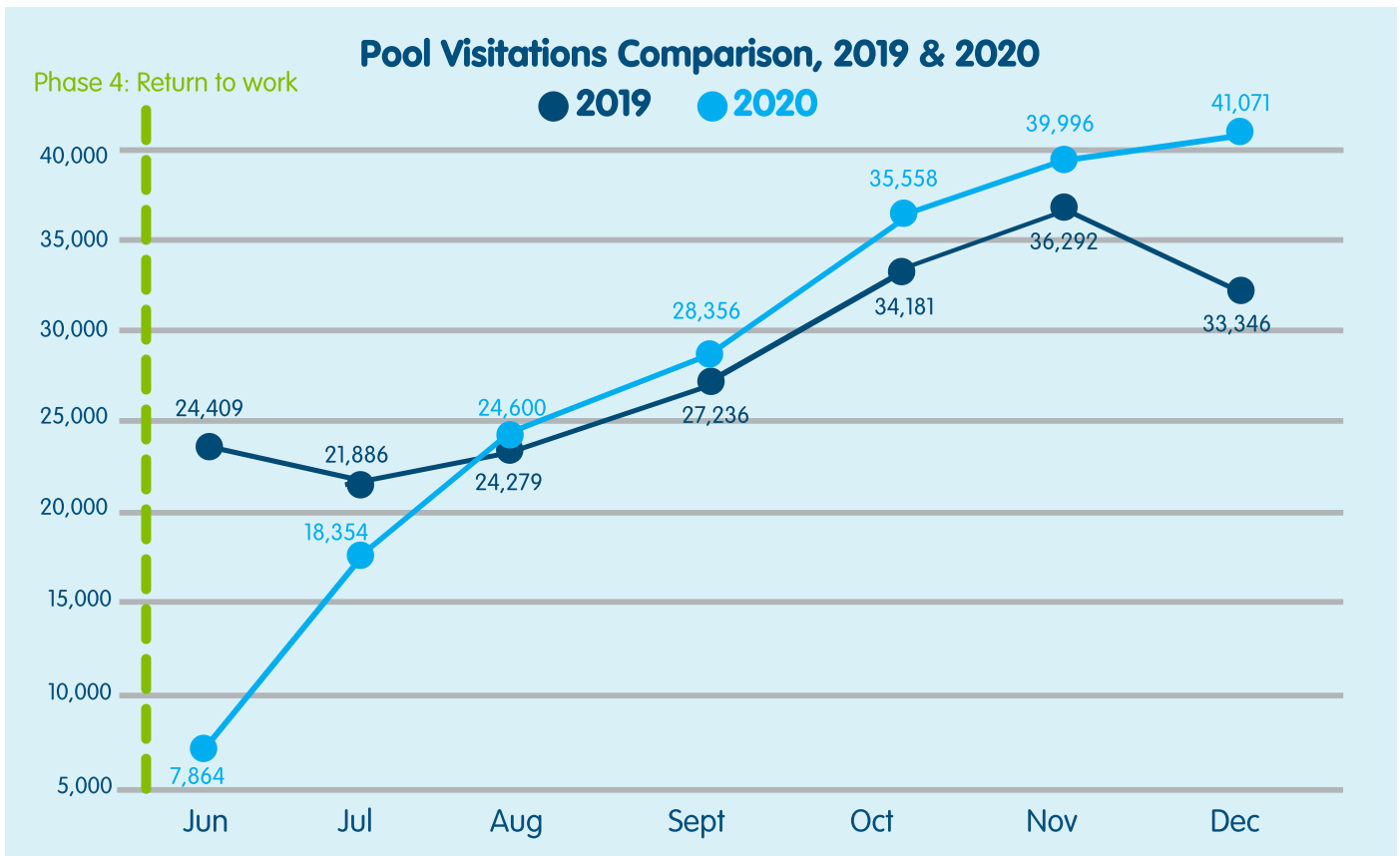
of pools stood down more than 50% of their staff.

62%

of pools provided alternative services to their staff during the shutdown.

100%

of pools rated the impact of COVID-19 as 'extremely disruptive'.



TOP 3 ISSUES FACED BY THE CENTRES DURING COVID-19 SHUTDOWNS:

- 1** WORKERS TEMPORARILY STOOD DOWN
- 2** OVERALL HOURS OF WORK REDUCED
- 3** TYPE OF WORK/DUTIES HAVE CHANGED

“ ALL CASUAL STAFF WERE STOOD DOWN... MOST PERMANENT STAFF WERE REDEPLOYED IF THERE WAS NOT MEANINGFUL WORK IN THEIR SUBSTANTIVE ROLES. ”

“ THE TOWN WILL NOT ALLOW US TO REPLACE VACANT PERMANENT POSITIONS [DUE TO COVID-19], IT HAS BEEN A STRUGGLE TO RE-ENGAGE CASUAL STAFF; GIVEN THEIR ABILITY TO CLAIM JOBSEEKER PAYMENTS. ”

SWIM SCHOOLS

20%

THE INCREASE IN SWIMMING ENROLMENTS ACROSS ALL PROGRAMS COMPARED TO 2018/19

WE ARE BEGINNING TO SEE THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON OUR WORKFORCE AND WHILST PLEASING TO SEE ENROLMENTS INCREASE, A NUMBER OF OUR OCTOBER PROGRAMS ARE AT RISK DUE TO INSTRUCTOR AVAILABILITY.

6.5%

THE INCREASE IN ONLINE ENROLMENTS FOR OCT PROGRAMS COMPARED TO 2018/19 OCT ENROLMENTS

1,160

SWIMMING TEACHERS ARE NEEDED TO ENSURE AVAILABILITY FOR THE COMING SWIM SEASON

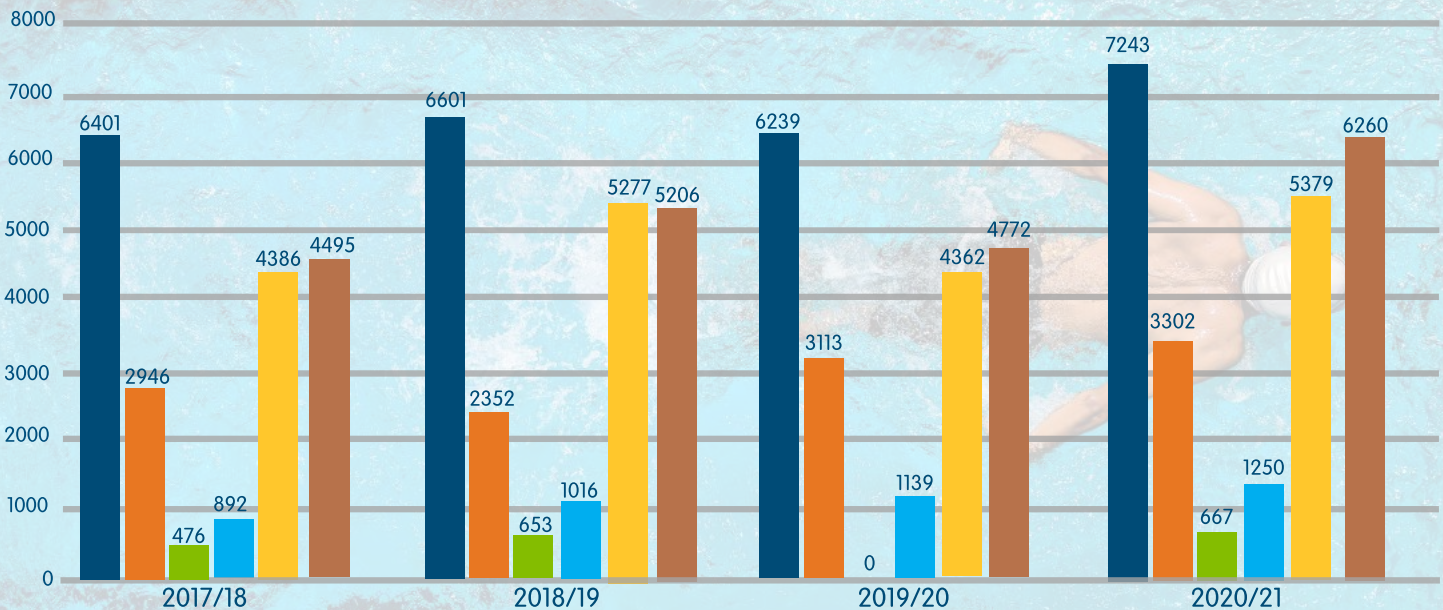
-31%

THE DECREASE IN 2020 REGIONAL SWIM ENROLMENTS COMPARED TO 2019 ENROLMENTS

AS QUICK AS WE ARE GETTING STAFF INTO THE WORKFORCE WE ARE LOSING NUMBERS ELSEWHERE.

VACSWIM PROGRAM ENROLMENTS, 2017/18-2020/21

● Oct ● Oct Short ● Early Start ● Jan Short ● Jan 1 ● Jan 2





STATE OF THE INDUSTRY

PATRONAGE

10.3M

VISITS RECORDED AT WA PUBLIC SWIMMING POOLS IN 2019/20

4.0

POOL VISITS RECORDED PER HEAD OF POPULATION

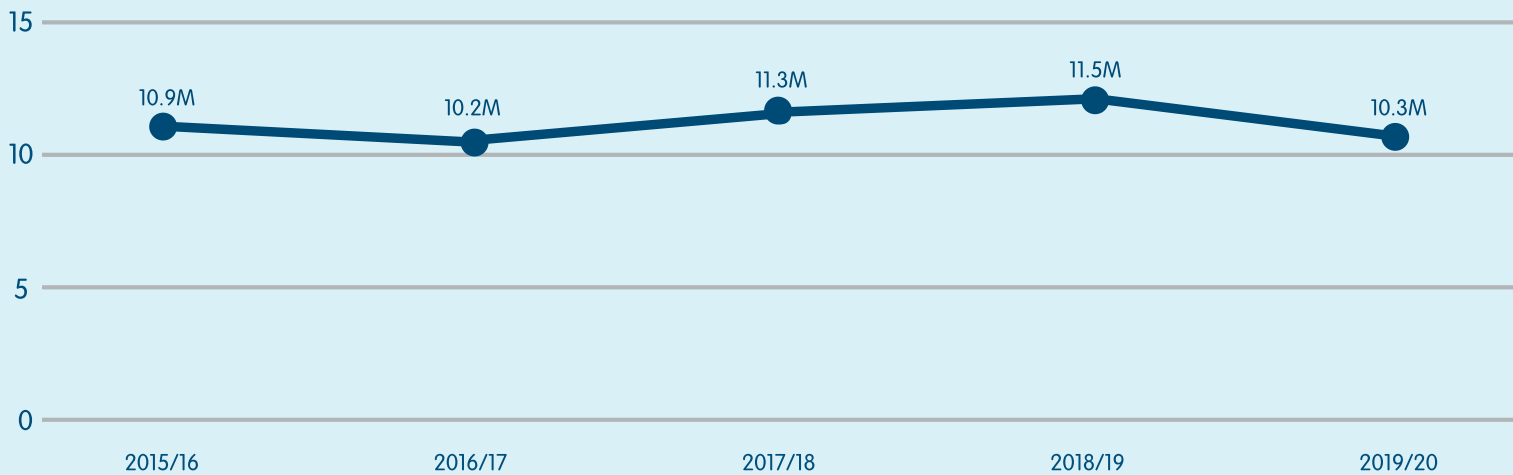
8.7%↓

DECREASE IN TOTAL POOL VISITS FROM 2018/19

\$273M

ECONOMIC BENEFIT FROM VISITS TO PUBLIC POOLS 2019/20

Total pool visits, 2015/16 to 2019/20



- POOL VISITS SLIGHTLY INCREASED IN THE MIDWEST, PILBARA AND SOUTHWEST COMPARED TO LAST YEARS (2018/19) DATA (2%, 7% AND 8%, RESPECTIVELY).
- POOL VISITATIONS IN THE REMAINING REGIONS DECREASED OVERALL BY 46%.

REGIONAL COMPARISON - VISITATIONS

REGION	TOTAL VISITS PER REGION	AVERAGE VISITS PER PERSON	ECONOMIC BENEFIT*
GOLDFIELDS	277,456	5.32	\$7.3M
GREAT SOUTHERN	306,767	4.91	\$8.1M
KIMBERLEY	141,043	3.99	\$3.7M
MID WEST	403,108	6.48	\$10.6M
PILBARA	358,405	5.94	\$9.4M
SOUTH WEST	756,322	4.20	\$20M
WHEATBELT	299,398	3.98	\$7.9M
METROPOLITAN PERTH	7,780,174	3.43	\$228M

*Every aquatic facility visit creates economic benefits worth an average of \$26.39. These figures have been calculated using the estimate provided by Barnsley, Peden, & Scarr (2017).

EXPENDITURE

\$83.7M

TOTAL AQUATICS
INDUSTRY EXPENDITURE
IN 2019/20

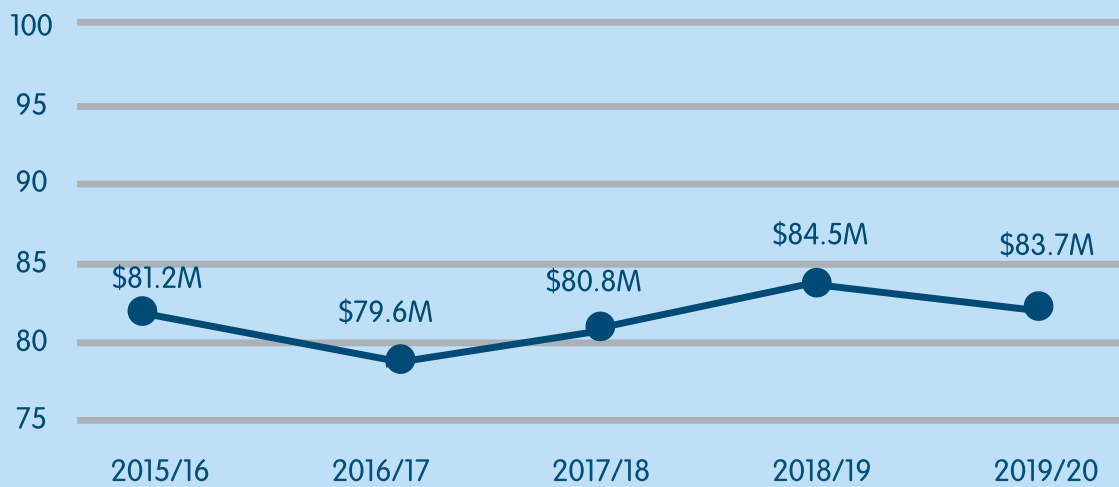
1.0%↓

DECREASE IN
EXPENDITURE FROM
2018/19

\$8.10

EXPENDITURE PER VISIT
AT PUBLIC POOLS IN
2019/20

Total pool expenditure, 2015/16 to 2019/20



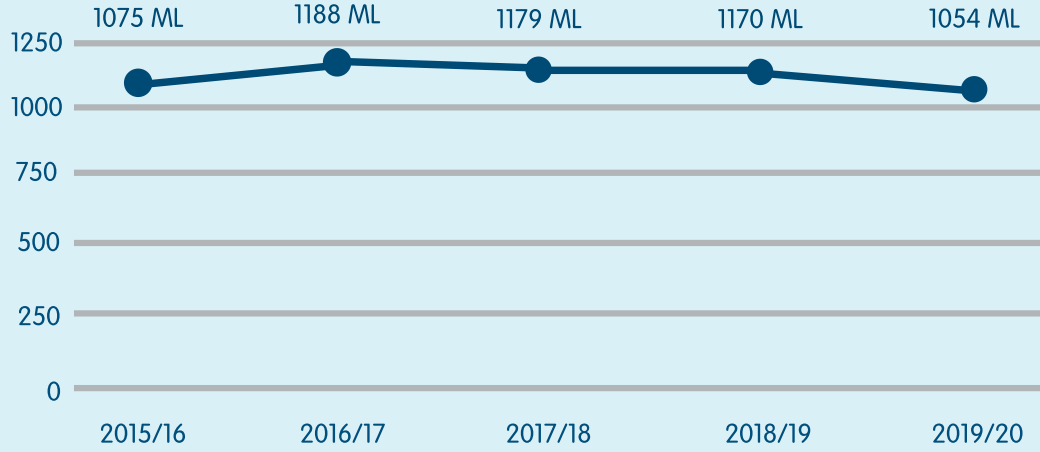
REGIONAL COMPARISON - EXPENDITURE

REGION	EXPENDITURE PER REGION	AVERAGE EXPENDITURE PER POOL VISIT	ECONOMIC BENEFIT
GOLDFIELDS	\$4,440,741	\$22.44	1.6
GREAT SOUTHERN	\$2,750,307	\$34.55	2.9
KIMBERLEY	\$3,626,166	\$72.95	1.0
MID WEST	\$5,067,172	\$24.70	2.1
PILBARA	\$6,976,381	\$27.65	1.3
SOUTH WEST	\$7,729,710	\$20.78	2.5
WHEATBELT	\$5,276,838	\$24.57	1.4
METROPOLITAN PERTH	\$47,498,225	\$9.17	4.8

*RATIO OF ECONOMIC BENEFIT COMPARED TO EXPENDITURE E.G. ECONOMIC BENEFIT OF PUBLIC POOL USE FOR THE GOLDFIELDS REGION IS 1.4 TIMES GREATER THAN THE EXPENDITURE

WATER CONSUMPTION

Total water consumption, 2015/16 to 2019/20



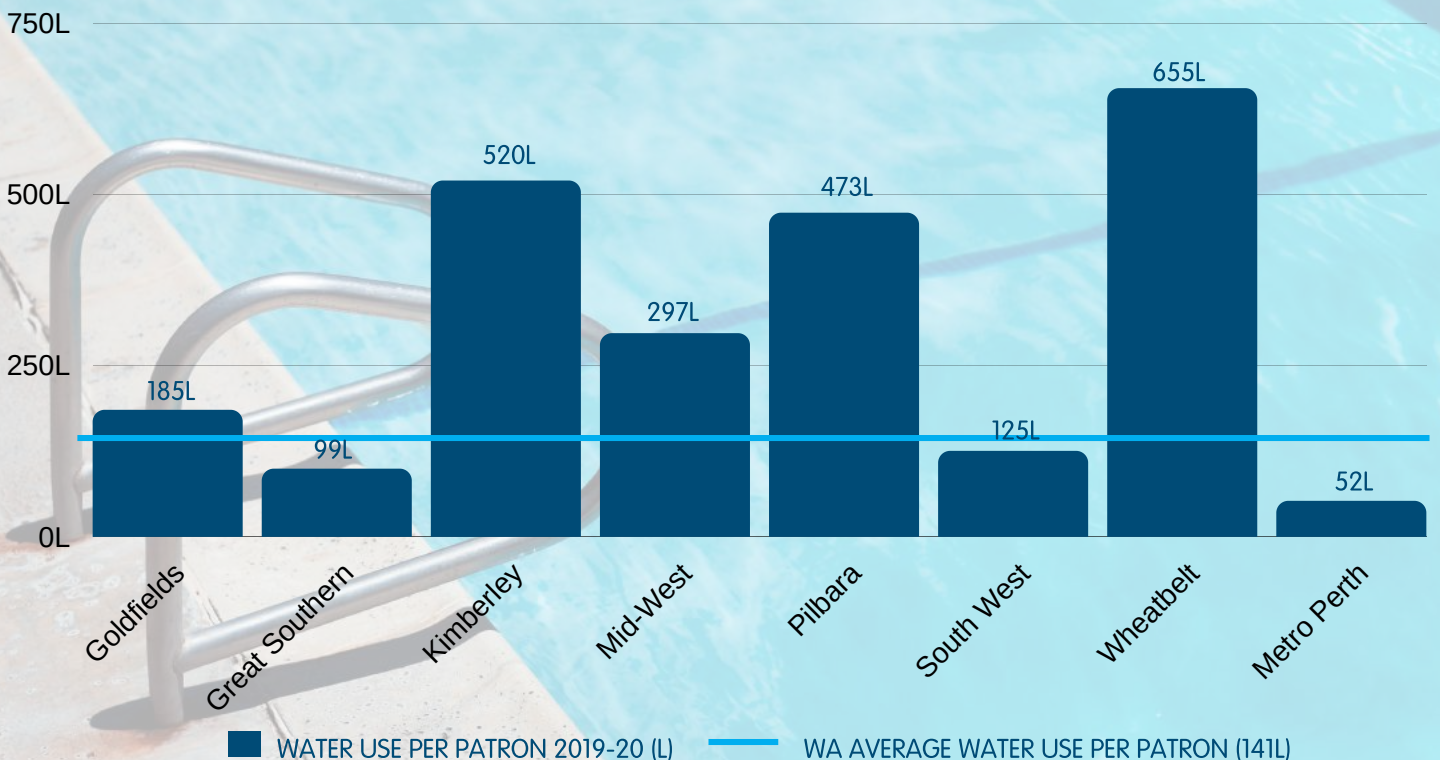
1262 ML
TOTAL WATER
CONSUMPTION 2019/20

2.3% ✓
DECREASE IN
CONSUMPTION FROM
2019/20

REGIONAL COMPARISON

REGION	2019/20	2019/20
GOLDFIELDS	51.3ML	↑
GREAT SOUTHERN	30.3ML	↑
KIMBERLEY	73.3ML	↑
MID WEST	119.6ML	↑
PILBARA	169.6ML	↓
SOUTH WEST	95.1ML	↓
WHEATBELT	196.2ML	↑
METROPOLITAN PERTH	518.6ML	↓

ESTIMATED WATER CONSUMPTION IN LITRES PER PATRON VISIT BY REGION 2019-20





LIFE GUARD

WORKFORCE PROFILE

OVERALL WORKFORCE



3972

PEOPLE WERE EMPLOYED WITHIN THE AQUATIC INDUSTRY IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA IN 2019/20.

4 in 5

PEOPLE WERE EMPLOYED ON CASUAL CONTRACTS IN 2019/20.

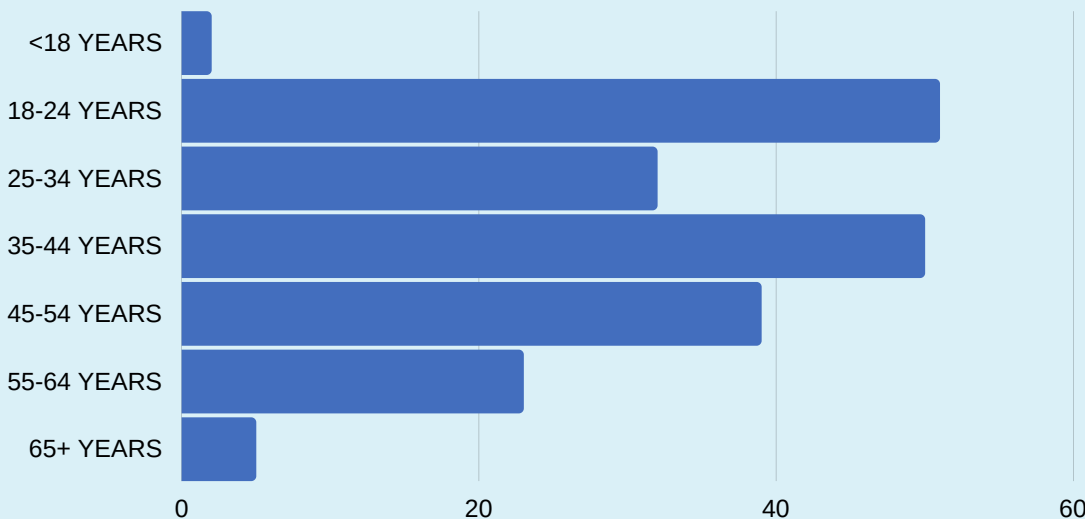
66%



OF EMPLOYEES WORK IN THE PERTH METROPOLITAN AREA (N=269).

15-24

58% OF EMPLOYEES ENTERED THE WORKFORCE AS YOUNG ADULTS (N=237).

OVERALL WORKFORCE BY AGE, 2019/20



 **24%**
 **76%**



79% OF THE WORKFORCE WERE BORN IN AUS (N=356).

The WA workforce is largely casual

21.2%

Part-time/Full-time

78.7%

Casual



21% OF THE WORKFORCE WERE BORN OVERSEAS (N=93)



2% OF THE WORKFORCE IDENTIFY AS ABORIGINAL (N=8).



47%

HAVE EMPLOYMENT OUTSIDE THE AQUATICS INDUSTRY.

41%

HAVE WORKED IN THE INDUSTRY FOR LESS THAN 5 YEARS.

43%

ARE EMPLOYED IN THE INDUSTRY BECAUSE IT 'SUITS THEIR LIFESTYLE'.

73%

ENJOY MAKING A POSITIVE IMPACT ON PEOPLES LIVES THROUGH THEIR ROLE.

THE AQUATIC WORKFORCE IS LARGELY LOCAL COMMUNITY MEMBERS

71%

LIVE WITHIN 15 KMS OF WORKPLACE

84%

LIVE WITHIN 30MINS OR LESS OF WORKPLACE

32%

STATED THEY NEVER HAVE ANOTHER JOB

46%

ARE ENROLLED IN STUDY WHILE WORKING IN THE INDUSTRY.

REASONS THAT PEOPLE JOINED THE AQUATICS WORKFORCE

43%

IT SUITED THEIR LIFESTYLE

41%

HAD A BACKGROUND IN SWIMMING

40%

PERSONAL INTEREST

31%

FOR CAREER OPPORTUNITY

16%

TO BE INVOLVED IN THE COMMUNITY

THERE IS A HIGH WORKFORCE TURNOVER WITHIN THE INDUSTRY

40%

HAVE WORKED IN THE INDUSTRY FOR LESS THAN 5 YEARS

1368

MAINTAINED QUALIFICATIONS

TOP 3 REASONS PEOPLE LEAVE THE AQUATICS INDUSTRY

61%

NOT ENOUGH WORK HOURS AVAILABLE

47%

SEASONAL NATURE OF THE WORK

31%

LACK OF CAREER OPPORTUNITY



AQUATIC TECHNICAL OPERATOR

496

**ACCREDITED OPERATORS,
2019/20.**

METRO PERTH = 301 (57%)

REGIONAL WA = 224 (43%)

453

**AVAILABLE OPERATOR
POSITIONS, 2019/20.**

METRO PERTH = 211 (47%)

REGIONAL WA = 242 (53%)

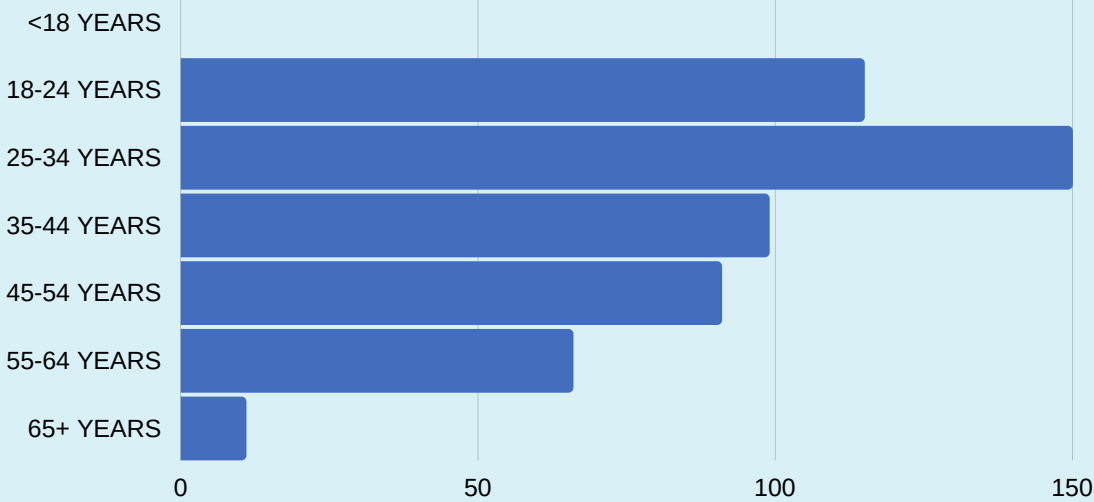
Operators are mostly employed in full-time/part-time positions

82%

18%



AQUATIC TECHNICAL OPERATOR BY AGE, 2019/20



37

AVERAGE AGE OF
OPERATOR 2019/20



2% OF OPERATORS
IDENTIFY AS
ABORIGINAL.

59%

41%

26%

REPORTED IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO
RECRUIT NEW STAFF TO FILL/COVER
OPERATOR ROLES.



20% OF OPERATORS
WERE BORN
OVERSEAS.

59%

BELIEVE THEY DO NOT HAVE AN
ADEQUATE NUMBER OF OPERATORS FOR
THE NEXT 12 MONTHS.

POOL LIFEGUARDS



1875

**QUALIFIED LIFEGUARDS,
2019/20**

METRO PERTH = 1157 (65%)*
REGIONAL WA = 632 (35%)

1059

**AVAILABLE LIFEGUARD
POSITIONS, 2019/20**

METRO PERTH = 741 (70%)
REGIONAL WA = 318 (30%)

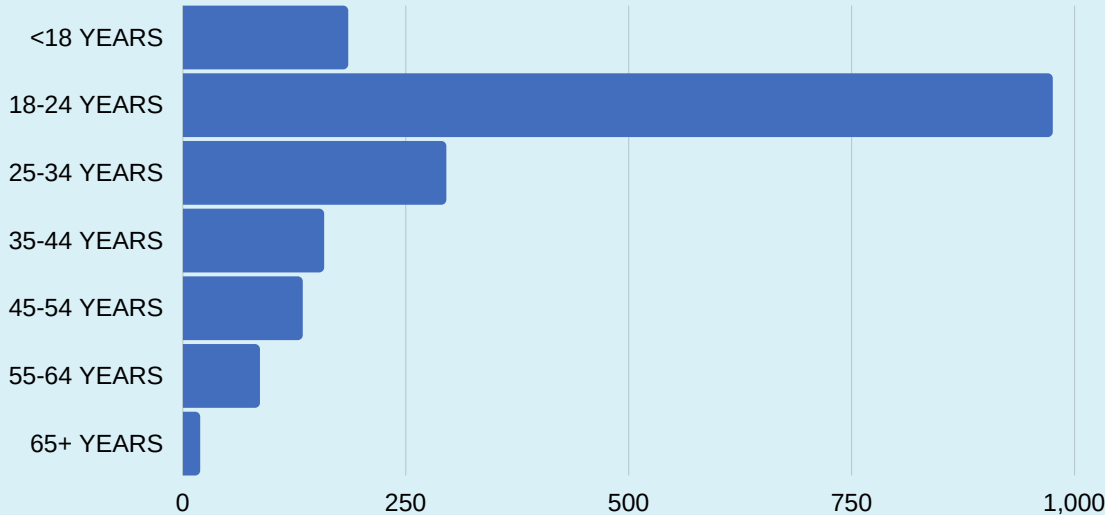


Lifeguards are mostly employed in casual positions.

35%

65%

LIFEGUARDS BY AGE, 2019/20



28

**AVERAGE AGE OF
LIFEGUARDS 2019/20**



**0% OF POOL
LIFEGUARDS IDENTIFY
AS ABORIGINAL.**

54% **46%**

49%

**REPORTED IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO
RECRUIT NEW STAFF TO FILL/COVER
LIFEGUARD ROLES.**



**14% OF POOL
LIFEGUARDS WERE BORN
OVERSEAS.**

52%

**BELIEVE THEY DO NOT HAVE AN
ADEQUATE NUMBER OF LIFEGUARDS FOR
THE NEXT 12 MONTHS.**

*86 had not provided their postcode.

SWIM INSTRUCTORS



4986

QUALIFIED SWIMMING INSTRUCTORS, 2019/20.

METRO PERTH = 3777 (76%)

REGIONAL WA = 1209 (24%)

1465

SWIMMING INSTRUCTOR POSITIONS, 2019/20.

METRO PERTH = 974 (66%)

REGIONAL WA = 491 (34%)

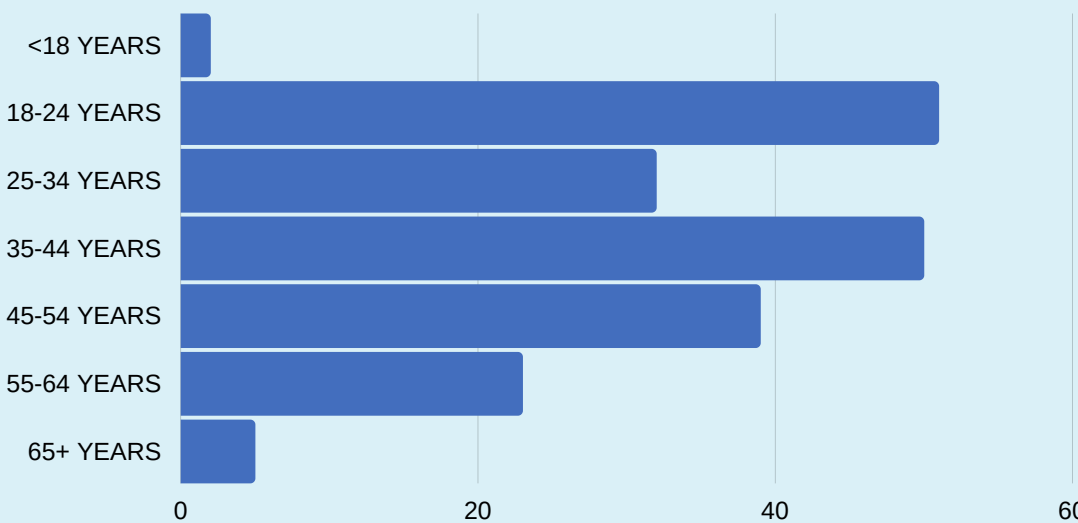


Swimming instructors are mostly employed in casual positions

24%

70%

SWIMMING INSTRUCTORS BY AGE, 2019/20



31

AVERAGE AGE OF SWIMMING INSTRUCTORS 2019/20



2% OF SWIMMING INSTRUCTORS IDENTIFY AS ABORIGINAL.

20% **80%**

26%

REPORTED IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO RECRUIT NEW STAFF TO FILL/COVER POOL SWIMMING INSTRUCTOR ROLES.



22% OF SWIMMING INSTRUCTORS WERE BORN OVERSEAS.

53%

BELIEVE THEY DO NOT HAVE AN ADEQUATE NUMBER OF SWIMMING INSTRUCTORS IN THEIR REGION.



INJURIES



55

**POOLS PROVIDED
OVERALL INJURY DATA
IN 2019-20**

2,090

**INJURIES WERE RECORDED
AT PUBLIC SWIMMING
POOLS IN 2019-20**

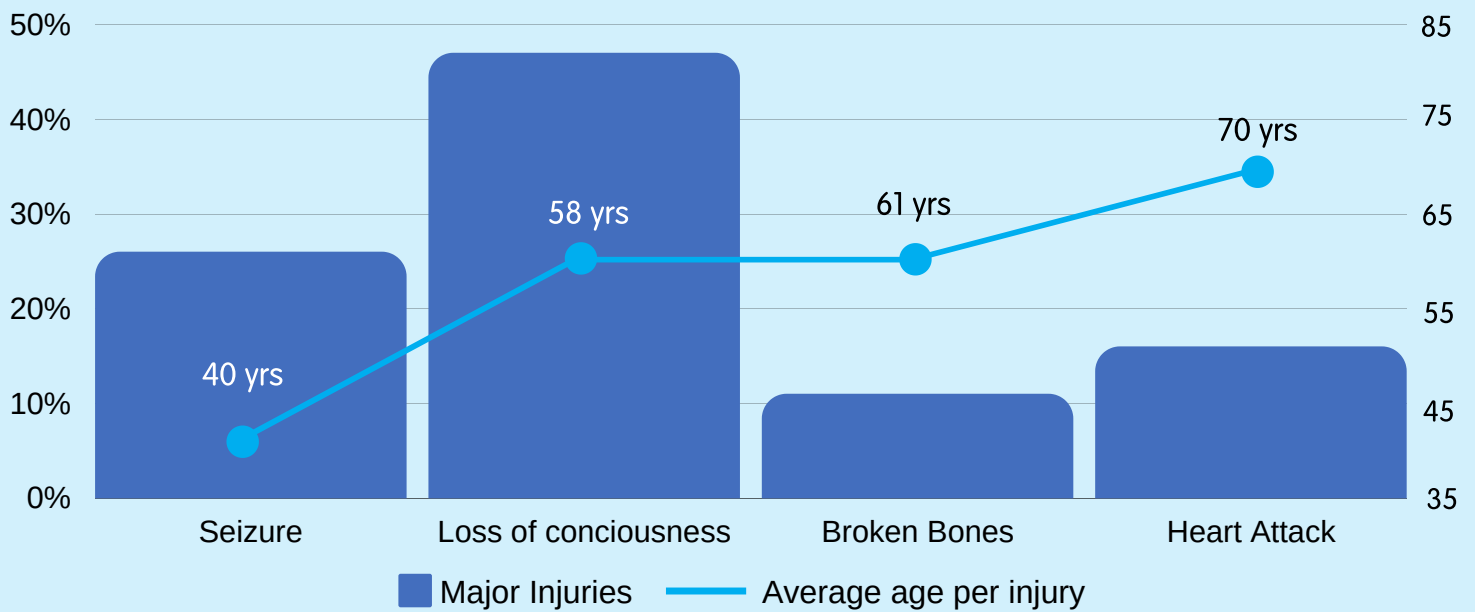
20.3

**INJURIES RECORDED
PER 100,000 VISITS IN
2019-20**

40

**MAJOR INJURIES
WERE REPORTED BY
PARTICIPATING POOLS**

Major Injuries recorded at Public Pools 2019/20



TOP 3 INCIDENTS

- 1** PRE-EXISTING MEDICAL CONDITION
- 2** FALL/TRIP
- 3** SPONTANEOUS FAINTING

TOP 3 INJURIES

- 1** LOSS OF CONSCIOUSNESS
- 2** HEART ATTACK
- 3** SEIZURE





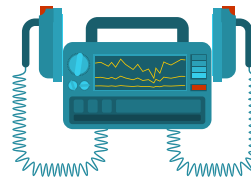
 **63%**  **37%** MALES WERE MORE LIKELY TO EXPERIENCE A MAJOR INJURY AT PUBLIC SWIMMING POOLS THAN FEMALES.



72%
REQUIRED AN
AMBULANCE



54%
REQUIRED
OXYGEN
THERAPY



25%
REQUIRED A
DEFIB

81%

OF AQUATIC INDUSTRY EMPLOYEES SURVEYED REPORTED THEY HAD SUSTAINED AN INJURY WHILE AT WORK WITH THE MAJORITY UNABLE TO RETURN FOR 1-7 DAYS.

63%

MORE THAN HALF OF MAJOR INCIDENTS INVOLVED PEOPLE AGED 50+ YEARS.

55

THE AVERAGE AGE OF PEOPLE WHO SUFFERED FROM MAJOR INJURIES.

34%

SUFFERED LOSS OF CONSCIOUSNESS AS A RESULT OF A PRE-EXISTING MEDICAL CONDITION.



SAFETY ASSESSMENT SCORES

29

POOLS ASSESSED IN
2019-20

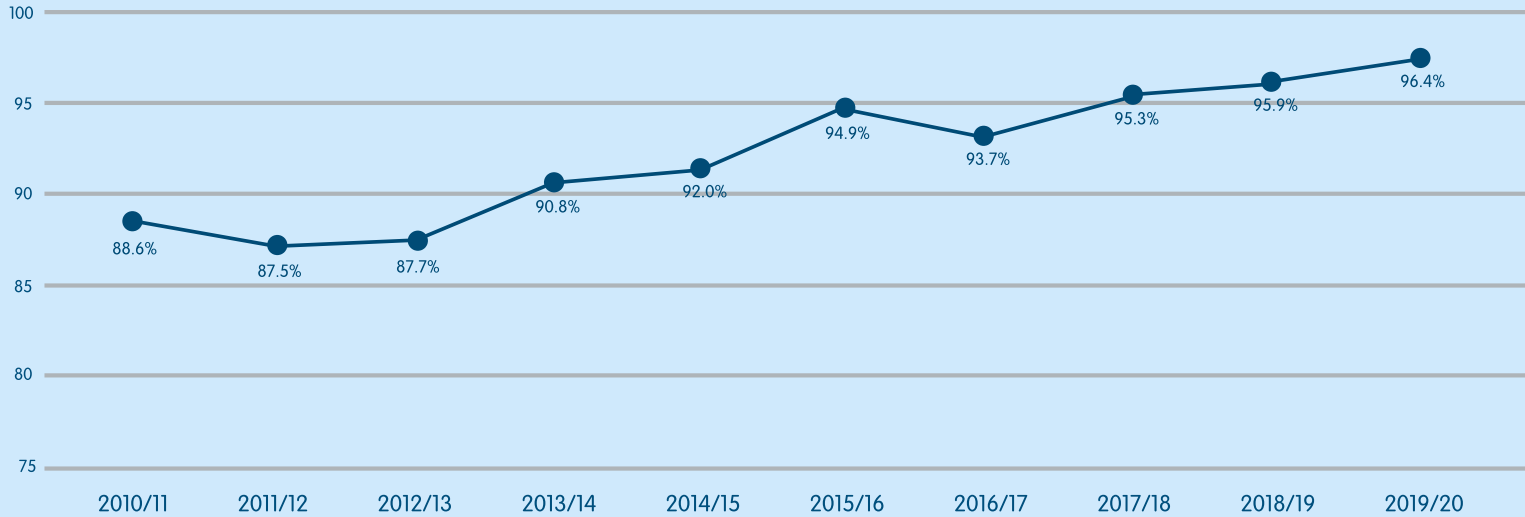
96.8%

AVERAGE SAFETY
ASSESSMENT SCORE
2019/20

72.4%

OF POOLS INCREASED
THEIR SAFETY SCORE FROM
PREVIOUS ASSESSMENT

Average Safety Assessment Scores, 2010/11 to 2019/20



PUBLIC SWIMMING POOLS IN THE PERTH METRO AREA HAVE A HIGHER AVERAGE SAFETY SCORE (98.4%) COMPARED TO THOSE IN REGIONAL WA (96.1%). THIS GAP HAS DECREASED FROM 2018/19.

METROPOLITAN PERTH 2019-20

- 9 SAFETY ASSESSMENTS CONDUCTED
- AVERAGE SAFETY SCORE - 98.4%

MOST RECENT SCORE

- OVERALL SAFETY SCORE - 97.0%
- 2.9% (N=1) SCORED 80-89.99%
- 97.4% (N=34) SCORED 90-100%

REGIONAL WESTERN AUSTRALIA 2019-20

- 20 SAFETY ASSESSMENTS CONDUCTED
- AVERAGE SAFETY SCORE - 96.1%

MOST RECENT SCORE

- OVERALL SAFETY SCORE - 94.9%
- 10.4% (N=10) SCORED 80-89.99%
- 89.6% (N=86) SCORED 90-100%



**TOP 3 REGIONS WHERE
ASSESSMENTS WERE UNDERTAKEN
2019/20**

- 1** WHEATBELT (NORTH & SOUTH)
- 2** PERTH METROPOLITAN
- 3** SOUTH WEST

**TOP 3 AREAS OF RISK IDENTIFIED
2019/20**

- 1** CHEMICAL SAFETY
- 2** SPECIAL FEATURES
- 3** DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION

COMPONENT SCORES

ASSESSMENT COMPONENT	RANK	2019-20	MOST RECENT*
Administration	# 7	94.19	95.27
Design and Construction	# 10	93.13	94.98
Circulation and Treatment	# 3	99.49	98.46
Chemical Safety	# 12	85.74	86.01
Water Quality	# 4	98.51	98.59
Qualifications	# 6	96.55	98.97
General Operation	# 9	93.39	95.21
Special Features	# 11	87.52	91.81
Spa Pools	# 5	96.88	97.46
Water Slides	# 8	93.96	95.31
Hydrotherapy	# 2	100.0	95.45
Spray Park	# 1	100.0	97.53

*Most recent refers to the average of all pools most recent safety score.

INDIVIDUAL COMPONENT SCORES

Average pass rates for individual component criteria that DID NOT have 100% pass rate have been included in the tables below. Where there is an *** it means that the score was 100%.

1. General Administration

	METROPOLITAN	REGIONAL
1.01 Does the centre have a Department of Health 'permit to operate' as a Group 1 facility?	***	95.0
1.02 Does the centre have a document site plan?	***	94.7
1.09 Are reports made and appropriately stored for every incident involving life-threatening hazards and First Aid?	***	95.2
1.11 Is there an appropriate agreement/contract for all hirers of all or parts of the facility?	***	82.4

2. DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION

	METROPOLITAN	REGIONAL
2.11 Are depth markers clearly visible from within the pool (where sides are >125mm)?	***	94.1
2.12 Is there sufficient signage identifying deep water (>1.8m), shallow water particularly at pool entry points.	83.3	53.3
2.13 In water under 1.8m in depth is "Do Not Dive" signage visible when entering the water body?	***	94.1
2.14 Does the facility have an entry sign in accordance with Code of Practice Appendix 2?	60.0	***
2.15 Is signage present at the entrance to the facility that specifies the conditions of use of the facility?	83.3	95.0
2.16 Is signage present that encourages responsible behaviour?	***	95.0
2.17 Is signage present that encourages parental supervision in appropriate areas?	87.5	87.5

2. DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION (continued)

	METROPOLITAN	REGIONAL
2.18 Are aquatic facilities without lighting provided with signage at all access points stating 'No use of facility allowed after dark'?	***	80.0
2.23 Are starting blocks whether permanent or removable installed over water 1.2m or deeper?	***	92.9
2.33 Are emergency exit signs clear in any lighting conditions?	83.3	68.8
2.37 Is there a designated First Aid room or area of appropriate size and configuration?	***	85.0
2.38 Does the main First Aid room contain a minimum of infrastructure (COP Table 2) to facilitate immediate and after care of an injured or ill user?	***	93.3
2.40 Is the First Aid room or area easily identified with standard signage?	87.5	89.5
2.46 Is the facility provided with lightning protection systems in accordance with AS 1768 and/or safety procedures?	***	94.7

3. CIRCULATION AND TREATMENT

	METROPOLITAN	REGIONAL
3.12 Is pipe work clearly identified to indicate flow direction and contents of pipe?	75.0	88.2
3.16 Is the facility installed with an operational automatic dosing system?	***	90.0

4. CHEMICAL SAFETY

	METROPOLITAN	REGIONAL
3.12 Is pipe work clearly identified to indicate flow direction and contents of pipe?	75.0	88.2
3.16 Is the facility installed with an operational automatic dosing system?	***	90.0

4. CHEMICAL SAFETY (continued)

	METROPOLITAN	REGIONAL
4.03 Does the installation have a current Poisons license?	***	76.9
4.04 Does the installation have a current Dangerous Goods License?	***	72.7
4.06 Does the installation have a HAZCHEM sign, as well as placarding and/or DG diamonds?	***	94.7
4.07 Does the site have chlorine leak detectors and are they regularly tested?	***	75.0
4.09 Does the site have an emergency shutdown system?	***	75.0
4.10 Have operators been appropriately trained within the last 3 years?	***	88.9
4.12 Does the site have a windsock/wind direction indicator located near the installation?	***	81.8
4.13 Are cylinders moved using a cylinder trolley or some other means to reduce manual handling injuries?	50.0	***
4.22 Can access doors be secured open to prevent them closing when room is occupied?	***	66.7
4.25 Does management use a Permit to Work system to access the chlorine installation?	***	83.3
4.26 Are maintenance reports or logs kept by those doing the maintenance and are they available to Pool Management to review?	***	93.8
4.28 Has a manifest listing all the types and maximum quantities of each chemical stored been developed and stored in a suitable remote location?. Provided prior to assessment. Verified on site.	***	66.7
4.29 Based on the Storage Factor and quantities of Dangerous Goods stored on the premises has bunding been installed and is it sufficient to retain a spill or leak?	***	94.1
4.31 Are all pipes, valves and pumps, controlling water and chemical feeds, clearly labelled to promote correct operation?	75.0	70.0

4. CHEMICAL SAFETY (continued)

	METROPOLITAN	REGIONAL
4.32 Is signage, complying with Australian Standard AS1319, in plant rooms and chemical handling areas promoting the use of PPE displayed?	***	71.4
4.33 Is signage, complying with Australian Standard AS1319, indicating restricted access (e.g. "Staff Only") and prohibiting smoking displayed at entrances to, and inside, the plant room and chemical storage areas?	71.4	84.2
4.34 Are all chemical storage areas clearly labelled?	71.4	94.4
4.35 Depending on the type of chemical stored (package goods or bulk) is the facility correctly placarded?	85.7	***
4.38 Does the plant room have storage and delivery procedures for hazardous substances stored on site?	87.5	94.4
4.42 Has a risk assessment been conducted on the storage and handling of the chlorine gas cylinders?	***	58.3
4.43 Does the site have an emergency plan, covering chlorine gas, with detailed site layout lodged with the emergency services?	***	90.9
4.44 Has the emergency response plan been tested through an incident scenario either as a desktop review or a field exercise?	***	91.7

6. QUALIFICATIONS

	METROPOLITAN	REGIONAL
6.04 Have operators been appropriately trained within the last 3 years?	***	85.7

7. GENERAL SANITATION AND OPERATION

	METROPOLITAN	REGIONAL
7.06 Is the facility currently endorsed as a 'Watch – Around-Water facility?	***	68.4

7. GENERAL SANITATION AND OPERATION (continued)

	METROPOLITAN	REGIONAL
7.08 Does the facility use and display "Watch-Around-Water" resources and strategies to encourage parental supervision around the facility?	71.4	84.6
7.19 Has an Emergency Action Plan (EAP,) that includes sections for different scenarios and locations been developed?	***	94.1
7.20 Have all parts of the EAP been practised in the last 12 months?	***	76.4
7.21 Has an evacuation kit been prepared?	***	93.3
7.27 Is a suitable hire agreement in place for external program organisers?	***	83.3

8. SPECIAL FEATURES

	METROPOLITAN	REGIONAL
8.27 Has the centre completed a risk assessment of the inflatable device and its intended use?	***	92.9
8.29 Has the centre developed operational procedures for: an evacuation due to deflation, patron limits (including swim ability), environmental conditions, dress code and activity controls?	***	92.9

10. SPA POOL

	METROPOLITAN	REGIONAL
10.04 Is the maximum loading on the entire structure known and signposted?	***	66.7





RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATIONS



IMPROVE WORKFORCE DIVERSITY

To ensure we continue to meet community needs, efforts need to be made to ensure the industry is employing people with diverse backgrounds. Doing so, will create a culture where people from all backgrounds feel included and safe at public swimming pools across WA.



PROMOTE BENEFITS OF PUBLIC POOLS

Public pools provide a fun and safe space for community enjoyment and are a popular location for physical activity. Thus, generating significant health and economic benefits for WA. Better promotion of the benefits is needed to demonstrate the value of public pools to community members.



INCREASE EFFORTS TO REDUCE MAJOR INJURIES

People 50+ yrs are most likely to suffer from a major injury at public pools. Preventative interventions need be introduced to reduce injury risk. In addition, the development of a central database to track major incidents and ensure consistency in reporting should be considered.



STAFF RECRUITMENT STRATEGIES NEEDED TO MEET DEMAND

With the demand for swimming lessons increasing by more than 20% this year, it is vital recruitment strategies are developed to boost workforce numbers. This is particularly important in the regions where staffing levels do not meet the number of individuals registering in programs.



IMPROVING SAFETY SCORES & ACTION AREAS

Safety scores at public swimming pools continue to increase, however, there is a need to encourage continual improvements in this area. To facilitate ongoing improvements, safety assessment components, strategies and reporting should be regularly be revised and renewed.



METHODS

This report includes data from WA public swimming pools from 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020.

Data were collected using the following strategies:

- State of the Industry data were collected via an online survey promoted to pool managers/supervisors via email.
- Data relating to water usage were collected directly from the Water Corporation.
- The Aquatic Workforce Data were gathered from RLSSWA (online survey), LIWA Aquatics and AUSTswim. Additional workforce data was sourced from RLSSA. These sources provided general demographic information, staff numbers, and additional data about the workforce more broadly.
- Injuries at Public Pools data were collected from the aquatic centres via an online survey, provision of own databases and/or providing copies of individual injury reports.
- Safety Assessment Scores data were collected through Safety Assessment reports completed by qualified RLSSWA Workforce Solutions staff.

55%
OF PUBLIC SWIMMING
POOLS PARTICIPATED
IN THIS RESEARCH

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PARTNERS & CONTRIBUTIONS

- AUSTSWIM
- WATER CORPORATION
- ROYAL LIFE SAVING AUSTRALIA

PARTICIPATING AQUATIC FACILITIES

- Aqua Jetty
- Aqualife Centre
- Armadale Fitness and Aquatic Centre (AFAC)
- Bay of Isles Leisure Centre
- Bayswater Waves
- Bilgoman Aquatic
- Bold Park Aquatic
- Bridgetown Leisure Centre
- Broome Recreation & Aquatic Centre
- Bruce Rock Aquatic Centre
- Burringurrah Aquatic Centre
- Carnarvon Aquatic Centre
- Christmas Island Recreation Centre
- Claremont Aquatic Centre
- Cockburn Aquatic & Recreation Centre
- Cockburn ARC
- Coolgardie Swimming Pool
- Corrigin Memorial Swimming pools
- Craigie Leisure Centre
- Dalwallinu Aquatic Centre
- Derby Memorial Swimming Pool
- Donnybrook Recreation Centre
- Fitzroy Crossing Swimming Pool
- Fremantle Leisure Centre
- Gingin Aquatic Centre
- Goldfields Oasis
- HBF Arena
- Hyden Swimming Pool
- Jigalong Remote Swimming Pool
- Kambalda Aquatic Facility
- Katanning Aquatic Centre
- Kellerberrin Memorial Swimming Pool
- Kulin Aquatic Centre
- Kununurra Leisure Centre
- Kwinana Recquatic Centre
- Leinster Pool
- Leisure World
- LeisureFit Booragoon
- Leonora Aquatic and Recreation Centre
- Leschenault Leisure Centre
- Mandurah Aquatic and Recreation Centre
- Manjimup Regional AquaCentre
- Marble Bar Aquatic Centre
- Merredin District Olympic Swimming Pool
- Moora Swimming Pool
- Morawa Aquatic Centre
- Mount Magnet Memorial Swimming Pool
- Mukinbudin Pioneer Aquatic Centre
- Narembeen Aquatic Centre
- Norseman Aquatic Centre
- Northam Recreation and Aquatic Centre
- Onslow Aquatic Centre
- Paltridge Memorial Swimming Pool (Exmouth)
- Quentin Broad Swimming Centre
- Scarborough Beach Pool
- Shire of Coorow Swimming Pool
- Shire of Dumbleyung Recreation Centre
- Shire of Wickiepin Swimming Pool
- South Hedland Aquatic Centre
- Swan Active Ballajura
- Swan Active Midland
- Terry Tyzack Aquatic Centre
- Vic Hayton Memorial Swimming Pool Tom Price
- Wagin Memorial Swimming Pool
- Wanneroo Aquamotion
- Warmun Aquatic Centre
- Waroona Recreation and Aquatic Centre
- Wickham and Roebourne Aquatic Centre
- Wiluna Swimming Pool
- Yandeyarra Remote Community
- YMCA Narrogin Regional Leisure Centre
- York War Memorial Swimming Pool