



Irish Water Safety

Sábháilteacht Uisce na hÉireann

Irish Water Safety is the statutory and voluntary body established to promote water safety in Ireland.
Tá Sábháilteacht Uisce na hÉireann ina bhord deonach reachtúil a bunaíodh le sábháilteacht uisce a chothú in Éireann.

Annual Report 2010



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**Mary McAleese, President of Ireland
(Patron of Irish Water Safety)**





Chairman's Statement

In presenting this Annual Report, I am very proud to be part of an Organisation which has delivered on one of the most important investments for which we were founded in 1945, that is the preservation of life from drowning and the education of the public in basic swimming and lifesaving throughout Ireland.

The report contains a comprehensive review of the many activities of Irish Water Safety for the year 2010 and as you read through the report you will note and recognise the tenacity with which our volunteers have met the challenges of the hard economic reality we now live in but at the same time being very upbeat in progressing water safety and rescue goals beyond expectation and forecasts. It has been another exciting year of voluntary effort and professionalism on behalf of the members and staff who make a determined effort and commitment to reducing drowning in Ireland and assisting with reducing it in developing countries through International Life Saving.

The success of the Organisation in 2010 is due in no small measure to all levels of involvement among our volunteer members, be it those serving on Council, within Commissions, our Life Governors, Water Safety Area Committees nationwide, the Examiners, Tutors, Instructors and Organisers at local level. These are all supported by a dedicated hard working staff led by the Chief Executive Officer and working within the terms of the Croke Park Agreement.

In my long time involvement within our Organisation, I have been to the fore on many occasions over the years, either as a Council Member or Chairman, where we (Council) have had to deal with issues that have been very testing for Irish Water Safety with regard to our voluntary ethos and viability. These difficult financial times at present are no exception and the forecast for the future is challenging, indeed, these are "challenging times" and therefore it is not enough to sit and wait for solutions. One must meet the challenges head-on by being proactive in seeking solutions to carry the Organisation forward into the future. For example, one of these decisions arising during 2010, was to introduce commercialisation (that is, charges for certificates, courses, etc) which was not an easy decision for Council to arrive at. This notwithstanding the fact that they are moderate charges but very necessary to make up financial short falls in the income figure. If Council had not gone down this road our financial viability as an organisation would become stagnated with possible other consequences. These small charges are in line with most if not all voluntary Lifesaving Federations worldwide.

As Chairman, I am very aware that as a State Body, Irish Water Safety has one very big asset that has sustained it over many years, that is the voluntary commitment given by members since it was founded in 1945 under the auspices of the Irish Red Cross Society (Water Safety Section). It was founded to bring swimming and lifesaving to every corner of Ireland through a community based approach through every Water Safety Area Committee and its volunteer members. However, I recognise as the Council does, that in macro economic terms you must have finances to support and expand the work undertaken by volunteers or the organisation will not succeed. This includes all that goes with Ireland having a recognised "Voluntary State Lifesaving Federation" within Ireland that is of equal standing with all other lifesaving organisations worldwide.

Council wishes to acknowledge the positive financial support that we received from the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government during 2010 and coupled with this the generous financial help given to us by the various Local Authorities throughout Ireland. As I have mentioned earlier, commercialisation is now playing a role within the organisation but we still are very much dependent on Government and Local Authority grants coupled with our volunteer fundraising and voluntary contributions from our members. The capital expenditure saved through generous "Corporate" sponsorship both monetary and in-kind has made a positive contribution towards saving life through the promotion of Water Safety Awareness. It is worthy of mention that in free television showing of our advertisements on "safety



awareness” during 2010 we saved a total expenditure of 350,000 Euro. This excludes the other 200,000 Euro of free coverage of press releases etc. Therefore I thank all the media nationwide and locally - Press, Radio, TV and others - for their kind support of Irish Water Safety at all times.

The total number of drownings in Ireland in 2010 was 112, the lowest figure since 1952 when 104 people drowned. We averaged 150 drownings each year in the decade to 2010, a decade during which Irish Water Safety developed a range of educational and promotional campaigns to raise awareness about water safety. It is very satisfactory from a lifesaving perspective to see the results of Irish Water Safety programmes reflected in such a dramatic reduction in drowning. That we have now ended a decade in which we can report that we have the lowest number of drownings for 58 years is reason enough to be confident that the work of Irish Water Safety and our partners in the public and private sector is having the desired outcome – more people enjoying our wonderful aquatic facilities more safely.

The number of accidental drownings is down, but we continue to address the drownings that are classified as “undetermined”. The Organisation is associated with many national bodies addressing this issue, one being the “Samaritans” and we will continue to be proactive in this field.

Irish Water Safety is statutorily charged with responsibility for water safety in this Country, but we do appreciate the efforts of the many organisations in Ireland with whom we work closely in making Irish waters safe for all. We cooperate fully with our parent Department of “Environment” and also with the Departments of Education and Communication. We work with regard to lifeguards, risk assessments etc with Local Authorities. We work closely through various committees with the Irish Coast Guard, An Garda Síochána, the Marine Safety Directorate, Royal National Lifeboat Institution, Community Inshore Rescue Groups, Irish Sailing Association, Irish Surfing Association, Commissioners of Irish Lights, the Defence Forces, ILAM, Swim Ireland, Waterways Ireland, the Inland Waterways Association and An Taisce in an effort to improve safety awareness on all waters of Ireland, and with many other aquatic and sporting bodies who operate a code of good practice (second to none) for their members.

Irish Water Safety, through its collective expertise, leadership and dedication, provides opportunities for the young as instructors, lifesavers, lifeguards, and competitors in Life Saving sport to develop their leadership skills and to experience tremendous personal growth in a philanthropic organisation in the service of mankind. There is no doubt but that through Irish Water Safety these young people will undoubtedly carry this growth and development with them into their personal and professional lives. The record of commitment by young people within Irish Water Safety in giving freely in the service of others is proven by the fact that many former young members have attained the highest accolades both in community, civic and private industry in this country and abroad. It is worthy of note that Irish Water Safety was one of the first voluntary Organisations to put in place a “Code Of Ethics” for the protection of the young and the Organisation strives to attain the highest standards at all times in accordance with recognised good practice and standards. Notable also is the fact that Council reaffirmed its commitment to Garda vetting for all volunteer members dealing with young people.

Irish Water Safety is affiliated to three international bodies at European and World level, International Life Saving Federation, the International Federation of Swimming Teachers Associations and the International Maritime Rescue Federation. Within these organisations Irish Water Safety members play lead roles, holding positions of high office and contributing fully to world water safety. It is anticipated that the “International Life Saving Europe” region will hold its Board Meeting and Conference in Dublin during 2011. It is through these international associations that we gain many ideas on new methodologies for water safety promotion and rescue techniques which are passed onto the general public in our determined effort to reduce drowning accidents. It is necessary in certain cases to attend overseas conferences as full participating members of these international bodies, but this is done and has always



been done in a cost effective manner and within Department of Finance guidelines.

Measuring the success and effectiveness of the Organisation is always done on an annual basis, but more particularly now in these difficult financial times, thus ensuring compliance with government policy as enumerated to us. The year 2010 was no exception and I can report that the number of persons who receive our instruction annually continues in strength according to our certificate database, which is highlighted within the annual report. Our spending was on target within the Council approved budgets etc. Another stress factor that is very pertinent to our overall success is the continued inflow of young persons as volunteers to become instructors and thus educate the public in basic swimming and lifesaving at community level. That we have maintained our core membership numbers over the past number of years is very satisfying.

During 2010 the Council on the recommendation of the Chairman invited Ms. Angela Wynne (Wicklow) and Mr. Terence Johnson (Dublin) to become "Life Governors" for their outstanding contribution to life Saving and Rescue in Ireland through their various long term activities in the promotion of water safety and rescue.

The SEIKO "Just in Time" Awards continue to be a focal point and the Council is pleased to be associated with the sponsors "Seiko Ireland" in honouring those persons who go to the rescue of persons in danger of drowning and this year there were a number of worthy recipients.

As Chairman of Irish Water Safety, I wish to publicly acknowledge the achievements of the Irish Lifesaving Team that represented us so honourably in the World 2010 Rescue Series in Alexandria, Egypt and the Junior Team that represented Irish Water Safety in Antwerp, Belgium. I wish to pay particular tribute to two of our athletes who distinguished themselves in the competition in Alexandria. They are Norma Cahill and Oisin McGrath both from Clare, who between them achieved 4 world records, received 10 gold medals and 3 silver medals. I congratulate them on this wonderful achievement in Lifesaving Sport. Under the Sport Commission, lifesaving sport from Nippers right up to Veterans has continued to grow tremendously with a deep seated interest among all ages of youth. Irish Water Safety continues to seek NGB Status from the Irish Sports Council for lifesaving sport in Ireland.

During the year we have launched many posters, leaflets and booklets with a view to promoting water safety awareness. Notable among these was the Pool Safety Guidelines launched in Dublin and done in tandem with Swim Ireland and ILAM. We also launched the Beach Lifeguard Manual in Waterford.

Sadly each year we lose some of our volunteer members and 2010 was no exception. The loss of dedicated friends and members within Irish Water Safety is felt throughout the organisation, particularly at local level where they operated on a voluntary basis. We extend to their families our sincere and deepest sympathy on the passing of colleagues and friends.

We thank the Chief Executive Officer, the Office & Finance Manager, the Marketing Executive and the other members of Staff for their dedication and loyalty throughout the year. They have worked extremely hard supporting the efforts of the voluntary members within a constantly growing organisation. Again, our staffing needs are tied to the Government embargo and as a State Body we are obliged to abide by the guidelines as outlined with regard to staffing levels. We did lose our Education Officer whose contract expired but we are hopeful of a replacement under the Croke Park Agreement. We wish to thank our voluntary Medical Advisor, Dr. Tony Handley for the expert medical advice he has given us throughout the year.

On a personal note, I express my thanks to my colleagues on the Council for their exceptional commitment to the promotion of water safety awareness during 2010. I take this opportunity also to thank the members who work on the various Commissions we



have in place to deal with the many disciplines which come under the remit of Irish Water Safety. These are, Rescue, Promotion, Sport, Legal, Finance, Lifesaving, Life Guards, Swimming and Education. Naturally to all our volunteer members, I offer on my own behalf and that of Council our sincere thanks for continuing the work of those who began in our organisation in 1945, through an exceptional commitment to seek to have “every person a swimmer and every swimmer a lifesaver”.

I take this opportunity to thank Mr Michael Finneran T.D, Minister of State at the Department (who had responsibility for Irish Water Safety as part of his portfolio during 2010). I also thank the Secretary General of the Department of Environment, Heritage & Local Government, Ms. Geraldine Tallon and Mr. Des Dowling “Assistant Secretary” and their Staff Members within the Department who have been most supportive of our efforts over the years and never fail to assist us at all times.

A detailed financial statement forms part of this report giving the income and expenditure over the year 2010, which has been examined and certified by the Comptroller & Auditor General as meeting the requirements of the Department of Finance and the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government. The Council is most diligent in ensuring that Corporate Governance and Accountability are to the fore in exercising their statutory responsibilities at each bi-monthly meeting. On a day to day basis, the Chief Executive Officer and Finance Officer (within the permanent headquarters staff) do likewise carry responsibilities, which are clearly defined with regard to corporate governance and control of finances for the “good management” of the organisation. In addition to the above and in further compliance with regulation, the financial management is also overseen and reported on by the Finance Commission (who report directly to the Council), and also by an independent Internal Examiner, Mr. Seán Murphy and annually by the firm of accountants, R.J.Kidney & Co Ltd, Dublin. These facts and others were reported to Minister of State, Mr. Michael Finneran T.D. and to the Department at the material time as required during the year in question.

I feel that we can reflect on 2010 with a certain satisfaction that Irish Water Safety has played a lead role in saving life in Ireland and will continue to do so in the years that follow.

In conclusion, our expertise and our professional approach are admired by many lifesaving organisations worldwide. We trust that those who will have taken time to read this report as presented by me on behalf of a small Voluntary/State Body will feel that our efforts have made a positive contribution towards saving life in Ireland.

Frank J. Nolan.
G.Kt.Odr.L.S.

Chairman
Irish Water Safety



Irish Water Safety Council 2010



Frank Nolan **Chairman**

Frank Nolan, retired member of Garda Síochána, having served in the Division of Waterford/Kilkenny, has been involved in water safety and rescue on a voluntary basis for over fifty years. He is National Chairman of Irish Water Safety, Senior Vice President of International Lifesaving Europe and a Director on the World Body of International Lifesaving. He holds many National and International Honours including being a "Grand Knight of the Order of Lifesaving" and serves on many national water safety and rescue committees. He holds an "All Ireland" Lifesaving medal with Waterford and serves as Life President of the Waterford Water Safety Branch.



Kathryn Byrne

Appointed to the Council in 2000, Kathryn Byrne is Managing Director of Limelight Communications, a public relations consultancy based in Dublin. Kathryn brings her background in PR to the Promotion Commission of which she is Chairperson.

Kathryn is an Honorary Secretary of the Public Relations Institute of Ireland.



Breda Collins

Breda Collins joined Water Safety in 1986 and is an active Instructor, Examiner and Risk Assessor. She is an International Surf Lifesaving referee and an ILSE Risk Assessor Tutor. Breda is currently serving as Chairperson of the Lifesaving Commission.



Michael Cuddihy

Michael "Buddy" Cuddihy has been a member of the board since 1987. During this time he has served on many national and international committees and is currently the Chairperson of the Lifeguard Commission and Vice Chairman of the Sports Commission of the European region (ILSE). He is also an executive member of the European College of Referees. He has a special interest in promoting sport within international lifesaving and has brought teams to South Africa, Australia, the USA and mainland Europe to compete successfully in international events. He is currently Treasurer of Waterford Water Safety Area Committee.



Jim Lawlor

Jim Lawlor, Ministerial appointment and company director. President West of IFSTA, The International Federation of Swimming Teachers' Associations (with responsibility for Europe, Africa, Americas and Oceania and due to become World President of IFSTA in 2012). Jim has served as a Director of Sligo Regional Airport and is a former President of the Irish Basketball Association and was President of Sligo Chamber of Commerce and Industry on two occasions. He is a former member of the National Board of the Chambers of Commerce of Ireland and a current member of Sligo Mental Health Association. He represents IWS on the board of the International Federation of Swimming Teachers Associations, is an Honorary Life Vice-President of STA UK and is currently serving as Chairperson of the Sports Commission.



Brendan McGrath

Brendan is currently Chairman of the Swimming Commission of IWS and has also chaired a number of other Commissions tasked with a number of National developments. He began his involvement in life saving with the Red Cross and is an active instructor, examiner and risk assessor. He is also very involved in coaching within the sports of life saving and swimming with much international experience in both areas. He represents IWS on the board of the International Federation of Swimming Teacher Associations (IFSTA) and is a senior Risk Assessment Tutor with ILS(E). Brendan is self employed, working in the field of training and development.



Michael Murphy M.Ed.

Michael's involvement in water safety goes back to 1963 when he took his Red Cross examinations. He became more involved with the administration of the organisation's instructors and examiners and is current Chairperson of the Education Commission. He led the development of a Code of Ethics for the organisation.

He is principal of a large primary school in Dublin and has been running very successful aquatics inservice courses for teachers for over 20 years. He also works with the Teacher Training Colleges in the area of P.E. and Health Promotion. He devised the PAWS programme for primary schools,

is a member of the Council of IWS and is also a member of the Education Commission of ILSE. He is on the board of Stewarts Hospital and a long serving committee member of the Dublin West Education Centre.



Martin O'Sullivan

Martin has been involved with water safety since 1971, when he did his lifesaving tests with the Red Cross. Martin has served as Chairman of Cork Water Safety Area Committee at various times since 1973 and is the current Chairperson of the Rescue Commission. He has been involved internationally since 1990 as Chairman of World Lifesaving's Membership Committee and Chairman of the Rescue Committee of the European Region of ILS (Europe). Martin is the IWS representative on the Blue Flag jury and is also the Chairman of the Rescue Committee of ILSF, the world body.



Brian Farrell

Brian M Farrell Lt Cdr (Retd.). Cadetship with Irish Shipping and entered Naval Service in 1972 where he served in command of naval vessels and other naval appointments over a twenty year period. Now working as Harbour Master Dingle, he is involved in running the Dingle Sailing Club and his main interests are sailing and boating.



Martina Moloney

A Ministerial appointment to the Council, Martina is County Manager at Galway County Council. She previously held the post of County Manager with Louth County Council, following a number of years as Director of Services with Galway City Council. She has had experience in working for numerous Local Authorities in her career to date, including Clare County Council, Limerick City Council, Donegal County Council, North Tipperary County Council and Galway City Council.



Anne Ryan

A Wexford Native, Anne is an Instructor and Volunteer with Irish Water Safety since 1995. Among her many credentials within the volunteering ethos of Irish Water Safety, Anne is also the Local Area Secretary, a Swim Teacher and Examiner and the Wexford Water Safety Area Committee Secretary. In addition to these activities, Anne finds the time to organise Cahore Outdoor Water Safety Week, with which she has played an active part since 1996. In addition to working on FETAC updates, Anne works on all matters assigned to the Lifeguard Commission of which she is a member.



John Considine

John Considine, former Local Authority Officer, was the Water Safety Development Officer in County Limerick for over twenty-five years, during which time he established the lifeguard service on the Shannon Estuary and was Secretary of the Irish Water Safety Development Officer's Association. He has served as Secretary, Treasurer, Vice-Chairman and Child Liaison Officer for the County Limerick Area Committee. He is a former member of the Council of the Irish Water Safety Association. He has served on the current Council as vice-Chair of the Lifeguard Commission and is currently Chairman of the Legal Commission. He holds a LLB degree from University of Limerick and has also studied Planning and Environmental Law in Trinity College and at the Bar Council. His leisure interests include competitive sailing and powerboating, and he is also secretary of Newcastlewest Stage & Musical Society.



Mr. Dave Corcoran

Assistant Principal, Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government; serves in the Local Government Personnel and Services section of that Department which liaises with and provides funding towards Irish Water Safety. He has served in a number of Government Departments, including Social and Family Affairs and Education and Science.



Council Meetings 2010 Attendance Record

In addition to the four Council meetings, members have also attended Commission meetings, conferences, exhibitions and other water safety events throughout the year on behalf of Council.

Kathryn Byrne	1 (maternity leave)
Breda Collins	4
John Considine	4
Dave Corcoran	1
Michael Cuddihy	4
Brian Farrell	3
Jim Lawlor	4
Brendan McGrath	2
Martina Moloney	2
Michael Murphy	1
Frank Nolan, Chair	4
Martin O'Sullivan	4
Anne Ryan	4

Water Safety Area Committees

The organisation has thirty Area Committees, arranged almost on a county basis plus the Defence Forces and the Garda Síochána Water Safety Area Committees. Much recognition must be afforded to these Water Safety Area Committees who devise a programme of events and courses to cover their areas for the year. In addition to delivering water safety promotional programmes and demonstrations at schools, colleges, businesses, exhibitions and community events, each Committee delivers an extensive programme of pool water safety sessions in the winter and beach, lake and river water safety sessions in the summer.

The official membership structure is of a voluntary nature with over one thousand five hundred members nationwide. It operates on a number of different levels: Life Governors, Examiners, Trainee Examiners, Tutors, Instructors, Trainee Instructors and Non-Technical Volunteer Organisers. Each Local Authority has a Water Safety Development Officer who is a member of Irish Water Safety.

Thanks to all their efforts to promote water safety we have seen a significant increase in the development of water safety awareness in local communities.



Staff

- Lt. Cdr. John F.M. Leech, CEO
- Roger Sweeney, Marketing Executive & Deputy CEO
- Joan Harte, Office Manager
- Jocelyn Cunningham, Clerical Administrator
- Alison Elstone, Clerical Administrator
- Lisa Anderson, Education Development Officer

Auditors

Comptroller & Auditor General
4-5 Harcourt Road
Dublin 2

Bankers

Bank of Ireland
Mainguard St
Galway

Solicitors

Lewis C Doyle & Co.
Augustine Court
Augustine Street
Galway

National Office

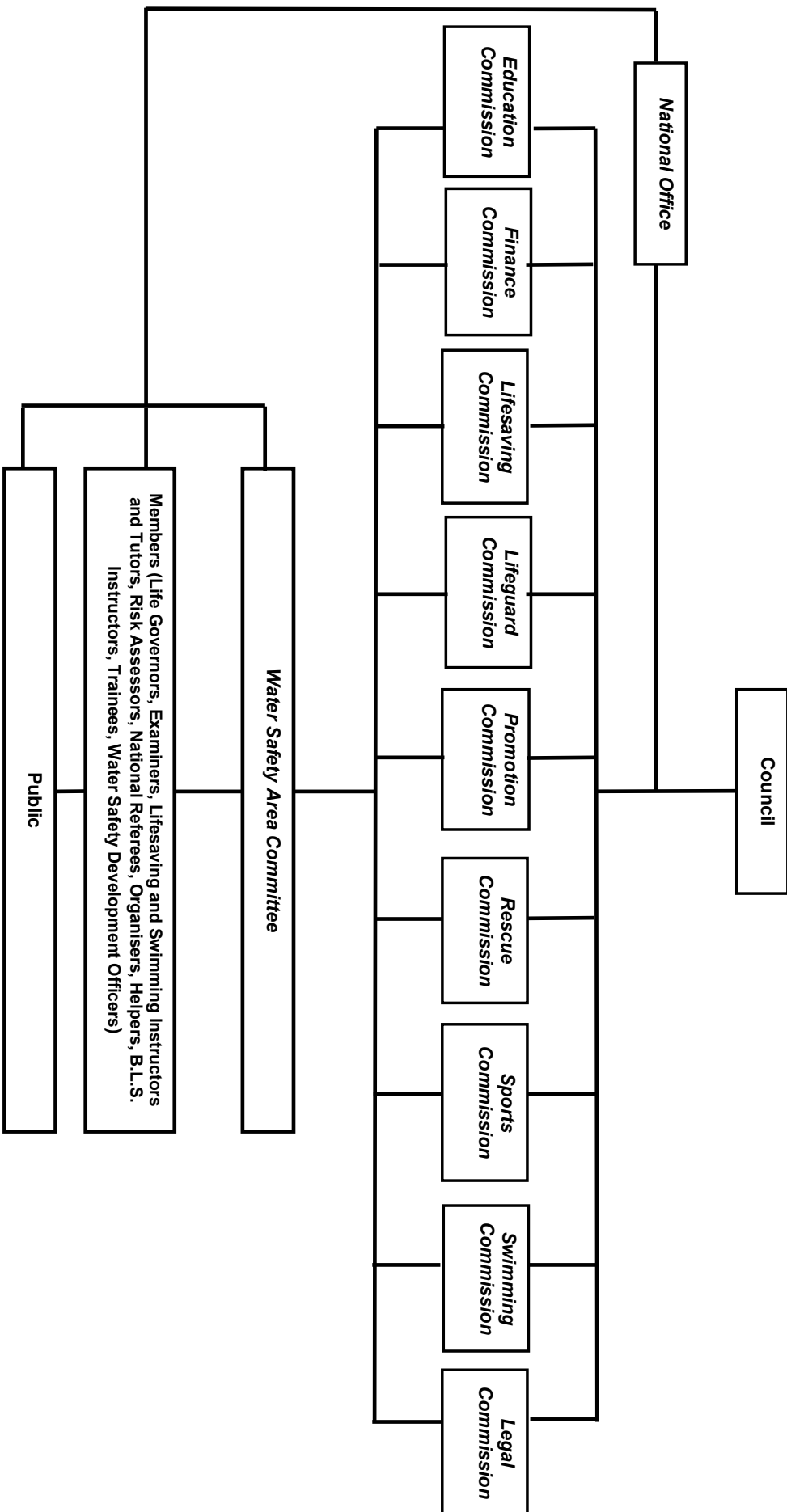
Irish Water Safety
The Long Walk
Galway

Accountants

Robert J Kidney & Co
11 Adelaide Road
Dublin 2



Organisation Structure of Irish Water Safety





Finance Commission 2010

Commission Members:

- Frank Nolan, Chairperson
- Laurence Kelly, Vice-Chairperson
- Joan Harte, Secretary
- David Corcoran
- Martina Moloney
- Sean Murphy
- John Leech

Duties Assigned:

- All Financial Matters
- Staff and HR
- Administration, including travel, National and International
- Membership all ranks
- National Ceremonies and Conferences (with the Promotion Commission)
- Internal Audit Committee & Risk Management

Frank Nolan, Chairman and John Leech, CEO are both Exofficio Members of all Commissions.

Rescue Commission 2010

Commission Members:

- Martin O'Sullivan, Chairperson
- Ronnie Horan, Secretary
- Captain Liam Kirwan
- Colm Dempsey
- David Kenneally

Duties Assigned:

- Blue Flag
- Risk Assessments
- VAT Inspections
- Rescues Inland Waterways
- Rescue award and Just In Time award criteria
- Community Inshore Rescue Station Training
- Rescue Equipment
- Signs / ISO (the International Organisation for Standardisation)
- ILSE (International LifeSaving Europe)

Sports Commission 2010

Commission Members:

- Jim Lawlor, Chairperson
- Paul Devins, Secretary
- Oisín McGrath
- Clare McGrath
- Triona McMenamin
- Andrew Lally

Duties Assigned:

- Organise training courses.
- Liaison with the Sports Council.
- Liaison with the Federation of Sport.
- International and Home Sports Competitions.
- Role of Life Saving Clubs.
- Appoint Coaches, Referees and Officials.
- Drug Control in association with ILS.
- Sport Equipment.
- International Life Saving Sport & Competitions.



Lifesaving Commission 2010

Commission Members:

- Breda Collins, Chairperson
- Pat Cummins, Vice-Chairperson
- Sharon McKeon
- Eileen Kelly

Duties Assigned:

- Provision of instruction in water safety, rescue, resuscitation and recovery skills
- All matters dealing with Lifesaving
- Review syllabus for Lifesaving
- Resuscitation
- Hypothermia
- Liaison with PHECC - Pre-Hospital Emergency Care Council
- Matters dealing with WS Examiners including Conference
- White Water Rescue & Flooding

Lifeguard Commission 2010

Commission Members:

- Michael Cuddihy, Chairperson
- Paul Murphy - Secretary
- Anne Ryan
- Tom Doyle

Duties Assigned:

- Promotion of efficiency and standardisation of the Lifeguard Service
- The establishment of national standards for Lifeguards
- All matters dealing with Lifeguards (Pool, Beach, River)
- Develop standards for Lifeguard accommodation
- Develop national standards for all equipment
- Investigate and research rescue craft
- Train Lifeguards in rescue boating
- Health and Safety document appertaining to Lifeguards on beaches
- Beach Lifeguards as a declared facility
- Water Safety Officers Conference
- Development Aid to Poor Federations

Education Commission 2010

Commission Members:

- Michael Murphy, Chairperson
- Val O'Kelly, Vice-Chairperson
- Anna Byrne, Secretary
- Fiona Lynch

Duties Assigned:

- Promotion of measures, including the advancement of education, related to the prevention of accidents
- All matters dealing with water safety awareness within the Irish education system
- Teacher's courses
- Maintain current Standards of Child Protection
- Arrange seminar for Designated Liaison Persons
- Ensure that standards in relation to ethical matters are maintained
- Liaison with the Department of Education
- National Liaison Officer
- Address suicides and undetermined drowning issues



Swimming Commission 2010

Commission Members:

- Brendan McGrath, Chairperson
- James McLoughlin, Vice-Chairperson
- Seamus O'Neill, Secretary
- Margaret McKay

Duties Assigned:

- The provision of instruction in Swimming
- Promotion of Swimming under Irish Water Safety
- Examine swimming syllabus and awards
- Agree Pool Safety Guidelines with ILAM in preparation for printing
- All matters dealing with Swimming Instructors and Tutors
- Matters dealing with Area Water Safety Committees
- Have the rule changes accepted by Council implemented
- Improving, membership, communication and profiles
- Organise Chairpersons meeting
- Represent IWS matter within IFSTA
- Liaison with Swim Ireland as necessary
- White Flag Jury
- Swimming Pool Standards excluding Lifeguards

Promotion Commission 2010

Commission Members:

- Kathryn Byrne, Chairperson
- Roger Sweeney, Secretary
- Donal O'Sullivan
- Eddie Hoyne
- Michael Gavin

Duties Assigned:

- Marketing and promotional matters as outlined within the Statutory Instrument
- Seeking Sponsorship (commercial and other)
- Marketing the organisation
- Standardisation of merchandise
- Standardisation and issuing of books, manuals, leaflets and posters from technical sources
- Monitor press releases
- Exhibitions
- Marketing issues
- Liaison with ROSPA and the Marine Safety Working Group
- Promotion of a public awareness of water safety
- National ceremonies & conferences (with the Finance Commission)

Legal Commission 2010

Commission Members:

- John Considine, Chairperson
- Carmel O'Toole
- Noel Power Jr

Duties Assigned:

To review and advise on all legal matters pertaining to IWS activities.



Media Partnerships 2010

We are very grateful to the provincial and national media in helping us to target at-risk groups. In addition to 106 media interviews conducted on television and radio, Irish Water Safety press releases resulted in 685 articles appearing in the national and local press and specialist periodicals.

PRESS RELEASES

- Nat Pool Lifesaving Champs UL Pool
- Nat Nipper Lifesaving Champs, Leisureland Galway
- National Awards Ceremony
- Ice Safety Alert
- Easter Bank Holiday Weekend
- Launch of Pool Safety Guidelines
- May Bank Holiday
- National Water Safety Awareness Week
- June Bank Holiday
- Powerboat Race
- Round Ireland Yacht Race
- Launch of Beach Lifeguard Manual and KIA Car to Waterford
- August Bank Holiday
- Weever Fish Warning
- National Surf Championships
- Jim Lawlor International Award
- National Surf Championships, Donegal
- Rescue 2010 World Lifesaving Championships, Egypt
- October Bank Holiday Weekend
- November Flood Warning
- South East Lifesaver receives National recognition
- High Winds Warning
- Ice Safety Alert
- Christmas Press Release

PROMOTIONAL CAMPAIGNS

Exhibitions

- Holiday World, RDS, Dublin, Jan 2010
- Ireland Angling Show, Swords, Feb 2010
- Hooked Live Show, Citywest, Feb 2010
- Irish Skipper Show, Galway, Mar 2010
- INTO Conference, April 2010
- National Ploughing Championships, Sept 2010
- Irish Fly Fair, Nov 2010
- Marine Institute Summer Fete, Jul 2010
- IWS Annual Awards Ceremony, 2010
- HSE Safety Day, Sportsco Pool, Dublin
- Samaritans Conference, March 2010
- National Office for Suicide Prevention Forum, April 2010
- National Suicide Research Foundation Forum, Feb 2010
- HSA Safety Event, Dun Laoghaire, Jun 2010
- Fish Ireland Show, Killybegs, June 2010
- IFSTA Conference, Holland, Sept 2010



Launch of Pool Safety Guidelines

- Markievicz Pool, Dublin, April 2010
- Minister Michael Finneran officiated.
- Four Lifeguards and a Lifeguard RIB appeared on RTE's Afternoon Show.

Launch of Beach Lifeguard Manual & Kia Beach Lifeguard Training Vehicle, Waterford

- Minister of State at the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Sean Connick, T.D. officiated at the launch in Waterford.

Kia Ireland

- New sponsored 2010 KIA Sportage delivered in May 2010.
- KIA also sponsored Safe Swimming leaflets for nationwide distribution.

Allianz

- Additional 10,000 copies of "Aqua Attack" workbook for children.

National Water Safety Awareness Week (Mon May 24th – Mon May 31st 2010)

- KIA sponsored a new 2010 KIA Sportage and an additional print run of the Safe Swimming Guide.
- Two IWS Lifeguards promoted the leaflet on RTE1's Afternoon Show.
- Popular RTE DEN TV presenter Brian Ormond did a free photoshoot to promote the KIA handover and the Safe Swimming leaflet. Brian also spoke to City Channel TV about Irish Water Safety.
- Popular pop duo Jedward also did a free photoshoot with the Safe Swimming leaflet.

SEIKO Sponsorship

- Eighteen SEIKO watches, the "SEIKO Just in Time Rescue Awards" were presented.
- SEIKO sponsored electronic spellcheckers for an IWS children's water safety competition organised with Primary Times magazine and mykids.ie.

National Ploughing Championships

- Sept, 2010: Athy Co Kildare.
- Promotional trailer present and Volunteers issued water safety material.

Translations: Polish

- Safe Angling Booklet now available in Polish.

Leaflets / Posters:

- Hypothermia / Farm / Home / Boating / Swimming / Inland Waterways
- Pool / Motorboating / IWS Courses / Holidays / Weils Disease
- Also available in Irish.

Websites:

- www.iws.ie: regularly updated with water safety advice, press releases and schedules of courses, conferences and seminars.
- www.ringbuoys.ie: a resource where the public can notify Local Authorities of missing, stolen or damaged ringbuoys.
- www.aquaattack.ie: a fun and informative website, primarily aimed at primary school children. The website contains games, exercises, quizzes and safety tips about water safety and is a popular resource for school teachers teaching Irish Water Safety's PAWS (Primary Aquatics Water Safety) programme, a component of the physical education strand of the primary school curriculum.



Commercial certificates and badges for leisure centres

- Promotional literature distributed nationwide and also to ILAM members.

SKY One, Sky Sports 1 & 2, Sky News TV

- Continues to support IWS with free coverage on SKY channels

TG4 TV Campaign

- Continues to support IWS with free coverage

Nickleodeon & Nick Junior

- The Westlife advert continues to broadcast on Nickelodeon and has been added to Nick Junior.

IWS “Water Safety” Pictorial Calendar

- Distributed to members nationwide thanks to financial support from sponsors.

August Bank Holiday:

- Rosanna Davison photoshoot wearing a lifejacket to emphasize that lifejackets save lives.

“Exercise Your English”

- A new publication for primary schools. Features IWS cartoons, exercises and advice for children.

Safe Boating & Allianz

- Sponsors of Safe Boating posters, leaflets and the website www.aquaattack.ie.

Certification

There are two broad categories of certification – Swimming and Lifesaving. Our Swim certificates are issued directly to and accounted for by Area Committees. The overall number of Swim certificates is significant and continues to grow reflecting the efforts of our voluntary members who instil water confidence and deep-water swimming ability in thousands of people every year. In recent years, these are accounted for at local level.

Water Safety Area Committees processed 29,490 Swimming and Lifesaving certificates in 2010. In addition, a further 35,527 Primary School Aquatics Water Safety (PAWS) certificates were processed and a further 8,830 of the new range of Seal, Marlin and Orca certificates were issued, giving a total certification by Irish Water Safety of 73,847.



Certificates processed through the National Office in 2010:

Award	Quantity			
Aquatics organiser	286		Rescue 2	1094
Aquatics Pool Assistant	3		Rescue 3	788
Assistant Swimming Teacher	728		Rescue 4	357
Beach Lifeguard	154		Safety 1	2178
Beach Lifeguard Revalidation	185		Safety 2	2454
BLS 1	2638		Safety 3	2164
BLS 2	1881		Safety 4	2079
BLS 3	977		Splash	227
BLS 4	22		Surf 1	33
Challenge 1	423		Surf 2	27
Challenge 2	330		Surf Instructor Beach Safety	52
Endurance 1	557		Surf Instructor Beach Safety Rev	12
Endurance 2	732		Survival 1	127
Instructor	107		Survival 2	242
IOW Lifeguard	25		Survival 3	17
IWS ILAM PLG Level 1	457		Swim 1	999
IWS ILAM PLG Level 1Revalidation	31		Swim 2	926
IWS ILAM PLG Level 2	938		Swim 3	1010
IWS ILAM PLG Level 2Revalidation	459		Swim 4	920
Junior Aquatics Water Safety 1	8		Swim 5	900
Pool Lifeguard	205		Swimming Teacher	266
Rescue 1	1472		Swimming Teacher Tutor	0
			Totals	29,490

Primary Aquatics Water Safety (PAWS) is Irish Water Safety's program of certification for primary school children. Now a component of the physical education strand of the primary school curriculum, PAWS is being implemented by teachers nationwide. A total of 35,527 PAWS Certificates were issued in 2010.

Land PAWS 1	Land PAWS 2	Land PAWS 3	PAWS 1	PAWS 2	PAWS 3
5424	3760	2471	1695	2513	4140

PAWS 4	PAWS 5	PAWS 6	PAWS 7	PAWS 8	PAWS Total
6132	4170	2771	1419	1032	35527

The SEAL, MARLIN and ORCA range of certificates are tailored to the commercial sector and are available to leisure centres nationwide. Swimming Teachers use these colourful new awards to accredit their pupils as their competencies in water progress. In 2010, a total of 8,830 certificates were issued.



Summer Water Safety Weeks

The thirty Water Safety Area Committees nationwide run an extensive series of swimming and water safety weeks throughout the summer in pools, rivers, lakes and beachfronts. Many of these classes extend beyond the summer in places that have pools and leisure centres.

Swim weeks consist of instruction in swimming and water safety weeks develop skills in rescue, water survival and basic life support. Details of these programmes are regularly updated on the Association's website, www.iws.ie. Many counties experienced an exceptional interest in classes following a series of successful radio, press and TV campaigns.

Summer Water Safety Weeks 2010:

Carlow	Bagnelstown	July	Water Safety
Carlow	Bagnelstown	August	Water Safety
Cavan	Greaghlonge Lake, Shercock	July	Water Safety
Cavan	Lough McNeen, Blacklion	July	Water Safety
Cavan	Annagh Lake, Butlersbridge	July	Water Safety
Cavan	Annagh Lake, Butlersbridge	August	Water Safety
Cavan	Annagh Lake, Miltown	July	Water Safety
Cavan	Annagh Lake, Miltown	August	Water Safety
Cavan	Killykeen, Killeshandra	July	Water Safety
Cavan	Crover, Lough Sheelin	July	Water Safety
Cavan	Grownays Wood, Lough Ramor	July	Water Safety
Cavan	Lavey Lake, Lavey	July	Water Safety
Cavan	Haltons River, Cootehill	July	Water Safety
Cavan	Fitzpatricks Shore, Lough Gowna	July	Water Safety
Cavan	Brackley Lake, Bawnboy	July	Water Safety
Cavan	Garty Lough, Arva	July	Water Safety
Cavan	Riversdale pool	July	Water Safety
Clare	Miltown Malbay	July	Swim, Safety, Rescue
Clare	West County Hotel	July	Safety 4
Clare	Ennis pool	July	Safety 3 & 4
Clare	West County Hotel	August	Safety 3
Clare	Ennis pool	July	Endurance 1 & 2
Clare	West County Hotel	July	Safety 1 & 2
Clare	Ennis pool	August	Rescue 2
Clare	Kilrush	July	Swim, Safety & Rescue
Clare	Kilrush	August	Swim, Safety & Rescue
Clare	Flagmount	August	Swim, Safety & Rescue
Clare	Doonbeg	July	Swim & Safety
Clare	Ennis pool	July	Safety 1 & 2
Clare	West County Hotel	July	Safety 3
Clare	Labasheeda	August	Swim, Safety & Rescue
Clare	Labasheeda	July	Swim, Safety & Rescue
Clare	Kilkee	August	Safety & Rescue
Clare	Kilkee	July	Safety & Rescue
Clare	Mountshannon	August	water safety
Clare	Ennis pool	August	Rescue 3 & 4



Clare	Ballyvaughan	August	Swim, Safety, Endurance, Rescue
Clare	Ennis pool	July	Rescue 1
Cork	Ardgroom	August	Swim & Water Safety
Cork	Sherkin	August	Swim & Water Safety
Cork	Midleton	August	Swim & Water Safety
Cork	Schull	August	Swim & Water Safety
Cork	Ardfield	August	Swim & Water Safety
Cork	Carrignavar Pool	August	Swim & Water Safety
Cork	Cuil Aodha	August	Swim & Water Safety
Cork	Ballibrannigan	August	Swim & Water Safety
Cork	Skibbereen	July	Swim & Water Safety
Cork	Adrigole	July	Swim & Water Safety
Cork	Garrylucas	July	Swim & Water Safety
Cork	Cuil Aodha	July	Swim & Water Safety
Cork	Oysterhaven	July	Swim & Water Safety
Cork	Bere Island	July	Swim & Water Safety
Cork	Ballingeary	July	Swim & Water Safety
Cork	Cape Clear	July	Swim & Water Safety
Cork	Ballymacoda	July	Swim & Water Safety
Cork	Eyeries	July	Swim & Water Safety
Cork	Courtmacsherry	July	Swim & Water Safety
Cork	Youghal	July	Swim & Water Safety
Cork	Union Hall	July	Swim & Water Safety
Cork	Kilcrohane	July	Swim & Water Safety
Cork	Rosscarbery	July	Swim & Water Safety
Cork	Garnish Pier	July	Swim & Water Safety
Cork	Glandore	July	Swim & Water Safety
Cork	Urhan	July	Swim & Water Safety
Cork	Ballycotten	July	Swim & Water Safety
Donegal	Malin Head	July	Swim, Safety, Survival
Donegal	Arranmore	July	Swim, Safety, Survival
Donegal	Mountcharles	August	Swim, Safety, Survival
Donegal	Moville	July	Swim, Safety, Survival
Donegal	Rathmullen	July	Swim, Safety, Survival
Donegal	Portsalon	August	Swim, Safety, Survival
Donegal	Greencastle	August	Swim, Safety, Survival
Donegal	Nairn/Portnoo	July	Swim, Safety, Survival
Donegal	Nairn/Portnoo	August	Swim, Safety, Survival
Donegal	Kilcar	July	Swim, Safety, Survival
Donegal	Creevy	July	Swim, Safety, Survival
Donegal	Kincasslagh	July	Swim, Safety, Survival
Donegal	Kincasslagh	July	Swim, Safety, Survival
Donegal	Bun An Inver	July	Swim, Safety, Survival
Donegal	Port Na Blaith	August	Swim, Safety, Survival
Donegal	Killybegs	August	Swim, Safety, Survival
Dublin	Rush	July	Swim & Water Safety



Dublin	Skerries	August	Swim & Water Safety
Galway	Portumna	July	Water Safety
Galway	Salthill	August	Water Safety
Galway	Inis Meain	July	Water Safety
Galway	Inis Oirr	July	Water Safety
Galway	Loughrea	August	Water Safety
Galway	Lettermullen	June	Water Safety
Galway	Carraroe	July	Water Safety
Galway	Salthill	June	Water Safety
Galway	Inis Mor	June	Water Safety
Galway	Clifden	July	Water Safety
Galway	Cor Na Mona	July	Water Safety
Galway	Tir An Fhia	August	Water Safety
Kerry	Brandon	June	Swim
Kerry	Minard	June	Swim
Kerry	Brandon	July	Safety
Kerry	Caherciveen	July	Swim
Kerry	Waterville	July	Swim
Kerry	Cromane	July	Swim
Kerry	Ceann Tra	July	Swim
Kerry	Portmagee	July	Swim
Kerry	Caherciveen	July	Safety
Kerry	Ballyheigue	July	Swim
Kerry	Kells	July	Swim
Kerry	Ceann Tra	July	Safety
Kerry	Templemore	July	Swim
Kerry	Portmagee	July	Safety
Kerry	Meenoghane	July	Safety
Kerry	An Daingean	July	Swim
Kerry	Ballinskelligs	July	Swim
Kerry	Ballybunion	July	Swim
Kerry	Rossbeigh	July	Swim
Kerry	Castlecove	July	Swim
Kerry	Kells	July	Swim
Kerry	Kells	July	Safety
Kerry	Ballybunion	August	Safety
Kerry	Touist	August	Swim
Kerry	Fenit	August	Swim
Kerry	Valentia	August	Swim
Kerry	Fenit	August	Safety
Kerry	Valentia	August	Safety
Kerry	Derrynane	August	Swim
Kerry	Derrynane	August	Safety
Kilkenny	Graiguenamanagh	July	Water Safety
Kilkenny	Thomastown	July	Water Safety
Laois	Ballinakill	July	Swim & Water Safety



Laois	Castletown Bridge	August	Swim & Water Safety
Leitrim	Keeldra	July	Swim
Leitrim	Gulladoo	July	Swim
Leitrim	Drumshambo	June	Swim
Leitrim	Drumshambo	August	Swim
Limerick	Copsewood	July	Water Safety
Limerick	Copsewood	August	Water Safety
Limerick	Askeaton	July	Water Safety
Limerick	Askeaton	August	Water Safety
Limerick	Glin Pier	July	Water Safety
Limerick	Glin Pier	August	Water Safety
Limerick	Pallaskenry	July	Water Safety
Limerick	Pallaskenry	August	Water Safety
Longford	Annagh	July	Swim & Water Safety
Longford	Annagh	August	Swim & Water Safety
Louth	Clogherhead	July	Water Safety
Louth	Gyles Quay	July	Water Safety
Mayo	Mullaghroe	July	Water Safety
Mayo	Mullaghroe	August	Water Safety
Mayo	Ballina	July	Safety, Endurance, Rescue
Mayo	Ballina	August	Safety, Endurance, Rescue
Mayo	Claremorris	July	Water Safety
Mayo	Ballyhaunis	July	Water Safety
Mayo	Castlebar	July	Water Safety
Mayo	Ballycastle	June	Water Safety
Mayo	Lacken	July	Water Safety
Mayo	Clare Island	July	Water Safety
Mayo	Inishturk Island	July	Water Safety
Mayo	Inishturk Island	August	Water Safety
Mayo	Kilmovee	July	Water Safety
Mayo	Belmullet	July	Water Safety
Mayo	Belmullet	August	Water Safety
Mayo	Castlebar	July	Water Safety
Mayo	Charlestown	July	Water Safety
Offaly	Birr	July	Swim & Water Safety
Offaly	Banagher	July	Swim & Water Safety
Offaly	Clara	July	Swim & Water Safety
Offaly	Edenderry	July	Swim & Water Safety
Roscommon	Castlerea pool	July	Swim
Roscommon	Castlerea pool	August	Swim
Roscommon	Castlerea pool	August	Safety
Roscommon	Roscommon pool	August	Swim
Roscommon	Roscommon pool	August	Swim
Roscommon	Roscommon pool	August	Swim
Roscommon	Roscommon pool	August	Swim
Roscommon	Roscommon pool	August	Swim



Roscommon	Roscommon pool	August	Swim
Sligo	Aughris pier	July	Water Safety
Sligo	Enniscrone	August	Water Safety
Tipperary			
South	Cahir	July	Water Safety
Tipperary			
South	Clonmel	July	Water Safety
Tipperary			
South	Ardfinnan	July	Water Safety
Waterford	Tramore	July	Water Safety
Waterford	Boatstrand	July	Water Safety
Waterford	Ardmore	July	Water Safety
Waterford	Ardmore	August	Water Safety
Westmeath	Mullingar	August	Safety, Rescue
Westmeath	Athlone	August	Safety, Rescue
Westmeath	Athlone	July	Safety, Rescue
Wexford	Rosslare	July	Swim
Wexford	Bunclody	July	Swim
Wexford	Tinabearna	July	Swim
Wexford	Courtown	July	Water Safety
Wexford	Bunclody	August	Water Safety
Wexford	Curraclloe	August	Swim
Wexford	Cahore Pier	July	Water Safety
Wexford	Kilmore	July	Swim
Wexford	Ferrybank	July	Water Safety
Wexford	Carne	July	Swim
Wexford	New Ross	July	Water Safety
Wexford	Cullenstown	July	Swim
Wexford	Fethard	August	Water Safety
Wicklow	Wicklow Harbour	July	Swim

IWS Representation at National Level

Frank Nolan _____ Irish Marine Search & Rescue Committee.
 John Leech _____ (Users Group), Commissioner's Irish Lights
 Roger Sweeney _____ Marine Safety Working Group.
 David Kenneally _____ Community Inshore Rescue Advisory Group
 Pat Cummins _____ PHECC - Pre-Hospital Emergency Care Council
 John Leech _____ ACESA - Assoc Chief Executives of State Agencies
 Brendan McGrath _____ ILAM
 Martin O'Sullivan _____ Blue Flag
 Margaret McKay _____ White Flag
 Jim Lawlor _____ Irish Sports Federation & Irish Olympic Committee
 Anne Ryan _____ FETAC - Further Education and Training Awards Council

 John Leech
 Frank Nolan
 Breda Collins _____ Charles Thomson Award Jury with the Royal Life Saving
 _____ Society (RLSS).



IWS Representation at International Level

Frank Nolan -----	World Board, International Life Saving (ILS)
-----	& European Board ILS
Frank Nolan -----	Finance Commission ILS
Sean Murphy-----	Auditor ILS
Sean Murphy-----	Auditor ILS(E)
Martin O'Sullivan-----	European Board ILS
Martin O'Sullivan-----	Rescue Commission Europe & World (ILS)
Martin O'Sullivan-----	ISO Working Group
Michael Cuddihy -----	ILS(E) Sport Commission
Michael Murphy -----	ILS(E) Education Commission
John Leech -----	ILS(E) Management & Administration Commission
Brendan McGrath & Jim Lawlor -----	International Federation of Swimming Teachers
Kathryn Byrne-----	ROSPA (Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents)
-----	and other Marketing Conferences
Michael Cuddihy -----	College of Referees Panel ILS(E)
Brian Farrell -----	International Maritime Rescue Federation

Conferences:

- **National Awards Ceremony**
23rd November, Cty Hall, Dublin
- **Water Safety Area Committee Officer's Seminar**
9th May, Athlone
- **Water Safety Development Officer's Conference**
21st – 23rd April, Drogheda
- **Water Safety Development Officer's One-Day Seminar**
21st September, Waterford
- **Examiner's Conference**
16th & 17th October, Dungarvan, Waterford

National Courses:

- **Swim Tutors Update Seminar,**
7th February, Glasson
- **PHECC CFR Instructors Course**
13th June, Athlone
- **CIRS Course**
6th & 7th June, Dun Laoghaire
- **CRBI Course**
18th, 19th September, Dun Laoghaire
- **Trainee Examiner's Course, Part 2**
13th & 14th March, Waterford



▪ **The following members qualified as Examiners in 2010:**

Tanya Carroll	Clare
Aidan Collins	Dublin
Mary Foster	Carlow
John Guidera	Tipperary
Kevin McCloskey	Donegal
Ronan O'Connor	Cork
Dara O'Malley-Daly	Donegal
Noel Power	Kerry
Ger Riordan	Limerick City
Maurya Schuermann	Leitrim
Sharon Walsh	Tipperary South
Helen Walsh	Cork
Valarie Case	Laois
Brigid Dowling	Dublin
Helena Duggan	Wexford
Sarah Kelly	Donegal
Celine Mooney	Monaghan
Noreen O'Connor	Mayo
Brid O'Hehir	Waterford
Sean O'Keeffe	Cork
Carmel O'Toole	Wicklow

Risk Assessments 2010

Irish Water Safety volunteers carry out Risk Assessments on bathing areas and waterways nationwide that may pose a particular risk to the public. In order to make these waterways safer, recommendations typically include the erection of public rescue equipment, signage and other necessary facilities. We also complete public rescue equipment checks and advise Local Authorities, state agencies and private enterprises on matters relating to water safety.

In 2010, a total of 18 Risk Assessments were carried out.

Cavan	Lough Macnean, Blacklion
Cavan	Garty Lough, Arva
Cavan	Annagh Lough, Buttersbridge
Clare	Kilkee
Cork	Mallow Black Water
Cork	Barleycove Blue Flag
Mayo	Ballycastle
Mayo	Aghleam
Mayo	Portalcoy
Mayo	Claggan
Mayo	Silverstrand
Mayo	Cross
Mayo	Carrowniskey
Mayo	Dooghmakeson
Mayo	Whitestrands
Roscommon	Athleague Bridge
Sligo	Garravogue
Wicklow	Wicklow Harbour Bathing Area

VAT Inspections

Irish Water Safety trains and examines rescue boat crews for Community Rescue Boats Ireland and the Coast Guard.

Craft, equipment, and buildings used in relation to rescue or assistance at sea or the training of persons in connection therewith are examined by Irish Water Safety and successful applicants



receive a certificate in connection with a VAT refund for sea rescue craft, equipment and storage buildings under the VAT recoupment scheme.

In 2010, three VAT Inspections were carried out: Bonmahon, Co Waterford; Kilkee, Co Clare; Tramore, Co Waterford.

Competitions

In 1948 it was decided that Ireland would follow a European initiative and create the sport of surf lifesaving based on the skills and equipment used in lifeguarding. Currently 168 countries are affiliated to International Life Saving which controls the sport worldwide.

In 1950 the President of Ireland, Sean T. O'Ceallaigh presented a silver trophy to Irish Water Safety for competition between the counties of Ireland. This award is still the premier award associated with our National Lifesaving Championships. The winning County is based on cumulative points from all events in both the National Surf and the National Pool Lifesaving Championships.

National Championships are now divided into pool and surf competitions and include nippers, juniors, seniors and masters competitors.

▪ National Surf Lifesaving Championships

11th, 12th September, 2010

Rosstown Beach, Co Donegal.

The open water events presented a magnificent spectacle of surf swimming races, ski races, surfboard races and events designed to test the lifesaving skills, fitness and endurance of the participants.

Overall results:

Ireland's top Lifeguards competed at Irish Water Safety's National Surf Lifesaving Championships at Rosstown Beach, Donegal on Saturday 11th and Sunday 12th Sept 2009.

Four hundred competitors from counties nationwide competed, representing Clare, Cork, Donegal, Dublin, Galway, Kildare, Kilkenny, Louth, Mayo, Meath, Waterford, Wexford and Wicklow. A guest team of Lifesavers from Wales also competed.

The Tánaiste and Minister for Education & Skills, Mary Coughlan TD, presented awards to the following county teams in recognition of their successes.

The President's Trophy (OVERALL CHAMPIONS): 1 st : Clare Men 2 nd : Donegal Ladies	Lifesavers Final (Men): 1 st : Clare A, 504 2 nd : Waterford, 236.5 3 rd : Wicklow A, 165	Lifesavers Final (Ladies): 1 st : Donegal A, 491 2 nd : Waterford, 188 3 rd : Wicklow A, 123
Junior Lifesavers Final (Boys): 1 st : Clare A, 206 2 nd : Donegal A, 141 3 rd : Wexford, 127	Junior Lifesavers Final (Girls): 1 st : Donegal A, 191 2 nd : Clare A, 147 3 rd : Wexford, 111	Masters Lifesavers : 1 st : Donegal, 238 2 nd : Cork, 124 3 rd : Wicklow, 123.

Competitors at the National Championships had their skills tested in events that simulated emergency rescue and swimming scenarios. The winning team from Clare fended off strong competition from the fittest Lifeguards nationwide in this gala of lifesaving - the most significant and breathtaking life saving competition in Ireland. Ireland's best Lifesavers fought waves of up to six foot in open water conditions on the Donegal coast to rescue potential "casualties" in testing swim races, rescue board races and other events, which culminated in exciting finals throughout both days.



It is a credit to Irish Water Safety coaches nationwide who spent all year preparing competitors around Ireland's coastline. The Sport of Lifesaving, which meets all Government guidelines towards lifelong involvement in water based lifesaving skills and the development of a healthy lifestyle, has been developed to improve the standard of life guarding in Ireland and assist lifesavers save lives.

▪ **European Junior Lifesaving Championships,**
28th, 29th August
Antwerp, Belgium

The skills learnt and honed by Ireland's Lifesavers were demonstrated in the European Junior Lifesaving Championships in which the Irish boy's team came first in all of Europe in the Surf Competition. This result, when combined with the girls ninth place result gave Ireland an overall sixth place in Europe against the best Lifesavers from fourteen countries.

The team staff:

Oisin McGrath, Coach, Triona McMenamin, Asst Coach, Sara English, Team Manager

The Teams:-

Bernard Cahill, Dylan Barrett, Eoghan Trihy, Declan Bredin, Conor Rooney Siobhan McGrath, Caoimhe Gowran, Aimee Walsh, Gemma Haughey, Luise O'Donovan

Results:

Bernard Cahill, Run-Swim-Run, Gold
Bernard Cahill, Board Paddle, Gold
Conor Rooney, Run-Swim-Run, Bronze
Dylan Barrett, Run-Swim-Run, Fifth
Dylan Barrett, Board Paddle, Ninth
Declan Bredin, Board Paddle, Tenth
Siobhan McGrath, Board Paddle, Ninth
Siobhan McGrath, Run-Swim-Run, Nineteenth

▪ **National Nipper Surf Lifesaving Championships**

4th September 2010

Inchadoney Beach, Cork.

Over the three weekends, more than 300 Nippers competed in provincial Championships nationwide, 265 of whom competed in the National finals on Inchadoney beach in Cork.

Results:

Team

- 1 Galway Water Safety Nippers
- 2 Clare Water Safety Nippers
- 3 Donegal Water Safety Nippers
- 4 Mayo Water Safety Nippers
- 5 Wexford Water Safety Nippers
- 6 Cork Water Safety Nippers

Boys - Team Scores

- 1 Clare Water Safety Nippers
- 2 Mayo Water Safety Nippers
- 3 Galway Water Safety Nippers
- 4 Donegal Water Safety Nippers
- 5 Wexford Water Safety Nippers
- 6 Cork Water Safety Nippers



▪ **National Nipper Still Water Lifesaving Championships**

13th & 14th Mar 2010

Leisureland, Galway

A team of young “Nipper” Lifesavers from Galway took first place when competing on Sat 13th Mar Feb 2010 in Irish Water Safety’s National Nipper Pool Lifesaving Championships. An action-filled day of events saw 142 of Ireland’s fittest youngsters compete at the Leisureland pool complex in Galway.

The Annual competition gives the best young aspiring Lifesavers in Ireland an opportunity to compete in conditions that Lifesavers can encounter in real-life rescue situations when they get older. The sport of lifesaving teaches participants the skills necessary to rescue people in distress in water. Many of the competitors hope to work as Lifeguards in pools nationwide when they get older and this competition gives them the chance to pitch their newly acquired skills against other 9-14 year olds from around the country. The National Championships are part of Irish Water Safety’s extensive programme to promote water safety in Ireland with a particular focus on teaching youngsters the necessary skills required to be safe from drowning throughout their lives. The Nipper Lifesaving Sports Championships promotes to parents the importance of enrolling their children in one of IWS’s many courses nationwide in the valuable skills of swimming, rescue and lifesaving.

RESULTS: Overall – Combined Boys and Girls County Teams:

- 1 Galway Water Safety Nippers
- 2 Clare Water Safety Nippers
- 3 Donegal Water Safety Nippers
- 4 Mayo Water Safety Nippers
- 5 Wexford Water Safety Nippers
- 6 Cork Water Safety Nippers

RESULTS: Boys County Teams:

- 1 Clare Water Safety Nippers
- 2 Mayo Water Safety Nippers
- 3 Galway Water Safety Nippers
- 4 Donegal Water Safety Nippers
- 5 Wexford Water Safety Nippers
- 6 Cork Water Safety Nippers

RESULTS: Girls County Teams:

- 1 Galway Water Safety Nippers
- 2 Clare Water Safety Nippers
- 3 Donegal Water Safety Nippers
- 4 Mayo Water Safety Nippers
- 5 Wexford Water Safety Nippers
- 6 Cork Water Safety Nippers

▪ **National Still Water Lifesaving Championships**

Sat 20th Feb 2010.

The National University of Limerick’s 50-metre Arena Pool, Castletroy.

Lifesaving teams from around the country competed on Sat 20th Feb 2010 in Irish Water Safety’s National Irish Pool Lifesaving Championships. An action-filled day of events saw 173 of Ireland’s fittest Lifesavers compete at the University of Limerick’s 50-metre pool complex.

The Annual competition gives the best Lifesavers in Ireland an opportunity to compete in conditions that Lifesavers can encounter in real-life rescue situations. The sport of lifesaving teaches participants the skills necessary to rescue people in distress in water.

Many of the competitors, having worked as Lifeguards in pools nationwide got their chance to pitch their skills against the finest lifesavers in the country.

The events are varied and challenging with competitors swimming under immersed obstacles, rescuing “casualties” from the water and skillfully testing a variety of lifesaving skills in the process.



The National Championships are part of Irish Water Safety's extensive programme to promote water safety in Ireland with a particular focus on the necessary skills required by pool Lifeguards nationwide. The Championships encourage people to enrol in one of IWS's many courses nationwide in the valuable skills of swimming, rescue and lifesaving. The event promotes the fitness and readiness for action of the lifesavers and demonstrates Lifeguard water rescues to the public.

RESULTS:

Junior Boys: 1st Clare A; 2nd Clare B; 3rd Donegal.
 Junior Girls: 1st Clare A; 2nd Wicklow; 3rd Donegal.
 Senior Men: 1st Clare A; 2nd Mayo; 3rd Clare B.
 Senior Ladies: 1st Clare A; 2nd Donegal; 3rd Wicklow.
 Masters Men: 1st Kildare; 2nd Donegal; 3rd Clare.
 Masters Ladies: 1st Kildare; 2nd Clare; 3rd Mayo.

NEW IRISH RECORDS:

100m Obstacle Swim (Boys)	Bernard Cahill	Clare	1.02.68
200m Obstacle Swim (Ladies)	Norma Cahill	Clare	2.29.30
100m Manikin Tow with Fins (Boys)	Bernard Cahill	Clare	1.06.19
100m Manikin Tow with Fins (Girls)	Siobhan McGrath	Clare	1.12.14
4x25m Manikin Relay (Boys)		Clare	1.35.14
200m Super Lifesaver (Ladies)	Norma Cahill	Clare	2.49.34
200m Super Lifesaver (Boys)	Bernard Cahill	Clare	2.32.03
200m Super Lifesaver (Girls)	Siobhan McGrath	Clare	2.56.01
100m Manikin Carry with Fins (Boys)	Conor Rooney	Clare	1.02.56
100m Manikin Carry with fins (Girls)	Sarah Broderick	Clare	1.10.73
50m Manikin Carry (Boys)	Bernard Cahill	Clare	33.99
4x50m Medley Relay (Boys)		Clare	1.53.59
4x50m Medley Relay (Girls)		Clare	2.07.16
200m Obstacle Swim (Men)	Chris Byran	Clare A	2.12.29
4x50m Medley Relay (Men)		Clare A	1.45.91

▪ World Lifesaving Championships, Rescue 2010

2nd to 17th October 2010

Alexandria, Egypt

Ireland's top Lifeguards won ten Gold medals, two Silver medals and set new world records competing at the World Lifesaving Championships, Rescue 2010 in Egypt. They competed against 3,000 athletes from 50 nations around the world gathered in the coastal city of Alexandria for pool events and finished at Mamoura beach for the ocean events where Team Ireland battled four-foot surf and added to their tally of Gold Medals and new World records.

A synopsis of Team Ireland's performance:

	Result	Event	Name
1	Gold + New World Record	Pool: 200m Obstacle Masters	Norma Cahill, Co Clare
2	Gold + New World Record	Pool: 100m Manikin Carry with fins Masters	Norma Cahill, Co Clare
3	Gold + New World Record	Pool: 100m Manikin Tow with Fins Masters	Norma Cahill, Co Clare
4	Gold + New World Record	Pool: 50m Manikin Carry	Norma Cahill, Co Clare
5	Gold	Ocean: Surf Swim Race Masters	Norma Cahill, Co Clare
6	Gold	Ocean: Ski Race Masters	Norma Cahill, Co Clare
7	Gold	Ocean Woman	Norma Cahill, Co Clare
8	Gold	Ocean: Surf Swim Race Masters	Oisin McGrath, Co Clare
9	Gold	Ocean: Ski Race Masters	Oisin McGrath, Co Clare
10	Gold	Ocean Man	Oisin McGrath, Co Clare
11	Silver	Ocean Board Race	Norma Cahill, Co Clare
12	Silver	Ocean Board Race	Oisin McGrath, Co Clare

- Ocean events: 13th out of 50 Nations competing;



- Pool events: 21st out of 50 Nations competing. Norma Cahill, Co Clare set a new world record when she took Gold in the 200 metre obstacle race (eight obstacles to swim under);
- Overall: Team Ireland placed 17th in the World.
- The National Team also set 10 New Irish Records and succeeded in beat off strong competition to reach A and B finals in the surf.
- Lifesaver Oisin McGrath from Co Clare, having won 3 Gold and 1 Silver is now ranked 10th in the World in the Board Race.

The joint effort of the entire Irish team has now resulted in Ireland being placed 17th out of 50 nations competing. This is a considerable accomplishment when one considers that the competition involved 3,000 of the World's fittest lifesavers.

It reflects the commitment of hundreds of Irish Water Safety Instructors and Coaches nationwide that Ireland is hugely respected as strong competitors in Lifesaving Sport at International level. This steady incremental progress at Junior, Senior and Masters level coupled with the growth in the numbers of athletes at all levels but particularly Nippers augers well for the future of Lifesaving Sport in Ireland.

Special tribute to Lifesaver Norma Cahill for setting four new world records as she took seven Gold and Silver. Oisin McGrath, also from Clare deserves special mention for winning three Gold and a Silver on behalf of Ireland.

Special tribute also to the Cork Master's Team for the following results in Egypt:

- Billy Horgan: Silver in 35-39 year-old Surf Ski
- Billy Horgan, Kieran O'Callaghan & Pat Buck: Gold in 130+ surf ski relay and bronze in 130+ oceanman relay;
- Sean O'Keeffe, Des O'Neill & Justin Crowley: Silver in 110+ oceanman relay and bronze in 110+ board relay.



National Awards Ceremony

23rd November, Rotunda Room, City Hall, Dublin

Rescuers from ten dramatic near-death incidents received recognition at Irish Water Safety's National Awards Ceremony at Dublin Castle on Tuesday 23rd November 2010. Mr Michael Finneran TD, Minister of State at the Dept of Environment, Heritage and Local Government presented the "SEIKO Just In Time Rescue Award" to rescuers in appreciation for saving a total of eleven lives.

Service Awards were also presented, recognising 840 years of personal service of 47 Irish Water Safety volunteers from around the country for teaching swimming, lifesaving, and water survival and rescue skills.

- **Community & Social Responsibility Award**
In recognition of the support given to Irish Water Safety's community work, charitable activities and commitment to drowning prevention initiatives and the reduction of aquatic related injuries.

- **SKY Media Ireland**

For broadcasting drowning prevention water safety awareness commercials on a number of Sky television channels. This coverage has had a hugely positive effect on the general public. The number of enquiries to Irish Water Safety's Head Office and to the website increases significantly when the commercial is broadcast. The number of people wearing lifejackets has increased, as has the level of awareness about Irish Water Safety's messages. Much of this is thanks to SKY's broadcasting of Irish Water Safety Public Service Announcements and for this we are very grateful.

- **Seiko**

Timemark Ltd sponsors the "SEIKO Just in Time" Rescue Award, now in its tenth year. The Award recognizes the efforts of a member of the public to save a person from drowning "just in time", hence the sponsorship of a high quality SEIKO watch for every recipient and to Noel Wall and SEIKO we are very grateful.

- **KIA Motors Ireland**

For sponsoring a second KIA Sportage vehicle in 2010 again to mobilise Irish Water Safety's Education Development Officer, enabling her to introduce water safety classes to schools and pools nationwide. Thanks to KIA's support, Irish Water Safety's primary school water safety program has gone from strength to strength and is now a component part of the physical education strand of the primary school curriculum. Kia also sponsored the design, print and publication of safe swimming leaflets and their distribution to Lifeguard Huts nationwide.

- **Heritage Boat Association**

This year saw the launch of a safety programme for their junior members. The programme is part of an exercise to promote general safety awareness in children, under the responsibility of the Child Welfare Officer.

"Safety Sam" tackled the issue of safety in and around locks. In addition to water safety, there was a theory class for the juniors, a practical test on a moored barge and finally a practical test on boats.

- **Louis Walsh, Music Manager**

Louis gave permission to a number of performers including Sarah Keane from the pop group SIX, the pop group Westlife and the pop duo Jedward, each of whom gave up their time at no cost promote various water safety campaigns.



▪ **Jedward**

The pop group Jedward kindly did a photoshoot to promote Irish Water Safety's Safe Summer Swimming Guide as part of National Water Safety Awareness Week 2010. Their large fan base reflects the target group that Irish Water Safety consider at-risk of drowning and Jedward's efforts to help deliver a message to this group is hugely appreciated.

▪ **Brian Ormond, RTE**

Brian kindly gave of his time to join a number of children during National Water Safety Awareness Week at Sandymount strand to launch a number of water safety leaflets and announce the sponsorship of a KIA Sportage for use by Irish Water Safety's Education Development Officer to promote our safety programmes to primary schools. Brian also spoke about water safety on television to help promote the importance of lifesaving classes for children.

• **Media Appreciation Award**

In recognition of the media coverage given to water safety issues nationwide.

• **Provincial Radio Award: Inishowen Community Radio**

Inishowen Community Radio receives the provincial radio station Media Appreciation Award for promoting water safety issues throughout the year. Their coverage of water safety topics of interest to their local audience ensured that their listeners in Donegal were kept informed throughout the year.

• **Provincial Press Award: The Anglo Celt**

The Anglo Celt Newspaper wins the Provincial Press Media Appreciation Award for their coverage of water safety issues, both of National and local interest. The Anglo Celt has kept readers in Cavan well up to date for which we are very grateful.

• **National TV & Radio Award: RTE; Mr. Ed Mulhall; Head of Newsroom**

This award is issued to National TV and National Radio stations for promoting topical water safety issues as they arise throughout the year. RTE receive Irish Water Safety's Media Appreciation Award for their National coverage of water safety issues on both television and radio.

• **National Press Award: The Irish Examiner; John O'Mahony News Editor**

This award is issued to the National Press for promoting topical water safety issues as they arise throughout the year. The Examiner receives Irish Water Safety's Media Appreciation Award for their National coverage of water safety issues that help us to raise awareness of water safety best practices and so help to reduce the number of drownings.

• **Long Service Awards**

This service represents a voluntary commitment to promoting a public awareness of water safety and rescues based on the humanitarian goal of saving life.

▪ **Certificate of Service**

Ms	Rachel	Walsh	Waterford
Ms	Rachel	Dinan	Waterford
Ms	Margaret	Finnegan	Cavan
Mr	Michael	Flynn	Cavan
Mr	Keith	Mockler	Dublin
Ms	Aine	Murphy	Dublin
Ms	Lindsay	Stevens	Dublin
Mr	Roger	Sweeney	Head Office

10-Year Service



▪ **IWS Council 10 Years of Service Awards**

Mr	Frank	Nolan
Mr	Jim	Lawlor
Ms	Kathryn	Byrne
Ms	Breda	Collins
Mr	Michael	Cuddihy
Mr	Brendan	McGrath
Mr	Michael	Murphy
Mr	Martin	O'Sullivan

▪ **The Service Medal of Honour (SMH) 15-Year Service**

Ms	Suzanne	Byrne	Dublin
Mr	John	Doran	Dublin
Ms	Bridie	Finnan	Monaghan
Mr	Colin	Griffin	Dublin
Ms	Fiona	Lynch	Monaghan
Ms	Cliona	Mitchell	Wicklow
Ms	Susan	O Lamhna	Monaghan
Ms	Eimer	O Leary	Dublin
Mr	Darren	O Neill	Offaly
Ms	Kathleen	O Neill	Offaly
Mr	Jim	O Neill	Mayo
Ms	Sharon	Smith	Wicklow

▪ **Bronze Bar to the SMH 20-Year Service**

Mr	David	Byrne	Dublin
Ms	Helen	Creagh	Waterford
Ms	Barbara	Farrell	Tipp North
Mr	Michael	Gavin	Mayo
Mr	Paul	Hamlett	Louth
Mr	John	Harmon	Louth
Ms	Lesley	Harrison	Cavan
Mr	Paul	McGuinness	Donegal
Ms	Joan	Morton	Wicklow
Ms	Mary	O Brien	Waterford
Ms	Brid	O Hehir	Waterford
Mr	Niall	O Lamhna	Monaghan
Mr	Jim	O Neill	Mayo
Ms	Aileen	Rush	Dublin
Ms	Peggy	Taylor	Monaghan
Mr	Cecil	Tilson	Cavan

▪ **Silver Bar to the SMH 30-Year Service**

Mr	Paul	Devins	Dublin
Ms	Margaret	Flynn	Cavan
Mr	Ronnie	Horan	Dublin
Mr	Jimmy	Reilly	Dublin

▪ **Gold Bar to the SMH 40-Year Service**

Mr	Gene	Cullivan	Cavan
Ms	Kathleen	Richey	Cavan

• **Charles Thomson Award Recipients**

Presented annually to the Local Authority that contributes most towards the promotion of water safety in Ireland.

- **1st Place – Mayo County Council**
- **2nd Place – Dun laoghaire Rathdown County Council**
- **3rd Place – Tipperary North County Council**



- **Volunteer of the Year**

Irish Water Safety relies on the efforts and hard work of its committed volunteers, those who again and again willingly contribute their time and skills so that others learn the skills of swimming, lifesaving, rescue, risk assessment and lifesaving sport.

The IWS Volunteer of the Year Award recognises the great work that is completed by these committed volunteers who selflessly give up of their time to complete the vision and mission as laid down in our Strategic Development Plan.

Clare McGrath

Clare has been involved with Irish Water Safety for over 25 years. She has been an active Instructor for over twenty years and an examiner for over ten years.

She has been the Treasurer of Clare WSAC for the past six years. She became a member of the Sports Commission in 2007 and continues her work for the commission to date.

Clare has a vast knowledge of Water Safety. Her contribution to the Clare Water Safety Area Committee and nationally cannot be overrated.

Clare is a Beach Lifeguard and Pool Lifeguard Provider. She instructs in White Strand, Miltown during the summer and she examines during the year in Ennis Pool, West County Hotel, and Miltown and also for Summer Weeks.

Clare recently became a PHECC Instructor.

Clare is always available to advise volunteers both locally and nationally who may be seeking clarification on any range of Water Safety activities.

She became a grade 'A' International Referee in February 2010 and refereed at the World Championships in 2008 and the European Championships in 2009.

Clare is so industrious and competent in planning that she has run many competitions with the help of IWS volunteers and parents. She coaches Surf WS teams and helps coach some National squad sessions and she was the Team Manager of the National team in Egypt 2010.

Clare McGrath is a valued member of Clare Water Safety and we wish her well and continued good health for many more years and that she may continue to inspire and motivate the young and the old in Irish Water Safety.



- **Life Governor Awards 2010**

Given to persons who have made an exceptional contribution towards water safety and / or rescue in Ireland or internationally over the years.

- **Terence Johnson**
 - Member of the Board of Directors of the Commissioner's of Irish Lights
- **Angela Wynne**
 - Member of Irish Water Safety, Wicklow and holds all service honours of IWS, which is indicative of a person who has in excess of fifty year's voluntary service to saving life from drowning.

- **Certificates of Achievement**

- **Norma Cahill, Co Clare**
 - A Special Achievement Award was presented to Norma Cahill from Clare, for her achievements in winning seven Gold and one Silver at the World Lifesaving Championships in Egypt in October. Norma also set four new World Records in Lifesaving at the event.
- **Oisin McGrath, Co Clare**
 - A Special Achievement Award was presented to Oisin McGrath, an Irish Air Corps Pilot and Irish Water Safety Volunteer from Clare. Oisin won three Gold and a Silver at the World Lifesaving Championships in Egypt in October. This is a considerable accomplishment when one considers that the competition involved 3,000 of the World's fittest lifesavers.

- **ILSE Awards 2010, Citations of Merit**

- **Captain Brian Sheridan**
 - Harbour Master in Galway City for his dedication towards the humanitarian goal of saving life from drowning.
- **John Fearon**
 - Assistant Secretary within the Department of Transport, for his dedication towards the humanitarian goal of saving life from drowning in Irish and International waters.
- **Commander Eugene Ryan**
 - Irish Naval Service - for assisting both Irish and Foreign Nationals when in difficulty at sea.



Brendan Bolger stands with his proud parents shortly after receiving his SEIKO Just In Time Award for rescuing a boy at Ardamine Beach, Courtown, Wexford.



Mr. Michael Finneran TD makes a presentation to Fiona Foran, Timemark, in appreciation for SEIKO's sponsorship of the Just In Time Award. Frank Nolan, IWS Chairman on left.



A hardy bunch of participants at a Beach Lifeguard Course take time out from training in Mayo.



Practice and concentration sees youngsters successfully complete their lifesaving classes run by Volunteers from the Clare Water Safety Area Committee.



Kildare Water Safety Volunteer Paddy Kearney is on hand to issue leaflets and advice about water safety to those attending the National Ploughing Championships.



RTE personality Brian Ormond framed by flagbearing Lifesavers Aoife and Darragh Murphy at the sponsorship handover of new safety leaflets and a KIA vehicle for use nationwide by the IWS Education Development Officer.



Popular pop duo Jedward lend their support to Irish Water Safety's Safe Swimming Guide for summer 2010, kindly sponsored by KIA Motors.



Mr. Michael Finneran TD congratulates Kildare Water Safety's Philip Keleghan, Examiner Conference Director. Joined on right by Conference Organiser Breda Collins.



Clare Lifesavers ensure that the manikin "casualty" is in safe hands as they compete at the National Still Water Lifesaving Championships.



Darragh and Aoife Murphy have every reason to smile at the launch of the "Pool Safety Guidelines" which will benchmark safety standards for pools nationwide.



Lifesaver Ciaran Garrick keeps a watchful eye as swimmers enjoy the picturesque Carramore beach, Louisburgh, Co Mayo. Find your Lifeguarded beach listed at iws.ie.



IWS Lifeguards Peter Doyle and Matt Sills present a copy of the newly launched Beach Lifeguard Manual to Dr Klaus Wilkens, President of ILSE in front of a sponsored KIA Lifeguard Training Vehicle, Tramore, Co Waterford.



Proud recipients and lifesavers of the future ☐ the Leinster Nipper Provincial Lifesaving Championships Wexford.



Smiles all round for members of Clare Water Safety Lifesaving Team, winners in the National Still Water Lifesaving Championships.



A distinctly branded Kildare Still Water Lifesaving Team take time out from competing in an action-filled day of events where they secured first in Masters Men and Ladies. 173 of Ireland's fittest Lifesavers competed at the University of Limerick's 50-metre pool complex.



An eager start as competitors react to the whistle at Rossnowlagh beach, Donegal, venue for the National Surf Lifesaving Championships, organised by Donegal Water Safety Area Committee.



Competitors don't stay dry for long when medals are at stake at the National Surf Lifesaving Championships, Rossnowlagh, Co Donegal.



Minister of State at the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Sean Connick, T.D. is joined by supporters launching the IWS Beach Lifeguard Manual.



Medal and certificate recipients □ all winners at the Leinster Nipper Lifesaving provincials



No turning back now for competitors facing the challenging surf conditions at the National Lifesaving Championships, Rossnowlagh, Co Donegal.



Mr. Michael Finneran TD with Darragh and Aoife Murphy at the launch of the new Swimming Pool Safety Guidelines.



A confident Irish Lifesaving Team, skills honed, prepare to embark for Alexandria, Egypt where they will win ten Gold medals, two Silver medals and set new world records at the World Lifesaving Championships.



IWS Chairman Frank Nolan makes a presentation to Jean Kelly, Dept of Transport at a ceremony to mark the launch of the IWS Beach Lifeguard Manual.



Rosanna Davison at Dublin Docklands for the launch of Irish Water Safety's National Water Safety Awareness Week and the launch of an Emerald Star sponsored Inland Waterways Safety Guide.



• **SEIKO Just In Time Awards**

Sponsored by SEIKO for coming to the assistance of a person or persons in distress in water.

- **Mr Rory O'Connor**
- **Garda Trevor Keating**
- **Garda James Conneely** **Sligo**
- On the 9th September 2009 at approximately 11.30pm, Rory O Connor noticed a crowd of people pointing into the Garavogue River. There were Gardai present and they were throwing Ringbuoys to a person in difficulty in the water. The victim was unresponsive so Rory, an IWS trained Lifeguard, entered the water with a ringbuoy and swam out towards the casualty. Meanwhile Garda James Conneely and Garda Trevor Keating entered the water and swam towards a small boat. Rory entered the boat and with just one oar, both he and Garda James Connolly rowed out into the middle of the bay where the victim had drifted. Upon reaching the unconscious man they lifted him onto the boat and Garda James Connolly rowed back to the slipway. While on the boat Rory administered CPR to the injured man until he was responsive. The victim was then transferred to a waiting ambulance which took him to Sligo General Hospital where he made a full recovery.
- **Ms Carmel O Toole**
- **Mr Pat Brennan**
- **Mr Barry Brennan**
- **Mr Dave Brennan**
- **Mr Matthew Carroll** **Wicklow**
- On 14th August 2010 at New Pier Wicklow, Carmel O Toole noticed commotion by the pier. She witnessed some men lowering a towel down to a swimmer in difficulty. She could see that the victim was attempting to scale the pier by holding on to the towel but he kept losing his grip. The swimmer was becoming exhausted. Without hesitation, Carmel entered the water and went to the victim's aid. After about five minutes a ringbuoy was lowered into the water and both Carmel and the boy were towed to a ladder. On exiting the water, Carmel stayed with the badly injured and shocked casualty until an ambulance arrived. The boy made a full recovery.
- **Mr Hugh Byrne** **Clare**
- In August 2009, Hugh Byrne was swimming with friends at Kilkee when they noticed that there was a sudden change in conditions which led to a significant swell and strong waves. As the group left the water, Hugh noticed a young girl in difficulty. Hugh went to the girl who was crying for help. He held onto her while battling the waves. They reached some rocks but were hit by a large wave so they swam together to another set of rocks where they were knocked over again by the swell. They finally reached safety after a fifteen minute ordeal.
- **Mr Brian Mac Cárthaigh** **Donegal**
- On 2nd September 2010, Brian was about to enter the water at Tullan Strand, Bundoran when he observed two young swimmers being dragged out to sea by a strong rip current. Before entering the water, Brian told members of the public to observe and call for help if necessary. He then entered the water with his surf board and went to the children's aid. He brought the two children to safety by taking the girl to shore first and then went back to rescue the boy and successfully brought him back to shore where both children were reunited with their parents.
- **Mr Gary McCalmont** **Donegal**
- On Sunday 25th May 2008, Gary was on board the Dun Na nGall when he noticed that there was a man overboard. The person was in difficulty so both John O'Connor and Gary McCalmont entered the water, John equipped with a lifebelt. He quickly reached the victim and took him towards the bow of the vessel. John was assisted in the water by Gary. The casualty was taken aboard then transferred to a waiting ambulance. Thankfully, the man made a full recovery in hospital.



- **Garda Liam Booth Dublin**
- On April 1st 2010, Garda Liam Booth was on mountain bike patrol when he was stopped by a member of the public who informed him that a man had jumped into the River Liffey. Garda Booth went to the scene and after careful observation decided he would enter the water. He swam against the current and on reaching the victim Garda Booth turned him over, applied a "cross chest" carry and held onto the injured man. Members of the public threw lifebuoys towards him after which he and the victim were pulled over to a submerged tree. Garda Booth pulled the man onto the tree and remained in the cold water before Dublin Fire Brigade members in wet gear entered the river and took him to safety. Garda Booth spent some time in hospital with Hypothermia and made a full recovery.

- **Mr Ciarán McManus**
- **Mr Ciarán O'Neill**
- **Mr Joseph Prior Cavan**
- On April 14th 2010, while kayaking on the Ballyconnell Canal, Ciarán McManus, Ciarán O'Neill and Joseph Prior observed a kayaker in difficulty in the water. The Kayaker was stuck in a waterfall and visibly injured. The men called out to a member of the public and asked them to alert the emergency services. They quickly devised a plan of action. Ciarán McManus held onto Joseph Prior who in turn held onto a kayak containing Ciarán O'Neill. Ciarán O'Neill grabbed the victim and passed him over to Ciarán McManus who pulled him ashore. Joseph then pulled Ciarán O'Neill to safety. Ciarán McManus administered CPR successfully. The victim was taken to hospital by ambulance where he made a full recovery.

- **Garda Damien Byrne Dublin**
- On July 12th 2008 at 1am Garda Byrne and his colleague observed a man in difficulty in the River Liffey. Without hesitation Garda Byrne entered the water and managed to grab hold of the victim and tow him over to nearby steps. Garda Byrne, with the aid of Sergeant Henry, pulled the victim to safety. CPR was administered and the victim was taken to hospital where he made a full recovery.

- **Mr Daniel Coughlan Cork**
- On April 16th 2010 Daniel Coughlan and three friends came upon a woman in distress in the River Lee, Cork. Without hesitation, Daniel, a strong swimmer, entered the water. He swam in a strong current until he reached the victim. As the current was too strong to swim back with the victim, he managed to pull both himself and the woman over towards a ledge on the quay wall. His friends threw him a lifebuoy which he placed over the woman's head. He held onto the victim for about ten minutes until the Fire Brigade arrived and lifted both Daniel and the woman to Safety.

- **Mr Brendan Bolger Dublin**
- On August 14th 2010 at Ardamine Beach, Courtown, Wexford, fifteen year old Brendan, who turned sixteen on the day of the Awards Ceremony, came to the rescue of his friend. Brendan and a third friend Daniel were on the shoreline when they witnessed another friend jump from their nearby yacht with an inflatable jacket in his hand. They observed the lifejacket drifting away from the boy and saw that he was having difficulty trying to swim to shore. Without hesitation they instructed members of the public to call the Coastguard while Brendan went into the water with a ringbuoy tied to his ankle. He began to swim against the strong current. He reached his friend and placed the ringbuoy under his crossed arms. He then rolled onto his back and began to swim towards the shore. When they reached the shore, Brendan, with the aid of another man, pulled the casualty onto the sand, wrapped towels around him and placed him into the recovery position. Soon after that the RNLI arrived and gave casualty oxygen. The boy was taken to Wexford General hospital where he made a full recovery.



Comptroller & Auditor General,
Office of the Comptroller & Auditor General,
Dublin Castle,
Dublin 2.

- Irish Water Safety Association

We confirm to the best of our knowledge and belief, and having made the appropriate enquiries of other Council Members and Officials of the Association, the following representations given to you in connection with your audit of the Association's financial statements of the Council for the year ended 31 December 2010.

1. We acknowledge as Council Members our statutory responsibility for the financial statements. All of the accounting records have been made available to you for the purpose of your audit and all the transactions undertaken by the Association have been properly reflected and recorded in the accounting records. All other records and related information, including minutes of all Council meetings, have been made available to you.
2. There are no financial commitments of a revenue or capital nature other than those as disclosed in the financial statements.
3. Annual lease commitments at 31 December 2010 amounted to €41,722 in respect of leased offices occupied by the Association at The Long Walk, Galway.
4. Full disclosure and provision has been made for all liabilities at the Balance Sheet date. Contingencies have been appropriately disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.
5. There are no legal actions, which were instigated against the Council.
6. The Association has satisfactory title to all assets and there are no liens or encumbrances on the Association's assets, except as disclosed in the financial statements.
7. At the Balance Sheet date cash on hand and at bank amounted to €202,581.
8. The Council Members are of the opinion that the Association will have sufficient working capital to meet its foreseeable requirements for at least the next twelve months.
9. No transactions were entered into shortly before the accounting date with the intention that they should be reversed shortly after that date, so as not to present a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Association.
10. There were no third party guarantees or letters of comfort issued by the Association.
11. No irregularities or frauds have occurred or are being investigated as at 31 December 2010.
12. The Association has not exceeded the borrowing limits approved by the Department of Environment and Local Government.
13. No circumstances have arisen or events occurred between the Balance Sheet date and the date of this letter, which would require adjustment or disclosure in the financial statements.
14. Payments and transactions in respect of any grants, loans and investments made during the year conformed with legislation and with Government and Department directives and were authorised, approved and processed in accordance with the Association's internal procedures and controls.



15. The Council Members do not have an interest in any grant or other contract entered into by the Association during the year other than as disclosed in the financial statements.
16. All transactions with subsidiary and related parties have been properly recorded and adequately disclosed in the financial statements.
17. The Association complied with all aspects of contractual agreements that could have a material effect on the financial statements in the event of non-compliance. There have been no communications concerning non-compliance with requirements of regulatory or tax authorities with respect to any matter.
18. The Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies has been adopted and is being complied with, and in particular:
 - All appropriate procedures for financial reporting, internal audit, procurement and assets disposals are being carried out;
 - Codes of Business Conduct for Council Members and Employees have been put in place and adhered to;
 - Government policy on the pay of the Chief Executive and all employees is being complied with;
 - The Guidelines for the Appraisal and Management of Capital Expenditure Proposals are being complied with.
19. The Statement on the System of Internal Financial Control reflects our compliance with the requirements of the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies.
20. We have no subsidiaries, joint ventures or shareholdings acquired other than those disclosed in the financial statements.

For and on behalf of the Council.

CHAIRMAN

Chief Executive

Date: 24th June 2011



Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General for presentation to the Houses of the Oireachtas

I have audited the financial statements of Irish Water Safety for the year ended 31 December 2010 under the Comptroller and Auditor General (Amendment) Act 1993.

The financial statements, which have been prepared under the accounting policies set out therein, comprise the Statement of Accounting Policies, the Income and Expenditure Account, the Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses, the Balance Sheet and the related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland.

Responsibilities of the Council

The Council is responsible for preparing the financial statements, for ensuring that they give a true and fair view of the state of Irish Water Safety's affairs and of its income and expenditure and for ensuring the regularity of transactions.

Responsibilities of the Comptroller and Auditor General

My responsibility is to audit the financial statements and report on them in accordance with applicable law.

My audit is conducted by reference to the special considerations which attach to State bodies in relation to their management and operation.

My audit is carried out in accordance with the International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) and in compliance with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Scope of Audit of the Financial Statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of

- whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Council's circumstances, and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed
- the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made in the preparation of the financial statements, and
- the overall presentation of the financial statements.

I also seek to obtain evidence about the regularity of financial transactions in the course of audit.

In addition, I read all the financial and non-financial information in the annual report to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements, if I become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies I consider the implications for my report.

Opinion on the Financial Statements

In my opinion, the financial statements, which have been properly prepared in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland, give a true and fair view of the state of the Council's affairs as at 31 December 2010 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended,

In my opinion, proper books of account have been kept by Irish Water Safety. The financial statements are in agreement with the books of account.

Matters which I Report by Exception

- I have not received all the information and explanations I required for my audit, or



- my audit noted any material instance where moneys have not been applied for the purposes intended or where the transactions did not conform to the authorities governing them, or
- the information given in Irish Water Safety's Annual Report for the year for which the financial statements are prepared is not consistent with the financial statements, or
- the Statement on Internal Financial Control does not reflect the Council's compliance with the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies, or
- I find there are other material matters relating to the manner in which public business has been conducted.

I have nothing to report in regard to those matters upon which reporting is by exception.

Andrew Harkness
for and on behalf of the
Comptroller and Auditor General

28th June 2011



Irish Water Safety

Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2010

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Accountants

Robert J. Kidney & Co.
Chartered Accountants
11 Adelaide Road
Dublin 2

Business Address

The Long Walk
Galway

Auditor

The Comptroller and Auditor General



Statement of Responsibilities of the Council of Irish Water Safety

Irish Water Safety was established on 24 July 2006 by the Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government under the Irish Water Safety Establishment Order 2006 (S.I. 389 of 2006). The order re-established the former Irish Water Safety Association as a corporate body under its new title "Irish Water Safety" and expanded the services to be provided by the body.

Irish Water Safety is required to prepare financial statements, in the form approved by the Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government, with the consent of the Minister for Finance, which give a true and fair view of its state of affairs and income and expenditure for the period. In preparing the financial statements, Irish Water Safety is required to:

1. Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently
2. Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
3. State whether any applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
4. Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that Irish Water Safety will continue in operation.

The Council is responsible for keeping proper books of account, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of Irish Water Safety and which enable it to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Irish Water Safety Establishment Order 2006. The Council is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of Irish Water Safety, and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Chairman

Chief Executive



Statement on Internal Financial Control

Responsibility for the system of Internal Financial Control

On behalf of the Council of Irish Water Safety, I acknowledge our responsibility for ensuring that an effective system of internal financial control is maintained and operated.

The system can only provide reasonable but not absolute assurance that assets are safeguarded, transactions authorised and properly recorded, and that material errors or irregularities are either prevented or would be detected in a timely period.

Key Control Procedures

The Council has taken steps to ensure an appropriate control environment by;

- Clearly defining management responsibilities;
- Establishing formal procedures for reporting significant control failures and ensuring appropriate corrective action.

The Council established a Finance Commission consisting of three non-executive and two executive members and that Commission reviews internal control matters and issues raised by the Comptroller and Auditor General. At present Irish Water Safety does not have an internal audit function.

The Council has a formal process to identify and evaluate business risk by;

- Identifying the nature, extent and financial implication of risks facing the body including the extent and categories which it regards as acceptable;
- Assessing the likelihood of identified risks occurring;
- Assessing the body's ability to manage and mitigate the risks that do occur;
- Assessing the costs of operating particular controls relative to the benefit obtained.

In 2009 the Finance Commission carried out this exercise and reported to the Council.

The system of internal financial control is based on a framework of regular management information, administrative procedures including segregation of duties, and a system of delegation and accountability. In particular it includes:

- A budgeting system with an annual budget which is reviewed and agreed by the Council;
- Regular reviews by the Council of periodic and annual financial reports which indicate financial performance against forecast;
- Setting targets to measure financial and other performance.

The Council's monitoring and review of the effectiveness of the system of internal financial control is based on the work of the Financial Officer and CEO who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of an appropriate financial control framework. The Council also takes into account reports and comments made by the Finance Commission and the Comptroller and Auditor General in his management letter or other reports.

Annual Review of Controls

The Council and Finance Commission headed by me as Chairman, with the full cooperation of the Chief Executive Officer and the Financial Officer, both of whom have been designated by the Council to ensure that the necessary controls are in place, review these controls on a continual basis in line with any directions received. One of the non-executive members of the Finance Commission has been appointed as an independent reviewer/examiner of Internal Financial Controls. His function is to report back to the Finance Commission and the Council



on the appropriateness and correctness of the standards of internal financial control to date in place.

We confirm that in the year ended 31 December 2010 the Council has conducted a review of the effectiveness of the system of internal financial control.

Signed on behalf of the Council of Irish Water Safety.

Frank Nolan
Chairman

John Leech
Chief Executive

Date: 24 June 2011

Statement of Accounting Policies

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, under the accruals method of accounting except as stated below and in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice. The statements are in a form approved by the Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government, with the consent of the Minister for Finance, under the Irish Water Safety Establishment Order 2006 (S.I. 389 of 2006).

Period of Accounts

The financial statements cover the 12 month period to 31 December 2010.

Income

Oireachtas Grants represent the actual cash receipts in the year.

Deferred income is taken to account in line with related expenditure.

Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Fixed Assets are shown at cost. Depreciation is provided on a straight-line basis as follows:

Leasehold Improvements	21 years
Office Equipment	5 years
Computer Equipment	3 years
Promotional Equipment	10 years



Artworks donated to Irish Water Safety over a number of years were valued by an independent valuer during 2006 and are included in the financial statements at this valuation. Artworks are not depreciated, as the Council believes that they are unlikely to suffer a loss in value.

Capital Account

The capital account represents the unamortised value of income used for capital purposes.

Pensions

Under the Irish Water Safety Establishment Order 2006, schemes and regulations made under the Local Government (Superannuation) Act 1980 (No. 8 of 1980) apply to Irish Water Safety as if it were a Local Authority.

Irish Water Safety operates a defined benefits scheme which is funded annually on a pay as you go basis from monies available to it, including monies provided by the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government and from contributions deducted from staff salaries.

Pension Scheme liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method.

Pension costs reflect pension benefits earned by employees in the period and are shown net of staff pension contributions which are retained by Irish Water Safety. An amount corresponding to the pension charge is recognised as income to the extent that it is recoverable and offset by grants received in the year to discharge pension payments.

Actuarial gains or losses arising on scheme liabilities are reflected in the Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses and a corresponding adjustment is recognised in the amount recoverable from the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government.

Pension liabilities represent the present value of future pension payments earned by staff to date. Deferred pension funding represents the corresponding asset to be recovered in future periods from the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government.

Water Safety Committees

Committees, which are responsible for the organisation of water safety activities at local level, undertake local fundraising activities. Fundraising income is retained by the Water Safety Committees to finance local activities. Financial transactions of these Committees are not incorporated into these accounts.



Income & Expenditure Account
for the year ended 31 December 2010

	Note	2010 €	2009 €
Income:			
Oireachtas Grants		548,000	556,000
Net Deferred Funding for Pensions	10c	100,000	80,000
		648,000	636,000
Contributions from Local Authorities		179,231	168,813
Miscellaneous	1	229,289	203,170
		1,056,520	1,007,983
Transfer from Capital Account	9	20,286	10,140
		1,076,806	1,018,123
Expenditure:			
Administration Expenses	2	604,291	604,549
Travel and Subsistence Expenses	3	117,968	112,622
Promotions, Publicity and Training	4	204,187	161,482
Grants to Water Safety Committees		78,030	78,530
Special Projects	5	17,533	16,922
Total Operating Costs		1,022,009	974,105
Surplus for the Year		54,797	44,018
Accumulated Surplus 1 January		126,459	82,441
Accumulated Surplus 31 December		181,256	126,459

The statement of Accounting Policies and notes 1 to 14 form part of these Financial Statements.

Frank J. Maher

Chairman

John J. Gleeson

Chief Executive

Date: 24 June 2011



Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses
for the year ended 31 December 2010

	Note	2010 €	2009 €
Surplus for the Financial Year		54,797	44,018
Experience Gains/(Losses) on Pension Scheme Liabilities		90,000	(56,000)
Changes in Assumptions Underlying the Present Value of Pension			
Scheme Liabilities		<u>-</u>	<u>(34,000)</u>
Actuarial Gain/(Loss) on Pension Liabilities		90,000	(90,000)
Adjustment to Deferred Pension Funding		(90,000)	90,000
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total Recognised Gains and Losses for the Financial Year		<u>54,797</u>	<u>44,018</u>

The statement of Accounting Policies and notes 1 to 14 form part of these Financial Statements.

Chairman

Chief Executive

Date: 24 June 2011



Balance Sheet
As at 31 December 2010

	Note	2010 €	2009 €
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible Assets	6	<u>223,045</u>	<u>243,331</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	7	36,507	29,247
Cash at Bank and in Hand		202,581	148,046
		<u>239,088</u>	<u>177,293</u>
CREDITORS - Amounts falling due within one year			
Creditors and Accruals	8	<u>(57,832)</u>	<u>(50,834)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>181,256</u>	<u>126,459</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		404,301	369,790
DEBTORS/(CREDITORS) - Amounts falling due after one year			
Deferred Pension Funding	10d	550,000	540,000
Pension Liabilities	10e	(550,000)	(540,000)
		<u>404,301</u>	<u>369,790</u>
CAPITAL AND RESERVES			
Capital Account	9	223,045	243,331
Income & Expenditure Account		181,256	126,459
		<u>404,301</u>	<u>369,790</u>

The statement of accounting policies and notes 1 to 14 form part of these financial statements.

Chairman

Chief Executive

Date: 24 June 2011



Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2010

Note		2010	2009
1.	Miscellaneous Income	€	€
	Sales	164,826	80,121
	Membership	5,290	21,475
	Ring Buoy Contribution	27,000	27,000
	Sponsorship	27,000	74,574
	In Service Teacher Course Grant	3,720	-
	Other Income	1,453	-
		<u>229,289</u>	<u>203,170</u>

Note			2010	2009
2.	Administration Expenses		€	€
	Salaries and Temporary Staff	2(a)	326,416	353,453
	Pension Costs	10(a)	85,911	64,526
	Staff Training		275	900
	Rent, Rates, Light and Heat		54,652	53,316
	Insurance		19,042	19,836
	Stationery		8,509	8,910
	Postage and Telephone		25,416	29,751
	Maintenance and Cleaning		33,446	23,798
	Audit Fee		8,648	8,648
	Accountancy		3,777	3,090
	Legal & Other Professional Fees		4,626	2,910
	Bank Charges		108	1,080
	Miscellaneous Administration Expenses		6,033	7,372
	Depreciation		27,432	26,959
			<u>604,291</u>	<u>604,549</u>

Note 2a. Salaries & Temporary Staff

The salaries and temporary staff costs for 2010 include the following amounts:

- **Council Members Emoluments**

The Chairman of the Council received a stipend of €8,500 in 2010 (2009 - €8,500) after a voluntary reduction of €2,000. No other Council Member received any fees in 2010 or 2009.



- **Chief Executive Remuneration**

The Chief Executive's remuneration for 2010 was made up of an annual basic salary of €88,467 (2009 - €92,765). His pension entitlements do not extend beyond the standard entitlements in the public sector defined benefit superannuation scheme.

- **Pension Levy Deductions**

Pension related deductions of €17,209 (2009 - €18,632) were made from staff salaries and paid over to the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government.

Note 3. Travel and Subsistence Expenses		2010	2009
		€	€
Council	3(a)	33,595	33,111
Committees and Commissions		24,015	23,607
Office	3(a)	16,846	14,824
Ring Buoy Inspectors		22,499	22,403
International Travel		10,952	10,918
Other Travel		10,061	7,759
		117,968	112,622

Note

3a. Travel and Subsistence Expenses

The travel and subsistence expenses in 2010 include €13,334 received by the Chairman (2009 - €16,470) and €8,134 received by the Chief Executive (2009 - €9,102). Amounts are calculated in accordance with relevant Department of Finance Travel & Subsistence Circulars.

		2010	2009
		€	€
Note 4. Promotion, Publicity and Printing Expenses			
Advertising and Press Cuttings		36,498	33,672
Education Development Officer - Expenses		1,771	5,114
Seminars and Training Courses		55,374	20,722
Non Saleable Books and Manuals		49,526	64,127
Purchase of Saleable Items		55,082	35,567
Memberships		5,936	2,280
		204,187	161,482

Note 5. Special Projects

		€	€
Senior & Junior Surf and Pool Competition		2,157	7,749
Life Saving Competitions Abroad		15,376	9,173
		17,533	16,922



Note 6. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Leasehold Interest €	Computer Equipment €	Other Office Equipment €	Promotional Equipment €	Art & Paintings €	Total €
Cost or Valuation						
Opening Balance 1 Jan 2010	260,458	50,710	54,398	36,828	64,150	466,544
Additions	-	545	6,601	-	-	7,146
Closing Balance 31 Dec 2010	<u>260,458</u>	<u>51,255</u>	<u>60,999</u>	<u>36,828</u>	<u>64,150</u>	<u>473,690</u>
Depreciation						
Opening Balance 1 Jan 2010	123,983	41,179	47,002	11,049	-	223,213
Charge For Year	<u>12,397</u>	<u>5,941</u>	<u>5,411</u>	<u>3,683</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>27,432</u>
Closing Balance 31 Dec 2010	<u>136,380</u>	<u>47,120</u>	<u>52,413</u>	<u>14,732</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>250,645</u>
Net Book Values						
At 31 December 2010	<u>124,078</u>	<u>4,135</u>	<u>8,586</u>	<u>22,096</u>	<u>64,150</u>	<u>223,045</u>
At 31 December 2009	<u>136,475</u>	<u>9,531</u>	<u>7,396</u>	<u>25,779</u>	<u>64,150</u>	<u>243,331</u>

Leasehold improvements pertain to fit out costs in the premises occupied by Irish Water Safety.

Artworks donated to Irish Water Safety over a number of years are included above at valuation following an independent valuation carried out in May 2006.

Note		2010	2009
7. Debtors		€	€
Trade Debtors		23,731	19,065
Other Debtors		12,776	10,182
		<u>36,507</u>	<u>29,247</u>
Note		2010	2009
8. Creditors and Accruals		€	€
Trade Creditors		11,133	6,354
Deferred Income		-	11,077
Accrued Expenses		46,699	33,403
		<u>57,832</u>	<u>50,834</u>



Note

9. Capital Account

	2010	2009
	€	€
Balance as at 1 January	243,331	253,471
Income Allocated for Capital Purposes	7,146	16,819
Funds Released on Disposal of Assets	-	-
Amortisation in Line with Depreciation	(27,432)	(26,959)
Transfer to Income & Expenditure Account	(20,286)	(10,140)
Balance as at 31 December	<u>223,045</u>	<u>243,331</u>

Note 10. Pension Costs

a. Analysis of Total Pension Costs Charged to Expenditure

	2010	2009
	€	€
Current Service Cost	70,000	60,000
Interest on Pension Scheme Liabilities	30,000	20,000
Employee Contributions	(14,089)	(15,474)
	<u>85,911</u>	<u>64,526</u>

b. Movement in Net Pension Liability during the Financial Year

	2010	2009
	€	€
Net Pension Liability at 1st January	540,000	370,000
Current Service Cost	70,000	60,000
Interest Cost	30,000	20,000
Actuarial (Gain)/Loss	(90,000)	90,000
Pensions Paid in Year	-	-
Net Pension Liability at 31 December	<u>550,000</u>	<u>540,000</u>



Note

10. Pension Costs (Continued)

c. Deferred Funding for Pensions

Irish Water Safety recognises these amounts as an asset corresponding to the unfunded deferred liability for pensions on the basis of the set of assumptions described above and a number of past events. These events include the statutory basis for the establishment of the superannuation scheme, and the policy and practice currently in place in relation to funding public service pensions including contributions by employees and the annual estimates process. Irish Water Safety has no evidence that this funding policy will not continue to meet such sums in accordance with current practice.

The Net Deferred Funding for Pensions recognised in Income and Expenditure Account was as follows:

	2010 €	2009 €
Funding Recoverable in Respect of Current Year Pension Costs	100,000	80,000
State Grant Applied to Pay Pensioners	-	-
	<u>100,000</u>	<u>80,000</u>

The deferred funding asset for pensions as at 31 December 2010 amounted to €550,000 (2009: €540,000).

d. History of defined benefit obligations

	2010 €	2009 €	2008 €	2007 €
Defined benefit obligations	550,000	540,000	370,000	310,000
Experience (gains)/losses on scheme liabilities amount	(90,000)	56,000	(17,000)	(12,000)
Percentage of the present value of the scheme liabilities	(16.4%)	10.4%	(4.6%)	(3.9%)

The cumulative actuarial gain recognised in the Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses amounts to €5,000.

e. General description of the scheme

The pension scheme is a defined benefit final salary pension arrangement with benefits and contributions defined by reference to current “model” public sector scheme regulations. The scheme provides a pension (eightieths per year of service), a gratuity or lump sum (three eightieths per year of service) and spouse’s and children’s pensions. Normal Retirement Age is a member’s 65th birthday, and pre 2004 members have an entitlement to retire without actuarial reduction from age 60. Pensions in payment (and deferment) normally increase in line with general public sector salary inflation.



Note

10. Pension Costs (Continued)

The valuation used for FRS17 (Revised) disclosures has been based on a full actuarial valuation during February 2011 by a qualified independent actuary taking account of the requirements of the FRS in order to assess the scheme liabilities at 31 December 2010.

The principal actuarial assumptions were as follows

	2010	2009
Rate of increase in salaries	4.0%	4.0%
Rate of increase in pensions in payment	4.0%	4.0%
Discount rate	5.5%	5.5%
Inflation	2.0%	2.0%

Details of the mortality assumptions have not been given but it is intended to give them next year.

f. Average life expectancy used to determine liabilities

The average future life expectancy according to the mortality tables used to determine the pension liabilities were as follows:

	2010	2009
Male – aged 65	22	22
Female – aged 65	25	25

Note

11. Lease Commitments

Irish Water Safety occupies premises at Long Walk, Galway, under a lease for 21 years, which commenced in July 2000. The current rental is €41,722 per annum. The lease has break options after ten and fifteen years.

Note

12. Council Members Interests

The Council adopted procedures in accordance with guidelines issued by the Department of Finance in relation to the disclosure of Interests by Board Members and those procedures have been adhered to in the year. There are no transactions in the year in relation to Irish Water Safety's activities in which Council members had any beneficial interest.

Note

13. EU Late Payments Regulations

The regulation imposes a legal requirement on bodies to make interest payments in respect of invoices that are paid in excess of 30 days after receipt. Irish Water Safety has a system in place to identify overdue invoices and to calculate and pay the interest due as part of the invoice payments. No interest payments were made under the terms of the regulations in 2010 or 2009.

Note

14. Approval of Financial Statements

The financial statements were approved by the Council on 24 June 2011.



Drowning Statistics

The total number of drownings in Ireland in 2010 was 112, the lowest figure since 1952 when 104 people drowned. The highest figure recorded in any one year to date is 229 in 1994.

Ireland averaged 150 drownings each year in the decade to 2010, a decade during which Irish Water Safety developed a range of educational and promotional campaigns to raise awareness about water safety.

We have ended a decade in which we can report that drownings in Ireland in 2010 were at their lowest for 58 years - reason enough to be confident that the work of Irish Water Safety and our partners in the public and private sector is having the desired outcome – more people enjoying our wonderful aquatic facilities more safely.

Each figure in the following graphical analysis reflects a preventable tragedy that affects so many lives. Irish Water Safety continues to target at-risk groups with initiatives to highlight best practices so that drowning statistics continue this downward trend.

A synopsis of some general contributory factors over the years:

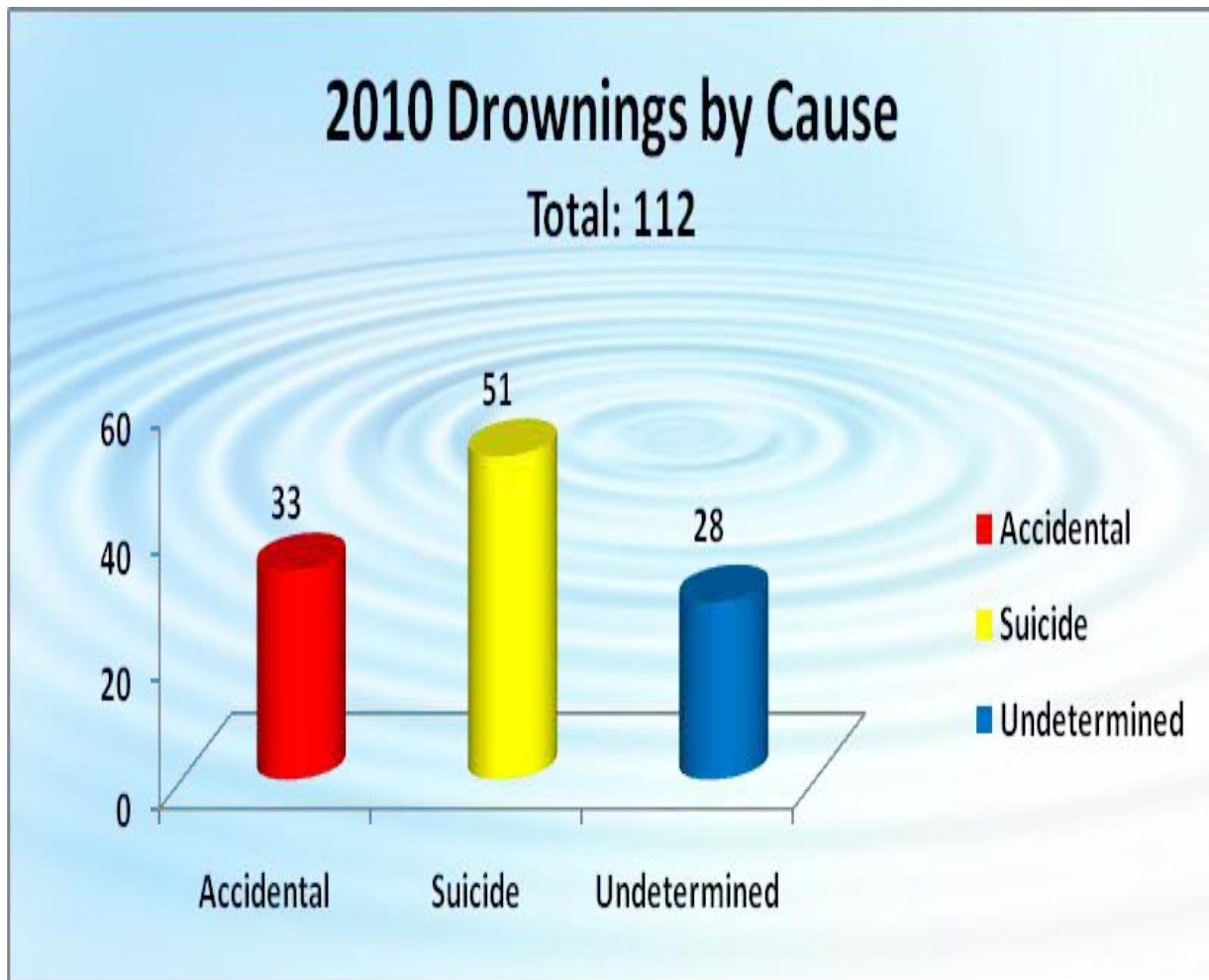
1. Poor or inadequate equipment (e.g. boats or lifejackets);
2. Not wearing a correctly fitting lifejacket.
2. Alcohol consumption;
3. Falling unexpectedly into water;
4. Improper use of boats and equipment;
5. Overestimation of skills;
6. Lack of local knowledge when travelling in Ireland and abroad;
7. Not being able to swim or not having lifesaving and water survival skills;
8. Easy unauthorized access to waterways;
9. Cold;
10. Current (including rip currents, river currents, and tidal currents);
11. Offshore winds (including flotation devices);
12. Pre-existing diseases (e.g. heart attacks);
13. Underwater entanglement;
14. Bottom surface gradient and stability;
15. Waves (coastal, boat);
16. Water transparency;
17. Impeded visibility (including coastal configuration, structures and overcrowding);
18. Lack of parental supervision (infants and children);
19. Change in weather conditions;
20. Excessive „horseplay“ or over exuberant behavior (including “tombstoning” from cliffs);
21. Swimming outside the depth of the user.

A synopsis of some general preventive and management actions:

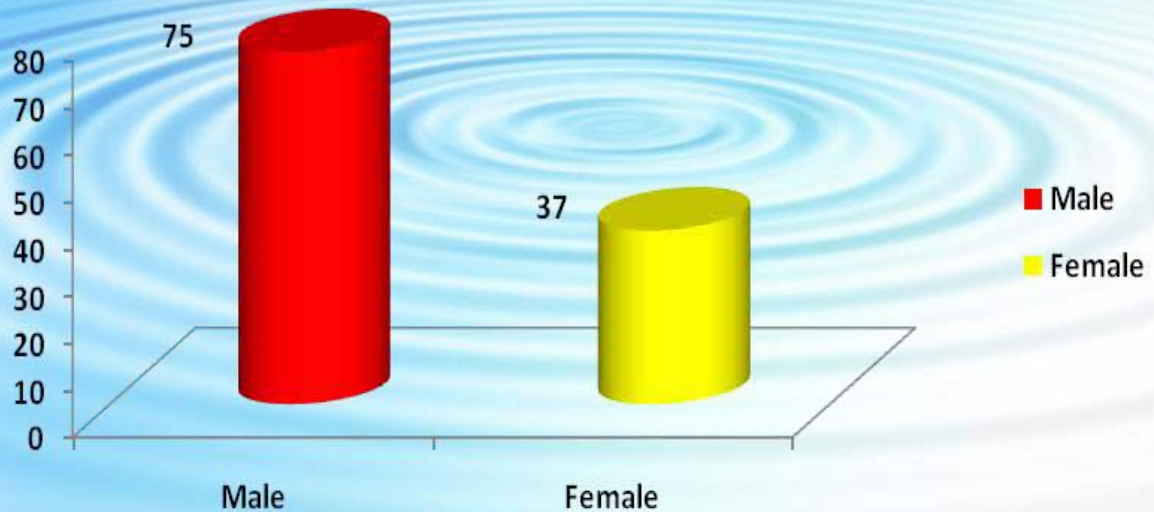
1. Public education by Irish Water Safety regarding hazards and safe behaviours;
2. Teaching children to stay away from water when unsupervised through the IWS PAWS (Primary Aquatics Water Safety) programme;
3. Continual adult supervision of children;
4. IWS media campaigns that drowning can happen quickly and quietly;
5. Promote in IWS press announcements, the restriction of alcohol provision before or during aquatic activities;
6. Provision by Irish Water Safety of properly trained and equipped lifeguards;
7. Provision of rescue services;
8. Irish Water Safety Risk Assessments that include assessments of local hazard warning notices, access to emergency response and availability of resuscitation skills/facilities and other factors;
9. Development by Irish Water Safety of rescue and resuscitation skills among general public and user groups;
10. Coordination by Irish Water Safety with user group associations concerning hazard awareness and safe behaviours;
11. Wearing of adequate lifejackets and Personal Flotation Devices when boating;
12. Fencing and doors to isolate outdoor pools and other water features.



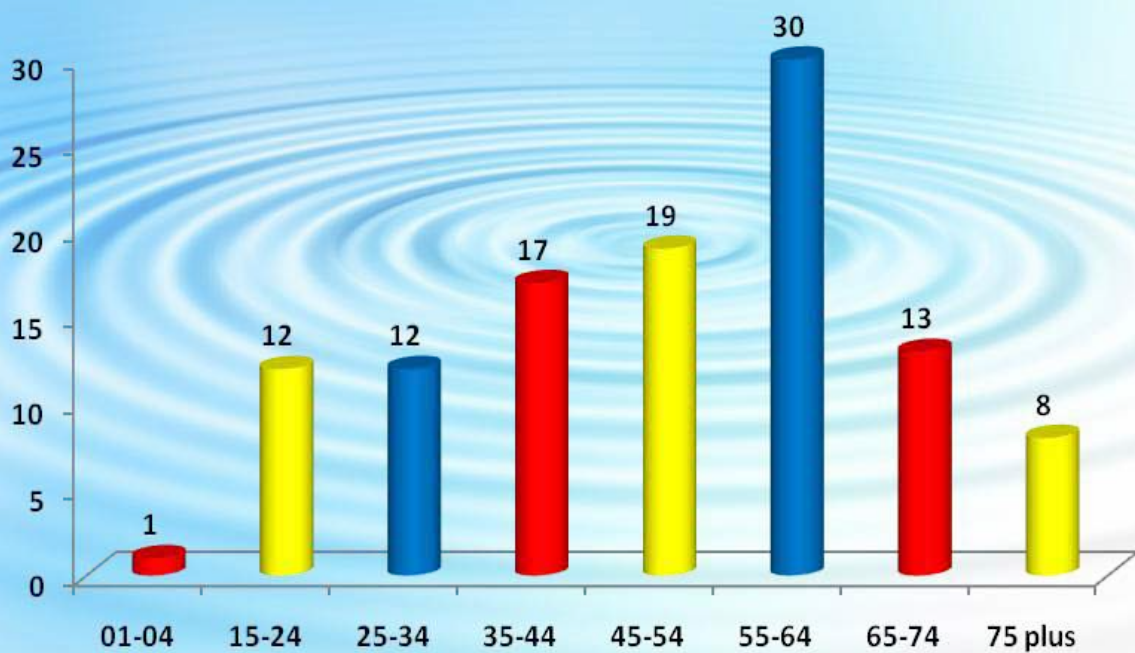
Graphical Analysis 2010:



2010 All Drownings by Gender

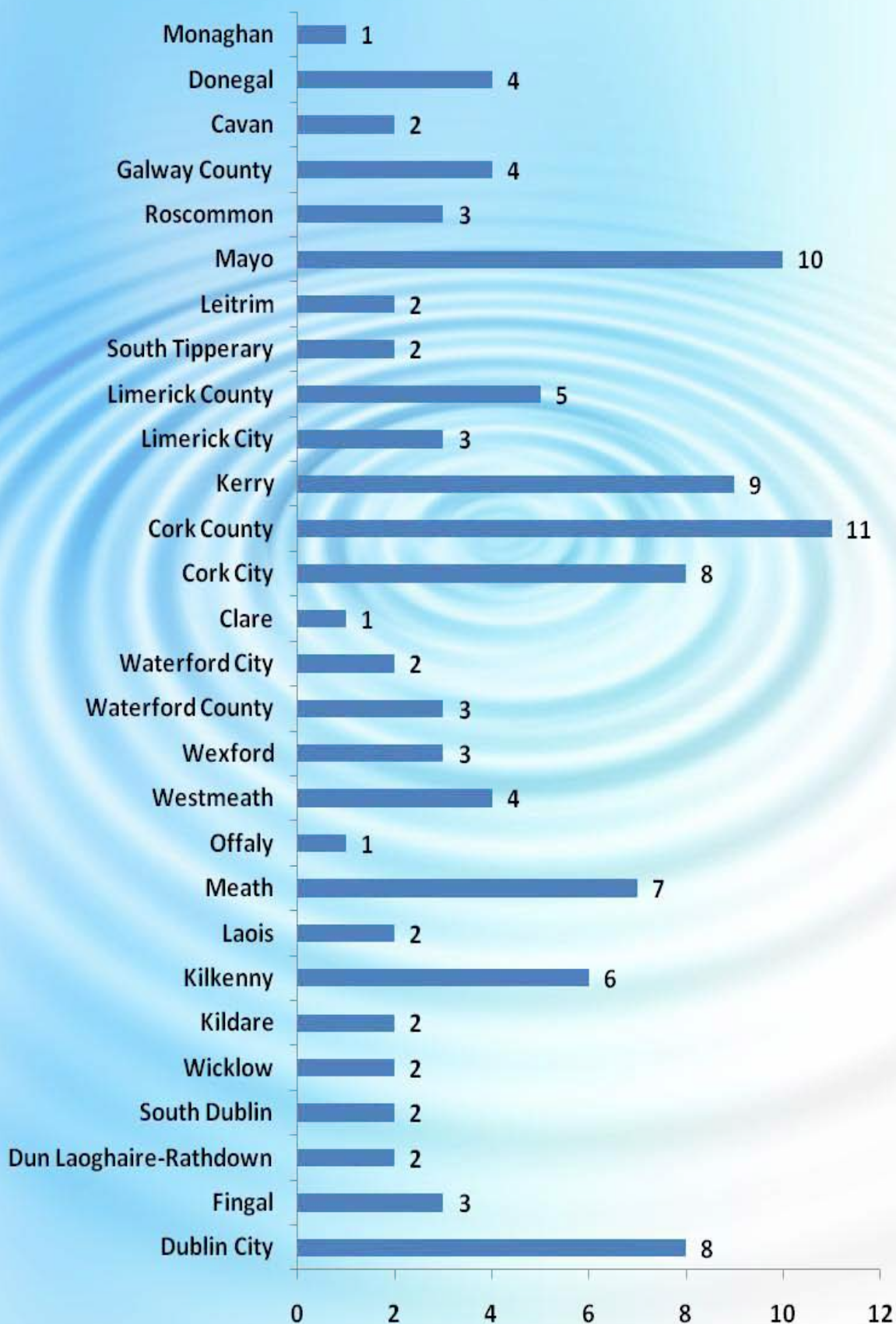


2010 All Drownings by Age

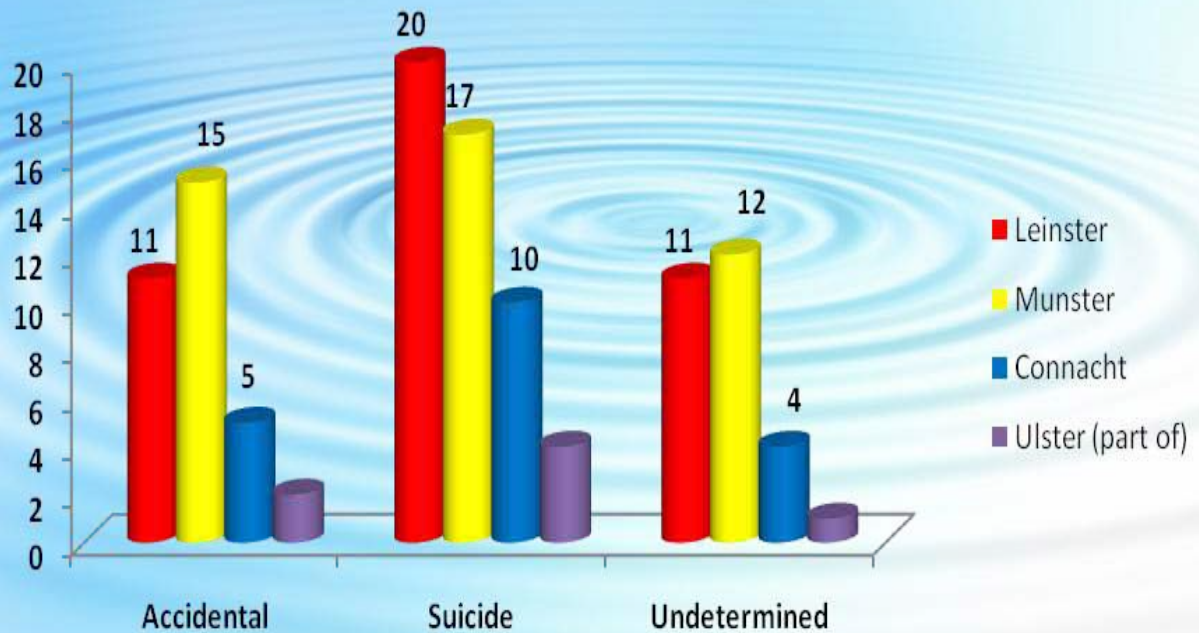




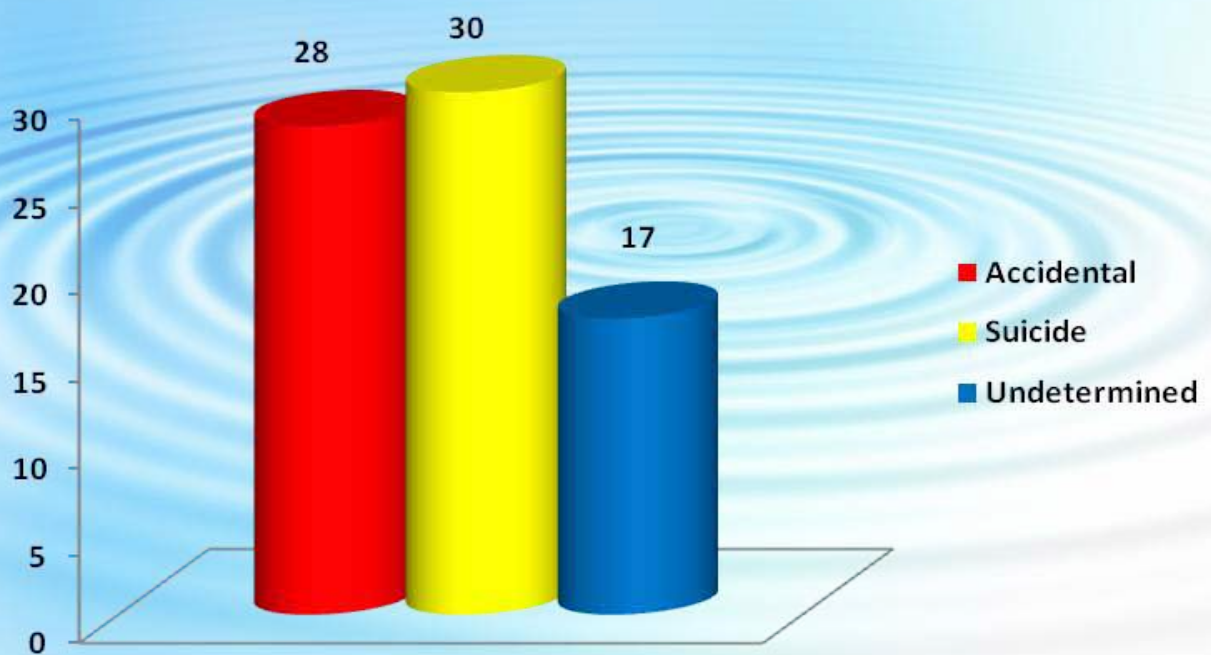
2010 All Drownings by Area



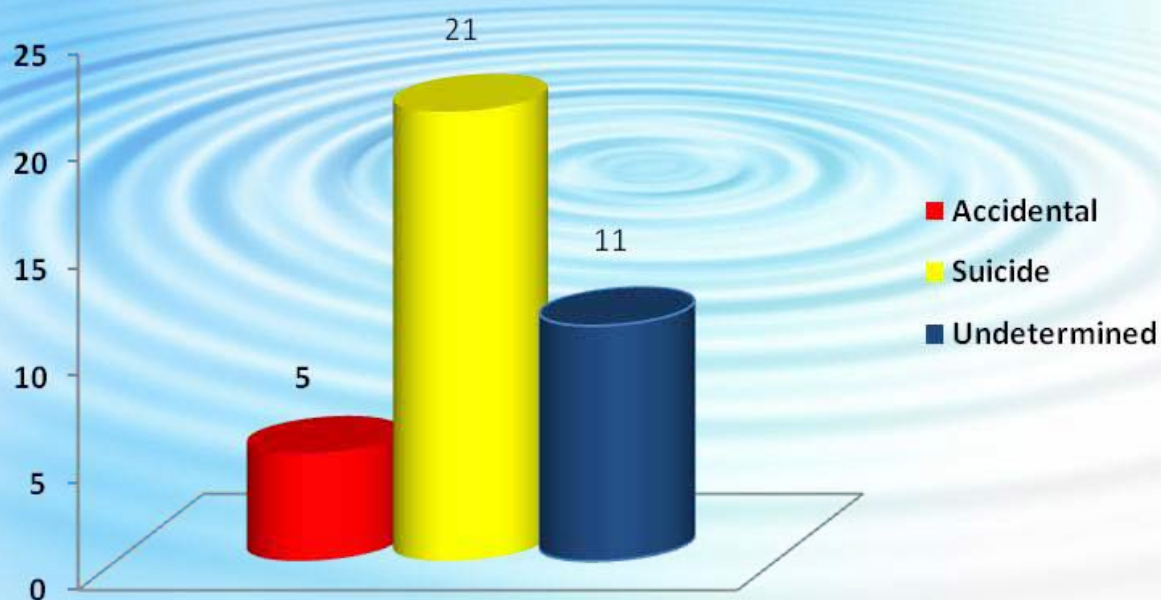
2010 Drownings by Province and Cause



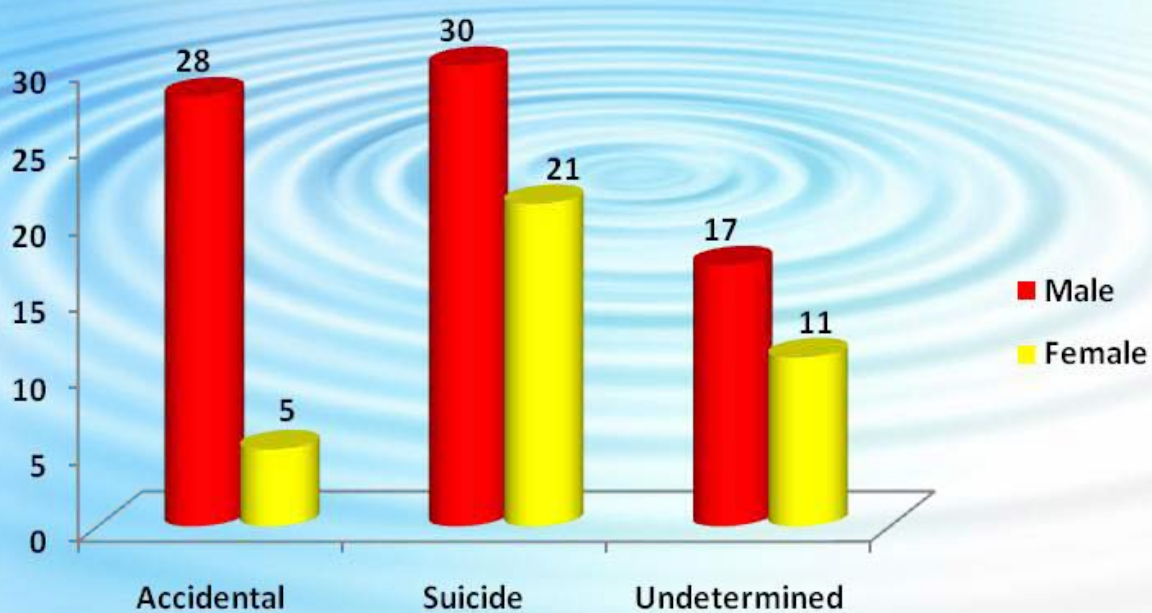
2010 Male Drownings by Cause



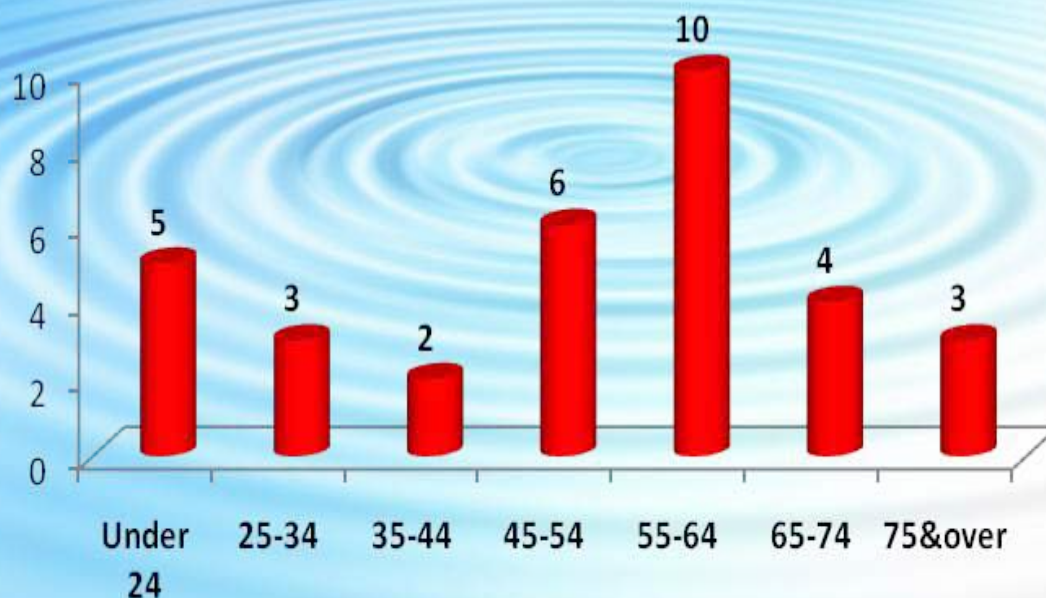
2010 Female Drownings by Cause



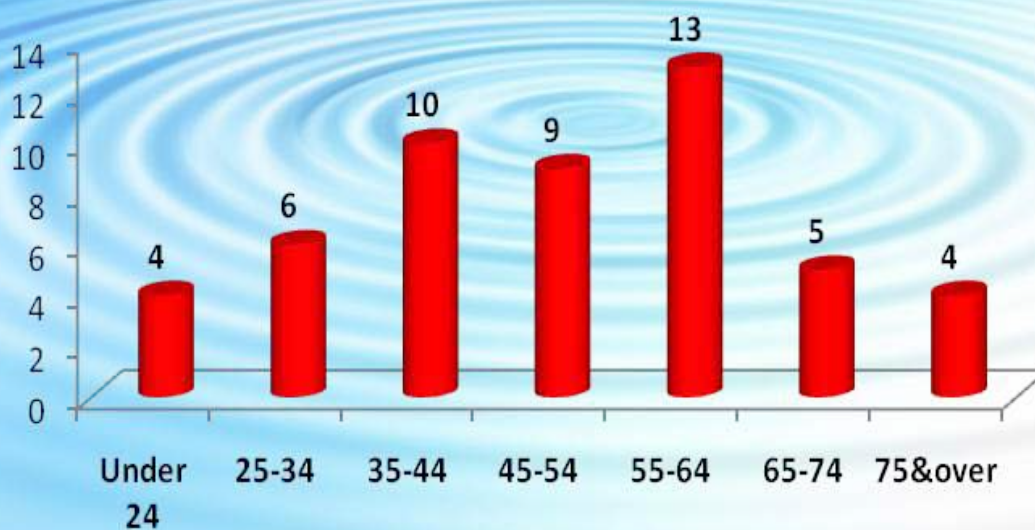
2010 Drownings by Gender and Cause



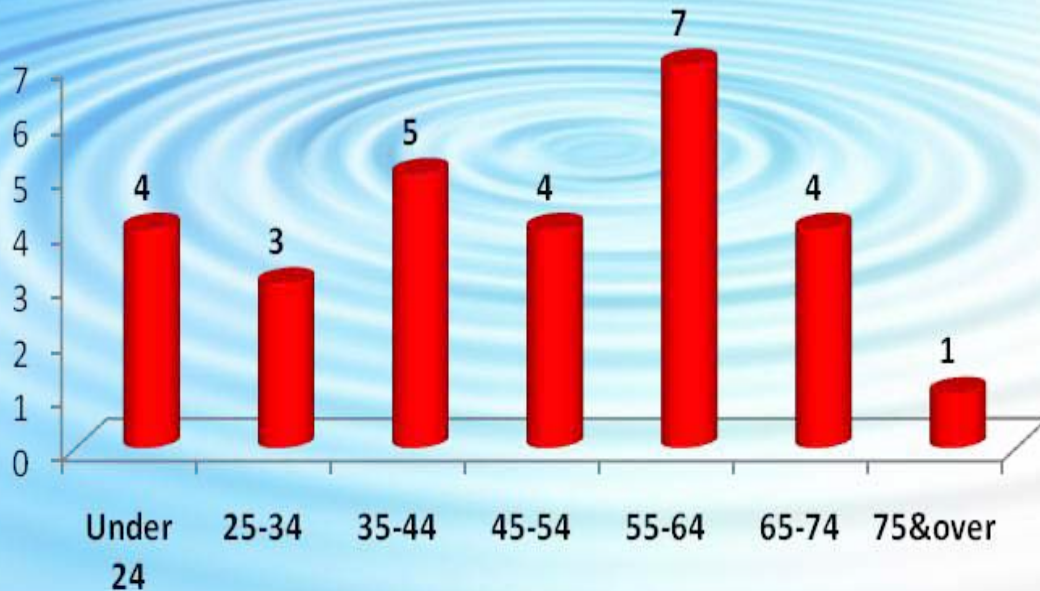
2010 Drownings by Age: Accidental



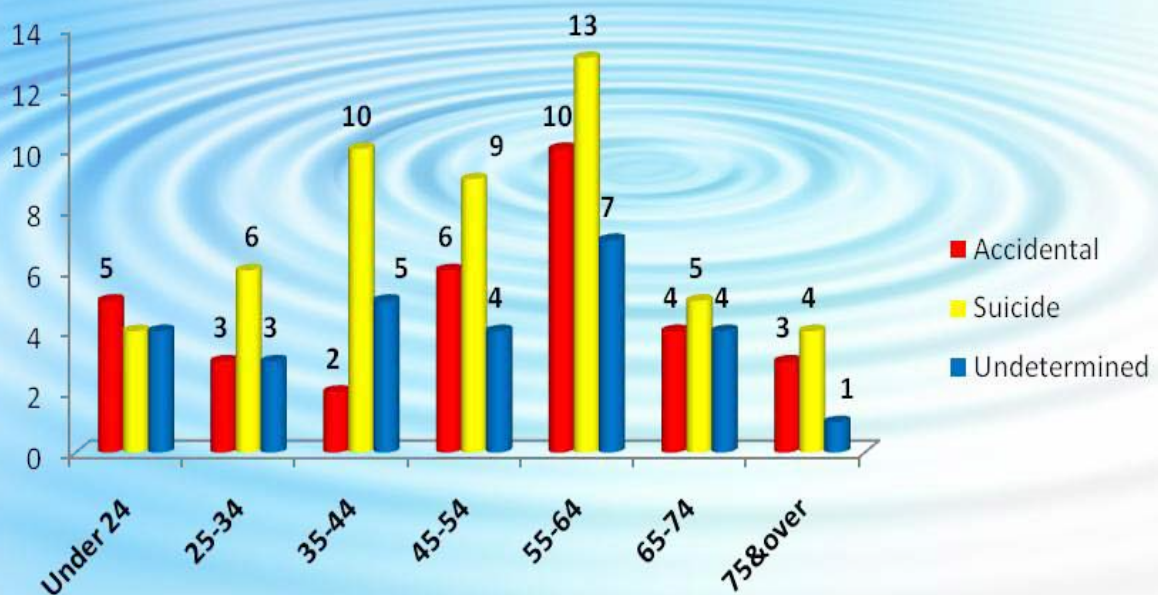
2010 Drownings by Age: Suicide



2010 Drownings by Age: Cause Undetermined

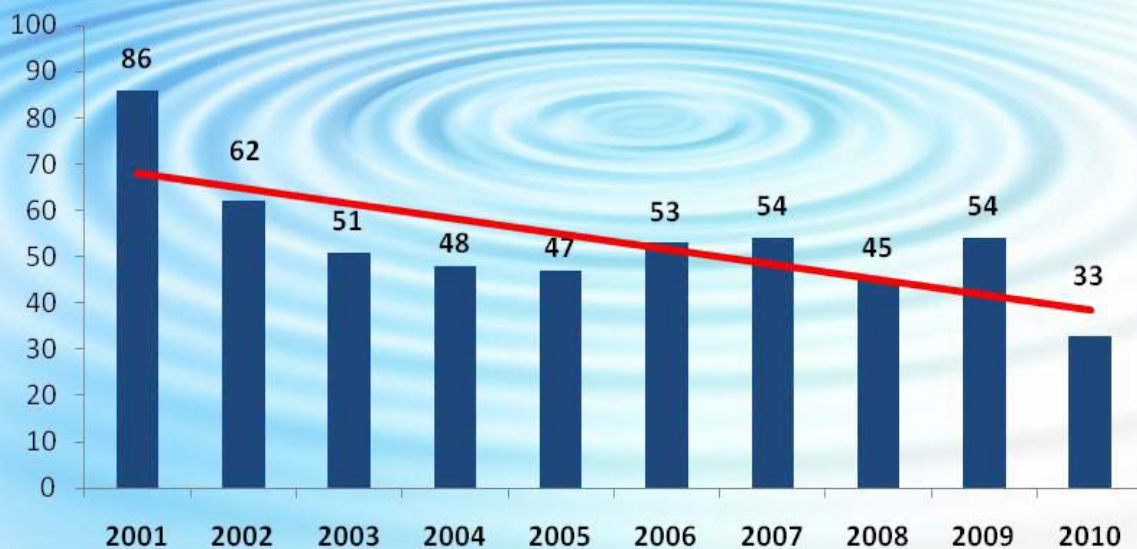


2010 Drownings by Age and Cause Total: 112

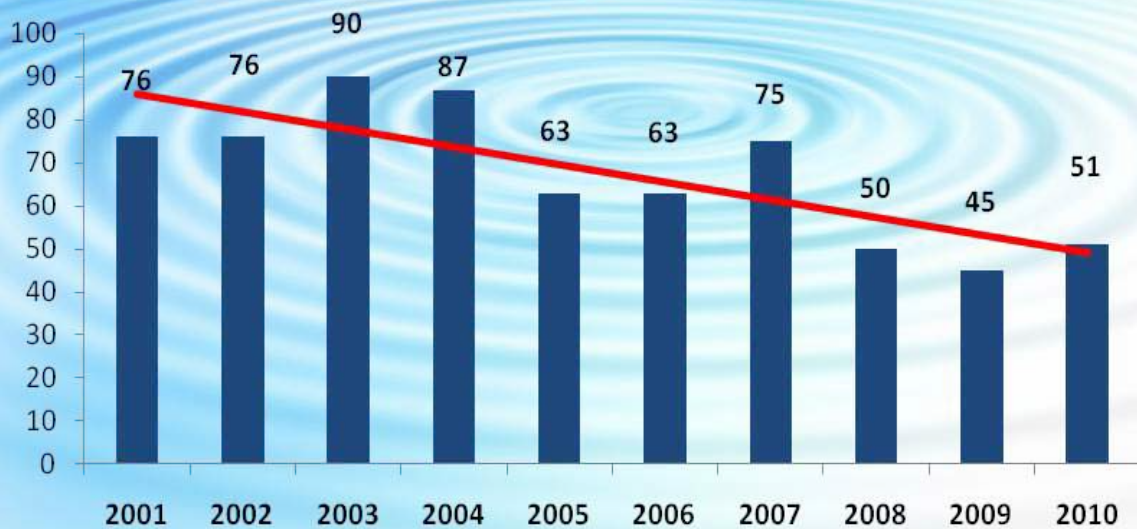




Drowning Accidents Trendline: Decade to 2010 Average: 53

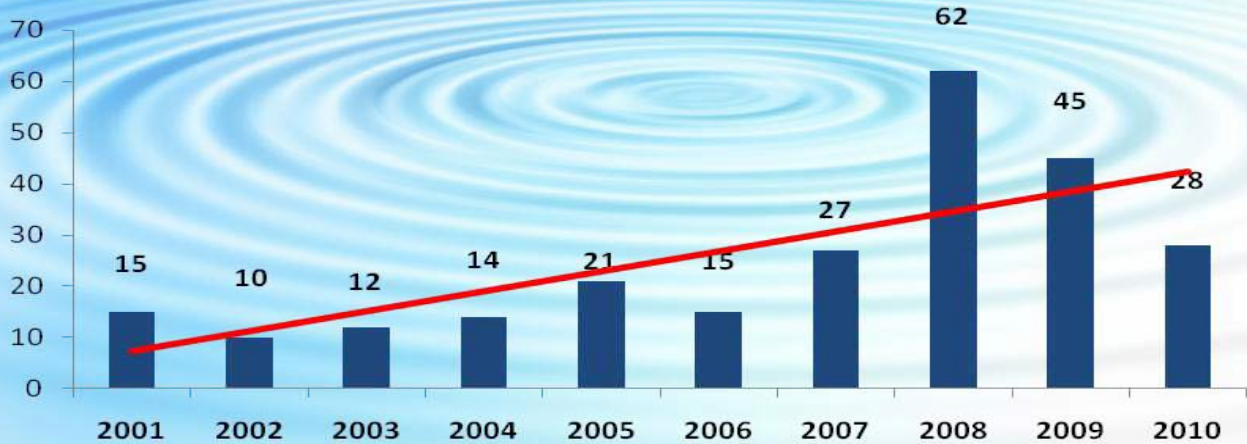


Suicide Drownings Trendline: Decade to 2010 Average: 68

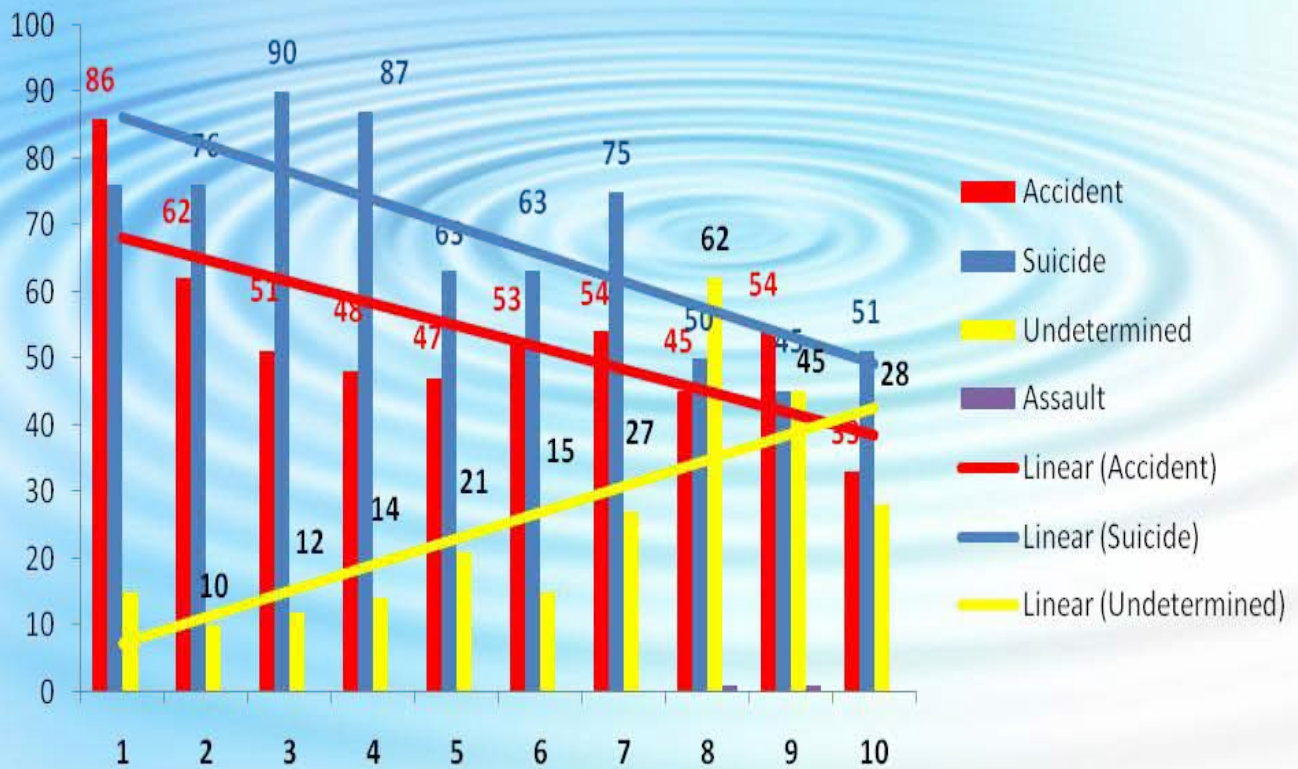


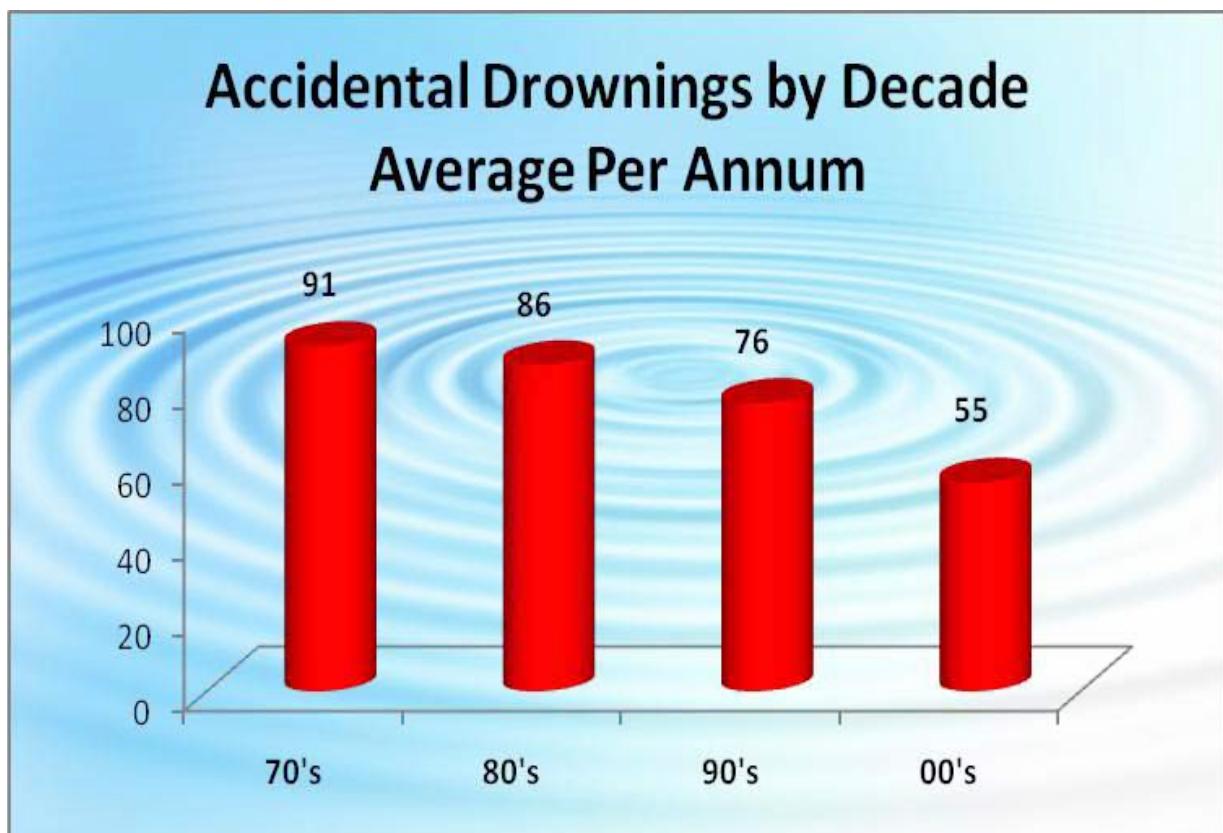
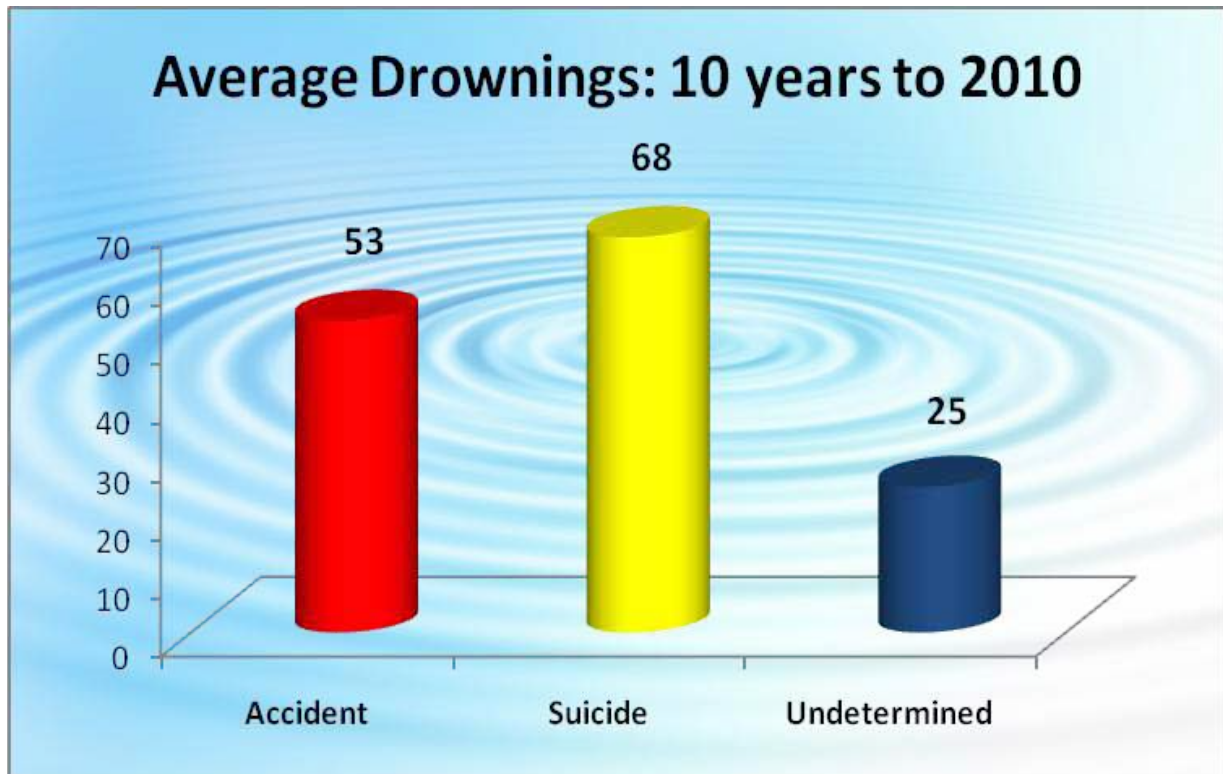
WHEN CONSIDERING THE ABOVE GRAPHICAL ANALYSIS, IT IS IMPORTANT TO TAKE NOTE OF THE DRAMATIC INCREASE IN RECENT YEARS OF THE NUMBER OF DROWNINGS IN WHICH THE CAUSE (ACCIDENT / SUICIDE / ASSAULT) REMAINS UNDETERMINED. NOTE THE LINEAR TRENDLINE ON THE FOLLOWING TWO GRAPHS.

Drownings by Undetermined Cause Decade to 2010 Average: 25

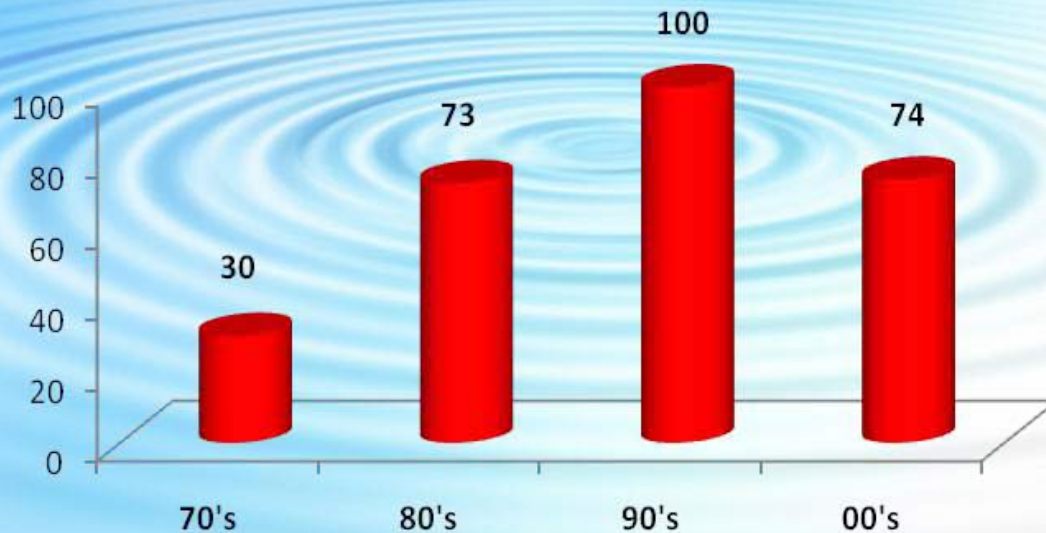


Decade of Drownings to 2010 Trendlines by Cause

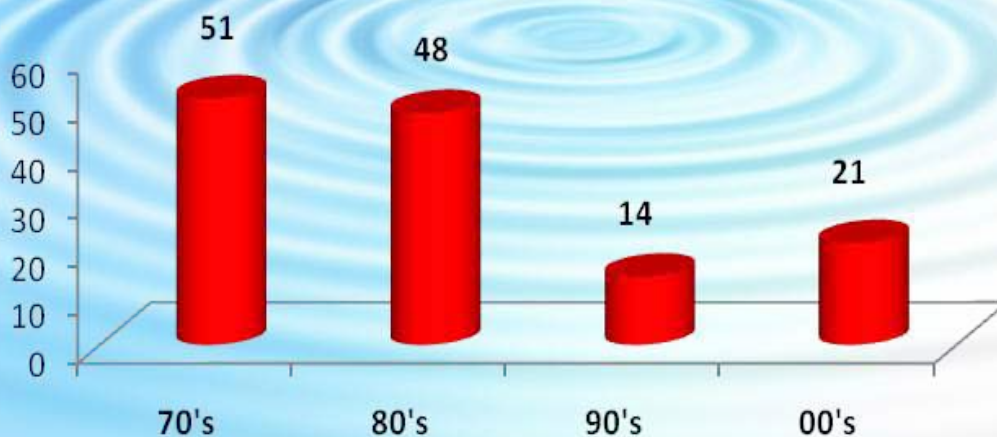




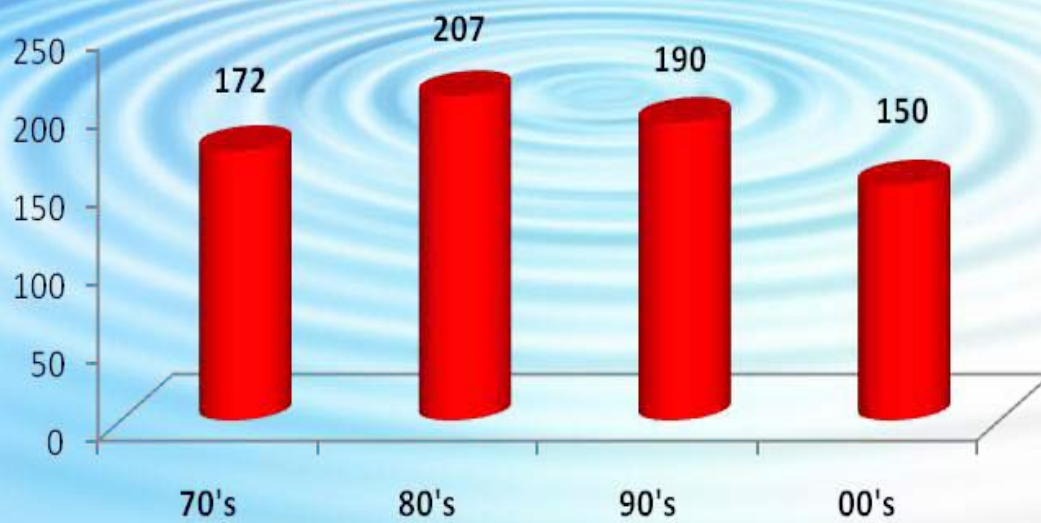
Suicide Drownings by Decade Average Per Annum



Drownings by Decade Average Per Annum Cause Undetermined



Total Drownings By Decade Average per annum





Drowning Statistics – Irish Citizens abroad in 2010

The Consular Assistance section of the Department of Foreign Affairs was informed of the deaths of 211 Irish citizens abroad in 2010.

Of these, 14 were by drowning. The breakdown by continent is as follows:

Europe	7
Americas	3
Australia	3
Other	1

In 2009, of the deaths abroad which were notified to the Department of Foreign Affairs, there were 17 deaths in water-related incidents.



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