

16 February 2022

Chris McCashin

Dear Chris

Request for Sport deaths

Thank you for your request through the FYI website for data on sport deaths which we received from our OIA team on 18 January 2022. Specifically, you requested data for people who have died on the field/in action from 2000/2021. On 3 February we informed you that we can provide the number of closed cases coded under sport, by year of closure and category of sport. We offered a list of categories of sport to choose from, however as we did not receive a response, we are providing all categories. Please note we do not have data for this series available in CMS prior to 2009.

In response to your request, please find the attached Table 1. Table 1 provides the number of deaths recorded where sports have been listed as a cause of death, by year, closed by the Coroner between January 2009 and December 2021. This data may differ from previously released or published data. This data was extracted from the Ministry of Justice's case management system as at 7 February 2022. Cases are included based on the date the case was closed by the coroner (this may differ to the findings issued date). Closed cases have a cause of death that has been determined by the coroner, where a finding or certificate has been issued. This data includes cases coded with a sports cause of death type listed in Appendix 1.

Due to the manner in which information has been recorded by, or presented to the Coroner, the statistics provided should not be taken as representing every such instance.

I trust this information is helpful to you.

Yours sincerely



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Table 1: Number of deaths recorded where sports have been listed as a cause of death, by year, closed by the coroner between January 2009 and December 2021

This data may differ from previously released or published data. This data was extracted from the Ministry of Justice's case management system as at 7 February 2022.

Cases are included based on the date the case was closed by the coroner (this may differ to the findings issued date).

Closed cases have a cause of death that has been determined by the coroner, where a finding or certificate has been issued.

This data includes cases coded with a sports cause of death type listed in Appendix 1.

Due to the manner in which information has been recorded by, or presented to the Coroner, the statistics provided should not be taken as representing every such instance.

Sport Category	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Acrobatic Sports	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Adventure Sports	12	25	9	2	17	2	5	4	4	11	3	9	12
Aero (Non-Motored) Sports	2	1	0	1	7	0	1	1	0	1	2	0	3
Aesthetic Activities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Boating Sports	4	6	4	5	5	5	2	7	10	3	4	9	4
Combative Sports	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	2
Equestrian Activities	0	0	0	4	3	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0
Ice Or Snow Sports	0	3	1	0	7	3	3	1	4	2	0	1	0
Individual Athletic Activities	19	21	9	4	9	3	4	4	7	7	8	18	12
Individual Water Sports	32	30	26	36	44	22	21	25	27	37	30	23	32
Multidiscipline Sports	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Other School-Related Recreational Activities	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Specified Sport/Exercise Activity	10	13	10	10	4	6	5	7	6	0	4	1	4
Power Sports	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0
Racquet Sports	3	3	2	4	2	0	2	0	0	1	0	3	5
Target/Precision Sports	14	10	5	6	2	1	1	3	3	3	3	4	1
Team Ball Sports	8	5	5	5	2	5	4	3	5	2	1	4	3
Team Bat Or Stick Sports	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	0	1
Team Water Sports	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Unlikely To Be Known	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Wheeled Motor Sports	5	7	8	0	4	8	7	0	6	2	2	3	1
Wheeled Non-Motored Sports	23	15	4	10	17	14	8	5	8	17	10	14	10
Total	136	140	84	88	124	74	64	63	84	89	72	89	92

Note to the requestor:

We do not have data for this series available in CMS prior to 2009.

Appendix 1: Breakdown of sports categories

Sport Category	Specific Sport
1 - Team Ball Sports	
1 - Team Ball Sports	1.01 - Basketball
1 - Team Ball Sports	1.02 - American Tackle Football
1 - Team Ball Sports	1.03 - American Touch or Flag Football
1 - Team Ball Sports	1.04 - Australian Rules Football
1 - Team Ball Sports	1.05 - Other Specified Football
1 - Team Ball Sports	1.06 - Unspecified Football
1 - Team Ball Sports	1.07 - Handball - Team
1 - Team Ball Sports	1.08 - Netball
1 - Team Ball Sports	1.09 - Rugby Union
1 - Team Ball Sports	1.10 - Rugby League
1 - Team Ball Sports	1.11 - Unspecified Rugby
1 - Team Ball Sports	1.12 - Outdoor Soccer
1 - Team Ball Sports	1.13 - Indoor Soccer
1 - Team Ball Sports	1.14 - Unspecified Soccer
1 - Team Ball Sports	1.15 - Volleyball
1 - Team Ball Sports	1.16 - Walleyball
1 - Team Ball Sports	1.98 - Other Specified Team Ball Sport
1 - Team Ball Sports	1.99 - Unspecified Team Ball Sport
10 - Racquet Sports	
10 - Racquet Sports	10.01 - Badminton
10 - Racquet Sports	10.02 - Racquetball
10 - Racquet Sports	10.03 - Squash
10 - Racquet Sports	10.04 - Table Tennis/ Ping-Pong
10 - Racquet Sports	10.05 - Tennis
10 - Racquet Sports	10.98 - Other Specified Racquet Sport
10 - Racquet Sports	10.99 - Unspecified Racquet Sport
11 - Target/Precision Sports	
11 - Target/Precision Sports	11.01 - Archery
11 - Target/Precision Sports	11.02 - Bocce, Boules, Petanque
11 - Target/Precision Sports	11.03 - Billiards, Pool, Snooker
11 - Target/Precision Sports	11.04 - Lawn Bowling
11 - Target/Precision Sports	11.05 - Croquet
11 - Target/Precision Sports	11.06 - Darts
11 - Target/Precision Sports	11.07 - Golf
11 - Target/Precision Sports	11.08 - Ten Pin Bowling
11 - Target/Precision Sports	11.09 - Firearm Shooting
11 - Target/Precision Sports	11.10 - BB or Pellet Gun Shooting
11 - Target/Precision Sports	11.11 - Paintball Gun Shooting
11 - Target/Precision Sports	11.98 - Other Specified Target/Precision Sport
11 - Target/Precision Sports	11.99 - Unspecified Target/Precision Sport
12 - Combative Sports	
12 - Combative Sports	12.01 - Akido
12 - Combative Sports	12.02 - Boxing
12 - Combative Sports	12.03 - Fencing
12 - Combative Sports	12.04 - Judo
12 - Combative Sports	12.05 - Jujitsu
12 - Combative Sports	12.06 - Karate
12 - Combative Sports	12.07 - Kendo
12 - Combative Sports	12.08 - Kick-Boxing
12 - Combative Sports	12.09 - Kung Fu
12 - Combative Sports	12.10 - Tae Kwon Do
12 - Combative Sports	12.11 - Wrestling - Freestyle
12 - Combative Sports	12.12 - Wrestling - Greco-Roman
12 - Combative Sports	12.13 - Wrestling - Professional (entertainment style)
12 - Combative Sports	12.14 - Self Defence Training
12 - Combative Sports	12.98 - Other Specified Combative Sport
12 - Combative Sports	12.99 - Unspecified Combative Sport
13 - Power Sports	
13 - Power Sports	13.01 - Power Lifting
13 - Power Sports	13.02 - Olympic Weightlifting
13 - Power Sports	13.03 - Strength Training/Body Building
13 - Power Sports	13.04 - Timber-related Sports
13 - Power Sports	13.98 - Other Specified Power Sport
13 - Power Sports	13.99 - Unspecified Power Sport
14 - Equestrian Activities	
14 - Equestrian Activities	14.01 - Dressage
14 - Equestrian Activities	14.02 - Endurance Riding
14 - Equestrian Activities	14.03 - Eventing
14 - Equestrian Activities	14.04 - Mustering or Stock Work
14 - Equestrian Activities	14.05 - Polo/Polocrosse
14 - Equestrian Activities	14.06 - Pony Club
14 - Equestrian Activities	14.07 - Racing
14 - Equestrian Activities	14.08 - Rodeo
14 - Equestrian Activities	14.09 - Show Jumping
14 - Equestrian Activities	14.10 - Steeplechase
14 - Equestrian Activities	14.11 - Trail or General Horseback Riding
14 - Equestrian Activities	14.12 - Trotting/Harness
14 - Equestrian Activities	14.98 - Other Specified Equestrian Activity
14 - Equestrian Activities	14.99 - Unspecified Equestrian Activity
15 - Adventure Sports	
15 - Adventure Sports	15.01 - Abseiling/Rappelling
15 - Adventure Sports	15.02 - Hiking
15 - Adventure Sports	15.03 - Mountaineering

15 - Adventure Sports	15.04 - Orienteering/Rogaining
15 - Adventure Sports	15.05 - River Rafting
15 - Adventure Sports	15.06 - Rock Climbing
15 - Adventure Sports	15.07 - Bungee Jumping
15 - Adventure Sports	15.08 - Base Jumping
15 - Adventure Sports	15.98 - Other Specified Adventure Sport
15 - Adventure Sports	15.99 - Unspecified Adventure Sport
16 - Wheeled Motor Sports	
16 - Wheeled Motor Sports	16.01 - Riding an All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV)
16 - Wheeled Motor Sports	16.02 - Motorcycling
16 - Wheeled Motor Sports	16.03 - Motor Car Racing
16 - Wheeled Motor Sports	16.04 - Go-Carting/Carting
16 - Wheeled Motor Sports	16.05 - Motorised Scootering
16 - Wheeled Motor Sports	16.98 - Other Specified Motor Sport
16 - Wheeled Motor Sports	16.99 - Unspecified Motor Sport
17 - Wheeled Non-Motored Sports	
17 - Wheeled Non-Motored Sports	17.01 - Cycling - BMX
17 - Wheeled Non-Motored Sports	17.02 - Cycling - Mountain
17 - Wheeled Non-Motored Sports	17.03 - Cycling - Road
17 - Wheeled Non-Motored Sports	17.04 - Cycling - Track/Velodrome
17 - Wheeled Non-Motored Sports	17.05 - Other Specified Cycling
17 - Wheeled Non-Motored Sports	17.06 - Unspecified Cycling
17 - Wheeled Non-Motored Sports	17.07 - In-Line Skating/Rollerblading
17 - Wheeled Non-Motored Sports	17.08 - Roller Skating
17 - Wheeled Non-Motored Sports	17.09 - Skate Boarding
17 - Wheeled Non-Motored Sports	17.10 - Scootering
17 - Wheeled Non-Motored Sports	17.11 - Spinning/Stationary Bike Riding
17 - Wheeled Non-Motored Sports	17.12 - Street Luge
17 - Wheeled Non-Motored Sports	17.98 - Other Specified Wheeled Non-Motored Sport
17 - Wheeled Non-Motored Sports	17.99 - Unspecified Wheeled Non-Motored Sport
18 - Multidiscipline Sports	
18 - Multidiscipline Sports	18.01 - Biathlon - Cross-Country Skiing Event
18 - Multidiscipline Sports	18.02 - Biathlon - Shooting Event
18 - Multidiscipline Sports	18.03 - Biathlon - Unspecified Event
18 - Multidiscipline Sports	18.04 - Decathlon - 100 Metre Event
18 - Multidiscipline Sports	18.05 - Decathlon - 400 Metre Event
18 - Multidiscipline Sports	18.06 - Decathlon - 1,500 Metre Event
18 - Multidiscipline Sports	18.07 - Decathlon - 110 Metre Hurdles Event
18 - Multidiscipline Sports	18.08 - Decathlon - Long Jump Event
18 - Multidiscipline Sports	18.09 - Decathlon - High Jump Event
18 - Multidiscipline Sports	18.10 - Decathlon - Shot Putt Event
18 - Multidiscipline Sports	18.11 - Decathlon - Discus Event
18 - Multidiscipline Sports	18.12 - Decathlon - Javelin Event
18 - Multidiscipline Sports	18.13 - Decathlon - Pole Vault Event
18 - Multidiscipline Sports	18.14 - Decathlon - Unspecified Event
18 - Multidiscipline Sports	18.15 - Heptathlon - 200 Metre Event
18 - Multidiscipline Sports	18.16 - Heptathlon - 100 Metre Hurdles Event
18 - Multidiscipline Sports	18.17 - Heptathlon - High Jump Event
18 - Multidiscipline Sports	18.18 - Heptathlon - Long Jump Event
18 - Multidiscipline Sports	18.19 - Heptathlon - Javelin Event
18 - Multidiscipline Sports	18.20 - Heptathlon - Shot Putt Event
18 - Multidiscipline Sports	18.21 - Heptathlon - 800 Metre Event
18 - Multidiscipline Sports	18.22 - Heptathlon - Unspecified Event
18 - Multidiscipline Sports	18.23 - Modern Pentathlon - Shooting Event
18 - Multidiscipline Sports	18.24 - Modern Pentathlon - Fencing Event
18 - Multidiscipline Sports	18.25 - Modern Pentathlon - Swimming Event
18 - Multidiscipline Sports	18.26 - Modern Pentathlon - Equestrian Event
18 - Multidiscipline Sports	18.27 - Modern Pentathlon - Running Event
18 - Multidiscipline Sports	18.28 - Modern Pentathlon - Unspecified Event
18 - Multidiscipline Sports	18.29 - Triathlon - Cycling Event
18 - Multidiscipline Sports	18.30 - Triathlon - Running Event
18 - Multidiscipline Sports	18.31 - Triathlon - Swimming Event
18 - Multidiscipline Sports	18.32 - Triathlon - Unspecified Event
18 - Multidiscipline Sports	18.98 - Other Specified Multidiscipline Sport
18 - Multidiscipline Sports	18.99 - Unspecified Multidiscipline Sport
19 - Aero (Non-Motored) Sports	
19 - Aero (Non-Motored) Sports	19.01 - Aerobatics
19 - Aero (Non-Motored) Sports	19.02 - Gliding
19 - Aero (Non-Motored) Sports	19.03 - Hang Gliding
19 - Aero (Non-Motored) Sports	19.04 - Parachuting/Sky Diving
19 - Aero (Non-Motored) Sports	19.05 - Paragliding/Parasailing
19 - Aero (Non-Motored) Sports	19.06 - Hot Air Ballooning
19 - Aero (Non-Motored) Sports	19.98 - Other Specified Aero Sport
19 - Aero (Non-Motored) Sports	19.99 - Unspecified Aero Sport
2 - Team Bat Or Stick Sports	
2 - Team Bat Or Stick Sports	2.01 - Baseball
2 - Team Bat Or Stick Sports	2.02 - Cricket
2 - Team Bat Or Stick Sports	2.03 - Ice Hockey
2 - Team Bat Or Stick Sports	2.04 - Street/Ball Hockey
2 - Team Bat Or Stick Sports	2.05 - Field Hockey
2 - Team Bat Or Stick Sports	2.06 - Floor Hockey
2 - Team Bat Or Stick Sports	2.07 - Other Specified Hockey
2 - Team Bat Or Stick Sports	2.08 - Unspecified Hockey
2 - Team Bat Or Stick Sports	2.09 - Ringette
2 - Team Bat Or Stick Sports	2.10 - Softball
2 - Team Bat Or Stick Sports	2.11 - T - ball
2 - Team Bat Or Stick Sports	2.12 - Indoor Cricket

2 - Team Bat Or Stick Sports	2.13 - Lacrosse
2 - Team Bat Or Stick Sports	2.14 - Vigoro
2 - Team Bat Or Stick Sports	2.98 - Other Specified Team Bat or Stick Sport
2 - Team Bat Or Stick Sports	2.99 - Unspecified Team Bat or Stick Sport
20 - Other School-Related Recreational Activities	
20 - Other School-Related Recreational Activities	20.01 - School Physical Education Class
20 - Other School-Related Recreational Activities	20.02 - School Free Play
20 - Other School-Related Recreational Activities	20.98 - Other Specified School Sport/Exercise Activity
20 - Other School-Related Recreational Activities	20.99 - Unspecified School Sport/Exercise Activity
3 - Team Water Sports	
3 - Team Water Sports	3.01 - Rescue and Resuscitation
3 - Team Water Sports	3.02 - Synchronised Swimming
3 - Team Water Sports	3.03 - Underwater Hockey
3 - Team Water Sports	3.04 - Water Polo
3 - Team Water Sports	3.98 - Other Specified Team Water Sport
3 - Team Water Sports	3.99 - Unspecified Team Water Sport
4 - Boating Sports	
4 - Boating Sports	4.01 - Canoeing
4 - Boating Sports	4.02 - Jet Skiing
4 - Boating Sports	4.03 - Kayaking/White-Water Rafting
4 - Boating Sports	4.04 - Power Boat Racing
4 - Boating Sports	4.05 - Rowing/Sculling
4 - Boating Sports	4.06 - Surf Boating
4 - Boating Sports	4.07 - Yachting/Sailing
4 - Boating Sports	4.98 - Other Specified Boating Sport
4 - Boating Sports	4.99 - Unspecified Boating Sport
5 - Individual Water Sports	
5 - Individual Water Sports	5.01 - Diving - Platform
5 - Individual Water Sports	5.02 - Diving - Springboard
5 - Individual Water Sports	5.03 - Diving - Unspecified
5 - Individual Water Sports	5.04 - Fishing
5 - Individual Water Sports	5.05 - Scuba Diving
5 - Individual Water Sports	5.06 - Snorkelling
5 - Individual Water Sports	5.07 - Surfing/Boogie Boarding
5 - Individual Water Sports	5.08 - Surf Life Saving
5 - Individual Water Sports	5.09 - Swimming - Competitive
5 - Individual Water Sports	5.10 - Water Skiing
5 - Individual Water Sports	5.11 - Water Tubing
5 - Individual Water Sports	5.12 - Wind Surfing
5 - Individual Water Sports	5.13 - Diving - Cliff
5 - Individual Water Sports	5.14 - Swimming - Recreational
5 - Individual Water Sports	5.15 - Rock Fishing
5 - Individual Water Sports	5.16 - Crabbing, Crayfishing
5 - Individual Water Sports	5.17 - Underwater Fishing
5 - Individual Water Sports	5.18 - Compressor Diving
5 - Individual Water Sports	5.19 - Sailboarding
5 - Individual Water Sports	5.98 - Other Specified Individual Water Sport
5 - Individual Water Sports	5.99 - Unspecified Individual Water Sport
6 - Ice Or Snow Sports	
6 - Ice Or Snow Sports	6.01 - Bobsledding
6 - Ice Or Snow Sports	6.02 - Curling
6 - Ice Or Snow Sports	6.03 - Ice Skating/Ice Dancing
6 - Ice Or Snow Sports	6.04 - Luge
6 - Ice Or Snow Sports	6.05 - Ski Patrolling
6 - Ice Or Snow Sports	6.06 - Alpine/Downhill Skiing
6 - Ice Or Snow Sports	6.07 - Nordic/Cross Country Skiing
6 - Ice Or Snow Sports	6.08 - Freestyle Skiing
6 - Ice Or Snow Sports	6.09 - Snow Ski Jumping
6 - Ice Or Snow Sports	6.10 - Other Specified Skiing
6 - Ice Or Snow Sports	6.11 - Unspecified Skiing
6 - Ice Or Snow Sports	6.12 - Snowmobiling
6 - Ice Or Snow Sports	6.13 - Snow Boarding
6 - Ice Or Snow Sports	6.14 - Speed Skating
6 - Ice Or Snow Sports	6.15 - Tobogganing
6 - Ice Or Snow Sports	6.98 - Other Specified Ice or Snow Sport
6 - Ice Or Snow Sports	6.99 - Unspecified Ice or Snow Sport
7 - Individual Athletic Activities	
7 - Individual Athletic Activities	7.01 - Aerobics/Callisthenics
7 - Individual Athletic Activities	7.02 - Jogging/Running
7 - Individual Athletic Activities	7.03 - Tai Chi
7 - Individual Athletic Activities	7.04 - Track & Field - Racing over Obstacles or Hurdles
7 - Individual Athletic Activities	7.05 - Track & Field - Sprinting (1- 400 metres)
7 - Individual Athletic Activities	7.06 - Track & Field - Running Middle Distances (401- 1,500 Metres)
7 - Individual Athletic Activities	7.07 - Track & Field - Running Long Distances (greater than 1,500 Metres)
7 - Individual Athletic Activities	7.08 - Track & Field - High Jump
7 - Individual Athletic Activities	7.09 - Track & Field - Long Jump
7 - Individual Athletic Activities	7.10 - Track & Field - Pole Vault
7 - Individual Athletic Activities	7.11 - Track & Field - Triple Jump
7 - Individual Athletic Activities	7.12 - Track & Field - Discus
7 - Individual Athletic Activities	7.13 - Track & Field - Javelin
7 - Individual Athletic Activities	7.14 - Track & Field - Hammer Throw
7 - Individual Athletic Activities	7.15 - Track & Field - Shot Putt
7 - Individual Athletic Activities	7.16 - Other Specified Track & Field
7 - Individual Athletic Activities	7.17 - Unspecified Track & Field
7 - Individual Athletic Activities	7.18 - Walking
7 - Individual Athletic Activities	7.19 - Yoga/Pilates
7 - Individual Athletic Activities	7.20 - Stationary Aerobic Exercise with Equipment

7 - Individual Athletic Activities	7.98 - Other Specified Individual Athletic Activity
7 - Individual Athletic Activities	7.99 - Unspecified Individual Athletic Activity
8 - Acrobatic Sports	
8 - Acrobatic Sports	8.01 - Cheerleading
8 - Acrobatic Sports	8.02 - Gymnastics - Balance Beam
8 - Acrobatic Sports	8.03 - Gymnastics - Floor Exercise/Tumbling
8 - Acrobatic Sports	8.04 - Gymnastics - High Bar
8 - Acrobatic Sports	8.05 - Gymnastics - Parallel Bars
8 - Acrobatic Sports	8.06 - Gymnastics - Rhythmic (with props)
8 - Acrobatic Sports	8.07 - Gymnastics - Rings
8 - Acrobatic Sports	8.08 - Gymnastics - Side Horse/Pommel Horse
8 - Acrobatic Sports	8.09 - Gymnastics - Trampoline/Mini-Trampoline
8 - Acrobatic Sports	8.10 - Gymnastics - Uneven Parallel Bars
8 - Acrobatic Sports	8.11 - Gymnastics - Vault
8 - Acrobatic Sports	8.12 - Other Specified Gymnastics
8 - Acrobatic Sports	8.13 - Unspecified Gymnastics
8 - Acrobatic Sports	8.98 - Other Specified Acrobatic Sport
8 - Acrobatic Sports	8.99 - Unspecified Acrobatic Sport
9 - Aesthetic Activities	
9 - Aesthetic Activities	9.01 - Dancing
9 - Aesthetic Activities	9.02 - Marching
9 - Aesthetic Activities	9.98 - Other Specified Aesthetic Sport
9 - Aesthetic Activities	9.99 - Unspecified Aesthetic Sport
9 - Aesthetic Activities	98 - Other Specified Sport/Exercise Activity
888 - Still Enquiring	
999 - Unlikely To Be Known	