



National Coasteer Charter

**Accident, incident and near miss statistic report
2012 - 2024**

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About the report

This document provides data on the number of coasteering accidents, near miss and incidents reported in the UK from the years 2012 - 2024. The reports were made by coasteer providers and independent coasteer guides either via a online incident report form in the National Coasteer Charter (NCC) website, or verbally via the National Coasteer Charter (NCC) post season regional meetings around the UK. This information was then brought to the national meetings by the National Coasteer Charter (NCC) regional representatives and recorded on the meeting minutes.

Please Note: Only 4 online incident reports were completed via the National Coasteer Charter (NCC) website, all of which in the year 2018. All the other reports were recorded on the national meeting minutes, only limited information was recorded. Therefore this document unfortunately is not completely accurate

More information on how coasteering accidents, incidents and near miss data is collected and how the figures are produced in this report, can be found in the background notes

Data

There is no obligation for all coasteer providers to report all coasteer accidents, incidents or near miss information to the National Coasteer Charter (NCC). But the National Coasteering Charter (NCC) provider members are asked to 'openly share and gather information about coasteering near misses, incidents and accidents in order to improve and review its own guidance and members' safe delivery of coasteering activity.' (National Coasteering Charter (NCC) Constitution - Aims of the NCC 2.3). These figures therefore do not represent the full range of all coasteering accidents, incidents and near misses in the UK.

Definitions

NCC - National Coasteer Charter

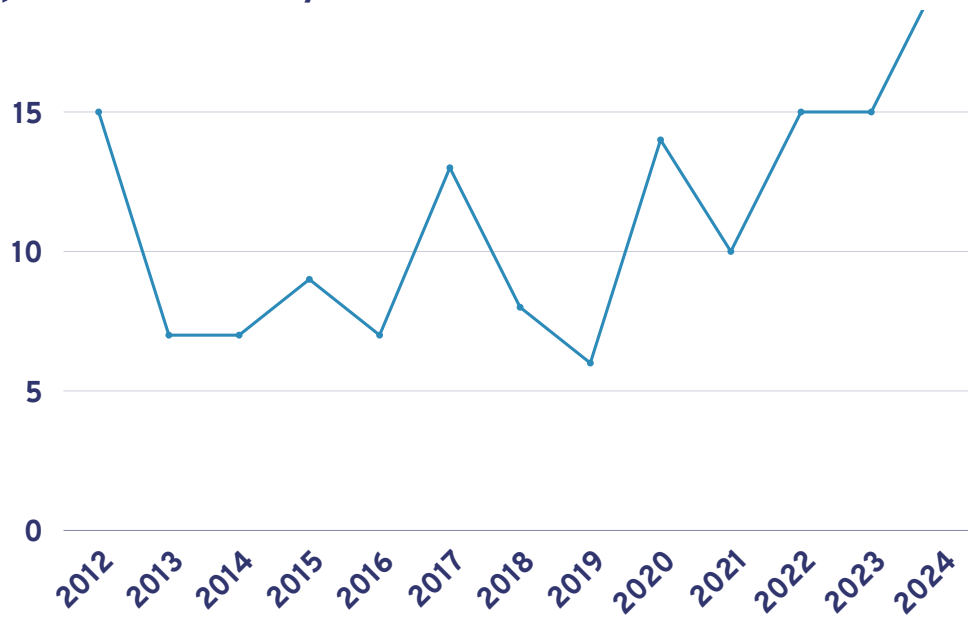
Accidents - 'An unfortunate incident that happens unexpectedly and unintentionally, typically resulting in damage or injury.' (Oxford Dictionaries)

Incident - 'An instance of something happening; an event or occurrence.' (Oxford Dictionaries)

Near Miss - A narrowly avoided collision or other accident.' (Oxford Dictionaries)

2012 -2024 General data

Number of reports made each year between 2012 - 2024



Total reports made at National meeting or via the NCC website



Total number of accidents out of reports made



Total number of incidents out of reports made



Total number of near miss out of reports made

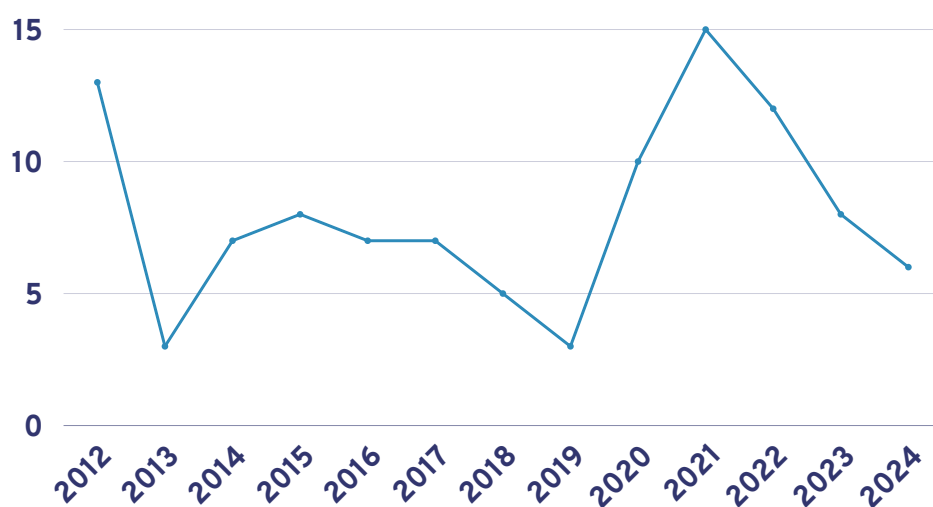


0 50 100 150 200

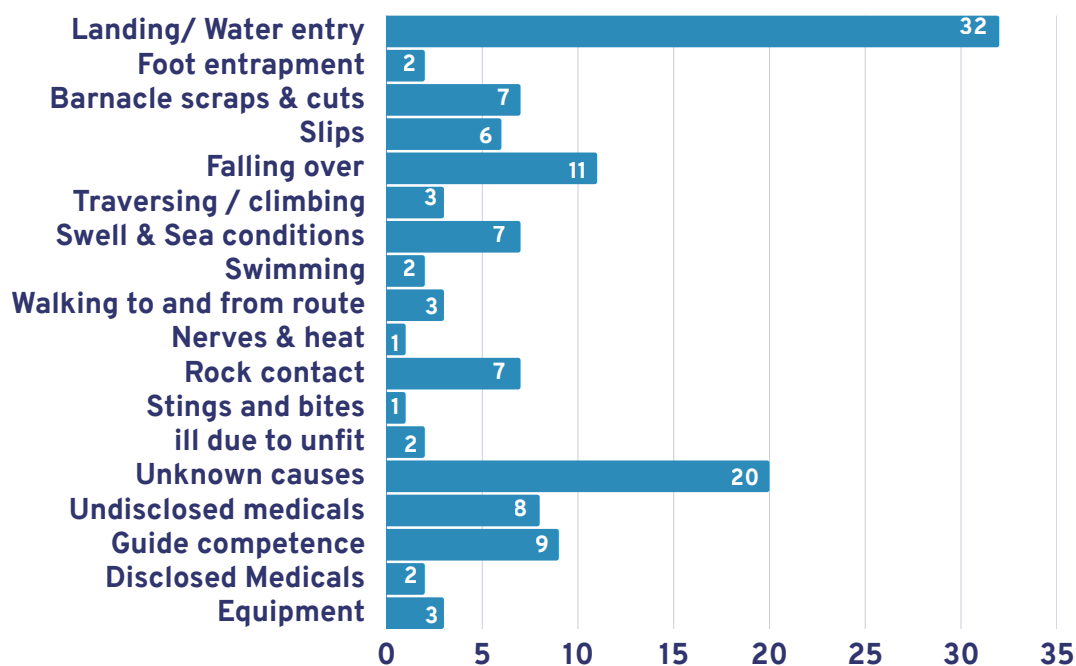
Reported between 2012 - 2024	Accidents	Incidents
Total number of Coasteer session Emergency services call outs	25	5
Total number of Coasteer session accidents hospital visits	4	
Total number of guide injuries	5	

2012 -2024 Accidents data

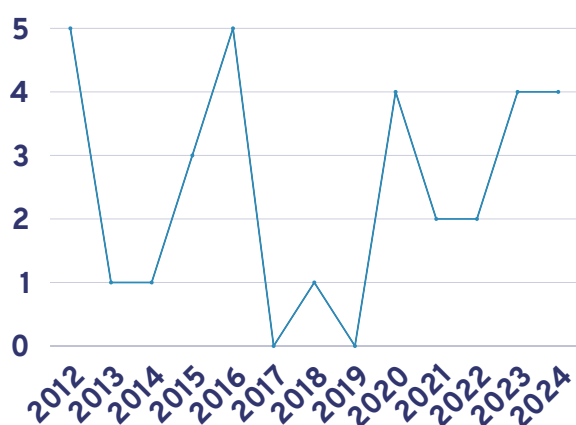
Number of accidents reported between 2012 - 2024



Types of accident causes 2012 - 2024

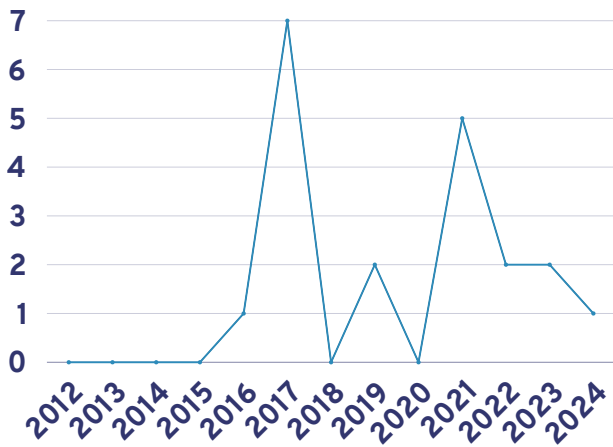


Top three types of accident causes



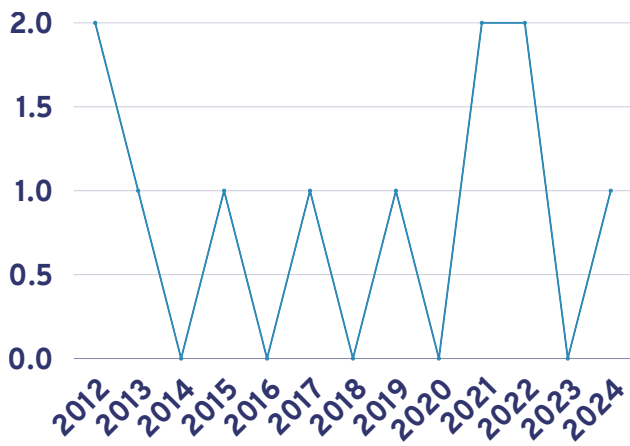
Landing/ Water entry - 32

2012 - 2024 Accident data



Unknown causes - 20

(Cause of accident not stated on reports)

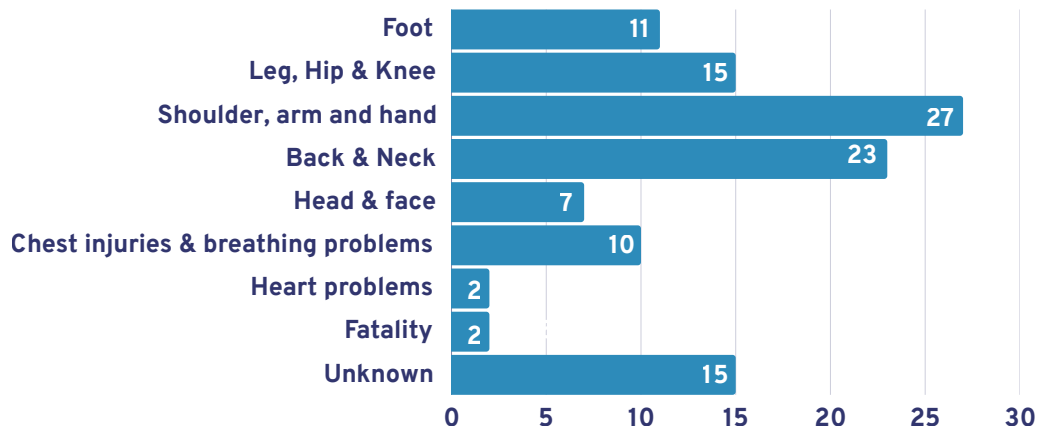


Falling over - 11

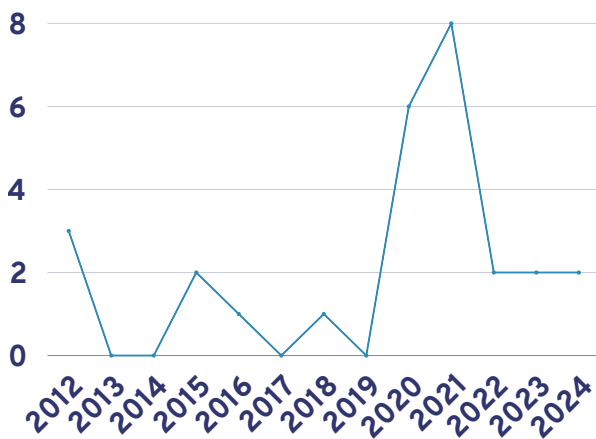
(Most reports do not state how or what they fell over)

2012 - 2024 Accident data

Types of Injuries 2012 - 2024

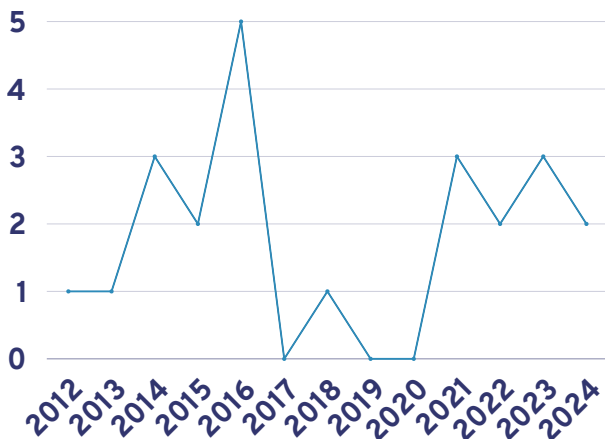


Top three types of known injuries



Shoulder, arm and hand - 27 reports included:

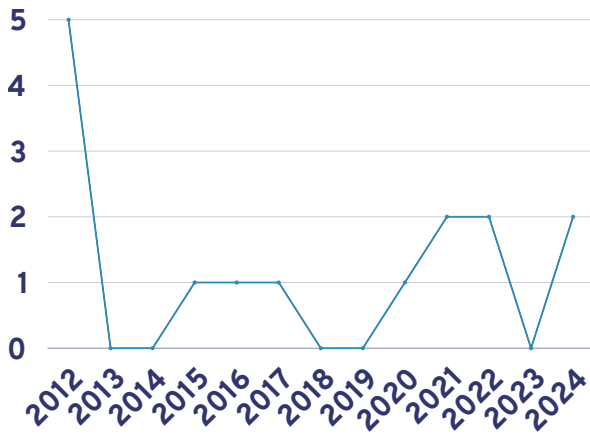
- 11 Dislocated shoulders
- 10 Cuts and grazes to hands
- 1 Deep cut on arm
- 1 Ripped existing pins out of shoulder
- 1 Jellyfish sting to wrist
- 1 Injury to clavicle
- 1 Cut Finger
- 1 Broken wrist



Back and Neck - 23 reports included:

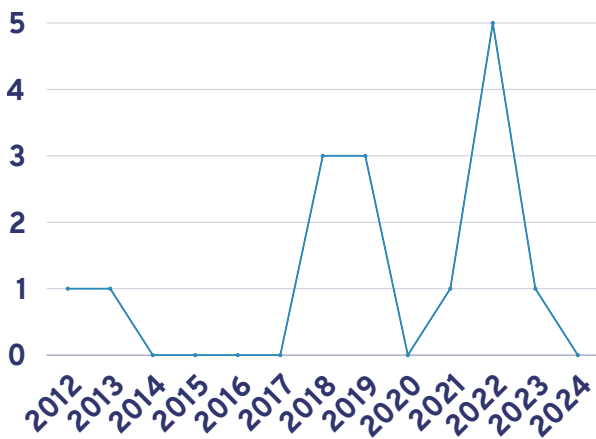
- 4 Muscle spasms (suspected spinal)
- 5 Suspected spinals (1 with bleeding from ear)
- 3 Cracked vertebrae
- 2 Back injury
- 3 Spinal fracture
- 1 Neck sprain or strain
- 1 Suspected compressed spine
- 2 Back pain
- 1 Bruised coccyx
- 1 Pain in neck

2012 - 2024 Accident data



Leg, hip and knee - 15 reports included:

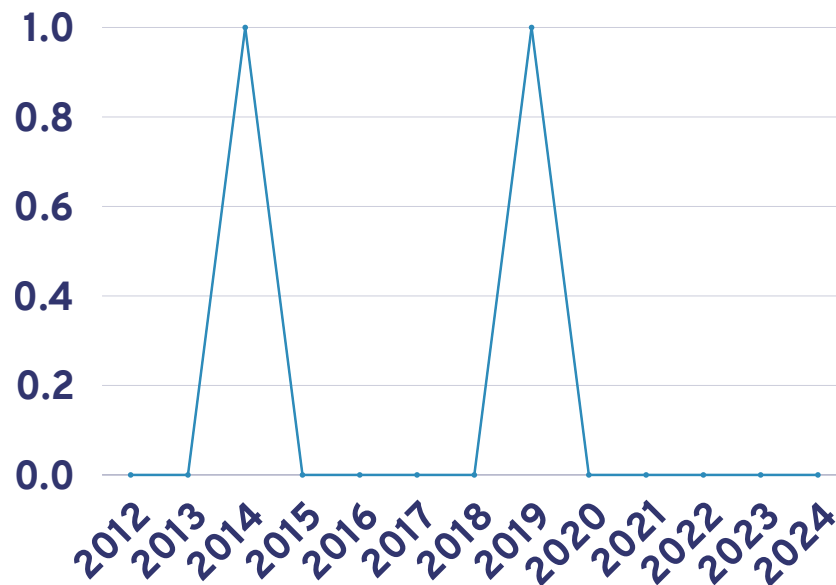
- 5 Dislocated knee
- 2 Popped ligament knee
- 1 Spiral lower leg fracture
- 1 Hairline fracture of leg
- 1 Cut knee
- 2 Bruised hip
- 1 Serious knee injury
- 1 - Broken leg
- 1 - Entrapped knee



Unknown injuries - 15 reports

2012 - 2024 Accident data

Fatalities 2012 - 2024



2014

Report as recorded on minutes:

Heart attack - fatality. Over 50's club with pre-diagnosed conditions requested a coasteering session and provider agreed - high risk was stated and known - guide was informed prior to session - early in session chest pain leading to CPR by guide - very positive feedback from wife - would use company again.

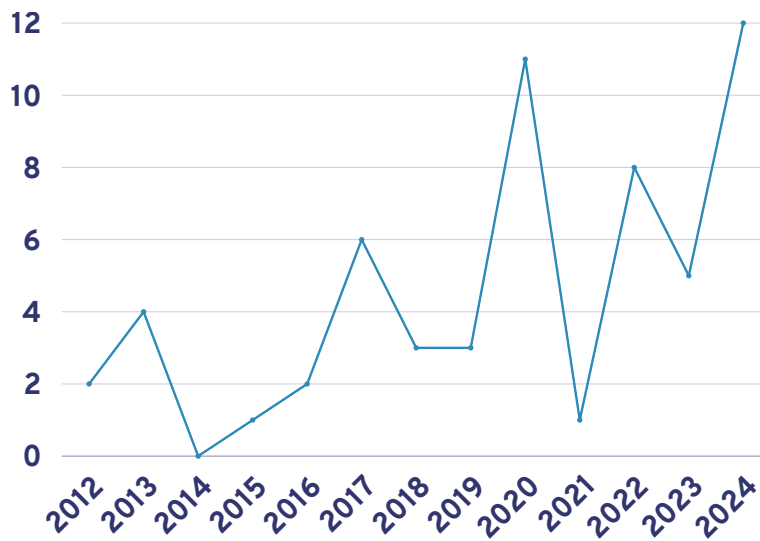
2019

Report as recorded on minutes:

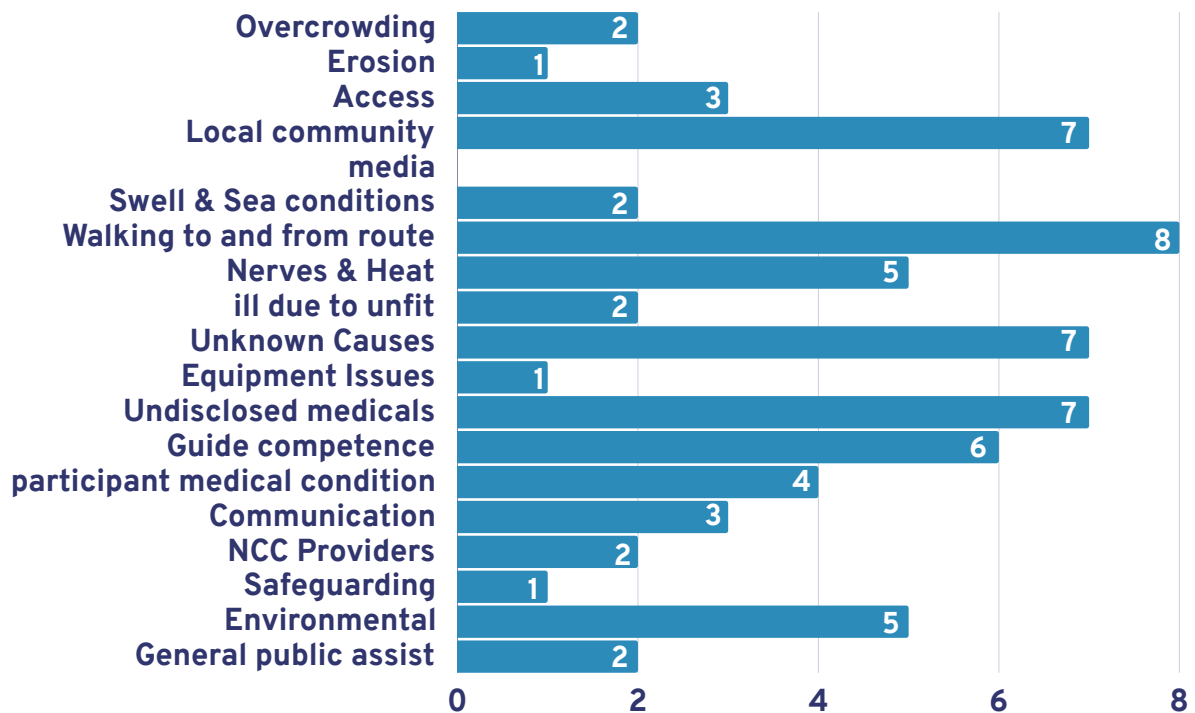
Helicopter rescue but details not currently shared. - Update reported in 2022: Death in 2019 the criminal court have dropped the case of corporate manslaughter and have now made improvements by adding personal beacons in lowered conditions and have added a ledge leader to oversee coasteering for each day.

2012 - 2024 Incident data

Number of incidents reported between 2012 - 2024



Types of Incident causes 2012 - 2024



2012 - 2024 Incident data

Top types of incident causes

Walking to and from the route - 8 reports included:

- 4 - Over heating when in full kit on route.
- 2 - Not enough grip on footwear worn slips on slippery grass on route
- 1 - only incident of note was one client fell off a 2-3m ledge backwards because they were attempting to take a selfie and weren't paying attention, no injuries or issues. (Incident where a client was trying to take a selfie and stepped back, fell off a ledge and into the water. No injuries)
- 1 - A provider was accessing a venue and became blocked in by fishermen and threatened. The provider decided the best place to be was in the water, away from the fishermen, usually they would use this area to practice getting in and out of the water, instead they were forced into a situation to get in and swimming. Police have been made aware.

Local Community - 7 reports included:

- 1 - Some residents in the living communities in the area have been upset due to the access which may lead to future problems.
- 4 - Public following and jumping in, the company have now changed their session times
- 1 - One incident involving confrontation between a fisherman and coasteering guide, the guide returned after coasteering to find their minibus windows smashed.
- 1 - Unhappy residents in one location due to increased coasteering activity

Unknown Causes - 7 reports

Undisclosed medicals - 7 reports included:

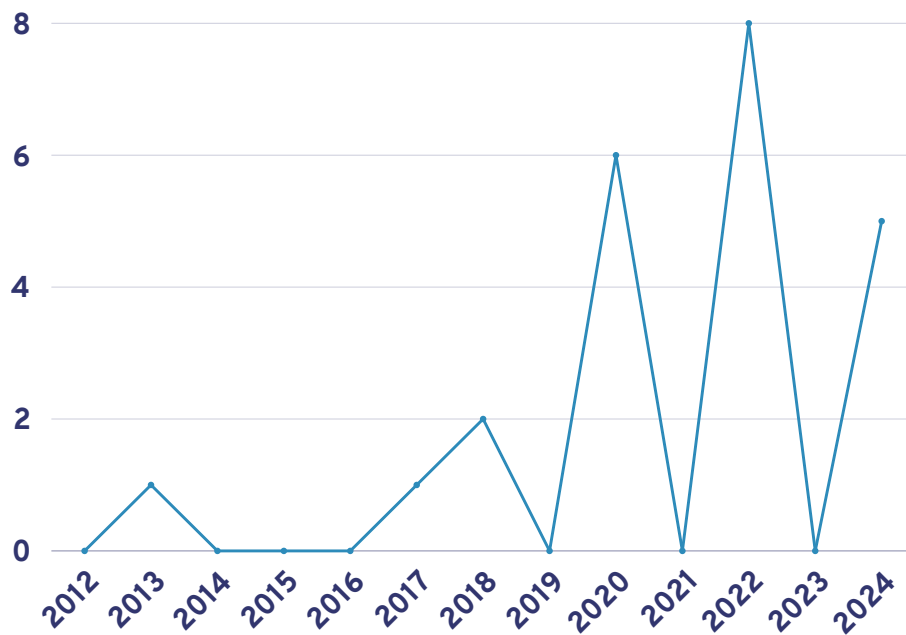
- 1 - Hyperglycemia in an adult on a sea level traversing session.
- 1 - Where a client had an undisclosed medical condition which would cause them to randomly pass out, passed out after jumping in and were face-down in the water.
- 1 - Involving an undisclosed condition discussed.
- 1 - Coastguard called when a teacher with health problems had low oxygen levels from long covid that was not noted on their medical form.
- 1 - Customer not declaring PTSD on disclaimer form. Resulting in panic attack during session. RNLI called.
- 1 - Pre-existing medical - not declared on form. Suspected neck injury, emergency services called to session. Taken to A&E, nothing injured on session.
- 1 - Not declaring existing medical conditions.

Guide competence - 6 reports included:

- 1 - Leader competence and decision making - self injury, group stranded by tide, darkness fell.
- 1 - Leader blown off cliff whilst briefing client group.
- 1 - An instructor was out in conditions, swept off rock leading to a near miss.
- 1 - Situation regarding guide needing to give customer his own helmet for the session whilst within vicinity of further equipment & being within ratio & not needing to guide with in the session caused some friction & complaint. Complaint dealt with at regional level.
- 1 - One incident involving confrontation between a fisherman and coasteering guide, the guide returned after coasteering to find their minibus windows smashed.
- 1 - one instructor got trapped in a cave by a line that was knotted.

2012 - 2024 Near Miss data

Number of near miss reported between 2012 - 2024



2013

- Group leader (client on organised session) jumped off 'wrong side' of quay - near miss due to water depth. This was despite instructions not to.

2017

- An instructor was out in conditions, swept off rock leading to a near miss.

2018

- Situation regarding guide needing to give customer his own helmet for the session whilst within vicinity of further equipment & being within ratio & not needing to guide with in the session caused some friction & complaint. Complaint dealt with at regional level.
- One near miss reported with customer having reoccurring injury. Coastguard called. Injury in relation to helmet being forced off customers head.

2020

- Two clients less flexible & larger found hard to walk slipped footing close to edge of cliff with slippery grass & big cliffs.
- lots of near misses involving tourists people following and fishing them out but not sure where

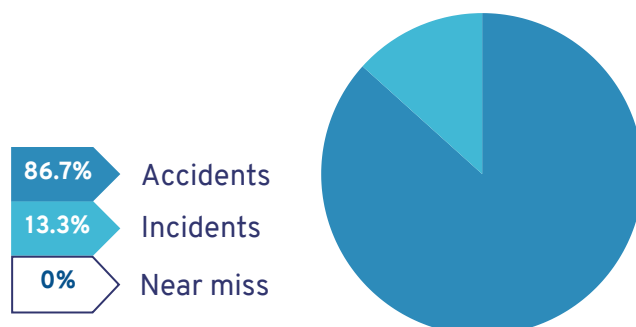
2022

- Near misses with, public following and jumping in, the company have now changed their session times
- Lots of near misses in the heat waves

2024

- A group of centre staff on a staff social. Self extracted without any further issues
- There has been an increase in near misses - panic attacks, all happening in people of the same gender and similar age (male, over the age of 45, often not the fittest).

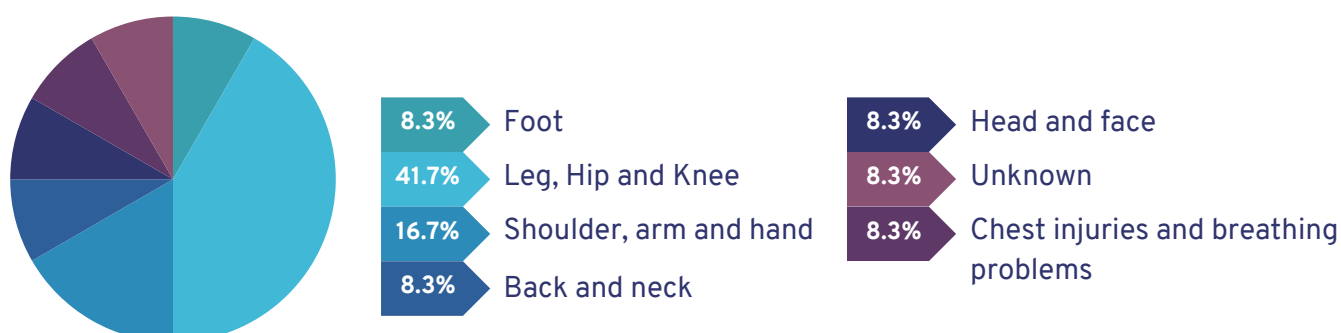
2012 accident, incident and near miss data



Total number of regions that made reports via NCC national meeting	8
Total number of reports made at NCC National meeting or via the NCC website	14
Total number of reports made via the NCC website	0
Total number of accidents out of reports made via NCC National meeting	12
Total number of incidents out of reports made NCC National meeting	2
Total number of near miss out of reports made NCC National meeting	0
Total number of accidents or incidents that legal action was taken	No data
Total number of accidents or incidents that legal action was successful	No data
Total number of NCC members (including all categories)	No data
Approximate coasteer participation number	No data
Total number of emergency services call outs to coasteer sessions	0
Total number of hospital visits from coasteer session accidents	0
Total number of guide injuries	1

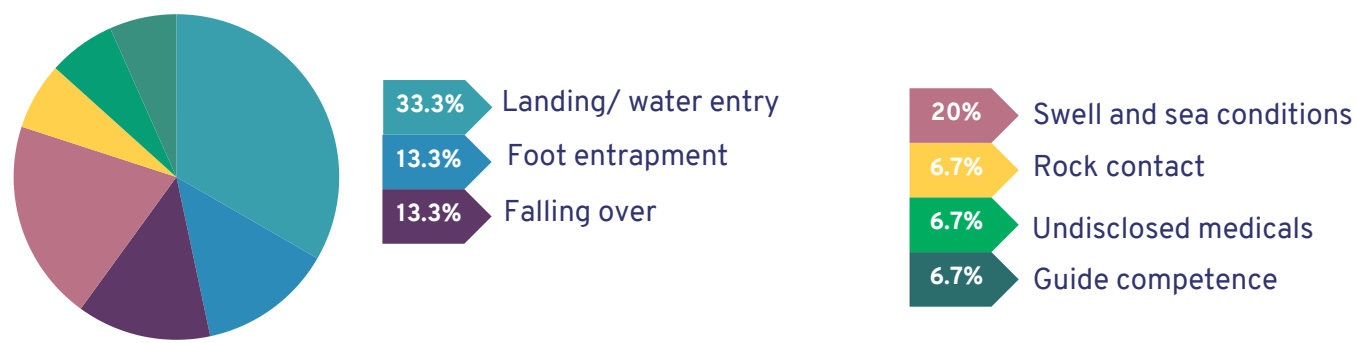
Accident data

Types of injuries

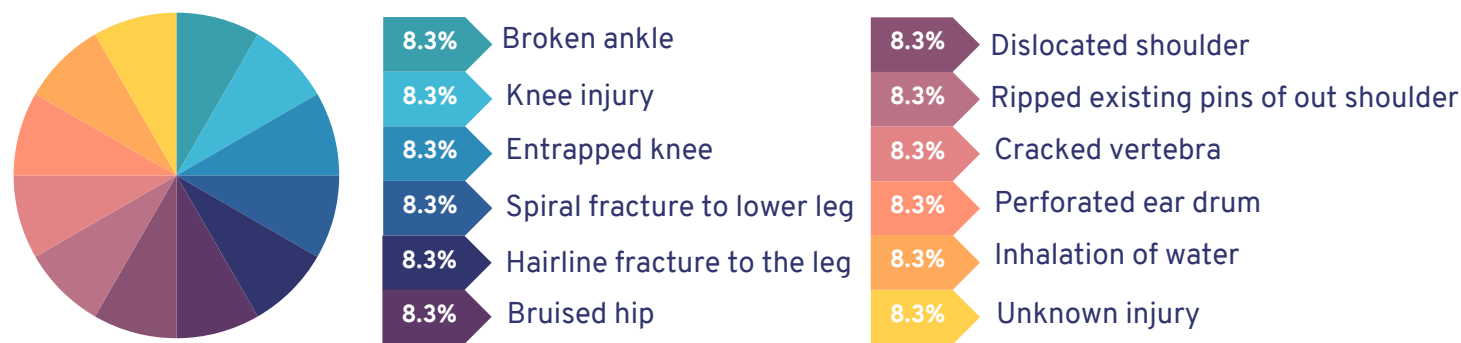


2012

Types of injuries causes

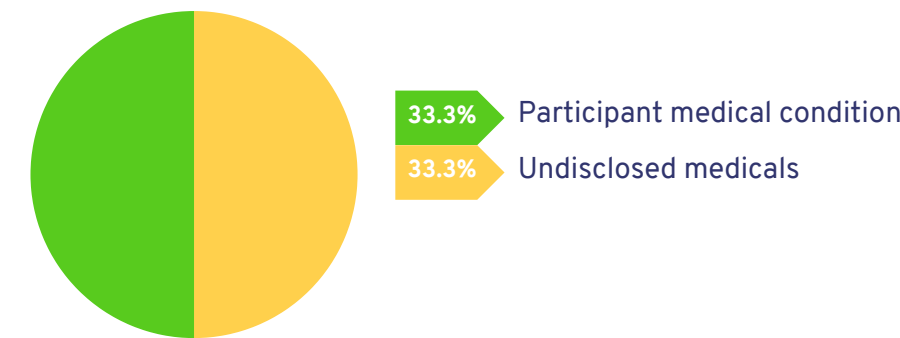


Injury breakdown

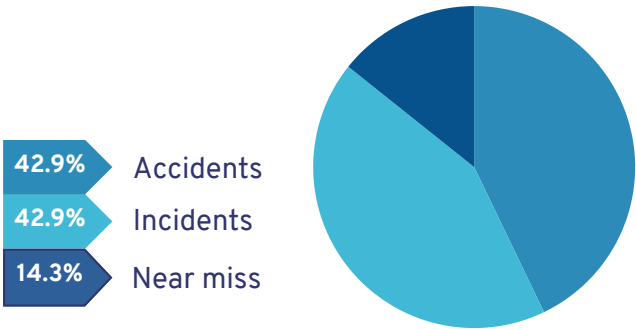


Incident data

Types of incident causes



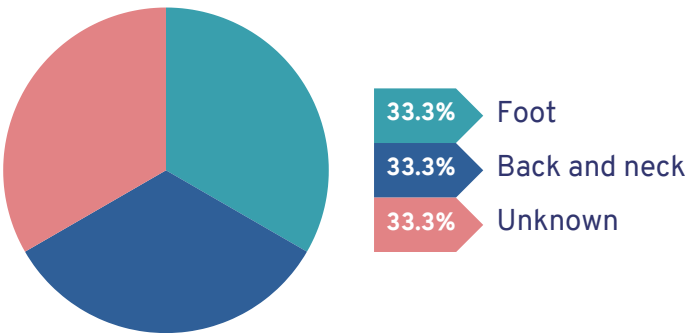
2013 accident, incident and near miss data



Total number of regions that made reports via NCC national meeting	9
Total number of reports made at NCC National meeting or via the NCC website	7
Total number of reports made via the NCC website	0
Total number of accidents out of reports made via NCC National meeting	3
Total number of incidents out of reports made NCC National meeting	3
Total number of near miss out of reports made NCC National meeting	1
Total number of accidents or incidents that legal action was taken	No data
Total number of accidents or incidents that legal action was successful	No data
Total number of NCC members (including all categories)	No data
Approximate coasteer participation number	No data
Total number of emergency services call outs to coasteer sessions	3
Total number of hospital visits from coasteer session accidents	0
Total number of guide injuries	0

Accident data

Types of injuries

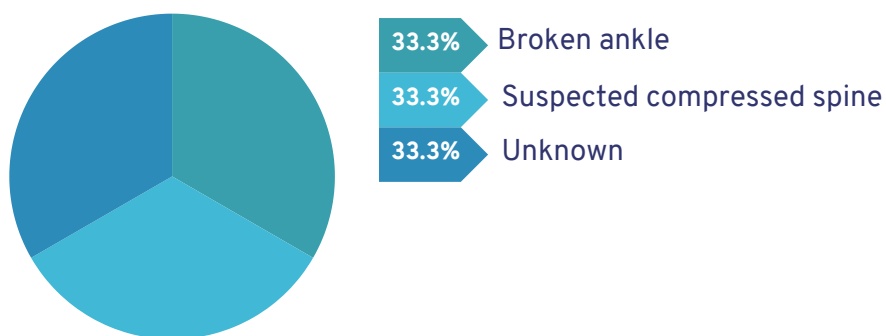


2013

Types of injuries causes

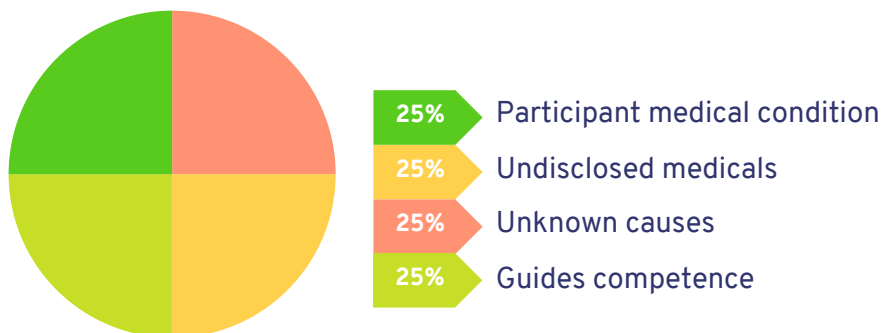


Injury breakdown



Incident data

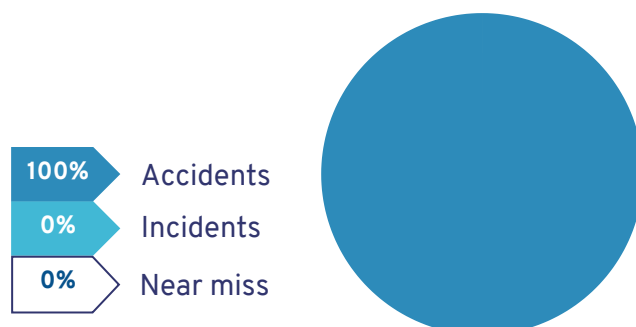
Types of incident causes



Near Miss

- Group leader (client on organised session) jumped off 'wrong side' of quay - near miss due to water depth. This was despite instructions not too.

2014 accident, incident and near miss data



Total number of regions that made reports via NCC national meeting	8
Total number of reports made at NCC National meeting or via the NCC website	6
Total number of reports made via the NCC website	0
Total number of accidents out of reports made via NCC National meeting	6
Total number of incidents out of reports made NCC National meeting	0
Total number of near miss out of reports made NCC National meeting	0
Total number of accidents or incidents that legal action was taken	No data
Total number of accidents or incidents that legal action was successful	No data
Total number of NCC members (including all categories)	67
Approximate coasteer participation number	33033
Total number of emergency services call outs to coasteer sessions	1
Total number of hospital visits from coasteer session accidents	0
Total number of guide injuries	0

Accident data

Types of injuries

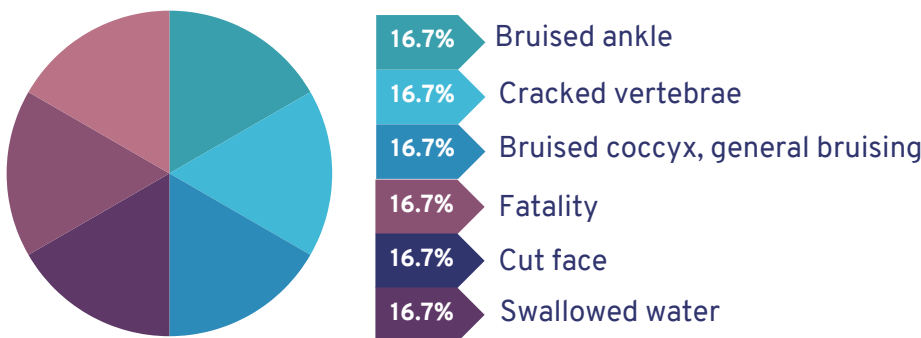


2014

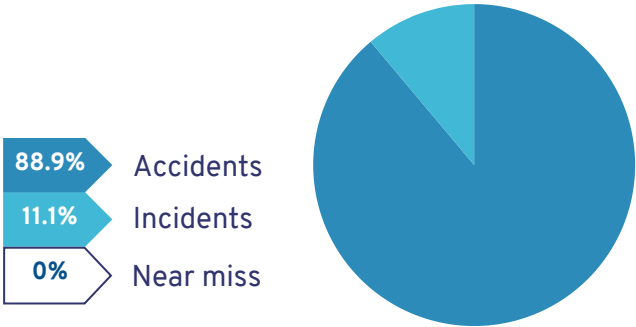
Types of injuries causes



Injury breakdown



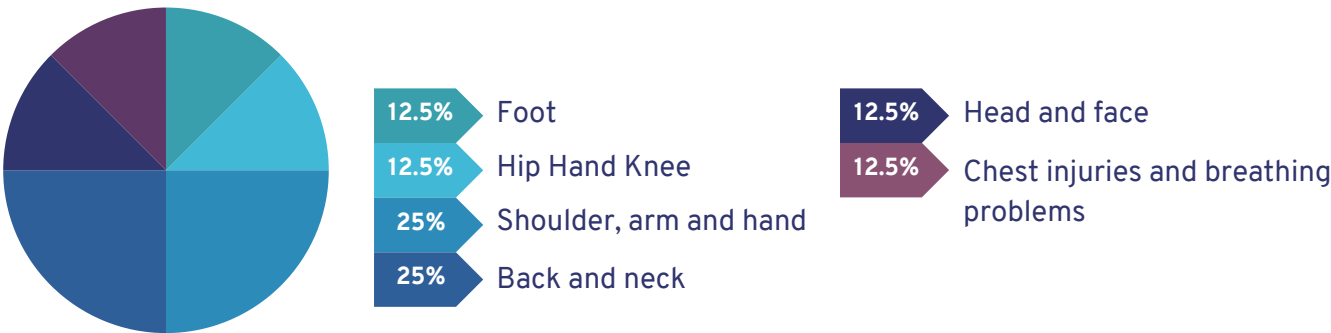
2015 accident, incident and near miss data



Total number of regions that made reports via NCC national meeting	5
Total number of reports made at NCC National meeting or via the NCC website	9
Total number of reports made via the NCC website	0
Total number of accidents out of reports made via NCC National meeting	8
Total number of incidents out of reports made NCC National meeting	1
Total number of near miss out of reports made NCC National meeting	0
Total number of accidents or incidents that legal action was taken	No data
Total number of accidents or incidents that legal action was successful	No data
Total number of NCC members (including all categories)	83
Approximate coasteer participation number	50315
Total number of emergency services call outs to coasteer sessions	2
Total number of hospital visits from coasteer session accidents	0
Total number of guide injuries	2

Accident data

Types of injuries



2015

Types of injuries causes

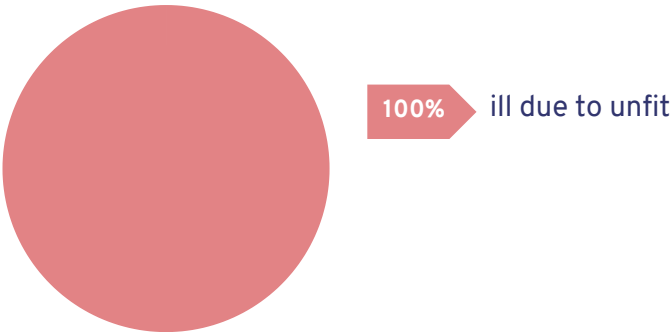


Injury breakdown

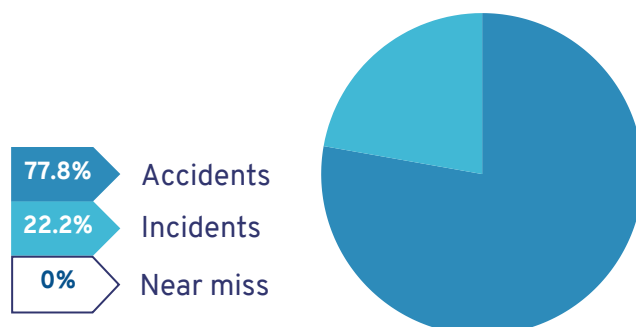


Incident data

Types of incident causes



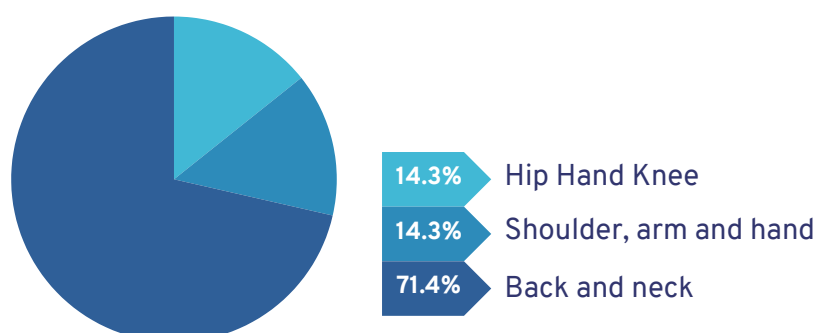
2016 accident, incident and near miss data



Total number of regions that made reports via NCC national meeting	9
Total number of reports made at NCC National meeting or via the NCC website	6
Total number of reports made via the NCC website	0
Total number of accidents out of reports made via NCC National meeting	6
Total number of incidents out of reports made NCC National meeting	2
Total number of near miss out of reports made NCC National meeting	0
Total number of accidents or incidents that legal action was taken	No data
Total number of accidents or incidents that legal action was successful	No data
Total number of NCC members (including all categories)	74
Approximate coasteer participation number	47875
Total number of emergency services call outs to coasteer sessions	7
Total number of hospital visits from coasteer session accidents	0
Total number of guide injuries	0

Accident data

Types of injuries

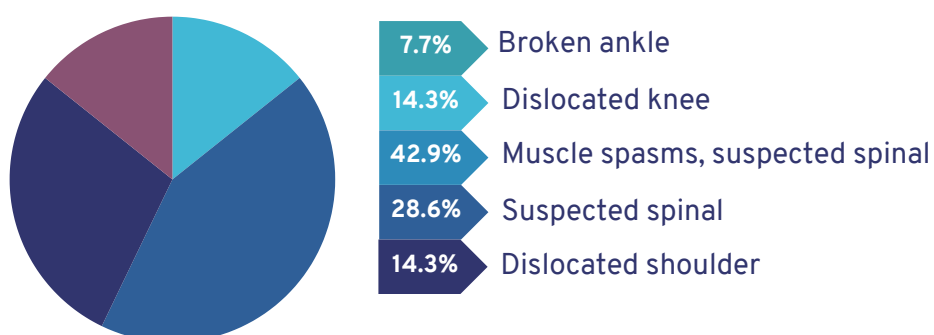


2016

Types of injuries causes

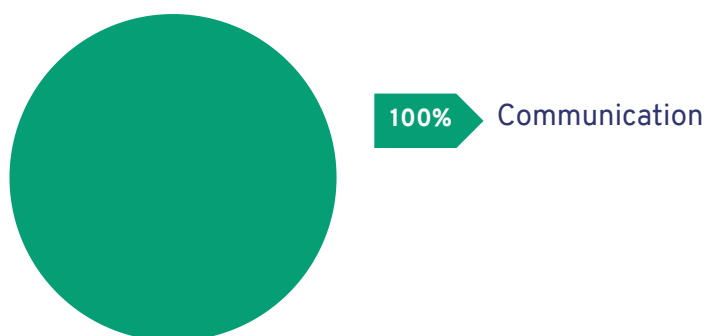


Injury breakdown

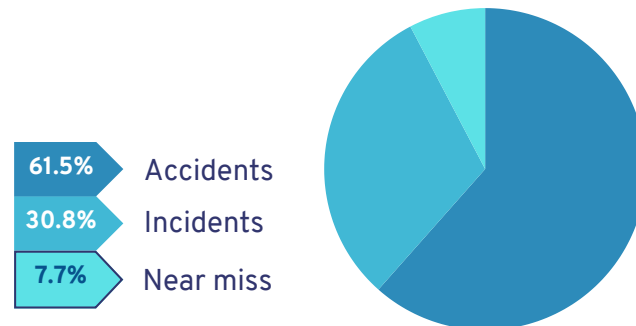


Incident data

Types of incident causes



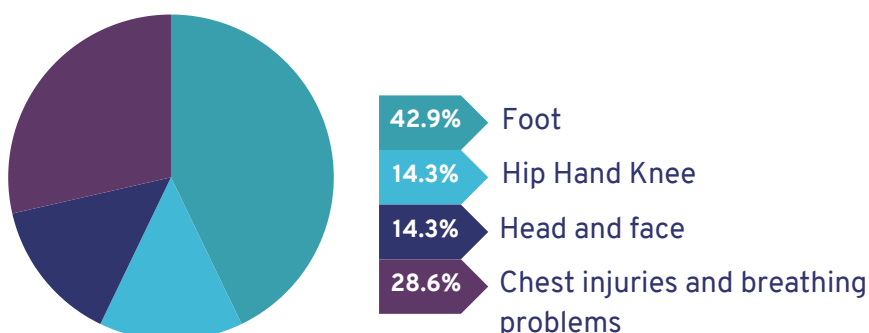
2017 accident, incident and near miss data



Total number of regions that made reports via NCC national meeting	9
Total number of reports made at NCC National meeting or via the NCC website	12
Total number of reports made via the NCC website	0
Total number of accidents out of reports made via NCC National meeting	7
Total number of incidents out of reports made NCC National meeting	5
Total number of near miss out of reports made NCC National meeting	1
Total number of accidents or incidents that legal action was taken	No data
Total number of accidents or incidents that legal action was successful	No data
Total number of NCC members (including all categories)	75
Approximate coasteer participation number	74411
Total number of emergency services call outs to coasteer sessions	3
Total number of hospital visits from coasteer session accidents	0
Total number of guide injuries	0

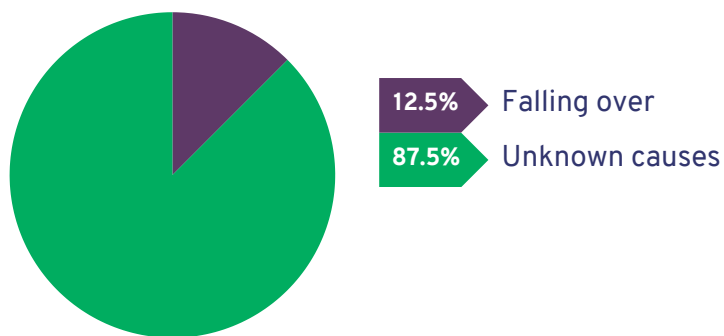
Accident data

Types of injuries

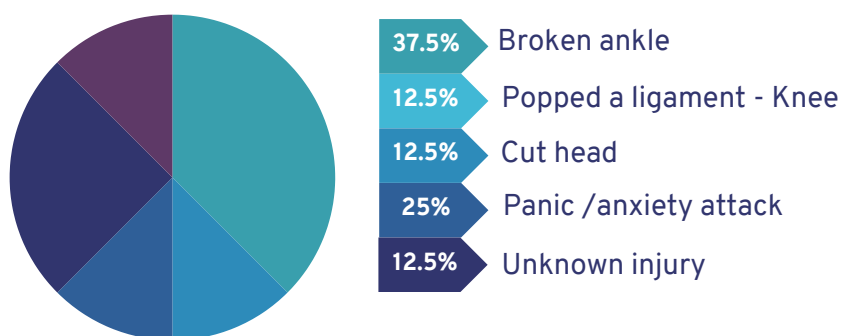


2017

Types of injuries causes

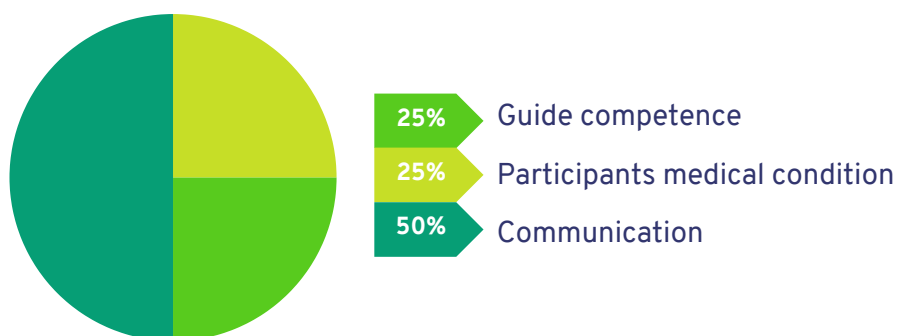


Injury breakdown



Incident data

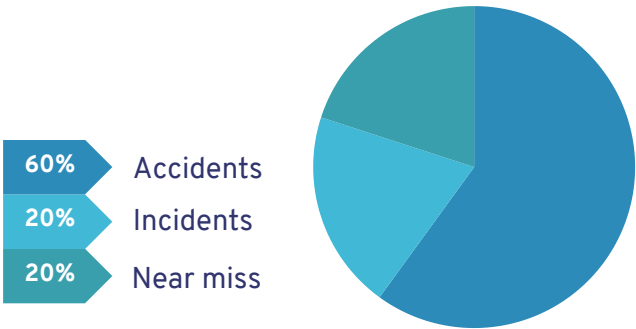
Types of incident causes



Near miss

- An instructor was out in conditions, swept off rock leading to a near miss.

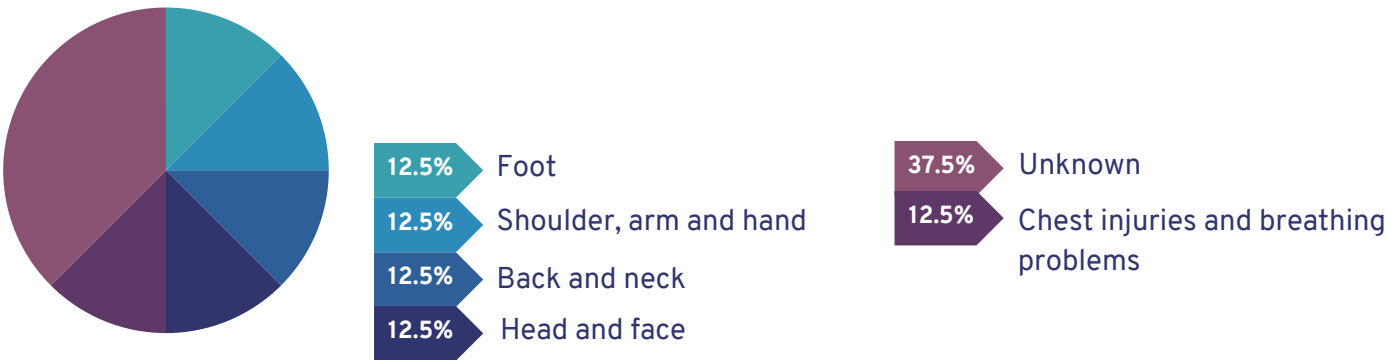
2018 accident, incident and near miss data



Total number of regions that made reports via NCC national meeting	8
Total number of reports made at NCC National meeting or via the NCC website	8
Total number of reports made via the NCC website	4
Total number of accidents out of reports made via NCC National meeting	6
Total number of incidents out of reports made NCC National meeting	2
Total number of near miss out of reports made NCC National meeting	2
Total number of accidents or incidents that legal action was taken	No data
Total number of accidents or incidents that legal action was successful	No data
Total number of NCC members (including all categories)	101
Approximate coasteer participation number	86136
Total number of emergency services call outs to coasteer sessions	5
Total number of hospital visits from coasteer session accidents	1
Total number of guide injuries	0

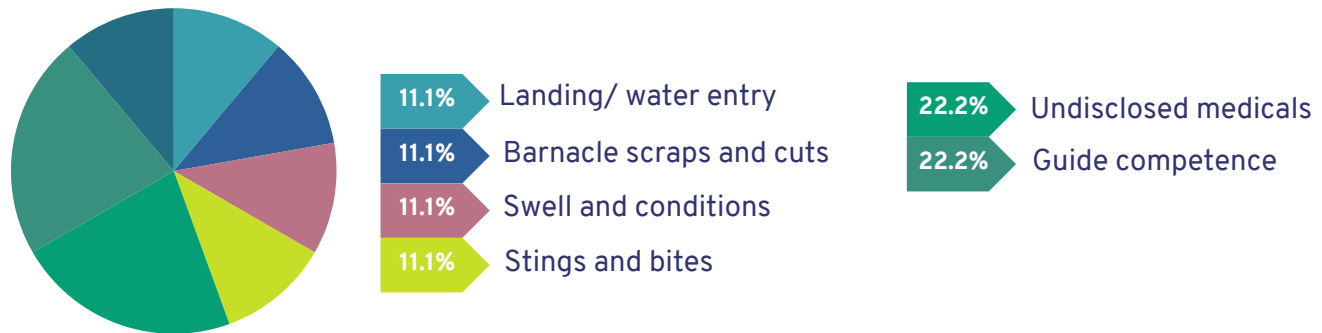
Accident data

Types of injuries



2018

Types of injuries causes

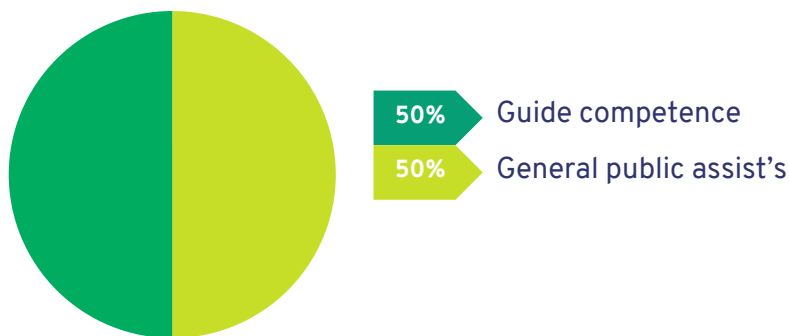


Injury breakdown



Incident data

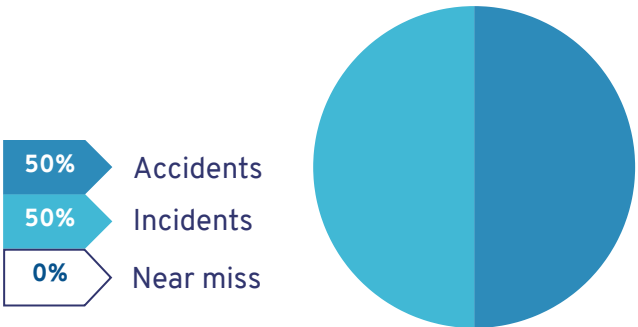
Types of incident causes



Near miss

- Situation regarding guide needing to give customer his own helmet for the session whilst within vicinity of further equipment & being within ratio & not needing to guide with in the session caused some friction & complaint. Complaint dealt with at regional level.
 - One near miss reported with customer having reoccurring injury. Coastguard called. Injury in relation to helmet being forced off customers head.
-

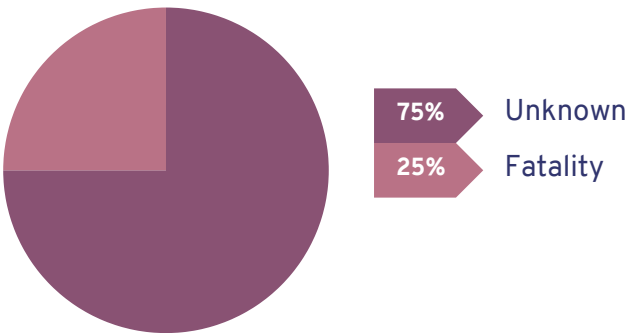
2019 accident, incident and near miss data



Total number of regions that made reports via NCC national meeting	8
Total number of reports made at NCC National meeting or via the NCC website	6
Total number of reports made via the NCC website	0
Total number of accidents out of reports made via NCC National meeting	3
Total number of incidents out of reports made NCC National meeting	3
Total number of near miss out of reports made NCC National meeting	0
Total number of accidents or incidents that legal action was taken	1
Total number of accidents or incidents that legal action was successful	0
Total number of NCC members (including all categories)	124
Approximate coasteer participation number	51241
Total number of emergency services call outs to coasteer sessions	2
Total number of hospital visits from coasteer session accidents	0
Total number of guide injuries	0

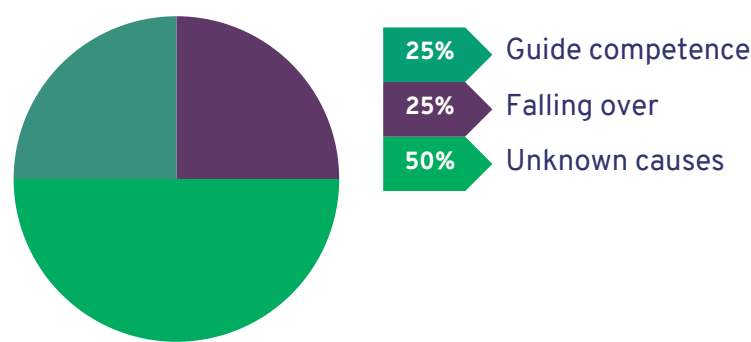
Accident data

Types of injuries

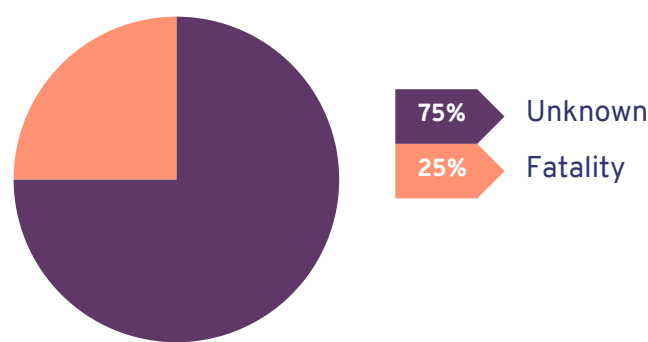


2019

Types of injuries causes

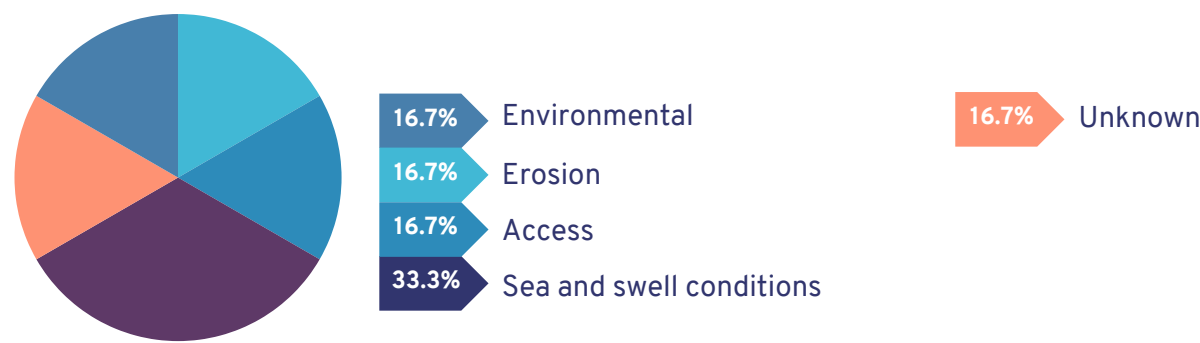


Injury breakdown

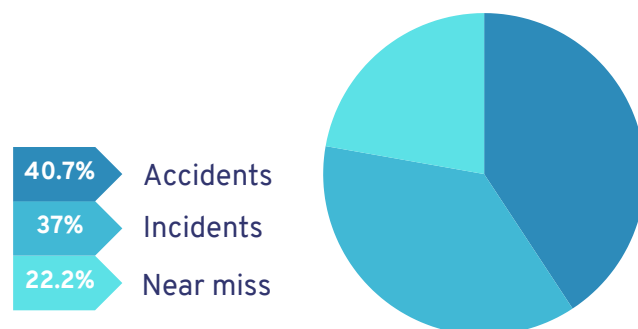


Incident data

Types of incident causes



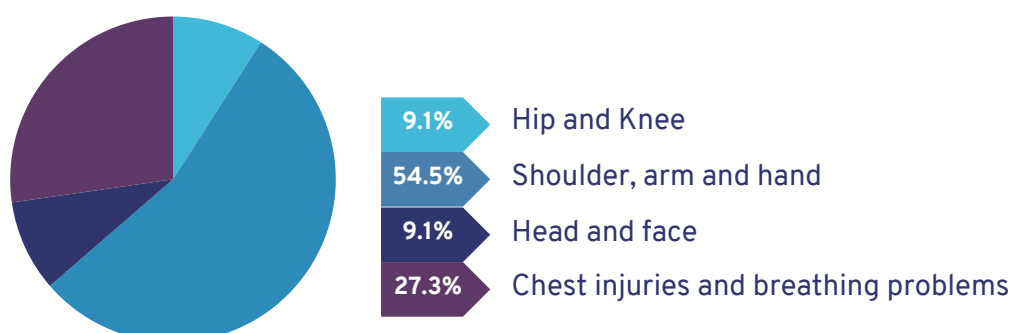
2020 accident, incident and near miss data



Total number of regions that made reports via NCC national meeting	10
Total number of reports made at NCC National meeting or via the NCC website	14
Total number of reports made via the NCC website	0
Total number of accidents out of reports made via NCC National meeting	11
Total number of incidents out of reports made NCC National meeting	10
Total number of near miss out of reports made NCC National meeting	6
Total number of accidents or incidents that legal action was taken	No data
Total number of accidents or incidents that legal action was successful	No data
Total number of NCC members (including all categories)	129
Approximate coasteer participation number	76867
Total number of emergency services call outs to coasteer sessions	1
Total number of hospital visits from coasteer session accidents	0
Total number of guide injuries	0

Accident data

Types of injuries



2020

Types of injuries causes

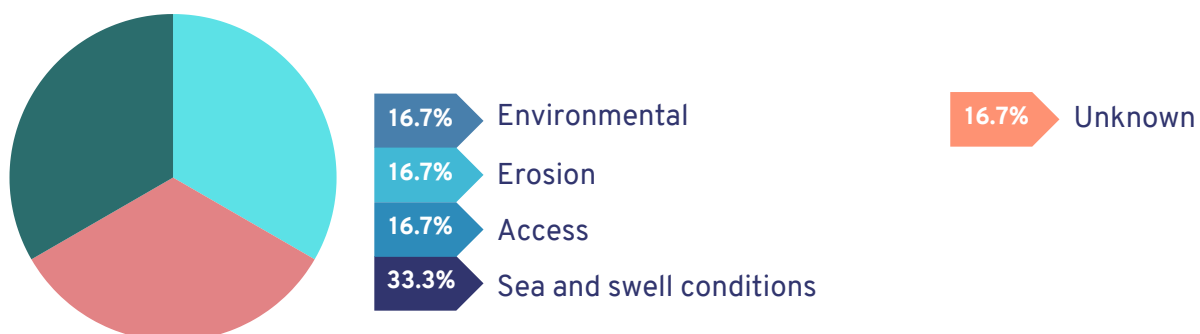


Injury breakdown



Incident data

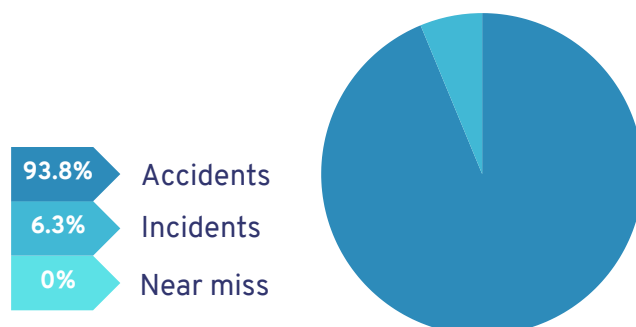
Types of incident causes



Near miss

- Two clients less flexible & larger found hard to walk slipped footing close to edge of cliff with slippery grass & big cliffs.
 - lots of near misses involving tourists people following and fishing them out but not sure where
-

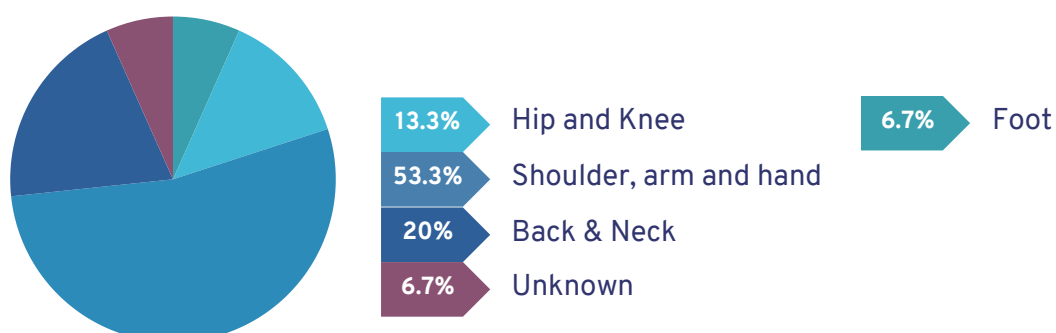
2021 accident, incident and near miss data



Total number of regions that made reports via NCC national meeting	8
Total number of reports made at NCC National meeting or via the NCC website	10
Total number of reports made via the NCC website	0
Total number of accidents out of reports made via NCC National meeting	15
Total number of incidents out of reports made NCC National meeting	8
Total number of near miss out of reports made NCC National meeting	0
Total number of accidents or incidents that legal action was taken	1
Total number of accidents or incidents that legal action was successful	0
Total number of NCC members (including all categories)	260
Approximate coasteer participation number	96782
Total number of emergency services call outs to coasteer sessions	1
Total number of hospital visits from coasteer session accidents	0
Total number of guide injuries	1

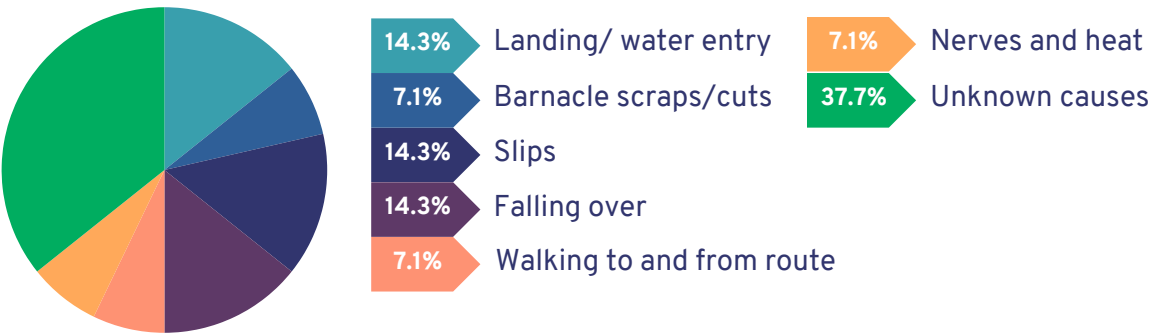
Accident data

Types of injuries



2021

Types of injuries causes

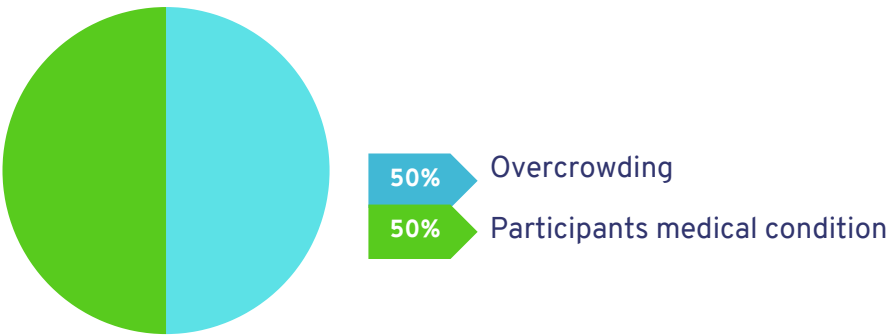


Injury breakdown

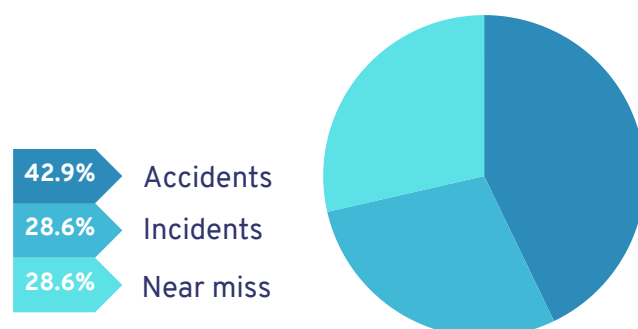


Incident data

Types of incident causes



2022 accident, incident and near miss data



Total number of regions that made reports via NCC national meeting	8
Total number of reports made at NCC National meeting or via the NCC website	15
Total number of reports made via the NCC website	0
Total number of accidents out of reports made via NCC National meeting	12
Total number of incidents out of reports made NCC National meeting	8
Total number of near miss out of reports made NCC National meeting	8
Total number of accidents or incidents that legal action was taken	1
Total number of accidents or incidents that legal action was successful	No data
Total number of NCC members (including all categories)	267
Approximate coasteer participation number	104,519
Total number of emergency services call outs to coasteer sessions	2
Total number of hospital visits from coasteer session accidents	1
Total number of guide injuries	1

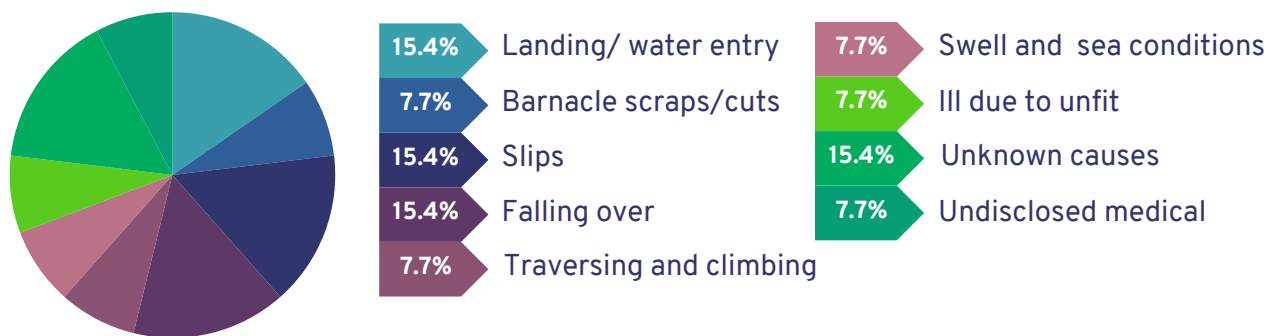
Accident data

Types of injuries



2022

Types of injuries causes



Injury breakdown



Incident data

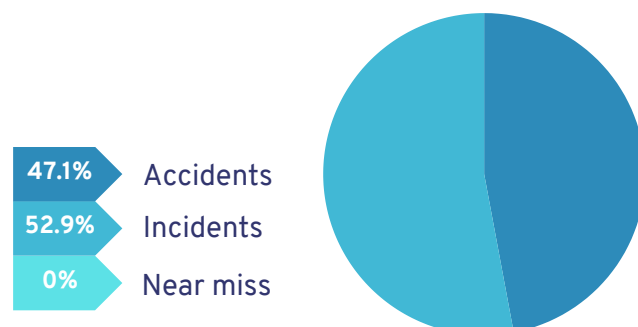
Types of incident causes



Near miss

- Near misses with, public following and jumping in, the company have now changed their session times
-

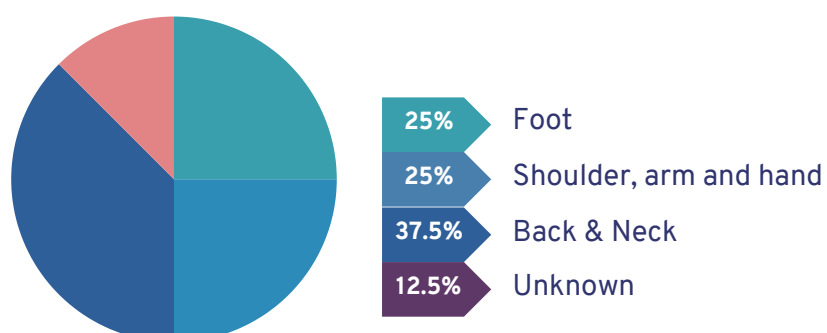
2023 accident, incident and near miss data



Total number of regions that made reports via NCC national meeting	7
Total number of reports made at NCC National meeting or via the NCC website	15
Total number of reports made via the NCC website	0
Total number of accidents out of reports made via NCC National meeting	8
Total number of incidents out of reports made NCC National meeting	9
Total number of near miss out of reports made NCC National meeting	0
Total number of accidents or incidents that legal action was taken	1
Total number of accidents or incidents that legal action was successful	No data
Total number of NCC members (including all categories)	539
Approximate coasteer participation number	101,284
Total number of emergency services call outs to coasteer sessions	1
Total number of hospital visits from coasteer session accidents	1
Total number of guide injuries	0

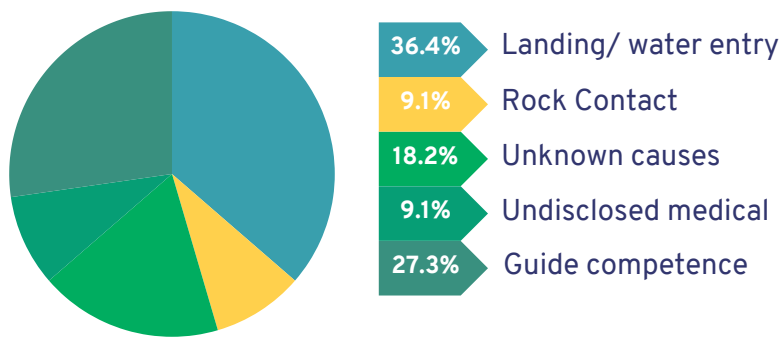
Accident data

Types of injuries



2023

Types of injuries causes



Injury breakdown

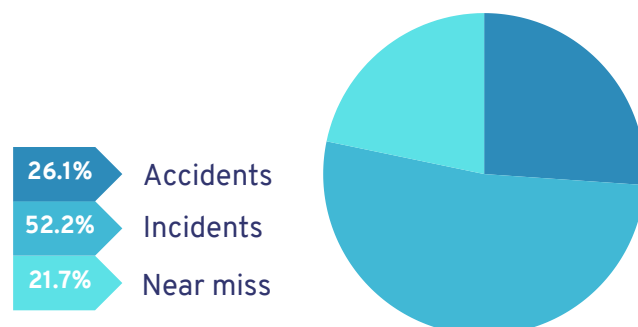


Incident data

Types of incident causes



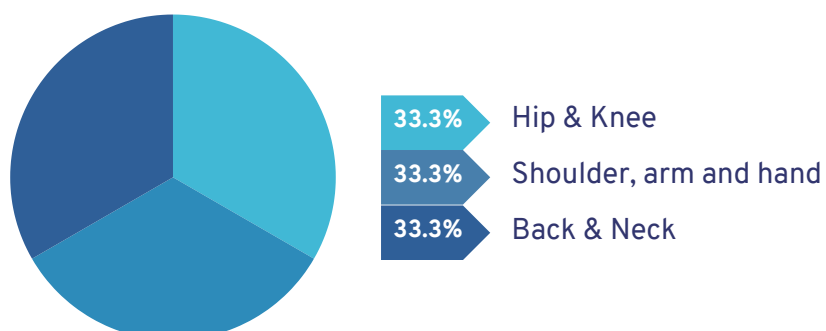
2024 accident, incident and near miss data



Total number of regions that made reports via NCC national meeting	7
Total number of reports made at NCC National meeting or via the NCC website	20
Total number of reports made via the NCC website	0
Total number of accidents out of reports made via NCC National meeting	6
Total number of incidents out of reports made NCC National meeting	12
Total number of near miss out of reports made NCC National meeting	5
Total number of accidents or incidents that legal action was taken	0
Total number of accidents or incidents that legal action was successful	0
Total number of NCC members (including all categories)	561
Approximate coasteer participation number	99118
Total number of emergency services call outs to coasteer sessions	1
Total number of hospital visits from coasteer session accidents	1
Total number of guide injuries	0

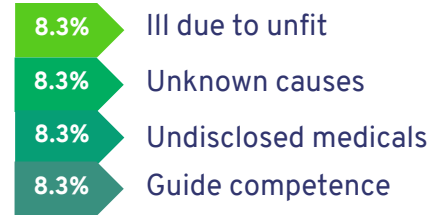
Accident data

Types of injuries

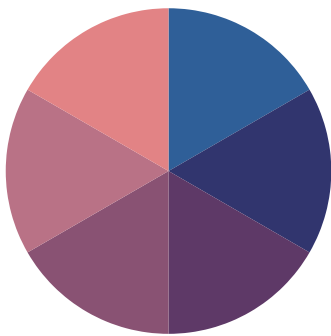


2024

Types of injuries causes

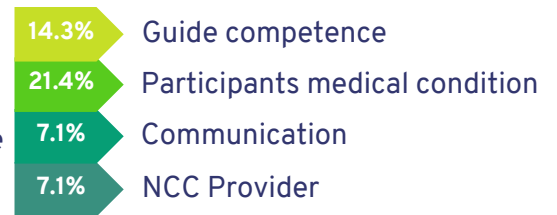
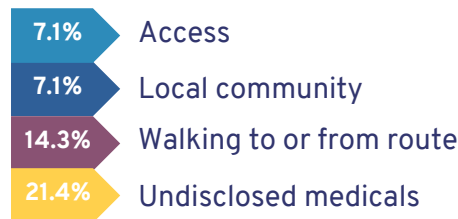


Injury breakdown



Incident data

Types of incident causes



Near Miss

- A group of centre staff on a staff social. Self extracted without any further issues
- There has been an increase in near misses - panic attacks, all happening in people of the same gender and similar age (male, over the age of 45, often not the fittest).