



Safer Facilities or Using Facilities Safely

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A UK citizen is 5.5 times more likely to drown abroad than in the UK

In the 5 years 2006 to 2010; **309** UK citizens drowned abroad

- 30** children aged under 7
- 12** children aged 8 to 14
- 13** young people aged 15 to 19
- 254** adults

- What is the evidence?
- What are the causes?
- What can we do to improve the situation?
- IFSTA Standards





Data Sources



- UK National Water Safety Forum – (WAID)
 - UK Drowning Statistics – 2009
- Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA)
 - UK Citizen overseas Drowning Statistics – 2006 to 2010
- Independent survey commissioned by STA in February 2011 from UK residents, who had holidayed abroad, into their views on water safety in Spain, France, Greece, Italy and USA
- UK National Statistics



UK Citizens Overseas Drowning Risk



Country	Drownings 5 year average	No of days in Millions	Million days per drowning	Ranking
Greece	3.6	2,031	5.643	6
USA	3	4,318	14.395	4
France	1.6	6,632	41.456	2
Spain	13.2	11,087	8.400	5
Italy	1.2	1,992	16.605	3
Rest of World	39.2	35,386	9.027	
TOTAL OVERSEAS	61.8	61,449	9.943	
UK (2009)	405	2,193,958	54.172	1

The overseas drowning rate per million days is 5.45 times higher than the UK rate!

Source: RoSPA , WAID & UK National Statistics



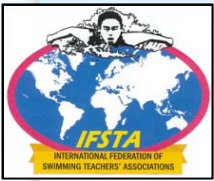
Location Comparisons - Overseas / UK



Location	Overseas Casualties	Overseas %	UK Casualties	UK %
Residential - bath	0.2	0.32%	19	4.69%
Ponds	0.2	0.32%	16	3.95%
Swimming Pool	9.6	15.53%	5	1.23%
Rivers, lakes & other inland locations	8.2	13.27%	209	51.60%
Coastal - inshore & beach	30.4	49.19%	75	18.52%
Docks, harbours etc	0.8	1.29%	24	5.93%
Sea	10.2	16.50%	57	14.07%
Unknown	2.2	3.56%		
Totals	61.8		405	

Overseas: Rospa 5 year averages 2006 to 2010
UK: WAID statistics for 2009





Age Comparisons - Overseas / UK



	Overseas Casualties	Overseas %	UK Casualties	UK %
Aged 0 to 7	6.0	9.71%	19	4.69%
Aged 8 to 14	2.4	3.88%	12	2.96%
Aged 15 to 19	2.6	4.21%	47	11.60%
Aged 20 and over	50.8	82.20%	327	80.74%
Totals	61.8		405	

Overseas: Rospa 5 year averages 2006 to 2010
UK: WAID statistics for 2009



Pool comparisons - Overseas / UK



	Overseas Casualties	Overseas %	UK Casualties	UK %
Aged 0 to 7	4.2	43.75%	1	20.00%
Aged 8 to 14	0.8	8.33%	0	
Aged 15 to 19	1.8	18.75%	1	20.00%
Aged 20 and over	2.8	29.17%	3	60.00%
Totals	9.6		5	

Overseas: Rospa 5 year averages 2006 to 2010
UK: WAID statistics for 2009





Summary Statistical Results



- The risk to UK citizens of drowning abroad is 5.5 times higher than in the UK
- The risk to UK citizens of drowning abroad in a swimming pool is over 12 times higher than in the UK
- The increase in risk is much higher in the under 8's than for older children and adults

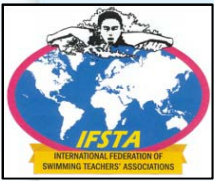




What are the Causes?



- Is alcohol a significant factor?
- Are overseas pools intrinsically more dangerous than those in the UK?
- Is there a fundamental lack of understanding of risk?



“What pool safety features were present”



	Yes	No	Not sure
Pool depth signs	73%	15%	12%
Safety signs	71%	12%	17%
Safety signs – in English	63%	17%	20%
Rescue equipment for public use	58%	21%	21%
Lifeguard rescue equipment	43%	29%	28%
Patrolling lifeguards	28%	60%	12%
Stationary lifeguards on high chairs	22%	69%	9%
Alarm buttons	7%	58%	35%
Safety fencing/ locked gates	7%	68%	25%

Water clarity was not reported as an issue – 92% always good

Source: STA commissioned independent survey February 2011





Under 19 Supervision



	Totals	0 - 7	8 - 14	15 - 19
Supervised situation	28	26	2	0
Unsupervised situation	27	4	10	13
TOTALS	55	30	12	13

Data refers to drownings in 5 years 2006 to 2010



Understanding Risk





Parental Attitudes Towards Safety



- 39% of parents would **not** be comfortable leaving young children (under 10) to play round a pool with limited supervision.
- 12% of parents would **not** be happy with the safety of their children, who could not swim, playing in a pool wearing only armbands or similar.

Source: STA commissioned independent survey February 2011





Suggested Areas for Improvement



Availability of rescue equipment	54%
More lifeguards on duty	54%
Pool security – fences and lockable gates	43%
Children's water safety knowledge	38%

Source: STA commissioned independent survey February 2011





“Compared to the water safety standards in the UK, what standard would you expect in ..”



Ranking	Country	Better	Same	Same & Better	Worse
6	Greece	14%	23%	37%	42%
4	USA	31%	47%	78%	3%
2	France	23%	51%	74%	9%
5	Spain	22%	40%	62%	24%
3	Italy	15%	42%	57%	14%
	Total (average)	22%	41%	63%	20%

Source: STA commissioned independent survey February 2011



COSTA TROPICAL NEWS

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British father and son drown in Almuñécar

Sep 22nd, 2010 | By Captain Chaos | Category: Costa Tropical News

The son went into the water to try and rescue his father who had got into difficulties in rough seas

Two British men, reported to be a 74 year old father and 45 year old son, on holiday from the U.K. drowned Tuesday when bathing in the sea on the Playa del Tesorillo in Almuñécar on the Costa del Sol.

THE Sun

Tuesday, 1 March 2011



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Brit girl, six, drowns in Spain



... Spanish police are investigating tragic death of Brit girl

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Boy, four, drowns in resort pool

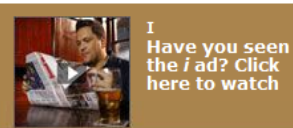
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Megan, 6, dies in Spanish pool tragedy



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Second Briton drowns on Canary Islands holiday

PA

Tuesday, 19 October 2010

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A second British holidaymaker has drowned in a hotel swimming pool in the Canary Islands in two days.

Andrew Nicol, 38, had been staying in the resort of Puerto de Santiago on the Spanish holiday island of Tenerife.

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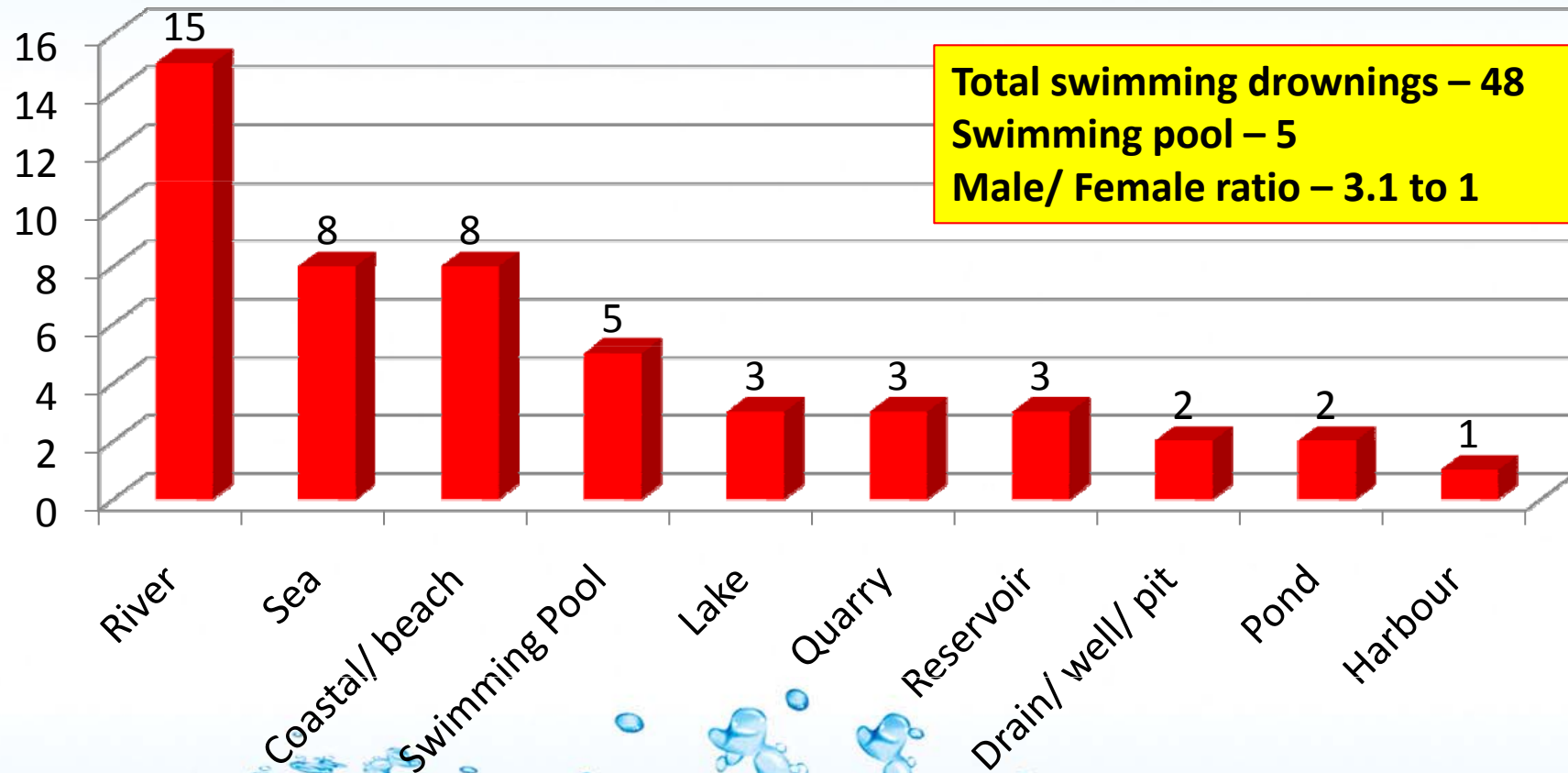
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Boy, five, drowns on Disneyland holiday

SWIMMING TEACHING LIFE SAVING FIRST AID LEISURE MANAGEMENT



Location of UK Drownings whilst Swimming in 2009



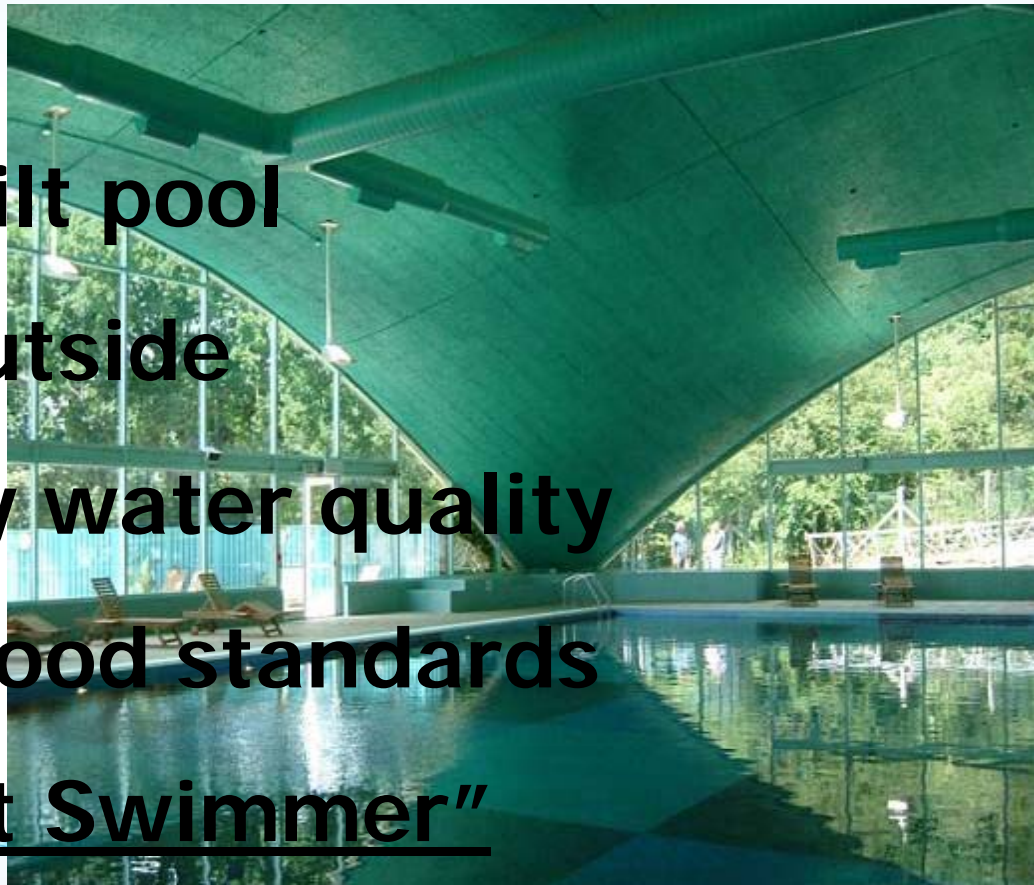
Source: WAID statistics for 2009



Is this where you teach swimming?



se built pool
e or outside
actory water quality
ally good standards
petent Swimmer"



Or, is this where you teach swimming?



, rivers and sea
actory water quality
Water Swimmer"



Or, is this where you teach swimming?



vised pool or no pool

water quality

environment

ty in Water"



Outcomes



Competent Recreational Swimmer - Pool	Recreational activity for health, enjoyment & safety
Competent Recreational Swimmer - Open Water	Foundation for competition swimming Safety standard for aquatic activities - boating, sub aqua etc
Safety in Water	Ability to float whilst awaiting rescue or move to waters edge and exit

Safety



Water safety awareness of environment e.g.

Water depth, visibility & quality

Currents & tides

Other dangers - animals, rocks, debris etc

Pool safety rules

Safe entries – relevant to environment

Safe exits – relevant to environment



Survival Skills



Learning Outcomes	Pool Swimmer	Open Water Swimmer	Safety In Water
Entering water	✓	✓	✓
Swimming	✓	✓	✓
Swimming on back	✓	✓	✓
Swimming in & removal of clothing	✓	✓	✓




Movement in the Water



Level of Learning Outcomes	Pool Swimmer	Open Water Swimmer	Safety In Water
Front Crawl Stroke - Front	✓		
Backstroke - Back	✓		
Front Crawl		✓	
Backstroke		✓	
Front Crawl			✓
			✓

Rescue Skills & Stamina



Level of Learning Outcomes	Pool Swimmer	Open Water Swimmer	Safety In Water
Rescue	✓	✓	✓
Rescue	✓	✓	✓
Rescue	✓	✓	✓
Stamina Distance / Duration will be dependent upon water condition and temperature particularly in open water situations	100 metres 	10 minutes	10 minutes



Thank you For listening

