



Summary data

Incidents reported
3,039

Program participation days
282,753

Incident rate
10.7
*Incidents reported per 1,000
program participation days*

Incident rates per incident type

6.7
Injury

2.6
Illness

0.6
Psychosocial

0.3
Equipment

0.8
Near miss

Incidents reported per 1,000 program participation days

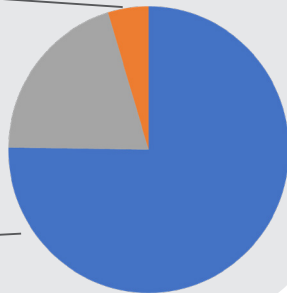
Severity ratings

74% of incidents with adverse outcomes were rated as minor in severity. This means that the majority of reported incidents resulted in short term impact and/or received localised care (e.g. first aid).

Serious (4%), Severe (<1%),

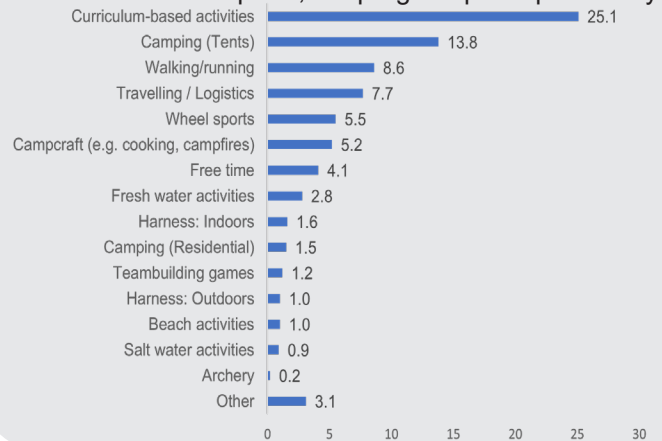
Moderate (20%)

No Impact (1%), Minor (74%)



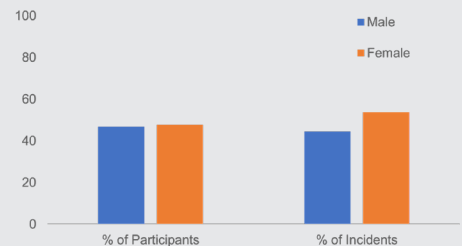
Activity incident rate

Number of incidents per 1,000 program participation days



Breakdown of incidents by gender

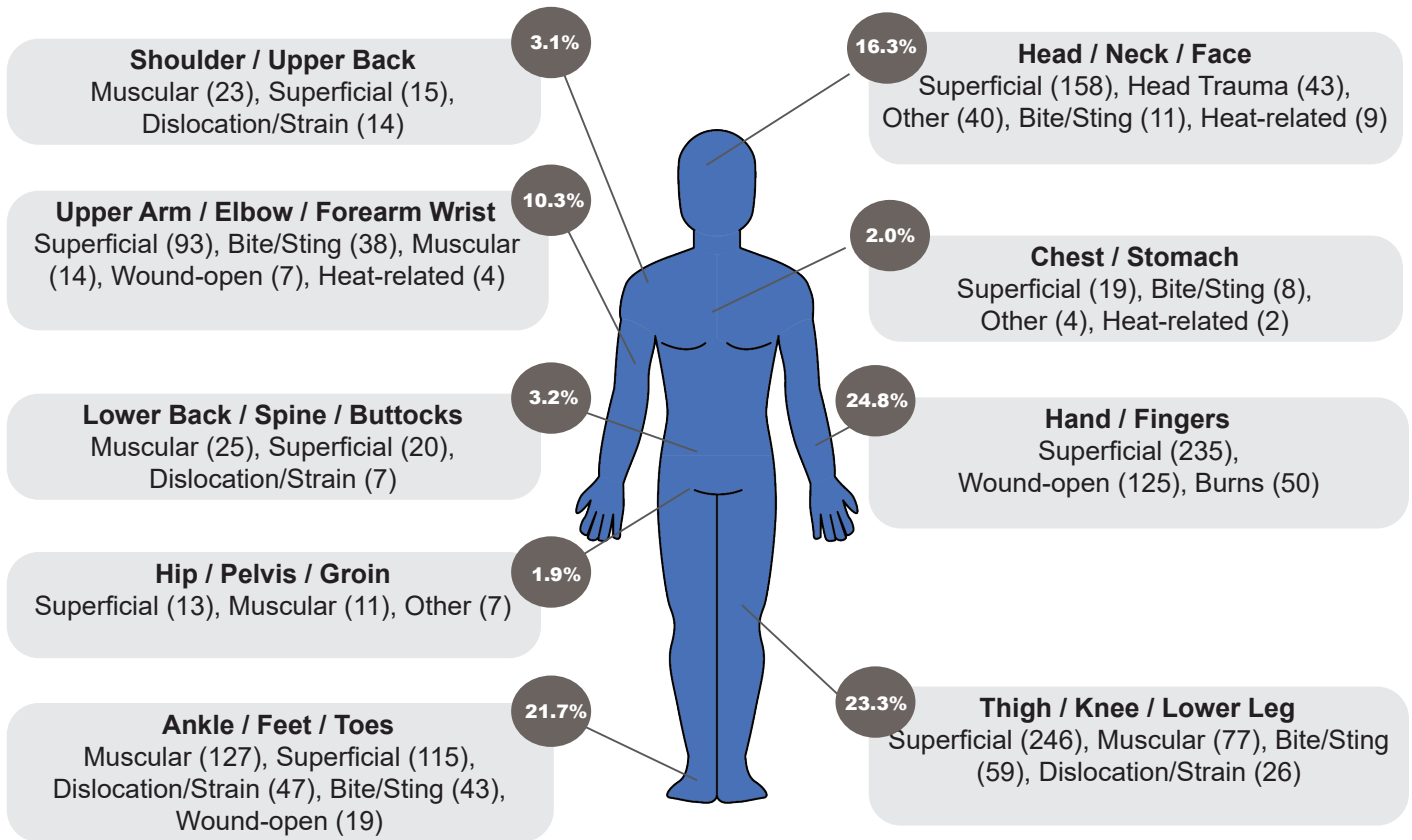
This graph shows the proportion of male and female program participants compared to the proportion of males and females involved in reported incidents.



Participants categorised as "Other Gender" represented <1.3% of the reported participants involved in program participation and incidents.

1,904 Reported injuries

This section describes the frequency of reported injuries to body locations, and the types of injuries reported at each location.



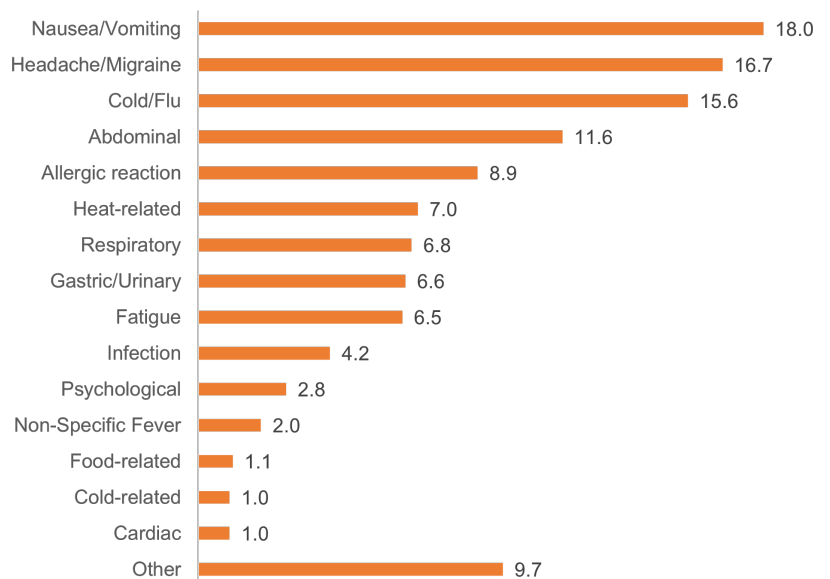
The values in brackets represent the number of injury types reported in each body location. The percentages represent the percentage of the total number of reported injuries. The injury location was either not specified or not reported in 9% of incident reports.

731 Reported illnesses

This graph shows the percentage of illness types reported.

“Other” illness was selected when the cause of the symptoms was unknown or did not align with the pre-defined list of illness types. Symptoms included:

- suspected COVID-19 cases
- stomach pains
- seizure
- fainting
- menstrual pain
- eczema / rash
- hayfever
- blood nose
- urinary tract infection



Percentage of reported illness incidents

Incident contributory factors

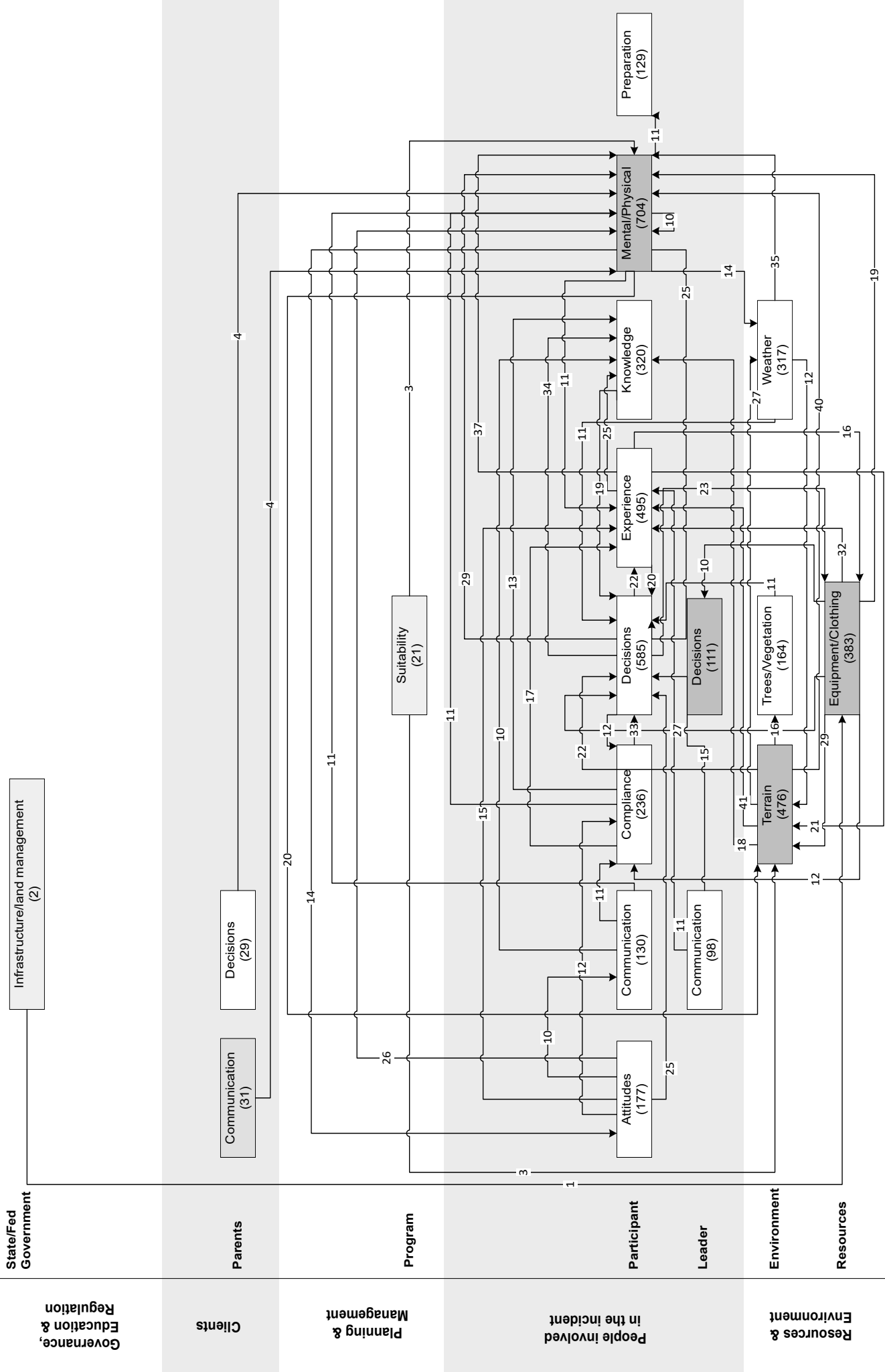
This figure shows the contributory factors identified in the 3,039 reported incidents.

Governance, Education & Regulation	State/Fed Government	Communication (1)	Infrastructure/land management (2)	Policies (1)				
	Regulators	Standards (1)						
	Education	Curriculum (1)						
Clients	Schools	Communication (25)	Compliance (9)	Decisions (25)	Knowledge (13)	Teacher Ratio (2)	Preparation (13)	Policies/Procedures (4)
	Parents	Communication (31)	Decisions (29)	Knowledge (10)	Preparation (11)			
Planning & Management	Management	Budget (1)	Communication (20)	Compliance (4)	Culture (1)	Decisions (10)	Knowledge (14)	Policies/Procedures (4)
	Program	Risk Management (15)	Staffing (5)	Supervision (7)	Training (6)			
		Location (18)	Resourcing (13)	Scheduling (16)	Suitability (21)	Supervisor Ratio (9)		
People Involved in the Incident	Other People	Attitudes (15)	Communication (10)	Compliance (18)	Decisions (36)	Experience (08)	Knowledge (11)	Mental/Physical (8)
	Group	Composition (28)	Group Size (19)	Peer Interactions (53)	Teamwork (22)	Timing (15)		
	Supervisors	Attitudes (10)	Communication (59)	Compliance (22)	Decisions (36)	Experience (33)	Knowledge (40)	Mental/Physical (18)
	Participant	Attitudes (177)	Communication (130)	Compliance (236)	Decisions (585)	Experience (495)	Knowledge (320)	Mental/Physical (704)
	Leader	Attitudes (15)	Communication (98)	Compliance (24)	Decisions (111)	Experience (34)	Knowledge (54)	Mental/Physical (32)
	Preparation							Preparation (7)
	Group							Preparation (18)
	Supervisors							Preparation (129)
	Participant							Preparation (29)
	Leader							Preparation (7)
Resources & Environment	Environment	Animals/Insects (211)	Facilities (134)	Terrain (476)	Trees/Vegetation (164)	Water (57)	Weather (317)	
	Resources	Documentation (13)	Food/Drink (50)	Medication (8)	Equipment/Clothing (383)			

The values represent the number of times the contributory factor was identified. The most frequently indicated factors at each level of the LOA system are shaded.

Relationships between incident contributory factors

This figure shows the most prominent relationships between contributory factors identified in the 3,039 reported incidents.



The values on the arrows represent the number of times the relationship between the contributory factors was reported.

Discussion

The following key findings were derived from the analysis of the 2022/23 National Incident Dataset (NID):

- The overall incident rate for the 2022/23 reporting period is 10.7 incidents/1,000 program participation days. Participation numbers for this reporting period are slightly lower than the last year. Injuries remain the most common incident type; followed by illnesses, near misses, psychosocial, and equipment related incidents. The majority of incidents were rated as minor in severity.
- The present analysis identified incident contributory factors at all levels of the led outdoor activity (LOA) system. The most frequently reported contributory factors were Participant: Mental/Physical Condition (704), Environment: Terrain (476), and Resources: Equipment/Clothing (383).
- Various relationships between contributory factors were reported across the 3,039 incidents. The most frequently reported relationships were between Terrain and Participant Experience (41), Terrain and Participant Mental/Physical Condition (40), and Participant Experience and Participant Mental/Physical Condition (37).
- A notable finding for this annual report is the relatively high incident rate for curriculum-based activities (25.1 incidents per 1,000 program participation days). Whilst this represents a marked increase from previous analyses, it is likely a result of changes in reporting practices. Further monitoring and exploration is however warranted and is currently being undertaken by the research team.
- UPLOADS currently has 135 registered organisations across all Australian states and territories. A total of 27 organisations submitted data for the current reporting period, however, due to incomplete data (e.g., no participation data or no reported contributory factors), incidents from only 23 organisations were included in the present analysis. We encourage organisations to provide complete incident reports in future. This will help to maximise data quality and learnings from the NID.

The Table below shows a comparison of the key findings from the last three annual reports.

Variable		2022/2023 Annual Report	2021/2022 Annual Report	2020/2021 Annual Report	2019/2020 Annual Report
Number of incidents		3,039	2,051	2,311	2,125
Participation days		282,753	290,064	262,844	224,060
Incident rate*	Overall	10.7	7.1	8.8	9.5
	Injury	6.7	6.4	6.5	6.3
	Illness	2.6	2.5	2.2	2.1
	Near miss	0.8	0.5	0.5	0.7
	Psychosocial	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5
	Equipment	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1
Actual Severity**	No impact	1.4%	<1%	1.3%	<1%
	Minor	73.9%	79%	71.6%	79.5%
	Moderate	20.1%	16.6%	22.4%	17.4%
	Serious	4.3%	3%	4.1%	2.1%
	Severe	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%
	Critical	0%	0%	<1%	0%
Incidents by gender***	Male	43.9%	40.6%	41.4%	38.5%
	Female	54.2%	58.3%	56.5%	59.9%
Participation by gender***	Male	45.5%	47.1%	45.5%	44.7%
	Female	49.4%	51%	51.9%	52.0%

*Incidents reported per 1,000 program participation days

**Severity ratings for incidents with adverse outcomes (including injury, illness, psychosocial, environmental, equipment and missing people)

*** Participants categorised as "Other Gender" represented 1.3% of the reported participants involved in incidents and program participation.

The research team would like to take this opportunity to thank our funding partners and participants for their continued support and contribution to the Understanding and Preventing Led Outdoor Accidents Dataset (UPLOADS) Research Program.

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