

# NATIONAL REPORT ON DROWNING 2018



Support:

## PORTUGAL



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# Drowning Observatory

The Portugal National Report on Drowning 2018 was created with data obtained by the Drowning Observatory, created by the Portuguese Lifesaving Federation in 2017, after a recommendation from the World Health Organization and the International Lifesaving Federation, which catalogued drowning as a public health problem.



This observatory collects digitally the press clippings, of the deaths by drowning in Portugal, registering a vast amount of variables for each one of these events, among which: date, place, type of place, etc.

Experts then analyze the data, so that quarterly and annual reports can be produced and published in <http://observatoriodoafogamento.blogspot.com/>.

Thus, this report is part of the global strategy to prevent drowning, in its first link: PREVENTION:



A special thanks and recognition to the International Lifesaving Federation - Europe, Federación Latinoamericana de Salvamento y Socorrismo, Fundação Vodafone Portugal and VJR for the support to the Portuguese Lifesaving Federation (FEPONS), in order to prevent drowning.



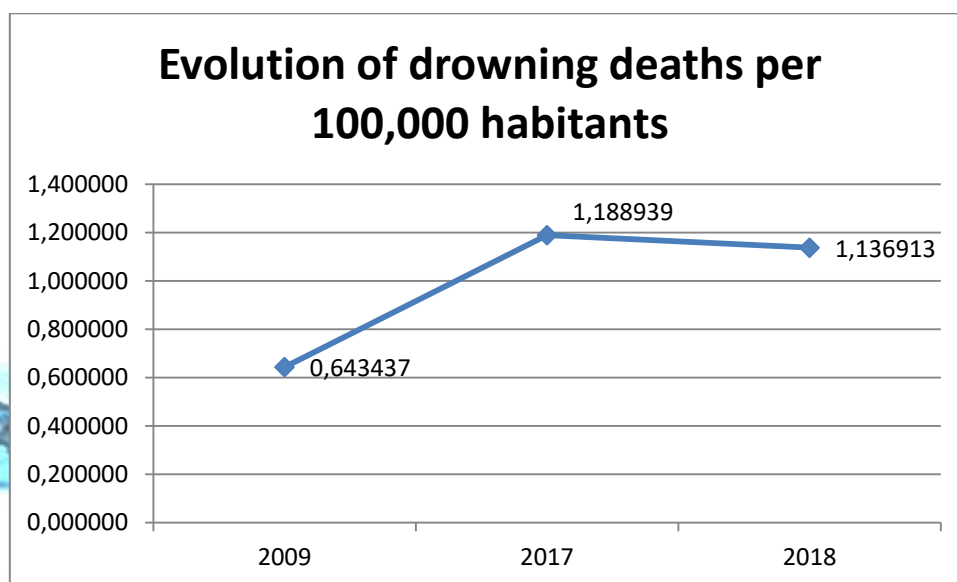
# Quantity?



In 2018 the Drowning Observatory recorded 117 drowning deaths in Portugal, which corresponds to a statistic of:

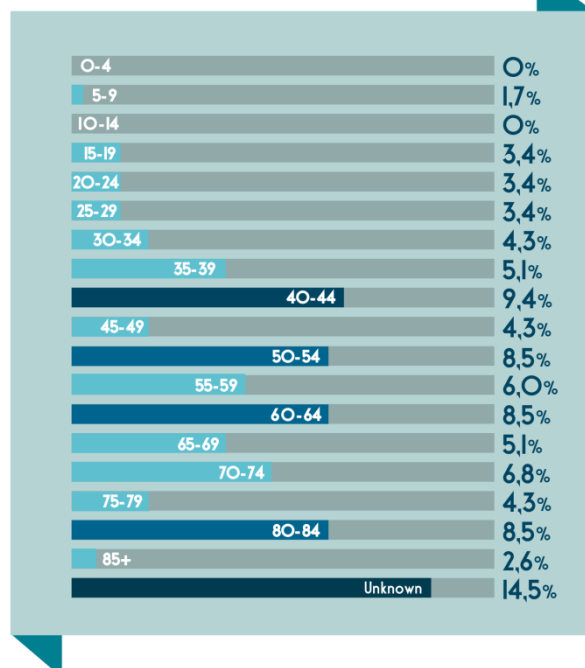


Compared with 2017, where there were 122 deaths from drowning (1.188939 per 100,000 habitants), **a 4.1% drop in drowning deaths in 2018 was observed.**



# Ages?

Regarding ages, the register indicates that the age group between 40 to 44 years old, represents the highest percentage of drowning deaths, with 9,4%, followed by 50 to 54, 60 to 64 and 80 to 84 years old, with 8,5% each.



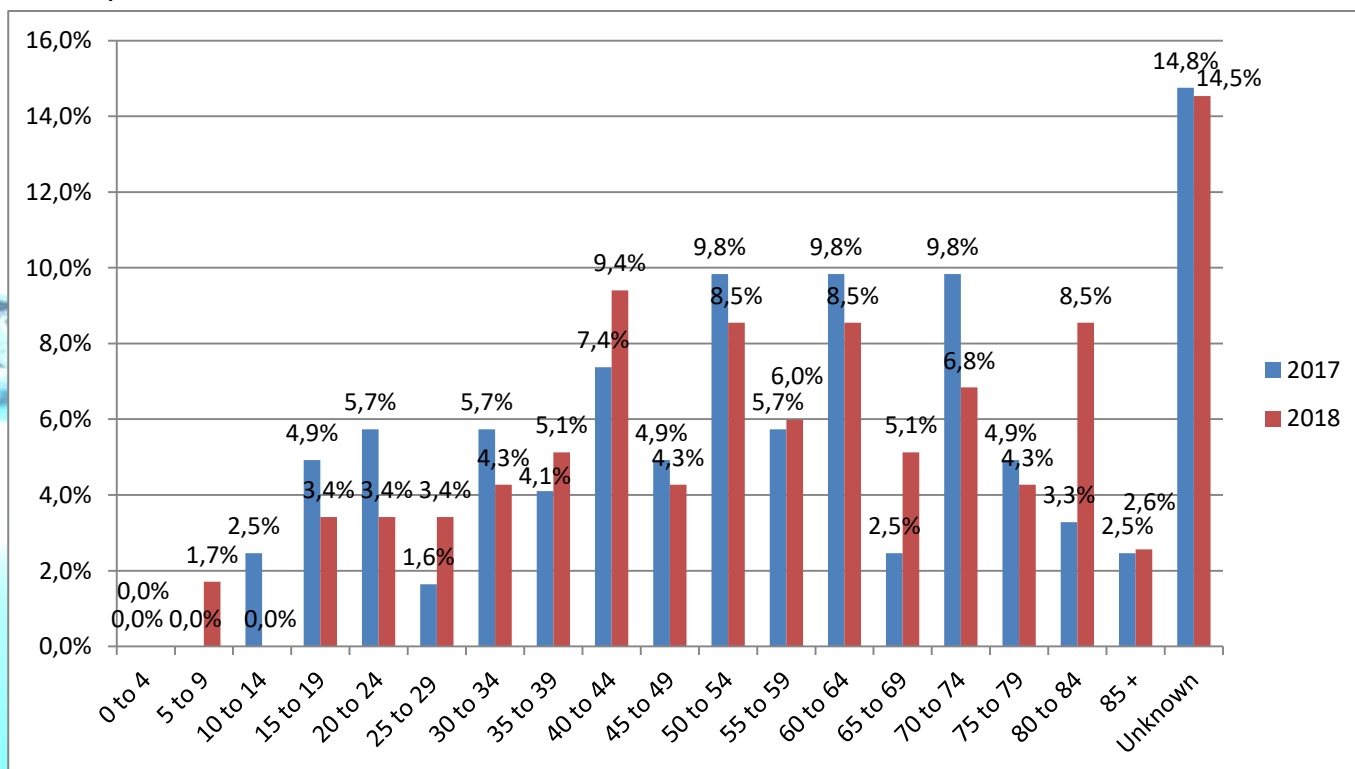
In contrast to the world average recorded by the World Health Organization in its 2014 report, drowning deaths in Portugal in 2018 were **mainly in the age group above 40 years (64,1%)**.

Age groups	Quantity	Percentage
0 to 4	0	0,0%
5 to 9	2	1,7%
10 to 14	0	0,0%
15 to 19	4	3,4%
20 to 24	4	3,4%
25 to 29	4	3,4%
30 to 34	5	4,3%
35 to 39	6	5,1%
40 to 44	11	9,4%
45 to 49	5	4,3%
50 to 54	10	8,5%
55 to 59	7	6,0%
60 to 64	10	8,5%
65 to 69	6	5,1%
70 to 74	8	6,8%
75 to 79	5	4,3%
80 to 84	10	8,5%
85 +	3	2,6%
Unknown	17	14,5%

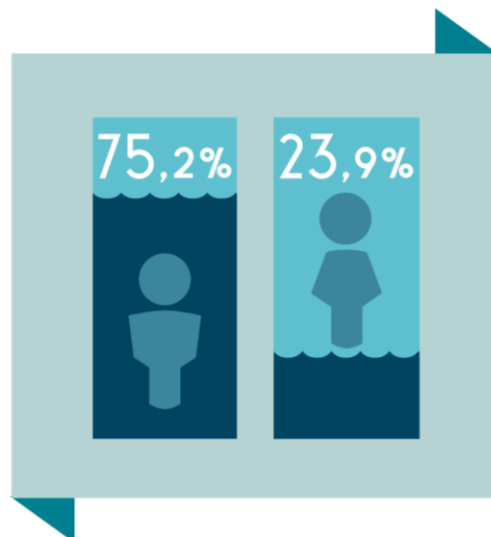
These were geographically distributed as follows:

Age groups	Açores	Aveiro	Beja	Braga	Bragança	Castelo Branco	Coimbra	Évora	Faro	Guarda	Leiria	Lisboa	Madeira	Portalegre	Porto	Santarém	Setúbal	Viana do Castelo	Vila Real	Viseu
0 to 4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5 to 9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
10 to 14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15 to 19	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1
20 to 24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0
25 to 29	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
30 to 34	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35 to 39	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
40 to 44	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	3	0	0	1	0	0
45 to 49	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
50 to 54	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	3	0	0	0
55 to 59	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
60 to 64	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0
65 to 69	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
70 to 74	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	2	0	0
75 to 79	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	0
80 to 84	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	1	2	0	0
85 +	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unknown	1	6	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	3	0	0	0	1	0

In comparison with 2017 we have:



# Gender?



The 2018 records indicate that male are over represented among the amount of drowning deaths.

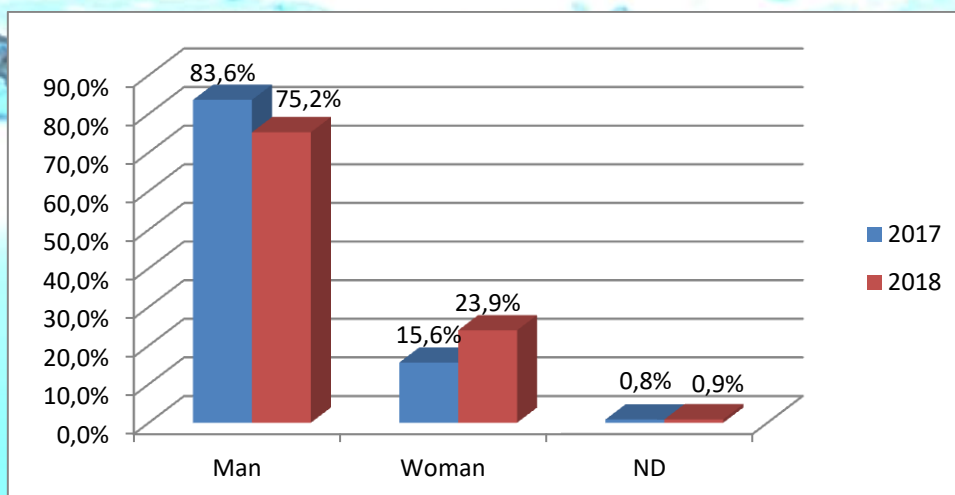
Compared to the world average recorded by the World Health Organization in its 2014 report, indicating that men are twice as likely to drown than women, in 2018 in Portugal, **the likelihood of men dying from drowning is 3,14 times higher than women's.**

Gender	Quantity	%
Man	88	75,2%
Woman	28	23,9%
Unknown	1	0,9%

These were geographically distributed as follows:

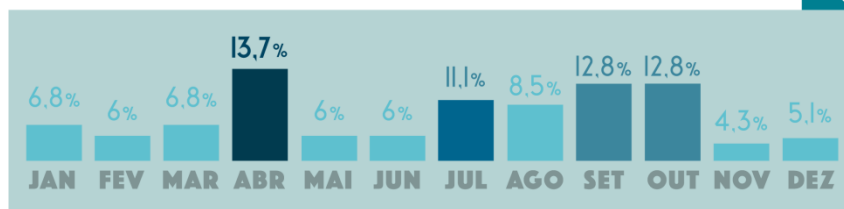
Gender	Açores	Aveiro	Beja	Braga	Bragança	Castelo Branco	Coimbra	Évora	Faro	Guarda	Leiria	Lisboa	Madeira	Portalegre	Porto	Santarém	Setúbal	Viana do Castelo	Vila Real	Viseu
Man	3	7	5	5	0	1	1	3	9	2	4	11	4	0	13	2	10	6	0	2
Woman	0	4	1	3	1	0	0	0	1	1	2	3	0	1	4	1	2	2	2	0
Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0

In comparison with 2017 we have:



# When?

(Months)



With regard to monthly records, the month of April stands out in 2018, with the highest number of deaths from drowning, followed by September and October.

It should be noted that the records of the summer months (May to September) are lower (44,4%) than those of the months outside the bathing season (55,6%).

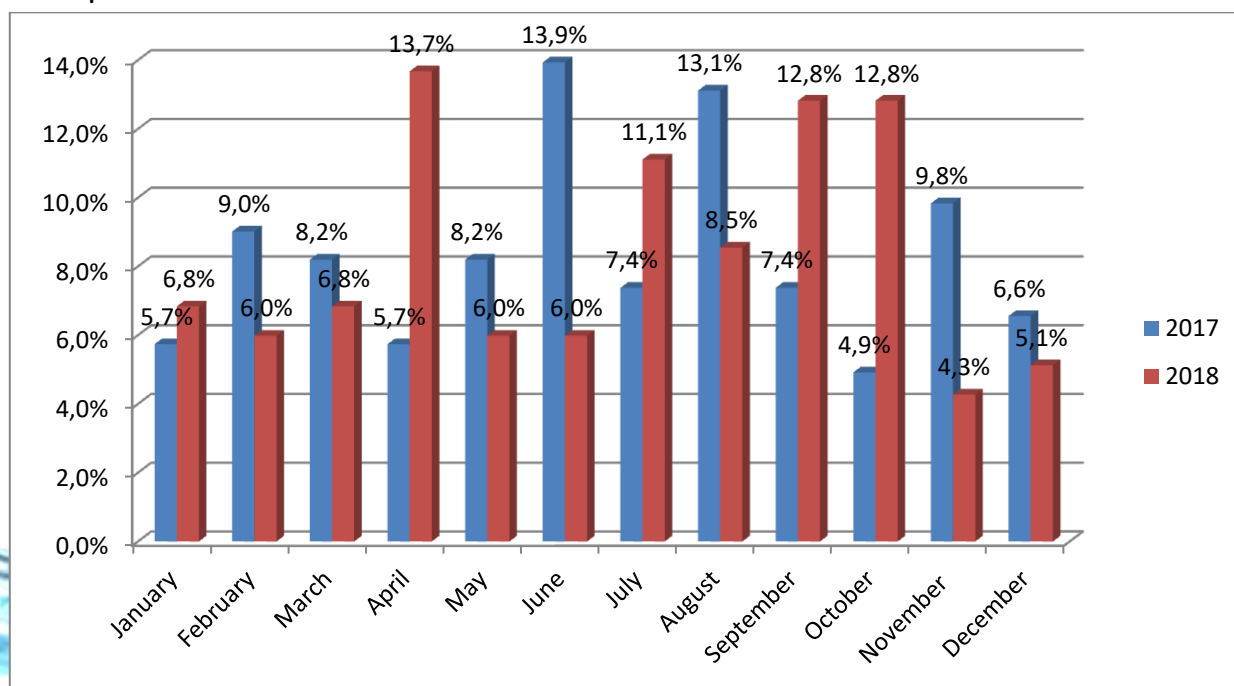
Month	Quantity	%
January	8	6,8%
February	7	6,0%
March	8	6,8%
April	16	13,7%
May	7	6,0%
June	7	6,0%
July	13	11,1%
August	10	8,5%
September	15	12,8%
October	15	12,8%
November	5	4,3%
December	6	5,1%

On a quarterly basis, the third quarter of 2018 recorded the highest figure with 32,5% of deaths from drowning, followed by the second quarter with 25,6%, followed by the fourth quarter with 22,2% and finally the first quarter with 19,7%.

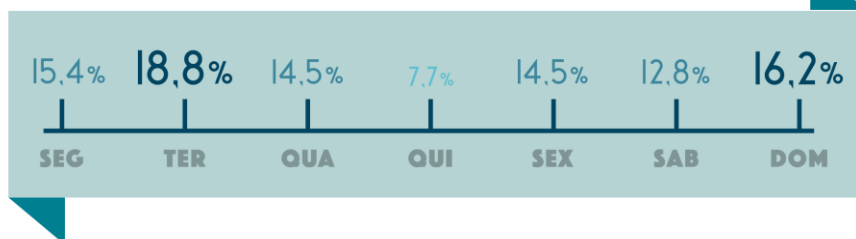
These were geographically distributed as follows:

Month	Açores	Aveiro	Beja	Braga	Bragança	Castelo Branco	Coimbra	Évora	Faro	Guarda	Leiria	Lisboa	Madeira	Portalegre	Porto	Santarém	Setúbal	Viana do Castelo	Vila Real	Viseu
January	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	2	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
February	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	1	0	0	2	0	0
March	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	1	1	0	0
April	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	2	1	4	4	0	0
May	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
June	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1
July	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	4	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	2	0	0	0
August	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1
September	0	1	0	2	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	2	1	2	0
October	2	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	4	0	1	0	0	0
November	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
December	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

In comparison with 2017 we have:



## (Days of the Week)



On a weekly basis, Tuesday stands out as the day with the most death toll from drowning in 2018.

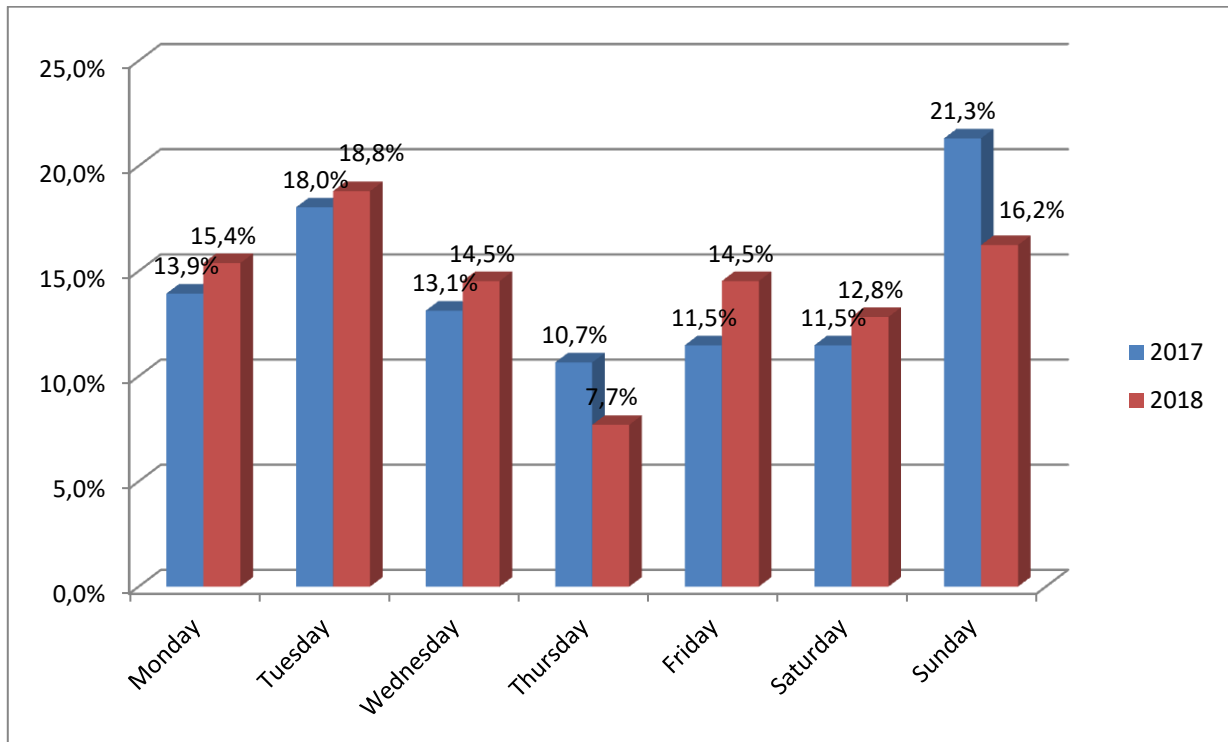
Days	Quantity	%
Monday	18	15,4%
Tuesday	22	18,8%
Wednesday	17	14,5%
Thursday	9	7,7%
Friday	17	14,5%
Saturday	15	12,8%
Sunday	19	16,2%

Take note of the statistical difference between Saturday (12,8%) and Sunday (16,2%), and between Tuesday (18,8%) and the remaining weekdays.

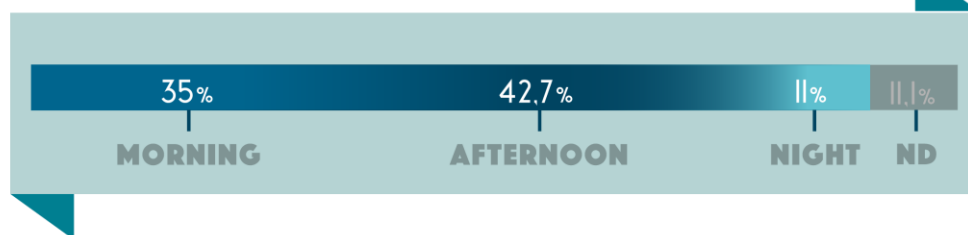
These were geographically distributed as follows:

Day	Açores	Aveiro	Beja	Braga	Bragança	Castelo Branco	Coimbra	Évora	Faro	Guarda	Leiria	Lisboa	Madeira	Portalegre	Porto	Santarém	Setúbal	Viana do Castelo	Vila Real	Viseu
Monday	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	2	0	0	3	0	4	0	0	1
Tuesday	0	1	2	1	0	0	1	0	3	2	1	3	0	1	3	1	2	1	0	0
Wednesday	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	2	1	0	4	1	3	2	0	0
Thursday	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Friday	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	2	2	0	1	1	2	0	2	1	2	0	0	0
Saturday	0	3	1	2	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	2	1	0
Sunday	0	2	2	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	2	0	1	3	1	1

In comparison with 2017 we have:



## (Daily Risk)



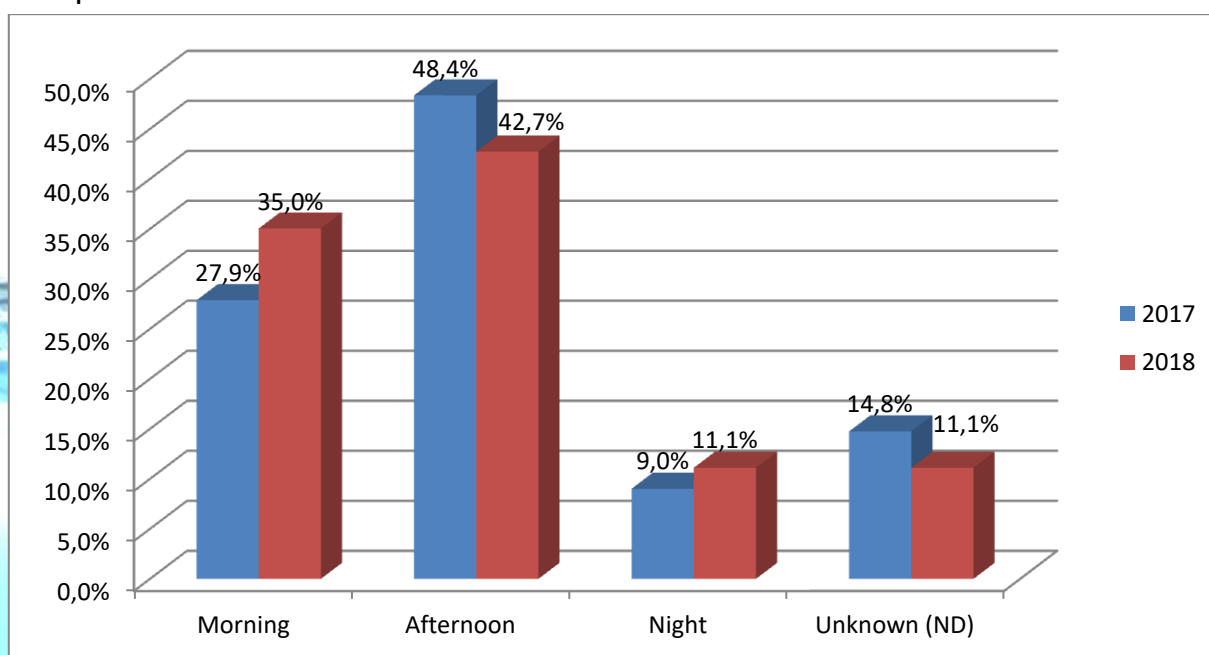
For the periods of the day, the afternoon is the time when the greatest number of drowning occurs.

Periods	Quantity	%
Morning	34	27,9%
Afternoon	59	48,4%
Night	11	9,0%
Unknown (ND)	18	14,8%

These were geographically distributed as follows:

Periods	Açores	Aveiro	Beja	Braga	Bragança	Castelo Branco	Coimbra	Évora	Faro	Guarda	Leiria	Lisboa	Madeira	Portalegre	Porto	Santarém	Setúbal	Viana do Castelo	Vila Real	Viseu
Morning	1	7	1	2	0	0	1	2	4	1	3	7	0	1	2	1	4	3	1	0
Afternoon	0	3	4	4	0	0	0	1	6	2	1	5	1	0	10	2	8	0	1	2
Night	2	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	0	0	3	0	0
Unknown (ND)	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	0	5	0	0	2	0	0

In comparison with 2017 we have:



# Where?

## (Types of Locations)

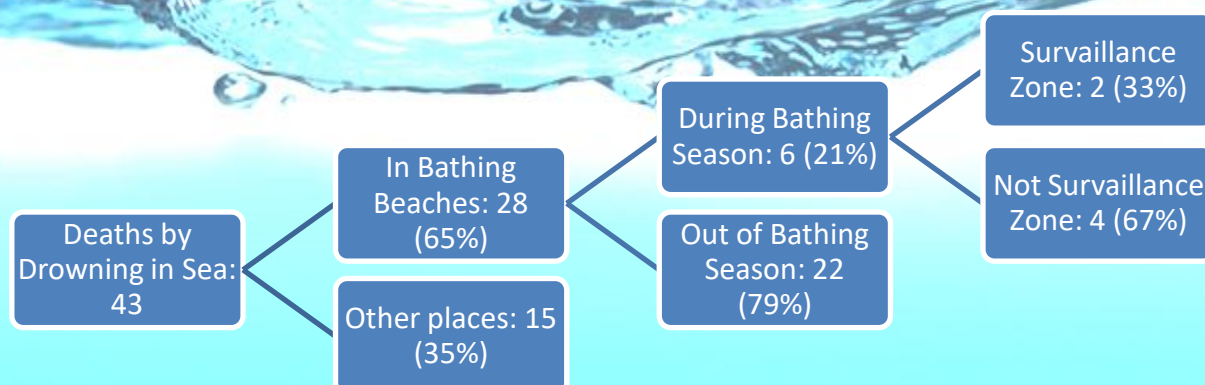
In terms of locations, the sea stands out with 36,8% of deaths from drowning in 2018, then rivers with 29,9% and dam with 10,3%.



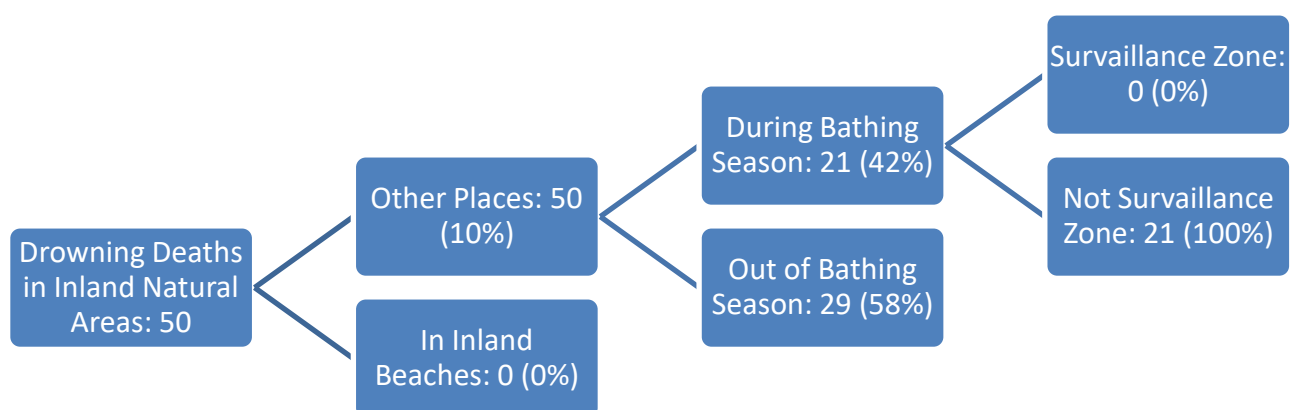
The total distribution was as follows:

Locals	Quantity	%
Sea	43	36,8%
River	35	29,9%
Dam	12	10,3%
Well	8	6,8%
Domestic Swimming Pool	6	5,1%
Water Tank	4	3,4%
Quarry	3	2,6%
Public Pool	2	1,7%
Ditch	2	1,7%
Puddle	1	0,9%
Water Channel	0	0,0%
Lagoon	0	0,0%
Marina	0	0,0%
Hotel Pool	0	0,0%
Stream	0	0,0%
Beverage Silo	0	0,0%
Unknown	1	0,9%

Regarding the location of records at sea, we have:



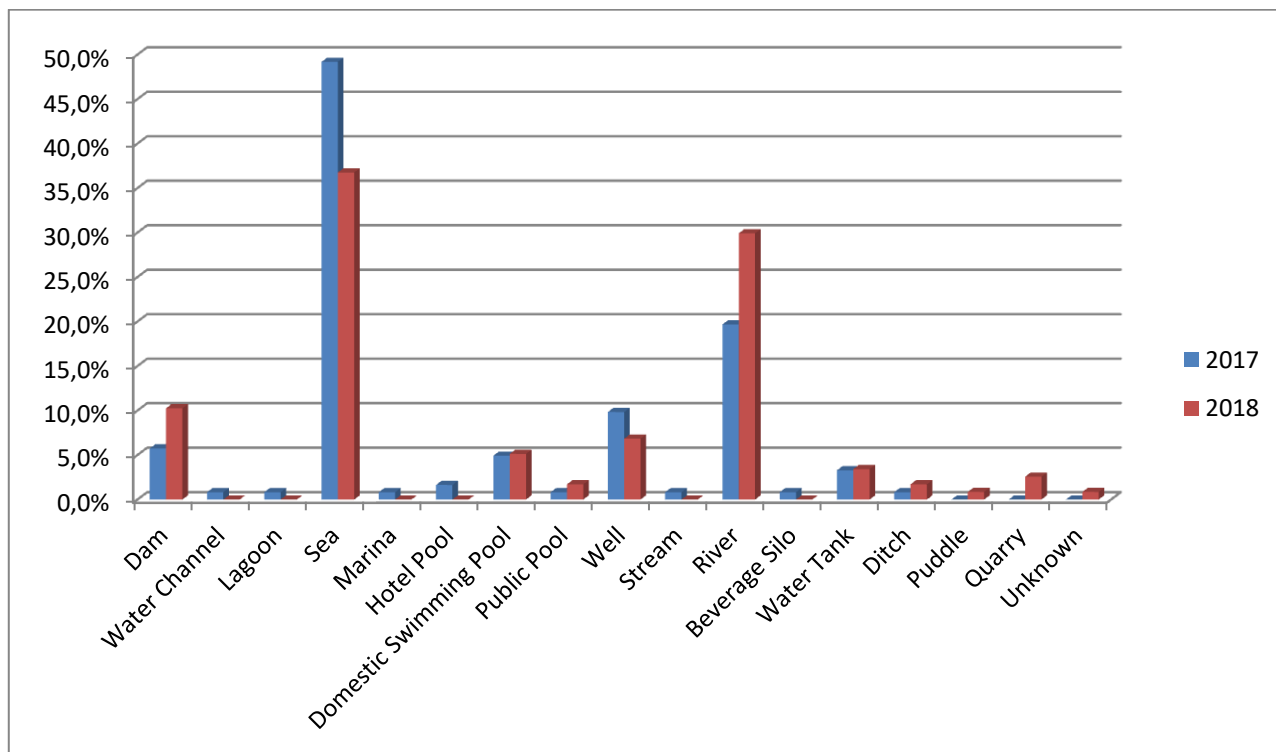
Regarding the location of the records in natural areas of the interior, we have:



These were geographically distributed as follows:

Locals	Açores	Aveiro	Beja	Braga	Bragança	Castelo Branco	Coimbra	Évora	Faro	Guarda	Leiria	Lisboa	Madeira	Portalegre	Porto	Santarém	Setúbal	Viana do Castelo	Vila Real	Viseu
Dam	0	0	3	2	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	0
Water Channel	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Puddle	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lagoon	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sea	3	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	4	10	4	0	5	0	6	1	0	0
Marina	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Quarry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hotel Pool	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Domestic Swimming Pool	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0
Public Pool	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Well	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Stream	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
River	0	2	2	3	1	0	1	0	2	1	0	3	0	0	7	1	2	7	1	2
Beverage Silo	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Water Tank	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0
Ditch	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Unknown	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

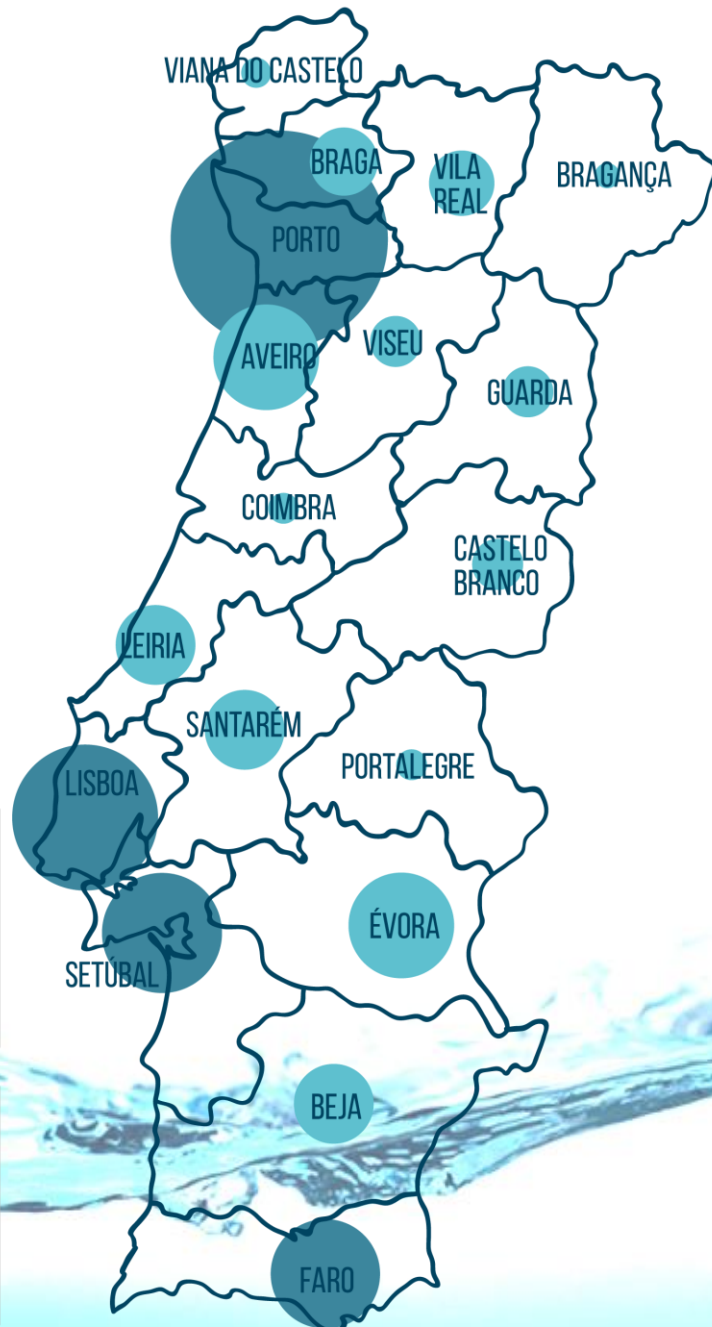
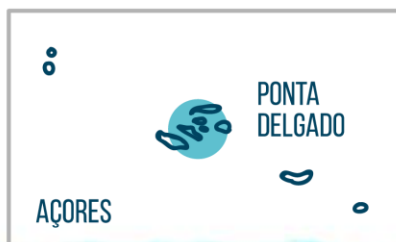
In comparison with 2017 we have:



## (Districts)

In terms of geographic distribution, the districts of Porto (15,4%), Lisbon (12,0%), and Setúbal (10,3%) stands out.

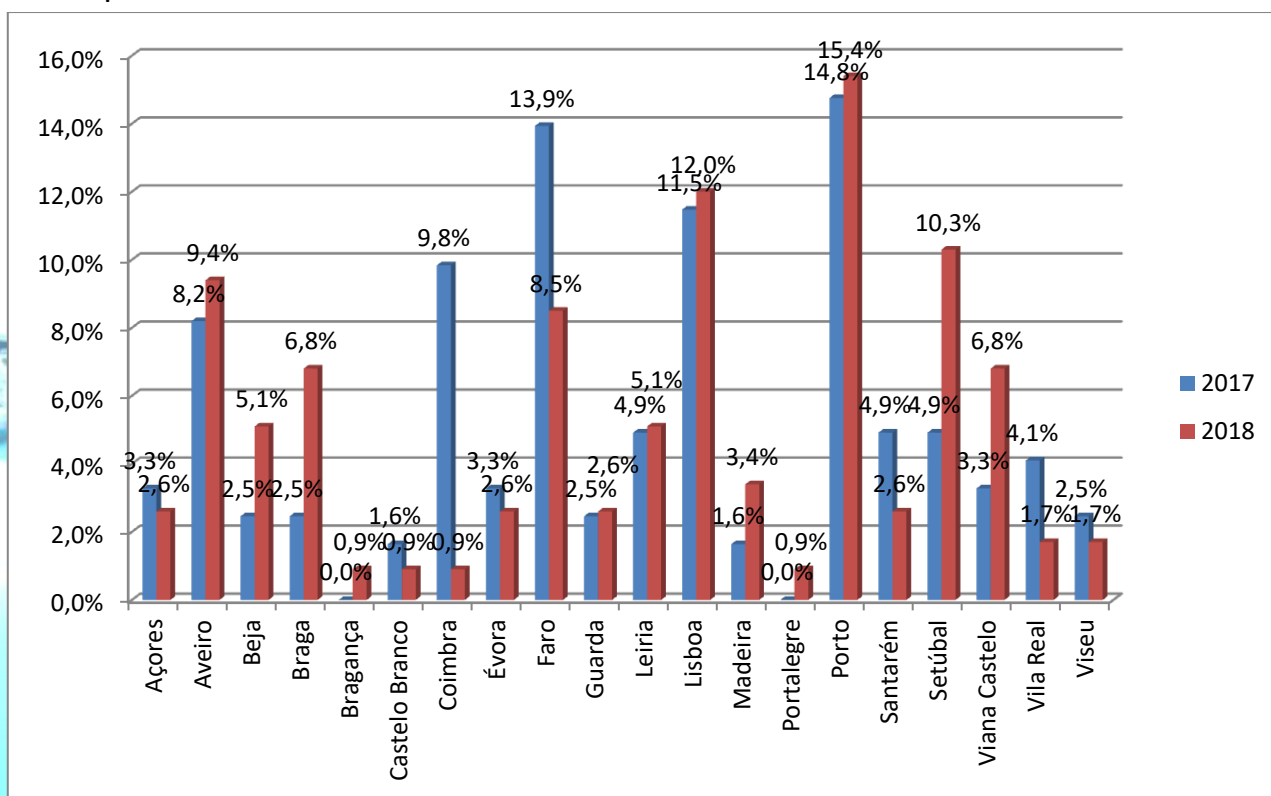
AÇORES .....	2,6%
AVEIRO .....	9,4%
BEJA.....	5,1%
BRAGA.....	6,8%
BRAGANÇA .....	0,9%
CASTELO BRANCO....	0,9%
COIMBRA.....	0,9%
ÉVORA .....	2,6%
FARO.....	8,5%
GUARDA .....	2,6%
LEIRIA .....	5,1%
LISBOA .....	12%
MADEIRA .....	3,4%
PORTALEGRE .....	0,9%
PORTO .....	15,4%
SANTARÉM.....	2,6%
SETÚBAL .....	10,3%
VIANA CASTELO.....	6,8%
VILA REAL.....	1,7%
VISEU .....	1,7%



The statistical data are distributed as follows:

Districts	Quantity	%
Açores	3	2,6%
Aveiro	11	9,4%
Beja	6	5,1%
Braga	8	6,8%
Bragança	1	0,9%
Castelo Branco	1	0,9%
Coimbra	1	0,9%
Évora	3	2,6%
Faro	10	8,5%
Guarda	3	2,6%
Leiria	6	5,1%
Lisboa	14	12,0%
Madeira	4	3,4%
Portalegre	1	0,9%
Porto	18	15,4%
Santarém	3	2,6%
Setúbal	12	10,3%
Viana Castelo	8	6,8%
Vila Real	2	1,7%
Viseu	2	1,7%

In comparison with 2017 we have:



# Doing?

Regarding the activity that was being carried out when drowning death was recorded, stands out the recreational activity of bathing (16,2%), the high percentage of not knowing what was being performed (39,3%) and a high value of the sum of fishing activities (17,1%).

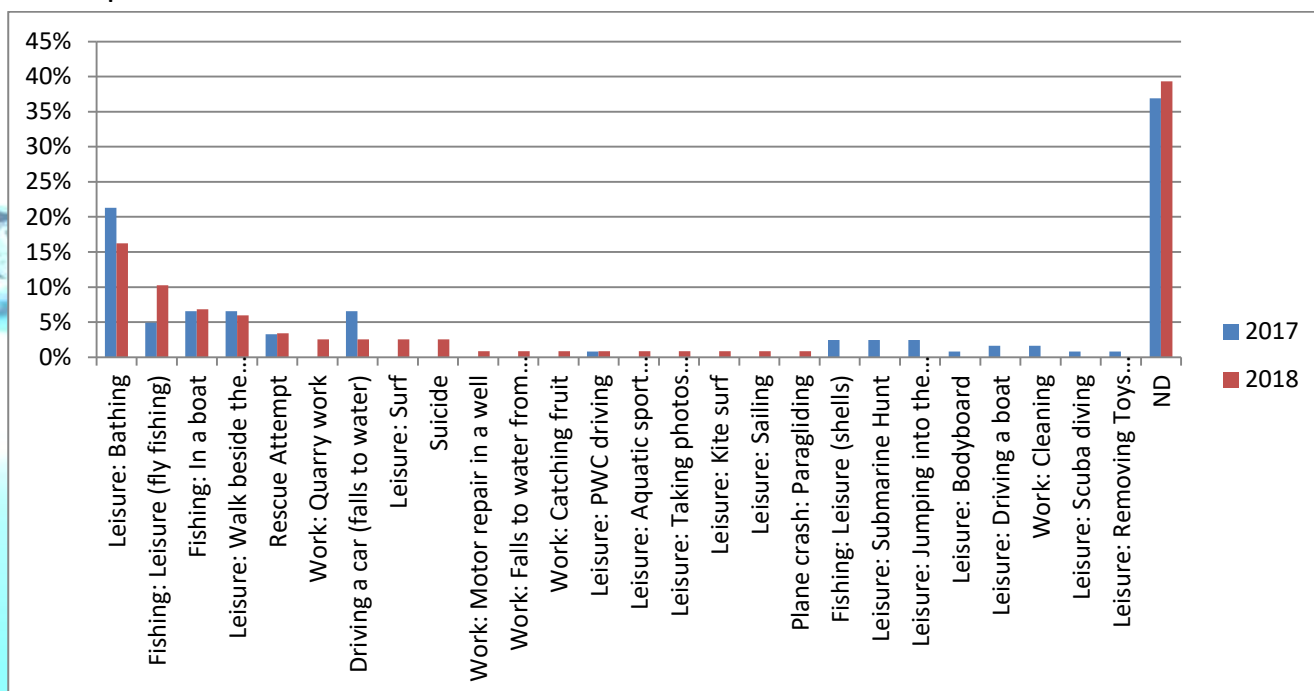
The total records were:

Activities	Quantity	%
Leisure: Bathing	19	16,2%
Fishing: Leisure (fly fishing)	12	10,3%
Fishing: In a boat	8	6,8%
Leisure: Walk beside the water	7	6,0%
Rescue Attempt	4	3,4%
Work: Quarry work	3	2,6%
Driving a car (falls to water)	3	2,6%
Leisure: Surf	3	2,6%
Suicide	3	2,6%
Work: Motor repair in a well	1	0,9%
Work: Falls to water from a boat	1	0,9%
Work: Catching fruit	1	0,9%
Leisure: PWC driving	1	0,9%
Leisure: Aquatic sport (rings pull from a boat)	1	0,9%
Leisure: Taking photos near the water	1	0,9%
Leisure: Kite surf	1	0,9%
Leisure: Sailing	1	0,9%
Plane crash: Paragliding	1	0,9%
Unknown	46	39,3%

These were geographically distributed as follows:

Activities	Açores	Aveiro	Beja	Braga	Castelo Branco	Coimbra	Évora	Faro	Guarda	Leiria	Lisboa	Madeira	Porto	Santarém	Setúbal	Viana do Castelo	Vila Real	Viseu
Leisure: Bathing	0	3	0	2	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	1	1	0	2	1	3	0
Fishing: Leisure (fly fishing)	1	3	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	2
Fishing: In a boat	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1
Leisure: Walk beside the water	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	0	0	1
Rescue Attempt	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	2	0
Work: Quarry work	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Driving a car (falls to water)	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Leisure: Surf	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
Suicide	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2
Work: Motor repair in a well	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Work: Falls to water from a boat	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Work: Catching fruit	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Leisure: PWC driving	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Leisure: Aquatic sport (rings pull from a boat)	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Leisure: Taking photos near the water	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Leisure: Kite surf	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Leisure: Sailing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Plane crash: Paragliding	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Unknown	0	3	1	4	1	0	1	0	3	3	4	7	0	1	11	0	3	2

In comparison with 2017 we have:

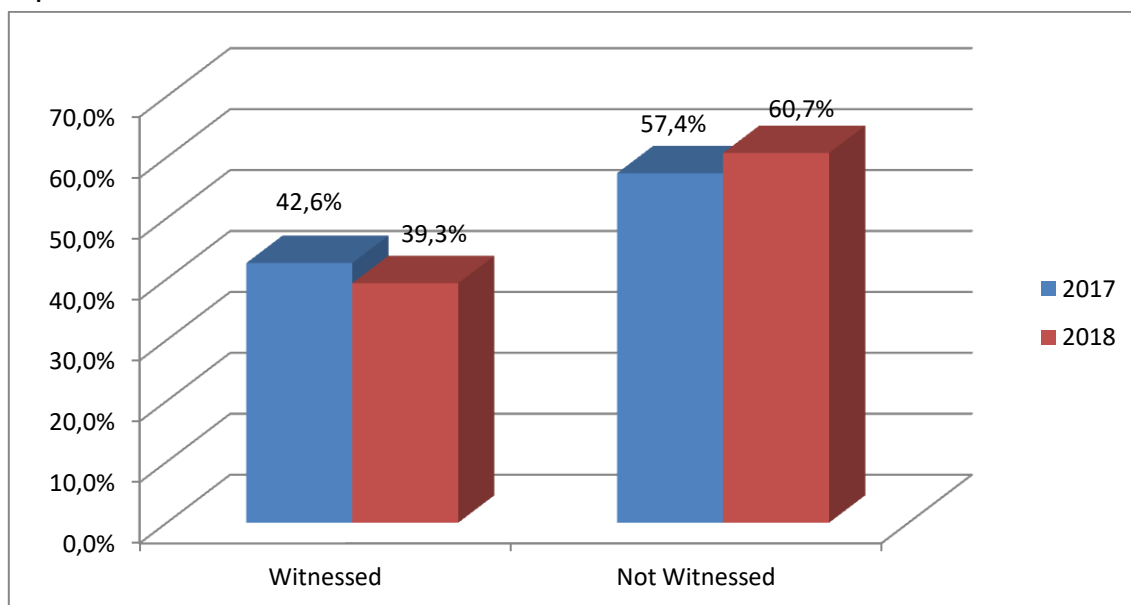


# Witnessed?

With regard to the presence of someone at the moment, mostly (60,7%), of deaths from drowning were not witnessed:

Situation	Quantity	%
Witnessed	46	39,3%
Not Witnessed	71	60,7%

In comparison with 2017 we have:

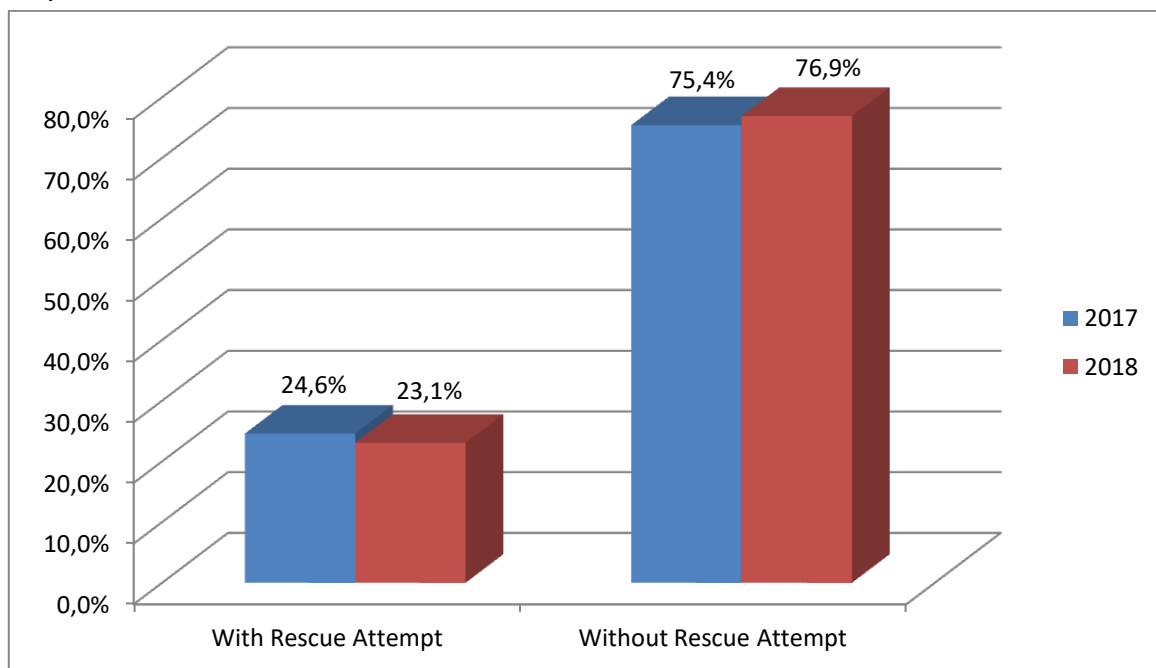


# Rescue Attempt?

With regard to the attempt by somebody to carry out aquatic rescue, in a great majority (76,9%), of deaths from drowning, this did not happen:

Situation	Quantity	%
With Rescue Attempt	27	23,1%
Without Rescue Attempt	90	76,9%

In comparison with 2017 we have:

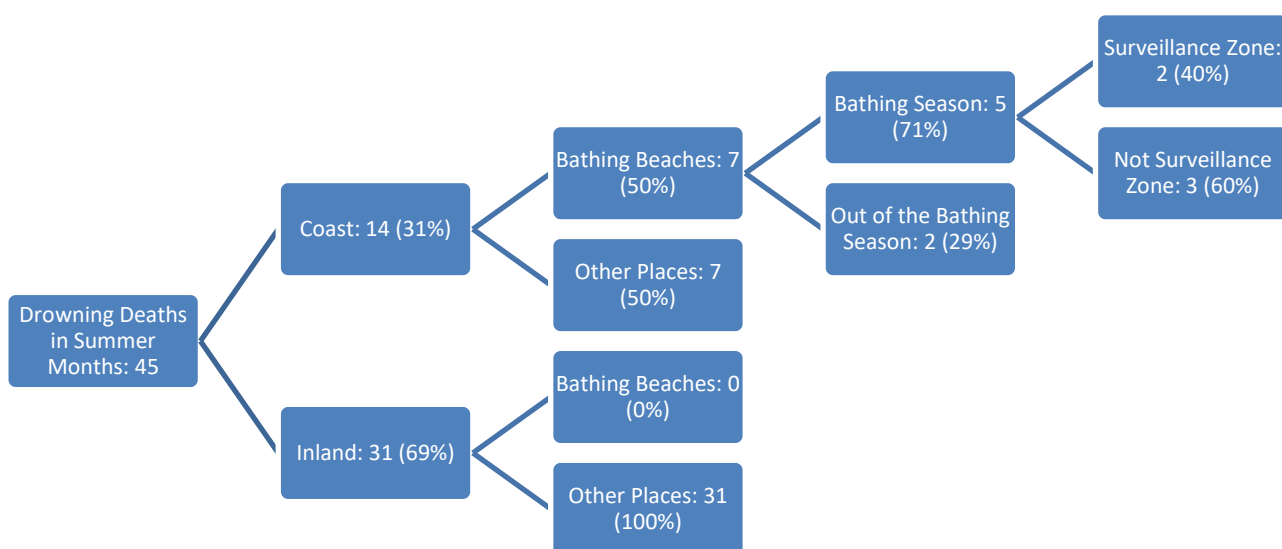


# Summer Months?

In the months of June to September 2018, 45 deaths from drowning occurred, compared to the 2017 data (51 deaths from drowning), indicates a decrease of 11,8%.

It is recalled that in 2017, of the 51 drowning deaths recorded in these months, 25 were on the coast and 26 in inland places of the country.

Thus in 2018 there were:



**Support:**



**Fundação  
Vodafone  
Portugal**

