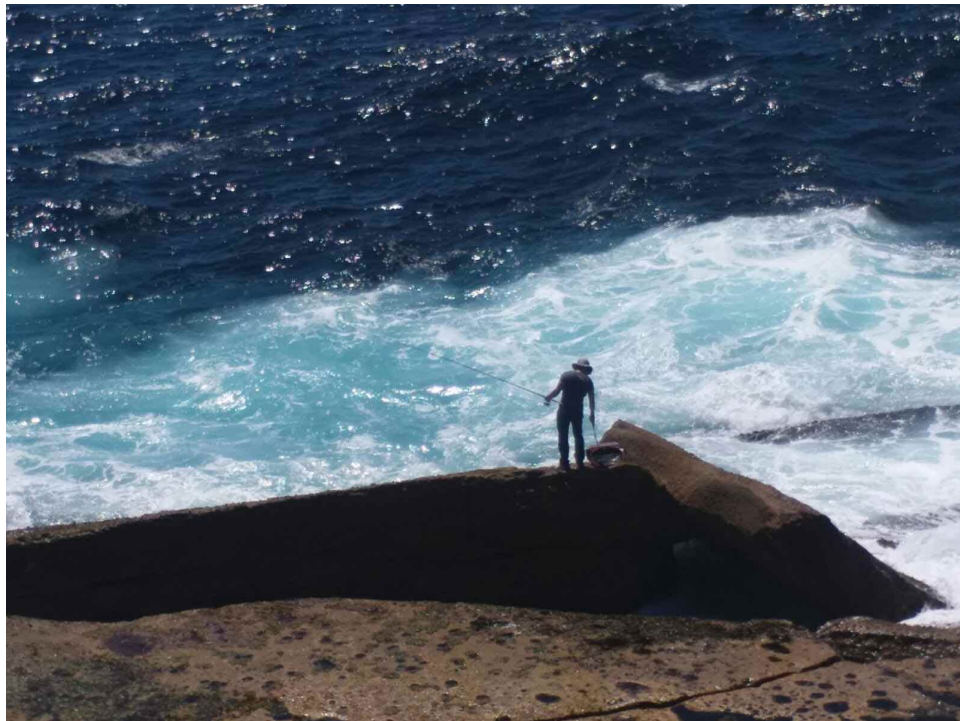


ROCK FISHING LIFEJACKETS STUDY REPORT

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND
RANDWICK CITY COUNCIL



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The information and advice expressed in this report is made to the best of the authors' knowledge and beliefs based upon the information available at the time of preparation. The views are those of the consultants, not necessarily those of the NSW Department of Justice's Office of Emergency Management.

Table of Contents

Executive Summary	6
Comparison of 2013 and 2017 surveys	8
Introduction	12
Demographic data from Australia Census 2016	13
Survey methodology and sample size.....	14
Interviews and report contents	16
Findings	17
Demographic data from this survey.....	17
Rock fishing safety messages	22
Rock fishing behaviour	33
Attitude toward rock fishing	42
Emergency readiness.....	45
Non-Fatal Drowning Incidents and Near Misses.....	48
Appendices	49
Appendix 1: Interview schedule.....	49
Appendix 2: English version of survey	50

List of Tables and Figures

Figure 1 Comparison of 2013 and 2017 surveys	8
Figure 2 Ten-year drowning death activity along the NSW coastline	12
Figure 3 Country of birth for population in Randwick LGA	13
Figure 4 Language spoken at home for population in Randwick	14
Figure 5 Country of birth of 2017 respondents.....	15
Figure 6 Suburb of respondents.....	16
Figure 7 Gender of survey respondents.....	17
Figure 8 Age of survey respondents.....	17
Figure 9 Language spoken at home of survey respondents.....	18
Figure 10 Years of residency in Australia	19
Figure 11 Length of participation in rock fishing.....	20
Figure 12 Length of participation by rock fishing behaviour – new rock fishers.....	20
Figure 13 Age of new rock fishers	21
Figure 14 Length of participation by rock fishing behaviour – veteran rock fishers.....	21
Figure 15 Age of veteran rock fishers.....	21
Figure 16 Recall of rock fishing safety messages	22
Figure 17 Information source of rock fishing safety messages	22
Figure 18 Awareness of rock fishing safety messages by period of residency in Australia.....	23
Figure 19 Awareness of fatality figures.....	24
Figure 20 Aided recall of fatality signage	25
Figure 21 Fatality signage.....	25
Figure 22 Awareness of mandatory lifejackets for rock fishing in the Randwick LGA	26
Figure 23 Awareness of lifejackets’ being mandatory for rock fishing in the Randwick LGA by period of residency in Australia.....	26
Figure 24 Awareness of lifejackets’ being mandatory for rock fishing in the Randwick LGA by language spoken at home	27
Figure 25 Awareness of lifejackets’ being mandatory for rock fishing in the Randwick LGA by frequency of visit to the particular spot for rock fishing.....	28
Figure 26 Recall of information about lifejackets being mandatory for rock fishing in the Randwick LGA by period of residency in Australia	29
Figure 27 Recall of information about lifejackets being mandatory for rock fishing in the Randwick LGA by language spoken at home	30
Figure 28 Source of information of mandatory lifejackets in the Randwick LGA.....	31
Figure 29 Aided recall of “It’s the law” signage and “It’s the law” sign	31
Figure 30 Awareness of safety messages by language.....	32
Figure 31 Frequency of rock fishing visits	33
Figure 32 Visit to location of interview in the past 12 months	33
Figure 33 Who respondents fish with	34
Figure 34 Reasons for choosing this fishing location	35
Figure 35 Other rock fishing sites respondents have fished	35
Figure 36 Information source about rock fishing location	36
Figure 37 Information source about rock fishing.....	37
Figure 38 Checking information before rock fishing	38
Figure 39 Information source for checking aspects before rock fishing	38
Figure 40 Rock fishing behaviour – fishing with friends, wearing a lifejacket, gumboots or waders, shoes with non-slip soles or cleats.....	39

Figure 41 Safety standards of lifejacket	40
Figure 42 Rock fishing behaviour – check weather forecast, drink alcohol, turn back on sea, have mobile phone, get swept off feet.....	40
Figure 43 Reasons for not wearing a lifejacket	41
Figure 44 Attitude toward rock fishing – getting swept off rocks, riskiness of rock fishing.....	42
Figure 45 Frequency of wearing a lifejacket/ buoyancy aid when rock fishing by period of residence in Australia	43
Figure 46 Frequency of wearing a lifejacket/ buoyancy aid when rock fishing by language spoken at home	44
Figure 47 Swimming ability	45
Figure 48 Frequency of wearing a lifejacket by swimming ability	46
Figure 49 Life saving skills (First aid and resuscitation skills)	47

Executive Summary

On 1 December 2016, the *Rock Fishing Safety Act 2016 (NSW)* came into effect, and mandated the use of an appropriate lifejacket whenever anyone (whether adult or child) is rock fishing (or assisting someone rock fishing) within the Randwick Local Government Area (LGA) in Sydney. The NSW Department of Justice's Office of Emergency Management, and Randwick City Council, commissioned this study to assess rock fishers' knowledge of the mandatory requirements of wearing lifejackets while rock fishing and determine the effectiveness of safety messages.

This report presents data collected via survey over the course of nine scheduled interview days between 25 November 2017 and 29 December 2017 by Multicultural Marketing and Management (MMM). These interviews were conducted by bilingual interviewers at known rock fishing sites in the Randwick Local Government Area.

This survey is modeled on a similar survey undertaken by Randwick City Council in 2013. The results of that initial survey provide a baseline from which to measure change in the attitudes of rock fishers between 2013 and 2017 after the *Rock Fishing Safety Act 2016* commenced.

Methodology

The 124 face-to-face interviews were conducted based on quota sample methodology (40 English speakers/80 CALD – people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds). In each location, we had two or three interviewers work together. Interviews were conducted using a questionnaire translated into simplified Chinese (Mandarin), traditional Chinese (Cantonese), Korean, Vietnamese and English.

Key findings

The proportion of rock fishers in 2017 who reported they always wear lifejackets while rock fishing has only slightly increased from the 2013 survey, with 27% of interviewees in 2017 always wearing a lifejacket compared to 24% in 2013. However, 59% of respondents said they wear a lifejacket while rock fishing at least some of the time (compared to 51% in 2013). This could be attributed to the effectiveness of news coverage of the rock fishing and drowning deaths, with 70% of the 2017 survey respondents aware of the deaths as compared to 58% in the 2013 survey.

Slightly more than half (55%, 68/124) of survey respondents reported that they were aware that lifejackets are now mandatory while rock fishing in the Randwick LGA. Approximately half of survey respondents (49%) reported having seen or heard information about the new law in the last 12 months and 52% said that they had seen the "It's the law" sign when it was shown to them. However, only 18% of those who did not wear lifejackets on the day of the survey said they did not know it was mandatory. Implicitly, 82% of those who did not wear a lifejacket (i.e. 82% of 76 = 62) knew that their use is mandatory. There was a slight discrepancy of six respondents (68-62). Recall of information about the new mandatory lifejacket law was highest among the Korean-speaking respondents (62%) and lowest among the Vietnamese-speaking respondents (20%).

It is significant that first-time rock fishers at a site were only half as likely to be aware of the mandatory lifejacket law in the Randwick LGA (34% awareness among first-time fishers at a site, compared to 67% for all other rock fishers).

Two-thirds (65%) of respondents have seen rock fishing safety messages in the past 12 months. The primary message source was the Internet at 44%.

A majority (70%) of the survey respondents were aware that 19 rock fishers died in the Randwick area since 2005, due to rock fishing accidents. Seventy-two per cent said the fatality figure influenced their attitude to rock fishing safety and yet only one third (36%) said it concerned them. It can be assumed that some respondents may believe that "it will never happen to them" while others are confident in their safety precaution skills. About half of the respondents remembered seeing the sign with the fatality figure before the day of the survey. They responded positively, saying the sign was likely to influence their behaviour while rock fishing (77%).

Only 13% of respondents cited safety as the factor in their decision to fish at a location. It is encouraging that the Randwick LGA rock fishers now fish with a friend more often. However, only 35% of the respondents always wear shoes with non-slip soles or cleats in 2017, a significant drop from 2013 survey. Among those who wear a lifejacket (59%), a majority – 77% – said their lifejacket/buoyancy aid was Australian Standards approved.

Over one third (38%) of respondents thought that rock fishing is no more risky than other water activities. 30% disagreed or strongly disagreed that getting swept off rocks while fishing is likely to result in their drowning.

Almost half – 44% – do not think a lifejacket is necessary when rock fishing and a similar percentage do not wear a lifejacket while rock fishing. Those percentages are not greatly affected by the length of residence in Australia or the extent of experience of the rock fishers.

Despite awareness of the number of rock fishing fatalities, and a majority saying that knowing those fatality numbers influences their attitude to rock fishing safety – there is a clear complacency on the part of rock fishers. Although there has been some improvement in awareness, attitudes and behaviour since the last survey in 2013, that improvement is marginal at best and by no means ubiquitous.

Two-thirds (65%) of the respondents have seen messages on rock fishing safety and more than half (55%) were aware that lifejackets are mandatory for rock fishers in the Randwick LGA. Similarly, 55% of respondents agreed that getting swept off rocks may result in them drowning. These responses indicate that rock fishers generally believe the sport is dangerous. And yet, 41% of respondents never wear a lifejacket when they rock fish. When broken down by period of residency in Australia, 40% of veteran fishers who have lived in Australia for over 10 years or all their lives never wear lifejackets. This is likely to affect the attitude of first-time or new rock fishers (those who have fished 2-5 times) about wearing lifejackets, as they observe/learn from veteran rock fishers (20+ years experience) who do not wear lifejackets or other protective gear. Of all the respondents who do not wear a lifejacket, an alarming 44% do not think a lifejacket is necessary when rock fishing.

The above findings point to a reluctance among the Randwick LGA rock fishers, especially long-term residents in Australia, to change their behaviour, despite awareness of the danger in rock fishing and of the new lifejacket law. The implementation of a penalty to ensure compliance with the lifejacket law, while at the same time implementing awareness strategies to motivate and educate rock fishers to wear a lifejacket could make the difference.

Demographics of respondents

There were 124 interviewees, of which 91 % were male. The largest group (35%) was 20-29 years of age, a significant increase in younger rock fishers, as the 2013 survey's largest group was aged 30-49.

A third (32%) of respondents have lived in Australia all their life, and 29% have lived in Australia for more than nine years. Therefore, many of the rock fishers surveyed may be more familiar with water and weather conditions. However, 32% have fished for less than one year and are less likely to be familiar with water and weather conditions.

The most widely spoken languages were Chinese (including Cantonese and Mandarin) (33%), English (32%) and Korean (10%) There were non-Asian languages spoken by respondents, including Arabic (6%), Italian, Greek, Farsi, Assyrian, Croatian, Slovakian and so on.

Respondents came from local areas – Little Bay, Maroubra; and from Liverpool and Penrith in the west, Hornsby in the north, Cronulla in the south; there were also two tourists from New Zealand and Malaysia.

Comparison of 2013 and 2017 surveys

The major differences in the results between the 2013 and 2017 Randwick local government area surveys are:

Figure 1 Comparison of 2013 and 2017 surveys

	2013 survey of the Randwick LGA*	2017 survey of the Randwick LGA
Lifejacket use – do you wear a lifejacket	49% never 22% sometimes 5% often 24% always	41% never 23% sometimes 10% often 27% always Lifejacket use is only slightly increased despite the new law. Almost half (44%) do not think lifejackets are necessary, and 18% did not know they are mandatory.
Languages spoken at home	33% English 20% Korean 18% Mandarin 15% Cantonese 2% Vietnamese	32% English 26% Mandarin 10% Korean 6% Arabic 5% Vietnamese 5% Cantonese The proportion of Mandarin speakers increased while Cantonese and Koreans decreased. Arabic speakers are new.

	2013 survey of the Randwick LGA*	2017 survey of the Randwick LGA
Top country of origin	28% Australia born 30% China 19% Korea	30% Australia born 27% China 9% Korea Koreans decreased by half because many Korean fishers declined to be interviewed, or were fishing in unsafe locations.
Sources of safety advertisements	37% internet 18% newspaper 13% TV 16% other 10% magazine 6% radio	44% internet 12% signage 14% friends/family 11% social media 5% other 4% newspaper 4% brochures 3% TV 3% magazine The Randwick LGA rock fishers rely even more on the Internet, while print media (newspapers and magazines) and TV use are now negligible. They also rely on friends/family, signage, and social media.
Number of rock fishing visits in past 12 months	26% – more than 20 20% – 10-19 times 7% – 6-9 times 26% – 2-5 times 21% – first time	30% – more than 20 16% – 10-19 times 9% – 6-9 times 29% – 2-5 times 16% – first time There were slightly fewer first time rock fishers.
Visits to location of interview in past 12 months	17% – more than 20 7% – 10-19 times 14% – 6-9 times 36% – 2-5 times 26% – first time	10% – more than 20 times 10% – 10-19 times 7% – 6-9 times 37% – 2-5 times 35% – first time There were more first-time visitors to location of interview.
Who respondents fish with	40% with friends 21% alone 5% spouse/partner 6% other relatives 6% own children 22% other	60% with friends 16% alone 10% spouse/partner 8% other relatives 5% own children 1% other The Randwick LGA rock fishers are now more likely to fish with friends, relatives, children, or spouse than alone.

	2013 survey of the Randwick LGA*	2017 survey of the Randwick LGA
Check the weather beforehand	78% always 13% often 8% sometimes 1% never	80% always 11% often 7% sometimes 2% never While rock fishers who always check the weather have increased, so did those who never check the weather.
Consume alcohol before or while fishing	92% never 7% sometimes 1% often 0% always	94% never 6% sometimes 0% often 0% always Alcohol consumption before or during fishing is slightly less.
Shoes with non-slip soles or cleats	63% always 9% often 14% sometimes 14% never	35% always 15% often 20% sometimes 29% never It is significant that the Randwick LGA rock fishers are now less likely to wear suitable footwear.
Turn your back on the ocean	83% never 16% sometimes 0% often 1% always	81% never 17% sometimes 1% often 1% always Those who would never turn their back on the ocean decreased slightly.
Bring a mobile phone while fishing	78% always 5% often 9% sometimes 8% never	89% always 5% often 4% sometimes 2% never Mobile phone use has increased.
Being swept off their feet is likely to result in drowning	12% strongly disagree 10% disagree 13% unsure 43% agree 22% strongly agree	7% strongly disagree 23% disagree 14% unsure 31% agree 24% strongly agree The Randwick LGA rock fishers are now less likely to believe that getting swept off rocks while fishing is likely to result in their drowning.

	2013 survey of the Randwick LGA*	2017 survey of the Randwick LGA
Rock fishing is no more risky than other water activities	12% strongly disagree 29% disagree 17% unsure 38% agree 4% strongly agree	4% strongly disagree 31% disagree 27% unsure 30% agree 8% strongly agree The Randwick LGA rock fishers are less sure about rock fishing being more risky than other water activities.
Swimming ability	26% for over 1 hour 29% up to 1 hour 30% Swim 15 minutes 7% Swim 1 minute 8% Cannot float or swim	28% for over 1 hour 14% up to 1 hour 48% Swim 15 minutes 5% Swim 1 minute 5% Cannot float or swim The Randwick LGA rock fishers are not strong swimmers, with 58% unable to swim more than 15 minutes – an increase from 45%.
First aid certificate CPR	9% yes, 91% no 42% yes, 48% no	24% yes, 76% no 49% yes, 51% no The Randwick LGA rock fishers are significantly more likely to have first aid training and slightly more likely to know how to do CPR.
Know someone who has been swept off rocks	70% no 30% yes	89% no 11% yes Fewer rock fishers personally know someone who has been swept off the rocks.

* n=124 in 2017 Survey and n=121 in 2013 Survey

Introduction

Rock fishing is one of the most dangerous water sports in Australia, causing an average of 8 drowning deaths per year in the past 10 years. ¹

"Historically rock fishing is the second most common activity when a coastal drowning death occurs. In 2016/17 there was a total of 19% (n=6) of coastal drowning deaths related to the activity of rock fishing. This statistic is consistent with the 10-year average (22%, n=82). Rock fishing remains an activity which is over-represented in coastal drowning death data, despite the continued and persistent efforts of water safety and emergency response agencies as well as fishing industry peak body representative groups."²

Figure 2 Ten-year drowning death activity along the NSW coastline³

Activity	Swimming	Rock fishing	Rock/cliff related	Total
2007-2008	11	7	3	29
2008-2009	10	9	1	39
2009-2010	15	12	1	40
2010-2011	9	4	0	23
2011-2012	14	11	4	48
2012-2013	11	8	4	46
2013-2014	7	8	1	29
2014-2015	15	7	1	37
2015-2016	16	10	5	53
2016-2017	13	6	2	31
Total	121	82	22	375

This report was prepared for the NSW Department of Justice's Office of Emergency Management and Randwick City Council.

On 1 December 2016, the *Rock Fishing Safety Act 2016 (NSW)* came into effect, and mandated the use of an appropriate lifejacket whenever anyone (whether adult or child) is rock fishing (or assisting someone rock fishing) within the Randwick Local Government Area (LGA) in Sydney. It must be noted that although lifejackets are mandatory, no fines are currently being issued. Fines will not be issued until 1 June 2018. Meanwhile, police and council rangers observe rock fishers and inform them that fines will soon be issued to anyone not wearing a lifejacket while rock fishing (or assisting someone rock fishing) within the declared area.

¹ All photographs used in this report were taken by MMM's interviewers during fieldwork observation in 2017. As consent from the subjects of the photographs was not sought, use and distribution of the photographs are not permissible; the photos may be included in this presentation and report as the subjects were photographed in public.

² "Surf Life Saving NSW Coastal Safety Report 2017", Surf Life Saving New South Wales, page 10. Online at <https://www.surflifesaving.com.au/sites/site.test/files/SLSNSW%20Coastal%20Safety%20Report%202017.pdf>

³ Ibid, page 11, Figure 11.

Demographic data from Australia Census 2016

According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS)⁴, the population of the Randwick Local Government Area as shown in the 2016 Census was 140,659 persons, which includes the following:

Figure 3 Country of birth for population in Randwick LGA

Country of birth	Randwick	%	New South Wales	%	Australia	%
Australia	72,373	51.4	4,899,090	65.5	15,614,835	66.7
<i>Other top responses</i>						
China (excludes SARs and Taiwan)	9,929	7.1	234,508	3.1	509,555	2.2
England	6,245	4.4	226,564	3.0	907,570	3.9
Ireland	2,806	2.0	24,038	0.3	74,888	0.3
New Zealand	2,692	1.9	117,136	1.6	518,466	2.2
Indonesia	2,419	1.7	31,774	0.4	73,213	0.3

In the Randwick Local Government Area, 51% of residents were born in Australia. The next most common countries of birth were China (excludes SARs and Taiwan) 7%, England 4%, Ireland 2%, New Zealand 2% and Indonesia 2%.

⁴ http://www.censusdata.abs.gov.au/census_services/getproduct/census/2016/quickstat/LGA16550?opendocument

Figure 4 Language spoken at home for population in Randwick

Language, top responses (other than English)	Randwick	%	New South Wales	%	Australia	%
Mandarin	10,155	7.2	239,945	3.2	596,711	2.5
Greek	4,516	3.2	81,683	1.1	237,588	1.0
Cantonese	4,166	3.0	143,333	1.9	280,943	1.2
Indonesian	2,315	1.6	30,032	0.4	67,891	0.3
Spanish	2,297	1.6	63,527	0.8	140,817	0.6
English only spoken at home	83,952	59.7	5,126,633	68.5	17,020,417	72.7
Households where a non-English language is spoken	19,318	35.6	735,563	26.5	1,971,011	22.2

In the Randwick Local Government Area, 60% of respondents only spoke English at home. Other languages spoken at home included Mandarin 7%, Greek 3%, Cantonese 3%, Indonesian 2% and Spanish 2%.

Survey methodology and sample size

The Office of Emergency Management commissioned Multicultural Marketing and Management (MMM) to conduct the research in the Randwick Local Government Area. After a risk assessment was conducted the week before the commencement of the fieldwork, the following popular rock fishing locations were surveyed: Bare Island, La Perouse, Cape Banks, Malabar, Maroubra North, Mahon Pool, Browns Rock, Little Bay (Julianne and The Trap) and Maroubra Beach. In addition, two tackle shops in Kingsford and Campsie were also approached (criteria was that the customers fished in the Randwick area. A total of 4 surveys in Korean were conducted). The risk assessment set out the occupational health and safety risks and guidelines for MMM interviewers. For example, MMM interviewers did not go down to a ledge at Cape Banks because the rope that the fishers used did not seem safe.

MMM's five bilingual interviewers were trained in the Australian Market and Social Research Society (AMSRS) code of professional conduct, and were briefed about the project's aims, findings from the risk assessment reports and details of the questionnaire. They conducted the interviews by working in groups of two or three persons together.

The questionnaire was translated into simplified and traditional Chinese, Korean and Vietnamese. Bilingual interviewers approached ethnic-looking rock fishers and conducted the interviews in Cantonese, Mandarin, Korean, Vietnamese and English. Answers to open-ended questions were back-translated into English after the completion of each survey. The surveys were in paper format. These surveys were conducted 25-26 November 2017, 2

December, 9-10 December, 16-17 December, and 28-29 December 2017. The target audience was multilingual and multicultural rock fishers who fish along the Randwick City Council coastline.

In order to compare with the 2013 survey, a target of 120 surveys was set. As there is no updated figure available for population of rock fishers, the confidence level of 95% and a confidence interval of 8 similar to 2013 survey were assumed.

A confidence interval of 8 means that if 57% of the sample picks an answer we can be confident that if we had asked the question of the entire relevant population, between 49% (57-8) and 65% (57+8) would have picked that answer.

When we put the confidence level and the confidence interval together, we can say that we are 95% sure that when 57% of the sample picks an answer, the true percentage of the entire relevant population who would have picked that answer is between 49% and 65%.

Figure 5 Country of birth of 2017 respondents

Country of Birth	Number	Percentage
Australia	37	30%
China	34	27%
Korea	11	9%
Lebanon	6	5%
Vietnam	6	5%
Malaysia	5	4%
New Zealand	4	3%
Greece	3	2%
Indonesia	3	2%
Iran	2	2%
Iraq	2	2%
Croatia	1	1%
Czech	1	1%
Germany	1	1%
Hong Kong	1	1%
Middle East ⁵	1	1%
Portugal	1	1%
Slovakia	1	1%
Tonga	1	1%
Turkey	1	1%
United Kingdom	1	1%
Uzbekistan	1	1%
Total	124	100%

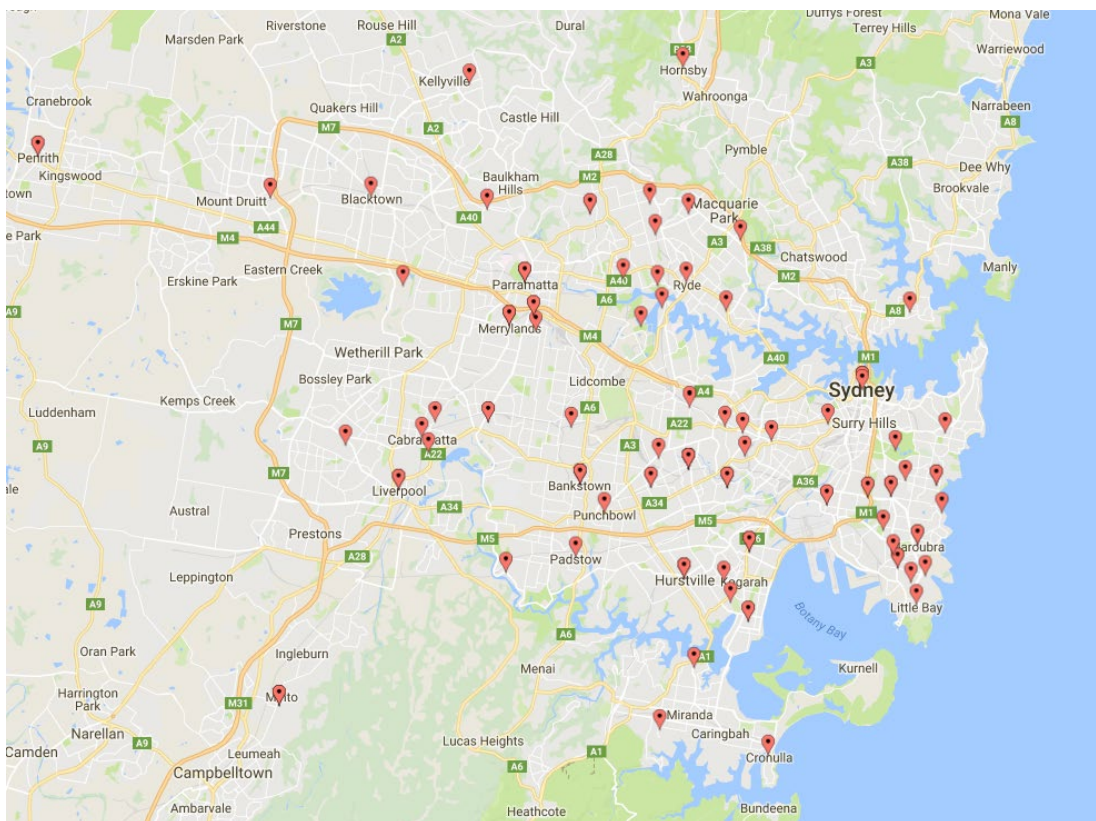
⁵ This respondent did not specify the country of birth.

Interviews and report contents

The 124 face-to-face interviews were conducted on weekends from 25 November to 29 December (usually 9 am to 3 pm, or 8:30 am to 2:30 pm. In each location, we had two interviewers work together; they were each equipped with a lifejacket, suitable rock fishing shoes and hat, and they used sunscreen.

Respondents came from local areas – Little Bay, Maroubra; and from Liverpool and Penrith in the west, Hornsby in the north, Cronulla in the south; there were also two tourists from New Zealand and Malaysia. In the 2013 survey, there were rock fishers from interstate and three tourists from China and Russia.

Figure 6 Suburb of respondents

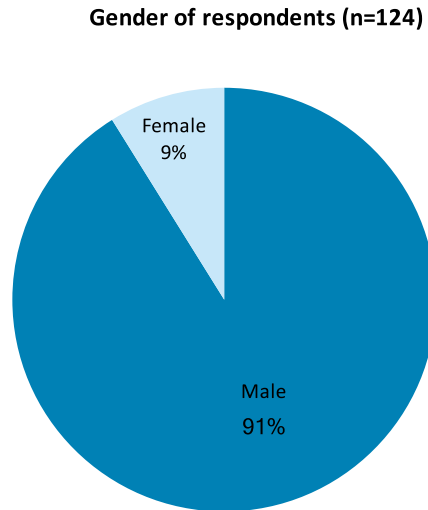


For this report, MMM compiled, collated and analysed the survey results, provided quantitative and qualitative findings and comparisons (with similar research conducted in 2013) which would then be used by the Department to inform a separate evaluation.

Findings

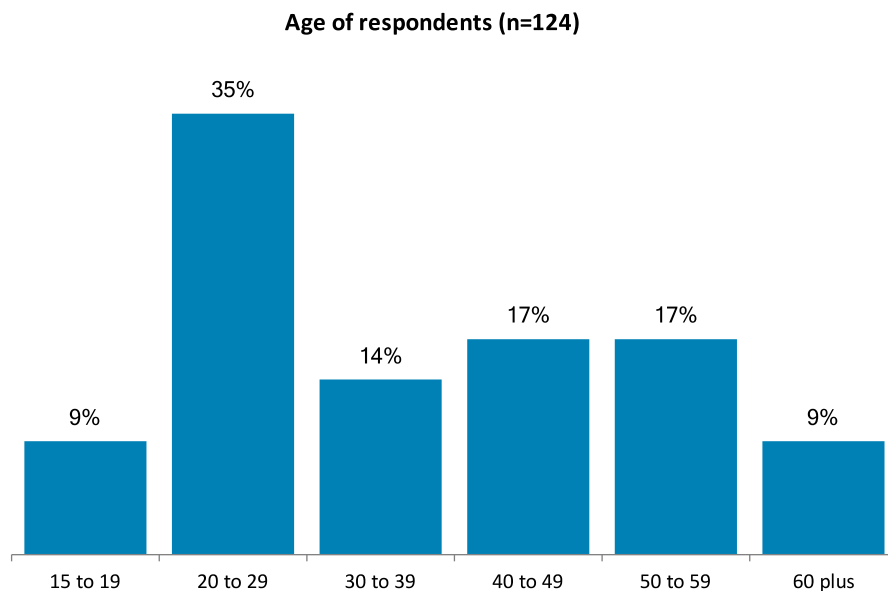
Demographic data from this survey

Figure 7 Gender of survey respondents



- Of the 124 respondents in the December 2017 survey in Randwick LGA, 91% were male and 9% were female. In contrast, there were 121 respondents in the 2013 survey in the Randwick LGA, 94% male and 6% female.

Figure 8 Age of survey respondents



- In 2017, the largest age group (35%) of respondents was aged 20-29. In the 2013 survey, the largest group was aged 30-49; the aged 20-29 group was only 21%, so this is a significant increase in younger rock fishers.
- This data, paired with the data regarding gender, again confirms that a successful safety campaign should target adult males.

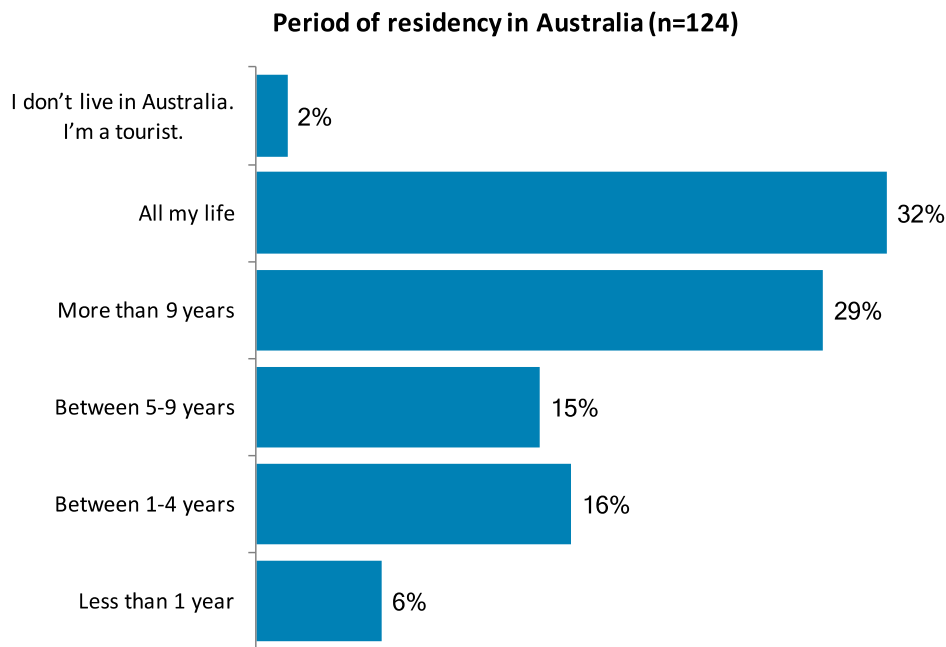
Figure 9 Language spoken at home of survey respondents

Language spoken at home	Number	Percentage
English	42	32%
Mandarin	34	26%
Cantonese	7	5%
Korean	13	10%
Arabic	8	6%
Vietnamese	6	5%
Greek	4	3%
Indonesian	3	2%
Italian	3	2%
Farsi	2	2%
Japanese	2	2%
Assyrian	1	1%
Croatian	1	1%
Czech	1	1%
German	1	1%
Russian	1	1%
Slovakian	1	1%
Turkish	1	1%
Total	131	100%

- For comparison purpose with the 2013 survey, a 40/80 English/CALD quota was set for the survey.
- There were 32% of the rock fishers surveyed who speak English at home – 32% in 2017, 33% in 2013.
- Mandarin is spoken at home by 26% of the 2017 respondents, an increase from 18% in 2013. Cantonese is spoken by only 5% in 2017, compared to 15% in 2013.
- Korean is spoken at home by only 10% in 2017, down from 20% in 2013. (There were more Korean rock fishers observed and approached by our interviewers, but they either declined to participate or were at unsafe locations for our interviewers to reach them.)
- A new group of rock fishers emerged: Arabic speaking rock fishers – 6% in the 2017 survey.

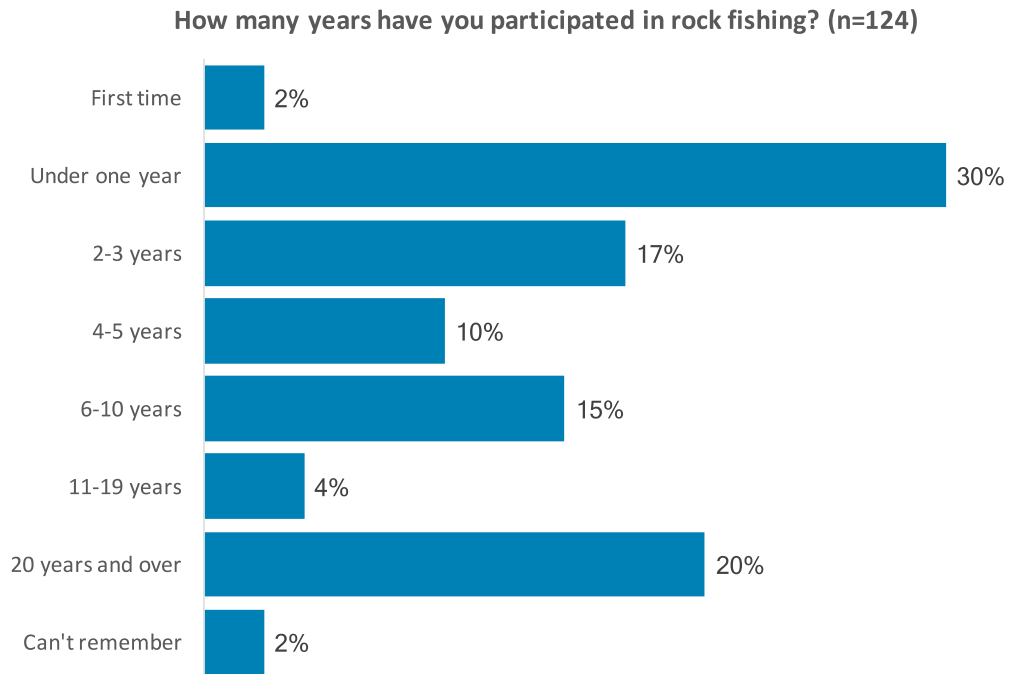
- Other languages represented in the 2017 survey: Vietnamese 5%, Greek 3%, Indonesian 2%, Italian 2%, Farsi (Persian) 2%, Japanese 2%, and also Assyrian 1%, Croatian 1%, Czech 1%, German 1%, Russian 1%, Slovakian 1% and Turkish 1%.

Figure 10 Years of residency in Australia



- Two-thirds of interviewees (61%) have lived in Australia for more than nine years or all their lives.
- One-seventh (15%) have lived here between 5 to 9 years
- This indicates that the majority of the target audience is familiar with Australian culture and media, and will have developed a degree of familiarity with English.
- While only 2% of those surveyed were tourists, it is important that tourists from any background can understand area signs. This is especially true with rock fishers who speak languages such as Arabic, Syrian, Assyrian, Slovakian, and Croatian, appearing for the first time in this year's survey results.

Figure 11 Length of participation in rock fishing



- The largest group of respondents – 32% - was rock fishers with less than one year experience rock fishing.
- The next largest group – 24% – was veteran fishers with 11+ years’ experience.

Figure 12 Length of participation by rock fishing behaviour – new rock fishers

First timers/those who participated in rock fishing for under one year (n=40)	Wear a lifejacket/ buoyancy aid		Fish with a friend	
	Number	%	Number	%
Never	17	43%	2	5%
Sometimes	12	30%	4	10%
Often	2	5%	7	18%
Always	9	23%	27	68%
Total rock fishers with less than 1 year experience, including first-timers	40	100%	40	100%

- Among the 40 rock fishers who were first timers or have participated in rock fishing for under one year, an alarming 43% never wear a lifejacket; this mirrors the behaviour of veteran rock fishers with more than 10 years’ experience, 40% of whom never wear a lifejacket. The good news is that 68% of the new rock fishers always fish with a friend, compared to 47% of the veteran fishers.

Figure 13 Age of new rock fishers

What is your age group? (First timers/those who participated in rock fishing for under one year (n=40))	Number	Percentage
Aged 15 to 19	3	8%
Aged 20 to 29	21	53%
Aged 30 to 39	5	13%
Aged 40 to 49	6	15%
Aged 50 to 59	3	8%
Aged 60 plus	2	5%
Total rock fishers with less than 1 year's experience, including first-timers	40	100%

- The largest group – 53% – of new rock fishers is aged 20-29.

Figure 14 Length of participation by rock fishing behaviour – veteran rock fishers

Those who participated in rock fishing for over 11 years (n=30)	Wear a lifejacket/ buoyancy aid		Fish with a friend	
	Number	%	Number	%
Never	12	40%	1	3%
Sometimes	6	20%	8	27%
Often	6	20%	7	23%
Always	6	20%	14	47%
Total rock fishers with 11+ years' experience	30	100%	30	100%

- Note that of all rock fishers with more than 10 years' experience, only 20% always wear a lifejacket. The good news is that only 3% of them always fish alone.

Figure 15 Age of veteran rock fishers

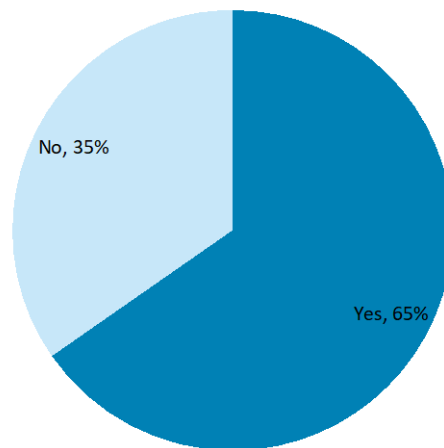
Those who participated in rock fishing for over 10 years (n=30) by age group	Number	Percentage
Aged 15 to 19	3	10%
Aged 20 to 29	4	13%
Aged 30 to 39	8	27%
Aged 40 to 49	10	33%
Aged 50 to 59	5	17%
Aged 60 plus	0	0%
Total rock fishers with 11+ years' experience	30	100%

Rock fishing safety messages

The following section analyses the respondents' awareness of safety messages in general.

Figure 16 Recall of rock fishing safety messages

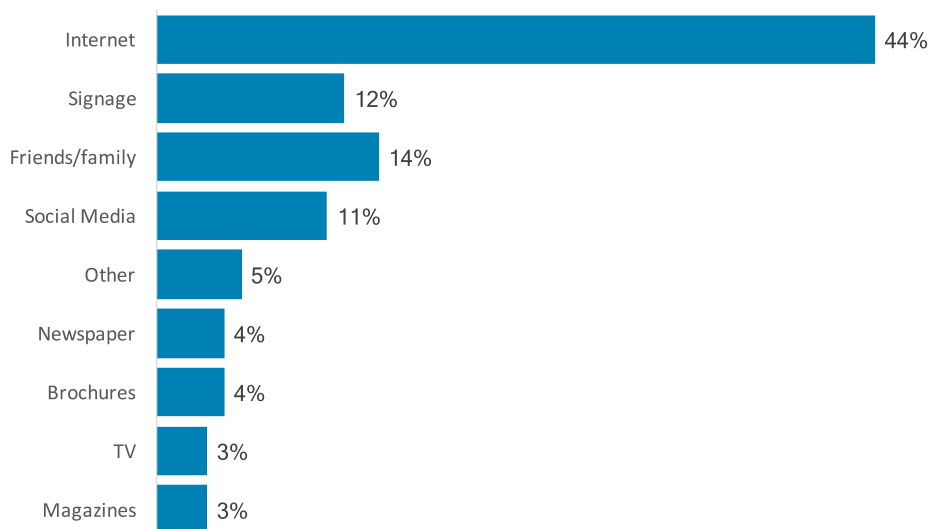
Have you seen any messages relating to rock fishing safety in the last 12 months? (n=124)



- The numbers are unchanged from the 2013 survey – two-thirds (65%) of respondents have seen rock fishing safety messages in the past 12 months. The remaining 35% said no.

Figure 17 Information source of rock fishing safety messages

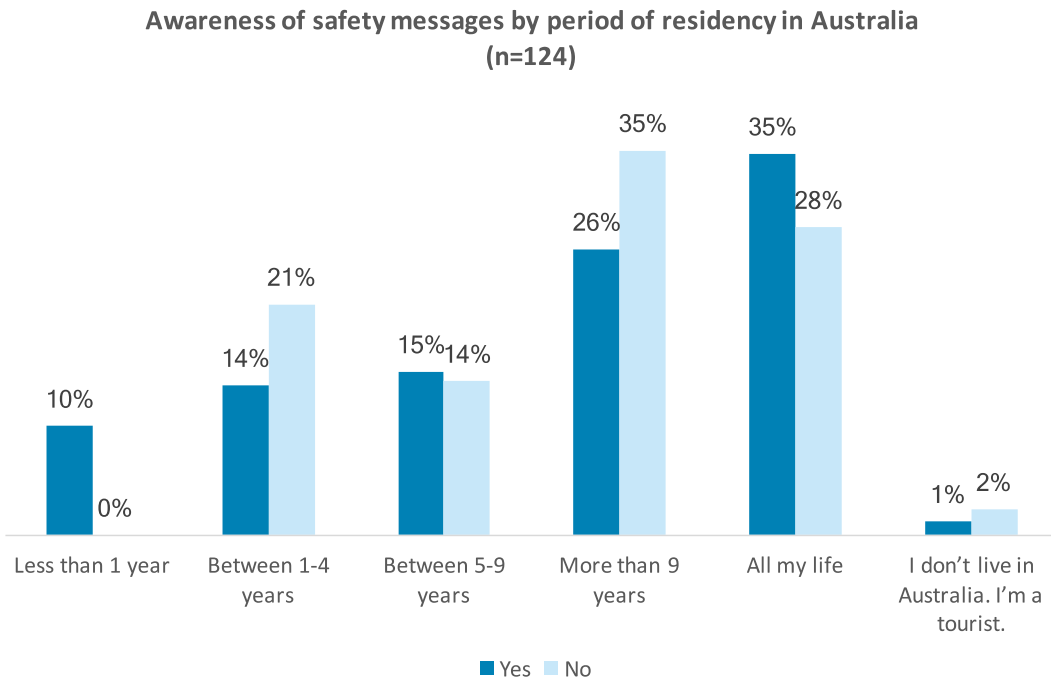
Where did you see those messages relating to Rock Fishing safety in the last 12 months (n=81, responses=94)



- The primary message source for rock fishers surveyed was the Internet at 44%, up from 37% in 2013. The second most frequent source is now friends/family at 14%, signage at 12%, and social media at 11% – sources not used in 2013.

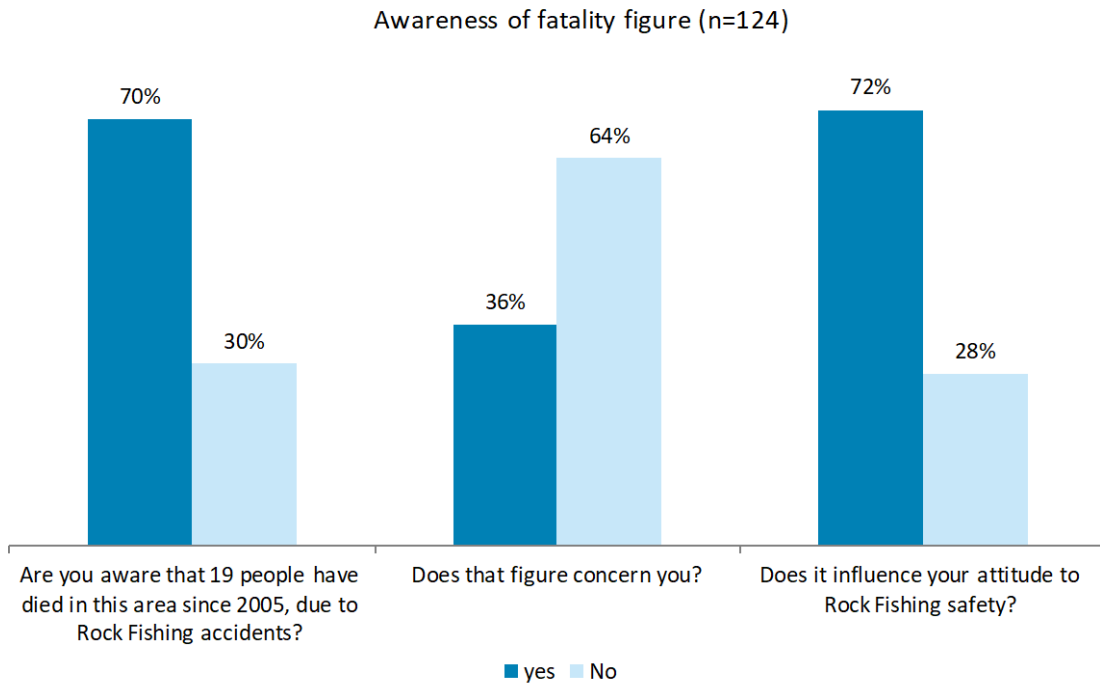
- Detail of sources in this year’s survey included: OZIsfishing, Magicseaweed.com, Ifish TV, www.willyweather.com.au, www.fishingaustralia.tv, Sydney Morning Herald
- In 2013, the second most frequent message source was newspapers at 18% and then TV at 13%; both methods are now of negligible value.

Figure 18 Awareness of rock fishing safety messages by period of residency in Australia



- The awareness of rock fishing safety messages did not seem to have a direct correlation to period of residency in Australia. Of those who have lived in Australia for more than nine years but not their whole lives, an alarming 35% did not recall seeing rock fishing safety messages. When added to those who have lived in Australia their entire lives, the total is 63% who did **not** recall seeing the messages.
- Of those who have lived in Australia between 1 to 4 years, only 14% recalled seeing messages, compared to 16% in the 2013 survey.

Figure 19 Awareness of fatality figures



- In 2017, 70% of the survey respondents were aware that 19 rock fishers died in this area since 2005, due to rock fishing accidents. 72% said the fatality figure influenced their attitude to rock fishing safety and yet only one third (36%) said it concerned them. The news coverage of the rock fishing and drowning deaths has apparently been effective, as only 58% were aware of the deaths in the 2013 survey, when only 28% said the number of deaths concerned them.
- Those who said the number of deaths did not concern them are relatively confident in their skills – "good swimmer," "if you follow safety guidelines, it is not particularly dangerous," etc.

Figure 20 Aided recall of fatality signage

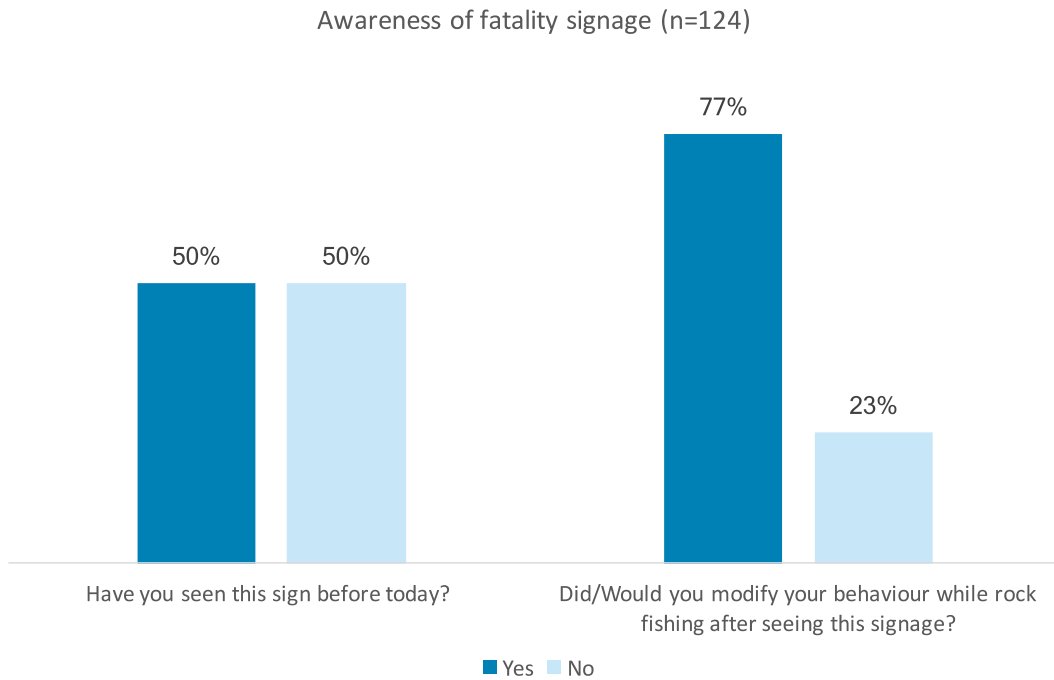
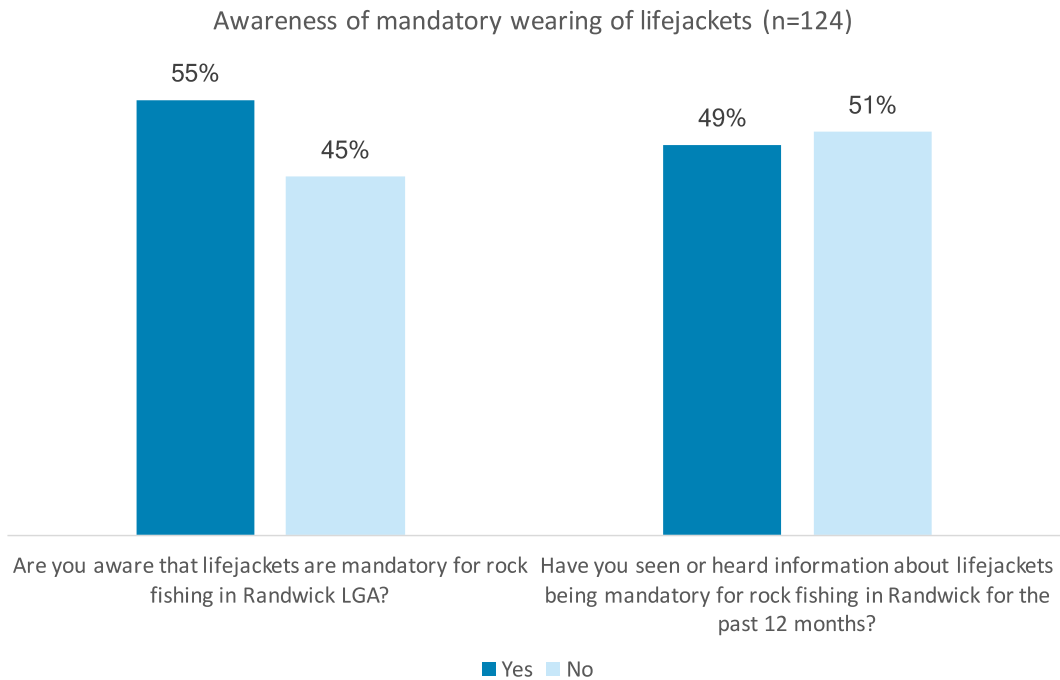


Figure 21 Fatality signage



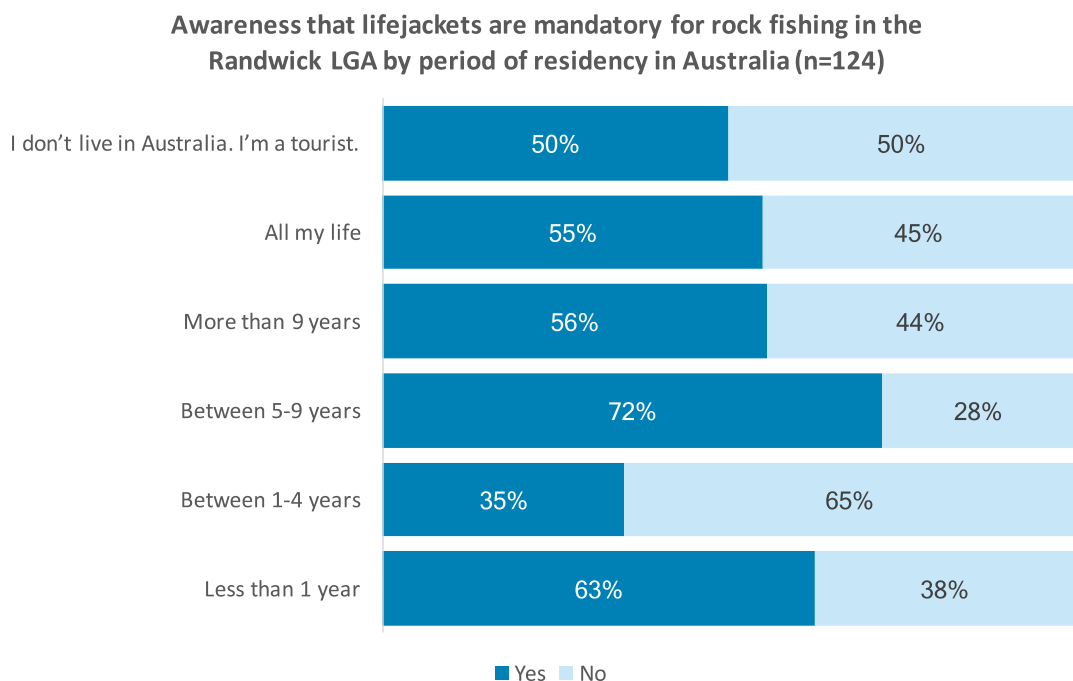
- Respondents were shown the sign (on the left). Despite the fact this sign has been prominently placed at all Randwick LGA rock fishing sites and 98% of the respondents have been rock fishing before, only half the survey respondents remembered seeing this sign before the day of the survey. They responded positively, saying this sign was likely to influence their behaviour while rock fishing (77%). This is similar to the 2013 survey, in which 70% said it would likely influence their behaviour when they were shown only a photo of the sign.

Figure 22 Awareness of mandatory lifejackets for rock fishing in the Randwick LGA



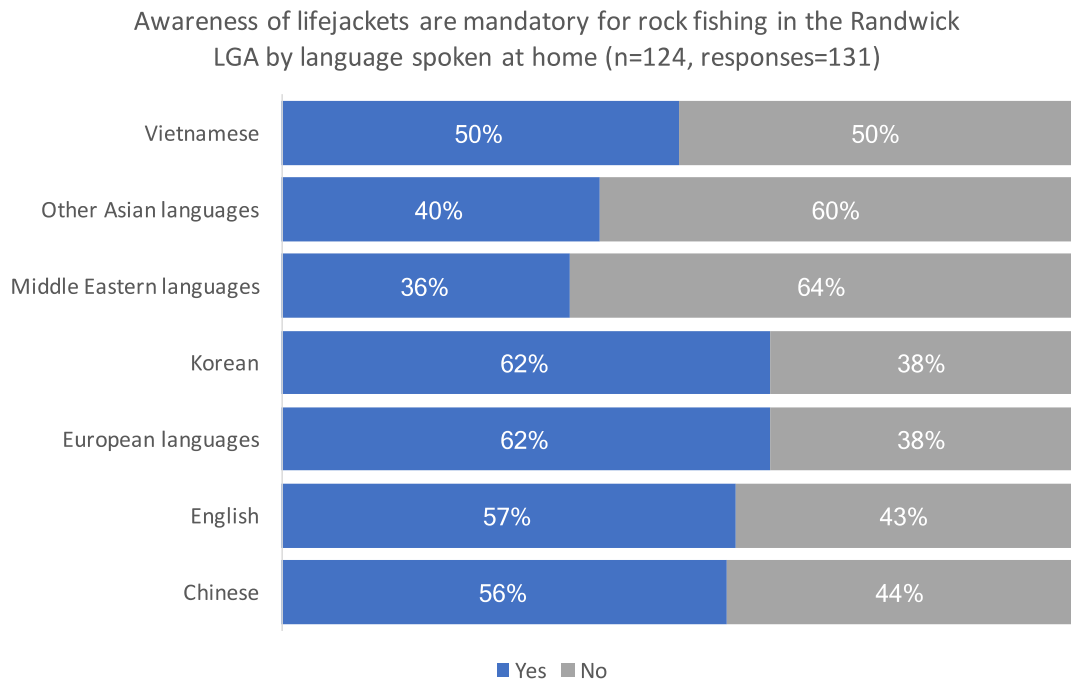
- Approximately half (55%) of all survey respondents are aware that lifejackets are mandatory for rock fishing in the Randwick LGA. Half (49%) have seen or heard information about mandatory lifejackets. This is despite the fact that a majority (65%) of them have been rock fishing within the Randwick LGA for more than once in the past year.

Figure 23 Awareness of lifejackets' being mandatory for rock fishing in the Randwick LGA by period of residency in Australia



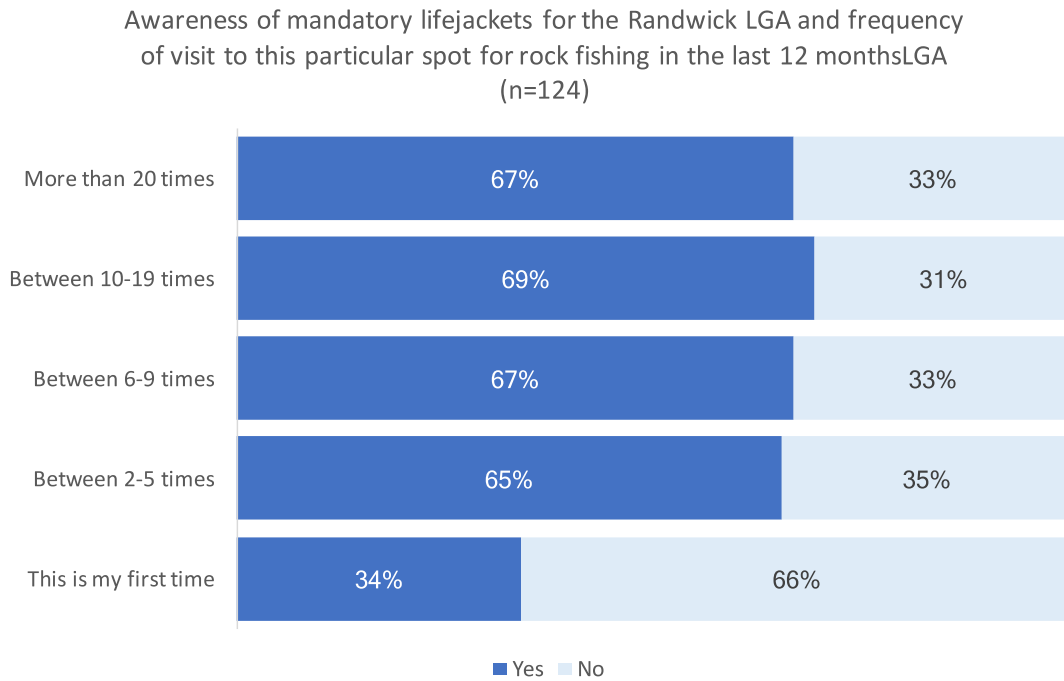
- Respondents were asked whether they were aware that lifejackets are mandatory for rock fishing in the Randwick LGA. Awareness of the new mandatory lifejacket law was not dependent on length of residency in Australia. For example, the awareness rate was highest (72%) among respondents who have lived in Australia from 5-9 years and lowest (35%) among respondents who have lived in Australia from 1-4 years.

Figure 24 Awareness of lifejackets’ being mandatory for rock fishing in the Randwick LGA by language spoken at home



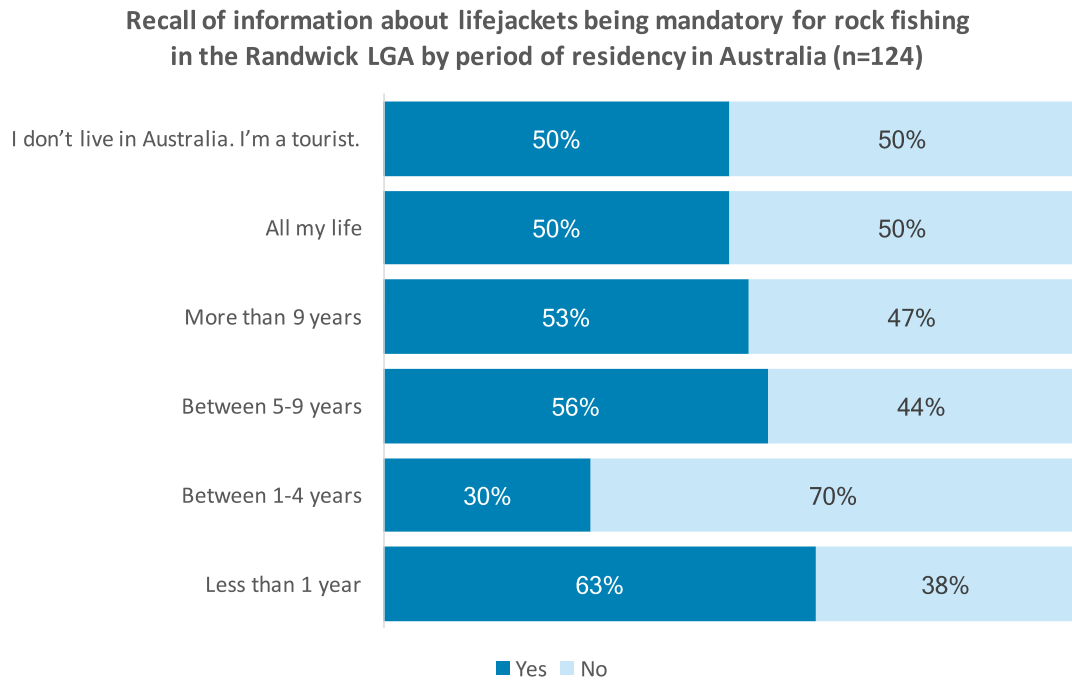
- Only slightly over half of the English (57%) and Chinese (56%) respondents were aware that lifejackets are mandatory for rock fishing in the Randwick LGA. The language group least aware was Middle Eastern (Arabic, Farsi, Assyrian).

Figure 25 Awareness of lifejackets' being mandatory for rock fishing in the Randwick LGA by frequency of visit to the particular spot for rock fishing



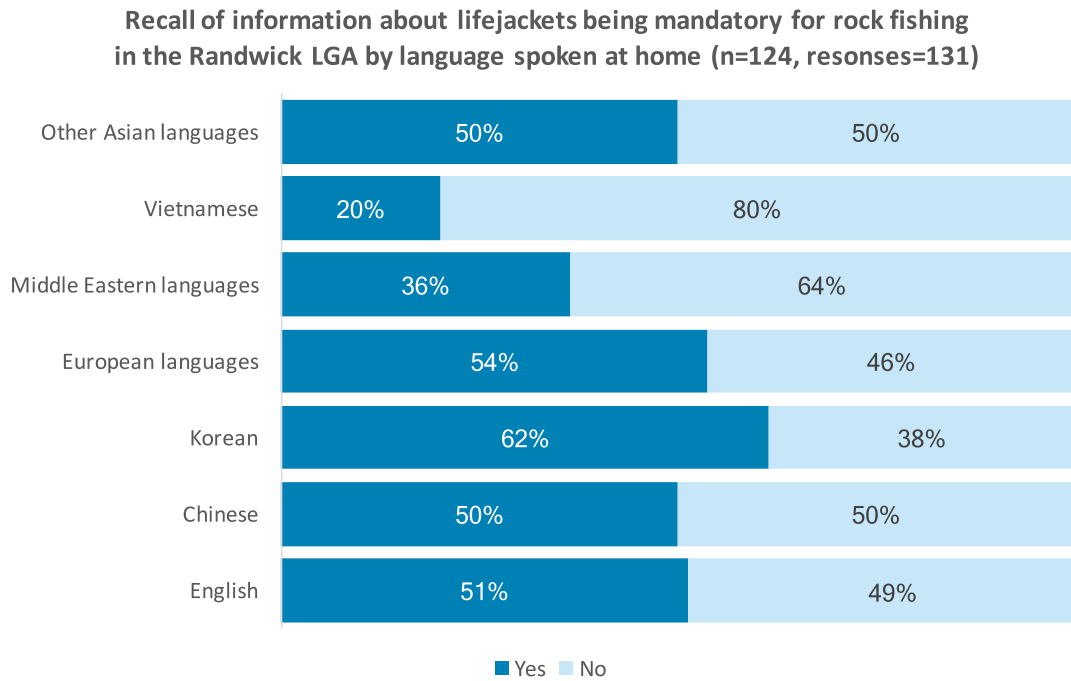
- First-time rock fishers at a site were only half as likely to be aware of the mandatory lifejacket law in the Randwick LGA (34% compared to 67%).
- The survey interviewers reported that approximately 80% of the locations they visited for the survey had the “It’s the law” sign displayed nearby or on the way in.
- Given that the mandatory lifejackets information campaign in the past year was conducted primarily in the Randwick LGA area and that 89% of rock fishers surveyed live outside of the Randwick LGA, it is important to ensure signage within Randwick is effective at drawing attention and communicating the message. There may be a need to install more signage .

Figure 26 Recall of information about lifejackets being mandatory for rock fishing in the Randwick LGA by period of residency in Australia



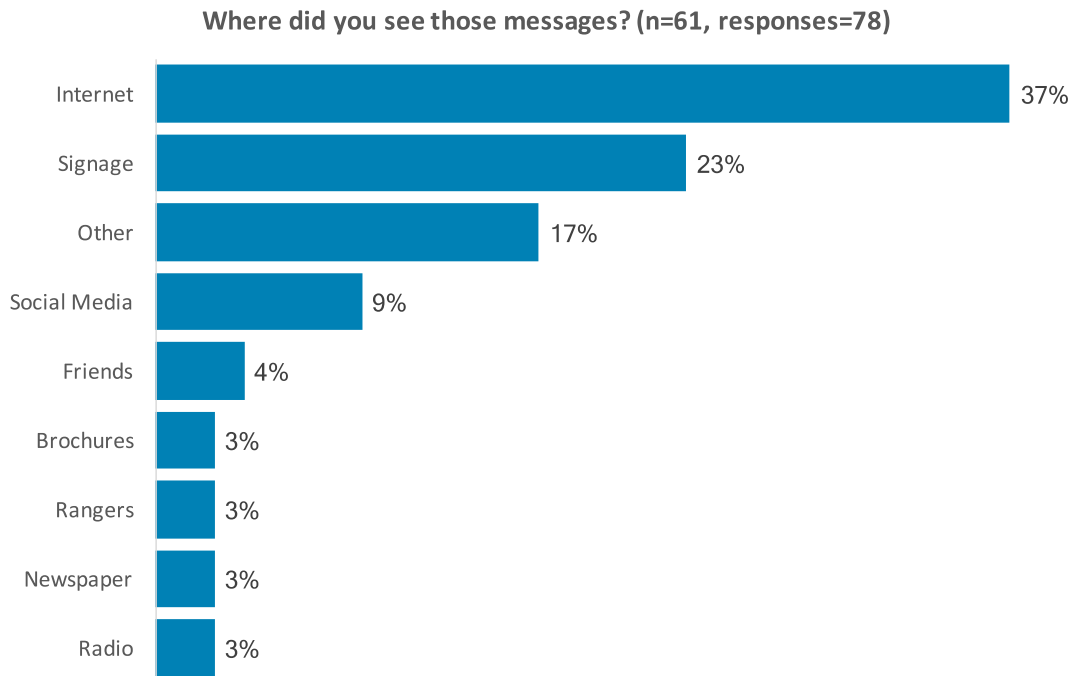
- Respondents were asked whether they had seen or heard information about lifejackets being mandatory for rock fishing in the Randwick LGA for the past 12 months. Recall of the information about the new mandatory lifejacket law in the Randwick LGA was not dependent on length of residency in Australia. For example, the awareness rate was highest (63%) among respondents who have lived in Australia for less than 1 year **and** lowest (30%) among respondents who have lived in Australia between 1-4 years. Those who have lived in Australia all their life were just as likely as tourists – 50% – to recall the information about lifejackets.

Figure 27 Recall of information about lifejackets being mandatory for rock fishing in the Randwick LGA by language spoken at home



- When asked whether they had seen or heard information about lifejackets being mandatory for rock fishing in the Randwick LGA for the past 12 months, recall of information about the new mandatory lifejacket law was highest among the Korean-speaking respondents (62%) and lowest among the Vietnamese-speaking respondents (20%).

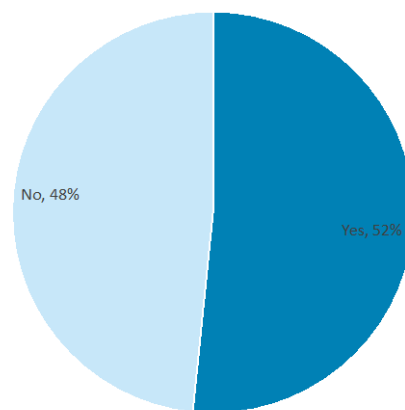
Figure 28 Source of information of mandatory lifejackets in the Randwick LGA



- 37% of the 61 respondents who were aware that lifejackets are mandatory for rock fishing in the Randwick LGA learned about it through the Internet. This is followed by Signage (23%).

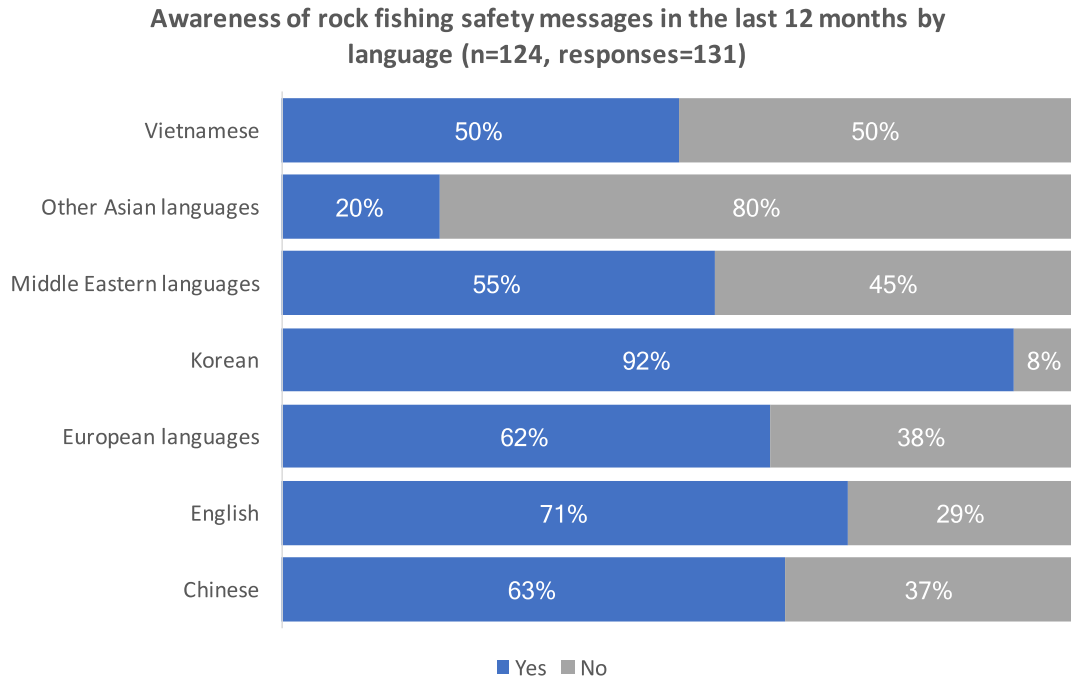
Figure 29 Aided recall of “It’s the law” signage and “It’s the law” sign

Have you seen "It's the law" sign before today? (n=124)

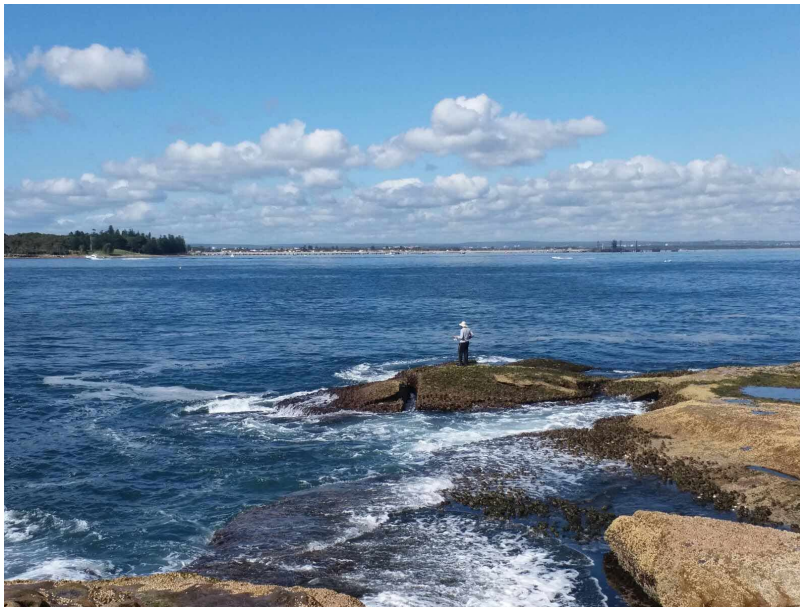


- Slightly over half of the respondents (52%) have seen the “It’s the law” signage when it was shown to them.

Figure 30 Awareness of safety messages by language

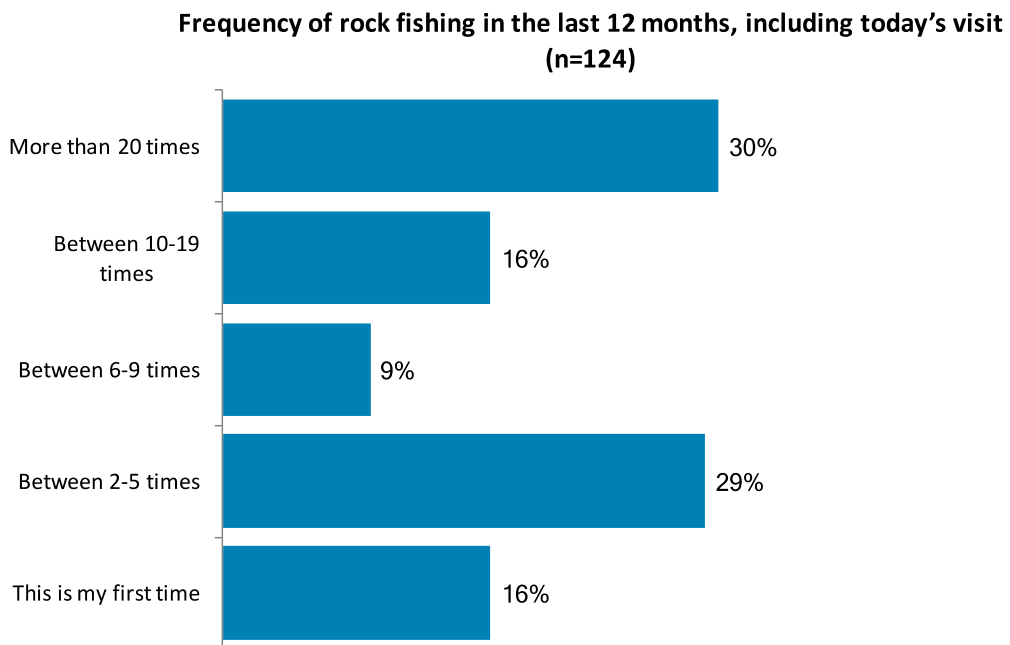


- Korean respondents (92%) were most aware of the rock fishing safety messages. This is followed by English speakers at 71%. Other Asian languages including Japanese and Indonesian were least aware of rock fishing safety messages (20%); note that the "It's the law" sign is translated into Arabic, Chinese, Vietnamese, and Korean, but not Japanese or Indonesian. The Chinese speakers include both Cantonese and Mandarin (traditional and simplified Chinese).



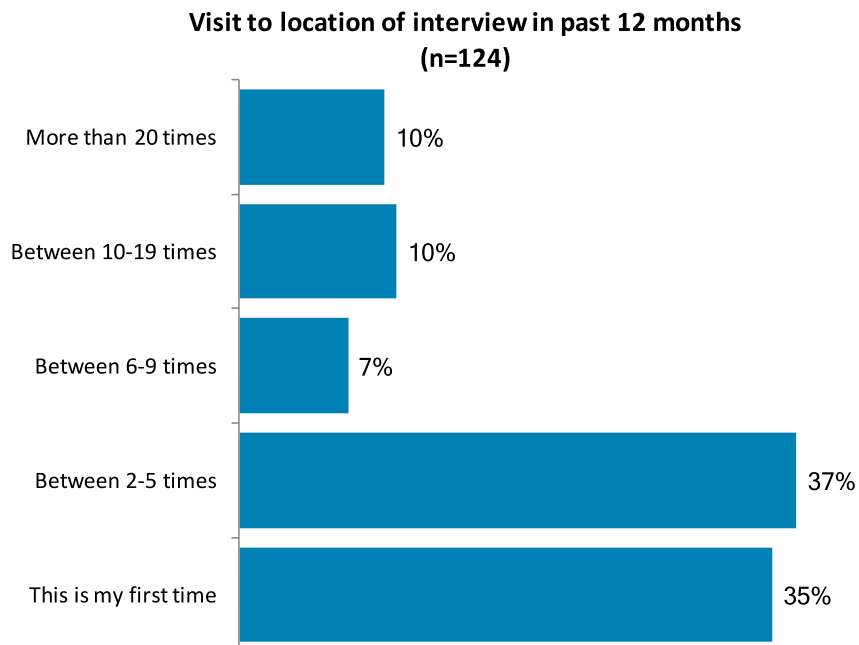
Rock fishing behaviour

Figure 31 Frequency of rock fishing visits



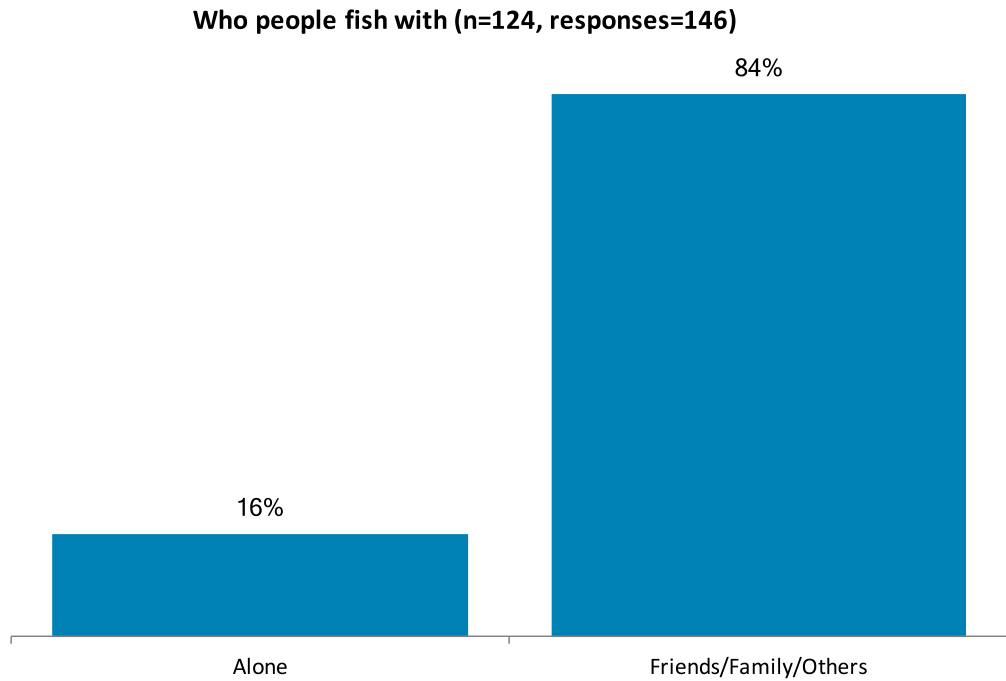
- 46% of the respondents are rock fishing regularly (10 times or more in a year) while 16% of them were rock fishing for the first time.

Figure 32 Visit to location of interview in the past 12 months



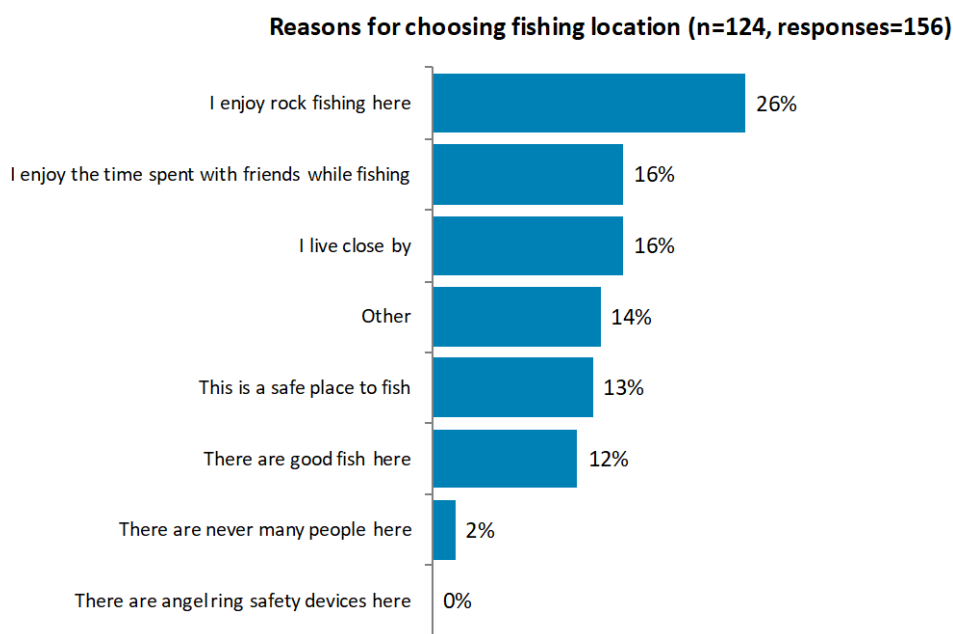
- A combined 72% of respondents have been fishing at a site fewer than 5 times. 35% of all respondents were on their first visit to a site, and 37% have been there only 2-5 times.

Figure 33 Who respondents fish with



- It is encouraging that only 16% of the 2017 respondents fish alone; in 2013, the rate was 21%.
- In 2017, 84% of the respondents fish with someone; in 2013, it was 79%.

Figure 34 Reasons for choosing this fishing location



Only 13% of respondents cited safety as the factor in their decision to fish at a location.

The 2017 survey asked rock fishers about other sites where they have fished. It is encouraging that 24% of them choose to fish in the same spot, thus they become familiar with the area and its weather, wave patterns, etc. The other rock fishing locations are listed in order of popularity:

Figure 35 Other rock fishing sites respondents have fished

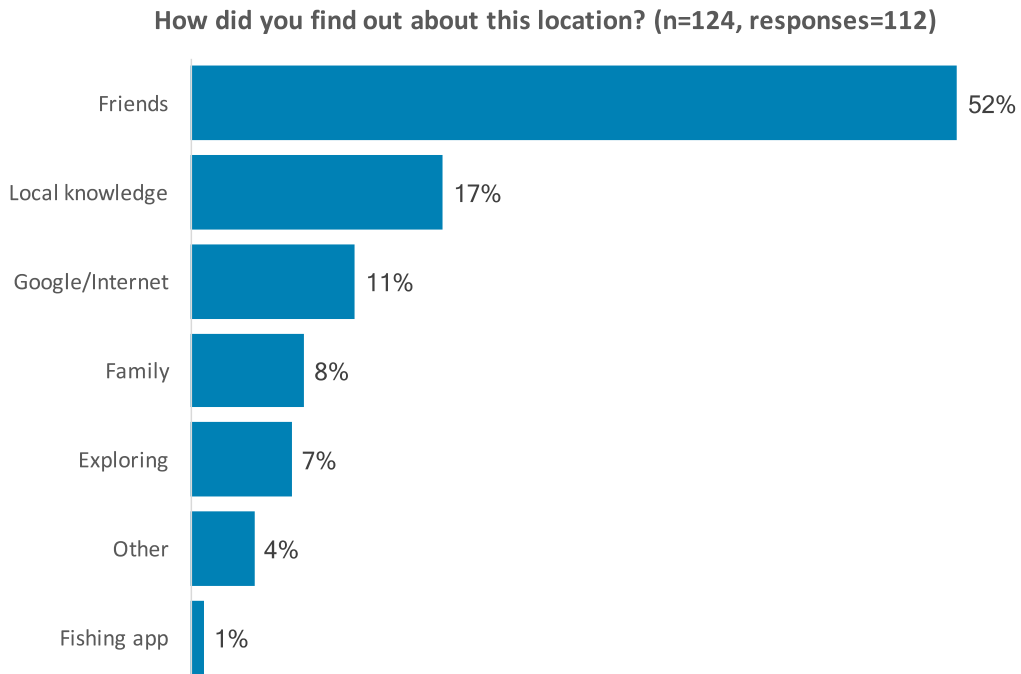
Location	Frequency	Location	Frequency
Little Bay	9	Windang	3
Wollongong	9	Airport	2
Maroubra	8	Avoca	2
Malabar	7	Brighton-Le-Sands	2
Bondi	5	Cape Banks	2
Manly	5	Coogee	2
Kiama	4	Drummoyne	2
Kurnell	4	Ettalong	2
Long Bay	4	La Perouse	2
Central Coast	3	Nowra	2
Cronulla	3	Shellharbour	2
Watson Bay	3	The Entrance	2

These locations were each mentioned once:

Akuna Bay	beach between Bondi & Kurnell	Botany
Brighton	Bundeena	Burwood
Caves Beach	Daleys Point	Darling Harbour
Forster	Freshwater	Garie Beach
Hawksbury	Illawarra	Jervis Bay

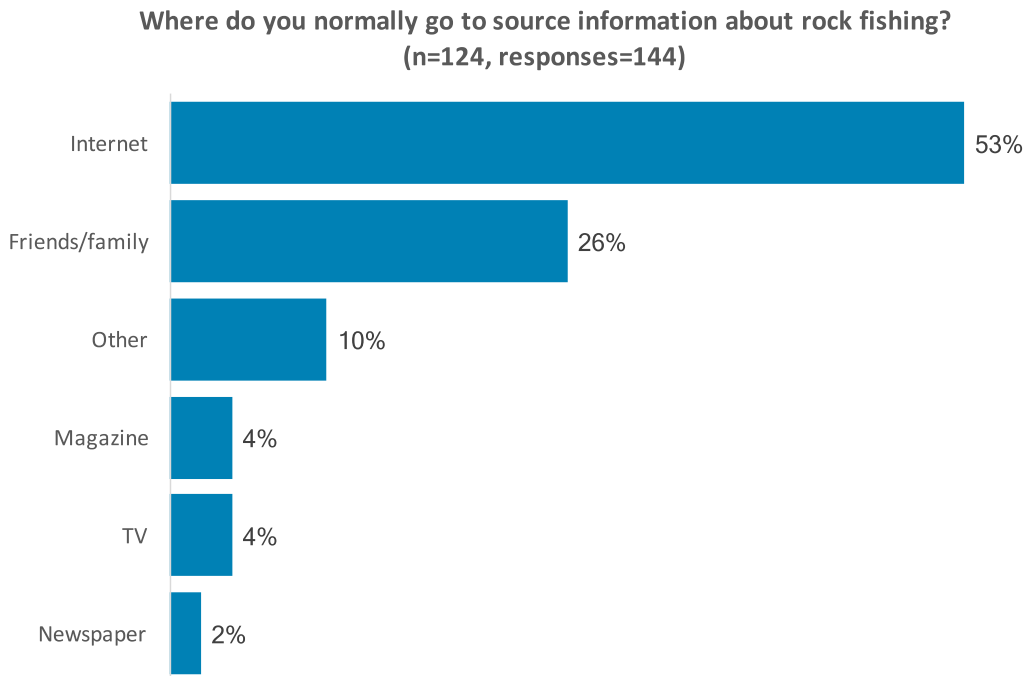
Kyeemagh	Lake Macquarie	Moonee Beach
Mosman	Nelson Bay	Newcastle
North Beach	North Sydney	Picnic Point
Port Botany	Port Kembla	Port Macquarie
Yellow Rock	Whale Bay	Yellow Bay

Figure 36 Information source about rock fishing location



- It is noteworthy that half – 52% – find out about sites from their friends. As 60% of all respondents go fishing with friends, a possible campaign might involve friends informing friends about safety measures – "friends tell friends about the new fine for not wearing a lifejacket," etc.

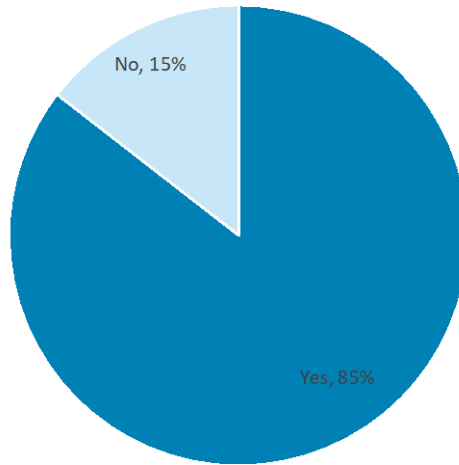
Figure 37 Information source about rock fishing



- The Randwick LGA rock fishers rely slightly more on the Internet (53%) for information on rock fishing information. In 2013, they used the Internet 50% for information about rock fishing.
- Print media (newspapers and magazines) and TV use are now negligible; in 2013, newspapers were sought by 4% of respondents, magazines 9%, and TV 12%.
- The fishers also rely on friends/family (26%) and other sources such as signage, and social media.

Figure 38 Checking information before rock fishing

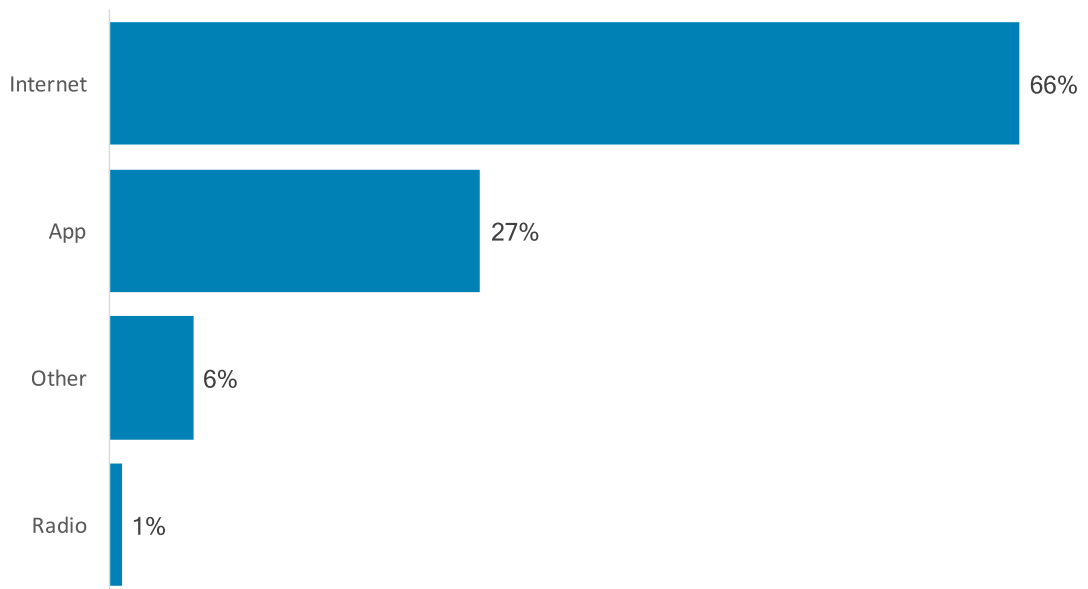
Did you check aspects such as weather conditions, tide information before you came out today? (n=124)



- While it seems alarming that 15% did not check for weather conditions or tide information before they came to the site, most respondents fished with friends, so they might be relying on their friends to check, or they may use their smartphones to check while they are at the rock fishing site.

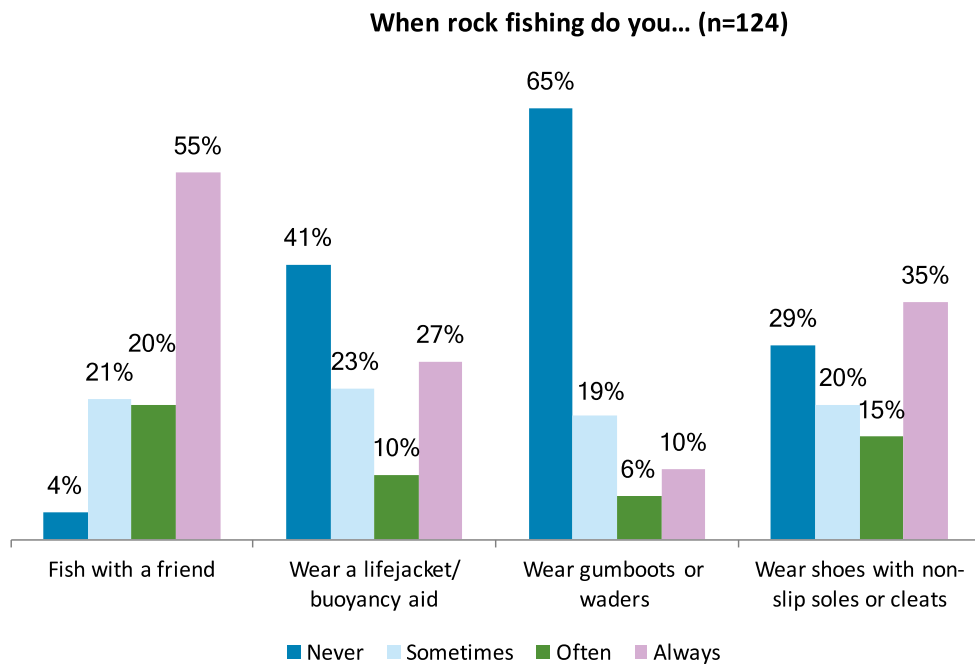
Figure 39 Information source for checking aspects before rock fishing

How did you check aspects such as weather conditions, tide information before you came out today? (n=124, responses=115)



- Two out of three respondents (66%) check aspects such as weather and tides using the Internet. This is followed by 27% using an app.
- The Internet sources included: willyweather.com.au, bom.gov.au, seabreeze.com.au, Google and Naver.

Figure 40 Rock fishing behaviour – fishing with friends, wearing a lifejacket, gumboots or waders, shoes with non-slip soles or cleats

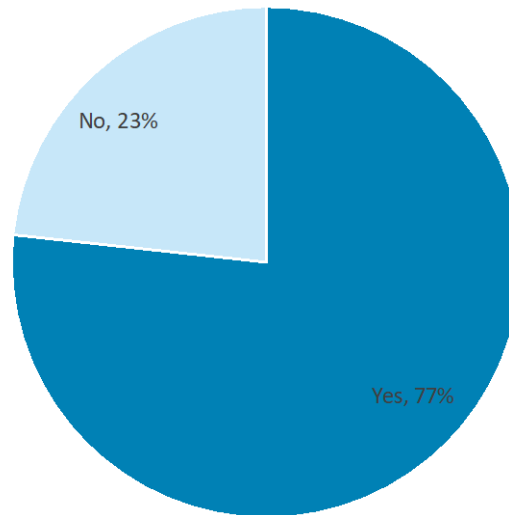


- It is encouraging that the Randwick LGA rock fishers now fish with a friend more often, with over half of them (55%) always fishing with a friend, compared with 41% in 2013.
- The use of lifejackets has only slightly increased, despite the new law – 27% always wear a lifejacket in 2017, compared to 24% in 2013.
- 41% of respondents never wear a lifejacket in 2017, a slight improvement from 49% in 2013.
- However, only 10% of respondents always wear gumboots and waders in 2017, a decrease in use from 15% in 2013.
- Surprisingly, only 35% of the respondents always wear shoes with non-slip soles or cleats in 2017, a significant drop from 63% in 2013. This is despite the fact that such shoes are affordable and can be stylish.



Figure 41 Safety standards of lifejacket

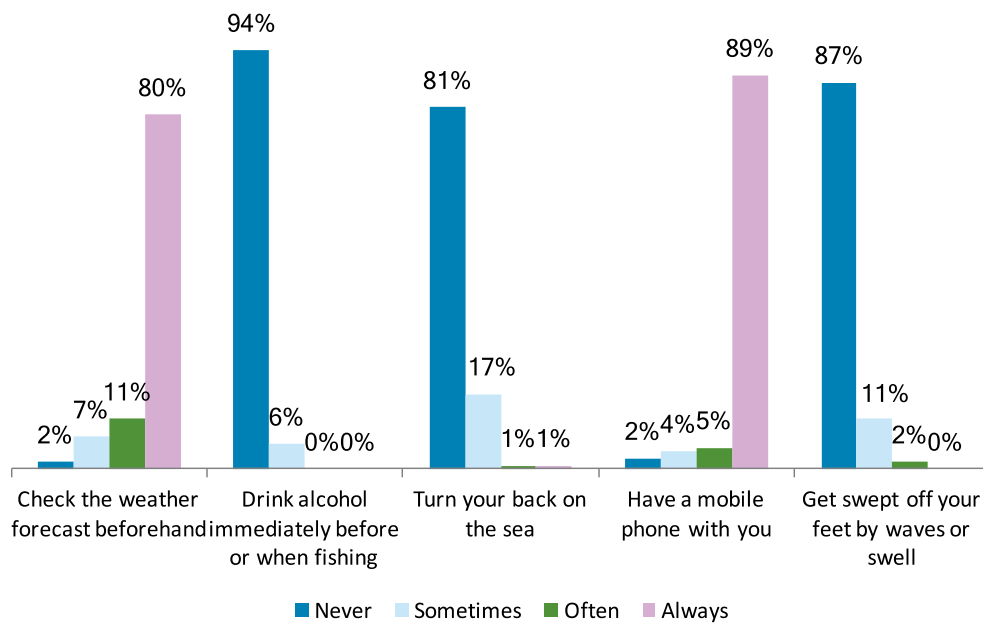
Is that lifejacket/ buoyancy aid an Australian Standards approved lifejacket? (n=73)



- There were 73 respondents who would wear a lifejacket (59% of all respondents) from sometimes to always. A majority – 77% – said their lifejacket/ buoyancy aid was Australian Standards approved.

Figure 42 Rock fishing behaviour – check weather forecast, drink alcohol, turn back on sea, have mobile phone, get swept off feet

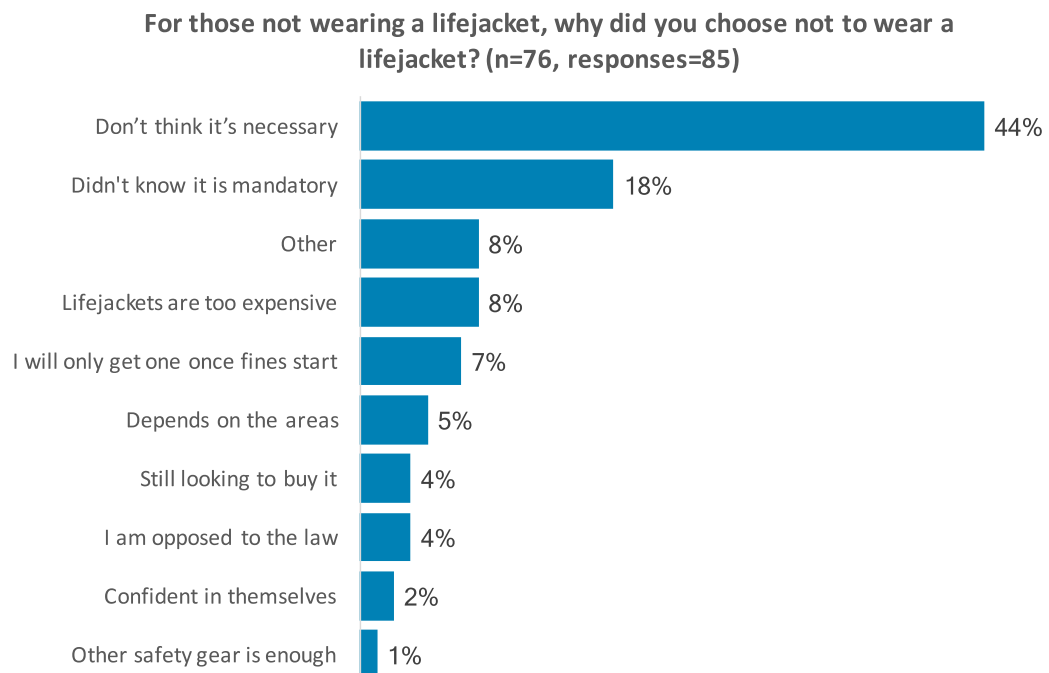
When rock fishing do you... (n=124)



- Most respondents (80%) said they always check weather beforehand, only a slight increase from 78% in 2013.

- Most respondents (94%) never drink alcohol before or when fishing, a slight improvement from 92% in 2013.
- Most (81%) never turn their back on the sea while rock fishing, a slight decrease from 83% in 2013.
- An impressive 87% of respondents said they never get swept off their feet by waves or swells in 2017, compared to 85% in 2013 – despite the decreased wearing of shoes with non-slip soles or cleats.
- 89% of respondents always have a mobile phone with them when they rock fish, a notable increase from 78% in 2013.

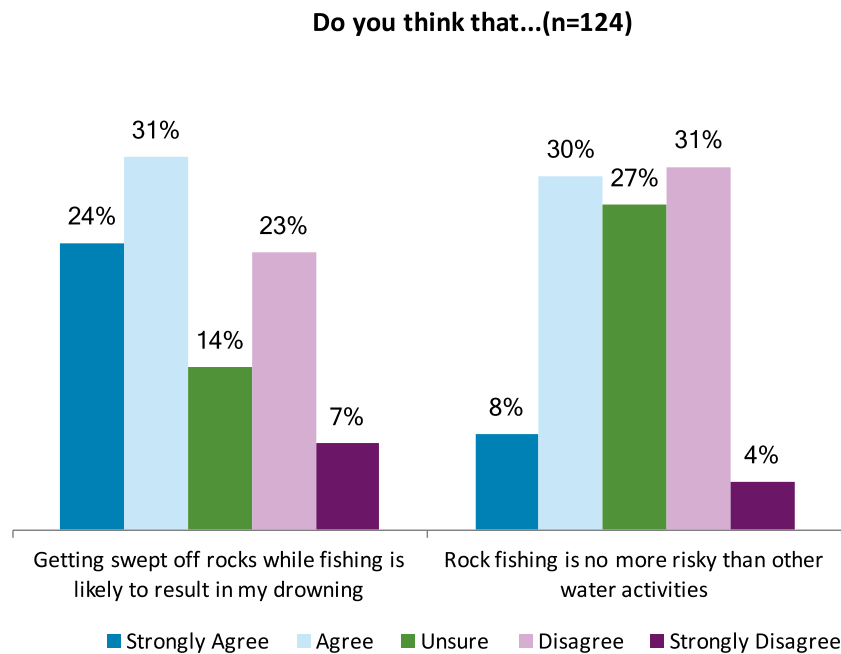
Figure 43 Reasons for not wearing a lifejacket



- Among the 76 respondents who do not wear a lifejacket, an alarming 44% do not think a lifejacket is necessary when rock fishing. Another 18% didn't know that wearing a lifejacket while rock fishing is mandatory. 40% of veteran fishers with over 10 years' experience never wear lifejackets in 2017.

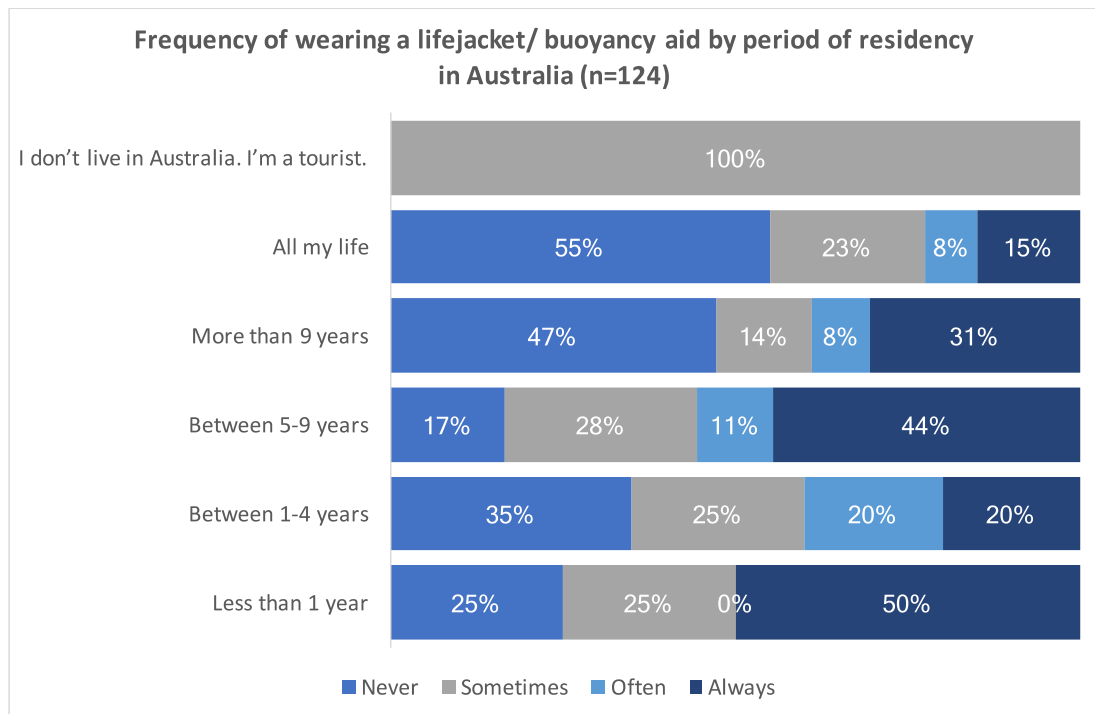
Attitude toward rock fishing

Figure 44 Attitude toward rock fishing – getting swept off rocks, riskiness of rock fishing



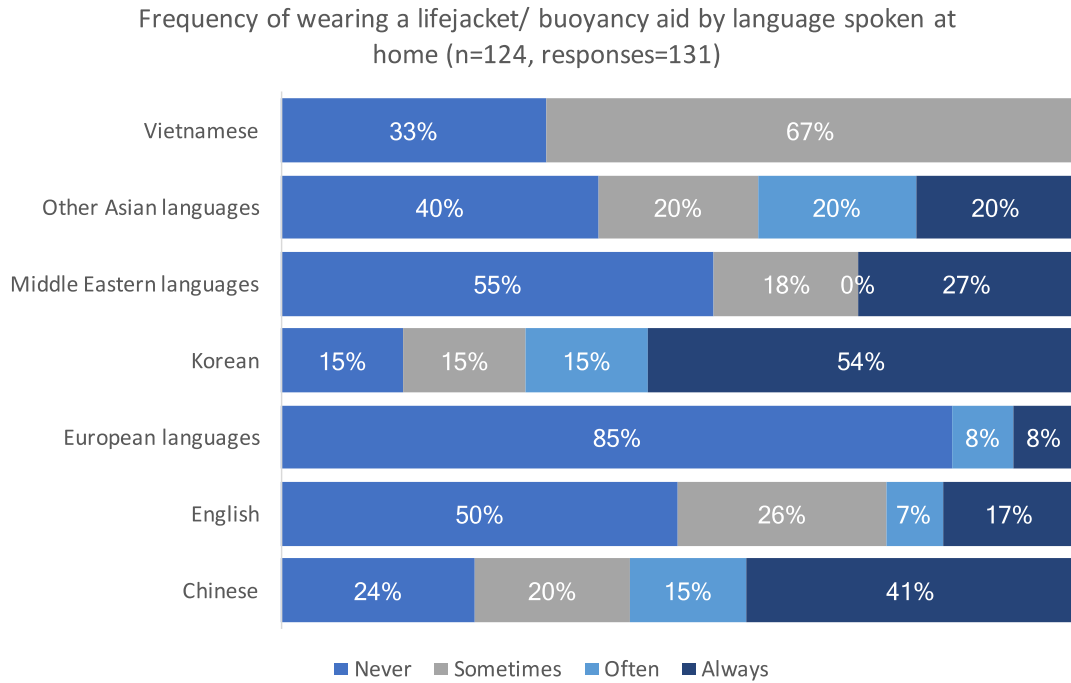
- Almost one third (30%) disagreed or strongly disagreed that getting swept off rocks while fishing is likely to result in their drowning. They believed they would likely not drown because they are confident of their swimming abilities and geared up properly.
- More than half (55%) were more realistic, agreeing or strongly agreeing that getting swept off rocks while fishing would likely result in drowning. They cited the presence of strong waves, unpredictable sea, inability to swim, and slippery and dangerous rocks.
- One third (35%) disagreed or strongly disagreed that rock fishing is no more risky than other water activities. These respondents believed that rock fishing is more risky because of the proximity to rocks and swell, changing conditions and possibility of fatality.
- Over one third (38%) agreed or strongly agreed that rock fishing is no more risky than other water activities. Some said that all extreme or water sports are dangerous. Some believed that if they exercise common sense, fish with friends, follow all safety guidelines and put on safety gear, the risk is no greater than other water activities.

Figure 45 Frequency of wearing a lifejacket/ buoyancy aid when rock fishing by period of residence in Australia



- It appears that long-time residents of Australia are less likely to wear a lifejacket.
- Among those who have lived in Australia all their life, 55% never wear a lifejacket, 23% only sometimes wear one, while only 15% always wear it.
- Among those who have lived in Australia for more than 9 years, but have not lived in Australia all their life, 47% never wear a lifejacket while rock fishing and 31% always wear a lifejacket.
- The highest rate of "always wear a lifejacket" was 50% – the newcomers who have lived in Australia for less than 1 year.

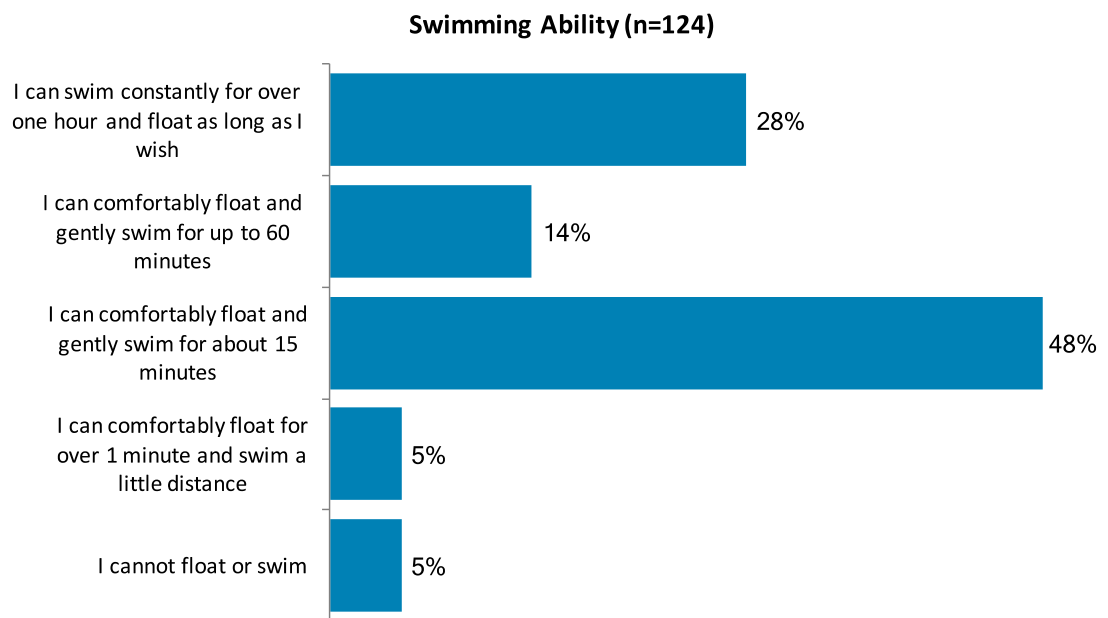
Figure 46 Frequency of wearing a lifejacket/ buoyancy aid when rock fishing by language spoken at home



- Half of the English speakers (n=42) were not likely to wear a lifejacket, with 50% saying they never wear a lifejacket while rock fishing and 26% only sometimes wearing one.
- The Korean (n=13) and Chinese speakers (Mandarin and Cantonese, n=41) were most likely to always wear a lifejacket (54% and 41% respectively).
- The European language speakers (85%) and Middle Eastern language (Arabic, Farsi, Assyrian) speakers (55%) were most likely to never wear a lifejacket.

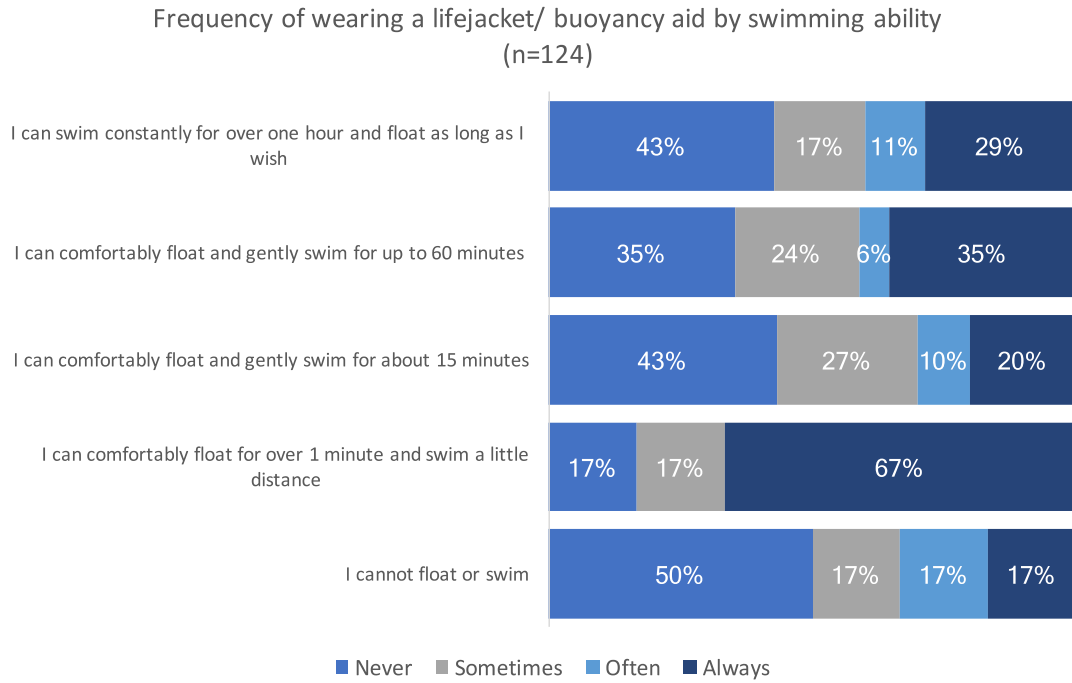
Emergency readiness

Figure 47 Swimming ability



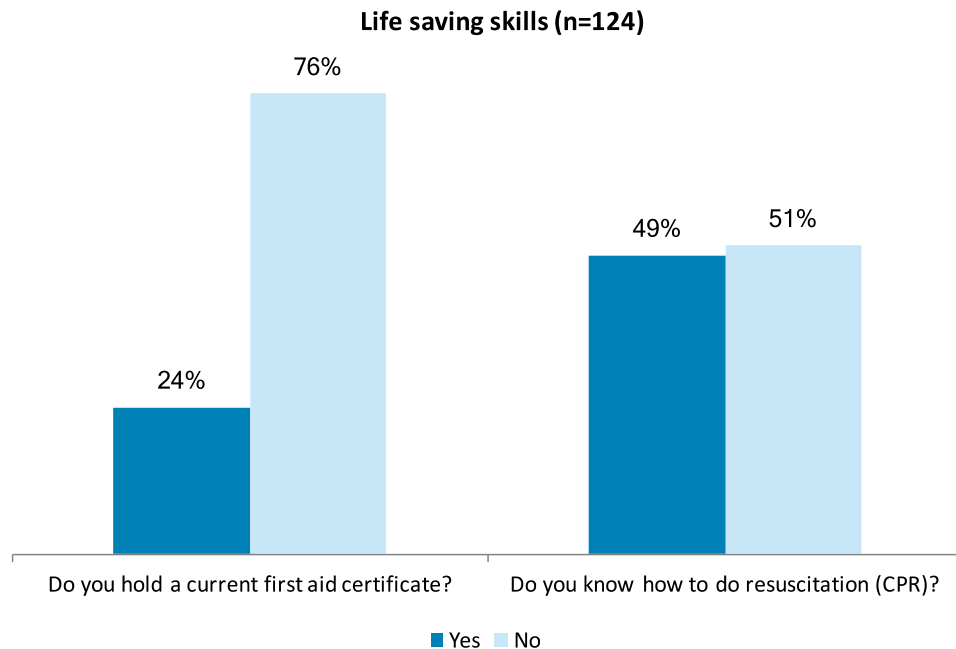
- More than half – 53% - can gently swim and float for less than 15 minutes; this is likely to be a problem during rough water conditions, such as when waves are able to knock fishers off the rocks. This may be tied to the fact that 32% of 2017 respondents are first-time fishers or fishers with less than one year experience; they may simply not realise the importance of swimming ability.
- It is noteworthy that in the 2017 survey, only 14% said they can swim for up to 60 minutes, while in 2013 there were 29% making the same claim.
- Only 5% in 2017 said they cannot swim or float, a slight improvement from the 8% in 2013. However, it is still astonishing that anyone would go rock fishing without being able to swim or float.

Figure 48 Frequency of wearing a lifejacket by swimming ability



- Half of those who cannot float or swim never wear a lifejacket (3/6).
- Of those who can float for over 1 minute, 67% always wear a lifejacket.
- Of those who can float and swim for 15 minutes, 43% never wear a lifejacket.

Figure 49 Life saving skills (First aid and resuscitation skills)



- 24% of survey respondents hold a current first aid certificate. It is an increase from the meager 9% of the 2013 survey. First aid training is required by some employers and there should be more rock fishers who have the basic training to know how to stop bleeding, etc.
- Almost half (49%) of the respondents know how to perform CPR, a slight improvement of 42% in the 2013 survey.

Respondents' ideas on increasing safety for rock fishers

When asked what could be done to increase safety for rock fishers, survey respondents listed the following popular ideas:

- Awareness campaign including signs, social media
- Education, such as free safety training with videos (YouTube), fish with experienced fishers, videos with experienced fishers sharing tips, and foreign language materials – these items should be publicised where the rock fishers are likely to be: tackle shops, on-site signs, community centres and clubs
- Physical site improvements such as better platforms, railings, fencing, and signs, and clearing some rocks, providing more angel rings, installing safety rings on rocks to enable fishers to use a leash
- Signs on-site and at tackle shops, for example signs on how to fish safely, wearing cleats and don't go when the weather is bad or waves exceed a certain height
- Lifeguards and cameras in dangerous spots
- Have lifejackets and other safety gear available for hire or loan; this would be especially useful for first-time and inexperienced rock fishers who are not prepared to invest in purchasing a lifejacket.

Non-Fatal Drowning Incidents and Near Misses

Only 11% of the respondents said they had either been swept off the rocks or got into difficulty in the water while rock fishing, or they knew someone who had been swept off the rocks. All the victims were male; four died, the others survived. Forty-six per cent of victims involved in drowning incidents and near misses told by rock fishers were incidents that happened to locals or someone who believed they knew the area well. In each case, the survey respondent cited circumstances – dangerous area, rough or rogue waves, bad fishing conditions, lost balance, not wearing cleats, wasn't watching when a boat passed – and never said it was due to lack of a lifejacket or poor swimming skills.

Of those who survived, one was rescued by helicopter, the others swam back or got themselves out of the water on their own or with help by friends or strangers. The survivors were in the water less than ten minutes each (1 minute, 2 minutes, 5 minutes, 10 minutes), except for one very lucky fisher in his 20's who was in the water for 30 minutes and was able to swim unassisted to a safe ledge. The incidents occurred between 1970 and 2017.

Regarding those who died, the surviving fishers said alcohol was not involved, and nobody said that a lifejacket would have influenced the outcome. According to them:

- In 2017, this fisher's friend (aged 40-49) died in a dangerous area even though he was a local and knew the area.
- In 2007, this fisher's friend (aged 30-39) was a local but died in Watson's Bay because the weather was not good. He was in the water for a couple of hours before drowning.
- This fisher's friend (aged 20-29) was a regular visitor to Penshurst, but fishing conditions were bad and he died.
- In 1982, this fisher (aged 30-39) was a local, but died due to a freak wave.

Only one rock fisher reported an incident involving himself. In 1996, he was aged 20-29 and local to Maroubra. He was at Yellow Rock when a wave hit him and swept him away, even though he was wearing cleats. He was in the water for 30 minutes but he was able to swim back to a safe ledge. He said he has been swept off the rocks a total of five times.

While these incidents show it is important to fish with friends, they also give a false sense of security – that one only needs to be able to swim for some minutes, and that helpful strangers will be able to pull you out of the water or into a boat. Among the four deaths known to the respondents, the victims were either local or those who believed they knew the area well. This did not reduce the risks inherent in rock fishing.

It would be helpful to disseminate recent stories of victims involved in drowning incidents and near misses told by rock fishers with more varied circumstances, for example, stories about a local who knew the area well being swept off the rocks due to unpredictable weather or a tourist who nearly drowned due to unfamiliarity of the local area. Testimonies could describe how a lifejacket or swimming class helped. Otherwise, rock fishers may continue to believe that there is "no problem at all" if they are simply careful and observant.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Interview schedule

We conducted the surveys in the locations nominated by the Randwick City Council.

MMM's five interviewers were trained in the Australian Market and Social Research Society (AMSRS) code of professional conduct, and were briefed about the project's aims, findings from the risk assessment reports and details of the questionnaire. They conducted the interviews by working in groups of two or three persons together.

The questionnaire was translated into simplified and traditional Chinese, Korean and Vietnamese. Bilingual interviewers approached rock fishers and conducted the interviews in-languages, and in English. Answers to open-ended questions were back-translated into English afterwards.

Date	Time	Hours	Survey Task Areas
Sat 25/11/2017	9:00am-3:00pm	6 hours	Bare Island, La Perouse, Cape Banks, Little Bay, Malabar, Maroubra North, Mahon Pool, then back to La Perouse
Sun 26/11/2017	8:30am-2:30pm	6 hours	Bare Island, La Perouse, Cape Banks, Mahon Pool, Malabar
Sat 2/12/2017	8:30am-2:30pm	6 hours	Bare Island, La Perouse, Browns Rock, Cape Banks, Little Bay (Julianne and The Trap), Malabar, Maroubra North, Mahon Pool, Maroubra Beach
Sat 9/12/2017	8:30am-2:30pm	6 hours	Bare Island, La Perouse, Malabar, Maroubra North and Mahon Pool
Sun 10/12/2017	8:30am-2:30pm	6 hours	Bare Island, Browns Rock, Cape Banks, Malabar, North Maroubra, Mahool Pool, Maroubra Beach
Sat 16/12/2017	8:30am-2:30pm	6 hours	Bare Island, La Perouse, Cape Banks, Malabar, Maroubra North, Mahon Pool, Julianne
Sun 17/12/2017	8:30am-2:30pm	6 hours	Bare Island, La Perouse, Malabar, Tackle shop in Kingsford, Maroubra North, Mahon Pool, Maroubra beach
Thurs 28/12/2017	8:30am-2:30pm	6 hours	Bare Island, La Perouse, Malabar, Tackle shop in Kingsford, Maroubra North, Mahon Pool, Maroubra beach, Bare Island
Fri 29/12/2017	8:30am-2:30pm	6 hours	Bare Island, La Perouse, Malabar, Maroubra North, Little Bay (The Trap), tackle shop in Campsie

Appendix 2: English version of survey

Randwick City Council Rock Fishing Survey

My name is _____ from Multicultural Marketing. We have been commissioned by the Randwick City Council and NSW Office of Emergency Management to conduct a short survey to find out more about how this area of the coast is used by rock fishers. It will take around 15 minutes. Your participation will help the Council make this area safer for fishing. The survey is voluntary and anonymous so no names will ever be known. Would you have time to do the short survey with me?

1. How many times have you been rock fishing in the last 12 months, including today's visit?

- This is my first time
- Between 2-5 times
- Between 6-9 times
- Between 10-19 times
- More than 20 times

2. How many times did you visit this particular spot for rock fishing in the last 12 months, including today's visit?

- This is my first time
- Between 2-5 times
- Between 6-9 times
- Between 10-19 times
- More than 20 times

3. How did you find out about this location?

4. Did you check aspects such as weather conditions, tide information before you came out today?

- Yes No (Go to Q6)

5. How did you check aspects such as weather conditions, tide information before you came out today?

- Internet (name _____)
 - Radio (name _____)
 - App (name _____)
 - Other (please specify) _____
- _____

6. Who came with you to fish today (tick all that apply)?

- Alone
- Friends
- Spouse / Partner
- Own children
- Other relatives
- Others (please specify) _____

7. What attracted you to fish at this particular location today? (tick all that apply)

- I enjoy rock fishing here
 - There are good fish here
 - I live close by
 - There are never many people here
 - I enjoy the time spent with friends while fishing
 - This is a safe place to fish
 - There are angel ring safety devices here
 - Other (please specify) _____
- _____

8. Where else have you fished from rocks in the last 12 months?

9. How many years have you participated in rock fishing? _____

10. Where do you normally go to source information about rock fishing?

- Internet (name _____)
- Radio (name _____)
- TV (name _____)
- Newspaper (name _____)
- Magazines (name _____)
- Other (please specify _____)

11. Have you seen any messages relating to Rock Fishing safety in the last 12 months?

Yes No (Go to Q13)

12. Where did you see those messages?

- Internet (name _____)
- Radio (name _____)
- Social Media (name _____)
- Newspaper (name _____)
- Magazines (name _____)
- Other (please specify _____)

13. When rock fishing do you (please circle):

a) Fish with a friend

Never Sometimes Often Always

b) Wear a lifejacket/ buoyancy aid

Never Sometimes Often Always

c) Is that lifejacket/ buoyancy aid an Australian Standards approved lifejacket?

Yes No

d) Wear gumboots or waders

Never Sometimes Often Always

e) Wear shoes with non-slip soles or cleats

Never Sometimes Often Always

f) Check the weather forecast beforehand

Never Sometimes Often Always

g) Drink alcohol immediately before or when fishing

Never Sometimes Often Always

h) Turn your back on the sea

Never Sometimes Often Always

i) Have a mobile phone with you

Never Sometimes Often Always

j) Get swept off your feet by waves or swell

Never Sometimes Often Always

14. Do you think that (please circle):

a) Getting swept off rocks while fishing is likely to result in my drowning

Strongly Agree Unsure Disagree Strongly Disagree

b) Can you give your reasons for that opinion?

c) Do you think that (please circle): Rock fishing is no more risky than other water activities

Strongly Agree Unsure Disagree Strongly Disagree

d) Can you give your reasons for that opinion?

15. Please tick the statement that best represents your current and unaided swimming ability in a flat-water swimming pool:

- I cannot float or swim
- I can comfortably float for over 1 minute and swim a little distance
- I can comfortably float and gently swim for about 15 minutes
- I can comfortably float and gently swim for up to 60 minutes
- I can swim constantly for **over one hour** and float as long as I wish

16. Do you hold a current first aid certificate?

Yes No

17. Do you know how to do resuscitation (CPR)?

Yes No

18. Gender (interviewer to tick):

Male Female

19. What is your age group?

- 15 to 19 20 to 29 30 to 39
- 40 to 49 50 to 59 60 plus

20. What is your usual place of residence?

Town/ suburb: _____

Postcode: _____

Country (if outside Australia): _____

21. What was your country of birth?

22. What language do you usually speak at home?

23. How many years have you lived in Australia?

- Less than 1 year
- Between 1-4 years
- Between 5-9 years
- More than 9 years
- All my life
- I don't live in Australia. I'm a tourist.

24. Are you aware that 13 people have died in this area in the last 10 years, due to Rock Fishing accidents?

- Yes No

25. Does that figure concern you?

- Yes No

26. Does it influence your attitude to Rock Fishing safety?

- Yes No

27. Have you seen this sign before today? (show image of shock signage)

- Yes No

28. Did/Would you modify your behaviour while rock fishing after seeing this signage?

- Yes No

29. Are you aware that lifejackets are mandatory for rock fishing in Randwick LGA?

- Yes No

30. Have you seen or heard information about lifejackets being mandatory for rock fishing in Randwick for the past 12 months?

- Yes No (Go to Q32)

31. Where did you see those messages?

- Internet (name _____)
- Radio (name _____)
- Social Media (name _____)
- Newspaper (name _____)
- Signage (name _____)
- Other (please specify _____)

32. Have you seen this sign before today? (show image 'it's the law' signage)

- Yes No

33. [For those not wearing a lifejacket] Why did you choose not to wear a lifejacket?

- Lifejackets are too expensive
- Don't think it's necessary
- I am opposed to the law
- I will only get one once fines start being issued
- Other (please specify _____)

34. What else could be done to increase safety for rock fishers?

35. Do you know anyone personally (including yourself) who has been swept off the rocks or got into difficulty in the water while rock fishing?

- Yes
 No (The survey is complete.)

Non-Fatal Drowning Incidents and Near Misses

36. How many times have you seen people swept off the rocks or got into difficulty in the water while rock fishing?

Think about the most recent time you knew of someone swept off the rocks or who got into difficulty while rock fishing.

37. Was this person:

- Yourself
- A friend
- A family member
- Someone else (please specify) _____

38. Was this person:

- A local to the area
- A regular visitor to the area
- An infrequent visitor to the area

39. How old (approximately) was the person/s involved?

- 0 to 14 15 to 19 20 to 29
- 30 to 39 40 to 49 50 to 59
- 60 plus Unsure

40. Gender of the person:

- Male Female

41. Where was the person/s from (if known)?

Town/ suburb: _____

Postcode: _ _ _ _ _

Country (if outside Australia):

42. When did the incident occur (year and month if possible)?

43. Where did the incident occur?

Please provide as much specific information/ description as possible.

44. How did the incident occur?

Please provide as much specific information/ description as possible.

45. Had this person consumed any alcohol immediately before or during rock fishing?

- Yes No Unsure

46. How long were they in the water (approximately)?

47. How did they get out of the water?

48. Do you know the outcome of the incident – did the person survive the incident?

Thank you for your time and participation in this survey.

Would you like to participate in any follow up survey about rock fishing safety in future? If yes, please take down:

Name: _____

Mobile number: _____

Email: _____

If no, thank you again. If you have any question about the survey, please ring my supervisor Jessie Wong at 0414 977 760.