

## Incidents in the Outdoors: Psychosocial Incident types

**433 Incidents Reported | 853,821 Program Participation Days**

Activity incident rate: 0.5 Incidents per 1000 program participation days

### Example Incident types:

Bullying, abuse, anxiety, homesickness, inappropriate interactions with other group members or public, distress, stress, or conflict.

## Number of incidents by severity

*Actual severity is based on the response to the event and the outcome.  
Potential severity is based on the reporter's subjective perception of the most likely or probable outcome should a similar event occur in the future.*

Severity level and consequence	Actual Severity	Potential Severity
No Impact (Negligible)	46	23
Minor (Short Term impact)	213	98
Moderate (Short to Medium term effects)	146	174
Serious (Medium to long term effects)	26	106
Severe (Serious long term effects or permanent disablement)	2	23
Critical (Certain death or fatality)	-	9

## Most frequently identified contributory factors associated with psychosocial incident types

*The values in brackets represent the number of times the contributory factor was identified. Data are reported from National Incident Dataset with UPLOADS reporting restrictions applied.*

### Federal/State Government

Time to adapt to changing **legislation (2)**.

### Program

**Program suitability (10)** for the participant's mental or physical capacity.

### Participant

**Mental/Physical (249)** condition including: anxiety, depression, phobia, mental or physical capacity, pre-existing mental health condition, homesick, stress, or panic attacks.

### Schools / Parents

**Communication (61)** regarding:

- pre-existing mental health conditions and the severity of the conditions.
- person's current mental state and recent patterns of behaviours.
- Management of pre-existing conditions.

### Other People

**Attitudes (9)** towards other members of the group.  
**Inappropriate communication (7)** with members of the public.  
**Decisions (7)** to act in a unsafe or inappropriate manner.

### Supervisor / Leader Communication

**Communication (38)** with supervisors and/or participants, Communication regarding expected behaviours and providing instructions.

**Knowledge (34)** of participants pre-existing medical condition, behaviour patterns, or behaviour management plan; Leader's skills and training to manage behaviours.

### Management

**Knowledge (3)** about the severity of the pre-existing medical condition.

### Group

**Peer interactions (55)** including bullying, competitiveness, or peer pressure.

### Resources / Environment

Inappropriate use of **equipment (23)**, including matches or knives.

**Weather (34)** conditions, including temperature or rain.

## Australian National Incident Dataset

September 14, 2018 to July 2, 2021

Lauren Coventon, Scott McLean, Caroline Finch, Paul Salmon

## UPLOADS

Understanding and Preventing Led  
Outdoor Accidents Data System  
[www.uploadsproject.org](http://www.uploadsproject.org)

