



Department of Local Government,
Industry Regulation and Safety



Progress report

Local governments' inspections of
private swimming pool safety barriers

2025-26



Executive summary

This report has been prepared by the Department of Local Government, Industry Regulation and Safety – Building and Energy Division (Building and Energy).

Drowning is a leading cause of accidental death in children under the age of five (young children). Swimming pools are the most common location of these drowning incidents.

Compliant safety barriers are effective in restricting the unsupervised access of young children into swimming pool areas, reducing the likelihood of a drowning incident.

Local governments are required to inspect the safety barriers of private swimming pools within their districts at intervals not exceeding four years¹. These inspections monitor the compliance of those safety barriers with building standards². Local governments have powers to assist them in enforcing compliance³.

Local governments have a legislative obligation to provide data on their safety barrier inspections before 1 August each year, for the preceding financial year⁴.

Of 137 local governments in Western Australia, 135 provided data prior to the preparation of this report. Where a local government's data was not received it has been recorded in the report as 'Data not provided by deadline'. Where responses were received after the deadline, they have been included in the report where possible.

In their responses, some local governments detailed reasons why some inspections had not been completed within the four-year maximum period. The main reasons were:

- difficulties organising access; and
- staff resourcing.

These reasons are consistently reported by numerous local governments each year.

Table 1: Overview of 2025-26 data received and comparison against previous reports

Summary	2025-26	2024-25	2023-24	2022-23
Total number of pools	186,559	181,486	178,104	175,535
Total number of pools inspected	57,809	52,093	45,490	50,258
Total number of pools overdue	1,621	2,170	1,645	2,722
Total percentage of pools overdue	0.9%	1.2%	0.9%	1.6%
Local governments with overdue inspections	58	48	54	52
Local governments that did not provide data	2	1	5	4

¹ Regulation 53, [Building Regulations 2012](#)

² Regulation 50A & 52, [Building Regulations 2012](#)

³ Part 8, [Building Act 2011](#)

⁴ Regulation 53B, [Building Regulations 2012](#)

Table 2: Inspection data provided by individual local governments for 2025-26

Where total number of pools is recorded as '0' this indicates the local government has no registered pools in its jurisdiction.

Local government	Total no. pools	Inspected	Overdue	Overdue Percentage
City of Albany	154	26	0	0.0%
City of Armadale	5,760	2,018	0	0.0%
Shire of Ashburton	523	134	0	0.0%
Shire of Augusta-Margaret River	335	8	10	3.0%
Town of Bassendean	883	479	4	0.5%
City of Bayswater	3,127	969	1	0.0%
City of Belmont	1,334	559	5	0.4%
Shire of Beverley	25	3	2	8.0%
Shire of Boddington	60	6	0	0.0%
Shire of Boyup Brook	6	1	0	0.0%
Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes	56	14	11	19.6%
Shire of Brookton	24	0	0	0.0%
Shire of Broome	2,032	672	0	0.0%
Shire of Broomehill-Tambellup	5	0	0	0.0%
Shire of Bruce Rock	7	0	0	0.0%
City of Bunbury	1,425	577	0	0.0%
City of Busselton	2,274	641	47	2.1%
Town of Cambridge	3,787	1,107	0	0.0%
City of Canning	6,166	1,993	0	0.0%
Shire of Capel	1,291	414	0	0.0%
Shire of Carnamah	3	0	0	0.0%
Shire of Carnarvon	88	13	0	0.0%
Shire of Chapman Valley	148	16	0	0.0%
Shire of Chittering	73	9	3	4.1%

Local government	Total no. pools	Inspected	Overdue	Overdue Percentage
Town of Claremont	923	320	8	0.9%
City of Cockburn	8,796	3,202	0	0.0%
Shire of Collie	342	102	0	0.0%
Shire of Coolgardie	94	50	0	0.0%
Shire of Coorow	38	11	12	31.6%
Shire of Corrigin	15	2	0	0.0%
Town of Cottesloe	839	173	7	0.8%
Shire of Cranbrook	8	8	0	0.0%
Shire of Cuballing	37	0	0	0.0%
Shire of Cue	6	3	0	0.0%
Shire of Cunderdin	14	2	0	0.0%
Shire of Dalwallinu	16	2	0	0.0%
Shire of Dandaragan	75	9	0	0.0%
Shire of Dardanup	1,011	255	0	0.0%
Shire of Denmark	14	0	12	85.7%
Shire of Derby-West Kimberley	116	25	8	6.9%
Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup	235	46	7	3.0%
Shire of Dowerin	6	2	4	66.7%
Shire of Dumbleyung	15	3	0	0.0%
Shire of Dundas	10	0	0	0.0%
Town of East Fremantle	756	528	2	0.3%
Shire of East Pilbara	299	243	0	0.0%
Shire of Esperance	146	76	0	0.0%
Shire of Exmouth	207	50	0	0.0%
City of Fremantle	1,164	372	0	0.0%
Shire of Gingin	341	29	0	0.0%
Shire of Gnowangerup	11	6	0	0.0%

Local government	Total no. pools	Inspected	Overdue	Overdue Percentage
Shire of Goomalling	16	0	11	68.8%
City of Gosnells	7,504	1,692	0	0.0%
City of Greater Geraldton	2,215	547	1	0.0%
Shire of Halls Creek	0	0	0	0.0%
Shire of Harvey	1,896	685	0	0.0%
Shire of Irwin	179	51	2	1.1%
Shire of Jerramungup	3	0	1	33.3%
City of Joondalup	24,111	6,654	0	0.0%
City of Kalamunda	6,025	1,721	3	0.0%
City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder	2,293	579	5	0.2%
City of Karratha	2,191	332	456	20.8%
Shire of Katanning	104	7	2	1.9%
Shire of Kellerberrin	20	0	0	0.0%
Shire of Kent	3	0	2	66.7%
Shire of Kojonup	18	11	8	44.4%
Shire of Kondinin	2	0	0	0.0%
Shire of Koorda	11	1	0	0.0%
Shire of Kulin	6	0	0	0.0%
City of Kwinana	2,104	476	70	3.3%
Shire of Lake Grace	11	3	7	63.6%
Shire of Laverton	0	0	0	0.0%
Shire of Leonora	6	0	0	0.0%
City of Mandurah	7,178	2,427	7	0.1%
Shire of Manjimup	77	36	0	0.0%
Shire of Meekatharra	Data not provided by deadline			
City of Melville	11,450	4,152	22	0.2%

Local government	Total no. pools	Inspected	Overdue	Overdue Percentage
City of Melville	11,450	4,152	22	0.2%
Shire of Menzies	0	0	0	0.0%
Shire of Merredin	100	12	8	8.0%
Shire of Mingenew	29	0	0	0.0%
Shire of Moora	74	40	0	0.0%
Shire of Morawa	0	0	0	0.0%
Town of Mosman Park	1,034	255	8	0.8%
Shire of Mount Magnet	9	0	0	0.0%
Shire of Mount Marshall	6	0	0	0.0%
Shire of Mukinbudin	2	0	2	100.0%
Shire of Mundaring	3,899	1,088	86	2.2%
Shire of Murchison	0	0	0	0.0%
Shire of Murray	1,531	509	0	0.0%
Shire of Nannup	9	0	0	0.0%
Shire of Narembeen	12	0	0	0.0%
Shire of Narrogin	138	96	3	2.2%
City of Nedlands	2,919	584	8	0.3%
Shire of Ngaanyatjaraku	0	0	0	0.0%
Shire of Northam	525	252	6	1.1%
Shire of Northampton	140	11	25	17.9%
Shire of Nungarin	0	0	0	0.0%
Shire of Peppermint Grove	298	146	5	1.7%
Shire of Perenjori	6	0	0	0.0%
City of Perth	223	100	0	0.0%
Shire of Pingelly	35	4	2	5.7%
Shire of Plantagenet	21	21	0	0.0%

Local government	Total no. pools	Inspected	Overdue	Overdue Percentage
Town of Port Hedland	926	398	74	8.0%
Shire of Quairading	49	46	2	4.1%
Shire of Ravensthorpe	0	0	0	0.0%
City of Rockingham	12,091	4,403	155	1.3%
Shire of Sandstone	3	3	0	0.0%
Shire of Serpentine-Jarrahdale	2,789	497	1	0.0%
Shire of Shark Bay	7	0	0	0.0%
City of South Perth	3,095	1,434	0	0.0%
City of Stirling	12,871	3,638	281	2.2%
City of Subiaco	828	94	119	14.4%
City of Swan	9,774	4,034	3	0.0%
Shire of Tammin	1	1	0	0.0%
Shire of Three Springs	4	4	0	0.0%
Shire of Toodyay	88	29	25	28.4%
Shire of Trayning	3	0	3	100.0%
Shire of Upper Gascoyne	Data not provided by deadline			
Town of Victoria Park	1,061	244	4	0.4%
Shire of Victoria Plains	21	0	0	0.0%
City of Vincent	1,384	212	4	0.3%
Shire of Wagin	56	55	1	1.8%
Shire of Wandering	22	0	0	0.0%
City of Wanneroo	17,071	4,904	9	0.1%
Shire of Waroona	220	88	1	0.5%
Shire of West Arthur	15	13	2	13.3%
Shire of Westonia	0	0	0	0.0%
Shire of Wickepin	3	0	0	0.0%

Local government	Total no. pools	Inspected	Overdue	Overdue Percentage
Shire of Williams	30	0	0	0.0%
Shire of Wiluna	0	0	0	0.0%
Shire of Wongan-Ballidu	34	0	0	0.0%
Shire of Woodanilling	7	2	0	0.0%
Shire of Wyalkatchem	17	0	0	0.0%
Shire of Wyndham-East Kimberley	315	39	29	9.2%
Shire of Yalgoo	0	0	0	0.0%
Shire of Yilgarn	38	0	10	26.3%
Shire of York	183	1	5	2.7%

Total	186,559	57,809	1,621	0.9%
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