TRENDS IN SUFFOCATION DEATHS IN NEW SOUTH WALES

- Suffocation was the seventh leading cause of injury death in NSW from 1998 to 2002.
- Between 1998 and 2002, 331 people died as a result of suffocation in NSW.
- There was no statistically significant trend in suffocation death rates in NSW from 1986 to 2002.

**Yearly trend in death rates for suffocation:**
**NSW, 1986-2002**

- People aged under 5 years and 75+ years had the highest rates of death due to suffocation in NSW from 1998 to 2002.
- Males accounted for 64% of all suffocation deaths in NSW from 1998 to 2002.
- From 1998 to 2002, food (29%) was the most common cause of suffocation death in NSW.