

ALCOHOL-INDUCED DEATHS

141. Hon Dr BRIAN WALKER to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Health:

I refer the minister to the recent Foundation for Alcohol Research and Education report which, based upon Australian Bureau of Statistics figures, showed that in 2022 as many as 1 742 deaths across Australia were classified as having been alcohol-induced—six deaths per 100 000, the highest rate reported in a decade.

- (1) Given that the report was issued in November of last year, how many alcohol-induced deaths were recorded here in Western Australia across the whole of the 2022 calendar year?
- (2) How does that 2022 figure relate to the number of alcohol-induced deaths reported in recent years?
- (3) Of those alcohol-induced deaths here in WA, what was the highest underlying contributory cause?

Hon PIERRE YANG replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. I provide the following answer on behalf of the Minister for Health.

- (1) The Australian Bureau of Statistics data for the 2022 calendar year recorded 151 alcohol-induced deaths in Western Australia.

Answer (2) is in tabular form. I seek leave to have the response incorporated into *Hansard*.

[Leave granted for the following material to be incorporated.]

- (2) ABS data for alcohol-induced deaths reported in Western Australia in recent years:

Calendar Year	Alcohol-induced deaths
2018	135
2019	143
2020	171
2021	151
2022	151

- (3) The ABS has not provided a further breakdown of the contributory causes of death in this data. Detailed cause of death data for 2022 is not yet available for analysis by the Western Australian Department of Health.