36 countries responded, from a possible approximately 85, a response rate of 42%.
The response rate, down on 2016, was similar to previous years and has been about this rate for the 30 years of the Safety Survey.

*Once again countries are encouraged to put in place systems for the collection of the type of data in this report.*

*Such data is invaluable - for use by parachuting organisations, dropzones, those involved in the areas of technical and safety matters, and when dealing with authorities.*
36 countries supplied data
6,675,733 skydives were made by
1,418,443 jumpers

51 people were killed skydiving
(these figures include Tandems; there were eight Tandem fatalities in 2017)

1 Fatality per
130,897 Jumps
27,813 Jumpers
51 Fatalities

- 10 Students (20%) 0-25 Freefalls
- 6 Intermediate (12%) 26-250 Freefalls
- 35 Experts (68%) 251 + Freefalls

Total 51

- Cutaway & Low/No Reserve pull 5
- No pull/low pull on main 4
- Others 42

Total 51
‘Other’ Fatalities (36)

- Tandem Fatalities: 8
- Intentional Fast Landings: 8
- Other Landing Errors: 6
- Freefall Collision: 4
- Main/Reserve Entanglement: 3
- Incorrect Emergency Procedures: 3
- Equipment Related: 2
- Canopy Collision, low cutaway, reserve opening on impact: 2
- Drowning or cutaway over water, possibly rendering jumper unconscious: 1
- Rotating Main Canopy, no action: 1
- Cutaway, reserve incorrectly assembled: 1
- Reserve P/C entangled with another’s c/a main, reserve did not deploy: 1
- Canopy Collision: 1
- Medical Issues: 1

Total: 42
Fatalities – Largest Groups

1. Intentional Fast Landings (of 51)  
   - Tandem Fatalities  
     8 - 16% of 51

2. Other Landing Errors  
   6 – 12% of 51

3. Freefall Collision  
   4 – 08% of 51

Canopy handling issues, combined – 14 (27% of total fatalities, 51)
Significant Figures

- OF THE 51 FATALITIES

- 30 (59%) appear to have occurred with the parachutist having at least one good parachute on his/her back
- 16 (31%) occurred after the successful deployment of the main parachute
- 5 (10%) might have been avoided by an AAD
- 40 (78%) appear to have been caused by human error

Of the 2017 fatalities 6 were First Jump Students, 2 Solo Students and 4 Tandem Students
Some Trends & Issues

— Continuing high percentage of fatalities, 14 (27% of 51) resulting from canopy handling, canopy control, and landing issues.

— Roughly similar percentage distribution of fatalities between Student/Intermediate/Expert as in previous years. The category ‘Expert Skydiver’ continues to have the most fatalities, but it has the biggest numbers of jumps.

— AAD and RSL are both now widely used.
Tandem - Solo

- Tandems 18.8% of all jumps, Tandem + Solo
- 5,419,149 Solo jumps – 1,256,584 Tandems
- Tandem Fatalities 8; Solo Fatalities 43 (51 total)
Distribution of Reports

This Report, along with the Power Point presentation, and material listed below, has been sent by e-mail to all respondents and to all other countries for which the T&S Committee has e-mail addresses, and by e-mail to all IPC Delegates.

2017 Safety Survey Report
2017 Safety Survey Report Power Point Presentation
Safety Survey 2018 Form
Safety Survey 2018 Notes
Parachuting Aircraft Incidents/Accidents Report 2018

APPEAL

Those countries who did not report for 2017 are requested to make a special effort to do so for 2018. The compilation of data is to the benefit of the country gathering same, and to the worldwide skydiving community.