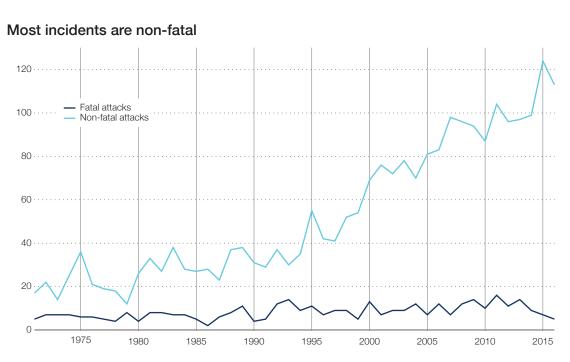
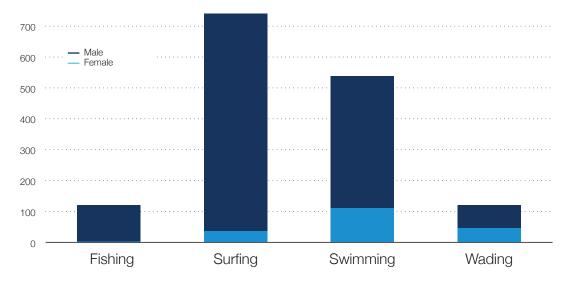


Seals are on the menu for sharks. Humans aren't. Researchers emphasize that sharks bite humans just out of curiosity or for defense. The Shark Research Institute in Princeton, New Jersey, scoured books and the internet for shark attack data. All in all, they documented about 5000 attacks. Let's have a look.



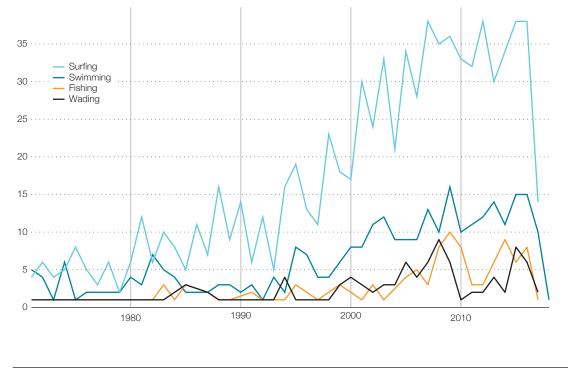
Reports of shark attacks have been increasing over time. Most are non-fatal. The injuries are documented in detail. Also the fatal attacks, for example James Woolby. He swam at the Western Cape Province of South Africa. A shark killed him, spat out his hands and then disappeared. The partial remains of James Woolby were washed ashore over the next few days.

Who gets attacked more?

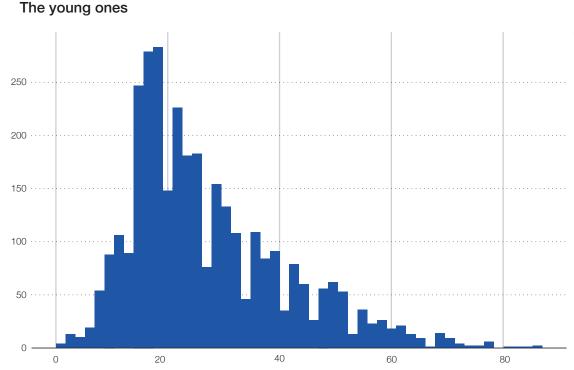


Does the ocean challenge men more than women? Or, are women more careful than men? Fact is: More men are attacked by sharks than women. Looking at the data, men seem to be the more risk taker.

Surfers at risk



Surfing along the coasts of the US and Australia turns out to be the most dangerous water activity followed by swimming. The recent attacks were the result from the growing popularity of surfing.



The youngest victims are surfers and swimmers. All accidents are cruel and sad. Reading the report of an incident in Papua New Guinea is heart breaking: It was in early November 1966 when a dad was bathing his nine month old daughter in the sea. Suddenly a shark knocked her out of his arms and carried the baby into deep water.