

# **DROWNING** Report

Prepared for the Lifesaving Society by the Drowning Prevention Research Centre Canada

This infographic summarizes the most recent data on water-related fatalities available from the Offices of the Chief Coroners and Medical Examiners of Canada. With the exception of the first chart, all data refers to the most current five-year period, 2013-2017. The 2016 and 2017 totals are based on partial data. Complete information for British Columbia was not available at the time of data collection\*.

### CANADIAN WATER-RELATED FATALITIES AND DEATH RATES, 2008-2017



# **Q** WHO IS DROWNING?



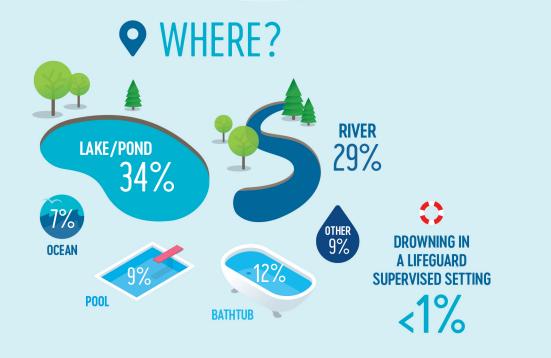
**79%** male

21% female

Age: 20-34 21% [1.3'] Age: 50-64 25% [1.4']

Age: 65+ 22% [1.7]

\* Death Rate per 100,000 / Year



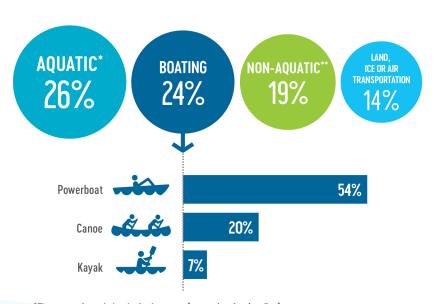


66%
OF DROWNINGS
OCCURRED FROM

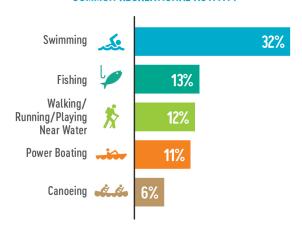




### WHAT WERE THEY DOING?



### WATER-RELATED FATALITIES BY MOST COMMON RECREATIONAL ACTIVITY



## **▲** WHY? RISK FACTORS

### CHILDREN



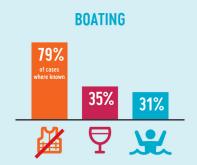


# 35-64 YEARS 75% of cass where known 43% 56%

MIDDLE-AGED ADULTS



# Not Wearing a PFD Alcohol Consumption Alone Weak or Non-Swimmer



### **SWIMMING**



#### **METHODS:**

Water-related death data is extracted from the office of the Chief Coroner or Medical Examiner for each province and territory. Data is collected for all deaths resulting from incidents "in, on or near" water. "Near water" incidents were included if the intent was closely related to water-based recreational, vocational or daily living activity. The data includes only unintentional deaths, not deaths due to natural causes, suicide, or homicide.

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:**

We gratefully acknowledge the support, co-operation and efforts of:

- The Chief Coroner's and Medical Examiner's Offices in each province/territory, who permitted and facilitated confidential access to coroner's reports on unintentional water-related deaths.
- The volunteers who contributed their time and energy to extract data from the files.

### **CONTACT US:**

The Drowning Prevention Research Centre is the lead agency for drowning and water-incident research in Canada.

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<sup>\*</sup>The person intended to be in the water (e.g. swimming/wading)

<sup>\*\*</sup>Unintentional fall into water (e.g. walking/biking/working near water and fell in)