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.

**Who is Drowning?**

- **79% male**
- **21% female**

**Age:**
- **Age: 20-34** 21% (1.3*)
- **Age: 50-64** 25% (1.4*)
- **Age: 65+** 22% (1.7*)

*Death Rate per 100,000 / Year*

**Where?**

- **Lake/Pond**: 34%
- **River**: 29%
- **Ocean**: 7%
- **Pool**: 9%
- **Bathtub**: 12%
- **Other**: 9%

**When?**

- **66% of drownings occurred from May to Sep**
- **<1% drowning in a lifeguard supervised setting**
WHAT WERE THEY DOING?

- **Aquatic**: 26%
- **Boating**: 24%
- **Non-Aquatic**: 19%
- **Land, Ice or Air Transportation**: 14%

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

- Swimming: 32%
- Fishing: 13%
- Walking/Running/Playing Near Water: 12%
- Power Boating: 11%
- Canoeing: 6%

*The person intended to be in the water (e.g. swimming/wading)
**Unintentional fall into water (e.g. walking/biking/working near water and fell in)

WHY? RISK FACTORS

**Children 25 Years**

- 92% Supervision Absent or Distracted

**Young Adults 15-34 Years**

- 87% of cases where known
- 44% Alcohol Consumption
- 33% Not Wearing a PFD

**Middle-Aged Adults 35-54 Years**

- 75% of cases where known
- 43% Alcohol Consumption
- 56% Not Wearing a PFD

**Older Adults 65+ Years**

- 80% of cases where known
- 43% Alcohol Consumption
- 18% Not Wearing a PFD

**Boating**

- 79% of cases where known
- 35% Alcohol Consumption
- 31% Not Wearing a PFD

**Swimming**

- 29% of cases where known
- 31% Alcohol Consumption
- 26% Not Wearing a PFD

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.

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