This infographic summarizes the most recent data on water-related fatalities available from the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner for Alberta. With the exception of the first chart, all data refers to the most current five-year period, 2012-2016.

**WHO IS DROWNING?**

- **71% male**
- **29% female**

**WHERE?**

- **Lake/Pond**: 24%
- **River**: 29%
- **Pool/Hot Tub**: 11%
- **Bathtub**: 21%
- **Other**: 15%

**WHEN?**

- **60% of drownings occurred from May to September**
- **Drowning in a lifeguard supervised setting**: <3%

---

**ALBERTA WATER-RELATED FATALITIES AND DEATH RATES, 2007-2016**

Number of Deaths / Year

Death Rate per 100,000 / Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Death Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>0.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>0.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>0.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>1.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>0.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
WHAT WERE THEY DOING?

**AQUATIC** 28%
- Swimming 32%
- Walking/Running/Playing Near Water 26%
- Hot Tubbing 18%

**BOATING** 15%
- Powerboat 100%
- Inflatable Craft 15%
- Canoe 12%

**BATHING** 21%

**NON-AQUATIC** 17%

WATER-RELATED FATALITIES BY MOST COMMON RECREATIONAL ACTIVITY

- Swimming 29%
- Walking/Running/Playing Near Water 16%
- Non-Powered Boating 15%
- Diving/Jumping 12%
- Hot Tubbing 10%

WHY? RISK FACTORS

**CHILDREN**
- Supervision Absent or Distracted 100%

**YOUNG ADULTS**
- Not Wearing a PFD 92%
- Alcohol Consumption 53%
- Alone 45%

**OLDER ADULTS**
- Not Wearing a PFD 89%
- Alcohol Consumption 39%
- Alone 69%

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. Tel: 416-490-8844, Email: experts@drowningresearch.ca
Lifesaving Society Alberta and Northwest Territories Tel: 780-415-1755, Email: experts@lifesaving.org www.lifesaving.org