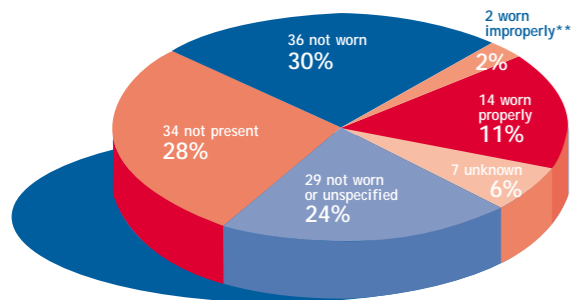


WHY?

RECREATIONAL BOATING DROWNINGS BY USE OF A FLOTATION DEVICE* IN CANADA 1999

TOTAL VICTIMS: 122



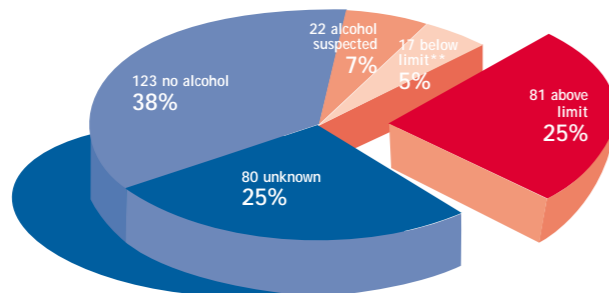
Boaters are legally required to carry lifejackets or Personal Flotation Devices (PFD) for each person on board. Each PFD must be properly fitted to the individual. Seventy-eight percent of those who drowned in boating incidents were not wearing a lifejacket or PFD at the time of the incident (whether or not it was in the boat at the time).

* Personal Flotation Device (PFD) or lifejacket.
** Not fastened or inappropriate size.

BLOOD ALCOHOL LEVELS* FOR ALL DROWNING VICTIMS*** IN CANADA 1999

TOTAL VICTIMS 15 YEARS OR OLDER: 348**** *****

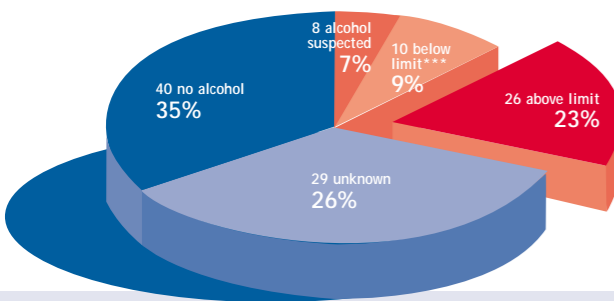
Twenty-five percent of all drownings indicated blood alcohol levels above the legal limit of 80mg. Alcohol was suspected in 7% of the drownings and 38% of drowning victims showed no level of alcohol in the blood.



* Above legal limits
** 7 at 1-49mg, 10 at 50-80mg
*** Includes recreational, occupational and daily living drownings (E910, E830, E832), excludes land and air transport drownings.
**** Includes 1 male of unknown age, presumed adult.
***** Excludes 25 victims: decomposition rendered blood alcohol levels unreliable.

BLOOD ALCOHOL LEVELS* FOR RECREATIONAL BOATING DROWNINGS IN CANADA 1999

TOTAL VICTIMS 15 YEARS OR OLDER: 116**



Twenty-three percent of boating drownings indicated blood alcohol levels above the legal limit of 80mg.

* Above legal limits
** Decomposition rendered blood alcohol level unreliable in three victims
*** 4 at 1-49mg, 6 at 50-80mg

AN AVID FISHERMAN, 67, left home after lunch without telling his wife or friends. His small powerboat

experienced mechanical failure. His body was found face down in the water. No flotation device was worn, and the man was a non-swimmer.

HOW?

The Canadian Red Cross and Lifesaving Society

work together to collect data from coroners' and medical examiners' files across Canada.

Data from all provinces and territories is transcribed by volunteers and staff.

At the national level, data is then compiled and verified for accuracy. Due to the amount of time required

by coroners' offices across Canada to release reports, coupled with the time required to collect and transcribe the data, the figures for annual drowning statistics are

from two years prior to the year of issue.

The 2001 edition is based upon 1999 drowning statistics as reported in the National Drowning Report, Visual Surveillance Report: 2001 Edition.

The Canadian Red Cross would like to thank all volunteers and staff who worked on this project.

BE PREPARED

- Avoid mixing alcohol or drugs with any type of water activity.
- Always wear a lifejacket or PFD when in a boat.
- Know the safety equipment you need on a boat and ensure that it is in good condition.
- Get the Safe Boating Guide from the Canadian Coast Guard.
- When swimming, know the depth of the water before you dive, and know your own limits.
- Have a Red Cross first aid kit on hand — in your car, your boat, and at home.

GET INFORMATION

For information on Small Vessel Regulations, age and horsepower restrictions, and other boating legal responsibilities visit the Canadian Coast Guard online at www.ccg-gcc.gc.ca or call 1-800-267-6687.

TAKE A RED CROSS FIRST AID AND CPR COURSE

Emergencies happen to all of us and knowing how to respond is critical. First Aid and CPR can mean the difference between a few lost hours, permanent disability, and even death. For more than 50 years the Canadian Red Cross has been teaching Canadians they can help when an emergency strikes — at home, at work, or wherever they happen to be. Canadian Red Cross First Aid courses teach you the life saving skills you need to make a difference. When an emergency happens, be prepared. Contact your local Red Cross office for course information.

TAKE THE RED CROSS LEARN TO SWIM PROGRAM AT YOUR LOCAL POOL OR WATERFRONT

The Canadian Red Cross is a leader in water safety education. Since 1946, the Red Cross has taught more than 20 million Canadians to swim and how to prevent aquatic injuries. Whether you or someone you know is a newcomer to water activities, or a master swimmer looking for stroke improvement; whether you use a home pool or a boat; whatever your interests and abilities, the Canadian Red Cross has a program to meet your needs.



Canadian Red Cross

FOR INFORMATION ON *THE FACTS ABOUT DROWNING IN CANADA*
OR ANY CANADIAN RED CROSS PROGRAM,
CALL TOLL FREE 1-877-356-3226.



Canadian Red Cross

THE FACTS ABOUT DROWNING IN CANADA + 2001 EDITION



Fisheries and Oceans
Canada
Coast Guard

Pêches et Océans
Canada
Garde côtière

WHO?

1999 SUMMARY OF WATER-RELATED INJURY FATALITIES BY PROVINCE AND TERRITORY														
DROWNING TYPE	NF	NS	PE	NB	QC	ON	MB	SK	AB	BC	NU	NT	YT	CA
Boating	4	10	2	2	29	43	11	7	4	31	0	2	0	145
Aquatic Activities	2	7	0	5	22	32	2	4	13	24	1	1	0	113
Using Bathtub	0	0	0	0	7	11	1	2	2	2	0	0	0	25
Falls into Water	2	2	1	3	28	24	5	1	7	20	0	1	0	94
Unknown Activities	0	1	0	1	7	2	3	2	3	8	1	0	0	28
Land and Air Transport	2	2	0	1	11	21	2	4	2	14	2	3	2	66
Non-Drownings Fatalities	3	5	0	1	9	8	2	0	1	3	0	0	0	32
Total	13	27	3	13	113	141	26	20	32	102	4	7	2	503

1999 Canadian Drownings By Province and Territory

There were 503 water-related fatalities in Canada in 1999. Drownings have been decreasing since 1992. In 1998, there were 552 water-related fatalities, 567 in 1997, and 650 in 1991. In 1999, Ontario had the highest number of water-related fatalities with 141, while the Yukon Territories had the lowest number with two.

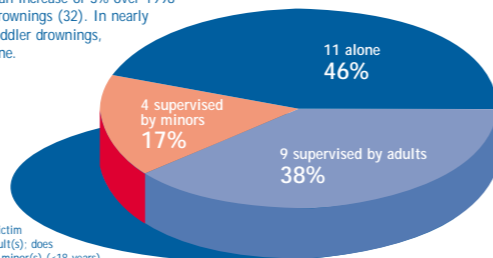
A YOUNG MALE, 17, was spending the day with two friends at the local provincial park. The boys had been at the park several times before since it had several large swimming holes and a waterfall. The boys swam across one of the pools to look at the waterfall. As they

made their return trip, the 17-year-old male started to tire. He held on to a floating log to assist in his efforts to make it back to shore. His friends had reached the shore and exited the water while the young man was still 5 meters from shore (continuing to use the log for

support). He called for their help, however, his friends were unable to reach him before he slipped under the water. They were not able to see or retrieve him in the murky water.

TODDLER (1-4 YEARS OLD) DROWNINGS* BY ACCOMPANYING PERSONS** IN CANADA 1999 • TOTAL VICTIMS: 24

Infants and toddlers represent approximately 6% of drownings in Canada. Twenty-four toddlers in Canada drowned, an increase of 3% over 1998 infant and toddler drownings (32). In nearly half of infant and toddler drownings, the victims were alone.

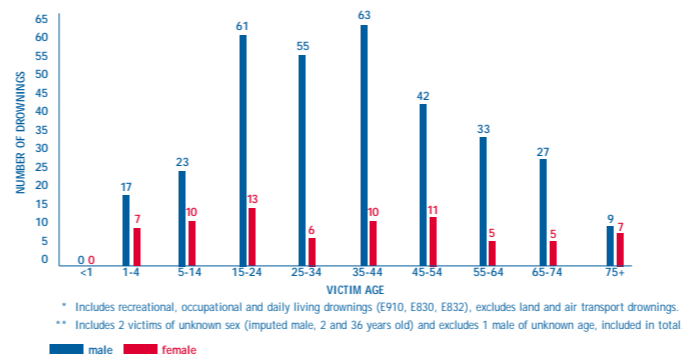


* Excludes land and air transport drownings.

** "Adult" indicates that victim was accompanied by adult(s); does not exclude presence of minor(s) (<18 years). "Minors" indicates presence of minor(s) only.

NUMBER OF DROWNINGS* BY AGE AND SEX IN CANADA 1999

MALES: 331** FEMALE: 74 • TOTAL VICTIMS: 405



Gender Comparison

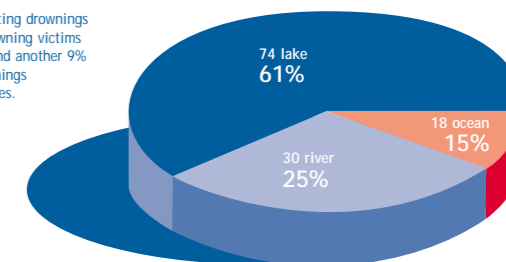
Males account for 81% of all water-related fatalities. The drowning rate per 100,000 is particularly high for males in the following age groups: ages 1-4, 15-24 and 65-74. Ninety percent of boaters succumbing to drowning were male, while 83% of recreational swimmers who drowned were also male.

WHERE?

RECREATIONAL BOATING DROWNINGS BY TYPE OF BODY OF WATER* IN CANADA 1999

TOTAL VICTIMS: 122

Over one half of all recreational boating drownings occurred in lakes. About 39% of drowning victims were fishing from a boat or canoe and another 9% were canoeing. One-quarter of drownings happened during power boat activities.



* "Lake" includes pond and reservoir.

AN 11-YEAR-OLD GIRL

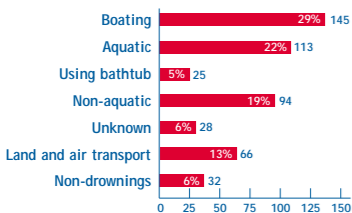
was playing and swimming at the lake. Numerous adults and children were present. The girl was last seen swimming in 1 meter of water around the wharf. Her sister, sometime later, went to look for her, and alerted her parents. The girl was found in 1.8 metres of water a short distance from shore. Although a swimmer, she was still a novice.

A SMALL BOY WAS PLAYING

in the yard with other children in a private condominium complex. His father instigated a search when the boy didn't respond to his name. Upon noticing that one of the gates enclosing the swimming pool was open, the father checked the pool and found the child face down in the water. Resuscitation was not successful. The pool was properly fenced, but lacked self-locking gates to prevent children from entering the pool area, unsupervised.

WHAT?

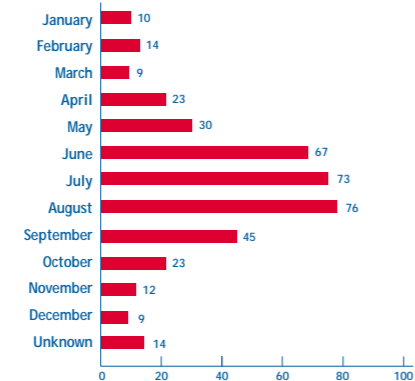
SUMMARY OF WATER-RELATED FATALITIES IN CANADA 1999 • TOTAL VICTIMS: 503



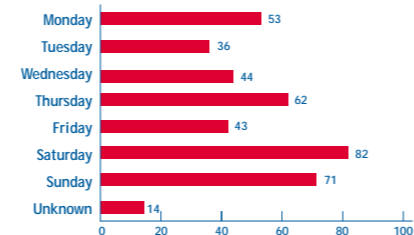
AN ABORIGINAL MALE, 36, was crossing a river in an aluminum car topper boat. He was attempting to return to shore in the late afternoon with a number of other boaters, after fishing. His boat became caught in the current and was pinned to a rock. The remainder of the boaters made it to shore, but were unable to see the man or offer assistance. His body was later recovered.

WHEN?

DROWNING IN CANADA, 1999, EXCLUDING TRANSPORT BY MONTH OF INCIDENT • TOTAL VICTIMS: 405

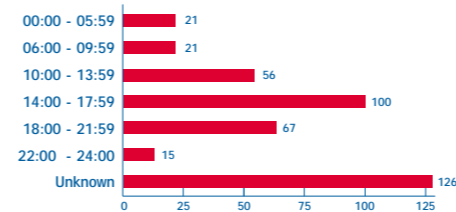


DROWNING IN CANADA, 1999, EXCLUDING TRANSPORT BY DAY OF INCIDENT • TOTAL VICTIMS: 405



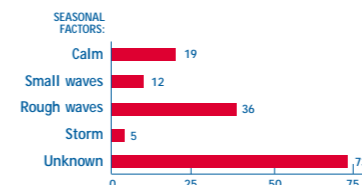
SHORTLY AFTER DARK, a 27-year-old man and his friend decided to go joy riding on their snowmobiles, on the lake near their cottage. While driving at high speeds on the frozen water, the two drivers collided.

DROWNING IN CANADA, 1999, EXCLUDING TRANSPORT BY TIME OF INCIDENT • TOTAL VICTIMS: 405

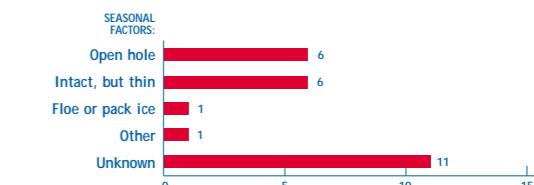


The young man was thrown off his snowmobile, broke through the ice and drowned. His companion was not submerged in the water and suffered only minor injuries. Neither the deceased nor his companion were wearing floater suits.

BOATING DROWNING IN CANADA, 1999 BY WAVE PRESENCE • TOTAL VICTIMS: 145



DROWNING DURING RECREATIONAL ACTIVITY, EXCLUDING TRANSPORT BY ICE PRESENCE, CANADA 1999 • TOTAL VICTIMS: 25



DURING AN AFTERNOON SWIM in a river with friends, a 28-year-old male became caught in the current. His friends and other witnesses, down stream, tried to catch him as he passed but were unsuccessful. His body was not recovered.