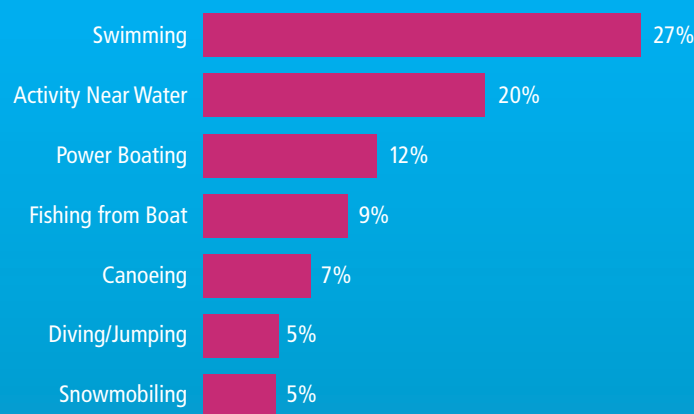


WHEN are they drowning?

The majority of drownings in Ontario occur during the warmer months with almost two thirds (64%) of water-related fatalities between 2007 and 2011 occurring in May through September. The highest number of drownings occurred in July and August (35%).

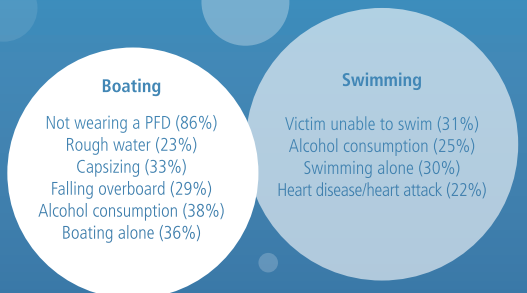
Half (51%) of Ontario drownings occurred on weekend days (Friday, Saturday or Sunday).

Victims by Most Common Recreational Activity

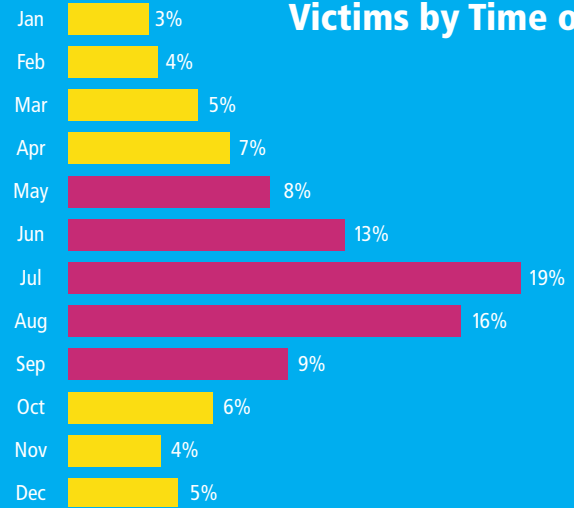


Risk Factors

The major risk factors contributing to drowning incidents in Ontario are consistent with those the Lifesaving Society has identified for the national population in the past.



Victims by Time of Year



WHAT were they doing?

Two thirds (65%) of victims who drowned in Ontario between 2007 and 2011 were engaged in a recreational activity at the time of the incident. Among these, the most common primary recreational activities were swimming (27%), walking, running or playing near water (20%), and power boating (12%).

Daily living incidents account for the next highest proportion of incidents in Ontario (22%), half of which can be attributed to bathing fatalities.

By type of activity, the greatest proportion of incidents occur during an aquatic activity (28%), where the victim intended to be in the water and something went wrong. This is followed closely by boating incidents (23%), the majority of which occurred during powerboat use (63%), or canoeing (20%). Less than 10% of victims who drowned while boating in Ontario were wearing a lifejacket.

Age

< 5

Alone near water (58%)
Supervision was distracted (56%)

5-14

With other minors only (31%)

15-19

Alcohol consumption (29%)
Alone (32%)
After dark (27%)
Not wearing a PFD when relevant (90%)

20-34

Alcohol consumption (40%)
Alone (33%)
After dark (31%)
Not wearing a PFD when relevant (80%)

35-64

Alcohol consumption (38%)
Alone (60%)
Not wearing PFD when relevant (73%)

65+

Alone (82%)
Not wearing PFD when relevant (83%)