



# ALBERTA DROWNING ANALYSIS

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1999 - 2019

## THE PROBLEM

Average annual figures

**30** fatal drownings

**158** Non-fatal emergency department visits

**24** Non-fatal drowning related hospital admissions

## FATAL DROWNING



**3/4** of all fatal drownings were male (on average)



On average, for every fatal drowning there were

**6** non-fatal drownings

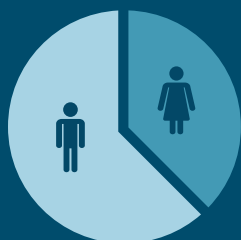
that resulted in an emergency department visit or hospitalization.

**20-29 year olds** were most likely to fatally drown.

While those aged **10-19** had the lowest fatal drownings.

## NON-FATAL DROWNING

Average hospital admissions & emergency department visits were



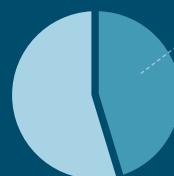
**2/3** MALE

**1/3** FEMALE



**1** in **4**

Hospital admissions for non-fatal drowning were children under 5 years old.



**45%**

of ALL non-fatal drowning hospital admissions were children under 10.

20  
YEAR

ALBERTA  
**DROWNING  
ANALYSIS** 1999 - 2019

Over the last 20 years in Alberta, on average fatal drownings have **increased 1.1%** and emergency department visits have **increased 0.6%** annually.



**THE COST**



The cost of drowning in Alberta is estimated at

**\$25  
MILLION**

=

Estimated cost of  
**emergency department visits:**

**\$1,314,385**

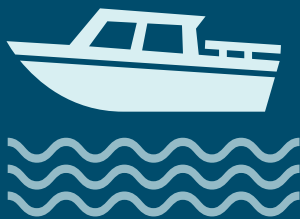
Estimated cost of  
**hospital admissions:**

**\$23,992,296**

over the last 20 years.

*People are irreplaceable.*

*Every drowning has a profound social impact to families and communities that can never be measured.*



Almost **50%**

of all non-fatal drowning related emergency department visits for those aged 15-59 were related to **water transport.**

**Highest risk boating activities for water-related injury:**



Wakeboarding / waterskiing



Inflatable watercraft



Other powered watercraft

**HOW TO PREVENT DROWNING?**



**Watch young children**



**Wear a lifejacket**



**Learn to swim**

**Water transport includes:** watercraft incidents in the course of recreational activities. Includes drowning, submersion, and injuries while in/on or as a result of a watercraft. Watercrafts include: merchant ship, passenger ship, fishing boat, hovercraft, jet ski, sailboat, canoe or kayak, inflatable craft, while water skiing, wakeboarding, surfboarding, windsurfing.

**Source:** Alberta Health, Analytics, Performance, and Reporting, Health Standards, Quality and Performance, Line by Line Database October 2019.

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PREVENTION  
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