



Recreational Water-Related Deaths in B.C., 2010

BC Coroners Service

Fast Facts

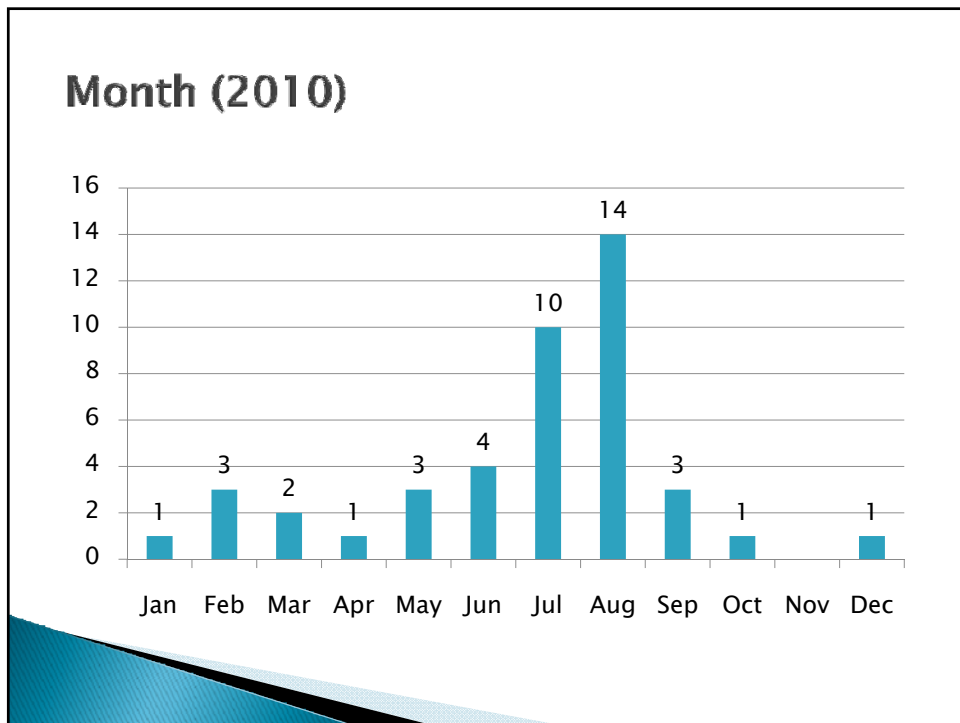
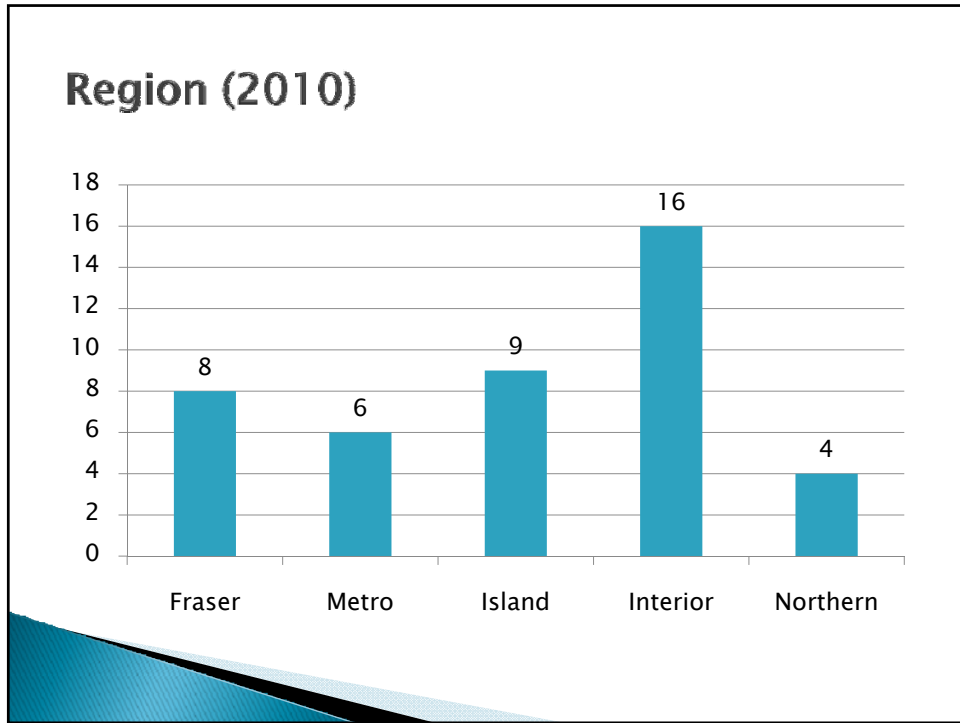
- ▶ Definition of a water-related death: any accidental death that occurs while doing a water-related activity (recreational).
- ▶ The average number of water-related deaths over the past 3 years is 43 per year.
- ▶ In 2010 there were 43 water-related deaths in B.C.
- ▶ The majority of these cases (37%) occurred in the Interior region.
- ▶ 56% of all cases occurred during July and August.
- ▶ The vast majority of cases (88%) were males.
- ▶ 23% of all cases were between the age of 20 and 29.
- ▶ There were no water-related deaths among females between the age of 20 and 39.

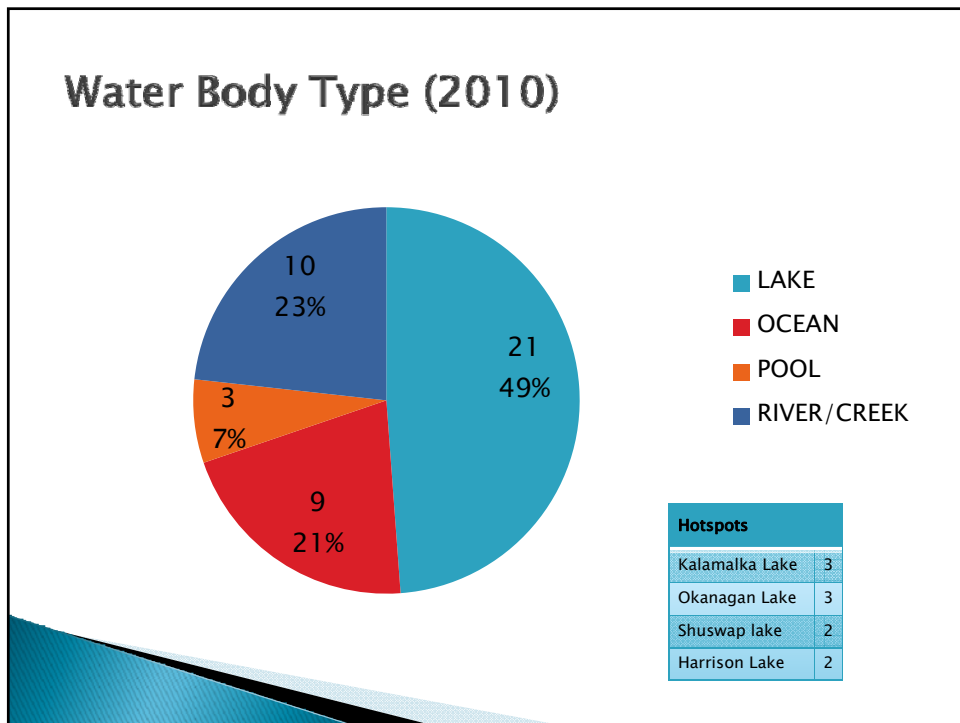
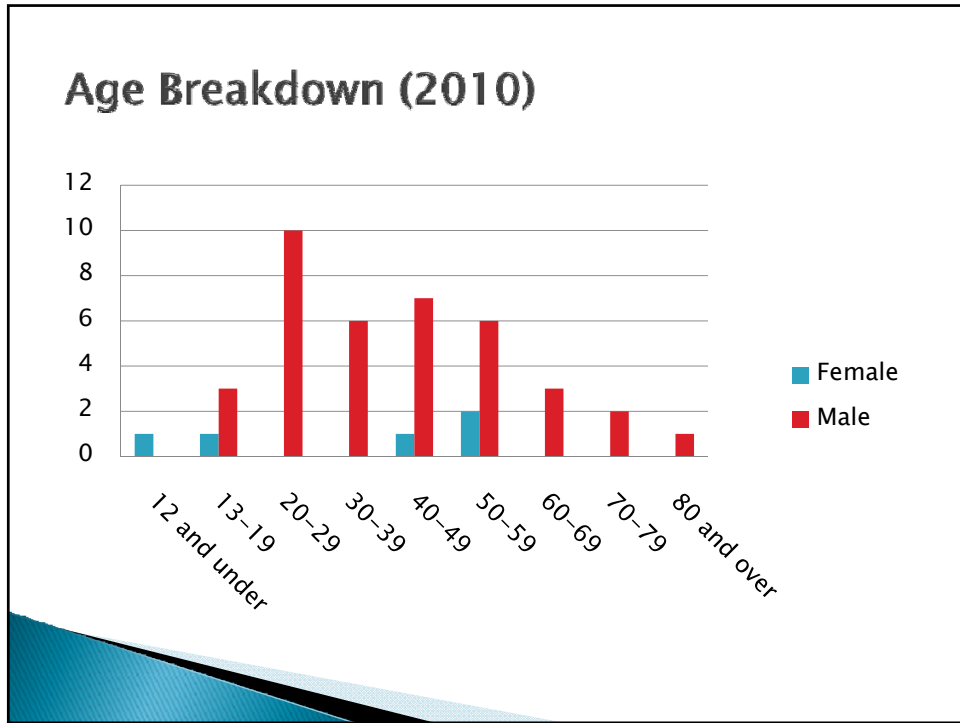
Fast Facts

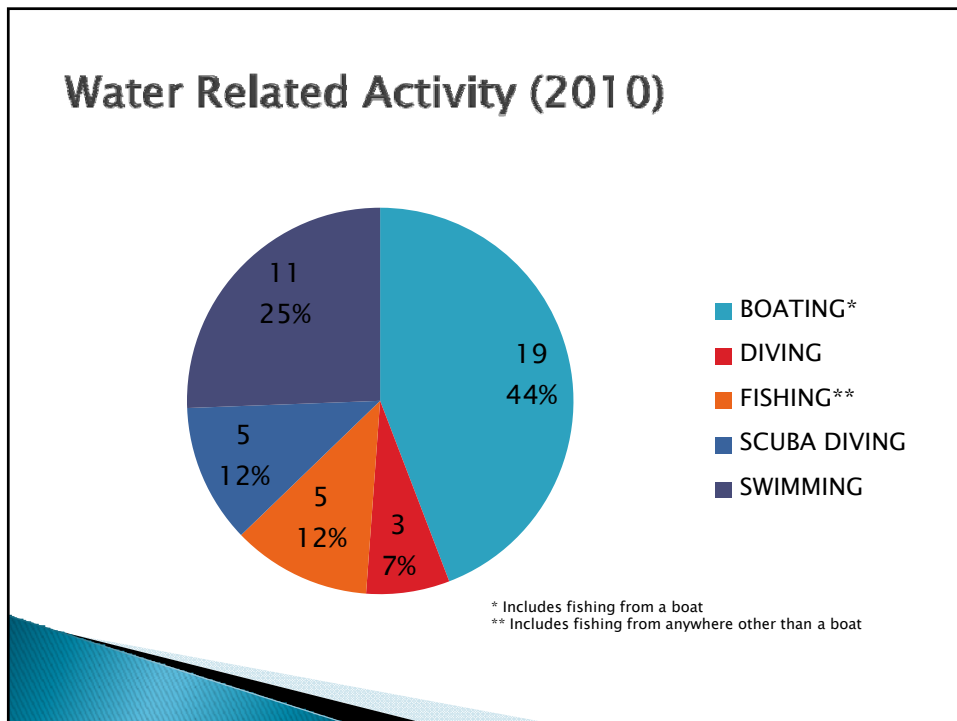
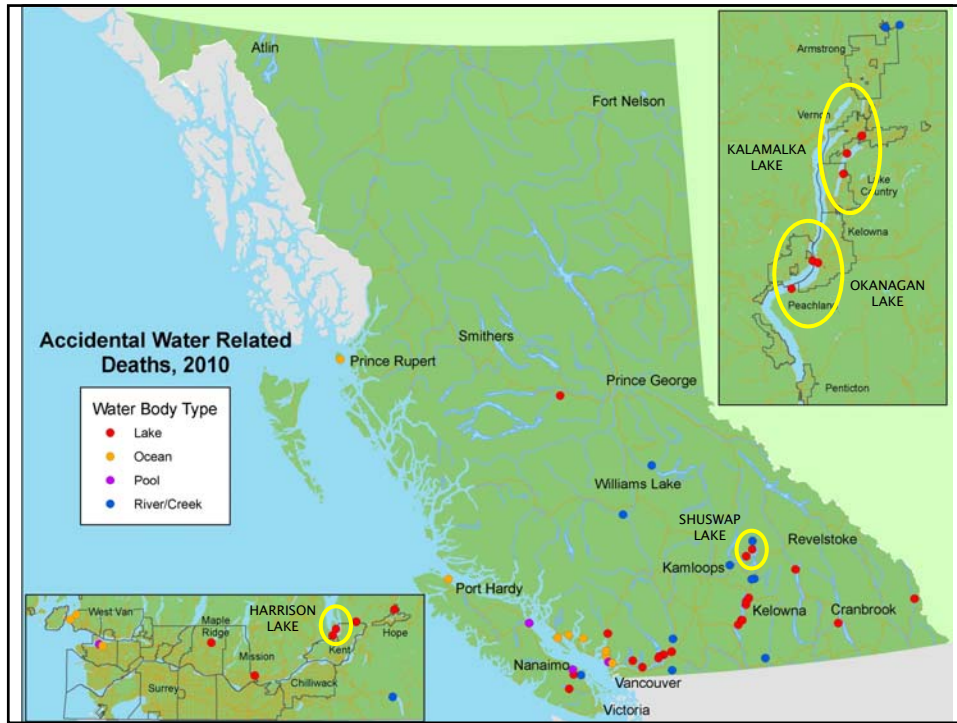
- ▶ Almost half of all water-related deaths occurred in a lake (49%).
- ▶ Lakes identified as hotspots include Kalamalka Lake and Okanagan Lake (each with 3 cases), and Shuswap Lake and Harrison Lake (each with 2 cases).
- ▶ Almost half of all cases occurred while boating (44%).
- ▶ Overall, 40% of all water-related deaths were found to have alcohol and/or drugs as a contributing factor.
- ▶ Of the 19 boating-related cases, alcohol and/or drugs were found to be contributory in 47% of the cases.

Fast Facts

- ▶ None of the cases that occurred in a pool were at a private residence. Two were at hotels and one was at a public pool.
- ▶ 10 of the decedents were from out of province







Alcohol and/or Drug Involvement by Water Related Activity (2010)

Activity	Alcohol and/ or Drugs Involved	Total Water Related Deaths	% Alcohol and/or Drugs Involved
Boating	9	19	47%
Diving	3	3	100%
Fishing	2	5	40%
Scuba Diving	1	5	20%
Swimming	2	11	18%
Total	17	43	40%

Definitions

- ▶ Water-related death: any accidental death that occurs while doing a water-related activity (recreational).
- ▶ Boating: includes power boat, canoe, dinghy, houseboat, sailboat or sailboard. (includes cases where decedent was fishing from a boat).
- ▶ Fishing: includes fishing from shore, bridge, dock/pier or other structure other than a boat.
- ▶ Diving: includes cliff diving and diving from a bridge.