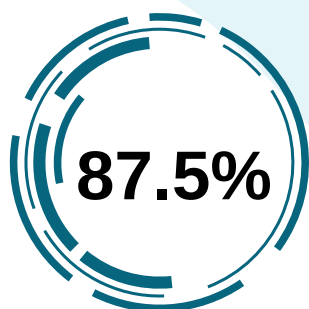


Belize Fast Facts: Drowning Incidents 2019 - 2023

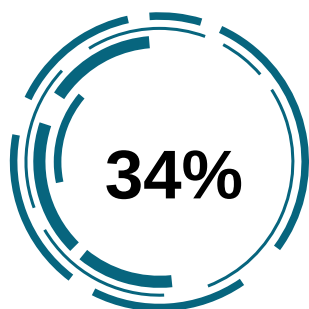
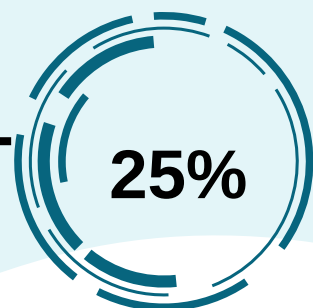
DROWNING HAS TAKEN **112**

LIVES IN THE PAST 5 YEARS!



of the victims of drowning were males from 2019 to 2023.

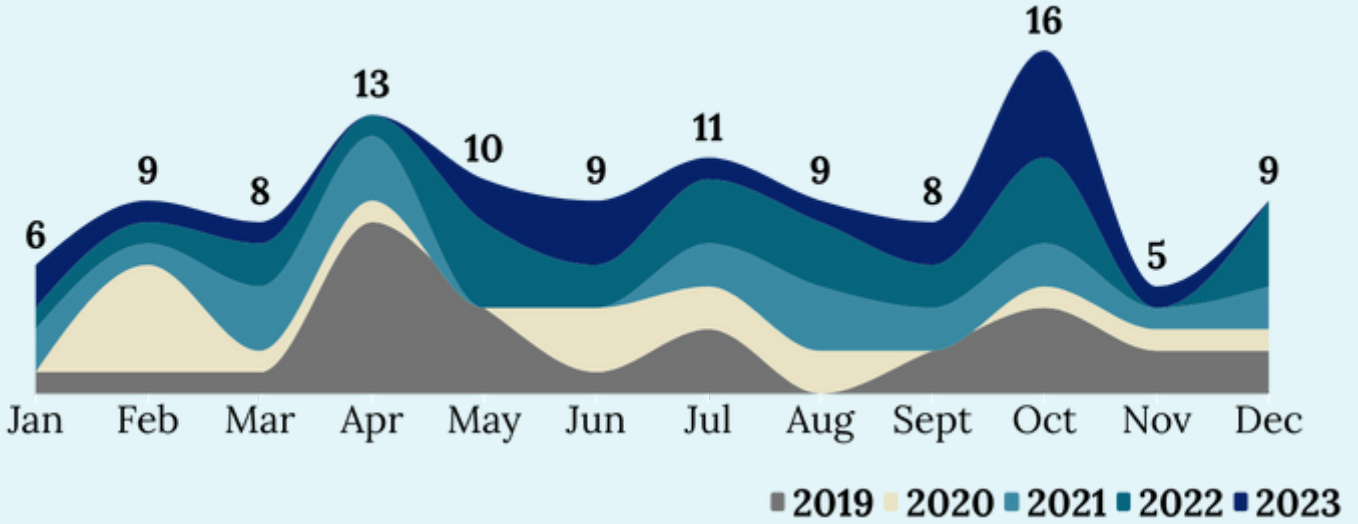
of the victims of drowning were between the ages of 20 to 30 years from 2019-2023.



of the drownings occurred in the Belize district from 2019 to 2023.

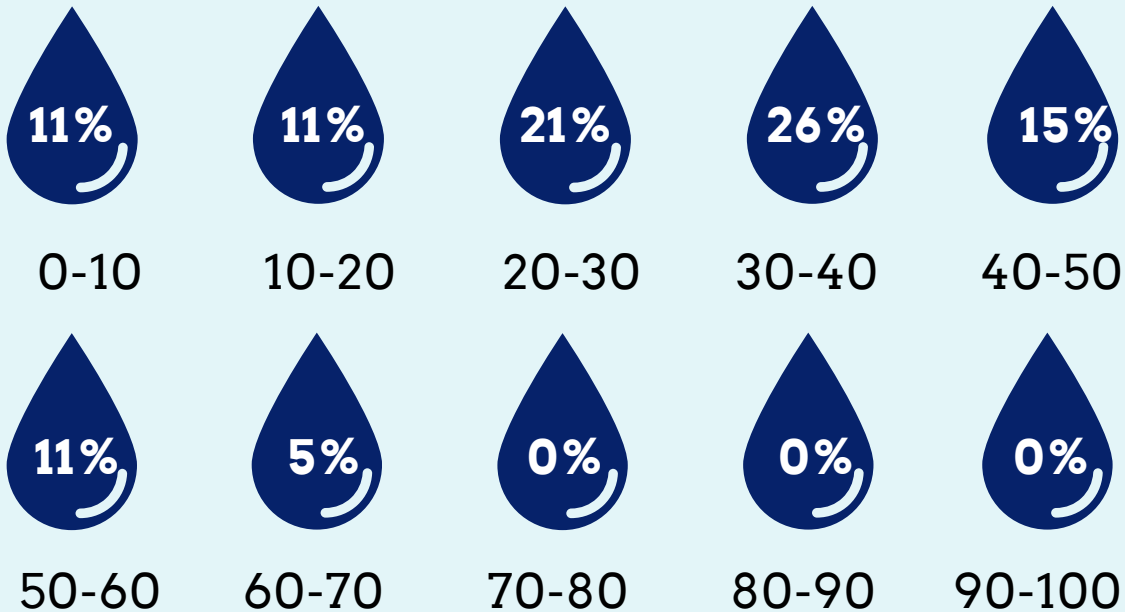


WHEN DO DROWNING INCIDENTS OCCUR?



During 2019 to 2023 drowning peaked in **October** with 16 incidents, followed by **April** with 13 incidents.

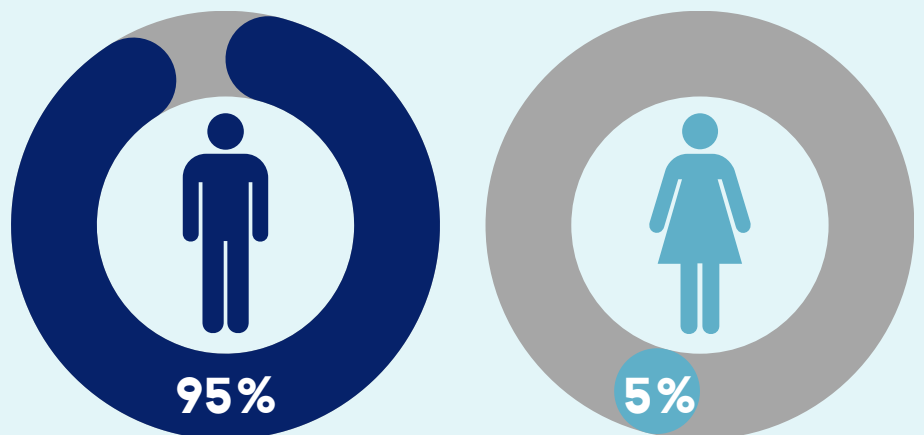
DROWNING INCIDENTS BY AGE GROUPS, 2023



In 2023 the **30-40 years** age group recorded the **highest number of drowning incidents** followed by **20-30 years** age group which recorded the **second highest number of drowning incidents**.

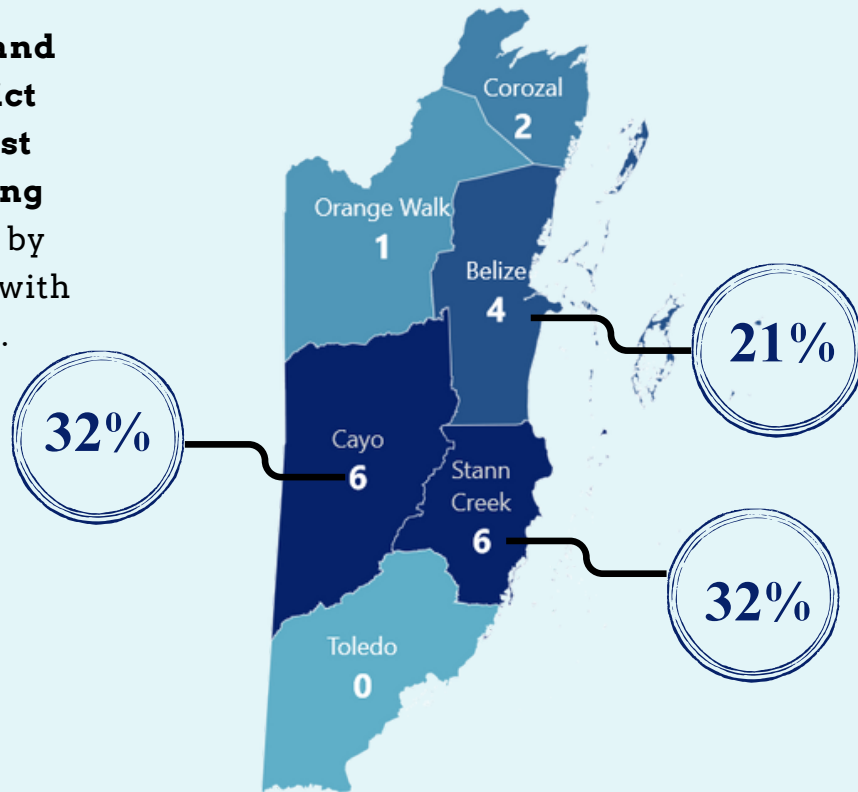
DROWNING INCIDENTS BY SEX, 2023

In 2023, majority of the victims of drowning were **males** which accounted for **95% of the drowning incidents**.



WHERE DID DROWNING INCIDENTS OCCUR IN 2023?

The **Cayo District** and **Stann Creek District** recorded the **highest number of drowning incidents** followed by the **Belize District** with **4 incidents** in 2023.



HOW TO PREVENT DROWNING?



Learn basic swimming and water safety skills

Formal swimming lessons can reduce the risk of drowning. 1-5 Children who have had swimming lessons still need close and constant supervision when in or around water.



Supervise closely

Have a responsible adult supervise closely and constantly when children are in or near water. Adults watching kids in or near water should avoid distracting activities.



Wear a life jacket

Life jackets should be used by children for all activities while in and around natural water. Life jackets can also be used by weaker swimmers of all ages in and around natural water and swimming pools.



Know the risks of natural waters

Lakes, rivers, and oceans have hidden hazards such as dangerous currents or waves, rocks or vegetation, and limited visibility. Check the forecast before activities in, on, or near water.



Avoid alcohol

Avoid drinking alcohol before or during swimming, boating, or other water activities. Alcohol impairs judgment, balance, and coordination. Do not drink alcohol while supervising children.

If you would like to learn more about the BCO or get more information contact us at:

