

Unintentional Drowning, Ages 0 – 17 Years, 2010 - 2012

Unintentional drowning is the leading cause of death to children age 0-4. Fatal and nonfatal drowning incidents occur most often in swimming pools for children age 1-4, while drowning incidents for teens age 15-17 occur most often in natural water (ocean, lakes and rivers).

Between the years 2010-2012:

- 19 Miami-Dade County children age 17 years and under died as a result of drowning. The number of drownings during this time period declined by more than half compared to the years 2007 – 2009 (43 drownings).
- 92 children were hospitalized as a result of near-drowning.
- 109 children were treated in emergency departments due to a near-drowning.

Injury Severity	2010	2011	2012	Total
Deaths	9	5	5	19
Hospitalizations	36	27	29	92
ED Visits	34	22	53	109
Total	79	54	87	220

- The most common location for both fatal and nonfatal drowning incidents occurred in a swimming pool.

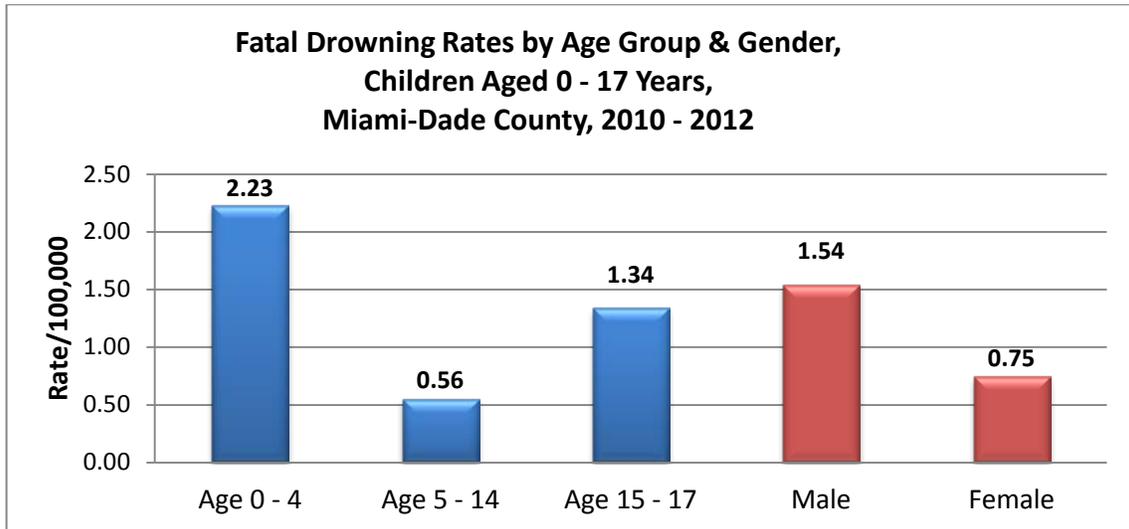
Type of Submersion	Fatal	Nonfatal	Percent
Swimming in Pool	9	124	62%
Swimming in Natural Water	7		3%
Recreational Swimming		16	8%
Sport, Not Diving		20	9%
Bathtub	1	7	4%
Other/Unspecified	2	27	14%
Total	19	194	100%

- During 2012, nonfatal drowning incidents were estimated to cost approximately \$2.5 million dollars in hospital and ED charges (Table).

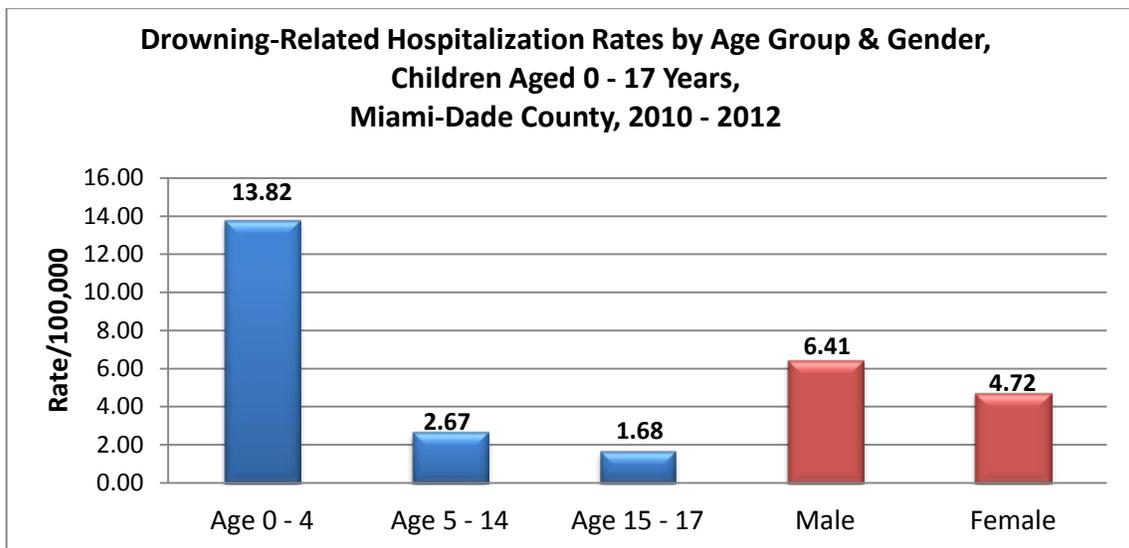
2012 Hospital & ED Charges for Nonfatal Drowning Incidents to Miami-Dade County Residents Aged 0 – 17 Years			
	Number	Total Charges	Median Charge
Hospitalizations	29	\$1,021,410	\$12,755
ED Visits	53	\$198,488	\$1,601
All Nonfatal Drownings	82	\$1,219,898	\$5,167

The figures below display fatal and nonfatal unintentional drowning rates by age group and gender.

- Children aged 0 – 4 and teenagers aged 15 - 17 had the greatest risk for fatal drowning. Seven of the ten drownings among 0 – 4 year olds occurred in a pool. In contrast, all four drownings among 15 – 17 year olds occurred in natural water.
- Males were twice as likely as females to die from an unintentional drowning.



- Children aged 0 – 4 years experienced 68% of all drowning-related hospitalizations. The hospitalization rate for this age group is more than 5 times higher than any other group.
- Males were slightly more likely than females to be hospitalized for a near drowning.



- Similar to hospitalizations, children aged 0 – 4 years were most likely to be treated at an ED for a near drowning. The ED visitation rate for this group was more than 4 times higher than other age groups.
- Males were 71% more likely than females to be treated at an ED due to a near drowning.

