

## Unintentional Drowning, Ages 0 – 17 Years, 2011-2013

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

Between the years 2011-2013:

- 20 Miami-Dade County children aged 17 years and under died as a result of drowning. The number of drownings during this time period declined by 39% compared to the years 2008 – 2010.
- 76 children were hospitalized as a result of non-fatal drownings.
- 119 children were treated at an emergency department (ED) as a result of non-fatal drownings.

Injury Severity	2011	2012	2013	Total
Deaths	5	5	10	20
Hospitalizations	27	29	20	76
ED Visits	22	53	44	119
<b>Total</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>215</b>

- The most common site for fatal and nonfatal drowning incidents was in a swimming pool. Approximately 71% of nonfatal pool drownings occurred among 1 – 4 year olds.

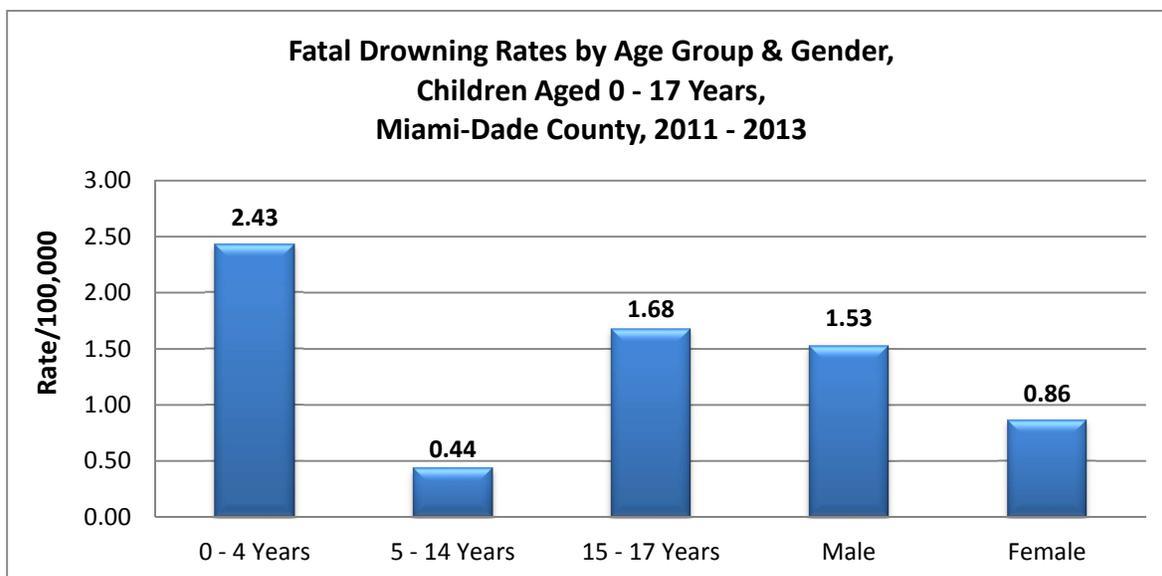
Submersion Type	Fatal	Nonfatal	Overall Percent
Swimming Pool	11	127	62%
Natural Water	5		2%
Other Specified (Lake/Canal)	1		< 1%
Recreational Swimming		18	8%
Sport/Scuba Diving/Water Skiing		19	9%
Bathtub		5	2%
Other/Unspecified	3	34	17%
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>100%</b>

- During 2013, nonfatal drowning incidents were estimated to cost nearly \$1.8 million in hospitalization and ED visit charges (Table).

2013 Hospital & ED Charges for Nonfatal Drowning Incidents to Miami-Dade County Residents			
	<u>Number</u>	<u>Total Charges</u>	<u>Median Charge</u>
Hospitalizations	20	\$1,704,884	\$10,264
ED Visits	44	\$ 123,038	\$ 2,066
All Nonfatal Drownings	64	\$1,827,922	\$ 3,411

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

- Children aged 0 – 4 and teenagers aged 15 – 17 were at greatest risk for fatal drownings. Nine of the eleven drownings among 0 – 4 year olds occurred in a pool.
- Among children aged 0 – 17 years, males were nearly 1.77 times more likely than females to die from drownings.



- Children aged 0 – 4 years accounted for 68% if all nonfatal drownings. The nonfatal drowning rate for this group was 5.6 times higher than children aged 5 - 17 years.
- Among children aged 0 – 17 years, nonfatal drowning rates for males were 1.5 times greater compared to females.

**Nonfatal Drowning Rates by Age Group & Gender,  
Children Aged 0 - 17 Years,  
Miami-Dade County, 2011 - 2013**

