

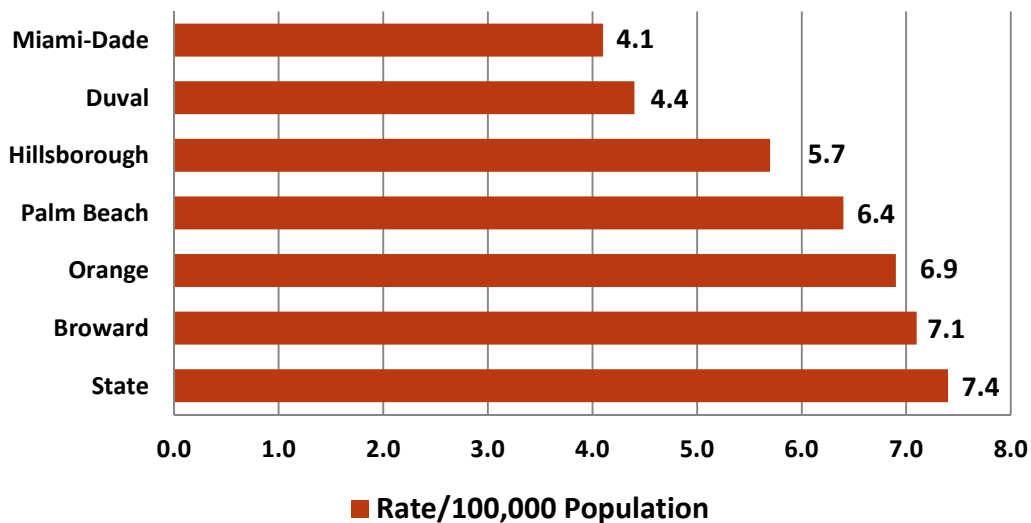
Unintentional Drowning to Children Aged 1 – 4 Years, Miami-Dade County 2005 - 2013

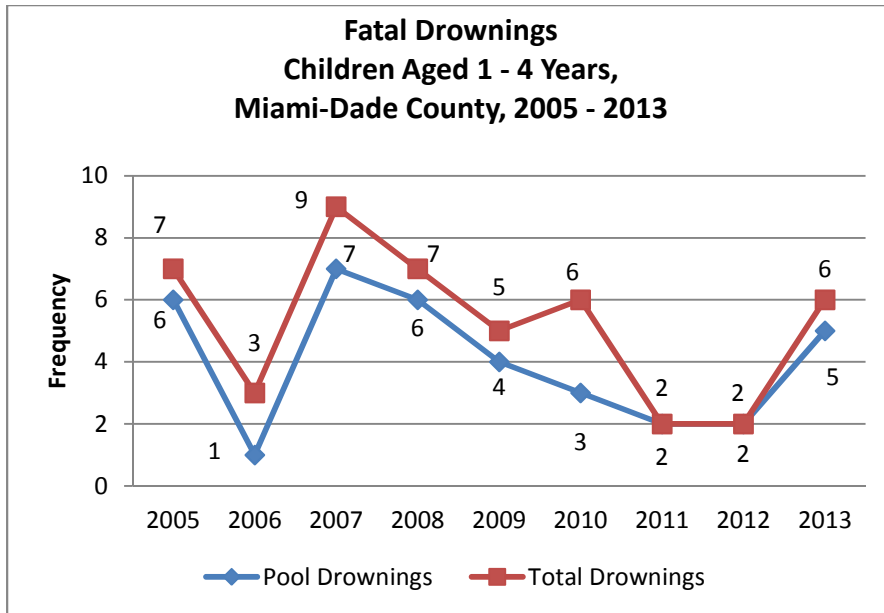


Drowning has been the leading cause of death among children aged 1 – 4 years both in Florida and Miami-Dade County. Florida overwhelmingly has the highest unintentional drowning rate in the nation for 1 – 4 year olds with a rate of 7.29 per 100,000 population during 2010.

- Miami-Dade County has had the 2nd highest number of drowning deaths (47) among children aged 1 – 4 years among all Florida counties between 2005 & 2013.
- However, Miami-Dade’s cumulative drowning rate for children aged 1 – 4 years was 6th lowest among all Florida counties and 45% lower than the drowning rate for the entire state.

**Fatal Drowning Rates,
Children Aged 1 - 4 Years
By County, 2005-2013**



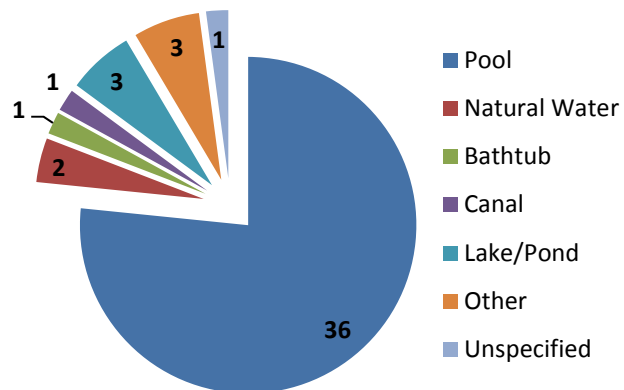


- Child drowning incidence has greatly fluctuated between 2005 & 2013.
- Deaths that occurred in swimming pools were responsible for 77% of drowning deaths and closely mirrored the trend for all drowning deaths.
- During 2013, there were six fatal drownings in children aged 1 – 4 years. This was more than 2011 & 2012 combined (four).

Location of Drowning

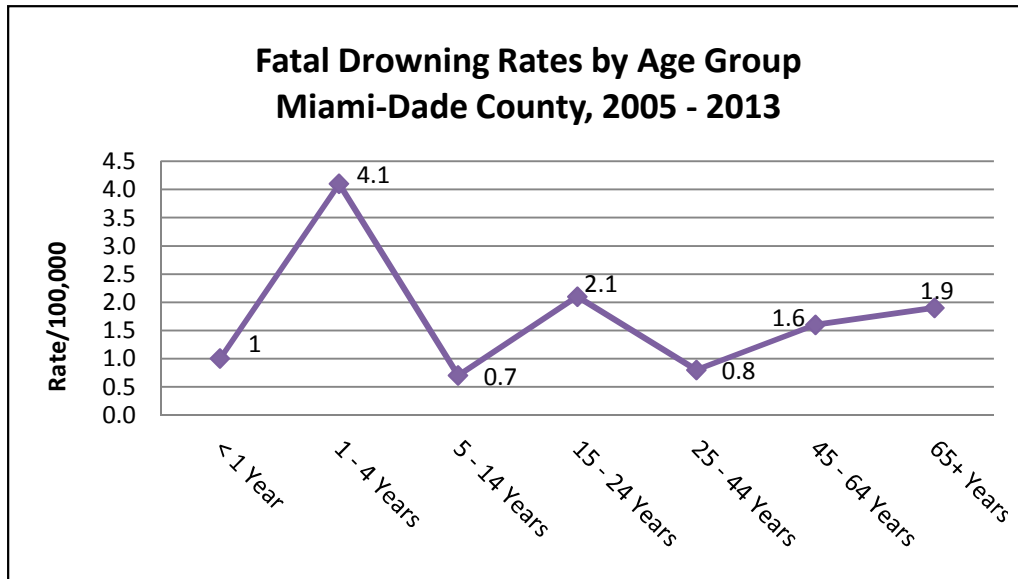
- Thirty-six (77%) of fatal drownings among 1 – 4 year olds occurred in swimming pools. The vast majority of these pool deaths occurred in residential in-ground pools.
- Six other deaths occurred in natural or man-made water (ocean, lake, pond, canal)
- Three non-pool-related drowning fatalities occurred within the home (bathtub, bucket, washing machine)
- 74% of nonfatal drownings among children aged 1 – 4 years also occurred in swimming pools

**Fatal Drownings - Children 1 - 4 Years
By Drowning Location
Miami-Dade County, 2005 - 2013**

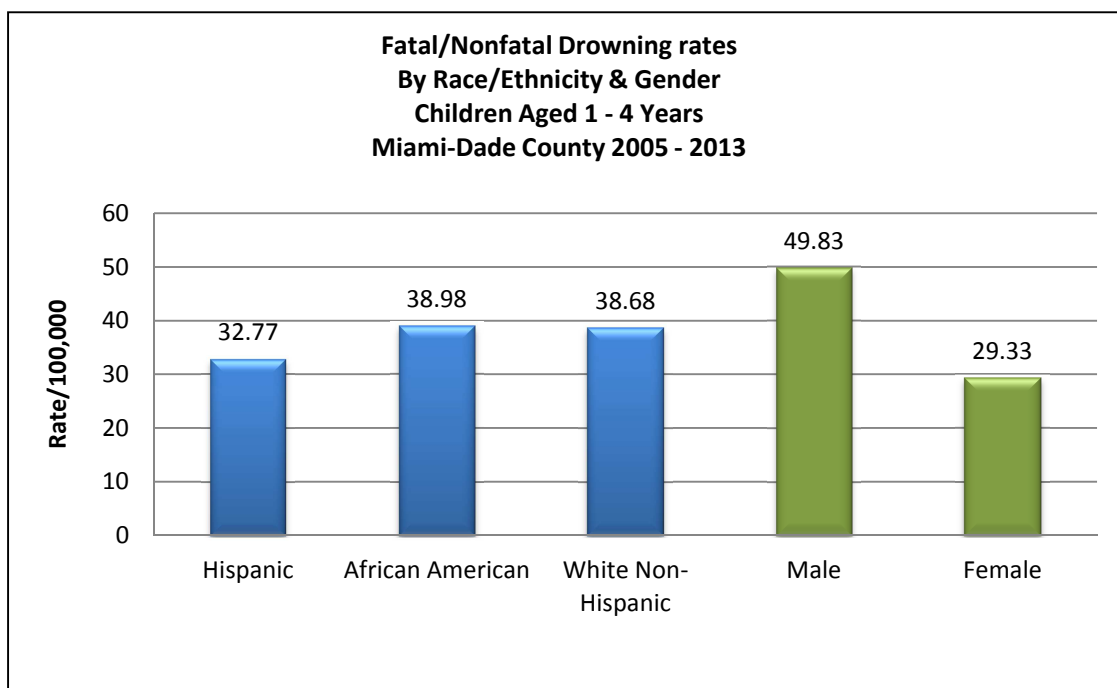


Who is at Risk?

- During 2005 – 2013 the fatal drowning rate for Miami-Dade children aged 1 – 4 years was nearly twice that of any other age group



- Male children accounted for 72% of all fatal drownings. The overall (fatal and nonfatal) drowning rate among male children aged 1 – 4 years was nearly twice that of females.
- Hispanics accounted for approximately 57% of all fatal drownings among children aged 1 – 4 years. Overall drowning rates among Hispanic children aged 1 – 4 years were slightly lower (33/100,000 population) compared to African American (39/100,000) and White Non-Hispanic children (39/100,000).



Drowning Prevention

The Florida Department of Health has developed the following drowning prevention recommendations:

- Children can drown in a matter of seconds. If a child is missing, check the water first.
- There is no substitute for adequate supervision. Children need to be watched. Never leave children unattended in or around pools or spas - not even for a second.
- A child can drown in less time than it takes to answer the telephone.
- Children drown in pools, spas, buckets, toilets and bathtubs. A child can drown in as little as a few inches of water.
- Empty buckets immediately after use and store them upside down and out of a child's reach.
- Never allow a young child to be responsible for a younger sibling or playmate.

The key to preventing swimming pool tragedies is to have layers of protection. This includes placing barriers around your pool to prevent access, using door alarms, closely supervising your child and being prepared in case of an emergency.

- Never disable an alarm or prop open the gate to a swimming pool barrier.
- Learn to swim and teach children how to swim.
- Flotation devices and swimming lessons are not a substitute for adult supervision.
- Remove toys from in and around the pool area, especially riding toys.
- Knowing cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) can be a lifesaver.

Produced by the Florida Department of Health – Miami-Dade County
DATA SOURCES: Death Certificates, Office of Vital Statistics, FL Department of Health
Hospitalization and Emergency Department Data, Florida Agency for Health Care Administration
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