



Drowning Statistics

- Drowning is the number one cause of death in children under 5, and the second leading cause of unintentional injury-related death for children between the ages of one and 14.¹
- Most child drowning deaths occur in a familiar backyard. More than 50% of these drownings take place in the child's home pool.
- More than 80% of drownings for children between the ages of 0-4 occur in residential swimming pools.
- Approximately 75% of drownings occur under a brief lapse of parental supervision, usually less than 5 minutes.²
- Young children tend not to splash or make noise when they get into trouble in the water and thus usually drown silently.
- Most children who drown in pools were last seen inside the home, had been out of sight less than 5 minutes, and were in the care of one or both parents at the time.

How young children drown varies by age:

- ✓ Children under age one most often drown in bathtubs, buckets and toilets.
- ✓ Children aged 1-4 most often drown in swimming pools, hot tubs, and spas.
- ✓ Children aged 5-14 most often drown in swimming pools and open water, such as lakes and rivers.

¹Center for Disease Control's National Center for Injury Prevention & Control

²Center for Disease Control's National Center for Injury Prevention & Control