The National Center for Fatality Review and Prevention collects information on accidental drowning deaths in the National Fatality Review Case Reporting System (CRS).

From 2004 to 2017 there have been over 5,400 accidental drowning deaths to children under age 18 years old reviewed and entered in the CRS by participating teams.¹

To see other Quick-Looks and learn more, visit the National Center’s website at ncfrp.org

¹ Source: USDHHS, CDC, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (2018).
**Demographics**

- For every 10 accidental drowning deaths, 7 were boys and 3 were girls.
- 58% of children who died were under 5 years old.
- 21% were non-Hispanic Black, an overrepresentation in the population.

**Sex**

- Male: 70%
- Female: 30%
Location of Incident

- 37% Rural areas
- 33% Suburban areas
- 29% Urban areas
- 52% Child's, relatives', or friends' home
Person Supervising

- 43% had Supervision at the time
- 41% didn't have Supervision, but it was needed
- 62% of Supervisors were Parents
- Other Supervisors
  - 10% Grandparent
  - 12% Other relative
Accidental Drowning Sources

49% occurred in a pool, hot tub, or spa

33% occurred in an open body of water

11% occurred in a bathtub

1 to 9 years old
Most likely to have drowned in a pool, hot tub, or spa (63%)

Under 1 year old
Most likely to have drowned in a bathtub (75%)

10 to 17 years old
Most likely to have drowned in open water (68%)
Teams identified no barriers of protection for pools or open water (57% of deaths)

Teams identified at least one layer of protection breached (40% of deaths)

Common barriers/layers of protection include fences, pool covers, and pool alarms.
Prevention Resources

1. Safe Kids Worldwide: Swimming
   https://www.safekids.org/poolsafety

2. Safe Kids Worldwide: Water Safety Tips at Home
   https://www.safekids.org/tip/water-safety-tips-home

3. Children's Safety Network: Drowning Prevention
   https://www.childrensafety.org/injury-topics/drowning-prevention

4. Water Safety USA
   https://www.watersafetyusa.org/
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1. Includes data from deaths of accidental drowning under 18 years old from 2004 to 2017, recorded in the CRS, and reviewed by fatality review teams. Some percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding.
2. Open body of water refers to oceans, seas, and lakes, but it also includes smaller pools of water such as ponds.

These data represent a smaller percent of the cases entered into the CRS. For more information about the data contained in this Quick-Look, please visit https://www.ncfrp.org/wp-content/uploads/NCRPCD-Docs/NCFRP_Quick_Looks_Analysis.pdf