**UNINTENTIONAL DROWNING - National Statistics**

Children ages 1-4 have the highest drowning rates, with most drownings occurring in home swimming pools. In 2014, among children 1-4 years old who died from unintentional injury, 1/3 died from drowning. Drowning is responsible for more deaths among children 1-4 than any other cause, with the exception of congenital anomalies. Among those ages 1-14, fatal drowning remains the 2nd leading cause of unintentional injury-related death behind motor vehicle crashes. Between 1999-2010, the fatal unintentional drowning rate for Black/African American populations was significantly higher than that of whites across all ages, the widest disparity among children 5-18 years old.

**MARTIN COUNTY UNINTENTIONAL (FATAL) DROWNING, AGES 0 - 18 (Single-Year Counts)**

A screenshot of a cell phone

Description automatically generated

The graph (*left*) and table (*below*) represent the number of fatal, unintentional drownings of Martin County children ages 0-18, from 2000 through 2019.

***Fatal Drownings, 2000-19, Ages 0-18 (Single-Year Counts) Martin vs. FL***

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 2008-2019 Unintentional (Fatal) Drownings, Crude Death Rate, Martin County, Ages 0-18, Single Year Counts | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 |
| 1 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 |

**MARTIN COUNTY HOSPITALIZATIONS for NONFATAL WATER SUBMERSION INJURY, AGES 1-5 (Three-Year Rolling Rates)**

National data indicates more than 50% of drowning victims treated in Emergency Departments (EDs) require hospitalization or transfer for further care (compared with a hospitalization rate of approximately 6% for all unintentional injuries).

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**NOTE**: From 2007-2019, annualized data is suppressed per the number of ED visits and hospitalizations from non-fatal injury associated with water submersion (all ages). Per Fl Administrative Code, these data are suppressed for counts <5, i.e. between 1 & 4.

**Left and below**. For water submersion injury of children ages 1-5, the number (count) of hospitalizations is displayed via three-year-rolling periods. An asterisk (\*) below indicates a 3-year total of between 1-4 hospitalizations for Martin County ‘near drownings’, the exact count suppressed. Please note the rates of these data per 100,000 population ages 1-5, for Martin County and the comparative statewide rates.

***Non-fatal Hospitalizations, 2000-19, Ages 1-5 (3-Year Rolling) Martin vs. FL***

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Hospitalizations for Near Drownings, Ages 1-5, 3-Year Rolling Count & Rate per 100,000 1-5 Population, Martin County vs. FL | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2006-08 | 2007-09 | 2008-10 | 2009-11 | 2010-12 | 2011-13 | 2012-14 | 2013-15 | 2014-16 | 2015-17 | 2016-18 | 2017-19 |
|  |  | **5** | **6** | **8** | **8** | **7** | **5** | \* | \* | \* | (one in 2017) |
| \* | \* | 25.7 MC  16.5 FL | 31.1 MC  15.8 FL | 42.5 MC  15.9 FL | 41.8 MC  14.0 FL | 37.0 MC  13.4 FL | 26.6 MC  11.9 FL |

**NOTE:** \* Indicates between 1 & 4 hospitalizations during each 3-year rolling period. Three-year rolling data should not be totaled across reporting timeframes.

Note below annualized, single-year counts for hospitalizations of Martin County children ages 1-5 due to non-fatal water submersion injury. An asterisk (\*) notes a count of between one (1) and four (4).

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 2008-2019 Hospitalizations, Non-Fatal Water Submersion Injury, Martin County, Ages 1-5, Single Year Counts | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 |
| 0 | \* | 0 | 0 | \* | \* | \* | 0 | \* | \* | \* | \* | \* | \* | \* | \* | 0 | \* | 0 | 0 |

Per WaterSmartFL, 29 Florida children drowned between March 1st through June 30th, 2020, 29 children drowned.

In the CDC’s National Action Plan for Child Injury Prevention: ‘*Reducing Drowning Injuries in Children’*, the following is suggested:

• Encourage universal “learn to swim” initiatives among preschool and school-aged children, especially in minority communities

• Encourage widespread CPR training for older children, parents, and pool owners.

• Support evidence-based practices and policies to provide environments and activities that reduce the risk of drowning. Examples include requiring pools to have surrounding barriers and promoting swimming lessons, CPR training, and lifejacket use.

•Translate, implement and evaluate policies to make proven interventions (e.g. survival swimming classes) accessible to the public.

**2022 UPDATE**

* **Nationwide**, children ages 1-4 continue to have the highest drowning rates, as they have over the past two decades.
* Per the *National Center for Health Statistics*, during 2018–2019, the highest percentage of unintentional drowning deaths occurred in bathtubs for children aged under 1 year, in swimming pools for those aged 1-4 and 5-13, and in natural bodies of water for those aged 14–17.1
* Drowning death rates among Black persons are 1.5 times higher than the rates for White persons. Disparities are highest among Black children ages 5-9 (rates 2.6 times higher) and ages 10-14 (rates 3.6 times higher).
* According to Stop Drowning Now [www.stopdrowningnow.org](http://www.stopdrowningnow.org) 64% of Black, 45% of Hispanic/Latino, and 40% of Caucasian children have few to no swimming skills. This site asserts that Learning to swim can reduce the risk of drowning by 88 percent for 1 to four-year-olds who take formal swim lessons.
* **Statewide**, in 2021, there were 98 deaths, up from 69 during 2020.(

|  |
| --- |
| 2020 Unintentional (Fatal) Drownings, Crude Death Rate, Martin County, Ages 0-18, Single Year Count and Rate |
| 2020 Data NOT YET AVAILABLE |

|  |
| --- |
| Hospitalizations for Near Drownings, Ages 1-5, 3-Year Rolling Count & Rate per 100,000 1-5 Population, Martin County vs. FL |
| 2018-2020 Data suppressed indicating between one and four hospitalizations for near drowning, children ages 1-5. |

|  |
| --- |
| 2020 Hospitalizations, Non-Fatal Water Submersion Injury, Martin County, Ages 1-5, Single Year Counts |
| 2018-2020 Data suppressed indicating between one and four hospitalizations for non-fatal water submersion injury, children ages 1-5. |

*Per FLHealthCHARTS*

**RESOURCES:**

Clemens T, Moreland B, Lee R. [Persistent Racial/Ethnic Disparities in Fatal Unintentional Drowning Rates Among Persons Aged ≤29 Years – United States, 1999-2019](https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/70/wr/mm7024a1.htm?s_cid=mm7024a1_w). Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) 2021.

‘Drowning Rates on the Rise During the Pandemic’, Stop Drowning Now, <https://www.stopdrowningnow.org/drowning-rates-on-the-rise-during-the-pandemic/>

‘The Five Layers of Prevention’, National Drowning Prevention Alliance NDPA, <https://ndpa.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/NDPA-5-Layers-Of-Protection-11-21.pdf>