



Residential Pool and Spa Safety



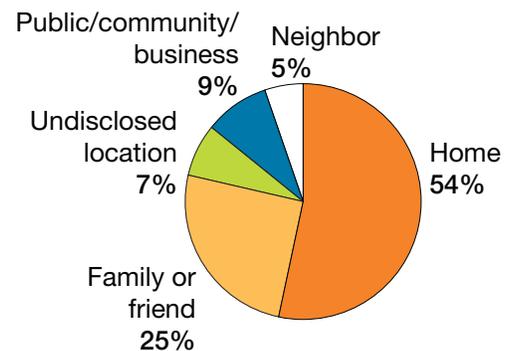
Key Facts

- An average of 2 children ages 14 and under drown every day.
- From 2000-2007, an average of nearly 750 children ages 14 and under died as a result of unintentional drowning.
- 5,016 non-fatal injuries occurred to children 14 years old or under due to near drowning incidents in 2009.
- Drowning is the second leading cause of unintentional death among children ages 1 to 14 years. For infants less than 1 year, drowning is the third leading cause of death.
- In 2009, near-drowning incidents in the pool were responsible for 4,400 emergency department treated injuries to children less than 5 years of age.
- From 1999-2009, 94 reports of circulation entrapments including 12 fatalities and 79 injuries occurred in pools and spas in the United States.

Where, When and How

- Home swimming pools are the most common site for a drowning to occur for children under 5 years of age.
- According to a national study of drowning-related incidents involving children, a parent or caregiver claimed to be supervising the child in nearly 9 out of 10 child drowning-related deaths.
- In the summer, between May and August, drowning deaths among children increase 89 percent over the rest of the year.
- 25 percent of drowning deaths in children under 5 years of age are at a family or friend's pool while 9 percent of deaths occur at a public, community or neighborhood pool.

Pool & Spa Submersion Locations for Deaths to Children ages 0-5



Who

- Children ages 4 and under have the highest drowning death rate (three times greater than other age groups) and account for 80 percent of home drownings.
- Male children have a drowning rate almost twice that of female children.
- Black children ages 5 to 14 have a drowning rate almost three times that of their white counterparts.
- Low-income children are at greater risk from non-swimming pool drownings.

Proven Interventions

- Four-sided isolation fencing around home pools could prevent 50 percent to 90 percent of childhood drownings and near-drownings.
- The risk of drowning in a fenced pool is approximately one third the risk of drowning in a pool with no fencing. Four-sided fencing is effective in preventing fatal drowning and near-drowning injuries among children 0–5 years of age.
- When used properly, door alarms, pool alarms and automatic pool covers, add an extra layer of protection.
- Proper installation of anti-entrapment drain covers and back up devices make entrapment less likely.