

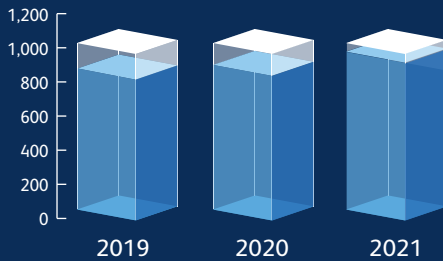
# DROWNING DANGERS FOR KIDS

## Spotlight on Open Water

Lakes • Ponds • Rivers • Oceans • Reservoirs • Retention Ponds • Quarries

### CHILDHOOD DROWNING OVERALL

973 CHILDREN DROWNED IN 2021



6,500 MORE WENT TO ER



144 FAMILIES IMPACTED PER WEEK



CHILDREN AND TEENS DROWN IN OPEN WATER ABOUT AS OFTEN AS IN POOLS



Open water  
39%



Pools  
39%



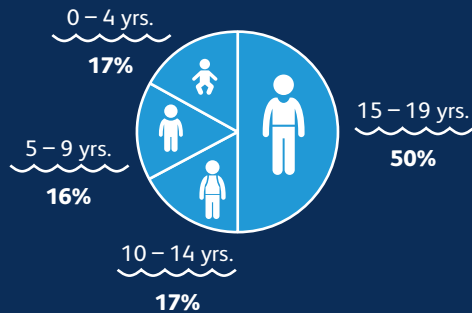
Bathtubs  
10%



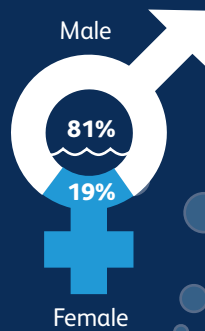
Other  
12%

### OPEN WATER FATALITIES

BY AGE



BY GENDER



BY RACE (PER 1,000,000)



White children (3.9)



American Indian/  
Alaskan Native children (4.7)



Black/African American children (7.7)

### HIDDEN HAZARDS OF OPEN WATER

Dangerous currents • Sudden drop-offs • Limited visibility • Depth of water  
Rocks and vegetation • Cold temperatures • Difficult-to-judge distances

Source: CDC, WONDER and WISWARS nonfatal databases, using years 2018-2021, ages 0-19. Accessed Feb. 15, 2024.

### Tips to Keep Your Kids Safe

- Watch kids in and around water without being distracted.
- Teach kids how to swim in open water, which is different from swimming in a pool.
- Use a U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jacket appropriate for the child's weight and water activity.
- Learn what to do in an emergency without putting yourself at risk for drowning.

Scan for  
safety videos

