# Drowning Report – June 2018

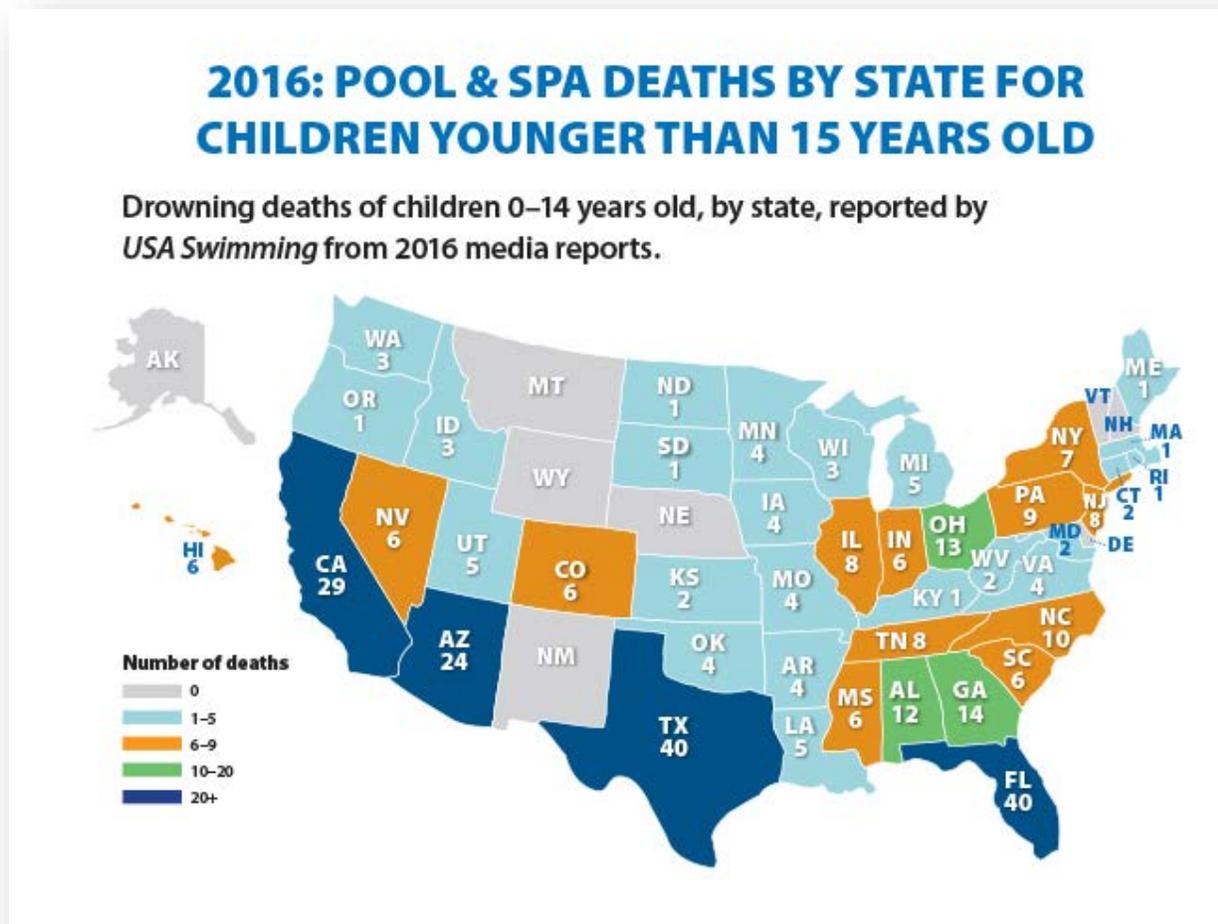**Coral Springs – Parkland Fire Department**

CSPFD-20180629

# Drowning

According to the CDC, every day about ten people die from unintentional drowning. Of these, two are children aged 14 or younger.

> ## Drowning ranks fifth among the leading causes of unintentional injury death in the United States.[1]
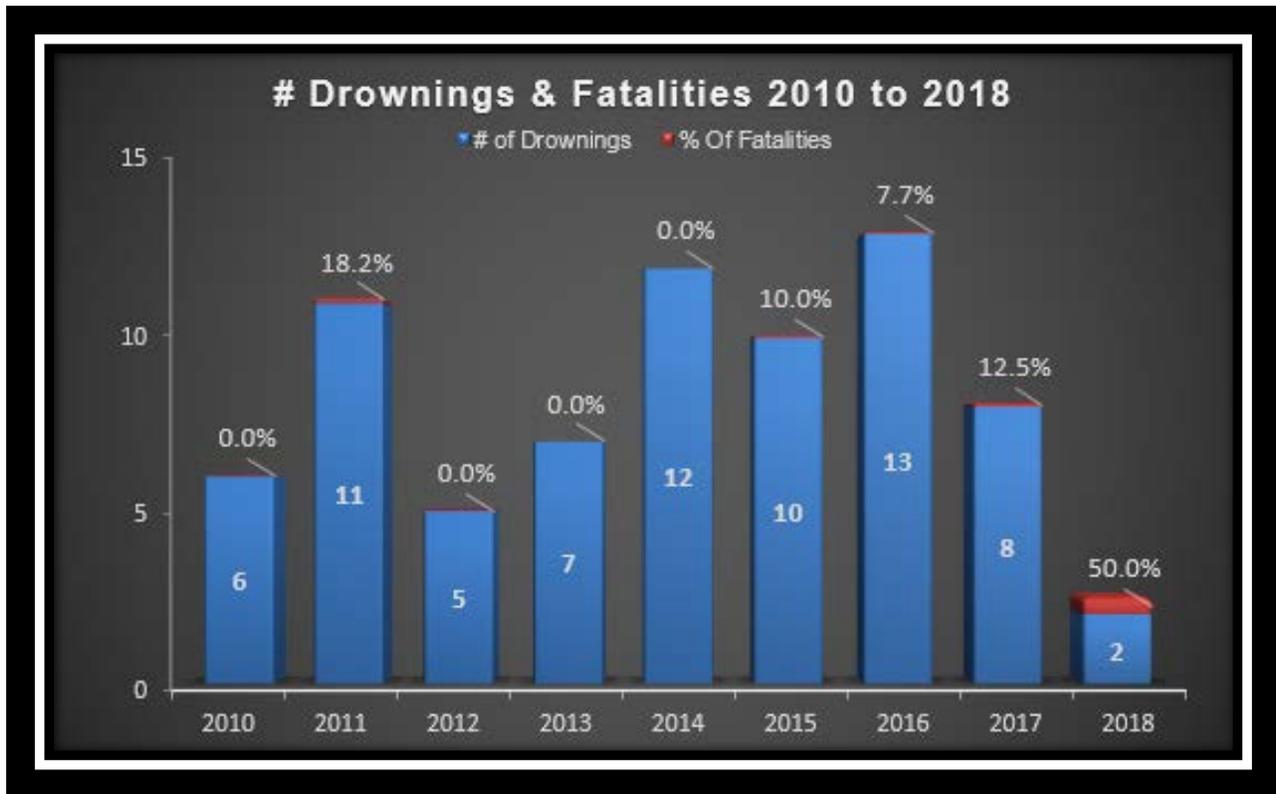
Warm weather states typically experience higher rates of drowning incidents. In the chart below from the USA Swimming Foundation, both Florida and Texas reported 40 drowning deaths in 2016, for children younger than 15 years old.



**2016: POOL & SPA DEATHS BY STATE FOR CHILDREN YOUNGER THAN 15 YEARS OLD**

Drowning deaths of children 0–14 years old, by state, reported by *USA Swimming* from 2016 media reports.

**In 2016, CSPFD responded to 13 drownings. Of these, 10 (76.9%) were children 15 years and younger. The other 23.1% were people between 21 and 40-years.**

# CSPFD Drowning Statistics 2010 – 2018

The Chart below depicts the number of drownings and the percent of fatalities since 2010 for the Coral Springs – Parkland Fire Department.



While drowning incidents are down in the City of Coral Springs and Parkland from 2017 to June of 2018 by 75%, nationwide ***drowning is, still the leading cause of unintentional death among children ages 1-4; and the second leading cause of death in children ages 5 -14 years old.***[2]

Each year nationwide, about 300 children under age five drown in swimming pools. In Florida, drowning is the leading cause of death for this age. In an effort to decrease fatal and non-fatal drowning incidences of young children in our community, the *Pediatric Drowning Prevention Task Force* was created. The Task Force is a collaborative effort of Broward Health, the City of Coral Springs, and Water Smart Broward.
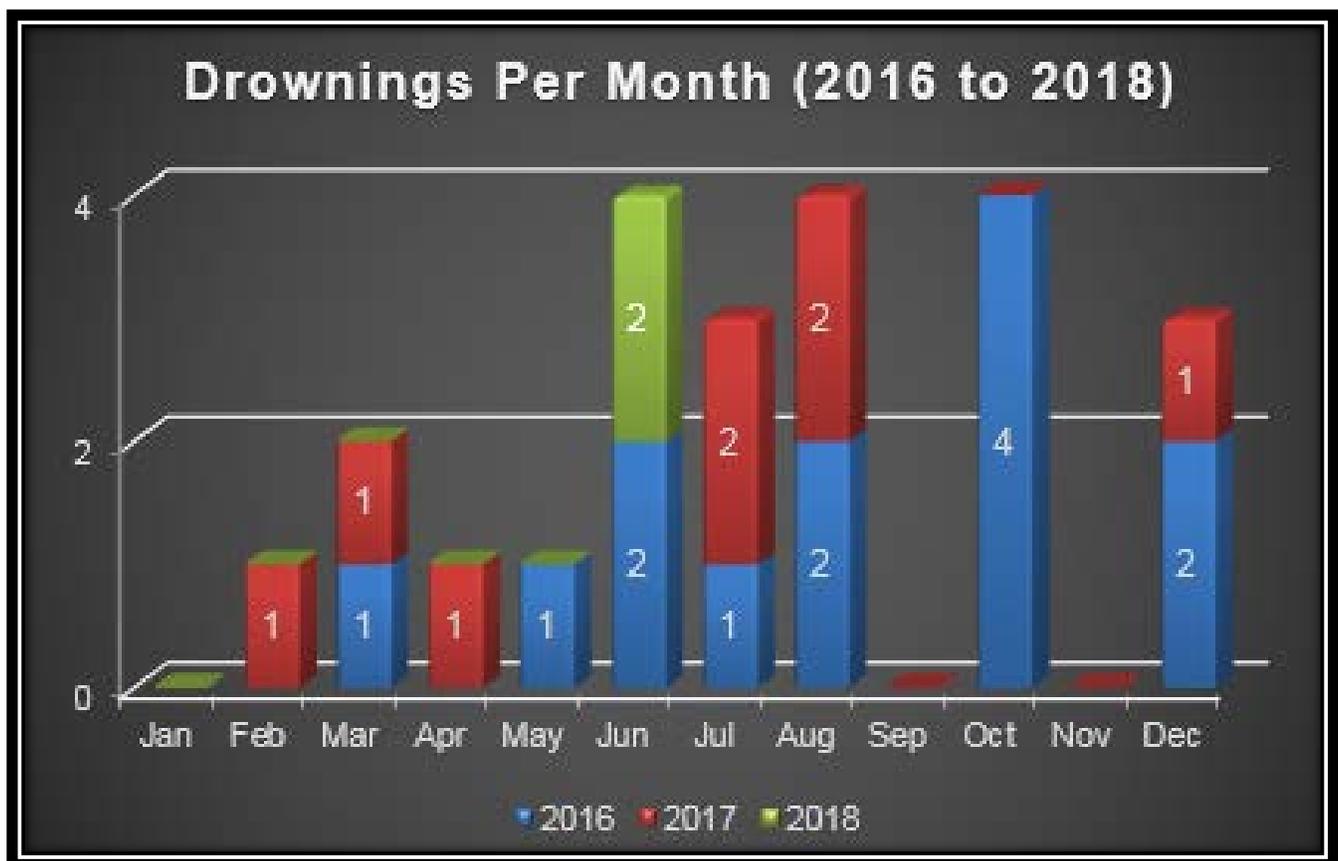
We hope this guide will serve as a valuable reference of community resources for pool safety, CPR and swimming lessons. It only takes seconds for an unattended child to get into trouble in the backyard pool, canal or pond. Take a moment now to be prepared.

*Our slogan:* "Watch Your Kid. You'll Be Glad You Did!"
*Our mission:* Provide education to protect children from drowning.

It is important to provide education and resources to the community. With this in mind, the City of Coral Springs collaborated with Broward Health, and Water Smart Broward to create the **Pediatric Drowning Prevention Task Force.**

The summer months, from June to August for most states, continue to have the highest drowning incidents reported. However, as seen from the graph below, drownings in warm weather states can occur year round.
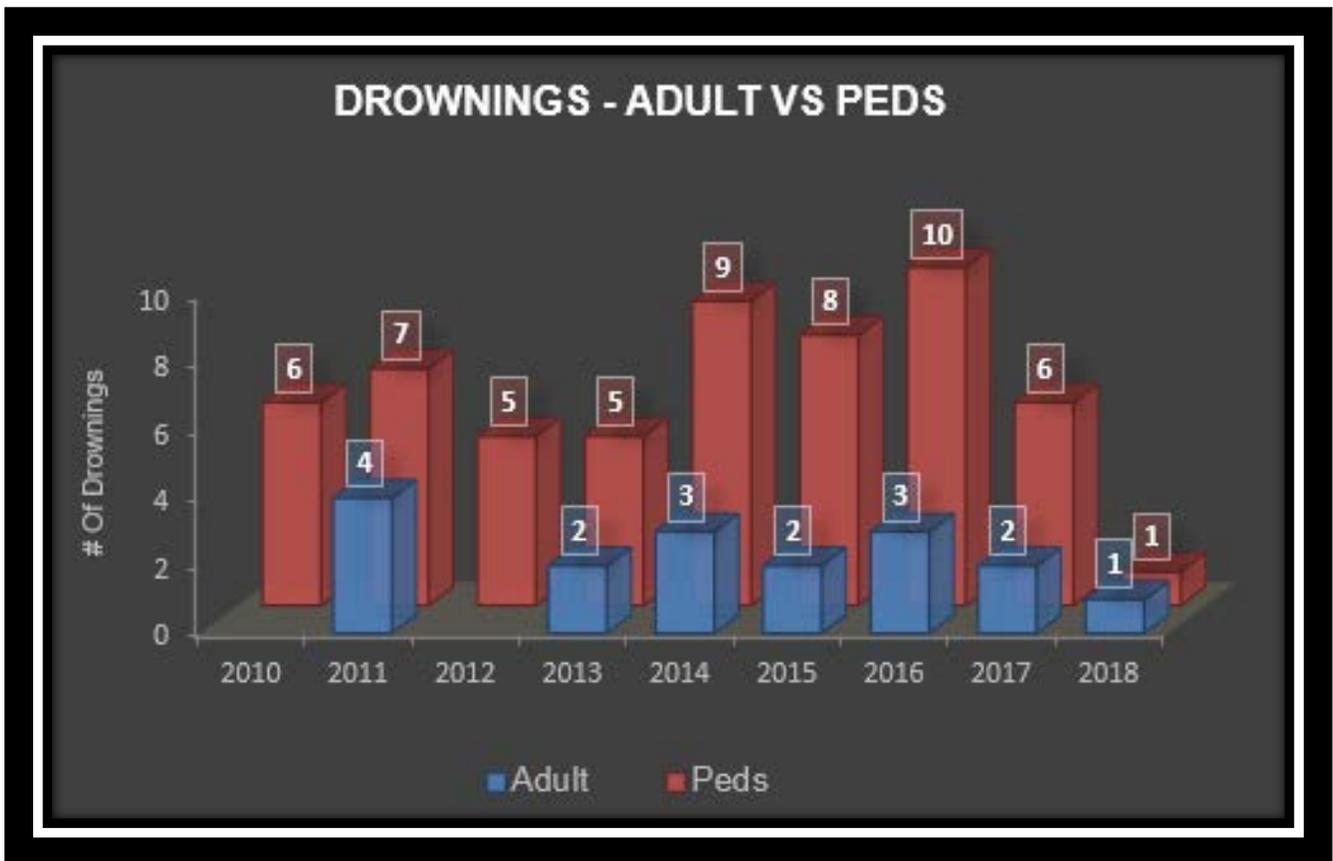
This June, CSPFD responded to 2 drownings, one of those were fatal. This fatality was an elderly man who slipped into a canal while walking his dog. The other non-fatal incident was an 8-year-old boy in a family pool.

# Drownings – Adult vs Peds

According to the USA Swimming Foundation, Florida leads the nation as the state with the most child drownings in 2017. The drownings in 2017 involved children 15 and younger, with 80 percent involving children under the age of 5.[3]

> **The Florida Department of Health, reports Florida leads the country in drowning deaths of children ages 1-4 years. Annually in Florida, enough children to fill three to four preschool classrooms drown before their fifth birthday.**
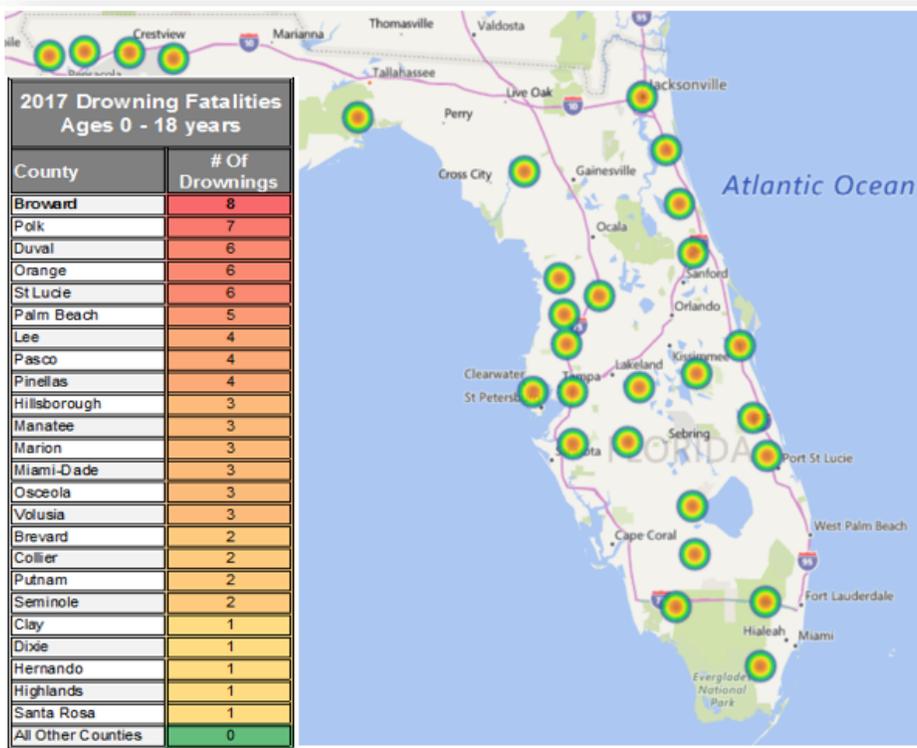


From 2010 until now, CSPFD responded to 57 pediatric drownings. The highest percentage of these were children between the ages of 0 – 4 years. Males accounted for 66.7% of these, and Females 33.3%.

# CSPFD Pediatric Drownings 2010 – 2018

| Age Range | Race | Male | Female | Total | % |
|-----------|------|------|--------|-------|---|
| 0 - 4 yrs | Black | 12 | 4 | 16 | 28.1% |
| | White | 6 | 5 | 11 | 19.3% |
| | Hispanic | 5 | 3 | 8 | 14.0% |
| | Other | 2 | 1 | 3 | 5.3% |
| | Asian | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1.8% |
| 5 - 10 yrs | White | 4 | 1 | 5 | 8.8% |
| | Black | 2 | 1 | 3 | 5.3% |
| | Hispanic | 2 | 1 | 3 | 5.3% |
| | Other | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1.8% |
| 11 - 20 yrs | Black | 2 | 1 | 3 | 5.3% |
| | White | 2 | 0 | 2 | 3.5% |
| | Other | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1.8% |

In 2017, Florida lost more children to drowning than any other state.



| 2017 Drowning Fatalities Ages 0 - 18 years | |
|-----------|------|
| County | # Of Drownings |
| Broward | 8 |
| Polk | 7 |
| Duval | 6 |
| Orange | 6 |
| St Lucie | 6 |
| Palm Beach | 5 |
| Lee | 4 |
| Pasco | 4 |
| Pinellas | 4 |
| Hillsborough | 3 |
| Manatee | 3 |
| Marion | 3 |
| Miami-Dade | 3 |
| Osceola | 3 |
| Volusia | 3 |
| Brevard | 2 |
| Collier | 2 |
| Putnam | 2 |
| Seminole | 2 |
| Clay | 1 |
| Dixie | 1 |
| Hernando | 1 |
| Highlands | 1 |
| Santa Rosa | 1 |
| All Other Counties | 0 |

The top 10 counties in Florida with drownings for children aged 0 10 18:

1. **Broward: 8**
2. Polk: 7
3. Duval: 6
4. Orange: 6
5. St. Lucie: 6
6. Palm Beach: 5
7. Lee: 4
8. Pasco:4
9. Pinellas: 4
10. Hillsborough:3
    - Manatee: 3
    - Marion: 3
    - Miami-Dade: 3
    - Osceola:3
    - Volusia:3

# Drownings in the Headlines

# NEWS

## DROWNINGS IN SOUTH FLORIDA 2017

- 1-year-old girl was pulled from a family pool by a sibling at a home in Coral Springs
- 2-year-old boy wanders into a Pembroke Pines pool area and drowns during a Fourth of July party.
- 2-year-old girl is found at the bottom of a Miami Gardens pool.
- 3-year-old boy drowns in a Key Colony Beach canal.
- 3-year-old girl was found floating in an apartment pool in Pembroke Pines.

**_References:_**

1. CDC Unintentional Drowning: Get the Facts
   https://www.cdc.gov/homeandrecreationalsafety/water-safety/waterinjuries-factsheet.html

2. CPSC Report – Fatal Child Drownings
   https://www.cpsc.gov/content/new-cpsc-report-fatal-child-drownings-in-pools-down-11-percent-nationwide-since-2010

3. Florida Department of Health – Drowning Prevention
   http://www.miamiherald.com/news/state/florida/article193776489.html