

Be Water Safe and Water Smart Year Round!

Drowning Prevention Coalition of
Palm Beach County



Introduction



- Anna Stewart, Manager & Bambi Fanto, Coordinator
- What does the Coalition do?
 - Offers a free/reduced cost swim program for children ages 2-12 and their immediate caregivers
 - Offers free, land/virtual water safety presentation for audiences of all ages
 - Hands out water safety information at health/safety fairs
- Funded by Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners and Children's Services Council Palm Beach County
- Why should we care about water safety and drowning prevention?
 - We are **SURROUNDED BY WATER!**
 - **Everyone is susceptible to a drowning incident regardless of age, race, gender, socioeconomic background and swimming capability!**

Drowning is Quick and Silent

DROWNING IS QUICK AND SILENT.



Drowning occurs in as little as 2 minutes.



Most children who drown are out of sight or missing for less than 5 minutes and usually in the presence of 1 or both parents.



Irreversible brain damage occurs in as little as 4 minutes.



Most children die who are submerged for as little as 6-10 minutes.

**Children who drown do not scream, splash or struggle . . .
. . . they silently slip beneath the water**

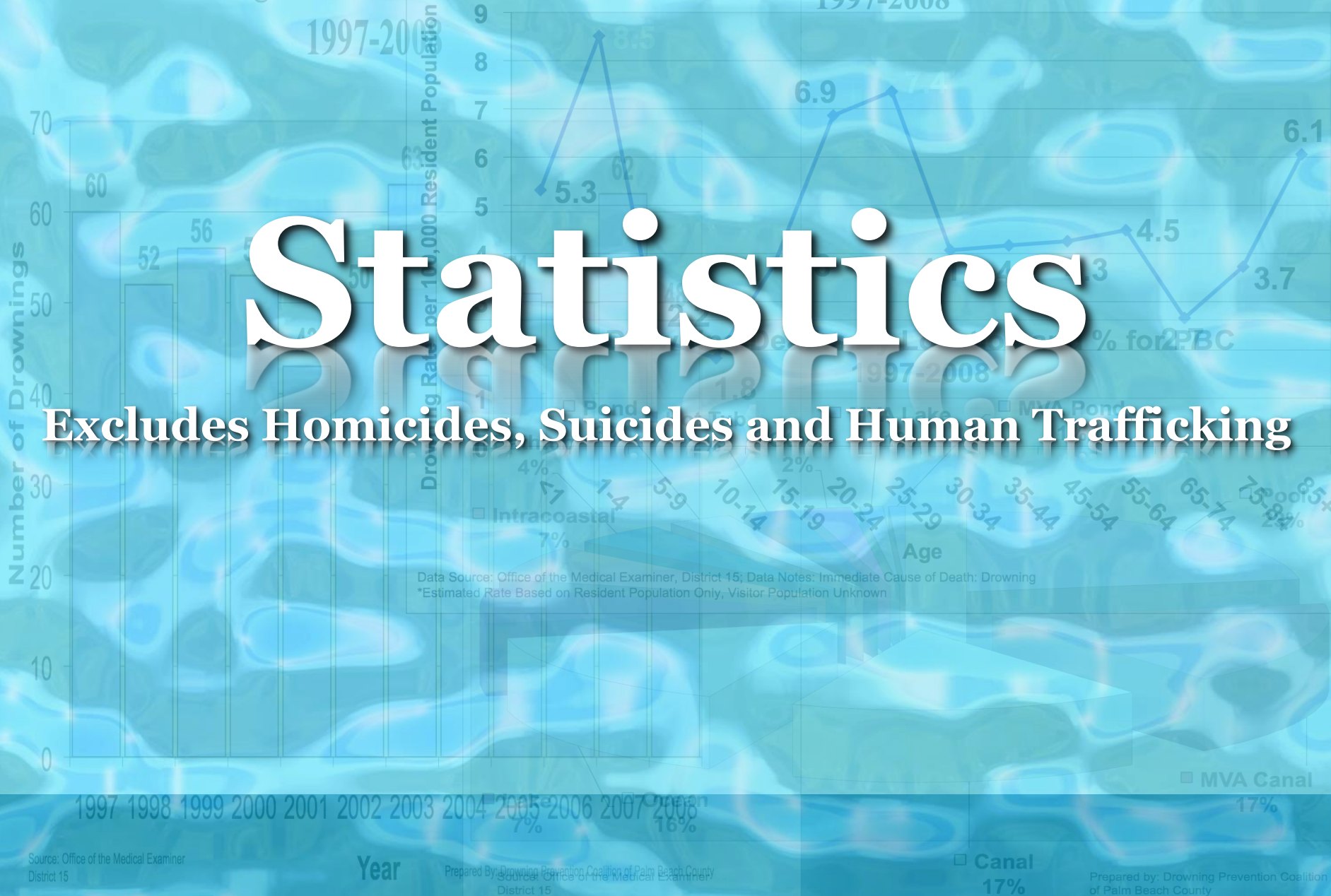
Drowning Deaths Per Year for PBC

Drownings in Palm Beach County, Rates by Age, 1997-2008

1997-2008

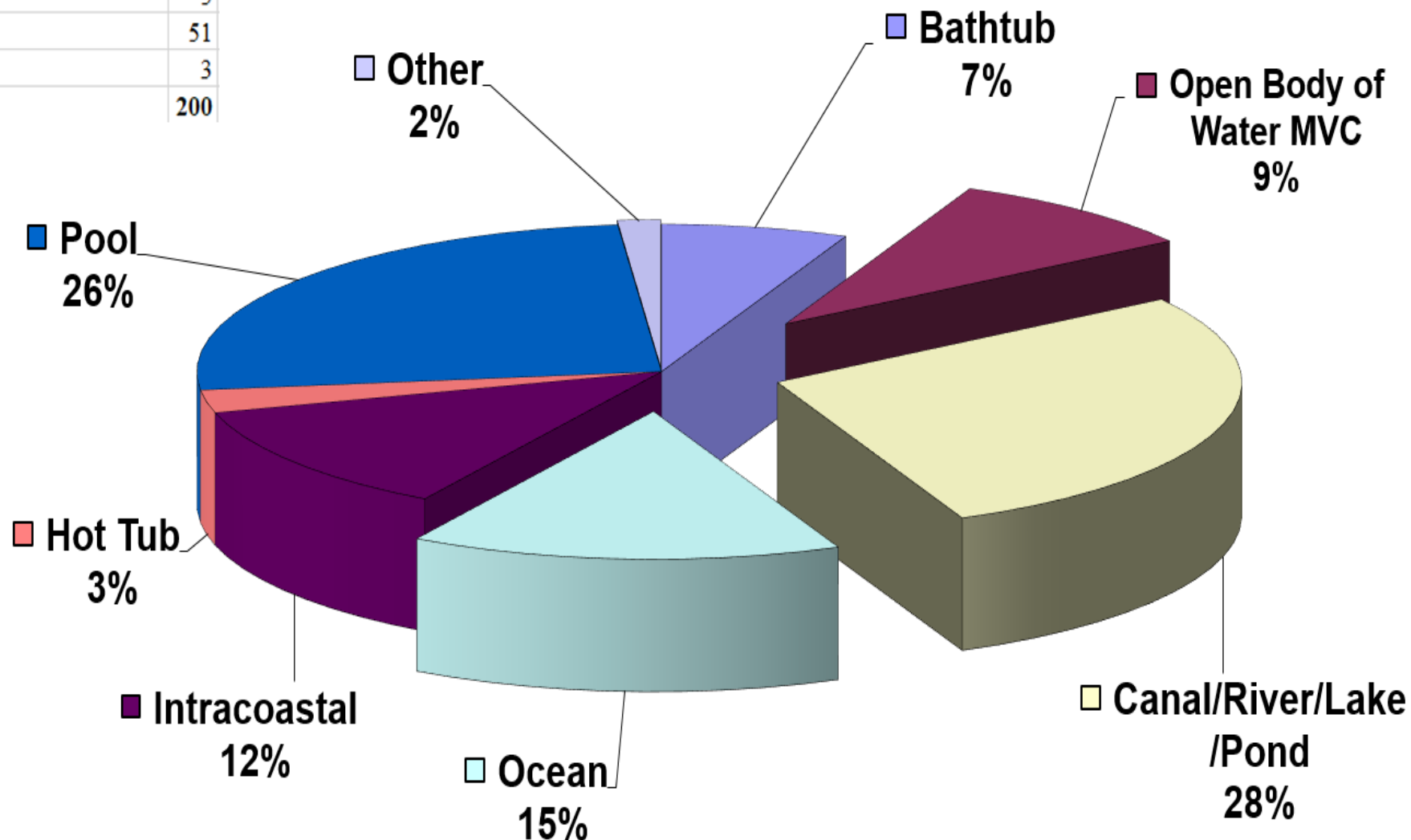
Statistics

Excludes Homicides, Suicides and Human Trafficking



Bathtub	13
Open Body of Water MVC	18
Canal/River/Lake/Pond	56
Ocean	30
Intracoastal	24
Hot Tub	5
Pool	51
Other	3
	200

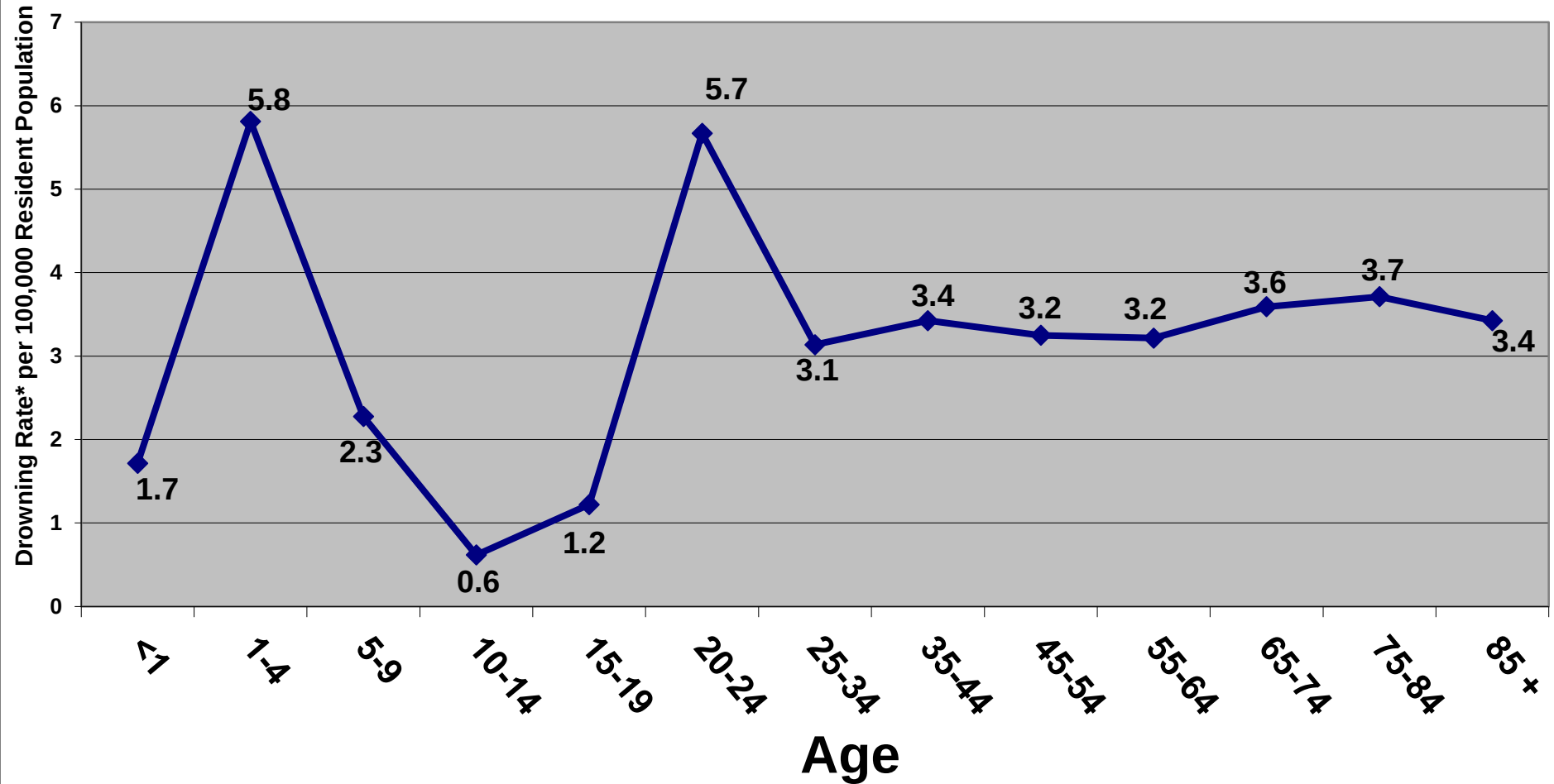
Percentage of Drowning Deaths by Location for PBC 2020-2023



Data Source: Office of the Medical Examiner, District 15; Data Notes: Immediate Cause of Death: Drowning; Data excludes homicides, suicides, human trafficking; includes Resident and Non Resident Drowning Deaths; Prepared by Drowning Prevention Coalition of PBC

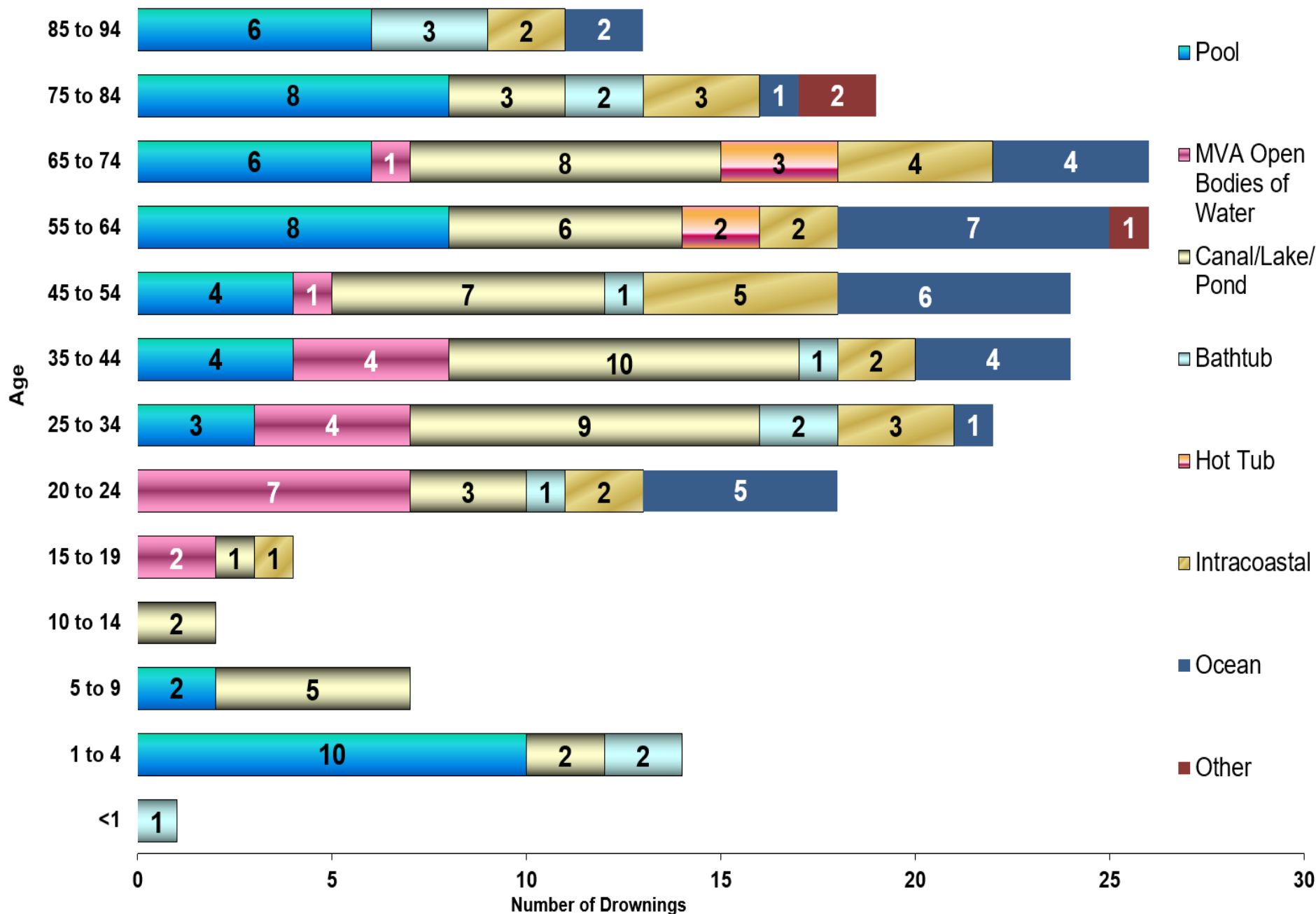
Accidental Drowning Deaths in Palm Beach County, Rates by Age Per 100,000 Population 2020-2023

	Age Groups														
Age Count	<1	1-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75-84	85 +	Total	
	1	14	7	2	4	18	22	24	24	26	26	19	13	200	
Population	58,379	240,961	307,605	324,509	327,871	317,485	701,727	700,881	738,980	808,776	724,122	511,973	252,087		
Rate	1.7	5.8	2.3	0.6	1.2	5.7	3.1	3.4	3.2	3.2	3.6	3.7	3.4		



Data Source: Office of the Medical Examiner, District 15; Population estimates from flhealth.com, Data Notes: Manner of Death: Drowning* Estimated Rate Based on Resident Population Only, Visitor Population Unknown Prepared by: Drowning Prevention Coalition of Palm Beach County

Accidental Drowning Deaths by Age and Location in PBC for 2020-2023



Data Source: Office of the Medical Examiner, District 15; Data Notes: Immediate Cause of Death: Drowning; Excludes homicides and suicides, human trafficking; *Data Includes Resident and Non Resident Drowning Deaths. Graph prepared by the Drowning Prevention Coalition of Palm Beach County

ABCDs of Water Safety



Adult Supervision

Always Swim w/ a Buddy

Water Watcher

- Sober adult whose sole responsibility is to watch the body of water w/o distraction!
- Watch water for 15 minutes then give a lanyard, hat, or other identifying object to another sober adult. Repeat.

Water Watcher Pledge



To help protect children from drowning, I will . . .

- ★ Constantly watch the children who are in or near water and keep them within reach.
- ★ Give this tag to another adult who agrees to actively watch the children if I need to leave for any reason.
- ★ Make sure rescue equipment is easily accessible. Keep telephone and emergency numbers with me.
- ★ Latch gates, lock doors, use alarms and create two or more barriers to the pool, spa, or any water.
- ★ Once I leave the water, I will make sure a child cannot return without my knowledge.



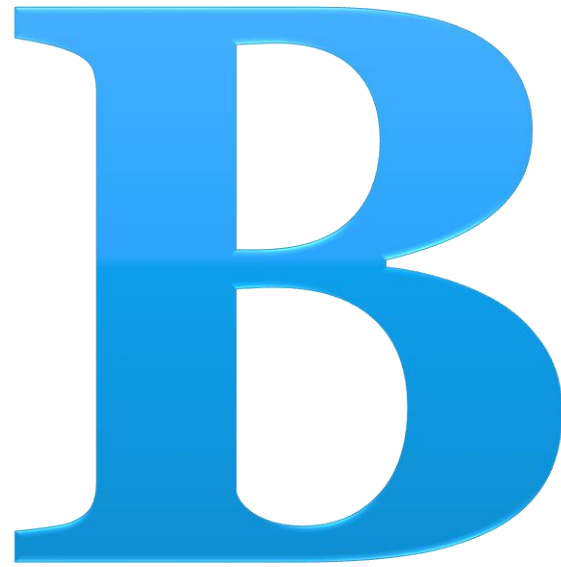
Drowning is silent and fast. Supervision is your child's best protection.

www.imsafe.com



- Water watcher should walk around the body of water if possible, or sit in a chair at the edge of the pool! No relaxing on a lounge chair!
- If nobody watching, those in the water must get out!

ABCDs of Water Safety

A large, bold, blue capital letter 'B' is positioned on the left side of the slide. It has a slight 3D effect with a lighter blue shadow underneath it.

Bathroom

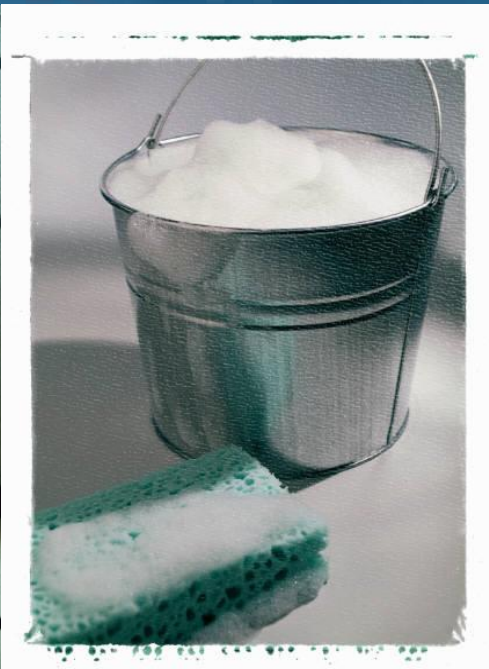
Barriers

Backyard

Beach

Boating

Bathroom Safety



Barriers Inside The Home

(Utilizing Layers of Protection)

Door Knob Cover



Door Lever Locks



Bath/Shower Mat



Door Alarm



Storage Container w/ Lid



Upside Down Bucket

Window Alarm



Toilet Lid Lock



Sliding Chain Lock



Barriers Outside The Home

(Utilizing Layers of Protection)



Pool Alarms



Safety Net



Isolation Fencing



Pool Cover



**Make Sure Products are Approved
by the American Society for Testing
and Materials (ASTM)**

Barriers Outside The Home

(Utilizing Layers of Protection)



Safety “Buoy”

**Vacuum Lock Safety
Wall Fitting**



**Gate
Alarm**



Above Ground Pool Fencing



Strong mounting bracket
attach easily to uprights

Spa Cover



Wrist Alarm



Backyard Pool Safety

How do You Save Someone From Drowning?



**Reach or Throw
Don't Go!!!!!!**



Does the Life Jacket Fit?

- Use the shoulder lift test to see if the life jacket fits properly!
- If the jacket goes above the bottom of the earlobes it's too BIG!



Beach Flags

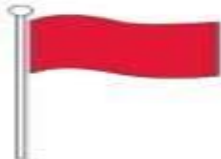
BEACH WARNING FLAGS

BANDERAS DE ADVERTENCIA EN LA PLAYA



Water Closed to Public

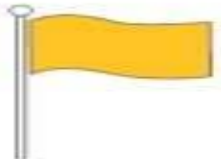
Agua Cerrada al Público



High Hazard

High Surf and/or Strong Currents

Peligro Alto, Resaca Alta y/o Corrientes Fuertes



Medium Hazard

Moderate Surf and/or Currents

Peligro Medio, Resaca Moderada y/o Corrientes Fuertes



Low Hazard

Calm Conditions, Exercise Caution

Peligro Bajo, Condiciones Calmas, Tenga Cuidado



Dangerous Marine Life

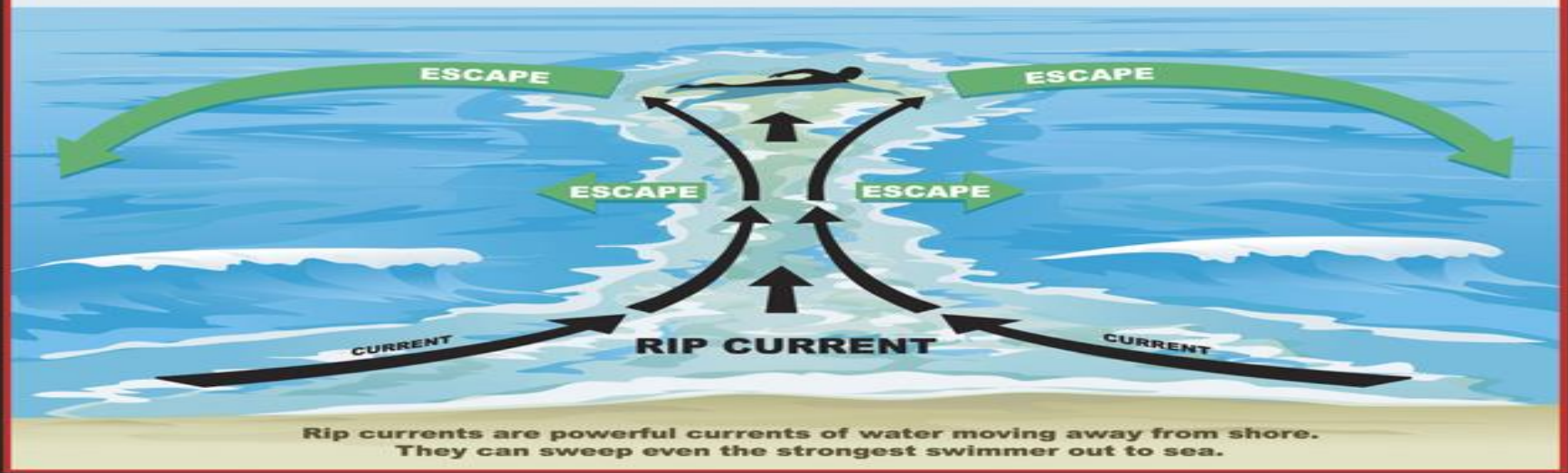
Vida Marina Peligrosa

Absence of Flags Does Not Assure Safe Waters

La Ausencia de Banderas No Asegura Aguas Seguras

RIP CURRENTS

Break the Grip of the Rip!



IF CAUGHT IN A RIP CURRENT

- ◆ Don't fight the current
- ◆ Swim out of the current, then to shore
- ◆ If you can't escape, float or tread water
- ◆ If you need help, call or wave for assistance

SAFETY

- ◆ Know how to swim
- ◆ Never swim alone
- ◆ If in doubt, don't go out

More information about rip currents can be found at the following web sites:

www.ripcurrents.noaa.gov
www.usla.org



ABCDs of Water Safety

A large, stylized blue letter 'C' with a slight 3D effect and a reflection below it, serving as a visual anchor for the list.

Call 911
Canals
Classes On Swimming
CPR

Canal Safety



Stay Out of
Dirty Water!!

08/18/2010 18:51

Classes

(Learn To Swim)



www.pbcgov.org/dpc

Swimming lessons for children provide the skills and knowledge that are necessary to be safer in the water.

For adults, swimming lessons can give them the confidence they need to be a good water safety role model for their children.

ABCDs of Water Safety

A large, bold, blue capital letter 'D' with a slight 3D effect and a reflection below it.

Drains

Driving

Drain Safety

- Contact a pool inspector about proper anti-entrapment covers for spa/pool.



Good Drains



VGB Approved Drain Covers that Meet the ASME/ANSI A112.19.8-2007 Standard. All public swimming pools spas required to be in compliance by 12/19/2008.

Bad Drains



Driving Escape A Sinking Vehicle



Be S.U.R.E

S - Stay Calm

U - Unbuckle Seatbelt

R - Roll Down Window

E - Exit

THANK YOU

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