PUBLIC HEALTH DATA BRIEF

Florida HEALTH
Volusia County

healthyVolusia
www.healthyvolusia.org

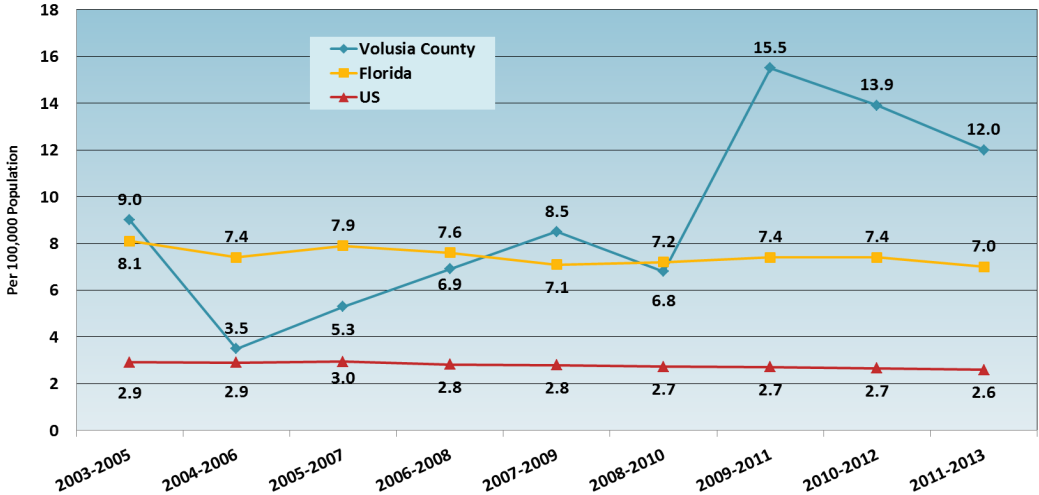## TODDLER DEATHS BY DROWNING IN VOLUSIA COUNTY

The Florida Department of Health defines drowning as the death of a person due to an inability to breathe while under water. The Centers for Disease Control & Prevention ranks accidental drowning fifth among the leading causes of unintentional injury death in the U.S. in 2013. Nationally, about ten people die from unintentional drownings daily. Children ages one to four (toddlers) have the highest drowning rates of all age groups. Among children under five years old who died from an unintentional injury in 2009, more than 30% were caused by accidental drowning. Florida has led the country in the age-adjusted three year
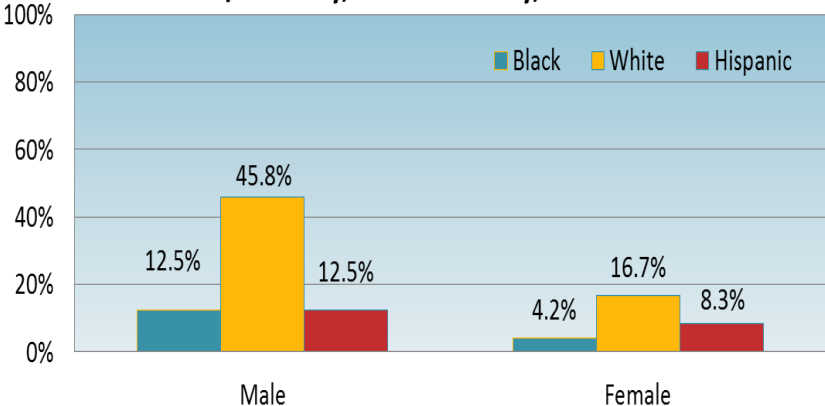

Three Year Age-adjusted Rolling Rate of Toddler Drownings, 2003 - 2013

◆ Florida has slowly lowered the rate of toddler drownings while Volusia County had a spike in rates from 2009-2011 followed by a slow decrease

◆ Volusia County has had a higher rate of toddler drownings than Florida for every three year period since 2009-2011

rolling rate of drowning deaths of children ages 1-4 (toddlers) since 2003-2005. Volusia County rates have exceeded both Florida and the nation during the same time period. Volusia County ranks sixteenth in the three year rolling drowning death rate in Florida. Ninety-two percent of Volusia County toddler drownings occurred in swimming pools. A three year rolling rate is used because the number of toddler drownings are so few during a single year.
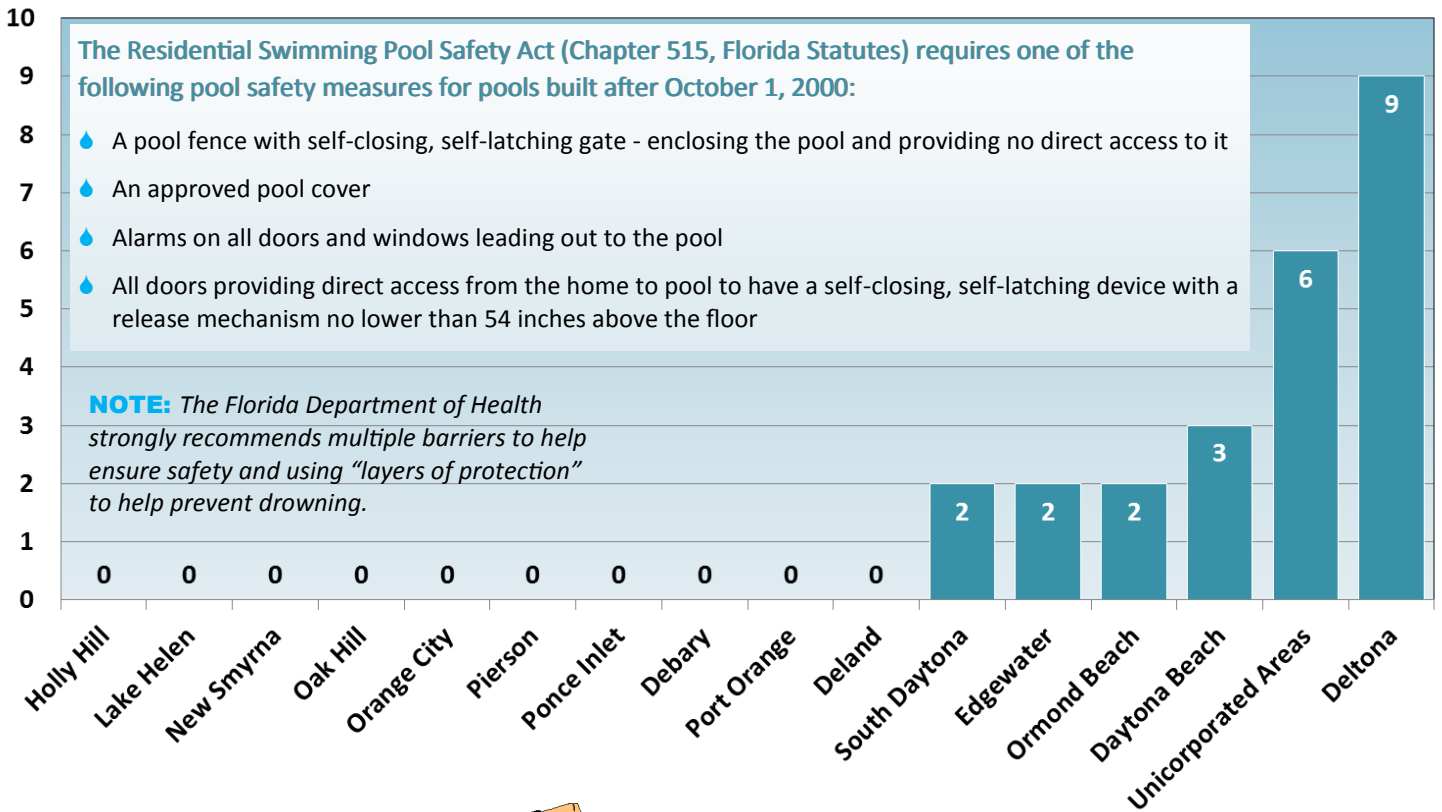

Percentage of Toddler Drownings by Gender and Race/Ethnicity, Volusia County, 2003-2014 *

◆ White toddlers (62.5%) had the highest percentage of drownings regardless of gender in Volusia County from 2003-2014

◆ Black toddlers (16.7%) had the lowest percentage of drownings in Volusia County

◆ Within race, male toddlers drowned at higher rates than female toddlers

◆ Male toddlers accounted for nearly 71% of all drownings in Volusia County

*NOTE: 2014 data are provisional

Data Sources: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; Florida Department of Health Bureau of Vital Statistics Death files
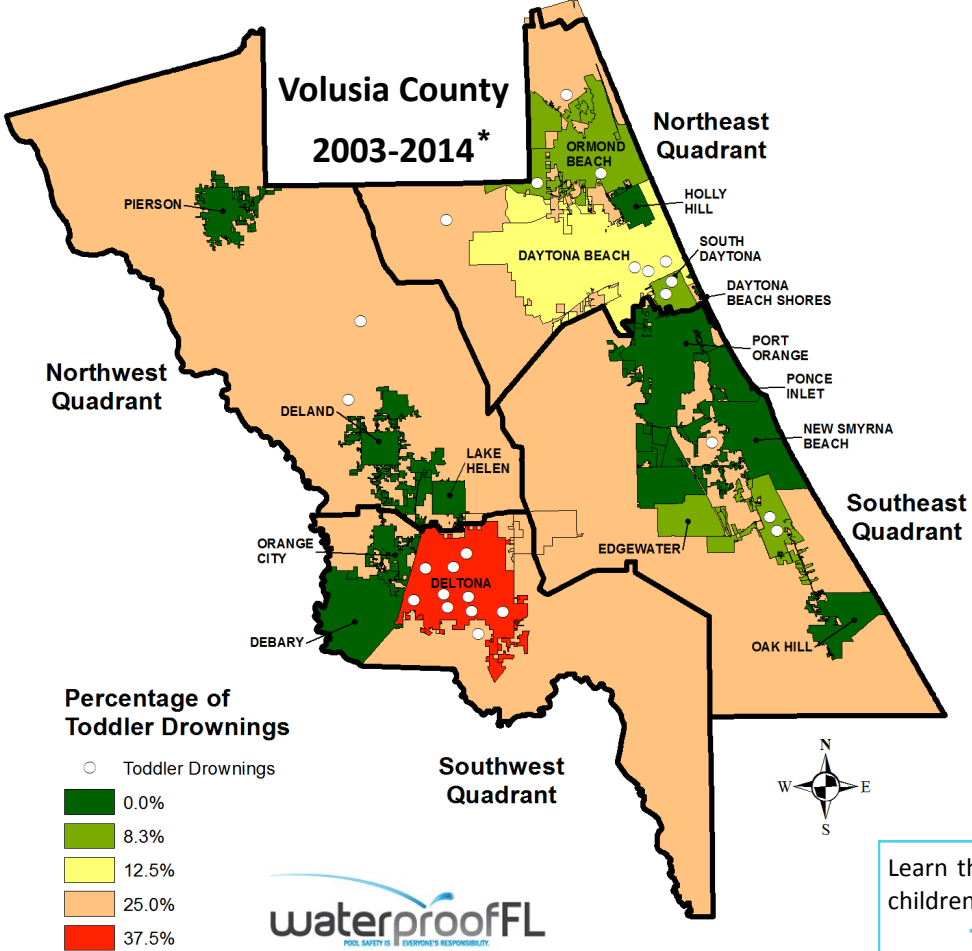
Number of Toddler Deaths by Drowning in Volusia County, 2003 - 2014*

The Residential Swimming Pool Safety Act (Chapter 515, Florida Statutes) requires one of the following pool safety measures for pools built after October 1, 2000:

- A pool fence with self-closing, self-latching gate - enclosing the pool and providing no direct access to it
- An approved pool cover
- Alarms on all doors and windows leading out to the pool
- All doors providing direct access from the home to pool to have a self-closing, self-latching device with a release mechanism no lower than 54 inches above the floor

NOTE: *The Florida Department of Health strongly recommends multiple barriers to help ensure safety and using "layers of protection" to help prevent drowning.*

Chart values:
- Holly Hill: 0
- Lake Helen: 0
- New Smyrna: 0
- Oak Hill: 0
- Orange City: 0
- Pierson: 0
- Ponce Inlet: 0
- Debary: 0
- Port Orange: 0
- Deland: 0
- South Daytona: 2
- Edgewater: 2
- Ormond Beach: 2
- Daytona Beach: 3
- Unincorporated Areas: 6
- Deltona: 9

Volusia County
2003-2014*

Northwest Quadrant
Northeast Quadrant
Southwest Quadrant
Southeast Quadrant

Map labels: PIERSON, ORMOND BEACH, HOLLY HILL, SOUTH DAYTONA, DAYTONA BEACH, DAYTONA BEACH SHORES, PORT ORANGE, PONCE INLET, NEW SMYRNA BEACH, DELAND, LAKE HELEN, ORANGE CITY, DELTONA, EDGEWATER, DEBARY, OAK HILL

Percentage of Toddler Drownings
- ○ Toddler Drownings
- 0.0%
- 8.3%
- 12.5%
- 25.0%
- 37.5%

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POOL SAFETY IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY

- Deltona had the highest percent (37.5%) and incidence (nine) of toddler drownings by city in Volusia County from 2003 through 2014

- More than two-thirds (11) of the 16 incorporated cities in Volusia County did not have a toddler drown from 2003 through 2014

- Unincorporated areas in Volusia County (25.0%) had the second highest percentage of toddler drownings from 2003 through 2014

*NOTE: 2014 data are provisional

Learn the steps you can take to protect Florida's children. Pool safety is everyone's responsibility.
1-877-362-5033 | WaterproofFL.com

For more information, contact the Florida Department of Health in Volusia County
Office of Informatics & Assessment at 386 274-0605 or visit our website www.VolusiaHealth.com

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