



Risk Management Tips

Adolescent Drowning Stats from the Center for Disease Control

To help prevent water-related injuries, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) makes available a fact sheet on unintentional drowning at www.cdc.gov/HomeandRecreationalSafety/Water-Safety/waterinjuries-factsheet.html. Some of the statistics published on their web site include the following:

- In 2007, there were 3,443 unintentional fatal drownings in the United States (an average of 10 per day).
- Drowning is the second-leading cause of unintentional injury-related death for children ages 1-14.
- For every child that dies, four more receive emergency medical care for non-fatal submersion injuries.
- Fatal unintentional drowning rates for 5-14 year-old African-Americans were 3.1 times higher than that for whites.

A recent study completed by USA Swimming and the University of Memphis, *The Constraints Impacting Minority Swimming Participation, Phase II*, outlines that 70% of African-American children, 58% of Hispanic children, and 40% of Caucasian children have low or no swim ability.



If you have a safety or risk management question or a suggestion for a topic, please contact Markel's Risk Management Department at safety1st@markelcorp.com.