

Drowning Prevention

CDC's Injury Center Uses Data and Research to Save Lives

Each year

4,000 people

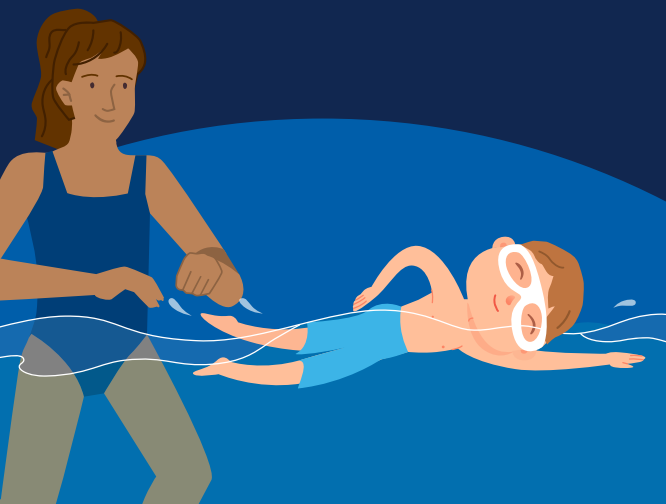
die from **drowning**
in the United States

Drowning injuries can also
cause brain damage and other
serious outcomes, including
long-term disability

Injuries and deaths from drowning
cost the United States
\$53B in 2020

Drowning is preventable

Together, we can
implement solutions



Our Mission

CDC is uniquely positioned to lead data-driven drowning prevention strategies, focusing on groups at increased risk of drowning

Some groups have a higher risk of drowning

Limited access to basic swimming and water safety training may contribute to disparities.

- For people younger than age 30, drowning rates among **Black** people were **1.5x higher** and among **American Indian** and **Alaska Native** people were **2x higher** than White people
- Drowning is a leading cause of death among **children 1–4 years of age**
- Deaths among persons with **autism spectrum disorder** were nearly **40x as likely** to be caused by drowning as deaths in the general population ([Injury mortality in individuals with autism, AJPH](#))

CDC Works with Partners to



Collect **drowning data** to understand risk and protective factors



Implement and evaluate **drowning prevention strategies**



Pilot and evaluate **water safety programs** with organizations like the American Red Cross and YMCA



Support the **U.S. National Water Safety Action Plan** to reduce drowning



Support the **CDC Healthy and Safe Swimming Program** and the Model Aquatic Health Code

CDC Addresses Disparities by

- **Analyzing data**, tracking trends, and identifying groups at higher risk
- **Understanding the factors** that drive disparities in drowning risk
- **Evaluating programs that teach children** who are at increased risk of drowning basic swimming and water safety skills

