

THE DROWNING REPORT

JULY 2026

Provisional Monthly Analysis

PROVISIONAL DATA

333

VICTIM RECORDS DATED JULY 2026

A focused analysis of demographic patterns, water settings, geography, recorded circumstances, and data quality in THE DROWNING REPORT database.

48

STATES REPRESENTED

Stored state values

82%

MALE

273 of 333 records

69%

LAKE, RIVER, OCEAN

229 of 333 records

CRITICAL DATE LIMITATION

Before August 4, 2026, the database Date field was commonly used for the report, recovery, or identification date rather than the incident date. These are therefore records carrying July 2026 dates, not a verified count of drownings that physically occurred during July.

What the 333 dated records show

333

DATED RECORDS

One victim per record

273

MALE

82.0% of records

120

AGE 19 OR UNDER

36.0% of records

229

LAKE, RIVER, OCEAN

68.8% of records

Key findings

- **A pronounced male majority**
 - Men and boys account for 273 records (82.0%), compared with 60 female records. The male-to-female ratio is 4.55 to 1.
- **Adults remain the largest age group**
 - Adults age 20 and older account for 212 records (63.7%). Youth age 19 and younger account for 120 records (36.0%).
- **Pools and ponds remain central child settings**
 - Of the 77 records involving children age 12 and under, 45 (58.4%) are coded to a home pool or pond. Thirty-four of those 45 are home-pool records.
- **Open water dominates the monthly file**
 - Lakes, rivers, and ocean/bay/sound settings total 229 records (68.8%). Lakes are the largest single setting with 117 records.
- **Boating and paddling stand out**
 - Motorized boats appear in 33 records and paddling craft in 15. No PFD is explicitly recorded in 30, while fishing or hunting appears in 20. These documented factors can overlap.
- **July is geographically dispersed**
 - Texas leads with 25 records, followed by Ohio with 24, California with 20, Florida with 19, and Georgia with 15. The five leading states account for 103 records (30.9%).

Read every count as provisional

This file is not an official national mortality total and does not support population rates. Circumstance flags overlap, and an unchecked field can mean either that the factor was absent or that the source did not report it. None of the 333 records is currently marked SOURCE VERIFIED.

Demographic profile

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Gender and age cohort distribution

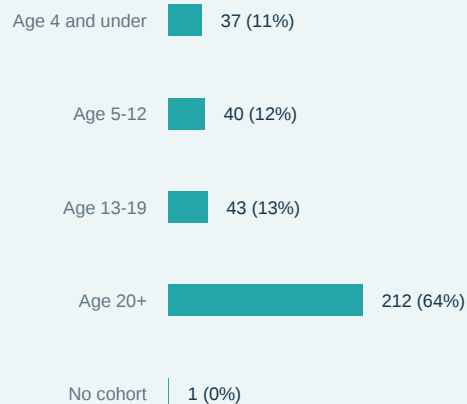
Gender



Male 273 (82.0%)

Female 60 (18.0%)

Age cohorts



Male share

273 of 333 records are male (82.0%), compared with 60 female records (18.0%). Gender is coded for all July records.

Youth profile

120 records involve people age 19 and under: 37 age 4 and under, 40 age 5-12, and 43 age 13-19.

Cohort coverage

An age cohort is present for 332 of 333 July-dated records (99.7%). One record has no age cohort coded.

Interpretation

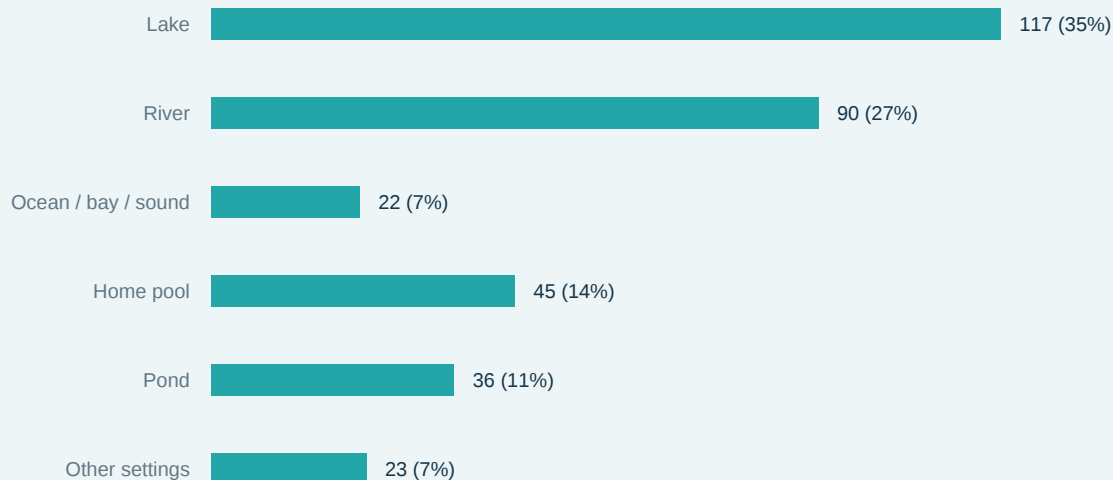
The age groups shown here are the database's operational cohorts, not standard public-health age bands. In particular, the TEEN category includes ages 13 through 19. Percentages use all 333 records as the denominator.

Where the records are concentrated

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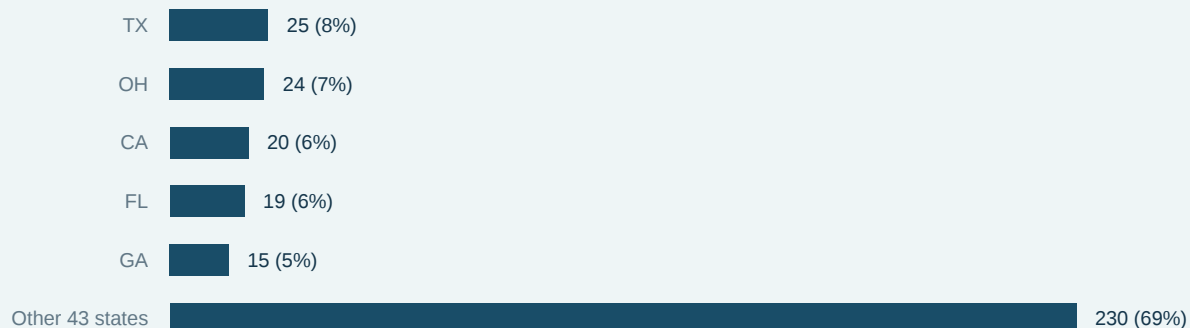
Water setting and stored state

Water setting



Other settings combine the remaining 23 July records outside the five largest setting categories.

Top states

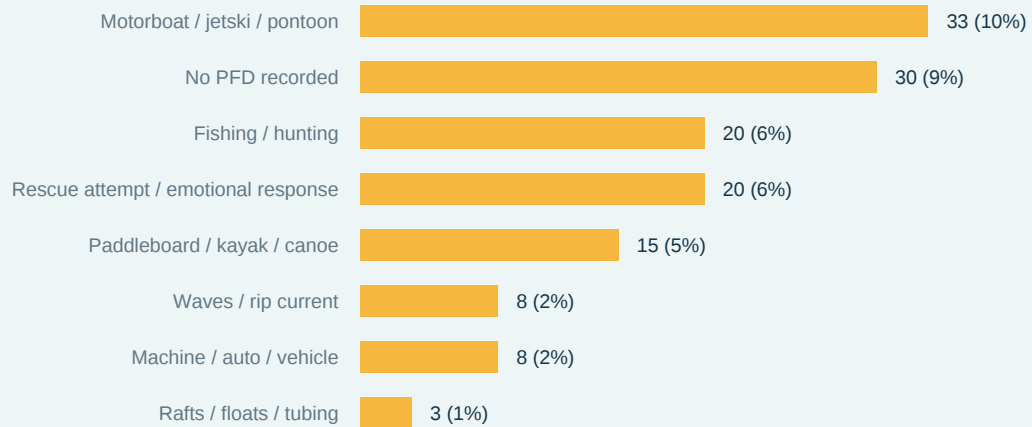


State counts use stored database values and have not been individually source-audited for this report.

Recorded circumstances and prevention themes

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Flags can overlap and should be treated as minimum counts



1. Life jackets around boats and paddling

Motorized boats appear in 33 records and paddling craft in 15. Thirty records explicitly note no PFD, a minimum documented count rather than a full measure of non-wearing.

2. Open-water and surf decisions

Lakes, rivers, and ocean/bay/sound settings account for 229 records (68.8%). Waves or rip currents are flagged in 8. Check conditions, use appropriate flotation, and avoid entering beyond ability.

3. Rescue and flooding

Rescue attempts or emotional responses are flagged in 20 records. Flooding is flagged in 2. These incidents call for reach-throw rescue, avoiding risky entry, and rapid use of trained responders.

4. Home pools remain a young-child hazard

July contains 45 home-pool records. Thirty-four involve children age 12 and under, including 26 age 4 and under. Four-sided barriers, door alarms, active supervision, and rapid missing-child response remain central prevention tools.

Methodology and data quality

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Why the July figures are provisional

0

SOURCE VERIFIED

No records marked verified

80

ENTRY WARNINGS

24.0% of records

0

POSSIBLE DUPLICATES

No duplicate flags

332

AGE COHORTS

99.7% coverage



Scope

The report includes every victim record whose stored Date falls from July 1 through July 31, 2026. Each Airtable row is counted once. No attempt was made to estimate unreported deaths or reconcile the file to CDC, medical-examiner, or vital-statistics totals.

Interpretation rules

Percentages use 333 as the denominator unless stated otherwise. Circumstance categories are not mutually exclusive. A single death may be coded as boating, fishing, no PFD, waves, rescue, or another factor at the same time. Totals across factors must not be added together.

Critical date limitation

The Date field changed meaning on August 4, 2026. Earlier records may use the news-report date, body-recovery date, or identification date instead of the incident date. Because these July records were created before that rule change, the monthly count cannot be described as a verified incident-month total.

What a blank field means

For several fields, blank or unchecked does not mean the factor was absent. It can mean the source did not state the information or the record has not yet been fully screened. The factor counts in this report are therefore minimum documented counts.

Ethnicity is intentionally omitted

The database schema warns that historical ethnicity values include unsourced inference and should not be published until the field is re-sourced or cleared. This report follows that restriction.

Recommended cleanup before a final July edition

1) verify the incident date against the source for all 333 records; 2) resolve the 80 automated entry warnings; 3) audit stored state and place values; 4) mark records SOURCE VERIFIED only after the source, date, location, and demographic fields have been checked.

Leading state record counts

State	Records	Share
TX	25	7.5%
OH	24	7.2%
CA	20	6.0%
FL	19	5.7%

State	Records	Share
GA	15	4.5%
NY	14	4.2%
SC	13	3.9%
WI	13	3.9%
Other 40 states	190	57.1%

Other 40 states groups 190 records across the remaining represented states; July includes 48 states in total.

Definitions used in this report

Record count: one victim per Airtable row. Multi-victim events therefore contribute more than one record.

Youth: the database cohorts CHILD 4&U;, CHILD 5 to12, and TEEN 13 to19 combined.

Lake, river, ocean: the PLACE values LAKE, RIVER, and OCEAN/BAY/SOUND combined. Ponds are shown separately.

Recorded factor: a checked circumstance field. Factors can overlap, and unchecked fields are not reliable evidence of absence.

Provisional: counts have not been fully source-verified and may change after incident-date, location, duplicate, or classification review.

SOURCE NOTE
THE DROWNING REPORT Airtable database, table THE DROWNING REPORT, queried August 13, 2026. This report does not reproduce source articles and is not an official CDC or vital-statistics publication.