

THE DROWNING REPORT

APRIL 2026

Provisional Monthly Analysis

PROVISIONAL DATA

114

VICTIM RECORDS DATED APRIL 2026

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

36

STATES REPRESENTED

Stored state values

84%

MALE

96 of 114 records

72%

LAKE, RIVER, OCEAN

82 of 114 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 April 2026 dates, not a verified count of drownings that physically occurred during April.

What the 114 dated records show

114

DATED RECORDS

One victim per record

96

MALE

84.2% of records

39

AGE 19 OR UNDER

34.2% of records

82

LAKE, RIVER, OCEAN

71.9% of records

Key findings

- **A pronounced male majority**
 - Men and boys account for 96 records (84.2%), compared with 18 female records. The male-to-female ratio is 5.33 to 1.
- **Adults remain the largest age group**
 - Adults age 20 and older account for 75 records (65.8%). Youth age 19 and younger account for 39 records.
- **Home-pool risk is concentrated in the youngest cohort**
 - Eight of the 10 home-pool records involve children age 4 and under. Children age 12 and under account for 28 records overall.
- **Open water dominates the monthly file**
 - Lakes, rivers, and ocean/bay/sound settings total 82 records (71.9%). Lake and river counts are nearly even at 35 and 34.
- **Boating and fishing remain prominent**
 - Motorized boats appear in 12 records, fishing or hunting in 9, and no PFD is explicitly recorded in 5. These documented factors can overlap.
- **April is geographically dispersed**
 - Florida leads with 15 records, followed by South Carolina with 9 and California and Texas with 8 each. The five leading states account for 46 records (40.4%).

Read every count as provisional

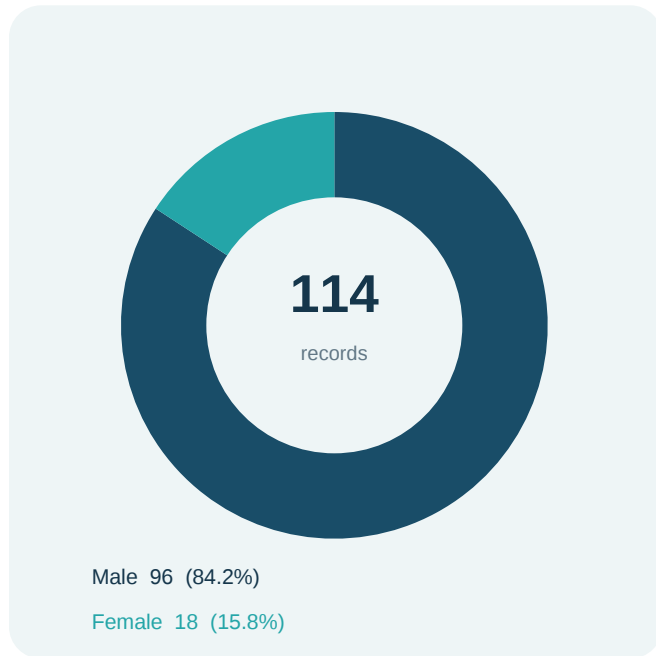
This file is not an official national mortality total and does not support population rates. Circumstance flags overlap, and an unchecked field can mean either that the factor was absent or that the source did not report it. None of the 114 records is currently marked SOURCE VERIFIED.

Demographic profile

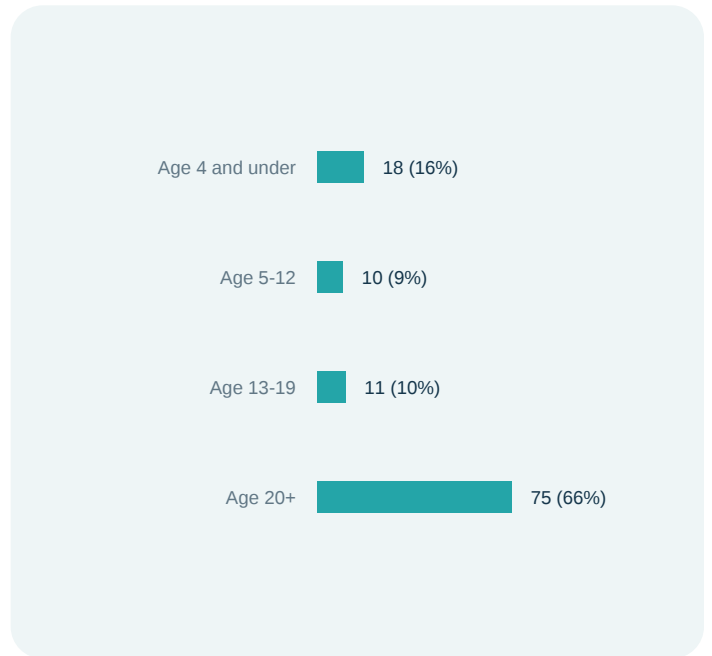
3

Gender and age cohort distribution

Gender



Age cohorts



Male share

96 of 114 records are male. The male share is 84.2% and appears across both youth and adult records.

Youth profile

39 records involve people age 19 and under: 18 age 4 and under, 10 age 5-12, and 11 age 13-19.

Cohort coverage

An age cohort is present for all 114 April-dated records. There is no uncoded age-cohort row in this monthly file.

Interpretation

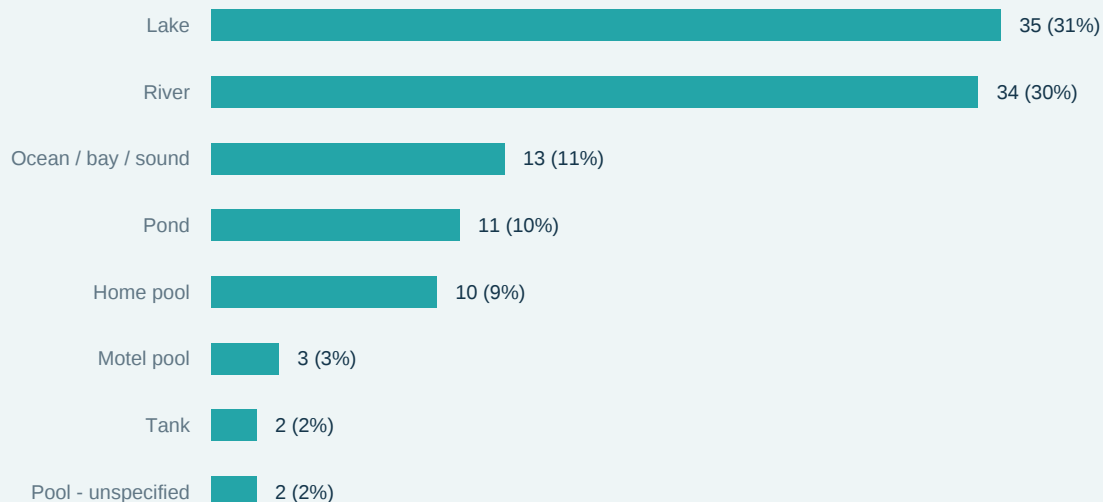
The age groups shown here are the database's operational cohorts, not standard public-health age bands. In particular, the TEEN category includes ages 13 through 19. Percentages use all 114 records as the denominator.

Where the records are concentrated

4

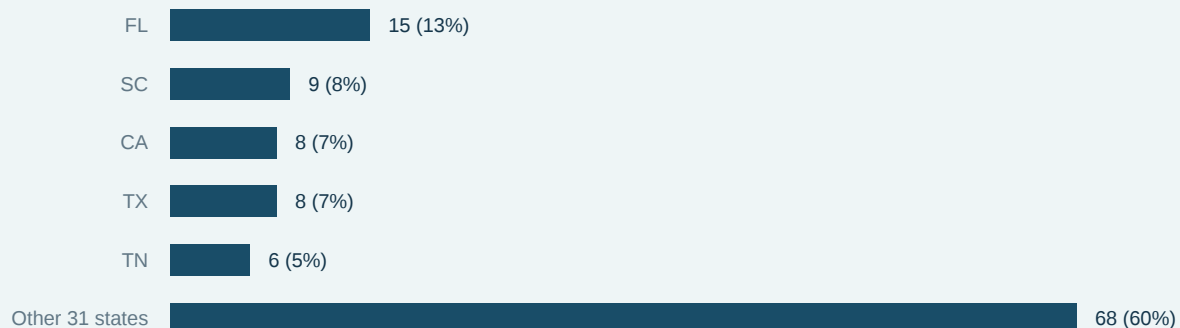
Water setting and stored state

Water setting



Bathtub 2, apartment pool 1, and one record with no PLACE value are not shown in the bars above.

Top states

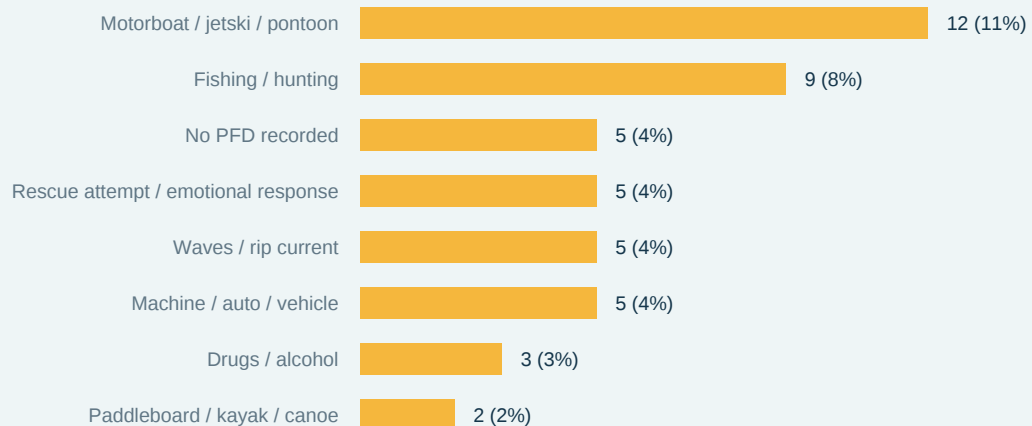


State counts use stored database values and have not been individually source-audited for this report.

Recorded circumstances and prevention themes

5

Flags can overlap and should be treated as minimum counts



1. Life jackets around boats and fishing

Motorized boats appear in 12 records and fishing or hunting in 9. Five records explicitly note no PFD, a minimum documented count rather than a full measure of non-wearing.

2. Open-water and surf decisions

Waves or rip currents are flagged in 5 records, and rescue attempts or emotional responses in 5. Check conditions before entry, summon trained help, and use flotation or reach-throw methods when possible.

3. Vehicles near moving water

Vehicles or machines appear in 5 records. Spring runoff, flooded crossings, ramps, and shoreline access create a different risk profile from recreational swimming and need their own prevention messaging.

4. Home pools remain a young-child hazard

April contains 10 home-pool records, and 8 involve children age 4 and under. Four-sided barriers, door alarms, active supervision, and rapid missing-child response remain central prevention tools.

Methodology and data quality

6

Why the April figures are provisional

0

SOURCE VERIFIED

No records marked verified

42

ENTRY WARNINGS

36.8% of records

0

POSSIBLE DUPLICATES

No duplicate flags

114

AGE COHORTS

100.0% coverage



Scope

The report includes every victim record whose stored Date falls from April 1 through April 30, 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 114 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 April 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 April edition

1) verify the incident date against the source for all 114 records; 2) resolve the 42 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.

State-by-state record counts

State	Records	Share
FL	15	13.2%
SC	9	7.9%
CA	8	7.0%
TX	8	7.0%
TN	6	5.3%
GA	5	4.4%
LA	5	4.4%
AZ	4	3.5%
HI	4	3.5%
MO	4	3.5%
NC	4	3.5%
PA	4	3.5%
VA	4	3.5%
AR	3	2.6%
IL	2	1.8%
MN	2	1.8%
MS	2	1.8%
NH	2	1.8%

State	Records	Share
NY	2	1.8%
OH	2	1.8%
OK	2	1.8%
OR	2	1.8%
WA	2	1.8%
AL	1	0.9%
CO	1	0.9%
CT	1	0.9%
DC	1	0.9%
IN	1	0.9%
KS	1	0.9%
KY	1	0.9%
MD	1	0.9%
MI	1	0.9%
NE	1	0.9%
NJ	1	0.9%
VT	1	0.9%
WI	1	0.9%

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.