A thorough review of the annual boating accident statistics has revealed that 58% of the reportable boating accidents during the 2020 calendar year occurred in 10 Florida counties.

The information on the following pages represents a breakdown of the accident data from each of these top 10 counties. The graphs show the type of vessels involved, the length, the primary cause of each accident and the primary type of accident for each county. There is also a map of each county with points designating the accident locations.

The information found in this section will provide a basis for future boating safety awareness efforts implemented by the FWC Division of Law Enforcement, Boating and Waterways Section.
Florida Top 10 Counties of Boating Accidents during 2020

Legend

- **Fatal Accident (40)**
- **Accident with Injury (202)**
- **Accident without Injury (245)**

Map document created by FWC LE GIS
Known Locations of Accidents in Monroe County during 2020

**Legend**
- **Fatal Accident** (9)
- **Accident with Injury** (41)
- **Accident without Injury** (49)

*Map document created by FWC DLE GIS*
Known Locations of Accidents in Miami-Dade County during 2020

Legend
- Fatal Accident (5)
- Accident with Injury (46)
- Accident without Injury (44)

Map document created by FWC DLE GIS
2. MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

**TYPE OF VESSEL**

- Airboat: 1
- Mini jet-boat: 2
- Pontoon boat: 3
- Sail (aux power): 5
- Open motorboat: 35
- Personal watercraft: 47
- Cabin motorboat: 57

**VESSEL LENGTH (IN FEET)**

- Unknown: 2
- 66+: 7
- 41 - 65: 31
- 27 - 40: 32
- 22 - 26: 16
- 17 - 21: 12
- 12 - 16: 4
- Less than 12: 46

**PRIMARY CAUSE OF ACCIDENT**

**PRIMARY TYPE OF ACCIDENT**
Known Locations of Accidents in Palm Beach County during 2020

Legend
- Fatal Accident (6)
- Accident with Injury (10)
- Accident without Injury (40)

Map document created by FWC DLE GIS 44
## 3. Palm Beach County

### Type of Vessel

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Vessel</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Houseboat</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sail (aux power)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pontoon boat</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canoe/kayak</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Airboat</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cabin motorboat</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal watercraft</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open motorboat</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Vessel Length (in feet)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Length (in feet)</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>66+</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41 - 65</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 - 40</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 - 26</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 - 21</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 - 16</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than 12</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Primary Cause of Accident

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cause</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No proper lookout or attention</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carelessness/faulty boat</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Machinery failure</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weather</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congested water</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operator inexperience</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violation of navigation rule</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hazardous water</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excessive speed</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol or other drug</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off channel</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment failure</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engine failure</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collision with vessel</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collision with fixed object</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Falls overboard</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Struck by fixed object</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Struck underwater object</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Struck by floating object</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Struck by wave/rapid current</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Struck by wake/jet</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vessel wake damage</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Primary Type of Accident

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Accident</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Collision with vessel</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Falls overboard</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Struck by fixed object</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Struck underwater object</td>
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<tr>
<td>Struck by floating object</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>Struck by wave/rapid current</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Struck by wake/jet</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vessel wake damage</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Boating Accident Statistical Report

Known Locations of Accidents in Pinellas County during 2020

Legend
- Fatal Accident (4)
- Accident with Injury (24)
- Accident without Injury (28)

Map document created by FWC DLE GIS
4. PINELLAS COUNTY

**Type of Vessel**

- Mini jet-boat: 1
- Canoe/kayak: 1
- Pontoon boat: 3
- Sail (aux power): 4
- Cabin motorboat: 12
- Open motorboat: 21
- Personal watercraft: 35

**Vessel Length (in feet)**

- 41 - 65: 5
- 27 - 40: 12
- 22 - 26: 11
- 17 - 21: 10
- 12 - 16: 2
- Less than 12: 37

**Primary Cause of Accident**

- No proper look-out/watch: 6
- Machinery failure: 4
- Operator inexperience: 4
- Excessive speed: 3
- Skier or occupant behavior: 3
- Other: 3
- Sharp turn: 2
- On brook, searing jet: 2
- Alcoholic: 2
- Speeding or improper control: 1
- Collisions: 1

**Primary Type of Accident**

- Collision with vessel: 20
- Collision with fixed object: 9
- Falls overboard: 5
- Flooding (swamping): 5
- Skier mishap/fall: 4
- Grounding: 3
- Struck by vessel/prop: 3
- Fire/ignition (fuel): 2
- Capsize: 2
- Fall of PWC: 1
Known Locations of Accidents in Lee County during 2020

Legend
- Fatal Accident (3)
- Accident with Injury (22)
- Accident without Injury (23)

Map document created by FWC DLE GIS
5. Lee County

### Type of Vessel

- **Open motorboat**: 33
- **Pontoon boat**: 5
- **Cabin motorboat**: 10
- **Personal watercraft**: 13
- **Sail (aux power)**: 1
- **Other**: 1

### Vessel Length (in feet)

- **Less than 12**: 12
- **12 - 16**: 3
- **17 - 21**: 14
- **22 - 26**: 17
- **27 - 40**: 11
- **41 - 65**: 4
- **66+**: 1

### Primary Cause of Accident

- **Other**: 15
- **Operator inattention**: 4
- **Speed**: 4
- **Alcohol**: 4
- **Visibility**: 3
- **Hazardous**: 2
- **Equipment**: 2
- **Weather**: 2
- **Faulty boat**: 1
- **Fall into water**: 1
- **Other**: 1

### Primary Type of Accident

- **Collison with object**: 12
- **Fall into water**: 5
- **Scuba diving**: 3
- **Fishing (incidental)**: 3
- **Fishing (elevated)**: 2
- **Fishing (pontoon)**: 2
- **Fishing (other)**: 2
- **Fishing (motorboat)**: 2
- **Tied up**: 2
- **Other**: 1
- **Hull failure**: 1
- **Engine failure**: 1
- **Medical**: 1
- **Dam or lock**: 1
- **Falling from boat**: 1
Known Locations of Accidents in Okaloosa County during 2020

Legend
- Fatal Accident (2)
- Accident with Injury (16)
- Accident without Injury (13)
6. OKALOOSA COUNTY

**Type of Vessel**

- Mini jet-boat: 1
- Cabin motorboat: 6
- Pontoon boat: 12
- Open motorboat: 16
- Personal watercraft: 17

**Vessel Length (in feet)**

- 41 - 65: 1
- 27 - 40: 6
- 22 - 26: 20
- 17 - 21: 6
- 12 - 16: 2
- Less than 12: 17

**Primary Cause of Accident**

- Operator inattention: 19
- Excessive speed: 6
- Violation of navigation rules: 4
- Flawed judgment: 4
- Failure to yield: 3
- Impaired mental condition: 3
- Alcoholic influence: 3
- Mechanical failure: 2
- Drowning/strangulation: 2
- Collisions: 2
- Other: 1

**Primary Type of Accident**

- Collision with vessel: 13
- Falls overboard: 4
- Fall on FWC: 2
- Struck by object/person: 2
- Flooding (pumping): 2
- Vessel wall damage: 2
- Collision with fixed object: 2
- Capsize: 1
Known Locations of Accidents in Bay County during 2020

**Legend**

- **Fatal Accident (4)**
- **Accident with Injury (11)**
- **Accident without Injury (14)**

Map document created by FWC DLE GIS
7. BAY COUNTY

**Type of Vessel**

- Sail (aux power): 1
- Pontoon boat: 4
- Cabin motorboat: 4
- Personal watercraft: 8
- Open motorboat: 19

**Vessel Length (in feet)**

- 41 - 65: 2
- 27 - 40: 5
- 22 - 26: 12
- 17 - 21: 9
- 12 - 16: 2
- Less than 12: 6

**Primary Cause of Accident**

- No proper look-out/attention: 7
- Carelessness: 5
- Weather: 4
- Other: 2
- Skier or occupant behavior: 2
- Machinery failure: 2
- Compulsed water: 2
- Excessive speed: 2
- Operator inexperience: 1
- Off limited area: 1

**Primary Type of Accident**

- Collision with vessel: 6
- Collision with fixed object: 4
- Struck by falling object: 3
- Capsizing: 2
- Falling overboard: 2
- Fall on PWC: 2
- Grounding: 2
- Other: 1
- Fall in boat: 1
- Struck underwater object: 1
- Vessel wake damage: 1
Known Locations of Accidents in Collier County during 2020

Legend

- Fatal Accident (3)
- Accident with Injury (12)
- Accident without Injury (14)

Map document created by FWC DLE GIS
8. COLLIER COUNTY

**Type of Vessel**

- Sail (only): 1
- Cabin motorboat: 1
- Canoe/kayak: 1
- Pontoon boat: 2
- Sail (aux power): 3
- Personal watercraft: 12
- Open motorboat: 19

**Vessel Length (in feet)**

- 41 - 65: 1
- 27 - 40: 5
- 22 - 26: 9
- 17 - 21: 9
- 12 - 16: 4
- Less than 12: 11

**Primary Cause of Accident**

- Weather: 8
- Excessive speed: 5
- Equipment failure: 4
- General, boating, or personal: 3
- Sharp turn: 2
- Machinery failure: 1
- Hazardous water: 1
- Consumed water: 1
- Other: 1

**Primary Type of Accident**

- Collision with vessel: 6
- Fall overboard: 5
- Colling with fixed object: 4
- Flooding (water ing): 4
- Capsize: 3
- Grounding: 3
- Struck by vessel (person): 1
- Fall on PWC: 1
- Struck underwater object: 1
- Other: 1
Known Locations of Accidents in Manatee County during 2020

Legend

- Fatal Accident (2)
- Accident with Injury (12)
- Accident without Injury (8)
9. MANATEE COUNTY

### Type of Vessel

- **Airboat**: 1
- **Pontoon boat**: 1
- **Other**: 2
- **Personal watercraft**: 6
- **Cabin motorboat**: 8
- **Open motorboat**: 9

### Vessel Length (in feet)

- **Unknown**: 1
- **66+**: 1
- **41-65**: 3
- **27-40**: 8
- **22-26**: 3
- **17-21**: 5
- **12-16**: 6
- **Less than 12**: 6

### Primary Cause of Accident

- **Operational inattention**
- **One person,多人知晓**: 5
- **Weather**: 3
- **Carelessness/drowsiness**: 3
- **Sharp turn**: 2
- **Excessive speed**: 1
- **Powered by water**: 1
- **Other**: 1

### Primary Type of Accident

- **Collision with fixed object**: 6
- **Collision with vessel**: 5
- **Fall in boat**: 2
- **Capsize**: 2
- **Grounding (ramming)**
- **Struck by watercraft**: 2
- **Falls overboard**: 1
- **Prescription drug (fuel)**: 1
Known Locations of Accidents in Sarasota County during 2020

**Legend**
- Fatal Accident (2)
- Accident with Injury (8)
- Accident without Injury (12)