A thorough review of the annual boating accident statistics has revealed that 62% of the reportable boating accidents during the 2021 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 types 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 provides 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 2021

Legend
- Fatal Accident (31)
- Accident with Injury (200)
- Accident without Injury (232)
Boating Accident Statistical Report

Known Locations of Accidents in Miami-Dade County during 2021

Legend
- Fatal Accident (7)
- Accident with Injury (45)
- Accident without Injury (43)
1. MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

**Type of Vessel**

- Personal watercraft: 55
- Cabin motorboat: 54
- Open motorboat: 42
- Sail (aux power): 4
- Other: 4
- Pontoon boat: 1

**Vessel Length (in feet)**

- Less than 12: 55
- 12 - 16: 5
- 17 - 21: 16
- 22 - 26: 11
- 27 - 40: 31
- 41 - 65: 20
- 66+: 15
- Unknown: 7

**Primary Cause of Accident**

**Primary Type of Accident**

- No proper lookout/attention: 36
- Excessive speed: 12
- Collision with vessel: 4
- Self or other vessel: 4
- Collision with fixed object: 4
- Firing (inexperienced): 3
- Evacuating or jumping: 3
- Struck by wave: 3
- Struck by vessel: 2
- Struck by buoy: 1
- Struck by ice: 1
- Struck by water object: 1
- Falling (from boat): 1
- Falling in water: 1
- Abandoning boat: 1
- Evacuating/going below: 1
Boating Accident Statistical Report

Known Locations of Accidents in Palm Beach County during 2021

Legend:
- Fatal Accident (4)
- Accident with Injury (18)
- Accident without Injury (32)
3. PALM BEACH COUNTY

**TYPE OF VESSEL**

- **Open motorboat**: 45
- **Cabin motorboat**: 31
- **Personal watercraft**: 11
- **Sail (aux power)**: 7
- **Sail boat**: 1
- **Other**: 1

**VESSEL LENGTH (IN FEET)**

- **Unknown**: 3
- **66+**: 12
- **41 - 65**: 19
- **27 - 40**: 19
- **22 - 26**: 15
- **17 - 21**: 16
- **12 - 16**: 1
- **Less than 12**: 11

**PRIMARY CAUSE OF ACCIDENT**

- **Other**: 13
- **Violating rules**: 5
- **Weather**: 4
- **Other**: 3
- **Operator inattention**: 2
- **Mechanical failure**: 2
- **Engine/propeller failure**: 2
- **Collision with vessel**: 1
- **Overturning**: 1
- **Improper loading**: 1
- **Hull failure**: 1

**PRIMARY TYPE OF ACCIDENT**

- **Other**: 12
- **Fallen overboard**: 4
- **Collision with object**: 3
- **Collision (sunk)**: 3
- **Struck by navigation aid**: 2
- **Struck underwater object**: 2
- **Grounding**: 1
- **Flooded (sunk)**: 1
- **Vessel wake damage**: 1
- **Other**: 1
Known Locations of Accidents in Lee County during 2021

Legend
- Fatal Accident (6)
- Accident with Injury (21)
- Accident without Injury (24)
4. Lee County

Type of Vessel

- Open motorboat: 29
- Personal watercraft: 20
- Cabin motorboat: 16
- Pontoon boat: 7
- Sailboat: 1
- Sailboat (aux power): 1

Vessel Length (in feet)

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

Primary Cause of Accident

- Collision with vessel: 13
- Fail overboard: 10
- Other: 4
- Struck by other boat or vehicle: 4
- Sharp turn: 3
- Overturned: 3
- Excessive speed: 2
- Equipment failure: 2
- No proper lookout/attention: 2
- Machinery failure: 1
- Excessive alcohol: 1
- Other: 1

Primary Type of Accident

- Collision with vessel: 20
- Fail overboard: 9
- Other: 5
- Struck by other boat: 5
- Sharp turn: 4
- Excessive speed: 3
- Equipment failure: 3
- No proper lookout/attention: 2
- Machinery failure: 2
- Excessive alcohol: 2
- Other: 1
Boating Accident Statistical Report

Known Locations of Accidents in Pinellas County during 2021

Legend
- Fatal Accident (3)
- Accident with Injury (15)
- Accident without Injury (22)
5. Pinellas County

### Primary Cause of Accident

- No proper look-out/attention: 12
- Operator inexperience: 4
- Hull failure: 4
- Other: 4
- Excessive speed: 3
- Carelessness/ recklessness: 3
- Acquiring/discharging goods: 3
- Lack of proper lights: 2
- Hazardous water: 2
- Sharp turn: 1
- Struck fixed object: 1
- Falls overboard: 1
- Falling (overboard): 1
- Collisions (fuel): 1
- Sinking: 1
- Fire/explosion (non-fuel): 1
- Collisions with floating objects: 1
- Vegetation/wake damage: 1

### Primary Type of Accident

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

### Type of Vessel

- Personal watercraft: 31
- Open motorboat: 26
- Sailboat (aux power): 2
- Cabin motorboat: 2
- Other: 2
- Airboat: 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
- Unknown: 1
Boating Accident Statistical Report

Known Locations of Accidents in Broward County during 2021

Legend
- Fatal Accident (2)
- Accident with Injury (12)
- Accident without Injury (16)
6. BROWARD COUNTY

**Type of Vessel**

- Open motorboat: 17
- Cabin motorboat: 8
- Personal watercraft: 7
- Sail boat (aux power): 4
- Canoe/kayak: 3
- Other: 3
- Airboat: 2
- Pontoon boat: 1

**Vessel Length (in feet)**

- Less than 12: 9
- 12 - 16: 3
- 17 - 21: 8
- 22 - 26: 6
- 27 - 40: 7
- 41 - 65: 7
- 65+: 2
- Unknown: 3

**Primary Cause of Accident**

- Unknown: 8
- Weather: 4
- Boat collision/forced interaction: 3
- Operator inexperience: 3
- Visibility/obstruction: 3
- Alcohol use/abuse: 2
- Ignition of fuel/gas: 2
- Excessive speed: 2
- Failure to wear life jacket: 1
- Machinery failure: 1
- Hazardous water: 1
- Other: 1

**Primary Type of Accident**

- Collisions with vessel: 13
- Falls overboard: 4
- Fall on PWC: 2
- Struck by wakeboarder: 2
- Flooding (swamping): 2
- Vessel capsizes: 2
- Collision with fixed object: 2
- Collision with floating objects/person: 1
- Fire or explosion: 1
- Other: 1
- Capsizing: 1
7. Okaloosa County

Type of Vessel

- Personal watercraft: 13
- Open motorboat: 11
- Pontoon boat: 8
- Cabin motorboat: 3
- Sail boat (aux power): 3
- Canoe/kayak: 1

Vessel Length (in feet)

- Less than 12: 15
- 12 - 16: 9
- 17 - 21: 8
- 22 - 26: 5
- 27 - 40: 4
- 41 - 65: 1
- 66+: 1

Primary Cause of Accident

- No proper lookout/lack of supervision: 10
- Operator inexperience: 4
- Alcohol use: 2
- Collision with fixed object: 2
- Hull failure: 2
- Violation of other rule: 2
- Other: 1
- Machinery failure: 1
- Sharp turn: 1

Primary Type of Accident

- Collision with vessel: 6
- Collision with fixed object: 4
- Struck by wave: 3
- Fall overboard: 2
- Fall on PWC: 2
- Grounding: 2
- Other: 2
- Fall in water: 1
- Capsizing: 1
- Struck underwater object: 1
- Vessel wake damage: 1
8. COLLIER COUNTY

TYPE OF VESSEL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Vessel</th>
<th>Count</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Cabin motorboat</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pontoon boat</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Airboat</td>
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<td>Other</td>
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VESSEL LENGTH (IN FEET)

<table>
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<th>Vessel Length</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>41 - 65</td>
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<tr>
<td>27 - 40</td>
<td>9</td>
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<td>22 - 26</td>
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<td>17 - 21</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 - 16</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than 12</td>
<td>7</td>
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PRIMARY CAUSE OF ACCIDENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cause</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No proper lookout/supervision</td>
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<tr>
<td>Operator inexperience</td>
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<tr>
<td>Excessive speed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Machinery failure</td>
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<tr>
<td>Skier or occupant striking</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drunk or under the影响</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sharp turn</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weather</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improper loading</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>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collision with fixed object</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flooding (swamping)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capsizing</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grounding</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stocked boat (person)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fall in water</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stock underwater object</td>
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<td>Other</td>
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9. Brevard County

Type of Vessel

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open motorboat</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal watercraft</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Airboat</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cabin motorboat</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sail boat (aux power)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Canoe/kayak</td>
<td>1</td>
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</table>

Vessel Length (in Feet)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Length (in Feet)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>41 - 65</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 - 40</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 - 26</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 - 21</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 - 16</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than 12</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Primary Cause of Accident

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cause of Accident</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proper lookout/wear</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Machinery failure</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ignition of fuel cap</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hazardous water</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excessive speed</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carelessness/inattention</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol use</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operator inexperience</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>Equipment failure</td>
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<tr>
<td>Overloading</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weather</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 fixed object</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collision with vessel</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall in boat</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capsizeing</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grounding</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flooding (sinking)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Struck by another vessel</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Falls overboard</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire/bomb (fuel)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Known Locations of Accidents in Hillsborough County during 2021

Legend
- Fatal Accident (3)
- Accident with Injury (6)
- Accident without Injury (11)
10. HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

**TYPE OF VESSEL**

- Open motorboat: 13
- Personal Watercraft: 5
- Cabin motorboat: 4
- Rowboat (jon): 2
- Pontoon boat: 1
- Airboat: 1
- Sail boat (aux power): 1

**VESSEL LENGTH (IN FEET)**

- 66+: 2
- 41 - 65: 3
- 27 - 40: 5
- 22 - 26: 10
- 17 - 21: 3
- 12 - 16: 3
- Less than 12: 4

**PRIMARY CAUSE OF ACCIDENT**

- Operator inexperience: 6
- Alcohol use: 3
- Machinery failure: 2
- Improper loading: 2
- Failure to yield/Crossing: 2
- Excessive speed: 1
- Overloading: 1
- Weather: 1
- Other: 1

**PRIMARY TYPE OF ACCIDENT**

- Collision with fixed object: 7
- Collision with vessel: 5
- Flooding (swamping): 3
- Struck by anchor/spear/gun: 2
- Falls overboard: 2
- Sealing: 1
- Grounding: 1