Boating accidents

Statistical report

2007

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Division of Law Enforcement
The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), powered by science-based leadership, is committed to creating a sustainable and healthy future for Florida’s fish, wildlife, water and habitat resources. The FWC serves Floridians and visitors alike in a variety of ways, most of which revolve around our mission of managing fish and wildlife resources for their long-term well-being for the benefit of people. The Division of Law Enforcement is perhaps the most visible tool within the FWC’s “tool-belt” used to meet its goal of providing healthy resources for safe, satisfied customers.

The Division of Law Enforcement

Roles and mission

The FWC is the only state agency in Florida with primary responsibility for the management of the state’s fish and wildlife resources. The FWC’s Division of Law Enforcement is tasked with enforcing regulations aimed at protecting and sustaining these resources both for their long-term well-being and the benefit of Florida’s residents and visitors, all the while blending in their unique and specialized public safety role. Our mission is clear: “Protecting Florida’s natural resources and people through proactive and responsive law enforcement services.”

Responsibilities

The FWC Division of Law Enforcement provides protection to those who enjoy Florida’s natural resources while also enforcing resource protection and boating safety laws. Officers patrol rural, wilderness, inshore and offshore areas, and places where other law enforcement agencies do not routinely patrol. Our officers have the authority to enforce all laws of the state and are cross-deputized to enforce federal fisheries and wildlife laws.

Yet, in the course of carrying out these broad responsibilities, FWC officers take every opportunity to educate and introduce even the youngest Floridians to the wonders of our state’s wildlife and natural resources and some very important boating safety topics.

In times of crisis, the Division provides general law enforcement services as part of Florida’s statewide emergency response network. Because of our unique jurisdiction,
Core mission 1:
Resource protection, including the protection of Florida’s fish, wildlife and habitats to ensure their long-term well-being and continued viability for educational, recreational and commercial activities.

And specialized training and equipment, we also are charged with protecting the state’s waterways and critical infrastructure during times of heightened security threat levels. As seasoned first responders, our officers are trained to move fast and efficiently where needed.

As we to look to the future, we will continue to pursue and apply advances in technology to improve the way we respond to both conservation and general law enforcement incidents. When duty calls, we will always be among the first to respond, providing aid as needed. Until then, natural resource protection and proactive boating safety law enforcement and education are what we do best.

Uniquely prepared
On the water, in the woods and in the air, FWC law enforcement officers are uniquely situated and equipped to identify and address illegal activity and promote public safety, particularly in the maritime and wilderness areas.

Our officers often encounter criminal activity, unrelated to natural resources, while on patrol. With statewide law enforcement authority, they are able to address violations immediately – serving as a force multiplier for local jurisdictions.

With our combined talent, tools and training, we bring a wide variety of capabilities and experience to any environment. Our aviation assets, equipped with specialized technology, are often used in search, rescue and recovery efforts, to provide immediate impact assessments, aerial observation and monitoring of events or incidents, and to deliver critical, life-saving supplies and response personnel to disaster sites. Specially trained canine teams track lost or stranded victims and wanted persons. Our Special Operations Group (SOG) team members are trained to search for missing or wanted persons in the roughest and most remote areas of the state.

Every day, we work hard to ensure the FWC Division of Law Enforcement is synonymous with excellence.
Working in such diverse environments can be tough and challenging, but FWC law enforcement officers are set apart by their can-do attitude and adaptable nature. When it comes to the woods and water, FWC officers are clearly Florida’s experts.

**Intervention equals prevention on the water**

FWC officers help to ensure Floridians and visitors are safe when they are on the water through proactive law enforcement, by initiating boating safety and fisheries inspections and by identifying and minimizing potential navigational and environmental hazards in the waterways.

Our Boating, Waterways and Field Services Section supports officer efforts by developing boating safety and education campaigns, ensuring waterway markers are accurate and maintained, permitting and marking speed-regulated areas, coordinating the removal of derelict vessels and providing more public boating access sites.

With well over 1 million vessels registered in the state, Florida leads the nation in the number of vessels, and, as a negative consequence of high vessel numbers and our mild climate, has the highest number of boating fatalities annually. The vast size of our inland, coastal and offshore patrol areas – combined with a growing population of avid boaters – presents a unique and daunting challenge for FWC and our local and federal maritime enforcement partners.

**Boating education is critical**

As evidenced in this 2007 Boating Accidents Statistical Report, there were 668 reportable boating accidents and 77 boating-related fatalities. Many of these deaths were due to victims falling overboard or capsizing their boat and drowning. A large number of these deaths could have been prevented if the victims had worn life jackets. We continue to increase our efforts to reduce the number of boating-related fatalities through enhanced enforcement and education about the importance of wearing life jackets on the water.
With Florida’s current boating safety education law only applying to boaters 21 years of age and younger, the face-to-face contacts by FWC officers and our partner agencies are a critical part of our outreach efforts to the boating public. These statistics show us that the boat operator most likely to be involved in a boating accident is a middle-age or older male who has plenty of boating experience yet has never learned the most important safety considerations by having taken a boating safety course. When officers perform fresh and saltwater resource enforcement activities, they also routinely conduct boating safety inspections aimed at both identifying and preventing violations. They make boating safer and ultimately save lives.

**Safe boating is a choice**

Florida is the leader in promoting boating accident prevention. The FWC, in association with the National Safe Boating Council, Bombardier Recreational Products, Inc., the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) and a growing list of other partners, has launched a statewide boating safety campaign as part of a national initiative. The “Wear It Florida” campaign encourages boaters to wear life jackets anytime they are on the water and educates boaters about the ease and convenience of the newer types of inflatable life jackets. The campaign reaches the public through a variety of methods including media events, exhibits, personal contacts and televised public service announcements.

**About this report**

This 2007 Boating Accidents Statistical Report is compiled by the Boating and Waterways Section of the FWC’s Division of Law Enforcement. Most of the data contained in this report is gathered from boating accident investigative reports submitted by FWC officers and our marine law enforcement partners working for local agencies.

At the end of each calendar year, boating accident data is compiled and assembled into Florida’s annual
The FWC’s Boating and Waterways Section analyzes these statistics and uses the information to formulate proactive plans aimed at reducing the number of boating accidents and their related injuries, fatalities and property damage. This information is also reported to the USCG’s Boating Safety Division in Washington, D.C. to be included in the national database consisting of data from all U.S. states and territories.

These statistics reflect data from “reportable boating accidents” that occurred in our state. Boating accidents must involve at least one of the following incidents for it to be classified as “reportable”:

- A person dies,
- A person disappears under circumstances that indicate possible death or injury,
- A person receives an injury requiring medical treatment beyond immediate first aid, or,
- There is at least $2,000 aggregate property damage to the vessel(s) or other property.

The State of Florida set a new record for total vessel registrations again in 2007, with numbers soaring to 1,027,043 registered boats, including both commercial and recreational registrations. Additionally, it is estimated that well over 350,000 non-registered boats actively use Florida’s waters, and this segment of the boating population has been growing rapidly. Our waterways increasingly show the strains of congestion as each year brings more residents and visitors to utilize our abundant water resources and take advantage of our mild climate.

Anyone having questions concerning this report should visit www.MyFWC.com and follow the link to “Ask FWC.”
2007 FLORIDA BOATING ACCIDENT STATISTICAL REPORT

SUMMARY

BOATING ACCIDENT REVIEW

- Total number of registered vessels in Florida continues to grow with 1,027,043 registered in 2007 (2,668 above 2006 records).
- The reporting threshold for property damage accidents was increased from the previous figure of $500 to the current figure of $2,000 to compensate for the rise in the repair costs over the years.
- There were 668 total reportable boating accidents in 2007.

2007 REPORTABLE BOATING ACCIDENTS

- 70% of the Operators involved in reportable boating accidents had no formal boater education.
- Monroe County reported the highest number of accidents and injuries (74 total accidents with 4 fatalities and 35 injuries).

2007 REPORTABLE BOATING FATALITIES

In 2007 boaters falling overboard was the main cause of boating fatalities. This trend, although preventable, continues to grow.

- 38% of the fatal accidents were falls overboard (25 accidents with 26 victims)
- 56% of the fatal accidents were in vessels less then 17 feet in length.
- The leading cause of death in fatal boating accidents was drowning (55%).
- The deadliest month in 2007 was March with 12 fatalities. May and June followed, with 9 each.
- 48% of the fatal accidents occurred between the hours of 12 p.m. and 8 p.m.
- 22% of the boating fatalities were caused by alcohol or drug use.
- 90% of the victims of fatal boating accidents were males (69).
The total fatality count for 2007 is reported as 77. This reflects two **missing people** reports with circumstances that may indicate the likelihood of death or serious bodily injury.

- 6 of the 77 fatalities are defined as commercial accidents.

**2007 REPORTABLE BOATING INJURIES**

- There were 376 reported injuries in 2007 involving 949 vessels and 14 swimmers. The rate of injury was .56 per accident.

**2007 REPORTABLE PERSONAL WATERCRAFT ACCIDENTS**

- Personal watercraft (PWC) account for 13.2% of all registered vessels in Florida (98% privately owned, 2% rentals).
- PWC were involved in 24% (161) of reported boating accidents.
- 49% of **PWC accidents involved** a collision with another vessel.
- 21% of total boating fatality victims were on a PWC.
- Over 35% of **PWC accidents occurred** in Miami-Dade, Monroe and Pinellas Counties, with Miami-Dade ranked as number #1 (with 21 accidents).

**2007 BOATING EDUCATION STATISTICS**

- FWC issued 23,149 Boater Education ID cards in 2007.
- 54.3% of the cards were issued to persons 21 years of age or younger.

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GLOSSARY OF DEFINITIONS

AT ANCHOR – Held in place in the water by an anchor, includes “moored” to a buoy or anchored vessel and “dragging anchor.”

BOATING ACCIDENT - A collision, accident, or casualty involving a vessel, in or upon, or entering into or exiting from, the water, including capsizing, collision with another vessel or object, sinking, personal injury, death or disappearance of any person from on board under circumstances which indicate the possibility of death or injury, or property damage to any vessel or dock.

CABIN MOTORBOAT - Motorboats with a cabin which can be completely closed by means of doors or hatches. Large motorboats with cabins, even though referred to as yachts, are considered to be cabin motorboats.

CAPSIZING - Overturning of a vessel.

COLLISION WITH ANOTHER VESSEL - Any striking together of two or more vessels, regardless of operation at time of the accident, is a collision. (Also includes colliding with the tow of another vessel, regardless of the nature of the tow, e.g., surfboard, ski ropes, skier, tow line, etc.)

COLLISION WITH FIXED OBJECT - The striking of any fixed object above or below the surface of the water.

COLLISION WITH A FLOATING OBJECT - Collision with any waterborne object (except another vessel), above or below the surface, that is free to move with the tide, current, or wind.

CRUISING - Proceeding normally, unrestricted, with an absence of drastic rudder or engine changes.

DOCUMENTED VESSEL - A vessel for which a valid certificate of documentation is outstanding pursuant to 46 C.F.R. part 67. Documented vessels are not numbered.

DOCUMENTED YACHT - A vessel of five or more net tons, owned by a citizen of the United States, and used exclusively for pleasure with a valid marine document issued by the United States Coast Guard. Documented yachts are not numbered.

DRIFTING - Underway, but not proceeding over the bottom with use of engines, oars, or sails; being carried along only by the tide, current, or wind.

FALLEN SKIER - A person who has fallen off their water skis.

FALL OVERBOARD - A person who unintentionally exits the vessel.
FAULT OF OPERATOR - Speeding, overloading, improper loading, not properly seating occupants of boat, no proper look-out, carelessness, failure to heed weather warnings, operating in a congested area, not observing the Rules of the Road, unsafe fueling practices, lack of experience, ignorance of aids to navigation, lack of caution in an unfamiliar area of operation, improper installation or maintenance of hull, machinery or equipment, poor judgment, recklessness, overpowering the boat, panic, proceeding in an unseaworthy craft, operating a motorboat near persons in the water, starting the engine with clutch engaged or throttle advanced, or irresponsible boat handling (such as quick, sharp turns).

FIBERGLASS (PLASTIC) HULL - Hulls of fiber-reinforced plastic. The laminate consists of two basic components, the reinforcing material (glass filaments) and the plastic or resin in which it is embedded.

FIRE/EXPLOSION (FUEL) - Accidental combustion of vessel fuel, liquids (including their vapors).

FIRE/EXPLOSION (OTHER) - Accidental burning or explosion of any material on board, except vessel fuels or their vapors.

FLORIDA INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY - The Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway from the Georgia state line north of Fernandina to Miami, the Port of Canaveral lock and canal to the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway; the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway, Miami to Key West; the Okeechobee Waterway, Stuart to Fort Myers; the St. Johns River, Jacksonville to Sanford; the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, Anclote to Fort Myers; the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, Carrabelle to Tampa Bay; Carrabelle to Anclote open bay section (using Gulf of Mexico); the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, Carrabelle to the Alabama state line west of Pensacola; and the Apalachicola, Chattahoochee and Flint rivers in Florida.

FLOODING - Filling with water, regardless of method on ingress, but retaining sufficient buoyancy to remain on the surface.

FUELING - Any stage of the fueling operation, primarily concerned with introduction of explosive or combustible vapors or liquids on board.

GROUNDING - Running aground of a vessel, striking or pounding on rocks, reefs, or shoals; "stranding."

IMPROPER LOADING - Loading, including weight shifting of the vessel, causing instability, limited maneuverability, or dangerously reduced freeboard.

INBOARD/OUTBOARD - Also referred to as inboard/outdrive. Regarded as inboard because the power unit is located inside the boat and has a stern-mounted propulsion unit.
MANEUVERING - Changing of course, speed, or similar boat handling action during which a high degree of alertness is required or the boat is imperiled because of the operation, such as docking.

MOTORBOAT - (1) Any vessel which is propelled or powered by machinery and which is used or capable of being used as a means of transportation on water. (2) Any vessel equipped with propulsion machinery, not more than sixty-five feet in length.

MOTOR VESSEL - Any vessel equipped with propulsion machinery (other than steam) more than sixty-five feet in length.

NAVIGATION RULES - The International Navigation Rules Act of 1977 for vessels on waters outside of established navigation lines of demarcation as specified in 33 C.F.R., Part 80 or the Inland Navigation Rules Act of 1980 for vessels on all waters not outside of such lines of demarcation.

NONRESIDENT - A citizen of the United States who has not established residence in this state and has not continuously resided in this state for one year and in one county for the six months immediately preceding the initiation of a vessel titling or registration action.

NO PROPER LOOK-OUT - No proper watch, the failure of the operator to perceive danger because no one was serving as look-out, or the person so serving failed in that regard.

NUMBERED VESSEL - An undocumented vessel numbered by a state with a numbering system approved by the United States Coast Guard under Chapter 123, Title 46, U.S.C.

OPEN MOTORBOAT - Craft of open construction specifically built for operating with a motor, including boats canopied or fitted with temporary partial shelters.

OPERATE - To be in charge of or in command of or in actual physical control of a vessel upon the waters of this state, or to exercise control over or to have responsibility for a vessel’s navigation or safety while the vessel is underway upon the waters of this state, or to control or steer a vessel being towed by another vessel upon the waters of this state.

OWNER - A person, other than a lien holder, having the property in or title to a vessel. The term includes a person entitled to the use or possession of a vessel subject to an interest in another person, reserved or created by agreement and securing payment of performance of an obligation, but the term excludes a lessee under a lease not intended as security.
OUTBOARD - An engine not permanently affixed to the structure of the craft, regardless of the method or location used to mount the engine; e.g., motor wells, kicker pits, motor pockets, etc.

OVERLOADING - Excessive loading of the vessel causing instability, limited maneuverability, dangerously reduced freeboard, etc.

PERSONAL WATERCRAFT - A vessel less than 16 feet in length which uses an inboard motor powering a water jet pump as its primary source of motive power and which is designed to be operated by a person sitting, standing, or kneeling on the vessel, rather than in the conventional manner of sitting or standing inside the vessel.

RECKLESS OPERATION - A person is guilty of reckless operation of a vessel who operates any vessel, or manipulates any water skis, aquaplane, or similar device, in willful or wanton disregard for the safety of persons or property at a speed or in a manner as to endanger, or likely to endanger, life or limb, or damage the property of, or injure any person.

REGISTRATION - A state operating license on a vessel which is issued with an identifying number, an annual certificate of registration, and a decal designating the year for which a registration fee was paid.

REPORTABLE BOATING ACCIDENT - A boating accident that results in personal injury requiring medical treatment beyond immediate first aid, death, disappearance of any person from on board under circumstances which indicate the possibility of death or injury, or damage to any vessel or other property in an apparent aggregate amount of at least $2000.

RESIDENT - A citizen of the United States who has established residency in this state and has continuously resided in this state for one year and in one county for the six months immediately preceding the initiation of a vessel titling or registration action.


SAILBOAT OR AUXILIARY SAILBOAT - (1) Any vessel whose sole source of propulsion is the natural element (i.e., wind). (2) Craft intended to be propelled primarily by sail, regardless of size or type.

SINKING - Losing enough buoyancy to settle below the surface of the water.

SPEEDING - Operating at a speed possibly below the posted speed limit, above that which a reasonable and prudent person would operate under the circumstances.

STEEL HULL - Hulls of sheet steel or steel alloy, not those of steel ribs and wood, canvas, or plastic hull coverings.
**STRUCK BY BOAT OR PROPELLER** - Striking of a victim who is outside of the boat, but not necessarily a swimmer.

**SWAMPING** - Filling with water, particularly over the side, but retaining sufficient buoyancy to remain on the surface.

**TOWING** - Engaged in towing any vessel, fishing gear, or object other than a person.

**WOOD HULL** - Hulls of plywood, molded plywood, wood planking, or any other wood fiber in its natural consistency, including those of wooden construction that have been "sheathed" with fiberglass or sheet metal.

**VESSEL** - Is synonymous with boat as referenced in s.1(b), Article VII of the State Constitution and includes every description of watercraft, barge, and air boat, other than a seaplane on the water, used or capable of being used as means of transportation on water.
Boating accidents review
Number of Accidents
Top Ten States 2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Number of Accidents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>757</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>670</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missouri</td>
<td>266</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arizona</td>
<td>261</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>258</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennessee</td>
<td>223</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan</td>
<td>197</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York</td>
<td>183</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>163</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Source: U.S. Coast Guard Boating Safety Division
*Based on $2000 Damage Threshold

Top Ten States Registered Recreational Vessels 2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Vessel Registration Numbers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>988,652</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>893,828</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minnesota</td>
<td>862,937</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan</td>
<td>828,529</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wisconsin</td>
<td>635,571</td>
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<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>595,934</td>
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<td>New York</td>
<td>497,975</td>
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<td>South Carolina</td>
<td>436,075</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>412,256</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>383,615</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: U.S. Coast Guard Boating Safety Division
*Vessel registration numbers by calendar year.
Note: Effective July 1, 2003, the threshold for reportable boating accidents was changed from $500 to $2000. This change resulted in a decline in the number of "reportable boating accidents" since 2003.
Reportable boating accidents
# 2007 Vessel Registration and Accidents by County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Recreational Vessels</th>
<th>Total Vessels</th>
<th>Reportable Accidents</th>
<th>Fatalities</th>
<th>Injuries</th>
<th>Property Damage</th>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Accident Rate*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ALACHUA</td>
<td>11,363</td>
<td>11,681</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>BAKER</td>
<td>2,346</td>
<td>2,355</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<td>$0</td>
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<td>BAY</td>
<td>19,890</td>
<td>20,854</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>BREVARD</td>
<td>38,863</td>
<td>40,407</td>
<td>23</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>$164,500</td>
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<td>CALHOUN</td>
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<td>CHARLOTTE</td>
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<td>CITRUS</td>
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<td>CLAY</td>
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<td>COLLIER</td>
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<td>$258,300</td>
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<tr>
<td>COLUMBIA</td>
<td>4,877</td>
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<td>$0</td>
<td>67</td>
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<tr>
<td>DESOTO</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>DIXIE</td>
<td>2,639</td>
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<td>$5,000</td>
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## 2007 Vessel Registration and Accidents by County

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<th>Total Vessels</th>
<th>Reportable Accidents</th>
<th>Fatalities</th>
<th>Injuries</th>
<th>Property Damage</th>
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* Accident Rate = # of Recreational Vessels / # of accidents

*Those counties highlighted in blue represent the top ten counties for boating accidents in 2007.
2007 Reportable Accidents

Top Ten Counties

- Monroe: 74
- Broward: 67
- Palm Beach: 52
- Pinellas: 50
- Lee: 32
- Volusia: 25
- Duval: 23
- Brevard: 23
- Lee: 18

Accidents By Month

- Jan: 40
- Feb: 23
- Mar: 75
- Apr: 66
- May: 80
- Jun: 69
- Jul: 88
- Aug: 66
- Sep: 62
- Oct: 44
- Nov: 30
- Dec: 25

Investigating Agency

- FWC: 492 (73%)
- Sheriff's Office: 105 (16%)
- Police Department: 42 (6%)
- Other (4): 4 (1%)

Self-reported: 4%

* 668 total accidents.
2007 Reportable Accidents

*668 total accidents involving 949 vessels and 14 swimmers
(Based on first harmful event as determined by the state reviewing authority)
2007 Reportable Accidents

**Operation At Time Of Accident**

- Cruising: 378
- Docking/undocking: 42
- Being towed: 10
- Drifting: 50
- No info: 50
- At anchor: 51
- Changing speed: 98
- Docked (moored): 175
- Changing: 13
- Sailing: 11
- Wake/surf jumping: 13
- Rowing/Paddling: 51
- Towing a boat: 7
- Launching/Loading: 6

**Activity At Time Of Accident**

- Recreational cruising: 552
- Other: 132
- Fishing (recreational): 83
- Racing (sanctioned): 2
- Fueling: 4
- Starting engine: 3
- Scuba diving: 2
- Hunting: 1
- Making repairs: 11
- Skiing (Skurfing, etc.): 23
- Tournament fishing: 10
- Boat pulling tube: 65
- No info: 44
- Commercial purpose: 44
- Fishing (recreational): 83
- Other: 132

* 668 total accidents involving 949 vessels and 14 swimmers.
2007 Reportable Accidents

**Total Accidents**
- 3+ Vessels: 14 (3.9%)
- 2 Vessels: 247 (37.3%)
- 1 Vessel: 407 (58.8%)

**Personal Watercraft Accidents**
- 2 Vessels: 95 (59%)
- 1 Vessel: 66 (41%)

**Fatal Accidents**
- 2 Vessels: 57 (16%)
- 1 Vessel: 11 (84%)

*668 total accidents involving 949 vessels and 14 swimmers.
*161 personal watercraft accidents involving 259 vessels and 5 swimmers
*68 fatal accidents involving 79 vessels and 1 swimmer

**Vessel Type, Length & Propulsion**

- **Open motorboat**: 336
- **Personal watercraft**: 229
- **Cabin motorboat**: 215
- **Sail (aux power)**: 58

- **< 12 Feet**: 233
- **12 - 16 Feet**: 196
- **17 - 21 Feet**: 107
- **22 - 26 Feet**: 97
- **27 - 40 Feet**: 168
- **41 - 65 Feet**: 34

- **Propeller**: 626
- **Water jet**: 235
- **Air thrust**: 19
- **No info**: 35
- **Sail**: 22
- **Manual**: 12

*668 total accidents involving 949 vessels and 14 swimmers.*
2007 Reportable Accidents

Vessel Hull & Fuel Type

- Rigid hull inflatable: 1
- Steel: 18
- Wood: 22
- Other/no info: 43
- Aluminum: 57
- Fiberglass: 808

Electric: 704
Manual: 62
Diesel: 176
Gas: 704

Vessel & Property Damage Figures

- Millions
- 2000: 6.8
- 2001: 7.9
- 2002: 8.2
- 2003: 9.6
- 2004: 18.3
- 2005: 7.3
- 2006: 8.6
- 2007: 9.1

* $8,806,652 in vessel damage and $318,458 in property damage in 2007.

Vessel Ownership

- Rent: 9%
- Borrow: 15%
- Owner household: 76%
- 31

*668 total accidents involving 949 vessels.
2007 Reportable Accidents

**Primary Cause Assessed By Reviewing Authority**

- Operator inattention: 117
- No proper look-out: 12
- Excessive speed: 89
- Operator Inexperience: 43
- Careless/ inattention: 40
- Other/unknown: 37
- Machinery failure (below): 36
- Alcohol use: 36
- Reckless operation: 24
- Skier or occupant: 22
- Weather: 19
- Unidentifiable: 19
- Improper anchoring: 16
- Standing/sitting- gunwale,bow or tran.: 8
- Hull failure: 7
- Off throttle steering-jet: 6
- Lack of proper lights: 6
- Sharp turn: 5
- Equipment failure (below): 5
- Overloading: 4
- Hazardous waters: 4
- Failure to vent: 4
- Congested waters: 3
- Improper loading: 2
- Ignition of fuel vapor: 2
- Drug use: 2

**Operator Age & Experience**

- **Operator Experience (Hours)**
  - No info: 388
  - <10: 71
  - 10-100: 173
  - 100+: 205
- **Operator Age (Years)**
  - 36-50 Years: 273
  - 51+ Years: 193
  - 22-25 Years: 193
  - <17 Years: 95
  - 17-21 Years: 27
  - No info: 27

- *205 unknown for experience and 25 unknown for age.
- *668 Accidents involving 837 operators.

**Operator**

- Male: 753 (90%)
- Female: 65 (8%)
- No info: 19 (2%)
2007 Reportable Accidents

Boat Operator Education

No boater education 70%
Boater education 30%

Operator By Age With No Boater Education

Yr | Age | No boater education 16-1 | No boater education 17-21 | No boater education 22-35 | No boater education 36-50 | No boater education 51+
---|-----|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------
2004 | 16-1 | 29 | 48 | 184 | 216
     | 17-21 | 19 | 50 | 160 | 191
     | 22-35 | 54 | 162 | 171 | 209
     | 36-50 | 142 |
     | 51+ | 29 |
2005 | 16-1 | 23 | 54 | 171 | 209
     | 17-21 | 14 | 61 | 150 | 204
     | 22-35 | 131 |
     | 36-50 | 139 |
     | 51+ | 139 |
2006 | 16-1 | 14 |
     | 17-21 | 61 |
     | 22-35 | 150 |
     | 36-50 | 204 |
     | 51+ | 139 |
2007 | 16-1 | 14 |
     | 17-21 | 61 |
     | 22-35 | 150 |
     | 36-50 | 204 |
     | 51+ | 139 |

Operator/Occupant PFD Use & Swimming Ability

Wearing PFD 30%
Not wearing PFD 38%
No info 32%

Could not swim 5%
Could swim 87%
No info 8%
2007 Reportable Accidents

* 668 total accidents involving 1,989 operators/occupants.

Offshore defined as the edge of the Gulfstream or 3 miles from shore, whichever is greater, in the Atlantic and more than 9 miles out in the Gulf.
Fatality data

2007

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Division of Law Enforcement
### 2006 Fatalities Top Ten States

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2007 Statistics for top 10 States were not available at time of printing.

### 2007 Fatality Data

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* Fatality rate - Number of fatalities per 100,000 registered vessels.

### Investigating Agency

- **Sheriff's Office**: 9
- **FWC**: 59

68 fatal accidents.

Source: U.S. Coast Guard Boating Safety Division.
2007 Fatality Data

**Fatal Accidents By Month**

- Jan: 4
- Feb: 1
- Mar: 12
- Apr: 9
- May: 9
- Jun: 7
- Jul: 7
- Aug: 2
- Sep: 5
- Oct: 3
- Nov: 2
- Dec: 7

*68 fatal accidents involving 77 fatalities.*

**Time of Day**

- 00:00-01:59: 4
- 02:00-03:59: 0
- 04:00-05:59: 2
- 06:00-07:59: 2
- 08:00-09:59: 9
- 10:00-11:59: 6
- 12:00-13:59: 12
- 14:00-15:59: 9
- 16:00-17:59: 12
- 18:00-19:59: 7
- 20:00-21:59: 4
- 22:00-23:59: 2

*68 fatal accidents involving 77 fatalities.*

**Type of Accidents**

- Sinking: 1
- Skier hit object: 1
- Fire/Explosion (fuel): 1
- Other: 2
- Grounding: 2
- Struck underwater object: 2
- Collision float obj./person: 4
- Flooding (swamping): 5
- Collision with vessel: 7
- Collision with fixed object: 8
- Capsizing: 9
- Falls overboard: 39

*68 fatal accidents involving 77 fatalities. Based on first harmful event.*
2007 Fatality Data

Operation At Time Of Accident

- Cruising: 26
- Changing Direction: 14
- Rowing/paddling: 5
- Drifting: 8
- Other: 6
- At anchor: 3
- No Info: 3
- Sailing: 2
- Docking/undocking: 1

* 79 vessels and 1 swimmer involved in 68 fatal accidents with 77 victims.

Accident Site Location

- Ocean/gulf: 17
- Lake/pond: 17
- River/creek: 11
- Bay/sound: 10
- Canal/cut: 9
- Inlet/pass: 3
- Port/Harbor: 1

* 68 accidents involving 77 fatalities.

Restricted Area Fatal Accidents

- Manatee Idle Speed: 1
- Idle speed: 2
- Slow speed: 2
- Manatee Slow Speed: 2
- MPH limit: 2
- Other: 7

*28.3% of fatal accidents (16) occurred within a restricted area.
2007 Fatality Data

Vessel Ownership

- Rented: 8%
- Borrowed (not in household): 15%
- Owned: 77%

*68 Fatal accidents involving 79 vessels.

Vessel Type, Length, & Propulsion

- Open motorboat: 34
- Personal watercraft: 21
- Cabin motorboat: 19
- Rowboat (Jon): 17
- Canoe/kayak: 15
- Other: 10
- Pontoon Boat: 9
- 41-65 Feet: 8
- 27-40 Feet: 5
- 22-26 Feet: 3
- 17-21 Feet: 2
- <12 Feet: 1

Vessel Hull & Fuel Type

- Fiberglass: 60
- Aluminum: 15
- Wood: 1
- Not Specified: 10
- Gasoline: 41
- Diesel: 7
- Electric: 2
- Other: 3

*68 Fatal accidents involving 79 vessels.
2007 Fatality Data

**Primary Cause Of Death**

- Trauma: 38%
- Drowning: 51%
- Other: 11%

**Operator Gender**

- Male: 90%
- Female: 10%

**Operator Age & Experience**

- Operator Age
  - 17 - 21 Years: 8%
  - 36 - 50 Years: 39%
  - 51+ Years: 28%
  - Less than 17 Years: 5%
  - No dob: 1%
  - 1 - 35 Years: 19%

- Operator Experience (Hours)
  - Under 10 hours: 9%
  - 10 - 100 hours: 13%
  - Over 100 hours: 23%
  - Unknown: 55%
  - 44

*68 Fatal accidents involving 77 fatalities.*

*68 accidents involving 79 operators and 77 fatalities*

*68 accidents involving 79 vessels and 79 operators.*
2007 Fatality Data

Boat Operator Education

*68 fatal accidents involving 79 operators.

Operators By Age Without Formal Boater Education

Victim Statistics

*68 accidents involving 77 victims.
2007 Fatality Data

Victim Residency

- Non resident: 8%
- Florida resident: 92%

Victim Age & Gender

- Male: 90%
- Female: 10%

- Less than 17 Years: 8%
- 17 - 21 Years: 9%
- 22 - 35 Years: 22%
- 36 - 50 Years: 32%
- 51+ Years: 29%

Alcohol/Drug Related Fatalities

- Accidents: 51
- Drug use / alcohol use: 25%
- Other causes: 75%

- Victims: 58
- Drug use / alcohol use: 22%
- Other causes: 75%
- Unknown 2: 3%

*68 accidents involving 77 fatalities.

(Alcohol/drug related refers to any accidents in which alcohol/drug-use may have been a contributing factor, whether or not legally impaired.)
2007 Fatality Data

Primary Cause of Accident By Reviewing Authority

- Alcohol use: 15
- Other: 10
- Machinery failure: 5
- Operator inexperience: 5
- Sharp turn: 2
- Drug use: 2
- Weather: 2
- Skier or occupant behavior: 2
- Operator inattention: 3
- No proper look-out: 3
- Careless/ inattention: 3
- Reckless operation: 4
- Standing/ sitting on gunwale, bow or transom: 4
- Excessive speed: 4
- Ignition of fuel vapor: 1

*68 fatal accidents.*

State Waters Vs. Offshore Fatalities

- State waters: 96%
- Offshore: 4%

*73 fatalities occurred in State waters, plus 4 offshore fatalities.*

Offshore defined as the edge of the Gulf Stream or 3 miles from shore, whichever is greater, in the Atlantic and more than 9 miles out in the Gulf.
Injury data

2007

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Division of Law Enforcement
2007 Injury Data

Total Injuries Recorded 2002-2007

*Injury Rate - Number of injuries per 100,000 recreational registered vessels.

Primary Type Of Injury

*285 accidents involving 376 injuries.
2007 Injury Data

Victim Statistics

- Operators: 42%
- Occupants: 57%
- Other: 3%

Male: 127 (81%)
Female: 30 (19%)

*285 accidents involving 376 injuries.
*26 Skiers
*13 Swimmers

Victim PFD Use & Swimming Ability

- Wearing PFD: 46%
- Not wearing PFD: 54%

- Could swim: 91%
- Could not swim: 3%
- No info: 6%

344
21
11
203
173
Personal Watercraft Data

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Division of Law Enforcement

Patrol, Protect, Preserve
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<th>Rental</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>PWC Accidents</th>
<th>PWC Fatalities</th>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
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<td><strong>2,666</strong></td>
<td><strong>135,935</strong></td>
<td><strong>161</strong></td>
<td><strong>16</strong></td>
<td><strong>128</strong></td>
<td><strong>$329,643</strong></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Accident Rate = # of Recreational Vessels  
# of Accidents

Those counties highlighted in blue represent the top ten counties for PWC boating accidents in 2006.

Sarasota, Okaloosa and Escambia Counties each had 5 personal watercraft accidents and will be each ranked at number 10. Additionally multiple counties will have similar rankings due to the similar number of PWC accidents.
2007 Personal Watercraft Data

PWC Registration

- PWC (private) accidents 17%
- PWC (rental) accidents 7%
- Other accidents 76%
- Other boats registered 91%
- PWC (registered) 9%
- PWC (private) 133,269 98%
- PWC (rental) 2,666 2%

* 668 total accidents
* Source Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles

2002-2007 PWC Accidents

- 2002: 303
- 2003: 241
- 2004: 169
- 2005: 148
- 2006: 174
- 2007: 161


Top 10 Counties For PWC Accidents

- Sarasota: 54
- Broward: 7
- Pinellas: 17
- Miami-Dade: 21
- Monroe: 18
- Palm Beach: 10
- Lee: 10
- Volusia: 7
- Escambia: 5
- Okaloosa: 5

*161 total PWC accidents in 67 counties.
2007 Personal Watercraft Data

**Accident Site Location**

- Other: 1
- Port/harbor: 7
- Inlet/pass: 13
- Canal/cut: 13
- River/creek: 20
- Ocean/gulf: 32
- Lake/pond: 36
- Bay/sound: 39

**Restricted Area Accidents**

- Swimming: 1
- Manatee Slow Speed: 5
- Slow speed: 6
- Idle speed: 7
- MPH limit: 12
- Other: 14

28% of PWC accidents (45) occurred within a restricted area.

**Operation At Time Of Accident**

- Being towed: 1
- Docked (moored): 3
- Other: 3
- Drifting: 8
- Wake/surf jumping: 12
- Changing speed: 18
- No info: 33
- Cruising: 90
- Changing direction: 91

*161 PWC accidents involving 259 PWCs.
2007 Personal Watercraft Data

Primary Type Of Accident

- Struck by boat (person)
- Flooding (swamping)
- Vessel wake damage
- Struck underwater object
- Collision float obj. / person
- Skier mishap/ fall
- Skier hit object
- Other
- Grounding
- Falls overboard
- Fall on PWC
- Collision with fixed object.
- Collision with vessel

*161 PWC accidents.
(Based on first harmful event as determined by the state reviewing authority)

PWC Ownership

- 30
  - No info 11.6%
- 84
  - Borrowed 32.4%
- 72
  - Rented 27.8%
- 73
  - Owner household 28.2%

Experience (hours)

- 120
  - Unknown 46%
- 59
  - <10 20%
- 51
  - 10-100 23%
- 29
  - 100+ 11%

PWC Operator Age & Experience

- 81
  - 0-16 8%
- 49
  - 17-21 23%
- 15
  - 36-50 19%
- 15
  - 22-35 31%
- 10
  - 51+ 6%

*161 total accidents involving 259 operators.
*34 no info for age and 120 no info for experience.
2004-2007 PWC Operators by Age Without Boater Education

Comparisons of PWC Injuries/Fatalities to Total

2001-2007 PWC Injuries
2007 Personal Watercraft Data

Primary Injury

- Sprain/strain: 2
- Dislocation: 3
- Teeth & jaw: 4
- Back injury: 5
- Spinal injury: 6
- Internal injuries: 6
- Head injury: 20
- Contusions: 24
- Laceration: 25
- Broken bone(s): 33

*161 accidents involving 128 injuries.

2001-2007 PWC Fatalities

- 2007: 16
- 2006: 11
- 2005: 11
- 2004: 8
- 2003: 10
- 2002: 11
- 2001: 10

*161 accidents involving 16 fatalities.
2007 Personal Watercraft Data

**Primary Cause Assessed by Reviewing Authority**

- Skier or occupant: 1
- Hazardous waters: 1
- Sharp turn: 2
- Alcohol use: 3
- Off throttle steering-jet: 6
- Other: 8
- Operator inexperience: 12
- Reckless operation: 23
- Careless/inattention: 24
- No proper look-out: 25
- Excessive speed: 26
- Operator inattention: 30

*161 PWC accidents.*

**Investigating Agency**

- Sheriff's Office: 25
- Police Department: 6
- Self-reported: 4
- FWC: 126

*161 PWC accidents.*
Boating education
2007 Boater Education Data

Top 10 Counties

Boating Education Cards Issued

*53 Boaters did not provide age information.
Violation summary
### 2007 Uniform Boating Citation Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2007 FWC</th>
<th>2007 Other</th>
<th>2006 FWC</th>
<th>2006 Other</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Aids to Navigation and Regulatory Markers.</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Uniform waterway markers for safety and navigation</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>31</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mooring to or damaging markers or bouys</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Alcohol and Drugs.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Operation of a vessel under the influence of alcohol</td>
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<td>68</td>
<td>356</td>
<td>63</td>
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<tr>
<td>Operation of a vessel while impaired</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Boating Restricted Areas.</strong></td>
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<td>Manatee protection rules</td>
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<td>Public safety rules</td>
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<td>Local ordinances</td>
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<td><strong>Boating Safety Education</strong></td>
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<td>Boating safety education I.D. cards</td>
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<td>502</td>
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<td><strong>Livery Operations.</strong></td>
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<td>Rental without proper safety equipment</td>
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<td>Rental without boater education</td>
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<td>Rental to persons under 18 years of age</td>
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<td><strong>Negligent Operation of a Vessel.</strong></td>
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<td>Reckless operation of a vessel</td>
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<td>Navigation rule violation resulting in an accident</td>
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<tr>
<td>Navigation rule violation not resulting in an accident</td>
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<tr>
<td>Failure to report an accident</td>
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<td><strong>Personal Watercraft.</strong></td>
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<td>Personal watercraft regulations</td>
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<td>282</td>
<td>386</td>
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<td><strong>Skiing and Diving.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Skiing, aquaplaning, and parasailing violations</td>
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<td>Dive flag violations</td>
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<td>Application, certificate, number, or decal violation</td>
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<td>Special manufacturer &amp; dealer numbers</td>
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<td>Violation relating to vessel titling</td>
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<td>Violation relating to Hull Identification Numbers</td>
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<td><strong>Safety Equipment and Regulations.</strong></td>
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<td>Equipment and lighting requirements</td>
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<td>Muffling devices</td>
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<td><strong>Sub Total</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Violations Recorded</strong></td>
<td>20,780</td>
<td>21,598</td>
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</table>
Top ten counties

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Division of Law Enforcement

Patrol, Protect, Preserve

2007
TOP TEN COUNTIES

A thorough review of annual boating accident statistics has revealed that 60% of the reportable boating accidents during the 2007 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 primary cause of each accident, and primary type of accidents 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 & Waterways Section.
Known Locations of Accidents in Monroe County during 2007

Legend
- Fatal Accident (4)
- Accident with Injury (27)
- Accident without Injury (43)
- Cities
- Road
- COUNTY BOUNDARY
- Hydrographic Feature

Locational information provided by the Division of Law Enforcement.
Known Locations of Accidents in Miami-Dade County during 2007

Legend
- Fatal Accident (12)
- Accident with Injury (23)
- Accident without Injury (32)
- Road
- COUNTY BOUNDARY
- Hydrographic Feature

Locational information provided by the Division of Law Enforcement.
Known Locations of Accidents in Palm Beach County during 2007

Legend
- Fatal Accident (4)
- Accident with Injury (25)
- Accident without Injury (23)
- Cities
- Road
- COUNTY BOUNDARY
- Hydrographic Feature

Locational information provided by the Division of Law Enforcement.
2007 Top Ten County Summary

Type Of Vessel

Primary Cause Of Accident

Primary Type Of Accident

#3 Palm Beach County
Known Locations of Accidents in Pinellas County during 2007

Legend
- Fatal Accident (3)
- Accident with Injury (17)
- Accident without Injury (29)
- Cities
- Road
- COUNTY BOUNDARY
- Hydrographic Feature

Locational information provided by the Division of Law Enforcement.
Known Locations of Accidents in Broward County during 2007

Legend
- Fatal Accident (4)
- Accident with Injury (9)
- Accident without Injury (30)
- City
- Road
- COUNTY BOUNDARY
- Hydrographic Feature

Locational information provided by the Division of Law Enforcement.

79
2007 Top Ten County Summary

#5 Broward County

### Type Of Vessel

- Sail (only): 1
- Mini jet boat: 1
- Canoe/kayak: 1
- Other: 2
- Not specified: 5
- Sail (aux power): 7
- Personal watercraft: 8
- Open motorboat: 17
- Cabin motorboat: 28

### Primary Cause Of Accident

- Other: 1
- Unidentifiable: 1
- Weather: 1
- Hazardous waters: 1
- Alcohol use: 2
- Careless/inattention: 2
- Lack of proper lights: 2
- Operator inexperience: 4
- Excessive speed: 5
- No proper look-out: 5
- Operator inattention: 6
- Machinery failure: 11

### Primary Type Of Accident

- Fall on PWC: 1
- Capsizing: 1
- No info: 1
- Flooding(swamping): 2
- Skier mishap/fall: 2
- Fire/explosion (non-fuel): 2
- Vessel wake damage: 3
- Collision with fixed object: 10
- Collision with vessel: 16
Known Locations of Accidents in Lee County during 2007

**Legend**
- **Fatal Accident (4)**
- **Accident with Injury (10)**
- **Accident without Injury (17)**
- **City**
- **Road**
- **Hydrographic Feature**
- **COUNTY BOUNDARY**

Locational information provided by the Division of Law Enforcement.
2007 Top Ten County Summary

### #6 Lee County

#### Primary Type Of Accident

- Flooding (swamping): 82
- Falls overboard: 1
- Hit by object/person: 2
- Struck by skeg/prop: 1
- Fire/explosion (fuel): 1
- Fire/explosion (non-fuel): 1
- Collision with floating object/person: 3
- Grounding: 6
- Collision with vessel: 12
- Other: 1

#### Primary Cause Of Accident

- Excessive speed: 7
- Operator inattention: 7
- Operator inexperience: 4
- Alcohol use: 4
- No proper look-out: 4
- Machinery failure: 3
- Operator inattention: 3
- Excessive speed: 3
- Other: 2
- Congested waters: 2
- Reckless operation: 1

#### Type Of Vessel

- Personal watercraft: 17
- Open motorboat: 16
- Sail (aux power): 5
- Cabin motorboat: 2
- Pontoon: 2
- Other: 1

---

Note: The images contain bar charts and a table, which illustrate the distribution of accidents and causes across different categories.
Known Locations of Accidents in Volusia County during 2007

Legend
- Fatal Accident (0)
- Accident with Injury (11)
- Accident without Injury (14)
- Cities
- Road
- COUNTY BOUNDARY
- Hydrographic Feature

Locational information provided by the Division of Law Enforcement.
2007 Top Ten County Summary

#7 Volusia County

**Type Of Vessel**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type Of Vessel</th>
<th>Count</th>
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<td>Airboat</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pontoon boat</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sail (Aux power)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cabin motorboat</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Open motorboat</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal watercraft</td>
<td>9</td>
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**Primary Cause Of Accident**

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<td>Weather</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hull failure</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operator inattention</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unidentifiable</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standing, sitting on gunwale, bow or transom</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excessive speed</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reckless operation</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Careless/inattention</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No proper look-out</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Machinery failure</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skier or occupant</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weather</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hull failure</td>
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<tr>
<td>Operator inattention</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unidentifiable</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standing, sitting on gunwale, bow or transom</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excessive speed</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reckless operation</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Careless/inattention</td>
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<tr>
<td>No proper look-out</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Machinery failure</td>
<td>7</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Primary Type Of Accident**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Primary Type Of Accident</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>Skier hit object</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>No info</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Falls overboard</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flooding(swamping)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collision with fixed object</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grounding</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall on PWC</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collision with vessel</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Known Locations of Accidents in Duval County during 2007

Legend
- Fatal Accident (1)
- Accident with Injury (8)
- Accident without Injury (14)
- City
- Road
- COUNTY BOUNDARY
- Hydrographic Feature

Locational information provided by the Division of Law Enforcement.
Known Locations of Accidents in Brevard County during 2007

Legend
- Fatal Accident (1)
- Accident with Injury (7)
- Accident without Injury (15)
- City
- Road
- COUNTY BOUNDARY
- Hydrographic Feature

Locational information provided by the Division of Law Enforcement.

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2007 Top Ten County Summary

Type Of Vessel

- Not Specified: 1
- Other: 1
- Sail (aux power): 2
- Airboat: 4
- Cabin motorboat: 5
- Personal watercraft: 6
- Open motorboat: 16

Primary Cause Of Accident

- Alcohol use: 1
- Hazardous waters: 1
- Hull failures: 1
- Improper anchoring: 1
- Other: 1
- Machinery failure: 2
- Operator inattention: 2
- Reckless operation: 2
- Excessive speed: 3
- No proper look-out: 9

Primary Type Of Accident

- Fire/explosion (fuel): 1
- Fire/explosion (non-fuel): 1
- Falls overboard: 1
- Vessel wake damage: 2
- Collision with fixed object: 2
- Struck underwater object: 2
- Flooding(swamping): 3
- Collision with vessel: 10

#9 Brevard County
Known Locations of Accidents in Collier County during 2007

Legend
- Fatal Accident (1)
- Accident with Injury (8)
- Accident without Injury (8)
- City
- Road
- COUNTY BOUNDARY
- Hydrographic Feature

Locational information provided by the Division of Law Enforcement.

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