2008 Boating Accidents Statistical Report

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Division of Law Enforcement
On November 18, 2009, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission lost one of their own. Lieutenant Joseph Andrew Martyna, 54, died of a heart attack at his home, just a short time after being involved in a search and rescue mission. Joe was popular and well respected throughout the law enforcement community and the public. Lieutenant Martyna worked as a pilot for the Leon County Sheriff’s Office for 10 years prior to becoming a pilot with the Florida Marine Patrol (FWC predecessor) in 1987. In 1999, he was promoted to Lieutenant in the FWC’s Aviation Section – South Region. Lieutenant Martyna loved his job and was available anytime, day or night. Joe will be greatly missed by all who knew and worked with him.
Introduction

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

As we 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.

**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.
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 coordinating statewide boating safety efforts, 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 2008 Boating Accidents Statistical Report, there were 657 reportable boating accidents and 54 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 2008 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 report. 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 number of recreational vessels registered in the State of Florida fell slightly in 2008. With 1,010,359 registered vessels, Florida leads the nation in registered vessels. Additionally, it is estimated that up to 1 million 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 enjoy Florida boating lifestyle.

Anyone having questions concerning this report should visit www.MyFWC.com and follow the link to “Ask FWC.”

CORE MISSION 4:

Mutual aid and emergency response, which calls for enhancing our all-hazards emergency response, prevention and protection capabilities through coordinated efforts with our local, state and federal mutual aid partners.
SUMMARY

Boating Accident Review

• Total number of registered vessels in Florida continues to lead the nation with 1,010,359 registered in 2008 (16,684 below 2007 records).
• There were 657 total reportable boating accidents in 2008.
• Property damage totals increased 155% in 2008 primarily due to a fire in Miami-Dade County that resulted in $15,000,000 in damages to three vessels.

2008 Reportable Boating Accidents

• 72% of the Operators involved in reportable boating accidents had no formal boater education.
• Monroe County reported the highest number of accidents and injuries (98 total accidents with 7 fatalities and 44 injuries).

2008 Reportable Boating Fatalities

In 2008 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 (19 accidents with 25 victims)
• 57% of the fatal accidents were in vessels less than 17 feet in length.
• 18% of the fatal accidents involved non-motorized vessels.
• The leading cause of death in fatal boating accidents was drowning (70%).
• 63% of the fatal accidents occurred when the victim involuntarily entered the water and drowned.
• Deadliest month in 2008 was May with 9 fatalities. March and April followed, with 7 each.
• 28% of the boating fatalities were caused by alcohol or drug use.
• 70% of the victims of fatal boating accidents were males (45).
• The total fatality count for 2008 is reported as 54.

CORE MISSIONS

The core missions of the Division of Law Enforcement are evident every day in everything we do. We meet critical needs within our state, each of which is identified within our core missions.
2008 Reportable Boating Injuries
- There were 386 reported injuries in 2008 involving 925 vessels and 29 swimmers. The rate of injury was .58 per accident.

2008 Reportable Personal Watercraft Accidents
- Personal watercraft (PWC) account for 12.8% of all registered vessels in Florida.
- PWC were involved in 25% (168) of reported boating accidents.
- 59% of PWC accidents involved a collision with another vessel.
- 13% of total boating fatality victims were on a PWC.
- Over 38% of PWC accidents occurred in Miami-Dade, Monroe and Pinellas Counties, with Pinellas ranked as number #1 (with 27 accidents).

2008 Boating Education Statistics
- 53.5% of the cards were issued to persons 21 years of age or younger.

2008 Non-Motorized Vessel Fatalities
- 20% of all fatal boating accident victims were using a non-motorized vessel.
- Vessels involved included canoes (2), Kayaks (4), and jon/rowboats (3).
- 91% of fatal non-motorized vessel accident victims drowned.
- Two of the non-motorized vessel fatalities involved rented vessels (canoes).
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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.
Glossary of Definitions

**FALLEN SKIER**
A person who has fallen off their water skis or other aquaplaning device.

**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 of 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.”
Glossary of Definitions

**Improper Loading**
Loading, including weight shifting of the vessel, causing instability, limited maneuverability, or dangerously reduced freeboard.

**Inboard/Outboard**
Also referred to as sterndrive. 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.
Glossary of Definitions

**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.
Glossary of Definitions

**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.

**Rules of the Road**
The Inland and International Navigation Rules for the prevention of collision at sea.

**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.
2008 Boating Accidents Review

**NUMBER OF ACCIDENTS**

*TOP TEN STATES, 2007*

- Maryland: 170
- New York: 180
- Michigan: 185
- North Carolina: 158
- Tennessee: 146
- Texas: 197
- Arizona: 167
- Missouri: 168
- California: 601
- Florida: 668

*Source: U.S. Coast Guard Boating Safety Division*

*Based on $2000 Damage Threshold*

**REGISTERED RECREATIONAL VESSELS**

*TOP TEN STATES, 2008*

- Florida: 973,836
- Minnesota: 867,446
- California: 858,853
- Michigan: 816,752
- Wisconsin: 617,366
- Texas: 597,428
- New York: 485,541
- South Carolina: 436,844
- Ohio: 416,586
- Illinois: 378,208

*Source: U.S. Coast Guard Boating Safety Division*

*Vessel registration numbers by calendar year.*
**2008 Boating Accidents Review**

**2002-2008 Florida Reportable Accidents**

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.

**2002-2008 Florida Registered Vessels**

* Fiscal year registration data includes all registered vessels.
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Division of Law Enforcement

2008 Reportable Boating Accidents
## 2008 Reportable Boating Accidents

### 2008 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>
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# 2008 Reportable Boating Accidents

## 2008 Vessel Registration and Accidents By County

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* Accident Rate = # of Recreational Vessels # of accidents
* Those counties highlighted in gray represent the top ten counties for boating accidents in 2008.
2008 Reportable Boating Accidents

### Top Ten Counties

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### Investigating Agency

- **FWC**: 486 (73.5%)
- **Sheriff**: 118 (18%)
- **Police**: 46 (7%)
- **Self-Reported**: 5 (1%)
- **Other**: 2

**Total Number of Accidents**: 657

### Accidents by Month for 2008

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**Total Number of Accidents**: 657
2008 Reportable Boating Accidents

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**ACCIDENT SITE LOCATION**

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**RESTRICTED AREA ACCIDENTS**

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<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>197</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2008 Reportable Boating Accidents

**Primary Type of Accident**

- **Collision with vessel**
- **Collision with fixed object**
- **Flooding (swamping)**
- **Falls overboard**
- **Grounding**
- **Capsizing**
- **Fall on PWC**
- **Fall in boat**
- **Other**
- **Struck by skeg/prop**
- **Fire/Explosion (fuel)**
- **Fire/Explosion (non-fuel)**
- **Struck underwater object**
- **Collision float obj./person**
- **Struck by boat (person)**
- **Sinking**
- **Vessel wake damage**
- **Skier mishap/fall**
- **Skier hit object**

**Secondary Type of Accident**

- **No secondary type listed**
- **Struck by boat (person)**
- **Struck by skeg/prop**
- **Fall on PWC**
- **Capsizing**
- **Skier mishap/fall**
- **Starting engine**
- **Skier hit object**
- **Falls overboard**
- **Struck underwater object**
- **Collision float obj./person**
- **Grounding**
- **Vessel wake damage**
- **Collision with vessel**
- **Fall in boat**
- **Collision with fixed object**
- **Fire/Explosion (fuel)**
- **Flooding (swamping)**
- **Sinking**
2008 Reportable Boating Accidents

**Operation at Time of Accident**

- At anchor: 47
- Cruising: 356
- Drifting: 59
- Changing speed: 2
- Launching/Loading: 1
- Being towed: 5
- Towing a boat: 2
- Docking/Undocking: 47
- NO INFO: 66
- Rowing/Paddling: 5
- Sailing: 2
- Changing direction: 186
- Docked (moored): 81
- Wake/Surf Jumping: 8

**Activity at Time of Accident**

- Recreational cruising: 570
- Commercial purpose: 43
- Scuba diving: 5
- Hunting: 2
- Boat pulling tube: 17
- Swimming/Snorkling: 24
- Fishing (recreational): 92
- Skiing (skurfing, etc.): 16
- Other: 123
- NO INFO: 28
- Starting engine: 5
- Tournament (fishing): 1
- Fueling: 2
- Making repairs: 7

Total accidents involving 925 vessels and 29 swimmers.
2008 Reportable Boating Accidents

**Number of Vessels Involved**

- **Total Number of Accidents**: 657
- **Total Number of Vessels**: 925

**Vessel Length, Propulsion & Type**

- **< 12 Feet**: 254
- **12 - 16 Feet**: 99
- **17 - 21 Feet**: 160
- **22 - 26 Feet**: 130
- **27 - 40 Feet**: 139
- **41 - 65 Feet**: 94
- **66+ Feet**: 27
- **NOT SPECIFIED**: 22

- **Air Thrust**: 10
- **Manual**: 12
- **NOT SPECIFIED**: 26
- **Propeller**: 591
- **Sail**: 9
- **Water Jet**: 257

- **Airboat**: 29
- **Cabin motorboat**: 193
- **Canoe/Kayak**: 11
- **Mini Jet Boat**: 10
- **NOT SPECIFIED**: 24
- **Open motorboat**: 321
- **Other**: 27
- **Personal Watercraft**: 252
- **Pontoon Boat**: 18
- **Rowboat (Jon)**: 7
- **Sail (Aux power)**: 48
- **Sail (only)**: 1
2008 Reportable Boating Accidents

**VESSEL HULL & FUEL TYPE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Material</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fiberglass</td>
<td>796</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aluminum</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOT SPECIFIED</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Steel</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wood</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rigid Hull Inf.</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rubber/Vinyl</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gasoline</td>
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<tr>
<td>Diesel</td>
<td>146</td>
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<tr>
<td>NOT SPECIFIED</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electric</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**VESSEL & PROPERTY DAMAGE FIGURES**

- **VESSEL OWNERSHIP**
  - Owner Household – 672
  - Borrowed (not in household) – 106
  - Rented – 147

23,090,756 in vessel damage and 226,486.00 in property damage in 2008.
2008 Reportable Boating Accidents

**Primary Cause Assessed by Reviewing Authority**

- Congested Waters: 2
- Drug use: 2
- Sharp Turn: 2
- Undeletable: 3
- Ignition of fuel vapor: 3
- Lack of proper lights: 4
- Overloading: 5
- Off throttle steering/gy: 6
- Failure to vent: 6
- Improper loading: 6
- Hull failures: 8
- Skier or occupant behavior: 9
- Weather: 11
- Improper Anchoring: 12
- Equipment failure: 13
- Standing/sitting on gunwale, bow or transom: 14
- Other: 22
- Reckless operation: 30
- Machinery failure (below): 31
- Alcohol use: 34
- Operator Inexperience: 61
- Excessive speed: 64
- Careless/Inattention: 67
- No proper look-out: 110
- Operator inattention: 136

657 Total Accidents Involving 925 Vessels and 29 Swimmers (Based on the first harmful event as determined by the state reviewing authority.)

**Operator Age**

- No Info.: 24
- 3% No Info.
- 4% Less Than 17 Years
- 31% 26-35 Years
- 27% 22-25 Years
- 26% 51+ Years
- 9% 36-50 Years
- 5% 26-35 Years

**Operator Gender**

- Male: 777
- Female: 88
- 3% Female
- 87% Male

**Operator Experience**

- Unknown: 167
- Over 100 hours: 48%
- 10-100 hours: 21%
- Less Than 17 Years: 19%
- Unknown: 12%
- Under 10 hours: 48%

657 Accidents Involving 889 Operators
2008 Reportable Boating Accidents

**BOAT OPERATOR EDUCATION**
- 27% Boater Education
- 73% No Boater Education

**OPERATOR/OCCUPANT PFD USE**
- 28.5% Wearing PFD
- 1.5% Not Wearing PFD
- 70% No Info.

**OPERATOR/OCCUPANT SWIMMING ABILITY**
- 20% Can Swim
- 2.5% Cannot Swim
- 80% No Info.

**OPERATOR BY AGE WITH NO BOATER EDUCATION**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Yr</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Less Than 17 Years</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>17 - 21 Years</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>47</td>
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<td></td>
<td>22 - 35 Years</td>
<td>184</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>171</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>200</td>
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<tr>
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<td>36 - 50 Years</td>
<td>216</td>
<td>191</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>204</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>51+ Years</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>131</td>
<td>129</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

657 accidents involving 1858 operators/occupants.
2008 Reportable Boating Accidents

VICTIM STATISTICS

- 76% Uninjured
- 21% Injured
- 3% Fatal

VICTIM STATISTICS (EJECTED FROM BOAT)

- 19% Ejected
- 78% No Info
- 3% Not Ejected

STATE WATERS VS. OFFSHORE ACCIDENTS

- 87% State Waters
- 8% Other
- 5% Offshore
- 33 Other
- 574 State Waters
- 1453 No Info
- 51 Not Ejected
- 354 Ejected
2008 Fatality Data

2007 Fatalities Top Ten States

- Florida: 77
- California: 48
- Texas: 40
- Michigan: 30
- Tennessee: 16
- Washington: 22
- New York: 18
- North Carolina: 19
- Wyoming: 18
- Washington: 18

Florida Total Fatalities Recorded

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yr</th>
<th>Number of Fatalities</th>
<th>Fatality rate</th>
<th>Registered vessels</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
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<td>2007</td>
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<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>5.3</td>
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</table>

Investigating Agency

- 81% FWC
- 17% Sheriff
- 2% Police

49 Accidents Resulting in 54 Fatalities
2008 Fatality Data

**FATAL ACCIDENTS BY MONTH**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>01</th>
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<th>04</th>
<th>05</th>
<th>06</th>
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**TIME OF DAY**

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<th>12:00-13:59</th>
<th>14:00-15:59</th>
<th>16:00-17:59</th>
<th>18:00-19:59</th>
<th>20:00-21:59</th>
<th>22:00-23:59</th>
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<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL NUMBER OF FATALITIES — 54**

**TYPE OF ACCIDENTS**

- Collision with fixed object: 4
- Sinking: 1
- Fall on PWC: 2
- Fire/Explosion (fuel): 1
- Flooding (swamping): 3
- Other: 4
- Falls overboard: 19
- Capsizing: 8
- Collision with vessel: 6
- Skier mishap/fall: 1

**TOTAL NUMBER OF ACCIDENTS — 49**
2008 Fatality Data

**Operation at Time of Accident**

- At Anchor: 6
- Cruising: 18
- Drifting: 8
- Changing Speed: 1
- Other: 3
- NO INFO: 3
- Rowing/Paddling: 5
- Docking/Undocking: 1
- Changing direction: 4

**Accident Site Location**

- Lake/Pond: 14
- Bay/Sound: 10
- River/Creek: 12
- Ocean/Gulf: 8
- Canal/Cut: 3
- Inlet/Pass: 2

**Restricted Area Fatal Accidents**

- Other: 4
- Manatee Slow Speed: 3
- MPH Limit: 1
2008 Fatality Data

VESSEL OWNERSHIP

- Owned - 38
- Borrowed (not in household) - 11
- Rented - 7

66% Owned
12% Rented
20% Borrowed (not in household)

56 VESSELS INVOLVED IN 49 FATALITIES.

VESSEL HULL & FUEL TYPE

- Fiberglass: 39
- Aluminum: 12
- Other: 4
- Rigid Hull Inf.: 1
- Gasoline: 41
- NOT SPECIFIED: 10
- Electric: 4
- Diesel: 1

VESSEL TYPE, LENGTH & PROPULSION

- < 12 Feet: 12
- 12 - 16 Feet: 20
- 17 - 21 Feet: 11
- 22 - 26 Feet: 6
- 27 - 40 Feet: 5
- 66+ Feet: 1
- Not Specified: 1
- Air Thrust: 1
- Manual: 9
- Not Specified: 1
- Propeller: 24
- Water Jet: 11
- Airboat: 1
- Cabin Motorboat: 5
- Canoe/Kayak: 9
- Mini Jet Boat: 1
- Open Motorboat: 24
- Other: 1
- Personal Watercraft: 10
- Pontoon Boat: 1
- Rowboat (Jon): 4

49 fatalities involving 56 vessels.
2008 Fatality Data

**Primary Cause of Death**
- 70% Drowning
- 30% Trauma

**Operator Gender**
- 96% Male
- 4% Female

**Operator Age**
- 25% 2-3 5 Years
- 40% 36-50 Years
- 25% 51+ Years
- 4% Less Than 17 Years
- 4% NO DOB

**Operator Experience**
- 39% Over 100 hours
- 15% 10-100 hours
- 3% Under 10 hours
- 7% Unknown
2008 Fatality Data

**Boat Operator Education**
- 93% No Boater Education
- 7% Boater Education

**Operator Instruction**
- No Boater Education - 52
- Boater Education - 4

**Victim Statistics (Swimming Ability)**
- 13% Can Swim
- 6% Cannot Swim
- 1% No Info.

**Victim Statistics (Ejected)**
- 44% No Info.
- 56% Ejected

**Victim Statistics (Wearing PFD)**
- 74% No Info.
- 17% Wearing PFD
- 9% Not Wearing PFD

**Operators by Age Without Formal Boater Education**
- Less Than 17 Years: 1
- 22 - 35 Years: 15
- 36 - 50 Years: 13
- 51+ Years: 22
- No Info: 1

**Operators by Age Without Formal Boater Education**
- 0-5
- 5-10
- 10-15
- 15-20
- 20-25

**Operators by Age Without Formal Boater Education**
- 36-50 Years: 22
- 22-35 Years: 13
- Less Than 17 Years: 1
- 51+ Years: 22
- No Info: 1

**Operators by Age Without Formal Boater Education**
- 0-5
- 5-10
- 10-15
- 15-20
- 20-25

2008 Fatality Data

49 Fatal accidents involving 54 victims.
2008 Fatality Data

### Primary Cause of Accident by Reviewing Authority

- Alcohol Use: 13
- Careless/inattention: 4
- Drug use: 1
- Excessive Speed: 3
- Improper loading: 1
- Machinery failure: 1
- No proper look-out: 1
- Operator inexperience: 5
- Operator inattention: 3
- Other: 6
- Overloading: 2
- Reckless operation: 1
- Standing/sitting on gunwale, bow or transom: 5
- UNIDENTIFIABLE: 1
- Weather: 2

### State Waters vs. Offshore Fatalities

- State Waters: 98%
- Offshore: 2%

- Offshore: 1
- State Waters: 53
2008 Injury Data

**TOTAL INJURIES RECORDED 2003-2008**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yr</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Number of injuries</th>
<th>Injury rate</th>
<th>Registered vessels</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
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<td>939,368</td>
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<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>453</td>
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<td>2006</td>
<td>420</td>
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<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>386</td>
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<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**INJURY RATE – NUMBER OF INJURIES PER 100,000 RECREATIONAL REGISTERED VESSELS**

**PRIMARY TYPE OF INJURY**

- NO INFO: 13
- Burns: 7
- Amputation: 3
- Contusions: 75
- Laceration: 84
- Back injury: 27
- Head injury: 45
- Hypothermia: 6
- Neck injury: 4
- Dislocations: 2
- Spinal Injury: 4
- Teeth and Jaw: 2
- Sprain/Strain: 15
- Broken Bone(s): 83
- Internal injuries: 16

657 ACCIDENTS RESULTING IN 386 INJURIES.
2008 Injury Data

**Injured Statistics (Swimming Ability)**
- Can Swim: 323 (84%)
- Cannot Swim: 5 (1%)
- No Info: 58 (15%)

**Injured Statistics (Ejected)**
- Ejected: 163 (42%)
- Not Ejected: 16 (4%)
- No Info: 207 (54%)

**Injured Statistics (PFD Use)**
- Wearing PFD: 174 (45%)
- Not Wearing PFD: 12 (3%)
- No Info: 200 (52%)
## 2008 Personal Watercraft Data

### 2008 Personal Watercraft Registration and Accidents by County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Pleasure</th>
<th>Rental</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>PWC Accidents</th>
<th>PWC Fatalities</th>
<th>PWC Injuries</th>
<th>Property Damage</th>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Accident Rate*</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alachua</td>
<td>973</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>978</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<td>Baker</td>
<td>212</td>
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# 2008 Personal Watercraft Data

## 2008 Personal Watercraft Registration and Accidents by County

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* Accident Rate = # of Recreational Vessels/ # of accidents

*Those counties in bold represent the top ten counties for PWC boating accidents in 2008.
2008 Personal Watercraft Data

**PWC Registration**
- 14% Private PWC Accidents
- 12% Rented PWC Accidents
- 74% Other Accidents
- 87% PWC Registered
- 13% Other Boats Registered

**PWC Accidents (2003-2008)**

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**PWC - Top 10 Counties for 2008**

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<td>Palm Beach</td>
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2008 Personal Watercraft Data

**Accident Site Location**
- Ocean/Gulf: 51
- Bay/Sound: 43
- Lake/Pond: 21
- River/Creek: 21
- Inlet/Pass: 16
- Canal/Cut: 10
- Other: 4
- Port/Harbor: 2

**Restricted Area Accidents**
- Idle Speed: 3
- Slow Speed: 3
- Manatee Slow Speed: 3
- Other: 10
- MPH Limit: 14

**Operation at Time of Accident**
- Cruising: 102
- Changing Speed: 21
- Drifting: 14
- Being Towed: 2
- Other: 2
- NO INFO: 2
- Docking/Undocking: 2
- Changing Direction: 89
- Wake/Surf Jumping: 8
- Docked (moored): 1

168 PWC Accidents Involving 252 PWCS
### 2008 Personal Watercraft Data

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#### PWC Ownership

- PWC Rented: 122
- PWC Owner Household: 81
- PWC Borrowed (not in household): 46

#### PWC Operator Age

- 17 - 21 Years: 42
- 22 - 25 Years: 100
- Less Than 17 Years: 59
- No Info.: 5

#### PWC Operator Experience

- Over 100 hours: 42
- 10 - 100 hours: 60
- Unknown: 42
- Under 10 hours: 79
### PWC Operators by Age Without Boater Education (2004-2008)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yr</th>
<th>PWC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>51+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Comparisons of PWC Fatalities

- **PWC Fatalities**: 7
- **Other Vessels**: 47
- **Total**: 54

### Comparisons of PWC Injuries

- **PWC Injuries**: 149
- **Other Vessels**: 237
- **Total**: 386

- **PWC Fatalities** 13%
- **Other Vessels** 87%
- **PWC Injuries** 61%
- **Other Vessels** 39%
2008 Personal Watercraft Data

### Primary Injury

- Contusions: 27
- Laceration: 27
- Back injury: 7
- Head injury: 18
- Dislocations: 1
- Teeth and Jaw: 2
- Sprain/Strain: 5
- Broken Bone(s): 47
- Internal injuries: 10
- Other: 5

**168 Accidents Resulting in 149 Injuries – 7 Fatalities**

### PWC Fatalities (2002-2008)

- 2002: 11
- 2003: 10
- 2004: 8
- 2005: 11
- 2006: 11
- 2007: 16
- 2008: 7
2008 Personal Watercraft Data

**Primary Cause Assessed by Reviewing Authority**

- Weather: 1
- No proper look-out: 26
- Operator inattention: 23
- Careless/inattention: 43
- Sharp turn: 1
- Machinery failure: 1
- Reckless operation: 25
- Operator inexperience: 17
- Other: 2
- Excessive speed: 19
- Alcohol use: 4
- Off throttle steering-jet: 5
- Equipment failure (below): 1

**Investigating Agency**

- FWC: 168
- Sheriff: 124
- Police: 35

- 74% FWC
- 21% Sheriff
- 5% Police
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Division of Law Enforcement

2008 Boating Education
2008 Boating Education

**Top 10 Counties — Boating Education Cards Issued**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Cards Issued</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dade</td>
<td>1697</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palm Beach</td>
<td>1678</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broward</td>
<td>1531</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pinellas</td>
<td>1382</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brevard</td>
<td>988</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lee</td>
<td>947</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orange</td>
<td>887</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarasota</td>
<td>785</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lee</td>
<td>731</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hillsborough</td>
<td>659</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Boating Safety Education I.D. Card Distribution by Gender**

- Male: 85%
- Female: 15%

23,964 Permanent Cards Issued in Calendar Year 2008.

**Boating Safety Education I.D. Card Distribution by Age**

- 0-16: 8,559
- 17-21: 4,270
- 22-34: 2,275
- 35-54: 4,865
- 55 and up: 3,947
- No age info: 48
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Division of Law Enforcement

2008 Violation Summary
## 2008 Violation Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Citation</th>
<th>2008 FWC</th>
<th>2008 Other</th>
<th>2007 FWC</th>
<th>2007 Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Aids to Navigation and Regulatory Markers.</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uniform waterway markers for safety and navigation</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mooring to or damaging markers or buoys</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Alcohol and Drugs.</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operation of a vessel under the influence of alcohol</td>
<td>222</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>338</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operation of a vessel while impaired</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Boating Restricted Areas.</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manatee protection rules</td>
<td>2,243</td>
<td>4,628</td>
<td>3,558</td>
<td>4,011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public safety rules</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local ordinances</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Boating Safety Education</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boating safety education I.D. cards</td>
<td>215</td>
<td>203</td>
<td>354</td>
<td>269</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Livery Operations.</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rental without proper safety equipment</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rental without boater education</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rental to persons under 18 years of age</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Negligent Operation of a Vessel.</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reckless operation of a vessel</td>
<td>1,025</td>
<td>654</td>
<td>1,043</td>
<td>691</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Careless operation of a vessel</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Navigation rule violation resulting in an accident</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Navigation rule violation not resulting in an accident</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure to report an accident</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Personal Watercraft.</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal watercraft regulations</td>
<td>275</td>
<td>215</td>
<td>313</td>
<td>282</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Skiing and Diving.</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skiing, aquaplaning, and parasailing violations</td>
<td>412</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>439</td>
<td>170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dive flag violations</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Registration and Numbering.</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operation of unregistered/unnumbered vessels</td>
<td>1,250</td>
<td>1,399</td>
<td>1,701</td>
<td>1,272</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application, certificate, number, or decal violation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special manufacturer &amp; dealer numbers</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violation relating to vessel titling</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violation relating to Hull Identification Numbers</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Safety Equipment and Regulations.</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment and lighting requirements</td>
<td>3,937</td>
<td>1,572</td>
<td>4,591</td>
<td>1,626</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SUB TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>9,592</td>
<td>8,936</td>
<td>12,367</td>
<td>8,413</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL VIOLATIONS RECORDED</strong></td>
<td>18,528</td>
<td></td>
<td>20,780</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A thorough review of annual boating accident statistics has revealed that 65% of the reportable boating accidents during the 2008 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 2008

Legend
- Fatal Accident (7)
- Accident with Injury (33)
- Accident without Injury (59)
- City
- Road
- Hydrographic Feature
- County Border

Locational information provided by the Division of Law Enforcement.
1. Monroe County
2008 Top Ten Counties

Known Locations of Accidents in Miami-Dade County during 2008

Legend
- Fatal Accident (3)
- Accident with Injury (28)
- Accident without Injury (46)
- City
- Road
- Hydrographic Feature
- County Border

Locational information provided by the Division of Law Enforcement.
2. Miami-Dade County
Known Locations of Accidents in Pinellas County during 2008

The map shows the locations of accidents categorized by severity:
- Fatal Accident (2)
- Accident with Injury (19)
- Accident without Injury (30)

Locational information provided by the Division of Law Enforcement.
3. Pinellas County
Known Locations of Accidents in Palm Beach County during 2008

Legend
- Fatal Accident (2)
- Accident with Injury (19)
- Accident without Injury (23)
- City
- Road
- Hydrographic Feature
- County Border

Locational information provided by the Division of Law Enforcement.
4. Palm Beach County
2008 Top Ten Counties

Known Locations of Accidents in Broward County during 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Road</th>
<th>Hydrographic Feature</th>
<th>County Border</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fort Lauderdale</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pembroke Pines</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Hollywood</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coral Springs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pompano Beach</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hollywood</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pembroke Pines</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Legend
- Fatal Accident (0)
- Accident with Injury (11)
- Accident without Injury (29)
- City
- Road
- Hydrographic Feature
- County Border

Locational information provided by the Division of Law Enforcement.
5. Broward County
2008 Top Ten Counties

Known Locations of Accidents in Collier County during 2008

Legend
- Fatal Accident (2)
- Accident with Injury (15)
- Accident without Injury (13)
- City
- Road
- Hydrographic Feature
- County Border

Locational information provided by the Division of Law Enforcement.
6. Collier County
2008 Top Ten Counties

Known Locations of Accidents in Bay County during 2008

Legend
- Fatal Accident (0)
- Accident with Injury (13)
- Accident without Injury (13)
- City
- Road
- Hydrographic Feature
- County Boundary

Locational information provided by the Division of Law Enforcement.
7. Bay County

![Graphs showing Type of Vessel, Primary Cause of Accident, and Primary Type of Accident for Bay County.](image-url)
2008 Top Ten Counties

Known Locations of Accidents in Brevard County during 2008

Legend
- Fatal Accident (2)
- Accident with Injury (11)
- Accident without Injury (13)
- City
- Road
- Hydrographic Feature
- County Boundary

Locational information provided by the Division of Law Enforcement.
8. Brevard County

![Bar chart of Type of Vessel]

- Canoe/Kayak: 2
- Airboat: 6
- Sail (Aux power): 1
- Cabin Motorboat: 8
- Open Motorboat: 9
- Personal Watercraft: 3

![Bar chart of Primary Cause of Accident]

- Equipment failure: 1
- Hull failure: 2
- Occupant: 3
- Weather: 4
- Alcohol Use: 5
- Machinery failure (below): 6
- Noproper lookout: 7
- Operator inattention: 8

![Bar chart of Primary Type of Accident]

- Flooding (swamping): 1
- Grounding: 2
- Fall overboard: 3
- Collision with fixed object: 4
- Collision with vessel: 5
- Fall in boat: 6
- Capsizing: 7
- Fire/Explosion (non-fuel): 8
- Struck underwater object: 1
- Skier mishap/fall: 1

![Bar chart of Open Motorboat Types]

- Personal Watercraft: 1
- Open Motorboat: 2
- Cabin Motorboat: 3
- Sail (Aux power): 4
- Canoe/Kayak: 5
- Airboat: 6
- Personal Watercraft: 7
- Open Motorboat: 8

![Bar chart of Personal Watercraft Types]

- Personal Watercraft: 1
Known Locations of Accidents in Lee County during 2008

Legend
- Fatal Accident (1)
- Accident with Injury (10)
- Accident without Injury (11)
- City
- Road
- Hydrographic Feature
- County Border

Locational information provided by the Division of Law Enforcement.
9. Lee County
Known Locations of Accidents in Duval County during 2008

Legend
- Fatal Accident (1)
- Accident with Injury (3)
- Accident without Injury (12)
- City
- Road
- Hydrographic Feature
- County Border

Locational information provided by the Division of Law Enforcement.
10. Duval County

**Primary Cause of Accident**

- Careless/Inattention: 1
- Operator Inexperience: 1
- Reckless Operation: 1
- No proper look-out: 7
- Operator inattention: 7

**Primary Type of Accident**

- Collision with vessel: 1
- Collision with fixed object: 3
- Struck underwater object: 2
- Flooding (sweeping): 1
- Fall overboard: 1
- Fall in boat: 1
- Gouging: 1
- First degree burn: 1
- Second degree burn: 1
- Miscellaneous: 1