



# 2009 Boating Accidents Statistical Report



**Florida Fish and Wildlife  
Conservation Commission**  
*Division of Law Enforcement*

## 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 “toolbelt” 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 its 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,

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.





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 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 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 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 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 close to a 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 2009 Boating Accidents Statistical Report, there were 620 reportable boating accidents and 65 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-

Core Mission 2: Boating and waterways, which involves expanding boating and waterways enforcement activities to enhance access to Florida's waters and promote safe boating.

Core Mission 3:

Maritime and wilderness law enforcement patrol, which includes providing maritime and wilderness law enforcement patrol services to enhance public safety in areas rarely patrolled by other law enforcement agencies.

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 applying to boaters born on or after January 1, 1988, 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 tele-



vised public service announcements.

### About this report

This 2009 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 2009. With 982,470 registered vessels, Florida still 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 the Florida boating lifestyle.

Anyone having questions concerning this report should visit [www.MyFWC.com](http://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.



# 2009 FLORIDA BOATING ACCIDENT STATISTICAL REPORT

## SUMMARY

### Boating Accident Review

- Total number of **registered vessels** in Florida continues to lead the nation with 982,470 registered in 2009 (27,889 below 2008 records).
- There were 620 total reportable boating accidents in 2009.

### 2009 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** (77 total accidents with 3 fatalities and 52 injuries).

### 2009 Reportable Boating Fatalities

**In 2009 boaters falling overboard was the main cause of boating fatalities. This trend, although preventable, continues to grow.**

- **39%** of the fatal accidents were falls overboard (20 accidents).
- 52% of the fatal accidents were in vessels less than 18 feet in length.
- The **leading cause of death** in fatal boating accidents was drowning (69%).
- Deadliest month in 2009 was July with 8 fatalities.
- 18.5% of the boating **fatalities were caused** by alcohol or drug use.
- 74% of the victims of fatal boating accidents were males (48).
- The total fatality count for 2009 is reported as 65.
- 18% (9) of the fatal accidents involved non-motorized vessels.

### 2009 Reportable Boating Injuries

- There were 620 accidents resulting in 426 injuries. The rate of injury was .69.





#### 2009 Reportable Personal Watercraft Accidents

- Personal watercraft (PWC) account for 13% of all registered vessels in Florida.
- PWC were involved in 23% (143) of reported boating accidents.
- 50% of **PWC accidents involved** a collision with another vessel.
- Over 34% of **PWC accidents occurred** in Monroe, Pinellas and Bay Counties, with Monroe County ranked as number #1 (with 25 accidents).

#### 2009 Boating Education Statistics

- FWC issued 20,853 Boater Education ID cards in 2009.
- 51.4% 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, includes 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.

**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.



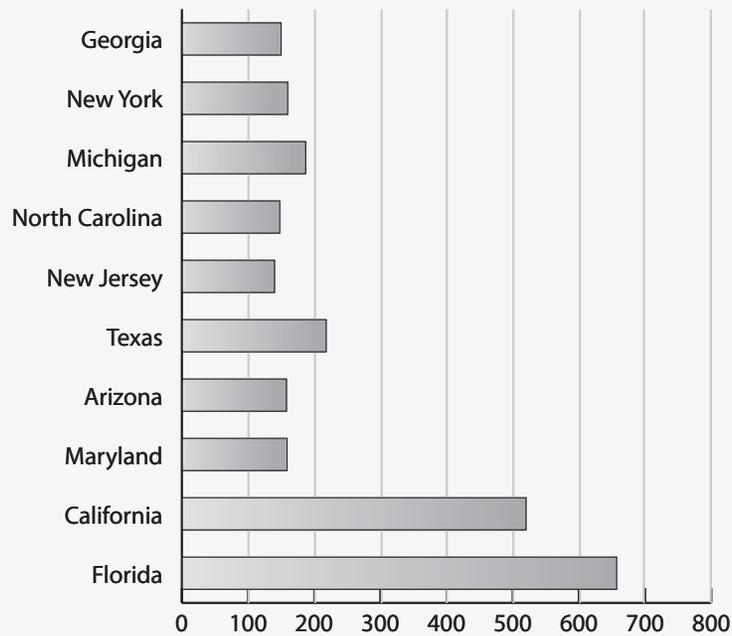
## Boating Accidents Review 2009



**Florida Fish and Wildlife  
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## 2009 BOATING ACCIDENTS REVIEW

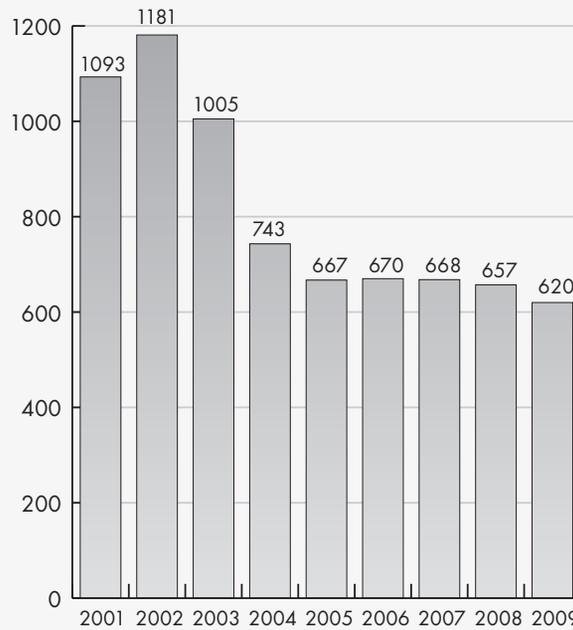
NUMBER OF ACCIDENTS – TOP TEN STATES, 2008



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

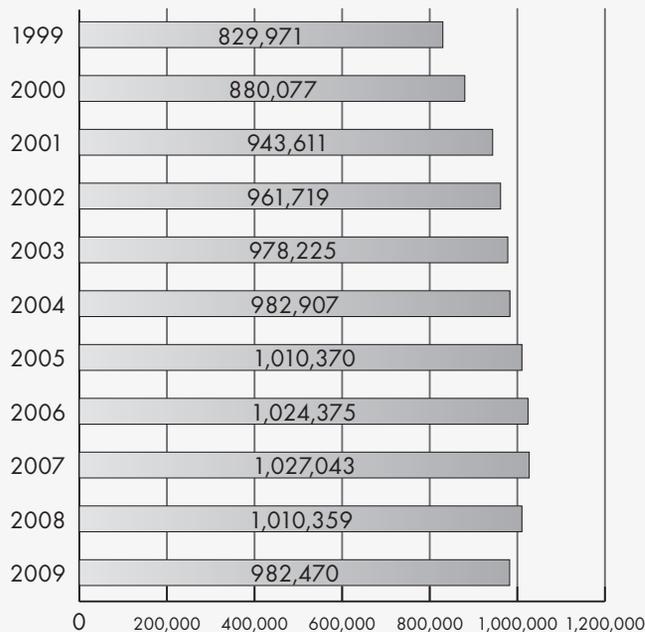
## 2009 BOATING ACCIDENTS REVIEW

2001-2009 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.

1999-2009 FLORIDA REGISTERED VESSELS



\* Fiscal year registration data includes all registered vessels.



## Reportable Boating Accidents 2009



**Florida Fish and Wildlife  
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## 2009 REPORTABLE BOATING ACCIDENTS

2009 VESSEL REGISTRATION AND ACCIDENTS BY COUNTY								
County	Recreational Vessels	Total Vessels	Reportable Accidents	Fatalities	Injuries	Property Damage	Rank	Accident Rate*
Alachua	11213	11538	0	0	0	\$0	67	0
Baker	2398	2408	0	0	0	\$0	67	0
<b>Bay</b>	<b>19311</b>	<b>20305</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>\$108,800</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1:1015</b>
Bradford	2368	2389	0	0	0	\$0	67	
Brevard	36922	38366	20	5	9	\$162,650	11	1:1846
<b>Broward</b>	<b>43708</b>	<b>45373</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>\$415,275</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1:1512</b>
Calhoun	1628	1650	0	0	0	\$0	67	0
Charlotte	21047	21705	11	0	9	\$46,751	19	1:1973
Citrus	16910	17601	3	0	3	\$17,500	33	1:5867
Clay	13136	13345	3		4	\$2,750	37	1:4448
<b>Collier</b>	<b>22165</b>	<b>23117</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>\$147,100</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1:856</b>
Columbia	4706	4759	0	0	0	\$0	67	0
Desoto	2347	2410	1		1	\$3,000	46	1:2410
Dixie	2607	2868	1	1	0	\$0	49	1:2868
Duval	31604	32424	14	2	7	\$277,101	13	1:2316
Escambia	17182	17596	12	0	8	\$83,741	16	1:1466
Flagler	5329	5441	1	0	1	\$2,000	47	1:5441
Franklin	2650	3588	4	0	3	\$14,050	30	1:897
Gadsden	2655	2698	1	1	0	\$0	49	1:2698
Gilchrist	1807	1845	0	0	0	\$0	0	0
Glades	1208	1281	3	0	1	\$13,510	34	1:427
Gulf	2873	3121	3	1	6	\$10,500	35	1:1040
Hamilton	1018	1028	0	0	0	\$0	0	0
Hardee	1641	1658	0	0	0	\$0	0	0
Hendry	2921	3071	1	0	3	\$26,000	44	1:3071
Hernando	9711	9919	4	0	2	\$15,800	29	1:2479
Highlands	9300	9442	4	1	4	\$3,000	32	1:2360
<b>Hillsborough</b>	<b>45206</b>	<b>46153</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>\$221,700</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1:2097</b>
Holmes	2158	2175	0	0	0	\$0	0	0
Indian River	10865	11339	9	1	9	\$45,200	20	1:1259
Jackson	4924	4956	0	0	0	\$0	0	0
Jefferson	1346	1376	0	0	0	\$0	0	0
Lafayette	981	990	0	0	0	\$0	0	0
Lake	22447	22753	2	0	1	\$3,000	42	1:11376
<b>Lee</b>	<b>44933</b>	<b>46370</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>\$256,300</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1:1932</b>
Leon	13436	13722	2	0	2	\$1,000	43	1:6861
Levy	4242	4614	3	1	2	\$0	40	1:1538
Liberty	1135	1164	1	0	1	\$1,500	48	1:1164

## 2009 REPORTABLE BOATING ACCIDENTS

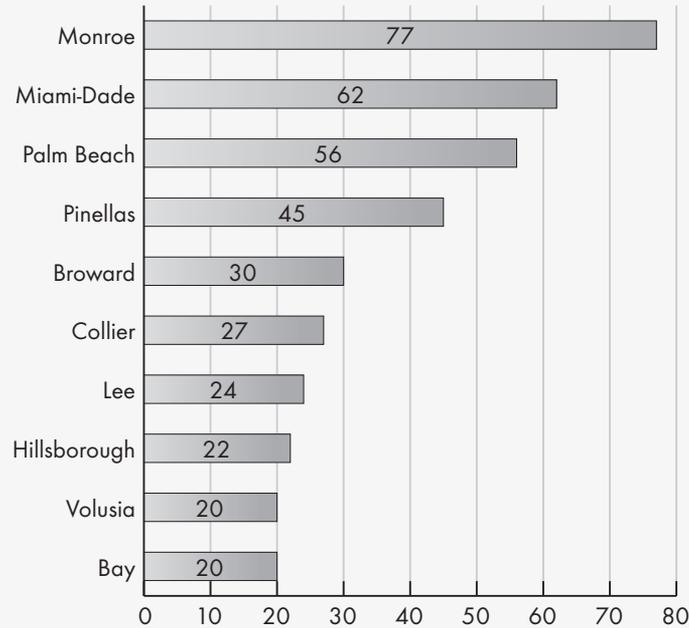
2009 VESSEL REGISTRATION AND ACCIDENTS BY COUNTY								
County	Recreational Vessels	Total Vessels	Reportable Accidents	Fatalities	Injuries	Property Damage	Rank	Accident Rate*
Madison	1183	1191	0	0	0	\$0	67	0
Manatee	18416	19213	6	3	2	\$45,000	24	1:3202
Marion	20281	20590	3	2	1	\$850	38	1:6863
Martin	15115	15932	13	0	8	\$80,525	14	1:1225
<b>Miami-Dade</b>	<b>60505</b>	<b>63161</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>\$5,970,430</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1:1018</b>
<b>Monroe</b>	<b>23695</b>	<b>26330</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>\$431,050</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1:341</b>
Nassau	6186	6377	4	0	3	\$225,000	28	1:1594
Okaloosa	18034	18653	19	3	15	\$88,834	12	1:981
Okeechobee	5074	5273	3	2	2	\$325	39	1:1757
Orange	31598	32185	9	1	9	\$23,000	21	1:3576
Osceola	8949	9120	3	1	3	\$3,000	36	1:3040
<b>Palm Beach</b>	<b>41102</b>	<b>42517</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>\$873,400</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1:759</b>
Pasco	24676	25281	12	2	10	\$34,100	17	1:2106
<b>Pinellas</b>	<b>50116</b>	<b>52042</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>\$238,330</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1:1156</b>
Polk	31639	32184	8	6	5	\$14,250	22	1:4023
Putnam	8625	8975	5	0	8	\$18,100	26	1:1795
Santa Rosa	14777	15061	6	1	6	\$14,000	25	1:2510
Sarasota	22855	23472	12	0	9	\$693,480	15	1:1956
Seminole	18641	19010	5	1	2	\$7,305	27	1:3802
St Johns	13325	13745	11	7	20	\$125,500	18	1:1249
St Lucie	13042	13621	7	0	4	\$48,700	23	1:1945
Sumter	4454	4523	0	0	0	\$0	67	0
Suwannee	3041	3083	1	0	1	\$2,000	47	1:3083
Taylor	3759	3916	1	0	0	\$8,300	45	1:3916
Union	916	920	0	0	0	\$0	67	0
<b>Volusia</b>	<b>29507</b>	<b>30453</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>\$102,875</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1:1522</b>
Wakulla	4707	5000	4	0	2	\$8,800	31	1:1250
Walton	5541	5666	2	1	3	\$5,500	41	1:2833
Washington	2405	2418	0	0	0	\$0	67	0
DHSMV	4828	6000	0	0	0	\$0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>949,030</b>	<b>982,470</b>	<b>620</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>426</b>	<b>\$10,940,882</b>		

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

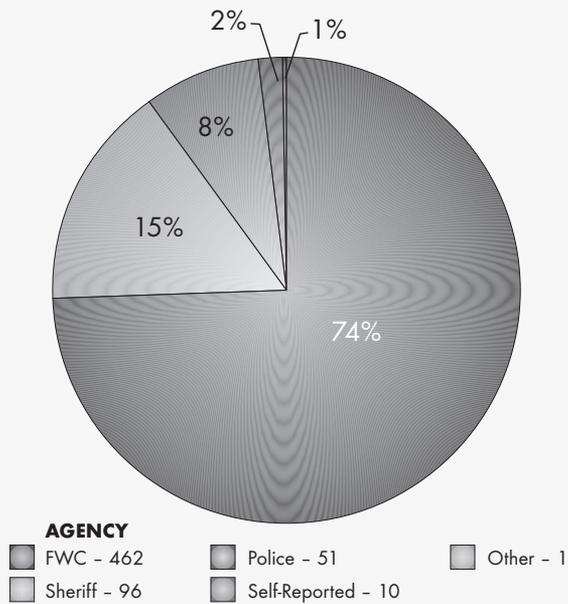
\*Those counties bolded represent the top ten counties for boating accidents in 2009.

## 2009 REPORTABLE BOATING ACCIDENTS

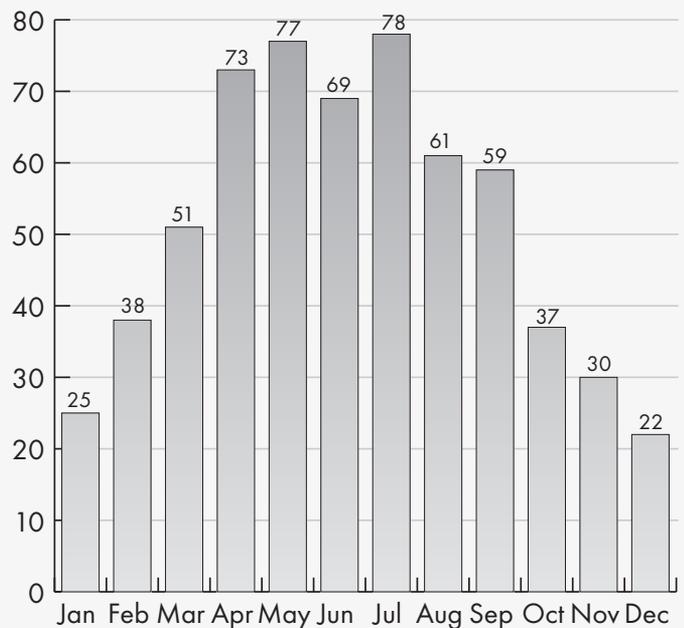
### TOP TEN COUNTIES



### INVESTIGATING AGENCY



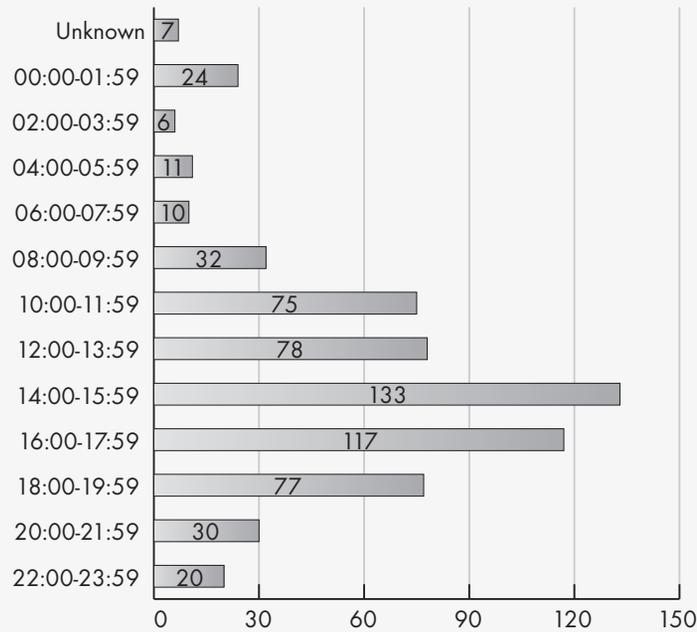
### ACCIDENTS BY MONTH FOR 2009



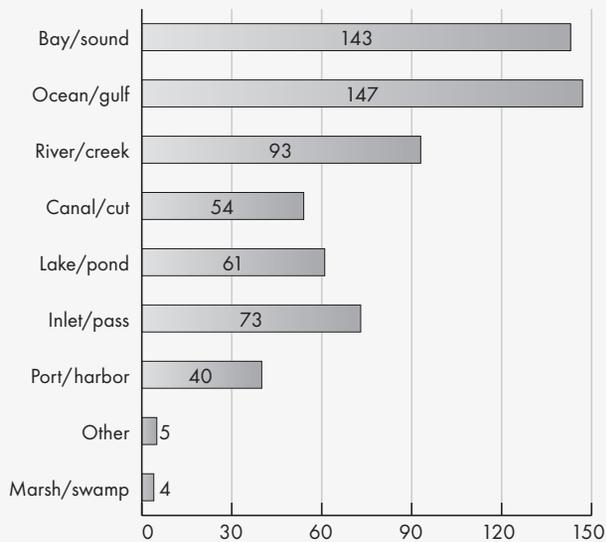
Total Number of Accidents – 620

## 2009 REPORTABLE BOATING ACCIDENTS

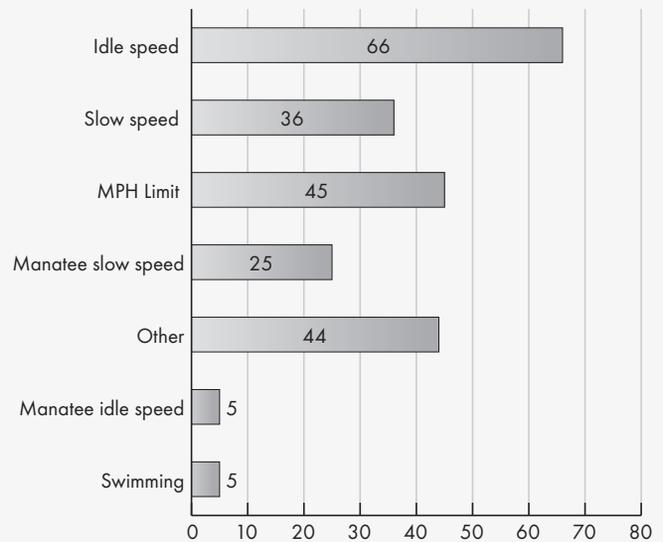
### TIME OF DAY



### ACCIDENT SITE LOCATION



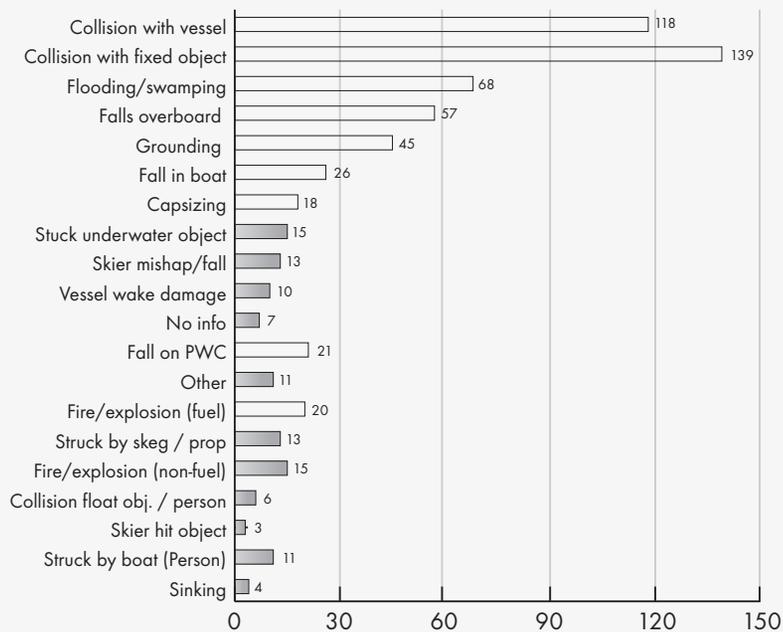
### RESTRICTED AREA ACCIDENTS



Total Number of Accidents – 620  
No Info. – 7 Accidents

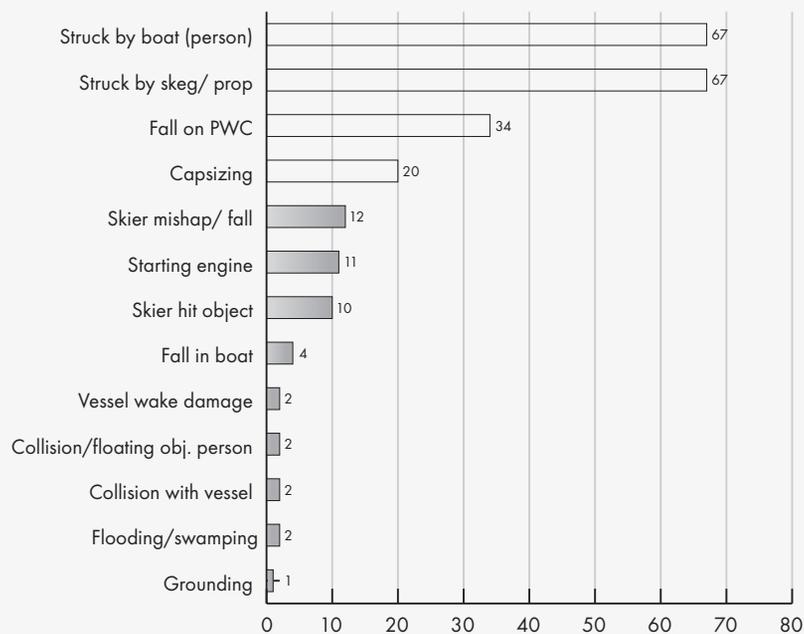
## 2009 REPORTABLE BOATING ACCIDENTS

### PRIMARY TYPE OF ACCIDENT



\*620 total accidents involving 822 vessels and 26 swimmers.  
(Based on first harmful event as determined by the state reviewing authority)

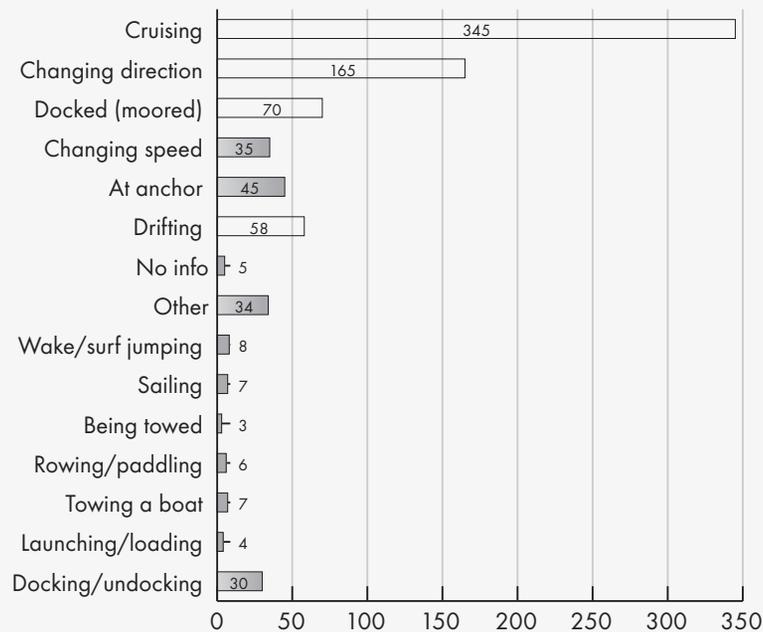
### SECONDARY TYPE OF ACCIDENT



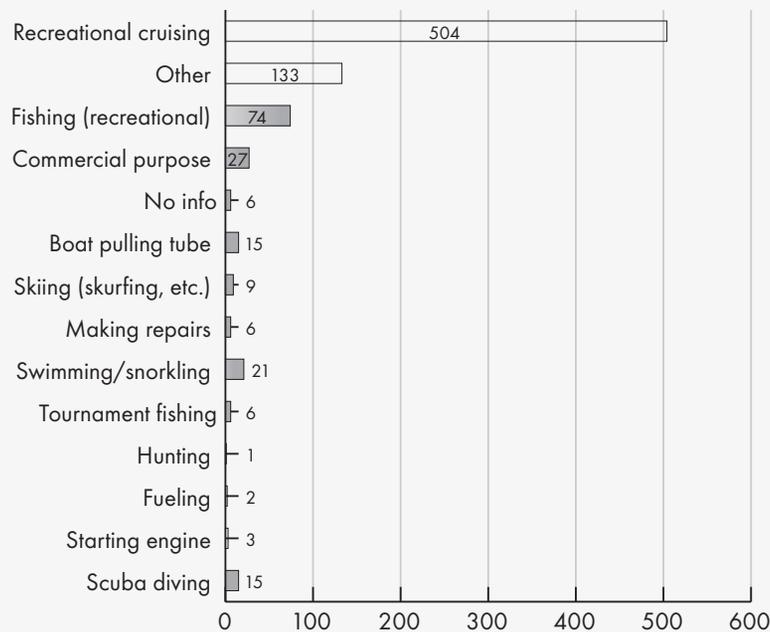
No secondary entry for 384 accidents

## 2009 REPORTABLE BOATING ACCIDENTS

### OPERATION AT TIME OF ACCIDENT



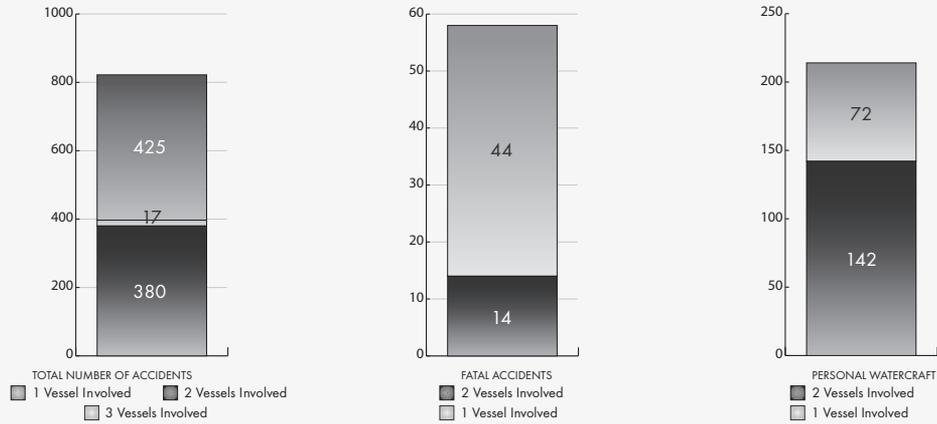
### ACTIVITY AT TIME OF ACCIDENT



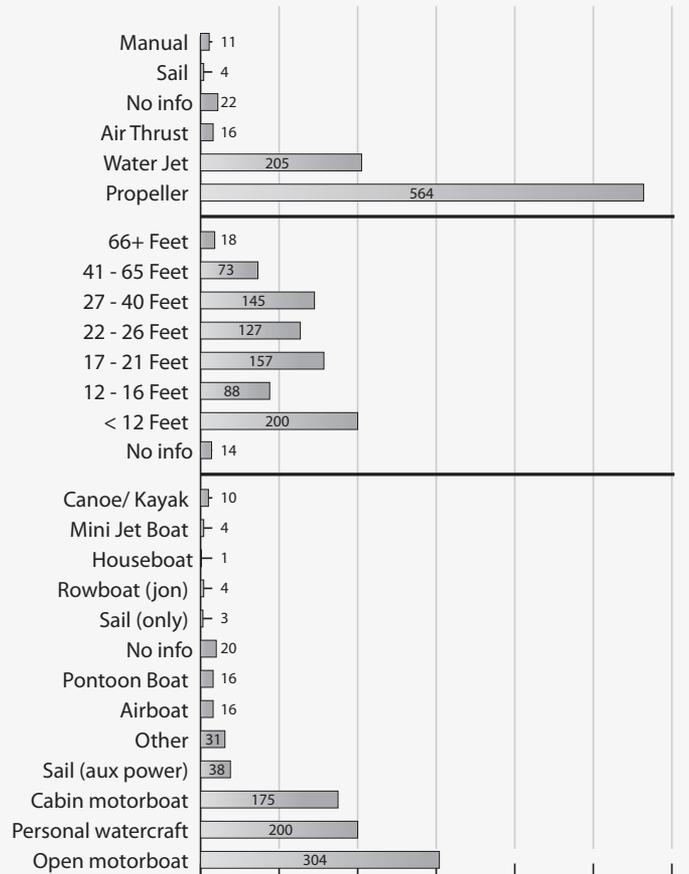
\*620 total accidents involving 822 vessels and 26 swimmers.

# 2009 REPORTABLE BOATING ACCIDENTS

## NUMBER OF VESSELS INVOLVED



## VESSEL LENGTH, PROPULSION & TYPE



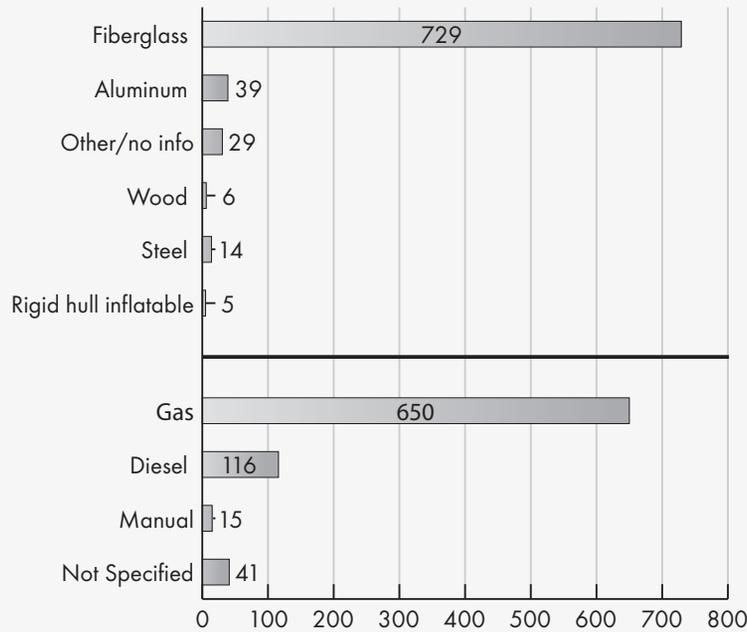
\*620 total accidents involving 822 vessels and 26 swimmers.

\* 143 personal watercraft accidents involving 214 vessels and 6 swimmers

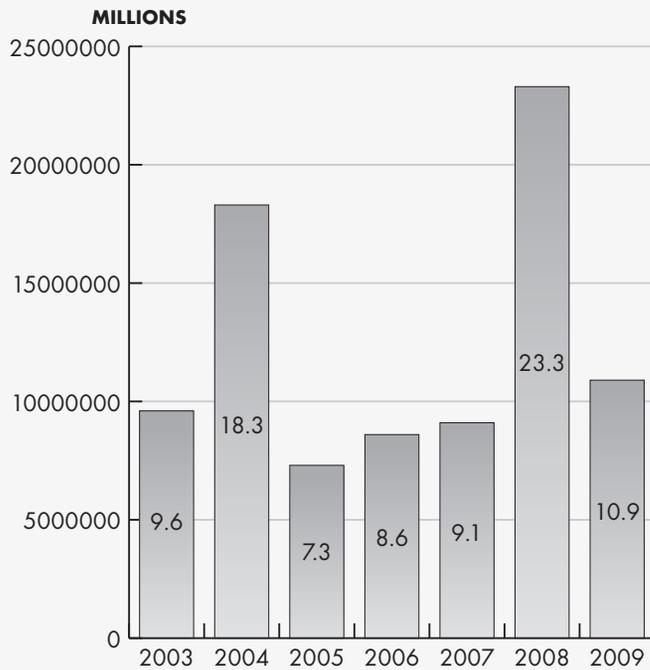
\*51 fatal accidents involving 58 vessels and 2 swimmers

## 2009 REPORTABLE BOATING ACCIDENTS

### VESSEL HULL & FUEL TYPE

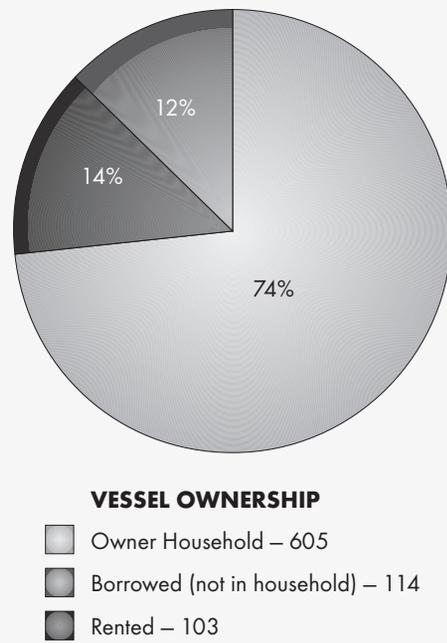


### VESSEL & PROPERTY DAMAGE FIGURES



\* \$10,586,086.26 in vessel damage and \$571,666.00 in property damage in 2009.

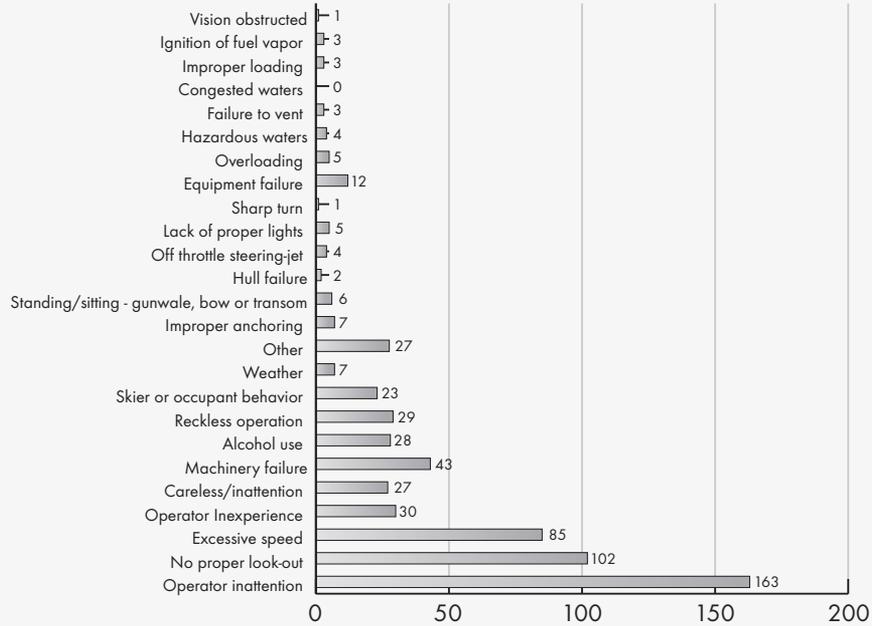
### VESSEL OWNERSHIP



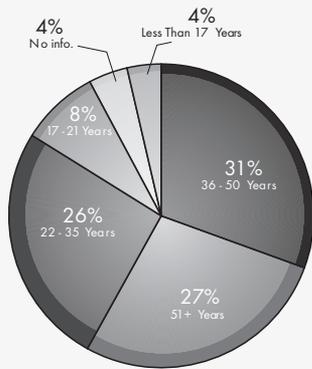
\*620 total accidents involving 822 vessels.

# 2009 REPORTABLE BOATING ACCIDENTS

## PRIMARY CAUSE ASSESSED BY REVIEWING AUTHORITY



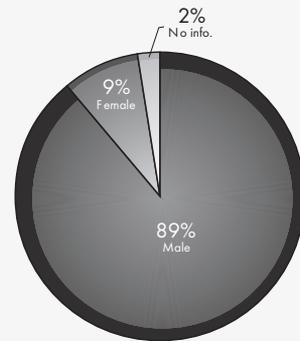
## OPERATOR AGE



**OPERATOR AGE IN YEARS**

22 - 35 Years - 202	17 - 21 Years - 63
51+ Years - 213	Less Than 17 Years - 28
36 - 50 Years - 238	No Info. - 32

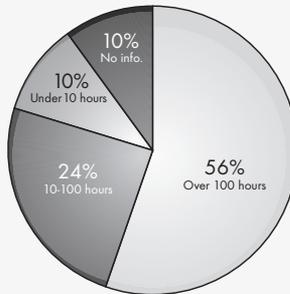
## OPERATOR GENDER



**OPERATOR GENDER**

Male - 691	No Info. - 18
Female - 67	

## OPERATOR EXPERIENCE



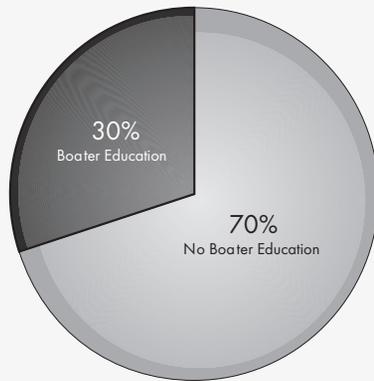
**OPERATOR EXPERIENCE**

10 - 100 hours - 188	No Info. - 77
Over 100 hours - 431	Under 10 hours - 80

**\*620 total accidents involving 822 vessels and 26 swimmers.**

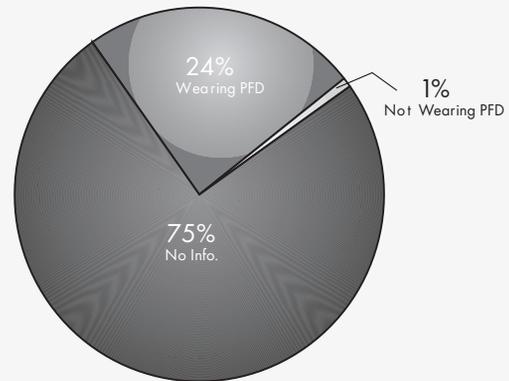
## 2009 REPORTABLE BOATING ACCIDENTS

### BOAT OPERATOR EDUCATION



Boater Education - 231    No Boater Education - 545

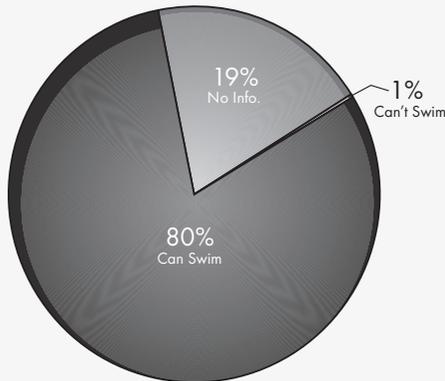
### OPERATOR/OCCUPANT PFD USE



Wearing PFD - 406    Not Wearing PFD - 12    No info. - 1262

\* 620 total accidents involving 776 operators. ("No boater education" includes accidents without operator education info.)

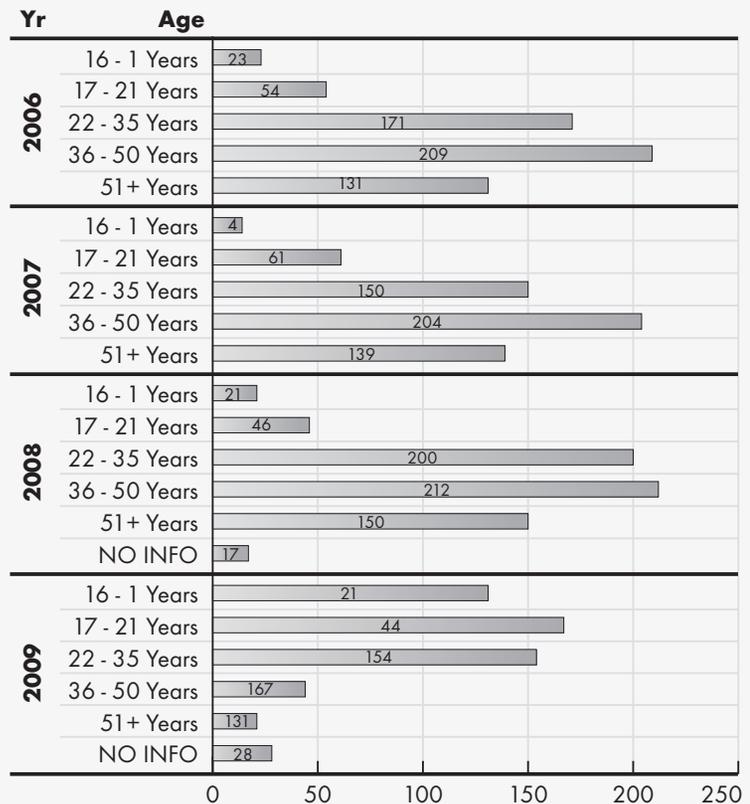
### OPERATOR/OCCUPANT SWIMMING ABILITY



Can Swim - 1357    Cannot Swim - 2    No Info. - 321

\* 620 total accidents involving 1,680 operators/occupants.

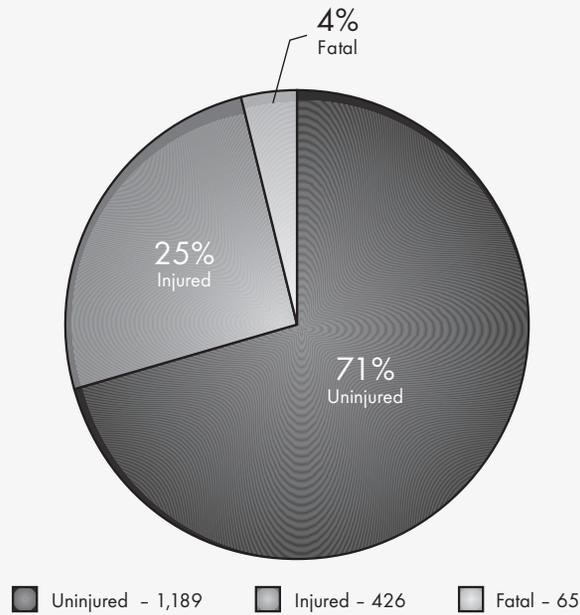
### OPERATOR BY AGE WITH NO BOATER EDUCATION



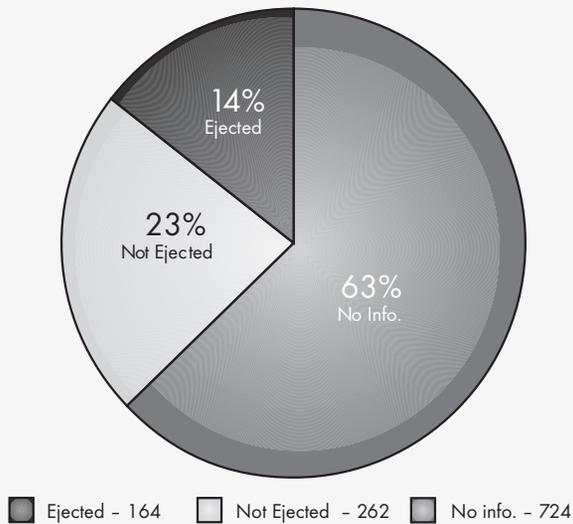
\* 620 total accidents.

## 2009 REPORTABLE BOATING ACCIDENTS

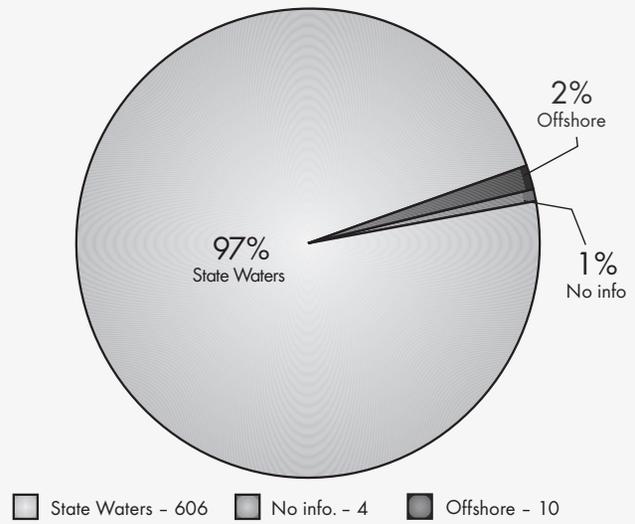
VICTIM STATISTICS



VICTIM STATISTICS  
(EJECTED FROM BOAT)



STATE WATERS VS.  
OFFSHORE ACCIDENTS



\* 620 total accidents involving 1,680 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.



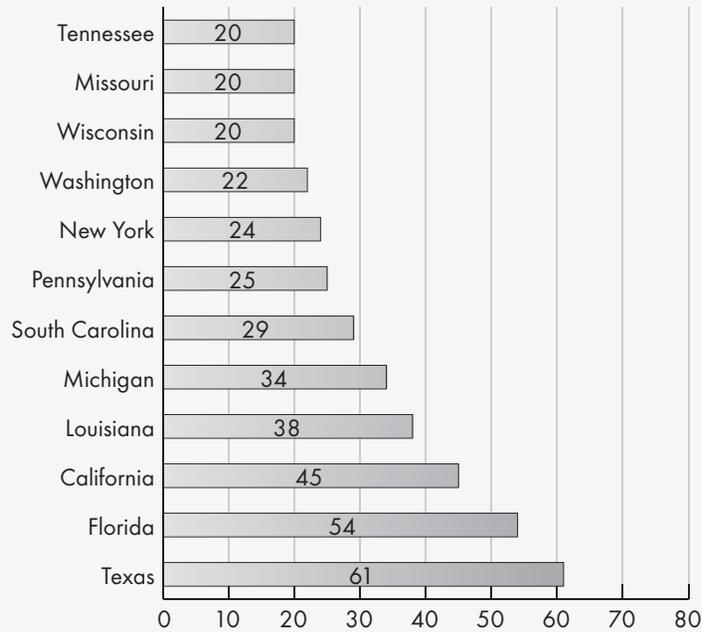
Fatality Data 2009



**Florida Fish and Wildlife  
Conservation Commission**  
*Division of Law Enforcement*

## 2009 FATALITY DATA

### 2008 FATALITIES – TOP TEN STATES



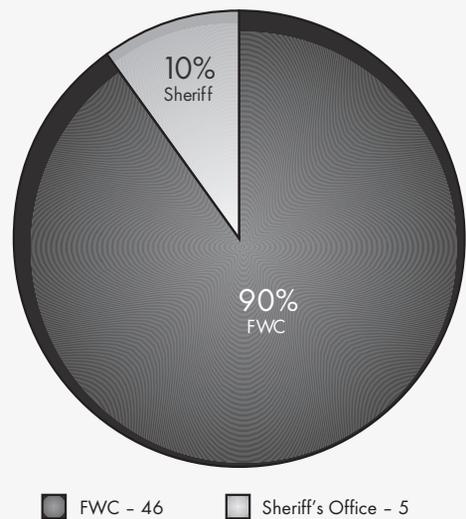
2009 Statistics for top 10 States were not available at time of printing.  
Source: U.S. Coast Guard Boating Safety Division.

### FLORIDA TOTAL FATALITIES RECORDED

Yr	Number of fatalities	Fatality rate	Registered vessels
2006	68	6.6	1,024,375
	77	7.5	1,027,043
	54	5.3	1,010,359
2008	65	6.6	982,470

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

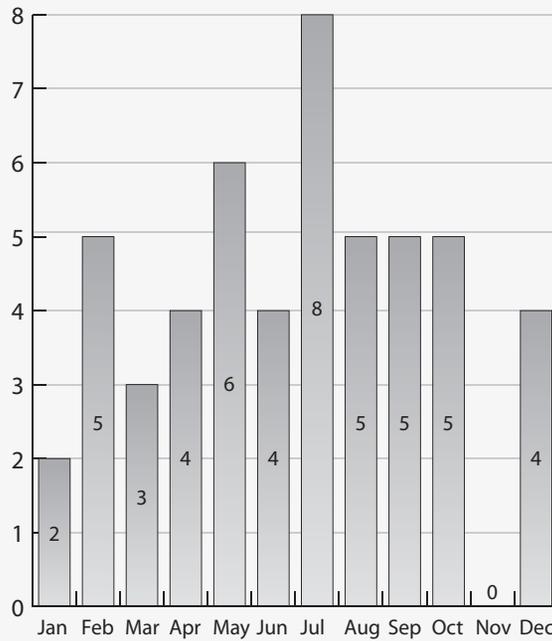
### INVESTIGATING AGENCY



51 fatal accidents.

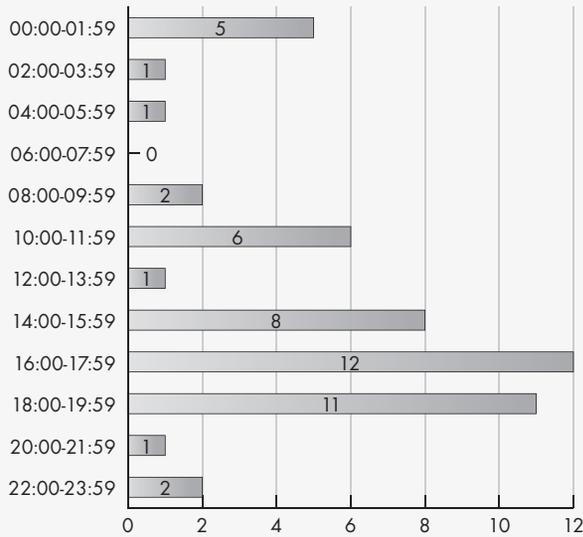
## 2009 FATALITY DATA

### FATAL ACCIDENTS BY MONTH



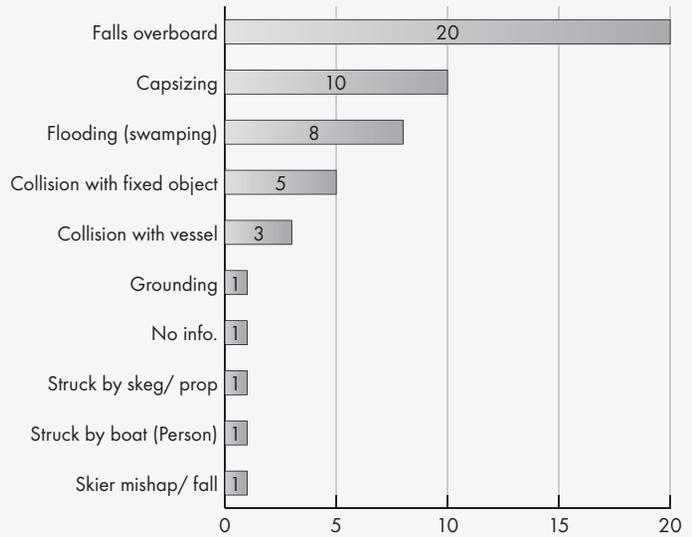
\* 51 fatal accidents involving 65 fatalities.

### TIME OF DAY



No Time information for 1 fatal accident

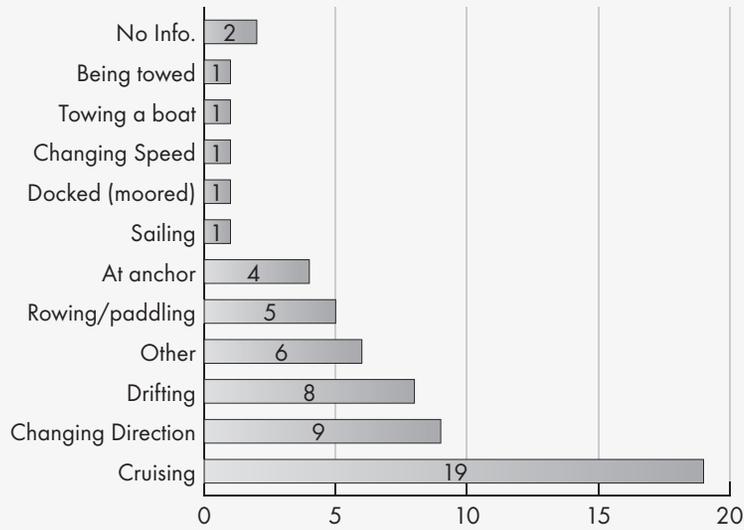
### TYPE OF ACCIDENTS



\* 51 fatal accidents involving 65 fatalities.  
Based on first harmful event.

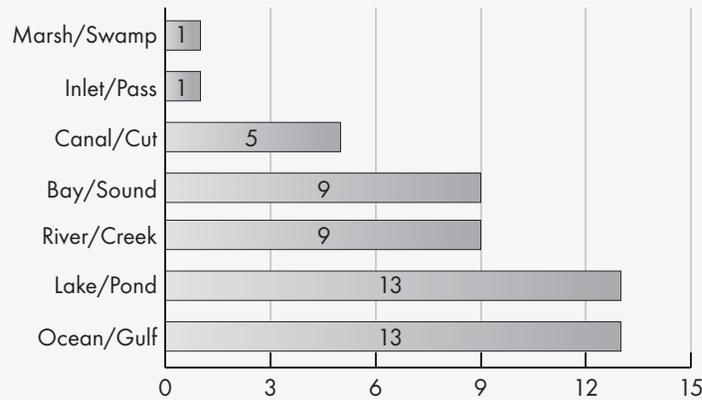
## 2009 FATALITY DATA

### OPERATION AT TIME OF ACCIDENT



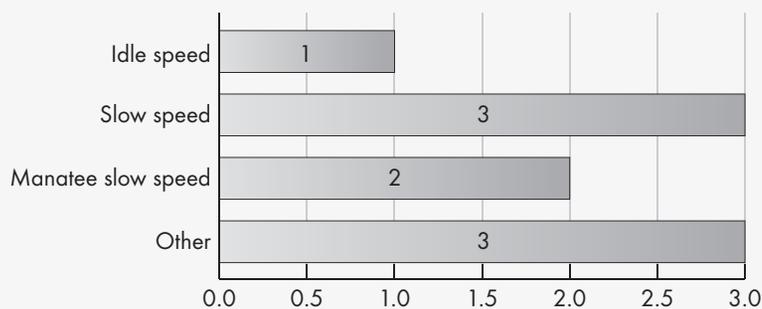
\* 58 vessels and 2 swimmer involved in 51 fatal accidents with 65 victims.

### ACCIDENT SITE LOCATION



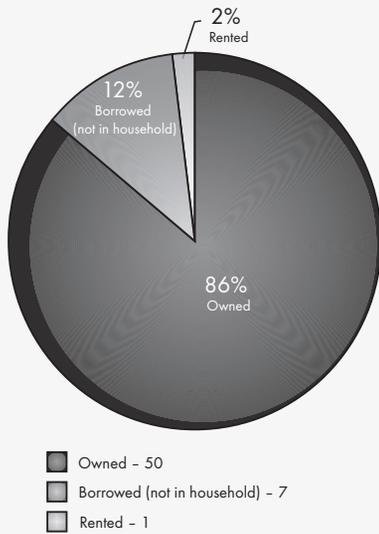
\* 51 accidents involving 65 fatalities.

### RESTRICTED AREA FATAL ACCIDENTS

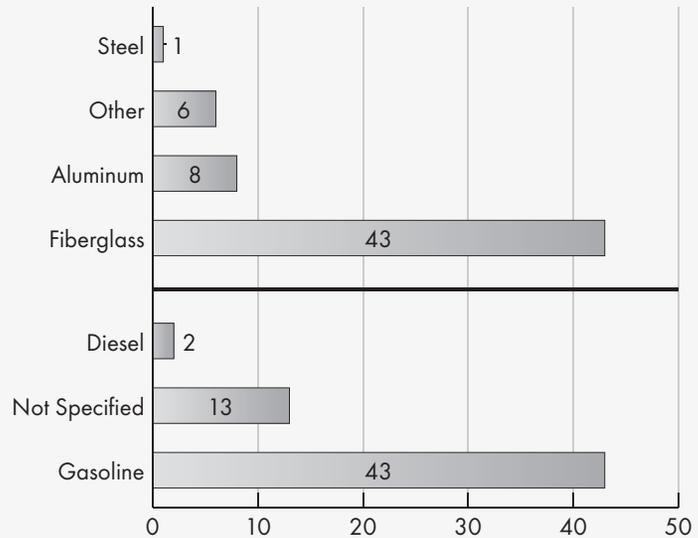


## 2009 FATALITY DATA

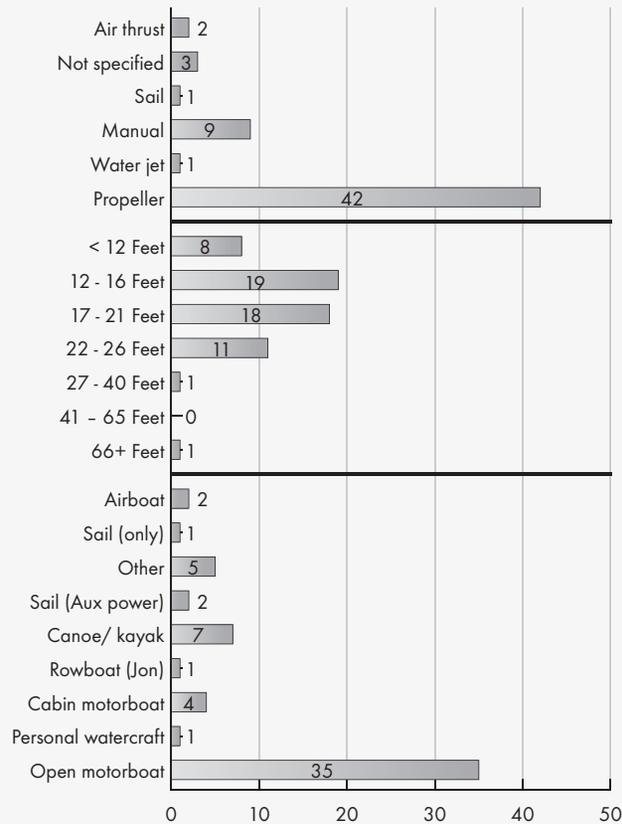
### VESSEL OWNERSHIP



### VESSEL HULL & FUEL TYPE



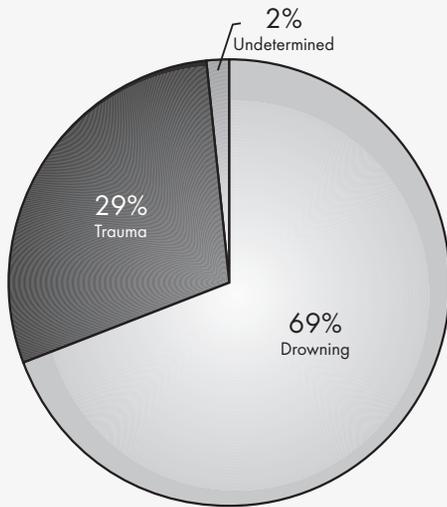
### VESSEL TYPE, LENGTH & PROPULSION



\* 51 Fatal accidents involving 58 vessels.

## 2009 FATALITY DATA

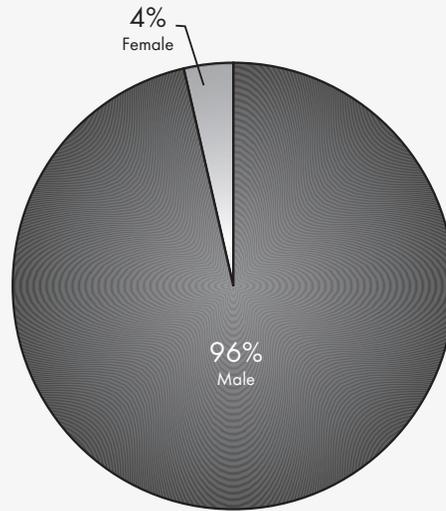
PRIMARY CAUSE OF DEATH



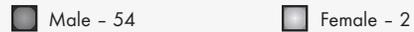
PRIMARY CAUSE OF DEATH



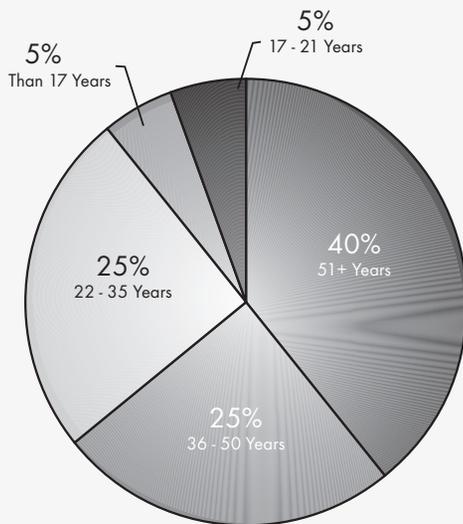
OPERATOR GENDER



OPERATOR GENDER



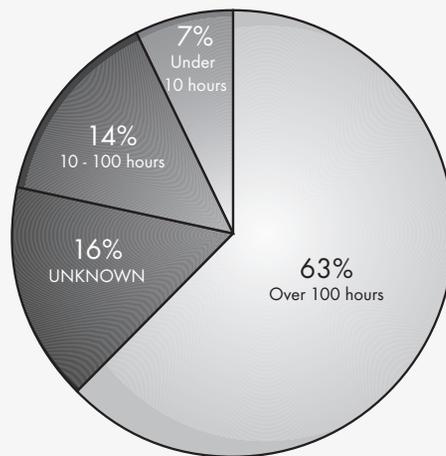
OPERATOR AGE



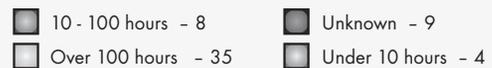
OPERATOR AGE



OPERATOR EXPERIENCE



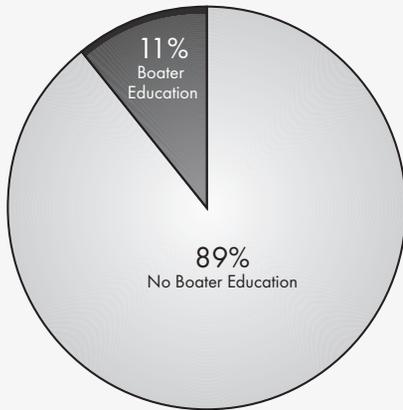
OPERATOR EXPERIENCE



\*51 accidents involving 56 operators, 58 vessels and 65 fatalities

## 2009 FATALITY DATA

### BOAT OPERATOR EDUCATION

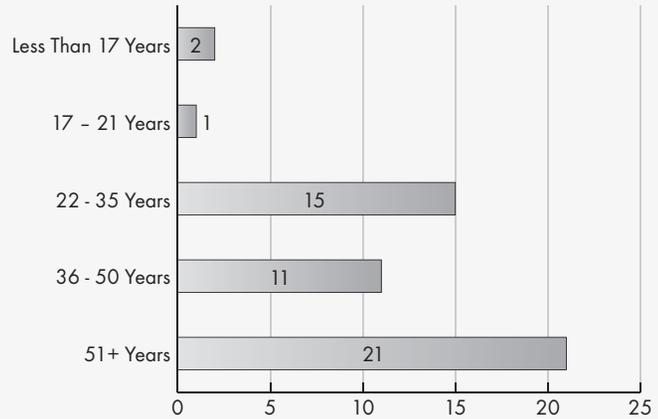


#### OPERATOR INSTRUCTION

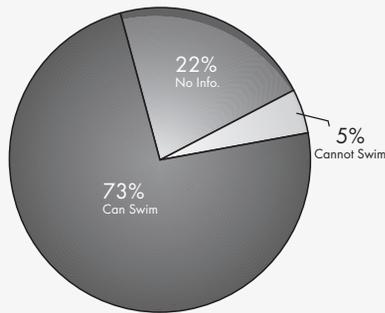


\*51 fatal accidents involving 56 operators.

### OPERATORS BY AGE WITHOUT FORMAL BOATER EDUCATION



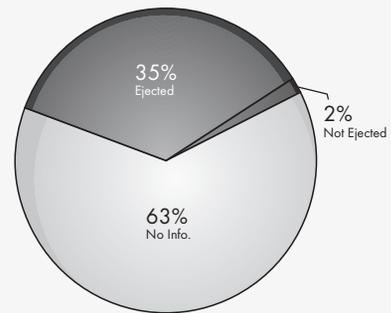
### VICTIM STATISTICS (SWIMMING ABILITY)



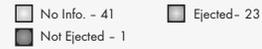
#### CAN SWIM



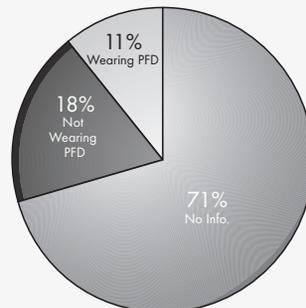
### VICTIM STATISTICS (EJECTED)



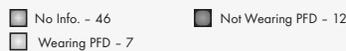
#### EJECTED



### VICTIM STATISTICS (WEARING PFD)



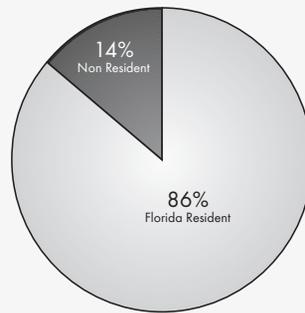
#### WEARING PFD



\*51 accidents involving 65 victims.

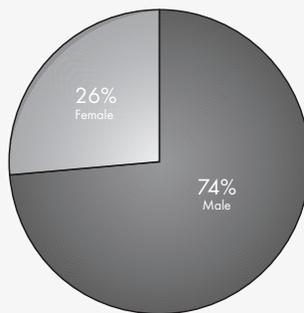
## 2009 FATALITY DATA

### VICTIM RESIDENCY



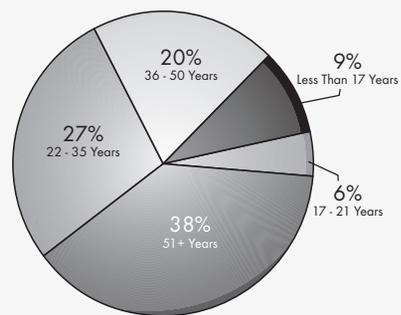
**VICTIM RESIDENCY**  
 Florida Resident - 56    Non Resident - 9

### VICTIM GENDER



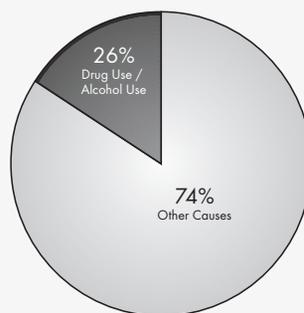
**VICTIM GENDER**  
 Male - 48    Female - 17

### VICTIM AGE



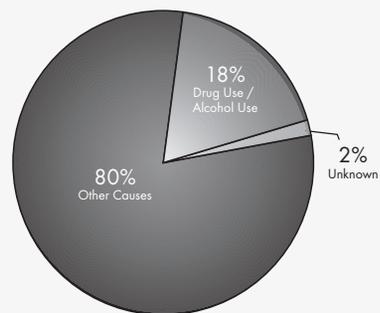
**VICTIM AGE**  
 Less Than 17 Years - 6    22-35 Years - 18  
 17-21 Years - 3    36-50 Years - 13  
 51+ Years - 25

### ALCOHOL/DRUG RELATED ACCIDENTS



**ALCOHOL/DRUG RELATED ACCIDENTS**  
 Other Causes - 43    Drug Use / Alcohol Use - 8

### ALCOHOL/DRUG RELATED VICTIMS

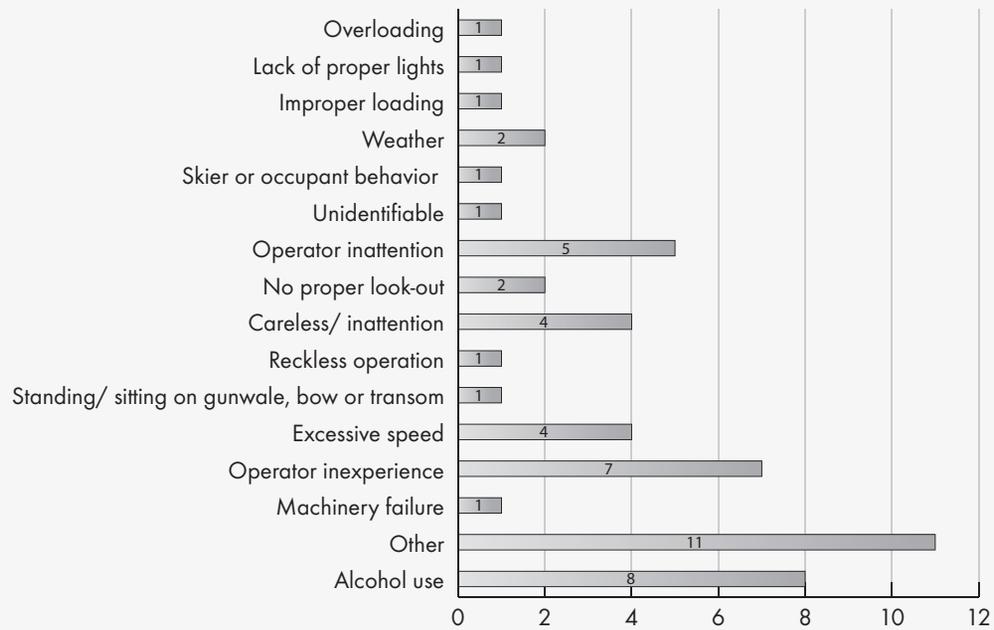


**ALCOHOL/DRUG RELATED VICTIMS**  
 Other Causes - 52    Drug Use / Alcohol Use - 12  
 Unknown - 1

**\*51 accidents involving 65 fatalities.**  
 (Alcohol/drug related refers to any accidents in which alcohol/drug-use may have been a contributing factor, whether or not legally impaired.)

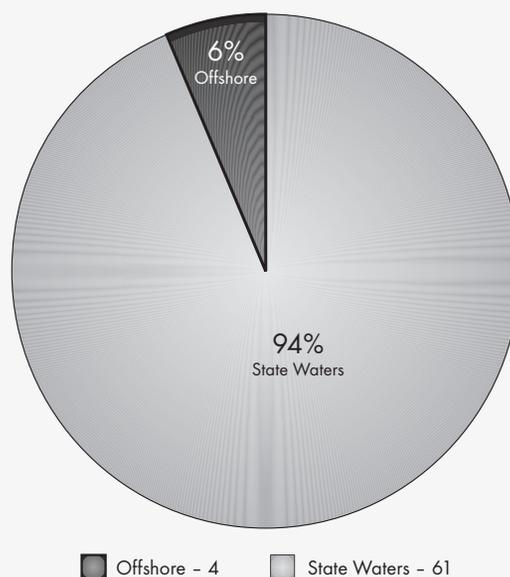
## 2009 FATALITY DATA

### PRIMARY CAUSE OF ACCIDENT BY REVIEWING AUTHORITY



\*51 fatal accidents.

### STATE WATERS VS. OFFSHORE FATALITIES



\*61 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.



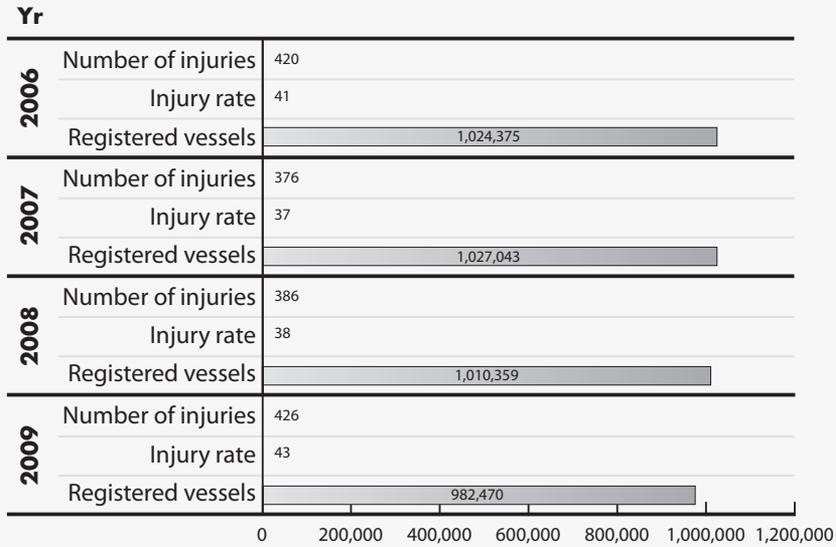
Injury Data 2009



**Florida Fish and Wildlife  
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*Division of Law Enforcement*

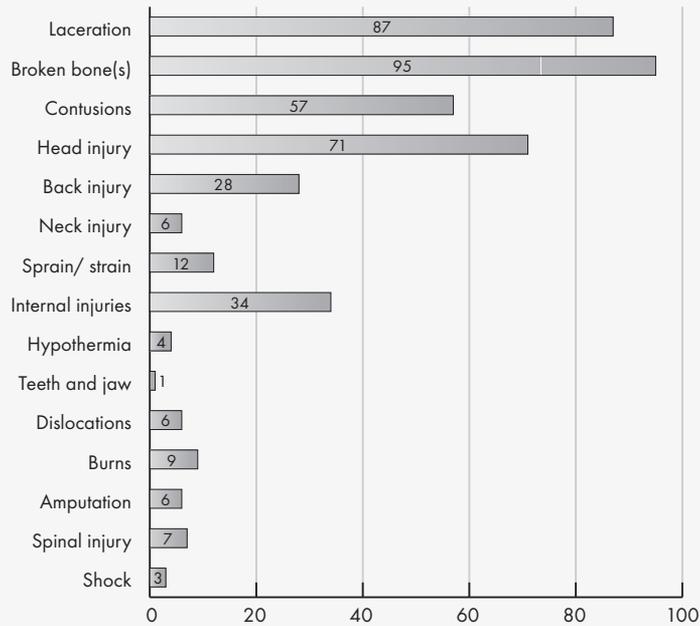
## 2009 INJURY DATA

### TOTAL INJURIES RECORDED 2006-2009



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

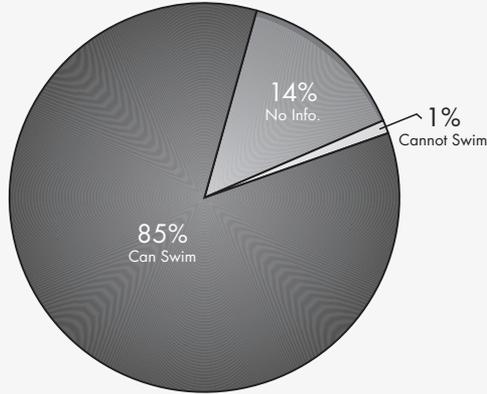
### PRIMARY TYPE OF INJURY



\*620 accidents involving 426 injuries.

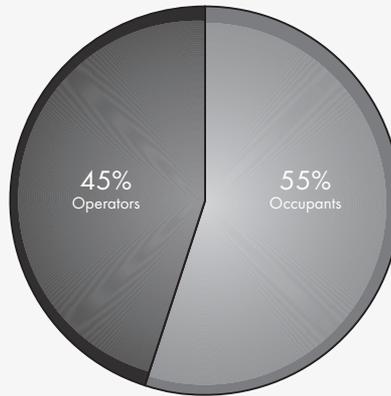
## 2009 INJURY DATA

### INJURY STATISTICS (SWIMMING ABILITY)



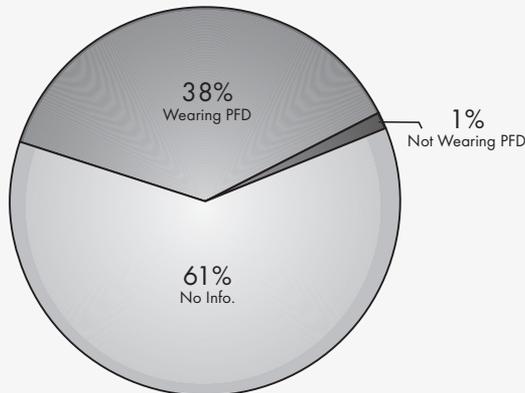
Can Swim - 361    Cannot Swim - 4    No Info. - 61

### INJURY STATISTICS



Operators - 191    Occupants - 235

### INJURY STATISTICS (PFD USE)



Wearing PFD - 160    Not Wearing PFD - 5    No Info. - 261



Personal Watercraft Data 2009



**Florida Fish and Wildlife  
Conservation Commission**  
*Division of Law Enforcement*

## PERSONAL WATERCRAFT DATA

2009 PERSONAL WATERCRAFT REGISTRATION AND ACCIDENTS BY COUNTY									
County	Pleasure	Rental	Total	PWC Accidents	PWC Fatalities	PWC Injuries	Property Damage	Rank	Accident Rate*
Alachua	952	6	958	0	0	0	\$0	67	0
Baker	232	0	232	0	0	0	\$0	67	0
<b>Bay</b>	<b>2,392</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>2,665</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>\$2,300</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1:267</b>
Bradford	269	1	270	0	0	0	\$0	67	0
Brevard	4,241	30	4,271	3	0	4	\$12,750	17	1:1424
<b>Broward</b>	<b>8,226</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>8,351</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>\$13,800</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1:1392</b>
Calhoun	53	0	53	0	0	0	\$0	67	0
Charlotte	1,563	44	1,607	1	0	2	\$0	36	1:1607
Citrus	1,107	3	1,110	1	0	1	\$2,500	29	1:1110
Clay				1	0	2	\$2,750	27	0
<b>Collier</b>	<b>3,145</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>3,336</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1:667</b>
Columbia	343	0	343	0	0	0	\$0	67	0
Desoto	217	2	219	0	0	0	\$0	67	0
Dixie	111	1	112	0	0	0	\$0	67	0
Duval	4,536	16	4,552	1	0	0	\$3,400	26	1:4552
Escambia	1,810	30	1,840	4	0	5	\$16,700	12	1:460
Flagler	652	6	658	0	0	0	\$0	67	0
Franklin	241	16	257	1	0	1	\$2,050	30	1:257
Gadsden	129	0	129	0	0	0	\$0	67	0
Gilchrist	112	1	113	0	0	0	\$0	67	0
Glades	33	0	33	0	0	0	\$0	67	0
Gulf	185	5	190	1	0	1	\$0	37	1:190
Hamilton	43	0	43	0	0	0	\$0	67	0
Hardee	152	3	155	0	0	0	\$0	67	0
Hendry	203	2	205	0	0	0	\$0	67	0
Hernando	1,129	3	1,132	1	0	1	\$300	34	1:1132
Highlands	1,340	2	1,342	2	0	3	\$0	21	1:671
<b>Hillsborough</b>	<b>6,894</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>6,937</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>\$17,000</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1:1387</b>
Holmes	77	2	79	0	0	0	\$0	67	0
Indian River	895	8	903	2	0	5	\$9,500	18	1:452
Jackson	275	3	278	0	0	0	\$0	67	0
Jefferson	72	1	73	0	0	0	\$0	67	0
Lafayette	76	0	76	0	0	0	\$0	67	0
Lake	2,691	13	2,704	0	0	0	\$0	67	0
<b>Lee</b>	<b>5,044</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>5,216</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>\$12,800</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1:869</b>
Leon	990	3	993	2	0	2	\$1,000	20	1:497
Levy	233	3	236	0	0	0	\$0	67	0

## PERSONAL WATERCRAFT DATA

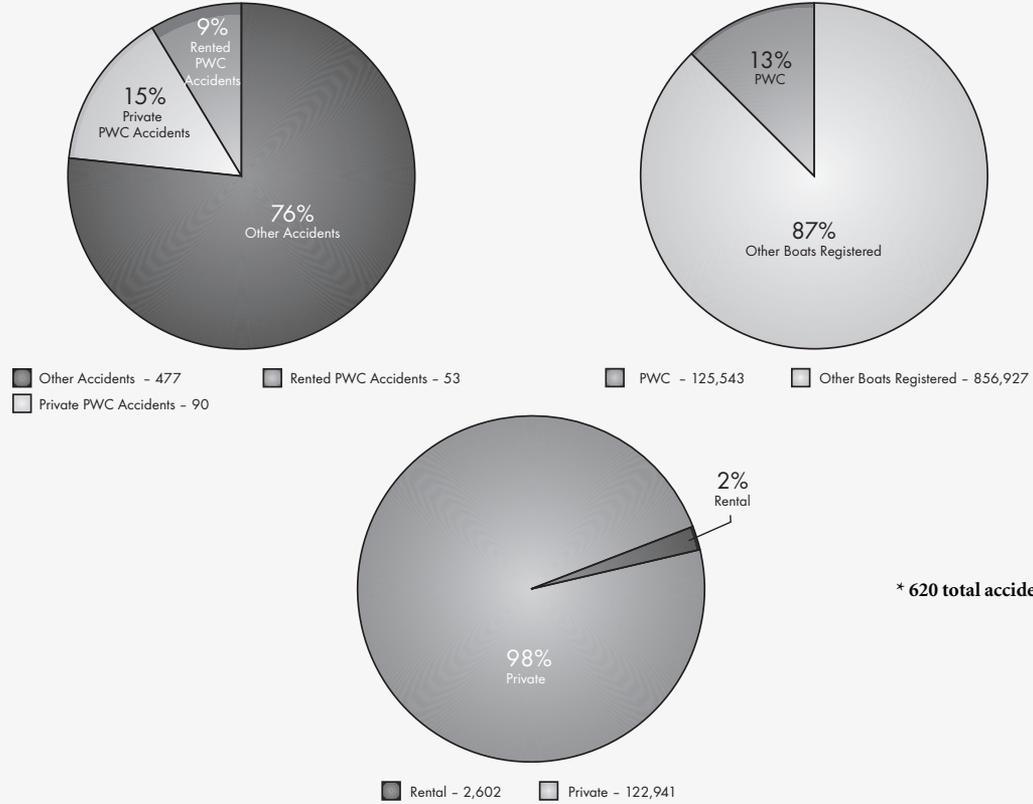
2009 PERSONAL WATERCRAFT REGISTRATION AND ACCIDENTS BY COUNTY									
County	Pleasure	Rental	Total	PWC Accidents	PWC Fatalities	PWC Injuries	Property Damage	Rank	Accident Rate*
Liberty	28	0	28	1	0	1	\$1,500	32	1:28
Madison	52	0	52	0	0	0	\$0	67	0
Manatee	2,257	38	2,295	2	1	1	\$0	23	1:1148
Marion	1,956	5	1,961	1	0	1	\$850	33	0
Martin	1,465	8	1,473	2	0	2	\$0	22	1:737
<b>Miami-Dade</b>	<b>11,497</b>	<b>403</b>	<b>11,900</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>\$11,700</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1:1488</b>
<b>Monroe</b>	<b>1,579</b>	<b>272</b>	<b>1,851</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>\$43,500</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1:74</b>
Nassau	630	3	633	0	0	0	\$0	67	0
<b>Okaloosa</b>	<b>2,880</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>3,091</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>\$7,900</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1:515</b>
Okeechobee	272	0	272	0	0	0	\$0	67	0
Orange	7,522	51	7,573	3	0	5	\$16,000	16	1:2524
Osceola	1,806	30	1,836	1	0	2	\$2,500	28	1:1836
Palm Beach	7,170	88	7,258	5	0	5	\$12,500	11	1:1452
Pasco	3,711	30	3,741	4	0	4	\$5,700	14	1:935
<b>Pinellas</b>	<b>7,909</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>8,120</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>\$50,650</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1:625</b>
Polk	3,429	20	3,449	1	0	1	\$250	35	1:3449
Putnam	689	4	693	0	0	0	\$0	67	0
Santa Rosa	1,912	67	1,979	1	0	1	\$1,800	31	1:1979
Sarasota	2,816	62	2,878	4	0	5	\$6,180	13	1:720
Seminole	3,572	7	3,579	1	0	1	\$4,305	24	1:3579
St Johns	2,047	11	2,058	4	0	4	\$4,900	15	1:515
St Lucie	1,426	12	1,438	2	0	2	\$1,500	19	1:719
Sumter	242	1	243	0	0	0	\$0	67	0
Suwannee	211	0	211	0	0	0	\$0	67	0
Taylor	135	1	136	0	0	0	\$0	67	0
Union	55	0	55	0	0	0	\$0	67	0
<b>Volusia</b>	<b>3,143</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>3,188</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>\$11,475</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1:531</b>
Wakulla	199	0	199	0	0	0	\$0	67	0
Walton	555	6	561	1	0	1	\$3,500	25	1:561
Washington	128	3	131	0	0	0	\$0	67	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>122,941</b>	<b>2,602</b>	<b>125,543</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>\$288,560</b>		

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

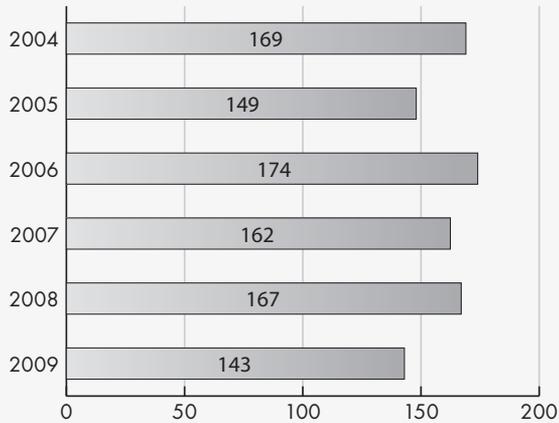
\*Those counties in bold represent the top ten counties for PWC boating accidents in 2009.

## PERSONAL WATERCRAFT DATA

### PWC REGISTRATION

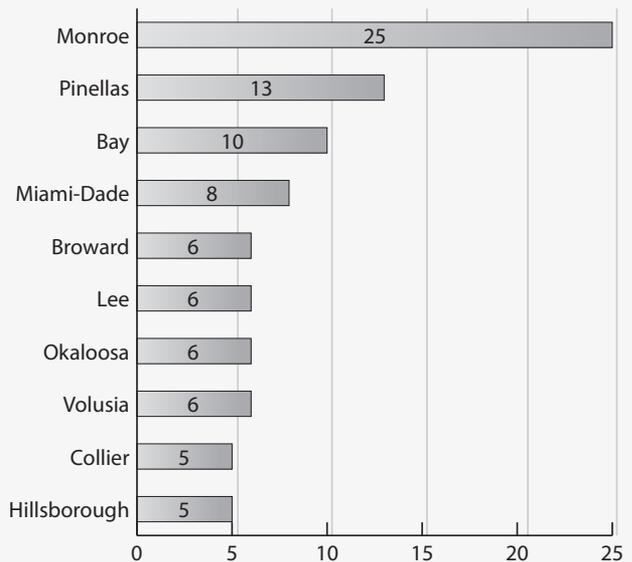


### PWC ACCIDENTS (2004-2009)



\*2004-2009 figures based on \$2000 threshold.

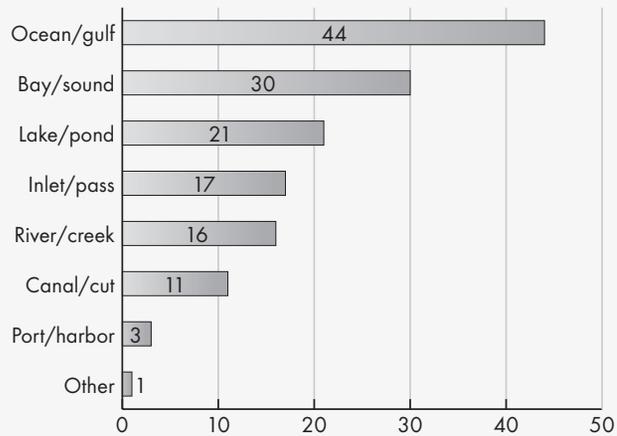
### PWC – TOP 10 COUNTIES FOR 2009



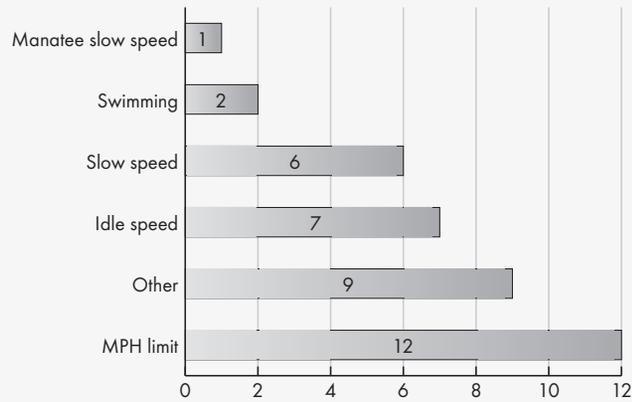
\*143 total PWC accidents in 67 counties.

## PERSONAL WATERCRAFT DATA

### ACCIDENT SITE LOCATION

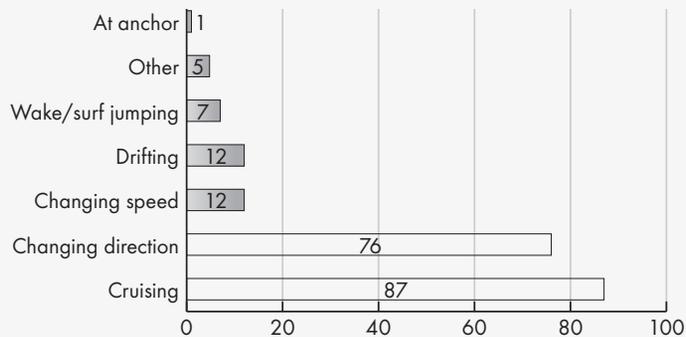


### RESTRICTED AREA ACCIDENTS



25% of PWC accidents (37) occurred within a restricted area.

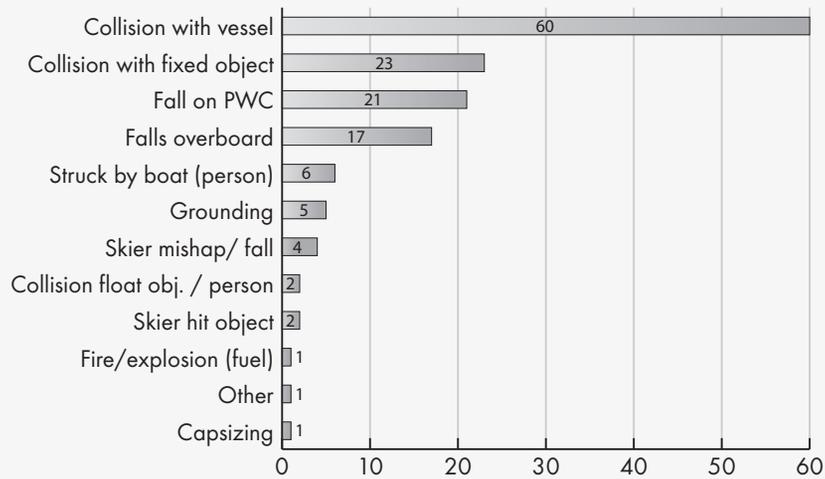
### OPERATION AT TIME OF ACCIDENT



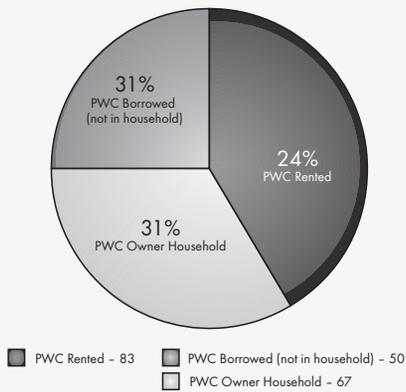
\*143 PWC accidents involving 200 PWCs.

## PERSONAL WATERCRAFT DATA

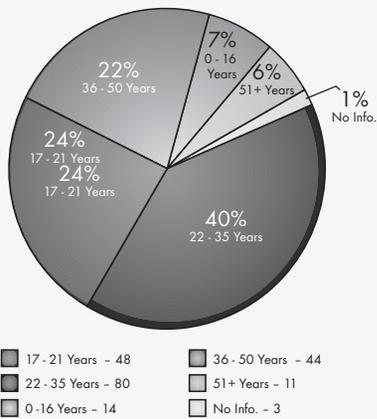
### PRIMARY TYPE OF ACCIDENT



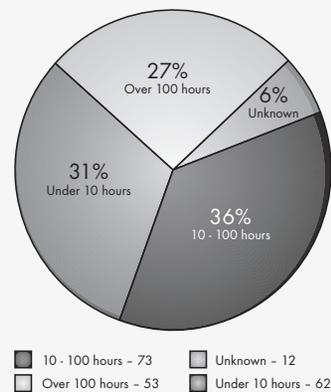
### PWC OWNERSHIP



### PWC OPERATOR AGE

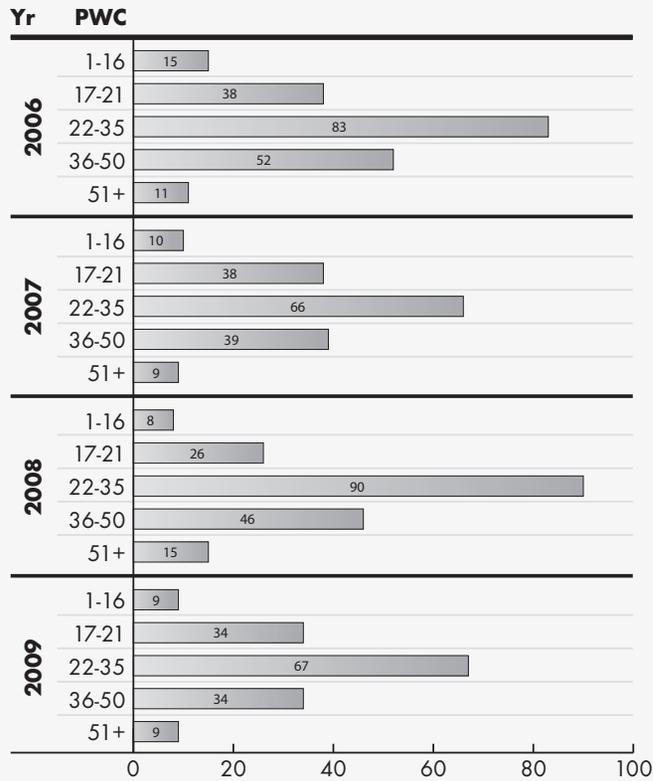


### PWC OPERATOR EXPERIENCE



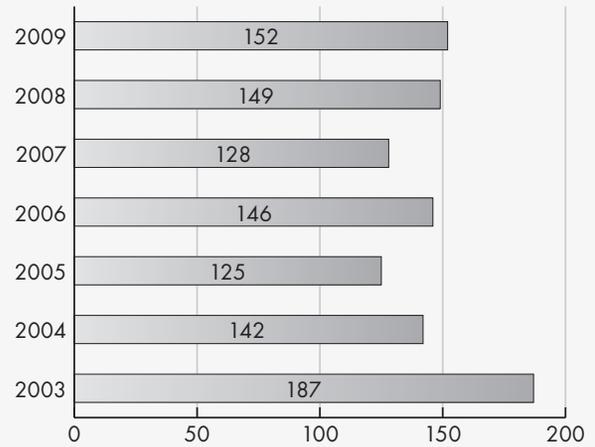
## PERSONAL WATERCRAFT DATA

PWC OPERATORS BY AGE WITHOUT BOATER EDUCATION (2006-2009)

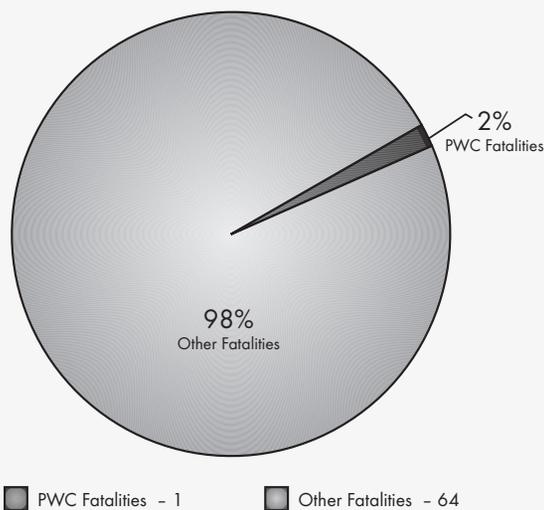


\*143 accidents involving 156 (91.6%) operators without instruction.  
\*3 with no info.

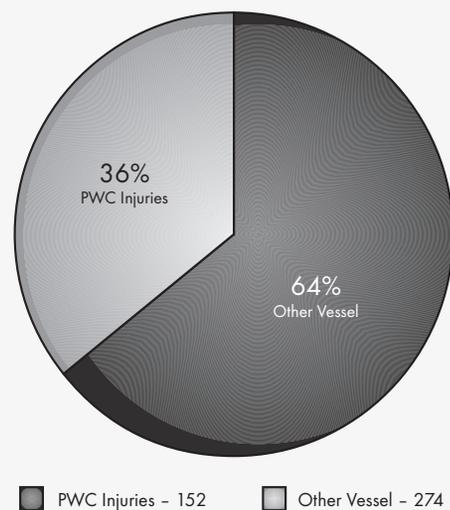
2003-2009 PWC INJURIES



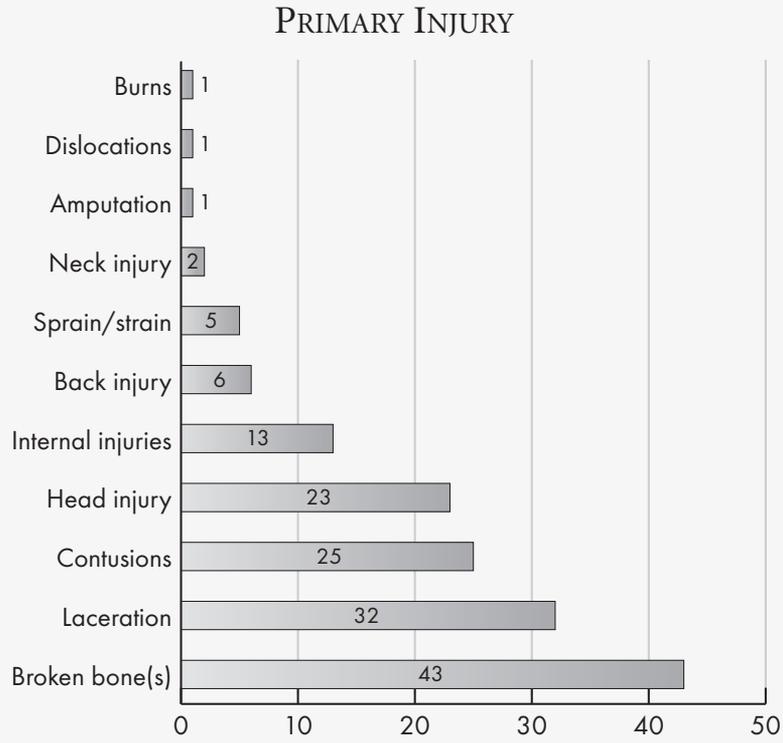
COMPARISONS OF PWC FATALITIES



COMPARISONS OF PWC INJURIES

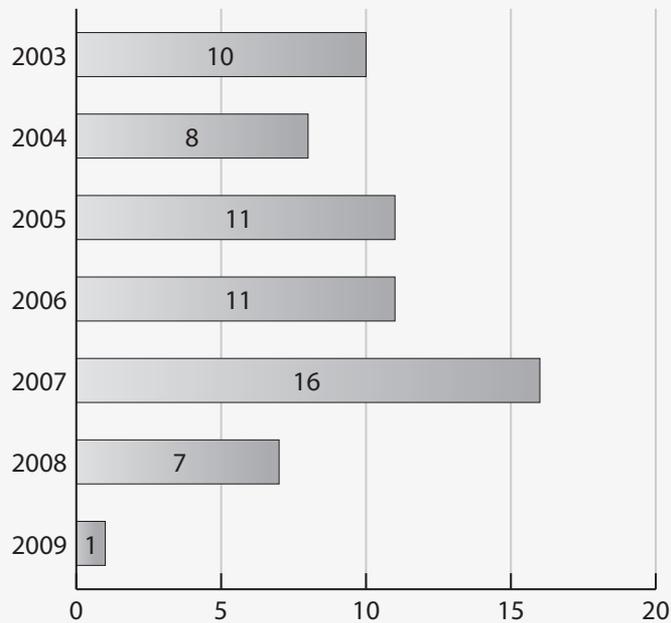


## PERSONAL WATERCRAFT DATA



\*143 accidents involving 152 injuries.

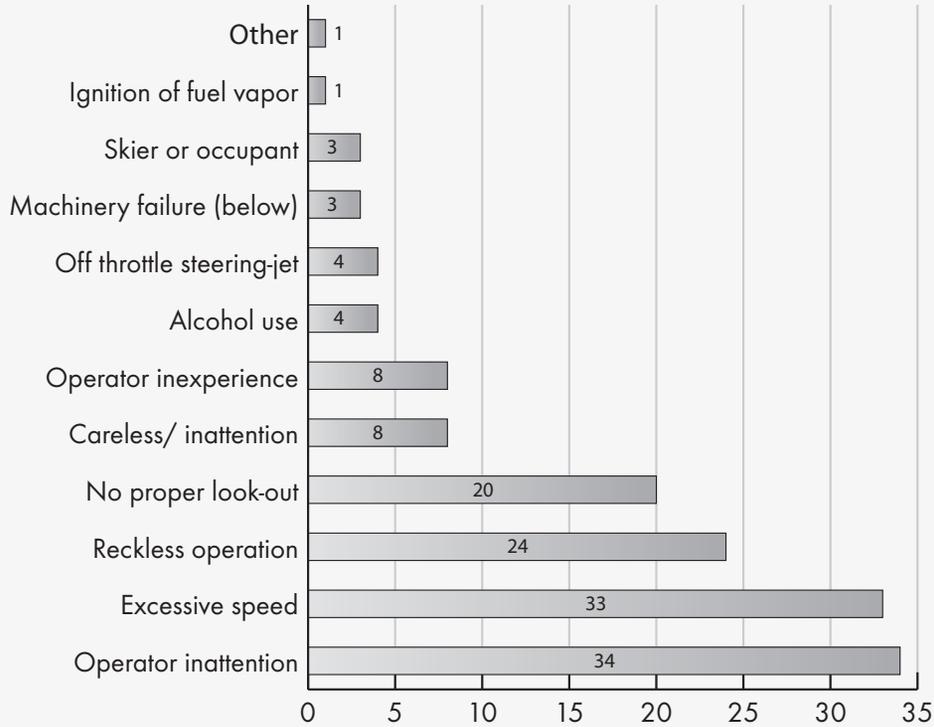
### PWC FATALITIES (2003-2009)



\*143 accidents involving 1 fatalities.

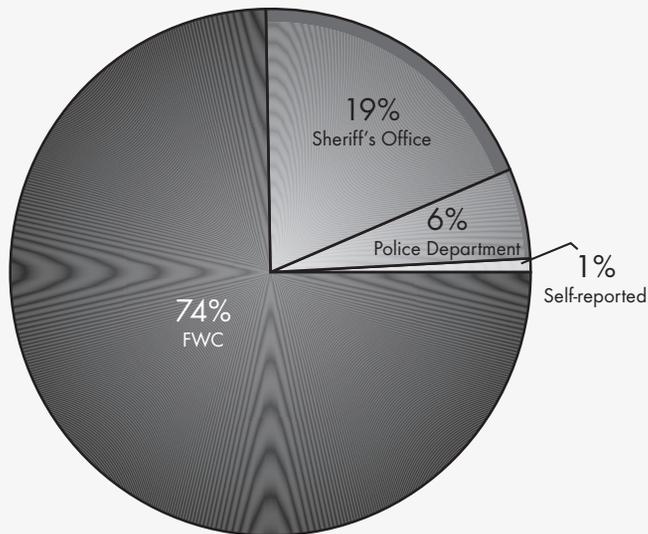
## PERSONAL WATERCRAFT DATA

### PRIMARY CAUSE ASSESSED BY REVIEWING AUTHORITY



\*143 PWC accidents.

### INVESTIGATING AGENCY



FWC - 107
  Sheriff's Office - 27  
 Self-reported - 1
  Police Department - 8



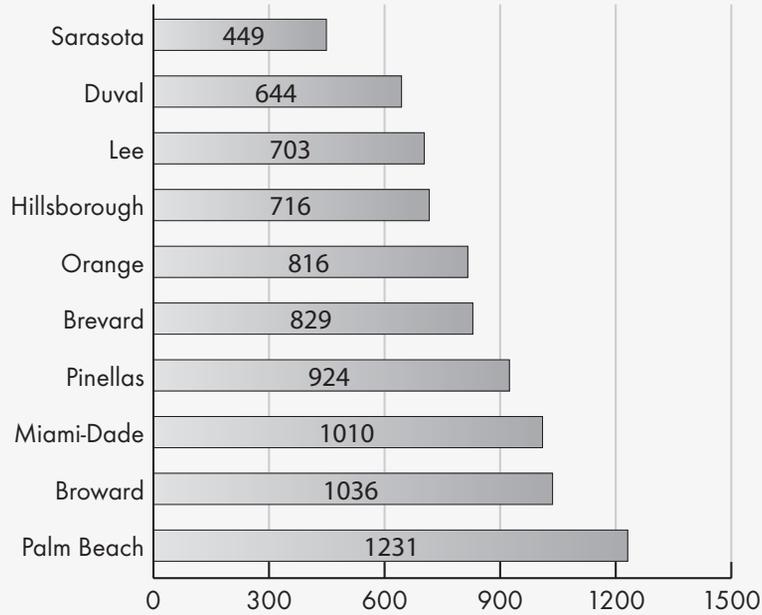
Boating Education 2009



**Florida Fish and Wildlife  
Conservation Commission**  
*Division of Law Enforcement*

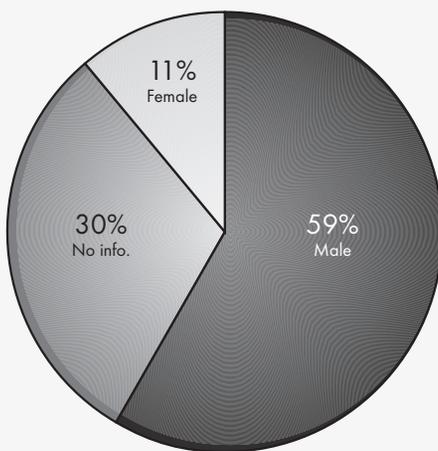
## BOATING EDUCATION

### TOP 10 COUNTIES — BOATING EDUCATION CARDS ISSUED



20,853 cards issued in calendar year 2009. (Does not include temporary certificates.)

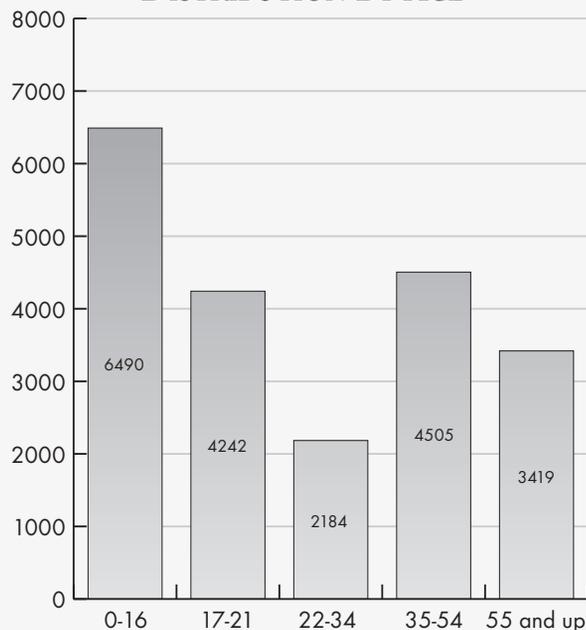
### BOATING SAFETY EDUCATION I.D. CARD DISTRIBUTION BY GENDER



Male – 12,206
  Female – 2,312  
 No info. – 6,335

Calendar Year 2009  
(Does not include temporary certificates.)

### BOATING SAFETY EDUCATION I.D. CARD DISTRIBUTION BY AGE



\*13 Boaters did not provide age information.



## Violation Summary 2009



**Florida Fish and Wildlife  
Conservation Commission**  
*Division of Law Enforcement*

## VIOLATION SUMMARY

<b>2009 UNIFORM BOATING CITATION SUMMARY</b>				
<b>CITATION</b>	<b>2009</b>		<b>2008</b>	
	<b>FWC</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>FWC</b>	<b>Other</b>
<b>Aids to Navigation and Regulatory Markers.</b>				
Uniform waterway markers for safety and navigation	20	23	8	36
Mooring to or damaging markers or bouys				
<b>Alcohol and Drugs.</b>				
Operation of a vessel under the influence of alcohol	270	50	222	54
Operation of a vessel while impaired				
<b>Boating Restricted Areas.</b>				
Manatee protection rules	1,993	3,016	2,243	4,628
Public safety rules				
Local ordinances				
<b>Boating Safety Education</b>				
Boating safety education I.D. cards	311	293	215	203
<b>Livery Operations.</b>				
Rental without proper safety equipment	15	1	5	1
Rental without boater education				
Rental to persons under 18 years of age				
<b>Negligent Operation of a Vessel.</b>				
Reckless operation of a vessel	623	294	1,025	654
Careless operation of a vessel				
Navigation rule violation resulting in an accident				
Navigation rule violation not resulting in an accident				
Failure to report an accident				
<b>Personal Watercraft.</b>				
Personal watercraft regulations	277	205	275	215
<b>Skiing and Diving.</b>				
Skiing, aquaplaning, and parasailing violations	386	138	412	174
Dive flag violations				
<b>Registration and Numbering.</b>				
Operation of unregistered/unnumbered vessels	1,257	1,229	1,250	1,399
Application, certificate, number, or decal violation				
Special manufacturer & dealer numbers				
Violation relating to vessel titling				
Violation relating to Hull Identification Numbers				
<b>Safety Equipment and Regulations.</b>				
Equipment and lighting requirements	3,579	1,334	3,937	1,572
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>8,731</b>	<b>6,583</b>	<b>9,592</b>	<b>8,936</b>
<b>TOTAL VIOLATIONS RECORDED</b>	<b>15,314</b>		<b>18,528</b>	



## Top Ten Counties 2009



**Florida Fish and Wildlife  
Conservation Commission**  
*Division of Law Enforcement*

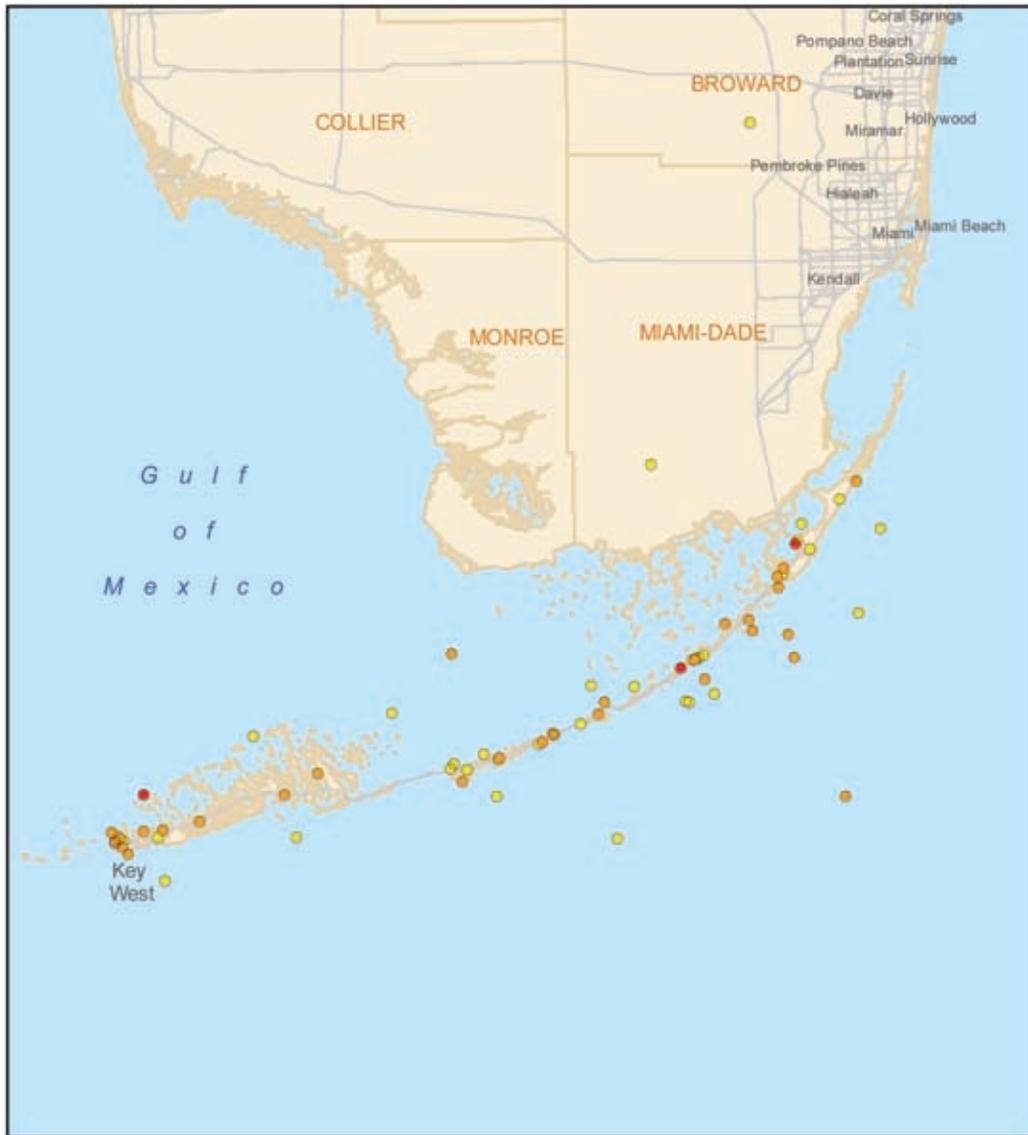
## 2009 TOP TEN COUNTIES

A thorough review of annual boating accident statistics has revealed that **62% of the reportable boating accidents** during the 2009 calendar year occurred in 10 Florida counties.

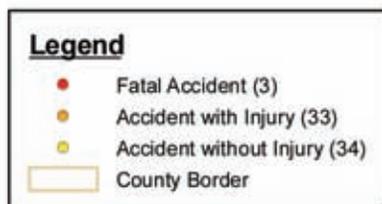
The information on the following pages represents a breakdown of the accident data from each of these top 10 counties. The graphs show the types of vessels involved, the primary cause of each accident, and primary type of accidents for each county. There is also a map of each county with points designating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

## 2009 TOP TEN COUNTIES



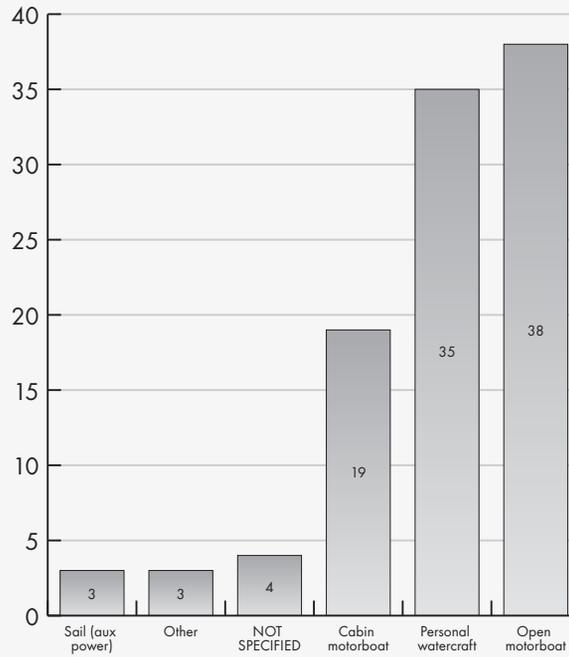
Known Locations of Accidents in Monroe County during 2009



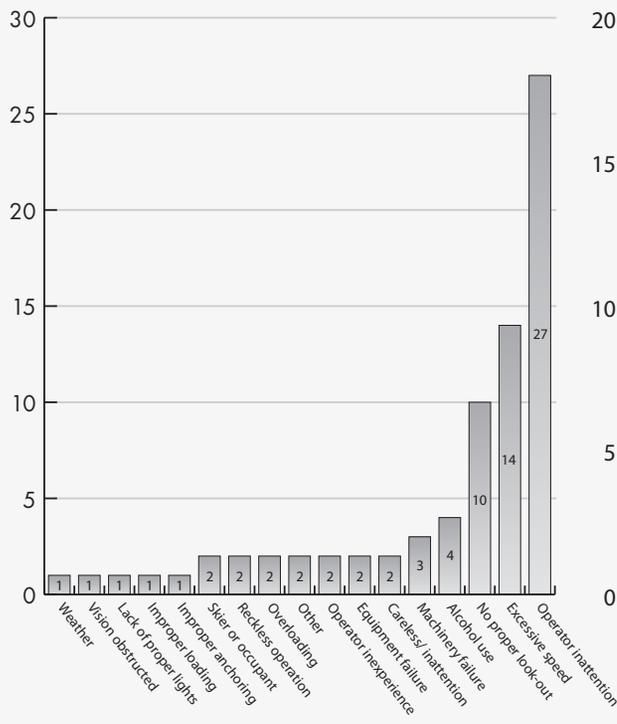
Map document created by FWC LE GIS

# 1. MONROE COUNTY

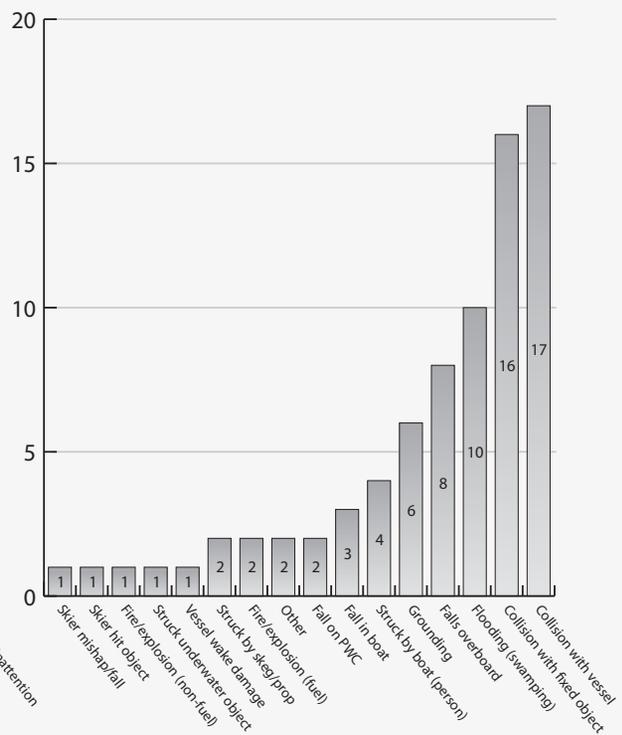
TYPE OF VESSEL



PRIMARY CAUSE OF ACCIDENT



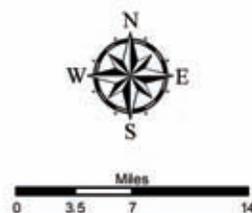
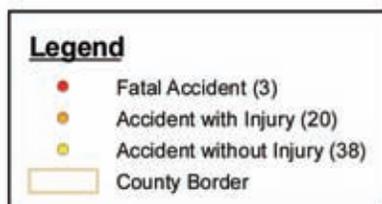
PRIMARY TYPE OF ACCIDENT



## 2009 TOP TEN COUNTIES

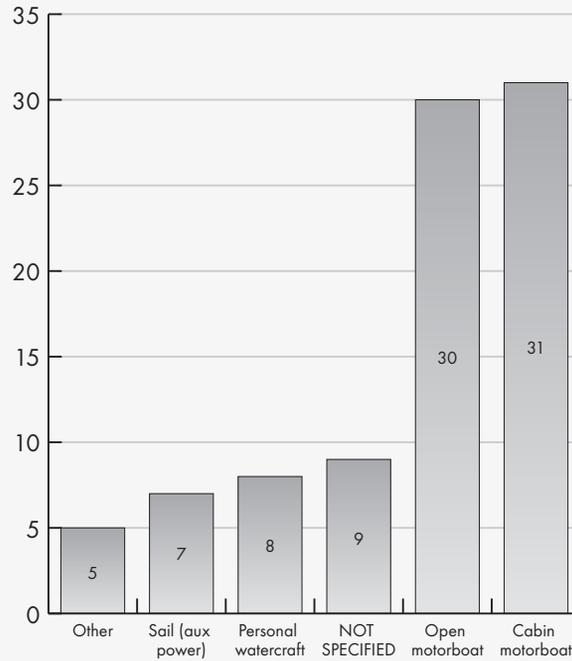


Known Locations of Accidents in Miami-Dade County during 2009

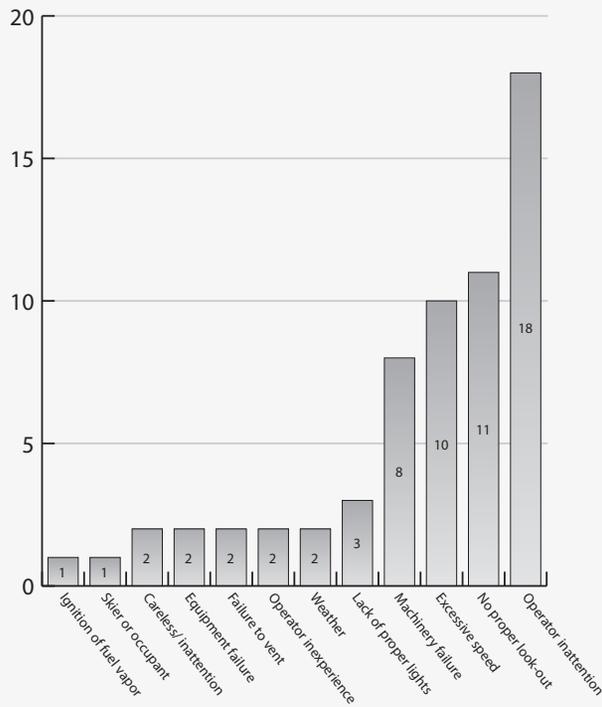


## 2. MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

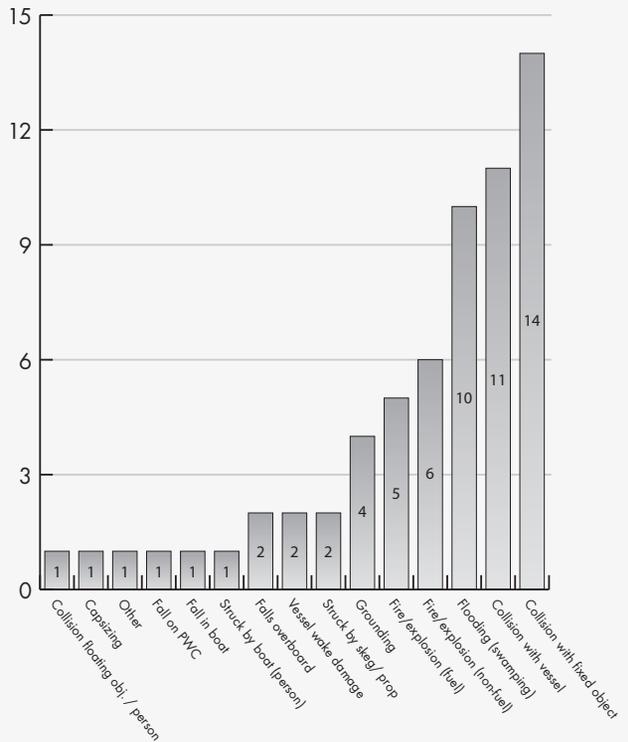
TYPE OF VESSEL



PRIMARY CAUSE OF ACCIDENT



PRIMARY TYPE OF ACCIDENT



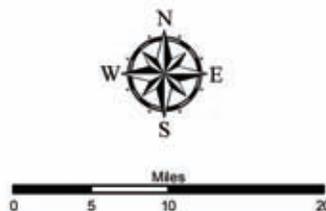
## 2009 TOP TEN COUNTIES



Known Locations of Accidents in Palm Beach County during 2009

**Legend**

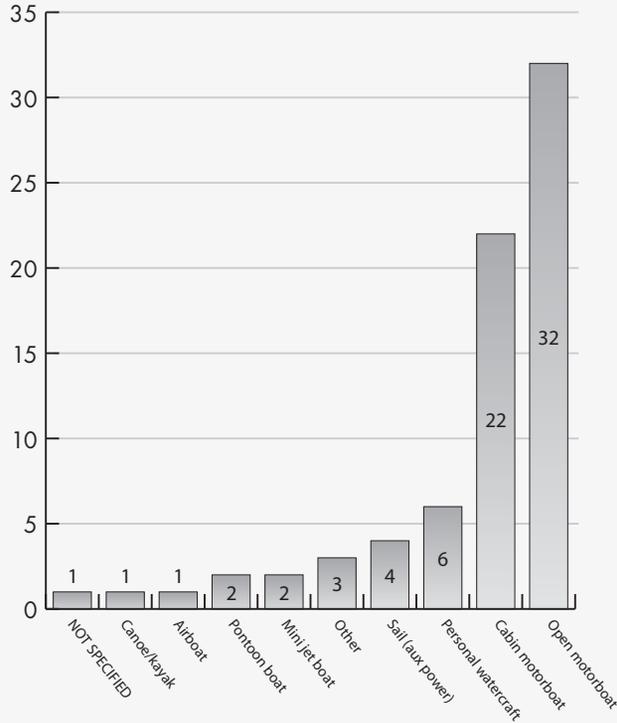
- Fatal Accident (2)
- Accident with Injury (17)
- Accident without Injury (33)
- County Border



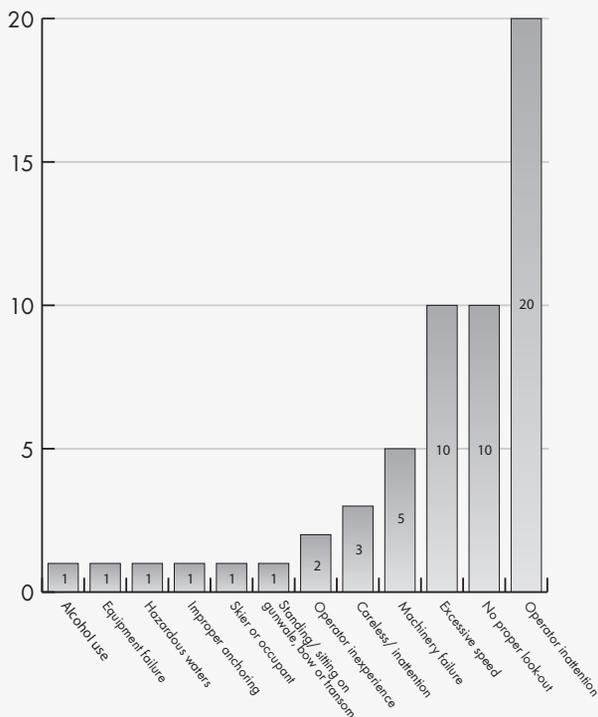
Map document  
created by  
FWC LE GIS

### 3. PALM BEACH COUNTY

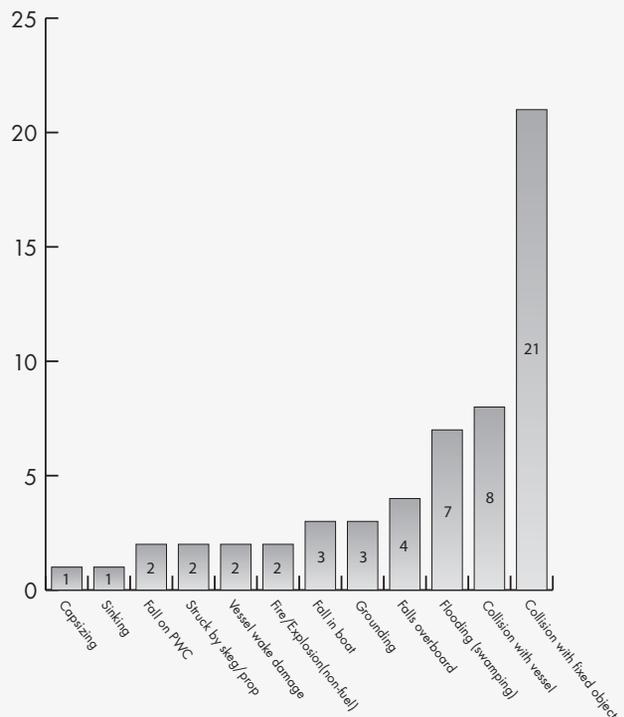
TYPE OF VESSEL



PRIMARY CAUSE OF ACCIDENT



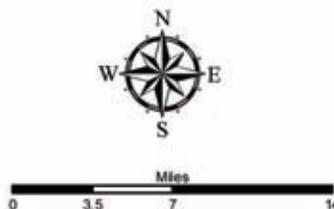
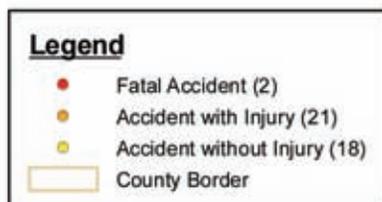
PRIMARY TYPE OF ACCIDENT



## 2009 TOP TEN COUNTIES



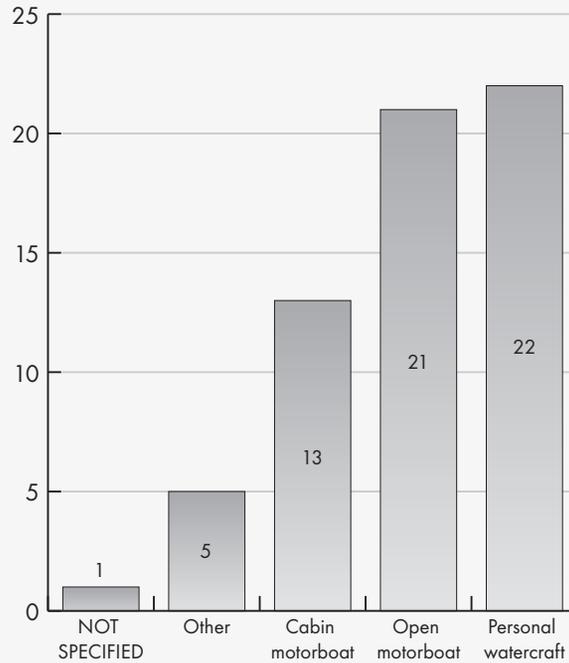
Known Locations of Accidents in Pinellas County during 2009



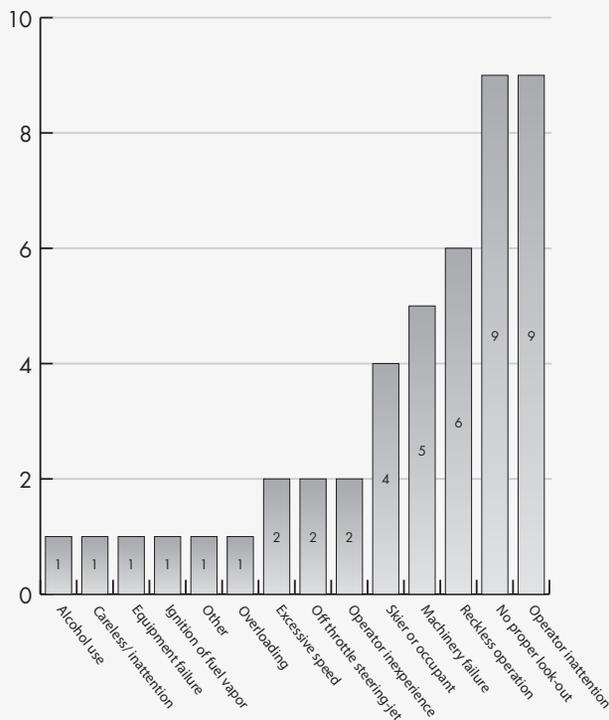
Map document  
created by  
FWC LE GIS

## 4. PINELLAS COUNTY

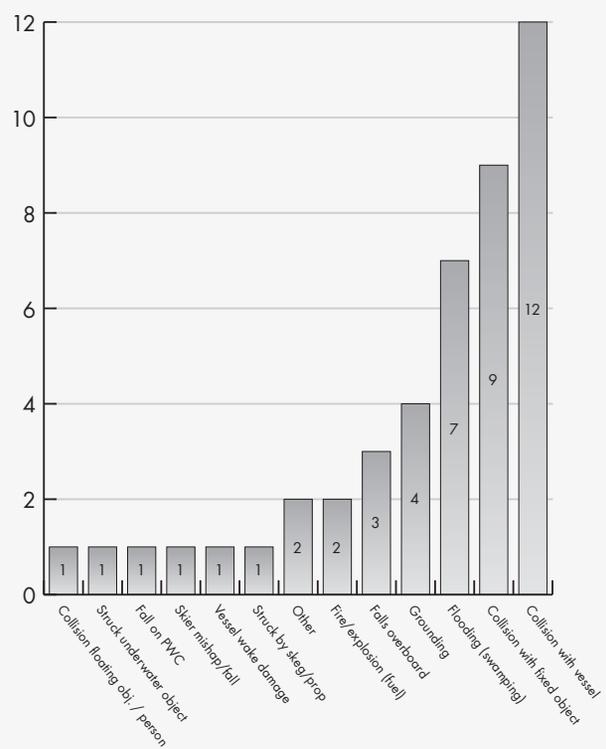
TYPE OF VESSEL



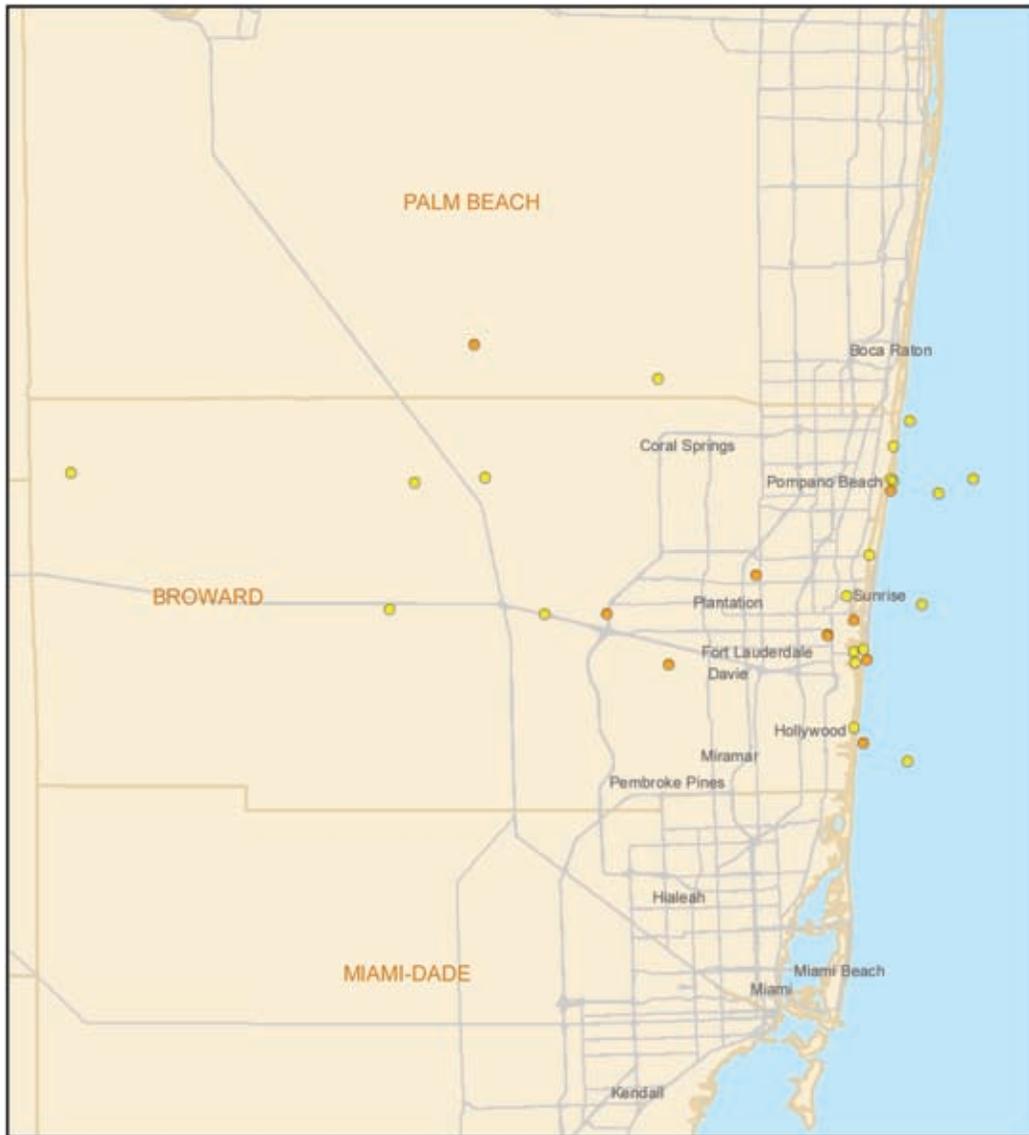
PRIMARY CAUSE OF ACCIDENT



PRIMARY TYPE OF ACCIDENT



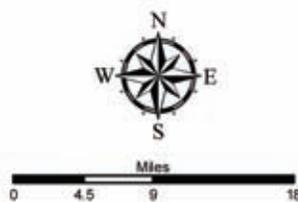
## 2009 TOP TEN COUNTIES



Known Locations of Accidents in Broward County during 2009

**Legend**

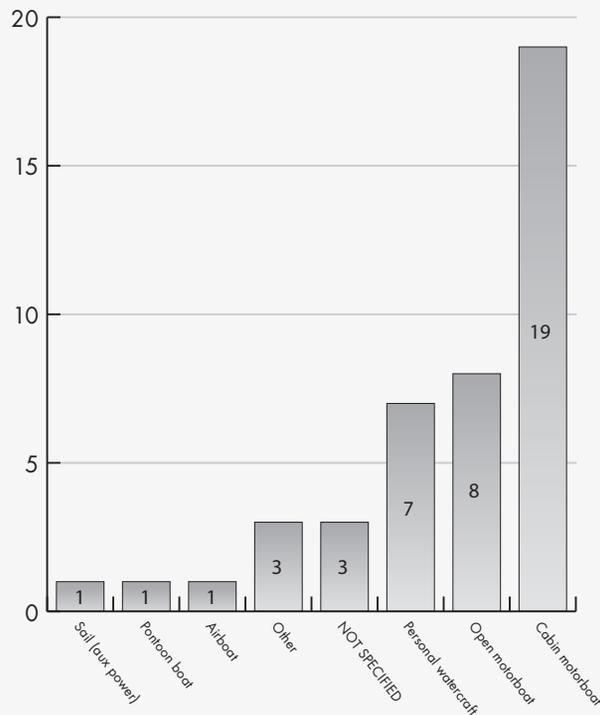
- Fatal Accident (0)
- Accident with Injury (9)
- Accident without Injury (21)
- County Border



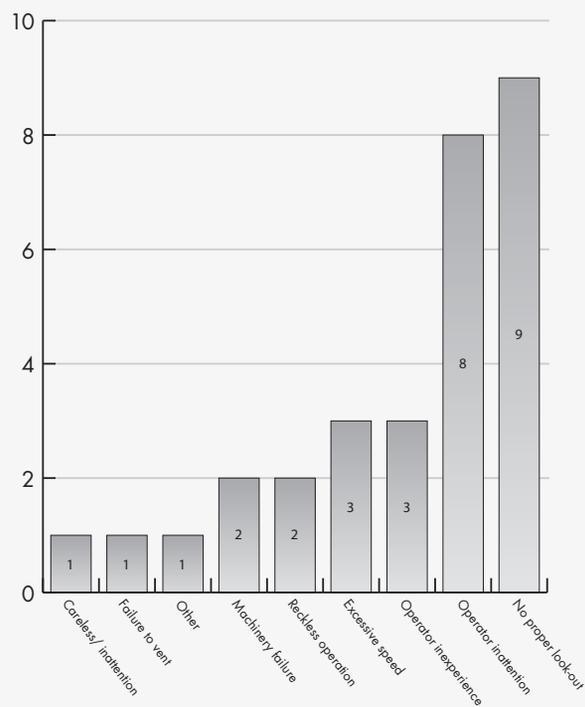
Map document  
created by  
PWC LE GIS

## 5. BROWARD COUNTY

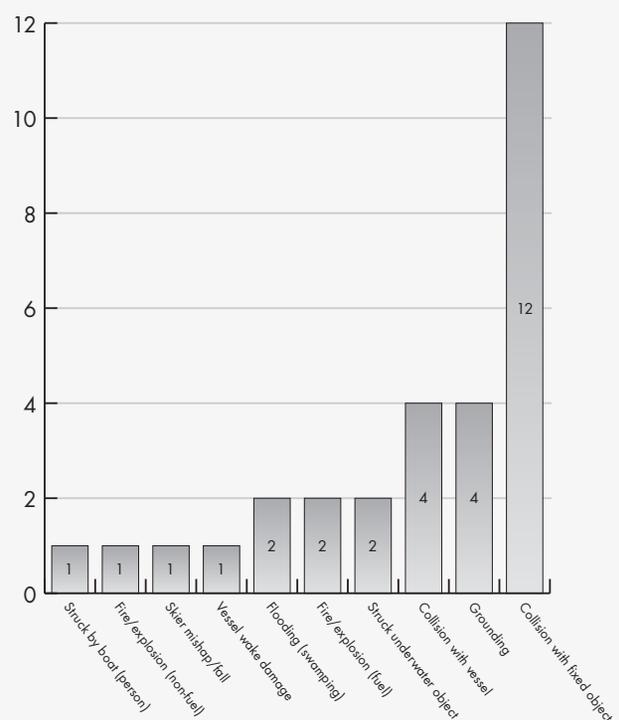
TYPE OF VESSEL



PRIMARY CAUSE OF ACCIDENT



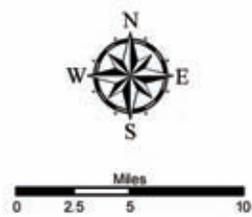
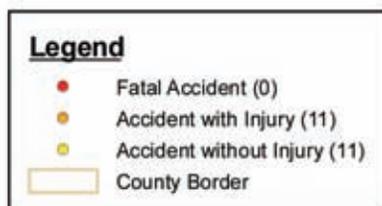
PRIMARY TYPE OF ACCIDENT



## 2009 TOP TEN COUNTIES

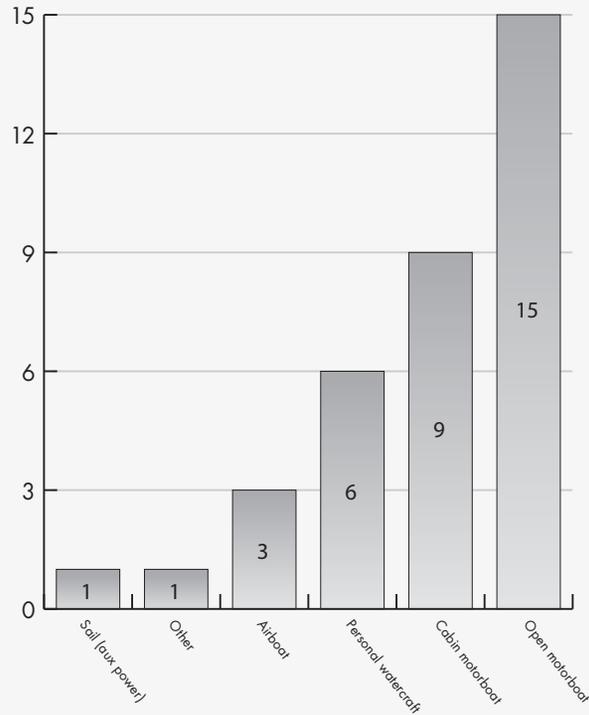


Known Locations of Accidents in Collier County during 2009

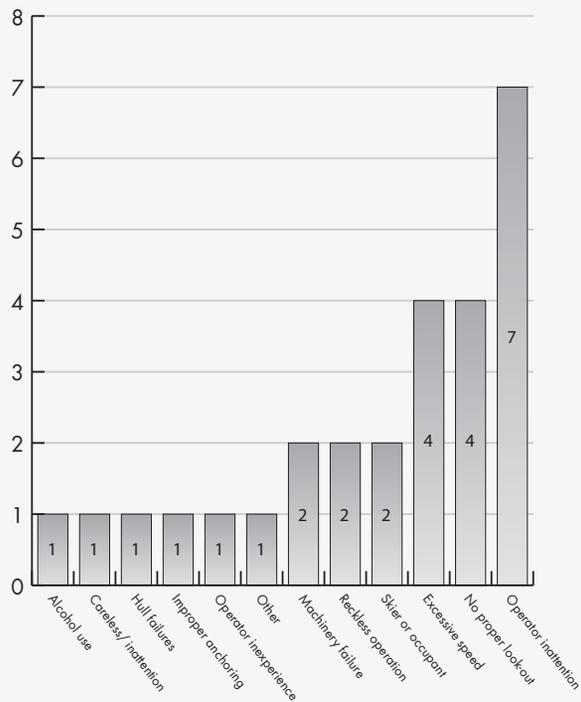


## 6. COLLIER COUNTY

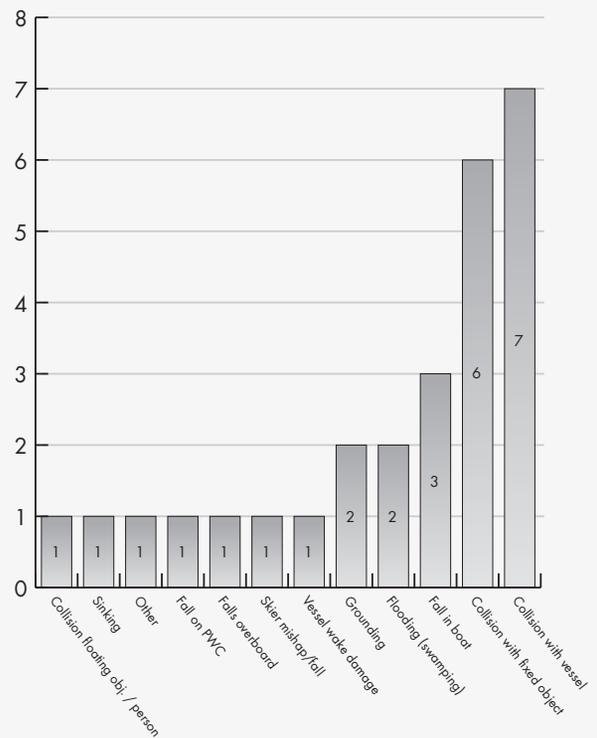
TYPE OF VESSEL



PRIMARY CAUSE OF ACCIDENT



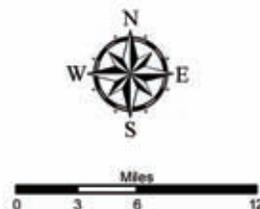
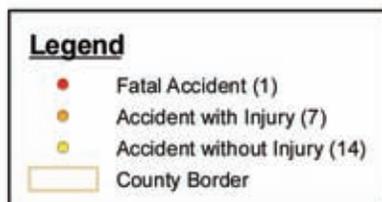
PRIMARY TYPE OF ACCIDENT



## 2009 TOP TEN COUNTIES



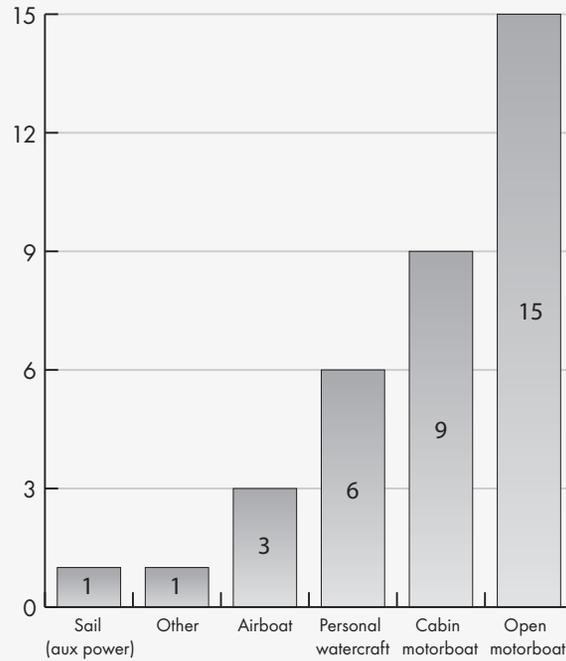
Known Locations of Accidents in Lee County during 2009



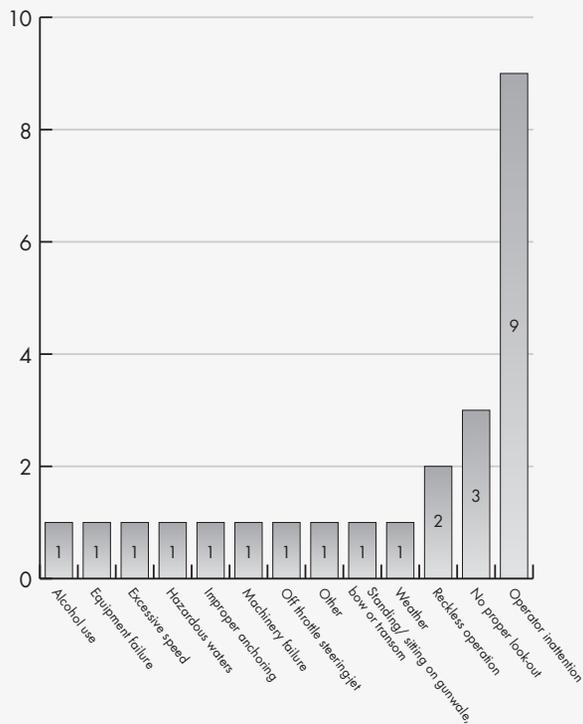
Map document  
created by  
FWC LE GIS

## 7. LEE COUNTY

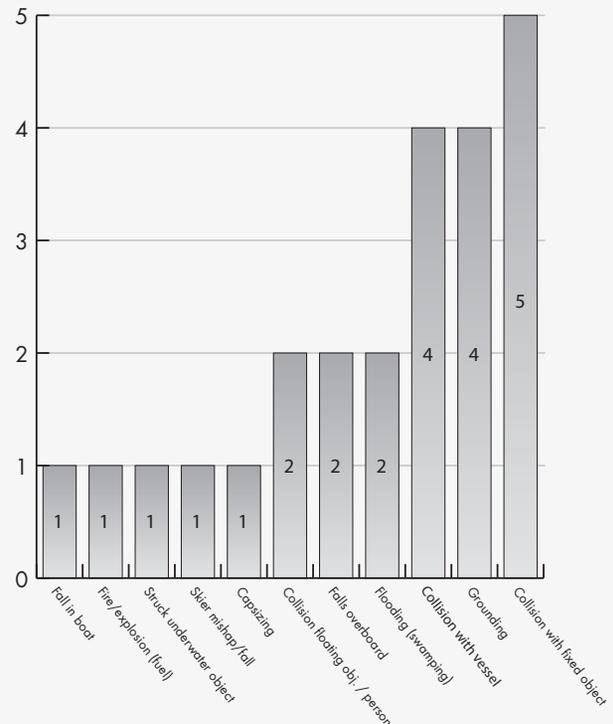
TYPE OF VESSEL



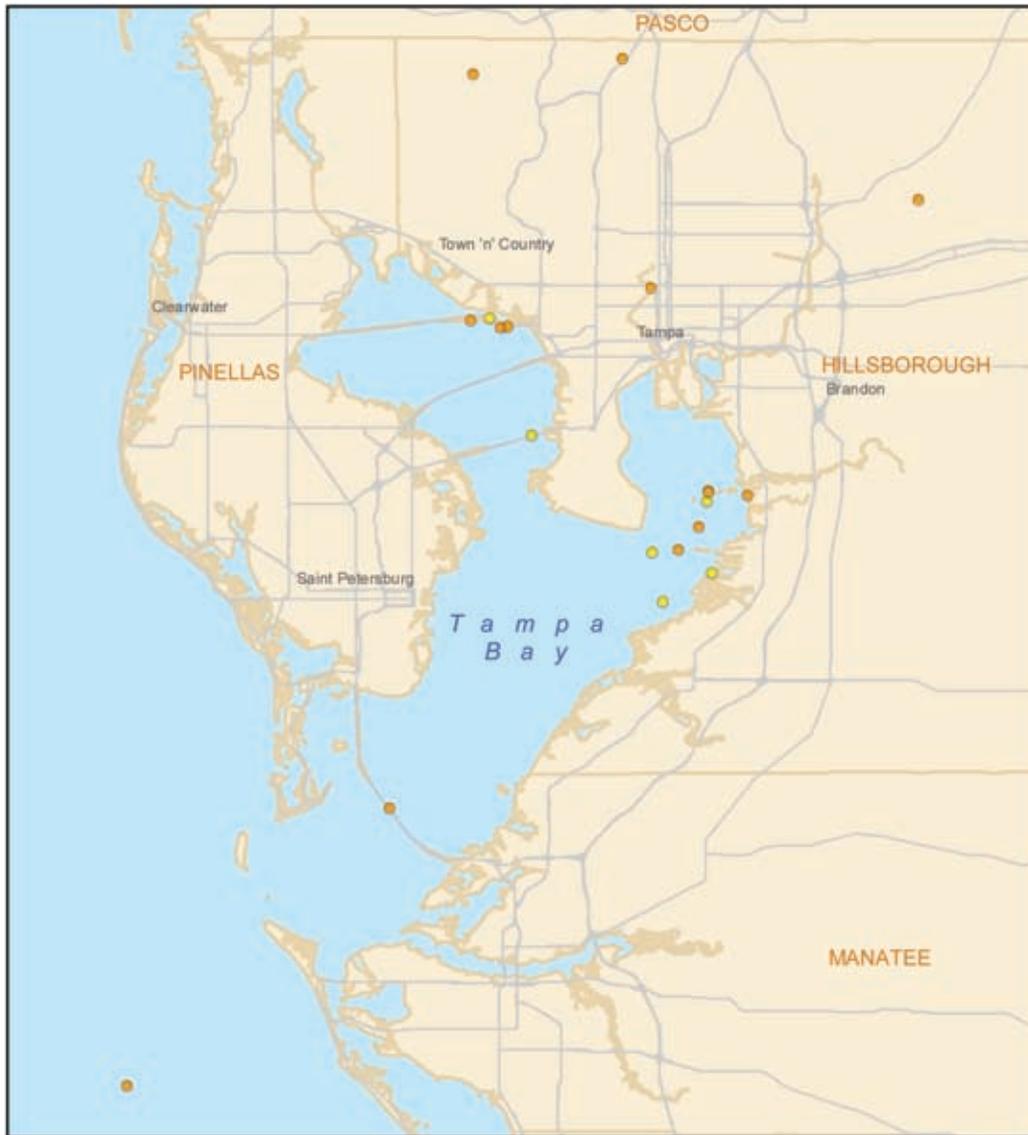
PRIMARY CAUSE OF ACCIDENT



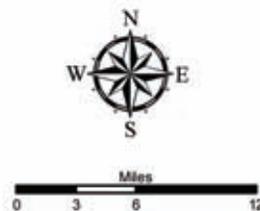
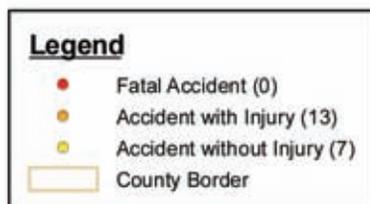
PRIMARY TYPE OF ACCIDENT



## 2009 TOP TEN COUNTIES



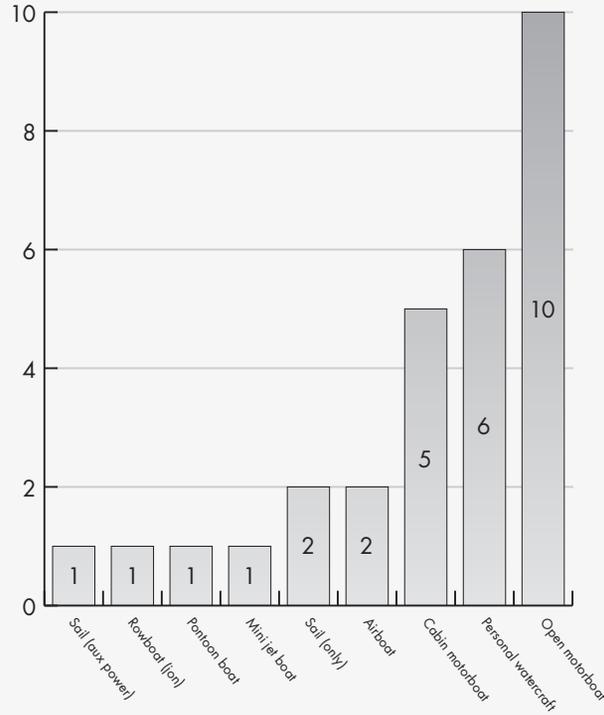
Known Locations of Accidents in Hillsborough County during 2009



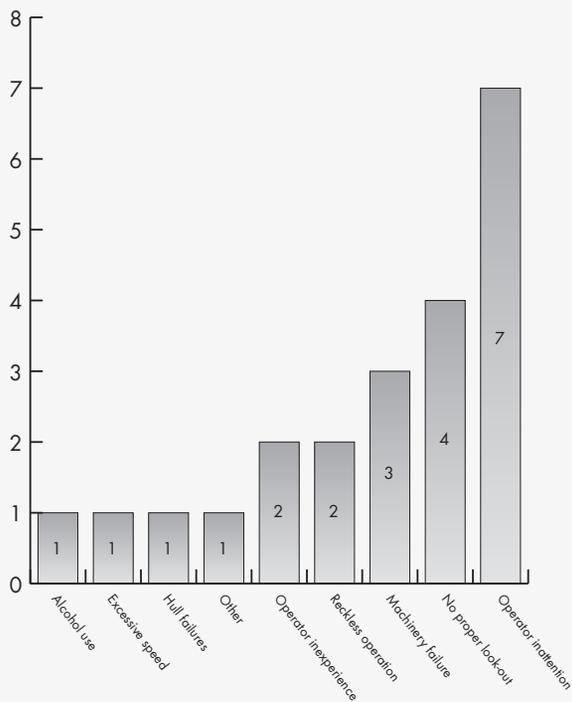
Map document  
created by  
FWC LE GIS

## 8. HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

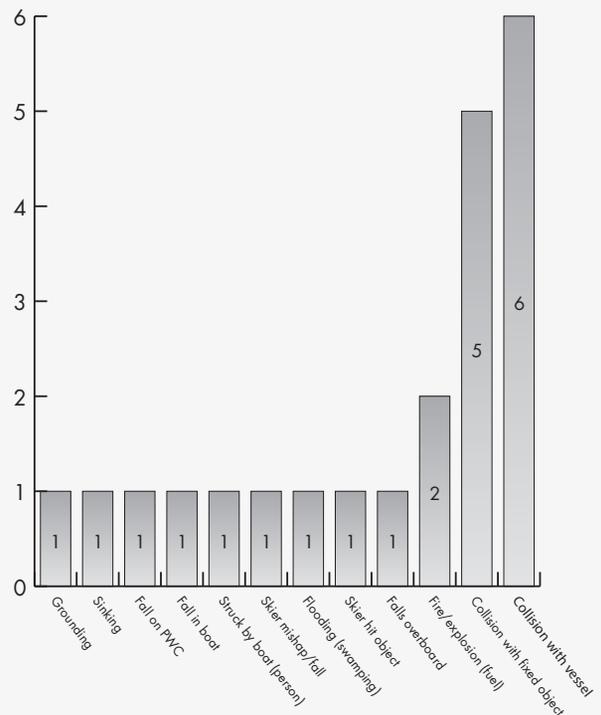
TYPE OF VESSEL



PRIMARY CAUSE OF ACCIDENT



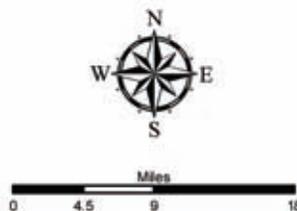
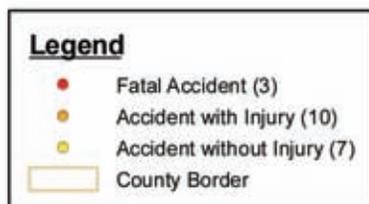
PRIMARY TYPE OF ACCIDENT



## 2009 TOP TEN COUNTIES



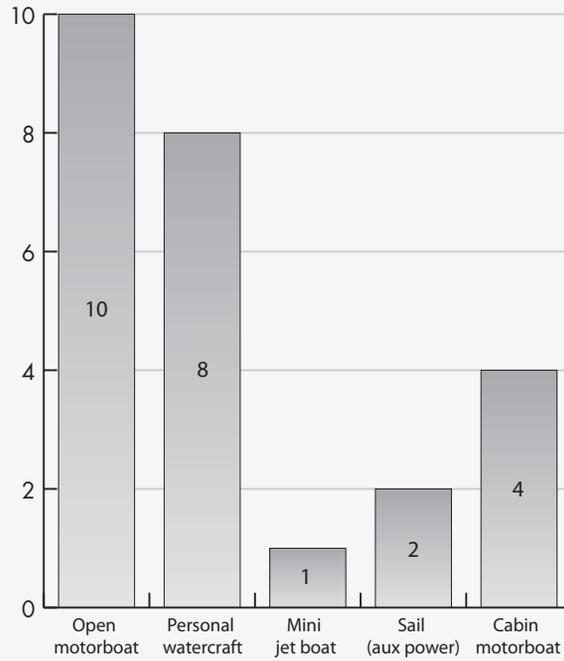
Known Locations of Accidents in Volusia County during 2009



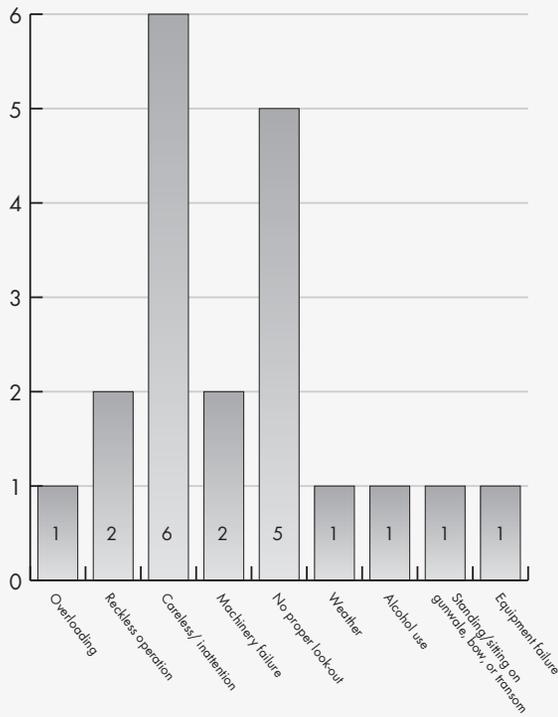
Map document  
created by  
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## 9. VOLUSIA COUNTY

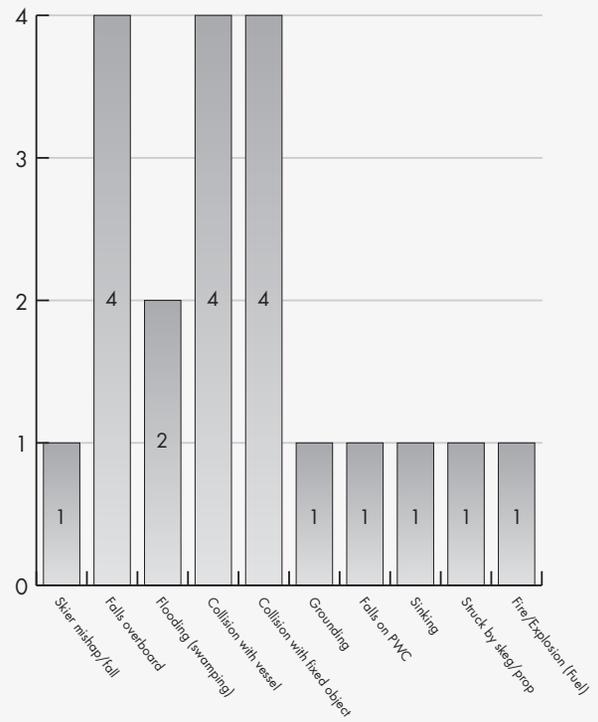
TYPE OF VESSEL



PRIMARY CAUSE OF ACCIDENT



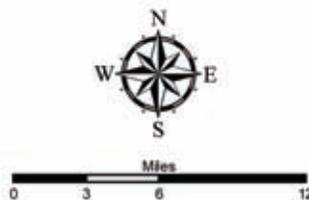
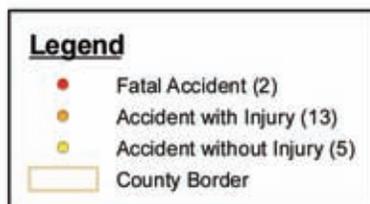
PRIMARY TYPE OF ACCIDENT



## 2009 TOP TEN COUNTIES



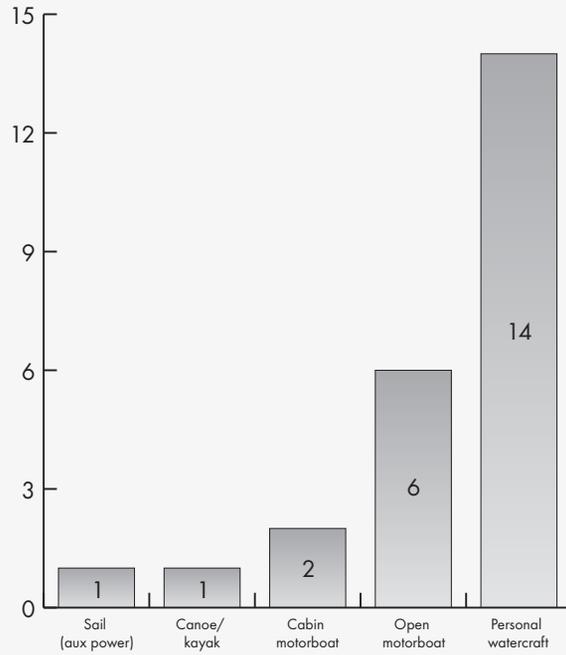
Known Locations of Accidents in Bay County during 2009



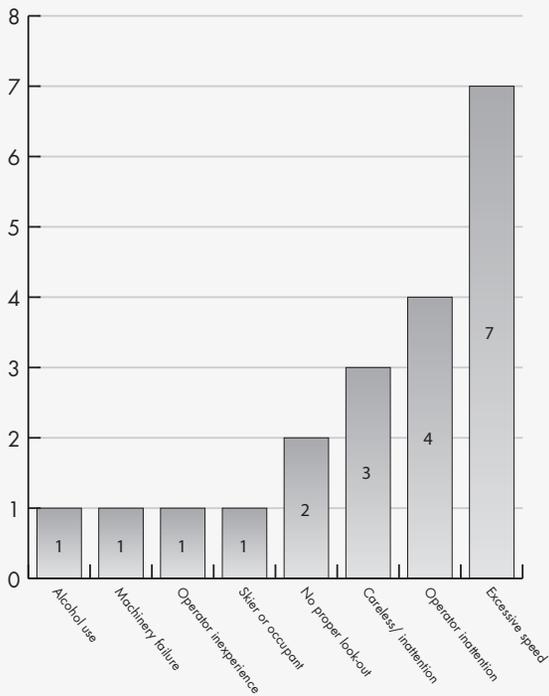
Map document  
created by  
PWC LE GIS

## 10. BAY COUNTY

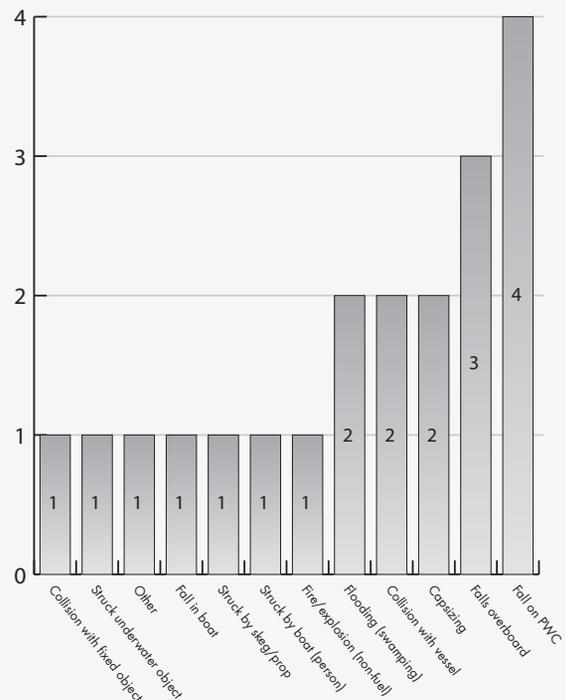
TYPE OF VESSEL



PRIMARY CAUSE OF ACCIDENT



PRIMARY TYPE OF ACCIDENT





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**CAUTION**



**MANATEE  
AREA**

**FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION**  
620 South Meridian Street • Tallahassee, FL 32399-1600 • 850-488-4676  
[http://myfwc.com/RECREATION/boat\\_index.htm](http://myfwc.com/RECREATION/boat_index.htm) • [www.WearItFlorida.com](http://www.WearItFlorida.com)



FWC reminds you that the best way to avoid becoming a boating statistic is to wear a life jacket.