Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Division of Law Enforcement

2008 Top Ten Counties

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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.
KnownLocations 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

**Type of Vessel**

- Kayak
- Self (no power)
- Outboard
- Canoe
- Open
- Sailboat
- Watercraft

**Primary Cause of Accident**

- Alcohol Use
- Careless/Inattention
- Equipment Failure (below)
- Excessive Speed
- Hull Failure
- Ignition of Fuel Vapor
- Improper Anchoring
- Lack of Proper Lights
- Machinery Failure (below)
- No Rope/No Look-Out
- Off the Throttle
- Steering Jet
- Operator Inexperience
- Operator Inattention
- Other
- Overloading
- Reckless Operation
- Standing/Sitting on Unwale, Bow or Stern
- Troubled/Abandoned
- Other

**Primary Type of Accident**

- Collision with Fixed Object
- Collision with Vessel
- Capsizing/Sinking
- Struck by Skeg/Propeller
- Falling Overboard
- Grounding
- Flooding (Sumping)
- Collision with Person
- Collision with Watercraft
- Other

**Watercraft**

- Mini Jet Boat
- Open Motorboat
- Cabin Motorboat
- Sail
- (Only)
- Sail (Aux Power)
- Canoe/Kayak
- Airboat
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

![Graphs showing primary cause and type of accidents in Miami-Dade County.](image)
Known Locations of Accidents in Pinellas County during 2008

**Legend**
- **Fatal Accident** (2)
- **Accident with Injury** (19)
- **Accident without Injury** (30)
- **City**
- **Road**
- **Hydrographic Feature**
- **County Border**

Locational information provided by the Division of Law Enforcement.
3. Pinellas County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TYPE OF VESSEL</th>
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<th>20</th>
<th>30</th>
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<td>Personal Watercraft</td>
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<tr>
<td>Flooding (swamping)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fall overboard</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grounding</td>
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<tr>
<td>Struck underwater object</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fire/Explosion (no fuel)</td>
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<td>Fall in boat</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Fall overboard</td>
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<td>Fall in boat</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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

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

![Bar chart showing types of vessels and causes of accidents.]

**Primary Cause of Accident**
- Sailing: 5
- Motorvehicle boarding: 4
- Boating: 3
- Motorboat (auxiliary power): 2
- Other: 1

**Primary Type of Accident**
- Collision with vessel: 8
- Flood (swamping): 5
- Collision with fixed object: 3
- Operator error: 2
- Other accident: 1

**Type of Vessel**
- Cabin: 25
- Open: 17
- Personal: 9
- Other: 4
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
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

![Graph showing types of vessels, primary causes of accidents, and primary types of accidents in 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

**Type of Vessel**

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

**Primary Cause of Accident**

- Equipment failure (below)
- Hull failure
- Driver
- Weather
- Alcohol use
- Machinery failure (below)
- No proper lookout
- Operator inexperience
- Excessive speed
- Operator inattention
- Flooding (swamping)
- Grounding
- Collision with fixed object
- Collision with vessel
- Falling into boat
- Capsizing
- Fire/Explosion (non-fuel)
- Struck underwater object
- Skier mishap/fall

**Primary Type of Accident**

- Hit by watercraft
- Hit by object
- Collision with vessel
- Open watercraft
- Closed watercraft
- Hit by person
- Hit by kayak
- Hit by swimmer or object
- Hit by wildlife or object
2008 Top Ten Counties

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

TYPE OF VESSEL

- Sail (Aux power) 2
- Cabin Motorboat 9
- Open Motorboat 11
- Personal Watercraft 14
- NOT SPECIFIED

PRIMARY CAUSE OF ACCIDENT

- Careless/Inattention
- Excessive Speed
- No proper lookout
- Operator inattention
- Standing/sitting on gunwale, boat or transom
- Weather
- Alcohol use
- Personal Watercraft
- Open Motorboat
- Sail (Aux power)
- Careless/Inattention
- Excessive Speed
- No proper lookout
- Operator inattention
- Standing/sitting on gunwale, boat or transom
- Weather
- Alcohol use
- Personal Watercraft
- Open Motorboat
- Sail (Aux power)

PRIMARY TYPE OF ACCIDENT

- Collision with vessel
- Collisions with fixed object
- Capsizing
- Flood ing(sweeping)
- Falling overboard
- Winter
- Summer
- Spring
- Fall
- Other
- Personal Watercraft
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

![Diagram showing Type of Vessel, Primary Cause of Accident, and Primary Type of Accident]
FWC reminds you that the best ways to avoid becoming a boating statistic are to pay close attention at all times while boating and to wear a life jacket.