

Boating Fatalities



Boating Fatalities

Cover Photos: (Courtesy of FWC)

Top picture

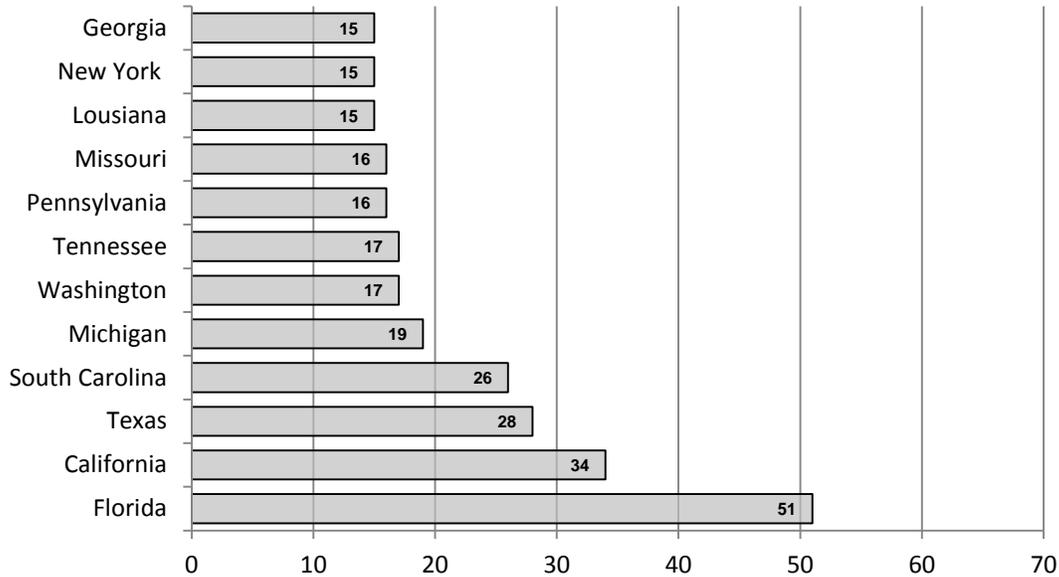
On May 24, 2014 at approximately 3:00 a.m., two 27-year-old males and a 28-year-old female launched a canoe into Wells Lake from the shoreline at the Mariners Wharf Apartments. They paddled approximately 120 yards from shore when the canoe capsized. All three subjects were ejected into the water. One of the men was able to swim to shore and the other was found floating with the assistance of a cooler and later rescued by Clay County Sheriff Office. The female was unable to swim to shore and slipped below the surface. Clay County Sheriff office dive team searched from 7:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. on 5/24/2014 and 5/25/2014. Both occupants advised that all three had been consuming alcohol throughout the night. On 5/26/2014 at approximately 5:15 a.m., the female was found deceased approximately 40 feet from the western shoreline of Mariners Wharf Apartments. There were no lifejackets or other safety equipment onboard at the time of the accident.

Bottom picture

On October 2, 2014, a father and son launched their 16 foot bass boat from the Dunnellon Boat Ramp on the Withlacoochee River in Dunnellon, Florida. They traveled south on the river (up-river) approximately 3 ½ miles with the son, 59-years-old, as the operator of the boat. While traveling around a right curve in the river, the boat went under some overhanging tree limbs along the west bank, and struck a cypress tree head on. The impact caused the son to be thrown from the steering console onto the floor near the front deck. The father, 79-years-old, was ejected from the vessel into the water. Citrus County Deputies used a Good Samaritan vessel to recover both victims and transport them to home close by where Citrus EMS provided emergency assistance and transport. The son was transported to Citrus Memorial Hospital where he was pronounced deceased. The father was transported to Ocala Regional Hospital with non-life threatening injuries.

2014 FATALITY DATA

2013 FATALITIES - TOP TWELVE STATES



*Twelve states due to ties for 10th place. 2014 statistics for top 12 states were not available at time of printing

Source: U.S. Coast Guard Division of Auxiliary and Boating Safety (recreational fatalities)

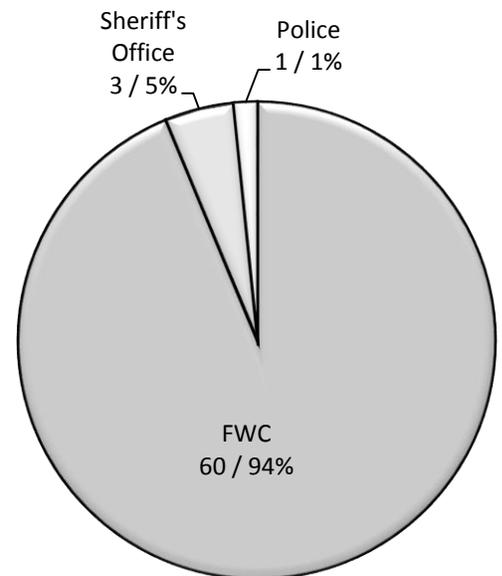
FLORIDA TOTAL FATALITIES RECORDED

2014	Registered vessels	899,635
	Fatality rate	8.1
	Number of fatalities	73
2013	Registered vessels	896,632
	Fatality rate	6.9
	Number of fatalities	62
2012	Registered vessels	901,969
	Fatality rate	6.1
	Number of fatalities	56

0 300000 600000 900000 1200000

*Fatality Rate – Number of fatalities per 100,000 registered vessels

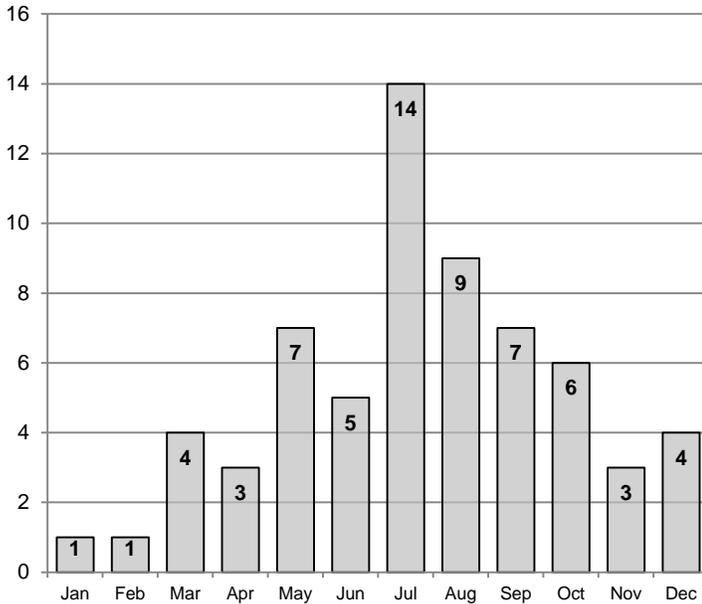
INVESTIGATING AGENCY



*64 fatal accidents

2014 FATALITY DATA

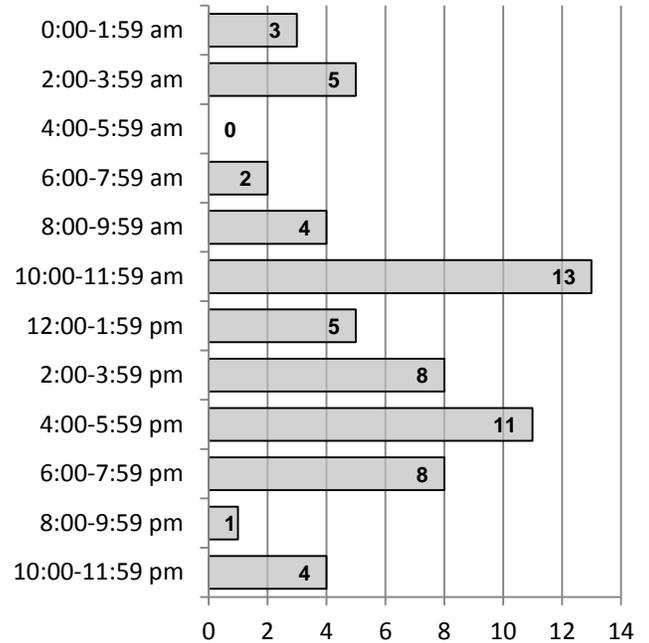
FATAL ACCIDENTS BY MONTH



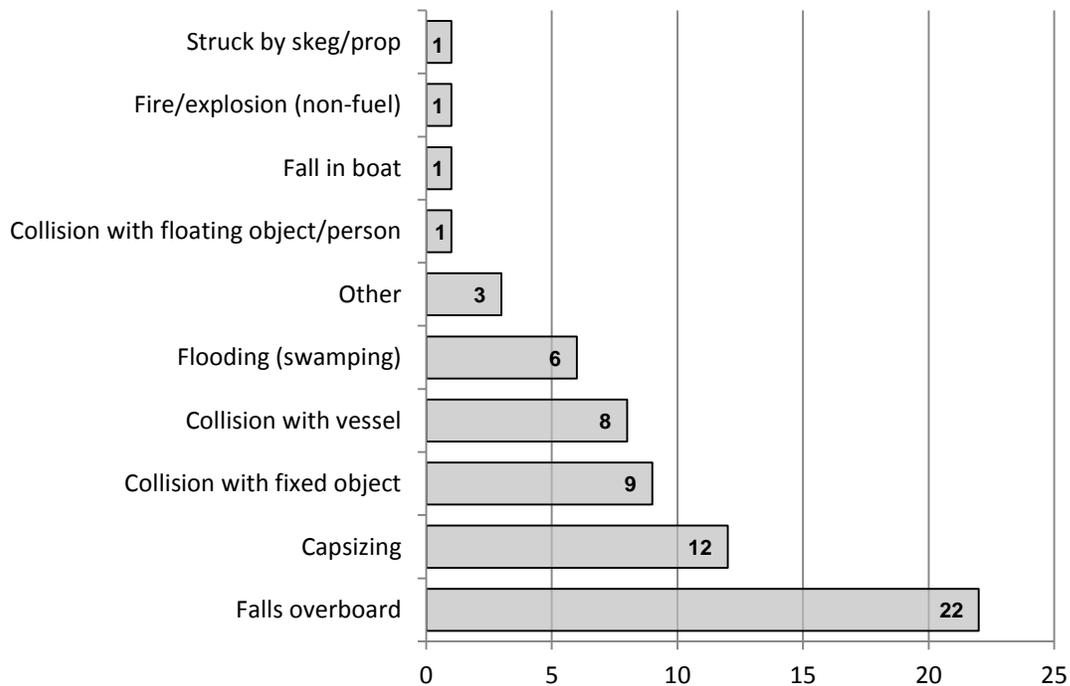
*64 fatal accidents involving 73 fatalities

Fatality data includes four missing persons where their disappearance is associated with a boating accident.

TIME OF DAY



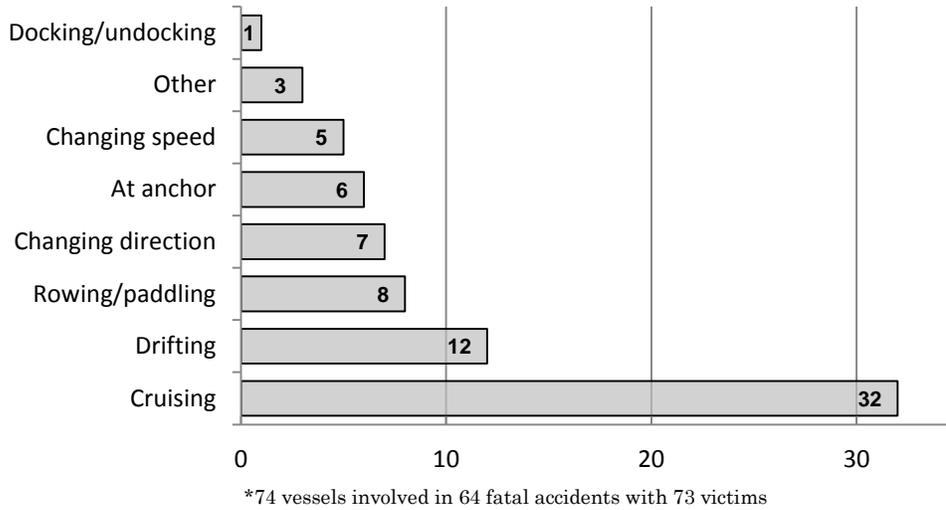
ACCIDENT TYPES



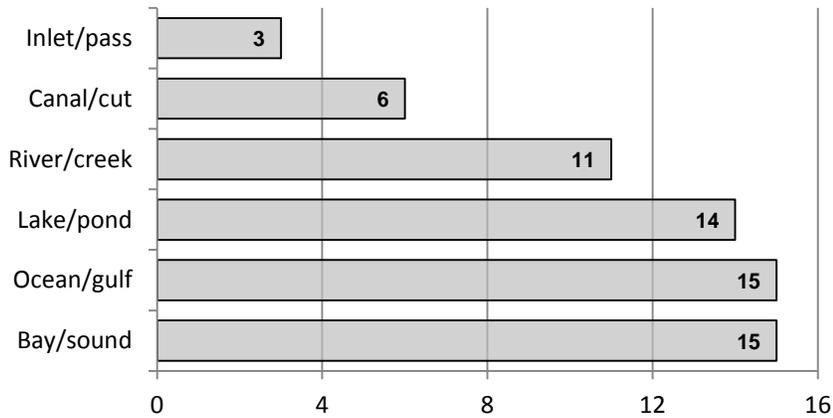
*64 fatal accidents involving 73 fatalities (Based on first harmful event.)

2014 FATALITY DATA

OPERATION AT TIME OF ACCIDENT



ACCIDENT SITE LOCATION

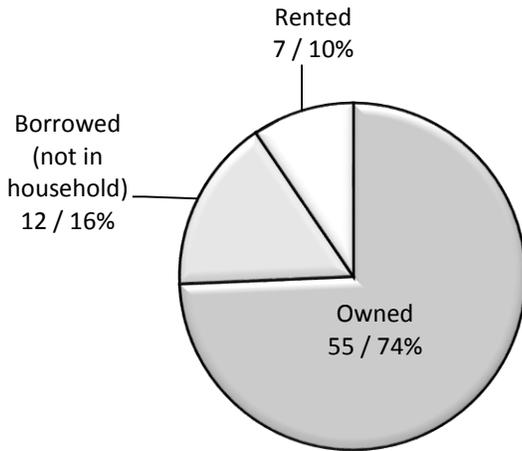


RESTRICTED AREA FATAL ACCIDENTS

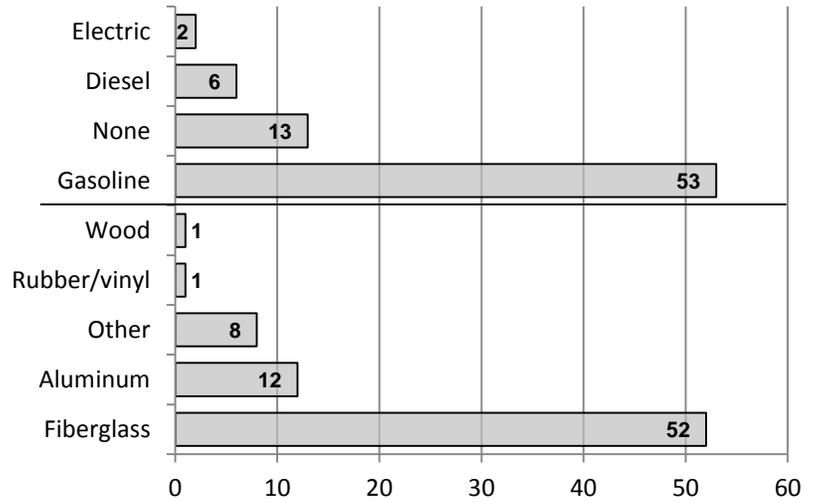


2014 FATALITY DATA

VESSEL OWNERSHIP

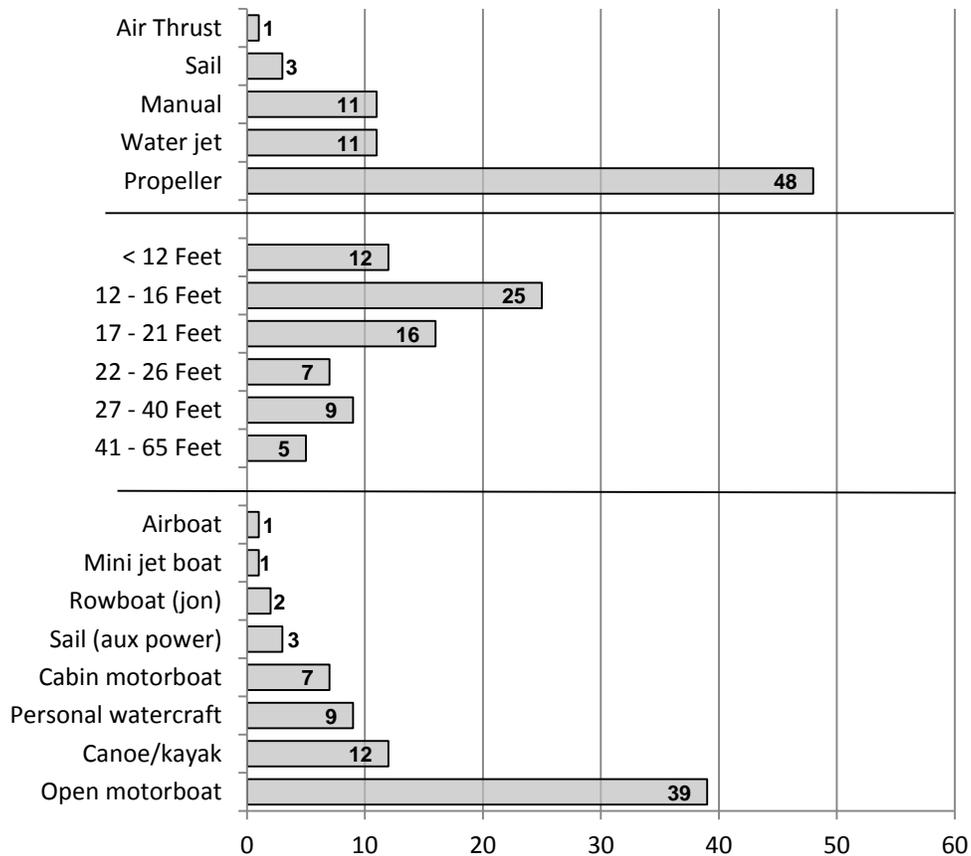


VESSEL FUEL & HULL TYPE



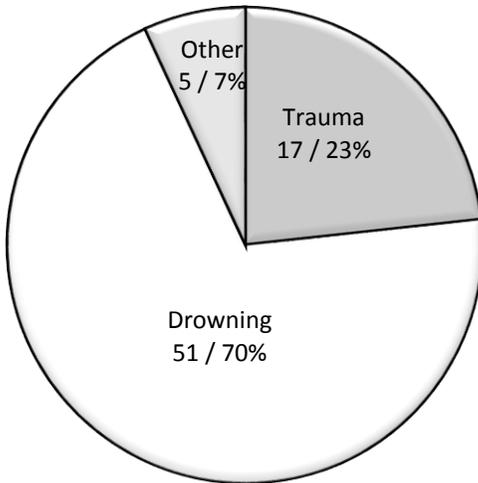
*73 total fatalities involving 74 vessels

VESSEL PROPULSION, LENGTH & TYPE



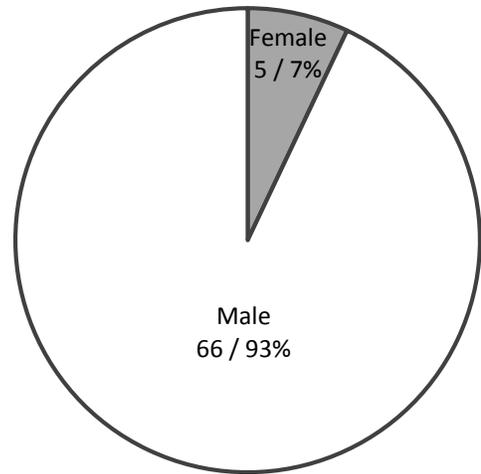
2014 FATALITY DATA

PRIMARY CAUSE OF DEATH



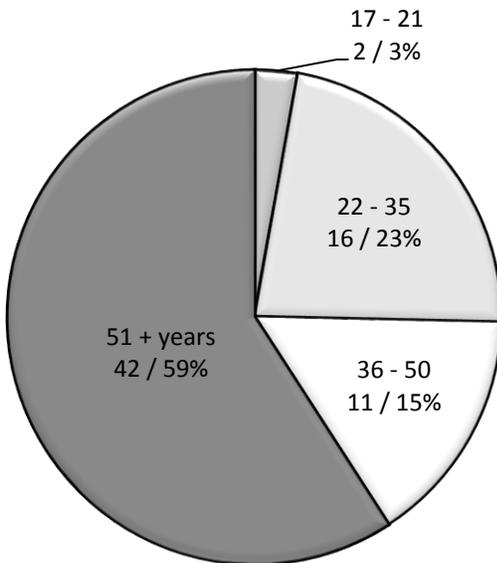
*73 fatalities

OPERATOR GENDER

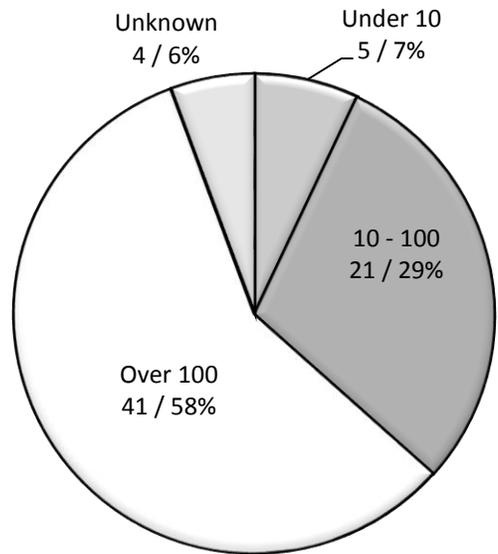


*71 operators

OPERATOR AGE



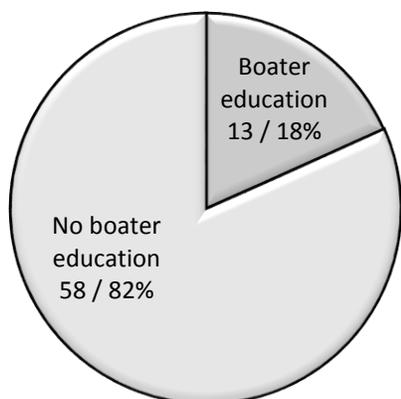
OPERATOR EXPERIENCE (IN HOURS)



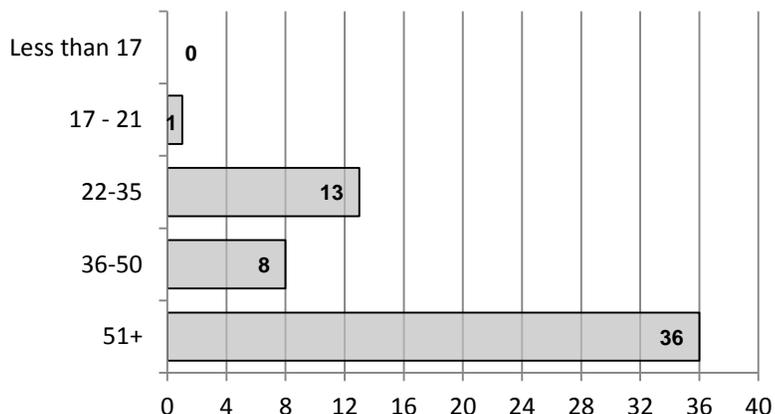
2014 FATALITY DATA

Marion County, 9/21/14: Three adults and two children were in a 16 foot canoe on Halfmoon Lake. Movement in the canoe caused it to take on water, capsize and sink. The adult passengers began to assist the two children to stay afloat. Good Samaritans in a nearby boat heard their calls for help and came over to assist and called 911. They were able to pull everyone onboard except for a 29-year-old male who could not be located. Once onshore, one of the adult occupants, a 51-year-old woman, stopped breathing. She was transported to Munroe Regional Medical Center where she was pronounced deceased. There were no lifejackets or other safety equipment on the canoe at the time of the accident. The 29-year-old's body was recovered the next day.

OPERATOR EDUCATION

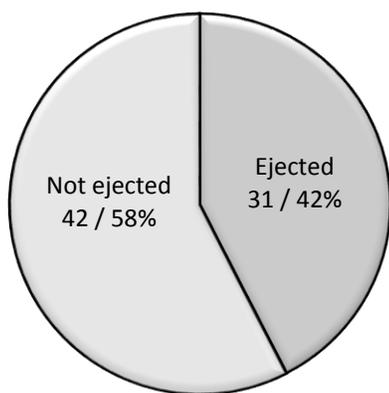


OPERATORS BY AGE WITHOUT FORMAL BOATER EDUCATION

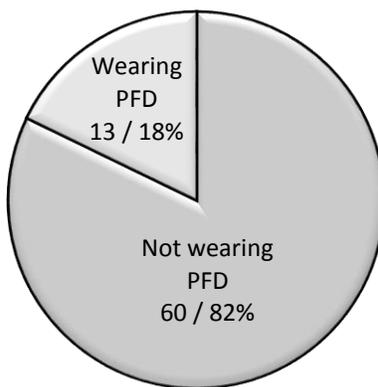


*58 operators did not have any formal boater education

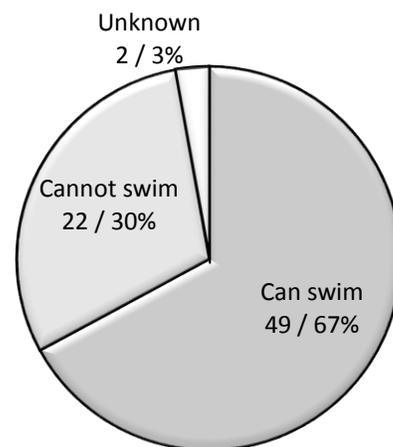
VICTIM STATISTICS (EJECTED)



VICTIM STATISTICS (WEARING PFD)



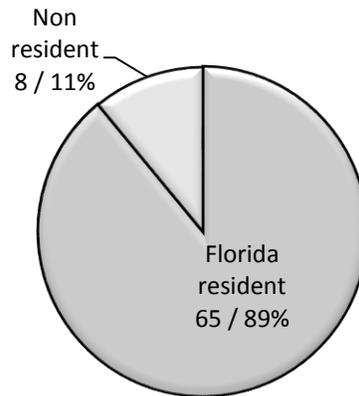
VICTIM STATISTICS (SWIMMING ABILITY)



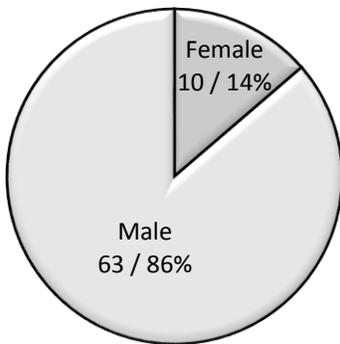
*64 fatal accidents involving 73 victims

2014 FATALITY DATA

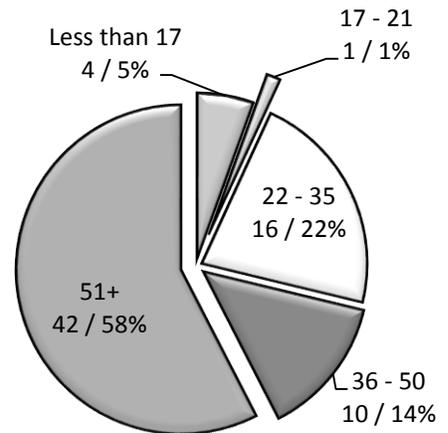
VICTIM RESIDENCY



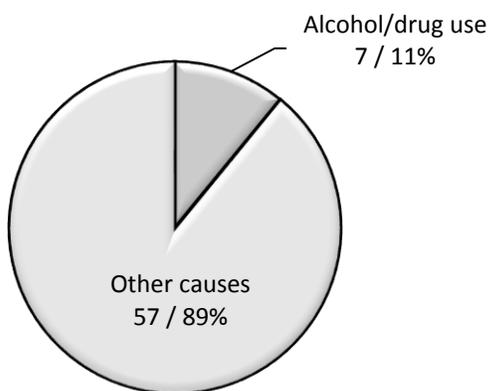
VICTIM GENDER



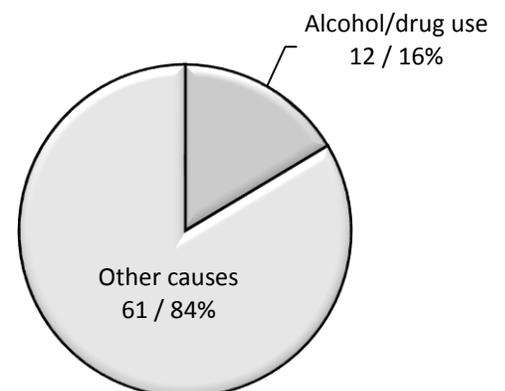
VICTIM AGE



ALCOHOL/DRUG RELATED ACCIDENTS



ALCOHOL/DRUG RELATED VICTIMS

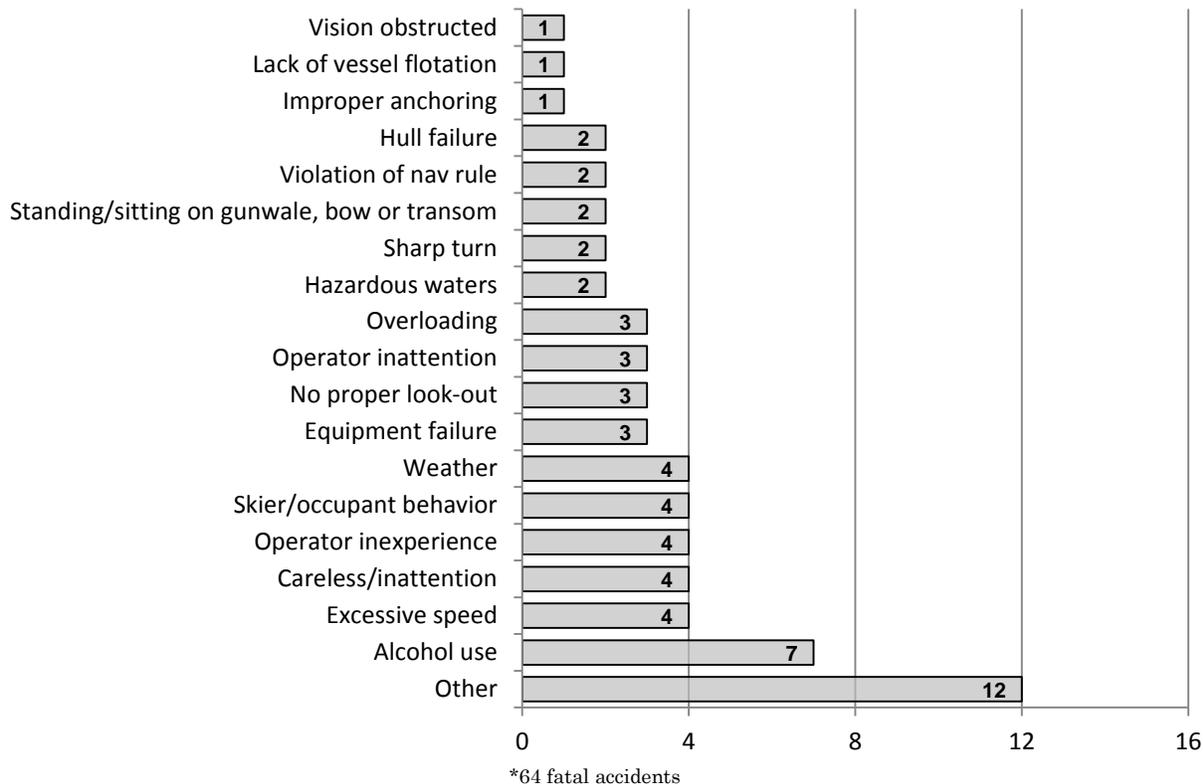


*64 accidents involving 73 fatalities

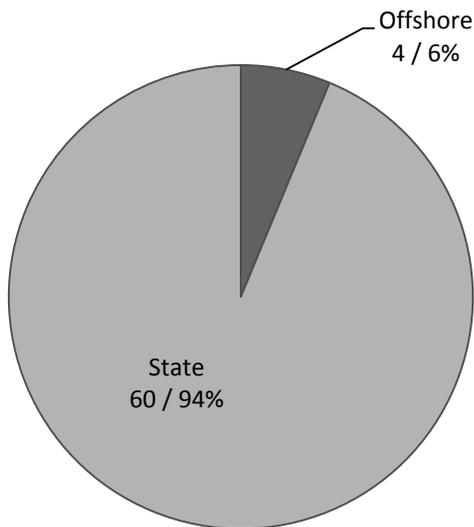
(Alcohol/drug related refers to any accidents in which alcohol or drug use may have been a contributing factor, whether or not legally impaired.)

2014 FATALITY DATA

PRIMARY CAUSE OF ACCIDENT BY REVIEWING AUTHORITY



STATE WATERS VS. OFFSHORE WATERS



*Offshore defined as the edge of the Gulf Stream or three miles from shore, whichever is greater, in the Atlantic and more than nine miles out in the Gulf.