A thorough review of the annual boating accident statistics has revealed that 64% of the reportable boating accidents during the 2014 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 the 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 and Waterways Section.
Florida Top 10 Counties of Boating Accidents during 2014

Legend

- Fatal Accident (27)
- Accident with Injury (146)
- Accident without Injury (228)
Known Locations of Accidents in Miami-Dade County during 2014

**Legend**
- Fatal Accident (7)
- Accident with Injury (21)
- Accident without Injury (51)

Map document created by FWC DLE GIS
1. MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

**Type of Vessel**

![Bar chart showing the distribution of types of vessels involved in accidents.]

**Primary Cause of Accident**

![Bar chart showing the distribution of primary causes of accidents.]

**Primary Type of Accident**

![Bar chart showing the distribution of primary types of accidents.]

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Known Locations of Accidents in Monroe County during 2014

**Legend**
- Fatal Accident (5)
- Accident with Injury (30)
- Accident without Injury (36)
2. MONROE COUNTY

**Type of Vessel**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Vessel</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open motorboat</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal watercraft</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cabin motorboat</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sail (sail down)</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Houseboat</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Primary Cause of Accident**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cause of Accident</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operator inexperience</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cattle/stock</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No proper lookout</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Machinery failure</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operator inattention</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evasive speed</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weather</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol use</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skier or occupant behavior</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collisionbow, bow or stern</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overloading</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ignition of fuel vapor</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment failure</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confined waters</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Primary Type of Accident**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Accident</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Collision with vessel</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Propulsion failure</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Falling overboard</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire/explosion (fuel)</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall in boat</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sinking</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strike by rope/anchor</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swallowing</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stick underwater</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grounding</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capsizing</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Known Locations of Accidents in Pinellas County during 2014

Legend

- **Fatal Accident (4)**
- **Accident with Injury (17)**
- **Accident without Injury (32)**

0 2 4 8 12

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42
3. PINELLAS COUNTY

**TYPE OF VESSEL**

**PRIMARY CAUSE OF ACCIDENT**

**PRIMARY TYPE OF ACCIDENT**
Known Locations of Accidents in Palm Beach County during 2014

**Legend**
- Fatal Accident (4)
- Accident with Injury (17)
- Accident without Injury (24)
4. PALM BEACH COUNTY

**Type of Vessel**

- Open motorboat: 32
- Personal watercraft: 18
- Cabin motorboat: 7
- Other: 6
- Sail (aux power): 2
- Afloat: 2

**Primary Cause of Accident**

- Operating under influence: 10
- Operating in open water: 8
- Weather: 8
- Hull failure: 4
- Violation of right of way: 2
- Alcoholic influence: 2
- Overload: 2
- Improper fashioning: 2
- Equipment failure: 1
- Fatigue: 1

**Primary Type of Accident**

- Collision with vessel: 14
- Grounding: 12
- Struck by boat (person): 6
- Struck by boat (prop): 3
- Struck by underwater object: 3
- Fall in boat: 2
- Fall overboard: 1
Known Locations of Accidents in Lee County during 2014

Legend

- Fatal Accident (3)
- Accident with Injury (15)
- Accident without Injury (19)

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5. Lee County

**Type of Vessel**

- Open motorboat: 24
- Cabin motorboat: 20
- Personal watercraft: 3
- Canoe/kayak: 2
- Sail (sail power): 2
- Other: 2
- Pontoon boat: 1
- Houseboat: 1

**Primary Cause of Accident**

- Excessive speed: 7
- Hauling/towing: 5
- Weather: 3
- Operating in restricted areas: 2
- Operating while intoxicated: 2
- No proper lookout: 2
- Mechanical failure: 2
- Equipment failure: 2
- Overloading: 2
- Fail to give way: 1
- Other: 1

**Primary Type of Accident**

- Collision with vessel: 10
- Collisions with fixed object: 5
- Vessel under water/electric object: 5
- Grounding: 4
- Fall in boat: 3
- Fire/explosion (motor/flame): 2
- Fall off boat: 2
- Fall on PWC: 1
- Fire/explosion (fuel): 1
- Capturing: 1
Known Locations of Accidents in Broward County during 2014

Legend
- Fatal Accident (1)
- Accident with Injury (7)
- Accident without Injury (26)
6. BROWARD COUNTY

**Type of Vessel**

- Open motorboat: 21
- Cabin motorboat: 13
- Sail (gas power): 5
- Personal watercraft: 2
- Airboat: 2
- Not specified: 2

**Primary Cause of Accident**

- Excessive speed: 5
- Careless operation: 5
- Equipment defect: 4
- Other: 3
- Operator error: 3
- Lack of proper signal: 2
- Vessel Too Fast: 2
- Other: 2
- Failure of vessel to yield right of way: 1
- Overturn: 1
- Violation of rules: 1
- Machinery failure: 1
- Struck underwater: 1
- Fall in boat: 1
- Struck object: 1
- Falling into water: 1
- Other: 1

**Primary Type of Accident**

- Collision with fixed object: 8
- Collision with vessel: 8
- Fall in boat: 3
- Fire/explosion (fuel): 3
- Vessel wrecked/blanket: 3
- Flooding (swimming): 2
- Grounding: 2
- Struck underwater: 1
- Fall in boat: 1
- Struck object: 1
Known Locations of Accidents in Collier County during 2014

**Legend**
- Fatal Accident (0)
- Accident with Injury (16)
- Accident without Injury (9)

Map document created by FWC DLE GIS
7. Collier County

Type of Vessel

Primary Cause of Accident

Primary Type of Accident
Known Locations of Accidents in Volusia County during 2014

Legend
- Red dot: Fatal Accident (2)
- Blue dot: Accident with Injury (8)
- Green dot: Accident without Injury (12)

Map document created by FWC DLE GIS
8. Volusia County

Type of Vessel

Primary Cause of Accident

Primary Type of Accident
Known Locations of Accidents in Brevard County during 2014

**Legend**
- Fatal Accident (1)
- Accident with Injury (7)
- Accident without Injury (11)

Map document created by FWC DLE GIS
9. BREVARD COUNTY

**Type of Vessel**

- Open motorboat: 12
- Cabin motorboat: 7
- Aftboat: 3
- Personal watercraft: 1
- Sail (outboard): 1
- Other: 1

**Primary Cause of Accident**

- No proper lookout: 5
- Operating in excess of safe speed: 3
- Weather: 2
- Hull failure: 2
- Other: 1
- Operator inattention: 1
- Machinery failure: 1
- Careless/heedless: 1

**Primary Type of Accident**

- Flooding/breathing: 5
- Collision with vessel: 5
- Collision with fixed object: 4
- Fire/explosion: 2
- Fall on PWC: 1
- Grounding: 1
- Vessel wake damage: 1
Known Locations of Accidents in Okaloosa County during 2014

**Legend**
- Fatal Accident (0)
- Accident with Injury (9)
- Accident without Injury (9)
10. OKALOOSA COUNTY

**Type of Vessel**

![Bar chart showing the types of vessels involved in accidents, with Open motorboat having the highest count of 10, followed by Personal watercraft with 8, and others with lower counts.]

**Primary Cause of Accident**

![Bar chart showing the primary causes of accidents, with Violation of rule having the highest count of 3, followed by Collisions, and others with lower counts.]

**Primary Type of Accident**

![Bar chart showing the types of accidents, with Collisions with vessel having the highest count of 7, followed by Collisions with fixed object, and others with lower counts.]
