



Reportable Boating Accidents



Reportable Boating Accidents photo detail

Cover Photo: (Courtesy of FWC)

A 39 foot Sea Vee with seven occupants on board, was traveling east in Tampa Bay in heavy a fog. The vessel was estimated to be traveling at approximately 40 mph. Due to poor visibility from the dense fog the operator, a 35-year-old male, missed the turn into the channel heading into the Little Manatee River. The vessel traveled onto the beach at the Little Harbor Resort in Ruskin and into the Sunset Grill Restaurant. The vessel was partially inside the Sunset Grill Restaurant after striking the outside wall of the building. One occupant was still trapped in the bow of the vessel underneath the roof of the restaurant. He was removed from the vessel by Hillsborough County Fire Rescue and immediately transported to South Bay hospital in Sun City Center. Another occupant drove himself to South Bay Hospital due to an injury to the right hand. The remaining four occupants and the operator were uninjured.

2015 REPORTABLE BOATING ACCIDENTS

2015 VESSEL REGISTRATION AND ACCIDENTS BY COUNTY								
County	Recreational Vessels	Total Vessels	Reportable Accidents	Fatalities	Injuries	Property Damage	Rank	Accident Rate*
Alachua	10,076	10,350	2	1	0	\$10,500	44	1:5,175
Baker	2,391	2,401	0	0	0	\$0	56	0
Bay	17,282	18,151	20	1	11	\$250,105	8	1:908
Bradford	2,232	2,244	0	0	0	\$0	0	0
Brevard	32,448	33,731	16	0	9	\$178,850	13	1:2,108
Broward	41,201	42,671	57	5	42	\$3,651,600	3	1:749
Calhoun	1,501	1,532	1	0	3	\$0	54	1:1,532
Charlotte	20,985	21,662	14	3	11	\$44,930	17	1:1,547
Citrus	15,275	15,879	15	0	10	\$44,000	16	1:1,059
Clay	12,090	12,298	8	2	2	\$10,945	23	1:1,537
Collier	21,530	22,536	29	0	11	\$168,320	7	1:777
Columbia	4,237	4,289	0	0	0	\$0	56	0
Desoto	2,193	2,277	1	0	2	\$1,000	55	1:2,277
Dixie	2,191	2,472	2	1	4	\$15,200	42	1:1,236
Duval	26,278	27,007	19	2	3	\$175,570	10	1:1,421
Escambia	15,019	15,442	7	0	11	\$59,500	24	1:2,206
Flagler	5,131	5,223	5	0	1	\$44,600	32	1:1,045
Franklin	2,232	3,319	4	1	1	\$150,200	33	1:830
Gadsden	2,282	2,313	2	1	1	\$6,000	43	1:1,157
Gilchrist	1,642	1,670	3	0	4	\$9,500	41	1:557
Glades	1,207	1,244	7	1	6	\$141,220	25	1:178
Gulf	2,705	3,010	4	0	3	\$46,600	34	1:753
Hamilton	907	921	0	0	0	\$0	56	0
Hardee	1,569	1,591	0	0	0	\$0	56	0
Hendry	2,806	2,943	3	1	2	\$23,000	39	1:981
Hernando	9,154	9,368	5	1	1	\$13,548	31	1:1,874
Highlands	8,543	8,635	3	0	1	\$13,500	40	1:2,878
Hillsborough	39,701	40,563	16	0	13	\$487,000	14	1:2,535
Holmes	2,049	2,071	0	0	0	\$0	56	0
Indian River	10,117	10,587	9	1	2	\$30,900	22	1:1,176
Jackson	4,632	4,662	1	0	0	\$2,000	52	1:4,662
Jefferson	1,230	1,246	0	0	0	\$0	56	0
Lafayette	934	943	1	0	0	\$3,000	53	1:943
Lake	20,397	20,668	4	0	3	\$17,800	35	1:5,167
Lee	44,743	46,177	48	1	20	\$248,800	4	1:962
Leon	13,070	13,263	2	2	0	\$7,500	45	1:6,632
Levy	3,864	4,210	6	0	6	\$24,600	30	1:702

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Liberty	1,099	1,121	0	0	0	\$0	56	0
Madison	1,157	1,162	0	0	0	\$0	56	0
Manatee	17,074	17,940	15	1	4	\$168,100	15	1:1,196
Marion	18,190	18,471	3	2	1	\$5,300	37	1:6,157
Martin	16,079	16,836	20	1	5	\$350,100	9	1:842
Miami-Dade	62,645	65,322	96	3	74	\$3,012,964	1	1:680
Monroe	25,373	28,247	78	5	48	\$646,824	2	1:362
Nassau	5,870	6,042	3	0	0	\$117,200	38	1:2,014
Okaloosa	17,472	18,151	18	2	4	\$94,020	12	1:1,008
Okeechobee	4,706	4,870	7	0	2	\$70,800	27	1:696
Orange	26,281	26,748	2	0	1	\$25,000	47	1:13,374
Osceola	7,968	8,116	7	1	5	\$7,400	28	1:1,159
Palm Beach	37,028	38,276	41	3	15	\$219,600	6	1:934
Pasco	23,108	23,635	12	3	8	\$74,700	18	1:1,970
Pinellas	46,767	48,510	46	2	28	\$219,600	5	1:1,078
Polk	27,542	28,032	2	1	0	\$5,000	48	1:14,016
Putnam	7,374	7,688	11	2	5	\$91,500	19	1:699
Santa Rosa	13,961	14,242	9	2	2	\$47,250	21	1:1,582
Sarasota	21,161	21,783	19	0	12	\$484,510	11	1:1,146
Seminole	17,520	17,830	6	0	8	\$35,700	29	1:2,972
St. Johns	13,384	13,846	4	0	0	\$167,000	36	1:3,462
St. Lucie	12,340	12,948	7	2	4	\$56,800	26	1:1,850
Sumter	4,288	4,345	2	0	13	\$6,000	46	1:2,173
Suwannee	2,663	2,688	1	0	2	\$0	51	1:2,688
Taylor	3,545	3,714	2	0	2	\$3,500	50	1:1,857
Union	1,010	1,017	0	0	0	\$0	56	0
Volusia	26,016	26,951	10	1	10	\$83,600	20	1:2,695
Wakulla	4,722	5,038	0	0	0	\$0	56	0
Walton	5,437	5,590	1	0	2	\$0	49	1:5,590
Washington	2,369	2,394	0	0	0	\$0	56	0
DHSMV	3,248	4,590						
TOTAL	883,332	915,713	737	55	438	\$13,466,456		1:1,242

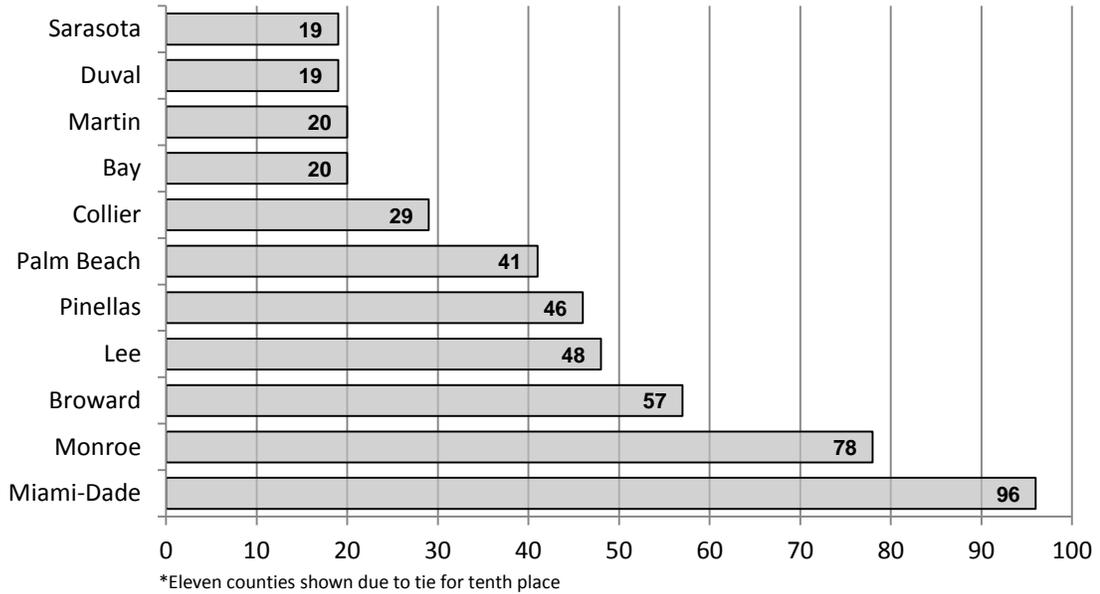
*Accident Rate = $\frac{\# \text{ of Registered Vessels}}{\# \text{ of Accidents}}$

Those counties in bold print represent the top eleven counties.

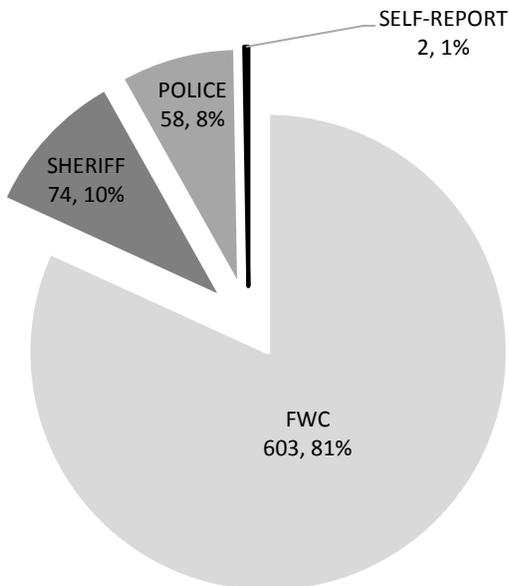
DHSMV numbers represent registrations issued at main office instead of at the county level.

2015 REPORTABLE BOATING ACCIDENTS

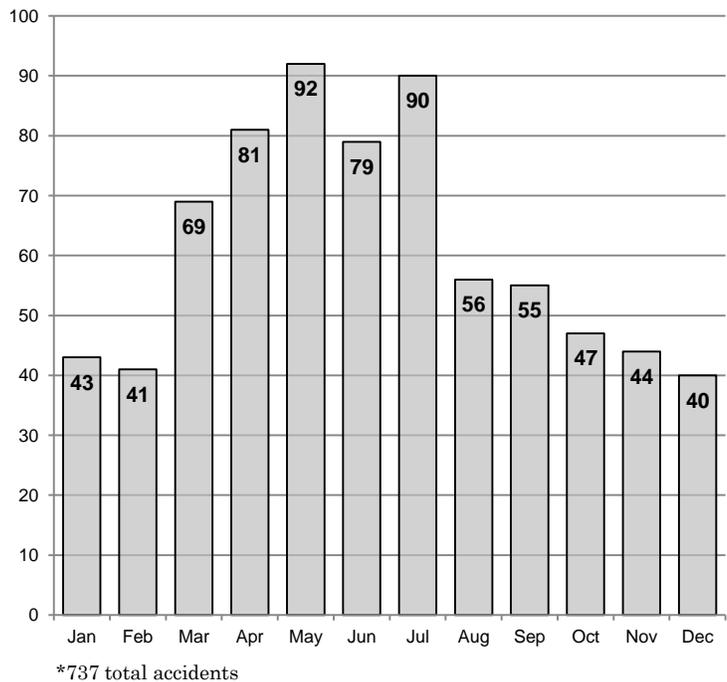
TOP ELEVEN COUNTIES



INVESTIGATING AGENCY

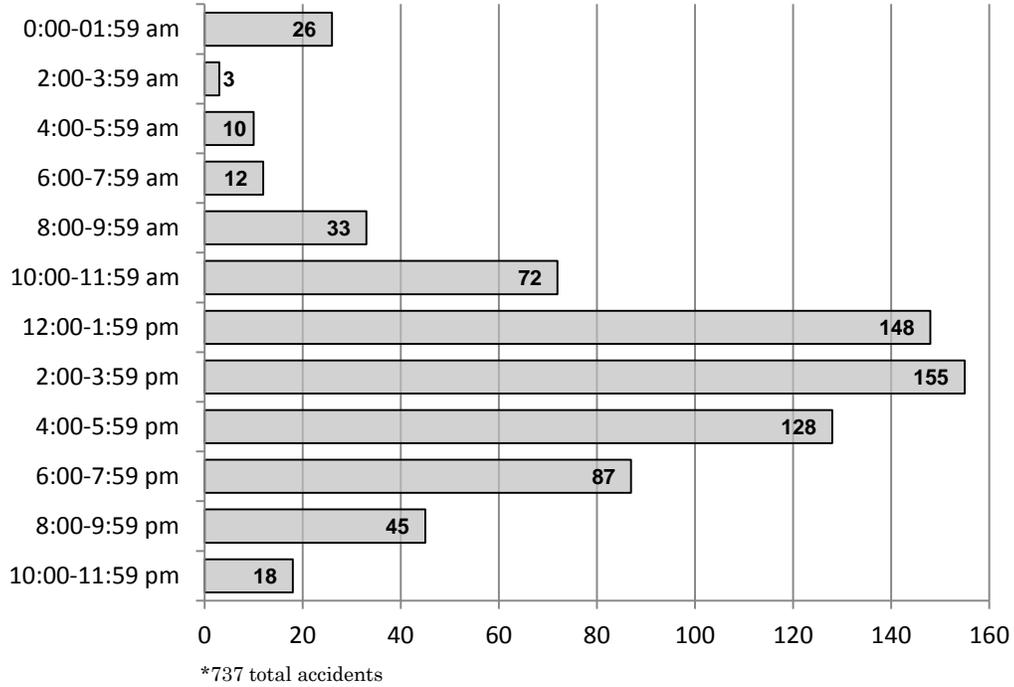


ACCIDENTS BY MONTH

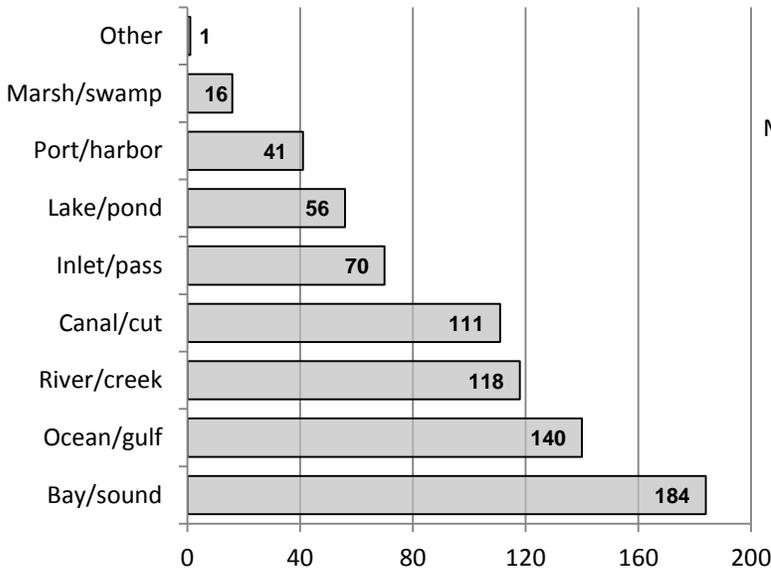


2015 REPORTABLE BOATING ACCIDENTS

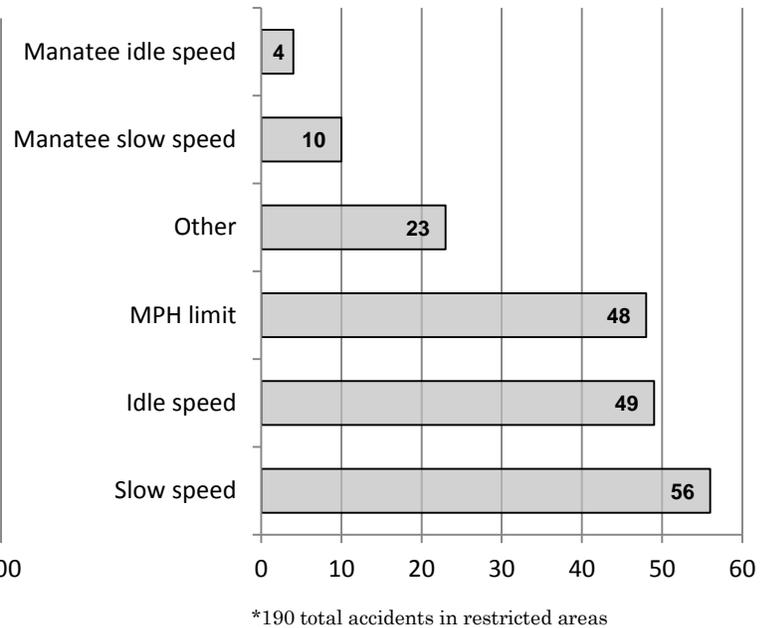
TIME OF DAY



ACCIDENT SITE LOCATION

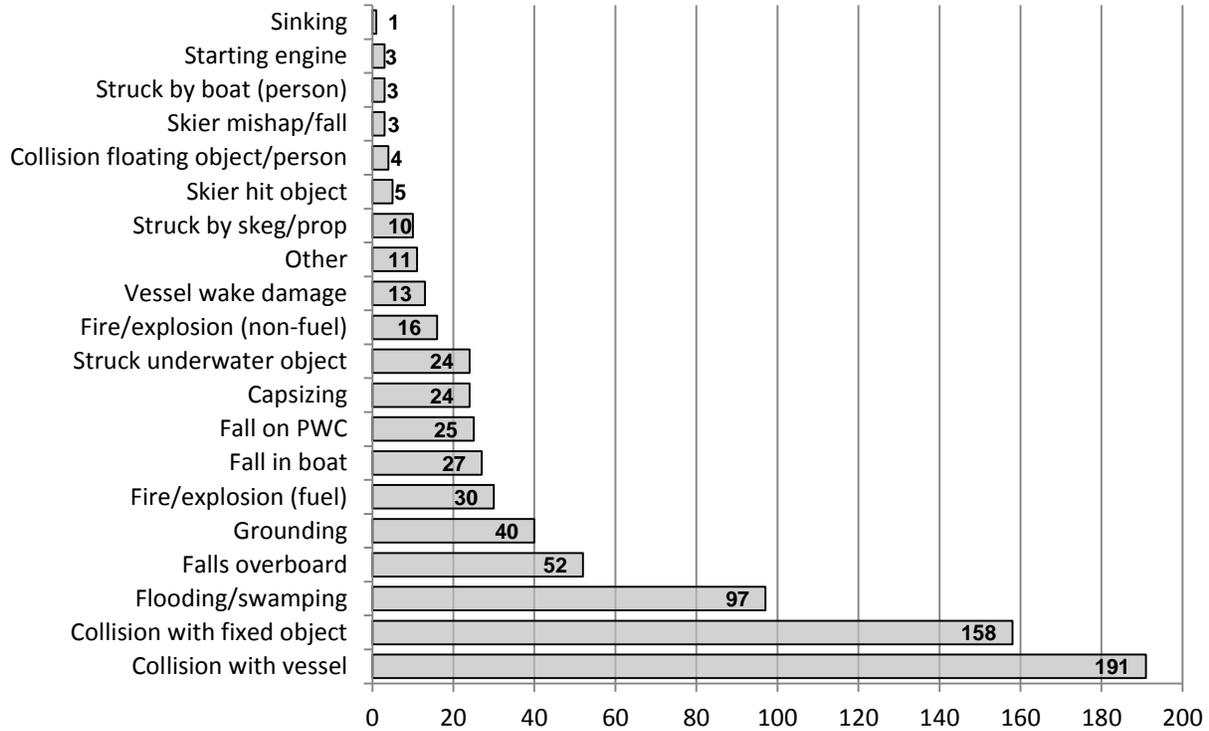


RESTRICTED AREA ACCIDENTS



2015 REPORTABLE BOATING ACCIDENTS

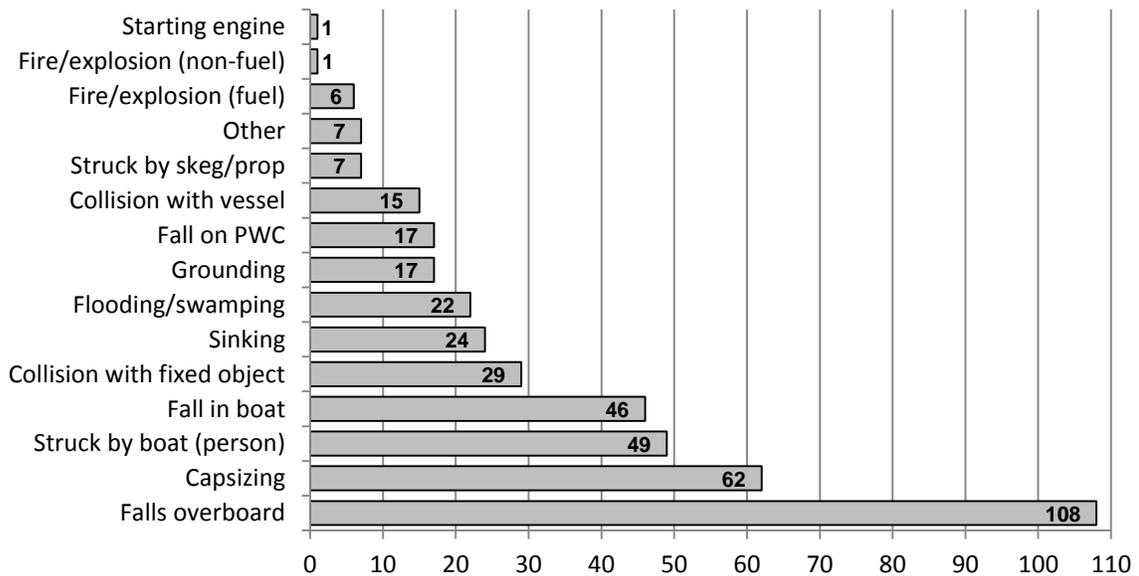
PRIMARY TYPE OF ACCIDENT



*737 accidents involving 1,019 vessels

(Based on first harmful event as determined by the state reviewing authority.)

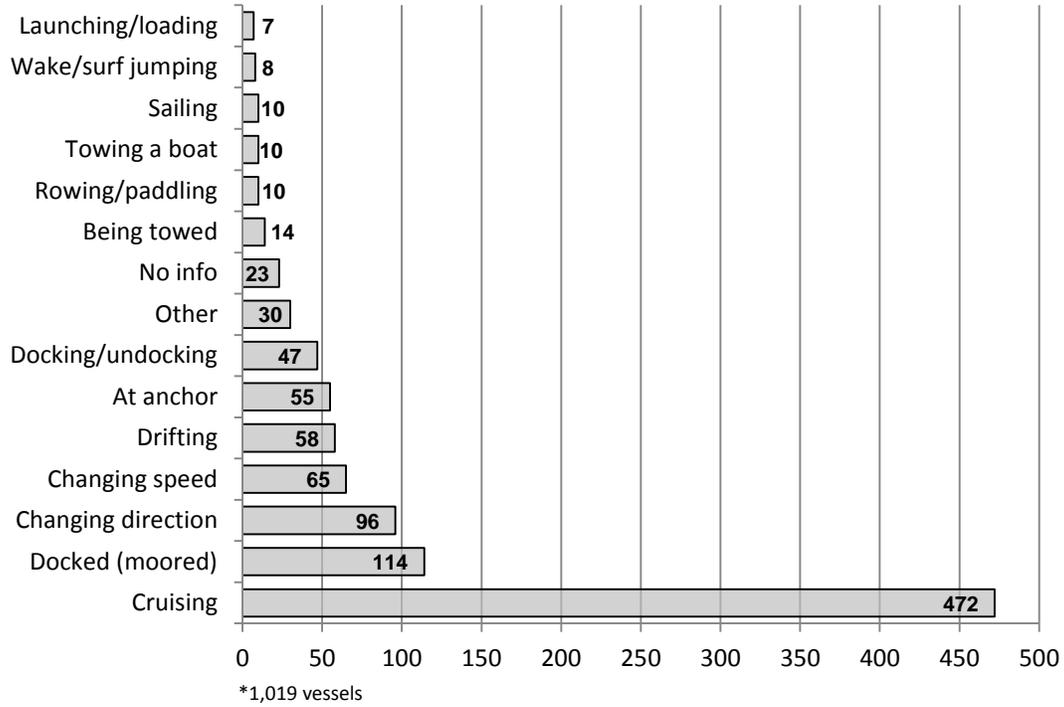
SECONDARY TYPE OF ACCIDENT



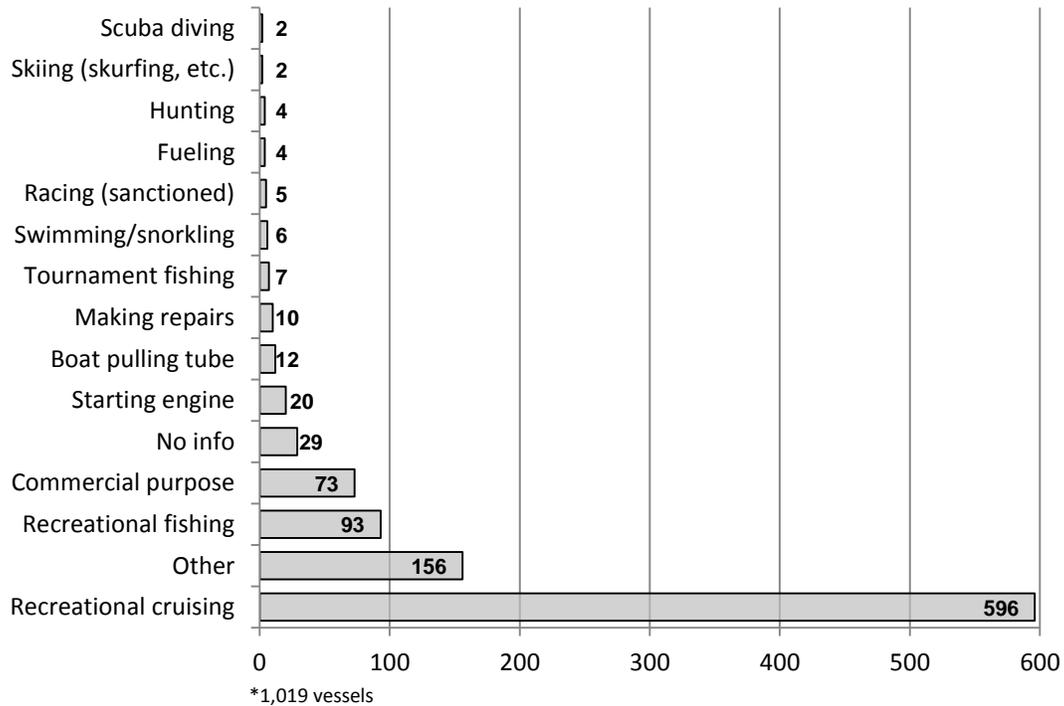
*326 of the 737 accidents did not have a secondary type of accident

2015 REPORTABLE BOATING ACCIDENTS

OPERATION AT TIME OF ACCIDENT

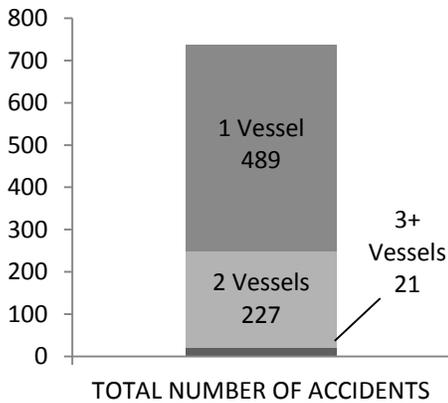


ACTIVITY AT TIME OF ACCIDENT

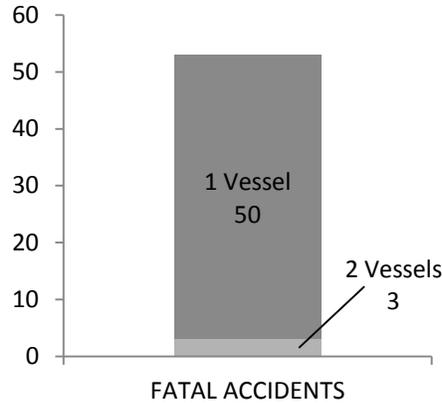


2015 REPORTABLE BOATING ACCIDENTS

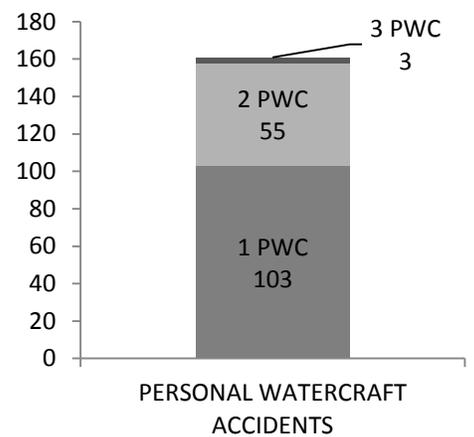
VESSEL COUNT IN REPORTABLE ACCIDENTS



*737 total accidents involving 1,019 vessels

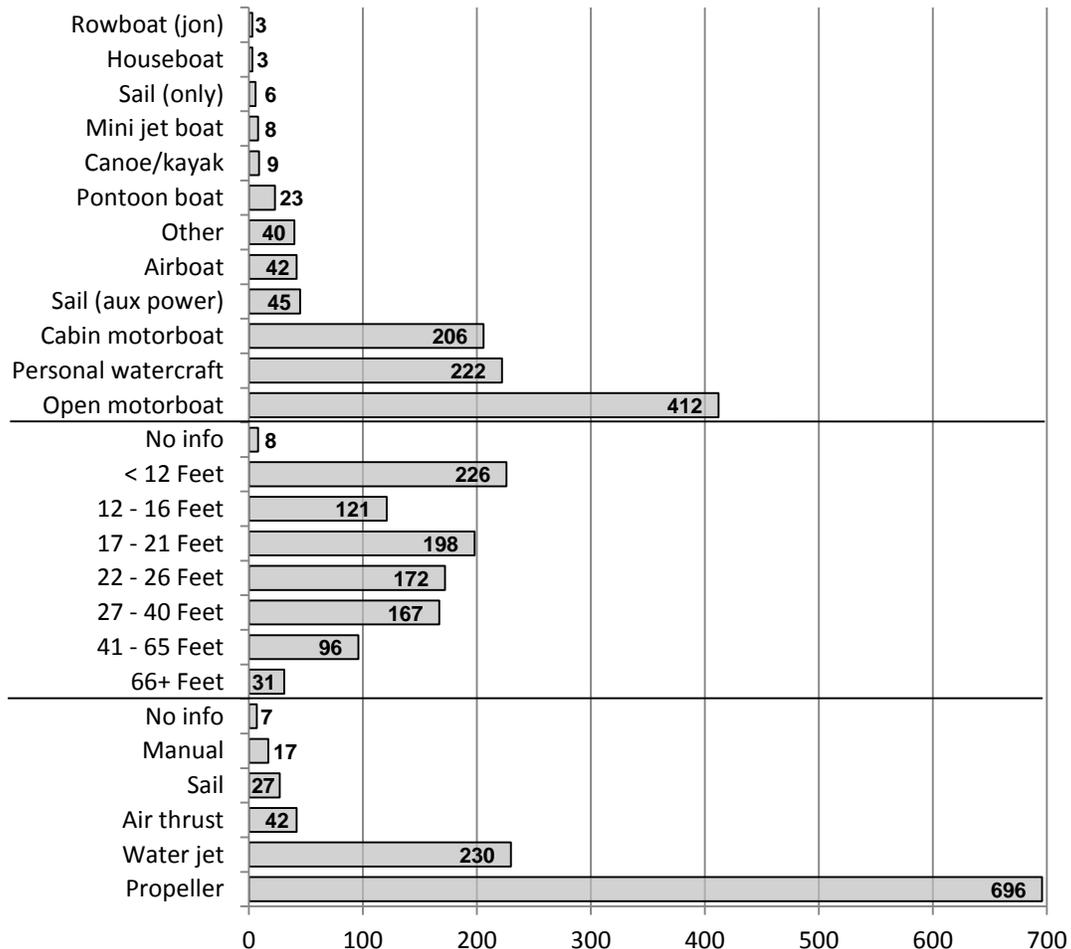


*52 fatal accidents involving 56 vessels



* 161 personal watercraft accidents involving 222 PWC

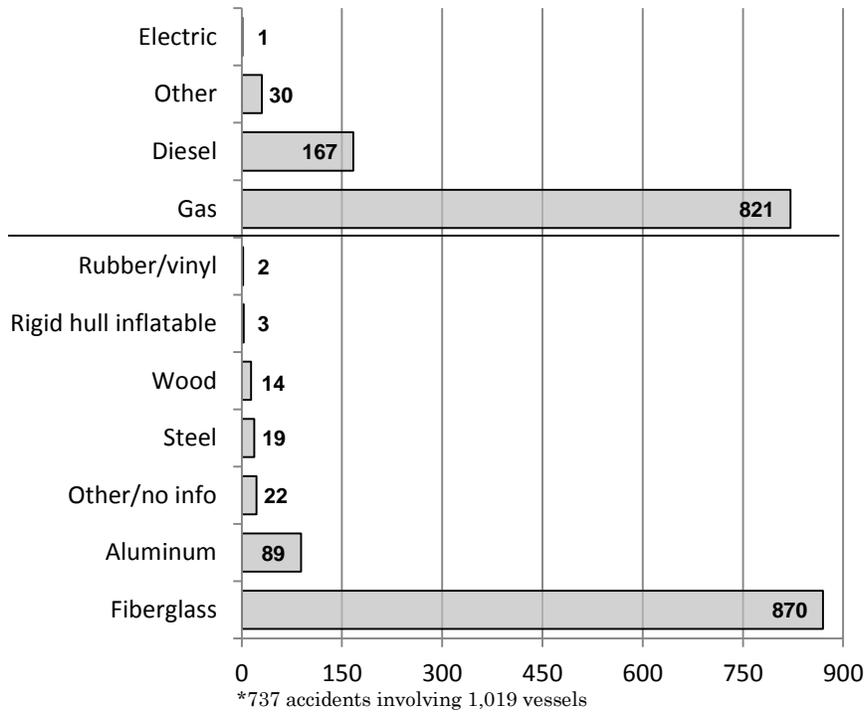
VESSEL TYPE, LENGTH & PROPULSION



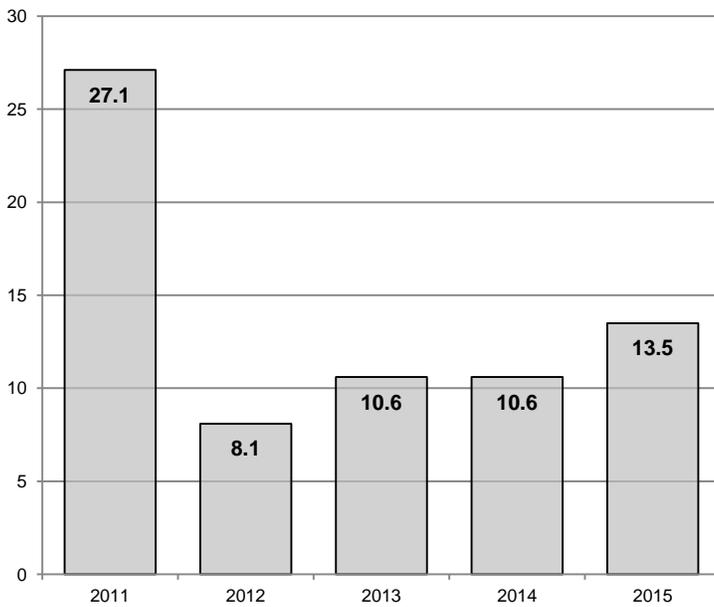
*737 accidents involving 1,019 vessels

2015 REPORTABLE BOATING ACCIDENTS

VESSEL FUEL & HULL TYPE

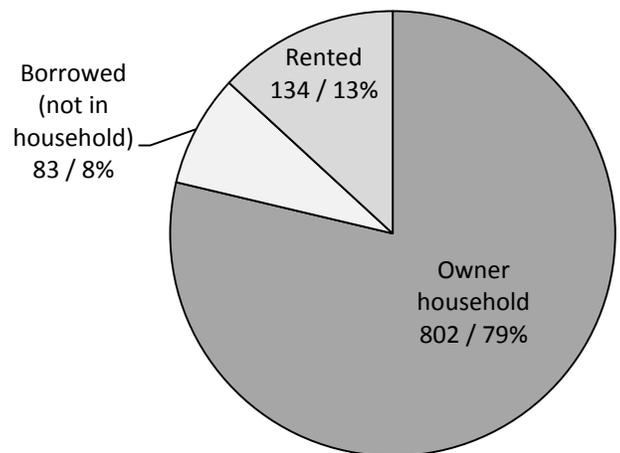


VESSEL & PROPERTY DAMAGE FIGURES (IN MILLIONS)



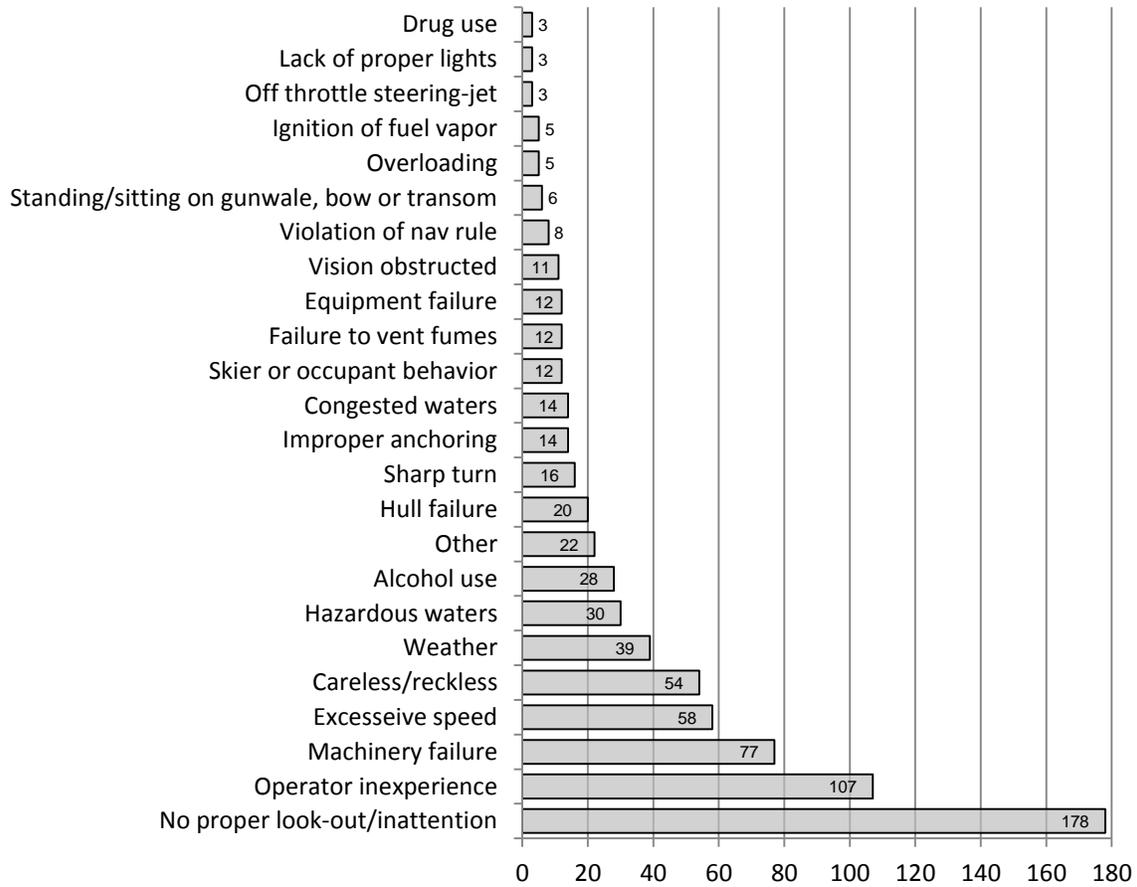
*For 2011, four reportable accidents resulted in \$19,400,000 in damages which caused a significant increase in the total amount of damages.

VESSEL OWNERSHIP

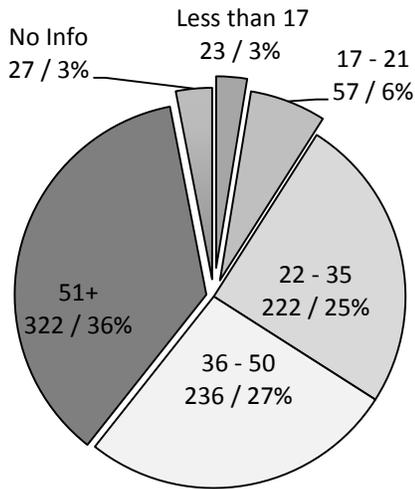


2015 REPORTABLE BOATING ACCIDENTS

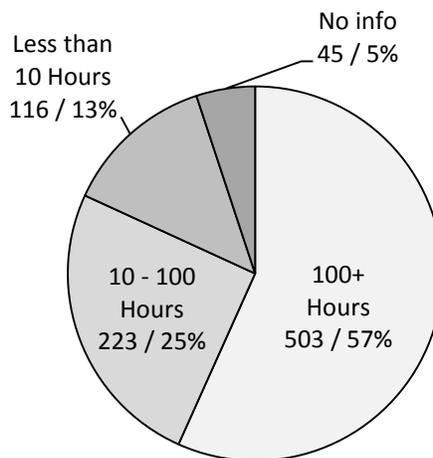
PRIMARY CAUSE ASSESSED BY REVIEWING AUTHORITY



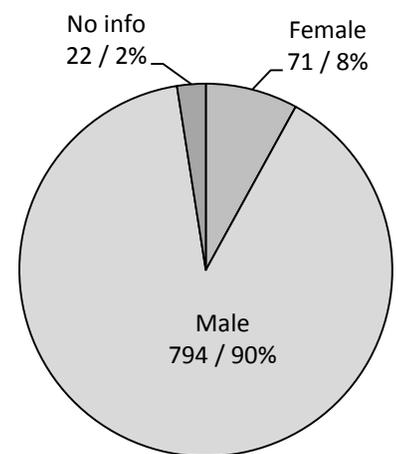
OPERATOR AGE



OPERATOR EXPERIENCE (HOURS)



OPERATOR GENDER

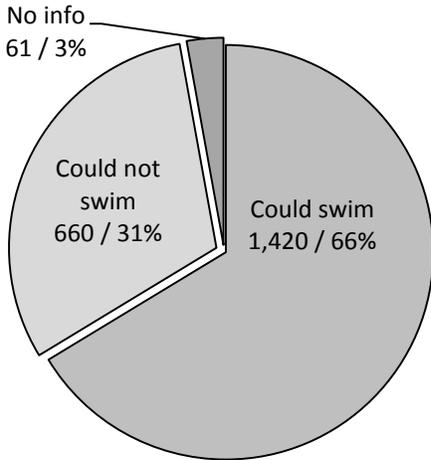


*737 accidents involving 887 operators.

Vessels may have been docked, anchored, or involved in a hit and run accident which would result in no operator information. Also some information may not be provided by operators.

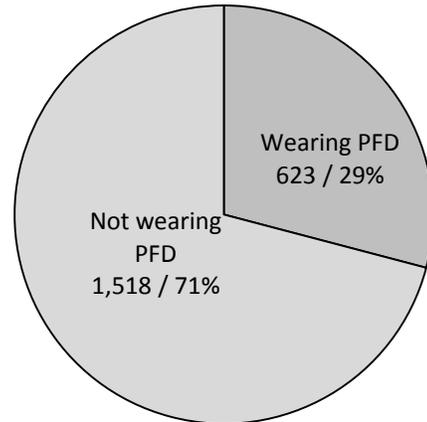
2015 REPORTABLE BOATING ACCIDENTS

OPERATOR/OCCUPANT SWIMMING ABILITY

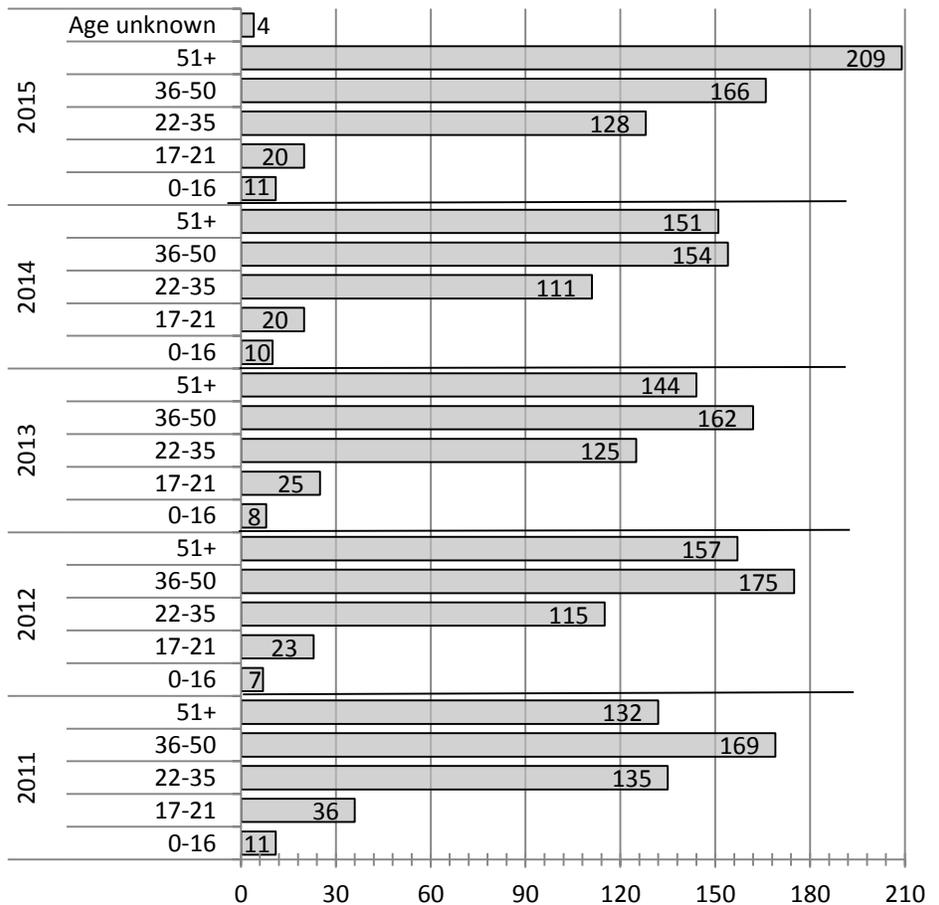


*2,141 total occupants and operators

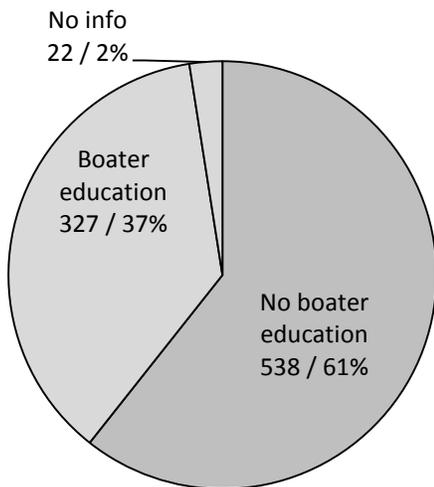
OPERATOR/OCCUPANT PFD USE



OPERATOR BY AGE WITH NO BOATER EDUCATION



BOAT OPERATOR EDUCATION

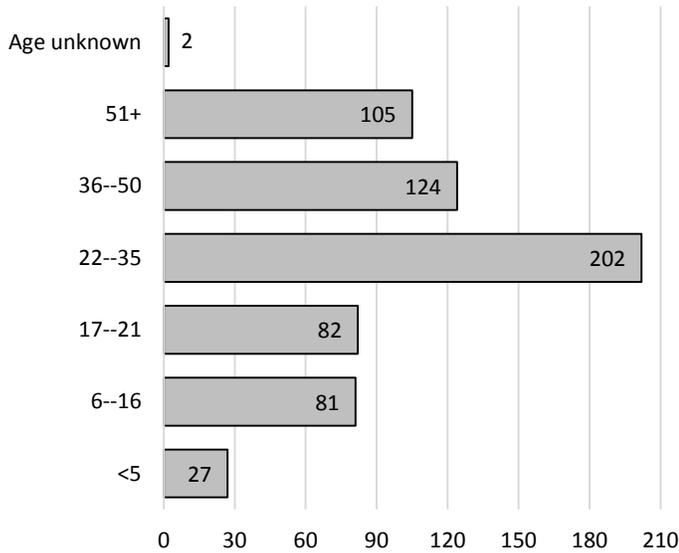


*887 operators

*Four operators did not provide date of birth (DOB)

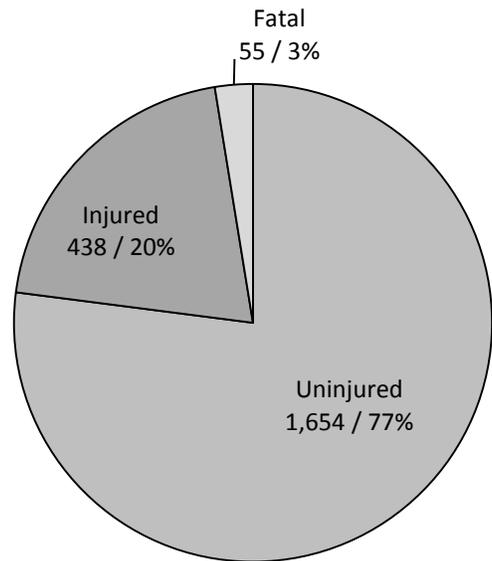
2015 REPORTABLE BOATING ACCIDENTS

PFD WEAR BY AGE



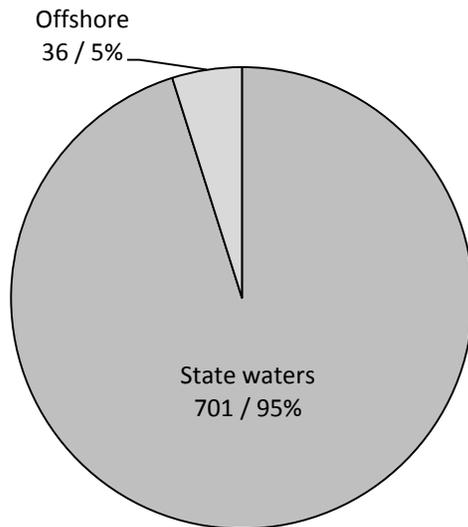
* 623 of 2,141 operators/occupants were wearing a PFD at time of the accident.

VICTIM STATISTICS



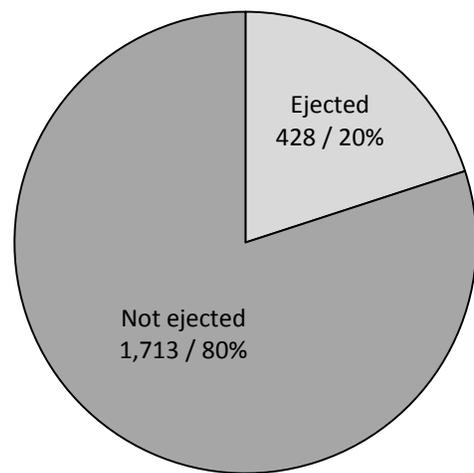
* 2,147 persons involved in vessel accidents. 2,141 operators/occupant and 6 swimmers.

STATE WATERS VS. OFFSHORE WATERS (ACCIDENTS)



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

VICTIM STATISTICS (EJECTED)



*2,141 total operators and occupants

