A thorough review of the annual boating accident statistics has revealed that 64% of the reportable boating accidents during the 2016 calendar year occurred in 11 Florida counties.

The information on the following pages represents a breakdown of the accident data from each of these top 11 counties. The graphs show the type of vessels involved, the length, the primary cause of each accident and the primary type of accident 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 11 Counties of Boating Accidents during 2016

Legend

- Fatal Accident (23)
- Accident with Injury (179)
- Accident without Injury (267)
Known Locations of Accidents in Monroe County during 2016

Legend
- Fatal Accident (3)
- Accident with Injury (38)
- Accident without Injury (64)
1. Monroe County

### Type of Vessel

- **Open motorboat**: 62
- **Cabin motorboat**: 26
- **Personal watercraft**: 46
- **Sail (aux power)**: 6
- **Sail (only)**: 1
- **Other**: 1

### Vessel Length (in feet)

- **Less than 12**: 47
- **12 - 16**: 10
- **17 - 21**: 18
- **22 - 26**: 18
- **27 - 40**: 30
- **41 - 65**: 15
- **66+**: 3
- **Unknown**: 1

### Primary Cause of Accident

- **Operator inexperience**: 28
- **Excessive speed**: 24
- **Weather**: 12
- **Crew/stowage**: 8
- **Machinery failure**: 7
- **Hull failure**: 6
- **Equipment failure**: 3
- **Improperanchoring**: 3
- **Hazardous waters**: 3
- **Sharp turn**: 2
- **Violation of speed limit**: 2
- **Failure to yield**: 2
- **Other**: 1

### Primary Type of Accident

- **Collision with fixed object**: 27
- **Loading/unloading**: 26
- **Collisions with vessels**: 12
- **Drowning**: 9
- **Sinking (including fast sinking)**: 9
- **Sinking (including slow)**: 4
- **Unknown**: 4
- **Other**: 3
- **Fire/Explosion**: 3
- **Fire on boat**: 2
- **Collision with another boat**: 2
- **Collision with fixed object**: 2
- **Vessel took fire**: 1
- **Vessel sank**: 1
- **Vessel sank lost in storm**: 1
- **Vessel hit object**: 1
- **Vessel hit object**: 1
- **Sterling gun**: 1
- **Sterling gun**: 1
Known Locations of Accidents in Miami-Dade County during 2016

Legend
- Fatal Accident (5)
- Accident with Injury (28)
- Accident without Injury (34)
Known Locations of Accidents in Palm Beach County during 2016

**Legend**

- Fatal Accident (2)
- Accident with Injury (13)
- Accident without Injury (47)

Map document created by FWC DLE GIS
3. PALM BEACH COUNTY

**TYPE OF VESSEL**

- Open motorboat: 40
- Cabin motorboat: 35
- Personal watercraft: 10
- Sail (aux power): 6
- Other: 5
- Houseboat: 3
- Airboat: 2

**VESSEL LENGTH (IN FEET)**

- Less than 12: 11
- 12 - 16: 6
- 17 - 21: 12
- 22 - 26: 11
- 27 - 40: 24
- 41 - 65: 24
- 66+: 13

**PRIMARY CAUSE OF ACCIDENT**

- Other: 1
- Careless/necassess: 1
- Equipment failure: 1
- Violation of traffic rules: 2
- Compass water: 3
- Haz. material: 5
- Weather: 4
- Outboard: 9
- No power loss: 25

**PRIMARY TYPE OF ACCIDENT**

- Fall: 1
- Capsizing: 2
- Grounding: 3
- Flood: 6
- Vessel same name: 8
- Collision with vessel: 24
- Collision with fixed object: 15
Known Locations of Accidents in Pinellas County during 2016

**Legend**
- Fatal Accident (2)
- Accident with Injury (24)
- Accident without Injury (18)
4. PINELLAS COUNTY

**TYPE OF VESSEL**

- Houseboat: 1
- Sail (aux power): 1
- Cabin motorboat: 7
- Personal watercraft: 26
- Open motorboat: 26

**VESSEL LENGTH (IN FEET)**

- Less than 12: 27
- 12 - 16: 4
- 17 - 21: 12
- 22 - 26: 8
- 27 - 40: 8
- 41 - 65: 1
- 66+: 1

**PRIMARY CAUSE OF ACCIDENT**

- Equipment failure: 17
- No proper look-out/attention: 6
- Operator inexperience: 5
- Sharp turn: 2
- Careless/reckless: 2
- Excessive speed: 2
- Alcohol use: 2
- Weather: 2
- Off course steering: 2
- Equipment failure: 1

**PRIMARY TYPE OF ACCIDENT**

- Collisions with vessel: 13
- Falling (from vessel/raft): 11
- Collisions with fixed objects: 5
- Collisions with floating objects: 3
- Collisions with bridge/obstruction: 2
- Collisions with jet skis: 2
- Collisions with wall/crash barrier: 1
- Collisions with tree/Grounding: 1
- Collisions with facility/Other: 1
Known Locations of Accidents in Lee County during 2016

Legend
- Fatal Accident (3)
- Accident with Injury (17)
- Accident without Injury (19)
5. Lee County

Type of Vessel

- Sail (only): 1
- Other: 3
- Sail (aux power): 5
- Personal watercraft: 9
- Open motorboat: 21
- Cabin motorboat: 22

Vessel Length (in feet)

- 66+: 1
- 41 - 65: 17
- 27 - 40: 9
- 22 - 26: 10
- 17 - 21: 7
- 12 - 16: 4
- Less than 12: 13

Primary Cause of Accident

- No proper look-out/situational awareness: 11
- Machinery failure: 6
- Excessive speed: 5
- Equipment failure: 4
- Weather: 3
- Carelessness of vessel operator: 2
- Violation of rules of the road: 2
- Other: 1

Primary Type of Accident

- Collision with vessel: 9
- Fire/explosion (on boat): 7
- Fishing (tangling): 6
- Wrecked vessel damage: 4
- Falls onboard: 3
- Grounding: 3
- Sheet rash/straddle: 2
- Capturing: 1
- Fall in boat: 1
- Fall on PWC: 1
- Other: 1
Known Locations of Accidents in Broward County during 2016

Legend
- Red: Fatal Accident (1)
- Blue: Accident with Injury (12)
- Green: Accident without Injury (25)
6. Broward County

**Type of Vessel**

- Other: 1
- Sail (aux power): 4
- Personal watercraft: 7
- Cabin motorboat: 21
- Open motorboat: 24

**Primary Cause of Accident**

- Operator inexperience: 8
- No proper lookout/attention: 6
- Excessive speed: 6
- Alcohol use: 2
- Other (may be subclassified): 2
- Violation of navigation rule: 2
- Ignition of fuel vapor: 1
- Improper anchoring: 1
- Failure to yield: 1
- Hazardous waters: 1
- Cogitation hazards: 1

**Vessel Length (in feet)**

- 66+: 5
- 41 - 65: 8
- 27 - 40: 15
- 22 - 26: 10
- 17 - 21: 4
- 12 - 16: 4
- Less than 12: 8
- Unknown: 3

**Primary Type of Accident**

- Collision with fixed object: 13
- Collision with vessel: 7
- Vessel runs aground: 4
- Flooding (fueling): 4
- Falls overboard: 3
- Fire/explosion (fuel): 3
- Grounding: 2
- Fall or PWC: 1

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Known Locations of Accidents in Collier County during 2016

Legend
- Fatal Accident (0)
- Accident with Injury (16)
- Accident without Injury (15)
### 7. Collier County

#### Type of Vessel

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vessel Type</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open motorboat</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Airboat</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal watercraft</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sail (aux power)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cabin motorboat</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
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#### Vessel Length (in Feet)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Length Range</th>
<th>Count</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than 12</td>
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<td>12 - 16</td>
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<tr>
<td>17 - 21</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 - 26</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 - 40</td>
<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td>41 - 65</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>66+</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>2</td>
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</table>

#### Primary Cause of Accident

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cause</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No proper lookout / attention</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operator inexperience</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hazardous water</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skier or occupant behavior</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Machinery failure</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excessive speed</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sharp turn</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Primary Type of Accident

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accident Type</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Collision with fixed object</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collision with vessel</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall / overboard</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grounding</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Struck underwater object</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vessel wake damage</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall on PWC</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall in boat</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Known Locations of Accidents in Brevard County during 2016

Legend
- Fatal Accident (0)
- Accident with Injury (13)
- Accident without Injury (14)

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8. BREVARD COUNTY

**Type of Vessel**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Vessel</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Houseboat</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sail (only)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal watercraft</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sail (aux power)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cabin motorboat</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Airboat</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open motorboat</td>
<td>14</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Vessel Length (in feet)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Length (in feet)</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than 12</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 - 16</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 - 21</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 - 26</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 - 40</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41 - 65</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>66+</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>Collision with fixed object</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collision with vessel</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capsizing</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flooding (swamping)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grounding</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Falls, sternboard</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Struck underwater object</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</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>No proper lookout/attention</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operator inexperience</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hazardous waters</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Machinery failure</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weather</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improper anchoring</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excessive speed</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment failure</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol use</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>1</td>
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</table>