

2015

California Recreational Boating Accident Statistics

State of California
Natural Resources Agency

California State Parks
Division of Boating and Waterways

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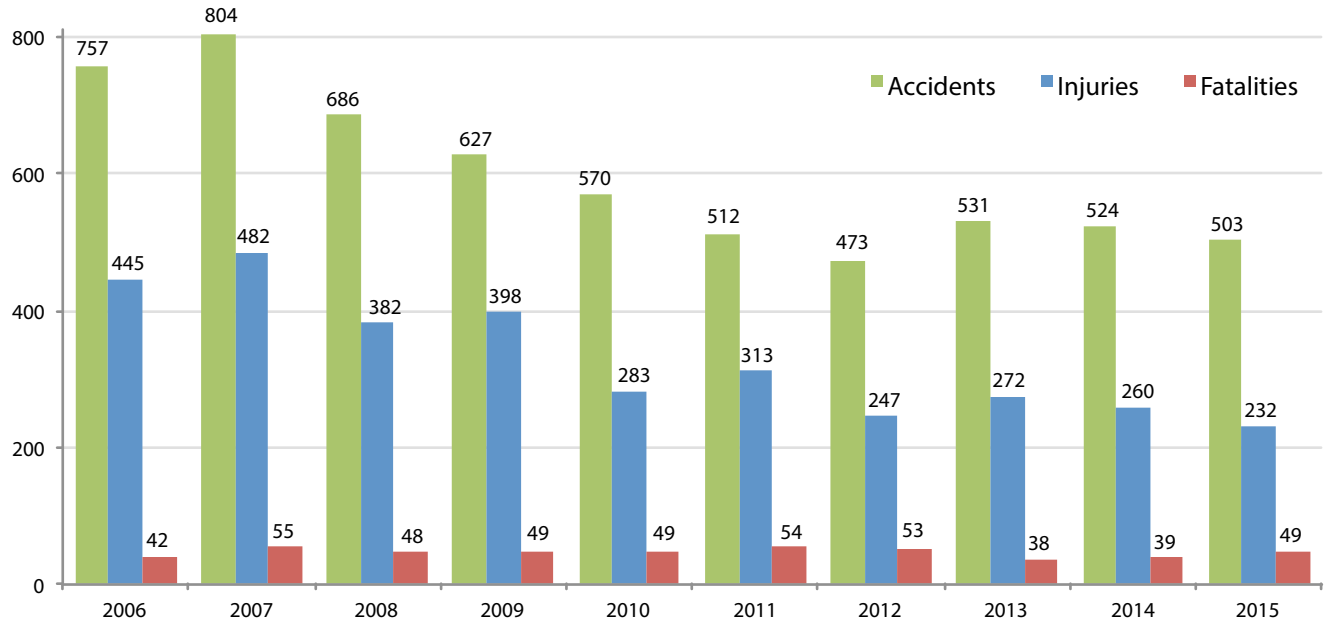




California

Boating Accident Statistics

Accidents, Injuries, and Fatalities 2006-2015



California Boating Accidents by Location 2014-2015

Waterway Categories	Accidents		Injuries		Fatalities	
	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015
Northern Lake	121	105	74	57	10	8
Southern Lake	47	58	30	36	7	7
Northern Coast	22	15	17	6	4	9
Southern Coast	219	195	72	51	5	10
Northern River	24	29	8	24	8	6
Southern River	2	2	2	6	0	0
SF Bay Area	31	18	9	3	3	3
Delta	40	54	31	21	2	4
Colorado River	18	27	17	28	0	2
Totals	524	503	260	232	39	49

Property Damage 2006-2015

Year	Property Damage
2006	\$8,913,375
2007	\$10,643,800
2008	\$5,899,184
2009	\$4,484,105
2010	\$4,040,700
2011	\$2,142,655
2012	\$5,794,000
2013	\$2,407,635
2014	\$2,889,230
2015	\$3,398,027



California

2015 Boating Accidents

Vessel Registration

County	Accidents	Injuries	Fatalities	Property Damage	Number of Personal Watercraft (PWC)	Number of Vessels (includes PWC)
Alameda	10	0	2	\$102,100	2,076	20,896
Alpine	0	0	0	\$0	4	95
Amador	1	0	1	\$0	163	3,048
Butte	7	4	0	\$20,011	1,068	15,554
Calaveras	6	2	1	\$5,000	553	5,983
Colusa	0	0	0	\$0	97	1,360
Contra Costa	17	8	1	\$103,181	3,677	31,364
Del Norte	0	0	0	\$0	37	1,458
El Dorado	6	2	1	\$11,500	979	13,479
Fresno	9	9	0	\$17,000	1,689	19,936
Glenn	1	0	0	\$550	103	1,778
Humboldt	7	4	4	\$23,000	389	7,311
Imperial	2	1	0	\$5,200	277	1,975
Inyo	0	0	0	\$0	86	999
Kern	5	6	0	\$7,000	2,116	14,634
Kings	1	1	0	\$1,000	359	2,508
Lake	4	2	0	\$12,000	1,424	10,821
Lassen	0	0	0	\$0	203	2,899
Los Angeles	48	15	3	\$364,800	18,067	91,529
Madera	7	5	2	\$16,500	593	5,643
Marin	8	2	8	\$27,500	265	7,374
Mariposa	0	0	0	\$0	106	1,472
Mendocino	1	1	0	\$0	217	4,512
Merced	0	0	0	\$0	521	5,991
Modoc	0	0	0	\$0	25	677
Mono	0	0	0	\$0	97	1,312
Monterey	0	0	0	\$0	600	7,028
Napa	14	9	1	\$49,850	312	5,227
Nevada	5	3	0	\$32,300	438	9,074
Orange	75	8	3	\$617,650	10,096	53,756
Placer	9	5	0	\$10,800	1,702	19,296
Plumas	3	0	0	\$4,400	277	3,428
Riverside	14	12	2	\$46,900	9,534	45,254
Sacramento	8	4	1	\$876,900	3,456	39,629
San Benito	0	0	0	\$0	177	1,621
San Bernardino	35	27	3	\$117,350	9,210	43,006

Boating Accident Statistics

2015 Boating Accidents

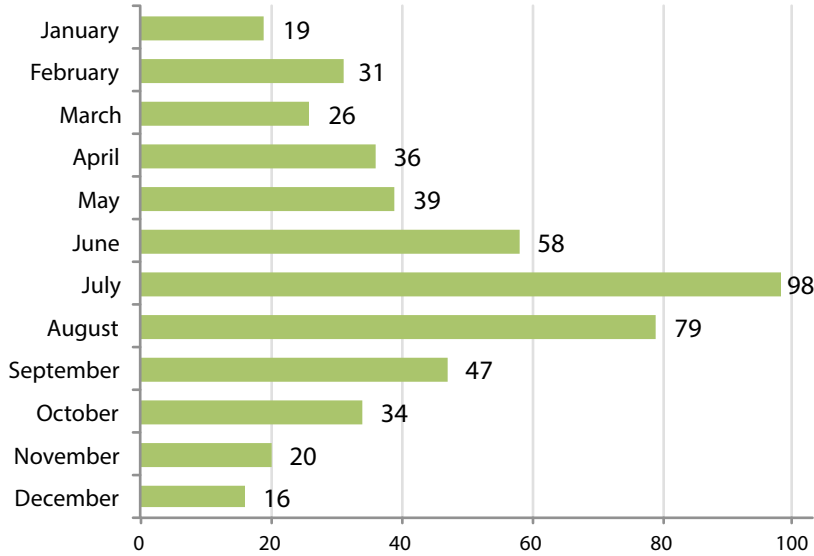
Vessel Registration

County	Accidents	Injuries	Fatalities	Property Damage	Number of Personal Watercraft (PWC)	Number of Vessels (includes PWC)
San Diego	55	29	3	\$164,705	7,756	56,961
San Francisco	7	3	1	\$35,850	196	3,523
San Joaquin	25	13	2	\$261,970	2,228	23,586
San Luis Obispo	3	2	0	\$16,000	1,142	11,825
San Mateo	1	1	2	\$0	956	9,717
Santa Barbara	19	1	1	\$93,400	787	8,548
Santa Clara	7	5	1	\$1,500	2,445	21,339
Santa Cruz	0	0	0	\$0	378	6,691
Shasta	18	14	0	\$27,650	1,066	18,621
Sierra	0	0	0	\$0	14	318
Siskiyou	0	0	0	\$0	133	3,901
Solano	9	0	0	\$29,860	1,096	13,583
Sonoma	18	6	2	\$30,350	1,156	16,042
Stanislaus	6	4	1	\$16,800	1,487	16,081
Sutter	2	3	0	\$4,500	397	5,026
Tehama	5	7	0	\$10,550	235	4,358
Trinity	1	2	0	\$2,000	104	2,001
Tulare	2	0	1	\$1,500	794	8,050
Tuolumne	5	2	0	\$130,650	365	5,468
Ventura	7	5	1	\$24,500	2,792	19,758
Yolo	4	3	1	\$21,700	402	5,605
Yuba	6	2	0	\$52,050	302	4,429
Out of State	0	0	0	\$0	0	5,184
Totals	503	232	49	\$3,398,027	97,224	772,542

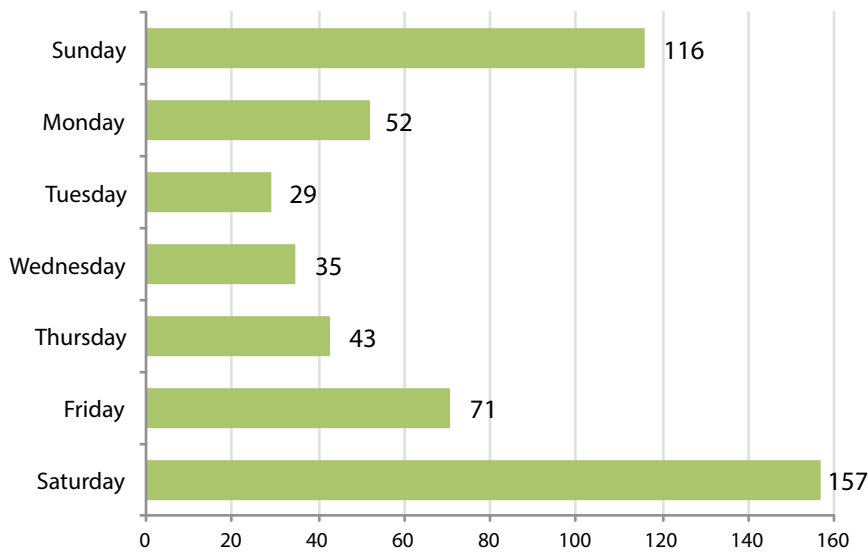


California

2015 Accidents by Month (Total Accidents 503)



2015 Accidents by Day of the Week (Total Accidents 503)

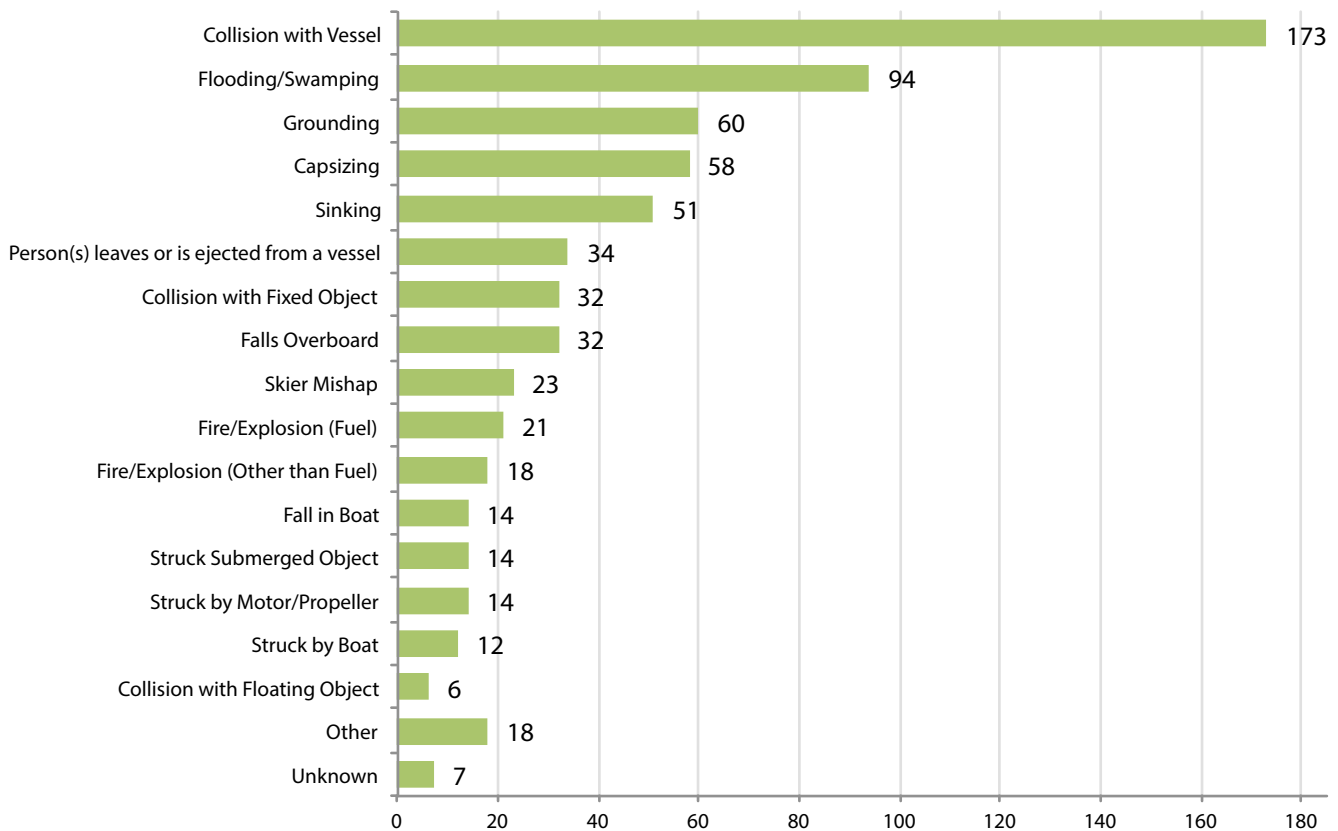


2015 Accidents by Time of Day

Time of Day	Number of Accidents
12:00-1:59 a.m.	9
2:00-3:59 a.m.	5
4:00-5:59 a.m.	2
6:00-7:59 a.m.	13
8:00-9:59 a.m.	35
10:00-11:59 a.m.	47
12:00-1:59 p.m.	66
2:00-3:59 p.m.	109
4:00-5:59 p.m.	97
6:00-7:59 p.m.	67
8:00-9:59 p.m.	32
10:00-11:59 p.m.	12
Time Unknown	9
Total Accidents	503

Boating Accident Statistics

2015 Type of Accidents (Total Types: 681* Total Accidents: 503)



*Some accidents are represented by more than one accident type, which accounts for the accident types exceeding the number of accidents.

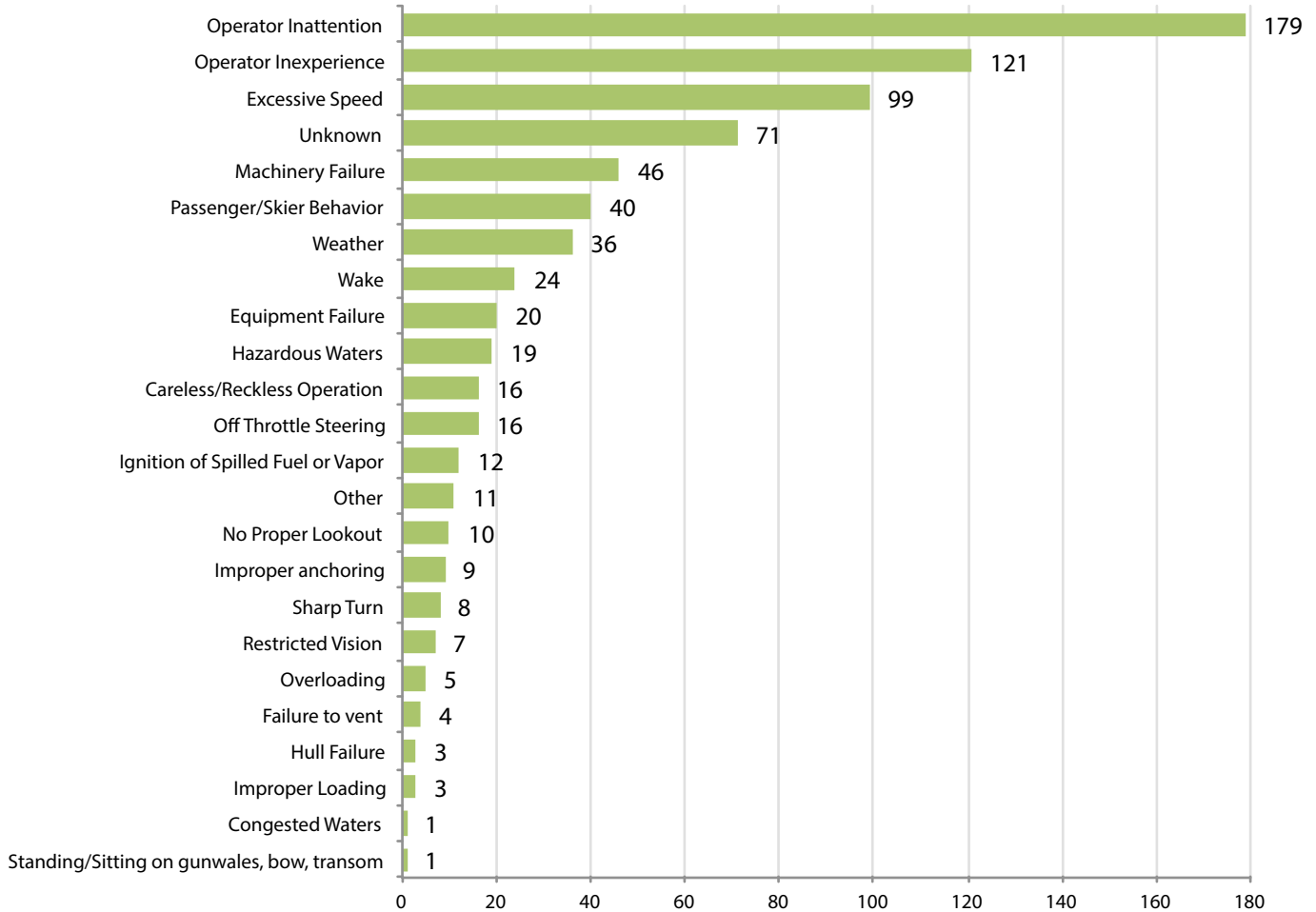
2015 Type of Accident by Vessel Type

Type of Accident	All Vessels	Open Motorboat	Cabin Motorboat	Personal Watercraft	All Sailboats	Houseboat/Pontoon	Canoe/Kayak
Collision with Vessel	34%	30%	53%	54%	62%	51%	13%
Flooding/Swamping	19%	22%	21%	3%	10%	14%	7%
Grounding	12%	16%	4%	5%	10%	6%	0%
Capsizing	12%	12%	4%	8%	4%	3%	67%
Sinking	10%	13%	13%	0%	6%	6%	0%
Person(s) leaves or is ejected from vessel	7%	8%	2%	14%	0%	3%	0%
Collision with Fixed Object	6%	5%	7%	5%	8%	9%	7%
Falls Overboard	6%	5%	0%	14%	3%	9%	7%
Skier Mishap	5%	9%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%
Fire/Explosion (Fuel)	4%	4%	9%	1%	1%	0%	0%



California

2015 Cause of Accidents (Total Causes: 789* Total Accidents: 503)



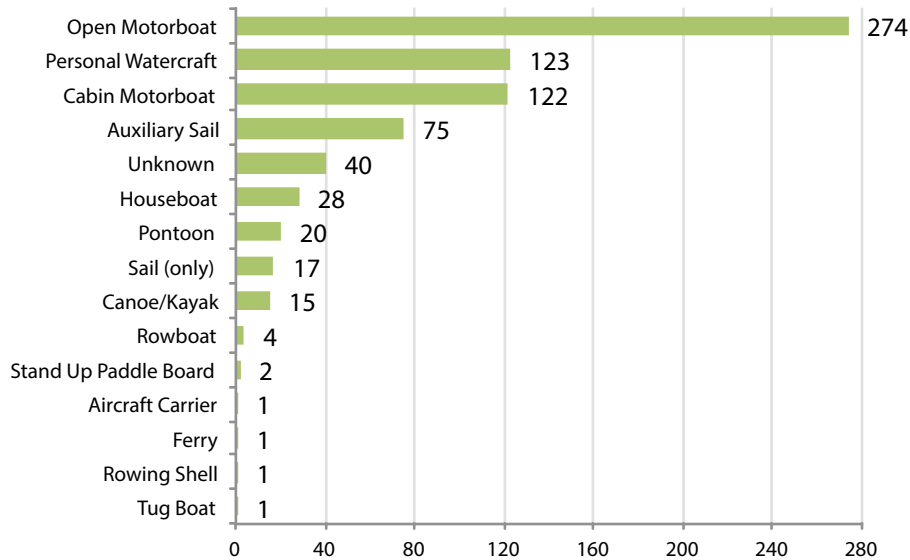
*Many accidents had more than one cause, which is reflected in this chart. The "Other" category includes causes that do not fit into any of the other categories listed above.

2015 Cause of Accident by Type of Vessel

Cause of Accident	All Vessels	Open Motorboat	Cabin Motorboat	Personal Watercraft	All Sailboats	Houseboat/Pontoon	Canoe/Kayak
Operator Inattention	36%	39%	34%	37%	40%	43%	27%
Operator Inexperience	24%	18%	26%	52%	33%	26%	20%
Excessive Speed	20%	21%	12%	39%	10%	9%	7%
Machinery Failure	9%	10%	14%	3%	15%	6%	0%
Passenger/Skier Behavior	8%	14%	0%	1%	1%	11%	13%
Weather	7%	7%	12%	0%	10%	6%	7%

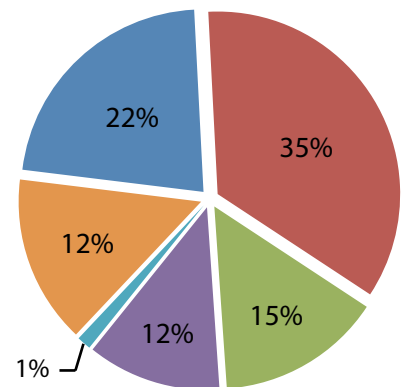
Boating Accident Statistics

2015 Vessels Involved in All Accidents by Type (Total Vessels 724)



2015 Vessels Involved in All Accidents by Length

Length of Vessels	Number of Vessels
Vessels <16 feet	161
Vessels 16-25 feet	254
Vessels 26-39 feet	106
Vessels 40-65 feet	86
Vessels over 65 feet	9
Unknown	108
Total	724



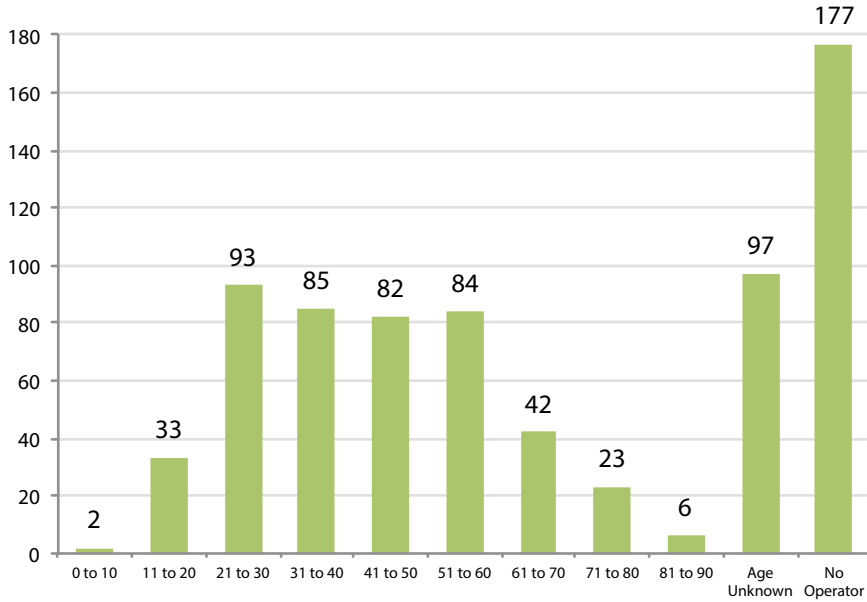
2015 Ownership Status of Vessels Involved in Accidents

Operated By	All Vessels		Open Motorboats		Personal Watercraft	
	Number of Vessels	Percent of Vessels	Number of Vessels	Percent of Vessels	Number of Vessels	Percent of Vessels
Operated by Owner	281	39%	149	54%	22	18%
Operated by Borrower	141	20%	48	18%	57	47%
Operated by Renter	82	11%	23	8%	37	30%
Unknown	43	6%	9	3%	4	3%
No Operator	177	24%	45	17%	3	2%
Total Vessels	724	100%	274	100%	123	100%



California

2015 Operators Involved in All Accidents by Age (Total Operators 547, Total Vessels 724)



The category No Operator reflects situations in which vessels were anchored or docked with no operator in command.

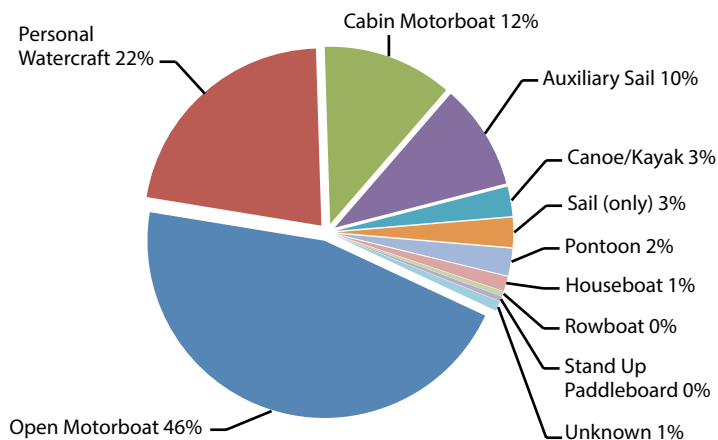
2015 Operator Education

Type of Education	Number of Operators
American Red Cross	3
State Course	22
U.S. Power Squadron	2
USCG Auxiliary	13
Other	6
Informal	144
None	196
Unknown	161
No Operator	177
Total	724

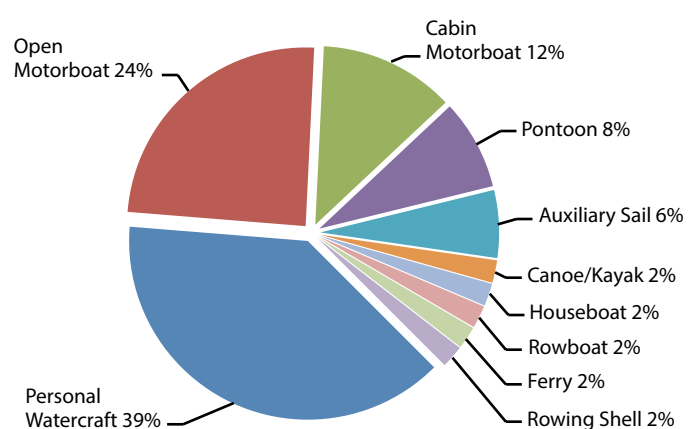
2015 Gender of Operators Involved in Accidents

Gender	Number of Operators
Male	447
Female	49
Gender Unknown	51
No Operator	177
Total	724

2015 Type of Vessels Operated by Men Involved in Accidents

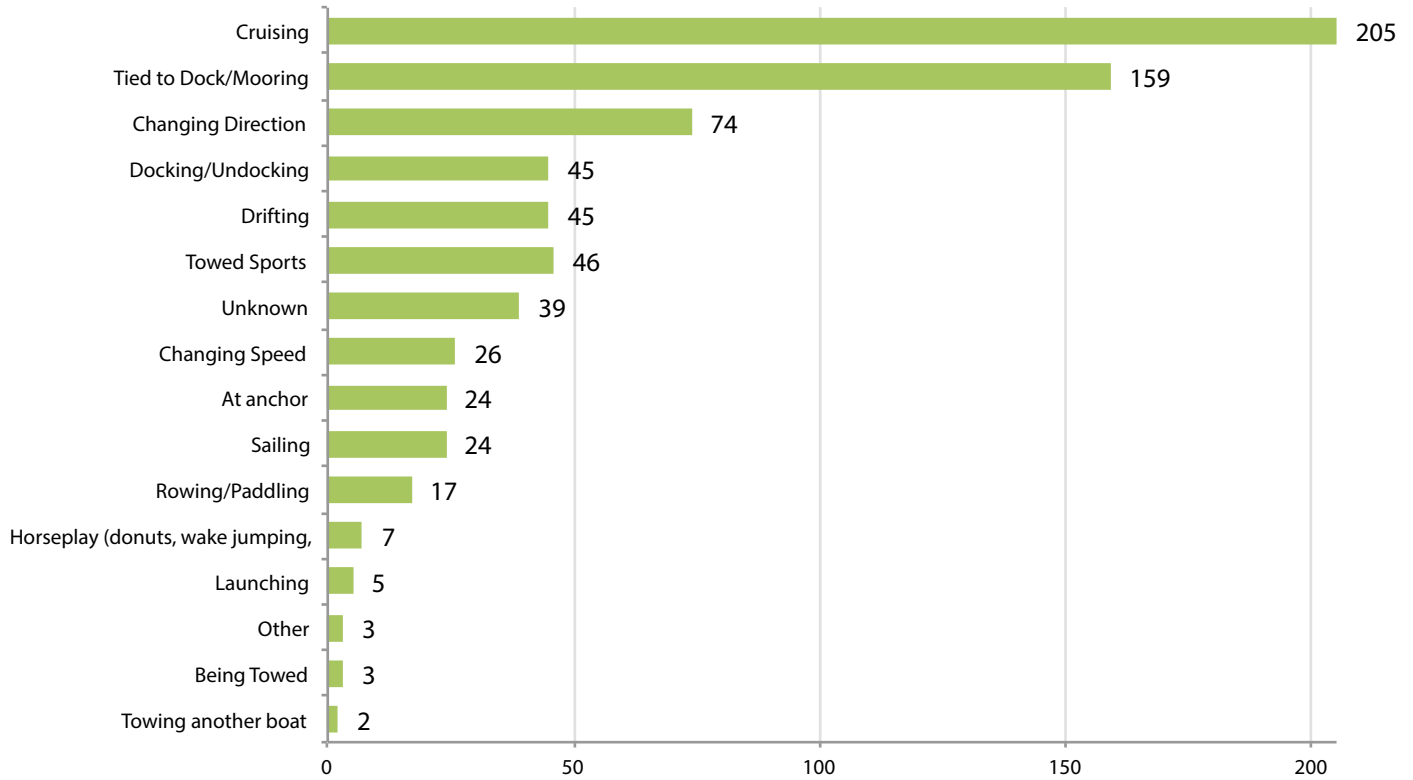


2015 Type of Vessels Operated by Women Involved in Accidents

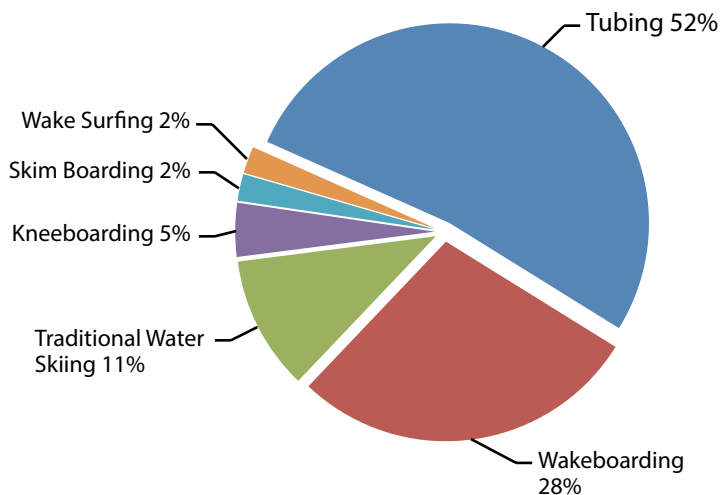


Boating Accident Statistics

2015 Operation at Time of Accident (Total Vessels 724)



2015 Accidents Involving Towing Sports*



Activity	Vessels Engaged in Activity
Tubing	24
Wakeboarding	13
Traditional Water Skiing	5
Kneeboarding	2
Skim Boarding	1
Wake Surfing	1
Total	46

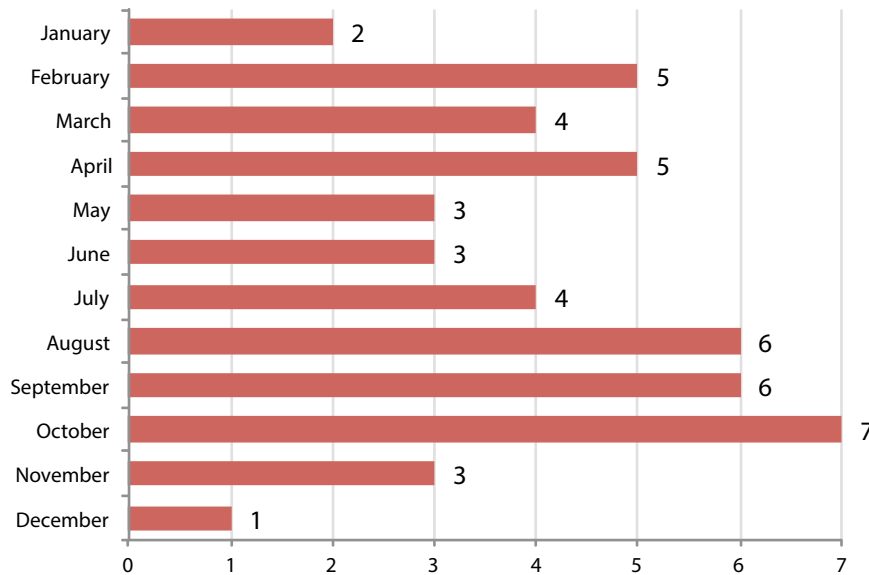
* Towing sports include persons being towed on lines behind vessels on water skis, wakeboards, wake skates, kneeboards, skurf boards, tubes, and parasails. One of the accidents involved two vessels participating in different types of towing sports. Consequently, 46 vessels involved in towing sports were involved in 45 accidents. Accident percentages are based on 45 accidents.



California

2015 Fatalities by Month

(Total Fatalities 49)

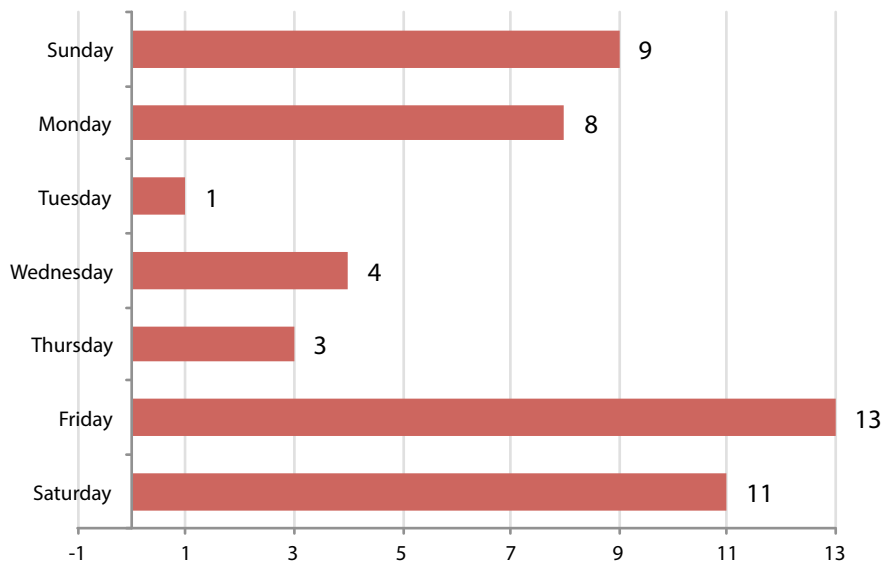


2015 Accidents by Time of Day

Time of Day	Number of Fatalities
12:00-1:59 a.m.	2
2:00-3:59 a.m.	1
4:00-5:59 a.m.	0
6:00-7:59 a.m.	1
8:00-9:59 a.m.	5
10:00-11:59 a.m.	2
12:00-1:59 p.m.	3
2:00-3:59 p.m.	7
4:00-5:59 p.m.	11
6:00-7:59 p.m.	7
8:00-9:59 p.m.	3
10:00-11:59 p.m.	2
Time Unknown	5
Total Accidents	49

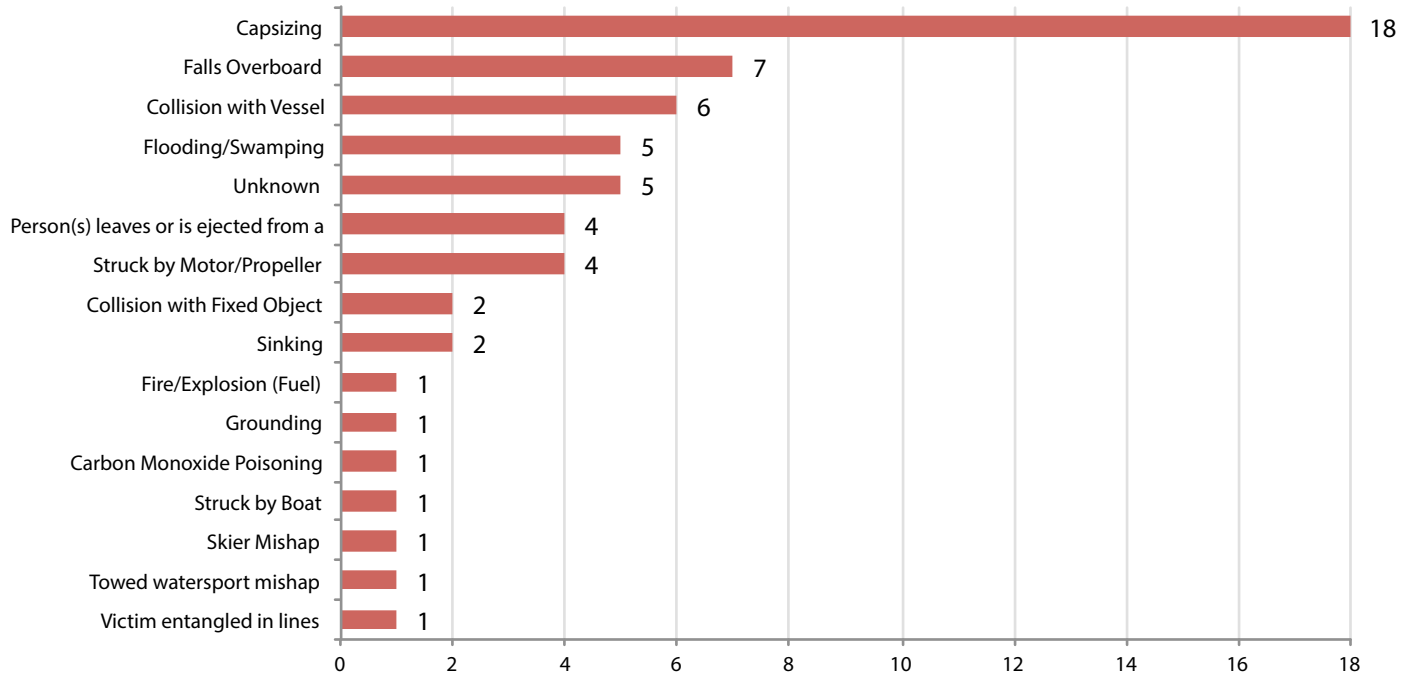
2015 Fatalities by Day of the Week

(Total Fatalities 49)



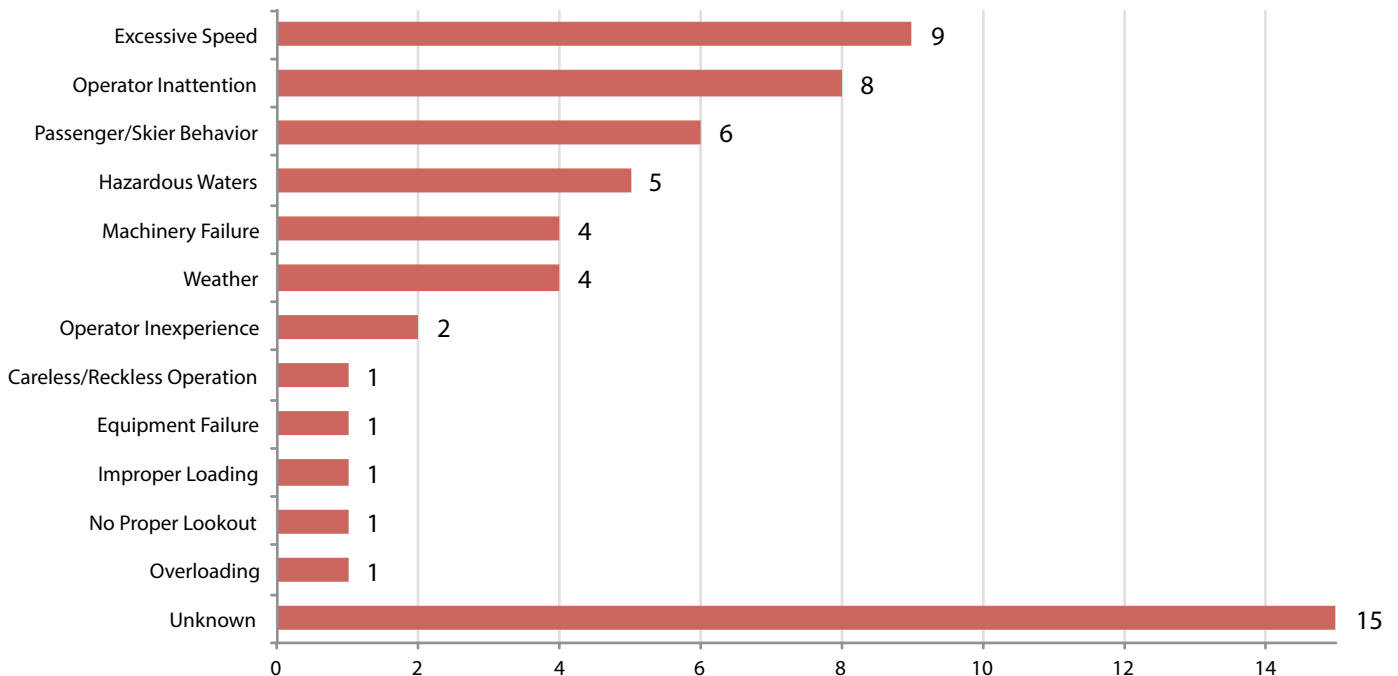
Boating Accident Statistics

2015 Fatalities by Type of Accident (Total Types: 60* Total Fatalities: 49)



*Some accidents are represented by more than one accident type, which accounts for the accident types exceeding the number of accidents.

2015 Fatalities by Cause of Accident (Total Causes: 58* Total Fatalities: 49)



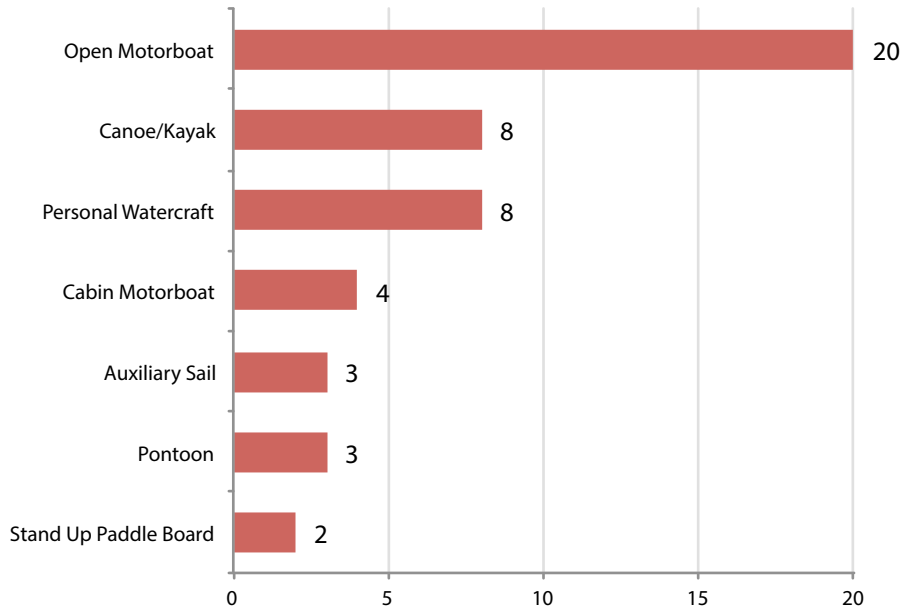
*Many accidents had more than one cause, which is reflected in this chart. The "Other" category includes causes that do not fit into any of the other categories listed left.



California

2015 Vessels Involved in Fatal Accidents

(Total Vessels: 48)

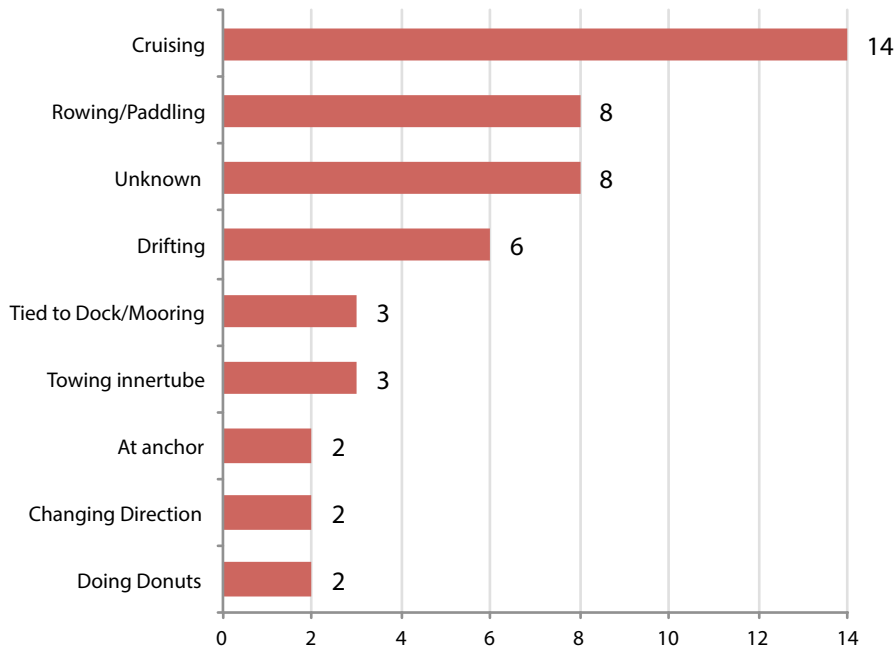


2015 Vessels Involved in Fatal Accidents by Length

Length of Vessels	Number of Vessels
<16 feet	17
16-25 feet	14
26-39 feet	5
40-65 feet	0
>65 feet	0
Unknown	12
Total Vessels	48

2015 Operation at Time of Fatal Accident

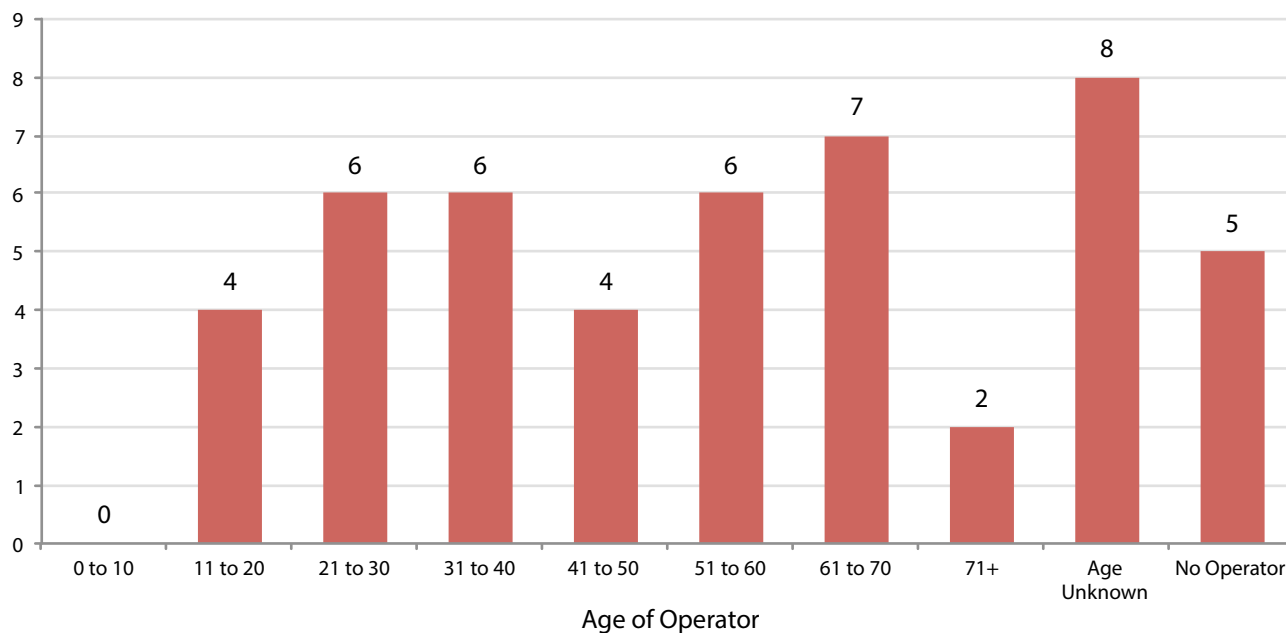
(Total Vessels: 48)



Boating Accident Statistics

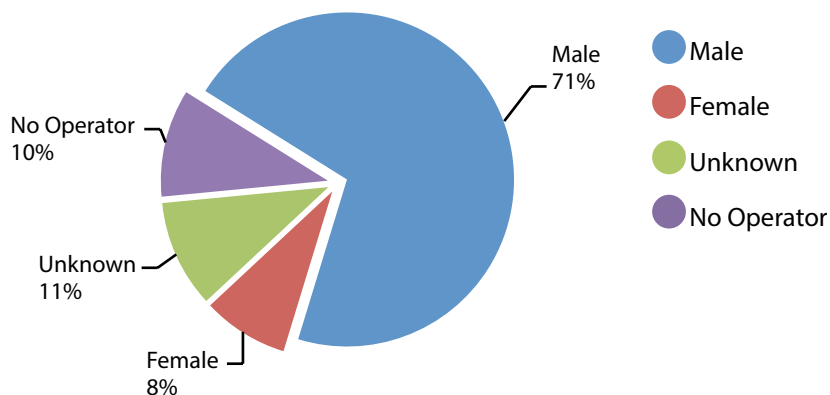
2015 Operators Involved in Fatal Accidents by Age

(Total Operators: 43, Total Vessels: 48)



The category No Operator reflects situations in which vessels were anchored or docked with no operator in command.

2015 Gender of Operators Involved in Fatal Accidents



2015 Operator Education

Type of Education	Number of Operators
American Red Cross	0
State Course	1
U.S. Power Squadron	0
USCG Auxiliary	0
Other	0
Informal	12
None	7
Unknown	23
No Operator	5
Total Vessels	48



California

2011-2015 Life Jacket Use by Cause of Death

Cause of Death	Wearing Life Jacket	Not Wearing Life Jacket	Life Jacket Use Unknown	Total
Drowning	25	104	3	132
Trauma	21	22	2	45
Carbon Dioxide	0	2	0	2
Hypothermia	3	1	0	4
Heart Attack	2	9	2	13
Other	0	1	0	1
Unknown Cause	7	18	11	36
Total Fatalities	58	157	18	233

2011-2015 Life Jacket Use by Victim Activity

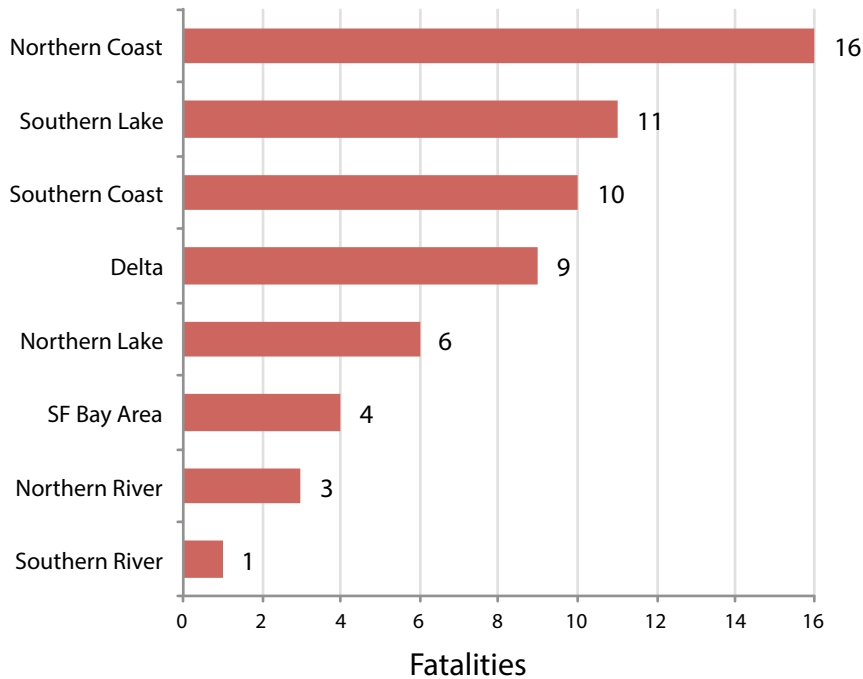
Activity	Wearing Life Jacket	Not Wearing Life Jacket	Life Jacket Use Unknown	Total
General Recreation	22	73	4	99
Fishing	7	45	8	60
Paddle Sports	14	17	4	35
Towing Sports	6	1	0	7
Swimming	0	14	0	14
Sailing/Windsurfing	7	6	1	14
Other	2	1	1	4
Total Fatalities	58	157	18	233

2011-2015 Life Jacket Use by Victim's Type of Vessel

Type of Vessel	Wearing Life Jacket	Not Wearing Life Jacket	Life Jacket Use Unknown	Total
Open Motorboat/Pontoon	17	80	8	105
Cabin Motorboat	1	21	0	22
Personal Watercraft	15	6	0	21
Canoe/Kayak/Raft/Row	18	33	5	56
Sailboats/Sailboards	7	8	2	17
Other	0	8	1	9
Unknown	0	1	2	3
Total Fatalities	58	157	18	233

Boating Accident Statistics

2011-2015 Boating-Related Fishing Fatalities by Waterway Categories (Fatalities 60)



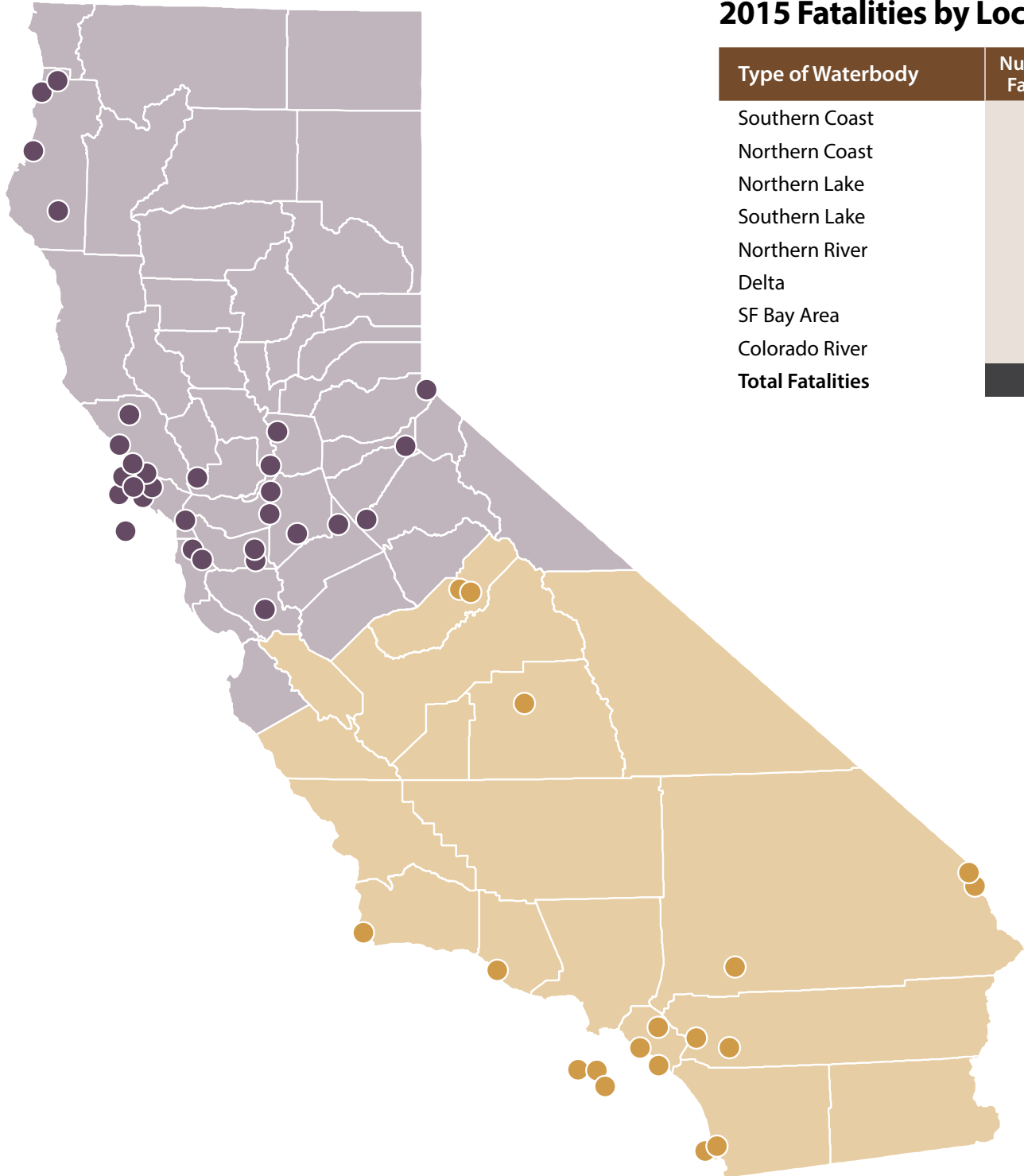
2011-2015 Alcohol Involvement in Boating-Related Fatalities

Year	Alcohol Involved	Alcohol not Involved	% Involving Alcohol Where Alcohol Testing was Conducted	Alcohol Testing not Conducted	Total Fatalities
2011	10	25	29%	19	54
2012	12	22	35%	19	53
2013	7	18	28%	13	38
2014	13	25	34%	1	39
2015	10	16	38%	23	49
Total Fatalities	52	106	33%	75	233



California

2015 California Recreational Boating Fatalities



2015 Fatalities by Location

Type of Waterbody	Number of Fatalities
Southern Coast	10
Northern Coast	9
Northern Lake	8
Southern Lake	7
Northern River	6
Delta	4
SF Bay Area	3
Colorado River	2
Total Fatalities	49