

# 2012

## California Recreational Boating Accident Statistics

State of California  
The Natural Resources Agency

### California Department of Boating and Waterways

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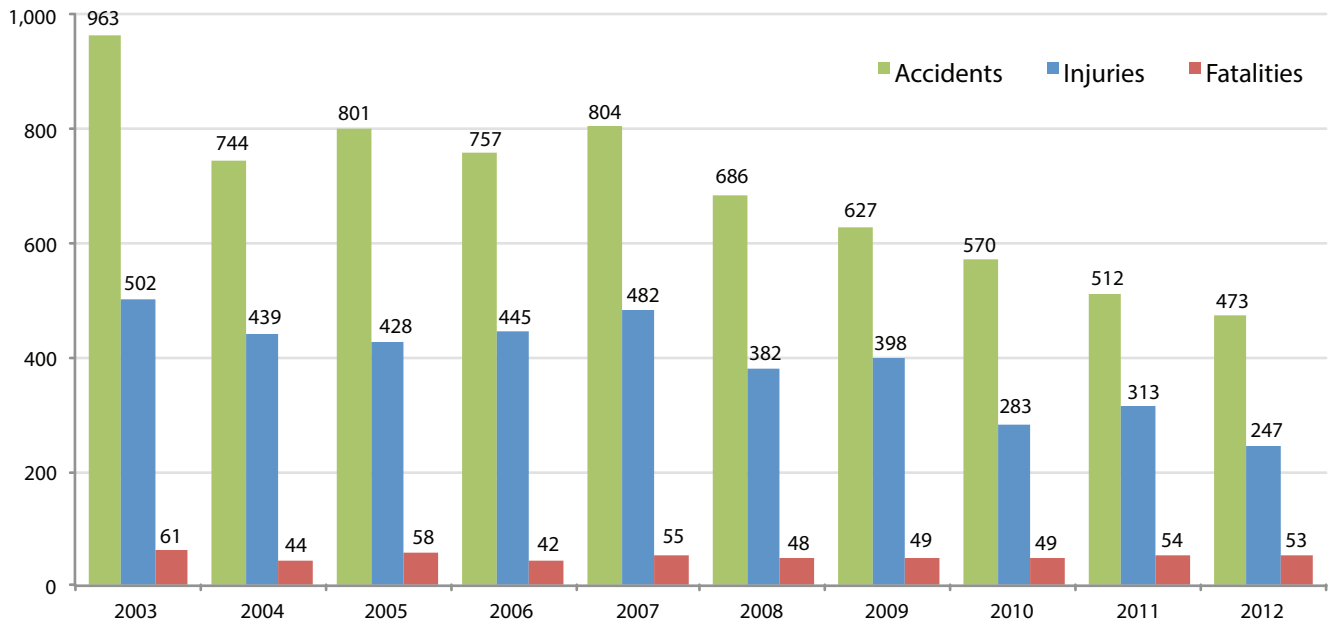




# California

# Boating Accident Statistics

## Accidents, Injuries, Fatalities, and Property Damage 2003-2012



## California Boating Accidents by Location 2011-2012

Waterway Categories	Accidents		Injuries		Fatalities	
	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012
Northern Lake	137	151	100	96	9	18
Southern Lake	68	48	56	24	7	6
Northern Coast	23	23	10	17	2	9
Southern Coast	133	125	53	39	10	9
Northern River	27	23	16	17	9	5
Southern River	10	2	13	0	6	0
SF Bay Area	31	15	9	6	5	0
Delta	58	66	32	34	2	5
Colorado River	25	20	24	14	4	1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>512</b>	<b>473</b>	<b>313</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>53</b>

## Property Damage 2003-2012

Year	Property Damage
2003	\$3,820,000
2004	\$4,073,400
2005	\$3,584,700
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



# California

## Boating Accidents

## Vessel Registration

County	Accidents	Injuries	Fatalities	Property Damage	Number of Personal Watercraft (PWC)	Number of Vessels (includes PWC)
Alameda	4	2	0	\$33,000.00	3,373	21,378
Alpine	0	0	0	\$0.00	6	111
Amador	0	0	0	\$0.00	219	3,052
Butte	5	4	3	\$10,000.00	1,431	15,507
Calaveras	6	2	0	\$9,200.00	599	5,879
Colusa	3	1	1	\$3,800.00	151	1,394
Contra Costa	19	12	0	\$131,350.00	5,291	30,877
Del Norte	0	0	0	\$0.00	63	1,457
El Dorado	11	6	1	\$3,272,000.00	1,292	13,475
Fresno	7	2	0	\$9,600.00	2,807	20,710
Glenn	2	4	0	\$5,500.00	143	1,791
Humboldt	4	3	0	\$5,000.00	533	7,244
Imperial	1	1	0	\$1,000.00	449	1,947
Inyo	0	0	0	\$0.00	140	996
Kern	3	1	0	\$12,550.00	3,393	15,291
Kings	0	0	0	\$0.00	559	2,641
Lake	3	3	0	\$0.00	1,226	10,634
Lassen	0	0	0	\$0.00	281	2,998
Los Angeles	16	6	2	\$732,000.00	29,330	94,371
Madera	4	2	1	\$550.00	820	5,826
Marin	2	0	0	\$24,000.00	467	7,427
Mariposa	2	1	0	\$8,500.00	142	1,526
Mendocino	1	0	0	\$70,000.00	397	4,644
Merced	2	2	0	\$3,000.00	777	6,035
Modoc	0	0	0	\$0.00	35	711
Mono	0	0	0	\$0.00	132	1,391
Monterey	10	11	0	\$39,300.00	954	7,371
Napa	25	16	2	\$33,500.00	500	5,289
Nevada	4	5	2	\$3,000.00	569	8,834
Orange	56	4	3	\$170,250.00	16,162	55,158
Placer	21	13	2	\$172,100.00	2,428	19,178
Plumas	5	1	1	\$7,750.00	202	3,490
Riverside	9	4	0	\$20,750.00	15,057	44,173
Sacramento	15	8	1	\$147,450.00	5,476	39,451
San Benito	0	0	0	\$0.00	252	1,620
San Bernardino	26	18	2	\$45,250.00	14,346	43,384

# Boating Accident Statistics

## Boating Accidents

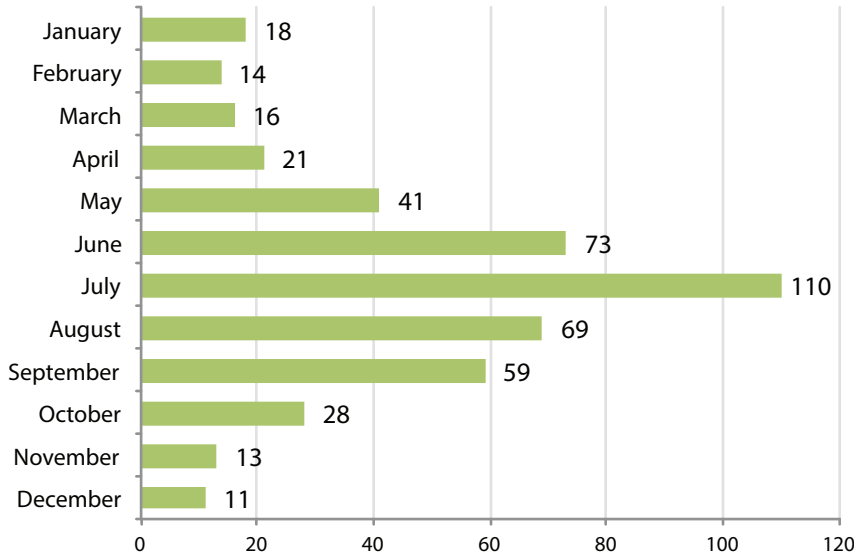
## Vessel Registration

County	Accidents	Injuries	Fatalities	Property Damage	Number of Personal Watercraft (PWC)	Number of Vessels (includes PWC)
San Diego	42	30	4	\$227,800.00	11,461	55,399
San Francisco	8	7	6	\$21,000.00	320	3,354
San Joaquin	32	11	5	\$166,950.00	3,386	23,030
San Luis Obispo	7	1	0	\$99,500.00	1,615	12,028
San Mateo	3	3	3	\$3,000.00	1,699	9,973
Santa Barbara	5	0	4	\$15,400.00	1,190	8,870
Santa Clara	5	3	0	\$6,200.00	4,069	22,531
Santa Cruz	3	0	0	\$7,000.00	644	6,675
Shasta	32	22	5	\$50,650.00	1,497	18,371
Sierra	0	0	0	\$0.00	13	311
Siskiyou	0	0	0	\$0.00	155	3,905
Solano	11	7	0	\$74,350.00	1,727	13,202
Sonoma	11	5	0	\$37,300.00	1,782	16,177
Stanislaus	3	1	0	\$15,000.00	2,408	16,531
Sutter	1	0	0	\$2,000.00	603	5,107
Tehama	1	1	0	\$0.00	365	4,299
Trinity	3	2	1	\$0.00	129	2,010
Tulare	6	2	0	\$12,850.00	1,354	8,273
Tuolumne	19	9	1	\$50,100.00	456	5,651
Ventura	9	1	0	\$14,900.00	4,475	20,603
Yolo	2	2	0	\$2,600.00	561	5,537
Yuba	4	8	3	\$17,000.00	427	4,230
Out of State	0	0	0	\$0.00	785	3,256
<b>Totals</b>	<b>473</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>\$5,794,000.00</b>	<b>151,123</b>	<b>776,584</b>

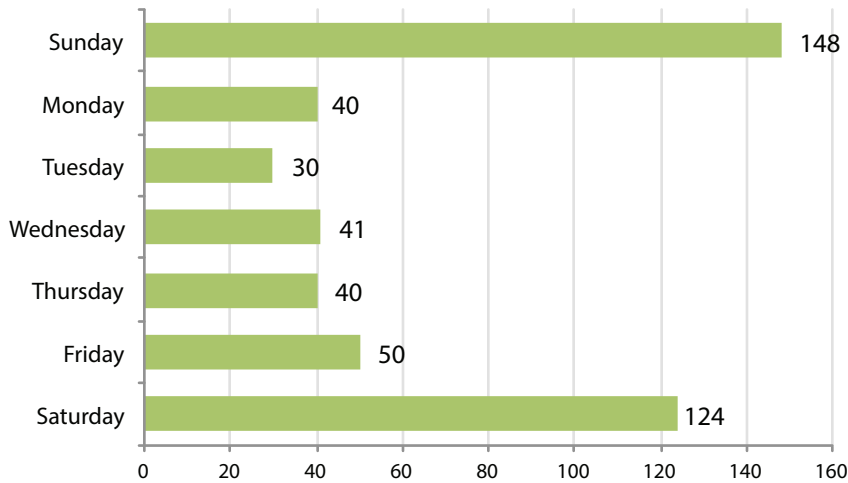


# California

## Accidents by Month (Total Accidents 473)



## Accidents by Day of the Week (Total Accidents 473)

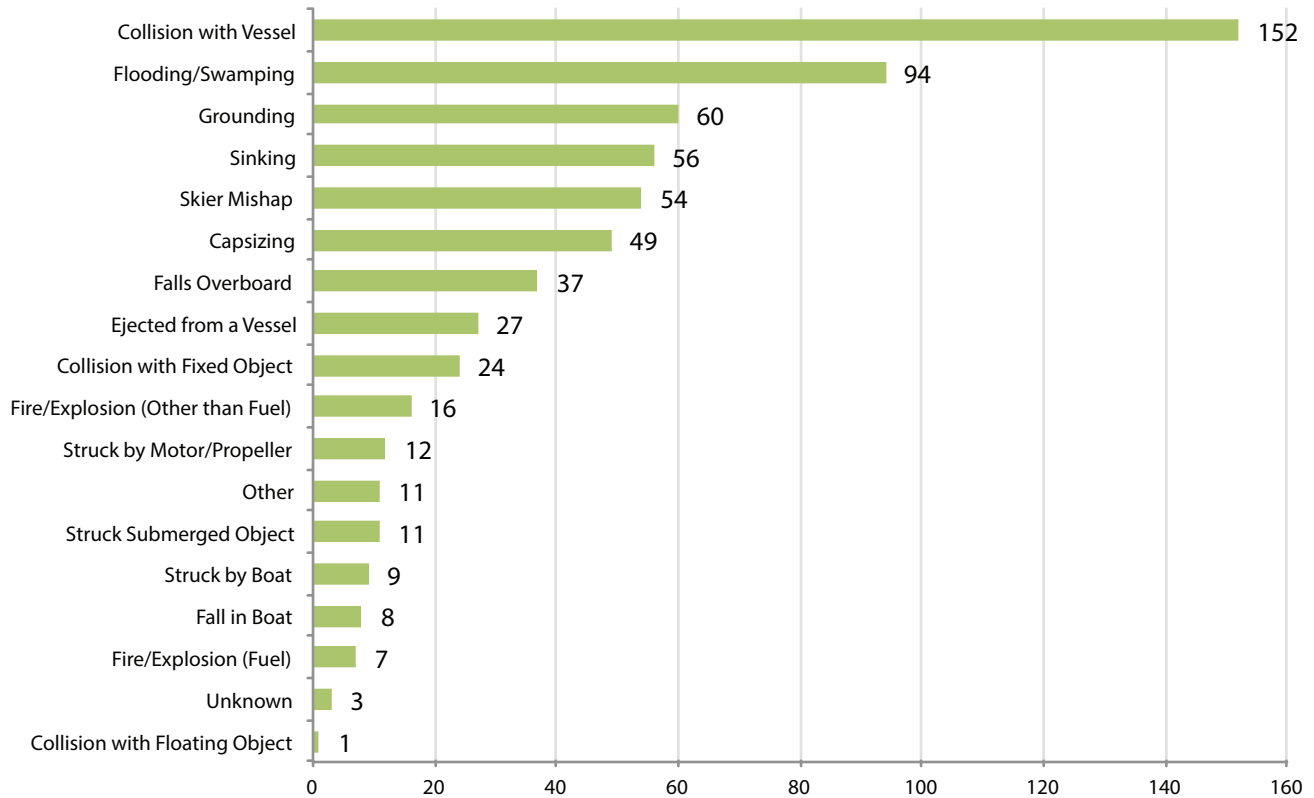


## Accidents by Time of Day

Time of Day	Number of Accidents
12:00-1:59 a.m.	11
2:00-3:59 a.m.	6
4:00-5:59 a.m.	7
6:00-7:59 a.m.	9
8:00-9:59 a.m.	27
10:00-11:59 a.m.	51
12:00-1:59 p.m.	73
2:00-3:59 p.m.	95
4:00-5:59 p.m.	92
6:00-7:59 p.m.	58
8:00-9:59 p.m.	25
10:00-11:59 p.m.	11
Time Unknown	8
<b>Total Accidents</b>	<b>473</b>

# Boating Accident Statistics

## Type of Accidents (Total Types: 631\* Total Accidents 473)



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

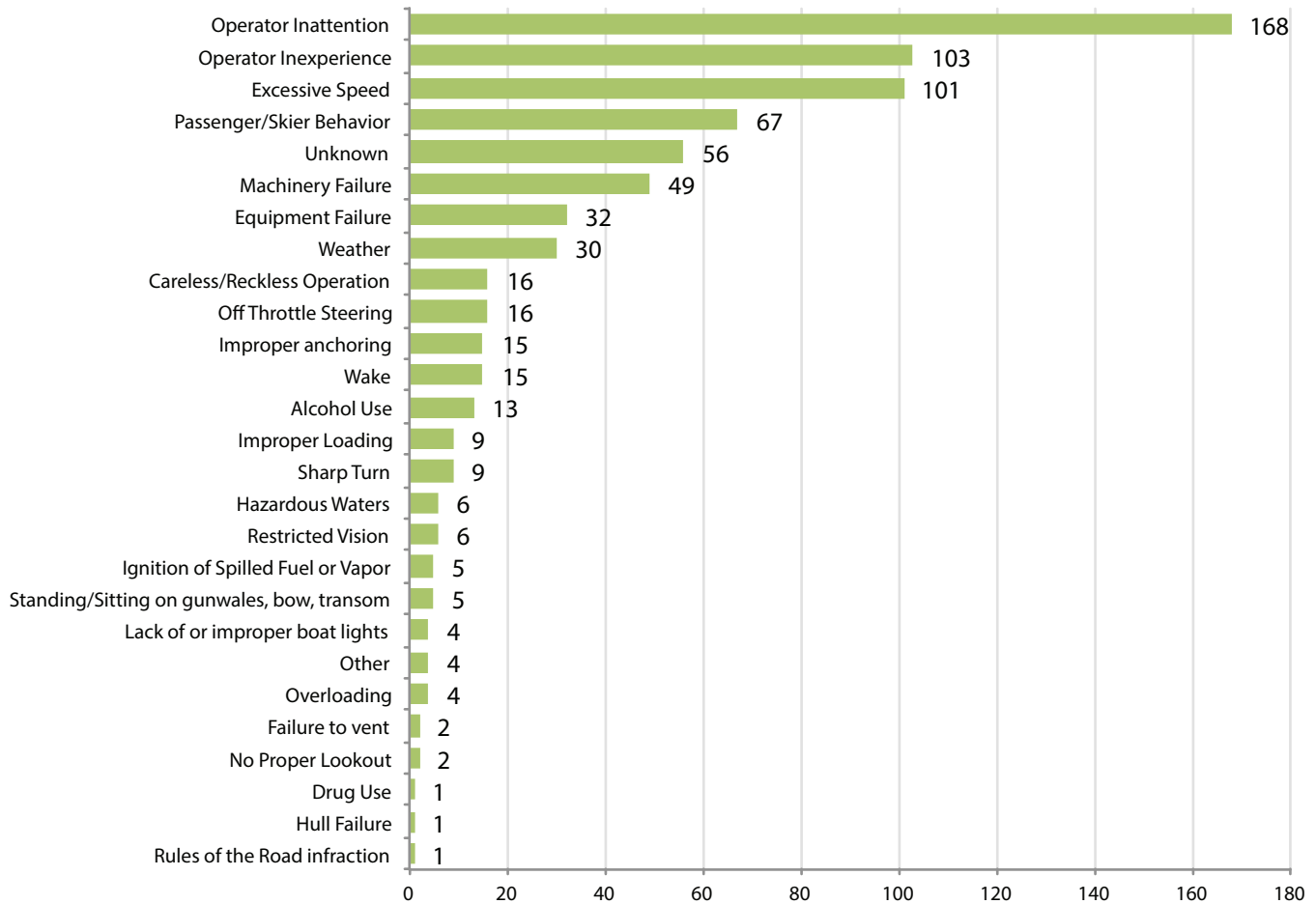
## Type of Accident by Vessel Type

Type of Accident	All Vessels	Open Motorboat	Cabin Motorboat	Personal Watercraft	All Sailboats	Houseboat/Pontoon	Canoe/Kayak
Collision with Vessel	32%	29%	44%	63%	53%	41%	8%
Flooding/Swamping	20%	22%	24%	3%	12%	11%	25%
Grounding	13%	11%	15%	7%	19%	0%	0%
Sinking	12%	12%	18%	2%	5%	7%	17%
Skier Mishap	11%	20%	1%	6%	0%	7%	0%
Capsizing	10%	12%	5%	1%	10%	4%	75%
Falls Overboard	8%	5%	3%	10%	8%	19%	17%
Ejected from a Vessel	6%	4%	1%	15%	0%	11%	0%
Collision with Fixed Object	5%	5%	7%	4%	5%	4%	0%
Fire/Explosion (Other than Fuel)	3%	1%	10%	1%	2%	7%	0%



# California

## Cause of Accidents (Total Causes 740\* Total Accidents 473)



\*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.

## Cause of Accident by Type of Vessel

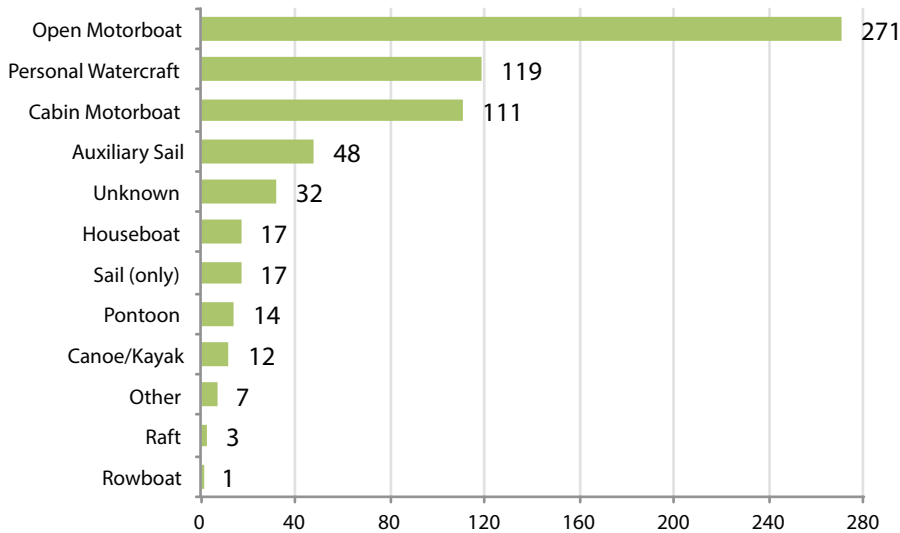
Cause of Accident	All Vessels	Open Motorboat	Cabin Motorboat	Personal Watercraft	All Sailboats	Houseboat/Pontoon	Canoe/Kayak
Operator Inattention	36%	41%	37%	43%	39%	41%	17%
Operator Inexperience	22%	17%	14%	51%	17%	26%	25%
Excessive Speed	21%	23%	15%	47%	14%	11%	8%
Passenger/Skier Behavior	14%	22%	1%	4%	2%	26%	8%
Machinery Failure	10%	10%	22%	2%	7%	7%	0%
Equipment Failure	7%	5%	11%	1%	12%	7%	0%
Weather	6%	5%	6%	2%	17%	0%	17%



# Boating Accident Statistics

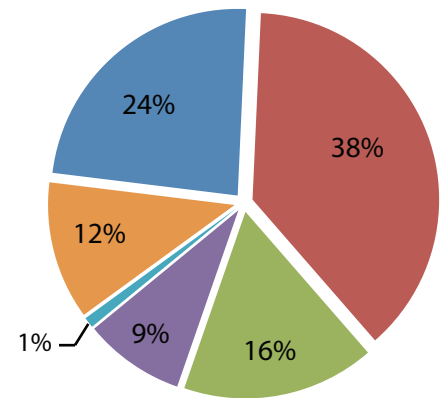
## Vessels Involved in All Accidents by Type

(Total Vessels 652)



## Vessels Involved in All Accidents by Length

Length of Vessels	Number of Vessels
<16 feet	155
16-25 feet	247
26-39 feet	109
40-65 feet	57
>65 feet	6
Unknown	78
<b>Total Vessels</b>	<b>652</b>



## Ownership Status of Vessels Involved in Accidents

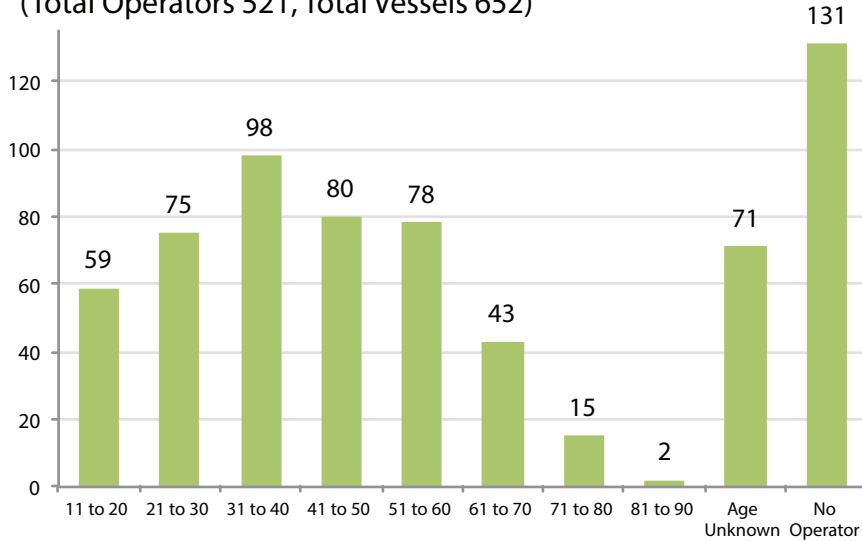
Operated By	All Vessels		Open Motorboats		Personal Watercraft	
	Number of Vessels	Percent of Vessels	Number of Vessels	Percent of Vessels	Number of Vessels	Percent of Vessels
Operated by Owner	296	45%	163	60%	34	29%
Operated by Borrower	129	20%	47	17%	48	40%
Operated by Renter	62	10%	16	6%	29	24%
Unknown	34	5%	8	3%	7	6%
No Operator	131	20%	37	14%	1	1%
<b>Total Vessels</b>	<b>652</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>271</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>100%</b>



# California

## Operators Involved in All Accidents by Age

(Total Operators 521, Total Vessels 652)



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

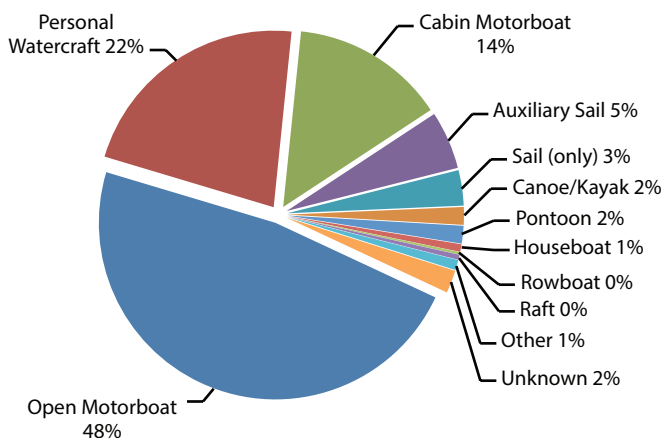
## Operator Education

Type of Education	Number of Operators
American Red Cross	8
State Course	23
U.S. Power Squadron	4
USCG Auxiliary	22
Other	0
Informal	157
None	167
Unknown	140
No Operator	131
<b>Total</b>	<b>652</b>

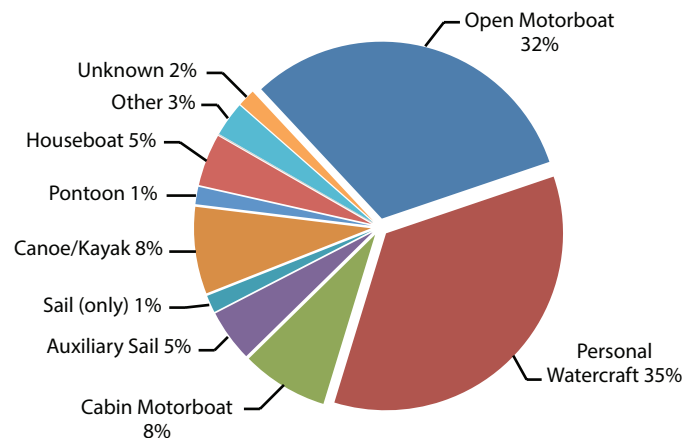
## Gender of Operators Involved in Accidents

Gender	Number of Operators
Male	432
Female	63
Gender Unknown	26
No Operator	131
<b>Total</b>	<b>652</b>

## Type of Vessels Operated by Men Involved in Accidents

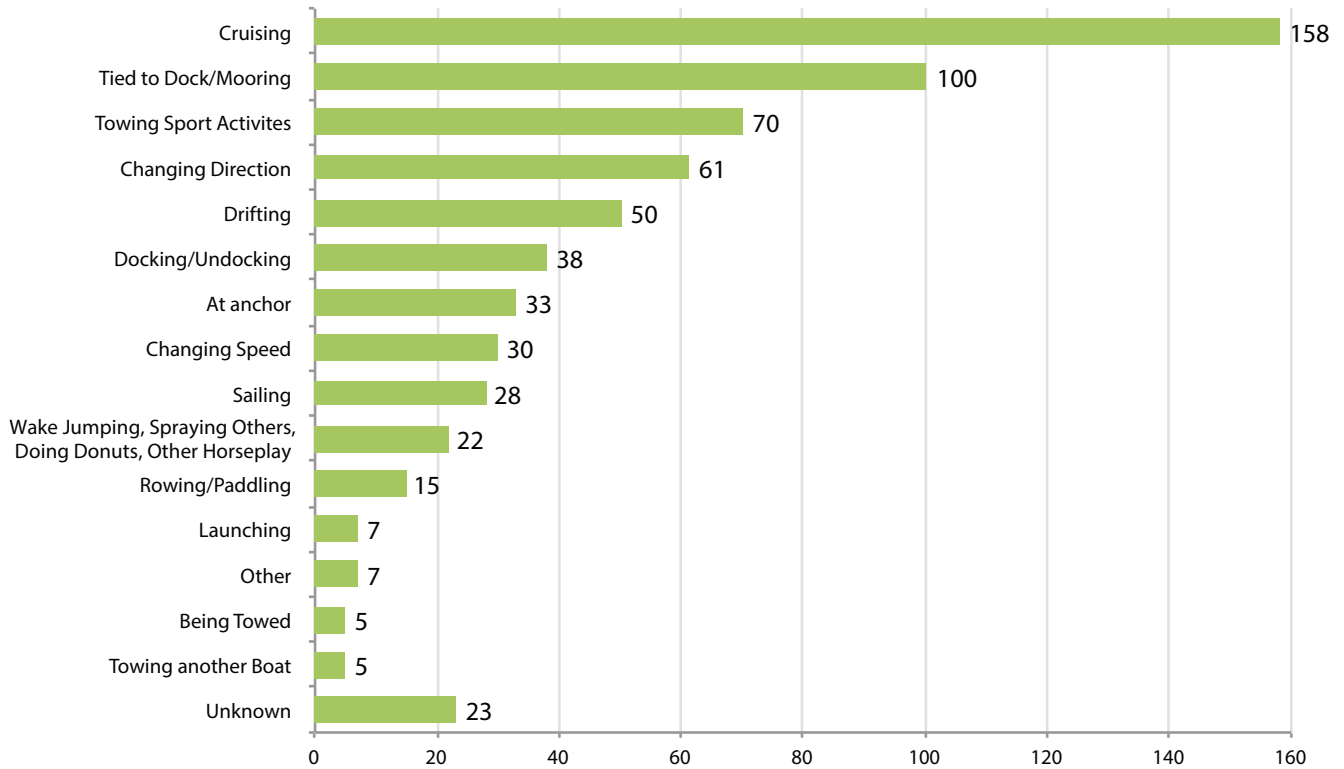


## Type of Vessels Operated by Women Involved in Accidents

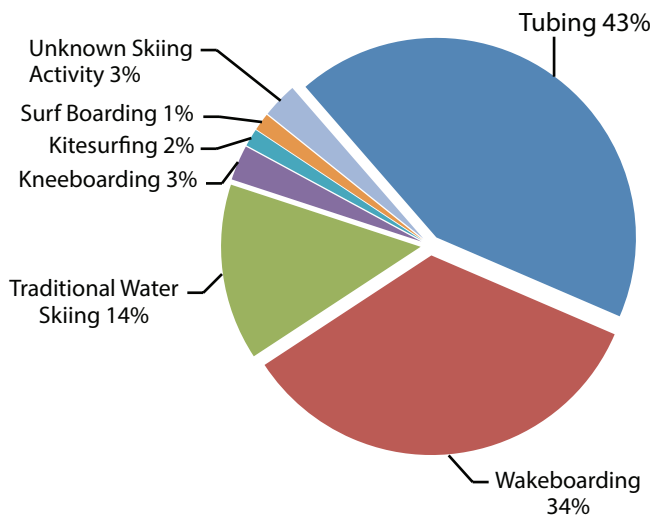


# Boating Accident Statistics

## Operation at Time of Accident (Total Vessels 652)



## Accidents Involving Towing Sports\*



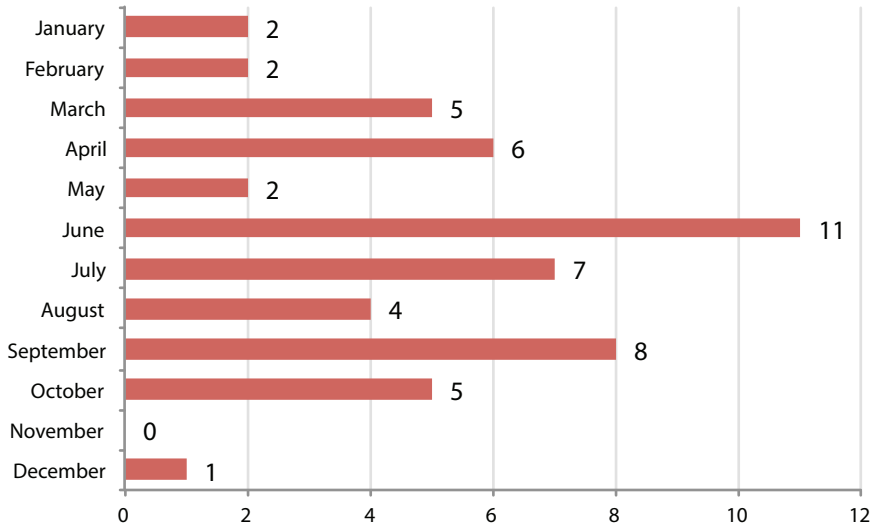
Activity	Vessels Engaged in Activity
Tubing	30
Wakeboarding	24
Traditional Water Skiing	10
Kneeboarding	2
Kitesurfing	1
Surf Boarding	1
Unknown Skiing Activity	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>70</b>

\*Towing sports include persons being towed on lines behind vessels on water skis, wakeboards, wake skates, kneeboards, skurf boards, tubes and parasails.

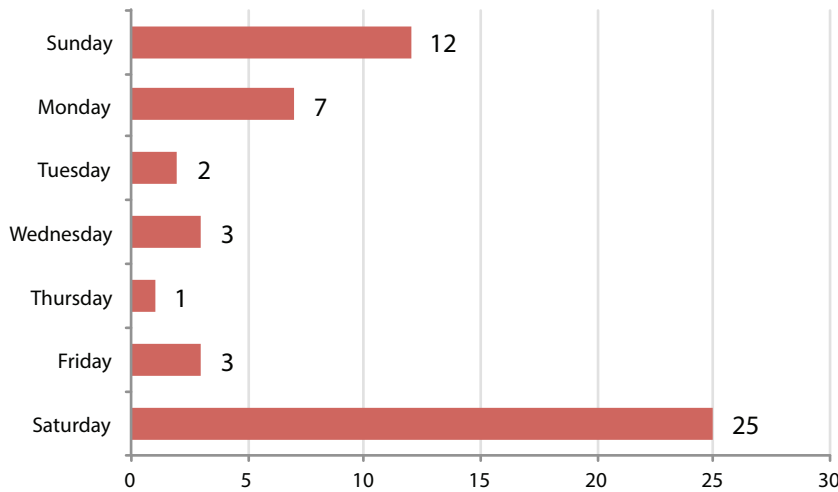


# California

## Fatalities by Month (Total Fatalities 53)



## Fatalities by Day of the Week (Total Fatalities 53)

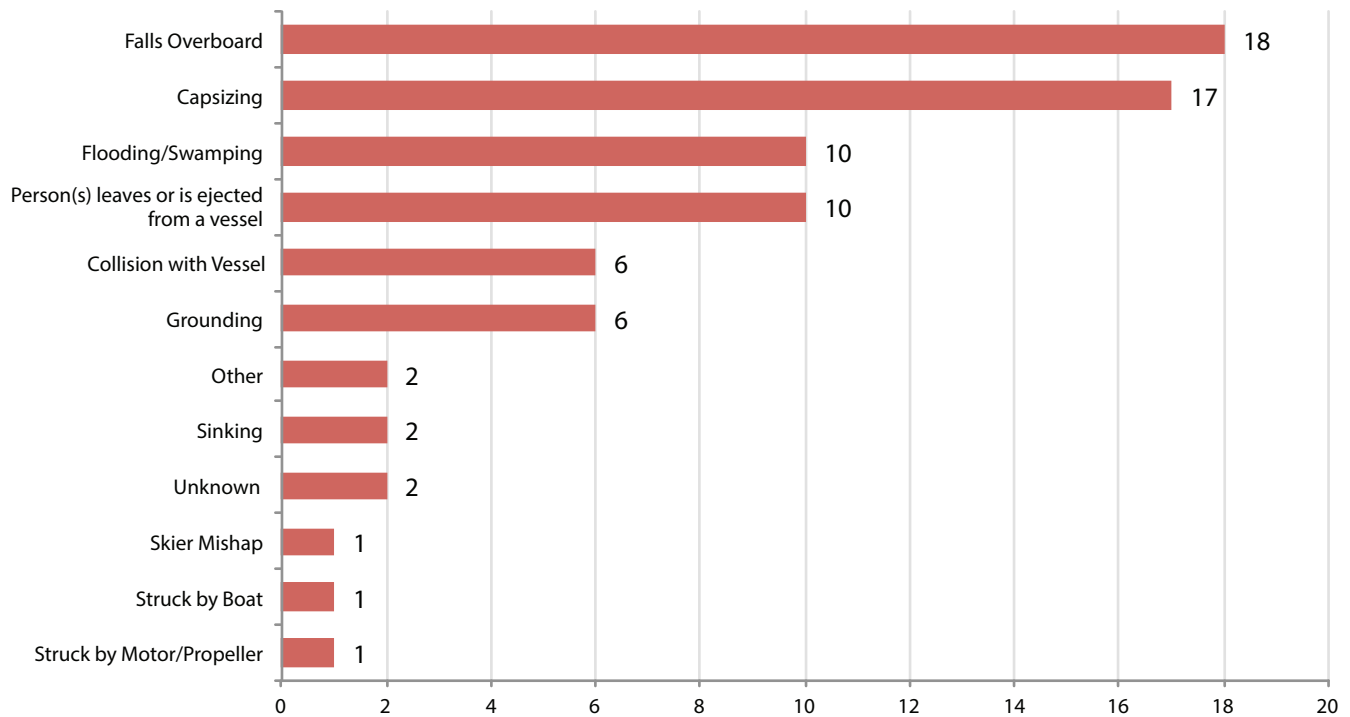


## Accidents by Time of Day

Time of Day	Number of Fatalities
12:00-1:59 a.m.	4
2:00-3:59 a.m.	1
4:00-5:59 a.m.	2
6:00-7:59 a.m.	0
8:00-9:59 a.m.	2
10:00-11:59 a.m.	3
12:00-1:59 p.m.	7
2:00-3:59 p.m.	15
4:00-5:59 p.m.	8
6:00-7:59 p.m.	7
8:00-9:59 p.m.	1
10:00-11:59 p.m.	1
Time Unknown	2
<b>Total Accidents</b>	<b>53</b>

# Boating Accident Statistics

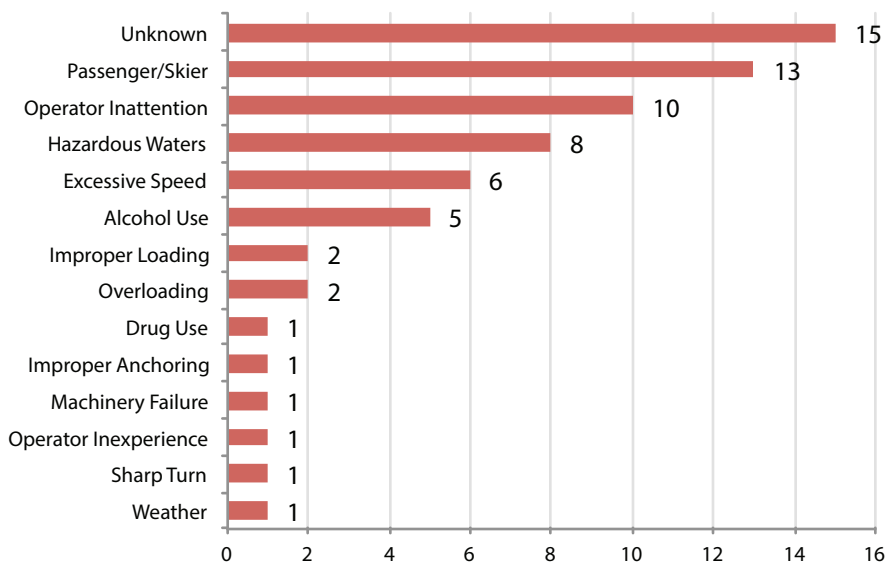
## Fatalities by Type of Accident (Total Types: 76\* Total Fatalities: 53)



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

## Fatalities by Cause of Accident

(Total Causes: 67\* Total Fatalities: 53)

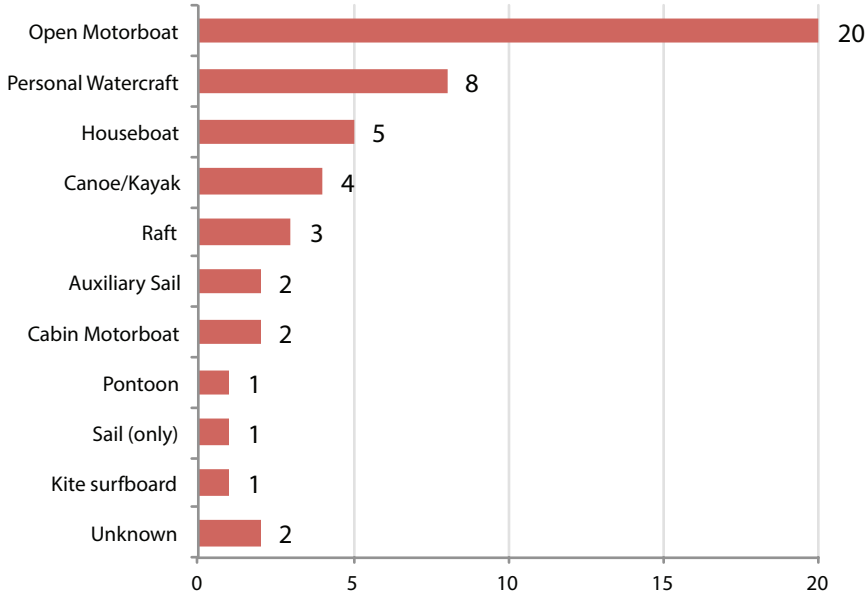


\*Many accidents had more than one cause, which is reflected in this chart. The "Other" category includes causes that do not fit into any of the other categories listed left.



# California

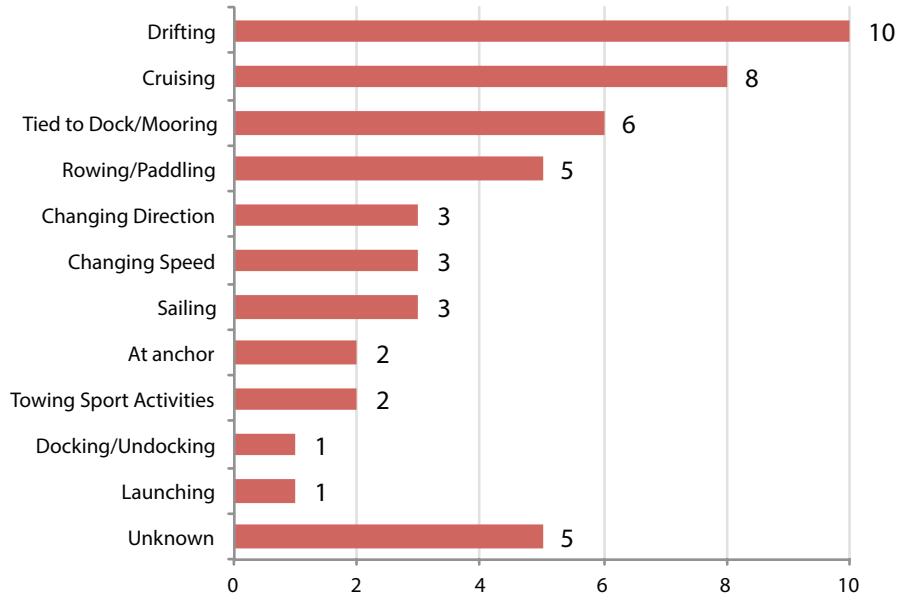
## Vessels Involved in Fatal Accidents (Total Vessels 49)



## Vessels Involved in Fatal Accidents by Length

Length of Vessels	Number of Vessels
<16 feet	15
16-25 feet	16
26-39 feet	5
40-65 feet	4
> 65 feet	0
Unknown	9
<b>Total Vessels</b>	<b>49</b>

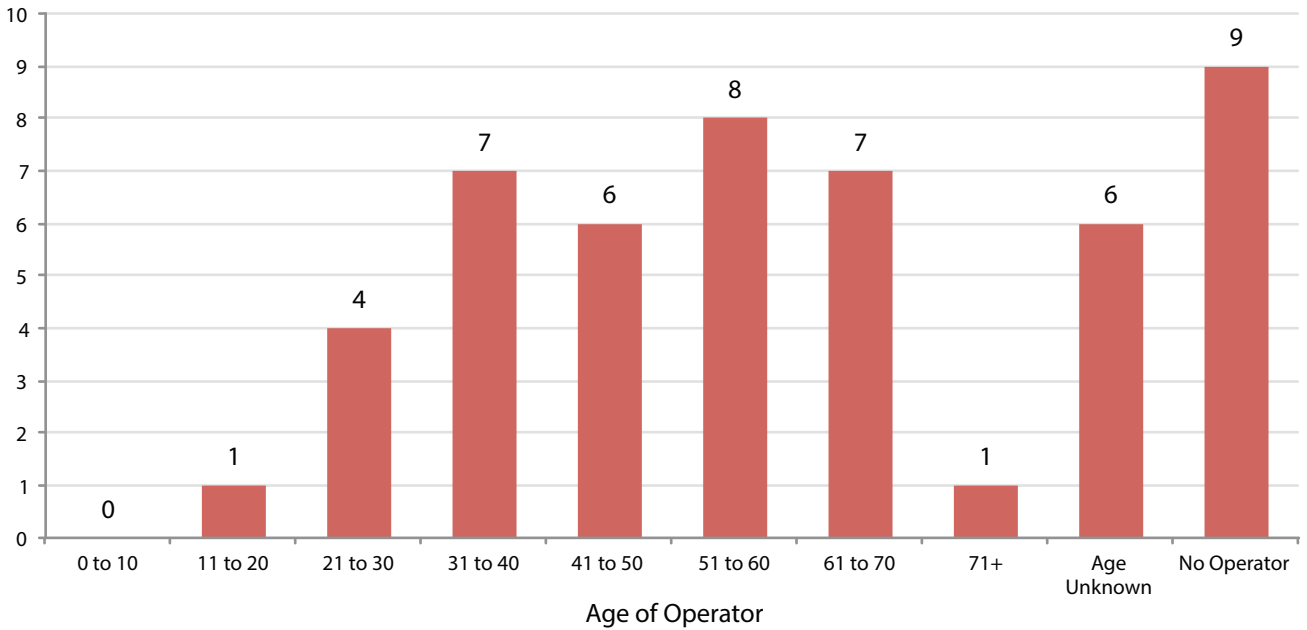
## Operation at Time of Fatal Accident (Total Vessels 49)



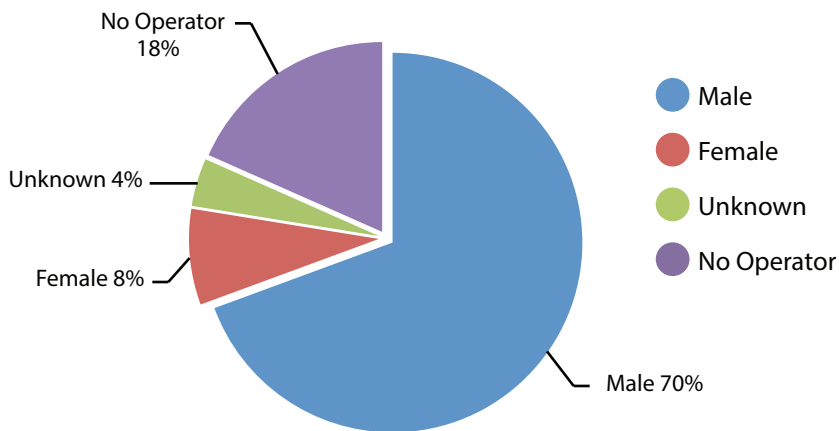
# Boating Accident Statistics

## Operators Involved in Fatal Accidents by Age

(Total Operators: 40, Total Vessels: 49)



## Gender of Operators Involved in Fatal Accidents



## Operator Education

Type of Education	Number of Operators
American Red Cross	0
State Course	0
U.S. Power Squadron	0
USCG Auxiliary	2
Other	0
Informal	13
None	9
Unknown	16
No Operator	9
<b>Total Operators</b>	<b>49</b>

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



# California

## 2008-2012 Life Jacket Use by Cause of Death

Cause of Death	Wearing Life Jacket	Not Wearing Life Jacket	Life Jacket Use Unknown	Total
Drowning	34	121	5	160
Trauma	25	20	0	45
Carbon Monoxide	0	1	1	2
Hypothermia	1	0	0	1
Other	2	8	2	12
Unknown Cause	8	19	6	33
<b>Total Fatalities</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>253</b>

## 2008-2012 Life Jacket Use by Victim Activity

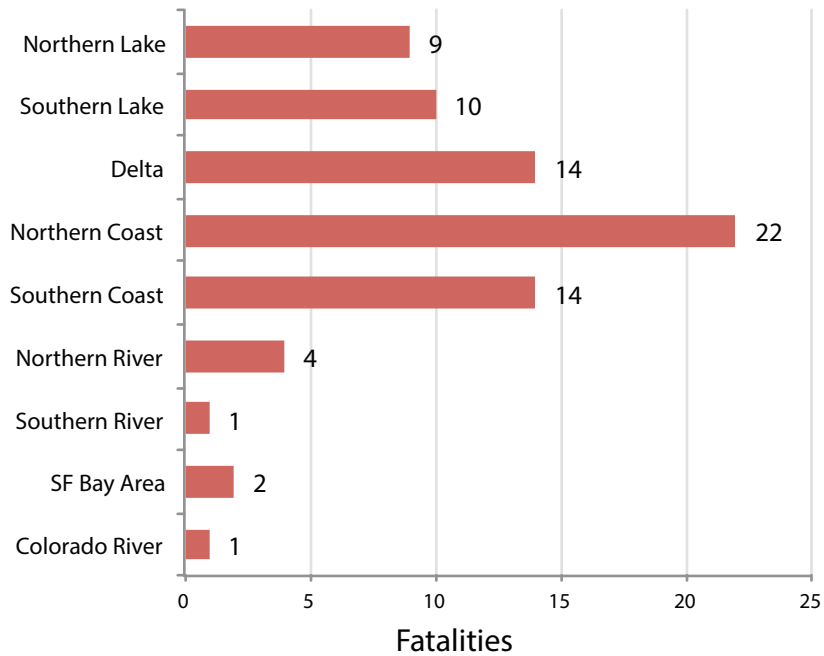
Activity	Wearing Life Jacket	Not Wearing Life Jacket	Life Jacket Use Unknown	Total
General Recreation	39	75	4	118
Fishing	10	64	3	77
Hunting	0	1	0	1
Paddle Sports	12	7	5	24
Towing Sports	6	1	0	7
Swimming	0	18	0	18
Sailing/Windsurfing	1	3	1	5
Other	2	0	1	3
<b>Total Fatalities</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>253</b>

## 2008-2012 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	19	87	1	107
Cabin Motorboat	1	26	2	29
Personal Watercraft	22	4	0	26
Canoe/Kayak/Raft	19	30	7	56
Saiboats/Sailboards	9	9	1	19
Other	0	6	1	7
Unknown	0	7	2	9
<b>Total Fatalities</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>253</b>



## 2008-2012 Boating-Related Fishing Fatalities by Waterway Categories (Fatalities 77)





## 2012 California Recreational Boating Fatalities

### Fatalities by Location

Water Body	Number of Fatalities
Northern Lake	18
Southern Lake	6
Northern River	5
Northern Coast	9
Southern Coast	9
Delta	5
Colorado River	1
<b>Total Fatalities</b>	<b>53</b>

