



CALIFORNIA



STATISTICS

2000 California Boating Accidents by County*

County	Number of Accidents	Number of Injuries	Number of Fatalities	Amount of Property Damage
Alameda	11	3	2	\$11,300
Amador	5	3	1	\$9,600
Butte	18	12	0	\$25,200
Calaveras	35	25	2	\$97,800
Colusa	4	1	0	\$3,800
Contra Costa	31	14	1	\$631,450
Del Norte	3	0	0	\$317,800
El Dorado	16	12	0	\$26,800
Fresno	17	6	1	\$53,550
Glenn	1	1	0	\$2,600
Humboldt	3	3	1	\$2,300
Imperial	11	6	0	\$29,350
Kern	1	0	0	\$1,600
Lake	16	15	1	\$12,900
Lassen	1	0	1	\$0
Los Angeles	99	48	2	\$198,300
Madera	9	8	0	\$8,100
Marin	11	0	2	\$69,200
Mariposa	3	2	0	\$2,000
Mendocino	1	0	1	\$550
Merced	1	2	0	\$0
Modoc	1	0	3	\$0
Mono	1	2	0	\$0
Monterey**	9	2	1	\$24,350
Napa	29	21	1	\$74,100
Nevada	4	2	0	\$7,700
Orange***	46	8	0	\$128,100
Placer	26	13	0	\$54,800

■ Northern California
 ■ Southern California

* An accident is considered reportable if: a person dies, disappears, or is injured requiring medical attention beyond first aid; damage to a vessel or other property damage exceeds \$500; or there is complete loss of a vessel. Not all accidents are reported to the Department, due to either nonobservance or ignorance of the reporting law.

** Monterey County statistics are split between Northern and Southern California.

*** The increase in boating accidents in Orange County when compared with accident totals appearing in previous reports is not due to an increase in accidents, but rather to an increase in the reporting of accidents to the Department.

CALIFORNIA

STATISTICS

2000 California Boating Accidents by County* (continued)

County	Number of Accidents	Number of Injuries	Number of Fatalities	Amount of Property Damage
Plumas	4	3	1	\$0
Riverside	27	26	2	\$35,900
Sacramento	10	4	2	\$26,100
San Bernardino	73	53	5	\$202,900
San Diego	81	48	1	\$189,550
San Francisco	7	2	1	\$58,100
San Joaquin	63	33	3	\$151,600
San Luis Obispo	17	7	2	\$32,450
San Mateo	4	3	0	\$2,000
Santa Barbara	6	1	0	\$16,100
Santa Clara	14	15	1	\$45,050
Santa Cruz	6	1	2	\$9,750
Shasta	51	37	0	\$94,450
Sierra	1	0	1	\$0
Siskiyou	2	1	0	\$550
Solano	15	11	3	\$35,300
Sonoma	6	1	0	\$23,000
Stanislaus	12	8	0	\$48,800
Sutter	4	4	0	\$14,000
Tehama	4	0	0	\$10,500
Trinity	15	13	2	\$0
Tulare	9	5	0	\$27,100
Tuolumne	33	23	2	\$115,450
Ventura	15	5	3	\$54,600
Yolo	5	5	0	\$26,800
Yuba	9	6	0	\$25,100
TOTAL	906	524	51	\$3,038,400

■ Northern California
 ■ Southern California

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CALIFORNIA



STATISTICS

1980-2000 California Boating Accidents*

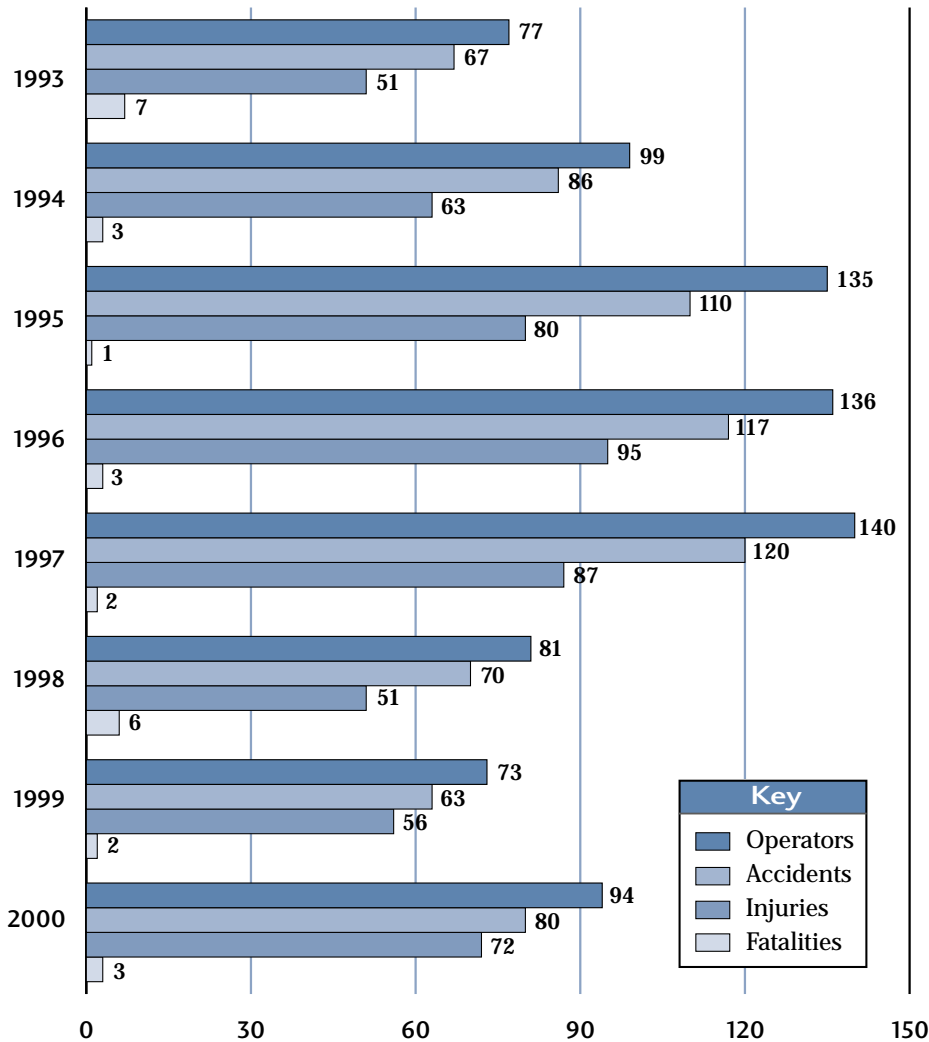
Year	Number of Accidents	Number of Injuries	Number of Fatalities	Amount of Property Damage
1980	657	270	112	\$2,039,800
1981	728	319	87	\$3,655,630
1982	696	323	103	\$2,497,000
1983	648	333	95	\$3,713,100
1984	791	341	93	\$2,491,700
1985	869	403	76	\$4,246,400
1986	741	319	68	\$2,645,500
1987	905	325	54	\$3,381,600
1988	745	333	51	\$2,396,100
1989	632	371	43	\$3,669,800
1990	761	416	50	\$3,131,200
1991	750	421	58	\$2,653,800
1992	689	447	59	\$4,360,100
1993	743	434	67	\$2,052,800
1994	709	386	40	\$1,740,300
1995	833	490	52	\$2,536,500
1996	850	537	56	\$2,241,700
1997	925	526	43	\$3,266,800
1998	772	413	58	\$2,299,600
1999	907	491	42	\$2,864,000
2000	906	524	51	\$3,038,400

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CALIFORNIA

STATISTICS

1993-2000 California Youth Operator Accidents*



**An accident is considered reportable if: a person dies, disappears, or is injured requiring medical attention beyond first aid; damage to a vessel or other property exceeds \$500; or there is complete loss of a vessel. Not all accidents are reported to the Department, due to either nonobservance or ignorance of the reporting law.*

- ◆ 50% of youth operators involved in accidents were younger than 16 years.
- ◆ Of that group, 74% did not have an adult on board.

The Department reminds boaters that California state law requires boat operators to be at least 16 years of age when operating a motorized vessel over 15 HP alone. Persons 12-15 may operate if a person of at least 18 years of age is attentively supervising. (See attached information regarding new laws in this press package for further details.)



CALIFORNIA

STATISTICS

2000 California PWC Accidents by County*

County	Number of Accidents	Number of Injuries	Number of Fatalities	Amount of Property Damage
Amador	2	1	1	\$0
Butte	6	7	0	\$7,500
Calaveras	15	9	0	\$30,450
Colusa	1	0	0	\$2,000
Contra Costa	4	3	1	\$1,350
El Dorado	6	4	0	\$15,900
Fresno	8	4	0	\$23,000
Kern	9	5	0	\$28,750
Kings	1	0	0	\$1,600
Lake	10	10	0	\$8,400
Los Angeles	31	23	0	\$34,850
Madera	5	6	0	\$5,500
Mariposa	1	1	0	\$0
Merced	1	2	0	\$0
Monterey**	1	1	0	\$600
Napa	13	8	0	\$22,050
Nevada	1	2	0	\$0
Orange***	5	1	0	\$4,950
Placer	11	8	0	\$24,900
Plumas	1	1	0	\$0
Riverside	20	16	1	\$23,900
Sacramento	2	2	0	\$1,550
San Bernardino	33	30	3	\$48,000
San Diego	33	34	0	\$21,450
San Joaquin	12	9	0	\$14,900
San Luis Obispo	6	6	0	\$3,000
Santa Barbara	1	0	0	\$3,000
Santa Clara	4	6	0	\$4,500
Shasta	11	11	0	\$24,600
Solano	3	1	0	\$3,400
Sonoma	1	0	0	\$5,000
Stanislaus	9	6	0	\$12,800
Trinity	3	3	0	\$0
Tulare	4	4	0	\$13,600
Tuolumne	12	7	0	\$30,450
Ventura	1	1	0	\$2,500
Yolo	2	4	0	\$6,800
Yuba	4	2	0	\$5,400
TOTAL	293	238	6	\$436,650

■ Northern California
 ■ Southern California

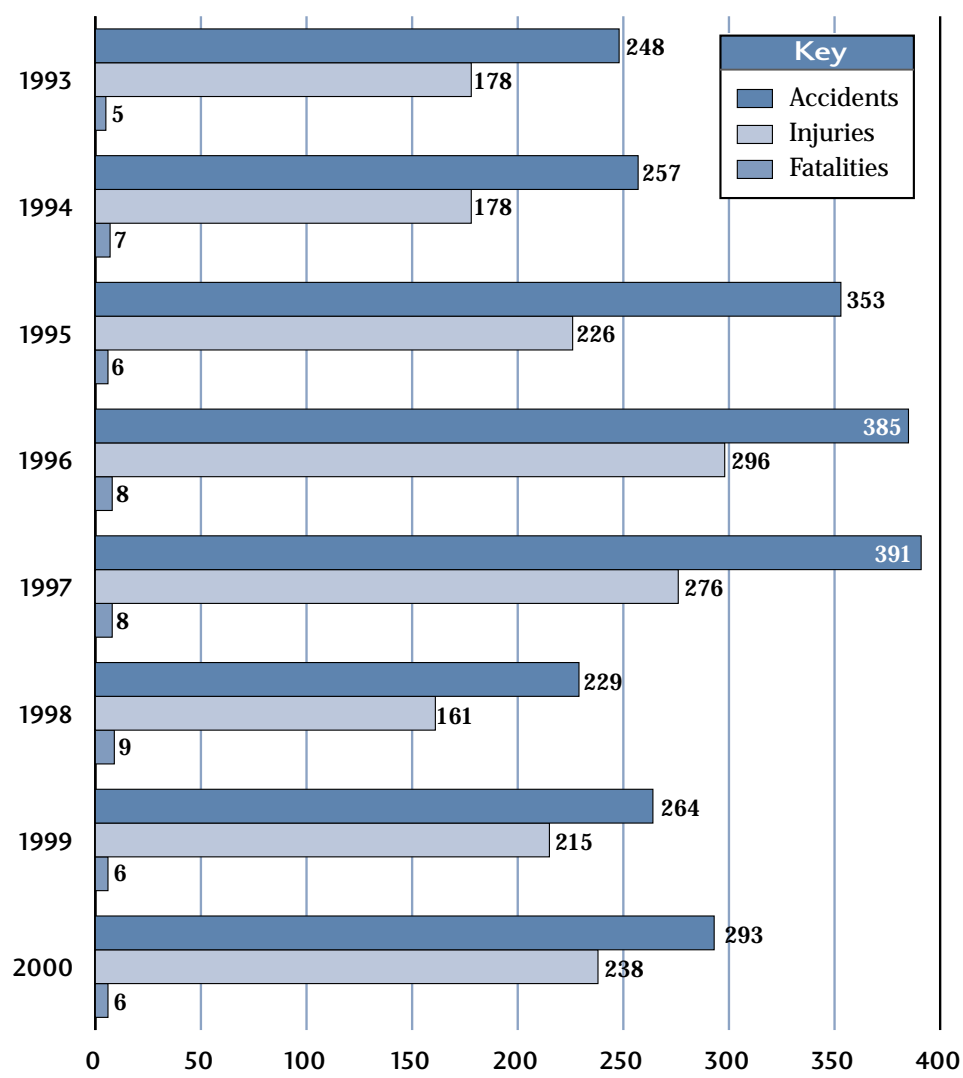
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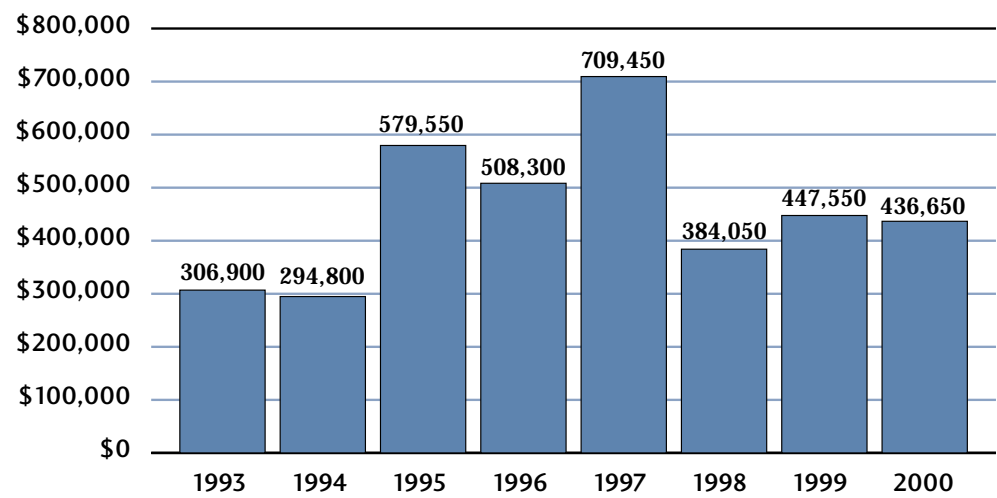
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1993-2000 California PWC Accidents, Injuries, and Fatalities*



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1993-2000 California PWC Property Damage

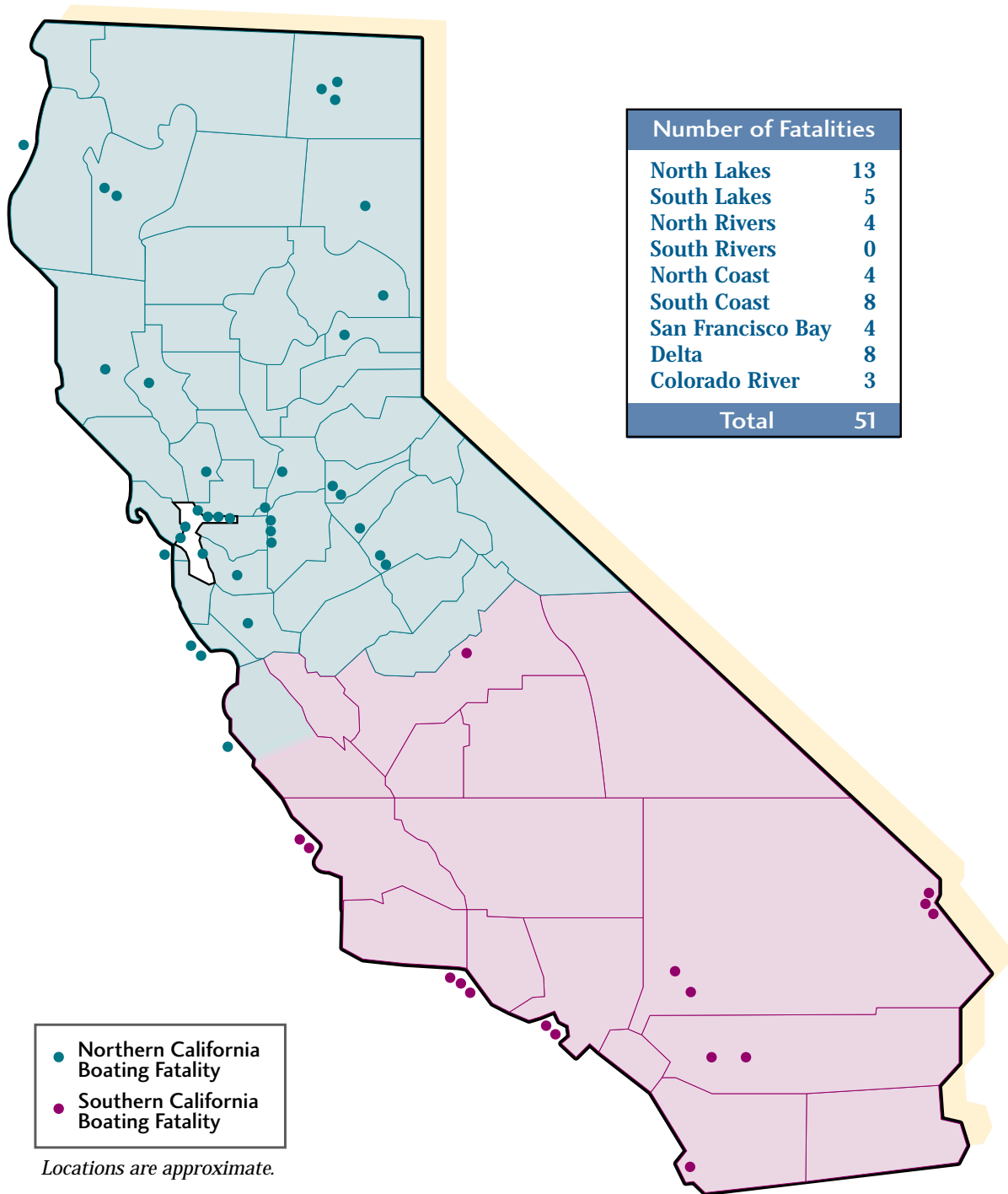




CALIFORNIA

STATISTICS

2000 California Boating Fatalities by Location*



* Monterey County statistics are split between Northern and Southern California.

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STATISTICS

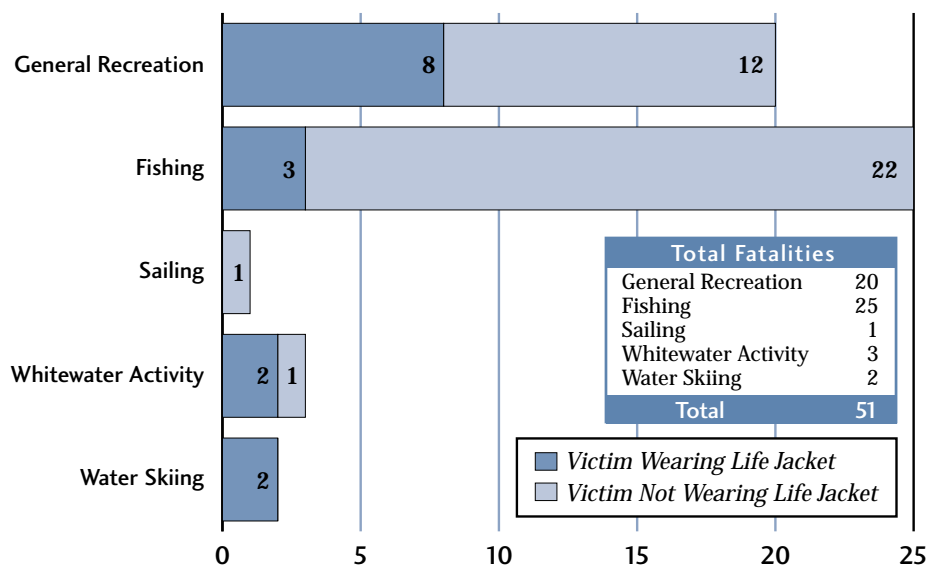
Alcohol-Related Boating Fatalities

- ◆ Where testing could be conducted, 39% of boating fatalities were found to be alcohol related.
- ◆ All were single vessel accidents. Falls overboard and capsizing were the leading types of accidents.
- ◆ All of the victims drowned. None were wearing life jackets.
- ◆ 67% of the victims were intoxicated passengers. This finding underscores the Department’s long-held view that the “designated driver” concept, which works well regarding motor vehicles, does not go far enough in the boating environment. Intoxicated passengers in and around vessels are exposed to dangers that do not affect passengers in a motor vehicle, such as falling overboard or swimming too close to a moving propeller.

Therefore, the Department recommends that neither operators nor passengers drink alcoholic beverages while boating.

Fatal Boating Accidents by Type and Life Jacket Usage*

- ◆ 49% of boating accidents victims were involved in fishing-related activities. 88% of those victims were not wearing life jackets.



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CALIFORNIA

STATISTICS

New California Boating Laws

Children

As of January 1, 2001, California law now requires children under the age of 12 to wear a life jacket when aboard an underway vessel 26 feet in length or less.

Exceptions to this law include the operation of a sailboat that does not exceed 30 feet in length or a dinghy used directly between a moored boat and the shore, or between two moored boats.

Personal Watercraft and Water Skiers

As of January 1, 2001, every person on board a personal watercraft and any person on water skis, an aquaplane or similar device must wear a Coast Guard-approved Type I, II, III or V life jacket.

Exceptions to this law include a person aboard a personal watercraft or being towed behind a vessel, if that person is a performer in a professional exhibition, or preparing to participate in an official regatta, marine parade, tournament or exhibition. In lieu of wearing a Type I, II, III or V Coast Guard-approved life jacket, any person engaged in slalom skiing on a marked course, or any person engaged in barefoot, jump or trick water skiing may elect to wear a wetsuit designed for the activity and labeled by the manufacturer as a water ski wetsuit. A Coast Guard-approved Type I, II, III, or V life jacket must be carried in the tow vessel for each skier electing to wear a wetsuit.



All Vessels

As of January 1, 2001, any person convicted of one moving violation while operating a vessel shall be ordered by the court to complete and pass a boating safety course approved by the Department of Boating and Waterways. Proof of completion and passage of the course must be submitted to the court within seven months of the time of the conviction.

CALIFORNIA

2000 California Boating Safety Tips

Before Going Out...

Education

Many accidents happen because the operator did not know some of the most basic boating safety rules. The Department offers a comprehensive home study course that boaters can order free of charge by calling (888) 326-2822. The Department also offers free safety information including videos, pamphlets, and other materials on such topics as PWC operation, water skiing, and fishing.

The Department sponsors a number of aquatic programs statewide where boaters can get on-the-water training in a variety of activities. Visit our website at www.dbw.ca.gov to locate classes in your area, or link to the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary or the U.S. Power Squadrons who also offer courses.

Maintenance and Equipment Check

Check that your vessel is in good working order before taking it out on the water. Many accidents caused by inoperable bilge pumps, engine problems, and leaks in the hull could have been avoided with proper maintenance.

Make sure your vessel is equipped with all required safety equipment and that everyone on board knows where it is.

Check the Weather

Many accidents could have been avoided if the operator had checked the weather before venturing out. For your local forecast, visit the National Weather Service's website at www.wrh.noaa.gov/wrhq/nwspage.html. Weather broadcasts can be heard 24 hours a day in Northern California from San Francisco on 162.55 MHz and from Eureka on 162.40 MHz and in Southern California from Los Angeles on 162.55 MHz and from San Diego on 162.4 MHz. Know your vessel's limitations concerning the type of water conditions it can handle and tell someone where you are going and when you plan to return.

Once Underway...

Avoiding a Collision



Situation: Meeting head-on
Rule: Keep to the right

Situation: Crossing
Rule: Give the right-of-way to vessels ahead and to the right

Situation: Overtaking another vessel
Rule: Give the right of way to the other vessel and allow plenty of room

Docking

Be thoroughly familiar with the way your vessel handles. Many accidents occur because operators aren't familiar with how the vessel shifts or how quickly the vessel responds to steering or throttle changes.

Operators should have a passenger act as a "lookout" to help keep clear of the dock, other passing vessels or people in the water. Speed is restricted to 5 MPH in the docking area.

The operator and passengers should keep their hands inside the vessel in the docking area. Severe injuries, including crushed fingers and even amputations, have resulted from boaters trying to help fend off the dock. Even vessels that are traveling at 5 MPH present hazardous situations. The operator should ensure that everyone on board is aware of this danger.





CALIFORNIA

STATISTICS

2000 California Registered Vessels and PWC

County	Total Registered PWC	Total Registered Vessels (includes PWC)
Alameda	4,273	30,758
Alpine	9	111
Amador	171	2,990
Butte	1,052	15,582
Calaveras	294	5,069
Colusa	83	1,290
Contra Costa	5,631	38,799
Del Norte	46	1,442
El Dorado	979	13,350
Fresno	2,566	21,626
Glenn	111	1,841
Humboldt	449	7,422
Imperial	605	2,590
Inyo	184	1,237
Kern	2,887	15,806
Kings	557	2,697
Lake	870	10,235
Lassen	189	3,102
Los Angeles	37,021	124,038
Madera	574	5,493
Marin	645	9,948
Mariposa	75	1,357
Mendocino	357	5,052
Merced	725	6,271
Modoc	19	764
Mono	165	1,585
Monterey*	1,116	9,204
Napa	626	7,196
Nevada	396	8,958

Northern California
 Southern California

* Monterey County statistics are split between Northern and Southern California.

CALIFORNIA

2000 California Registered Vessels and PWC *(continued)*

County	Total Registered PWC	Total Registered Vessels (includes PWC)
Orange	24,749	76,818
Placer	1,897	18,716
Plumas	191	3,623
Riverside	15,751	45,471
Sacramento	4,340	44,409
San Benito	301	1,755
San Bernardino	16,469	48,442
San Diego	12,890	65,000
San Francisco	462	4,436
San Joaquin	2,418	24,297
San Luis Obispo	1,491	12,481
San Mateo	2,116	14,218
Santa Barbara	1,234	10,310
Santa Clara	5,478	32,242
Santa Cruz	577	8,013
Shasta	1,136	17,202
Sierra	10	344
Siskiyou	102	3,923
Solano	1,696	15,390
Sonoma	2,230	19,890
Stanislaus	2,149	17,898
Sutter	492	5,230
Tehama	247	4,090
Trinity	80	2,065
Tulare	1,308	8,953
Tuolumne	282	5,727
Ventura	5,908	26,093
Yolo	419	5,801
Yuba	275	3,797
Out of State	616	2,396
GRAND TOTAL	169,989	904,843

■ Northern California
 ■ Southern California