

US Coast Guard top causes of boating accidents (2016)



**Table 5 • PRIMARY CONTRIBUTING FACTOR OF ACCIDENTS & CASUALTIES 2016**

		Accidents	Deaths	Injuries
<b>Operation of Vessel</b> <b>2600 Accidents</b> <b>285 Deaths</b> <b>1908 Injuries</b>	Alcohol use	282	87	264
	Drug use	10	9	2
	Excessive speed	360	39	275
	Failure to vent	33	0	38
	Improper lookout	475	20	380
	Inadequate onboard navigation lights	17	1	7
	Navigation rules violation	213	10	157
	Operator inattention	597	45	373
	Operator inexperience	480	62	301
	Restricted vision	71	5	54
	Sharp turn	59	7	54
	Starting in gear	3	0	3
<b>Loading of Passengers or Gear</b> <b>145 Accidents</b> <b>60 Deaths</b> <b>94 Injuries</b>	Improper anchoring	30	2	13
	Improper loading	51	17	25
	Overloading	37	27	42
	People on gunwale, bow or transom	27	14	14
<b>Failure of Boat or Boat Equipment</b> <b>419 Accidents</b> <b>20 Deaths</b> <b>149 Injuries</b>	Equipment failure	52	9	27
	Hull failure	44	2	5
	Machinery failure	323	9	117
<b>Environment</b> <b>660 Accidents</b> <b>139 Deaths</b> <b>381 Injuries</b>	Congested waters	38	0	31
	Dam/lock	9	8	4
	Force of wave/wake	160	7	137
	Hazardous waters	205	80	97
	Missing/inadequate navigation aid	34	3	9
	Weather	214	41	103
<b>Miscellaneous</b> <b>639 Accidents</b> <b>197 Deaths</b> <b>371 Injuries</b>	Carbon monoxide exposure	2	2	5
	Ignition of fuel or vapor	56	1	56
	Sudden medical condition	27	19	9
	Other	352	54	248
	Unknown	202	121	53
<b>All categories combined</b>		<b>4463</b>	<b>701</b>	<b>2903</b>