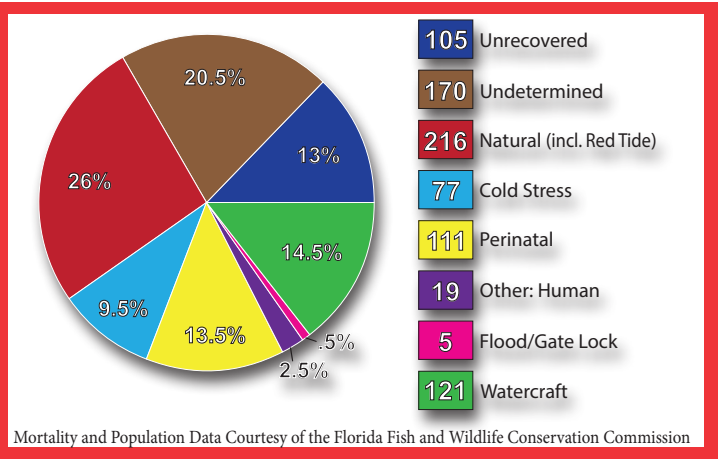


# 2018 Manatee Mortality Statistics

## 823 Confirmed Deaths

2018 Minimum Estimated Number of Manatees in Florida: 6,131\*



## Category Descriptions

### Cold Stress

- Manatee death caused by exposure to prolonged cold weather. Manatee is usually malnourished and emaciated.

### Watercraft

- Manatee hit by a boat, personal watercraft, barge, or other type of vessel. Death may result from propeller wounds, impact, crushing, or any combination of these.

### Perinatal

- Manatee less than 150 cm (5 feet) in total length, not determined to have died from human-related causes.

### Natural

- Manatee death resulting from infectious or non-infectious disease, birthing complication, natural accident, or other natural causes such as red tide toxicity.

### Other Human

- Manatee death caused by vandalism; poaching; pipe or culvert entrapment; entanglement in rope, line, or net; or ingestion of fishing gear or debris.

### Flood Gate/ Canal Lock

- Manatee killed by crushing or asphyxiation in flood gate or canal lock.

### Unrecovered

- Manatee death was verified, but the carcass was not recovered.

### Undetermined

- Manatee death where the cause of death could not be determined due to decomposition or other reasons.

Manatee Mortality Table with 5-year Summary

| Year     | Watercraft | Flood/ Gate Lock | Other Human | Perinatal | Cold Stress | Natural | Undetermined | Unrecovered | Total |
|----------|------------|------------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|---------|--------------|-------------|-------|
| 2018     | 121        | 5                | 19          | 111       | 77          | 216     | 170          | 105         | 824   |
| 2017     | 111        | 3                | 15          | 117       | 30          | 91      | 144          | 27          | 538   |
| 2016     | 106        | 2                | 6           | 113       | 24          | 86      | 147          | 36          | 520   |
| 2015     | 86         | 5                | 11          | 91        | 18          | 44      | 119          | 31          | 405   |
| 2014     | 69         | 3                | 9           | 100       | 26          | 29      | 118          | 17          | 371   |
| 2013     | 73         | 5                | 12          | 129       | 40          | 198     | 273          | 100         | 830   |
| 5 Yr Avg | 89         | 3                | 10          | 110       | 27          | 89      | 159          | 42          | 533   |

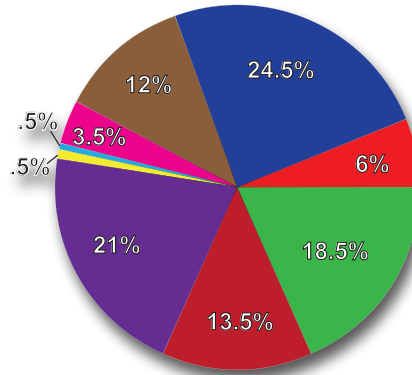
\*Estimated Florida manatee population count was conducted January 6-8, 2018.

# 2018 Manatee Rescue Statistics

©Save the Manatee®, Cora Berchem



**135 Rescues**



Rescue Data Courtesy of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission



Report injured, dead, tagged, or harassed manatees to the **Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week: call **1-888-404-3922**, text or email **tip@myfwc.com** on your mobile phone, or use **VHF Channel 16** on your marine radio. You can also download the free **FWC Reporter** app.

## If you see an injured manatee:

Immediately contact FWC and try to safely maintain visual contact with the manatee.

- It is important for biologists to know the exact location of the manatee.

Provide a good description or get a picture of the manatee.

- A good description or picture/video can help biologists better understand the manatee's condition.

**DO NOT** approach the manatee too closely.

- A distressed manatee may be more inclined to flee.

**DO NOT** attempt to disentangle or assist the manatee yourself.

- Trying to disentangle or assist a distressed manatee can cause injury to you and to the manatee. A biologist must assess the condition of the manatee and determine whether further medical treatment is necessary.

## Other ways to help manatees:

- Do not throw fishing line, hooks, or trash in the water.
- When boating, wear polarized sunglasses, obey posted speed zones, and stay in marked channels. Do not motor through seagrass.
- Don't touch or feed manatees, or give them water.
- Never separate a mother and her calf.
- Support manatee protection laws and initiatives.

### Manatee Rescue Table with 5-Year Summary

| Year     | Watercraft | Entanglement | Entrapment | Human Other | Calf of Rescued Mother | Calf by Itself | Mother of Rescued Calf | Natural | Undetermined | Total |
|----------|------------|--------------|------------|-------------|------------------------|----------------|------------------------|---------|--------------|-------|
| 2018     | 25         | 18           | 28         | 1           | 5                      | 16             | 1                      | 33      | 8            | 135   |
| 2017     | 25         | 13           | 24         | 2           | 1                      | 20             | 0                      | 15      | 1            | 101   |
| 2016     | 30         | 14           | 22         | 1           | 7                      | 11             | 1                      | 30      | 5            | 121   |
| 2015     | 20         | 9            | 29         | 0           | 1                      | 15             | 3                      | 13      | 0            | 90    |
| 2014     | 16         | 8            | 4          | 2           | 1                      | 8              | 1                      | 24      | 2            | 66    |
| 2013     | 14         | 11           | 4          | 2           | 1                      | 14             | 2                      | 40      | 0            | 88    |
| 5 Yr Avg | 21         | 11           | 17         | 1           | 2                      | 14             | 1                      | 24      | 2            | 93    |