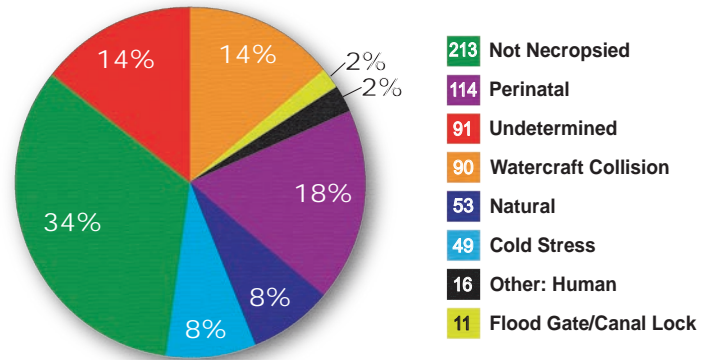


# 2020 Manatee Mortality Statistics

## 637 Confirmed Deaths

2019 Minimum Estimated Number of Manatees in Florida: 5,733\*



Mortality and Population Data Courtesy of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

## 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 (Not Necropsied)

- Manatee death was verified, but the carcass was not recovered or was not necropsied (an autopsy performed on an animal).

### Undetermined

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

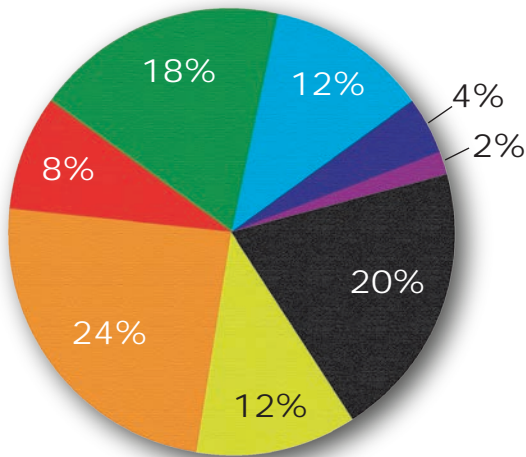
Manatee Mortality Table with 5-year Summary

Year	Watercraft	Flood/ Gate Lock	Other: Human	Perinatal	Cold Stress	Natural	Not Necropsied	Undetermined	Total
2020	90**	11	16	114	49	53	213	91	637
2019	137	5	9	71	64	79	129	113	607
2018	124	6	21	113	85	230	105	140	824
2017	111	3	15	117	30	93	26	143	538
2016	106	2	6	113	24	86	36	147	520
2015	86	5	11	91	18	44	31	119	405
5 Yr Avg	113	4	12	101	44	106	65	132	579

\*Estimated Florida manatee population based on the most recent count conducted January 28 to February 2, 2019.

\*\*Watercraft deaths undercounted due to information gap in known causes of death from pandemic-related limitations of necropsies. An unknown number of watercraft deaths were potentially classified as "not necropsied."

# 2020 Manatee Rescue Statistics



- 29 Watercraft Collision
- 24 Entrapment; human structure
- 22 Natural
- 14 Entanglement
- 14 Calf by itself
- 10 Undetermined
- 5 Calf of rescued mother
- 2 Human; other



Rescue Data and Photo 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 and rehabilitation efforts are accomplished by our various partners within the Manatee Rescue and Rehabilitation Partnership (MRP).



## Manatee Rescue Table with 5-Year Summary

Year	Watercraft	Entanglement	Entrapment	Other: Human	Calf of Rescued Mother	Calf by Itself	Mother of Rescued Calf	Natural	Undetermined	Total
2020	29	14	24	2	5	14	0	22	10	120
2019	27	10	5	0	4	13	0	32	5	96
2018	25	18	28	2	5	15	1	35	5	134
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
5 Yr Avg	25	13	22	1	4	15	1	25	3	108