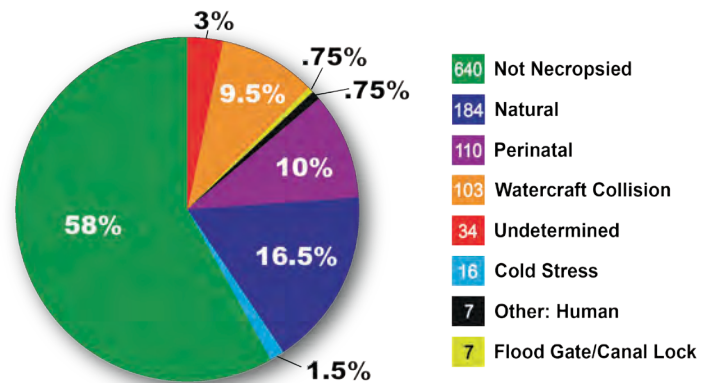


# 2021 Manatee Mortality Statistics

## 1,101 Confirmed Deaths\*

Read more about the unusual mortality event, and the work of Save the Manatee Club and our partners at: [www.savethemanatee.org/algae](http://www.savethemanatee.org/algae)

**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 which compromises the immune system. Manatee is usually malnourished, emaciated, and has white lesions.

### 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.

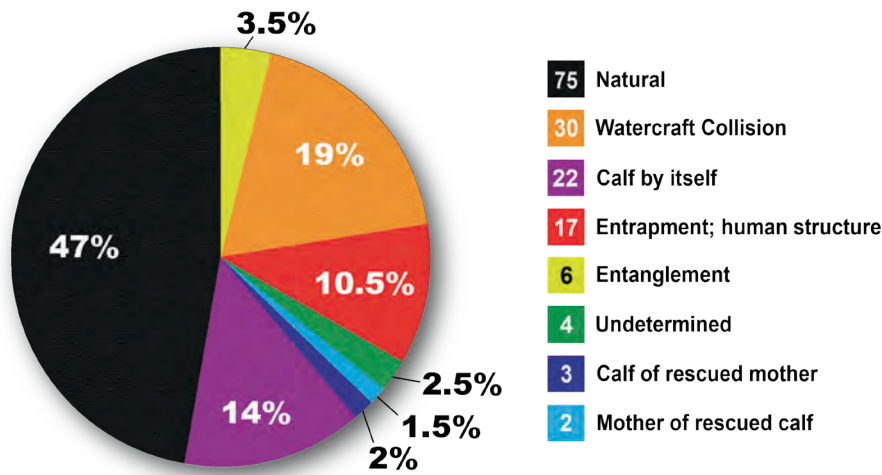
### Manatee Mortality Table with 5-year Summary

Year	Watercraft	Flood/ Gate Lock	Other: Human	Perinatal	Cold Stress	Natural	Not Necropsied	Undetermined	Total
2021	103**	7	7	110	16	184	640	34	1101
2020	91**	11	15	108	47	57	219	89	637
2019	137	5	9	71	64	83	129	109	607
2018	124	6	21	113	85	242	105	128	824
2017	111	3	15	117	30	110	26	126	538
2016	106	2	6	113	24	97	36	136	520
Previous 5 Yr Avg	114	5	13	104	50	118	103	118	625

\*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."

# 2021 Manatee Rescue Statistics



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**, use **VHF Channel 16** on your marine radio, text **Tip@MyFWC.com**, or use the free **FWC Reporter** app on your mobile device.

## 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
2021	30	6	17	0	3	22	2	75	4	159
2020	29	14	24	2	5	14	0	25	7	120
2019	27	10	5	0	4	15	0	33	2	96
2018	25	18	28	2	5	15	1	37	4	135
2017	25	13	24	2	1	20	0	15	1	101
2016	30	14	22	1	7	11	1	30	5	121
Previous 5 Yr Avg	27.2	13.8	20.6	1.4	4.4	15	.4	28	3.8	114.4