

ALASKA PACIFIC

REGIONAL OFFICE



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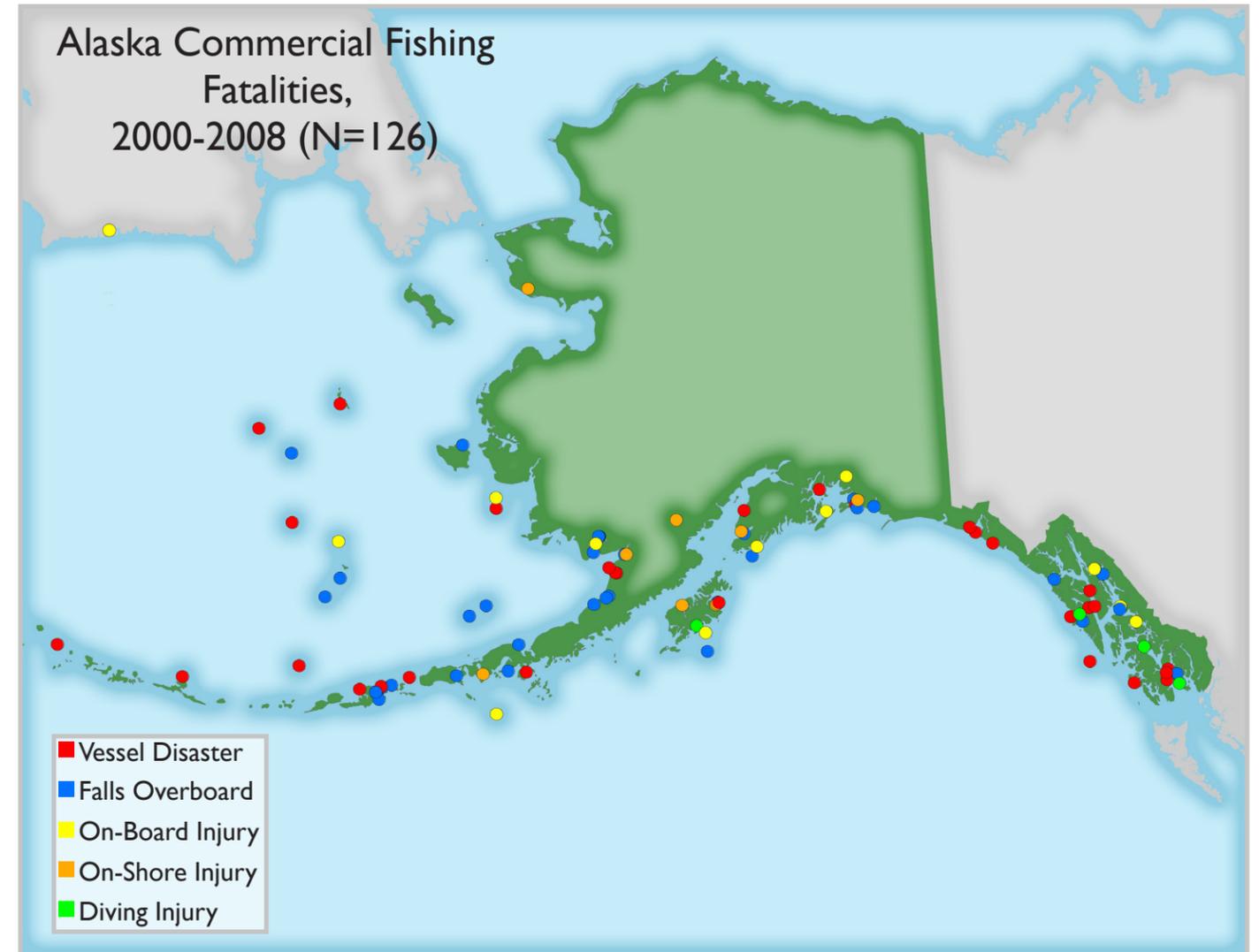
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cdc.gov/niosh/topics/fishing

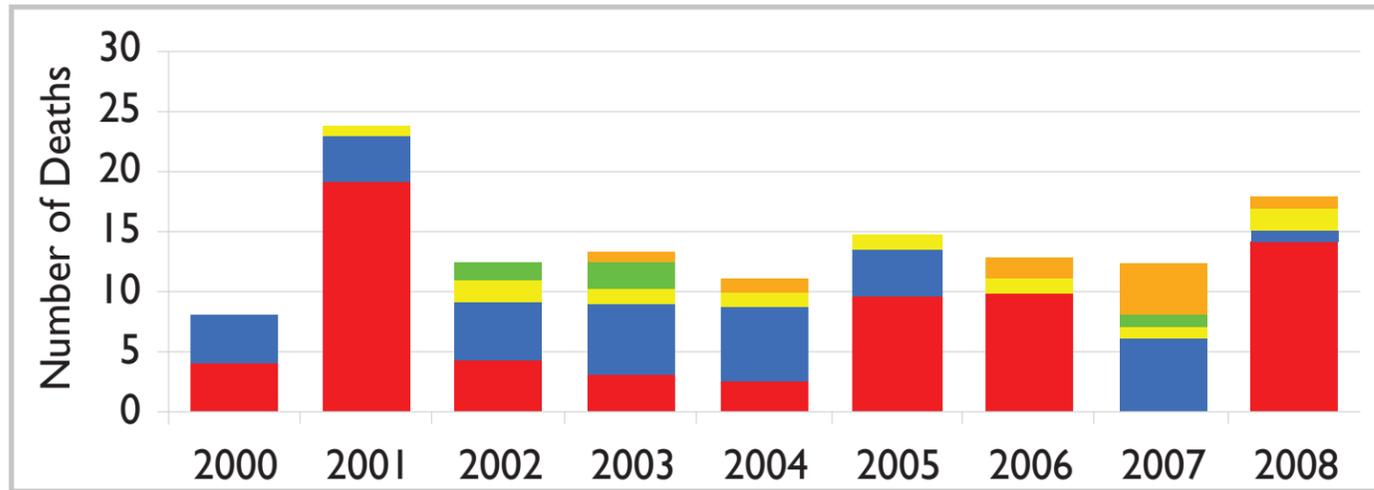
U.S. Commercial Fishing Fatalities

Regional Summary:

Alaska

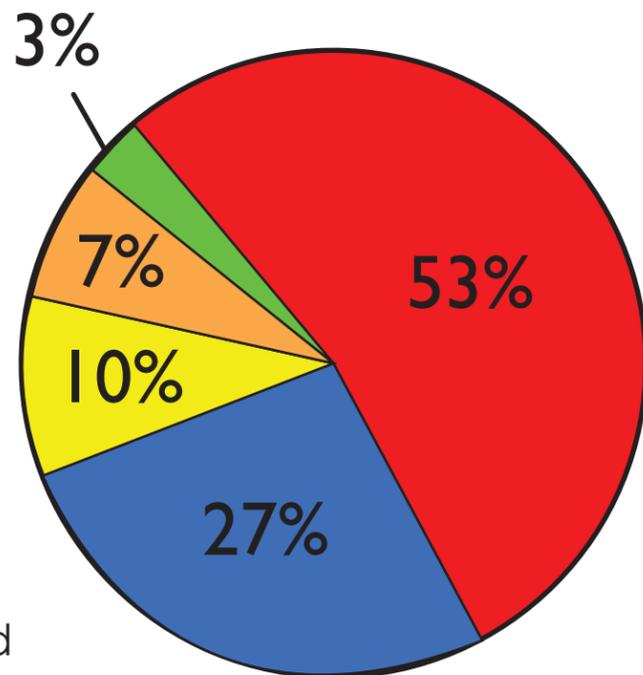


Alaska Commercial Fishing Fatalities by Incident Type, 2000-2008 (n=126)



- Vessel Disaster
- Falls Overboard
- On-Board Injury
- On-Shore Injury
- Diving Injury

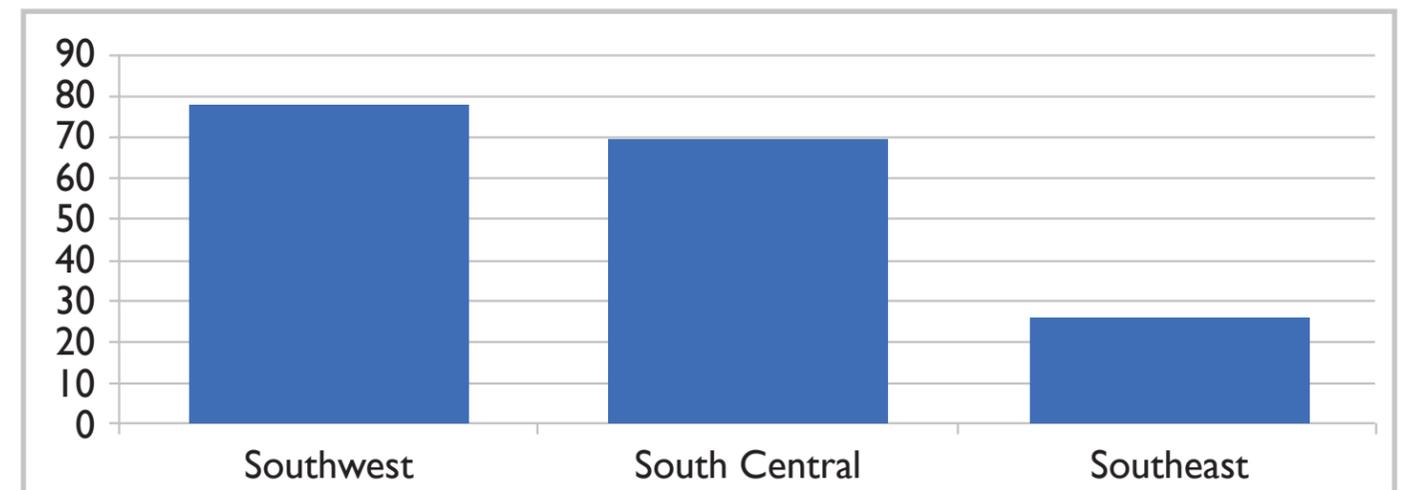
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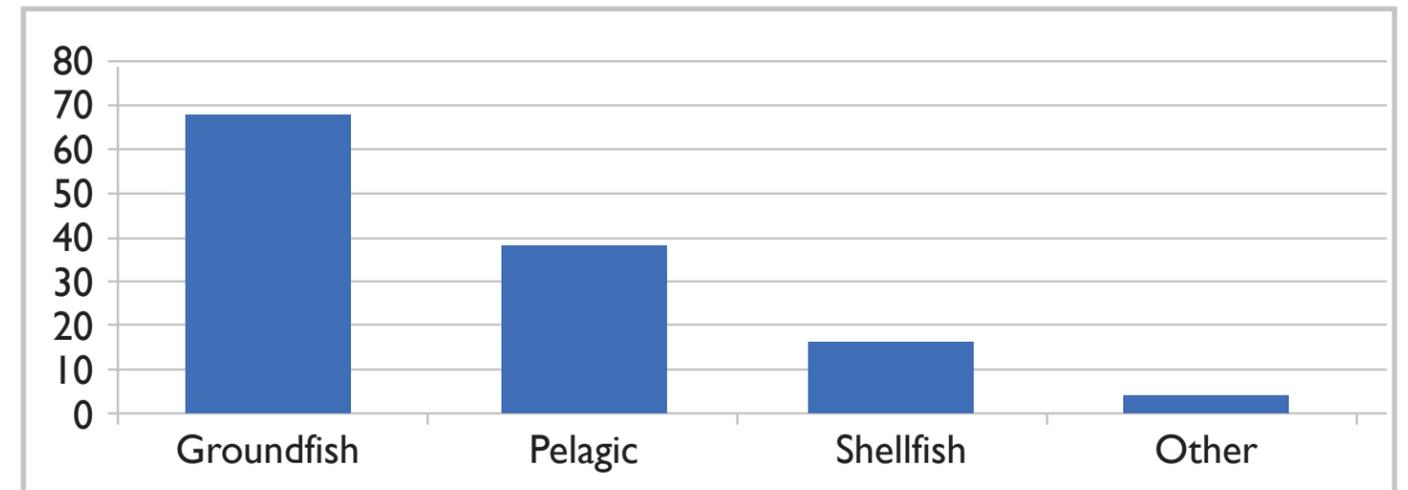
During the nine year period 2000-2008, 126 commercial fishermen died while working off the coast of Alaska, an average of 14 fatalities per year. Of the five US fishing regions analyzed, Alaska had the highest total number of fatalities.

Fifty-three percent of the deaths were caused by a vessel disaster requiring the crew to abandon ship, consistent with the percentage for the whole US fishing industry, where 52 percent of fatalities were due to a vessel disaster. The next largest category of incident type, falls overboard, caused 27 percent of fatalities.

Alaska Commercial Fishing Fatalities by State Region 2000-2008 (n=126)



Alaska Commercial Fishing Fatalities by Fishery, 2000-2008 (n=126)



There are three main fishing regions within Alaska: South East, South Central, and South West. Over three-quarters of the fatalities in Alaska occur in the South West region. The South West region is very large and includes the Bering Sea, Aleutian Islands, and Bristol Bay. It is also the region which has the most commercial fishing activity. Most fatalities occurred in the groundfish fisheries, with Cod, Sole, and Halibut fishermen making up the majority of fatalities. In the pelagic fisheries, salmon fishermen contributed to 95 percent of fatalities. The smallest number of fatalities occurred in the shellfish fisheries, of which most were crab fishermen.