

# ALASKA PACIFIC

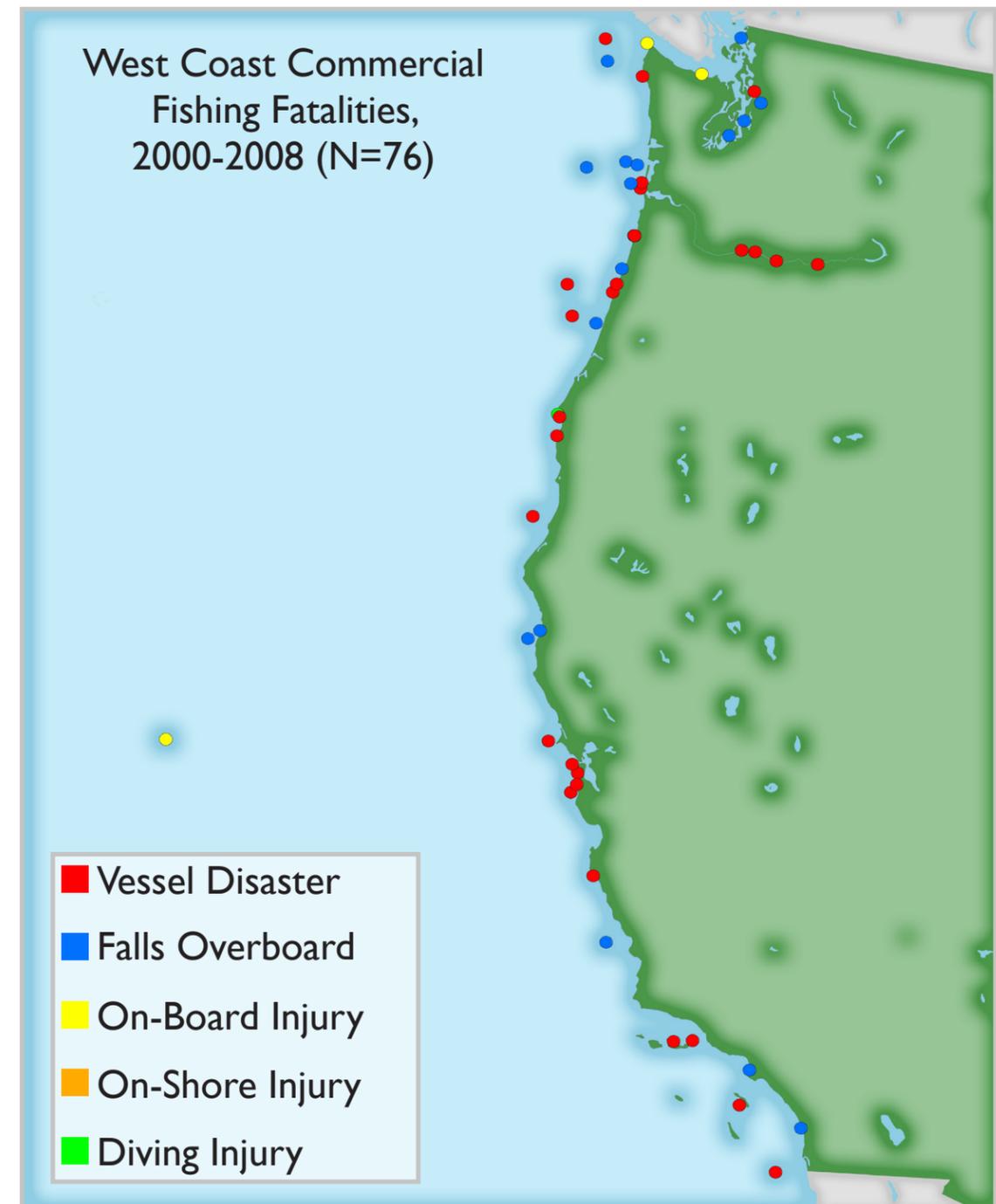
REGIONAL OFFICE



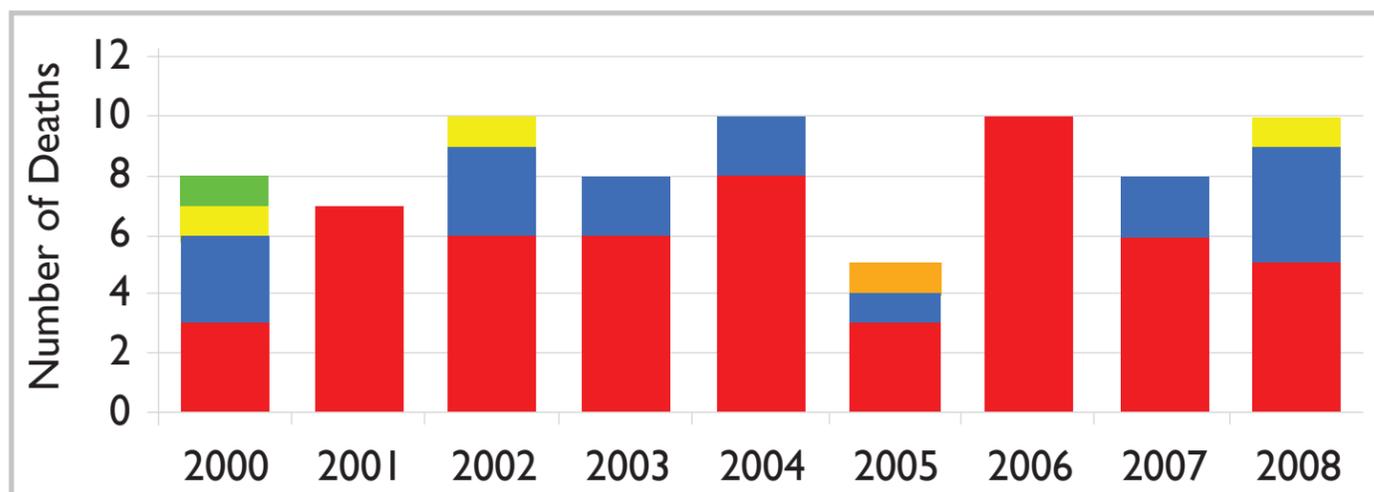
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[cdc.gov/niosh/topics/fishing](http://cdc.gov/niosh/topics/fishing)

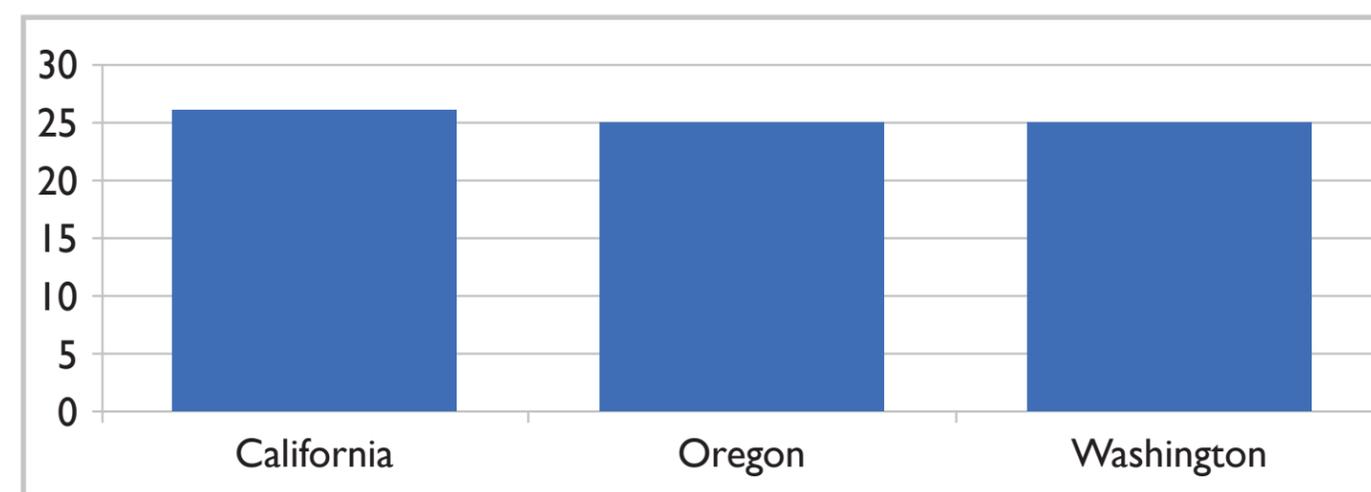
## U.S. Commercial Fishing Fatalities Regional Summary: West Coast



West Coast Commercial Fishing Fatalities by Incident Type, 2000-2008 (n=76)

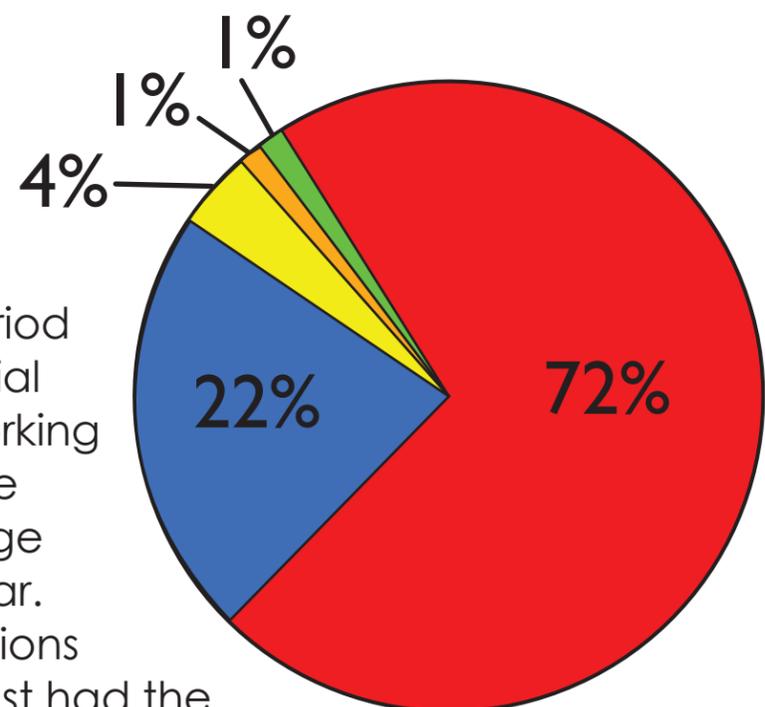


West Coast Commercial Fishing Fatalities by State, 2000-2008 (n=76)



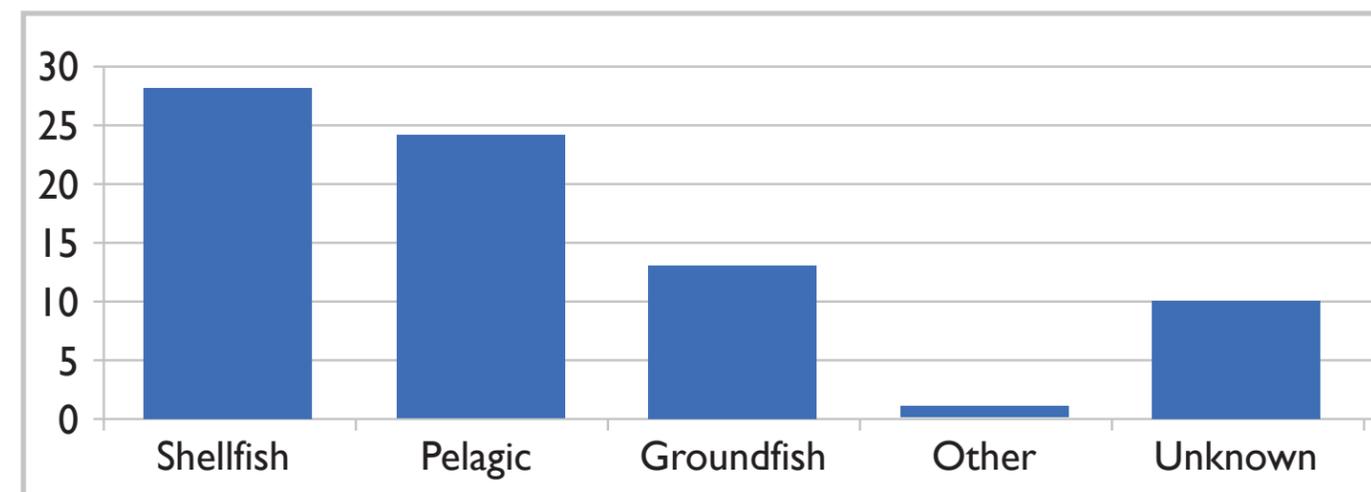
- Vessel Disaster
- Falls Overboard
- On-Board Injury
- On-Shore Injury
- Diving Injury

West Coast Commercial Fishing Fatalities by Incident Type, 2000-2008 (n=76)



During the nine year period 2000-2008, 76 commercial fishermen died while working off the West Coast of the United States, an average of eight fatalities per year. Of the five US fishing regions analyzed, the West Coast had the second fewest total number of fatalities. Nearly three-quarters of the deaths were caused by a vessel disaster requiring the crew to abandon ship, the highest percentage of any region. By comparison, for the whole US fishing industry, 52 percent of fatalities were due to a vessel disaster.

West Coast Commercial Fishing Fatalities by Fishery, 2000-2008 (n=76)



Three states make up the West Coast fishing region: Washington, Oregon, and California. All of the states had about the same number of fatalities for the nine year study period. Most of the fatalities occurred in the shellfish fisheries, of which 86 percent were Dungeness crab fishermen. In the pelagic fisheries, half of the deaths were among salmon fishermen, with the other half being a mix of fishermen in smaller scale fisheries. Fatalities in the groundfish fisheries were fairly evenly spread across six different species.