

Highlights from the 1998 to 2003 U.S. National PFD Wear Rate Observational Studies

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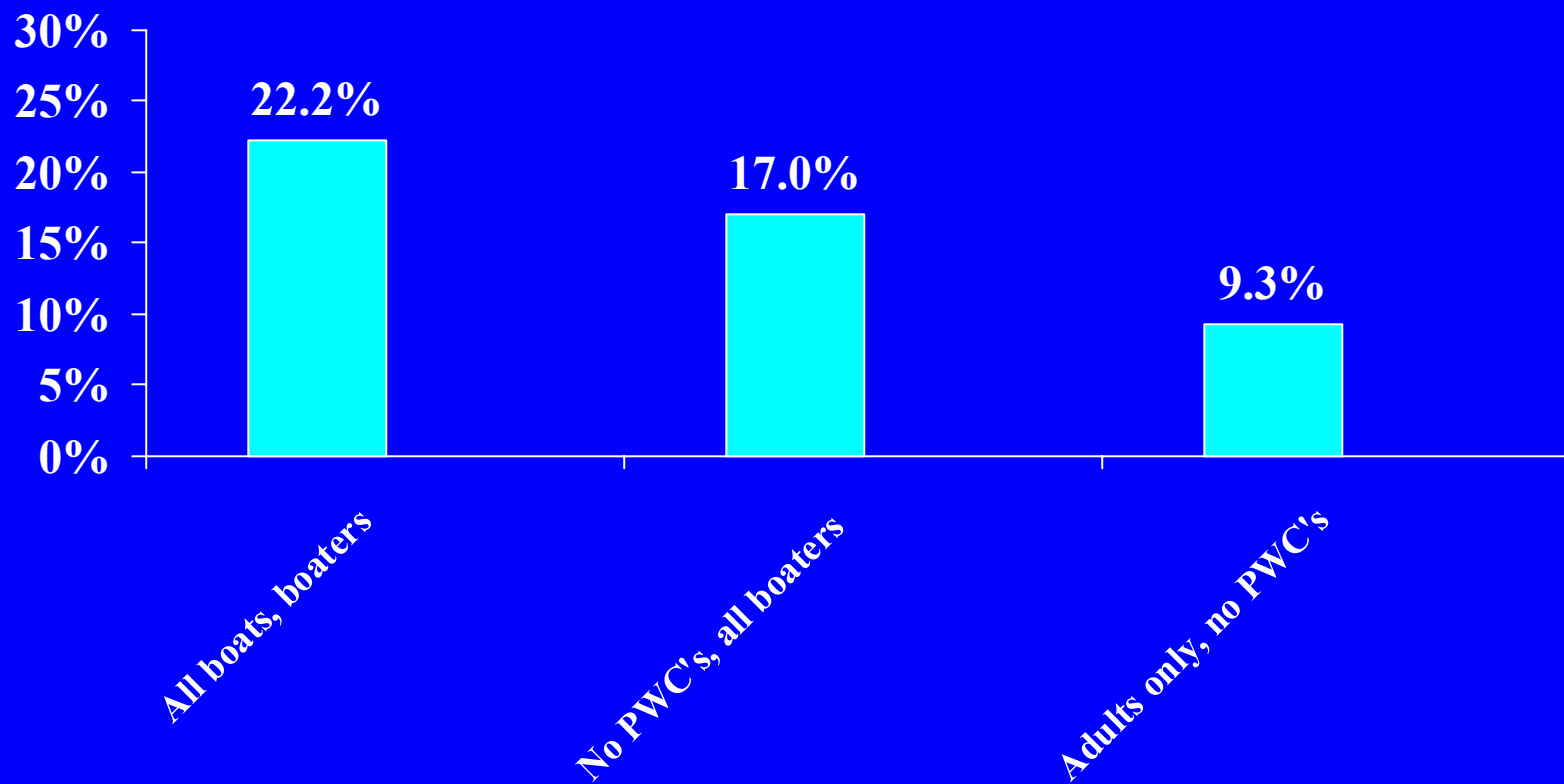
Methods Used in Observational Studies

- Random, stratified sample of states (n=30)
(19 coastal states and 11 inland states)
- 4 locations in each state (CA=8) (n=124)
(Original selection of sites aided by local U.S Coast Guard and Auxillary personnel plus state boating officers and/or fish/game officers; sites attempted to reflect range of boating venues in state but needed to be in relatively close proximity to each other)
- Each site observed for approximately 4 hours, on a Saturday or Sunday morning or afternoon between July 4th and Labor Day.
(Viewing locations were on land at narrowings, bridges)
- Trained observers worked in pairs with one calling out information using high powered binoculars and other recording trading off frequently

Methods Used in Observational Studies

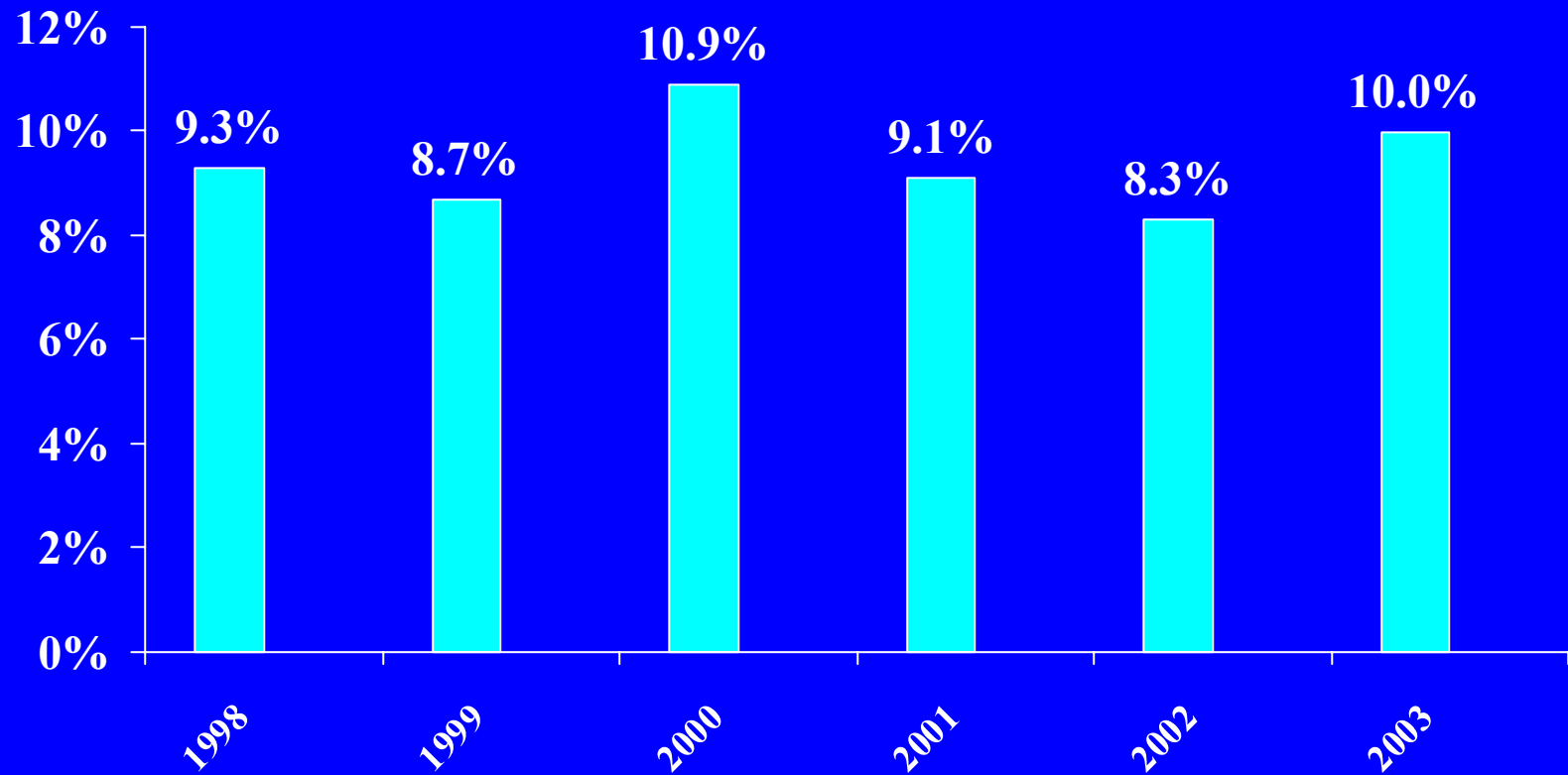
- Each year approximately 14,000 boats with 38,000 boaters were observed.
- Six year totals (1998-2003) were:
 - 85,266 boats
 - 229,891 boaters

Overall Wear Rates 1998 to 2003



Annual Wear Rate Trends 1998 to 2003

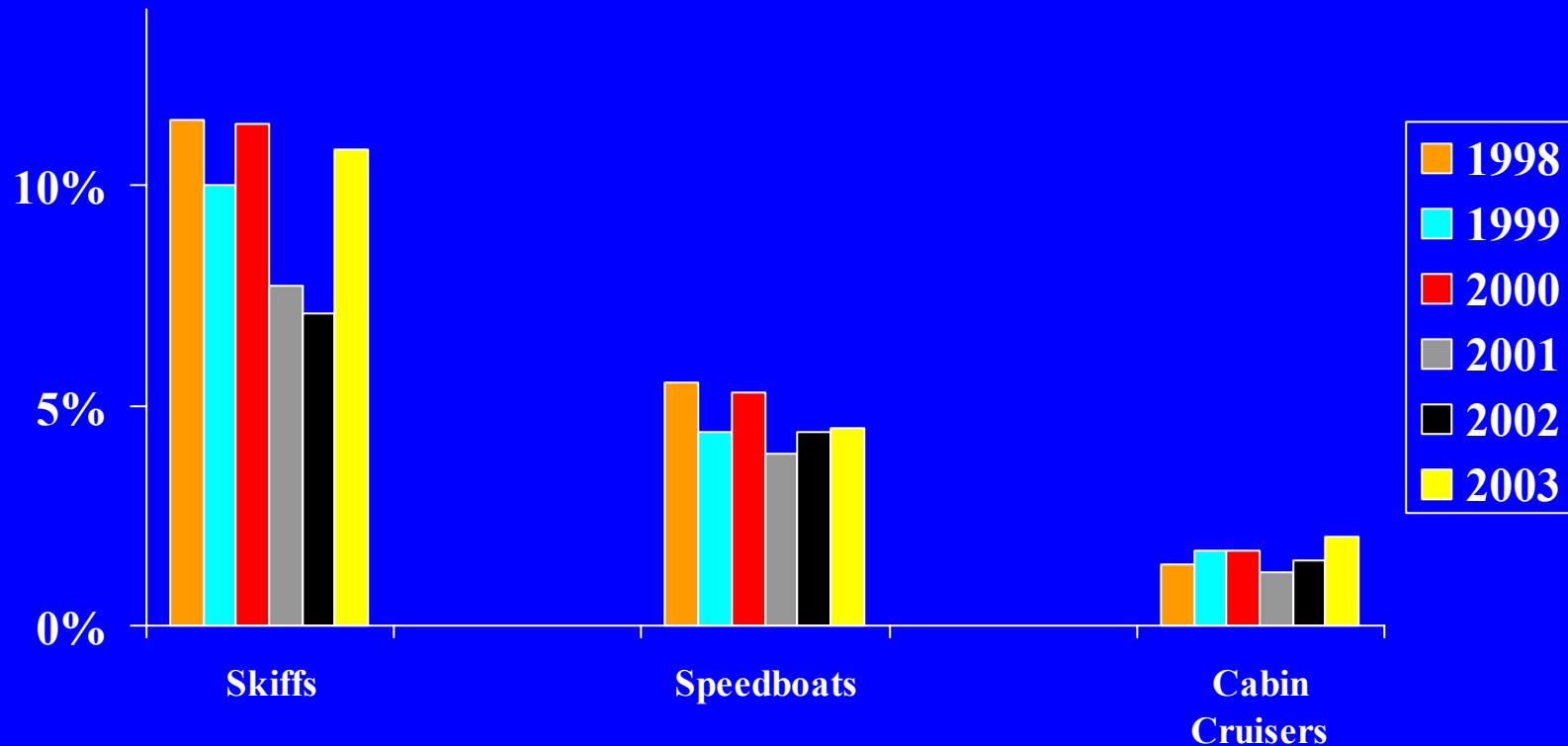
(Adult Boaters only, excluding PWCs)



Adult Annual Wear Rate Trends

Power Boats

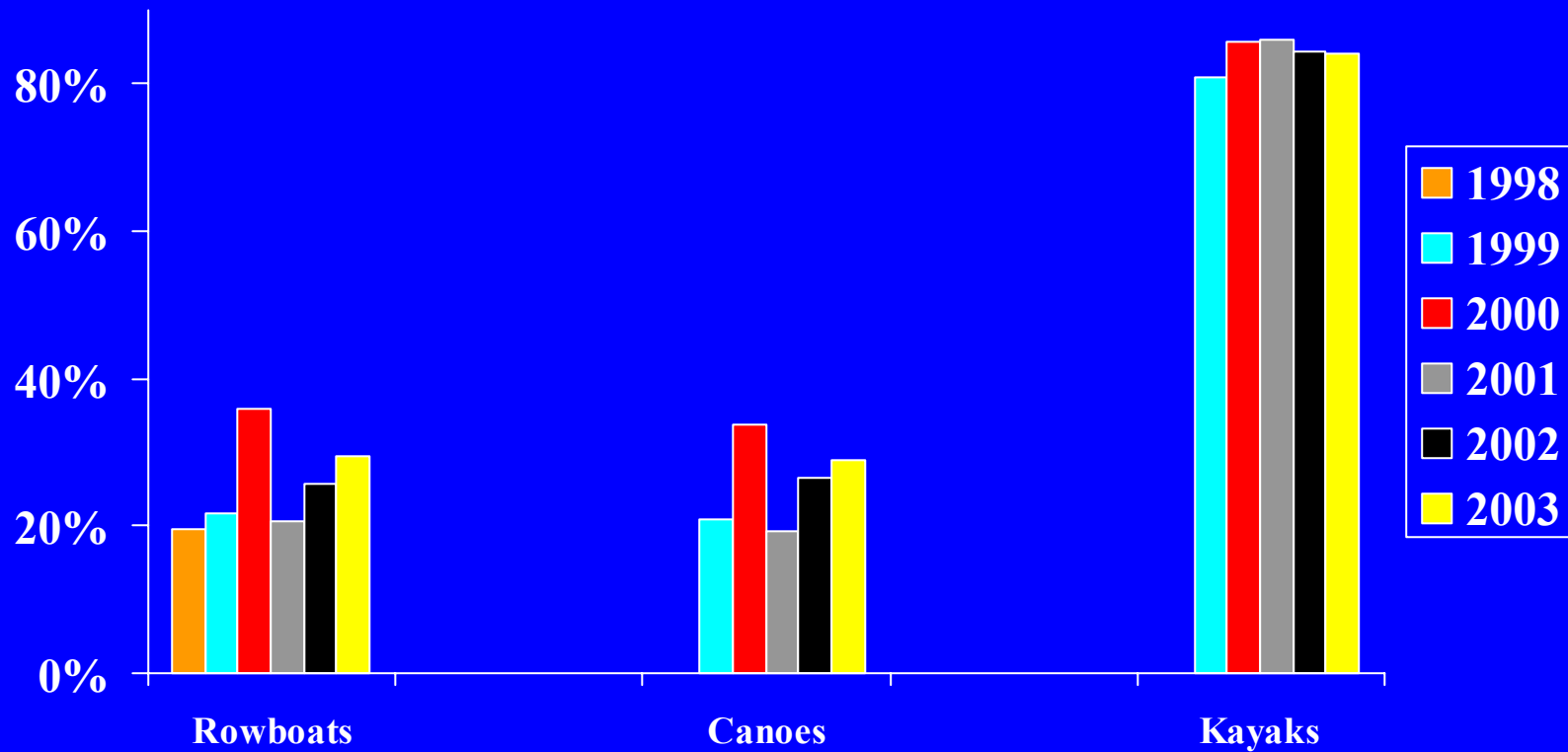
1998 to 2003



Adults Annual Wear Rate Trends

Paddle Boats

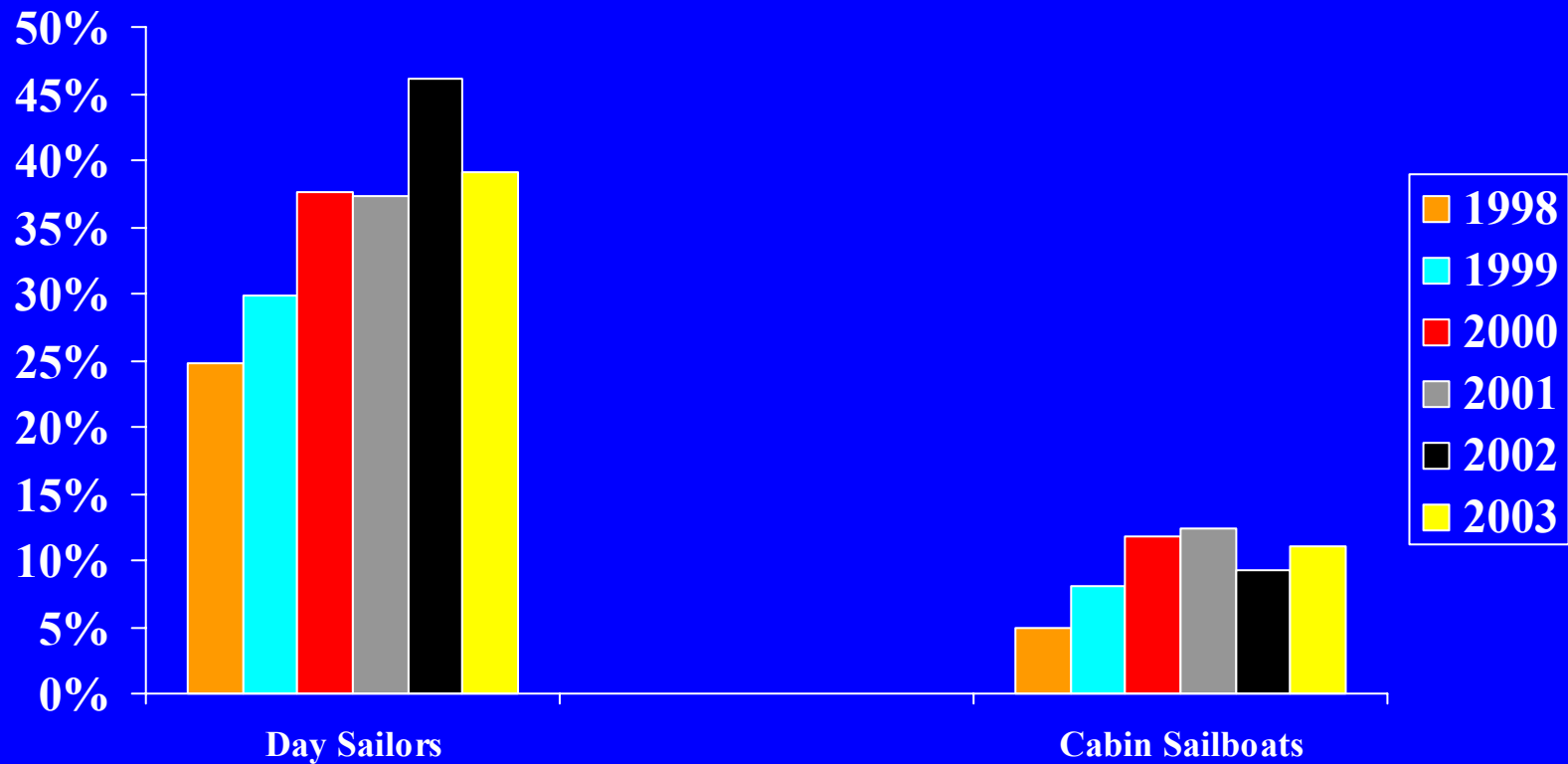
1998 to 2003



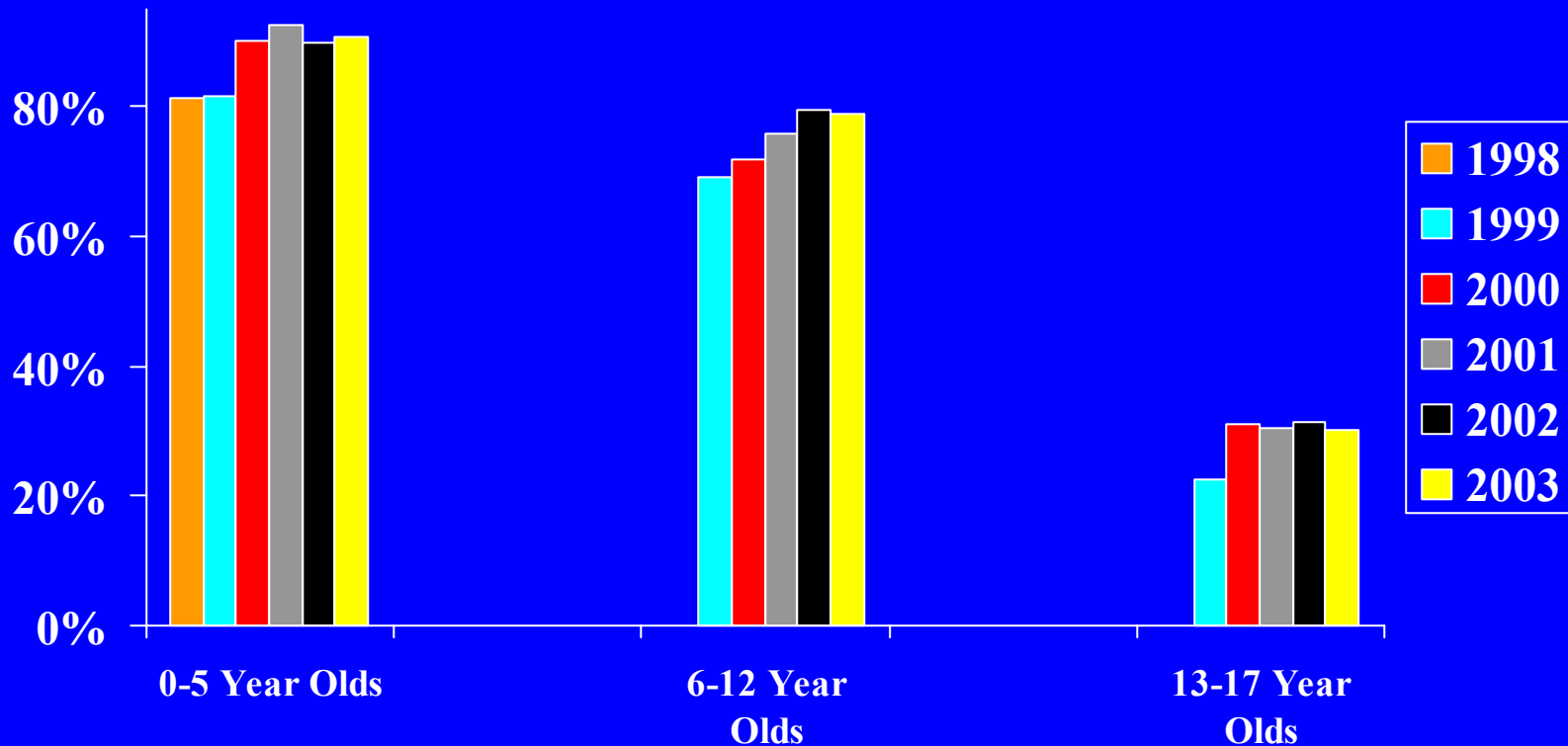
Adult Annual Wear Rate Trends

Sail Boats

1998 to 2003



Youth Annual Wear Rate Trends 1998 to 2003 (excluding PWCs)



Youth Wear Rates by Mandatory Law Status 1998 to 2003 (excluding PWCs)

