

**OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF WATERCRAFT**

**2005
RECREATIONAL BOATING ACCIDENTS**



**STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF THE REPORTABLE BOATING
ACCIDENTS IN THE STATE OF OHIO FOR CALENDAR YEAR
2005**

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A STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF THE REPORTABLE BOATING ACCIDENTS IN THE STATE OF OHIO FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2005

June 2006

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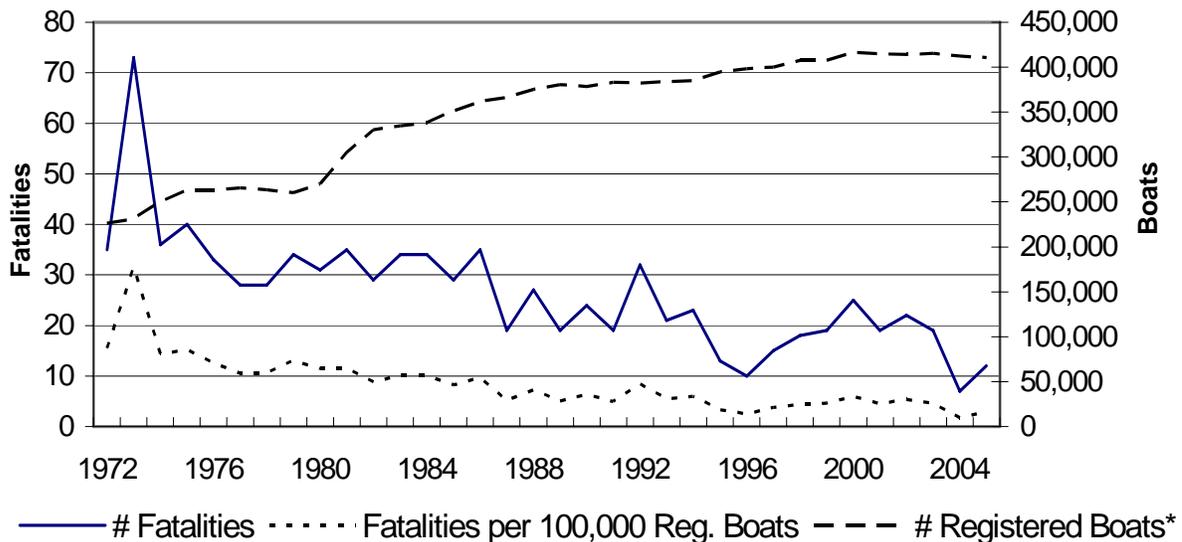
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Introduction

A review of boating accident statistics along with officer activities and registration information can help to direct resources for the greatest benefit to boaters. In 2005, reports were filed for 166 boating accidents involving 230 vessels, causing 96 injuries and 12 fatalities. While these numbers are an increase from the all time lows recorded in 2004, they are still below the ten year averages. From 1995 through 2004 Ohio's annual average was 208 accidents, 283 vessels, 94 injuries and 16.7 fatalities.

The ratio of registered boats compared to fatalities rose from 1.7 fatalities for each 100,000 boats to 2.9 in 2005. The Division of Watercraft has established a goal of reducing fatalities to a five year average of 3.2 fatalities per 100,000 boats. The most recent five years averaged 3.8 fatalities per 100,000 boats.

Ohio History of Fatalities Compared to Registered Boats



All states and territories are required to report recreational boating accidents to the U.S. Coast Guard where data is compiled nationally. This national data is available through the U.S. Coast Guard Web site http://www.uscgboating.org/statistics/accident_stats.htm. The standard for reporting accidents is established by the U.S. Coast Guard within Title 33, Section 173 of the Code of Federal Regulations. One hundred thirty of the accidents in this report met those guidelines. The Ohio Revised Code Section 1547.59 outlines reporting requirements within the state of Ohio. The primary difference between these guidelines is the threshold for the amount of damage to property. The Federal threshold is \$2,000 damage to property while the Ohio threshold is \$500. These guidelines can be found on pages 18 through 20 of this report.

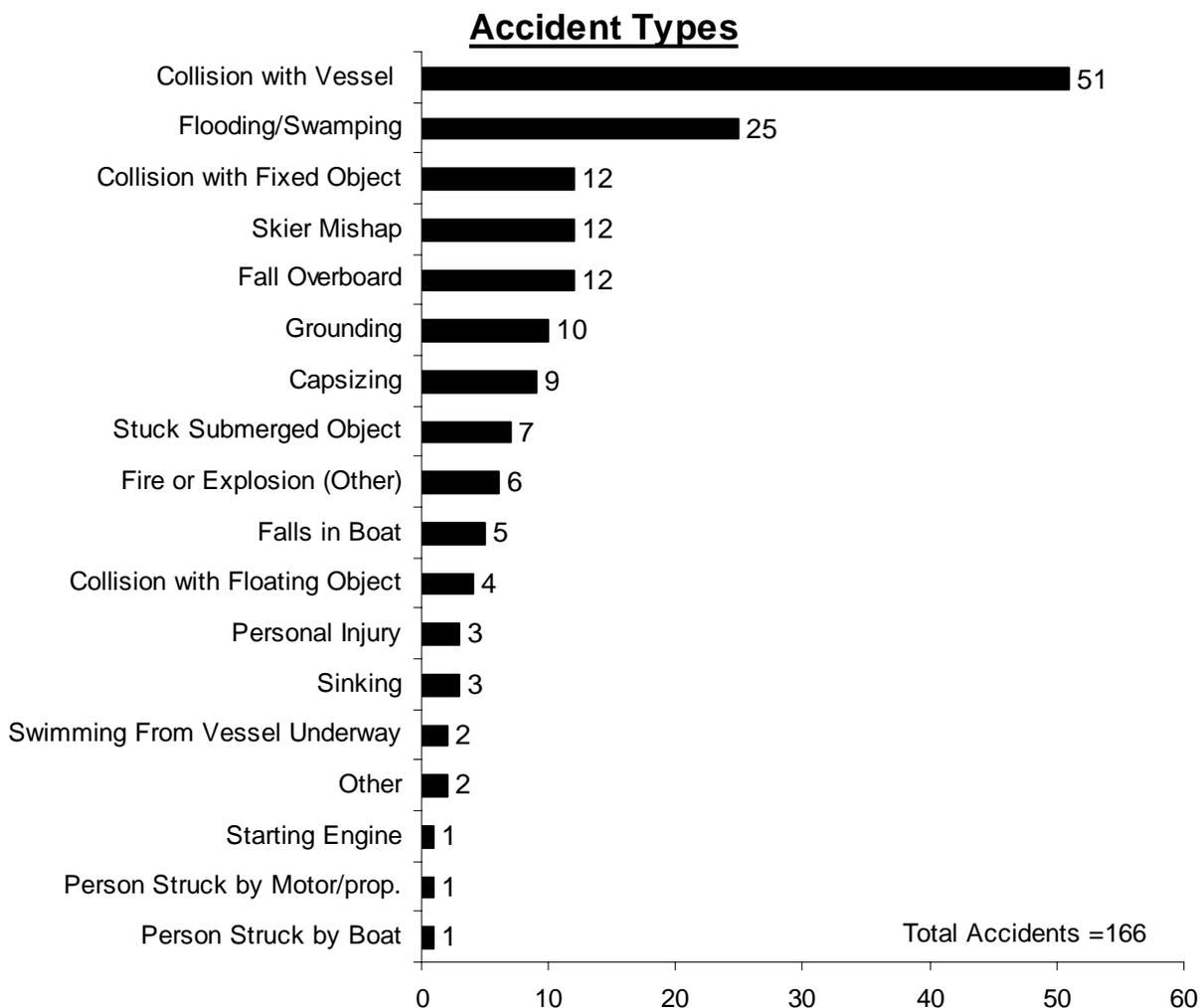
Ohio Boating Accidents 1965 - 2005

Year	# Fatalities	# Accidents	# Vessels	# Injuries	# Registered Boats*	Fatalities per 100,000 Reg. Boats
1965	32	90	117	17	154,741	20.7
1966	40	116	137	34	168,921	23.7
1967	39	109		26	177,458	22.0
1968	42	93	115	22	188,075	22.3
1969	36	89	109	7	195,594	18.4
1970	34	84	103	11	212,405	16.0
1971	35	97	125	21	224,806	15.6
1972	35	97	124	12	226,424	15.5
1973	73	145	174	33	231,379	31.5
1974	36	138	170	14	250,304	14.4
1975	40	101	127	29	263,109	15.2
1976	33	133	155	24	262,937	12.6
1977	28	128	155	11	265,765	10.5
1978	28	163	220	26	263,366	10.6
1979	34	94	130	59	260,229	13.1
1980	31	97	131	43	270,092	11.5
1981	35	100	131	45	304,880	11.5
1982	29	114	148	52	330,126	8.8
1983	34	125	164	58	334,423	10.2
1984	34	178	236	78	338,184	10.1
1985	29	208	277	71	351,394	8.3
1986	35	226	288	55	361,883	9.7
1987	19	251	323	78	366,289	5.2
1988	27	215	262	67	375,194	7.2
1989	19	170	202	64	380,412	5.0
1990	24	124	166	53	378,249	6.3
1991	19	168	219	98	383,136	5.0
1992	32	156	205	58	382,218	8.4
1993	21	136	187	65	384,048	5.5
1994	23	176	236	102	385,206	6.0
1995	13	294	405	118	394,885	3.3
1996	10	263	366	121	398,388	2.5
1997	15	198	280	85	399,888	3.8
1998	18	228	296	100	407,688	4.4
1999	19	232	313	115	407,347	4.7
2000	25	191	261	82	416,798	6.0
2001**	19	176	247	90	414,658	4.6
2002	22	191	249	82	414,060	5.3
2003	19	160	226	83	415,597	4.6
2004	7	143	190	59	412,248	1.7
2005	12	166	230	96	410,445	2.9

**USCG boating fatality criteria changed

*Includes numbered and alternative recreational vessels

2005 Ohio Boating Accidents



Collisions between vessels resulted in 31% (51) of all the reportable accidents in 2005, twelve more than in 2004. These collisions involved 45% (104) of the vessels, \$188,640 (20%) in boat damages, 27% (26) of the injuries but none of the fatalities. The top ranking causes for these accidents is improper lookout (25%) and careless or reckless operation of the vessel (23%). Forty-three percent (45) of the vessels involved were personal watercraft (PWC), cabin motorboats were 22% (23) and open motorboats were 20% (21) of the vessels involved.

Over the previous five years 501 vessels reported being involved in a collision with another vessel. Information could be obtained on 452 of the operators. Considering those reporting one-half of the operators were the owner of the vessel. The use of borrowed PWCs is a major influence here. Seventy-six percent of the PWCs involved in collisions were operated by someone other than the owner. These borrowed PWCs make up nearly one third of all collisions.

Flooded or swamped vessels made up 11% (25) of the vessels reporting, 7% (7) of the injuries and 42% (5) of the fatalities. Open motorboats were 80% (20) of the flooded or swamped vessels. Over 40% of all flooded vessels eventually capsize. "Operation Overboard" continues to focus on small vessels that flood or capsize as a result of excessive or improper loads. This scenario was a factor in 5 (42%) of the fatalities.

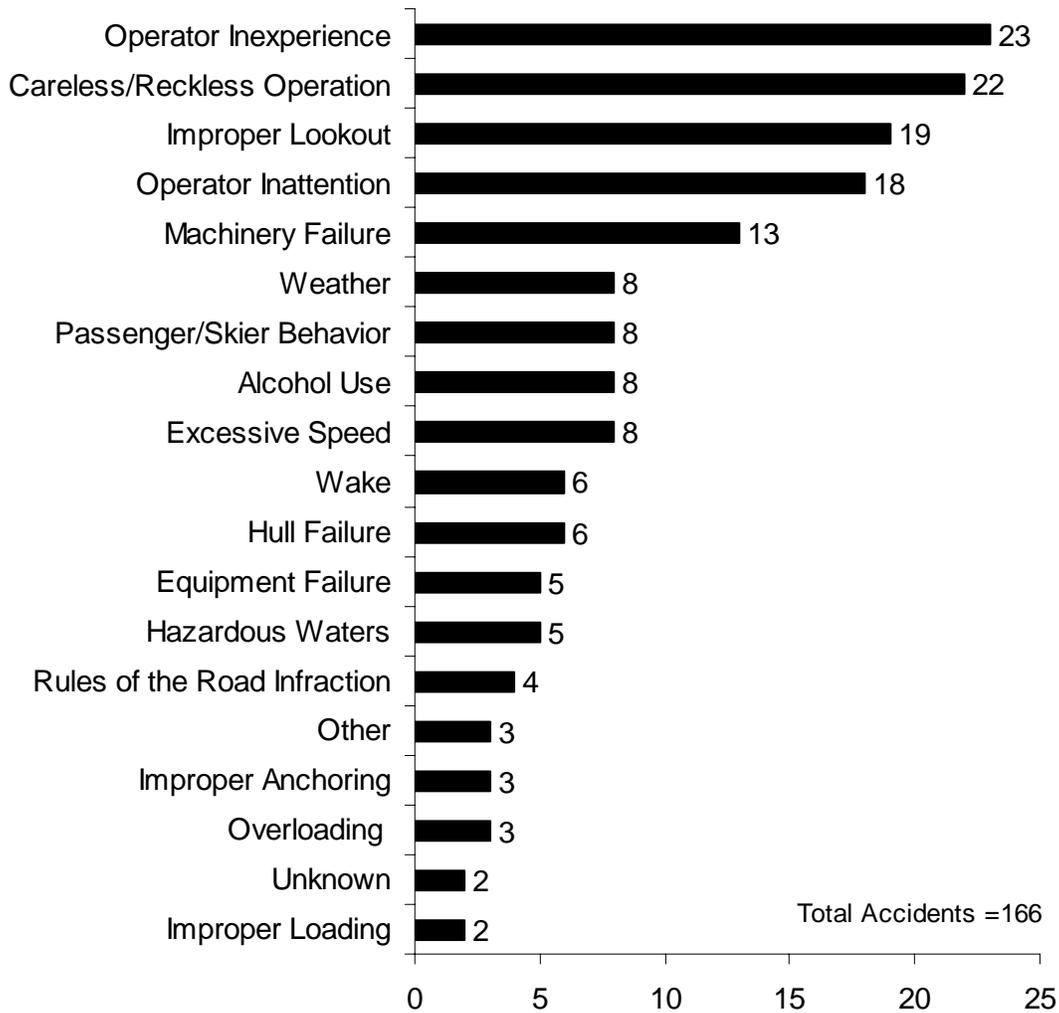
Accident Types By Boat Type

Accident Type	Unknown/ Commercial	Auxiliary Sail	Cabin Motorboat	Canoe/Kayak	Houseboat	Hovercraft	Open Motorboat	Paddle	Pontoon	PWC	Sail Only
Capsizing	0	1	0	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	0
Collision with Fixed Object	0	1	6	0	0	1	3	0	1	0	0
Collision with Floating Object	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	0
Collision with Vessel	2	6	23	0	1	0	21	0	6	45	0
Fall Overboard	0	0	1	0	0	0	4	1	0	6	1
Falls in Boat	0	0	3	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Fire or Explosion (Other)	0	0	8	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Flooding/Swamping	0	0	3	1	0	0	20	0	1	0	0
Grounding	0	2	6	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
Person Struck by Boat	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Person Struck by Motor/prop.	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Personal Injury	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0
Sinking	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Skier Mishap	0	0	3	0	0	0	9	0	0	0	0
Starting Engine	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stuck Submerged Object	0	0	2	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0
Swimming From Vessel Underway	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Unknown	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Total Vessels	5	11	61	5	1	1	78	1	9	57	1

Vessels, Injuries and Fatalities by Accident Type

Accident Type	# Vessels	# Injured	# Fatalities
Collision with Vessel	104	26	0
Flooding/Swamping	25	7	5
Fall overboard	13	10	4
Collision with Fixed Object	12	15	0
Skier Mishap	12	12	0
Fire or Explosion (Other)	10	1	0
Grounding	10	2	0
Capsizing	9	5	1
Stuck Submerged Object	7	2	0
Unknown	6	0	0
Falls in Boat	5	6	0
Collision with Floating Object	4	3	0
Personal Injury	3	3	0
Sinking	3	0	0
Swimming From Vessel Underway	2	1	2
Other	2	0	0
Person Struck by Boat	1	0	0
Person Struck by Motor/prop.	1	1	0
Starting Engine	1	2	0

Accident Causes



Actions at the Time of the Accident

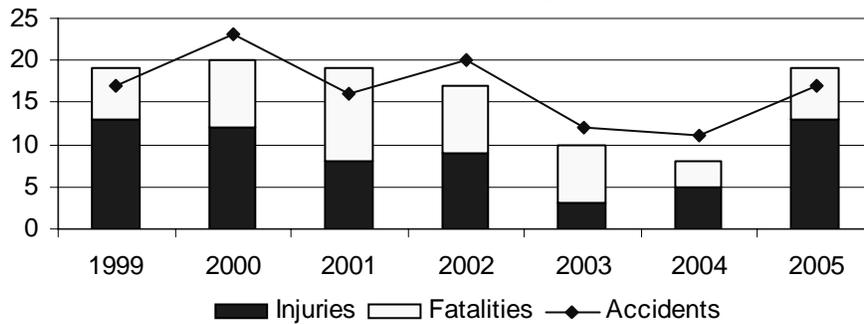
Operation	Activity
Cruising	Pleasure Boating
Tied to Dock/Moored	Unknown
Changing Direction	Water Skiing/Tubing
Changing Speed and Direction	Fishing
Drifting	Commercial Activity
At Anchor	Fishing Tournament
Docking/Leaving Dock	Hunting
Changing Speed	Starting Engine
Unknown	Swimming/Diving
Launching	White Water Sports
Sailing	Making Repairs
Rowing/Paddling	Law Enforcement
Being Towed	Racing

The operator's inexperience with the boating situation is the top ranking cause for reported accidents again. The inexperience of the operator resulted in 15% (15) of the injuries and 25% (3) of the fatalities. Careless and/or reckless operation of the vessel brought about 12% (12) of the injuries and 8% (1) of the fatalities. Eighty-two percent of the careless/reckless caused accidents involved PWCs. Over the previous five years the average number of accidents caused by alcohol use was 7.4, there were eight in 2005. There were nine additional accidents that indicated alcohol involvement.

Accident Cause by Accident Type

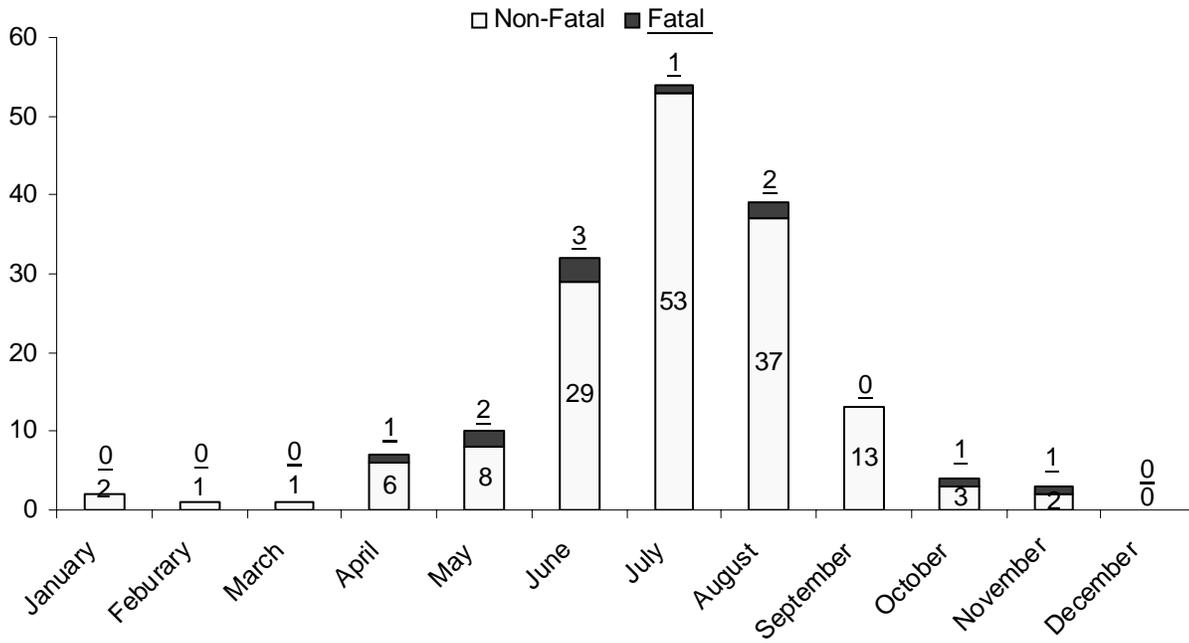
Primary Cause for Vessel	Capsizing	Collision with Fixed Object	Collision with Floating Object	Collision with Vessel	Fall Overboard	Falls in Boat	Fire or Explosion (Other)	Flooding/Swamping	Grounding	Other	Personal Injury	Person Struck by Boat	Person Struck by Motor/Prop.	Sinking	Skier Mishap	Starting Engine	Stuck Submerged Object	Swimming From Vessel	Unknown
Alcohol Use	1	1	0	3	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Careless/Reckless Operation	2	0	2	17	3	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Equipment Failure	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Excessive Speed	0	3	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hazardous Waters	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Hull Failure	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Ignition of Spilled Fuel/Vapor	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Improper Anchoring	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Improper Loading	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Improper Lookout	0	0	0	19	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
Machinery Failure	0	0	0	1	1	0	3	2	3	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Operator Inattention	1	3	1	12	0	1	0	1	2	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	2	0	0
Operator Inexperience	4	3	0	8	2	0	0	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	0
Other/No Cause	0	0	0	32	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Overloading	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Passenger/Skier Behavior	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0
Restricted Vision	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rules of the Road Infraction	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wake	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0
Weather	0	1	0	1	1	1	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Vessels	9	12	4	104	13	5	10	25	10	2	3	1	1	3	12	1	7	2	6

Alcohol Involved: Accidents - Injuries - Fatalities

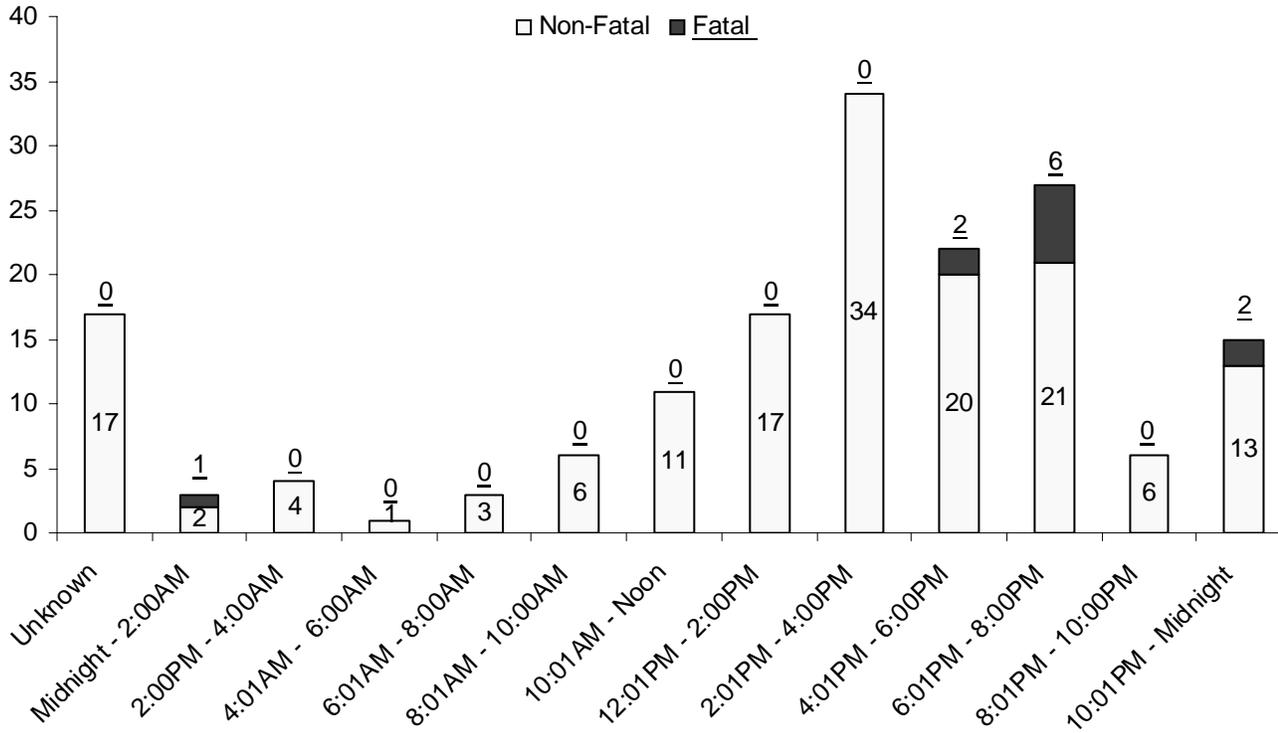


Considering both injuries and fatalities, over 17% were alcohol involved in 2005.

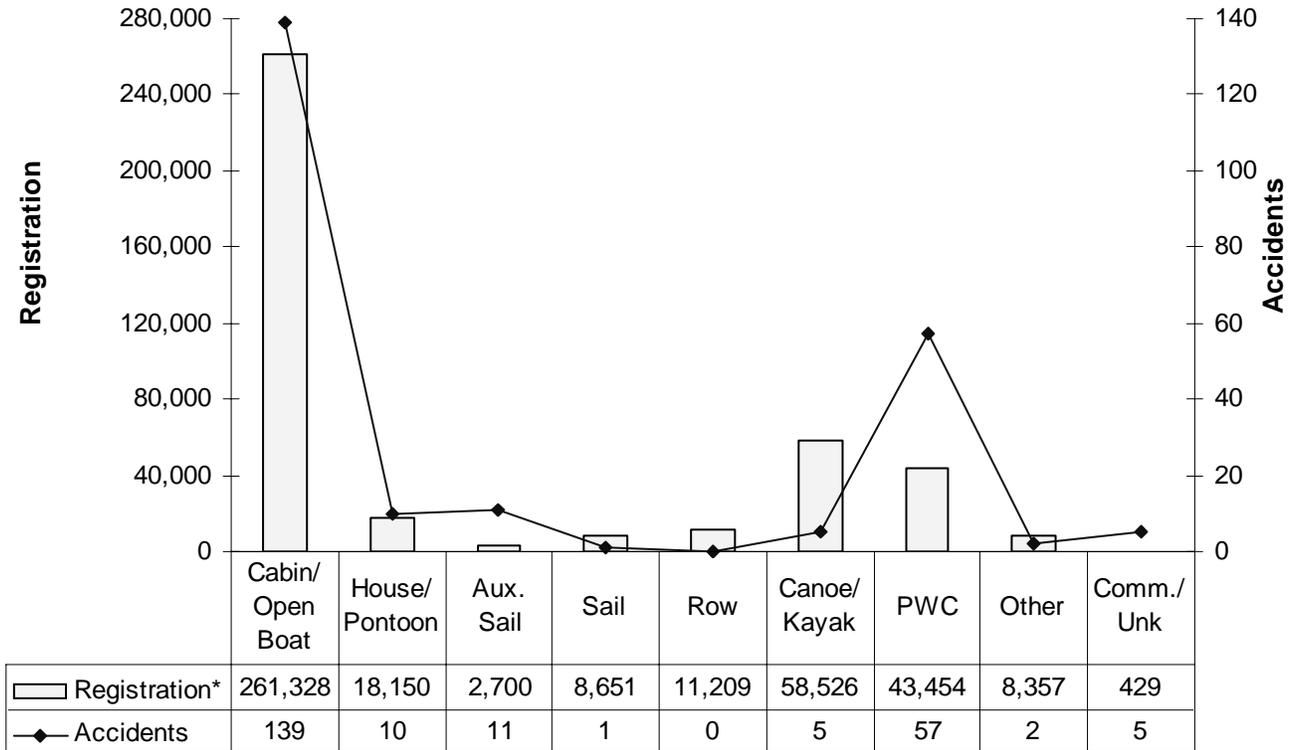
Month for Fatal and Non-Fatal Accidents



Time of Day for Fatal and Non-Fatal Accidents



Registrations and Accidents by Boat Type



* includes all recreational, commercial and documented vessels

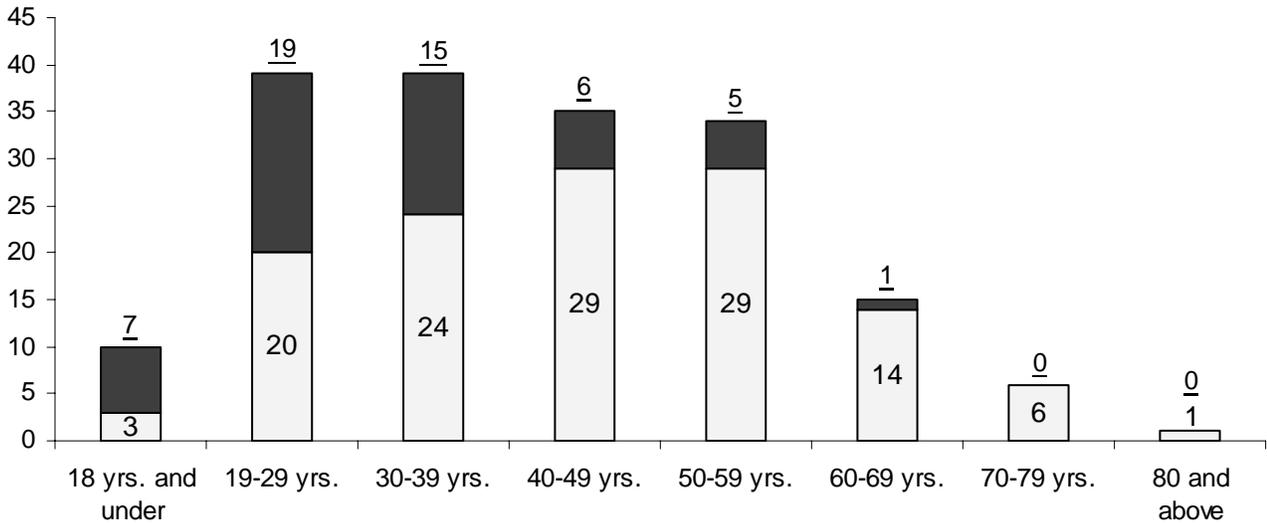
Boat Operator vs. Ownership

Boat Type	Owner Unknown	Owner Operated	Borrowed	Rented
Unkown/Commercial	2	0	3	0
Auxilliary Sail	3	5	3	0
Cabin Motorboat	19	33	9	0
Canoe/Kayak	0	1	4	0
Houseboat	1	0	0	0
Other	0	1	1	0
Open Motorboat	8	45	23	2
Pontoon	4	0	3	2
PWC	1	10	43	3
Sail Only	0	1	0	0
Total	38	96	89	7

The ownership of 192 vessels was reported. One-half of the vessels were operated by someone other than the owner. In 2004, 40% of the operators were not the owner, in 2003 this figure was 32%.

Operator Age

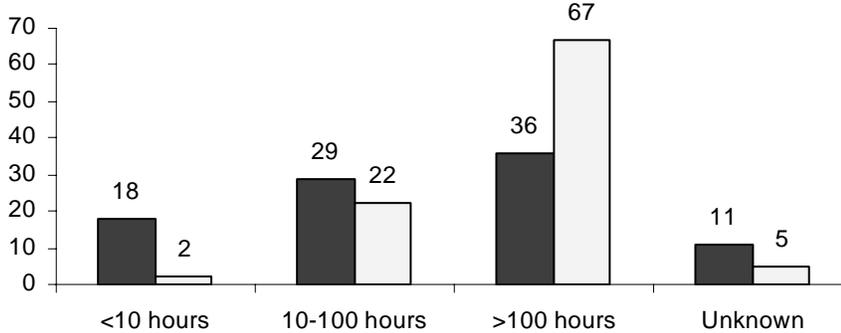
□ Non PWC Operators ■ PWC Operators



The average age of all operators is 40.8, the median age 42. The average age of PWC operators is 32 while the average age of all other operators is 44.

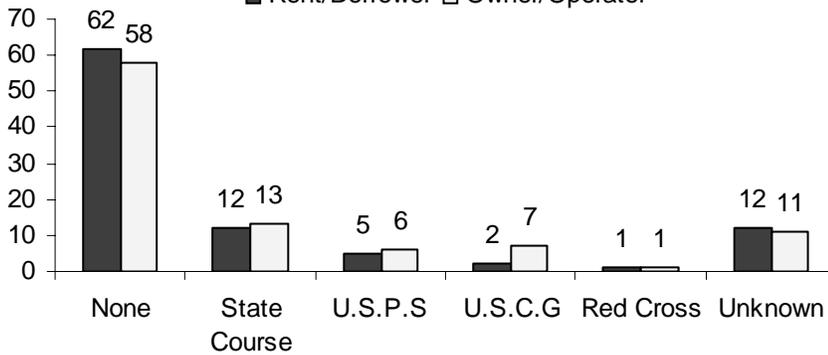
Operator Experience

■ Rent/Borrower □ Owner/Operator

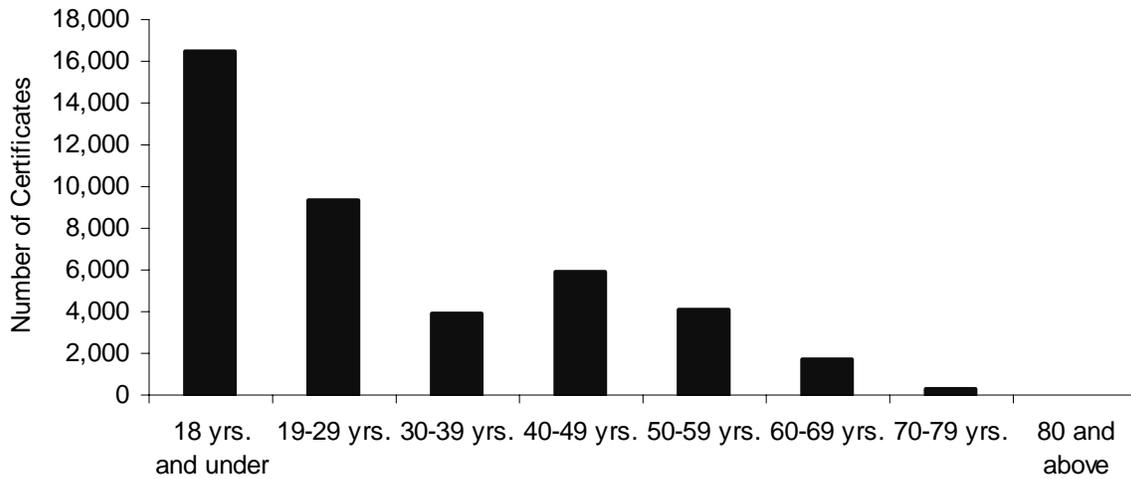


Operator Education

■ Rent/Borrower □ Owner/Operator

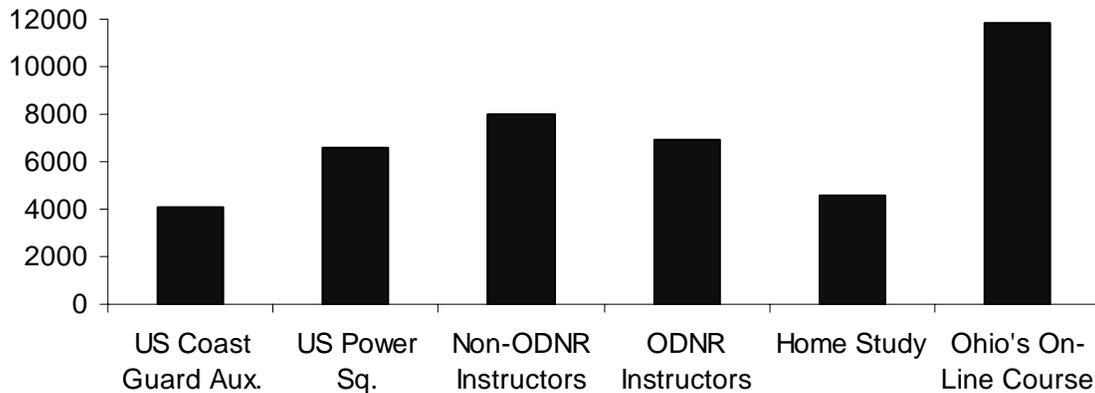


**Age for Education Certificates Issued
from 2001- 2005**



Since 2000, Ohio law requires persons who operate a vessel with a motor greater than 10 horsepower and born on or after January 1, 1982 must pass a boating safety exam. There were 25 operators involved in accidents affected by this law, 64% (16) had not passed an exam. Eight of these non-certified operators were operating a PWC, 7 open motorboats and 1 a pontoon boat.

**Education Certificates Issued by Organization
from 2001- 2005**

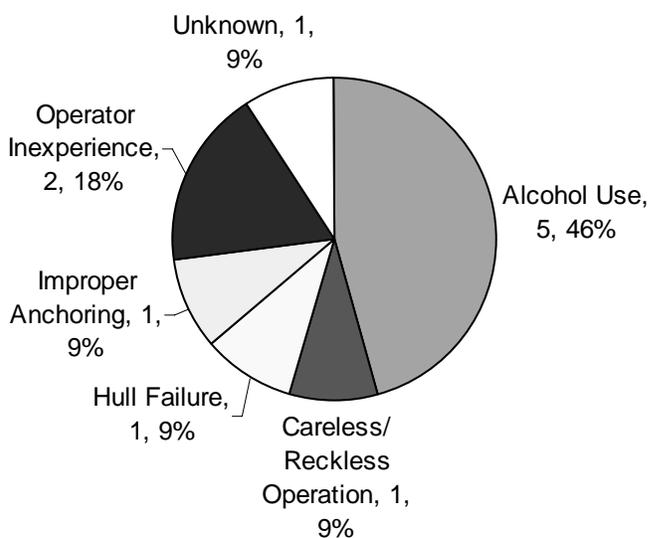


From 2001 through 2005 a total of 42,312 boater education certificates were awarded. Fifty-five percent (23,266) of those certified fell within the required age group.

Fatality Data

<u>Body of Water</u>	<u>Swimming</u>			
	<u>Capsizing</u>	<u>Fall Overboard</u>	<u>Flooding/ Swamping</u>	<u>From Vessel Underway</u>
Buck Creek Lake	0	0	0	1
Buckeye Lake	0	0	1	0
Grand Lake	0	0	2	0
Jackson Lake	0	0	0	1
Lake Erie	0	1	0	0
Lake Erie/West of Cuyahoga R.	0	1	0	0
Muskingum River	0	1	0	0
Pond	1	0	1	0
Portage Lake	0	1	0	0
Scioto River	0	0	1	0
Total	1	4	5	2

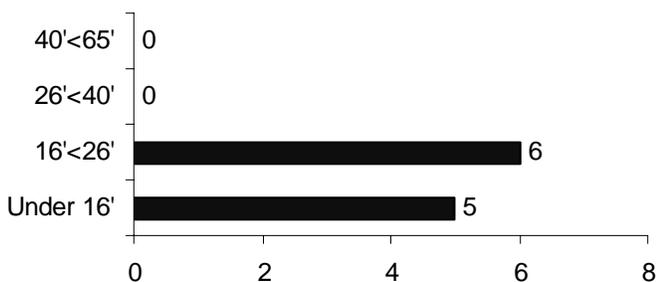
Fatal Accident Causes



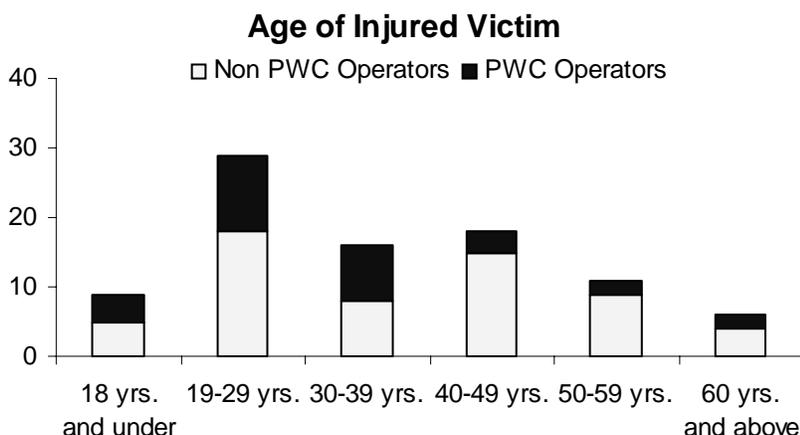
2005 experienced the second lowest number of fatalities since 1996 with an increase of 5 over the record setting low of 7 in 2004. Seven of the vessels were open motorboats, 2 cabin motorboats, 2 canoes and 1 paddle boat. One half of the operators did not own the vessels involved in the fatal boating accident and none of the operators had taken a boating education course.

While the cause of death of all of the victims was drowning, none of the victims were wearing a life jacket prior to the incident. In two of the accidents a personal flotation device (PFD) was used after the victim entered the water. The victims ranged in age from 14 to 65, the average age was 39.

Fatal Accident Boat Length

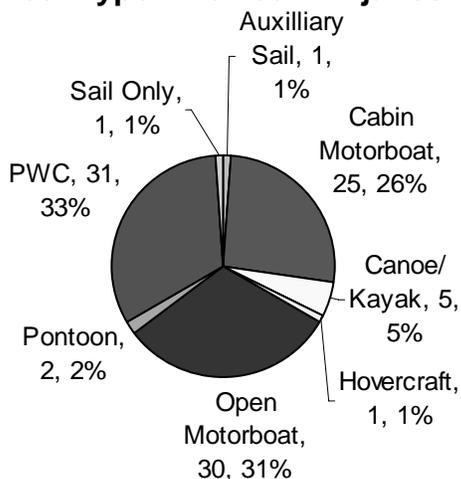


Injury Data



<u>Activity</u>	<u># Injuries</u>
Pleasure Boating	57
Water Skiing/Tubing	15
Fishing	9
Swimming/Diving	4
White Water Sports	3
Unknown	2
Tournament	2
Starting Engine	2
Racing	1
Hunting	1

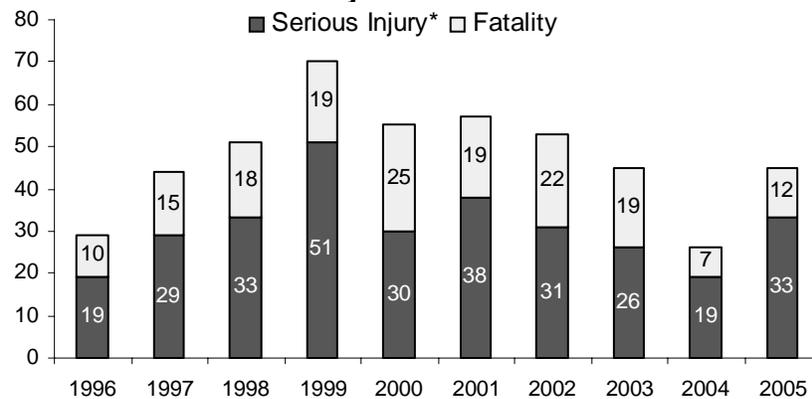
Boat Type Involved in Injuries



There were 96 injuries requiring medical treatment, an increase of 62% (37) from 2004. Collisions with another vessel resulted in 27% (26) of the injuries, 16% (15) resulted from water skiing or tubing. The top ranked causes for accidents resulting in an injury were improper lookout and operator inexperience, each accounting for 15% of the injuries. Careless or reckless operation caused 12% of the accidents while alcohol use was the cause of 7% of the accidents resulting in an injury.

There were 75 vessels involved in accidents that caused the 96 injuries. The boater education background was reported for 63 of those operators, 78% (49) reported they had not participated in a boater education program.

Serious Injuries and Fatalities



*requiring hospital stay

2005 Boating Accidents by Body of Water and Accident Type

Body of Water	Total Vessels	Capsizing	Collision with Fixed Object	Collision with Floating Object	Collision with Vessel	Fall Overboard	Falls in Boat	Fire or Explosion (Other)	Flooding/Swamping	Grounding	Other	Person Struck by Boat	Person Struck by Motor/Prop	Personal Injury	Sinking	Skier Mishap	Starting Engine	Stuck Submerged Object	Swimming From Vessel	Unknown
Alum Creek Res.	10	0	0	1	4	1	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Auglaize River	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Berlin Res.	7	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Buck Creek Lake	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Buckeye Lake	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burr Oak Lake	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Caesar Creek Res.	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chagrin River	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Charles Mill Res.	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cowan Lake	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cuyahoga River	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Deer Creek Res.	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Delaware Res.	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0
Dillon Res.	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
East Fork Res.	6	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Eastwood Lake	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Findlay Reservoir #2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grand Lake	10	0	0	0	7	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Great Miami River	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Huron River	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Indian Lake	6	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Jackson Lake	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Lake Erie	64	2	5	2	28	3	3	1	8	4	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	3	0	2
Lake Erie/Ashtabula County	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lake Erie/Bass Islands	3	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lake Erie/East Harbor	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lake Erie/East of Cuyahoga R.	3	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lake Erie/Lake Co. W of Mentor	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lake Erie/Lorain County	3	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lake Erie/Maumee Bay	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lake Erie/Sandusky Bay Rt.2-SR	6	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Lake Erie/Sandusky Bay/Rt 2-CP	5	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Lake Erie/West of Cuyahoga R.	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lake Lorelei	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lake Mohawk	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0

2005 Boating Accidents by Body of Water and Accident Type

Body of Water	Total Vessels	Capsizing	Collision with Fixed Object	Collision with Floating Object	Collision with Vessel	Fall Overboard	Falls in Boat	Fire or Explosion (Other)	Flooding/Swamping	Grounding	Other	Person Struck by Boat	Person Struck by Motor/Prop	Personal Injury	Sinking	Skier Mishap	Starting Engine	Stuck Submerged Object	Swimming From Vessel	Unknown
Maumee R./Lake Erie-Maple St.	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Maumee River	11	0	0	0	6	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1
Mosquito Lake	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Muskingum River	4	0	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nettle Lake	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ohio River	12	0	0	0	10	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Paint Creek Lake	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Piedmont Lake	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pond	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Portage Lake	7	0	0	0	4	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rocky Fork	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rocky River	4	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Salt Fork	3	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Sandusky River	4	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scioto River	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Seneca Lake	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Springfield Lake	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tappan Lake	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tuscarawas River	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Walborn Reservoir	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
West Branch Res.	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Total Vessels	230	9	12	4	104	13	5	10	25	10	2	1	1	3	3	12	1	7	2	6

2001 - 2005 Boating Accident Summary by Body of Water

Body of Water	# Accidents	# Vessels	# Injuries	# Fatalities	Total Boat Damages	Total Property Damages
5 Rivers Metro. Park	4	7	2	0	\$4,025	\$0
Action Lake	1	1	1	0	\$0	\$250
Alum Creek Res.	46	64	19	0	\$72,007	\$0
Apple Valley Lake	1	1	0	0	\$3,000	\$0
Ashtabula River	2	2	0	1	\$10,000	\$0
Atwood Lake	5	7	2	1	\$2,085	\$1,100
Auglaize River	3	3	2	1	\$600	\$0
Beaver Creek	1	2	0	0	\$700	\$0
Belmont Lake	1	1	0	0	\$0	\$1,000
Berlin Res.	10	14	2	0	\$24,590	\$2,350
Big Darby Creek	1	1	2	0	\$500	\$500
Brush Creek	1	2	0	0	\$800	\$0
Buck Creek Lake	7	8	2	1	\$5,243	\$2,000
Buckeye Lake	20	25	12	1	\$26,503	\$395
Burr Oak Lake	2	2	0	0	\$3,100	\$0
Caesar Creek Res.	17	21	10	0	\$18,400	\$200
Candlewood Lake	1	1	1	0	\$0	\$0
Chagrin River	4	5	1	2	\$5,500	\$0
Charles Mill Res.	2	2	1	1	\$100	\$0
Cooley Canal	1	3	0	0	\$3,000	\$0
Cowan Lake	3	4	2	0	\$500	\$0
Cuyahoga River	13	21	1	2	\$95,160	\$1,500
Deer Creek	1	1	0	0	\$500	\$0
Deer Creek Res.	19	25	7	0	\$23,687	\$0
Delaware Res.	6	6	4	0	\$9,500	\$0
Dillon Res.	3	5	2	0	\$7,450	\$0
East Fork Res.	16	22	11	0	\$33,850	\$0
Eastwood Lake	1	2	1	0	\$0	\$0
Findlay Reservoir #2	1	1	0	0	\$800	\$0
Four Mile Creek	1	1	0	0	\$500	\$0
Grand Lake	21	29	12	5	\$30,450	\$250
Grand River	1	1	2	0	\$0	\$0
Great Miami River	14	15	6	4	\$23,800	\$7,900
Hargus Lake	1	1	1	0	\$80	\$0
Hocking River	1	1	0	0	\$0	\$800
Huron River	2	3	1	0	\$700	\$0
Indian Lake	25	42	9	2	\$30,345	\$950
Jackson Lake	1	1	0	1	\$0	\$0
Ladue Res.	2	2	3	0	\$0	\$0
Lake Buckhorn	1	1	0	1	\$0	\$0
Lake Erie	182	240	99	15	\$1,227,477	\$78,070
Lake Erie/Ashtabula County	12	15	6	0	\$60,699	\$0
Lake Erie/Bass Islands	29	42	7	3	\$263,650	\$6,500
Lake Erie/East Harbor	6	12	7	0	\$56,200	\$0
Lake Erie/East of Cuyahoga R.	7	11	4	2	\$76,000	\$0
Lake Erie/Kelley's Island	5	9	1	0	\$10,350	\$0

2001 - 2005 Boating Accident Summary by Body of Water

Body of Water	# Accidents	# Vessels	# Injuries	# Fatalities	Total Boat Damages	Total Property Damages
Lake Erie/Lake Co E of Mentor	5	6	4	0	\$66,485	\$0
Lake Erie/Lake Co. W of Mentor	1	1	0	0	\$700	\$0
Lake Erie/Lorain County	9	12	2	1	\$49,829	\$4,000
Lake Erie/Marblehead to Port Clinton	6	7	3	1	\$2,600	\$600
Lake Erie/Maumee Bay	6	9	5	2	\$8,500	\$0
Lake Erie/Maumee Bay to Port Clinton	1	1	0	0	\$4,500	\$0
Lake Erie/Maumee Bay; Ship Chn	4	5	0	0	\$18,750	\$0
Lake Erie/Sandusky Bay Rt.2-SR	14	16	7	0	\$65,028	\$18,600
Lake Erie/Sandusky Bay/Rt 2-CP	18	27	5	0	\$110,650	\$0
Lake Erie/Vermillion to Huron	4	4	3	1	\$1,600	\$200
Lake Erie/West Harbor	4	5	2	0	\$41,200	\$0
Lake Erie/West of Cuyahoga R.	4	4	2	1	\$8,000	\$0
Lake Harmony	2	2	2	0	\$0	\$0
Lake Lakengran	2	4	2	0	\$998	\$0
Lake Loramie	1	1	1	1	\$0	\$0
Lake Lorelei	3	4	4	0	\$13,200	\$1,500
Lake Milton	5	7	7	0	\$9,100	\$100
Lake Mohawk	1	1	1	0	\$250	\$0
Lake of the Four Seasons	1	1	0	0	\$4,000	\$0
Lake Tomahawk	2	2	1	0	\$0	\$980
Lake White	3	3	3	0	\$3,000	\$0
Little Miami River	1	1	0	1	\$0	\$0
Luna Lake	1	2	4	1	\$6,000	\$0
Mad River	3	3	1	2	\$32	\$8
Mahoning River	1	1	0	0	\$700	\$0
Maumee R./Grand Rapids-Indp.	2	4	0	0	\$5,280	\$0
Maumee R./Lake Erie-Maple St.	2	2	1	0	\$8,000	\$0
Maumee R./Maple St-Grand Rapid	3	3	4	0	\$600	\$1,800
Maumee River	29	39	15	3	\$138,194	\$2,806
Mogadore Reservoir	2	2	1	2	\$0	\$500
Mohawk Lake	1	1	0	1	\$0	\$0
Mohican River/Black Fork	1	1	1	0	\$0	\$0
Mosquito Lake	17	22	8	1	\$17,650	\$2,905
Muskingum River	9	12	3	1	\$10,214	\$2,000
Nettle Lake	1	2	0	0	\$2,689	\$0
Nimisila Res.	1	1	1	0	\$0	\$0
Ohio River	40	74	21	1	\$251,693	\$16,300

2001 - 2005 Boating Accident Summary by Body of Water

Body of Water	# Accidents	# Vessels	# Injuries	# Fatalities	Total Boat Damages	Total Property Damages
Ohio River/Manchester Islands	1	2	0	0	\$15,000	\$3,000
Ohio River/Markland Pool	2	3	1	0	\$9,000	\$500
Ohio River/Straight Creek	1	2	1	0	\$0	\$0
Ohio River/Whites Run Creek	1	1	0	0	\$1,500	\$0
Olentangy River	1	1	0	1	\$300	\$0
Outhwaite Reservoir	1	1	0	0	\$3,000	\$0
Paint Creek Lake	5	5	1	0	\$8,200	\$1,500
Paint Creek	1	1	0	1	\$0	\$0
Piedmont Lake	4	6	0	0	\$6,148	\$0
Pleasant Hill	9	14	8	0	\$13,150	\$0
Pond	5	5	0	5	\$150	\$0
Portage Lake	11	18	2	2	\$17,550	\$5,700
Portage River	4	7	3	0	\$3,300	\$0
Punderson Lake	1	1	0	1	\$0	\$0
Pymatuning Lake	1	1	0	0	\$0	\$2,400
Raccoon Creek	1	1	0	1	\$0	\$0
Rocky Fork	2	3	0	0	\$3,700	\$0
Rocky Fork Lake	12	14	2	1	\$27,936	\$1,000
Rocky River	4	6	2	0	\$12,600	\$30
Rush Creek Res.	1	1	0	0	\$0	\$650
Salt Fork Res.	6	10	2	0	\$6,824	\$0
Sandusky River	7	11	9	0	\$39,600	\$700
Scioto River	3	3	2	1	\$700	\$300
Seneca Lake	9	12	6	0	\$9,224	\$0
Shangari La Lake	1	1	0	1	\$0	\$0
Springfield Lake	2	3	1	0	\$4,000	\$0
Tappan Lake	5	7	3	1	\$6,100	\$0
Tuscarawas River	2	2	2	0	\$11,200	\$0
Vermillion River	2	4	0	0	\$21,000	\$0
Walborn Reservoir	1	1	1	0	\$20	\$0
West Branch Res.	19	23	7	1	\$52,137	\$25
White Oak Creek	2	2	0	0	\$2,099	\$0
5 Year Total	841	1,149	410	79	\$3,255,731	\$171,869

State of Ohio Recreational Boating Accident Guidelines

The Ohio Revised Code, Section 1547.59 states:

The operator of a vessel involved in a collision, accident, or other casualty, so far as the operator can do so without serious danger to the operator's own vessel, crew, and passengers, shall render to other persons affected by the collision, accident, or other casualty such assistance as may be practicable and as may be necessary in order to save them from or minimize any danger caused by the collision, accident, or other casualty. The operator also shall give the operator's name, address, and identification of the operator's vessel in writing to any person injured and to the owner of any property damaged in the collision, accident, or other casualty.

Any person who renders assistance at the scene of a collision, accident, or other casualty involving a vessel is not liable in a civil action for damages or injury to persons or property resulting from any act or omission in rendering assistance or in providing or arranging salvage, towage, medical treatment, or other assistance, except that the person is liable for willful or wanton misconduct in rendering assistance. Nothing in this section precludes recovery from any tortfeasor causing a collision, accident, or other casualty of damages caused or aggravated by the rendering of assistance.

In the case of collision, accident, or other casualty involving a vessel, the operator thereof, if the collision, accident, or other casualty results in loss of life, personal injury requiring medical treatment beyond first aid, or damage to property in excess of five hundred dollars, shall file with the chief of the division of watercraft a full description of the collision, accident, or other casualty on a form prescribed by the chief. The report so filed shall be used for statistical purposes only and shall not be admissible for any purpose in any civil, criminal, or administrative action at law.

If the operator of the vessel involved in a collision, accident, or other casualty is incapacitated, the investigating law enforcement officer shall file the required form as prescribed by the chief.

U.S. Coast Guard Reportable Recreational Boating Accidents Guidelines

Title 33 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Section 173, Subpart C, Casualty and Accident Reporting, applies to vessels that are used by their operators for recreational purposes, or that are required to be numbered (including those documented for pleasure), except for those vessels required by law to have a Certificate of Inspection. A casualty or accident report must be submitted to the reporting authority if an occurrence involving these vessels or their equipment results in one or more of the following:

- I. a. A person dies; or

- b. A person is injured and requires medical treatment beyond first aid (i.e., treatment at a medical facility or by a physician other than at the accident scene); or
 - c. Damage to the vessel and other property totals more than \$2,000 or there is a complete loss of the vessel; or (Note: the reporting threshold under 1547 ORC remains \$500)
 - d. A person disappears from the vessel under circumstances that indicate death or injury.
- II. Examples of accidents that are considered reportable as boating accidents, and that might have been prevented or their effects mitigated by specific components of a boating safety program (i.e., by boating courses, public information campaigns, law enforcement, development and enforcement of boat construction or equipment standards, etc.):
- a. grounding
 - b. capsizing
 - c. flooding/swamping
 - d. falls within or overboard a vessel
 - e. person(s) ejected from a vessel
 - f. person leaves a vessel that is underway to swim for pleasure
 - g. person leaves a vessel in an attempt to retrieve a lost item, another person or another vessel
 - h. sinking
 - i. fire or explosion
 - j. skier mishap
 - k. collision with another vessel or object
 - l. striking a submerged object
 - m. the vessel, propeller, propulsion unit, or steering machinery strikes a person
 - n. carbon monoxide asphyxiation

III. The following are examples of occurrences directly or indirectly involving a vessel that are generally considered to be outside the scope of a boating safety program and, therefore, are **non-reportable** as boating accidents. While they may or may not be reported in a state on a boating accident report, they are not included in Boating Statistics published annually by the U.S. Coast Guard.

- a. A person dies or is injured from self-inflicted wounds, alcohol poisoning, ingestion of drugs, controlled substances or poison; or from gunshot wounds.
- b. A person dies or is injured from assault by another person or persons while aboard a vessel.
- c. A person dies or is injured from natural causes while aboard a vessel.

d. A person dies or is injured while swimming for pleasure from a vessel that is not underway (the vessel is anchored, moored or docked)

The following are **reportable** boating accidents involving a swimmer, a recreational vessel and its operation:

1. a person dies or is injured while swimming because of carbon monoxide asphyxiation;
2. a person dies or is injured while swimming because a vessel is improperly connected to a shore power and resultant electrical current enters the water causing electrocution;
3. a person dies or is injured after leaving a vessel that is underway to swim for pleasure because the vessel is not anchored, moored or docked and the vessel drifts away from the swimmer and the swimmer is unable to get back to the vessel.

e. A person dies or is injured in swimming to retrieve an object or a vessel that is adrift from its mooring, having departed from the shore or pier.

f. A person dies or is injured after falling or jumping from a swim raft that is moored or anchored for use as a swimming platform or other purpose.

g. A person dies, is injured, or property damage occurs while preparing a vessel for launching or retrieving a vessel and the vessel is not in or upon the water.

h. Damage, injury or death results from a fire on shore or a pier that spreads to a vessel or vessels.

i. A person dies, is injured, or property damage results from an "ice boat" accident. An 'ice boat' is a device which is designed to travel primarily over the ice on lakes and rivers on runner/blades, carrying at least one person and using a sail for propulsion. It is not designed for use nor has the ability to navigate on open water.

j. Damage, injury or death on a docked or moored vessel resulting from storms, unusual tidal, sea or swell conditions; or when a vessel gets underway in those conditions in an attempt to rescue persons put in peril.

k. Damage to a docked or moored vessel due to theft or any vandalism.

l. Deaths, injury or damage on a docked, moored or anchored non-propelled houseboat or other vessel used primarily as a permanent residence.

m. A person dies or is injured while using underwater breathing apparatus (i.e. snorkeling or scuba diving) and the vessel did not contribute to the casualty.