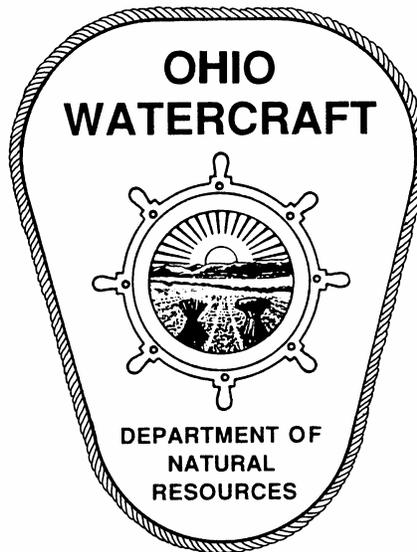


**OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF WATERCRAFT**

**2006  
RECREATIONAL BOATING ACCIDENTS**



**A STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF THE REPORTABLE BOATING  
ACCIDENTS IN THE STATE OF OHIO FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2006**

Ted Strickland, Governor

Sean Logan, Director

Michael E. Quinn, Acting Chief

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# OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

## DIVISION OF WATERCRAFT



### A STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF THE REPORTABLE BOATING ACCIDENTS IN THE STATE OF OHIO FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2006

July 2007

Ohio Department of Natural Resources  
Division of Watercraft  
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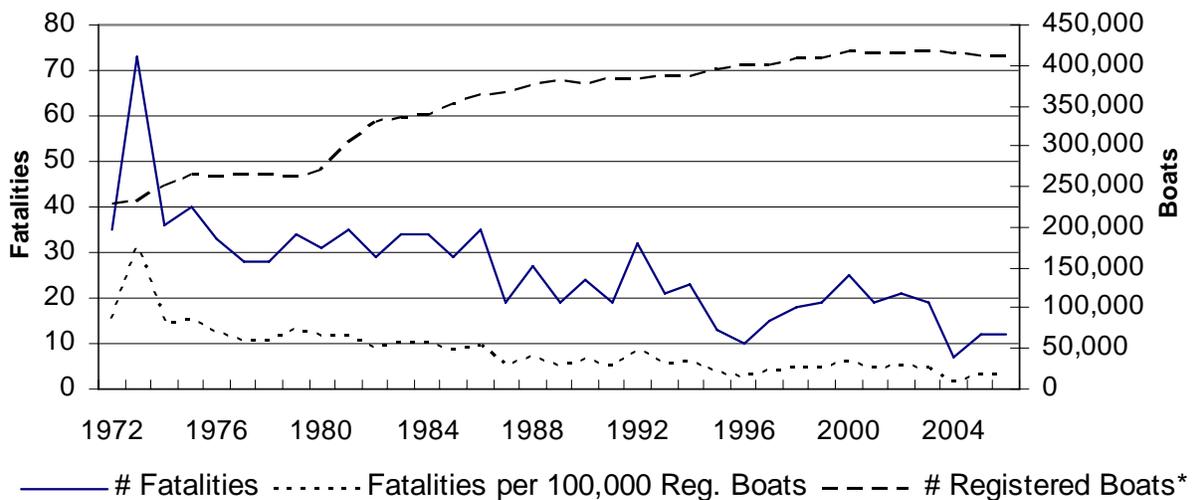
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## Introduction

In order to best utilize the state's resources, a thorough review of boating accident statistics, officer activities, and registration information is essential. In 2006, a total of 143 reports were filed for boating accidents involving 173 vessels, and resulting in 69 injuries and 12 fatalities.

The ratio of boating fatalities as compared to the number of registered boats in the state was unchanged from 2005 to 2006, staying at 2.9 fatalities per 100,000 registered vessels. The average over the 2002-2006 period was 3.4 fatalities per 100,000 registered boats. This average compares favorably to the Division of Watercraft's established goal to reduce fatalities to a five-year average of 3.2 fatalities per 100,000 registered boats.

**Ohio History of Fatalities Compared to Registered Boats**



All states and territories are required to report recreational boating accidents to the United States Coast Guard, where data is compiled nationally. This national data is available through the United States Coast Guard website at: [http://www.uscgboating.org/statistics/accident\\_stats.htm](http://www.uscgboating.org/statistics/accident_stats.htm).

The United States Coast Guard standard for reporting accidents is established within Title 33, Section 173 of the Code of Federal Regulations. One-hundred seven of the accidents in this report met those guidelines.

Section 1547.59 of the Ohio Revised Code outlines reporting requirements within the state of Ohio. The primary difference between United States Coast Guard reporting requirements and state of Ohio reporting requirements lies in the threshold for property damage. United States Coast Guard reporting requirements call for at least \$2000 in property damage to meet reporting standards, while in Ohio this threshold stands at \$500.

Complete reporting guidelines for both the United States Coast Guard and the state of Ohio can be found on pages 19-22 of this report.

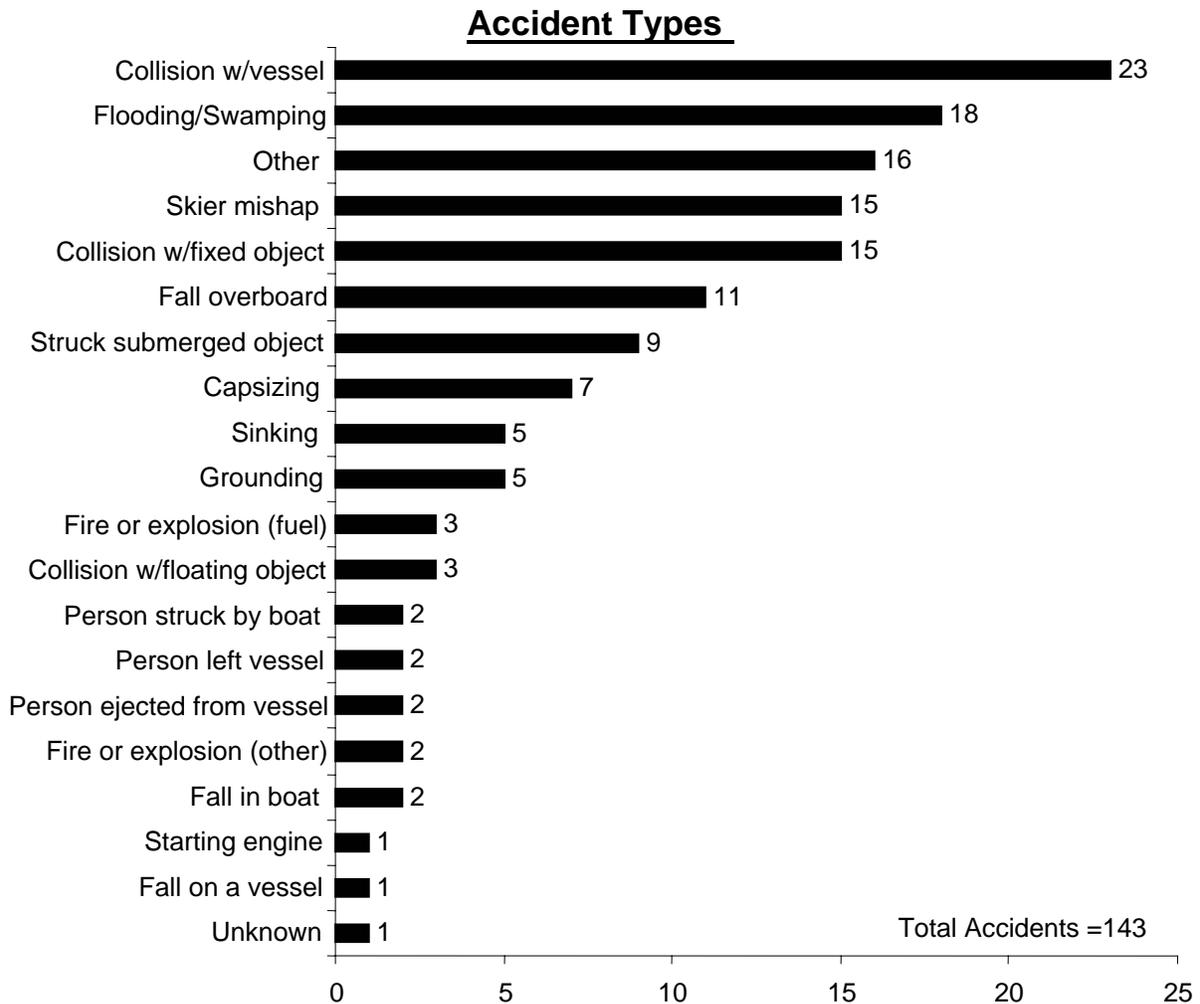
## Ohio Boating Accidents 1966-2006

<b>Year</b>	<b># Fatalities</b>	<b># Accidents</b>	<b># Vessels</b>	<b># Injuries</b>	<b># Registered Boats*</b>	<b>Fatalities per 100,000 Reg. Boats</b>
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	21	191	249	82	414,060	5.1
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
2006	12	143	173	69	410,245	2.9

\*\* United States Coast Guard boating fatality criteria changed

\*\* Includes numbered and alternative recreational vessels

## 2006 Ohio Boating Accidents



Collisions between vessels resulted in 16% (23) of the reportable accidents in 2006, a reduction of almost 50% as compared to 2005. These collisions involved 27% (47) of the vessels, \$78,713 (8%) in boat damages, 12% (8) of the injuries, and none of the fatalities. The three main causes for these accidents included Improper Lookout (9%), Operator Inattention (9%), and Weather (9%).

The Division of Watercraft’s “Operation Overboard” campaign continues to focus on decreasing incidents of flooding/swamping and capsizing of small vessels (less than 18 feet), as well as falls overboard from these vessels. Combined, these three types of accidents accounted for 18% (25) of the reportable accidents for 2006, resulting in 11 injuries and 75% (9) of the fatalities. Of the vessels involved in these incidents, there were 3 canoes, 15 open motorboats, 1 paddleboat, 2 personal watercraft, 3 rowboats, and 1 sailboat. The two primary causes for these types of accidents were Overloading (20%) and Alcohol Use (16%).

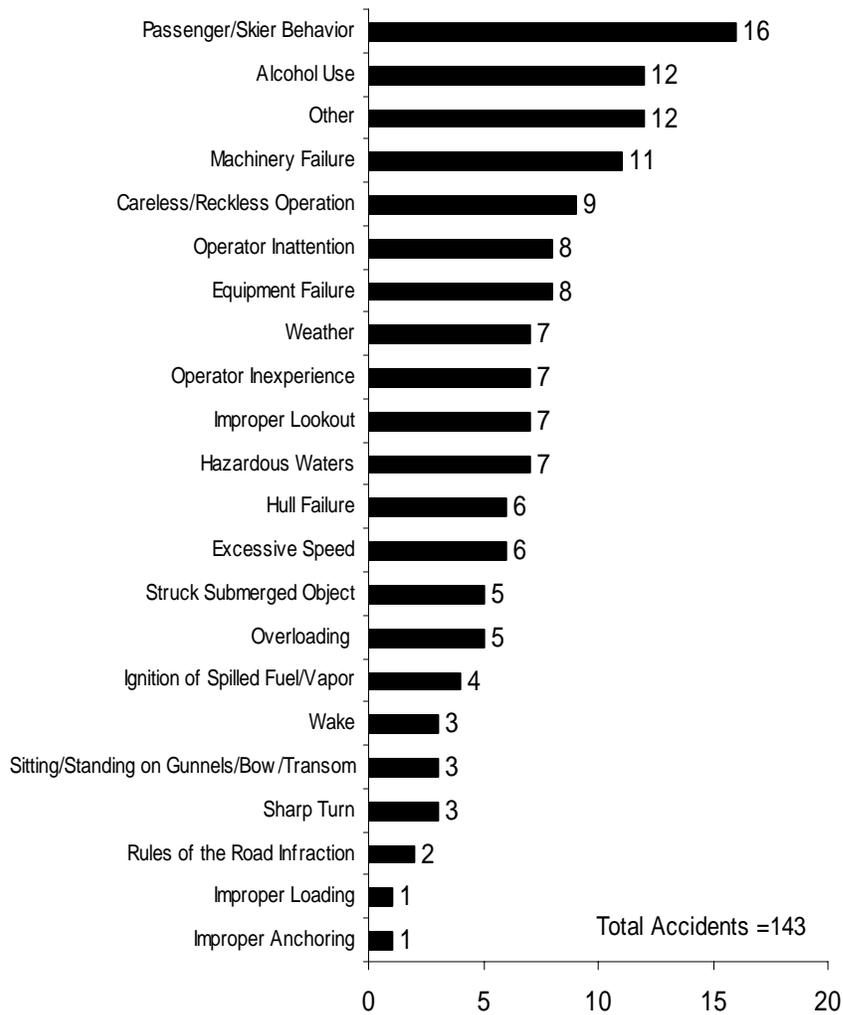
### Accident Types by Boat Type

Accident Type	Unknown/ Commercial	Auxiliary Sail	Cabin Motorboat	Canoe/Kayak	Houseboat	Jet Boat	Open Motorboat	Paddle	Pontoon	PWC	Rowboat	Sail Only
Capsizing	0	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	1
Collision with Fixed Object	0	0	5	3	0	1	4	0	2	0	0	0
Collision with Floating Object	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0
Collision with Vessel	5	0	19	0	1	0	10	0	1	8	0	3
Fall Overboard	0	1	1	1	0	0	5	0	1	2	0	0
Fall in Boat	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Fall on a Vessel	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Fire or Explosion (Fuel)	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
Fire or Explosion (Other)	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Flooding/Swamping	0	0	2	1	0	0	13	1	0	0	1	0
Grounding	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	1	3	0	0	0	7	0	1	3	0	2
Person Ejected from Vessel	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
Person Left Vessel	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
Person Struck By Boat	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
Sinking	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0
Skier Mishap	0	0	1	0	0	0	13	0	0	1	0	0
Starting Engine	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Struck Submerged Object	0	0	4	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	1
Unknown	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
<b>Total Vessels</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>

### Vessels, Injuries, and Fatalities by Accident Type

Accident Type	# Vessels	# Injured	# Fatalities
Collision with Vessel	47	8	0
Flooding/Swamping	18	4	3
Other	17	10	0
Skier Mishap	15	15	0
Collision with Fixed Object	15	5	1
Fall Overboard	11	5	5
Struck Submerged Object	9	0	0
Capsizing	7	5	3
Grounding	5	0	0
Sinking	5	1	0
Collision with Floating Object	5	2	0
Fire or Explosion (Fuel)	3	2	0
Person Struck by Boat	2	2	0
Fall in Boat	2	2	0
Fire or Explosion (Other)	2	0	0
Person Ejected from Vessel	2	2	0
Person Left Vessel	2	2	0
Unknown	4	0	0
Fall on a Vessel	1	1	0
Starting Engine	1	3	0

## Accident Causes



Passenger/skier behavior was the top ranking cause for boating accidents in 2006. Passenger/skier behavior resulted in 23% (16) of the reported injuries and 8% (1) of the fatalities.

Alcohol use was responsible for 10% (7) of the reported injuries, and 33% (4) of the fatalities.

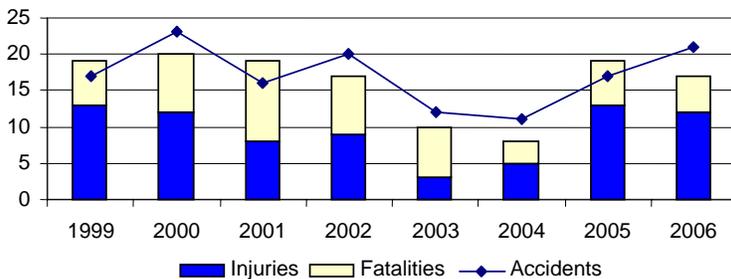
## Actions at the Time of the Accident

<u>Operation</u>		<u>Activity</u>	
Cruising	45	Pleasure Boating	62
Tied to dock/moored	27	Unknown	28
Docking/Leaving Dock	16	Docked/Docking	27
Changing direction	13	Fishing	19
Drifting	13	Water Tubing	19
Changing speed	12	Water Skiing	5
Changing Speed and Direction	11	Fueling	3
Towing	10	Racing	3
Rowing/Paddling	9	Swimming	3
At anchor	4	Hunting	2
Unknown	4	Making Repairs	2
Launching	4		
Being towed	3		
Sailing	2		

## Accident Cause by Accident Type

Primary Cause	Capsizing	Collision with Fixed Object	Collision with Floating Object	Collision with Vessel	Fall Overboard	Fall in Boat	Fall on a Vessel	Fire or Explosion (Fuel)	Fire or Explosion (Other)	Flooding/Swamping	Grounding	Other	Person Ejected from Vessel	Person Left Vessel	Person Struck by Boat	Sinking	Skier Mishap	Starting Engine	Struck Submerged Object	Swimming from Vessel	Unknown
Alcohol Use	2	2	1	1	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Careless/Reckless Operation	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Equipment Failure	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Excessive Speed	0	1	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Hazardous Waters	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
Hull Failure	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Ignition of Spilled Fuel/Vapor	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Improper Anchoring	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Improper Loading	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Improper Lookout	0	1	2	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Machinery Failure	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	2	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Operator Inattention	0	2	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
Operator Inexperience	0	2	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other/No Cause	0	1	1	20	2	0	1	0	0	0	1	6	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	5	2
Overloading	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Passenger/Skier Behavior	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	1	0	8	0	0	0	1
Rules of the Road Infraction	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sharp Turn	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Sitting/Standing on the Gunnels/Bow/Transom	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wake	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Weather	1	0	0	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Vessels</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>

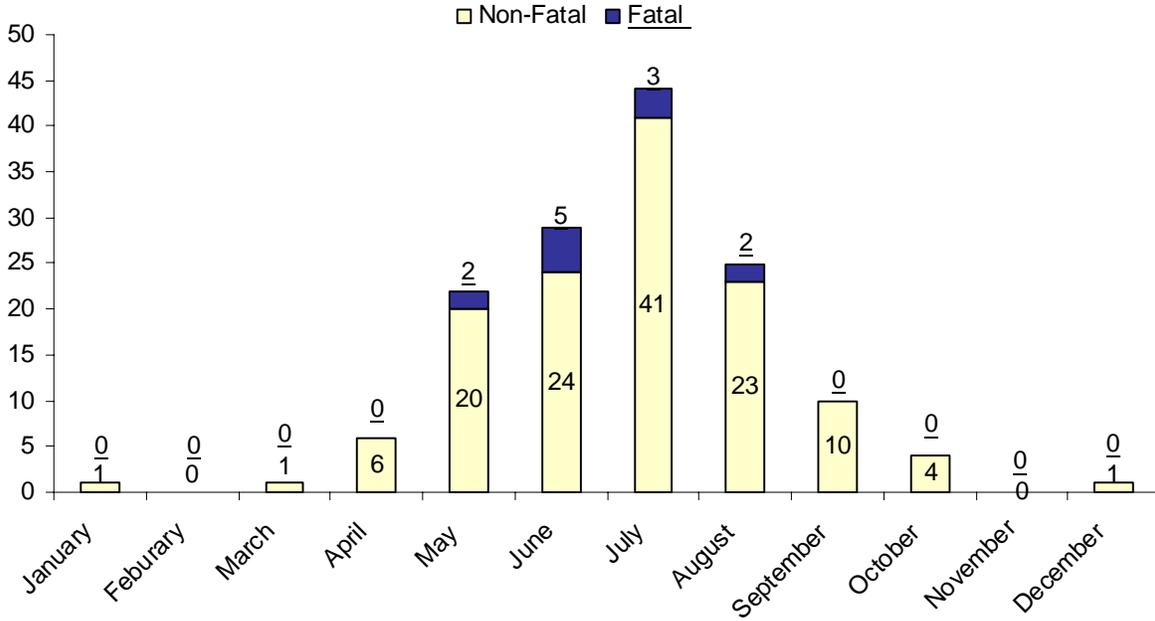
## Alcohol Involved: Accidents – Injuries – Fatalities



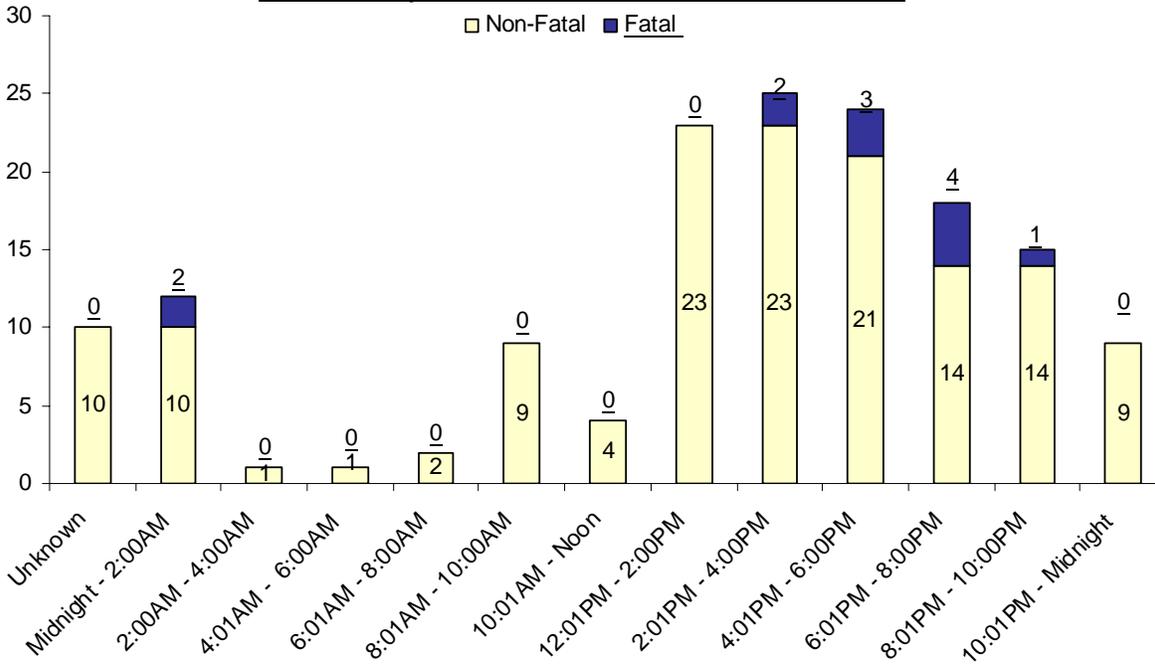
There were a total of 21 accidents (15%) in 2006 that were alcohol involved. Twelve of these accidents resulted in injuries and five resulted in fatalities.

## Accident Times

### Month for Fatal and Non-Fatal Accidents

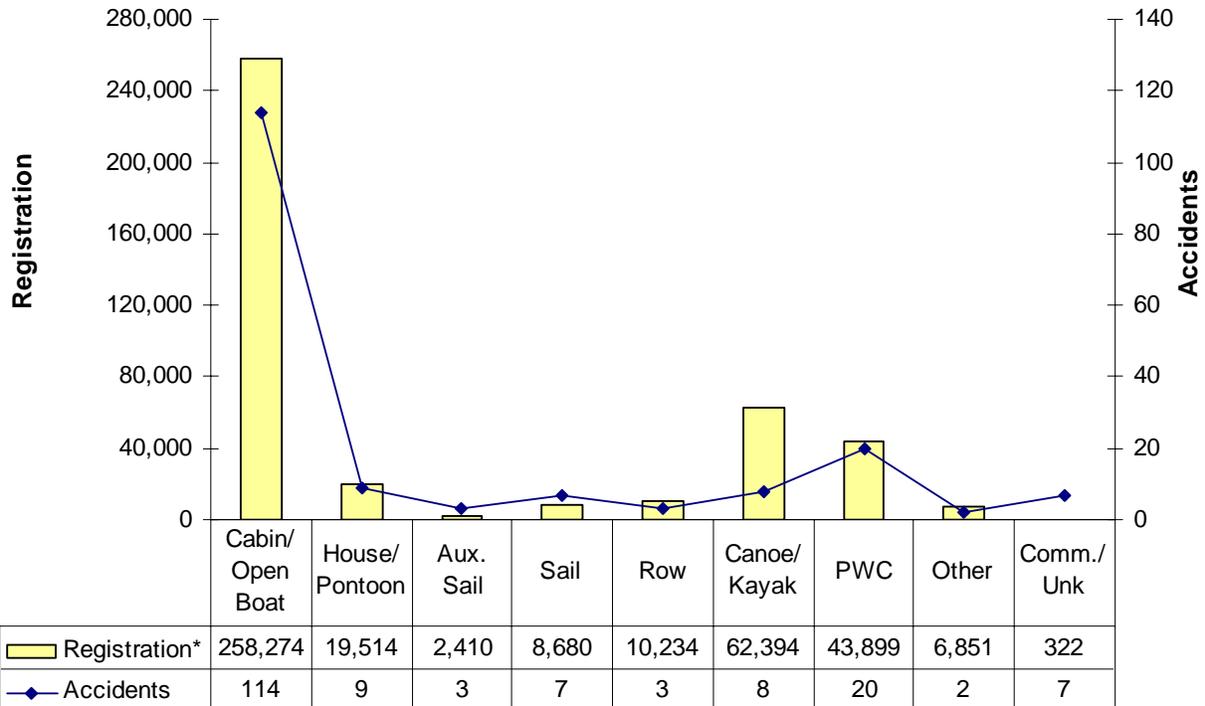


### Time of Day for Fatal and Non-Fatal Accidents



## Vessel Data

### Registrations and Accidents by Boat Type



\* Includes all recreational, commercial, and documented vessels.

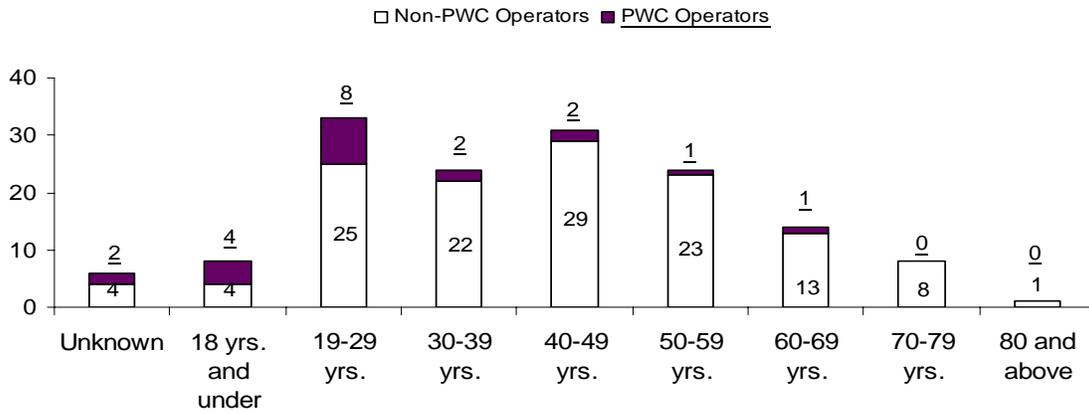
### Boat Operator Versus Ownership

	Owner Unknown	Owner Operated	Borrowed	Rented
Unknown/Commercial	5	2	0	0
Auxiliary Sail	0	2	1	0
Cabin Motorboat	2	35	7	0
Canoe/Kayak	1	3	2	2
Houseboat	0	0	1	0
Other	0	3	2	0
Open Motorboat	0	50	19	1
Pontoon	0	5	2	1
PWC	0	5	8	7
Sail Only	2	5	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>11</b>

The ownership of 163 vessels was reported. As was the case in 2005, almost one-half of the vessels involved in these accidents were operated by someone other than the owner.

## Operator Data

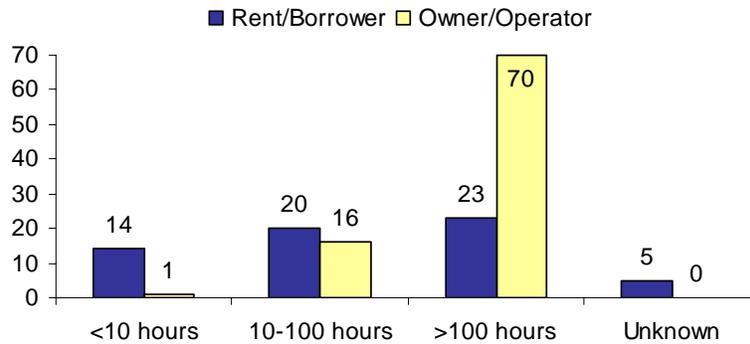
### Operator Age



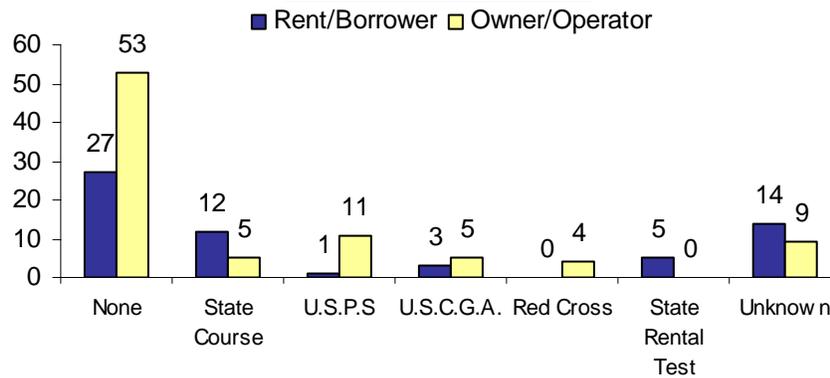
The average age of all operators was 41.7; the median age was 42.

The average age of PWC operators was 28.7; the average age of all other vessel operators was 43.6.

### Operator Experience

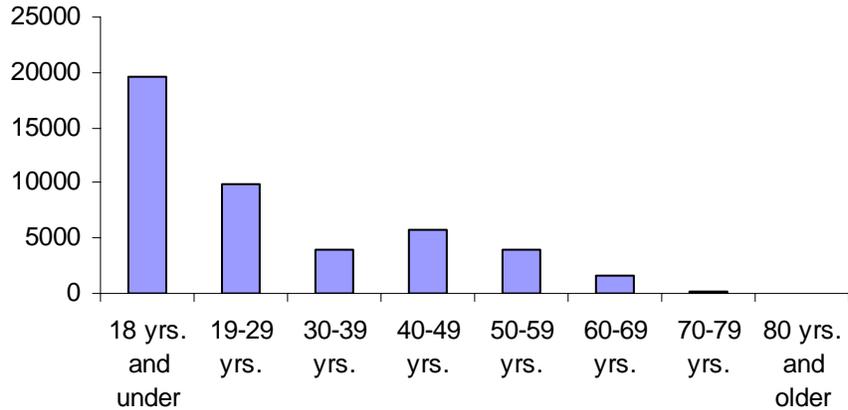


### Operator Education



## Education Certificates

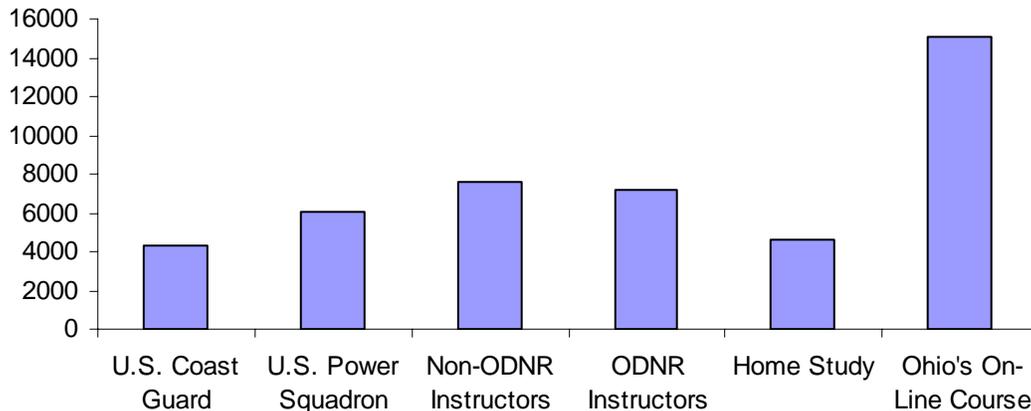
### Age for Education Certificates Issued from 2002-2006



Since 2000, Ohio law has required persons who operate a vessel with a motor greater than 10 horsepower, and born on or after January 1, 1982, to pass a boating safety exam.

In 2006, there were 27 operators involved in accidents that were affected by this law; 12 (44%) had not passed the required exam. Four of these non-certified operators were operating a PWC, 4 were operating canoes, 3 were operating open motorboats, and 1 was operating a pontoon boat.

### Education Certificates Issued by Organization 2002-2006

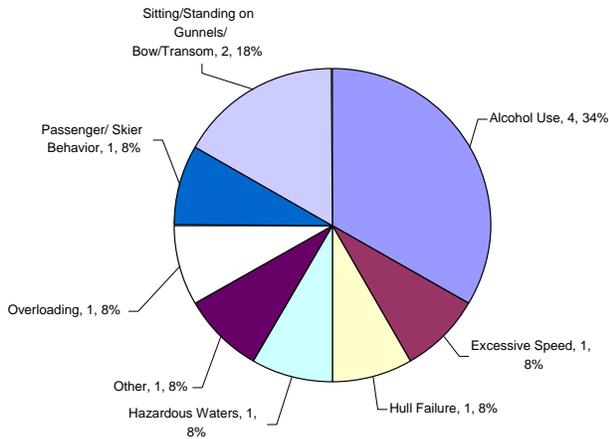


From 2002 through 2006, a total of 44,800 boater education certificates have been awarded. Sixty percent (27,027) of those certified fell within the required age group.

## Fatality Data

Body of Water	Capsizing	Collision with Fixed Object	Fall Overboard	Flooding/ Swamping
Alum Creek	0	0	1	0
Buck Creek Lake	0	0	1	0
Crystal Lake	0	0	0	1
Geauga Lake	0	0	0	1
Lake Erie	0	0	1	0
Lake Otto	1	0	0	0
Lake Wapusun	1	0	0	0
Mohican River	0	1	0	0
Mosquito Lake	0	0	1	0
Piedmont Lake	0	0	1	0
Private Lake	0	0	0	1
Wingfoot Lake	1	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>

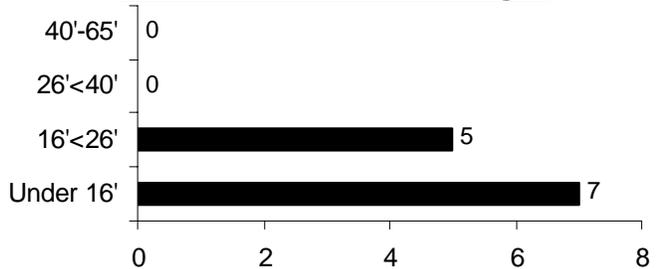
## Fatal Accident Causes



In 2006, there were 12 fatal accidents; this number remaining the same as in 2005. The vessels involved in these accidents included 4 open motorboats, 3 rowboats, 2 canoes, 1 auxiliary sailboat, 1 pontoon boat, and 1 paddle boat. Five of the operators did not own the vessel involved in the fatal boating accident, and none of the operators had taken a boating education course.

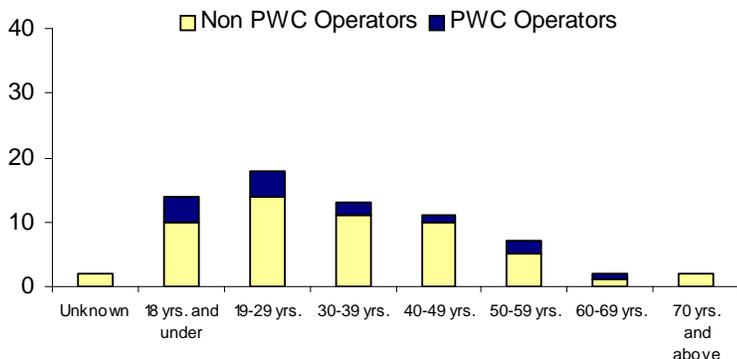
The cause of death in eleven of these fatal accidents was drowning; a propeller strike was the cause of the twelfth fatality. Eleven of the twelve victims were not wearing a personal flotation device (PFD) prior to the incident. The victims ranged in age from 21 to 78, with the average age being 44.

## Fatal Accident Boat Length



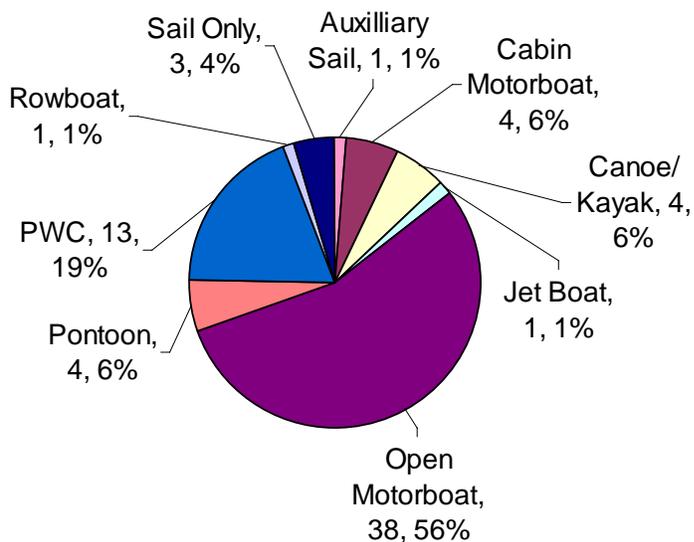
## Injury Data

### Age of Injured Victim



<u>Activity</u>	<u># Injuries</u>
Pleasure Boating	27
Water Skiing/Tubing	18
Fishing	6
Other	5
Swimming/Diving	3
Starting Engine	3
Kite Tubing	3
Making Repairs	2
Racing	2

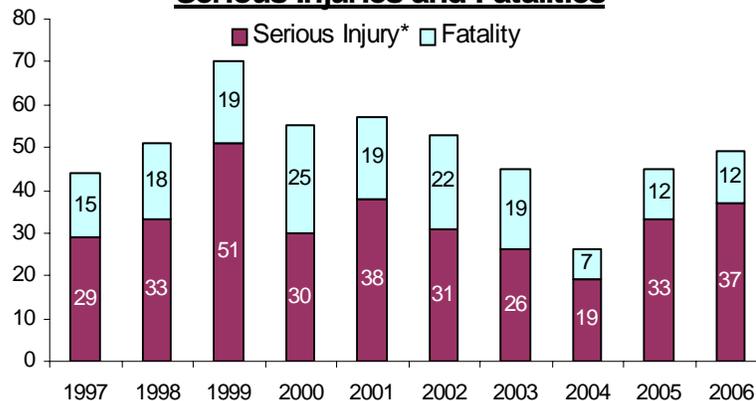
### Boat Type Involved in Injuries



There were 69 injuries requiring medical treatment reported in 2006. Skier mishap accounted for 22% (15) of these injuries, while collisions with a vessel or a fixed object accounted for 16% (11) of the injury incidents. The top-ranked causes for accidents resulting in an injury were passenger/skier behavior (16, 23%), and alcohol (6, 9%).

There were 65 vessels involved in accidents that resulted in the 69 injuries. The boater education background was reported for 56 of those operators; 59% (33) reported they had not participated in a boater education program.

### Serious Injuries and Fatalities



\*requiring hospital stay

## 2006 Boating Accidents by Body of Water and Accident Type

Body of Water	Total Vessels	Capsizing	Collision w/fixed object	Collision w/floating object	Collision w/vessel	Fall in boat	Fall on a vessel	Fall overboard	Fire or explosion (fuel)	Fire or explosion (other)	Flooding/Swamping	Grounding	Other	Person ejected from vessel	Person left vessel	Person struck by boat	Sinking	Skier mishap	Starting engine	Struck submerged object	Unknown
Alum Creek Res.	8	0	1	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
Apple Valley	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Berlin Res.	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Buck Creek Lake	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Buckeye Lake	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Caesar Creek	8	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0
Candlewood Lake	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Charles Mill	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Choctaw Lake	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Cowan Lake	4	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Crystal Lake	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	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	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Delaware Res.	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	1	0
East Fork Res.	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	2	0
Emerald Lake	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Geauga Lake	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grand Lake	10	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	1	0	2	0	1	0	0	1	0
Grand River	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Great Miami Riv.	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Griggs Reservoir	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Indian Lake	9	0	1	2	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lake Erie	45	1	5	0	14	2	0	3	0	1	4	4	4	0	0	0	3	0	0	2	2
Lake Otto	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lake Wapusun	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lake White	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Little Miami River	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Maumee River	8	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	1
Michael J. Kirwan	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mohican River	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mosquito Lake	6	0	0	0	4	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ohio River	7	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Paint Creek	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0

<b>Body of Water</b>	<b>Total Vessels</b>	<b>Capsizing</b>	<b>Collision w/fixed object</b>	<b>Collision w/floating object</b>	<b>Collision w/vessel</b>	<b>Fall in boat</b>	<b>Fall on a vessel</b>	<b>Fall overboard</b>	<b>Fire or explosion (fuel)</b>	<b>Fire or explosion (other)</b>	<b>Flooding/Swamping</b>	<b>Grounding</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Person ejected from vessel</b>	<b>Person left vessel</b>	<b>Person struck by boat</b>	<b>Sinking</b>	<b>Skier mishap</b>	<b>Starting engine</b>	<b>Struck submerged object</b>	<b>Unknown</b>
Piedmont Lake	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pleasant Hill	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Portage Lakes	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Portage River	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Private Lake	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pymatuning	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rocky River	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Salt Fork Lake	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sandusky Bay	7	0	0	1	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sandusky River	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
St. Joe River	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tappan Lake	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vermilion River	5	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wingfoot Lake	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Vessels</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>4</b>

**2002-2006 Boating Accident Summary by Body of Water**

<b>Body of Water</b>	<b># Accidents</b>	<b># Vessels</b>	<b># Injuries</b>	<b># Fatalities</b>	<b>Total Boat Damages</b>	<b>Total Property Damages</b>
5 Rivers Metro. Park	3	5	2	0	\$3,175.00	\$0.00
Action Lake	1	1	1	0	\$0.00	\$250.00
Alum Creek Res.	38	46	17	1	\$49,564.00	\$0.00
Apple Valley	1	1	2	0	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
Ashtabula River	2	2	0	1	\$10,000.00	\$0.00
Atwood Lake	3	4	2	0	\$635.00	\$100.00
Auglaize River	2	2	1	1	\$600.00	\$0.00
Beaver Creek	1	2	0	0	\$700.00	\$0.00
Belmont Lake	1	1	0	0	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Berlin Res.	10	13	3	0	\$23,321.00	\$2,350.00
Big Darby Creek	1	1	2	0	\$500.00	\$500.00
Brush Creek	1	2	0	0	\$800.00	\$0.00
Buck Creek Lake	6	7	2	1	\$11,243.00	\$0.00
Buckeye Lake	19	24	9	2	\$15,478.00	\$1,145.00
Burr Oak Lake	2	2	0	0	\$3,100.00	\$0.00
Caesar Creek Res.	23	27	16	0	\$14,050.00	\$200.00
Candlewood Lake	2	2	2	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Chagrin River	4	5	1	2	\$5,500.00	\$0.00
Charles Mill Res.	3	3	2	1	\$100.00	\$0.00
Choctaw Lake	1	2	1	0		\$0.00
Cooley Canal	1	3	0	0	\$3,000.00	\$0.00
Cowan Lake	5	8	2	0	\$2,275.00	\$0.00
Crystal Lake	1	1	0	1	\$50.00	\$0.00
Cuyahoga River	11	16	1	2	\$64,660.00	\$0.00
Deer Creek Res.	18	22	6	0	\$22,287.00	\$0.00
Delaware Res.	9	9	6	0	\$11,300.00	\$0.00
Dillon Res.	2	3	2	0	\$250.00	\$0.00
East Fork Res.	17	22	12	0	\$26,250.00	\$500.00
Eastwood Lake	1	2	1	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Emerald Lake	1	2	1	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Findlay Reservoir #2	1	1	0	0	\$800.00	\$0.00
Four Mile Creek	1	1	0	0	\$500.00	\$0.00
Geauga Lake	1	1	0	1	\$0.00	\$500.00
Grand Lake	26	33	10	3	\$40,150.00	\$2,450.00
Grand River	2	2	3	0	\$3,400.00	\$0.00
Great Miami River	13	14	5	4	\$22,200.00	\$6,400.00
Griggs Reservoir	1	1	0	0	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
Hargus Lake	1	1	1	0	\$80.00	\$0.00
Hocking River	1	1	0	0	\$0.00	\$800.00

<b>Body of Water</b>	<b># Accidents</b>	<b># Vessels</b>	<b># Injuries</b>	<b># Fatalities</b>	<b>Total Boat Damages</b>	<b>Total Property Damages</b>
Huron River	1	1	1	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Indian Lake	30	46	15	2	\$28,745.00	\$3,450.00
Jackson Lake	1	1	0	1	\$0.00	\$0.00
Ladue Res.	1	1	2	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Lake Buckhorn	1	1	0	1	\$0.00	\$0.00
Lake Erie	192	255	95	11	\$1,656,407.00	\$82,370.00
Lake Erie/Ashtabula County	11	14	5	0	\$60,699.00	\$0.00
Lake Erie/Bass Islands	19	23	1	3	\$156,700.00	\$6,500.00
Lake Erie/East Harbor	5	11	6	0	\$47,200.00	\$0.00
Lake Erie/East of Cuyahoga River	4	5	4	0	\$51,000.00	\$0.00
Lake Erie/Kelley's Island	2	3	1	0	\$5,650.00	\$0.00
Lake Erie/Lake County East of Mentor	4	4	4	0	\$65,726.00	\$0.00
Lake Erie/Lake County West of Mentor	1	1	0	0	\$700.00	\$0.00
Lake Erie/Lorain County	7	10	2	1	\$37,829.00	\$4,000.00
Lake Erie/ Marblehead to Port Clinton	5	5	3	1	\$1,000.00	\$600.00
Lake Erie/Maumee Bay	5	8	5	1	\$8,500.00	\$0.00
Lake Erie/Maumee Bay to Port Clinton	1	1	0	0	\$4,500.00	\$0.00
Lake Erie/Maumee Bay; Ship Chn	1	1	0	0	\$3,000.00	\$0.00
Lake Erie/Sandusky Bay	4	7	3	0	\$44,000.00	\$0.00
Lake Erie/Sandusky Bay Rt.2-SR	14	16	7	0	\$65,028.00	\$18,600.00
Lake Erie/Sandusky Bay/Rt 2-CP	16	24	4	0	\$104,650.00	\$0.00
Lake Erie/Vermillion to Huron	4	4	3	1	\$1,600.00	\$200.00
Lake Erie/West Harbor	3	3	0	0	\$38,800.00	\$0.00
Lake Erie/West of Cuyahoga River	3	3	1	1	\$5,000.00	\$0.00
Lake Lakengran	2	4	2	0	\$998.00	\$0.00
Lake Lorelei	3	4	4	0	\$13,200.00	\$1,500.00
Lake Milton	2	3	2	0	\$4,000.00	\$0.00

Body of Water	# Accidents	# Vessels	# Injuries	# Fatalities	Total Boat Damages	Total Property Damages
Lake Mohawk	1	1	1	0	\$250.00	\$0.00
Lake Otto	1	1	0	1	\$0.00	\$0.00
Lake Tomahawk	1	1	1	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Lake Wapusun	1	1	1	1	\$0.00	\$0.00
Lake White	4	4	5	0	\$9,300.00	\$0.00
Little Miami River	2	2	1	1	\$0.00	\$0.00
Luna Lake	1	2	4	1	\$6,000.00	\$0.00
Mad River	2	2	1	1	\$0.00	\$0.00
Maumee R./Grand Rapids-Indp.	2	4	0	0	\$5,280.00	\$0.00
Maumee R./Lake Erie-Maple St.	2	2	1	0	\$8,000.00	\$0.00
Maumee R./Maple St-Grand Rapid	2	2	2	0	\$600.00	\$1,500.00
Maumee River	29	41	13	3	\$145,894.00	\$3,006.00
Michael J. Kirwan	1	2	0	0	\$500.00	\$0.00
Mohican River	2	2	1	1	\$1,100.00	\$150.00
Mosquito Lake	17	21	8	2	\$28,938.00	\$2,255.00
Muskingum River	6	8	3	1	\$4,700.00	\$0.00
Nettle Lake	1	2	0	0	\$2,689.00	\$0.00
Nimisila Res.	1	1	1	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Ohio River	35	61	18	1	\$294,244.00	\$16,300.00
Ohio River/ Manchester Islands	1	2	0	0	\$15,000.00	\$3,000.00
Ohio River/Markland Pool	2	3	1	0	\$9,000.00	\$500.00
Ohio River/Straight Creek	1	2	1	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Olentangy River	1	1	0	1	\$300.00	\$0.00
Paint Creek Lake	6	6	2	1	\$7,200.00	\$1,500.00
Piedmont Lake	4	6	0	1	\$5,248.00	\$0.00
Pleasant Hill	7	10	7	0	\$5,500.00	\$0.00
Pond	4	4	0	4	\$150.00	\$0.00
Portage Lake	10	16	1	2	\$17,050.00	\$5,700.00
Portage River	4	7	3	0	\$5,000.00	\$0.00
Private Lake	1	1	0	1	\$0.00	\$0.00
Punderson	1	1	0	1	\$0.00	\$0.00
Pymatuning	2	2	2	0	\$500.00	\$2,400.00
Rocky Fork Lake	10	12	1	1	\$25,600.00	\$1,000.00
Rocky River	4	7	2	0	\$6,600.00	\$30.00
Salt Fork	7	9	2	0	\$19,250.00	\$0.00
Sandusky River	8	11	4	0	\$35,100.00	\$300.00
Scioto River	2	2	2	1	\$200.00	\$300.00
Seneca Lake	8	11	5	0	\$9,224.00	\$0.00

<b>Body of Water</b>	<b># Accidents</b>	<b># Vessels</b>	<b># Injuries</b>	<b># Fatalities</b>	<b>Total Boat Damages</b>	<b>Total Property Damages</b>
Springfield Lake	1	2	0	0	\$4,000.00	\$0.00
St. Joe River	1	1	0	0	\$300.00	\$150.00
Tappan Lake	5	7	3	1	\$6,100.00	\$0.00
Tuscarawas River	2	2	2	0	\$11,200.00	\$0.00
Vermillion River	4	9	0	0	\$28,300.00	\$500.00
Walborn Reservoir	1	1	1	0	\$20.00	\$0.00
West Branch Res.	16	20	6	0	\$51,137.00	\$25.00
White Oak Creek	2	2	0	0	\$2,099.00	\$0.00
Wingfoot Lake	1	1	0	1	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Five-Year Total</b>	<b>806</b>	<b>1072</b>	<b>389</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>\$3,514,473.00</b>	<b>\$172,031.00</b>

**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.