

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

**2008
RECREATIONAL BOATING ACCIDENTS**



**A STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF THE REPORTABLE BOATING
ACCIDENTS IN THE STATE OF OHIO FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2008**

Ted Strickland, Governor

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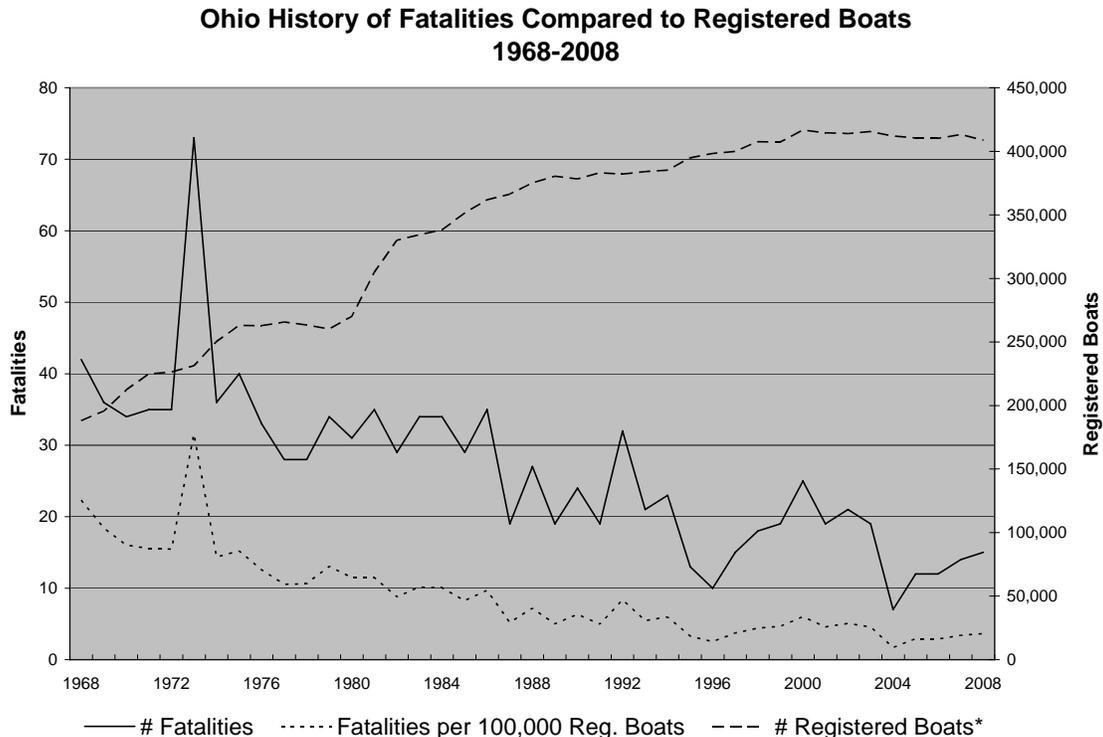
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Introduction

In order to best utilize the state's resources, a thorough review of boating accident statistics, officer activities, and registration information is essential. In 2008, a total of 162 reports were filed for boating accidents involving 197 vessels, and resulting in 112 injuries and 15 fatalities.

The ratio of boating fatalities as compared to the number of registered boats in the state increased from 3.4 fatalities per 100,000 registered vessels in 2007 to 3.7 fatalities per 100,000 registered vessels in 2008. The average over the 2004-2008 period was 2.9 fatalities per 100,000 registered boats, meeting the Division of Watercraft's established goal to reduce fatalities to a five-year average of not more than 3.2 fatalities per 100,000 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.

The United States Coast Guard standard for reporting accidents is established within Title 33, Section 173 of the Code of Federal Regulations. One-hundred twenty-four 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 19-21 of this report.

Ohio Boating Accidents 1968-2008

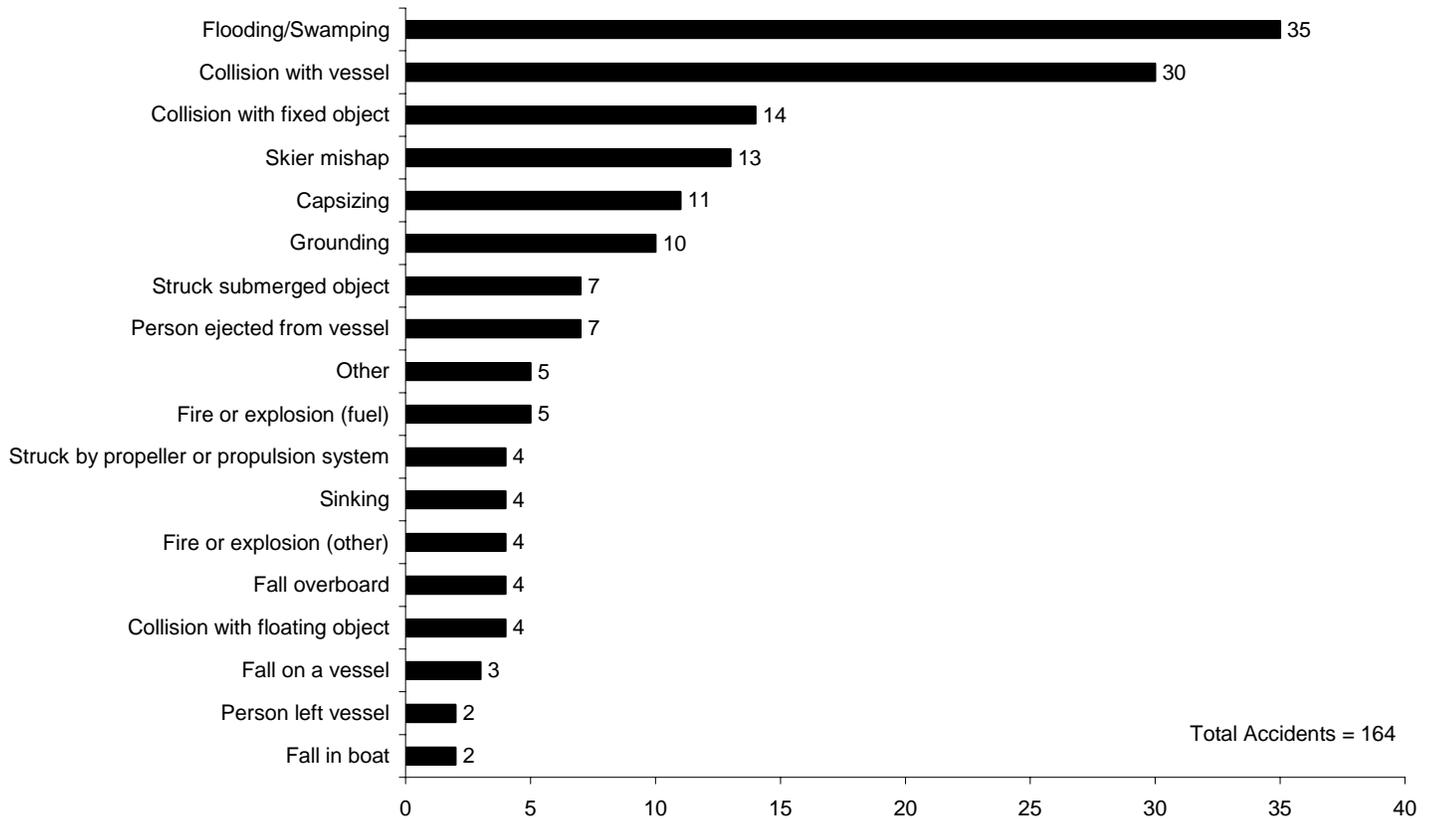
Year	# Fatalities	# Accidents	# Vessels	# Injuries	# Registered Boats*	Fatalities per 100,000 Registered Boats
1968	42	93	115	22	188,075	22.3
1969	36	89	109	7	195,594	18.4
1970	34	84	103	11	212,405	16.0
1971	35	97	125	21	224,806	15.6
1972	35	97	124	12	226,424	15.5
1973	73	145	174	33	231,379	31.5
1974	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
2007	14	155	202	80	413,256	3.4
2008	15	164	197	112	408,931	3.7

** United States Coast Guard boating fatality criteria changed

* Includes numbered and alternative recreational vessels; excludes documented vessels and livery vessels

2008 Ohio Boating Accidents

Accident Types



Collisions between vessels resulted in 18% (30) of the reportable accidents in 2008, a decrease of 7% as compared to 2007. These collisions involved 31% (60) of the vessels, and accounted for \$311,289 (33%) in boat damages, 19% (21) of the injuries, and 1 (7%) of the fatalities.

Careless/Reckless Operation was cited most frequently as the primary contributing factor in these accidents, accounting for 9 (30%) of all reportable incidents in 2008.

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 smaller vessels. Combined, these three types of accidents on vessels less than 18 feet in length accounted for 24% (39) of the reportable accidents for 2008, resulting in 17 injuries (15%) and 13% (2) of the fatalities. Of the vessels involved in these incidents, there were 6 canoes, 1 kayak, 25 open motorboats, 3 personal watercraft, and 4 rowboats.

Although the primary focus of the "Operation Overboard" campaign is on smaller vessels (less than 18 feet in length), it is interesting to note that when all vessels are considered (regardless of length) the number of incidents involving flooding/swamping, capsizing and falls overboard increases to 31% (50) of reportable accidents and includes 37 injuries (33%) and 8 (53%) of the fatalities in 2008.

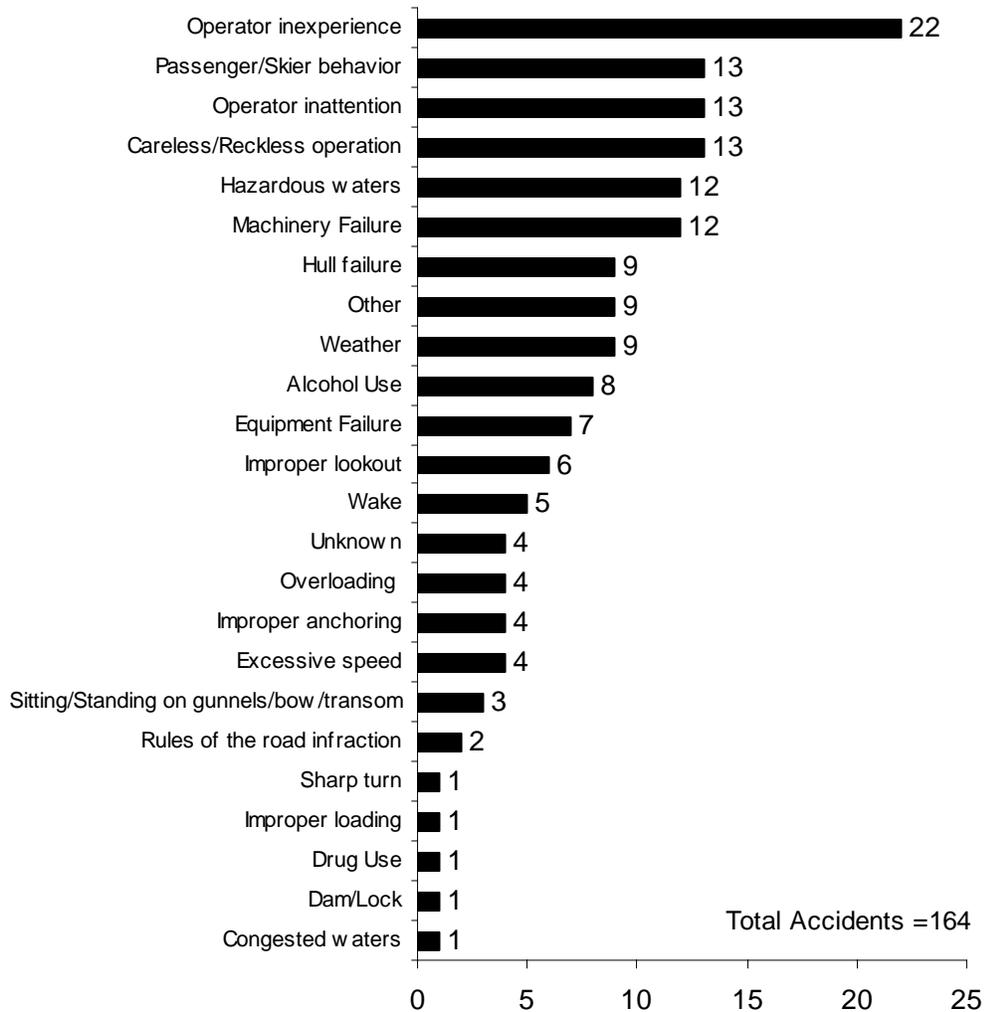
Accident Types by Boat Type

Accident Type	Unknown/ Commercial	Auxiliary Sail	Cabin Motorboat	Canoe	Kayak	Open Motorboat	Pontoon	PWC	Rowboat	Rowing Shell/Scull
Capsizing	0	0	0	2	1	4	0	0	3	1
Collision with Fixed Object	0	0	4	3	1	3	0	2	0	1
Collision with Floating Object	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
Collision with Vessel	5	3	21	0	0	13	4	14	0	0
Fall in Boat	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Fall on a Vessel	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0
Fall Overboard	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0
Fire or Explosion (Fuel)	0	0	2	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
Fire or Explosion (Other)	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Flooding/Swamping	0	0	2	3	0	25	0	2	1	2
Grounding	0	0	7	0	0	2	0	1	0	0
Other	0	1	4	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Person Ejected from Vessel	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	4	0	0
Person Left Vessel	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Person Struck by Boat	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Sinking	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	0
Skier Mishap	0	0	2	0	0	10	0	1	0	0
Starting Engine	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Struck by Propeller/Prop System	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
Struck Submerged Object	0	0	2	0	0	4	1	0	0	0
Total Vessels	5	4	51	9	3	83	7	27	4	4

Vessels, Injuries, and Fatalities by Accident Type

Accident Type	# Vessels	# Injured	# Fatalities
Collision with Vessel	60	21	1
Flooding/Swamping	35	29	3
Collision with Fixed Object	14	13	1
Skier Mishap	13	12	1
Capsizing	11	6	2
Grounding	10	6	0
Struck Submerged Object	7	1	0
Person Ejected from Vessel	7	5	3
Other	6	4	0
Fire or Explosion (Fuel)	5	2	0
Sinking	4	0	0
Struck by Propeller/Prop System	4	4	0
Collision with Floating Object	4	1	0
Fall Overboard	4	2	3
Fire or Explosion (Other)	4	0	0
Fall On a Vessel	3	4	0
Fall in Boat	2	2	0
Person Left Vessel	2	0	1
Person Struck by Boat	1	0	0
Starting Engine	1	0	0

Accident Causes



Operator Inexperience was the leading cause of boating accidents in 2008 (22 accidents; 13%), resulting in 17% (19) of the reported injuries and 7% (1) of the fatalities.

Alcohol Use was reported as the primary causative factor in 8 accidents (5%) resulting in 5% (6) of the injuries and 20% (3) of the fatalities.

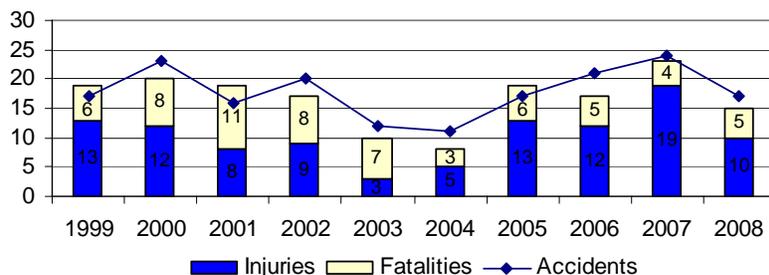
Actions at the Time of the Accident

<u>Operation</u>		<u>Activity</u>	
Cruising	67	Pleasure boating	97
Tied to dock/moored	21	Fishing	26
Drifting	16	Docked/Docking	25
Docking/Leaving Dock	16	Water tubing	14
Changing direction	15	Other/Unknown	11
Rowing/Paddling	14	Water skiing	10
Towing	10	Making repairs	5
Changing Speed and Direction	9	Hunting	2
At anchor	8	Racing	2
Changing speed	6	Starting engine	2
Other/Unknown	6	Swimming	1
Idling	5	Commercial activity	1
Launching/Retrieving	2	Tournament	1
Sailing	1		
Being towed	1		

Accident Cause by Accident Type

Primary Cause for Vessel	Capsizing	Collision with Fixed Object	Collision with Floating Object	Collision with 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 Be Vessel	Sinking	Skier Mishap	Starting Engine	Struck by Propeller/Prop System	Struck Submerged Object
Alcohol Use	1	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Careless/Reckless Operation	0	1	0	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Congested Waters	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dam/Lock	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Drug Use	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Equipment Failure	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Excessive Speed	1	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hazardous Waters	2	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Hull Failure	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Improper Anchoring	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	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
Improper Lookout	0	2	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Machinery Failure	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	4	3	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Operator Inattention	1	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	3	0
Operator Inexperience	0	2	0	13	0	1	0	1	0	3	6	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Other	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	4
Overloading	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Passenger/Skier Behavior	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	9	0	0	0
Rules of the Road Infraction	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sharp Turn	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sitting/Standing on the Gunnels/Bow/Transom	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unknown	1	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wake	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Weather	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	5	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Vessels	11	14	4	60	2	3	4	5	4	35	10	6	7	2	1	4	13	1	4	7

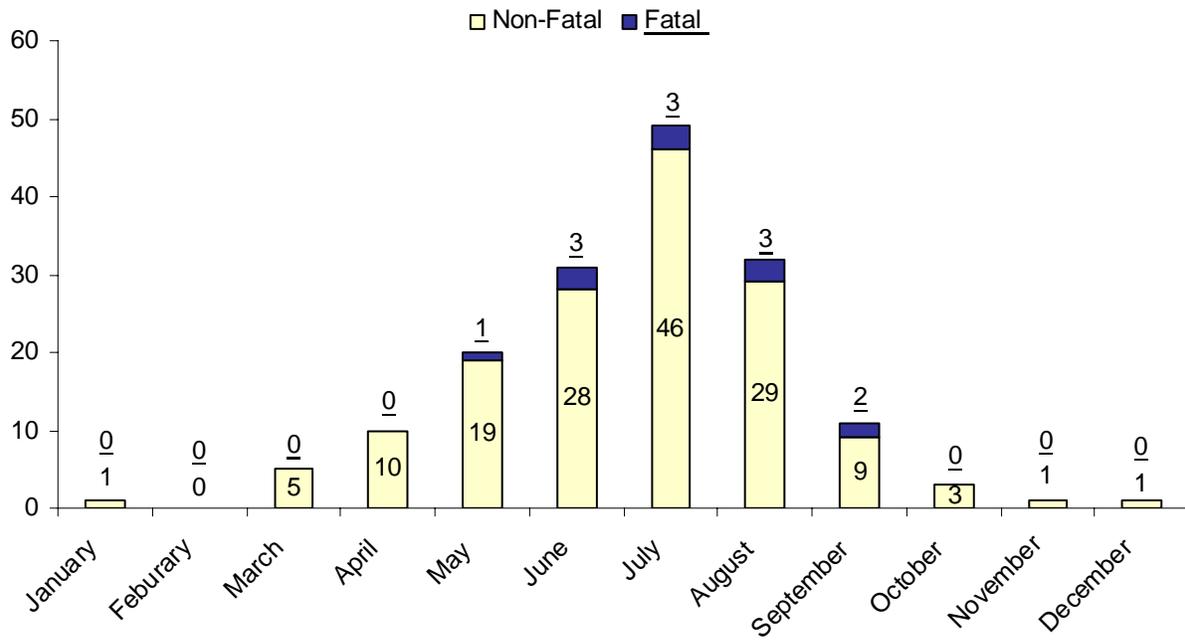
Alcohol Involved: Accidents – Injuries – Fatalities



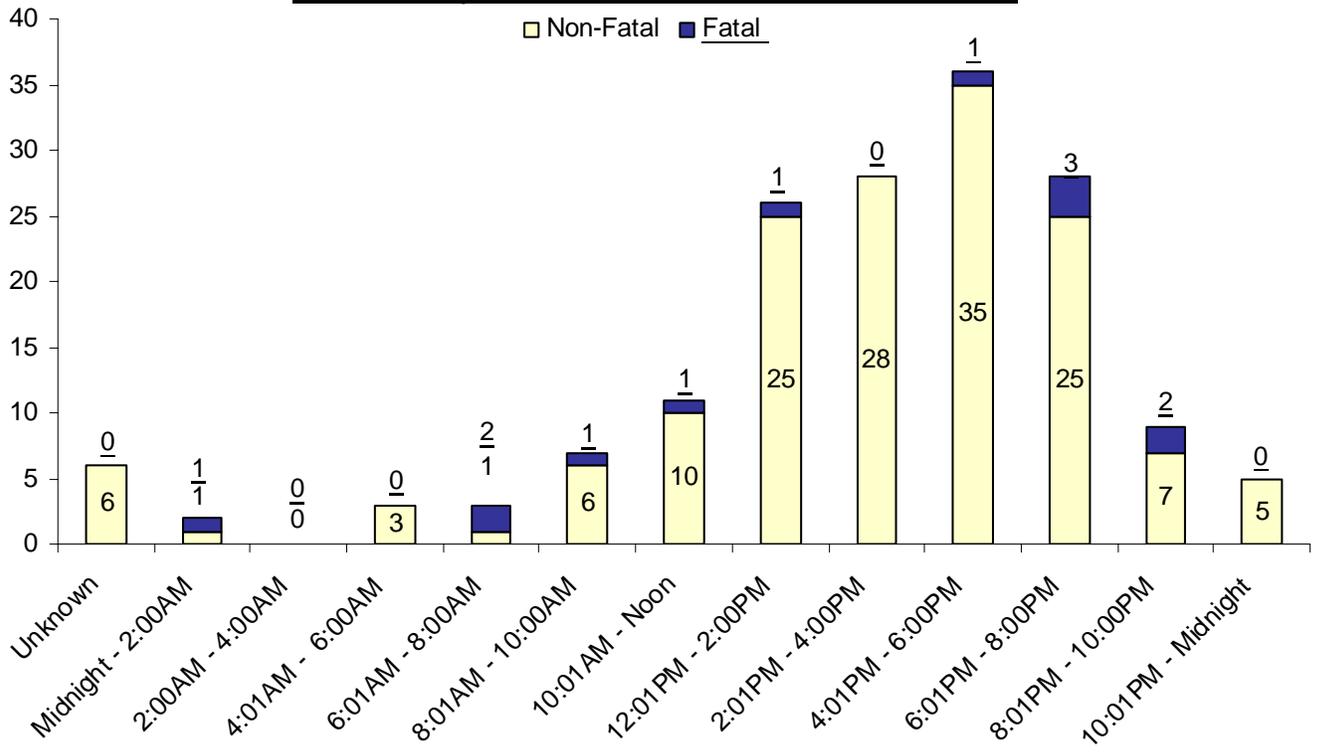
In addition to those accidents where alcohol was listed as the primary cause (see page 5), there were an additional 9 accidents (6%) in 2008 that were alcohol involved (defined as an accident where there is evidence or a reasonable likelihood that the use of alcohol contributed to the accident). These accidents accounted for 4 additional injuries (4%) and 2 additional fatalities (13%).

Accident Times

Month for Fatal and Non-Fatal Accidents

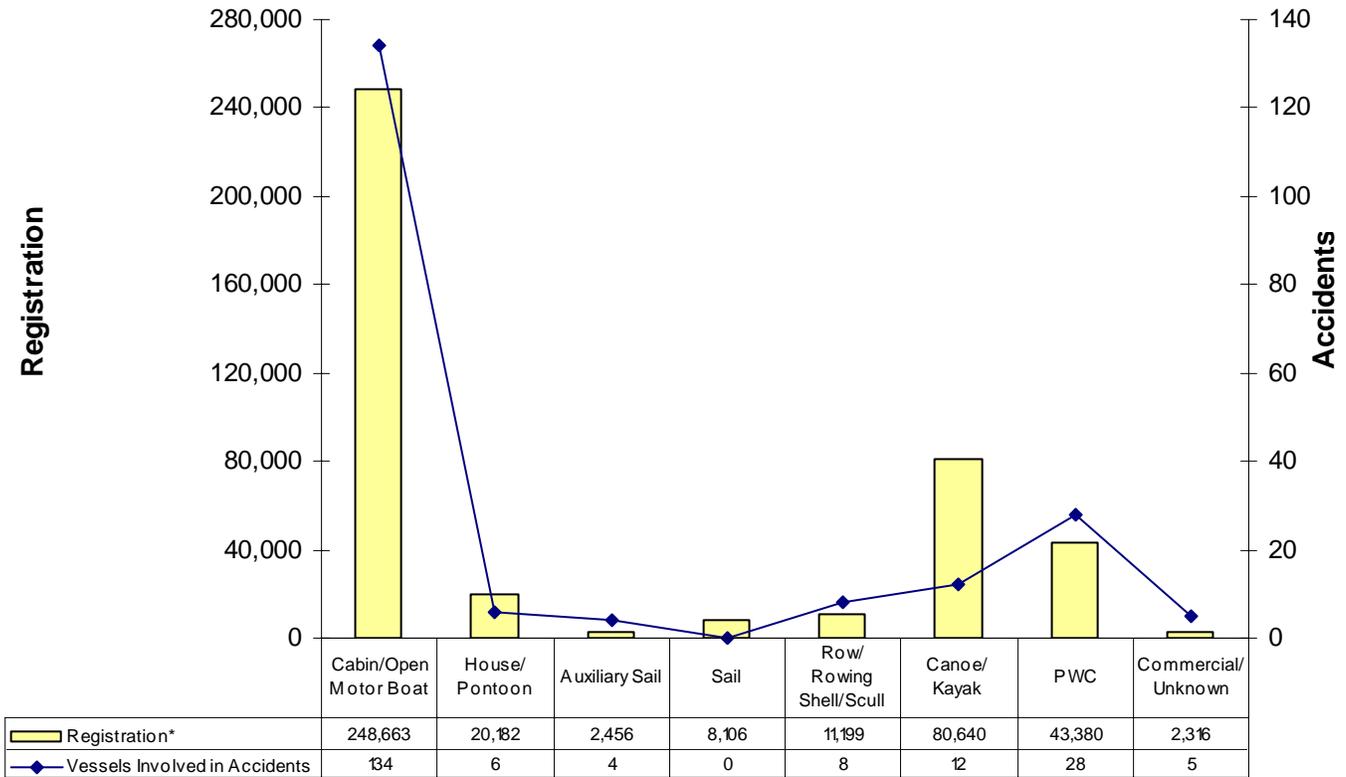


Time of Day for Fatal and Non-Fatal Accidents



Vessel Data

Registrations and Accidents by Boat Type



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

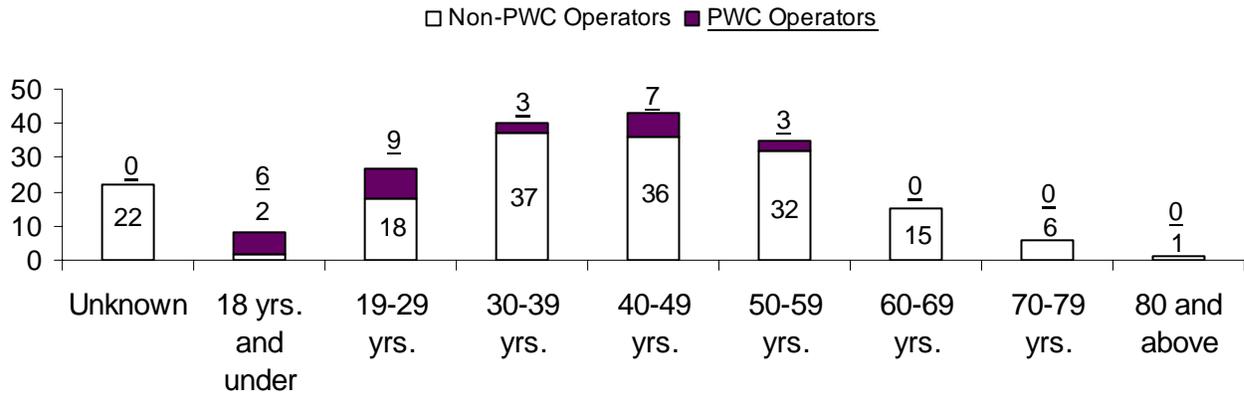
Boat Operator Versus Ownership

	Owner/ Operator Unknown	Owner Operated	Borrowed	Rented
Unknown/Commercial	4	0	1	0
Auxiliary Sail	2	2	0	0
Cabin Motorboat	13	26	12	0
Canoe/Kayak	1	5	4	2
Open Motorboat	5	57	19	2
Pontoon	2	2	1	1
PWC	0	7	17	4
Rowboat	2	5	1	0
Sail Only	0	0	0	0
Total	29	104	55	9

The owner and operator were known/identified for 168 of the vessels involved in accidents in 2008. Approximately 33% of all vessels involved in accidents in 2008 were operated by someone other than the owner of the vessel.

Operator Data

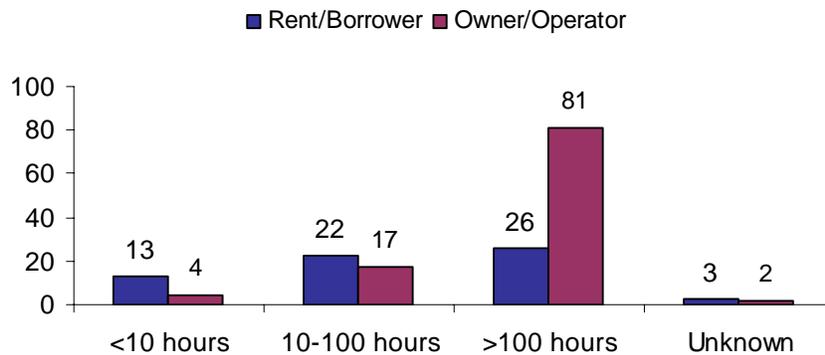
Operator Age



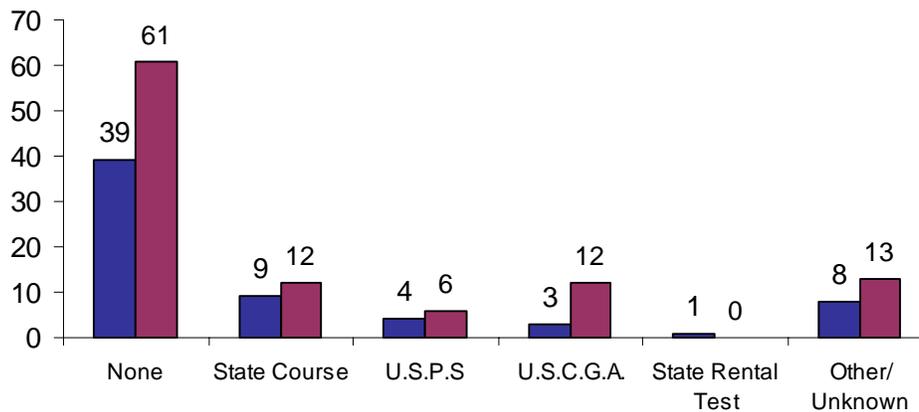
The age of 175 of the operators involved in accidents in 2008 was reported. The average age for these 175 operators was 42.7 years.

The average age of PWC operators was 32.3 years; the average age of all other vessel operators was 44.6 years.

Operator Experience

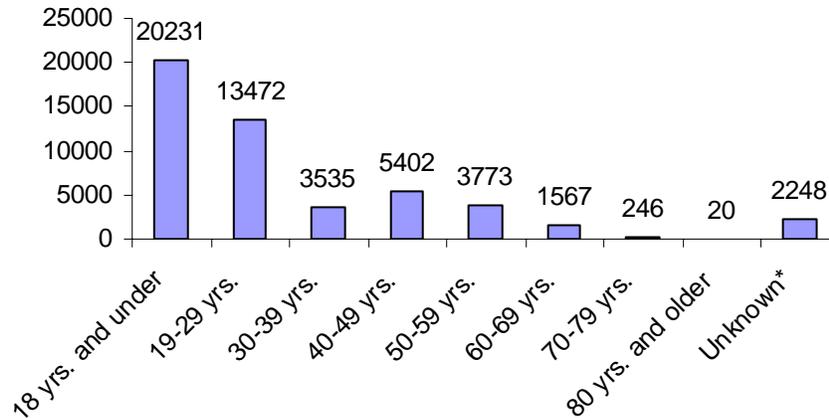


Operator Education



Education Certificates

Age for Education Certificates Issued 2004-2008

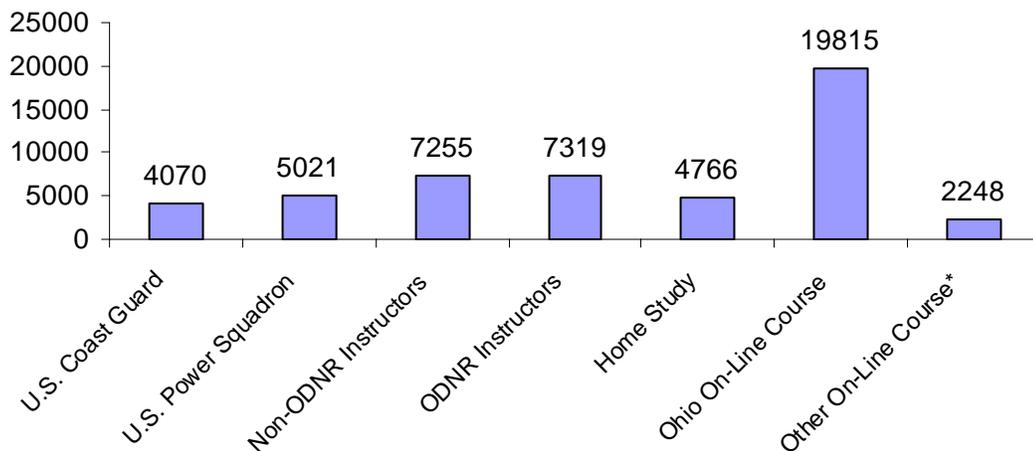


* Includes Boat U.S. (2007/2008) and BoaterExam.com (2008)

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 2008, there were 21 operators involved in accidents that were affected by this law; 11 (52%) had not passed the required exam. Three of these non-certified operators were operating a cabin motorboat, 6 were operating an open motorboat, and 12 were operating a PWC.

Education Certificates Issued by Organization 2002-2008



* Includes Boat U.S. (2007/2008) and BoaterExam.com (2008)

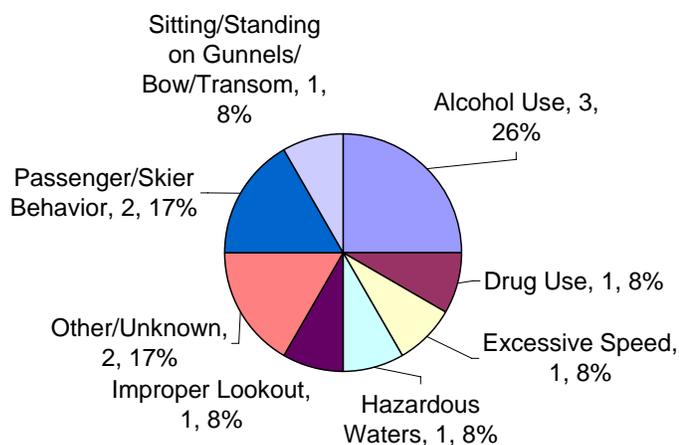
From 2004 through 2008, a total of 50,494 boater education certificates were awarded. Sixty-seven percent (33,855) of those certified fell within the required age group.

Fatality Data

Fatal Accidents by Accident Type

Body of Water	Capsizing	Collision with Vessel	Fall Overboard	Flooding/ Swamping	Person Ejected from Vessel	Person Left Vessel	Other	Skier Mishap
Lake Erie	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	0
Lake Lorelei	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Lake Milton	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Little Miami River	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Maumee River	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ohio River	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Private Pond	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Sandusky River	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total	2	1	3	1	2	1	1	1

Fatal Accident Causes



In 2008, there were 12 fatal accidents resulting in 15 fatalities.

The vessels involved in these fatal accidents included 4 open motorboats, 3 cabin motorboats, 1 personal watercraft, 1 rowboat, 1 canoe, 1 kayak, and 1 rowing scull.

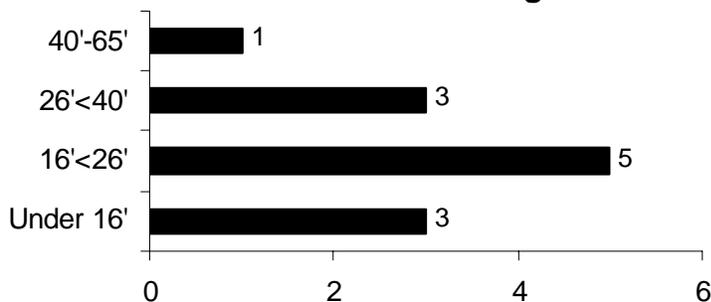
Six of the operators did not own the vessel involved in the fatal boating accident, and only 2 (17%) of the operators had taken a boating education course.

The cause of death in twelve (80%) of these fatalities was drowning; trauma accounted for two fatalities (13%) and other causes were responsible for the final fatality (7%).

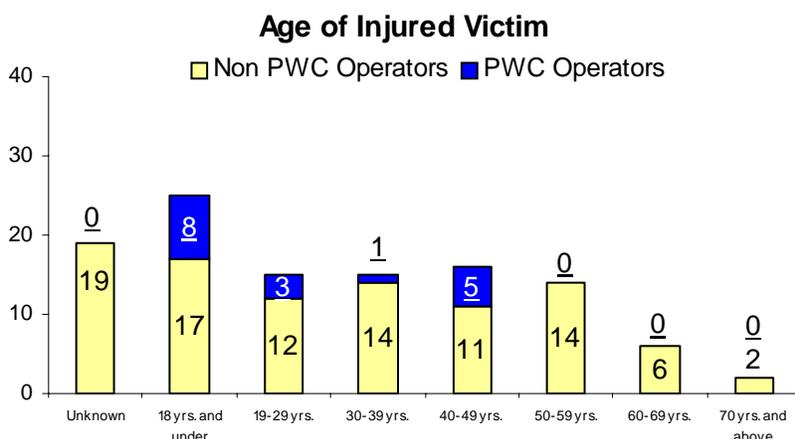
Ten of the fifteen victims (67%) were not wearing a personal flotation device (PFD) prior to the incident.

The victims ranged in age from 21 to 83, with the average age being 52.4.

Fatal Accident Boat Length

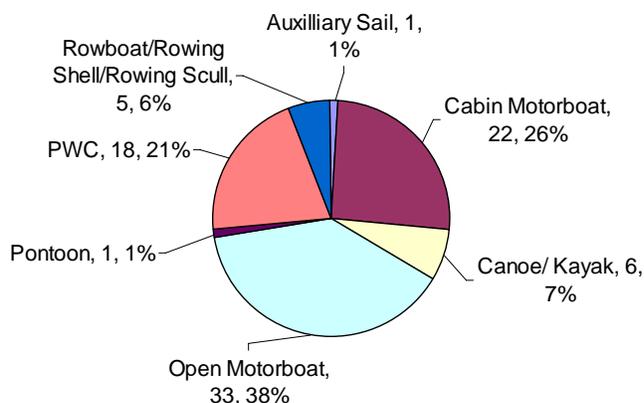


Injury Data



<u>Activity</u>	<u># Injuries</u>
Pleasure Boating	49
Water Skiing/Tubing	24
Other	22
Fishing	12
Hunting	3
Making Repairs	1
Racing	1

Boat Type Involved in Injuries



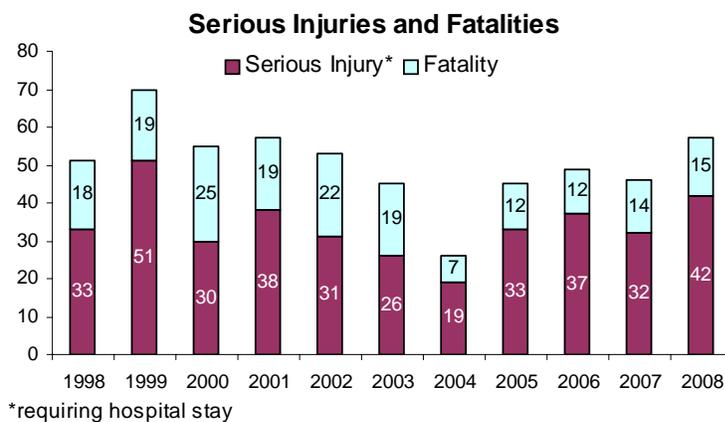
There were 73 accidents reported that resulted in 112 injuries in 2008.

Collisions with a vessel, fixed object or floating object accounted for 26% (19) of these accidents, while skier mishap accounted for 16% (12) of the injury incidents.

The top-ranked causes for accidents resulting in an injury were passenger/skier behavior (12, 16%), and operator inexperience (11, 15%).

There were 86 vessels involved in the 73 accidents that resulted in the 112 injuries.

The boater education background was reported for 76 of those operators; 62% (53) reported they had not participated in a boater education program.



2008 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 by Propeller or Propulsion System	Struck submerged object
Alum Creek Reservoir	7	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	0	0	0
Apple Valley	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Atwood Lake	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Berlin Reservoir	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Buckeye Lake	10	0	0	0	6	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Buck Creek Lake	4	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Caesar Creek Reservoir	4	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
Cuyahoga River	3	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Deer Creek Reservoir	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
East Fork Reservoir	8	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Grand Lake	7	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Griggs Reservoir	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Huron River	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Indian Lake	5	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lake Erie	74	1	6	2	27	0	1	1	1	3	12	9	3	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	3
Lake Loramie	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lake Lorelei	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lake Milton	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lake Roaming Rock	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Lake Shawnee	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Little Miami River	3	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mad River	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Maumee River	7	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mosquito Lake	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Muskingum River	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nimisila Reservoir	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ohio River	3	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ottawa River	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Paint Creek Reservoir	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pleasant Hill	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Portage Lakes	3	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Portage River	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Private Pond	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

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 by Propeller or Propulsion System	Struck submerged object	
Rocky Fork Lake	5	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Rocky River	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Salt Fork Lake	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0
Sandusky River	4	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Seneca Lake	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Tappan Lake	3	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Vermilion River	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
West Branch Reservoir	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Total Vessels	197	1	14	4	60	2	3	4	5	4	35	10	6	7	2	1	4	13	1	4	7	

2004-2008 Boating Accident Summary by Body of Water

Body of Water	# Accidents	# Vessels	# Injuries	# Fatalities	Total Boat Damages	Total Property Damages
5 Rivers Metro Park	1	2	1	0	\$500	\$0
Alum Creek Reservoir	34	39	18	1	\$34,091	\$24,100
Apple Valley	4	5	2	0	\$8,500	\$1,000
Ashtabula River	3	5	0	0	\$40,052	\$0
Atwood Lake	2	3	1	0	\$2,535	\$100
Auglaize River	1	1	1	0	\$0	\$0
Berlin Reservoir	10	15	4	0	\$14,821	\$2,000
Big Darby Creek	1	1	0	1	\$0	\$0
Big Walnut River	1	1	1	0	\$300	\$0
Buck Creek Lake	11	12	5	2	\$12,051	\$1,270
Buckeye Lake	20	26	11	1	\$29,620	\$500
Burr Oak Lake	2	2	0	0	\$3,100	\$0
Burton Lake	1	1	1	1	\$0	\$0
Caesar Creek Reservoir	24	29	18	0	\$17,070	\$0
Candlewood Lake	3	3	3	0	\$0	\$0
Chagrin River	2	3	1	0	\$3,500	\$0
Charles Mill Reservoir	2	2	2	0	\$100	\$0
Choctaw Lake	1	2	1	0	\$0	\$0
Cooley Canal	2	5	0	0	\$3,500	\$0
Cowan Lake	3	5	1	0	\$1,775	\$0
Crystal Lake	1	1	0	1	\$50	\$0
Cuyahoga River	5	8	0	0	\$206,500	\$26,000
Deer Creek Reservoir	5	5	3	0	\$3,000	\$600
Delaware Reservoir	10	11	6	0	\$9,949	\$1,575
Dillon Reservoir	2	3	1	0	\$2,250	\$0
East Fork Reservoir	24	27	34	2	\$24,850	\$3,100
Eastwood Lake	1	2	1	0	\$0	\$0
Emerald Lake	1	2	1	0	\$0	\$0
Findlay Reservoir #2	1	1	0	0	\$800	\$0
Geauga Lake	1	1	0	1	\$0	\$500
Grand Lake	33	39	9	2	\$42,009	\$2,950
Grand River	2	2	3	0	\$3,400	\$0
Great Miami River	6	7	2	0	\$4,900	\$6,300
Griggs Reservoir	4	4	2	0	\$1,950	\$0
Huron River	2	3	1	0	\$500	\$0
Indian Lake	26	38	14	0	\$26,517	\$2,950
Jackson Lake	1	1	0	1	\$0	\$0
Ladue Reservoir	1	1	2	0	\$0	\$0
Lake Erie	220	278	112	14	\$3,838,347	\$166,850
Lake Erie - East Harbor	1	2	0	0	\$500	\$0
Lake Erie - Maumee Bay	2	2	0	0	\$1,500	\$0
Lake Erie - Sandusky Bay	14	22	10	1	\$70,325	\$0

Body of Water	# Accidents	# Vessels	# Injuries	# Fatalities	Total Boat Damages	Total Property Damages
Lake Erie - West Harbor	1	2	0	0	\$500	\$0
Lake Erie/Ashtabula County	3	4	3	0	\$2,499	\$0
Lake Erie/Bass Islands	5	7	0	0	\$62,800	\$4,000
Lake Erie/East Harbor	3	8	5	0	\$46,700	\$0
Lake Erie/East of Cuyahoga River	2	3	3	0	\$46,000	\$0
Lake Erie/Kelley's Island	1	2	0	0	\$5,650	\$0
Lake Erie/Lake County East of Mentor	2	2	3	0	\$64,000	\$0
Lake Erie/Lake County West of Mentor	1	1	0	0	\$700	\$0
Lake Erie/Lorain County	5	8	2	0	\$37,079	\$4,000
Lake Erie/Marblehead to Port Clinton	4	5	2	0	\$2,500	\$1,600
Lake Erie/Maumee Bay	3	6	2	0	\$7,000	\$0
Lake Erie/Maumee Bay to Port Clinton	1	1	0	0	\$4,500	\$0
Lake Erie/Sandusky Bay/Rt 2 to Port Clinton	13	18	6	0	\$98,760	\$17,500
Lake Erie/Vermillion to Huron	1	1	0	1	\$0	\$0
Lake Erie/West Harbor	4	4	0	0	\$38,800	\$500
Lake Erie/West of Cuyahoga River	1	1	0	1	\$0	\$0
Lake Lakengran	2	4	2	0	\$998	\$0
Lake Loramie	1	1	2	0	\$0	\$100
Lake Lorelei	3	3	3	1	\$11,000	\$1,500
Lake Milton	2	2	1	1	\$200	\$0
Lake Mohawk	2	2	3	0	\$250	\$0
Lake Otto	1	1	0	1	\$0	\$0
Lake Roaming Rock	3	3	1	0	\$1,400	\$5,300
Lake Shawnee	2	2	0	1	\$4,500	\$0
Lake Wapusun	1	1	1	1	\$0	\$0
Lake White	1	1	2	0	\$6,300	\$0
Leesville Lake	1	1	1	0	\$2,000	\$0
Little Miami River	5	5	3	1	\$600	\$170
Mad River	1	1	2	0	\$0	\$0
Maumee River/Grand Rapids to Independence	2	4	0	0	\$5,280	\$0
Maumee River/Lake Erie to Maple Street	2	2	1	0	\$8,000	\$0
Maumee River/Maple Street to Grand Rapids	1	1	1	0	\$600	\$1,500
Maumee River	25	33	11	1	\$44,504	\$5,450
Mohican River	2	2	1	1	\$1,100	\$150
Mosquito Lake	12	16	6	1	\$21,288	\$1,500
Muskingum River	10	11	7	1	\$31,295	\$2,900
Nettle Lake	1	2	0	0	\$2,689	\$0
Nimisila Reservoir	1	1	1	0	\$0	\$125
Ohio River	24	33	8	3	\$186,159	\$9,200

Body of Water	# Accidents	# Vessels	# Injuries	# Fatalities	Total Boat Damages	Total Property Damages
Ohio River/Markland Pool	1	2	1	0	\$3,500	\$0
Olentangy River	1	1	2	0	\$300	\$0
O'Shaughnessy	1	2	0	0	\$2,400	\$0
Ottawa River	1	2	1	0	\$16,000	\$0
Paint Creek	7	7	2	1	\$15,600	\$0
Piedmont Lake	2	3	0	1	\$998	\$0
Pipe Creek	1	1	0	0	\$20,000	\$0
Pleasant Hill	7	11	9	0	\$13,996	\$0
Portage Lakes	13	20	4	2	\$27,204	\$5,350
Portage River	2	3	0	0	\$3,700	\$0
Private Lake	1	1	0	1	\$0	\$0
Private Pond	6	6	2	5	\$150	\$0
Private Quarry	1	2	0	1	\$0	\$0
Pymatuning	2	2	4	0	\$500	\$500
Rocky Fork Lake	12	15	4	1	\$33,800	\$1,500
Rocky River	4	7	0	0	\$9,600	\$0
Salt Fork	12	14	5	0	\$31,900	\$600
Sandusky River	11	16	5	1	\$37,300	\$300
Sandy Lake	1	1	0	1	\$0	\$0
Scioto River	3	3	3	1	\$1,200	\$300
Seneca Lake	9	10	3	0	\$13,100	\$8,600
Springfield Lake	2	4	0	0	\$4,300	\$0
St. Joe River	1	1	0	0	\$300	\$150
Tappan Lake	4	6	7	0	\$8,565	\$0
Tuscarawas River	1	1	0	0	\$1,200	\$0
Twin Lakes	1	1	1	0	\$0	\$0
Vermilion River	4	8	0	0	\$8,750	\$590
Walborn Reservoir	1	1	1	0	\$20	\$0
Walhonding River	1	1	0	1	\$0	\$100
West Branch Reservoir	11	13	6	0	\$43,200	\$0
Wingfoot Lake	1	1	0	1	\$0	\$0
Wolf Run Lake	1	1	1	0	\$0	\$50
Five-Year Total	772	994	416	60	\$5,452,096	\$313,330

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.