

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

**2011  
RECREATIONAL BOATING ACCIDENTS**



**A STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF THE REPORTABLE BOATING  
ACCIDENTS IN THE STATE OF OHIO FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2011**

Qj kq'F gr ctvo gpv'qh'P cwtcn'Tguqwtegu"  
F kxkukqp'qh'Y cvgtetchv'  
4267'O qtug'Tqcf "  
Eqnwo dwu.'Qj kq'6544; "  
\*836+''487/86: 2"  
y y y Qlj kqf pt@qo "ugrgev'ödqcvkpi ö+!"

John R. Kasich, Governor

James Zehringer, Director

Rodger M. Norcross, Chief

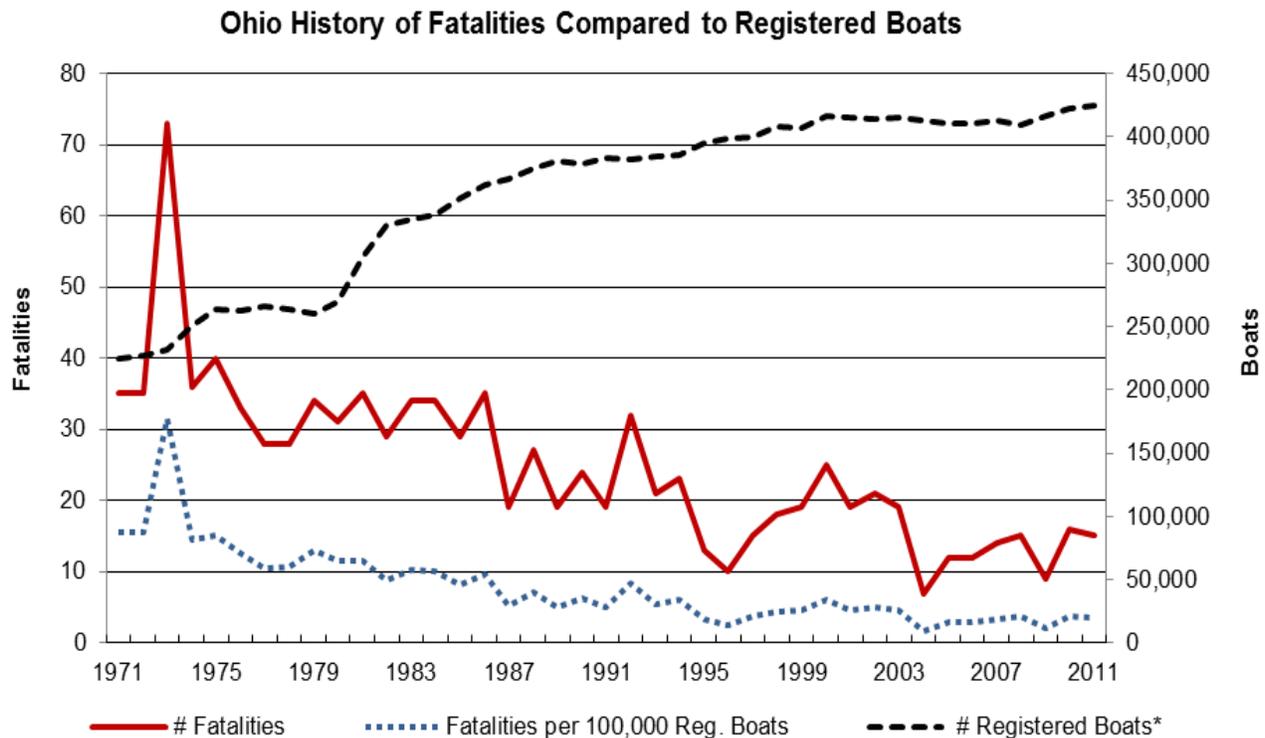
## Table of Contents

Introduction	1
Ohio Boating Accidents 1971-2011	2
Accident Types	3
Accident Causes	5
Accident Times	7
Vessel Data	8
Operator Data	9
Education Certificates	10
Fatality Data	11
Injury Data	12
Accidents by Body of Water and Accident Type	13
2007-2011 Accident Summary by Body of Water	14
Boating Accident Reporting Guidelines	16

## 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 2011, a total of 175 reports were filed for boating accidents involving 235 vessels, and resulting in 96 injuries and 15 fatalities.

The ratio of boating fatalities as compared to the number of registered boats in the state decreased from 3.8 fatalities per 100,000 registered vessels in 2010 to 3.5 fatalities per 100,000 registered vessels in 2011. The average over the 2007-2011 period was 3.3 fatalities per 100,000 registered boats, falling just short of the Division of Watercraft's established goal to continue to maintain fatality levels at no more than 3.2 fatalities per 100,000 registered boats over a five-year period.



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\\_statistics.aspx](http://www.uscgboating.org/statistics/accident_statistics.aspx)

The United States Coast Guard standard for reporting accidents is established within Title 33, Section 173 of the Code of Federal Regulations. One-hundred thirty-five 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 16-18 of this report.

## Ohio Boating Accidents 1971-2011

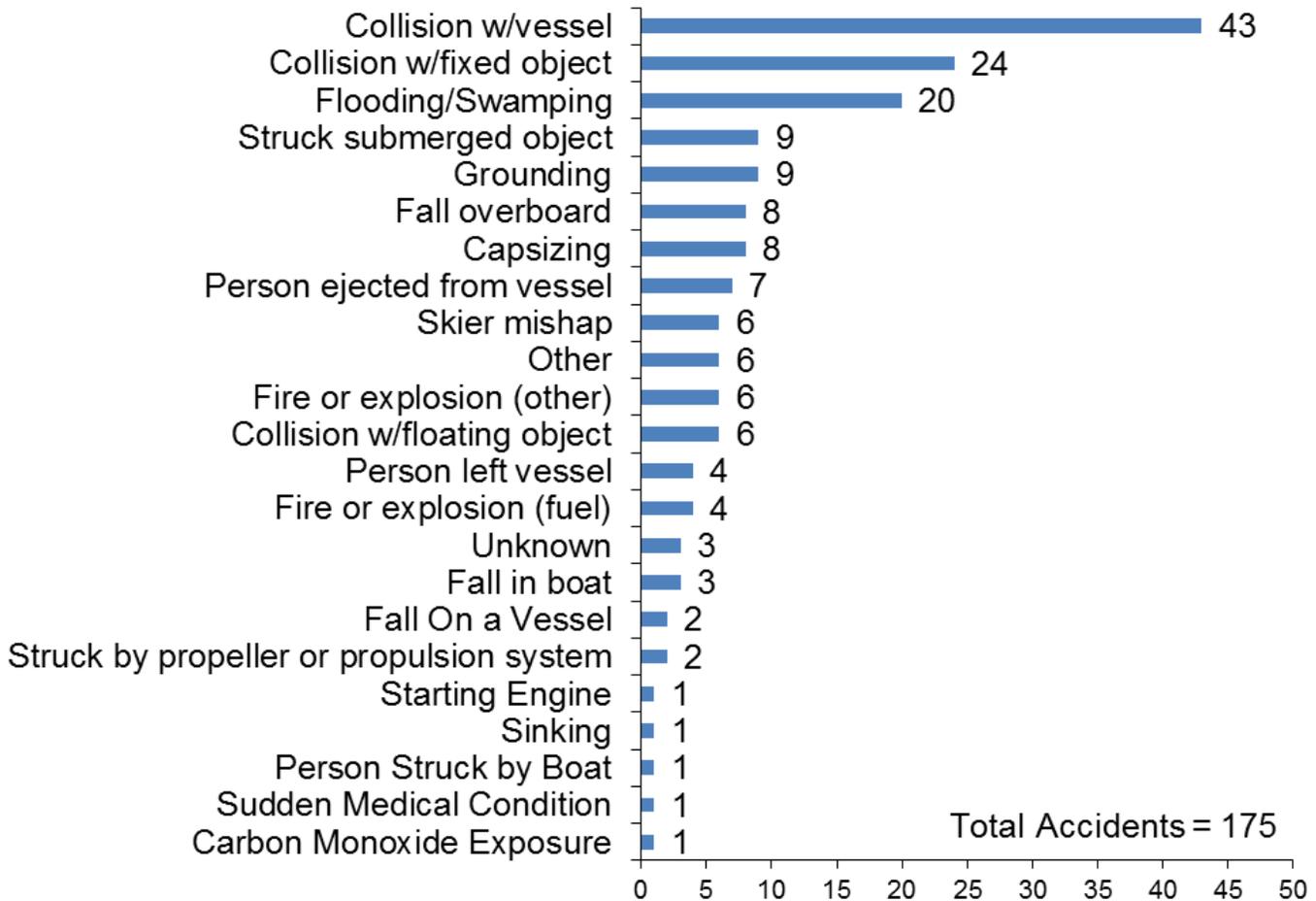
Year	# Fatalities	# Accidents	# Vessels	# Injuries	# Registered Boats*	Fatalities per 100,000 Registered Boats
1971	35	97	125	21	224,806	15.6
1972	35	97	124	12	226,424	15.5
1973	73	145	174	33	231,379	31.5
1974	36	138	170	14	250,304	14.4
1975	40	101	127	29	263,109	15.2
1976	33	133	155	24	262,937	12.6
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	413,102	3.4
2008	15	164	197	112	408,931	3.7
2009	9	138	174	57	416,938	2.2
2010	16	157	201	80	422,243	3.8
2011	15	175	235	96	424,211	3.5

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

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

## 2011 Ohio Boating Accidents

### Primary Accident Types



Collisions between vessels resulted in 25% (43) of the reportable accidents in 2011, an increase of 3% as compared to 2010. These collisions involved 39% (91) of the vessels, and accounted for \$216,505 (20%) in boat damages, 18% (17) of the injuries, and 0 (0%) of the fatalities. Operator Inattention was cited most frequently as the primary contributing factor in these accidents, accounting for 10 (23%) of all reportable incidents in 2011.

The Division of Watercraft 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 11% (19) of the reportable accidents for 2010, resulting in 19 injuries (20%) and 13% (2) of the fatalities. Of the vessels involved in these incidents, there were 12 open motorboats, 2 auxiliary sail vessels, 2 kayaks, 1 personal watercraft, 1 sailboat, and 1 canoe.

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 21% (36) of reportable accidents and 4 (27%) of the fatalities in 2011.

### Accident Types by Boat Type

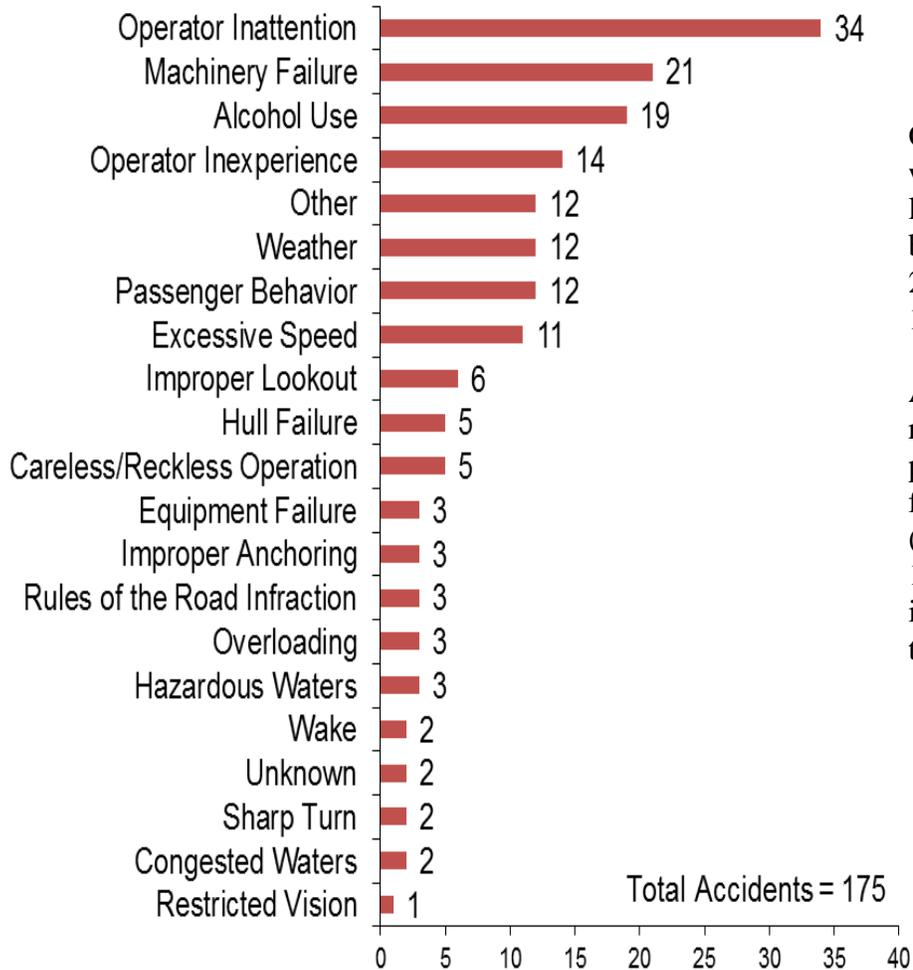
Accident Type	Unknown/Other	Auxiliary Sail	Cabin Motorboat	Canoe/Kayak	Open Motorboat	Pontoon/ Houseboat	PWC	Rowboat	Sail Only
Capsizing	0	4	0	1	2	0	0	0	1
Carbon Monoxide Exposure	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Collision with Fixed Object	1	1	9	1	8	3	1	1	0
Collision with Floating Object	0	0	3	0	5	0	0	0	0
Collision with Vessel	1	9	24	1	20	17	17	0	2
Fall in Boat	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0
Fall On a Vessel	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
Fall Overboard	0	0	0	2	2	3	1	0	0
Fire or Explosion (Fuel)	0	0	1	0	3	0	1	0	0
Fire or Explosion (Other)	0	0	5	0	3	0	0	0	0
Flooding/Swamping	0	0	4	0	15	1	0	0	0
Grounding	0	1	4	0	4	0	0	0	0
Other/Unknown	3	0	3	4	3	0	2	0	0
Person Ejected from Vessel	0	0	0	0	1	0	6	0	0
Person Left Vessel	0	0	3	0	0	0	1	0	0
Person Struck by Boat	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Sinking	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Skier Mishap	0	0	1	0	5	0	0	0	0
Starting Engine	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Struck by Propeller/Propulsion Unit	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Struck Submerged Object	0	1	3	2	3	0	0	0	0
Sudden Medical Condition	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Vessels</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>

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

Accident Type	# Vessels	# Injured	# Fatalities
Collision with Vessel	91	17	0
Collision with Fixed Object	25	15	3
Flooding/Swamping	20	3	2
Other/Unknown	15	3	4
Grounding	9	0	0
Struck Submerged Object	9	2	1
Capsizing	8	14	0
Collision with Floating Object	8	1	0
Fall Overboard	8	8	2
Fire or Explosion (Other)	8	0	0
Person Ejected from Vessel	7	8	1
Skier Mishap	6	6	0
Fire or Explosion (Fuel)	5	2	0
Person Left Vessel	4	3	1
Fall In Boat	3	2	1
Fall On a Vessel	2	2	0
Person Struck by Propeller/Propulsion Unit	2	2	0
Carbon Monoxide Exposure	1	5	0
Person Struck By Boat	1	1	0
Sinking	1	0	0
Starting Engine	1	1	0
Sudden Medical Condition	1	1	0

# 2011 Ohio Boating Accidents

## Primary Accident Causes



Operator Inattention was reported as the leading cause of boating accidents in 2011 (34 accidents; 19%).

Alcohol Use was reported as the primary causative factor in 19 accidents (11%) resulting in 19% (18) of the injuries and 40% (6) of the fatalities.

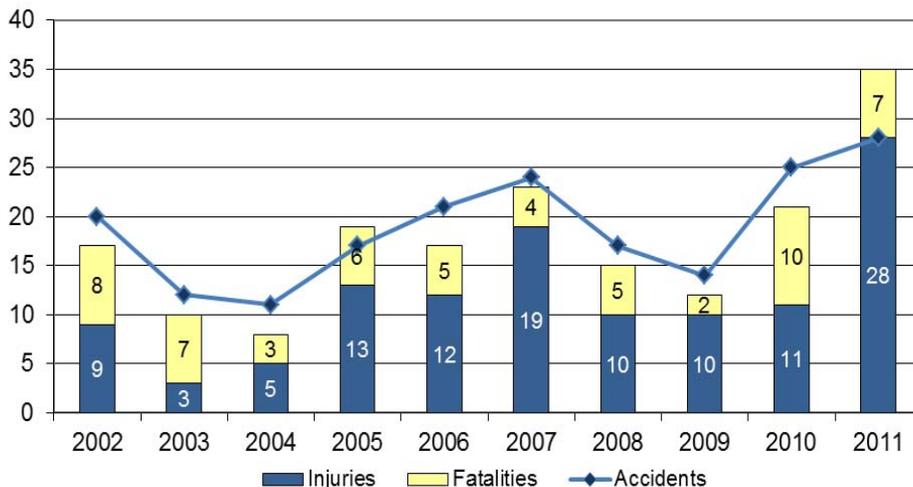
## Actions at the Time of the Accident

Operation		Activity	
Cruising	61	Pleasure Boating	123
Tied to dock/moored	40	Docked/Docking	28
Drifting	26	Fishing	27
Changing Speed and Direction	19	Other/Unknown	15
Changing Direction	14	Racing	12
Docking/Leaving Dock	13	Water Tubing	10
Sailing	12	Water Skiing	6
Rowing/Paddling	11	Making Repairs	4
Changing Speed	9	Swimming	3
Launching	8	Fueling	2
Other/Unknown	8	Hunting	2
At Anchor	7	Tournament	2
Towing	5	Whitewater Sport	1
Being towed	2		

## Accident Cause by Accident Type

Primary Cause for Vessel	Capsizing	Carbon Monoxide Exposure	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/Unknown	Person Ejected from Vessel	Person Left Vessel	Person Struck By Boat	Person Struck by Propeller/Propulsion Unit	Sinking	Skier Mishap	Starting Engine	Struck Submerged Object	Sudden Medical Condition
Alcohol Use	1	0	3	0	10	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Careless/Reckless Op	0	0	0	1	6	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Congested Waters	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Equipment Failure	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Excessive Speed	0	0	2	0	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Hazardous Waters	2	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hull Failure	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Improper Anchoring	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Improper Lookout	0	0	2	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Machinery Failure	0	0	7	0	8	0	0	0	3	2	1	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Operator Inattention	0	1	5	2	25	0	0	1	2	0	3	4	2	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	2	0
Operator Inexperience	0	0	0	0	15	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Other	0	0	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0
Overloading	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Passenger/Skier Behavior	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	3	0	0	1
Restricted Vision	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rules of the Road Infract	0	0	0	0	6	0	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	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Unknown	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wake	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Weather	3	0	3	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Vessels</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1</b>

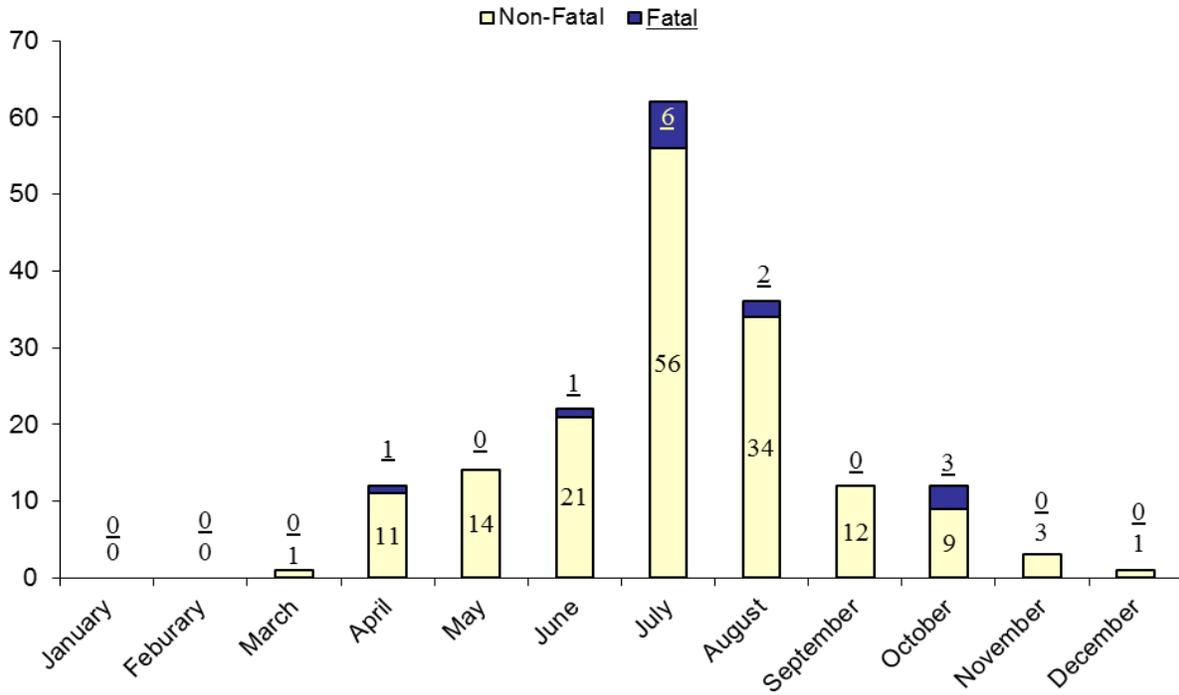
### Alcohol Involved: Accidents – Injuries – Fatalities



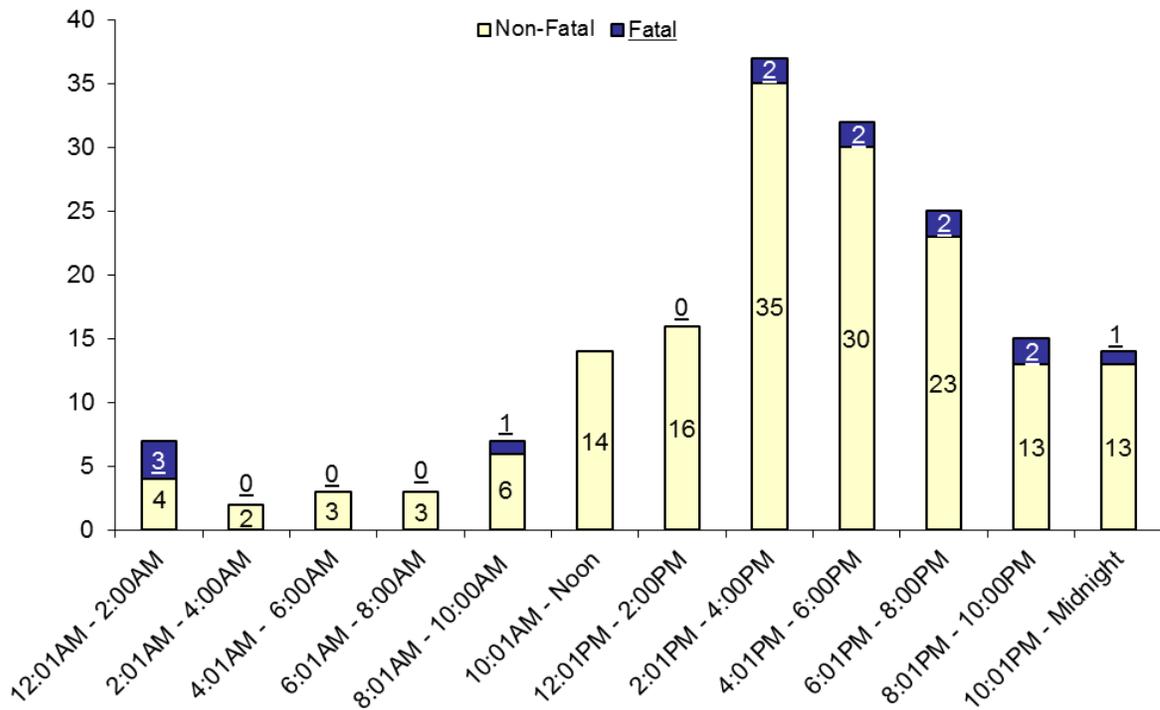
In addition to those accidents where alcohol was listed as the primary accident cause (see page 5), there were an additional 9 accidents (5%) in 2011 that were alcohol involved (defined as an accident where there is evidence or a reasonable likelihood that the use of alcohol contributed to the accident). These accidents accounted for 10 additional injuries (10%) and 1 additional fatality (7%).

# Accident Times

## Month for Fatal and Non-Fatal Accidents

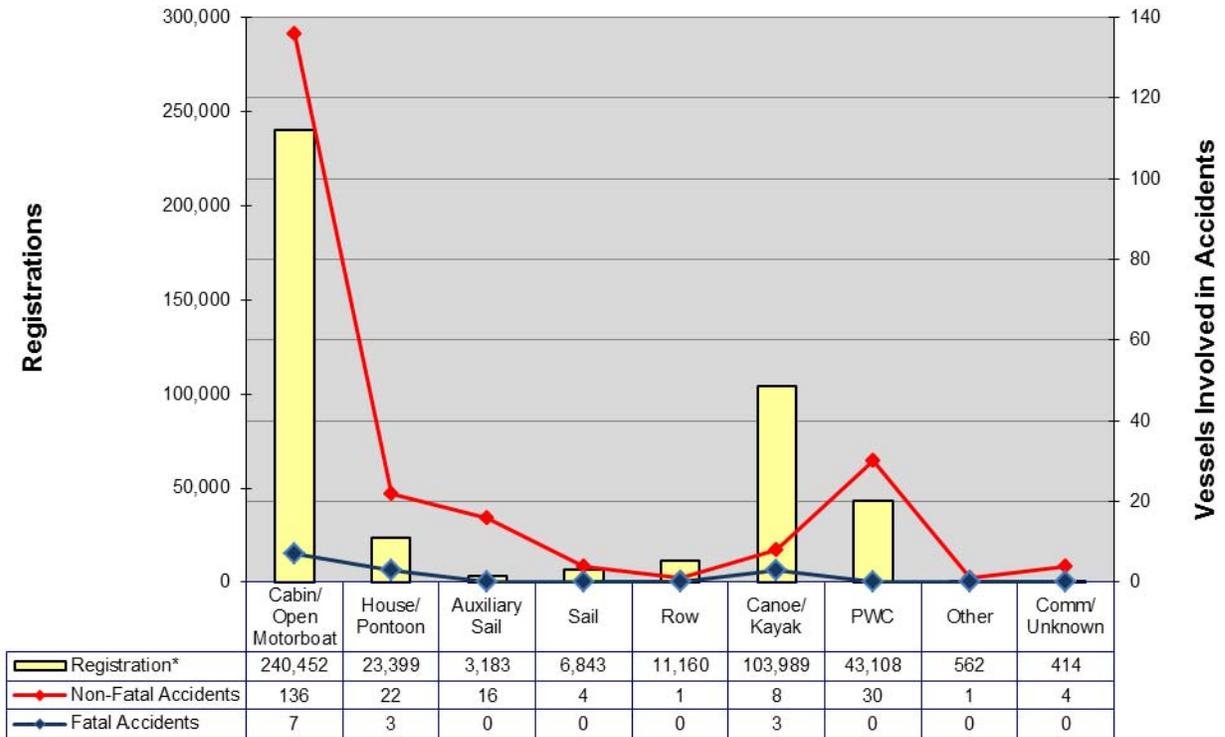


## Time of Day for Fatal and Non-Fatal Accidents



## Vessel Data

### Registrations and Vessels Involved in Accidents by Boat Type



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

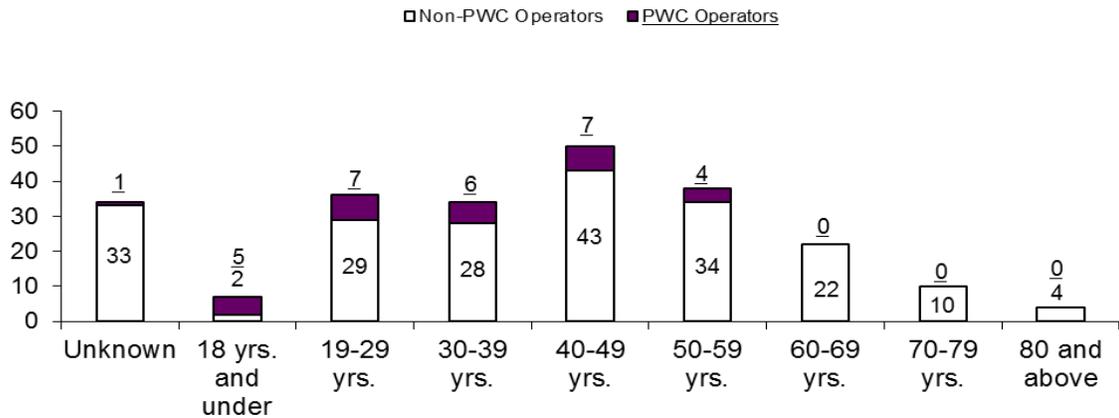
### Boat Operator Versus Ownership

	Owner or Operator Unknown	Owner Operated Vessel	Someone Other Than Owner Operated Vessel
Auxiliary Sail	4	8	4
Cabin Motorboat	12	43	10
Canoe/Kayak	0	6	5
Open Motorboat	5	52	21
Other/Comm/Unk	2	1	2
Pontoon/Houseboat	9	13	3
PWC	1	11	18
Rowboat	0	0	1
Sail Only	0	4	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>64</b>

The owner and operator were known/identified for 202 of the vessels involved in accidents in 2011. Approximately 32% of all vessels involved in accidents in 2011 (when the owner and operator were identified) were operated by someone other than the owner of the vessel.

## Operator Data

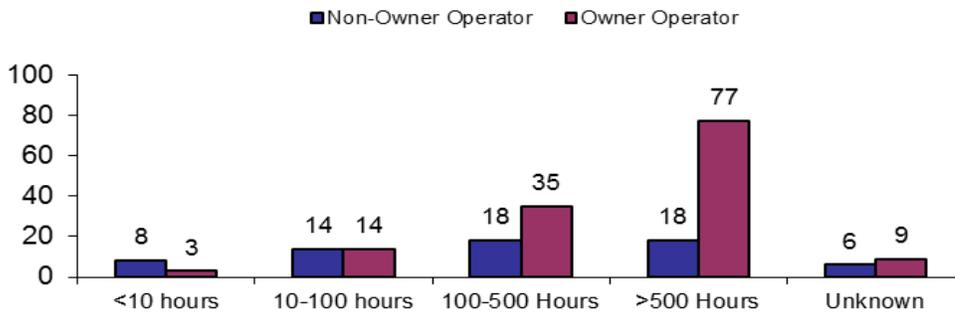
### Operator Age



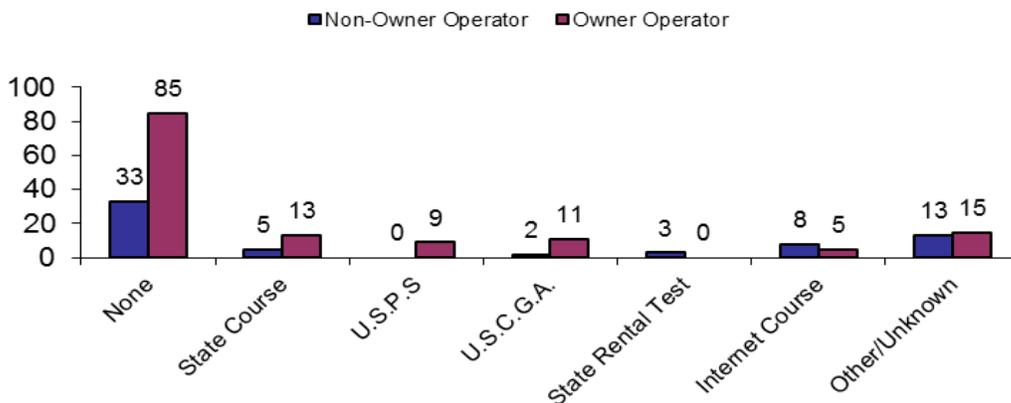
The age of 201 of the operators involved in accidents in 2011 was reported. The average age for these 201 operators was 44.3 years.

The average age of PWC operators was 33.2 years; the average age of all other vessel operators was 46.2 years.

### Operator Experience

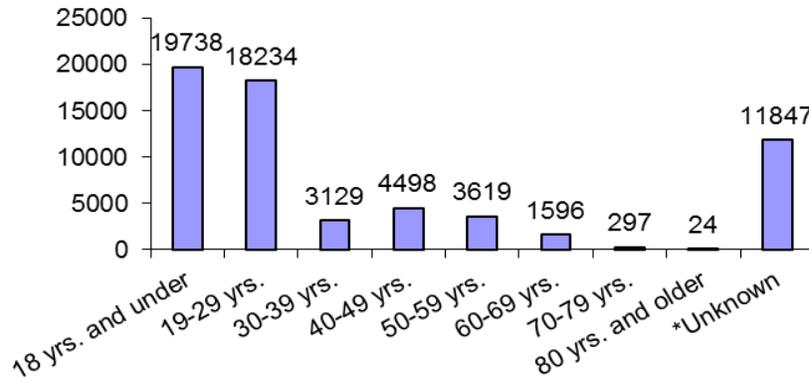


### Operator Education



## Education Certificates

### Age for Education Certificates Issued 2007-2011

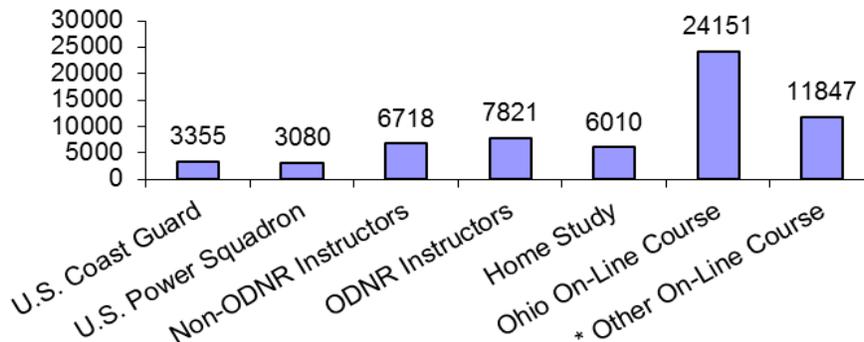


\* Includes Boat U.S. (2007-2011) and BoaterExam.com (2008-2011); only age data available is whether or not participants are within the required age group.

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 2011, there were 42 operators involved in accidents that were affected by this law; 19 (45%) had not passed the required exam. One of these non-certified operators was operating a cabin motorboat, 8 were operating an open motorboat, 6 were operating a PWC, 1 was operating a canoe, 2 were operating a kayak, and 1 was operating a rowboat.

### Education Certificates Issued by Organization 2007-2011



\* Includes Boat U.S. (2007-2011) and BoaterExam.com (2008-2011)

From 2007 through 2011, a total of 62,982 boater education certificates were awarded. Seventy-five percent (47,144) of those certified fell within the required age group.

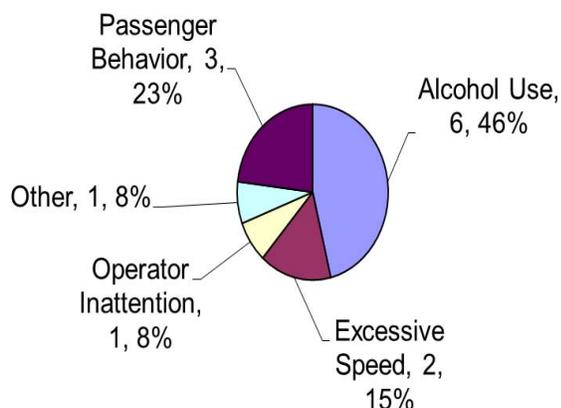
## Fatality Data

### Fatal Accidents by Accident Type and Body of Water

Body of Water	Collision with Fixed Object	Fall in Boat	Fall Overboard	Flooding/Swamping	Person Ejected from Vessel	Person Left Vessel	Other/Unknown
Chippewa Lake		1					
Clear Fork Reservoir			1				
Indian Lake			1				
Lake Erie	2					1	3
Maumee River					1		
Ohio River							1
Tuscarawas River							1
MJ Kirwan Lake/West Branch				1			
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>

3.

### Fatal Accident Causes



In 2011, there were 13 fatal accidents resulting in 15 fatalities.

The vessels involved in these fatal accidents included 4 open motorboats, 3 cabin motorboats, 3 kayaks, and 3 pontoon boats.

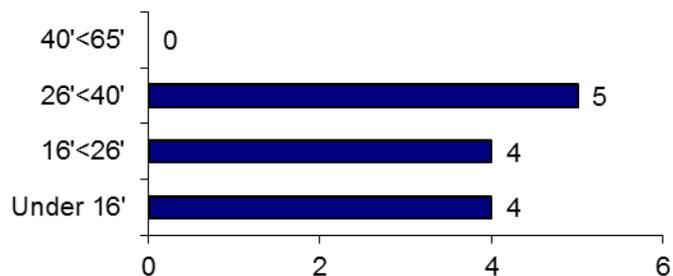
Twelve (92%) of the operators involved in these fatal accidents owned the vessel involved in the fatal boating accident; only 2 (16%) of these operators were reported to have taken a boating education course.

The cause of death in eleven (73%) of these fatalities was drowning; trauma accounted for one fatality (7%); and other causes were responsible for the final three fatalities (20%).

Fourteen (93%) of the victims were not wearing a personal flotation device (PFD) prior to the incident.

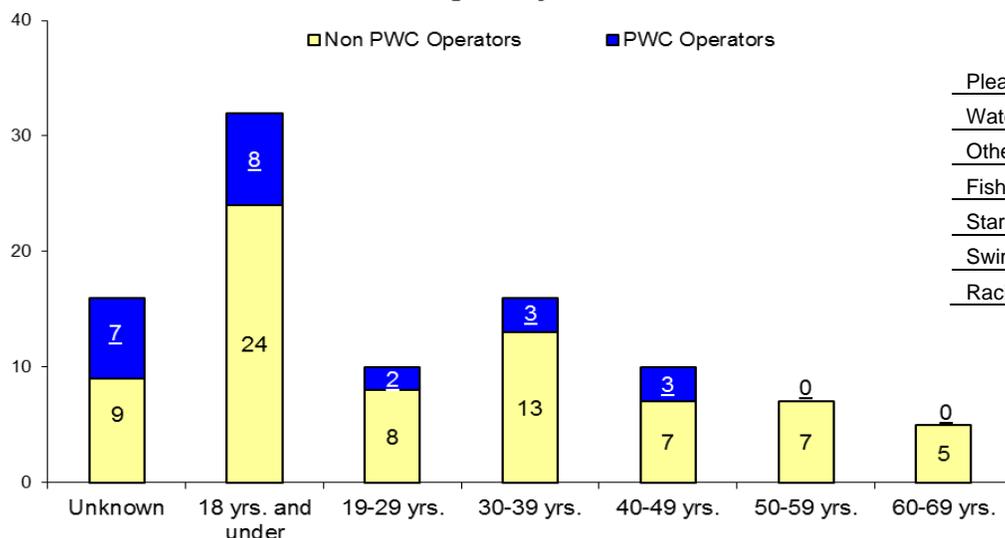
Thirteen of the victims were male and two were female. Victims ranged in age from 21 to 62, with the average age being 47.

### Fatal Accident Boat Length



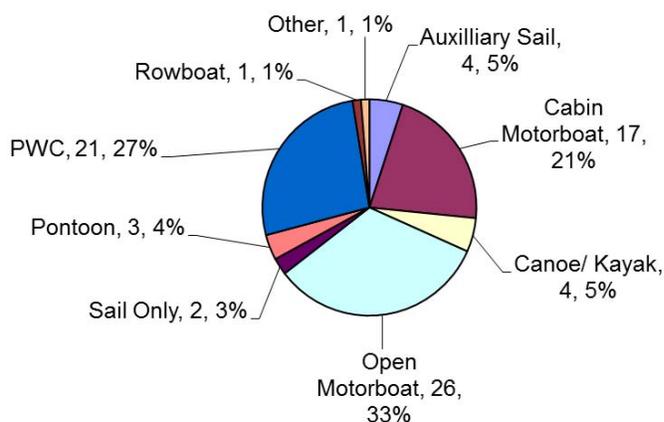
# Injury Data

### Age of Injured Victim



Activity	# Injuries
Pleasure Boating	53
Water Skiing/Tubing	12
Other	9
Fishing	8
Starting Engine/Maintenance	2
Swimming/Diving	1
Racing	11

### Boat Type Involved in Injuries



There were 65 accidents reported that resulted in 96 injuries in 2011.

Collisions with a vessel, fixed object or floating object accounted for 25% (16) of these accidents, while skier mishap accounted for 9% (6) of the injury incidents.

The top-ranked causes for accidents resulting in an injury were Operator Inattention (11, 17%) and Passenger/Skier Behavior (10, 15%). Alcohol use was reported as the primary contributing factor in 9 (14%) of these injury accidents.

There were 79 vessels involved in the 65 accidents that resulted in the 96 injuries.

The boater education background was reported for 69 of those operators; 62% (43) reported they had not participated in a boater education program.

### Serious Injuries and Fatalities



\*requiring hospital stay

## 2011 Boating Accidents by Body of Water and Accident Type

Body of Water	Total Vessels	Capsizing	Carbon Monoxide Exposure	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/Unknown	Person Ejected from Vessel	Person Left Vessel	Person Struck by Boat	Person Struck by Motor / Propeller	Sinking	Skier Mishap	Starting Engine	Struck submerged object	Sudden Medical Condition
Acton Lake	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Alum Creek	10	1	0	1	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Apple Valley Lake	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ashtabula River	4	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Berlin Reservoir	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Buckeye Lake	17	0	0	1	1	10	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
C J Brown/Buck Creek	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Caesar Creek	5	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chagrin River	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Chippewa Lake	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Clear Fork Reservoir	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cowan Lake	3	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cuyahoga River	10	1	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Deer Creek Reservoir	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Delaware Reservoir	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Dillon Lake	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grand Lake St. Marys	5	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Harsha Lake/East Fork	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Indian Lake	10	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ohio State Fair	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lake Erie	95	4	0	15	2	31	2	0	1	3	5	8	7	6	2	2	0	0	1	1	0	4	1
Lake Lorelei	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Licking River	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Little Miami River	6	1	0	2	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Maumee River	5	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MJ Kirwan/West Branch	4	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Mosquito Lake	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ohio River	9	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	1	1	0	2	0	1	0	1	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	0	0
Portage Lakes	7	0	0	1	0	4	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Portage River	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pymatuning Lake	4	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rocky Fork	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Salt Fork	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sandusky River	5	0	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Seneca Lake	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Tinkers Creek	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tomahawk Lake	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tuscarawas River	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wards Canal	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
White Oak Creek	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1</b>

## 2007-2011 Boating Accident Summary by Body of Water

Body of Water	# Accidents	# Vessels	# Injuries	# Fatalities	Total Boat Damages	Total Property Damages
Acton Lake	1	1	1	0	\$0	\$0
Alum Creek Reservoir	30	37	18	1	\$36,980	\$27,606
Apple Valley Lake	4	6	0	0	\$9,080	\$1,000
Ashtabula River	6	11	0	0	\$64,558	\$75
Atwood Lake	1	2	0	0	\$2,400	\$0
Auglaize River	1	1	0	1	\$1,000	\$2,000
Beaver Creek	1	2	0	0	\$1,000	\$0
Berlin Reservoir	11	15	8	0	\$36,480	\$2,325
Big Darby Creek	1	1	0	1	\$0	\$0
Big Walnut River	1	1	1	0	\$300	\$0
Buckeye Lake	38	56	23	0	\$150,010	\$9,190
Burton Lake	1	1	1	1	\$0	\$0
CJ Brown Res/Buck Creek Lake	12	14	6	0	\$29,700	\$420
Caesar Creek Reservoir	21	27	11	0	\$26,406	\$431
Candlewood Lake	2	2	1	0	\$2,000	\$500
Chagrin River	2	2	1	0	\$500	\$1,500
Charles Mill Lake	1	1	0	0	\$900	\$0
Chippewa Lake	2	2	2	1	\$500	\$50
Clear Fork Reservoir	2	2	0	1	\$1,500	\$0
Cooley Canal	1	2	0	0	\$500	\$0
Cowan Lake	2	3	1	0	\$4,000	\$0
Cuyahoga River	7	20	0	0	\$236,917	\$26,333
Deer Creek Reservoir	6	7	4	0	\$7,200	\$600
Delaware Reservoir	5	6	1	0	\$22,528	\$1,575
Dillon Lake	2	2	0	0	\$3,263	\$0
Grand Lake St. Mary's	22	28	7	1	\$41,217	\$3,250
Great Miami River	3	5	2	1	\$200	\$0
Griggs Reservoir	3	3	2	0	\$950	\$0
Harsha Lake/East Fork Reservoir	22	25	28	3	\$10,000	\$5,000
Hoover Reservoir	1	1	0	1	\$0	\$0
Huron River	2	3	1	0	\$5,500	\$0
Indian Lake	28	39	11	2	\$52,213	\$300
Jockey Hollow Wildlife Area	1	1	0	1	\$0	\$0
Kayak Pond - Ohio State Fair	1	1	1	0	\$0	\$0
Kenton Lake	1	1	3	0	\$0	\$0
Lake Erie	309	394	150	25	\$3,833,164	\$202,097
Lake Loramie	1	1	2	0	\$0	\$100
Lake Lorelei	2	2	0	1	\$1,850	\$0
Lake Milton	9	11	6	1	\$16,579	\$700
Lake Mohawk	2	2	3	0	\$0	\$0
Lake Seneca	1	1	1	0	\$0	\$0
Lake Shawnee	2	2	0	1	\$4,500	\$0
Lake Waynoka	1	1	0	1	\$0	\$0
Lake White	1	1	0	0	\$1,500	\$8,000
Leesville Lake	1	1	1	0	\$2,000	\$0
Licking River	1	1	0	0	\$250	\$0
Little Miami River	11	13	12	2	\$24,700	\$4,385

Body of Water	# Accidents	#	#	#	Total Boat Damages	Total Property Damages
		Vessels	Injuries	Fatalities		
Little Muskingum River	1	1	0	1	\$0	\$0
Mad River	2	2	2	0	\$350	\$0
Maumee River	29	33	13	2	\$45,407	\$7,470
MJ Kirwan Reservoir/West Branch	17	18	12	2	\$14,114	\$790
Mogadore Reservoir	1	1	0	1	\$0	\$0
Mohican River	2	2	2	0	\$0	\$0
Mosquito Lake	5	7	4	0	\$8,300	\$1,500
Muskingum River	7	8	6	0	\$33,095	\$2,900
Nimisila Reservoir	1	1	1	0	\$0	\$125
Ohio River	21	28	7	5	\$102,494	\$9,100
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 Reservoir	3	3	0	0	\$12,100	\$0
Pipe Creek	1	1	0	0	\$20,000	\$0
Pleasant Hill	3	6	4	0	\$10,496	\$50
Portage Lakes	11	16	5	0	\$25,331	\$2,150
Portage River	4	4	0	0	\$29,900	\$50
Private Lake	1	1	1	0	\$0	\$0
Private Pond	8	9	5	5	\$500	\$0
Private Quarry	1	2	0	1	\$0	\$0
Pymatuning Lake	6	6	4	0	\$7,036	\$3,050
Roaming Shores/lake Roaming Rock	5	7	1	0	\$5,500	\$5,300
Rocky Fork Lake	6	8	4	0	\$13,000	\$1,000
Rocky River	3	3	1	0	\$7,500	\$200
Salt Fork Lake	13	16	6	0	\$31,602	\$600
Sandusky River	10	15	8	1	\$63,800	\$2,000
Sandy Lake	1	1	0	1	\$0	\$0
Scioto River	3	3	2	0	\$1,500	\$0
Seneca Lake	10	11	5	0	\$11,600	\$8,600
Sippo Lake	1	1	1	0	\$300	\$0
Springfield Lake	1	2	0	0	\$300	\$0
Tappan Lake	6	7	9	1	\$8,465	\$1,800
Tinkers Creek	1	1	1	0	\$300	\$50
Tomahawk Lake	1	1	1	0	\$0	\$0
Tuscarawas River	4	4	1	2	\$819	\$481
Twin Lakes	1	1	1	0	\$0	\$0
Vermilion River	3	6	0	0	\$7,225	\$90
Walhonding River	1	1	0	1	\$0	\$100
Wards Canal	1	1	5	0	\$0	\$0
West Reservoir	1	2	0	0	\$500	\$0
White Oak Creek	1	2	0	0	\$3,700	\$0
Wolf Run Lake	1	1	1	0	\$0	\$50
<b>Five-Year Total</b>	<b>787</b>	<b>1009</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>\$5,116,278</b>	<b>\$344,893</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 (Note: the reporting threshold under 1547 ORC remains \$500) or there is a complete loss of the vessel; or
  - 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.):
  - Grounding, capsizing, sinking, flooding or swamping
  - Falls on, in or overboard a vessel
  - Persons ejected from a vessel
  - Fire or explosions that occur while underway and while anchored, moored or docked if the fire resulted from the vessel or vessel equipment
  - Water-skiing or other mishap involving a towable device
  - Collision with another vessel or object
  - Striking a submerged object
  - A person struck by a vessel, propeller, propulsion unit, or steering machinery
  - Carbon monoxide exposure
  - Electrocutation due to stray current related to a vessel
  - Casualties while swimming from a vessel that is not anchored, moored or docked
  - Casualties where natural causes served as a contributing factor in the death of an individual but the determined cause of death was drowning
  - Casualties from natural phenomena such as interaction with marine life (i.e. leaping sturgeon causes casualty to person) and interaction with nature (i.e. mountain side falls onto vessel causing casualties)
  - Casualties where a person falls off an anchored vessel

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 person dies, is injured, or is missing as a result of self-inflicted wounds, alcohol poisoning, gunshot wounds, or the ingestion of drugs, controlled substances or poison
- A person dies, is injured, or is missing as a result of assault by another person or persons while aboard a vessel
- A person dies or is injured from natural causes while aboard a vessel where the vessel did not contribute to the casualty.
- A person dies, is injured, or is missing as a result of jumping, diving, or swimming for pleasure from an anchored, moored or docked vessel
- A person dies, is injured, or is missing as a result of swimming to retrieve an object or a vessel that is adrift from its mooring or dock, having departed from a place of inherent safety, such as the shore or pier
- Property damage occurs or a person dies, is injured, or is missing while preparing a vessel for launching or retrieving and the vessel is not on the water and capable / ready for its intended use
- Property damage occurs or a person dies, is injured, or is missing as a result of a fire on shore or a pier that spreads to a vessel or vessels
- Property damage occurs to a docked or moored vessel or a person dies, is injured, or is missing from such a vessel as a result of storms, or unusual tidal or sea conditions; or when a vessel gets underway in those conditions in an attempt to rescue persons or vessels
- Property damage occurs to a docked or moored vessel due to lack of maintenance on the vessel or the structure to which it is moored
- Property damage occurs to a docked or moored vessel due to theft or vandalism
- Property damage occurs to, a person dies or is injured on, or a person is missing from a non-propelled houseboat or other vessel used primarily as a residence when such a vessel is not underway
- Casualties that result from falls from or on docked vessels or vessels that are moored to a permanent structure
- Casualties that result from a person climbing aboard an anchored vessel from the water or swimming near an anchored vessel
- Fire or explosions on anchored, docked or moored boats where the cause of the fire was not attributed to the vessel or vessel equipment
- Casualty or damage that results when the vehicle used for trailering the vessel fails
- Casualties or damage that occur during accidents that only involve unmodified inner tubes
- Casualties or damage that occur when the only vessels involved are being used solely for governmental, commercial or criminal activity
- Casualties or damage that occur when the only vessel(s) involved are not numbered and are being used exclusively for racing
- Casualties or damage that occur when the only vessels involved are foreign vessels and thus not subject to U.S. federal reporting requirements