



OREGON RECREATIONAL BOATING ACCIDENT STATISTICS – 1989

The following statistics were extracted from boating accident reports received by the Oregon State Marine Board for 1989 calendar year.

Comments on the year...

In 1989, 16 people died in recreational boating accidents in Oregon. This total represents the second lowest number of boating deaths in a year since records have been kept (1964). In 1966, 15 people were lost in boating accidents.

The 1980's were a decade which saw continued improvement in boating safety as measured by boating accidents and fatalities. During the 80's less than 23 people died per year, down from the 70's average of 31.

The improvement occurred despite an increase in boat registration during the 80's of almost 30% and a greater variety of boats and activities on Oregon's waterways. The reduction in accidents can be attributed in large part to an increased effort in boating safety education and law enforcement.

The number of personal watercraft accidents continue to increase in 1989. There were ten accidents involving personal watercraft in 1989, up from 6 in 1988 and 3 in 1987. In May of 1990, the Board passed rules regulating the operation of personal watercraft.

10 Year Summary

Year	Registered Boats	Accidents	Fatalities	Oregon Fatality Rate*	U.S. Fatality Rate*
1980	133,877	110	23	1.72	1.59
1981	136,999	121	26	1.9	1.36
1982	137,625	123	20	1.45	1.30
1983	138,131	80	23	1.67	1.35
1984	140,145	113	26	1.86	1.13
1985	143,373	95	23	1.60	1.16
1986	147,423	84	18	1.22	1.08
1987	153,087	101	28	1.83	1.04
1988	160,000	115	24	1.50	.91
1989	165,771	81	16	.97	.83

*Rate per 10,000 registered boats

ANALYSIS OF FATAL BOATING ACCIDENTS - 1989

ACTIVITY

Cruising	3
Drifting	4
Fishing	5
Approaching Dock.....	1
At Anchor	1
Water Skiing	0
Cruising, Sailing.....	0
Hunting.....	0
Paddling.....	2
Uknown.....	0

TYPE CRAFT

Open Motor	6
Cabin Motor.....	1
Canoe/Kayak.....	1
Auxiliary Sail.....	0
Inflatable	5
Drift/Rowboat	2
Sail.....	0
Houseboat.....	1

BODY OF WATER

River.....	8
Lake	5
Ocean	3
Bay	0

WATER TEMP

40 and Below	1
41 to 50 F	6
51 to 60 F	4
61 to 70 F	2
Above 70 F	0
Uknown.....	3

RIVERS

Clackamas River, Killer Fang
 Columbia River, near Buoy 10
 Deschutes River, near Bellinger Landing
 Metolius River, The Gorge
 Rogue River, Mule Creek Canyon
 Santiam River, 2 mi. W. of Green Peter Dam

LAKES

Detroit Lake
 Lake Billy Chinook
 Lost Lake
 Mission Lake
 Ochoco Reservoir

OCEAN

Nehalem Bay Bar
 Siletz Bay Bar

TYPE OF ACCIDENT

Capsizing	9
Falls Overboard	5
Collision w/Fixed object	1
Swamping/Flooding.....	0
Collision w/Vessel	1
Struck by Boat or Propeller....	0
Grounding	0
Sinking.....	0
Collision w/Floating Object	0
Fire/Explosion	0
Unknown	0
Other.....	0

BOAT LENGTH

Less than 10'	0
10' to 12'	4
12' to 14'	4
14' to 16'	1
16' to 18'	0
18' to 20'	0
20'+.....	7

GENDER

Male	13
Female.....	3

PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICES

Aboard Not Used	7
Not Aboard.....	5
Aboard and Used	2
Not Properly Worn.....	1
Insufficient Number	1

CAUSE OF ACCIDENT

Op. Inexperience/Error.....	7
Passenger Movement.....	3
Alcohol.....	2
Unfamiliar With River.....	1
Hazardous Waters	1
Fault of Machinery	1
Unknown	1
Weather Conditions.....	0
Excessive Speed.....	0
Overloading.....	0
Sitting on Gunwale	0
Stern Anchoring	0

MONTH

January.....	0
February.....	0
March	0
April.....	1
May	3
June.....	1
July	3
August.....	3
September.....	2
October	2
November	1
December.....	0

OPERATOR AGE

Under 18.....	1
18 to 25	3
26 to 35	2
36 to 50	6
Over 50	4
No Operator	0
Unknown	0