OREGON RECREATIONAL BOATING
ACCIDENT STATISTICS – 1988

The following statistics were extracted from boating accident reports received by the Oregon State Marine Board for 1988 calendar year.

Comments on the year...

In 1988, 24 people died in recreational boating accidents. Eleven of the 24 were killed in accidents on the ocean, the most this decade. 1988 was the fourth straight year that ocean fatalities increased. This figure does not include boaters who died commercial fishing.

Another statistic on the rise is the number of personal watercraft (jetskis, wave-runners, etc.) involved in boating accidents. In 1988, there were six reported accidents involving personal watercraft, twice as many as in the year prior. In fact, until 1988 there had only been a total of six reported accidents with personal watercraft this decade.

On the bright side, there were no boating fatalities on the Deschutes River and only one on Oregon’s lakes.

10 Year Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Registered Boats</th>
<th>Accidents</th>
<th>Fatalities</th>
<th>Oregon Fatality Rate*</th>
<th>U.S. Fatality Rate*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1979</td>
<td>139,965</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>2.93</td>
<td>1.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>133,877</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>1.72</td>
<td>1.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>136,999</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>1.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1982</td>
<td>137,625</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>1.45</td>
<td>1.30</td>
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<tr>
<td>1983</td>
<td>138,131</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>1.67</td>
<td>1.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1984</td>
<td>140,145</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>1.86</td>
<td>1.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985</td>
<td>143,373</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>1.60</td>
<td>1.16</td>
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<tr>
<td>1986</td>
<td>147,423</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>1.22</td>
<td>1.08</td>
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<tr>
<td>1987</td>
<td>153,087</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>1.83</td>
<td>1.04</td>
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<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>160,000</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>1.50</td>
<td>.91</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Rate per 10,000 registered boats
### Analysis of Fatal Boating Accidents - 1988

#### Activity
- **Cruising**: 2
- **Drifting**: 3
- **Drifting, Fish**: 4
- **At Anchor Fish**: 1
- **Cruising, Fish**: 1
- **At Anchor**: 0
- **Water Skiing**: 0
- **Cruising, Sailing**: 0
- **Cruising, Hunting**: 0
- **Racing**: 6
- **Jet Skiing**: 1
- **Other**: 3
- **Drifting, Hunting**: 0
- **Unknown**: 5

#### Type of Craft
- **Open Motor**: 9
- **Cabin Motor**: 3
- **Canoe/Kayak**: 6
- **Auxiliary Sail**: 3
- **Inflatable**: 1
- **Drift/Rowboat**: 2
- **Sail**: 0

#### Body of Water
- **River**: 11
- **Lake**: 1
- **Ocean**: 11
- **Bay**: 1

#### Water Temp
- **40 and Below**: 5
- **41 to 50 F**: 4
- **51 to 60 F**: 13
- **61 to 70 F**: 2
- **Above 70 F**: 0

#### Boat Length
- **Less than 10’**: 3
- **10’ to 12’**: 2
- **12’ to 14’**: 4
- **14’ to 16’**: 5
- **16’ to 18’**: 4
- **18’ to 20’**: 0
- **20’+**: 6

#### Gender
- **Male**: 22
- **Female**: 2

#### Personal Flotation Devices
- **Aboard Not Used**: 11
- **Not Aboard**: 4
- **Aboard and Used**: 8
- **Insufficient Number**: 1

#### Cause of Accident
- **Op. Inexperience/Error**: 12
- **Hazardous Waters**: 5
- **Passenger Movement**: 1
- **Weather Conditions**: 0
- **Undersized Boat**: 2
- **No Lights, Anchored in Channel**: 1
- **Excessive Speed**: 0
- **Anchoring**: 0
- **Overloading**: 0
- **Sitting on Gunwale**: 0
- **Fault of Machinery**: 1
- **Stern Anchoring**: 0
- **Unknown**: 4

#### Month
- **January**: 0
- **February**: 0
- **March**: 3
- **April**: 2
- **May**: 3
- **June**: 7
- **July**: 2
- **August**: 1
- **September**: 2
- **October**: 4
- **November**: 0
- **December**: 0

#### Operator Age
- **Under 18**: 0
- **18 to 25**: 2
- **26 to 35**: 3
- **36 to 50**: 11
- **Over 50**: 7
- **No Operator**: 0
- **Unknown**: 1

#### Rivers
- **Bull Run River, near PGE Powerhouse**
- **Clackamas River, near Milepost 48**
- **Columbia River, near Corbett**
- **McKenzie River, near McKenzie Bridge**
- **Molalla River, near Dickey Prairie Area**
- **Rogue River, above Powerhouse Rapid**
- **Sandy River, 1 mi. above Marmot Dam**
- **Sandy River, near Oxbow Park**
- **Willamette River, near Independence**
- **Willamette River, near Junction City**

#### Lakes
- **Green Peter**

#### Ocean
- **Coos Bay-S., near Simpson’s Reef**
- **Coquille River Bar**
- **Nehalem Bay Bar**
- **Rogue River Bar**
- **Siuslaw River Bar**
- **Tillamook Bay Bar**

#### Bays
- **Coos Bay, near Clam Island**

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*Two Killed
**Three Killed*