



OREGON RECREATIONAL BOATING ACCIDENT STATISTICS – 2008

The following statistics were taken from boating accident reports received by the State Marine Board for 2008.
Accidents involving death, injury, or property damage exceeding \$2,000 must be reported.

Comments on the year.....

In 2008, 13 people died in recreational boating accidents in Oregon. Oregon's recreational boating fatality rate went up from .49 in 2007, to .72 in 2008 per 10,000 registered boats.

Four of the 13 victims were wearing their life jackets, so it is reasonable to assume that had the other victims worn their life jackets most would have survived their accidents.

Five of the thirteen victims were in open motor boats. The other eight were in non-powered craft. On average, 35% of our fatalities are in non-motorized boats.

Also a little unusual is that nine of thirteen operators were over the age of 50.

One last note....in 2008 most fatalities occurred on cold water, the majority in water at or less than 51°, which is not unusual. And as usual the number one type of accident is *capsizing* with *falls overboard* second. This deadly combination, combined with not wearing a life jacket, is the common scenario for a fatal boating accident in Oregon.

There were an above normal number of river deaths, but no ocean fatalities.

Year	Registered Boats	Accidents*	Oregon Fatalities	Fatality Rate Oregon**	U.S. Fatality Rate**	Fatalities U.S.
1999	196,102	98	16	.82	.58	734
2000	194,828	100	14	.72	.55	701
2001	194,615	70	14	.72	.53	681
2002	194,582	80	***16	.82	.58	750
2003	197,591	74	***18	.92	.55	703
2004	190,142	54	9	.42	.53	676
2005	187,640	74	15	.80	.54	697
2006	186,497	66	20	1.07	.56	710
2007	184,147	66	9	.49	.53	685
2008	180,063	60	13	.72	.56	709

*It is estimated that only 10 to 15% of reportable accidents are actually reported.

**Rate per 10,000 registered boats.

***These statistics do not reflect fatalities involving guided or commercial fishing trips.

ANALYSIS OF FATAL BOATING ACCIDENTS – 2008

Activity	Type of Accident	Cause of Accident
Anchoring0	Capsizing8	Alcohol.....1
At Anchor.....0	Collision w/ Boat.....0	Careless/ Reckless Ops.....0
Changing Speed.....0	Collision w/ Fixed Object2	Hazardous Waters4
Cruising0	Ejected from Vessel0	Improper Anchoring0
Drifting3	Fall Overboard3	Op. Inexperience/ Error.....6
Fishing ***5	Flooding/Swamping.....0	Overloading0
Hunting.....0	Sinking0	Passenger/ Skier Behavior0
Paddling2	Grounding0	Restricted Vision.....0
Whitewater Sports3	Unknown0	Weather Conditions1
Unknown0		Unknown.....1
Type of Craft	Boat Length	Month
Open Motorboat***5	Less than 10'1	January.....0
Cabin Motorboat0	10' - 12'5	February4
Inflatable.....4	12' – 14'1	March0
Canoe/ Kayak2	14' – 16'1	April1
Personal Watercraft (PWC)0	16' – 18'4	May.....1
Driftboat1	18' – 20'0	June2
Sailboat1	20'+1	July4
	Unknown0	August1
		September0
		October.....0
		November0
		December0
Body of Water	Sex	
River10	Male11	
Lake1	Female.....2	
Ocean.....0		
Bay1		
Reservoir.....1		
Water Temperature	Operator Age	Personal Floatation Device
41° - 51° F7	Under 180	Aboard Not Used9
51° - 61° F2	18 – 251	Not Aboard0
61° - 70° F1	26 – 352	Used But Not Worn.....0
Above 70° F1	36 – 501	Unknown.....0
Unknown2	Over 509	Aboard and Used.....4

WATERWAYS ACCIDENTS OCCURRED

Rivers

Columbia, Hammond Boat Basin***
 Willamette, Hayes Lane
 Clackamas, at High Rocks
 Gilbert, Gilbert River Ramp
 Deschutes, Pringle Falls
 Deschutes, Tetherow Log Jam
 Rogue, Shady Cove
 Rogue, Blossom Bar

Lakes

Mann, 1 ½ Miles North

Reservoirs

Willow Valley

Bay

Nestucca

Ocean

None