



OREGON RECREATIONAL BOATING ACCIDENT STATISTICS – 2013

The following statistics were taken from boating accident reports received by the State Marine Board for 2013. Accidents involving death, injury, or property damage exceeding \$2,000 must be reported.

Comments on the year.....

Thankfully, 2013 was a better year than 2012. Only 10 people died in recreational boating accidents in Oregon. This is a lower fatality count, such as we had experienced between 2007 and 2011.

6 of the 10 victims were wearing their life jackets. 2 of those 6 people had heart attacks, 1 was allegedly wearing but was not on the body when it was recovered, 1 was worn but not inflated, and 1 died of hypothermia, so their life jackets were of little to no help. It is reasonable to assume, however, that had the other 4 victims worn their life jackets they would have survived their accidents. 1 of the 4 had a life jacket in hand, but used it like a kickboard instead of putting it on. The other 3 had no life jackets in hand.

Only 1 of the 10 victims was in an open motor boat, 2 were on personal watercraft, and 7 were in non-powered craft. Over the previous ten years, on average, 54% of our fatalities were in non-motorized boats, this year it was 70%.

6 of the 10 victims were over the age of 50. In 4 of the 10 fatalities the victim was the operator. In another 4 of the 10 fatalities the victim was the operator and sole occupant. Twice the victim was a passenger.

The number one type of accident for this year was a tie between *Hazardous Waters* and *Operator Inexperience/Error*, followed by *Alcohol/Drugs*.

Year	Registered Boats	Accidents*	Oregon Fatalities	Fatality Rate Oregon**	U.S. Fatality Rate**	Fatalities U.S.
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
2009	180,552	65	13	.72	.58	736
2010	177,634	64	12	.67	.54	672
2011	171,983	66	10	.52	.62	758
2012	169,188	74	19	.89	.54	651
2013	166,664	67	10	.60	-	-

(-) Figures not in yet from USCG

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

** Rate per 10,000 registered boats.

(These statistics reflect recreational boaters only)

ANALYSIS OF FATAL BOATING ACCIDENTS – 2013

Activity	Type of Accident	Cause of Accident
Fishing.....2	Capsizing3	Alcohol/Drugs.....2
Hunting.....0	Collision w/Fixed Object2	Force of Wave/Wake.....0
Tubing0	Collision w/Vessel1	Hazardous Waters.....3
Waterskiing.....0	Ejected from Vessel.....1	No Proper Lookout0
Windsurfing0	Falls Overboard.....2	Op. Inexperience/ Error3
Making Repairs.....0	Flooding/Swamping0	People-Bow/Gunwale/Transom..0
Starting Engine0	Sinking1	Passenger/ Skier Behavior0
Whitewater Sports4	Grounding0	Restricted Vision0
Relaxing4	Tuber Mishap0	Weather Conditions.....0
Ferrying0	Struck by Boat.....0	Intentional Capsizing1
Unknown0	Unknown0	Unknown1
Type of Craft	Boat Length	Month
Open Motorboat.....1	Less than 10'2	January1
Auxiliary Sailboat0	10' - 12'1	February.....1
Inflatable.....3	12' – 14'2	March1
Canoe/ Kayak3	14' – 16'2	April.....0
Personal Watercraft (PWC)2	16' – 18'2	May1
Drift boat1	18' – 20'1	June0
Paddleboard/Sailboard0	20'+0	July3
Inner Tubes (tied together)0	Unknown0	August3
		September0
		October0
		November.....0
		December.....0
Body of Water	Gender	
River7	Male8	
Lake2	Female2	
Ocean1		
Bay0		
Reservoir0		
Water Temperature	Operator Age	Personal Floatation Device
Below 41° F1	Under 180	Aboard and Used *6
41° - 51° F1	18 – 251	Aboard and Not Used.....3
52° - 61° F2	26 – 351	Used But Not Worn1
62° - 70° F2	36 – 502	Not Aboard.....0
Above 70° F3	Over 506	Unknown0
Unknown1		

*2 had heart attacks,1 PFD was not on when body recovered, 1 worn but not inflated

WATERWAYS ACCIDENTS OCCURRED

Rivers

Willamette River – Minto-Brown Isl.Slough
 Rogue River – Above Robertson Bridge ramp
 Rogue River – near Big Bear Lodge
 Rogue River – Blossom Bar/Picket Fence
 Rogue River – Blossom Bar/Picket Fence
 Williamson River – Btwn Modoc Pt Rd & Hwy 97
 Willamette River – near Cedaroak ramp

Rivers (cont.)

Ocean

Pacific Ocean – Salmon River mouth

Lakes

Jubilee Lake – west side
 McKay Reservoir – center of lake

Bays