



# OREGON RECREATIONAL BOATING ACCIDENT STATISTICS – 1994

The following statistics were extracted from boating accident reports received by the Oregon State Marine Board for 1994 calendar year.

## Comments on the year...

In 1994, there were 121 recreational boating accidents resulting in ten fatalities. 121 accidents represents the greatest number reported since 1982. The low number of fatalities enabled Oregon to finish below the national average for only the third time since records have been kept.

Accidents involving personal watercraft (PWC) rose to a record high in 1994 with 21 accidents reported, resulting in 17 injuries and one fatality. The 17 injuries is almost half of all the injuries reported in PWC accidents for the last ten years. The one fatality this year brought the number of people dying as a result of PWC accidents to five, four since 1989.

Eight of the ten victims were tested for alcohol. Of the eight, four tested positive. In the last ten years, 41 percent of the victims who were tested, tested positive.

Nine of the ten victims were not wearing life jackets. Seven had them aboard but did not use them. Through the last ten years, 73 percent of the victims had life jackets aboard.

Capsizing as the accident type and hazardous water as the cause continue to be a factor in the majority of fatalities. Four people died as a result of capsizing this year and two fell overboard. Hazardous water caused six fatalities, with no proper look out claiming two lives.

All ten victims were male. For the last ten years, 89 percent of all victims were male.

## 10 Year Summary

Year	Registered Boats	Accidents*	Fatalities	Oregon Fatality Rate**	U.S. Fatality Rate**
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
1990	173,572	107	7	.35	.79
1991	177,134	110	22	1.24	.83
1992	180,138	94	9	.50	.74
1993	184,007	85	25	1.36	.71
1994	188,792	121	10	.53	.69

\* It is estimated that only 10-15 percent of reportable accidents are actually reported.

\*\*Rate per 10,000 registered boats

# ANALYSIS OF FATAL BOATING ACCIDENTS - 1994

## ACTIVITY

Cruising .....	5
Fishing .....	1
Drifting .....	2
Paddling.....	2

## TYPE CRAFT

Open Motor .....	4
Cabin Motorboat .....	1
Inflatable .....	2
Canoe/Kayaking .....	2
Personal Watercraft .....	1
Driftboat .....	0
Sailboat .....	0

## BODY OF WATER

River.....	6
Lake .....	0
Ocean .....	4
Bay .....	0

## WATER TEMP

40 and Below .....	1
41 to 50 F .....	5
51 to 60 F .....	1
61 to 70 F .....	3
Above 70 F .....	0

## RIVERS

Clackamas River, Oak Grove Fork  
 Rogue River, Lower Galice Chute  
 Willamette River, Wheatland Ferry\*  
 Willamette River, Lake Oswego  
 Yaquina River, 4 Miles E of Toledo

## TYPE OF ACCIDENT

Capsizing .....	4
Collision With PWC .....	1
Thrown Overboard .....	2
Collision With Sea Plane .....	2
Grounding .....	1

## BOAT LENGTH

Less than 10' .....	2
10' to 12' .....	0
12' to 14' .....	2
14' to 16' .....	2
16' to 18' .....	1
18' to 20' .....	0
20'+ .....	2
Unknown.....	1

## GENDER

Male .....	10
Female.....	0

## PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICES

Aboard Not Used .....	7
Not Aboard.....	2
Aboard and Used .....	1
Unknown.....	0

## SPECIFIC LOCATIONS

### Ocean

Siletz Bar at Jetty\*  
 South Bandon Bar at Jetty  
 South of Tillamook Jetty

## CAUSE OF ACCIDENT

Hazardous Waters .....	6
Op. Inexperience/Error .....	1
Alcohol.....	1
No Proper Lookout.....	2

## MONTH

January.....	1
February.....	0
March .....	1
April.....	0
May .....	1
June.....	0
July .....	4
August.....	0
September.....	2
October .....	1
November .....	0
December.....	0

## OPERATOR AGE

Under 18.....	0
18 to 25 .....	0
26 to 35 .....	4
36 to 50 .....	4
Over 50 .....	2

*\*Two Killed*