



## Oregon Recreational Boating Fatality Statistics – 2022

The following statistics were taken from boating incident reports received by the State Marine Board for 2022.  
Incidents involving death, injury, or boat and/or property damage of \$2,000 or more must be reported.

Oregon had 16 recreational boating fatalities in 2022 – two less than the 18 in 2021. The oldest victim was 75 and the youngest was 20 years of age; with three women and 13 men.

Six of the 16 victims were wearing life jackets. Of those six: one had a sudden medical emergency; one was struck when being towed on an inner tube; three of the victims were paddling in Class I to Class III rapids when their boat capsized. The last victim was hanging onto the side of the boat while being pulled to shore when he slipped under the boat. Of the 16 fatalities it is likely that 10 of the victims would have survived their incidents had they been wearing a life jacket.

Eleven of the 16 fatalities were in non-motorized boats; five were in motorized boats. Five of the 16 fatalities were over 50 years old and eleven were the ages of 20 to 50. The victims in nine of the 16 fatalities were the operator and sole occupant on the boat; four were passengers; and three were the operator. Of the nine sole-occupant fatalities, seven were in non-motorized boats.

The primary causes of fatal incidents this year was operator inexperience and hazardous waters; however, there was one fatality for which a specific cause was undetermined.

Year	Registered Boats	Incidents*	Oregon Fatalities	Oregon Fatality Rate**	U.S. Fatalities	U.S. Fatality Rate**
2012	169,188	70	19	11.23	651	5.4
2013	166,664	59	12	7.20	560	4.7
2014	161,358	61	7	4.29	610	5.2
2015	168,175	65	15	8.92	626	5.3
2016	156,168	82	19	12.17	701	5.9
2017	168,933	60	12	7.10	658	5.5
2018	168,100	65	17	10.1	633	5.3
2019	165,253	62	18	10.9	613	5.2
2020	164,838	91	26	15.8	767	6.5
2021	163,060	42	18	11.0	658	5.5
2022	155,229	52	16	10.3	636	5.4

(-) Figures not in yet from USCG

\* Non-fatal incidents are severely under-reported

\*\* Rate per 100,000 registered boats

*(These statistics reflect recreational boaters only)*

## Analysis of Fatal Boating Incidents – 2022

Activity	Type of Incident	Cause of Incident
Fishing/Crabbing ..... 1	Capsizing .....8	Alcohol/Drugs.....0
Cruising..... 0	Collision w/Fixed Object .....0	Force of Wave/Wake.....1
Tubing..... 3	Collision w/Subm. Obj .....0	Op. Inattention .....2
Waterskiing ..... 0	Ejected from Vessel.....0	Improper Lookout .....1
Windsurfing ..... 0	Falls Overboard ..... 1	Op. Inexperience/ Error.....7
Paddling.....7	Flooding/Swamping .....0	Language Barrier .....0
Sailing ..... 1	Person Left Voluntarily.....2	Improper Loading .....0
Whitewater Paddling ..... 3	Watersports .....1	Hazardous Water.....3
Relaxing..... 0	Sudden Medical.....1	Heavy Weather.....0
Other ..... 0	Other .....2	Other .....1
Unknown ..... 1	Unknown ..... 1	Unknown .....1

Type of Boat	Boat Length	Month
Open Motorboat ..... 4	Less than 10' .....0	January .....0
Cabin Motorboat ..... 0	10' – 11.9' .....3	February .....0
Inflatable ..... 2	12' – 13.9' .....2	March .....0
Kayak ..... 6	14' – 15.9' .....2	April .....3
Canoe ..... 0	16' – 17.9' .....2	May.....1
Personal Watercraft (PWC) ..... 1	18' – 19.9' .....1	June .....0
Pontoon Boat ..... 0	20' or more.....1	July .....7
Sailboat..... 1	Unknown .....5	August .....1
Stand-up Paddleboard ..... 2		September .....3
		October.....1
		November.....0
		December .....0

  

Body of Water	Gender
River ..... 12	Male ..... 13
Lake/Reservoir ..... 3	Female.....3
Ocean ..... 1	
Bay..... 0	
Bar Crossings..... 0	

Water Temperature	Age	Oprtr	Pass	Life Jackets
Below 41° F..... 0	Under 18 ..... 0..... 0			Worn..... 6
41° - 51° F ..... 4	18 – 25 ..... 2..... 1			Not Worn.....7
52° - 61° F ..... 4	26 – 35 ..... 1..... 0			Inflatable Worn ..... 0
62° - 70° F ..... 3	36 – 50 ..... 5..... 2			Not Aboard.....3
Above 70° F ..... 1	Over 50 ..... 4 ..... 1			Not Applicable ..... 0
Unknown ..... 3				

### Waterways Incidents Occurred

Rivers	Bar Crossings/Bays	Lakes/Reservoirs
Willamette River – Cathedral Park		Waldo Lake
Willamette River – Owasso Rapids		Cottage Grove Lake
Willamette River – RM52, Ash Island		McKay Reservoir
Rogue River – Slide Hole Rapid	<b>Ocean</b>	
Rogue River – Mule Creek Canyon	Pacific Ocean – near Seaside	
McKenzie River – Paradise Cpgr		
Long Tom River		
Sandy River		
Columbia River – Sauvie Island		
Deschutes River – Cline Falls		