



Oregon Recreational Boating Fatality Statistics – 2023

The following statistics were taken from boating incident reports received by the State Marine Board for 2023.
Incidents involving death, injury, or boat and/or property damage of \$2,000 or more must be reported.

Oregon had 13 recreational boating fatalities in 2023 – three less than the 16 in 2022. The oldest victim was 76 and the youngest was 15 years of age; with two women and 11 men.

Two of the 13 victims were wearing life jackets. Of those two, one was on white water and was pulled into a rock strainer and the other was wearing an inflatable life jacket that malfunctioned. One serious fatality to mention is that two of the 13 were victims of CO poisoning during the night in a cabin cruiser. Of the 13 fatalities it is likely that eight of the victims would have survived their incidents had they been wearing a life jacket.

Seven of the 13 fatalities were in non-motorized boats; six were in motorized boats. Seven of the 13 fatalities were over 50 years old; four were between the ages of 20 to 50 and two were 18 and younger. The victims in three of the 13 fatalities were the operator and sole occupant on the boat; six were passengers; and four were the operator. The three sole-occupant fatalities, all were in a non-motorized boat.

The primary causes of fatal incidents this year were hazardous waters.

Year	Registered Boats	Incidents*	Oregon Fatalities	Oregon Fatality Rate**	U.S. Fatalities	U.S. Fatality Rate**
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
2023	152,440	60	13	8.4	-	-

(-) 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 – 2023

<p>Activity</p> <p>Fishing/Crabbing 3</p> <p>Cruising..... 0</p> <p>Tubing..... 0</p> <p>Waterskiing 0</p> <p>Windsurfing 0</p> <p>Paddling.....2</p> <p>Sailing 0</p> <p>Whitewater Paddling 1</p> <p>Docking.....1</p> <p>Other 3</p> <p>Unknown 1</p>	<p>Type of Incident</p> <p>Capsizing6</p> <p>Collision w/Fixed Object0</p> <p>Collision w/Subm. Obj0</p> <p>Ejected from Vessel.....0</p> <p>Falls Overboard 1</p> <p>Flooding/Swamping0</p> <p>Person Left Voluntarily.....1</p> <p>Watersports0</p> <p>CO Poisoning1</p> <p>Other2</p> <p>Unknown0</p>	<p>Cause of Incident</p> <p>Alcohol/Drugs.....1</p> <p>Force of Wave/Wake.....0</p> <p>Op. Inattention1</p> <p>Improper Lookout1</p> <p>Op. Inexperience/ Error.....0</p> <p>Language Barrier0</p> <p>Improper Loading1</p> <p>Hazardous Water.....4</p> <p>Failure to vent1</p> <p>Overloading.....1</p> <p>Other1</p>
<p>Type of Boat</p> <p>Open Motorboat 3</p> <p>Cabin Motorboat 1</p> <p>Inflatable 4</p> <p>Kayak 1</p> <p>Canoe 1</p> <p>Personal Watercraft (PWC) 0</p> <p>Pontoon Boat 0</p> <p>Sailboat..... 1</p> <p>Stand-up Paddleboard 0</p>	<p>Boat Length</p> <p>Less than 10' 2</p> <p>10' – 11.9' 1</p> <p>12' – 13.9' 1</p> <p>14' – 15.9' 2</p> <p>16' – 17.9' 1</p> <p>18' – 19.9' 0</p> <p>20' or more..... 2</p> <p>Unknown 2</p>	<p>Month</p> <p>January2</p> <p>February0</p> <p>March0</p> <p>April0</p> <p>May.....2</p> <p>June2</p> <p>July3</p> <p>August0</p> <p>September2</p> <p>October.....0</p> <p>November.....0</p> <p>December0</p>
<p>Body of Water</p> <p>River 5</p> <p>Lake/Reservoir 2</p> <p>Ocean 1</p> <p>Bay..... 2</p> <p>Bar Crossings..... 0</p> <p>Marina1</p>	<p>Gender</p> <p>Male 11</p> <p>Female.....2</p>	
<p>Water Temperature</p> <p>Below 41° F..... 0</p> <p>41° - 51° F 3</p> <p>52° - 61° F 3</p> <p>62° - 70° F 1</p> <p>Above 70° F 2</p> <p>Unknown 2</p>	<p>Age</p> <p>Under 18 0..... 2</p> <p>18 – 25 1..... 0</p> <p>26 – 35 0..... 0</p> <p>36 – 50 2..... 1</p> <p>Over 50 3 4</p>	<p>Life Jackets</p> <p>Worn..... 1</p> <p>Not Worn.....11</p> <p>Inflatable Worn 1</p> <p>Not Aboard.....0</p> <p>Not Applicable 0</p>

Waterways Incidents Occurred

<p>Rivers</p> <p>Columbia River</p> <p>Columbia River – near Svensen Slough</p> <p>Hood River Marina</p> <p>Upper Clackamas River</p> <p>Willamette River – Middle Fork and Pengra</p> <p>Rogue River – Wild Cat Rapids</p>	<p>Bar Crossings/Bays</p> <p>Netarts Bay @ mouth</p> <p>Nestucca Bay</p> <p>Ocean</p> <p>Pacific Ocean – Rainbow Rock, Brookings</p>	<p>Lakes/Reservoirs</p> <p>O'Dell Lake</p> <p>Triangle Lake</p>
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