

ILLINOIS RECREATIONAL BOATING REPORT



Federal Fiscal Year
October 1, 2021 –
September 30, 2022

FOREWORD

Illinois Recreational Boating Report 2022 contains statistics on recreational boating accidents, enforcement, safety, and recreational boat registering activities. Statistical information contained in this report is based on the Federal Fiscal Year 2022 (FFY22) (10/01/2021 – 09/30/2022), excluding the registered recreational boats, which are based on the calendar year 2022. This publication is a result of the coordinated effort of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) and those jurisdictions that investigate recreational boating accidents and enforce boating laws in Illinois.

Illinois Recreational Boating Report 2022 may be copied freely for boating safety. For questions and suggestions regarding the content and availability of the current or back issues, use the address or telephone number at the top of the page. For an electronic copy, visit the Illinois Department of Natural Resources Website at <http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/safety/Pages/IncidentReportSummaries.aspx>

Law Enforcement Creed

“To serve, protect, and educate the citizens and visitors to the state of Illinois in their outdoor recreational endeavors.”

“To be a vigilant guardian of the natural resources, public safety, and homeland security of Illinois.”

“To assist the public in their times of need; routine and emergency.”

“To educate the inadvertent violator of conservation law, by taking an appropriate level of enforcement action to achieve this goal.”

“To relentlessly pursue, with full statewide police authority, deliberate offenders and bring them before the courts for the administration of justice”

“To maintain the highest level of professional standards, integrity, and conduct.”

“THIS WE PLEDGE TO THE CITIZENS OF ILLINOIS.”

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The Illinois Boating Digest has been posted on the IDNR website at <http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/boating/Documents/BoatDigest.pdf>. The Boating Digest will no longer be available in pamphlet form. It has been converted into a PDF document for easier viewing and printing from the website.

SCOPE

Statistical information contained in this report is based on the Federal Fiscal Year 2022 (FFY22) (10/01/2021 – 09/30/2022), excluding the registered recreational boats, which are based on the calendar year 2022. This report contains statistics on recreational boating accidents, registered recreational boats, boating enforcement, and information on boating safety activities. Data used to compile the recreational boating accident statistics comes from two sources: (1) Recreational Boating Accident Reports of IDNR investigations of recreational boating accidents on waters within the State; and (2) reports forwarded to the IDNR by other jurisdictions within the State. Without investigations, information would not be collected from accident reports from boat operators. Data used to compile the boating enforcement statistics comes from three sources: (1) IDNR Conservation Police Officer Daily Activity Reports, (2) CPO Operating Under the Influence Reports, and (3) reports forwarded to the IDNR by other jurisdictions within the State.

REPORTING GUIDELINES FOR BOAT ACCIDENTS

Federal Regulations (33 CFR 174.121) require accident report data to be forwarded to Coast Guard Headquarters within 30 days of receipt by a state.

Illinois Boat Registration and Safety Act (625 ILCS 45/6) requires the operator of a vessel involved in a collision or accident must render aid (if practical) to any affected persons and provide his name, address, and vessel information to any person injured and to the owner of any property damaged as a result of the collision or accident. Failure to comply when the accident or collision resulted in a person's death or personal injury is a Class A misdemeanor. Any person who has failed to stop or comply with this section must, as soon as possible but no later than one hour after the collision or accident occurred, report the incident to the nearest police station or sheriff's office. If the operator was hospitalized, this report must be filed within one hour of discharge. If the collision or accident involves personal injury to a person, failure to comply is a Class 4 felony. Personal injury is defined as any injury requiring treatment beyond first aid. If the collision or accident resulted in death, failure to comply is a Class 2 felony punishable by 3 – 4 years in prison.

In addition to the above requirements, whenever a boat is involved in a collision or accident causing property damage of \$2000 or more, or results in total loss of the vessel, or causes injury to any person requiring medical attention beyond first aid, a report, completed by the operator, must be made to the Department, on forms provided, within five days. All boating accidents resulting in loss of life must be reported to the Department on forms provided within 48 hours by the operator.

Boat accident reporting applies to each "vessel" used by its operator for recreational purposes or vessels that are required to be numbered and are not subject to inspection.

The term "vessel" includes every description of watercraft or other artificial contrivance used, or capable of being used, as a means of transportation on the water. Terms used to describe the various types of watercraft are airboat, auxiliary sailboat, cabin motorboat, canoe, houseboat, inflatable boat, kayak, open motorboat, personal watercraft, pontoon boat, raft, rowboat, and sailboat. Unmodified inner tubes have not been determined to be "vessels" to date. Thus any accident that only involves an unmodified inner tube has not been included in the statistics in the main body of this report.

Operators of motorboats involved in a boating accident resulting in serious injury or death must submit to chemical testing (breath, blood, or urine) upon request by the investigating law enforcement officer. Failure to submit to requested testing or submitting to testing but failing such testing shall result in a suspension of the motorboat operator's Illinois driver's license by the Illinois Secretary of State.

Suspension Provisions

A person's privileges to operate a watercraft may be suspended for a period of 1 to 3 years for violations of operating under the influence, careless or reckless operation, or failure to report an accident.

Further, it shall be unlawful for any person to operate a watercraft when their privileges have been suspended or revoked in this state or by another state, a federal agency, or a province of Canada.

How Do I Report A Boating Violation or Boat Accident?

Your local Illinois State Police District HQ dispatch center dispatches Illinois Conservation Police Officers (CPOs). If you have a serious boating violation or boat accident to report, dial "911" immediately. Otherwise, contact your local Illinois State Police District HQ dispatch center for assistance contacting a Conservation Police Officer. A listing of Illinois State Police Districts can be found at <http://www.isp.state.il.us/>

“Reportable” Boating Accidents

A *vessel* is considered to be involved in a “boating accident” whenever a death, missing person, personal injury, property damage, or total vessel loss results from the vessel's operation, construction, seaworthiness, equipment, or machinery.

The following are examples of accident types that are used in this report:

- Grounding, capsizing, sinking, or flooding/swamping
- Falls in or overboard a vessel
- Persons ejected from a vessel
- Fire or explosions that occur while underway and while anchored, moored, or docked if the fire resulted from the vessel or vessel equipment.
- Water-skiing or other mishaps involving a towable device
- Collision with another vessel or object
- Striking a submerged object
- A person struck by a vessel, propeller, propulsion unit, or steering machinery
- Carbon monoxide exposure
- Electrocution due to stray current related to a vessel
- Casualties while swimming from a vessel that is not anchored, moored, or docked.
- Casualties, where natural causes contributed to the death of an individual, but the determined cause of death, was drowning.
- Casualties from natural phenomena such as interaction with marine life (i.e., leaping sturgeon causes casualty to person) and interaction with nature (i.e., mountain side falls onto vessel causing casualties).
- Casualties are when a person falls off an anchored vessel.

“Non-Reportable” Boating Accidents

Not every occurrence involving a vessel is considered within the scope of the National Recreational Boating Safety Program. The following occurrences involving a vessel may be required to be reported to the state but, for statistical purposes, are excluded from this report and are considered “non-reportable” boating accidents:

- A person dies, is injured, or is missing as a result of self-inflicted wounds, alcohol poisoning, gunshot wounds, or the ingestion of drugs, controlled substances, or poison.
- A person dies, is injured, or is missing as a result of an assault by another person or persons while aboard a vessel.
- A person dies or is injured from natural causes while aboard a vessel.
- A person dies, is injured, or is missing as a result of jumping, diving, or swimming for pleasure from an anchored, moored, or docked vessel.
- A person dies, is injured, or is missing as a result of swimming to retrieve an object or a vessel that is adrift from its mooring or dock, having departed from a place of inherent safety, such as the shore or pier.
- Property damage occurs, or a person dies, is injured, or is missing while preparing a vessel for launching or retrieving, and the vessel is not on the water and capable/ready for its intended use.
- Property damage occurs when a person dies, is injured, or is missing due to a fire onshore or a pier that spreads to a vessel or vessels.
- Property damage occurs to a docked or moored vessel, or a person dies, is injured, or is missing from such a vessel as a result of storms, unusual tidal or sea conditions, or when a vessel gets underway in those conditions in an attempt to rescue persons or vessels.
- Property damage occurs to a docked or moored vessel due to a lack of maintenance on the vessel.
- Property damage occurs to a docked or moored vessel due to theft or vandalism.
- Property damage occurs to a person dies or is injured, or a person is missing from a non-propelled houseboat or other vessel used primarily as a residence when such a vessel is not underway.
- Casualties that result from falls from or on docked vessels or vessels that are moored to a permanent structure.
- Casualties that result from a person climbing aboard an anchored vessel from the water or swimming near an anchored vessel.
- Fire or explosions on anchored, docked, or moored boats where the cause of the fire was not attributed to the vessel or vessel equipment.
- Casualty or damage that results when the vehicle used for trailering the vessel fails.
- Casualties or damage that occurs during accidents that only involve unmodified inner tubes.
- Casualties or damage occurs when the only vessel(s) involved are being used solely for governmental, commercial, or criminal activity.
- Casualties or damage occurs when the only vessel(s) involved are not numbered and are being used exclusively for racing.
- Casualties or damage that occur when the only vessel(s) involved are foreign vessels and thus not subject to U.S. federal reporting requirements.

RECREATIONAL BOATING STATISTICAL SUMMARY

This report summarizes the Federal Fiscal Year 2022 Illinois Recreational Boating. Statistical information contained in this report is based on the Federal Fiscal Year 2022 (FFY22), excluding the Certificate of Numbered Vessel Reports, which is based on the calendar year 2022.

Illinois officers investigated 52 reportable boat accidents, which was a 44% decrease from FFY21. A total of 40 injuries were reported in FFY 2022, a 37% increase from the previous year. A total of 6 fatalities were reported in FFY 2022, a 62% decrease over the previous period, resulting in roughly three deaths per 100,000 registered recreational vessels.

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources Office of Law Enforcement recorded 29,794 personal service hours worked on the Recreational Boating Safety Program, which accounted for 9% of total work hours. This was a 3% increase from the total hours worked on the program in FFY 2021. The Office of Law Enforcement's estimated on-water hours of 17,671 showed a 21% increase in hours worked on the water over the preceding period.

Boating enforcement activity by the Illinois Conservation Police saw a decrease in the total number of citations and a slight increase in written warnings issued during FFY22 from the previous year. Citations decreased from 734 to 591 (-19.48%), and written warnings increased from 2697 to 2808 (4.11%). Operating under the influence arrest increased from 65 to 72 (10.76%). Personal floatation devices and operating under the influence remained the top boating violations cited by officers.

The total number of registered boats continues to decline from 188,086 last year to 187,429 this year.

Boating accident reports indicate the majority of accidents occur between June, July, and August, on Saturday or Sunday, between 12 p.m. and 6 p.m. Conditions are usually clear with good visibility, light winds, and calm water. Most accidents involve operators between the ages of twenty and forty who have over one hundred hours of boating experience but have little or no classroom boating safety instruction. They also involve open motorboats cruising in a careless/reckless manner culminating in a collision with another boat.

Six people died in 6 Illinois boating accidents.

Three fatalities occurred during the week and three on the weekend

Six fatalities with clear conditions and 4 with calm waters

The winds were light to moderate (5) with good visibility (4)

In the majority of fatalities, the operators had no formal boat safety education (6).

0 out of 6 fatalities involved alcohol/drug impairment

Once again, the factor that would have saved lives this past season would have been for people to wear their Personal Floatation Devices (PFD). Of 6 fatalities, four may have survived if they had worn their PFDs.

The State of Illinois does not require a Coast Guard-approved PFD to be worn. However, persons under the age of 13, and operators/passengers on personal watercraft or specialty prop-craft, are required to wear a Coast Guard-approved PFD.

The most proactive action a boater can take to ensure his/her safety on the water is to wear a Coast Guard-approved PFD of the appropriate size and in serviceable condition.

BOAT ACCIDENTS & ENFORCEMENT AT A GLANCE

1964 – Present

Year	Total Number of Accidents	Total Number of Injuries	Total Number of Fatalities	Total Number of Vessels	Total Number of Registered Boats	Total Number of Fatalities by Drowning	Conservation Police Operating Under the Influence (OUI)	Total Number of Boating Citations	Total Number of Boating Written	Total Hours Worked on the Recreational Boat Safety Program
1964	115	72	33	167	0	NA	0	0	0	0
1965	116	48	52	161	0	NA	0	0	0	0
1966	127	112	49	184	0	13	0	0	0	0
1967	113	73	44	146	0	NA	0	0	0	0
1968	122	80	56	162	0	54	0	0	0	0
1969	101	54	42	136	0	37	0	0	0	0
1970	98	58	38	133	0	31	0	0	0	0
1971	88	73	29	119	0	29	0	0	0	0
1972	94	43	39	129	0	37	0	0	0	0
1973	130	58	64	175	0	59	0	0	0	0
1974	115	62	56	152	0	52	0	0	0	0
1975	126	87	43	178	0	34	0	0	0	0
1976*	124	30	20	174	0	NA	0	0	0	0
1977*	111	18	27	159	0	NA	0	0	0	0
1978*	113	54	36	118	0	NA	0	0	0	0
1979*	NA	NA	NA	NA	0	NA	0	0	0	0
1980*	95	72	30	95	0	NA	0	0	0	0
1981*	97	NA	NA	97	0	NA	0	0	0	0
1982	109	71	28	139	0	NA	0	0	0	0
1983	97	51	17	139	0	NA	0	0	0	0
1984	118	62	39	138	0	NA	0	0	0	0
1985	105	47	30	123	0	25	0	0	0	0
1986	94	58	11	114	0	11	0	0	0	0
1987	70	63	13	82	0	12	0	0	0	0
1988	103	89	16	120	0	11	0	0	0	0
1989	97	70	14	129	0	9	0	0	0	0
1990	146	107	26	187	350,000	22	0	0	0	0
1991	179	125	31	224	362,000	23	0	0	0	0
1992	147	124	28	200	365,000	20	0	0	0	0
1993	134	94	32	163	371,000	29	57	0	0	0

BOAT ACCIDENTS & ENFORCEMENT AT A GLANCE

1964 – Present

Year	Total Number of Accidents	Total Number of Injuries	Total Number of Fatalities	Total Number of Vessels	Total Number of Registered Boats	Total Number of Fatalities by Drowning	Conservation Police Operating Under the Influence (OUI) Arrests	Total Number of Boating Citations	Total Number of Boating Written	Total Hours Worked on the Recreational Boat Safety Program
1994	157	131	17	211	381,864	15	67	0	0	0
1995	178	88	16	228	386,500	13	111	0	0	0
1996	155	90	27	214	390,000	23	93	0	0	0
1997	145	81	14	223	397,000	10	123	0	0	14,328
1998	176	107	19	249	395,500	12	75	0	0	16,048
1999	159	75	13	238	394,108	10	95	0	0	13,822
2000	155	76	14	231	370,568	11	100	0	0	11,869
2001	112	75	8	171	368,047	7	180	2,263	0	13,185
2002	135	92	23	188	364,075	13	199	1,630	0	13,369
2003	84	63	13	122	360,252	7	125	NA	0	10,827
2004	78	45	18	103	356,305	15	127	1,509	1,647	13,858
2005	115	100	16	152	342,745	12	185	1,403	NA	15,046
2006	79	66	18	119	343,591	13	229	1,882	3,307	15,866
2007	107	57	13	146	339,288	11	144	1,451	3,239	30,332
2008	120	78	13	174	336,025	10	185	1,603	3,695	39,998
2009	102	71	25	137	329,032	15	179	1,960	5,576	21,403
2010	105	76	16	145	323,191	13	155	1,853	5,438	13,363
2011	103	70	21	136	319,559	15	121	1,520	4,581	27,346
2012	101	69	19	135	312,664	15	123	1,230	3,972	50,664
2013	65	50	14	90	271,116	12	115	1,235	4,525	40,734
2014	77	54	20	98	252,094	16	159	1,504	5,127	38,275
2015	74	49	14	96	233,062	14	155	1,415	4,518	42,379
2016	73	36	11	103	248,948	10	147	1,721	5,258	42,160
2017	80	48	12	123	248,696	12	145	1,355	4,886	45,725
2018	68	34	18	91	245,621	17	132	1,045	3,753	33,844
2019	72	42	14	95	229,370	14	103	735	2,623	39,421
2020	81	36	21	113	216,175	18	102	863	3,208	24,067
2021	93	28	16	147	188,086	14	65	734	2,697	28,886
2022	52	40	6	78	187,429	5	72	591	2,808	29,794

BOATING SAFETY EDUCATION

General Information

No person under ten years of age may operate a motorboat. Aged ten years and less than twelve years of age may only operate under a parent or guardian's direct control.

Who Must Take the Course?

No person born on or after January 1, 1998, unless exempted by subsection (i), shall operate a motorboat with over ten horsepower unless that person has a valid Boating Safety Certificate issued by the Department of Natural Resources or an entity or organization recognized and approved by the Department.

Persons at least 12 years of age and less than 18 years of age may only operate a motorboat if:

They have in possession a valid Boating Education Certificate of Competency issued by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Safety Education Division, or they are accompanied on the motorboat and under the direct control of a parent or guardian or a person at least 18 years of age designated by a parent or guardian.

Throughout the year, many people operate motor-driven watercraft on Illinois waters, and many operate for the first time. So, we encourage individuals - both novice and experienced - to take the course. Each of us has the responsibility to keep this lifetime leisure activity free from tragedy and personal loss to ourselves and our fellow boaters. The Illinois Boating Education Course is offered with these objectives in mind.

The Illinois Boating Education Course consists of a minimum of eight hours of instruction. These courses cover the basics of boating safety, equipment and requirements, navigation, motorboat, registration and titling, emergency measures, and the Illinois boating laws.

The program is primarily designed to train young people over the age of 12 years old. The educational material is based on a sixth-grade reading level. Students under the age of 11 may not participate in the exam to receive certification. Students 11 years old will receive their certificate upon their 12th birthday.

Persons 12 and over completing the minimum eight hours of instruction and successfully completing the final examination will receive a State of Illinois Certificate of Competency.

Two Ways to Take the Course

Instructor-led Classes-The traditional class method is through an 8-hour instructor-led class structure. Classes may be taught in one day or over a couple of different days, usually on the weekend. The class will end with an exam to pass the class. Interested individuals may call 1-800-832-2599 or check the [List of Education Courses by County](#).

Online Self-Study Course-Students may study the course material at their own pace, completing chapter reviews along the way. At the end of the course material, the student will be required to pass an exam. Student certification will be mailed by the course provider.

Two Providers for Online Boating Safety Course and Certification:

www.Boat-Ed.com

www.BoaterExam.com

BOATING SAFETY EDUCATION

Year	Traditional Classroom Course		Internet Courses		Total Number of People Issued Boat Safety Cards	
	Total Classes	# Students Certified	Total Students	Exams Issued		# Students Certified
2005*	95	2,390	2,428	890	732	3,122
2006	74	1,449	1,517	1,693	1,405	2,854
2007	70	1,215	1,235	1,687	1,358	2,573
2008	47	857	870	1,699	1,362	2,219
2009	49	874	888	2,208	2,037	2,911
2010*	40	902	922	2,410	2,410	3,312
2011	40	693	712	2,261	2,261	2,954
2012	41	712	712	2,016	2,016	2,728
2013	35	548	550	2,731	2,731	3,279
2014	33	539	524	2,566	2,566	3,105
2015	30	460	470	2,971	2,971	3,431
2016	34	561	561	3,275	3,275	3,836
2017	27	375	375	3,073	3,073	3,448
2018	27	469	475	3,475	3,475	3,944
2019	20	404	434	3,546	3,546	3,950
2020	0	0	0	6,007	6,007	6,007
2021	18	89	89	6,893	6,893	6,982
2022	19	254	262	4,812	4,812	5,066
Totals	699	12,791	13,024	54,213	52,930	65,721

* In May 2005 Boat-Ed started

* In June 2010, BoaterExam.com started



REGISTERED RECREATIONAL BOATS

Illinois requires every watercraft, except non-powered watercraft, on waters within the jurisdiction of this State to be numbered. No person may operate, or give permission for the operation of, any watercraft on such waters unless the watercraft is numbered in accordance with the Boat Registration & Safety Act, in accordance with applicable Federal law, or in accordance with a Federally-approved numbering system of another State, and (1) the certificate of number awarded to such watercraft is in full force and effect, and (2) the identifying number set forth in the certificate of number is displayed on each side of the bow of such watercraft.

The owner of each watercraft requiring numbering by this State shall file an application for number with the Department of Natural Resources on forms approved by it. The application shall be signed by the owner of the watercraft and shall be accompanied by a fee as follows:

Transaction Fees

New and Transfer Renewal

Class 1 - All powered Watercraft less than 16 ft. except non-powered - **\$28.00**

Class 2 - 16 ft. to less than 26 ft. - **\$60.00**

Class 3 - 26 ft. to less than 40 ft. - **\$160.00**

Class 4 - 40 ft. and over - **\$210.00**

Renewal

Class 1 - All powered Watercraft less than 16 ft. except non-powered - **\$18.00**

Class 2 - 16 ft. to less than 26 ft. - **\$50.00**

Class 3 - 26 ft. to less than 40 ft. - **\$150.00**

Class 4 - 40 ft. and over - **\$200.00**

Corrected Title, Corrected Registration, Duplicate Title, Duplicate Decals, Duplicate Registration
\$7.00 for each transaction.

Title Search

\$7.00 for each Title Search.

Dealer or Manufacturer Title

\$10.00 for each transaction.

USCG Registration Fees or Renewal Fees

Class 2 - 16 ft. to less than 26 ft. - **\$50.00**

Class 3 - 26 ft. to less than 40 ft - **\$150.00**

Class 4 - 40 ft. and over - **\$200.00**

THE 2022 CALENDAR YEAR

REPORT OF CERTIFICATES OF NUMBER ISSUED TO

RECREATIONAL BOATS ONLY*

Motorized Vessel Types	<16	16 To <26	26 To <40	40 To 65	>65	All Lengths
Airboat	20	40	2	0	0	62
Auxiliary Sail	27	365	1007	146	3	1,548
Cabin Motorboat	30	2951	3801	578	11	7,371
Houseboat	22	75	126	202	28	453
Inflatable Boat	392	44	0	0	0	436
Open Motorboat	28505	93281	2035	45	2	123,868
Personal Watercraft	17311	2199	0	0	0	19,510
Pontoon Boat	829	22882	1113	10	1	24,835
Other	3359	3316	201	30	5	6,911
Non-Motorized Vessel Types	<16	16 To <26	26 To <40	40 To 65	>65	All Lengths
Inflatable Boat	16	1	0	0	0	17
Paddlecraft	409	125	0	0	0	534
Rowboat	253	17	0	0	0	270
Sail Only	592	697	211	23	0	1523
Other	70	19	0	0	0	91
Total Recreational Registration						
Motorized Vessel						184,994
Non-Motorized Vessel						2,435
Total						187,429

BOATING ENFORCEMENT

Top Boating Violations

Top Citations	
Type of Boating Violations	Citations
PFD Age Requirement. Less Than 13 Years Old Must Wear PFD	100
Under the Influence of Alcohol	72
Wearable PFD (Type I, II, Or III Required)	57
Operating with BAC Over .08	53
Personal Flotation Devices	49
Operation of Unnumbered Watercraft	46
Operation in No Wake Area	24
Failure to Transfer Certificate of Number	17
Failure to Display, Improper Display of Registration Number	16
Careless Operation	15
Operating W/Out Proper Lights Between Sunset/Sunrise	14
Failure to Display Valid Registration Decal	13
Operation of PWC Between the Hours of Sunset/Sunrise	11
Personal Watercraft – PFD Must be worn	10
Restricted Area, No Wake W/In 150 Feet of Public Ramp	9
Lanyard Cut-off Switch	9
Fire Extinguisher	8
Total Number of Citations Issued	591

Top Written Warnings	
Type of Boating Violations	Written Warnings
Battery Covers	461
Personal Flotation Devices	457
Fire Extinguisher	337
Operation of Unnumbered Watercraft	331
Operation of Motorboat Without Horn or Whistle	223
Lanyard Cut-Off Switch	200
Operation in No Wake Area	104
Type IV PFD On Board (16 Feet and Over)	102
Operating W/Out Proper Lights Between Sunset/Sunrise	68
Failure to Display, Improper Display of Registration Number	67
Passenger Location	65
Displaying Orange Flag While Towing Person	61
Restricted Area, No Wake W/In 150 Feet of Public Ramp	58
Failure to Display Valid Registration Decal	35
Total Number of Written Warnings Issued	2808

Boat Citations

Chapter / Act / Section	# Issued	Violation
625 45 2-4A	0	Resistance to Officers
625 45 2-4B	1	Failure to Obey Direction of Police Officer
625 45 3-1	46	Operation of Unnumbered Watercraft
625 45 3-1.5	0	No Water Usage Stamp (Non-Powered Watercraft)
625 45 3-3	9	Failure to Display, Improper Display of Registration Number
625 45 3-4	0	Failure to Notify Dept Of Destruction/Sale/Transfer
625 45 3-5	17	Failure to Transfer Certificate of Number
625 45 3-7	0	Loss of Certificate of Number/Registration Decal
625 45 3-9	16	Failure to Display Valid Registration Decal
625 45 3-11	0	Falsify/Alter Certificate of Number or Water Usage Stamp
625 45 3-13	0	Failure to Attach HIN To Watercraft
625 45 3A-12	1	Failure to Transfer Title
625 45 3A-14	0	Failure to Transfer Title-Dealer
625 45 3A-15	0	Failure to Make Application of Title
625 45 3A-17	0	Failure to Transfer Title-Individual
625 45 3A-20A	2	Operating W/O Certificate of Title
625 45 3A-20B	2	Sell/Transfer W/O Certificate
625 45 3A-20C	0	Failure to Surrender Title
625 45 3A-21A	0	Alter, Forge, or Counterfeit Manufacturer's or Importer's Certificate
625 45 3A-21F	0	Possess, Buy, Receive, Sell Boat W/Out HIN
625 45 3C-1A	2	Abandoning A Watercraft
625 45 4-1	49	Personal Flotation Devices
625 45 4-1A	57	Wearable PFD (Type I, II, Or III Required)
625 45 4-1B	10	Personal Watercraft – PFD Must Be Worn
625 45 4-1C	1	Type IV PFD On Board (16 Feet and Over)
625 45 4-1D	0	Type V PFD Approved for Activity Used
625 45 4-1E	2	No PFD on Boat for Peron being Towed
625 45 4-1F1	3	PFDs Accessible
625 45 4-1F2	0	PFDs Serviceable Condition
625 45 4-1F3	0	PFDs Appropriate Size
625 45 4-1F4	0	PFDs Legibly Marked with USCG Number
625 45 4-1I	100	PFD Age Requirement. Less Than 13 Years Old Must Wear PFD
625 45 4-2	14	Operating W/Out Proper Lights Between Sunset/Sunrise
625 45 4-3A	0	Failure to Equip Boat W/Muffler System
625 45 4-3B	0	Mufflers-Exceeding Noise Level
625 45 4-4	0	Operation of Motorboat Without Horn or Whistle
625 45 4-5	8	Fire Extinguisher
625 45 4-6	0	Carburetor Arrestor
625 45 4-9	0	Sealing of Marine Heads
625 45 4-10	5	Battery Covers
625 45 4-11	9	Lanyard Cut-Off Switch
625 45 4-12	0	Visual Distress Signals
625 45 5-1	15	Careless Operation
625 45 5-2A	2	Reckless Operation/Aggravated Reckless Operation
625 45 5-2B	0	Reckless Operation with Great Bodily Harm
625 45 5-3	0	Interference with Navigation
625 45 5-4A	2	Overloading Motorboat

Chapter / Act / Section	# Issued	Violation
625 45 5-4B	0	Capacity Plate
625 45 5-5	0	Incapacity of Operator
625 45 5-6	0	Overpowering
625 45 5-7	9	Restricted Area, No Wake W/In 150 Feet of Public Ramp
625 45 5-12	24	Operation in No Wake Area
625 45 5-13A	0	Passing
625 45 5-13B	0	Crossing
625 45 5-13C	1	Overtaking
625 45 5-13D	1	Right of Way Violation
625 45 5-14	1	Towing of Persons
625 45 5-14A	5	Competent Observer, Vessel Capacity – 3 Persons
625 45 5-14B	1	Half Hour Before to Half Hour after Towing Water Skier
625 45 5-14E	2	Displaying Orange Flag While Towing Person
625 45 5-16A 1	0	Operating Under the Influence Alcohol/Drugs
625 45 5-16A 1 a	53	Operating with BAC Over .08
625 45 5-16A 1 b	72	Under the Influence of Alcohol
625 45 5-16 A 1 c	1	Under the Influence of Drugs
625 45 5-16 A 1 d	1	Under Combined Influence of Alcohol/Drugs
625 45 5-16A 1 e	0	Any Amount of Drug in Persons Blood or Urine
625 45 5-16 E	0	Owner Permitting OUI Operation
625 45 5-18	4	Youthful Operators
625 45 5-18G 1	0	Failure to show safety certificate
625 45 5-19	0	Skin Diving 150ft Shoreline/Diver's Flag
625 45 5-20	11	Operation of PWC Between the Hours of Sunset/Sunrise
625 45 5-21	9	Passenger Location
625 45 5-22B	0	Failure to Yield to Emergency Watercraft Upon Approach
625 45 5-22C	0	Failure to Yield to Emergency Watercraft When Stationary
625 45 6-1	0	Failure to Render Aid After Accident/Provide Information
625 45 6-1A	2	Failure to Render Assistance in an Accident
625 45 6-1 A 1	2	Failure to Report Accident Within 1 Hour
625 45 7-1	5	License Required-Passenger for Hire/Boat Rental
625 45 7-7	0	License/Tag/Weight Fail to Display/Rental Boat
625 45 7-8	0	Livery-Failure of Owner to Provide Safety Equip
625 45 7-9	0	Registration/Per Article III
625 45 7-10	1	Unlawful Rental Of Pwc
625 45 11A-1	5	Catch-All For Violations Of Boat Code & Authority For Ad Rules.

TOTAL VIOLATIONS 591

Boat Written Warnings

Chapter / Act / Section	# Issued	Violation
625 45 2-4A	0	Resistance to Officers
625 45 2-4B	0	Failure to Obey the Direction of the Police Officer
625 45 3-1	331	Operation of Unnumbered Watercraft
625 45 3-1.5	1	No Water Usage Stamp (Non-Powered Watercraft)
625 45 3-3	67	Failure to Display, Improper Display of Registration Number
625 45 3-4	3	Failure to Notify Dept Of Destruction/Sale/Transfer
625 45 3-5	24	Failure to Transfer Certificate of Number
625 45 3-7	0	Loss of Certificate of Number/Registration Decal
625 45 3-7.5	0	Failure to Replace Lost/Destroyed Water Usage Stamp
625 45 3-9	35	Failure to Display Valid Registration Decal
625 45 3-11	0	Falsify/Alter Certificate of Number or Water Usage Stamp
625 45 3-13	0	Failure to Attach HIN To Watercraft
625 45 3A-12	2	Failure to Transfer Title
625 45 3A-14	0	Failure to Transfer Title-Dealer
625 45 3A-15	1	Failure to Make Application of Title
625 45 3A-17	0	Failure to Transfer Title-Individual
625 45 3A-19	0	Failure to surrender the title to Department for Junk or salvaged watercraft
625 45 3A-20A	1	Operating W/O Certificate of Title
625 45 3A-20B	3	Sell/Transfer W/O Certificate
625 45 3A-20C	0	Failure to Surrender Title
625 45 3A-21A	0	Alter, Forge, or Counterfeit Manufacturer's or Importer's Certificate
625 45 3A-21D	0	Use False Name or Address, Conceal Facts in Application for Title
625 45 3A-21F	0	Possess, Buy, Receive, Sell Boat W/Out HIN
625 45 3A-21G	1	Destroy, Remove, Cover, Alter or Deface HIN
625 45 3A-21H	0	Possess, Buy, Sell, Exchange the title to Watercraft that is junk or salvage
625 45 3C-1A	3	Abandoning A Watercraft
625 45 4-1	457	Personal Floatation Devices
625 45 4-1A	7	Wearable PFD (Type I, II, Or III Required)
625 45 4-1B	0	Personal Watercraft – PFD Must Be Worn
625 45 4-1C	102	Type IV PFD On Board (16 Feet and Over)
625 45 4-1D	4	Type V PFD Approved for Activity Used
625 45 4-1E	1	Water skier, aquaplanes, etc.
625 45 4-1F1	1	PFDs Accessible
625 45 4-1F2	0	PFDs Serviceable Condition
625 45 4-1F3	0	PFDs Appropriate Size
625 45 4-1F4	0	PFDs Legibly Marked with USCG Number
625 45 4-1I	34	PFD Age Requirement. Less Than 13 Years Old Must Wear PFD
625 45 4-2	68	Operating W/Out Proper Lights Between Sunset/Sunrise
625 45 4-3A	0	Failure to Equip Boat W/Muffler System
625 45 4-3B	0	Mufflers-Exceeding Noise Level
625 45 4-4	223	Operation of Motorboat Without Horn or Whistle
625 45 4-5	337	Fire Extinguisher
625 45 4-6	1	Carburetor Arrestor
625 45 4-7	1	Ventilators
625 45 4-8	0	Sirens and flashing lights-Unlawful use

Chapter / Act / Section	# Issued	Violation
625 45 4-10	461	Battery Covers
625 45 4-11	200	Lanyard Cut-Off Switch
625 45 4-12	15	Visual Distress Signals
625 45 5-1	7	Careless Operation
625 45 5-2	0	Reckless Operation/Aggravated Reckless Operation
625 45 5-2A	0	Reckless Operation of Watercraft
625 45 5-2B	0	Reckless Operation with Great Bodily Harm
625 45 5-3	0	Interference with Navigation
625 45 5-4A	16	Overloading Motorboat
625 45 5-4B	1	Capacity Plate
625 45 5-5	0	Incapacity of Operator
625 45 5-6	0	Overpowering
625 45 5-7	58	Restricted Area, No Wake W/In 150 Feet of Public Ramp
625 45 5-12	104	Operation in No Wake Area
625 45 5-13A	0	Passing
625 45 5-13B	1	Crossing
625 45 5-13C	0	Overtaking
625 45 5-13D	0	Sailboats and Rowboats
625 45 5-14	18	Waterskiing
625 45 5-14A	14	Competent Observer, Vessel Capacity-3 Persons
625 45 5-14B	2	Hours for Skiing
625 45 5-14E	61	Displaying Orange Flag While Towing Person
625 45 5-16A	0	Operating Under the Influence
625 45 5-16A 1	0	Operating Under the Influence Alcohol/Drugs
625 45 5-16A 1 a	0	Operating with BAC Over .08
625 45 5-16A 1 b	0	Under the Influence of Alcohol
625 45 5-16 A 1 c	0	Under the Influence of Drugs
625 45 5-16 A 1 d	0	Under the Combined Influence of Alcohol/Drugs
625 45 5-16A 1 e	0	Any Amount of Drug in a Person's Blood or Urine
625 45 5-16 E	0	Owner Permitting OUI Operation
625 45 5-18	24	Youthful Operators
625 45 5-18G 1	8	Youthful Operators - Violation – Petty Offense
625 45 5-19	0	Skin Diving 150ft Shoreline/Diver's Flag
625 45 5-20	15	Operation of PWC Between the Hours of Sunset/Sunrise
625 45 5-21	65	Passenger Location
625 45 5-22B	2	Failure to Yield to Emergency Watercraft Upon Approach
625 45 5-22C	0	Failure to Yield to Emergency Watercraft When Stationary
625 45 6-1	0	Failure to Render Aid After Accident/Provide Information
625 45 6-1 A	1	
625 45 6-1 A 1	0	Failure to Report Accident Within 1 Hour
625 45 7-1	17	License Required-Passenger for Hire/Boat Rental
625 45 7-7	4	License/Tag/Weight Fail to Display/Rental Boat
625 45 7-8	0	Livery-Failure of Owner to Provide Safety Equip
625 45 7-9	2	Registration/Per Article III
625 45 7-10	2	Unlawful renting of PWC
625 45 11A-1	1	A catch-all for violations of boat code & authority for ad rules.

TOTAL VIOLATIONS 2808

Boat Registration Inspections

Year	Region I	Region II	Region III	Region IV	Region V	Total
2012	133	176	101	89	67	566
2013	56	88	34	35	15	228
2014	56	95	36	50	27	264
2015	51	170	10	56	19	306
2016	41	78	10	45	15	189
2017	24	88	9	27	23	171
2018	26	79	8	23	10	146
2019	40	35	19	29	13	136
2020	21	32	30	26	16	125
2021	30	57	59	34	35	215
2022	54	41	38	38	54	225
Total	532	939	354	452	294	2,571

Boat Registration Inspections are conducted when the owner attempts to register a vessel and the title, registration, or hull identification number is missing or in question. Officers will physically inspect the vessel to confirm the information and conduct investigations into the transfer of titles. The officer will then complete an inspection, either approving or denying the title/registration of the vessel.

Boating Patrol Log Report

Year	Boat Inspections	Vessels Assisted	# of Persons Assisted	Citations	Written Warnings	Recreational Boat Safety Hours
2008	12,505	395	746	1,603	3,695	39,998
2009	17,672	330	889	1,960	5,576	21,403
2010	16,080	335	1,400	1,853	5,438	13,363
2011	21,929	987	6,068	1,520	4,581	27,346
2012	20,015	543	1,688	1,230	3,972	50,664
2013	17,512	418	714	1,235	4,525	40,734
2014	15,070	302	549	1,504	5,127	38,275
2015	15,280	375	550	1,415	4,518	42,379
2016	16,937	386	506	1,721	5,258	42,160
2017	15,710	372	529	1,355	4,886	45,725
2018	11,921	220	351	1,045	3,753	33,844
2019	8,624	201	297	735	2,623	39,421
2020	11,700	233	355	863	3,208	24,067
2021	12,133	275	287	734	2,697	28,886
2022	9,161	247	347	591	2,808	29,794
Total	222,249	5,619	15,276	19,364	62,665	518,059

**Operating Under the Influence
(OUI) Arrests**

Year	Region I	Region II	Region III	Region IV	Region V	Other Agency	Total	CPO Total
2004	39	31	19	21	17	62	189	127
2005	49	34	17	54	31	93	278	185
2006	58	76	23	41	31	73	302	229
2007	36	34	23	30	21	46	190	144
2008	48	32	29	22	23	31	185	154
2009	58	42	18	30	31	36	215	179
2010	40	38	30	24	23	49	204	155
2011	30	17	31	22	21	55	176	121
2012	25	26	22	22	28	86	209	123
2013	29	21	21	7	37	67	182	115
2014	34	47	25	27	26	56	215	159
2015	39	45	35	18	18	11	166	155
2016	29	54	16	20	28	28	175	147
2017	52	63	53	18	56	21	263	242
2018	49	28	24	4	27	NA	132	132
2019	26	32	8	9	28	1	104	103
2020	39	19	9	15	20	15	117	102
2021	19	13	4	5	24	11	76	65
2022	35	12	3	10	12	9	81	72
Total	734	664	410	399	502	750	3,459	2,709

Boating Accidents and Alcohol/Drug Use

Year	OUI Arrests	Injuries			Fatalities			Vessels		
	Total Number of OUI Arrests	Primary Cause Alcohol/Drug Use	Total Number of Injuries	Percentage Involving Alcohol/Drug use	Primary Cause Alcohol/Drug Use	Total Number of Fatalities	Percentage involving Alcohol/Drug Use	Primary Cause Alcohol/Drug Use	Total Number of Vessels	Percentage Involving Alcohol/Drug Use
2000	174	7	76	9.21%	1	14	7.14%	7	231	3.03%
2001	241	10	75	13.33%	2	23	8.70%	11	171	6.43%
2002	275	5	92	5.43%	3	8	37.50%	8	188	4.26%
2003	188	9	63	14.29%	5	13	38.46%	12	122	9.84%
2004	189	2	45	4.44%	5	18	27.78%	7	103	6.80%
2005	278	8	100	8.00%	2	16	12.50%	12	152	7.89%
2006	302	11	66	16.67%	5	18	27.78%	13	119	10.92%
2007	190	3	57	5.26%	1	13	7.69%	7	146	4.79%
2008	185	1	78	1.28%	1	13	7.69%	4	174	2.30%
2009	215	9	71	12.68%	2	25	8.00%	12	137	8.76%
2010	204	10	76	13.16%	6	16	37.50%	16	145	11.03%
2011	176	13	70	18.57%	8	21	38.10%	17	136	12.50%
2012	209	0	69	0.00%	10	19	52.63%	0	135	0.00%
2013	182	3	50	6.00%	3	14	21.43%	8	90	8.89%
2014	215	10	54	18.52%	6	20	30.00%	15	98	15.31%
2015	166	1	49	2.04%	6	14	42.86%	10	96	10.42%
2016	175	3	36	8.33%	3	11	27.27%	11	103	10.68%
2017	263	2	48	4.17%	3	12	25.00%	7	123	5.69%
2018	132	1	34	2.94%	4	18	22.22%	9	91	9.89%
2019	104	5	42	11.90 %	7	14	50.00%	9	95	9.47%
2020	117	3	36	12.00%	7	21	33.33%	10	113	8.85%
2021	76	1	28	3.57%	4	16	25.00%	5	147	3.40%
2022	81	5	40	12.50%	0	6	0.00%	3	78	3.84%
Total	4360	122	1355	9.00%	94	363	25.89%	213	2993	7.11%

Recreational Boat Accident Report

Total Number of Accidents	Total Number of Injuries	Total Number of Fatalities	Total Number of Vessels	Total Number of Registered Boats
52	40	6	78	187,429
Number of Accidents per 100,000 Registered Boats		Number of Injuries per 100,000 Registered Boats		Number of Fatalities per 100,000 Registered Boats
27.7		21.3		3.2

Fatalities--Cause of Death

Fatalities -- Life Jacket Use

Boating Fatalities					
Cause of Death	Number of Fatalities	Percent of Fatalities	Status	Number of Fatalities	Percent of Fatalities
Drowning	5	83.3%	Life Jacket Worn	1	16.7%
Trauma	1	16.7%	Life Jacket Not Worn	5	83.3%
Totals	6	100%	Totals	6	100%

Fatalities -- Cause of Death and Life Jacket Use

Fatalities -- Victim Activity

Cause of Death	Life Jacket Use Status			Boating Fatalities		
	Worn	Not Worn	Unknown	Victim Activity	Number of Fatalities	Percent of Fatalities
Drowning	1	4	0	Docking	1	16.7%
Trauma	0	1	0	Fishing	1	16.7%
Totals	1	5	0	In Cabin	1	16.7%
				Recreational Cruising	2	33.3%
				Recreational Paddling	1	16.7%
				Totals	6	100%

Fatalities -- Vessel Type

Fatalities -- Vessel Type and Life Jacket Use

Boating Fatalities			Life Jacket Use Status			
Vessel Type	Number of Fatalities	Percent of Fatalities	Vessel Type	Worn	Not Worn	Unknown
Cabin Motorboat	3	50.0%	Cabin Motorboat	0	3	0
Canoe	1	16.7%	Canoe	0	1	0
Kayak	1	16.7%	Kayak	1	0	0
Open Motorboat	1	16.7%	Open Motorboat	0	1	0
Totals	6	100%	Totals	1	5	0

Injuries – Injury Cause Primary and Life Jacket Use

Injuries – Victim Activity

Injury Cause Primary	Life Jacket Use Status			Boating Injuries		
	Worn	Not Worn	Unknown	Victim Activity	Number of Injuries	Percent of Injuries
Impact with Boat	3	23	0	Diving/Swimming	3	7.5%
Impact with Fixed / Floating Object	0	2	0	Recreational Boating	32	80.0%
Impact with Water	4	0	0	Racing	2	5.0%
Struck by Boat	4	0	0	Skiing/Tubing	3	7.5%
Struck by Propeller	0	4	0	Totals	40	100%
Totals	11	29	0			

Injuries – Primary Type of Injury

Injuries – Injury Cause Primary

Primary Type of Injury	Number of Injuries	Percent of Injuries	Injury Cause Primary	Number of Injuries	Percent of Injuries
Amputation	2	5.0%	Impact with Boat	26	65.0%
Back Injury	2	5.0%	Impact with Fixed / Floating Object	2	5.0%
Broken Bones	8	20.0%	Impact with Water	4	10.0%
Burns	3	7.5%	Struck by Boat	4	10.0%
Contusion	3	7.5%	Struck by Propeller	4	10.0%
Dislocation	1	2.5%	Totals	40	100%
Head Injury	4	10.0%			
Internal Injuries	3	7.5%			
Laceration	11	27.5%			
Shock	1	2.5%			
Sprain/Strain	2	5.0%			
Totals	40	100%			

**Accidents by Month
(10/01/2021 – 09/30/2022)**

Month	#Accidents	#Injuries	#Fatalities	#Vessels
January	0	0	0	0
February	0	0	0	0
March	0	0	0	0
April	1	0	1	1
May	8	18	2	12
June	12	4	1	20
July	9	4	0	12
August	16	12	1	25
September	4	2	0	6
October	0	0	0	0
November	1	0	0	1
December	1	0	1	1
Total	52	40	6	78

Accidents by Day of Week

Day of Week	#Accidents	#Injuries	#Fatalities	#Vessels
Sunday	12	8	2	17
Monday	7	6	1	9
Tuesday	5	2	0	6
Wednesday	2	0	1	3
Thursday	3	0	0	6
Friday	10	4	1	17
Saturday	13	20	1	20
Total	52	40	6	78

Accidents by Time of Day

Time	#Accidents	#Injuries	#Fatalities	#Vessels
12:01 A.M. – 6:00 A.M.	1	0	0	1
6:01 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.	4	1	0	6
12:01 P.M. – 6:00 P.M.	29	30	3	43
6:01 P.M. – 12:00 A.M.	18	9	3	28
Total	52	40	6	78

Accidents by Water Conditions

<u>Water</u>	<u>#Accidents</u>	<u>#Injuries</u>	<u>#Fatalities</u>	<u>#Vessels</u>
Calm (Waves Less Than 6'')	28	18	4	42
Choppy (Waves 6'' - 2')	15	18	2	24
Rough (Waves 2' - 6')	9	4	0	12
Total	52	40	6	78

Accidents by Weather Conditions

<u>Weather</u>	<u>#Accidents</u>	<u>#Injuries</u>	<u>#Fatalities</u>	<u>#Vessels</u>
Clear	40	33	6	63
Cloudy	12	7	0	15
Total	52	40	6	78

Accidents by Wind Conditions

<u>Wind</u>	<u>#Accidents</u>	<u>#Injuries</u>	<u>#Fatalities</u>	<u>#Vessels</u>
Light (0-12 Mph)	30	18	3	47
Moderate (13-24 Mph)	15	20	2	22
Strong (25-54 Mph)	6	1	1	8
Unknown	1	1	0	1
Total	52	40	6	78

Accidents by Visibility

<u>Visibility</u>	<u>#Accidents</u>	<u>#Injuries</u>	<u>#Fatalities</u>	<u>#Vessels</u>
Fair	6	1	2	8
Good	46	39	4	70
Total	52	40	6	78

Accident Causes/Contributing Factors (Primary Cause/Factor)

Primary Cause	# Injuries	#Fatalities	#Vessels
Alcohol/Drug Use	5	0	3
Careless/Reckless Operation	2	0	15
Congested Waters	0	0	2
Did Not Contribute	4	0	16
Excessive Speed	3	0	3
Force of Wake	0	0	1
Machinery Failure	0	0	4
Operator Inattention	4	2	12
Operator Inexperience	0	1	2
Overloading	0	0	2
Passenger/Skier Behavior	4	0	4
Restricted Vision	2	0	2
Rules of Road Infraction	1	0	2
Sharp Turn	0	1	1
Standing/Sitting in an Inappropriate Position	1	1	2
Unknown	14	1	5
Weather	0	0	2
Total	40	6	78

Accident Types (Primary Type)

<u>Type of Accident</u>	<u># Injuries</u>	<u># Fatalities</u>	<u>#Vessels</u>
Capsizing	0	1	3
Collision with Another Vessel	7	0	36
Collision with Fixed Object	0	0	5
Collision with Floating Object	4	0	3
Falls in Boat	1	0	1
Falls Overboard	0	4	6
Fire or Explosion (Fuel)	14	1	3
Fire or Explosion (Other Than Fuel)	0	0	1
Flooding/Swamping	0	0	2
Grounding	0	0	2
Occupant Impacts Vessel	1	0	1
Other-Grabbing a Branch	1	0	1
Person Departed Vessel	1	0	1
Person Ejected from A Vessel	2	0	2
Skier Mishap	2	0	2
Struck by Boat	3	0	3
Struck by Motor or Propeller	1	0	1
Struck Submerged Object	3	0	4
Unknown	0	0	1
Total	40	6	78

Accidents by Vessel Type

<u>Type of Vessel</u>	<u>#Injuries</u>	<u>#Fatalities</u>	<u>#Vessels</u>
Auxiliary Sail	2	0	2
Cabin Motorboat	17	3	13
Canoe	0	1	1
Kayak	1	1	2
Open Motorboat	11	1	31
Personal Watercraft	9	0	17
Pontoon Boat	0	0	8
Unknown	0	0	4
Total	40	6	78

Vessel Operation at the Time of Accident

<u>Vessel Operation</u>	<u>#Injuries</u>	<u>#Fatalities</u>	<u>#Vessels</u>
At Anchor	3	0	2
Being Towed	0	0	3
Changing Direction	0	1	1
Changing Speed	0	0	5
Changing Speed, Changing Direction	2	0	5
Changing Speed, Cruising	0	0	1
Changing Speed, Cruising, Changing Direction	1	0	3
Cruising	12	1	31
Cruising, Changing Direction	1	0	3
Docking/Undocking	0	1	1
Drifting	1	1	4
Other-Beached	1	0	1
Rowing/Paddling	1	1	2
Sailing	2	0	2
Tied to Dock / Mooring	14	1	8
Wake or Surf Jumping	2	0	3
Unknown	0	0	3
Total	40	6	78

Accidents by Vessel Length

<u>Vessel Length in Feet</u>	<u>#Injuries</u>	<u>#Fatalities</u>	<u>#Vessels</u>
Unknown	1	0	4
Less Than 16 Feet	10	1	20
16 Feet To < 26 Feet	11	2	33
26 Feet To < 40 Feet	2	2	18
40 Feet To 65 Feet	16	1	3
> 65 Feet	0	0	0
Total	40	6	78

Operator Boating Safety Education

<u>Operator Education</u>	<u>#Injuries</u>	<u>#Fatalities</u>	<u>#Vessels</u>
State Course	7	0	11
U.S.C.G. Auxiliary	3	0	4
None	11	5	43
Unknown	19	1	20
Total	40	6	78

Operator's Overall Boating Experience (in Hours)

<u>Operator Experience</u>	<u>#Injuries</u>	<u>#Fatalities</u>	<u>#Vessels</u>
Under 10 hours	4	1	11
10 - 100 hours	4	3	19
Over 100 hours	17	1	35
Unknown	15	1	13
Total	40	6	78

Accidents by Operator Age

<u>Operator Age</u>	<u>#Injuries</u>	<u>#Fatalities</u>	<u>#Vessels</u>
0 To 10 Years	0	0	0
11 To 20 Years	2	0	4
21 To 30 Years	3	2	11
31 To 40 Years	8	0	14
41 To 50 Years	8	2	19
51 To 60 Years	2	1	11
61 To 70 Years	2	0	6
71 To 80 Years	0	0	1
81 Years or More	0	0	0
Unknown	15	1	12
Total	40	6	78

Accident Statistics By Body of Water

Body of Water	# Accidents	# Injuries	# Fatalities	# Vessels
Baldwin Lake	1	0	0	1
Calumet Sag Channel	1	3	0	1
Chicago River	3	0	0	6
Clinton Lake	2	2	0	2
East Fork Lake	1	1	0	1
Fox Lake	2	1	0	4
Fox River	4	3	0	6
Grass Lake	2	1	0	2
Holiday Shores Lake	1	0	0	2
Illinois River	4	15	1	7
Kankakee River	2	3	0	3
Kaskaskia River	2	3	0	2
Lake Marie	1	0	0	2
Lake Michigan	11	5	1	17
Lake of Egypt	1	0	0	2
Lake Shelbyville	1	0	1	1
Lake Springfield	1	0	0	2
Lake Summerset	1	0	0	2
Lake Taylorville	1	0	0	2
Lincoln Lake	1	0	0	2
Little Calumet River	1	0	1	1
Matanza Lake	1	0	1	1
Mississippi River	1	0	0	1
Nippersink River	1	0	0	2
Round Lake	1	1	0	2
Sangamon River	1	1	0	1
Sequoit Creek	1	1	0	1
Spring Lake	1	0	0	1
Ten Mile Creek State Fish and Wildlife	1	0	1	1
Total	52	40	6	78

Body of Water Broken Down by County

Body of Water	#Accidents	#Injuries	#Fatalities	#Vessels
Baldwin Lake				
St Clair County	1	0	0	1
Subtotal	1	0	0	1
Calumet Sag Channel				
Cook County	1	3	0	1
Subtotal	1	3	0	1
Chicago River				
Cook County	3	0	0	6
Subtotal	3	0	0	6
Clinton Lake				
DeWitt County	2	2	0	2
Subtotal	2	2	0	2
East Fork Lake				
Richland County	1	1	0	1
Subtotal	1	1	0	1
Fox Lake				
Lake County	2	1	0	4
Subtotal	2	1	0	4
Fox River				
Lake County	1	1	0	1
McHenry County	3	2	0	5
Subtotal	4	3	0	6
Grass Lake				
Lake County	2	1	0	2
Subtotal	2	1	0	2
Holiday Shores Lake				
Madison County	1	0	0	2
Subtotal	1	0	0	2
Illinois River				
La Salle County	2	14	1	4
Mason County	1	0	0	2
Putnam County	1	1	0	1
Subtotal	4	15	1	7
Kankakee River				
Kankakee County	1	1	0	1
Will County	1	2	0	2
Subtotal	2	3	0	3
Kaskaskia River				
St. Clair County	2	3	0	2
Subtotal	2	3	0	2
Lake Marie				
Lake County	1	0	0	2
Subtotal	1	0	0	2
Lake Michigan				
Cook County	10	5	0	16
Subtotal	10	5	0	16

Body of Water Broken Down by County

Body of Water	#Accidents	#Injuries	#Fatalities	#Vessels
Lake of Egypt				
Williamson County	1	0	0	2
Subtotal	1	0	0	2
Lake Shelbyville				
Moultrie County	1	0	1	1
Subtotal	1	0	1	1
Lake Springfield				
Sangamon County	1	0	0	2
Subtotal	1	0	0	2
Lake Summerset				
Stephenson County	1	0	0	2
Subtotal	1	0	0	2
Lake Taylorville				
Christian County	1	0	0	2
Subtotal	1	0	0	2
Lincoln Lake				
Grundy County	1	0	0	2
Subtotal	1	0	0	2
Little Calumet River				
Cook County	1	0	1	1
Subtotal	1	0	1	1
Matanza Lake				
Mason County	1	0	1	1
Subtotal	1	0	1	1
Mississippi River				
Carroll County	1	0	0	1
Subtotal	1	0	0	1
Nippersink Lake				
Lake County	1	0	0	2
Subtotal	1	0	0	2
Round Lake				
Lake County	1	1	0	2
Subtotal	1	1	0	2
Sangamon River				
Macon County	1	1	0	1
Subtotal	1	1	0	1
Sequoit Creek				
Lake County	1	1	0	1
Subtotal	1	1	0	1
Spring Lake				
Lake County	1	0	0	1
Subtotal	1	0	0	1
Ten Mile Creek State Fish and Wildlife Strip Pit				
Jefferson County	1	0	1	1
Subtotal	1	0	1	1
Total	52	40	6	78

Accident Statistics By County

County	#Accidents	#Injuries	#Fatalities	#Vessels
Carroll	1	0	0	1
Christian	1	0	0	2
Cook	16	8	2	25
De Witt	2	2	0	2
Grundy	1	0	0	2
Jefferson	1	0	1	1
Kankakee	1	1	0	1
Lake	10	5	0	15
La Salle	2	14	1	4
Macon	1	1	0	1
Madison	1	0	0	2
Mason	2	0	1	3
McHenry	3	2	0	5
Moultrie	1	0	1	1
Putnam	1	1	0	1
Richland	1	1	0	1
Sangamon	1	0	0	2
St. Clair	3	3	0	3
Stephenson	1	0	0	2
Will	1	2	0	2
Williamson	1	0	0	2
Totals	52	40	6	78

Counties Broken Down by Body of Water

County	#Accidents	#Injuries	#Fatalities	#Vessels
Carroll County				
Mississippi River	1	0	0	1
Subtotal	1	0	0	1
Christian County				
Lake Taylorville	1	0	0	2
Subtotal	1	0	0	2
Cook County				
Calumet Sag Channel	1	3	0	1
Chicago River	3	0	0	6
Lake Michigan	10	5	0	16
Little Calumet River	1	0	1	1
Subtotal	15	8	1	24
DeWitt County				
Clinton Lake	2	2	0	2
Subtotal	2	2	0	2
Grundy County				
Lincoln Lake	1	0	0	2
Subtotal	1	0	0	2
Jefferson County				
Ten Mile Creek State Fish and Wildlife Strip Pit	1	0	1	1
Subtotal	1	0	1	1
Kankakee County				
Kankakee River	1	1	0	1
Subtotal	1	1	0	1
Lake County				
Fox Lake	2	1	0	4
Fox River	1	1	0	1
Grass Lake	2	1	0	2
Lake Marie	1	0	0	2
Nippersink Lake	1	0	0	1
Round Lake	1	1	0	2
Sequoit Creek	1	1	0	1
Spring Lake	1	0	0	1
Subtotal	10	5	0	15
La Salle County				
Illinois River	2	14	1	4
Subtotal	2	14	1	4
Macon County				
Sangamon River	1	1	0	1
Subtotal	1	1	0	1

Counties Broken Down by Body of Water					
County		#Accidents	#Injuries	#Fatalities	#Vessels
Madison County					
	Holiday Shores Lake	1	0	0	2
	Subtotal	1	0	0	2
Mason County					
	Illinois River	1	0	0	2
	Matanza Lake	1	0	1	1
	Subtotal	2	0	1	3
McHenry County					
	Fox River	3	2	0	5
	Subtotal	3	2	0	5
Moultrie County					
	Lake Shelbyville	1	0	1	1
	Subtotal	1	0	1	1
Putnam County					
	Illinois River	1	1	0	1
	Subtotal	1	1	0	1
Richland County					
	East Fork Lake	1	1	0	1
	Subtotal	1	1	0	1
Sangamon County					
	Lake Springfield	1	0	0	2
	Subtotal	1	0	0	2
St. Clair County					
	Baldwin Lake	1	0	0	1
	Kaskaskia River	2	3	0	2
	Subtotal	3	3	0	3
Stephenson County					
	Lake Summerset	1	0	0	2
	Subtotal	1	0	0	2
Will County					
	Kankakee River	1	2	0	2
	Subtotal	1	2	0	2
Williamson County					
	Lake of Egypt	1	0	0	2
	Subtotal	1	0	0	2
Total		52	40	6	78

Fatal Boat Accidents Statistical Summary – Federal Fiscal Year 2022

Accident Number	Fatality Number	Date/Time	Day of Week	Water Body	County	# Injured	# Vessels	PFD Use	Cause of Death	Age	Victim Activity	Weather/Visibility	Water Conditions	Wind Conditions
1	1	12/19/21 12:14 PM	Sunday	Ten Mile Creek State Fish and Wildlife Strip Pit	Jefferson	0	1	No	Drowning	66	Fishing	Clear/Good	Calm (Waves < 6")	Light (0-6 Mph)
2	2	04/10/2022 3:28 PM	Sunday	Matanza Lake	Mason	0	1	Yes	Drowning	27	Recreational Paddling	Clear/Good	Choppy (Waves 6" – 2')	Strong (15-25 Mph)
3	3	05/13/2022 10:45 PM	Friday	Lake Shelbyville	Moultrie	0	1	No	Drowning	33	Recreational Cruising	Clear/Fair	Calm (Waves < 6")	Light (0-12 Mph)
4	4	05/28/2022 4:25 PM	Saturday	Illinois River	La Salle	14	3	No	Trauma	45	In Cabin	Clear/Good	Calm (Waves < 6")	Light (0-6 Mph)
5	5	06/27/2022 8:56 PM	Monday	Little Calumet River	Cook	0	1	No	Drowning	50	Docking	Clear/Fair	Calm (Waves < 6")	Moderate (7-14 Mph)
6	6	08/17/2022 7:00 PM	Wednesday	Lake Michigan	Cook	0	1	No	Drowning	29	Recreational Cruising	Clear/Good	Calm (Waves < 6")	Light (0-6 Mph)

Accident Number	Fatality Number	Date/Time	Type of Accident Primary	Vessel Type	Vessel Length	Cause of Accident Primary	Operator Age	Operator Education	Operator Experience	Vessel Operations
1	1	12/19/2021 12:14 PM	Falls Overboard	Canoe	16'	Standing/Sitting in an Inappropriate Position	59	None	Over 100 Hours	Drifting
2	2	04/10/2022 3:28 PM	Capsizing	Kayak	8'	Operator Inexperience	27	None	Under 10 Hours	Paddling
3	3	05/13/2022 10:45 PM	Falls Overboard	Open Motorboat	17'	Sharp Turn	25	None	10 To 100 Hours	Cruising
4	4	05/28/2022 4:25 PM	Fire Or Explosion (Fuel)	Cabin Motorboat	42'	Unknown	No Operator			None
5	5	06/27/2022 8:56 PM	Falls Overboard	Cabin Motorboat	27'	Operator Inattention	50	None	10 To 100 Hours	Docking
6	6	08/17/2022 7:00 PM	Falls Overboard	Cabin Motorboat	39'	Operator Inattention	42	None	Unknown	Cruising

Fatal Boat Accident Narratives – Federal Fiscal Year 2022

- 1) On 12/19/21 at approximately 12:14 PM, the victim, a friend, and the friend’s dog were fishing from a canoe on the strip pit at Ten Mile Creek State Fish and Wildlife Area. The victim caught a fish, and it flipped under his seated position. The victim was trying to obtain the fish, and the dog approached and was after the fish as well. The canoe flipped as a result of the incident. The friend said he was in the process of swimming to shore and looked at the victim swimming on his back in an attempt to get to shore. The friend said he was encouraging the victim to make it to shore. The victim disappeared underwater. Conservation Police located the victim’s body, and Benton Search and Rescue deployed divers and removed the victim from the water at 4:10 PM. The victim had no visible signs of injury. They did not wear life jackets, and it was later discovered that no life jackets were aboard the canoe. The cause of death was drowning.

ACCIDENT_DATE	TOTAL_DECEASED	CAUSE_PRIMARY	CAUSE_SECONDARY	CAUSE_TERTIARY
12/19/2021	1	Standing/Sitting In Inappropriate Position	Improper Loading	Swimming Ability
Failure to Wear a Personal Floatation Device (PFD)				

- 2) On 4/10/22 at approximately 1:30 PM, the victim and three friends went kayaking across Matanzas Lake. Halfway to the destination, the victim attempted to turn back due to hazardous waters. His kayak overturned, and he fell into the water. According to one friend, the wind and waves were too strong, and the victim was unable to get back into his kayak. The victim was able to hold onto one of his friend’s kayak as they drifted toward a flooded tree line. According to the friend, the victim was very cold and struggling to hang on to the kayak. The friend decided to get help, and when he left, the victim was holding onto a tree stump and trying to keep his head above water. The friend was able to contact rescue personnel when he returned to shore. The victim was retrieved from the water at approximately 3:55 PM. Rescue personnel indicated the victim was wearing a PFD at the time of rescue. The cause of death is drowning.

ACCIDENT_DATE	TOTAL_DECEASED	CAUSE_PRIMARY	CAUSE_SECONDARY	CAUSE_TERTIARY
4/10/2022	1	Operator Inexperience	Hazardous Waters	Cold Water Immersion

- 3) On 05/13/22 at approximately 10:40 PM, the victim and three friends were boating on Lake Shelbyville. The four men had launched the operator's boat from the Bo Wood boat ramp. The victim was sitting on the front deck of the boat, facing the rear, with his feet on the floor. The operator headed west from the boat ramp at a cruising speed. The men stated that as the operator maneuvered to the right, the victim lost balance from his seated position and fell out of the boat over the port side. One of the passengers placed a life jacket on and dove into the area where he saw the victim's hand. He was unable to make contact with the victim, and they did not see him again. On 5/14/22, the victim's body was located, and he was pronounced dead at 11:10 PM. The cause of death was drowning, with cold exposure (hypothermia) as contributing factor.

ACCIDENT_DATE	TOTAL_DECEASED	CAUSE_PRIMARY	CAUSE_SECONDARY	CAUSE_TERTIARY
5/13/2022	1	Sharp Turn	Swimming Ability	
Failure to Wear a Personal Floatation Device (PFD)				

- 4) On 5/28/22 at approximately 4:29 PM, the victim, along with 19 other passengers, were docked on the boat at the Springbrook Marina on the Illinois River in LaSalle County. Passengers stated they got on the boat around 2-2:30 PM. The victim drove the boat from the slip to the fuel dock. The boat was not maneuvering properly as the port side motor was running, but the starboard motor was not running. The boat was also fueled with 273 gallons of gas. Passengers reported they smelled gas fumes coming from the cabin, and they also saw fuel in the water. The boat exploded and was fully engulfed. Fifteen passengers onboard the boat were injured. Due to the explosion, a pontoon boat, a PWC, and the fuel station were damaged. The victim was life-flighted to Loyola Hospital due to burns on his body. The emergency personnel transported the rest of the injured to the Morris and Ottawa hospitals. On 6/24/22, the victim died From his injuries sustained in the explosion.

ACCIDENT_DATE	TOTAL_DECEASED	CAUSE_PRIMARY	CAUSE_SECONDARY	CAUSE_TERTIARY
5/28/2022	1	Unknown	Ignition Of Spilled Fuel Or Vapors	

- 5) On 6/27/2022 at approximately 8:56 PM, the victim was attempting to tie off the bow of his vessel to the dock when he slipped and fell from the boat into the water. The victim was not wearing a PFD at the time of the accident. The passenger on board heard the victim fall overboard and saw him struggling to remain at the surface of the water. The passenger attempted to help the victim but was unsuccessful. The passenger then called 911 and waited for police and fire to arrive. The fire department was able to retrieve the victim from the water. The victim was pronounced deceased at 11:57 PM. No foul play was suspected. Cook County Medical Examiner's Office did not perform an autopsy or toxicology.

ACCIDENT_DATE	TOTAL_DECEASED	CAUSE_PRIMARY	CAUSE_SECONDARY	CAUSE_TERTIARY
6/27/2022	1	Operator Inattention	Swimming Ability	
Failure to Wear a Personal Floatation Device (PFD)				

- 6) On 8/17/22 at approximately 7:00 PM, the victim and six other passengers were on a boat located on Lake Michigan. The victim and six passengers boarded the vessel at 31st Street Harbor. The victim fell overboard while the boat was on plane near Anchorage Area "C." The person was in the water for approximately 2 minutes and did not resurface. USCG was the first to arrive on the scene. Another passenger was transported to Northwestern Hospital. On 8/20/22 at approximately 4:46 PM, the victim was recovered from Anchorage Area "C." The cause of death was drowning.

ACCIDENT_DATE	TOTAL_DECEASED	CAUSE_PRIMARY	CAUSE_SECONDARY	CAUSE_TERTIARY
8/17/2022	1	Operator Inattention	No Proper Lookout	Unknown
Failure to Wear a Personal Floatation Device (PFD)				

Glossary

Airboat - A vessel that is typically flat-bottomed and propelled by an aircraft-type propeller powered by an engine.

At Anchor - Held in place in the water by an anchor; includes “moored” to a buoy or anchored vessel and “dragging anchor”.

Auxiliary Sail - A vessel with sail as its primary method of propulsion and mechanical propulsion as its secondary method.

Cabin Motorboat - A vessel propelled by propulsion machinery and providing enclosed spaces inside its structure.

Canoe - A small narrow boat propelled by paddles. Canoes usually are pointed at both bow and stern and are normally open on top but can be covered.

Capsizing - Overturning of a vessel.

Carbon Monoxide Poisoning - Death or injury resulting from an odorless, colorless gas generated from auxiliary boat equipment (stoves, heaters, refrigerators, generators, hot water heaters, etc.), another boat’s exhaust, or the exhaust of the vessel on which persons were either aboard or in close proximity.

Collision with Fixed Object - The striking of any fixed object above or below the surface of the water.

Collision with Floating Object - Collision with any waterborne object above or below the surface that is free to move with the tide, current, or wind, except another vessel.

Collision with Commercial/Governmental/Recreational Vessel - Any striking together of two or more vessels, regardless of operation at the time of the accident, is a collision.

Collision with Submerged Object - A boat’s collision with any waterborne or fixed object that is below the surface of the water.

Congested Waters - Where the body of water is either too small or narrow to safely accommodate the number of boats on it.

Cruising - Proceeding normally, unrestricted, with an absence of drastic rudder or engine changes.

Departed Vessel - An accident where a person voluntarily disembarks a vessel by his/her own will (i.e., by diving off, jumping in), as opposed to a case where the person is forcefully ejected by a change in the vessel speed and/or direction.

Documented Vessel - A vessel of five or more net tons owned by a citizen of the United States and used exclusively for pleasure with a valid marine document issued by the Coast Guard. Documented vessels are not numbered.

Drifting - Underway but proceeding over the bottom without the use of engines, oars, or sails; being carried along only by the tide, current, or wind.

Electrocution - Death or injury resulting from an electrical current that comes in contact with water causing electrocution of the victim.

Excessive Speed - Speed above that which a reasonable and prudent person would have operated under the conditions that existed. It is not necessarily a speed in excess of a posted limit.

Failure to Vent - Prior to starting the engine, failure to turn on the powered ventilation system that brings in “fresh air” and expels gasoline vapors from the engine compartment.

Fall in Vessel - Any operator or passenger who slips, trips, or falls on board or within the vessel.

Falls Overboard - Any operator or passenger who falls off of the vessel.

Fiberglass hull - Hulls of fiber-reinforced plastic. The laminate consists of two basic components, the reinforcing material (glass filaments) and the plastic or resin in which it is embedded.

Fire/Explosion (fuel) - Accidental combustion of vessel fuel, liquids, including their vapors, or other substances such as wood.

Fire/Explosion (other) - Accidental burning or explosion of any material onboard except vessel fuels or their vapors.

Flooding/Swamping - Filling with water, regardless of method of ingress, but retaining sufficient buoyancy to remain on the surface.

Force of Wave/Wake - The track in the water of a moving boat; commonly used for the disturbance of the water (waves) resulting from the passage of the boat's hull.

Fueling - Any stage of the fueling operation; primarily concerned with the introduction of explosive or combustible vapors or liquids on board.

Grounding - Running aground of a vessel, striking or pounding on rocks, reefs, or shoals; stranding.

Hazardous Waters - Rapid tidal flows (the vertical movement of water) and/or currents (the horizontal flow of water) resulting in hazardous conditions in which to operate a boat.

Houseboat - A motorized vessel that is usually non-planing and designed primarily for multi-purpose accommodation spaces with low freeboard and little or no foredeck or cockpit.

Hull Failure - Defect or failure of the structural body of a vessel (i.e., hull material, design, or construction), not including superstructure, masts, or rigging.

Ignition of Spilled Fuel or Vapor - Accidental combustion of vessel fuel, liquids, and/or their vapors.

Improper Anchoring - Where a boat is either in the process of being anchored incorrectly or incorrectly held in place in the water by an anchor.

Improper Loading - Loading, including weight shifting, of the vessel causing instability, limited maneuverability, or dangerously reduced freeboard.

Improper Lookout - No proper watch; the failure of the operator to perceive danger because no one was serving as a lookout, or the person so serving failed in that regard. Every vessel shall at all times maintain a proper look-out by sight and hearing as well as by all available means appropriate in the prevailing circumstances and conditions so as to make a full appraisal of the situation and the risk of collision.

Inboard— An engine mounted inside the confines of a vessel that powers a drive shaft that turns a water jet impeller or that runs through the bottom of the hull and is attached to a propeller at the other end.

Inflatable - A vessel that uses air-filled flexible fabric for buoyancy.

Kayak - A small boat with a cockpit that is propelled by a double-bladed paddle by a sitting paddler.

Inadequate On-board Navigation Lights - Insufficient and/or improper lights shown by a boat that indicate course, position, and occupation, such as fishing or towing.

Machinery Failure - Defect and/or failure in the machinery or material, design or construction, or components installed by the manufacturer involved in the mechanical propulsion of the boat (e.g., engine, transmission, fuel system, electric system, and steering system).

Missing or Inadequate Navigation Aids - The absence of or ineffective presence of navigation aids.

Motorboat - Any vessel equipped with propulsion machinery.

Navigation Rules Violation - Violation of the statutory and regulatory rules governing the navigation of vessels.

Numbered vessel - An undocumented vessel numbered by a state with an approved numbering system under Chapter 123 of title 46, U.S.C.

Open Motorboat - A vessel equipped with propulsion machinery and having an open load-carrying area that does not have a continuous deck to protect it from the entry of water.

Operator Inattention - Failure on the part of the operator to pay attention to the vessel, its occupants, or the environment in which the vessel is operating.

Operator Inexperience - Lack of practical experience or knowledge in operating a vessel or, more particularly, the vessel involved in the accident.

Outboard - An engine with a propeller or water jet integrally attached, which is usually mounted at the stern of a vessel.

Overloading - Excessive loading of the vessel causing instability, limited maneuverability, dangerously reduced freeboard, etc.

Paddlecraft - A vessel powered only by its occupants, using a single or double-bladed paddle as a lever without the aid of a fulcrum provided by oarlocks, thole pins, crutches, or similar arrangements.

People on Gunwale, Bow, or Transom - Standing/Sitting on the upper edge of the side of a boat, usually on a small projection above the deck; and/or standing/sitting on the most forward part of the boat; and/or standing/sitting on the back of the boat.

Person Struck by Vessel - A person is struck by a boat.

Person Struck by Propeller - A person is struck by the propeller, propulsion unit, or steering machinery.

Personal Watercraft - A vessel propelled by a water-jet pump or other machinery as its primary source of motive power and designed to be operated by a person sitting, standing, or kneeling on the vessel rather than sitting or standing within the vessel's hull.

Pod drive - An engine mounted in front of the transom of a vessel and attached through the bottom of the hull to a steerable propulsion unit.

Pontoon Boat - A vessel with a broad, flat deck that is affixed on top of closed cylinders which are used for buoyancy, the basic design of which is usually implemented with two rows of floats as a catamaran or with three rows of floats as a trimaran.

Restricted Vision - A vessel operator's vision is said to be restricted when it is limited by a vessel's bow high trim or by glare, sunlight, bright lights, a dirty windshield, spray, a canopy top, etc.

Rowboat - An open vessel manually propelled by oars.

Sail (only) - A vessel propelled only by sails.

Sharp Turn - An immediate or abrupt change in the boat's course of direction.

Sinking - Losing enough buoyancy to settle below the surface of the water.

Skier Mishap - Skier mishap is defined by persons (1) falling off their water skis, (2) striking a fixed or submerged object, or (3) becoming entangled or struck by the tow line. Also includes mishaps involving inner tubes and other devices on which a person can be towed behind a boat.

Standup Paddleboard - A vessel, typically 7' – 15' in length with enough width and flotation to stay afloat without momentum while boarded, that is propelled by a standing operator with the use of a single or double-bladed paddle.

Starting in Gear - The boat's engine is started with the transmission in forward or reverse.

Steel hull - Hulls of sheet steel or steel alloy, not those with steel ribs and wood, canvas, or plastic hull coverings.

Sterndrive - An engine, powering a propeller through a series of shafts and gears, mounted in front of the transom of a vessel and attached through the transom to a drive unit that is similar to the lower unit of an outboard; and may also be known as an inboard-outdrive or an inboard-outboard.

Sudden Medical Condition - An incident where a person on a vessel experiences an unexpected medical condition.

Towing - Engaged in towing any vessel or object other than a person.

Weather - As a contributing factor of an accident, "Weather" is supposed to signify a stormy or windy condition, usually connoting rough or high seas and dangerous operating conditions.

Wood Hull - Hulls of plywood, molded plywood, wood planking, or any other wood fiber in its natural consistency, including those of wooden construction that have been "sheathed" with metal.

Watercraft Frequently Asked Questions

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 6. [I found a boat abandoned at the side of the road and I want to title and register it in my name or obtain a salvage title.](#)

Questions

Duplicate/Lost Decals or Titles

I have misplaced my watercraft title and wish to sell my boat; what do I do?

Will you be selling the boat to someone who is going to title and register it here in Illinois? If so, you can download the watercraft power of attorney form from our website:

[Watercraft Power of Attorney Form](#)

Complete this form and give it to the buyer; it replaces the lost Illinois title.

If you will be selling the boat to someone who will be titling and registering the boat out of state, then you will need to order a duplicate title:

Please refer to the link below to apply for a duplicate title. If you need further assistance or have additional questions, please contact the call center at 866-716-6550. Watercraft title/registration is not available over the counter at any Natural Resources office. Thank you.

[Online Application System](#)

I have lost my title; how can I obtain another one?

To replace one which is lost, stolen, destroyed, or mutilated (Surrender original title if later recovered)

Please refer to the link below to apply for a duplicate title. If you need further assistance or have additional questions, please contact the call center at 866-716-6550. Watercraft title/registration is not available over the counter at any Natural Resources office. Thank you.

[Online Application System](#)

I lost my registration card; how do I obtain a new one?

Duplicate Registration Card:

To replace one which is lost, stolen, destroyed, or illegible:

Please refer to the link below to apply for a duplicate registration card. If you need further assistance or have additional questions, please contact the call center at 866-716-6550. Watercraft title/registration is not available over the counter at any Natural Resources office. Thank you.

[Online Application System](#)

I lost my registration card and have moved; how do I obtain a new card and change my address?

Please refer to the link below to apply for a corrected registration card. If you need further assistance or have additional questions, please contact the call center at 866-716-6550. Watercraft title/registration is not available over the counter at any Natural Resources office. Thank you.

[Online Application System](#)

I lost my decals; how do I obtain another set? I had my boat painted, and they had to remove my decals; how can I obtain replacements?

Duplicate Decals:

To replace those which are lost or destroyed.

Please refer to the link below to apply for duplicate decals. If you need further assistance or have additional questions, please contact the call center at 866-716-6550. Watercraft title/registration is not available over the counter at any Natural Resources office. Thank you.

[Online Application System](#)

What is the fee for a duplicate and/or corrected watercraft titles, registration cards, and decals?

- Duplicate and Corrected Titles: \$7.00
- Title Search: \$7.00
- Duplicate, and Corrected Registration Cards: \$5.00
- Duplicate Decals: \$5.00

Questions Regarding Applications

Why is my Online transaction still in pending status?

IMPORTANT: Before IDNR can complete your watercraft application process, your supporting documentation **MUST** be uploaded to your account and then mailed with your customer number and a copy of the receipt page to:

Illinois Dept. of Natural Resources - IDNR Headquarters
Attn: Watercraft/Snowmobile
One Natural Resources Way
Springfield, IL 62702

Please do not submit an Online transaction if you have already mailed in a paper application.

Have you received my watercraft paper application, and is it being processed?

Please provide the microfilm number (example 0022 030 2365) printed on the front of the cashed check or money order made payable to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources that was mailed in with your watercraft application. We can locate your paperwork with that number.

Where do I mail my watercraft application?

All paperwork should be mailed together in one envelope to:

IDNR - Watercraft
PO Box 19226
Springfield, IL 6794-9226

To whom do I make my check payable for my watercraft title/registration?

Please make your check or money order payable to IDNR.

I have moved and have not received my title, registration card, or decals.

At this time, the paperwork has not been returned to our office by the USPS. Once issued, it takes approximately six weeks for them to be returned. Please refer to the link below to check our postal returns.

[Returned Registrations](#)

Or, if you need to apply for a corrected title and registration card along with duplicate decals, please refer to the link below. If you need further assistance or have additional questions, please contact the call center at 866-716-6550. Watercraft title/registration is not available over the counter at any Natural Resources office. Thank you.

[Online Application System](#)

How long does it take for my application to be processed?

Approval time for your Online transaction is approximately four weeks if all original, required supporting documents have been uploaded to your account and then mailed to our office. Additional instructions are located on your receipt page.

I mailed my paperwork to your office last week. Have you received it?

Due to the high volume received in this office, we do not log in mail. It remains in the date received order until processed. Please allow 10 weeks for processing time before inquiring about the status of your application.

Purchasing a Watercraft

I purchased a brand new boat or a boat that was titled/registered out-of-state. What do I need to title/register the boat in my name in Illinois?

Please refer to the link below to apply for a New Illinois title/registration. If you need further assistance or have additional questions, please contact the call center at 866-716-6550. Watercraft title/registration is not available over the counter at any Natural Resources office. Thank you.

[Online Application System](#)

Regulations for New Watercraft:

All watercraft other than non-powered watercraft operated on the waters within the jurisdiction of Illinois shall be registered. All registered watercraft over 21 ft. in length are required to be titled.

State law requires that the purchaser of a watercraft shall complete and submit an application to the Department of Natural Resources for registration/titling within 15 days after purchase.

Tax Notice - Watercraft purchased new or used from manufacturers, lending institutions, or dealers are subject to tax. Effective September 1, 2004, tax is owed when a watercraft (class 2, 3, 4 and personal watercraft [PWC], i.e., Jet-skis) are acquired by gift, donation, transfer, or non-retail purchase if the watercraft will be used in Illinois. You must contact the Illinois Department of Revenue at (800) 732-8866 or (217) 782-3336 for instructions before submitting an application.

IMPORTANT: Before IDNR can complete your watercraft application process, your supporting documentation **MUST** be mailed with Customer Number (*example* ***-***-***) to:

Illinois Dept. of Natural Resources - IDNR Headquarters
Attn: Watercraft/Snowmobile
One Natural Resources Way
Springfield, IL 62702

New Watercraft Registration Application:

1. Must surrender the original properly endorsed 'Manufacturer's Statement of Origin' (MSO).
2. Previously registered or titled watercraft [in another state], you must surrender the original registration card and original title (if titled).
3. Previously United States Coast Guard (USCG) documented Watercraft transferring to a titled watercraft must surrender a copy of the USCG deletion letter and bill of sale.
4. United States Coast Guard documented with out-of-state registration and wishing to remain documented; please provide the USCG documented paperwork (which should be in your name) and bill of sale.

I purchased a boat that has no hull ID number or previous registration. What do I do?

All watercraft having no valid hull ID number or previous registration are required to be inspected prior to applying for title and registration. Please refer to the link below to contact your local Conservation Police Officer.

[District Conservation Police Officer Phones and Emails](#)

I purchased a boat from someone who had it titled/registered in Illinois. How do I transfer it into my name?

Please refer to the link below to apply for a Transfer Renewal of the watercraft title/registration. If you need further assistance or have additional questions, please contact the call center at 866-716-6550. Watercraft title/registration is not available over the counter at any Natural Resources office. Thank you.

[Online Application System](#)

Regulations for Transfer Renewal:

All watercraft other than non-powered watercraft operated on the waters within the jurisdiction of Illinois shall be registered. All registered watercraft over 21 ft. in length are required to be titled.

State law requires that the purchaser of a watercraft shall complete and submit an application to the Department of Natural Resources for registration/titling within 15 days after purchase.

Tax Notice - Watercraft purchased new or used from manufacturers, lending institutions, or dealers are subject to tax. Effective September 1, 2004, tax is owed when a watercraft (class 2, 3, 4 and personal watercraft [PWC], i.e., Jet-skis) are acquired by gift, donation, transfer, or non-retail purchase if the watercraft will be used in Illinois. You must contact the Illinois Department of Revenue at (800) 732-8866 or (217) 782-3336 for instructions before submitting an application.

Please scan and upload the following documents related to the watercraft:

1. For previously registered or titled watercraft [within IL], the original title (if titled) and registration card must be surrendered to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR)
2. For previously United States Coast Guard (USCG) documented watercraft, surrender a copy of the United States Coast Guard (USCG) documentation issued in your name.
3. Bill of Sale/Purchase Agreement
4. Complete the Illinois Department of Revenue (ST-556, RUT-25, or RUT-75) tax form and a check payable to IDOR. If paid electronically, please include a copy of the Verification page

IMPORTANT: Before IDNR can complete processing your application, you **must** mail all supporting documentation with Customer Number (example ***-***-***) to:

Illinois Dept. of Natural Resources - IDNR Headquarters
Attn: Watercraft/Snowmobile
One Natural Resources Way
Springfield, IL 62702

I purchased a watercraft that was titled in Illinois, and one of the owners listed on the title is deceased, and the boat was not titled in joint tenancy. What do I need to transfer the title/registration into my name?

- Original Illinois Title
- Copy of the death certificate
- A watercraft small estate affidavit **OR** letter of office **OR** an attorney's affidavit
- Tax paperwork

Where can I go to purchase my watercraft title, registration card, and/or decals over the counter?

Watercraft title and registration are not available over the counter at any Illinois Department of Natural Resources office. All watercraft applications and Online transactions are processed and approved in the Springfield office.

I made a boat. How do I get it titled/registered?

All homemade watercraft are required to be inspected prior to applying for title and registration. Please refer to the link below to contact your local Conservation Police Officer.

[District Conservation Police Officer Phones and Emails](#)

Renewing a Watercraft

How can I renew my watercraft registration?

- Renewals can be completed by phone at 866.716.6550.
- Renewals can be completed Online. Please refer to the link below. If you need further assistance or have additional questions, please contact the call center at 866-716-6550. Watercraft title/registration is not available over the counter at any Natural Resources office. Thank you.

[Online Application System](#)

I renewed my watercraft registration Online or over the phone; will I receive a new registration card and decals?

You will receive a new registration card and two IL decals in the mail within three weeks of renewing.

Watercraft Regulations and Tax Questions

Do I have to title my boat?

Titling is optional for watercraft under 22 feet in length. Registration requirements have not changed. All watercraft powered by machinery (this includes trolling motors) or sail are required to be registered in Illinois.

What class is my boat?

- Class 1- All powered watercraft less than 16 ft. and all motorized canoes, kayaks, and paddleboats, regardless of length.
- Class 2 – 16 ft. to less than 26 ft.
- Class 3 – 26 ft. to less than 40 ft.
- Class 4 – 40 ft. and over

How much does it cost to title/register my boat?

Watercraft **under 22 feet in length** applying for registration only will pay the renewal fee. A \$2.00 processing fee will be added to all watercraft application transactions.

Class	New/Transfer Renewal	Renewal
	(With Title)	
Class 1	\$28.00	\$18.00
Class 2	\$60.00	\$50.00
Class 3	\$160.00	\$150.00
Class 4	\$210.00	\$200.00
USCG	New/Transfer/Renewal	
Class 2	\$50.00	
Class 3	\$150.00	
Class 4	\$200.00	

Do I still need to purchase a water usage stamp for my canoe/kayak?

The law that took effect on June 1, 2018, repealed the requirement of the water usage stamp for non-powered watercraft. The water usage stamp is no longer available for purchase.

Unpowered watercraft are not required to be registered in Illinois. Unpowered vessels are sailboats or vessels that are paddled, poled, or rowed. You may choose to register your unpowered watercraft.

Titling is optional for all watercraft under 22 feet in length.

Watercraft registration requirements have not changed. All watercraft powered by machinery (this includes trolling motors) or sail are required to be registered in Illinois.

Please contact the site you will be visiting for their specific rules, regulations, and possible additional fees or permits.

I have not yet received my watercraft title, registration card, or decals. Can I still go boating?

Yes. Please keep the temporary permit copy of the watercraft application you completed or the Online receipt page with you while boating in Illinois until your paperwork is processed.

I purchased a boat without a title. How can I title the boat in my name?

Please provide the IL registration number for the watercraft, along with the seller's name(s). If the boat was previously titled, you are required to surrender the original, properly endorsed watercraft certificate of title issued in the seller's name(s) when applying for title/registration.

What equipment is required for me to legally operate my watercraft?

Please refer to the Handbook of Illinois Boating Laws and Responsibilities, available at the link below.

[Boat Digest](#)

How can I add a lien holder to my watercraft title? How can I remove an owner from my watercraft title?

Corrected Title:

To add, change or remove a lienholder, correct information, or remove an owner.

(adding an owner means the application must be completed as a transfer renewal)

Surrender the current title properly endorsed

Please refer to the link below to apply for a corrected title. If you need further assistance or have additional questions, please contact the call center at 866-716-6550. Watercraft title/registration is not available over the counter at any Natural Resources office. Thank you.

[Online Application System](#)

Where do I mail my tax form?

Your completed tax form for the boat and motor, along with the separate payment to the Illinois Dept. of Revenue, must be mailed in with your required supporting documents to the Illinois Dept. of Natural Resources.

General Questions

How can I obtain the history of a watercraft I previously owned in order to apply for a Captain's license?

To obtain information regarding previous owners, lienholders, etc.

- Search is subject to confidentiality limitations as determined by IDNR
- A letter stating you are needing the information in order to apply for a Captain's License
- The fee is \$7.00

Please visit our website in order to download and print a watercraft registration application form. **The mailing address is located on the instruction page.**

[Title Search - Boating \(illinois.gov\)](#)

How can I find out who owns a boat and if there is a lien holder on record?

Title Search:

To obtain information regarding previous owners, lienholders, etc.

- Search is subject to confidentiality limitations as determined by IDNR
- The fee is \$7.00

Please visit our website in order to download and print a watercraft registration application form. **The mailing address is located on the instruction page.**

[Title Search - Boating \(illinois.gov\)](#)

My boat has been scrapped, junked, or destroyed; what do I need to do?

Boat Scrapped, Junked, or Destroyed

- The Department of Natural Resources must be notified within 15 days if a watercraft is scrapped, junked, or destroyed.
- Surrender current title; NO fee required.

The owner must surrender the title, and such boat will not be registered or titled again.

Please refer to the link below to list your watercraft as scrapped/junked/destroyed. If you need further assistance or have additional questions, please contact the call center at 866-716-6550. Thank you.

[Online Application System](#)

A customer owes me storage and/or repair fees for their boat. What can I do?

Please refer to the link below:

[Abandoned Watercraft Storage Lien](#)

How do I register my USCG-documented vessel?

Please refer to the link below to apply. If you need further assistance or have additional questions, please contact the call center at 866-716-6550. Watercraft title/registration is not available over the counter at any Natural Resources office. Thank you.

[Online Application System](#)

To register with Illinois, you would need the following:

- Copy of the certificate of documentation issued in your name.
- Rut- 75 if purchased from an individual; if purchased from an out-of-state dealer, then you would complete a Rut -25, or the Illinois dealer would complete an ST 556.
- 2 copies of the bill of sale
- Tax fee payable to the Illinois Department of Revenue

Can you send me a map of the Mississippi River?

Please contact the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers for river maps.

I found a boat abandoned at the side of the road, and I want to title and register it in my name or obtain a salvage title.

The State of Illinois does not issue salvage watercraft titles. If you find an abandoned boat, please contact your local law enforcement. Please refer to the link below regarding abandoned watercraft and Labor/Storage Liens.

[Abandoned Watercraft Storage Lien](#)