



BOATING SAFETY FACT SHEET

*NOTE: All figures are the latest available data from the U.S Coast Guard's "Boating Statistics 2002," the most recent publication on reported recreational boating accidents.**

Totals

- Fatalities: 750
- Drownings: 524
- Injuries (person requiring medical treatment beyond first aid): 4,062
- Boating Accidents: 5,705
- Property Damage: \$39,185,172
- Amount of numbered recreational boats in the U.S.: 12,854,054

Fatalities

- Top 10 states for boating fatalities:

	<u>Number of Fatalities</u>
1. Texas	(60)
2. California	(53)
3. Florida	(52)
4. Michigan	(37)
5. Louisiana	(36)
6. Minnesota	(30)
7. Washington	(27)
8. New York	(26)
9. Arkansas	(24)
9. Illinois	(24)
10. Ohio	(22)

- Drowning was reported as the cause of death for 70 percent of all fatalities.

- 85 percent of those who drowned were not wearing life jackets.
- Capsizings and falls overboard occurred in 56 percent of all reported fatalities.
- 39 percent of all boating fatalities resulted from some involvement with alcohol—up 5 percent from
- 2001.
- 28 children age 12 and under lost their lives while boating. Nearly 40 percent of these children
- were not wearing life jackets.
- More adults between 30 – 39 years old died than any other age group accounting for one fifth of the
- total fatalities.
- 80 percent of all boating fatalities occurred on boats where the operator had not completed a boating
- safety instruction course.

Accidents

- Top 10 states for boating accidents:

	<u>Number of Accidents</u>
1. Florida	(831)
2. California	(745)
3. Michigan	(226)
4. Arizona	(217)
5. New York	(212)
6. Texas	(204)
7. Missouri	(192)
8. Maryland	(161)
9. Wisconsin	(148)
10. Louisiana	(145)

*Full report available at <http://www.uscgboating.org/statistics>.

BOAT SMART. BOAT SAFE. WEAR IT!

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