## New York State

 2007 Recreational Boating Report

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## DAVID A. PATERSON

Governor

Dear Fellow New Yorkers:
I am delighted to contribute to the 2007 Boating Report of the New York State Department of Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation.

Each year throughout the Empire State more than one million boating enthusiasts across this great state enjoy any number of recreational boating opportunities. From a canoe trip in the Adirondacks, to a fishing excursion in the Finger Lakes Region, to a day of sailing on the Great South Bay, New York offers an exciting variety of boating adventures.

While there are risks associated with any recreational activity, there also are ways to minimize the potential for accidents, and their resulting damages and losses. A few simple precautions taken beforehand, such as putting on a life jacket, are crucial to ensure the safety of boaters. As always, we remind boaters to "Boat Smart From the Start. Wear Your Life Jacket!"

Boating knowledge is another key factor to keeping our waterways both safe and enjoyable. I strongly encourage all boaters to take a boating safety course through State Parks, or one of the excellent courses offered by the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary and the U.S. Power Squadron. Understanding the law, as well as the safe operation of a boat, benefits everyone on the water.

Intoxicated boat operation is just as dangerous as operating a vehicle while under the influence, and is another concern we continue to address. I strongly encourage all marine law enforcement agencies to be tough on intoxicated or impaired boaters. There is no place for alcohol where boating is concerned.

Public officials, law enforcement and the boating community must continue to work together to ensure a boating season that is enjoyable, yet safe. As we share New York's waterways, we must remember that safety on our waterways is everyone's responsibility.

Warmest regards.
Sincerely,


DAVID A. PATERSON

NEW York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

Welcome Aboard!

Congratulations to both state and local marine law enforcement agencies as well as our boating safety instructors for a job well done in 2007. As more people are choosing to spend their recreation time on our waters, your job has become increasingly more important, and more challenging.

While the number of fatalities remains significantly lower than twenty years ago, there are still too many deaths that could easily have been averted through the simple use of a properly worn life jacket. We must continue to stress the importance of life jackets, for wearing a life jacket is the single most important thing boaters can do to protect themselves on the water. It won't work if you don't wear it!

On a positive note, the number of accidents involving personal watercraft (PWC) in 2007 was once again among the lowest in any year since 1992. There were only 32 accidents involving PWC last year, a significant decrease from the 117 accidents experienced in 1999. New York State Parks, through the Marine Services Unit, has developed a nationally recognized boating safety education program that has already helped more than 145,000 New York boaters earn safety certification! Congratulations to the more than 800 instructors who have participated in teaching this vital program. Unfortunately, the number of deaths associated with non-mechanically propelled watercraft was up significantly in 2007. More than $60 \%$ of last years fatalities were paddled or rowed vessels. As more and more people take to the waters in these vessels it is even more important that instruction on the dangers of small craft and cold water be stressed.

New York State Parks will work with the State Legislature, industry leaders, and boating enthusiasts to search for additional ways to increase boating and personal watercraft safety. Together, we will make every effort to maintain and improve our safety record and provide New York’s boaters with the education and information they need to be safe on the water.

Sincerely,


Carol Ash<br>Commissioner

## INTRODUCTION

New York offers an abundance of scenic waterways, offering outstanding recreational opportunities for boaters. The Atlantic Ocean, Long Island Sound, and Lakes Ontario and Erie beckon to those wishing to cruise offshore. The boater who seeks a more tranquil setting can head toward the Finger Lakes, with the scenic beauty of surrounding hills and many vineyards. They can also travel to one of the many Adirondack lakes set against the dramatic rise of the high peaks. For the sports enthusiast, New York offers pristine lakes and streams for fishing, or whitewater adventure on any of several rivers. And finally, for the historian and tourist, there are the Hudson River and State Barge Canal System, connecting New York not only to points north and west, but to our maritime heritage as well.


With the availability and diversity of all this water, boating's popularity throughout the state is easy to understand. New York ranks among the leaders nationally in the number of registered vessels, 495,623 and counting, with many more non-mechanically propelled boats that do not require registration. As the number of boats continues to grow, new and diverse boat types are introduced, attracting more and more people to the sport.

In a New York Sea Grant-funded study released in 2004, Cornell researchers found that the Empire State's recreational boaters generated a total statewide economic impact of $\$ 1.8$ billion and accounted for 18,700 jobs. Boating is a key recreational industry in virtually all areas of New York and these findings represent the first time expenditures related to recreational boating and their impact on the state's economy have been directly measured.

The Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) has been given the
responsibility of providing the public with a safe, enjoyable environment for recreational boating. The ultimate goal is to assist the boater in developing safe boating habits. Education and

enforcement are the tools that will help achieve that goal. OPRHP was a national pioneer in developing an education program for youthful boaters, and almost 6,000 youths ages 10 to 17 complete our program each year.

As the education program targeting operators of personal watercraft has become mandatory for all operators, nearly 19,000 boat operators have earned their safety certificates in 2007 alone. OPRHP encourages all adult boaters to take a safe boating course, whether they ride a personal watercraft or not. The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary and the U.S. Power Squadron also conduct excellent programs for both youths and adults. Either of their certificates is acceptable in lieu of the state certificate.

A strong law enforcement presence on our waters is also crucial to the safe boating effort. The marine patrol officer serves many functions. Through the enforcement of the Navigation Law, marine patrols can remove the dangerous boater from the water. They are also quite often the first responders to a boater in trouble. Marine patrols serve as visual reminders to the

boating public that they have a responsibility toward the safety of other boaters, as well as toward themselves.

Many of these patrols consider educating boaters as much a part of the job as writing tickets; they often teach youth and PWC safety courses, distribute safety information at boat shows and county fairs, and provide on-the-spot information to the waterborne boater who is unaware of proper safe boating practices.


Accident statistics provide one of the best barometers for gauging the effectiveness of our boating safety efforts and have guided New York in the drafting of legislation aimed at making recreational boating safer. Far too many needless accidents occur, resulting in at least a dozen deaths annually. By reviewing why, how and where these accidents occur, steps can be taken to try to prevent similar events from occurring in the future.

## Inside This Report

This report provides an overview of recreational boating in New York during 2007. In particular, this report examines:
Boating safety programs administered by OPRHP
Statewide marine law enforcement efforts

Recreational boating accidents Vessel registration data
For further information on the items contained in this report, please contact:

NYS Office of Parks, Recreation
\& Historic Preservation
Bureau of Marine Services
Empire State Plaza, Building 1
Albany, NY 12238
(518)474-0445 phone (518)408-1030 fax

To find boating safety information on the web, go to

## www.nysparks.com

Topics include: Boating education (including a list of available courses); resources, including permit applications, launch sites and forms for downloading; and the latest changes to the navigation law.

## Legislation - 2007

Public Vessels
Chapter 320 of the Laws of 2007 amended the Navigation Law in relation to:
stairways, passageways and means of egress on public vessels;
the manning of public vessels;
the operation of public vessels after repairs or modifications;
equipment required on public vessels;
penalties for violation of the navigation law; authorizing the commissioner to adopt, amend and repeal regulations.


## OPRHP RESPONSIBILITIES

As the designated office of the New York State Boating Law Administrator, State Parks is responsible for a number of boating safety programs aimed at making our waterways safe and enjoyable.

## Boater Education

New York has had a program for training youthful operators since the early 1960s. Youths between the ages of 10 and 18 who wish to operate a motorboat without an adult in the boat must first earn a safety certificate, either from State Parks, the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary or the U.S. Power Squadron.

Since 2004 all operators of personal watercraft (PWC) must complete a boating safety course before hitting the water. This course is essentially the same as the one offered to youths; a minimum of eight hours of classroom training. Subjects covered include: required equipment, the rules of the nautical road, buoys, safe operation, seamanship, accidents and special activities. A full explanation of the education requirements and a list of courses being offered can always be found at:


During 2007 a total of more than 1,000 classes were held, teaching safe boating to nearly 19,000 students. The instructor cadre is comprised of dedicated individuals from law enforcement agencies, boating organizations, yacht clubs, boat dealerships and many other boating related interests. While State Parks administrates the
program, it could not be done without the efforts of these extraordinary volunteers.

For visitors to New York who wish to operate their personal watercraft, any certificate issued by another state will be accepted as proof of having completed a course. Liveries may rent a PWC to those over 18 who have not taken a course provided some minimal instruction is imparted and they stay with 2500 feet of the livery, or are led by a guide.

While we can not list every instructor who so generously donated their time and efforts to teaching, the following instructors (in alphabetic order), each taught at least 100 students during 2007. Our most sincere thanks to these instructors, and to all of our instructors, for helping make New York's waterways a safer place in which to boat.

| Douglas Almskog | Douglas Leininger |
| :--- | :--- |
| Christopher Baker | John Merriam |
| William Benedict | Steven Mitchell |
| Anthony Brindisi | Joseph Orlich |
| Gabriel Buschle | Tina Pearl |
| Michael Caffarella | Robert Perogine |
| Jerry Carew | Thomas Perricone |
| Harmony Casey | Robin Pierce |
| Shawn Castano | Paul Pignatelli |
| John Cleere | Marzena Pogorzelska |
| Deborah Clementi | Edward Potrzeba |
| Gerald Connor | Richard Powell |
| Charles Contona | Katherine Redmond |
| Robert Crafa | Patrick Sacco |
| William Eves | Bruce Silvers |
| Ronald Ewing | Charles Slack |
| Dean Flemming | Richard Vandemark |
| John Froio | Michael Voelker |
| Richard Gaczewski | Richard Werner |
| Frank Gondar | John Whitehair |
| Ralph Gray | Jason Wright |
| John Grenchenko | Eric Yager |
| Robert Kite | Clark Young |
| Steven Lawton |  |

Courses Held \& Students Taught per County

| County | 2007 |  | Since 2000 |  | County | 2007 |  | Since 2000 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Classes | Students | Classes | Students |  | Classes | Students | Classes | Students |
| Albany | 42 | 744 | 227 | 4306 | Oneida | 19 | 397 | 216 | 4167 |
| Allegany | 3 | 72 | 42 | 901 | Onondaga | 37 | 910 | 297 | 7340 |
| Bronx | 35 | 556 | 165 | 2387 | Ontario | 10 | 200 | 173 | 3283 |
| Broome | 12 | 273 | 108 | 2369 | Orange | 21 | 370 | 133 | 3812 |
| Cattaraugus | 3 | 35 | 38 | 797 | Orleans | 0 | 0 | 8 | 157 |
| Cayuga | 11 | 338 | 84 | 2429 | Oswego | 10 | 240 | 135 | 2965 |
| Chautauqua | 21 | 374 | 170 | 3772 | Otsego | 12 | 112 | 53 | 670 |
| Chemung | 2 | 28 | 40 | 596 | Out of State | 2 | 16 | 142 | 550 |
| Chenango | 1 | 30 | 29 | 395 | Putnam | 6 | 170 | 62 | 1373 |
| Clinton | 21 | 344 | 114 | 2447 | Queens | 19 | 212 | 99 | 1156 |
| Columbia | 6 | 83 | 82 | 1183 | Rensselaer | 15 | 277 | 115 | 2451 |
| Cortland | 3 | 47 | 30 | 583 | Richmond | 2 | 17 | 35 | 357 |
| Delaware | 2 | 16 | 35 | 364 | Rockland | 13 | 210 | 81 | 1634 |
| Dutchess | 19 | 486 | 165 | 3678 | Saratoga | 24 | 391 | 284 | 6156 |
| Erie | 43 | 962 | 273 | 5598 | Schenectady | 25 | 365 | 165 | 2591 |
| Essex | 6 | 117 | 75 | 1165 | Schoharie | 3 | 25 | 13 | 141 |
| Franklin | 10 | 98 | 83 | 1026 | Schuyler | 9 | 179 | 89 | 1541 |
| Fulton | 23 | 340 | 156 | 3598 | Seneca | 6 | 125 | 52 | 1055 |
| Genesee | 0 | 0 | 20 | 427 | St. Lawrence | 8 | 156 | 145 | 2768 |
| Greene | 6 | 89 | 38 | 630 | Steuben | 7 | 264 | 73 | 2632 |
| Hamilton | 7 | 99 | 88 | 1069 | Suffolk | 162 | 2773 | 1312 | 22030 |
| Herkimer | 13 | 253 | 78 | 1523 | Sullivan | 4 | 82 | 62 | 1122 |
| Jefferson | 8 | 190 | 168 | 3388 | Tioga | 4 | 68 | 40 | 539 |
| Kings | 30 | 268 | 240 | 2143 | Tompkins | 1 | 14 | 33 | 508 |
| Lewis | 4 | 65 | 40 | 1021 | Ulster | 19 | 257 | 179 | 2994 |
| Livingston | 9 | 245 | 71 | 2143 | Warren | 21 | 308 | 201 | 3286 |
| Madison | 8 | 235 | 95 | 3003 | Washington | 3 | 36 | 36 | 440 |
| Manhatten | 10 | 204 | 31 | 402 | Wayne | 18 | 459 | 100 | 2168 |
| Monroe | 27 | 588 | 339 | 7026 | Westchester | 44 | 649 | 248 | 3579 |
| Montgomery | 6 | 69 | 25 | 386 | Wyoming | 2 | 41 | 30 | 560 |
| Nassau | 90 | 1623 | 820 | 12366 | Yates | 9 | 269 | 87 | 2255 |
| Niagara | 14 | 324 | 164 | 2689 |  |  |  |  |  |



## Public Vessel Inspection \& Licensing

A Public Vessel is defined as any mechanically propelled vessel used or operated for commercial purposes on sole state waters, such as Lake George. In New York, this encompasses everything from water-ski boats to fishing charters to tour boats, some with capacities in excess of 500 people. Each year some 280 vessels are inspected and nearly 800 operators are licensed.


Public vessels are subject to an annual inspection, which includes all safety equipment, the vessels' engines, hull, steering and fuel systems. Operators are examined upon application for a license, which must be renewed annually. Recertification occurs every five years. Completing a boating safety course is a condition for receiving their original license.

Vessels inspected by the USCG are exempt from these provisions. Sections 50-69 of the Navigation Law detail the requirements for Public Vessels.

## Regatta Permits

According to Section 34 of the NYS Navigation Law, any organization or individual wishing to conduct a regatta on any of the navigable waters of the state must apply to the Marine Services Unit (MSU) for a permit.

A regatta is defined as "an organized water event of limited duration, which is conducted according to a prearranged schedule". The applicant must specify date, times, location, security provisions, and submit a small fee for permit processing. The Department of Environmental Conservation handles this function in the Adirondack and Catskill regions, and the United States Coast Guard issues permits for federally regulated waterways.

## Floating Object Permits

If an organization or person wishes to place a floating object on the sole state waters of New York they must seek permission from MSU in accordance with Section 35-a of the NYS Navigation Law. This category of floating object includes mooring buoys, bathing beach markers, special anchorage area markers, speed zone markers, and swimming floats.

In general, the permit is granted based upon the recommendation of a local marine law enforcement agency using the following two criteria:
a) Does the object pose a hazard to safe navigation?
b) Does the object restrict free access to and from the shore for other residents?
The Department of Environmental Conservation handles this function in the Adirondack and Catskill regions, while mooring buoys on federal waterways are permitted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.


## Vessel Theft

The Marine Services Unit assists with the antitheft efforts of marine law enforcement agencies across the state through the issuance of hull identification numbers to vessels not given one by the manufacturer, or in the event the vessel is privately constructed. Approximately 300 of these numbers are issued through OPRHP each year. Each vessel's number is distinct, and can greatly assist in the recovery of stolen vessels.

Of the vessels reported stolen each year more than one-third were personal watercraft. Smaller motorboats accounted for another third of all vessels stolen. These craft are easy targets for theft: small, portable, and usually already on a trailer. The recovery rate is low for these types of craft; typically only 1 in 4 are ever recovered.

## Aids to Navigation

MSU is responsible in part for the placement and maintenance of navigation aids on sole state waters. The Canal Corporation is responsible for the State Barge Canal, the Department of Environmental Conservation maintains aids in the Adirondack and Catskill regions, and the United States Coast Guard maintains navigation aids on federal waterways.


In 2006, OPRHP placed approximately 2,000 aids to navigation in our state waters. The crew which completes this work is stationed in the state's Finger Lakes Park Region and travel across the state from that location. In addition to placing these aids, this crew is responsible for the upkeep of these aids and the removal of them after the boating season is over.


## Publications \& Public Service

 guidelines necessary.

Also of great value is the New York State Boat Launch Sites, a complete listing of all of the launch sites operated by State Parks and the Department of Environmental Conservation.

State Parks also produces a sticker to remind the boater of the most pertinent safety rules, posters explaining equipment requirements, rules of the nautical road, and more, and provides boating safety activity books for youths.

State Parks has instituted the Loaner for Life personal flotation device program. Under the program, when a Marine Patrol finds a boater without life jackets, they receive a loaner PFD to see them safely to shore. Finally, Parks is working directly with the Department of Motor Vehicles to provide boating safety mailings to boaters as they receive their registration renewal notices.


## MARINE LAW ENFORCEMENT

The Office of Parks, Recreation \& Historic Preservation is responsible for the coordination of marine law enforcement efforts across the state.

## Patrols

Park police operate patrols in 10 of the 11 park regions. Their jurisdiction does not end at the borders of the parks, but extends throughout the state. The State Police also run patrols across the state and are especially active on the Barge Canal system. The Department of Environmental Conservation also runs patrols across New York, and enforces the Navigation Law as well as enforcing fish, game and pollution statutes. On a more local level, most County Sheriff's Offices operate marine patrols on their waterways. Many of the cities and towns in Westchester, Nassau and Suffolk Counties supplement the county efforts with their own patrols, either through their police departments or through the establishment of Harbor Masters and Bay Constables offices.
(See the Activity Report Summary on the following pages for details on Marine Patrol activity across the state.)

## State Aid

Three quarters of the fees collected from vessel registrations are provided to State Parks for distribution to localities that operate marine patrols. Of these fees, nearly $\$ 3.5$ million was used to reimburse local marine law enforcement activities in 2007. A participating agency - generally the county, or towns and villages within a county if the county doesn't participate - may be reimbursed for a maximum of 75 percent of its total operating, capital and personnel expenses up to $\$ 300,000$. In recent years, the reimbursement rate had dropped to below 50 percent as more money has been requested than was available from registration fees. However, since the 2003 registration fee increase the rate of reimbursement has returned to the 75 percent level.

## Training

State Parks conducts an annual training program for marine law enforcement officers from state, county and local agencies. The Marine Law Enforcement School is a 40-hour course, and focuses on teaching students the Navigation Law, basic boat handling, and proper vessel boarding procedures.


The Marine Patrol Vessel Operators Course is run concurrently with the basic program, and focuses on teaching proper vessel handling techniques as well as seamanship, navigation, radar and search and rescue. It is primarily an on-the-water training program.

State Parks also conducts an Impaired Boater Recognition Program for law enforcement, which is similar to the training received by highway patrols for recognizing intoxicated operators. Participants are taught the standard tests - including the horizontal gaze nystagmus test - for determining if a subject is intoxicated, as well as tests that were specifically designed for use on boats.

Marine law enforcement officers charged with enforcing Section 44 of the Navigation Law - Noise Levels on Pleasure Vessels - must first be trained by State Parks. Since this law became effective in 1993 over 80 noise meters have been distributed by State Parks to law enforcement agencies, and over 450 officers have been trained.

A Personal Watercraft Operators Course has been developed by State Parks for agencies that use these craft as part of their patrols. The course stresses extensive on-the-water training in the handling and maneuvering characteristics of a PWC. This program is generally conducted late in the boating season at Cayuga Lake State Park.

State Parks also sponsors office participation when possible at several national training programs, including:
$>$ NASBLA Accident Investigation
$>$ USCG National Boating Safety Course.
In all, State Parks has either taught, or sponsored the training of more than 1,900 marine law enforcement officers from across the state since the inception of these programs in 1985. The following page details the components of each of the aforementioned state training programs.

Marine Law Enforcement Course


Search \& Seizure
Boating While Intoxicated
Navigation Lights
Rules of the Nautical Road
Pollution \& Waste
Vessel Registrations
Vessel Theft
Hull Identification Numbers
Speeding/Reckless Operation
Regatta Permits \& Floating Object Permits
Officer Security
Vessel Equipment Requirements
Accident Reporting \& Investigation
Personal Watercraft Laws
Legal Updates
Operator Education Laws
Vessel Boarding (on the water)
Boat Handling (on the water)
Water Survival (in the pool)
Aids to Navigation
Public Vessel Law
Navigation \& Charting
Marine Patrol Vessel Operators Course

(All sessions are classroom \& on-the-water) Boat Handling
Towing Operations
Line Handling Seamanship
Man Overboard
Electronics
Underway Operations
Search \& Rescue
Navigation Rules

## Personal Watercraft Operators

 CoursePWC Fundamentals
Operations
Righting \& Re-boarding
On-water PWC Handling Skills
Basic Maneuvering
Serpentine
Backing Box
Touch and Go
Basic Docking
Persons Recovery
Evasive Maneuvers
Troubleshooting, Maintenance \& Trailering


## Impaired Boaters Recognition Program

Alcohol \& The Marine Environment
Detection \& Deterrence
Phases of Detection
Effects \& Tolerances
Standardized Field Sobriety Tests
Horizontal Gaze Nystagmus
Laboratory Test Sessions
Drugs That Impair
Case Law
Court Preparation
Noise Law Enforcement Course
Section 44 - Navigation Law
Noise Theory
Noise Meter Operation
Testing Standards
Vessel Testing - On The Water


Summary of Marine Law Enforcement Activity

| COUNTY | Total <br> Vessel <br> Hours | Total Mle Hours | Searches | Assists | Vessel Inspections | BWI <br> Arrests | Total Arrests |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Albany | 205 | 400 | 3 | 15 | 30 | 0 | 7 |
| Allegany | 200 | 336 | 0 | 17 | 18 | 0 | 0 |
| Cattauraugus | 641.5 | 777 | 2 | 8 | 104 | 0 | 11 |
| Cayuga | 1267 | 3032 | 0 | 32 | 213 | 0 | 19 |
| Chautauqua | 3053.5 | 6909 | 19 | 137 | 1074 | 3 | 108 |
| Clinton | 980 | 1282 | 3 | 13 | 499 | 1 | 36 |
| Columbia | 458 | 1321 | 2 | 9 | 70 | 1 | 12 |
| Cortland | 16 | 106 | 0 | 0 | 13 | 0 | 1 |
| Dutchess | 1121 | 2426 | 3 | 25 | 70 | 0 | 7 |
| Erie | 2423 | 5897 | 4 | 26 | 439 | 1 | 53 |
| Fulton | 360 | 720 | 5 | 11 | 0 | 1 | 23 |
| Greene | 354 | 758 | 1 | 9 | 28 | 0 | 23 |
| Hamilton | 774 | 661 | 7 | 32 | 234 | 0 | 0 |
| Herkimer | 386 | 777 | 0 | 31 | 18 | 0 | 2 |
| Jefferson | 629 | 799 | 7 | 8 | 52 | 0 | 13 |
| Lewis | 69 | 116 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Livingston | 1797 | 2253 | 6 | 48 | 56 | 2 | 19 |
| Madison | 300 | 350 | 5 | 15 | 30 | 1 | 13 |
| Monroe | 1476 | 4226 | 31 | 96 | 323 | 2 | 345 |
| Nassau | 14769 | 36923 | 29 | 149 | 578 | 1 | 600 |
| Niagara | 858 | 3197 | 17 | 72 | 461 | 0 | 39 |
| Oneida | 1799 | 2912 | 8 | 52 | 211 | 3 | 305 |
| Onondaga | 1320 | 4350 | 2 | 10 | 200 | 10 | 138 |
| Ontario | 2712 | 6189 | 0 | 54 | 1456 | 1 | 35 |
| Orange | 1257 | 4691 | 7 | 54 | 155 | 0 | 25 |
| Orleans | 262 | 3802 | 0 | 43 | 250 | 0 | 16 |
| Oswego | 595 | 2430 | 7 | 24 | 0 | 0 | 67 |
| Otsego | 44 | 45 | 0 | 4 | 35 | 0 | 5 |
| Putnam | 205 | 380 | 0 | 8 | 50 | 2 | 0 |
| Rensselaer | 280 | 1270 | 6 | 21 | 77 | 2 | 18 |
| Rockland | 1008 | 3648 | 26 | 62 | 82 | 1 | 20 |
| Saratoga | 875 | 1197 | 1 | 17 | 1175 | 0 | 65 |
| Schuyler | 160 | 425 | 2 | 9 | 233 | 1 | 26 |
| Seneca | 200 | 810 | 2 | 21 | 99 | 2 | 54 |
| Steuben | 585 | 1170 | 3 | 7 | 1 | 0 | 15 |
| Suffolk (Police Dept.) | 6301 | 15899 | 261 | 376 | 1871 | 11 | 1923 |
| Suffolk (Sheriff) | 500 | 2268 | 15 | 26 | 106 | 2 | 64 |
| Sullivan | 163 | 408 | 1 | 18 | 2 | 0 | 4 |
| Tioga | 53 | 213 | 0 | 1 | 16 | 0 | 0 |
| Tompkins | 1106 | 1218 | 2 | 18 | 29 | 0 | 16 |
| Ulster | 801 | 1450 | 3 | 29 | 323 | 0 | 45 |
| Warren | 1506 | 1742 | 31 | 253 | 91 | 2 | 133 |
| Wayne | 484 | 3199 | 4 | 66 | 294 | 0 | 32 |
| Westchester | 405 | 512 | 18 | 39 | 104 | 6 | 72 |
| Wyoming | 275 | 282.5 | 1 | 7 | 9 | 0 | 1 |
| Yates | 760 | 2210 | 4 | 19 | 1504 | 0 | 48 |
| New York City | 44548 | 133644 | 54 | 459 | 480 | 0 | 237 |


| STATE \& LOCAL <br> AGENCIES Total <br> Vessel <br> Hours Total Mle <br> Hours Searches Assists Vessel <br> Inspections BWI <br> Arrests Total <br> Arrests <br> Park Police - Region        <br> Central 125 312 0 1 12 1 12 <br> Finger Lakes 140 439 1 12 18 0 18 <br> Genesee 27 204 0 6 17 1 14 <br> Long Island 251 976 18 12 57 0 27 <br> Niagara 330 823 8 7 51 0 41 <br> Palisades 276 1294 1 19 73 0 16 <br> Saratoga 84 213 1 16 69 0 27 <br> Taconic 88 340 0 13 7 0 7 <br> 1000 Islands 305 674 4 27 88 22 163 |
| :---: |

State Police

| Troop B | 490 | 648 | 0 | 3 | 55 | 0 | 36 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Troop D | 744 | 687 | 3 | 15 | 94 | 1 | 36 |
| Troop E | 40 | 40 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Troop F | 277 | 554 | 0 | 13 | 137 | 0 | 51 |
| Troop G | 922 | 1793 | 0 | 32 | 185 | 4 | 43 |
| Troop K | 459 | 919 | 0 | 12 | 108 | 0 | 31 |
| Troop L | 72 | 47 | 2 | 4 | 31 | 0 | 20 |
| Troop T | 4099 | 8360 | 2 | 37 | 619 | 12 | 1281 |

Department of Environmental Conservation

| Statewide | 26507 | 40490 | 16 | 70 | 30081 | 12 | 1169 |
| ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Lk George Park Comm. | 4075 | 4636 | 10 | 561 | 479 | 5 | 96 |

Municipalities

| East Hampton | 2750 | 20870 | 3 | 9 | 85 | 1 | 35 |
| ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Greenburgh | 600 | 1420 | 51 | 4 | 54 | 1 | 7 |
| Huntington | 3700 | 4100 | 7 | 65 | 255 | 0 | 63 |
| Islip | 675 | 5200 | 23 | 55 | 127 | 1 | 275 |
| Mamaroneck | 1589 | 4043 | 23 | 20 | 116 | 0 | 62 |
| New Rochelle | 2010 | 5848 | 42 | 55 | 89 | 0 | 84 |
| Rye | 261 | 3960 | 41 | 71 | 38 | 0 | 9 |
| Smithtown | 3016 | 6896 | 174 | 155 | 534 | 0 | 55 |
| Quogue | 575 | 710 | 0 | 8 | 128 | 0 | 47 |
| Yonkers | 2410 | 2410 | 46 | 147 | 92 | 0 | 181 |
| TOTALS | $\mathbf{1 5 7 2 3 8}$ | $\mathbf{3 8 8 5 3 6 . 5}$ | $\mathbf{1 0 7 8}$ | $\mathbf{3 8 9 9}$ | $\mathbf{4 6 8 6 2}$ | $\mathbf{1 1 7}$ | $\mathbf{8 6 0 3}$ |

Note: The activity listed is as reported to State Parks, and has been neither audited nor verified.

2007 VESSEL REGISTRATIONS BY COUNTY \& LENGTH

|  | Total | Uncoded | $\begin{gathered} \text { Class A } \\ <16 ' \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Class } 1 \\ & 16-25 ' \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Class } 2 \\ & 26-39 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Class } 3 \\ & 40^{\prime}-65 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Class } 4 \\ >65 \end{gathered}$ | \% Of Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| OUT OF STATE | 12942 | 10 | 4644 | 7042 | 1127 | 117 | 2 | 2.61 |
| ALBANY | 10066 | 33 | 4062 | 5383 | 559 | 25 | 4 | 2.03 |
| ALLEGANY | 1901 | 8 | 822 | 1049 | 21 | 1 | 0 | 0.38 |
| BRONX | 2611 | 9 | 860 | 1245 | 450 | 30 | 17 | 0.53 |
| BROOME | 7459 | 27 | 3613 | 3531 | 271 | 16 | 1 | 1.50 |
| CATTARAUGUS | 2974 | 6 | 1289 | 1606 | 65 | 8 | 0 | 0.60 |
| CAYUGA | 5627 | 16 | 2221 | 3155 | 228 | 7 | 0 | 1.14 |
| CHAUTAUQUA | 7074 | 32 | 2582 | 4106 | 334 | 19 | 1 | 1.43 |
| CHEMUNG | 4347 | 5 | 1880 | 2289 | 162 | 9 | 2 | 0.88 |
| CHENANGO | 2319 | 1 | 1287 | 985 | 45 | 1 | 0 | 0.47 |
| CLINTON | 5974 | 18 | 3054 | 2657 | 235 | 10 | 0 | 1.21 |
| COLUMBIA | 2980 | 6 | 1310 | 1539 | 119 | 6 | 0 | 0.60 |
| CORTLAND | 2257 | 5 | 1077 | 1103 | 69 | 3 | 0 | 0.46 |
| DELAWARE | 1303 | 0 | 636 | 618 | 48 | 0 | 1 | 0.26 |
| DUTCHESS | 7865 | 18 | 3448 | 3782 | 587 | 29 | 1 | 1.59 |
| ERIE | 26313 | 95 | 9435 | 14571 | 2059 | 144 | 9 | 5.31 |
| ESSEX | 4436 | 13 | 2048 | 2238 | 128 | 9 | 0 | 0.90 |
| FRANKLIN | 4207 | 2 | 2273 | 1880 | 48 | 3 | 1 | 0.85 |
| FULTON | 4606 | 13 | 2171 | 2250 | 167 | 5 | 0 | 0.93 |
| GENESEE | 2309 | 3 | 1020 | 1211 | 64 | 10 | 1 | 0.47 |
| GREENE | 2485 | 4 | 995 | 1319 | 160 | 7 | 0 | 0.50 |
| HAMILTON | 2096 | 11 | 1071 | 1000 | 11 | 3 | 0 | 0.42 |
| HERKIMER | 3751 | 11 | 1740 | 1912 | 82 | 6 | 0 | 0.76 |
| JEFFERSON | 10948 | 65 | 4524 | 5629 | 688 | 42 | 0 | 2.21 |
| KINGS | 4251 | 10 | 1381 | 1860 | 887 | 101 | 12 | 0.86 |
| LEWIS | 1949 | 2 | 1121 | 794 | 32 | 0 | 0 | 0.39 |
| LIVINGSTON | 3985 | 6 | 1806 | 2104 | 67 | 2 | 0 | 0.80 |
| MADISON | 4470 | 12 | 1869 | 2403 | 179 | 6 | 1 | 0.90 |
| MONROE | 29641 | 82 | 11928 | 15614 | 1900 | 113 | 4 | 5.98 |
| MONTGOMERY | 2135 | 8 | 1086 | 964 | 74 | 2 | 1 | 0.43 |
| NASSAU | 35233 | 97 | 10677 | 17328 | 6358 | 743 | 30 | 7.11 |
| NEW YORK | 4449 | 11 | 1134 | 2016 | 1078 | 199 | 11 | 0.90 |
| NIAGARA | 9105 | 45 | 3273 | 5138 | 627 | 20 | 2 | 1.84 |


|  | Total | Uncoded | Class A $\text { < } 16^{\prime}$ | Class 1 16-25' | Class 2 26-39' | Class 3 <br> 40' - 65' | Class 4 $>65^{\prime}$ | \% Of Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ONEIDA | 11352 | 26 | 5015 | 5940 | 352 | 18 | 1 | 2.29 |
| ONONDAGA | 23044 | 61 | 9343 | 12176 | 1382 | 80 | 2 | 4.65 |
| ONTARIO | 7693 | 28 | 2685 | 4698 | 266 | 14 | 2 | 1.55 |
| ORANGE | 9757 | 37 | 4583 | 4465 | 626 | 43 | 3 | 1.97 |
| ORLEANS | 2230 | 3 | 1059 | 1065 | 97 | 6 | 0 | 0.45 |
| OSWEGO | 9402 | 16 | 4462 | 4430 | 470 | 23 | 1 | 1.90 |
| OTSEGO | 2729 | 7 | 1205 | 1471 | 41 | 3 | 2 | 0.55 |
| PUTNAM | 3210 | 8 | 1238 | 1723 | 216 | 22 | 3 | 0.65 |
| QUEENS | 7264 | 33 | 2369 | 3668 | 1086 | 91 | 17 | 1.47 |
| RENSSELAER | 6205 | 9 | 2695 | 3227 | 256 | 17 | 1 | 1.25 |
| RICHMOND | 4240 | 14 | 1360 | 1967 | 840 | 58 | 1 | 0.86 |
| ROCKLAND | 4757 | 23 | 2074 | 1925 | 666 | 59 | 10 | 0.96 |
| ST. LAWRENCE | 10152 | 19 | 5154 | 4692 | 273 | 13 | 1 | 2.05 |
| SARATOGA | 14090 | 22 | 5576 | 7768 | 696 | 27 | 1 | 2.84 |
| SCHENECTADY | 6559 | 14 | 2818 | 3421 | 294 | 10 | 2 | 1.32 |
| SCHOHARIE | 1183 | 1 | 600 | 544 | 36 | 1 | 1 | 0.24 |
| SCHUYLER | 1716 | 6 | 691 | 949 | 69 | 1 | 0 | 0.35 |
| SENECA | 3013 | 4 | 1195 | 1662 | 143 | 8 | 1 | 0.61 |
| STEUBEN | 5484 | 5 | 2357 | 2991 | 126 | 5 | 0 | 1.11 |
| SUFFOLK | 76600 | 285 | 21490 | 40871 | 12769 | 1154 | 31 | 15.46 |
| SULLIVAN | 3232 | 2 | 1713 | 1432 | 78 | 5 | 2 | 0.65 |
| TIOGA | 2481 | 6 | 1183 | 1210 | 78 | 2 | 2 | 0.50 |
| TOMPKINS | 3679 | 13 | 1267 | 2138 | 246 | 15 | 0 | 0.74 |
| ULSTER | 6014 | 6 | 2638 | 2856 | 489 | 24 | 1 | 1.21 |
| WARREN | 7586 | 47 | 2523 | 4545 | 458 | 8 | 5 | 1.53 |
| WASHINGTON | 3457 | 8 | 1569 | 1791 | 89 | 0 | 0 | 0.70 |
| WAYNE | 6993 | 18 | 2882 | 3696 | 375 | 20 | 2 | 1.41 |
| WESTCHESTER | 12868 | 47 | 3993 | 6109 | 2374 | 319 | 26 | 2.60 |
| WYOMING | 1799 | 1 | 751 | 1026 | 18 | 3 | 0 | 0.36 |
| YATES | 2766 | 4 | 994 | 1701 | 65 | 2 | 0 | 0.56 |
| Statewide Total | 495623 | 1457 | 189819 | 256478 | 43903 | 3747 | 219 | 100.00 |

Registrations: Length, Hull Material, Power

| Hull Material | Under 16 Feet |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Inboard | Outboard | Sterndrive | Aux. Sail | Other |
| Wood | 104 | 2249 | 7 | 24 | 43 |
| Fiberglass | 54303 | 33762 | 3250 | 455 | 5008 |
| Metal | 150 | 74081 | 205 | 12 | 2050 |
| Inflatable | 40 | 9444 | 96 | 3 | 305 |
| Other | 983 | 2745 | 64 | 5 | 313 |
|  | 16 to Less than 26 Feet |  |  |  |  |
| Hull Material | Inboard | Outboard | Sterndrive | Aux. Sail | Other |
| Wood | 2245 | 1515 | 143 | 52 | 29 |
| Fiberglass | 13239 | 77822 | 100204 | 3396 | 1090 |
| Metal | 402 | 51998 | 2722 | 3 | 180 |
| Inflatable | 2 | 106 | 6 | 0 | 3 |
| Other | 55 | 1103 | 60 | 9 | 63 |
|  | 26 to Less than 40 Feet |  |  |  |  |
| Hull Material | Inboard | Outboard | Sterndrive | Aux. Sail | Other |
| Wood | 1065 | 59 | 24 | 38 | 6 |
| Fiberglass | 17470 | 4458 | 17144 | 2176 | 6 |
| Metal | 316 | 646 | 178 | 4 | 241 |
| Inflatable | 4 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Other | 31 | 16 | 8 | 3 | 7 |
|  | 40 to 65 Feet |  |  |  |  |
| Hull Material | Inboard | Outboard | Sterndrive | Aux. Sail | Other |
| Wood | 187 | 1 | 4 | 10 | 1 |
| Fiberglass | 2884 | 29 | 225 | 221 | 13 |
| Metal | 95 | 21 | 30 | 2 | 4 |
| Inflatable | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other | 7 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 2 |
|  | Over 65 feet |  |  |  |  |
| Hull Material | Inboard | Outboard | Sterndrive | Aux. Sail | Other |
| Wood | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Fiberglass | 106 | 26 | 19 | 0 | 5 |
| Metal | 6 | 13 | 1 | 0 | 17 |
| Inflatable | 0 | 17 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Hull Material | Inboard | Outboard | Total Sterndrive | Aux. Sail | Other |
| Wood | 3603 | 3825 | 178 | 124 | 79 |
| Fiberglass | 88002 | 116097 | 120842 | 6248 | 6122 |
| Metal | 969 | 126759 | 3136 | 21 | 2492 |
| Inflatable | 46 | 9567 | 104 | 4 | 308 |
| Other | 1077 | 3868 | 132 | 21 | 387 |

Note: Uncoded vessels are not included.

## ACCIDENTS

The chart below and the table on the next page compare general accident statistics between the years 1980 and 2007. While registrations have, in general, risen, accidents, injuries and fatalities have all decreased steadily until 1991.

A collision between two or more vessels is still the most common type of boating accident and results in the most injuries. Boaters must recognize that the waterways are increasingly more crowded and that vessel operation must be adjusted accordingly. Operators must be constantly aware of what is happening around them. Mixing alcohol and boating adds to the danger. Not only is it illegal, but the lessening of one's judgment and balance can have deadly consequences. Alcohol has been shown to be a contributing factor in fatal incidents.

A reduction of collisions and fatalities can also be achieved through common sense and consideration of other boaters. Boating education classes are also important, but boaters must be willing to apply what they have learned. Tougher laws are also making it possible to remove dangerous boaters from our waterways. Education and enforcement must be combined with, and complemented by, fair enforceable laws.

It is also vitally important to increase voluntary use of life jackets, especially in the off-season when the water is cold and help may not be able to respond quickly. Roughly one quarter of all fatalities occur when boaters are operating in the off-season, in boats less than twenty-one feet in length, and they end up in the water without the benefit of a life jacket.

## Reportable Accidents

For Recreational Vessels:
>Loss of Life or Disappearance
> Injury Involving More Than Basic First Aid
$>$ Total Property Damage in Excess of \$1000


Accident Data: 1980-2007

| Year | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Fatalities per } \\ & 100,000 \\ & \text { Registrations } \end{aligned}$ | Registered Vessels | Accidents | Injuries | Fatalities |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1980 | 19.09 | 319492 | 322 | 196 | 61 |
| 1981 | 16.89 | 319641 | 308 | 197 | 54 |
| 1982 | 15.84 | 321881 | 309 | 180 | 51 |
| 1983 | 15.53 | 321881 | 390 | 248 | 50 |
| 1984 | 12.36 | 331742 | 271 | 153 | 41 |
| 1985 | 16.46 | 340300 | 319 | 182 | 56 |
| 1986 | 11.72 | 358400 | 298 | 157 | 42 |
| 1987 | 9.64 | 383868 | 310 | 163 | 37 |
| 1988 | 10.61 | 405331 | 362 | 120 | 43 |
| 1989 | 7.37 | 420885 | 333 | 109 | 31 |
| 1990 | 6.09 | 426617 | 323 | 119 | 26 |
| 1991 | 5.03 | 437579 | 265 | 119 | 22 |
| 1992 | 8.44 | 438342 | 228 | 130 | 37 |
| 1993 | 5.87 | 442745 | 226 | 138 | 26 |
| 1994 | 6.76 | 443856 | 222 | 90 | 30 |
| 1995 | 6.81 | 455189 | 291 | 13 | 31 |
| 1996 | 5.02 | 458092 | 325 | 168 | 23 |
| 1997 | 7.19 | 514538 | 322 | 182 | 37 |
| 1998 | 5.42 | 516738 | 326 | 181 | 28 |
| 1999 | 4.78 | 523321 | 315 | 193 | 25 |
| 2000 | 3.22 | 527426 | 288 | 127 | 17 |
| 2001 | 4.73 | 528113 | 288 | 140 | 25 |
| 2002 | 4.89 | 531579 | 284 | 152 | 26 |
| 2003 | 6.42 | 529844 | 303 | 137 | 34 |
| 2004 | 3.46 | 520758 | 204 | 93 | 18 |
| 2005 | 2.94 | 510185 | 219 | 143 | 15 |
| 2006 | 2.80 | 499301 | 183 | 101 | 14 |
| 2007 | 4.24 | 495623 | 206 | 133 | 21 |

County and Waterway

| Waterway | Accidents | Deceased |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Albany |  |  |
| Basic Creek | 1 | 1 |
| Allegany |  |  |
| Rushford Lake | 1 | 1 |
| Bronx |  |  |
| City Island Harbor | 1 | 0 |
| Hammons Cove | 1 | 0 |
| Cayuga |  |  |
| Cayuga Lake | 1 | 0 |
| Lake Ontario | 1 | 0 |
| Little Sodus Bay | 1 | 0 |
| Owasco Lake | 1 | 0 |
| Chautauqua |  |  |
| Chatauqua Lake | 3 | 0 |
| Lake Erie | 1 | 0 |
| Clinton |  |  |
| Chateaugay Lake | 1 | 0 |
| Lake Champlain | 1 | 0 |
| Dutchess |  |  |
| Hudson River | 1 | 0 |
| Erie |  |  |
| Lake Erie | 1 | 0 |
| Essex |  |  |
| Lake Champlain | 1 | 0 |
| Lake George | 1 | 0 |
| Franklin |  |  |
| St. Regis Lake | 1 | 2 |
| Fulton |  |  |
| Sacandaga Resevoir | 1 | 0 |
| Greene |  |  |
| Hudson River | 3 | 0 |
| Jefferson |  |  |
| Lake Ontario | 2 | 0 |
| St. Lawrence River | 2 | 0 |
| Kings |  |  |
| Atlantic Ocean | 1 | 2 |
| Hudson River | 1 | 0 |
| Jamaica Bay | 2 | 1 |
| Lewis |  |  |
| Lake Bonaparte | 1 | 0 |
| Livingston |  |  |
| Conesus Lake | 1 | 0 |
| Genesee River | 1 | 0 |


| Waterway | Accidents | Deceased |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Monroe |  |  |
| Irondequoit Bay | 1 | 0 |
| Lake Ontario | 3 | 0 |
| Long Pond | 1 | 0 |
| Nassau |  |  |
| Atlantic Ocean | 1 | 0 |
| Flat Creek | 1 | 0 |
| Long Island Sound | 2 | 1 |
| Manhasset Bay | 2 | 0 |
| Oyster Bay | 3 | 0 |
| Reynolds Channel | 1 | 0 |
| Scow Creek | 1 | 0 |
| Seaman's Creek | 1 | 0 |
| Shell Bank Basin | 1 | 0 |
| Sloop Channel | 1 | 0 |
| Tobay Boat Basin | 2 | 0 |
| West Harbor | 2 | 0 |
| New York |  |  |
| East River | 1 | 0 |
| Hudson River | 2 | 0 |
| Niagara |  |  |
| Niagara River | 1 | 0 |
| Twelve Mile Creek | 1 | 0 |
| Oneida |  |  |
| Oneida Lake | 6 | 1 |
| Onondaga |  |  |
| Oneida Lake | 2 | 0 |
| Skaneateles Lake | 2 | 2 |
| Ontario |  |  |
| Canandaigua Lake | 1 | 0 |
| Honeoye Lake | 1 | 0 |
| Orange |  |  |
| Greenwood Lake | 4 | 0 |
| Oswego |  |  |
| Lake Ontario | 2 | 1 |
| Oneida Lake | 2 | 1 |
| Sandy Creel | 1 | 0 |
| Otsego |  |  |
| Otsego Lake | 1 | 0 |
| Putnam |  |  |
| Hudson River | 1 | 0 |
| Seven Hills Pond | 1 | 0 |


| Waterway | Accidents | Deceased |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Queens |  |  |
| Bergen Basin | 1 | 0 |
| Rennsselaer |  |  |
| Lyons Lake | 1 | 1 |
| St. Lawrence |  |  |
| Oswegatchie River | 1 | 0 |
| St. Lawrence River | 2 | 0 |
| Saratoga |  |  |
| Round Lake | 1 | 0 |
| Sacandaga Resevoir | 1 | 0 |
| Seneca |  |  |
| Cayuga Lake | 2 | 0 |
| Seneca Cayuga Canal | 1 | 0 |
| Suffolk |  |  |
| Atlantic Ocean | 2 | 0 |
| Coecles Harbor | 1 | 0 |
| Cutchogue Harbor | 1 | 0 |
| Fishers Island Sound | 2 | 0 |
| Gardiners Bay | 3 | 0 |
| Great South Bay | 16 | 0 |
| Greenport Harbor | 1 | 0 |
| Homans River | 1 | 0 |
| Huntington Harbor | 1 | 0 |
| Lake Montauk | 1 | 0 |
| Little Peconic Bay | 1 | 0 |
| Lloyd Harbor | 1 | 1 |
| Long Island Sound | 7 | 0 |
| Mattituck Creek | 1 | 0 |
| Mill Pond | 1 | 1 |
| Moriches Bay | 2 | 0 |
| Mt. Sinai Harbor | 3 | 1 |
| North Channel | 1 | 0 |
| Noyac Bay | 1 | 0 |
| Patchogue Bay | 1 | 0 |
| Penataquit Creek | 1 | 0 |
| Plum Gut | 1 | 0 |
| Port Jefferson Harbor | 1 | 0 |
| Sag Harbor Bay | 1 | 0 |
| Shelter Island Sound | 3 | 0 |
| Shinnecock Bay | 5 | 0 |
| Shinnecock Canal | 5 | 0 |
| Southold Bay | 1 | 0 |
| State Boat Channel | 1 | 0 |
| Three Mile Harbor | 1 | 0 |


| Waterway | Accidents | Deceased |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Sullivan |  |  |
| Delaware River | 1 | 1 |
| Kaneonga Lake | 1 | 0 |
| Mohican Lake | 1 | 0 |
| Pleasure Lake | 1 | 1 |
| Tompkins |  |  |
| Cayuga Lake | 1 | 0 |
| Ulster |  |  |
| Esopus Creek | 1 | 1 |
| Hudson River | 1 | 0 |
| Roundout Creek | 1 | 0 |
| Warren |  |  |
| Lake George | 10 | 0 |
| Loon Lake | 1 | 0 |
| Washington |  |  |
| Hedges Lake | 1 | 0 |
| Wayne |  |  |
| Erie Barge Canal | 1 | 0 |
| Lake Ontario | 1 | 0 |
| Sodus Bay | 2 | 0 |
| Westchester |  |  |
| Hudson River | 4 | 0 |
| Long Island Sound | 9 | 0 |
| Mystery Lake | 1 | 1 |
| Yates |  |  |
| Canandaigua Lake | 2 | 0 |
| Keuka Lake | 2 | 0 |

Summary of Types of Accidents

| Accident Type | Accidents | Deceased | Injured |
| ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Capsizing | 17 | 8 | 9 |
| Carbon Monoxide Poisoning | 1 | 0 | 7 |
| Collision w/ Fixed Object | 17 | 0 | 8 |
| Collision w/ Floating Object | 5 | 0 | 4 |
| Collision w/ Vessel | 57 | 6 | 45 |
| Fall on Boat | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| Falls in Boat | 5 | 0 | 5 |
| Falls Overboard | 9 | 3 | 5 |
| Fire/Explosion (Fuel) | 9 | 0 | 7 |
| Fire/Explosion (Other) | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Flooding/Swamping | 6 | 1 | 2 |
| Grounding | 23 | 0 | 9 |
| Person Ejected from Vessel | 9 | 3 | 6 |
| Sinking | 6 | 0 | 0 |
| Skier Mishap | 11 | 0 | 11 |
| Struck by Boat | 5 | 0 | 4 |
| Struck Submerged Object | 18 | 0 | 7 |
| Other | 5 | 0 | 2 |

The above table represents the "Primary" type of accident. Quite often a single incident will encompass multiple accident types. For example, a vessel may capsize and then sink; only the capsizing is captured in the above table, since the sinking never would have happened without the vessel capsizing first.


## Operation at Time if Accident, by Type of Accident

| Accident Type | Operation | Accidents | Deceased | Injured |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Capsizing | Changing Direction | 1 | 0 | 4 |
|  | Cruising | 3 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Drifting | 4 | 2 | 1 |
|  | Rowing or Paddling | 8 | 6 | 3 |
|  | Unknown | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Carbon Monoxide Poisoning | Tied to Dock/Mooring | 1 | 0 | 7 |
| Collision w/ Fixed Object | Being Towed | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Changing Direction | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Cruising | 9 | 0 | 6 |
|  | Docking/Undocking | 5 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Tied to Dock/Mooring | 2 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Towing another vessel | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Collision w/ Floating Object | Cruising | 3 | 0 | 4 |
|  | Docking/Undocking | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Drifting | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Collision w/ Vessel | At Anchor | 5 | 1 | 2 |
|  | Being Towed | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Changing Speed, Direction | 11 | 0 | 4 |
|  | Cruising | 29 | 2 | 23 |
|  | Docking/Undocking | 16 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Drifting | 7 | 1 | 9 |
|  | Sailing | 5 | 0 | 2 |
|  | Tied to Dock/Mooring | 22 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Unknown | 4 | 0 | 2 |
| Falls in Boat | At Anchor | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Changing Speed, Direction | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Cruising | 5 | 0 | 5 |
| Falls Overboard | Changing Direction | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Cruising | 3 | 1 | 1 |
|  | Drifting | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Rowing / Paddling | 2 | 2 | 0 |
|  | Towing another vessel | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Unknown | 1 | 0 | 1 |


| Accident Type | Operation | Accidents | Deceased | Injured |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Fire/Explosion (Fuel) | At Anchor | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Cruising | 4 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Drifting | 1 | 0 | 5 |
|  | Tied to Dock/Mooring | 3 | 0 | 1 |
| Fire/Explosion (Other) | Cruising | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Tied to Dock/Mooring | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Flooding/Swamping | Cruising | 4 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Drifting | 2 | 1 | 1 |
|  | Tied to Dock/Mooring | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Grounding | Being Towed | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Cruising | 20 | 0 | 8 |
|  | Sailing | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Unknown | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Other | At Anchor | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Cruising | 1 | 2 | 0 |
|  | Sailing | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Person Ejected from Vessel | Cruising | 6 | 2 | 4 |
|  | Drifting | 2 | 1 | 1 |
|  | Towing another vessel | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Sinking | Cruising | 3 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Sailing | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Tied to Dock/Mooring | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Unknown | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Skier Mishap | Changing Direction | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Cruising | 7 | 0 | 7 |
|  | Drifting | 2 | 0 | 2 |
|  | Towing another vessel | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Struck by Boat | Cruising | 3 | 0 | 3 |
|  | Drifting | 1 | 0 | 2 |
|  | Tied to Dock/Mooring | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Struck by Propeller | Cruising | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Struck Submerged Object | Changing Speed | 1 | 0 | 2 |
|  | Cruising | 16 | 0 | 5 |
|  | Drifting | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Unknown | Cruising | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Drifting | 3 | 0 | 2 |
|  | Tied to Dock/Mooring | 5 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Towing another vessel | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Unknown | 1 | 0 | 0 |

## Type of Accident and Cause of Accident

| Accident Type | Cause | Vessels | Deceased | Injured |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Capsizing | Alcohol Use | 2 | 3 | 0 |
|  | Hazardous Waters | 6 | 3 | 2 |
|  | Machinery Failure | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Operator Inattention | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Passenger or Skiier Behavior | 2 | 1 | 1 |
|  | Standing/Sitting on Gunwales etc | 1 | 1 | 0 |
|  | Weather | 4 | 0 | 6 |
| Carbon Monoxide Poisoning | Machinery Failure | 1 | 0 | 7 |
| Collision w/ Fixed Object | Unknown | 4 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Careless/Reckless Operation | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Dam/Lock | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Excessive Speed | 2 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Machinery Failure | 3 | 0 | 0 |
|  | No Proper Lookout | 2 | 0 | 5 |
|  | Operator Inattention | 2 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Operator Inexperience | 3 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Poor Visibility (Restricted Vision) | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Wake | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Collision w/ Floating Object | Unknown | 1 | 0 | 2 |
|  | Excessive Speed | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | No Proper Lookout | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Operator Inattention | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Poor Visibility (Restricted Vision) | 1 | 0 | 2 |
|  | Unknown | 31 | 0 | 9 |
|  | Alcohol Use | 6 | 0 | 4 |
|  | Careless/Reckless Operation | 5 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Congested Waters | 2 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Equipment Failure | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Excessive Speed | 9 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Hazardous Waters | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Lack of / Improper Boat Lights | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Machinery Failure | 3 | 0 | 0 |
|  | No Proper Lookout | 10 | 4 | 11 |
|  | Operator Inattention | 14 | 0 | 11 |
|  | Operator Inexperience | 3 | 0 | 3 |
|  | Passenger or Skiier Behavior | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Poor Visibility (Restricted Vision) | 5 | 0 | 2 |
|  | Rules of Road Violation | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Sharp Turn | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Weather | 2 | 0 | 0 |


| Accident Type | Cause | Vessels | Deceased | Injured |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Fall on Boat | Passenger or Skiier Behavior | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Unknown | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Careless/Reckless Operation | 2 | 0 | 2 |
|  | Excessive Speed | 2 | 0 | 2 |
|  | Machinery Failure | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Wake | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Falls Overboard | Alcohol Use | 2 | 1 | 1 |
|  | Careless/Reckless Operation | 2 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Operator Inattention | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Passenger or Skiier Behavior | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Standing/Sitting on Gunwales etc | 2 | 2 | 0 |
|  | Wake | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Fire/Explosion (Fuel) | Unknown | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Equipment Failure | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Ignition of Spilled Fuel or Vapor | 2 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Machinery Failure | 5 | 0 | 6 |
| Fire/Explosion (Other) | Unknown | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Flooding/Swamping | Alcohol Use | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Careless/Reckless Operation | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Machinery Failure | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Vessel Hull Failure | 2 | 1 | 0 |
|  | Weather | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Grounding | Equipment Failure | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Excessive Speed | 2 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Hazardous Waters | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | No Proper Lookout | 3 | 0 | 2 |
|  | Operator Inattention | 8 | 0 | 4 |
|  | Operator Inexperience | 5 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Poor Visibility (Restricted Vision) | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Submerged Object | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Weather | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Other | Excessive Speed | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Machinery Failure | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | No Proper Lookout | 1 | 2 | 0 |
|  | Unknown | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Person Ejected from Vessel | Alcohol Use | 1 | 1 | 0 |
|  | Careless/Reckless Operation | 3 | 0 | 3 |
|  | Excessive Speed | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Hazardous Waters | 1 | 1 | 0 |
|  | Machinery Failure | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Operator Inexperience | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Weather | 1 | 1 | 0 |


| Accident Type | Cause | Vessels | Deceased | Injured |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Sinking | Unknown | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Machinery Failure | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Operator Inattention | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Vessel Hull Failure | 2 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Weather | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Skier Mishap | Lack of / Improper Ski Observer | 2 | 0 | 2 |
|  | Operator Inattention | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Operator Inexperience | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Passenger or Skiier Behavior | 7 | 0 | 7 |
|  | Wake | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Struck by Boat | Unknown | Excessive Speed | 3 | 0 |
|  | Improper Loading | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Operator Inexperience | 2 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Operator Inattention | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Struck Submerged Object | Unknown | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Excessive Speed | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Hazardous Waters | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | No Proper Lookout | 2 | 0 | 3 |
|  | Operator Inattention | 3 | 0 | 2 |
|  | Operator Inexperience | 3 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Submerged Object | 7 | 0 | 2 |

It is worth noting in this table, and the preceding one, that the first column represents the number of vessels involved in accidents, as opposed ot the actual number of accidents. Since more than one vessel may be involved in an accident, those incidences must have multiple types of operation, and potentially, multiple causes.

## Summary of Accident Causes



The above table represents the "Primary" cause of an accident. For example, the operator may suddenly and sharply turn the vessel, causing a passenger sitting on the gunwale to be ejected. The Primary Cause is the Sharp Turn, without which it wouldn't have mattered if the passenger had been properly seated or not.

## Activity at Time of Accident



## Alcohol \& Boating Accidents

| Alcohol Use? | Accidents | Deceased | Injured |
| ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Yes | 19 | 8 | 14 |
| No | 164 | 11 | 105 |
| Unknown | 23 | 2 | 14 |



Month of Accident


Day of the Week


Time of the Accident


## Owner - Operator

This chart looks at whether or not the person operating the vessel at the time of the accident was the owner of the vessel, or someone else. Included in the count of "Owners" is anyone living in the same household as the registered owner.


## Was the Vessel Involved in the Accident Rented?



Operator Age

| Age Group | Vessels | Fatals | Injuries |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Under 21 | 16 | 4 | 6 |
| $21-30$ | 40 | 1 | 33 |
| $31-40$ | 36 | 5 | 11 |
| $41-50$ | 59 | 4 | 30 |
| $51-60$ | 52 | 3 | 38 |
| Over 60 | 21 | 4 | 1 |
| Unknown/No Op | 66 | 0 | 14 |

## Operator Ages



Age of Operator, Boating Education of Operator

| Age Group | Education | Vessels | Fatalities | Injuries |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Under 21 | State Course | 2 | 0 | 1 |
|  | USCG Auxiliary | 3 | 0 | 1 |
|  | US Power Squadron | 2 | 0 | 0 |
|  | None | 7 | 2 | 4 |
|  | Unknown | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| 21-30 | State Course | 3 | 0 | 2 |
|  | USCG Auxiliary | 4 | 0 | 2 |
|  | US Power Squadron | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | None | 16 | 0 | 16 |
|  | Unknown | 16 | 1 | 12 |
| 31-40 | State Course | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | US Power Squadron | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | None | 16 | 1 | 4 |
|  | Unknown | 18 | 4 | 6 |
| 41-50 | State Course | 5 | 0 | 3 |
|  | USCG Auxiliary | 5 | 0 | 2 |
|  | US Power Squadron | 3 | 0 | 1 |
|  | None | 24 | 0 | 19 |
|  | Unknown | 22 | 4 | 5 |
| 51-60 | State Course | 6 | 1 | 10 |
|  | USCG Auxiliary | 7 | 0 | 2 |
|  | US Power Squadron | 8 | 0 | 2 |
|  | None | 19 | 1 | 18 |
|  | Unknown | 12 | 1 | 6 |
| Over 60 | State Course | 3 | 0 | 0 |
|  | USCG Auxiliary | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | US Power Squadron | 3 | 0 | 1 |
|  | None | 3 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Unknown | 11 | 4 | 0 |
| Unknown / No Op | Unknown / No Op | 66 | 0 | 14 |

Age of Operator, Boating Experience of Operator

| Age Group | Experience | Vessels | Fatalities | Injuries |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Under 21 | Under 20 Hrs . | 2 | 2 | 0 |
|  | 20-100 Hrs. | 5 | 0 | 3 |
|  | 100 Hours or More | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Unknown | 8 | 2 | 3 |
| 21-30 | Under 20 Hrs . | 5 | 0 | 4 |
|  | 20-100 Hrs. | 11 | 0 | 11 |
|  | 100 Hours or More | 10 | 0 | 10 |
|  | Unknown | 14 | 1 | 8 |
| 31-40 | 20-100 Hrs. | 9 | 0 | 4 |
|  | 100 Hours or More | 14 | 0 | 2 |
|  | None | 2 | 1 | 0 |
|  | Unknown | 11 | 4 | 5 |
| 41-50 | Under 20 Hrs . | 5 | 0 | 1 |
|  | 20-100 Hrs. | 13 | 1 | 3 |
|  | 100 Hours or More | 27 | 0 | 20 |
|  | None | 2 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Unknown | 12 | 3 | 5 |
| 51-60 | Under 20 Hrs . | 1 | 1 | 0 |
|  | 20-100 Hrs. | 7 | 0 | 3 |
|  | 100 Hours or More | 33 | 1 | 28 |
|  | None | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Unknown | 10 | 1 | 5 |
| Over 60 | 20-100 Hrs. | 2 | 0 | 0 |
|  | 100 Hours or More | 13 | 1 | 1 |
|  | Unknown | 6 | 3 | 0 |
| Unknown / No Op | Unknown | 66 | 0 | 14 |

Types of Vessels

| Vessel Type | Accidents | Fatalities | Injuries |
| ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Auxillary Sail | 19 | 0 | 2 |
| Tug / Barge | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| Cabin Motorboat | 93 | 4 | 44 |
| Canoe | 9 | 7 | 2 |
| Houseboat | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Kayak | 4 | 2 | 2 |
| Open Motorboat | 108 | 4 | 87 |
| Paddle Boat | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Personal Watercraft | 32 | 1 | 26 |
| Pontoon Boat | 4 | 0 | 21 |
| Rowboat | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Sail (only) | 10 | 0 | 6 |
| Unknown | 6 | 0 | 0 |

The numbers above represent the number of vessels involved in accidents, fatal accidents and injury accidents. For example, there were 23 vessels involved in the 21 fatalities in New York last year.


## Vessel Type, Accident Type

| Vessel Type | Accident Type | Vessels | Deceased | Injured |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Auxillary Sail | Collision w/ Fixed Object | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Collision w/ Floating Object | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Collision w/ Vessel | 11 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Grounding | 2 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Other | 2 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Sinking | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Unknown | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Barge | Collision w/ Vessel | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Cabin Motorboat | Carbon Monoxide Poisoning | 1 | 0 | 7 |
|  | Collision w/ Fixed Object | 11 | 0 | 2 |
|  | Collision w/ Floating Object | 2 | 0 | 2 |
|  | Collision w/ Vessel | 40 | 1 | 6 |
|  | Fall on Boat | 2 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Falls Overboard | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Fire/Explosion (Fuel) | 5 | 0 | 7 |
|  | Fire/Explosion (Other) | 2 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Flooding/Swamping | 3 | 1 | 0 |
|  | Grounding | 8 | 0 | 2 |
|  | Other | 2 | 2 | 0 |
|  | Sinking | 3 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Skier Mishap | 2 | 0 | 2 |
|  | Struck by Boat | 2 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Struck Submerged Object | 7 | 0 | 5 |
|  | Unknown | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Canoe | Capsizing | 8 | 6 | 2 |
|  | Person Ejected from Vessel | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Houseboat | Sinking | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Kayak | Capsizing | 4 | 2 | 2 |
| Open Motorboat | Capsizing | 4 | 0 | 4 |
|  | Collision w/ Fixed Object | 7 | 0 | 6 |
|  | Collision w/ Floating Object | 2 | 0 | 2 |
|  | Collision w/ Vessel | 37 | 3 | 20 |
|  | Falls in Boat | 3 | 0 | 3 |
|  | Falls Overboard | 3 | 0 | 3 |


| Vessel Type | Accident Type | Vessels | Deceased | Injured |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Open Motorboat | Fire/Explosion (Fuel) | 3 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Fire/Explosion (Other) | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Flooding/Swamping | 3 | 0 | 2 |
|  | Grounding | 11 | 0 | 6 |
|  | Other | 2 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Person Ejected from Vessel | 2 | 1 | 1 |
|  | Skier Mishap | 8 | 0 | 8 |
|  | Struck by Boat | 4 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Struck by Propeller | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Struck Submerged Object | 11 | 0 | 2 |
|  | Unknown | 6 | 0 | 1 |
| Paddle Boat | Falls Overboard | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| PWC | Capsizing | 2 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Collision w/ Fixed Object | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Collision w/ Vessel | 11 | 0 | 5 |
|  | Falls in Boat | 2 | 0 | 2 |
|  | Falls Overboard | 2 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Fire/Explosion (Fuel) | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Flooding/Swamping | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Grounding | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Other | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Person Ejected from Vessel | 6 | 1 | 5 |
|  | Struck by Boat | 2 | 0 | 2 |
|  | Unknown | 2 | 0 | 1 |
| Pontoon Boat | Collision w/ Vessel | 2 | 0 | 8 |
|  | Struck by Boat | 1 | 0 | 2 |
|  | Unknown | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Rowboat | Falls Overboard | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Sail (only) | Collision w/ Vessel | 8 | 0 | 4 |
|  | Grounding | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Sinking | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Unknown | Collision w/ Vessel | 6 | 0 | 0 |

This table accounts for all the vessels involved in accidents, but only the primary vessel in both the fatal accidents and injury accidents. This distinction is made primarily to show the exact number of types of accidents leading to the deaths or injuries.

## Multi-Year Summary of PWC Accidents

| Year | \# of PWC | Fatalities | Injuries |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1991 | 40 | 0 | 21 |
| 1992 | 31 | 1 | 21 |
| 1993 | 45 | 1 | 32 |
| 1994 | 53 | 3 | 33 |
| 1995 | 117 | 3 | 48 |
| 1996 | 140 | 2 | 62 |
| 1997 | 121 | 6 | 65 |
| 1998 | 137 | 3 | 66 |
| 1999 | 117 | 4 | 70 |
| $2000^{*}$ | 85 | 1 | 35 |
| 2001 | 81 | 0 | 43 |
| 2002 | 89 | 2 | 47 |
| 2003 | 69 | 1 | 37 |
| 2004 | 32 | 1 | 17 |
| 2005 | 38 | 3 | 29 |
| 2006 | 19 | 1 | 16 |
| 2007 | 31 | 18 |  |

* Mandatory education for PWC operators goes into effect.

Accidents Involving PWC vs Non-PWC


## Types of PWC Accidents



Causes of PWC Accidents


## Age of PWC Operator



PWC \& Boater Education


Injuries (all vessels)


Type of Injury, Type of Vessel

| \# Injuries | Vessel |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Injury | Aux. Sail | Cabin M/B | Canoe | Open M/B | Pontoon | PWC | Sailboat | Total |
| Abrasion | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | $\mathbf{4}$ |
| Amputation | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | $\mathbf{1}$ |
| Back Injury | 0 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | $\mathbf{4}$ |
| Broken Bone(s) | 0 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | $\mathbf{5}$ |
| Burns | 0 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | $\mathbf{5}$ |
| CO Poisoning | 0 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | $\mathbf{7}$ |
| Contusion | 1 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 2 | $\mathbf{1 5}$ |
| Dislocation | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | $\mathbf{3}$ |
| Fracture | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 0 | $\mathbf{8}$ |
| Head Injury | 0 | 4 | 0 | 6 | 1 | 4 | 0 | $\mathbf{1 5}$ |
| Hypothermia | 0 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | $\mathbf{8}$ |
| Internal Injuries | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | $\mathbf{2}$ |
| Laceration | 0 | 10 | 0 | 16 | 1 | 2 | 1 | $\mathbf{3 0}$ |
| Neck Injury | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | $\mathbf{4}$ |
| Shock | 0 | 0 | 0 | 14 | 1 | 1 | 0 | $\mathbf{1 6}$ |
| Spinal Injury | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | $\mathbf{1}$ |
| Unknown | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 1 | $\mathbf{5}$ |
| Total | $\mathbf{1}$ | $\mathbf{3 5}$ | $\mathbf{4}$ | $\mathbf{6 1}$ | $\mathbf{1 0}$ | $\mathbf{1 8}$ | $\mathbf{4}$ | $\mathbf{1 3}$ |

Fatal Accidents vs. Fatalities


Fatal Accidents, Type of Boat and Operation

| Sum of Fatalities | Operation |  |  |  |  |  |
| ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Vessel | Anchored | Cruising | Drifting | Paddling | Rowing | Total |
| Cabin Motorboat | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Canoe | 0 | 0 | 3 | 4 | 0 | 7 |
| Kayak | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| Open Motorboat | 0 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Paddle Boat | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| PWC | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Rowboat | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| Total | 1 | 7 | 5 | 7 | $\mathbf{1}$ | $\mathbf{2 1}$ |

## PFD Use in Fatal Accidents



## Types of Fatal Accidents



Causes of Fatal Accidents


## Summary of Fatal Accidents

| Case \# | 2007-001 | The reported victim in this incident was last seen using a small rowboat to reach his larger sailboat, which was tied to a mooring a short distance offshore. The rowboat was later found washed ashore, while the sailboat remained tied to its mooring. The individual remains missing, and is presumed to be dead. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Date | 3/27/2007 |  |
| Body of Water | Lloyd Harbor |  |
| County | Suffolk |  |
| Alcohol | Unknown |  |
| Cont. Factors | Unknown |  |
| Deceased | 1 |  |
| Accident Type | Falls Overboard |  |
| Vessel Type | Rowboat |  |


| Case \# | 2007-002 | A brother and sister, ages 14 and 15, attempted to place their canoe in a small creek near their home. The creek was swollen with floodwaters. The current quickly capsized their canoe soon after they got in. The boy was able to swim to shore, but the strong current overpowered his sister, sweeping her downstream, where she ultimately drowned. Neither was wearing a lifejacket. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Date | 4/16/2007 |  |
| Body of Water | Basic Creek |  |
| County | Albany |  |
| Alcohol | No |  |
| Cont. Factors | Hazardous Waters |  |
| Deceased | 1 |  |
| Accident Type | Capsizing |  |
| Vessel Type | Canoe |  |


| Case \# | $2007-003$ |  |
| ---: | :--- | :--- |
| Date | $4 / 20 / 2007$ | Two men were fishing on Pleasure Lake, about 150 feet from shore. As <br> the wind picked up, the water became choppy, making one of the men <br> nervous. He stood up to re-position himself, and the canoe capsized, <br> throwing both men into the 40-degree water. One of the two was able to <br> swim the short distance to shore, while the other was not able to swim at <br> all in the frigid water. Neither man was wearing a life jacket. |
| County | Sullivan |  |
| Alcohol | No |  |
| Cont. Factors | Passenger Behavior |  |
| Deceased | 1 |  |
| Accident Type | Capsizing |  |
| Vessel Type | Canoe |  |


| Case \# | $2007-004$ |  |
| ---: | :--- | :--- |
| Date | $4 / 21 / 2007$ |  |
| County | Kings |  |
| Alcohol | No |  |
| Cont. Factors | Excessive Speed |  |
| Deceased | 1 |  |
| Accident Type | Ejected from vessel |  |
| Vessel Type | Open Motorboat |  |


| Case \# | 2007-005 | Two canoes with three persons aboard each were out on St. Regis Lake late at night. All six had been drinking alcohol. The canoes overturned, throwing all six into the water. None of them were wearing life jackets, nor were there any on board for them to hold on to. Four of the subjects were successfully pulled from the 47 -degree water. The other two, ages 18 and 20 , were overcome by the cold water and unable to stay afloat. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Date | 5/4/2007 |  |
| Body of Water | St. Regis Lake |  |
| County | FRANKLIN |  |
| Alcohol | Yes |  |
| Cont. Factors | Alcohol Use |  |
| Deceased | 2 |  |
| Accident Type | Capsizing |  |
| Vessel Type | Canoe |  |


| Case \# | $2007-063$ |  |
| ---: | :--- | :--- |
| Date | $6 / 10 / 2007$ |  |
| Body of Water | Long Island Sound | A tank barge was being pushed ahead by a tug boat on Long Island <br> Sound, near Sands Point. The tug reportedly did not see a 24-foot boat <br> at anchor in its path, and struck it. The smaller boat capsized, throwing <br> its three passengers into the water. One of the three drowned, while <br> another was treated for various injuries. |
| County | Nassau |  |
| Alcohol | No |  |
| Cont. Factors | No Proper Lookout |  |
| Deceased | 1 |  |
| Accident Type | Collision w/ Vessel |  |
| Vessel Type | Cabin Motorboat |  |


| Case \# | $2007-040$ |  |
| ---: | :--- | :--- |
| Date | $7 / 8 / 2007$ |  |
| $y n n n n$ | A small open motorboat was traveling south on Skaneateles Lake at |  |
| about 20 MPH according to the occupants, relatively close to shore. It |  |  |
| struck a second vessel that was heading east, toward the shore, |  |  |
| causing heavy damage to the vessels hull, and causing traumatic injury |  |  |
| to its occupants, killing one of them. The striking boat, whose |  |  |
| occupants had been drinking alcohol, fled the scene, reportedly calling |  |  |
| for help from a "safe" location. A thorough police investigation was able | Skaneateles Lake |  |
| to uncover the vessel causing the fatality. |  |  |


| Case \# | $2007-199$ |
| ---: | :--- |
| Date | $7 / 14 / 2007$ |
| Body of Water | Lake Ontario |
| County | Oswego |
| Alcohol | Unknown |
| Cont. Factors | Vessel Hull Failure |
| Deceased | 1 |
| Accident Type | Flooding/Swamping |
| Vessel Type | Cabin Motorboat |

While fishing 4 miles offshore on Lake Ontario, the vessel in question began to take on water. The two men on board were able to send a MayDay message just before the vessel flipped over. As they swam out from underneath, nearby vessels approached to assist them. One of the men was pulled aboard a rescue vessel. The other man was clinging to a cooler, but was unresponsive when a life ring was thrown to him. As he began to slip under the water a rescuer leapt in and pulled him to the surface. Unable to pull him into a boat, he began CPR while holding him alongside until the Coast Guard was able to arrive with proper retrieval gear. He ultimately perished however, despite the best efforts of all involved. Investigators found that some access plates in the stern were loose, allowing the boat to fill with water.

| Case \# | $2007-197$ |  |
| ---: | :--- | :--- |
| Date | $7 / 15 / 2007$ |  |
| Body of Water | Esopus Creek | While paddling in the swift-moving Esopus Creek, the victim's kayak <br> overturned. Unable to right the kayak, and unable to extricate herself, <br> the 52-year-old victim was pushed by the current into a tree that had <br> come to rest against a bridge abutment. The force of the water pushed <br> her under the tree and held her fast.Unable to free herself, the victim <br> drowned. <br> County Ulster |
| Alcohol | No |  |
| Cont. Factors | Hazardous Waters |  |
| Deceased | 1 |  |
| Accident Type | Capsizing |  |
| Vessel Type | Kayak |  |


| Case \# | 2007-062 | Two men were paddling in a 16 -foot kayak on Mill Pond in Suffolk County. Both had consumed alcohol. The kayak flipped, throwing both men into the water. Neither was a proficient swimmer. One of the two drowned, while the other was able to hang onto the kayak until rescuers arrived on the scene. Neither was wearing a life jacket. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Date | 7/16/2007 |  |
| Body of Water | Mill Pond |  |
| County | Suffolk |  |
| Alcohol | Yes |  |
| Cont. Factors | Alcohol Use |  |
| Deceased | 1 |  |
| Accident Type | Capsizing |  |
| Vessel Type | Kayak |  |


| Case \# | $2007-194$ |  |
| ---: | :--- | :--- |
| Date | $7 / 21 / 2007$ |  |
| County | Rensselaer |  |
| Alcohol | Yes |  |
| Cont. Factors | Alcohol |  |
| Deceased | 1 |  |
| Accident Type | Falls Overboard |  |
| Vessel Type | Paddle Boat |  |


| Case \# | $2007-092$ |  |
| ---: | :--- | :--- |
| Date | $8 / 8 / 2007$ |  |
| Body of Water | Mystery Lake | Two men, a father and son ages 45 and 76, borrowed a friend's canoe to <br> go fishing on Mystery Lake, a small waterway in Westchester County. <br> The canoe capsized, throwing both men into the water. Neither one was <br> a proficient swimmer, and neither was wearing a lifejacket. The father <br> was able to balance himself on a rock while holding onto the capsized <br> canoe. He tried to reach for his son, but was unable to hold him above <br> water. |
| County | Westchester |  |
| Alcohol | No |  |
| Cont. Factors | Passenger Behavior |  |
| Deceased | 1 |  |
| Accident Type | Capsizing |  |
| Vessel Type | Canoe |  |


| Case \# | 2007-093 | The victim, an 85 -year-old male, was drifting on Oneida Lake, fishing. His vessel was struck by a 20 -foot Starcraft, carrying seven passengers, who were reportedly under the influence of alcohol. After causing fatal traumatic injury to the victim, the striking boat fled the scene, but was later discovered by investigating officers. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Date | 8/9/2007 |  |
| Body of Water | Oneida Lake |  |
| County | Oswego |  |
| Alcohol | Yes |  |
| Cont. Factors | Alcohol Use |  |
| Deceased | 1 |  |
| Accident Type | Collision w/ Vessel |  |
| Vessel Type | Open Motorboat |  |


| Case \# | 2007-198 | Four men were canoeing on the Delaware River near the BarryvilleShohola Bridge. The canoe struck a rock and flipped in the fast moving water, throwing all four men into the river. Three of them were able to reach shore safely; the fourth was unable to get his footing in the current and drowned. None of the men were wearing lifejackets. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Date | 8/12/2007 |  |
| Body of Water | Delaware River |  |
| County | Sullivan |  |
| Alcohol | No |  |
| Cont. Factors | Hazardous Waters |  |
| Deceased | 1 |  |
| Accident Type | Capsizing |  |
| Vessel Type | Canoe |  |


| Case \# | 2007-191 | There were no witnesses to the actual accident, just reports that the deceased had been riding his personal watercraft after midnight. The machine was later found aground near the body of the deceased, who had drowned. He was found to be under the influence of alcohol, and not wearing a lifejacket. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Date | 10/6/2007 |  |
| Body of Water | Oneida Lake |  |
| County | Oneida |  |
| Alcohol | Yes |  |
| Cont. Factors | Unknown |  |
| Deceased | 1 |  |
| Accident Type | Ejected from vessel |  |
| Vessel Type | Personal Watercraft |  |


| Case \# | 2007-196 | Four men were traveling after dark in the Ambrose Channel off the coast of Brooklyn in a 24 -foot boat. They approached a tug boat pulling a barge full of dredged materials, using a 1,500 foot tow line. As the vessel approached, the tug reportedly sounded warning signals, and flashed a searchlight at the smaller vessel. The smaller boat proceeded to pass astern of the tug boat, and struck the tow line, flipping the boat over. A nearby fishing charter heard the tug blasts and radio reports of the crash over his radio and responded within 20 minutes. He rescued one of the men, who had climbed aboard the overturned boat. The other three men were pulled out from the cabin of the boat; one of them was revived, while the other two could not be saved. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Date | 10/20/2007 |  |
| Body of Water | Atlantic Ocean |  |
| County | Kings |  |
| Alcohol | No |  |
| Cont. Factors | No Proper Lookout |  |
| Deceased | 2 |  |
| Accident Type | Struck Barge Tow Cable |  |
| Vessel Type | Cabin Motorboat |  |


| Case \# | 2007-144 | Two men launched their canoe onto Rushford Lake. As the wind and current began to pull the canoe away from shore, the men panicked and jumped out, thinking they would swim back to shore. One of them jumped out on the shore side of the canoe and quickly made his way ashore. The other leapt out on the far side of the canoe and almost immediately went under water and did not re-surface. Neither man was wearing a lifejacket. The cold water was presumed to be a factor in his disappearance under water. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Date | 11/6/2007 |  |
| Body of Water | Rushford Lake |  |
| County | Allegany |  |
| Alcohol | No |  |
| Cont. Factors | Weather |  |
| Deceased | 1 |  |
| Accident Type | Ejected from vessel |  |
| Vessel Type | Canoe |  |


| Case \# | $2007-165$ |  |
| ---: | :--- | :--- |
| Date | $11 / 28 / 2007$ |  |
| Body of Water | Mt. Sinai Harbor |  |
| County | Suffolk | Thictim was found northwest of his sailboat mooring, on shore, near <br> some docks. His rowboat was also found overturned near some nearby <br> docks. While there were no witnesses to the actual accident, it is <br> dresumed that he was in his rowboat trying to get to his moored sailboat. |
| Alcohol | Yes | It it unclear how he fell out of his boat, but it is further presumed by |
| investigators that his intoxication was a contributing factor. |  |  |



