## New York State

## 2008 Recreational Boating Report



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Governor's Message ..... 3
Commissioner's Message ..... 5
Introduction. ..... 7
OPRHP Responsibilities ..... 9
Boater Education
Public Vessels
Regatta Permits
Floating Object Permits
Vessel Theft
Aids to Navigation
Publications and Public Service
Marine Law Enforcement. ..... 13
Marine Patrols
State Aid
Training
Statewide Activity Report
Vessel Registrations ..... 17
Accidents ..... 20
Summary 1980 - Present
County and Waterway
Types of Accidents
Operation at Time of Accident
Causes of Accidents
Alcohol and Boating Accidents
Month, Day and Time of Accidents
Owner / Operator Data
Types of Vessels
Personal Watercraft Accidents ..... 40
Injuries ..... 42
Fatal Accidents ..... 43

## DAVID A. PATERSON

Governor

## Dear Friends:

I am pleased to have this opportunity to contribute to the 2008 Boating Report of the New York State Department of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation.

Each year, across this State, more than one million boating enthusiasts 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 possibility of boating accidents and their associated damages and losses. Taking a few advance precautions, such as putting on a life jacket, is crucial to ensure the safety of all passengers.

Proper education is another key factor to keeping our waterways both safe and enjoyable. All boaters are strongly encouraged 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. Stringent enforcement of the laws applying to intoxicated or impaired boaters is required by all marine law enforcement agencies. Boating and alcohol are a dangerous and potentially fatal combination.

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

#  <br> New York State <br> Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation 

Carol Ash
David A. Paterson
Commissioner
Governor

July 16, 2009
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 2008. 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 2008 was once again among the lowest in any year since 1992. There were only 27 accidents involving PWC last year, a significant decrease from the peak of 140 accidents experienced in 1996. New York State Parks, through the Marine Services Unit, has developed a nationally recognized boating safety education program that has already helped more than 144,000 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 remained far too high in 2008 Nearly $40 \%$ 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
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, 488,167,
 with many more non-mechanically propelled boats that do not require registration.

Boating is a key recreational industry in virtually all areas of New York. 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.

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 20,000 boat operators have earned their safety certificates in 2008 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 2008. 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 available courses);
- resources, including permit applications, launch sites and forms for downloading;

- and the latest changes to the navigation law.


## Legislation - 2008

Chapter 599 of the Laws of 2008 amended the Navigation Law in relation to:

- Allowing for the suspension of the privelage to operate a vessel after multiple convictions for the reckless operation of a vessel; and
- Penalties relating to the suspension of the privelage to operate after conviction for the operation of a vessel while under the influence;


## 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 - In the Classroom

New York State boating safety education was firmly anchored with the passage of mandatory boating education for youthful operators starting at age 10 in 1959. The first state in the nation to require boating education, it was expanded in 1998 with the passage of mandatory education for all personal watercraft operators.

From the humble beginnings of the Young Boater's Safety Program: Make-Sure-Make-Shore to the New York Safe Boating Program, an 8 hour course of instruction brought to the public by classroom instructors, an estimated 200,000 people have received a boating safety certificate with 144,000 receiving a certificate since 2000.


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 Squadrons. 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 www.nysparks.com.

During 2008 a total of more than 1,000 classes were held, teaching safe boating to nearly 20,000 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 a county-by-county listing of courses taught, please see page 12.

## Boater Education - On the Road and On Your Television

In 2008 State Parks kicked off the start of a safe boating campaign by purchasing a series of billboards across the state and creating and televising a public service announcement. The goal was to inform boaters about the importance of wearing a life jacket. The campaign began during Safe Boating Week in May and ran through August, although some billboards continue to show our message still.

Billboards were moved from location to location to keep the message fresh and reach out to new audiences. We tried to reach boaters on their way to many of the state's boating locations by using billboard advertising along some of the major
 highways. These advertisements were run throughout the state. In the Capital District billboards were placed along I-90 and 787, in the Adirondack region along the Northway (I-87), and along I-81 in the Thousand Islands. The billboards were also placed in the metropolitan areas of Buffalo, Syracuse and Rochester. The intention was that by reminding people to wear a life jacket as they travelled to marinas
and launch sites as well as on their way to work, we could influence their decisions on the water. It is estimated that the 15 billboards were viewed 21 million times on a daily basis by commuters.


Along with the billboard campaign a television PSA (Public Service Announcement) campaign was also run. The television PSA ran during prime time viewing hours during the months of July and August in the attempt to reinforce the message that wearing a life jacket is the right thing to do. We hoped that by catching people off guard during non-boating activities, people would think about personal and family safety before they went boating. Between June $9^{\text {th }}$ and July $6^{\text {th }}$ the announcement was run 1,431 times, with more than half of those spots running during "drive time" (6-10am and 3-8pm).

If you wish to see the PSA it can be viewed on the State Parks website www.nysparks.com (click Recreation, Boating, and then select Safe Boating). State Parks also anticipates running a spring 2009 PSA to alert boaters to wear their PFDs when the water is cold.

## 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 vessel's 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.


## 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 State Parks' Bureau of Marine Services 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? 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.

## 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 Bureau of Marine Services 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.

## Vessel Theft

The Bureau of Marine Services assists with the anti-theft 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



The 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 2008, OPRHP placed approximately 2,000 aids to navigation in our state waters, approximately 1700 of those marking hazards to navigation on our waterways.

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

In 2008 State Parks conducted a concerted statewide Public Service Announcement campaign stressing the need to wear life jackets while boating. State Parks provides several free publications designed to make boating safer and more enjoyable for the recreational boater. The primary reference source for boaters is the New York State Boaters Guide, which contains information on all rules, regulations, registration information and safety 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, and jointly published by each.


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.

Course Held \& Students Taught per County

| County | 2008 |  | Since 2000 |  | County | 2008 |  | Since 2000 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Classes | Students | Classes | Students |  | Classes | Students | Classes | Students |
| Albany | 39 | 680 | 241 | 4495 | Oneida | 30 | 569 | 225 | 4332 |
| Allegany | 4 | 65 | 42 | 901 | Onondaga | 35 | 865 | 309 | 7594 |
| Bronx | 32 | 448 | 179 | 2533 | Ontario | 8 | 187 | 175 | 3321 |
| Broome | 18 | 427 | 113 | 2446 | Orange | 25 | 528 | 142 | 3902 |
| Cattaraugus | 4 | 85 | 40 | 843 | Orleans | 0 | 0 | 8 | 157 |
| Cayuga | 16 | 431 | 90 | 2563 | Oswego | 16 | 329 | 142 | 3082 |
| Chautauqua | 20 | 376 | 175 | 3829 | Otsego | 8 | 61 | 55 | 687 |
| Chemung | 6 | 83 | 42 | 639 | Out of State | 0 | 0 | 142 | 550 |
| Chenango | 3 | 32 | 31 | 412 | Putnam | 12 | 199 | 65 | 1441 |
| Clinton | 15 | 258 | 116 | 2474 | Queens | 15 | 152 | 103 | 1202 |
| Columbia | 7 | 75 | 87 | 1250 | Rensselaer | 10 | 181 | 118 | 2522 |
| Cortland | 2 | 15 | 30 | 583 | Richmond | 6 | 151 | 39 | 433 |
| Delaware | 2 | 19 | 38 | 389 | Rockland | 15 | 178 | 86 | 1687 |
| Dutchess | 17 | 410 | 172 | 3832 | Saratoga | 34 | 518 | 302 | 6374 |
| Erie | 57 | 945 | 297 | 5836 | Schenectady | 21 | 295 | 171 | 2712 |
| Essex | 7 | 95 | 76 | 1187 | Schoharie | 3 | 40 | 13 | 141 |
| Franklin | 12 | 128 | 87 | 1050 | Schuyler | 14 | 156 | 93 | 1634 |
| Fulton | 23 | 374 | 162 | 3661 | Seneca | 8 | 128 | 58 | 1144 |
| Genesee | 0 | 0 | 20 | 427 | St. Lawrence | 9 | 157 | 148 | 2820 |
| Greene | 8 | 78 | 43 | 666 | Steuben | 7 | 278 | 76 | 2724 |
| Hamilton | 6 | 53 | 89 | 1076 | Suffolk | 151 | 3360 | 1383 | 23254 |
| Herkimer | 10 | 157 | 81 | 1549 | Sullivan | 12 | 202 | 64 | 1158 |
| Jefferson | 14 | 271 | 175 | 3463 | Tioga | 4 | 70 | 41 | 551 |
| Kings | 45 | 508 | 258 | 2353 | Tompkins | 0 | 0 | 33 | 508 |
| Lewis | 3 | 77 | 40 | 1021 | Ulster | 28 | 403 | 185 | 3072 |
| Livingston | 8 | 234 | 75 | 2241 | Warren | 27 | 523 | 212 | 3497 |
| Madison | 8 | 199 | 96 | 3031 | Washington | 5 | 34 | 39 | 461 |
| Manhatten | 11 | 147 | 41 | 480 | Wayne | 7 | 189 | 103 | 2259 |
| Monroe | 23 | 604 | 349 | 7217 | Westchester | 43 | 697 | 266 | 3801 |
| Montgomery | 1 | 21 | 25 | 386 | Wyoming | 0 | 0 | 30 | 560 |
| Nassau | 70 | 1781 | 860 | 13310 | Yates | 8 | 219 | 91 | 2327 |
| Niagara | 6 | 148 | 166 | 2775 | Totals | 1058 | 19893 | 9253 | 168825 |



## 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.

## State Aid

A portion of the fees collected from vessel registrations are provided to State Parks for reimbursement to localities that operate marine patrols. Of these fees, nearly $\$ 3.5$ million was used to reimburse local marine law enforcement activities in 2008. 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 $\$ 300,000$.

## 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.

State Parks also sponsors office participation when possible at several national training programs, including the NASBLA Accident Investigation and the 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 Wate


Summary of Marine Law Enforcement Activity

| COUNTY |  | Total MLE Hours | Searches and Assists | Total <br> Vessel Inspections | Reckless Operation Tickets | $\begin{gathered} \text { BWI } \\ \text { Arrests } \end{gathered}$ | Total Tickets | Total Warnings |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Albany | 152 | 352 | 33 | 65 | 4 | 0 | 14 | 24 |
| Allegany | 203 | 525 | 8 | 37 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 25 |
| Cattauraugus | 567 | 712 | 23 | 45 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 47 |
| Cayuga | 1546 | 3428 | 49 | 157 | 1 | 0 | 7 | 168 |
| Chautauqua | 2468 | 5573 | 149 | 1167 | 9 | 2 | 75 | 250 |
| Chenango | 12 | 145 | 2 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 14 |
| Clinton | 951 | 1621 | 26 | 452 | 8 | 0 | 30 | 46 |
| Columbia | 470 | 13353 | 10 | 65 | 0 | 0 | 23 | 49 |
| Cortland | 32 | 215 | 2 | 37 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| Dutchess | 789 | 2008 | 32 | 85 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 94 |
| Erie | 2598 | 5272 | 45 | 358 | 10 | 4 | 68 | 168 |
| Fulton | 265 | 312 | 7 | 15 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Greene | 157 | 518 | 15 | 24 | 0 | 1 | 6 | 15 |
| Hamilton | 1336 | 1431 | 37 | 511 | 2 | 0 | 18 | 194 |
| Herkimer | 403 | 1134 | 29 | 24 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 33 |
| Jefferson | 243 | 603 | 8 | 37 | 2 | 0 | 10 | 61 |
| Lewis | 409 | 511 | 5 | 25 | 2 | 0 | 7 | 55 |
| Livingston | 1990 | 2280 | 43 | 25 | 4 | 1 | 19 | 198 |
| Madison | 378 | 378 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 2 |
| Monroe | 2070 | 5450 | 184 | 311 | 26 | 3 | 200 | 315 |
| Nassau | 14788 | 36970 | 310 | 474 | 61 | 5 | 635 | 216 |
| Niagara | 843 | 2975 | 68 | 641 | 10 | 0 | 43 | 384 |
| Oneida | 2658 | 4035 | 48 | 178 | 59 | 3 | 201 | 252 |
| Onondaga | 863 | 4857 | 1 | 185 | 6 | 11 | 113 | 280 |
| Ontario | 2422 | 5862 | 55 | 1009 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 106 |
| Orange | 929 | 2019 | 35 | 88 | 2 | 2 | 20 | 63 |
| Orleans | 346 | 3697 | 11 | 153 | 8 | 1 | 41 | 102 |
| Oswego | 553 | 2178 | 7 | 214 | 3 | 2 | 65 | 153 |
| Otsego | 214 | 303 | 16 | 81 | 0 | 0 | 32 | 109 |
| Putnam | 305 | 524 | 24 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 35 |
| Rensselaer | 225 | 1472 | 18 | 46 | 10 | 0 | 19 | 49 |
| Rockland | 1183 | 4420 | 88 | 55 | 3 | 0 | 16 | 109 |
| St. Lawrence | 240 | 260 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 15 | 0 |
| Saratoga | 1502 | 1984 | 67 | 1242 | 22 | 1 | 80 | 209 |
| Schuyler | 206 | 475 | 10 | 277 | 1 | 0 | 24 | 88 |
| Seneca | 372 | 939 | 20 | 89 | 6 | 2 | 38 | 27 |
| Steuben | 481 | 994 | 33 | 190 | 0 | 0 | 12 | 57 |
| Suffolk (PD) | 7000 | 150000 | 375 | 529 | 6 | 7 | 1675 | 132 |
| Suffolk (Sheriff) | 500 | 1250 | 29 | 66 |  |  | 13 | 37 |
| Sullivan | 327 | 654 | 18 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 24 |
| Tioga | 38 | 41 | 1 | 9 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Tompkins | 356 | 356 | 11 | 6 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 121 |
| Ulster | 949 | 1538 | 51 | 112 | 12 | 1 | 51 | 76 |
| Warren | 1099 | 1773 | 194 | 53 | 0 | 4 | 90 | 408 |
| Wayne | 312 | 3082 | 84 | 225 | 5 | 0 | 32 | 195 |
| Wyoming | 223 | 239 | 31 | 35 |  |  | 0 | 35 |
| Yates | 911 | 2789 | 29 | 1328 | 11 | 0 | 59 | 301 |
| New York City | 44548 | 133644 | 410 | 918 | 25 | 0 | 245 | 0 |


| STATE \& LOCAL AGENCIES | Total Vessel <br> Hours | Total MLE <br> Hours | Searches and Assists | Total Vessel Inspections | Reckless Operation Tickets | $\begin{gathered} \text { BWI } \\ \text { Arrests } \end{gathered}$ | Total Tickets | Total Warnings |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| PARK POLICE REGIONS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Allegany | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Central | 133 | 266 | 1 | 10 | 2 | 2 | 9 | 0 |
| Finger Lakes | 151 | 301 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 19 | 0 |
| Genesee | 62 | 124 | 7 | 15 | 3 | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| Long Island | 282 | 564 | 2 | 17 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 0 |
| New York City | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Niagara | 568 | 1136 | 18 | 13 | 4 | 0 | 14 | 0 |
| Palisades | 382 | 763 | 6 | 18 | 0 | 0 | 17 | 0 |
| Saratoga | 198 | 396 | 3 | 54 | 4 | 0 | 40 | 0 |
| Taconic | 94 | 187 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| 1000 Islands | 282 | 563 | 1 | 0 | 42 | 17 | 129 | 0 |
| STATE POLICE |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Troop B | 989 | 1253 | 8 | 234 | 5 | 1 | 32 | - |
| Troop D | 244 | 468 | 14 | 274 | 25 | 0 | 63 | - |
| Troop G | 324 | 518 | 3 | 42 | 0 | 5 | 10 | - |
| Troop K | 123 | 246 | 1 | 52 | 0 | 0 | 6 | - |
| Troop L | 124 | 87 | 4 | 91 | 10 | 0 | 33 | - |
| Troop T | 4031 | 6932 | 36 | 1043 | 58 | 7 | 1197 | - |
| DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Statewide | 26507 |  | 86 | 30081 | 0 | 12 | 1169 |  |
| LGPC | 4815 | 5017 | 508 | 684 | 4 | 4 | 211 | 958 |
| MUNICIPALITIES |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Carmel | 489 | 517 | 13 | 23 | 5 | 0 | 18 | 10 |
| East Hampton | 5080 | 20524 | 12 | 593 | 0 | 0 | 614 | 0 |
| Greenwood Lake | 3553 | 3553 | 42 | 124 | 10 | 3 | 60 | 58 |
| Huntington | 3500 | 4300 | 58 | 192 | 11 | 1 | 52 | 56 |
| Islip | 533 | 1000 | 99 | 107 | 3 | 0 | 344 | 87 |
| Oyster Bay | 5400 | 27040 | 193 | 100 | 52 | 0 | 119 | 13 |
| Mamaroneck | 1555 | 3360 | 48 | 115 | 20 | 3 | 124 | 122 |
| New Rochelle | 2324 | 7560 | 96 | 97 | 0 | 2 | 116 | 50 |
| Northport | 564 | 657 | 20 | 37 | 3 | 0 | 5 | 25 |
| Port Chester | 120 | 204 | 12 | 16 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 15 |
| Quogue | 687 | 825 | 33 | 116 | 3 | 0 | 57 | 50 |
| Rye | 422 | 838 | 55 | 40 | 6 | 0 | 48 | 104 |
| Smithtown | 2770 | 10586 | 399 | 568 | 43 | 0 | 128 |  |
| Southold | 3500 | 6240 | 75 | 90 | 5 | 1 | 61 | 28 |
| Yonkers | 4608 | 1920 | 141 | 40 | 3 | 0 | 12 | 6 |
| TOTALS | 175841 | 523091 | 4249 | 46561 | 650 | 108 | 8772 | 6914 |

Note: The activity listed is as reported to State Parks, and has been enitehr audited nor verified.

2008 BOAT REGISTRATIONS BY COUNTY AND LENGTH

| County | Total | $\begin{aligned} & \hline \text { Class A } \\ & <16 \text { FT } \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { Class } 1 \\ 16-25 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { Class } 2 \\ 26-39 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { Class } 3 \\ 40-64 \end{gathered}$ | Class 4 <br> 65 and + | Uncoded | \% of <br> Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Albany | 9910 | 4077 | 5213 | 560 | 22 | 9 | 29 | 2.0\% |
| Allegany | 1893 | 834 | 1031 | 20 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 0.4\% |
| Bronx | 2619 | 899 | 1207 | 450 | 34 | 25 | 4 | 0.5\% |
| Broome | 7424 | 3588 | 3518 | 279 | 13 | 10 | 16 | 1.5\% |
| Cattaraugus | 2961 | 1283 | 1594 | 71 | 7 | 1 | 5 | 0.6\% |
| Cayuga | 5504 | 2199 | 3042 | 237 | 10 | 1 | 15 | 1.1\% |
| Chautauqua | 6935 | 2544 | 4003 | 338 | 15 | 4 | 31 | 1.4\% |
| Chemung | 4332 | 1886 | 2263 | 165 | 11 | 4 | 3 | 0.9\% |
| Chenango | 2358 | 1335 | 976 | 45 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0.5\% |
| Clinton | 5925 | 3044 | 2613 | 235 | 11 | 1 | 21 | 1.2\% |
| Columbia | 2997 | 1330 | 1539 | 113 | 8 | 2 | 5 | 0.6\% |
| Cortland | 2199 | 1040 | 1085 | 63 | 4 | 0 | 7 | 0.5\% |
| Delaware | 1333 | 668 | 617 | 47 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0.3\% |
| Dutchess | 7799 | 3527 | 3650 | 571 | 33 | 9 | 9 | 1.6\% |
| Erie | 25348 | 9140 | 13906 | 2039 | 155 | 29 | 79 | 5.2\% |
| Essex | 4480 | 2101 | 2224 | 134 | 9 | 3 | 9 | 0.9\% |
| Franklin | 4275 | 2305 | 1906 | 56 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 0.9\% |
| Fulton | 4525 | 2158 | 2192 | 159 | 4 | 0 | 12 | 0.9\% |
| Genesee | 2280 | 1035 | 1166 | 63 | 12 | 1 | 3 | 0.5\% |
| Greene | 2440 | 968 | 1302 | 161 | 5 | 0 | 4 | 0.5\% |
| Hamilton | 2071 | 1065 | 976 | 12 | 4 | 1 | 13 | 0.4\% |
| Herkimer | 3720 | 1751 | 1871 | 82 | 4 | 1 | 11 | 0.8\% |
| Jefferson | 10827 | 4528 | 5520 | 673 | 41 | 2 | 63 | 2.2\% |
| Kings | 4392 | 1474 | 1870 | 913 | 109 | 22 | 4 | 0.9\% |
| Lewis | 1986 | 1130 | 821 | 33 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0.4\% |
| Livingston | 3920 | 1780 | 2064 | 67 | 3 | 0 | 6 | 0.8\% |
| Madison | 4418 | 1853 | 2368 | 177 | 6 | 1 | 13 | 0.9\% |
| Monroe | 28588 | 11594 | 14951 | 1834 | 118 | 12 | 79 | 5.9\% |
| Montgomery | 2127 | 1078 | 964 | 71 | 2 | 1 | 11 | 0.4\% |
| Nassau | 34358 | 10692 | 16459 | 6305 | 767 | 57 | 78 | 7.0\% |
| New York | 4641 | 1227 | 2046 | 1128 | 212 | 25 | 3 | 1.0\% |
| Niagara | 8788 | 3174 | 4923 | 623 | 19 | 8 | 41 | 1.8\% |
| Oneida | 11094 | 4885 | 5804 | 356 | 18 | 1 | 30 | 2.3\% |
| Onondaga | 22521 | 9123 | 11895 | 1353 | 87 | 8 | 55 | 4.6\% |


| County | Total | $\begin{aligned} & \hline \text { Class A } \\ & <16 \text { FT } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { Class } 1 \\ 16-25 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { Class } 2 \\ 26-39 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { Class } 3 \\ 40-64 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | Class 4 <br> 65 and + | Uncoded | \% of <br> Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Ontario | 7505 | 2639 | 4564 | 257 | 15 | 5 | 25 | 1.5\% |
| Orange | 9902 | 4742 | 4453 | 618 | 43 | 15 | 31 | 2.0\% |
| Orleans | 2186 | 1024 | 1059 | 94 | 6 | 0 | 3 | 0.4\% |
| Oswego | 9343 | 4454 | 4366 | 483 | 23 | 3 | 14 | 1.9\% |
| Otsego | 2769 | 1256 | 1462 | 40 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 0.6\% |
| Putnam | 3256 | 1270 | 1741 | 213 | 22 | 3 | 7 | 0.7\% |
| Queens | 7345 | 2454 | 3628 | 1118 | 97 | 31 | 17 | 1.5\% |
| Rensselaer | 6197 | 2714 | 3178 | 276 | 19 | 4 | 6 | 1.3\% |
| Richmond | 4247 | 1426 | 1920 | 821 | 59 | 9 | 12 | 0.9\% |
| Rockland | 4868 | 2140 | 1946 | 681 | 68 | 20 | 13 | 1.0\% |
| St Lawrence | 10142 | 5175 | 4668 | 265 | 12 | 3 | 19 | 2.1\% |
| Saratoga | 13792 | 5528 | 7531 | 680 | 29 | 6 | 18 | 2.8\% |
| Schenectady | 6327 | 2757 | 3263 | 281 | 10 | 3 | 13 | 1.3\% |
| Schoharie | 1187 | 614 | 534 | 36 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0.2\% |
| Schuyler | 1720 | 697 | 950 | 65 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 0.4\% |
| Seneca | 2962 | 1186 | 1625 | 139 | 7 | 2 | 3 | 0.6\% |
| Steuben | 5370 | 2320 | 2907 | 132 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 1.1\% |
| Suffolk | 73907 | 21396 | 38589 | 12414 | 1181 | 64 | 263 | 15.1\% |
| Sullivan | 3378 | 1788 | 1496 | 84 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 0.7\% |
| Tioga | 2555 | 1233 | 1238 | 74 | 2 | 2 | 6 | 0.5\% |
| Tompkins | 3689 | 1283 | 2127 | 250 | 16 | 0 | 13 | 0.8\% |
| Ulster | 5988 | 2662 | 2806 | 486 | 26 | 2 | 6 | 1.2\% |
| Warren | 7559 | 2540 | 4490 | 468 | 10 | 7 | 44 | 1.5\% |
| Washington | 3556 | 1628 | 1828 | 92 | 0 | 1 | 7 | 0.7\% |
| Wayne | 6812 | 2815 | 3590 | 364 | 22 | 2 | 19 | 1.4\% |
| Westchester | 12995 | 4157 | 5992 | 2425 | 341 | 53 | 27 | 2.7\% |
| Wyoming | 1726 | 713 | 992 | 16 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 0.4\% |
| Yates | 2687 | 990 | 1626 | 66 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 0.6\% |
| Uncoded | 13209 | 4771 | 7156 | 1152 | 117 | 12 | 1 | 2.7\% |
| TOTAL | 488167 | 189687 | 249304 | 43523 | 3893 | 500 | 1260 | 100.0\% |

Registrations: Length, Hull Material, Power

| Uncoded |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| HULL | Outboard | Inboard | I/0 | Sail | Other | Total |
| Metal | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Fiberglass | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Other | 3 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 1246 | 1255 |
| Total | 6 | 5 | 3 | 0 | 1246 | 1260 |
| Under 16 Feet |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| HULL | Outboard | Inboard | I/O | Sail | Other | Total |
| Wood | 2304 | 105 | 7 | 26 | 46 | 2488 |
| Metal | 75255 | 141 | 203 | 12 | 2331 | 77942 |
| Plastic | 8786 | 2304 | 161 | 37 | 809 | 12097 |
| Fiberglass | 24493 | 49920 | 3097 | 461 | 4283 | 82254 |
| Inflatable | 10303 | 43 | 106 | 4 | 343 | 10799 |
| Other | 2866 | 887 | 60 | 6 | 288 | 4107 |
| Total | 124007 | 53400 | 3634 | 546 | 8100 | 189687 |
| 16 to Less than 26 Feet |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| HULL | Outboard | Inboard | I/O | Sail | Other | Total |
| Wood | 1511 | 2241 | 141 | 52 | 32 | 3977 |
| Metal | 51903 | 403 | 2630 | 4 | 193 | 55133 |
| Plastic | 4266 | 826 | 1091 | 116 | 120 | 6419 |
| Fiberglass | 71021 | 12437 | 94638 | 3284 | 993 | 182374 |
| Inflatable | 120 | 3 | 6 | 0 | 3 | 132 |
| Other | 1093 | 49 | 55 | 16 | 57 | 1270 |
| Total | 129914 | 15959 | 98561 | 3472 | 1398 | 249304 |
| 26 to Less than 40 Feet |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| HULL | Outboard | Inboard | I/O | Sail | Other | Total |
| Wood | 62 | 1044 | 25 | 37 | 7 | 1175 |
| Metal | 672 | 308 | 174 | 9 | 9 | 1172 |
| Plastic | 68 | 444 | 133 | 72 | 7 | 724 |
| Fiberglass | 4560 | 16683 | 16748 | 2171 | 221 | 40383 |
| Inflatable | 0 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 7 |
| Other | 18 | 28 | 8 | 0 | 8 | 62 |
| Total | 5380 | 18511 | 17090 | 2290 | 252 | 43523 |
| 40 to 65 Feet |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| HULL | Outboard | Inboard | I/O | Sail | Other | Total |
| Wood | 1 | 174 | 4 | 10 | 1 | 190 |
| Metal | 21 | 95 | 30 | 6 | 2 | 154 |
| Plastic | 0 | 45 | 3 | 12 | 0 | 60 |
| Fiberglass | 36 | 2955 | 244 | 226 | 11 | 3472 |
| Other | 2 | 7 | 0 | 2 | 6 | 17 |
| Total | 60 | 3276 | 281 | 256 | 20 | 3893 |
| Over 65 Feet |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| HULL | Outboard | Inboard | I/O | Sail | Other | Total |
| Wood | 2 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 7 |
| Metal | 41 | 12 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 59 |
| Plastic | 14 | 6 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 24 |
| Fiberglass | 101 | 150 | 83 | 2 | 25 | 361 |
| Inflatable | 21 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 21 |
| Other | 4 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 10 |
| Total | 196 | 178 | 91 | 3 | 32 | 500 |

## ACCIDENTS

The chart below and the table on the next page compare general accident statistics between the years 1980 and 2008. While registrations have, in general, risen, accidents, injuries and fatalities have, in general, all decreased steadily.

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.

## Reportable Accidents

For Recreational Vessels:

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

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.


Accident Data: 1980-2008

| 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 | 130 | 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 |
| 2008 | 4.30 | 488167 | 215 | 104 | 21 |

County and Waterway

| Waterway | Accidents | Deaths |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| BRONX |  |  |
| Eastchester Bay | 1 | 0 |
| Long Island Sound | 2 | 0 |
| BROOME |  |  |
| Eastchester Bay | 1 | 0 |
| CATTAURAUGUS |  |  |
| Kinzua Reservoir | 1 | 0 |
| CAYUGA |  |  |
| Cayuga Lake | 2 | 0 |
| Lake Ontario | 1 | 0 |
| CHAUTAUQUA |  |  |
| Chautauqua Lake | 1 | 0 |
| COLUMBIA |  |  |
| Lower Rhoda Pond | 1 | 1 |
| DUTCHESS |  |  |
| Hudson River | 1 | 0 |
| ERIE |  |  |
| Lake Erie | 5 | 0 |
| Niagara River | 5 | 0 |
| ESSEX |  |  |
| Schroon Lake | 1 | 0 |
| FULTON |  |  |
| Sacandaga Resevoir | 1 | 1 |
| GREENE |  |  |
| Hudson River | 1 | 0 |
| Sleepy Hollow Lake | 1 | 0 |
| JEFFERSON |  |  |
| St. Lawrence River | 6 | 0 |
| KINGS |  |  |
| Gravesend Bay | 1 | 0 |
| Jamaica Bay | 1 | 0 |
| Sheepshead Bay | 1 | 0 |
| LIVINGSTON |  |  |
| Conesus Lake | 5 | 0 |
| MONROE |  |  |
| Lake Ontario | 4 | 3 |


| Waterway | Accidents | Deaths |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| NASSAU |  |  |
| Alhambra Canal | 1 | 0 |
| Atlantic Ocean | 1 | 1 |
| Bellmore Canal | 1 | 0 |
| Bellmore Channel | 1 | 0 |
| Bellmore Creek | 1 | 0 |
| E. Rockaway Channel | 1 | 0 |
| Emerson Canal | 1 | 0 |
| Glen Cove Creek | 1 | 0 |
| Great South Bay | 1 | 0 |
| Hempstead Harbor | 2 | 0 |
| Hudson Canal | 1 | 0 |
| Jones Inlet | 1 | 0 |
| Long Creek | 1 | 0 |
| Long Island Sound | 3 | 0 |
| Manhasset Bay | 1 | 0 |
| Montauk Harbor | 1 | 0 |
| Oyster Bay | 5 | 1 |
| Seaman'S Creek | 1 | 0 |
| Sloop Channel | 2 | 2 |
| Thixton Creek | 1 | 0 |
| Tobay Boat Basin | 1 | 0 |
| West Harbor | 1 | 0 |
| NEW YORK |  |  |
| Harlem River | 1 | 0 |
| NIAGARA |  |  |
| Lake Ontario | 2 | 0 |
| Niagara River | 3 | 0 |
| ONEIDA |  |  |
| Oneida Lake | 5 | 1 |
| ONONDAGA |  |  |
| Oneida Lake | 1 | 0 |
| Oneida River | 1 | 0 |
| ONTARIO |  |  |
| Canandaigua Lake | 1 | 0 |


| Waterway | Accidents | Deaths |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ORANGE |  |  |
| Greenwood Lake | 5 | 0 |
| Hudson River | 2 | 1 |
| ORLEANS |  |  |
| Lake Alice | 1 | 0 |
| Lake Ontario | 1 | 0 |
| OSWEGO |  |  |
| Oneida Lake | 1 | 0 |
| Onondaga Lake | 1 | 0 |
| Sandy Pond | 1 | 1 |
| OTSEGO |  |  |
| Sacandaga Resevoir | 1 | 0 |
| PUTNAM |  |  |
| Lake Mahopac | 1 | 0 |
| Lake Oscawanna | 1 | 0 |
| QUEENS |  |  |
| Atlantic Ocean | 1 | 0 |
| East River | 1 | 0 |
| Flushing Bay | 1 | 0 |
| Jamaica Bay | 2 | 0 |
| RENSSELAER |  |  |
| Hudson River | 1 | 0 |
| ROCKLAND |  |  |
| Hudson River | 5 | 0 |
| Stony Brook Harbor | 1 | 1 |
| SARATOGA |  |  |
| Saratoga Lake | 1 | 0 |
| SCHUYLER |  |  |
| Seneca Lake | 1 | 0 |
| SENECA |  |  |
| Cayuga Lake | 1 | 0 |
| Seneca Canal | 1 | 0 |
| ST. LAWRENCE |  |  |
| Oswegatchie River | 1 | 0 |
| STEUBEN |  |  |
| Keuka Lake | 1 | 0 |


| Waterway | Accidents | Deaths |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| SUFFOLK |  |  |
| Atlantic Ocean | 4 | 0 |
| Bostwick Bay | 1 | 0 |
| Cedar Beach | 1 | 0 |
| Dering Harbor | 1 | 0 |
| Fishers Island Sound | 1 | 0 |
| Gardiner'S Bay | 2 | 0 |
| Great South Bay | 13 | 2 |
| Greenport Harbor | 1 | 0 |
| Harts Cove | 1 | 0 |
| Huntington Harbor | 2 | 0 |
| Laurel Lake | 1 | 1 |
| Lloyd Harbor | 1 | 0 |
| Long Island Sound | 10 | 0 |
| Moriches Inlet | 1 | 0 |
| Patchogue River | 1 | 0 |
| Reeves Bay | 1 | 0 |
| Sag Harbor Bay | 1 | 2 |
| Shelter Island Sound | 1 | 0 |
| Shinnecock Bay | 1 | 0 |
| Shinnecock Canal | 1 | 0 |
| Southold Bay | 1 | 0 |
| Three Mile Harbor | 3 | 0 |
| West Neck Harbor | 1 | 0 |
| SULLIVAN |  |  |
| Mountain Lake | 1 | 3 |
| Swinging Bridge Res. | 1 | 0 |
| ULSTER |  |  |
| Hudson River | 3 | 0 |
| WARREN |  |  |
| Brant Lake | 1 | 0 |
| Lake George | 12 | 0 |
| WASHINGTON |  |  |
| Block Island Sound | 1 | 0 |
| WAYNE |  |  |
| Lake Ontario | 2 | 0 |
| Sodus Bay | 2 | 0 |
| WESTCHESTER |  |  |
| Hudson River | 4 | 0 |
| Long Island Sound | 15 | 0 |
| Mamaroneck Harbor | 1 | 0 |
| YATES |  |  |
| Keuka Lake | 1 | 0 |

Summary of Accident Types

| ACCIDENT TYPE | Accidents | Deaths | Injuries |
| ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Capsizing | 17 | 8 | 12 |
| Collision w/ Fixed Object | 14 | 4 | 13 |
| Collision w/ Floating Object | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| Collision w/ Vessel | 50 | 0 | 15 |
| Fall on Boat | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Falls in Boat | 6 | 0 | 6 |
| Falls Overboard | 8 | 6 | 3 |
| Fire/Explosion (Fuel) | 14 | 0 | 2 |
| Fire/Explosion (Other) | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Flooding/Swamping | 14 | 0 | 11 |
| Grounding | 16 | 1 | 15 |
| Other | 5 | 0 | 3 |
| Person ejected from vessel | 5 | 0 | 6 |
| Sinking | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Skier Mishap | 11 | 1 | 10 |
| Struck by Boat | 6 | 0 | 5 |
| Struck by Propeller | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| Struck Submerged Object | 33 | 0 | 0 |
| Unknown | 3 | 1 | 0 |



Operation at Time of Accident, by Type of Accident

| Accident Type | Operation | Accidents | Deaths | Injuries |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Capsizing | At Anchor | 2 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Cruising | 5 | 2 | 0 |
|  | Drifting | 3 | 3 | 2 |
|  | Rowing or Paddling | 5 | 3 | 8 |
|  | Sailing | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Tied to Dock/Mooring | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Collision wl Fixed Object | Changing Speed | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Cruising | 9 | 4 | 9 |
|  | Docking/Undocking | 4 | 0 | 4 |
| Collision wl Floating Object | Cruising | 3 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Unknown | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Collision w/ Vessel | At Anchor | 3 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Changing Direction | 2 | 0 | 3 |
|  | Changing Speed | 2 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Cruising | 20 | 0 | 11 |
|  | Docking/Undocking | 9 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Drifting | 3 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Launching | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | OTHER-In boat hoist | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | OTHER-Trawl net | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Sailing | 2 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Tied to Dock/Mooring | 6 | 0 | 0 |
| Falls in Boat | Changing Direction | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Cruising | 5 | 0 | 5 |
|  | Tied to Dock/Mooring | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Falls Overboard | At Anchor | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Cruising | 5 | 3 | 3 |
|  | Drifting | 2 | 3 | 0 |
| Fire/Explosion (Fuel) | Cruising | 7 | 0 | 2 |
|  | Drifting | 2 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Tied to Dock/Mooring | 5 | 0 | 0 |


| Accident Type | Operation | Accidents | Deaths | Injuries |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Fire/Explosion (Other) | Tied to Dock/Mooring | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Flooding/Swamping | At Anchor | 3 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Being Towed | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Changing Speed | 1 | 0 | 2 |
|  | Cruising | 8 | 0 | 9 |
|  | Docking/Undocking | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Grounding | Cruising | 15 | 1 | 15 |
|  | Drifting | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Other | Cruising | 4 | 0 | 2 |
|  | Changing Speed | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Person Ejected from Vessel | Cruising | 5 | 0 | 6 |
| Sinking | At Anchor | 2 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Changing Direction | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Cruising | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Skier Mishap | Cruising | 11 | 1 | 10 |
| Struck by Boat | Cruising | 2 | 0 | 2 |
|  | Drifting | 2 | 0 | 2 |
|  | Tied to Dock/Mooring | 2 | 0 | 1 |
| Struck by Propeller | Cruising | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Drifting | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Struck Submerged Object | At Anchor | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Cruising | 30 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Rowing or Paddling | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Sailing | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Unknown | Unknown | 3 | 1 | 0 |

## Type of Accident and Cause of Accident

| Accident Type | Primary Cause | Accidents | Deaths | Injuries |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Capsizing | Improper Anchoring | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Machinery Failure | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Operator Inexperience | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Overloading | 1 | 0 | 3 |
|  | Passenger or Skier Behavior | 3 | 4 | 2 |
|  | Unknown | 4 | 4 | 3 |
|  | Wake | 3 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Weather | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| Collision wl Fixed Object | Alcohol Use | 3 | 3 | 4 |
|  | Congested Waters | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Excessive Speed | 1 | 0 | 3 |
|  | Machinery Failure | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | No Proper Lookout | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Off Throttle Steering Loss | 1 | 0 | 3 |
|  | Operator Inattention | 3 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Poor Visibility (Restricted Vision) | 1 | 1 | 1 |
|  | Wake | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Weather | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Collision wl Floating Object | Alcohol Use | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Congested Waters | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | No Proper Lookout | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Operator Inattention | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Collision wl Vessel | Alcohol Use | 3 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Careless/Reckless Operation | 6 | 0 | 2 |
|  | Congested Waters | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Excessive Speed | 3 | 0 | 3 |
|  | Failure to Yield | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Machinery Failure | 3 | 0 | 1 |
|  | No Proper Lookout | 3 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Off Throttle Steering Loss | 2 | 0 | 3 |
|  | Operator Inattention | 12 | 0 | 5 |
|  | Operator Inexperience | 4 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Rules of Road Violation | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Unknown | 4 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Wake | 3 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Weather | 4 | 0 | 0 |


| Accident Type | Primary Cause | Accidents | Deaths | Injuries |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Fall on Boat | Wake | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Excessive Speed | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | OTHER-Vessel step collapsed | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Passenger or Skier Behavior | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Wake | 2 | 0 | 2 |
|  | Weather | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Falls Overboard | Alcohol Use | 2 | 3 | 0 |
|  | Hazardous Waters | 1 | 1 | 0 |
|  | Machinery Failure | 1 | 1 | 1 |
|  | Operator Inattention | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Operator Inexperience | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Wake | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Fire/Explosion (Fuel) | Equipment Failure | 2 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Ignition of Spilled Fuel or Vapor | 6 | 0 | 2 |
|  | Machinery Failure | 5 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Unknown | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Fire/Explosion (Other) | Machinery Failure | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Flooding/Swamping | Excessive Speed | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Overloading | 1 | 0 | 9 |
|  | Vessel Hull Failure | 2 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Wake | 4 | 0 | 2 |
|  | Weather | 6 | 0 | 0 |
| Grounding | Alcohol Use | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Excessive Speed | 2 | 0 | 3 |
|  | Hazardous Waters | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Machinery Failure | 2 | 0 | 0 |
|  | No Proper Lookout | 2 | 1 | 4 |
|  | Operator Inattention | 4 | 0 | 5 |
|  | Operator Inexperience | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Other | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Submerged Object | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Weather | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Other | Excessive Speed | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Machinery Failure | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Passenger or Skier Behavior | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Passenger or Skier Behavior | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Weather | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Person Ejected from Vessel | Excessive Speed | 2 | 0 | 3 |
|  | Wake | 3 | 0 | 3 |


| Accident Type | Primary Cause | Accidents | Deaths | Injuries |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Sinking | Equipment Failure | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Improper Anchoring | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Machinery Failure | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Sharp Turn | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Vessel Hull Failure | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Skier Mishap | Lack of / Improper Ski Observer | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Passenger or Skier Behavior | 7 | 0 | 7 |
|  | Wake | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| Struck by Boat | Operator Inattention | 2 | 0 | 2 |
|  | Passenger or Skier Behavior | 3 | 0 | 3 |
|  | Unknown | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Struck by Propeller | No Proper Lookout | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Operator Inattention | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Struck Submerged Object | Hazardous Waters | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | No Proper Lookout | 2 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Operator Inattention | 2 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Poor Visibility (Restricted Vision) | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Submerged Object | 27 | 0 | 0 |
| Unknown | Submerged Object | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Unknown | 1 | 1 | 0 |
|  | Wake | 1 | 0 | 0 |

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 to 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 and Boating Accidents




Operator Age

| Age Group | Accidents | Deaths | Injuries |
| ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Under 21 | 19 | 3 | 12 |
| $21-30$ | 30 | 3 | 30 |
| $31-40$ | 30 | 4 | 18 |
| $41-50$ | 54 | 4 | 24 |
| $51-60$ | 28 | 5 | 9 |
| Over 60 | 28 | 2 | 2 |
| Unknown/No Op | 87 | 0 | 9 |

## Operator Ages



Age of Operator, Boating Education of Operator

| Age Group | Education | Accidents | Deaths | Injuries |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Under 21 | Yes | 12 | 0 | 9 |
|  | None | 5 | 3 | 3 |
|  | Unknown | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| 21-30 | Yes | 11 | 2 | 10 |
|  | None | 11 | 1 | 4 |
|  | Unknown | 8 | 0 | 16 |
| 31-40 | Yes | 9 | 0 | 4 |
|  | None | 12 | 0 | 4 |
|  | Unknown | 9 | 4 | 10 |
| 41-50 | Yes | 16 | 0 | 6 |
|  | None | 30 | 4 | 16 |
|  | Unknown | 8 | 0 | 2 |
| 51-60 | Yes | 9 | 1 | 1 |
|  | None | 10 | 3 | 3 |
|  | Unknown | 9 | 1 | 5 |
| Over 60 | Yes | 9 | 0 | 1 |
|  | None | 10 | 1 | 0 |
|  | Unknown | 9 | 1 | 1 |
| Unknown/No Op | Unknown/No Op | 68 | 0 | 9 |
|  | None | 19 | 0 | 0 |

Age of Operator, Boating Experience of Operator

| Agr Group | Experience | Accidents | Deaths | Injuries |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Under 21 | Under 20 Hrs . | 2 | 4 | 0 |
|  | 20-100 Hrs. | 9 | 0 | 4 |
|  | 100 Hours or More | 4 | 0 | 5 |
|  | Unknown | 4 | 0 | 3 |
| 21-30 | Under 20 Hrs. | 2 | 0 | 1 |
|  | 20-100 Hrs. | 7 | 1 | 6 |
|  | 100 Hours or More | 14 | 1 | 18 |
|  | Unknown | 7 | 1 | 5 |
| 31-40 | Under 20 Hrs . | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | 20-100 Hrs. | 12 | 0 | 6 |
|  | 100 Hours or More | 14 | 0 | 7 |
|  | Unknown | 3 | 4 | 4 |
| 41-50 | Under 20 Hrs . | 3 | 0 | 0 |
|  | 20-100 Hrs. | 21 | 2 | 11 |
|  | 100 Hours or More | 25 | 2 | 11 |
|  | Unknown | 5 | 0 | 2 |
| 51-60 | Under 20 Hrs . | 2 | 0 | 1 |
|  | 20-100 Hrs. | 6 | 0 | 2 |
|  | 100 Hours or More | 13 | 4 | 1 |
|  | Unknown | 7 | 1 | 5 |
| Over 60 | Under 20 Hrs . | 2 | 0 | 1 |
|  | 20-100 Hrs. | 4 | 0 | 0 |
|  | 100 Hours or More | 17 | 1 | 0 |
|  | Unknown | 5 | 1 | 1 |
| Unknown | Under 20 Hours | 4 | 0 | 1 |
|  | 20-100 Hrs. | 5 | 0 | 0 |
|  | 100 Hours or More | 25 | 0 | 2 |
|  | Unknown | 53 | 0 | 6 |

Types of Vessels

| Type of Vessel | Accidents | Deaths | Injuries |
| ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Auxillary Sail | 16 | 0 | 0 |
| Cabin Motorboat | 91 | 6 | 20 |
| Canoe | 6 | 3 | 7 |
| Houseboat | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Kayak | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Open Motorboat | 108 | 5 | 46 |
| Other | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| Personal Watercraft | 27 | 0 | 21 |
| Pontoon Boat | 8 | 0 | 3 |
| Rowboat | 4 | 6 | 3 |
| Sail (only) | 4 | 0 | 3 |
| Unknown | 6 | 0 | 1 |



Vessel Type and Accident Type

| Vessel Type | Accident Type | Accidents | Deaths | Injuries |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Airboat | Capsizing | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Auxillary Sail | Collision w/ Fixed Object | 2 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Collision w/ Vessel | 12 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Struck Submerged Object | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Cabin Motorboat | Collision w/ Fixed Object | 8 | 3 | 6 |
|  | Collision w/ Vessel | 36 | 0 | 4 |
|  | Falls in Boat | 3 | 0 | 3 |
|  | Falls Overboard | 2 | 2 | 1 |
|  | Fire/Explosion (Fuel) | 12 | 0 | 2 |
|  | Fire/Explosion (Other) | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Flooding/Swamping | 3 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Grounding | 5 | 0 | 6 |
|  | Other - Friction Burns | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Sinking | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Struck by Boat | 2 | 0 | 2 |
|  | Struck Submerged Object | 15 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Unknown | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Canoe | Capsizing | 5 | 3 | 7 |
|  | Struck Submerged Object | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Ferry | Other - Wake | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Houseboat | Collision w/ Vessel | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Jet Boat | Collision w/ Vessel | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Kayak | Capsizing | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Open Motorboat | Capsizing | 5 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Collision w/ Fixed Object | 1 | 1 | 1 |
|  | Collision w/ Floating Object | 3 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Collision w/ Vessel | 31 | 0 | 12 |
|  | Falls in Boat | 4 | 0 | 4 |
|  | Falls Overboard | 4 | 2 | 2 |
|  | Fire/Explosion (Fuel) | 2 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Flooding/Swamping | 11 | 0 | 11 |


| Vessel Type | Accident Type | Accidents | Deaths | Injuries |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Open Motorboat | Grounding | 7 | 1 | 6 |
|  | Other-Engine fell off | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Person ejected from vessel | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Sinking | 4 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Skier Mishap | 11 | 1 | 10 |
|  | Struck by Boat | 4 | 0 | 3 |
|  | Struck by Propeller | 2 | 0 | 2 |
|  | Struck Submerged Object | 15 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Unknown | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Personal Watercraft | Collision w/ Fixed Object | 3 | 0 | 6 |
|  | Collision w/ Vessel | 15 | 0 | 12 |
|  | Fall on Boat | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Grounding | 3 | 0 | 3 |
|  | Person ejected from vessel | 4 | 0 | 5 |
|  | Struck by Boat | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Pontoon Boat | Capsizing | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Collision w/ Vessel | 2 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Falls Overboard | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Grounding | 2 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Other-Struck by Vessel Door | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Struck by Boat | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Rowboat | Capsizing | 3 | 4 | 3 |
|  | Falls Overboard | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| Sail (only) | Capsizing | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Collision w/ Vessel | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Other-Caught Finger in Winch | 1 | 0 | 1 |
|  | Struck by Boat | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Trawler | Collision w/ Vessel | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Unknown | Collision w/ Floating Object | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Collision w/ Vessel | 5 | 0 | 2 |

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 | 1 | 18 |
| 2008 | 27 | 0 | 21 |

* Mandatory education for PWC operators goes into effect.


## Accidents Involving PWC vs Non-PWC




Causes of PWC Accidents



Injuries (all vessels)


Type of Injury, Type of Vessel

| Sum of Count | Vessel |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Injury | Cabin M/B | Canoe | Open M/B | PWC | Pontoon | Rowboat | Sailboat | Total |
| Amputation | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | $\mathbf{2}$ |
| Back Injury | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | $\mathbf{3}$ |
| Broken Bone(s) | 1 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | $\mathbf{7}$ |
| Burns | 3 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | $\mathbf{7}$ |
| Complaint | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | $\mathbf{2}$ |
| Contusion | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | $\mathbf{3}$ |
| Dislocation | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | $\mathbf{3}$ |
| Fracture | 0 | 0 | 2 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | $\mathbf{8}$ |
| Fracture(Simple) | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | $\mathbf{1}$ |
| Head Injury | 6 | 0 | 7 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 1 | $\mathbf{1 9}$ |
| Hypothermia | 0 | 7 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | $\mathbf{1 8}$ |
| Internal Injuries | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | $\mathbf{2}$ |
| Laceration | 5 | 0 | 6 | 4 | 3 | 0 | 1 | $\mathbf{1 9}$ |
| Neck Injury | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | $\mathbf{1}$ |
| Shock | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | $\mathbf{1}$ |
| Sprain/Strain | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | $\mathbf{2}$ |
| Unknown | 0 | 0 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | $\mathbf{6}$ |
| Total | $\mathbf{2 0}$ | $\mathbf{7}$ | $\mathbf{4 7}$ | $\mathbf{2 1}$ | $\mathbf{3}$ | $\mathbf{3}$ | $\mathbf{3}$ | $\mathbf{1 0 4}$ |

Fatal Boating Accidents


Fatal Accidents, Type of Boat and Operation

| \# Deaths |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Vessel | Operation | Cruising | Drifting | Paddling | Rowing | Undocking |
| Total |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cabin Motorboat | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | $\mathbf{4}$ |
| Canoe | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | $\mathbf{2}$ |
| Kayak | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | $\mathbf{1}$ |
| Open Motorboat | 4 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | $\mathbf{5}$ |
| Rowboat | 0 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | $\mathbf{3}$ |
| Total | $\mathbf{7}$ | $\mathbf{3}$ | $\mathbf{3}$ | $\mathbf{1}$ | $\mathbf{1}$ | $\mathbf{1 5}$ |



## Types of Fatal Accidents



Summary of Accident Causes


Note: These tables count the number of deceased for each type or cause of accident, not the number of accidents themselves.

## Summary of Fatal Boating Accidents

| Case \# | Date | Waterway | County | Alcohol? | Cause | Type of <br> Accident | Vessel |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2008001 | $3 / 6 / 2008$ | LAUREL LAKE | SUFFOLK | No | Passenger or <br> Skiier Behavior | Capsizing | Canoe |

Two men were fishing on Laurel Lake on 6 March, 2008 from a 16 foot canoe. They had been out for about 2.5 hours, when one of the men shifted his position, causing their canoe to capsize. They were both thrown into the icy cold water. One of the men was able to swim to shore; the other lost his life. Neither was wearing a life jacket.

| 2008211 | $5 / 15 / 2008$ | SAG HARBOR <br> BAY | SUFFOLK | Yes | Unknown | Falls <br> Overboard | Rowboat |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

A small rowboat was found capsized in the middle of the channel in Sag Harbor Bay. Thinking it was simply someone's boat broken loose from a mooring, it was tied up to a nearby dock. The owner of the boat was soon determined to be missing however, and after a search the bodies of he and another man were found in the waters of a neighboring town. There were no witnesses to the incident, and it is unclear if the men were in the rowboat when it capsized, or if they capsized it while trying to board. Both men were seen together prior to the accident, and reportedly both of them were under the influence.

| 2008076 | $6 / 7 / 2008$ | SACANDAGA <br> RESERVOIR | FULTON | Yes | Alcohol Use | Falls <br> Overboard | Open <br> Motorboat |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

While entering Hollow Bay on the Great Sacandaga Reservoir, the operator of a 16 -foot bass boat turned the vessel just as a wake from a different boat hit. The force of the turn and wake threw two passengers over the side of the boat. One of them struck his head as he went over, and did not re-surface. The other was able to re-enter the vessel quickly. All five of the persons on board were found to have been under the influence of alcohol prior to the incident, and none of them were wearing life jackets.

| 2008044 | 6/28/2008 | LAKE |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ONTARIO |  |  | MONROE $\quad$ Yes $\quad$ Alcohol Use | Collision w/ |
| :---: |
| Fixed |
| Object |$\quad$| Cabin |
| :---: |
| Motorboat |

The vessel in question was being operated westbound on Lake Ontario, with 6 people on board, a little before 2:00 am. The operator, a 35 -year-old male, failed to recognize that he was heading directly toward the Sumerville Pier. He struck the pier approximately 800 feet south of the end, killing three of his passengers and injuring himself and two others. The speed limit within the area of the pier is listed as 6 mph , and the investigation shows that the vessel was going significantly faster, based upon the extensive amount of damage. Beer cans were found within and without the vessel, and it was determiend that the operator was drinking at some point prior to the accident.

| 2008073 | $6 / 29 / 2008$ | SLOOP <br> CHANNEL | NASSAU | No | Unknown | Capsizing | Canoe |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

Sometime on the morning of 6/29, two men launched a canoe along the Sloop Channel in Nassau County. At some point the canoe capsized, with both occupants presumably being thrown into the water. Both occupants were later found to have drowned. It is unclear what had actually happened as there were no witnesses to the incident. Neither man was wearing a life jacket upon recovery, nor were any found with their canoe.

| Case \# | Date | Waterway | County | Alcohol? | Cause | Type of <br> Accident | Vessel |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2008084 | $7 / 12 / 2008$ | ATLANTIC <br> OCEAN | NASSAU | No | Hazardous Waters | Falls <br> Overboard | Open <br> Motorboat |

An 18 -foot open motorboat was found adrift without an operator. A search found the victim in the water, and unresponsive. There was no life jacket on the victim. Upon investigation, it was determined that the victim was fishing at the time of the accident. It is unclear how he fell out of his vessel; there was no apparent damage to the boat, and no other signs indicating what might have happened. Alcohol was determined not to be a factor.

| 2008101 | $7 / 28 / 2008$ | HUDSON <br> RIVER | Orange | No | No Proper Lookout | Grounding |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | | Open |
| :---: |
| Motorboat |

Five persons were travelling in a 26 -foot motorboat heading southbound in the Con Hook area of the Hudson River at night at approximately 35 mph . The operator of this vessel, unfamiliar with his location and suddenly realizing he was approaching shore, reportedly turned the wheel sharply, causing the vessel to flip over on top of the five occupants. One of the five was unable to get out from under the vessel and drowned.

| 2008241 | $8 / 16 / 2008$ | GREAT SOUTH <br> BAY | SUFFOLK | No | Poor Visibility <br> (Restricted Vision) | Collision w/ <br> Fixed <br> Object | Open <br> Motorboat |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

Two people were cruising west on the Great South Bay in a 23 -foot open motorboat in the very early hours of the morning. As they neared the Robert Moses Bridge, the operator misjudged his distance from the bridge supports and struck same. The center console of the vessel tore loose from the deck, and struck the operator, causing him fatal traumatic injuries.

| 2008164 | $8 / 31 / 2008$ | ONEIDA LAKE | ONEIDA | No | Wake | Falls <br> Overboard | Cabin <br> Motorboat |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

Four persons were travelling west from the Barge Canal onto Oneida Lake on a 23 -foot motorboat. While in the vicinity of Buoy 107, one of the passengers began pulling the fenders in from the port side of the vessel. The vessel struck a wave, causing that passenger to lose his balance and fall overboard. The operator immediately turned the vessel around to retrieve him, while another occupant threw a PFD to the victim, who was not wearing his own lifejacket. Another vessel reached the victim first however, and when they pulled him from the water he was not responsive, and not breathing. He was transported to the hospital and pronounced dead.

| 2008174 | $9 / 1 / 2008$ | SANDY POND | OSWEGO | No | Wake | Skier <br> Mishap | Open <br> Motorboat |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

The victim, a 50 -year-old female, was being pulled in a tube behind an 18 -foot open motorboat on Sandy Pond, in Oswego County. The tube struck a large wake, causing the victim to be thrown from her tube. When the vessel circled around to assist her she was found to be unresponsive, and it was later determined that she died from traumatic injury resulting from her impact with the water.

| Case \# | Date | Waterway | County | Alcohol? | Cause | Type of <br> Accident | Vessel |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2008236 | $10 / 13 / 2008$ | STONY BROOK <br> HARBOR | ROCKLAND | No | Unknown | Unknown | Cabin <br> Motorboat |

Victim was presumably either on his boat, or climbing on or off his boat, which was untied and running in its slip at a local marina. A nearby person heard him calling for help. Respondants found the vessel, and after a search of the area recovered the victim. There were no witnesses to the accident, and it is uncertain why he fell into the water.

| 2008209 | $10 / 18 / 2008$ | GREAT SOUTH <br> BAY | SUFFOLK | No | Excessive Speed | Falls <br> Overboard | Cabin <br> Motorboat |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

While cruising the Great South Bay, the vessel struck a submerged object, shearing off the outdrive, and causing a great deal of structural damage. The force of the strike caused fatal traumatic injury to a passenger on the vessel, a 29-foot powerboat.

| 2008210 | $10 / 19 / 2008$ | MOUNTAIN <br> LAKE | SULLIVAN | No | Passenger / Skier <br> Behavior | Capsizing | Rowboat |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

Four friends were fishing from a small rowboat. One of the four stood up to shift posiitons and caused the vessel to capsize, throwing all four into the water. One of the four was able to swim to shore and alerted authorities to the accident. By the time assistance arrived on the scene however, the other three had drowned. The water was approximately 8 -feet deep, and none of the four were wearing a life jacket.

| 2008239 | $12 / 30 / 2008$ | Lower Rhoda <br> Pond | COLUMBIA | Unknown | Hazardous Waters | Capsizing | Kayak |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

Two friends were kayaking on Little Rhoda Pond in Columbia County. Both had been swimming in the water previously. They flipped their kayaks, perhaps intentionally, and entered the water. One of the two swam to shore, thinking his friend was right behind him. The victim never made it out of the water however, and his body was not recovered until several hours later after an extensive search.

