ILLINOIS

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

BOATING ACCIDENT REPORT

2005

ILLINOIS
DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL
RESOURCES

Illinois Department of Natural Resources

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FOREWORD

Boating Accidents 2005 contains statistics on recreational boating accidents, recreational boating enforcement, boating safety and boat registering activities. This publication is a result of the coordinated effort of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) and those jurisdictions which investigate recreational boating accidents and enforce boating laws in the State of Illinois.

Boating Accidents 2005, may be copied freely in the interest of boating safety. For questions and suggestions regarding content, availability of the current or back issues, use the address or telephone number at the top of this page. For an electronic copy, visit the Illinois Department of Natural Resources Web Site at http://dnr.state.il.us

MISSION

The Office of Law Enforcement supports the Department's programs designed to protect Illinois' natural and recreational resources through enforcement of those portions of the Illinois Compiled Statutes enacted for that purpose. Conservation Police Officers are vested with full state-wide police authority and are trained to the highest standards for law enforcement professionals in Illinois.

In addition to these enforcement responsibilities, Conservation Police Officers serve as an important link between the Department and its various constituencies (civic groups, sportsmen's groups, sport shows, etc.). These officers are called upon to assist outside agencies in emergency situations or rescue operations. They participate in the instruction of conservation related statutes to outside agencies, law enforcement organizations, or educational institutions upon request.

Law Enforcement Creed

"To serve, protect, educate, and assist the public in its outdoor recreational endeavors."
"To be a vigilant guardian of the natural resources on behalf of the citizens of the State of Illinois."
"To encourage the wise use of our natural resources and to insure no harm to public safety, or to the environment, in this pursuit."
"To educate the inadvertent violator of Conservation Law and to take the appropriate level of enforcement action to achieve this goal."
"To relentlessly pursue the unrepentant offender and bring him before the court for judgement."
"To conduct our personal outdoor recreational activities in an exemplary manner, above reproach, and serve as a role model of outdoor ethics to our peers and to the general public."
"This we pledge to the citizens of Illinois."

Captain Gregory P. Hunter, 273
Region I Commander
Illinois Boating Law Administrator

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INTRODUCTION

SCOPE

This report contains statistics on recreational boating accidents, registered boats, boating enforcement, and information on boating safety activities for calendar year 2005. Data used to compile the recreational boating accident statistics come from two sources: (1) Boating Accident Reports of IDNR investigations of boating accidents that occurred on waters within the State; and (2) reports forwarded to the IDNR by other jurisdictions within the State. In the absence of investigations, information is collected from the accident reports filed by boat operators. Data used to compile the boating enforcement statistics come from three sources: (1) IDNR Conservation Police Officer (CPO) Daily Activity Reports; and (2) Operating Under the Influence Reports of CPO's; and (3) reports forwarded to the IDNR by other jurisdictions within the State.

ACCIDENT REPORTING

Current regulations (625 ILCS 45/ 6-1) require the operator of any vessel, numbered or used for recreational purposes to file a Boating Accident Report (BAR) when, as a result of an occurrence that involves the vessel or its equipment:

1. A person dies; or
2. A person is injured and requires medical treatment beyond first aid, i.e. treatment at a medical facility or by a medical professional other than at the accident scene; or
3. Damage to vessels and other property totals $2000 or more (United States Coast Guard Standard) or there is a complete loss of any vessel.; or
4. A person disappears from the vessel under circumstances that indicate death or injury.

Boat operators are required to report their accidents to authorities in the jurisdiction where the accident occurred. The State of Illinois boating accident reporting guidelines are the following: involved in a personal injury, where a person is incapacitated for a period exceeding 72 hours; or damage to vessels and other property totals $2000 or more; or there is a complete loss of any vessel must be filed with the IDNR on a Department Boating Accident Report (BAR) form within 5 days. Boating accidents that result in loss of life shall be reported to the IDNR on a Department Boating Accident Report (BAR) form within 48 hours. The statistics in this publication are based on accident data submitted by the reporting jurisdictions as of December 31, 2005 and covers only accidents meeting the United States Coast Guard minimum reporting requirements listed above. The statistics in this publication cover boating accidents reported on waters of this State

USE OF THE STATISTICS

Users of the statistics in this report need to be aware of the following facts that may affect results of analyses of accident report data:

1. Some accidents are not in the system because they are not required to be reported. Many more accidents are not reported because boaters are not aware of the accident reporting regulations as well as the difficulty law enforcement agencies encounter in enforcing those regulations. We believe that only a small fraction of boating accidents occurring in the State of Illinois are not reported to the IDNR or local law enforcement agencies. However, we believe that nearly all fatal recreational boating accidents are included in this report. Overall, the more serious the accident, the more frequent the reporting.

2. Non-fatal accidents cannot be assumed to have occurred in numbers proportional to the reported statistics because the act of reporting an accident is not a random sampling of accidents in the statistical sense. Rather, selection is based on the ability and willingness of those involved to file a report.

3. Fluctuations from year to year in statistics may be caused by factors other than the change in the total number of recreational watercraft. A seemingly small change in the low reporting rate may cause a relatively large change in the statistics.

4. Recreational boating enforcement is not a random sampling of arrests in the statistical sense. Rather, selection is based on arrests the Conservation Police and other law enforcement agencies involved report to the IDNR.

ACCIDENTS EXCLUDED FROM THE REPORT

This report does not include the following:

1. Accidents involving only property damage of less than $2000.

2. Accidents involving only slight injury which did not require medical treatment beyond first aid;

3. Accidents which were not caused or contributed to by a vessel, its equipment, or its appendages;

4. Accidents where a person died or was injured from natural causes while aboard a vessel;

5. Accidents were a person died or was injured while swimming to retrieve an object or a vessel that was adrift from its mooring or dock, having departed from the shore or pier;

6. Accidents involving damage, injury or death on a docked or moored vessel that resulted from storms, or swell conditions

7. Accidents where a person died or was injured while swimming for pleasure from a vessel that WAS NOT underway (i.e., the vessel was anchored, moored, or docked). In those cases, the vessel was being used as a platform for other activities, such as swimming or diving, and was not involved in any event that contributed to the casualty.

ACCIDENTS THAT ARE INCLUDED IN THIS REPORT

This report includes the following boating accidents involving a swimmer, a recreational vessel and its operation:

1. A person dies or is injured while swimming because of carbon monoxide poisoning;

2. A person dies or is injured while swimming because a vessel is improperly connected to shore power and resultant stray electrical current enters the water causing electrocution;

3. A person dies or is injured after leaving a vessel that is underway to swim for pleasure because the vessel IS NOT anchored, moored or docked and the vessel drifts away from the swimmer and the swimmer is unable to get back to the vessel;

4. A person is struck by a vessel or its associated equipment where the vessel serves as the instrument striking the person.

Accident reports for sixteen (16) fatalities were entered into the IDNR System that satisfy the reporting requirements above for inclusion in this report.

BOAT ACCIDENTS AT A GLANCE

Between 1993 - 2005, the State of Illinois registered 4,521,660 recreational boats. During these years 1,783 boating accidents were reported that resulted in 230 fatalities, 1,117 injuries. For comparison purposes, the following represents the number of reportable boating accidents, injuries, fatalities, and vessels for the past 12 years:

Year	Total Number of Accidents	Total Number of Injuries	Total Number of Fatalities	Total Number of Vessels	Percentage of Fatalities per Accident
1993	134	94	32	163	23.88%
1994	157	131	17	211	10.83%
1995	178	88	16	228	8.98%
1996	155	90	27	214	17.42%
1997	145	81	14	224	9.65%
1998	176	107	19	No Data	10.80%
1999	159	75	13	238	8.18%
2000	155	76	14	231	9.03%
2001	112	75	8	171	7.14%
2002	135	92	23	188	17.04%
2003	84	63	13	122	15.48%
2004	78	45	18	103	23.08%
2005	115	100	16	152	13.91%
Total	1783	1117	230	2245	12.89%

* In 2003 the Coast Guard's reporting criteria for property damage went from $500 to $2,000.
* In 2006 the IDNR's reporting criteria for property damage went from $500 to $2,000.

BOATING SAFETY EDUCATION COURSE

Since 1993, Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR), has certified 42,661 out of 43,738 boating safety students. IDNR instruct on average over 3,000 students per year with a success rate of 97%. Boating safety courses are offered free to the public. The courses review boating laws and provide instruction on safe and attentive operation of watercraft. These courses are taught by dedicated, trained volunteers who are certified by the IDNR to teach safe boating classes. Many volunteers carry additional certification in boating safety instruction from the US Coast Guard Auxiliary or the US Power Squadrons. Course schedules are available by contacting the IDNR Safety Education Office at 800/832-2599, Ameritech Relay 800/526-0844, or TDD 217/782-9175. IDNR Safety Education provides course schedules and offers courses over the internet which can be accessed through the IDNR web site at http://dnr.state.il.us.

In 2005, the Department of Natural Resources (IDNR), certified 3,122 out of 3,218 boating safety students. During May 2005 the Boat-Ed internet course was officially offered to the citizens of Illinois. There have been 890 individuals take the exam, 732 passed with 158 failing. The certification of 3,122 passing students was an increase of 519 passing students from 2004.

Approximately 90% of all reported fatalities occurred on boats where the operator had not received or it was unknown if the operator had received boating safety instruction.

REPORTING CRITERIA AND GUIDELINES FOR WATERCRAFT ACCIDENTS

The State of Illinois boating accident reporting guidelines are the following: involved in a personal injury, where a person is incapacitated for a period exceeding 72 hours; or damage to vessels and other property totals $2000 or more or there is a complete loss of any vessel must be filed with the IDNR on a Department Boating Accident Report (BAR) form within 5 days. Boating accidents that result in loss of life shall be reported to the IDNR on a Department Boating Accident Report (BAR) form within 48 hours.

A recreational boating accident means a recreational vessel, a numbered vessel, or a documented vessel is being used by its operator for recreational purposes AND one or more of the following events occur involving the vessel or its equipment:

- Grounding;
- Capsizing;
- Flooding / Swamping;
- Falls within or overboard a vessel;
- Person(s) ejected from a vessel;
- Person leaves a vessel that is underway to swim for pleasure;
- Person leaves a vessel in an attempt to retrieve a lost item, another person, or another vessel;
- Sinking;
- Fire or Explosion;
- Skier Mishap;
- Collision with another vessel or object;
- Striking a submerged object;
- The vessel, propeller, propulsion unit, or steering machinery strikes a person;
- Carbon Monoxide asphyxiation.

As a general guideline, if any of the above events occur and there is a reasonable likelihood that as a result of the event(s) – an injury, death, or property damage occurs – the incident is a recreational boating accident. More than likely, the boating trip would have been successfully completed without incident had any of the above event(s) not occurred.

The guidelines on the following page list occurrences directly or indirectly involving a vessel where vessel activities or operation DID NOT contribute to a boating accident. The occurrences alone are considered to be outside the scope of a boating safety program. While these occurrences may be reported in the State of Illinois, they will be classified as "non-reportable recreational boating accidents."

NON-REPORTABLE GUIDELINES

a. A person dies or is injured from self-inflicted wounds, alcohol poisoning, ingestion of drugs, controlled substances or poison; or from gunshot wounds.

b. A person dies or is injured from assault by another person or persons while aboard a vessel.

c. A person dies or is injured from natural causes while aboard a vessel.

d. A person dies or is injured while swimming for pleasure from a vessel that IS NOT underway (the vessel is anchored, moored, or docked). CAUTION needs to be exercised to confirm that the vessel was used as a swimming platform only. The following are REPORTABLE boating accidents involving a swimmer, a recreational vessel and its operation:

• A person dies or is injured while swimming because of Carbon Monoxide asphyxiation;

• A person dies or is injured while swimming because a vessel is improperly connected to shore power and resultant stray electrical current enters the water causing electrocution;

• A person dies or is injured after leaving a vessel that is underway to swim for pleasure because the vessel IS NOT anchored, moored or docked and the vessel drifts away from the swimmer and the swimmer is unable to get back to the vessel.

e. A person dies or is injured in swimming to retrieve an object or a vessel that is adrift from its mooring or dock, having departed from the shore or pier.

f. A person dies, or is injured after falling or jumping from a swim raft that is moored or anchored for use as a swimming platform or other purpose.

g. A person dies, is injured, or property damage occurs while preparing a vessel for launching or retrieving a vessel AND the vessel is not in or upon the water.

h. Damage, injury or death results from a fire on shore or a pier that spreads to a vessel or vessels.

I. A person dies, is injured, or property damage results from an "ice boat" accident. An ice boat is a sail-powered device which rides on runners/blades over the ice on frozen lakes and rivers and carries at least the operator. It cannot be used as a conventional sailboat on open water.

j. Damage, injury or death on a docked or moored vessel resulting from storms or swell conditions

k. Damage to a docked or moored vessel due to theft or any vandalism.

l. Deaths, injury or damage on a docked or moored or anchored non-propelled houseboat or other vessel used primarily as a permanent residence.

m. A person dies or is injured while using underwater breathing apparatus (i.e., snorkeling or scuba diving) and the vessel did not contribute to the casualty.

BOAT REGISTRATION

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

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

A. Class A (all canoes and kayaks)..... $6

B. Class 1 (all watercraft less than 16 feet in length, except canoes / kayaks).....$15

C. Class 2 (all watercraft 16 feet or more but less than 26 feet in length except canoes/kayaks)..$45

D. Class 3 (all watercraft 26 feet or more but less than 40 feet in length)...$75

E. Class 4 (all watercraft 40 feet in length or more).....$100

*** Registration is valid for three years**

BOATING STATISTICAL SUMMARY

In 2005, there were 115 accidents, resulting in 100 injuries and 16 deaths. In 2004, there were 78 accidents, resulting in 45 injuries and 18 deaths. Boating enforcement is considered to be a high priority and maximum available coverage was provided. During the 2005 recreational boating season, Conservation Police Officers (CPOs) made 185 operating under the influence (OUI) of alcohol or drugs arrests. The 185 OUI arrests is a 58 percent increase from 117 OUI arrests in 2004. Other Law Enforcement agencies made 93 OUI arrests, for a total of 278 OUI arrests. CPOs emphasis on OUI enforcement remains a high priority. All officers have been trained in OUI detection and arrest procedures. Conservation Police Officers issued 1,403 citations for various infractions of the Boat Registration and Safety Act during the 2005 season.

Boating accident reports indicate that the majority of accidents occur between June and August, on Saturday or Sunday, between noon and six at night. Conditions are usually clear with good visibility, light winds, and calm water. Most accidents involve operators between the ages of twenty and forty who have over one hundred hours of boating experience but have little or no classroom boating safety instruction. They also involve open motorboats cruising in a carelessness/reckless manner when they collided with another boat.

The number of reportable boating accidents made a dramatic increase (115) from an all time low in 2004 (78). Although the fatality rate declined, the combination of personal injury and fatal accidents combined for total 116 out of 115 accidents.

Sixteen people died in Illinois boating accidents in 2005, which is a decrease from the eighteen reported for the 2004 season. As is usually the case, most fatalities occurred on clear, sunny days with mild winds and good visibility. Alcohol use along with operator inattention or carelessness remains a major cause of fatalities contributed to by the lack of boater education.

Once again the one thing that would have saved the most lives this past season would have been for people to wear their Personal Floatation Devices (PFDs's). Of 16 fatalities, 12 may possibly have survived if they had only worn their PFD's. Three people died from blunt force trauma and other injuries. The leading type of accidents involving fatalities were falling overboard and capsizing.

The State of Illinois does not require the wearing of a Coast Guard-approved PFD. However, for persons under the age of 13 and operators/passengers on personal watercraft or specialty prop-craft, wearing a Coast Guard-approved PFD is required by law. The most proactive action a boater can do to ensure their safety on the water is by wearing a Coast Guard-approved PFD that is the appropriate size and in serviceable condition.

The Department of Natural Resources challenges all Conservation Police Officers and Volunteer Boat Safety Instructors to teach as many safety classes as possible, focusing on PFDs, Inland Rules to Navigation, Boating Under the Influence and Reckless/Careless Operation.

BOATING ACCIDENT REPORT - 2005

As of January 2006, Illinois' Boating Accident Report (BAR) requires $2,000 damage to vessels (United States Coast Guard Standard)

Total Accidents	**115**	**Fatalities**	
# of Injuries	100	#Died by Drowning	12
# of Fatalities	16	#Died from Trauma	4
# of Vessels	152	# Other	0
		# Unknown	0
		Total	**16**

ACCIDENT TIMES

ACCIDENT STATISTICS BY DAY OF THE WEEK

Day of Week	#Accidents	#Injuries	#Fatalities	#Vessels
Sunday	49	39	4	63
Monday	9	8	2	12
Tuesday	6	4	2	7
Wednesday	9	7	1	12
Thursday	10	14	3	13
Friday	2	0	1	2
Saturday	30	28	3	43
Total	**115**	**100**	**16**	**152**

ACCIDENT STATISTICS BY MONTH OF THE YEAR

Month	#Accidents	#Injuries	#Fatalities	#Vessels
January	0	0	0	0
February	0	0	0	0
March	2	4	0	2
April	3	1	2	3
May	17	11	2	23
June	22	16	3	31
July	38	38	3	50
August	16	14	4	21
September	11	9	0	16
October	2	0	1	2
November	3	6	1	3
December	1	1	0	1
Total	**115**	**100**	**16**	**152**

ACCIDENT STATISTICS BY TIME OF DAY

Time	#Accidents	#Injuries	#Fatalities	#Vessels
Unknown	0	0	0	0
Midnight - 6:00 a.m.	4	0	4	4
6:01 a.m. - 12:00 noon	13	6	1	18
12:01 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	70	66	8	94
6:01 p.m. - Midnight	28	28	3	36
Total	**115**	**100**	**16**	**152**

CONDITIONS AT THE TIME OF THE ACCIDENT

ACCIDENT STATISTICS BY WATER CONDITIONS

Water	#Accidents	#Injuries	#Fatalities	#Vessels
Calm (Waves < 6")	70	65	12	94
Choppy (Waves 6"-2')	34	22	2	46
Rough (Waves 2'-6')	9	10	2	9
Very Rough (Waves >6')	0	0	0	0
Unknown	2	3	0	3
Total	**115**	**100**	**16**	**152**

ACCIDENT STATISTICS BY WEATHER CONDITIONS

Weather	#Accidents	#Injuries	#Fatalities	#Vessels
Clear	97	88	13	132
Cloudy	18	12	3	20
Fog	0	0	0	0
Rain	0	0	0	0
Hazy	0	0	0	0
Unknown	0	0	0	0
Total	**115**	**100**	**16**	**152**

ACCIDENT STATISTICS BY WIND CONDITIONS

Wind	#Accidents	#Injuries	#Fatalities	#Vessels
None	13	11	0	16
Light (0-6 mph)	68	64	11	94
Moderate (7-14 mph)	19	17	2	24
Strong(15-25 mph)	9	3	3	10
Stormy (>25 mph)	3	3	0	4
Unknown	3	2	0	4
Total	**115**	**100**	**16**	**152**

ACCIDENT STATISTICS BY VISIBILITY

Visibility	#Accidents	#Injuries	#Fatalities	#Vessels
Good	102	79	15	134
Fair	9	17	1	13
Poor	1	1	0	1
Unknown	3	3	0	4
Total	**115**	**100**	**16**	**152**

ACCIDENT TYPE

ACCIDENT STATISTICS BY TYPE OF ACCIDENT

Type Of Accident	#Accidents	# Injuries	#Fatalities	#Vessels
Capsizing	10	7	5	10
Collision w/fixed object	9	9	0	10
Collision w/floating object	4	3	0	6
Collision w/vessel	26	31	2	52
Fall in boat	4	2	2	4
Falls overboard	12	11	4	12
Fire/Explosion (fuel)	5	9	0	5
Flooding/Swamping	8	3	0	9
Grounding	4	3	0	4
Sinking	3	3	0	3
Skier Mishap	7	7	0	8
Starting Engine	0	0	0	0
Struck submerged object	8	1	0	8
Struck by boat	3	2	0	5
Struck by motor/propeller	0	0	0	0
Other	12	9	3	16
Total	**115**	**100**	**16**	**152**

BOAT INFORMATION

ACCIDENT STATISTICS BY TYPE OF BOAT

Type Of Boat	#Injuries	#Fatalities	#Vessels
Auxiliary Sail	1	0	2
Cabin Motorboat	12	1	22
Houseboat	0	1	3
Open Motorboat	44	7	66
Personal Watercraft	36	2	42
Pontoon	6	2	7
Rowboat	0	1	1
Sail Only	0	0	0
Other	0	2	5
Unknown	1	0	4
Total	**100**	**16**	**152**

ACCIDENT STATISTICS BY OPERATION AT TIME OF ACCIDENT

Vessel Operation	#Injuries	#Fatalities	#Vessels
At Anchor	7	2	7
Changing Direction	6	0	10
Changing Speed	17	1	23
Cruising	42	3	71
Docking/Undocking	0	0	3
Drifting	12	6	14
Launching	0	0	1
Rowing/Padding	2	1	2
Sailing	0	0	0
Tied to Dock/mooring	7	0	6
Unknown	5	1	9
Other	2	2	6
Total	**100**	**16**	**152**

ACCIDENT CAUSES

ACCIDENT STATISTICS BY PRIMARY CAUSE OF ACCIDENT

Primary Cause	#Accidents	#Injuries	#Fatalities	#Vessels
Alcohol Use	8	8	2	12
Careless/Reckless Operation	14	15	2	24
Congested Waters	6	7	0	9
Equipment Failure	3	1	1	4
Electrical Wiring	1	0	0	1
Excessive Speed	3	5	0	3
Failure to Vent	2	4	0	2
Hazardous Waters	8	9	1	8
Hull Failure	0	0	0	0
Improper Anchoring	1	0	0	1
No Proper Lookout	1	0	0	2
Operator Inattention	16	16	2	23
Operator Inexperience	6	6	0	7
Restricted Vision	2	0	0	3
Sharp Turn	3	2	1	3
Standing/Sitting on gunwales, bow	1	0	1	1
Struck Submerged/Floating Object	3	0	0	3
Wake	13	13	0	14
Weather (Heavy)	5	0	1	7
Other	11	5	2	14
Unknown	8	9	3	11
Total	**115**	**100**	**16**	**152**

OPERATOR INFORMATION

ACCIDENT STATISTICS BY OPERATOR EDUCATION

Operator Education	#Injuries	#Fatalities	#Vessels
American Red Cross	0	0	1
Informal	6	1	14
State Course	13	0	15
U.S. Power Squadron	2	1	7
U.S.C.G. Auxiliary	2	0	2
None	48	4	66
Unknown	29	10	47
Total	**100**	**16**	**152**

ACCIDENT STATISTICS BY OPERATOR EXPERIENCE

Operator Experience	#Injuries	#Fatalities	#Vessels
Under 10 hours	15	1	18
10 - 100 hours	20	1	23
Over 100 hours	53	6	82
Unknown	12	8	29
Total	**100**	**16**	**152**

ACCIDENT STATISTICS BY OPERATOR AGE

Operator Age	#Injuries	Fatalities	#Vessels
< 10	0	0	0
10-12	4	0	2
13-17	7	2	8
18-19	1	1	2
20-29	26	2	32
30-39	27	0	35
40-49	21	4	36
50-59	11	3	13
60-69	1	1	8
70 +	0	3	4
Unknown	2	0	12
Total	**100**	**16**	**152**

ACCIDENT LOCATION

ACCIDENT STATISTICS BY BODY OF WATER

Body Of Water	#Accidents	#Injuries	#Fatalities	#Vessels
Braidwood Lake	2	2	0	2
Cal Sag Ship Canal	2	0	0	3
Calumet River	2	2	1	2
Carlyle Lake	5	4	1	5
Carp Lake	1	2	0	1
Centralia lake	1	2	1	2
Chicago River	2	0	0	3
Clinton Lake	6	11	1	8
Crab Orchard Lake	1	0	0	1
Des Plaines River	1	0	0	1
Fox Lake	2	0	1	2
Fox River	5	6	0	8
Harbor Point Subdivisions	1	0	1	1
Illinois River	13	11	1	16
Kankakee River	4	7	0	6
Kaskaskia River	5	4	0	7
Kinkaid Lake	4	3	1	7
Kishwaukee River	1	2	0	1
Lake Decatur	1	2	0	1
Lake Egypt	2	1	0	3
Lake Marie	2	4	0	3
Lake Michigan	9	2	1	13
Lake Petersburg	2	1	1	2
Lake Sara	1	2	0	1
Lake Shelbyville	3	1	1	4
Lake Springfield	1	1	0	1
Meredosia Lake	1	1	0	1
Millcreek Lake	1	1	0	1
Mississippi River	17	11	2	24
Nippersink Lake	1	1	0	2
Private Pond	3	2	2	3
Rend Lake	3	0	0	3
Rock River	5	10	0	8
Round Lake	1	2	0	2
Stephen Forbes SP Lake	1	1	0	1
Vermilion River	1	0	0	1
Wabash River	1	1	0	1
White Hall Reservoir	1	0	1	1
TOTAL	**115**	**100**	**16**	**152**

BODY OF WATER BROKEN DOWN
BY COUNTY

Waterway	#Accidents	#Injuries	#Fatalities	#Vessels
Braidwood Lake				
Will County	2	2	0	2
Subtotal	**2**	**2**	**0**	**2**
Cal Sag Ship Canal				
Cook County	2	0	0	3
Subtotal	**2**	**0**	**0**	**3**
Calumet River				
Cook County	2	2	1	2
Subtotal	**2**	**2**	**1**	**2**
Carlyle Lake				
Clinton County	5	4	1	5
Subtotal	**5**	**4**	**1**	**5**
Centralia lake				
Marion County	1	2	1	2
Subtotal	**1**	**2**	**1**	**2**
Chicago River				
Cook County	2	0	0	3
Subtotal	**2**	**0**	**0**	**3**
Clinton Lake				
DeWitt County	6	11	1	8
Subtotal	**6**	**11**	**1**	**8**
Crab Orchard Lake				
Williamson County	1	0	0	1
Subtotal	**1**	**0**	**0**	**1**
Des Plaines River				
Will County	1	0	0	1
Subtotal	**1**	**0**	**0**	**1**
Fox Lake				
Lake County	2	0	1	2
Subtotal	**2**	**0**	**1**	**2**
Fox River				
Kane County	1	1	0	1
Lake County	1	1	0	1
McHenry County	3	4	0	6
Subtotal	**5**	**6**	**0**	**8**
Harbor Point Subdivisions				
Champaign County	1	0	1	1
Subtotal	**1**	**0**	**1**	**1**
Illinois River				
Bureau County	1	1	0	1
Grundy County	1	1	0	1
LaSalle County	8	7	0	10
Peoria County	2	1	1	3
Scott County	1	1	0	1
Subtotal	**13**	**11**	**1**	**16**

Body of Water Broken Down By County cont.

Waterway	#Accidents	#Injuries	#Fatalities	#Vessels
Kankakee River				
Kankakee County	2	3	0	3
Will County	1	1	0	2
Subtotal	**3**	**4**	**0**	**5**
Kaskaskia River				
Randolph County	3	3	0	4
St. Clair County	2	1	0	3
Subtotal	**5**	**4**	**0**	**7**
Kinkaid Lake				
Jackson County	4	3	1	7
Subtotal	**4**	**3**	**1**	**7**
Kishwaukee River				
Boone County	1	2	0	1
Subtotal	**1**	**2**	**0**	**1**
Lake Decatur				
Boone County	1	2	0	1
Subtotal	**1**	**2**	**0**	**1**
Lake Egypt				
Johnson County	1	1	0	2
Williamson County	1	0	0	1
Subtotal	**2**	**1**	**0**	**3**
Lake Marie				
Lake County	2	4	0	3
Subtotal	**2**	**4**	**0**	**3**
Lake Michigan				
Cook County	7	1	0	11
Lake County	2	1	1	2
Subtotal	**9**	**2**	**1**	**13**
Lake Petersburg				
Menard County	2	1	1	2
Subtotal	**2**	**1**	**1**	**2**
Lake Sara				
Effingham County	1	2	0	1
Subtotal	**1**	**2**	**0**	**1**
Lake Shelbyville				
Shelby County	3	1	1	4
Subtotal	**3**	**1**	**1**	**4**
Lake Springfield				
Sangamon County	1	1	0	1
Subtotal	**1**	**1**	**0**	**1**
Meredosia Lake				
Morgan County	1	1	0	1
Subtotal	**1**	**1**	**0**	**1**
Millcreek Lake				
Clark County	1	1	0	1
Subtotal	**1**	**1**	**0**	**1**

Body of Water Broken Down By County cont.

Waterway	#Accidents	#Injuries	#Fatalities	#Vessels
Mississippi River				
Adams County	1	1	0	2
Calhoun County	3	0	0	5
Hancock County	2	1	0	2
Henderson County	1	1	0	2
Jersey County	1	1	0	1
JoDaviess County	4	1	2	5
Rock Island County	4	5	0	5
St. Clair County	1	1	0	2
Subtotal	**17**	**11**	**2**	**24**
Nippersink Lake				
Lake County	1	1	0	2
Subtotal	**1**	**1**	**0**	**2**
Private Pond				
Clay County	1	0	1	1
Franklin County	1	0	1	1
Peoria County	1	2	0	1
Subtotal	**3**	**2**	**2**	**3**
Rend Lake				
Franklin County	2	0	0	2
Subtotal	**2**	**0**	**0**	**2**
Rock River				
Whiteside County	1	5	0	1
Winnebago County	4	5	0	7
Subtotal	**5**	**10**	**0**	**8**
Round Lake				
Lake County	1	2	0	2
Subtotal	**1**	**2**	**0**	**2**
Stephen Forbes SP Lake				
Marion County	1	1	0	1
Subtotal	**1**	**1**	**0**	**1**
Vermilion River				
Livingston County	1	0	0	1
Subtotal	**1**	**0**	**0**	**1**
White Hall Reservoir				
Greene County	1	0	1	1
Subtotal	**1**	**0**	**1**	**1**
Wabash River				
White County	1	1	0	1
Subtotal	**1**	**1**	**0**	**1**
TOTAL	**115**	**100**	**16**	**152**

ACCIDENT STATISTICS BY COUNTY

County	#Accidents	#Injuries	#Fatalities	#Vessels
Adam County	1	1	0	2
Boone County	1	2	0	1
Bureau County	1	1	0	1
Calhoun County	3	0	0	5
Cass County	1	0	1	1
Champaign County	1	0	1	1
Clark County	1	1	0	1
Clay County	1	0	1	1
Clinton County	5	4	1	5
Cook County	13	3	1	19
Dewitt County	6	11	1	8
Effingham County	1	2	0	1
Franklin County	3	0	0	3
Greene County	1	0	1	1
Grundy County	2	3	0	2
Hancock County	2	1	0	2
Henderson County	1	1	0	2
Jackson County	4	3	1	7
Jersey County	1	1	0	1
JoDaviess County	4	1	2	5
Johnson County	1	1	0	2
Kane County	1	1	0	1
Kankakee County	3	6	0	4
Lake County	9	9	2	12
LaSalle County	8	7	0	10
Livingston County	1	0	0	1
Macon County	1	2	0	1
Marion County	2	3	1	3
McHenry County	3	4	0	6
Menard County	2	1	1	2
Morgan County	1	1	0	1
Peoria County	3	3	1	4
Randolph County	3	3	0	4
Rock Island County	4	5	0	5
Sangamon County	1	1	0	1
Scott County	1	1	0	1
Shelby County	3	1	1	4
St Clair County	3	2	0	5
White County	1	1	0	1
Whiteside County	1	5	0	1
Will County	4	3	0	5
Williamson County	2	0	0	2
Winnebago County	4	5	0	7
TOTAL	**115**	**100**	**16**	**152**

COUNTIES BROKEN DOWN BY BODY OF WATER

County	#Accidents	#Injuries	#Fatalities	#Vessels
Adam County				
Mississippi River	1	1	0	2
Subtotal	**1**	**1**	**0**	**2**
Boone County				
Kishwaukee River	1	2	0	1
Subtotal	**1**	**2**	**0**	**1**
Bureau County				
Illinois River	1	1	0	1
Subtotal	**1**	**1**	**0**	**1**
Calhoun County				
Mississippi River	3	0	0	5
Subtotal	**3**	**0**	**0**	**5**
Cass County				
Private Lake	1	0	1	1
Subtotal	**1**	**0**	**1**	**1**
Champaign County				
Harbor Point Subdivisions	1	0	1	1
Subtotal	**1**	**0**	**1**	**1**
Clark County				
Millcreek Lake	1	1	0	1
Subtotal	**1**	**1**	**0**	**1**
Clay County				
Private Pond	1	0	1	1
Subtotal	**1**	**0**	**1**	**1**
Clinton County				
Carlyle Lake	5	4	1	5
Subtotal	**5**	**4**	**1**	**5**
Cook County				
Cal-Sag Channel	2	0	0	3
Calumet River	2	2	1	2
Chicago River	2	0	0	3
Lake Michigan	7	1	0	11
Subtotal	**13**	**3**	**1**	**19**
Dewitt County				
Clinton Lake	6	11	1	8
Subtotal	**6**	**11**	**1**	**8**
Effingham County				
Lake Sara	1	2	0	1
Subtotal	**1**	**2**	**0**	**1**
Franklin County				
Rend Lake	2	0	0	2
Subtotal	**2**	**0**	**0**	**2**

Counties Broken Down By Body of Water cont.

County	#Accidents	#Injuries	#Fatalities	#Vessels
Greene County				
White Hall Reservoir	1	0	1	1
Subtotal	**1**	**0**	**1**	**1**
Grundy County				
Carp Lake	1	2	0	1
Illinois River	1	1	0	1
Subtotal	**2**	**3**	**0**	**2**
Hancock County				
Mississippi River	2	1	0	2
Subtotal	**2**	**1**	**0**	**2**
Henderson County				
Mississippi River	1	1	0	2
Subtotal	**1**	**1**	**0**	**2**
Jackson County				
Kinkaid Lake	4	3	1	7
Subtotal	**4**	**3**	**1**	**7**
Jersey County				
Mississippi River	1	1	0	1
Subtotal	**1**	**1**	**0**	**1**
JoDaviess County				
Mississippi River	4	1	2	5
Subtotal	**4**	**1**	**2**	**5**
Johnson County				
Lake of Egypt	1	1	0	2
Subtotal	**1**	**1**	**0**	**2**
Kane County				
Fox River	1	1	0	1
Subtotal	**1**	**1**	**0**	**1**
Kankakee County				
Kankakee River	2	3	0	3
Subtotal	**2**	**3**	**0**	**3**
Lake County				
Fox Lake	2	0	1	2
Fox River	1	1	0	1
Lake Marie	2	4	0	3
Lake Michigan	2	1	1	2
Nippersink Lake	1	1	0	2
Round Lake	1	2	0	2
Subtotal	**9**	**9**	**2**	**12**
LaSalle County				
Illinois River	8	7	0	10
Subtotal	**8**	**7**	**0**	**10**
Livingston County				
Vermilion River	1	0	0	1
Subtotal	**1**	**0**	**0**	**1**

Counties Broken Down By Body of Water cont.

County	#Accidents	#Injuries	#Fatalities	#Vessels
Macon County				
Lake Decatur	1	2	0	1
Subtotal	**1**	**2**	**0**	**1**
Marion County				
Centralia Lake	1	2	1	2
Stephen Forbes SP Lake	1	1	0	1
Subtotal	**2**	**3**	**1**	**3**
McHenry County				
Fox River	3	4	0	6
Subtotal	**3**	**4**	**0**	**6**
Menard County				
Lake Petersburg	2	1	1	2
Subtotal	**2**	**1**	**1**	**2**
Morgan County				
Meredosia Lake	1	1	0	1
Subtotal	**1**	**1**	**0**	**1**
Peoria County				
Illinois River	2	1	1	3
Private Lake	1	2	0	1
Subtotal	**3**	**3**	**1**	**4**
Randolph County				
Kaskaskia River	3	3	0	4
Subtotal	**3**	**3**	**0**	**4**
Rock Island County				
Mississippi River	4	5	0	5
Subtotal	**4**	**5**	**0**	**5**
Sangamon County				
Lake Springfield	1	1	0	1
Subtotal	**1**	**1**	**0**	**1**
Scott County				
Illinois River	1	1	0	1
Subtotal	**1**	**1**	**0**	**1**
Shelby County				
Lake Shelbyville	3	1	1	4
Subtotal	**3**	**1**	**1**	**4**
St Clair County				
Kaskaskia River	3	2	0	5
Subtotal	**3**	**2**	**0**	**5**
White County				
Wabash River	1	1	0	1
Subtotal	**1**	**1**	**0**	**1**
Whiteside County				
Rock River	1	5	0	1
Subtotal	**1**	**5**	**0**	**1**

Counties Broken Down By Body of Water cont.

County	#Accidents	#Injuries	#Fatalities	#Vessels
Will County				
Braidwood Lake	2	2	0	2
Des Plaines River	1	0	0	1
Kankakee River	1	1	0	2
Subtotal	**4**	**3**	**0**	**5**
Williamson County				
Crab Orchard Lake	1	0	0	1
Lake of Egypt	1	0	0	1
Subtotal	**2**	**0**	**0**	**2**
Winnebago County				
Rock River	4	5	0	7
Subtotal	**4**	**5**	**0**	**7**
TOTAL	**115**	**100**	**16**	**152**

NARRATIVES

1. Two subjects were in a 16ft canoe that capsized as they were paddling on a lake. After falling into the water, the subjects attempted to upright the canoe but were unsuccessful. The subjects started to swim to shore, but found it difficult because of the clothes they were wearing. While the survivor was removing some clothes and his shoes to make it easier to swim, he went under the surface of the water a couple of times. After removing some restrictive clothing/shoes and returning to the surface, the survivor lost sight of the victim. The survivor was able to swim to shore for help. Neither subject was wearing a PFD. The victim's BAC was .109 and his body was recovered 4 days later. The survivor had not been drinking. The subjects had failed to equip the canoe with PFDs, which they had left at their campsite.

Contributing Factors:
1. Failure to wear PFD
2. Insufficient amount/No PFDs on canoe
3. Alcohol use
4. Operator Inexperience

NARRATIVES

2. While attempting to anchor a boat on a river, the anchor rope got wrapped around the victim's ankle. When the victim threw the anchor into the river, the rope tightened around his ankle. In an attempt to create slack in the rope, the victim jumped into the river. Once in the river, the rope remained tight around the victims ankle due to the pull of the current. One of the passengers in the boat entered the river in an attempt to help free the victim but was unsuccessful. The passengers in the boat were unable to get it started and had no experience in operating a watercraft. The victim's body was recovered by divers later in the day. The victim tested positive for cannabis and had a BAC of .045.

Contributing Factors: 1. Failure to wear PFD
2. Alcohol/drug use

3. The operator/victim of a boat drowned after the boat he was in took a wave over the bow. The victim had idled the boat down as he approached a trestle in rough waters. The bow of the boat was driven into/beneath the water and the waves caused the boat to capsize. The passengers swam to shore and the victim, who was not a swimmer, became submerged and did not resurface. The victim's body was recovered two day later. The victim had been consuming alcohol.

Contributing Factors: 1. Failure to wear PFD
2. Alcohol use
3. Weather

4. A group of people were traveling on a pontoon boat when the victim/passenger fell overboard. The victim had knelt on a storage box and was urinating over the side of the boat when he fell in. The operator immediately hit the kill switch to avoid striking the victim with the prop. The operator then tried to restart the motor to rescue the victim, but the motor was flooded and the boat continued to float away from the victim. The victim appeared to be treading water and then started to panic. The operator attempted to rescue the victim by swimming to him, but the victim started to struggle and pull the operator under the water. The operator was able to free himself from the victim's grasp before being pulled under the surface. The victim's body was recovered three days later. The operators BAC was .091. The victim had a BAC of .25.

Contributing Factors: 1. Failure to wear PFD
2. Insufficient amount of PFD's on boat
3. Alcohol use

5. A father drowned while attempting to retrieve his two daughters from a lake after falling overboard. The two young girls were holding hands and dipping their hands and feet in the water over the edge of the boat. One of the girls fell in causing the other girl to fall in with her. They were both wearing PFDs. The father immediately jumped in after the girls, followed by the mother. The family drifted apart in the water away from the boat. Shortly thereafter, the father went under the surface of the water and did not come back up. The victim was not wearing a PFD.

Contributing Factors: 1. Failure to wear PFD

6. The victim was observed standing in a row boat while working on his fishing pole. The victim fell backwards out of the boat and into the water where he started to struggle and yell for help. A nearby boater paddled to the victim's location and found him face down in the water. The victim was partially pulled into the boat and taken to shore where CPR was unsuccessfully administered. The victim was not wearing a PFD.

Contributing Factors: 1. Failure to wear PFD

7. Two subjects were in the process of baiting trot lines out of a 12 ft boat when a seat broke, causing one of the subjects to fall into the river. When the subject surfaced, he noticed that the boat he was in had capsized and the victim was in the water struggling. Once the survivor made it back to the boat, he noticed that the victim was floating face down in the water. The survivor floated down stream with the boat until he managed to get on land. The victim was later found face down and caught on a tree limb in the water near the scene of the accident. The victim was not wearing a PFD.

Contributing Factors: 1. Failure to wear PFD
2. Equipment Failure
3. Insufficient/No PFDs on boat

8. A family reported a fishermen missing after he had failed to show up at a pre-arranged time and location on the river. The fisherman/victim was later found floating in the river and his boat was located with the motor idling. The victim was not wearing a PFD and it was not determined how the victim ended up in the water. The victim tested positive for cannabis and his BAC was .281.

Contributing Factors: 1. Failure to wear PFD
2. Insufficient/No PFDs on boat
3. Alcohol/Drug use

9. While taking a boat ride on the river, a subject noticed an empty boat floating near the shore. The subject started to tow the boat back to a boat ramp when he noticed the boat was difficult to tow and was dragging something. The subject observed a cast line over the side of the boat and pulled on it to free it from the bottom. The subject discovered the victim tangled in the line. The victim was not wearing a PFD.

Contributing Factors: 1. Failure to wear PFD

10. Two subjects were traveling on the river in a 17 ft jon boat when the operator made a sharp turn. Both operator and passenger were thrown from the boat into the river where the operator, who could not swim, drowned. The victim's body was recovered shortly after the incident and attempts to revive him were unsuccessful. The victim was not wearing a PFD and had a BAC of .061.

Contributing Factors: 1. Failure to wear PFD
2. Careless/Reckless operation

11. Four subjects decided to go for a canoe ride in a small private pond after they had been drinking alcohol. The subjects had no paddles for the canoe, so they paddled with their hands. The canoe capsized and two of the victims failed to surface. The survivors swam to shore and called for help. While waiting for police/ems personnel to arrive, one of the victims surfaced and was brought to shore by the survivors. Divers later recovered the body of the second victim.

Contributing Factors: 1. Failure to wear PFD
2. Insufficient/No PFDs on canoe
3. Alcohol use
4. Overloading
5. Operator inexperience

12. The operator of a motorboat was traveling upstream on a river steering in a zig- zag pattern to create a wake for a jet skier to jump. The operator of the motorboat made an unannounced left turn to head back down the river. The operator of the jet ski could not slow down or turn and struck the motorboat. The impact caused the jet ski to go airborne over the motorboat and strike a passenger in the boat. The passenger was thrown out of the boat and died due to blunt force injuries from the impacting jet ski.

Contributing Factors: 1. Careless/Reckless operation
2. Excessive speed
3. Operator Inattention

13. Several subjects were traveling on a motorboat at night when they struck the side of an improperly lighted barge that was sideways in a river channel. The operator of the motorboat had been consuming alcohol and struck a single barge being towed, throwing one passenger out of the boat and into a pile of sand being carried by the barge. Other passengers were thrown into the water and into the side of the barge. The boat sank shortly after striking the barge and was later recovered down stream. The victim died from blunt force trauma caused by being thrown from the boat and impacting the barge. The operator's BAC was .131.

Contributing Factors: 1. Lack of/or improper boat lights
2. Alcohol use

14. A subject was watching TV in his cabin along a river when he heard a noise and looked out his window to see a canoe under power without an operator. As the canoe continued upstream, it turned and crashed into some trees. The subject and a friend went out onto the river to look for the operator but were unsuccessful. The victim's body was found two days later. It is unknown how the victim fell overboard. The victim was not wearing a PFD.

Contributing Factors: 1. Health problems
2. Failure to wear PFD

15. Several subjects were cruising in a motorboat when the operator lost control and crashed the boat into the bank wall of a canal. The operator reported that he struck something in the water causing him to loose his balance and fall to his knees. The operator then grabbed the steering wheel to pull himself up when they impacted the wall. A passenger died from blunt force trauma after being thrown forward from the impact. The operator and other passenger were also injured. Rescue operations were hindered due to the fact that no one on the boat knew their location.

Contributing Factors: 1. Operator inattention
2. Careless/Reckless operation

16. Prisoners on a work detail recovered the body of an elderly victim after they observed a bow of a small boat protruding from a reservoir lake. Examination of the boat revealed that the seat pedestal appeared to be broken resulting in the victim falling overboard. The weather/water temperature and victim's age could all have contributed to the subject's death. At the time of this report, autopsy results have not been received. The subject was not wearing a PFD.

Contributing Factors: 1. PFD not worn
2. Equipment malfunction
3. Weather/water conditions