BOATING ACCIDENTS REPORT
1985

Total Accidents - 105
Injuries - 47
# of Drownings - 25
# of Deaths from injuries - 05

TIME & PLACE

MONTH

January - 00	April - 05	July - 26	October - 11
February - 01	May - 14	August - 15	November - 00
March - 01	June - 20	September - 12	December - 00
TOTAL - 105			

DAY

Monday - 15	Wednesday - 07	Friday - 09	Sunday - 28
Tuesday - 07	Thursday - 13	Saturday - 26	
TOTAL - 105			

COUNTY

Rock Island - 01	Winnebago - 02	Montgomery - 01
Clinton - 06	Randolph - 01	Wabash - 01
Grundy - 02	Franklin - 03	Monroe - 02
Knox - 01	Tazewell - 01	Cook - 38
Christian - 01	Carroll - 01	Champaign - 01
LaSalle - 04	DeWitt - 06	Stephenson - 01
Lake - 08	Kankakee - 02	Jackson - 01
Peoria - 01	Ogle - 01	Jo Daviess - 01
Lee - 01	Bureau - 02	Saline - 01
St. Clair - 01	Jackson - 01	Macon - 03
Shelby - 01	McHenry - 04	Unknown - 04
TOTAL - 105		

TIME

Midnight - 6:00 am	- 05
6:01 - 12 Noon	- 16
12:01 - 6:00 pm	- 42
6:01 - Midnight	- 26
Unknown	- 16
TOTAL	- 105

OPERATOR'S EXPERIENCE

Under 20 hrs	- 04
20 - 100 hrs	- 13
100 - 500 hrs	- 29
Over 500 hrs	- 42
Unknown	- 35
TOTAL	- 123

FORMAL INSTRUCTION

None	- 54
U.S. Coast Guard Aux	- 13
U.S. Power Squadron	- 07
American Red Cross	- 02
State	- 04
Other	- 15
Unknown	- 28
TOTAL	- 123

WATER CONDITIONS

Calm	- 47
Choppy	- 21
Rough	- 04
Very Rough	- 08
Strong Current	- 01
Unknown	- 24
TOTAL	- 105

WEATHER INFORMATION

Clear	- 68
Cloudy	- 10
Fog	- 01
Rain	- 04
Unknown	- 22
TOTAL	- 105

WATER CONDITIONS

Calm	- 47
Choppy	- 21
Rough	- 04
Very Rough	- 08
Strong Current	- 01
Unknown	- 24
TOTAL	- 105

BOAT INFORMATION

Open Motorboat	- 47
Cabin Motorboat	- 23
Auxiliary Sail	- 14
Sail (only)	- 04
Rowboat	- 01
Other	- 12
Unknown	- 22
TOTAL	- 123

WIND

None	- 15
Light	- 34
Moderate	- 23
Strong	- 05
Storm	- 06
Unknown	- 22
TOTAL	- 105

VISIBILITY

Good	- 71
Fair	- 07
Poor	- 04
Unknown	- 23
TOTAL	- 105

WEATHER ENCOUNTERED

Was as forecasted	- 59
Not as forecasted	- 02
No forecast obtained	- 14
Unknown	- 30
TOTAL	- 105

OPERATION AT TIME OF ACCIDENT

Cruising	- 43
Approaching Dock	- 11
Water Skiing	- 06
Towing	- 01
Drifting	- 08
At Anchor	- 02
Tied to Dock	- 10
Fishing	- 08
Other	- 16
Unknown	- 18
TOTAL	- 123

OPERATOR'S OPINION/CAUSE OF ACCIDENT

Fault of Other Person	- 35
Weather Conditions	- 08
Excessive Speed	- 03
No proper lookout	- 08
Hazardous waters	- 07
Fault of Hull	- 02
Fault of Machinery	- 09
Fault of Equipment	- 04
Other	- 33
Unknown	- 09
TOTAL	- 123

TYPE OF ACCIDENT

Fire or Explosion (fuel)	- 02	Fire or Explosion (non-fuel)	- 01
Grounding	- 03	Collision w/floating object	- 04
Flooding	- 03	Falls overboard	- 10
Capsizing	- 08	Falls in boat	- 00
Sinking	- 02	Hit by boat or propeller	- 01
Collision w/vessel	- 37	Collision w/fixed object	- 09
Other	- 14	Unknown	- 11
TOTAL	- 105		

FIRE EXTINGUISHER USED

Not Applicable	- 22
Yes	- 09
No	- 58
Unknown	- 34
TOTAL	- 123

BODY OF WATER

Lake of the Woods	- 01	Lake Marie Channel	- 01
Carlyle Lake	- 05	Kaskaskia River	- 03
Rend Lake	- 03	Stripper Pit	- 01
East Fork Bolder	- 01	Wabash River	- 01
Collins Lake	- 01	Peoria Lake	- 01
Clinton Lake	- 06	Lake Glenn Shoals	- 01
Lake Story	- 01	Chicago River	- 06
Kincaid Lake	- 02	Lake Michigan	- 31
Mississippi River	- 04	Sancriss Lake	- 02
Illinois River	- 07	Fox River	- 04
Bangs Lake	- 01	Channel Lake	- 01
Dresden Lake	- 01	Fox Lake	- 03
Kankakee River	- 02	Rock River	- 04
Lake Miltmore	- 01	Pecatonica River	- 01
A Private Lake	- 02	YMCA Lake	- 01
Green River	- 01	Decatur Lake	- 01
Diamond Lake	- 01	Lake Shelbyville	- 01
Unknown Lake	- 01	Grass Lake	- 01
TOTAL	- 105		

PROPERTY DAMAGE (total of all vessels involved)

$ 0 - 100	- 00
101 - 200	- 02
201 - 300	- 05
301 - 400	- 00
401 - 500	- 04
501 - 600	- 00
601 - 700	- 01
701 - 800	- 03
801 - 900	- 00
901 - 1,000	- 07
1,001 - 2,000	- 08
2,001 - 3,000	- 12
3,001 - 4,000	- 02
4,001 - 5,000	- 05
5,001 - 6,000	- 02
6,001 & Over	- 11
No Damage	- 06
Totaled	- 02
Unknown	- 35
TOTAL	- 105

AGE	less than 20 hours	20 - 100 hours	100 - 500 hours	Over 500 hours	Unknown
Teenage	01	01	02		01
20 - 29	01	02	10	06	07
30 - 39		03	04	12	05
40 - 49		03	08	13	04
50 - 59	01		04	05	05
60 - 69		02		03	04
70 - 79		01		01	02
Unknown		01	01	02	07

How many 17 or younger	With Instruction	Without Instruction
02	01	01

Alcohol involved?

yes
no 01

OTHER REPORTED CAUSES OF ACCIDENTS

victim's carelessness
swamped by barge
no proper lights marking harbor entrance
other boat owner not looking out & excessive speed by other boat for conditions
no running lights operating on other boat
not properly tied down
fault of operator
inconsideration - excessive speed
went forward instead of reversing - momentarily
not in complete control of vessel #1
sudden wave
inadequate attention by #1 operator or poor lighting on barge
submerged logs
gas fumes built up
a boat was making a U-turn & broadsided another boat midship on the port side
no lights
did not have boat under control
submerged object
nighttime poor visibility
standing on water craft while underway
stalled motor - loss of steering
other boat captain wasn't watching where he was going
other boat too close
motor did not start after stopping
abrupt change in weather
mooring lines not properly adjusted/storm
drag of the buoy due to high winds
vessel was attempting to correct itself
lack of no wake sign
a boat was backing out of dock in front of another boat
bridge operator error
not understanding effects of strong current when anchored
did not see other boat

DESCRIPTION OF ACCIDENTS RESULTING IN DROWNING *

Kaskaskia River

3/3/85: engine stalled, when started back up, the boat took off at full throttle, boat capsized - 2 drownings

7/28/85: three men were fishing, two of their hats blew off, as they turned the boat around, the boat overturned - 1 drowning

Stripper Pit

4/3/85: canoe overturned when someone tried to climb in - 1 drowning

East Fork Bolder

4/16/85 two teenagers were in a boat, one of them started splashing water & rocking the boat, the boat began to take on water & eventually sank, one person was rescued from an observer on shore - 1 drowning

Rend Lake

4/21/85 boat bumped into a tree, 1 fell overboard - 1 drowning

Lake Story

5/13/85 a man was fishing from a standing position, when he sat down, the seat pedestal broke, he fell overboard - 1 drowning

Lake Michigan

5/26/85 caught in storm, victim fell overboard - 1 drowning

6/8/85 a man disappeared while taking his new boat out for a test run, no additional information is known in regard to the accident - 1 drowning

6/27/85 collision w/barge - 2 drownings

10/4/85 boat exploded & sunk - 1 drowning

Lake of the Woods

6/3/85 two boys in a paddle boat were having a "water fight" with two boys in a row boat, one of the boys in the paddle boat leaned from the boat, lost his balance, and fell from the boat hitting his head on the row boat. The boy did not struggle in the water and appeared to be "knocked out" - 1 drowning

Fox Lake

6/9/85 while attempting to assist a friend who had begun to struggle while putting on his water skis, a man drowned in the confusion - 1 drowning

Dresden Lakes

6/29/85 while making a sharp turn, the operator fell overboard - 1 drowning

Kankakee River

7/5/85 three men were canoeing, the men were apparently rocking the canoe before it overturned - 1 drowning

Lake Miltmore

7/5/85 three men had been rowing a small boat, 1 man apparently fell or jumped in the water, the other two men jumped in to get him causing the boat to overturn, one man was saved by two teenagers who were near the scene of the accident - 2 drownings

Illinois River

7/20/85 boat capsized, thrown overboard - 1 drowning

10/24/85 man fell overboard - 1 drowning

Pecatonica River

7/12/85 installing an anti-theft bar on boat, fell overboard - 1 drowning

Mississippi River

7/16/85 1 drowning - cause of accident unknown

A Private Lake

8/25/85 stood up in boat, causing boat to sink - 1 drowning

YMCA Lake

8/25/85 boat overturned - 1 drowning

Green River

8/27/85 went fishing in the morning, body was found in the afternoon cause of accident unknown - 1 drowning

ACCIDENTS RESULTING IN DEATH FROM INJURIES *

Illinois River

7/6/85 collision w/vessel, thrown overboard - 1 death from injuries

Carlyle Lake

7/10/85 boat struck a submerged object, occupants fell overboard - 1 death from injuries

Rock River

7/23/85 steering cable broke, occupants thrown overboard while trying to gain control of craft - 1 death from injuries

Unknown River (Incomplete accident information)

7/25/85 cause of accident unknown - 1 death from injuries

8/8/85 throttle stuck on boat causing driver to lose control - 1 death from injuries

* Description of accidents as indicated on boating accident report forms and/or newspaper articles.