

# Missouri Boating Statistics & Drownings



**2012  
Edition**  

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**2011  
Statistics**

**Department of Public Safety  
Missouri State Highway Patrol**

# Introduction

This booklet is published by the Missouri State Highway Patrol as an aid to persons who are interested in recreational boating crashes and accidental drowning incidents occurring in the state. It contains information which provides a comprehensive look at statewide crashes and accidental drowning incidents as experienced in 2011.

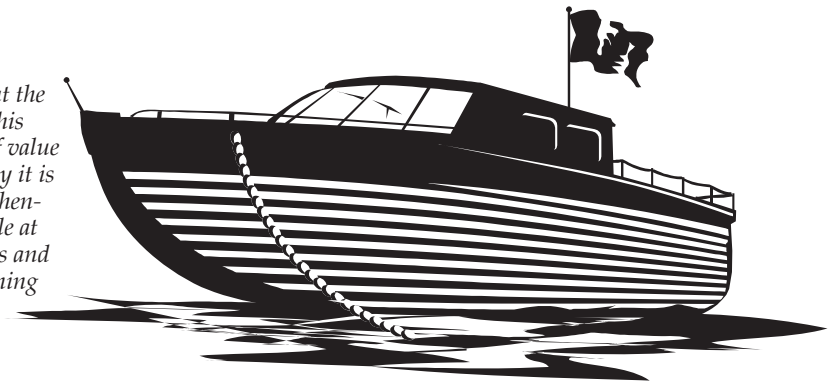
The Missouri State Highway Patrol is the central recreational boating data collection agency for the State of Missouri. The Patrol investigates all recreational boating crashes occurring in the state and either investigates or gathers data on accidental drowning incidents occurring in state and private waters.

## Interesting Statistics

*Here at a glance are some interesting statistics found in this booklet:*

- In 2011 there were 19 persons killed and 87 persons injured in recreational boating crashes in the State of Missouri. This was five more killed and 33 fewer injured than in 2010. There was a decrease of 29% in total crashes statewide compared to 2010.
- In 2011 there were 166 total crashes including 86 property damage only, 64 injury, and 16 fatal.
- "Water conditions" was the leading contributing circumstance for all crashes followed by "failing to keep proper lookout" and "hazard in water." Alcohol was known to have been a contributing circumstance on 11 crashes statewide.
- Capsizing type crashes resulted in the deaths of eight persons. This was 42% of the total persons killed in crashes.
- Of all crashes reported statewide, 83.7% (139) occurred during the months of May through September.
- Most crashes occurred on Saturday (57) and Sunday (45) and most occurred between noon and 8:00 p.m.
- Of all crashes reported statewide, 78% (130) involved only one watercraft. Fifteen of the sixteen fatal crashes involved only one watercraft.
- Of 184 boat operators involved in crashes, 112 had no prior boater education.
- In 2011 there were 41 persons killed in accidental drowning incidents in the State of Missouri, 9 less than in 2010. Thirty-five of these incidents occurred in state waters and six in private.
- Most drowning incidents occurred on Saturday (10) and most occurred during the month of July (13).

*It is hoped that the information in this booklet will be of value to you. Certainly it is the most comprehensive look available at statewide crashes and accidental drowning incidents in Missouri.*



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# Boating Crashes by Year

## Statewide Boating Crashes in Missouri

Year	Statewide Crashes			Persons Involved			
	Fatal	Injury	Property Damage	Total	Killed	Injury	Total
2007	7	122	115	244	7	155	162
2008	20	77	110	207	21	103	124
2009	16	89	114	219	17	118	135
2010	13	98	124	235	14	120	134
2011	16	64	86	166	19	87	106

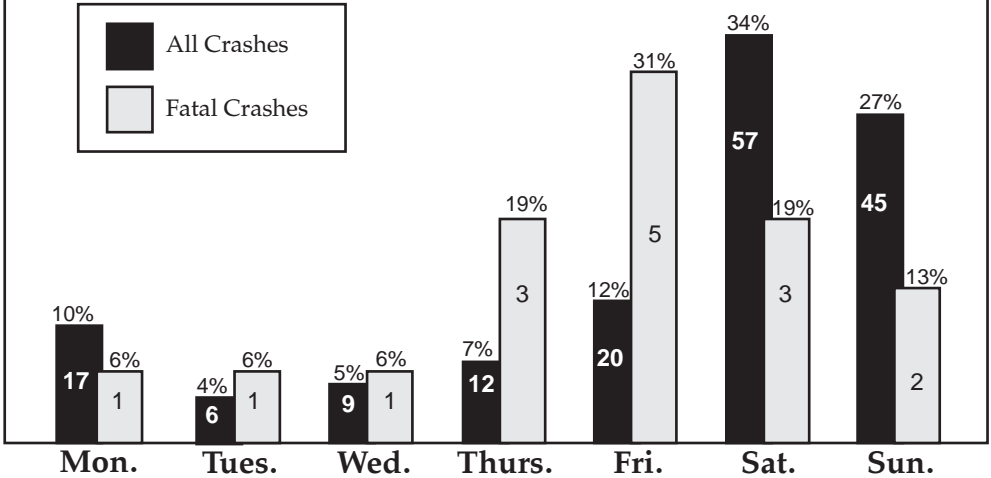
# Boating Crashes by Month

## Statewide Boating Crashes By Month

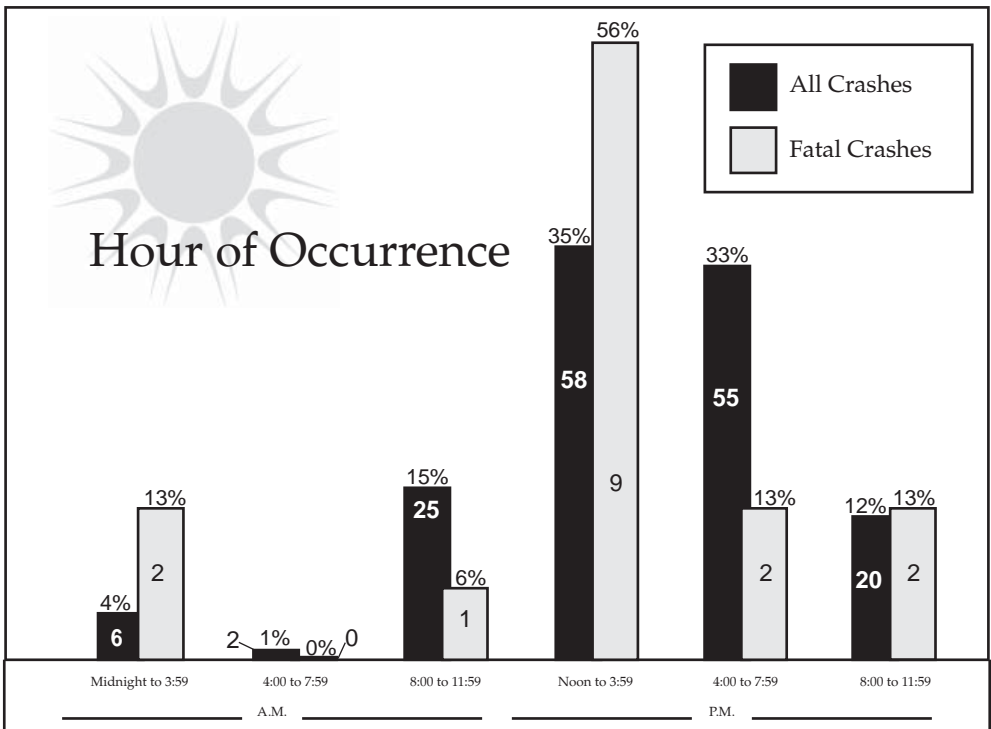
	Fatal	Injury	Property Damage	Total
January	1	0	0	1
February	0	0	1	1
March	3	0	1	4
April	2	0	7	9
May	1	2	13	16
June	0	11	8	19
July	3	26	14	43
August	2	15	18	35
September	3	9	14	26
October	0	1	7	8
November	1	0	3	4
December	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>166</b>

# Crashes by Day and Hour

## Day of Occurrence

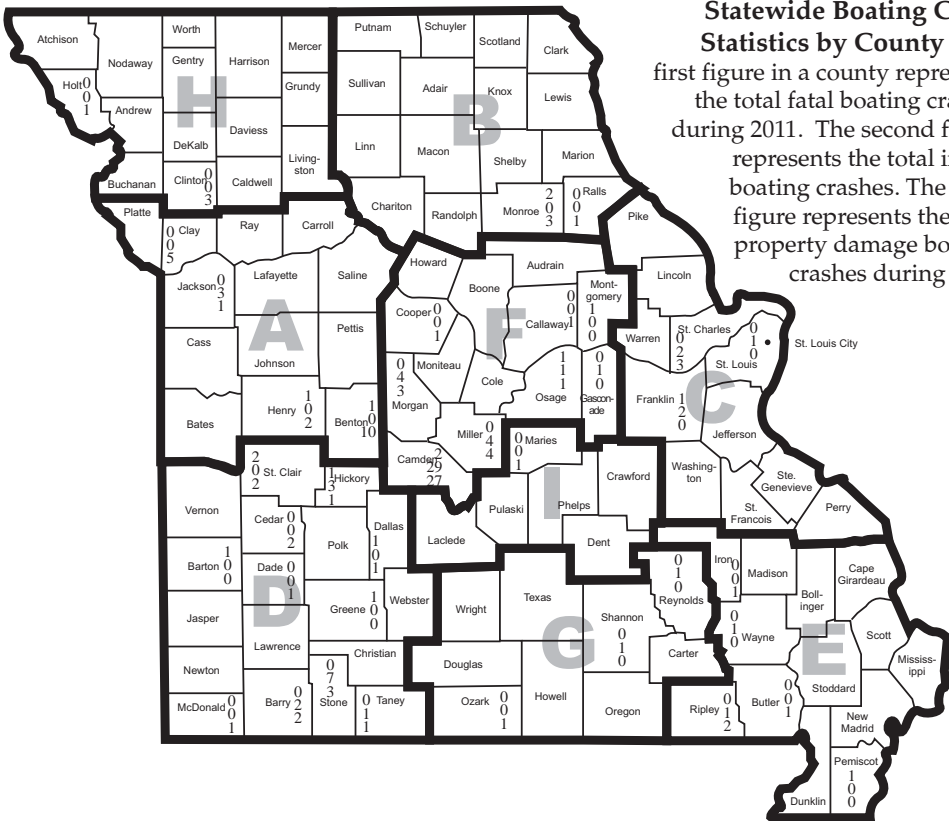


## Hour of Occurrence



# Boating Crashes by County

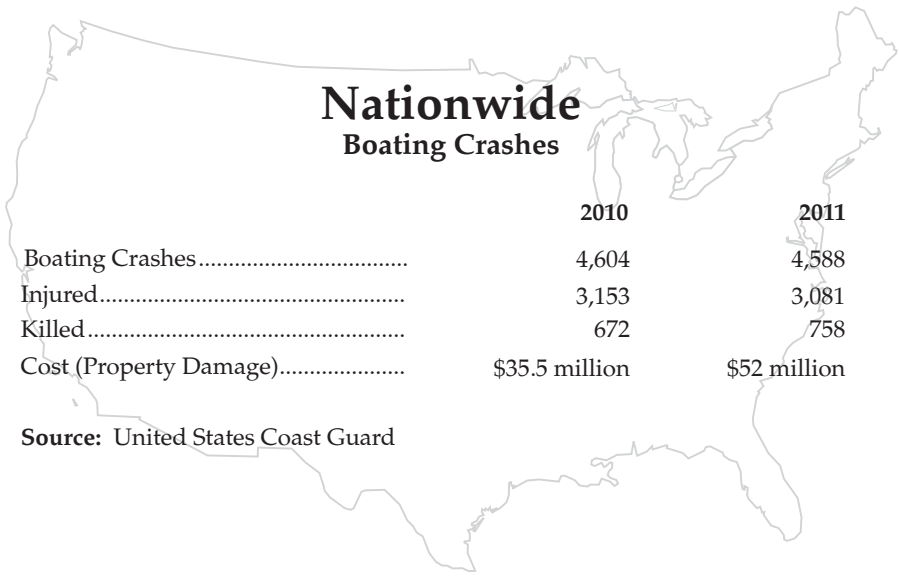
**Statewide Boating Crash Statistics by County -** The first figure in a county represents the total fatal boating crashes during 2011. The second figure represents the total injury boating crashes. The third figure represents the total property damage boating crashes during 2011.



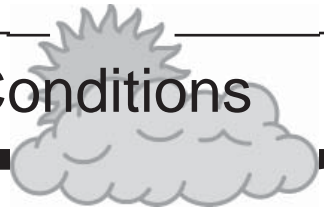
# Boating Crashes by Troop

Troop	Fatal	Injury	Property Damage	Total	%
Troop A .....	2	3	18	23	13.86
Troop B .....	2	0	4	6	3.61
Troop C .....	1	5	3	9	5.42
Troop D .....	6	13	14	33	19.88
Troop E .....	1	2	4	7	4.22
Troop F .....	4	39	37	80	48.19
Troop G .....	0	2	1	3	1.81
Troop H .....	0	0	4	4	2.41
Troop I .....	0	0	1	1	.60
Total .....	16	64	86	66	100.0

# Nationwide Information



# Water & Weather Conditions



Water Conditions	Fatal Crashes	Percent	All Crashes	Percent
Calm (waves less than 6").....	11	68.75	79	47.59
Choppy (waves 6" to 2').....	3	18.75	50	30.12
Rough (waves 2' to 6').....	0	0	13	7.83
Very Rough (waves more than 6').....	0	0	1	.60
Strong/Swift Current.....	1	6.25	22	13.25
Unknown.....	1	6.25	1	.60
Total.....	16	100.0	166	100.0

Weather Conditions	Fatal Crashes	Percent	All Crashes	Percent
Clear.....	13	81.25	135	77.59
Cloudy.....	2	12.50	33	18.97
Fog.....	0	0	1	.57
Rain.....	0	0	3	1.72
Snow.....	0	0	0	0
Hazy.....	0	0	1	.57
Unknown.....	1	6.25	1	.57
Total.....	16	100.0	174	100.0

# Crash Type

## Statewide Boating Crashes in Missouri

Type of Crash	Crashes					Persons Involved			
	Fatal	Injury	Property Damage	Total	%	Killed	Injury	Total	%
Capsizing .....	6	0	5	11	6.63	8	1	9	8.49
Collision with Fixed Object .....	0	7	22	29	17.47	0	10	10	9.43
Collision with Floating Object.....	0	0	5	5	3.01	0	0	0	—
Collision with Vessel.....	1	5	25	31	18.67	2	14	16	15.09
Fall within Vessel.....	0	21	0	21	12.65	0	25	25	23.58
Fall Overboard.....	3	11	0	14	8.43	3	13	16	15.09
Fire or Explosion (Fuel) .....	0	2	1	3	1.81	0	3	3	2.83
Fire or Explosion (Other) .....	0	0	2	2	1.20	0	0	0	—
Flooding/Swamping .....	2	0	15	17	10.24	2	0	2	1.89
Grounding.....	0	2	11	13	7.83	0	3	3	2.83
Person Ejected from Vessel .....	1	1	0	2	1.20	1	1	2	1.89
Person Left Vessel.....	2	0	0	2	1.20	2	0	2	1.89
Skier Mishap .....	0	13	0	13	7.83	0	15	15	14.15
Struck by Prop or Propulsion Unit .....	0	1	0	1	.60	0	1	1	.94
Sudden Medical Condition.....	1	0	0	1	.60	1	0	1	.94
Other Incident.....	0	1	0	1	.60	0	1	1	.94
Total .....	16	64	86	166		19	87	106	
Percentage .....	9.64	38.55	51.81			17.92	82.08		

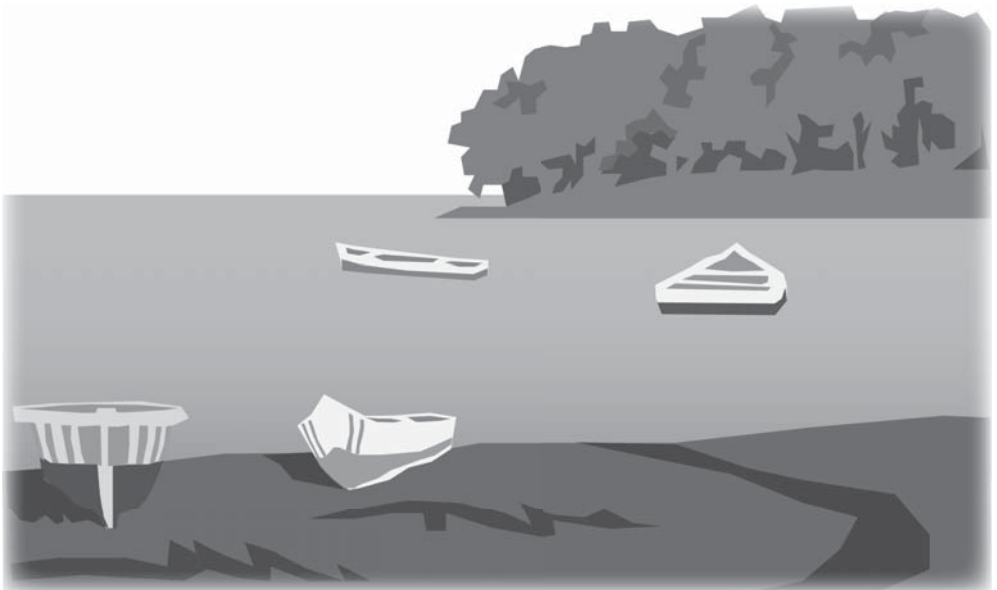


# Crashes by Body of Water/County

Body of Water	County	Crash Severity				Personal Severity		
		Fatal	Injury	Property Damage	Total	Killed	Injured	Total
Black River	Butler	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Blue Springs Lake	Jackson	0	1	1	2	0	1	1
Bull Shoals Lake	Ozark	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Clearwater Lake	Reynolds	0	1	0	1	0	1	1
Council Bluff Lake	Iron	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Current River	Ripley	0	1	2	3	0	2	2
Current River	Shannon	0	1	0	1	0	1	1
Elk River	McDonald	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Gasconade River	Maries	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
James River	Stone	0	1	0	1	0	1	1
Lake of the Ozarks	Benton	0	0	2	2	0	0	0
Lake of the Ozarks	Camden	2	29	27	58	2	35	37
Lake of the Ozarks	Miller	0	3	3	6	0	3	3
Lake of the Ozarks	Morgan	0	4	3	7	0	5	5
Lake Springfield	Greene	1	0	0	1	1	0	1
Lamar City Lake	Barton	1	0	0	1	1	0	1
Lonedell Lake	Franklin	1	0	0	1	1	0	1
Longview Lake	Jackson	0	2	0	2	0	2	2
Maries River	Osage	0	1	0	1	0	3	3
Mark Twain Lake	Monroe	1	0	3	4	1	1	2
Mark Twain Lake	Ralls	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Meramec River	Franklin	0	2	0	2	0	2	2
Meramec River	St. Louis	0	1	0	1	0	1	1
Mississippi River	Pemiscot	1	0	0	1	1	0	1
Mississippi River	St. Charles	0	2	3	5	0	5	5
Missouri River	Callaway	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Missouri River	Cooper	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Missouri River	Gasconade	0	1	0	1	0	1	1
Missouri River	Holt	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Niangua	Dallas	1	0	1	2	3	0	3
Osage	Miller	0	1	1	2	0	1	1
Osage	Osage	1	0	1	2	2	4	6
Osage	St. Clair	1	0	0	1	1	0	1

# Crashes by Body of Water/County

Body of Water	County	Crash Severity				Personal Severity		
		Fatal	Injury	Property Damage	Total	Killed	Injured	Total
Pomme De Terre Lake	Hickory	1	3	1	5	1	4	5
Private Pond	Monroe	1	0	0	1	1	0	1
Private Pond	Montgomery	1	0	0	1	1	0	1
Smithville Lake	Clay	0	0	5	5	0	0	0
Smithville Lake	Clinton	0	0	3	3	0	0	0
Stockton Lake	Cedar	0	0	2	2	0	0	0
Stockton Lake	Dade	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Table Rock Lake	Barry	0	2	2	4	0	3	3
Table Rock Lake	Stone	0	6	3	9	0	8	8
Table Rock Lake	Taney	0	1	1	2	0	1	1
Truman Lake	Benton	1	0	8	9	1	0	1
Truman Lake	Henry	1	0	2	3	1	0	1
Truman Lake	St. Clair	1	0	2	3	1	0	1
Wappapello Lake	Wayne	0	1	0	1	0	2	2
<b>Total</b>		<b>16</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>106</b>



# Probable Contributing Circumstances

Probable Contributing Circumstance	Crash Severity				Personal Severity		
	Fatal	Injury	Property Damage	Total	Killed	Injured	Total
Careless/Reckless Operation .....	0	6	9	15	0	7	7
Congested Waters.....	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Equipment Failure (PFD, Bilge Pump, etc.).....	0	1	5	6	0	1	1
Excessive Speed.....	3	10	7	20	4	17	21
Exhaustion.....	2	0	0	2	2	0	2
Failed to Keep Proper Lookout.....	1	6	21	28	2	14	16
Failed to Take Evasive Action .....	0	3	5	8	0	5	5
Hazard in Water .....	2	0	26	28	2	1	3
Health/Medical Problem .....	2	3	0	5	1	3	4
Hull Failure.....	0	0	4	4	0	0	0
Impairment (Alcohol/Drugs) .....	1	5	5	11	2	13	15
Improperly Loaded Vessel.....	0	1	0	1	0	1	1
Inattention.....	1	6	12	19	1	8	9
Inexperience of Operator	1	13	12	26	1	17	18
Mechanical Failure (Electric/Fuel, etc.) .....	1	3	9	13	1	6	7
Navigation Lights (None/Partial).....	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Obstructed Visibility in Vessel.....	0	1	0	1	0	2	2
Off Throttle Steering.....	0	1	1	2	0	1	1
Operated Too Close to Shoreline .....	0	2	7	9	0	3	3
Overloaded.....	2	0	1	3	4	0	4
Passenger/Skier Behavior .....	2	8	0	10	2	8	10
Restricted Visibility (Fog, Rain, etc.) .....	0	1	3	4	0	1	1
Swimming Ability (Weak/None) .....	6	0	0	6	6	1	7
Type of Vessel.....	4	3	1	8	4	4	8
Unknown.....	0	1	0	1	0	1	1
Water Conditions (Rough, Chop, Current, etc.)..	3	29	24	56	3	34	37
Weather Conditions .....	0	0	7	7	0	0	0

# Vessel Actions at Time of Crash

Vessel Action	Fatal	Injury	Property Damage	Total	%
Commercial Activity.....	0	0	2	2	.94
Fishing .....	10	2	13	25	11.79
Making Repairs .....	0	0	1	1	.47
Anchored .....	1	0	2	3	1.42
Being Towed.....	0	0	2	2	.94
Docked.....	0	0	13	13	6.13
Parasailing.....	0	1	0	1	.47
Towing Other Vessel .....	0	0	1	1	.47
Racing .....	0	0	1	1	.47
Recreational Boating.....	5	57	84	146	68.87
Relaxing.....	1	0	0	1	.47
Starting Engine .....	0	1	0	1	.47
Swimming .....	1	0	0	1	.47
Tubing.....	0	3	0	3	1.42
Water Skiing.....	0	8	0	8	3.77
Other .....	0	0	2	2	.94
Recovery Effort.....	0	0	1	1	.47
Total.....	18	72	122	212	100.00

# Alcohol Involvement

**Drinking and Crashes** - Whether or not a person has been drinking cannot always be determined at the scene of a crash. It is generally impossible to determine the persons who have had one or a few drinks; yet, these individuals may be as much of a hazard as the obvious drunk. Because of the time lapse from the moment of occurrence until an officer arrives at the scene to make the investigation, a person's condition concerning drinking can change a great deal. In cases where the individual may have been removed to a hospital, doctor's office or funeral home, his condition may never be determined.

## Alcohol Probable Contributing Circumstance

Persons Killed in Alcohol Related Crashes ..... 1  
 Persons Injured in Alcohol Related Crashes ..... 5

### Fatal Boating Crashes:

Drinking Involved .....1  
 No Drinking Involved.....7  
 Information Not Known.....8

### All Boating Crashes:

Drinking Involved .....11  
 No Drinking Involved.....135  
 Information Not Known.....20

	Fatal	Injury	Property Damage	Total
Yes	1	5	5	11
No	7	53	75	135
Unknown	8	6	6	20
Total	16	64	86	166



# Number of Vessels Involved

Statewide Crashes by Number of Vessels Involved							
Number of Vessels	Crashes				Persons Involved		
	Fatal	Injury	Prop. Damage	Total	Fatal	Injury	Total
1	15	57	58	130	17	71	88
2	0	7	25	32	0	12	12
3	1	0	2	3	2	4	6
4	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Total	16	64	86	166	19	87	106

# Vessel Type Involved

Vessel Type	Crash Severity			Persons in each Vessel Type	
	Fatal	Injury	Property Damage	Killed	Injured
Airboat .....	0	0	1	0	0
Bassboat .....	2	3	22	2	7
Canoe .....	1	0	0	1	0
Center Console .....	0	0	1	0	0
Commercial .....	0	0	3	0	0
Cruiser .....	0	1	12	0	1
Day Cruiser .....	0	2	2	0	3
Deck .....	0	9	4	0	11
Jon .....	6	1	8	8	1
Off Shore .....	0	1	4	0	1
Personal Watercraft .....	0	17	13	0	20
Pontoon .....	1	8	8	1	8
Runabout .....	3	26	31	5	46
Sail .....	0	0	1	0	0
Ski .....	1	0	0	1	0
Utility .....	4	6	10	5	12
Total .....	18	74	120	23	110

# Age of Killed/Injured and Operators

## Killed/Injured By Age Group

Age of Person	Killed	Percent	Injured	Percent
Under 1	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	0	0
2	0	0	0	0
3	0	0	1	1.15
4	0	0	0	0
5	0	0	0	0
6 - 10	0	0	1	1.15
11 - 15	1	5.26	10	11.49
16 - 20	0	0	10	11.49
21 - 25	0	0	12	13.79
26 - 30	0	0	6	6.90
31 - 35	2	10.53	6	6.90
36 - 40	0	0	9	10.34
41 - 45	2	10.53	5	5.75
46 - 50	3	15.79	4	4.60
51 - 55	1	5.26	9	10.34
56 - 60	2	10.53	5	5.75
61 - 65	1	5.26	4	4.60
66 - 70	1	5.26	4	4.60
71 - 75	2	10.53	1	1.15
76 and Over	4	21.05	0	0
Not Stated	0	0	0	0
Total	19		87	

## Age of Operators of Vessels Involved in Crashes

Age of Operator	Number Involved	Severity		
		Fatal Crashes	Injury Crashes	Property Damage Crashes
15 and Under	8	0	6	2
16	0	0	0	0
17	2	0	1	1
18	1	0	1	0
19	1	0	1	0
20	4	0	1	3
21 - 25	19	0	10	9
26 - 30	9	1	3	5
31 - 35	15	2	4	9
36 - 40	19	1	7	11
41 - 45	26	1	8	18
46 - 50	19	2	5	12
51 - 55	18	0	9	9
56 - 60	14	1	6	7
61 - 65	11	2	4	5
66 - 70	10	1	4	5
71 - 75	1	1	0	0
76 and Over	4	2	0	2
Not Stated	2	1	0	1
Total Drivers	183	15	70	99

# Buoy/Regatta/Dive Team/ Boater Education Statistics

<b>Buoy/Regatta/Dive Team/Boater Education Statistics</b>			
	2009	2010	2011
<b>Buoy Permitting</b>			
Permits (in hundreds).....	3,462	3,531	3,598
Approved Applications.....	59	61	51
Denied Applications.....	18	13	19
Revoked Permits .....	58	19	150
Updated Permits .....	156	48	15
Other Modifications/Reinstate.....	29	27	29
<b>Regatta Permitting</b>			
Total Permitted Events .....	2,118	2,078	1,933
<b>Dive Team Missions</b>			
Total Dives.....	48	43	41
<b>Boater Education</b>			
Students Taught by Troopers.....	7,208	8,141	4,647
Internet Courses Taught.....	6,439	7,581	8,168
Total Education Cards Issued.....	8,179	9,120	8,731

# Drownings by Year

## Statewide Drowning Incidents in Missouri

Year	State Waters	Private	Total
2007	39	5	44
2008	43	1	44
2009	25	2	27
2010	44	6	50
2011	35	6	41

# Drownings by Month

## Statewide Drowning Incidents By Month

Month	State Waters	Private	Total
January	1	2	3
February	1	0	1
March	0	0	0
April	2	0	2
May	4	1	5
June	7	0	7
July	11	2	13
August	5	0	5
September	2	0	2
October	1	1	2
November	0	0	0
December	1	0	1
Total	35	6	41



# Drownings by Day and Hour

## Drowning Incidents by Day of Week

Day of Week	State Waters	Private	Total	Percent
Sunday	6	1	7	17.07
Monday	4	1	5	12.20
Tuesday	3	0	3	7.32
Wednesday	3	0	3	7.32
Thursday	5	1	6	14.63
Friday	6	1	7	17.07
Saturday	8	2	10	24.39
Total	35	6	41	

## Drowning Incidents by Time of Day

Time of Day	State Waters	Private	Total	Percent
Midnight to 3:59 a.m.	3	0	3	7.32
4:00 a.m. to 7:59 a.m.	1	0	1	2.44
8:00 a.m. to 11:59 a.m.	4	0	4	9.76
Noon to 3:59 p.m.	12	4	16	39.02
4:00 p.m. to 7:59 p.m.	10	1	11	26.83
8:00 p.m. to 11:59 p.m.	5	1	6	14.63
Total	35	6	41	



# Drownings by Body of Water

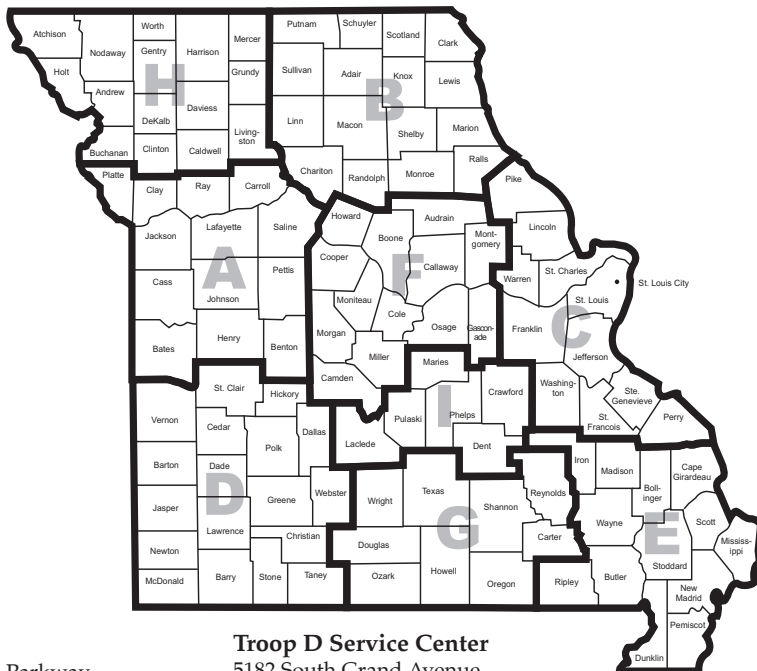
Body of Water	State Waters	Private	Total
Big Piney River	1	0	1
Big Sugar Creek	1	0	1
Black River	1	0	1
Bull Shoals Lake	1	0	1
Calumet Creek	1	0	1
Crooked Creek	1	0	1
Current River	1	0	1
Elk River	1	0	1
Estes Creek	1	0	1
Gasonade River	2	0	2
Harrison County Lake	1	0	1
Lake of the Ozarks	5	0	5
Mark Twain Lake	1	0	1
Meramec River	6	0	6
Mississippi River	1	0	1
Missouri River	1	0	1
Missouri River Flood Waters	1	0	1
Niangua River	1	0	1
Platte River	3	0	3
Private Pond	0	3	3
Private Pool	0	2	2
Smithville Lake	1	0	1
Sports Complex Lake	0	1	1
St. Francis River	1	0	1
Stockton Lake	1	0	1
Truman Lake	1	0	1
Total	35	6	41

# Age of Drowning Victim

Age of Person	State Waters	Private	Total	Percent
1 - 5	1	0	1	2.44
6 - 10	0	1	1	2.44
11 - 15	0	1	1	2.44
16 - 20	3	1	4	9.76
21 - 25	6	1	7	17.07
26 - 30	3	0	3	7.32
31 - 35	3	0	3	7.32
36 - 40	3	0	3	7.32
41 - 45	3	0	3	7.32
46 - 50	1	1	2	4.88
51 - 55	5	0	5	12.20
56 - 60	2	0	2	4.88
61 - 65	1	0	1	2.44
66 - 70	2	0	2	4.88
71 - 75	1	1	2	4.88
76+	1	0	1	2.44
Total	35	6	41	



# Highway Patrol Headquarters



## Troop A

504 S.E. Blue Parkway  
Lee's Summit, MO 64063-4351  
Phone: 816-622-0800  
Fax: 816-622-0715

## Troop B

308 Pine Crest Drive  
Macon, MO 63552-1030  
Phone: 660-385-2132  
Fax: 660-385-3920

## Troop C

891 Technology Drive  
Weldon Spring, MO 63304  
Phone: 636-300-2800  
Fax: 636-300-2741

## Troop C Service Center

P.O. Box 612  
5268 Flat River Road  
Park Hills, MO 63601-0612  
Phone: 573-431-0166  
Fax: 573-431-4429

## Troop D

3131 East Kearney  
Springfield, MO 65803-5044  
Phone: 417-895-6868  
Fax: 417-895-6877

## Troop D Service Center

5182 South Grand Avenue  
Carthage, MO 64836  
Phone: 417-359-1500  
Fax: 417-359-1506

## Troop E

4947 Highway 67 North  
Poplar Bluff, MO 63901-8719  
Phone: 573-840-9500  
Fax: 573-840-9509

## Troop E Service Center

105 Keystone Drive  
Sikeston, MO 63801-5603  
Phone: 573-472-5200  
Fax: 573-472-5204

## Troop F

P.O. Box 568  
2920 N. Shamrock Road  
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0568  
Phone: 573-751-1000  
Fax: 573-751-6814

## Troop G

1226 West Business Highway 60/63  
Willow Springs, MO 65793  
Phone: 417-469-3121  
Fax: 417-469-3105

## Troop H

3525 North Belt Highway  
St. Joseph, MO 64506-1370  
Phone: 816-387-2345  
Fax: 816-387-2349

## Troop I

P.O. Box 128  
1301 Nagogami Road West  
Rolla, MO 65402-0128  
Phone: 573-368-2345  
Fax: 573-368-2352

## General Headquarters

P.O. Box 568  
1510 East Elm Street  
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0568  
Phone: 573-751-3313  
Fax: 573-751-9419

**Emergency Assistance:**  
1-800-525-5555 or Cellular \*55

**Road Conditions:**  
1-888-275-6636



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