**Boating Safety – Don’t Be a Statistic**

Did you know that according to the [US Coast Guard 2022 Recreational Boating Statistics](https://uscgboating.org/library/accident-statistics/Recreational-Boating-Statistics-2022.pdf)

* Alcohol is a major factor in fatal boating accidents.
* Boating accident victim drownings: 75% (when the cause of death was known).
* Boating accident drownings / no life jacket: 85%.
* Boat operator in accident involving death(s) had no boating safety training: 74%.

The top 5 contributing factors to boating accidents are

* Operator inattention
* Operator inexperience
* Improper lookout
* Excessive speed
* Machinery failure

The most commonly reported incidents involve open motor boats, personal watercraft, and cabin motor boats. Those involving the highest known number of deaths are:

* Open motor boats: 47%
* Kayaks: 14%
* Personal watercraft/pontoons: 9%

Always keep in mind that most boating accidents occur in nice weather with calm waters and good visibility. Be prepared. Be vigilant. Be safe.

To view more US Coast Guard statistics or the statistics for your state, visit their statistics page at [Statistics (uscgboating.org)](https://uscgboating.org/statistics/index.php).