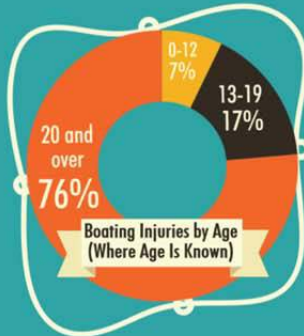


# Boating Safety

## Boating Injuries by Age

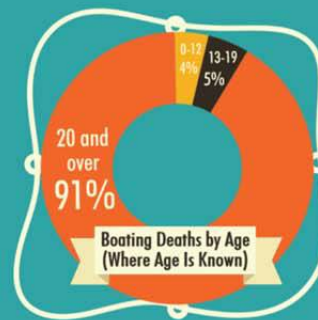


In 2013, there were 2,620 boating injuries

Nearly 1 in 4 of all boating injuries occurred in people under the age of 20<sup>1</sup>

In 2013, there were 560 boating deaths

Nearly 1 in 10 of all boating deaths occurred in people under the age of 20<sup>2</sup>



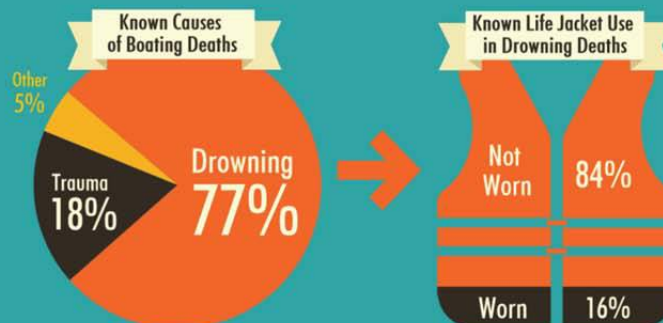
<sup>1</sup> Out of the 2,486 injuries where age was known

<sup>2</sup> Out of the 553 deaths where age was known (USCG Boating, 2014)

## Drowning and Life Jackets

Drowning was the most common cause of boating-related death<sup>3</sup>

In 82% of the drowning deaths, the victim did not wear a life jacket<sup>4</sup>



(USCG Boating, 2014)

<sup>3</sup> Out of the 515 deaths where cause of death was known

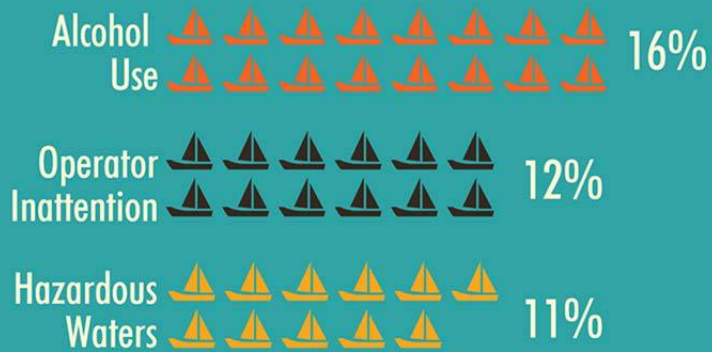
<sup>4</sup> Out of the 389 drowning deaths where life jacket use was known

## Risk Factors



Alcohol use was the most common primary factor contributing to death

Top 3 Known Primary Contributing Factors in Deaths  
(Percentage of Boating Deaths Where Cause Is Known)



(USCG Boating, 2014)

## Safety Tips

- ✓ All passengers should wear life jackets. When adults wear life jackets, their children are more likely to wear them, even into adulthood
- ✓ Do not bring infants on boats until they weigh enough to wear an appropriately-sized life jacket
- ✓ Children are more likely to get hypothermia, so make sure to keep them warm
- ✓ Enforce safe boating rules; teach your children not to run on the boat and to keep hands and feet inside the boat
- ✓ Teens should only operate boats in supervised settings and in accordance with local and state laws
- ✓ Never operate a boat while under the influence of drugs or alcohol and never enter a boat where the operator is intoxicated
- ✓ Always be vigilant about your surroundings, especially regarding other boaters, swimmers, and weather conditions

(Safe Kids Boating Safety Tips, 2014)

For detailed sources: [childrenssafetynetwork.org/infographics/boating-safety](http://childrenssafetynetwork.org/infographics/boating-safety)

# Boating Safety

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## Boating Injuries by Age

In 2013, there were 2,620 boating injuries

Nearly 1 in 4 of all boating injuries occurred in people under the age of 20 <sup>1</sup>

Boating Injuries by Age (Where Age Is Known)	
Age	Percentage of Boating Injuries
0-12	7%
13-19	17%
20+	76%

In 2013, there were 560 boating deaths

Nearly 1 in 10 of all boating deaths occurred in people under the age of 20 <sup>2</sup>

Boating Deaths by Age (Where Age Is Known)	
Age	Percentage of Boating Deaths
0-12	4%
13-19	5%
20+	91%

<sup>1</sup> Out of the 2,486 injuries where age was known

<sup>2</sup> Out of the 553 deaths where age was known

## Causes of Boating Deaths

Drowning was the most common cause of boating-related death <sup>3</sup>

Known Causes of Boating Deaths	
Cause of Death	Percentage of Boating Deaths
Drowning	77%
Trauma	18%
Other	6%

In 82% of the drowning deaths, the victim did not wear a life jacket <sup>4</sup>

Known Life Jacket Use in Drowning Deaths	
Life Jacket Use	Percentage of Drowning Deaths
Not Worn	84%
Worn	16%

<sup>3</sup> Out of the 515 deaths where cause of death was known

<sup>4</sup> Out of the 389 drowning deaths where life jacket use was known

## Risk Factors

Alcohol use was the most common primary factor contributing to death

<b>Top 3 Known Primary Contributing Factors in Death (Percentage of Boating Deaths Where Cause Is Known)</b>	
<b>Primary Contributing Factor of Death</b>	<b>Percentage of Deaths</b>
Alcohol Use	16%
Operator Inattention	12%
Hazardous Waters	11%

## Safety Tips

All passengers should wear life jackets. When adults wear life jackets, their children are more likely to wear them, even into adulthood

Do not bring infants on boats until they weigh enough to wear an appropriately-sized life jacket

Children are more likely to get hypothermia, so make sure to keep them warm

Enforce safe boating rules; teach your children not to run on the boat and to keep hands and feet inside the boat

Teens should only operate boats in supervised settings and in accordance with local and state laws

Never operate a boat while under the influence of drugs or alcohol and never enter a boat where the operator is intoxicated

Always be vigilant about your surroundings, especially regarding other boaters, swimmers, and weather conditions

(Safe Kids Boating Safety Tips, 2014)

## Sources

For detailed sources: <http://childrenssafetynetwork.org/infographics/boating-safety>

United States Coast Guard, Boating Safety Resource Center. (2014). *2013 Recreational Boating Statistics*. Retrieved from: <http://www.uscgboating.org/assets/1/AssetManager/2013RecBoatingStats.pdf>

Safe Kids Worldwide. (2014). *Boating Safety Tips*. Retrieved from: <http://www.safekids.org/tip/boating-safety-tips>

## Additional Resources

Safe Kids Worldwide. (2014). *Swimming and Boating Safety Fact Sheet*. Retrieved from:

[http://www.safekids.org/sites/default/files/documents/skw\\_swimming\\_fact\\_sheet\\_june\\_2014.pdf](http://www.safekids.org/sites/default/files/documents/skw_swimming_fact_sheet_june_2014.pdf)

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