

# **BOAT RESPONSIBLY:** WEAR A LIFE JACKET

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#### Life Jacket Styles

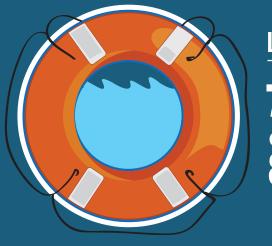
Make sure it is the right fit: for you, the activity and the water conditions. Life jacket should be in good and serviceable condition, and properly stowed when not in use.



Standup Paddleboarder (Belt-pack inflatable life jacket)



Anglers **Power Boater** (Lightweight life jacket) (Suspender inflatable life jacket)



### Life Jackets Save Lives

**50**/ of all fatal boating **70** accident victims drowned.<sup>3</sup>



#### Life Jacket **Fit Facts**

- U.S. Coast Guardapproved (check the label).
- Appropriate size and type for the intended wearer.
- A snug fit is a proper fit.
- Adult life jackets do not work for children.
- Do not buy a life jacket for a child to "grow into."
- Even life jackets for pets!

Of these, were not wearing  $\mathbf{0}$  $(\mathbf{1})$ a life jacket.\*



Wearing a life jacket is not enough - make sure the straps, buckles or zippers are secure.

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### **Boating Accidents and Fatalities Statistics\***

Accidents happen too fast to reach and put on a stowed life jacket. Always wear your life jacket. \_\_\_\_\_



About 7 out of 10 people who died were not wearing a life jacket.

# 8 out of 10 people who drowned were not wearing a life jacket.

6 out of 10 people who died from trauma were not wearing a life jacket.

## **Recreational Boat Registration by State\***

100 million Americans participated in boating in 2022.\*\*

There were 11,770,383 registered boats in 2022 (state percentages indicated below).

#### **Reported Boating Accidents**

**Most Common Vessels** in Accidents\*

- 1. Open motorboats (47%)
- 2. Kayaks (14%)
- 3. Personal Watercraft (9%)
- 4. Pontoons (9%)

#### **Top 5 Factors in Boating Accidents and Deaths\***

- **1.** Operator inattention
- 2. Operator inexperience
- 3. Improper lookout
- 4. Excessive speed
- 5. Machinery failure

