

# Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries

## 2012 Recreational Boating Incident Summary



life jackets were not worn  
non-swimmer  
**drowned**  
Two men  
fishing  
Smith Mountain Lake  
but not used  
swimming  
56 year old male  
cabin motorboat  
fell into the water  
unable to swim  
Chesapeake Bay  
evening  
afternoon  
fisherman  
37 year old male  
New River  
wake  
private pond  
bow  
open motorboat  
Rappahannock River  
vessel  
Lake Anna  
Buggs Island Lake  
not wearing a life jacket  
weather was clear  
blunt force trauma  
large fire to erupt  
16' aluminum boat  
no life jackets  
morning  
capsize  
passenger  
eight people  
51 year old male  
alcohol use was apparent  
weather was cloudy  
night  
pontoon boat  
James River  
engulf the boat in flames  
unable to stay afloat  
jon boat  
life jackets  
kayak  
62 year old male

# Reportable Incidents

## **Incidents that are required to be reported to the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries**

- ❑ Damage over \$2,000 by or to the vessel or its equipment
- ❑ Injury requiring medical aid beyond first aid
- ❑ Loss of life
- ❑ Disappearance of any person from a vessel

# 2012 Virginia Boating Incident Summary\*

- Number of Incidents = 95
- Number of Vessels Involved = 111
- Number of Injuries = 62
- Number of Fatalities = 14
  - 86% of fatalities were due to drowning associated with not wearing a life jacket
  - Alcohol was a known factor in 7% of fatal incidents
- Property Damage = \$ 476,584

\*Reported to DGIF



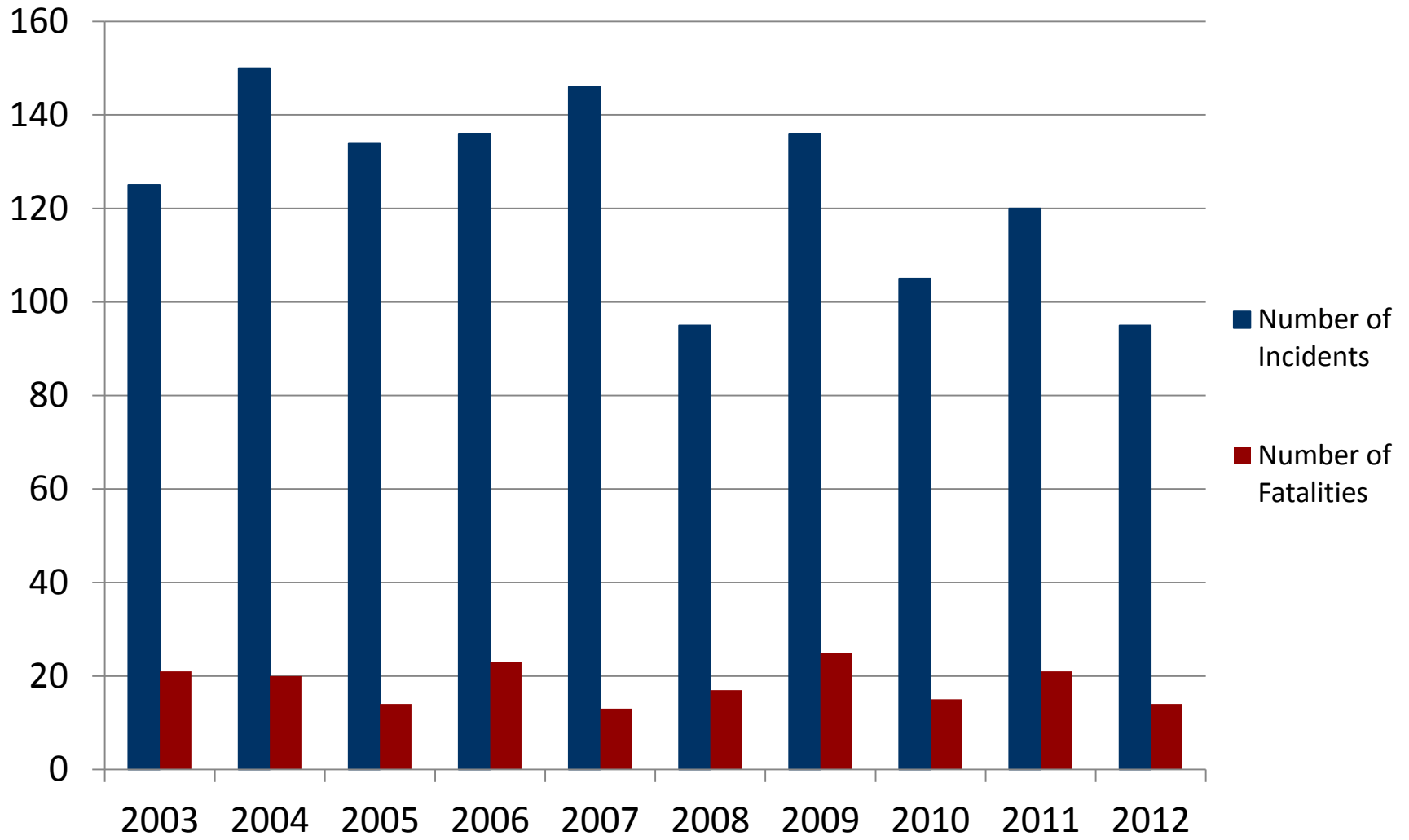
# Boating in Virginia

- # of River Miles – 52,225 miles (source VDEQ)
- Coastline – 132 miles (source VIMS)
- Tidal Shore – 7,213 (source VIMS)
- Inland Lakes – 116,364 acres (source VDEQ)

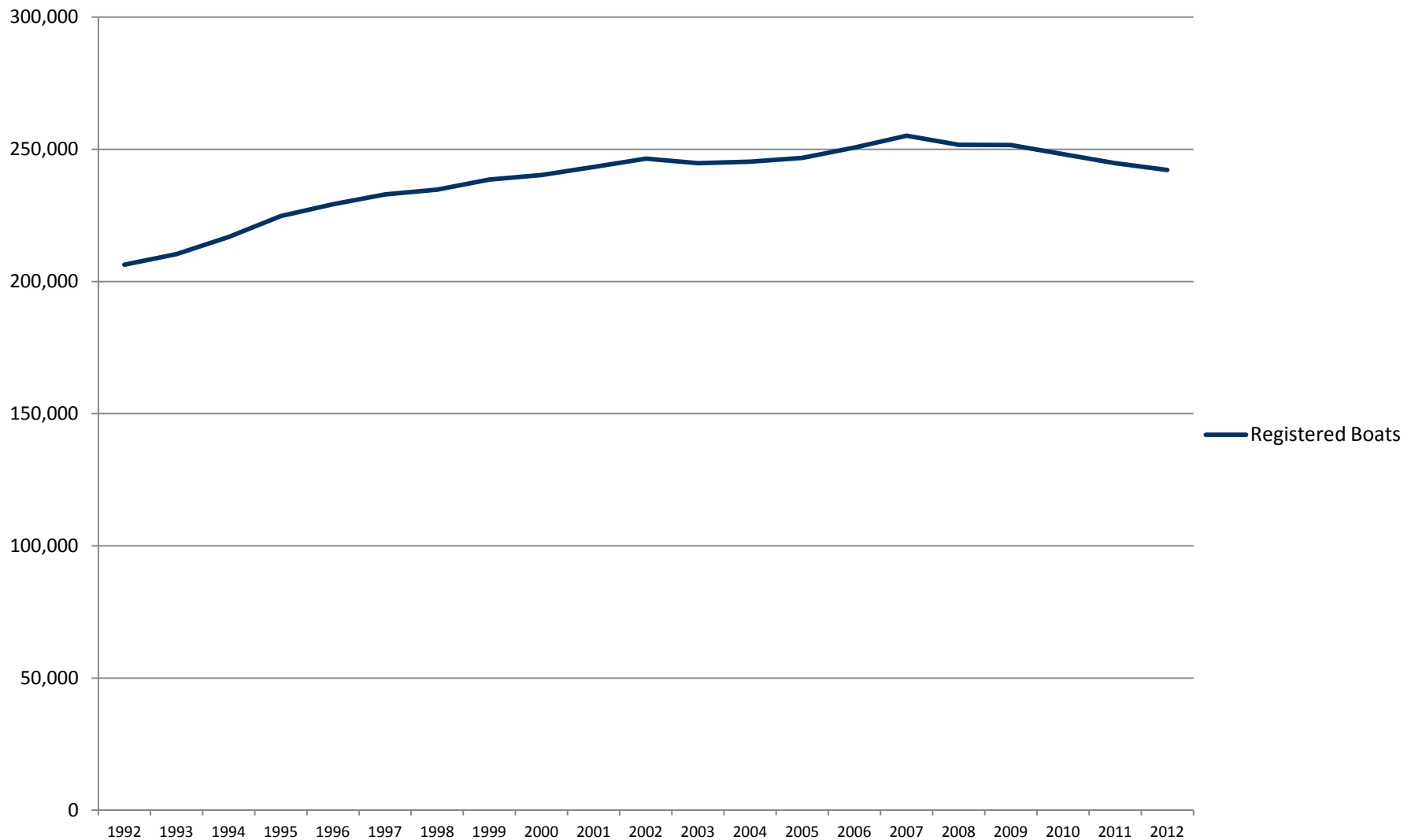
# 10 Year Boat Incident Summary

Year	Number of Incidents	Number of Injuries	Number of Fatalities	Amount of Property Damage
2003	125	85	21	\$1,054,410.00
2004	150	98	20	\$1,209,015.00
2005	134	89	14	\$1,857,792.00
2006	136	92	23	\$1,151,958.00
2007	146	107	13	\$1,001,170.00
2008	95	65	17	\$387,668.00
2009	136	91	25	\$907,900.00
2010	105	79	15	\$1,898,499.00
2011	120	97	21	\$1,226,360.00
2012	95	62	14	\$476,584.00

## 10 Year Boating Incident Statistics 2003 - 2012

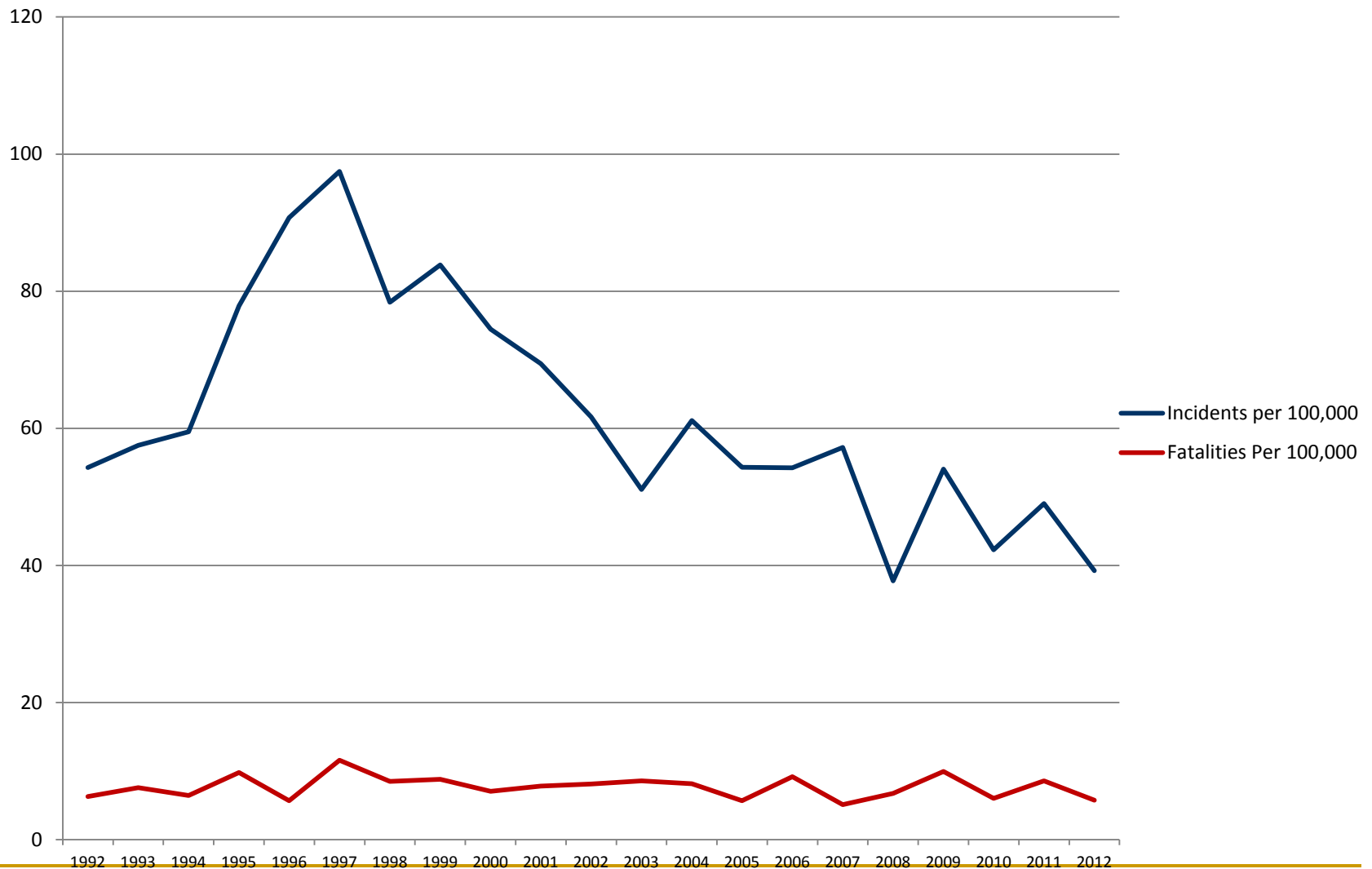


## Recreational Vessels Registered in Virginia by Year 1992 - 2012



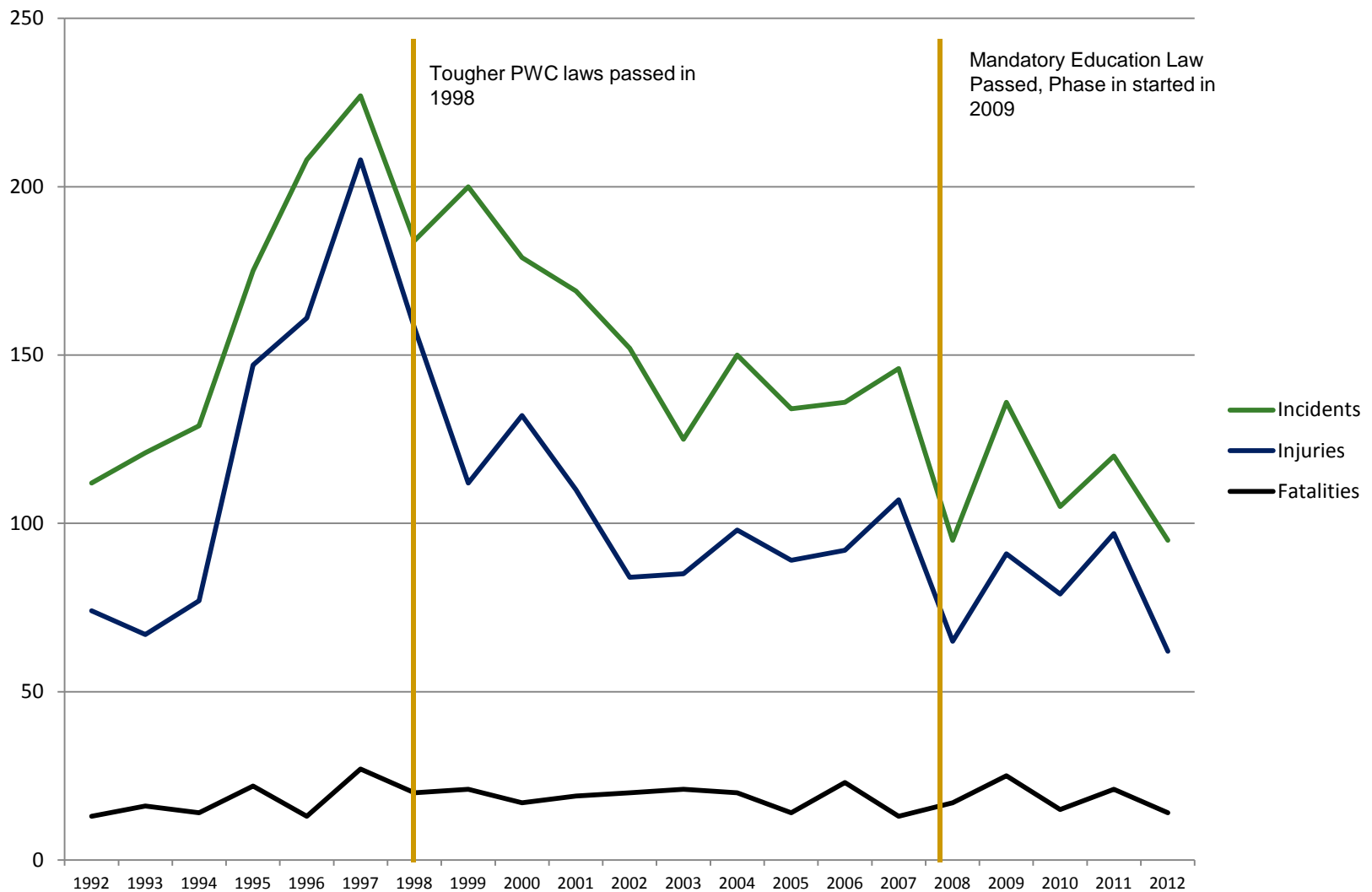


## Annual Recreational Boating Incident Rate 1992 – 2012 (per 100,000 Registered Boats)

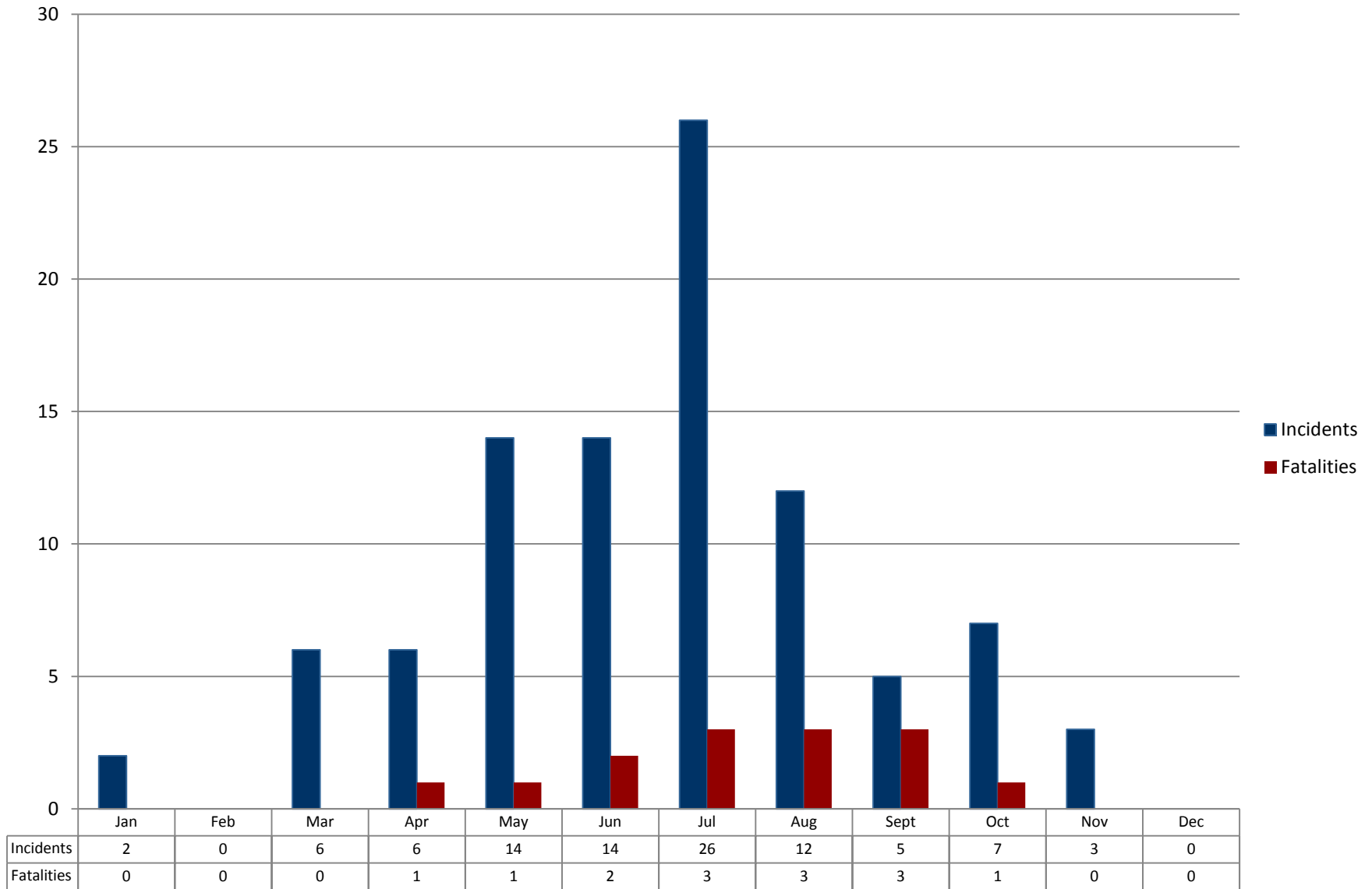


# Fatalities, Injuries, and Incidents by Year

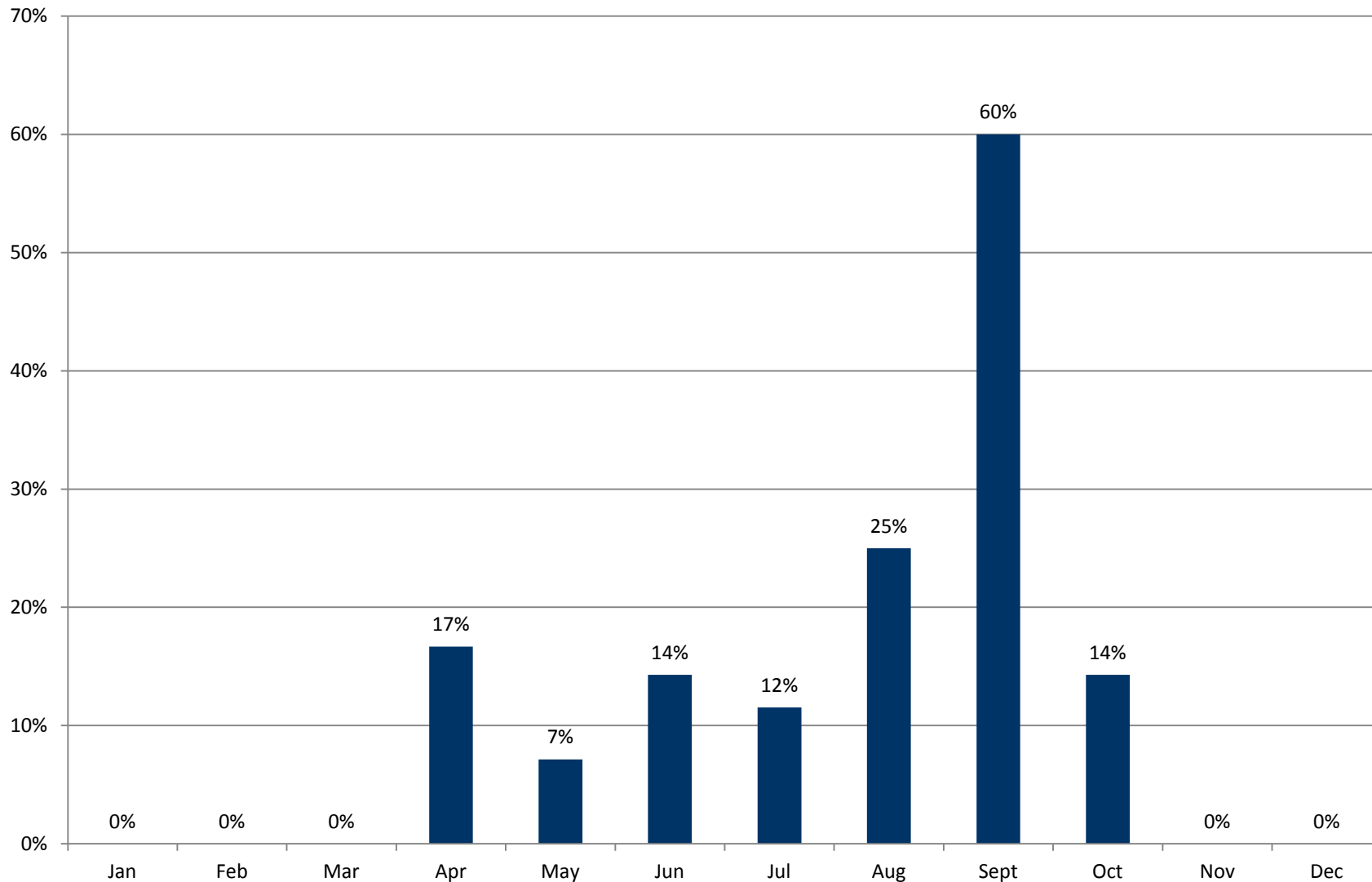
## 1992 - 2012



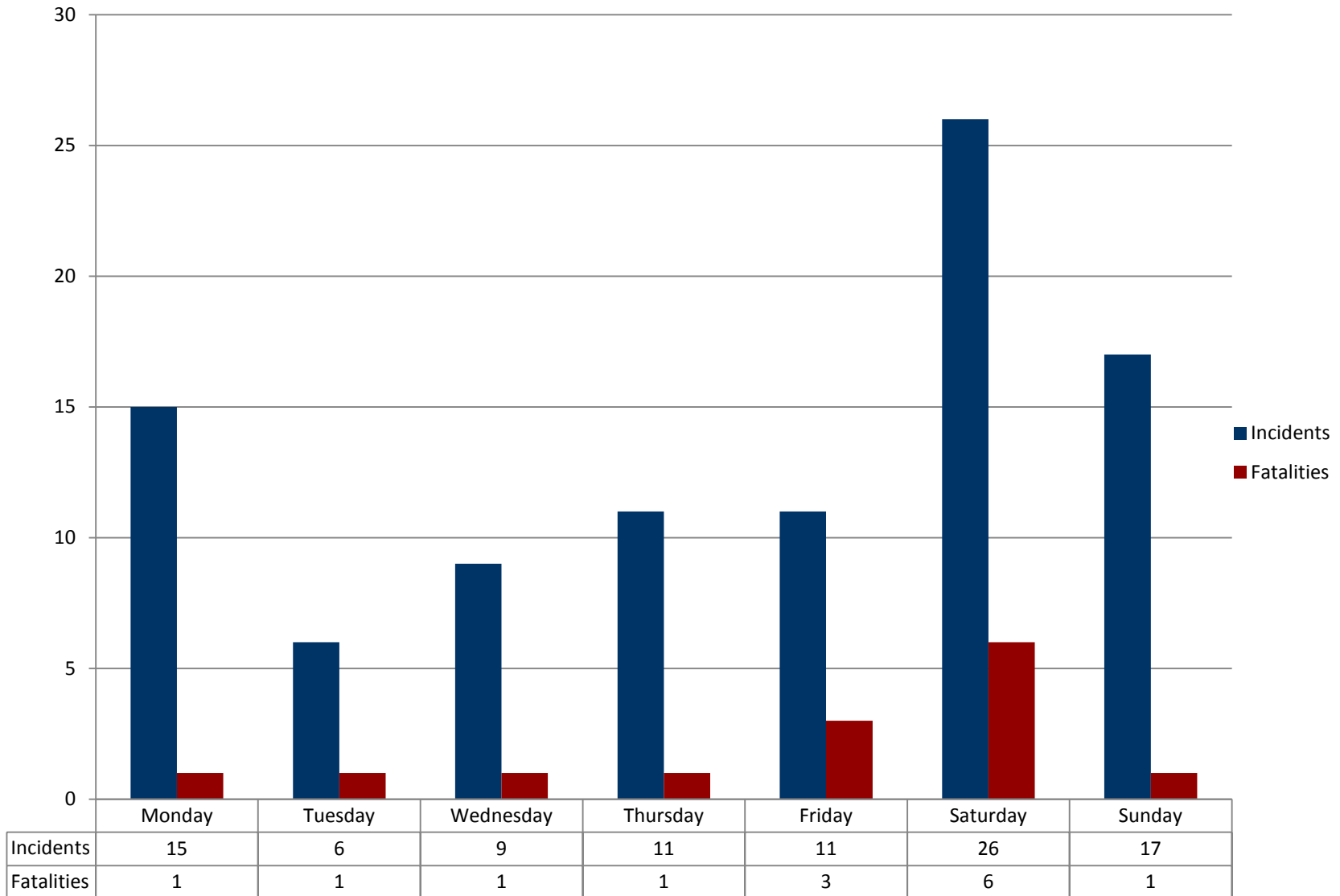
## 2012 Boating Incidents and Fatalities By Month



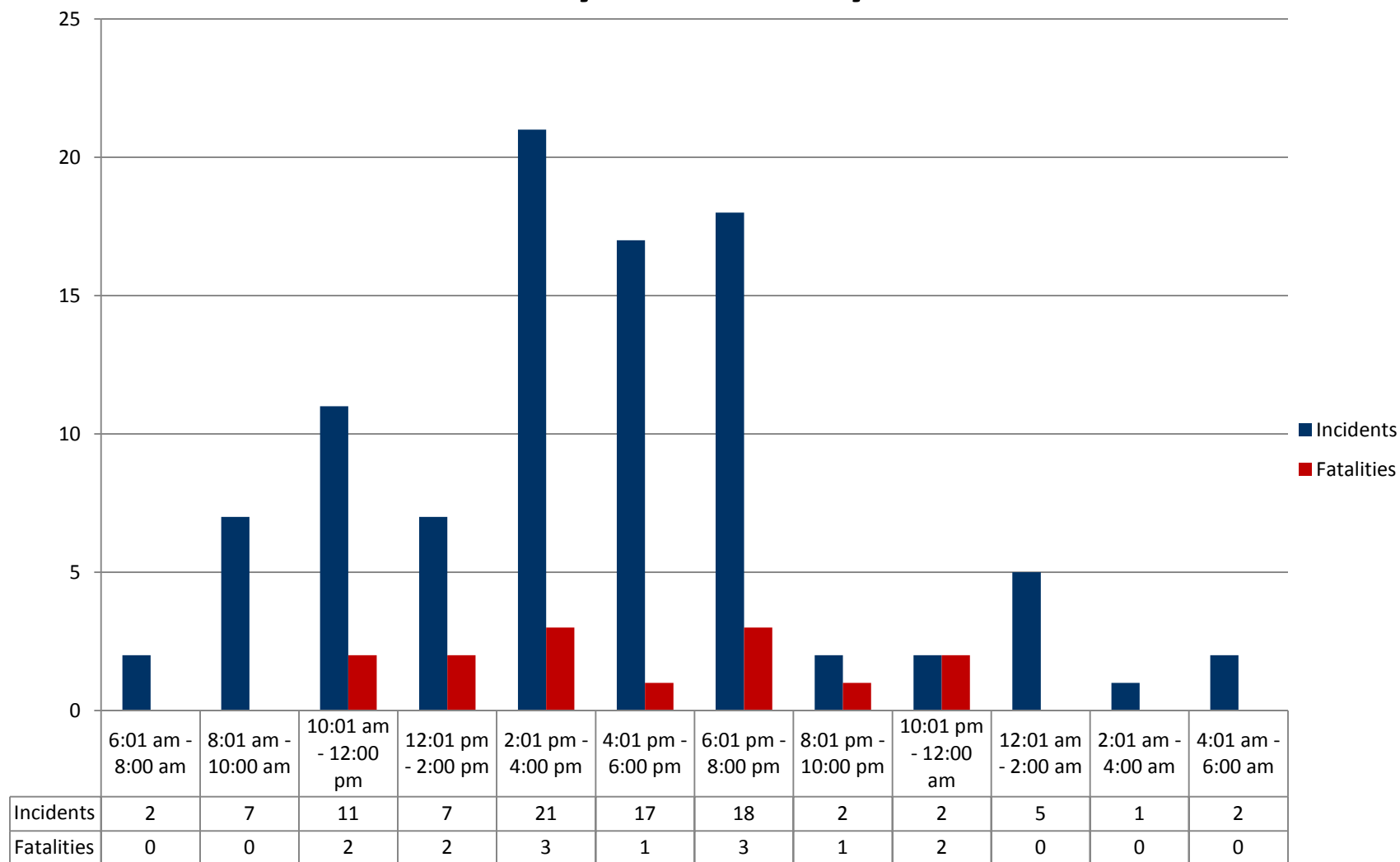
## 2012 Percentage of Incidents in Each Month that were Fatal



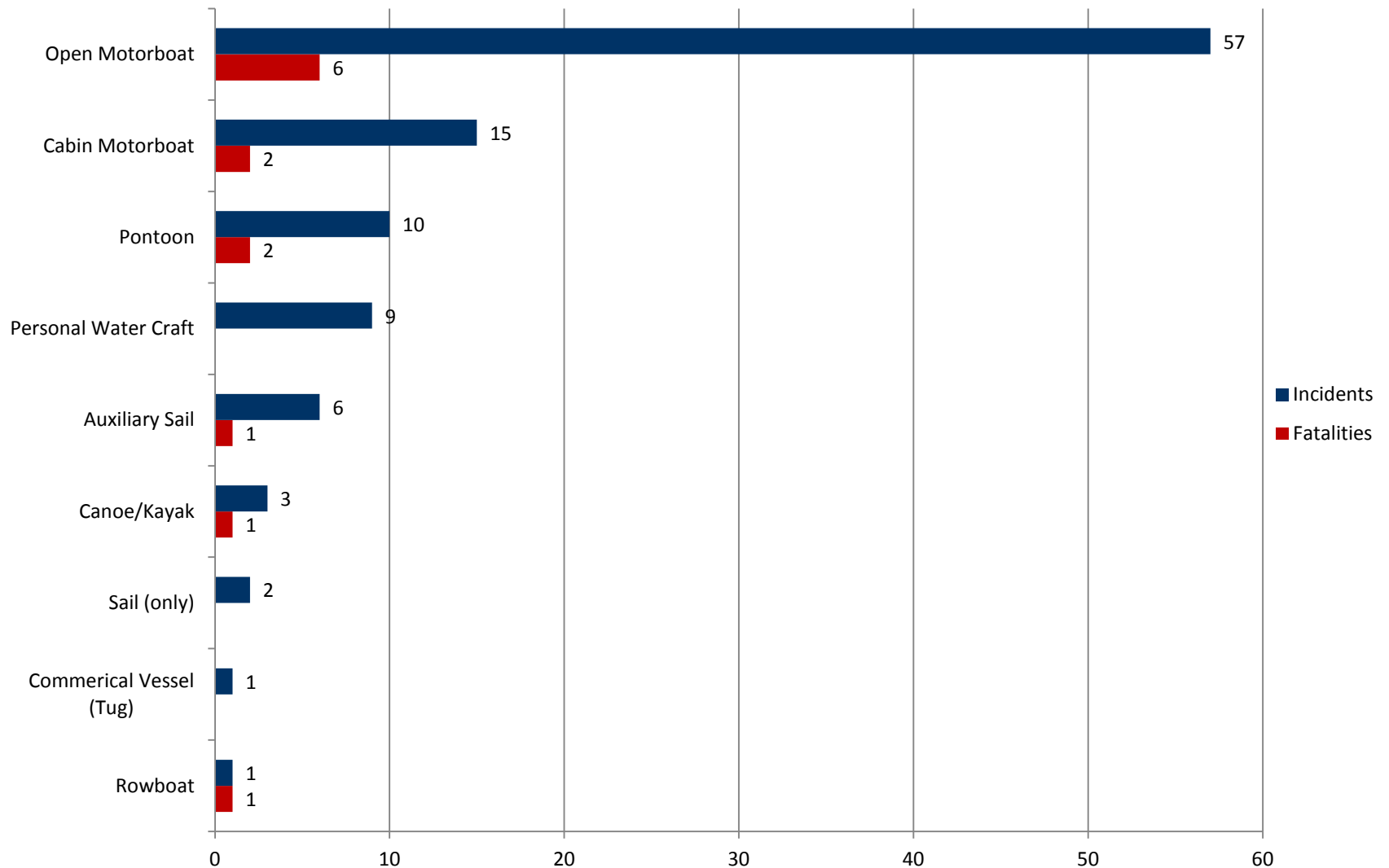
## 2012 Boating Incidents and Fatalities By Day of Week



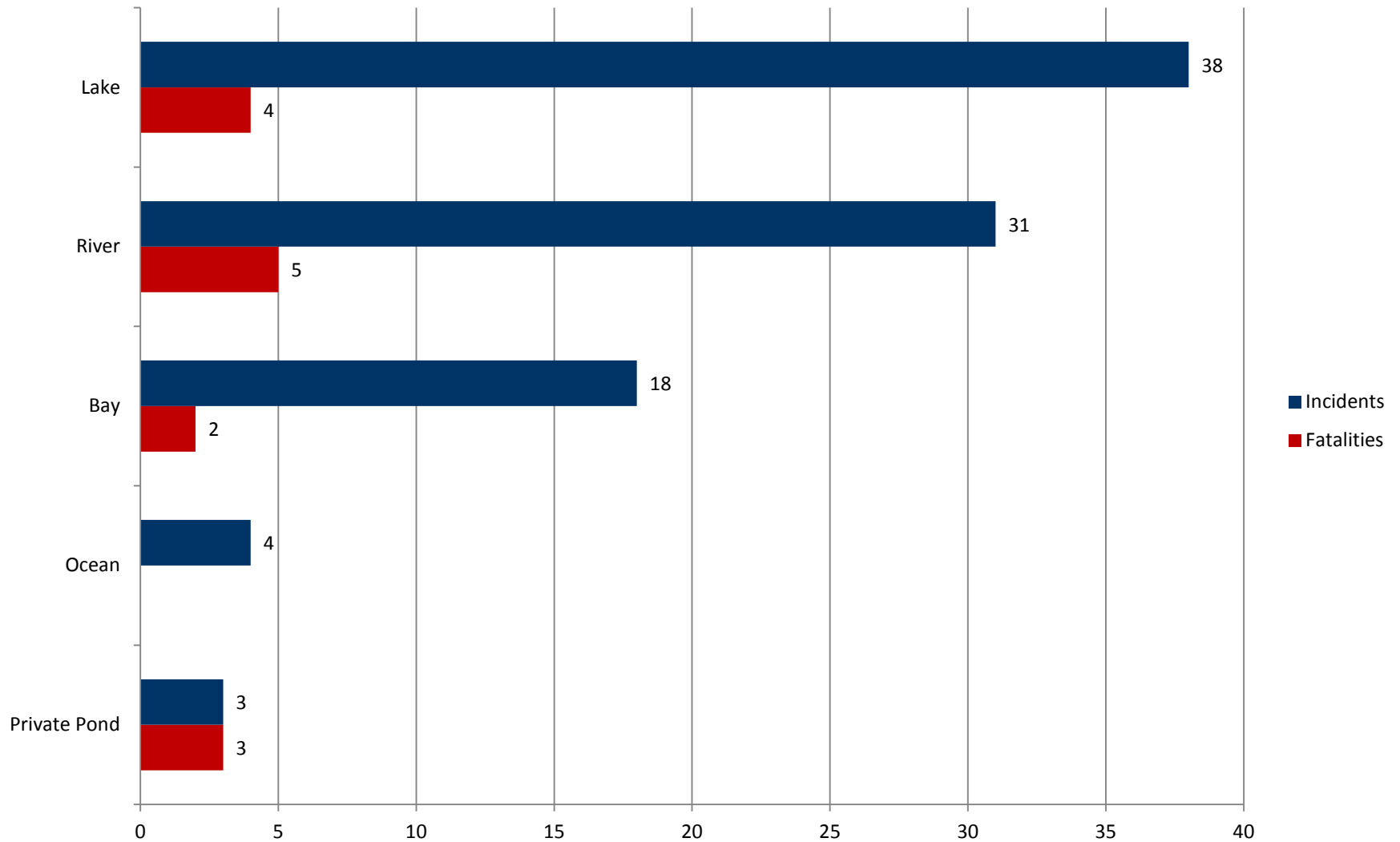
# 2012 Boating Incidents and Fatalities by Time of Day



## 2012 Boating Incidents and Fatalities by Vessel Type



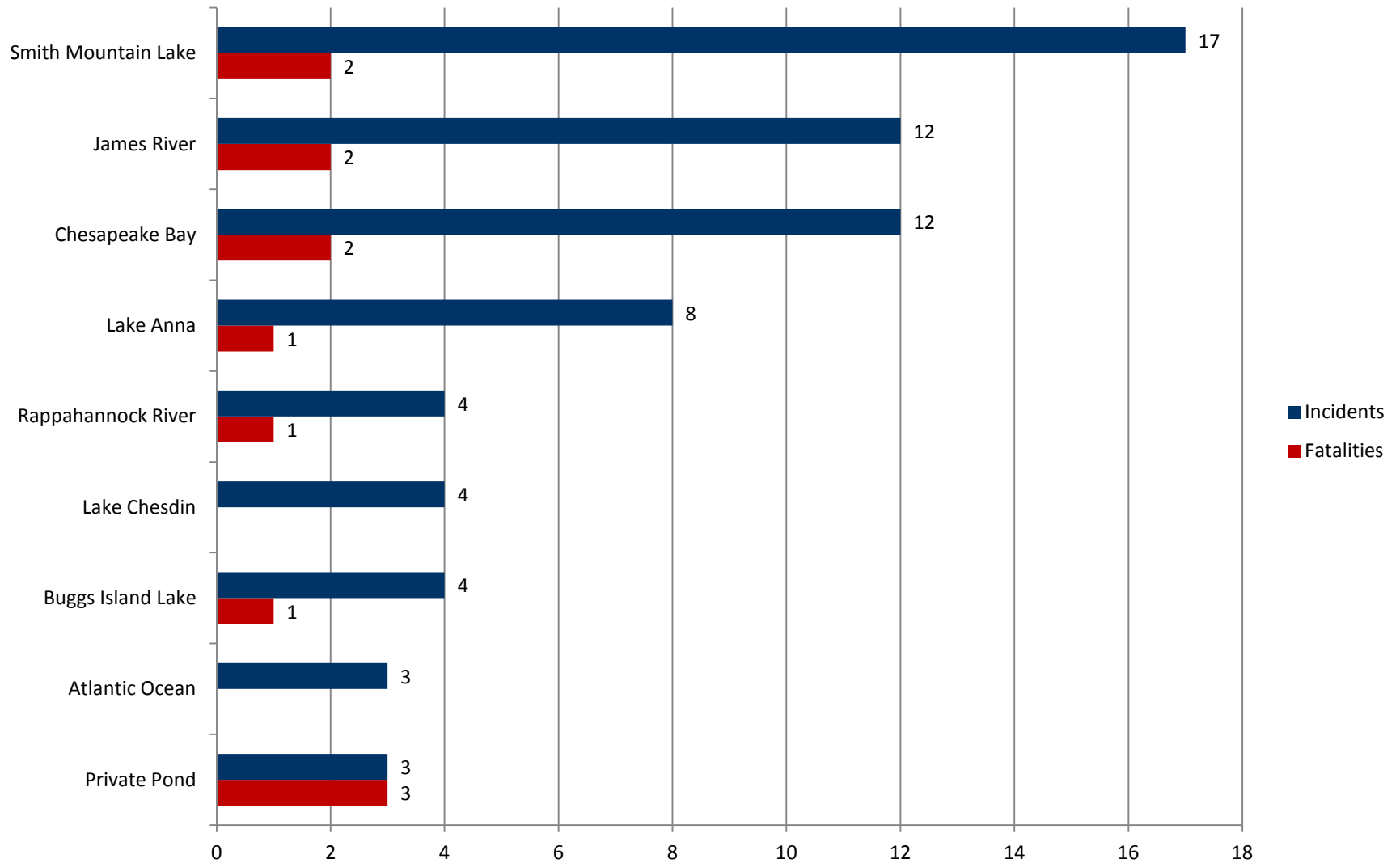
## 2012 Boating Incidents and Fatalities By Water Body Type





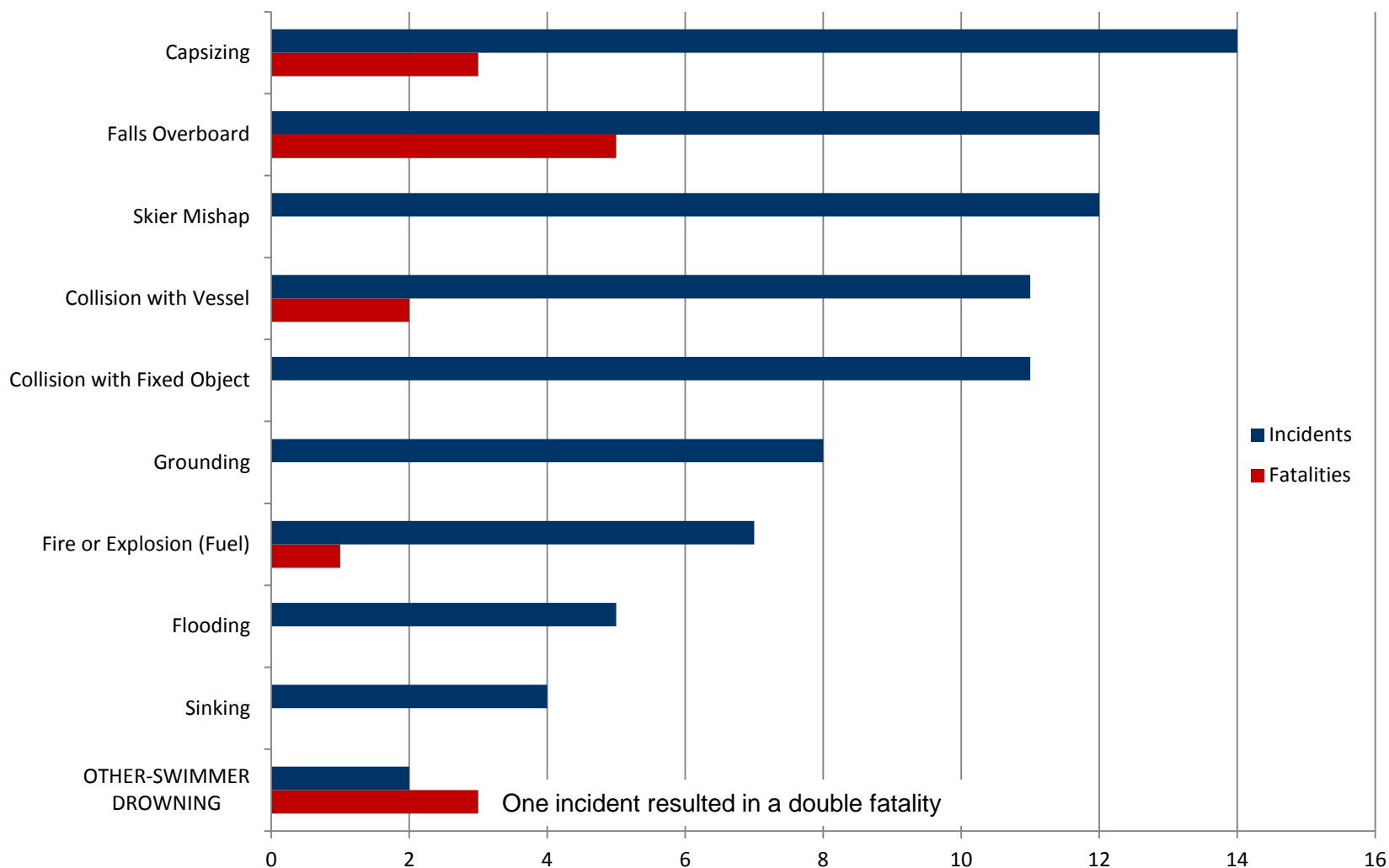
## 2012 Boating Incidents and Fatalities

### Top Locations of Incidents



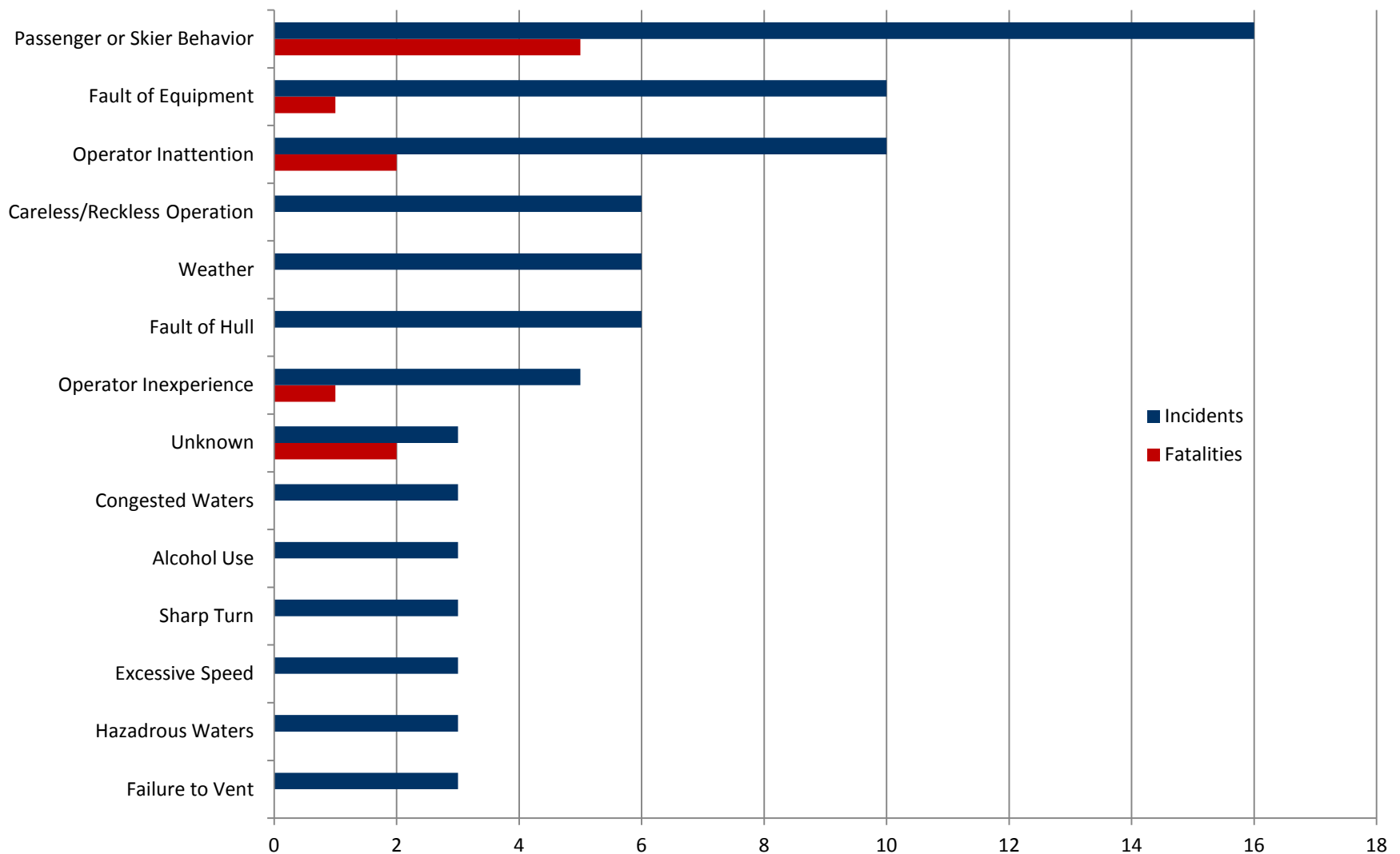
## 2012 Boating Incidents and Fatalities

### Top Primary Incident Types

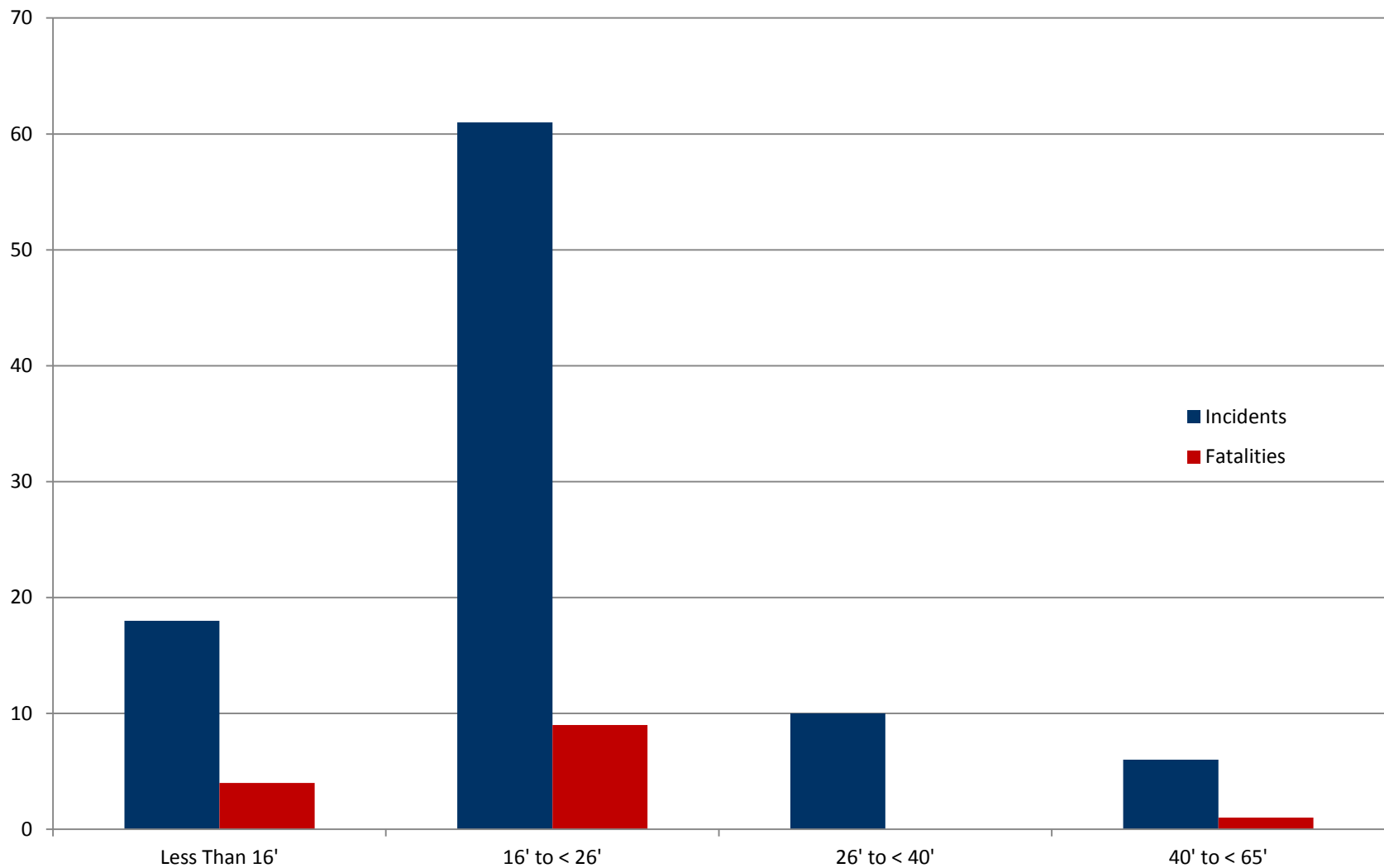


## 2012 Boating Incidents and Fatalities

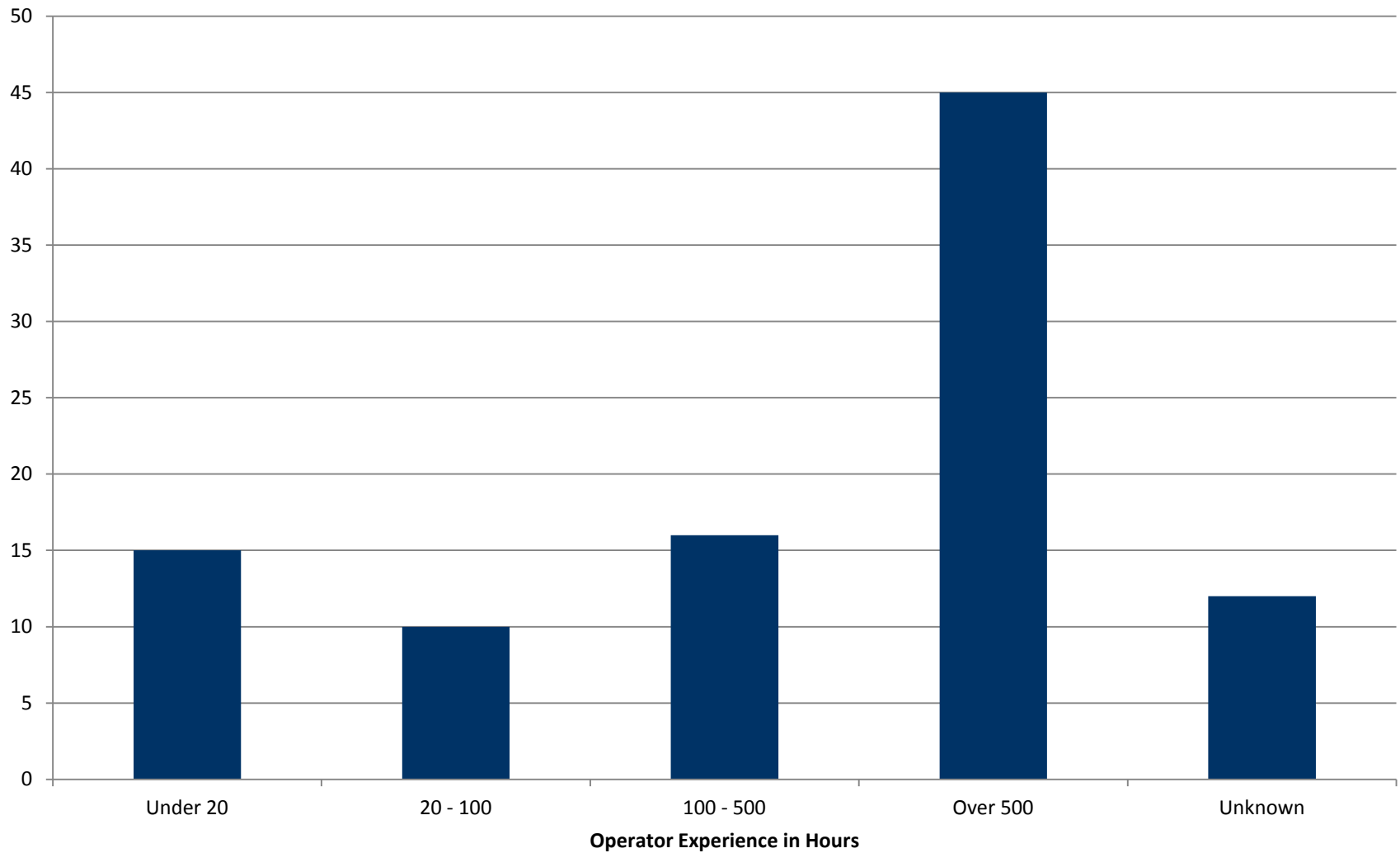
### Top Primary Contributing Factor



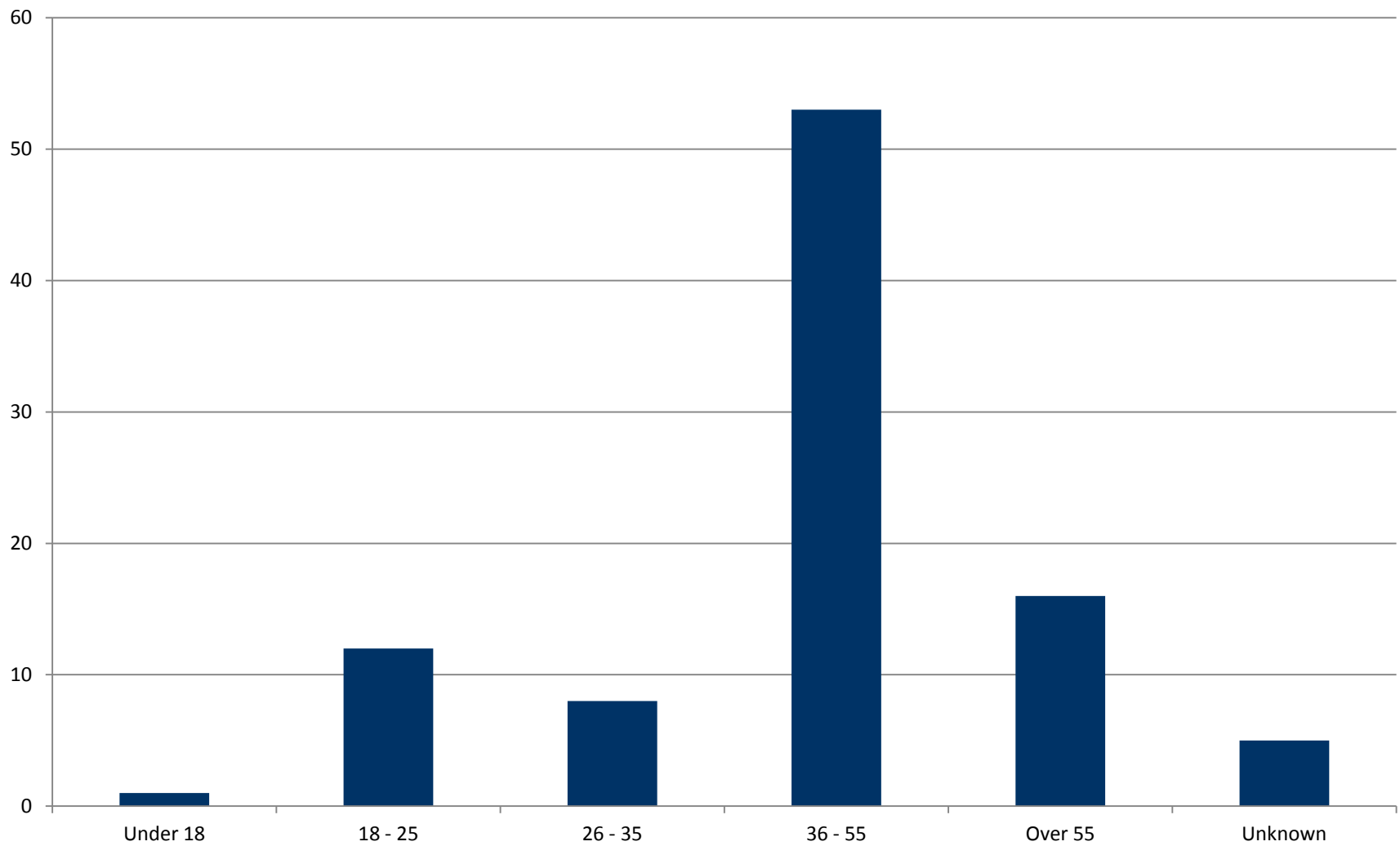
## 2012 Boating Incidents and Fatalities By Vessel Size



## 2012 Boat Incidents Experience of Operators

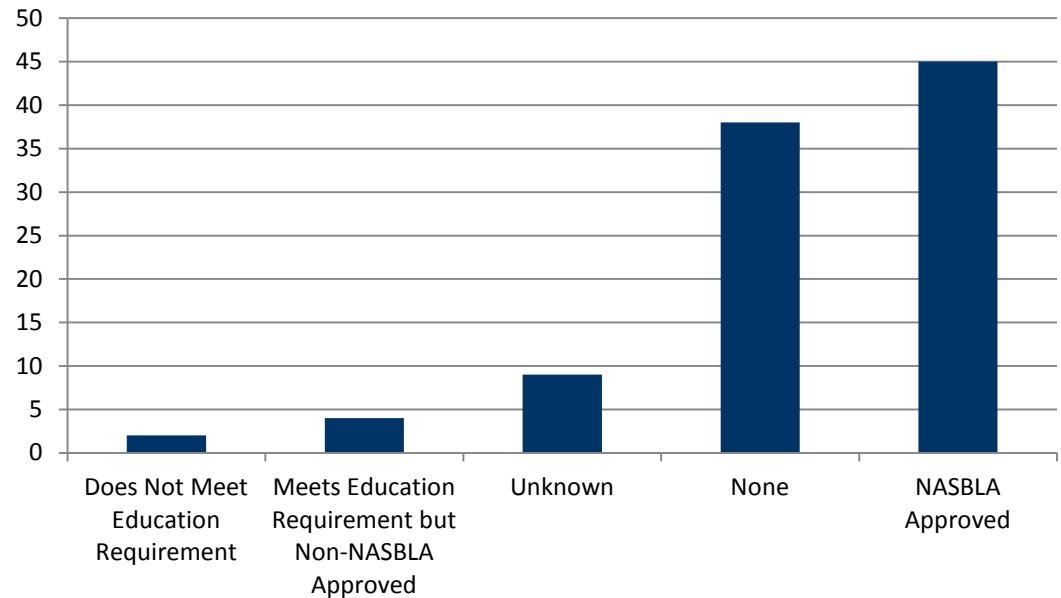
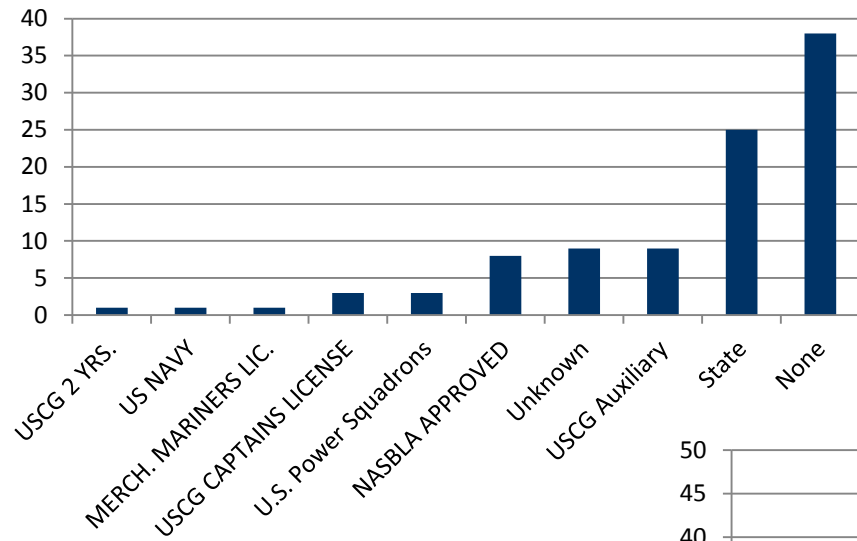


## 2012 Boat Incidents Age of Operators



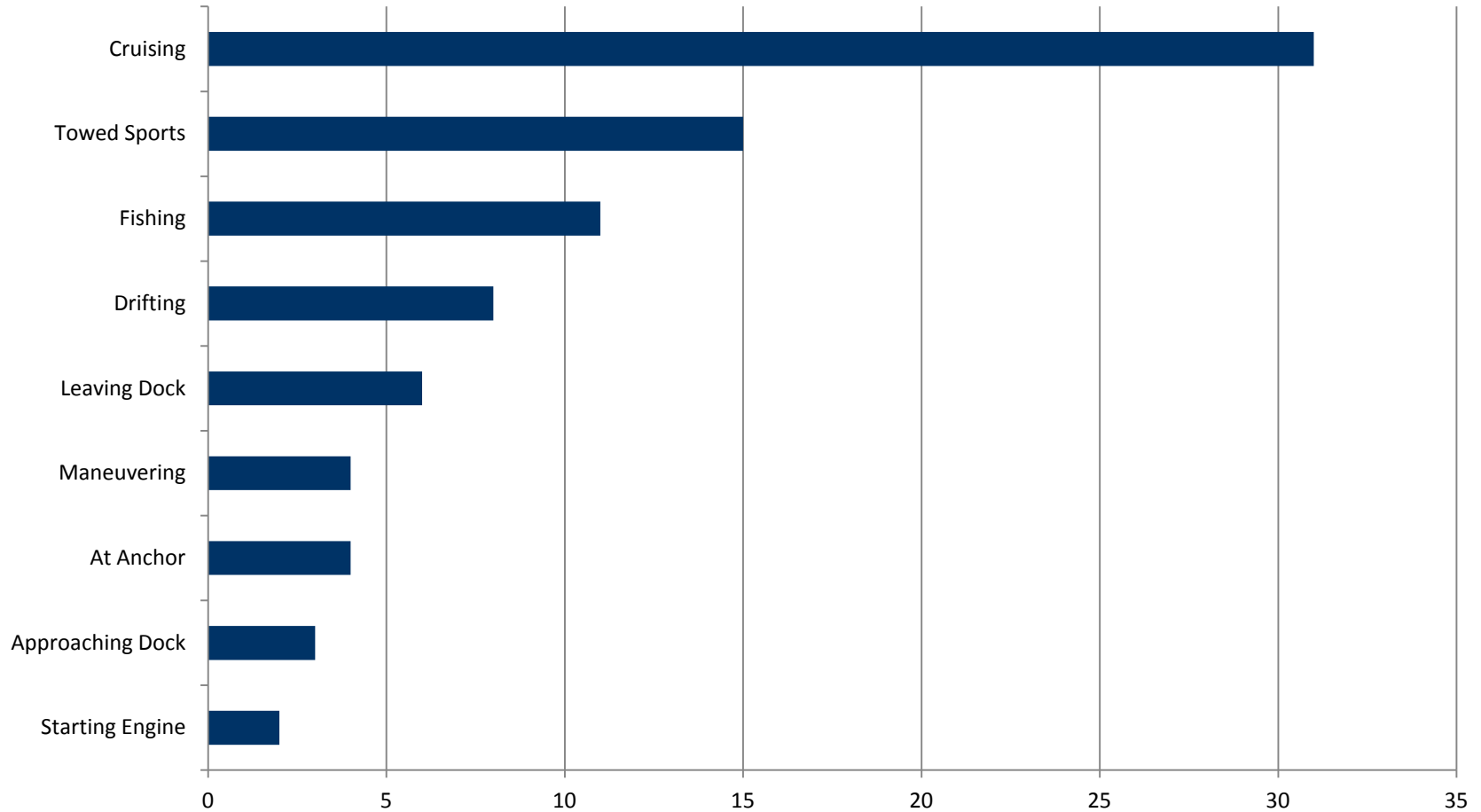
# 2012 Boat Incidents

## Education of Operators



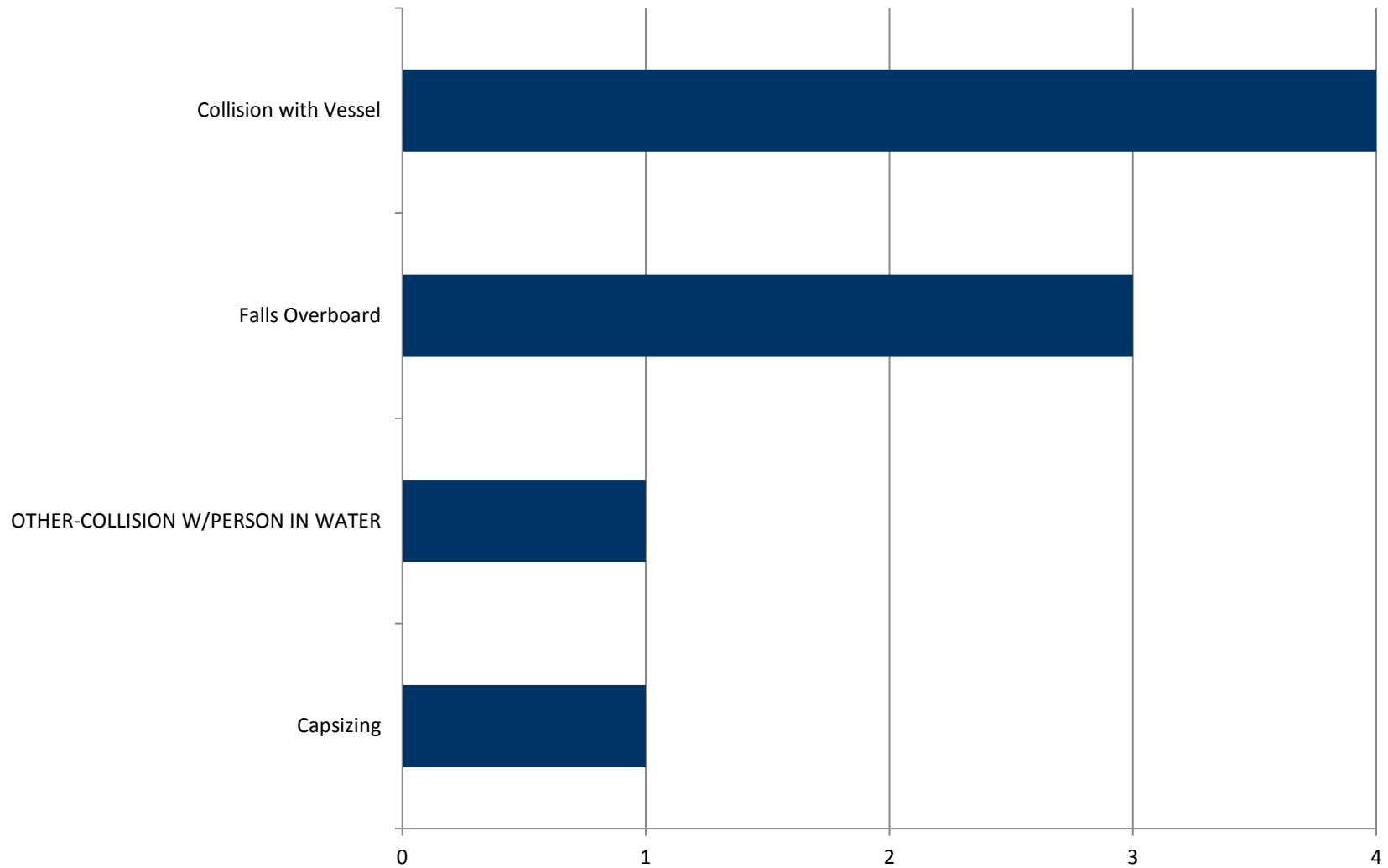
## 2012 Boating Incidents

### Top Vessel Operation at Time of Incident



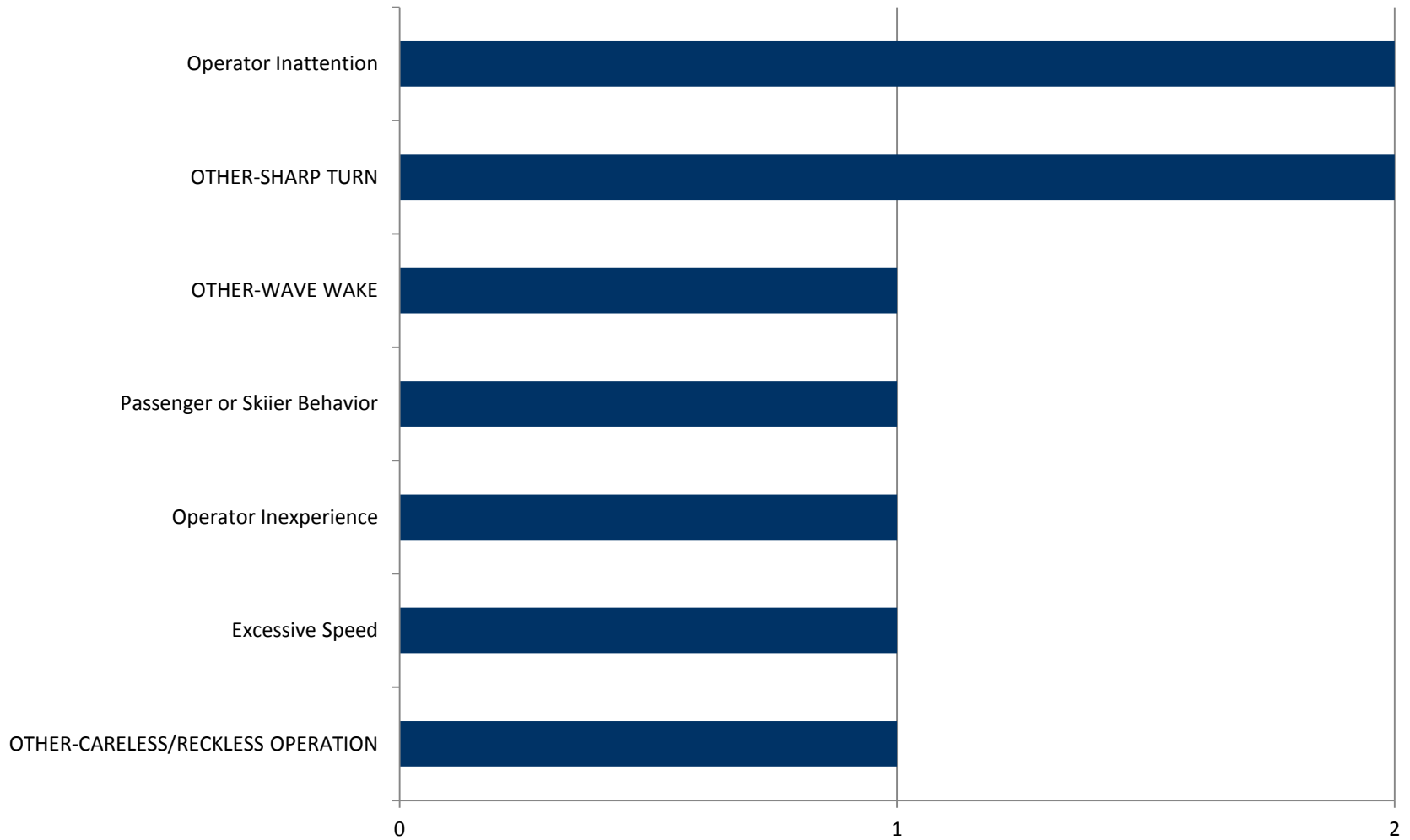


## 2012 Boating Incidents Top PWC Incidents Types

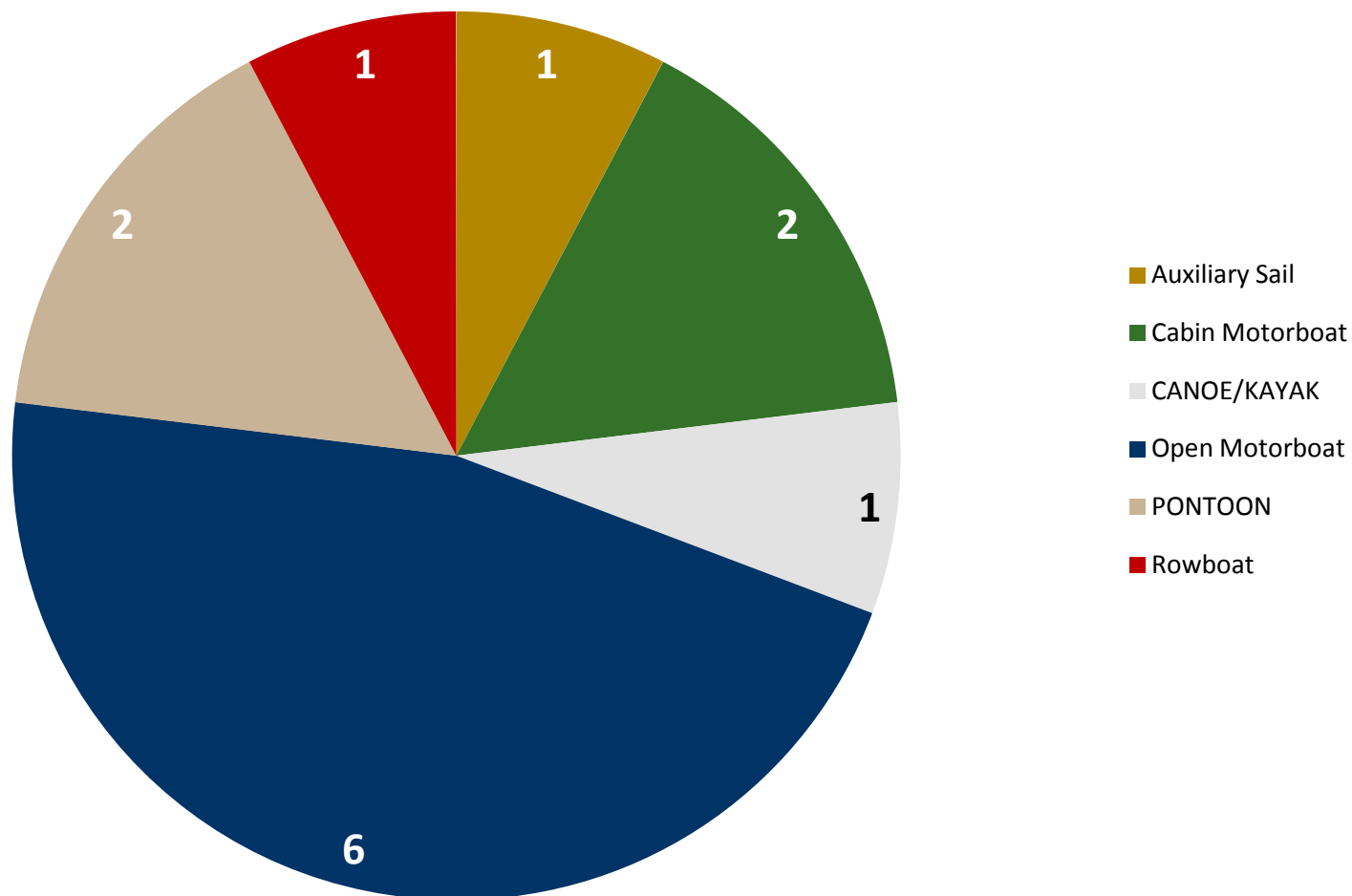


## 2012 Boating Incidents

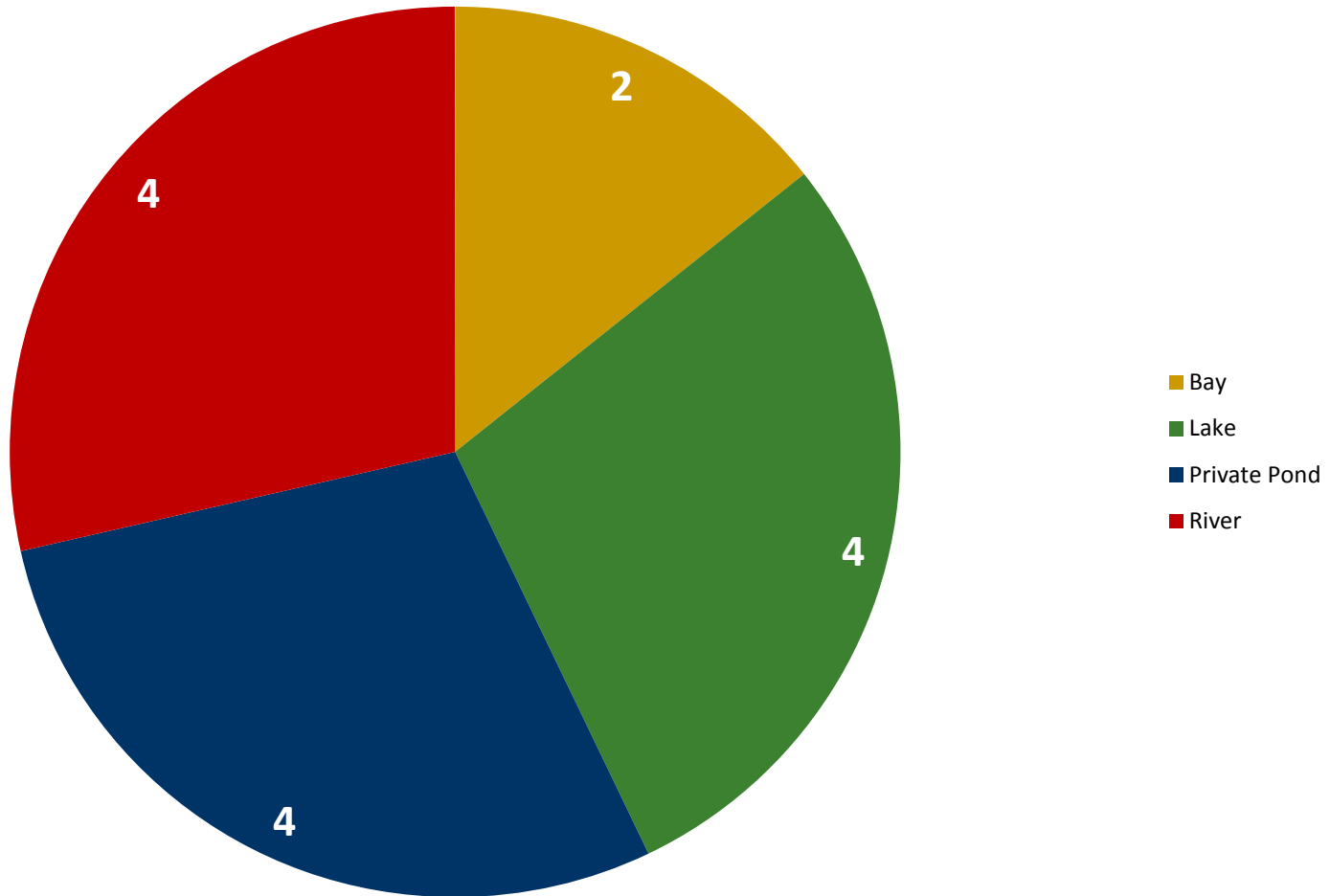
### Top Primary Contributing Factor of PWC Incidents



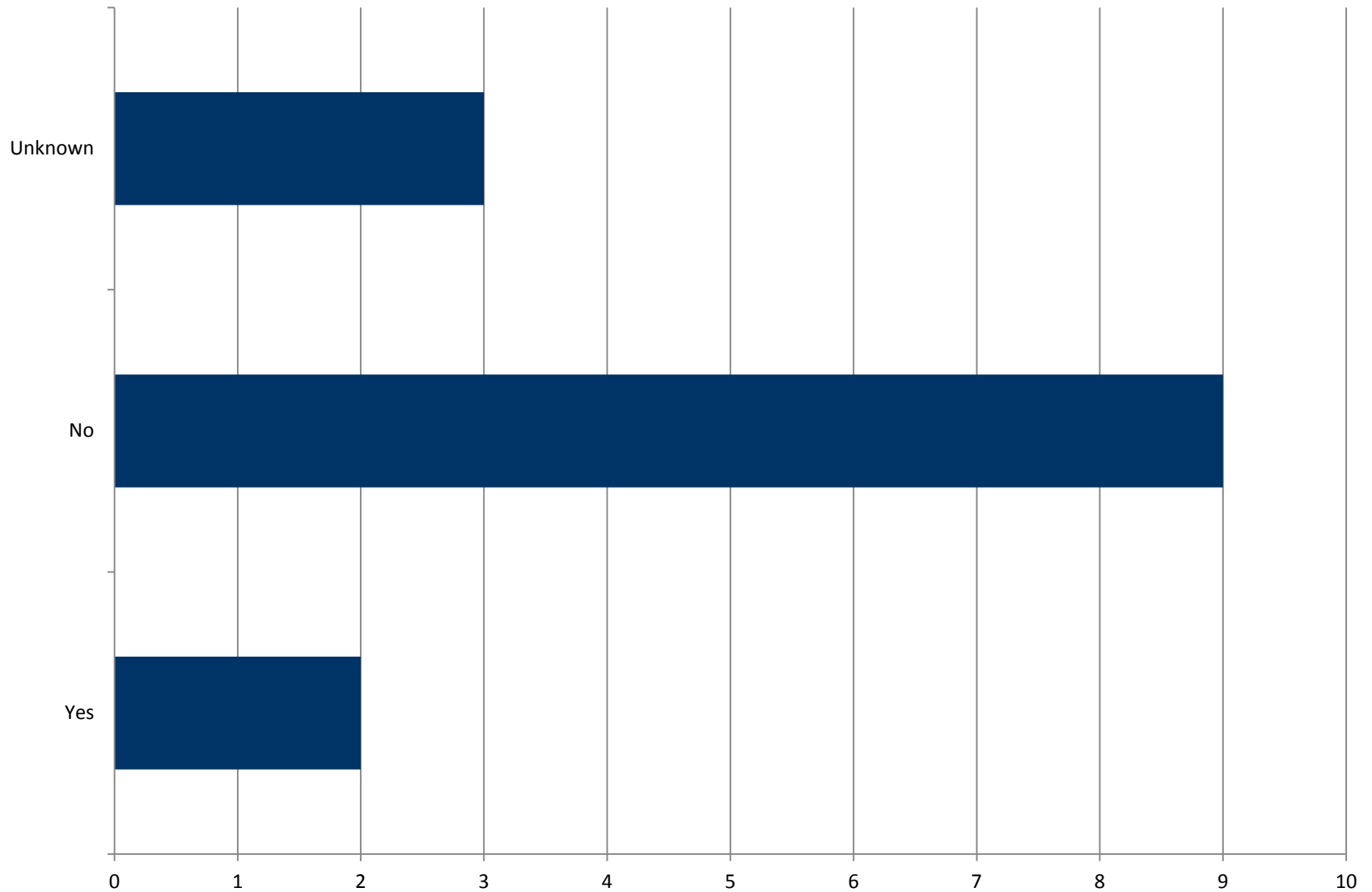
## 2012 Boating Fatalities - by Vessel Type



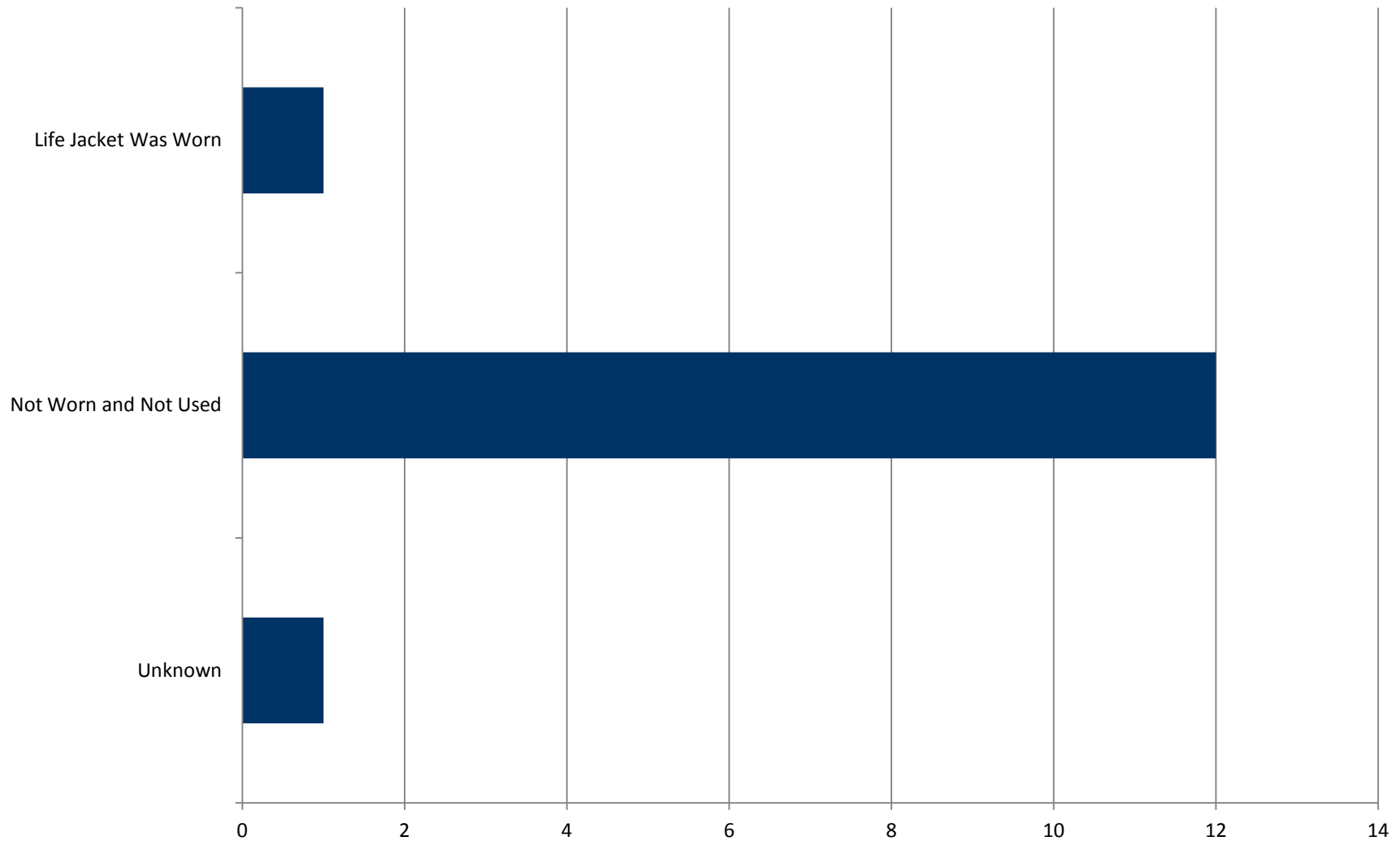
## 2012 Boating Fatalities by Location



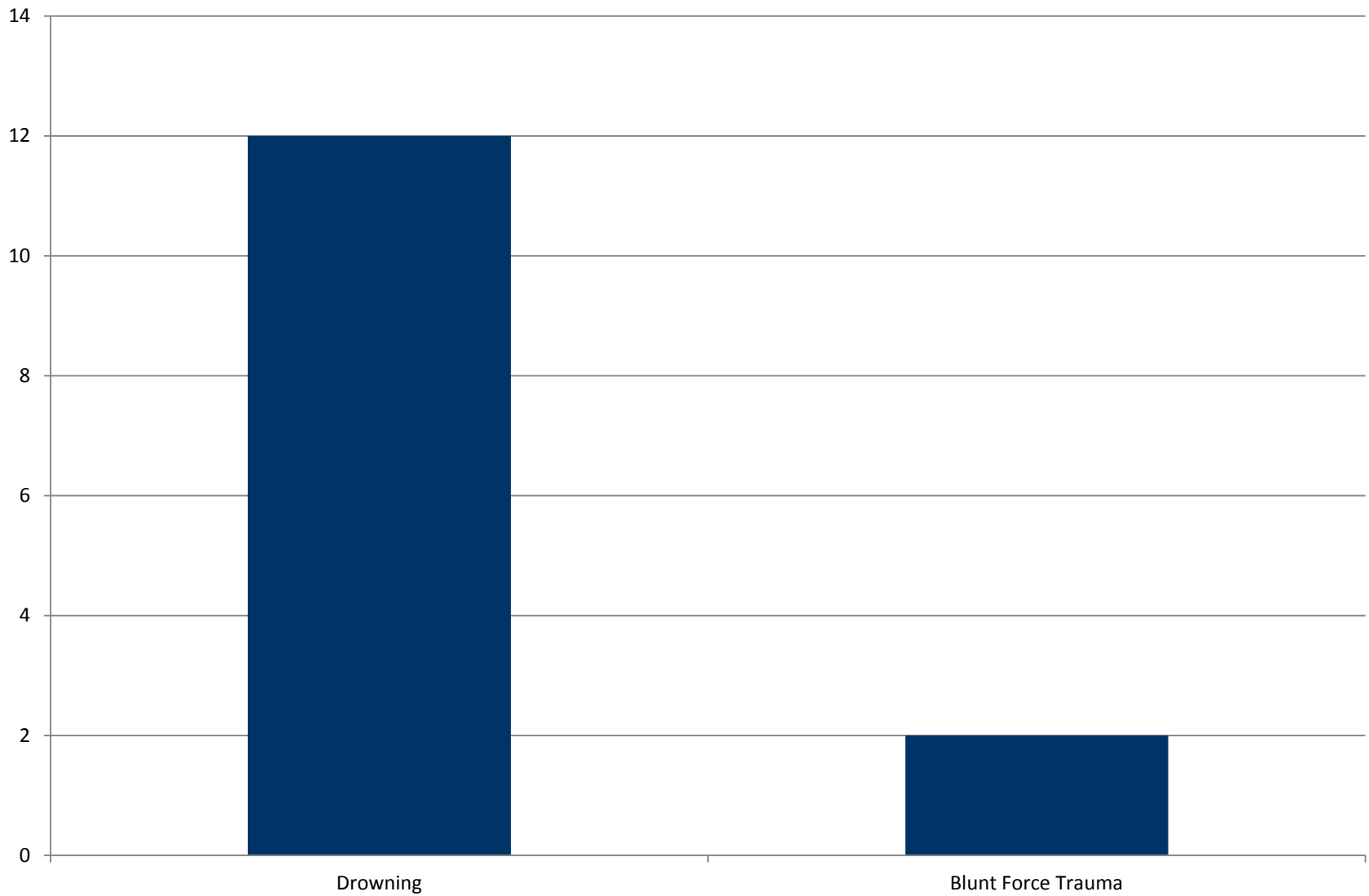
## 2012 Boating Fatalities - Alcohol Use



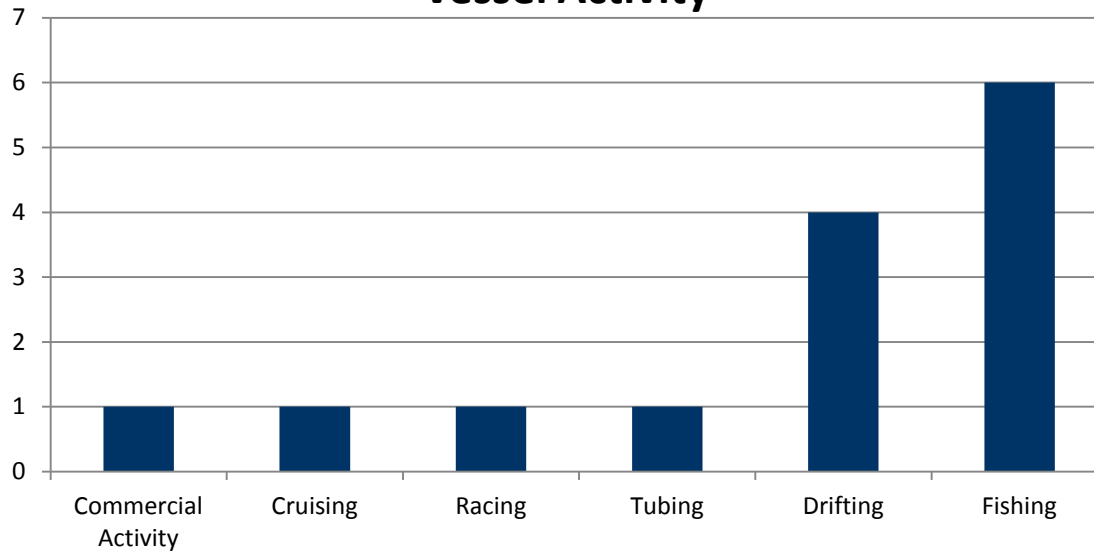
## 2012 Boating Fatalities Usage of Life Jackets



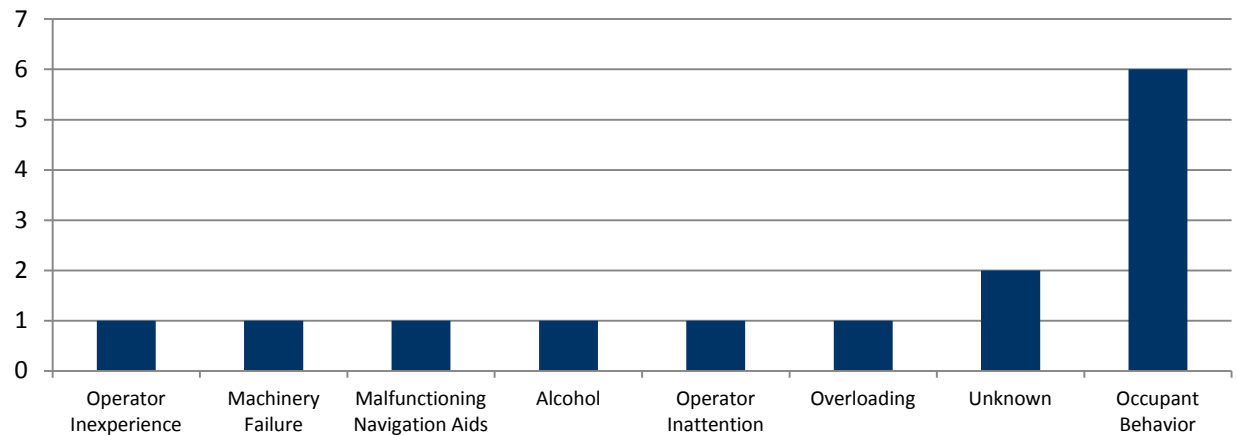
## 2012 Boating Fatalities - Cause of Death



## 2012 Boating Fatalities Vessel Activity



## 2012 Boating Fatalities Cause of Fatal Accident





# 2012 Boating Fatality Summary – Virginia

- 4/14/2012 – At 4:00 pm, two males were fishing on the James River from a 14' Jon boat. One passenger was standing up at the bow of the boat pulling up the boat's anchor when another vessel's wake rocked the boat. This wake along with the weight of the passengers on one side of the boat caused it to capsize. One passenger, a 62 year old male, held onto the side of the boat briefly before letting go and drifting downstream where he subsequently drowned. Life jackets were onboard the vessel but not used. The weather was clear with moderate winds, air temperature 76 degrees and water temperature was 50 degrees.
- 5/18/2012 – A fisherman did not return home on 5/18 as expected by his family. His 16' aluminum boat with a 9 hp engine was found in the New River and his body was found about 300 yards downstream. Two life jackets were on the boat, but neither were used. The 51 year old drowned. The weather was cloudy with light wind, air temperature was 74 degrees and water temperature was 71 degrees.

# 2012 Boating Fatality Summary – Virginia

- 6/10/2012 – Two men were fishing on a private pond on an unpowered 10' Jon boat in Caroline County around 10:45 am. One of the passengers, a 25 year old, fell into the water and drowned. He was a non-swimmer and was not wearing a life jacket and no life jackets were onboard. The weather was clear with no wind, air temperature was 90 degrees and water temperature was 70 degrees.
- 6/26/2012 – Two males where fishing in a 12' Jon boat on a private pond in Amherst County at 9:00 pm. While they were gathering their gear, the weight in the boat shifted causing the boat to capsize. The operator swam to a nearby cement pillar. The 56 year old passenger was unable to swim to the pillar or the shore and drowned. No life jackets were onboard the vessel.

# 2012 Boating Fatality Summary – Virginia

- 7/7/2012 – Eight people were aboard a 20' open motorboat around 8:00 pm on the James River near the Dutch Gap boat ramp. After only a few minutes into their voyage, someone smelled smoke. The engine was shut off and the cowling was lifted which caused a large fire to erupt and engulf the boat in flames. All passengers abandoned the ship. One passenger treaded water for about 25 minutes, but then was unable to stay afloat and drowned. The boat was burned to the waterline, two other passengers were injured. There were 9 life jackets onboard and 4 were used. The weather was clear with light winds, air temperature was 96 degrees and water temperature was 95 degrees.
- 7/13/2012 – At 10:15 pm, two males were entering the west channel to Tangier Island in the Chesapeake Bay. Their 25' cabin motorboat hit channel marker 1, which was malfunctioning. The 37 year old passenger hit the cabin dash and died from blunt force trauma. The 51 year old operator was injured as well. The weather was clear with light winds, air temperature 85 degrees and water temperature 84 degrees.

# 2012 Boating Fatality Summary – Virginia

- 7/21/2012 – At 7:50 pm, a 19' jet drive open motorboat was pulling 2 juveniles on a tube on a private pond in Prince George County. When the driver turned to the left, the tube was propelled into a tree on the shoreline. One child was injured and the other 10 year old boy died due to blunt force trauma. The weather was cloudy with light winds, air temperature was 85 degrees and water temperature was 85 degrees.
- 8/4/2012 – Five people were fishing and swimming from an 18' pontoon boat at Lake Anna. At 7:45 pm, one of the individuals was missing and he was unable to be located. The operator returned to the marina to get help to locate the individual. The 36 year old male was found in the vicinity of the boat's last location and had drowned. He was not wearing a life jacket and alcohol use was apparent. The weather was clear with light winds, air temperature was 80 degrees and water temperature was 86 degrees.

# 2012 Boating Fatality Summary – Virginia

- 8/9/2012 – A 20' rental pontoon (North Carolina registration) with 12 people on board departed from North Bend Campground on Buggs Island Lake about 3:30 pm. The vessel stopped to allow passengers to swim. One of the passengers, a 13 year old male, non-swimmer, went under the water and did not resurface. 11 Type II and 1 type IV life jackets were on board the vessel rated for 9 people. The weather was clear with strong winds, air temperature was 85 degrees and water temperature was 83 degrees.
- 8/22/2012 – An 18'7" open motorboat was found operating in a circular fashion without an operator on the Rappahannock River around 10:52 am. The 37 year old male apparently fell overboard. He was not wearing a life jacket. Weather was foggy with light wind, air temperature was 81 degrees and water temperature was 79 degrees.

# 2012 Boating Fatality Summary – Virginia

- 9/9/2012 – Two men were on a 16' open motorboat on Smith Mountain Lake at 1:15 pm. The 18 year old male decided to go swimming and immediately began to struggle in the deep water. The boat operator jumped in to assist the 18 year old, and went under water as well. Both men were non-swimmers. Life jackets were not worn. Weather was cloudy with light winds, water temperature was 78 degrees and air temperature was 75 degrees.
- 9/24/2012 – A 56 year old male was fishing from a kayak at Pohick Regional Park. The kayak capsized about 150 yards from the gravel boat landing. Witnesses saw his attempting to swim to shore but then he yelled for help, went under water and did not resurface. Life jackets were not worn. Weather was clear with light winds, air temperature 78 degrees and water temperature 72 degrees.