

Boating while Intoxicated in Missouri...



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Behavioral Health



Epidemiology
Workgroup

- ✦ In Missouri it is illegal to operate a boat with a BAC of .08% or higher. In certain circumstances, it may be a felony.¹ Some skills involved in operating a boat may be affected at even lower levels.
- ✦ On average, a BAC of .08% occurs when a man consumes 5+ drinks within two hours or a woman consumes 4+ drinks in the same amount of time. However, there are other contributing factors which may mean that .08% is reached at a smaller amount. A standard drink is defined as 12 ounces of beer, 5 ounces of wine, or 1.5 ounces of 72-proof distilled spirits.² A mixed drink or a glass of beer/wine served in a restaurant may contain more than one serving.
- ✦ “Beer bong” are prohibited on state rivers with the exception of the Mississippi, Missouri and Osage.¹
- ✦ There were 318 people arrested in 2010 for boating under the influence of alcohol or drugs.³
- ✦ Anyone convicted of Boating While Intoxicated is required to take a boating safety class in addition to other fines or penalties.⁴
- ✦ Of the 234 boating crashes in 2010, 65 (28%) involved alcohol. These alcohol involved crashes resulted in 39 injured people. Alcohol was also involved in the majority of fatalities resulting from a boating accident (8 out of 14).³
- ✦ For more information on safe boating, see the Missouri Online Training at <http://www.boat-ed.com/Missouri/index.html>

¹ <http://www.boat-ed.com/mo/handbook/alcohol.htm>

² http://www.madd.org/laws/law-overview/08_Per_Se_Law_Overview.pdf

³ MO BHEW. Retrieved from: <http://dmh.mo.gov/seow/default.aspx> on 5/24/2012

⁴ <http://www.visittablerocklake.org/page.php?id=3>