Minnesota Ice-Related Fatalities
1976-2015

MN DNR - Boat and Water Safety
500 Lafayette Road, Saint Paul, MN 55155-4039

No.	Date	County	Water Body	Age	Accident Type
1976					
1.	1/22	St. Louis	Miller Creek	(6)	toboggan thru ice
2.	1/22	St. Louis	Miller Creek	(5)	toboggan thru ice
3.	3/17	Murray	Lime Creek	(6)	broke thru ice
4.	4/3	Aitkin	Big Sandy Lake	(37)	snowmobile thru ice
5.	4/3	Aitkin	Big Sandy Lake	(7)	snowmobile thru ice
6.	4/3	Cook	McFarland Lake	(39)	snowmobile thru ice
7.	11/21	Stearns	Lake Crystal	(??)	broke thru ice
8.	11/21	Wilkin	Otter Tail River	(??)	broke thru ice
1977					
1.	2/10	Nobles	Lake Okabena	(15)	broke thru ice---fishing
2.	2/10	Nobles	Lake Okabena	(67)	broke thru ice---fishing
3.	2/20	Itasca	Mississippi River	(6)	broke thru ice
4.	4/03	Koochiching	Gravel Pit	(??)	broke thru ice
1978					
1.	1/07	Wright	Clearwater Lake	(60)	snowmobile thru ice
2.	11/30	Cass	Big Thunder Lake	(25)	snowmobile thru ice
3.	11/30	Cass	Big Thunder Lake	(19)	snowmobile thru ice
1979					
1.	2/14	Hennepin	Powderhorn Lake	(9)	fell from ice to open water
2.	11/15	Murray	Hole/trash burned	(2)	fell in hole/ice covered
3.	11/18	Traverse	Traverse Lake	(41)	fell into ice fishing hole
4.	12/1	Itasca	Reiley Lake	(20)	snowmobile thru ice
5.	12/1	Otter Tail	Lake Lizzie	(69)	snowmobile thru ice
6.	12/3	Itasca	Big Splithand	(8)	truck thru ice
7.	12/16	Hennepin	Lake Minnetonka	(11)	broke thru ice---skating
8.	12/18	Scott	Prior Lake	(19)	truck thru ice
9.	12/23	Todd	Guernsey Lake	(31)	car thru ice
10.	12/23	Wright	Dog Lake	(21)	driving on ice
11.	12/25	Pope	Lake Ben	(50)	walking across lake
12.	12/27	Washington	Big Carnelian	(18)	car thru ice
1980					
1.	1/1	Meeker	Collinwood Lake	(??)	car thru ice
2.	1/7	Anoka	Coon Lake	(17)	snowmobile thru ice
3.	2/6	Murray	Lake Shetek	(24)	snowmobile thru ice
4.	2/16	Crow Wing	Cross Lake	(53)	snowmobile thru ice
5.	3/28	Hennepin	Lake Minnetonka	(71)	broke thru ice/heart attack
6.	11/12	Itasca	Prairie Lake	(6)	broke thru ice
7.	11/29	Hennepin	Powderhorn Lake	(5)	broke thru ice
8.	12/7	Aitkin	Lake Minnewawa	(??)	snowmobile thru ice
9.	12/6	Douglas	Lake Brophy	(22)	snowmobile thru ice
10.	12/7	Crow Wing	Whitefish Lake	(70)	broke thru ice
11.	12/21	Benton	Little Rock Lake	(59)	car thru ice
12.	12/26	Grant	Pomme De Terre Lake	(19)	car thru ice

No.	Date	County	Water Body	Age	Accident Type
1981					
1.	1/13	Goodhue	Lake Pepin	(78)	car thru ice
2.	1/24	Stearns	Lake Francis	(36)	truck thru ice
3.	1/30	Meeker	Lake Washington	(64)	van thru ice
4.	2/2	Winona	Mississippi River	(37)	car thru ice
5.	2/2	Martin	Lake George	(14)	snowmobile thru ice
6.	2/17	LeSueur	Gorman Lake	(14)	truck thru ice
7.	2/16	LeSueur	Gorman Lake	(38)	truck thru ice
8.	3/28	Cass	Lake Inguadona	(48)	snowmobile thru ice
9.	3/28	Cass	Lake Inguadona	(15)	snowmobile thru ice
10.	12/5	Crow Wing	Platte Lake	(37)	snowmobile thru ice
11.	12/20	Aitkin	Mille Lacs Lake	(68)	snowmobile thru ice
12.	12/20	Aitkin	Mille Lacs Lake	(66)	snowmobile thru ice
13.	12/18	St. Louis	Lake Namakan	(58)	snowmobile thru ice
14.	12/18	St. Louis	Lake Namakan	(58)	snowmobile thru ice
15.	12/23	Aitkin	Mille Lacs Lake	(21)	jeep thru ice
1982					
1.	11/5	Mahnomen	Drainage Pond	(7)	broke thru ice
2.	11/13	Hennepin	Minnehaha Creek	(3)	broke thru ice
3.	11/30	Itasca	Swan Lake	(26)	broke thru ice
4.	11/30	Itasca	Swan Lake	(31)	broke thru ice
5.	12/12	Winona	Mississippi River	(6)	broke thru ice
6.	12/15	St. Louis	Shagawa Lake	(33)	car thru ice
7.	12/20	Yellow Medicine	Tyson Lake	(11)	broke thru ice
8.	12/22	Wright	Dean Lake	(25)	broke thru ice
9.	12/27	Becker	Cotton Lake	(27)	broke thru ice
1983					
1.	1/5	Beltrami	Lake Irvine	(55)	car thru ice
2.	1/8	Pennington	Red Lake River	(76)	broke thru ice
3.	1/14	Waseca	Lake Elysian	(30)	snowmobile thru ice
4.	1/15	Olmsted	Lake Zumbro	(28)	snowmobile thru ice
5.	1/28	Morrison	Sullivan Lake	(29)	snowmobile thru ice
6.	2/28	Stearns	Sauk River	(4)	broke thru ice
7.	3/10	Meeker	Big Swan Lake	(74)	snowmobile thru ice
8.	3/10	Meeker	Big Swan Lake	(71)	snowmobile thru ice
9.	3/11	Hennepin	Shingle Creek	(10)	broke thru ice
10.	3/12	Anoka	Pond	(2.5)	broke thru ice
11.	3/19	St. Louis	Lake Vermilion	(32)	snowmobile thru ice
12.	3/19	St. Louis	Lake Vermilion	(5)	snowmobile thru ice
13.	3/19	St. Louis	Lake Vermilion	(3)	snowmobile thru ice
1984					
1.	2/18	Wright	Mississippi River	(64)	fell in ice fishing hole
2.	3/31	Kittson	Gravel Pit	(20)	crossing ice w/loader
3.	11/14	Big Stone	Minnesota River	(21)	broke thru ice
4.	11/18	St. Louis	Bailey Lake	(48)	car thru ice
5.	12/8	Crow Wing	Upper Hay Lake	(37)	snowmobile thru ice
6.	12/13	Pine	Pokegama Lake	(51)	snowmobile thru ice
7.	12/14	Hennepin	Lake Calhoun	(??)	broke thru ice
1985					
1.	1/6	Stearns	Mississippi River	(4)	broke thru ice
2.	11/22	St. Louis	Pelican Lake	(65)	broke thru ice

No.	Date	County	Water Body	Age	Accident Type
1986					
1.	1/19	Renville	Hawk Creek	(2)	broke thru ice
2.	3/16	Lake	Lake Superior	(23)	snowmobile thru ice
3.	4/6	Hennepin	Mississippi River	(3)	broke thru ice
4.	12/25	Rice	Circle Lake	(11)	car thru ice
5.	12/25	Rice	Circle Lake	(16)	car thru ice
6.	12/26	McLeod	Lake Marion	(29)	car thru ice
1987					
1.	1/4	Pope	Lake Minnewaska	(30)	car thru ice
2.	1/5	Kandiyohi	Diamond Lake	(66)	car thru ice
3.	1/10	Hubbard	Second Crow Wing Lk.	(41)	snowmobile thru ice
4.	1/13	Washington	St. Croix River	(30)	3-wheeler thru ice
5.	1/29	Goodhue	Pond	(22)	snowmobile thru ice
6.	2/5	Goodhue	Cannon River	(4)	broke thru ice
7.	3/2	Mille Lacs	Mille Lacs Lake	(14)	broke thru ice
8.	3/15	Scott	Dog Patch Lake	(14)	broke thru ice
9.	3/21	Stearns	Horseshoe Lake	(71)	broke thru ice
10.	12/1	Blue Earth	Outdoor Pool	(5)	broke thru ice
11.	12/3	Becker	Big Toad Lake	(59)	x-co. skier/broke thru ice
12.	12/6	Washington	Sunfish Lake	(47)	x-co. skier/broke thru ice
13.	12/27	Lake of the Woods	Lake of the Woods	(59)	tracked vehicle thru ice
14.	12/31	Cass	Gull Lake	(21)	snowmobile thru ice
1988					
1.	2/20	Lake	Fall Lake (Dam)	(54)	snowmobile thru ice
2.	2/20	Lake	Fall Lake (Dam)	(55)	snowmobile thru ice
1989					
1.	3/24	Isanti	Rum River	(21)	snowmobile into open water
2.	4/7	Pine	Snake River	(2)	broke thru ice
3.	4/9	St. Louis	Midway River	(4)	broke thru ice
4.	12/6	Lake	Fall Lake (Dam)	(18)	snowmobile thru ice
5.	12/15	Ramsey	White Bear Lake	(25)	truck thru ice
6.	12/16	Ramsey	White Bear Lake	(29)	car thru ice
7.	12/31	Wright	Clearwater Lake	(36)	van thru ice
1990					
1.	1/13	Crow Wing	Upper Whitefish Lk.	(27)	truck thru ice
2.	1/13	LeSueur	Lake Washington	(30)	snowmobile thru ice
3.	1/20	St. Louis	Wynne Lake	(27)	snowmobile thru ice
4.	1/27	Crow Wing	Pequot Lakes	(34)	snowmobile thru ice
5.	12/3	Blue Earth	Loon Lake	(??)	fishing/broke thru ice
6.	12/12	Ramsey	Holding Pond	(7)	broke thru ice
7.	12/15	Aitkin	Sandy River	(50)	snowmobile thru ice
1991					
1.	11/8	Brown	Minnesota River	(64)	hunting/broke thru ice
2.	12/1	Pope	Lake Minnewaska	(24)	snowmobiling/drove into open water
3.	12/22	Blue Earth	Maple River	(2)	broke thru ice
1992					
1.	1/4	Pope	Lake Amelia	(74)	driving tractor on ice
2.	11/9	Sherburne	Rice Lake	(18)	broke thru ice deer hunting
3.	12/5	Anoka	Coon Lake	(16)	snowmobile thru ice

No.	Date	County	Water Body	Age	Accident Type
4.	12/17	Isanti	Isanti Brook	(60)	broke thru ice
5.	12/19	Dakota	Crystal Lake	(27)	snowmobile thru ice
6.	12/23	Chisago	Green Lake	(11)	SUV broke thru ice (passenger)
1993					
1.	1/22	Chisago	Goose Lake	(42)	snowmobile thru ice
2.	3/14	Benton	Little Rock Lake	(22)	snowmobile thru ice in channel
3.	11/28	Chisago	Rush Lake	(30)	snowmobile thru ice
1994					
1.	1/3	Mille Lacs	Mille Lacs Lake	(30)	truck thru ice
2.	2/6	Todd	Gurney Lake	(65)	truck thru ice
3.	3/9	Lake of the Woods	Lake of the Woods	(59)	broke thru ice
4.	3/14	Redwood	Cottonwood River	(2)	broke thru ice
5.	12/11	Hennepin	Lake Minnetonka	(32)	snowmobile thru ice
1995					
1.	1/19	St. Louis	Cloquet River	(30)	snowmobile into open water
2.	2/12	Hennepin	Mississippi River	(26)	ice jumping – fell into water
3.	3/8	Waseca	Lake Elysian	(50+?)	snowmobile thru ice
4.	11/27	Meeker	Youngstrom Lake	(27)	snowmobile thru ice
5.	12/11	Dakota	Lake Marion	(17)	snowmobile thru ice
6.	12/14	Goodhue	Spring Creek	(5)	broke thru ice
7.	12/22	Otter Tail	Battle Lake	(44)	snowmobile thru ice
8.	12 /26	Jackson	Round Lake	(38)	truck thru ice
9.	12/28	Kanabec	Farm pond	(33)	bobcat thru ice---clearing skating rink for kids on pond
1996					
1.	1/15	Carver	Lake Waconia	(41)	fell into ice fishing hole (spearing)
2.	4/5	Kandiyohi	Golden Pond	(68)	broke thru ice
3.	4/13	St. Louis	Lake Vermilion	(46)	snowmobile into open water
4.	12/22	St. Louis	Ash River	(63)	snowmobile groomer thru ice
5.	12/30	Lake of the Woods	Lake of the Woods	(63)	modified (ice fishing) van thru ice
6.	12/30	Lake of the Woods	Lake of the Woods	(68)	modified (ice fishing) van thru ice
7.	12/30	Lake of the Woods	Lake of the Woods	(71)	modified (ice fishing) van thru ice
8.	12/30	Lake of the Woods	Lake of the Woods	(65)	modified (ice fishing) van thru ice
1997					
1.	4/5	Crow Wing	Big Mahnomen Lake	(17)	broke thru ice
2.	4/12	Koochiching	Rainy Lake	(81)	ATV thru ice
3.	4/14	Murray	Lake Shetek	(57)	attempted dog rescue (both drown)
4.	11/14	Rice	Holding Pond	(31)	snowmobile thru ice
5.	11/18	Lake	Wood Lake	(63)	broke thru ice
6.	12/13	Cass	Leech Lake	(48)	snowmobile thru ice
7.	12/28	Hennepin	Lake Minnetonka	(18)	snowmobile thru ice
8.	12/28	Hennepin	Lake Minnetonka	(19)	snowmobile thru ice
1998					
1.	1/30	St. Louis	Colby Lake	(23)	snowmobile thru ice
2.	3/25	Hennepin	Powderhorn Lake	(8)	broke thru ice
3.	11/18	Clearwater	Lake Six	(4)	broke thru ice
4.	11/18	Clearwater	Lake Six	(2)	broke thru ice
5.	12/31	Itasca	Lake Winnibigoshish	(34)	motor vehicle thru ice
6.	12/31	Itasca	Lake Winnibigoshish	(36)	motor vehicle thru ice

No.	Date	County	Water Body	Age	Accident Type
1999					
1.	1/15	Polk	Red River	(21)	snowmobile over dam into water
2.	2/5	Hubbard	3rd Crow Wing Lake	(33)	snowmobile into open water
3.	2/7	St. Louis	Cloquet River	(39)	snowmobile into open water
4.	2/27	Cass	Lake Winnibigoshish	(30)	motor vehicle thru ice
5.	2/27	Cass	Lake Winnibigoshish	(5)	motor vehicle thru ice
6.	3/9	Waseca	Lake Elysian	(45)	snowmobile into open water
7.	12/17	Hubbard	Fish Hook River	(39)	broke thru ice
8.	12/31	St. Louis	Wild Rice Lake	(51)	motor vehicle thru ice
2000					
1.	1/2	Big Stone	Big Stone Lake	(64)	snowmobile thru ice
2.	2/26	Koochiching	Rainy Lake	(7mos)	truck thru ice
3.	11/26	Anoka	Coon Creek	(5)	broke thru ice
2001					
1.	3/24	Aitkin	Mississippi River	(35)	snowmobile thru ice
2.	4/5	Renville	Ditch	(5)	broke thru ice
3.	4/5	Renville	Ditch	(8)	broke thru ice
4.	12/15	Sherburne	Fremont Lake	(18)	snowmobile thru ice
2002					
1.	1/1	Mille Lacs	Mille Lacs Lake	(80)	snowmobile thru ice
2.	3/2	Crow Wing	N. Long Lake	(47)	ATV thru ice
3.	4/6	Cass	Leech Lake	(45)	truck thru ice
4.	4/6	Cass	Leech Lake	(49)	truck thru ice
5.	11/19	Anoka	Pond	(5)	broke thru ice
6.	11/19	Anoka	Pond	(6)	broke thru ice
7.	11/19	Anoka	Pond	(2)	broke thru ice
8.	12/20	Aitkin	Farm Island Lake	(49)	SUV thru ice
9.	12/20	Aitkin	Farm Island Lake	(37)	SUV thru ice
10.	12/25	Jackson	Round Lake	(63)	ATV thru ice
11.	12/27	Waseca	Clear Lake	(85)	broke thru ice
12.	12/29	Anoka	Coon Lake	(21)	ATV thru ice
2003					
1.	1/23	Hennepin	Lake Minnetonka	(17)	car thru ice*
2.	1/23	Hennepin	Lake Minnetonka	(16)	car thru ice
3.	11/18	Becker	Wettles Lake	(19)	attempted dog rescue

** death likely due to hypothermia*

2004					
1.	3/2	Ramsey	Long Lake	(46)	snowmobile thru ice
2.	3/23	Cook	Lake Saganaga	(38)	snowmobile thru ice
3.	12/18	St. Louis	Lake Vermilion	(65)	tracked vehicle thru ice
4.	12/30	Grant	Pelican Lake	(25)	truck thru ice

2005 - No ice-related drownings or deaths occurred in this year

2006					
1.	1/19	Kandiyohi	Green Lake	(20)	snowmobile into open water
2.	1/30	Otter Tail	Pelican Lake	(25)	snowmobile thru ice
3.	11/22	Beltrami	First Thunder's Lake	(2)	broke thru ice
4.	11/22	Beltrami	First Thunder's Lake	(4)	broke thru ice
5.	12/6	St. Louis	Burntside Lake	(66)	snowmobile thru ice
6.	12/10	Crow Wing	Round Lake	(21)	ATV thru ice
7.	12/17	Ramsey	Goose Lake	(21)	broke thru ice

No.	Date	County	Water Body	Age	Accident Type
2007					
1.	1/14	LeSueur	Lake Tetonka	(18)	snowmobile into open water
2.	1/15	Hennepin	Lake Minnetonka	(56)	snowmobile thru ice
3.	1/21-22	Mille Lacs	Lake Mille Lacs	(28)	truck through ice*

** death due to hypothermia*

2008					
1.	1/11	Hennepin	Mississippi River	(29)	fell into open water*
2.	1/13	Cass	Leech Lake	(36)	truck thru ice into shallow water*
3.	2/3	Itasca	Mississippi River	(24)	fell into open water*
4.	12/7	Hennepin	Medicine Lake	(56)	broke thru ice while skating
5.	12/9	Hennepin	Mississippi River	(39)	broke thru ice

** death due to hypothermia*

2009 - No ice-related drownings or deaths occurred this year

2010					
1.	2/5	Washington	St. Croix River	(28)	snowmobile into open water*
2.	12/2	LeSueur	Lake Washington	(81)	broke thru ice
3.	12/4	Morrison	Lake Alexander	(59)	ATV thru ice
4.	12/30	Hubbard	Third Crow Wing	(18)	snowmobile into open water

** recovered on Aug.12, 2012*

2011					
1.	4/10	Beltrami	Red Lake	(59)	snowmobile into open water
2012					
1.	1/14	Wright	Lake Charlotte	(19)	snowmobile into open water
2.	1/14	Wright	Lake Charlotte	(20)	snowmobile into open water
3.	1/26	Stearns	Rice Lake	(65)	ATV into open water
4.	2/05	Traverse	Mud Lake	(50)	broke thru ice
2013					
1.	1/18	Hennepin	Lake Minnetonka	(9 mo.)	SUV thru ice
2.	2/1	Waseca	Lake Elysian	(72)	SUV thru ice
3.	2/3	Hennepin	Lake Minnetonka	(31)	car thru ice
4.	2/3	Hennepin	Lake Minnetonka	(87)	car thru ice
5.	2/16	Washington	St. Croix River	(22)	snowmobile thru ice
6.	2/16	Pine	St. Croix River	(43)	snowmobile thru ice
2014					
1.	1/22	Scott	Minnesota River	(37)	broke thru ice
2.	2/15	Polk	Maple Lake	(37)	found in water in ice house
3.	3/31	Dakota	Sunset Park Pond	(43)	broke thru ice
4.	11/26	Aitkin	Gun Lake	(62)	ATV thru ice
2015					
1.	2/1	Lincoln	Lake Benton	(29)	vehicle thru ice
2.	2/1	Lincoln	Lake Benton	(54)	vehicle thru ice
3.	3/3	Douglas	Lake Andrew	(50)	UTV thru ice
4.	3/3	Douglas	Lake Andrew	(2)	UTV thru ice (died 3/30)

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Minnesota Ice Fatality Summary Information (thru the winter of 2014 – 2015)*

Fatalities by Winter Season (*November through April)*

76-77	6	83-84	2	90-91	3	97-98	7	04-05	2	11-12	4
77-78	1	84-85	6	91-92	4	98-99	10	05-06	2	12-13	6
78-79	3	85-86	4	92-93	7	99-00	4	06-07	8	13-14	3
79-80	16	86-87	12	93-94	5	00-01	4	07-08	3	14-15	5
80-81	16	87-88	7	94-95	4	01-02	5	08-09	2		
81-82	6	88-89	3	95-96	9	02-03	10	09-10	1		
82-83	22	89-90	8	96-97	8	03-04	3	10-11	4		

Average Number of Deaths by Winter Season

Average 80-81 thru 14-15 (209 deaths / 35 seasons) = 6.0 deaths per winter season
Average 05-06 thru 14-15 (38 deaths / 10 seasons) = 3.8 deaths per winter season
Average 10-11 thru 14-15 (22 deaths / 5 seasons) = 4.4 deaths per winter season

Mode of Travel – 10-11 thru 14-15 seasons (22 deaths in 5 seasons)

Snowmobile or ATV.....11 (50%)
Other Motor Vehicle 6 (27%)
On Foot 5 (23%)
22 (100%)

Deaths by County – 10-11 thru 14 -15 seasons (22 deaths in 5 seasons)

Douglas…… 2
Hennepin…… 3
Lincoln…… 2
Wright……2
Aitkin, Beltrami, Dakota, Hubbard, Le Sueur,
Morrison, Pine, Polk, Scott, Stearns,
Traverse, Waseca, Washington…… 1 each

Victim's Age – 10-11 thru 14 -15 seasons (22 deaths in 5 seasons)

Less than 13..... 2
13-17..... 0
18-29..... 5
30-39..... 3
40-49..... 2
50-59..... 5
60 and older..... 5
22

*Preliminary numbers, subject to change