

# Trends in Boater Behaviors

## 2004-2008 Watercraft Inspection Data

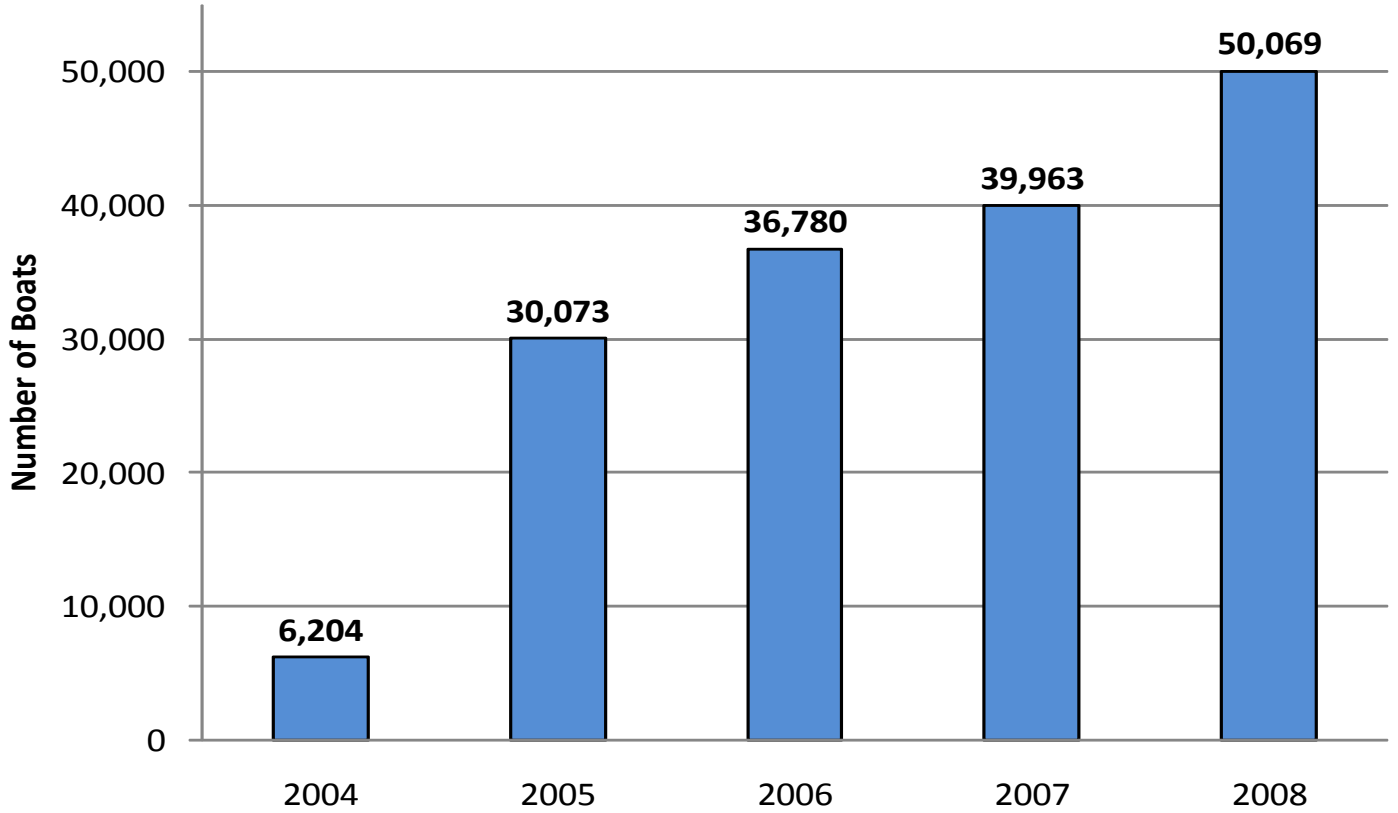
Since 2004, watercraft inspection has been a significant part of Wisconsin's aquatic invasive species (AIS) prevention efforts. More than 1,100 volunteers have now been trained to conduct watercraft inspections in their communities. Each summer, Clean Boats, Clean Waters volunteers and agency staff continue to work at boat landings across the state, assisting boaters and anglers in checking their equipment for AIS and sharing AIS information with citizens. These inspectors have also collected important data about the behaviors and awareness of the individuals using the landings for the past four years. Thanks to their tremendous efforts, a valuable data set has been established.

2008 marked a high point in many of our data records. Below are some numbers for 2008 from across the state.

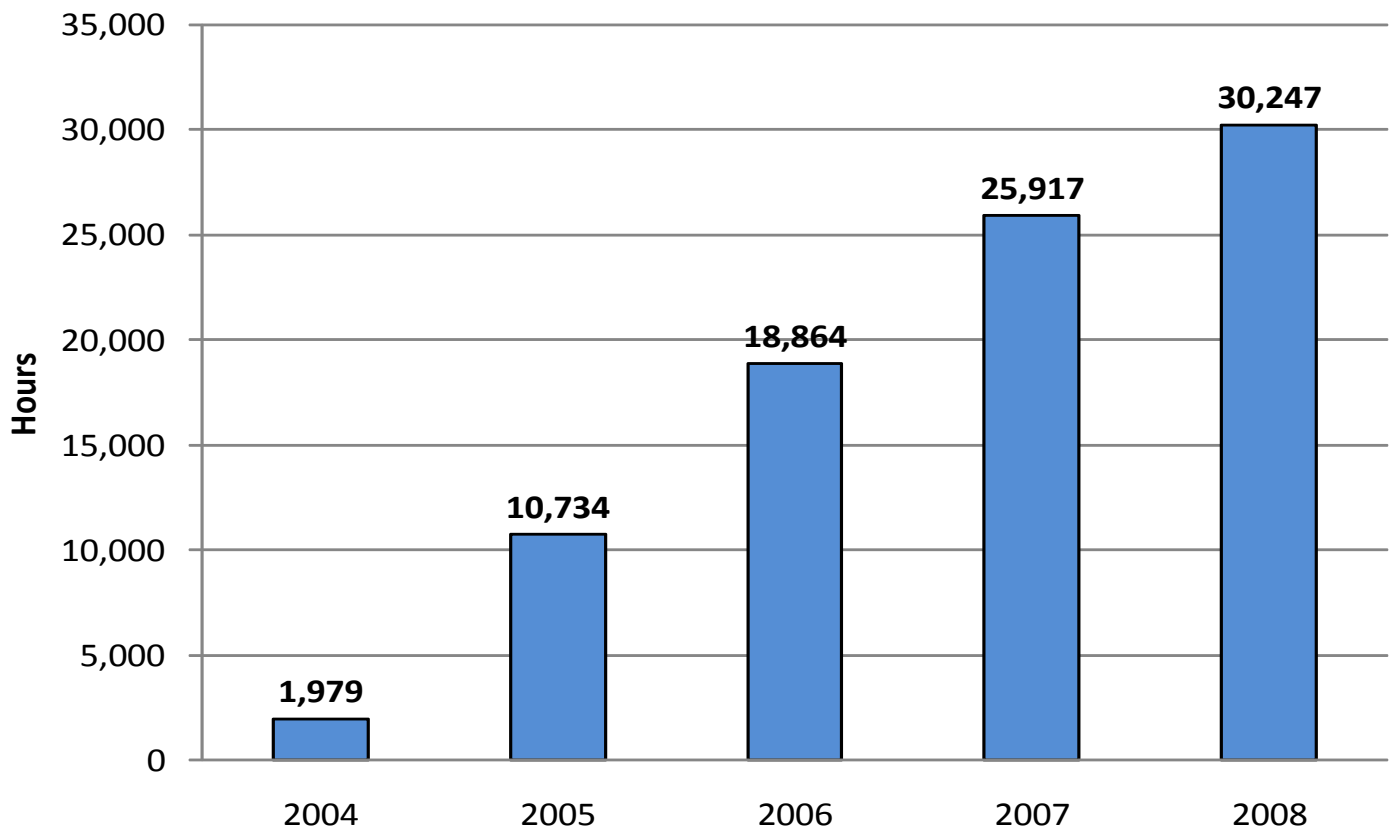
- ◆ 50,069 boats were inspected by volunteers and paid inspectors
- ◆ 111,081 people were contacted about the 'Clean Boats, Clean Waters' message
- ◆ Over 30,200 hours were spent conducting watercraft inspections
  - ~ 60% hours by paid inspectors
  - ~ 40% hours by volunteers
- ◆ 18% of all boats inspected had plants attached; Of these, the majority of the boaters (81%) removed the plants as requested.
- ◆ 27% boats had been in another water body in the last five days.
- ◆ Boaters and other landing users were asked about whether they took each prevention step after they last used their boat and equipment.
  - 92% said they inspected their boat and equipment for plants and removed any found
  - 90% said they drained all water from their boat and equipment
  - 65% said they disposed of their unused bait
  - 55% said they put their fish on ice to ensure they were not leaving the landing with any live fish
  - 67% said they either washed their boat and equipment with hot or high pressure water OR dried them for five days
- ◆ 90% boaters stated that they were aware of the AIS launch law

So, how do these numbers compare to watercraft inspection data from previous years? The graphs on the following pages show some interesting, and exciting, trends in the data collected thus far.

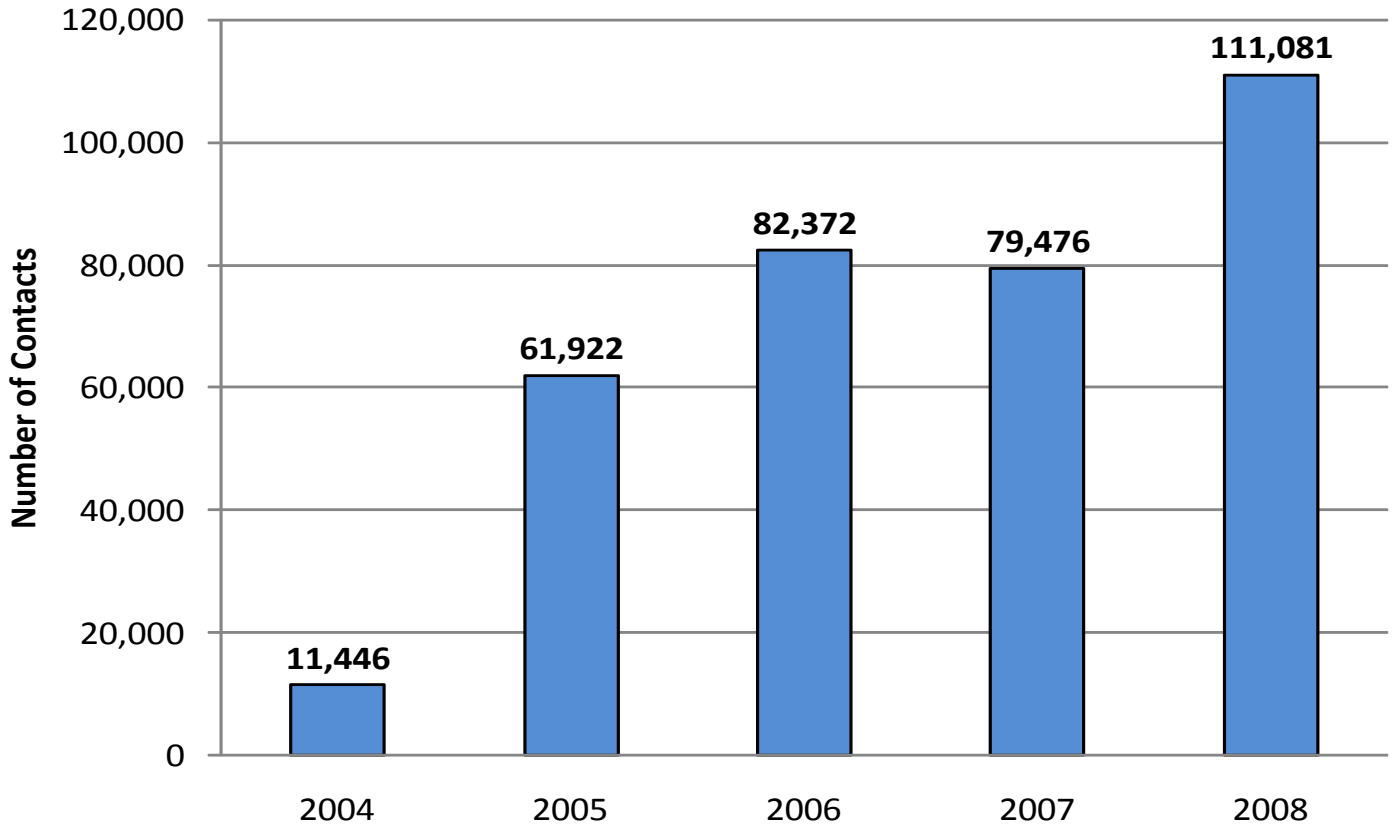
### Boats Inspected 2004-2008



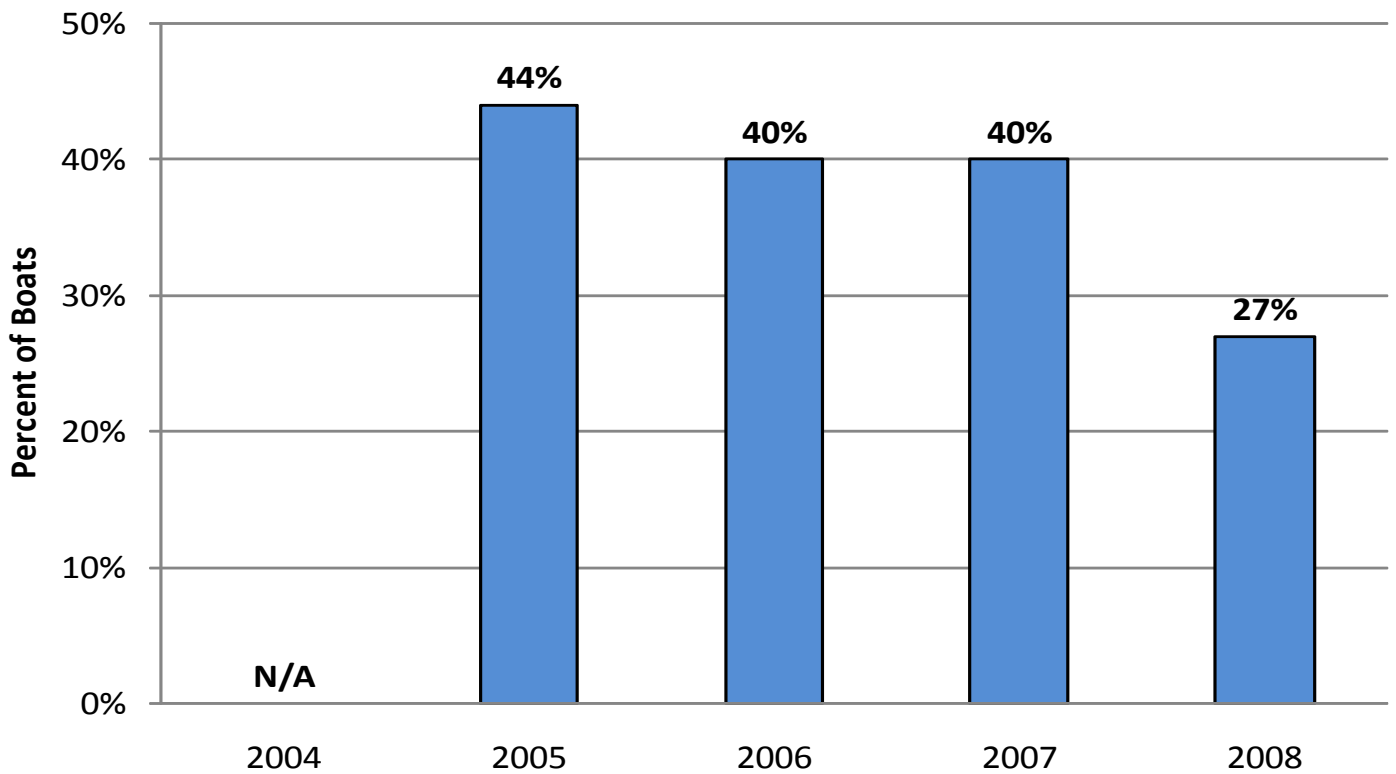
### Time Spent on Watercraft Inspections 2004-2008



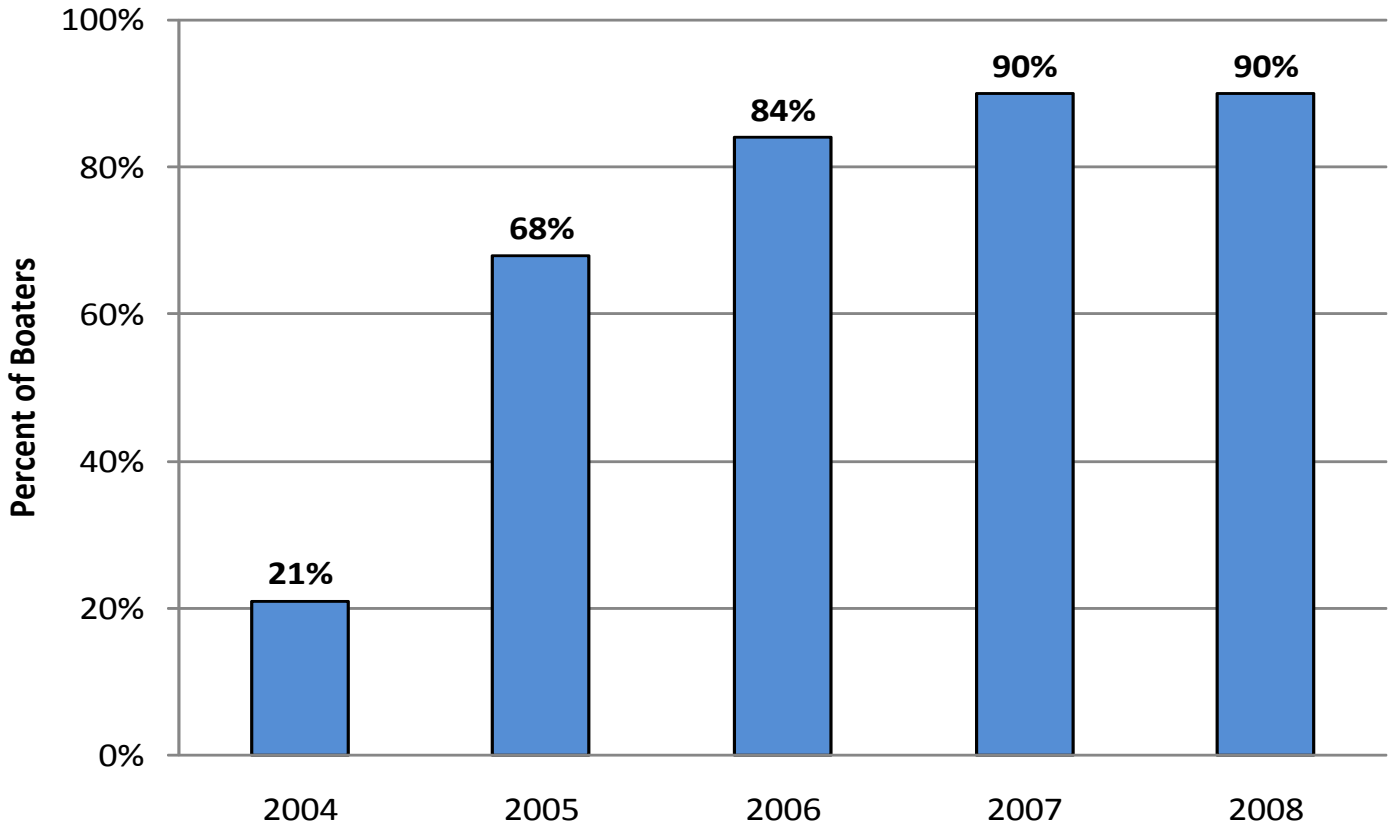
## People Contacted During Inspections 2004-2008



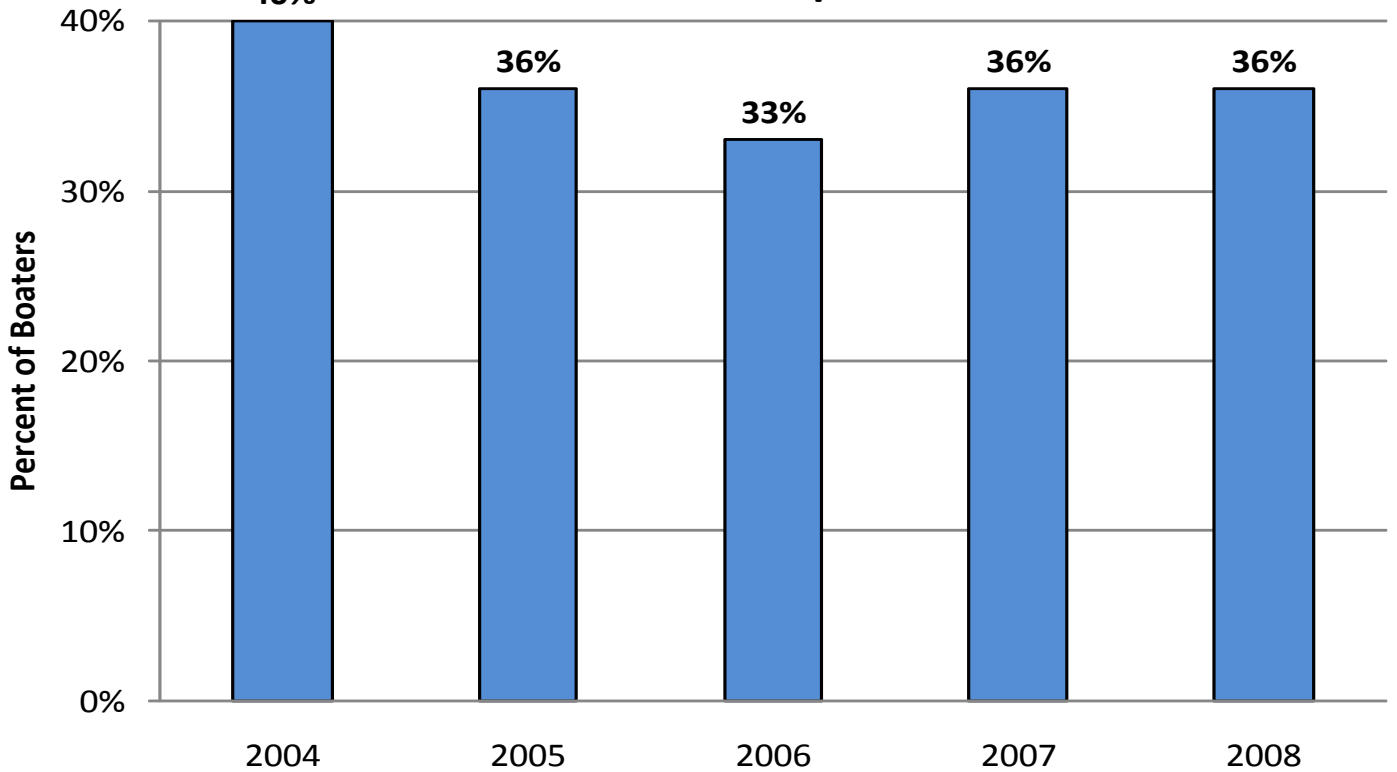
## Boats Used on Different Water Body in Past Five Days 2004-2008



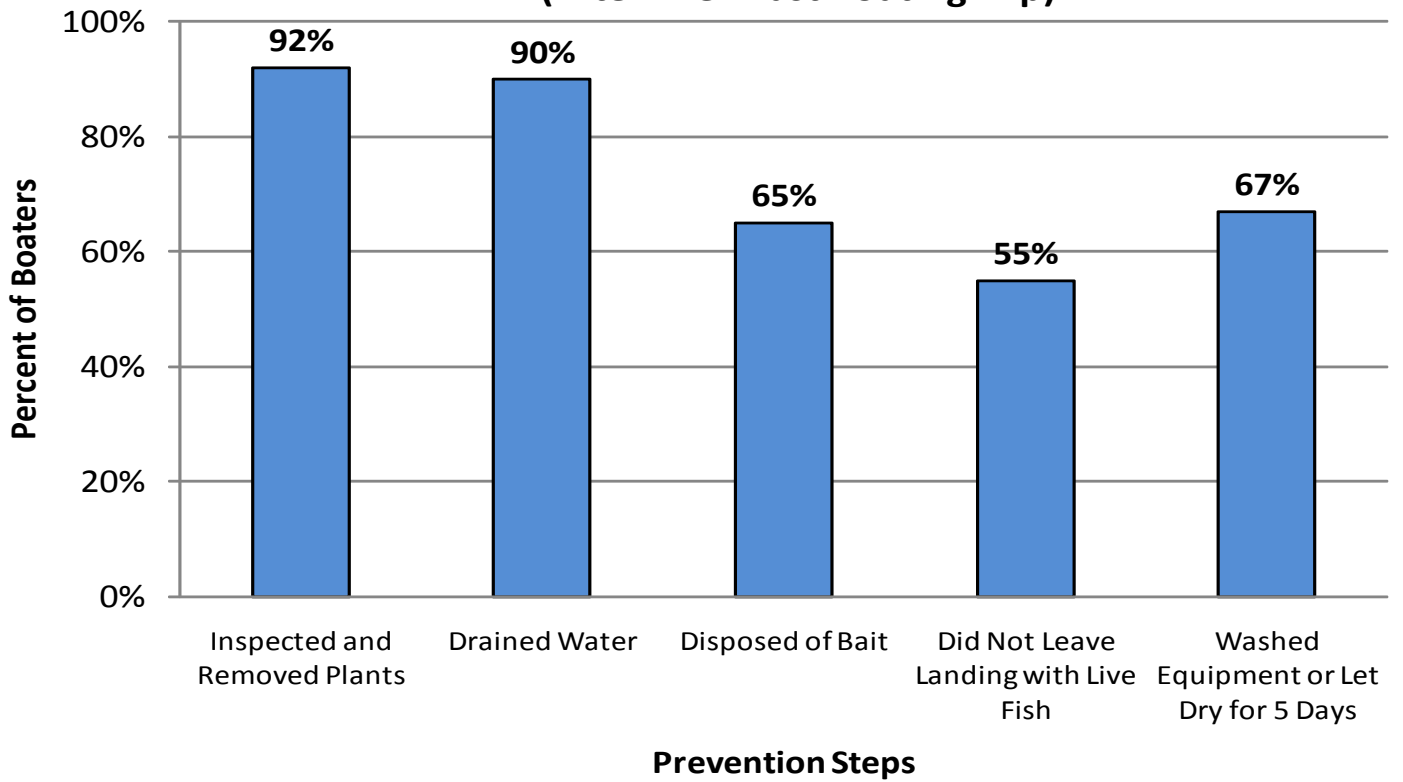
### Boaters Aware of WI Stat. 30.715(2)(3) 2004-2008



### Boaters Who Learned about AIS from a Watercraft Inspector 2004-2008



## Prevention Steps Taken by Boaters in 2008 (After Their Last Boating Trip)



## Boater Sources of Information About AIS in 2008

