

# *National Recreational Boating Survey*

United States Coast Guard Division of Boating Safety



The United States Coast Guard is legislated to collect boating safety data under U.S. Code 46, Chapter 131. The research has been approved by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Approval Number 1625-0089, expiring on 6/30/13. Without this number, we could not conduct this survey. Your participation is completely voluntary. The time required to complete this information collection is less than 15 minutes, including the time to review instructions, search existing data resources, gather the data needed, and complete and review the information collection. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to Dr. Philippe Gwet, Mathematical Statistician, US Coast Guard CG-5422, 2100 Second St. SW, Washington, DC 20593.

## Privacy Act Notice

**Authority:** A National Recreational Boating Safety (RBS) program requirement as set forth in Title 46, United States Code, § 13101, is to “encourage greater State participation and uniformity in boating safety efforts, and particularly to permit the States to assume the greater share of boating safety education, assistance, and enforcement activities”.

**Purpose:** As coordinator of the National RBS program, the Coast Guard provides support for safety initiatives in every jurisdiction (States and Territories) by making available timely, relevant information on boating activities that occur in each respective jurisdiction. Working in partnership with State Boating Law Administrators (BLAs), the boating information provided by the Coast Guard enables each State agency to tailor and implement safety initiatives that address the needs of boaters in each respective jurisdiction.

**Routine Uses:** Statistical data only and not personally identifiable information will be used by and disclosed to Coast Guard personnel and contractors or other agents who need the information to assist in the promotion of safe boating practices in America. Additionally, the Coast Guard may share statistical data with its boating partners from the industry and academia. Personal data will neither be used internally by the Coast Guard, nor be transmitted to any third party.

**Disclosure:** Providing this information is completely voluntary and failure to answer any question will not result in any penalty or loss of benefits.

## Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:

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# Frequently Asked Questions

**Q** *What is the survey's purpose?*

**A** The primary purpose of the survey is to gather information about the boats you own.

**Q** *Who is sponsoring the survey?*

**A** The survey is being sponsored by the United States Coast Guard's Office of Boating Safety. ICF Macro is a research company conducting the study on behalf of the U.S. Coast Guard.

**Q** *Why is the survey important?*

**A** This survey provides the U.S. Coast Guard with the data needed for the Boating Safety Program legislated under U.S. Code 46, Chapter 131. It helps the U.S. Coast Guard to support your state in tailoring safety initiatives that address specific needs of boaters in your area.

**Q** *How do I know my information will be kept confidential?*

**A** Nothing is ever reported in any way that can identify you. Your personal information will be kept separate from the survey data. Your answers are combined with the answers of everyone else. Results are only reported in group form.

**Q** *How did you get my information?*

**A** We received your information from a list of registered boat owners in your state. You were randomly selected from this list to represent other registered boat owners like you.

**Q** *What will the results be used for?*

**A** This survey will help monitor boating safety efforts to aid in reducing the number of boating fatalities and injuries, and property damage associated with boat use. It will help the U.S. Coast Guard and other boating organizations to assess boating needs, forecast boater participation, and develop policies and regulations that enhance the quality (e.g., safety, environmental protection) and sustainability of boating. The survey will also permit states to create more effective programs.

**Q** *How do I know this survey is legitimate?*

**A** The OMB approval number for this project is 1625-0089 expiring on June 30, 2013. We cannot conduct this survey without this federally mandated approval number. Your participation in this survey is completely voluntary, and you can choose not to participate or not answer any individual question. If you have any questions, our contact information is provided in the introduction letter for this survey.

## About Your Boats

1. In the following table, please describe the 16' to 20' powerboat mentioned in the introduction letter, as well as the four (4) longest boats owned by members of your household in 2011.

Recreational Boat			Registration			Boat Attributes	
	Do you still own this boat?	Have you used the boat for making money in 2011?*	Is the boat registered in the U.S. or Puerto Rico?	Is the boat documented with the U.S. Coast Guard?**	State of registration?	Length in feet	Type*** (see list below)
16' to 20' powerboat in letter	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	_____	_____	_____
Boat 1	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	_____	_____	_____
Boat 2	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	_____	_____	_____
Boat 3	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	_____	_____	_____
Boat 4	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	_____	_____	_____

\* For example, making money from guided tours or commercial fishing.

\*\* "Documented" means the boat is recorded with the U.S. Coast Guard. Only some very large boats are documented with the U.S. Coast Guard.

\*\*\* Please use the boat types listed below to describe the boats in the "Type" column.

### Powerboats

CM Cabin Motorboat  
OM Open Motorboat  
PB Pontoon Boat  
HB Houseboat  
JB Jet Boat  
AB Airboat

### Sailboats

AS Auxiliary Motor Sail  
SO Sail Only  
Personal Watercraft  
JS Jetski

### Other Boats

CN Canoe  
KY Kayak  
RB Rowboat

## Boat Details

As noted in the introduction, please refer to your 16'-20' powerboat when answering the following questions.

2. Do you still own this boat?

1  Yes GO TO QUESTION 3 ON NEXT PAGE

2  No CONTINUE TO QUESTION 2a 

2a. If you no longer own this boat, what happened to it?

1  I never owned that boat  
2  I sold or gave away the boat  
3  Something else (Please explain): \_\_\_\_\_

2b. Since you no longer own the 16'-20' powerboat, we would like you to describe another recreational boat you currently own. Which of the recreational boats in Question 1 did you most recently use? (Please refer to this boat when answering the remaining questions.)

1  Boat 1 2  Boat 2 3  Boat 3 4  Boat 4 5  I do not own any other boats. 

Thank you! If you do not own any boats, then you have completed the survey. Please return this survey in the postage-paid envelope provided.

3. What is the model year of this boat? \_\_\_\_\_

4. When this boat was purchased, was it new or used?

- 1  New
- 2  Used

5. Of what primary material is the hull of this boat constructed? (Check one)

1  Fiberglass

2  Wood

3  Aluminum

4  Steel

5  Rigid Hull Inflatable

6  Carbon Fiber

7  Rubber

8  Vinyl

9  Canvas

10  Something else (Please explain): \_\_\_\_\_

6. What is the primary means of propulsion of this boat? Is it...

1  Propeller

2  Sail

3  Water Jet

4  Human-Powered (For example: oars, paddles, pedals)

5  Air Thrust

7. Does this boat have a motor?

1  Yes CONTINUE TO QUESTION 7a

2  No GO TO QUESTION 8 ON NEXT PAGE

If the boat has a motor:

7a. Which type of motor or engine powers the boat?

Check all that apply. Do not include trolling motors.

1  Outboard Motor

2  Inboard/Outboard Engine Sterndriver

3  Inboard Engine

7b. How many engines or motors power this boat? (Enter number): \_\_\_\_\_

7c. What is the total horsepower of the engines or motors that power this boat? \_\_\_\_\_

For example: If that boat has twin 25 horsepower engines, its total horsepower is 50.

7d. Which type(s) of fuel is/are used in this boat's primary engine? Check all that apply.

1  Gasoline

3  Electric

2  Diesel

4  Other Fuel (Specify): \_\_\_\_\_

## Boat Operation

**8. Are you the primary operator of this boat?**

- 1  Yes
- 2  No

**9. Have you ever taken a boat safety course?**

- 1  Yes
- 2  No

**10. How experienced in the operation of this boat are you?**

- 1  Very Experienced
- 2  Somewhat Experienced
- 3  Somewhat Inexperienced
- 4  Very Inexperienced

## Boat Storage

**11. Do you or someone from your household intend to take the boat out on the water during 2012?**

- 1  Yes
- 2  No

**12. Where is this boat kept during the primary boating season?**

- 1  On Water
- 2  On Land

**13. Was the boat transported or trailered for the purpose of launching it in 2011?**

- 1  Yes
- 2  No

**14. Was this boat used outside the state of where it was kept in 2011?**

- 1  Yes
- 2  No



## Boat Expenditures

The next questions are about money you spent on this boat in 2011.

15. Did anyone in the household buy this boat new in 2011?

1  Yes CONTINUE TO QUESTION 15a → 15a. How much did the boat cost?

2  No \$       ,      .00

16. Do you have a monthly loan payment for this boat?

1  Yes CONTINUE TO QUESTION 16a → 16a. How much do you pay monthly for the boat, including principal and interest?

2  No \$       ,      .00

17. For each of the following items, please list how much, if any, you have already spent from January 1, 2011 until today and how much you plan to spend from tomorrow until December 31, 2011.

If you did not have any expenses for a particular item, please fill in zeros.

Expenses		Amount Already Spent in 2011 (January 1, 2011 through today)	Amount You Anticipate to Spend in 2011 (Tomorrow through December 31, 2011)
A	Storage (slip rental fees, dry stack, winter storage, and self-storage rental)	\$	\$
B	Insurance for liability, theft, fire	\$	\$
C	Taxes on the boat	\$	\$
D	New motors and trailers	\$	\$
E	Pre-owned and rented motors and trailers	\$	\$
F	Services performed by others such as boat maintenance, repairs, or installation of new products (upgrades performed by others, including labor and parts)	\$	\$
G	Products, parts, supplies, and accessories you purchased directly (to be installed or used on the boat or trailer, including electronics and navigation, parts, docking and anchors, paint and maintenance supplies, hardware, sail supplies, trailer parts, etc.)	\$	\$
H	Other things, including boating-related clothing, fishing equipment, navigation charts, safety-related equipment, and water sports equipment	\$	\$

## Telephone Use

18. Do you have a landline telephone in your home that is used to make and receive calls?

1  Yes  
2  No

CONTINUE TO QUESTION 18a →

18a. Not including business or work numbers,  
how many landline telephone lines do you  
have in your home? \_\_\_\_\_

19. Do you personally use a cell phone?

1  Yes  
2  No

20. If you have both a landline and cell phone, please answer the following question:

Of all the telephone calls that you receive, are...

1  All or almost all calls received on cell phones  
2  Some received on cell phones and some on regular phones  
3  Very few or none on cell phones

## Follow-up Survey

21. The U.S. Coast Guard is interested in learning more about how boats are used and boating safety.  
Your personal experiences on this boat can help.

Can we contact you next year to conduct very short surveys about this boat?

1  Yes CONTINUE TO QUESTION 22  
2  No Thank you! You have completed the survey. Please return this survey in the postage-paid envelope  
provided.

22. We will contact you 2 to 4 times in the coming year to ask you a few questions about this boat. The surveys  
will take about 10 minutes and, because we appreciate your help, you will be compensated with \$5 for each  
completed survey. Participation is completely voluntary and your responses are completely confidential.

To participate, please provide your contact information. (Please print)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

23. Would you prefer to complete the surveys via Internet or by telephone?

1  Internet  
2  Telephone

Thank you! You have completed the survey.

Please return this survey in the postage-paid envelope provided to:

National Recreational Boating Survey  
c/o ICF Macro  
126 College Street  
Burlington, VT 05401

