



## Recreational Vessel Census June 2012

### About This Publication

This publication presents the results of a census taken of recreational vessels registered in Queensland on 30 June 2012. The data presented in this publication was extracted from the Department of Transport and Main Roads TRAILS Registration System (the register) on 18 July 2012.

The publication provides data and statistics on registered recreational vessel attributes including vessel type, vessel length, make of vessel, vessel age, engine type and make and the maritime region in which vessels are registered.

For purposes of comparison, data are provided at 30 June for the years 2012, 2011 and 2007. Statistics include the percentage change between 2012 and 2011, the percentage change between 2012 and 2007, and the average annual growth rate over the five years 2007 to 2012.

### Key Points

At June 30 2012 there were 241216 recreational vessels registered in Queensland, approximately 1 vessel for every 19 people resident in the State.

The number of registered recreational vessels on the register increased by 1.8 per cent over the past 12 months and by an average of 2.6 per cent per year over the past 5 years. This result is in stark contrast to the annual growth rates in registrations five years ago which were commonly close to five per cent per year.

During the year ending June 2012 16654 registrations (6.9 %) lapsed. This leads to an estimated recreational vessel decommissioning rate of approximately 6.5 per cent per year.

During the year ending June 2012, 20804 vessels were newly registered. These vessels account for 8.6 per cent of those now on the register.

During the year ending June 2012 8.6 per cent of all registrations (20863), were transferred from

one person to another.

During the year ending June 2012, the number of recreational vessels with a storage postcode in the Mackay maritime region increased by 3.9 per cent; faster than in any other region.

Over the past five years the number of recreational vessels with a storage postcode in the Gladstone maritime region increased at an average rate of 3.2 per cent per year; faster than in any other region.

Over both the short and long term the growth in the number of recreational vessels with a storage postcode in the Gold Coast maritime region has been slower than in any other region.

The number of PWC (jet-skis), which now account for 7.2 per cent of all registered vessels, increased by 8 per cent over the past 12 months and by an average of 11.8 per cent per year over the past 5 years. These figures can be contrast with the double digit yearly growth rates of the past which peaked at 18 per cent per year in June 2010.

The number of boats increased by 1.3 per cent over the past 12 months and by an average of 2 per cent per year over the past 5 years.

The highest growth rates, 5.7 per cent, among types of vessels, other than PWC, involved centre console and sports/ski boats which together account for only 8.2 per cent of all registered vessels.

The number of open runabouts which are the most popular type of recreational vessel (62.3 per cent), increased by only 0.8 per cent over the past 12 months and by an average of 1.1 per cent over the past 5 years.

The number of vessels that are no more than 3 metres long declined by 3.4 per cent over the past 12 months and by an average of 2.8 per cent per year over the past 5 years. It is this decrease in the number of smaller vessels on the register rather than an increase in the number of larger vessels which is predominantly responsible for the increase in the average length of vessels on the register.

Vessels that are more than 3 metres long and no more than 10 metres long account for 93 per cent of all registered vessels. The number of these vessels increased by 2 per cent over the last 12 months and by an average of 2.8 per cent per year over the last five.

The number of vessels more than 10 metres long increased by only 0.5 of a per cent over the past 12 months and by an average of 1.7 per cent per year over the past 5 years. These vessels account for 3.2 per cent of all registered vessels.

Only 7108 or 3 per cent of all vessels, are registered as being equipped with sails. It is of interest to note that 44 per cent of these vessels are over 10 metres long in contrast with the 2.1 per cent of all other vessels which are over 10 metres in length.

The number of vessels equipped with engines producing between 150 and 300 kilowatts increased by 7.1 per cent over the past 12 months and by an average of 10.4 per cent per year over the past 5 years. These vessels account for only 7 per cent of all registered vessels.

Thirty two per cent of vessels are registered as having engines that produce more than 10 and no more than 25 kilowatts.

The number of vessels equipped with engines

producing less than 10 kilowatts have decreasing over both the short and longer terms and now account for only 10 per cent of all registered recreational vessels.

These key points have been drawn from the seven tables attached to this Information Bulletin.

### Information

For further information about this Marine Information Bulletin, email [msqmail@msq.qld.gov.au](mailto:msqmail@msq.qld.gov.au).

Other Marine Information Bulletins covering various topics relating to the safe operation of vessels can be obtained from Maritime Safety Queensland's website [www.msq.qld.gov.au](http://www.msq.qld.gov.au) and from the following Maritime Safety Queensland regional offices:

Airlie Beach	(07) 4946 2200
Bundaberg	(07) 4131 8500
Cairns	(07) 4052 7400
Gladstone	(07) 4973 1200
Hervey Bay	(07) 4194 9600
Mackay	(07) 4944 3700
Mooloolaba	(07) 5477 8425
Pinkenba	(07) 3860 3500
Southport	(07) 5539 7300
Townsville	(07) 4726 3400

**Table 1: Selected characteristic of recreational vessels by maritime region June 2012**

	Brisbane	Gold Coast	Gladstone	Mackay	Townsville	Cairns	Ex Qld	Total
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
<b>Vessel Type</b>								
Full Cabin Cruiser	6460	3497	2290	1081	894	1015	171	15408
Half Cabin Cruiser	9527	4057	4278	1772	2062	1943	73	23712
Cuddy Cabin Cruiser	2695	1166	1229	530	552	651	17	6840
Open Runabout	56173	20330	31324	12756	15813	13437	342	150175
PWC/ Jet-Ski	7654	5707	1645	745	866	715	66	17398
Bow Rider	3468	2285	817	387	444	477	23	7901
Centre Console	4215	1611	2410	1151	2104	1707	45	13243
Sports/Ski Boat	2624	1386	1031	468	440	573	16	6538
<b>Vessel Length</b>								
0 < Length <= 3	3887	2429	1207	441	396	427	33	8820
3 < Length <= 5	64177	25330	33845	13576	17407	14099	403	168837
5 < Length <= 10	21568	10318	8961	4294	4935	5469	181	55726
10 < Length <= 15	2810	1599	924	498	393	452	100	6776
15 < Length <= 20	326	297	77	66	42	65	30	903
20 < Length	48	66	10	15	2	7	6	154
<b>Engine Type</b>								
Inboard	17259	11550	5021	2434	2222	2588	277	41351
Outboard	75551	28486	39997	16454	20951	17924	476	199839
Other	6	3	6	2	2	7		26
<b>Sails</b>								
Without Sails	89510	39123	43871	18350	22706	19875	673	234108
With Sails	3306	916	1153	540	469	644	80	7108
<b>Year of Manufacture</b>								
To 1995	18518	8207	9590	3329	4169	4313	140	48266
1996-2000	8781	4051	4152	1654	2321	2195	72	23226
2001-2005	18502	8548	8531	3983	4395	4015	181	48155
2006-2010	19098	9726	8181	3734	4452	3714	143	49048
2011	2595	1232	961	630	567	410	15	6410
2012	915	431	331	262	184	157	4	2284
Not Recorded	24407	7844	13278	5298	7087	5715	198	63827
<b>All Recreational Vessels</b>	92816	40039	45024	18890	23175	20519	753	241216

**Table 2: Number of new, discontinued and transferred vessel registrations (2007 to 2012)**

	Newly Registered	Deregistered	Transferred Registrations	Total
Jun-07	23713	14096	21299	212544
Jun-08	24725	15082	21799	222187
Jun-09	22876	16195	20659	228868
Jun-10	22047	17362	21535	233553
Jun-11	19822	16309	19457	237066
Jun-12	20804	16654	20863	241216

Note: The figures in this table are not a count or recorded from transactions. They are estimates derived from the recorded number of registrations in each of the relevant years

**Table 3: Number of recreational vessels by maritime region (selected years)**

Vessels by Maritime Region				Percentage Change	Percentage Change	Average Annual Growth
	Jun-07	Jun-11	Jun-12	2007/2012	2011/2012	2007/2012
Brisbane Maritime Region	82414	91345	92816	12.6	1.6	2.4
Gold Coast Maritime Region	37354	39963	40039	7.2	0.2	1.4
Gladstone Maritime Region	37845	43902	45024	19.0	2.6	3.5
Mackay Maritime Region	16176	18187	18890	16.8	3.9	3.2
Townsville Maritime Region	20346	22731	23175	13.9	2.0	2.6
Cairns Maritime Region	18090	20196	20519	13.4	1.6	2.6
Ex Qld	319	742	753	136.1	1.5	18.7
Total	212544	237066	241216	13.5	1.8	2.6

**Table 4: Number of recreational vessels by type (selected years)**

Vessel by Type				Percentage Change	Percentage Change	Average Annual Growth
	Jun-07	Jun-11	Jun-12	2007/2012	2011/2012	2007/2012
PWC/ Jet-Ski	9977	16110	17398	74.4	8.0	11.8
Bow Rider	5075	7543	7901	55.7	4.7	9.3
Centre Console	8652	12532	13243	53.1	5.7	8.9
Cuddy Cabin Cruiser	4652	6537	6840	47.0	4.6	8.0
Full Cabin Cruiser	14688	15437	15408	4.9	-0.2	1.0
Half Cabin Cruiser	23241	23776	23712	2.0	-0.3	0.4
Open Runabout	142048	148942	150175	5.7	0.8	1.1
Sports/Ski Boat	4210	6188	6538	55.3	5.7	9.2
Total	212544	237066	241216	13.5	1.8	2.6

**Table 5: Number of recreational vessels by length (selected years)**

Vessel by Length				Percentage Change	Percentage Change	Average Annual Growth
	Jun-07	Jun-11	Jun-12	2007/2012	2011/2012	2007/2012
0 < Length <= 3	10149	9130	8820	-13.09	-3.40	-2.77
3 < Length <= 5	148712	165484	168837	13.53	2.03	2.57
5 < Length <= 10	46498	54659	55726	19.85	1.95	3.69
10 < Length <= 15	6274	6762	6776	8.00	0.21	1.55
15 < Length <= 20	753	872	903	19.92	3.56	3.70
20 < Length	158	159	154	-2.53	-3.14	-0.51
Total	212544	237066	241216	13.49	1.75	2.56

**Table 6: Number of recreational vessels by engine power (selected years)**

Vessels by Engine Power				Percentage Change	Percentage Change	Average Annual Growth
	Jun-07	Jun-11	Jun-12	2007/2012	2011/2012	2007/2012
0 < kw <= 5	9421	9152	9049	-3.9	-1.1	-0.8
5 < kw <=10	16516	15249	14906	-9.7	-2.2	-2.0
10 < kw <=25	68388	74887	76016	11.2	1.5	2.1
25 < kw <=50	44438	49832	50789	14.3	1.9	2.7
50 < kw <=100	38259	41518	41955	9.7	1.1	1.9
100 < kw <=150	20159	25032	26174	29.8	4.6	5.4
150 < kw <=300	10704	16417	17581	64.2	7.1	10.4
300 < kw <=500	710	861	892	25.6	3.6	4.7
500 < kw	1727	2467	2327	34.7	-5.7	6.1
Not Recorded	2222	1651	1527	-31.3	-7.5	-7.2
Total	212544	237066	241216	13.5	1.8	2.6

**Table 7: Number of recreational vessels by type and maritime region (selected years)**

	Brisbane	Gold Coast	Gladstone	Mackay	Townsville	Cairns	Ex Qld	Total
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
<b>Full Cabin Cruiser</b>								
2007	5655	4197	1940	1173	852	816	55	14688
2011	6481	3543	2251	1091	894	992	185	15437
2012	6460	3497	2290	1081	894	1015	171	15408
<b>Half Cabin Cruiser</b>								
2007	9552	4739	3910	1478	1788	1735	39	23241
2011	9637	4177	4225	1731	2053	1894	59	23776
2012	9527	4057	4278	1772	2062	1943	73	23712

<b>Cuddy Cabin Cruiser</b>								
2007	1925	1005	744	284	301	389	4	4652
2011	2614	1148	1155	476	499	628	17	6537
2012	2695	1166	1229	530	552	651	17	6840
<b>Open Runabout</b>								
2007	54325	19877	27879	11577	15052	13142	196	142048
2011	55873	20414	30856	12358	15625	13479	337	148942
2012	56173	20330	31324	12756	15813	13437	342	150175
<b>PWC/ Jet-Ski</b>								
2007	4330	3571	822	414	505	321	14	9977
2011	6928	5522	1453	685	827	627	68	16110
2012	7654	5707	1645	745	866	715	66	17398
<b>Bow Rider</b>								
2007	2182	1646	465	271	235	271	5	5075
2011	3300	2243	756	351	432	439	22	7543
2012	3468	2285	817	387	444	477	23	7901
<b>Centre Console</b>								
2007	2742	1184	1522	753	1383	1064	4	8652
2011	4015	1533	2281	1059	2009	1593	42	12532
2012	4215	1611	2410	1151	2104	1707	45	13243
<b>Sports/Ski Boat</b>								
2007	1703	1135	563	226	230	351	2	4210
2011	2497	1383	925	436	392	543	12	6188
2012	2624	1386	1031	468	440	573	16	6538
<b>All Recreational Vessels</b>								
2007	82414	37354	37845	16176	20346	18090	319	212544
2011	91345	39963	43902	18187	22731	20196	742	237066
2012	92816	40039	45024	18890	23175	20519	753	241216