

## Recreational marine licence census June 2015

### About this publication

This publication presents the results of a census taken of the number of current Queensland recreational marine licences on 30 June 2015. The data presented in this publication was extracted from the Department of Transport and Main Roads TRAILS Registration System (the register) on 1 July 2015.

In Queensland, being issued a *Recreational Marine Driver Licence* (RMDL) is a necessary prerequisite to being issued with a *Personal Watercraft Licence* (PWCL). Both of these marine licences are issued for an unlimited term and so will remain current unless they are surrendered or cancelled, or until the passage of time assures the licence can no longer be in use.

The graphs and tables provide the number of current recreational marine licences classified by type, maritime region, the age and gender of the licensees, the year in which a licence was issued and whether or not a licensee was the registrant of a personal water craft (PWC) or boat (a vessel that is not a PWC).

### Key Points

At 30 June 2015 records indicate that 815,189 people held a current marine license; two licenses for every nine people over 15 years of age resident in Queensland.

RMDL were held by 814,807 people of whom 140,766 also held a PWCL. An additional 382 people, with interstate recreational boat licences or a commercial marine qualification, hold a standalone PWCL.

Twenty-two per cent (177,064) of the 814,807 holders of an RMDL have registered at least one of 202,026 recreational boats. Thirteen per cent (18,079) of the 141,148 holders of a PWCL have registered at least one of 19,854 PWC. Only 4048 licensees have registered both a boat (5112 boats) and a PWC (4652 PWC). The majority of these licensees (2838) have registered a single boat and a single PWC.

Licensees residing within the Brisbane Maritime Region hold the majority of RMDL (63%) and PWCL (77%). Nineteen per cent of those who hold an RMDL and 13% of those who hold a PWCL have a registered vessel.

In the Mackay Maritime Region, which accommodates only 5% of RMDL holders and 3% of PWCL holders, licensees are more likely to have registered a boat (30%) or a PWC (14%) than those in any other maritime region.

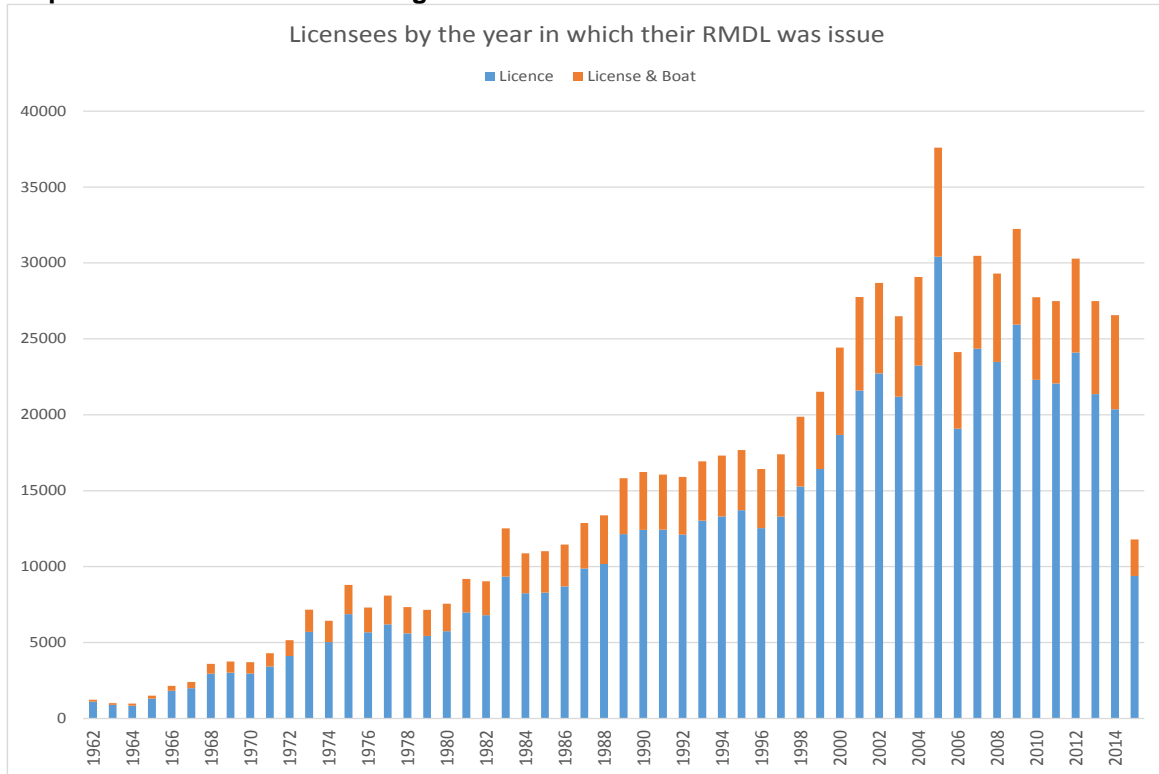
Women hold 16% of RMDL and 23% PWCL and are less likely to have registered a boat (6% vs. 25%) or a PWC (6% vs. 15%) than male licensees.

The average age of the holder of an RMDL who has a registered boat is 52 years while the average age of those who do not have a registered boat is 50 years. The average age of the holder of a PWCL who has a registered PWC is 43 years while the average age of those who do not have a registered PWC is 38 years.

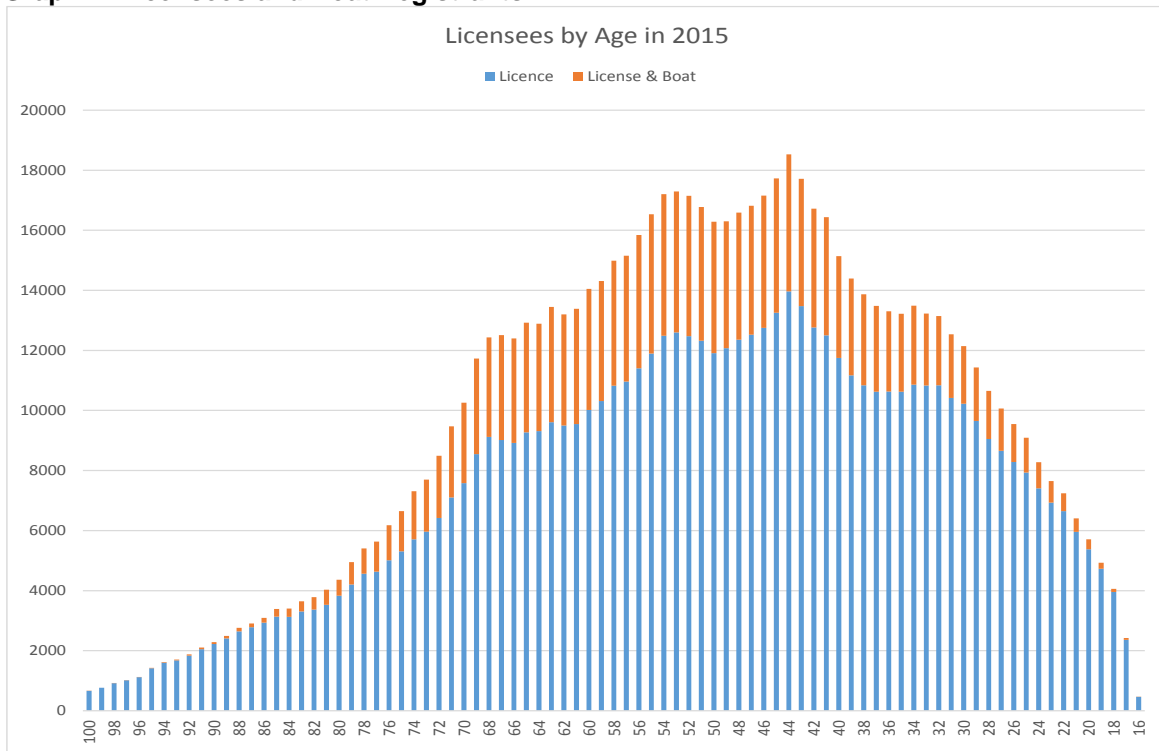
Eighty-five per cent of current RMDL were issued between 1962 when licenses were first issued and 2010. The remaining 15% of RMDL were issued between 2011 and 2015. Twenty-one per cent of the 15% of licensees issued an RMDL after 2010 are the registrant of a boat.

Fifty-nine per cent of current PWCL were issued between 2005, the first year in which PWCL were issued and 2010. The remaining 41% of PWCL were issued between 2011 and 2015. Sixteen per cent of the 41% of licensees issued a PWCL after 2010 are the registrant of a PWC.

**Graph 1: Licensees and Boat Registrants**



**Graph 2: Licensees and Boat Registrants**



**Table 1: Licenses, Registrants and Vessels**

	Licenseses	RMDL	Registrants <sup>1</sup>	Boats	PWCL	Registrants <sup>2</sup>	PWC
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
<b>Maritime Regions</b>							
Brisbane	514752	514530	96423	107186	108458	14111	15531
Gladstone	121002	120962	34715	40382	13880	1705	1871
Mackay	44642	44596	13528	16150	4899	677	750
Cairns	62436	62425	16851	19966	6699	752	795
Townsville	63640	63590	15247	18019	6070	784	854
Ex QLD	8717	8704	300	323	1142	50	53
<b>Gender</b>							
Female	133225	133190	7694	8340	32219	1890	2063
Male	681856	681509	169369	193685	108929	16189	17791
Unspecified	108	108	1	1			
<b>Age of Licensees</b>							
Oldest Generation 1891-1926	20688	20688	310	329	3		
Lucky Generation 1927-1946	115150	115136	21453	24354	1892	294	322
Baby Boom 1947-1966	295089	294947	81503	95101	33164	6087	6823
Generation X/Y 1967-1986	297080	296875	65018	72841	69689	9165	10046
iGeneration 1987-2006	86522	86501	8771	9392	36400	2533	2663
Not Recorded	660	660	9	9			
<b>Year RMDL Issued</b>							
1962 =< Year <= 1980	89678	89678	18971	23131	2443	413	461
1981 =< Year <= 2000	305922	305922	72102	85186	24916	4768	5388
2001 =< Year <= 2010	293474	293474	59123	65168	66424	7134	7819
2011 =< Year <= 2015	123634	123634	26352	27919	46905	5717	6133
No RMDL issued	382		59	69	382	27	28
Not Recorded	2099	2099	457	553	78	20	25
<b>Year PWCL Issued</b>							
2005	36850	36719	8537	10442	36850	3597	4110
2006 =< Year <= 2010	46213	46053	6932	8003	46213	4691	5149
2011 =< Year <= 2015	58085	57994	8203	9161	58085	9113	9878
No PWCL Issued	674041	674041	153392	174420	0	678	717
<b>Total</b>	<b>815189</b>	<b>814807</b>	<b>177064</b>	<b>202026</b>	<b>141148</b>	<b>18079</b>	<b>19854</b>
1: Licensees who have registered at least one boat.							
2: Licensees who have registered at least one PWC.							

**Disclaimer**

The data sources used in the compilation of this report are subject to an ongoing process of data validation and consequently the numbers and calculations presented are subject to revision.

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