

Recreational Marine License Census June 2018

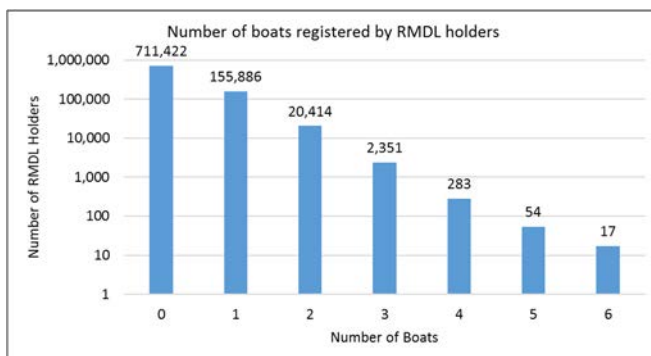
About this publication

This publication presents the results of a census taken of the number of current Queensland recreational marine licences on 30 June 2018. The data presented in this publication was extracted from the Department of Transport and Main Roads TRAILS Registration System (the register) on 2 July 2018.

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, 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). The particulars of the boats and PWC that licensees have registered can be found in the report "Queensland Regulated Ship Census, June 2018".

Key Points

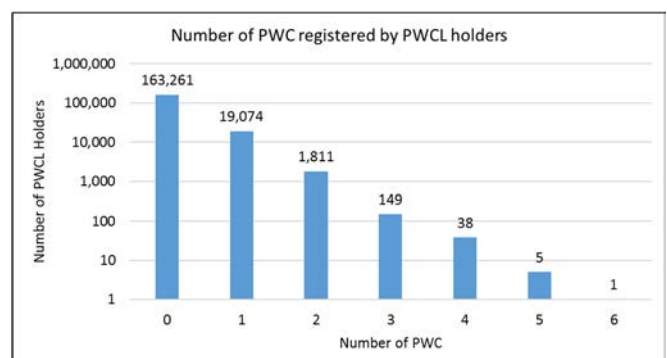


Twenty per cent (179,010) of the 890,432 holders of an RMDL had registered at least one of 205,308 recreational boats. The majority of these registrants (87%) registered a single boat.

Over the past twelve months the number of RMDL holders increased by 2.8 per cent while the number of RMDL holders registering boats and the number of boats they had registered both increased by 0.09 and 0.4 per cent respectively.

At 30 June 2018 records indicate that 890,844 people held a current marine license; two licenses for every nine people resident in Queensland who were 16 years of age or older.

An RMDL was held by 890,432 people of whom 183,929 also held a PWCL. An additional 412 people, with interstate recreational boat licences or a commercial marine qualification, held a standalone PWCL.



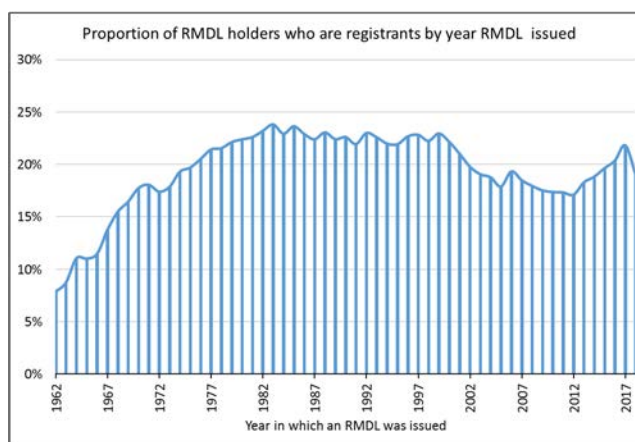
Eleven per cent (21,080) of the 184,341 holders of a PWCL had registered at least one of 23,350 PWC. The majority of these registrants (90%) registered a single PWC.

Over the past twelve months the number of PWCL holders increased by 8 per cent while the number of PWCL holders who registered a PWC and the number of PWC they registered increased both increased by 6 per cent.

Only half of one per cent of licensees (4814) had registered both a boat (6137 boats) and a PWC (5591 PWC). The majority of these licensees (3328) had registered a single boat and a single PWC.

Seventy-seven per cent of current RMDLs were issued between 1962 when licenses were first issued and 2010. A further 21 per cent of RMDLs were issued between 2011 and 2017.

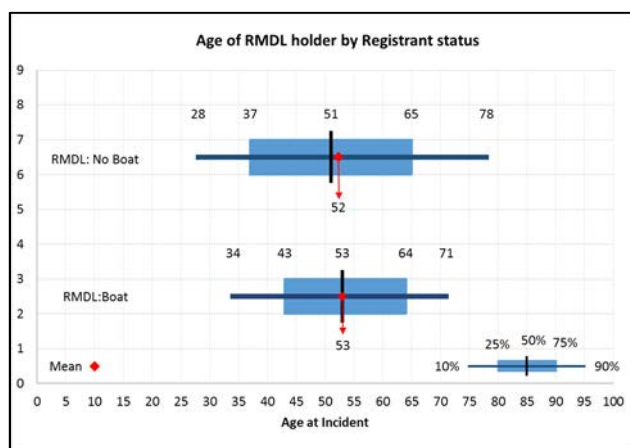
The proportion of these licensees who were registrants of at least one boat increased from 8 per cent of those issued an RMDL in 1962 to a maximum of 24 per cent among those issued an RMDL in 1983 before falling to 17 per cent of those issued an RMDL in 2012. At this point the proportion of licensees who were registrants rose to 22 per cent in 2017; coincident with the year in which the RMDL was issued.



The majority (64%) of RMDL holders were resident in the Brisbane Maritime Region followed by the Gladstone Maritime Region which accommodated a further 14.4 per cent of RMDL holders. The Mackay, Townsville and Cairns regions accommodated 5.4, 7.3 and 7.7 per cent of RMDL holders respectively.

RMDL holders in the Mackay Maritime Region were the most likely (29%) to be the registrant of a boat and, at 1.2 boats per registrant, registered the highest average number of boats per registrant. RMDL holders in the Brisbane Maritime Region were the least likely (17%) to be the registrant of a boat and registered the lowest average number of boats at 1.1 boats per registrant.

Seventeen per cent (151,676) of RMDLs had been issued to women, 4.6 per cent (8253) of whom had registered at least one of 8959 boats which accounts for 4.4 per cent of all the boats registered by licensees.



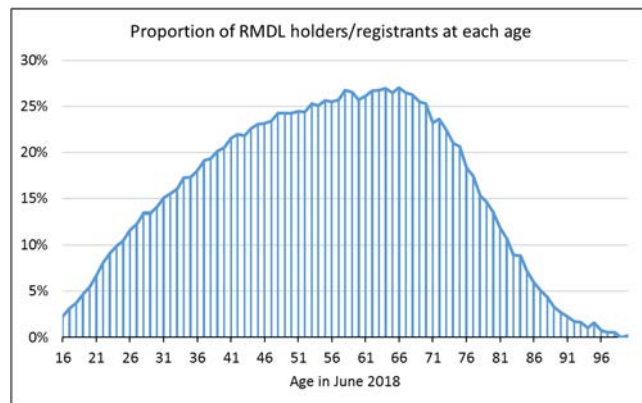
The mean and median age of the holders of an RMDL who had registered a boat was 53 years. Ten per cent of these RMDL holders were more than 71 years of age, 10 per cent were less than 34 years of age and 50 per cent were between 43 and 64 years of age. The mean and median ages of RMDL holders who had not registered a boat were both 52 and 51 years respectively. The distribution of these RMDL holders' ages was somewhat more dispersed. Ten per cent were more than 78 years of age, 10 per cent were less than 28 years of age while 50 per cent were between 37 and 65 years of age.

It is of interest to note that the probability that the holder of an RMDL would be the registrant of a boat increased at a decreasing rate as the licensee became older. Only 2 per cent of 16 year old RMDL holders were the registrants of a boat. This proportion increased to 20 per cent at 40 years of age reaching a maximum of 27 per cent at 66 years of age. At this point boat registrations declined until only 2 per cent of 91 year old RMDL holders were the registrant of a boat.

The proportion of licensees who had been issued with both an RMDL and a PWCL decreased with the licensee's age and increased as the year in which the RMDL was issued became more recent.

For example 13 per cent of “Baby Boomers” (born 1947-1966) had both marine licenses while 27 per cent of the “X/Y Generation” (born 1967-1986) had both marine licenses as did 46 per cent of the “I Generation” (born 1987-2006).

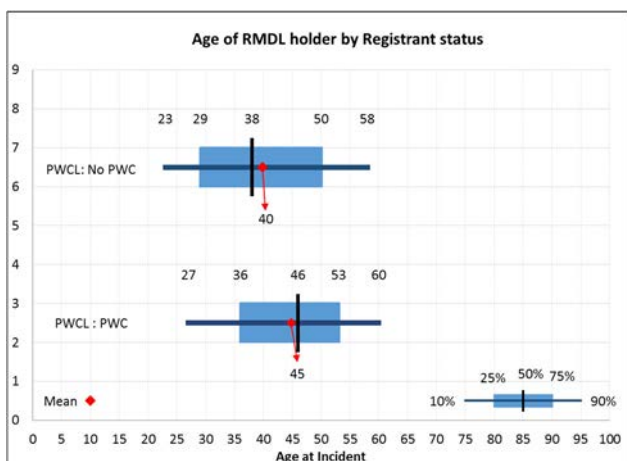
Likewise 39 per cent of licensees issued an RMDL between 2011 and 2015 also had a PWCL. This figure fell to 24 per cent between the years 2001 and 2010, 9 per cent between the years 1981 and 2000 and 3 per cent of those issued an RMDL between 1962 and 1980.



It is of interest to note that women (28%) were far more likely than men (19%) to have both an RMDL and a PWCL.

The mean age of the holder of a PWCL who had registered a WC was 45 years, while the median age was 46. Ten per cent of these PWCL holders were more than 60 years of age, 10 per cent were less than 27 years of age and 50 per cent were between 36 and 53 years of age.

The mean age of the holder of a PWCL who had not registered a PWC was 40 years, while the median age was 39. Ten per cent of these PWCL holders were more than 58 years of age, 10 per cent were less than 23 years of age and 50 per cent were between 29 and 50 years of age.

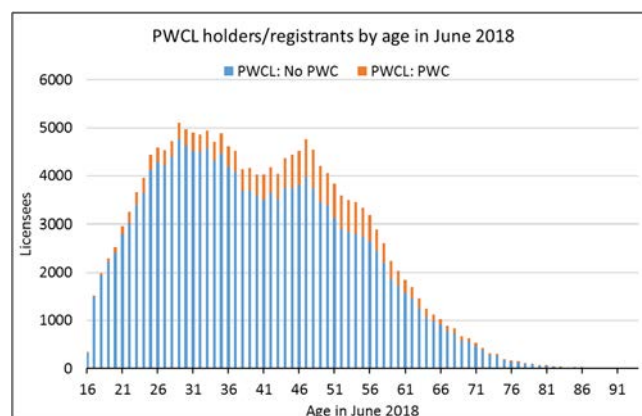


The five year difference in the mean ages of PWCL holders who had and had not registered a PWC is a consequence of the distribution of licensees’ ages having two peaks, the first centred around 30 years of age and the second around 45 year of age. While 50 per cent of PWCL holders were 39 years old or younger, those licensees who were 40 years old or older were twice as likely (15% vs. 7%) to be the registrant of a least one PWC.

Twenty-three per cent (43,058) of PWCLs have been issued to women, 5.6% (2,436) of whom had registered at least one of 2700 PWC which accounts for 11% of all the PWC registered by licensees.

Forty-five per cent of current PWCL were issued between 2005, the first year in which PWCL were issued and 2010. Eight per cent of these licensees were the registrant of a PWC. The remaining 55% of PWCL were issued between 2011 and 2018. Thirteen per cent of these licensees were the registrant of a PWC.

The majority (78%) of PWCL holders were resident in the Brisbane Maritime Region followed by the Gladstone Maritime Region which accommodated a further 9.3% of PWCL holders. The Mackay, Townsville and Cairns regions accommodated 3.2, 4.3 and 4.1 per cent of PWCL holders respectively.



PWCL holders in the Townsville Maritime Region were the least likely (9%) to be the registrant of a PWC and, at 1.08 PWC per registrant, registered the lowest average number of PWC per registrant. In the other three Maritime Regions 10 to 12 per cent of PWCL holders were the registrant of a PWC, registering an average of 1.1 PWC per registrant.

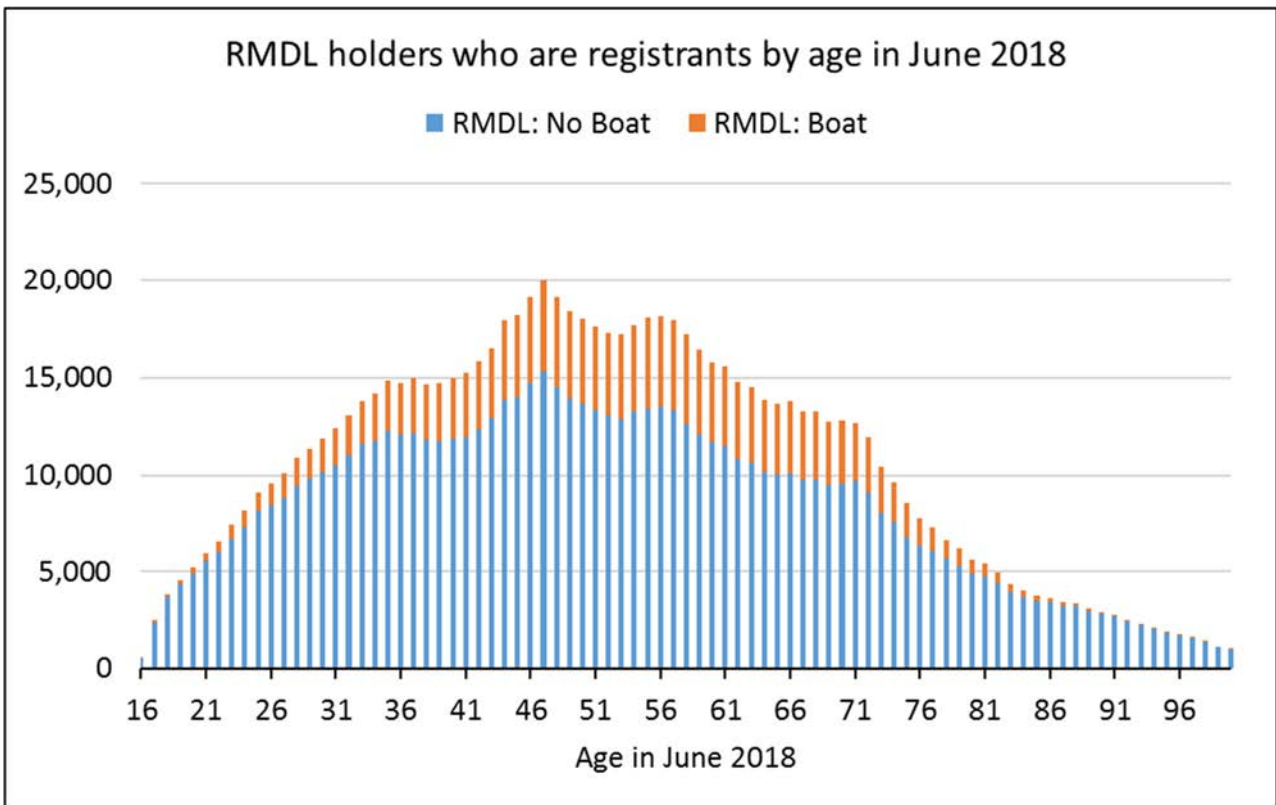
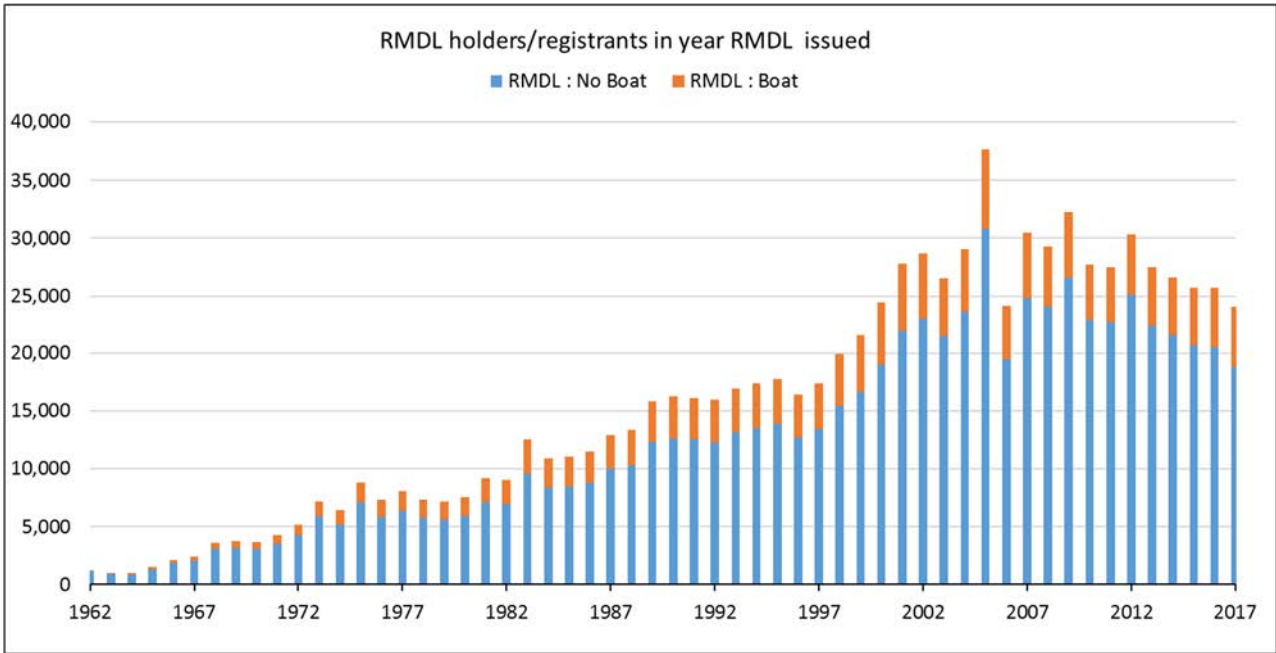


Table 1: Licensees, Registrants, and Vessels at June 2018

	Licensees no.	RMDL no.	Registrant ¹ no.	Boats no.	PWCL no.	Registrant ² no.	PWC no.
Maritime Regions							
Brisbane	569941	569702	98530	110066	144075	17576	19465
Gladstone	128669	128627	34825	40672	17088	1814	2000
Mackay	47840	47795	13629	16445	5873	727	809
Townsville	65284	65271	16441	19578	7998	733	796
Cairns	68744	68683	15352	18305	7480	807	895
Ex QLD	10366	10354	296	315	1827	73	79
Gender of Licensees							
Female	151719	151676	8253	8959	43058	2436	2700
Male	739019	738650	170819	196421	141283	19294	21344
Unspecified	106	106	1	1			
Age of Licensees							
Oldest Generation 1891–1926	20697	20697	168	175	3	0	0
Lucky Generation 1927–1946	116003	115989	17320	19668	2042	269	292
Baby Boom 1947–1966	307064	306916	79363	92922	38767	6486	7349
Generation X & Y 1967–1986	326356	326133	69238	78667	87809	11395	12632
I Generation 1987–2006	120093	120066	12979	13944	55720	3580	3771
Not Recorded	631	631	5	5			
Year RMDL Issued							
1962 to 1980	89784	89784	16908	20811	2586	397	452
1981 to 2000	306272	306272	69277	82717	27619	5151	5870
2001 to 2010	293451	293451	54732	61047	69697	6905	7656
2011 to 2015	137553	137553	25010	26852	54675	5545	6033
2016	25697	25697	5234	5553	12203	1536	1648
2017	24044	24044	5244	5529	11429	1478	1602
2018	11532	11532	2195	2304	5636	665	716
No RMDL ISSUED	412		63	73	412	34	46
Not Recorded	2099	2099	410	495	84	19	21
Year PWCL Issued							
2005	36844	36718	8342	10257	36844	3322	3855
2006 to 2010	46213	46063	6733	7892	46213	3912	4370
2011 to 2015	65606	65512	9145	10385	65606	7844	8612
2016	14898	14876	2013	2245	14898	2501	2703
2017	13913	13899	1926	2165	13913	2378	2605
2018	6867	6861	826	906	6867	1123	1205
No PWCL Issued	706503	706503	150088	171531		650	694
Total	890844	890432	179073	205381	184341	21730	24044

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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