## Arkenford

## WATERSPORTS PARTICIPATION SURVEY

Summary Report R/A Lifeboats

BRITISH $\quad 1$ MARINE
1)BRITISH 1 canoeing

Cefas

## Headlines

- The volume of participants in 'any activity' and 'any boating activity' are the highest since the survey began
- Participation in 'any activities' has increased $3.4 \%$ points since last year, which equates to a best estimate volume of participation amongst UK adults of around 16.3 m
- Participation in 'any boating activity' increased by $0.8 \%$ points since 2016, which equates to 461,000 more adults having taken part in a boating activity
- Approximately 4 m UK adults took part in a boating activity in 2017

Total UK Adult Population (16+)


|  |  | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 |
| ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Any Watersport | $\%$ | - | - | - | $26.3 \%$ | $28.0 \%$ | $29.6 \%$ | $23.0 \%$ | $26.3 \%$ | - | $25.0 \%$ | $22.7 \%$ | $28.8 \%$ | $26.8 \%$ | $25.2 \%$ | $27.3 \%$ | $30.6 \%$ |
|  | $000 s$ | - | - | - | 12,580 | 13,506 | 14,400 | 11,294 | 12,893 | - | 12,589 | 11,153 | 14,124 | 13,127 | 12,364 | 14,300 | 16,318 |
| Any Boating Activity | $\%$ | $8.2 \%$ | $7.2 \%$ | $8.1 \%$ | $6.8 \%$ | $7.3 \%$ | $7.8 \%$ | $6.2 \%$ | $7.2 \%$ | $5.6 \%$ | $5.9 \%$ | $5.8 \%$ | $7.1 \%$ | $7.1 \%$ | $6.5 \%$ | $6.7 \%$ | $7.4 \%$ |
|  | 000 | 3,819 | 3,222 | 3,740 | 3,276 | 3,494 | 3,811 | 3,040 | 3,534 | 2,752 | 2,996 | 2,837 | 3,491 | 3,459 | 3,176 | 3,494 | 3,955 |

## Participation Summary

- The most popular activities in 2017 remain the ones which are most accessible without the need for any training or equipment
- Spending leisure time at the beach
- Coastal walking
- Outdoor swimming
- Out of the 'any boating activities', canoeing was participated in by an estimated 1.9 m UK adult residents and for 'any activities', an estimated 9.0 m spent general leisure time at the beach
- Overall the participation rate for 'any activity' in 2017 stands at 30.6\%, and for 'any boating', 7.4\%

|  | \% | 000s |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Any watersports activity | 30.6\% | 16,318 |
| Any boating activity | 7.4\% | 3,955 |
| Small sailboat racing | 0.4\% | 205 |
| Small sailboat activities | 0.9\% | 499 |
| Yacht racing | 0.3\% | 155 |
| Yacht cruising | 0.8\% | 445 |
| Power boating | 0.7\% | 364 |
| Motor boating | 1.3\% | 681 |
| Canal boating | 0.7\% | 352 |
| Canoeing | 3.5\% | 1,856 |
| Rowing | 0.8\% | 404 |
| Windsurfing | 0.3\% | 185 |
| Water skiing | 0.5\% | 289 |
| Using personal watercraft | 0.4\% | 230 |
| Surf/Body/Paddle Boarding | 2.8\% | 1,501 |
| Surfboarding | 1.2\% | 651 |
| Bodyboarding | 1.3\% | 681 |
| Paddleboarding | 1.1\% | 576 |
| Kitesurfing | 0.1\% | 74 |
| Angling (Any) | 2.4\% | 1,259 |
| Freshwater angling | 1.1\% | 560 \| |
| Sea angling | 1.7\% | 902 \| |
| Sea angling from a kayak | 0.3\% | 134 |
| Sea angling from a rental boat | 0.6\% | 302 |
| Sea angling from a charter boat | 0.4\% | 200 |
| Sea angling from the shore | 1.1\% | 561 \|| |
| Recreational sea fishing | 0.5\% | 242 |
| Cliff climbing | 1.1\% | 565 |
| Coastal walking | 14.3\% | 7,608 |
| Leisure time beach | 16.9\% | 8,991 |
| Outdoor swimming | 10.4\% | 5,557 |
| Leisure subaqua diving | 0.8\% | 412 |
| Coasteering | 0.4\% | 210 |
| Adult Population (000's) | 53,258 | 53,258 |
| Sample size | 12,730 | 12,730 |

## Short Term Trends

－Comparing the data from the previous 2 years we see an increase in the overall participation in＇any activity＇by 3．3\％points．
－In terms of volume this is an increase of $2 m$ people
－Whilst there is an increase in many of the activities，the major volume increases come in spending leisure time at the beach and coastal walking
－Stand up paddleboarding continues to grow in popularity，with a $0.4 \%$ point increase
－Canoeing also saw an increase in participation，with a percentage point increase of $0.6 \%$
－The majority of activities saw increased participation on last year．
－However small sailboat activities，kitesurfing and sea angling from the shore saw lower participation rates than in 2016

|  | 2016 |  | 2017 |  |  | \％point change |  | 000s change |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | \％ | 000s | \％ | 000s |  |  |  |  |
| Any watersports activity | 27．3\％ | 14，300 | 30．6\％ | 16，318 | 令 | 3.3 | 令 | 2，019 |
| Any boating activity | 6．7\％ | 3，494 | 7．4\％ | 3，955 | 令 | 0.7 | 令 | 461 |
| Small sailboat racing | 0．3\％ | 166 | 0．4\％ | 205 | 令 | 0.1 | 令 | 39 |
| Small sailboat activities | 1．0\％ | 500 | 0．9\％ | 499 | $\checkmark$ | －0．1 | $\checkmark$ | －1 |
| Yacht racing | 0．2\％ | 124 | 0．3\％ | 155 | 令 | 0.1 | 令 | 30 |
| Yacht cruising | 0．7\％ | 362 | 0．8\％ | 445 | 令 | 0.1 | 令 | 83 |
| Power boating | 0．5\％ | 278 | 0．7\％ | 364 | 令 | 0.2 | 令 | 86 |
| Motor boating | 0．9\％ | 495 | 1．3\％ | 681 | 令 | 0.4 | 令 | 186 |
| Canal boating | 0．6\％ | 314 | 0．7\％ | 352 | 令 | 0.1 | 令 | 38 |
| Canoeing | 2．9\％ | 1，512 | 3．5\％ | 1，856 | 命 | 0.6 | 令 | 345 |
| Rowing | 0．7\％ | 393 | 0．8\％ | 404 | 令 | 0.1 | 令 | 11 |
| Windsurfing | 0．3\％ | 149 | 0．3\％ | 185 | $\Rightarrow$ | 0.0 | 令 | 36 |
| Water skiing | 0．4\％ | 218 | 0．5\％ | 289 | 令 | 0.1 | 令 | 71 |
| Using personal watercraft | 0．4\％ | 229 | 0．4\％ | 230 | $\Rightarrow$ | 0.0 | 令 | 1 |
| Surf／Body／Paddle Boarding | 2．3\％ | 1，227 | 2．8\％ | 1，501 | 命 | 0.5 | 命 | 274 |
| Surfboarding | 1．0\％ | 544 | 1．2\％ | 651 | 令 | 0.2 | 令 | 107 |
| Bodyboarding | 1．2\％ | 608 | 1．3\％ | 681 | 令 | 0.1 | 令 | 73 |
| Paddleboarding | 0．7\％ | 386 | 1．1\％ | 576 | 命 | 0.4 | 令 | 190 |
| Kitesurfing | 0．3\％ | 139 | 0．1\％ | 74 | $\sqrt{ }$ | －0．2 | $\sqrt{6}$ | －65 |
| Angling（Any） | 2．1\％ | 1，120 | 2．4\％ | 1，259 | 令 | 0.3 | 令 | 140 |
| Freshwater angling | 0．7\％ | 352 | 1．1\％ | 560 | 令 | 0.4 | 令 | 208 |
| Sea angling | 1．7\％ | 874 | 1．7\％ | 902 | $\Rightarrow$ | 0.0 | 令 | 27 |
| Sea angling from a kayak | 0．1\％ | 70 | 0．3\％ | 134 | 令 | 0.2 | 令 | 64 |
| Sea angling from a rental boat | 0．5\％ | 258 | 0．6\％ | 302 | 令 | 0.1 | 令 | 44 |
| Sea angling from a charter boat | 0．2\％ | 106 | 0．4\％ | 200 | 命 | 0.2 | 令 | 94 |
| Sea angling from the shore | 1．2\％ | 646 | 1．1\％ | 561 | $\checkmark$ | －0．1 | $\sqrt{6}$ | －85 |
| Recreational sea fishing | 0．2\％ | 131 | 0．5\％ | 242 | 令 | 0.3 | 令 | 111 |
| Cliff climbing | 0．8\％ | 436 | 1．1\％ | 565 | 命 | 0.3 | 令 | 129 |
| Coastal walking | 11．7\％ | 6，123 | 14．3\％ | 7，608 | 令 | 2.6 | 令 | 1，485 |
| Leisure time beach | 15．2\％ | 7，959 | 16．9\％ | 8，991 | 令 | 1.7 | 令 | 1，033 |
| Outdoor swimming | 9．7\％ | 5，100 | 10．4\％ | 5，557 | 命 | 0.7 | 令 | 456 |
| Leisure subaqua diving | 0．6\％ | 305 | 0．8\％ | 412 | 令 | 0.2 | 令 | 108 |
| Coasteering | 0．4\％ | 188 | 0．4\％ | 210 | $\Rightarrow$ | 0.0 | 令 | 23 |
| Adult Population（000＇s） | 52，443 | 52，443 | 53，258 | 53，258 |  |  |  |  |
| Sample size | 12625 | 12，625 | 12，730 | 12，730 |  |  |  |  |

## Long Term Trends

－Comparing the data in the long term，in this case，looking at the participation rates from 2007．Although the participation rates for＇any boating activity＇saw a decrease，the volume of people taking part have increased in the past 10 years due to the increase in population size．Both the percentage and volume of people participating in＇any activity＇have increased
－Both canoeing and rowing within the＇any boating activity＇have seen an increase over the 10 year period

|  | 2007 |  | 2017 |  |  | \％point change |  | 000s change |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | \％ | 000s | \％ | 000s |  |  |  |  |
| Any watersports activity | 29．6\％ | 14，400 | 30．6\％ | 16，318 | 令 | 1.0 | 令 | 1，918 |
| Any boating activity | 7．8\％ | 3，811 | 7．4\％ | 3，955 | $\sqrt{6}$ | －0．4 | 令 | 145 |
| Small sailboat racing | 0．5\％ | 234 | 0．4\％ | 205 | $\sqrt{6}$ | －0．1 | $\sqrt{5}$ | －29 |
| Small sailboat activities | 1．2\％ | 562 | 0．9\％ | 499 | $\sqrt{v}$ | －0．3 | $\sqrt{v}$ | －63 |
| Yacht racing | 0．3\％ | 155 | 0．3\％ | 155 | 5 | 0.0 | $\sqrt{5}$ | －1 |
| Yacht cruising | 0．8\％ | 400 | 0．8\％ | 445 | $\Rightarrow$ | 0.0 | 令 | 45 |
| Power boating | 0．7\％ | 350 | 0．7\％ | 364 | $\Rightarrow$ | 0.0 | 令 | 14 |
| Motor boating | 1．4\％ | 691 | 1．3\％ | 681 | $\sqrt{5}$ | －0．1 | $\sqrt{ }$ | －10 |
| Canal boating | 1．0\％ | 490 | 0．7\％ | 352 | $\sqrt{v}$ | －0．3 | $\checkmark$ | －138 |
| Canoeing | 2．2\％ | 1，051 | 3．5\％ | 1，856 | 会 | 1.3 | 令 | 806 |
| Rowing | 0．7\％ | 332 | 0．8\％ | 404 | 令 | 0.1 | 令 | 72 |
| Windsurfing | 0．5\％ | 235 | 0．3\％ | 185 | $\checkmark$ | －0．2 | $\sqrt{v}$ | －50 |
| Water skiing | 0．8\％ | 381 | 0．5\％ | 289 | $\sqrt{5}$ | －0．3 | $\sqrt{5}$ | －93 |
| Using personal watercraft | 0．6\％ | 273 | 0．4\％ | 230 | $\sqrt{6}$ | －0．2 | $\sqrt{v}$ | －43 |
| Surf／Body／Paddle Boarding | 1．2\％ | 607 | 2．8\％ | 1，501 | 令 | 1.6 | 令 | 894 |
| Surfboarding |  |  | 1．2\％ | 651 |  |  |  |  |
| Bodyboarding |  |  | 1．3\％ | 681 |  |  |  |  |
| Paddleboarding |  |  | 1．1\％ | 576 |  |  |  |  |
| Kitesurfing | 0．2\％ | 88 | 0．1\％ | 74 | $\checkmark$ | －0．1 | $\sqrt{ }$ | －14 |
| Angling（Any） |  |  | 2．4\％ | 1，259 |  |  |  |  |
| Freshwater angling |  |  | 1．1\％ | 560 |  |  |  |  |
| Sea angling |  |  | 1．7\％ | 902 |  |  |  |  |
| Sea angling from a kayak |  |  | 0．3\％ | 134 |  |  |  |  |
| Sea angling from a rental boat |  |  | 0．6\％ | 302 |  |  |  |  |
| Sea angling from a charter boat |  |  | 0．4\％ | 200 |  |  |  |  |
| Sea angling from the shore |  |  | 1．1\％ | 561 |  |  |  |  |
| Recreational sea fishing |  |  | 0．5\％ | 242 |  |  |  |  |
| Cliff climbing | 1．0\％ | 496 | 1．1\％ | 565 | 令 | 0.1 | 令 | 69 |
| Coastal walking | 13．3\％ | 6，475 | 14．3\％ | 7，608 | 令 | 1.0 | 令 | 1，133 |
| Leisure time beach | 13．1\％ | 6，368 | 16．9\％ | 8，991 | 令 | 3.8 | 令 | 2，623 |
| Outdoor swimming | 11．4\％ | 5，562 | 10．4\％ | 5，557 | $\sqrt{6}$ | －1．0 | $\sqrt{5}$ | －6 |
| Leisure subaqua diving | 0．9\％ | 423 | 0．8\％ | 412 | $\sqrt{v}$ | －0．1 | $\sqrt{v}$ | －11 |
| Coasteering |  |  | 0．4\％ | 210 |  |  |  |  |
| Adult Population（000＇s） | 48，607 | 48，607 | 53，258 | 53，258 |  |  |  |  |
| Sample size | 12430 | 12，430 | 12，730 | 12，730 |  |  |  |  |

WIDER MARKET FACTORS

## Importance of the weather?

- The information presented over the next couple of slides aims to show what, if any, effect the weather has on the changing participation rates
- The graphs to the right show the participation rates alongside sunshine hours

- The 'any boating participation' graph on the bottom shows less correlation between the 2 data sets
When looking at the top graph, which compares 'any activity' participation rate with the annual sunshine hours, we can see what appears to be a slight correlation. When the sunshine hours are greater, participation rates are higher
- However, this year saw a slight decrease in annual sunshine hours and an increase in overall participation
'02 '03 '04 '05 '06 '07 '08 '09 '10 '11 '12 '13 '14 '15 '16 '17


## Sunshine and Temperature





## Rainfall




- 2017 saw an increase in the summer rainfall compared to the past 4 years, but the annual rainfall was fairly consistent with 2016
- The slightly higher precipitation level in summer has not impacted participation in 'any watersport' or 'any boating activity', which have both increased. Though participation in the summer months has decreased, possibly as a result.


## Importance of holidays?



- Holiday taking abroad has been on the increase since 2012 while holidaying in the UK remains relatively steady
- From other research that we undertake in the tourism industry, we know that people are being more active on holidays - not necessary physical activities, but wanting to fill their time
- While British holiday makers are still confused about the impact that Brexit will have on their holiday taking they are still committed to travelling to Europe, with 63\% of Brits planning to travel to Europe in 2018


## Consumer Confidence

Consumer confidence index and any activity participation


## Consumer confidence index and any activity participation



- The consumer confidence index is based on households plans for major purchases and their economic situation, both currently and their expectations for the immediate future. This measures how optimistic or pessimistic consumers are
- The idea is that if the consumers are optimistic they will tend to purchase more goods and services
- Looking at the long term trends however show some correlation, especially when looking at boating participation
- Although consumer confidence has been dropping since 2014, both 'any watersport activity' and 'any boating activity' participation has been increasing since 2015

11 Data taken from the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
https://data.oecd.org/leadind/consumer-confidence-index-cci.htm

## Recreational and Culture Spend

—Clothing and footwear ——Recreation and culture ——Restaurants and hotels


- This chart shows the change in household spend on recreation and culture per week and is just another factor to add context to the changing participation rates
- As we have just seen with the consumer confidence index, spending confidence is dropping and this is reflected in spend on recreation and culture


## The Aging Population

## ■ Females <br> - Males



- We have known that the population is getting older as people live longer
- The chart shows the peaks and troughs of the population profile by age
- The peaks are getting smaller each time
- There is currently a trough between the age of 10 and 15 meaning there are fewer children to get into watersports than 10 years ago
- This could have implications for participation years down the line

13 Data taken from the Office of National Statistics: http://www.ons.gov.uk/

## SUMMARY OF PARTICIPATION

## Proportion of Boating Participants by Frequency

$\square 13+$ times

- 6-12 times
- 2-5 times

Once



- The difference in casual and enthusiastic boaters has stayed fairly consistent this year
- The percentage of enthusiasts has very slightly decreased since last year. The volume of both casual participants and frequent participants has increased on last year
- The volume of enthusiasts has remained fairly consistent whereas the volume of casual participants fluctuates much more


## Casual Boating Participation

Any Boating

Any Power
700


## Any Manual

1,200
1,000
800
600
400
200
0
20042005200620072008200920102011201220132014201520162017

## Enthusiast Boating Participation



Any Power




## Participation by Gender - Any Boating



2002200320042005200620072008200920102011201220132014201520162017


500

0
2002200320042005200620072008200920102011201220132014201520162017

- The table and graph show trends in 'any boating activity' for each of the genders
- Although male participation has increased for the past 2 years, the overall trend is still downward
- The gap between male and female participation continues to show a narrowing trend, with the number of females participating increasing and the number of males decreasing


## Frequency by Gender - Any Boating

|  | Males |  |  |  |  | Females |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Once | 2-5 times | 6-12 times | 13+ times | Sample | Once | 2-5 times | 6-12 times | 13+ times | Sample |
| 2002 | 31.1\% | 42.3\% | 14.4\% | 12.3\% | 264 | 44.5\% | 34.8\% | 10.3\% | 10.5\% | 157 |
| 2003 | 25.1\% | 49.4\% | 21.1\% | 13.4\% | 240 | 27.5\% | 54.6\% | 8.1\% | 9.8\% | 130 |
| 2004 | 33.0\% | 44.3\% | 9.6\% | 13.1\% | 235 | 33.9\% | 50.8\% | 6.7\% | 8.6\% | 148 |
| 2005 | 37.2\% | 38.7\% | 9.2\% | 14.9\% | 409 | 35.5\% | 40.4\% | 13.9\% | 10.2\% | 302 |
| 2006 | 35.7\% | 42.5\% | 8.9\% | 12.9\% | 446 | 44.2\% | 41.0\% | 8.0\% | 6.7\% | 364 |
| 2007 | 28.3\% | 42.6\% | 11.5\% | 17.6\% | 465 | 42.5\% | 42.6\% | 8.3\% | 6.7\% | 386 |
| 2008 | 32.4\% | 42.5\% | 12.8\% | 12.3\% | 379 | 43.0\% | 39.2\% | 7.4\% | 10.4\% | 301 |
| 2009 | 30.2\% | 41.9\% | 12.4\% | 15.4\% | 470 | 42.2\% | 39.3\% | 8.5\% | 10.0\% | 317 |
| 2010 | 32.3\% | 38.0\% | 13.3\% | 16.4\% | 382 | 46.3\% | 33.9\% | 8.6\% | 11.2\% | 231 |
| 2011 | 30.4\% | 42.8\% | 13.1\% | 17.7\% | 809 | 39.8\% | 40.1\% | 9.4\% | 10.7\% | 554 |
| 2012 | 33.1\% | 39.5\% | 15.0\% | 12.3\% | 370 | 43.4\% | 34.9\% | 10.4\% | 11.3\% | 300 |
| 2013 | 32.3\% | 45.9\% | 11.8\% | 10.0\% | 469 | 43.9\% | 43.5\% | 7.6\% | 4.9\% | 329 |
| 2014 | 30.4\% | 41.9\% | 15.3\% | 12.4\% | 393 | 37.7\% | 45.1\% | 7.6\% | 8.5\% | 359 |
| 2015 | 30.5\% | 45.3\% | 11.2\% | 13.0\% | 388 | 43.7\% | 40.5\% | 7.0\% | 8.9\% | 326 |
| 2016 | 29.4\% | 40.8\% | 14.3\% | 15.5\% | 401 | 42.1\% | 42.5\% | 7.1\% | 8.2\% | 324 |
| 2017 | 25.5\% | 40.6\% | 14.7\% | 19.3\% | 458 | 34.2\% | 42.6\% | 12.4\% | 10.8\% | 357 |
|  | 66.1\% |  | 34.0\% |  |  | 76.8\% |  | 23.2\% |  |  |

- Males are more likely to be enthusiasts than females with $34 \%$ of males participating more than 6 times compared to $23 \%$ for females. The percentage of enthusiasts (both male and female) has increased since last year
- The number of both males and females participating $13+$ times has also increased


## Participation by Age - Any Boating



- Historically it is the younger age groups that show the most fluctuations but the last few years have stayed fairly consistent and participation rates across all age groups have remained fairly consistent for the past few years
- Participation in 'any boating activity' for both 16-34 year olds and $35-55$ year olds is around the 1.5 m mark
- The participation rates for over 55 s have returned to the 2014 high of $4.3 \%$ and the volume of over 55 s participating is the highest since the survey began $(758,000)$


## Distribution of Participation

Any activity
Distribution of events


- For the $4^{\text {th }}$ year running we have asked respondents to select a point on the map for where they last participated. The data to the left shows a combined average for 2015-2017
- For 'any activity', events occur all around the UK but with a higher distribution on the coast
- Inland areas which appear to have a higher frequency are London, the North West and around Birmingham
- For 'any boating activity' the pattern is very similar with the south coast dominating participation
- London, Birmingham, the Peak District and the Lake District are showing as popular areas for participation


## BOAT <br> OWNERSHIP

## Boat Ownership Trends

|  | 2007-2009 | 2008-2010 | 2009-2011 | 2010-2012 | 2011-2013 | 2012-2014 | 2013-2015 | 2014-2016 | 2015-2017 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Any boat | 2.68\% | 2.52\% | 2.65\% | 2.82\% | 2.73\% | 2.69\% | 2.58\% | 2.55\% | 2.61\% |
| Small sailing boat | 0.62\% | 0.51\% | 0.55\% | 0.65\% | 0.63\% | 0.63\% | 0.55\% | 0.54\% | 0.50\% |
| Sailing yacht | 0.26\% | 0.24\% | 0.23\% | 0.24\% | 0.23\% | 0.19\% | 0.21\% | 0.19\% | 0.22\% |
| Power boat | 0.25\% | 0.22\% | 0.20\% | 0.18\% | 0.17\% | 0.17\% | 0.17\% | 0.16\% | 0.16\% |
| Motor boat | 0.38\% | 0.38\% | 0.37\% | 0.34\% | 0.25\% | 0.30\% | 0.27\% | 0.28\% | 0.28\% |
| Canal boat | 0.09\% | 0.07\% | 0.09\% | 0.15\% | 0.14\% | 0.11\% | 0.12\% | 0.10\% | 0.11\% |
| Canoe/ Kayak | 0.85\% | 0.91\% | 1.00\% | 1.05\% | 1.12\% | 1.21\% | 1.18\% | 1.23\% | 1.29\% |
| Rowing boat | 0.13\% | 0.10\% | 0.11\% | 0.16\% | 0.14\% | 0.13\% | 0.13\% | 0.14\% | 0.10\% |
| RIBs/ Inflatables or sports boats | 0.18\% | 0.15\% | 0.31\% | 0.17\% | 0.17\% | 0.15\% | 0.12\% | 0.11\% | 0.13\% |
| Windsurfer | 0.29\% | 0.28\% | 0.25\% | 0.20\% | 0.21\% | 0.21\% | 0.18\% | 0.18\% | 0.18\% |
| Personal Watercraft | 0.15\% | 0.11\% | 0.12\% | 0.15\% | 0.12\% | 0.09\% | 0.09\% | 0.10\% | 0.10\% |

- Boat ownership tends to fall between 2.5\% and 2.9\%; for 2015-2017 boat ownership was at 2.6\%
- Consumer confidence has been declining over the past 3 years, which tends to impact boat ownership
- Canoes and Kayaks remain the most widely owned of all the craft types, which is unsurprising given the lower cost of entry and easier storage options. The proportion of people owning one is at its highest level (1.3\%) since the beginning of the survey


## Boat Ownership Trends - Detailed

|  | 2012-2014 |  |  | 2013-2015 |  |  | 2014-2016 |  |  | 2015-2017 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Number of boats owned by households | Number of boat owning households | \% kept in the UK | Number of boats owned by households | Number of boat owning households | \% kept in the UK | Number of boats owned by households | Number of boat owning households | \% kept in the UK | Number of boats owned by households | Number of boat owning households | \% kept in the UK |
| Any boat | 1,214,154 | 712,530 | 94.5\% | 1,130,266 | 681,644 | 95.4\% | 1,147,265 | 674,268 | 95.5\% | 1,185,243 | 690,415 | 94.9\% |
| Small sailing boat | 204,670 | 165,431 | 94.9\% | 178,433 | 146,017 | 93.5\% | 171,057 | 142,821 | 95.1\% | 166,625 | 132,107 | 91.1\% |
| Sailing yacht | 54,246 | 50,540 | 95.4\% | 58,110 | 55,227 | 91.6\% | 52,266 | 49,607 | 93.1\% | 60,798 | 58,611 | 89.5\% |
| Power boat | 46,550 | 44,903 | 86.5\% | 44,540 | 44,540 | 91.6\% | 45,193 | 41,243 | 84.4\% | 46,738 | 42,896 | 85.8\% |
| Motor boat | 82,799 | 78,573 | 94.7\% | 80,249 | 72,502 | 91.6\% | 83,798 | 73,863 | 88.2\% | 82,050 | 73,320 | 90.1\% |
| Canal boat | 28,814 | 28,814 | 97.1\% | 33,056 | 30,900 | 100.0\% | 27,917 | 25,780 | 96.6\% | 31,702 | 29,654 | 94.7\% |
| Canoe/kayak | 573,614 | 320,717 | 95.9\% | 530,642 | 312,320 | 96.9\% | 547,729 | 324,163 | 97.7\% | 581,338 | 341,526 | 98.1\% |
| Rowing boat | 41,450 | 33,868 | 90.8\% | 42,542 | 33,942 | 93.8\% | 45,330 | 37,469 | 94.4\% | 34,751 | 27,448 | 93.7\% |
| RIBs/Inflatables or sportsboats | 47,086 | 39,187 | 92.0\% | 37,069 | 31,988 | 97.6\% | 34,962 | 29,549 | 93.0\% | 40,472 | 33,118 | 91.9\% |
| Windsurfer | 100,917 | 54,953 | 93.4\% | 90,619 | 46,430 | 91.1\% | 104,381 | 46,847 | 96.2\% | 96,258 | 47,525 | 97.2\% |
| Personal Watercraft | 34,008 | 24,357 | 88.7\% | 35,006 | 23,081 | 93.1\% | 34,633 | 25,901 | 90.5\% | 41,392 | 27,712 | 91.9\% |

- After a downward trend in the number of households owning a boat, this year has seen an increase. The number of boats owned per household has remained relatively consistent over previous years
- 1,185,243 boats were recorded per year on average for the years 2015 to 2017. An increase of approximately 38,000 on the earlier 3 year period
- Canoes and Kayaks continue to be the most popular of the boats, making up 33\% of ownership (roughly the same figure for 2013-15 and 2014-2016)


## Boat Ownership by Activity



## BESPOKE QUESTIONS

## Seasonal Participation




- Summer participation has continued to drop, from 53\% last year to 49\% this year
- Summer participation in boating activities decreased from 61\% in 2015 to 51\% in 2016 and again to 50\% in 2017. With more than a quarter now participating in the Spring
- Participation in 'any activity' in winter has increased from 8\% to 10\%, but people are still least likely to participate in the colder months


## Seasonal Trends

## All Activities


—Spring —Summer —Autumn —Winter

Boating Activities


- Summer participation rates for 'any activity' have dropped considerably over the past two years and they are at their lowest recovered level
- This year has seen an increase in participation rates for all other seasons, but most noticeably for Spring
- Summer participation still accounts for almost half of all recorded activity


## Coastal Participation



- Historically participation at the coast remained at 90\%, but this has risen for the past 2 years, to $93 \%$ in 2016 and $95 \%$ in 2017
- Largely driven by coastal walking and spending leisure time at the beach, the trend for all activities is very much geared towards coastal activity
- For all boating activities the split continues to fluctuate around $50 \%$ inland and coastal


## Proportion of Training



- After an increase in training for 'any activity' last year, 2017 has seen a slight decrease, with $53 \%$ of people having some sort of training
- The 12 core boating activities though have been asked consistently since 2012. These proportions show a much more level trend with around $60 \%$ of people having done some sort of training
- 2017 has seen a slight decrease in both the number of boaters with training and the percentage of people who have had more than 2 days training


## Proportion of Participants with Training

| $\square$ Yes, more than 2 days | $\square$ Yes, $1-2$ days | $\square$ Yes, less than a day | No |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $0 \%$ | $20 \%$ | $40 \%$ | $60 \%$ | $80 \%$ | $100 \%$ |



- Training continues to differ among activities, with between $15 \%$ and $94 \%$ of people having had some form of training across different activities
- People participating in Coasteering and Sea Angling were the least likely to have received training
- Kitesurfing, Diving, Racing activities and Windsurfing had the highest percentage of trained participants. With over half of Divers having received more than 2 days of training and $80 \%$ of Kitesurfers receiving 1-2 days of training


## SAFETY

## Awareness of Public Safety Messages

Have you ever seen any public safety messages or received any advice in the last 12 months in relation to safe use of the sea/ coastline in the UK?


Please briefly tell us what the messages or advice was and where you saw or received it?

- When asked about public safety messages, $23 \%$ said they recalled seeing some sort of message, with a further $15 \%$ not sure
- The main specific safety message people remember was about cold water shock, with the majority also remembering advice to float. 3\% of people recalled hearing a message about rip tides
- Half of the people who could remember which organisation provided the message said they heard it (or thought they had heard it) from the RNLI and $25 \%$ said the Coast Guard


## Lifejackets/ Buoyancy Aids whilst Boating

Lifejacket/ buoyancy aid usage for any activity


Lifejacket/ buoyancy aid usage for any boating activity (excluding rowing)


- This year the wording of the lifejacket/ buoyancy aid question, splitting out lifejackets and buoyancy aids
- For the purpose of the trend data, they have been regrouped to compare with previous years
- The question itself also changed, from asking whether respondents wear lifejackets/ buoyancy aids when participating, to if they wore one the last time they participated
- When taking part in 'any activity' 59\% wear a lifejacket and 14\% use a buoyancy aid (either some or all of the time)
- The general trend for lifejacket/ buoyancy aid usage whilst boating has been in slight decline since 2013
- This year saw a more drastic decline, which could be partly due to the question wording


## Lifejackets/ Buoyancy Aids whilst Participating

- Lifejacket - sometimes
- Buoyancy aid - sometimes
- No
- Lifejacket - all of the time

■ Buoyancy aid - all of the time


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