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# Recreational Boating: United States

March 2018



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# About This Report

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## Scope & Method

This report forecasts to 2022 US recreational boating product demand and shipments in US dollars at the manufacturer level. Total demand is segmented by product in terms of:

- outboard powerboats
- inboard powerboats
- sterndrive powerboats
- personal watercraft
- other boats such as sailboats, jet boats, canoes, and all other (e.g., inflatable boats, rowboats, and kayaks)
- propulsion systems
- boating accessories

To illustrate historical trends, total demand is provided in annual series from 2007 to 2017; the various segments are reported at five-year intervals for 2007, 2012, and 2017.

This report analyzes US demand for recreational boating products. In the context of this report, “recreational boating” includes all of the products mentioned above, while “recreational boats” refers only to boats and personal watercraft. Products are separated into recreational boats and propulsion systems and accessories. For the purposes of this report, factory-installed propulsion systems or those sold in a package with a boat are considered separately from the vessels they power, except for personal watercraft and jet boats. This is primarily because boat owners are generally given an option for propulsion systems at the time of purchase. Additionally, the report also covers propulsion systems sold in the aftermarket to repower vessels. Data provided for accessories reflects only those items that are sold separately to the consumer in the aftermarket. Factory-installed accessories or those included in a boat package are considered with the boat or propulsion system.

This report quantifies trends in various measures of growth and volatility. Growth (or decline) expressed as an average annual growth rate (AAGR) is the least squares growth rate, which takes into account all available datapoints over a period. The volatility of datapoints around a least squares growth trend over time is expressed via the coefficient of determination, or  $r^2$ . The most stable data series relative to the trend carries an  $r^2$  value of 1.0; the most volatile – 0.0. Growth calculated as a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) employs, by definition, only the first and last datapoints over a period. The CAGR is used to describe forecast growth, defined as the expected trend beginning in the base year and ending in the forecast year. Readers are encouraged to consider historical volatility when assessing particular annual values along the forecast trend, including in the forecast year.

## About This Report

Key macroeconomic indicators are also provided with quantified trends. Other various topics, including profiles of pertinent leading suppliers, are covered in this report. A full outline of report items by page is available in the Table of Contents.

## Sources

*Recreational Boating: United States* (FF90032) is based on [Recreational Boating in the US](#), a comprehensive industry study published by The Freedonia Group. Reported findings represent the synthesis and analysis of data from various primary, secondary, macroeconomic, and demographic sources including:

- firms participating in the industry, and their suppliers and customers
- government/public agencies
- national, regional, and international non-governmental organizations
- trade associations and their publications
- the business and trade press
- indicator forecasts by The Freedonia Group
- the findings of other reports and studies by The Freedonia Group

Specific sources and additional resources are listed in the Resources section of this publication for reference and to facilitate further research.

## Industry Codes

Table 5 | Industry Codes Related to Recreational Boating

NAICS/SCIAN 2007		SIC	
North American Industry Classification System		Standard Industrial Classification	
336612	Boat building	3732	Boat building and repairing

Source: US Census Bureau

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## Resources

### The Freedonia Group

*Recreational Boating in the US*, March 2018

### Freedonia Industry Studies

*Fiber-Reinforced Plastic Composites Market in the US*, January 2017

*Global Diesel Engine Market*, January 2017

*Battery Markets in the US*, December 2016

*Coated Fabrics*, May 2016

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### Trade Publications

*Boating*

*Boating Industry*

*Boating World*

*MarineLink*

*Soundings Trade Only Today*

### Agencies & Associations

Boat Owners Association of the US (BoatUS)

California Air Resources Board

National Marine Manufacturers Association

NOAA Office of Coastal Management

Recreational Boating & Fishing Foundation

United States Bureau of Labor Statistics

United States Census Bureau

United States Coast Guard

United States Environmental Protection Agency

## About This Report

United States Geological Survey  
United States International Trade Commission