

Statewide Recreational Fishing Survey 2010

Results from Phase 1 – The telephone survey

Results

The current state wide recreational fishing survey has two main parts. The first part collected information about the number of fishers in Queensland and their characteristics, such as their age group and where they live. The second part recorded the fishing activities and catches for more than 3,600 recreational fishers throughout Queensland in the 12 months to October 2011. The results presented here are for phase 1. Results from phase two will be available in mid 2012.

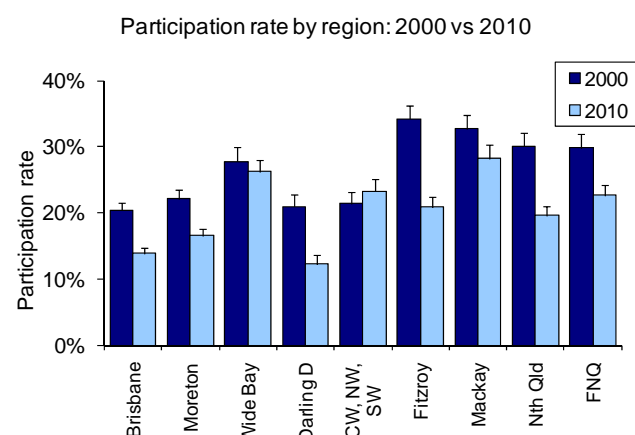
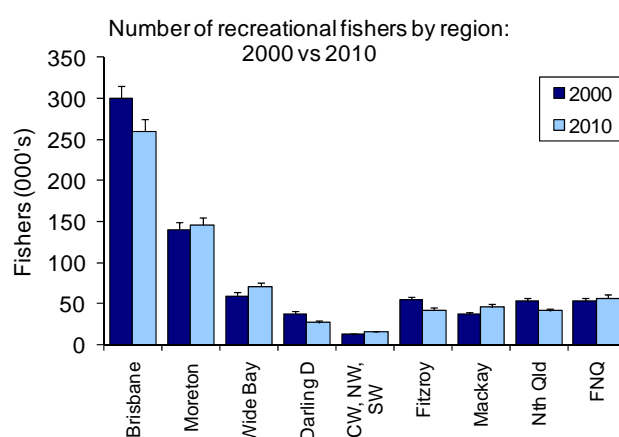
Recreational fishing is a very popular recreational activity

Recreational fishing is still a very popular outdoor activity in Queensland. Approximately 700,000 Queenslanders went recreational fishing, crabbing or prawning in Queensland in the 12 months prior to July 2010.

This represents 17% of Queensland's population aged 5 years or older and is much higher than for other popular outdoor activities such as golf, cycling and swimming (ABS catalogue 4177.0). This number does not include fishers from other states or from overseas.

Many fishers in Brisbane but there's more interest as you head north

Recreational fishing is popular across the state with many people enjoying the abundant marine and freshwater fishing experiences on offer. More than a third of all recreational fishers (approx 260,000) live in the Brisbane region but the Wide Bay / Burnett and the Mackay regions had the highest participation rates where approximately 26% and 28% of residents fished recreationally. The Central West, North West and South West combined region (CW, NW, SW) had the fewest recreational fishers, but the lowest participation rate was in the Darling Downs region where 12% of residents fish recreationally.



Trends through time: 2000 vs 2010

The National Recreational and Indigenous Fishing Survey (NRIFS) completed in 2000 analysed recreational fishing by Australians in Australia. Our survey mirrors the NRIFS methods, but is restricted to Queenslanders fishing in Queensland. We've been able to get an 'apples with apples' comparison by restricting the NRIFS data to Queenslanders fishing in Queensland and analysing both surveys using the same advanced methods. We can compare how recreational fishing in Queensland has changed over a decade.

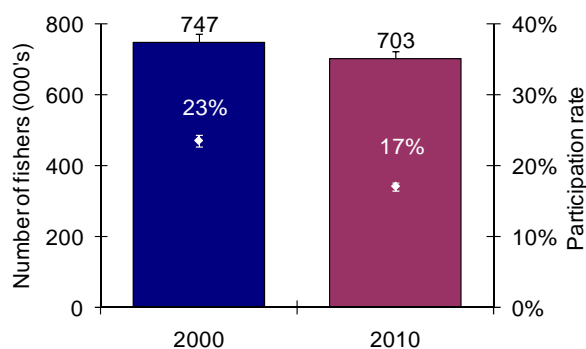
While the recreational fishing participation rate is much higher than in many other parts of the

world, the participation rate and the number of fishers in Queensland have declined.

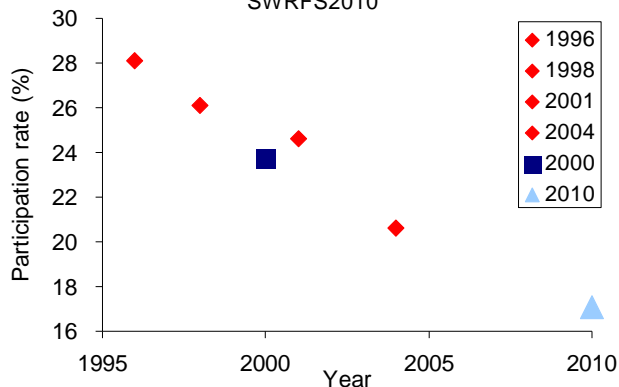
In 2000, there were 747,000 Queensland recreational fishers representing 23% of the population aged 5 years and above. In 2010 there were 703,000 recreational fishers representing 17% of Queenslanders 5 years and above.

The four RFISH surveys Fisheries Queensland ran from 1996-2004 also reported a decline in the recreational fishing participation rate. Similar declines in the recreational fishing participation rate have also recently been reported in South Australia as well as overseas. This is not unexpected due to a range of economic, social and cultural factors not necessarily directly associated with the fishing experience.

Number of fishers (bars) and participation rate (points)



Participation rates: RFISH (red), NRIFS2000 and SWRFS2010



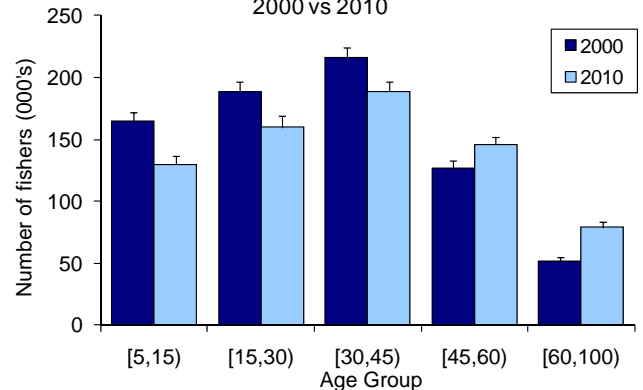
Recreational fishers by age

The 30–45 year age group has the most recreational fishers, but the highest participation rate is in the 5–15 year age group. There were

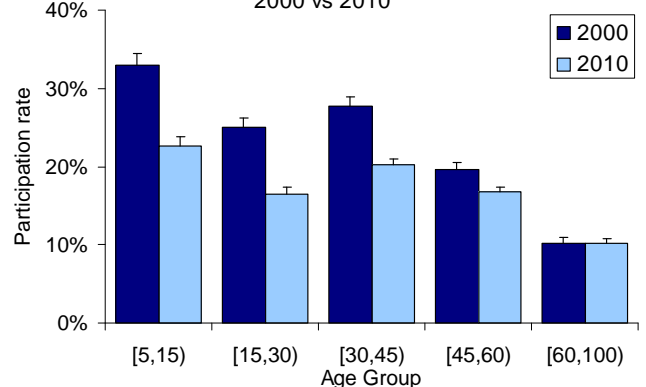
more recreational fishers 45 years or older in 2010 compared to 2000, but fewer fishers younger than 45 years.

The participation rate for all age groups except for those above 60 years was lower than it was in 2000.

Number of fishers by age group: 2000 vs 2010



Participation rate by age group: 2000 vs 2010



Thank you recreational fishers

These results are derived from a survey supported by peak stakeholder groups. The information will help the recreational fishing industry and will assist in the sustainable management of our fisheries now and in the future.

This information would not be available without the honest and thoughtful participation in these surveys by Queensland's recreational fishers.