



Boating lakes with adequate docks, boat launches and parking facilities provide hours of enjoyment for North Dakota's water-skiing youth.

Ownership of Boats, Outboard Motors And Snowmobiles in North Dakota

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Information gathered from a 1969 mail survey of 3,359 North Dakota households reveals that 705 households, or 21 per cent, reported owning 749 boats, other than canoes and sail boats (see Table 1). Only one per cent reported owning more than one boat.

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Table 1. Ownership of boats, outboard motors, and snowmobiles.

Item	Boats	Outboard Motors	Snowmobiles
Number of households reporting	3,359	3,426	3,341
Number of households owning	705	873	339
Per cent of reporting households	21.0	25.5	10.1
Per cent of households owning			
None	79.0	74.5	89.9
One	20.0	23.8	
Two or more	1.0	1.7	
Total number owned	749	945	

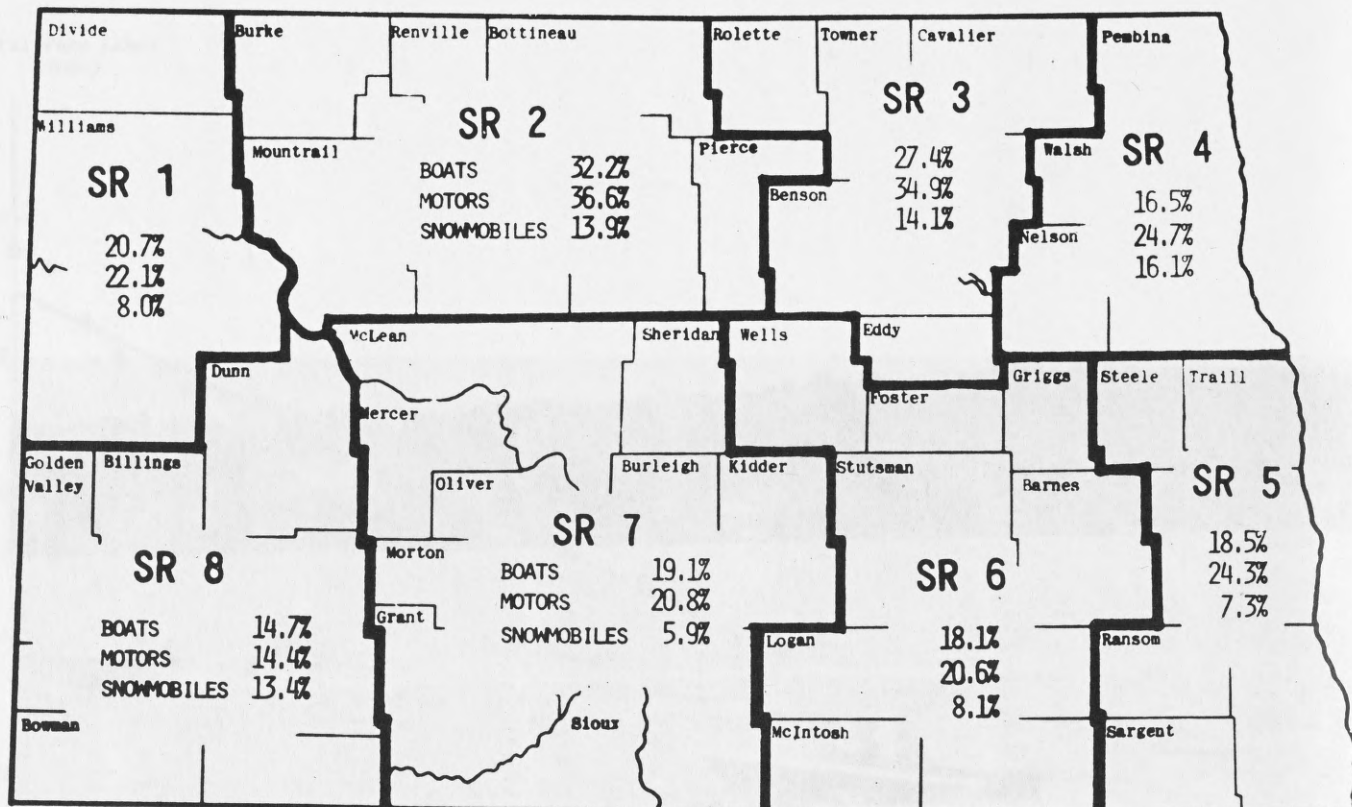


Figure 1. Proportion of households owning boats, outboard motors and snowmobiles in 1968. The top figure represents boats, the second, outboard motors and the lower figure, snowmobiles.

A total of 3,426 households gave information on outboard motors, of which 873 owned 945 motors. Only 1.7 per cent of the reporting households owned more than one motor.

About 28 per cent of the motors were less than six horsepower; 23.4 per cent ranged from six to 14.9; 24 per cent from 15 to 39.0; and the remaining one-fourth of the total had 40 horsepower or more (see Table 2).

About 10 per cent of the 3,341 households providing information on snowmobiles owned at least one, but this survey was taken just at the start of the recent surge in snowmobile ownership. How many own more than one is not known.

Table 2. Distribution of outboard motors by horsepower.

Horsepower	Per cent of All Motors
Less than 3	2.3
3-5.9	25.5
6-9.9	16.0
10-14.9	7.4
15-39.9	24.0
40-59.9	13.6
60-79.9	6.7
80 and over	4.5
All motors	
Per cent	100.0
Number	945

The proportion of households owning boats, outboard motors, and snowmobiles in each region of North Dakota is shown in Figure 1. For example, 20.7 per cent of the reporting households in Region 1 owned at least one boat; 22.1 per cent owned a motor; and eight per cent owned a snowmobile. The corresponding data for Region 5 were 18.5, 24.3, and 7.5 per cent, respectively. For boats and motors, the proportions were highest in Regions 2 and 3 and lowest in Region 8. For snowmobiles, the proportion was highest in Region 5 and lowest in Region 7.

Snowmobiles are mainly used for recreation. Seventy-eight per cent of the households who reported on their use said the predominant use was recreation, the proportion varying from 57 per cent in Region 8 to 85 per cent in Regions 4 and 5. Feeding livestock was given as the main use by 15 per cent of the households; transportation by about 5 per cent and rescue work 2 per cent.

Detailed information obtained in the 1969 outdoor recreation survey of 4,112 North Dakota households is included in the Department of Agricultural Economics Report No. 72 which may be obtained free upon request to the Department, North Dakota State University, Fargo.