#### Determining Actionable Strategies for Angler R3

Presented at the 2018 RBFF State Marketing Workshop

**December 6, 2018** 

Mark Damian Duda, Responsive Management







#### **Special Thanks To**



Frank Peterson, Jr.



**Stephanie Hussey** 



**Dave Chanda** 

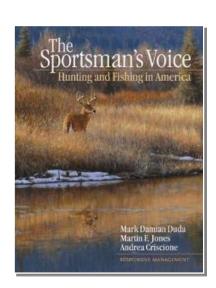


Joanne Martonik



#### **About Responsive Management**

- Research firm specializing in natural resource and outdoor recreation issues
- > 28 years of continuous survey research projects
- More than 1,000 human dimensions studies
- > Almost \$60 million in human dimensions research
- > Research in 50 states and 15 countries
- Research conducted for every state fish and wildlife agency and most federal resource agencies
- Research for most NGOs, including RBFF, NSSF, ASA, ATA, Ducks Unlimited, Trout Unlimited, and more
- Research for industry leaders, such as Winchester, Vista Outdoor (Bushnell, Primos, Federal Premium, etc.), Trijicon, Yamaha, and more
- Data collection for the nation's top universities: Colorado State University, Duke University, Penn State University, Rutgers University, Stanford University, University of Southern California, and many more





#### Current and Recent Responsive Management Angler Projects:

- ✓ New York Angler Effort and Expenditures
- ✓ Iowa Statewide Angler Survey
- ✓ Maine Anglers' Participation in and Opinions on Freshwater Fishing
- ✓ Indiana Anglers' Fishing Participation and Their Opinions on Fishing Management Issues
- ✓ New Hampshire Licensed Anglers' Participation in and Satisfaction With Fishing and Their Opinions on Fishing Issues
- ✓ Arkansas Anglers' Motivations for, Expenditures on, Methods of, and Opinions on Trout Fishing in Arkansas
- ✓ Survey of South Carolina Licensed Recreational Marine Anglers
- ✓ Trend Study Regarding Arizona Residents' Opinions on the Arizona Game and Fish Department and Outdoor Recreation in Arizona
- ✓ Data Collection to Explore Nevada Hunters' and Anglers' Attitudes Toward License Fee Restructuring
- ✓ Arizona Anglers' Opinions, Attitudes, and Expenditures in the State
- ✓ Trout Anglers' Participation in And Opinions on Trout Fishing in North Carolina
- Mountain Trout Fishing: Economic Impacts on And Contributions to North Carolina's Economy



#### Current and Recent Responsive Management Angler Projects:



- North Carolina Landowners' Attitudes Toward Trout Fishing Access
- ✓ New Jersey Trout Anglers' Opinions on Stocking and Other Trout Regulations
- Resident Participation in Freshwater and Saltwater Sport Fishing in Georgia
- ✓ Washington Angler Survey Report
- ✓ Survey of South Carolina Licensed Recreational Marine Anglers
- ✓ New Hampshire Licensed Anglers' Participation in and Satisfaction With Fishing
- Data Collection to Explore Nevada Hunters' and Anglers' Attitudes Toward License Fee Restructuring
- Enhancing Fishing Access Through a National Assessment of Recreational Boating Access
- Red Snapper Anglers' Opinions on the Red Snapper Fishery and Fishing Regulations in the Gulf of Mexico
- ✓ Understanding First-Time Fishing License Buyers
- Freshwater and Saltwater Fishing Participation Among Alabama Residents

# Other Examples of Responsive Management's Angler Research



Sport
Fishing and
Boating
Partnership
Council



#### Strategic Plan

For the

# National Outreach and Communication Program

As required by the

Sportfishing and Boating Safety Act of 1998

Final Report — September 18, 1998





Bob Ditton



Mark Damian Duda



Tony Fedler

- Call for a national umbrella campaign focusing on taking people fishing
- Call for a focus on marketing to other outdoor recreationists and Hispanics
- The first in-depth look at churn
- The first call for email reminder campaigns

### THE FUTURE OF FISHING IN THE UNITED STATES: ASSESSMENT OF NEEDS TO INCREASE SPORT FISHING PARTICIPATION

PHASE V: FINAL REPORT
RECOMMENDATIONS AND STRATEGIES



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES
FEDERAL AID IN SPORT FISH RESTORATION
GRANT AGREEMENT 1448-98210-98-G048







CONDUCTED BY RESPONSIVE MANAGEMENT

PREI





The "Water Works Wonders" ad campaign appeals to those who say they want more time to relax and connect with friends and family.

At first blush, it is an evocative, heart-massaging campaign, its peaceful images and lyrical copy a welcome oasis on cluttered adscape of noisy product pitches. This is not mere happenstance. The RBFF, which did not respond to interview requests, took up its charge three years ago with an exhaustive battery of research into why people fish and why they don't do so more often. The number

of active anglers decreased from 35.6 million people aged 16 and older, to 35.2 million between 1991 and 1996, according to the Department of the Interior. While not a precipitous decline, it is ominous when compared lation through the 1980s.

In its own series of regional tele phone surveys conducted by Responsive Management, a research firm based in Harrisonburg, Virginia, the foundation discovered that 55 percent of past anglers cited time constraints ing. Of those, 69 percent cited wo ations as the locus of their who'd fished before, the point of dis-A nonprofit consortium of industry | connect almost informs the lure of angling. That is, amid our hectic schedules, we are primed for a muchneeded respite, if only we can find the

of ther research supported otion of fishing as disconnection Disorder. Who, after all, has time for richly photographed, idyllic images of reconnection with the private. between 70-hour work-weeks, two each other's heartfelt company. Diffe-ment's data and a 1980 U.S. Fish and

#### **A New Angle**

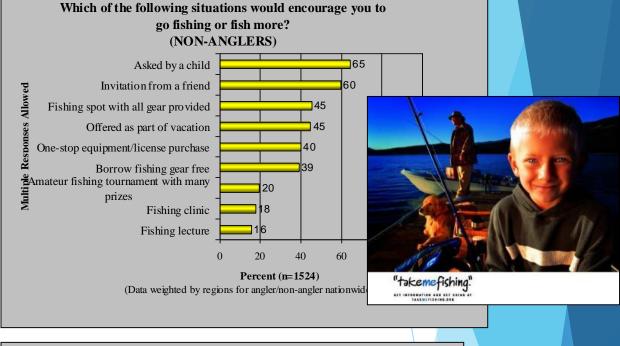
The Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation aims to reel in more anglers. Will the lure of the simpler pleasures hook them?

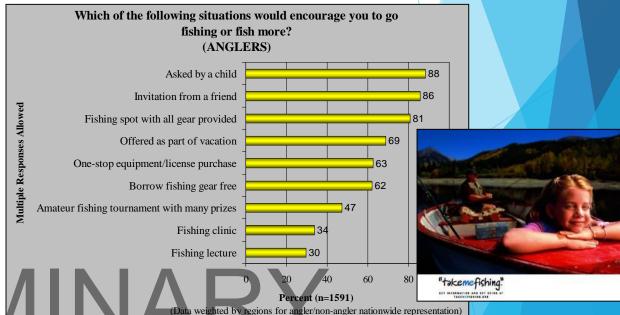
ment in a lazily drifting boat. It is one guable, self-sustaining rationale for of those sepia-hazy, dew-appointed the pitch of the new ad campaign of as the reason they had curtailed fishpastimes of that "simpler America" the Recreational Boating & Fishing that fewer and fewer people can Foundation (RBFF), in spite of the remember, of a rural republic vs. a difficult waters the organization is global empire. At very least, it is something your dad used to do.

Fishing seems an anachronism in encroachment into leisure hours, and careers per household, and children ent voices, young coming of age? How does such a rus- me fishing ...and make m tic notion strike a chord with a large- again," or "...l ly urban, techno-centric population | will be sooner than you the

t evokes images of Huck Finn, of | buffeted by dog-eat-dog lifestyles Andy and Opie ambling down to accessorized by the latest, hot est, the pond, and of stoic Midwest- hippest? And yet, the irony of this ern geezers biding their retire- setup is that it may provide an marattempting to navigate.

associations and government agencies, this one-button Internet-access, mul- the RBFF raised a few eyebrows this titasking world, where cell phones spring with its "Water Works Wonand laptops enable work's creeping ders" campaign. Introduced on bigticket national media, such as CBS's where two kids in every classroom are NCAA tournament coverage, the TV diagnosed with Attention Deficit component of the campaign offers, with our vocational lives in favor o such lazy, uncomplicated, Zen leisure people of all sizes and colors idling in According to Responsive Manage-





### **National Fishing Trends**

#### **National Fishing Trends**



#### **2016 National Survey:**

 Overall fishing participation increased 8% between 2011 and 2016, from 33.1 million anglers to 35.8 million in 2016



#### **2018 RBFF / Outdoor Foundation Report:**

 In 2017, 16.5% of the U.S. population went fishing at least once, up 0.4% since 2016 and the highest participation rate since 2009

# Determining Actionable Strategies for Angler R3



Grant number F18AP00165







#### **Study Objectives**

- Determine how fishing can stay relevant in a changing society
- Determine how changing demographics and new technologies impact the ability of agencies to recruit, retain, and reactivate anglers

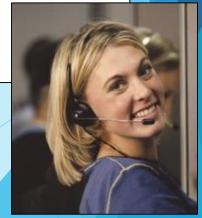


#### Project Methodology at a Glance

- Scientific telephone survey and supplemental online survey of U.S. residents
- Focus groups with U.S. residents
- Focus groups with R3 professionals
- Comprehensive final report with implications based on data

#### 1018 Multistate Conservation Grant Program Grant Proposal Executive Summary Project Title: Determining Actionable Strategies for Angler R3 Full Legal Name of Organization: Recreational Booting and Fishing Foundation Annheart Classification: Noneovernmental organization Nongovernmental Organization Classification (if applicable): 901(c)(3) Lead Applicant's Contact Information: President CEO 4. Alexandria, UA, 22314 Name and Affiliation of Co. Investigatoris) (Partner(s) (if applicable): Dave Chanda Percent SFR: 100% State Benefit Requirement: 1\_1\_ b\_\_\_ Primary National Conservation Need (NCN) Addressed: NCN 9, Outdoor Haritage Participation, recruitment, retention and reactivation in hunting, fishing boating, and conservation-related recreational activities; enhanced relations among state





#### **Quantitative Methodology**

- Surveys quantified interest and participation in fishing;
   barriers and constraints; opinions on various messages and
   R3 strategies; sources of information on fishing; and more
- Scientific telephone survey of U.S. residents
  - √ n=2,800 (700 per AFWA region)
  - ✓ Landlines and wireless phones called in proper proportions
  - ✓ Random sample of residents included various segments of anglers (avid, sporadic, lapsed, ex, and non-anglers)
- Supplemental online survey
  - ✓ Conducted specifically to oversample underserved minority populations
  - √ n=1,500 (500 African-Americans, 500 Latinos, and 500 Asian-Americans)





#### **Qualitative Methodology**

- Focus groups will explore survey findings in depth and produce new insights through open-ended discussions
- Six focus groups with American adults to be conducted throughout the AFWA regions

√ Chicago: Young adults / millennials (January 28)

√ Houston: Latino families (January 28)

✓ Austin: Latino families (January 29)

√ Tampa: Latinos (January 31)

✓ Seattle: Active adults (January 31)

√ VA Beach: TBD



✓ To be conducted via conference calls or at regional meetings and conferences during 2019





#### **Comprehensive Final Report**





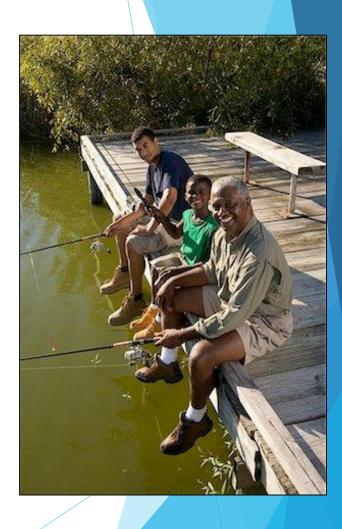
- Data to result in actionable R3 strategies for agencies and industry groups moving forward
- Findings will address national demographic changes and how R3 should consider cultural, social, and resource-based barriers

**Final Report** 

1 mile

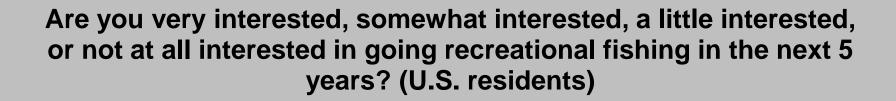
#### **Overview of Survey Topics**

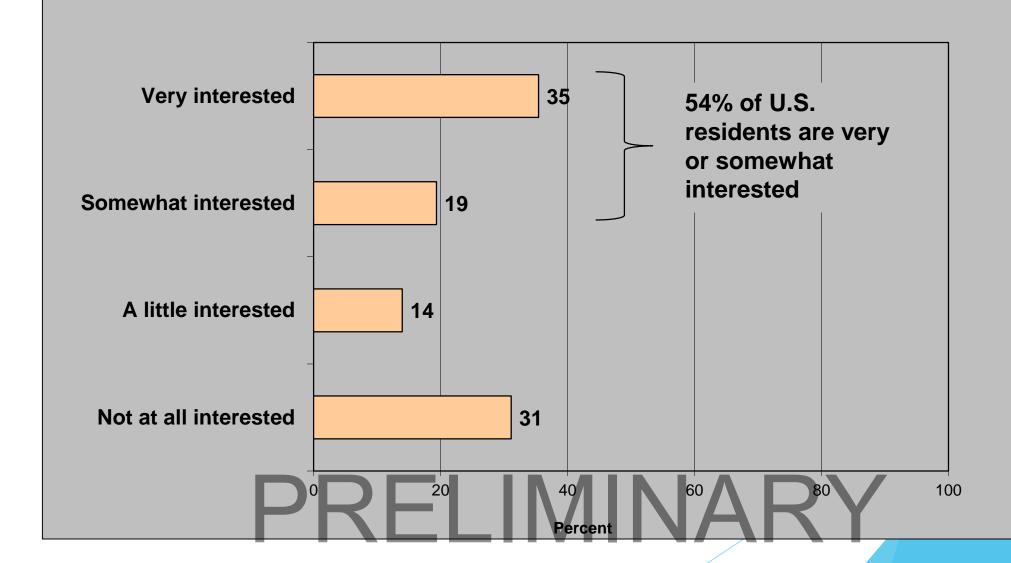
- Participation in Fishing
- Fishing as an Adult and as a Child
- Years Fished / Current Fishing Status
- Interest in Fishing
- Fishing Knowledge
- Motivations for Fishing and Encouragements for Participation in Fishing
- Constraints to Fishing Participation
- Fishing License Purchasing
- Hearing and Seeing Information About Fishing
- Familiarity With and Use of Various Websites, Including the State Fish and Wildlife Agency Site
- Outreach and Sources of Information
- Purchase of Fishing Equipment, Including Factors in Making Purchasing Decisions

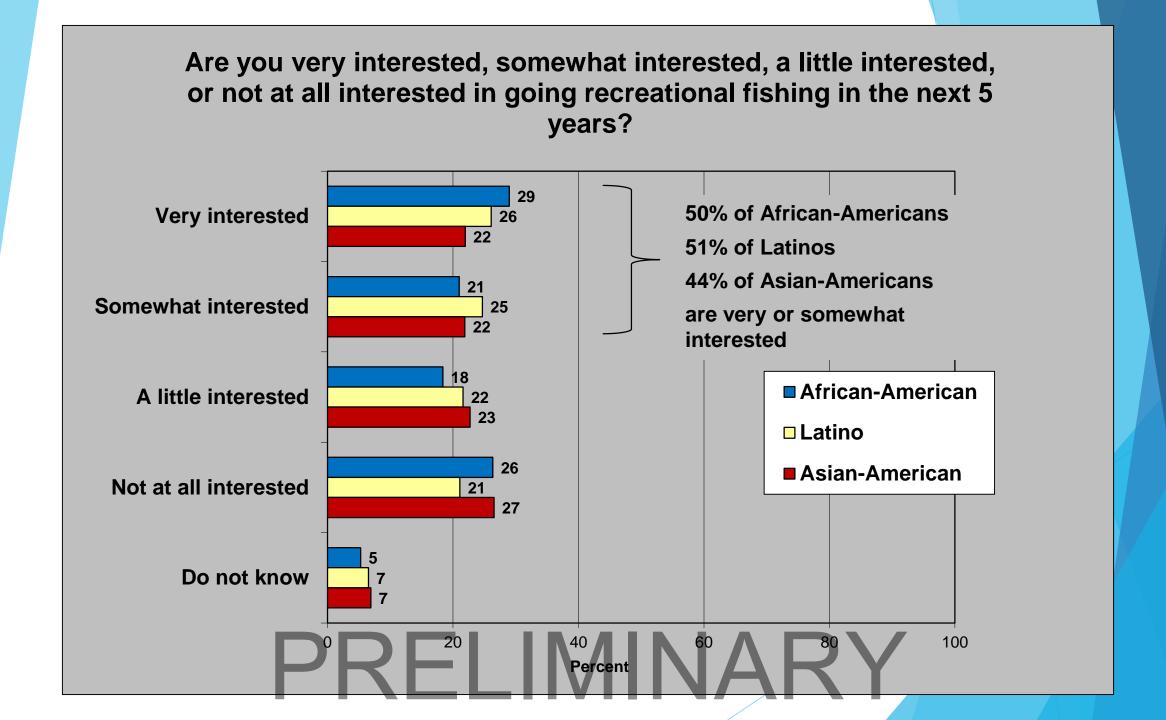


### **Major Findings**

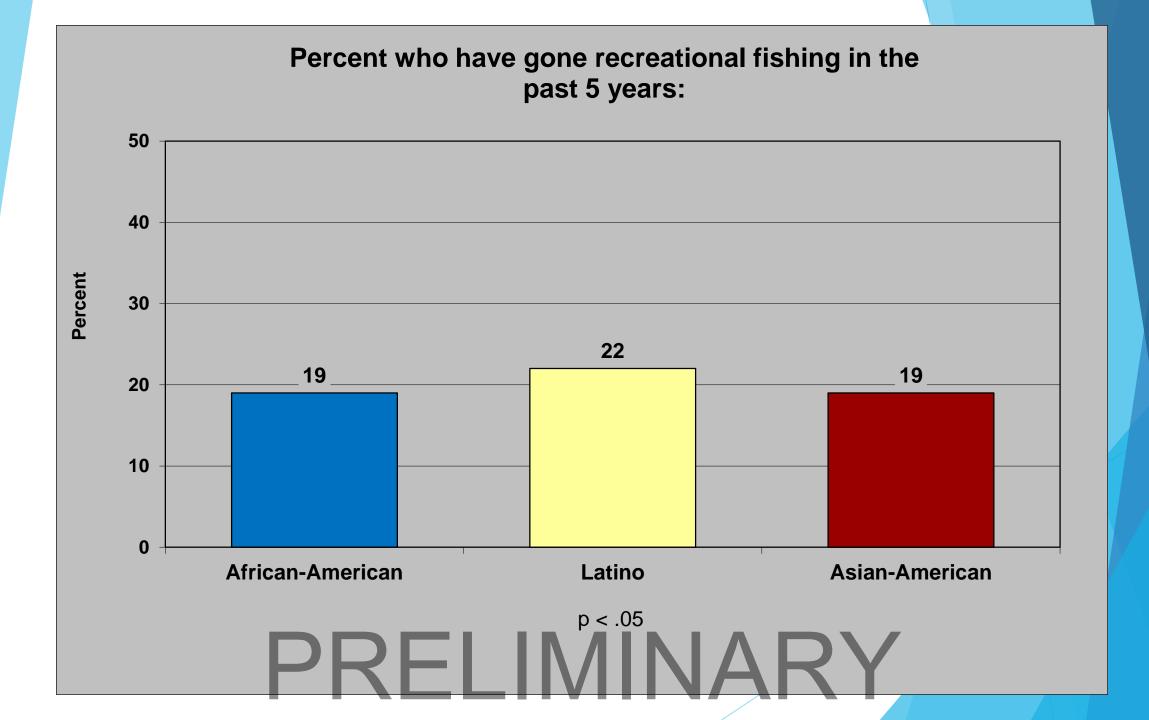
# How interested are Americans in fishing in the next 5 years?







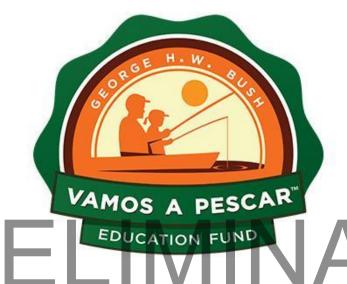
# What percentages of African-Americans, Latinos, and Asian-Americans have fished in the past 5 years?













#### **Responsive Management Report**



Specializing in Survey Research on Natural Resource and Outdoor Recreation Issues

#### Targeted Marketing Approach Paves Way for \$1.7 Million Increase in Washington State Fishing License Revenue

Doughly five years worth of Cmarketing and applied research conducted by Responsive Management for the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW or the Department) has begun to yield dramatic increases in fishing participation in the state. A targeted marketing approach. based on an analysis of license sales and demographic trends as well as the findings of several scientific telephone surveys and focus groups, has helped WDFW create enough anglers to increase sales of its freshwater fishing licenses by 9%, its temporary licenses by 16%, and its combination licenses by 28%. Overall revenue from fishing license sales in Washington is up \$1.7 million. These encouraging results demonstrate that, when implemented correctly, high-quality, scientific statespecific research helps agencies not only to better understand and serve Fish Program. constituents but to bolster the stability of the organization as well.

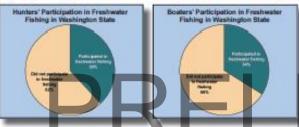




All photos provided by WDFW

fishing participation in the state. The

initial step in the process was the key target markets (first-time buyers, creation of a comprehensive marketing urban residents, sporadic license plan, which identified the opportunities buyers, women, youth, etc.) to assist and challenges then facing the WDFW WDFW in better understanding its constituencies. In addition to the analysis of state demographic trends. One of the chief purposes of the the initial marketing plan provided plan was to determine how to market an in-depth assessment of historical In 2009, Responsive Management fishing to the needs and desires of fishing participation and license partnered with WDFW and established a Washington residents—this meant sales in the state. The plan also long-term goal of increasing freshwater exploring demographic trends within incorporated research examining the



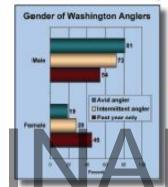


impact of changes in license fees on workshops with WDFW personnel, fishing participation and the results of reviewed research offering insights into previously implemented marketing successful elements of WDFW's past Experience." and promotional efforts focusing communications efforts, and identified on fishing. The marketing

plan resulted in a series of increasing freshwater fishing participation and related license sales in Washington State

In 2011. Responsive Management worked with Jodi Valenta of Mile Creek

by developing a larger-scale effort to provide strategic direction to WDFW's Inland Fisheries Program. During this phase, Responsive Management a goal of increasing fishing conducted various marketing participation among specific



These encouraging results communications strategies and ourself that, when implemented the agency took following correctly, high-quality, scientific state-specific research helps agencies "To put it in context, our not only to better understand and serve constituents but to bolster the stability of the organization as well.

Communications to further build on related challenges, barriers, and best the recommendations in the 2009 plan practices for future outreach and marketing.

The marketing plan set

target markets within active.

occasional, and lapsed angler

groups. In addition, one of

the most important

recommendations to

come out of the 2011

phase of research

was a strategy to focus

WDFW freshwater fishing communications and outreach

Chris Donley, WDFW inland fish program manager, the marketing research. fishing license sales were flat in 2009 and 2010. We implemented some changes with the way we stocked fish and then promoted it through the marketing plan that Responsive Management developed, targeting the right audiences: intermittent anglers, boaters, campers, hunters. There were a number of different promotions: stocking fish and promoting it over Father's Day, doing splash landing pages and targeted emails to intermittent anglers, and reaching out to nontraditional media outlets instead of just the sportsmen's

efforts on other outdoor recreation groups. For example, a 2007 survey conducted as part of the Washington State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan found that only 26% of Washington campers and 38% of Washington hunters participated in freshwater fishing. At the same time, the data also indicated that those with a preexisting interest in relevant outdoor recreation (such as camping and hunting) would be among the most

likely groups to begin participating in

To build on the concept of engaging outdoor recreationists who were

not active freshwater anglers, the researchers recommended a marketing

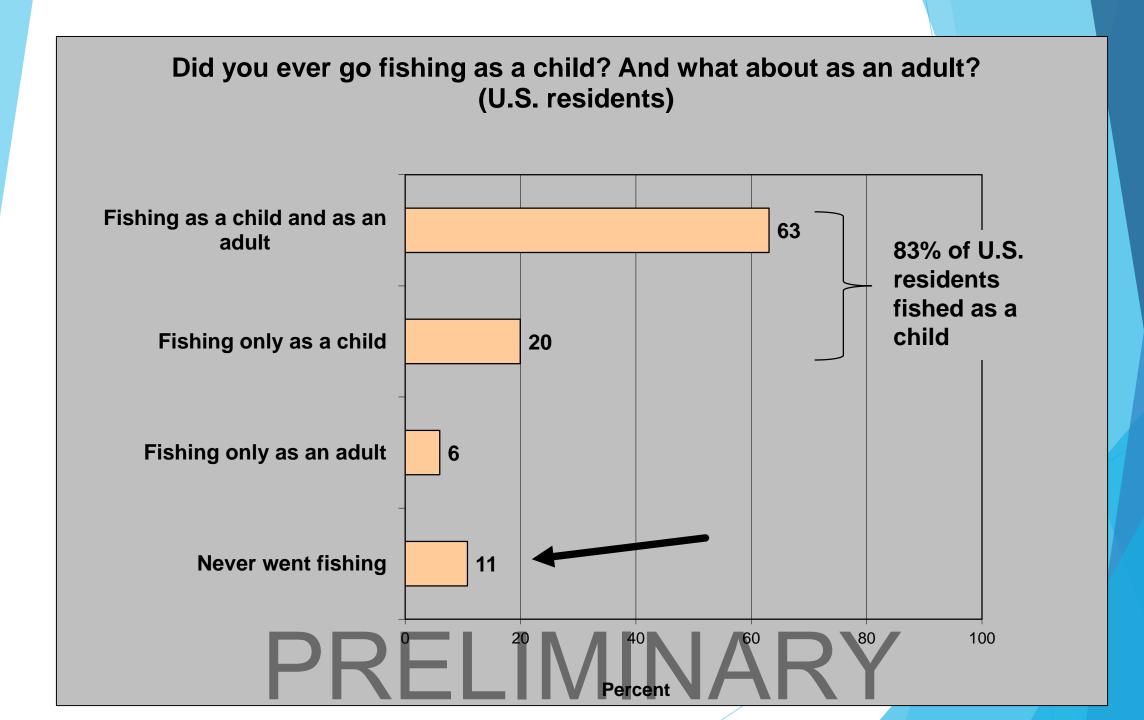
theme based on the message, "Fish

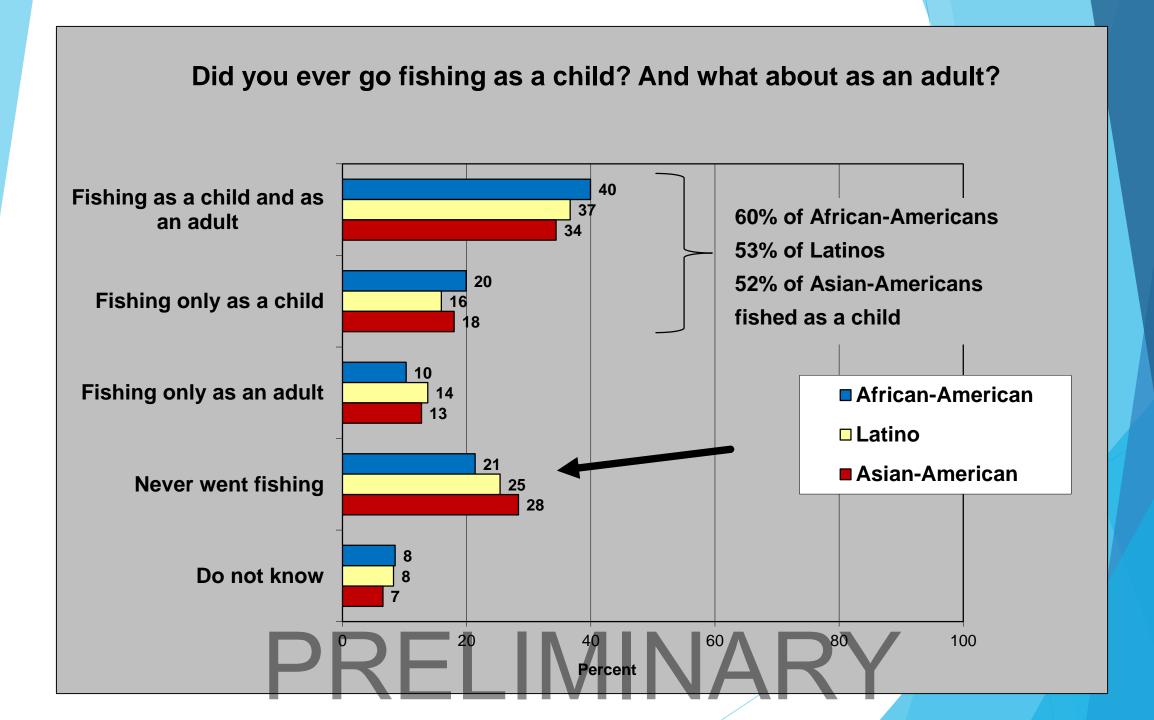
Washington-Expand Your Outdoor

freshwater fishing

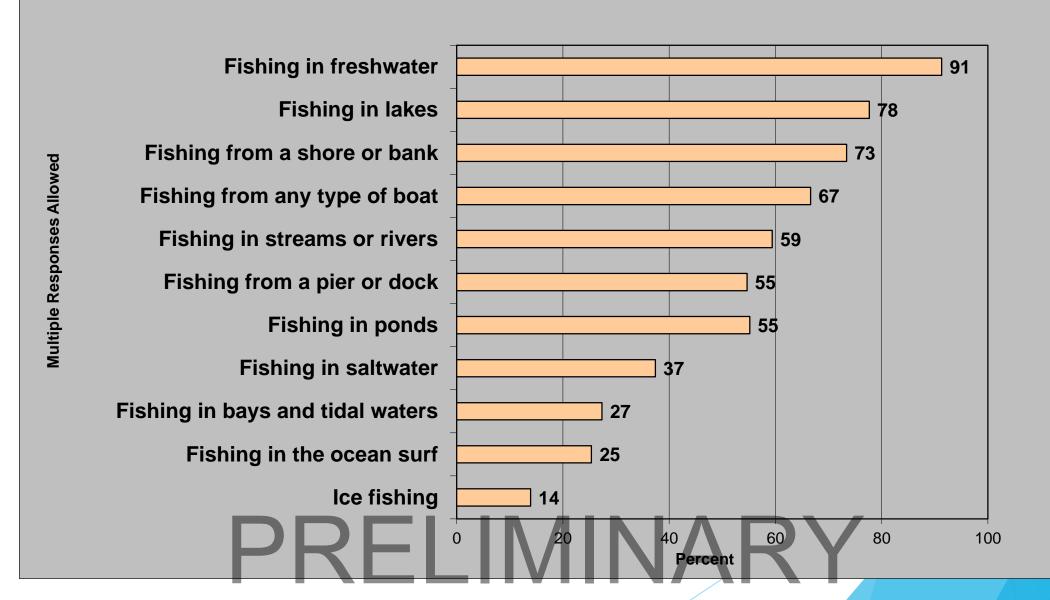
magazines."

# How does fishing participation as a child compare with fishing participation as an adult?

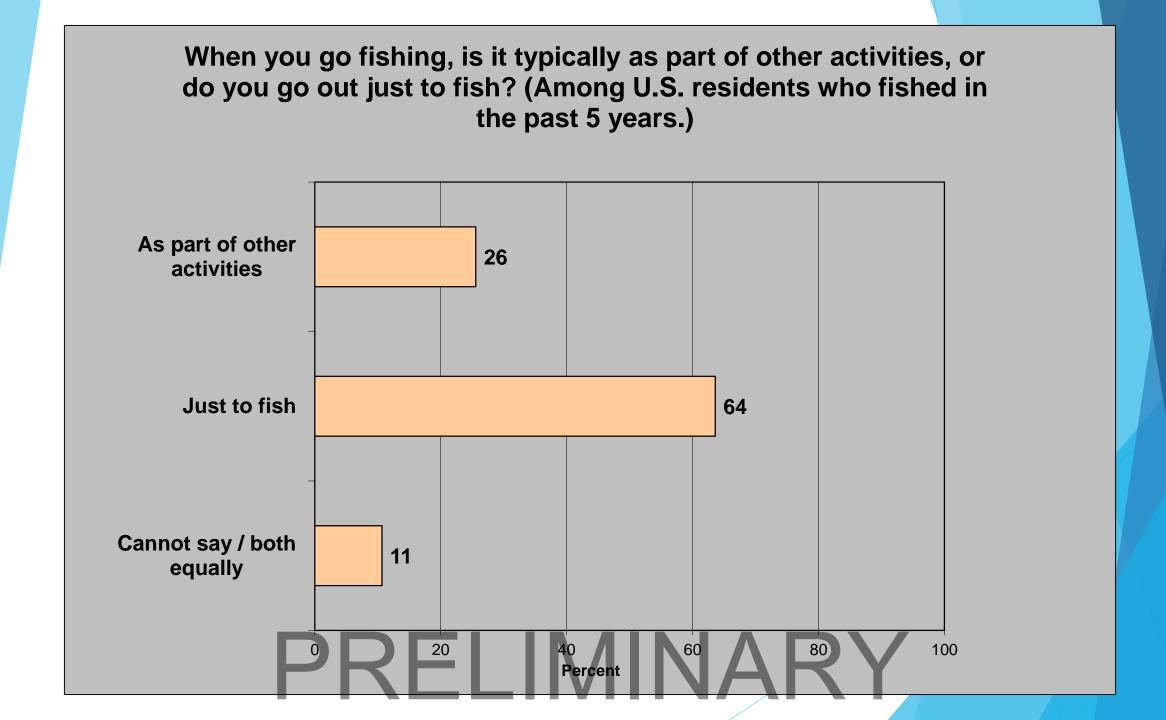




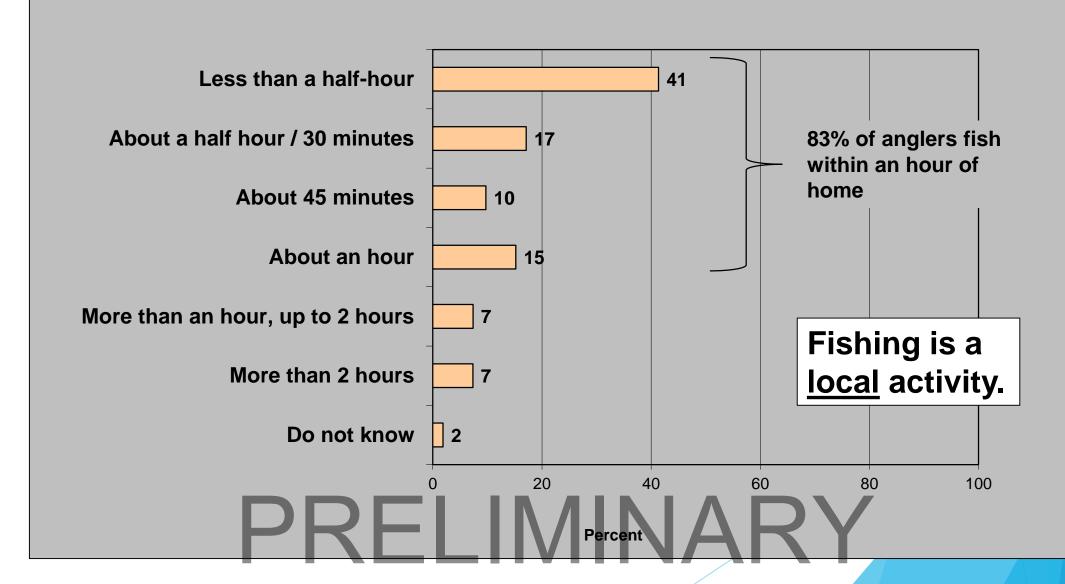
# What types of fishing are Americans doing most?



What does a typical fishing trip look like?

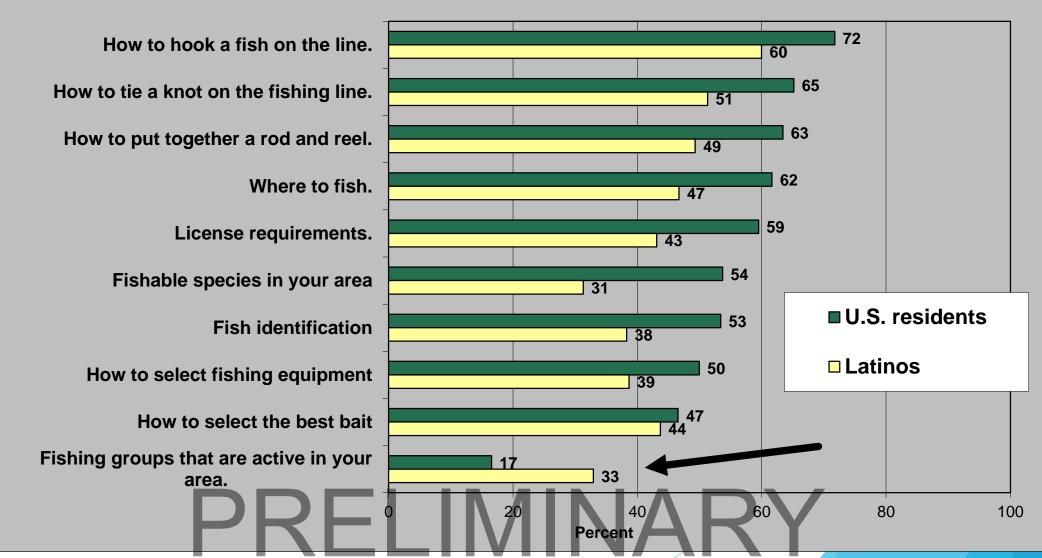


#### How long does it take to get to your typical fishing spots? (Among U.S. residents who fished in the past 5 years.)

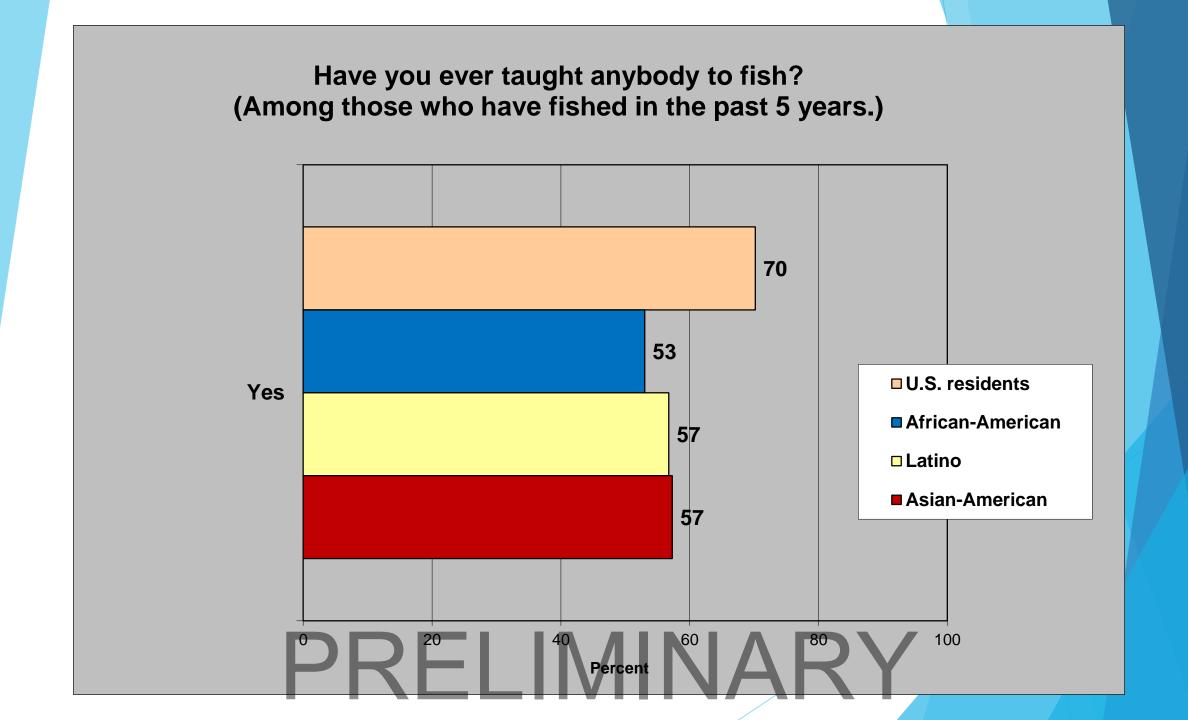


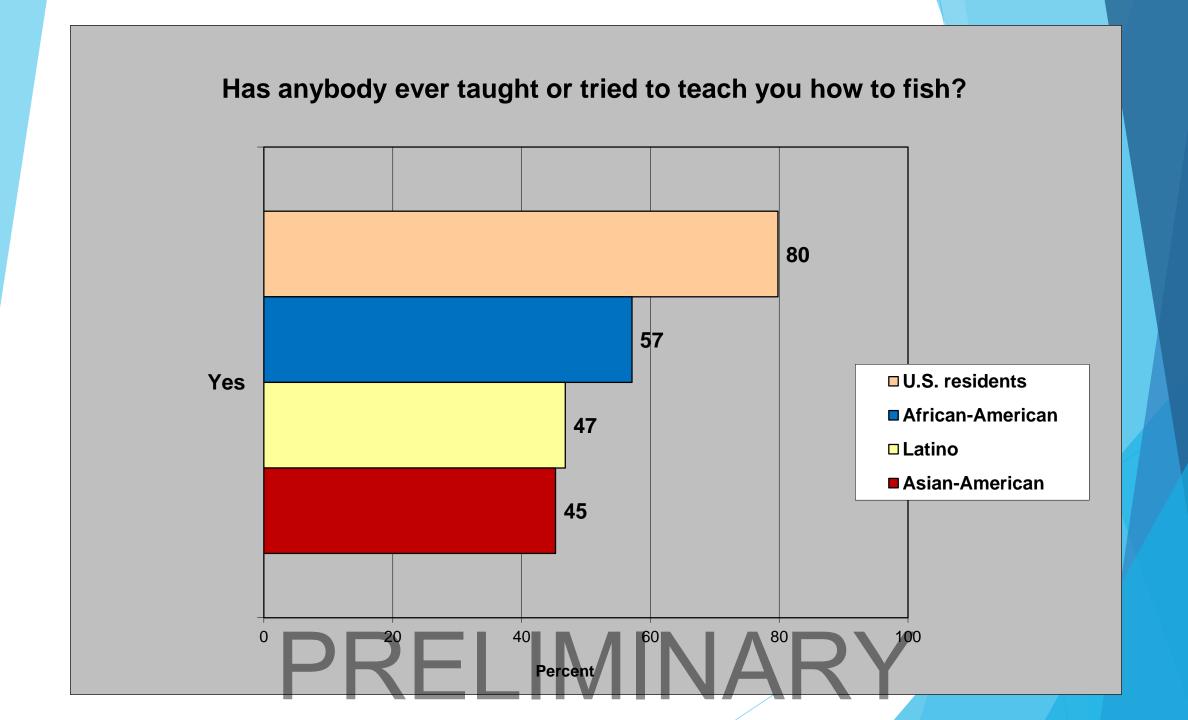
# What aspects of fishing are people most knowledgeable about?

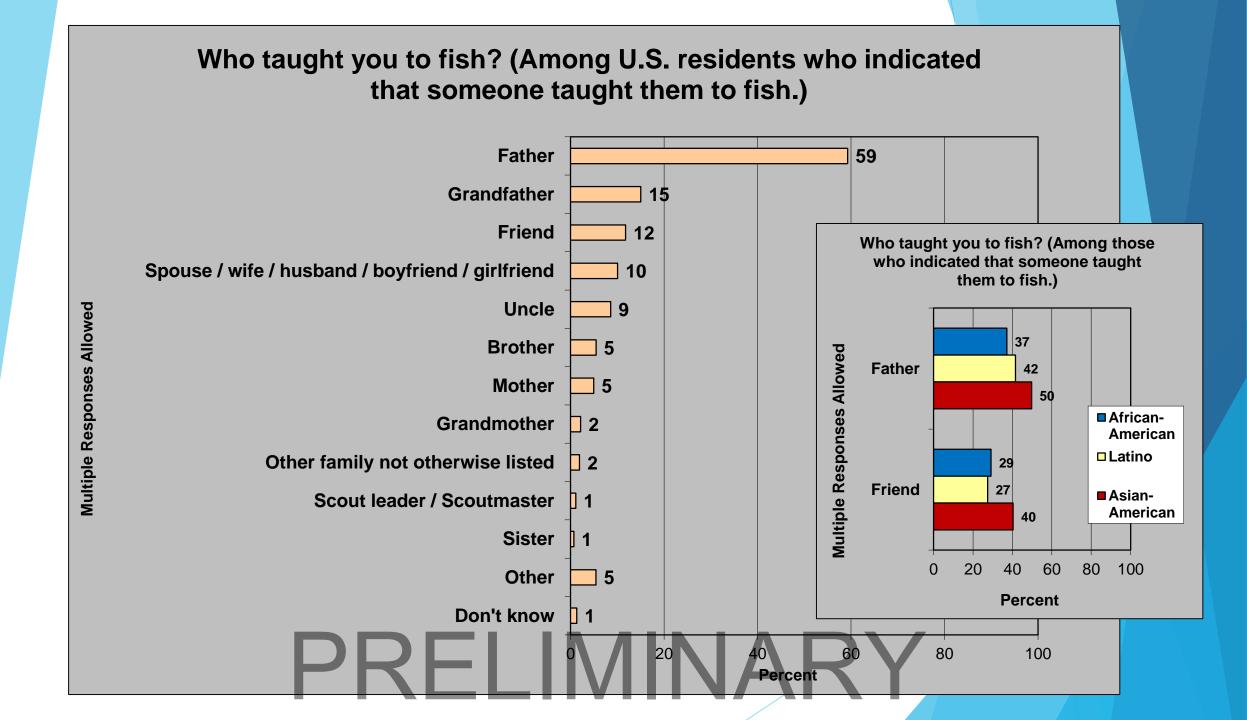
# Percent of those who have ever fished who indicated being very knowledgeable or somewhat knowledgeable about each of the following:



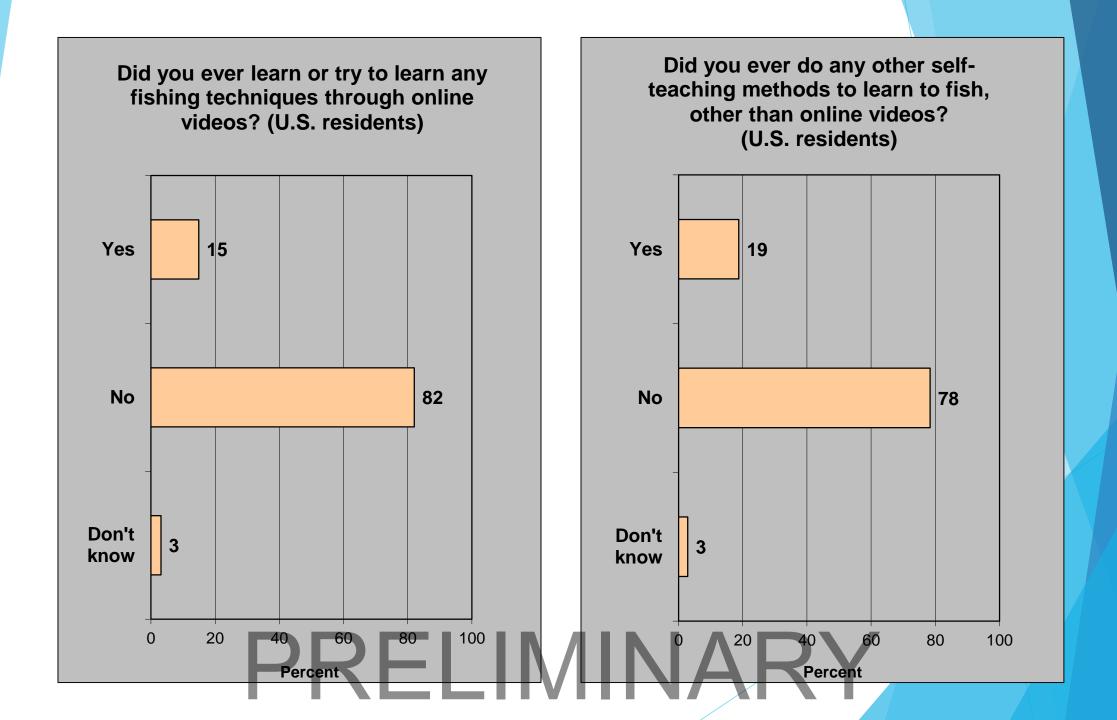
## How common is mentoring when it comes to fishing?





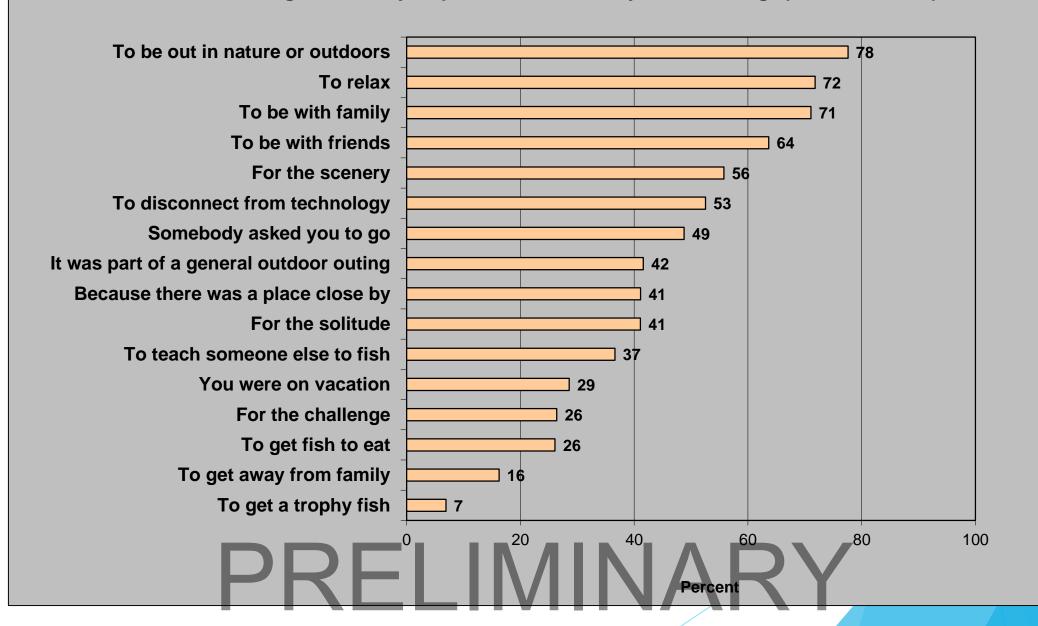


## How common is self-instruction when it comes to fishing?



## What are the most important motivations for going fishing?

Among those who fished in the past 5 years, the percent who indicated that each of the following was a very important reason they went fishing. (U.S. residents)





### Top Motivations for Going Fishing Among...

#### **African-Americans:**

- To relax
- For the scenery
- To get away from family
- To be out in nature or outdoors

#### **Asian-Americans:**

- To be out in nature or outdoors
- To be with family
- To be with friends
- To relax

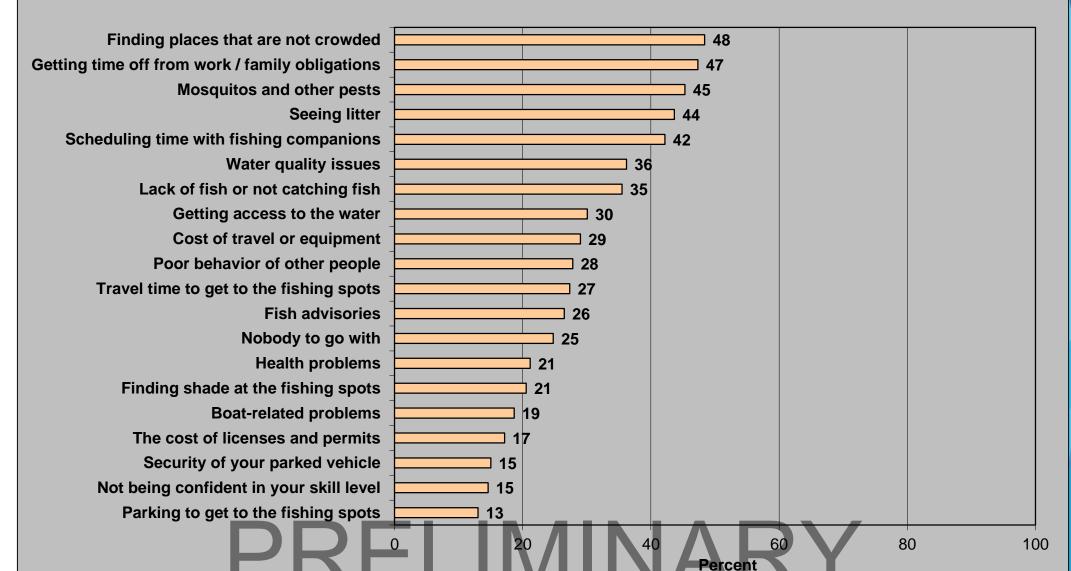
#### Latinos:

- To be with family
- To be out in nature or outdoors
- To relax



What are the most important things taking away from anglers' enjoyment of fishing?

### Fishing dissatisfactions among those who fished in the past 5 years: (U.S. residents)



### **Top Dissatisfactions Among...**

#### **African-Americans:**

- Finding places that are not crowded
- Water quality issues
- Nobody to go with
- Seeing litter

#### **Asian-Americans:**

- Finding places that are not crowded
- Seeing litter
- Lack of fish / not catching fish
- Mosquitos and other pests

#### Latinos:

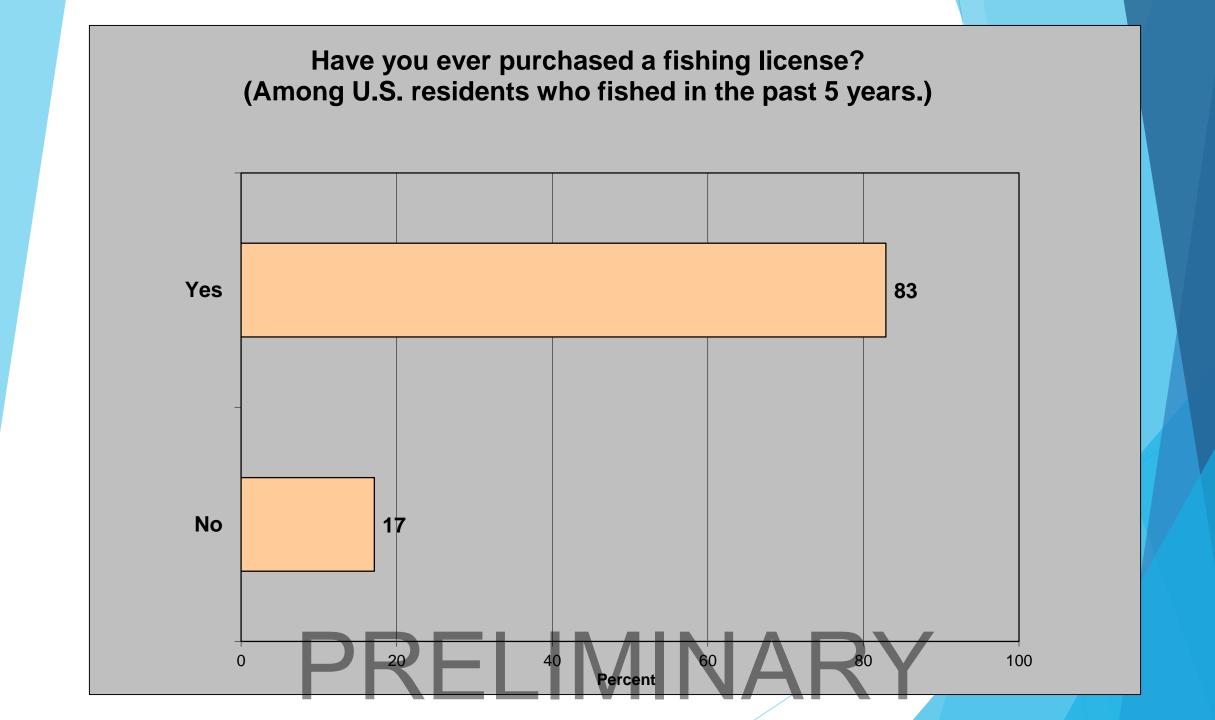
- Lack of fish / not catching fish
- Mosquitos and other pests
- Poor behavior of other people
- Getting time off from work / family obligations

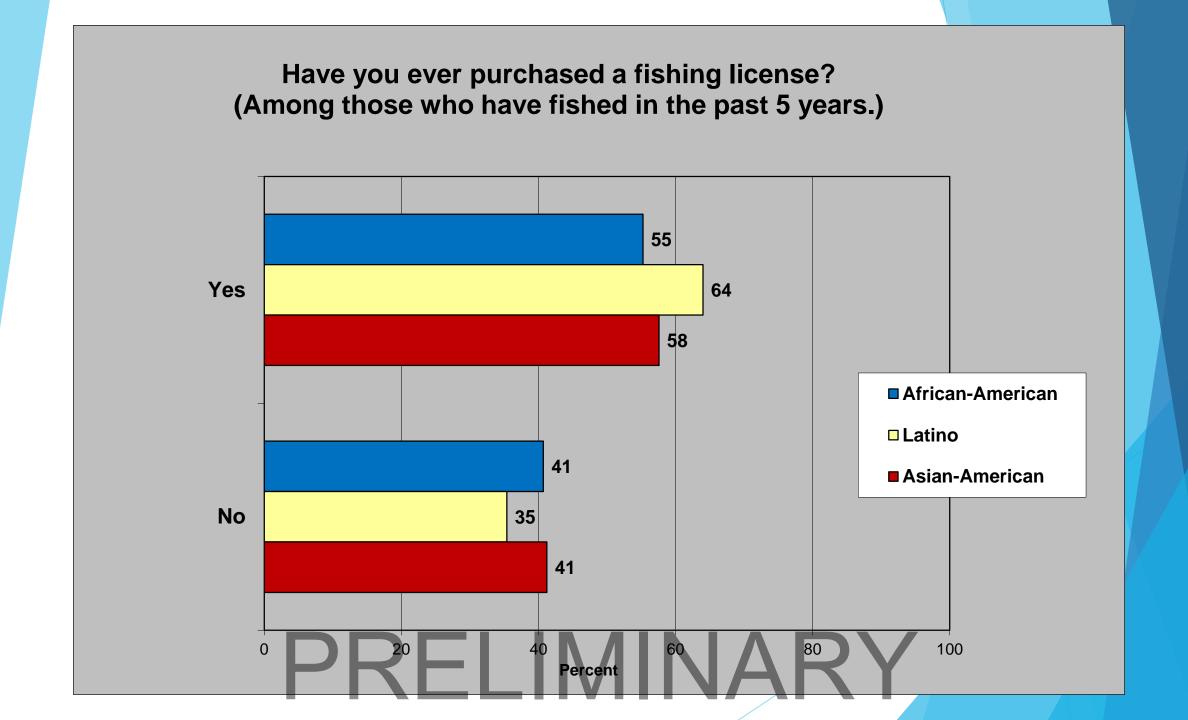
### Lapsed Anglers (fished in past 10 years but not in past 5):

- Health problems
- Mosquitos and other pests
- Getting time off from work / family obligations



## Is it possible that some anglers have never purchased a fishing license?

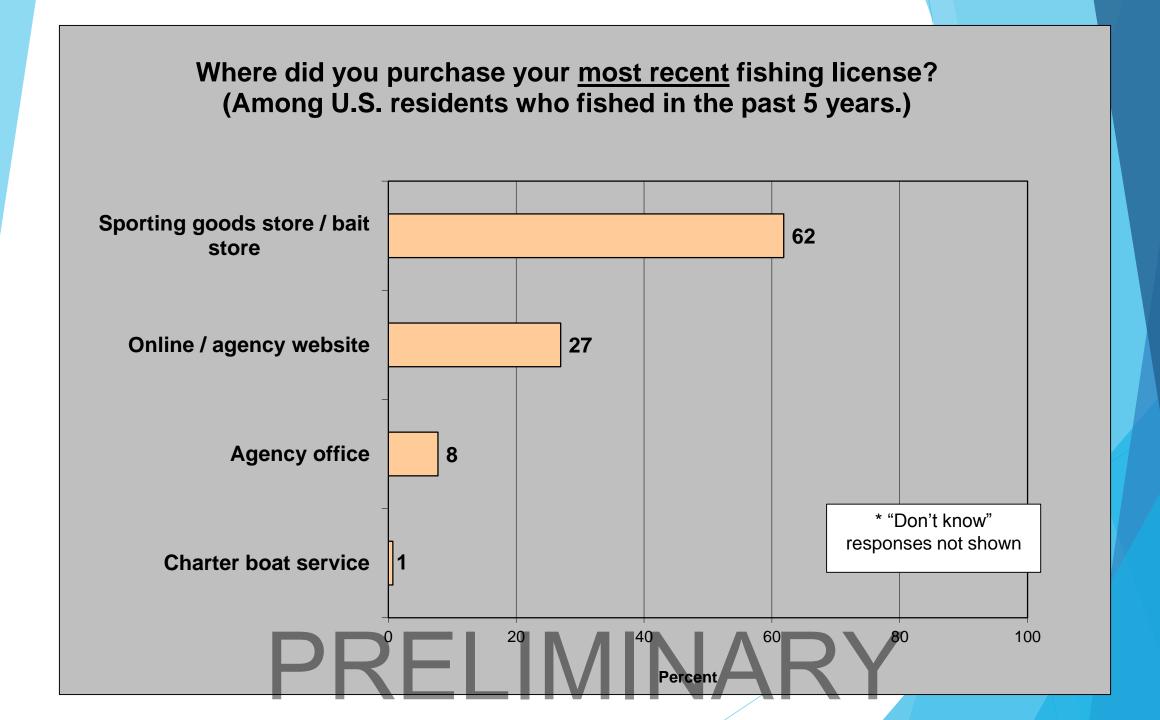




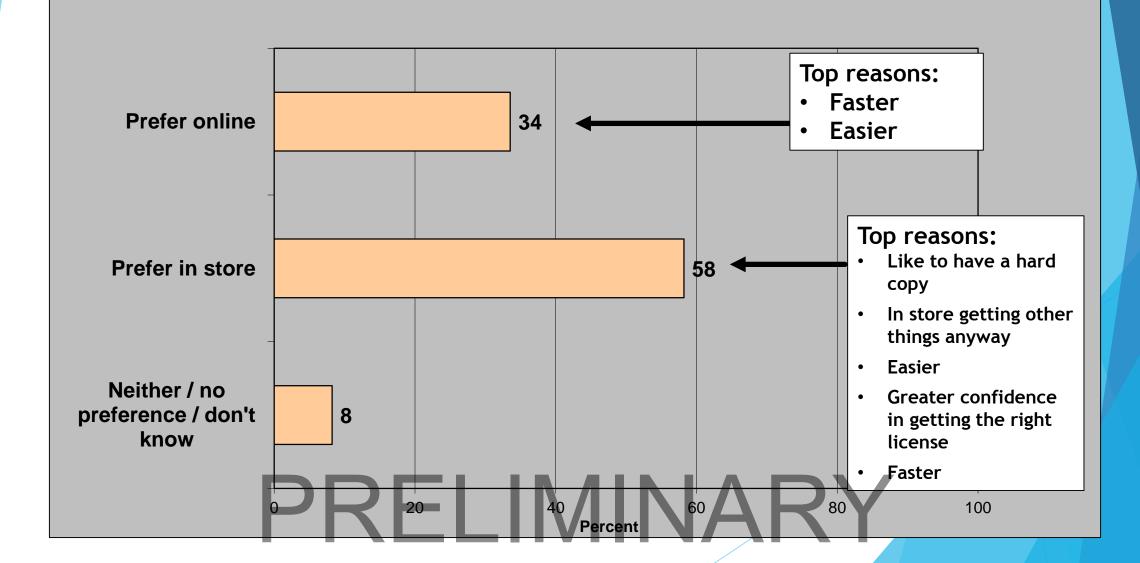
## How are anglers purchasing their licenses?

How do they *prefer* to purchase their licenses?



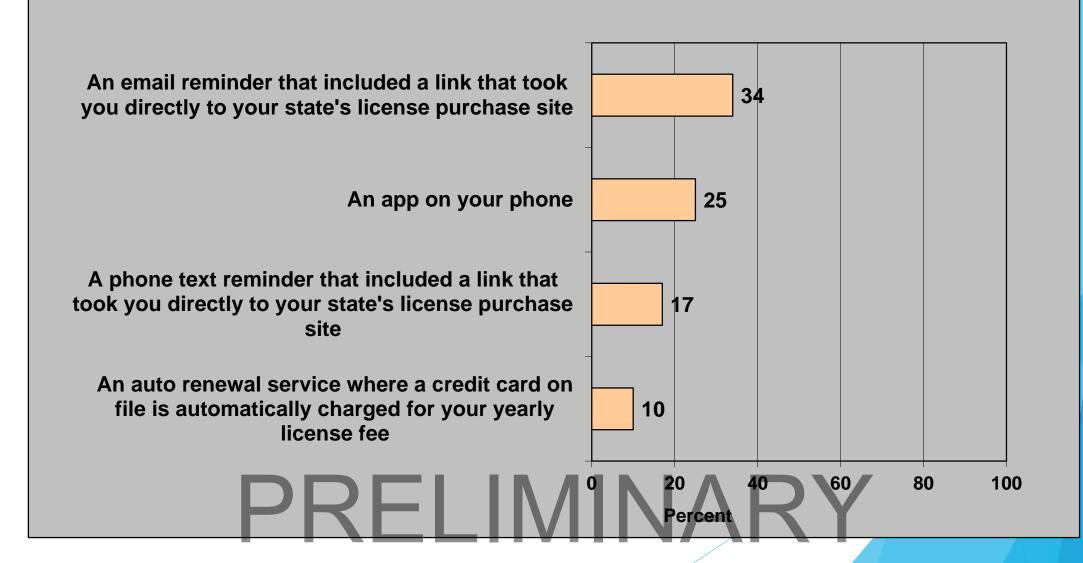






# Which technologies are anglers most likely to use to renew their licenses or get information on fishing?

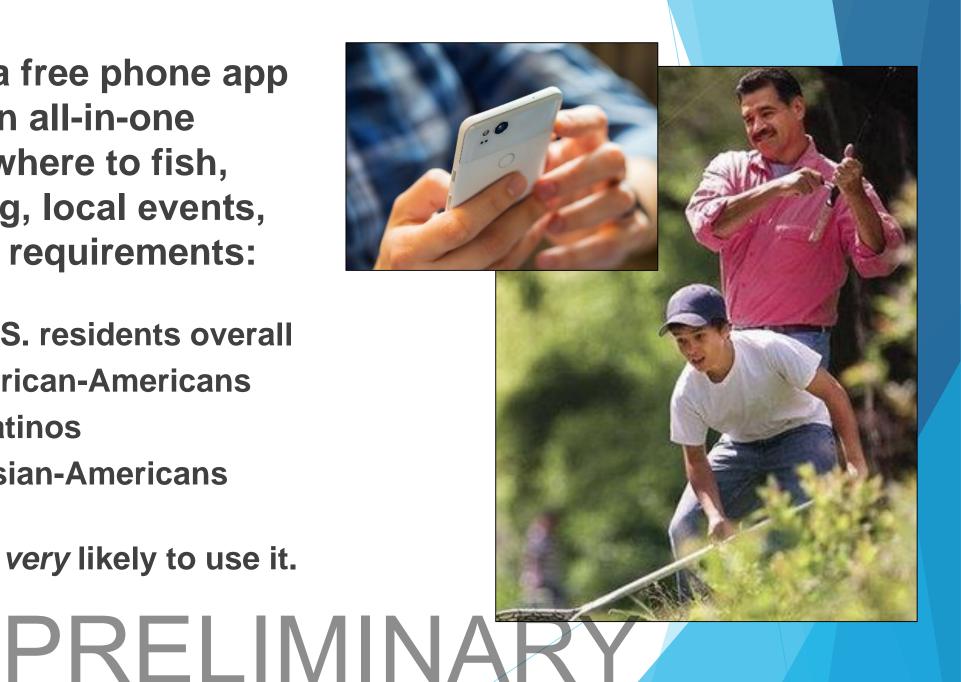
## Percent who would be very likely to use each of the following to renew their license: (Among U.S. residents who fished in the past 5 years.)



Regarding a free phone app providing an all-in-one source for where to fish, what's biting, local events, and license requirements:

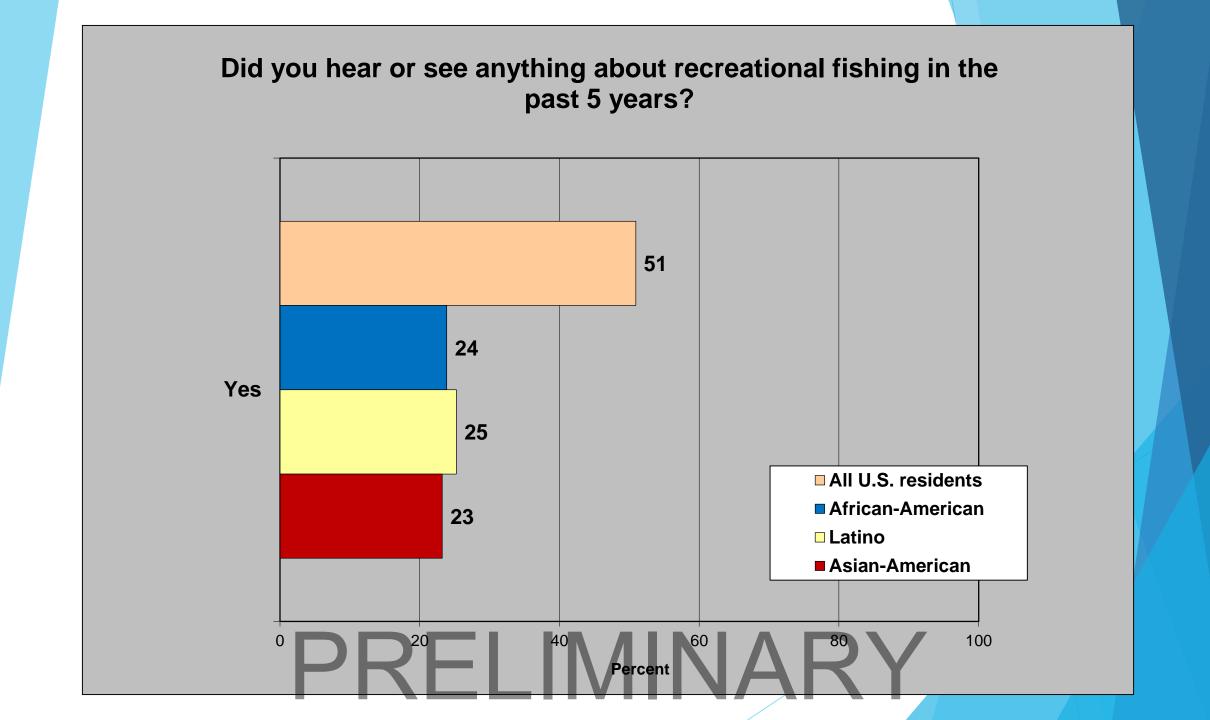
- 20% of U.S. residents overall
- 25% of African-Americans
- 25% of Latinos
- 20% of Asian-Americans

would be very likely to use it.

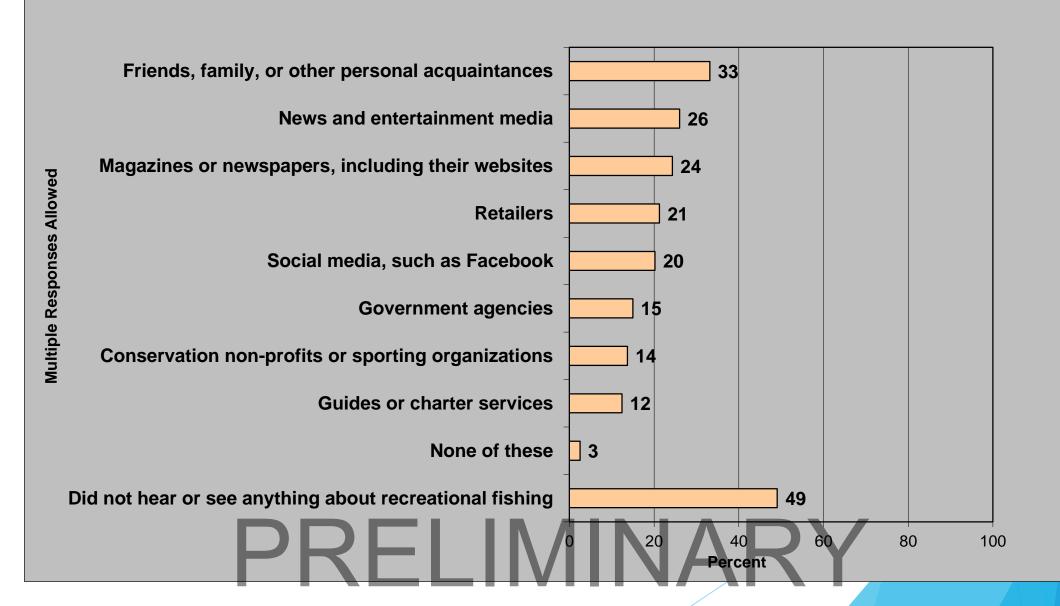


## Are people seeing and hearing much about recreational fishing?

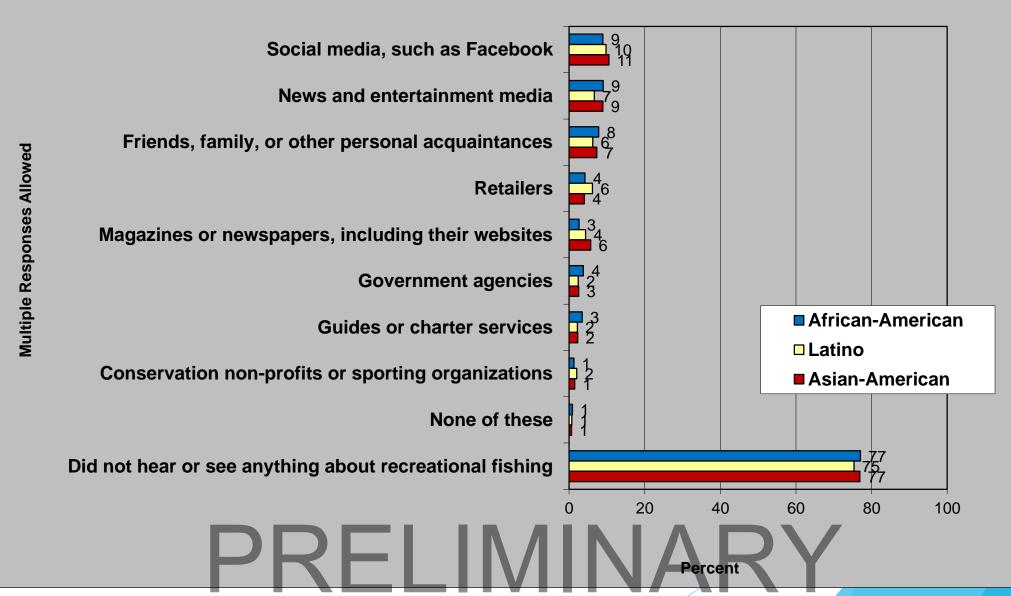
Where are they seeing and hearing it?



### Please tell me if you saw or heard anything about recreational fishing from the following in the past 5 years. (U.S. residents)

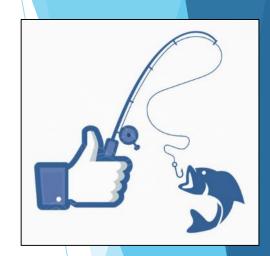


### Please tell me if you saw or heard anything about recreational fishing from the following in the past 5 years.



### **Social Media**

- Facebook is by far the most common social media source on fishing, followed by YouTube and Instagram
  - Latinos in particular heard/saw from Instagram
  - Asian-Americans in particular heard/saw from YouTube
  - Most information about fishing on social media is positive
- Among those who heard/saw info about fishing on social media, about a quarter follow their state fish and wildlife agency on Facebook









### **News and Entertainment Media**

- The most common news/entertainment media sources on fishing include the 4 major networks, the Discovery Channel, PBS, CNN, the Travel Channel, ESPN, and the History Channel
  - Asian-Americans in particular heard/saw from the Discovery Channel, CNN, and the Travel Channel
  - African-Americans in particular heard/saw from ABC and CBS
  - Most information about fishing in the news and entertainment media is positive







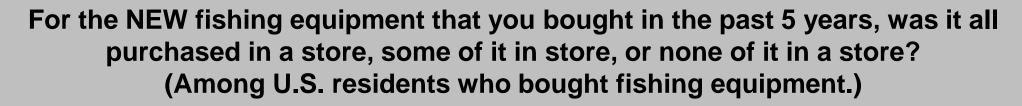
30% of U.S. residents purchased fishing equipment in the past 5 years.

Are people buying new or used gear?

Where are they buying it?

What factors influence their purchasing decisions?







### Top Factors Influencing Purchases Among...

#### **U.S.** Residents:

- Recommendations from friends or family
- Ease of using the website
- Customer reviews

#### Latinos:

- Ease of using the website
- Recommendations from friends or family
- Method of payment on the website
- Help from sales associates

#### **African-Americans:**

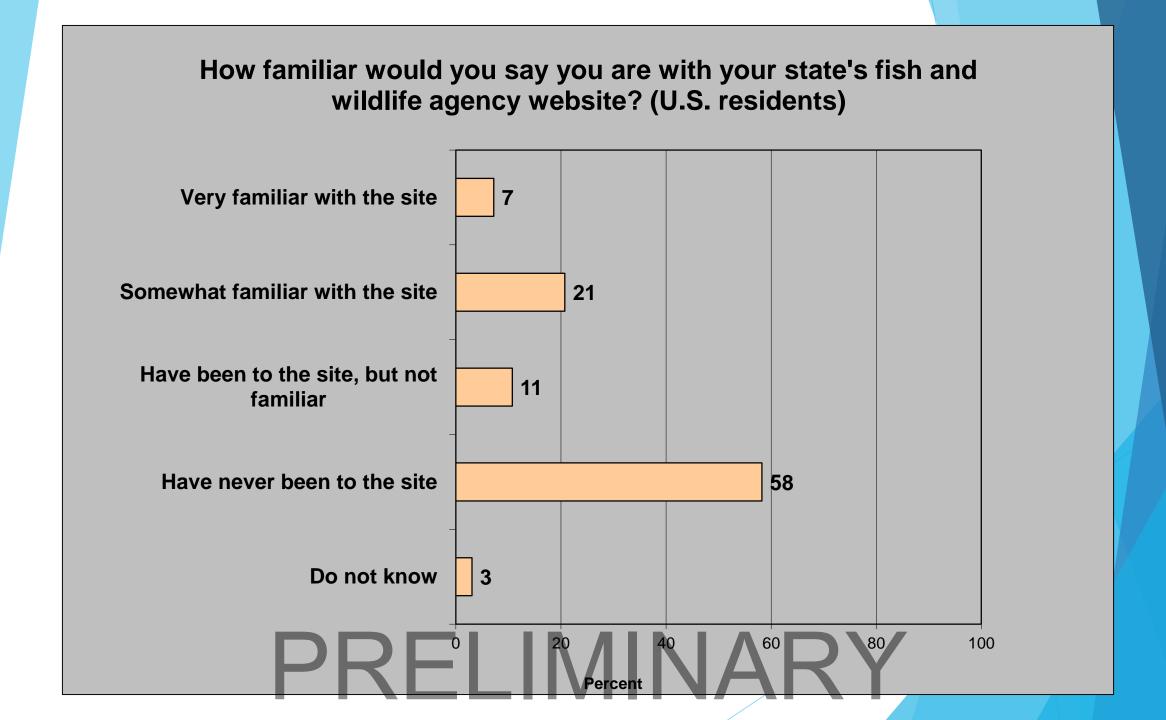
- Help from sales associates
- Internet other than customer reviews
- Customer reviews

#### **Asian-Americans:**

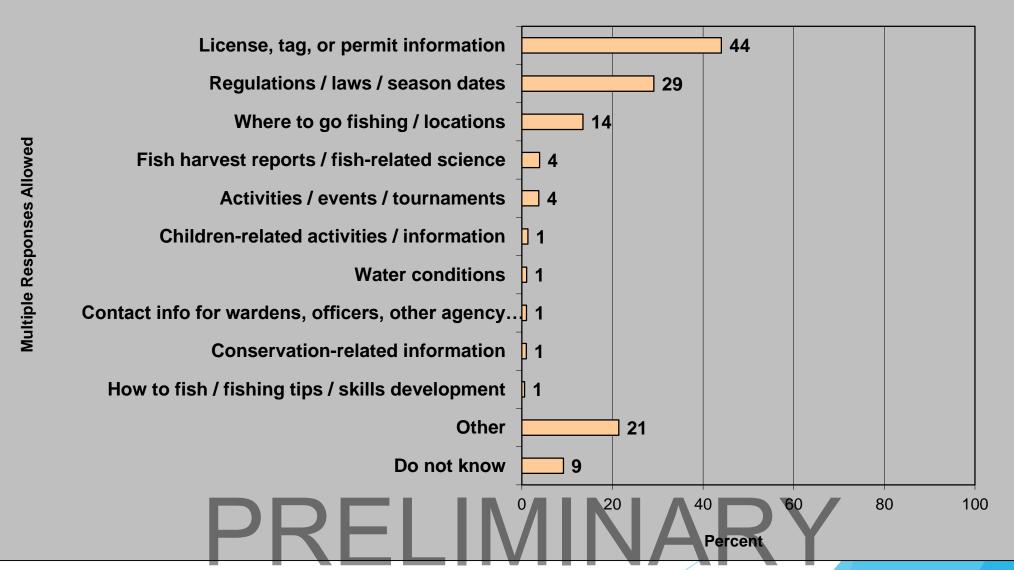
- Customer reviews
- Help from sales associates
- Method of payment
   on the website



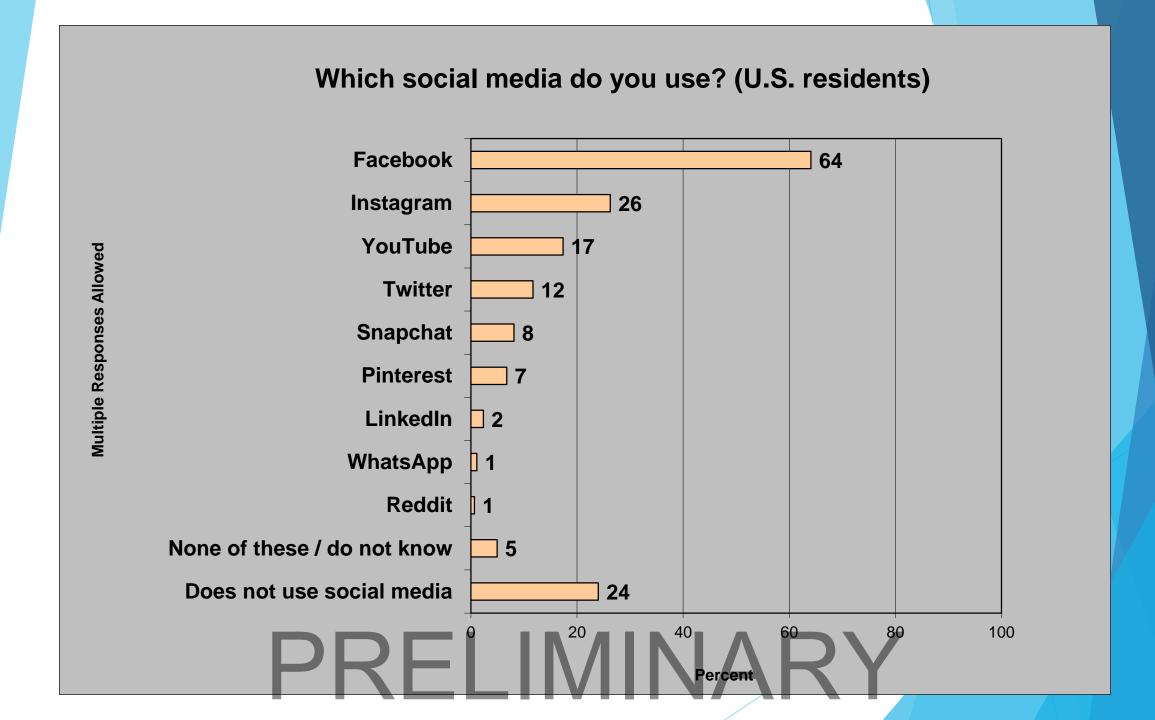
## Are people using state fish and wildlife agency websites?



## What type of information were you looking for on the agency's website? (Among U.S. residents who visited their state's fish and wildlife agency website.)



## What are the most popular social media platforms today?



### Which social media do you use? **Facebook** YouTube Instagram **Twitter Snapchat Pinterest Multiple Responses Allowed** WhatsApp LinkedIn Reddit ■ African-American Tumblr ■ Latino Flickr ■ Asian-American None of these / do not know Does not use social media 24 20 40 60 80 100

### **Next Steps**

### **Next Steps**

- Focus groups to explore survey findings in depth and collect additional data
- Six focus groups with American adults to be conducted throughout the AFWA regions
- Four focus groups with agency R3 specialists
  - ✓ Responsive Management staff to listen in and review notes from this afternoon's group huddle discussions
  - ✓ Discussions and results from the huddles will help RM develop the agency discussion guide
  - √ Focus groups with R3 specialists will build on many of the topics discussed this afternoon







Tom Beppler, Senior Research
Associate, Responsive Management

