## FISHING PARTICIPATION, ICE FISHING, PEOPLE FISHED WITH, AND LOCATIONS OF FISHING Initiation into Fishing

$>$ A majority of licensed anglers were introduced to fishing by their father, distantly followed by friend/coworker. A large majority of licensed anglers were 15 years old or younger when they were introduced to fishing.

- $58 \%$ were introduced to fishing by their father, and $13 \%$ were introduced by a friend/coworker.
- $86 \%$ were 15 years of age or younger when introduced to the sport, with $74 \%$ being 10 years or younger.

Q136. Who first introduced you to fishing?


## Q138. What age were you when you first started fishing?



## Motivations for Fishing

$>$ Catching fish was not a great motivation to go fishing; instead, relaxation, for the sport, to be with friends and family, and to be close to nature were the top reasons.

- $33 \%$ fish for relaxation, $22 \%$ fish for the sport, $22 \%$ fish to be with friends and family, and $13 \%$ fish to be close to nature.
- Only $3 \%$ fish to catch a trophy fish, $2 \%$ fish to catch many fish, and $2 \%$ fish to catch fish to eat.

Q139. I'm going to read a few reasons why you go fishing, and I'd like to know which is the most important reason you went fishing in 2002. Would you say you go fishing...?


## Years/Days Fishing

$>$ Most licensed anglers are quite devoted to the sport long-term, having fished for more than 25 years.

- $52 \%$ of licensed anglers have fished for more than 25 years; otherwise, the categories of number of years having fished are fairly even, ranging from $7 \%$ to $11 \%$.
$>$ Licensed anglers most commonly fished for less than 30 days in New Jersey in 2002, with a plurality saying that they had fished for 1-9 days.
- $57 \%$ fished for fewer than 30 days.
- $22 \%$ fished for 1-9 days.

Q18. For how many years have you been fishing?


## Q19. How many days did you freshwater fish in New Jersey in 2002?



## Ice Fishing

$>$ A majority of licensed anglers had not ice fished. Most of those who had ice fished are relatively new at the sport. Typically, anglers do not ice fish each year, and otherwise they ice fish fewer than 10 days per year.

- $27 \%$ or licensed anglers had ice fished.
- $55 \%$ of those who have ice fished have done so for 5 years or less; while $14 \%$ have ice fished for more than 25 years.
- $59 \%$ of those who have ice fished in the past did not do so in the winter of 2002-2003; $29 \%$ did so for between 1 and 9 days in 2002-2003.

Q20. Have you ever ice fished?


## Q21. For how many years have you ice fished? (Asked of those who have ice fished.)



## Q22. How many days did you ice fish in New Jersey between December 2002-March 2003? (Asked of those who have ice fished.)



## Fishing in Tournaments

$>$ An overwhelming majority of licensed anglers had not participated in any freshwater fishing tournaments in New Jersey in 2002.

- $9 \%$ of licensed anglers had participated in a freshwater tournament in New Jersey in 2002.

Q92. Have you participated in any freshwater fishing tournaments in New Jersey during 2002?


## Trips to Fish

> Most respondents usually travel for no more than an hour (one way) to the places that they fish most often in New Jersey.

- $45 \%$ usually travel less than a half-hour.
- $38 \%$ usually travel from a half-hour to an hour.

Q23. How long, in terms of time, do you usually travel one way to the places that you fish most often in New Jersey?


## Locations of Fishing

$>$ Typically, licensed anglers took fewer than 10 trips to fish in reservoirs/large lakes, small lakes/ponds, or rivers/streams. Indeed, in each case a plurality said that they took no trips to these locations.

- $38 \%$ said they took no trips and $34 \%$ took 1-9 trips to reservoirs or large lakes.
- $30 \%$ said they took no trips and $29 \%$ took 1-9 trips to small lakes or ponds.
- $38 \%$ said they took no trips and $31 \%$ took 1-9 trips to rivers or streams.
$>$ Shoreline fishing was more popular than fishing from a boat. Typically, licensed anglers took 1-9 trips fishing from a shoreline or fishing from a boat.
- $26 \%$ said that they took no trips to fish from a shoreline, while $42 \%$ said that they took no trips to fish from a boat.
- A plurality (28\%) said that they took 1-9 trips to fish from a shoreline.
- $20 \%$ said that they took 1-9 trips to fish from a boat.


## Q33. In 2002, how many trips did you take to reservoirs or large lakes?



## Q34. In 2002, how many trips did you take to small lakes or ponds?



## Q35. In 2002, how many trips did you take to rivers or streams?



Q36. In 2002, how many of the trips that you took were spent fishing from the shoreline?


## Q37. In 2002, how many of the trips that you took were spent fishing from a boat?



## Fishing on the Delaware River

$>$ Large majorities did not fish for shad, largemouth bass, or smallmouth bass on the Delaware River in 2002.

- $13 \%$ of licensed anglers fished for shad on the Delaware River in 2002.
- $17 \%$ of licensed anglers fished for largemouth or smallmouth bass on the Delaware River in 2002.
$>$ Of those who fished for bass in April, May, or June (i.e., the spawning season) on the Delaware River, a large majority supported a catch-and-release only season on the Delaware River.
- $86 \%$ strongly or moderately supported the catch-and-release only season on the Delaware River, with $71 \%$ having strongly supported.

Q155. Did you fish for shad on the Delaware River
in 2002?


Q156. In 2002, did you fish for largemouth or smallmouth bass in April, May, or June on the Delaware River?


Q157. Would you support or oppose a catch-and-release only season for largemouth and smallmouth bass from mid-

April to mid-June (i.e., the spawning season) on the Delaware River? (Asked of those who fished for largemouth or smallmouth bass in April, May, or June on the Delaware River.)


## People Fished With and Their Likely Future Participation

$>$ Licensed anglers typically fish with a friend/coworker, a son or daughter, or by themselves.

- $35 \%$ said that they most often fish with a friend/coworker.
- $27 \%$ said that they most often fish with their son, and $8 \%$ said that they most often fish with their daughter.
- $22 \%$ fish most often alone.
> A majority of licensed anglers have children, and a majority of those with children took them fishing in 2002. Additionally, a majority of those who took children fishing think that the children will likely continue fishing as mid to late teenagers.
- $71 \%$ of licensed anglers have children, and $71 \%$ of those with children took them fishing in 2002.
- $84 \%$ of those who took their children fishing think the children will likely continue fishing as mid to late teenagers, with $67 \%$ saying it is very likely.
$>$ Slightly less than half of licensed anglers took another person's children fishing in 2002. A majority of those who took another person's children fishing think that the children will likely continue fishing as mid to late teenagers.
- $42 \%$ of licensed anglers took another's children fishing in 2002.
- $80 \%$ of those who took another's children fishing think the children will likely continue fishing as mid to late teenagers, with $59 \%$ of them saying it is very likely.
$>$ A majority of licensed anglers (57\%) know of a friend or relative who is not otherwise interested in fishing but who would be interested in fishing for a day if that person did not have to purchase a fishing license.


## Q25. With whom do you fish most often?



## Q27. Do you have children?



Q28. In 2002, did you take your child(ren) fishing? (Asked of those who have children.)


Q29. How likely or unlikely do you think your child(ren) that you took fishing in 2002 are to continue fishing as mid to late teenagers? (Asked of those who have children they took fishing in
2002.)


Q30. In the year 2002, did you take anyone else's child(ren) fishing?


Q31. How likely or unlikely do you think the other child(ren) that you took fishing in 2002 are to continue fishing as mid to late teenagers? (Asked of those who took another's children fishing in 2002.)


Q32. Do you know of a friend or relative who would
be interested in going fishing with you for a day if
he/she did not have to purchase a license who
would otherwise not be interested in going fishing?


## Membership in Fishing Clubs

$>$ An overwhelming majority of licensed anglers do not belong to any fishing club or organization. Otherwise, B.A.S.S. is the most popular club, followed by unspecified local angling clubs and Trout Unlimited.

- $84 \%$ belong to no club.
- $3 \%$ belong to B.A.S.S., $3 \%$ belong to a local fishing club, and $2 \%$ belong to Trout Unlimited.

> Q173. Do you belong to any fishing club or organization? If yes: Which ones?


