

Appendix C: 50 State Review – Boat Registration and Titling Requirements

State	Boats Registered, 2016	Scope of Boat Registration System	Scope of Boat Titling System	Boat Titling Fee
Alabama	261,741	All motorboats, sailboats, and rental boats	No Boat Titling	-
Alaska	51,144	All undocumented motorized boats	No Boat Titling	-
Arizona	123,263	All motorized watercraft	No Boat Titling	-
Arkansas	189,514	All watercraft	No Boat Titling	-
California	697,412	All motorboats; sailboats over 8 feet in length	All sail-powered vessels over 8 feet in length and every motor-driven vessel, regardless of length, which is used on the waters of this state are subject to titling.	\$20 for odd numbered years and \$10 for even numbered years.
Colorado	84,676	All watercraft powered by motor or sail- sailboards are exempt	No Boat Titling	-
Connecticut	93,364	All motorboats; sailboats 19.5 feet in length or greater	Required to title and register the following types of vessels with a manufacturing date of 2017 and later: All boats with motors, sailboats that are 19 1/2 feet or longer, personal watercraft (e.g. Jet Skis)	\$25
Delaware	61,901	All motorboats	No Boat Titling	-

State	Boats Registered, 2016	Scope of Boat Registration System	Scope of Boat Titling System	Boat Titling Fee
Florida	905,298	All boats must be registered except non-motor-powered vessel less than 16 feet in length or a non-motor-powered canoe, kayak, racing shell, or rowing scull, regardless of length	All boats must be titled except non-motor-powered vessel less than 16 feet in length or a non-motor-powered canoe, kayak, racing shell, or rowing scull, regardless of length	\$5.25 for electronic title and \$7.75 for paper title.
Georgia	335,723	All motorboats; sailboats 12 feet in length or greater	No Boat Titling	-
Hawaii	11,238	All motorboats; sailboats 8 feet in length or greater	No Boat Titling	-
Idaho	87,211	All motorboats and sailboats	Title required for model year 2000 or newer with a permanently attached mode of propulsion (i.e. sail or inboard), and for all vessels more than 12 feet in length regardless of mode of propulsion. For all types listed that are required to be titled that are model year 1999 and older, titling is optional unless the vessel is being financed, in which case it must be titled.	\$14

State	Boats Registered, 2016	Scope of Boat Registration System	Scope of Boat Titling System	Boat Titling Fee
Illinois	242,275	All motor and sail powered boats	All motor and sail powered vessels require titling.	\$10
Indiana	209,622	All motorized boats	All motorized boats must be titled.	\$15
Iowa	205,145	All watercraft except inflatables under 7 feet in length and canoes/kayaks under 13 feet in length	All vessels 17 feet or more must be titled, exempting canoes, kayaks, and inflatable vessels.	\$11.50
Kansas	81,243	All motorboats and sailboats	No Boat Titling	-
Kentucky	173,881	All motorboats, except electric motors 1 horsepower or less	Titling is required for all motorized boats whether or not such machinery is the principal source of propulsion.	\$9
Louisiana	306,689	All motorboats; sailboats more than 12 feet in length	Titling is required for vessels or outboard engines 25 horsepower and above that are being financed. Titling is <i>optional</i> for the following: (1) vessels valued in excess of \$2,500 and required to be numbered and transferred for the first time after July 2008; and (2) an outboard motor transferred for the first time on or after January 2011.	\$18

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Maine	111,116	All motorboats	No Boat Titling	-
Maryland	176,207	All motorboats	Titling is required for all motorized boats.	\$2
Massachusetts	140,008	All motorboats	Titling is required for any vessel of 14 feet or greater in length propelled or designed to be propelled by machinery whether or not such machinery is permanently or temporarily affixed or is the principal source of propulsion.	\$15
Michigan	794,137	All watercraft except manually propelled vessels 16 feet or less in length, and privately owned non-motorized rafts, canoes, and kayaks	Titling is required for all vessels that are 20 feet in length or greater; and all vessels that have a permanently affixed engine must be titled. All other boats may be titled at the owner's option.	\$5
Minnesota	817,560	All watercraft except non-motorized boats ten feet or less in length, duck-boats during duck hunting season, and rice-boats during harvest season and seaplanes	Titling required for all vessels over 16 feet in length. The following are excluded: kayaks, canoes, row-type fishing boats, water fowl boats, and life boats.	\$22
Mississippi	132,441	All motorboats and sailboats	Boat titling is entirely optional.	\$12.70

State	Boats Registered, 2016	Scope of Boat Registration System	Scope of Boat Titling System	Boat Titling Fee
Missouri	293,185	All motorboats, sailboats over 12 feet in length	Titling is required for sailboats over 12 feet in length and for all motorized boats. Titling is required for all outboard motors regardless of horsepower, excluding trolling and electric outboard motors.	\$7.50
Montana	68, 229	All motorboats; sailboats over 12 feet in length	Titling is required for sailboats over 12 feet in length and for all motorized boats.	\$10
Nebraska	87, 596	All motorboats	Titling is required for all motorized vessels, except those manufactured prior to 11/1/1972.	\$10
Nevada	42, 426	All motorboats	Titling is required for all motorized vessels.	\$20
New Hampshire	94, 806	All motorboats; sailboats 12 feet in length or greater	No Boat Titling	-

State	Boats Registered, 2016	Scope of Boat Registration System	Scope of Boat Titling System	Boat Titling Fee
New Jersey	150, 968	All watercraft except non-motorized boats less than 12 feet in length and canoes, kayaks, racing shells, and rowing sculls	All boats over 12 feet in length must be titled, except for lifeboats, canoes, kayaks, inflatable boats, surfboards, rowing sculls, racing shells, and dinghies used solely for direct transportation between a vessel and shore.	\$60 (\$85 for a financed boat)
New Mexico	33, 780	All motorboats and sailboats	Titling is required for motorized vessels 10 feet and over and sailboats 10 feet and over. Titling is optional for all other vessels.	\$10
New York	448, 480	All motorboats	Titling is required for all motorized vessels 14 feet and over with model year 1987 and newer.	\$10
North Carolina	367, 225	All motorboats; sailboats more than 14 feet in length	Titling is required for the following vessels purchased or transferred after 1/1/2007: motorized vessel or sailboats 14 feet or longer and any personal watercraft (e.g., jet skis). Any other vessel may be titled at the owner's option. [Note that from 1990 to 2006, boat titling was optional in North Carolina]	\$35
North Dakota	67, 022	All motorized boats	No Boat Titling	-

State	Boats Registered, 2016	Scope of Boat Registration System	Scope of Boat Titling System	Boat Titling Fee
Ohio	505,082	All watercraft	Titling is required for all watercraft 14' or more, for watercraft less than 14' with permanently affixed engines with 10 horsepower or greater, and for outboard motors 10 horsepower or greater.	\$15
Oklahoma	202,388	Registration is required for all vessels (excluding canoes, kayaks, and paddleboats) and for outboard motors greater than 10 HP.	Titling is required for all vessels (excluding canoes, kayaks, and paddleboats) and for outboard motors greater than 10 horsepower.	\$2.25
Oregon	156, 168	All motorboats; sailboats more than 12 feet in length	Titling is required for all motorized vessels and for sailboats 12 feet or greater.	\$50
Pennsylvania	315, 503	All motorboats and certain non-powered craft using lakes or access areas owned by the PA State Fish & Boat Commission	Titling is required for all power-driven boats with a model year of 1997 or newer, excluding boats less than 14 feet in length that are powered by an outboard motor and all inboard vessels (including PWCs) with a model year of 1997 or newer, regardless of length. Titling is optional for all non-required vessels.	\$15

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Rhode Island	40, 178	All motorboats and rowboats over 12 feet	Titling is required for all vessels 14 feet and greater, except for human-powered inflatable vessels, surfboards, and rowboats.	\$25
South Carolina	518, 269	All motorized and sail powered boats	Title is required for all sailboats and motorized boats.	Fee Schedule
South Dakota	59, 485	All motorboats; all other boats over 12 feet in length	Titling is required for all motorized boats of any length and for all other boats over 12 feet, excluding canoes, kayaks, inflatable vessels, sailboards, and seaplanes.	\$10
Tennessee	254, 091	All motorboats and sailboats	No Boat Titling	-
Texas	573, 425	All motorboats. All sailboats over 14 feet in length.	Titling is required for all motorized boats, regardless of length, all sailboats 14 feet or greater, and all outboard motors.	\$27

State	Boats Registered, 2016	Scope of Boat Registration System	Scope of Boat Titling System	Boat Titling Fee
Utah	65,873	All motorboats and sailboats	Titling is required for all vessels with a model year of 1985 or newer, except for canoes and inflatables vessels with outboard motors of 25 horsepower or less. Titling is required for all outboard motors with a model year of 1985 or newer and more than 25 horsepower.	\$6
Vermont	29,353	All motorboats	Titling is required for motorized vessels that are 16 feet or more and less than 15 years old. Canoes, kayaks, or similar vessels that are manually propelled or equipped with a motor less than 10 horsepower are exempt.	\$22
Virginia	233,236	All motorboats	Titling is required all motorized vessels of any length and for sailboats over 18 feet.	\$7

State	Boats Registered, 2016	Scope of Boat Registration System	Scope of Boat Titling System	Boat Titling Fee
Washington	234,035	All motorboats except motorboats less than 16 feet with motors less than 10 horsepower	Titling is required for all sailboats over 16 feet and for all motorized boats over 16 feet in length and with an engine of 10 horsepower or greater. Boats less than 16 feet in length with a motor of 10 horsepower or less are exempt if used only on non-federal waters.	\$21
West Virginia	57,305	All motorboats	Titling is required for all motorized vessels purchased in West Virginia by the current owner after July 1, 1989.	\$15
Wisconsin	611,240	All motorboats; sailboats over 12 feet in length	Titling is required for vessels 16 feet or great in length.	\$5
Wyoming	27,288	All motorboats and sailboats	Titling is required for all motorized boats.	\$15

Source of State Recreational Boat Registration Numbers: United States Coast Guard, Recreational Boating Statistics, 2016. Note that commercial vessels are not counted in this table. Tennessee's registration total would include an additional 391boats if commercial boats were included. All other information comes from staff analysis of other states' laws.