

Victorian Fisheries Authority Recreational fishing in Victoria Report of survey findings

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Australian Survey Research Group Pty Ltd is accredited under the AS ISO 20252 quality standard applying to market and social research. This research project was carried out in compliance with the AS ISO 20252 quality standard.

Executive summary

In 2018, the Victorian Fisheries Authority (VFA) commissioned Australian Survey Research Group (ASR) to develop, conduct and analyse a survey of Victorian fishing licence holders regarding recreational fishing in Victoria.

This report presents the results of the survey conducted in March and April 2018. The survey focused on Victorian fishing licence holders living in Victoria.

ASR invited a total of 288,173 respondents to the survey. The invitation list was based on people who had purchased a Victorian fishing licence between 2013 and 2018. Each survey participant received an invitation email containing a unique link to the online survey. The survey was also available through the VFA website and various social media channels.

Sample and response rates

The survey was open from 13 March 2018 to 23 April 2018, that is, approximately six weeks in field. In total, one email invitation was sent to respondents with valid email addresses.

The table below outlines the invitations sent, completions and email bounce backs. A total of 14,121 respondents completed the 2018 survey. The sample is representative of the population of Victorian recreational fishing licence holders at the 95% confidence level and $\pm 1\%$ confidence interval.

| Email invitations count | Completions count - invitation | Completions count – social media | Completions count – total | Bounce-backs count* | Response rate % [^] |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|
| 288,173 | 13,053 | 1,068 | 14,121 | 50,696 | 4.9 |

*Bounce-backs are an approximation

[^] Response rate calculated by dividing the total completions by the number of email invitations.

Key findings

Inland fishing

- Seventy-four percent (74%) of respondents indicated that they had fished in an inland location in the previous 12 months (from when the survey was conducted).
- About 56% of respondents who had fished inland waters in the previous 12 months had at least three favourite fishing locations.
- The most preferred inland fishing location was the Murray River (NSW), selected by 27% of inland fishing respondents, followed by Lake Eildon (25%) and Goulburn River (18%).
- Over 50% of respondents who selected Lake Mulwala NSW (58%), Murray River NSW (53%) and Ovens River (52%) as their favourite locations fished there six or more days in the previous 12 months.
- Over 75% of respondents who listed Lake Mulwala NSW or Lake Purrumbete as their favourite location were *satisfied* or *very satisfied* with fishing at the location.
- Respondents were least satisfied with fishing in the Yarra River (16% were either *dissatisfied* or *very dissatisfied*) and Mitchell River (14% were either *dissatisfied* or *very dissatisfied*).

Marine/estuarine fishing

- Eighty-two percent (82%) of respondents indicated that they had fished in a marine/estuarine location in the previous 12 months.
- Approximately 50% of respondents who fished in a marine / estuarine location in the previous 12 months had at least three favourite fishing locations.
- The most preferred marine/estuarine fishing location was Port Philip Bay (52%) followed by Western Port (28%) and Gippsland Lakes (12%).

- Sixty-two (62%) of respondents who selected Port Phillip Bay, 64% of those who selected Western Port and 41% of those who selected the Gippsland Lakes as their favourite location fished there six or more days in the previous 12 months.
- Satisfaction with fishing experiences was greatest for respondents who fished at Portland (77% were either *satisfied* or *very satisfied*), Apollo Bay (73% were either *satisfied* or *very satisfied*) and Lake Tyers (71% were either *satisfied* or *very satisfied*).
- Approximately 9% of respondents had fished for Southern Bluefin tuna in Victoria in the previous 12 months. Most commonly, these respondents spent about one to five days fishing for this type of tuna.
- Six percent (6%) of marine / estuarine fishers indicated that they had fished for Abalone in Victoria in the previous 12 months and this was most commonly in the central zone (waters between Arch Rock and Aire River).

Awareness of improvements

- Eighteen percent (18%) of all respondents indicated that fish stocking in Victorian waters had improved in the previous 12 months.
- 13% of respondents indicated that the number of desirable fish had improved in the previous 12 months while 22% indicated that it had worsened.

Priorities to improve recreational fishing in Victoria

- Thirty-nine percent (39%) of respondents indicated that *enforcing fishing rules* and also *improving fishing habitat* would be an effective way to improve fishing in Victoria.
- Open ended commentary indicated that stopping / limiting commercial fishing, netting and trawling (particularly in certain, specified locations) and improving pest control (carp and cormorants) were the two most frequently mentioned *other* suggestions for improving recreational fishing in Victoria.

Collaboration

- Over a third of respondents (37%) answered that Victorian Fisheries Authority and Victorian natural resource management agencies should work together *a great deal* to create better fisheries and habitat in Victoria.
- When asked about particular agencies VFA should collaborate with, the three most common agencies respondents selected were Parks Victoria (67%), Department of Land, Water & Planning (58%), and Catchment Management Authorities (50%).

Performance

- Sixty-two percent (62%) of respondents indicated that *halting commercial netting in Port Phillip and Corio Bays* had improved recreational fishing in Victoria since 2014.
- Only a small proportion of respondents (6%) answered that the Target One Million investment was *not at all successful*.

Communication

- Forty-one percent (41%) of respondents referred to their fishing colleagues for information on recreational fishing in Victoria.
- The most commonly mentioned magazines used by respondents to source information was *Fishing monthly*. The most commonly mentioned TV show was Ifish and the most commonly mentioned government website was VFA's website.
- Fifty-two percent (52%) of respondents indicated they would like to get their information on recreational fishing in Victoria in the same way as they get it now and 22% would like to use Facebook.
- Almost half of respondents (46%) answered that providing information on where to fish in multiple languages would encourage people in Victoria to fish.
- Sixty percent (60%) of respondents indicated that improving facilities such as toilets close to fishing spots would encourage more women to fish followed by 59% who indicated that promoting fishing in ways that appeal to women would offer encouragement.

- When asked about which information channels respondents used on recreational fishing in Victoria, female respondents were more likely to answer *Facebook* (45%) and less likely to answer *fishing colleagues* (36%) and *YouTube* (9%). *Facebook*, *Instagram* (7%) and *YouTube* (15%) were more commonly cited by respondents aged under 50 years, whereas *fishing colleagues* was the most common option for those aged over 50 years (36%). Older respondents were also more likely to use *magazines* (13%) and *TV shows* (36%). Long term licence holders were more likely to select *TV fishing shows* (35%), *fishing colleagues* (43%) and *magazines* (12%).

Regulations

- Over half of the respondents answered that the day's take was about right for nearly all of the inland fish species listed in the survey with the exception of yabbies. Thirteen percent (13%) of respondents would like to be able to keep more Murray Spiny Freshwater Crayfish.
- The majority of respondents thought that the day's take was *about right* for Tuna (69%), Gummy shark (71%), Rock lobster (68%) and Blacklip abalone (59%). A relatively larger proportion of respondents indicated the bag limits were either *too many fish* or *way too many fish* for Bream (35%), Flathead (39%), King George Whiting (37%) and Snapper (33%).

Slot limits

- Thirty-four percent of respondents indicated that Snapper should have a slot limit, followed by Gummy shark (32%), Flathead (25%) and King George whiting (24%).

Building great fishing in Victoria

- Open ended commentary indicated that more enforcement and visibility of VFA officers was needed in Victoria as well as improved facilities.

Introduction

In 2018, the Victorian Fisheries Authority (VFA) commissioned Australian Survey Research Group (ASR) to review, conduct and analyse a survey of Victorian fishing licence holders regarding recreational fishing in Victoria.

This report presents the results of the survey conducted in March and April 2018. The survey focused on Victorian Fishing Licence Holders living in Victoria.

Methodology

Data collection

Online invitation

The survey was open from 13 March 2018 to 23 April 2018, that is, approximately six weeks in field. The web survey was loaded into ASR's proprietary web surveying tool, SurveyManager, and hosted on ASR's internet servers located in a high security data centre in Melbourne's CBD. VFA provided the participant list to ASR and the list was based on people who had purchased an online Victorian fishing licence between 2013 and 2018. One email invitation containing a unique link to the online survey was sent to 288,173 participants with valid email addresses.

Online social media

Not all fishers provided VFA with a valid email address, or purchased a Victorian fishing licence online, or are required to have a Victorian fishing licence to fish in Victoria (under 16s and over 70s). To ensure all had an opportunity to answer the survey was also made available through the VFA website and various social media. The survey was promoted twice on the VFA's social media platforms, including Facebook and Instagram. The first promotion occurred when the survey began and the second occurred mid-way through the fieldwork period. The survey was also promoted through a VFA media release when the survey began and through the VFA's email newsletter *FisheFacts*.

Sample and response rates

The table below outlines the invitations sent, completions and email bounce backs. A total of 14,121 respondents completed the 2018 survey and the overall response rate was 5%. The table below outlines the invitations sent, completions by all methods and email bounce backs.

| Email invitations count | Completions count - invitation | Completions count – social media | Completions count – total | Bounce-backs count* | Response rate % [^] |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|
| 288,173 | 13,053 | 1,068 | 14,121 | 50,696 | 4.9 |

*Bounce-backs are an approximation

[^] Response rate calculated by dividing the total completions by the number of email invitations.

Data cleansing

Before conducting the numeric analysis, raw data was cleansed using micro (individual) level cleaning. This was done in order to identify and correct data abnormalities and errors. Cleansing included identifying and editing, where ever possible, inland fishing locations that were offered as other locations in marine/estuarine questions and vice versa for marine/estuarine locations. Throughout the cleansing process it was evident that some respondents were confused about the definitions of inland and marine /estuarine water and which species could be found in a water type.

Data analysis

Results were analysed to produce frequency distributions and some percent positive scores (the combined proportion of the two most positive ratings, eg, *excellent* and *good*). Various statistical tests including chi square were used to

determine any statistical differences between sub-groups (such as licence term, fishing preference, and age groups). All tests are reported at the $p < 0.05$ level (95% confidence level).

Data value labels in charts below 2% and some data labels have been removed or truncated for readability in some charts.

Open ended responses were coded and common themes have been listed in this report. Random sample coding was used for all open ended questions and where there were more than 500 responses to open-ended questions, a random selection of approximately 25% of responses were coded. Only the top 10 most commonly mentioned themes have been included in tables.

Weighting

No weighting was applied to the data.

Confidence level and interval

There were sufficient responses for the survey sample to be representative at the 95% confidence level and at the $\pm 1\%$ confidence interval, on the assumption that respondents randomly chose to answer.

This is an excellent result in terms of survey sample.

Confidence level means that you can be 95% sure that if the survey was completed again by the same / similar people that the same result would be achieved. **Confidence interval** is the margin of error that needs to be kept in mind when reading charts and tables. So if a result is 60% in a chart, it should be interpreted as 59% to 61% of respondents had that view.

Note about reading the charts and tables in this report

Some charts display the results for inland fishers, marine / estuary fishers, as well as the total (combined) results. Within the report, data labels in the stacked charts with values less than 2% have been removed for readability. Only values of 2% or higher have been labelled.

The survey was voluntary and only a few questions were made compulsory (required an answer to move on to the next page). This meant that the number of people who answered each question varied throughout the survey. As a result the n count (actual number of answers) varies between answers to questions (charts and tables).

Values in charts may not sum to totals due to rounding.

Response profile

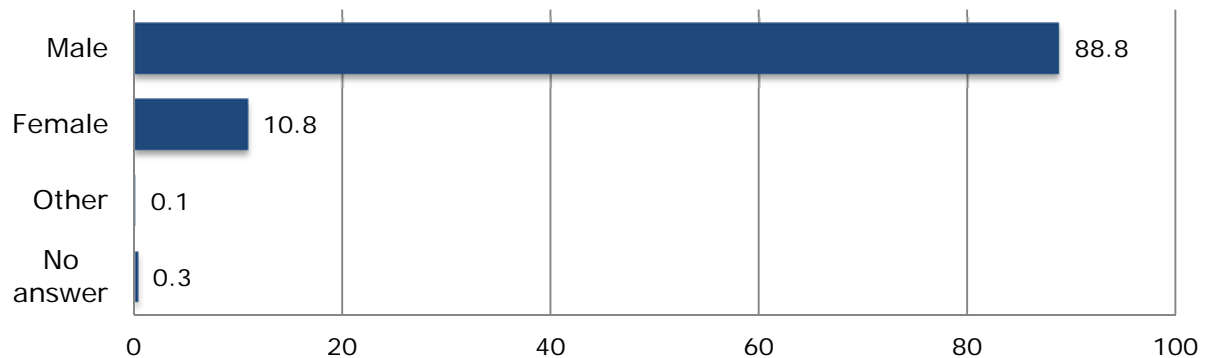
This section outlines the nature of respondents from a state-wide perspective.

General demographics

The vast majority of respondents were male (89%). Refer to the chart below.

Gender

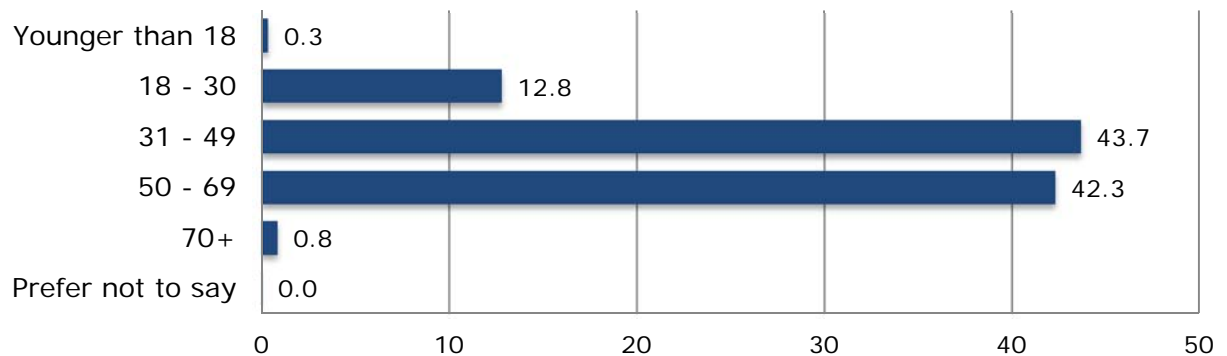
% of respondents, n=14,121



The two largest age groups were 31-49 years and 50-69 years representing 44% and 42% of respondents respectively. Refer to the chart below.

Age group

% of respondents, n=14,121



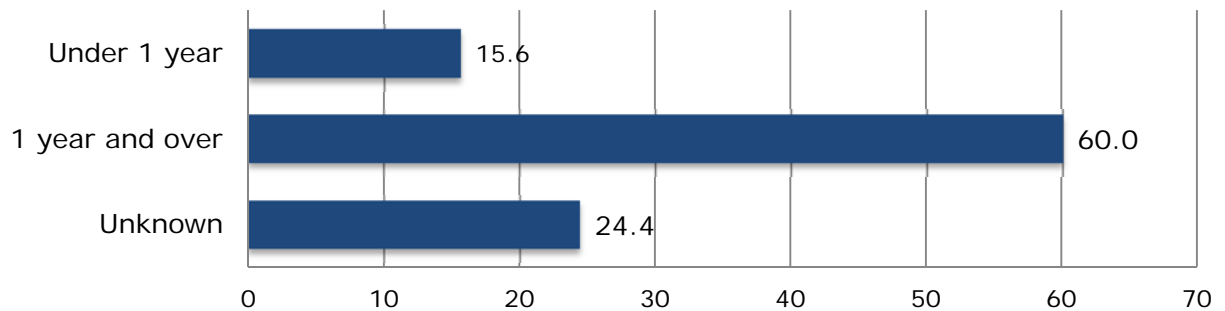
Respondents were more likely to reside in **regional** Victoria (54%) compared with **metropolitan** Victoria (45%). A list of postcodes used to classify metropolitan and regional areas is included Appendix A.



Sixty percent of respondents were longer term licence holders (12 months or more).

Licence term

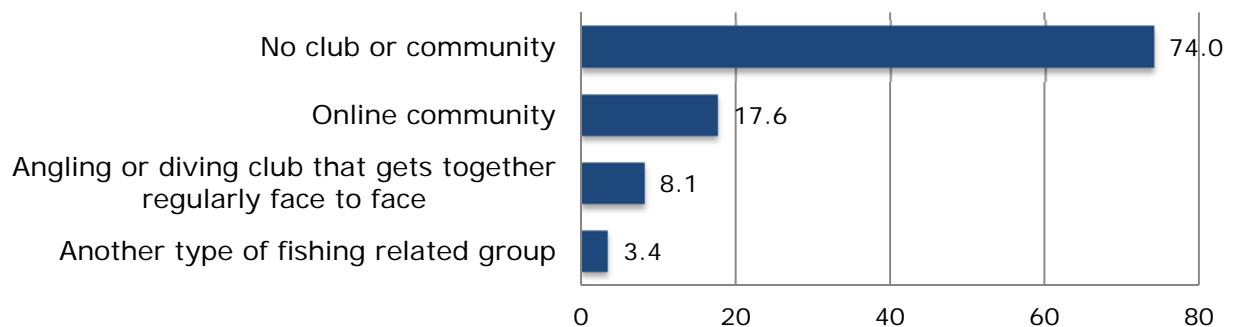
% of respondents, n=14,121



Eighteen percent of respondents were members of online fishing communities, however, most commonly, respondents were not members of any fishing related groups (74%).

Member of ...

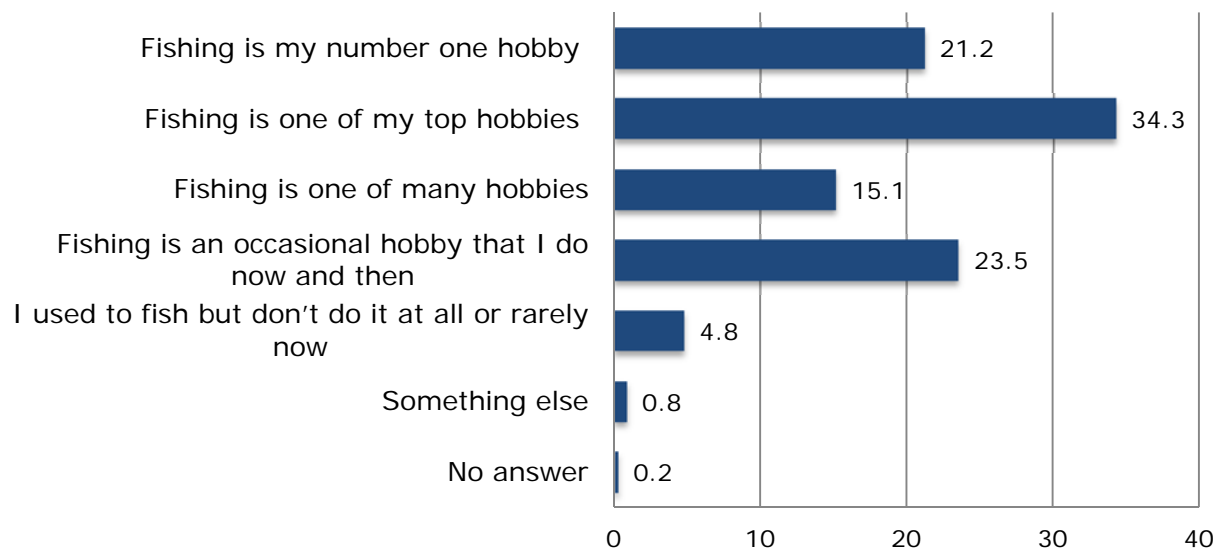
% of respondents, n=14,121



Twenty-one percent of respondents indicated fishing was their number one hobby and 34% indicated that it was a top hobby.

Fishing priority

% of respondents based on n=14,121%



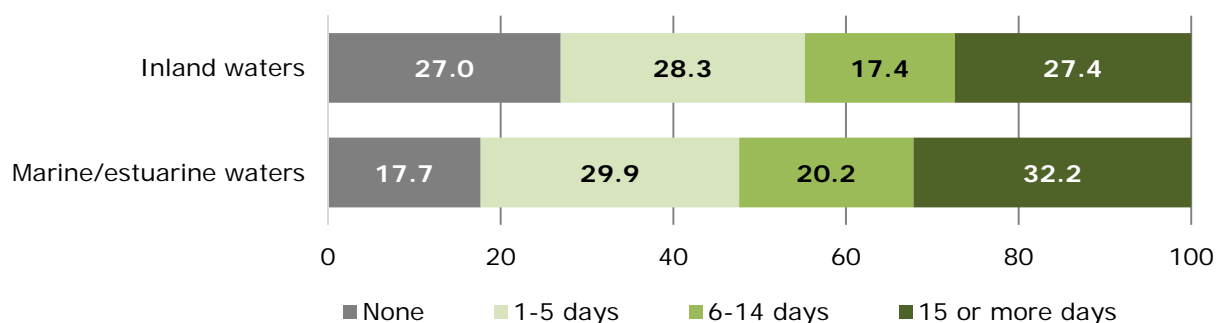
Fishing activity

Respondents were asked to indicate how often, in the previous 12 months, they had fished, spearfished or dived in inland and marine/estuarine waters. Respondents had fished more frequently in marine / estuarine waters (52% fished

six or more days) compared with inland waters (45% fished six or more days). Refer to the chart below. The chart immediately below shows more people fished in marine/estuarine waters than fished inland which is also reflected in other tables and charts following.

Number of days spent fishing, spearfishing or diving in the last 12 months

% of respondents, n=14,121



The results of the question above were used to stream respondents through the questionnaire so that only inland fishing questions were shown to those who indicated that they fished inland and similarly for marine / estuarine fishers. The results were also used to derive a variable called *fishing preference*. The derived variable contained four categories: category 1-inland only fishers, category 2-marine / estuarine only fishers, category 3-fished both inland and marine/estuarine fishers and category 4-none.

Most commonly, respondents fished in **both** inland and marine /estuarine locations (59.3%). More respondents indicated fishing in marine / estuarine waters only (23%) than inland waters only (14%). Only 4% of respondents had not fished in either inland or marine / estuarine waters in the past 12 months. Refer to table below.

| Fishing preference | Count | % of respondents |
|---|--------|------------------|
| Inland fishing waters | 1947 | 13.8 |
| Marine / estuarine fishing waters | 3256 | 23.1 |
| Both | 8367 | 59.3 |
| None - Did not fish either inland or marine waters in the past 12 months* | 551 | 3.9 |
| Total | 14,121 | 100.0 |

*The category Did not fish either inland or marine waters in the past 12 months only includes respondents who selected None for **both** inland and marine/estuarine fishing. These respondents were NOT asked questions about inland and marine/estuarine locations and species.

Key findings

This section outlines the key findings from the survey. The topics and results are presented in the same order as questions in the online questionnaire: firstly by inland fishing waters followed by marine/estuarine fishing waters and then by common / combined topics.

Results for inland and marine / estuarine display top ten locations only, based on the total combined result of favourite, second favourite and third favourite mentions. Refer to Appendix B for a full list of favourite locations.

Inland fishing waters

Favourite Victorian inland fishing waters

Respondents were asked to indicate their first, second and third favourite Victorian inland fishing locations. Most commonly, respondents had three favourite inland fishing locations. Refer to the table below.

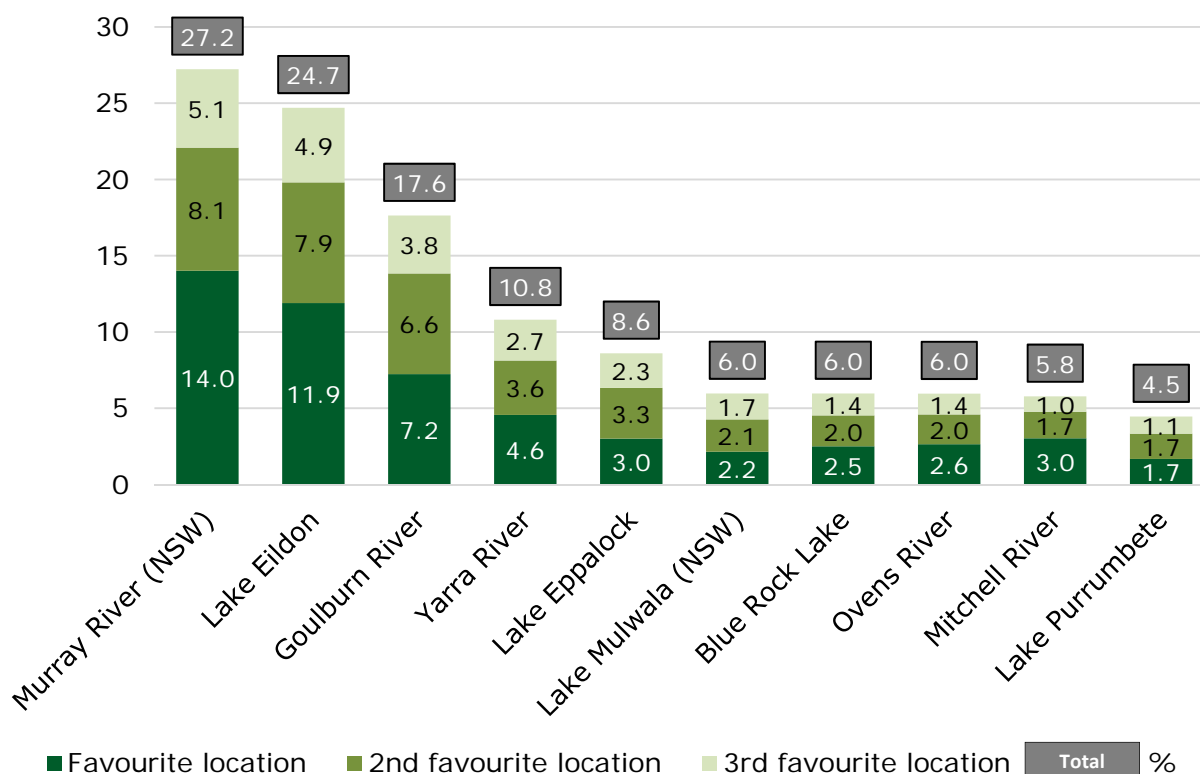
| One favourite location | | Two favourite locations | | Three favourite locations | |
|------------------------|------|-------------------------|------|---------------------------|------|
| Count | % | Count | % | Count | % |
| 2142 | 20.8 | 2367 | 22.9 | 5805 | 56.3 |

The chart below shows results for the top 10 locations only, combining all three favourite mentions. If a location was not on the list, respondents were asked to specify the location. Other common locations that were not individually listed included Tambo River, Dartmouth, Dargo River and Mitta Mitta River.

The most preferred inland fishing location was the Murray River (NSW), selected by 27% of inland fishing respondents, followed by Lake Eildon (25%) and then Goulburn River (18%).

Favourite inland fishing locations - top 10

% of respondents, n=10,314

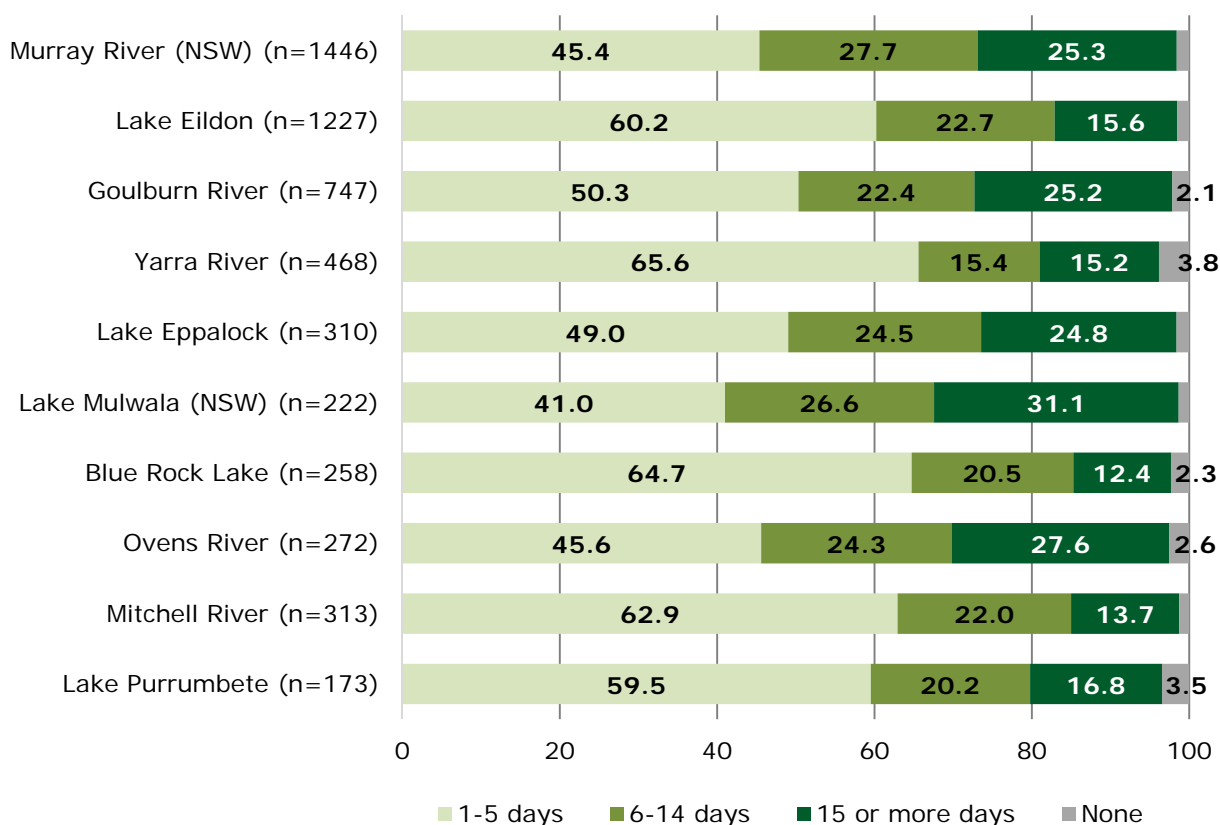


Favourite location

Over 50% of respondents who selected Lake Mulwala (NSW) (58%), Murray River (NSW) (53%) and Ovens River (52%) as their favourite locations fished there for six or more days in the previous 12 months.

Frequency of fishing at favourite inland location

% of respondents, n count varies by location

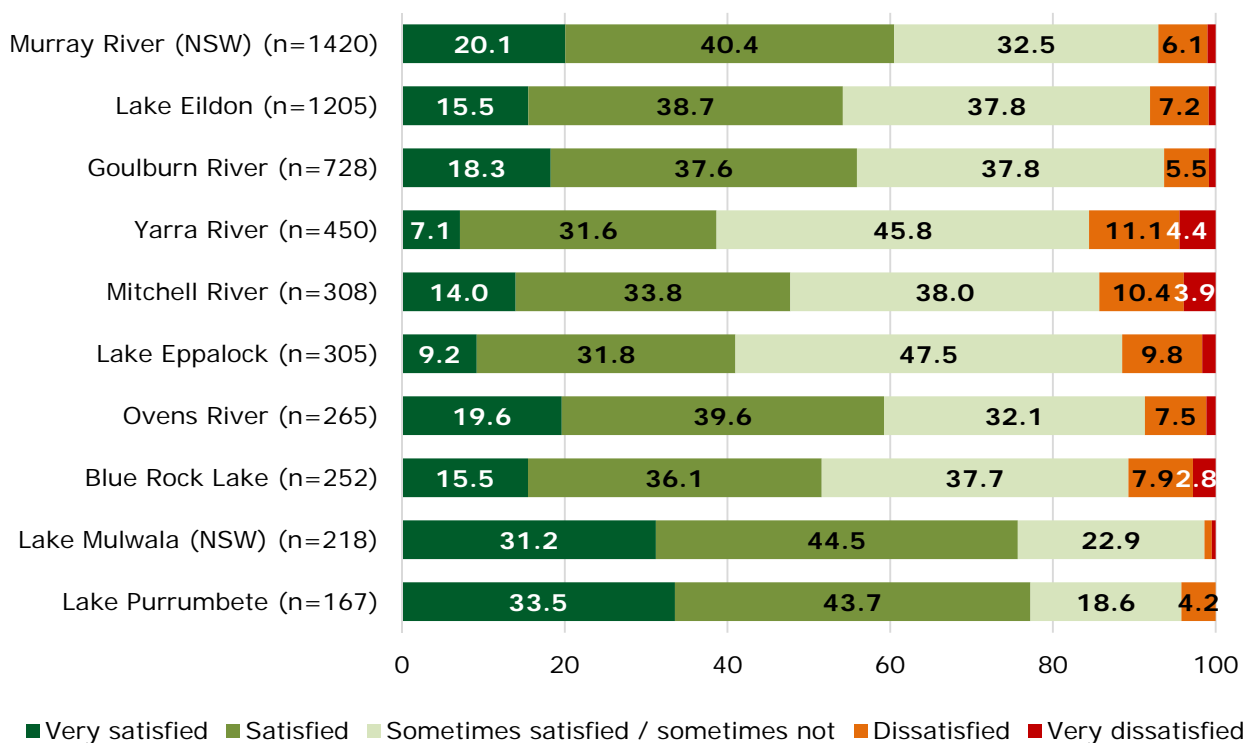


Over 75% of respondents who listed Lake Mulwala and Lake Purrumbete as their favourite location were *satisfied* or *very satisfied* with fishing at the location.

Respondents were least satisfied with fishing in the Yarra River (16% were either *dissatisfied* or *very dissatisfied*) and Mitchell River (14% were either *dissatisfied* or *very dissatisfied*).

Satisfaction with fishing at favourite inland location

% of respondents, n count varies by location

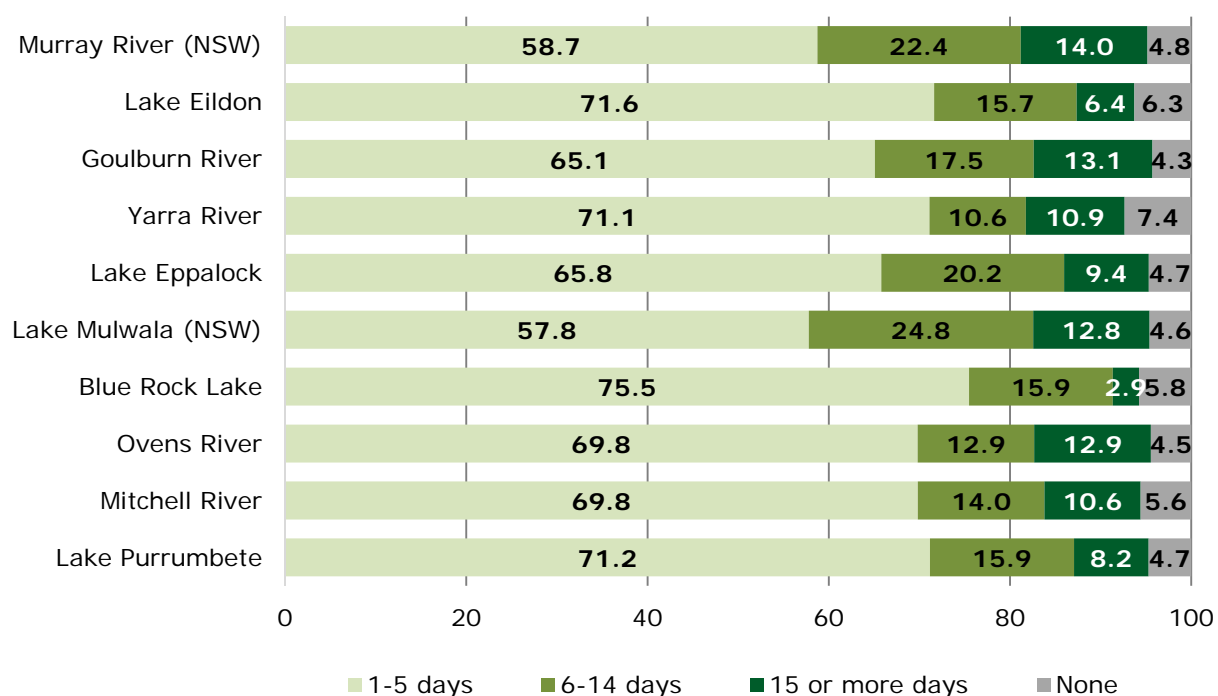


Second favourite location

As a pattern, respondents fished less frequently at their second favourite location when compared with the first. Thirty-eight percent (38%) spent six or more days fishing at Lake Mulwala (NSW), followed by 36% at Murray River and 31% at Goulburn River.

Frequency of fishing at 2nd favourite inland location

% of respondents, n count varies by location

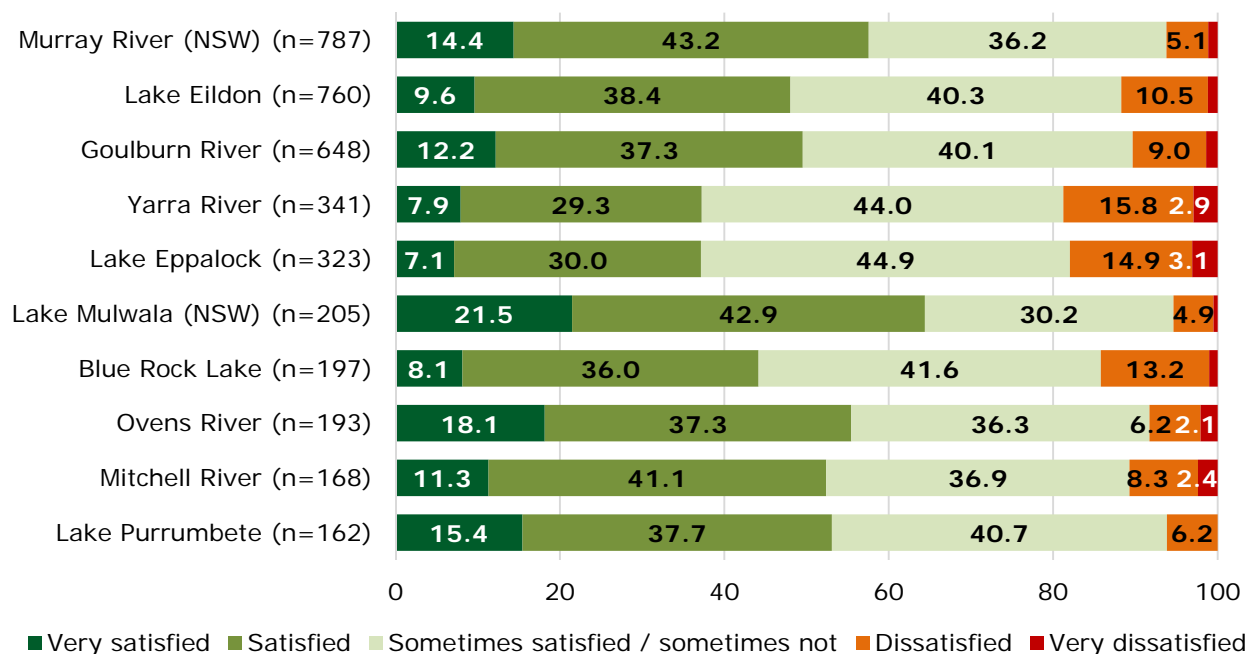


Sixty-four percent (64%) of respondents who listed Lake Mulwala as their second favourite location were *satisfied* or *very satisfied* with fishing at the location, followed by Murray River (58% *satisfied* or *very satisfied*) and Ovens River (55% *satisfied* or *very satisfied*).

Respondents were least satisfied with fishing at the Yarra (19% were either dissatisfied or very dissatisfied).

Satisfaction with fishing at 2nd favourite inland location

% of respondents, n count varies by location

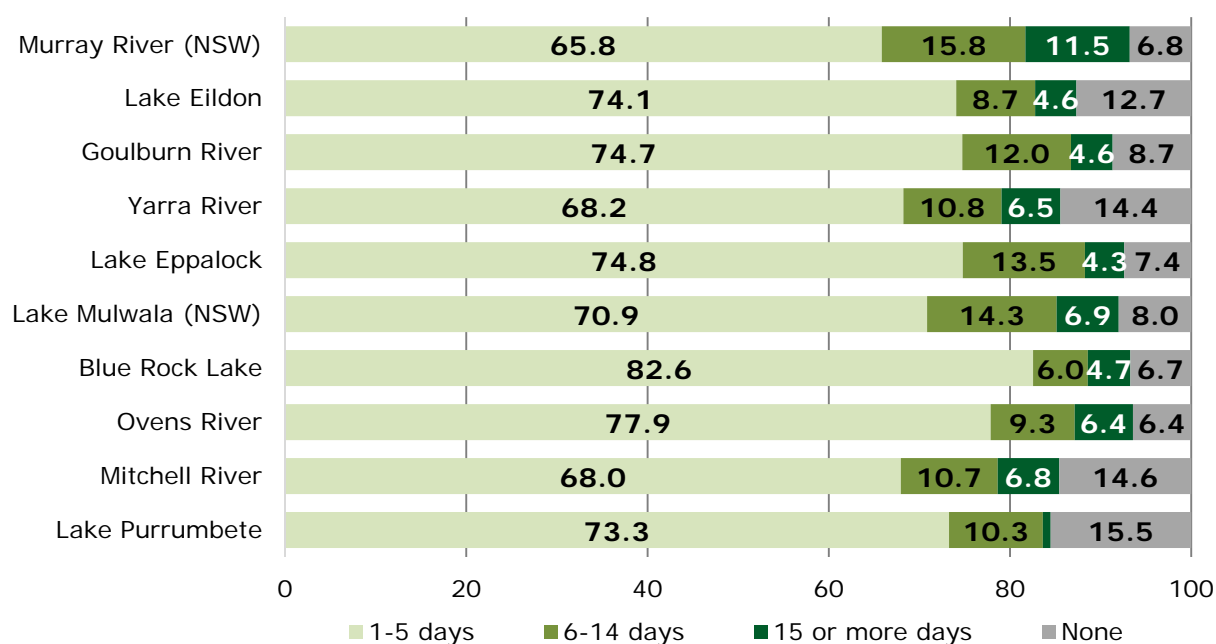


Third favourite location

Of the respondents who listed Murray River (NSW) as their third favourite location, 27% fished there six or more days in the previous 12 months. Refer to the chart below.

Frequency of fishing at 3rd favourite inland location

% of respondents, n count varies by location

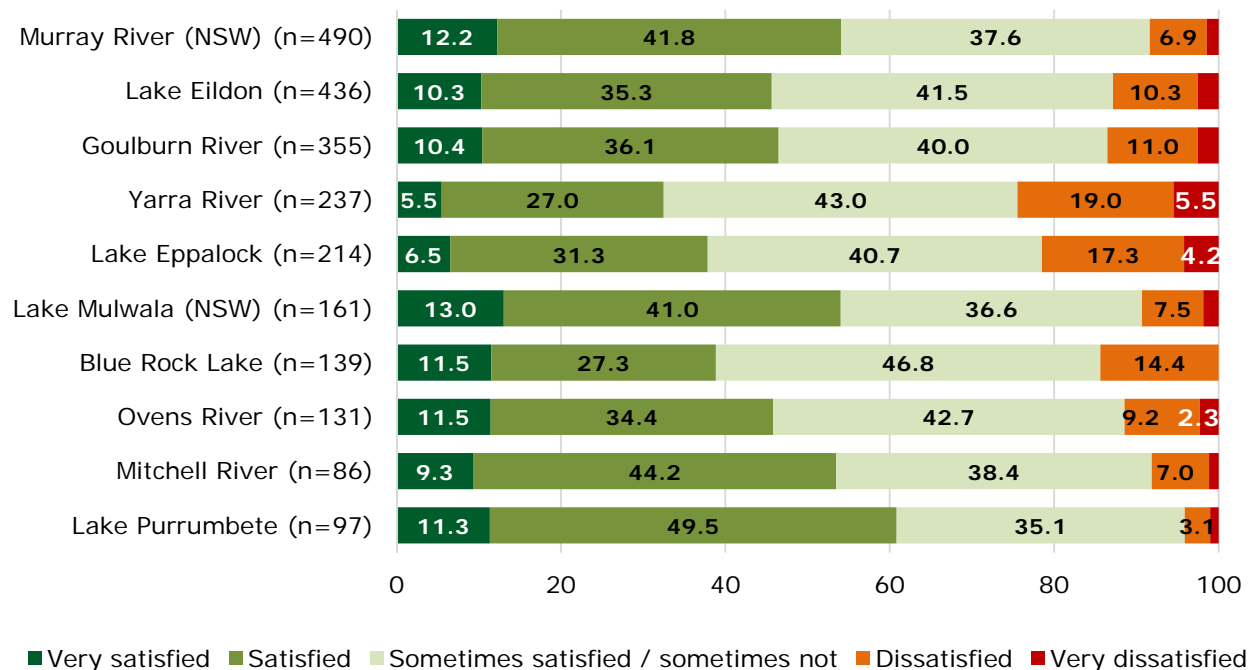


Sixty-one percent (61%) of respondents who listed Lake Purrumbete as their third favourite fishing location were *satisfied* or *very satisfied* with their fishing experience, followed by 54% who listed Murray River(NSW) and 54% who listed Lake Mulwala (NSW) as their third favourite location.





Respondents were least satisfied with fishing in the Yarra River (25% were either *dissatisfied* or *very dissatisfied*).

Satisfaction with fishing at 3rd favourite inland location

% of respondents, n count varies by location

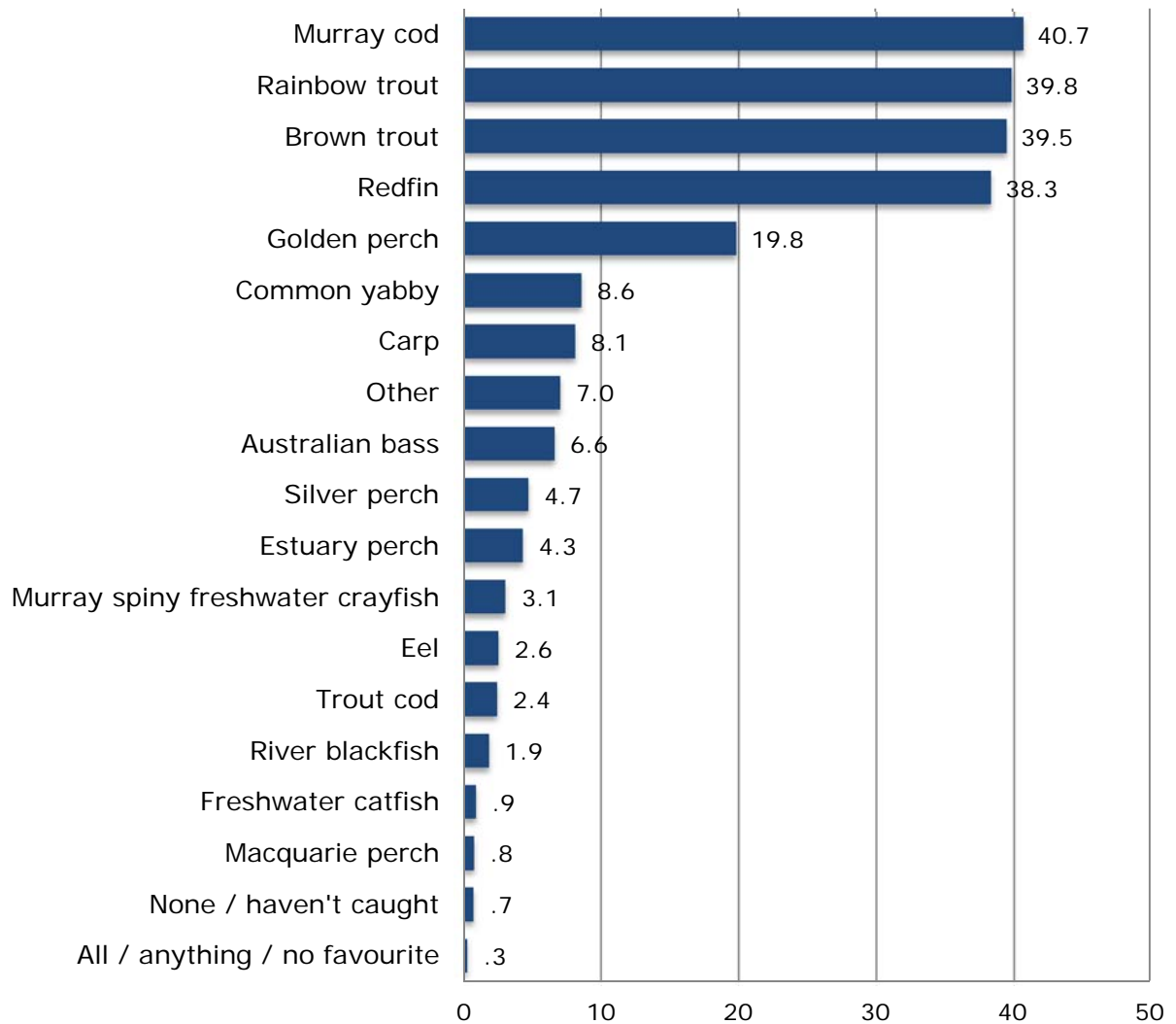


Murray cod (41%), Rainbow trout (40%), Brown trout (40%) and Redfin (38%) were by far the top four favourite inland fish to catch. Refer to the summary table below and the chart on the following page.

| Favourite inland fish to catch | Name | % of respondents |
|---|---------------|------------------|
|  | Murray cod | 41 |
|  | Rainbow trout | 40 |
|  | Brown trout | 40 |
|  | Redfin | 38 |

Favourite fish to catch from Victorian inland waters

% of respondents based on n=10,186; multiple answers allowed so total >100%



Marine/ estuarine waters

Favourite Victorian marine/estuarine fishing waters

Respondents were asked to indicate their first, second and third favourite Victorian marine / estuarine fishing locations. Most commonly, respondents had three favourite marine / estuarine fishing locations. Refer to the table below.

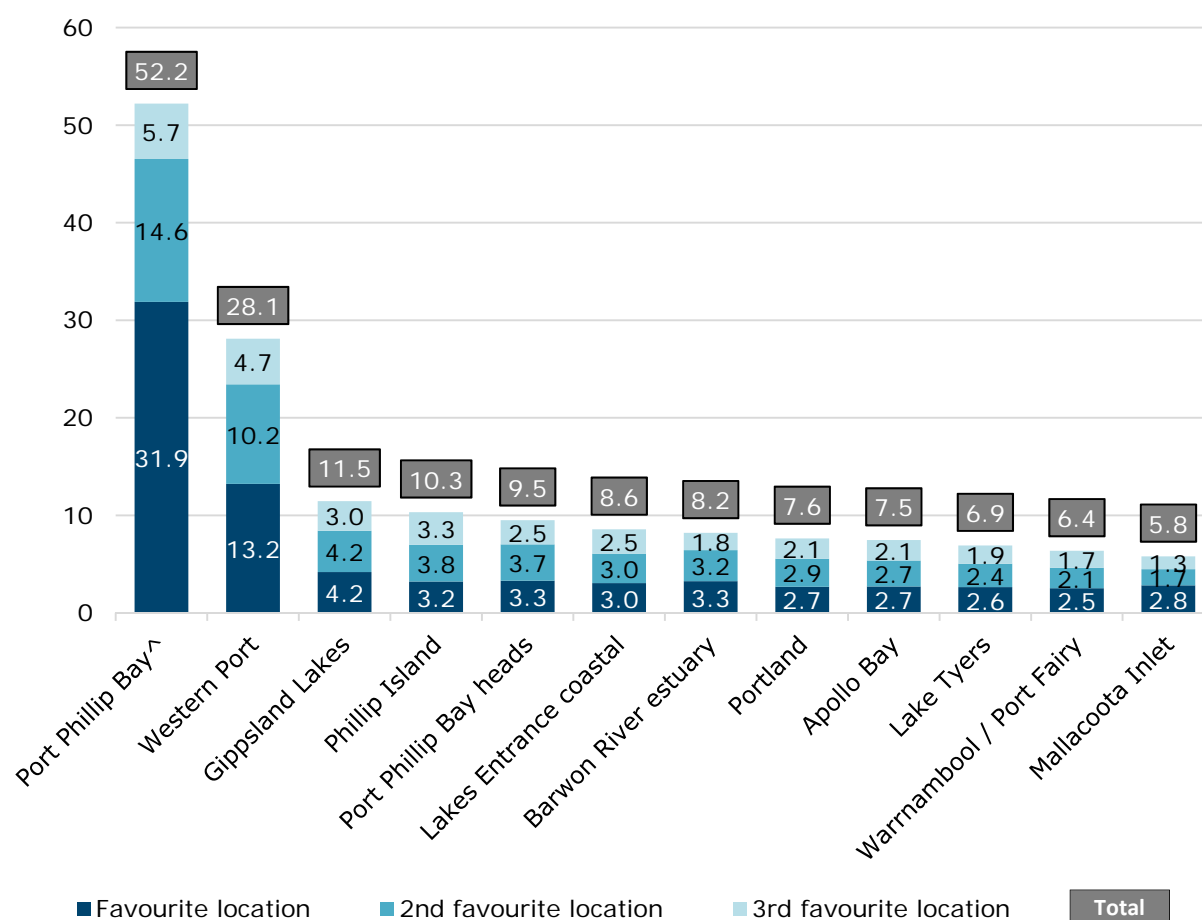
| One favourite location | | Two favourite locations | | Three favourite locations | |
|------------------------|------|-------------------------|------|---------------------------|------|
| Count | % | Count | % | Count | % |
| 2990 | 25.7 | 2891 | 24.9 | 5742 | 49.4 |

The chart below shows results for the top 10 locations only, combining all three favourite mentions. If a location was not on the list respondents were asked to specify the name. Other common locations that were not individually listed included Tamboon Inlet, Port Welshpool, Marlo, Port Albert, Anderson's Inlet and Corio Bay.

Port Philip Bay was the most preferred location for 52% of respondents followed by Western Port (28%) and the Gippsland Lakes (12%).

Favourite marine/estuarine fishing locations - top 10

% of respondents, n=11,623



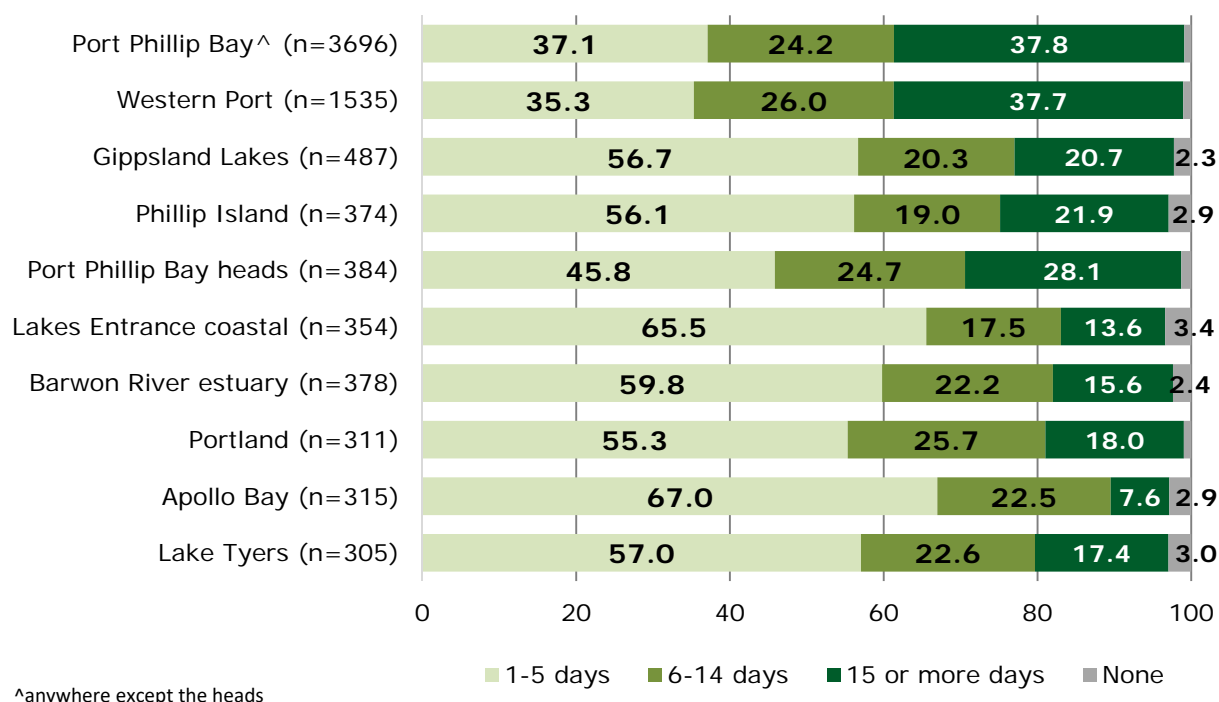
^anywhere except the heads

Favourite location

Sixty-two (62%) of respondents who selected Port Phillip Bay, 64% who selected Western Port and 41% who selected the Gippsland Lakes as their favourite location fished there 6 or more days in the last 12 months.

Frequency of fishing at favourite marine/estuarine location

% of respondents, n count varies by location

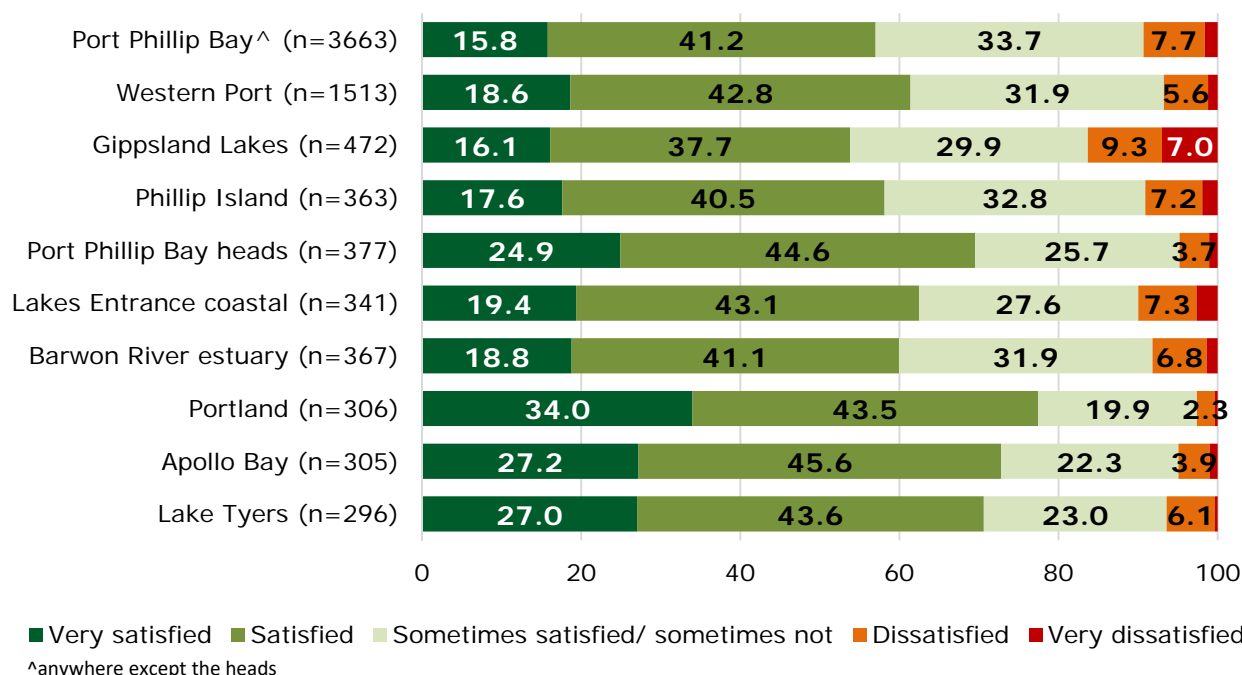


Satisfaction with fishing experiences was greatest for respondents who fished at Portland (77% were either *satisfied* or *very satisfied*), Apollo Bay (73% were either *satisfied* or *very satisfied*) and Lake Tyers (71% were either *satisfied* or *very satisfied*).

Respondents were least satisfied with fishing at Gippsland Lakes (16% were either *dissatisfied* or *very dissatisfied*), Lakes Entrance coastal (10% were either *dissatisfied* or *very dissatisfied*) followed by Port Phillip Bay excluding the heads and Phillip Island (both had 9% of respondents who were either *dissatisfied* or *very dissatisfied*).

Satisfaction with fishing at favourite marine/estuarine location

% of respondents, n count varies by location

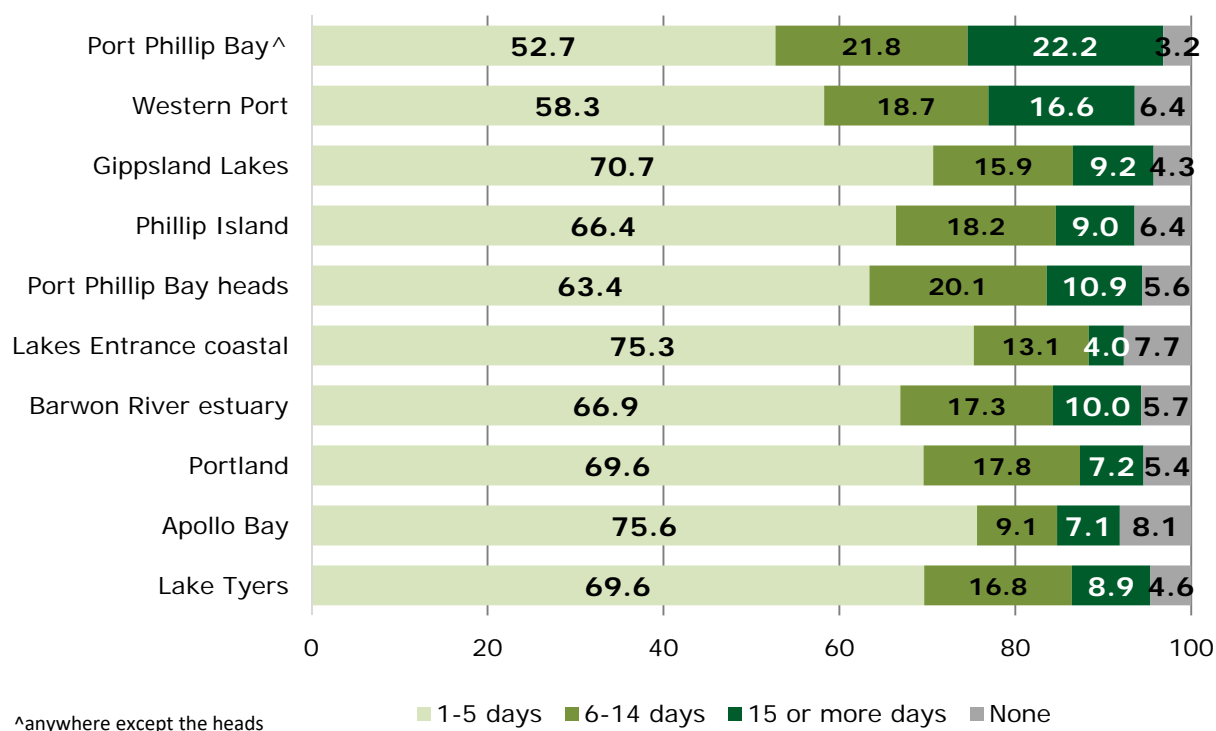


Second favourite location

As a pattern, respondents fished less frequently at their second favourite location when compared with the first. Forty-four percent (44%) spent six or more days fishing at Port Phillip Bay excluding the heads, followed by 35% at Western Port and 31% at Port Phillip Bay heads.

Frequency of fishing at 2nd favourite marine/estuarine location

% of respondents, n count varies by location

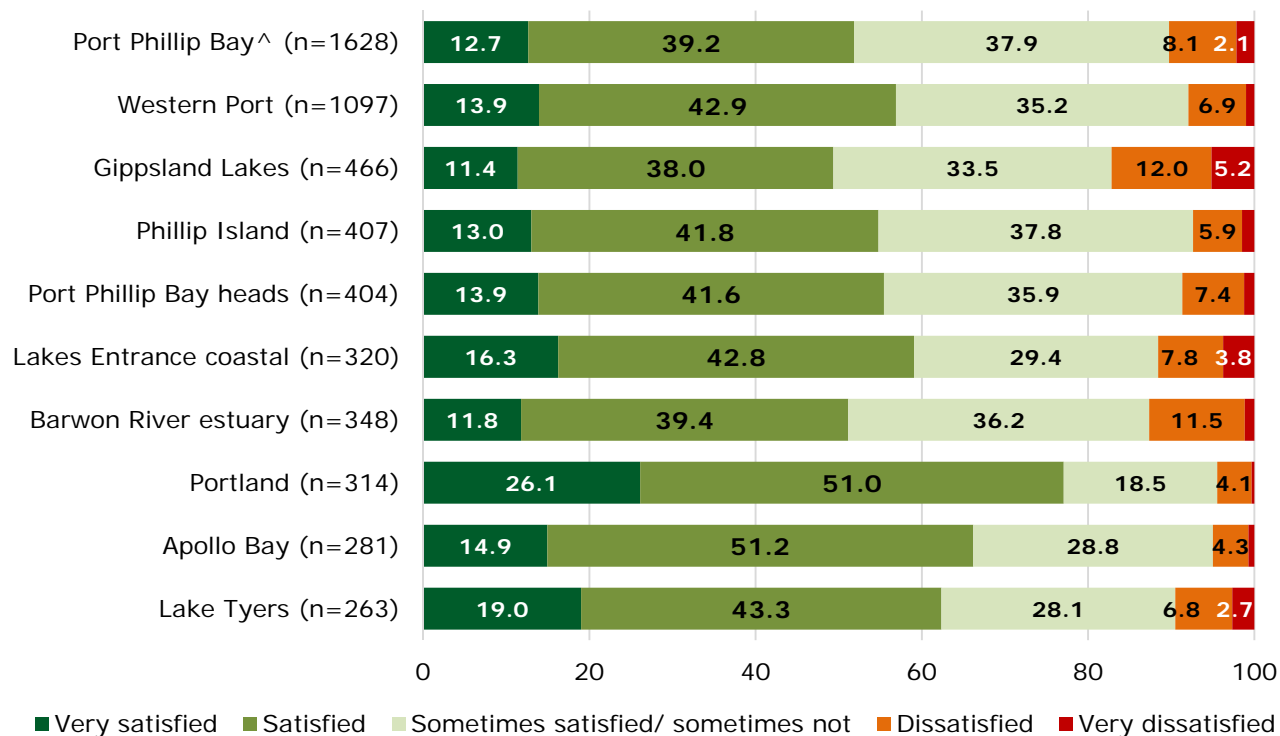


Seventy-seven percent (77%) of respondents who listed Apollo Bay as their second favourite fishing location were *satisfied* or *very satisfied* with their fishing experience, followed by 66% who listed Apollo Bay and 62% who listed Lake Tyers as their second favourite location.

Respondents were least satisfied with fishing at the Gippsland Lakes (17% were either *dissatisfied* or *very dissatisfied*), Barwon River estuary (13%) and Lakes Entrance coastal (12%).

Satisfaction with fishing at 2nd marine/estuarine favourite location

% of respondents, n count varies by location



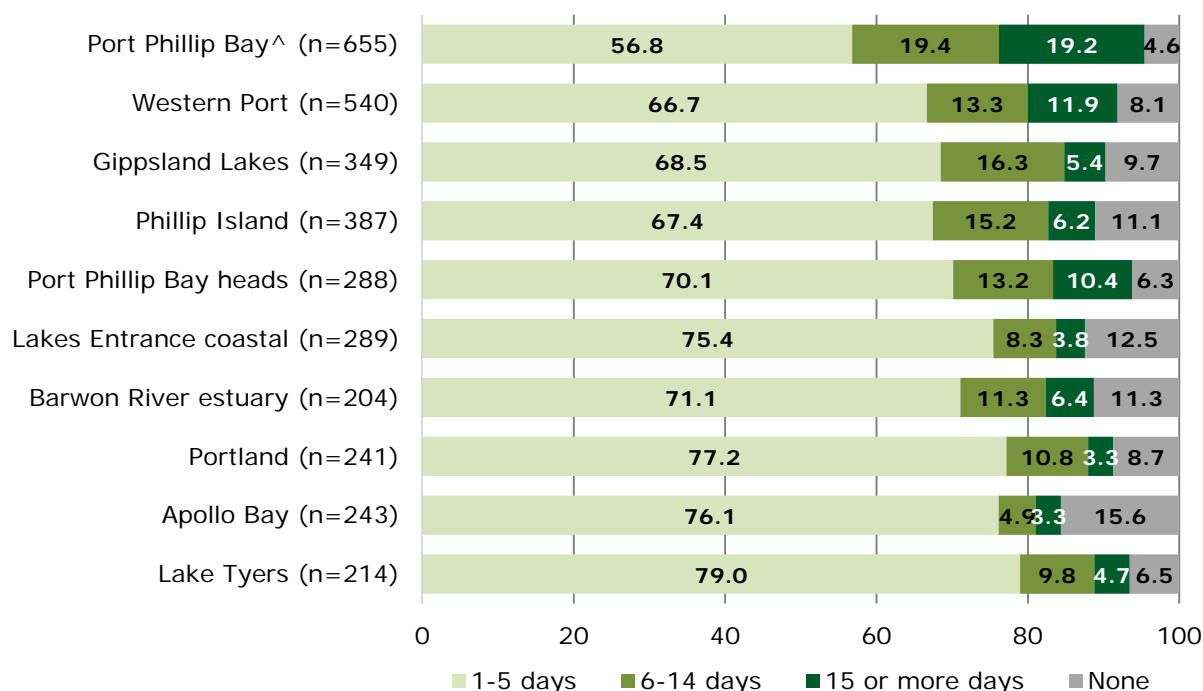
^anywhere except the heads

Third favourite location

Of the respondents who listed Port Phillip Bay excluding the heads as their third favourite location, 39% fished there six or more days in the past 12 months. Refer to the chart below.

Frequency of fishing at 3rd favourite marine/estuarine location

% of respondents, n count varies by location

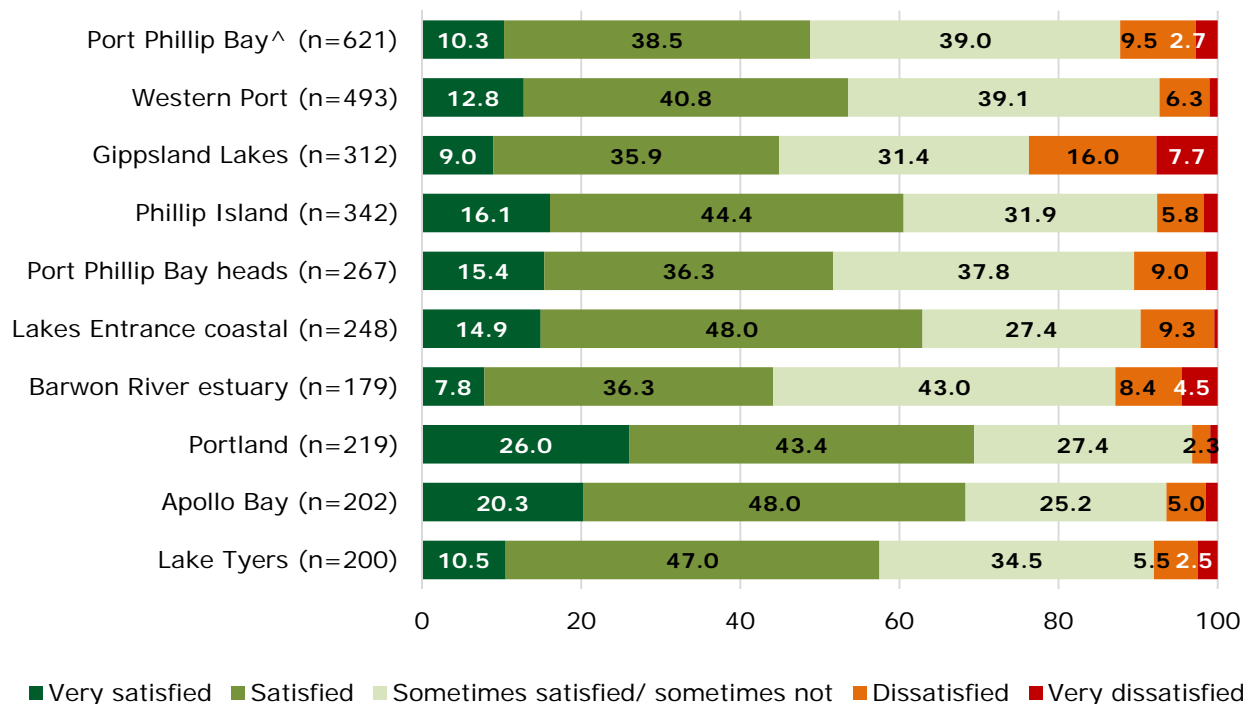


^anywhere except the heads

Respondents were most satisfied with fishing at Portland, Apollo Bay and Lakes Entrance coastal and least satisfied with fishing at Gippsland Lakes. Refer to the chart below.

Satisfaction with fishing at 3rd favourite marine/estuarine location





% of respondents, n count varies by location



^anywhere except the heads

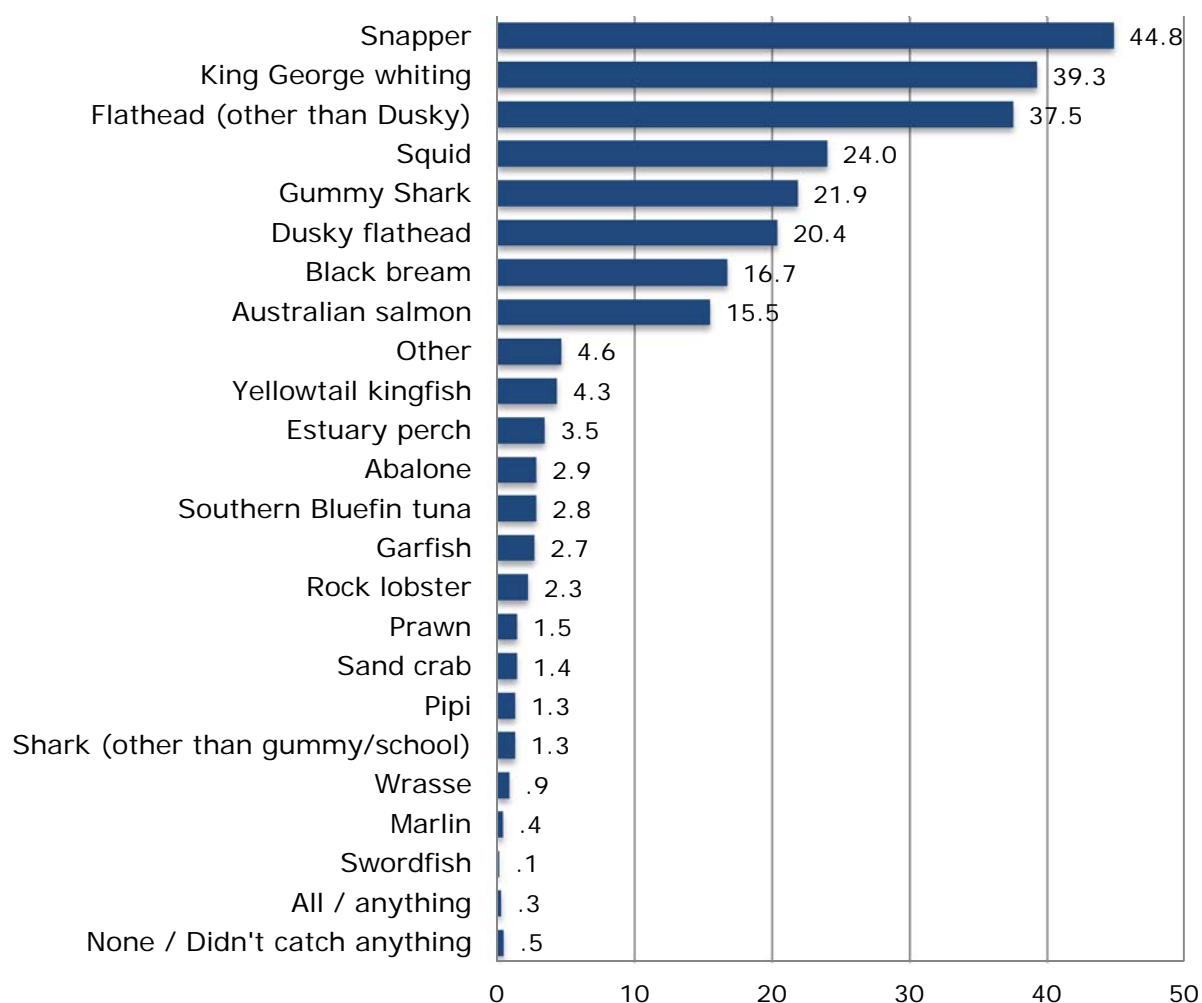
Marine / estuarine fish species

Snapper (45%), King George whiting (39%), Flathead (other than Dusky) (38%) and squid (24%) were the top four fish to catch for respondents who fished in marine / estuarine species. Refer to the chart and table below.

| Favourite marine/estuarine fish to catch | Name | % of respondents |
|---|-----------------------------|------------------|
|  | Snapper | 45 |
|  | King George whiting | 39 |
|  | Flathead (other than Dusky) | 38 |
|  | Squid | 24 |

Favourite fish to catch from Victorian marine/estuarine waters

% of respondents based on n=11,523; multiple answers allowed so total >100%

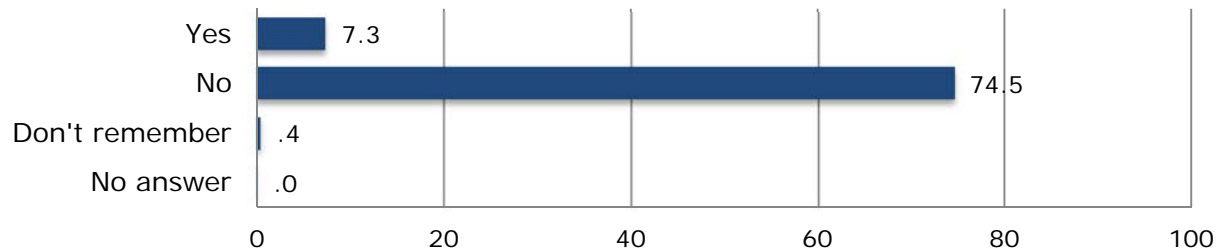


Southern Bluefin tuna

Approximately 9% of respondents had fished for Southern Blue Fin tuna in Victoria in the previous 12 months.

Fished for Southern Bluefin tuna in Victoria in previous 12 months

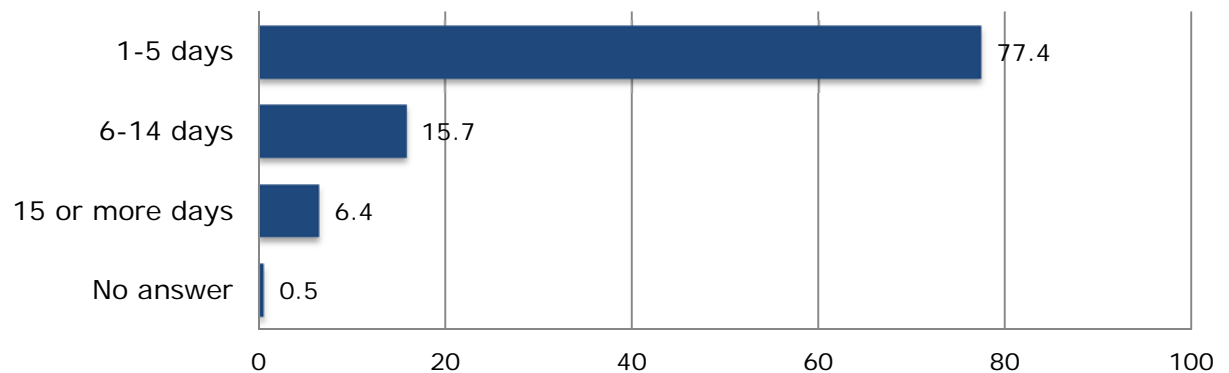
% of respondents, n=11,621



Seventy-seven percent (77%) of respondents who indicated that they had fished for Southern Blue Fin tuna in Victoria in the previous 12 months spent one to five days fishing for them.

Number of days fished for Southern Bluefin tuna in Victoria

% of respondents, n=1,037



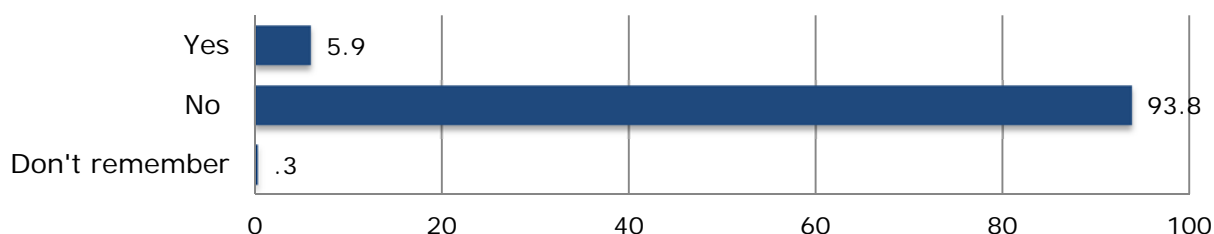
Most commonly, those who fished for Southern Blue Fin tuna in Victoria in the previous 12 months caught between one to three tuna (39%) but notably, just under a third (31%) had caught none.

Abalone

Six percent (6%) of respondents indicated that they had fished for Abalone in Victoria in the last 12 months. Refer to the chart below.

Fished for Abalone in Victoria in previous 12 months

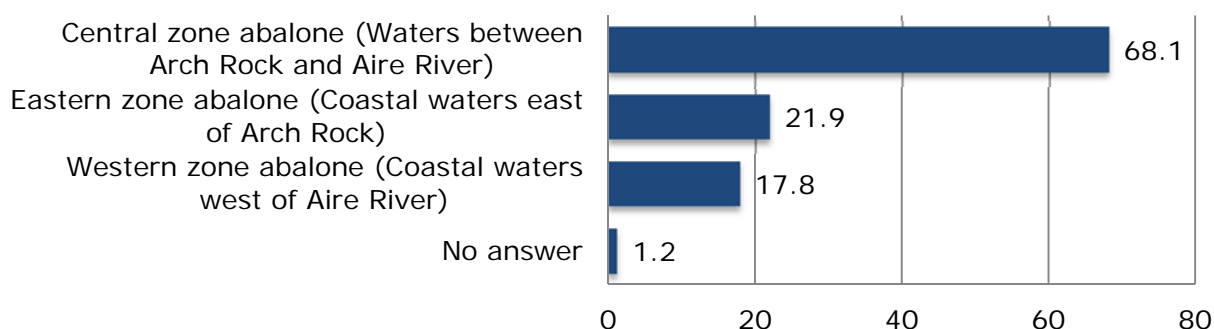
% of respondents, n=11,620



Most commonly, respondents fished in the central zone (waters between Arch Rock and Aire River) for Abalone (68%).

Location fished for Abalone

% of respondents, n=690, multiple response question



Improvements to recreational fishing in Victoria

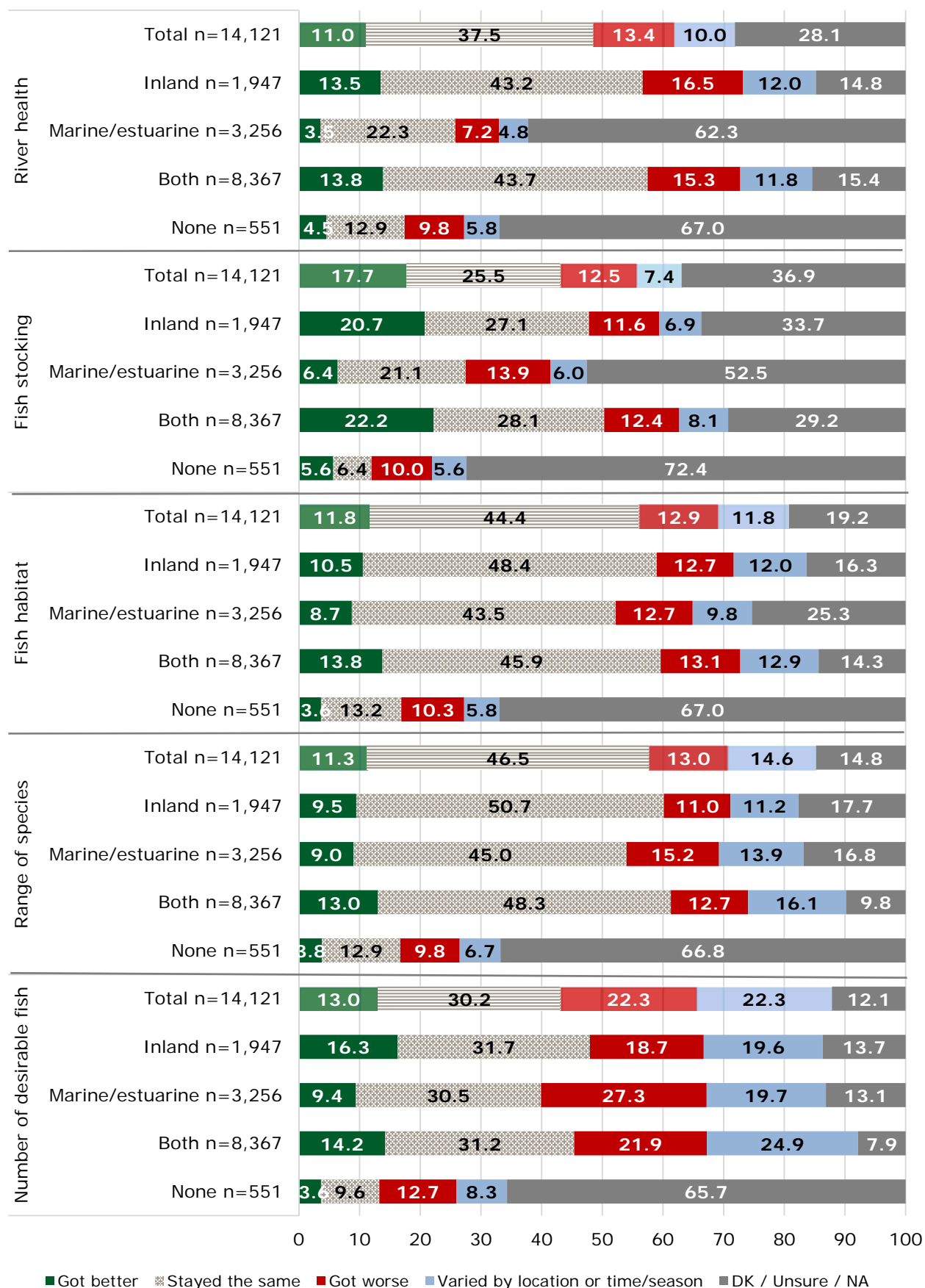
All respondents were asked to indicate what they had generally noticed about five key issues while fishing in Victoria over the previous 12 months. Views varied by fishing water preference. Initial analysis suggests that, on average, at least 20% of respondents had no knowledge of any of the improvements. The highest proportion of *don't know / no answer* selections were from those respondents who had not fished in the previous 12 months (see chart on following page, group name = none)

Additionally, there were two improvements where fishing water preference affected results: fish stocking and river health which predominantly affect inland waters. Hence those who only fish in marine / estuarine waters are less likely to have an informed view.

With this in mind, two separate charts were produced for this topic: the first chart includes *don't know / unsure / no answers* and the second excludes these answers. The removal of the *don't know* category allows us to investigate the proportions of respondents who **did** have views about these issues. But it is also important to understand the proportion of the fishing population who have no views on these activities.

View of Victorian fishing improvements in the previous 12 months

% of respondents, including don't know / unsure / no answer responses



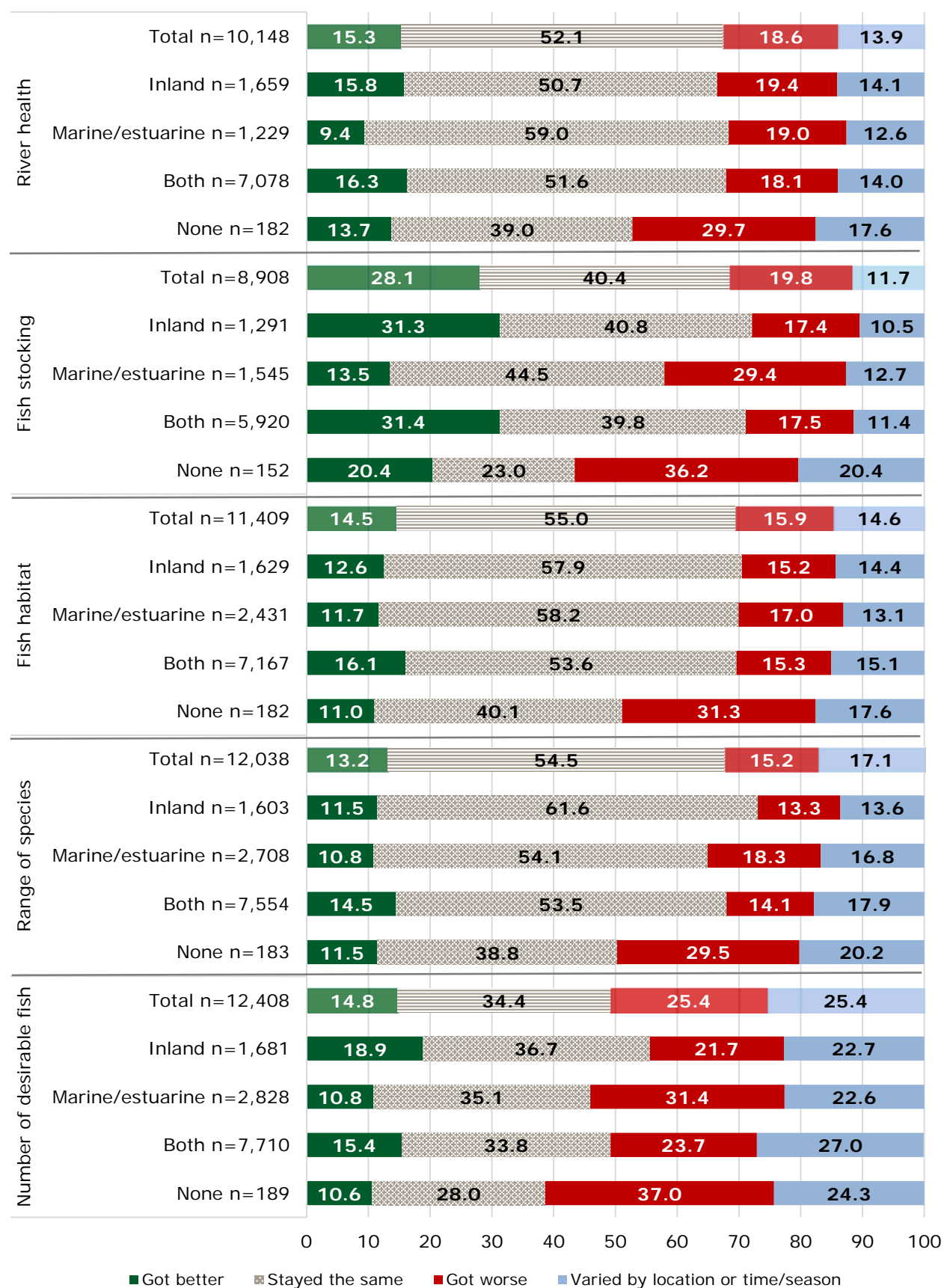
The following discussion relates to the chart on the following page which excludes the *don't know* response category. Twenty-eight percent (28%) of respondents indicated that fish stocking had improved in the previous 12 months. While 15% of respondents indicated that the number of desirable fish had improved in the previous 12 months, a further 25% indicated that it had worsened. The number of desirable fish was the lowest rated activity regardless of fishing water preference.

Female respondents were more likely to answer that all items in the chart below got *worse* over the last 12 months. Respondents aged under 50 years were more likely to indicate that all items had got *better* over the last 12 months.

Thirty percent of respondents with long term licences indicated that fish stocking had improved over the previous 12 months compared with 20% of short term licence holders. Refer to table D1 in Appendix D for demographic results.

View of improvements to fishing in Victoria over the last 12 months

% of respondents, *excluding* don't know / unsure / no answer



Priorities to improve recreational fishing

When asked for effective ways to improve fishing in Victoria 39% of respondents chose *enforcing fishing rules*; the same proportion (39%) chose *improving fishing habitat*, while 37% chose *increasing the number of fish by stocking*. Respondents who fished both inland and in marine / estuarine waters were more likely to suggest these three improvements. Refer to the chart on the following page.

A larger proportion of female respondents answered *educating people about sustainable recreational fishing practices* (44%).

The three most commonly selected priorities for improvement varied by age group. Respondents aged under 50 years selected *improving fish habitat* (41%), *increasing the number of fish by stocking* (39%), and *enforcing fishing rules* (38%) as the most effective priorities. Whereas, respondents aged over 50 years selected *enforcing fishing rules* (40%), *educating people about sustainable recreational fishing practices* (39%) and *improving fish habitat* (36%) as the most effective priorities.

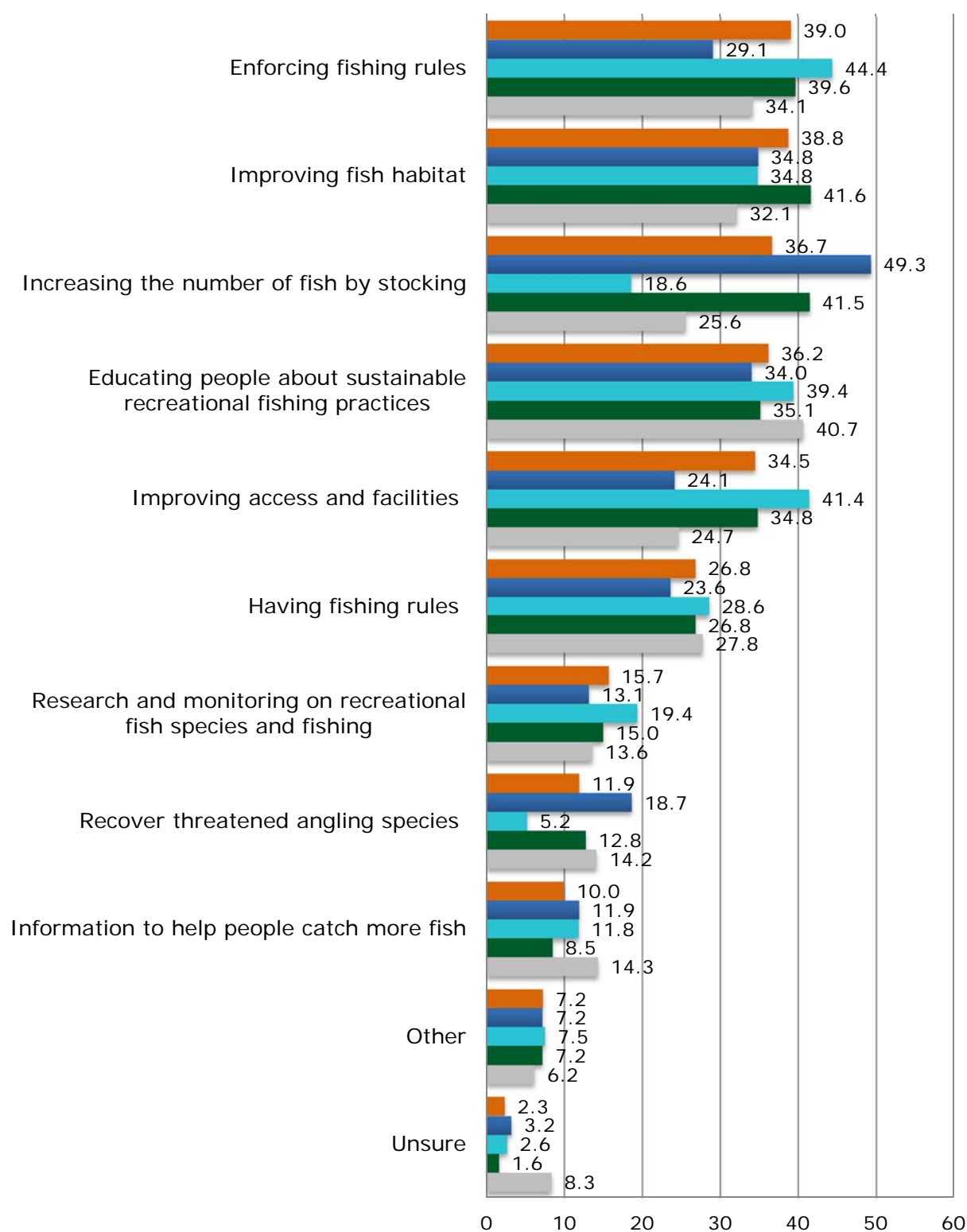
Three improvement areas had a difference of seven percent or more between long term and short term licence holders. They were, *enforcing fishing rules* and *improving access and facilities* which were selected by more long term licence holders and *information to help people catch more fish* which was selected by proportionally more short term licence holders.

Refer to table D2 in Appendix D for demographic results.

Effective ways to improve recreational fishing in Victoria

% of respondents based in n counts in legend

Multiple answers allowed so total >100%



■ Total n=14,098
 ■ Inland n=1,940
 ■ Marine/estuarine n=3,249
 ■ Both n=8,358
 ■ None n=551

Respondents who selected *other* in the question above were asked to detail their answer. A total of 990 valid responses were thematically coded. The table below displays the 10 most common suggestions.

| Top 10 most common suggestions for improving recreational fishing in Victoria n=990 | Count | % of respondents |
|---|-------|------------------|
| Stop/limit commercial fishing, netting, trawling | 332 | 33.5 |
| Improve pest control (carp, toadfish, weeds, cormorants) | 104 | 10.5 |
| More enforcement, including of specific groups of people, at certain times & particular locations | 84 | 8.5 |
| Improve facilities like toilets, piers, jetties, bins | 51 | 5.2 |
| Change regulations (bag limit, slot size, line limit, bait type for certain species) | 50 | 5.1 |
| Improve water levels / flow | 42 | 4.2 |
| Healthier / better managed waterways better like no blackwater, better river mouths, better water quality, reduced silt | 38 | 3.8 |
| Reduce / remove fishing licence fee | 34 | 3.4 |
| Ban or limit jet skis / wakeboarding speed boats from some areas | 30 | 3.0 |
| Improve stocking, not just trout and more locations | 29 | 2.9 |

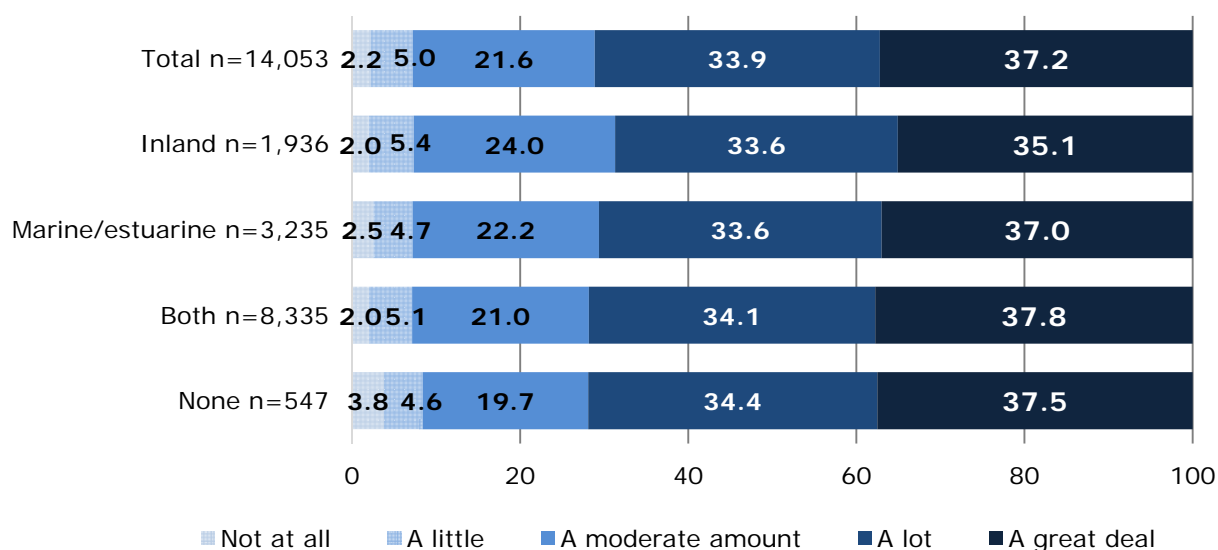
Collaboration

Over a third of respondents (37%) answered that Victorian Fisheries Authority and Victorian natural resource management agencies should work together *a great deal* to create better fisheries and habitat in Victoria, another 34% answered they should work together *a lot*.

Female respondents, younger respondents and short term licence holders were most likely to answer they'd like Victorian Fisheries Authority and Victorian natural resource management agencies to work together a moderate amount. A higher proportion of respondents aged over 50 years indicated that the VFA and other Victorian natural resource management agencies should collaborate a lot or a great deal (74%). Refer to table D4 in Appendix D for demographic results.

Level of collaboration between VFA / Victorian natural resource management agencies to create better fisheries and habitat in Victoria

% of respondents; n count varies



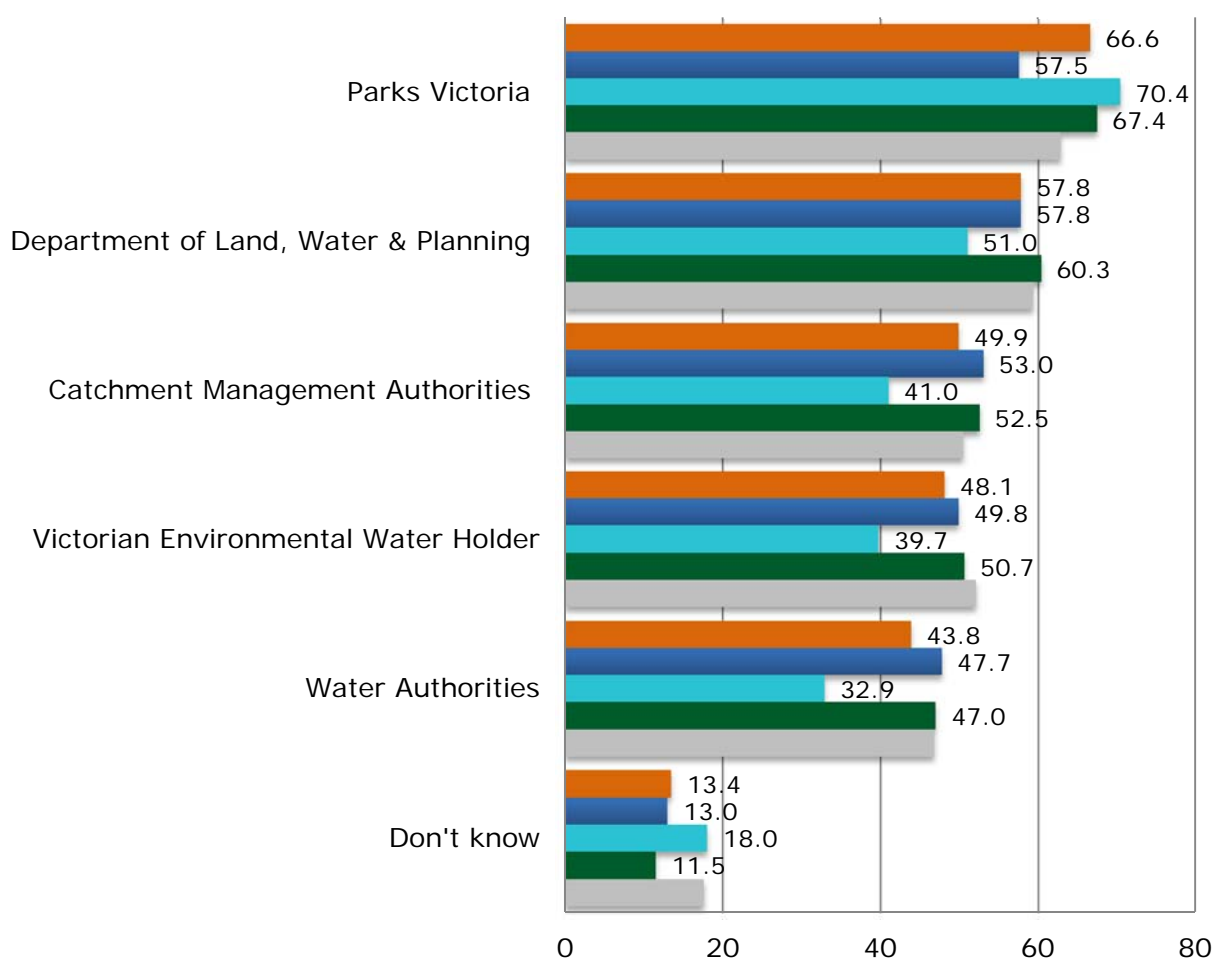
Sixty-seven percent (67%) of respondents answered VFA should collaborate with Parks Victoria, 58% answered Department of Land, Water & Planning and 50% answered Catchment Management Authorities. Additionally, open ended commentary indicated that some respondents wanted VFA to collaborate with local government regarding monitoring, reducing or capping boat ramp and jetty fees.

Female respondents were more likely to answer that VFA should collaborate with Victorian Environmental Water Holder (55%). There were minimal differences between age groups regarding collaboration with the different types of natural resource management agencies in Victoria. Long term licence holders were more likely to select Parks Victoria (69%) compared with short term licence holders (60%). Refer to table D5 in Appendix D.

Departments / organisations VFA should collaborate with

% of respondents based on n count in legend

Multiple answers allowed so totals >100%



■ Total n=14,089
 ■ Inland n=1,944
 ■ Marine/estuarine n=3,243
 ■ Both n=8,351
 ■ None n=551

Previous improvements

When asked which actions improved recreational fishing in Victoria, 62% selected *halting commercial netting in Port Phillip and Corio Bays*, 49% answered *increasing fish stocking to 5 million fish per year* and 44% answered *banning netting at the mouths of rivers in the Gippsland Lakes*.

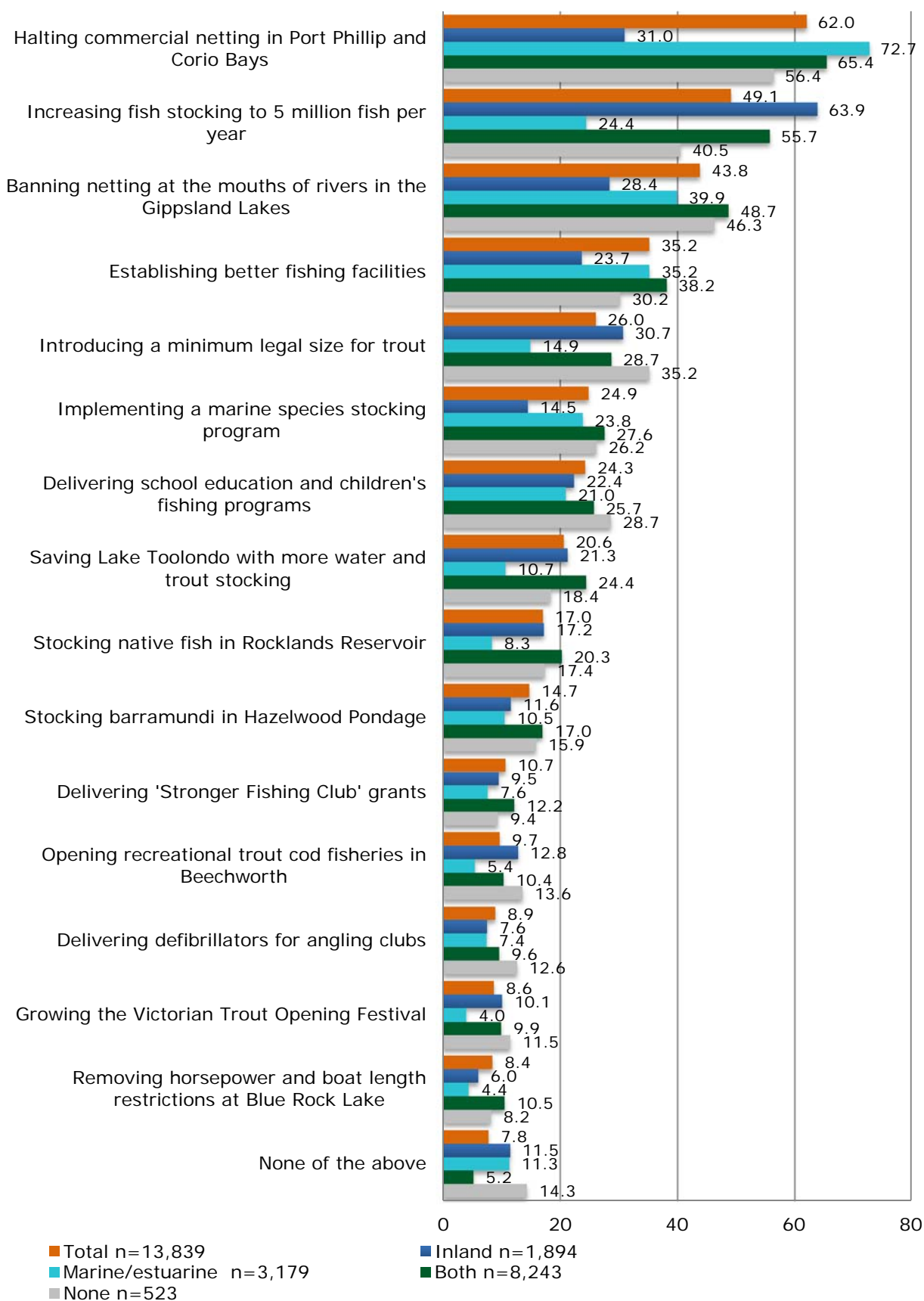
Female respondents were less likely to answer *halting commercial netting in Port Phillip and Corio Bays* (44%) and *Increasing fish stocking to 5 million fish per* (41%). Respondents aged over 50 years rated *halting commercial netting in Port Phillip and Corio Bays* (68%) and *banning netting at the mouths of rivers in the Gippsland Lakes* (49%) significantly higher than those aged under 50 years, with a difference of 10% and 9% respectively. Long term licence holder were also more likely to select the aforementioned items than short term licence holders.

Refer to table D6 in Appendix D for demographic results.

Actions that have improved recreational fishing in Victoria

% of respondents based on n count in legend

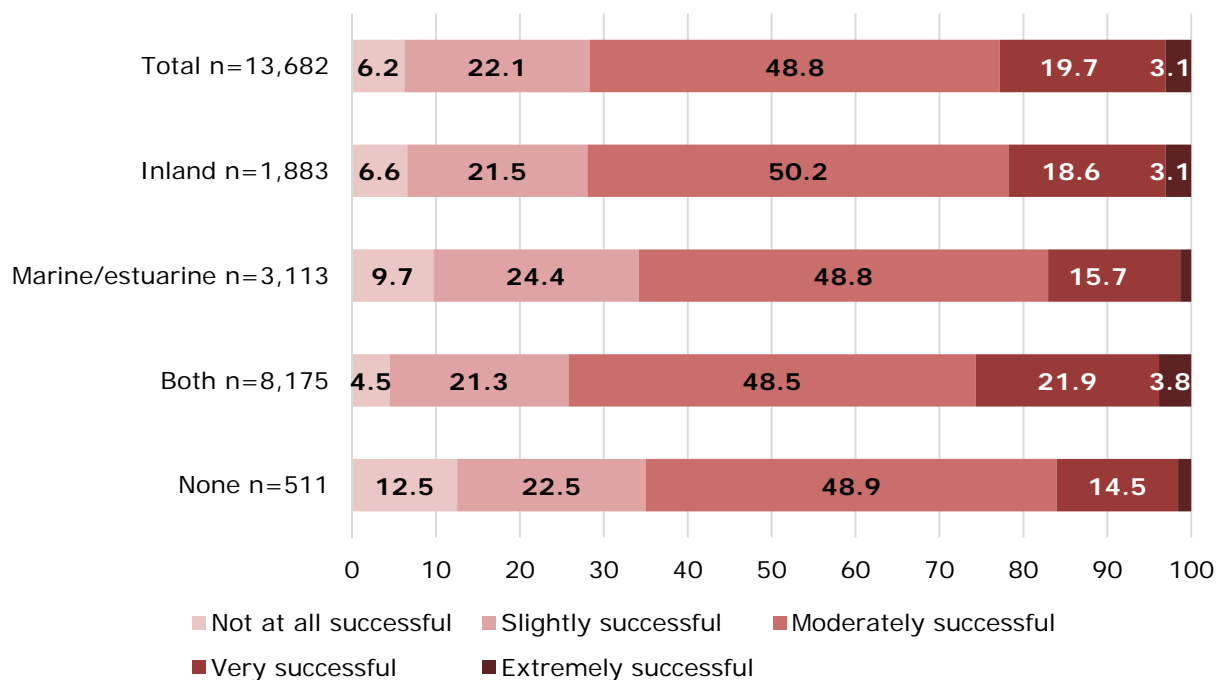
Multiple answers allowed so totals >100%



Nearly all respondents (94%) indicated that the Target One Million investment had some level of success. There were minimal difference across age groups and gender regarding the success of the Target One Million campaign. However long term licence holders were more likely to rate the Target One Million campaign as moderately to extremely successful (75%). Refer to table D7 Appendix D for demographic results.

Level of success of the Target One Million investment in relation to actions to improve recreational fishing in Victoria

% of respondents; n counts vary



Communication

Channels

Forty-one percent (41%) of respondents referred to their fishing colleagues for information on recreational fishing in Victoria and a similar proportion referred to Facebook (41%). Thirty-two percent used TV fishing shows and 19% used government websites.

Female respondents were more likely to answer *Facebook* (45%), and less likely to answer *fishing colleagues* (36%) and *YouTube* (9%).

Differences in the sources of information used regarding recreational fishing in Victoria varied considerably by age group. *Facebook* was the most commonly selected source for those aged under 50 years with 50% of respondents selecting *Facebook* compared with 29% of respondents aged over 50 years. The most commonly selected source of information for those aged over 50 years was *fishing colleagues* (47%). *Fishing colleagues* was the second most common option for those aged under 50 years (36%). Older respondents were more likely to use *magazines* (13%) and *TV shows* (36%) compared with younger respondents (9% and 30% respectively). While younger respondents were more likely to use *Instagram* (7%) and *YouTube* (15%) compared with older respondents (2% and 12% respectively).

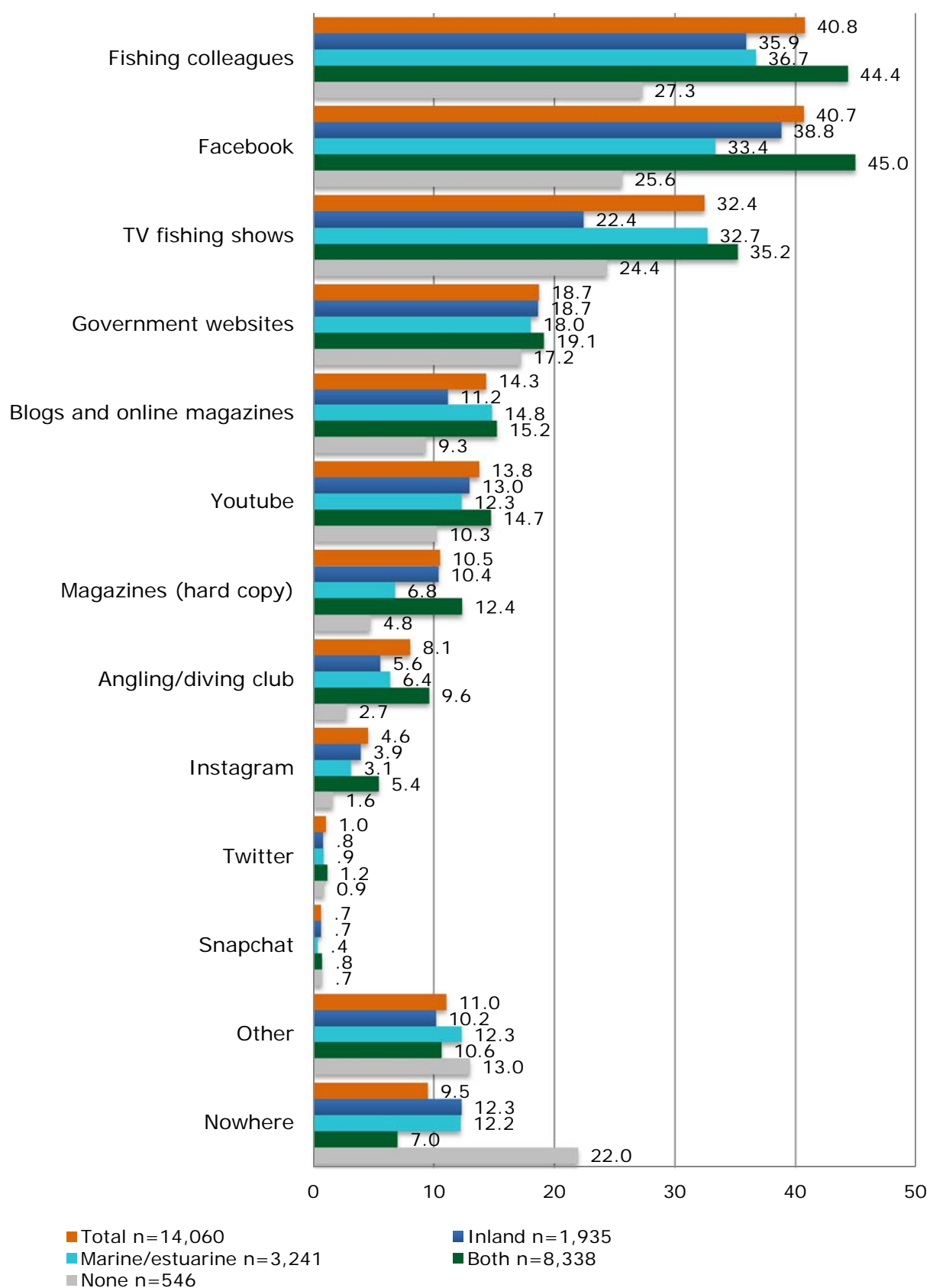
Long term licence holders were more likely to select *TV fishing shows* (35%), *fishing colleagues* (43%) and *magazines* (12%) compared with short term licence holders, chosen by 25%, 34%, 6% respectively.

Refer to table D8 in Appendix D for demographic results.

Information channels used on recreational fishing in Victoria

% of respondents based on n count in legend

Multiple answers allowed so total >100%



Respondents who selected magazines, TV fishing shows and Government websites were asked to list the names of the titles, shows and websites that they had used. The three tables shown below display the top 10 most commonly mentioned sources of information for each communication channel.

Other commonly mentioned sources of information that were not presented in the tables below included internet searches, emails and newsletters, retail shops and word of mouth.

| Top 10 most common magazines used for information regarding recreational fishing in Victoria n=822 | Count | % of respondents |
|---|-------|------------------|
| Fishing monthly (& Boating) (not further specified/ NSW/ VIC & TAS) | 224 | 27.3 |
| AFN - Freshwater Fishing Australia magazine (contains: Freshwater, Freshwater Fishing, Freshwater Fishing Magazine) | 222 | 27.0 |
| Flylife Magazine | 73 | 8.9 |
| Fishing World | 49 | 6.0 |
| Victorian Recreational Fishing Guide | 40 | 4.9 |
| Many different titles | 39 | 4.7 |
| Fishing magazines (not further specified) | 27 | 3.3 |
| Modern Fishing Magazine | 24 | 2.9 |
| North East Angler | 21 | 2.6 |
| Club Marine Magazine | 14 | 1.7 |

| Top 10 most common TV shows used for information regarding recreational fishing in Victoria n=2616 | Count | % of respondents |
|---|-------|------------------|
| Ifish | 986 | 37.7 |
| Talking Fishing | 742 | 28.4 |
| All / All of them / All fishing shows / Any (not further specified) | 194 | 7.4 |
| Channel 31 (not further specified) | 191 | 7.3 |
| Many / Various / Lots | 106 | 4.1 |
| Hook, Line and Sinker | 92 | 3.5 |
| Fishing shows (not further specified) | 80 | 3.1 |
| Et/ Fishing with Et/ Escape with Et | 59 | 2.3 |
| Fishing Edge/ Fishing Fever | 53 | 2.0 |
| Oz Fish TV | 49 | 1.9 |

| Top 10 most common government websites used for information regarding recreational fishing in Victoria n=1226 | Count | % of respondents |
|---|-------|------------------|
| Department of Primary Industries (DPI) / Department of Fisheries (and Wildlife) / Victorian Fisheries Authority (contains: Fisheries/ Fisheries VIC/ Victorian Fisheries) | 793 | 64.7 |
| App (Victorian Recreational Fishing Guide Application/ Fisheries App/ VFA App) | 79 | 6.4 |
| Google/ Internet search (not further specified) | 51 | 4.2 |
| Parks Victoria (Parkweb) | 40 | 3.3 |

| Top 10 most common government websites used for information regarding recreational fishing in Victoria n=1226 | Count | % of respondents |
|--|-------|------------------|
| VFA - email / newsletter/ Fish-e-facts | 38 | 3.1 |
| Government websites (not further specified) | 28 | 2.3 |
| Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) | 22 | 1.8 |
| Fishing App (not further specified) | 22 | 1.8 |
| Fishing Victoria | 20 | 1.6 |
| Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) | 19 | 1.5 |

Over half of the respondents (52%) answered they would like to get their information on recreational fishing in Victoria in the same way as they get it now and 22% answered Facebook, followed by a wide range of other sources. There were minimal differences between gender groups regarding the preferred source of information.

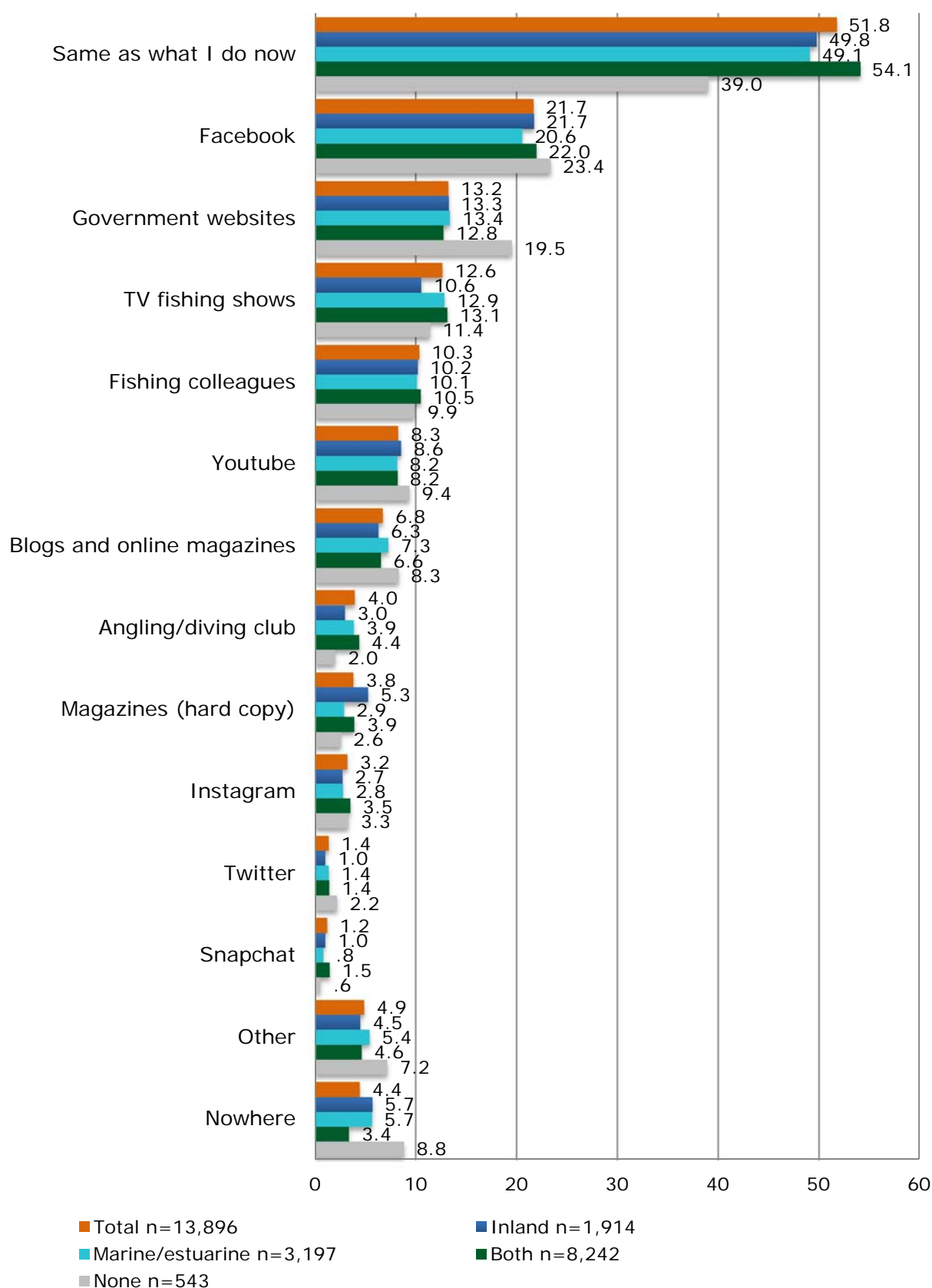
Most respondents would like to use the same method to get information about recreational fishing regardless of age group. Younger respondents would prefer to use Facebook (26%) compared with 16% of older respondents and a higher proportion of older respondents preferred to use fishing colleagues (13%) compared with younger respondents (9%).

Results by licence term varied minimally with just under half of short term licence holders preferring to use the same source of information (46%) compared with 53% of long term licence holders. Refer to table D9 in Appendix D for demographic results.

Preferred information channels on recreational fishing in Victoria

% of respondents based on n count in legend

Multiple answers allowed so total >100%



Respondents who selected magazines, TV fishing shows and Government websites were asked to list the names of the titles, shows and websites that they would like to use to obtain information on recreational fishing in Victoria.

The most common responses regarding **magazines** included:

- Freshwater Fishing
- Fishing Monthly
- Flylife
- Fishing World
- Any/ All/ Many/ Various/ Most (not further specified)
-

The most common responses regarding **TV shows** included:

- Talking Fishing
- I Fish
- Channel 31 (not further specified)
- Any/ All/ Many/ Various/ Most (not further specified)

The most common responses regarding **government websites** included:

- Victorian Fisheries Authority (contains: Fisheries/ Fisheries VIC/ Victorian Fisheries)
- Parks Victoria
- DELWP
- Any/ All/ Many/ Various/ Most (not further specified)

Encouraging Victorians to fish

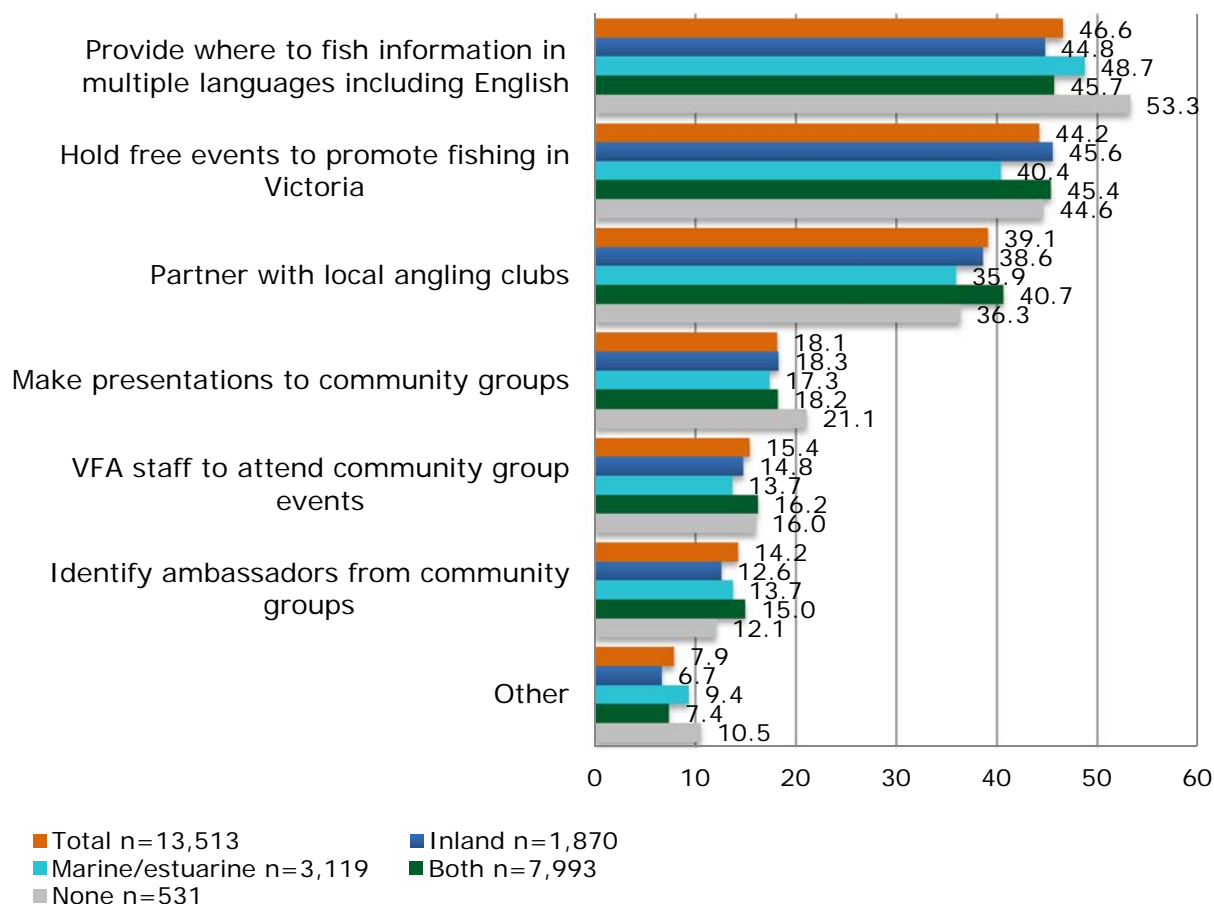
Just under half of respondents (47%) answered that *providing information on where to fish in multiple languages* would encourage people in Victoria to fish, 44% answered free events to promote fishing and 39% partnering with local angling clubs.

Females, younger respondents and short term licence holders were more likely to answer free events to promote fishing in Victoria as a way to encourage people to fish in Victoria. Refer to table D10 in Appendix D for demographic results.

Ways to encourage people in Victoria to fish

% of respondents based on n count in legend

Multiple answers allowed so total >100%



Respondents who selected *other* were asked to explain their answer. A total of 819 respondents provided a valid response. The top 10 most common themes are presented in the table below.

| Top 10 most common suggestions for encouraging recreational fishing in Victoria n=819 | Count | % of respondents |
|--|-------|------------------|
| Don't encourage any more - too many fishing now | 210 | 25.6 |
| Educate, inform, advertise, promote, including in schools, with licence, at fishing shows and gear shops | 186 | 22.7 |
| Increase enforcement | 88 | 10.7 |
| Improve the quality of fisheries, more fish, more fish stocking, less carp | 54 | 6.6 |
| Improve facilities including ramps and access | 49 | 6.0 |
| Reduce or remove licences / licence fee | 46 | 5.6 |
| Use multiple languages / have more signs | 24 | 2.9 |
| Make licences Australia-wide and rules consistent | 23 | 2.8 |
| Websites including government website on where and how to fish | 19 | 2.3 |
| Mass media (TV radio print) | 17 | 2.1 |

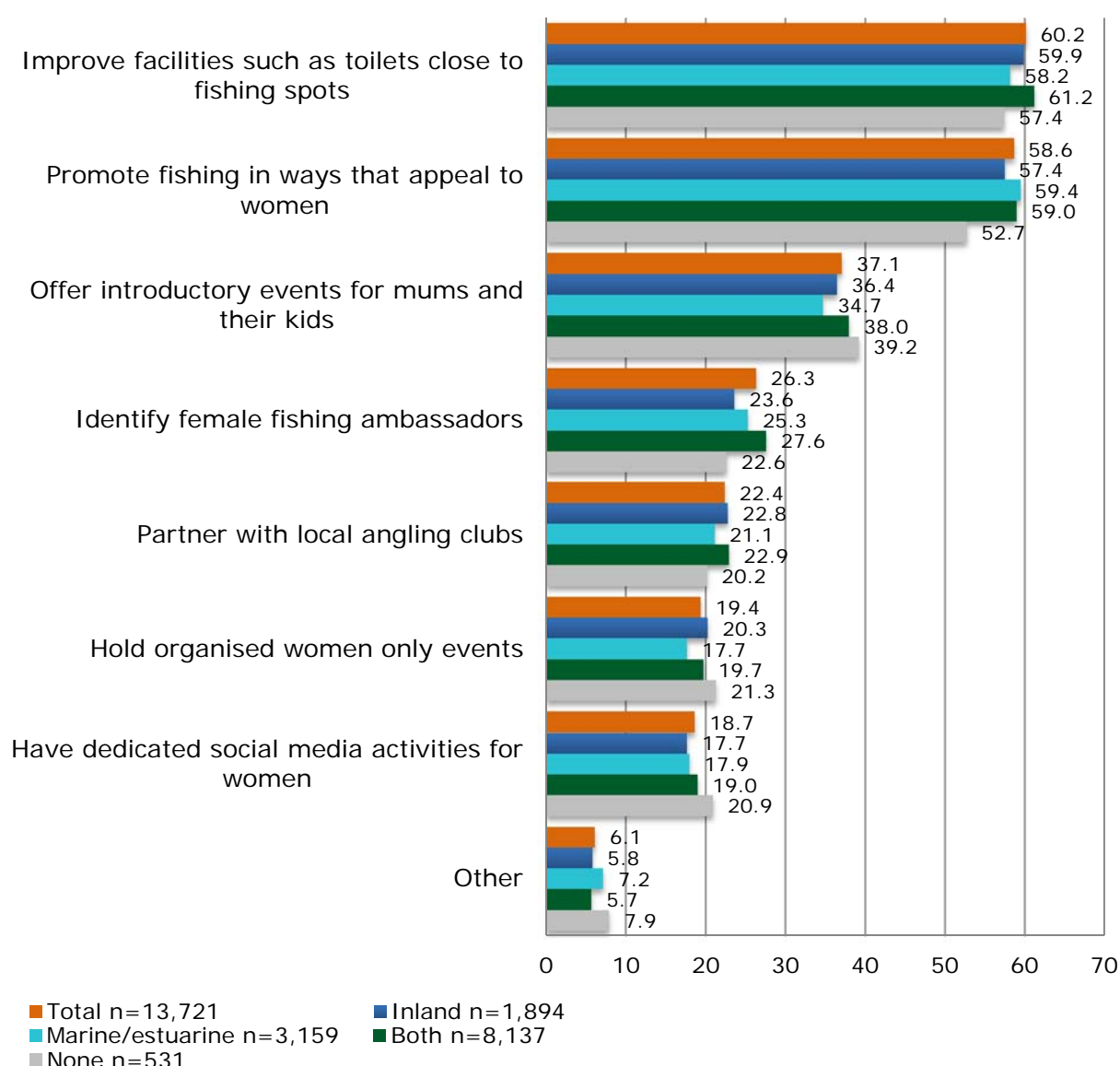
When asked about what would encourage women to fish in Victoria, 60% of respondents answered *improving facilities* such as toilets close to fishing spots, 59% answered *promoting fishing in ways that appeal to women* and 37% answered to *offer introductory events for mums and their kids*.

Female respondents were more likely to select all the ways to encourage women to fish as listed in the chart below, with the exception of the item *Promote fishing in ways that appeal to women*. Respondents aged under 50 years rated all but two items (*promote fishing in ways that appeal to women* and *Partner with local angling clubs*) higher than older respondents. There was an 11% difference between age groups regarding the item *introductory event for mums and their kids*, which was selected by 42% of younger respondents compared with 31% of older respondents. The results followed a fairly similar pattern across licence terms with slightly more short term licence holders selecting *introductory event for mums and their kids* (40%) compared with 36% for long term respondents. Refer to table D11 in Appendix D for demographic results.

Ways to encourage women to fish

% of respondents based on n count in legend

Multiple answers allowed so total >100%



Respondents who selected *other* were asked to explain their responses. A total of 663 respondents provided a valid response. The top 10 most common themes are presented in the table below.

| Top 10 most common suggestions for encouraging women to fish recreationally n=663 | Count | % of respondents |
|--|-------|------------------|
| If you want to fish you will - there's nothing stopping you | 72 | 10.9 |
| Remove licence / reduce fees / have family or national licence | 48 | 7.2 |
| Women are not interested / don't like fishing | 47 | 7.1 |
| Promote as family or group activities / hold family activities | 44 | 6.6 |
| Don't tell people what to do, let them decide, women do what they want | 38 | 5.7 |
| Sexist question / don't segregate or treat any differently | 37 | 5.6 |
| Don't - enough people fish now | 35 | 5.3 |
| Improve facilities and safety | 30 | 4.5 |
| Word of mouth / fathers and partners asking their partner and children to fish with them | 27 | 4.1 |

Fair and reasonable day's take

Over half of respondents answered that the day's take was *about right* for nearly all of the inland fish species in the chart below. The exception was *Yabbies* where 46% answered the bag limit was *about right*. However, 33% thought that the bag limit for *Yabbies* was *too many* or *way too many*. Thirteen percent (13%) of respondents would like to be able to keep more *Murray Spiny Freshwater Crayfish*. Refer to the chart below. Note that a considerable portion of respondents did not have views on this topic (the grey in the chart).

The results followed a very similar pattern for gender, however, female respondents were slightly less likely to answer that the slot limit was about right for *Murray Cod* (67%). Views regarding existing regulations varied by age group. Older respondents were more likely to rate bag limits for nearly all species as *about right* compared with younger

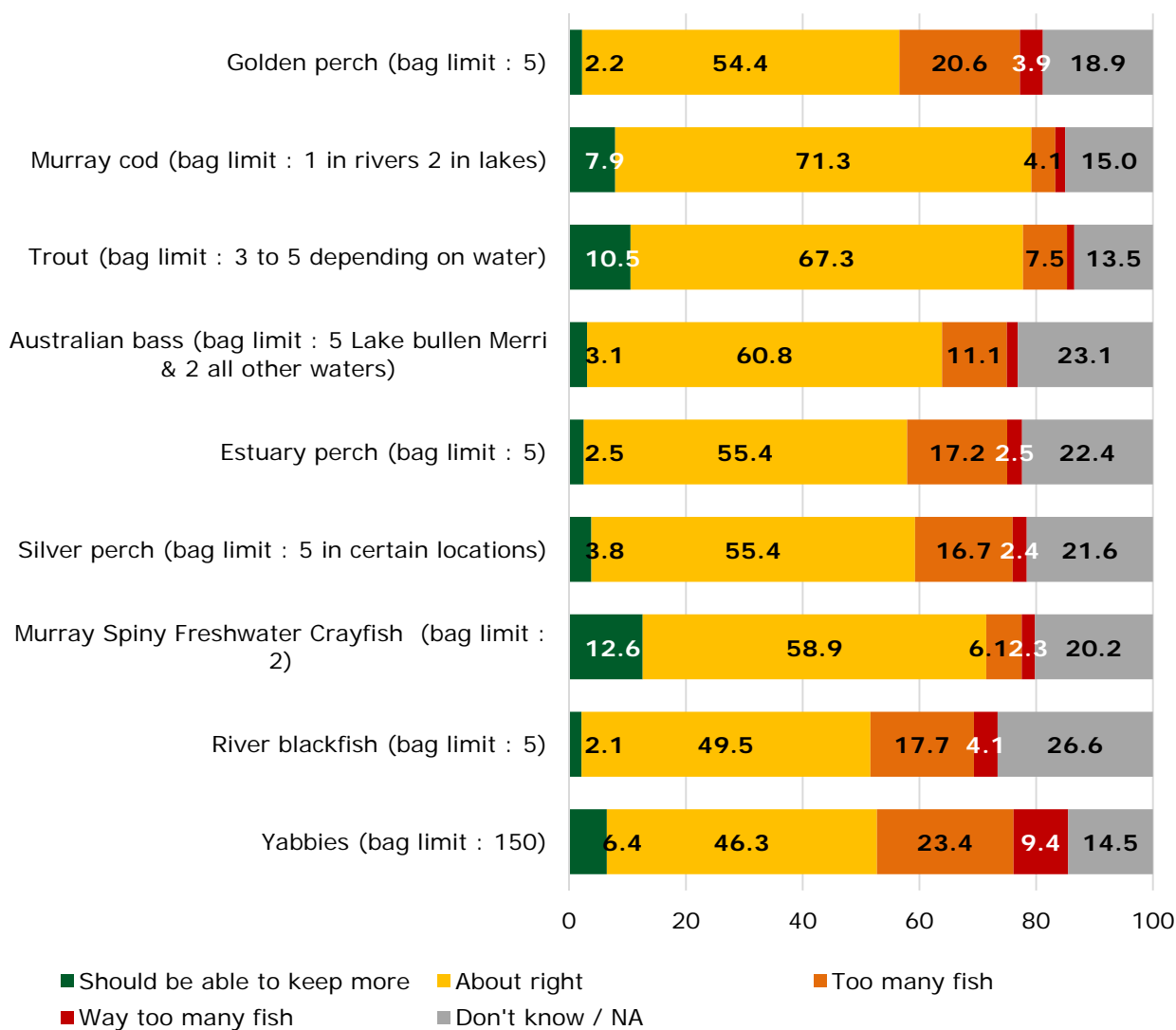
respondents. Proportionally more long term licence holders indicated that bag limits were too high (*too many fish* combined with *way too many fish*) for all species apart from trout.

Refer to table D12 in Appendix D for demographic results.

Views on current regulation

A fair and reasonable day's take - Inland

Number of respondents, n=14,121



The majority of respondents thought the day's take was *about right* for Tuna (69%), Gummy shark (71%), Rock lobster (68%) and Blacklip abalone (59%). A relatively larger proportion of respondents indicated the bag limits were either *too many fish* or *way too many fish* for Bream (35%), Flathead (39%), King George Whiting (37%) and Snapper (33%).

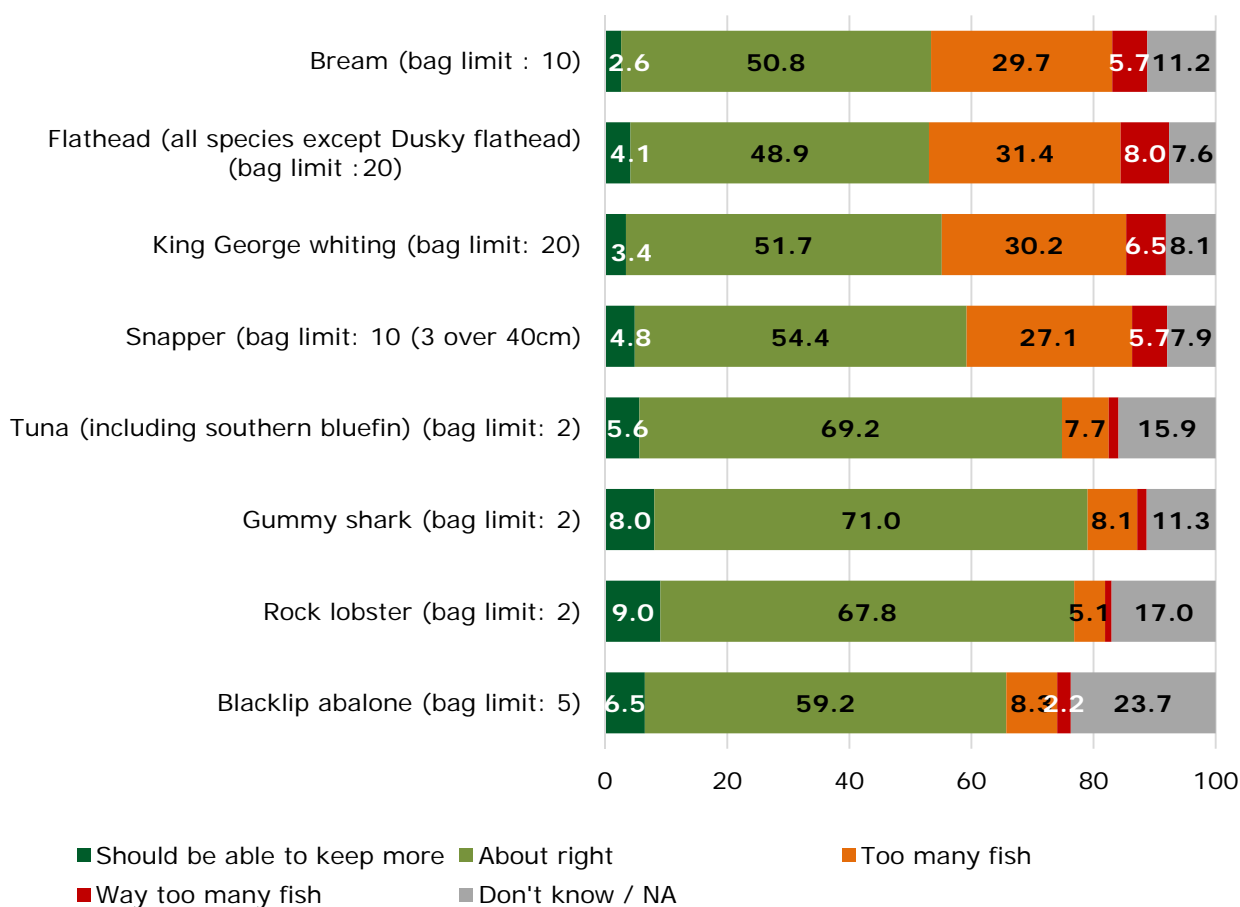
Female respondents were less likely to answer that the bag limit was about right for Flathead (42%) and King George whiting (46%). A higher proportion of younger respondents wanted to keep more of all species; for tuna (including Southern Bluefin, bag limit: 2) this proportion was 9% compared with 4% of older respondents. However younger respondents were more likely to indicate that bag limits for bream were *way too high*. Short term licence holders were more likely to select *don't know / unsure* for all species compared with long term licence holders.

Refer to table D13 in Appendix D for demographic results.

Views on current regulation

A fair and reasonable day's take - Marine / Estuarine

Number of respondents, n=14,121



Slot limits

Respondents were asked which fish species they thought should have a slot limit. The below chart shows the results for inland fish species.

Twenty-two percent of respondents answered that *Rainbow trout* should have a slot limit, followed by *Trout cod* (21%) and *Brown trout* (21%). Respondents who fished in both inland and in marine / estuarine waters were more likely overall to answer inland species should have slot limits compared to the other groups.

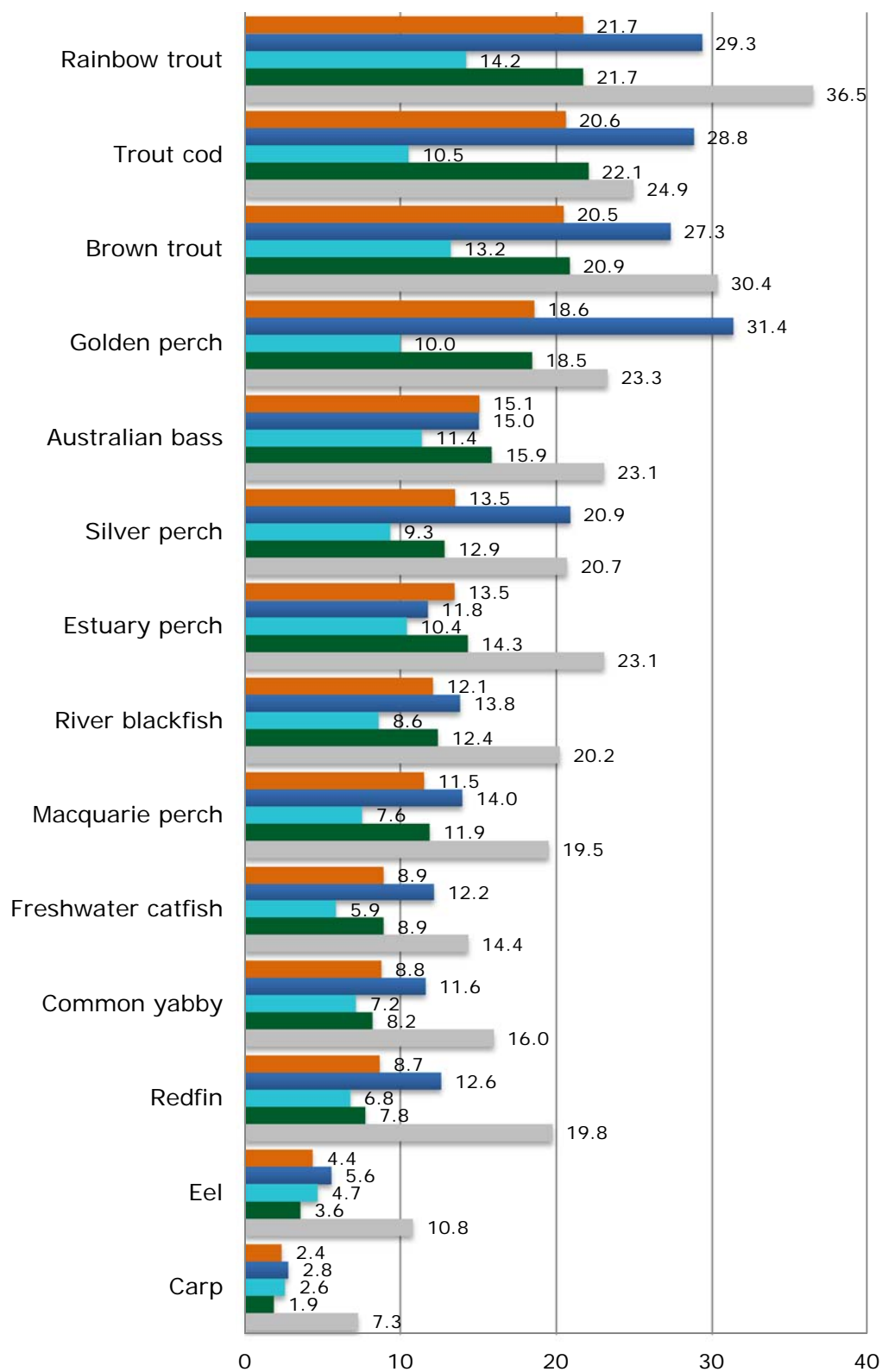
The biggest differences between genders were for *Rainbow trout*, *Redfin*, *Common yabby* and *Silver perch*, with females more likely to answer these species should have slot limits (30%, 16%, 15% and 19% respectively).

Older respondents were more likely to answer all species should have slot limits except for eel and carp. Results were very similar for short term and long term licence holders. Refer to table D14 in Appendix D for demographic results.

Slot limits - Inland species

% of respondents based on n count in legend

Multiple answers allowed so total >100%



■ Total n=10,785

■ Marine/estuarine n=2,344

■ None n=425

■ Inland n=1,489

■ Both n=6,527

The below chart shows which marine / estuarine fish species respondents thought should have a slot limit. Thirty-five percent (35%) of respondents answered *Snapper*, 32% *Gummy shark*, 25% *Flathead* and 24% *King George whiting*. Similar to the inland fish species result, respondents who fished in both Inland and in Marine / Estuarine waters were more likely overall to answer marine / estuarine fish species should have slot limits compared to the other groups.

Female respondents were more likely overall to answer marine / estuarine fish species should have slot limits, with the biggest differences for *Abalone* (26%), *Australian salmon* (23%), *Rock lobster* (31%), *Shark* (28%), *Sand crab* (17%) and *Prawn* (15%) (differences between 9% and 12%).

Older respondents selected all items except *Shark* and *Squid* more than younger respondents. The largest differences in selections were for *King George whiting* (29%), *Flathead* (29%) and *Snapper* (37%) which had a difference of 9%, 7% and 5% respectively between age groups.

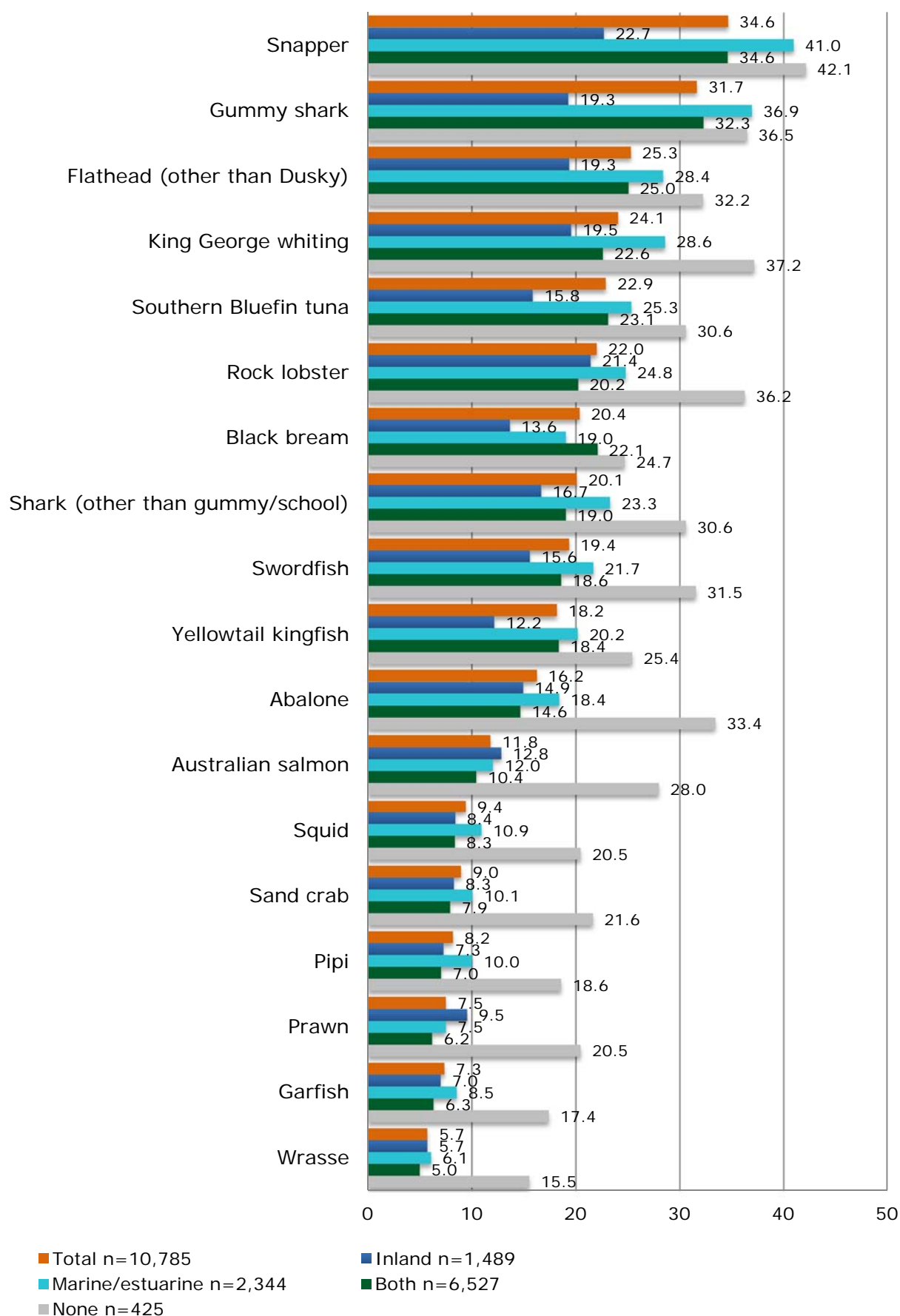
Short term licence holders were more likely to answer *Abalone* (20%) and *Australian Salmon* (17%) with the difference between groups being 5% and 6% respectively. Long term licence holders were more likely to select *Black bream* (22%) compared with 17% of short term licence holders.

Refer to table D15 in Appendix D for demographic results.

Slot limits - Marine / Estuarine species

% of respondents based on n count in legend

Multiple answers allowed so total >100%



Building great fishing in Victoria

The final open-ended question of the survey asked respondents to include any suggestions regarding building great recreational fishing in Victoria. A total of 4,948 respondents provided a response. A random sample of 25% of comments were coded thematically (n=1,237). The top 10 most common suggestions are presented in the table below. Most commonly, respondents indicated that there was a need for increased enforcement and visibility of VFA officers (20%).

| Top 10 most common suggestions for building great Victorian fishing n=1,237 | Count | % of respondents |
|---|-------|------------------|
| More enforcement , visibility of VFA officers | 245 | 19.8 |
| More and better boating facilities (ramps, jetties, piers) | 161 | 13.0 |
| Keep up the good work / positive comment about VFA | 134 | 10.8 |
| Increase education and community awareness (including more signage) | 127 | 10.3 |
| More toilets / more shelter / bins / parking / cleaning facilities | 124 | 10.0 |
| Change to catch bag limits (increase for some and decrease for others) | 116 | 9.4 |
| Increase fish stocking (especially native species) | 96 | 7.8 |
| Commercial fishing (buyout, regulation and ceasing of licences, stop netting and trawling, sustainable fishing) | 82 | 6.6 |
| Fishing Licence (too expensive / should be free / should be national / loyalty scheme) | 68 | 5.5 |
| Pollution / water condition / toxicity / improve environmental conscious | 59 | 4.8 |

Appendix A: Postcode categories

Table A1: Victorian Metro Postcodes

3114, 3004, 3052, 3000, 3002, 3003, 3006, 3008, 3011, 3012, 3013, 3015, 3016, 3018, 3019, 3020, 3021, 3022, 3023, 3024, 3025, 3026, 3027, 3028, 3029, 3030, 3031, 3032, 3033, 3034, 3036, 3037, 3038, 3039, 3040, 3041, 3042, 3043, 3044, 3046, 3047, 3048, 3049, 3051, 3053, 3054, 3055, 3056, 3057, 3058, 3059, 3060, 3061, 3062, 3063, 3064, 3065, 3066, 3067, 3068, 3069, 3070, 3071, 3072, 3073, 3074, 3075, 3076, 3078, 3079, 3081, 3082, 3083, 3084, 3085, 3086, 3087, 3088, 3089, 3090, 3091, 3093, 3094, 3095, 3096, 3097, 3099, 3101, 3102, 3103, 3104, 3105, 3106, 3107, 3108, 3109, 3111, 3113, 3115, 3116, 3121, 3122, 3123, 3124, 3125, 3126, 3127, 3128, 3129, 3130, 3131, 3132, 3133, 3134, 3135, 3136, 3137, 3138, 3139, 3140, 3141, 3142, 3143, 3144, 3145, 3146, 3147, 3148, 3149, 3150, 3151, 3152, 3153, 3154, 3155, 3156, 3158, 3159, 3160, 3161, 3162, 3163, 3165, 3166, 3167, 3168, 3169, 3170, 3171, 3172, 3173, 3174, 3175, 3177, 3178, 3179, 3180, 3181, 3182, 3183, 3184, 3185, 3186, 3187, 3188, 3189, 3190, 3191, 3192, 3193, 3194, 3195, 3196, 3197, 3198, 3199, 3200, 3201, 3202, 3204, 3205, 3206, 3207

Table A2: Victorian Regional Postcodes

3687, 3946, 3676, 3211, 3212, 3213, 3214, 3215, 3216, 3217, 3218, 3219, 3220, 3221, 3222, 3223, 3224, 3225, 3226, 3227, 3228, 3230, 3231, 3232, 3233, 3235, 3236, 3237, 3238, 3239, 3240, 3241, 3242, 3243, 3249, 3250, 3251, 3254, 3260, 3264, 3265, 3266, 3267, 3268, 3269, 3272, 3273, 3274, 3275, 3276, 3277, 3278, 3280, 3281, 3282, 3283, 3284, 3285, 3286, 3287, 3289, 3292, 3294, 3300, 3301, 3302, 3303, 3304, 3305, 3309, 3310, 3311, 3312, 3314, 3315, 3317, 3318, 3319, 3321, 3324, 3325, 3328, 3329, 3330, 3331, 3332, 3333, 3334, 3335, 3337, 3338, 3340, 3341, 3342, 3345, 3350, 3351, 3352, 3355, 3356, 3357, 3358, 3360, 3361, 3363, 3364, 3370, 3371, 3373, 3374, 3375, 3377, 3378, 3379, 3380, 3381, 3384, 3385, 3387, 3388, 3390, 3391, 3392, 3393, 3395, 3396, 3400, 3402, 3401, 3407, 3409, 3412, 3413, 3414, 3418, 3419, 3420, 3423, 3424, 3427, 3428, 3429, 3430, 3431, 3433, 3434, 3435, 3437, 3438, 3440, 3441, 3442, 3444, 3446, 3448, 3450, 3451, 3453, 3458, 3460, 3461, 3462, 3463, 3464, 3465, 3467, 3468, 3469, 3472, 3475, 3477, 3478, 3480, 3482, 3483, 3490, 3491, 3494, 3496, 3498, 3500, 3501, 3505, 3507, 3509, 3512, 3515, 3516, 3517, 3518, 3520, 3521, 3522, 3523, 3525, 3527, 3530, 3531, 3533, 3537, 3540, 3542, 3544, 3546, 3549, 3550, 3551, 3552, 3555, 3556, 3557, 3558, 3559, 3561, 3562, 3563, 3564, 3566, 3567, 3568, 3570, 3571, 3572, 3573, 3575, 3579, 3580, 3581, 3584, 3585, 3586, 3588, 3589, 3590, 3591, 3594, 3595, 3596, 3597, 3608, 3610, 3612, 3614, 3616, 3617, 3618, 3620, 3621, 3622, 3623, 3624, 3629, 3630, 3631, 3633, 3634, 3635, 3636, 3637, 3638, 3639, 3640, 3641, 3644, 3646, 3649, 3658, 3659, 3660, 3662, 3663, 3664, 3666, 3669, 3670, 3672, 3673, 3675, 3677, 3678, 3682, 3683, 3685, 3688, 3690, 3691, 3694, 3695, 3697, 3699, 3700, 3701, 3705, 3707, 3709, 3711, 3712, 3713, 3714, 3715, 3717, 3719, 3720, 3722, 3723, 3725, 3726, 3727, 3728, 3730, 3732, 3733, 3735, 3737, 3739, 3740, 3741, 3744, 3746, 3747, 3749, 3750, 3751, 3752, 3753, 3754, 3756, 3757, 3758, 3759, 3760, 3761, 3763, 3764, 3765, 3766, 3767, 3770, 3775, 3777, 3778, 3779, 3781, 3782, 3783, 3785, 3786, 3788, 3789, 3791, 3792, 3793, 3795, 3796, 3797, 3799, 3802, 3803, 3804, 3805, 3806, 3807, 3808, 3809, 3810, 3812, 3813, 3814, 3815, 3816, 3818, 3820, 3821, 3822, 3823, 3824, 3825, 3831, 3832, 3833, 3835, 3840, 3842, 3844, 3847, 3850, 3851, 3852, 3854, 3856, 3857, 3858, 3859, 3860, 3862, 3864, 3869, 3870, 3871, 3873, 3874, 3875, 3878, 3880, 3882, 3885, 3886, 3887, 3888, 3889, 3890, 3891, 3892, 3895, 3896, 3898, 3900, 3902, 3903, 3904, 3909, 3910, 3911, 3912, 3913, 3915, 3916, 3918, 3919, 3921, 3922, 3923, 3925, 3926, 3927, 3928, 3929, 3930, 3931, 3933, 3934, 3936, 3937, 3938, 3939, 3940, 3941, 3942, 3943, 3944, 3945, 3950, 3951, 3953, 3954, 3956, 3957, 3958, 3959, 3960, 3962, 3966, 3971, 3975, 3976, 3977, 3978, 3979, 3980, 3981, 3984, 3987, 3988, 3991, 3992, 3995, 3996

Source Australia Post November 2017

Appendix B: Favourite fishing waters

| Table B1: Inland waters | Favourite location | 2nd favourite location | 3rd favourite location | Total % |
|------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|------------------------|---------|
| Murray River (NSW) | 14.0 | 8.1 | 5.1 | 27.2 |
| Lake Eildon | 11.9 | 7.9 | 4.9 | 24.7 |
| Goulburn River | 7.2 | 6.6 | 3.8 | 17.6 |
| Yarra River | 4.6 | 3.6 | 2.7 | 10.8 |
| Lake Eppalock | 3.0 | 3.3 | 2.3 | 8.6 |
| Lake Mulwala (NSW) | 2.2 | 2.1 | 1.7 | 6.0 |
| Blue Rock Lake | 2.5 | 2.0 | 1.4 | 6.0 |
| Ovens River | 2.6 | 2.0 | 1.4 | 6.0 |
| Mitchell River | 3.0 | 1.7 | 1.0 | 5.8 |
| Lake Purrumbete | 1.7 | 1.7 | 1.1 | 4.5 |
| Howqua River | 1.6 | 1.5 | 1.4 | 4.4 |
| Lake Bullen Merri | 1.4 | 1.5 | 1.2 | 4.1 |
| Loddon River | 1.4 | 1.4 | 1.1 | 3.9 |
| Lake Hume | 1.3 | 1.5 | 1.0 | 3.8 |
| Lake Wendouree | 1.3 | 1.4 | 1.0 | 3.8 |
| Glenelg River | 1.5 | 1.2 | 0.8 | 3.5 |
| Devilbend Reservoir | 1.5 | 1.3 | 0.7 | 3.5 |
| Jamieson River | 0.9 | 1.2 | 1.3 | 3.3 |
| Rocklands Reservoir | 1.4 | 1.1 | 0.8 | 3.2 |
| Cairn Curran Reservoir | 0.9 | 1.2 | 1.1 | 3.2 |
| Thomson River | 0.9 | 1.3 | 0.9 | 3.0 |
| King River | 0.9 | 1.1 | 0.8 | 2.7 |
| Lake Nagambie/Goulburn Weir | 0.9 | 1.0 | 0.8 | 2.7 |
| Lake Fyans | 0.9 | 1.1 | 0.7 | 2.7 |
| Toolondo Reservoir | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.7 | 2.4 |
| Lake Glenmaggie | 0.8 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 2.2 |
| Lower Goulburn River | 0.7 | 0.8 | 0.7 | 2.2 |
| Gunbower Creek | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 2.0 |
| Wimmera River | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 1.9 |
| Buckland River | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 1.4 |
| Traralgon Creek | 0.3 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 1.2 |
| Gellibrand River | 0.6 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 1.2 |
| Hepburn Lagoon | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 1.0 |
| Wartook Lake | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.8 |
| Kangaroo Lake | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.8 |
| Bellfield Reservoir | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.7 |
| Charm Lake | 0.1 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.6 |
| Lindsay River/Mullaroo Creek | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.2 |

| Table B1: Inland waters | Favourite location | 2nd favourite location | 3rd favourite location | Total % |
|--|--------------------|------------------------|------------------------|---------|
| Other | 18.3 | 16.2 | 11.6 | 46.0 |
| None | 0.0 | 20.8 | 22.1 | 42.9 |
| Not applicable / No answer / Prefer not to say | 6.0 | 0.0 | 21.6 | 27.6 |

| Table B2: Marine / /estuarine fishing waters | Favourite location | 2nd favourite location | 3rd favourite location | Total % |
|--|--------------------|------------------------|------------------------|---------|
| Port Phillip Bay^ | 31.9 | 14.6 | 5.7 | 52.2 |
| Western Port | 13.2 | 10.2 | 4.7 | 28.1 |
| Gippsland Lakes | 4.2 | 4.2 | 3.0 | 11.5 |
| Phillip Island | 3.2 | 3.8 | 3.3 | 10.3 |
| Port Phillip Bay heads | 3.3 | 3.7 | 2.5 | 9.5 |
| Lakes Entrance coastal | 3.0 | 3.0 | 2.5 | 8.6 |
| Barwon River estuary | 3.3 | 3.2 | 1.8 | 8.2 |
| Portland | 2.7 | 2.9 | 2.1 | 7.6 |
| Apollo Bay | 2.7 | 2.7 | 2.1 | 7.5 |
| Lake Tyers | 2.6 | 2.4 | 1.9 | 6.9 |
| Warrnambool / Port Fairy | 2.5 | 2.1 | 1.7 | 6.4 |
| Mallacoota Inlet | 2.8 | 1.7 | 1.3 | 5.8 |
| Wilsons Promontory | 2.0 | 1.8 | 1.5 | 5.4 |
| Torquay / Pt Roadknight | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 4.5 |
| Corner Inlet | 1.8 | 1.1 | 1.0 | 3.9 |
| Venus Bay | 1.4 | 1.2 | 1.1 | 3.8 |
| Tambo River | 1.0 | 1.2 | 1.5 | 3.7 |
| Bemm River | 1.1 | 1.2 | 1.0 | 3.4 |
| Glenelg River | 1.1 | 1.0 | .7 | 2.8 |
| Hopkins River | .9 | .9 | .6 | 2.4 |
| Mallacoota Coastal | .7 | .7 | .6 | 2.0 |
| Mitchell River | .4 | .8 | .8 | 2.0 |
| Aire River | .5 | .6 | .5 | 1.6 |
| Nicholson River | .3 | .6 | .6 | 1.5 |
| Port Campbell | .4 | .5 | .4 | 1.4 |
| Curdies River | .3 | .3 | .3 | 0.9 |
| Discovery Bay | .1 | .1 | .1 | 0.2 |
| Other | 7.8 | 6.1 | 4.5 | 18.4 |
| Prefer not to say / None | 3.2 | 25.7 | 0.0 | 28.9 |
| Not applicable / No answer | 0.0 | .1 | 24.9 | 50.7 |

^Anywhere except the heads

Appendix C: Questionnaire

Victorian Fisheries Survey

Thanks in advance for taking time to give the Victorian Fisheries Authority feedback about recreational fishing in Victoria.

Please answer by **23 April 2018**.

Hints for answering

- Use the Next icon at the bottom of each page to save your answers and move to the next page.
- Use the Previous icon to move backwards in the survey —not your browser back button. This will take you out of the survey.
- Use the Return Later icon at the bottom of a page to save where you are up to and return to complete the survey at another time.
- On the last page, use the Finalise icon to submit your answers. Finalising your survey will de-active your survey link.
- After 60 minutes of navigation inactivity your browser will time out. Please save your answers as you go by clicking the next or previous icons.

Survey assistance

If you have any questions about this survey, please email improving.fishing@vfa.vic.gov.au

If you have any technical difficulties, please contact Australian Survey Research during normal working hours (9am-5pm, Monday to Friday) on 1800 068 489 or fishsurvey@aussurveys.com.

About yourself

Have you previously completed this survey?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

What is your gender?

- ☐ Male
☐ Female
☐ Other

Which are you a member of?

Select all that apply

- ☐ Angling or diving club that gets together regularly face to face
☐ Online community
☐ Another type of fishing related group :Please detail _____
☐ None of the above

Which **best** describes you?

- ☐ Fishing is my number one hobby
☐ Fishing is one of my top hobbies
☐ Fishing is one of many hobbies
☐ Fishing is an occasional hobby that I do now and then
☐ I used to fish but don't do it at all or rarely now
☐ Something else

Your fishing preferences

In the last 12 months, how many days (or part of a day) did you go fishing, spearfishing or diving?

This includes line fishing, yabbying and fishing with hoop or dip nets.

| | None | 1-5 days | 6-14 days | 15 or more days |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Inland waters | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Marine/estuarine waters | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

Inland fishing waters

In the last 12 months, what was **your favourite** Victorian inland fishing water?

Please select your favourite spot

- ☐ Bellfield Reservoir
- ☐ Blue Rock Lake
- ☐ Buckland River
- ☐ Cairn Curran Reservoir
- ☐ Charm Lake
- ☐ Devilbend Reservoir
- ☐ Gellibrand River
- ☐ Glenelg River
- ☐ Goulburn River
- ☐ Gunbower Creek
- ☐ Hepburn Lagoon
- ☐ Howqua River
- ☐ Jamieson River
- ☐ Kangaroo Lake
- ☐ King River
- ☐ Lake Bullen Merri
- ☐ Lake Eildon
- ☐ Lake Eppalock
- ☐ Lake Fyans
- ☐ Lake Glenmaggie
- ☐ Lake Hume
- ☐ Lake Mulwala (NSW)
- ☐ Lake Nagambie/Goulburn Weir
- ☐ Lake Purrumbete
- ☐ Lake Wendouree
- ☐ Lindsay River/Mullaroo Creek
- ☐ Loddon River
- ☐ Lower Goulburn River
- ☐ Mitchell River
- ☐ Murray River (NSW)
- ☐ Ovens River
- ☐ Rocklands Reservoir
- ☐ Thomson River
- ☐ Toolondo Reservoir
- ☐ Traralgon Creek
- ☐ Wartook Lake
- ☐ Wimmera River
- ☐ Yarra River
- ☐ Other : Please specify _____

- ☐ Prefer not to say

Inland fishing waters 1

In the last 12 months, how many days (or parts of days) did you fish at your favourite Victorian inland fishing water?

- ☐ None
☐ 1-5 days
☐ 6-14 days
☐ 15 or more days

In the last 12 months, how satisfied were you with your fishing experience at your favourite Victorian inland fishing water?

- ☐ Very satisfied
☐ Satisfied
☐ Sometimes satisfied / sometimes not
☐ Dissatisfied
☐ Very dissatisfied

Inland fishing waters

In the last 12 months, what was **your second favourite** Victorian inland fishing water?

Please select your 2nd favourite spot

- ☐ None
 List above repeated

Inland fishing waters 2

In the last 12 months, how many days (or parts of days) did you fish at your second favourite Victorian inland fishing water?

- ☐ None
☐ 1-5 days
☐ 6-14 days
☐ 15 or more days

In the last 12 months, how satisfied were you with your fishing experience at your second favourite Victorian inland fishing water?

- ☐ Very satisfied
☐ Satisfied
☐ Sometimes satisfied / sometimes not
☐ Dissatisfied
☐ Very dissatisfied

Inland fishing waters

In the last 12 months, what was **your third favourite** Victorian inland fishing water?

Please select your 3rd favourite spot

- ☐ None
 List above repeated

Inland fishing waters 3

In the last 12 months, how many days (or parts of days) did you fish at your third favourite Victorian inland fishing water?

- ☐ None
- ☐ 1-5 days
- ☐ 6-14 days
- ☐ 15 or more days

In the last 12 months, how satisfied were you with your fishing experience at your third favourite Victorian inland fishing water?

- ☐ Very satisfied
- ☐ Satisfied
- ☐ Sometimes satisfied / sometimes not
- ☐ Dissatisfied
- ☐ Very dissatisfied

Inland fish species

What were your favourite fish to catch from Victorian inland waters?

You can select up to 3

- ☐ Murray cod
- ☐ Brown trout
- ☐ Rainbow trout
- ☐ Redfin
- ☐ Golden perch
- ☐ Australian bass
- ☐ Murray spiny freshwater crayfish
- ☐ Silver perch
- ☐ Freshwater catfish
- ☐ River blackfish
- ☐ Common yabby
- ☐ Estuary perch
- ☐ Trout cod
- ☐ Macquarie perch
- ☐ Carp
- ☐ Eel
- ☐ Other :Please specify_____

Marine / estuarine waters

In the last 12 months, what was **your favourite** Victorian marine or estuarine fishing water?

Please select your favourite spot

- ☐ Aire River
- ☐ Apollo Bay
- ☐ Barwon River estuary
- ☐ Bemm River
- ☐ Corner Inlet
- ☐ Curdies River
- ☐ Discovery Bay
- ☐ Gippsland Lakes
- ☐ Glenelg River
- ☐ Hopkins River

- ☐ Lake Tyers
- ☐ Lakes Entrance coastal
- ☐ Mallacoota Coastal
- ☐ Mallacoota Inlet
- ☐ Mitchell River
- ☐ Nicholson River
- ☐ Phillip Island
- ☐ Port Campbell
- ☐ Port Phillip Bay (anywhere except the heads)
- ☐ Port Phillip Bay heads
- ☐ Portland
- ☐ Tambo River
- ☐ Torquay / Pt Roadknight
- ☐ Venus Bay
- ☐ Warrnambool / Port Fairy
- ☐ Western Port
- ☐ Wilsons Promontory
- ☐ Other :Please specify _____
- ☐ Prefer not to say

Marine / estuarine waters 1

In the last 12 months, how many days (or parts of days) did you fish at your favourite Victorian marine fishing water?

- ☐ None
- ☐ 1-5 days
- ☐ 6-14 days
- ☐ 15 or more days

In the last 12 months, how satisfied were you with your fishing experience at your favourite Victorian marine fishing water

Satisfaction includes the location facilities and access, the overall environment, fish you caught (or didn't) and being with other anglers.

- ☐ Very satisfied
- ☐ Satisfied
- ☐ Sometimes satisfied/ sometimes not
- ☐ Dissatisfied
- ☐ Very dissatisfied

Marine / estuarine waters

In the last 12 months, what was **your 2nd favourite** Victorian marine or estuarine fishing water?

Please select your 2nd favourite spot

- ☐ None
- ☐ List above repeated

Marine / estuarine waters 2

In the last 12 months, how many days (or parts of days) did you fish at your second favourite Victorian marine fishing water?

- ☐ None
- ☐ 1-5 days
- ☐ 6-14 days
- ☐ 15 or more days

In the last 12 months, how satisfied were you with your fishing experience at your second favourite Victorian marine fishing water?

Satisfaction includes the location facilities and access, the overall environment, fish you caught (or didn't) and being with other anglers.

- ☐ Very satisfied
- ☐ Satisfied
- ☐ Sometimes satisfied/ sometimes not
- ☐ Dissatisfied
- ☐ Very dissatisfied

Marine / estuarine waters

In the last 12 months, what was **your 3rd favourite** Victorian marine or estuarine fishing water?

Please select your 3rd favourite spot

- ☐ None
- List above repeated

Marine / estuarine waters 3

In the last 12 months, how many days (or parts of days) did you fish at your third favourite Victorian marine fishing water?

- ☐ None
- ☐ 1-5 days
- ☐ 6-14 days
- ☐ 15 or more days

In the last 12 months, how satisfied were you with your fishing experience at your third favourite Victorian marine fishing water?

Satisfaction includes the location facilities and access, the overall environment, fish you caught (or didn't) and being with other anglers.

- ☐ Very satisfied
- ☐ Satisfied
- ☐ Sometimes satisfied/ sometimes not
- ☐ Dissatisfied
- ☐ Very dissatisfied

Marine / estuarine fish species

What were your favourite fish to catch from Victorian marine/estuarine waters?

You can select up to 3

- ☐ Abalone
- ☐ Australian salmon
- ☐ Black bream
- ☐ Dusky flathead
- ☐ Estuary perch
- ☐ Flathead (other than Dusky)
- ☐ Garfish
- ☐ Gummy Shark

- ☐ King George whiting
- ☐ Marlin
- ☐ Pipi
- ☐ Prawn
- ☐ Rock lobster
- ☐ Sand crab
- ☐ Shark (other than gummy/school)
- ☐ Snapper
- ☐ Southern Bluefin tuna
- ☐ Squid
- ☐ Swordfish
- ☐ Wrasse
- ☐ Yellowtail kingfish
- ☐ Other :Please specify_____

Southern Bluefin tuna and Abalone

In the last 12 months, did you fish for Southern Bluefin tuna in Victoria?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Don't remember

In the last 12 months, how many days did you fish for Southern Bluefin tuna?

- ☐ 1-5 days
- ☐ 6-14 days
- ☐ 15 or more days

In the last 12 months, how many Southern Bluefin tuna did you catch?

- ☐ None
- ☐ 1-3 tuna
- ☐ 4 or more

In the last 12 months did you fish for Abalone in Victoria?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Don't remember

Where did you fish for Abalone in Victoria? See below for a map of Victorian Abalone zones

Select all that apply

- ☐ Eastern zone abalone (Coastal waters east of Arch Rock)
- ☐ Central zone abalone (Waters between Arch Rock and Aire River)
- ☐ Western zone abalone (Coastal waters west of Aire River)

Your awareness of improvements

Over the last 12 months while fishing in Victoria, generally what have you noticed about each of the following.

| | Got better | Stayed the same | Got worse | Varied by location or time/season | Don't know / unsure |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Number of desirable fish | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

| | | | | | |
|------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Range of species | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Fish habitat | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Fish stocking | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| River health | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

Your priorities to improve recreational fishing

What are the most effective ways that recreational fishing could be improved in Victoria?

Select up to 3

- ☐ Increasing the number of fish by stocking
- ☐ Improving fish habitat *such as installing snags instream, increasing reef habitat, restoring bankside vegetation, removing barriers to fish movement*
- ☐ Having fishing rules *such as bag and size limits, closed seasons, slot limits*
- ☐ Enforcing fishing rules
- ☐ Educating people about sustainable recreational fishing practices
- ☐ Research and monitoring on recreational fish species and fishing
- ☐ Improving access and facilities *such as fish cleaning tables, boat ramps, fishing platforms and tracks*
- ☐ Information to help people catch more fish
- ☐ Recover threatened angling species *such as trout cod, Macquarie perch, catfish*
- ☐ Other :Please detail _____
- ☐ Unsure

Our collaboration

How much should the Victorian Fisheries Authority and Victorian natural resource management agencies work together to create better fisheries and habitat in Victoria?

- ☐ Not at all
- ☐ A little
- ☐ A moderate amount
- ☐ A lot
- ☐ A great deal

Which of the following should the Victorian Fisheries Authority collaborate with?

Select all that apply

- ☐ Department of Land, Water & Planning (manage public land, including next to some rivers, and conduct aquatic research).
- ☐ Catchment Management Authorities (coordinate land and water improvements on public and private land)
- ☐ Water Authorities (store and deliver water for irrigation and domestic needs, like Yarra Water and Goulburn Murray Water)
- ☐ Parks Victoria (manages some boat ramps and Victorian state and national parks)
- ☐ Victorian Environmental Water Holder (manages environmental water releases to improve river health).
- ☐ Don't know

Our performance

Since 2014, which of the following actions have improved recreational fishing in Victoria?

Select all that apply

- ☐ Halting commercial netting in Port Phillip and Corio Bays
- ☐ Saving Lake Toolondo with more water and trout stocking

- ☐ Banning netting at the mouths of rivers in the Gippsland Lakes
- ☐ Establishing better fishing facilities such as fish cleaning tables, boat ramps, fishing platforms and tracks
- ☐ Increasing fish stocking to 5 million fish per year including trout, Murray cod, golden perch and Australian bass
- ☐ Implementing a marine species stocking program
- ☐ Opening recreational trout cod fisheries in Beechworth
- ☐ Stocking barramundi in Hazelwood Pondage
- ☐ Delivering 'Stronger Fishing Club' grants
- ☐ Introducing a minimum legal size for trout
- ☐ Growing the Victorian Trout Opening Festival
- ☐ Removing horsepower and boat length restrictions at Blue Rock Lake
- ☐ Delivering school education and children's fishing programs
- ☐ Delivering defibrillators for angling clubs
- ☐ Stocking native fish in Rocklands Reservoir.
- ☐ None of the above

Overall how would you rate the success of the Target One Million investment in relation to the items mentioned in the previous question?

- ☐ Not at all successful
- ☐ Slightly successful
- ☐ Moderately successful
- ☐ Very successful
- ☐ Extremely successful

Communication

Where do you currently get information on recreational fishing in Victoria?

Select all that apply

- ☐ Facebook
- ☐ Instagram
- ☐ Twitter
- ☐ Snapchat
- ☐ Youtube
- ☐ Angling/diving club
- ☐ Fishing colleagues
- ☐ Magazines (hard copy) :Please detail_____
- ☐ Blogs and online magazines
- ☐ TV fishing shows :Please detail_____
- ☐ Government websites :Please detail_____
- ☐ Other :Please detail_____
- ☐ Nowhere

Where would you like to get information on recreational fishing in Victoria?

Select all that apply

- ☐ Same as what I do now
- ☐ Facebook
- ☐ Instagram
- ☐ Twitter
- ☐ Snapchat
- ☐ Youtube

- ☐ Angling/diving club
- ☐ Fishing colleagues
- ☐ Magazines (hard copy) : Please detail _____
- ☐ Blogs and online magazines
- ☐ TV fishing shows : Please detail _____
- ☐ Government websites : Please detail _____
- ☐ Other : Please detail _____
- ☐ Nowhere

Many people living in Victoria have come from other places both within and outside of Australia. Which of the following do you think would encourage these people to fish in Victoria?

Select all that apply

- ☐ Provide where to fish information in multiple languages including English
- ☐ Hold free events to promote fishing in Victoria
- ☐ Make presentations to community groups
- ☐ VFA staff to attend community group events
- ☐ Identify ambassadors from community groups
- ☐ Partner with local angling clubs
- ☐ Other : Please specify _____

About half of Victoria's population are women but only a small proportion fish recreationally. Which of the following do you think would get more women to fish?

Select all that apply

- ☐ Hold organised women only events
- ☐ Have dedicated social media activities for women
- ☐ Promote fishing in ways that appeal to women
- ☐ Improve facilities such as toilets close to fishing spots
- ☐ Offer introductory events for mums and their kids
- ☐ Identify female fishing ambassadors
- ☐ Partner with local angling clubs
- ☐ Other : Please specify _____

A fair day's take

To keep improving fishing in Victoria it's important to have effective regulations. We are interested in your views on what is a fair and reasonable day's take for personal consumption of popular fish. What do you think of the following limits?

Inland waters

| | | Should be able to keep more | About right | Too many fish | Way too many fish | Don't know |
|-----------------|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Golden perch | Bag limit : 5 | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Murray cod | Bag limit : 1 in rivers 2 in lakes | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Trout | Bag limit : 3 to 5 depending on water | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Australian bass | Bag limit : 5 (Lake Bullen Merri) 2 (all other waters) | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

| | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Estuary perch | Bag limit : 5 | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Silver perch | Bag limit : 5 (in certain locations) | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Murray Spiny Freshwater Crayfish | Bag limit : 2 | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| River blackfish | Bag limit : 5 | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Yabbies | Bag limit : 150 | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

To keep improving fishing in Victoria it's important to have effective regulations. We are interested in your views on what is a fair and reasonable day's take for personal consumption of popular fish. What do you think of the following limits?

Marine/estuarine waters

| | | Should be able to keep more | About right | Too many fish | Way too many fish | Don't know |
|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Bream | Bag limit : 10 | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Flathead (all species except Dusky flathead) | Bag limit : 20 | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| King George whiting | Bag limit: 20 | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Snapper | Bag limit: 10 (3 over 40cm) | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Tuna (including southern bluefin) | Bag limit: 2 | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Gummy shark | Bag limit: 2 | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Rock lobster | Bag limit: 2 | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Blacklip abalone | Bag limit: : 5 | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

Slot limits

Slot limits exist for Dusky flathead and Murray cod. What other species should have a slot limit?

A slot limit means that a fish can only be retained if it measures within a minimum AND a maximum length.

- ☐ Abalone
- ☐ Australian bass
- ☐ Australian salmon
- ☐ Black bream
- ☐ Brown trout
- ☐ Carp
- ☐ Common yabby
- ☐ Eel
- ☐ Estuary perch

- ☐ Flathead (other than Dusky)
- ☐ Freshwater catfish
- ☐ Garfish
- ☐ Golden perch
- ☐ Gummy shark
- ☐ King George whiting
- ☐ Macquarie perch
- ☐ Marlin
- ☐ Pipi
- ☐ Prawn
- ☐ Rainbow trout
- ☐ Redfin
- ☐ River blackfish
- ☐ Rock lobster
- ☐ Sand crab
- ☐ Shark (other than gummy/school)
- ☐ Silver perch
- ☐ Snapper
- ☐ Southern Bluefin tuna
- ☐ Squid
- ☐ Swordfish
- ☐ Trout cod
- ☐ Wrasse
- ☐ Yellowtail kingfish
- ☐ Other :Please specify_____

To help us track and improve the performance of recreational fishing, would you be willing to share your catch and effort information on your favourite fishing waters?

☐
☐

Yes
No

Please provide your best contact details below so we can send you more information. This can be an email address or mobile number.

Name _____
Email address _____
Mobile number _____

If you have anything else you'd like to tell us about how we can continue to build on the great fishing we have in Victoria, please enter here.

Appendix D: Demographic differences

Table D1: View of improvements to fishing in Victoria over the last 12 months

| <i>Number of desirable fish</i> <i>Total n=</i> | Total % | Gender | | Age | | Licence term | |
|--|--------------|-------------|--------------|------------------|---------------------|--------------|-------------|
| | | Female % | Male % | Under 50 years % | 50 years and over % | Short term % | Long term % |
| <i>Total n=</i> | 12408 | 1226 | 11135 | 7060 | 5346 | 1743 | 7615 |
| Got better | 14.8 | 10.9 | 15.2 | 15.2 | 14.2 | 12.3 | 15.5 |
| Stayed the same | 34.4 | 27.7 | 35.2 | 35.3 | 33.2 | 34.8 | 34.3 |
| Got worse | 25.4 | 32.2 | 24.6 | 23.5 | 27.9 | 29.4 | 25.2 |
| Varied by location or time/season | 25.4 | 29.2 | 25.0 | 25.9 | 24.7 | 23.5 | 25.0 |
| <i>Range of species</i> <i>Total n=</i> | 12038 | 1162 | 10830 | 6924 | 5112 | 1687 | 7394 |
| Got better | 13.2 | 10.8 | 13.5 | 14.5 | 11.4 | 10.7 | 13.6 |
| Stayed the same | 54.5 | 45.8 | 55.5 | 54.2 | 55.0 | 53.6 | 55.4 |
| Got worse | 15.2 | 21.3 | 14.5 | 14.5 | 16.2 | 19.6 | 14.1 |
| Varied by location or time/season | 17.1 | 22.1 | 16.5 | 16.8 | 17.4 | 16.1 | 16.9 |
| <i>Fish habitat</i> <i>Total n=</i> | 11409 | 1099 | 10267 | 6573 | 4834 | 1626 | 7007 |
| Got better | 14.5 | 9.6 | 15.1 | 14.9 | 14.0 | 12.1 | 15.4 |
| Stayed the same | 55.0 | 47.0 | 55.8 | 54.8 | 55.1 | 53.0 | 55.8 |
| Got worse | 15.9 | 22.2 | 15.2 | 15.7 | 16.2 | 19.4 | 14.8 |
| Varied by location or time/season | 14.6 | 21.2 | 13.9 | 14.5 | 14.7 | 15.5 | 14.0 |
| <i>Fish stocking</i> <i>Total n=</i> | 8908 | 881 | 7996 | 5407 | 3499 | 1336 | 5304 |
| Got better | 28.1 | 16.7 | 29.3 | 28.6 | 27.2 | 20.4 | 30.3 |
| Stayed the same | 40.4 | 37.0 | 40.8 | 40.6 | 40.2 | 41.4 | 40.4 |
| Got worse | 19.8 | 28.6 | 18.9 | 18.9 | 21.3 | 25.2 | 18.6 |
| Varied by location or time/season | 11.7 | 17.7 | 11.0 | 11.9 | 11.3 | 13.0 | 10.7 |
| <i>River health</i> <i>Total n=</i> | 10148 | 1003 | 9113 | 6004 | 4142 | 1500 | 6090 |
| Got better | 15.3 | 11.8 | 15.7 | 15.5 | 15.2 | 14.5 | 15.5 |
| Stayed the same | 52.1 | 47.8 | 52.6 | 52.1 | 52.2 | 50.6 | 52.9 |
| Got worse | 18.6 | 21.9 | 18.2 | 18.6 | 18.6 | 21.1 | 18.1 |
| Varied by location or time/season | 13.9 | 18.5 | 13.4 | 13.8 | 14.0 | 13.9 | 13.5 |

Note: Table excludes respondents who answered don't know

Table D2: Effective ways to improve recreational fishing in Victoria

| | Total % | Gender | | Age | | Licence term | |
|---|--------------|-------------|--------------|------------------|---------------------|--------------|-------------|
| | | Female % | Male % | Under 50 years % | 50 years and over % | Short term % | Long term % |
| Total n= | 14098 | 1526 | 12517 | 8013 | 6082 | 2194 | 8465 |
| Increasing the number of fish by stocking | 36.7 | 34.1 | 37.0 | 38.9 | 33.6 | 37.4 | 34.6 |
| Improving fish habitat | 38.8 | 34.0 | 39.3 | 40.7 | 36.2 | 38.0 | 39.5 |
| Having fishing rules | 26.8 | 25.1 | 27.1 | 26.3 | 27.5 | 25.3 | 27.9 |
| Enforcing fishing rules | 39.0 | 34.5 | 39.6 | 38.1 | 40.3 | 33.8 | 41.8 |
| Educating people about sustainable recreational fishing practices | 36.2 | 43.8 | 35.2 | 34.1 | 38.9 | 36.0 | 36.4 |
| Research and monitoring on recreational fish species and fishing | 15.7 | 15.7 | 15.7 | 15.5 | 15.9 | 15.7 | 15.2 |
| Improving access and facilities | 34.5 | 32.9 | 34.6 | 34.5 | 34.4 | 28.5 | 36.5 |
| Information to help people catch more fish | 10.0 | 13.0 | 9.6 | 11.5 | 7.9 | 15.0 | 7.7 |
| Recover threatened angling species | 11.9 | 11.1 | 12.0 | 13.0 | 10.4 | 13.2 | 11.3 |
| Other | 7.2 | 6.0 | 7.4 | 6.5 | 8.2 | 5.8 | 8.0 |
| Unsure | 2.3 | 4.7 | 2.1 | 2.5 | 2.2 | 4.6 | 1.9 |

Table D4: Level of collaboration between VFA / Victorian natural resource management agencies to create better fisheries and habitat in Victoria

| | Total % | Gender | | Age | | Licence term | |
|-------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|------------------|---------------------|--------------|-------------|
| | | Female % | Male % | Under 50 years % | 50 years and over % | Short term % | Long term % |
| Total n= | 14053 | 1525 | 12473 | 7995 | 6055 | 2188 | 8432 |
| Not at all | 2.2 | 1.0 | 2.3 | 1.7 | 2.9 | 2.2 | 2.3 |
| A little | 5.0 | 5.5 | 5.0 | 5.5 | 4.4 | 5.9 | 4.9 |
| A moderate amount | 21.6 | 27.2 | 21.0 | 24.1 | 18.3 | 25.0 | 19.9 |
| A lot | 33.9 | 31.1 | 34.2 | 33.1 | 35.1 | 34.0 | 33.8 |
| A great deal | 37.2 | 35.1 | 37.4 | 35.6 | 39.3 | 33.0 | 39.1 |

Table D5: Departments / organisations VFA should collaborate with

| | Total % | Gender | | Age | | Licence term | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|------------------|---------------------|--------------|-------------|
| | | Female % | Male % | Under 50 years % | 50 years and over % | Short term % | Long term % |
| Total n= | 14098 | 1529 | 12505 | 8005 | 6081 | 2194 | 8465 |
| Department of Land, Water & Planning | 57.8 | 60.9 | 57.4 | 58.6 | 56.8 | 55.2 | 58.8 |
| Catchment Management Authorities | 49.9 | 51.9 | 49.6 | 50.2 | 49.4 | 45.6 | 52.2 |
| Water Authorities | 43.8 | 44.5 | 43.8 | 44.0 | 43.6 | 40.4 | 45.7 |
| Parks Victoria | 66.6 | 68.3 | 66.3 | 66.7 | 66.4 | 60.2 | 69.2 |
| Victorian Environmental Water Holder | 48.1 | 55.1 | 47.2 | 48.4 | 47.7 | 46.3 | 49.6 |
| Don't know | 13.4 | 14.3 | 13.3 | 13.3 | 13.6 | 16.7 | 12.2 |

Table D6: Actions that have improved recreational fishing in Victoria

| | Total % | Gender | | Age | | Licence term | |
|--|--------------|-------------|--------------|------------------|---------------------|--------------|-------------|
| | | Female % | Male % | Under 50 years % | 50 years and over % | Short term % | Long term % |
| Total n= | 13839 | 1463 | 12323 | 7838 | 5998 | 2138 | 8349 |
| Halting commercial netting in Port Phillip and Corio Bays | 62.0 | 44.4 | 64.1 | 57.5 | 68.0 | 53.3 | 66.6 |
| Introducing a minimum legal size for trout | 26.0 | 31.2 | 25.4 | 26.9 | 24.9 | 25.7 | 26.1 |
| Growing the Victorian Trout Opening Festival | 8.6 | 7.3 | 8.8 | 9.2 | 7.9 | 7.9 | 9.0 |
| Removing horsepower and boat length restrictions at Blue Rock Lake | 8.4 | 7.5 | 8.5 | 8.8 | 7.9 | 7.1 | 9.2 |
| Delivering school education and children's fishing programs | 24.3 | 29.3 | 23.7 | 23.4 | 25.4 | 22.8 | 24.8 |
| Delivering defibrillators for angling clubs | 8.9 | 12.2 | 8.5 | 8.6 | 9.4 | 7.7 | 9.2 |
| Stocking native fish in Rocklands Reservoir | 17.0 | 16.8 | 17.0 | 17.4 | 16.5 | 15.0 | 17.4 |
| Saving Lake Toolondo with more water and trout stocking | 20.6 | 16.2 | 21.1 | 18.9 | 22.8 | 16.1 | 22.3 |
| Banning netting at the mouths of rivers in the Gippsland Lakes | 43.8 | 39.8 | 44.3 | 39.8 | 49.1 | 37.7 | 47.1 |
| Establishing better fishing facilities | 35.2 | 36.4 | 35.1 | 33.9 | 36.9 | 30.2 | 37.1 |
| Increasing fish stocking to 5 million fish per year | 49.1 | 41.4 | 50.0 | 48.0 | 50.5 | 42.2 | 51.0 |
| Implementing a marine species stocking program | 24.9 | 21.8 | 25.2 | 23.4 | 26.8 | 23.2 | 25.9 |
| Opening recreational trout | 9.7 | 9.3 | 9.7 | 9.8 | 9.6 | 9.5 | 9.9 |

| | Total % | Gender | | Age | | Licence term | |
|---|--------------|-------------|--------------|------------------|---------------------|--------------|-------------|
| | | Female % | Male % | Under 50 years % | 50 years and over % | Short term % | Long term % |
| Total n= | 13839 | 1463 | 12323 | 7838 | 5998 | 2138 | 8349 |
| cod fisheries in Beechworth | | | | | | | |
| Stocking barramundi in Hazelwood Pondage | 14.7 | 13.4 | 14.9 | 15.6 | 13.7 | 12.5 | 16.0 |
| Delivering 'Stronger Fishing Club' grants | 10.7 | 10.5 | 10.6 | 9.8 | 11.8 | 8.3 | 11.5 |
| None of the above | 7.8 | 11.9 | 7.3 | 9.0 | 6.2 | 12.0 | 6.2 |

Table D7: Level of success of the Target One Million investment in relation to actions to improve recreational fishing in Victoria

| | Total % | Gender | | Age | | Licence term | |
|-----------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|------------------|---------------------|--------------|-------------|
| | | Female % | Male % | Under 50 years % | 50 years and over % | Short term % | Long term % |
| Total n= | 13682 | 1454 | 12175 | 7809 | 5870 | 2134 | 8211 |
| Not at all successful | 6.2 | 4.9 | 6.4 | 5.6 | 7.1 | 7.0 | 6.3 |
| Slightly successful | 22.1 | 25.3 | 21.7 | 22.3 | 21.8 | 25.6 | 21.2 |
| Moderately successful | 48.8 | 52.8 | 48.4 | 49.1 | 48.6 | 50.7 | 48.1 |
| Very successful | 19.7 | 15.0 | 20.3 | 19.4 | 20.2 | 14.3 | 21.0 |
| Extremely successful | 3.1 | 2.1 | 3.2 | 3.6 | 2.3 | 2.2 | 3.3 |

Table D8: Information channels used on recreational fishing in Victoria

| | Total % | Gender | | Age | | Licence term | |
|---------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|------------------|---------------------|--------------|-------------|
| | | Female % | Male % | Under 50 years % | 50 years and over % | Short term % | Long term % |
| Total n= | 14098 | 1526 | 12517 | 8013 | 6082 | 2194 | 8465 |
| Facebook | 40.7 | 45.4 | 40.2 | 49.7 | 28.8 | 38.7 | 39.8 |
| TV fishing shows | 32.4 | 30.0 | 32.7 | 29.6 | 36.2 | 25.3 | 35.3 |
| Government websites | 18.7 | 22.1 | 18.3 | 18.4 | 19.2 | 19.2 | 18.4 |
| Instagram | 4.6 | 4.0 | 4.6 | 6.8 | 1.6 | 3.4 | 4.5 |
| Twitter | 1.0 | 0.7 | 1.1 | 1.3 | 0.7 | 1.1 | 1.1 |
| Snapchat | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.9 | 0.3 | 0.6 | 0.6 |
| YouTube | 13.8 | 9.2 | 14.3 | 15.2 | 11.8 | 14.4 | 12.9 |
| Angling/diving club | 8.1 | 7.9 | 8.1 | 7.1 | 9.3 | 5.2 | 9.3 |

| | Total % | Gender | | Age | | Licence term | |
|----------------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|------------------|---------------------|--------------|-------------|
| | | Female % | Male % | Under 50 years % | 50 years and over % | Short term % | Long term % |
| Total n= | 14098 | 1526 | 12517 | 8013 | 6082 | 2194 | 8465 |
| Fishing colleagues | 40.8 | 36.2 | 41.3 | 35.9 | 47.3 | 34.4 | 43.1 |
| Magazines (hard copy) | 10.5 | 6.7 | 10.9 | 8.5 | 13.1 | 6.4 | 12.3 |
| Blogs and online magazines | 14.3 | 11.7 | 14.7 | 15.0 | 13.4 | 13.3 | 14.1 |
| Other | 11.0 | 13.9 | 10.7 | 11.3 | 10.8 | 10.7 | 11.2 |
| Nowhere | 9.5 | 11.1 | 9.3 | 9.1 | 10.0 | 13.1 | 8.8 |

Table D9: Preferred information channels on recreational fishing in Victoria

| | Total % | Gender | | Age | | Licence term | |
|----------------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|------------------|---------------------|--------------|-------------|
| | | Female % | Male % | Under 50 years % | 50 years and over % | Short term % | Long term % |
| Total n= | 13896 | 1511 | 12332 | 7902 | 5991 | 2162 | 8334 |
| Same as what I do now | 51.8 | 54.4 | 51.4 | 50.9 | 52.9 | 46.9 | 53.2 |
| Blogs and online magazines | 6.8 | 5.6 | 6.9 | 6.9 | 6.6 | 7.3 | 6.4 |
| TV fishing shows | 12.6 | 10.5 | 12.9 | 11.5 | 14.1 | 10.4 | 13.5 |
| Government websites | 13.2 | 12.7 | 13.3 | 12.4 | 14.4 | 14.7 | 13.5 |
| Facebook | 21.7 | 23.8 | 21.5 | 25.9 | 16.1 | 23.8 | 19.8 |
| Instagram | 3.2 | 4.0 | 3.2 | 4.7 | 1.3 | 4.4 | 2.9 |
| Twitter | 1.4 | 0.8 | 1.5 | 1.7 | 0.9 | 2.0 | 1.3 |
| Snapchat | 1.2 | 0.8 | 1.3 | 1.8 | 0.5 | 1.9 | 0.8 |
| You Tube | 8.3 | 6.1 | 8.5 | 9.6 | 6.5 | 10.7 | 7.3 |
| Angling/diving club | 4.0 | 3.2 | 4.0 | 3.6 | 4.5 | 3.5 | 4.3 |
| Fishing colleagues | 10.3 | 7.4 | 10.7 | 8.7 | 12.5 | 9.3 | 10.6 |
| Magazines (hard copy) | 3.8 | 2.8 | 3.9 | 3.3 | 4.5 | 2.6 | 4.1 |
| Other | 4.9 | 4.2 | 5.0 | 5.2 | 4.6 | 4.2 | 5.2 |
| Nowhere | 4.4 | 5.8 | 4.3 | 4.3 | 4.6 | 5.9 | 4.4 |

Table D10: Ways to encourage people in Victoria to fish

| | Total % | Gender | | Age | | Licence term | |
|---|--------------|-------------|--------------|------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| | | Female % | Male % | Under 50 years % | 50 years and over % | Short term % | Long term % |
| Total n= | 13513 | 1490 | 11971 | 7661 | 5849 | 2117 | 8068 |
| Provide where to fish information in multiple languages including English | 46.6 | 52.5 | 45.9 | 45.2 | 48.3 | 49.3 | 45.6 |
| Hold free events to promote fishing in Victoria | 44.2 | 55.4 | 42.8 | 47.9 | 39.4 | 48.2 | 42.5 |
| Make presentations to community groups | 18.1 | 19.8 | 18.0 | 16.8 | 19.9 | 16.5 | 19.2 |
| VFA staff to attend community group events | 15.4 | 15.8 | 15.4 | 14.2 | 17.1 | 12.9 | 16.1 |
| Identify ambassadors from community groups | 14.2 | 14.4 | 14.2 | 14.6 | 13.8 | 13.3 | 14.9 |
| Partner with local angling clubs | 39.1 | 42.0 | 38.8 | 38.4 | 40.1 | 37.2 | 39.9 |
| Other | 7.9 | 6.4 | 8.0 | 7.6 | 8.2 | 7.0 | 8.3 |

Table D11: Ways to encourage women to fish

| | Total % | Gender | | Age | | Licence term | |
|---|--------------|-------------|--------------|------------------|---------------------|--------------|-------------|
| | | Female % | Male % | Under 50 years % | 50 years and over % | Short term % | Long term % |
| Total n= | 13721 | 1507 | 12161 | 7818 | 5900 | 2144 | 8223 |
| Hold organised women only events | 19.4 | 25.9 | 18.6 | 20.8 | 17.5 | 20.4 | 18.7 |
| Have dedicated social media activities for women | 18.7 | 26.2 | 17.7 | 21.1 | 15.4 | 20.1 | 17.7 |
| Promote fishing in ways that appeal to women | 58.6 | 54.3 | 59.2 | 57.1 | 60.7 | 57.4 | 59.0 |
| Improve facilities such as toilets close to fishing spots | 60.2 | 67.4 | 59.3 | 60.5 | 59.7 | 60.4 | 60.2 |
| Offer introductory events for mums and their kids | 37.1 | 45.4 | 36.1 | 41.6 | 31.1 | 40.3 | 35.7 |
| Identify female fishing ambassadors | 26.3 | 34.0 | 25.3 | 28.5 | 23.4 | 24.3 | 27.0 |
| Partner with local angling clubs | 22.4 | 25.9 | 21.9 | 20.9 | 24.4 | 20.1 | 23.6 |
| Other | 6.1 | 6.3 | 6.0 | 5.7 | 6.7 | 5.5 | 6.4 |

Table D12: Views on current regulation; A fair and reasonable day's take - Inland

| <i>Murray cod (bag limit : 1 in rivers 2 in lakes) Total n=</i> | Total % | Gender | | Age | | Licence term | |
|--|--------------|-------------|--------------|------------------|---------------------|--------------|-------------|
| | | Female % | Male % | Under 50 years % | 50 years and over % | Short term % | Long term % |
| <i>13875</i> | | <i>1505</i> | <i>12317</i> | <i>7940</i> | <i>5932</i> | <i>2171</i> | <i>8316</i> |
| Should be able to keep more | 8.0 | 9.7 | 7.8 | 8.4 | 7.6 | 10.4 | 7.1 |
| About right | 72.6 | 67.4 | 73.2 | 71.4 | 74.1 | 67.4 | 73.8 |
| Too many fish | 4.2 | 3.2 | 4.3 | 4.5 | 3.8 | 3.8 | 4.2 |
| Way too many fish | 1.7 | 1.0 | 1.8 | 2.0 | 1.3 | 2.1 | 1.7 |
| Don't know | 13.5 | 18.7 | 12.9 | 13.7 | 13.2 | 16.4 | 13.2 |
| <i>Trout (bag limit : 3 to 5 depending on water) Total n=</i> | <i>13896</i> | <i>1509</i> | <i>12334</i> | <i>7902</i> | <i>5991</i> | <i>2162</i> | <i>8334</i> |
| Should be able to keep more | 10.7 | 5.9 | 11.2 | 10.3 | 11.1 | 9.0 | 10.8 |
| About right | 68.3 | 69.1 | 68.3 | 68.0 | 68.8 | 67.2 | 68.2 |
| Too many fish | 7.7 | 7.0 | 7.8 | 8.0 | 7.3 | 7.4 | 7.8 |
| Way too many fish | 1.3 | 0.5 | 1.4 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.2 | 1.4 |
| Don't know | 12.1 | 17.4 | 11.4 | 12.5 | 11.5 | 15.3 | 11.8 |
| <i>Australian bass (bag limit : 5 Lake Bullen Merri & 2 all other waters) Total n=</i> | <i>13801</i> | <i>1504</i> | <i>12244</i> | <i>7919</i> | <i>5879</i> | <i>2161</i> | <i>8261</i> |
| Should be able to keep more | 3.1 | 2.7 | 3.2 | 3.4 | 2.8 | 4.0 | 2.7 |
| About right | 62.2 | 61.0 | 62.4 | 61.6 | 63.1 | 59.7 | 62.6 |
| Too many fish | 11.4 | 9.3 | 11.6 | 11.5 | 11.2 | 10.8 | 11.6 |
| Way too many fish | 1.9 | 0.9 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 2.0 |
| Don't know | 21.3 | 26.1 | 20.8 | 21.6 | 21.0 | 23.6 | 21.1 |
| <i>Estuary perch (bag limit : 5) Total n=</i> | <i>13784</i> | <i>1499</i> | <i>12232</i> | <i>7899</i> | <i>5882</i> | <i>2160</i> | <i>8252</i> |
| Should be able to keep more | 2.6 | 1.8 | 2.7 | 2.7 | 2.3 | 3.0 | 2.2 |
| About right | 56.8 | 55.0 | 56.9 | 55.3 | 58.8 | 55.6 | 56.3 |
| Too many fish | 17.6 | 14.9 | 17.9 | 17.8 | 17.3 | 16.1 | 18.3 |
| Way too many fish | 2.6 | 1.6 | 2.7 | 2.9 | 2.3 | 2.1 | 2.9 |
| Don't know | 20.5 | 26.7 | 19.8 | 21.4 | 19.3 | 23.2 | 20.2 |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|------|--------------|-------------|--|--------------|--|-------------|--|-------------|--|-------------|--|-------------|--|
| Silver perch (bag limit : 5 in certain locations) Total n= | | 13784 | 1499 | | 12232 | | 7899 | | 5882 | | 2160 | | 8252 | |
| Should be able to keep more | 3.9 | | 2.9 | | 4.0 | | 4.3 | | 3.4 | | 4.6 | | 3.5 | |
| About right | 56.9 | | 56.4 | | 57.0 | | 56.0 | | 58.3 | | 57.0 | | 56.3 | |
| Too many fish | 17.2 | | 15.1 | | 17.4 | | 17.3 | | 17.0 | | 15.4 | | 18.2 | |
| Way too many fish | 2.5 | | 1.2 | | 2.6 | | 2.6 | | 2.4 | | 1.8 | | 2.6 | |
| Don't know | 19.5 | | 24.3 | | 18.9 | | 19.9 | | 19.0 | | 21.2 | | 19.4 | |
| Murray Spiny Freshwater Crayfish (bag limit : 2) Total n= | | 13896 | 1501 | | 12221 | | 7902 | | 5991 | | 2162 | | 8334 | |
| Should be able to keep more | 12.9 | | 10.1 | | 13.2 | | 13.5 | | 12.2 | | 12.5 | | 12.6 | |
| About right | 60.3 | | 61.0 | | 60.3 | | 59.4 | | 61.6 | | 58.6 | | 60.5 | |
| Too many fish | 6.2 | | 5.1 | | 6.4 | | 5.9 | | 6.6 | | 5.6 | | 6.5 | |
| Way too many fish | 2.3 | | 0.9 | | 2.5 | | 2.2 | | 2.4 | | 2.6 | | 2.4 | |
| Don't know | 18.2 | | 22.9 | | 17.6 | | 18.9 | | 17.2 | | 20.7 | | 18.0 | |
| River blackfish (bag limit : 5) Total n= | | 13751 | 1498 | | 12200 | | 7897 | | 5851 | | 2147 | | 8243 | |
| Should be able to keep more | 2.2 | | 1.6 | | 2.2 | | 2.4 | | 1.9 | | 2.9 | | 1.8 | |
| About right | 50.8 | | 51.9 | | 50.7 | | 50.4 | | 51.3 | | 52.7 | | 49.7 | |
| Too many fish | 18.2 | | 13.2 | | 18.8 | | 17.3 | | 19.4 | | 14.9 | | 19.5 | |
| Way too many fish | 4.2 | | 1.5 | | 4.5 | | 4.1 | | 4.3 | | 3.0 | | 4.6 | |
| Don't know | 24.6 | | 31.7 | | 23.8 | | 25.8 | | 23.1 | | 26.5 | | 24.5 | |
| Yabbies (bag limit : 150) Total n= | | 13825 | 1500 | | 12272 | | 7915 | | 5907 | | 2157 | | 8287 | |
| Should be able to keep more | 6.6 | | 4.4 | | 6.8 | | 6.7 | | 6.3 | | 7.4 | | 6.4 | |
| About right | 47.3 | | 43.9 | | 47.7 | | 47.0 | | 47.6 | | 44.0 | | 47.0 | |
| Too many fish | 23.9 | | 25.9 | | 23.7 | | 23.8 | | 24.1 | | 23.6 | | 24.7 | |
| Way too many fish | 9.6 | | 10.2 | | 9.5 | | 9.5 | | 9.7 | | 9.5 | | 9.6 | |
| Don't know | 12.7 | | 15.6 | | 12.3 | | 13.0 | | 12.3 | | 15.4 | | 12.3 | |

Table D13: Views on current regulation; A fair and reasonable day's take - Marine / Estuarine

| <i>Bream (bag limit : 10)</i> | Total % | Gender | | Age | | Licence term | |
|--|--------------|-------------|--------------|------------------|---------------------|--------------|-------------|
| | | Female % | Male % | Under 50 years % | 50 years and over % | Short term % | Long term % |
| Total n= | 13873 | 1503 | 12318 | 7924 | 5946 | 2166 | 8317 |
| Should be able to keep more | 2.7 | 2.4 | 2.7 | 2.9 | 2.4 | 3.7 | 2.3 |
| About right | 51.7 | 48.6 | 52.0 | 49.7 | 54.3 | 51.1 | 51.2 |
| Too many fish | 30.2 | 27.9 | 30.5 | 30.2 | 30.3 | 26.9 | 31.8 |
| Way too many fish | 5.8 | 4.3 | 6.0 | 6.7 | 4.7 | 4.5 | 6.3 |
| Don't know | 9.6 | 16.8 | 8.8 | 10.6 | 8.3 | 13.8 | 8.3 |
| <i>Flathead (all species except Dusky flathead) (bag limit :20)</i> | | | | | | | |
| Total n= | 13941 | 1508 | 12380 | 7941 | 5997 | 2168 | 8371 |
| Should be able to keep more | 4.2 | 4.1 | 4.2 | 4.5 | 3.8 | 5.4 | 3.8 |
| About right | 49.5 | 42.3 | 50.4 | 48.6 | 50.8 | 46.3 | 50.8 |
| Too many fish | 31.8 | 34.9 | 31.4 | 31.1 | 32.7 | 30.5 | 32.1 |
| Way too many fish | 8.1 | 7.9 | 8.1 | 8.7 | 7.3 | 7.6 | 8.1 |
| Don't know | 6.4 | 10.7 | 5.9 | 7.2 | 5.4 | 10.3 | 5.2 |
| <i>King George whiting (bag limit: 20) Total n=</i> | 13875 | 1505 | 12317 | 7940 | 5932 | 2171 | 8316 |
| Should be able to keep more | 3.4 | 3.5 | 3.4 | 3.9 | 2.8 | 4.2 | 3.4 |
| About right | 52.4 | 45.9 | 53.2 | 51.7 | 53.2 | 49.4 | 52.9 |
| Too many fish | 30.6 | 31.7 | 30.5 | 29.4 | 32.2 | 28.7 | 31.4 |
| Way too many fish | 6.6 | 6.8 | 6.6 | 6.8 | 6.3 | 6.3 | 6.8 |
| Don't know | 7.0 | 12.0 | 6.4 | 8.1 | 5.5 | 11.4 | 5.5 |
| <i>Snapper (bag limit: 10 (3 over 40cm) Total n=</i> | 13941 | 1508 | 12380 | 7941 | 5997 | 2168 | 8371 |
| Should be able to keep more | 4.9 | 5.1 | 4.9 | 5.8 | 3.7 | 6.0 | 4.6 |
| About right | 55.1 | 51.7 | 55.5 | 54.7 | 55.7 | 52.2 | 55.8 |
| Too many fish | 27.5 | 27.1 | 27.5 | 25.8 | 29.7 | 25.0 | 28.4 |
| Way too many fish | 5.8 | 5.1 | 5.9 | 6.0 | 5.5 | 5.8 | 5.9 |
| Don't know | 6.7 | 11.0 | 6.2 | 7.6 | 5.3 | 11.1 | 5.3 |

| <i>Tuna (including southern bluefin) (bag limit: 2)</i> | | | | | | | |
|--|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| <i>Total n=</i> | <i>13839</i> | <i>1502</i> | <i>12284</i> | <i>7838</i> | <i>5998</i> | <i>2138</i> | <i>8349</i> |
| Should be able to keep more | 5.7 | 6.3 | 5.6 | 6.8 | 4.3 | 8.0 | 5.3 |
| About right | 70.6 | 67.2 | 71.0 | 69.6 | 72.1 | 65.3 | 72.1 |
| Too many fish | 7.8 | 7.7 | 7.8 | 7.6 | 8.2 | 6.9 | 8.3 |
| Way too many fish | 1.6 | 1.2 | 1.7 | 1.7 | 1.5 | 2.0 | 1.6 |
| Don't know | 14.2 | 17.6 | 13.8 | 14.3 | 14.0 | 17.8 | 12.8 |
| <i>Gummy shark (bag limit: 2)</i> | | | | | | | |
| <i>Total n=</i> | <i>13721</i> | <i>1507</i> | <i>12161</i> | <i>7818</i> | <i>5900</i> | <i>2144</i> | <i>8223</i> |
| Should be able to keep more | 8.2 | 7.9 | 8.2 | 8.9 | 7.2 | 8.1 | 8.1 |
| About right | 72.2 | 66.8 | 72.8 | 71.0 | 73.7 | 66.7 | 73.7 |
| Too many fish | 8.2 | 9.5 | 8.1 | 8.3 | 8.2 | 8.8 | 8.4 |
| Way too many fish | 1.6 | 1.9 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.6 | 2.2 | 1.4 |
| Don't know | 9.8 | 14.0 | 9.4 | 10.3 | 9.2 | 14.4 | 8.4 |
| <i>Rock lobster (bag limit: 2)</i> | | | | | | | |
| <i>Total n=</i> | <i>13839</i> | <i>1502</i> | <i>12284</i> | <i>7838</i> | <i>5998</i> | <i>2138</i> | <i>8349</i> |
| Should be able to keep more | 9.2 | 9.4 | 9.2 | 9.9 | 8.3 | 10.8 | 8.7 |
| About right | 69.1 | 65.5 | 69.5 | 67.6 | 71.0 | 62.6 | 70.7 |
| Too many fish | 5.2 | 6.4 | 5.0 | 4.8 | 5.6 | 6.4 | 4.9 |
| Way too many fish | 1.1 | 0.7 | 1.1 | 1.0 | 1.2 | 1.4 | 1.1 |
| Don't know | 15.5 | 18.0 | 15.2 | 16.7 | 13.9 | 18.7 | 14.6 |
| <i>Blacklip abalone (bag limit: 5)</i> | | | | | | | |
| <i>Total n=</i> | <i>13839</i> | <i>1502</i> | <i>12284</i> | <i>7838</i> | <i>5998</i> | <i>2138</i> | <i>8349</i> |
| Should be able to keep more | 6.6 | 5.5 | 6.7 | 7.1 | 5.9 | 7.5 | 6.5 |
| About right | 60.4 | 59.3 | 60.5 | 59.4 | 61.7 | 55.8 | 61.6 |
| Too many fish | 8.5 | 9.5 | 8.4 | 8.0 | 9.2 | 9.9 | 8.0 |
| Way too many fish | 2.3 | 1.9 | 2.3 | 2.3 | 2.3 | 3.1 | 2.3 |
| Don't know | 22.2 | 23.9 | 22.1 | 23.2 | 20.9 | 23.7 | 21.7 |

Table D14: Slot limits - Inland species

| | Total % | Gender | | Age | | Licence term | |
|--------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|------------------|---------------------|--------------|-------------|
| | | Female % | Male % | Under 50 years % | 50 years and over % | Short term % | Long term % |
| Total n= | 10785 | 1141 | 9603 | 6027 | 4755 | 1694 | 6453 |
| Freshwater catfish | 8.9 | 13.4 | 8.4 | 8.6 | 9.3 | 9.6 | 8.8 |
| Golden perch | 18.6 | 20.9 | 18.3 | 17.8 | 19.7 | 18.1 | 18.9 |
| Macquarie perch | 11.5 | 14.3 | 11.2 | 10.3 | 13.2 | 11.3 | 11.9 |
| Australian bass | 15.1 | 17.5 | 14.8 | 14.0 | 16.4 | 14.5 | 15.5 |
| Rainbow trout | 21.7 | 30.4 | 20.7 | 20.9 | 22.8 | 22.8 | 21.4 |
| Redfin | 8.7 | 15.8 | 7.8 | 7.9 | 9.7 | 10.9 | 7.9 |
| River blackfish | 12.1 | 14.2 | 11.8 | 10.2 | 14.5 | 10.9 | 12.6 |
| Silver perch | 13.5 | 19.2 | 12.8 | 12.5 | 14.7 | 14.5 | 13.1 |
| Trout cod | 20.6 | 22.3 | 20.4 | 20.0 | 21.3 | 19.7 | 21.0 |
| Brown trout | 20.5 | 24.8 | 20.0 | 18.8 | 22.6 | 19.4 | 20.5 |
| Carp | 2.4 | 5.1 | 2.1 | 2.6 | 2.1 | 3.4 | 2.1 |
| Common yabby | 8.8 | 14.5 | 8.1 | 7.6 | 10.2 | 10.4 | 8.6 |
| Eel | 4.4 | 8.5 | 3.9 | 4.5 | 4.2 | 6.3 | 4.0 |
| Estuary perch | 13.5 | 16.4 | 13.1 | 12.3 | 15.0 | 11.7 | 14.1 |

Table D15: Slot limits - Marine / Estuarine species

| | Total % | Gender | | Age | | Licence term | |
|---------------------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| | | Female % | Male % | Under 50 years % | 50 years and over % | Short term % | Long term % |
| Total n= | 10785 | 1141 | 9603 | 6027 | 4755 | 1694 | 6453 |
| Abalone | 16.2 | 25.8 | 15.2 | 14.4 | 18.6 | 20.4 | 15.5 |
| Flathead (other than Dusky) | 25.3 | 30.9 | 24.6 | 22.3 | 29.1 | 23.6 | 26.6 |
| Garfish | 7.3 | 13.2 | 6.6 | 6.5 | 8.4 | 8.5 | 7.1 |
| Gummy shark | 31.7 | 34.4 | 31.3 | 31.4 | 32.1 | 28.9 | 33.3 |
| King George whiting | 24.1 | 30.3 | 23.3 | 20.0 | 29.2 | 24.4 | 24.3 |
| Pipi | 8.2 | 13.3 | 7.5 | 7.3 | 9.3 | 11.1 | 7.7 |
| Prawn | 7.5 | 15.3 | 6.6 | 6.6 | 8.7 | 10.0 | 7.1 |
| Rock lobster | 22.0 | 30.7 | 21.0 | 19.7 | 24.9 | 24.3 | 21.9 |
| Sand crab | 9.0 | 16.8 | 8.0 | 8.3 | 9.8 | 10.7 | 8.4 |
| Shark (other than gummy/school) | 20.1 | 28.2 | 19.1 | 20.6 | 19.5 | 20.8 | 19.4 |
| Snapper | 34.6 | 36.3 | 34.5 | 32.4 | 37.5 | 33.4 | 35.7 |
| Southern Bluefin tuna | 22.9 | 27.8 | 22.3 | 22.0 | 24.1 | 22.9 | 23.6 |
| Australian salmon | 11.8 | 22.9 | 10.5 | 11.4 | 12.3 | 16.7 | 10.6 |
| Squid | 9.4 | 15.7 | 8.6 | 9.3 | 9.5 | 11.4 | 8.8 |
| Swordfish | 19.4 | 24.5 | 18.7 | 18.5 | 20.4 | 21.1 | 19.5 |
| Wrasse | 5.7 | 9.8 | 5.2 | 5.3 | 6.3 | 6.5 | 5.6 |
| Yellowtail kingfish | 18.2 | 23.3 | 17.6 | 17.1 | 19.6 | 18.5 | 18.4 |
| Black bream | 20.4 | 20.1 | 20.4 | 19.1 | 22.0 | 16.6 | 21.7 |