

Today's Youth and PFD's We'll Tell You What WE Think!





- The 11th annual International Boating and Water Safety Summit Attendees, the National Water Safety Congress and the National Safe Boating Council, appreciates your assistance in educating adults!
- Your information will be presented by a panel of your peers in San Antonio Texas. We appreciate your HONEST answers which will serve as an educational tool for those adults making decisions about Personal Flotation Devices (PFD's), Life Jackets, about who should wear them, when they should wear them, how old they should be before they are allowed to be on a boat without one, or if everyone should wear one at all times on boats underway. We need your input to help us understand what our youth might be comfortable wearing and why.

The Student Ambassadors From Texas and Ohio

- Total Surveyed 375 79 Results recorded for this presentation
- 33 Male 42 Female

Ages

- 13 18
- 14 38
- 15 11
- 16 4
- 17 5
- 18 3



- Are you a boater 38 yes 39 no
- Do your family/friends own a boat 36 yes 39 no
- How many times a year do you boat
0-20 21
21-50 8
51+ 2

Type of boating:

- Canoeing 10
- Fishing 22
- Kayaking 8
- Motor boating 29
- Sailing 8
- Jet skiing 19

Do you wear a PFD?

- 15 ALWAYS
- 6 NEVER
- 25 Sometimes
- 16 Only on a boat
- 17 Boating on deep water

Why not?

- 22 not comfortable
- 17 “I can swim”
- 7 Not cool
- 1 Old enough, do not have to.
- 1 Life jackets are for losers!!!

Why students don't wear lifejackets?

- Do not need it.
- NOT FASHIONABLE
- Tough to wear
- Don't have to wear it all the time.
- 22 stated: not comfortable
- 8 "I can swim"
- 2 Not cool
- 1 Old enough, do not have to
- Bad tan lines
- 1 Life jackets are for losers!!!

Why students DO wear lifejackets?

- Parents rules
- Rafting, skiing, jet skiing
- 4 “IT’S THE LAW”
- In case there is an accident.
- 8 So they do not drown
- Because its relaxing to float on the water.
- Because it absorbs the fall off of a PWC.

Do the people you are with wear a PFD?

- 12 yes
- 6 no
- Why do they wear them?
- So they do not drown
- Serious boaters
- Wear them wake boarding
- Rough water
- Because it's the LAW!
- Why do they not wear them?
- Not comfortable
- Do not have to
- Only wear when swimming off the boat
- NOT COOL

Would the adults with you wear a PFD if YOU asked them to?

Yes they would 14 No they would not 3 Maybe

Has anyone ever asked you to wear a PFD?

yes 18 no

Where and why?

Mexico Lake Erie Spirit Of America Beach

Michigan Camp Rough water

Boating class On a boat To be safe

Because I have to.

Wakeboarding and tubing

It's the rules of the boat

I do not know

Do you have a boating license?

- 12 yes 42 no
- Do you know what the Federal Law says about lifejackets and boats? 21 yes 15 no

- What do you think the law should say about lifejackets?
- 17 required always
- 6 required under 12
- 4 required under 18
- 4 If you can't swim you have to wear them.
- Deep water only
- Optional when swimming
- 6 No law
- Don't need them at all.
- Only to raise awareness
- Water sports only
- Should be on for everyone.

When you think of a life jacket what do you picture?

- a. 34



- b. 4



- c. 21



- d. 1



- Which lifejackets are you familiar with? :

Type I



- Types II 23



- III 24



- Type V 24



- Do you know the law pertaining to Youth in the State of Ohio?

YES 4 NO 32

- Do you know the Law pertaining to youth in the state of Texas?

YES 3 NO 11

- Does everyone on board need to wear a PFD?

YES 25 NO 28

Do you know what an inflatable PFD is?

YES 44 NO 11

Have you ever worn or used an inflatable PFD?

YES 14 NO 40

Could you be scared into wearing a PFD?

YES 25 NO 30

Could a popular star/sports figure convince you to wear a PFD?

YES 7 NO 28

Those that could convince me??

Bob Dillon (Pam's Brother?) Famous Bands

Brittany

William Shatner

David Hasselhoff

"HOTTTTT Models"

What would convince your friends to wear a PFD?

Death a friend

Cannot convince them

Authority / Explain what can happen / Videos / Scare them / Threaten them

Would real life testimonials from people in your age group convince you to wear a PFD?

YES 26 NO 18 MAYBE 1

What media would present the message
in the best manner?

36 TV ad 6 magazine ad 8 radio
5 billboard 4 newspaper 4
computer ad

Which would you remember longer or
understand more / have bigger impact?

43 face-to-face presentation
8 printed/radio statements?

When do you think it is appropriate to wear a life jacket?

- * cold weather / foul weather 9
 - * water over my head 17
 - * swimming or boating alone 22
 - * under a certain age? 32
- YES

1/21 2/18 1/15 2/5

Do you think it is ever OK to NOT wear a life jacket? 29 YES 21 NO

How about your friend? Would they be likely to be seen wearing a life jacket? 14 YES 6 NO

Would they wear one if their friends were not?

4 YES 3 NO

- Why?
- * They can swim
 - * They want to be safe
 - * Fast recovery
 - * Below deck
 - * Old enough to make your own choice
 - * Shallow water
 - * Not in the water
 - * Relaxing on a boat
 - * 24/7
 - * Experienced

What type of PFD would you wear?

15



23



17



6



6

20



How about your friend? Would they be likely to be seen wearing a life jacket?

14 YES 6 NO

Would they wear one if their friends were not?

4 YES 3 NO

Why?

They can swim

They want to be safe

Fast recovery

The Perfect PFD Design??

- Holds head above the water
- Very thin, comfortable, stylish, affordable
- Belt type, small and very compact
- Tight fitting
- Unnoticeable floating shirt
- Gel Type
- Probably already exists
- Not the blow up ones
- Drawings included a picture of a boat with motor and “Just don’t fall off”

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