

Preparing State-Level Outdoor Recreation Satellite Account Estimates

State Outdoor Recreation Satellite Account (ORSA) statistics isolate the economic activity associated with outdoor recreation spending and production in a state's economy. The state-level prototype statistics are an extension of the national industry ORSA statistics. The concepts, definitions, and methodology used to produce state-level prototype statistics are consistent with the national industry concepts, definitions, and methodology. The [U.S. ORSA methodology paper](#) provides more information about these concepts, definitions, and methodology.

Geography of outdoor recreation

Outdoor recreation is measured by place of production, not residence of consumer. The value of manufactured goods, such as boats, is assigned to the state where they are produced, even if the goods are not ultimately used there. Services, such as sailing lessons, are assigned to the location where they are consumed. The value of services provided by retailers, such as boat dealers, is also assigned to the location of sale. The services of retailers (known as trade margins) are not measured by sales but are most akin to sales less the cost of goods sold. The production of imported goods is excluded from ORSA, but the value of the services of retailers selling the imported goods is included.

Outdoor recreation spending and production are allocated to states by applying state-level data to detailed, underlying national values. The underlying estimates are distributed to states before aggregation to publication levels to provide the most accurate state values possible. Prototype statistics are primarily based on time-series data generated from the Economic Census and Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW). Additional government and non-government data sources are used to supplement the census data and to refine and evaluate the statistics.

Regional tables

Activity tables show states' total outdoor recreation value-added contributions to an activity, regardless of the contributing industry. For example, boating value added by state represents all contributions by in-state boat manufacturers, marinas, repair shops, etc., to the boating activity.

Industry tables show states' total outdoor recreation-related value added, employment, and compensation by industry, regardless of the outdoor activities the industries support. Outdoor recreation-related activity is included in the states' industry totals even if the final consumption occurs outside the state.

A state's total value added across all outdoor recreation *activities* will equal the state's total value added across all outdoor recreation *industries*.

Definitions

ORSA employment consists of all full-time, part-time, and temporary wage-and-salary jobs where the workers are engaged in the production of outdoor recreation goods and services. Self-employed individuals are excluded from employment totals.

ORSA compensation consists of the pay to employees (including wages and salaries, and benefits such as employer contributions to pension and health funds) in return for their outdoor recreation-related work during a given year. Pay to the self-employed is excluded from compensation but included in value added.

ORSA value added (also referred to as GDP) consists of the value of outdoor recreation goods and services produced less the value of expenses incurred for their production. The activity of self-employed individuals is included in value added.