

# DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

news release

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife

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## POPULARITY OF HUNTING AND FISHING IS BEING SURVEYED

Hunting and fishing obviously are popular activities in America, and the Interior Department's Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife is having a survey conducted to find out just how popular they are.

On BSWF's behalf, the Bureau of the Census is obtaining data on the number of men and women and boys and girls who hunt and fish, their ages, the number of days they spend in the field, and the amount of money they contribute to the economy in pursuing their pastimes.

The last survey, in 1965, revealed that almost 33 million American sportsmen spent about \$4 billion during 709 million days fishing and hunting. The average sportsman spent 19 days and \$123 engaging in these activities during the year.

The present survey is intended to update the 1965 data, although some new types of information also are being sought. The information is invaluable to fish and wildlife administrators as well as to commercial enterprises.

These surveys are financed from Federal-aid funds obtained from excise taxes collected on sporting arms and ammunition and on certain types of fishing tackle.

A publication on the results of the survey will be published by BSWF later in the year.

Earlier surveys were conducted in 1955, 1960, and 1965.