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RV and camping facts and stats

OKEMOS, Mich.—There are approximately 9 million American households that own an RV—up 16 percent since 2001. Here are some additional facts and statistics:

- According to the Recreational Vehicle Industry Association (RVIA), more than 11 percent of U.S. households own an RV.
- According to the RVIA, the national number of towable RVs shipments at the end of 2016 was nearly 376,000.
- National shipments of all RVs in 2016 surpassed 430,000 units, the highest total since 1977, according to RVIA.
- A recent vacation cost comparison study by PKF Consulting, Alexandria, Va. for the RVIA, showed that a family of four can save 27-62 percent on vacation costs by traveling in an RV, even after factoring in ownership costs and fuel. It would take a rise in fuel prices between \$6 and \$14 per gallon for an RV vacation, in any type of RV, to be more expensive than the least expensive non-RV vacation.
- The total direct economic output in Michigan from the RV industry, according to RVs Move America (rvsmoveamerica.com) was nearly \$696 million in 2016.
- There are more than 720 RV-related businesses in Michigan employing 4,294 Michigan citizens.
- In 2016, 16,873 RV shipments came to Michigan, according to a Statistical Surveys.
- The RVIA estimates there are as many as 30 million RV enthusiasts nationwide, including RV renters.
- According to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, there are over 1,100 licensed private recreation vehicle parks and campgrounds in Michigan, which represent more than 150,000 campsites.
- Buyers aged 35-54 are the largest segment of RV owners, according to a University of Michigan study commissioned by RVIA.

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RV and camping facts and stats, continued

- A study by Michigan State University shows that 10 percent of all pleasure travelers in Michigan are campers.
- In 2015 in the United States, there were 22,797 RV-related businesses with a combined economic impact of nearly \$50 billion, according to RVIA.
- New RVs can range in price from \$6,000-\$22,000 for folding campers; \$6,000-\$55,000 for truck campers; \$8,000-\$95,000 for conventional travel trailers; \$43,000-\$200,000 plus for Type C motorhomes; \$18,000 to \$160,000 for fifth wheels and \$60,000-\$500,000 for Type A motorhomes.

Sources: Recreation Vehicle Industry Association (RVIA,) South Bend Tribune and Statistical Surveys.

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