

Marina berth prices remain buoyant

Phil Bartsch

PURCHASE and rental prices for marina berths in Queensland have charted a relatively steady course through the economic downturn despite a drop in boat registrations.

According to the latest Midwood Report, boat registrations grew only 1 per cent, to 237,368 vessels, in Queensland in the 12 months to January.

This compares to an average

growth of 4-5 per cent a year over the past six years.

The report says the fall in registrations is "a clear indicator of how discretionary spending dries up in tough economic times".

Nevertheless, its survey of the state's major marinas confirms the buoyancy of the wet-berth market.

"The vacancy rate for berths can remain constant even during economic downturns," the reports says.

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"Very few owners of large boats risk anchoring their prize possession on a swing mooring in open water."

Abel Point Marina in the Whitsundays has the highest purchase price for a 12m multi-hull berth, at \$22,500 per lineal metre.

Horizon Shores Marina on the Gold Coast follows at \$20,833 per lineal metre.