

# Statistical Analysis on Seaman's Registration Card Holders and Pleasure Boat Drivers (2015 - 2017)

## 1. Overview:

### 1.1 Seaman's Registration Card

According to the Decree-Law no. 12/99/M, persons who intend to work as ship crew or to engage in similar seaman occupations specified in the said Law are required to register as seamen. Seamen are divided into two categories: ship crew and assistants, and ship crew are subdivided into three ranks: senior crew, middle crew and junior crew.

### 1.2 Pleasure Boat Drivers

According to the Decree-Law no. 82/99/M, pleasure boats (ER, from the Portuguese acronym) refer to tools or facilities of any nature which are not less than 2.5 meters in length and can be used as maritime moving equipment for non-profit maritime sports, fishing or entertainment. Pleasure boats are divided into five categories in terms of plying limits: ocean pleasure boats, inshore pleasure boats, coastal pleasure boats, waterway pleasure boats and inland water pleasure boats, while four types of qualifications apply to the drivers: ocean shipmasters, coastal shipmasters, sailors and beginners.

## 2. Number of Valid Seaman's Registration Card Holders:

Statistics from the Marine and Water Bureau indicate a rise in the total number of holders of valid Seaman's Registration Cards from 104 to 111 in the past three years, of whom holders of Seaman's Registration Cards newly issued or renewed (in normal cases) have increased from 37 to 48.

Some 60 holders are found every year not having renewed their Seaman's Registration Cards for over two years and they are undergoing the procedures of 'Seaman's Registration Card suspension' as stipulated in Subparagraph a) of Paragraph 1 under Article 7 of Decree-Law no. 12/99/M. The number of holders with Seaman's Registration Cards suspended has stood at 8 in the past three years. A total of 139 Seaman's Registration Cards have been cancelled for holders who have not renewed their Seaman's Registration Cards for up to five years, and the number of such cancellations has remained unchanged for three years.

## 3. Requirements for Obtaining Seaman's Registration Card:

As stipulated by the Ordinance no. 116/99/M, persons who intend to apply for a Seaman's Registration Card shall submit the registration form with their personal identification document, Certificate of Criminal Record, physical fitness certificate, records of having received a tetanus vaccine as well as other legally-required vaccines, and so on. Besides, the applicants must be holders of the certificates which endorse specific qualifications for the rank being registered, namely the certificates of basic knowledge set out in Chapter VI of the *International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW Convention)*.

The certificates of basic knowledge are issued by the Maritime Training School in Macao or other entities authorised for the said purpose, and the relevant courses are run by the Maritime Training School from time to time.

## 4. Age Distribution of Seamen:

Only 37 holders of renewed Seaman's Registration Cards were recorded as at 31 March 2015, 30 (81.08%) of which were aged 55 or above. A total of 42 holders of Seaman's Registration Cards

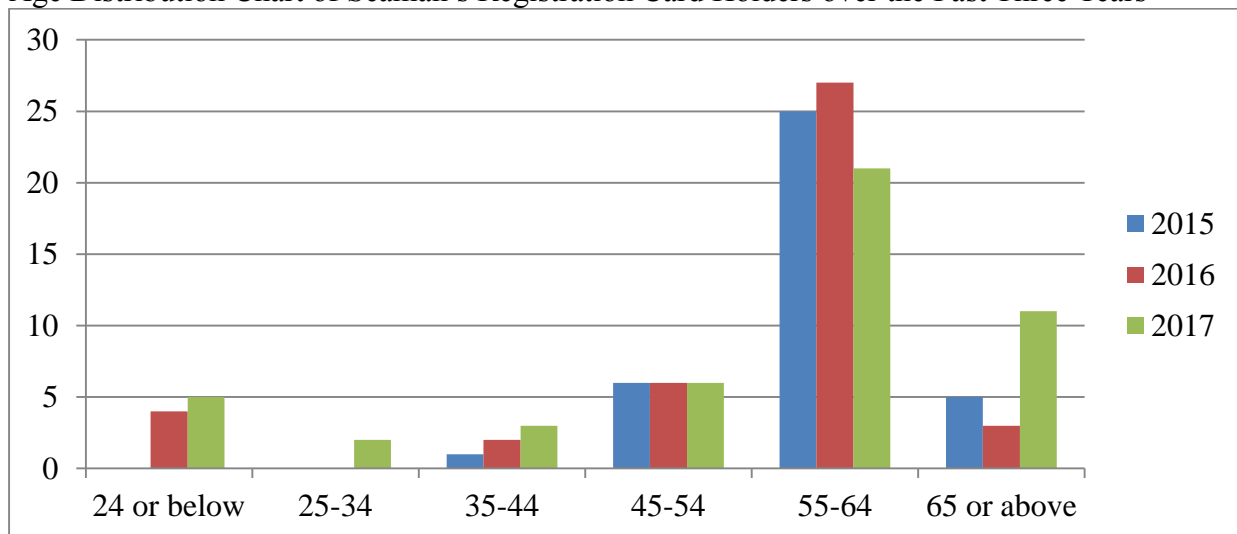
newly issued or renewed were recorded as at 31 March 2016, with five holders more than the previous year, four of which were newly registered holders aged 24 or below. The total number of Seaman’s Registration Cards holders reached 48 as at 31 March 2017, including five holders aged 24 or below, two holders aged 25-34 and holders aged 55 or above having increased to 32.

The Seaman’s Registration Card is an occupational licence for working in private enterprises, and employment by a private enterprise is one of the prerequisites for the registration. The above figures also reflect the situation of employment. Only a few young people have taken the seaman qualification courses, which is not enough to solve the aging issue of the industry as an aging tendency has already emerged among the existing seamen.

Age Distribution Table of Holders of Seaman’s Registration Cards Newly Issued or Renewed in the Past Three Years

	2015	2016	2017
24 or below	0	4	5
25-34	0	0	2
35-44	1	2	3
45-54	6	6	6
55-64	25	27	21
65 or above	5	3	11

Age Distribution Chart of Seaman’s Registration Card Holders over the Past Three Years



## 5. Types of Pleasure Boat Driver Licences:

Pleasure boat driver licences are classified into four types: ocean shipmasters, coastal shipmasters, sailors and beginners, and the licence holders must be at least 8 years of age.

Ocean pleasure boats can be operated by ocean shipmasters, inshore pleasure boats by coastal shipmasters, coastal pleasure boats and waterway pleasure boats by sailors and inland water pleasure boats by beginners. With the limited water depths, however, the coastal waters of Macao do not allow for navigation in inshore pleasure boats and ocean pleasure boats.

## 6. Requirements for Obtaining Pleasure Boat Driver Licences:

Pleasure Boat Driver Licences can be obtained in two ways according to the Decree-Law no. 82/99/M:

- (1) By passing the examination after taking the respective training courses;
- (2) With the examination exempted for seafaring professionals, staff of the Maritime Administration (now the Marine and Water Bureau) of Macao and members of the Marine Police (now the Macao Customs).

Rank Entitlement for the Licences: A sailor Licence is required for persons who intend to acquire a Coastal Shipmaster Licence, and a Coastal Shipmaster Licence for those who intend to acquire an Ocean Shipmaster Licence.

Applicants of the Pleasure Boat Driver Licences are subject to the following requirements as stipulated by the law, which include:

1. The minimum age is 8, 14 and 18 for applicants of a Beginner Licence, a Sailor Licence or a Shipmaster Licence, respectively. Drivers less than 14 years of age will only receive a Beginner Licence and those reaching 14 years of age may receive a Sailor Licence.
2. Applicants must be well acquainted with swimming and canoeing, and such abilities must be certified with a statement issued by the Maritime Administration (now the Marine and Water Bureau) of Macao, the Macao Sport Institute (now the Sports Bureau), a marine club or marine organisation.
3. Applicants must be examined by a doctor and certified to have the physical fitness required.

Restrictions on Licence Renewal: Pleasure Boat Driver Licence holders aged 65 or above have to apply for renewal every five years from the said age.

It is worth noting that Seaman's Registration Card holders may drive pleasure boats without applying for any Pleasure Boat Driver Licence, according to Article 28 of the Decree-Law no. 82/99/M.

## 7. Number and Age Distribution of Holders of Valid Pleasure Boat Driver Licences:

The statistics of the Marine and Water Bureau indicate a consistent rise in the number of licence holders over the past three years from 1306 as at 31 March 2015 to 1403 as at 31 March 2017. The number has increased by 2.7% - 4.5% annually. Most pleasure boat drivers fall under the age groups of 35-44 and 45-54; over 400 drivers are consistently found in each of the age groups in the past three years, accounting for over 30% of the total every year. Female licence holders remain at around 10% of the total each year.

Age Distribution of Holders of Valid Pleasure Boat Driver Licences over the Past Three Years

Year End Date	31 March 2015		31 March 2016		31 March 2017	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
24 or below	11	2	7	2	6	2
25-34	170	28	169	28	153	25
35-44	397	57	388	56	358	50
45-54	388	30	425	35	433	43
55-64	195	15	222	16	280	20

65 or above	13	0	18	0	33	0
Subtotal	1174	132	1229	137	1263	140
Total	1306		1366		1403	