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## National Amateur Radio Survey

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### Your involvement with Amateur Radio

1. What class of Amateur Radio license do you currently hold?

- |                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Novice     | <input type="checkbox"/> Advanced  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Technician | <input type="checkbox"/> Extra   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> General    | <input type="checkbox"/> not currently licensed ... <i>please skip to question 3</i> |

2. In approximately what year did you earn your current Amateur Radio license or most recent upgrade?

\_\_\_\_ \_

3. In approximately what year did you earn your first Amateur Radio license?

\_\_\_\_ \_

- this is my first license

4. Who and/or what primarily influenced you to become involved in Amateur Radio? (*please ✓ all that apply*)

- parent or grandparent
- spouse
- other family member
- friend or neighbor
- co-worker
- school teacher
- scout leader or other youth organizer
- community emergency manager/personnel
- hospital or other medical personnel
- employer
- religious group
- something I read in a magazine, newspaper, or book
- website, online social networking, podcast, or blog
- TV or radio
- other
- nobody or nothing

5. **What were your primary reasons for initially wanting to get involved in Amateur Radio?** *(please ✓ all that apply)*
- thought it would be a fun hobby
  - to expand interests in electronics, communications and other technologies
  - a way to make friends
  - for personal communications with family and friends
  - to support communications during disasters and other emergencies
  - to support public events and activities in my community
  - enhance personal safety
  - you were/are a CB, FRS or GMRS radio operator
  - other

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**If you earned your first Amateur Radio license in the last 5 years, please answer the following questions.  
If not, skip to question 8:**

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6. **How did you study for your first license exam?** *(please ✓ all that apply)*
- in a school-sponsored class
  - in a radio club-sponsored class
  - with help from a local instructor not associated with a club or school
  - with help from a family member
  - with help from a friend, neighbor, or co-worker
  - by yourself
  - other
7. **What tools (if any) did you use while studying for your first license exam?** *(please ✓ all that apply)*
- ARRL license manual (*ARRL Ham Radio License Manual, ARRL Q&A books, etc.*)
  - Gordon West study materials
  - other book
  - ARRL Exam Review online
  - HamTestOnline
  - QRZ.COM
  - eHam.net
  - AA9PW.com FCC Exam Practice
  - other online resource
  - other
  - none

8. **Are you currently active in Amateur Radio?**
- yes ... *if yes, please skip to question 12*
  - no and you were never active ... *please continue with question 10*
  - no ... *if no, please continue with question 9, below*
9. **If no, in approximately what year did you stop being active in Amateur Radio?**
- \_\_\_\_\_
10. **What (if anything) might have helped you stay (or become) active in Amateur Radio?** *(please ✓ all that apply)*
- help with how to get started on the air
  - a more active local radio club
  - contact with a ham radio store or equipment dealer
  - help from a mentor or "Elmer"
  - support from family and friends
  - support from local hams
  - information about online resources
  - other hams who share my interests
  - other
  - nothing
11. **How likely is it that you will someday become active (or active again) in Amateur Radio?** *(please circle a rating below)*
- definitely will    10   9   8   7   6   5   4   3   2   1   0    definitely will not

***If you indicated you are not currently active in Amateur Radio (or have never been active in Amateur Radio) (at question 8), please skip to question 20***

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### Your experience with Amateur Radio

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12. **In a typical week, about how many hours do you devote to Amateur Radio activities?**
- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> no time in a typical week</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 1 hour or less</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 2 hours</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 3 - 4 hours</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 5 - 9 hours</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 10 - 14 hours</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 15 - 19 hours</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 20 hours or more</li> </ul> |
|---|---|

**13. In which of these Amateur Radio activities do you participate?**  
(please ✓ all that apply)

- AM
- amateur satellites
- amateur television (SSTV, FSTV, etc.)
- APRS
- ARRL Field Day
- ARRL volunteer activities
- award chasing
- building or experimenting with antennas
- building (homebrewing) equipment/kits/accessories
- radio club meetings
- computers (interfacing with radios, station control, etc.)
- continuing education training/courses
- conventions, hamfests, flea markets, or swap meets
- CW/Morse code
- direction finding/Foxhunting/ARDF
- DXing
- emergency communications/ARES/RACES
- family communications
- giving license exams
- HF operating or ragchewing
- HF contesting
- HF digital modes
- listening to ham bands
- making new friends
- maritime mobile offshore communications
- mentoring new hams
- microwave networking
- mobile or portable operating
- nets
- personal safety
- public service or community safety
- QRP/low power operating
- QSLing
- remote station operating
- RC/radio control models
- radio experimenting
- reading Amateur Radio publications
- recruiting new hams
- repeater operation
- SWL
- talking with friends
- teaching/Amateur Radio instruction
- traffic handling and nets
- vintage equipment (restoring, collecting, operating)
- VHF/UHF operating or ragchewing
- VHF/UHF contesting
- VHF/UHF digital modes
- VoIP (Echolink, IRLP, etc.)
- weak signal (VHF/UHF/microwave)
- other
- none

**14. What mode(s) do you use?**

*(please ✓ all that apply)*

- SSB
- FM
- AM
- CW

HF digital modes

- RTTY
- PSK
- JT
- WinLink
- other HF digital modes

VHF (and above) digital modes

- packet
  - APRS
  - JT
  - digital television (DATV)
  - high-speed digital, HSMM, mesh networks
  - other VHF digital modes (including D-STAR, DMR, etc.)
- 
- slow-scan TV
  - fast-scan (UHF) TV
  - weather FAX
  - other

**15. On what band(s) do you operate or listen?** *(please ✓ all that apply)*

- |  |                                    |  |
|--|------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 160 Meters      | <input type="checkbox"/> 20 Meters | <input type="checkbox"/> 6 Meters      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 80 or 75 Meters | <input type="checkbox"/> 17 Meters | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Meters      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 60 Meters       | <input type="checkbox"/> 15 Meters | <input type="checkbox"/> 222 MHz       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 40 Meters       | <input type="checkbox"/> 12 Meters | <input type="checkbox"/> 420 - 450 MHz |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 30 Meters       | <input type="checkbox"/> 10 Meters | <input type="checkbox"/> above 900 MHz |

**16a. Which of these pieces of equipment and accessories (if any) do you currently own?** *(please ✓ all that apply)*

- HF transceiver used at home
- VHF and/or UHF transceiver used at home
- HF amplifier
- power supply
- digital modes data interface
- HF mobile/portable
- shortwave receiver
- VHF and/or UHF mobile/portable
- VHF and/or UHF handie-talkie
- VHF/UHF scanner (receiver)
- logging software
- Morse code keyer (iambic, electronic, "bug," etc.)
- any equipment accessory you've built (homebrew)
- test equipment (volt-ohm Meter, scope, and/or others)
- printed supply of QSL cards (your own)
- none of these

**16b. When was the last time you purchased a piece of Amateur Radio equipment?**

- in the past 6 months
- between 6 and 12 months ago
- between 12 and 24 months ago
- longer than 24 months ago
- I've never purchased a piece of Amateur Radio equipment

**17. Which of the following antennas and related equipment (if any) are part of your antenna system? (please ✓ all that apply)**

- dipole antenna
- other wire antenna
- Yagi antenna
- vertical antenna
- antenna for satellite/space communication
- antenna tuner
- antenna tower
- antenna rotor
- portable antenna
- antenna modeling software
- book/publication for antenna construction
- none of these

**18. Where do you currently have Amateur Radio station(s) located? (please ✓ all that apply)**

- single-family home on small lot
- single-family home on large property
- planned, deed-restricted, or retirement community
- condominium, apartment, or other multi-family dwelling
- mobile home park
- recreational vehicle
- boat
- airplane
- have hand-held transceiver
- VHF/UHF radio in vehicle or portable
- HF radio in vehicle or portable
- remote controlled station
- use station at radio club or other shared station
- other
- do not currently have a station

**19. Which Amateur Radio technical activities are you interested in?**

*(please ✓ all that apply)*

- I am not interested in technical activities
- radio construction
- radio theory and design
- basic electronics
- antenna construction
- antenna theory and design, feed lines, baluns and tuners
- HF digital modes
- VHF/UHF digital modes
- microwave devices and design
- remote station control
- project building
- propagation
- digital repeaters
- equipment testing
- microcontroller project building (Arduino, Rasberry Pi, etc.)
- Software Defined Radio and DSP
- RFI/EMI – interference problems and cures
- equipment restoration
- satellites and space communications
- software development
- robotics
- 3-D printing
- other

**20a. What reasons (if any) keep you from becoming more active (or active) in Amateur Radio?** (please ✓ all that apply in column a)

**20b. Which one do you feel presents the PRIMARY reason?**  
(please ✓ only one in column b)

(✓ all) (✓ only one)

a.	b.	
	PRIMARY	
<u>reason</u>	<u>reason</u>	

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	not as fun as I thought it should be
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	not as interesting as I thought it should be
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	the technology is too complicated
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	limits on the operating privileges of my license
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	not many hams my age
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	not enough hams in my local area
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	local radio club is not interesting
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	interference problems to/from my station
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	too expensive
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	difficulty getting on the air or setting up a station or antenna
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	covenants, ordinances or other restrictive limits on antennas
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	no place for an antenna
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	no time due to family commitments
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	no time due to work/school commitments
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	too many other hobbies
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	family and friends don't share interest
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	crowded bands
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	impolite operators
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	learning to use the equipment
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	use the Internet, smartphones and other mobile devices
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ham radio has changed for the worse since I got my license
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	health problems or other physical limitations
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	other
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	no particular reason

**21a. Which of these ARRL resources (if any) do you read or utilize?**  
(please ✓ all that apply)

- QST
- ARRL Letter or other ARRL e-newsletters
- ARRL Audio News
- QEX
- NCJ
- ARRL's Facebook page
- ARRL's Twitter feed
- ARRL's YouTube channel



**21b. Which of these other resources (if any) do you read or utilize?**

*(please ✓ all that apply)*

- CQ magazine
- Amateur Radio Newline
- QRZ.COM
- eHam.net
- Ham Nation
- W5KUB.COM
- HAMRADIONOW.tv with KN4AQ (arvideonews.com)
- MAKE magazine
- Nuts & Volts
- none of these

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**Your involvement with organized ham activities**

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**22. Which option best describes your current involvement with local radio clubs?** *(please ✓ the one best option)*

- have never been a local radio club member
- not currently a member of any local radio clubs, but was in past
- member, but not actively involved
- member active in club projects and affairs
- club officer or director

**23. In the last year, approximately how many Amateur Radio conventions, hamfests, flea markets, or swap meets have you attended?**

- none     1     2     3 - 5     6 or more

**24. Are you currently a member of the ARRL (American Radio Relay League)?**

- yes
- no, but once was
- never been a member

**25. Before you decided whether or not to become a member, how did you learn about ARRL?** *(please ✓ all that apply)*

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> not familiar with ARRL                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> online social media (Facebook, Twitter, blogs, reflectors, etc.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> received a mailing from ARRL after earning my license  | <input type="checkbox"/> word of mouth from other hams, family, or friends                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> received a membership solicitation mailing or emailing | <input type="checkbox"/> visited the ARRL website   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ARRL exhibit at convention or hamfest                  | <input type="checkbox"/> saw it referenced elsewhere on the Internet                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> radio club   | <input type="checkbox"/> saw a book published by ARRL                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Amateur Radio store/dealer                             | <input type="checkbox"/> QST magazine   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> your instructor or mentor                              | <input type="checkbox"/> from another magazine  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> learned about it at VE test session                    | <input type="checkbox"/> publicity (TV, radio, newspapers)                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> visit to a local Field Day operation                   | <input type="checkbox"/> other  |

**26. In the past year, what type(s) of communications from ARRL (if any) do you recall receiving? (please ✓ all that apply)**

don't recall receiving any communications from ARRL

BY MAIL

- membership invitation sent to new licensees
- membership offer
- membership renewal
- catalog
- book or publication offer
- fundraising solicitation
- licensing renewal or licensing expiration notification
- other

BY EMAIL

- membership offer
- membership renewal
- book or publication offer
- fundraising solicitation
- licensing renewal or licensing expiration notification
- e-newsletters, news, bulletins
- other

**27. Listed below are some of the key benefits ARRL provides to members through its programs, products, and services. Whether or not you have ever been a member ...**

- a. **Indicate if you were aware of the benefit.**
- b. **How valuable is each benefit to you?**
- c. **How do you rate ARRL's performance in delivering each benefit? (please circle one rating in column A and one in column B for each benefit)**

- QST magazine, mailed to members each month.
- Digital edition of QST magazine accessible from the web and through free apps for Android and Apple devices.
- ARRL's online, searchable periodical archive.
- \$10 Birthday Coupon, redeemable for ARRL publications
- Member discounts on ARRL publications
- members-only e-newsletters, including the ARRL Letter
- email forwarding service (your\_callsign@arrl.net)
- help with technical and operating questions, and solving technical or interference problems
- help with FCC rule questions, antenna/zoning restrictions, and other regulatory advice.
- Ham Radio Equipment Insurance Plan
- product reviews, new product information, and screening of published advertising

**28. Listed below are some of the key benefits of ARRL programs and services which support all radio amateurs.**

**a. Indicate if you were aware of the benefit**

**b. How valuable is each benefit to you?**

- representation of Amateur Radio interests in government: work with FCC, other regulatory agencies, and Congress on matters involving Amateur Radio
- representation of US Amateur Radio interests overseas: liaison with overseas radio societies, presence at international telecommunications meetings like WRC-2012
- support for FCC enforcement of Amateur Radio rules: Amateur Auxiliary to FCC, Official Observer stations, ARRL Monitoring System, interference from non-hams
- public relations for Amateur Radio: place stories about Amateur Radio in magazines or newspapers and on radio, TV, web and social media
- W1AW code practice and code proficiency sessions
- support for radio clubs and locally organized ARRL volunteers (ARRL Field Organization)
- representation in public service matters including liaison with Red Cross, FEMA and other served agencies
- Training and support for public service and emergency communication volunteers
- Support for on-the-air activities and radiosport: contests, awards, ARRL Field Day, DXCC, QSL bureau, etc.
- ARRL's Logbook of the World (LoTW)
- ARRL Education & Technology Program: supporting effective ways to introduce and promote ham radio and wireless technology in classrooms
- Scholarships for higher education
- ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (ARRL VEC)
- resources to help you promote Amateur Radio and recruit new hams
- Online courses and training
- Amateur Radio news: up-to-date breaking news and information distributed via the ARRL website, W1AW, and other means

**29. ARRL is considering adding several new programs, products, and services. Whether you're currently a member or not, please rate the value of each one (scale of 0 to 4)**

- e-book versions of more ARRL publications (Kindle format, etc.)
- Online live help to get answers to questions about ARRL and ham radio.
- Online equipment classifieds/swap.
- Online equipment advisory service with ratings and tips for buying equipment.
- Online resources for new hams (tips for setting up your first station, basic operating techniques, and building basic antennas)
- NONE OF THESE

**30. ARRL is considering adding several new training programs. Whether you're currently a member or not, please rate the value of each one (scale of 0 to 4)**

Training for public service and emergency communication volunteers

- webinars     online videos/multimedia     in-person/classroom

Continuing education on technical topics

- webinars     online videos/multimedia     in-person/classroom

Practical radio operating training

- webinars     online videos/multimedia     in-person/classroom

Courses for Amateur Radio licensing/upgrading

- webinars     online videos/multimedia     in-person/classroom

Training and support for newcomers: setting up your first station, basic operating techniques, building basic antennas

- webinars     online videos/multimedia     in-person/classroom

31. What other programs, products, or services might ARRL offer that you would find of value?

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32. How likely are you to join, rejoin or renew in the next 12 months?

definitely will    10   9   8   7   6   5   4   3   2   1   0    definitely will not

[ ] I am an ARRL Life Member

33. What one thing could ARRL do differently or better to make membership more attractive to you?

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### About you

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34. Your gender?

male                       female

35. In what year were you born?

\_\_\_\_\_

36. Of which of these associations are you currently a member?

- a professional engineering association
- a professional management association
- a recreation/leisure/hobby association
- a civic or fraternal organization (Elks, Lions, Rotary, etc.)
- other association
- none

37. May we contact you if we need follow-up on any of your answers?

yes                       no

38. If yes, what is your email address?

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(Your email address will be used for no other purpose and will not be shared with any other organization)*