

# SELF STORAGE DEMAND STUDY



2025 Edition

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Since 2004, the Self Storage Association (SSA) has been committed to equipping industry professionals with the insights they need to make smarter, more strategic business decisions. In many ways, the search for reliable, actionable data has been the industry's own version of the Holy Grail. With the release of this seventh Demand Study, that elusive goal feels closer than ever. Packed with fresh findings and grounded in years of research, this report offers a deeper understanding of consumer behavior, market trends, and the evolving dynamics shaping self storage today.

### **HISTORY**

The Self Storage Association commissioned the consulting firm C+R Research to lead this year's demand study of the self storage market.

This study was first conducted in 2004, published as the Self Storage Demand Study - 2005 Edition. The study was repeated in 2007, 2013, 2017, 2020, 2022 and now in 2025 with minor changes each time.

This report presents the results of the Self Storage Demand Study – 2025 Edition. Survey responses were collected February – March 2025. The survey ask about renter's experiences in the past year, thus data reported reflects a snapshot of 2024 and are labeled as such in the charts and tables throughout.

See the appendix for an in-depth history of the Self Storage Demand Study.

### **OBJECTIVE**

The purpose of the study is to paint a portrait of who uses self storage, how and why self storage is used, and most importantly, to track demand.

### **METHODOLOGY**

- An online survey of consumers and businesses was conducted February through March 2025.
- More than 10,000 households and businesses were contacted and asked if they currently or recently rented a self storage unit or planned to in the next year.
- Of those who answered yes, an in-depth survey was administered to 3,456 households and 935 businesses.
- Renters are defined as current, recent, and future renters. See the appendix for detailed description of these classifications.
- A note on statistical significance: self storage penetration estimates are based on the larger number of households and businesses screened, whereas survey results are based on the number completing the in-depth survey. Margins of error at 95% confidence level are as follows:
  - Consumer Self Storage penetration: +/- 1%
  - Consumer Self Storage survey data: +/- 2%
  - Business Self Storage penetration: +/- 3%
  - Business Self Storage survey data: +/- 4%
- These margins are somewhat larger for sub-analyses of generations, regions, etc., depending on sample size.
- Please note, some figures have been combined or eliminated in this edition, however, all
  figure numbers included in this report remain consistent with prior editions for
  continuity.



# 2025 U.S. SELF STORAGE CONSUMER TRENDS

2025 Demand Study: Data collected February – March 2025

# 2025 U.S. Consumer Self Storage Market: Trends

- Since 2013, the rate of household consumer self storage usage has risen, peaking in 2024.
- Each year has seen growth in both the overall population and the number of households renting storage units.

