

MT SCORP

# Public Recreational Use Study: 2012



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## Public Recreational Use Study

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## Executive Summary

The purpose of the Public Recreational Use Survey was to understand the current outdoor recreation facility uses by Montana residents. Specifically the objectives of the survey were:

- 1) To estimate Montana Resident's outdoor recreational activities;
- 2) To estimate outdoor recreation facility/area use;
- 3) To assess overall quality of outdoor recreation experiences, and;
- 4) To identify Montana resident's perceptions of recreation resources in the state.

Three methods were employed for the study: 1) A short intercept study conducted around the state at gas stations and rest areas and, 2) A follow-up on-line survey to those same residents, 3) An Identical on-line survey sent to Montana members of the ITRR panel survey.

### Intercept survey results (N=4,158)

- 88% (673,950 MT residents) 18 and over were active in outdoor recreation during the past year.
- 74% (566,730 MT residents) 18 and over said they visited other public lands in the past year.
- 52% (398,240 MT residents) 18 and over enjoyed MT State Parks at least once in the year.

### On-line survey results (N=580)

Outdoor recreation is important for Montana residents:

- 95% of respondents say outdoor recreation is important to their personal quality of life.
- 93% of respondents say outdoor recreation is important for their family's quality of life.
- 95% of respondents indicate it is important to maintain existing recreation facilities.
- 86% of respondents say it is important that budget cuts do not affect park and recreation agencies.

Montana Residents are very happy with their outdoor recreation experiences:

- 81% of respondents said their Montana outdoor recreation experiences have been excellent.
- 70% of respondents said their experience with Montana natural areas has been excellent.
- 62% of respondents said their experience with Montana trails has been excellent.
- 60% of respondents said their experience with Montana cultural and historic areas has been excellent.

Montana households use a variety of facilities and are satisfied with their facilities. The top five are:

- 77% of Montana households (313,090) used paths for walking, jogging, or biking in the past year.
- 72% of Montana households (294,920) used hiking trails.
- 62% of Montana households (253,960) used picnic areas.
- 60% of Montana households (245,760) used heritage areas or historic sites.
- 59% of Montana households (241,670) used campgrounds without hookups.

National forests receive the highest use by Montana households followed by rivers and streams, lakes, national park lands, state park lands, and city parks.

Even though residents are satisfied with their outdoor experiences in Montana, five facility types came to the top of the list to increase the numbers. These facilities are: Hiking trails, Bike lanes, Off-road ATV trails, Rifle/handgun ranges, and sledding/tubing areas. The results are based on facilities where over 100 residents said it should be increased. The number of residents who indicated an increase was needed was higher than the number of residents who said the facility numbers were adequate.

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## **Introduction**

Montana State Parks, a division of MT Fish, Wildlife, and Parks is in the process of updating the Montana Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) for 2013-2017. The goal of the SCORP is to identify outdoor recreation trends, needs, and issues that will help direct Montana's use of the Land and Water Conservation Fund dollars allocated to the state. To be eligible for LWCF dollars, every state must prepare and regularly update a statewide recreation plan (SCORP). Most SCORPs address the demand for and supply of recreation resources (local, state and federal) within a state, identify needs and new opportunities for recreation improvements and set forth an implementation program to meet the goals identified by its citizens and elected leaders. The current Montana SCORP extends through 2012 and therefore an update is needed.

This report is based on one of several data collection processes to identify use, facilities, and needs in Montana for outdoor recreation by Montana residents. The information provided in this report will help guide the final SCORP report.

## **Purpose and Objectives**

The purpose of the Public Recreational Use Survey is to understand the current outdoor recreation facility uses by Montana residents. Specifically the objectives of the survey are:

- 1) To estimate Montana Resident's outdoor recreational activities;
- 2) To estimate outdoor recreation facility/area use;
- 3) To assess overall quality of outdoor recreation experiences, and;
- 4) To identify Montana resident's perceptions of recreation resources in the state.

## **Methods**

Three methods were employed to gather data for this project. First, surveyors from the Institute for Tourism and Recreation Research (ITRR) were stationed around the state to intercept residents of Montana for research. These surveyors were located at gas stations and some rest areas in cities and towns around Montana. Gas stations and rest areas were considered neutral locations at which any resident with a car is likely to be encountered. A list of on-site survey locations can be found in Appendix A. Only residents 18 years of age and older were intercepted. When residents were intercepted, they were asked 7 up-front questions. The up-front intercept data was weighted by gender and by county population based on U.S. Census Bureau estimates to accurately represent Montana's population and gender split. Only Petroleum and Treasure Counties were not represented in the intercept data set. These two counties represent 0.1 percent of Montana's total population. A total of 4,387 residents of Montana were intercepted for this project. Of those intercepted, 4,158 residents agreed to answer the up-front survey, resulting in a 95% response rate (Table 1).

The second method was to ask the intercepted residents if they would complete an additional survey on-line. Each resident was given a post card with a link to the survey instrument instructing them to go on-line to complete the survey. People were given an incentive for a chance to win one of two \$250 VISA gift cards if they completed the on-line survey. The on-line survey was completed by 410 residents (Table 1). This represents a 10 percent response rate of those intercepted.

The third and final method involved asking residents who had previously agreed to complete ITRR recreation and tourism surveys via an on-line panel to participate in this study. ITRR maintains a travel and recreation on-line research panel and continually adds panel members throughout the year. All panel members voluntarily join to assist in research. They are recruited through intercept surveys in Montana, the Montana Office of Tourism website, and through friends. Panel members earn points for completing surveys and are entered in a yearly drawing for a \$500 VISA gift card. This panel was used as another method of reaching Montana residents. This survey was sent to all Montana residents of the panel. There were 170 panel members who completed the same survey as the intercepted residents who went on-line. The response rate to the panel survey is a moving average since people are signing up for the panel daily, therefore the response rate of the panel members is an estimate (Table 1). The two identical on-line surveys were merged into one data set, and, together, yielded 580 completed surveys.

The on-line survey data was weighted to represent the population of Montana, based on U.S. Census Bureau estimates of county populations. Forty-six of the 56 counties were represented, and once weighted, the proportion of survey respondents from each of those counties is equal to the proportion of Montana’s population residing in each county. Residents from the following counties are not represented in the on-line survey data: Carter, Chouteau, Garfield, Golden Valley, Granite, Petroleum, Phillips, Treasure, and Wibaux. These counties represent 1.95 percent of Montana’s population.

According to the 2010 U.S. Census, Montana has 409,607 housing units occupied in the state<sup>1</sup>. Many of the on-line survey questions regarding recreation facility use were asked at the household level; therefore the full numbers (total households in the tables) represent at least someone in that household who participated in a particular activity.

**Table 1: Response by Method**

Method	# contacted	Responses	Response rate	Completed surveys
Intercept survey	4,387	4,158	95%	4,158
On-line survey	4,158	410	10%	580
Panel surveys	300	170	~ 57%	

The intercept survey can be found in Appendix B and the longer on-line survey is found in Appendix C.

## Results

The results are presented in two sections. The first section represents results of the seven intercept questions asked of the 4,158 residents.

The second section represents results of the longer and more detailed on-line survey including an overview of the demographics and characteristics of respondents, media habits of respondents, awareness of state parks media messages, the values respondents have for Montana State Parks, and the areas where they feel like they would like to learn more about state parks.

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.census.gov/2010census/popmap/ipmtext.php?fl=30>

## SECTION 1: Intercept Survey Results

### Demographics and Land Usage

The average age of respondents to the intercept study was 46.87 years. Respondent ages ranged between 18 and 89 years old. Males represented 50.1 percent of the population while females were 49.9 percent of the population.

According to the 2010 US census, 989,415 live in Montana and 765,852 are 18 years old or over. That means 398,243 Montana residents 18 and over visited a MT State Park at least once in the year. In addition, 74 percent of those 18 and over said they visited other public lands. This equates to 566,730 Montana residents (18 years old and up) who enjoyed other public lands in Montana at least once in the past year. Finally, 88 percent of Montana residents 18 years old and older (673,950) were active in outdoor recreation during the past year (Table 2).

Comparing residents by gender, males are slightly more likely to visit a state park, other public lands, and participate in outdoor recreation than females (Table 2). One-way analysis of variance shows that males are significantly different than females in their visitation of public lands and their participation in outdoor recreation. Visitation of males and females to Montana State Parks was not significantly different.

Little variation existed by age category in terms of land usage and outdoor activity (Table 2). The only trend observed is that as residents aged, their visits to parks and other public lands decreased as well as their outdoor recreation activity.

**Table 2: Montana Residents' Land Usage and Media Awareness by Resident Type**

	All Residents (n=4,134)*	Males (n=2,065)	Females (n=2,053)	18-30 yrs. old (n=420)	31-45 yrs. old (n=1,058)	46-60 yrs. old (n=1,395)	61-75 yrs. old (n=726)	76+ yrs. Old (n=138)
<b>In past 12 months.....</b>								
Visited a MT State park	52% (398,243)	54%	50%	53%	56%	53%	47%	34%
Visited other public lands	74% (566,730)	78%	69%	73%	77%	75%	71%	57%
Participated in any form of outdoor recreation in past 12 months	88% (673,950)	90%	86%	92%	92%	88%	82%	74%

\*Weighted sample size



## SECTION 2: On-line Follow-up Survey Results

### Respondent Demographics and Characteristics

Respondents were asked a series of demographic questions to identify their characteristics. Figure 1 shows the various age ranges represented in respondents' households with the highest percentage indicating they had someone between the ages of 55 and 64 (30%) in their household. This was followed by the 28 percent of people who indicated they had someone between 25 and 34 years old in their household. The average household size of respondents was 2.82.

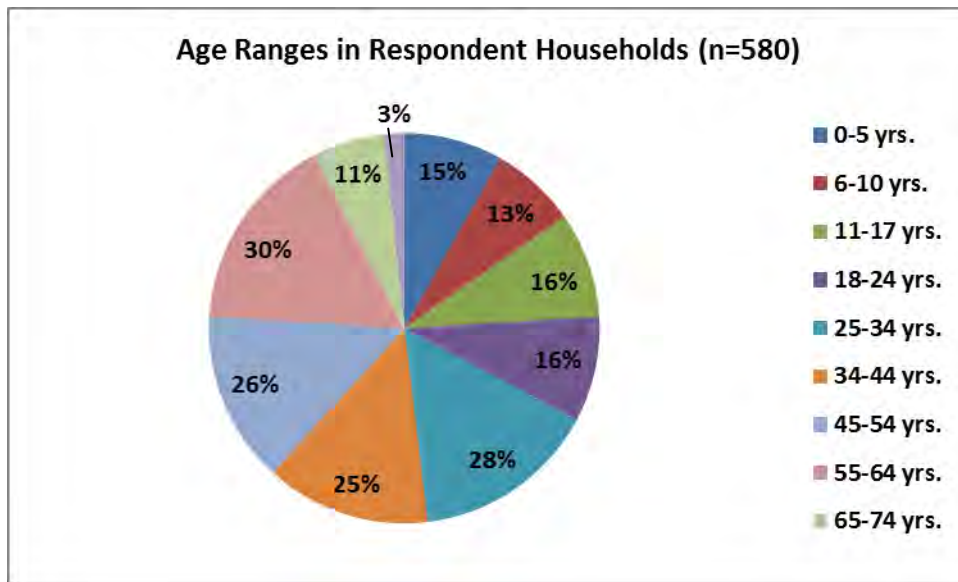


Figure 1: Age Ranges Represented in Households of Respondents (n=580)

Respondents were also asked about their political views. Thirty-four percent indicated their political views are "more conservative" while 27 percent considered themselves "moderate" (Figure 2).

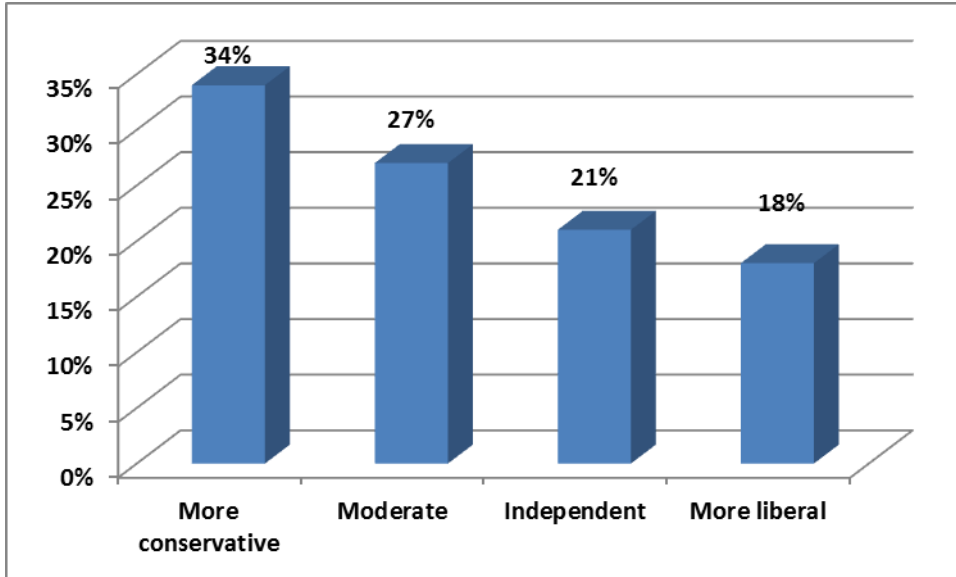


Figure 2: Political Views of Respondents

Forty-nine percent of the respondents have completed a Bachelor’s degree or higher in their educational standing. Twenty-five percent of respondents have some college experience. Only 15 percent of the respondents had high school or less for education (Figure 3).

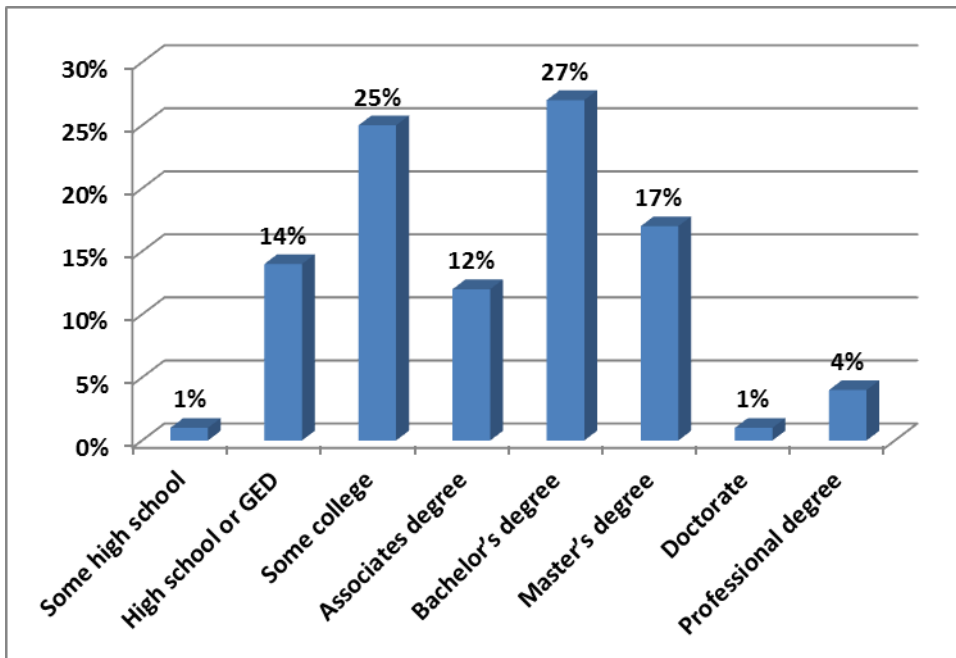
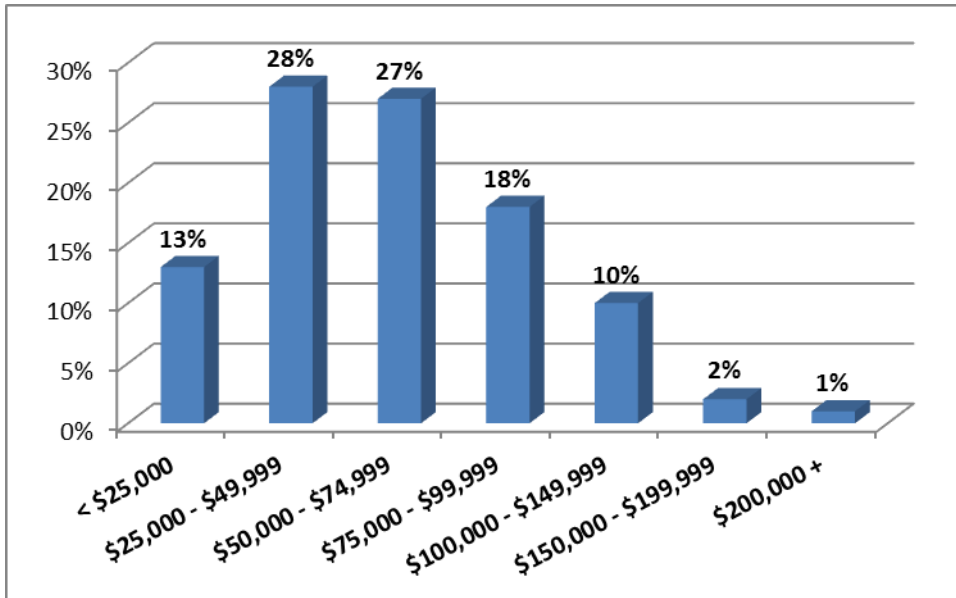


Figure 3: Respondents Level of Education

The household income of 41 percent of respondents is less than \$50,000 while 45 percent have household incomes between \$50,000 and \$100,000 (Figure 4).



**Figure 4: Annual Household Income of Respondents**

Seventy-five percent of respondents are working; sixty-one percent have full time employment (Table 3). The remaining are retired (16%), students (3%), or unemployed (7%). The mean age of respondents was 46.17.

**Table 3: Respondents Employment Status**

Employment Status	% of Respondents (n=580)
Full time	61%
Part time	10%
Seasonal full time	3%
Seasonal part time	1%
Unemployed	7%
Retired	16%
Student	3%

## Recreation Facility Use and Opinions

Residents were asked to identify the importance of outdoor recreation to their lives. Table 4 highlights that outdoor recreation is very important for individual and family quality of life with virtually no

respondents indicating it is not important to them at all. Ninety-five percent say it is important to their personal quality of life and 93 percent say it is important for their family’s quality of life. In addition, 95 percent indicate it is important to maintain existing recreation facilities. Eighty-six percent say it is important that budget cuts do not affect park and recreation agencies (Table 4).

**Table 4: Importance Level of Recreation**

How important is... (N=580)	Not at all Important	Somewhat Important	Important	Very Important	Mean*
<b>Outdoor recreation for your quality of life</b>	1%	4%	32%	63%	3.57
<b>Outdoor recreation for your family’s quality of life</b>	1%	6%	30%	64%	3.57
<b>Maintaining existing recreation facilities</b>	<1%	4%	37%	59%	3.54
<b>Making sure budget cuts do not affect your park &amp; recreation agencies</b>	2%	12%	31%	55%	3.40

Scale: not at all important =1 to very important =4

Montana residents are happy with their outdoor recreation experiences in the state. Respondents were asked to rate the quality of their experiences in seven different areas. In an overall assessment of their Montana outdoor recreation experience 81 percent indicated their experiences have been excellent. When asked about certain areas, more than half said their experiences were excellent for natural areas, trails, cultural and historic areas, water-based activities, and snow-based areas. Sports facilities were the only areas where the majority of respondents rated them as fair as opposed to excellent (Table 5).

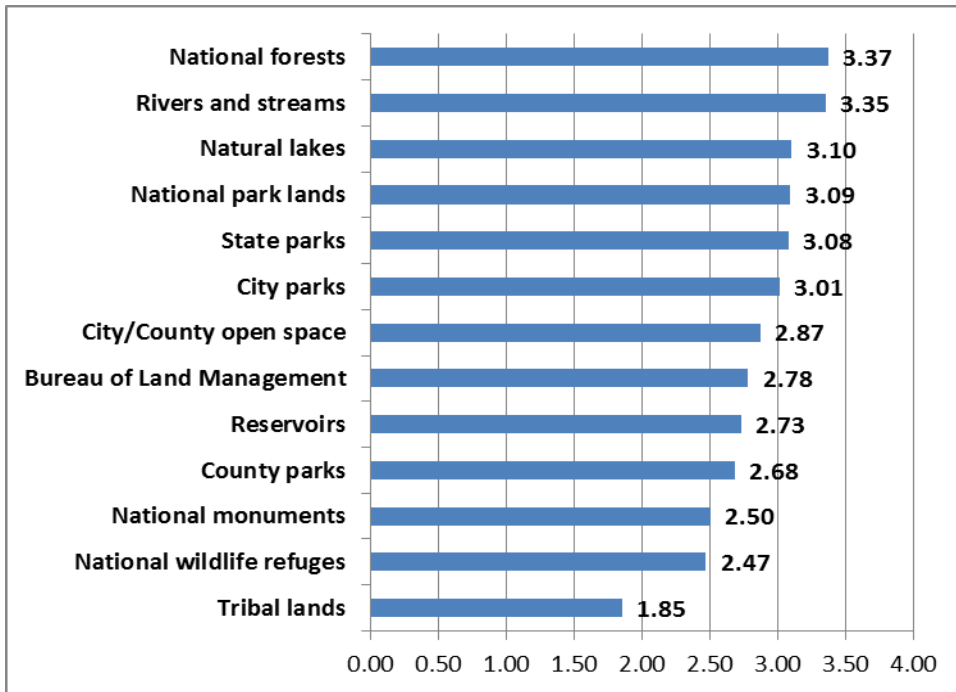
**Table 5: Quality of Experiences**

The overall quality of...	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Excellent	Mean
<b>My Montana outdoor recreation experience is... (n=540)</b>	<1%	<1%	18%	81%	3.81
<b>My experience with MT natural areas is... (n=511)</b>	-	1%	30%	70%	3.69
<b>My experience with MT trails is... (n=499)</b>	<1%	1%	36%	62%	3.62
<b>My experience with MT cultural &amp; historic areas is... (n=490)</b>	-	3%	37%	60%	3.58
<b>My experience with MT water based activities is... (n=454)</b>	-	3%	39%	58%	3.55
<b>My experience with MT snow-based areas is... (n=380)</b>	1%	-	44%	54%	3.53
<b>My experience with MT sports facilities is... (n=365)</b>	-	7%	61%	32%	3.25

Scale: very poor =1 to excellent =4

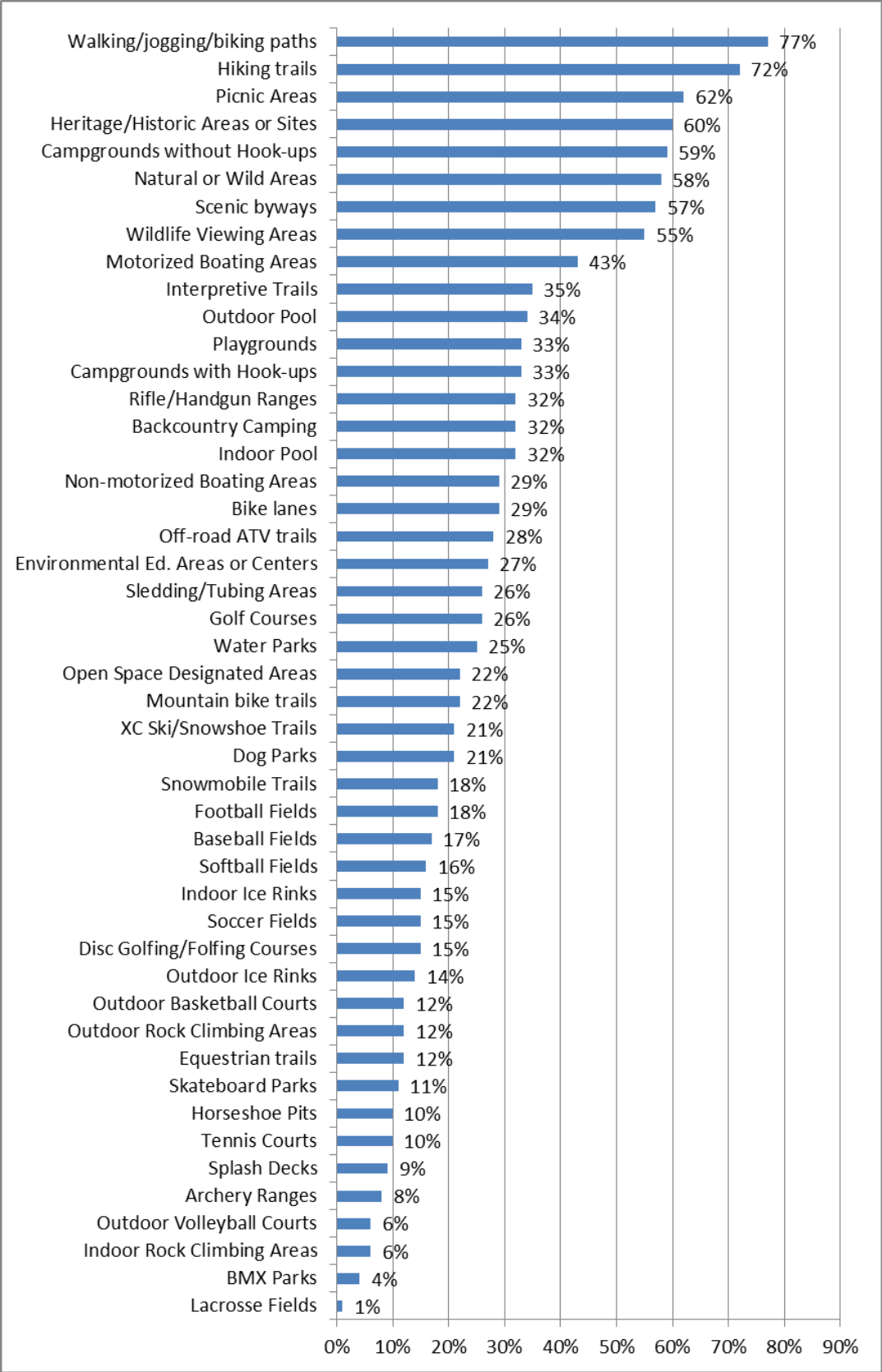
Residents were asked how often they and/or their household members use various public lands and waters in Montana. The selections ranged on a 4-point scale from never use to often use. Montanans are busy outdoor folks as seen by the means in Figure 5. National forests are used most by residents followed by rivers and streams, natural lakes, national park lands, and state parks. More specific facility

use results are shown in Figure 7. Paths for walking, jogging, and biking are used by more Montana households (77%) than any other facility followed by hiking trails (72%), picnic areas (62%), and heritage/historic areas (60%).



**Figure 5: Montana Household Use of Public Lands and Waters (Means)**

\*Scale: 1= never; 2= rarely; 3=sometimes; 4=often



**Figure 6: Resident Household use of Montana Facilities and Recreation Areas**

Previously, Figure 6 showed the statewide use of 47 different recreation facilities, this next portion of the report provides the use and assessment of these facilities by Montana travel regions (Figure 7) as well as the state as a whole.

The survey asked respondents to indicate whether anyone in their household had used various outdoor recreation facilities or areas in the past 12 months, then were asked to assess each of those facilities in terms of the need for more, less, or if there is an adequate amount. In many cases, the respondent had no opinion on the assessment of the facility. This is probably due to their lack of use of the facility and therefore did not feel comfortable assessing the need.

It is important to look at the sample size in each case before making decisions on the next set of regional maps and the data in Tables 7-16. Caution should be used in making regional assumptions as some regions had small response sizes (Missouri River and Southwest Montana regions only had 20 and 50 respondents respectively). In some cases only the frequency was reported since a percentage is not appropriate when only one or two people responded. The frequency or number of respondents is always reported in parentheses (e.g. (1) means one person responded to this variable). Nevertheless, it was felt by the authors that the regional breakdown can still be used as a guide to facility use and assessment for statewide decision making.

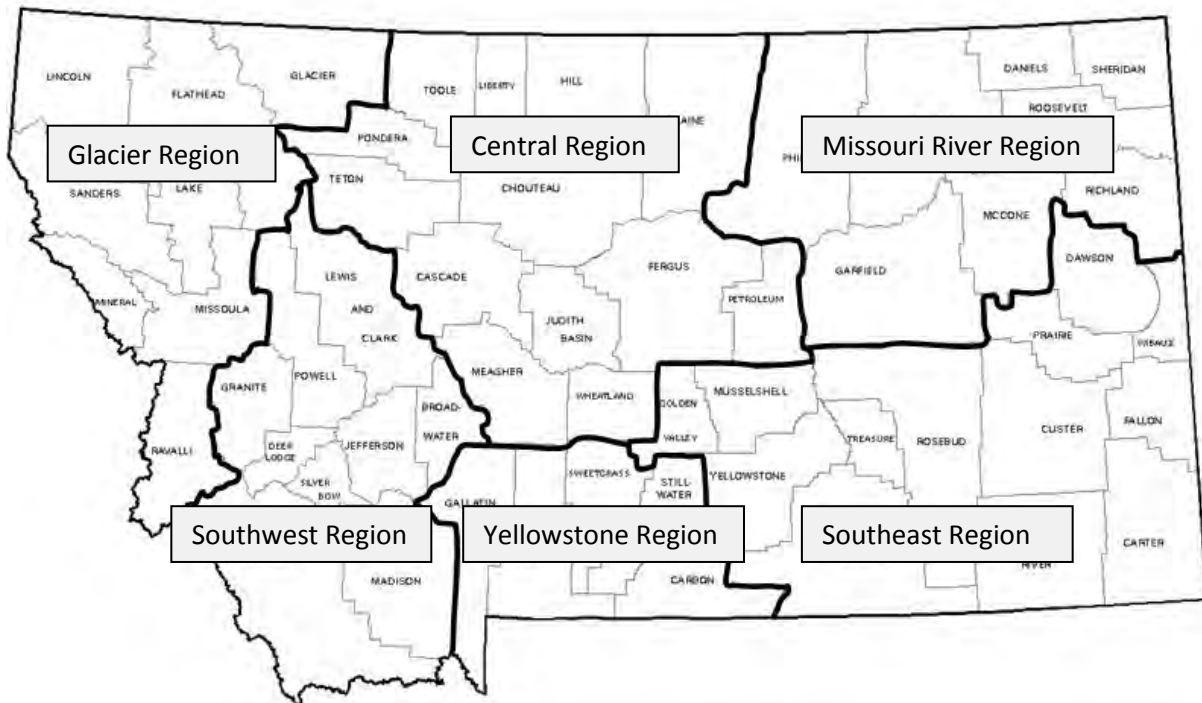
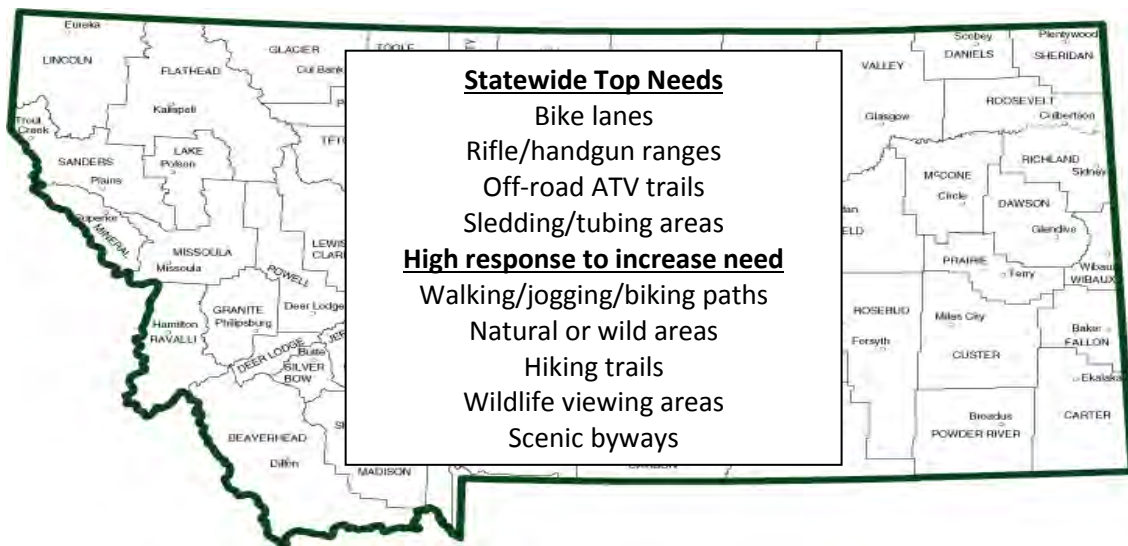


Figure 7: Regional Map of Montana

## Statewide Needs

The map below displays the statewide highest needs reported by all residents to the survey. The first column in the list following the map represents those facility/areas where 100 or more respondents said there was a need to increase these areas. The second column lists those activities which actually had more people saying there was a need to increase the facility/area than those who said it was adequate. In many instances the second column could be seen as “specialized” activities. Fewer people engage in them, but those who do are passionate and see a need for more facilities/areas to do their activity. Finally, the lines between the two lists indicate activities that had a response of 100 or more people and the ‘need to increase’ is larger than the ‘adequate need.’ The display box on the map shows the facilities/areas that landed in both columns as the top needs followed by the facilities/areas where high numbers of respondents said these should be increased.



### **Statewide: 100 or higher said to increase**

- walking/jogging biking paths (184)
- Natural or wild areas (152)
- Hiking trails (147)
- Bike lanes (123)
- Wildlife viewing areas (120)
- Scenic byways (117)
- Picnic areas (115)
- Heritage or historic areas/sites (112)
- Rifle/handgun ranges (108)
- Off-road ATV trails (107)
- Campgrounds w/out hookups (107)
- Sledding/tubing areas (106)

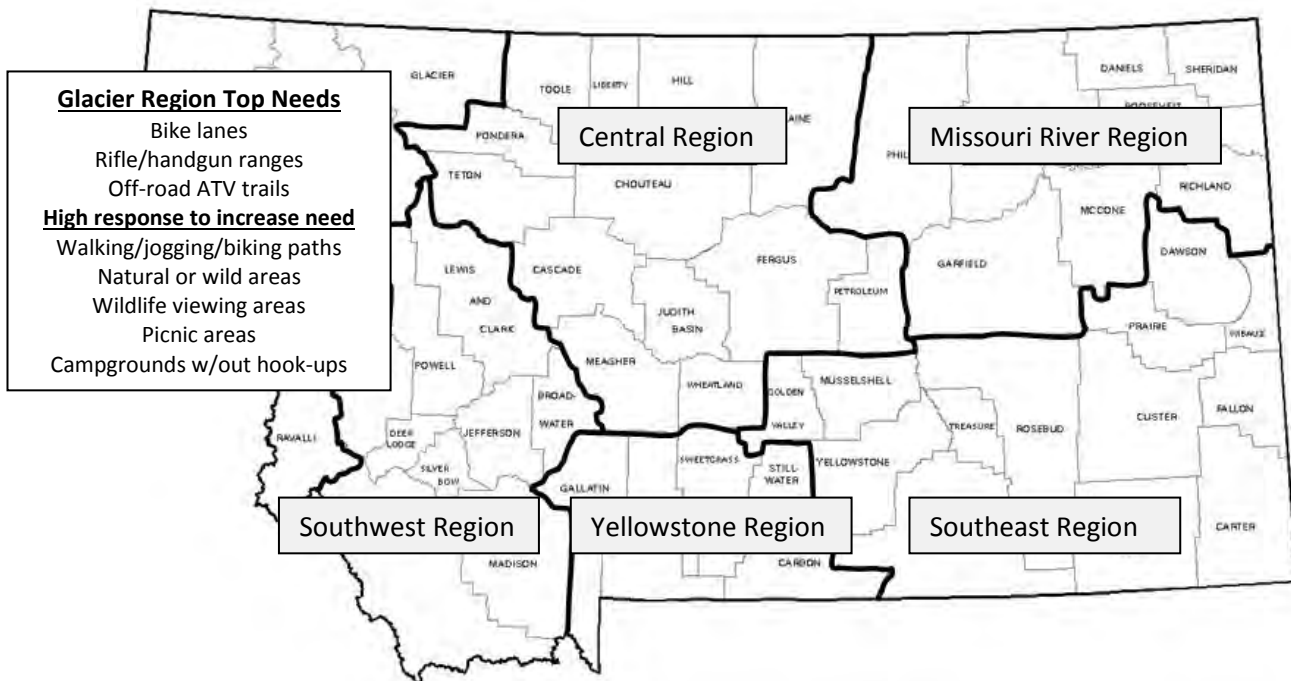
### **Statewide: Increase need > adequate need**

- Bike lanes (123)
- Rifle/handgun ranges (108)
- Off-road ATV trails (107)
- Sledding/tubing areas (106)
- Interpretive trails (99)
- XC Ski or snowshoe trails (79)
- Open space designated areas (72)
- Water parks (79)
- Dog parks (79)
- Mountain bike trails (62)
- Outdoor ice rinks (58)
- Disc golf (olf) courses (56)
- Horseshoe pits (34)
- Archery ranges (42)
- Skateboard parks (41)
- Indoor rock climbing areas (33)
- Equestrian trails (31)
- Outdoor volleyball courts (30)
- BMX parks (20)



## Glacier Region Needs

The map below displays the regional boundaries used in this report and the highest needs reported by respondents in the Glacier Region. The first column in the following list represents those facility/areas where 30 or more respondents said there was a need to increase these areas. The second column lists those activities which actually had more people saying there was a need to increase the facility/area than those who said it was adequate. The second column, in general, could be seen as “specialized” activities. Fewer people engage in them, but those who do are passionate and see a need for more facilities/areas to do their activity. Finally, the lines between the two lists indicate activities that had a response of 30 or more people and the ‘need to increase’ is larger than the ‘adequate need.’ The display box on the map shows the facilities/areas that landed in both columns as the top needs followed by the facilities/areas where high numbers of respondents said these should be increased.



### Glacier Region Top Needs

- Bike lanes
- Rifle/handgun ranges
- Off-road ATV trails

### High response to increase need

- Walking/jogging/biking paths
- Natural or wild areas
- Wildlife viewing areas
- Picnic areas
- Campgrounds w/out hook-ups

### Glacier Region: 30 or higher said to increase

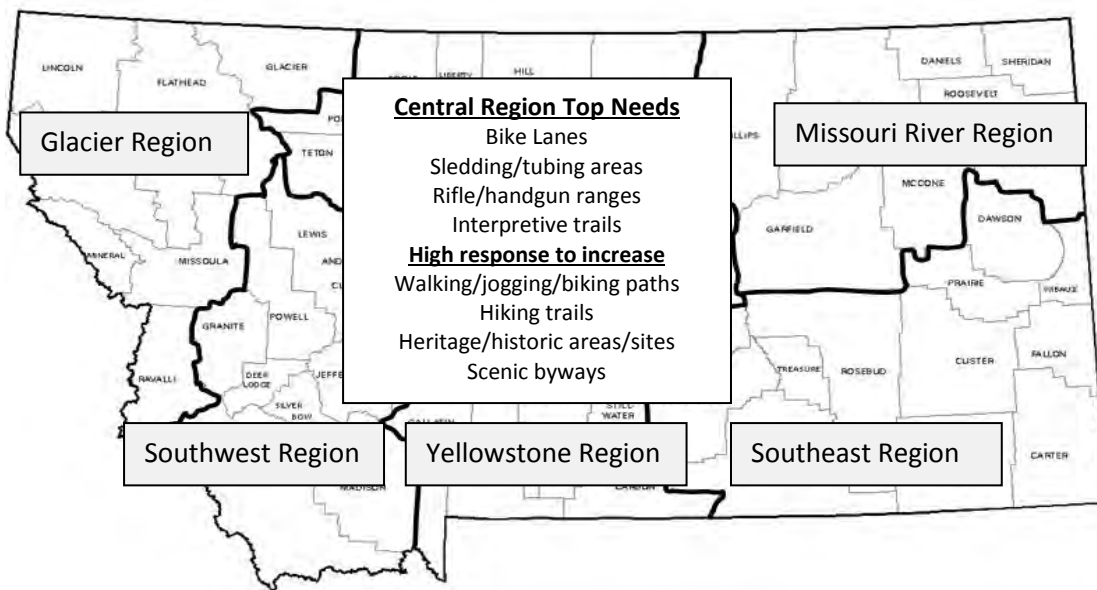
- Walking/jogging/biking paths (57)
- Natural or wild areas (54)
- Wildlife viewing areas (46)
- Picnic areas (39)
- Bike lanes (36)
- Campgrounds w/out hookups (36)
- Rifle/handgun rangers (36)
- Scenic byways (33)
- Off-road ATV trails (31)
- Non-motorized boating areas (30)
- Heritage/historic areas or sites (30)

### Glacier Region: Increase need > adequate need

- Bike lanes (36)
- Rifle/handgun ranges (36)
- Off-Road ATV trails (31)
- Interpretive trails (28)
- Sledding/tubing areas (27)
- Open space designated areas (25)
- Soccer fields (16)
- Disc golf/olf courses (15)
- Equestrian trails (14)
- Archery Ranges (14)
- Outdoor ice rinks (14)
- Outdoor rock climbing areas (13)
- Skateboard parks (12)
- Indoor rock climbing (12)
- Horseshoe pits (10)

## Central Region Needs

The map below displays the regional boundaries used in this report and the highest needs reported in the Central Region by the 120 respondents. The first column in the following list represents those facility/areas where 20 or more respondents said there was a need to increase these areas. The second column lists those activities which actually had more people saying there was a need to increase the facility/area than those who said it was adequate. The second column, in general, could be seen as “specialized” activities. Fewer people engage in them, but those who do are passionate and see a need for more facilities/areas to do their activity. Finally, the lines between the two lists indicate activities that had a response of 20 or more people and the ‘need to increase’ is larger than the ‘adequate need.’ The display box on the map shows the facilities/areas that landed in both columns as the top needs followed by the facilities/areas where high numbers of respondents said these should be increased.



### Central Region: 20 or higher said to increase

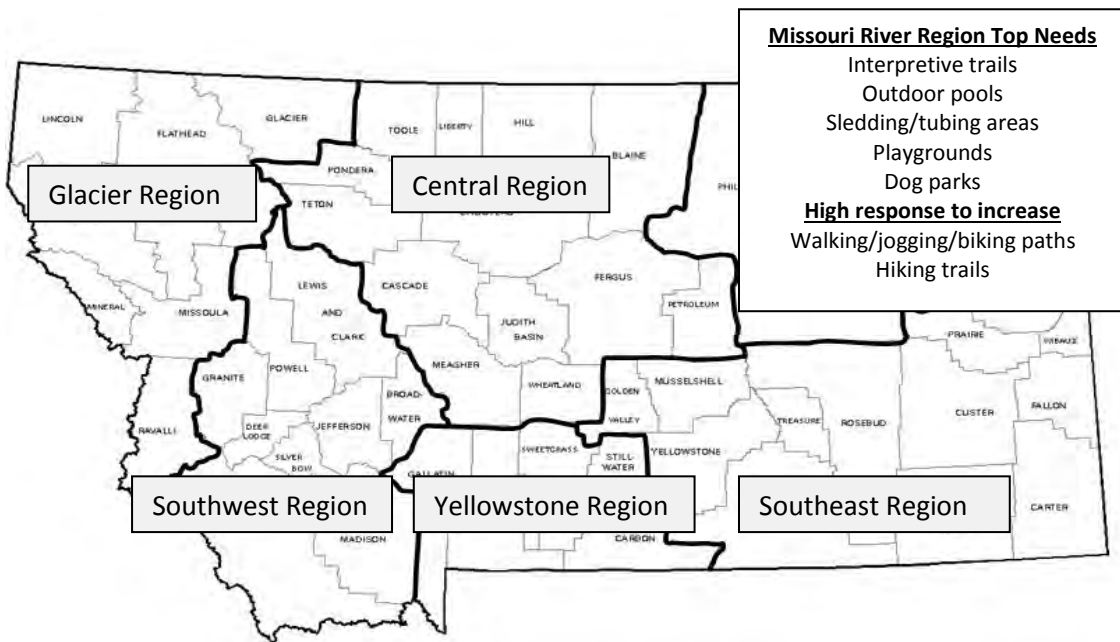
- Walking/jogging/biking paths (36)
- Hiking trails (33)
- Bike lanes (30)
- Heritage/historic areas/sites (30)
- Scenic byways (27)
- Wildlife viewing areas (25)
- Interpretive trails (24)
- Sledding/tubing areas (23)
- Rifle /handgun range (23)
- Water parks (22)
- Campgrounds with hookups (20)
- Campgrounds w/out hookups (20)
- Natural or wild areas (22)
- Indoor pool (20)

### Central Region: Increase need > adequate need

- Bike lanes (30)
- Sledding/tubing areas (23)
- Rifle /handgun range (23)
- Water parks (22)
- Environ ed. Areas/ctrs. (19)
- Off-road ATV trails (18)
- XC ski/snowshoe trails (18)
- Dog parks (14)
- Disc golf/olf courses (13)
- Mountain bike trials (11)
- Outdoor basketball courts (10)
- Skateboard parks (10)
- Archery range (10)
- Outdoor rock climbing areas (7)
- Indoor rock climbing areas (7)
- Splash decks (7)

## Missouri River Region Needs

The map below displays the regional boundaries used in this report and the highest needs reported in the Missouri River Region by the 20 respondents from that region. *Because of the small number of respondents in this region all of this should be taken as simply a guide.* The first column in the following list represents those facility/areas where 4 or more respondents said there was a need to increase these areas. The second column lists those activities which actually had more people saying there was a need to increase the facility/area than those who said it was adequate. There are many similarities between the two lists as seen by the lines connecting the same facility/area need in the two columns. The display box on the map shows the facilities/areas that landed in both columns as the top five needs followed by the facilities/areas where high numbers of respondents said these should be increased.



### Missouri River Region: 4 or more said to increase

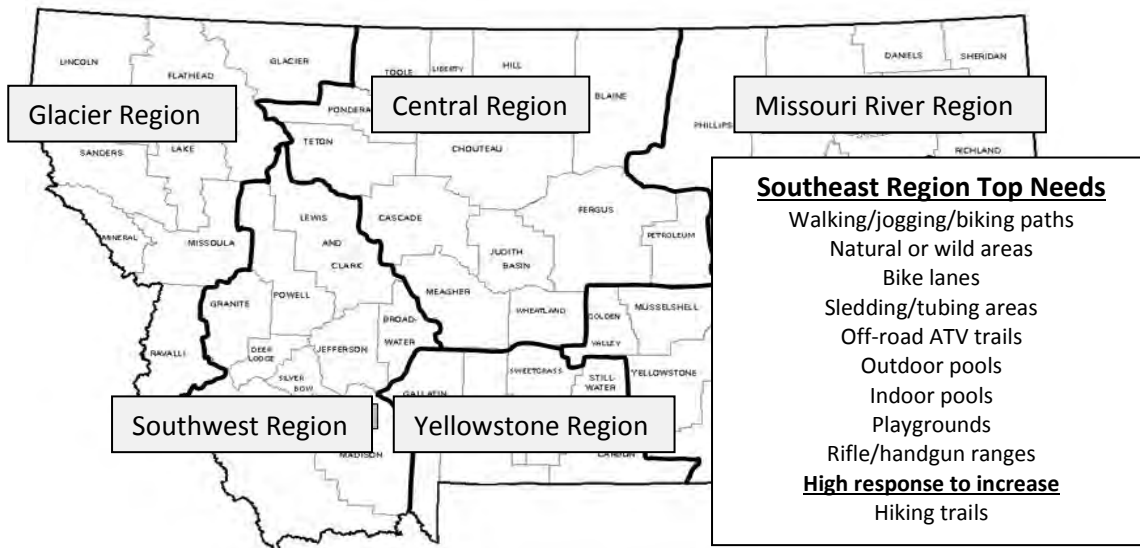
- Walking/jogging/biking paths (6)
- Hiking trails (6)
- Interpretive trails (6)
- Outdoor pools (5)
- Sledding/tubing areas (5)
- Playgrounds (5)
- Dog parks (5)
- Indoor pools (4)
- Motorized boating areas (4)
- Campgrounds with hook-ups (4)
- Campgrounds w/out hoop-ups (4)
- Picnic areas (4)
- Natural or wild areas (4)
- Wildlife viewing areas (4)

### Missouri R. Region: Increase need > adequate need

- Interpretive trails (6)
- Outdoor pools (5)
- Sledding/tubing areas (5)
- Playgrounds (5)
- Dog parks (5)
- Indoor pool (4)
- Campgrounds with hookups (4)
- Campgrounds w/out hookups (4)
- Bike lanes (3)
- Mountain bike trails (3)
- Soccer fields (3)

## Southeast Region Needs

The map below displays the regional boundaries used in this report and the highest needs reported in the Southeast Region by the 120 respondents. The first column in the following list represents those facility/areas where 20 or more respondents said there was a need to increase these areas. The second column lists those activities which actually had more people saying there was a need to increase the facility/area than those who said it was adequate. Like some other regions the 'need to increase' column has many similarities to the 'high response' column. The lines between the two lists indicate activities that had a response of 20 or more people and the 'need to increase' is larger than the 'adequate need.' The display box on the map shows the facilities/areas that landed in both columns as the top needs followed by the facilities/areas where high numbers of respondents said these should be increased.



### Southeast Region: 20 or more said to increase

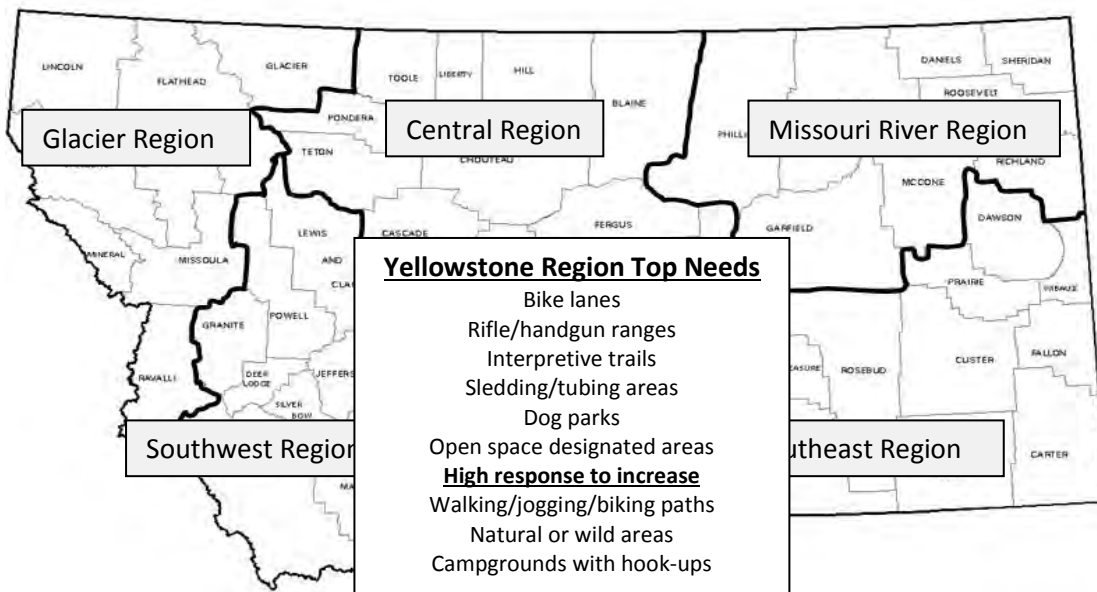
- Walking/jogging/biking paths (45)
- Hiking trails (37)
- Natural or wild areas (30)
- Picnic areas (28)
- Bike lanes (27)
- Scenic byways (24)
- Sledding/tubing areas (24)
- Off-road ATV trails (22)
- Outdoor pools (22)
- Indoor pools (21)
- Playgrounds (21)
- Rifle/handgun ranges (21)
- Heritage/historic areas/sites (21)
- Wildlife viewing areas (20)

### Southeast Region: Increase need > adequate need

- Walking/jogging/biking paths (45)
- Natural or wild areas (30)
- Bike lanes (27)
- Sledding/tubing areas (24)
- Off-road ATV trails (22)
- Outdoor pools (22)
- Indoor pools (21)
- Rifle/handgun ranges (21)
- Mountain bike trails (18)
- Dog parks (16)
- Water parks (15)
- XC ski/snowshoe trails (13)
- Outdoor ice rinks (13)
- Environmental education areas/ctrs. (13)
- Disc golfing/olfing courses (13)
- Horseshoe pits (10)
- Outdoor basketball courts (8)
- Outdoor volleyball courts (8)
- Open space designated areas (8)
- Indoor rock climbing areas (7)
- Skateboard parks (7)
- Equestrian trails (5)

## Yellowstone Region Needs

The map below displays the regional boundaries used in this report and the highest needs reported in the Yellowstone Region by the 78 respondents. The first column in the following list represents those facility/areas where 13 or more respondents said there was a need to increase these areas. The second column lists those activities which actually had more people saying there was a need to increase the facility/area than those who said it was adequate. Like a few other regions the 'need to increase' column has many similarities as the 'high response' column. The lines between the two lists indicate activities that had a response of 13 or more people and the 'need to increase' is larger than the 'adequate need.' The display box on the map shows the facilities/areas that landed in both columns as the top needs followed by the facilities/areas where high numbers of respondents said these should be increased.



### Yellowstone Region: 13 or more said to increase

- Walking/jogging/biking paths (20)
- Natural or wild areas (20)
- Bike lanes (16)
- Campgrounds with hook-ups (16)
- Rifle/handgun ranges (16)
- Interpretive trails (16)
- Hiking trails (14)
- Sledding/tubing areas (14)
- Heritage/historic areas/sites (14)
- Dog parks (13)
- Open space designated areas (13)

### Yellowstone: Increase need > adequate need

- Bike lanes (16)
- Rifle/handgun ranges (16)
- Interpretive trails (16)
- Outdoor pool (14)
- Sledding/tubing areas (14)
- Dog parks (13)
- Open space designated areas (13)
- Outdoor ice rinks (12)
- Water parks (11)
- Mountain bike trails (10)
- Indoor ice rinks (10)
- Splash decks (8)
- Skateboard parks (8)
- BMX parks (7)
- Disc golfing/olfing courses (7)
- Archery ranges (6)
- Outdoor volleyball courts (4)

## Southwest Region Needs

The map below displays the regional boundaries used in this report and the highest needs reported in the Southwest Region by the 50 respondents. Because of the small number of respondents in this region all of this should be taken as simply a guide. The first column in the following list represents those facility/areas where 10 or more respondents said there was a need to increase these areas. The second column lists those activities which actually had more people saying there was a need to increase the facility/area than those who said it was adequate. Similar to other regions, many of those with higher numbers were also facilities/areas where the need to increase the number was higher than the adequate number as seen by the lines between the two lists. The display box on the map shows the top five facilities/areas that landed in both columns as the top needs followed by the facilities/areas where high numbers of respondents said these should be increased but were not in both columns.



### Southwest Region: 10 or more said to increase

- Off-road ATV trails (22)
- Natural or wild areas (20)
- Walking/jogging/biking paths (18)
- Hiking trails (17)
- Scenic byways (17)
- Wildlife viewing areas (17)
- Picnic areas (16)
- Indoor pools (13)
- Water parks (12)
- Heritage/historic areas/sites (12)
- Bike lanes (11)
- Rifle/handgun ranges (11)
- Interpretive trails (11)
- Non-motorized boating areas (10)
- Environmental education areas/ctrs. (10)

### Southwest Region: Increase need > adequate need

- Off-road ATV trails (22)
- Natural or wild areas (20)
- Hiking trails (17)
- Scenic byways (17)
- Wildlife viewing areas (17)
- Indoor pools (13)
- Water parks (12)
- Bike lanes (11)
- Rifle/handgun ranges (11)
- Interpretive trails (11)
- Non-motorized boating areas (10)
- Environmental education areas/ctrs. (10)
- Playgrounds (9)
- Open space designated areas (9)
- Disc golfing/olfing courses (7)
- Equestrian trails (6)
- Splash decks (6)

For comparison purposes Table 6 displays the top needs and high response needs by the state and regions discussed in the previous pages. As can be seen, there are both similarities and differences between the regions and compared to the state as a whole there are many differences that emerge. The Glacier Region is most similar to the state. What is interesting to note by this table is that bike lanes are a top need in all but one region. Sledding/tubing areas show up in five of the six regions as a top need. Rifle/handgun ranges and off-road ATV trails emerged in four of the six regions. However, the highest number of responses was seen in all regions for walking/jogging/bike paths. It is quite evident that many residents think that these facilities/areas are adequate while many people believe they should be increased. The high use of these paths indicates a strong need to increase the numbers, especially as more people take to walking, jogging and bicycling.

**Table 6: Outdoor Recreation Facility/Area Needs compared: Statewide and Regions**

<u>Statewide Top Needs</u>	<u>Glacier Top Needs</u>	<u>Central Top Needs</u>	<u>Missouri Top Needs</u>	<u>Southeast Top Needs</u>	<u>Yellowstone Top Needs</u>	<u>SW Top Needs</u>
Bike lanes	Bike lanes	Bike Lanes	Interpretive trails	Walk/jog/bike paths	Bike lanes	Off-road ATV trails
Rifle/handgun ranges	Rifle/handgun ranges	Sledding/tubing areas	Outdoor pool	Natural or wild areas	Rifle/handgun ranges	Natural or wild areas
Off-road ATV trails	Off-road ATV trails	Rifle/handgun ranges	Sledding/tubing areas	Bike lanes	Interpretive trails	Hiking trails
Sledding/tubing areas		Interpretive trails	Playgrounds	Sledding/tubing areas	Sledding/tubing areas	Scenic byways
			Dog parks	Off-road ATV trails	Dog parks	Wildlife view areas
				Outdoor pools	Open space areas	
				Indoor pools		
				Playgrounds		
				Rifle/handgun ranges		
<b>High response need</b>	<b>High response need</b>	<b>High response need</b>	<b>High response need</b>	<b>High response need</b>	<b>High response need</b>	<b>High response need</b>
Walk/jog/bike paths	Walk/jog/bike paths	Walk/jog/bike paths	Walk/jog/bike paths	Hiking trails	Walk/jog/bike paths	Walk/jog/bike paths
Natural or wild areas	Natural or wild areas	Hiking trails	Hiking trails		Natural or wild areas	Picnic areas
Hiking trails	Wildlife view areas	Heritage/historic areas			Camp with hook-ups	
Wildlife viewing areas	Picnic areas	Scenic byways				
Scenic byways	Camp no hook-ups					

The data tables (Tables 7-14) on the ensuing pages provide excellent information for the SCORP planning process. When perusing the tables, the sample size is listed in the heading for each region. The sample size for each table cell is provided in the parentheses. These tables are displayed so that other readers of this document can contrast and compare in more detail than is provided in this report.

**Table 7: Use and Assessment of Trails**

	Glacier Region (n=190)	Central Region (n=120)	Missouri River (n=20)	Southeast Region (n=120)	Yellowstone Region (n=78)	Southwest Region (n=50)	State-wide N=(580)
<b>USE : Walking/jogging/biking paths</b>							
Yes	77% (147)	78% (93)	86% (17)	75% (89)	81% (64)	71% (35)	<b>77%</b>
<b>ASSESSMENT: Walking/jogging/biking paths</b>							
No opinion	6% (9)	6% (6)	9% (2)	7% (7)	5% (3)	(1)	<b>6% (27)</b>
Adequate	56% (82)	55% (50)	54% (9)	45% (43)	62% (49)	50% (19)	<b>53% (243)</b>
Increase	38% (57)	39% (36)	37% (6)	48% (45)	32% (20)	46% (18)	<b>41% (184)</b>
Decrease	-	-	-	-	1% (1)	-	<b>(1)</b>
<b>USE : Hiking trails</b>							
Yes	77% (146)	70% (83)	70% (14)	65% (77)	84% (66)	51% (26)	<b>72%</b>
<b>ASSESSMENT: Hiking trails</b>							
No opinion	6% (9)	6% (5)	-	6% (5)	4% (3)	(1)	<b>6% (24)</b>
Adequate	68% (101)	54% (45)	56% (8)	51% (44)	73% (47)	44% (15)	<b>60% (259)</b>
Increase	25% (37)	40% (33)	44% (6)	43% (37)	22% (14)	52% (17)	<b>34% (147)</b>
Decrease	-	-	-	-	1% (1)	-	<b>(1)</b>
<b>USE : Equestrian trails</b>							
Yes	14% (26)	8% (10)	8% (2)	13% (16)	15% (12)	11% (5)	<b>12%</b>
<b>ASSESSMENT: Equestrian trails</b>							
No opinion	40% (16)	72% (17)	(1)	62% (14)	33% (7)	45% (7)	<b>50% (62)</b>
Adequate	20% (8)	16% (4)	(2)	8% (2)	40% (8)	19% (3)	<b>21% (26)</b>
Increase	34% (14)	12% (3)	(1)	23% (5)	17% (3)	36% (6)	<b>25% (31)</b>
Decrease	-	-	-	8% (2)	10% (2)	-	<b>5% (6)</b>
<b>USE : Bike lanes</b>							
Yes	35% (67)	27% (32)	18% (4)	27% (33)	32% (25)	11% (6)	<b>29%</b>
<b>ASSESSMENT: Bike lanes</b>							
No opinion	15% (12)	13% (6)	(1)	20% (9)	13% (4)	-	<b>14% (30)</b>
Adequate	32% (24)	18% (8)	(1)	17% (7)	29% (9)	25% (4)	<b>25% (52)</b>
Increase	48% (36)	70% (30)	(3)	63% (27)	52% (16)	70% (11)	<b>58% (123)</b>
Decrease	5% (4)	-	-	-	6% (2)	(1)	<b>3% (6)</b>
<b>USE : Mountain bike trails</b>							
Yes	26% (49)	17% (20)	15% (3)	22% (26)	27% (21)	16% (8)	<b>22%</b>
<b>ASSESSMENT: Mountain bike trails</b>							
No opinion	16% (9)	29% (8)	(2)	34% (11)	23% (6)	(1)	<b>22% (37)</b>
Adequate	50% (28)	29% (8)	(1)	11% (3)	34% (9)	63% (11)	<b>36% (60)</b>
Increase	29% (16)	38% (11)	(3)	56% (18)	37% (10)	27% (5)	<b>38% (62)</b>
Decrease	4% (2)	4% (1)	-	-	6% (2)	(1)	<b>4% (6)</b>
<b>USE : Off-road ATV trails</b>							
Yes	20% (39)	27% (32)	11% (2)	31% (37)	32% (25)	57% (28)	<b>28%</b>
<b>ASSESSMENT: Off-road ATV trails</b>							
No opinion	15% (8)	22% (10)	(2)	9% (3)	19% (6)	7% (2)	<b>15% (31)</b>
Adequate	17% (9)	26% (12)	(2)	18% (7)	27% (8)	13% (4)	<b>21% (41)</b>
Increase	59% (31)	40% (18)	(1)	53% (22)	24% (12)	77% (22)	<b>53% (107)</b>
Decrease	9% (5)	11% (5)	-	21% (8)	1% (1)	(1)	<b>11% (22)</b>



**Table 8: Use and Assessment of Byways and Water Areas**

	Glacier Region (n=190)	Central Region (n=120)	Missouri River (n=20)	Southeast Region (n=120)	Yellowstone Region (n=78)	Southwest Region (n=50)	State-wide N=(580)
<b>USE : Scenic byways</b>							
Yes	57% (107)	58% (69)	38% (8)	51% (61)	61% (48)	72% (36)	<b>57%</b>
<b>ASSESSMENT: Scenic byways</b>							
No opinion	9% (10)	12% (9)	(1)	9% (6)	12% (6)	9% (3)	<b>10% (35)</b>
Adequate	60% (67)	52% (38)	(4)	56% (38)	63% (30)	43% (16)	<b>56% (194)</b>
Increase	30% (33)	36% (27)	(3)	35% (24)	24% (12)	48% (17)	<b>34% (117)</b>
Decrease	1% (1)	-	-	-	1% (1)	-	<b>1% (2)</b>
<b>USE : Indoor Pool</b>							
Yes	31% (59)	37% (45)	29% (6)	31% (33)	32% (25)	30% (15)	<b>32% (187)</b>
<b>ASSESSMENT: Indoor Pool</b>							
No opinion	12% (8)	14% (8)	(3)	16% (7)	22% (7)	(1)	<b>15% (33)</b>
Adequate	51% (34)	51% (28)	(1)	35% (15)	40% (12)	30% (6)	<b>43% (98)</b>
Increase	36% (24)	36% (20)	(4)	49% (21)	38% (12)	66% (13)	<b>42% (94)</b>
Decrease	2% (1)	-	-	-	-	-	<b>(1)</b>
<b>USE: Outdoor Pool</b>							
Yes	32% (61)	39% (46)	39% (8)	28% (33)	36% (29)	39% (20)	<b>34% (198)</b>
<b>ASSESSMENT: Outdoor Pool</b>							
No opinion	9% (7)	21% (12)	(2)	14% (5)	19% (7)	(1)	<b>14% (33)</b>
Adequate	62% (46)	45% (26)	(2)	30% (12)	33% (11)	54% (12)	<b>46% (108)</b>
Increase	28% (21)	34% (19)	(5)	56% (22)	42% (14)	42% (9)	<b>39% (92)</b>
Decrease	-	-	-	-	6% (2)	-	<b>(2)</b>
<b>USE : Splash Decks</b>							
Yes	9% (17)	6% (7)	8% (2)	11% (13)	12% (10)	12% (6)	<b>9% (54)</b>
<b>ASSESSMENT: Splash Decks</b>							
No opinion	34% (11)	47% (11)	(3)	51% (11)	45% (8)	52% (7)	<b>45% (51)</b>
Adequate	53% (18)	21% (5)	(1)	32% (7)	8% (1)	-	<b>28% (32)</b>
Increase	13% (4)	27% (7)	(1)	16% (3)	43% (8)	46% (6)	<b>25% (28)</b>
Decrease	-	5% (1)	-	-	4% (1)	-	<b>(2)</b>
<b>USE : Water Parks</b>							
Yes	25% (47)	27% (32)	14% (3)	25% (30)	15% (12)	37% (18)	<b>25% (144)</b>
<b>ASSESSMENT: Water Parks</b>							
No opinion	13% (8)	25% (12)	(2)	21% (8)	33% (7)	20% (5)	<b>21% (41)</b>
Adequate	55% (32)	30% (15)	(1)	39% (14)	11% (2)	29% (7)	<b>37% (71)</b>
Increase	32% (18)	45% (22)	(2)	40% (15)	53% (11)	51% (12)	<b>41% (79)</b>
Decrease	-	-	-	-	3% (1)	-	<b>(1)</b>
<b>USE : Non-motorized Boating Areas</b>							
Yes	37% (71)	25% (29)	12% (2)	20% (24)	40% (31)	22% (11)	<b>29% (167)</b>
<b>ASSESSMENT: Non-motorized Boating Areas</b>							
No opinion	11% (9)	13% (6)	(4)	30% (10)	18% (6)	24% (4)	<b>18% (40)</b>
Adequate	52% (42)	50% (21)	(2)	60% (21)	54% (18)	21% (4)	<b>50% (109)</b>
Increase	37% (30)	35% (14)	-	10% (3)	26% (9)	54% (10)	<b>31% (67)</b>
Decrease	-	2% (1)	-	-	3% (1)	-	<b>(2)</b>

**Table 9: Use and Assessment of Motorized Boating, Camping, Picnicking, and Playgrounds**

	Glacier Region (n=190)	Central Region (n=120)	Missouri River (n=20)	Southeast Region (n=120)	Yellowstone Region (n=78)	Southwest Region (n=50)	State-wide N=(580)
<b>USE : Motorized Boating Areas</b>							
Yes	52% (99)	43% (51)	41% (8)	36% (43)	40% (31)	29% (14)	<b>43% (247)</b>
<b>ASSESSMENT: Motorized Boating Areas</b>							
No opinion	12% (13)	8% (5)	(2)	24% (12)	19% (7)	22% (4)	<b>15% (44)</b>
Adequate	61% (65)	78% (47)	(4)	58% (29)	60% (21)	64% (13)	<b>63% (180)</b>
Increase	20% (21)	11% (7)	(4)	18% (9)	18% (6)	13% (3)	<b>17% (49)</b>
Decrease	8% (9)	3% (2)	-	-	2% (1)	-	<b>4% (12)</b>
<b>USE : Campgrounds with Hook-ups</b>							
Yes	29% (56)	39% (46)	37% (7)	31% (37)	36% (28)	30% (14)	<b>33% (189)</b>
<b>ASSESSMENT: Campgrounds with Hook-ups</b>							
No opinion	15% (10)	19% (12)	(2)	23% (10)	9% (3)	(1)	<b>16% (38)</b>
Adequate	58% (39)	46% (28)	(2)	44% (19)	56% (18)	72% (15)	<b>52% (122)</b>
Increase	27% (18)	32% (20)	(4)	28% (12)	28% (8)	23% (5)	<b>29% (68)</b>
Decrease	-	4% (2)	-	5% (2)	7% (2)	-	<b>3% (7)</b>
<b>USE : Campgrounds without Hook-ups</b>							
Yes	62% (118)	58% (70)	41% (8)	55% (66)	63% (50)	64% (32)	<b>59% (344)</b>
<b>ASSESSMENT: Campgrounds without Hook-ups</b>							
No opinion	3% (3)	8% (6)	(1)	13% (9)	3% (2)	(1)	<b>6% (23)</b>
Adequate	67% (80)	62% (45)	(4)	65% (45)	64% (33)	55% (19)	<b>63% (226)</b>
Increase	30% (36)	28% (20)	(4)	22% (15)	31% (16)	42% (15)	<b>30% (107)</b>
Decrease	1% (1)	2% (1)	-	-	3% (1)	-	<b>1% (4)</b>
<b>USE : Backcountry Camping</b>							
Yes	33% (62)	29% (34)	20% (4)	28% (34)	41% (32)	36% (18)	<b>32% (184)</b>
<b>ASSESSMENT: Backcountry Camping</b>							
No opinion	12% (8)	16% (8)	(2)	9% (3)	9% (3)	(1)	<b>12% (26)</b>
Adequate	53% (37)	61% (28)	(4)	77% (30)	61% (21)	78% (16)	<b>63% (136)</b>
Increase	35% (24)	23% (11)	(1)	15% (6)	28% (10)	16% (3)	<b>25% (55)</b>
Decrease	-	-	-	-	2% (1)	-	<b>(1)</b>
<b>USE : Picnic Areas</b>							
Yes	63% (119)	67% (80)	61% (12)	58% (69)	60% (47)	66% (30)	<b>62% (358)</b>
<b>ASSESSMENT: Picnic Areas</b>							
No opinion	7% (8)	8% (6)	(2)	3% (2)	6% (3)	-	<b>6% (20)</b>
Adequate	61% (73)	71% (56)	(6)	54% (35)	68% (32)	50% (16)	<b>61% (218)</b>
Increase	32% (39)	22% (17)	(4)	44% (28)	22% (10)	49% (16)	<b>32% (115)</b>
Decrease	-	-	-	-	4% (2)	-	<b>(2)</b>
<b>USE : Playgrounds</b>							
Yes	31% (60)	32% (38)	35% (7)	36% (43)	34% (26)	27% (14)	<b>33% (189)</b>
<b>ASSESSMENT: Playgrounds</b>							
No opinion	21% (14)	16% (8)	(1)	5% (2)	17% (5)	(1)	<b>14% (32)</b>
Adequate	49% (34)	58% (28)	(3)	48% (22)	61% (18)	45% (8)	<b>52% (114)</b>
Increase	31% (21)	27% (13)	(5)	46% (21)	20% (6)	47% (9)	<b>34% (74)</b>
Decrease	-	-	-	-	2% (1)	-	<b>(1)</b>

**Table 10: Use and Assessment of Dog Parks, Outdoor Climbing, Tennis, Skateboard, BMX & Archery**

	Glacier Region (n=190)	Central Region (n=120)	Missouri River (n=20)	Southeast Region (n=120)	Yellowstone Region (n=78)	Southwest Region (n=50)	State-wide N=(580)
<b>USE : Dog Parks</b>							
Yes	20% (38)	20% (24)	29% (6)	16% (19)	32% (25)	19% (9)	<b>21% (123)</b>
<b>ASSESSMENT: Dog Parks</b>							
No opinion	20% (9)	26% (10)	(1)	26% (8)	10% (3)	20% (3)	<b>20% (34)</b>
Adequate	29% (14)	36% (14)	(1)	14% (4)	42% (13)	40% (6)	<b>31% (53)</b>
Increase	47% (23)	36% (14)	(5)	54% (16)	43% (13)	40% (6)	<b>46% (79)</b>
Decrease	5% (3)	2% (1)	-	6% (2)	5% (2)	-	<b>4% (7)</b>
<b>USE : Outdoor Rock Climbing Areas</b>							
Yes	14% (26)	7% (8)	8% (2)	10% (12)	19% (15)	8% (4)	<b>12% (67)</b>
<b>ASSESSMENT: Outdoor Rock Climbing Areas</b>							
No opinion	29% (11)	51% (12)	(3)	43% (9)	40% (9)	40% (5)	<b>41% (50)</b>
Adequate	32% (12)	19% (5)	(1)	41% (9)	31% (7)	54% (7)	<b>32% (40)</b>
Increase	36% (13)	30% (7)	(1)	16% (3)	25% (6)	(1)	<b>25% (31)</b>
Decrease	3% (1)	-	-	-	4% (1)	-	<b>(2)</b>
<b>USE : Tennis Courts</b>							
Yes	8% (16)	8% (10)	4% (1)	15% (17)	16% (13)	(1)	<b>10% (57)</b>
<b>ASSESSMENT: Tennis Courts</b>							
No opinion	44% (11)	48% (12)	(4)	39% (10)	24% (5)	35% (3)	<b>41% (41)</b>
Adequate	34% (9)	36% (9)	-	35% (9)	56% (11)	47% (4)	<b>39% (42)</b>
Increase	22% (6)	16% (4)	-	26% (7)	16% (3)	18% (2)	<b>19% (21)</b>
Decrease	-	-	-	-	5% (1)	-	<b>(1)</b>
<b>USE : Skateboard Parks</b>							
Yes	11% (21)	7% (9)	-	9% (11)	15% (12)	14% (7)	<b>11% (61)</b>
<b>ASSESSMENT: Skateboard Parks</b>							
No opinion	42% (14)	48% (13)	(3)	26% (4)	30% (6)	22% (3)	<b>38% (42)</b>
Adequate	20% (7)	16% (4)	-	32% (5)	27% (5)	47% (7)	<b>26% (29)</b>
Increase	38% (12)	36% (10)	-	42% (7)	43% (8)	18% (2)	<b>37% (41)</b>
Decrease	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>-</b>
<b>USE : BMX Parks</b>							
Yes	2% (3)	3% (4)	-	3% (3)	11% (9)	4% (2)	<b>4% (21)</b>
<b>ASSESSMENT: BMX Parks</b>							
No opinion	69% (11)	58%	(3)	73% (9)	38% (6)	35% (3)	<b>56% (45)</b>
Adequate	8% (1)	15%	-	14% (2)	20% (3)	42% (4)	<b>17% (13)</b>
Increase	23% (4)	28%	-	14% (2)	41% (7)	24% (2)	<b>26% (20)</b>
Decrease	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>-</b>
<b>USE : Archery Ranges</b>							
Yes	7% (14)	7% (8)	8% (2)	12% (14)	8% (6)	10% (5)	<b>8% (49)</b>
<b>ASSESSMENT: Archery Ranges</b>							
No opinion	34% (9)	49% (13)	(2)	37% (10)	55% (8)	24% (3)	<b>41% (45)</b>
Adequate	16% (4)	13% (3)	-	37% (10)	-	43% (5)	<b>21% (23)</b>
Increase	50% (14)	38% (10)	(2)	26% (7)	39% (6)	33% (4)	<b>38% (42)</b>
Decrease	-	-	-	-	4% (1)	-	<b>-</b>

**Table 11: Use and Assessment of Rifle Ranges, Horseshoe, Golf, Folf, Indoor Climbing & Baseball**

	Glacier Region (n=190)	Central Region (n=120)	Missouri River (n=20)	Southeast Region (n=120)	Yellowstone Region (n=78)	Southwest Region (n=50)	State-wide N=(580)
<b>USE : Rifle/Handgun Ranges</b>							
Yes	33% (63)	29% (35)	20% (4)	31% (37)	34% (27)	38% (19)	<b>32% (184)</b>
<b>ASSESSMENT: Rifle/Handgun Ranges</b>							
No opinion	8% (5)	20% (10)	(2)	18% (8)	19% (6)	13% (3)	<b>15% (35)</b>
Adequate	41% (28)	34% (17)	(2)	36% (16)	33% (11)	38% (9)	<b>37% (83)</b>
Increase	52% (36)	46% (23)	(2)	46% (21)	46% (16)	49% (11)	<b>48% (108)</b>
Decrease	-	-	-	-	(1)	-	<b>(1)</b>
<b>USE : Horseshoe Pits</b>							
Yes	9% (17)	8% (9)	8% (2)	11% (13)	15% (12)	9% (4)	<b>10% (57)</b>
<b>ASSESSMENT: Horseshoe Pits</b>							
No opinion	43% (11)	34% (8)	(2)	34% (7)	30% (6)	30% (3)	<b>36% (37)</b>
Adequate	19% (5)	47% (11)	-	18% (3)	35% (6)	53% (6)	<b>31% (32)</b>
Increase	39% (10)	20% (5)	(2)	48% (10)	32% (6)	17% (2)	<b>33% (34)</b>
Decrease	-	-	-	-	(1)	-	<b>(1)</b>
<b>USE : Golf Courses</b>							
Yes	21% (40)	28% (34)	12% (2)	34% (41)	29% (23)	20% (10)	<b>26% (151)</b>
<b>ASSESSMENT: Golf Courses</b>							
No opinion	22% (11)	17% (8)	(2)	12% (5)	14% (4)	(1)	<b>16% (31)</b>
Adequate	70% (35)	66% (32)	-	56% (24)	60% (17)	74% (12)	<b>63% (121)</b>
Increase	3% (2)	16% (8)	(2)	32% (14)	19% (5)	(1)	<b>17% (32)</b>
Decrease	5% (2)	2% (1)	-	-	(2)	12% (2)	<b>4% (7)</b>
<b>USE : Disc Golfing/Folfing Courses</b>							
Yes	17% (32)	14% (17)	8% (2)	18% (21)	13% (10)	9% (5)	<b>15% (86)</b>
<b>ASSESSMENT: Disc Golfing/Folfing Courses</b>							
No opinion	21% (8)	19% (6)	(2)	24% (7)	36% (6)	41% (5)	<b>26% (34)</b>
Adequate	38% (15)	39% (12)	-	25% (7)	23% (4)	-	<b>29% (38)</b>
Increase	37% (15)	41% (13)	(2)	45% (13)	41% (7)	58% (7)	<b>43% (56)</b>
Decrease	3% (1)	-	-	6% (2)	-	-	
<b>USE : Indoor Rock Climbing Areas</b>							
Yes	6% (11)	4% (5)	4% (1)	7% (9)	10% (8)	(1)	<b>6% (34)</b>
<b>ASSESSMENT: Indoor Rock Climbing Areas</b>							
No opinion	41% (10)	50% (11)	(2)	42% (8)	40% (6)	(1)	<b>42% (38)</b>
Adequate	10% (3)	17% (4)	-	19% (3)	35% (6)	66% (5)	<b>23% (21)</b>
Increase	49% (12)	33% (7)	(1)	39% (7)	25% (4)	20% (2)	<b>36% (33)</b>
Decrease	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>-</b>
<b>USE : Baseball Fields</b>							
Yes	12% (22)	22% (26)	4% (1)	27% (33)	11% (9)	16% (8)	<b>17% (100)</b>
<b>ASSESSMENT: Baseball Fields</b>							
No opinion	33% (11)	26% (10)	(1)	9% (3)	24% (4)	(1)	<b>21% (31)</b>
Adequate	64% (21)	57% (23)	(1)	57% (21)	54% (9)	59% (9)	<b>58% (85)</b>
Increase	3% (1)	16% (6)	(1)	30% (11)	18% (3)	34% (5)	<b>19% (28)</b>
Decrease	-	2% (1)	-	5% (2)	4% (1)	-	<b>(3)</b>

**Table 12: Use and Assessment of Softball, lacrosse, basketball, Soccer, Football & Volleyball**

	Glacier Region (n=190)	Central Region (n=120)	Missouri River (n=20)	Southeast Region (n=120)	Yellowstone Region (n=78)	Southwest Region (n=50)	State-wide N=(580)
<b>USE : Softball Fields</b>							
Yes	13% (24)	16% (19)	8% (2)	18% (22)	17% (13)	20% (10)	16% (91)
<b>ASSESSMENT: Softball Fields</b>							
No opinion	27% (9)	32% (11)	(1)	12% (3)	31% (6)	(1)	24% (32)
Adequate	49% (16)	48% (17)	(1)	66% (19)	49% (10)	65% (10)	54% (73)
Increase	24% (8)	18% (6)	(2)	22% (6)	17% (3)	27% (4)	22% (29)
Decrease	-	2% (1)	-	-	3% (1)	-	(1)
<b>USE : Lacrosse Fields</b>							
Yes	2% (3)	-	-	2% (2)	1% (1)	-	1% (6)
<b>ASSESSMENT: Lacrosse Fields</b>							
No opinion	60% (9)	83% (17)	(3)	86% (11)	78% (8)	(1)	72% (49)
Adequate	12% (2)	12% (2)	-	14% (2)	(1)	83% (6)	19% (13)
Increase	28% (4)	5% (1)	-	-	(1)	-	9% (6)
Decrease	-	-	-	-	(1)	-	(1)
<b>USE : Outdoor Basketball Courts</b>							
Yes	10% (18)	12% (14)	8% (2)	14% (17)	14% (11)	15% (8)	12% (69)
<b>ASSESSMENT: Outdoor Basketball Courts</b>							
No opinion	27% (8)	45% (15)	(1)	21% (4)	23% (4)	(1)	28% (33)
Adequate	38% (11)	26% (8)	(2)	39% (8)	52% (9)	60% (9)	40% (47)
Increase	35% (10)	30% (10)	(1)	40% (8)	22% (4)	32% (5)	32% (38)
Decrease	-	-	-	-	4% (1)	-	(1)
<b>USE : Soccer Fields</b>							
Yes	13% (25)	9% (10)	4% (1)	22% (26)	16% (13)	17% (9)	15% (84)
<b>ASSESSMENT: Soccer Fields</b>							
No opinion	20% (7)	43% (12)	(1)	25% (9)	36% (7)	(1)	27% (37)
Adequate	39% (15)	47% (13)	-	50% (17)	47% (8)	62% (10)	46% (63)
Increase	42% (16)	10% (3)	(3)	25% (9)	17% (3)	30% (5)	28% (38)
Decrease	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>USE : Football Fields</b>							
Yes	12% (23)	22% (26)	8% (2)	26% (31)	11% (9)	29% (15)	18% (105)
<b>ASSESSMENT: Football Fields</b>							
No opinion	21% (7)	29% (12)	(2)	12% (3)	35% (6)	(1)	22% (32)
Adequate	72% (25)	60% (25)	(2)	45% (13)	49% (8)	56% (10)	57% (83)
Increase	7% (2)	12% (5)	-	44% (13)	12% (2)	38% (7)	20% (29)
Decrease	-	-	-	-	4% (1)	-	(1)
<b>USE : Outdoor Volleyball Courts</b>							
Yes	7% (13)	6% (7)	4% (1)	8% (9)	6% (5)	4% (2)	6% (37)
<b>ASSESSMENT: Outdoor Volleyball Courts</b>							
No opinion	29% (7)	65% (16)	(1)	36% (6)	48% (6)	(1)	40% (37)
Adequate	31% (8)	22% (5)	-	15% (2)	18% (2)	60% (6)	27% (25)
Increase	40% (10)	12% (3)	(2)	49% (8)	34% (4)	28% (3)	33% (30)
Decrease	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

**Table 13: Use and Assessment of Ice Rinks, Sledding, XC/Snowshoe, Snowmobile, and Heritage Sites**

	Glacier Region (n=190)	Central Region (n=120)	Missouri River (n=20)	Southeast Region (n=120)	Yellowstone Region (n=78)	Southwest Region (n=50)	State-wide N=(580)
<b>USE : Indoor Ice Rinks</b>							
Yes	13% (24)	18% (22)	8% (2)	15% (17)	12% (9)	18% (9)	15% (85)
<b>ASSESSMENT: Indoor Ice Rinks</b>							
No opinion	28% (10)	40% (15)	(1)	17% (4)	28% (5)	(1)	27% (37)
Adequate	38% (14)	33% (12)	(2)	51% (13)	18% (3)	49% (8)	38% (52)
Increase	34% (12)	27% (10)	(1)	31% (8)	51% (10)	45% (7)	35% (47)
Decrease	-	-	-	-	4% (1)	-	(1)
<b>USE : Sledding/Tubing Areas</b>							
Yes	24% (46)	23% (27)	18% (4)	27% (33)	33% (26)	31% (15)	26% (152)
<b>ASSESSMENT: Sledding/Tubing Areas</b>							
No opinion	13% (7)	21% (8)	-	12% (4)	15% (5)	15% (3)	14% (27)
Adequate	37% (20)	19% (8)	(1)	21% (8)	41% (13)	49% (8)	29% (53)
Increase	50% (27)	60% (23)	(5)	67% (24)	45% (14)	45% (7)	57% (106)
Decrease	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>USE : XC Ski/Snowshoe Trails</b>							
Yes	25% (48)	18% (21)	9% (2)	12% (15)	36% (28)	13% (7)	21% (122)
<b>ASSESSMENT: XC Ski/Snowshoe Trails</b>							
No opinion	11% (6)	15% (5)	(2)	21% (5)	7% (2)	15% (2)	14% (22)
Adequate	37% (20)	33% (12)	(2)	25% (6)	47% (15)	48% (6)	38% (63)
Increase	52% (28)	52% (18)	-	54% (13)	42% (13)	38% (5)	48% (79)
Decrease	-	-	-	-	4% (1)	-	(1)
<b>USE : Outdoor Ice Rinks</b>							
Yes	8% (16)	13% (16)	8% (2)	11% (13)	28% (22)	20% (10)	14% (78)
<b>ASSESSMENT: Outdoor Ice Rinks</b>							
No opinion	30% (8)	32% (10)	(1)	33% (8)	15% (4)	16% (3)	26% (34)
Adequate	16% (4)	36% (11)	(2)	11% (2)	41% (12)	43% (7)	29% (39)
Increase	54% (14)	32% (10)	(1)	56% (13)	42% (12)	41% (7)	44% (58)
Decrease	-	-	-	-	2% (1)	-	(1)
<b>USE : Snowmobile Trails</b>							
Yes	18% (35)	9% (11)	4% (1)	12% (15)	29% (23)	36% (18)	18% (102)
<b>ASSESSMENT: Snowmobile Trails</b>							
No opinion	11% (5)	42% (12)	(2)	23% (5)	20% (6)	16% (3)	22% (33)
Adequate	44% (19)	34% (9)	(1)	34% (8)	40% (12)	62% (13)	41% (61)
Increase	37% (16)	18% (5)	-	34% (8)	34% (11)	20% (4)	30% (45)
Decrease	8% (4)	7% (2)	-	9% (2)	7% (2)	-	7% (10)
<b>USE : Heritage/Historic Areas or Sites</b>							
Yes	53% (100)	65% (78)	49% (10)	65% (78)	59% (46)	68% (34)	60% (346)
<b>ASSESSMENT: Heritage/Historic Areas or Sites</b>							
No opinion	7% (7)	7% (6)	(1)	8% (6)	9% (4)	-	7% (24)
Adequate	62% (62)	57% (47)	(7)	64% (49)	62% (29)	63% (21)	61% (214)
Increase	31% (30)	36% (30)	(3)	28% (21)	29% (14)	37% (12)	32% (112)
Decrease	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

**Table 14: Use and Assessment of Interpretive Sites, Open Space, Wildlife Areas & Natural Areas**

	Glacier Region (n=190)	Central Region (n=120)	Missouri River (n=20)	Southeast Region (n=120)	Yellowstone Region (n=78)	Southwest Region (n=50)	State-wide N=(580)
<b>USE : Environmental Education Areas or Centers</b>							
Yes	25% (47)	33% (40)	21% (4)	23% (27)	28% (22)	30% (15)	<b>27% (157)</b>
<b>ASSESSMENT: Environmental Education Areas or Centers</b>							
No opinion	14% (7)	18% (8)	(1)	9% (2)	19% (5)	(1)	<b>14% (25)</b>
Adequate	52% (26)	39% (18)	(3)	44% (12)	40% (10)	35% (6)	<b>44% (77)</b>
Increase	33% (16)	41% (19)	(2)	47% (13)	34% (9)	54% (10)	<b>40% (70)</b>
Decrease	-	2% (1)	-	-	7% (2)	(1)	<b>(3)</b>
<b>USE : Interpretive Trails</b>							
Yes	32% (62)	45% (54)	49% (10)	25% (30)	37% (29)	37% (18)	<b>35% (205)</b>
<b>ASSESSMENT: Interpretive Trails</b>							
No opinion	20% (13)	14% (8)	(2)	17% (6)	11% (4)	(1)	<b>15% (34)</b>
Adequate	36% (23)	47% (29)	(4)	48% (17)	41% (14)	35% (6)	<b>42% (96)</b>
Increase	44% (28)	39% (24)	(6)	35% (12)	46% (16)	53% (11)	<b>43% (99)</b>
Decrease	-	-	-	-	2% (1)	-	<b>(1)</b>
<b>USE : Open Space Designated Areas</b>							
Yes	22% (41)	28% (33)	6% (1)	12% (14)	33% (26)	23% (12)	<b>22% (127)</b>
<b>ASSESSMENT: Open Space Designated Areas</b>							
No opinion	15% (7)	16% (7)	(1)	27% (6)	14% (4)	(1)	<b>16% (26)</b>
Adequate	31% (14)	43% (18)	(1)	38% (8)	39% (12)	45% (8)	<b>38% (61)</b>
Increase	54% (25)	38% (16)	(1)	37% (8)	41% (13)	51% (9)	<b>44% (72)</b>
Decrease	-	3% (1)	-	-	7% (2)	-	<b>(3)</b>
<b>USE : Wildlife Viewing Areas</b>							
Yes	62% (115)	54% (65)	64% (13)	46% (55)	47% (37)	62% (31)	<b>55% (321)</b>
<b>ASSESSMENT: Wildlife Viewing Areas</b>							
No opinion	5% (6)	9% (6)	(1)	4% (2)	7% (3)	(1)	<b>6% (19)</b>
Adequate	55% (64)	54% (38)	(10)	59% (32)	75% (29)	47% (16)	<b>57% (189)</b>
Increase	39% (46)	36% (25)	(4)	37% (20)	16% (6)	50% (17)	<b>37% (120)</b>
Decrease	-	1% (1)	-	-	2% (1)	-	<b>(1)</b>
<b>USE : Natural or Wild Areas</b>							
Yes	61% (115)	55% (66)	47% (9)	51% (61)	63% (50)	70% (35)	<b>58% (337)</b>
<b>ASSESSMENT: Natural or Wild Areas</b>							
No opinion	2% (3)	12% (8)	(1)	-	7% (3)	(1)	<b>5% (17)</b>
Adequate	50% (58)	55% (38)	(6)	50% (30)	53% (27)	37% (13)	<b>50% (172)</b>
Increase	47% (54)	31% (22)	(4)	50% (30)	40% (20)	59% (20)	<b>44% (152)</b>
Decrease	-	2% (1)	-	-	-	-	<b>(2)</b>

Tables 15 and 16 are an expanded version of the statewide graph shown in Figure 5. By looking at the regional breakdown, it is possible to see various gaps in use by people who reside in a specific region. In most cases it appears that regions with public lands get used more. For instance, Glacier National Park is in the Glacier region while the Central region nearly borders the park. Their use of national parks is higher than in other regions. Similarly, Yellowstone region has the highest use of national parks.

**Table 15: Household Use of Public Lands**

	<b>Glacier Region (n=190)</b>	<b>Central Region (n=120)</b>	<b>Missouri River (n=20)</b>	<b>Southeast Region (n=120)</b>	<b>Yellowstone Region (n=78)</b>	<b>Southwest Region (n=50)</b>	<b>Statewide N=(580)</b>
<b>USE of City Parks</b>							
Never	6% (11)	-	4% (1)	5% (6)	3% (2)	5% (2)	<b>4% (22)</b>
Rarely	21% (38)	23% (26)	24% (4)	18% (21)	15% (11)	27% (13)	<b>21% (113)</b>
Sometimes	46% (82)	43% (49)	58% (11)	35% (40)	56% (41)	52% (25)	<b>45% (248)</b>
Often	27% (47)	34% (39)	15% (3)	41% (47)	26% (19)	16% (8)	<b>30% (164)</b>
Mean	2.93	3.11	2.83	3.13	3.04	2.79	<b>3.01</b>
<b>USE of City/County Open Space</b>							
Never	10% (16)	3% (4)	-	15% (17)	6% (4)	8% (4)	<b>8% (44)</b>
Rarely	20% (34)	26% (28)	10% (2)	27% (30)	22% (16)	24% (11)	<b>23% (120)</b>
Sometimes	38% (66)	40% (44)	73% (14)	39% (43)	46% (33)	48% (23)	<b>42% (224)</b>
Often	32% (56)	31% (33)	17% (3)	19% (21)	27% (19)	20% (10)	<b>27% (142)</b>
Mean	2.94	2.99	3.07	2.62	2.93	2.81	<b>2.87</b>
<b>USE of County Parks</b>							
Never	9% (15)	3% (3)	4% (1)	11% (12)	8% (6)	11% (5)	<b>8% (41)</b>
Rarely	32% (55)	31% (33)	23% (4)	34% (38)	31% (22)	30% (14)	<b>31% (167)</b>
Sometimes	44% (75)	49% (54)	64% (12)	42% (47)	48% (34)	43% (20)	<b>46% (243)</b>
Often	15% (26)	17% (19)	8% (2)	14% (15)	13% (9)	16% (8)	<b>15% (79)</b>
Mean	2.65	2.82	2.77	2.59	2.66	2.65	<b>2.68</b>
<b>USE of State Parks</b>							
Never	1% (3)	-	-	4% (4)	1% (1)	-	<b>1% (8)</b>
Rarely	15% (27)	18% (21)	18% (3)	12% (14)	21% (15)	19% (10)	<b>16% (89)</b>
Sometimes	54% (96)	59% (66)	74% (14)	55% (61)	49% (36)	51% (26)	<b>55% (300)</b>
Often	30% (54)	23% (26)	8% (2)	29% (32)	28% (20)	30% (15)	<b>27% (129)</b>
Mean	3.12	3.05	2.90	3.09	3.05	3.11	<b>3.08</b>
<b>USE of National Park Lands</b>							
Never	1% (2)	-	-	5% (6)	-	3% (1)	<b>2% (9)</b>
Rarely	16% (29)	13% (15)	32% (6)	15% (17)	11% (8)	19% (9)	<b>15% (84)</b>
Sometimes	52% (94)	63% (72)	60% (11)	57% (64)	43% (32)	55% (27)	<b>55% (302)</b>
Often	30% (54)	24% (28)	8% (2)	23% (26)	46% (34)	23% (11)	<b>28% (154)</b>
Mean	3.12	3.11	2.76	2.97	3.35	2.99	<b>3.09</b>
<b>USE National Forests</b>							
Never	1% (3)	-	-	7% (8)	-	-	<b>2% (10)</b>
Rarely	9% (16)	9% (11)	32% (6)	14% (16)	5% (4)	7% (3)	<b>10% (55)</b>
Sometimes	32% (58)	43% (48)	60% (11)	46% (52)	29% (22)	23% (11)	<b>37% (204)</b>
Often	58% (104)	48% (54)	9% (2)	33% (37)	66% (48)	70% (34)	<b>51% (280)</b>
Mean	3.46	3.38	2.77	3.05	3.61	3.64	<b>3.37</b>



**Table 16: Household use of Public Lands and Areas**

	<b>Glacier Region (n=190)</b>	<b>Central Region (n=120)</b>	<b>Missouri River (n=20)</b>	<b>Southeast Region (n=120)</b>	<b>Yellowstone Region (n=78)</b>	<b>Southwest Region (n=50)</b>	<b>Statewide N=(580)</b>
<b>USE of National Monuments</b>							
Never	8% (14)	2% (2)	-	8% (8)	5% (4)	4% (2)	<b>6% (30)</b>
Rarely	56% (95)	45% (51)	50% (8)	32% (36)	48% (34)	40% (19)	<b>46% (244)</b>
Sometimes	32% (54)	44% (50)	47% (7)	52% (58)	39% (28)	52% (25)	<b>42% (224)</b>
Often	4% (7)	9% (10)	5% (1)	8% (9)	9% (6)	4% (2)	<b>7% (36)</b>
Mean	2.32	2.60	2.55	2.61	2.51	2.56	<b>2.50</b>
<b>USE of Bureau of Land Management Lands (BLM)</b>							
Never	12% (20)	3% (3)	5% (1)	17% (19)	8% (6)	2% (1)	<b>9% (50)</b>
Rarely	26% (45)	27% (31)	31% (5)	26% (29)	30% (22)	13% (6)	<b>26% (138)</b>
Sometimes	41% (70)	50% (57)	46% (8)	34% (38)	39% (29)	47% (23)	<b>42% (225)</b>
Often	21% (35)	20% (23)	18% (3)	23% (26)	23% (17)	38% (18)	<b>23% (122)</b>
Mean	2.71	2.88	2.78	2.63	2.77	3.21	<b>2.78</b>
<b>USE of National Wildlife Refuges</b>							
Never	10% (18)	6% (7)	4% (1)	20% (22)	15% (11)	6% (3)	<b>12% (62)</b>
Rarely	36% (61)	41% (46)	28% (5)	44% (49)	38% (28)	30% (14)	<b>38% (204)</b>
Sometimes	43% (73)	47% (53)	51% (9)	32% (36)	41% (29)	54% (26)	<b>42% (228)</b>
Often	12% (20)	6% (7)	17% (3)	4% (4)	6% (5)	10% (5)	<b>8% (44)</b>
Mean	2.55	2.53	2.81	2.20	2.39	2.68	<b>2.47</b>
<b>USE of Reservoirs</b>							
Never	6% (10)	6% (7)	11% (2)	17% (19)	6% (5)	5% (2)	<b>7% (40)</b>
Rarely	37% (65)	24% (27)	28% (5)	33% (37)	28% (21)	17% (8)	<b>30% (163)</b>
Sometimes	42% (73)	54% (60)	38% (7)	36% (40)	46% (34)	58% (29)	<b>45% (246)</b>
Often	16% (28)	20% (23)	23% (4)	14% (15)	20% (15)	20% (10)	<b>17% (95)</b>
Mean	2.67	2.92	2.72	2.47	2.79	2.94	<b>2.73</b>
<b>USE of Natural Lakes</b>							
Never	2% (4)	1% (1)	12% (2)	11% (12)	1% (1)	-	<b>4% (20)</b>
Rarely	7% (12)	20% (22)	36% (6)	24% (27)	16% (12)	9% (4)	<b>15% (84)</b>
Sometimes	42% (74)	53% (59)	37% (7)	52% (59)	52% (39)	55% (27)	<b>48% (263)</b>
Often	50% (89)	27% (30)	16% (3)	13% (15)	31% (23)	35% (17)	<b>33% (178)</b>
Mean	3.39	3.05	2.56	2.68	3.14	2.68	<b>3.10</b>
<b>USE of Rivers and Streams</b>							
Never	1% (1)	1% (1)	-	7% (8)	2% (1)	-	<b>2% (11)</b>
Rarely	4% (7)	11% (12)	16% (3)	16% (18)	7% (5)	-	<b>8% (46)</b>
Sometimes	37% (64)	45% (51)	68% (13)	42% (47)	43% (32)	41% (19)	<b>42% (227)</b>
Often	59% (103)	44% (50)	16% (3)	35% (40)	49% (36)	58% (28)	<b>48% (261)</b>
Mean	3.53	3.32	3.01	3.05	3.38	3.57	<b>3.35</b>
<b>USE of Tribal Lands</b>							
Never	32% (55)	39% (43)	30% (5)	45% (51)	44% (31)	29% (14)	<b>37% (199)</b>
Rarely	43% (75)	48% (54)	14% (2)	40% (45)	46% (32)	62% (30)	<b>45% (239)</b>
Sometimes	16% (27)	10% (11)	39% (7)	15% (17)	8% (6)	8% (4)	<b>14% (73)</b>
Often	9% (16)	3% (4)	17% (3)	-	1% (1)	-	<b>4% (23)</b>
Mean	2.02	1.78	2.43	1.70	1.67	1.80	<b>1.85</b>

## Summary and Discussion

Respondents for this study included 4,158 Montana residents who were intercepted at gas stations and some rest areas around the state. Each resident was given the opportunity to provide additional feedback through an on-line survey. The longer survey was completed by 580 residents. Survey respondents were weighted based on county of residence to reflect population throughout the state.

Results showed that 74 percent of Montanans over 18 (566,730), visited a public land in the past year. Eighty-eight percent of Montanan's 18 years of age and older (673,950) participated in some form of outdoor recreation in the past year. According to the US Census, there are 409,607 occupied households in Montana. Residents engaging in outdoor recreation by household are most likely to use hiking, walking or biking trails (77% of all households or someone in 313,087 households) than any other facility. This means, at a minimum over 313,000 residents used these trail facilities at least once in the past year. More than 50 percent of Montana households use hiking trails, picnic sites, campgrounds without hookups, visiting heritage or historic sites, natural or wild areas, scenic byways, and wildlife viewing areas.

National forests receive the highest use by Montana households followed by rivers and streams, lakes, national park lands, and state park lands. Fifty-one percent of Montana households say they use national forest land often; 48 percent use rivers and streams often; 33 percent use natural lakes often; 30 percent use city parks often; 28 percent use national park lands often, and; 27 percent use state park lands often. It appears that forests, parks, and water are the draw for the majority of Montanan's outdoor recreation endeavors.

Most importantly, Montanan's believe outdoor recreation is extremely important to their quality of life. They are satisfied with the outdoor experience in Montana and are willing to support the maintenance of facilities as well as protect the budgets of park and recreation agencies.

A state as big as Montana and as diverse in geographic features as it is, can be lead in a wrong direction if only viewed from the statewide perspective. At the state level, four facility/area types emerged as the highest need in terms of the facility/area which needed to be increased and those facility/areas that had more people saying there was a need for an increase compared to those who said the facility number was adequate. The four facility types are:

- Bike lanes
- Off-road ATV trails
- Rifle/handgun ranges
- Sledding/tubing areas

In contrast, perhaps, the facility/areas with the highest number of people who said these needed an increase were:

- Walking/jogging/biking paths
- Natural or wild areas
- Hiking trails
- Wildlife viewing areas
- Scenic byways

These outdoor recreation facility/areas differ widely when studied at the regional level. While the Glacier region appeared to be the most similar to the state as a whole, the other five regions had facilities/areas that emerged higher than at the state level. It is wise to look at each region's needs to assess what is desired the most by residents of that region as the SCORP planning proceeds. However, sample sizes are an issue with some of the regions and the data should be looked at cautiously.

Finally, a different look at the data tables shows that residents are not suggesting a decrease to facilities. In all cases the number of facilities is adequate or should be increased. However, it is interesting to look at the facilities that did get some suggestions for decrease. In almost all cases the decrease suggestion appears with facilities where there could be a conflict in recreation use. Those nine facilities which were suggested for a decrease by 5 or more people are as follows:

- Equestrian trails
- Bike lanes
- Mountain bike trails
- Off-road ATV trails
- Motorized boating areas
- Campgrounds with hookups
- Dog parks
- Golf courses
- Snowmobile trails

It is always prudent to understand that while many people may want a certain facility or area to be increased, it may come at a cost to other recreationists or to the sustainability of the land.

This study looked at resident use and assessment of outdoor recreation opportunities and facilities in the state of Montana. Montanans are very active in their outdoor pursuits and find that the state has facilities and areas to satisfy their needs. Perhaps one of the main stories to emerge from this study is the need for Montana to assure access to the national forests, streams and lakes. These areas are used by more households than any other type of area in the state. Supporting multiple use and continued access to the lands and waters will benefit Montana residents for years to come.

## **Appendix A: Survey Locations**

### **Miles City/Glendive Surveyor**

Culbertson, Plentywood, Glasgow, Glendive, Miles City, Sidney, Wolf Point, Broadus.

### **Billings Surveyor**

Billings, Crow Agency, Laurel, Bridger, Red Lodge, Hardin, Lewistown, Columbus.

### **Bozeman Surveyor**

Bozeman, Bozeman Rest Area, Belgrade, Four Corners, Big Sky, West Yellowstone, Ennis, Three Forks, Townsend.

### **Gardiner Surveyor**

Livingston, Gardiner, Big Timber, White Sulphur Springs, Harlowton.

### **Dillon Surveyor**

Dillon, Rocker, Monida, Anaconda.

### **Shelby Surveyor**

Shelby, Sweet Grass rest area, Cut Bank, St. Mary, Havre.

### **Great Falls Surveyor**

Great Falls, Helena, Lewistown, Vaughn.

### **Kalispell Surveyor**

Kalispell, West Glacier, Hungry Horse, Columbia Falls, Whitefish, Polson, Libby, Eureka.

### **Missoula Surveyor**

Missoula, East Missoula, Wye junction, Lolo, Hamilton, St. Regis/Superior, Thompson Falls.

## Appendix B: Intercept Survey Instrument

Hello, I am with the Institute for Tourism and Recreation Research at the University of Montana conducting a quick survey regarding outdoor recreation in Montana. This will take about 30 seconds to answer. Would you be willing to answer 6 questions?

1. In which Montana County do you reside? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Have you visited a Montana State Park in the last 12 months?
3. Have you visited any other public lands in MT in the last 12 months? (e.g. National parks, National forests, BLM, wildlife refuges, reservoirs etc.).
4. Have you participated in any form of outdoor recreation in the past 12 months? (includes anything from walking a trail, to snowmobiling, to enjoying open space)
5. What is your age? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Gender \_\_\_\_\_
7. Site Code \_\_\_\_\_
8. Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Appendix C: On-line Survey Instrument

Dear Montana Resident,

The state of Montana is currently assessing how many Montana residents use outdoor recreation facilities and areas, the condition of these areas, and what outdoor recreation activities your household has participated in during the last 12 months. We also need to know about your use of Montana State Parks. We need to know more about YOU! Please think about your entire household when answering this questionnaire. This survey should take approximately 10 minutes to complete. It is voluntary and you may choose to stop the survey at any point. Your responses will be kept confidential.

If you complete the survey you will be entered into a drawing for one of two \$250 Visa cards! If you have questions regarding this study, please contact Norma Nickerson, Director, Institute for Tourism and Recreation Research (ITRR), at the University of Montana, [norma.nickerson@umontana.edu](mailto:norma.nickerson@umontana.edu) 406-243-2328 OR Christine Oschell, Assistant Director, [christine.oschell@umontana.edu](mailto:christine.oschell@umontana.edu), 406-243-6454.

The research presents no more than minimal risk of harm to subjects and involves no procedures for which written consent is normally required outside of the research context. You will not be personally identified in any report and the data will be used for research at the Institute for Tourism and Recreation Research (ITRR). The resulting data will be confidential but will be made available to the general public in the form of a report. The survey involves questions about outdoor recreation in the state of Montana. Your participation is voluntary and you may decline to participate without any penalty. You may contact ITRR with any questions you may have or you may contact the Institutional Review Board at (406) 243-6670 if you have any questions about your rights as a research participant. By clicking “continue” below you provide consent and acknowledge your rights as a voluntary research participant.

**In which county do you reside?**

**What is your zip code?**

Please complete both columns for this question. In the first column, please indicate if anyone in your household has used the following facilities or areas in MONTANA during the past 12 months. Then, in the next column tell us your opinion on the adequacy of these facilities/areas.

	<b>Please click if ANY household members have used this facility/area</b>	<b>Assessment of the number of facilities/areas</b>
<b>Walking/jogging/biking paths</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-- Select --
<b>Hiking trails</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-- Select --
<b>Equestrian trails</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-- Select --
<b>Bike lanes</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-- Select --
<b>Mountain bike trails</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-- Select --
<b>Off-road ATV trails</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-- Select --
<b>Scenic Byways</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-- Select --

\*selections included No opinion; Adequate; Needs to be increased; Needs to be decreased

Please complete both columns for this question. In the first column, please indicate if anyone in your household has used the following facilities or areas in MONTANA during the past 12 months. Then, in the next column tell us your opinion on the adequacy of these facilities/areas.

	<b>Please click if ANY household members have used this facility/area</b>	<b>Assessment of the number of facilities/areas</b>
<b>Indoor pools</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-- Select --
<b>Outdoor pools</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-- Select --
<b>Splash decks</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-- Select --
<b>Waterparks</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-- Select --
<b>Non-motorized boating areas</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-- Select --
<b>Motorized boating areas</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-- Select --

\*selections included No opinion; Adequate; Needs to be increased; Needs to be decreased

Please complete both columns for this question. In the first column, please indicate if anyone in your household has used the following facilities or areas in MONTANA during the past 12 months. Then, in the next column tell us your opinion on the adequacy of these facilities/areas.

	<b>Please click if ANY household members have used this facility/area</b>	<b>Assessment of the number of facilities/areas</b>
<b>Campgrounds with hook-ups</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-- Select --
<b>Campgrounds without hook-ups</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-- Select --
<b>Backcountry camping</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-- Select --
<b>Picnic areas</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-- Select --
<b>Playgrounds</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-- Select --
<b>Dog parks</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-- Select --
<b>Outdoor rock climbing areas</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-- Select --

\*selections included No opinion; Adequate; Needs to be increased; Needs to be decreased

Please complete both columns for this question. In the first column, please indicate if anyone in your household has used the following facilities or areas in MONTANA during the past 12 months. Then, in the next column tell us your opinion on the adequacy of these facilities/areas.

	<b>Please click if ANY household members have used this facility/area</b>	<b>Assessment of the number of facilities/areas</b>
<b>Tennis courts</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-- Select --
<b>Skateboard parks</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-- Select --
<b>BMX parks</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-- Select --
<b>Archery ranges</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-- Select --
<b>Rifle/handgun ranges</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-- Select --
<b>Horseshoe pits</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-- Select --
<b>Golf courses</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-- Select --
<b>Disc golfing/folfing courses</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-- Select --
<b>Indoor rock climbing areas</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-- Select --

\*selections included No opinion; Adequate; Needs to be increased; Needs to be decreased

Please complete both columns for this question. In the first column, please indicate if anyone in your household has used the following facilities or areas in MONTANA during the past 12 months. Then, in the next column tell us your opinion on the adequacy of these facilities/areas.

	<b>Please click if ANY household members have used this facility/area</b>	<b>Assessment of the number of facilities/areas</b>
<b>Baseball fields</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-- Select --
<b>Softball fields</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-- Select --
<b>Lacrosse fields</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-- Select --
<b>Outdoor basketball courts</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-- Select --
<b>Soccer fields</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-- Select --
<b>Football fields</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-- Select --
<b>Outdoor volleyball courts</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-- Select --

\*selections included No opinion; Adequate; Needs to be increased; Needs to be decreased



Please complete both columns for this question. In the first column, please indicate if anyone in your household has used the following facilities or areas in MONTANA during the past 12 months. Then, in the next column tell us your opinion on the adequacy of these facilities/areas.

	Please click if ANY household members have used this facility/area	Assessment of the number of facilities/areas
<b>Indoor ice rinks</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-- Select --
<b>Sledding/tubing areas</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-- Select --
<b>XC ski/snowshoe trails</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-- Select --
<b>Outdoor ice rinks</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-- Select --
<b>Snowmobile trails</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-- Select --

\*selections included No opinion; Adequate; Needs to be increased; Needs to be decreased

Please complete both columns for this question. In the first column, please indicate if anyone in your household has used the following facilities or areas in MONTANA during the past 12 months. Then, in the next column tell us your opinion on the adequacy of these facilities/areas.

	Please click if ANY household members have used this facility/area	Assessment of the number of facilities/areas
<b>Heritage/historic areas or sites</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-- Select --
<b>Environmental education areas or centers</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-- Select --
<b>Interpretive trails</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-- Select --
<b>Open space designated areas</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-- Select --
<b>Wildlife viewing areas</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-- Select --
<b>Natural or wild areas</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-- Select --

\*selections included No opinion; Adequate; Needs to be increased; Needs to be decreased

**Please indicate the overall quality of your experiences. The overall quality of my...**

	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Excellent	N/A
Montana outdoor recreation experience is...	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Experience with Montana trails is...	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Experience with Montana water based activities is...	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Experience with Montana natural areas is...	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Experience with Montana cultural and historic areas is...	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Experience with Montana sports facilities is...	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Experience with Montana snow-based areas is...	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**How often do you and your household members use the following public recreation areas in Montana?**

	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often
City Parks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
City/county open space	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
County parks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State parks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
National park lands	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
National forests	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
National monuments	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bureau of Land Management (BLM lands)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
National wildlife refuges	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reservoirs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Natural lakes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rivers/streams	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tribal lands	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**How important is...**

	Not at all important	Somewhat important	Important	Very important
Maintaining existing recreation facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Outdoor recreation for your quality of life	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Making sure budget cuts do not affect your park and recreation agencies	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Outdoor recreation for your family's quality of life	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**What is your sex?** Male Female

**How many people live in your household?**

**Please select all the age ranges that are represented in your household?**

1. 0-5 years
2. 6-10 years
3. 11-17 years
4. 18-24 years
5. 25-34 years
6. 35-44 years
7. 45-54 years
8. 55-64 years
9. 65-74 years
10. 75 and over

**What is your highest completed level of education?**

1. Some high school
2. High school diploma or equivalent (GED)
3. Some college
4. Associates degree
5. Bachelors degree
6. Masters degree
7. Doctorate
8. Professional degree

**What best describes your annual household income in US dollars?**

1. Less than \$25,000
2. \$25K to less than \$50K
3. \$50K to less than \$75K
4. \$75K to less than \$100K
5. \$100K to less than \$150K
6. \$150K to less than \$200K
7. \$200K or greater

**Do you consider your views:**

1. More conservative
2. More liberal
3. Moderate
4. Independent

**What is your current employment status?**

1. Full time
2. Part time
3. Seasonal full time
4. Seasonal part time
5. Unemployed
6. Retired
7. Student

