

Montana State Parks 2010 Visitation Estimates

Calendar year statewide estimates by Fish, Wildlife & Parks Region.

December 1, 2010

Estimating visitation is important to understanding use and managing public lands. The number of visits to Montana State Parks are primarily estimated using magnetic-loop traffic counters, on site surveys and observations. Total visitation figures are adjusted to account for sites with limited data collection equipment and staff, or multiple entrances.

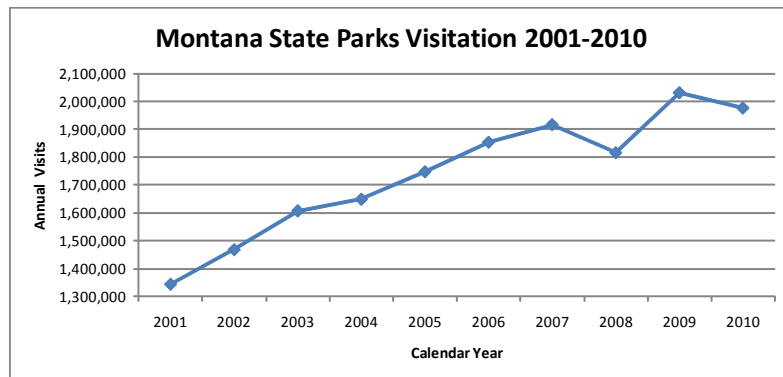
Region	PPV	Group Size & Walk-In	Number Vehicles	Total Visits	Resident %	Number Residents	Non-Res %	Number Non-Res	Day Use %	Number Day Use	Overnight Visit %	Number Overnight Visits
1	2.1	29,698	176,915	409,957	78%	323,938	22%	86,018	85%	351,518	15%	58,439
2	2.5	4,367	82,416	209,033	77%	160,774	23%	48,259	77%	162,399	23%	46,634
3	2.5	8,037	103,020	268,038	80%	214,148	20%	53,890	85%	227,606	15%	40,431
4	2.4	7,883	164,742	405,726	95%	384,397	5%	21,328	99%	400,078	1%	5,648
5	2.6	12,511	137,047	368,306	87%	319,110	13%	49,196	95%	351,245	5%	17,061
6	2.5	0	1,435	3,588	99%	3,540	1%	48	100%	3,588	0%	0
7	3	866	72,987	217,443	81%	177,139	19%	40,304	61%	132,339	39%	85,104

TOTAL VISITS **1,976,196** 84% 16% 87% 13%

Ten Year Statewide Trends

Year	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Total Visits	1,344,496	1,468,594	1,607,417	1,649,291	1,747,937	1,853,560	1,916,804	1,815,828	2,031,121	1,976,196

3% decrease from 2009



Statewide Residency Five Year Trends		
Year	% MT Residents	% Non-MT Residents
2006	79%	21%
2007	82%	18%
2008	84%	16%
2009	83%	17%
2010	84%	16%

Statewide Day and Overnight Use Five Year Trends		
Year	% Day Use	% Overnight Visits
2006	87%	13%
2007	88%	12%
2008	88%	12%
2009	86%	14%
2010	87%	13%

Regional Visitation Five Year Trends

Region	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2009-2010	
						# change	% change
1	344,229	358,046	391,037	417,993	409,957	-8,036	-2%
2	205,545	173,908	174,105	194,048	209,033	14,985	8%
3	345,139	326,814	287,417	317,934	268,038	-49,896	-16%
4	326,238	355,415	354,650	373,473	405,726	32,253	9%
5	334,458	400,033	352,383	398,691	368,306	-30,385	-8%
6	3,923	5,491	6,210	4,558	3,588	-970	-21%
7	205,763	205,858	163,558	227,704	217,443	-10,261	-5%

2010 Montana State Parks Visitation Estimates by Park

Calendar year

December 1, 2010

Region	Park	Total Visits	PPV	Group Size & Walk-In	Number Vehicles	Resident %	Number Residents	Non-Res %	Number Non-Res	Day Use %	Number Day Use	Overnight Visit %	Number Overnight Visits
1	Big Arm	33,063	2.1	345	15,879	69%	22,967	31%	10,096	58%	19,354	42%	13,709
1	Finley Point	17,709	2.2	225	8,123	77%	13,630	23%	4,079	73%	12,902	27%	4,806
1	Lake Mary Ronan	19,498	2.1	145	9,154	86%	16,849	14%	2,649	75%	14,723	25%	4,775
1	Les Mason	10,235	2.0	195	5,047	95%	9,729	5%	506	100%	10,235	0%	0
1	Logan	20,684	2.0	0	10,551	84%	17,313	16%	3,372	62%	12,833	38%	7,852
1	Lone Pine	72,668	2.0	25,863	23,367	89%	64,601	11%	8,067	100%	72,668	0%	0
1	North Shore	166	1.6	0	104	99%	165	1%	2	100%	166	0%	0
1	Thompson Falls	9,036	2.0	160	4,433	61%	5,482	39%	3,554	66%	5,968	34%	3,068
1	Wayfarers	100,292	2.2	785	45,468	77%	77,564	23%	22,728	87%	87,379	13%	12,913
1	West Shore	27,426	2.0	195	13,948	75%	20,474	25%	6,951	90%	24,820	10%	2,605
1	Whitefish	58,264	2.2	525	26,571	78%	45,306	22%	12,957	86%	50,355	14%	7,908
1	Wild Horse Island	17,993	4.4	955	3,886	61%	11,087	39%	6,906	100%	17,993	0%	0
1	Yellow Bay	22,923	2.2	305	10,384	82%	18,771	18%	4,152	96%	22,123	4%	801
2	Anaconda Smoke Stack	11,575	2.5	0	4,630	61%	7,098	39%	4,478	100	11,575	0%	0
2	Beavertail Hill	18,512	2.3	0	7,945	65%	12,033	35%	6,479	69%	12,794	31%	5,717
2	Council Grove	33,770	2.2	0	15,491	85%	28,848	15%	4,923	100	33,770	0%	0
2	Fort Owen	3,336	2.7	0	1,215	70%	2,320	30%	1,016	100	3,336	0%	0
2	Frenchtown Pond	31,529	2.7	1,193	11,112	91%	28,764	9%	2,764	100	31,529	0%	0
2	Lost Creek	17,478	3.2	0	5,464	64%	11,166	36%	6,311	81%	14,237	19%	3,240
2	Painted Rocks	13,362	2.6	0	5,140	73%	9,819	27%	3,543	75%	10,052	25%	3,311
2	Placid Lake	33,281	2.3	85	14,444	84%	28,063	16%	5,218	29%	9,577	71%	23,704
2	Salmon Lake	23,770	2.8	209	8,442	88%	20,945	12%	2,826	55%	13,109	45%	10,661
2	Travelers' Rest	22,421	2.3	2,880	8,533	52%	11,718	48%	10,702	100	22,421	0%	0
3	Bannack	35,987	2.6	857	13,601	71%	25,701	29%	10,286	92%	33,155	8%	2,832
3	Black Sandy	50,620	2.3	0	22,457	97%	49,043	3%	1,576	52%	26,529	48%	24,091
3	Clark's Lookout	10,522	2.5	2,266	3,356	76%	8,045	24%	2,477	100%	10,522	0%	0
3	Elkhorn	2,676	2.3	0	1,182	80%	2,154	20%	522	100%	2,676	0%	0
3	Lewis & Clark Caverns	63,853	3.2	4,832	18,249	50%	32,417	50%	31,436	83%	53,184	17%	10,669
3	Madison Buffalo Jump	3,999	2.6	0	1,538	75%	3,015	25%	984	100%	3,999	0%	0
3	Missouri Headwaters	22,176	2.8	0	8,027	81%	17,875	19%	4,301	87%	19,336	13%	2,840
3	Spring Meadow	78,206	2.3	82	34,610	97%	75,898	3%	2,308	100%	78,206	0%	0
4	Ackley Lake	21,685	2.3	0	9,507	99%	21,438	1%	247	96%	20,736	4%	949
4	First Peoples Buffalo Jump	23,147	2.6	3,722	7,529	74%	17,217	26%	5,930	100%	23,147	0%	0
4	Giant Springs Complex	331,736	2.5	3,053	133,070	96%	318,425	4%	13,311	100%	331,736	0%	0
4	Sluice Boxes	13,332	2.4	1,108	5,147	96%	12,823	4%	510	99%	13,141	1%	191
4	Smith River	4,592	1.0	0	4,592	76%	3,490	24%	1,102	2%	84	98%	4,508
4	Tower Rock	11,234	2.3	0	4,897	98%	11,005	2%	229	100%	11,234	0%	0
5	Chief Plenty Coups	39,448	2.5	1,250	15,543	67%	26,541	33%	12,907	100%	39,448	0%	0
5	Cooney	151,683	2.6	5,594	55,782	90%	136,909	10%	14,774	89%	134,622	11%	17,061
5	Lake Elmo	118,262	2.7	4,116	42,723	97%	114,400	3%	3,862	100%	118,262	0%	0
5	Pictograph Cave	35,673	2.8	1,275	12,285	80%	28,560	20%	7,113	100%	35,673	0%	0
5	Prairie Dog Town	14,172	2.2	216	6,354	40%	5,669	60%	8,503	100%	14,172	0%	0
5	Yellowstone River	9,069	2.1	60	4,360	78%	7,032	22%	2,036	100%	9,069	0%	0
6	Brush Lake	3,588	2.5	0	1,435	99%	3,540	1%	48	100%	3,588	0%	0
7	Hell Creek	30,068	2.8	0	10,693	84%	25,239	16%	4,829	22%	6,690	78%	23,378
7	Makoshika	77,492	2.7	489	28,442	94%	73,062	6%	4,429	97%	75,464	3%	2,027
7	Medicine Rocks	10,115	2.7	0	3,776	86%	8,657	14%	1,458	92%	9,319	8%	796
7	Pirogue Island	11,741	2.7	377	4,171	95%	11,147	5%	594	100%	11,741	0%	0
7	Rosebud Battlefield	6,466	3.8	0	1,706	33%	2,164	67%	4,302	100%	6,466	0%	0
7	Tongue River Reservoir	81,562	3.4	0	24,199	70%	56,870	30%	24,692	28%	22,659	72%	58,903
	<i>Flathead Lake Subtotal (7pks)</i>	<i>219,572</i>	<i>2.2</i>	<i>2810</i>	<i>97,792</i>	<i>75%</i>	<i>164,658</i>	<i>25%</i>	<i>54,914</i>	<i>84%</i>	<i>184,737</i>	<i>16%</i>	<i>34,834</i>

Fifty parks estimated; does not include Beaverhead Rock, Granite, Marias River, Parker Homestead

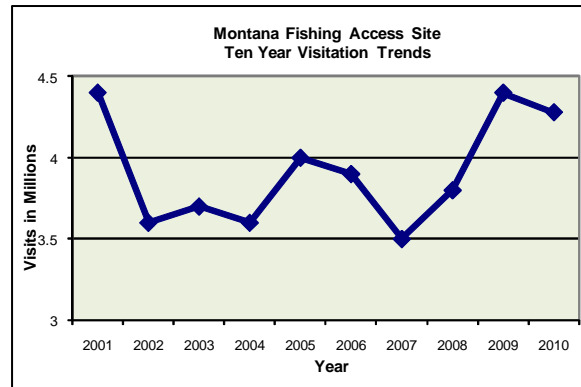
2010 Montana Fishing Access Sites Visitation

Dec2010

Visitation estimates are important to understand public use trends, maintenance and operations needs, and natural resource impacts. In 2010, Montana State Parks managed 334 fishing access sites. Limited staffing and equipment costs necessitate estimating visitation based on sampling representative sites and estimating corresponding similar sites. A variety of field surveys, revenue, managerial experience and observations are used to estimate total visits, residency, and overnight visits.

Ten Year Statewide Trends

Year	FAS VISITS in Millions
2001	4.4
2002	3.6
2003	3.7
2004	3.6
2005	4.0
2006	3.9
2007	3.5
2008	3.8
2009	4.4
2010	4.3



Five Year Visitation Trends By Region

Region	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	% change 09-10	No. sites
1	494,582	516,296	430,077	428,717	520,190	21%	33
2	767,816	748,527	858,493	971,187	966,696	0%	73
3	1,374,853	1,247,255	1,358,678	1,426,686	1,450,139	2%	92
4	239,035	224,163	208,967	209,176	380,527	82%	52
5	571,184	511,920	478,680	855,146	531,880	-38%	47
6	111,151	106,600	109,062	129,086	143,071	11%	15
7	346,608	189,583	363,339	336,169	288,986	-14%	22
Total	3,905,229	3,544,344	3,807,296	4,356,167	4,281,489	-2%	334

Five Year Resident Use Trends By Region

Region	Percent Montana Resident Use				
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
1	90%	90%	90%	89%	90%
2	82%	84%	82%	82%	82%
3	68%	68%	68%	68%	68%
4	88%	94%	96%	95%	96%
5	83%	80%	73%	79%	81%
6	95%	96%	97%	96%	96%
7	85%	85%	88%	89%	93%
Average	77%	80%	79%	79%	81%

Five Year Overnight Use Trends By Region

Region	Percent Overnight Use				
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
1	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
2	2%	2%	2%	2%	4%
3	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
4	11%	6%	6%	7%	3%
5	11%	17%	21%	17%	3%
6	4%	2%	1%	1%	1%
7	10%	5%	5%	12%	4%
Average	3%	4%	4%	6%	2%