

Montana State Parks 2009 Visitation Estimates

updated 1/12/10

Estimating visitation is important to understanding use and managing public lands and public use. The number of visits to Montana State Parks are primarily estimated using magnetic-loop traffic counters, on site surveys and observations.

Three parks were added to the system in 2009: Les Mason and North Shore in Region 1 and Yellowstone River in Region 5.

VISITS BY REGION, CALENDAR YEAR 2009

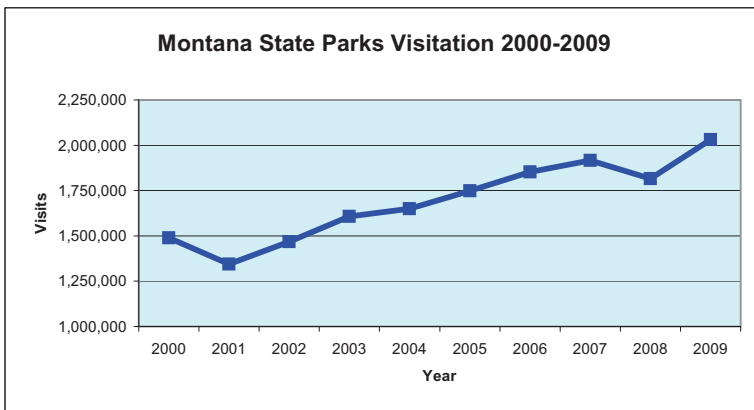
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Region	Total Visits	% MT Residents	Number MT Residents	% Non-MT Residents	Number Non-MT Residents	% Day Use	Number Day Users	% Overnight	Number Overnight Users
1	417,993	78%	329,685	22%	88,309	84%	355,143	16%	62,850
2	194,048	77%	149,417	23%	44,631	80%	155,238	20%	38,810
3	317,934	82%	260,515	18%	57,419	78%	248,119	22%	69,814
4	373,473	97%	360,091	3%	13,382	98%	367,447	2%	6,025
5	398,691	83%	330,660	17%	68,031	96%	382,000	4%	16,691
6	4,558	98%	4,446	2%	112	100%	4,558	0%	0
7	227,704	72%	163,973	28%	63,731	67%	153,049	33%	74,654

TOTAL VISITS	2,031,121	83%	17%	86%	14%
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STATEWIDE TRENDS 2000-2009

Year	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Parks Total	1,488,311	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
Change from Prior Year	up 1%	down 9%	up 9%	up 9%	up 3%	up 6%	up 6%	up 3%	down 5%	up 12%



STATEWIDE RESIDENCY TRENDS 2004-2009

Year	% MT Residents	% Non-MT Residents
2004	73%	27%
2005	79%	21%
2006	79%	21%
2007	82%	18%
2008	84%	16%
2009	83%	17%

STATEWIDE DAY USE AND OVERNIGHT TRENDS 2004-2009

Year	% Day Use	% Overnight
2004	86%	14%
2005	86%	14%
2006	87%	13%
2007	88%	12%
2008	88%	12%
2009	86%	14%

REGIONAL VISITATION TRENDS 2004-2009

Region	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2008-09	
							# change	% change
1	281,566	294,710	344,229	358,046	391,037	417,993	26,956	7%
2	173,499	186,595	205,545	173,908	174,105	194,048	19,943	11%
3	354,341	314,466	345,139	326,814	287,417	317,934	30,517	11%
4	227,097	268,747	326,238	355,415	354,650	373,473	18,823	5%
5	361,181	381,117	334,458	400,033	352,383	398,691	46,308	13%
6	n/a	2,500	3,923	5,491	6,210	4,558	-1,652	-27%
7	193,454	216,567	205,763	205,858	163,558	227,704	64,146	39%

2009 State Parks Visitation Estimates

Calendar Year										updated 1/12/2010
Region	Park	Total Visits	% MT Residents	Number MT Residents	% Non-MT Residents	Number Non-MT Residents	% Day Use	Number Day Users	% Overnight	Number Overnight Users
1	Big Arm	32,502	68%	22,138	32%	10,364	56%	18,308	44%	14,193
1	Finley Point	18,016	75%	13,608	25%	4,409	69%	12,510	31%	5,506
1	Lake Mary Ronan	19,991	86%	17,290	14%	2,701	73%	14,567	27%	5,424
1	Les Mason (new '09)	8,498	95%	8,077	5%	421	100	8,498	0%	0
1	Logan	21,677	82%	17,670	18%	4,007	59%	12,736	41%	8,941
1	Lone Pine	74,278	89%	66,016	11%	8,262	100	74,278	0%	0
1	North Shore (new '09)	148	100	147	0%	1	100	148	0%	0
1	Thompson Falls	5,480	60%	3,306	40%	2,174	65%	3,592	35%	1,888
1	Wayfarers	114,613	78%	88,902	22%	25,711	86%	98,377	14%	16,236
1	West Shore	27,463	74%	20,382	26%	7,081	90%	24,789	10%	2,674
1	Whitefish	54,844	78%	43,002	22%	11,842	87%	47,614	13%	7,230
1	Wild Horse Island	18,039	61%	11,078	39%	6,962	100	18,039	0%	0
1	Yellow Bay	22,443	80%	18,069	20%	4,375	97%	21,686	3%	757
2	Anaconda Stack	9,384	57%	5,349	43%	4,035	100%	9,384	0%	0
2	Beavertail Hill	16,640	65%	10,816	35%	5,824	73%	12,147	27%	4,493
2	Council Grove	25,388	81%	20,564	19%	4,824	100%	25,388	0%	0
2	Fort Owen	2,393	71%	1,699	29%	694	100%	2,393	0%	0
2	Frenchtown Pond	31,314	92%	28,809	8%	2,505	100%	31,314	0%	0
2	Granite	460	91%	419	9%	41	100%	460	0%	0
2	Lost Creek	16,640	64%	10,650	36%	5,990	78%	12,979	22%	3,661
2	Painted Rocks	15,206	72%	10,948	28%	4,258	73%	11,100	27%	4,106
2	Placid Lake	34,185	84%	28,715	16%	5,470	47%	16,067	53%	18,118
2	Salmon Lake	21,071	83%	17,489	17%	3,582	74%	15,593	26%	5,478
2	Travelers' Rest	21,367	59%	12,607	41%	8,760	94%	20,085	6%	1,282
3	Bannack	35,023	66%	23,037	34%	11,986	94%	32,895	6%	2,128
3	Black Sandy	70,212	96%	67,059	4%	3,153	56%	39,211	44%	31,000
3	Clark's Lookout	14,541	80%	11,568	20%	2,974	100%	14,541	0%	0
3	Elkhorn	1,390	84%	1,162	16%	228	100	1,390	0%	0
3	Lewis & Clark Caverns	60,885	51%	31,787	49%	29,098	50%	28,918	50%	31,967
3	Madison Buffalo Jump	3,753	71%	2,653	29%	1,101	100	3,753	0%	0
3	Missouri Headwaters	20,982	73%	15,221	27%	5,761	77%	16,263	23%	4,719
3	Spring Meadow	111,148	97%	108,028	3%	3,120	100	111,148	0%	0
4	Ackley Lake	22,943	99%	22,744	1%	198	96%	22,015	4%	928
4	First Peoples Buffalo Jump	20,403	84%	17,222	16%	3,181	100	20,403	0%	0
4	Giant Springs	301,575	97%	293,390	3%	8,185	100	301,575	0%	0
4	Sluice Boxes	13,917	96%	13,362	4%	555	99%	13,719	1%	199
4	Smith River	4,899	77%	3,790	23%	1,109	0%	0	100%	4,899
4	Tower Rock	9,736	98%	9,583	2%	153	100	9,736	0%	0
5	Chief Plenty Coups	43,610	61%	26,641	39%	16,968	100%	43,610	0%	0
5	Cooney	143,012	93%	132,394	7%	10,619	88%	126,321	12%	16,691
5	Lake Elmo	125,250	97%	121,493	3%	3,758	100	125,250	0%	0
5	Pictograph Cave	68,013	59%	39,930	41%	28,083	100	68,013	0%	0
5	Prairie Dog Town	14,260	44%	6,268	56%	7,992	100	14,260	0%	0
5	Yellowstone River (new '09)	4,546	87%	3,934	13%	612	100	4,546	0%	0
6	Brush Lake	4,558	98%	4,446	2%	112	100%	4,558	0%	0
7	Hell Creek	22,911	85%	19,587	15%	3,324	24%	5,571	76%	17,340
7	Makoshika	73,668	94%	69,491	6%	4,177	97%	71,734	3%	1,934
7	Medicine Rocks	13,766	66%	9,083	34%	4,683	89%	12,278	11%	1,487
7	Pirogue Island	7,755	94%	7,269	6%	486	100	7,755	0%	0
7	Rosebud Battlefield	4,344	35%	1,537	65%	2,807	82%	3,554	18%	790
7	Tongue River Reservoir	105,260	54%	57,006	46%	48,254	49%	51,367	51%	53,893
	Flathead Lake Subtotal (7 parks)	233,224	75%	174,324	25%	58,903	83%	193,857	17%	39,366
	Includes 3 new parks; does not include Parker Homestead, Beaverhead Rock, Marias River									

Montana Fishing Access Sites Visitation

Calendar Year Estimates

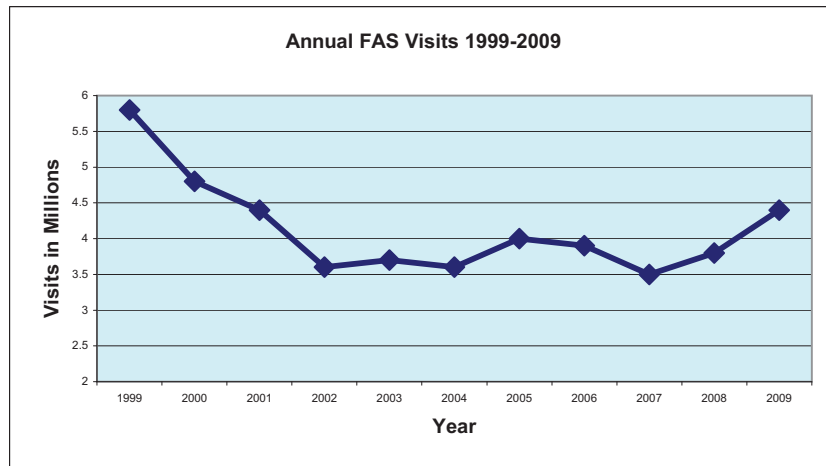
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Visits By Region 2005-2009

Region	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	% change 08-09
1	469,192	494,582	516,296	430,077	428,717	0%
2	809,716	767,816	748,527	858,493	971,187	13%
3	1,384,251	1,374,853	1,247,255	1,358,678	1,426,686	5%
4	290,086	239,035	224,163	208,967	209,176	0%
5	694,048	571,184	511,920	478,680	855,146	79%
6	84,544	111,151	106,600	109,062	129,086	18%
7	310,275	346,608	189,583	363,339	336,169	-7%
Total	4,042,112	3,905,229	3,544,344	3,807,296	4,356,167	14%

Statewide Trends 1999-2009

YEAR	FAS VISITS in Millions
1999	5.8
2000	4.8
2001	4.4
2002	3.6
2003	3.7
2004	3.6
2005	4
2006	3.9
2007	3.5
2008	3.8
2009	4.4



Resident Use By Region 2005-2009

Region	% MT Residents				
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
1	91%	90%	90%	90%	89%
2	85%	82%	84%	82%	82%
3	68%	68%	68%	68%	68%
4	82%	88%	94%	96%	95%
5	82%	83%	80%	73%	79%
6	95%	95%	96%	97%	96%
7	86%	85%	85%	88%	89%
Total	79%	77%	80%	79%	79%

Overnight Use By Region 2005-2009

Region	% Overnight Visits				
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
1	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
2	3%	2%	2%	2%	2%
3	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
4	11%	11%	6%	6%	7%
5	10%	11%	17%	21%	17%
6	6%	4%	2%	1%	1%
7	2%	10%	5%	5%	12%
Total	4%	3%	4%	4%	6%