



# 2015 ANNUAL VISITATION REPORT



Flathead Lake State Park

2015

## Montana State Parks

Montana State Parks had a record 2.48 million visits in 2015. Statewide visitation is up 11% from 2014 and up 34% for the 10-year period. Peak season visitation was also the highest on record, with over 1.76 million visits, up 25% for the 5-year period. A new trend in 2015 is an increase in shoulder season visitation as well. North Central Region (Great Falls) had the highest overall visitation with over 727,800 visits, and Giant Springs State Park had the highest visitation of all state parks with over 419,000 visits—also the highest visitation for a single park over the last 10 years.

**For questions about visitation data or this report, please contact Maren Murphy at 406-444-3364 or [marenmurphy@mt.gov](mailto:marenmurphy@mt.gov).**

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# 2015 Annual Visitation Report

**JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2015**

The following is a summary of the Montana State Parks 2015 annual visitation, as well as comparisons with 2014 data, and visitation trends.

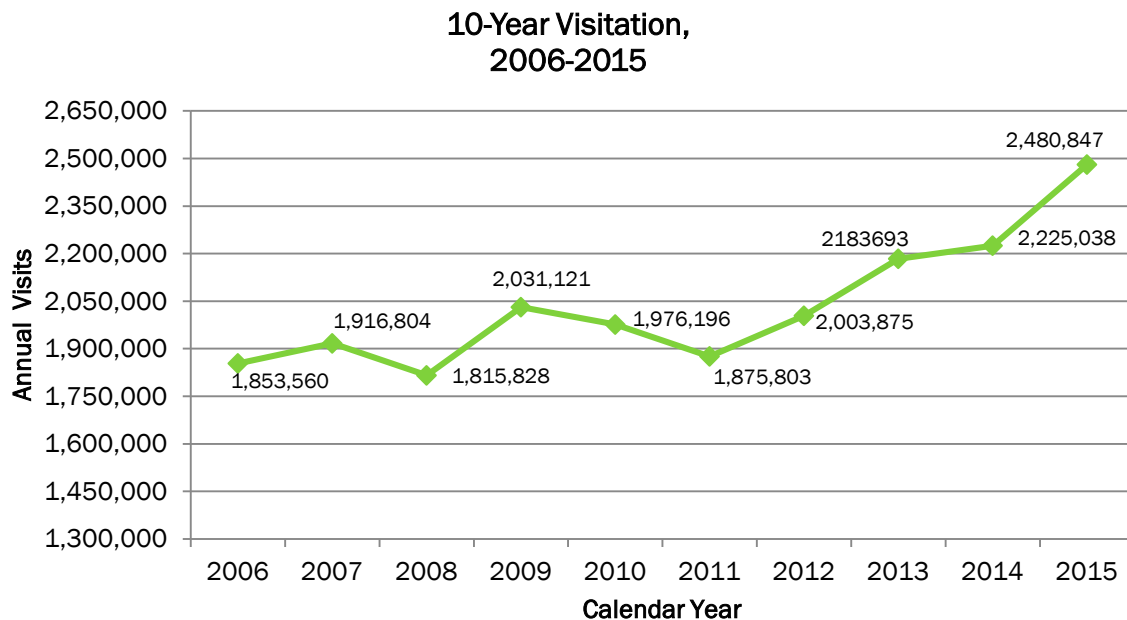
**Total statewide visitation is 2,480,847 visits, up **11%** from 2014.**

5-Year Trend (2011 to 2015): State Parks visitation is up **32%**.

10-Year Trend (2006 to 2015): State Parks visitation is up **34%**.

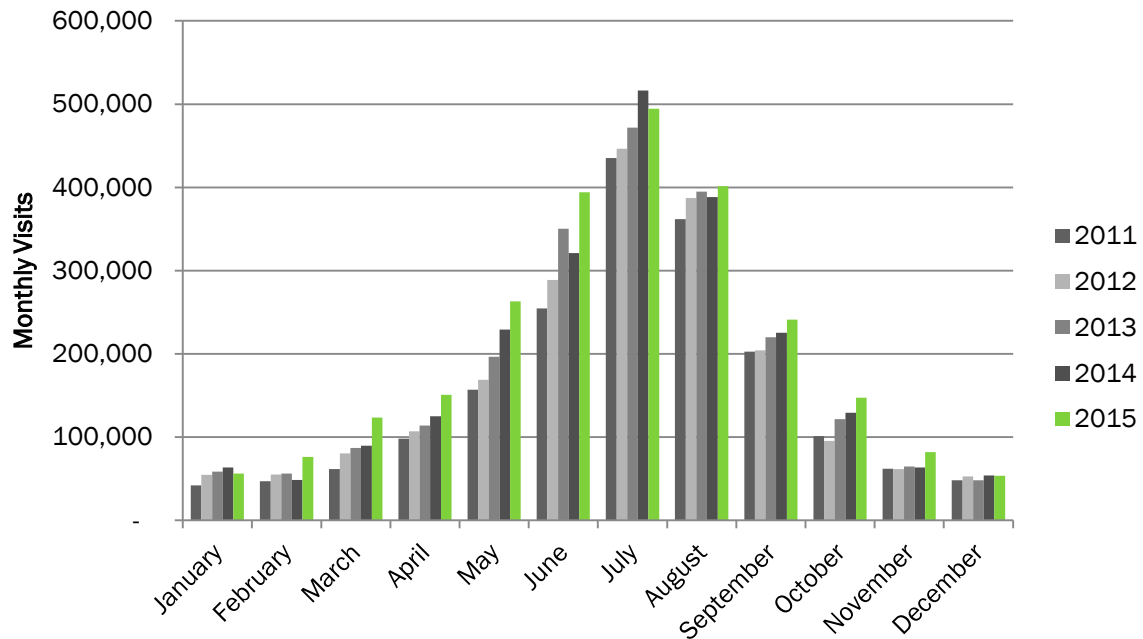
## STATEWIDE VISITATION

In 2015, Montana State Parks had the most visits in a single year over the past decade—surpassing the previous record in 2014. 2015 was the fifth year in a row that park visitation has increased.



The busiest month in 2015 was July with over 494,000 visits, down slightly from 2014. Shoulder season visitation (February – April, October – November) set new records in 2015 with the highest levels over the last five years. March saw a 100% increase in visitation from 61,000 visits in 2011 to 123,000 visits in 2015. April, May, and June had over 50% increase in visitation from 2011 to 2015. On average, there were close to 207,000 visits per month, the highest average on record.

### Visitation by Month, 2011-2015



The top five parks for **annual** visitation in 2015 are:

1. Giant Springs – 419,800 visits (up 33%)
2. Flathead Lake – 281,000 visits (up 4%)
3. Cooney – 184,790 visits (up 15%)
4. Lake Elmo – 172,200 visits (up 5%)
5. Spring Meadow Lake – 172,000 (up 21%)

### **Special Report: Shoulder Season**

2015 saw a major increase in shoulder season visitation during February-April and October-November. From 2011 to 2015, shoulder season visitation increased 57% overall, while spring shoulder season increased 70% and fall shoulder season increased 41%. This is primarily due to warmer weather creating more favorable conditions for visitors to get out into parks earlier than in previous years, particularly at water-based parks and camping parks. Users are able to participate in activities that have traditionally been summer activities earlier in the season, like boating, camping, and mountain biking.

Shoulder Season Visitation			
Shoulder Season	2011	2015	% Change
February – April	206,135	350,295	70%
October - November	163,070	229,118	41%
<b>Total Shoulder Season</b>	<b>369,204</b>	<b>579,413</b>	<b>57%</b>

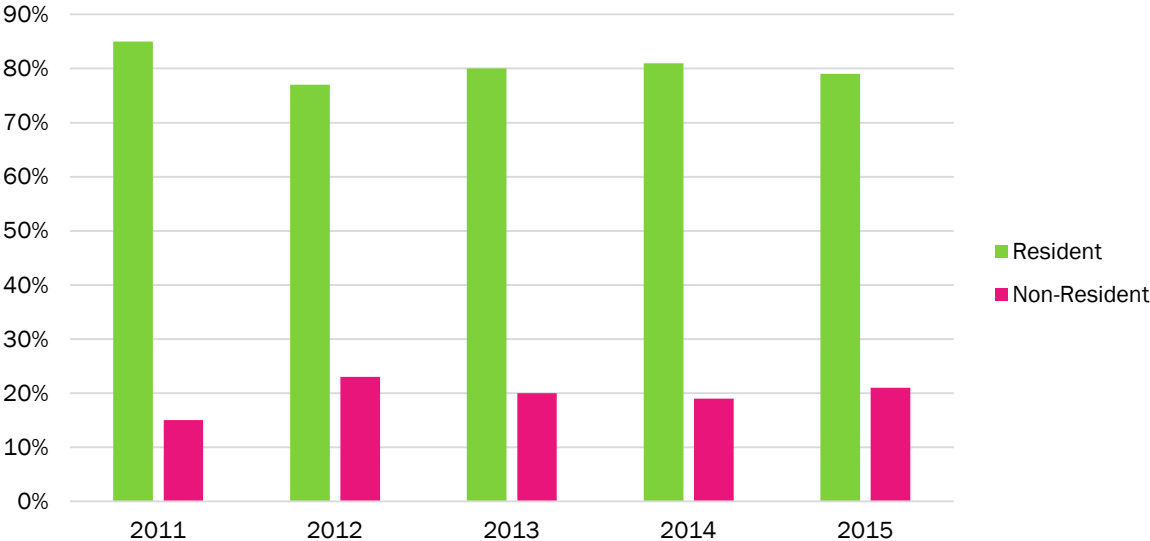
### Residency Trends

**Resident and non-resident visitation is estimated based on a ratio of the total visits, which was established for each park through field sampling.**

The number and percentage of **non-resident visits** has been increasing over the last five years. In 2011, 15% of the visits (281,000 visits) were from non-residents. In 2014, that increased to 21% of visits, or close to 521,000 visits—an 85% increase in non-resident visitation from 2011 to 2015.

From 2014 to 2015, **resident visitation** slightly decreased from 81% of visits to 79% of visits. Over 1.9 million visits were from resident visitation in 2015, which is a 22% increase over resident visitation in 2011.

**Resident vs. Non-Resident Visitation  
2011-2015**



## VISITATION BY REGION

The Montana State Parks administrative regions consist of the following:

- Northwest (Kalispell)
- West Central (Missoula)
- Southwest (Bozeman)
- North Central (Great Falls)
- Eastern (Billings)

North Central Region had the highest annual visitation in 2014 with over **727,800 visits**, followed by the Northwest Region with over 648,400 visits. North Central Region had the largest increase in visitation at **23%** over 2014 levels. Eastern Region had the highest visitation by *residents* at 85%, while Southwest Region had the highest visitation of *non-residents* at 26%. North Central Region had the highest *day use* visitation at 95% and West Central Region had the highest *overnight use* at 36% of visits.

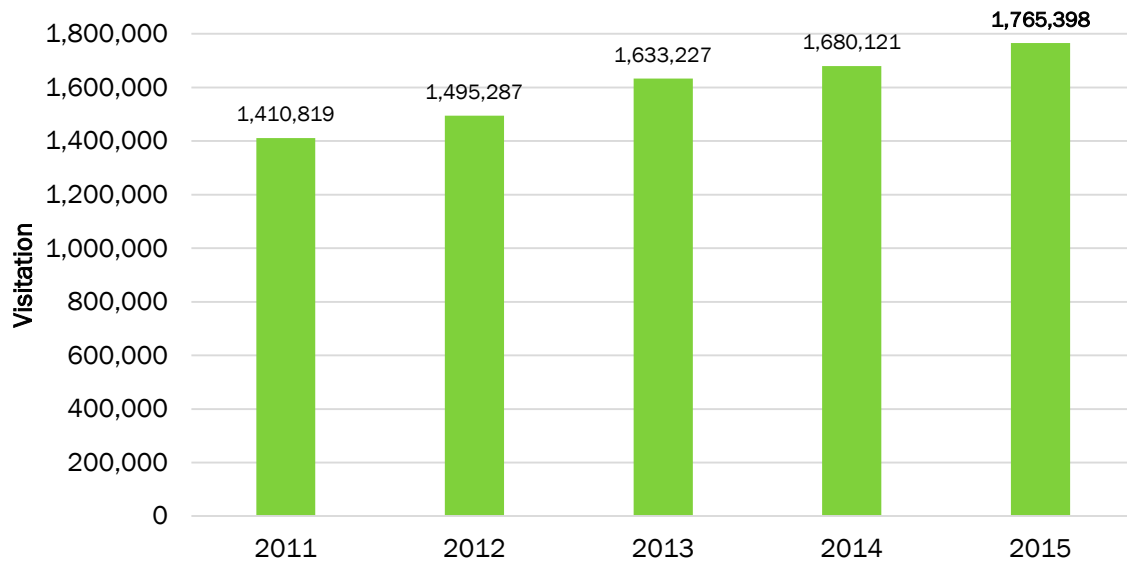
Annual Visitation by Region, 2015							
Region	Total Visits	Res %	Non-Res %	Day Use %	Overnight Visit %*	2014 Total Visits	% Change 2014-2015
Northwest	648,407	75%	25%	85%	15%	566,946	14%
West Central	249,044	77%	23%	64%	<b>36%</b>	297,088	-16%
Southwest	403,892	74%	<b>26%</b>	84%	16%	345,578	17%
North Central	<b>727,830</b>	84%	16%	<b>95%</b>	5%	<b>593,156</b>	<b>23%</b>
Eastern	451,674	<b>85%</b>	15%	88%	12%	470,270	-4%

\*Note: Overnight visits in this report are calculated based on a ratio developed through sampling, not based on revenues.

## Peak Season Visitation

Peak season for Montana State Parks is from May to September. The 2015 peak season saw a total of **1,765,400 visits**, up 4% from 2014. Peak season visitation is also up 25% over the five year period from 2011 to 2015, making it the highest visitation from May to September over the last five years. The season's busiest month was July, with over 494,000 visits statewide. Northwest Region (Kalispell) parks had the highest visitation during the summer months with over 487,000 visits, followed by North Central Region (Great Falls) parks with over 443,000 visits.

### Peak Season Visitation, 2011 to 2015



#### Peak Season Visitation by Region, 2015

Region	Total Visits	May	June	July	August	September
Northwest	487,148	70,791	103,576	141,656	111,512	59,431
West Central	196,108	28,713	50,168	46,568	44,133	26,524
Southwest	315,020	36,075	67,416	96,745	72,167	43,616
North Central	443,348	72,392	90,387	119,851	92,058	68,658
Eastern	323,773	55,335	81,308	76,860	64,082	41,260

The top five parks for **peak season** visitation in 2015 were:

1. Giant Springs State Park - 239,343 visits (up 33%)
2. Flathead Lake State Park - 225,413 visits (no change)
3. Cooney State Park - 138,836 visits (up 14%)
4. Spring Meadow Lake State Park - 123,841 visits (up 19%)
5. Lake Elmo State Park - 117,050 visits (up 7%)

## VISITATION BY STATE PARK

Note: In 2014, key visitation metrics were routinely updated through field sampling, and may impact the visitation numbers. For the majority of parks, these updates did not significantly impact trends.

### Northwest Region (Kalispell)

In 2015, Montana State Parks moved to managing the Flathead Lake sites as one park with individual units. Flathead Lake State Park had the highest visitation in the Northwest Region with over 281,000 visits. Wayfarers had the highest visitation of all the units at over 137,000 visits or 48% of all the visits to Flathead Lake. From 2014 to 2015, The Whitefish Lake/Les Mason complex had the largest increase in visitation at 66%, with Les Mason having the largest increase of any unit in Region 1 with more than double the visitation in 2015. The warm shoulder season drew record visitation to parks in March and April that continued through the peak season. Many parks opened in April instead of beginning of May. Counter issues over the year were a contributing factor to Lake Mary Ronan State Park's decrease in visitation.

State Park	2015 Visits	% Change over 2014
<b>Flathead Lake</b>	281,011	4%
<i>Wayfarers</i>	137,278	3%
<i>Big Arm</i>	40,512	15%
<i>West Shore</i>	36,400	6%
<i>Finley Point</i>	26,676	26%
<i>Yellow Bay</i>	23,222	-14%
<i>Wild Horse Island</i>	16,742	-15%
<i>North Shore</i>	181	11%
<b>TCL/Logan</b>	125,819	32%
<i>Thompson Chain of Lakes</i>	69,226	0%
<i>Logan</i>	29,688	15%
<b>Whitefish Lake/Les Mason</b>	119,195	66%
<i>Whitefish</i>	84,849	44%
<i>Les Mason</i>	34,346	167%
<b>Lone Pine</b>	87,572	-1%
<b>Lake Mary Ronan</b>	19,917	-30%
<b>Thompson Falls</b>	14,893	21%



### West Central Region (Missoula)

Salmon Lake State Park had the highest visitation in the West Central Region at 54,719 visits. Travelers' Rest State Park had the largest increase in visitation at 7% over 2014 levels. Region 2 saw the largest adjustments in visitation numbers due to updated metrics.

State Park	2015 Visits	% Change over 2014
Salmon Lake	54,719	-8%
Frenchtown Pond	49,733	-18%
Placid Lake	45,251	-18%
Travelers' Rest	31,900	7%
Council Grove	31,556	3%
Beavertail Hill	18,926	-15%
Painted Rocks	10,128	-21%
Fish Creek	4,353	-21%
Fort Owen	2,479	-18%

### Southwest Region (Bozeman)

Cooney State Park had the highest visitation in the Southwest Region at close to 185,000 visits. From 2014 to 2015, Lost Creek State Park had the largest increase in visitation at 40%, followed by Bannack and Prairie Dog Town State Parks at 35% each. In total counts, Cooney State Park had the largest increase at over 24,000 more visits in 2015 than 2014. Bannack and Lewis & Clark Caverns State Parks both had 10,000 more visits in 2015 than 2014.

State Park	2015 Visits	% Change over 2014
Cooney	184,780	15%
Lewis & Clark Caverns	77,071	14%
Bannack	45,825	35%
Missouri Headwaters	32,807	10%
Prairie Dog Town	16,850	35%
Lost Creek	15,301	40%
Madison Buffalo Jump	11,706	-15%
Anaconda Smoke Stack	10,875	11%
Clarks Lookout	8,101	26%

### North Central Region (Great Falls)

Giant Springs State Park had the highest visitation in the North Central Region and the highest visitation in the state at 419,800 visits, a 33% increase over 2014 and more than 100,000 more visits. Spring Meadow Lake State Park also saw large increases with 30,000 more visits in 2015.

State Park	2015 Visits	% Change over 2014
Giant Springs	419,799	33%
Spring Meadow Lake	171,995	21%
Black Sandy	53,651	1%
Ackley Lake	32,682	10%
Sluice Boxes	20,996	32%
First Peoples Buffalo Jump	16,038	-10%
Tower Rock	7,128	-38%
Smith River	4,289	-19%
Elkhorn	1,251	-28%

### Eastern Region (Billings)

Lake Elmo State Park had the highest in the Eastern Region at close to 173,000 visits, or close to 10,000 more visits in 2015 than 2014. From 2014 to 2015, Medicine Rocks State Park had the largest percentage increase at 76%, followed by Brush Lake State Park at 32%. Pictograph Cave State Park experienced a cave closure in 2015 due to unsafe conditions for visitors, and reopened in July. Counter issues at Chief Plenty Coups State Park resulted in lower counts for 2015. Adjustments have been corrected moving forward.

State Park	2015 Visits	% Change over 2014
Lake Elmo	172,195	5%
Makoshika	78,608	2%
Pictograph Cave	66,065	-1%
Tongue River Reservoir	52,138	-24%
Hell Creek	23,700	-23%
Chief Plenty Coups	18,455	-40%
Medicine Rocks	16,864	76%
Brush Lake	9,271	32%
Pirogue Island	6,523	27%
Yellowstone River	4,192	-43%
Rosebud Battlefield	3,663	0%

**For complete data on individual park visitation, see the Appendix.**

## APPENDIX. VISITATION TABLES

- Appendix A. Annual Visitation by Region
- Appendix B. Annual Visitation by Total Visits
- Appendix C. Annual Visitation by Percent Change
- Appendix D. Peak Season Visitation by Total Visits

## A. 2015 Annual Visitation Estimates by Region

January - December: 2,480,800 visits

Region	Park	Total Visits	Resident %	Non-Res %	Day Use %	Overnight Visit %	2014 Total Visits	2014-2015 % Change
1	Flathead Lake	281,011	68%	32%	87%	13%	270,969	4%
1	Big Arm	40,512	58%	42%	67%	33%	35,163	15%
1	Finley Point	26,676	77%	23%	76%	24%	21,178	26%
1	North Shore	181	99%	1%	100%	0%	163	11%
1	Wayfarers	137,278	68%	32%	87%	13%	133,473	3%
1	West Shore	36,400	54%	46%	84%	16%	34,317	6%
1	Wild Horse Island	16,742	63%	37%	100%	0%	19,726	-15%
1	Yellow Bay	23,222	60%	40%	97%	3%	26,949	-14%
1	Lake Mary Ronan	19,917	75%	25%	76%	24%	28,445	-30%
1	Lone Pine	87,572	81%	19%	100%	0%	88,495	-1%
1	TCL/Logan	125,819	86%	15%	71%	30%	95,143	32%
1	Thompson Chain of Lakes	96,131	88%	12%	80%	20%	69,226	39%
1	Logan	29,688	83%	17%	61%	39%	25,917	15%
1	Thompson Falls	14,893	67%	33%	73%	27%	12,262	21%
1	Whitefish Lake/Les Mason	119,195	87%	14%	93%	7%	71,632	66%
1	Whitefish Lake	84,849	78%	22%	86%	14%	58,746	44%
1	Les Mason	34,346	95%	5%	100%	0%	12,886	167%
2	Beavertail Hill	18,926	56%	44%	16%	84%	22,149	-15%
2	Council Grove	31,556	96%	4%	100%	0%	30,541	3%
2	Fish Creek	4,353	94%	6%	100%	0%	5,485	-21%
2	Fort Owen	2,479	66%	34%	100%	0%	3,022	-18%
2	Frenchtown Pond	49,733	93%	7%	100%	0%	60,749	-18%
2	Painted Rocks	10,128	68%	32%	66%	34%	12,797	-21%
2	Placid Lake	45,251	71%	29%	21%	79%	55,376	-18%
2	Salmon Lake	54,719	71%	29%	50%	50%	59,287	-8%
2	Travelers' Rest	31,900	64%	36%	100%	0%	29,684	7%
3	Anaconda Smoke Stack	10,875	51%	49%	100%	0%	9,759	11%
3	Bannack	45,825	63%	37%	77%	23%	34,030	35%
3	Clark's Lookout	8,101	80%	20%	100%	0%	6,420	26%
3	Cooney	184,780	90%	10%	85%	15%	160,070	15%
3	Lewis & Clark Caverns	77,071	53%	47%	80%	20%	67,740	14%
3	Lost Creek	15,301	58%	42%	68%	32%	10,917	40%
3	Madison Buffalo Jump	11,706	87%	13%	100%	0%	13,851	-15%
3	Missouri Headwaters	32,807	76%	24%	89%	11%	29,819	10%
3	Prairie Dog Town	16,850	34%	66%	100%	0%	12,493	35%
4	Ackley Lake	32,682	91%	9%	89%	11%	29,609	10%
4	Black Sandy	53,651	69%	31%	59%	41%	53,057	1%
4	Elkhorn	1,251	91%	9%	100%	0%	1,730	-28%
4	First Peoples Buffalo Jump	16,038	55%	45%	99%	1%	17,910	-10%
4	Giant Springs	419,799	88%	12%	100%	0%	316,483	33%
4	Sluice Boxes	20,996	96%	4%	98%	2%	15,866	32%
4	Smith River	4,289	74%	26%	0%	100%	5,292	-19%
4	Spring Meadow	171,995	81%	19%	100%	0%	141,727	21%
4	Tower Rock	7,128	55%	45%	100%	0%	11,483	-38%
5	Brush Lake	9,271	98%	2%	95%	5%	7,038	32%
5	Chief Plenty Coups	18,455	96%	4%	100%	0%	30,637	-40%
5	Hell Creek	23,700	70%	30%	10%	90%	30,962	-23%
5	Lake Elmo	172,195	97%	3%	100%	0%	163,265	5%
5	Makoshika	78,608	88%	12%	96%	4%	77,352	2%
5	Medicine Rocks	16,864	96%	4%	99%	1%	9,590	76%
5	Pictograph Cave	66,065	76%	24%	100%	0%	66,889	-1%
5	Pirogue Island	6,523	100%	0%	100%	0%	5,154	27%
5	Rosebud Battlefield	3,663	25%	75%	100%	0%	3,649	0%
5	Tongue River Reservoir	52,138	57%	43%	45%	55%	68,387	-24%
5	Yellowstone River	4,192	88%	12%	100%	0%	7,349	-43%

Visitation is not reported for Granite, Beaverhead Rock, or Marias River.

## B. 2015 Annual Visitation Estimates by Total Visits

January - December: 2,480,800 visits

Region	Park	Total Visits	Resident %	Non-Res %	Day Use %	Overnight Visit %	2014 Total Visits	2014-2015 % Change
4	Giant Springs	419,799	88%	12%	100%	0%	316,483	33%
1	Flathead Lake	281,011	80%	20%	89%	11%	270,969	4%
1	<i>Big Arm</i>	40,512	58%	42%	67%	33%	35,163	15%
1	<i>Finley Point</i>	26,676	77%	23%	76%	24%	21,178	26%
1	<i>North Shore</i>	181	99%	1%	100%	0%	163	11%
1	<i>Wayfarers</i>	137,278	68%	32%	87%	13%	133,473	3%
1	<i>West Shore</i>	36,400	54%	46%	84%	16%	34,317	6%
1	<i>Wild Horse Island</i>	16,742	63%	37%	100%	0%	19,726	-15%
1	<i>Yellow Bay</i>	23,222	60%	40%	97%	3%	26,949	-14%
3	Cooney	184,780	90%	10%	85%	15%	160,070	15%
5	Lake Elmo	172,195	97%	3%	100%	0%	163,265	5%
4	Spring Meadow Lake	171,995	81%	19%	100%	0%	141,727	21%
1	TCL/Logan	125,819	86%	15%	71%	30%	95,143	32%
1	<i>Thompson Chain of Lakes</i>	96,131	88%	12%	80%	20%	69,226	39%
1	<i>Logan</i>	29,688	83%	17%	61%	39%	25,917	15%
1	Whitefish Lake/Les Mason	119,195	87%	14%	93%	7%	71,632	66%
1	<i>Whitefish Lake</i>	84,849	78%	22%	86%	14%	58,746	44%
1	<i>Les Mason</i>	34,346	95%	5%	100%	0%	12,886	167%
1	Lone Pine	87,572	81%	19%	100%	0%	88,495	-1%
5	Makoshika	78,608	88%	12%	96%	4%	77,352	2%
3	Lewis & Clark Caverns	77,071	53%	47%	80%	20%	67,740	14%
5	Pictograph Cave	66,065	76%	24%	100%	0%	66,889	-1%
2	Salmon Lake	54,719	71%	29%	50%	50%	59,287	-8%
4	Black Sandy	53,651	69%	31%	59%	41%	53,057	1%
5	Tongue River Reservoir	52,138	57%	43%	45%	55%	68,387	-24%
2	Frenchtown Pond	49,733	93%	7%	100%	0%	60,749	-18%
3	Bannack	45,825	63%	37%	77%	23%	34,030	35%
2	Placid Lake	45,251	71%	29%	21%	79%	55,376	-18%
3	Missouri Headwaters	32,807	76%	24%	89%	11%	29,819	10%
4	Ackley Lake	32,682	91%	9%	89%	11%	29,609	10%
2	Travelers' Rest	31,900	64%	36%	100%	0%	29,684	7%
2	Council Grove	31,556	96%	4%	100%	0%	30,541	3%
5	Hell Creek	23,700	70%	30%	10%	90%	30,962	-23%
4	Sluice Boxes	20,996	96%	4%	98%	2%	15,866	32%
1	Lake Mary Ronan	19,917	75%	25%	76%	24%	28,445	-30%
2	Beavertail Hill	18,926	56%	44%	16%	84%	22,149	-15%
5	Chief Plenty Coups	18,455	96%	4%	100%	0%	30,637	-40%
5	Medicine Rocks	16,864	96%	4%	99%	1%	9,590	76%
3	Prairie Dog Town	16,850	34%	66%	100%	0%	12,493	35%
4	First Peoples Buffalo Jump	16,038	55%	45%	99%	1%	17,910	-10%
3	Lost Creek	15,301	58%	42%	68%	32%	10,917	40%
1	Thompson Falls	14,893	67%	33%	73%	27%	12,262	21%
3	Madison Buffalo Jump	11,706	87%	13%	100%	0%	13,851	-15%
3	Anaconda Smoke Stack	10,875	51%	49%	100%	0%	9,759	11%
2	Painted Rocks	10,128	68%	32%	66%	34%	12,797	-21%
5	Brush Lake	9,271	98%	2%	95%	5%	7,038	32%
3	Clark's Lookout	8,101	80%	20%	100%	0%	6,420	26%
4	Tower Rock	7,128	55%	45%	100%	0%	11,483	-38%
5	Pirogue Island	6,523	100%	0%	100%	0%	5,154	27%
2	Fish Creek	4,353	94%	6%	100%	0%	5,485	-21%
4	Smith River	4,289	74%	26%	0%	100%	5,292	-19%
5	Yellowstone River	4,192	88%	12%	100%	0%	7,349	-43%
5	Rosebud Battlefield	3,663	25%	75%	100%	0%	3,649	0%
2	Fort Owen	2,479	66%	34%	100%	0%	3,022	-18%
4	Elkhorn	1,251	91%	9%	100%	0%	1,730	-28%

Visitation is not reported for Granite, Beaverhead Rock, Marias River.

## C. 2015 Annual Visitation Estimates by Percent Change

January - December: 2,480,800 visits

Region	Park	Total Visits	Resident %	Non-Res %	Day Use %	Overnight Visit %	2014 Total Visits	2014-2015 % Change
5	Medicine Rocks	16,864	96%	4%	99%	1%	9,590	76%
1	Whitefish Lake/Les Mason	119,195	87%	14%	93%	7%	71,632	66%
1	Whitefish Lake	84,849	78%	22%	86%	14%	58,746	44%
1	Les Mason	34,346	95%	5%	100%	0%	12,886	167%
3	Lost Creek	15,301	58%	42%	68%	32%	10,917	40%
3	Prairie Dog Town	16,850	34%	66%	100%	0%	12,493	35%
3	Bannack	45,825	63%	37%	77%	23%	34,030	35%
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4	Sluice Boxes	20,996	96%	4%	98%	2%	15,866	32%
1	TCL/Logan	125,819	86%	15%	71%	30%	95,143	32%
1	Thompson Chain of Lakes	96,131	88%	12%	80%	20%	69,226	39%
1	Logan	29,688	83%	17%	61%	39%	25,917	15%
5	Brush Lake	9,271	98%	2%	95%	5%	7,038	32%
5	Pirogue Island	6,523	100%	0%	100%	0%	5,154	27%
3	Clark's Lookout	8,101	80%	20%	100%	0%	6,420	26%
1	Thompson Falls	14,893	67%	33%	73%	27%	12,262	21%
4	Spring Meadow	171,995	81%	19%	100%	0%	141,727	21%
3	Cooney	184,780	90%	10%	85%	15%	160,070	15%
3	Lewis & Clark Caverns	77,071	53%	47%	80%	20%	67,740	14%
3	Anaconda Smoke Stack	10,875	51%	49%	100%	0%	9,759	11%
4	Ackley Lake	32,682	91%	9%	89%	11%	29,609	10%
3	Missouri Headwaters	32,807	76%	24%	89%	11%	29,819	10%
2	Travelers' Rest	31,900	64%	36%	100%	0%	29,684	7%
5	Lake Elmo	172,195	97%	3%	100%	0%	163,265	5%
1	Flathead Lake	281,011	68%	32%	87%	13%	270,969	4%
1	Big Arm	40,512	58%	42%	67%	33%	35,163	15%
1	Finley Point	26,676	77%	23%	76%	24%	21,178	26%
1	North Shore	181	99%	1%	100%	0%	163	11%
1	Wayfarers	137,278	68%	32%	87%	13%	133,473	3%
1	West Shore	36,400	54%	46%	84%	16%	34,317	6%
1	Wild Horse Island	16,742	63%	37%	100%	0%	19,726	-15%
1	Yellow Bay	23,222	60%	40%	97%	3%	26,949	-14%
2	Council Grove	31,556	96%	4%	100%	0%	30,541	3%
5	Makoshika	78,608	88%	12%	96%	4%	77,352	2%
4	Black Sandy	53,651	69%	31%	59%	41%	53,057	1%
5	Rosebud Battlefield	3,663	25%	75%	100%	0%	3,649	0%
1	Lone Pine	87,572	81%	19%	100%	0%	88,495	-1%
5	Pictograph Cave	66,065	76%	24%	100%	0%	66,889	-1%
2	Salmon Lake	54,719	71%	29%	50%	50%	59,287	-8%
4	First Peoples Buffalo Jump	16,038	55%	45%	99%	1%	17,910	-10%
2	Beavertail Hill	18,926	56%	44%	16%	84%	22,149	-15%
3	Madison Buffalo Jump	11,706	87%	13%	100%	0%	13,851	-15%
2	Fort Owen	2,479	66%	34%	100%	0%	3,022	-18%
2	Frenchtown Pond	49,733	93%	7%	100%	0%	60,749	-18%
2	Placid Lake	45,251	71%	29%	21%	79%	55,376	-18%
4	Smith River	4,289	74%	26%	0%	100%	5,292	-19%
2	Fish Creek	4,353	94%	6%	100%	0%	5,485	-21%
2	Painted Rocks	10,128	68%	32%	66%	34%	12,797	-21%
5	Hell Creek	23,700	70%	30%	10%	90%	30,962	-23%
5	Tongue River Reservoir	52,138	57%	43%	45%	55%	68,387	-24%
4	Elkhorn	1,251	91%	9%	100%	0%	1,730	-28%
1	Lake Mary Ronan	19,917	75%	25%	76%	24%	28,445	-30%
4	Tower Rock	7,128	55%	45%	100%	0%	11,483	-38%
5	Chief Plenty Coups	18,455	96%	4%	100%	0%	30,637	-40%
5	Yellowstone River	4,192	88%	12%	100%	0%	7,349	-43%

Visitation is not reported for Granite, Beaverhead Rock, Marias River.

## D. 2014 Peak Season Visitation Estimates by Total Visits

May - September: 1,756,400 visits

State Park	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2015-2014 % Change	2011-2015 % Change
Giant Springs	239,344	179,894	174,452	156,685	182,215	33%	31%
Flathead Lake	225,413	226,526	212,432	200,196	190,581	0%	18%
<i>Big Arm</i>	31,933	30,229	28,769	30,189	31,873	6%	0%
<i>Finley Point</i>	24,786	19,976	18,736	18,722	18,799	24%	32%
<i>North Shore</i>	56	54	51	78	69	3%	-19%
<i>Wayfarers</i>	103,942	108,610	99,942	90,643	83,124	-4%	25%
<i>West Shore</i>	28,208	25,995	28,175	24,321	19,675	9%	43%
<i>Wild Horse Island</i>	18,501	19,108	18,838	16,519	18,428	-3%	0%
<i>Yellow Bay</i>	17,988	22,554	17,921	19,723	18,614	-20%	-3%
Cooney	138,836	122,102	125,107	98,836	109,469	14%	27%
Spring Meadow Lake	123,841	104,362	124,868	88,091	58,426	19%	112%
Lake Elmo	117,051	108,992	119,704	169,540	111,612	7%	5%
Whitefish/Les Mason	95,142	58,799	62,154	62,350	56,659	62%	68%
<i>Whitefish Lake</i>	64,431	46,874	50,166	51,747	47,840	37%	35%
<i>Les Mason</i>	30,711	11,925	11,988	10,603	8,819	158%	248%
TCL/Logan	93,760	73,765	70,592	-	-	27%	-
<i>Thompson Chain of Lakes</i>	71,528	53,567	55,124	-	-	34%	-
<i>Logan</i>	22,232	20,198	15,468	15,578	15,248	10%	46%
Lewis & Clark Caverns	69,330	61,046	64,228	59,861	54,842	14%	26%
Lone Pine	52,886	58,806	47,174	40,457	44,090	-10%	20%
Salmon Lake	52,021	57,230	53,220	44,607	33,698	-9%	54%
Makoshika	50,860	53,987	33,760	42,265	43,462	-6%	17%
Tongue River Reservoir	44,868	57,057	65,296	47,464	60,085	-21%	-25%
Pictograph Cave	44,486	43,367	39,700	28,633	44,700	3%	0%
Placid Lake	40,875	52,495	33,208	43,660	39,511	-22%	3%
Frenchtown Pond	36,040	45,173	25,878	25,669	25,527	-20%	41%
Bannack	35,665	27,498	13,475	27,362	25,657	30%	39%
Hell Creek	25,093	25,162	28,025	25,063	16,613	0%	51%
Missouri Headwaters	24,250	23,145	23,359	19,914	18,307	5%	32%
Ackley Lake	24,058	23,065	27,531	19,442	18,663	4%	29%
Travelers' Rest	20,034	19,181	17,214	15,854	14,314	4%	40%
Council Grove	18,564	17,905	19,546	18,635	16,374	4%	13%
Beavertail Hill	17,702	21,056	17,807	15,228	15,436	-16%	15%
Black Sandy	17,614	47,349	48,236	50,910	49,744	-63%	-65%
Sluice Boxes	15,550	13,015	13,470	12,134	10,537	19%	48%
Lost Creek	13,842	9,868	9,512	9,487	11,161	40%	24%
Chief Plenty Coups	13,077	23,576	18,654	27,932	23,523	-45%	-44%
Prairie Dog Town	12,592	8,296	15,114	8,061	9,580	52%	31%
First Peoples Buffalo Jump	11,923	13,606	11,209	10,782	13,063	-12%	-9%
Medicine Rocks	11,909	7,457	19,108	7,663	10,395	60%	15%
Thompson Falls	11,523	10,733	11,609	10,515	9,329	7%	24%
Brush Lake	8,843	6,843	5,255	8,478	3,443	29%	157%
Lake Mary Ronan	8,424	22,778	22,817	22,870	17,852	-63%	-53%
Anaconda Smoke Stack	8,404	7,545	7,119	7,220	7,640	11%	10%
Painted Rocks	8,183	11,183	11,538	11,862	10,803	-27%	-24%
Madison Buffalo Jump	6,516	8,405	7,375	2,158	1,999	-22%	226%
Tower Rock	6,441	7,881	5,902	7,057	7,032	-18%	-8%
Clarks Lookout	5,069	3,624	4,710	5,091	4,775	40%	6%
Smith River	3,739	4,924	4,061	4,128	3,525	-24%	6%
Pirogue Island	3,336	3,038	2,956	9,094	8,674	10%	-62%
Rosebud Battlefield	2,798	2,466	2,525	3,616	4,029	13%	-31%
Fish Creek	2,050	3,283	3,283	3,283	-	-38%	-