

Access to Outdoor Recreation Survey

Preliminary results as of Nov. 23, 2020

1. How important is it to you and any other persons living in your household to have access to outdoor recreation opportunities? (Please choose one)

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Not very important	6	<1%
Important	98	8.8%
Very important	1000	90.4%
No Responses	2	<1%
Total	1106	100%

2. When do you and others in your household most often participate in outdoor recreation activities? (Please choose one)

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
No one in my household participates in outdoor recreation activities	9	<1%
Mostly on weekends	375	33.9%
Mostly during the week	82	7.4%
About equally on weekends and during the week	640	57.8%
No Responses	0	0.0%
Total	1106	100%

3. Do you or anyone in your household face any of the following issues that limit or prevent you from visiting parks? (Please choose all that apply.)

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Health issues	89	12.0%
Physical mobility issues	125	16.9%
Lack of time	439	59.4%
Lack of parks nearby	194	26.2%
Transportation issues	37	5.0%
Lack of money to travel to or pay entry fees at parks	85	11.5%
Don't enjoy being outside	5	<1%
Other	89	12.0%
Total	738	100%

4. What would improve you or your household members' ability to visit and use parks? (Please choose all that apply.)

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)-accessible trails	123	17.2%

Parking	243	34.1%
Hours of operation	235	33.0%
Signs	151	21.2%
Other	225	31.6%
Total	711	100%

5. Have you ever avoided visiting a trail or park because it was too crowded?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Yes	822	74.3%
No	275	24.8%
No Responses	9	<1%
Total	1106	100%

6. What do you consider a close-to-home park?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Less than a 10 minute walk	169	15.4%
Within a 10-20 minute walk	229	20.9%
Less than a 10 minute bike ride	89	8.1%
Within a 10-20 minute bike ride	139	12.7%
Less than a 30 minute drive	704	64.4%
Total	1093	100%

7. Do you have access to any of the following? (Please choose all that apply.)

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Community park within a 5-15 minute walk	615	57.1%
Regional park within a 10-20 minute drive	800	74.2%
State park within a 45-60 minute drive	889	82.5%
Total	1077	100%

8. What are the main reasons you participate in outdoor recreation? (Please select your top 3 choices.)

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
I don't participate in outdoor recreation (Please feel free to skip to 9)	7	<1%
Physical activity/exercise	873	79.0%
Social aspects (being with family, friends, like-minded people, meeting new	412	37.3%
Taking a break from the routine/reducing stress/improving mental health	807	73.0%
Experiencing excitement or adventure	332	30.0%

Experiencing nature	943	85.4%
Personal development (develop skills and abilities, sense of	209	18.9%
Experiencing solitude	443	40.1%
Doing competitive events	80	7.2%
Other	56	5.0%
Total	1104	100%

9. How do you usually find out about outdoor recreation opportunities? (Please choose all that apply.)

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Internet	880	80.4%
Bulletin boards at parks	153	13.9%
Printed travel guides, pamphlets, and brochures	244	22.3%
Magazine and newspaper articles	269	24.5%
Television ads	54	4.9%
Newspaper/magazine/print ads	132	12.0%
Radio ads	65	5.9%
Other advertisements	40	3.6%
Social media	756	69.1%
Word of mouth	725	66.2%
Other	43	3.9%
Total	1094	100%

10. Please indicate which of the following outdoor recreation facilities, you feel are MOST NEEDED in Virginia. (Please select your top 3 choices.) Access to...

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Historic areas	269	24.5%
Natural areas	784	71.6%
Parks	503	45.9%
Playing fields, sports and golf facilities	98	8.9%
Scenic drives (driving for pleasure)	170	15.5%
Trails	803	73.4%
Water access	504	46.0%
Playgrounds	127	11.6%
Other	103	9.4%
Total	1094	100%

11. Has the COVID-19 pandemic affected how you recreate outside?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
I recreate outside more often	488	44.1%
I recreate outside less often	194	17.5%
My recreation has not been impacted	420	37.9%
No Responses	4	<1%
Total	1106	100%

12. Has COVID-19 made you want more local places to experience outdoor recreation?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Yes	923	83.4%
No	167	15.0%
No Responses	16	1.4%
Total	1106	100%