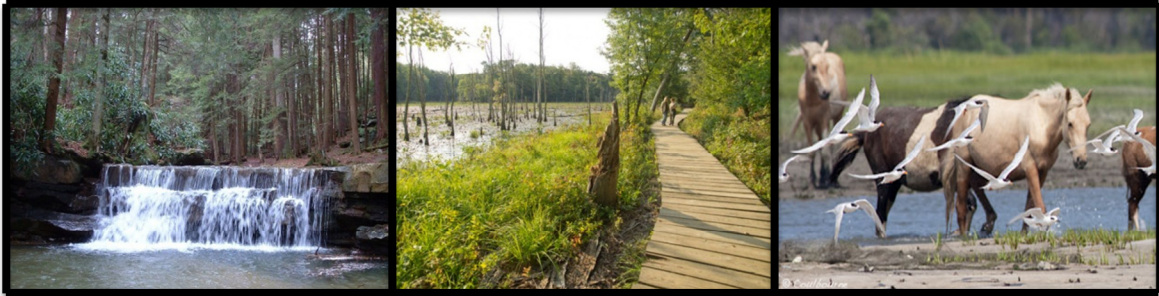


**Resident Perceptions of Maryland State Parks:
An Analysis of Use, Activities, Goals, and Barriers to Visitation**



Submitted to the Maryland Park Service



December 2013

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About the Goucher Poll

The Goucher Poll is conducted under the auspices of the Sarah T. Hughes Field Politics Center, which is housed in the Department of Political Science and International Relations at Goucher College. Directed by Mileah Kromer, the Goucher Poll conducts surveys on public policy, economic, and social issues in Maryland.

Goucher College supports the Goucher Poll as part of its mission to instill in its students a sense of community where discourse is valued and practiced. The Goucher Poll is fully funded by the Sarah T. Hughes Field Politics Center endowment and does not take additional funding from outside sources.

The Goucher Poll seeks to improve public discourse in the state by providing neutral and nonbiased information on citizen perceptions and opinions. The data collected by the Goucher Poll are used to support faculty and student research.

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About this Project

In July 2013, the director of the Sarah T. Hughes Field Politics Center reached out to the Maryland Park Service to inquire whether there was interest in a collaborative research project on resident perceptions of Maryland state parks. In exchange for the inclusion of a series of questions on the October Goucher Poll, the Maryland Park Service would give students firsthand experience working with a governmental agency and the opportunity to present their work to members of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. Under the guidance of the director of the Sarah T. Hughes Field Politics Center, Goucher undergraduate students helped design the survey instrument, analyzed data, and co-authored this report. The resulting survey report provides the Maryland Park Service with information regarding perceptions of the use, activities, goals, and barriers to park visitation among Maryland adult residents.

Goucher College values experiential educational processes, and, thus, we are thankful for this opportunity to learn and to provide valuable information to the Maryland Department of Natural Resources.

Executive Summary

Park Visitation and Interest

- Nearly 70 percent of Marylanders indicated they have visited a Maryland state park at least once during this past year; 16 percent said they visited more than 10 times.
- Eighty-two percent of residents who visited a Maryland state park during the past year gave their experience high marks.
- Previous park visitation is positively associated with interest in future visitation.
- Higher levels of educational attainment and income are associated with increased interest in visiting a Maryland state park during the next year.
- Marylanders with children living at home were more likely to indicate they were interested in visiting a Maryland state park over the next year than those without.

Park Activities

- Maryland residents indicated they are most likely to participate in visiting historic sites, followed by hiking and fishing. Marylanders expressed the least amount of interest in hunting.
- Residents with children younger than age 16 living in their households expressed higher levels of potential participation across all activities.
- Park activities that required greater skill and/or equipment were of less interest for Marylanders. For example, residents were not as interested in hunting and mountain biking—both activities that require skill and/or equipment—but were interested in hiking and visiting historic sites—activities that require little or no skill and/or equipment.

Goals

- Residents want the Maryland Park Service to focus on preserving historic sites, improving natural areas for wildlife, and conserving more land to protect natural resources. Respondents expressed the least support for providing more guided nature programming.
- Marylanders who are most interested in visiting a Maryland state park over the next year view preserving historic sites and improving natural areas for wildlife as the most important goals of the Maryland Park Service.

Barriers to Visitation

- Lack of free time was the most frequently cited barrier to visitation across all Marylanders.
- Close to half of those younger than age 35 indicated they didn't have any free time to visit a Maryland state park; these residents were also the least aware of the location of a Maryland state park.
- Perceived barriers to visiting Maryland state parks sharply decreased for those Marylanders who have visited at least once.

Survey Methodology

This report contains results from a statewide survey of Maryland residents. The survey was conducted Sunday, October 27, to Thursday, October 31. During this time, interviews were conducted 1-9 p.m. on Sunday and 5-9 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

To ensure all Maryland citizens are represented, the Goucher Poll is conducted using random digit dialing (RDD) of a stratified random sample using landline and cellular telephone numbers. The sample of telephone numbers for the survey is obtained from [Survey Sampling International, LLC](#).

Interviewers attempted to reach respondents with working phone numbers a maximum of five times. Only Maryland adults—residents ages 18 years or older—were eligible to participate. Interviews were not conducted with adults who were reached at business or work numbers. For each landline number reached, one adult from that household was selected on the basis of being the oldest or youngest adult in that residence. Thirty-eight percent of the interviews were conducted on a cell phone, and 62 percent were conducted on a landline.

Interviews for this survey were completed with 665 Maryland citizens. For a sample size of 665, there is a 95 percent probability the survey results have a plus or minus 3.8 percent margin of error from the actual population distribution for any given survey question. Margin of errors are higher for subsamples. Table 1 below includes the sample demographics. The full survey instrument can be found in Appendix A.

Table 1: Survey Sample Demographics

Gender	Percent	Race	Percent
Male	47.7	White	60.2
Female	52.3	Black	31.4
Total	100.0	Other	8.4
Age	Percent	Total	100.0
Younger than 35	30.3	Region	Percent
35 to 54	38.2	Capitol	36.8
55+	31.5	Central	47.2
Total	100.0	Eastern Shore	7.2
Education	Percent	Southern	5.0
High School or Less	18.5	Western	3.8
Some College or A.S. Degree	26.7	Total	100.0
B.A./B.S. Degree or Some Grad School	34.3	Child at Home	Percent
Graduate Degree	20.5	Yes	33.0
Total	100.0	No	66.7
Income	Percent	Refused	0.3
Less than 50,000	21.6	Total	100.0
50,000 to 100,000	25.8	N=665, MOE=+/-3.8% Sample is weighted by age, race, gender, and region.	
More than 100,000	29.8		
Don't Know/Refused	22.8		
Total	100.0		

Section 1: Previous Park Visitation and Interest in Future Visitation

Respondents were asked the following open-ended question concerning their visitation to a Maryland state park over the past year:

To begin, over the past year, about how many times have you visited a Maryland state park?

Table 2 contains a frequency distribution of the results.

A quarter of Maryland residents indicated they have visited a Maryland state park once or twice during the past year, and 28 percent indicated they visited a Maryland state park between 3 and 9 times. Sixteen percent of Maryland residents indicate they have visited a Maryland state park 10 or more times during the last year. Finally, 32 percent of residents indicate they have not visited a Maryland state park during the past year.

Table 2: Visitation to Maryland State Parks

	Percent
Never	31.7
1 to 2	24.5
3 to 4	19.4
5 to 9	8.2
10 or More	16.1
Total=665, +/-3.8	100.0

In summation, the results suggest Maryland state parks are visited—in varying levels of frequency—by nearly 70 percent of the population.

Residents who indicated they had visited a Maryland state park during the last year were asked to rate their experience.

Because you said you have visited a Maryland state park this past year, on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means “poor” and 5 means “excellent,” how would you rate your overall experience?

Table 3 contains a frequency distribution of the results.

A large majority (82 percent) rated their experience at Maryland state parks at a 4 or 5. Sixteen percent rated their experience at a 3. Less than 1 percent gave Maryland state parks a 1 or 2.

Table 3: Experience at Maryland State Parks Among Park Visitors

	Percent
1 “Poor”	0.2
2	0.4
3	16.4
4	38.9
5 “Excellent”	42.8
Don’t Know (v)	1.1
Total=469	100.0

In general, nearly all residents who visited a Maryland state park over the past year gave their experience high marks.

Park Visitation by Income and Education

Nearly half of residents who have earned a high school degree or less indicated they have not visited a Maryland state park during the past year, compared with 20 percent of those who have earned a graduate degree. The results suggest park visitation is positively associated with education; as educational attainment increases, so does the frequency of park visitation.

The relationship between income and park visitation is less clear. While residents who earn less than \$50,000 per year have the highest rates of non-visitation (37 percent), it is income earners in the \$50,000- to \$100,000-per-year range who have the highest percentage of 10 or more annual park visits. Refer to Tables 4 and 5 for visitation results by education and income, respectively.

Table 4: Maryland State Park Visits by Education Level

	H.S. or Less	Some College/ A.S.	B.A./B.S. or Some Grad	Graduate Degree
Have Not Visited	48.3	34.7	28.2	20.0
1 to 2 Times	22.9	21.6	26.0	26.7
3 to 4 Times	13.6	21.0	18.9	23.0
5 to 9 Times	5.1	8.0	10.6	7.4
10 or more Times	10.2	14.8	16.3	23.0

Table 5: Maryland State Park Visits by Income Level

	Less Than \$50,000	\$50,000 to \$100,000	More Than \$100,000
Have Not Visited	36.6	23.4	21.5
1 to 2 Times	26.1	24.6	27.7
3 to 4 Times	18.3	21.1	25.1
5 to 9 Times	7.0	7.0	6.2
10 or More Times	12.0	24.0	19.5

Park Visitation by Age and Household With Children

Tables 6 and 7 contain the frequency distribution of park visitation by residents' ages and whether they reside in a household with children younger than age 16, respectively.

In general, middle-aged residents—those ages 35 to 54—have the highest rates of park visitation. Only 23 percent of middle-aged residents indicated they had not visited a Maryland state park during the past year, versus 35 percent of younger Marylanders and 40 percent of older residents. Visiting a Maryland state park 1 to 2 times was the most popular choice across all age categories.

Twenty-one percent of residents ages 35 to 54 indicated they have visited a Maryland state park 10 or more times during the past year, followed by 17 percent of residents younger than age 35 and 11 percent of residents 55 or older.

Marylanders who live in households with children younger than age 16 years had higher rates of park visitation. Twenty-four percent of residents with children in their households visited Maryland state parks 10 or more times during the past year, nearly twice as much as residents who live in households without children.

Table 6: Maryland State Park Visits by Age

	Younger Than 35	35 to 54	55+
Have Not Visited	34.5	23.0	39.5
1 to 2 Times	21.0	25.0	27.1
3 to 4 Times	21.0	20.2	17.1
5 to 9 Times	7.0	11.3	5.7
10 or More Times	16.5	20.6	10.5

Table 7: Maryland State Park Visits by Children in Home

	Yes	No
Have Not Visited	21.2	36.4
1 to 2 Times	22.1	26.0
3 to 4 Times	21.2	18.7
5 to 9 Times	12.0	6.4
10 or more Times	23.5	12.5

Interest in Future Visitation

Marylanders were asked how interested they were in visiting a Maryland state park over the next year.

Thinking ahead, how interested—very interested, somewhat interested, or not at all interested—are you in visiting a Maryland state park during the next year?

Table 8 includes a frequency distribution of resident interest in visiting a Maryland state park during the next year.

More than half of Maryland residents indicated they are “very interested” in visiting a Maryland state park during the next year; 35 percent indicated they were “somewhat interested” in visiting a park. Only 13 percent of residents said they are “not at all interested.”

Table 8: Interest in Visiting a Maryland State Parks

	Percent
Not at All Interested	13.0
Somewhat Interested	35.4
Very Interested	51.1
Don't Know/Refused	0.5
Total=665, +/-3.8	100.0

Table 9 includes interest in park visitation by previous visitation. Results indicate previous park visitation is associated with interest in future visitation. Sixty-eight percent of residents who did not visit a Maryland state park during the last year indicated they were “somewhat interested” or “very interested” in visiting a Maryland state park during the upcoming year.

Table 9: Interest in Visiting Maryland State Parks by Previous Visitation*

	Never	1 to 2	3 to 4	5 to 9	10+
Not at All Interested	30.6	8.7	3.1	0.0	2.8
Somewhat Interested	44.5	47.2	38.3	14.5	8.5
Very Interested	23.4	44.1	58.6	85.5	88.7

*Table does not include “Don't Know/Refused” responses.

Interest by Education and Income

Tables 10 and 11 include interest in park visitation by educational attainment and income level, respectively. Tables do not include “Don't Know/Refused” responses.

Educational attainment is associated with interest in visiting a Maryland state park during the upcoming year. Residents with graduate degrees are the most interested in visiting a Maryland state park over the next year; residents with a high school diploma or less are the least interested.

Marylanders who earn between \$50,000 and \$100,000 expressed the highest level of interest in future park visitation.

Sixty percent of Marylanders who earn between \$50,000 and \$100,000 a year indicate they are “very interested” in visiting a Maryland state park over the next year. And, while those who make less than \$50,000 a year are the least interested, comparatively, nearly 85 percent still indicated they were “somewhat interested” or “very interested” in visiting a Maryland state park during the next year.

Table 10: Interest in Visiting Maryland State Parks by Education Level*

	H.S. or Less	Some College/ A.S.	B.A./B.S. or Some Grad	Graduate Degree
Not at All Interested	24.4	11.9	11.0	8.0
Somewhat Interested	32.5	36.9	40.4	27.7
Very Interested	42.3	51.1	47.8	64.2

*Table does not include “Don’t Know/Refused” responses.

Table 11: Interest in Visiting Maryland State Parks by Income Level*

	Less Than \$50,000	\$50,000 to \$100,000	More Than \$100,000
Not at All Interested	14.6	10.5	11.6
Somewhat Interested	39.6	29.2	32.7
Very Interested	45.1	60.2	55.3

*Table does not include “Don’t Know/Refused” responses.

Interest by Age and Children in Household

Refer to Tables 12 and 13 for interest in visiting a Maryland state park by age and children in household, respectively.

Table 12: Interest in Visiting Maryland State Parks by Age*

	Younger Than 35	35 to 54	55+
Not at All Interested	10.9	11.0	17.7
Somewhat Interested	40.1	29.1	38.8
Very Interested	49.0	59.4	42.6

*Table does not include “Don’t Know/Refused” responses.

Nearly 30 percent of middle-aged Marylanders—those ages 35 to 54—indicated they were “very interested” in visiting a Maryland state park during the next year; 49 percent of younger Marylanders and 43 percent of older Marylanders were “very interested.” Twenty-two percent of those ages 54 or younger said they were “not at all interested” in visiting a park, while 18 percent of those ages 55 or older indicated they were “not at all interested.”

Table 13: Interest in Visiting Maryland State Parks by Children in Home*

	Yes	No
Not at All Interested	10.0	14.7
Somewhat Interested	29.2	38.1
Very Interested	60.7	46.5

*Table does not include “Don’t Know/Refused” responses.

Marylanders with children living at home were more likely to indicate they were interested in visiting a Maryland state park over the next year than those without. Sixty-one percent of Marylanders with children younger than age 16 living in their residents said they were “very interested” in visiting a park, whereas 47 percent of residents without children in their household said they were “very interested.”

Section 2: Maryland State Park Activities

Respondents were asked about their likelihood of participation in activities available at various Maryland state parks:

Next, I'm going to read you a list of activities that are offered at various state parks across Maryland. On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means "extremely unlikely" and 5 means "extremely likely," how likely are you to participate in each activity if you were to visit a Maryland state park?

Table 14 contains the frequency distribution of the results.

Table 14: Participation in Maryland State Park Activities*

	1	2	3	4	5
Hiking	19.9	6.7	16.4	20.6	35.8
Mountain Biking	42.9	14.1	17.0	10.7	15.0
Fishing	29.4	12.1	16.6	14.5	27.1
Camping	33.5	11.8	17.8	13.3	22.7
Canoeing or Kayaking	32.5	11.8	17.7	15.7	22.0
Hunting	72.5	9.2	6.1	3.5	8.5
Visiting Historic Sites	6.9	7.0	16.7	22.0	47.1
Guided Nature Programming	27.7	12.6	20.9	17.9	19.7

*Table does not include "Don't Know/Refused" responses.

Maryland residents expressed a great deal of interest in visiting historic sites; 69 percent of respondents rated the activity at a 4 or 5 on the scale. Hiking and fishing also received high marks, with 56 percent and 42 percent of respondents, respectively, indicating they were likely to participate in these activities.

Canoeing or kayaking and camping received similar levels of interest among Marylanders. Thirty-eight percent of respondents indicated they were likely to participate in canoeing or kayaking, and 36 percent indicated they were likely to participate in camping.

Thirty-eight percent of respondents said they were likely to participate in guided nature programming. Finally, only 12 percent of Marylanders indicated they would be likely to participate in hunting if they were to visit a Maryland state park.

Participation in Activities by Age and Children in Household

Results indicated the likelihood of participation in some activities varies by resident age and whether the resident lives in a household with children younger than age 16.

For ease of analysis, the tables below display “likely participation” (i.e., a 4 or 5 on the scale); “Don’t Know/Refused” responses were minimal and are not displayed. For complete tables, see Appendix B.

Visiting historic sites received the highest levels of likely participation for respondents ages 35 or older (73 percent). Hiking (67 percent) was the top activity in which residents younger than age 35 wanted to participate.

Table 15 includes the results for likelihood of participation in activities by age.

Table 15: Likely Participation by Age

	Younger Than 35	35 to 54	55+
Hiking	66.8	59.4	43.1
Mountain Biking	38.3	28.0	10.5
Fishing	47.3	43.7	33.8
Camping	38.8	41.7	26.8
Canoeing or Kayaking	49.8	38.6	24.9
Hunting	13.4	10.7	12
Visiting Historic Sites	62.9	70.5	73.2
Guided Nature Programming	30.8	45.5	34.9

The key difference in likelihood of participation by age is that those younger than age 35 indicated an interest in canoeing or kayaking. Nearly half of Maryland residents younger than age 35 indicated they would be interested in participating in canoeing or kayaking, compared with 25 percent of those age 65 or older. Thirty-nine percent of residents ages 35 to 54 indicated they would be likely to canoe or kayak if they were to visit a Maryland state park. Table 16 below includes the top three activities in likelihood of participation by age.

Table 16: Top Three Activities by Age*

Rank	Younger Than 35	35+
1	Hiking	Visiting Historic Sites
2	Visiting Historic Sites	Hiking
3	Canoeing or Kayaking	Guided Nature Programming

*The top three activities were identical for those aged 35 to 55 and 55+.

Next, there were some differences in the likely participation in activities between those living in households with children under the age of 16 and those who do not live with children. Table 17 includes the results for likely participation in activities by whether a child lives in the household.

Table 17: Likely Participation by Child in Household

	Yes	No
Hiking	63.2	53.3
Mountain Biking	28.3	23.9
Fishing	48.0	38.1
Camping	45.7	31.4
Canoeing or Kayaking	45.5	34.1
Visiting Historic Sites	67.7	70.1
Hunting	13.2	10.8
Guided Nature Programming	45.9	33.2

A gap in likely participation was found in camping, guided nature programming, and canoeing or kayaking between those with and without children in their households. Forty-six percent of residents with children in their households indicated they would likely participate in camping, versus 31 percent of those without children in their household. Guided nature programming and canoeing or kayaking had nearly identical child-household gaps; 46 percent of residents with children in their household indicated they were likely to participate in these activities, compared with one-third of those without children in their households.

Activities by Park Visitation and Interest

Tables 18 and 19 include the likely participation by park visitation and interest in future visitation, respectively. Again, for ease of analysis, the tables below display “likely participation” (i.e., a 4 or 5 on the scale); “Don’t Know/Refused” responses were minimal and are not displayed. For complete tables, see Appendix B.

Regardless of whether Marylanders had visited a Maryland state park during the past year, visiting historic sites and hiking had the highest levels of likely participation. In general, as visits to Maryland state parks increased, so did likely participation in each of the listed activities.

Table 18: Likely Participation by Park Visitation

	Never	1 to 2	3 to 4	5 to 9	10+
Hiking	40.9	52.2	60.2	74.1	79.4
Mountain Biking	22.4	18.0	32.8	25.9	33.6
Fishing	29.7	45.7	48.4	45.5	49.5
Camping	29.8	29.6	42.6	43.6	43.9
Canoeing or Kayaking	26.0	31.5	42.5	52.7	55.1
Hunting	9.1	12.4	12.5	14.5	15.9
Visiting Historic Sites	60.1	75.2	69.8	66.7	78.3
Guided Nature Programming	29.3	38.3	35.2	51.9	50.0

Table 19 below includes likely participation in park activities by interest in visiting a Maryland state park during the upcoming year.

Visiting historic sites (79 percent), hiking (71 percent), and canoeing or kayaking (51 percent) were the activities in which residents who are very interested in visiting a state park indicated they were most likely to participate. Hunting (16 percent) and mountain biking (29 percent) were activities in which those residents with the highest level of visitation interest were least interested in participating.

Combining responses from those “somewhat interested” and “very interested” in visiting state parks yielded similar results; visiting historic sites and hiking are the activities with the highest levels of likely participation, while hunting and mountain biking had the lowest levels of likely participation.

Table 19: Likely Participation by Interest

	Not at All Interested	Somewhat Interested	Very Interested
Hiking	25.6	46.6	70.6
Mountain Biking	12.6	25.1	29.2
Fishing	17.4	39.8	48.7
Camping	19.8	28.8	45.1
Canoeing or Kayaking	16.3	26.4	51.0
Hunting	8.1	7.2	15.9
Visiting Historic Sites	43.7	63.8	79.1
Guided Nature Programming	14.0	32.3	47.6

Conclusion

Overall, visiting historic sites and hiking were the activities that garnered the highest interest among Maryland residents. The majority of Marylanders, regardless of age, children in the household, and number of times they have visited a Maryland state park, responded that visiting historic sites and hiking are the most appealing activities. In contrast, there was very little interest in hunting by Maryland residents at Maryland state parks. Finally, households with children showed an overall greater interest and likelihood in participating in activities and programs offered by Maryland state parks.

Section 3: Maryland State Park Goals

Residents were asked to rate how important it was for the Maryland state parks to achieve a variety of goals.

Next, on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means “not at all important” and 5 means “extremely important,” please tell me how important it is to you that state parks achieve each of the following goals. . .

Table 20 includes a frequency distribution of resident opinion on the importance of goal achievement.

Table 20: Goals of Maryland Park Service*

	1	2	3	4	5
Conserve More Land to Protect Natural Resources	3.8	1.6	11.6	17.2	65.1
Improve Outdoor Recreation Opportunities	3.6	2.8	14.9	30.0	47.5
Provide More Guided Nature Programming	10.5	12.9	29.0	19.1	26.8
Preserve Historic Sites	2.5	1.0	8.6	20.7	66.7
Improve Natural Areas for Wildlife	3.3	2.7	8.6	18.3	66.4

*Table does not include “Don’t Know/Refused” responses.

Maryland residents deemed preserving historic sites (67 percent), improving natural areas for wildlife (66 percent), and conserving more land to protect natural resources (65 percent) as extremely important goals for the Maryland Park Service to achieve. Forty-eight percent indicated improving outdoor recreation opportunities was extremely important; only 27 percent thought providing more guided nature programs was extremely important.

Goal Importance by Age and Children in Household

Tables 21 and 22 below include resident perceptions of goal importance by age and whether the resident had children younger than age 16 living in their household, respectively.

For ease of analysis, Tables 21 and 22 below display goal importance (i.e., a 4 or 5 on the scale); “Don’t Know/Refused” responses were minimal and are not displayed. For complete tables, see Appendix B.

Resident age does not account for any significant change in levels of support for the top three goals—preserving historic sites, conserving land, and improving natural areas; more than 80 percent of Marylanders, regardless of age, consider these goals to be important.

As Marylanders age, they become more likely to rate guided nature programming as an important goal. However, even at its peak support (52 percent), providing more guided nature programming is still the least important goal among Marylanders.

Table 21: Goal Importance by Age

	Younger Than 35	35 to 54	55+
Conserve More Land to Protect Natural Resources	85.6	80.7	81.0
Improve Outdoor Recreation Opportunities	79.2	75.3	78.0
Provide More Guided Nature Programming	44.1	41.7	52.2
Preserve Historic Sites	85.6	89.4	87.1
Improve Natural Areas for Wildlife	87.1	84.3	82.8

Residents in households with children younger than age 16 do not have different views concerning goal achievement than those living in households without children.

Table 22: Goal Importance by Children in Household

	Yes	No
Conserve More Land to Protect Natural Resources	85.5	80.9
Improve Outdoor Recreation Opportunities	79.5	76.5
Provide More Guided Nature Programming	48.4	44.5
Preserve Historic Sites	87.7	87.6
Improve Natural Areas for Wildlife	89.1	82.6

Goal Importance by Park Visitation and Interest

Tables 23 and 24 include Marylanders’ perceptions of goal importance by frequency of park visitation over the past year and interest in visiting a Maryland state park during the upcoming year, respectively.

Again, for ease of analysis, Tables 23 and 24 below display goal importance (i.e., a 4 or 5 on the scale); “Don’t Know/Refused” responses were minimal and are not displayed. For complete tables, see Appendix B.

Guided nature programming was the least important goal to Marylanders who had visited a state park. Respondents who considered it most important were those who had never visited a park. Overall, the more respondents visited state parks, the less they indicated providing more guided nature programming was an important goal.

Table 23: Goal Importance by Park Visitation

	Have Not Visited	1 to 2 Times	3 to 4 Times	5 to 9 Times	10 or More Times
Conserve More Land to Protect Natural Resources	82.8	82.0	78.1	90.7	82.1
Improve Outdoor Recreation Opportunities	72.7	72.2	80.5	85.2	86.0
Provide More Guided Nature Programming	51.2	41.6	40.3	49.1	45.3
Preserve Historic Sites	84.1	91.9	88.3	83.6	86.9
Improve Natural Areas for Wildlife	81.3	81.4	89.1	88.9	86.9

Marylanders who had visited a park once or twice were the most likely to indicate preserving historic sites is important to them. The number of times a Maryland resident has visited a park is not associated with increased perception of goal importance, except in the case of improving outdoor recreation opportunities.

Table 24: Goal Importance by Interest in Future Visitation

	Not at All Interested	Somewhat Interested	Very Interested
Conserve More Land to Protect Natural Resources	70.1	80.1	86.7
Improve Outdoor Recreation Opportunities	57.5	74.0	85.3
Provide More Guided Nature Programming	31.4	47.4	48.4
Preserve Historic Sites	73.3	89.8	89.1
Improve Natural Areas for Wildlife	69.0	84.3	88.5

Overall, the more interested respondents are in visiting a state park, the more they think a goal is important. Preserving historic sites is the top priority for Marylanders with an interest in visiting state parks. Additionally, respondents interested in visiting a state park indicate that improving natural areas for wildlife is their second most important goal.

Conclusions

Marylanders indicated the Maryland Park Service should focus its attention on preserving historic sites and improving areas for natural wildlife. Conversely, guided nature programming received the least amount of positive response.

Results demonstrate little fluctuation in goal importance across different key demographics. Marylanders are consistent in their opinions toward park goals across age categories and whether they reside with children younger than age 16. Further, previous park visitation does not modify perceptions of park goals. However, results do indicate that interest in visitation does result in Maryland residents placing increased importance on each of the park goals.

Section 4: Barriers to Maryland State Park Visitation

Maryland citizens were asked about their perceptions concerning barriers to visiting Maryland state parks. Table 25 contains the frequency distribution of the results.

Finally, please tell me whether you [disagree or agree] with each of the following statements about Maryland state parks. . .

Table 25: Barriers to Park Visitation

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Don't Know
Maryland State Parks Are Too Expensive to Visit	26.7	51.6	7.2	2.6	11.8
Maryland State Parks Are Too Far From My Home	27.8	50.5	11.7	3.1	6.8
I'm Not Aware of the Location of Any State Parks	43.2	38.7	10.1	6.3	1.5
Maryland State Parks Are Too Crowded	22.1	52.6	9.2	1.1	14.9
I Just Don't Have the Free Time to Visit a Maryland State Park	19.3	43.3	23.5	11.7	2.0

Maryland residents did not view expense, distance, awareness, or crowds as major barriers to visiting a park. About 10 percent of Marylanders indicated state parks are too expensive or too crowded. About 15 percent of Marylanders indicated state parks are too far from their home, or they are not aware of the location of nearby state parks. Having free time was the biggest barrier to park visitation, with 35 percent of Maryland residents indicating they did not have the free time to visit them.

Barriers to Visitation by Age and Children in Household

Tables 26 and 27 below include barriers to visitation by age and whether the resident lives in a household with children younger than age 16, respectively.

For ease of analysis, Tables 26 and 27 below display whether the resident either “agreed” or “strongly agreed” with the statement, i.e., the resident indicated the item was a barrier to park visitation. “Don’t Know/Refused” responses are not displayed. For complete tables, see Appendix B.

Across all age categories, a lack of free time was the most common barrier to visitation; however, it was more of a factor for those younger than age 35 than it was for those ages 35 and older. Forty-five percent of respondents younger than age 35 indicated they do not have the free

time to visit a Maryland state park, while 31 percent of respondents ages 35 or older expressed a similar sentiment.

Young respondents also noted a lack of awareness of the location of Maryland state parks as a barrier to entry; 22 percent of respondents younger than age 35 were not aware of the location of any Maryland state park, while this was only true of 16 percent of respondents ages 55 or older.

Distance to and awareness of Maryland state parks were the two barriers most influenced by whether the respondent resided in a household with children. Seventeen percent of residents who do not reside with children noted Maryland state parks were too far from their homes, while only 10 percent of respondents who live children shared that sentiment. Eighteen percent of residents who do not have children in their household indicated they were not aware of any Maryland state parks, compared with 13 percent for those with children.

Table 26: Barriers to Visitation by Age

	Younger Than 35	35 to 54	55+
Maryland State Parks Are Too Expensive to Visit	18.3	11.4	15.7
Maryland State Parks Are Too Far From My Home	14.0	16.5	13.3
I'm Not Aware of the Location of Any State Parks	21.9	12.6	15.8
Maryland State Parks Are Too Crowded	8.9	12.6	8.6
I Just Don't Have the Free Time to Visit a Maryland State Park	44.8	31.1	31.1

Table 27: Barriers to Visitation by Child in Household

	Yes	No
Maryland State Parks Are Too Expensive to Visit	11.8	8.8
Maryland State Parks are Too Far From My Home	10.0	16.9
I'm Not Aware of the Location of Any State Parks	12.8	17.9
Maryland State Parks Are Too Crowded	10.9	9.9
I Just Don't Have the Free Time to Visit a Maryland State Park	32.9	36.6

Barriers to Visitation by Interest in Future and Previous Visitation

Results indicated that the amount of times Marylanders have visited a park and their interest in future visitation influenced their perceived barriers of visiting a state park.

Again, for ease of analysis, Tables 28 and 29 below display whether the resident either “agreed” or “strongly agreed” with the statement, i.e., the resident indicated the item was a barrier to park visitation. “Don’t Know/Refused” responses are not displayed. For complete tables, see Appendix B.

The most frequent barrier to park visitation across all future visitation interest levels was a lack of free time. As Marylanders’ interest in visiting a state park in the future increased, they were less likely to perceive the lack of free time as a barrier. More than half of those “not interested at all” in visiting cited this as a barrier, compared with 43 percent of those “somewhat interested” and 26 percent of those “very interested.”

The second most frequent barrier to park visitation was lack of awareness. Almost a third of those “not at all interested” agreed they were not aware of the location of a Maryland state park, compared with 22 percent of those “somewhat interested” and 9 percent of those “very interested.”

Lack of free time and awareness of location were the two most frequent barriers that were influenced by whether the respondent had visited a park in the past. More than half of those who had never visited a state park indicated they did not have the free time to visit, compared with 44 percent of those who had visited just once or twice. Thirty-eight percent of those who have never visited a state park cited awareness of location as a barrier, compared with 10 percent of those who had visited once or twice.

Table 28: Barrier to Visitation by Interest in Future Visitation

	Not at All Interested	Somewhat Interested	Very Interested
Maryland State Parks Are Too Expensive	7.0	11.4	9.4
Maryland State Parks Are Too Far From My Home	14.0	16.5	13.3
I'm Not Aware of the Location of Any State Parks	30.2	22.0	8.5
Maryland State Parks Are Too Crowded	8.1	10.6	10.6
I Just Don't Have the Free Time to Visit a Maryland State Park	51.7	43.4	25.6

Table 29: Barriers to Visitation by Previous Visit

	Never	1 to 2	3 to 4	5 to 9	10 or More
Maryland State Parks Are Too Expensive	9.1	12.3	12.6	3.7	7.5
Maryland State Parks Are Too Far From My Home	20.7	15.5	14.1	5.5	5.7
I'm Not Aware of the Location of Any State Parks	38.0	9.9	7.1	1.9	2.8
Maryland State Parks Are Too Crowded	5.7	10.6	14.1	9.3	14.0
I Just Don't Have the Free Time to Visit a Maryland State Park	51.2	44.1	25.8	13.0	15.0

The top three barriers for those who haven't visited a Maryland state park were lack of free time, awareness of location, and distance from their home. On the other hand, the top three barriers to those who have visited a state park 10 or more times were lack of free time, overcrowding, and cost.

Top 3 Barriers Among Those Who Haven't Visited a Maryland State Park

- (1) I just don't have the free time to visit a Maryland state park.
- (2) I'm not aware of the location of any state parks.
- (3) Maryland state parks are too far from my home.

Top 3 Barriers Among the Most Frequent (10+) Maryland State Park Visitors

- (1) I just don't have the free time to visit a Maryland state park.
- (2) Maryland state parks are too crowded.
- (3) Maryland state parks are too expensive.

Conclusion

Marylanders did not perceive cost, location, and overcrowding as barriers to visiting a Maryland state park. However, for some Marylanders, awareness of state park location and not having the free time to visit were barriers to visitation. Those younger than age 35 and without children in their households were less aware of the location of Maryland state parks than those older than age 35. Additionally, more residents younger than age 35 indicated they did not have free time to visit a state park than did their older counterparts. Marylanders who have visited and are interested in visiting a state park were less likely to perceive a lack of free time and awareness of state park locations as barriers to visiting.

Appendix A Survey Instrument

QUESTION DESIGN KEY

BRACKED ITEMS []: Items and statements in brackets are rotated to ensure respondents do not receive a set order of response options presented to them, which maintains question construction integrity by avoiding respondent agreement based on question composition.

Example: [agree or disagree] or [disagree or agree]

PROBE (p): Some questions contain a “probe” maneuver to determine a respondent’s intensity of opinion/perspective. Probe techniques used in this questionnaire mainly consist of asking a respondent if his or her response is more intense than initially provided.

Example: Do you have a [favorable or unfavorable] opinion of President Obama?

PROBE: Would you say very favorable/unfavorable?

OPEN-ENDED: The open-ended question is a question for which no response options are provided, i.e., it is entirely up to the respondent to provide the response information. Any response options provided to the interviewer are not read to respondent; they are only used to help reduce interviewer error and time in coding the response.

VOLUNTEER (v): Volunteer responses means the interviewer did not offer that response option in the question as read to the interviewer. Interviewers are instructed not to offer “don’t know” or “refused” or “some other opinion” to the respondent, but the respondent is free to volunteer that information for the interviewer to record.

Q: PARKINT

Next, I’m going to ask you a few questions about Maryland state parks. Just to be sure we are taking about the same thing, when I say “state parks,” I mean parks that are maintained and run by the state of Maryland.

Q: VISIT1

To begin, over the past year, about how many times have you visited a Maryland state park?
[OPEN-ENDED]

Q: VISIT1A

Because you said you have visited a Maryland state park this past year, on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means “poor” and 5 means “excellent,” how would you rate your overall experience?

Q: VISIT2

Thinking ahead, how interested—very interested, somewhat interested, or not at all interested—are you in visiting a Maryland state park during the next year?

Q: BRAND

Thinking generally, what one word or phrase best describes the state parks here in Maryland?
[OPEN-ENDED]

Q: ACT

Next, I'm going to read you a list of activities that are offered at various state parks across Maryland. On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means "extremely unlikely" and 5 means "extremely likely," how likely are you to participate in each activity if you were to visit a Maryland state park?

[ITEMS RANDOMIZED]

- Hiking
- Mountain Biking
- Fishing
- Camping
- Canoeing or Kayaking
- Hunting
- Visiting Historic Sites
- Guided Nature Programming

Q: GOALS

Next, on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means "not important at all" and 5 means "extremely important," please tell me how important it is to you that state parks achieve each of the following goals. . .

[ITEMS RANDOMIZED]

- Conserve more land to protect natural resources
- Improve outdoor recreation opportunities
- Provide more guided nature programming
- Preserve historic sites
- Improve natural areas for wildlife

Q: BAR

Finally, please tell me whether you [disagree or agree] with each of the following statements about Maryland state parks. . .

PROBE

[ITEMS RANDOMIZED]

- Maryland state parks are too expensive to visit.
- Maryland state parks are too far from my home.
- I'm not aware of the location of any state parks.
- Maryland state parks are too crowded.
- I just don't have the free time to visit a Maryland state park.

Appendix B
Full Survey Results

Table A1: Likelihood of Participation in Hiking by Age

	Younger Than 35	35 to 54	55+
1 or 2	17.3	22.8	40.2
3	15.8	16.9	16.3
4 or 5	66.8	59.4	43.1

Table A2: Likelihood of Participation in Mountain Biking by Age

	Younger Than 35	35 to 54	55+
1 or 2	36.3	56.3	78.0
3	25.4	15.0	11.5
4 or 5	38.3	28.0	10.5

Table A3: Likelihood of Participation in Fishing by Age

	Younger Than 35	35 to 54	55+
1 or 2	37.3	35.4	52.9
3	15.4	20.1	13.3
4 or 5	47.3	43.7	33.8

Table A4: Likelihood of Participation in Camping by Age

	Younger Than 35	35 to 54	55+
1 or 2	37.3	40.9	57.9
3	22.4	16.5	14.8
4 or 5	38.8	41.7	26.8

Table A5: Likelihood of Participation in Canoeing or Kayaking by Age

	Younger Than 35	35 to 54	55+
1 or 2	28.4	44.5	59.3
3	21.9	16.1	15.8
4 or 5	49.8	38.6	24.9

Table A6: Likelihood of Participation in Hunting by Age

	Younger Than 35	35 to 54	55+
1 or 2	76.1	84.2	84.2
3	10.4	4.3	3.8
4 or 5	13.4	10.7	12.0

Table A7: Likelihood of Participation in Visiting Historic Sites by Age

	Younger Than 35	35 to 54	55+
1 or 2	20.8	11.8	10.0
3	16.3	16.9	16.7
4 or 5	62.9	70.5	73.2

Table A8: Likelihood of Participation in Guided Nature Programming by Age

	Younger Than 35	35 to 54	55+
1 or 2	50.7	32.8	39.2
3	15.9	20.9	25.4
4 or 5	30.8	45.5	34.9

Table A9: Likelihood of Participation in Hiking by Children in Household

	Yes	No
1 or 2	18.6	30.7
3	17.3	15.8
4 or 5	63.2	53.3

Table A10: Likelihood of Participation in Mountain Biking by Children in Household

	Yes	No
1 or 2	53.9	58.9
3	16.9	17.2
4 or 5	28.3	23.9

Table A11: Likelihood of Participation in Fishing by Children in Household

	Yes	No
1 or 2	30.3	47.2
3	20.8	14.7
4 or 5	48.0	38.1

Table A12: Likelihood of Participation in Camping by Children in Household

	Yes	No
1 or 2	34.2	50.6
3	19.2	17.4
4 or 5	45.7	31.4

Table A13: Likelihood of Participation in Canoeing or Kayaking by Children in Household

	Yes	No
1 or 2	40.5	45.8
3	13.2	20.1
4 or 5	45.5	34.1

Table A14: Likelihood of Participation in Hunting by Children in Household

	Yes	No
1 or 2	82.7	81.5
3	3.2	7.7
4 or 5	13.2	10.8

Table A15: Likelihood of Participation in Visiting Historic Sites by Children in Household

	Yes	No
1 or 2	14.5	13.6
3	16.8	16.3
4 or 5	67.7	70.1

Table A16: Likelihood of Participation in Guided Nature Programming by Children in Household

	Yes	No
1 or 2	31.4	44.9
3	21.8	20.5
4 or 5	45.9	33.2

Table A17: Likelihood of Participation in Hiking by Interest

	Not at All Interested	Somewhat Interested	Very Interested
1 or 2	64.0	28.0	16.5
3	8.1	25.4	12.6
4 or 5	25.6	46.6	70.6

Table A18: Likelihood of Participation in Mountain Biking by Interest

	Not at All Interested	Somewhat Interested	Very Interested
1 or 2	73.6	58.7	51.6
3	11.5	16.2	19.2
4 or 5	12.6	25.1	29.2

Table A19: Likelihood of Participation in Fishing by Interest

	Not at All Interested	Somewhat Interested	Very Interested
1 or 2	57.0	47.9	33.0
3	23.3	12.3	18.3
4 or 5	17.4	39.8	48.7

Table A20: Likelihood of Participation in Camping by Interest

	Not at All Interested	Somewhat Interested	Very Interested
1 or 2	69.8	49.6	36.3
3	8.1	21.6	17.7
4 or 5	19.8	28.8	45.1

Table A21: Likelihood of Participation in Canoeing or Kayaking by Interest

	Not at All Interested	Somewhat Interested	Very Interested
1 or 2	70.9	48.1	34.8
3	10.5	25.5	14.2
4 or 5	16.3	26.4	51.0

Table A22: Likelihood of Participation in Hunting by Interest

	Not at All Interested	Somewhat Interested	Very Interested
1 or 2	83.7	87.7	77.0
3	5.8	5.1	7.1
4 or 5	8.1	7.2	15.9

Table A23: Likelihood of Participation in Visiting Historic Sites by Interest

	Not at All Interested	Somewhat Interested	Very Interested
1 or 2	36.8	13.6	8.3
3	17.2	22.6	12.7
4 or 5	43.7	63.8	79.1

Table A24: Likelihood of Participation in Guided Nature Programming by Interest

	Not at All Interested	Somewhat Interested	Very Interested
1 or 2	69.8	43.4	30.6
3	14.0	23.0	20.9
4 or 5	14.0	32.3	47.6

Table A25: Likelihood of Participation in Hiking by Park Visitation

	Never	1 to 2	3 to 4	5 to 9	10+
1 or 2	38.0	30.4	21.9	14.8	10.3
3	20.2	17.4	18.0	9.3	10.3
4 or 5	40.9	52.2	60.2	74.1	79.4

Table A26: Likelihood of Participation in Mountain Biking by Park Visitation

	Never	1 to 2	3 to 4	5 to 9	10+
1 or 2	57.6	69.6	53.1	55.6	44.9
3	19.0	12.4	14.1	18.5	21.5
4 or 5	22.4	18.0	32.8	25.9	33.6

Table A27: Likelihood of Participation in Fishing by Park Visitation

	Never	1 to 2	3 to 4	5 to 9	10+
1 or 2	51.2	42.6	35.9	32.7	30.8
3	18.2	11.7	15.6	21.8	19.6
4 or 5	29.7	45.7	48.4	45.5	49.5

Table A28: Likelihood of Participation in Camping by Park Visitation

	Never	1 to 2	3 to 4	5 to 9	10+
1 or 2	55.8	48.8	38.0	34.5	34.6
3	13.5	19.8	19.4	20.0	21.5
4 or 5	29.8	29.6	42.6	43.6	43.9

Table A29: Likelihood of Participation in Canoeing or Kayaking by Park Visitation

	Never	1 to 2	3 to 4	5 to 9	10+
1 or 2	55.3	53.1	37.0	27.3	27.1
3	17.8	15.4	20.5	20.0	17.8
4 or 5	26.0	31.5	42.5	52.7	55.1

Table A30: Likelihood of Participation in Hunting by Park Visitation

	Never	1 to 2	3 to 4	5 to 9	10+
1 or 2	84.6	82.0	82.0	81.8	74.8
3	5.3	5.6	5.5	3.6	9.3
4 or 5	9.1	12.4	12.5	14.5	15.9

Table A31: Likelihood of Participation in Visiting Historic Sites by Park Visitation

	Never	1 to 2	3 to 4	5 to 9	10+
1 or 2	20.2	11.8	15.5	5.6	8.5
3	18.8	13.0	14.7	27.8	13.2
4 or 5	60.1	75.2	69.8	66.7	78.3

Table A32: Likelihood of Participation in Guided Nature Programming by Park Visitation

	Never	1 to 2	3 to 4	5 to 9	10+
1 or 2	48.1	38.3	43.0	29.6	30.2
3	19.7	21.6	21.9	18.5	19.8
4 or 5	29.3	38.3	35.2	51.9	50.0

Table A33: Conserve More Land to Protect Natural Resources by Age

	Younger Than 35	35 to 54	55+
1 or 2	2.5	5.5	8.1
3	10.9	13.0	10.5
4 or 5	85.6	80.7	81.0

Table A34: Improve Outdoor Recreation Opportunities by Age

	Younger Than 35	35 to 54	55+
1 or 2	6.9	6.3	6.2
3	12.9	16.9	14.8
4 or 5	79.2	75.3	78.0

Table A35: Provide More Guided Nature Programming by Age

	Younger Than 35	35 to 54	55+
1 or 2	29.7	24.4	16.3
3	24.3	33.1	28.7
4 or 5	44.1	41.7	52.2

Table A36: Preserve Historic Sites by Age

	Younger Than 35	35 to 54	55+
1 or 2	4.0	2.4	4.3
3	10.4	7.5	7.7
4 or 5	85.6	89.4	87.1

Table A37: Improve Natural Areas for Wildlife by Age

	Older Than 35	35 to 54	55+
1 or 2	3.5	8.3	5.7
3	9.0	6.7	10.5
4 or 5	87.1	84.3	82.8

Table A38: Conserve More Land to Protect Natural Resources by Children in Household

	Yes	No
1 or 2	3.2	6.5
3	10.5	11.9
4 or 5	85.5	80.9

Table A39: Improve Outdoor Recreation Opportunities by Children in Household

	Yes	No
1 or 2	5.5	6.8
3	13.2	15.8
4 or 5	79.5	76.5

Table A40: Provide More Guided Nature Programming by Children in Household

	Yes	No
1 or 2	22.8	23.7
3	27.9	29.6
4 or 5	48.4	44.5

Table A41: Preserve Historic Sites by Children in Household

	Yes	No
1 or 2	2.3	4.1
3	9.1	7.9
4 or 5	87.7	87.6

Table A42: Improve Natural Areas for Wildlife by Children in Household

	Yes	No
1 or 2	5.9	6.1
3	4.1	10.6
4 or 5	89.1	82.6

Table A43: Conserve More Land to Protect Natural Resources by Park Visitation

	Never	1 to 2	3 to 4	5 to 9	10+
1 or 2	6.7	5.6	4.7	1.9	4.7
3	9.1	11.2	17.2	7.4	13.2
4 or 5	82.8	82.0	78.1	90.7	82.1

Table A44: Improve Outdoor Recreation Opportunities by Park Visitation

	Never	1 to 2	3 to 4	5 to 9	10+
1 or 2	10.5	5.6	3.9	0.0	5.6
3	13.9	21.0	15.6	14.8	8.4
4 or 5	72.7	72.2	80.5	85.2	86.0

Table A45: Provide More Guided Nature Programming by Park Visitation

	Never	1 to 2	3 to 4	5 to 9	10+
1 or 2	20.6	21.1	28.7	25.5	25.5
3	24.9	35.4	31.0	25.5	27.4
4 or 5	51.2	41.6	40.3	49.1	45.3

Table A46: Preserve Historic Sites by Park Visitation

	Never	1 to 2	3 to 4	5 to 9	10+
1 or 2	4.8	2.5	2.3	3.6	3.7
3	9.6	5.6	8.6	12.7	9.3
4 or 5	84.1	91.9	88.3	83.6	86.9

Table A47: Improve Natural Areas for Wildlife by Park Visitation

	Never	1 to 2	3 to 4	5 to 9	10+
1 or 2	7.7	8.1	3.1	3.7	4.7
3	8.6	10.6	7.8	7.4	8.4
4 or 5	81.3	81.4	89.1	88.9	86.9

Table A48: Conserve More Land to Protect Natural Resources by Interest

	Not at All Interested	Somewhat Interested	Very Interested
1 or 2	17.2	5.9	2.1
3	9.2	14.0	10.6
4 or 5	70.1	80.1	86.7

Table A49: Improve Outdoor Recreation Opportunities by Interest

	Not at All Interested	Somewhat Interested	Very Interested
1 or 2	17.2	6.0	3.5
3	20.7	19.1	10.6
4 or 5	57.5	74.0	85.3

Table A50: Provide More Guided Nature Programming by Interest

	Not at All Interested	Somewhat Interested	Very Interested
1 or 2	37.2	22.2	20.9
3	25.6	29.9	29.5
4 or 5	31.4	47.4	48.4

Table A51: Preserve Historic Sites by Interest

	Not at All Interested	Somewhat Interested	Very Interested
1 or 2	12.8	1.7	2.4
3	10.5	8.1	8.6
4 or 5	73.3	89.8	89.1

Table A52: Improve Natural Areas for Wildlife by Interest

	Not at All Interested	Somewhat Interested	Very Interested
1 or 2	17.2	5.1	3.8
3	8.0	10.6	7.6
4 or 5	69.0	84.3	88.5

Table A53: Maryland State Parks Are Too Expensive to Visit by Age

	Younger than 35	35 to 54	55+
Disagree	77.1	81.4	76.1
Agree	9.5	9.9	10.0

Table A54: Maryland State Parks Are Too Far From my Home by Age

	Younger than 35	35 to 54	55+
Disagree	69.8	83.5	80.0
Agree	18.3	11.4	15.7

Table A55: I'm Not Aware of the Location of Any State Parks by Age

	Younger than 35	35 to 54	55+
Disagree	78.1	84.3	83.3
Agree	21.9	12.6	15.8

Table A56: Maryland State Parks Are Too Crowded by Age

	Younger than 35	35 to 54	55+
Disagree	76.2	74.7	73.2
Agree	8.9	12.6	8.6

Table A57: I Just Don't Have the Free Time to Visit a Maryland State Park by Age

	Younger than 35	35 to 54	55+
Disagree	55.2	66.1	65.6
Agree	44.8	31.1	31.1

Table A58: Maryland State Parks Are Too Expensive to Visit by Children in Household

	Yes	No
Disagree	80.0	77.4
Agree	11.8	8.8

Table A59: Maryland State Parks Are Too Far From my Home by Children in Household

	Yes	No
Disagree	82.3	76.5
Agree	10.0	16.9

Table A60: I'm Not Aware of the Location of Any State Parks by Children in Household

	Yes	No
Disagree	83.6	81.7
Agree	12.8	17.9

Table A61: Maryland State Parks Are Too Crowded by Children in Household

	Yes	No
Disagree	77.7	73.6
Agree	10.9	9.9

Table A62: I Just Don't Have the Free Time to Visit a Maryland State Park by Children in Household

	Yes	No
Disagree	63.9	61.9
Agree	32.9	36.6

Table A63: Maryland State Parks Are Too Expensive to Visit by Interest

	Not at All Interested	Somewhat Interested	Very Interested
Disagree	66.3	73.7	85.0
Agree	7.0	11.4	9.4

Table A64: Maryland State Parks Are Too Far From my Home by Interest

	Not at All Interested	Somewhat Interested	Very Interested
Disagree	68.6	74.6	84.1
Agree	14.0	16.5	13.3

Table A65: I'm Not Aware of the Location of Any State Parks by Interest

	Not at All Interested	Somewhat Interested	Very Interested
Disagree	65.1	75.0	91.5
Agree	30.2	22.0	8.5

Table A66: Maryland State Parks Are Too Crowded by Interest

	Not at All Interested	Somewhat Interested	Very Interested
Disagree	52.3	68.6	85.3
Agree	8.1	10.6	10.6

Table A67: I Just Don't Have the Free Time to Visit a Maryland State Park by Interest

	Not at All Interested	Somewhat Interested	Very Interested
Disagree	40.2	54.0	74.1
Agree	51.7	43.4	25.6

Table A68: Maryland State Parks Are Too Expensive to Visit by Park Visitation

	Never	1 to 2	3 to 4	5 to 9	10+
Disagree	59.1	82.7	85.0	94.4	92.5
Agree	9.1	12.3	12.6	3.7	7.5

Table A69: Maryland State Parks Are Too Far From my Home by Park Visitation

	Never	1 to 2	3 to 4	5 to 9	10+
Disagree	58.7	82.6	85.9	94.5	94.3
Agree	20.7	15.5	14.1	5.5	5.7

Table A70: I'm Not Aware of the Location of Any State Parks by Park Visitation

	Never	1 to 2	3 to 4	5 to 9	10+
Disagree	57.7	90.1	92.1	98.1	97.2
Agree	38.0	9.9	7.1	1.9	2.8

Table A71: Maryland State Parks Are Too Crowded by Park Visitation

	Never	1 to 2	3 to 4	5 to 9	10+
Disagree	53.6	86.3	80.5	87.0	85.0
Agree	5.7	10.6	14.1	9.3	14.0

Table A72: I Just Don't Have the Free Time to Visit a Maryland State Park by Park Visitation

	Never	1 to 2	3 to 4	5 to 9	10+
Disagree	42.1	55.9	74.2	87.0	85.0
Agree	51.2	44.1	25.8	13.0	15.0