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File:

Yellowstone

Also code:

Grand Teton

John D.

Rockefeller

# WINTER USE SURVEY



YELLOWSTONE AND GRAND TETON NATIONAL PARKS AND  
JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER, JR., MEMORIAL PARKWAY  
• WYOMING, IDAHO, AND MONTANA

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# winter use survey

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final  
january 1990

**YELLOWSTONE AND GRAND TETON NATIONAL PARKS AND  
JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER, JR., MEMORIAL PARKWAY  
• WYOMING, IDAHO, AND MONTANA**

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR / NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- This report describes the results of a winter visitor use study at Yellowstone and Grand Teton national parks and John D. Rockefeller, Jr., Memorial Parkway. Questionnaires were given to visitors during the period of February 26 through March 4, 1989.
- Group size averages 5.2 persons but among visitors who only go to Grand Teton the average is 3.4. Snowmobiling groups are much larger than cross-country skiing groups.
- Summer users tend to be family groups, and few of these have friends in their group. In contrast, 1/2 of the winter visitors are travelling with friends.
- The average age of winter visitors is 38, with most visitors either middle-age or older. Nearly 2/3 of visitors were between the ages of 26 and 50. In contrast with summer visitation, there are relatively few children or young adults.
- Roughly 1/2 of the summer visitors have previously visited the park. This contrasts with the winter when 3/4 are repeat visitors and virtually all are travelling with a repeat visitor. Roughly 1/2 of the visitors have previously visited in the winter.
- About 1/4 of visitors reside in the 17-county Greater Yellowstone region. Summer visitation comes from all over the country. This contrasts with winter when nearly 1/2 the visitation is from Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming.
- Over 3/4 of groups stayed overnight in the area of the parks, spending an average of 4.1 days.
- Visiting a visitor center, snowmobiling, walking in a thermal area, using the warming huts, cross-country skiing, and pleasure driving, in that order, were the most popular activities.
- Groups spend an average of \$782 during their visit. This is equivalent to \$60 per person per day.
- While less than 1/4 of the visitors visited both parks, nearly 2/3 visited only Yellowstone and 1/4 visited only Grand Teton. Both Old Faithful and the West Entrance were visited by over 1/2 of the visitors. Moose was the most frequently visited site in Grand Teton (1/4 of groups).
- When asked to choose the single favorite part of their visit, scenery/nature (that is, snow, thermal features, specific sites, remoteness, uncommercial qualities, and photographic opportunities) and wildlife viewing were by far the most popular responses. Solitude and snowmobiling were the next most frequently listed.
- Snowmobiles were listed most often as the least liked part of the visit. Other frequent complaints were starving wildlife, burnt forests, and bumpy road conditions for snowmachines. Crowding was mentioned by relatively few and these visitors tended to avoid the Old Faithful area.
- All services received a good rating for quality. The most important services were rest rooms, information and direction signs, and unplowed roads open to over-snow vehicles. Groomed and ungroomed ski trails were important to skiers but not to other users. Services rated as not very important were lodging in park (whether accessible by car or not) and ranger-led walks and talks.
- Overall, visitors are satisfied by the availability of facilities and services. However, cross-country skiers were interested in more ski trails, both groomed and ungroomed. About 1/3 of respondents would have liked more restrooms. Snowmobilers were interested in more short snowmobile routes. Only 1/4 of them were interested in more regional snowmobile trails. More park visitors were interested in eliminating regional trails than in providing new ones. Snowmobilers were more interested in gas stations than in longer trails.
- Lodging in the parks accessible only by over-snow vehicle (e.g., Snow Lodge) was ranked by visitors as being of less than average importance. Lodging in the parks accessible by car (e.g., Mammoth Motor Inn) was ranked by visitors as being of the lowest importance.

## CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION/TERMINOLOGY	1
INTRODUCTION	3
TERMINOLOGY	7
METHODS	9
GENERAL STRATEGY	11
QUESTIONNAIRE DESIGN	11
SAMPLING TECHNIQUE	11
DATA ANALYSIS	11
QUESTIONNAIRE ADMINISTRATION	11
COMPARISON OF SAMPLE TO ACTUAL PARK USE	12
SAMPLE SIZE, MISSING DATA, AND REPORTING ERRORS	12
LIMITATIONS OF THE SURVEY	13
VISITORS CONTACTED	14
VISITOR CHARACTERISTICS	15
VISITORS' USE OF TIME	39
VISITOR ACTIVITIES	49
VISITOR EXPENDITURES	59
DISTRIBUTION OF VISITOR USE	73
VISITOR PREFERENCES AND OPINIONS	81
APPENDIXES	119
APPENDIX A: VISITOR USE STATISTICS	121
APPENDIX B: THE FRONT-END SURVEY	125
APPENDIX C: THE MAIL-BACK SURVEY	127
APPENDIX D: SURVEY COMPARISONS	135
APPENDIX E: VISITOR COMMENTS	137
APPENDIX F: MENU FOR FURTHER ANALYSIS	165
BIBLIOGRAPHY/STUDY TEAM	171
BIBLIOGRAPHY	173
STUDY TEAM	174

## FIGURES

- Figure 1. Group Size 20
- Figure 2. Group Size Breakdown 21
- Figure 3. Survey Comparison - Average Party Size Non-Local Visitors 22
- Figure 4. Survey Comparison - Average Party Size Yellowstone Snowmobilers 22
- Figure 5. Group Type by Park 23
- Figure 6. Group Type by Park Entrance 24
- Figure 7. Group Type by Activity 25
- Figure 8. Survey Comparison - Type of Group 26
- Figure 9. Survey Comparison - Type of Group 27
- Figure 10. Survey Comparison - Type of Group 27
- Figure 11. Age 28
- Figure 12. Total Visits - Any Season 29
- Figure 13. Total Visits - Winter 29
- Figure 14. Average Number of Visits of Respondents 30
- Figure 15. Average Number of Winter Visits of Respondents 31
- Figure 16. Survey Comparison - Yellowstone Repeat Visits 32
- Figure 17. Local Area 33
- Figure 18. Local Resident - Individuals 33
- Figure 19. Local Resident - Respondents 34
- Figure 20. Local Resident - Any Group Member 34
- Figure 21. Visitation by State (1989 Winter) 35
- Figure 22. Visitation by State (1987 Summer) 35
- Figure 23. Census Regions 37
- Figure 24. Visitor Residence by Region 37
- Figure 25. Census Divisions 38
- Figure 26. Survey Comparison - Visitor Residence 38
- Figure 27. Day of the Week First Entered the Park 42
- Figure 28. Time of Day Entered the Park 42
- Figure 29. Stayed Overnight in Area by Park 43
- Figure 30. Stayed Overnight in Area by Local Resident in Group 43
- Figure 31. Stayed Overnight in Area by Winter Repeat Visitor in Group 44
- Figure 32. Survey Comparison - Day Users, Yellowstone Total 44
- Figure 33. Nights Stayed in Area (Overnight Users Only) 45
- Figure 34. Length of Stay in Hours (Day Users Only) 45
- Figure 35. Length of Stay 46
- Figure 36. Survey Comparison - Stay in Area, Non-Local Visitors 47
- Figure 37. Survey Comparison - Stay in Area, Non-Local Snowmobiling Visitors 47
- Figure 38. Participated in Activity 52
- Figure 39. Participation in Cross-Country Skiing and Snowmobiling 52
- Figure 40. Activity by Park 53
- Figure 41. Activity by Park Entrance 54
- Figure 42. Activity by Presence of a Local Resident 55
- Figure 43. Activity by Presence of a Repeat Winter Visitor 55
- Figure 44. Visited Visitor Center(s) 56
- Figure 45. Survey Comparison - Visited Yellowstone Visitor Center(s) Total 57
- Figure 46. Total Expenditures by the Group During Visit 62
- Figure 47. Total Expenditures by the Group Per Day 62
- Figure 48. Total Expenditures Per Person During Visit 63
- Figure 49. Total Expenditures Per Person Per Day 63
- Figure 50. Lodging Expenditures by the Group During Visit 64
- Figure 51. Travel Expenditures by the Group During Visit 64
- Figure 52. Food Expenditures by the Group During Visit 65
- Figure 53. Equipment Rental Expenditures by the Group During Visit 65

Figure 110. Availability of Long Snowmobile Routes (100-250 Miles) 111  
 Figure 111. Availability of Long Snowmobile Routes by Activity 111  
 Figure 112. Availability of Regional Snowmobile Routes (>250 Miles) 112  
 Figure 113. Availability of Regional Snowmobile Routes by Activity 112  
 Figure 114. Availability of Ungroomed Ski Trails 113  
 Figure 115. Availability of Ungroomed Ski Trails by Activity 113  
 Figure 116. Availability of Groomed Ski Trails 114  
 Figure 117. Availability of Groomed Ski Trails by Activity 114  
 Figure 118. Availability of Lodging in the Park(s) Accessible by Car 115  
 Figure 119. Availability of Lodging in the Park(s) Accessible only by Over-Snow Vehicles 116  
 Figure 120. Availability of Park Lodging (Snow) by Activity 116  
 Figure 121. Availability of Warming Huts 117  
 Figure 122. Availability of Rest Rooms 117  
 Figure 123. Availability of Food Service 118  
 Figure 124. Availability of Gas Stations 118

## TABLES

Table 1: Counties in Greater Yellowstone Region 7  
 Table 2: Visitation by Entrance Station 12  
 Table 3: Visitation by Day of the Week 12  
 Table 4: Visitation Trends 17  
 Table 5: Group Type by Park 23  
 Table 6: Group Type by Park Entrance Station 24  
 Table 7: Group Type by Activity 25  
 Table 8: Visitation by State (1989 Winter) 36  
 Table 9: Activity by Park Entrance 54  
 Table 10: State of Visitor Origin on Arrival Day 78  
 Table 11: City of Visitor Origin on Arrival Day 78  
 Table 12: Visitor Destination States on Their Departure Day 79  
 Table 13: Visitor Destination Cities on their Departure Day 79  
 Table 14: Item Liked Most 89  
 Table 15: Item Liked Least 91

Figure 54.	Guide Service Expenditures by the Group During the Visit	66
Figure 55.	Other Expenditures by the Group During Visit	66
Figure 56.	Total Expenditures Per Person Per Day	67
Figure 57.	Total Expenditures Per Person During Visit	68
Figure 58.	Survey Comparison - Non-Local Expenditures Per Person	69
Figure 59.	Survey Comparison - Non-Local Snowmobilers, Expenditures Per Person	69
Figure 60.	Total Expenditures	70
Figure 61.	Total Expenditures by Snowmobilers	70
Figure 62.	Total Expenditures by Cross-Country Skiers	71
Figure 63.	Total Expenditures by Those Who Did Not Snowmobile Nor Cross-Country Ski	71
Figure 64.	Park(s) Visited	76
Figure 65.	Yellowstone Sites Visited	77
Figure 66.	Grand Teton Sites Visited	77
Figure 67.	Relative Importance of Reliability of Snow Cover	85
Figure 68.	Relative Importance of Proximity to Home Residence	85
Figure 69.	Relative Importance of Proximity to Attraction/Facilities Outside Parks	86
Figure 70.	Relative Importance of Proximity to Airports and Highways	86
Figure 71.	Relative Importance of Proximity to Park Features and Facilities	87
Figure 72.	Relative Importance of Availability of Over-Snow Transportation	87
Figure 73.	Item Liked Most	88
Figure 74.	Item Liked Least	90
Figure 75.	Visitor Ratings of Service Importance and Quality	93
Figure 76.	Relative Importance of the Visitor Centers	94
Figure 77.	Relative Quality of the Visitor Centers	94
Figure 78.	Relative Importance of Information and Direction Signs	95
Figure 79.	Relative Quality of Information and Direction Signs	95
Figure 80.	Relative Importance of Ranger Patrol	96
Figure 81.	Relative Quality of Ranger Patrol	96
Figure 82.	Relative Importance of Ranger-Led Walks and Talks	97
Figure 83.	Relative Quality of Ranger-Led Walks and Talks	97
Figure 84.	Relative Importance of the Geyser Basin Walk Ways	98
Figure 85.	Relative Quality of the Geyser Basin Walk Ways	98
Figure 86.	Relative Importance of the Unplowed Roads Open to Over-Snow Vehicles	99
Figure 87.	Relative Quality of the Unplowed Roads Open to Over-Snow Vehicles	99
Figure 88.	Relative Importance of the Ungroomed Ski Trails for All Groups	100
Figure 89.	Relative Importance of the Ungroomed Ski Trails for Cross-Country Skiers	100
Figure 90.	Relative Quality of the Ungroomed Ski Trails for All Groups	101
Figure 91.	Relative Quality of the Ungroomed Ski Trails for Cross-Country Skiers	101
Figure 92.	Relative Importance of the Groomed Ski Trails for All Groups	102
Figure 93.	Relative Importance of the Groomed Ski Trails for Cross-Country Skiers	102
Figure 94.	Relative Quality of the Groomed Ski Trails for All Groups	103
Figure 95.	Relative Quality of the Groomed Ski Trails for Cross-Country Skiers	103
Figure 96.	Relative Importance of Lodging in Park(s) Accessible by Car	104
Figure 97.	Relative Quality of Lodging in Park(s) Accessible by Car	104
Figure 98.	Relative Importance of Lodging Accessible Only by Over-Snow Vehicles (All Groups)	105
Figure 99.	Relative Importance of Lodging Accessible Only by Over-Snow Vehicles (Snowmobilers)	105
Figure 100.	Relative Quality of Lodging Accessible Only by Over-Snow Vehicles (All Groups)	106
Figure 101.	Relative Quality of Lodging Accessible Only by Over-Snow Vehicles (Snowmobilers)	106
Figure 102.	Relative Importance of Rest Rooms	107
Figure 103.	Relative Quality of Rest Rooms	107
Figure 104.	Relative Importance of Food Service	108
Figure 105.	Relative Quality of Food Service	108
Figure 106.	Availability of Ranger-led Programs	109
Figure 107.	Availability of Ranger Patrols	109
Figure 108.	Availability of Short Snowmobile Routes (<100 miles)	110
Figure 109.	Availability of Short Snowmobile Routes by Activity	110

# INTRODUCTION/TERMINOLOGY



## INTRODUCTION

This document reports the findings of the 1989 Yellowstone and Grand Teton Winter Use Survey. It was conducted by the National Park Service, Denver Service Center, Central Team, Branch of Planning with the cooperation and help of the management and staff of both parks. The sampling period was the week of February 26 - March 4.

The study was designed to obtain data on winter use at three units of the National Park System: Grand Teton National Park; John D. Rockefeller, Jr., Memorial Parkway; and Yellowstone National Park. The purpose of the survey was to provide a general profile of park visitors, including who visits, how long they visit, in which activities they participate and what their opinions are about the parks and park programs, services, and management. The survey results were designed to provide necessary information for the joint Winter Use Plan being prepared for all three parks. The data will also be used in evaluating and improving park operations.

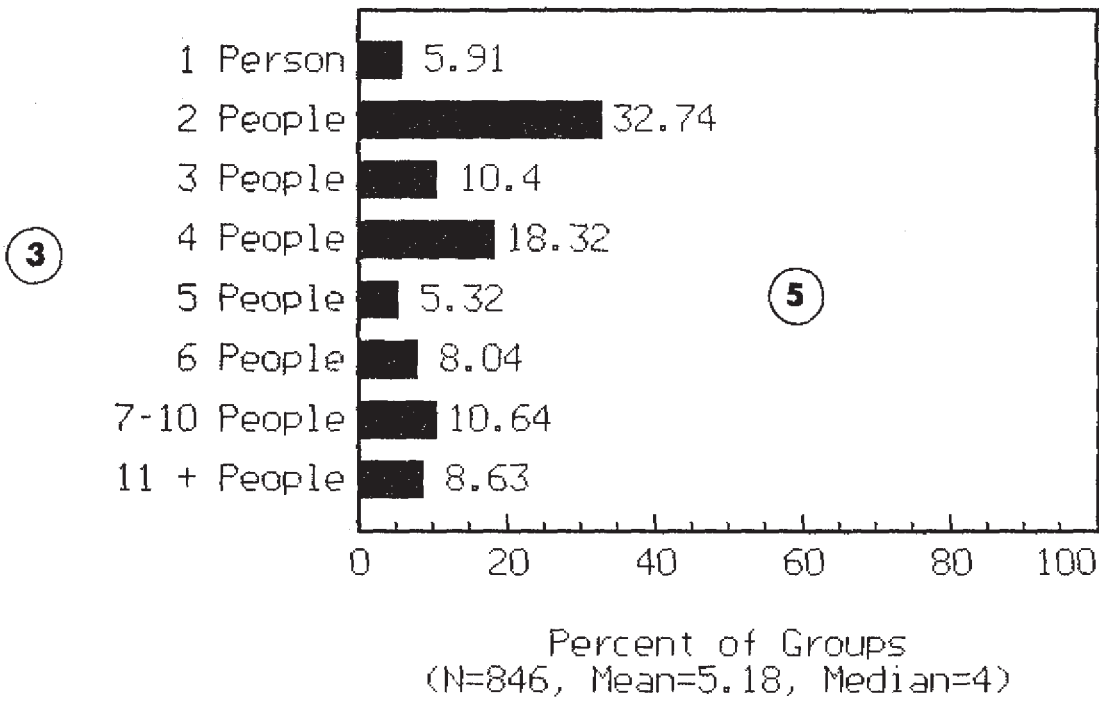
Throughout this document comparisons are made between the survey results and data from other surveys conducted in the Greater Yellowstone area in recent years. An overview of these other studies and comments on their comparability to this survey are attached as appendix D.

Most of the figures follow one of three formats. Examples of these formats are presented on the following three pages. The large numbers on each of the example figures correspond to the following numbered explanations.

1. The figure title provides a general description of the information contained in the figure.
2. This note identifies the scale and units of the horizontal axis and gives the sample size on which the graph is based. For some figures the mean and median are also displayed here.
3. The vertical information describes the categories.
4. Example figure 2 displays data for a variety of sub-populations of the survey sample. This type of illustration allows for the comparison of information between the various sub-populations.
5. The actual value represented by each bar is given at the end of the bar (see example figures 1 and 2). Where this is not possible because of space limitations, a table is provided to show this information (see example figure 3).

1

EXAMPLE FIGURE 1.



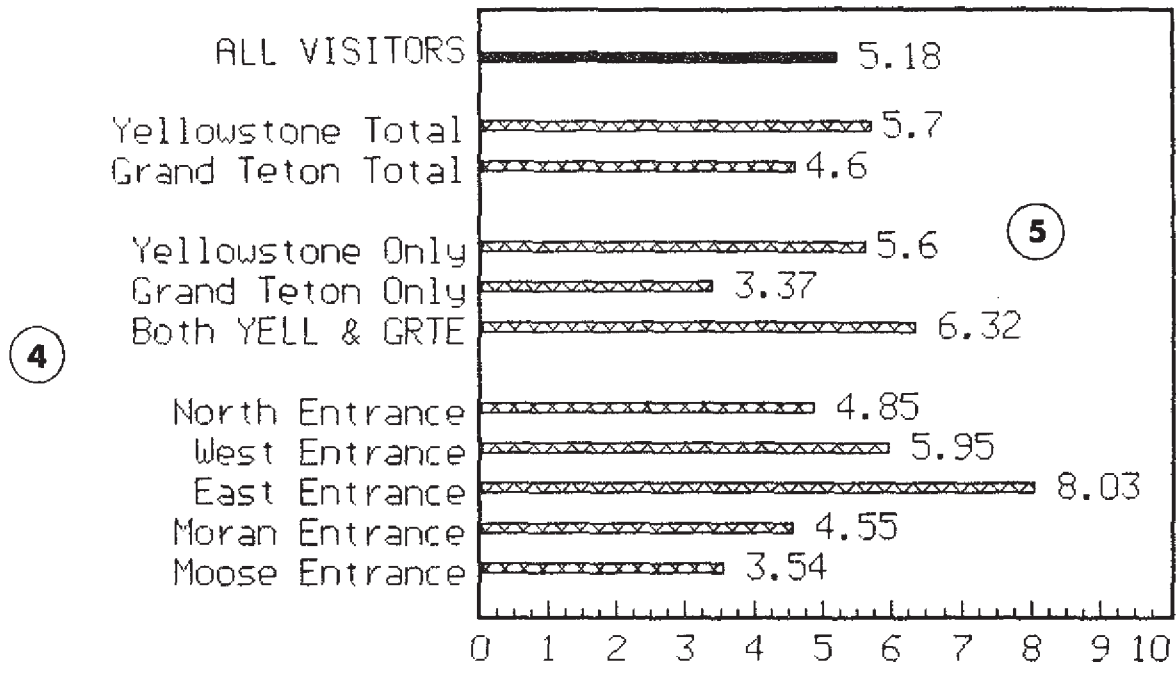
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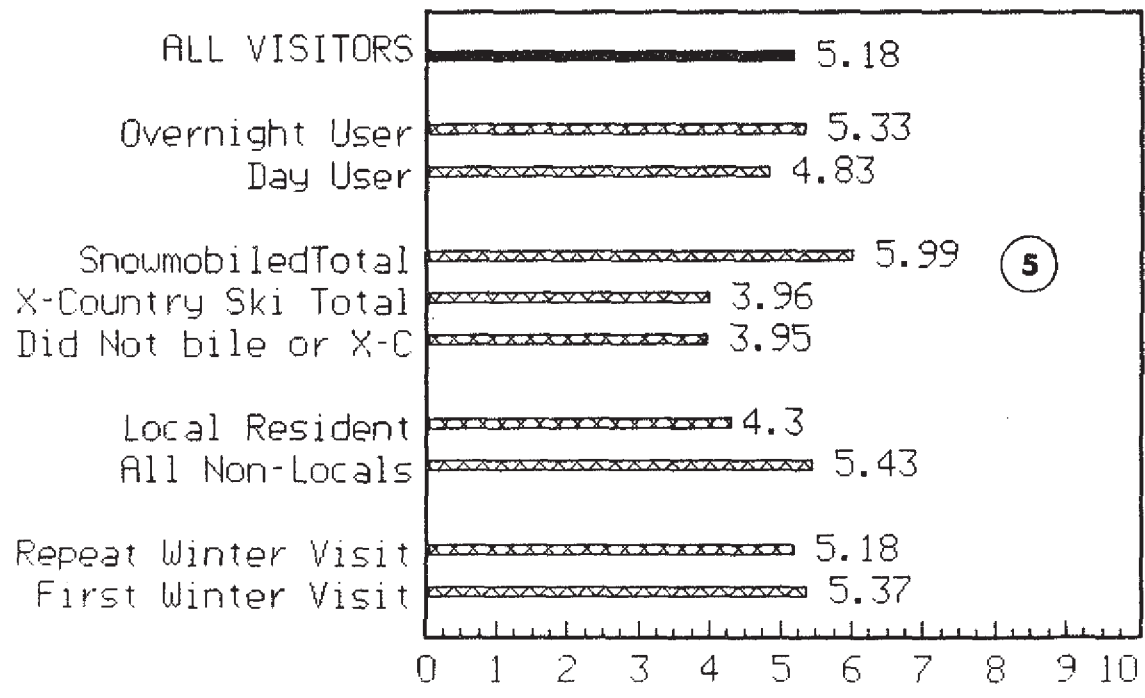
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EXAMPLE FIGURE 2.



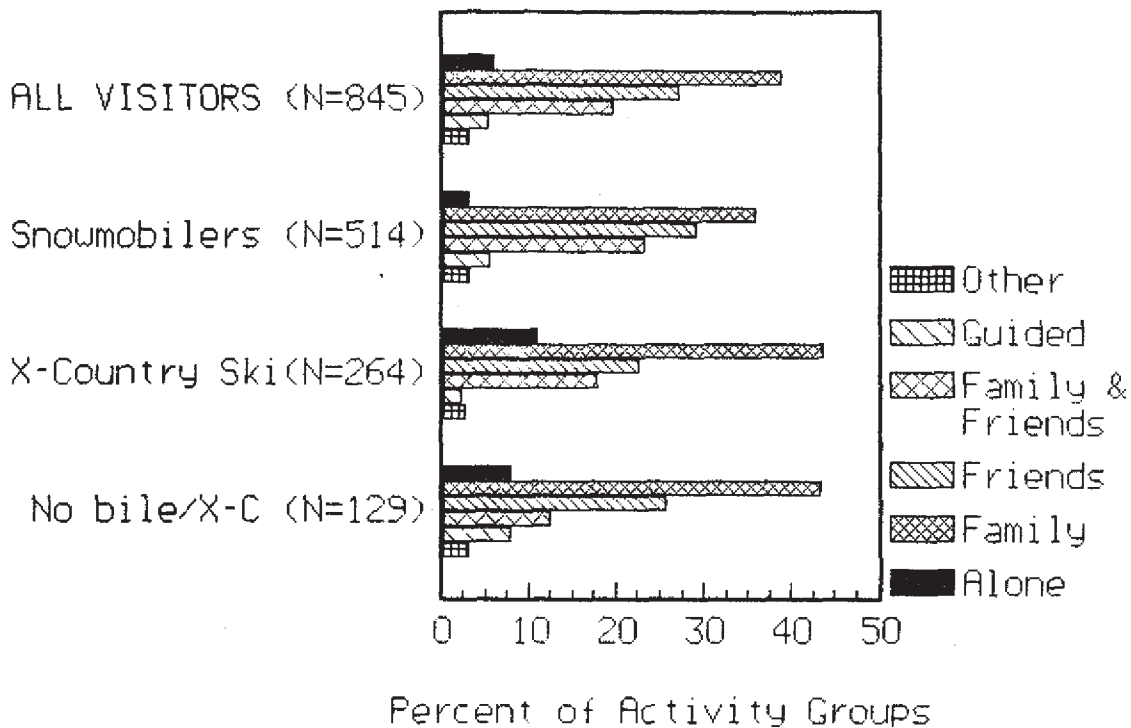
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Average Number of People

2

1 EXAMPLE FIGURE 3.



EXAMPLE TABLE 1: GROUP TYPE BY ACTIVITY (SAMPLE) \*

ACTIVITY	GROUP TYPE					
	ALONE	FAMILY	FRIENDS	FAMILY & FRIENDS	GUIDED	OTHER
ALL VISITORS	5.9%	38.9%	27.1%	19.6%	5.3%	3.1%
Snow-mobiling	3.1	35.8	29.2	23.2	5.6	3.1
X-C Skiing	11.0	43.6	22.7	17.8	2.3	2.7
Did Not snowmobile or X-C Ski	7.8	43.4	25.6	12.4	7.8	3.1

\* Totals add to more than 100% due to participation in both snowmobiling and cross-country skiing by some visitors.

## TERMINOLOGY

Bile: Abbreviation for snowmobile. The abbreviation is used most frequently on figures due to space limitation for labels.

Cross-Country Ski Only: Label used on figures to represent groups who participated in cross-country skiing as a recreation activity during their visit, but did not also snowmobile.

Cross-Country Skiers or Cross-Country Ski Total: Labels used on figures to represent groups who participated in cross-country skiing during their visit. Members of some of these groups also participated in snowmobiling.

Grand Teton Only: Label used on figures to represent all recreationists who visited Grand Teton, but who did not also visit Yellowstone.

Grand Teton or Grand Teton Total: Labels used on figures to represent all recreationists that visited Grand Teton. Some of these groups may also have visited Yellowstone.

Group: One or more individuals who entered the park(s) together and/or participated in recreation activities within the park(s) together. The definition of specific groups was the responsibility of the respondent. Groups typically consist of family members, friends, a combination of family and friends, or several individuals on an organized tour. Visitors travelling alone were also considered to be a group.

GRTE: Abbreviation for Grand Teton.

Individual: A single person within a group. A group could consist of one to many individuals.

Jackson Summer: Survey conducted in Jackson Hole during the summer of 1987 (see appendix D).

Jackson Winter: Survey conducted in Jackson Hole during the winter of 1988 (see appendix D).

JODR: Abbreviation for John D. Rockefeller, Jr., Memorial Parkway.

Local Resident: Any park visitor whose home residence is in one of the 17 counties of the Greater Yellowstone Region. The counties, which are illustrated on figure 17 (page 33), were first used to identify local residents in the 1977 Greater Yellowstone Regional Transportation Study.

**TABLE 1: COUNTIES IN GREATER YELLOWSTONE REGION**

IDAHO	MONTANA	WYOMING
Bonneville	Carbon	Fremont
Fremont	Gallatin	Hot Springs
Jefferson	Madison	Lincoln
Madison	Park	Park
Teton	Stillwater	Sublette
	Sweet Grass	Teton

Mean: The average value for a specific variable.

Median: That point below which 50% of the scores for a specific variable fall.

n: Sample size; the number of individuals or groups that are reflected in specific data.

Non-Local Resident: Any park visitor whose home residence is not in one of the 17 counties of the Greater Yellowstone Region (see definition of Local Resident).

Respondent: The individual who actually completed the survey instrument.

Snowmobiling Only: Label used on figures to represent groups who participated in snowmobiling during their visit but did not also cross-country ski.

Snowmobilers or Snowmobiled Total: Labels used on figures to represent groups who participated in snowmobiling during their visit. Members of some of these groups also participated in cross-country skiing.

TWRS: Abbreviation for T W Recreation Services, the major concessioner in Yellowstone.

X-C: Abbreviation for cross-country skiing.

YELL: Abbreviation for Yellowstone.

Yellowstone Only: Label used on figures to represent all recreationists who visited Yellowstone, but who did not also visit Grand Teton.

Yellowstone or Yellowstone Total: Labels used on figures to represent all recreationists that visited Yellowstone. Some of these groups may also have visited Grand Teton.

# METHODS

## GENERAL STRATEGY

Questionnaires were distributed to visitors at several locations within the two parks from February 26 - March 4, 1989. Completed surveys were mailed back to the Denver Service Center, National Park Service. Data were compiled and analyzed to produce this report.

To facilitate tracking of questionnaires, and to allow for general comparisons of respondents to non-respondents, a "front-end" survey was administered to all respondents at the time the surveys were distributed. This front-end survey included the date and place of the interview, the type and size of the respondent's group, and the age of the respondent. Respondents were asked to provide their name, address, and telephone number so that follow-up contacts could be made. Respondents were also asked if they would be interested in receiving future information on the Winter Use Plan for the parks. The names of those who indicated an interest in the plan were added to that project's general mailing list.

## QUESTIONNAIRE DESIGN

The questionnaire was designed to provide information on visitor characteristics, activities, expenditures, preferences and opinions about park facilities and programs. The questionnaire followed the general format used in previous visitor use studies conducted for the National Park Service by the Cooperative Parks Studies Unit at the University of Idaho.

## SAMPLING TECHNIQUE

Visitors were contacted at the entrances (North, West, East, Buffalo/Moran, and Moose) to the parks. A random sample of visitors to the two parks was obtained. Questionnaires were distributed based upon previously reported visitor contacts at the entrance stations. Visitor groups were given a survey in a random fashion and compliance was voluntary.

A saturation sampling methodology was used at Grand Teton. This methodology involved surveying every group that entered the park during randomly selected periods. Two, two-hour sampling periods were conducted at Grand Teton each day during the week of the survey. One period was schedule in the morning and the other in the afternoon. The specific hours of the sampling periods were rotated on a daily basis.

At Yellowstone every 2<sup>nd</sup> group that entered the park during sampling periods was selected for participation. When the volume of traffic made it impossible to select every 2<sup>nd</sup> group, the next available group that entered the park once an interviewer was available was selected.

## DATA ANALYSIS

Completed surveys were commercially keypunched and the data-set was up-loaded to a National Park Service personal computer for analysis. The data were analyzed using a personal computer and the Complete Statistical System (CSS) software package developed by Statsoft, Inc. Basic descriptive statistics, frequency distributions, and cross-tabulations were computed for selected variables. The results of these analyses are reported in this document. Additional analyses can be performed if required. An order form for additional analysis is attached to this report as appendix F.

## QUESTIONNAIRE ADMINISTRATION

The high return rate (80%) was achieved by a series of follow-up procedures that included a reminder postcard, a letter that included a replacement questionnaire, and a telephone call. It was assumed that non-respondents did not significantly differ from those who did respond. Data on non-respondents were not analyzed to check on this assumption.



## COMPARISON OF SAMPLE TO ACTUAL PARK USE

The number of surveys distributed was compared with actual visitor counts at the various entrance stations. Table 2 compares the sample distribution with the actual visitation by entrance station. Table 3 compares the sample distribution with the actual visitation by day of week.

TABLE 2: VISITATION BY ENTRANCE STATION:  
COMPARISON OF SAMPLE DATA WITH ACTUAL VISITATION DATA \*

	ACTUAL	SAMPLE	VARIATION FROM TOTAL
North	27%	16%	-11%
West	49	48	-1
East	3	4	+1
Buffalo/Moran	15	15	0
Moose	6 **	17	+11
	100	100	

\* For the week of February 26-March 4, 1989

\*\* Actual visitation at the Moose entrance is estimated from 1988 data, as traffic counters at this entrance were malfunctioning during the sampling period.

TABLE 3: VISITATION BY DAY OF THE WEEK:  
COMPARISON OF SAMPLE DATA WITH ACTUAL VISITATION DATA \*

	ACTUAL	SAMPLE	VARIATION FROM TOTAL
Sunday	21%	21%	0%
Monday	12	14	+2
Tuesday	13	11	-2
Wednesday	10	12	+2
Thursday	10	7	-3
Friday	11	12	+1
Saturday	24	23	-1
	100 **	100	

\* For the week of February 26-March 4, 1989

\*\* Total exceeds 100% due to rounding.

## SAMPLE SIZE, MISSING DATA, AND REPORTING ERRORS

Information was collected from respondents who provided data on themselves and on the other members of their group. In some instances, a respondent may have skipped some questions or may not have answered all questions completely. This results in missing data and causes the sample size to vary from question to question. For each question, calculations were performed only on the number of cases for which there were actual data.

## LIMITATIONS OF THE SURVEY

This study has limitations which should be taken into account when interpreting the results.

1. The survey required the cooperation of the visitors. It is assumed that their responses are truthful and accurate but there is no way to confirm this assumption.

2. The data *reflect the visitors and their use patterns during the sampling period only*. Future visitor use patterns or visitor characteristics cannot be predicted from this data.

3. Data were not analyzed on non-respondents, so it is not known if they differ significantly from those who did respond.

## VISITORS CONTACTED

Of the 1,089 visitors contacted, 1,065 (98%) agreed to participate. The questionnaire was completed and returned by 855, an 80% response rate. Both the acceptance rate and the response rate are comparable to those obtained in similar National Park Service studies.

# VISITOR CHARACTERISTICS

Winter use levels have gone up and down during recent years at Yellowstone, Grand Teton, and the Rockefeller Parkway. Between 1982 and 1988 winter visits to the three-park area increased by an average of more than 4 percent per year. In the 1988-89 season, use decreased by 3 percent, and in 1989-90, it increased by 2 percent.

Table 4 summarizes use levels (entrance totals) for the past eight years. For the individual park statistics, visitors were counted for every park they entered; however, in computing the three-park total, double counting was eliminated. More detailed winter use information can be found in appendix A.

**TABLE 4: VISITATION TRENDS  
WINTER SEASON (DECEMBER 1 - MARCH 31)**

SEASON	YELL	GRTE	JODR	3-PARK AREA*
1982-83	68,607	43,067	12,954	100,879
1983-84	69,653	34,367	11,628	94,330
1984-85	74,505	35,712	11,442	100,682
1985-86	79,309	43,372	13,081	111,780
1986-87	86,170	44,668	15,541	117,887
1987-88	95,506	44,845	19,504	124,097
1988-89	92,614	44,991	20,435	120,576
1989-90	98,249	44,947	24,386	122,874

\*The three-park total is not the sum of the individual parks. To eliminate double counting of visitors who travel through more than one park, the total only includes visitors entering Yellowstone through the west, north, and east entrances, plus visitors entering Grand Teton.

Winter visitor use is about one-twentieth the amount of summer use. Annual recreation visits in 1989 to Yellowstone totaled about 2.6 million and to Grand Teton about 1.3 million.

Data were collected on various characteristics of survey respondents and on the group that they represented. Among the information requested was group size, group type, origin and destination of the group, age of group members, home zip codes of group members, and the number of past visits to the park(s).

Figures 1-4 on pages 20-22 summarize data on group size. The average size of all groups was 5.2 persons, but for groups who only go to Grand Teton the average was 3.4. The overall median group size was four. Snowmobiling groups are much larger than cross-country skiing groups. The size of non-local snowmobiling groups has almost tripled since 1977.

The average size of groups that entered through the Yellowstone East Entrance was noticeably larger (8 people) than the average group size that entered through other entrances (see figure 2 on page 21). This may be a result of differences in how individual respondents defined their group. Respondents who entered at the East Entrance may have used a broader definition of groups than those who entered at other entrances. Also, the relatively small number of completed surveys that were received from individuals who entered through this entrance would not tend to counterbalance responses that were significantly different from the overall mean.

Figures 5-10 on pages 23-27 summarize data on group types. Virtually all visitors are travelling with family and/or friends. At the East and West entrances, 25% are in guided tours but other entrances have a much lower proportion. Guided tours are least used by cross-country skiers and most used by visitors who neither snowmobile nor ski. Use of guide services by non-local snowmobilers is still relatively low but has doubled since 1977. Summer users tend to be family groups, and few of these have friends in their group. In contrast, 46% of winter visitors are travelling with friends.

The average age of winter visitors is 38, with most visitors either middle-age or older (see figure 11 on page 28). 62% of visitors were between the ages of 26 and 50. In contrast with summer visitation, there are relatively few children or young adults.

Figures 12-16 on pages 29-32 summarize past visits (both overall and winter) to the park(s).

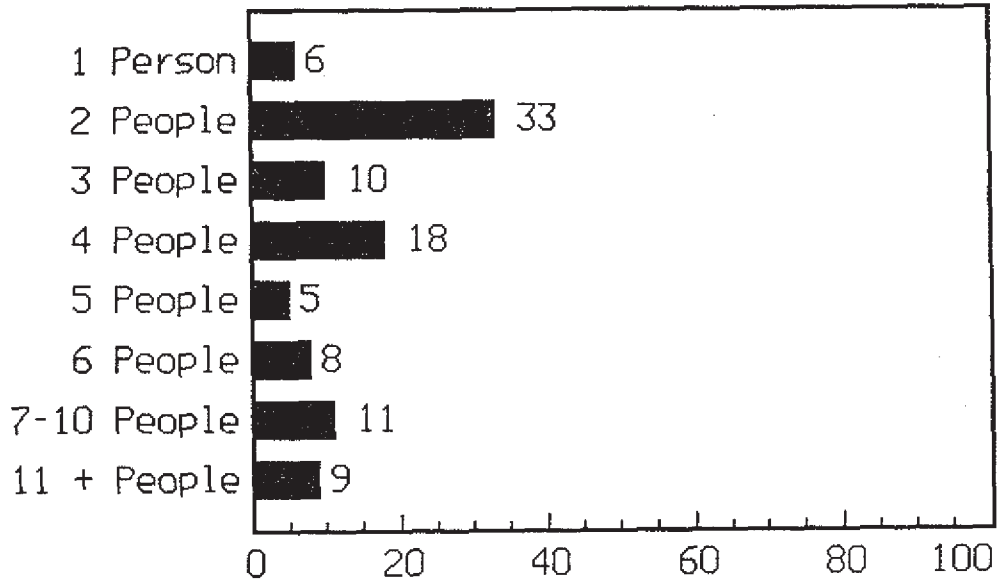
76% of the winter visitors have previously visited the park. This contrasts with the summer when 52% are repeat visitors. Virtually all winter visitors are travelling with a repeat visitor. Total visits average 16 for respondents and 11 for individuals. Day users and local residents (both strongly represented in Grand Teton) average more than 40 previous visits.

Roughly 48% of the visitors have previously visited in the winter. Total winter visits average 7 for respondents and 5 for individuals. Day users and local residents have made an average of 18 winter visits.

Figures 17-26 and table 8 on pages 33-38 summarize the home residence of visitors. 23% of visitors reside in the 17-county Greater Yellowstone region. Summer visitation comes from all over the country. This contrasts with winter when 46% of the visitation is from Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming.

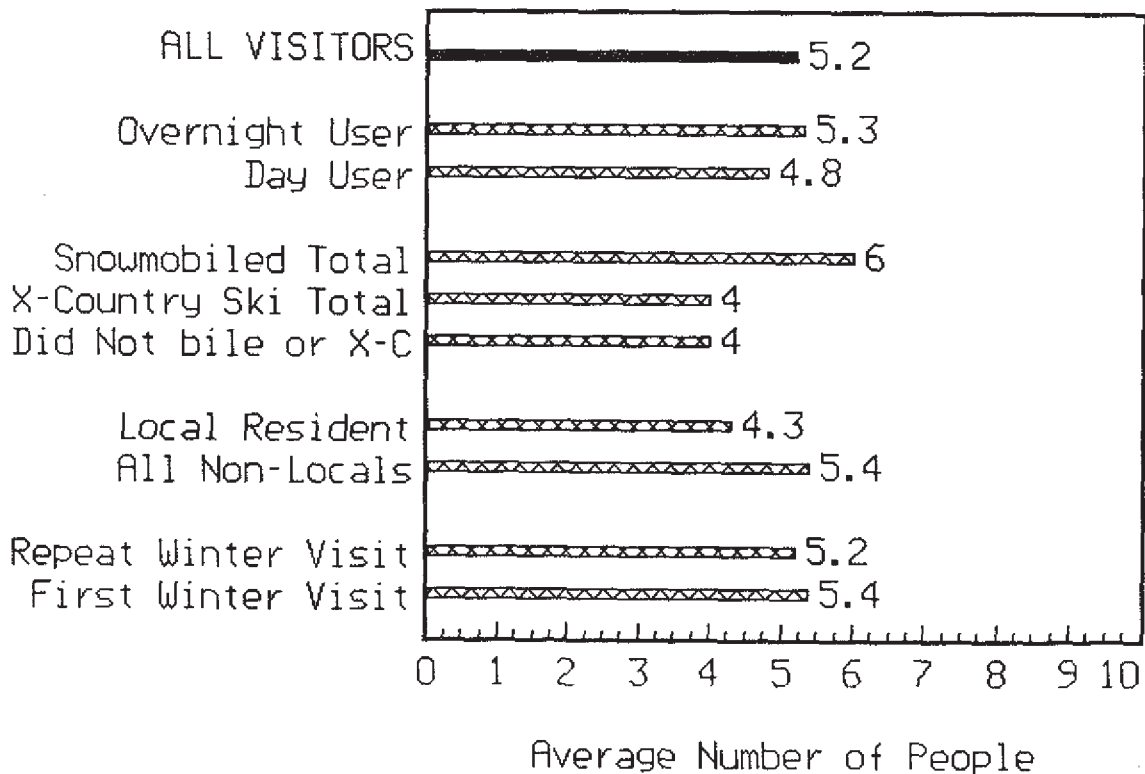
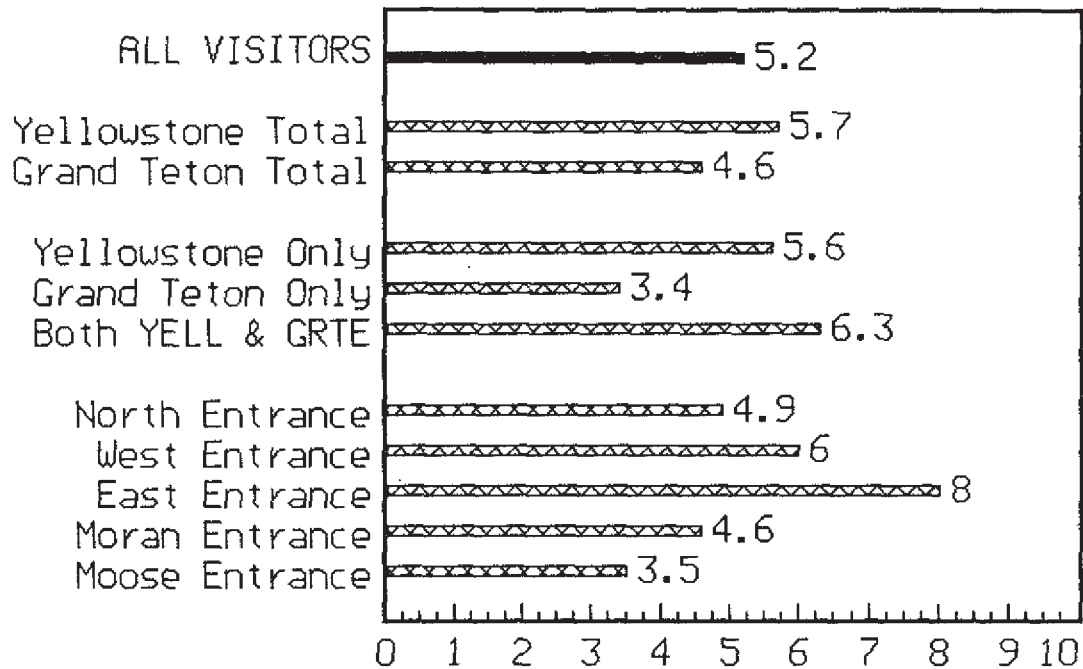
Local residents are present in 23% of the Yellowstone groups and 37% of the Grand Teton groups.

FIGURE 1. GROUP SIZE

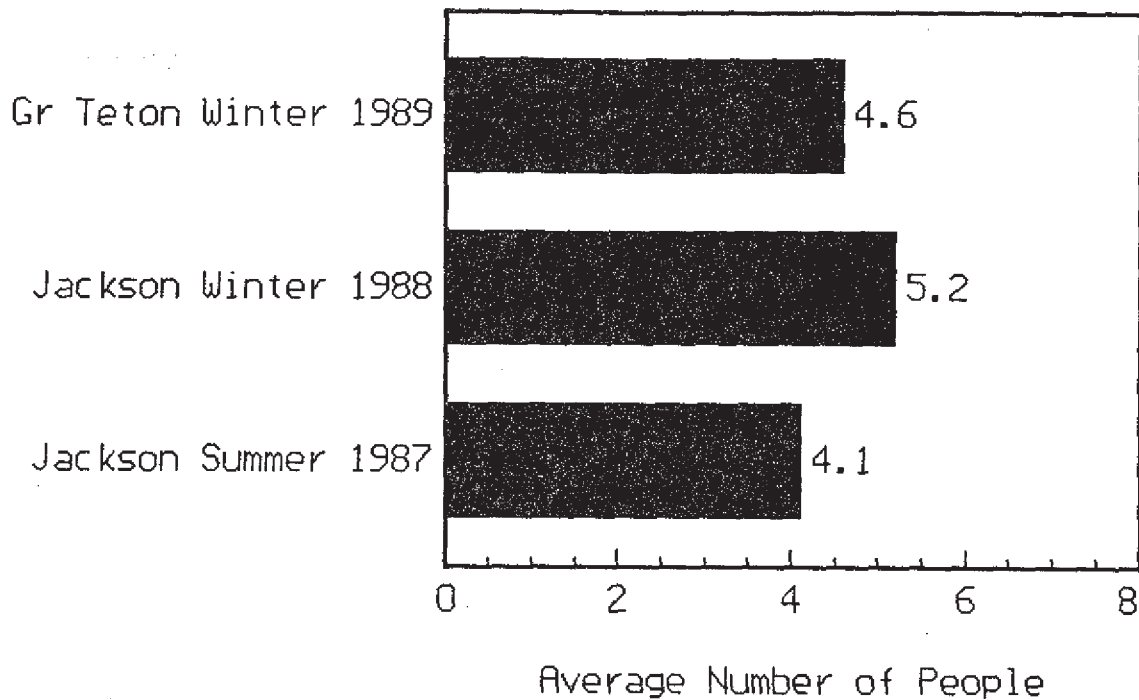


Percent of Groups  
(n=846, Mean=5.2, Median=4)

FIGURE 2. GROUP SIZE BREAKDOWN



**FIGURE 3. SURVEY COMPARISON - AVERAGE PARTY SIZE NON-LOCAL VISITORS**



**FIGURE 4. SURVEY COMPARISON - AVERAGE PARTY SIZE YELLOWSTONE SNOWMOBILERS**

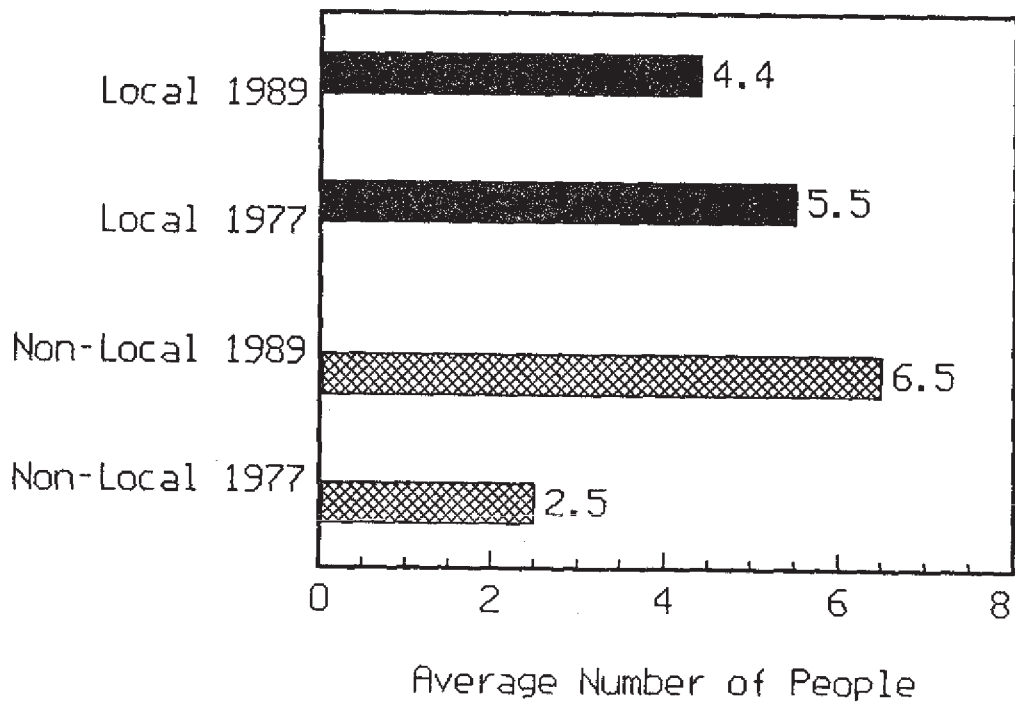




FIGURE 5. GROUP TYPE BY PARK

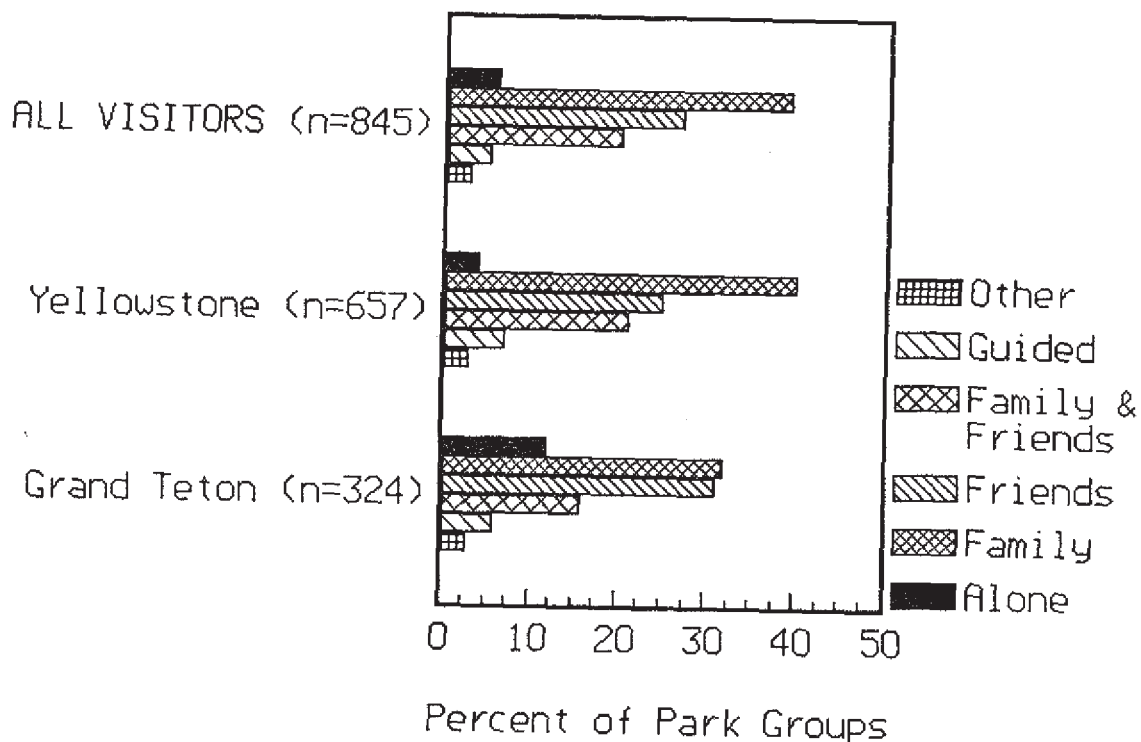
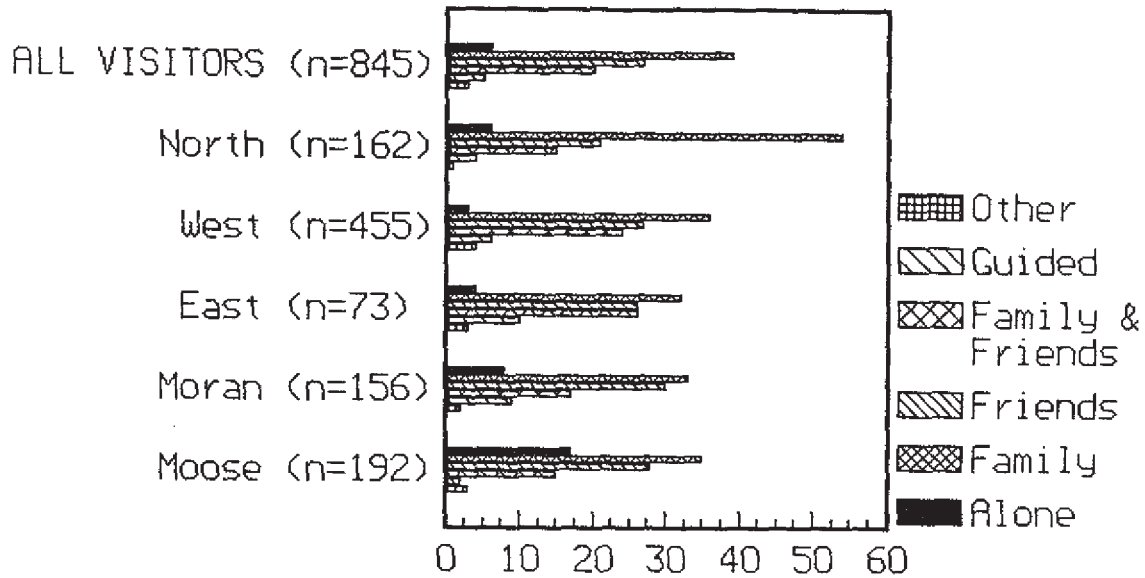


TABLE 5: GROUP TYPE BY PARK

PARK	GROUP TYPE					
	ALONE	FAMILY	FRIENDS	FAMILY & FRIENDS	GUIDED	OTHER
ALL VISITORS	5.9%	38.9%	27.1%	19.6%	5.3%	3.1%
Yellowstone	3.7	39.9	25.4	21.2	6.7	3.2
Grand Teton	12.0	32.4	31.2	15.7	6.2	2.5

FIGURE 6. GROUP TYPE BY PARK ENTRANCE



Percent of Entrance  
Station Groups

TABLE 6: GROUP TYPE BY PARK ENTRANCE STATION

ENTRANCE STATION	GROUP TYPE					
	ALONE	FAMILY	FRIENDS	FAMILY & FRIENDS	GUIDED	OTHER
ALL VISITORS	5.9%	38.9%	27.1%	19.6%	5.3%	3.1%
North	5.6	53.7	21.0	14.8	3.7	1.2
West	2.9	36.3	27.3	24.2	5.9	3.5
East	4.1	31.5	26.0	26.0	9.6	2.7
Buffalo/Moran	8.3	33.3	30.1	17.3	9.0	1.9
Moose	16.7	35.4	27.6	15.1	2.1	3.1

FIGURE 7. GROUP TYPE BY ACTIVITY

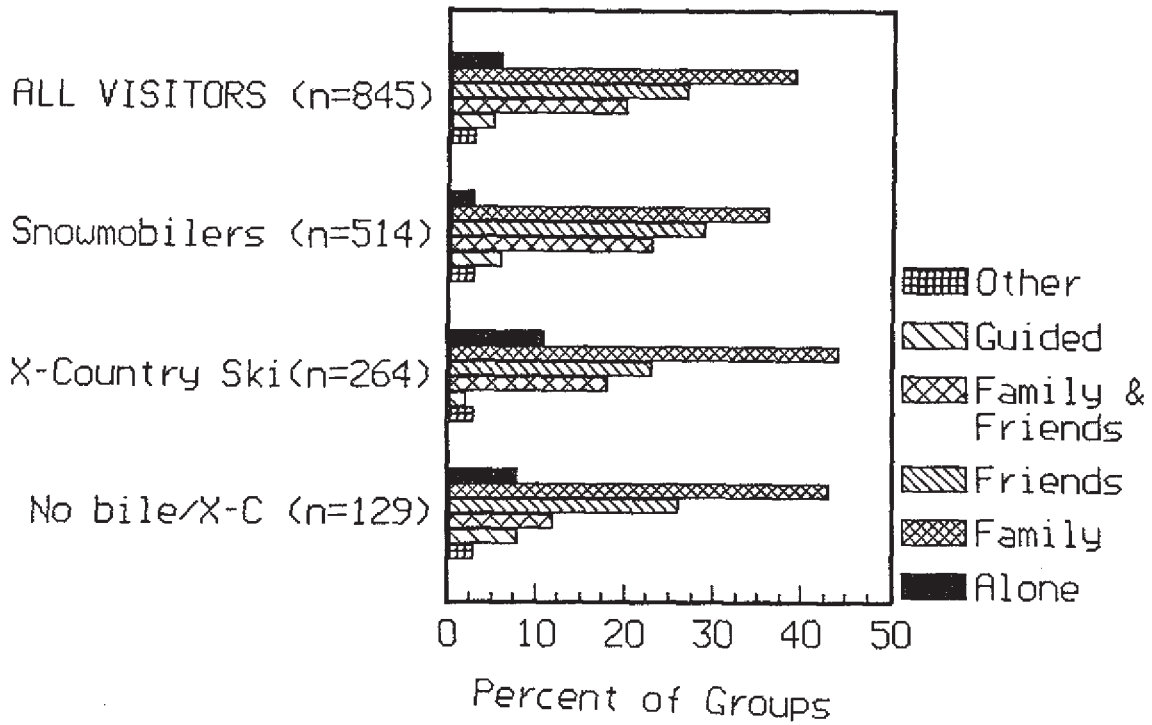


TABLE 7: GROUP TYPE BY ACTIVITY \*

ACTIVITY	GROUP TYPE					
	ALONE	FAMILY	FRIENDS	FAMILY & FRIENDS	GUIDED	OTHER
ALL VISITORS	5.9%	38.9%	27.1%	19.6%	5.3%	3.1%
Snow-mobiling	3.1	35.8	29.2	23.2	5.6	3.1
X-C Skiing	11.0	43.6	22.7	17.8	2.3	2.7
Did Not snowmobile or X-C Ski	7.8	43.4	25.6	12.4	7.8	3.1

\* Totals add to more than 100% due to participation in both snowmobiling and cross-country skiing by members of some groups.

FIGURE 8. SURVEY COMPARISON - TYPE OF GROUP  
YELLOWSTONE - ALL VISITORS

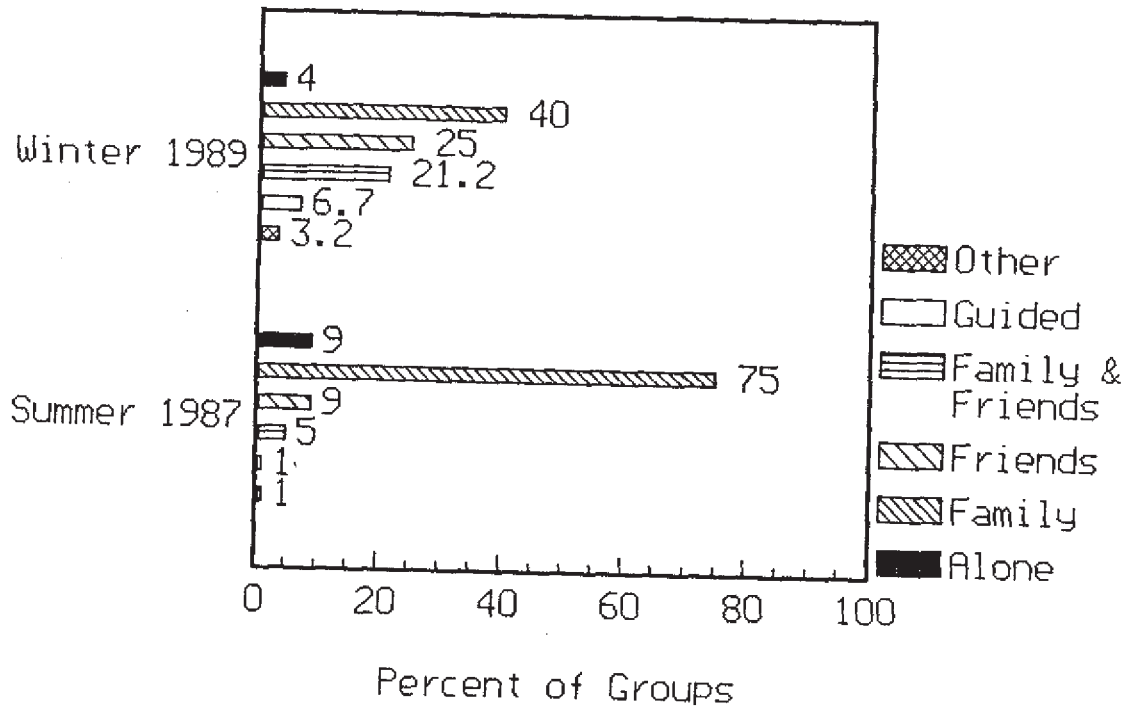


FIGURE 9. SURVEY COMPARISON - TYPE OF GROUP  
YELLOWSTONE - LOCAL SNOWMOBILERS

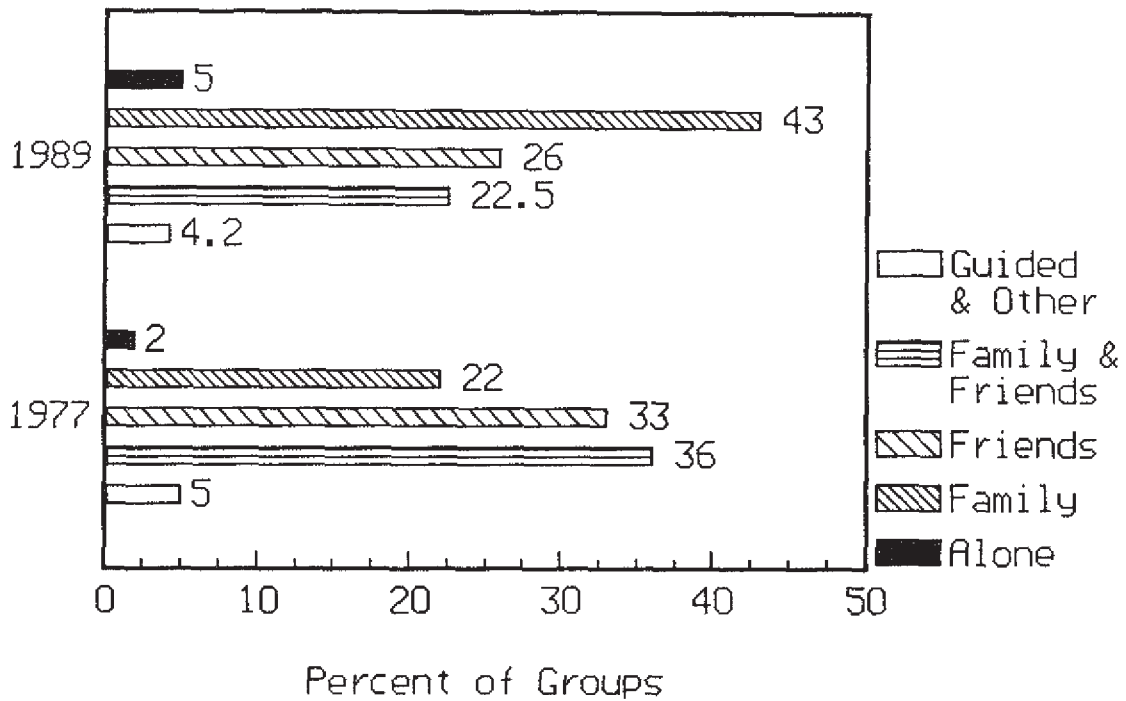


FIGURE 10. SURVEY COMPARISON - TYPE OF GROUP  
YELLOWSTONE - NON-LOCAL SNOWMOBILERS

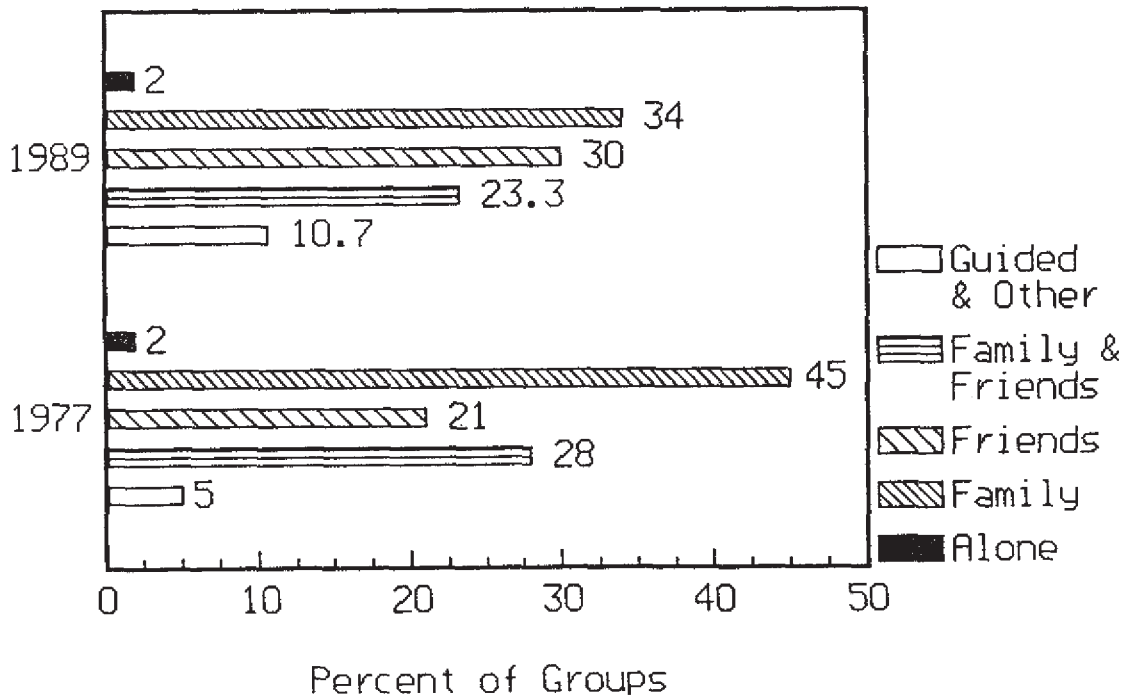
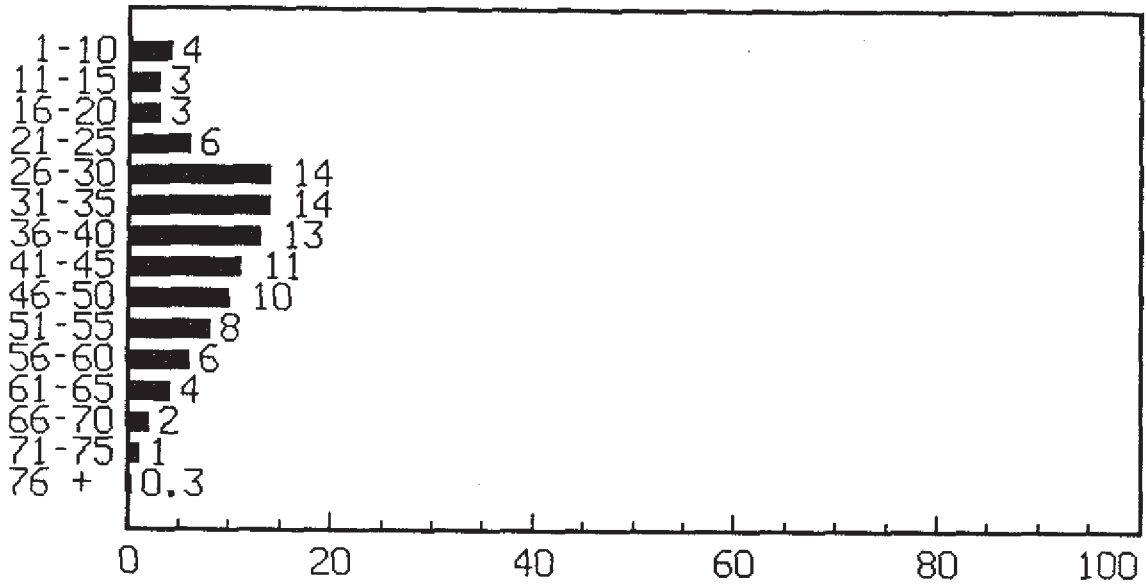
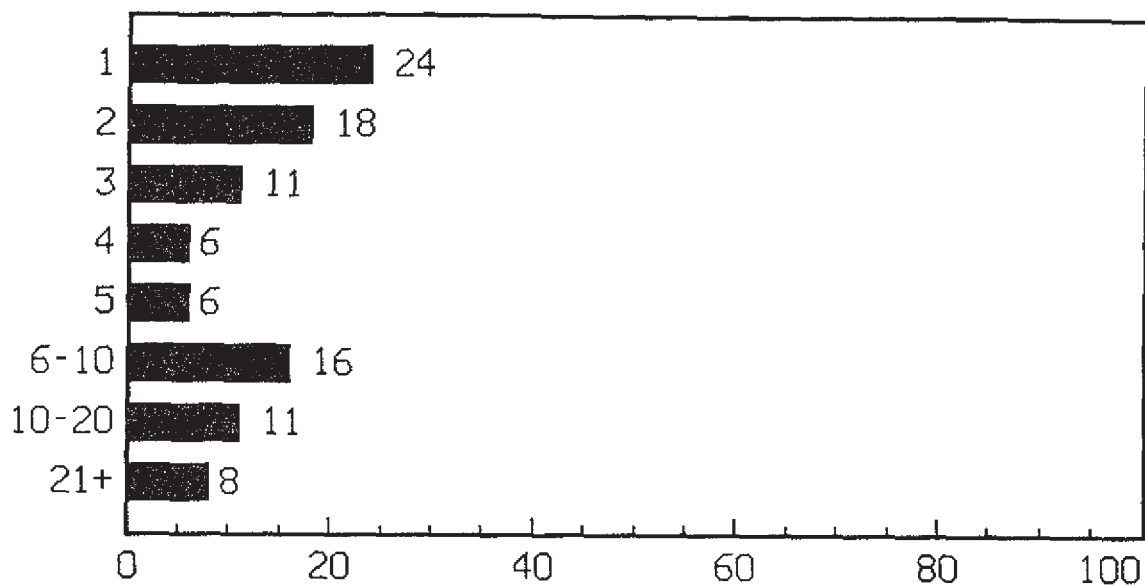


FIGURE 11. AGE



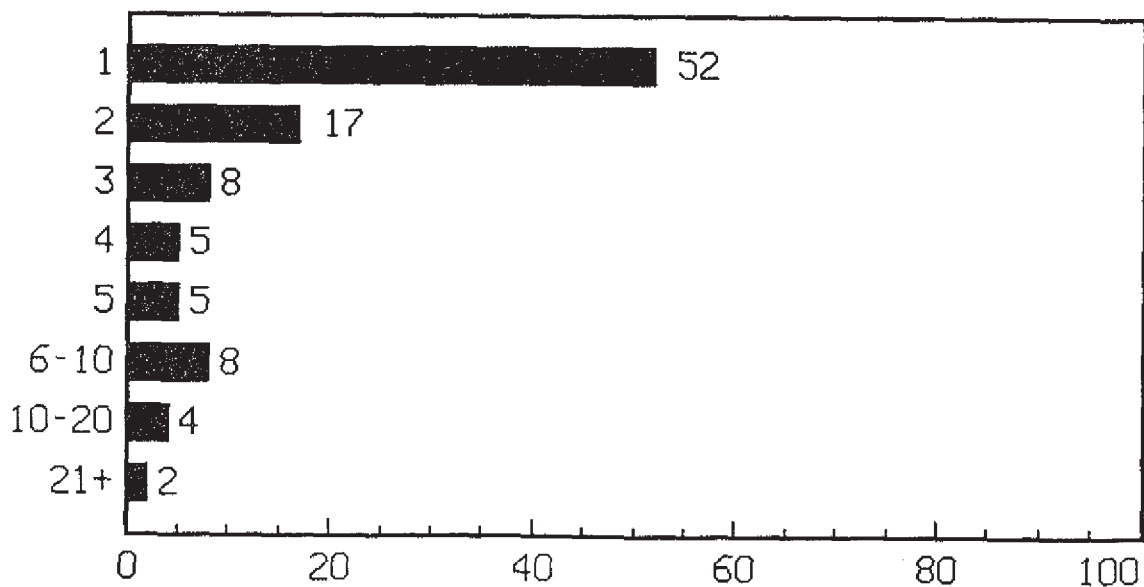
Percent of Individuals  
(n=2603, Mean=38.1)

**FIGURE 12. TOTAL VISITS - ANY SEASON  
INDIVIDUALS**



Percent of Individuals  
(n=2328, Mean=10.7)

**FIGURE 13. TOTAL VISITS - WINTER  
INDIVIDUALS**



Percent of Individuals  
(n=2427, Mean=4.6)

FIGURE 14. AVERAGE NUMBER OF VISITS OF RESPONDENTS

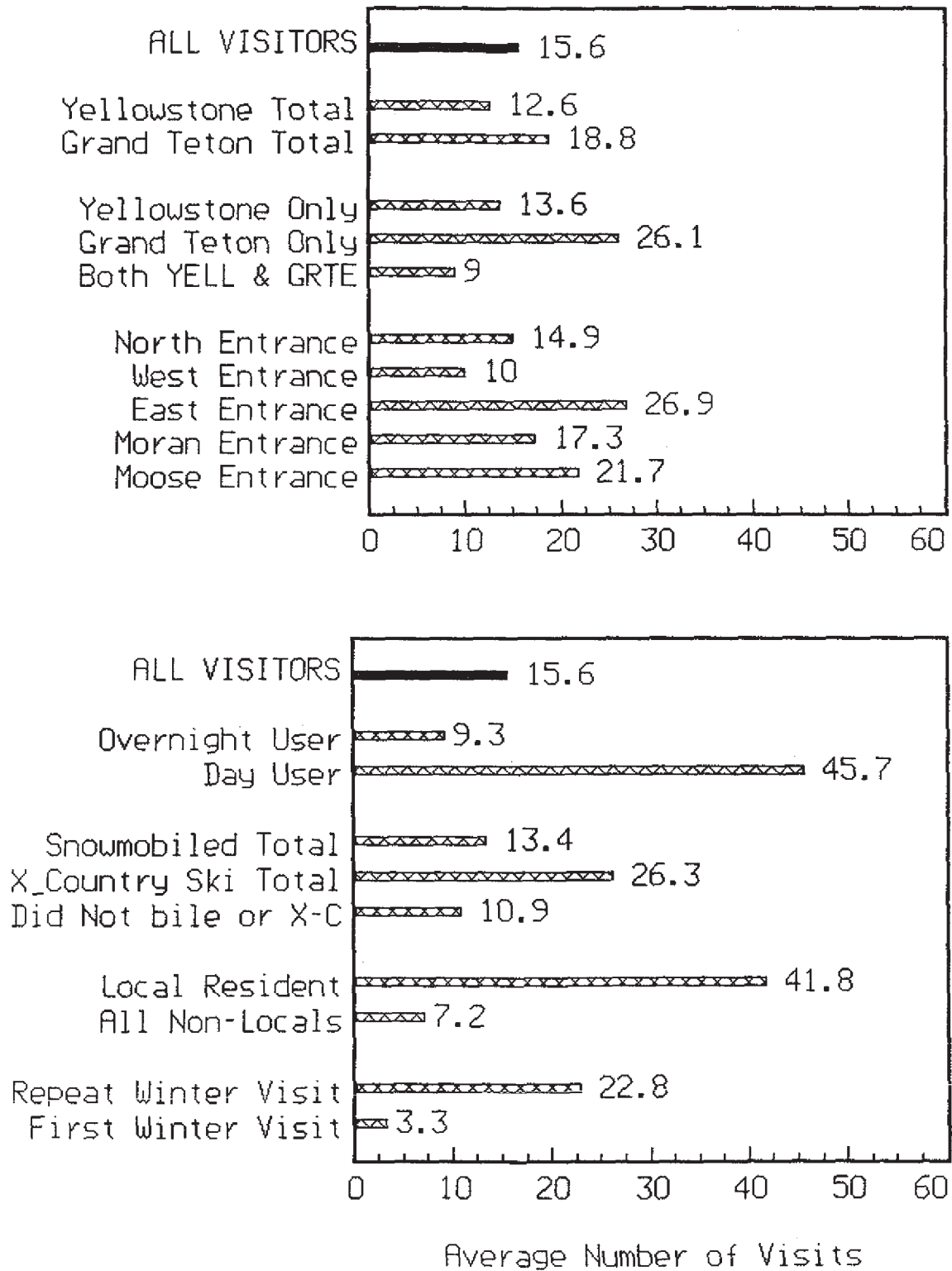




FIGURE 15. AVERAGE NUMBER OF WINTER VISITS OF RESPONDENTS

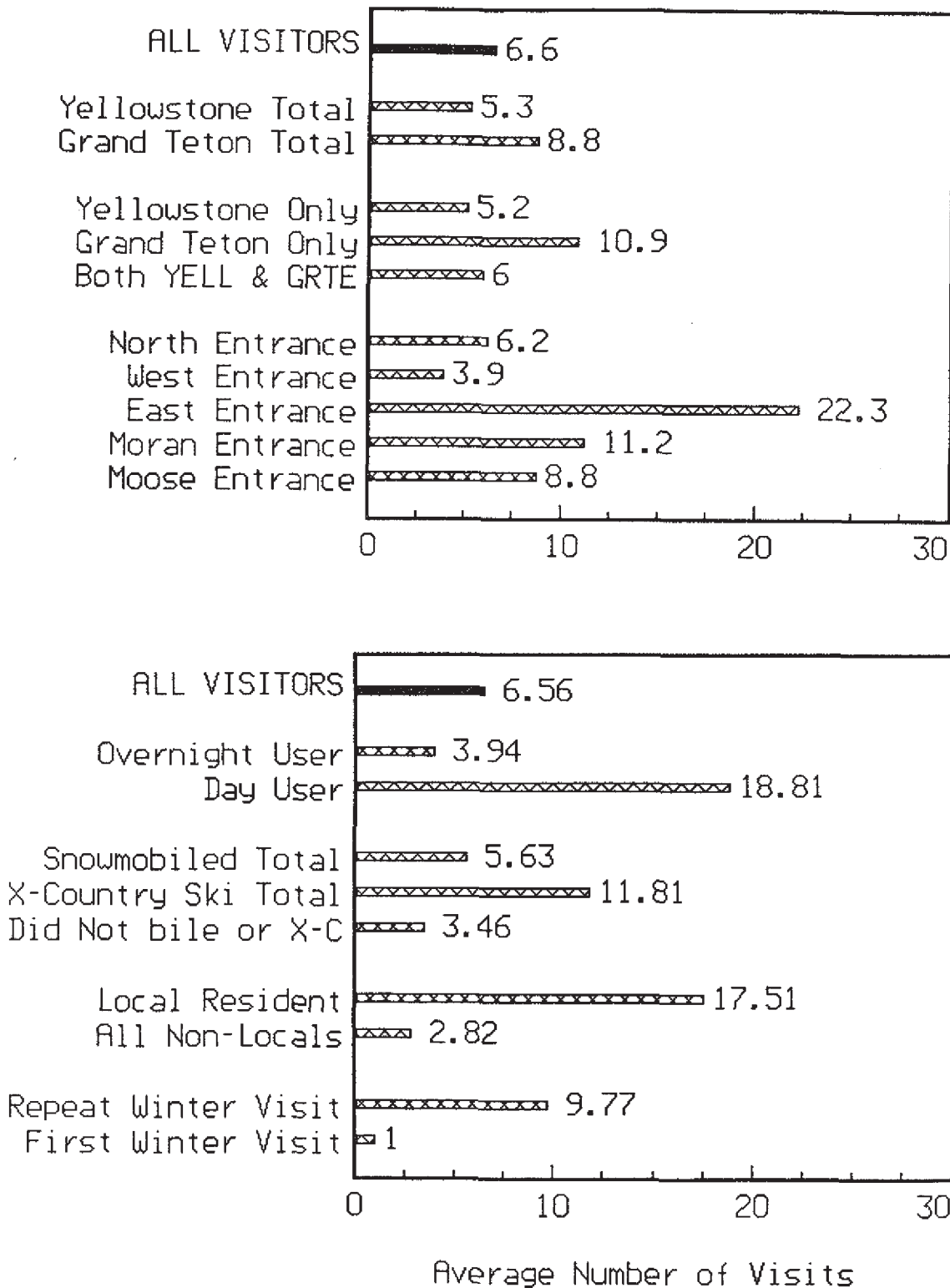
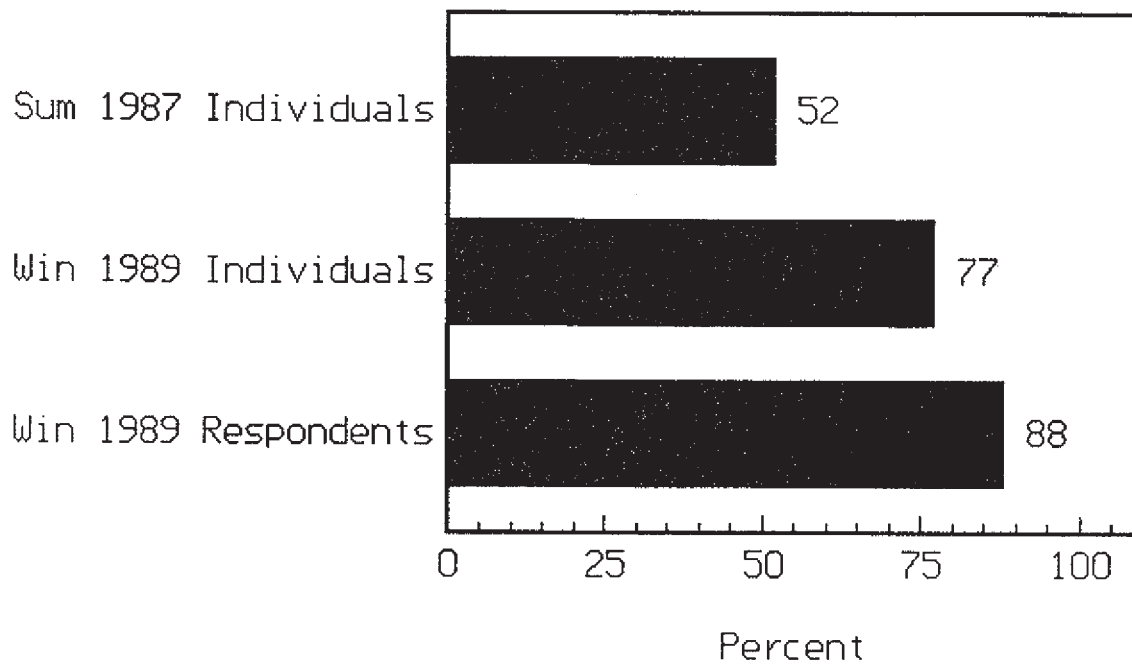
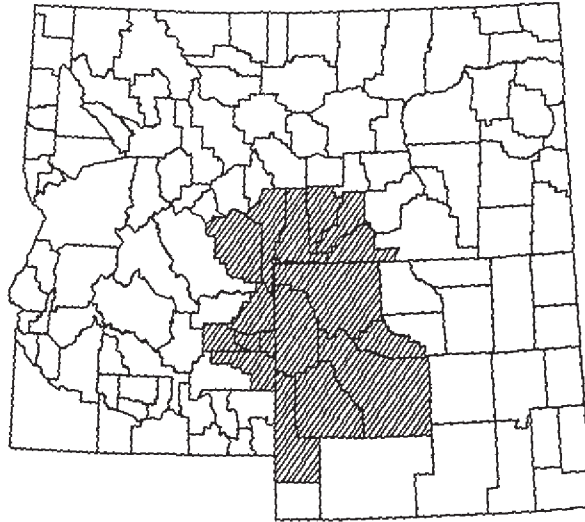


FIGURE 16. SURVEY COMPARISON - YELLOWSTONE REPEAT VISITS



**FIGURE 17. LOCAL AREA  
(GREATER YELLOWSTONE REGION)**



**FIGURE 18. LOCAL RESIDENT - INDIVIDUALS**

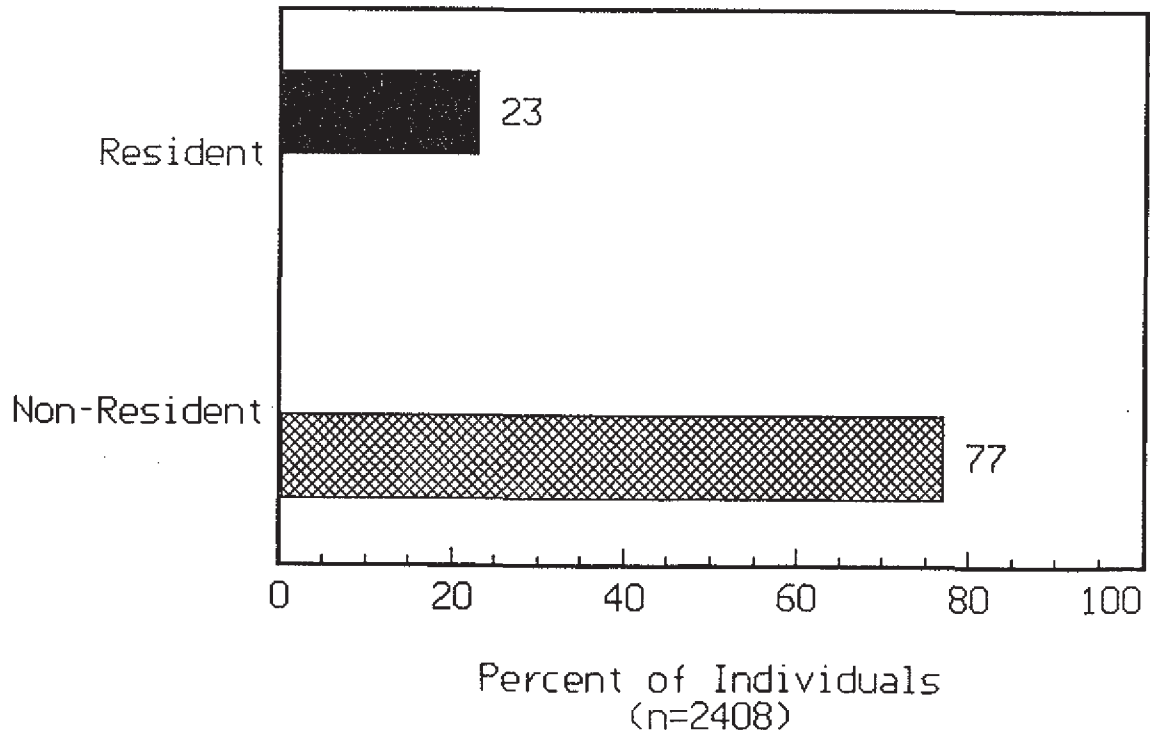


FIGURE 19. LOCAL RESIDENT - RESPONDENTS

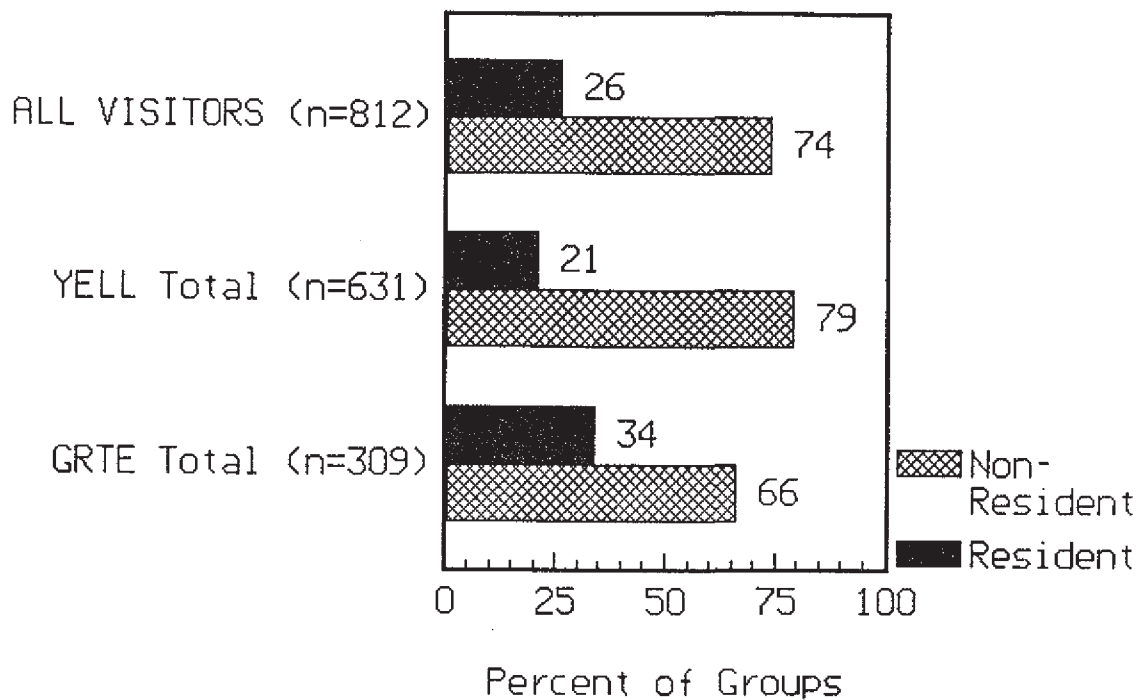


FIGURE 20. LOCAL RESIDENT - ANY GROUP MEMBER

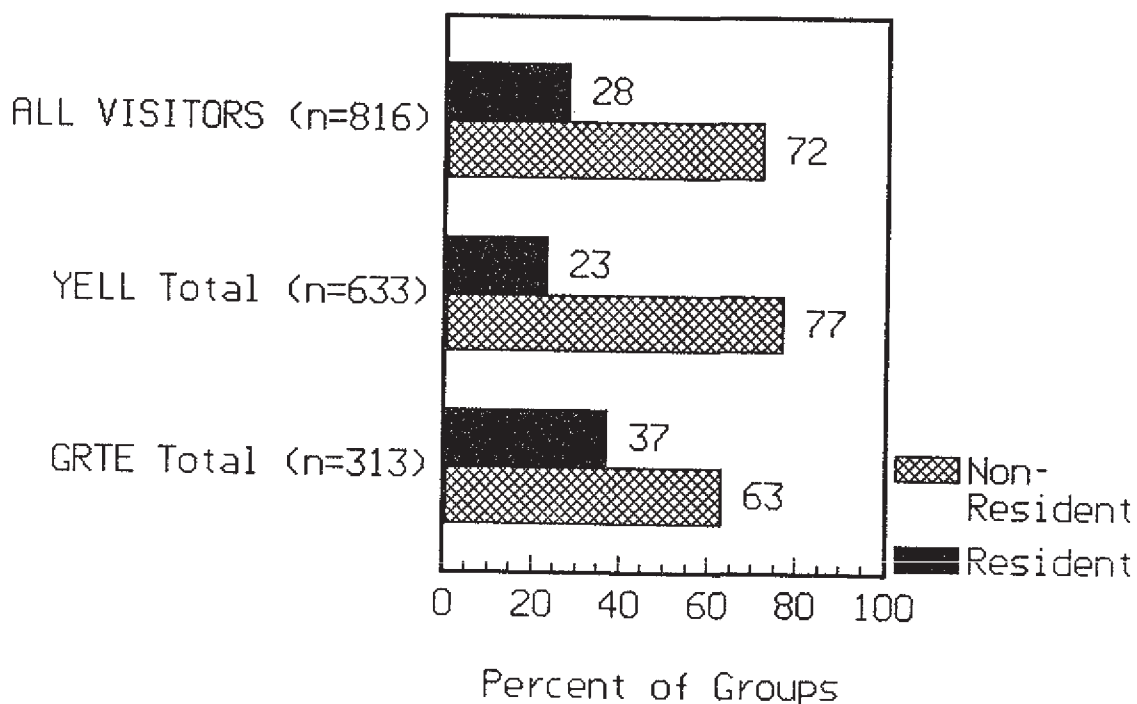


FIGURE 21. VISITATION BY STATE (1989 WINTER)

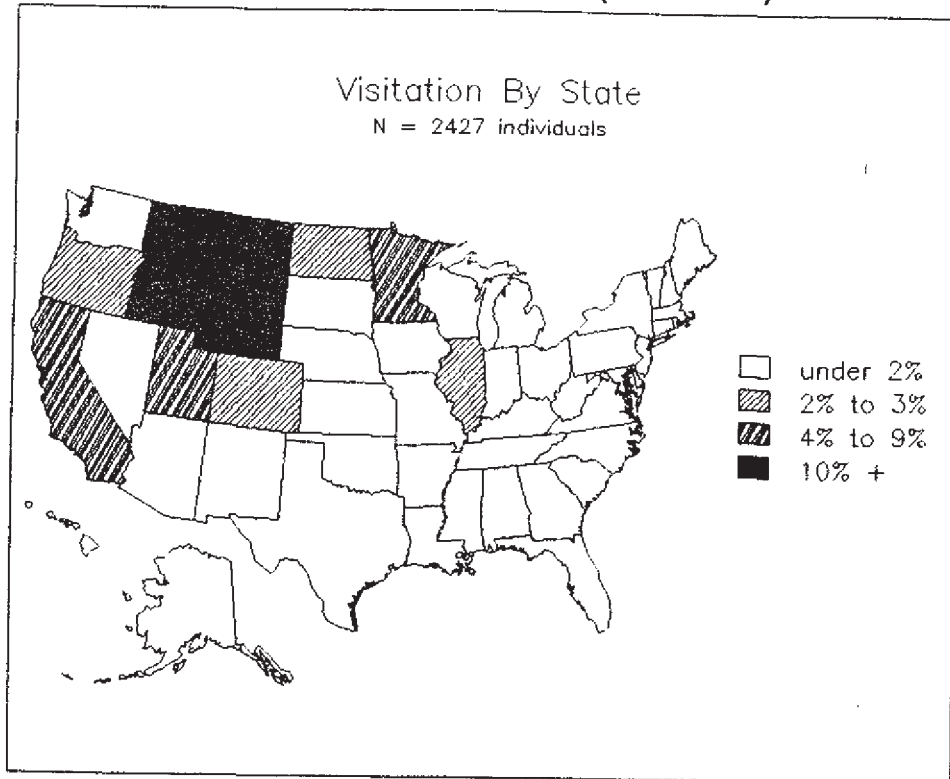


FIGURE 22. VISITATION BY STATE (1987 SUMMER)

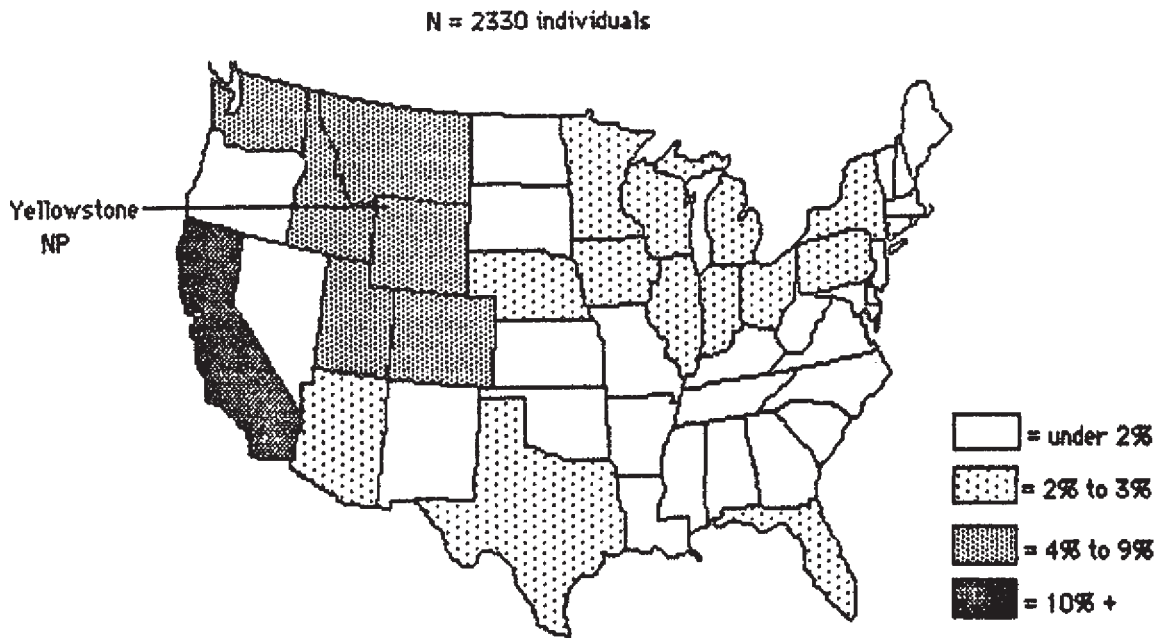


TABLE 8: VISITATION BY STATE (1989 WINTER)

STATE	NUMBER	% *
Montana	458	19%
Wyoming	397	16
Idaho	263	11
Utah	194	8
Minnesota	156	6
California	120	5
Colorado	81	3
Oregon	62	3
Illinois	54	2
North Dakota	48	2
Massachusetts	44	2
Michigan	43	2
Georgia	42	2
Pennsylvania	42	2
Wisconsin	40	2
New York	36	2
Texas	34	1
Florida	33	1
Washington	27	1
Virginia	26	1
New Jersey	25	1
Ohio	24	1
Tennessee	19	1
Iowa	17	1
Others	< 11 individuals per state	6

n = 2427 Individuals

\* Total exceeds 100% due to rounding.

FIGURE 23. CENSUS REGIONS

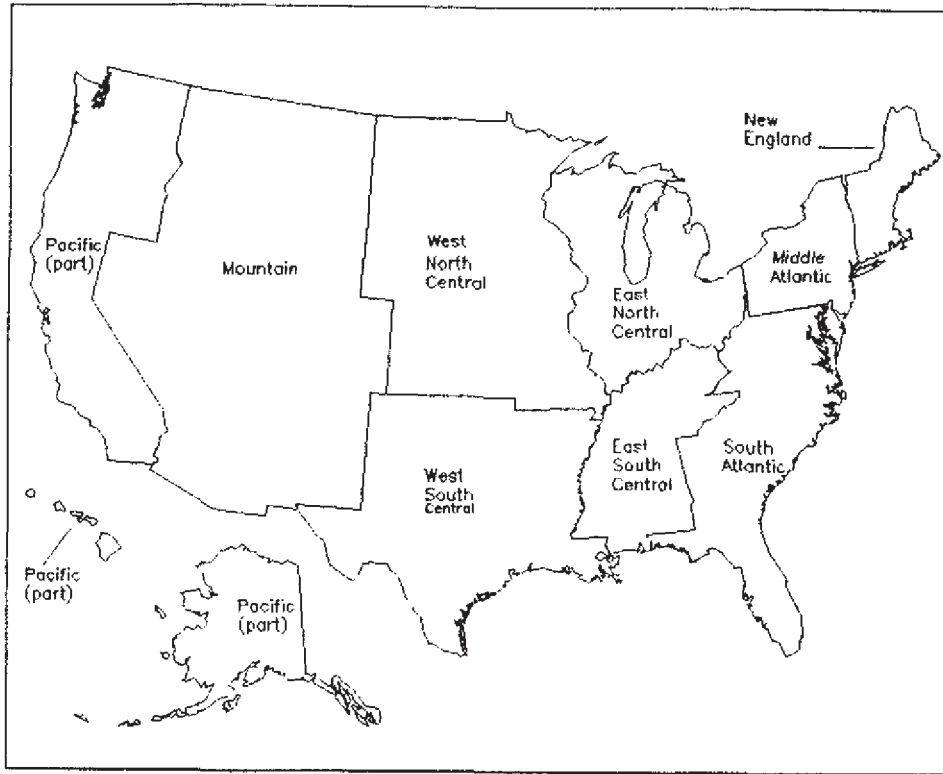
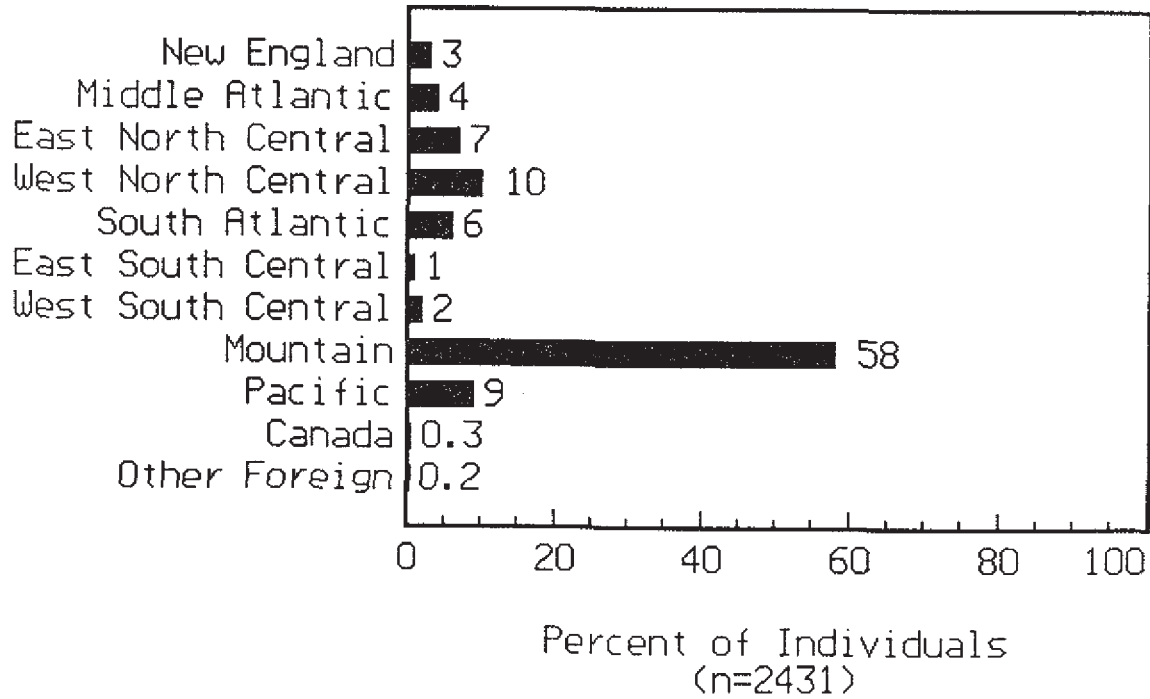
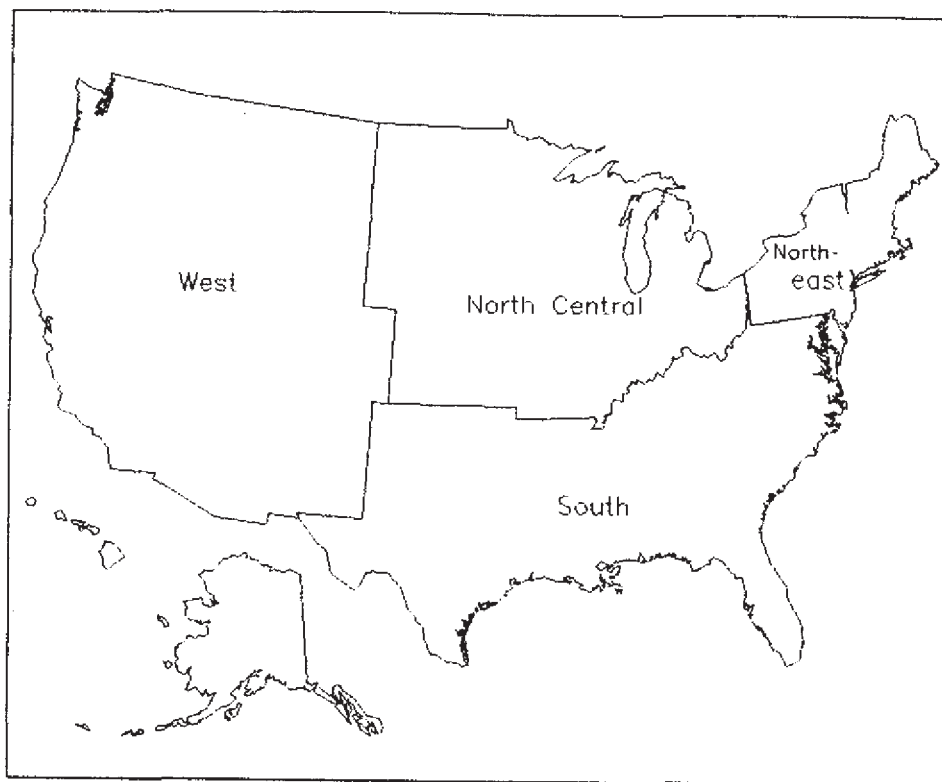


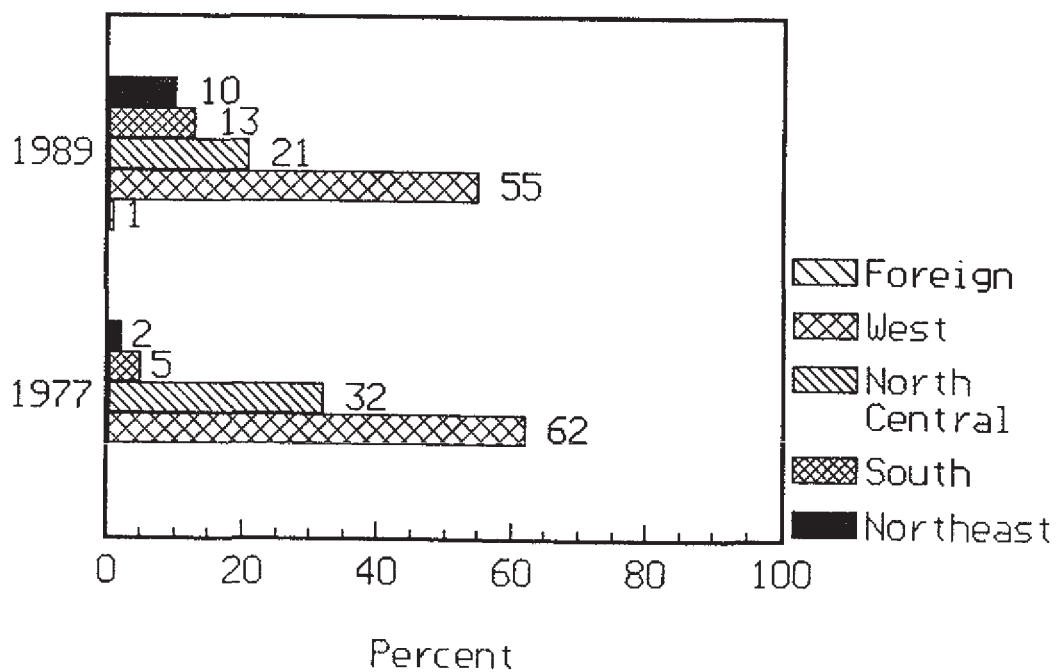
FIGURE 24. VISITOR RESIDENCE BY REGION



**FIGURE 25. CENSUS DIVISIONS**



**FIGURE 26. SURVEY COMPARISON - VISITOR RESIDENCE  
YELLOWSTONE - NON-LOCAL SNOWMOBILERS**





# VISITORS' USE OF TIME

56% of groups entered the park(s) on Friday, Saturday, or Sunday (see figure 27 on page 42). 50% of the groups entered the park(s) between 8:01 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. 77% of all groups entered the park(s) before 12:00 noon (see figure 28 on page 42).

Figures 29-37 on pages 43-47 present a summary of data relating to average length of visitation. Overnight use, as used in this report, means visitors who spent the night in the area of the three parks (not at their home residence). Many of these visitors are staying in West Yellowstone and Jackson. Day use visitors are those who visit one of the parks without spending a night in the area. Many of these visitors are either local residents or are passing through on I-80.

Yellowstone day use is small in the winter but still greater than in the summer. 27% of Grand Teton visitation is by day users. 57% of the groups containing a local resident are day users. 21% of day-users stayed in the park(s) for six hours. 33% of day-users stayed in the park(s) for more than six hours. The mean stay for day-users was 5.6 hours.

79% of groups stayed overnight in the area of the parks. 26% of overnight users stayed in the area for two nights. 52% of overnight users stayed in the area between 3 and 7 nights. The mean number of nights stayed for all overnight users was 4.1. Winter visitors to Jackson Hole stay twice as long as summer visitors. Length of stay for non-local snowmobilers has decreased from 5.5 nights in 1977 to 4.0 in 1989.

FIGURE 27. DAY OF THE WEEK FIRST ENTERED THE PARK

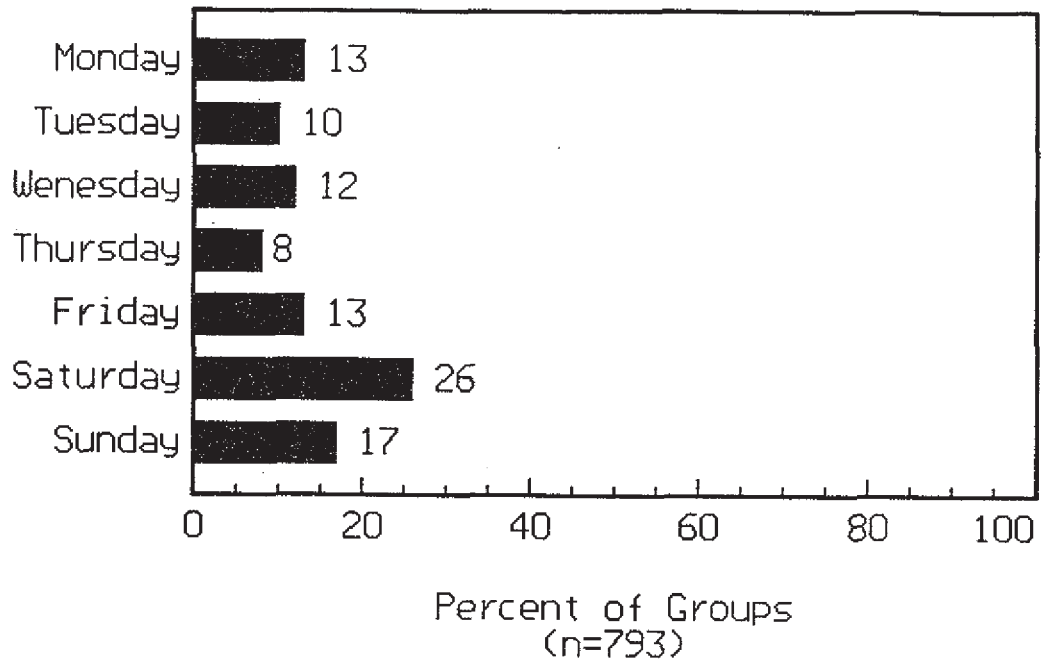


FIGURE 28. TIME OF DAY ENTERED THE PARK

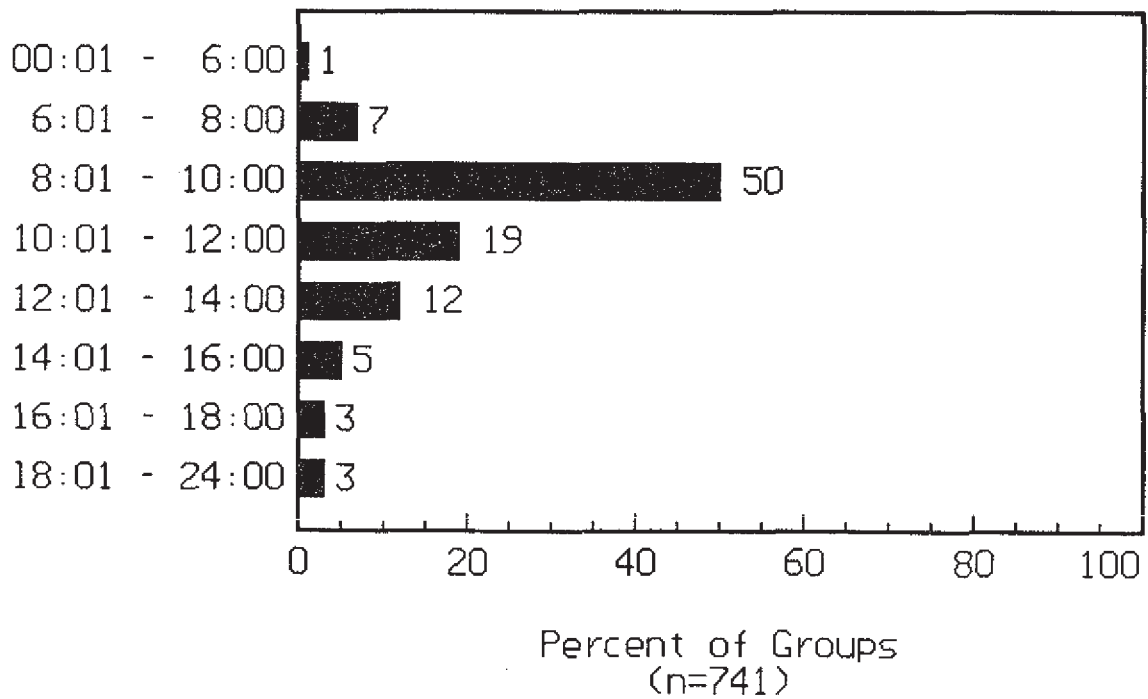


FIGURE 29. STAYED OVERNIGHT IN AREA BY PARK

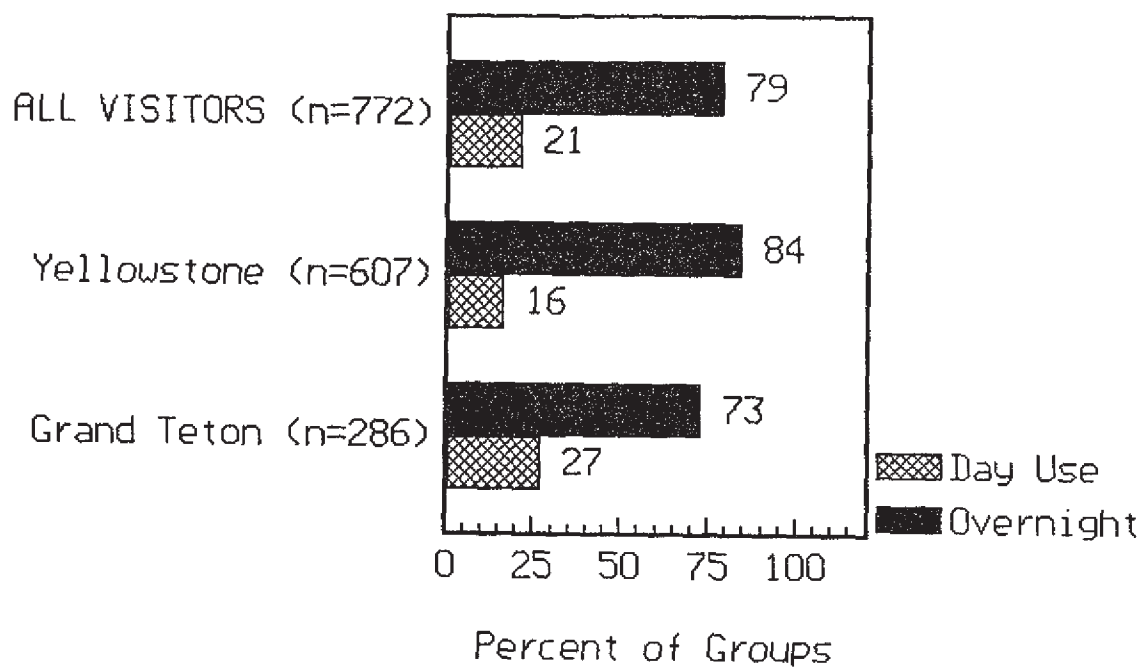


FIGURE 30. STAYED OVERNIGHT IN AREA BY LOCAL RESIDENT IN GROUP

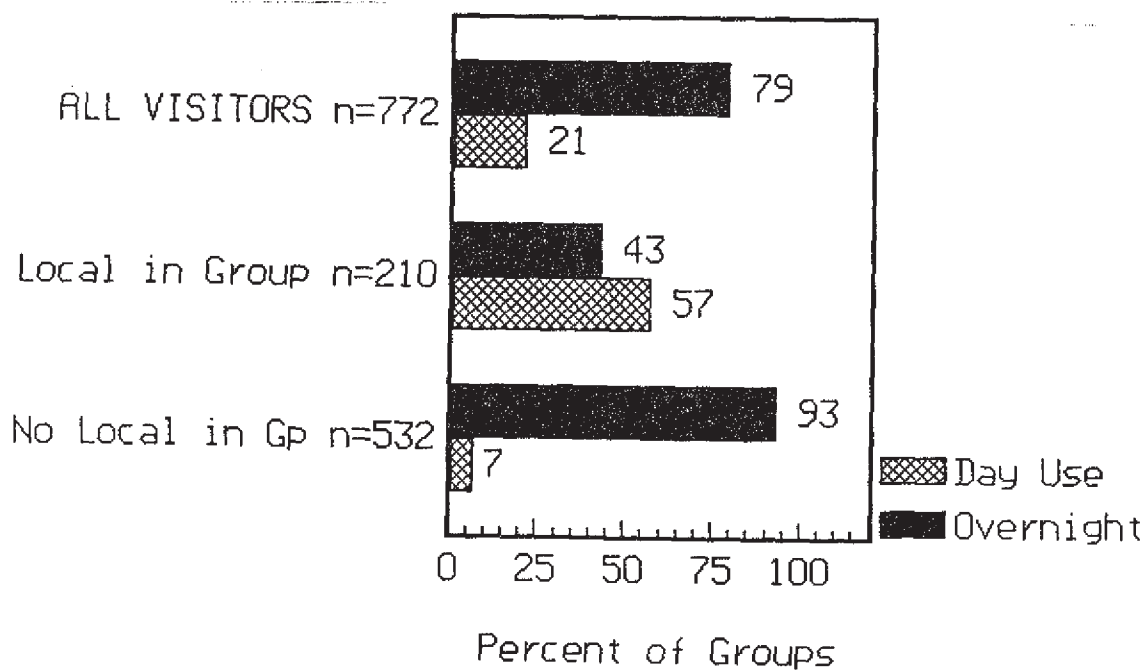


FIGURE 31. STAYED OVERNIGHT IN AREA BY WINTER REPEAT VISITOR IN GROUP

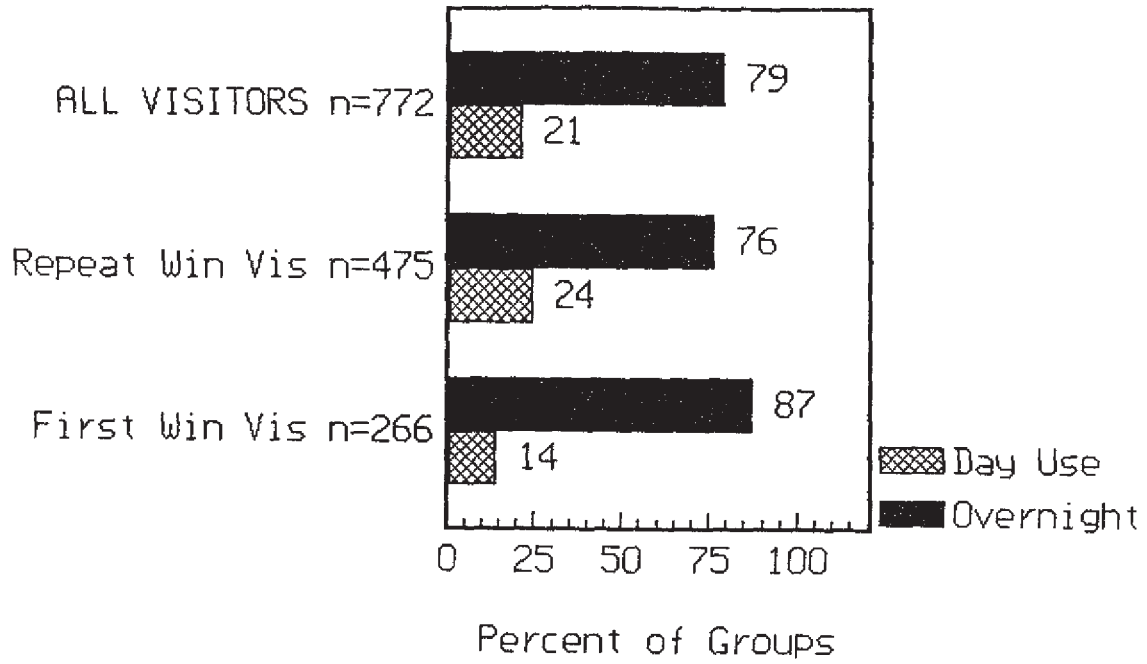
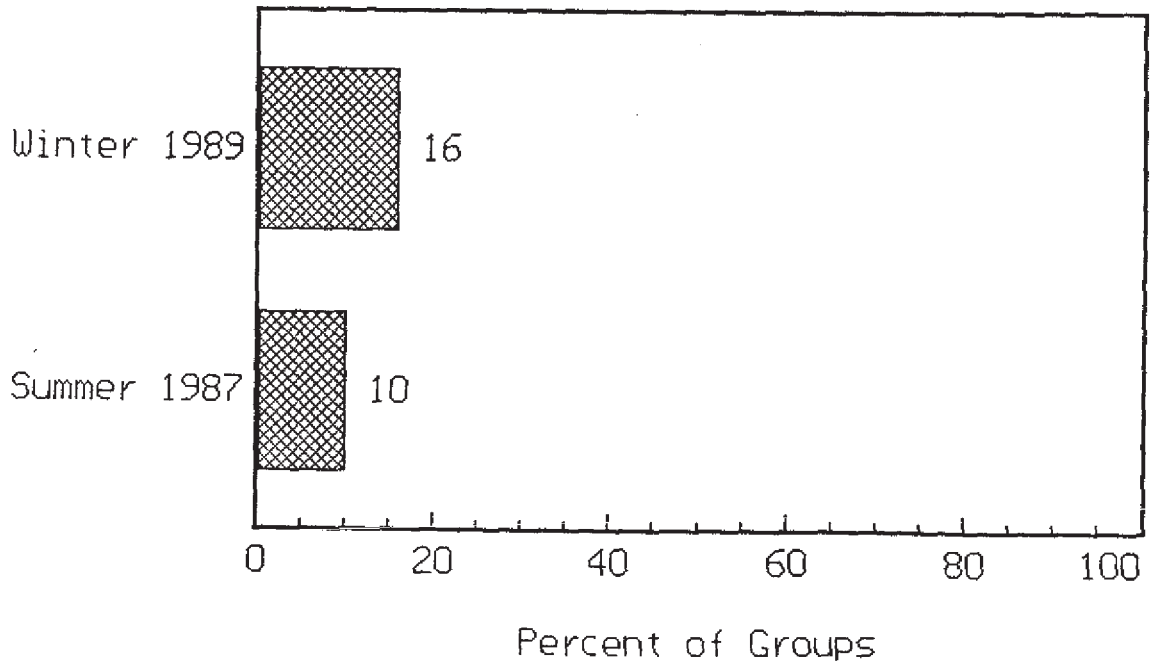
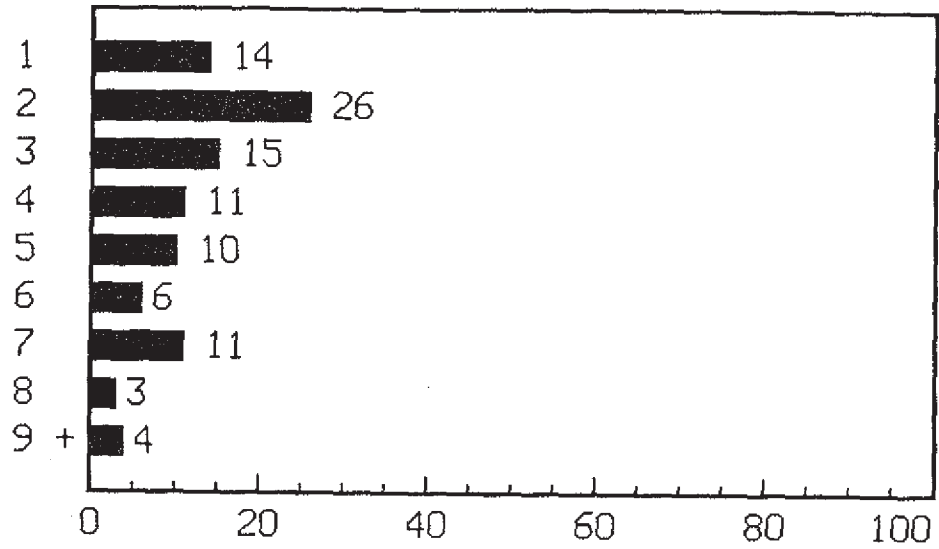


FIGURE 32. SURVEY COMPARISON - DAY USERS, YELLOWSTONE TOTAL

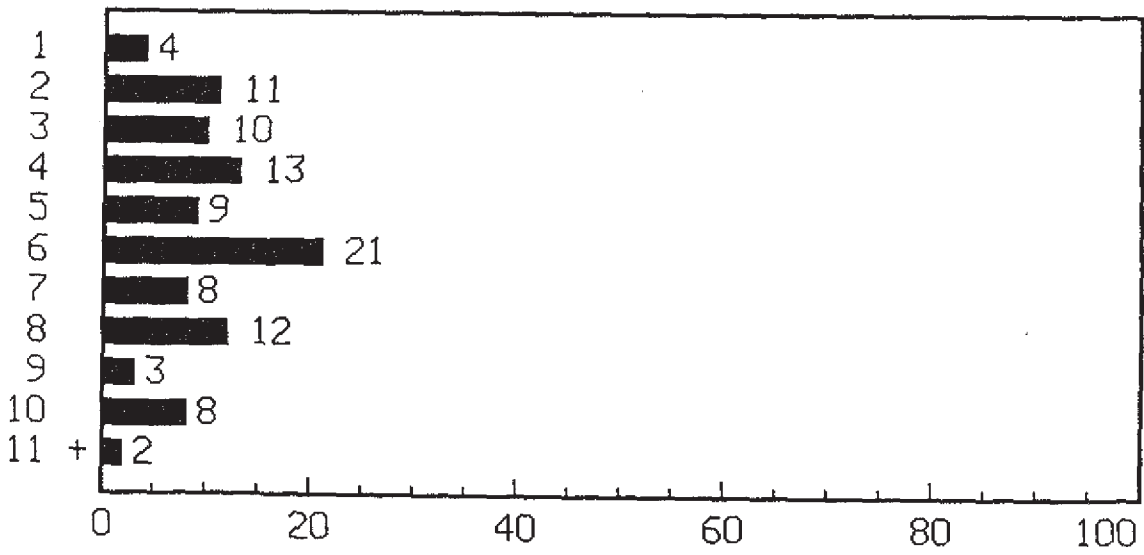


**FIGURE 33. NIGHTS STAYED IN AREA (OVERNIGHT USERS ONLY)**



Percent of Groups  
(n=566, Mean=4.1)

**FIGURE 34. LENGTH OF STAY IN HOURS (DAY USERS ONLY)**



Percent of Groups  
(n=155, Mean=5.6)

FIGURE 35. LENGTH OF STAY

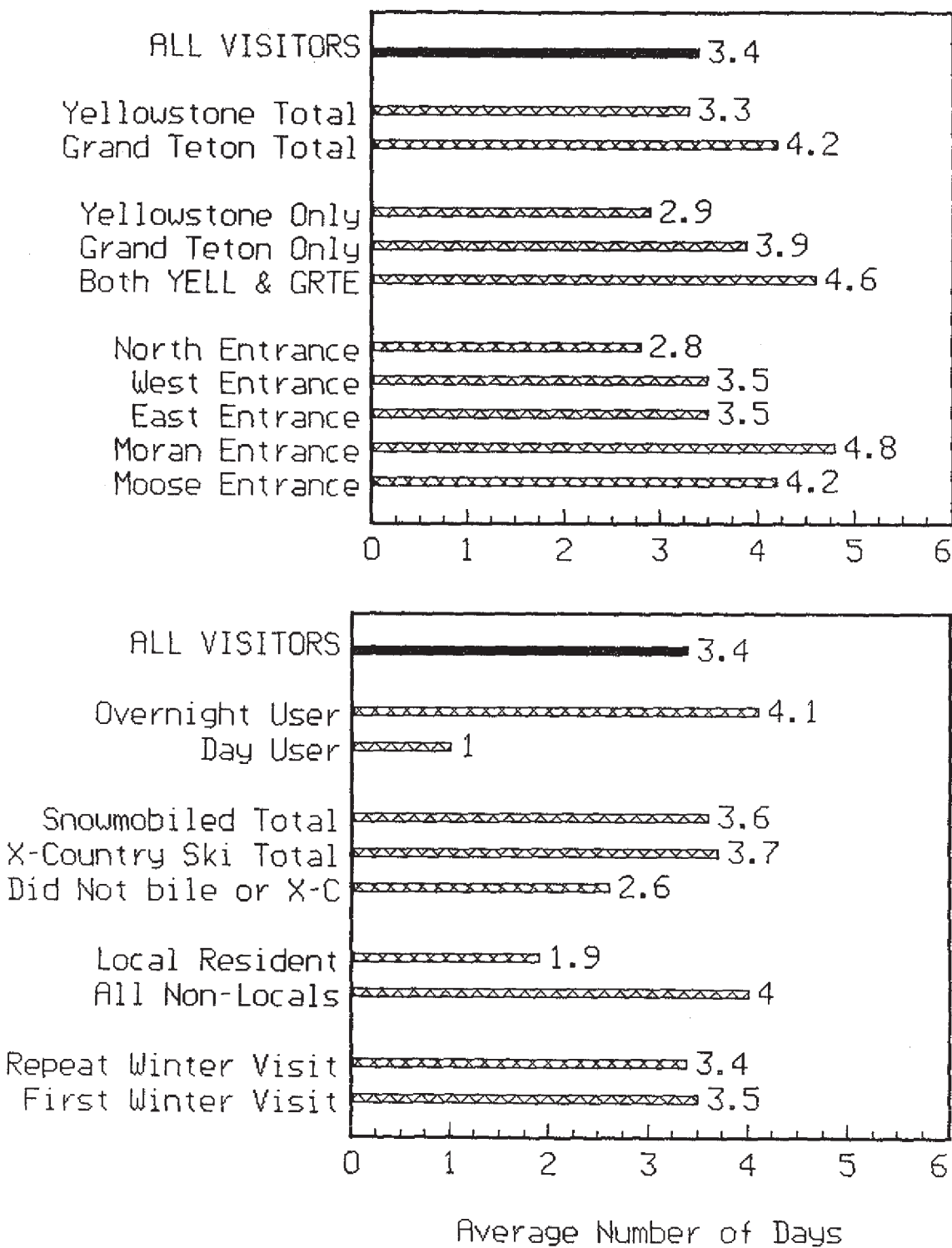


FIGURE 36. SURVEY COMPARISON - STAY IN AREA, NON-LOCAL VISITORS

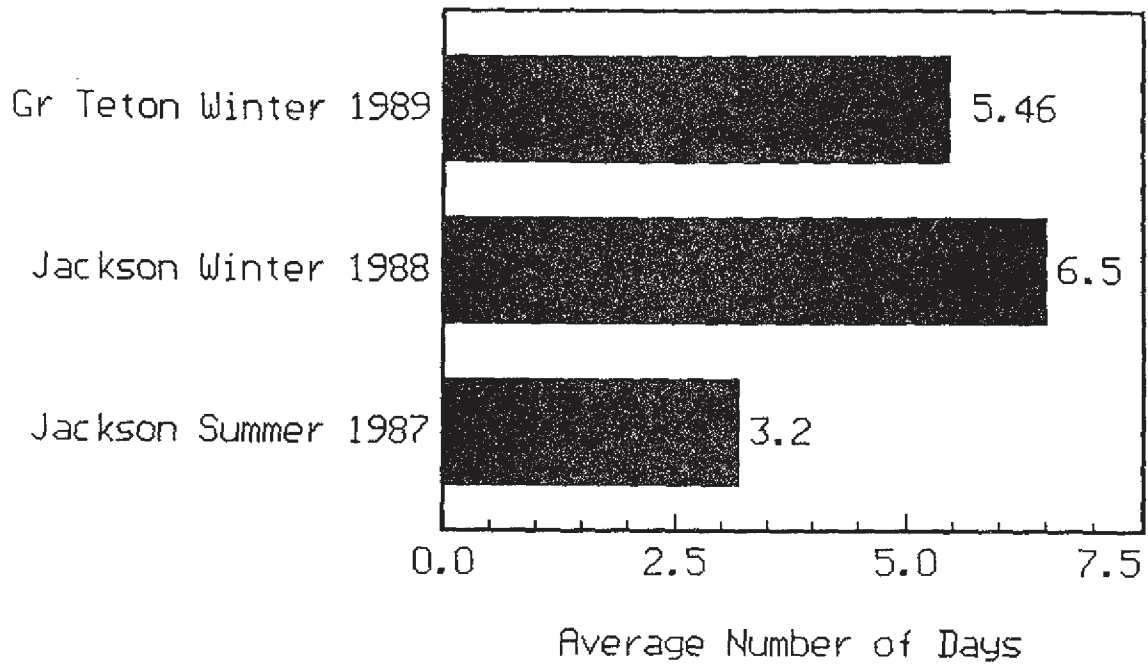
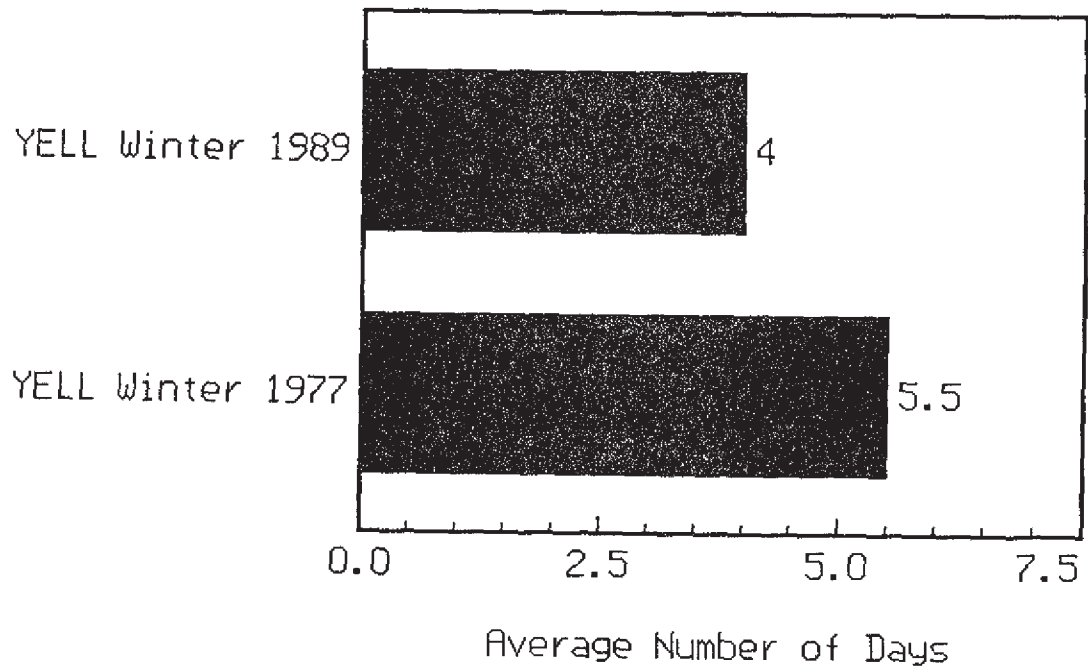


FIGURE 37. SURVEY COMPARISON - STAY IN AREA, NON-LOCAL SNOWMOBILING VISITORS





# VISITOR ACTIVITIES

Respondents were asked to indicate the areas within the park(s) that they visited. They were also asked to list all activities they or any member of their group participated in while in the park(s).

Figure 38 on page 52 summarizes the overall rate of participation in several activities. Visiting a visitor center, snowmobiling, walking in a thermal area, using the warming huts, cross-country skiing, and pleasure driving, in that order, were the most popular activities.

In both summer and winter, roughly 70% of the visitors use the visitor centers. However, only 53% of day users go to visitor centers in the winter. This is also true of visitors who visit only Grand Teton.

26% of groups cross-country skied for less than four hours per day with a smaller number skiing for over four hours per day. Of Grand Teton visitors, 48% snowmobiled and 47% cross-country skied with about 18% doing neither (figure 40 on page 53). Of Yellowstone visitors, 72% snowmobiled and 24% skied with few doing neither. Virtually all groups that entered through the East and West entrances snowmobiled. Some visitor groups both snowmobiled and cross-country skied. Groups are less likely to snowmobile if they contain a local resident.

Of those groups that stay at the Snow Lodge, 52% contain individuals who snowmobiled during their trip. 60% cross-country skied. These totals include many groups who did both. Only 8% of these groups neither snowmobile nor ski.

FIGURE 38. PARTICIPATED IN ACTIVITY

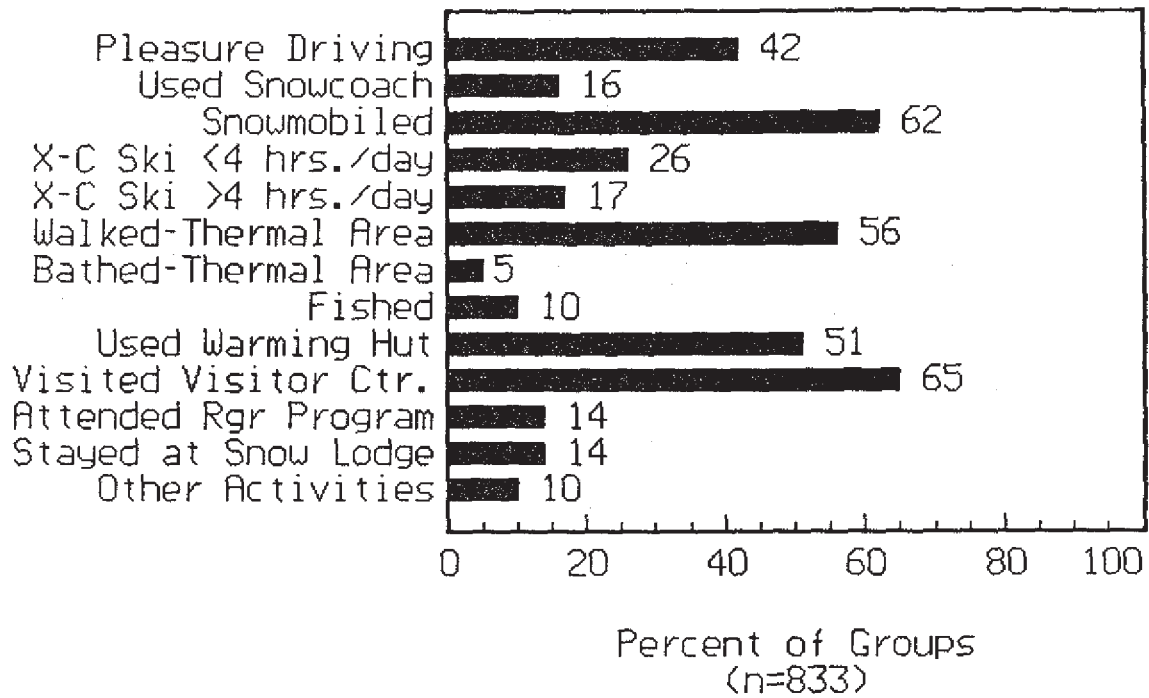


FIGURE 39. PARTICIPATION IN CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING AND SNOWMOBILING

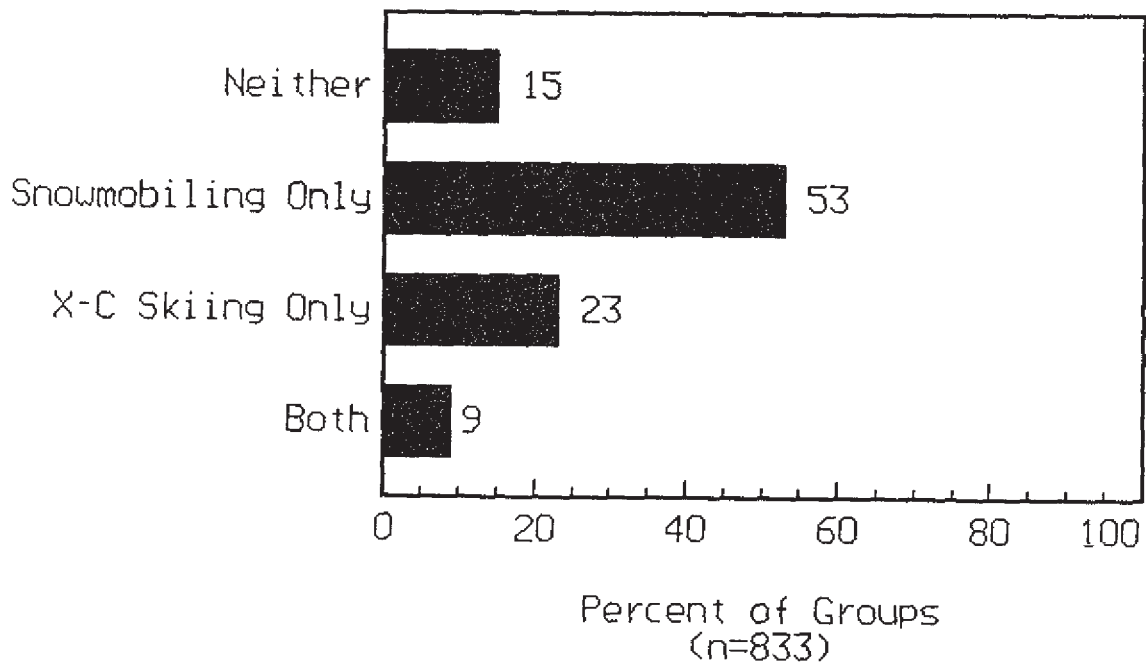


FIGURE 40. ACTIVITY BY PARK

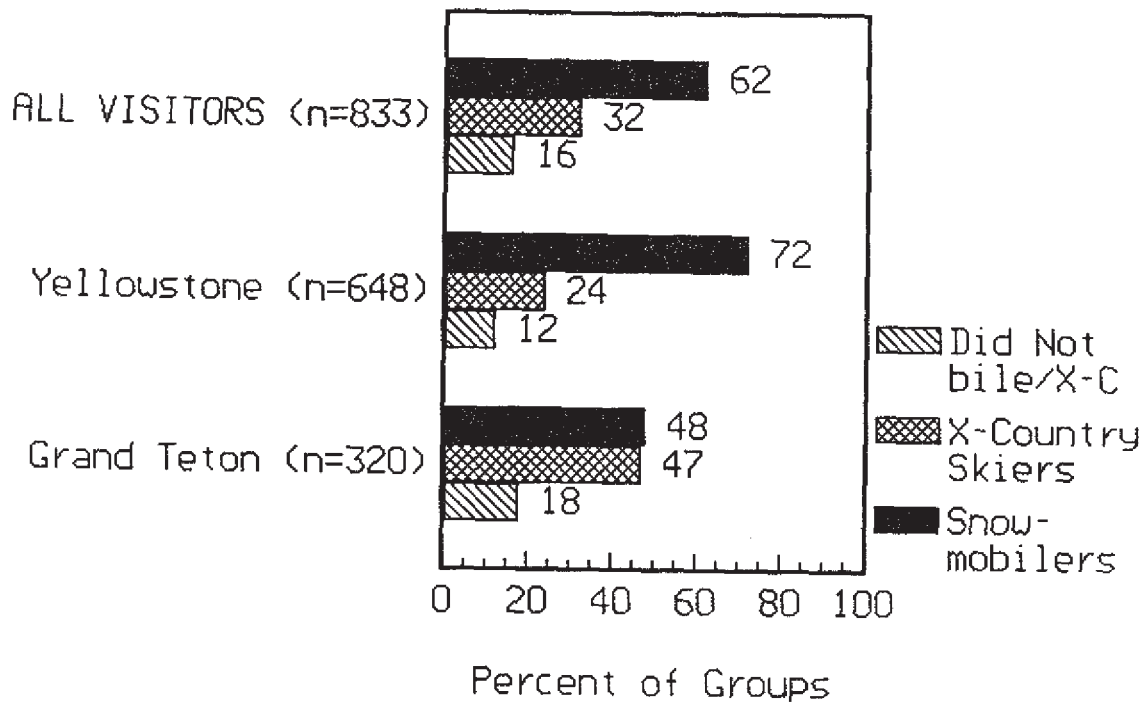


FIGURE 41. ACTIVITY BY PARK ENTRANCE

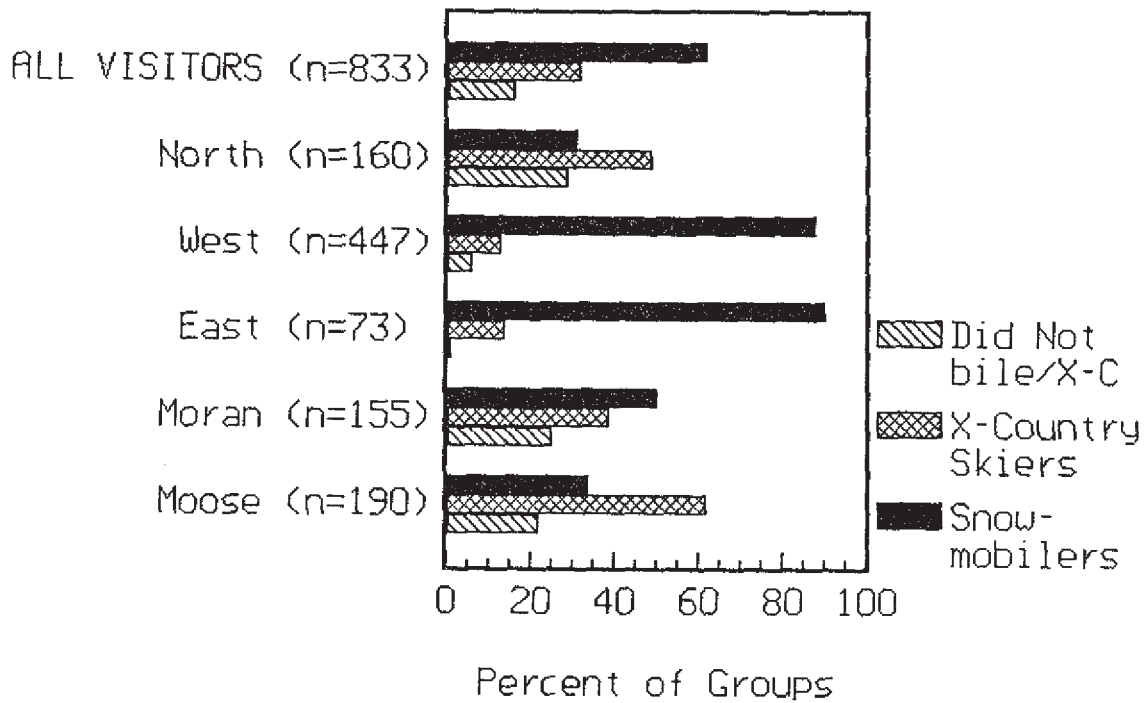


TABLE 9: ACTIVITY BY PARK ENTRANCE \*

ENTRANCE STATION	ACTIVITY		
	SNOWMOBILERS	CROSS-COUNTRY SKIERS	DID NOT X-C SKI OR SNOWMOBILE
ALL VISITORS	61.7%	31.8%	15.5%
North	30.6	48.8	29.4
West	87.9	13.4	6.3
East	90.4	13.7	1.4
Buffalo Moran	49.7	39.4	25.2
Moose	33.7	62.1	21.6

\* Totals add to more than 100% due to participation in both snowmobiling and cross-country skiing by some visitors.

FIGURE 42. ACTIVITY BY PRESENCE OF A LOCAL RESIDENT

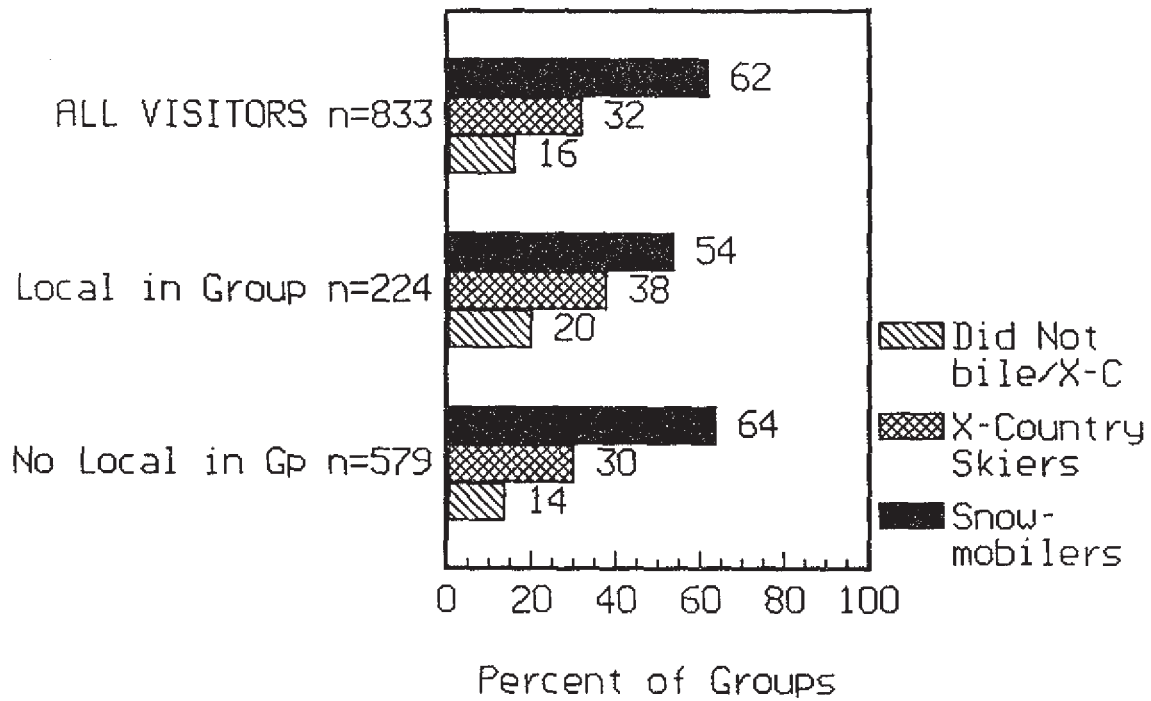


FIGURE 43. ACTIVITY BY PRESENCE OF A REPEAT WINTER VISITOR

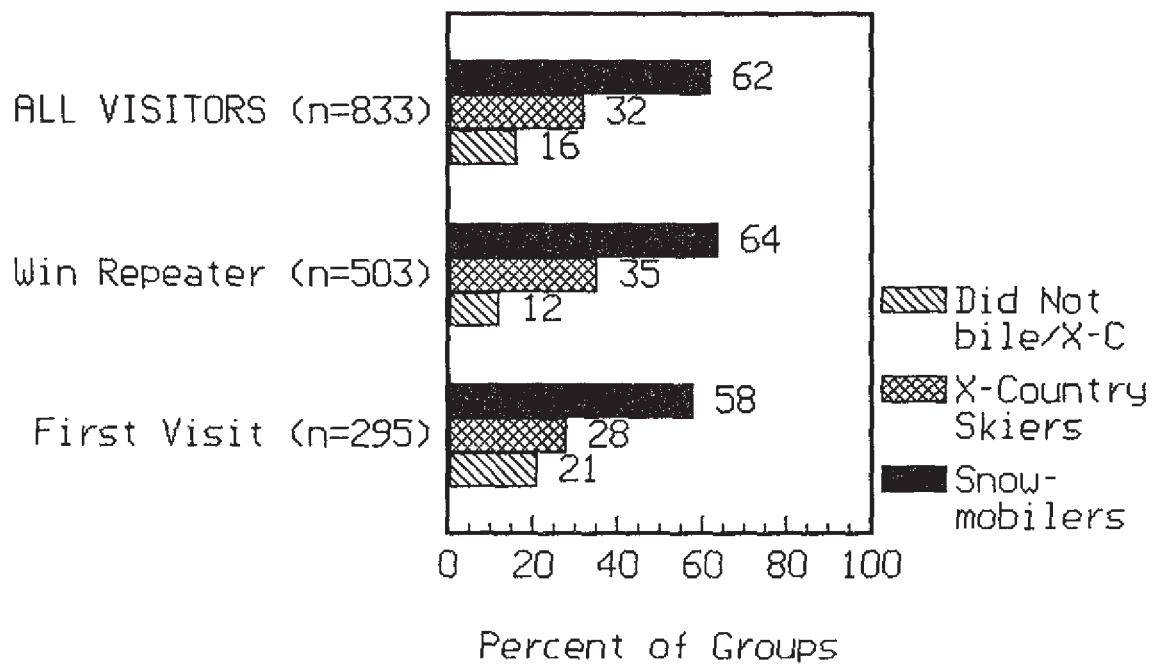


FIGURE 44. VISITED VISITOR CENTER(S)

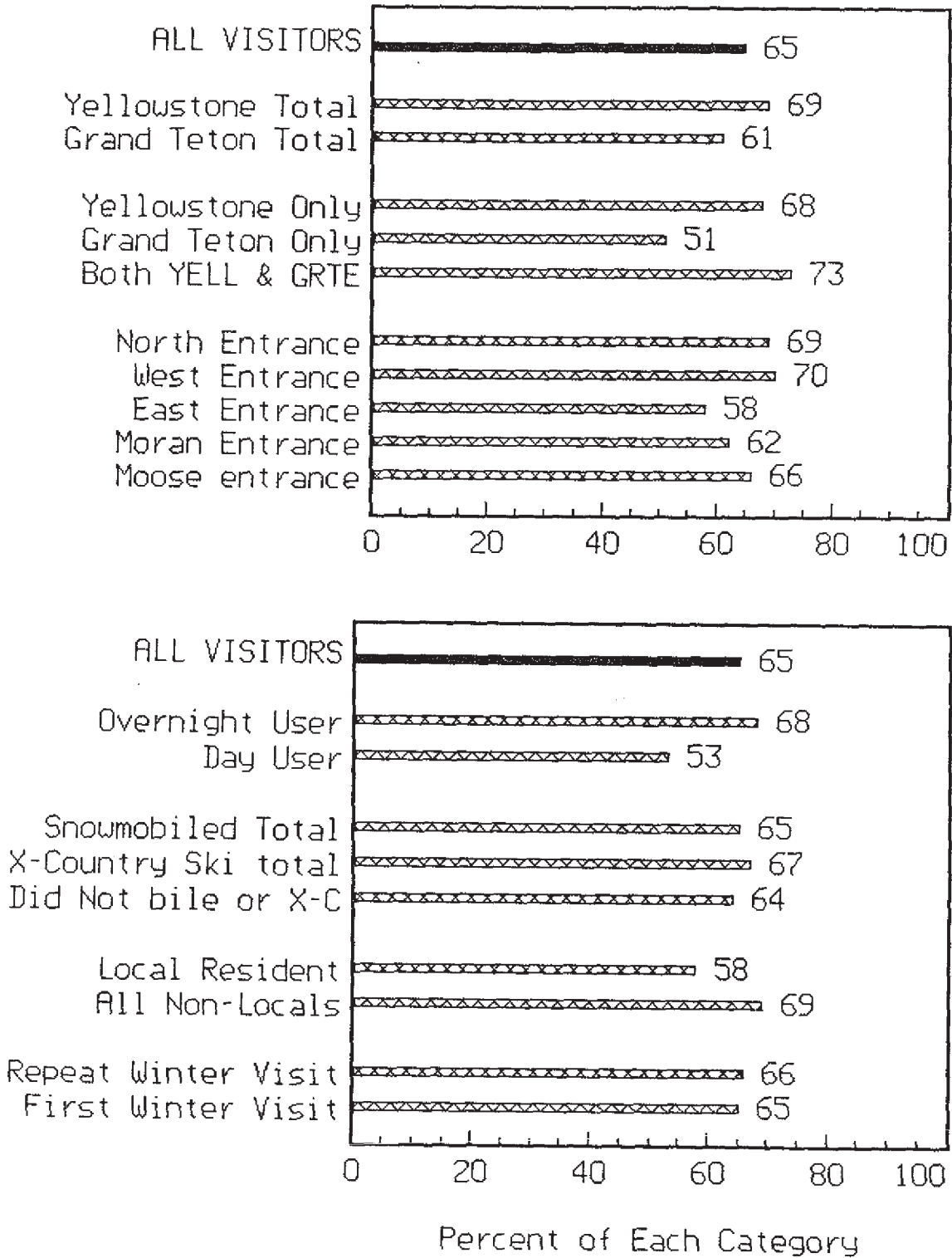
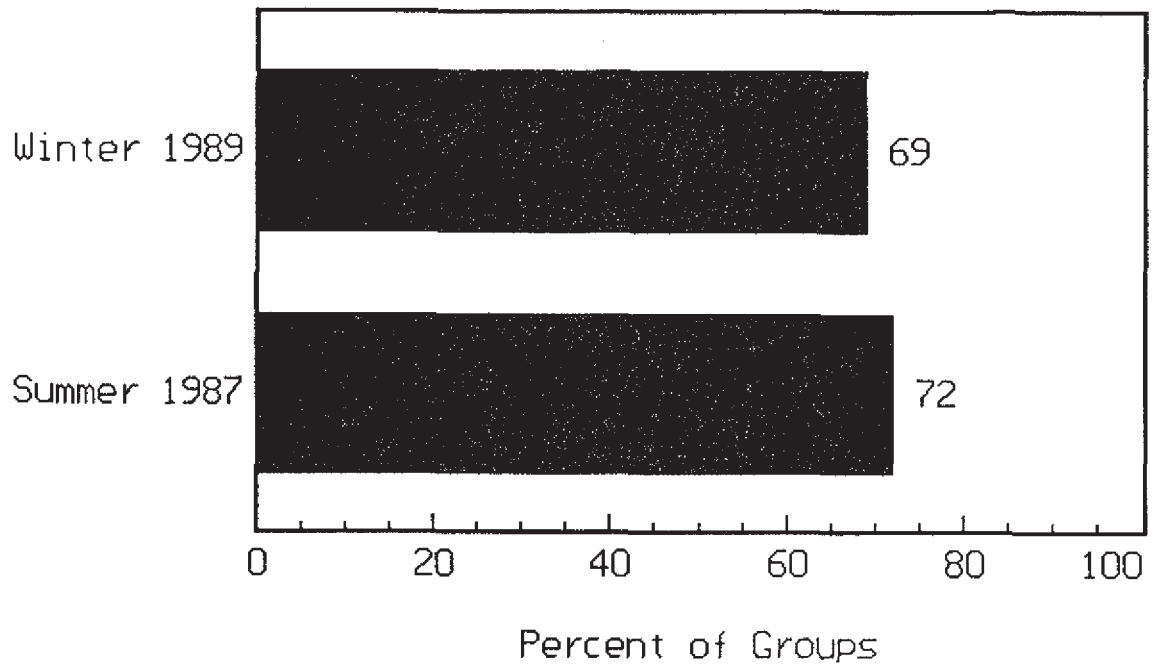


FIGURE 45. SURVEY COMPARISON - VISITED YELLOWSTONE VISITOR CENTER(S) TOTAL





# VISITOR EXPENDITURES

Respondents were asked to estimate the amount of money they and their group spent during the visit on lodging, travel, food, equipment rental, guide services, and other items. Totals by group, group per day, person, and person per day were determined for each class of expenditures.

Figures 46-49 illustrate the total expenditures by group and by person for both the entire trip and an average day. Groups spend an average of \$782 during their visit (the median was \$373). The mean total expenditure per group, per day was \$243 (median = \$155). The mean total expenditures per person, per visit was \$179 (median = \$103). This is equivalent to \$60 per person per day (median = \$47). Day users and groups containing a local resident spend less than \$38 per person per day. Winter visitors spend nearly twice as much as summer visitors.

The mean expenditure on lodging was \$238 per group (median = \$95), although 35% of respondents reported having no lodging expenditures (figure 50 on page 64). The mean expenditure in this category for those who actually had lodging expenditures was \$365.

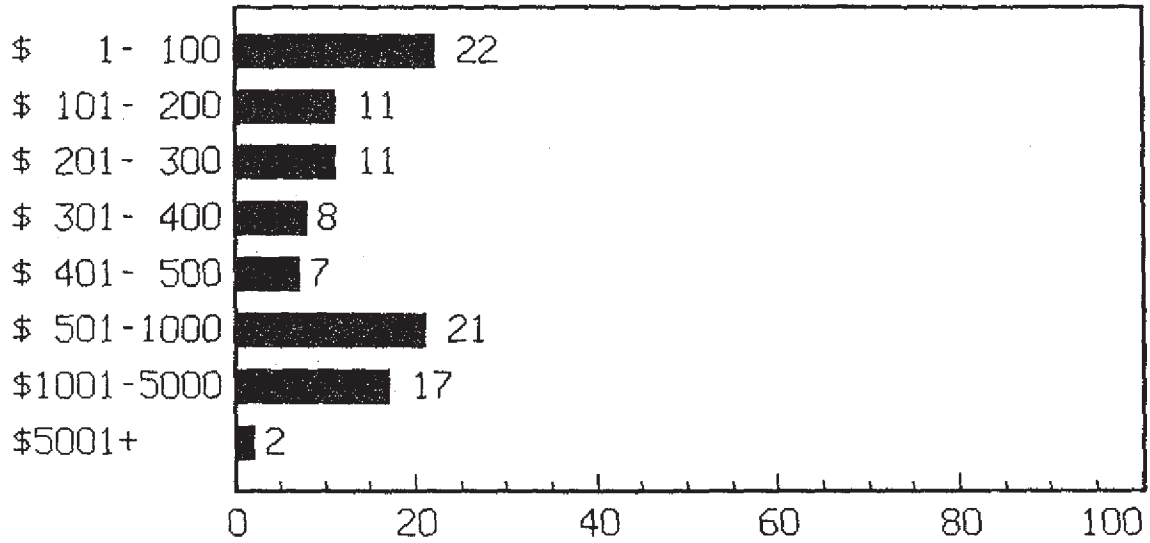
The mean travel expenditures was \$135 per group (median = \$30). (See figure 51 on page 64) The mean expenditure on food was \$192 (median = \$100). (See figure 52 on page 65)

The mean expenditure on equipment rental was \$129 per group, however only 41% of groups actually rented equipment (figure 53 on page 65). The mean expenditure in this category for those that actually did rent equipment was \$316.

The mean expenditure on guide services was about \$13 per group (figure 54 on page 66). The mean for groups that passed through Buffalo/Moran was \$32, reflecting the large number of guide services operating out of Jackson. Only 6% of respondents actually hired guides. For those who used guide services the mean expenditure in this category was \$210.

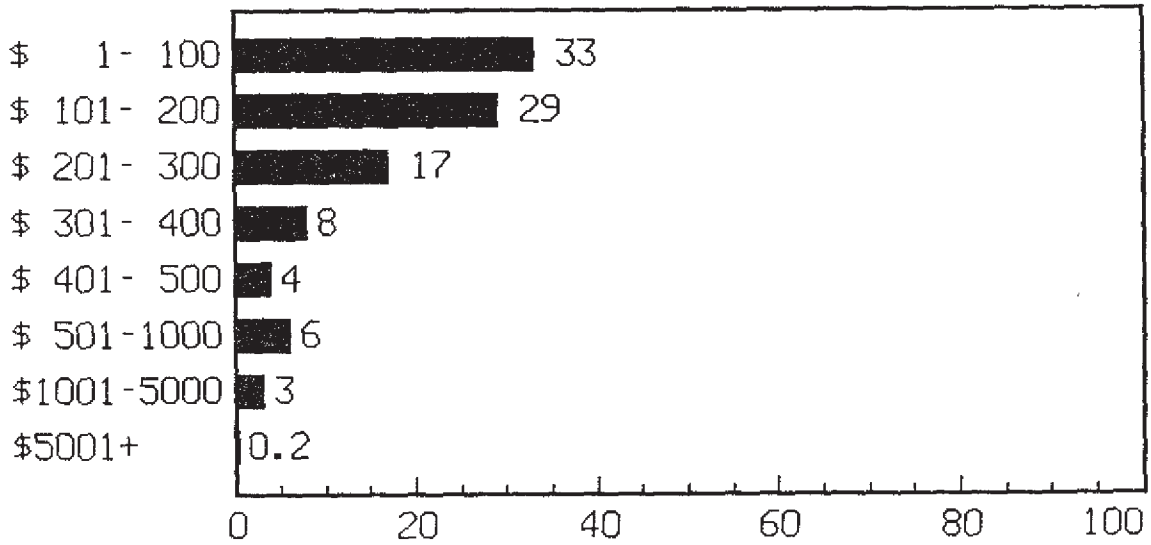
Visitors to Grand Teton spent an average of \$12 more per person, per day than visitors to Yellowstone (see figure 56 on page 67). Visitors to Grand Teton also spent an average of \$87 more per trip than visitors to Yellowstone (figure 57 on page 68).

FIGURE 46. TOTAL EXPENDITURES BY THE GROUP DURING VISIT



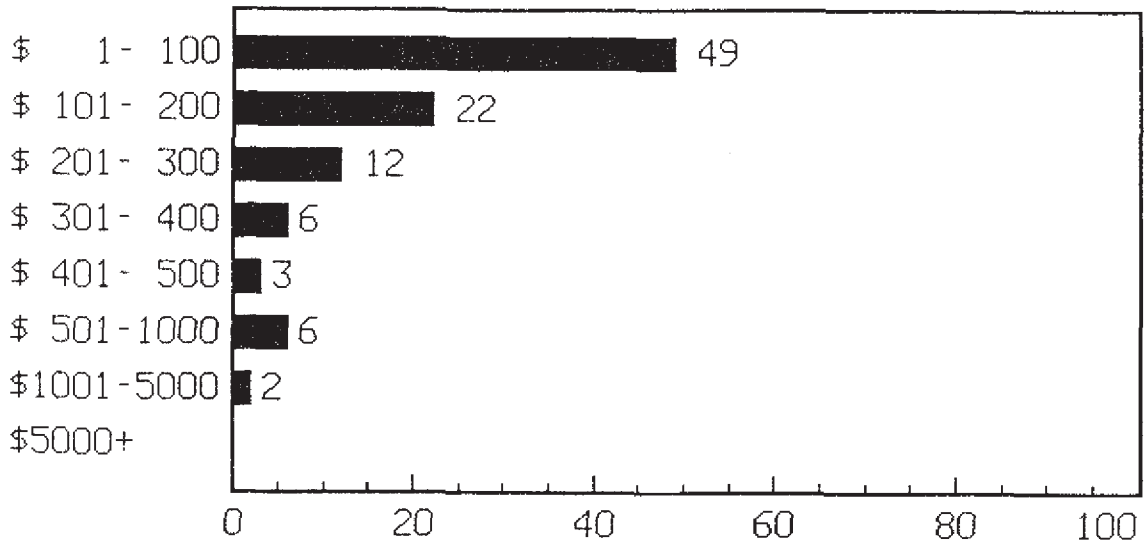
Percent of Groups  
n=739, Mean=\$782, Median=\$373

FIGURE 47. TOTAL EXPENDITURES BY THE GROUP PER DAY



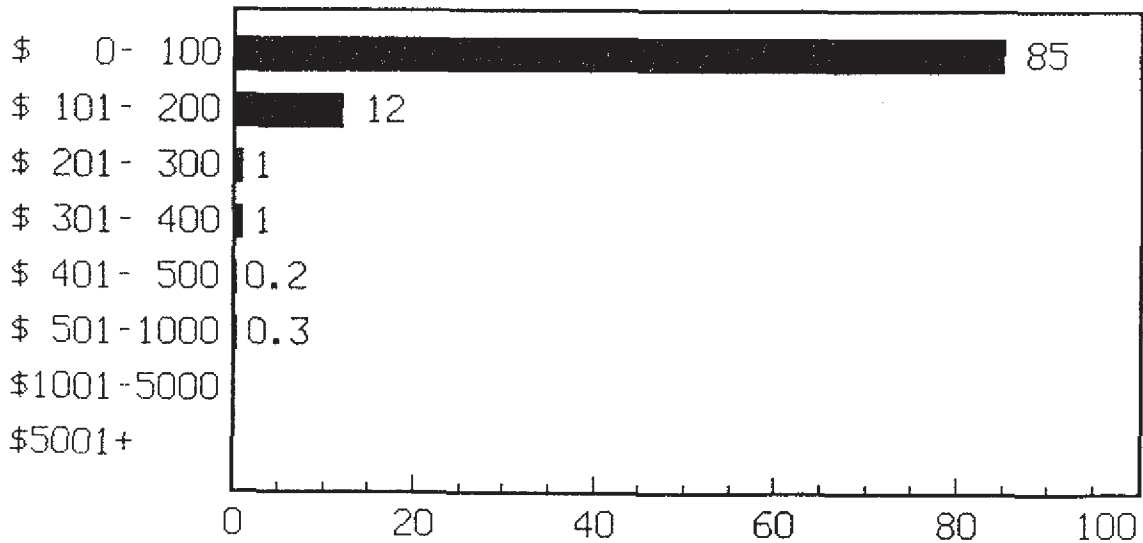
Percent of Groups  
n=645, Mean=\$243, Median=\$155

FIGURE 48. TOTAL EXPENDITURES PER PERSON DURING VISIT



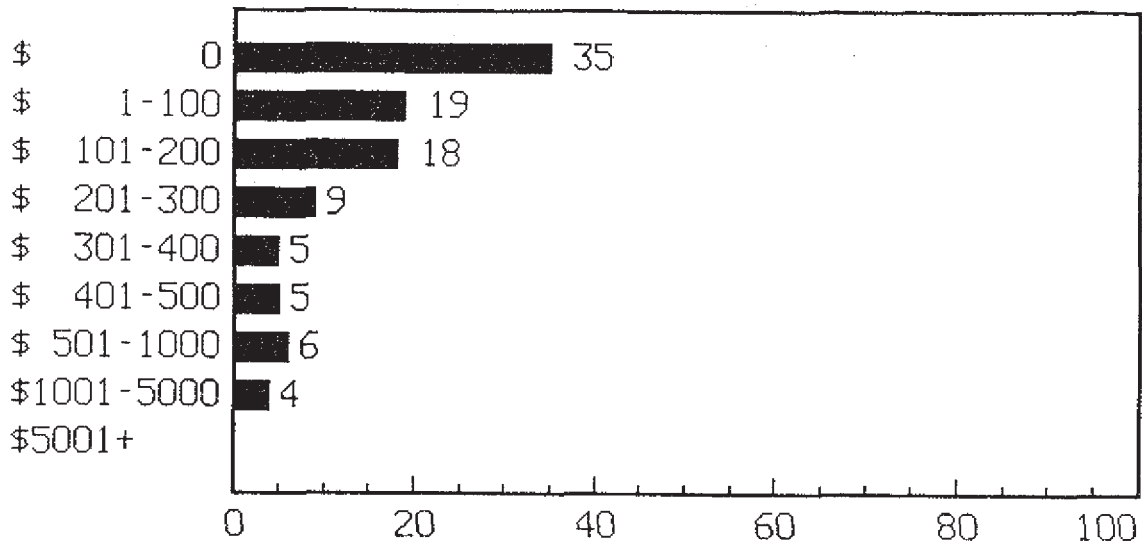
Percent of Groups  
n=740, Mean=\$179, Median=\$103

FIGURE 49. TOTAL EXPENDITURES PER PERSON PER DAY



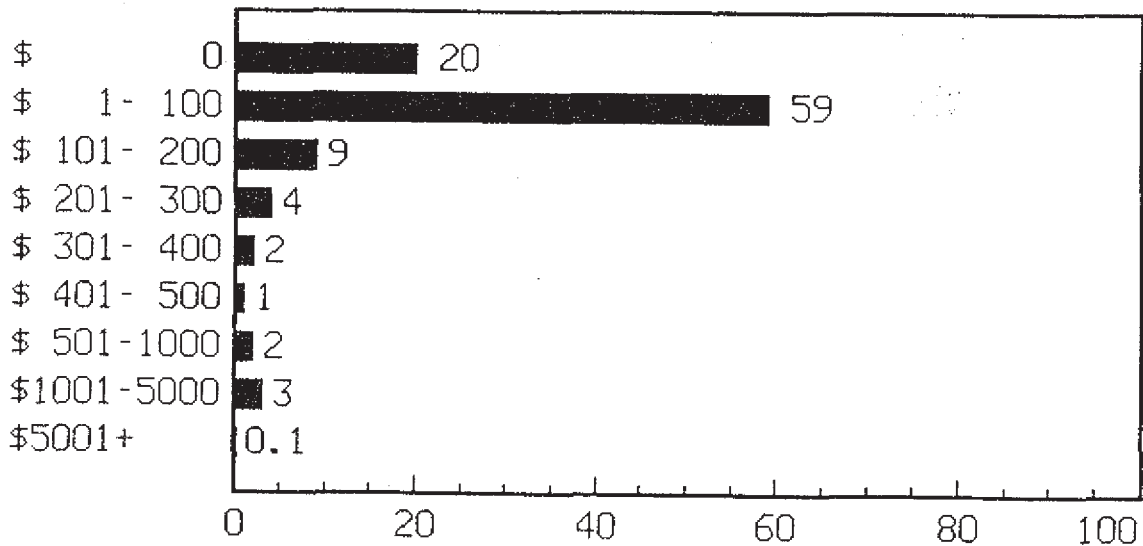
Percent of Groups  
(n=645, Mean=\$60, Median=\$47)

FIGURE 50. LODGING EXPENDITURES BY THE GROUP DURING VISIT



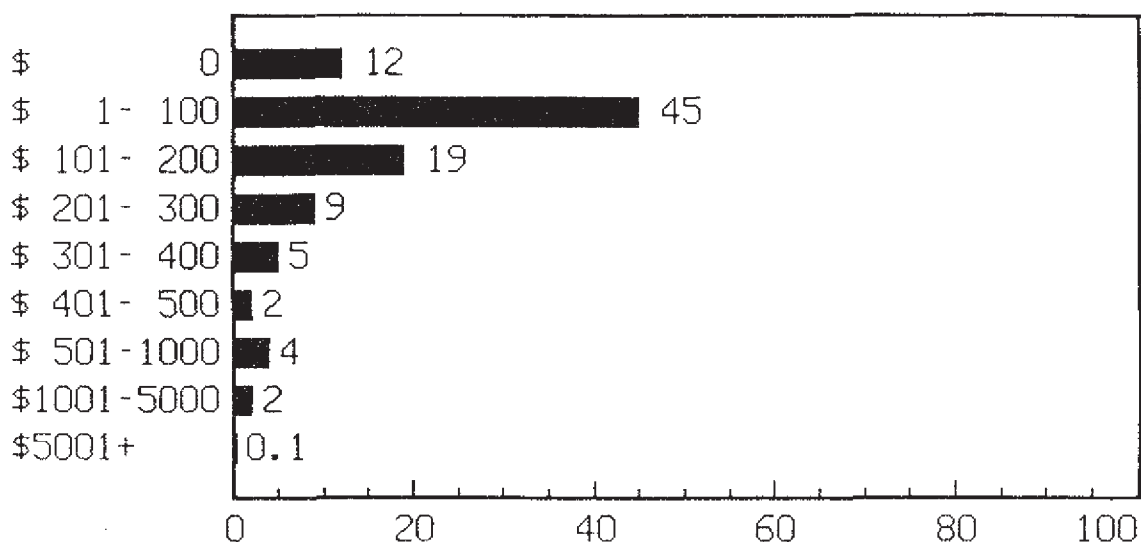
Percent of Groups  
(n=739, Mean=\$238, Median=\$95)

FIGURE 51. TRAVEL EXPENDITURES BY THE GROUP DURING VISIT



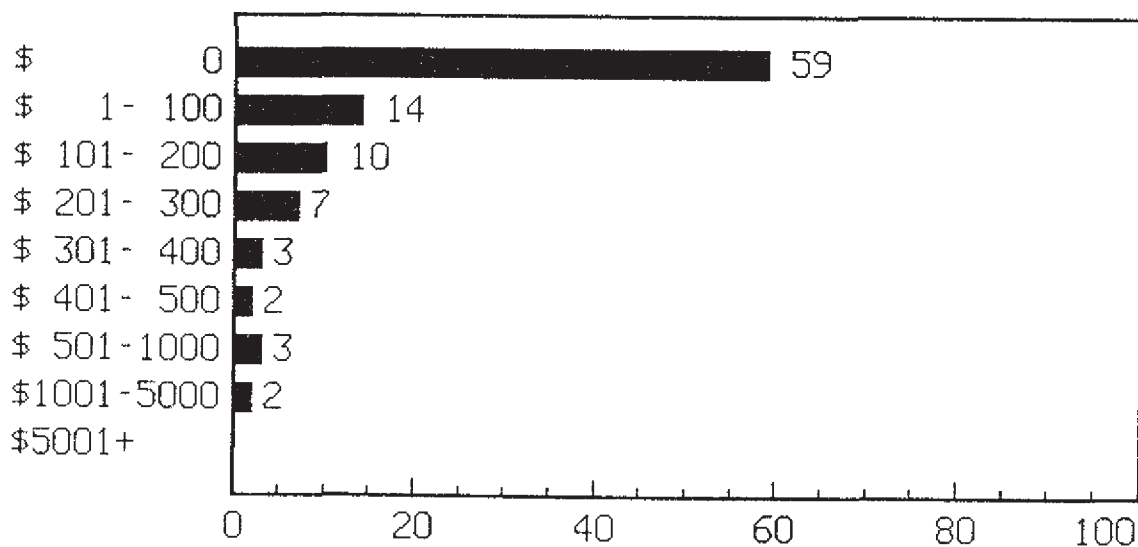
Percent of Groups  
(n=739, Mean=\$135, Median=\$30)

FIGURE 52. FOOD EXPENDITURES BY THE GROUP DURING VISIT



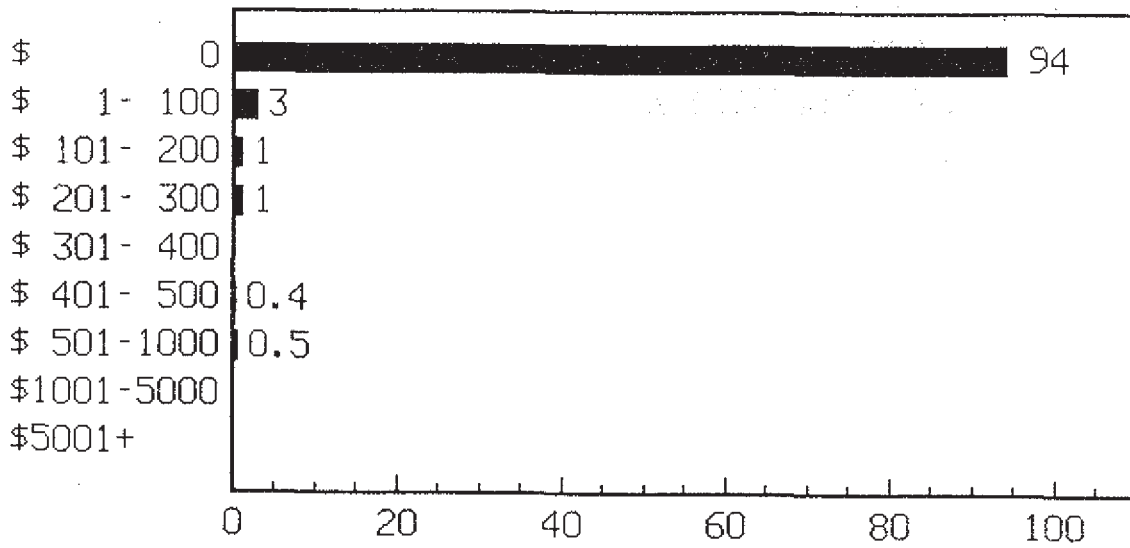
Percent of Groups  
 n=739, Mean=\$192, Median=\$100

FIGURE 53. EQUIPMENT RENTAL EXPENDITURES BY THE GROUP DURING VISIT



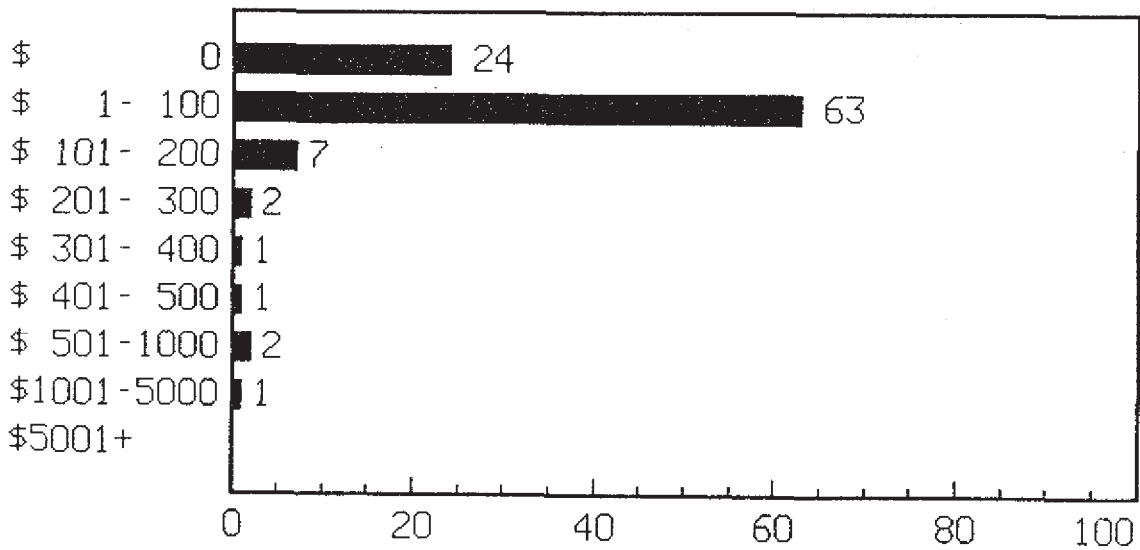
Percent of Groups  
 (n=739, Mean=\$129, Median=\$0)

**FIGURE 54. GUIDE SERVICE EXPENDITURES BY THE GROUP DURING THE VISIT**



Percent of Groups  
(n=739, Mean=\$13, Median=\$0)

**FIGURE 55. OTHER EXPENDITURES BY THE GROUP DURING VISIT**



Percent of Groups  
(n=739, Mean=\$76, Median=\$20)

FIGURE 56. TOTAL EXPENDITURES PER PERSON PER DAY

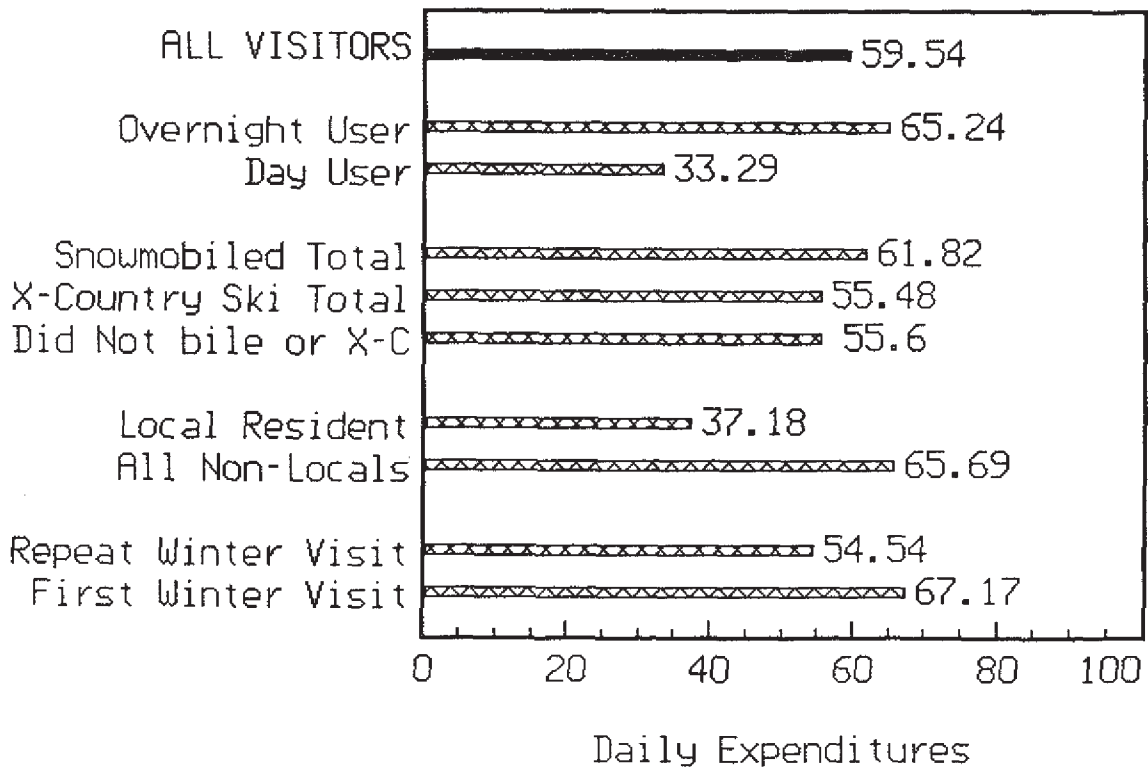
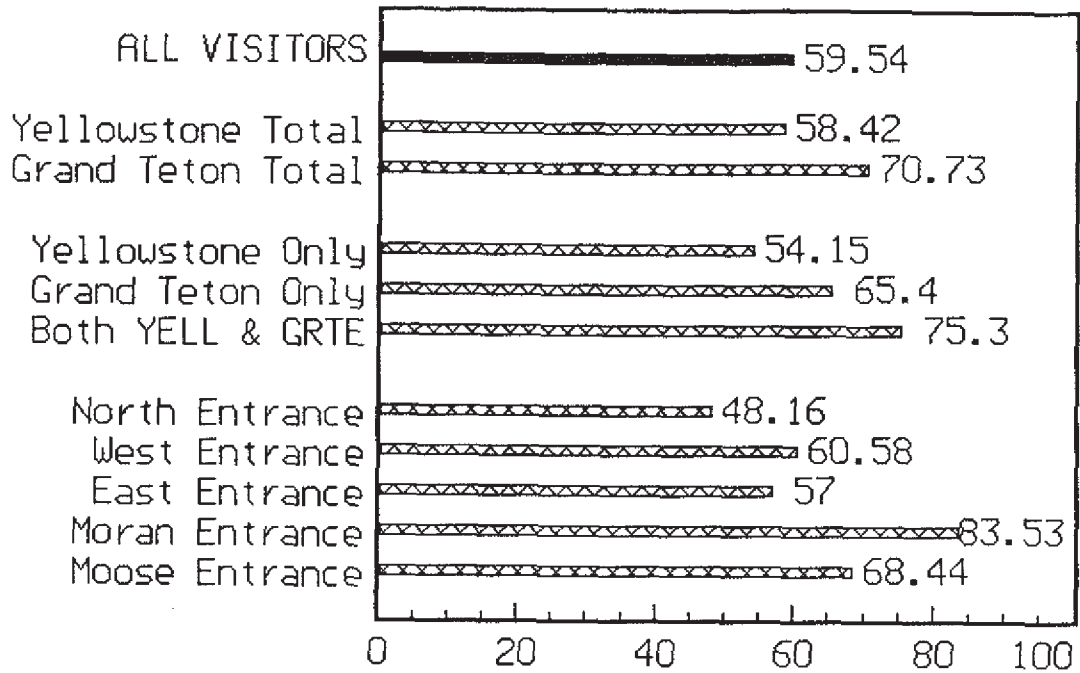




FIGURE 57. TOTAL EXPENDITURES PER PERSON DURING VISIT

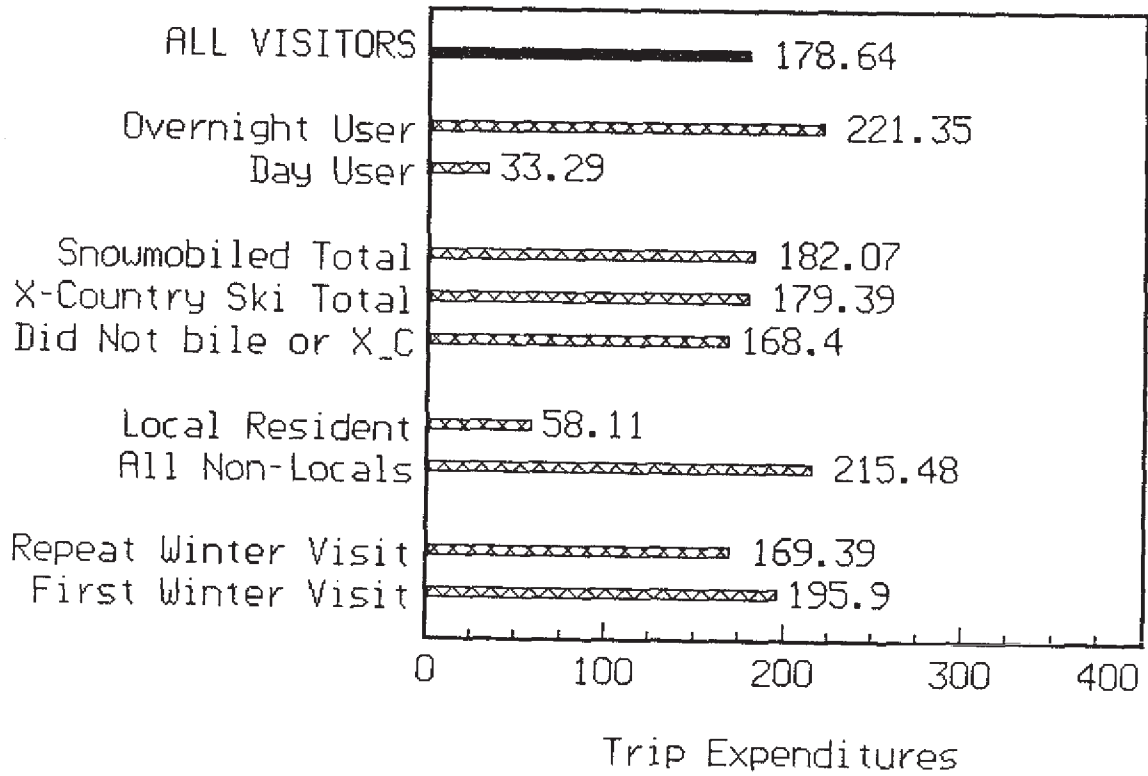
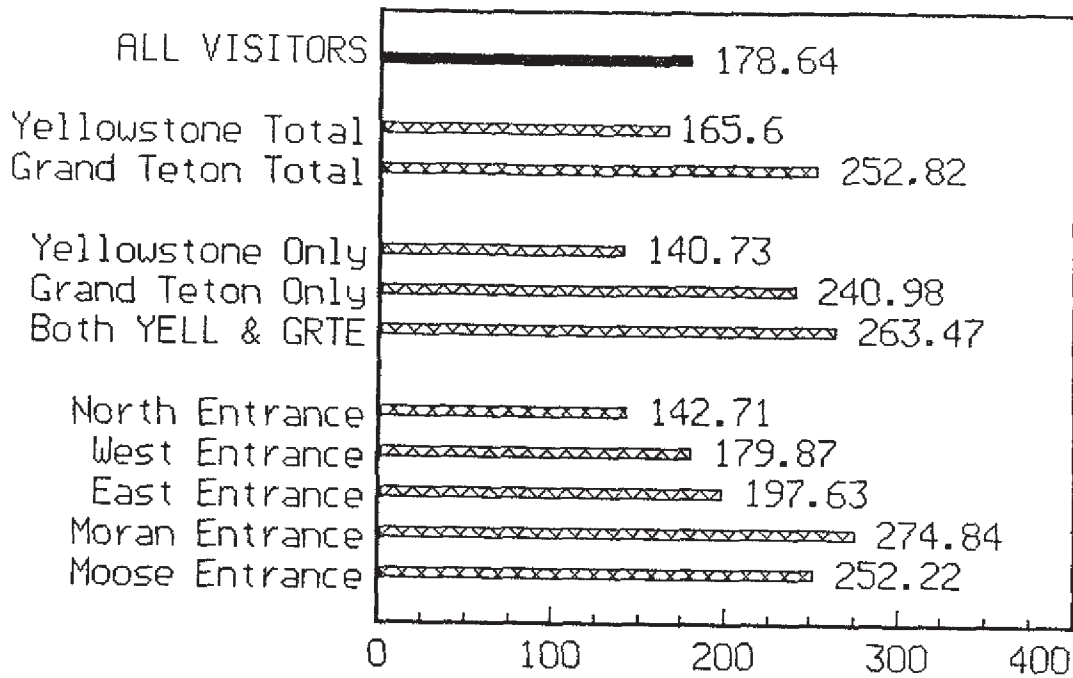
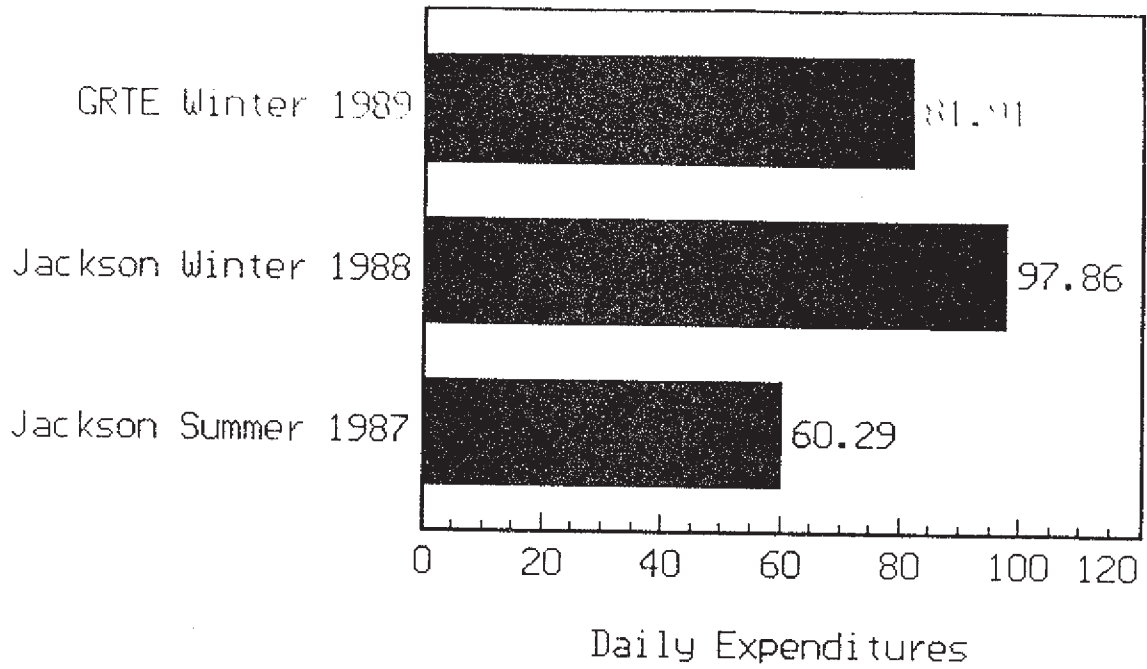
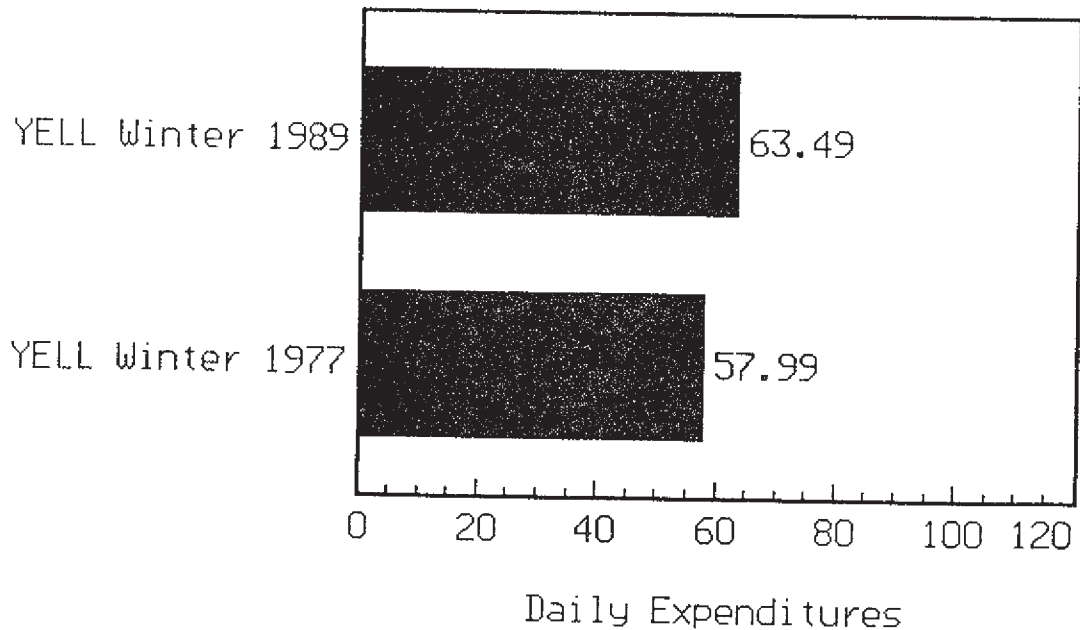


FIGURE 58. SURVEY COMPARISON - NON-LOCAL EXPENDITURES PER PERSON



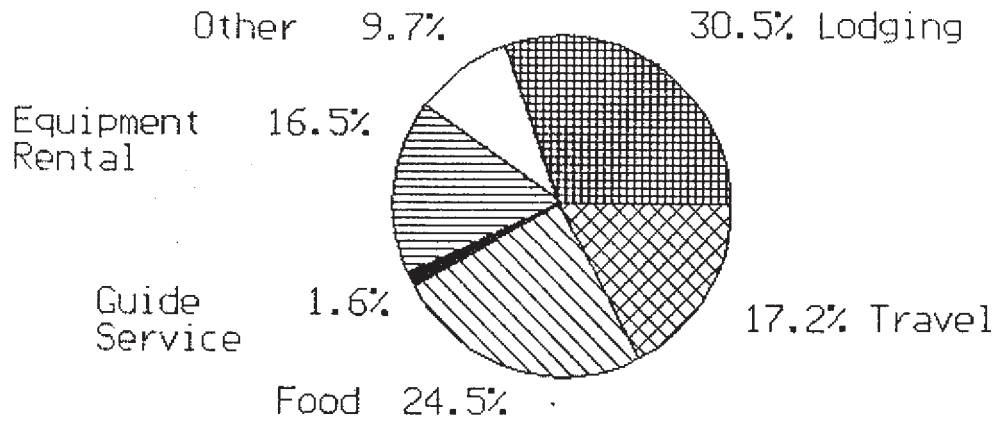
Expenditures from 1987 and 1988 have been adjusted to 1989 equivalent dollars to allow for more accurate comparison. Actual expenditures were \$93.61 in 1988 and \$55.80 in 1987.

FIGURE 59. SURVEY COMPARISON - NON-LOCAL SNOWMOBILERS, EXPENDITURES PER PERSON



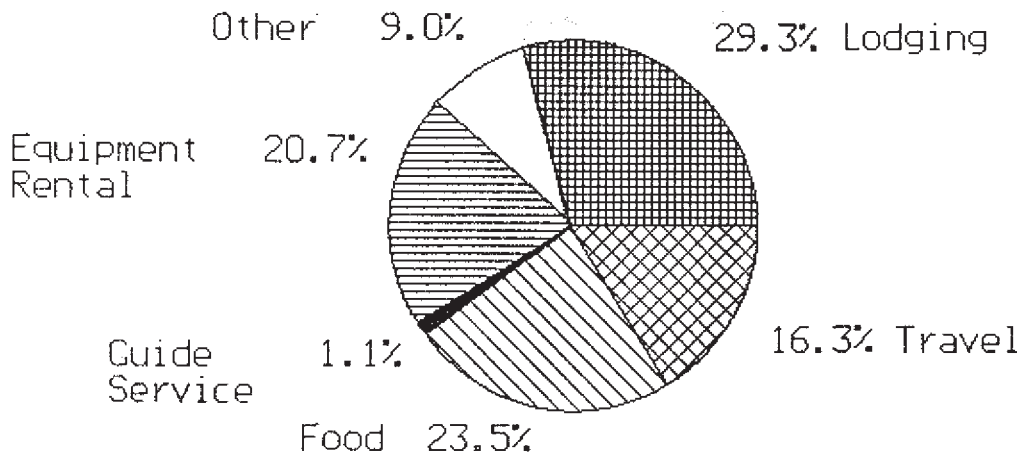
Expenditures from 1977 have been adjusted to 1989 equivalent dollars to allow for more accurate comparison. Actual expenditures in 1977 per person were \$28.91.

FIGURE 60. TOTAL EXPENDITURES



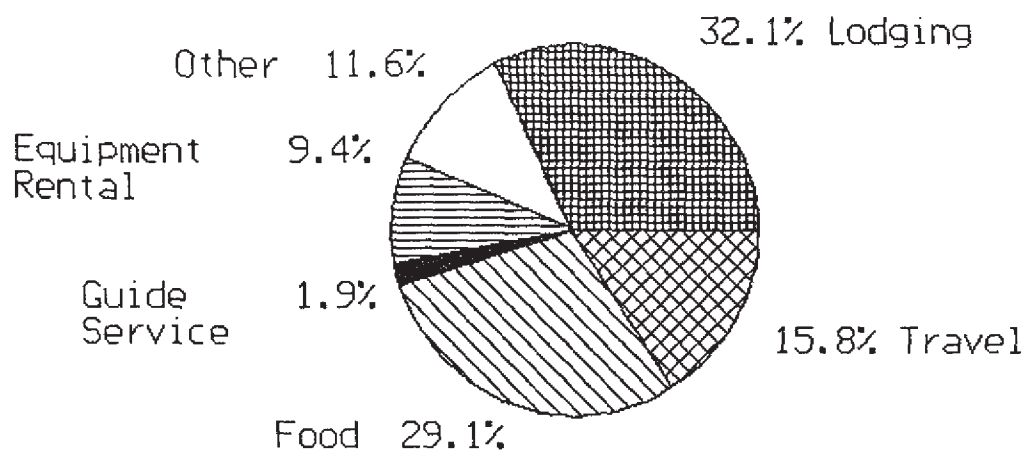
Visitor Expenditures by Category  
(n=739 Groups)

FIGURE 61. TOTAL EXPENDITURES BY SNOWMOBILERS



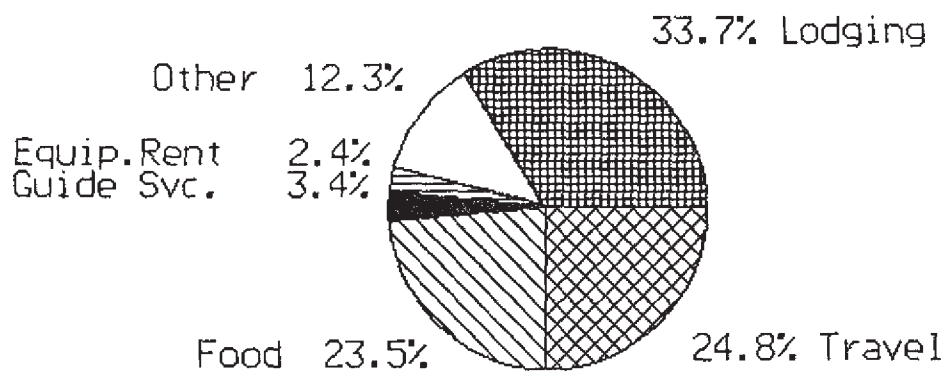
Visitor Expenditures by Category  
(n=476 Groups)

FIGURE 62. TOTAL EXPENDITURES BY CROSS-COUNTRY SKIERS



Visitor Expenditures by Category  
(n=221 Groups)

FIGURE 63. TOTAL EXPENDITURES BY THOSE WHO DID NOT SNOWMOBILE NOR CROSS-COUNTRY SKI



Visitor Expenditures by Category  
(n=108 Groups)

# DISTRIBUTION OF VISITOR USE

Figure 64 on page 76 shows that approximately 16% of visitors visited both parks. 61% of groups visited Yellowstone only, and 23% visited Grand Teton only. Of those visitors who go to Flagg Ranch, 83% continue to Yellowstone.

Figures 65 and 66 on page 77 illustrate the distribution of use throughout the various sites within the parks. Old Faithful and the West Entrance were the most frequently visited sites (by 60% and 54% of groups respectively). Moose was the most frequently visited site in Grand Teton (23% of groups).

Visitors were asked where their trip originated on the day they arrived in the park(s) and where they expected to travel to on the day they left the park(s). Responses to these questions are summarized in tables 10-13. On the day of their arrival most respondents came from nearby locations in Montana and Wyoming. Upon leaving the park(s) the respondents planned on travelling to a more diverse list of locations.

FIGURE 64. PARK(S) VISITED

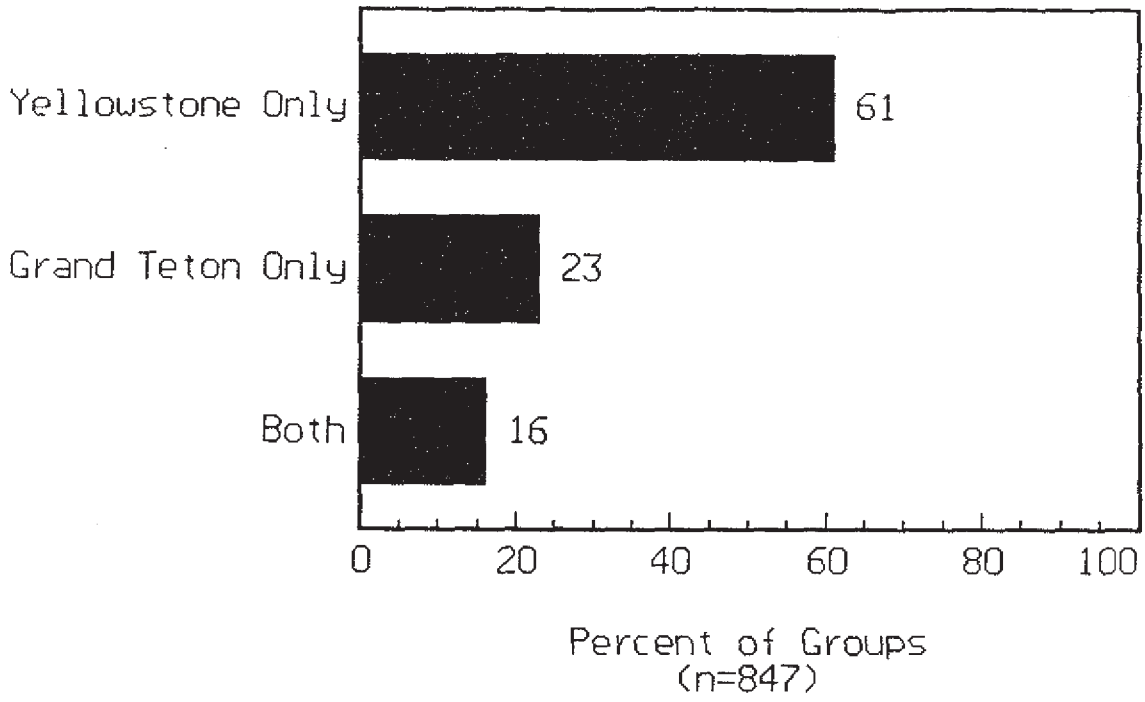


FIGURE 65. YELLOWSTONE SITES VISITED

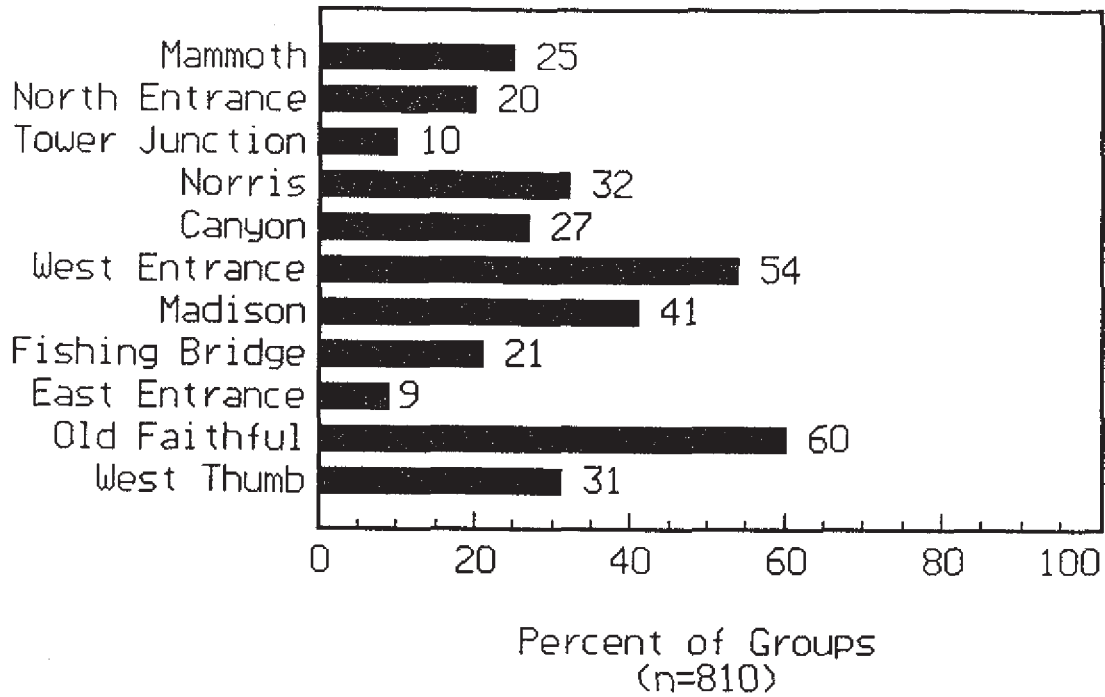
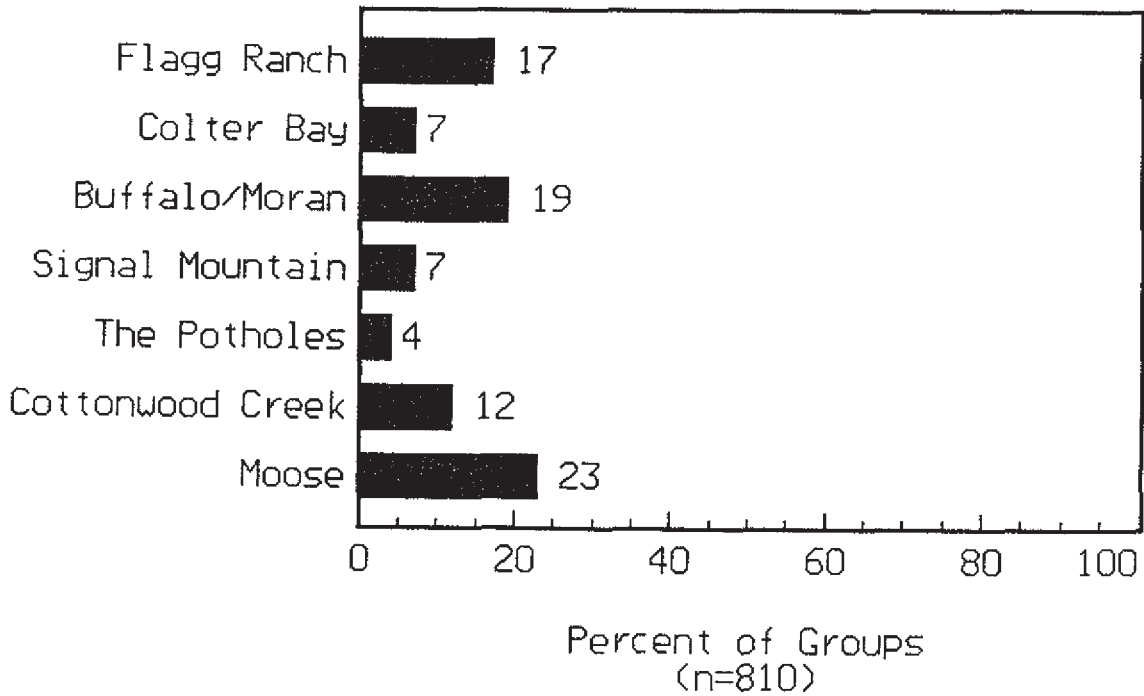


FIGURE 66. GRAND TETON SITES VISITED





**TABLE 10: STATE OF VISITOR ORIGIN ON ARRIVAL DAY**

STATE	NUMBER	%
Montana	449	54%
Wyoming	311	37
Idaho	40	5
Utah	12	1
Other	< 6 respondents per state	3

n = 838 Visitor Groups

**TABLE 11: CITY OF VISITOR ORIGIN ON ARRIVAL DAY**

CITY	NUMBER	%
West Yellowstone	275	33%
Jackson	208	25
Bozeman	46	6
Big Sky	35	4
Gardiner	32	4
Billings	19	2
Livingston	13	2
Idaho Falls	9	1
Moose *	9	1
Flagg Ranch *	9	1
Ogden	8	1
Others	< 8 respondents per city	20

n = 828 Visitor Groups

\* It is possible that some respondents may have believed that Moose and Flagg were outside of the park(s).

**TABLE 12: VISITOR DESTINATION STATES ON THEIR DEPARTURE DAY**

STATE	NUMBER	% *
Montana	305	37%
Wyoming	268	33
Idaho	91	11
Utah	57	7
Colorado	14	2
Minnesota	12	2
California	10	1
North Dakota	9	1
Others	< 9 respondents per state	7

n = 823 Visitor Groups

\* Total exceeds 100% due to rounding.

**TABLE 13: VISITOR DESTINATION CITIES ON THEIR DEPARTURE DAY**

CITY	NUMBER	% *
Jackson	173	21%
West Yellowstone	69	9
Bozeman	63	8
Big Sky	54	7
Billings	31	4
Salt Lake City	30	4
Idaho Falls	30	4
Cody	18	2
Driggs	13	2
Livingston	12	2
Island Park	11	1
Missoula	10	1
Pocatello	8	1
Helena	8	1
Others	< 8 respondents per city	35

n = 813 Visitor Groups

\* Total exceeds 100% due to rounding.

# VISITOR PREFERENCES AND OPINIONS

Respondents were asked their preferences and opinions regarding several park facilities and programs. Specifically visitors were asked to:

- a. Rate the relative importance of several variables in selecting a park entrance.
- b. List what they liked most and least about the park(s).
- c. Give their opinions about the importance and quality of various park facilities and programs.
- d. Rate the availability of several types of park facilities and programs.

Figures 67-72 on pages 85-87 summarize visitors' reasons for selecting a park entrance. Responses seem to indicate that visitors are very committed to entering a particular entrance station. A program to shift visitors (and their expenditures) from one area to another (e.g., Montana to Wyoming) would likely meet with significant resistance. Snowmobilers attach somewhat more importance to the reliability of snow cover than do other groups.

Figure 73 on page 88 and table 14 summarize the items that visitors liked most about their visit to the park(s). When asked to choose the single favorite part, scenery/nature (i.e., snow, thermal features, specific sites, remoteness, uncommercial qualities, and photographic opportunities) and wildlife viewing were by far the most popular responses. Solitude and snowmobiling were the next most frequently listed.

Figure 74 on page 90 and table 15 summarize the items that visitors liked least about their visit to the park(s). Snowmobiles were listed most often as the least liked part of the visit. Other notable complaints were starving wildlife, burnt forests, and bumpy road conditions for snowmachines. Crowding was mentioned by relatively few and these visitors tended to avoid the Old Faithful area.

Visitors were asked to express their opinions on the importance and quality of services on the following five-point scales:

Importance of Services

- 1 = Extremely important
- 2 = Very important
- 3 = Moderately important
- 4 = Somewhat important
- 5 = Not important

Quality of Services

- 1 = Very Good
- 2 = Good
- 3 = Average
- 4 = Poor
- 5 = Very Poor

Figure 75 on page 93 summarizes the paired importance/quality scores for all items. The paired scores are displayed on a matrix that is divided into four quadrants. These four quadrants can be interpreted as follows:

Quadrant I (labelled "Concentrate Here") - services of greater importance and lower quality, (indicates a need perceived by the public that is not being met)

Quadrant II (labelled "Keep Up The Good Work") - services of greater importance and higher quality, (indicates that the public is satisfied with the current situation)

Quadrant III (labelled "Low Priority") - services of lesser importance and lower quality, (indicates that these items should not be high priority for management attention)

Quadrant IV (labelled "Possible Overkill") - services of lesser importance and higher quality (indicates that management resources are not being efficiently utilized).

All services received a good rating for quality. The most important services were rest rooms, information and direction signs, and unplowed roads open to over-snow vehicles. Groomed and ungroomed ski trails were important to skiers but not to other users. Services rated as not very important were lodging in park (especially lodging accessible by car) and ranger-led walks and talks.

Figure 75 combines the ratings for both quality and importance of services. Respondents were by-and-large satisfied with park facilities and services. Seven items were plotted within the "Keep Up The Good Work" quadrant. An additional five items were plotted within the "Possible Overkill" quadrant. These items, while perceived to be of good quality, may not be as important to the visitors as other facilities and services. No items were plotted within the "Concentrate Here" or "Low Priority" quadrants.

Figures 76-105 on pages 94-108 show respondent's perception of the importance and quality of a variety of individual park features and services. The figures are paired, by subject, with importance generally illustrated on the top graph and quality illustrated on the bottom graph.

Figures 106-124 on pages 109-118 indicate that, overall, visitors are satisfied by the availability of facilities and services. However, cross-country skiers were interested in more ski trails, both groomed and ungroomed. 35% of respondents would have liked more restrooms.

Snowmobilers were interested in more short snowmobile routes. Only 27% of them were interested in more regional snowmobile trails. More park visitors were interested in eliminating regional trails than in providing new ones. Snowmobilers were more interested in gas stations than in longer trails. Approximately 50% of snowmobile visitors from Wyoming expressed a need for more long snowmobile trails. A separate statewide survey conducted in 1989 found only 1/3 of Wyoming snowmobilers felt a need for more such trails.

Lodging in the parks accessible by car (e.g., Mammoth Motor Inn) was ranked by visitors as being of the lowest importance. 19% of the visitors desired an increase in this type of lodging. A similar portion of the visitors expressed a desire for a reduction in lodging accessible by car.

Lodging in the parks accessible only by over-snow vehicle (e.g., Snow Lodge) was ranked by visitors as being of less than average importance. This was true for both snowmobilers and other visitors. 28% of the visitors desired an increase in this type of lodging. The majority of this demand comes from snowmobilers. Only 9% of the visitors (mostly cross-country skiers) expressed a desire for a reduction in lodging accessible by over-snow vehicles.

Finally, an open ended question allowed the respondents to express their feelings and opinions about any other item they wished to discuss. These responses are transcribed in appendix E.

FIGURE 67. RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF RELIABILITY OF SNOW COVER FOR CHOOSING PARK ENTRANCE

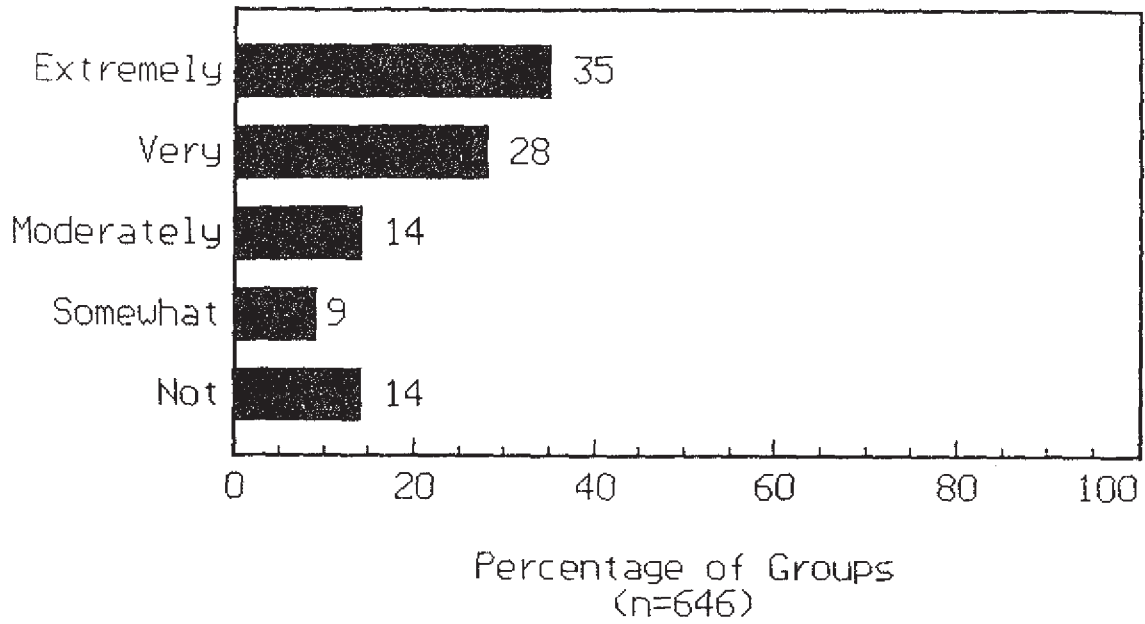
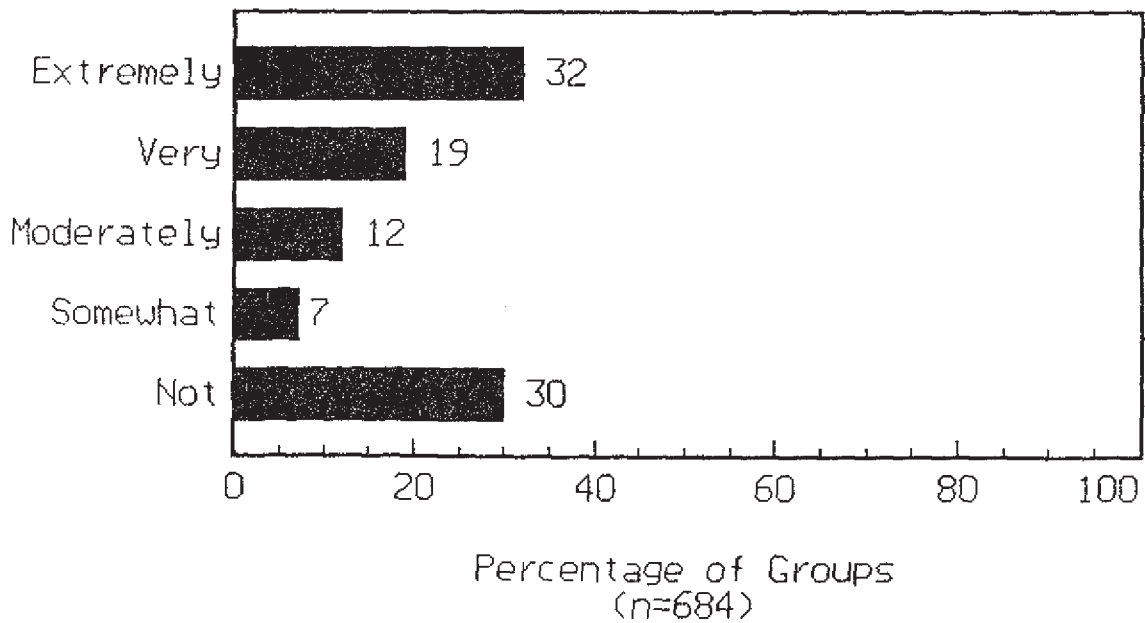
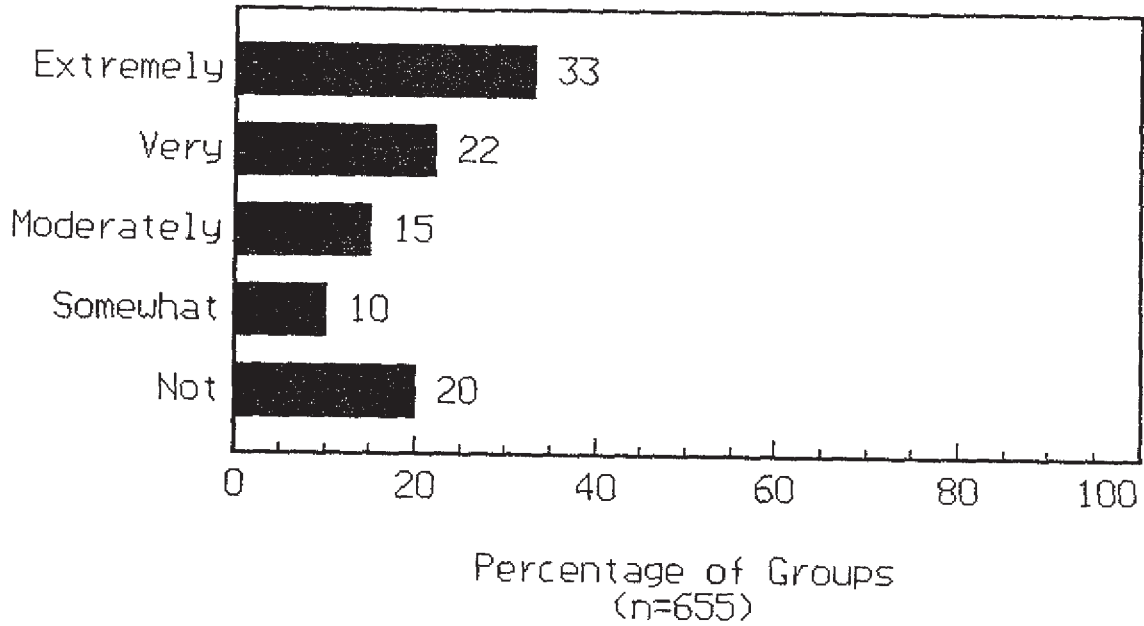


FIGURE 68. RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF PROXIMITY TO HOME RESIDENCE FOR CHOOSING PARK ENTRANCE



**FIGURE 69. RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF PROXIMITY TO ATTRACTION/FACILITIES OUTSIDE PARKS FOR CHOOSING PARK ENTRANCE**



**FIGURE 70. RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF PROXIMITY TO AIRPORTS AND HIGHWAYS FOR CHOOSING PARK ENTRANCE**

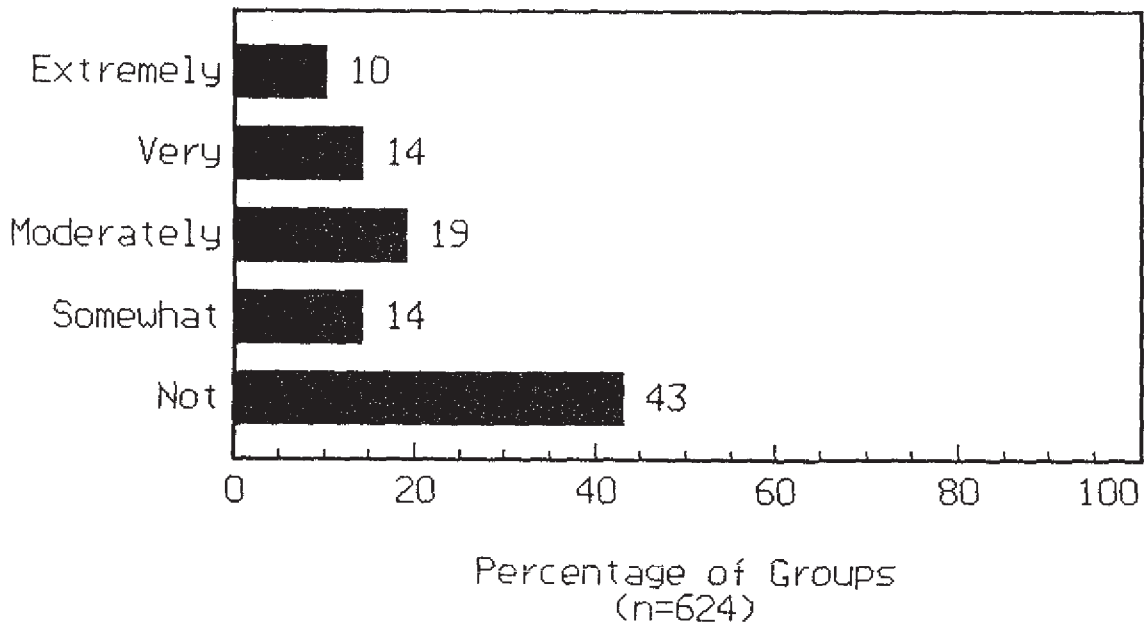


FIGURE 71. RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF PROXIMITY TO PARK FEATURES AND FACILITIES FOR CHOOSING PARK ENTRANCE

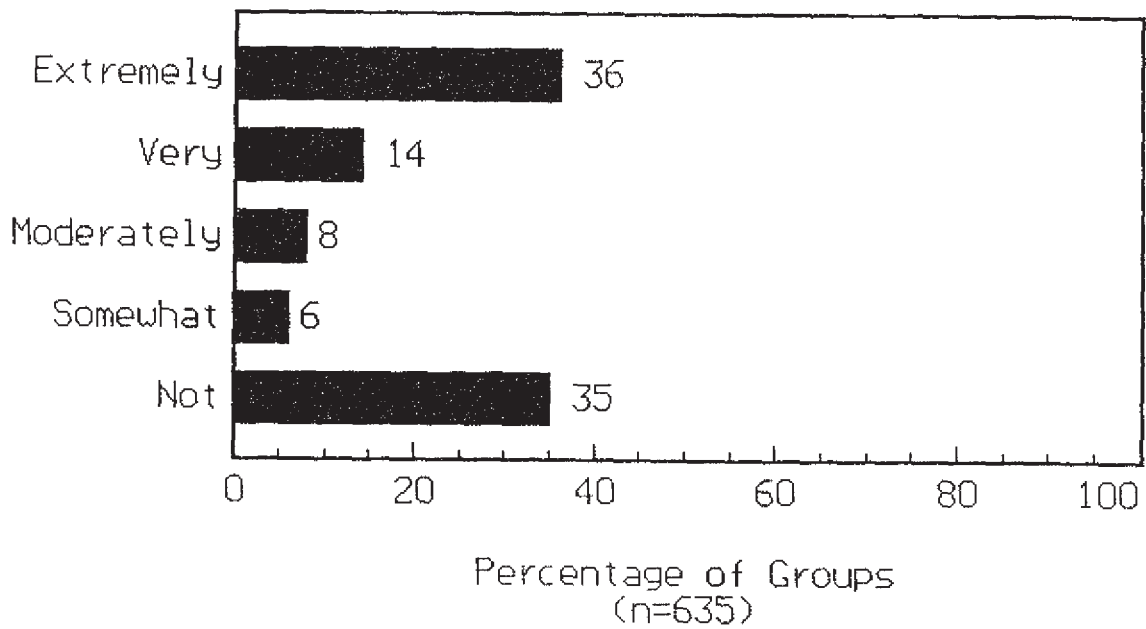


FIGURE 72. RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF AVAILABILITY OF OVER-SNOW TRANSPORTATION FOR CHOOSING PARK ENTRANCE

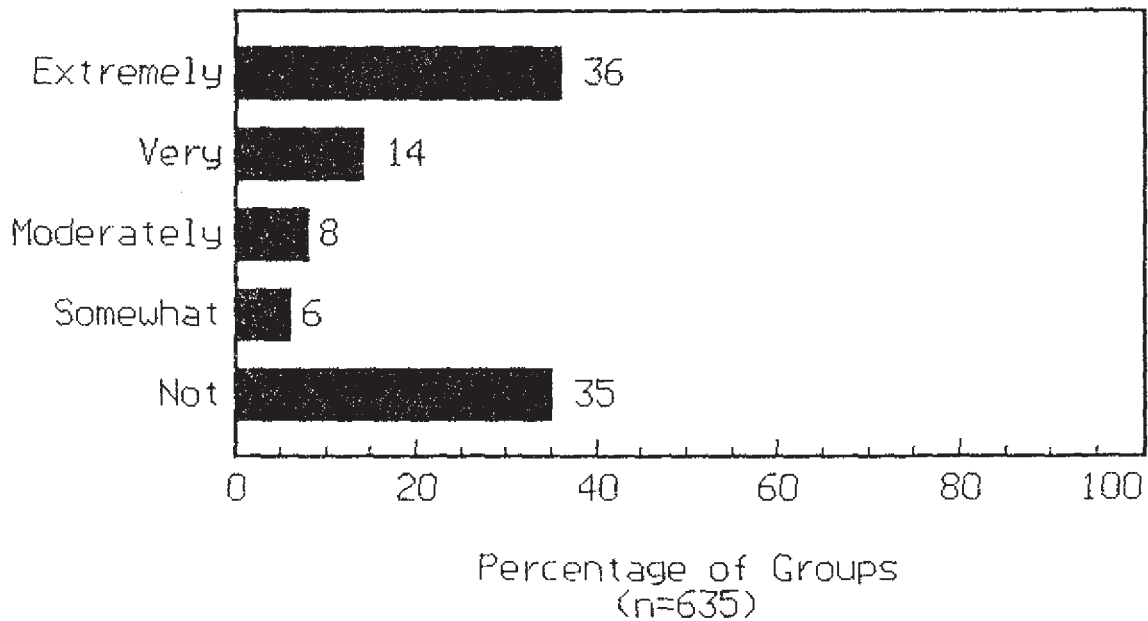
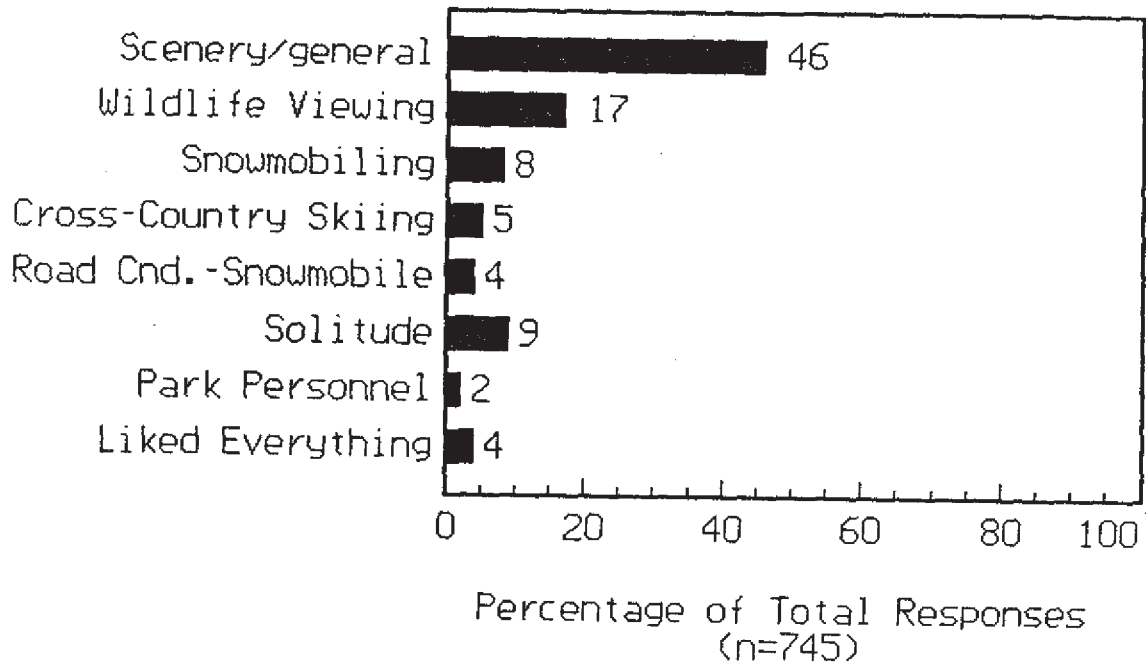




FIGURE 73. ITEM LIKED MOST



7% of individuals responding to this question provided answers other than those detailed in the above figure.

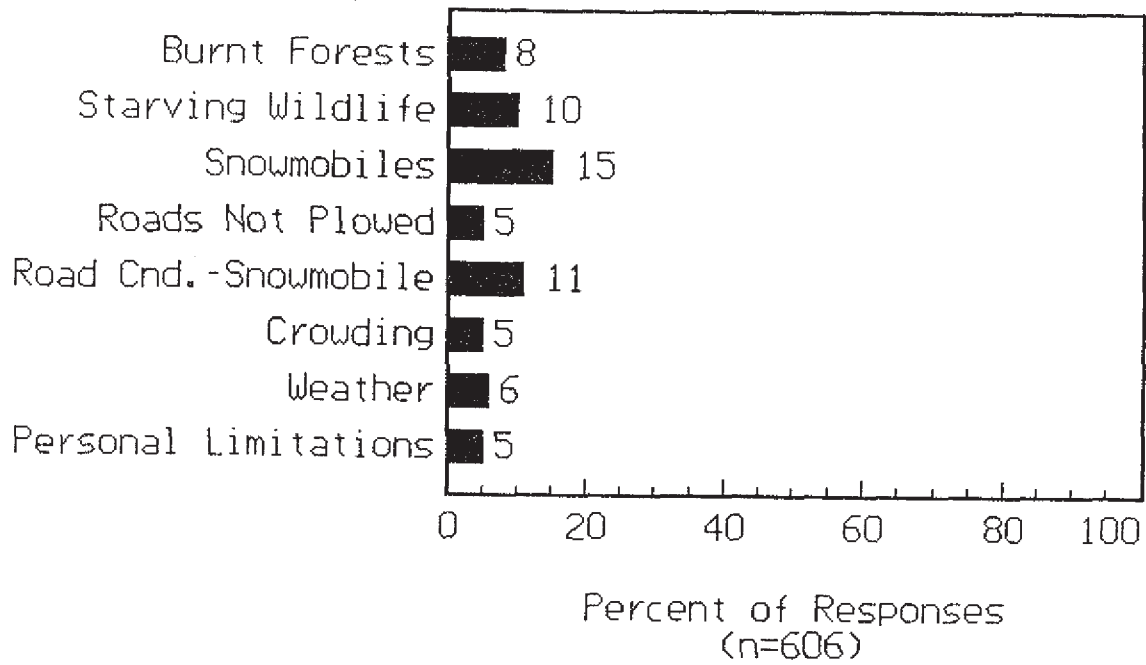
A total of 102 respondents did not answer this question

TABLE 14: ITEM LIKED MOST

COMMENT	NUMBER OF RESPONSES
<b>GENERAL IMPRESSIONS OF THE PARK(S)</b>	
Scenery/nature (snow, thermal features, specific sites, remoteness, uncommercial qualities, photographic opportunities)	363
Burnt forests	5
Viewing wildlife	135
<b>ACTIVITIES</b>	
Snowmobiling (activity, available routes)	61
Snowcoach (speed, availability, schedule)	5
Cross-country skiing (activity, available trails, no fee *)	38
Fishing	6
<b>ROADS AND TRAILS</b>	
Road conditions (for snowmobiles and snowcoaches)	30
Trail conditions (for cross-country skiing)	5
Solitude, relaxing atmosphere	68
Road conditions (for cars)	1
<b>FEES AND MANAGEMENT</b>	
Fees *	2
Regulations	1
Personnel (park, concession, attitude, availability)	16
Information (orientation, signing, knowledge of staff, visitor center)	4
<b>FACILITIES</b>	
Warming huts (mostly availability)	4
Rest rooms	1
Lodging	1
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>	
Weather	4
Liked everything	29
Airport	0
<b>OUT-OF-PARK CONDITIONS</b>	
Out-of-park services and facilities	5
<b>OTHER</b>	
Other (dog-sled, other visitors, snow shoe hike, proximity, sleigh)	11
TOTAL Number of Positive Responses	<u>795</u>

\* Yellowstone charges an entry fee during winter months. Grand Teton does not.

FIGURE 74. ITEM LIKED LEAST



35% of individuals responding to this question provided answers other than those detailed in the above figure.

75 respondents indicated there was nothing they disliked about their visits to the park(s). These responses are not considered in the above percentages, as they do not reflect a true measure of dissatisfaction.

A total of 166 respondents did not answer this question.

TABLE 15: ITEM LIKED LEAST

COMMENT	NUMBER OF RESPONSES
<b>GENERAL IMPRESSIONS OF THE PARK(S)</b>	
Burnt forests	50
Viewing wildlife	6
Starving wildlife	62
<b>ACTIVITIES</b>	
Snowmobiling (activity, noise, speed, harassment)	90
Snowcoach (speed, availability, schedule)	9
Roads not plowed for cars	28
Cross-country skiing (mostly available trails)	2
Fishing	1
<b>ROADS AND TRAILS</b>	
Road conditions (for snowmobiles and snowcoaches) **	69
Trail conditions (for cross-country skiing)	7
Crowding	27
Lack of snowmobile routes	5
Lack of ski routes	1
Road conditions (for cars)	12
Trail conditions (for walking)	3
<b>FEES AND MANAGEMENT</b>	
Fees ***	7
Transportation costs (snowcoach, snowmobile rental, rental return time)	10
Regulations (mostly snowmobile, also backcountry permit)	13
Personnel (park, concession, attitude, availability)	12
Information (orientation, signing, knowledge of staff, visitor center, weather, especially information on availability of gas)	14
<b>FACILITIES</b>	
Gas for snowmobiles (mostly availability, also cost and wait) ****	14
Warming huts (mostly availability, also change machines)	3
Rest rooms (lines, heat)	6
Lodging (cost, noise, closed, carry luggage, sheet size)	11
Food (price, seating, variety, lack of hours, smell)	14
Excessive in-park development	4
Trailhead parking (lack of)	2
Camping facilities	1
General lack of facilities and services (especially Old Faithful)	5
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>	
Weather	38
Personal limitations (mostly time, money, cash vs. check)	51
Specifically stated didn't dislike anything	75
Airport	2
<b>OUT-OF-PARK CONDITIONS</b>	
Out-of-park plowed road conditions	3
Out-of-park services and facilities	18
Encroachment of out-of-park development	4

**OTHER**

Other (other visitors, survey, lost property, showers, wildlife harassment, snowmobile malfunction, transportation from home)

22

TOTAL Number of Negative Responses

626 \*

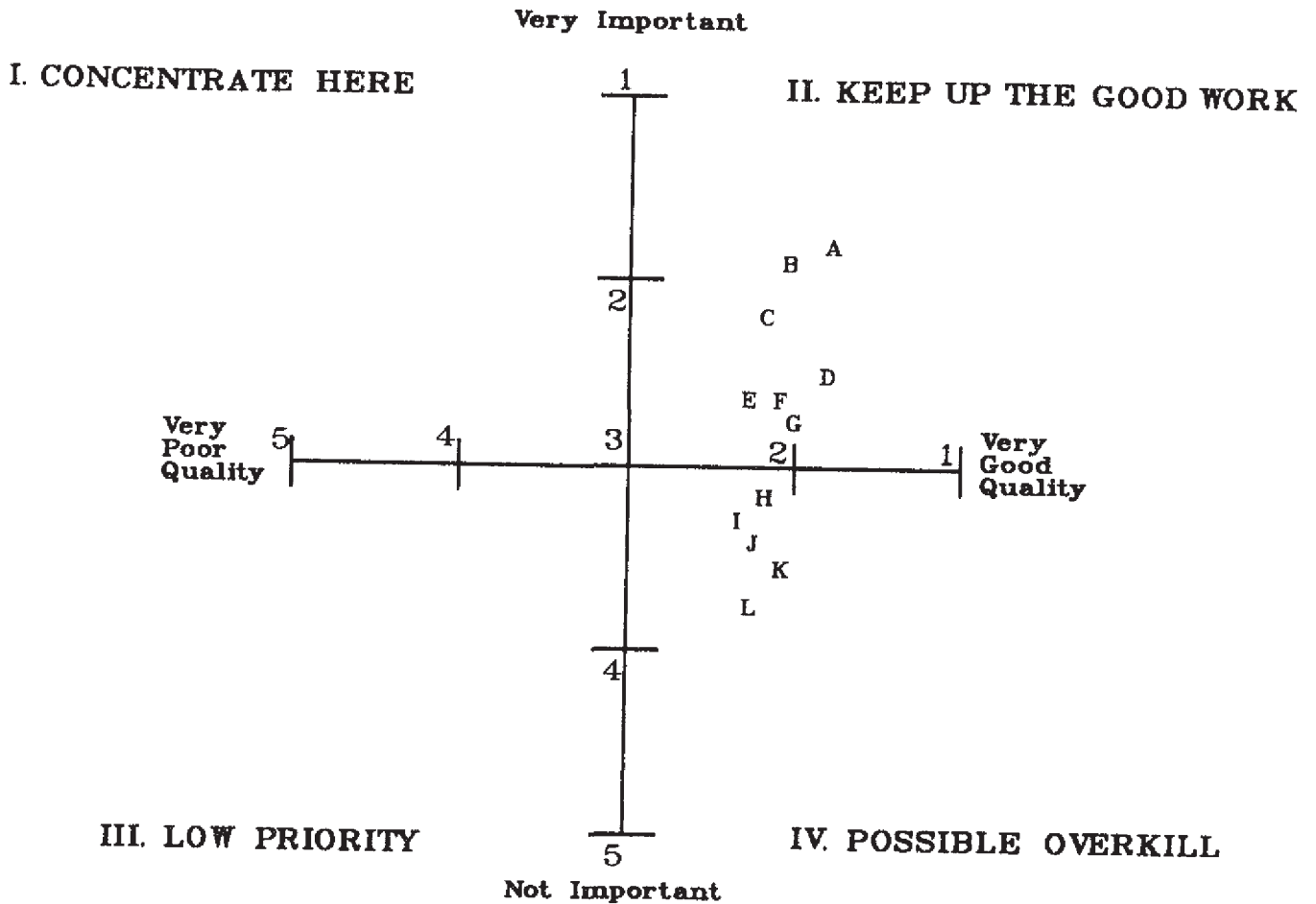
\* Total excludes 75 individuals who stated they did not dislike anything

\*\* A major snowstorm during one day of sampling closed most of the roads in the parks.

\*\*\* Yellowstone charges an entry fee during winter months. Grand Teton does not.

\*\*\*\* As the survey was taken towards the end of the winter use season, some of the gas stations had exhausted their supply of fuel and were closed.

FIGURE 75. VISITOR RATINGS OF SERVICE IMPORTANCE AND QUALITY



- A=Information & Direction
- B=Restrooms
- C=Unplowed Roads Open to Over-snow Vehicles
- D=Visitor Centers
- E=Food Service
- F=Geyser Basin Walkway
- G=Ranger Patrol

- H=Lodging Within Parks Accessible Only by Over-snow Vehicles
- I=Groomed Ski Trails
- J=Ungroomed Ski Trails
- K=Ranger-Led Walks & Talks
- L=Lodging Within Parks Accessible by Car

FIGURE 76. RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF THE VISITOR CENTERS

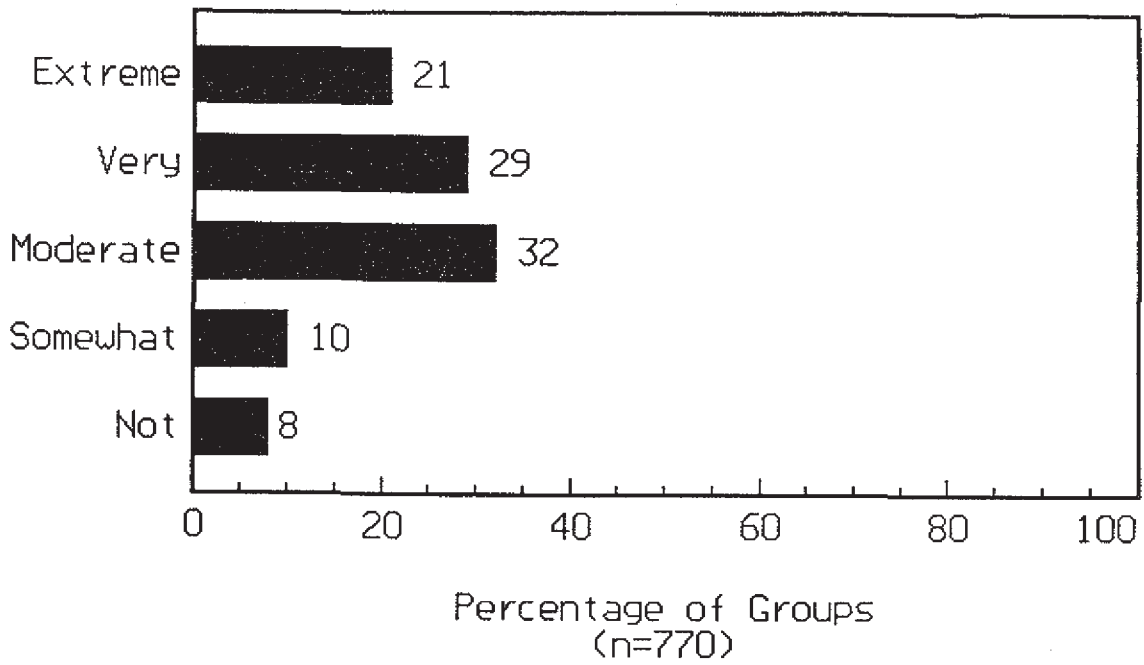


FIGURE 77. RELATIVE QUALITY OF THE VISITOR CENTERS

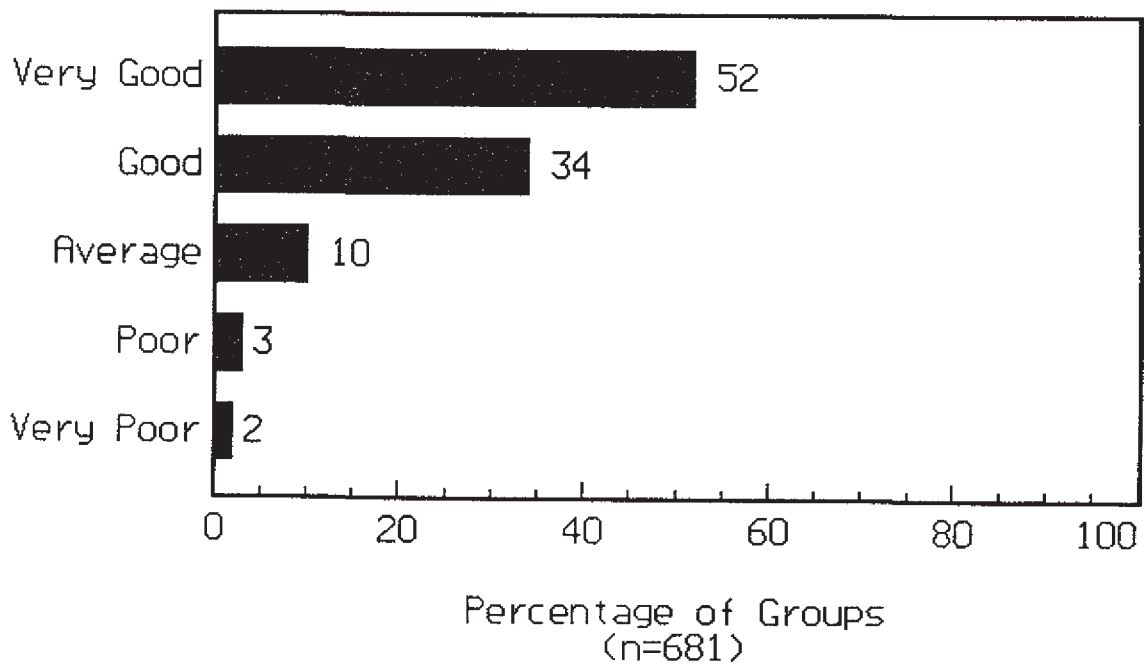


FIGURE 78. RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF INFORMATION AND DIRECTION SIGNS

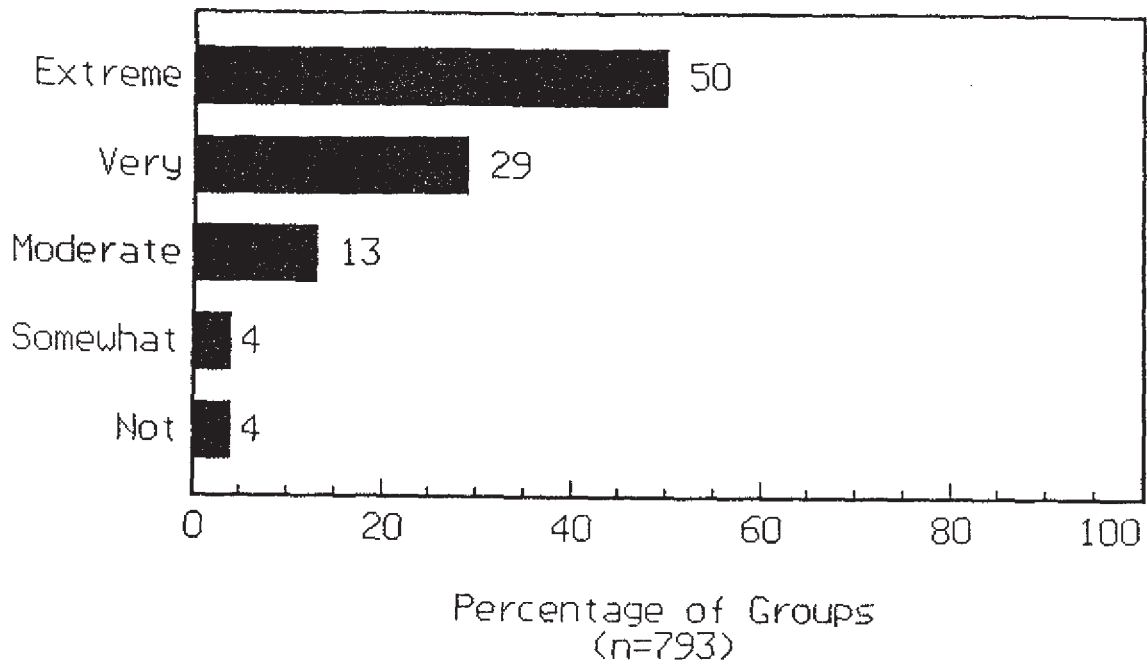


FIGURE 79. RELATIVE QUALITY OF INFORMATION AND DIRECTION SIGNS

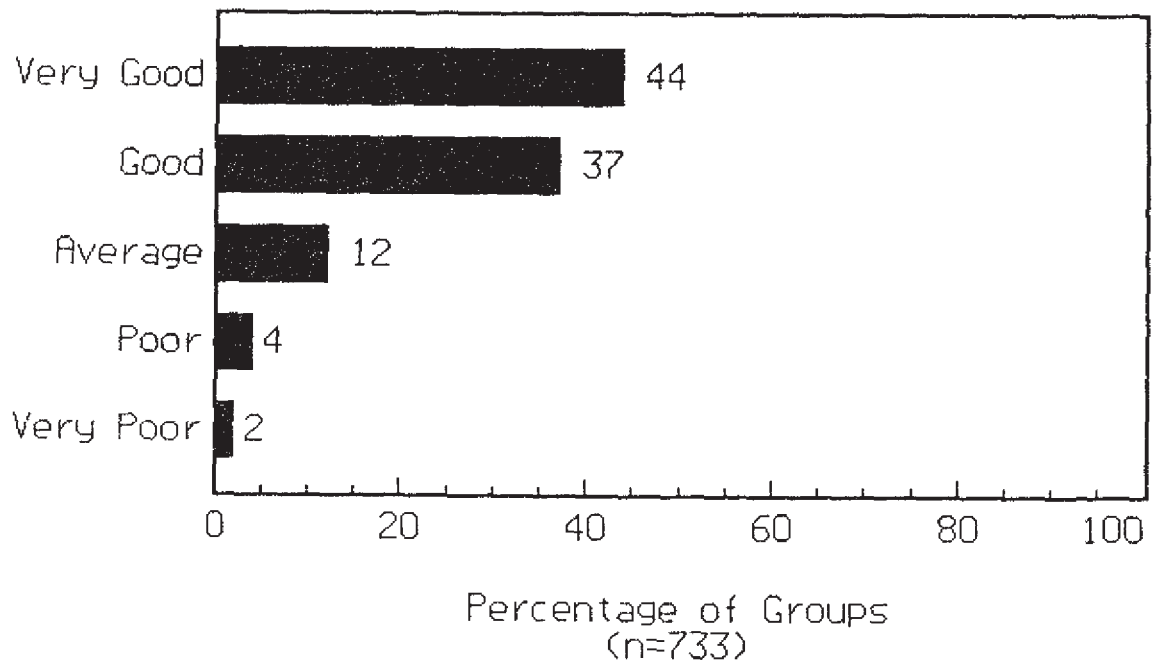




FIGURE 80. RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF RANGER PATROL

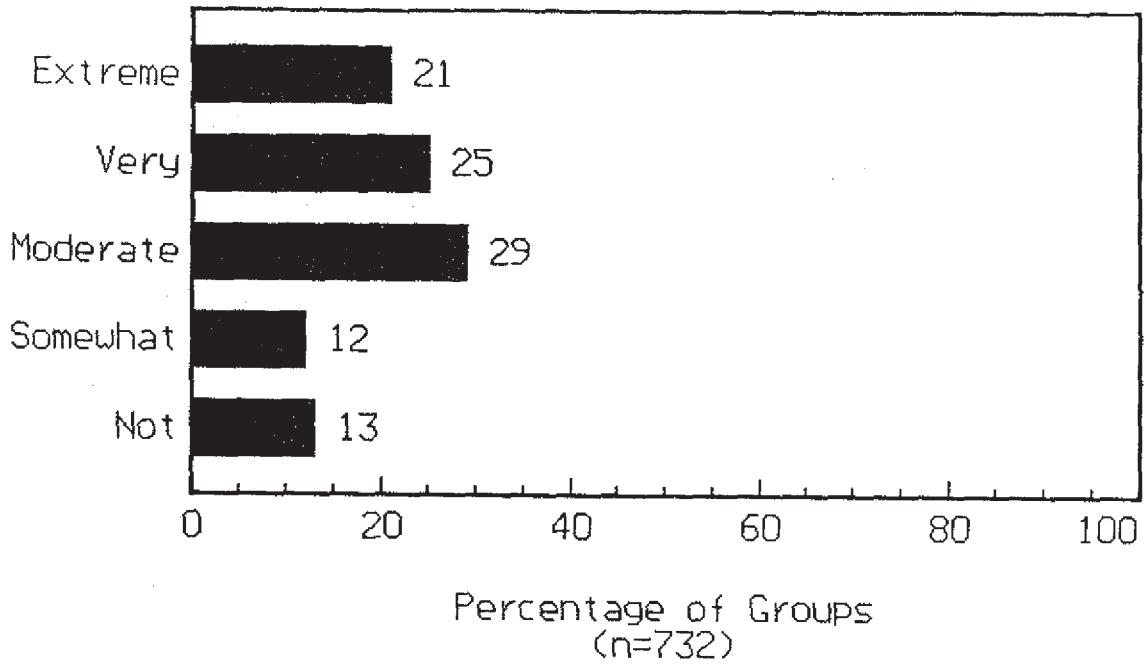


FIGURE 81. RELATIVE QUALITY OF RANGER PATROL

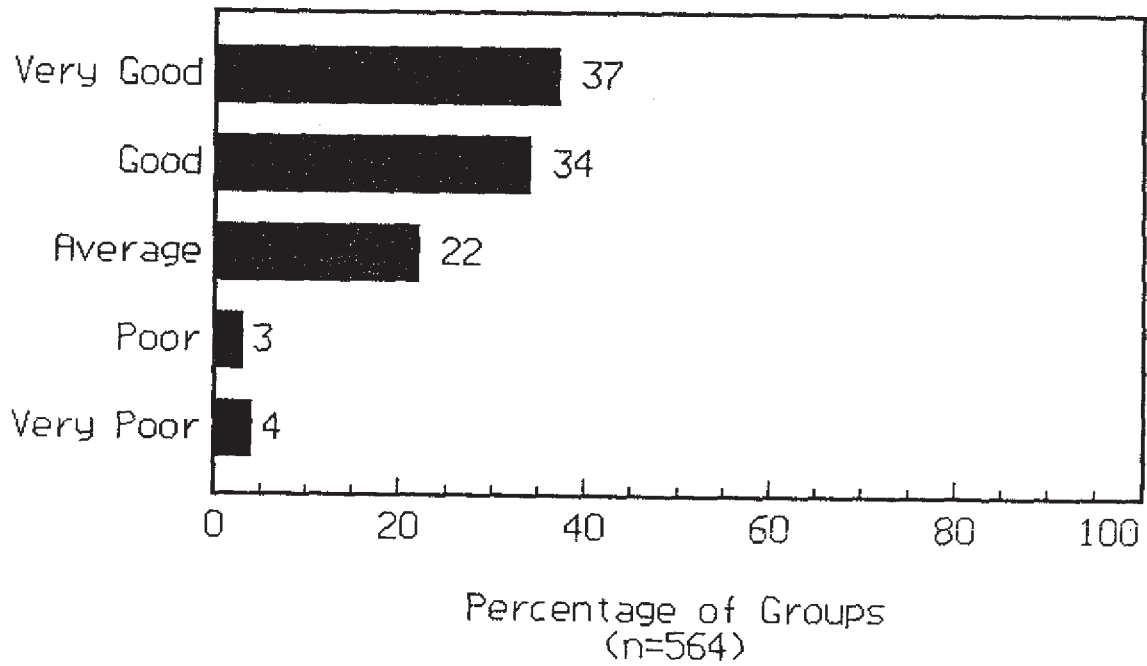


FIGURE 82. RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF RANGER-LED WALKS AND TALKS

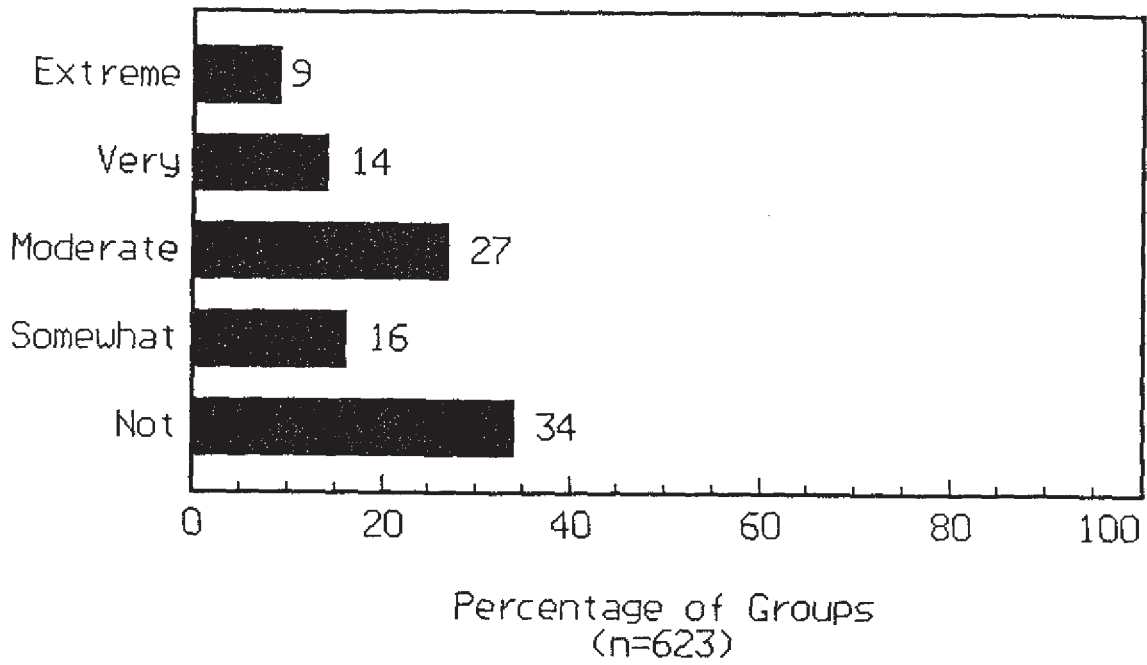


FIGURE 83. RELATIVE QUALITY OF RANGER-LED WALKS AND TALKS

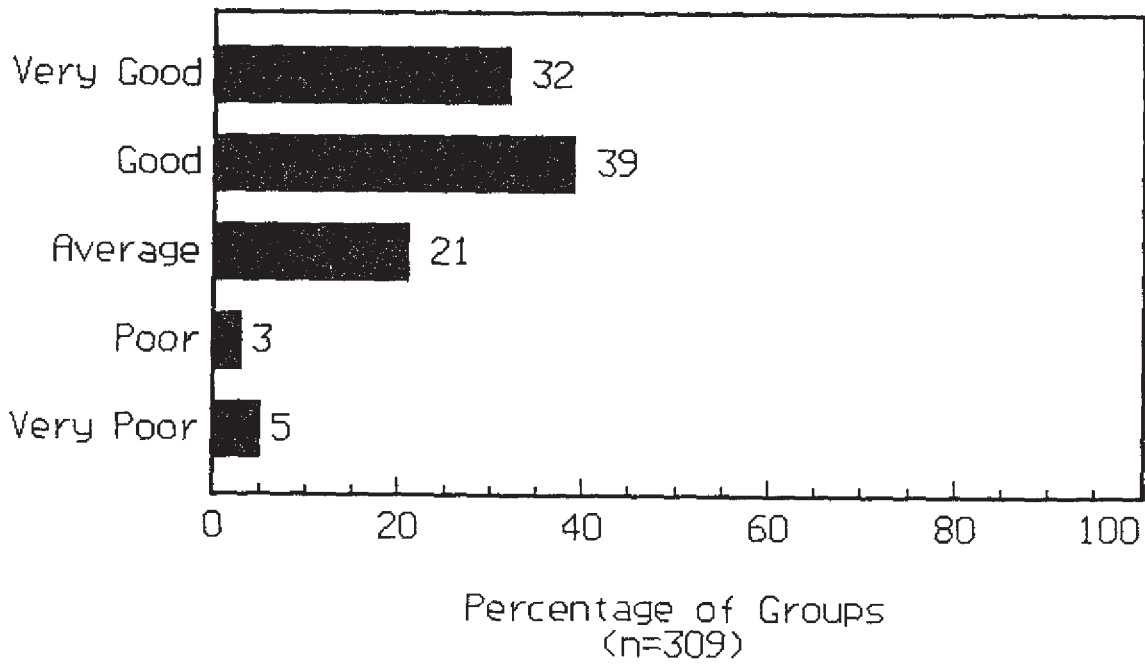


FIGURE 84. RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF THE GEYSER BASIN WALK WAYS

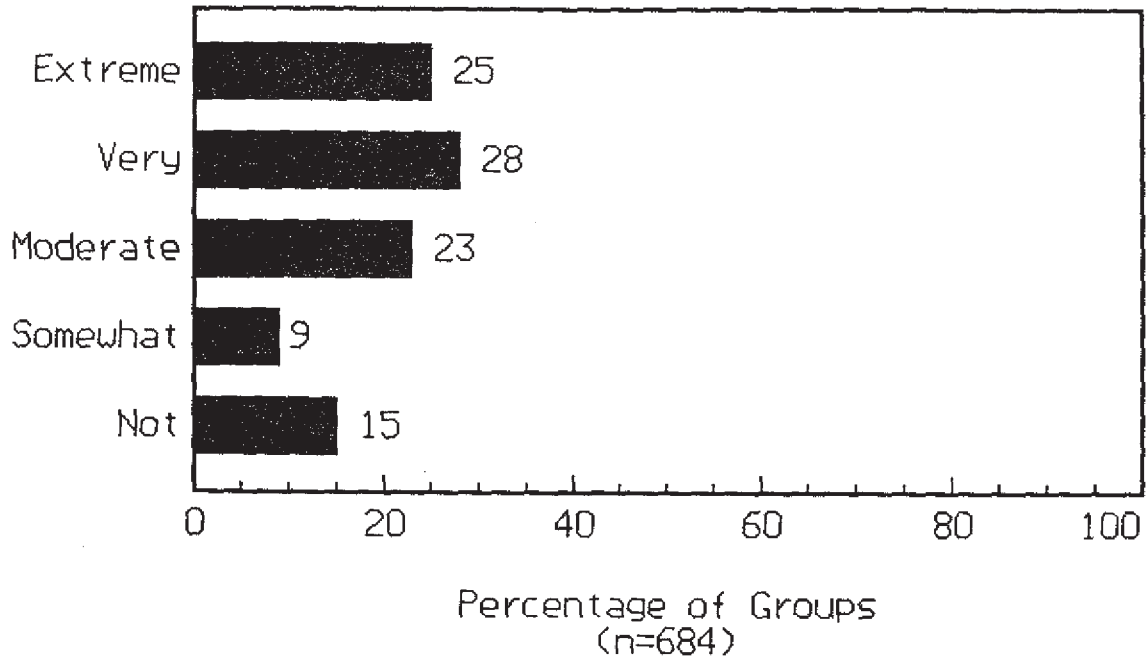


FIGURE 85. RELATIVE QUALITY OF THE GEYSER BASIN WALK WAYS

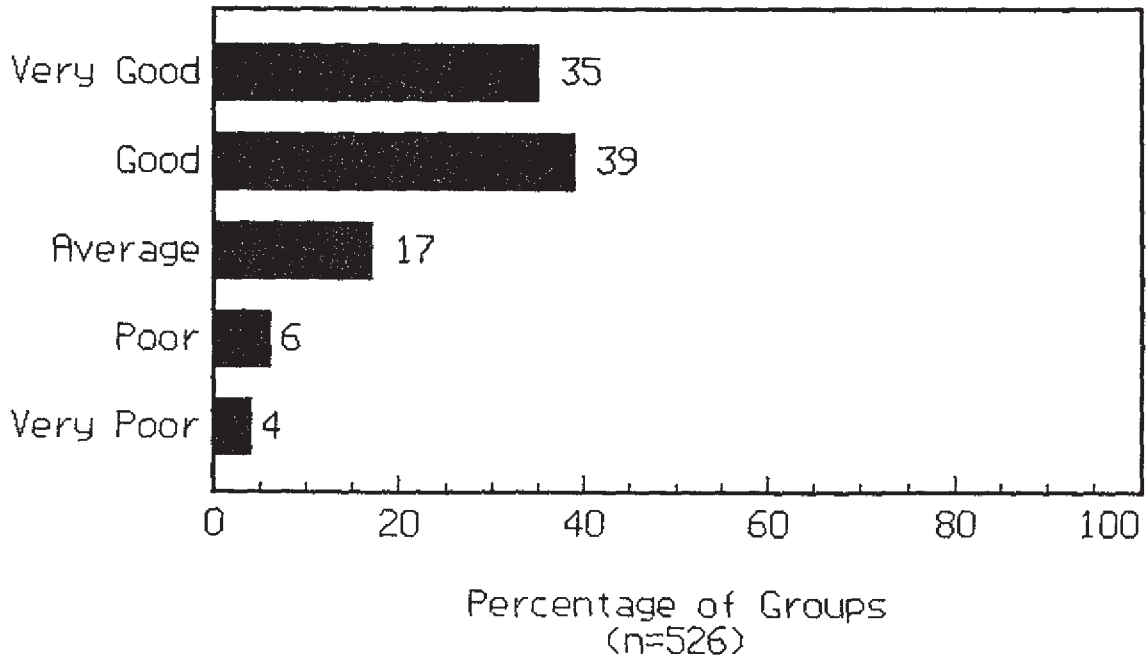


FIGURE 86. RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF THE UNPLOWED ROADS OPEN TO OVER-SNOW VEHICLES

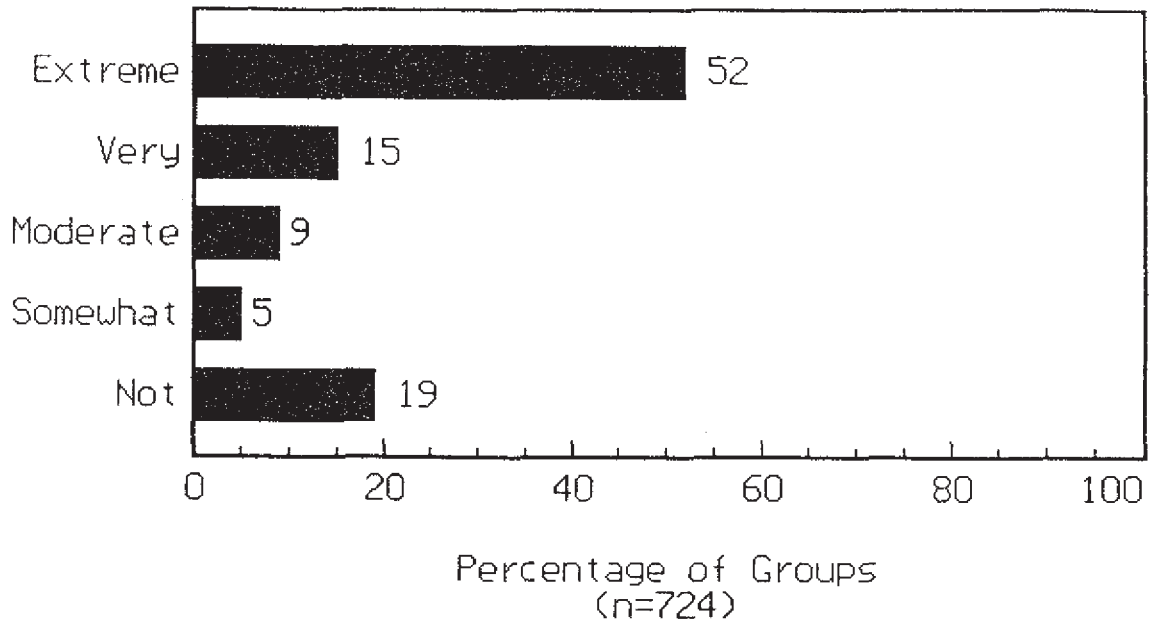


FIGURE 87. RELATIVE QUALITY OF THE UNPLOWED ROADS OPEN TO OVER-SNOW VEHICLES

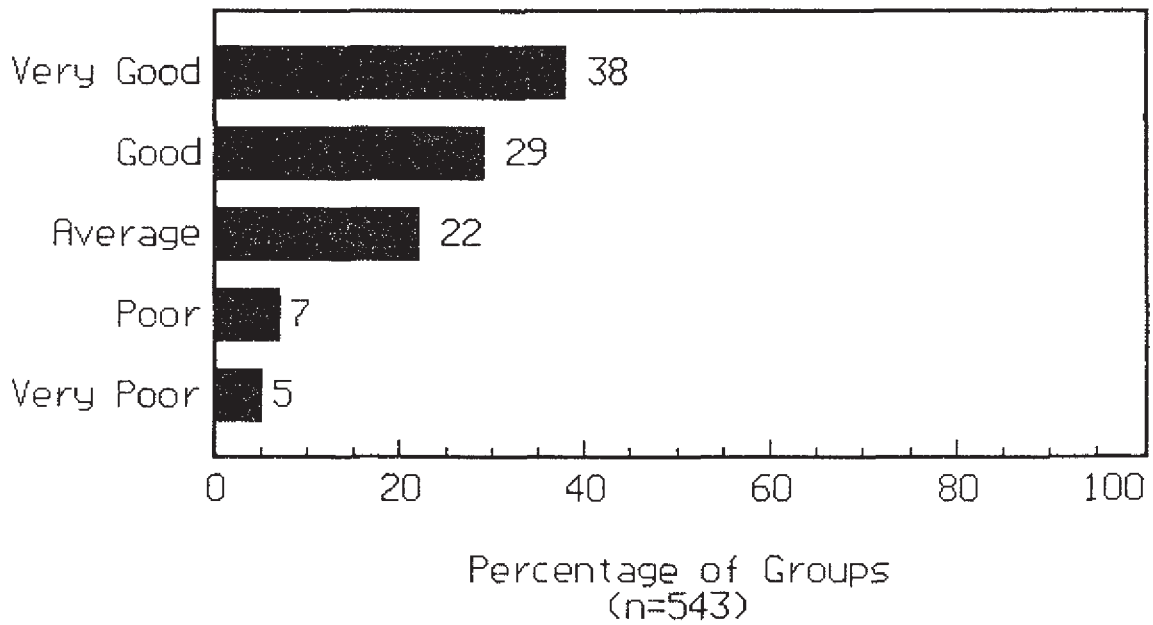


FIGURE 88. RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF THE UNGROOMED SKI TRAILS FOR ALL GROUPS

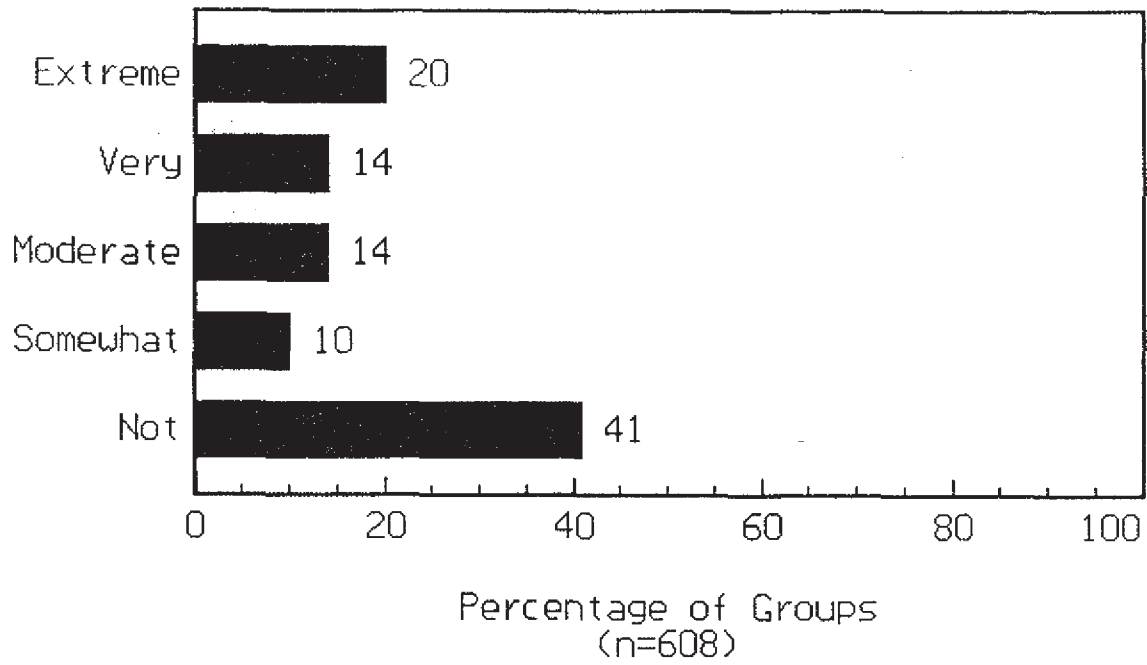
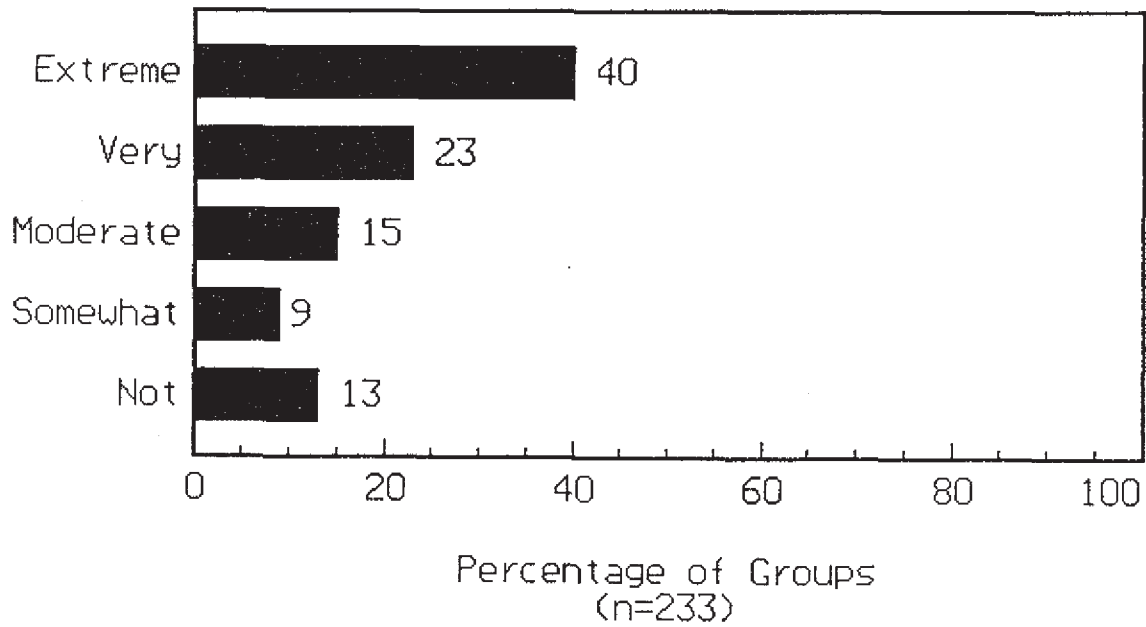
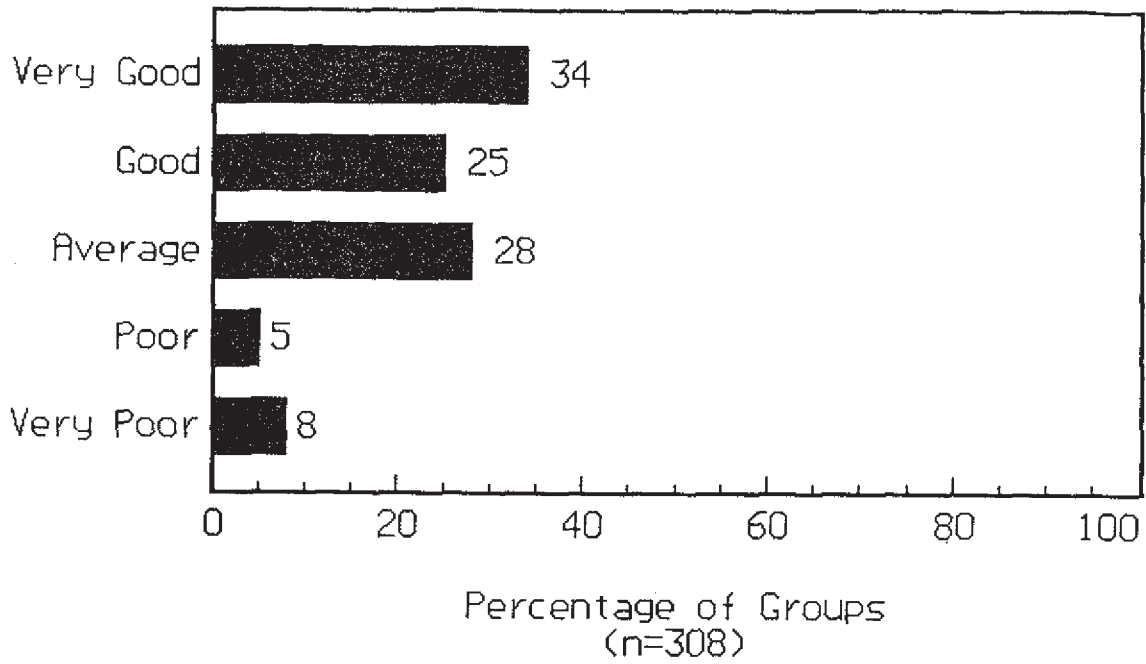


FIGURE 89. RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF THE UNGROOMED SKI TRAILS FOR CROSS-COUNTRY SKIERS



**FIGURE 90. RELATIVE QUALITY OF THE UNGROOMED SKI TRAILS FOR ALL GROUPS**



**FIGURE 91. RELATIVE QUALITY OF THE UNGROOMED SKI TRAILS FOR CROSS-COUNTRY SKIERS**

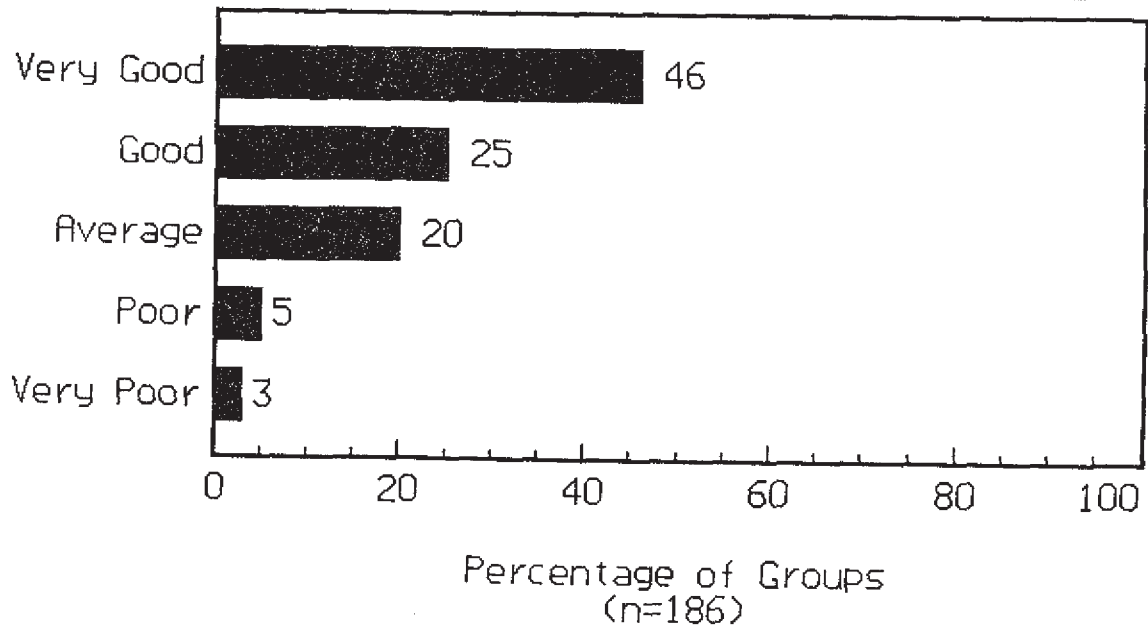


FIGURE 92. RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF THE GROOMED SKI TRAILS FOR ALL GROUPS

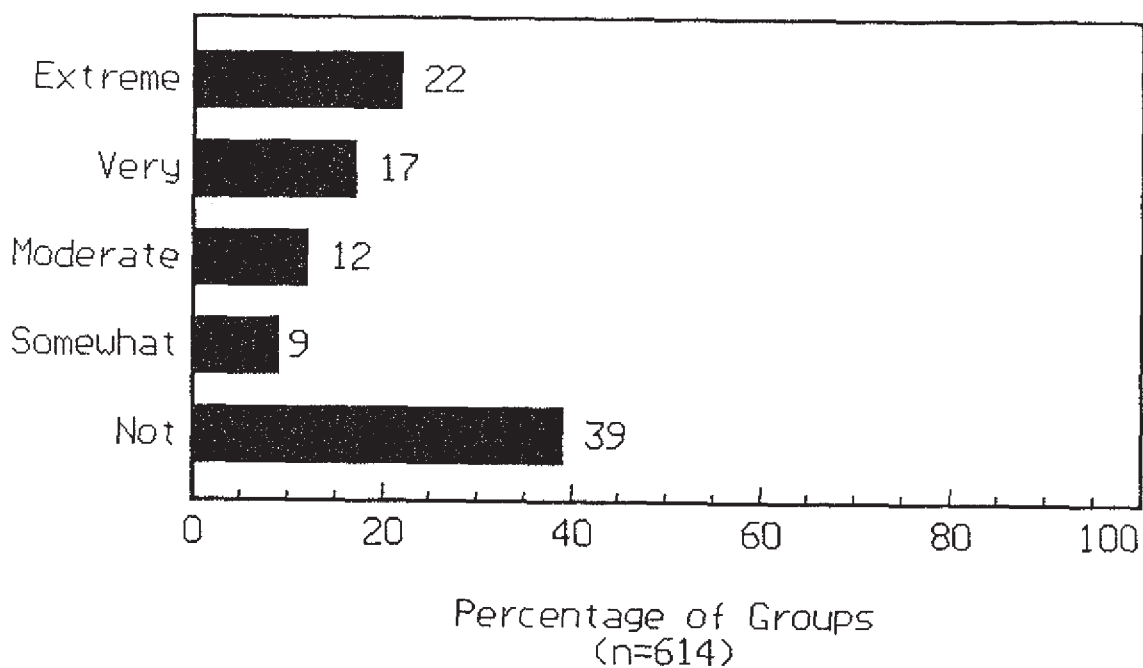


FIGURE 93. RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF THE GROOMED SKI TRAILS FOR CROSS-COUNTRY SKIERS

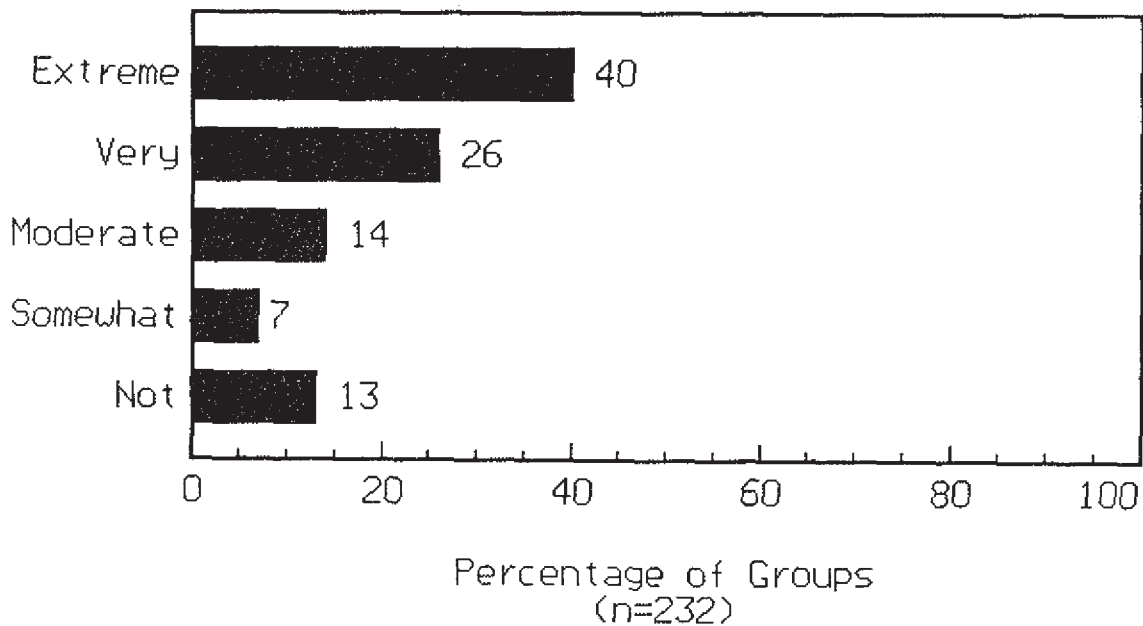


FIGURE 94. RELATIVE QUALITY OF THE GROOMED SKI TRAILS FOR ALL GROUPS

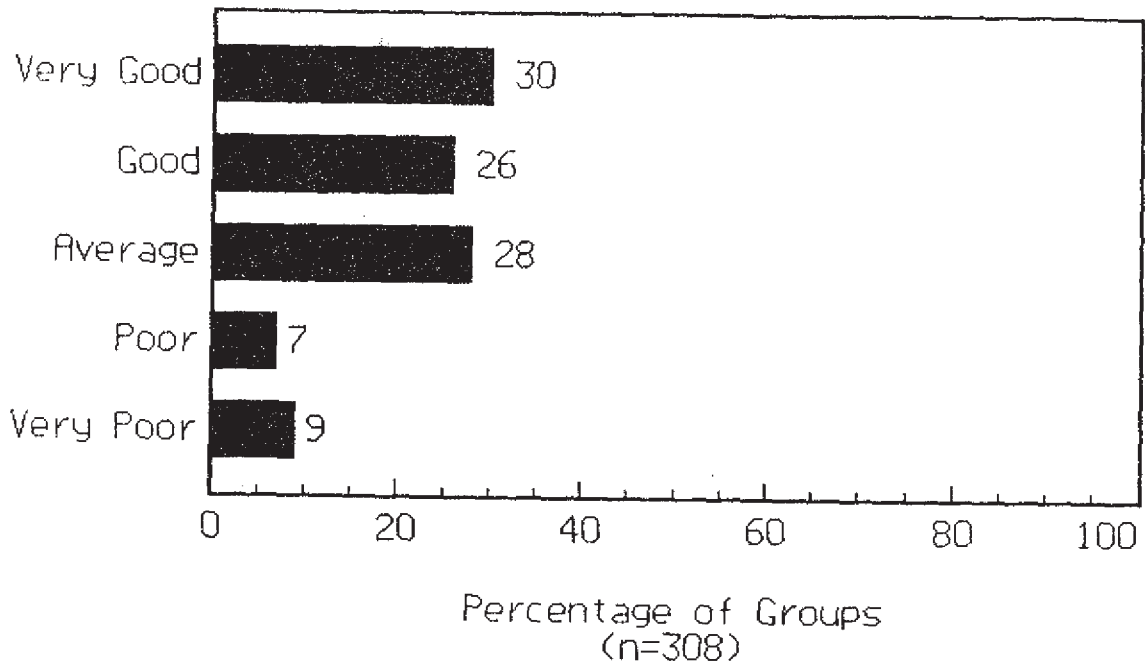


FIGURE 95. RELATIVE QUALITY OF THE GROOMED SKI TRAILS FOR CROSS-COUNTRY SKIERS

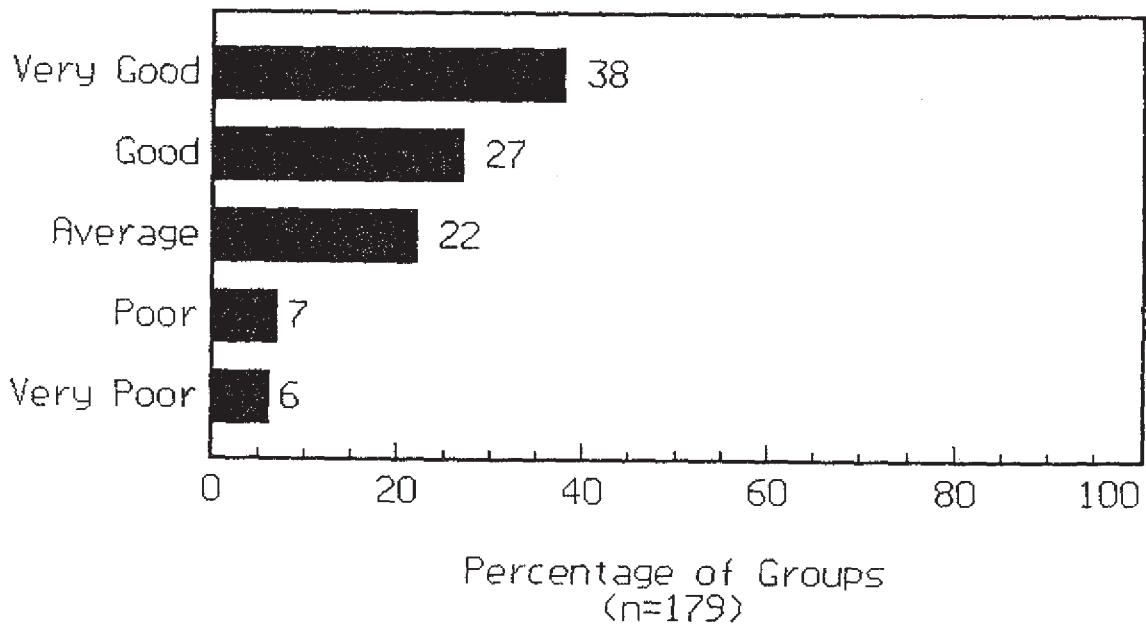




FIGURE 96. RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF LODGING IN PARK(S) ACCESSIBLE BY CAR

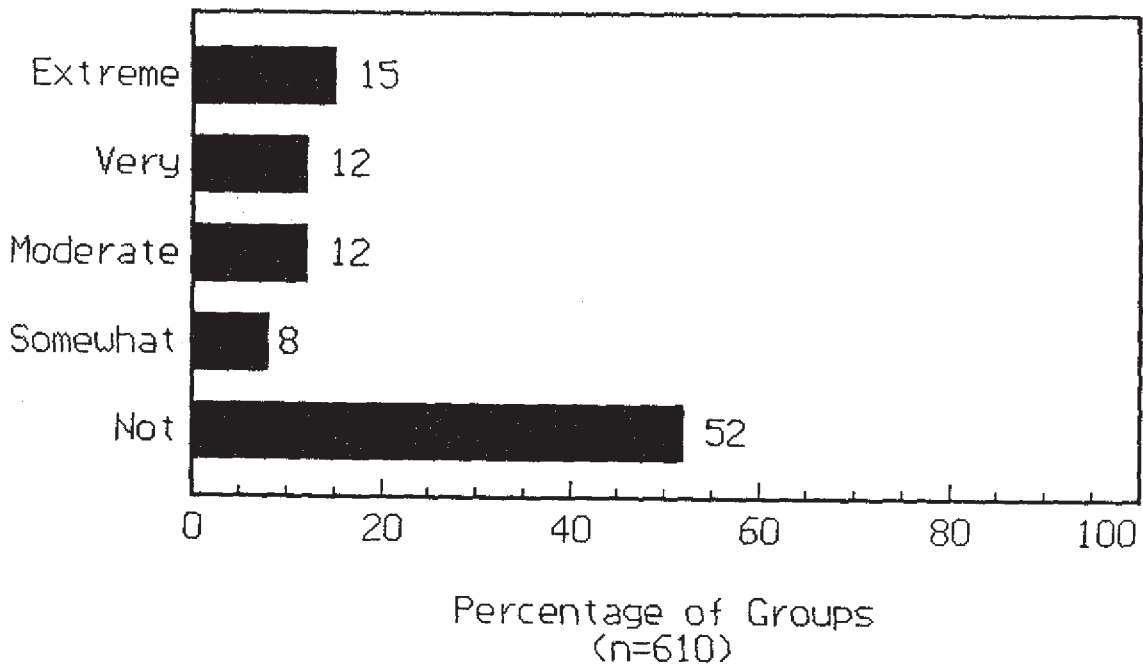


FIGURE 97. RELATIVE QUALITY OF LODGING IN PARK(S) ACCESSIBLE BY CAR

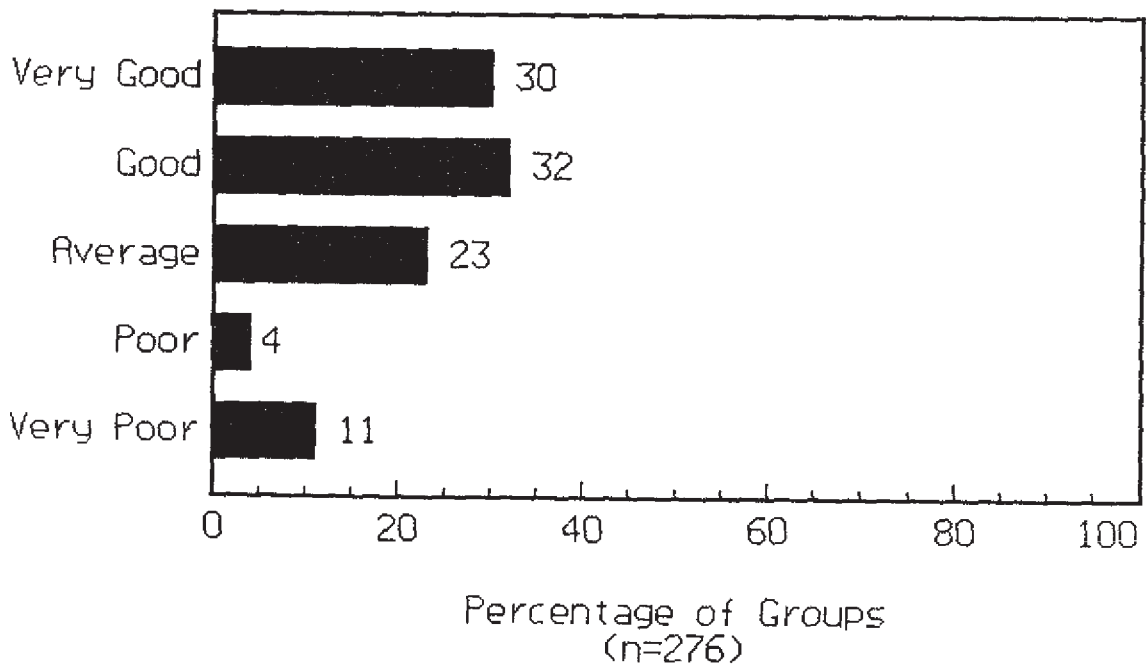


FIGURE 98. RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF LODGING ACCESSIBLE ONLY BY OVER-SNOW VEHICLES (ALL GROUPS)

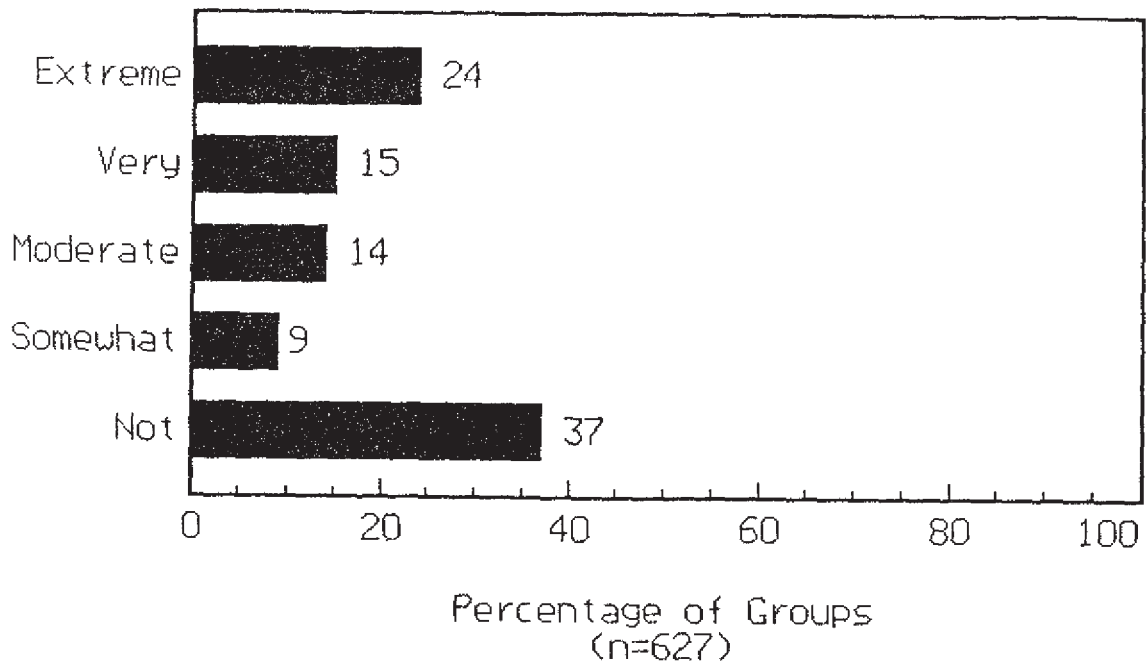


FIGURE 99. RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF LODGING ACCESSIBLE ONLY BY OVER-SNOW VEHICLES (SNOWMOBILERS)

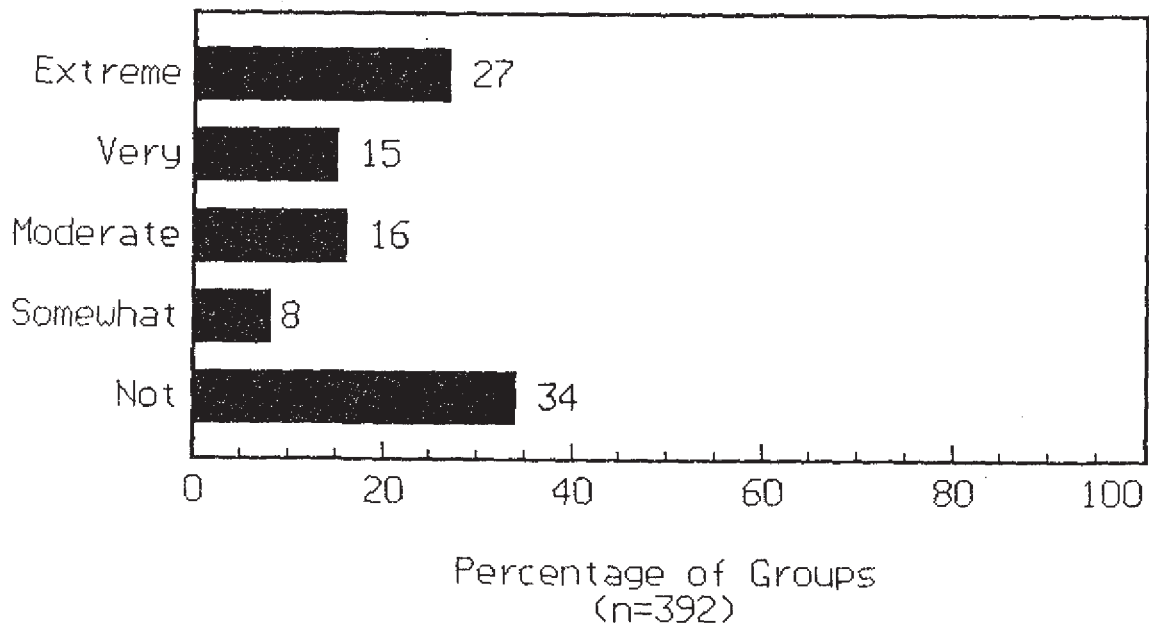


FIGURE 100. RELATIVE QUALITY OF LODGING ACCESSIBLE ONLY BY OVER-SNOW VEHICLES (ALL GROUPS)

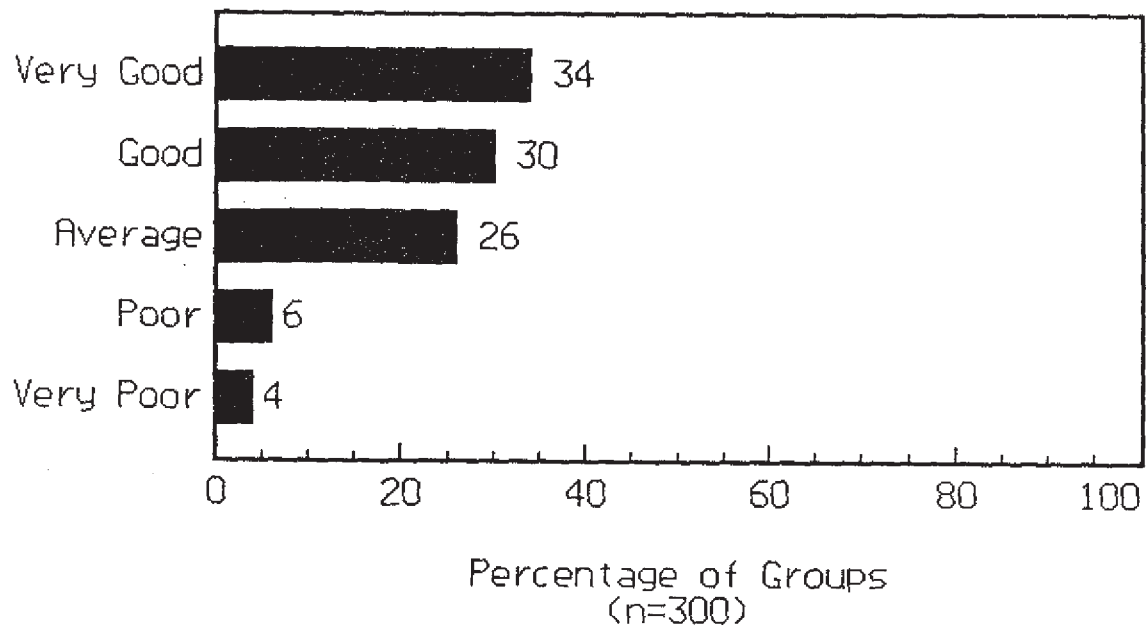


FIGURE 101. RELATIVE QUALITY OF LODGING ACCESSIBLE ONLY BY OVER-SNOW VEHICLES (SNOWMOBILERS)

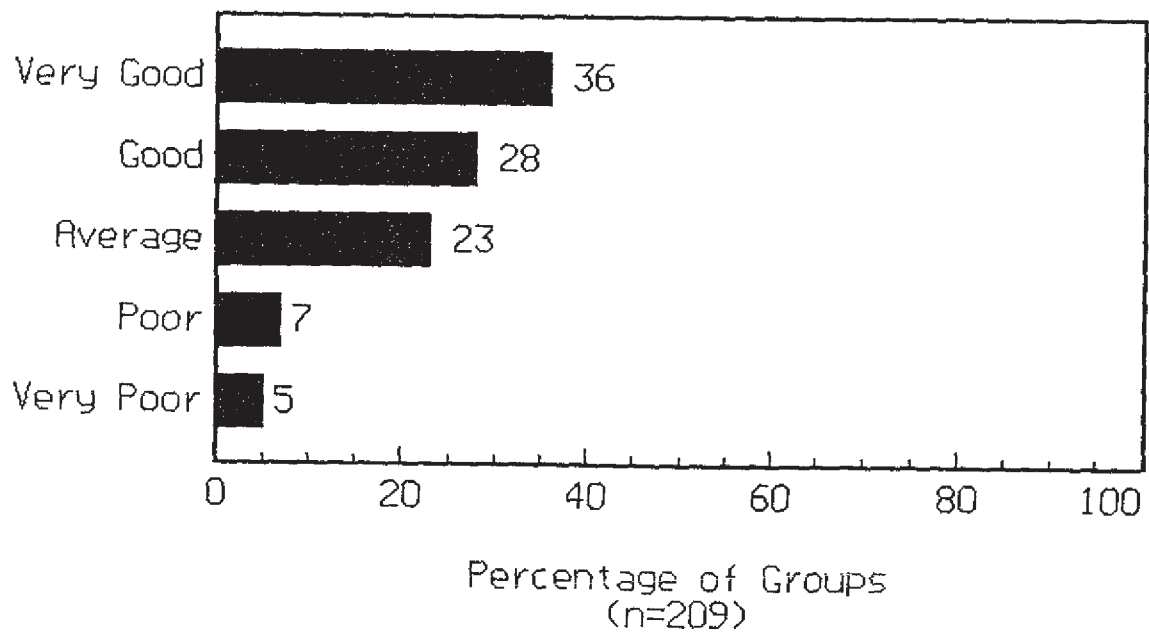


FIGURE 102. RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF REST ROOMS

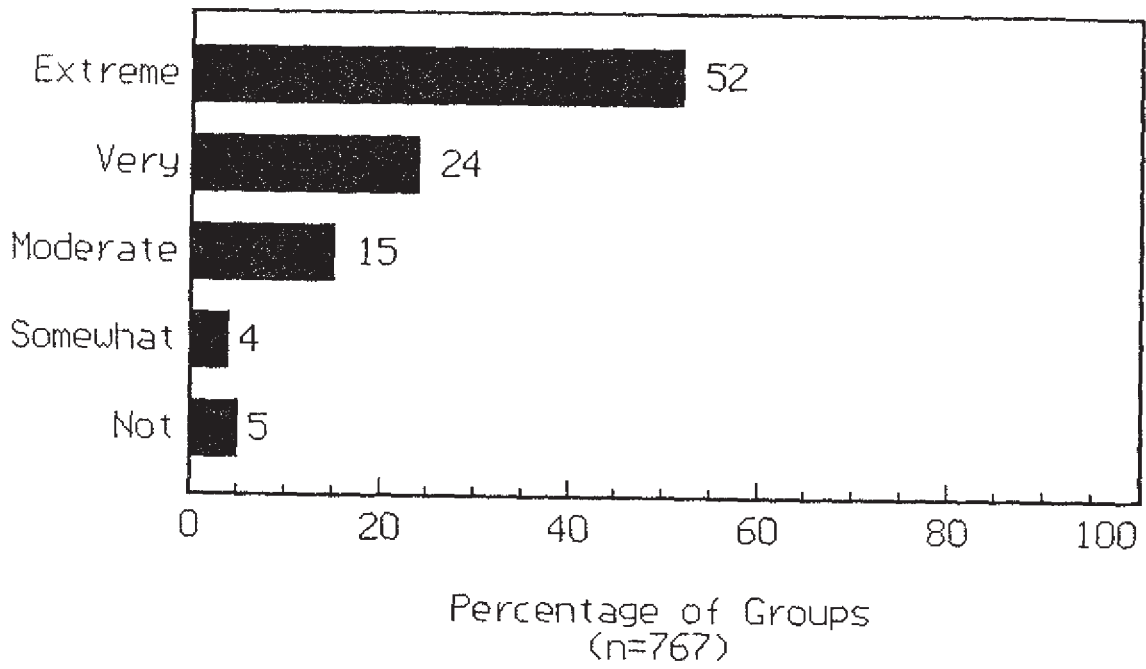


FIGURE 103. RELATIVE QUALITY OF REST ROOMS

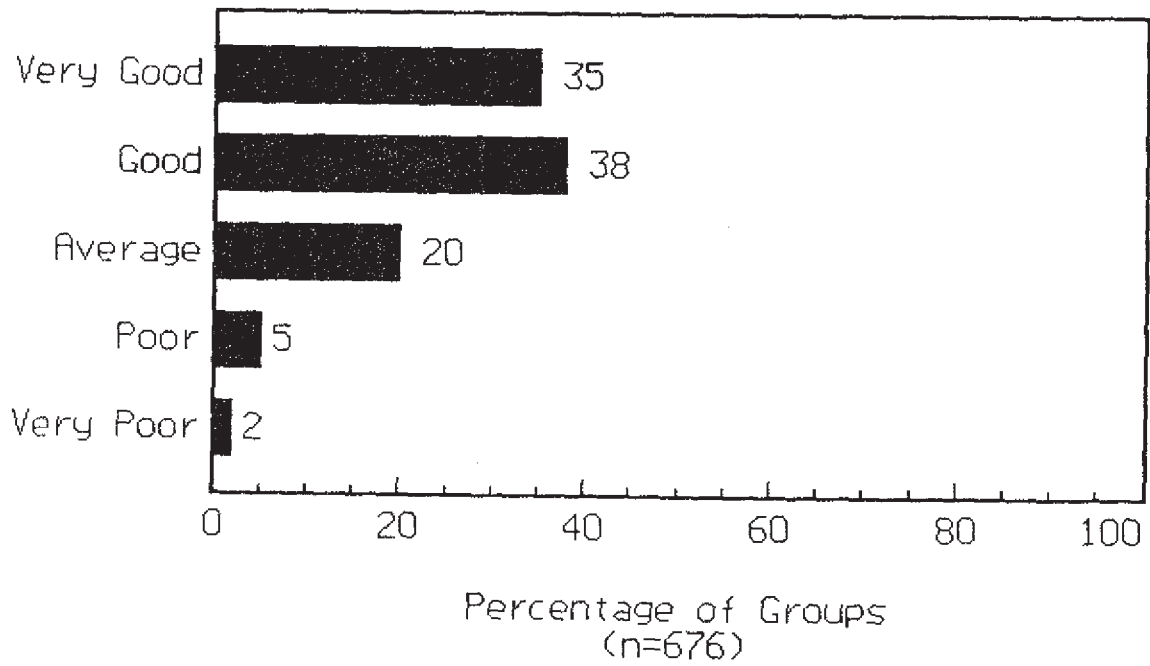


FIGURE 104. RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF FOOD SERVICE

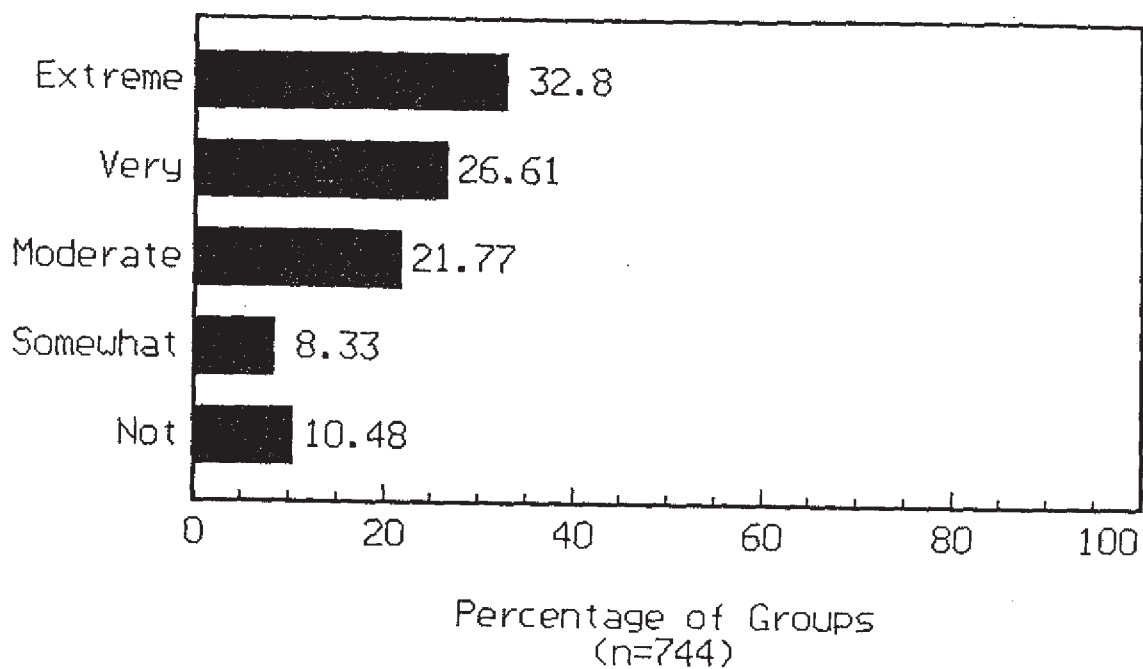


FIGURE 105. RELATIVE QUALITY OF FOOD SERVICE

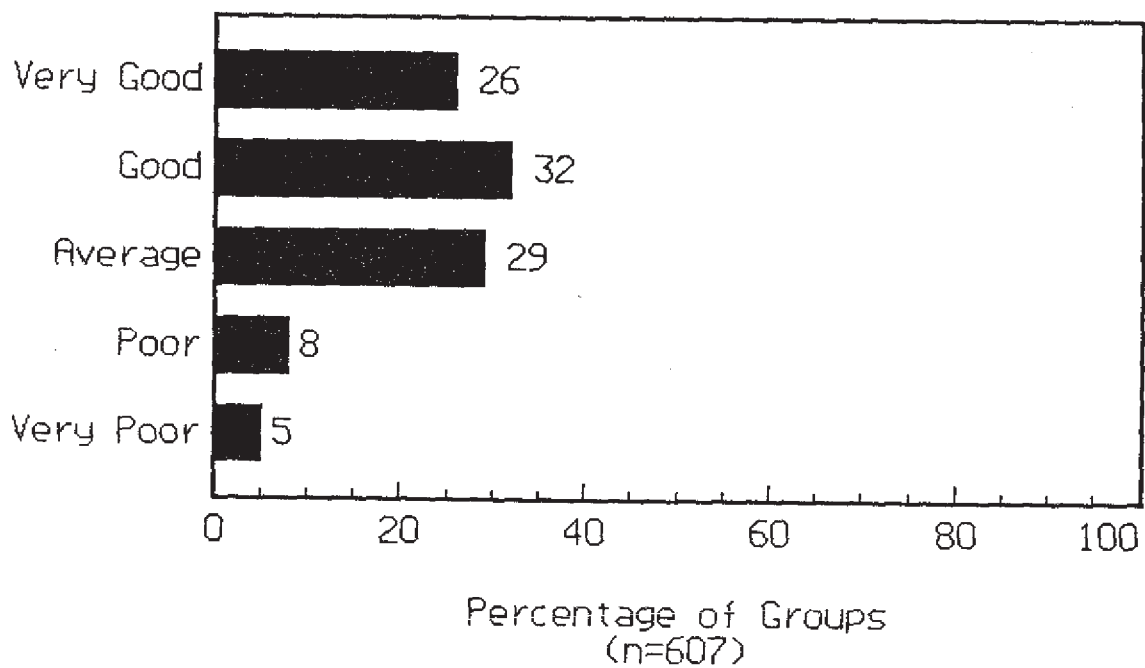


FIGURE 106. AVAILABILITY OF RANGER-LED PROGRAMS

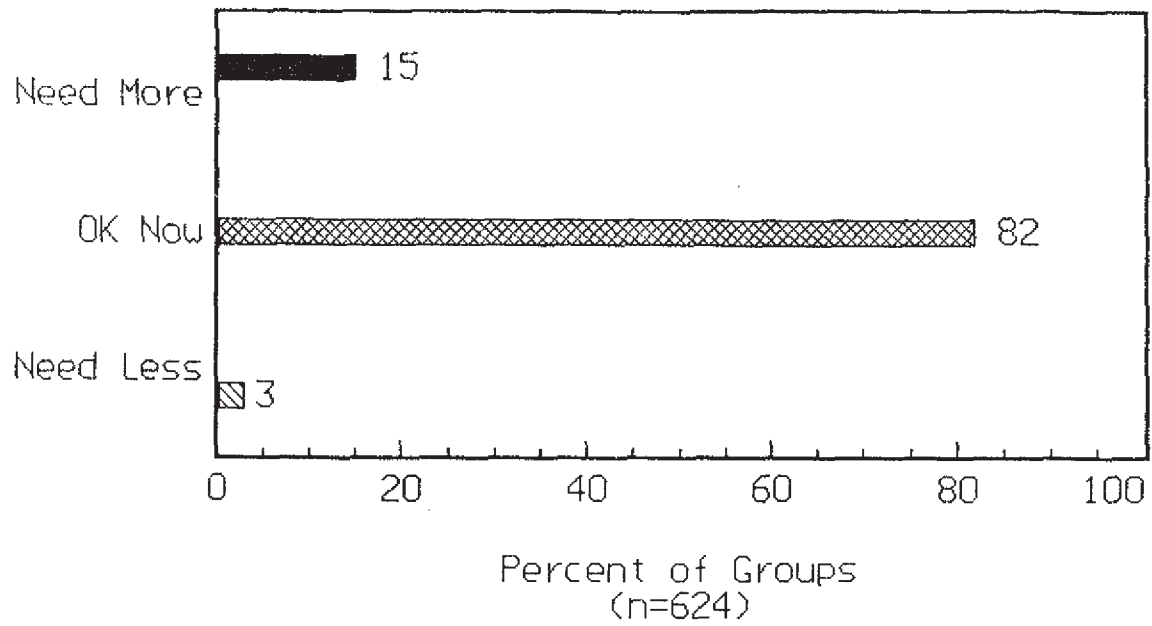


FIGURE 107. AVAILABILITY OF RANGER PATROLS

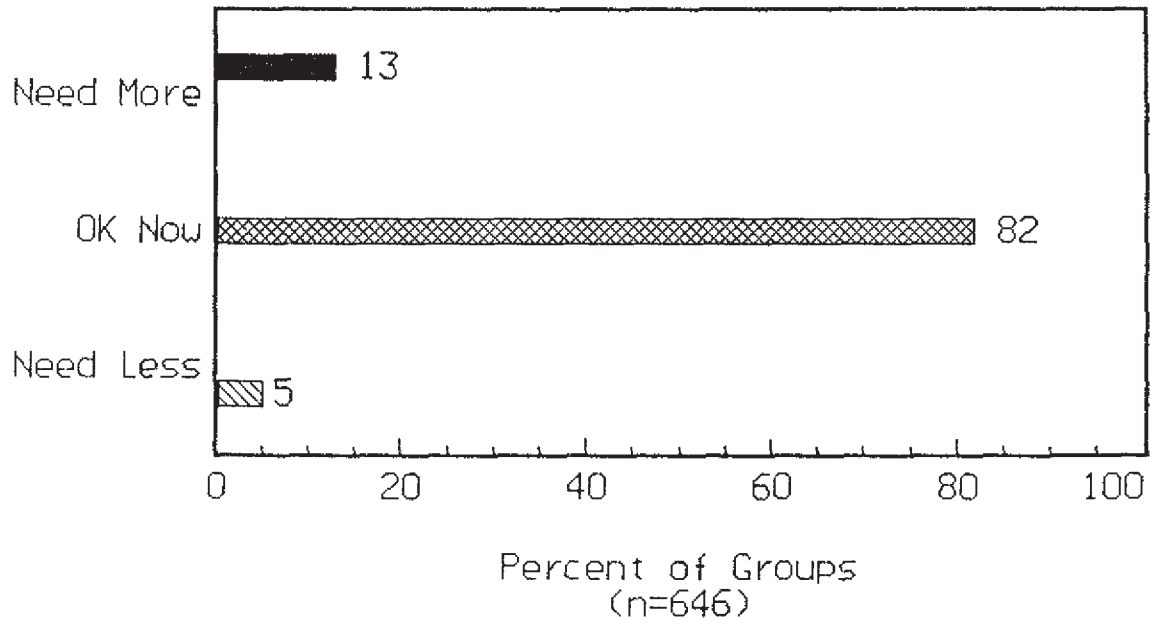


FIGURE 108. AVAILABILITY OF SHORT SNOWMOBILE ROUTES (< 100 MILES)

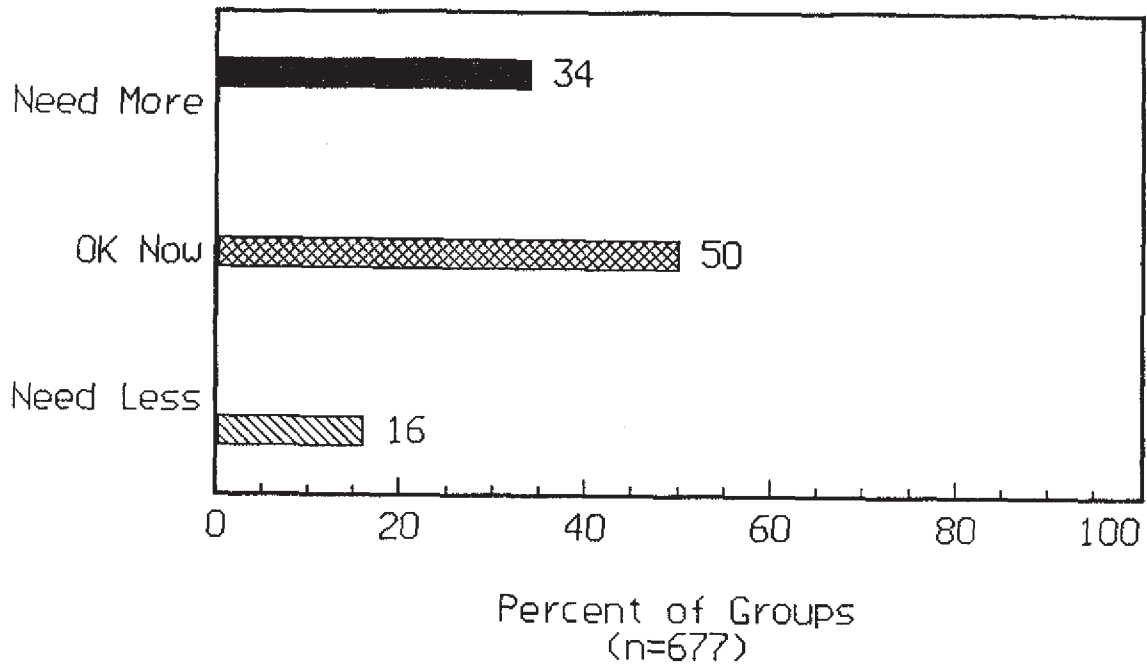


FIGURE 109. AVAILABILITY OF SHORT SNOWMOBILE ROUTES BY ACTIVITY

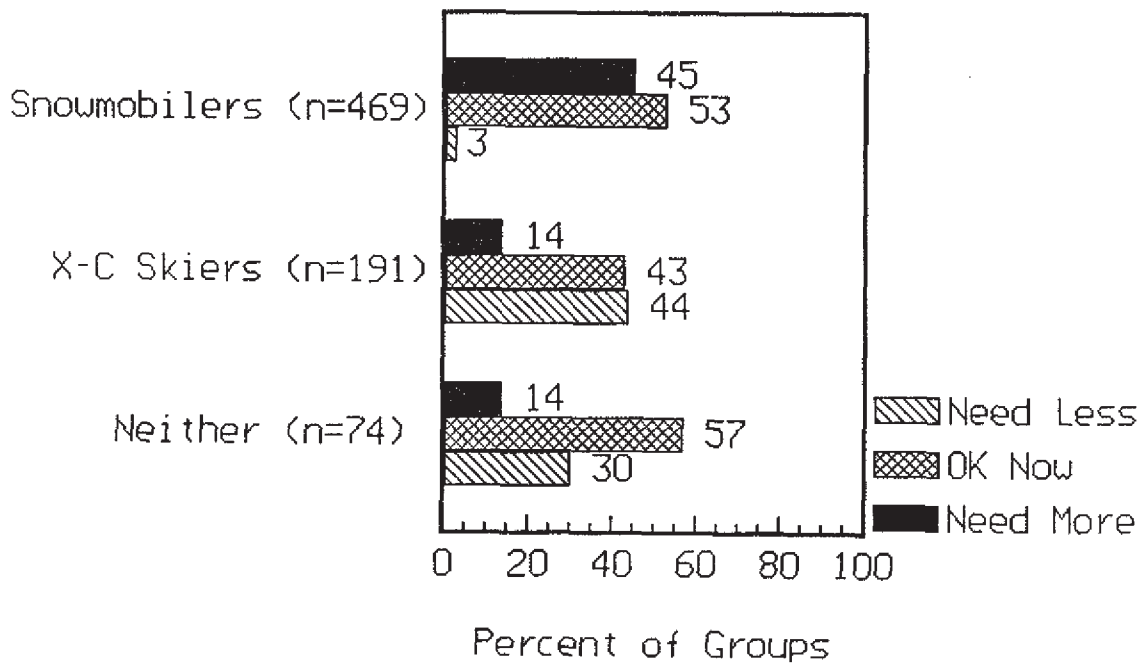


FIGURE 110. AVAILABILITY OF LONG SNOWMOBILE ROUTES (100-250 MILES)

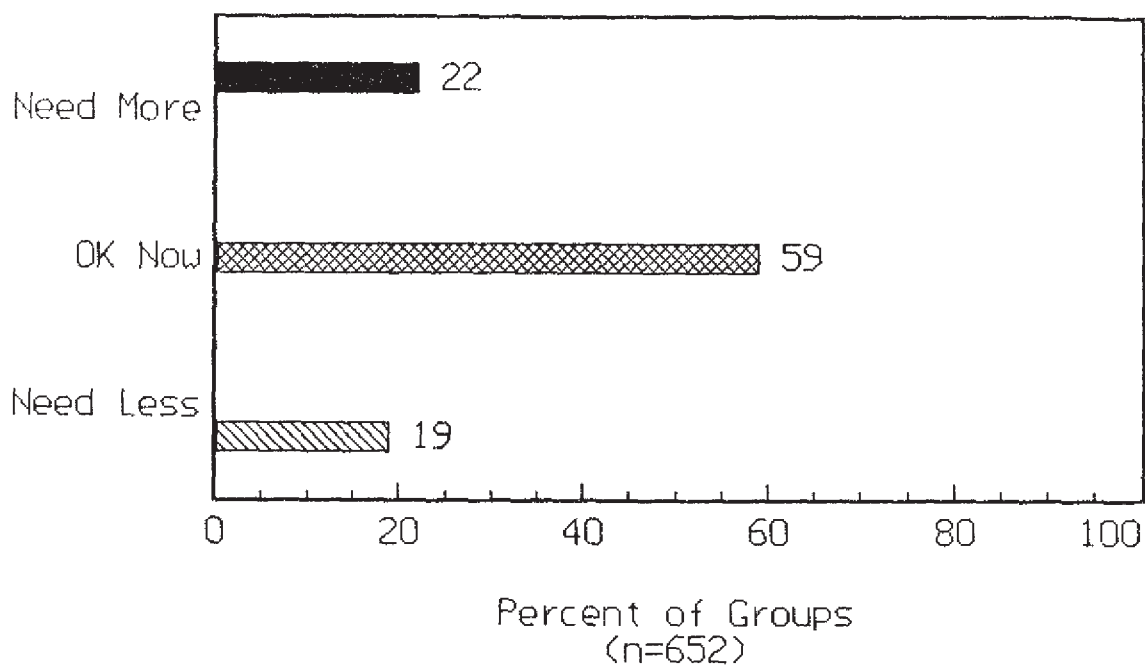


FIGURE 111. AVAILABILITY OF LONG SNOWMOBILE ROUTES BY ACTIVITY

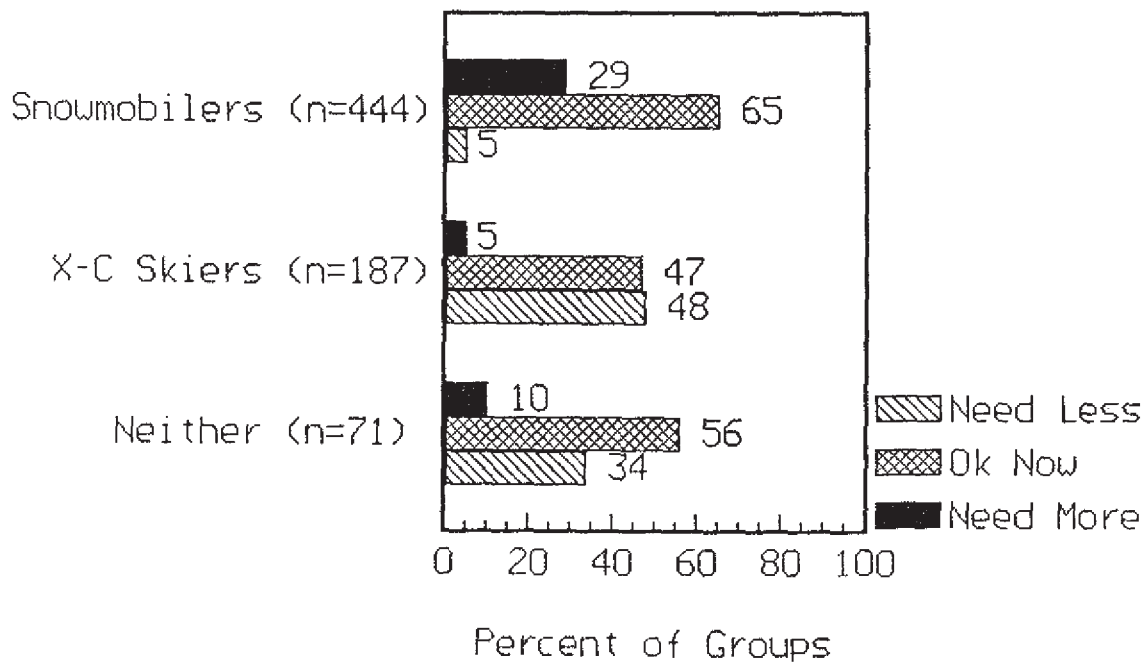




FIGURE 112. AVAILABILITY OF REGIONAL SNOWMOBILE ROUTES (> 250 MILES)

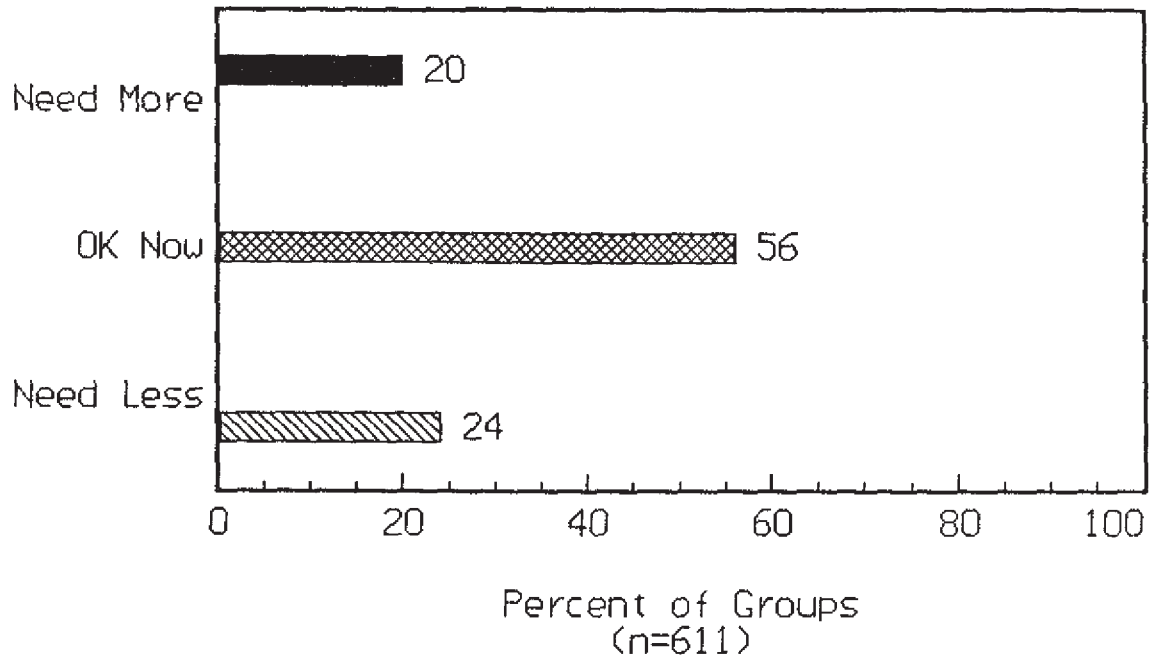


FIGURE 113. AVAILABILITY OF REGIONAL SNOWMOBILE ROUTES BY ACTIVITY

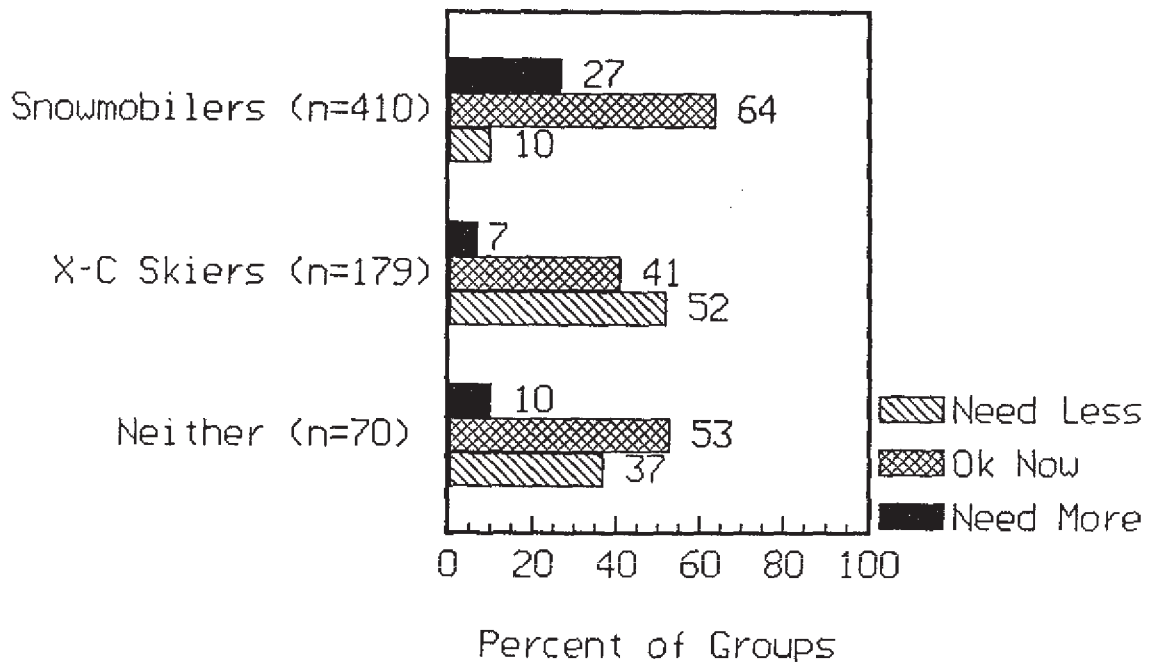


FIGURE 114. AVAILABILITY OF UNGROOMED SKI TRAILS

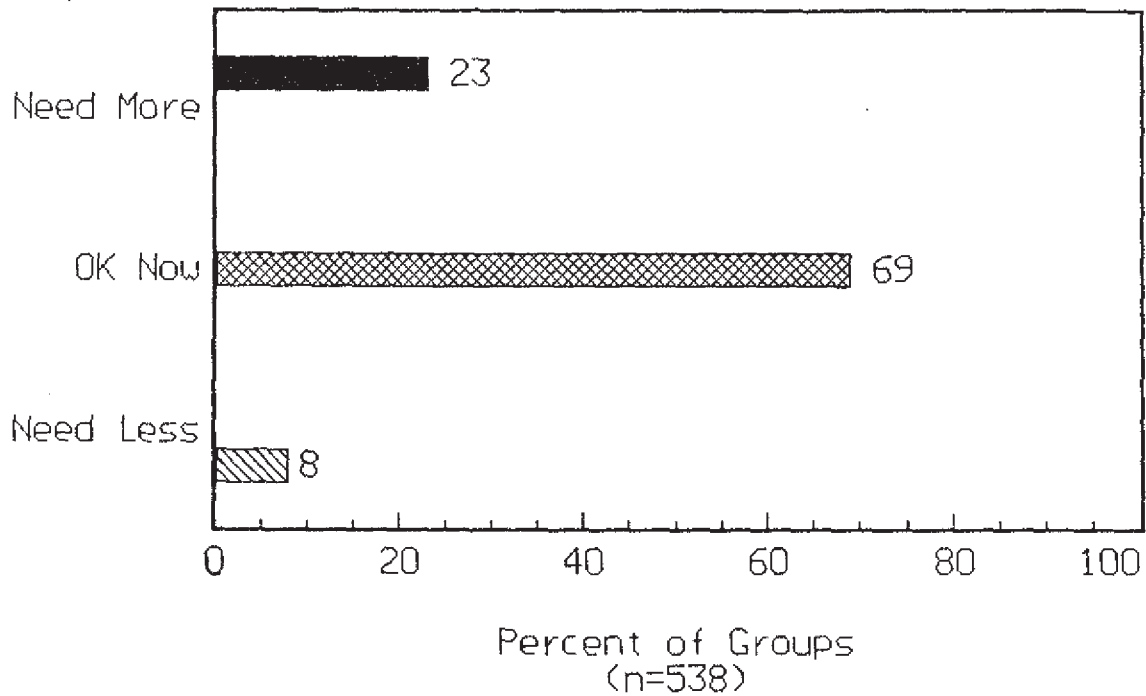


FIGURE 115. AVAILABILITY OF UNGROOMED SKI TRAILS BY ACTIVITY

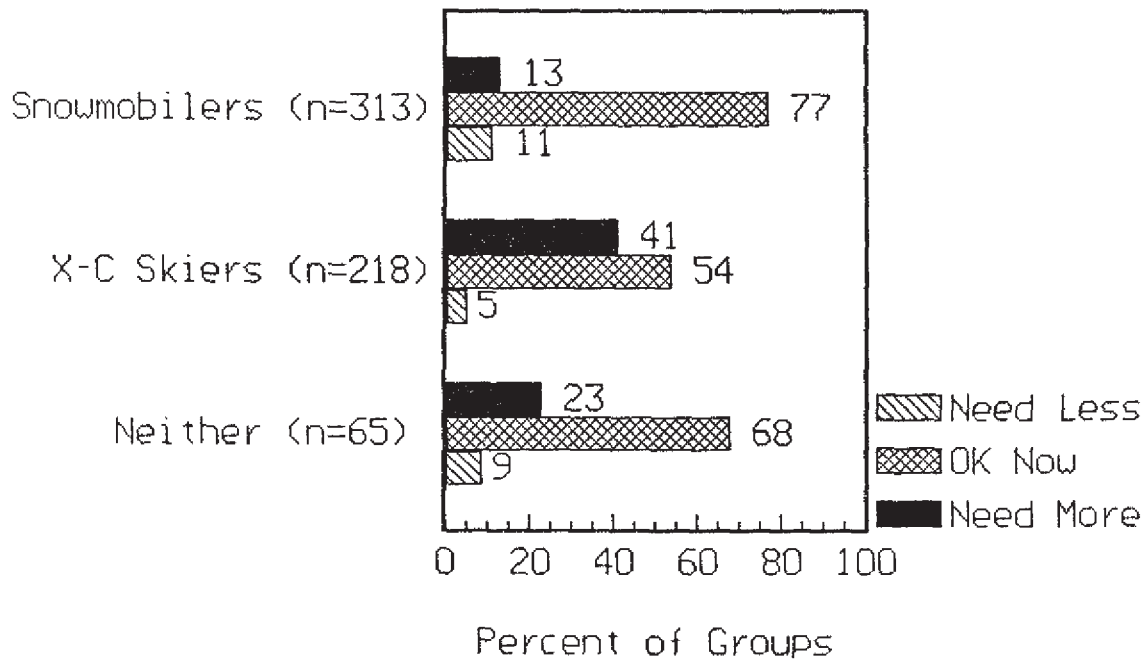


FIGURE 116. AVAILABILITY OF GROOMED SKI TRAILS

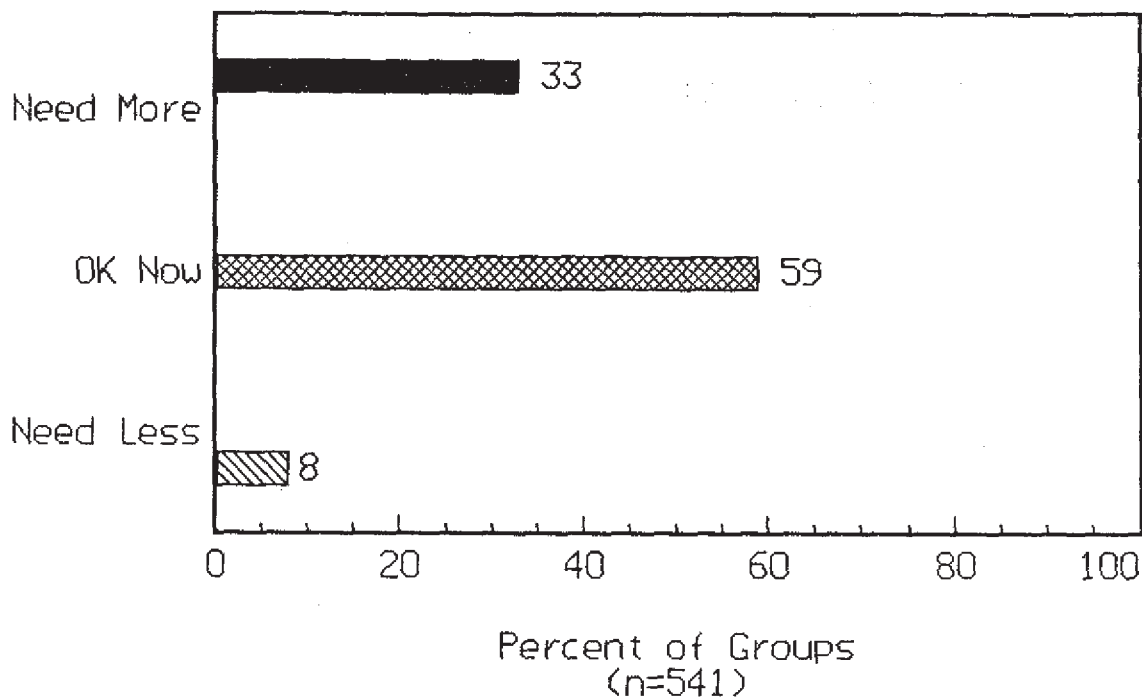


FIGURE 117. AVAILABILITY OF GROOMED SKI TRAILS BY ACTIVITY

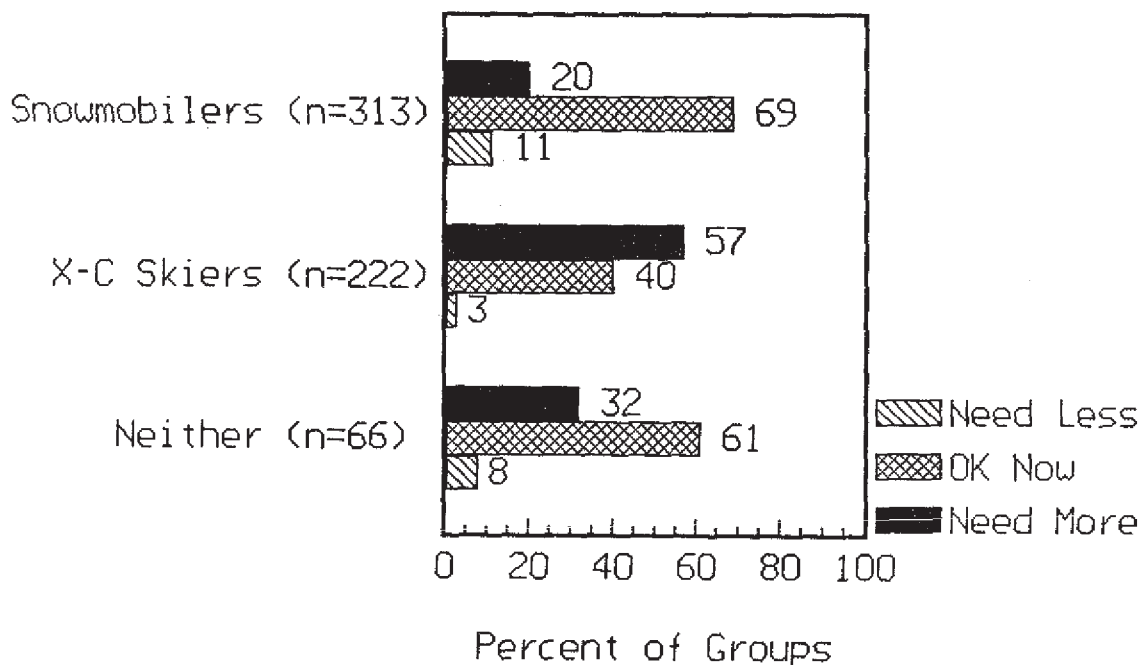


FIGURE 118. AVAILABILITY OF LODGING IN THE PARK(S) ACCESSIBLE BY CAR

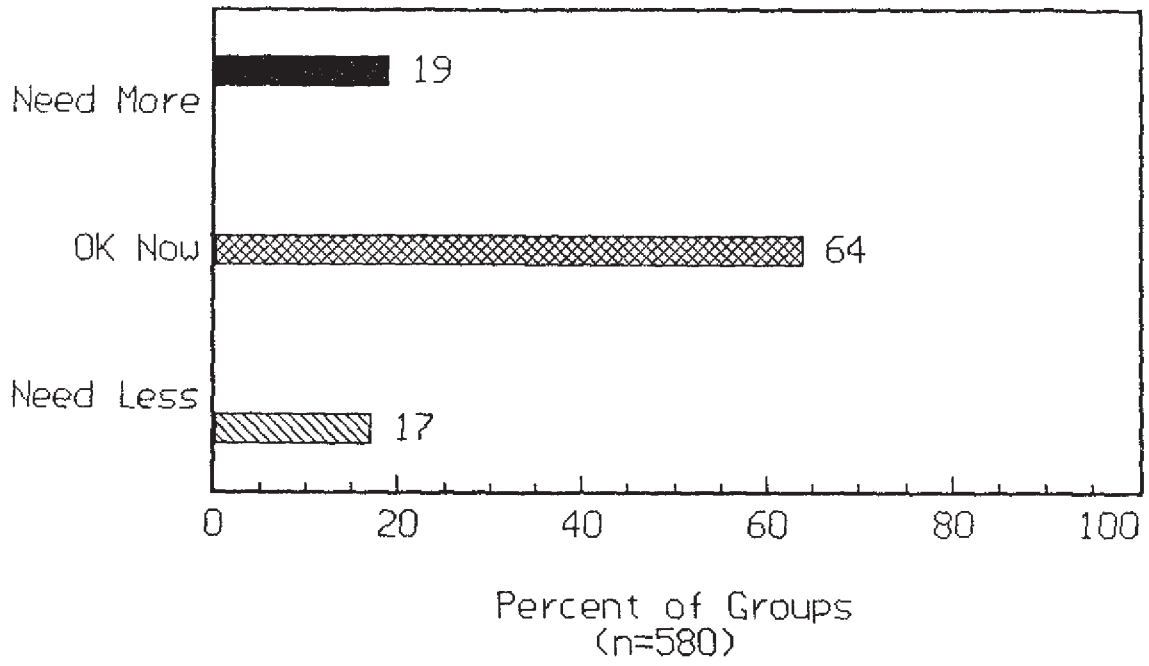


FIGURE 119. AVAILABILITY OF LODGING IN THE PARK(S) ACCESSIBLE ONLY BY OVER-SNOW VEHICLES

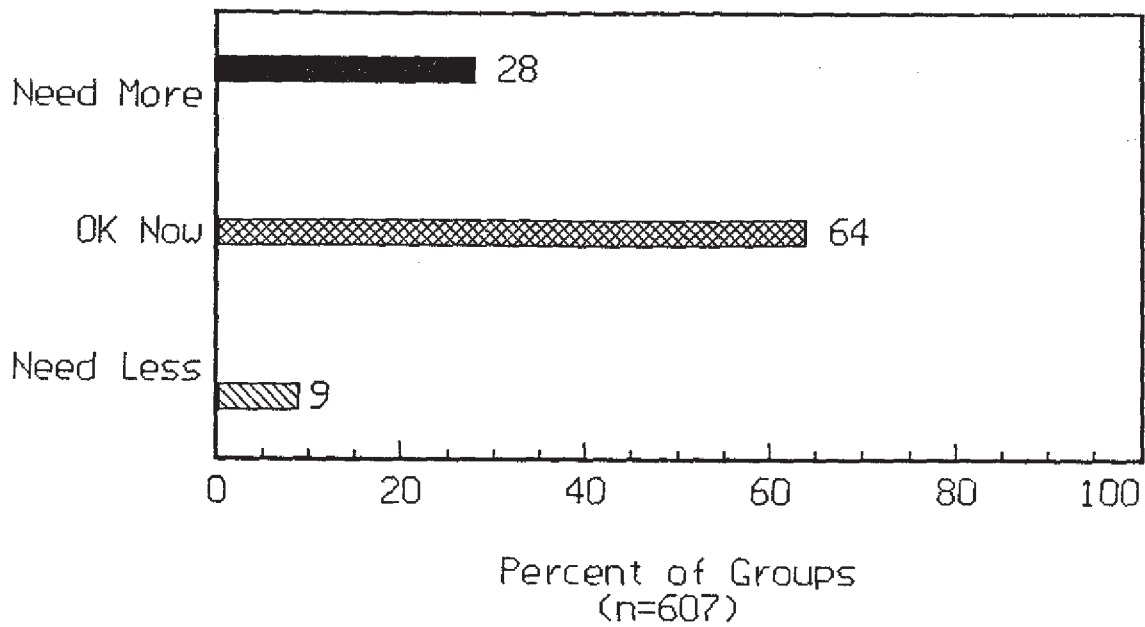


FIGURE 120. AVAILABILITY OF PARK LODGING (SNOW) BY ACTIVITY

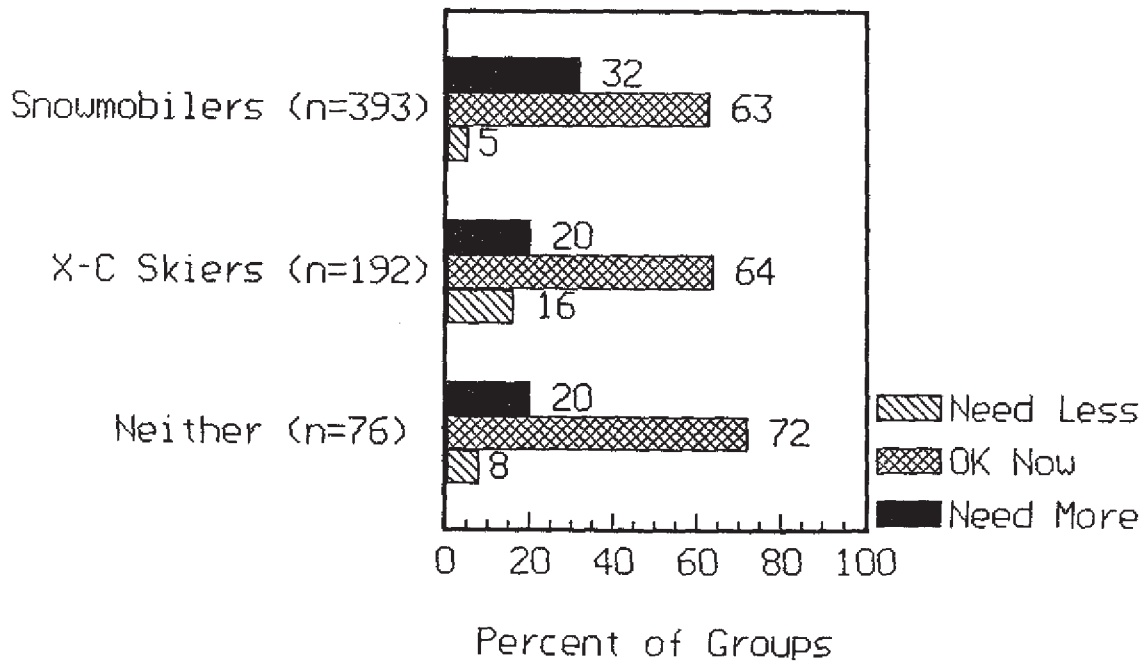


FIGURE 121. AVAILABILITY OF WARMING HUTS

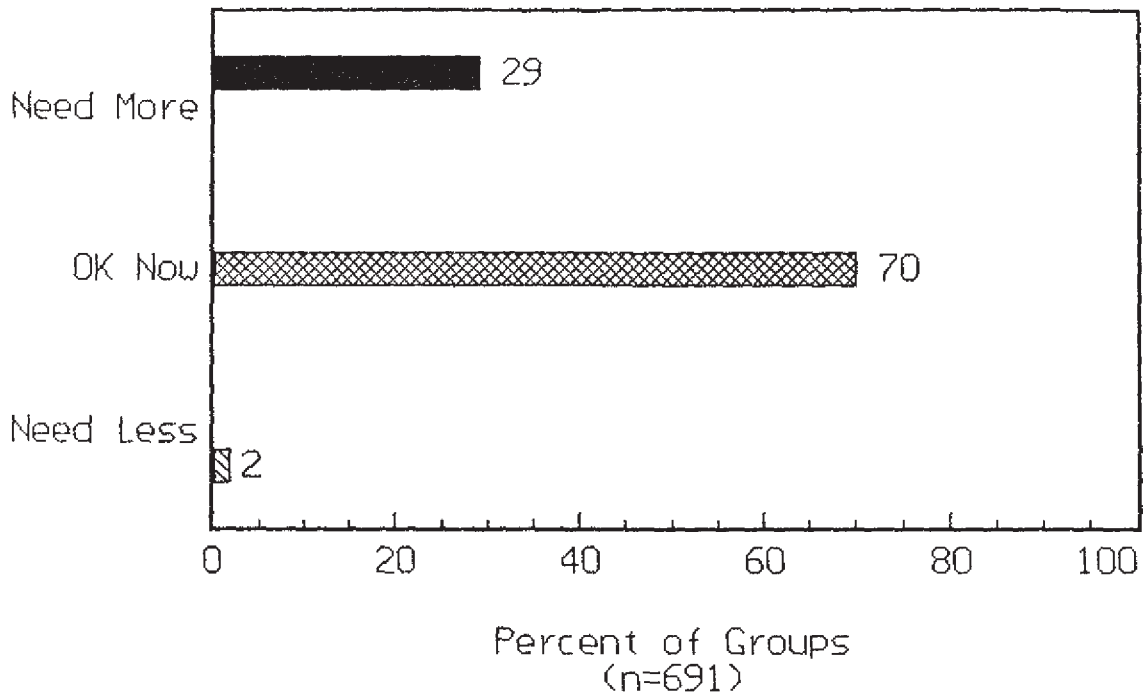


FIGURE 122. AVAILABILITY OF REST ROOMS

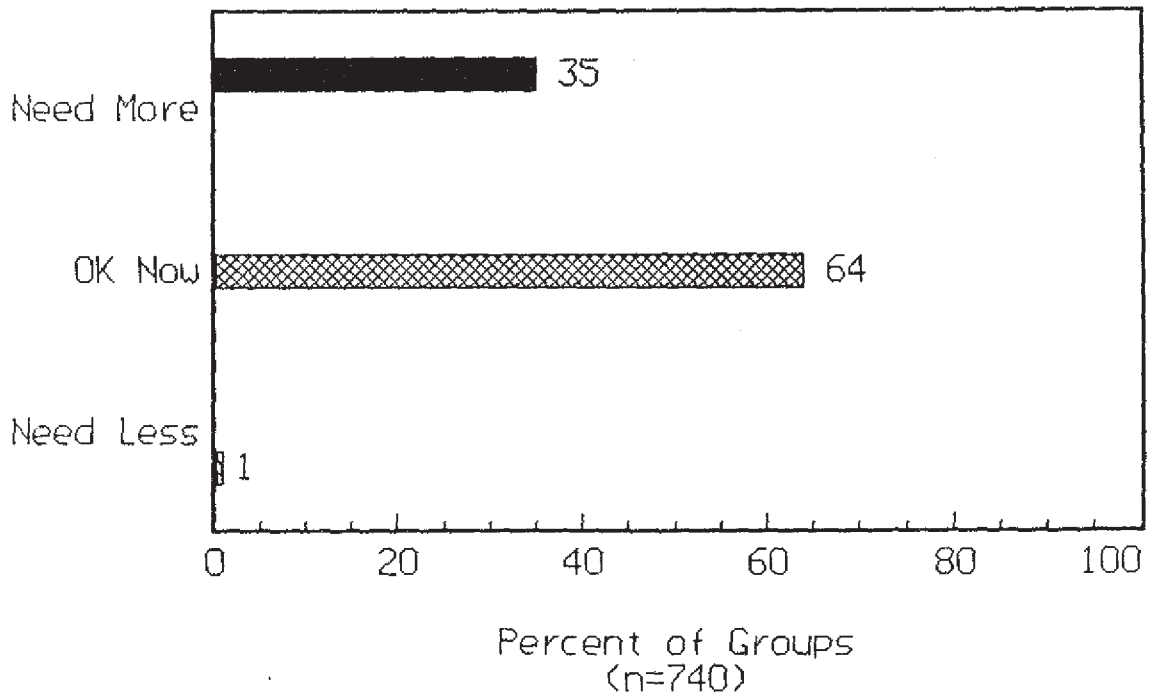


FIGURE 123. AVAILABILITY OF FOOD SERVICE

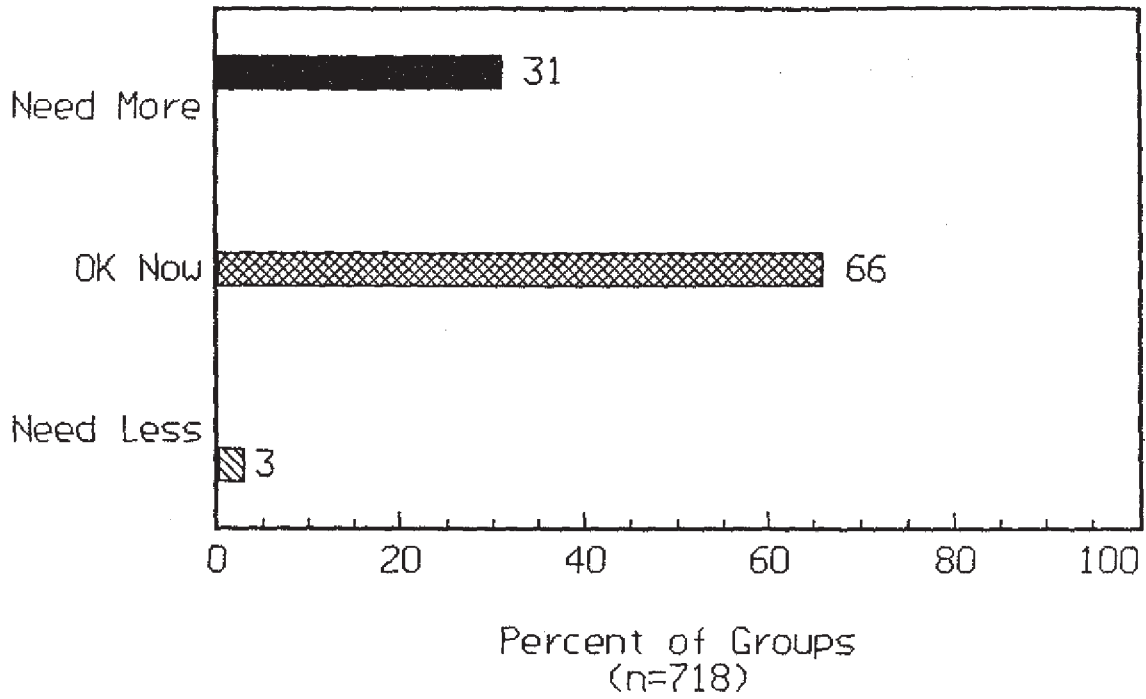
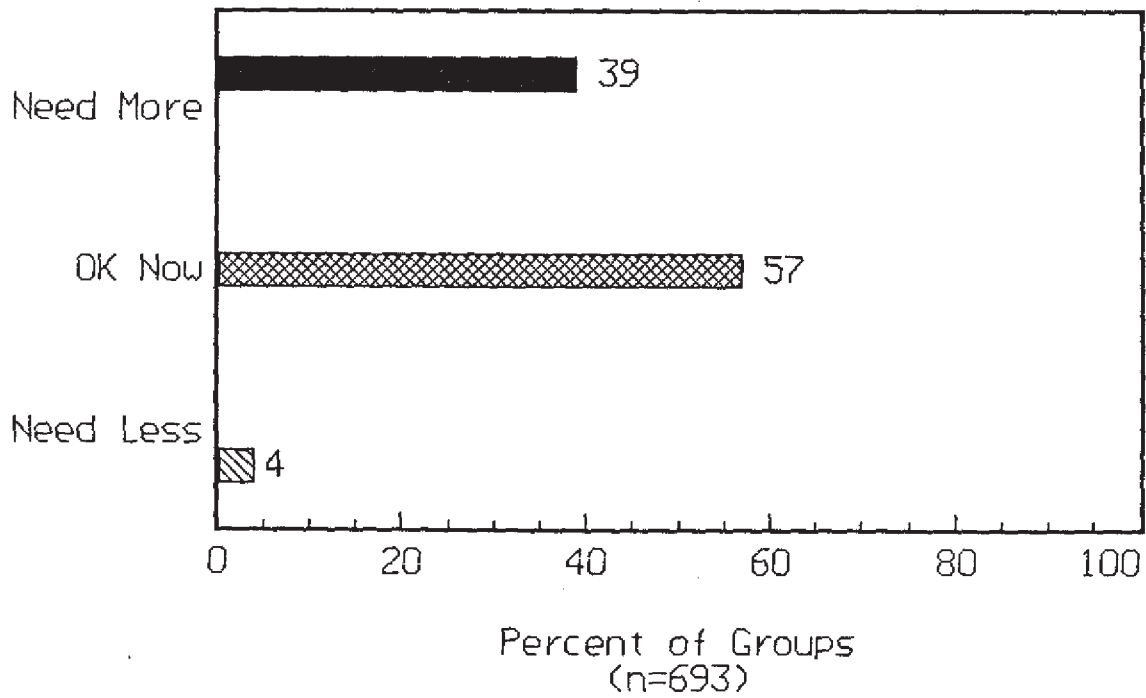


FIGURE 124. AVAILABILITY OF GAS STATIONS



# APPENDIXES





## APPENDIX A: VISITOR USE STATISTICS

**TABLE A-1: YELLOWSTONE WINTER VISITATION  
WINTER SEASON (DECEMBER 1 - MARCH 31)**

WINTER SEASON	NORTH (AUTO)	WEST (SNOW)	SOUTH (SNOW)	EAST (SNOW)	TOTAL**	ANNUAL INCREASE		OVERNIGHT % ***
						AMT	%	
1982-83	23,226	32,569	10,795	2,017	68,607			24.5%
1983-84	23,862	34,495	9,690	1,507	69,653	1,046	1.5%	27.7
1984-85	26,167	36,097	9,535	2,706	74,505	4,852	7.0	34.2
1985-86	28,599*	37,261	10,901	2,548	79,309	4,804	6.4	43.3
1986-87	26,144	43,338	12,951	3,737	86,170	6,861	8.7	37.6
1987-88	27,138	48,841	16,254	3,273	95,506	9,336	10.8	35.6
1988-89	28,079	44,312	17,029	3,194	92,614	-2,892	-3.0	29.4
1989-90	23,622	50,724	20,322	3,581	98,249	5,635	6.1	31.7

Note: (Auto) denotes entrance by automobile, RV, and bus; (snow) denotes entrance by snowmobile, snow coach, or skis

\*1985-86 north entrance total adjusted to correct RV count.

\*\*Vehicles reentering the park through the northeast entrance are not included in the park total.

\*\*\*Percent of total visitors staying at the Mammoth Motor Inn or the Old Faithful Snow Lodge.

**TABLE A-2: YELLOWSTONE WINTER ENTRANCE BY SNOWMOBILE AND SNOW COACH\***

WINTER SEASONS	NORTH** ENTRANCE		WEST ENTRANCE		SOUTH ENTRANCE		EAST ENTRANCE		TOTAL SNOWMO
	SNOWMO	COACH	SNOWMO	COACH	SNOWMO	COACH	SNOWMO	COACH	
1982-83	1,136	777	26,842	5,615	8,513	1,733	1,733	0	38,248
1983-84	1,504	1,047	29,089	5,051	7,581	1,940	1,365	39	38,035
1984-85	1,651	2,314	31,183	4,860	7,031	2,267	2,331	30	40,545
1985-86	2,041	3,455	31,950	5,275	8,960	1,771	2,074	20	42,984
1986-87	687	3,072	37,866	5,424	10,764	1,919	3,407	0	52,037
1987-88	644	3,162	43,021	5,692	14,027	2,159	2,921	30	59,969
1988-89	461	3,264	38,441	5,780	14,617	2,151	2,799	10	55,857
1989-90	826	2,424	44,128	6,572	17,816	2,338	3,168	0	65,112

\*Snow coach figures include TWRS trips departing from Mammoth Terrace to Old Faithful, Canyon day trips, and snow coach use by other companies.

\*\*Snowmobiles trailered to Mammoth Terrace.

TABLE A-3: TW RECREATION SERVICES SNOW COACH USE

WINTER SEASON	TO OLD FAITHFUL FROM				TOTAL PASS.	CANYON LOOP FROM		
	NORTH	WEST	SOUTH	EAST		MAMMOTH	OLD FAITH.	W. YELL.
1982-83	597	5,820	1,763	0	8,180	180	690	0
1983-84	915	4,609	1,907	30	7,461	132	635	0
1984-85	1,824	4,199	2,128	10	8,161	490	806	0
1985-86	2,725	5,084	1,928	0	9,737	730	665	0
1986-87	2,455	4,567	1,923	0	8,945	617	868	0
1987-88	2,605	4,729	2,192	20	9,546	557	1,042	0
1988-89	3,022	4,108	2,130	10	9,180	242	442	0
1989-90	2,365	4,451	2,332	0	9,148	426	626	262

TABLE A-4: YELLOWSTONE WINTER VISITATION BY ENTRANCE GATE, DECEMBER 1 - MARCH 31

WINTER SEASON	NORTH	WEST	SOUTH	EAST	TOTAL	SNOW ONLY	INCR/DECR*
	(AUTO)	(SNOW)	(SNOW)	(SNOW)		TOTAL	
1968-69	10,251	6,822	264	419	17,756	10,335	-
1969-70	5,315	13,340	234	2,268	21,157	17,842	7,507
1970-71	4,633	15,562	1,851	739	22,785	19,635	1,793
1971-72	3,988	22,160	2,501	598	29,248	26,188	6,553
1972-73	6,062	29,626	3,534	1,438	40,660	36,551	10,363
1973-74	24,138	31,873	3,228	896	60,135	42,525	5,974
1974-75	31,383	34,297	3,385	623	69,688	40,169	-2,356
1975-76	23,745	35,684	4,355	767	64,551	41,810	1,641
1976-77	23,093	26,339	6,270	1,384	57,086	35,105	-6,705
1977-78	50,662**	35,666	7,063	1,752	95,143	46,403	11,298
1978-79	51,560**	32,713	8,489	1,843	94,605	43,138	-3,265
1979-80	60,335**	37,007	12,683	2,305	102,344	43,685	547
1980-81	41,428**	32,196	11,220	1,503	85,818	46,266	2,581
1981-82	57,908**	33,662	8,514	2,402	99,573	46,304	38
1982-83	23,226	32,569	10,795	2,017	68,607	47,294	990
1983-84	23,862	34,594	9,690	1,507	69,653	48,342	1,048
1984-85	26,167	36,097	9,535	2,706	74,505	52,303	3,961
1985-86	28,599	37,261	10,901	2,548	79,309	56,206	3,903
1986-87	26,144	43,338	12,951	3,737	86,170	63,785	7,579
1987-88	27,138	48,841	16,254	3,273	95,506	72,174	8,389
1988-89	28,079	44,312	17,029	3,194	92,614	68,260	-3,914
1989-90	23,622	50,724	20,322	3,581	98,249	78,950	10,690

\*Increase or decrease in visitation by snowmobile, snow coach, or skis from previous year.

\*\*Different passenger multiplier used.

**TABLE A-5: WINTER SEASON (DECEMBER 1 - MARCH 31)  
GRAND TETON NATIONAL PARK - ROCKEFELLER PARKWAY  
WINTER VISITATION**

WINTER SEASON	GRAND TETON VISITORS	ROCKEFELLER VISITORS	PERCENT OF GRAND TETON*
1982-83	43,067	12,954	30%
1983-84	34,367	11,628	34
1984-85	35,712	11,442	32
1985-86	43,372	13,081	30
1986-87	44,668	15,541	35
1987-88	44,845	19,504	43
1988-89	44,991	20,435	45
1989-90	44,947	24,386	54

\*Percent of Grand Teton visitors entering the parkway.

**TABLE A-6: WINTER VISITOR USE - GRAND TETON NATIONAL PARK\***

WINTER SEASON	NORTH DISTRICT/JACKSON LAKE			POTHOLES*
	SNOWPLANE USERS	SNOWMOBILE USERS		SNOWMOBILE USERS
		PRIVATE USERS	GUIDED TOURS	
1982-83	1,101	1,267	58	874
1983-84	1,050	1,098	739	1,071
1984-85	1,314	1,055	0	816
1985-86	1,328	735	0	440
1986-87	1,498	789	76	480
1987-88	758	572	0	440
1988-89	1,698	817	0	290
1989-90	1,463	1,421	81	342

\*Includes Teton and Jenny Lake snow roads.

TABLE A-7: WINTER VISITOR USE - ROCKEFELLER PARKWAY

WINTER SEASON	SNOWMOBILE USERS			SNOW COACH USERS INTO YELLOWSTONE
	PRIVATE USERS	ON GUIDED TOURS	FLAGG RENTALS	
1982-83	2,538	3,184	2,791	1,733
1983-84	2,734	2,762	2,084	1,940
1984-85	1,890	2,737	2,404	2,267
1985-86	2,739	3,516	2,705	1,771
1986-87	1,411	6,713	2,640	1,919
1987-88	2,017	8,413	3,597	2,159
1988-89	3,885	7,878	2,854	2,151
1989-90	1,792	11,456	4,568	2,338

## APPENDIX B: THE FRONT-END SURVEY

**FRONT-END SURVEY  
YELLOWSTONE/GRAND TETON WINTER USE SURVEY**

The adult who will be filling out the questionnaire should answer these questions by him/herself.

Questionnaire #: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_/\_\_/89

Interviewer: \_\_\_\_\_

Location:

- North entrance, Yellowstone
- West entrance, Yellowstone
- East entrance, Yellowstone
- Buffalo entrance, Grand Teton
- Moose entrance, Grand Teton

With what kind of group are you traveling?

- ALONE
- FAMILY
- FRIENDS
- FAMILY AND FRIENDS
- GUIDED TOUR GROUP
- OTHER (Describe: \_\_\_\_\_)

How many people, including yourself, are in your group? \_\_\_\_\_ NUMBER OF PEOPLE

How old are you? \_\_\_\_\_ AGE

Are you interested in receiving future information on the Winter Use Plan?

- Yes
- No

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

## APPENDIX C: THE MAIL-BACK SURVEY

YELLOWSTONE AND  
GRAND TETON  
WINTER USE  
SURVEY



212

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
12795 W. Alameda Pkwy.  
P.O. Box 25287  
Denver, Co. 80225-0287

OFFICIAL BUSINESS  
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE



**BUSINESS REPLY MAIL**  
FIRST CLASS Permit No. 12651 WASHINGTON, D.C.

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

NO POSTAGE  
NECESSARY  
IF MAILED  
IN THE  
UNITED STATES



National Park Service - TCE  
Yellowstone & Grand Teton Winter Use Survey  
P.O. Box 25287  
Denver, CO 80225-0287

PEEL HERE



OAG Approval 1024-0051



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Yellowstone National Park

Grand Teton National Park

John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway



February 1999

Dear Visitor:

Thank you for participating in this study. Our goal is to learn about the activities that visitors enjoy and the places they visit. This information will be used in preparing the joint winter use plan for these parks.

This questionnaire is only being given to a select number of visitors. Your participation is very important! It should only take a few minutes of your time.

When your visit is over, please complete the questionnaire. Then, seal it with the sticker provided on the last page and simply drop it in any United States Postal Service mailbox.

If you have any questions, please contact one of us.

We appreciate your help.

Sincerely,

*Robert Barbee*

*Jack E. Stark*

Robert Barbee, Superintendent  
Yellowstone National Park  
P.O. Box 168  
Yellowstone N.P., Wyoming 82190

Jack Stark, Superintendent  
Grand Teton National Park and  
John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway  
P.O. Box 170  
Moose, Wyoming 83012

DIRECTIONS

One adult in your group should complete the questionnaire. It should only take a few minutes. When you have completed the questionnaire, please seal it with the sticker provided and drop it in any U.S. mailbox.

YOU AND YOUR ACTIVITIES

- 1. When did you and your group first enter Yellowstone and/or Grand Teton national parks this visit?

\_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF THE WEEK (M, T, W, Th, F, S, Su)

TIME OF DAY \_\_\_\_\_ a.m. OR \_\_\_\_\_ p.m.

- 2. Did you and your group stay overnight in, or in the vicinity of Yellowstone and Grand Teton national parks this visit?

\_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_ If so, how many nights did you spend in the area?

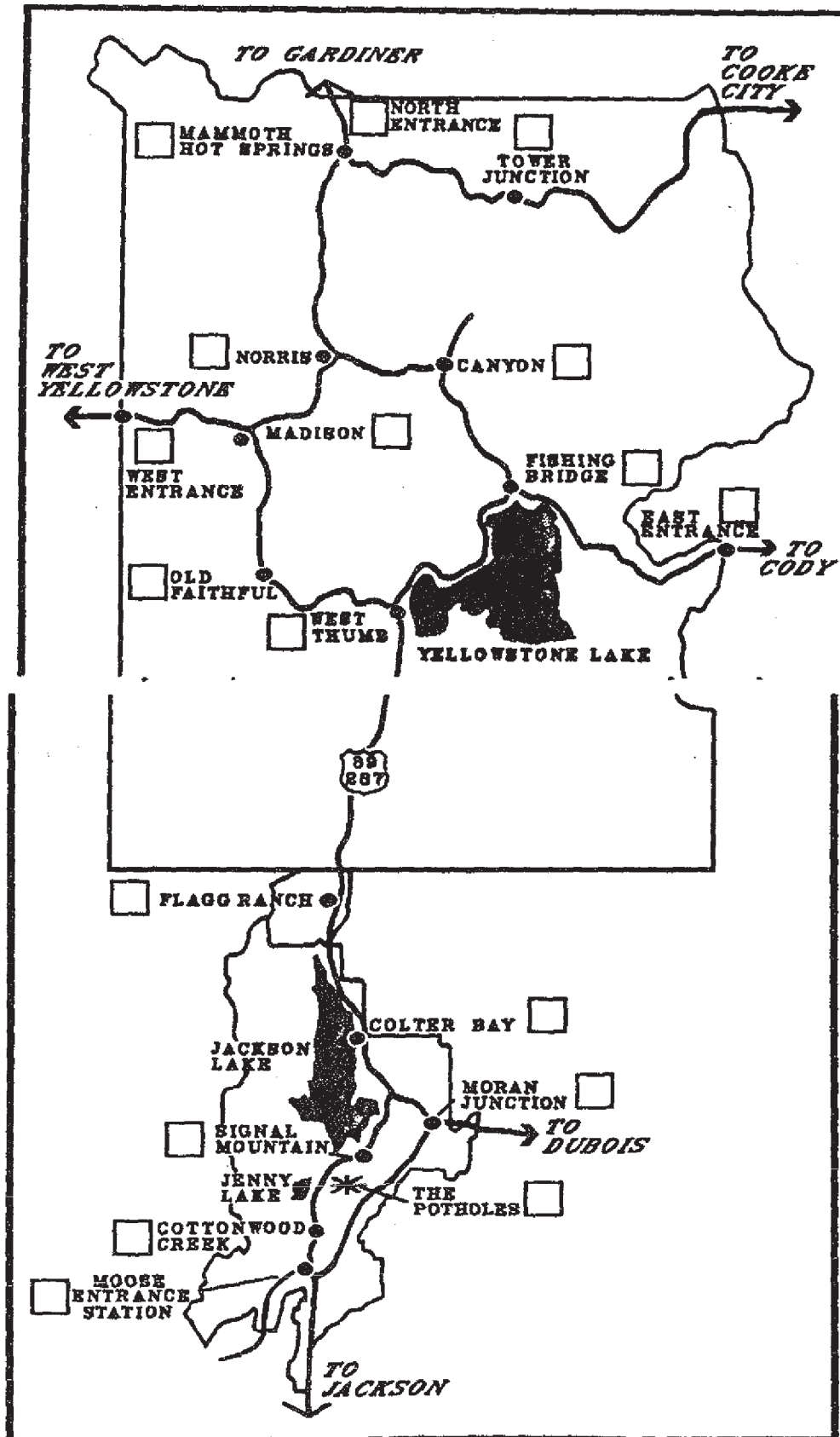
\_\_\_\_\_ NUMBER OF NIGHTS

\_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_ If not, how many hours did you spend in Yellowstone and/or Grand Teton national parks this visit?

\_\_\_\_\_ NUMBER OF HOURS

# PLACES YOU VISITED

On the map below, please indicate the places you and your group visited in Yellowstone and Grand Teton national parks. Simply check (✓) the box beside each place you visited.



## YOU AND YOUR OPINIONS

3. How many people, including yourself, were in your group?

\_\_\_\_\_ NUMBER OF PEOPLE

4. What kind of group were you with?

\_\_\_\_\_ ALONE

\_\_\_\_\_ FAMILY

\_\_\_\_\_ FRIENDS

\_\_\_\_\_ FAMILY AND FRIENDS

\_\_\_\_\_ GUIDED TOUR GROUP

\_\_\_\_\_ OTHER (Please describe): \_\_\_\_\_

5. Where did you start your trip on the day you arrived in  
Yellowstone and/or Grand Teton national parks?

\_\_\_\_\_ NEAREST TOWN

\_\_\_\_\_ STATE

6. Where is your planned destination for the day you leave  
Yellowstone and/or Grand Teton national parks?

\_\_\_\_\_ NEAREST TOWN

\_\_\_\_\_ STATE

7. For yourself and each member of your group, please indicate:

- 1) your age on your last birthday,
- 2) the zip code of your permanent residence (if you are from a country other than the United States, please give the name of that country),
- 3) the number of times you have visited Yellowstone and/or Grand Teton national parks including this visit, and
- 4) the number of these visits which were in the winter.

	AGE	ZIP CODE (country)	# TOTAL VISITS	#WINTER VISITS
YOURSELF	_____	_____	_____	_____
MEMBER #2	_____	_____	_____	_____
MEMBER #3	_____	_____	_____	_____
MEMBER #4	_____	_____	_____	_____
MEMBER #5	_____	_____	_____	_____

additional members: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

8. On the list below, please check ( ) the activities that you or someone in your group did in Yellowstone and/or Grand Teton national parks. Please check all that apply.

- DROVE CAR FOR PLEASURE  
 USED SNOWCOACH  
 SNOWMOBILED  
 CROSS-COUNTRY SKIED UNDER 4 HOURS IN 1 DAY  
 CROSS-COUNTRY SKIED OVER 4 HOURS IN 1 DAY  
 WALKED AT THERMAL AREAS  
 BATHED AT THERMAL AREAS  
 FISHED  
 USED WARMING HUT  
 VISITED VISITOR CENTER  
 ATTENDED RANGER-LED PROGRAM  
 STAYED OVERNIGHT AT SNOW LODGE  
 OTHER (DESCRIBE) \_\_\_\_\_

9. During your visit, how much money did you and your group spend in the Yellowstone and Grand Teton area? (Please give your best estimates.)

- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ LODGING (hotel, camping, etc.)  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ TRAVEL (gas, bus fare, etc.)  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ FOOD (restaurants, groceries, bars, etc.)  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ EQUIPMENT RENTAL (snowmobile, skis, etc.)  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ GUIDE SERVICES  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ OTHER (entrance fees, film, gifts, etc.)

10. Rate the reasons you chose to enter the parks where you did.  
 (1 = EXTREMELY IMPORTANT, 2 = VERY IMPORTANT, 3 = MODERATELY IMPORTANT, 4 = SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT, 5 = NOT IMPORTANT)

- RELIABILITY OF SNOW COVER  
 PROXIMITY TO HOME RESIDENCE  
 PROXIMITY TO ATTRACTIONS AND FACILITIES  
 OUTSIDE PARK (resorts, ski areas, motels, outfitters, etc.)  
 PROXIMITY TO AIRPORTS AND MAJOR HIGHWAYS  
 PROXIMITY TO PARK FEATURES AND FACILITIES  
 AVAILABILITY OF OVER-SNOW TRANSPORTATION  
 (snowcoach, snowmobile rentals, etc.)  
 OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

11. What did you like most about your visit to Yellowstone and/or Grand Teton national parks?

12. What did you like least about your visit to Yellowstone and/or Grand Teton national parks?

13. Many things contribute to an enjoyable visit to Yellowstone and Grand Teton. Please do the following:

a) First, indicate the importance of the following items to you and your group (1 = EXTREMELY IMPORTANT, 2 = VERY IMPORTANT, 3 = MODERATELY IMPORTANT, 4 = SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT, 5 = NOT IMPORTANT.)

b) Then, rate the quality of each item you or your group used during this visit to Yellowstone and/or Grand Teton (1 = VERY GOOD, 2 = GOOD, 3 = AVERAGE, 4 = POOR, 5 = VERY POOR.)

How important? (1-5)	What quality? (1-5)
<input type="checkbox"/> VISITOR CENTERS	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> INFORMATION AND DIRECTION SIGNS	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> RANGER PATROL	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> RANGER-LED WALKS AND TALKS	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> GEYSER BASIN WALK WAYS	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> UNPLOWED ROADS OPEN TO OVER-SNOW VEHICLES	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> UNGROOMED SKI TRAILS	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> GROOMED SKI TRAILS	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> LODGING WITHIN PARKS ACCESSIBLE BY CAR	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> LODGING WITHIN PARKS ACCESSIBLE ONLY BY OVER-SNOW VEHICLES	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> REST ROOMS	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> FOOD SERVICE	<input type="checkbox"/>

14. Rate the availability of the following facilities and services (+ = need more, 0 = ok now, -- = need less.)

- RANGER-LED PROGRAMS
- RANGER PATROLS
- SHORT SNOWMOBILE ROUTES (UNDER 100 MILES)
- LONG SNOWMOBILE ROUTES (100-250 MILES)
- REGIONAL SNOWMOBILE ROUTES (OVER 250 MILES)
- UNGROOMED SKI TRAILS
- GROOMED SKI TRAILS
- LODGING WITHIN PARKS ACCESSIBLE BY CAR
- LODGING WITHIN PARKS ACCESSIBLE ONLY BY OVER-SNOW VEHICLES
- WARMING HUTS
- RESTROOMS
- FOOD SERVICE
- GAS STATIONS

15. Is there anything else you would like to tell us about your visit to Yellowstone and/or Grand Teton national parks?

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Thank you for your help! Please seal the questionnaire with the sticker provided and drop it in any U.S. mailbox.

## APPENDIX D: SURVEY COMPARISONS

A visitor use survey was conducted by the Cooperative Park Studies Unit, University of Idaho in the summer of 1987. The questionnaire was handed out to randomly selected visitors entering Yellowstone during the week of July 12-18. Mailed responses were received from 846 people. The study is referred to in this report as "Yellowstone Summer 1987."

Surveys were conducted by the University of Wyoming in cooperation with the Jackson Hole Area Chamber of Commerce during the summer of 1987 and winter of 1988. Only non-resident visitors to the area were interviewed in the commercial area of Jackson Hole, Teton Village and other developed areas within Teton County, Wyoming. Of those interviewed during the winter, 87% were downhill skiers. Only 15% of those in this survey had either of the national parks as their destination. The winter study reported that 7% and 5% of the winter visitors came for snowmobiling or cross country skiing, respectively. The studies are referred to in this report as "Jackson Summer 1987" and "Jackson Winter 1988".

A visitor use survey was conducted by Davidson-Peterson Associates, Inc. for the National Park Service. They conducted personal interviews with 388 West Yellowstone snowmobilers. 312 of the interviews were with non-local snowmobilers. Surveys were taken between January 13 and March 13, 1977. For the most part, only visitors who entered by the West Entrance of Yellowstone N. P. for snowmobiling were interviewed. The study is referred to in this report as "Yellowstone Winter 1977".

Direct comparisons between the four surveys are difficult and may not be particularly meaningful. This is because different populations were surveyed for each study and different survey instruments and methodologies were used. Without asking the same questions in the same manner at the same survey locations, the results of the surveys are difficult to interpret relative to each other.

With such divergent subject populations, differences in visitor characteristics and visitor use patterns are to be expected. For example, seasonal differences were expected and found.

## APPENDIX E: VISITOR COMMENTS

### Distributed at Buffalo/Moran

You need to develop a package for backcountry winter use: permits, information, hints for use, clothing, etc.

Fine, fine experience seeing Yellowstone in winter.

TW Services shows remarkable insight into visitor comfort and enjoyment. We appreciated the coordination of snowcoach, lodging, and cross-country skiing information.

Segregate snowmobiles from ski trails, the noise is a major distraction.

Pleased with the quality of services and friendliness of personnel. Snowcoach drivers were exceptional, i.e., Brian and Jan. Rangers informative and helpful. Excellent meals at Snow Lodge.

I know snowmobilers spend a lot more money than cross-country skiers and are really the main reason the park is open in the winter, but I think they are annoying.

Ask us again after we have had a chance to see for ourselves the real extent of the fire damage. The on-site reports we have gotten are far more alarming than the reports released by government agencies.

When we were there, nothing was open. I would like to have seen something open in the winter.

We called park from Riverton and were told that the only entrance open is the North entrance. We were also told by the person who gave us this questionnaire that snowmobiles were unavailable except in nearby towns. We felt lucky to stumble onto snowmobile rentals at Flagg Ranch.

More accurate information about hot springs bacteria is needed - more bridges needed to ford rivers - less snowmobiles are needed - better biking paths - biking is very dangerous on existing roads.

I rated restrooms average but some are poor and too far from parking lots in some places. Please continue to restore and use Old Faithful Inn for lodging and dining - most important to a lot of people.

We only came to ski, we just went for a Sunday drive.

My answers to the above questions covered previous visits, too.

Enjoyed our brief trip.

Limit commercial groups to 10 and under.

We always enjoy the opportunity to visit Yellowstone via snowmobiles.

We arrived by snowmobile and left the same day - it was by far too short a visit.

The quality of your employees is very important. Yellowstone is much more hospitable than Glacier. I broke my shoulder blade at Jackson Hole, but had a lot of fun anyway.

This is a very beautiful park. Please do everything possible to keep it this way. Up litter fines, etc. I saw much more wildlife than I expected, thank you for a beautiful trip. Your parks overall rate very high with me. See you next time.

Based on one visit this is not accurate to how much we use the park. We have been snowmobilers - ice fisherman - annual trips through Yellowstone for many years.

Over the past several years snowmobiling into the park has become too crowded!! There should be no more development in the park.

Flagg Ranch service was awful in comparison to Old Faithful and Mammoth!

These questions were answered based upon a winter visit. Most things are about right now.

We'll be back!

We'd love to come back next October and maybe next February.

Both parks hold so much beauty. Keep them as natural as possible.

I would have enjoyed the lakes and rivers more if there were some "winter" signs posted with names and maps as to where we were.

Great scenery. Need more drive through McDonalds on snowmobile (just kidding). We will be back.

Yellowstone and Grand Teton are beautiful areas, some of the best I have ever seen; however, human use needs to be regulated and possibly lessened. This means a reduction in the use of cars and other motorized instruments of travel throughout the park.

It was very enjoyable - trails were a bit rough in spots, but overall a good grooming effort. We would have used a snowmobile trail all the way from Moran if it were available.

Wonderful Parks, fight to the death to prevent mining, drilling, hunting, logging, development of land or excessive fishing.

The rangers at the Visitors Centers were very friendly and helpful in giving guidance for cross-country skiing and wildlife spotting. We had a great time and are definitely coming back.

The adverse publicity surrounding the recent fires was totally unwarranted. The scenery was beautiful - all in all, we had a wonderful visit!

Rangers were very friendly, courteous and had a world of information. Enjoyed traveling to them.

Personally I thought it was great and so did everybody else! Keep up the good work and keep this fantastic place the way it is!!! Will have to come back in summertime because this place must be awesome in the summer.

See you next year!

A grand place!!!

Need more grooming of roads for snowmobiles.

I support your "Let Burn" fire policy and believe it is a sensible way to approach the management and control of areas such as Yellowstone/Grand Teton. Overall a job being well done in all aspects.

No snowmobiles.

Everyone in our group felt our visit to Yellowstone was the highlight of our trip. It was wonderful just the way it was. We look forward to more trips at various times of the year!



The attitude of the rangers need some improvement. The road was too rough, needs groomed more often. The guide services and snowmobile tours are too crowded.

It was a very nice trip but rangers seemed to treat visitors rudely and acted as if they were better than everyone else.

Very enjoyable park, outstanding resources, I hope to bring my children some day! Thanks for a good job.

Good fishing.

The park was wonderful as expected. It was a beautiful day and the wildlife was plentiful. Thanks.

We had a wonderful time - could of completed intended tour if there would of been more gas stations - the park was beautiful and wildlife plentiful.

I really enjoyed talking to Rocky McCreight!!

In winter all use is limited. It would be nice to have food, restrooms and gas stations available at Signal Mountain or the lodge.

Snake river overlook was obscured by piled snow. Need more animals for winter viewing (just kidding).

Cheaper rates on the snowcoach - more rooms available at the Snow Lodge - more groomed ski trails.

As long as the road is open to Flagg Ranch, I'm happy. Keep the snowmobiles on the trails.

Better coordination in reservations between snowcoaches and Old Faithful rooms (more snowcoaches?). More winter rooms at Old Faithful. Winter rooms at Fishing Bridge and Canyon.

Don't overdo services. Let Yellowstone attract those that want to see Yellowstone for what it is. Don't over-hype/over-commercialize it. Yellowstone is a park for the sake of preserving Yellowstone for now and for the future - not mainly for the sake of chambers of commerce.

Had a great time. We are always in good company when we visit and always are greeted with very terrific people and enjoy all our trips.

Plow the road so next time I can visit the park.

I live in Jackson and these friends come each year to be with us at Grand Teton. I love both parks and so do my friends. We have not been in the winter visits but they would surely be nice.

We came to Yellowstone after skiing at Teton Village for just pleasure ride. We enjoyed the moose and wildlife - and plan to bring the kids up this summer.

I've traveled all across this great country of ours and seen a lot of intense wilderness and Wyoming is at the top of the list.

Many buffalo ran down the road and bolted over the side as snowmobiles zoomed by the animals. Snowmobiling should require a permit to limit traffic to less than 10% of what it is now, and to educate snowmobilers about animals. A variety of less-expensive meals, especially dinner, should be offered.

Food service good but sandwich healthy snack area would be good to have instead of sit down dinner as only option to late reservation. Nicest "outhouse" facility I have ever used. My original was mailed but sending this copy in case it got lost. I'll be back in June!!

Camped at Fishing Bridge a few years ago and really enjoyed the time. Best was the no hassle by park people, being able to rent a boat, beautiful weather, clean campgrounds, hot water in restrooms.

It was an experience we all will remember!

Enjoyed visit immensely. Sorry for late survey, appreciate your perseverance!

The rangers are very helpful and gave good info and service to us. Many thanks for a short, but excellent visit.

It was very enjoyable.

I would very much like to see the proposed continuous trail from South Pass to Yellowstone Park via Pinedale, Union Pass and Togwotee completed. Benefits would be enormous without causing harm.

Our cross-country ski trip to Old Faithful was a wonderful time. The food at the Snow Lodge was excellent.

I only go into the park to mostly fish.

Great time.

It was great.

I frankly dislike bureaucracy, but the National Park Service does a fantastic job except wildfire control. (Please don't meddle with the beautiful roads in Grand Teton National Park.)

I loved it!!! We all loved it!!!

This was not a typical trip for me. Usually I would stay longer and see more.

### Distributed at Moose

This trip was primarily an annual family get together at a ski resort plus one of our daughters' workplace group (Chicago). Our main visit was centered around Teton Village and Grand Targhee ski areas. However, as a family (6) we have summered since 1968 in Yellowstone and Grand Teton area (from NJ).

Each of our 3 visits was an enjoyable experience. We feel some "one holer" johns placed in certain areas along cross-country trails at maybe 1 mile points or 2 mile points helpful - especially helpful for females who have to almost disrobe - the 2 we found could not be used- snowed in - you must realize it's hard for us "girls" to stand behind a tree in knee deep snow with skis!!

Only 2 of our group were from out-of-town, they stayed with relatives while here and did not spend a great deal of money. This did not detract from their enjoyment nor their desire to return.

Keep areas separate, snowmobile and skiing.

Thanks!!

We had an excellent experience for all ages in our group. Teton could use more ranger-led programs: We did a short snowshoe walk which was fun. How about things for the 3-10 year olds for nature education?

Restrict motorized vehicles as much as possible.

Had a great time.

As far as the national parks are concerned, I would like to see as little development as possible. Instead of building a concession or a gas station, hire another ranger. Keep it wild.

At Grand Teton, ranger-guide Katie was excellent and very knowledgeable, but we were expecting more walking over a greater distance in the snowshoes! More like a cross-country "hike". But again, we enjoyed our ranger-guide very much!!

Was very enjoyable.

Good introductory video to the geologic and natural history of Grand Teton Park.

We are walkers and would have enjoyed a few trails that did not require over-snow vehicles.

Please plow open the road to Old Faithful. How disappointing to come all the way from Houston, Texas and not be able to drive into Yellowstone.

The parks are beautiful and appear to be well maintained and operated. All contacts with personnel have been friendly and helpful. I wish we had more time to enjoy the pleasures of these great national treasures.

I believe Park Service is doing a fine job. Concessionaires, esp. in Yellowstone, could up quality of all services.

I feel it is inappropriate to allow offroad vehicle use (i.e., snowmobiles in Potholes area). I also feel the animals get overly harassed on the snowroads during winter - I feel there should be less use of parks by over-snow vehicles.

The parks are the most important reason we choose to live in Jackson next to the ski area where we are employed.

Just to keep up your educational services to make the public better aware of the importance of the ecosystem here and all over the earth.

We'd like to see a "limited impact" bus system, stretching from Grand Teton National Park to Yellowstone, making it more possible to go between the 2 parks without motorized travel; need hut on lower saddle of the Grand.

*It is a great place for our class field trips. Thank You.*

It's so wonderful to visit both these parks at a time when it's uncrowded and you can earn for yourself an experience of these places in a "natural" state.

*Close them off to cars permanently. Provide bus service only.*

I have spent many months, cumulatively, in the backcountry of these two parks. The process of getting a backcountry use permit in Yellowstone has become more and more irksome over the years. Personnel are often haughty, an obstacle to be overcome rather than a source of information. They are well-trained but seem unable (in many cases) to adjust their approach so that it is commensurate with my skill level.

We wish we could have driven our car into Yellowstone Park (south entrance) to lodging and then driven out the west or north to get home to northern Idaho. We didn't get into the park at all as we didn't feel we could spend the money for a snowcat trip.

Snowmobiles are a nuisance to people going out to enjoy the wilderness in peace and quiet - they should be used only by park personnel.

Keep the development to a minimum - these are parks, not resorts. Thanks for closing the road during rut to protect the animals. How about spending "development" (like "move-the-road") money on research, environmental preservation, science, etc.

Snowmobile use, noise and enjoyment. They're awful!

Thanks for this survey! Put the information to its best use for all!

Need more access to Yellowstone in winter for people who want to cross-country ski, etc. but don't have time or money for snowmobile or snowcoach.

Excellent. Keep them the way they are.

Can't wait to come back!

Really enjoy Potholes and would like to see longer season availability.

Both parks are beautiful, and the staffs we have dealt with have been very helpful and friendly. The last two years we have come skiing to Grand Teton three times, which is an indication of how much we enjoy it! The staff at the Grand Teton Visitor Center is great. It would be nice if there were more winter ranger-led programs.

Please fix the roads. Need more camping areas on the lake accessible by boat only.

Great Parks!!!

Parking lot at Potholes.

Because skate skiing has more in common with jogging than with hiking (or cross-country skiing), we feel grooming trails for skating is inappropriate in national parks. Also snowmobiles are noisy and smelly and endanger animals and skiers and do not belong within the boundaries of a national park.

Need more things for elderly people. Gentle skiing area and not crowded with so many young people; remember we don't move as fast as we did 20 years ago.

I would just like to say it is a wonderful place and I am happy to be able to spend time here. I am sad about poaching and have lived in Jackson for a long time, and have seen animals from the park hanging in garages, barns, etc. Would like to see this stop. When a gun fires off illegally would like to see vandals caught and punished.

I know this has probably been settled but the reason I drive so many visitors to Grand Teton Park is because the drive around Jenny Lake is so pretty right next to the lake. I don't want the road moved.

Grand Teton National Park should have one road open to access Jenny Lake - or a road so walking is accessible to it fairly easily in winter time. The road now is ok for cross-country skiing, but not for hiking. Haven't gone to Yellowstone yet this winter. 3/4/89

We enjoy both parks in winter a great deal. We always go to Yellowstone at least 2 days and as long as 5 days once a year. We usually ski in the vicinity of Jenny Lake each year as well which is what we were doing when we received this questionnaire. Where we enter Yellowstone is determined by how the snowcoach schedule suits our working hours at the time - we're not scared to drive. We like the low key, not too developed scene offered in winter.

None of snow removed from benches or walkways around Old Faithful - snowmobile trails were not groomed.

The number and noise of snowmobiles seems to increase each year. Our out-of-town guests have been shocked by this invasion and stated it has distracted them from their park visit when taking snowcats in.

I'll be back in a summer season.

The ranger that was handing out these brochures was very friendly and helpful. We also found additional information about skiing from the ranger at the Visitor Center. They both should be commended for courtesy and service. (3/14, 14:30)

We would like to see the park this summer.

Keep the snowmobile usage down, thank you.

Our visit was overnight by snowcoach, much too short. We'll be back.

These parks are our most enjoyable trips anywhere in all seasons of the year. The parks could use more easier trails.

We had a great time at the Potholes.

Most beautiful and enjoyable experience. Plan to do it again.

I am a self-taught artist, preferring to paint mountain scenes and wildlife. I had the opportunity for a few hours to see, feel, study, and be a part of the mountains I love so much. Wish I could live here.

Limit snowmobile usage; noisy and distracting to those who are here for peacefulness and serenity and are willing to work and exercise to enjoy it on skis. Keep the park simple! More patrol and basic accommodations.

Don't shoot all the grizzlies, bring back the wolves.

I appreciate the need to close areas of Yellowstone at certain times for various reasons. But I wonder is 30% of the park necessary? Thank you.

I think you do a fantastic job. I absolutely love spending time in the parks. They are extremely well managed. My only negative experiences are a couple of rude treatments by park personnel at the south entrance cabin where you get permits for Lewis-Shoshone. But I know they deal with a lot of people and I understand.

Buffalo should not be shot. Bears should be left alone. Yellowstone is not Disneyland.

We only drove through the park a bit on the way to Moose, Wyoming. We were on 1 week ski trip so that was a priority, but would like to see the park and go hiking in the fall or spring (when fewer crowds).

More wilderness should be preserved. I would enjoy 10 times more if there were less cars, no snowmobiles. I once bicycled the length of the two parks. It was wonderful, but there was no road shoulder, and too many cars.

Next time a fire begins, please don't vacillate, put the fire out.

I was in West Yellowstone, August 1988 during fires so it was interesting to ski in a burned over area. Liked the fact I "ran into" only 4 other people on the trail, the other in my group freaked at the thought - as in "what if you broke a leg out there?" - and they were careening down the expert runs at Teton Village! Think I was much safer.

As an outdoor enthusiast, Yellowstone and Grand Teton in winter was a great wilderness experience. Although more overnight accommodations would be desirable, overcrowding and commercialization should be avoided. I would rather the wolf have the room than more people. If crowds ever are a problem in winter, a reservation system such as in place at Cumberland Island National Seashore should be put in place. A visit may be more trouble, but it would be worth it. On the roads that were open in Grand Teton, more turnouts would have been nice so one could stop the car and admire the scenery.

Clean up corridors of downed trees - make available as firewood to locals. Would enhance beauty of area/quality of visit. Ever seen a European Park/Forest? Wake up!

Each visit I take is very enjoyable. Keep up the good work!

One thing we were particularly bothered by was the lack of good info about camping. The Teewinot listed a walk-in camping area with pit toilet near the Taggart Lake trailhead which none of 4 or 5 rangers we talked to knew anything about. Also, after speaking 3 times with ranger (over the phone) in Yellowstone, I was not told that camping was allowed in the Old Faithful "East lot". Your information "newspapers" are the main source of info for most travelers, so it seems that the information in the "newspapers" should be accurate and park employees, at least those working at visitor centers, should be familiar with the information in their papers.

I am not anti-snowmobile, for I realize the machines offer access to the park for those unable to ski/snowshoe in. I feel, however, that serious consideration should be given to noise restrictions. I can't help but believe that if, during the summer months, hundreds and hundreds of unmuffled motorcycles passed through the park, the public and park officials would not tolerate the noise pollution. During the winter the number of visitors is reduced greatly, but that does not negate a need for noise restrictions. Mufflers that actually muffle are not beyond current technology, nor financially unreasonable. Of concern also is requests to open non over-the-road areas to snowmobiles in Grand Teton. How serious a push there is, I don't know, but if it were allowed serious problems would bound to arise. Many areas of the park are closed for wildlife habitat, and the high speed movement of machines next to, and inevitably through such areas would not benefit the animals the Park Service tries to protect. Again, I am not anti-snowmobile, but the use of machines in such a special place must be controlled and not allowed to become an ugly stain on an otherwise pristine land.

I have only come in winter and once in the fall when the crowds were small to nonexistent. I have only good memories and good things to say, although I have not availed myself of all the services listed above.

Grand Teton is our favorite national park, and we've been to many of them. We hope to return in the winter and enjoy the activities we missed this time (e.g., snowmobiling, cross-country skiing) and we would like to stay in a lodge within one of the parks. Downhill skiing was our primary reason for this year's visit.

Keep up the good work. You need more staff!

We enjoyed our visit.

I did have enough time there. Plan to revisit.

Had a great time. Snow was wonderful.

Parking areas could stand improvement. They tend to get overcrowded in the summer months.

I loved my visit to the park on both occasions. The biggest problem is getting to Yellowstone via plane. I took Continental and it took me two days, I can't afford that time. I cancelled a second trip to Jackson because of the flight problems and the uncaring attitude of the airline. This is not a comment on the park itself but it will affect my decision to revisit Yellowstone! I wish someone would do something about the airline (Continental); my experience was widespread.

Probably will go again this year. Enjoyed animals and nice scenery.

Winter roads are limited, making travel short. So many beautiful areas are prohibited to a great number of people who do not ski/or snowmobile.

Actually we only went about 3 miles from Moose entrance. It was in the winter and the road was awful. But - it was beautiful!

Keep them as natural as possible, please!

Beautiful park in the winter. I wish there to be better marked trails for cross-country skiing.

We love it in the winter and would love more information about cross-country trails.

Please note: I am a seasonal visitor to Jackson Hole. My family owns Lost Creek Ranch in Moose, Wyoming. I have been coming to Jackson Hole for 21 years. Presently I come out for 1 week in the winter and 1-2 weeks in the summer and fall. I always bring friends with me. I have travelled worldwide and find no place prettier than Grand Teton and Yellowstone national parks.

### Distributed at North

We had a great time - even with the fire damage, the park is still beautiful and winter has got to be the best time to visit the park and snowmobiling is the only way to go - we loved it!

We live in Livingston, we go to Yellowstone every year. I have been going to the park ever since 1925 - worst thing about the park now is that there is no bears.

We could not fairly answer the questions because we had plans to take the snowcoach but because of the flu, had to cut our trip short. We are hoping to return next year.

Please destroy animals hurt and unable to survive. We observed one buffalo obviously hit by a car crippled in the right hind leg and struggling through belly deep snow. Another calf lay in one spot on the roadway for 2 days. Come on! Something has to be done!!! Introduce natural predators back to the park (wolves).

On the whole, doing a good job. Food at the restaurant at Old Faithful much better than at Mammoth for some reason. Employees are very helpful, friendly and courteous.

For this park to allow Montana to slaughter the north bison herd in the fashion done at Gardiner is absolutely wrong. We visit this park to see wildlife and it will be 5-10 years before that herd is rebuilt - shame on you!!!

The cross-country skiing in both parks is excellent. In Yellowstone, we need more ski trails off the roads and on existing hiking trails. It's great not to have snowmobiles on the ski trails.

It was great, but the poor road condition is hell on my tires!

I was sad to see so many trees burned during the summer fires. I wish there was more discretion in the amount that were allowed to burn. If some of the fires were started by man, they should be put out by man. I hope there will be less fires in the future. Just do it!!

This is difficult to rate in the winter as from the north entrance only Mammoth is open and our winter trips are only day trips to enjoy the scenery and animals.

It was a short winter drive through part of the park. Unable to give much information on facilities and services except for the few we did use. The fewer structures you have along with more ranger-led activities the better. You need a balance between the number of structures and activities.

The lodging and meals are too expensive for the common person.

Great place to vacation, good service.

Sunset is at 6 p.m. We would have enjoyed relaxing after seeing it but closed at 5 p.m.

Everything was great except the rough condition of trail. Nearly beat to death in snowcoach. Was same on snowmobile trips in past, only saw a groomer once. Better trail would encourage more visits on my part in winter.

Would be nice if Mammoth had a hotel lounge which was more comfortable and had a fireplace! We love the park all times of the year!!

I would have appreciated a place provided in winter for travellers bringing their own food to eat. Would like to see a discount for MT/WY residents who are helping to promote the use of the park.



It was difficult to get fed at Old Faithful in the short time we had on snowcoach trip. Crowded fast food and Snow Lodge facilities - we chose to eat and so missed seeing Old Faithful erupt - nice that the park is being used so much however.

Visitor Center - no register visible for comments, poor over-all book selection (little on wildflowers, trees, Native Americans). Couldn't you have a few groomed hiking trails, perhaps near the roads? - Snowmobiles made walking into the park very unpleasant. Traffic (mostly local) constantly speeding. Constant disregard for animals in need exhibited by park personnel, with only two exceptions.

Great time!!

The road was closed and we were not advised of this until too late.

Please continue to hire personal i.e., fun snowcoach drivers. It makes the difference between a long, tiring, interesting, pleasant trip and one that could be very long. During our visit the last week of winter season employees seemed very tired, burnt out, and ready to be done with the season even though they tried to be polite.

Abundant grass meadows, abundant vegetation. I would like to see the bears fed like they were 50-60 years ago. Same with buffalo and elk, they should either be fed in winter or winter range provided with adequate forage.

The park scenery is always nice and the talks from the rangers are good. I do not like the way the park is managing the care of animals compared to other parks I have visited in the past year.

Wish I could go through more often. Really have enjoyed it all seasons.

Although I have visited the park summer and winter, private snowmobile, large snowcoach, and by automobile in winter, the naturalist boarding the bus was a great addition; we all enjoyed his commentary. (Tom)

The park entrance fee was charged until 5:30 p.m. then others were able to enter free - you could exit at the same time free - this isn't fair!!

A special thanks to enforcement ranger Judy (last name unknown) assigned to Mammoth who assisted me in getting my car started in extremely cold weather. She was of great help!

If you don't want to sit and watch videos for hours (probably not even the one you want to see) the Visitor Center at Mammoth Hot Springs doesn't give you information about the extraordinary nature and geology of the park. Should be improved! Only the newspaper is very informative and the people are friendly and helpful and there should be more winter walks for hiking.

There should be flush toilets and heated restrooms all over the park - NO chemical toilets please.

Please control the herds so we don't have to wonder if each animal we see is about to die of starvation!!

After allowing half the park to burn and then not helping the animals with food in one of the hardest winters of recent years, I feel the park superintendent has made a grave error in his decision and he should resign.

Please limit snowmobile noise, i.e., straight pipes, etc. More roadside displays visible in winter.

Why not keep the park open to skiers during the spring cleanup? Also, your newsletter on the fire was very interesting. However, the writing style was about midway between interesting journalism and turgid bureaucratese. I read E.I.S.s for fun, but I'm a distinct minority.

Blacktail ski trail at the "cut" is poorly marked. The trail was totally obscured by new snow and could not find our way and had to retrace our steps 6 miles. The park and TWA personnel were great!

Since our summer visit in 1981, we had always wanted to see Yellowstone in the winter. Our recent trip was wonderful! We are concerned, however, about the growing development in Paradise Valley and would support with taxes, federal funds for purchasing "traffic" areas adjacent to the park.

I think it is important to manage the park for wilderness values, but I think the fire shows that there can be too much weight put on a narrow scientific view that overlooks the big picture. Any jack-ass knew it was an extremely dry year - why didn't all your "managers"?

Phase out cars - phase in monorail. Thanks for the pretty postcard.

We enjoy our national parks but felt very bad about animals and fire aspect from summer 88.

We had a nice time...don't develop the park anymore than is absolutely necessary. The large numbers of snowmobilers bothers me somewhat. I like the peaceful aspect of the park!!!

I would like to see a trail established from Flagg Ranch south to the Tetons - it would be a beautiful ride on a snowmachine.

Bring the wolves back!!

We're always enjoyed our visits. The food and service is usually very good. We'd like to see limits on snowmobiles (too noisy, dangerous, and smelly!).

Parking at Mammoth Barricade is inadequate due to snowmobile rental.

We love the animals and scenery. Don't need more development such as buildings. We like it as undisturbed as possible and still be able to drive through and photograph wildlife.

I would like to see more moderately priced, healthful food offered in the park - we ate 2 meals at the Ranch kitchen - 20 miles away because offerings at Mammoth and Gardiner were limited. This is the move in eating and tourism needs to get on board - food in Mammoth Lodge was over-priced for the quality.

Yellowstone is beautiful in the winter and I would support any action to preserve and not overuse this area.

We always enjoy our trips into the park (Yellowstone). We will be back!

Based upon long experience, I feel Yellowstone has 2 problems: (1) vastly too many elk which destroyed the south half of the park. (2) too many crack-pot theories from resident biologists.

Our friends from Texas were very enthusiastic about the animals and scenery.

We appreciate having parks open in winter. All seasons are special and enjoyable to us.

Enjoyed it thoroughly, don't over-build it!!

Super service. Mother nature played a trick on us. It snowed so hard we couldn't find the cross-country ski trails, better markings would help, maybe poles along the trails.

Food was wonderful! Kids were very nice.

It would have been nice to have a parking area for snowmobiles that was away from Snow Lodge. The noise level was extremely high around the lodge, and for several miles down the trail as we skied. P.S. We have nothing but raves for TW Services. The facilities, rooms, snowcoach, etc. were excellent, and all the employees we met were extremely friendly and helpful.

Keep trying!

We had a great time!

While cross-country skiing, I found some great downhill skiing runs. Wish there was area for snowmobiling so one could shuttle up the hill! Had lots of fun!

We were very disappointed that there was no educational display at the Old Faithful Visitor's Center, describing the "whys" and "howcomes" of the thermal activity. Having the beautiful Mt. St. Helen's displays so close to home, we were expecting something similar, if not better at this park.

This questionnaire really does not address our groups reasons or needs relative to our many visits to Yellowstone in the winter - park conditions have continually deteriorated due to poor management. Our goal is to enjoy while it lasts.

Allow fishing on Firehole year-round.

Enjoyed it very much, thank you.

Too many snowmobilers; couldn't see out of snowcoach windows - always freezing up.

These parks are such treasures. We need to do everything possible to protect. The USFS did a great job managing fire.

We did a winter camping trip so many of the services you list we did not use or see. We did have contact with the park ranger and visitor center and found them very helpful and friendly.

Yellowstone should maybe have more roads kept open in winter since I think winter is something that is being missed by lots of people who would enjoy the park's beauty in winter time.

Thanks for the survey, I misplaced mine!!! I go to the park in the winter to see the animals and the pristine wilderness. I'm glad and always have been the fire got a chance to clean the park up. Looking forward to visiting this spring! But was surprised at the increased entrance fee! WOW!!

Could have more signs out on the trails. Food was wonderful! We'd like to have the option of taking a Bombardier from Mammoth, since we like to stay at Chico. We firmly believe you must limit the number of snowmobiles - they are dangerous on the road. Overall, we had a delightful trip.

We were saddened by the fires in the park last summer and feel the "let burn policy" was not a wise choice. One does not visit the park now to behold it's beauty, but to only see the destruction and one visit is plenty.

Because of the proximity of our home (200 mi) to Yellowstone, we try to make it to the park for one winter and one fall trip, every other year. We particularly like viewing the wildlife and this year we wanted to view the fire changes.

Enjoyed winter visit in Yellowstone, snowcoach, cross-country skiing, even after bad fires and large winter kill on animals; after all it's still nature.

Enjoyed it. Wish there were a way to keep uncaring people from littering. I saw a lot of that (park and preserve). Saw a lot more wildlife this trip than previous ones. Suppose because of the fires.

It would be appreciated if local residents be able to purchase a permit for their cars instead of having to carry a Golden Eagle pass all year in their pockets.

We live 60 miles from the entrance to Yellowstone. It's our home away from home. Educated our children with and about Yellowstone - some of our kids were "savages". Our Sunday picnics have been in Yellowstone for the last 30 years.

Cut down the number of snowmobiles. Reintroduce wolves into Yellowstone. Let burn policy works fine.

Food and lodging were much better than we had expected. May need more as the word gets out. Please don't ever let the snowmobiles off the roadways. Thanks!

Fight the fires for now on!

Had a good time - see you next winter!

We enjoy it and find people very friendly.

### Distributed at West

Better organization on which gas stations are open on the lake side (Fishing Bridge and Canyon). Getting the wrong information could mean a long and cold walk for a lot of tourists.

Between myself and the friends that were with me we have been in 32 states, including Alaska, Hawaii, and Europe. We all agree the trip to Yellowstone in the winter was the most enjoyable and completely beautiful trip we have ever had! We loved it.

Had a great time as always!

Please, Please limit human park use and snowmobiles should be banned, especially at night.

Will return for summer visits 1989, ski trails too narrow and dangerous for novice - however trees will stop one.

Food quality was so-so, barbecue sandwich left a lot to be desired. Our first cross-country ski experience - found the people with ski rental helpful. Nowhere did I pick up that Old Faithful Inn was closed - I thought that was where we were staying and was surprised to find out it wasn't. It wasn't in any of the information I'd received on Yellowstone. Sorry we missed it. It looked beautiful.

The starving and dead animals was very depressing. Our group wouldn't care to go back to Yellowstone Park, even though we have visited the park in winter time for the past 4 years.

Fantastic visit!!!

Need more snow groomers so you can do the roads more often.

We really enjoyed our visit, the rangers were very friendly and helpful. We really used the warming huts. They were great for small children.

Don't let the park burn again.

The trail from Madison to West Yellowstone needs to be groomed mid-day before afternoon rush. It was very rough after 130 miles of very good park travel.

It is beautiful in the winter.

I would like to go again!!!

What a beautiful park!!!

It was great, now I would like visit in the summer.

I realize that there is always winter kill, but I think you people should be held accountable for the gross neglect of the animals. If any year they should have been fed, this was the year.

Trails are rough and some gas stops are without gas with no warning before you get there.

Had a great time, will be back in 1990. No place like it that I've ever come across.

I sure would like to see the animals fed, it wouldn't have to be all winter, just the last few weeks before spring. Thank you.

I feel there are more rangers than necessary.

I was impressed with the wood chips used on bare spots of the road. "Good Idea". Management is very good with what the park is, I was extremely happy with my visit.

Trails need to be groomed more often depending on the use. More scenic turnouts and to make them better in the winter for snowmobilers.

Entrance fees should be used for our parks and not go to Washington. The higher fees are great if they are used to improve the park system.

Curious as to whether services are bid out and can be improved.

Need to eliminate excessive speed, use of alcohol and unlicensed kids operating snowmobiles. Should also limit the size of groups.

The snowmobile roads were too bumpy - too many washboards. I would also like to see someone help the animals survive the winter.

Enjoyed ourselves, sad to see so many dead and dying animals, but do believe it's mother nature's way.

Winter is a special time in the parks, just happy to be able to enjoy it and still have the safety of rangers and warming huts.

Our only thought is that you have more restrooms and gas during the winter months, although we realize the amount of work it must take during the winter.

Provide a snowmobile trail from Jackson/Moran through Teton National Park to Flagg Ranch so that one can ride from these towns to Yellowstone.

Extremely fascinating trip. The park is beautiful despite the fire damage. Good job!

This was our fifth successive winter trip. We intend to be back next year.

Enjoyed the trip. Walkways are very dangerous.

Old Faithful restaurant should not have to shut down full breakfast service at 10:00 a.m. in order to start lunch.

We enjoy the trip every winter.

I would rather cross-country ski than snowmobile around the park but the mobile is so expedient for a short visit. People on snowmobiles should be clearly informed to steer clear of animals and not speed around them either. Maybe the snow-packed roads are too well groomed - I think people drive their machines too fast. Also, the machines should be muffled better. Respect for wildlife and environment need to be emphasized to visitors.

Our group is from Wisconsin and are accustomed to well groomed and marked trails. Your grooming is a little lax, you need more grooming to keep the quality up.

Direction signage and maps were excellent - rangers were courteous and helpful - need more rangers! Especially to discipline snowmobile renters, who seem to forget rules of the road. More view points at the Grand Canyon would be nice.

The visit was great. The park personnel are professional in every way. My impressions have always been very positive. We love Yellowstone and visit it frequently.

It was a unique experience for us to visit the park in winter. We've visited it a number of times in the summer but this was a most enjoyable and scenic visit.

We have enjoyed all our winter trips but the devastation the fires were allowed to create will probably lead to our choice to go elsewhere in the next years. It was far too depressing.

Quit telling us that the burned forest is beautiful in its own way - it is not.

Delightful!!!

Snowmobiles should be restricted to areas where noise pollution is of no consequence. Access to unique park attractions for winter use should be restricted to multi-passenger units or cross-country skiers.

The wildlife and scenery was absolutely beautiful. The consistently loud interruption of the snowmobiles was quite distracting.

People running snowcoach were friendly and enjoyable. Not enough services and overcrowded for services that were open at Old Faithful area.

It was interesting to see the effects of the fire in a sporadic pattern - not as devastating as I had imagined.

The organization and helpfulness and information provided by the park staff was extremely valuable. All of the park employees - from rangers to food service people are to be complimented for their friendliness.

Thanks for opening the park to visitors in the winter. It's a rare and wondrous trip. All the park employees seem dedicated, helpful and well informed and friendly. Thanks again!!

Overnight lodging at Fishing Bridge would help distance for snowmobiles making full circle. We had a great winter adventure.

Overall I enjoyed the visit. However, covering 123 miles in one day on a snowmobile doesn't leave much room for exploring. Exploring off of a snowmobile very difficult - trails snowed in. Suggest clearing walking trails or improving access by snowmobile.

Had a wonderful time - spent a week skiing at Big Sky and our day at Yellowstone was the highlight of our trip.

Please: All persons apprehended violating park regulations should be very heavily fined or incarcerated to the maximum extent allowable. "Word of Mouth" will do more to stop abuse of the park than additional patrols. Fine the hell out of them and let them spread the word.

It's gorgeous in the winter. We loved our visit.

Smoother snowmobile trails.

No more fires!!!

Fantastic!!!

Would like to see the snowmobile trails groomed better.

Great vacation - We'll be back!

The park and area is beautiful, with scenery of wildlife, mountains, streams, etc. The snowmobile trails within the park were the worst of conditions that I have ever ridden. That was the main reason for coming to Yellowstone to ride good trails and enjoy the other aspects. The trails were not groomed once during the five days we were there, everyone in our group was shocked and disappointed.

I visit the park on an average of 6 times a year - 5 times are during the winter. I'd like to be able to go more places during the winter.

Bumpy, bumpy, bumpy, bumpy snowmobile trails - when you pay \$400 a head to get in the park, I expect smoother snowmobile trails - they are for the most part terrible!!!

Park ranger and Visitor Center personal think they are gods! Mr. Bernard (ranger) thinks it is his own personal park and area.

We enjoy the park several times a year. The only thing that is uncomfortable is the discourtesy and abruptness of the employees in the park.

We would like to have seen more animals. Otherwise, we enjoyed the trip.

Our first time - very exciting and interesting, would recommend to anybody.

Nothing appealing about a park with burnt trees and starving animals along with dead ones.

Limit number of people allowed to camp in the park. They cause fires, litter, etc. We saw several animals frightened and running from snowmobilers - possibly warn the people as they enter the park, rent the machines, etc. Just explain what to do if you come up behind the animals.

We would like to see cooperation with local and state snowmobile associations to create a linked snowmobile trail system with surrounding areas, i.e., the continental divide trail in Wyoming.

It's a park every one should visit.

The Forest Service needs to review its "let burn" policy and animal feeding restrictions. We were appalled by the loss of the park. We will not return to Yellowstone!

In two years we as a group plan to come out to West Yellowstone and do it again. The trip was fantastic, the scenery gorgeous, and the people were extremely nice.

The person [Jeff Campbell] who talked to me as we were entering the park was really nice. Tell him hi from Colleen in St. Cloud, Mn.

It was the most beautiful and enjoyable winter vacation ever and I and group will return again in winter.

Very nice visit, keep snowmobiles trails in good shape. I spend my vacation here, I fly out.

We all had a great time. The amount of snow was so unreal because back east we had only about 4" for the winter. Loved every day of it, will do it again when we can get money together and will tell everyone we meet to try it sometime.

Being one of the greatest strongholds of wildlife in the lower 48, I would like to see every precaution made to ensure the safety and freedom of the park's wildlife comes first. We are the visitors, not the animals!

Enjoyable!!!



We did not stay in the park. As RCI members we did an exchange of our condo for one in Island Park Village in Idaho. Our reason for picking the place was for its nearness to the park as we wanted to take the snowcoach trip. It was very good.

We had a enjoyable day and plan to return in the future.

Please don't let it burn out of control again.

We would like snowmobile trails set up to go from Yellowstone to Jackson and Grand Teton Park. Also, trails to mountains southeast of Yellowstone so riders could get to areas like Green River, etc. We enjoy long distance touring by snowmobile. Thank you.

Having such a wonderful experience at Yellowstone makes me realize again how important public park land is.

I resent the fact that a \$5.00 fee per snowmobile is charged at Grand Teton when absolutely no facilities are provided. (No grooming, no restrooms, no signs and no food).

We read and heard a lot of controversy about the number of people allowed in the park during the winter. I had only been to Yellowstone in the summer - winter is very beautiful there - and for the most part - I believe people respect the park.

Overall, it was very fun!

Keep working at it, you're doing a good job.

We've been visitors two years in a row. Of course the fire destroyed the natural beauty in the areas hit. We also didn't see the number of animals this year as last and the animals seen this year looked very slim.

I would not like to see the park open to cars in winter months. More lodging in the park would be nice.

We really enjoyed the park and the wild animals.

If this questionnaire is distributed to current winter park users, it is bound to come out skewed heavily in favor of more snowmobile uses. Snowmobiles virtually monopolize the winter use of the parks now. Until the parks are partially closed to snowmobile use (by time of year or geography), skiers and others will continue to have minimal (enjoyable) use opportunities.

Bears in a pen so people can see them.

The park was very nice, animals spectacular. The snowmobiles makes one think they are on the Washington D.C. Beltway or New York City GW Bridge or Holland Tunnel, these vehicles compromise a great deal.

Snowmachine from West Yellowstone to Thumb and back - the roads were not groomed very good, extremely rough - undecided as to whether or not will ride anymore of the park - roads rough - animals in very poor condition - if it wasn't for the hot pools - nothing else to see.

We had a wonderful tour on the motorcoach. Good guide!

Winter visits to the parks are a important part of our family's recreation. We all enjoy seeing the winter scenes and animals.

The park is magnificent; the fire damage doesn't seem as bad as news reports would have us believe. The amount of elk carcasses worried me.

We enjoyed visiting the park very much. We came down for 1 day during a 7 day trip to Big Sky.

It was great to see Yellowstone in winter. Thank you for allowing us to go in, and thank you for not letting cars in.

We really worry about the poor starving grass eating animals. We have read many reasons why you do not feed them, but we cannot agree with your arguments. We are glad the local ranches are not so indifferent. They are feeding them just outside of the park, why not feed them in it.

Would like to visit again in summer. Glad we ignored the press reports and didn't cancel our plans.

Need more gas stations open. After letting the fire burn for so long, feed should have been brought in for the animals.

Over-all we were satisfied with our park visit. Animals looked like they had a hard winter. Snowmobile routes in park were rough, could have been groomed more often.

It was very enjoyable. The scenery was exquisite. Probably be coming back to Yellowstone. It's like a world of its own. I would like to see a motor ban on the Yellowstone and Teton Lakes.

We spent a beautiful 3 days in the park, sightseeing on snowmobiles and had a very enjoyable time. Some hooks in restrooms for hanging coats, etc. would be helpful so they don't get wet. Thank you so much for so many wonderful facilities.

We had a very enjoyable family vacation.

Most of group are long distance snowmobile riders and were disappointed that trails did not go to Grand Teton Park, Jackson, Togwotee, and Cooke City. Most would have preferred slightly faster speed limits on straight open stretches of road (perhaps 55 mph) overall enjoyable time otherwise.

Would have liked to go through Teton Park, but no commercial operators available to take us. The one we called that the Park Service gave us did not have tours going during our stay.

Had a great time!!!

Thank you for opening Yellowstone to snowmobiles. The park is beautiful in winter and it's not so crowded.

We very much enjoyed our day at Yellowstone - hope to return in the summer when it's warm!

Enjoy coming to Yellowstone both winter and summer. Snowmobile trails are generally well groomed, sometimes could be better. See you next summer and winter.

I greatly enjoyed my visit, it (the park) is truly a national treasure.

Enjoyable visit.

We'll be coming again in the summer to both Yellowstone and Tetons hiking and camping.

Wonderful to be able to visit these unusual areas in the winter time.

*This information applies more to summer trips versus winter trips - but very important: Make available more backcountry vehicle roads; need more pullout areas to see animals in car; improve roads. Thank you for a beautiful park!!*

I think it is the best trip I have been on. The boys really enjoyed it to the max!

Yes, we have enjoyed it immensely but, unfortunately, we could not stay longer, as we have rather tight budgetary and time constraints. One day we will both return and experience all there is to offer here. Thank you.

All the animals we saw are in real poor condition. The Park Service should supply something for them to eat, a lot of them are going to die and we saw far less elk this visit to the park.

I was attending a conference at Big Sky, Montana. Drove to West Yellowstone and rented snowmobiles (March 31, 89). It was a fabulous experience. I will return to see the park in the summer and will come back again in the winter.

Need lodging at Canyon.

Snowmobiling in the park is a lot nicer than a summer visit. Thanks for the snowmobiling!

Keep up the good work. Try harder for snowmobilers. Thanks!

It's a shame that in a national park, which should be made available to everyone, food, lodging, and entrance prices must be so outrageous.

We'll be back in summertime.

Had a great trip!

Thank you! We had a very enjoyable time. The fires didn't do as much visible damage as we had thought.

Entry fee too expensive, beautiful place and fun to visit but the fire results are a shame.

It was very pretty, I thought it was sad to see all the starving buffalos.

I am interested seeing more game, would like to see more snowmobile access to heavily populated game wintering areas and those areas marked on map.

We only went into Old Faithful and back out by lunch time because we know the condition of the trail to West gate is terrible by late afternoon. We have in the past done the whole loop, but paid dearly on those last 14 miles. Maybe grooming the trail out in late afternoon would be advised or attaching a smoother to the back of snowcoach.

Do more advertising - best place on earth. Employees in park - very helpful and friendly. Signs and information on how to get to and use hot pools - with parking area and warming hut - rental of towels. Thank you for this survey.

Bad publicity about shooting buffalo wandering over park boundaries into Montana. Park Service did not make effort to herd animals back on to park lands, but blocked access with trucks. Ranchers wanted a slaughter, Park Service stupid enough to supply bullets at expense of public interests. Park officials should be fired for responsibility of this disgraceful act.

I really enjoyed my visit. The snowmobiling is great and scenery beautiful. It's too bad the fires wiped out so much, but I still love it! I plan on returning many times.

Feed the animals!!!

We would like to see a limit set, by daily permits or some other means, on the number of snowmobilers within the park areas at a time.

Please limit the traffic - not only were the snowmobiles extremely distracting within the park, but in the town of West Yellowstone as well. We listened to the machines and their obnoxious operators all night, both nights.

"Directional signs" on the cross-country ski trails - every so often from Biscuit Basin to Old Faithful - so you know you're on the right trail.

Establish and enforce noise level limits on snowmobilers; you have the friendliest employees I've ever seen; limit the number of snowmobiles or somehow encourage people to share machines.

We have visited many places in the U.S. and Europe, and this was by far the most exciting, enjoyable, and fun trip we have ever taken. The people were very nice, warm, and friendly. The beauty is beyond description, the snowmobiles are great fun. We will return next winter with more family.

We probably came a little too late in the season.

Keep more gas at Canyon. They ran out 2 years in a row for us (88 and 89). We like late February - early March to visit. Weather a little more moderate.

Enjoyable day - perfect weather although cold in a.m. We enjoyed all the scenery and especially "Old Faithful".

It was our first visit and we were very impressed with the way the park is maintained - keep it up!

You need more park rangers to control the speed of the snowmobilers.

I realize fire destroyed much feed for wild animals and that's probably why they are in poor condition this winter.

I loved it!!!

We love going to Yellowstone anytime - it has been a family tradition for 50 years. We really appreciate the boat dock facilities at Bridge Bay in the summer and have thoroughly enjoyed our winter visits on snowmachines.

Truly grateful to have such a beautiful, natural phenomenon as Yellowstone. We have grown up with it and are still awed by its magnificence.

I enjoyed it and will come back again.

Keep up the good work.

It is so incredibly beautiful! I had no idea, even though I had seen many pictures. We must do everything possible to keep it this way!! It is definitely one of the highlights of my life! Fabulous!!!

I think you need more women's restrooms at Madison. Also the hand dryer need to be fixed and I believe it was broken last winter too.

Beautiful!!!

The fire areas didn't look as bad as the media stated, but the shape of the animals was very sad - hope the spring brings better promise for the animals.

We, as a country, feed elk at Jackson, Wyoming and at Hardware Ranch, Utah and the program seems to work well. Please look closely at the possibility of doing the same in Yellowstone. Surely elk are as valuable as birds, eagles and other wildlife.

Don't agree with the let burn decision or the let the animals die decision - without them your parks are nothing.

I was very disturbed that the park authorities wasn't helping the herds of Yellowstone after the devastating fire that hit last year. I know nature must run it's course but sometimes I think it's necessary for man to intervene and help out a little!

Wish Old Faithful lodge were open in winter. Wanted friend to be able to see it but that wasn't available.

I think the roads should be groomed more often, the road from Madison to West Yellowstone was terrible anytime we were on it, and it is probably the most traveled. Food service in the park was expensive and very poor!

We ate at the winter lodge - the service, food, and personelfriendlinesswere excellent. (all were above average).

Gas unavailable most of the time at Canyon, were not able to complete park loop due to no gas for snowmobile. On the good side: was the most beautiful place my wife and I have seen. It was our honeymoon. Keep it to nature.

Even if the trails were very bad we had a good time.

It was great and too short!!

Generally very enjoyable.

Snowmobile trails need more grooming.

Nice Visit.

We had a wonderful time and plan to get a large group together to do it next winter.

It would be nice to be able to snowmobile through Teton to Jackson Hole.

Cut moguls on roads, shovel walks at thermal areas.

Chance of a lifetime.

The park is always enjoyable if the weather is nice. We wish that there was more of a selection of eating when we got to Old Faithful.

Please keep up the good work on your groomed trails for snowmobiles and skiing. We look forward to our visits every winter.

We enjoyed our visit very much; it has real appeal for a family holiday. The friendliness of the people was really a treat.

Our group had a very interesting trip - the park looks very different in the winter. We saw lots of wildlife and viewed the fire damage in the winter.

We all had a great time, all would go again. Have 2 rooms reserved for February 27 or 28 to March 4.

Every year we have problems with gas. Last year 13 members were in our party. No signs were posted on no gas back in park! 13 of us sat in the dark - out of gas. Forest Service employee just said that's the way it goes! and left us!

It was a beautiful visit.

Things I didn't mark, I don't know. We are thankful about snowmachining because it wasn't crowded and less hassle. So we could enjoy the Great park God created.

It's a great place. Keep development and snowmobiles out. The fire was good for the park.

Can snowmobiles exist beyond the park boundaries? I couldn't stand them.

Had a wonderful time. We'll come back in winter again!

You should control the burning of large fires, not only to preserve the natural beauty but also to preserve wildlife habitat.

Need restrooms to be open, need reliable gas stops.

It was beautiful! Maybe you could limit the number of people - some spots were awfully crowded - but very well controlled and everyone was very pleasant.

We were treated very well. Scenery and weather was great. Thank You!

These are great parks; each visit has been exciting. If - IF - they were more accessible to me I'd hike or cross-country ski several times a year. Beautiful!

We have been snowmobiling for 22 years in or around Yellowstone Park. It's always a pleasure and different each year because of the snow conditions. We were especially interested in the fire damage and realize our park didn't all go up in smoke. It may become more beautiful than ever. I definitely am coming back in the summer for a another view of it.

Just great!

Disappointed at absence of bears, but did enjoy seeing so many buffalo.

I was one of the people that wanted you to put out the fires. Living so near I was scared and now it is so ugly that I'm leaving the area after living here for 15 years. I hope you never do it again, I know there will be fires, I just hope they will stay small because of what you didn't do.

I would like to see the number of snowmobiles greatly reduced to decrease noise and air pollution in the park.

The 2 visits I have had to West Yellowstone on snowmobile have been excellent; will continue to make the annual trip.

We were amazed at how the fires of 1988 changed the park scenery.

My wife and I took our son out there last winter. We had a great time.

We had a very enjoyable day and wished we could have stayed longer.

West Yellowstone was fun! Everyone was very friendly. All the waitresses, hotel management, etc. We really had a great weekend! Thanks and we'll be back!!!!

It was great.

It's an annual visit for our family - we like the patrols for the safety of the children. We do wish there was more trails into the park from West. The stretch from West to Madison is getting old!

I feel that the fee for snowmobiles is too much. \$8.00 for two is too much. I live 80 miles from the park and I don't go. I don't care for all the government crap you have to go through to ride through the park. I can have more fun in the Targhee forest.

There "has" to be a way to not let the animals starve! Feed them and harvest them if there are too many but don't let them die of starvation. It's disgusting to see thousands of people paying you money to see them in a shape like that and you say it's natural? Tell me how "that" is natural. Do you really believe that this is the right way or are you allowing this to happen only because somebody has put you on this path a long time ago when different conditions existed?

I think in the years to come we are going to see that the latest fires are going to be beneficial! The politicians need to stay out of park management and let the scientists do the job!

I really enjoyed our tour guide, a young girl on our snowcat trip was very informative.

We enjoyed the friendly workers especially in dining room and lounge. Snow Lodge was quite clean. We appreciated that especially in bathrooms.

We always enjoy it whenever we drive through.

I think the Park Service does a very good job of keeping the park "natural" considering the number of visitors each year.

Both of our trips were wonderful. Keep up the good work.

I dislike having to have a permit for everything we do in the Park - should be open to all!! This is called freedom!! I fought for it, we all want it!!

We had a great time.

Very enjoyable - will go again and bring other friends who have not seen the area.

I wish I had spent more time in the park, so that my response would be more meaningful. I thoroughly enjoyed my first exposure to our park, and I definitely intend to visit it again in the future.

More enjoyable each trip.

We are all experienced snowmobilers, however we think the park should post more warning and info signs re: buffalo for safety purposes. We encountered many on roadway that didn't want to move and we didn't want to disturb them. Educating riders would help.

Roads need to be groomed more often.

Would like to see less restrictions on where to ride and area where you can ride off trails with snowmobiles in the park.

Everyone in the park was very helpful and very knowledgeable. We'll be back very soon.

I'm so glad that it is accessible in the winter time. The sights are incredible but the sounds are so often covered up by the sound of snowmobiles. I wish that there was some way to get more skiers and fewer snowmobilers in the park. Good luck.

Great trip!!!

Being from Florida, the day we spent at Yellowstone in winter was a spiritual one. Wish I had more time to spend than one day.

Please limit the number of snowmobiles. They are noisy, smell and don't make for an enjoyable park experience. There should be a limit put on the number that can enter in any one day so others may enjoy the park too.

Along with snowmobiling we also square dance, we had planned to attend a dance in Cody traveling by snowmobile - because the road to Cody wasn't groomed all the way we couldn't attend. The service station at Canyon was closed when we were there, we feel it should have been open.

Would like to see more snowmobile trails to other areas of the park so more of nature's winter beauty could be experienced.

Very enjoyable - spent 2 days in park.

I think that if there were to be another fire it should be put out as soon as possible and not let burn.

Think all snowmobilers should wear helmets, should be mandatory.

It was very enjoyable, will return in the future!

We enjoyed riding snowmobiles in Yellowstone - everything looks beautiful with snow cover. Sorry it took so long to send this back.

Place is triple A, but gas stations need supplies to make longer trips when snowmobiling; too many out of gas so couldn't see Canyon.

We appreciated that the parks were not plowed for accessibility by automobile. It gives one a better opportunity to see the parks in a more natural state.

We loved it!!!

Please reduce the bison and elk herds to a manageable size. They are ruining the areas around the hot pools, etc.

We would of stayed longer in the park if we could of got gas for the snowmobiles. We love it there.

A great experience. I will return.

Many memories left and ones that a photograph could never do justice. I hope my children see this someday.

It was all exceptionally wonderful. Maps are easy to read, signs are also easily read!!

There should be more communication between rangers in regards to road conditions and road closures.



### Distributed at East

The use of common sense in management and less theory. Removal of personnel who have demonstrated inability to adjust to the overall good of the park and its visitors. No wolf introduction. Honest Bear and Fire Policy.

Keep up the good work! Try to control Yellowstone wildfires. Prescribed burns okay if kept under your PLANNED AREA BURN.

Should increase groomed ski trails.

The service and friendliness at Old Faithful was great. We couldn't believe the different variety of foods on the menu. Great!

The rangers that helped us over the avalanches on Friday March 3 were the nicest most helpful men we have met in the park - thanks again for having such great help.

The food service and gas stations should be open later and longer into the season. Snowmobiling should last longer till at least the last week of March. The park is great in winter, I love it. Thanks.

Very enjoyable! My 2<sup>nd</sup> snowmobile trip in 2 months! Interesting to see park after the summer fires. The reports of Yellowstone's demise are greatly exaggerated!

There is a definite need for more restrooms services at major locations. On our trip through, the restrooms at Fishing Bridge were closed.

After visiting Yellowstone in October of 1988 and viewing the total destruction caused by the fires - our only comment is that the natural burn policy must be reviewed and steps taken to never let that atrocity happen again!!

The beauty and solitude of the park in winter is breathtaking. I remember those sights when I have trouble sleeping and the peacefulness puts me to sleep.

Speed limit should be lowered so that people can enjoy a leisure drive without having to worry about someone running over you from the rear. I like to enjoy the whole park as opposed to just the main attractions.

We loved our trip of about 150 miles and two days. It's beautiful in winter.

Please maintain reasonable rates for park passes so that local interest does not diminish during off-season periods.

We were very disappointed with the conditions of the roads. They were extremely bumpy. I've been riding snowmobiles for the past 5 years and this was the worst ride I had ever been on. I don't plan on going through the park again.

It was enjoyable. It was our honeymoon and my first time there. I enjoyed the scenery and the snowmobile trails.

You shouldn't have let so many trees burn, very irresponsible of you.

## APPENDIX F: MENU FOR FURTHER ANALYSIS

This report contains only some of the information that can be provided by the results of this study. By combining characteristics such as *site visited*, *group size*, *day visited* and so forth, many further analyses can be made. Park personnel may wish to see other tables, graphs, and maps to learn more about the visitors. This menu is provided so that the ordering of further data can be done easily. Two kinds of analyses are available:

Two-way comparisons compare two characteristics at a time. For example, if knowledge is desired about which activities a particular age group engaged in, a comparison of activity by age group could be requested; if knowledge about which expenditure varied the most between group types was required, a comparison of expenditures by group type could be requested.

Three-way comparisons compare a two-way comparison to a third characteristic. For example, if knowledge was desired about the different activities of visitors to each site each day, a comparison of (activity by site visited) by entry day could be requested; if knowledge about which age groups were participating in an activity at a particular site was required, a comparison of (age group by activity) by site visited could be requested. This report contains no three-way comparisons.

On page 166 is a complete list of the characteristics for which information was collected from the visitors. The order form on page 168 contains a series of two blanks that are provided for specifying the variables that are to be requested in two-way comparisons. Simply select the two variables of interest from the list and write their names in the spaces provided.

Should a three-way comparison be required, the next section of the order form provides blanks for specifying each of the three characteristics of interest. Simply write down the names of those specific variables required for each comparison requested. For example, if a comparison of activity by group type by age group is required, each of these variables should be listed in the space provided on the order form.

A photocopier can be used to make additional order forms.

## Available Variables

Day of week survey distributed	Snowmobiled (total)	Liked least about visit (excluding "didn't dislike anything")
Time first entered park (hour)	Cross-country skied under 4 hours in 1 day	Relative importance of visitor centers
Time first entered park (a.m. or p.m.)	Cross-country skied over 4 hours in 1 day	Relative quality of visitor centers
Stayed overnight in park vicinity	Major activity (snowmobiled or cross-country skied)	Relative importance of information and direction signs
Number of nights spent in park area (overnight users)	Cross-country skied (total)	Relative quality of information and direction signs
Number of hours spent in parks (day users)	Walked at thermal areas	Relative importance of ranger patrol
Number of days spent in park area (day users = 1 day)	Bathed at thermal areas	Relative quality of ranger patrol
Visited Mammoth Hot Springs	Fished	Relative importance of ranger-led walks and talks
Visited North Entrance	Used warming hut	Relative quality of ranger-led walks and talks
Visited Tower Junction	Visited visitor center	Relative importance of geyser basin walk ways
Visited Norris	Attended ranger-led program	Relative quality of geyser basin walk ways
Visited Canyon	Stayed overnight at Snow Lodge	Relative importance of unplowed roads open to over-snow vehicles
Visited West Entrance	Participated in other activity	Relative quality of unplowed roads open to over-snow vehicles
Visited Madison	Lodging expenditures by the group during visit	
Visited Fishing Bridge	Travel expenditures by the group during visit	
Visited East	Food expenditures by the group during visit	
Visited Old Faithful	Equipment rental expenditures by the group during visit	
Visited West Thumb	Guide service expenditures by the group during visit	
Visited Flagg Ranch	Other expenditures by the group during visit	
Visited Colter Bay	Total expenditures by the group during visit (actual amount)	
Visited Moran Junction	Total expenditures by the group per day (actual amount)	
Visited Signal Mountain	Total expenditures per person during visit (actual amount)	
Visited The Potholes	Total expenditures per person per day (actual amount)	
Visited Cottonwood Creek	Total expenditures by the group during visit (dollar category)	
Visited Moose Entrance Station	Total expenditures by the group per day (dollar category)	
Park visited (YELL, GRTE, both)	Total expenditures per person during visit (dollar category)	
Visited Yellowstone	Total expenditures per person per day (dollar category)	
Visited Grand Teton	Importance of reliability of snow cover as reason for selecting entrance station	
Number of people in group	Importance of proximity to home residence as reason for selecting entrance station	
Type of group	Importance of proximity to attractions and facilities outside park as reason for selecting entrance station	
Last city before arrival	Importance of proximity to airports and major highways as reason for selecting entrance station	
Last state before arrival	Importance of proximity to park features and facilities as reason for selecting entrance station	
Planned destination (city) after departure	Importance of availability of over-snow transportation as reason for selecting entrance station	
Planned destination (state) after departure	Importance of other reasons as reason for selecting entrance station	
Age of respondent	Liked most about visit	
Zip code of respondent	Liked least about visit (including "didn't dislike anything")	
Is respondent a local resident		
Respondent's state of residence		
Respondent's region of residence		
Total visits of respondent		
Total winter visits of respondent		
Age of member #2		
Zip code of member #2		
Total visits of member #2		
Total winter visits of member #2		
Age of member #3		
Zip code of member #3		
Total visits of member #3		
Total winter visits of member #3		
Age of member #4		
Zip code of member #4		
Total visits of member #4		
Total winter visits of member #4		
Age of member #5		
Zip code of member #5		
Total visits of member #5		
Total winter visits of member #5		
Presence of additional members		
Any local resident in group		
Any repeat visitor in group		
Any winter repeat visitor in group		
Drove car for pleasure		
Used snowcoach		

Relative importance of ungroomed ski trails  
Relative quality of ungroomed ski trails  
Relative importance of groomed ski trails  
Relative quality of groomed ski trails  
Relative importance of lodging in parks accessible by car  
Relative quality of lodging in parks accessible by car  
Relative importance of lodging in parks accessible only by over-snow vehicles  
Relative quality of lodging in parks accessible only by over-snow vehicles  
Relative importance of rest rooms  
Relative quality of rest rooms  
Relative importance of food service  
Relative quality of food service

Availability of ranger-led programs  
Availability of ranger patrols  
Availability of short snowmobile routes (under 100 miles)  
Availability of long snowmobile routes (100-250 miles)  
Availability of regional snowmobile routes (over 250 miles)  
Availability of ungroomed ski trails  
Availability of groomed ski trails  
Availability of lodging in parks accessible by car  
Availability of lodging in parks accessible only by over-snow vehicles  
Availability of warming huts  
Availability of restrooms  
Availability of food service  
Availability of gas stations

Individuals: age  
Individuals: zip  
Individuals: state  
Individuals: region  
Individuals: local resident  
Individuals: total visits  
Individuals: total winter visits

Most variables apply to the entire group and can be compared with each other. Variables specific to individuals can only be compared with similar variables.

**Analysis Order Form  
Yellowstone and Grand Teton Winter Use Survey**

Date of request: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

Person requesting analysis: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

The survey report contains a list specifying all of the variables available for comparison. Consult this list for naming the characteristics of interest when requesting additional two-way and three-way comparison analyses.

1. Additional 2-way comparisons (please write in the appropriate variable names from list on page 166).

<u>Variable</u>		<u>Variable</u>
_____	by	_____
_____	by	_____
_____	by	_____
_____	by	_____
_____	by	_____
_____	by	_____

2. Additional 3-way comparisons ((please write in the appropriate variable names from list on page 166).

<u>Variable</u>		<u>Variable</u>		<u>Variable</u>
_____	by	_____	by	_____
_____	by	_____	by	_____
_____	by	_____	by	_____

3. Special instructions: \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to:**  
National Park Service, TCE  
Yellowstone and Grand Teton Winter Use Survey  
P.O. Box 25287  
Denver, CO 80225-0287

Use of the preceding form is optional. Many two-way comparisons have already been included in this document:

(figure 2 on page 21)	(figure 19 on page 34)	(figure 42 on page 55)	(figure 91 on page 101)
(figure 3 on page 22)	(figure 20 on page 34)	(figure 43 on page 55)	(figure 93 on page 102)
(figure 4 on page 22)	(figure 26 on page 38)	(figure 44 on page 56)	(figure 95 on page 103)
(figure 5 on page 23)	(figure 29 on page 43)	(figure 45 on page 57)	(figure 99 on page 105)
(figure 6 on page 24)	(figure 30 on page 43)	(figure 56 on page 67)	(figure 101 on page 106)
(figure 7 on page 25)	(figure 31 on page 44)	(figure 57 on page 68)	(figure 109 on page 110)
(figure 8 on page 26)	(figure 32 on page 44)	(figure 58 on page 69)	(figure 111 on page 111)
(figure 9 on page 27)	(figure 36 on page 47)	(figure 59 on page 69)	(figure 113 on page 112)
(figure 10 on page 27)	(figure 37 on page 47)	(figure 61 on page 70)	(figure 115 on page 113)
(figure 14 on page 30)	(figure 35 on page 46)	(figure 62 on page 71)	(figure 117 on page 114)
(figure 15 on page 31)	(figure 40 on page 53)	(figure 63 on page 71)	(figure 120 on page 116)
(figure 16 on page 32)	(figure 41 on page 54)	(figure 89 on page 100)	

If one of these graphs has the desired format, you may simply mark up a photocopy of that graph. If an entirely new format is desired, prepare a sketch of what the graph should look like.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY/STUDY TEAM**

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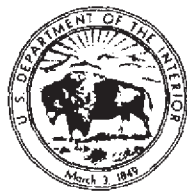
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As the nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally owned public lands and natural and cultural resources. This includes fostering wise use of our land and water resources, protecting our fish and wildlife, preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historical places, and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to ensure that their development is in the best interests of all our people. The department also promotes the goals of the Take Pride in America campaign by encouraging stewardship and citizen responsibility for the public lands and promoting citizen participation in their care. The department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in island territories under U.S. administration.