


Use Of
State Parks
Among
South Carolinians

*A Report from the
South Carolina State Survey*

SPRING 1992

SURVEY RESEARCH LABORATORY
INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA



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BACKGROUND

THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE SURVEY is a cost-shared random probability survey of citizens eighteen and over living in the State of South Carolina that is conducted biannually by the University of South Carolina's Institute of Public Affairs. The South Carolina State Survey allows policy makers, researchers, and other interested organizations an opportunity to gather reliable data in a timely and cost-effective manner.

QUESTIONNAIRE DESIGN

The substantive questions in the survey were constructed by the participating groups with the assistance of the South Carolina State Survey staff. The demographic questions and other technical aspects of the questionnaire are the responsibility of the South Carolina State Survey staff.

Before the questionnaire was finalized it was pretested to determine whether or not the questions could be easily understood by respondents, if the order of the questions seemed logical to interviewers and respondents, or if it contained other identifiable weaknesses. Problems were detected and corrected. No major problems persisted into the actual conduct of the survey.

SAMPLING

The respondents to be interviewed for the South Carolina State Survey are selected from a random sample of households with telephones in the state. Each of these numbers is called by the survey interviewers. Approximately thirty percent of the numbers are discarded because they are found to be businesses, institutions, or not assigned. The remaining numbers, when called, result in contacts to residences. Within these residences a respondent, 18 years of age or older, is randomly chosen from the household's occupants. To avoid biasing the sample in favor of households that can be reached on multiple phone numbers, each case is weighted inversely to its probability of being included in the sample. The data are also weighted to correct any potential biases in the sample on the basis of age, race, sex, and number of adults in the household (see the Appendix A, Note 2).

INTERVIEWING

The interviewing was conducted by the professional interviewing staff of the Institute of Public Affairs. Prior to the actual fieldwork (interviewing), the interviewers and interviewing supervisors received one day of specialized training for this survey. The interviewing was conducted from the Institute's offices on the University of South Carolina Columbia campus. Many of the interviews were monitored to insure that instructions were being followed. Calls were made from 9:00 AM to 9:30 PM Monday through Friday, and from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM on Saturday. The main survey period was from April 7 through April

27, 1992. A total of 792 fully completed interviews and 26 partially completed interviews were conducted. The response rate for this survey was 72.8%.

Interviews were conducted using the Institute's computer-aided telephone interviewing facilities. After the interviews were completed, the open-ended questions were coded. Following this coding, analysis was conducted using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS-X). Organizations participating in this survey receive the frequency counts for their questions and cross-tabulations of these questions with seven demographic questions.

SAMPLING ERROR

The South Carolina State Survey, like all surveys, has a potential for sampling error due to the fact that not all residents in the state were interviewed. For all questions that were answered by eight hundred (800) or so respondents the potential error is $\pm 3.5\%$. Results for questions answered by significantly fewer than 800 respondents and results for subgroups of the population have a potential for larger variation than those for the entire sample.

SUMMARY FINDINGS
SOUTH CAROLINA STATE PARKS

As part of the Spring 1992 South Carolina State Survey, the Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism (SCPRT) asked a series of questions designed to determine how frequently South Carolinians visited their State Parks and to explore the reasons people have for visiting, as well as for not visiting, these parks. Examining differences in responses to these questions among subgroups will enable SCPRT to identify those characteristics associated with use and non-use of State Parks and provide some indication of the types of factors that South Carolinians consider in their decisions to visit State Parks.

VISITS TO A SOUTH CAROLINA STATE PARK IN THE PAST YEAR

Figure 1 displays the percentage of South Carolina adults who had visited a State Park in the past twelve months. As these figures indicate, slightly more than one-third of the State's residents had not visited a State Park in the past year, 16.6% had made one such visit, 15.3% had visited twice, 7.0% had been to a State Park three times, 4.7% had made four visits, and 18.9% had been to a South Carolina State Park five or more times in the past year.

Table 1 shows the visits to State Parks made by various subgroups of the population. These data demonstrate a number of significant differences among groups. For example, there was a fairly large contrast in visits to State Parks across age groups, particularly between those over 45 and those age 45 or less. The

Figure 1

Number Of Visits To A South Carolina State Park In The Past Year

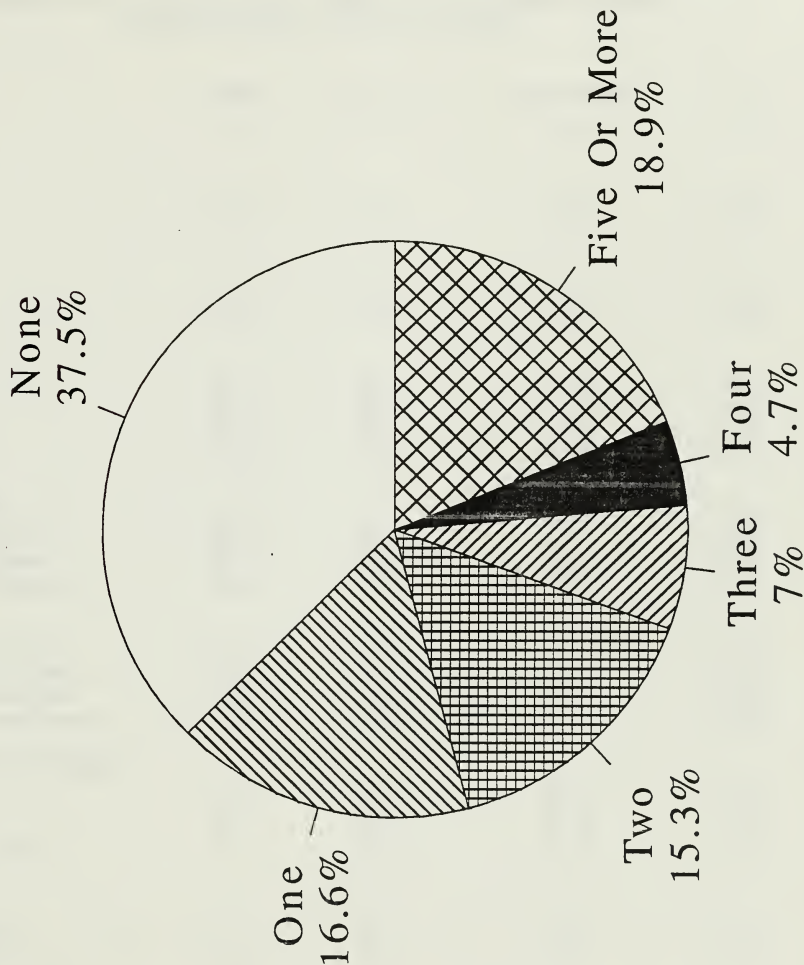


TABLE 1

NUMBER OF VISITS TO STATE PARKS - PAST TWELVE MONTHS
BY DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

	<u>NONE</u>	<u>1 - 2</u>	<u>3 OR MORE</u>	<u>N</u>
TOTALS:	37.5	31.9	30.6	815
<u>SEX</u>				
Male	33.0	34.1	32.9	378
Female	41.3	30.3	28.4	427
<u>RACE</u>				
Black	37.9	32.0	30.1	213
White	36.6	32.5	30.9	560
<u>AGE</u>				
18 - 29	27.6	40.0	32.4	221
30 - 45	28.1	33.2	38.7	265
46 - 64	48.0	28.6	23.4	176
65 - 99	56.5	20.4	23.0	113
<u>EDUCATION</u>				
Less than H.S.	54.0	21.8	24.2	137
H. S. Degree	35.3	34.2	30.4	278
Some College	35.0	33.2	31.7	209
College Degree	24.9	37.5	37.6	151
<u>INCOME</u>				
Under \$15,000	52.9	27.6	19.4	129
\$15,000-\$29,999	34.0	31.7	34.3	193
\$30,000-49,999	27.3	37.2	25.6	210
\$50,000 and Over	26.9	33.6	39.4	138
<u>NUMBER OF CHILDREN</u>				
None	41.2	33.1	25.7	416
One	38.0	31.2	30.8	172
Two	26.7	34.6	38.8	130
Three or More	23.3	25.1	51.6	61
<u>REGION</u>				
Upcountry	39.0	28.0	32.9	334
Midlands	41.3	32.5	26.2	257
Lowcountry	31.6	36.1	32.3	218
<u>TYPE OF AREA</u>				
Urban	32.7	35.8	31.6	197
Suburban	36.3	30.6	33.1	269
Rural	39.8	31.4	28.7	314

percentage who had not visited a State Park in the past twelve months was 27.6% among those 18 to 30 and 28.1% for those 30 to 45; this increased to 48.0% for those age 46 to 64 and 56.5% among those 65 and over. A higher percentage of those in the 30 - 45 age group reported visiting a State Park three or more times.

Education and family income had similar effects on use of State Parks, with those with more education or higher incomes more likely to visit them. The percentage who had not used a State Park in the past year declined from 54.0% of those with less than a high school education to 35.3% of those with a high school diploma, 35.0% of those with some college, and 24.9% among respondents with a college degree. Across income groups, these percentages were, for those under \$15,000, 52.9%; \$15,000 - \$29,999, 34.0%; \$30,000 - \$49,999, 27.3%; and \$50,000 or more, 25.9%. On the other hand, 37.6% of those with a college degree had visited a State Park three or more times in the past year, compared to 24.2% of those with less than a high school education. Similarly, 39.4% of those with family incomes over \$50,000 had been to a State Park three or more times; the comparable percentage among those with incomes under \$15,000 was 19.4%.

Number of children in the household also had a significant effect on use of State Parks. Individuals from households without children were least likely to visit State Parks and the percentage of those who used State Parks increased as the number of children in the household increased. For example, only 25.7% of those living in households without children had been to a State Park

three or more times in the past year, while among those households with three or more children, 51.6% had made three or more visits.

The effect of other background characteristics, such as race, gender, region of the State, or type of area (urban, suburban, or rural) in which respondents lived did not significantly affect whether or not they had used a South Carolina State Park in the past year.

Overall, slightly more than 60% of the State's adult population has visited a State Park in the past twelve months. A number of characteristics, including age, education, family income, and whether or not a household has children, have an effect on use of State Parks.

REASONS FOR USING STATE PARKS

In addition to determining how frequently South Carolina residents use the State's Parks and the demographic characteristics associated with such use, SCPRT was also interested in identifying the reasons for such visits. Respondents who indicated they had been to a South Carolina State Park in the past twelve months were then asked the main reason for their visit. Each respondent could provide up to three answers. The results for the complete sample are provided in Table 2.

As evidenced in these data, South Carolinians visit State Parks for a wide variety of reasons, from picnics to water sports and other recreational activities. Close to 45% of those who have used a State Park in the past year did so for a picnic or some similar social activity, and about 40% used State Parks for nature

TABLE 2
MAIN REASON FOR VISITING A SOUTH CAROLINA STATE PARK

<u>RESPONSE</u>	<u>%</u> **
PICNICKING/SOCIALIZING	44.0
Picnicking	27.6
Family reunion	6.8
Cookout/barbecue	5.1
Socialize/meet friends	3.4
Place to bring out-of-town guests	1.1
NATURE-RELATED ACTIVITIES	40.1
Camping	11.7
Walking	9.9
Enjoying nature/scenery/animals	9.0
Nature trails	5.1
Hiking	3.4
Bird watching	0.5
Hunting	0.5
RELAXATION/RECREATION	28.7
Relaxation/pleasure/fun (general)	12.7
Sight-seeing	6.5
Peace and quiet	3.5
Get out/something to do	1.9
Vacation	1.7
Driving for pleasure	1.2
Be outside (general)	1.2
WATER SPORTS/ACTIVITIES	28.1
Fishing	13.0
Swimming	5.5
Boating	3.7
Beach activities	2.8
Visiting lake/water	2.4
Paddle boats	0.4
Sunbathing	0.1
Water skiing	0.1
Visiting swamp/marsh	0.1
CHILDREN/FAMILY	14.5
Recreation for children	6.0
Family outing/activity	5.0
Playground	3.5

TABLE 2
- cont. -

<u>RESPONSE</u>	<u>%</u> **
OTHER SPORTS/ACTIVITIES	12.7
Basketball	1.9
Bicycling	1.3
Exercise	1.2
Golf	1.1
Tennis	1.0
Baseball	0.9
Dancing	0.9
Softball	0.8
Volleyball	0.7
Jogging/running	0.7
Frisbee golf	0.5
Scavenging (artifacts, sea shells, etc.)	0.5
Horseback riding	0.3
Kite flying	0.3
Playing games	0.2
Crafts	0.2
Recreation for the elderly	0.2
FACILITY ATTRIBUTES	8.9
Proximity/convenient to get to	4.2
Clean/well-kept	1.2
Safe	1.2
Restaurant	1.1
Good facilities	0.5
Amusement rides	0.3
Facilities for handicapped	0.2
Gift shops	0.2
SPECIAL EVENTS	2.5
Church event	1.3
Retreat	0.6
Music festival	0.3
Workshops	0.2
Car shows	0.1
OTHER ACTIVITIES	3.0
Never visited before/first visit	1.0
Photography	0.7
Work	0.6
Inexpensive	0.4
Zoo	0.3

related activities, such as camping, hiking, or walking on nature trails. Almost 30% percent of those who use State Parks cite general relaxation or pleasure as the main reason, and a similar percentage visit State Parks to take advantage of the water sports and related activities available there. Slightly less than fifteen percent mentioned recreation for the children or an activity for the immediate family as the reason they visited State Parks, and 12.7% cited non-water sports or activities, such as basketball, bicycling, tennis, or golf. Less than ten percent cited attributes of the facilities, such as their proximity or cleanliness, as the reason for visiting a State Park, and about three percent named special events or other types of activities.

The data presented in Table 3 demonstrate that there are a number of substantial variations in the reasons for which different subgroups use State Parks. The largest contrast was between blacks and whites. A much higher percentage of blacks than whites used State Parks for picnicking (65.9% vs. 36.5%) as well as for children and family-related activities (25.7% vs. 11.1%). Whites were more likely to name nature-related activities (45.0% vs. 30.9%) as well as water sports and related activities (31.0% vs. 20.6%) as reasons for visiting State Parks.

The number of children in the household also made a significant difference in the reasons for visiting a State Park. Not surprisingly, the more children in the household, the more likely respondents were to use State Parks for children and family-related activities. Respondents from households with no children

TABLE 3

REASONS FOR VISITING A STATE PARK
BY DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

	<u>PICNICK- ING</u>	<u>NATURE- RELATED</u>	<u>RELAX- ATION</u>	<u>WATER SPORTS</u>	<u>CHILDREN /FAMILY</u>	<u>OTHER SPORT</u>	<u>OTH -ER</u>
TOTALS:	44.0	40.1	28.7	28.1	14.5	12.7	14.4
<u>SEX</u>							
Male	42.5	38.5	28.6	35.4	10.6	17.0	11.7
Female	46.1	43.2	29.3	21.6	18.8	8.0	16.7
<u>RACE</u>							
Black	65.9	30.9	31.9	20.6	25.7	12.6	6.4
White	36.5	45.0	28.5	31.0	11.1	12.1	16.7
<u>AGE</u>							
18 - 29	51.2	34.5	24.3	24.2	12.0	16.7	14.4
30 - 45	45.7	45.3	33.3	29.8	22.4	8.6	8.7
46 - 64	33.4	42.2	34.0	33.5	9.9	13.6	15.3
65 - 99	36.9	43.7	23.2	28.6	3.8	8.2	32.8
<u>EDUCATION</u>							
Less than H.S.	38.6	35.0	23.2	29.7	12.9	13.4	1.9
H. S. Degree	45.1	39.7	27.6	28.2	13.9	7.0	10.4
Some College	44.5	45.1	32.0	29.7	18.8	15.3	13.0
College Degree	46.9	41.4	32.2	27.0	13.7	15.9	14.6
<u>INCOME</u>							
Under \$15,000	46.0	26.9	32.7	34.7	27.9	19.6	8.8
\$15,000-\$29,999	50.4	46.0	23.3	25.0	15.8	10.1	10.4
\$30,000-49,999	38.9	40.3	34.7	26.7	12.3	12.6	15.9
\$50,000 and Over	41.8	41.7	31.7	32.2	12.9	7.6	18.7
<u>NUMBER OF CHILDREN</u>							
None	40.5	39.9	28.5	33.0	4.3	15.1	19.4
One	48.6	35.6	36.1	18.1	11.9	14.3	12.2
Two	48.3	49.6	24.7	27.1	30.9	6.8	7.5
Three or More	46.9	41.5	28.7	29.9	45.4	2.2	4.1
<u>REGION</u>							
Upcountry	45.8	41.0	25.5	32.7	11.3	11.4	16.1
Midlands	42.7	42.7	31.4	27.8	15.4	18.1	7.8
Lowcountry	44.4	38.0	28.2	24.2	17.1	9.7	19.8
<u>TYPE OF AREA</u>							
Urban	49.6	38.0	25.1	28.5	17.0	18.4	14.3
Suburban	43.7	54.7	32.6	22.5	11.5	7.7	17.6
Rural	41.3	30.8	29.4	33.8	16.9	11.6	10.6

were more likely to use the parks for water sports and for other sports activities, and also more frequently mentioned facility attributes as a reason for going to a State Park.

There were also differences in the reasons which men and women gave for using State Parks. A higher percentage of women than men mentioned children or family-related reasons (18.8% vs. 10.6%) and nature-related activities (43.2% vs. 38.5%), while men were more likely to cite water-related activities (35.4% vs. 21.6%) as well as other sports (17.0% vs. 8.0%).

Age, family income, and education also had an effect on reasons for visiting a State Park, although the differences across groups were not as great. Those in the 30 to 45 age group were particularly likely to mention children and related family activities as the reason for using State Parks, and those under 45 were more likely to use parks for picnicking. A larger percentage of older people referred to facilities attributes as their reason for attending State Parks. A higher percentage of those with lower family incomes named children and family-related activities, picnicking, and non-water sports activities as reasons for visiting parks; this group was less likely to go to the parks for nature-related activities. Respondents with more education were likely to give "general relaxation" as their reason for visiting a State Park.

Only minor differences were found across regions -- those from the Upcountry more likely to use the parks for water sports and related activities -- or by type of area in which the respondents

lived, with those from the suburbs more likely to visit State Parks for nature-related activities and those from urban areas more likely to use them to picnic. These differences, however, were relatively small compared to those reported for race, number of children in the household and, to a lesser extent, gender.

REASONS FOR NOT VISITING STATE PARKS

In attempting to understand State Park usage, determining the reasons that people give for not using these parks is as important as identifying the reasons they do use them. Respondents who had not visited a South Carolina State Park in the past twelve months were asked the reason they had not done so. These results are presented in Table 4.

While South Carolinians again offer a variety of reasons for not using State Parks, these are, for the most part, items over which SCPRT has little control. For instance, more than one-third of those who had not been to a State Park in the past year gave "being too busy," "conflicts with work," or "not having the opportunity" as the reason. Another 14.0% cited health reasons, 4.9% mentioned lack of transportation, and 3.5% indicated that age was the reason. In comparison, a relatively small percentage (3.5%) mentioned attributes of the park, such as overcrowding or being unsafe, as the reason for not attending in the past year. An additional 5.1% said there were no State Parks in their area, and 4.3% indicated that they did not know where the parks were located or have enough information about them.

TABLE 4
MAIN REASON FOR NOT VISITING A SOUTH CAROLINA STATE PARK

<u>RESPONSE</u>	<u>%</u> **
TIME	34.8
No time/too busy	22.4
Work schedule conflicts	8.2
No opportunity (general)	3.4
In college	0.8
HEALTH	14.2
Health problems	8.6
Illness in family	4.2
Disabled	1.4
NOT INTERESTED	13.4
Not interested	6.1
Prefers to go other places in spare time	3.6
Not an outdoors person	1.6
Not interested in camping anymore	1.1
Parks are uninteresting	0.6
Doesn't appeal to age group	0.4
GOES ELSEWHERE	5.8
Prefers to use other facilities	3.2
Prefers out-of-state parks	2.2
Uses county/city parks	0.4
LOCATION	4.8
Too far away/none in area	4.8
TRANSPORTATION	4.6
No transportation	4.6
KNOWLEDGE	4.0
Don't know where they are located	2.5
Doesn't know enough about parks	1.5
AGE	3.7
Too old	2.8
Children too young	0.9

TABLE 4
- cont. -

<u>RESPONSE</u>	<u>%</u> **
PARK ATTRIBUTES	3.7
Parks overcrowded	1.1
Dangerous/unsafe	0.8
Parks not open in area	0.5
Not enough activities for children	0.5
Food too expensive	0.5
No handicapped services	0.3
OTHER REASONS	5.2
Can't afford to go	2.6
New resident/just moved to SC	2.5
No one to go with	0.8
DON'T KNOW/NO PARTICULAR REASON	16.0

Other reasons given for not visiting a South Carolina State Park included "not interested in the types of activities available there," "prefers to go elsewhere," and "don't know; no particular reason." It is among those who gave such responses that the potential for increasing use of State Parks may be the greatest. It may be, for instance, that those who said they were "not interested" are actually not interested in the types of recreational activities available at State Parks and would not be attracted to them under any circumstances. It is also possible, however, that SCPRT might be able to provide activities that would be of interest to these people or perhaps make them aware of current activities that they do not know about now in order to encourage them to visit. Similarly, if the reasons why some people prefer to go to other parks could be identified, it might be possible to lure them to a South Carolina State Park. With those who said there were was "no particular reason" they did not visit a State Park, the key may be to provide them with a positive reason to attend. Examining the reasons that various subgroups gave for not visiting a State Park will provide additional information on this issue.

The largest differences among groups were evident across age levels. As would be anticipated, a much larger percentage of older people cited health and their age as reasons for not visiting a park. A much higher percentage of younger people mentioned "lack of time." For example, among those under 30, the percentage that responded "lack of time" was 51.3%, compared to 12.2% among those

65 and over. Those under 30 were also more likely to say that they prefer to visit some other type of facility.

Blacks and whites also differed in the reasons they gave for not visiting South Carolina State Parks. A higher percentage of blacks said they did not attend State Parks due to lack of time, while whites were more likely to cite health reasons or to say they were not interested in the available activities. Men and women also differed somewhat in the reasons they gave for not visiting State Parks; more women cited health reasons, while a higher percentage of men said they were not interested.

There was also variation in the reasons cited by those with different levels of education or family income. Less educated respondents were more likely to mention their health or to say they didn't know enough about the parks, while those with more education were more likely to say they weren't interested. Similarly, those from lower income families were more likely to name health reasons and a greater percentage of those with higher incomes indicated they were not interested in State Parks. There was a slight tendency for the middle income groups (\$15,000 to \$29,999 and \$30,000 to \$49,999) to give "lack of time" as a reason for not visiting a South Carolina State Park.

The number of children in the household also had an effect on the reasons given for not going to a State Park. Respondents without children were more likely to mention health reasons or to say they were not interested in such parks, while more of those households with three or more children gave lack of transportation

or some other response, such as not being able to afford it, as the reason why they did not visit a State Park. There were only minor variations across regions in the reasons people gave for not attending, and across types of area the largest difference was in the slightly higher percentage of suburban residents who cited lack of time as a reason.

FUNDING FOR STATE PARKS

Another question of interest in this study involved funding for State Parks. Specifically, respondents were asked whether they felt that funding for South Carolina State Parks should be reduced to save tax money, kept about the same as it is now, or increased even if it meant raising taxes. A large majority of the public, 79.0%, believes that funding for State Parks should be kept at its current level; 13.1% feel that such funding should be increased, and 7.9% think it should be reduced.

As would be expected given the high percentage of the public who felt that funding for State Parks should be kept about the same as it is now, a majority of each subgroup held this position. As Table 5 shows, however, there were several differences across groups. For example, the percentage who felt that funding for State Parks should be increased was highest among those with a college degree (20.4%), while those with less education were more likely to believe that funding for State Parks should be reduced to save tax money. Similar differences were found between blacks and whites. Among blacks, 15.6% said that State Park funding should be reduced, compared to 5.0% among whites. A higher

TABLE 5

FUNDING FOR STATE PARKS
BY DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

	<u>Reduced</u>	<u>Kept About the Same</u>	<u>Increased</u>	<u>N</u>
TOTALS:	7.9	79.0	13.1	787
<u>SEX</u>				
Male	8.0	74.1	17.9	371
Female	7.6	83.5	9.0	412
<u>RACE</u>				
Black	15.6	71.3	13.1	211
White	5.0	81.8	13.2	556
<u>AGE</u>				
18-29	6.4	80.0	13.7	219
30-45	9.4	74.1	16.5	265
46-64	8.9	71.7	9.4	175
65-99	6.0	84.2	9.8	110
<u>EDUCATION</u>				
Less than H.S. Degree	13.2	75.7	11.1	135
High School Degree	10.0	79.9	10.1	278
Some College	5.0	81.7	13.3	207
College Degree	3.3	76.3	20.4	150
<u>INCOME</u>				
Under \$15,000	12.8	74.2	13.0	127
\$15,000-\$29,999	6.9	81.3	11.8	193
\$30,000-49,999	5.8	76.4	17.8	209
\$50,000 and Over	6.6	78.4	15.0	137
<u>PARTY IDENTIFICATION</u>				
Republican	5.6	78.6	15.8	268
Independent	7.8	80.3	11.9	214
Democrat	11.3	77.7	11.0	252
<u>REGION</u>				
Upcountry	6.2	83.4	10.5	325
Midlands	9.6	74.8	15.6	248
Lowcountry	8.8	76.6	14.6	209
<u>TYPE OF AREA</u>				
Urban	5.1	80.5	14.5	195
Suburban	6.5	82.2	11.3	267
Rural	10.8	75.5	13.7	312
<u>USE OF STATE PARKS</u>				
None	11.4	81.0	7.6	287
Once or Twice	5.9	80.1	14.0	256
Three or More	5.8	75.4	18.8	244

percentage of women than men (17.9% vs. 9.0%) thought that funding for State Parks should be increased. As might be anticipated, those that used State Parks were more likely to believe that funding for them should be increased: 18.8% of those who had used State Parks three or more times in the past year expressed this view, compared to 14.0% of those who had visited State Parks once or twice, and 7.6% of those who had not been to a State Park in the past year. Even among those groups that were less "supportive" of State Parks, substantial majorities said that funding for them should be kept about the same as it is now.

SUMMARY

More than 60% of South Carolina adults have visited a State Park in the past twelve months. Younger people, those with higher family incomes or more education, and families with children are more likely than those in other groups to visit a State Park.

South Carolinians visit their State Parks for a variety of reasons. While the most often cited reason for going to a State Park is for a picnic or similar social activity, the parks are also frequently used for nature-related activities, general relaxation, as well as water sports and related activities.

For the most part, those who do not visit the State Parks cite factors unrelated to the activities or facilities available as reasons for not using these parks. The most often given reason was "lack of time" or "conflicts with work," while others frequently cited were health or lack of transportation. While SCPRD would certainly like to eliminate factors such as lack of cleanliness or

safety as reasons why people do not attend State Parks, these do not appear to be considerations that are discouraging a significant number of South Carolina residents from visiting their State Parks.

In addition, a substantial majority of the public feels that funding for State Parks should be kept at about its current level. More than three-fourths of those interviewed said that funding for State Parks should be kept as it is now, while 13.1% thought it should be increased and 7.9% believed it should be reduced.

APPENDIX A
QUESTIONNAIRE AND CODEBOOK

SOUTH CAROLINA STATE SURVEY
FIELD VERSION - APRIL 1992

"Hello, this is _____ calling for the University of South Carolina. This month the University is conducting a confidential study of public opinion in South Carolina, and we'd really appreciate your help and cooperation."

"My first questions are about recreation and outdoor leisure-time activities."

1. "We'd like to know what your outdoor recreational preferences are. If you were to name one outdoor recreational activity or outdoor leisure-time activity in which you would like to participate most of all, what one activity would you name?"
- _____
- _____

98. DON'T KNOW (PROBE: "What is your favorite outdoor recreation activity?")

2. "The State of South Carolina is considering beginning a state trails program that would coordinate the development and maintenance of all types of recreational trails, such as bicycling trails, walking and jogging trails, nature trails, fitness trails, horseback riding trails and trails for off-road vehicles. How do you feel about such a program ... would you say that you favor or oppose the state beginning a state trails program that would coordinate the development and maintenance of all types of recreational trails?"

1. FAVOR
2. OPPOSE

3. DON'T KNOW (PROBE: "Do you lean more toward favoring or opposing ...?")

3. "Pedestrian trails are paths designated for activities such as walking or jogging, hiking, nature walks, or fitness exercises. How many times in the past twelve months have you used a pedestrian trail?"

_____ (RECORD NUMBER)

00. NONE ----- GO TO Q.5

98. DON'T KNOW (PROBE: "Just approximately ...")

4. "When you use a pedestrian trail, is it primarily for walking for pleasure, jogging, hiking, nature walks, fitness exercises, transportation, or some other reason?"

1. WALKING FOR PLEASURE
2. JOGGING
3. HIKING
4. NATURE WALKS
5. FITNESS EXERCISES
6. TRANSPORTATION

7. OTHER (SPECIFY): _____

8. DON'T KNOW (PROBE: "Why did you use them most often?)

5. "On another topic ... How many times have you been bicycling in the past twelve months?"

_____ (RECORD NUMBER)

00. NONE ----- GO TO Q.8

98. DON'T KNOW (PROBE: "Just approximately ...")

6. "When you bicycle, is it primarily for pleasure, for exercise, for transportation, or for some other reason?"

1. PLEASURE
2. EXERCISE
3. TRANSPORTATION

4. OTHER (SPECIFY): _____

5. DON'T KNOW (PROBE: "What is the main reason you bicycle?)"

7. "Do you bicycle mostly on neighborhood streets, designated bike routes, trails, major thoroughfares, or somewhere else?"

1. NEIGHBORHOOD STREETS
2. DESIGNATED BIKE ROUTES
3. TRAILS
4. MAJOR THOROUGHFARES

5. OTHER (SPECIFY): _____

6. DON'T KNOW (PROBE: "Where do you bicylcle most
often?)

8. "How many times in the past twelve months have you visited a
South Carolina State Park?"

_____ (RECORD NUMBER)

00. NONE ----- GO TO Q.10

98. DON'T KNOW (PROBE: "Just approximately ...")

9. "What was the main reason you visited a South Carolina State
Park?"

"Any other reason?" _____

"Any other reason?" _____

_____ IF Q.9 ANSWERED, GO TO Q.11 _____

10. "Is there any reason why you have not visited a South Carolina State Park in the past year?" (IF NECESSARY: "What is that?")

"Any other reason?" _____

"Any other reason?" _____

"My next questions concern health and health care issues."

11. "Do you agree strongly, agree somewhat, disagree somewhat or disagree strongly with the following statement: Everyone should have health insurance, even if this means an increase in taxes."

1. AGREE STRONGLY
2. AGREE SOMEWHAT
3. DISAGREE SOMEWHAT
4. DISAGREE STRONGLY

5. DON'T KNOW (PROBE: "In general ...")

12. "In your opinion, which of the following is the most responsible for the current level of health care expenditures in the United States ... (READ 1 THRU 8)

- 01. Hospitals
- 02. Doctors
- 03. Nursing Homes
- 04. The Federal Government
- 05. State Government
- 06. Drug Companies
- 07. Insurance Companies, or
- 08. Lawyers?"

09. OTHER (SPECIFY): _____

10. DON'T KNOW (PROBE: "Just your opinion ...")

13. "Do you agree strongly, agree somewhat, disagree somewhat or disagree strongly with the following statement: Everyone in the United States should have access to physician services and health care."

- 1. AGREE STRONGLY
- 2. AGREE SOMEWHAT
- 3. DISAGREE SOMEWHAT ----- GO TO Q.15
- 4. DISAGREE STRONGLY ----- GO TO Q.15
- 5. DON'T KNOW (PROBE: "In general ...") -- GO TO Q.15

14. "And in your opinion, who should be responsible for making sure that everyone in this country has access to physician services and health care ... the federal government, state government, or health care providers."

- 1. FEDERAL GOVERNMENT
- 2. STATE GOVERNMENT
- 3. HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS

4. OTHER (SPECIFY): _____

5. DON'T KNOW (PROBE: " Which should be most responsible?)"

15. "Which of the following do you think would do more to keep down the costs of health care in this country:
1. If limits were placed on the amount that doctors, hospitals, and other health care providers could charge for their services.

- OR -

2. If individuals took more responsibility for their own health care through such things as proper diet, exercise, and annual physical examinations."
 3. DON'T KNOW (PROBE: "Which do you think would do more ...")
16. "The United States Congress is considering a number of proposals for a national health care plan. If there were to be a national health care plan, do you think it should include:

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>DK</u>
a. <u>preventive services</u> , such as infant and child immunization, cancer screening, and PAP smears	1	2	3
b. <u>long-term care benefits</u> for home care and nursing home care	1	2	3

17. "Would you be willing to pay increased taxes to support a national health care plan that included preventive services and long term care benefits?"
1. YES
 2. NO ----- GO TO Q.19
 3. DON'T KNOW (PROBE: "Generally speaking ...")
----- GO TO Q.19

18. "How much more in taxes would you be willing to pay each week to support a national health plan that included preventive services and long term care benefits?"

(READ CATEGORIES)

- 01. Less than \$5
- 02. \$5 to \$10
- 03. \$10 to \$15
- 04. \$15 to \$20
- 05. \$20 to \$25
- 06. \$25 to \$30
- 07. \$30 to \$35, or
- 08. More than \$35 per week

09. DON'T KNOW (PROBE: "Just approximately ...")

"On a different topic."

19. "Many people who live in your area feel that developing the area's economy is important. However, some people feel that increasing the number of jobs in the area should continue even if this means some damage to the environment. Others feel that protecting the environment is more important, and that the environment should be protected even if it means the number of jobs would stay the same. Which do you feel is more important ... increasing the number of jobs in the area or protecting the environment?"

- 1. INCREASING THE NUMBER OF JOBS
- 2. PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT

3. BOTH (PROBE: "If you had to choose one over the other ...")

4. DON'T KNOW (PROBE: "Do you lean more toward ...")

22. "If South Carolina State Income Tax forms did provide a check-off for citizens to make a voluntary contribution to an Eldercare Trust Fund, how likely would you, personally, be to make a contribution to such a fund ... would you say that you would definitely make a contribution to such a fund, that you would be very likely to make such a contribution, somewhat likely, not too likely or not at all likely to make a contribution to an Eldercare Trust Fund?"

1. DEFINITELY WOULD
2. VERY LIKELY
3. SOMEWHAT LIKELY
4. NOT TOO LIKELY
5. NOT AT ALL LIKELY
6. DON'T KNOW (PROBE: "In general ...")

"On another topic ..."

23. "South Carolina law currently requires restaurants and bars that serve liquor to serve it from mini-bottles rather than pouring it from larger bottles. Some people feel that the law should stay as it is now, while others feel that the law should be changed to allow restaurants and bars to pour alcohol from larger bottles. How about you ... do you think the law should stay the same as it is now and that restaurants and bars should be required to serve liquor in mini-bottles, or do you think the law should be changed to allow restaurants and bars to serve alcohol from larger bottles?"

1. KEEP CURRENT MINI-BOTTLE LAW
2. CHANGE LAW TO ALLOW SERVING FROM LARGER BOTTLES
3. DON'T KNOW (PROBE: "Do you lean toward ...")
4. DON'T CARE; MAKES NO DIFFERENCE; DON'T DRINK (VOL.)
5. SHOULD BE BANNED ENTIRELY (VOLUNTEERED)

"And on another issue ..."

24. "Do you think that funding for South Carolina State Parks should be reduced to save tax money, kept about the same as it is now, or increased even if it means raising your taxes?"

1. REDUCED TO SAVE TAX MONEY
2. KEPT ABOUT THE SAME AS IT IS NOW
3. INCREASED EVEN IF IT MEANS RAISING TAXES
4. DON'T KNOW (PROBE: "In general ...")

"Turning to a different topic."

25. "When you hear the term "family planning," what kinds of things come to mind?" (PROBE IF NECESSARY: "In general, what does the term "family planning" mean?")
-
-

95. NOTHING

98. DON'T KNOW ("Does anything at all come to mind?")

26. "I'm going to read a list of several services and for each of them I'd like for you to tell me whether you think it is a service provided by organizations involved in family planning. First, what about ... Do you think family planning includes this service or not?"

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>DK</u>
a. providing education and counseling	1	2	3
b. health care, including an annual physical exam, PAP smear, and testing for sexually transmitted diseases	1	2	3
c. preparing a financial portfolio	1	2	3
d. information on birth control	1	2	3
e. providing condoms and other birth control methods	1	2	3
f. counseling about abortion	1	2	3
g. performing abortions	1	2	3

27. "Some people believe that the government should provide family planning services for people who cannot afford them. Others disagree, and feel that the government should not be involved in providing such services. What about you ... Do you think the government should provide family planning services for people who cannot afford them or do you feel that the government should not be involved in providing such services?"

1. GOVERNMENT SHOULD PROVIDE
2. GOVERNMENT SHOULD NOT BE INVOLVED ---- GO TO Q.29
3. DON'T KNOW (PROBE: "In general ... ") - GO TO Q.29

28. "People have different ideas about the level of annual family income a person can have and be eligible to receive government assistance with family planning services. How about you ... at what level of annual family income do you think that government-assisted family planning services should be made available for teen-age girls and women ... Should they be available for those whose income is:

(READ CATEGORIES)

01. Less than \$50,000
02. Less than \$45,000
03. Less than \$40,000
04. Less than \$35,000
05. Less than \$30,000
06. Less than \$25,000
07. Less than \$20,000
08. Less than \$15,000
09. Less than \$10,000, or
10. Less than \$5,000?"
11. SHOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR EVERYBODY (VOLUNTEERED)
12. DK (PROBE: "On average ...")

"On another issue ..."

29. "Because of the high cost of cancer treatment, some families in South Carolina in which a family member falls ill with cancer have to use up all their savings and sell most of their belongings in order to pay for treatment. Some people feel that the State should provide some type of catastrophic health insurance that would pay part of the costs of cancer treatment in situations such as this, while others feel that the State should not be involved in helping to pay such expenses.

Which of the following statements comes closest to your point of view on this issue of the best way to provide medical insurance that would help pay the costs of some cancer treatments: (READ 1 thru 5):

1. Increasing the State income tax;
2. Increasing the State sales tax;
3. Increasing state taxes on cigarettes;
4. Increasing hazardous waste management fees;

- OR -

5. Do you feel that the State should not be involved in helping to pay the costs of cancer treatments?"
6. DON'T KNOW (PROBE: "Which comes closest ...")

30. "Another issue about which there has been much discussion recently is that of child abuse and neglect. What does the term "child abuse and neglect" mean to you?"
-
-

95. NOTHING

98. DON'T KNOW (PROBE "Does anything at all come to mind?)

"Child abuse and neglect includes such things as beating or otherwise hurting a child, sexually taking advantage of a child, failing to provide a child with necessary care, such as food, clothing, and medicine, and treating a child in such a way that the child's emotional well-being is seriously affected. The next questions ask for your opinions about child abuse or neglect."

31. "How likely do you think it is that children will be abused or neglected if their parents drink too much alcohol or use other drugs ... would say it is very likely, somewhat likely, not too likely, or not at all likely?"

1. VERY LIKELY
2. SOMEWHAT LIKELY
3. NOT TOO LIKELY
4. NOT AT ALL LIKELY

5. DON'T KNOW (PROBE: "In general ...")

32. "If parents who drink too much alcohol or use other drugs get help for their drinking or drug use problems, how likely do you think it is that their children will be abused or neglected ... would say it is very likely, somewhat likely, not too likely, or not at all likely?"

1. VERY LIKELY
2. SOMEWHAT LIKELY
3. NOT TOO LIKELY
4. NOT AT ALL LIKELY

5. DON'T KNOW (PROBE: "In general ...")

33. "If you became aware of a situation where a child was being abused or neglected because of a parent's alcohol or other drug use problem how likely is it that you would do something to help the family ... would say that you would definitely do something to help the family, that it is very likely that you would do something, somewhat likely, not too likely, or not at all likely?"

1. DEFINITELY
2. VERY LIKELY
3. SOMEWHAT LIKELY
4. NOT TOO LIKELY
5. NOT AT ALL LIKELY

6. DON'T KNOW (PROBE: "In general ...")

34. "During the past twelve months, have you contacted or considered contacting a hotline or agency to try to get help for a child who was abused or neglected by a parent's alcohol or other drug use problem?" (PROBE "YES" RESPONSES FOR ACTUAL CONTACT OR CONSIDERED CONTACTING)
1. YES, CONTACTED
 2. YES, CONSIDERED CONTACTING
 3. CONTACTED FOR NON-ALCOHOL OR NON-DRUG RELATED REASON (VOLUNTEERED)
 4. NO
 5. DON'T KNOW (PROBE: "Have you contacted or considered contacting ...")
35. "How confident are you that you could do something that would help a child who is abused or neglected because of a parent's alcohol or other drug use problem ... would you say you are very confident, somewhat confident, not too confident, or not at all confident?"
1. VERY CONFIDENT
 2. SOMEWHAT CONFIDENT
 3. NOT TOO CONFIDENT
 4. NOT AT ALL CONFIDENT
 5. DON'T KNOW (PROBE: "In general ...")
36. "How confident are you that the Department of Social Services could do something that would help a child who is abused or neglected because of a parent's alcohol or other drug use problem ... would you say you are very confident, somewhat confident, not too confident, or not at all confident?"
1. VERY CONFIDENT
 2. SOMEWHAT CONFIDENT
 3. NOT TOO CONFIDENT
 4. NOT AT ALL CONFIDENT
 5. DON'T KNOW (PROBE: "In general ...")

37. "And how confident are you that your local Alcohol and Drug Treatment agency could do something that would help a child who is abused or neglected because of a parent's alcohol or other drug use problem ... would you say you are very confident, somewhat confident, not too confident, or not at all confident?"

1. VERY CONFIDENT
2. SOMEWHAT CONFIDENT
3. NOT TOO CONFIDENT
4. NOT AT ALL CONFIDENT
5. DON'T KNOW (PROBE: "In general ...")

"Now, a few final questions..."

38a. "Some people are registered to vote and others are not. Are you currently registered to vote in South Carolina?"

1. YES
2. NO OR DK (DO NOT PROBE)

38b. "During the past year, how many nights have you stayed in paid accommodations for either business or pleasure in South Carolina?"

_____ RECORD NUMBER

98. DON'T KNOW (PROBE: "Just approximately ...")

38c. "What is your age?"

_____ CODE EXACT NUMBER OF YEARS (E.G., 45)

96. NINETY-SIX YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER
97. REFUSED
98. DK

39. "Do you live in an urban, suburban, or rural area of South Carolina?"

1. URBAN (INSIDE CITY LIMITS)
2. SUBURBAN (JUST OUTSIDE CITY LIMITS)
3. RURAL (AWAY FROM A CITY)
4. DK (PROBE: "How would you describe it?")

40. "What is the highest grade of school or year of college that you actually finished and got credit for?"

_____ RECORD GRADE

- 00. NO FORMAL SCHOOLING
- 98. DK

41. "Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent or what?"

IF REPUBLICAN: "Would you call yourself a strong Republican or a not very strong Republican?"

IF DEMOCRAT: "Would you call yourself a strong Democrat or a not very strong Democrat?"

IF INDEPENDENT, NO PREFERENCE, OR OTHER: "Do you think of yourself as closer to the Republican or to the Democratic party?"

- 1. STRONG REPUBLICAN
- 2. NOT VERY STRONG REPUBLICAN
- 3. INDEPENDENT, BUT CLOSER TO REPUBLICANS
- 4. INDEPENDENT -- CLOSER TO NEITHER
- 5. INDEPENDENT, BUT CLOSER TO DEMOCRATS
- 6. NOT VERY STRONG DEMOCRAT
- 7. STRONG DEMOCRAT
- 8. OTHER

42. "What is your race?" (PROBE BY READING CHOICES IF NECESSARY)

- 1. BLACK; AFRICAN-AMERICAN
- 2. WHITE
- 3. HISPANIC; PUERTO RICAN; MEXICAN OR SPANISH-AMERICAN
- 4. NATIVE AMERICAN; AMERICAN INDIAN
- 5. ASIAN; ORIENTAL
- 6. OTHER (SPECIFY): _____

43. "How many of the persons who currently live in your household are under 18 years of age, including babies and small children?"

_____ RECORD NUMBER

- 7. SEVEN OR MORE
- 8. DK

44. "How much total income did you and your family receive in 1991, not just from wages or salaries but from all sources -- that is, before taxes and other deductions were made. Was it...

(READ CATEGORIES)

- 01. Less than \$5,000
- 02. \$5,000 - 9,999
- 03. \$10,000 - 14,999
- 04. \$15,000 - 19,999
- 05. \$20,000 - 24,999
- 06. \$25,000 - 29,999
- 07. \$30,000 - 34,999
- 08. \$35,000 - 39,999
- 09. \$40,000 - 44,999
- 10. \$45,000 - 49,999
- 11. \$50,000 - 74,999
- 12. \$75,000 - 99,999
- 13. \$100,000 and over

- 14. REFUSED
- 15. DK

45. "Not counting business lines or extension phones -- on how many different telephone numbers can your household be reached?"

- 1. ONE
- 2. TWO
- 3. THREE
- 4. FOUR
- 5. FIVE
- 6. SIX
- 7. SEVEN OR MORE
- 8. DK

46. "Including yourself, how many people aged 18 or older are currently living in your household?"

_____ RECORD NUMBER

- 7. SEVEN OR MORE
- 8. DK

47. "And what is your zip code?"

RECORD _____

48. "Does your household have a telephone answering machine?"

1. YES

2. NO OR DK (DO NOT PROBE) --- GO TO Q. 50

49. "Does anyone in your household ever use this telephone answering machine to screen out unwanted calls?"

1. YES

2. NO OR DK

That's all the questions I have. You've been very helpful. Thank you for your cooperation. Goodbye."

51. RECORD SEX:

1. MALE

2. FEMALE

NOTE 1

CODES FOR SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTIES

01. Abbeville	24. Greenwood
02. Aiken	25. Hampton
03. Allendale	26. Horry
04. Anderson	27. Jasper
05. Bamberg	28. Kershaw
06. Barnwell	29. Lancaster
07. Beaufort	30. Laurens
08. Berkeley	31. Lee
09. Calhoun	32. Lexington
10. Charleston	33. McCormick
11. Cherokee	34. Marion
12. Chester	35. Marlboro
13. Chesterfield	36. Newberry
14. Clarendon	37. Oconee
15. Colleton	38. Orangeburg
16. Darlington	39. Pickens
17. Dillon	40. Richland
18. Dorchester	41. Saluda
19. Edgefield	42. Spartanburg
20. Fairfield	43. Sumter
21. Florence	44. Union
22. Georgetown	45. Williamsburg
23. Greenville	46. York
	47. Don't Know
	48. Not Ascertained

REGIONS USED IN ANALYSIS

Upcountry

Abbeville
Anderson
Cherokee
Chester
Fairfield
Greenville
Greenwood
Lancaster
Laurens
Newberry
Oconee
Pickens
Spartanburg
Union
York

Midlands

Aiken
Allendale
Bamberg
Barnwell
Calhoun
Clarendon
Chesterfield
Darlington
Edgefield
Kershaw
Lee
Lexington
Marlboro
McCormick
Orangeburg
Richland
Saluda
Sumter

Lowcountry

Beaufort
Berkeley
Charleston
Colleton
Dillon
Dorchester
Florence
Georgetown
Hampton
Horry
Jasper
Marion
Williamsburg

NOTE 2

WEIGHTS

Several weighting variables for the South Carolina State Survey data have been created and added to each data file. The first is a weight to adjust for households that can be reached on more than one telephone number. This weight has been developed so that such households are not overrepresented in the sample. This weight should be applied to the data whenever households are the desired unit of analysis.

The second weighting variable adjusts for the fact that the sampling unit in the survey was the household rather than the individual respondent. It also adjusts for multiple telephone households. When the individual is the appropriate unit of analysis rather than the household, this weight should be used.

The third weighting variable makes additional adjustments to the individual weight for underrepresentation of various demographic groups in the population due to either nonresponse or to the fact that certain households do not have a telephone. The degree of underrepresentation is assessed by comparing the demographic data from the survey with population estimates provided by the U.S. Census Bureau. This weight should always be used to ensure a representative sample for making estimates of the true population figures for South Carolina. It is standard in analyses for South Carolina State Survey clients, unless otherwise indicated.

