
Use and Users of the Appalachian Trail: A Source Book



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Notes to Users of the electronic version of “Use and Users of the Appalachian Trail: A Source Book”

This Source Book is a compilation of data from a comprehensive user survey conducted on the Appalachian National Scenic Trail (A.T.) between May and October, 1999. This effort was led by researchers from the University of Vermont in partnership with The Pennsylvania State University, and carried out with the dedicated assistance of Trail club volunteers and seasonal staff. Funding for the survey was provided by the Appalachian Trail Park Office of the National Park Service and the Southern Region of the USDA Forest Service.

A limited number of paper copies of this Source Book were distributed to the partners in the Cooperative Management System of the A.T. The electronic version of the Source Book attempts to provide for distribution of the survey data to interested parties while minimizing hardcopy reproduction costs.

The electronic version of the Source Book contains a large volume of information, covering over 490 pages in PDF format. To view this document you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader 4.0 or higher installed on your computer. Adobe Acrobat Reader 4.0 has been provided on this disk, to install it, open the Acrobat_Reader folder and double-click on the file ar405eng.exe.

Each of the 13 sections of the Source Book may be accessed separately from the Table of Contents page. **Click on the title of a section on the Table of Contents page to access that section.**

You may find it useful to print a hardcopy of Appendix A (the Study Questionnaire and Cover Letters) as a reference when using the electronic version of the Source Book.

Individual page numbers in this electronic version are based on the hardcopy text version of the Source Book, and are not totally compatible. The hardcopy text version did not include page numbers for introductory pages or section title pages.

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Introduction to the Study

The Appalachian National Scenic Trail (AT) is a vital part of America's national system of parks, trails, monuments, battlefields, recreation areas, and other significant natural and cultural resources. Established as the first National Scenic Trail by Congress with passage of the National Trails System Act in 1968, the AT is a continuous marked footpath extending approximately 2,160 miles across the Appalachian Mountains from the summit of Springer Mountain in Georgia to the summit of Katahdin in Maine. The AT forms a greenway that connects numerous public land areas in 14 states (Figure 1). These public lands include 8 National Forests, 6 units of the National Park System, and more than 60 state parks, state forests, and state wildlife areas. Preserved within this greenway is the remarkable story of citizen action in the public interest, together with a wide variety of natural and cultural resources making the AT a valuable part of America's heritage.

The initial route of the AT was constructed almost entirely by volunteers between 1923 and 1937, building upon the concepts of Benton MacKaye, a forward-thinking conservationist. During and since that time, volunteers affiliated with the Appalachian Trail Conference (ATC) and its 31 member trail clubs have planned, constructed, reconstructed, and maintained the footpath and its associated system of overnight shelters, campsites, and facilities.

Shortly after the original completion of the AT, private land development began to encroach upon the Trail. The National Trails System Act provided for a long-term public land acquisition program, which to date has been successful in protecting more than 99% of the Trail treadway as public lands. Today, the AT is both a component of the National Trails System and a unit of the National Park System. Its remarkable decentralized, volunteer-based cooperative management system sets it apart as a premier example of a partnership program involving many levels of federal and state government, a dedicated non-profit organization (ATC), and private citizen volunteers. Annually, more than 4,000 volunteers contribute more than 175,000 hours of effort to the AT.

The AT is a complex unit of the National Park System, and a comprehensive survey of visitor use has never been undertaken. Therefore, little has been known about visitor use patterns, including visitor characteristics, motivations for use, and visitor attitudes about trail management issues and practices. The purpose of the survey was to gather basic information on visitor use

Figure 1. Map of the Appalachian Trail



and users of the AT that would help inform trail management organizations, including volunteer hiking groups, the ATC, the National Park Service, and the USDA Forest Service. The study was also designed to provide important baseline data from which to measure and monitor changes in visitor use patterns. The study was conducted by Dr. Robert Manning, Research Data Specialist William Valliere, and Graduate Research Assistant James Bacon of the University of Vermont, and Dr. Alan Graefe and Graduate Research Assistant Gerard Kyle of Penn State University. Rita Hennessy was the National Park Service liaison to the study. A Study Advisory Board comprised of representative from the ATC and its member trail clubs, the National Park Service, and the USDA Forest Service guided the study.

Study Methods

The primary study method consisted of a survey of a representative sample of visitors along the AT. With the help of the Study Advisory Board, a wide-ranging set of issues and variables was identified for inclusion in the study. These issues and variables were translated into a study questionnaire that is shown in Appendix A. To the extent feasible, study questions were designed to replicate visitor surveys that had previously been conducted on selected sections of the AT. The questionnaire was approved by the federal Office of Management and Budget prior to administration.

A detailed sampling plan was designed based on geographic divisions of the trail. For purposes of management, the AT is divided into four geographic regions – New England, Mid-Atlantic, Southwest Virginia, and the Deep South. To facilitate a more detailed sampling plan, the trail was further divided into twenty-two relatively homogeneous geographic segments based on physical features, park and wilderness boundaries, and volunteer hiking club jurisdictions. The regional divisions used in the sampling plan are shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Geographic/ Administrative Divisions

NEW ENGLAND	MID-ATLANTIC	SOUTHWEST VA	DEEP SOUTH
1. Baxter St. Park	10. New York	15. Blue Ridge	19. North of Smokies-Pisgah/
2. 100 Mile Wilderness	11. New Jersey	Parkway	Cherokee NF
3. Western Maine	12. Pennsylvania	16. Outing Club of	20. Smoky Mtns.
4. NH-Mahoosucs	13. Maryland	VA Tech	21. NC-Nantahala NF
5. NH-White Mtns.	14. Shenandoah	17. Catawba	22. Georgia
6. NH-South		18. Mount Rogers	
7. Vermont			
8. Massachusetts			
9. Connecticut			

Sampling was conducted by a combination of employees, volunteers of local trail-maintaining clubs and the ATC, and staff hired specifically for this study. Sampling consisted of approaching randomly selected AT visitors, briefly explaining the study, and asking if visitors would be willing to participate in the study by providing their name and address and completing

a mail-back questionnaire at the completion of their visit. Detailed sampling instructions are shown in Appendix B. Sampling was designed to yield approximately 100 completed questionnaires for each of the twenty-two trail segments. In addition, thru hikers (visitors hiking the entire trail in one calendar year) were purposively sampled in Baxter State Park, Maine to insure that a large enough sample of this type of hiker was obtained for analysis purposes. The sampling plan was implemented in the summer and fall of 1999. A total of 2,847 AT visitors agreed to participate in the study and were mailed a questionnaire, cover letter, and postage-paid, self-addressed return envelope shortly after their visit. One week after the initial mailing, visitors were mailed a postcard thanking them for their participation and reminding them to complete and return the questionnaire. Visitors who did not return a completed questionnaire within three weeks of the initial mailing were mailed a second questionnaire, cover letter, and postage-paid, self-addressed return envelope. Finally, at the completion of the sampling period, all non-respondents were mailed a final copy of the questionnaire, cover letter, and postage-paid, self-addressed return envelope. This sampling procedure yielded 1,879 completed questionnaires representing a 66 percent response rate. The majority of completed questionnaires (84 percent) were obtained from summer visitors, while the remaining questionnaires (16 percent) were obtained from fall visitors. The number of completed questionnaires for each of the 22 trail segments is shown in Table 2 and by the four major geographic regions in Table 3.

Table 2. Number of Completed Questionnaires by the 22 Trail Segments

	Number	Percent
Baxter State Park	46	2.4
100 Mile Wilderness	91	4.8
Western Maine	115	6.1
NH-Mahoosucs	65	3.5
NH-White Mountains	169	9.0
NH-South	66	3.5
Vermont	103	5.5
Massachusetts	19	1.0
Connecticut	17	0.9
New York	76	4.0
New Jersey	63	3.4
Pennsylvania	63	3.4
Maryland	23	1.2
Shenandoah	49	2.6
Outing Club of Va. Tech	258	13.7
Catawba	24	1.3
Mount Rogers	67	3.6
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	22	1.2
Smoky Mountains	123	6.5
NC-Nantahala NF	2	0.1
Georgia	100	5.3
Thru Hiker	318	16.9
Total	1879	100.0

Table 3. Number of Completed Questionnaires by the Four Geographic Regions

	Number	Percent
New England	691	36.8
Mid-Atlantic	274	14.6
Southwest Virginia	349	18.6
Deep South	247	13.1
Thru Hiker	318	16.9
Total	1879	100.0

Study Findings: A Sourcebook

Study findings have been organized into a “sourcebook” designed to be useful to trail management agencies, including local trail-maintaining clubs, the ATC, the National Park Service, and the USDA Forest Service. This sourcebook presents findings from all questions included in the questionnaire. These data are organized and presented according to the following six major subject headings used in the questionnaire:

Part A: Trip Description (type of visitor, length of trip, group type and size, fees paid, activities participated in, description of trail)

Part B: User Preparedness (contacts with agencies/organizations prior to trip, sources of information, knowledge of minimum impact/leave-no-trace, security)

Part C: The Visitor Experience (motivations, problem issues, most and least enjoyed elements, effect of conditions on experience, perceived crowding, attitudes toward alternative management practices, commercial uses, overall satisfaction)

Part D: Visitor Expenditures (expenditures by category, expenditures by location)

Part E: Previous Experience and Involvement (experience on the AT, importance of the AT, level of hiking activity, membership in hiking-related organizations, hiking-related volunteer activities, involvement in hiking, place attachment to the AT)

Part F: Visitor Characteristics (gender, age, education, employment, income, race/ethnicity, residence, marital status/children)

For each question, study data are analyzed and presented in four ways. First, data are broken down and presented by the two primary types of visitors to the AT – thru hikers and non-thru hikers. As noted above, thru hikers are defined as visitors who are hiking the entire AT in a calendar year. Non-thru hikers are defined as all other visitors. Readers should be cautioned

that, as noted above, thru hikers were purposively sampled to ensure an adequate sample size. Thus, while study data are designed to be representative of thru hikers, thru hikers do not represent as large a proportion of AT visitors as suggested in the tables. Second, a more detailed breakdown of visitors is presented. Four types of visitors are used in this analysis, including 1) day users (respondents who reported being “on the trail for one day only” on the day they were sampled), 2) overnight visitors (respondents who reported being “out for more than one day” on the day they were sampled), 3) section hikers (respondents who reported “hiking sections of the Appalachian Trail with the intent of hiking the entire trail over an extended period of time”), and 4) thru hikers. Third, study data are broken down into the four geographic regions used for AT administrative purposes. Thru hikers are shown separately in this analysis. For each of these first three analyses and presentations, tabular data (and graphic representations where appropriate) are presented followed by a series of narrative statements designed to summarize study findings. Verbatim responses to open-ended questions are presented in Appendix C. The fourth and final data analysis and presentation is organized by the 22 smaller geographic segments of the trail used for the purposes of this study. This final analysis is presented in Appendix D. Only non-thru hikers are included in this analysis. Readers are cautioned that trail segments with fewer than 30 completed questionnaires may contain insufficient data to generalize to the larger population of users on those trail segments.

Several statistical terms and symbols are used in the body of the sourcebook. Two measures of central tendency are used: mean and median. Mean refers to the simple arithmetic average of all responses. Median refers to the value such that about half of the responses are less than that value and about half of the responses are greater than that value. The median may be a more appropriate measure of central tendency when a relatively small percentage of respondents report very high or low responses. The symbol “N” is used to refer to the number of respondents who answered each question.

Additional information about the AT and this study can be obtained from several sources. The Appalachian Trail Park Office (ATPO) of the National Park Service is the lead administrative agency for the Appalachian National Scenic Trail. Contact information is as follows:

Pamela Underhill – Park Manager*
Appalachian Trail Park Office
National Park Service
Harpers Ferry Center

Harpers Ferry, WV 25425
(304) 535-6278
(www.nps.gov/appa)

*(The National Park Service contact for this study is Rita Hennessy, ATPO Recreation Planner)

The Appalachian Trail Conference (ATC) is the primary provider of public information about the Appalachian Trail. Contact information is as follows:

Appalachian Trail Conference
P.O. Box 807
(799 Washington Street)
Harpers Ferry, WV 25425
(304) 535-6331
(www.appalachiantrail.org)

Additional information about the study can be obtained from the Principal Investigators as follows:

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PART A:

Trip Description

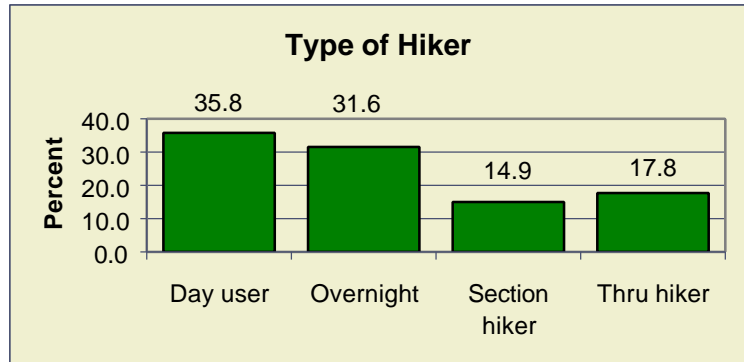
Part A: Trip Description. The following questions pertain to your recent trip on the Appalachian Trail, when you were contacted and agreed to participate in our visitor survey.

1. On this particular trip, were you a [check one]:
- day user (on the trail for one day only)
 - overnight user/backpacker (out for more than one day)
 - through hiker (hiking the length of the trail in one calendar year)
 - section hiker (hiking sections of the Appalachian Trail with the intent of hiking the entire trail over an extended period of time)

(QA1)

	Number	Percent
Day user	640	35.8
Overnight	566	31.6
Section hiker	266	14.9
Thru hiker	318	17.8

N=1790



- Approximately one third of hikers are day hikers and one third are overnight hikers. Thru hikers and section hikers make up the remainder.
- Thru hikers were over-sampled to obtain a minimum sample size for statistical purposes.
- Readers are advised that an analysis of hiker types by demographic variables appears in Part F of this report.

(QA1) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hiker	Total
Day user	30.1	35.8	77.6	42.3		35.8
Overnight	48.4	36.6	17.8	41.4		31.6
Thru hiker					100.0	17.8
Section hiker	21.4	27.6	4.7	16.3		14.9

- The southern regions of the trail included substantially higher numbers of day users.

2. How long was your trip? _____ # of days on trail _____ # of miles hiked

(QA2a & b)

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
	Days on Trail	Miles Hiked	Days on Trail	Miles Hiked
Mean	7.2	71.0	148.4	1862.6
Median	2	13	167	2160
Range	1-210	1-2172	1-310	1-2182

N=1339, 1356; 305,297

- Overall users spent an average (median) of 2 days on the trail and hiked an average (median) of 13 miles along the trail.
- Thru hikers spent an average (median) of 167 days on the trail and hiked an average (median) of 2160 miles along the trail.

(QA2a&b) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Days on Trail	1.1(1)	4.3(3)	24.3(10)	148.4(167)	33.5 (3)
Miles Hiked	8.0(7)	36.7(20)	278.0(106)	1862.6(2160)	393.6 (18)

Mean (Median)

- Day users hiked an average (median) of 7 miles along the trail.
- Overnight hikers averaged (median) 3 days on the trail and hiked an average (median) of 20 miles along the trail.
- Section hikers spent considerably more time on the trail averaging (median) 10 days on the trail and hiking an average (median) of 106 miles along the trail.
- Thru hikers spent the most time on the trail averaging (median) 167 days on the trail and hiking an average (median) of 2160 miles along the trail.

(QA2a&b) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Days on Trail	8.6 (3)	11.4 (2)	2.1 (1)	4.6 (2)	148.4 (167)	33.4 (3)
Miles Hiked	88.1 (17)	122.6 (16)	16.9 (7)	38.9 (15)	1862.6 (2160)	392.9 (18)

Mean (median)

- Users in the southern regions of the trail averaged fewer days and miles hiked on the trail which is consistent with the heightened day use exhibited in QA1.

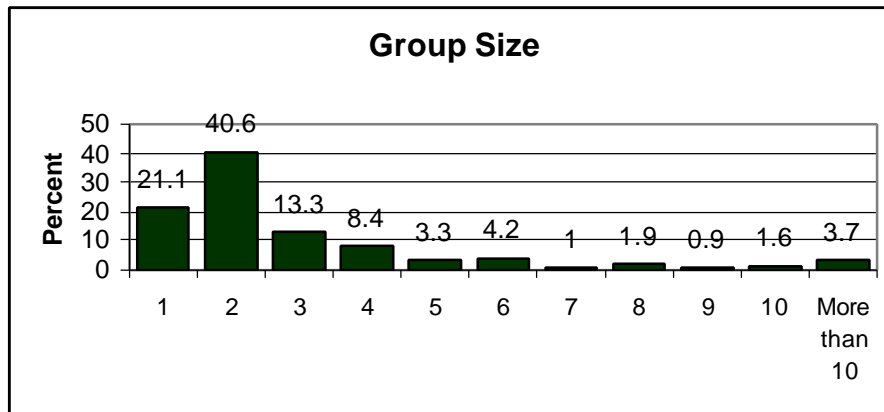
3. Including yourself, how many people were in your group?

(QA3)

Size of Group	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1	309	21.1	185	62.7
2	595	40.6	79	26.8
3	195	13.3	17	5.8
4	123	8.4	8	2.7
5	49	3.3	2	0.7
6	61	4.2	1	0.3
7	15	1.0	2	0.7
8	28	1.9	0	0.0
9	13	0.9	0	0.0
10	24	1.6	0	0.0
More than 10	55	3.7	1	0.3
Mean	3.21		1.58	
Median	2.0		1.0	

N=1467;295

(QA3) Users (Non- Thru Hikers)



- Average (median) group size of non-thru hikers is 2 people.
- Average (median) group size of thru hikers is 1 person.
- Most thru hikers (62.7%) hike the trail alone.
- A substantial number of hikers (16.6%) reported being part of a relatively large group (5 or more people), and these groups constitute a relatively high percentage of all AT users.

(QA3) by Type of Hiker

Group Size	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
1	17.0	16.8	39.9	62.7	28.1
2	42.1	38.9	39.9	26.8	38.2
3	13.6	14.1	10.6	5.8	12.0
4	11.7	8.0	1.5	2.7	7.5
5	3.9	3.8	1.1	0.7	2.9
6	3.2	5.5	3.4	0.3	3.5
7	1.1	0.9	1.1	0.7	1.0
8	1.6	2.9	0.8	0.0	1.6
9	1.3	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.7
10	1.3	2.3	1.1	0.0	1.4
More than 10	3.3	5.9	0.4	0.3	3.3
Mean	3.20	3.73	2.15	1.58	2.94
Median	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.0	2.0

- Day users, overnight users, and section hikers all tended to use the trail in groups of two.
- Thru hikers hiked alone (median=1.0) more than the other types of hikers.

(QA3) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hiker	Total
1	20.8	34.5	12.5	18.4	62.7	28.0
2	43.3	39.7	38.0	37.7	26.8	38.3
3	10.3	13.9	17.8	14.6	5.8	12.0
4	7.7	3.0	11.2	12.6	2.7	7.4
5	2.0	3.0	5.0	5.0	0.7	2.9
6	3.8	1.5	4.4	7.9	0.3	3.5
7	1.3	0.4	1.9	0.0	0.7	1.0
8	3.0	1.1	1.2	0.8	0.0	1.6
9	1.3	0.0	1.2	0.4	0.0	0.7
10	1.7	0.7	3.1	0.4	0.0	1.4
More than 10	5.0	2.2	3.7	2.1	0.3	3.2
Mean	3.41	2.41	3.58	3.08	1.58	2.94
Median	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.0	2.0

- The average group size (median) was 2 and this was consistent across the regions.

4. Which of the following best describes the composition of your group? [check one]

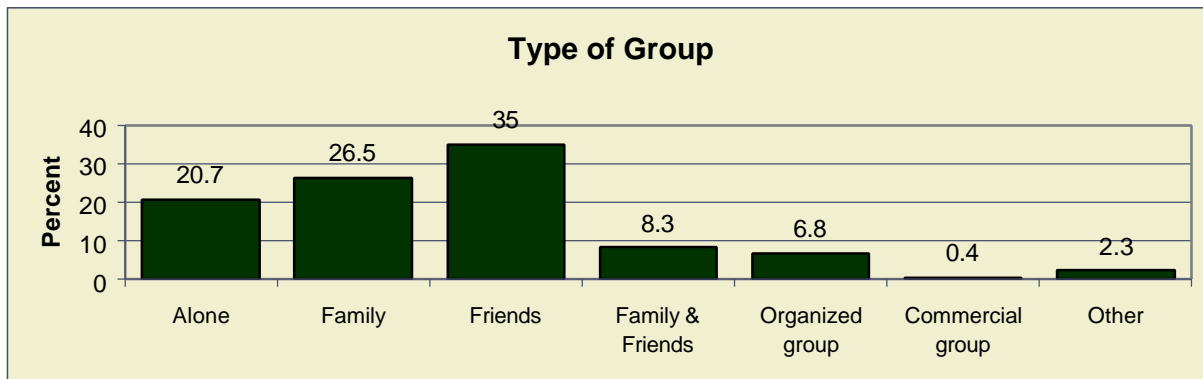
- Alone Family Friends Family & friends
 Organized group (club or other organization)
 Commercial group (group of people who paid a fee to participate in this trip)
 Other [please specify] _____

(QA4)

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Alone	306	20.7	181	57.5
Family	391	26.5	46	14.6
Friends	517	35.0	54	17.1
Family & Friends	122	8.3	4	1.3
Organized group	101	6.8	2	0.6
Commercial group	6	0.4	0	0.0
Other	34	2.3	28	8.9

N=1477; 315

(QA4) Users (Non-Thru Hikers)



- Most users hike with groups that are comprised of family or friends.
- Only a small portion of users hike with an organized group (6.8%) or a commercial group (0.4%).
- Thru hikers generally hike alone (57.5%).

(QA4) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Alone	16.6	16.3	39.6	57.5	27.2
Family	31.5	24.9	18.5	14.6	24.5
Friends	34.9	35.5	33.6	17.1	31.8
Family & Friends	10.2	9.2	1.9	1.3	7.1
Organized group	5.2	10.3	3.4	0.6	5.7
Commercial group	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.0	0.3
Other	1.4	3.2	2.6	8.9	3.5

- Day users, overnight users, and section hikers were predominantly hiking with family or friends.
- Day (31.5%) and overnight (24.9%) users hiked with family more often than section and thru hikers.
- Section and thru hikers predominantly hiked alone (39.6% and 57.5% respectively).

(QA4) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Alone	20.6	35.2	11.2	17.5	57.5	27.2
Family	26.6	24.1	24.6	31.3	14.6	24.4
Friends	33.6	31.1	41.7	34.2	17.1	31.9
Family & Friends	8.7	2.6	11.5	9.2	1.3	7.0
Organized group	7.6	3.7	8.7	5.8	0.6	5.7
Commercial group	0.3	1.1	0	0.4	0	0.3
Other	2.6	2.2	2.2	1.7	8.9	3.5

- The Mid-Atlantic region exhibited a higher percentage of users who hike alone (35.2%).
- Southwest Virginia users most often hiked with friends (41.7%).

(QA4) “other”

	Number	Percent
Other Hikers	24	42.86
Companion	15	26.79
Work Related	9	16.07
Church Related	2	3.57
School Related	3	5.36
Dog or Pet	3	5.36

N=56

- The majority of AT users that chose “other” for group composition hiked with other hikers.

5. Did you pay any type of fee (trip fee, membership fee, etc.) to participate in this trip/hike? [check one]
 Yes No

(QA5)

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	173	12.1	25	8.2
No	1260	87.9	281	91.8

N=1433; 306

- A relatively small percentage of thru-hikers (8.2%) and non-thru hikers (12.1%) paid a fee to participate in their trip/hike.
- User fees were most prevalent among organized groups and commercial groups.

(QA5) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Yes	10.8	16.5	5.0	8.2	11.3
No	89.2	83.5	95.0	91.8	88.7

- Section hikers were least likely to pay a fee (only 5.0% did).

(QA5) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Yes	20.8	5.7	5.2	5.1	8.2	11.4
No	79.2	94.3	94.8	94.9	91.8	88.6

- A higher percentage of users in the New England region (20.8%) paid a fee to participate in their hike.

6a. Please look at the following list of activities and tell us which activities you and your group did during this trip on the Appalachian Trail. [Check all that apply]

PARTICIPATED (✓)	ACTIVITY	PARTICIPATED (✓)	ACTIVITY
	Day Hiking/Walking		Hunting
	Backpacking		Fishing
	Camping		Photography
	Viewing Scenery		Nature Study
	Picnicking		Jogging/Trail Running
	Horseback Riding		Other (please list _____)

(QA6a)

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Dayhiking	967	61.9	113	35.5
Backpacking	883	56.6	314	98.7
Camping	710	45.5	277	87.1
Viewing Scenery	1278	81.9	278	87.4
Picnicking	443	28.4	79	24.8
Horseback Riding	2	0.1	0	0.0
Hunting	5	0.3	0	0.0
Fishing	36	2.3	22	6.9
Photography	697	44.7	241	75.8
Nature Study	276	17.7	94	29.6
Jogging or Running	55	3.5	28	8.8
Other	106	6.8	26	8.2

- Users reported participating in a variety of activities and most users participated in more than one activity while on the AT.
- Viewing scenery was the most frequently reported activity (81.9%) for overall users.
- Backpacking was the most frequently reported activity (98.7%) for thru hikers.
- Photography was much more common among thru hikers (75.8%) than among non-thru hikers (44.7%).
- Respondents' primary activity is reported in question (QA6b).

(QA6a) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Dayhiking	98.4	45.4	28.6	35.5	57.5
Backpacking	11.9	96.1	94.7	98.7	63.7
Camping	6.7	80.2	77.1	87.1	52.5
Viewing Scenery	86.4	87.3	83.8	87.4	82.8
Picnicking	42.7	21.6	16.9	24.8	27.8
Horseback Riding	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.1
Hunting	0.6	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.3
Fishing	0.6	3.9	3.8	6.9	3.1
Photography	40.9	47.9	59.8	75.8	49.9
Nature Study	19.1	19.1	16.9	29.6	19.7
Jogging or Running	5.3	2.3	2.6	8.8	4.4
Other	7.5	6.7	7.5	8.2	7.0

- All types of users participated in various activities on the AT.
- Viewing scenery was the most reported activity (82.8%) among all types of hikers.

(QA6a) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Day hiking	54.6	59.5	78.8	61.5	35.5	57.5
Backpacking	67.9	63.5	26.4	59.9	98.7	63.7
Camping	53.4	56.2	20.6	46.6	87.1	52.5
Viewing scenery	80.6	86.9	81.4	80.6	87.4	82.8
Picnicking	26.8	28.5	34.7	23.9	24.8	27.8
Horseback riding	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.1
Hunting	0.1	0.7	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.3
Fishing	4.2	1.1	0.6	0.8	6.9	3.1
Photo	45.6	47.1	39.8	46.2	75.8	49.9
Nature Study	16.5	23.7	16.6	15.8	29.6	19.7
Jogging or Running	3.0	4.4	4.0	3.2	8.8	4.4
Other	6.1	10.6	6.9	4.5	8.2	7.0

- Day hiking was more common in the Southwest Virginia region, while backpacking was more common in the northern regions and the Deep South.
- Fishing was reported more often in the New England region.

(QA6a) "Other" activities participated in

	Users (Non-Thru hiker)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Arts/ creativity	4	4.2	1	4.5
Biking	1	1.0	1	4.5
Watching wildlife	7	7.3	2	9.1
Education/ historical	8	8.3	0	0.0
Leisure	8	8.3	5	22.7
Paddling	2	2.1	2	9.1
Rock climbing/ bouldering	13	13.5	3	13.6
Social	9	9.4	0	0.0
Spiritual	8	8.3	0	0.0
Swimming	19	19.8	8	36.4
Trail maintenance	17	17.7	0	0.0

N= 96; 22

- Swimming was the most frequently reported "other" activity participated in by both non-thru hikers and thru hikers.

(QA6a) "Other" by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Arts/ creativity	0.0	5.7	11.1	4.5	4.2
Biking	2.3	0.0	0.0	4.5	1.7
Watching wildlife	7.0	8.6	5.6	9.1	7.6
Education/ historical	7.0	8.6	11.1	0.0	6.8
Leisure	7.0	5.7	16.7	22.7	11.0
Paddling	0.0	5.7	0.0	9.1	3.4
Rock climbing/ bouldering	23.3	5.7	5.6	13.6	13.6
Social	4.7	11.4	16.7	0.0	7.6
Spiritual	9.3	5.7	11.1	0.0	6.8
Swimming	20.9	17.1	22.2	36.4	22.9
Trail maintenance	18.6	25.7	0.0	0.0	14.4

- Swimming was the most frequently reported "other" activity along the AT for all types of users except day users.
- Of the "other" activities reported, rock climbing/bouldering was more common among day users (23.3%) than any other type of hiker.

(QA6a) "Other" by Region

	New England	Mid- Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Arts/ creativity	2.8	6.9	0.0	9.1	4.5	4.2
Biking	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.1	4.5	1.7
Watching wildlife	5.6	6.9	10.0	9.1	9.1	7.6
Education/ historical	5.6	13.8	10.0	0.0	0.0	6.8
Leisure	8.3	10.3	5.0	9.1	22.7	11.0
Paddling	2.8	3.4	0.0	0.0	9.1	3.4
Rock climbing/ bouldering	2.8	3.4	55.0	0.0	13.6	13.6
Social	16.7	6.9	0.0	9.1	0.0	7.6
Spiritual	5.6	13.8	10.0	0.0	0.0	6.8
Swimming	41.7	13.8	0.0	0.0	36.4	22.9
Trail maintenance	8.3	20.7	10.0	54.5	0.0	14.4

- Of the reported "other" activities, rock climbing/bouldering was reported most frequently in the Southwest Virginia region (55.0%).
- Trail maintenance was reported most frequently in the Deep South region (54.5%).
- Swimming was reported most frequently in the New England region (41.7%).

6b. From the above list of activities (QA6a), which was your group's primary activity?

(QA6b)

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Backpacking/ camping	695	48.4	280	89.5
Exercise	9	0.6	0	0.0
Fishing	3	0.2	0	0.0
Hiking/ walking	623	43.4	32	10.2
Nature study/ education	12	0.8	0	0.0
Rock climbing/ bouldering	7	0.5	0	0.0
Running/ jogging	9	0.6	0	0.0
Social	5	0.3	0	0.0
Spiritual	4	0.3	0	0.0
Trail maintenance	13	0.9	0	0.0
Viewing scenery	57	4.0	1	0.3

N= 1437; 313

- Backpacking/camping was the primary activity for most thru-hikers (89.5%), and about half of the non-thru hikers (48.4%).
- Hiking/walking was the primary activity for 43.4% of non-thru hikers.

(QA6b) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Backpacking/ camping	1.9	81.8	86.6	89.5	55.6
Exercise	1.1	0.2	0.4	0.0	0.5
Fishing	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.2
Hiking/ walking	84.6	12.8	11.5	10.2	37.6
Nature study/ education	1.5	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.7
Rock climbing/ bouldering	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4
Running/ jogging	1.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5
Social	0.0	0.7	0.4	0.0	0.3
Spiritual	0.2	0.2	0.8	0.0	0.2
Trail maintenance	0.5	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.7
Viewing scenery	7.6	1.6	0.4	0.3	3.3

- The vast majority of day users (84.6%) reported "Hiking/walking" as their primary activity.
- Backpacking was the highest reported primary activity among overnight users (81.8%), section hikers (86.6%), and thru hikers (89.5%).

(QA6b) by Region

	New England	Mid- Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hiker	Total
Backpacking/ camping	58.3	55.7	21.0	49.4	89.5	55.7
Exercise	0.3	0.4	1.0	1.3	0.0	0.5
Fishing	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2
Hiking/ walking	36.1	37.5	65.7	40.0	10.2	37.4
Nature study/ education	0.5	1.9	1.0	0.4	0.0	0.7
Rock climbing/ bouldering	0.2	0.0	1.9	0.0	0.0	0.4
Running/ jogging	0.3	1.1	0.6	0.9	0.0	0.5
Social	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.3
Spiritual	0.3	0.4	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.2
Trail maintenance	0.6	1.1	0.0	2.6	0.0	0.7
Viewing scenery	2.2	1.9	8.7	4.7	0.3	3.3

- The Southwest Virginia region reported significantly higher levels of hiking/ walking as the primary activity, and significantly lower levels of camping.

7. Overall, which of the following best describes the section of the Appalachian Trail that you visited? [check one]

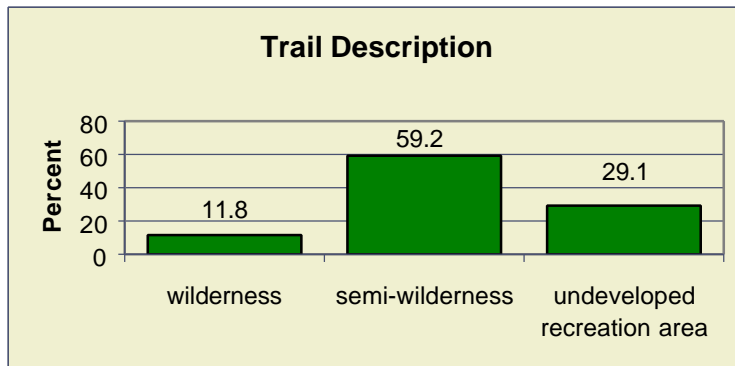
- wilderness – a place generally unaffected by the presence of people, providing outstanding opportunities for solitude and self-reliance.
- semi-wilderness – the kind of place where complete solitude is not expected, but the environment appears mostly unaffected by people
- undeveloped recreation area – the kind of place where a natural setting is provided but seeing other people is part of the experience.

(QA7)

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
wilderness	173	11.8	31	12.0
semi-wilderness	871	59.2	137	53.1
undeveloped recreation area	428	29.1	90	34.9

N=1472; 258

(QA7) Users (Non-Thru Hikers)



- Over half of thru hikers (53.1%) and non-thru hikers (59.2%) felt that the area they were in was “semi-wilderness”.
- About one-third of thru hikers (34.9%) and non-thru hikers (29.1%) felt the area was an “undeveloped recreation area”.

(QA7) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
wilderness	7.4	15.4	13.3	12.0	11.6
semi-wilderness	59.8	57.6	61.6	53.1	58.3
undeveloped recreation area	32.8	27.0	25.1	34.9	30.0

- The majority of all types of hikers (58.3%) would describe the portion of the AT they were on as “semi-wilderness”.

(QA7) by Region

	New England	Mid- Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
wilderness	12.9	11.9	5.7	16.7	12.0	11.8
semi-wilderness	57.8	57.6	58.2	65.8	53.1	58.3
undeveloped recreation area	29.3	30.5	36.2	17.5	34.9	29.9

- In Southwest Virginia only 5.7% of hikers felt they were in “wilderness”.
- In the Deep South only 17.5% felt they were in an “undeveloped recreation area”.

PART B:

User Preparedness

Part B: User Preparedness. The following questions will help us to understand what types of information you are interested in and the best ways to provide that information to you.

1. Have you ever contacted any organization for information about the Appalachian Trail?

No Yes

a. If yes, what organization(s) did you contact? _____

b. How did you contact them?

letter phone personal visit Internet

other [please specify] _____

c. What type of information did you receive? _____

d. Was the information you received adequate in helping you plan your trip to your satisfaction?

Yes No

e. Did you purchase any information? Yes No

(QB1)

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	687	47.2	230	73.5
No	767	52.8	83	26.5

N=1454; 313

- About half of the non-thru hikers reported contacting some organization for information about the Appalachian Trail.
- Nearly three-quarters of the thru-hikers had contacted an organization for trail-related information.

(QB1) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Yes	31.6	51.0	75.0	73.5	51.7
No	68.4	49.0	25.0	26.5	48.3

- Section (75.0%) and thru (73.5%) hikers were more likely to contact an organization for information on the AT.
- Day hikers (31.6%) were least likely to contact an organization for information on the AT.

(QB1) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Yes	51.6	59.8	34.0	38.7	73.5	51.9
No	48.4	40.2	66.0	61.3	26.5	48.1

- Trail users in the northern regions were more likely to have contacted an organization for information about the trail.
- Users in the Mid-Atlantic region were most likely to have contacted an organization (59.8%) while only one-third (34.0%) of those from Southwest Virginia had contacted any organization for information.

a. If yes, what organization(s) did you contact? _____

(QB1a)

- Verbatim responses to this question are shown in APPENDIX C and are organized by the 22 trail segments.

- Common responses to this question included:
 1. Hiking clubs such as the ATC, GATC, PATC
 2. Retail equipment stores such as REI and EMS
 3. Publications such as Outside Magazine and Backpacker Magazine

b. How did you contact them?

___ letter ___ phone ___ personal visit ___ Internet

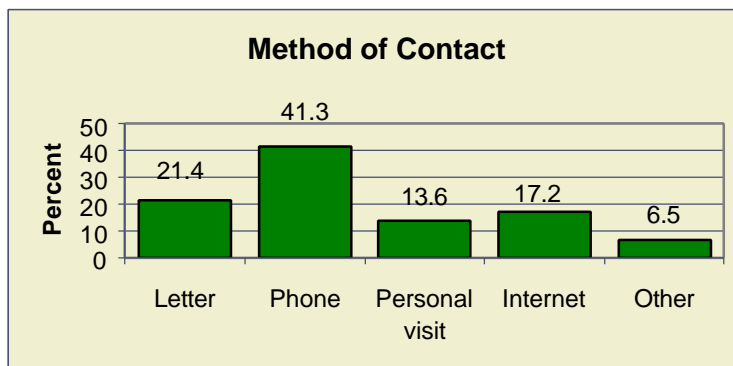
___ other [please specify] ___ (SEE APPENDIX C) ___

(QB1b)

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Letter	148	21.4	41	17.1
Phone	286	41.3	125	52.1
Personal visit	94	13.6	20	8.3
Internet	119	17.2	42	17.5
Other	45	6.5	12	4.5

N=694; 240

(QB1b) Users (Non-Thru Hikers)



- The telephone was the most common means of contacting an organization for both thru hikers and non-thru hikers.
- About one-fifth of non-thru hikers (21.4%) and thru hikers (17.1%) contacted an organization through a letter.
- Nearly another one-fifth of both thru hikers (17.5%) and non-thru hikers (17.2%) used the internet as a means of contacting an organization.

(QB1b) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Letter	17.3	18.3	28.8	17.1	20.1
Phone	31	43.2	47.8	52.1	43.9
Personal visit	24.9	11.2	6.3	8.3	12.3
Internet	19.8	21.2	10.2	17.5	17.5
Other	7.1	6.1	6.8	4.5	6.2

- Overall, all types of hikers utilized various methods to obtain information.
- The phone was the most common means of obtaining information (43.9%).
- Day users (24.9%) were most likely to utilize a personal visit to obtain information.

(QB1b) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Letter	22.4	19.6	14.7	27.8	17.1	20.3
Phone	46.1	38.0	33.3	39.2	52.1	44.1
Personal visit	10.3	12.3	32.4	7.2	8.3	12.2
Internet	15.5	21.5	13.7	19.6	17.5	17.3
Other	5.7	8.5	5.9	6.1	4.5	6.1

- The telephone was the most popular means of seeking information across all four regions.
- Hikers in Southwest Virginia were more likely (32.4%) than those in other regions (7.2-12.3%) to make a personal visit to a trail-related organization.

c. What type of information did you receive? _____

(QB1c)

- Verbatim responses to this question are shown in APPENDIX C and are organized by the 22 trail segments.

- Common responses to this question included:
 1. Planning materials such as maps, schedules, permits, weather reports
 2. Background information such as recent news, updates, or historic information
 3. General information such as rules and regulations, employment opportunities

d. Was the information you received adequate in helping you plan your trip to your satisfaction?

_____ Yes _____ No

(QB1d)

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	641	94.4	220	92.8
No	38	5.6	17	7.2

N=679; 237

- The overwhelming majority of both thru hikers and non-thru hikers felt the information they received was adequate in helping to plan their Appalachian Trail trip.

(QB1d) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Yes	94.7	92.7	96.6	92.8	94.0
No	5.3	7.3	3.4	7.2	6.0

- Likewise, the overwhelming majority of all types of hikers felt the information they received was adequate in helping to plan their Appalachian Trail trip.

(QB1d) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Yes	94.2	95.5	93.0	94.7	92.8	94.0
No	5.8	4.5	7.0	5.3	7.2	6.0

- This pattern held true across all regions, with over 90% reporting that the information they received was adequate.

e. Did you purchase any information? ___ Yes ___ No

(QB1e)

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	480	66.1	225	91.1
No	246	33.9	22	8.9

N=726; 248

- Two-thirds (66%) of non-thru hikers and nearly all thru hikers (91%) reported purchasing information about the Appalachian Trail.

(QB1e) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Yes	58.3	62.9	77.1	91.1	72.3
No	41.7	37.1	22.9	8.9	27.7

- Thru hikers (91.1%) reported purchasing information more than any other type of hiker.

(QB1e) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Yes	66.6	75.6	56.3	60.2	91.1	72.4
No	33.4	24.4	43.8	39.8	8.9	27.6

- Northern trail users were more likely to purchase information than users in the southern regions.
- About three-fourths (75.6%) of Mid-Atlantic users purchased information versus only 56.3% of those in Southwest Virginia.

2. Where would you most likely go to obtain each of the following types of information about the Appalachian Trail? [If you are not interested in a particular type of information please check the “Not Interested” column.]

		If interested, where: [check each applicable column]									
Not Interested	Type of Information	Sporting Goods	Newspapers	Books & Magazines	Brochures	Trailhead Signs	Ranger Or Volunteer	Visitor Center/	The Internet	Audio or video tapes	Trail clubs/ organization
	Map of location of trails and features										
	Rules and regulations for the area										
	Tips on A.T. hiking and camping										
	Types of plants and animals in the area										
	Hunting or fishing in the area										
	Trail safety										
	Trail history and philosophy										
	General forest and park information										
	Low impact camping										
	Volunteer opportunities										
	Places similar to this area										
	Other, please describe:										

(QB2)

If interested, where: [check each applicable column]

Not Interested	Type of Information	Percent of Respondents										
		Sporting Goods Stores	Newspapers	Books & Magazines	Brochures	Trailhead Signs	Ranger Or Volunteer	Visitor Center/ Ranger Station	The Internet	Audio or video tapes	Trail clubs/ organizations	
%		Percent of Respondents										
Users (Non-Thru Hiker) (N=1461)												
1.4	Map of location of trails and features	36.1	2.1	33.4	15.6	20.7	14.2	32.8	26.8	0.8	35.2	
4.7	Rules and regulations for the area	4.3	0.7	17.3	13.2	32.4	25.3	42.6	14.1	0.3	19.0	
7.6	Tips on A.T. hiking and camping	11.8	2.7	45.8	12.4	6.4	15.6	22.1	25.0	1.2	27.9	
9.2	Types of plants and animals in the area	3.4	1.6	49.6	12.5	7.0	19.3	27.7	13.7	0.7	10.6	
46.5	Hunting or fishing in the area	7.9	1.0	10.7	5.1	4.0	10.1	15.6	7.3	0.2	3.8	
9.8	Trail safety	4.0	1.4	30.8	11.2	15.7	24.2	31.7	12.7	0.8	20.9	
7.9	Trail history and philosophy	2.5	2.3	45.8	12.1	7.7	15.7	26.1	16.5	1.2	22.0	
2.4	General forest and park information	3.8	2.4	24.2	17.9	13.5	29.2	47.1	19.4	0.8	13.3	
10.3	Low impact camping	6.5	2.1	40.4	12.2	7.5	15.6	21.8	15.0	1.0	22.1	
17.5	Volunteer opportunities	2.3	3.7	7.9	6.1	1.8	18.6	21.4	14.1	0.2	37.0	
11.6	Places similar to this area	8.6	3.6	35.6	10.1	2.5	11.4	17.8	23.1	0.7	17.7	
11.6	Other, please describe:	8.6	3.6	35.6	10.1	2.5	11.4	17.8	23.1	0.7	17.7	
Thru Hikers Only (N=318)												
3.1	Map of location of trails and features	28.6	0.3	20.8	5.3	9.7	4.7	14.2	14.8	0.9	60.1	
7.9	Rules and regulations for the area	2.8	0.0	10.7	10.1	41.8	22.0	38.1	4.1	0.0	22.0	
7.5	Tips on A.T. hiking and camping	11.6	0.6	50.0	6.0	4.4	8.5	9.4	29.6	6.0	33.6	
7.5	Types of plants and animals in the area	3.5	0.0	57.2	11.9	8.8	17.6	23.0	6.9	1.6	11.0	
50.0	Hunting or fishing in the area	6.0	0.3	6.9	5.0	6.6	14.8	17.3	1.3	0.0	5.3	
17.0	Trail safety	2.5	0.0	27.7	7.9	14.8	18.6	21.4	8.2	0.9	23.0	
8.5	Trail history and philosophy	2.2	1.9	53.1	10.7	6.3	9.7	19.2	10.7	2.5	32.4	
3.8	General forest and park information	2.8	0.6	15.4	12.9	22.3	24.8	47.8	8.2	0.9	14.5	
11.0	Low impact camping	5.0	0.0	47.5	6.9	12.3	13.5	17.0	11.3	1.9	22.3	
12.3	Volunteer opportunities	1.6	0.9	5.7	5.7	1.3	20.1	18.9	12.9	0.0	55.7	
19.5	Places similar to this area	5.3	1.9	34.6	5.7	0.9	9.4	13.2	19.5	0.9	16.7	
8.8	Other, please describe:	0.6	0.0	1.3	0.3	0.0	0.9	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.3	

- AT users were interested in most of the types of information listed, although only about half of both thru hikers and non-thru hikers were interested in information about fishing and hunting.
- The most popular information sources about the AT tended to be books/magazines, visitor centers/ranger stations, and trail clubs/organizations.
- Books and magazines were particularly popular for information about hiking and camping on the AT, plants and animals in the area, trail history and philosophy, and low impact camping.
- Sporting goods stores were considered a good place to find maps by both thru hikers (28.6%) and non-thru hikers (36.1%), but were not mentioned as a good source for any of the other types of information listed.

- Very few respondents used newspapers to find any of the types of information listed.
- Less than 20% mentioned brochures as a place where they would look for any of the types of information.
- Trailhead signs, likewise, were an uncommon source of information, except for information about rules and regulations, where they were listed by 32.4% of the non-thru hikers and 41.8% of the thru hikers.
- Ranger/volunteer contacts were most useful for information about rules and regulations (22% of thru hikers and 25% of non-thru hikers), trail safety (19% thru hiker/24% non-thru hiker) and general forest and park information (25% thru hiker/29% non-thru hiker).
- The Internet was more likely to be consulted for maps by non-thru hikers (27%) than by thru hikers (15%). Thru hikers were particularly likely (60%) to obtain maps through trail clubs/organizations.
- Audio or video tapes were infrequently used to obtain any type of information.
- Information about volunteer opportunities was most likely to be collected from trail clubs and organizations (56% of thru hikers and 37% of non-thru hikers).

(QB2) by Type of Hiker

If interested, where: [check each applicable column]

Not Interested	Type of Information	If interested, where: [check each applicable column]										
		Sporting Goods Stores	Newspapers	Books & Magazines	Brochures	Trailhead Signs	Ranger Or Volunteer	Visitor Center/ Ranger Station	The Internet	Audio or video tapes	Trail clubs/ organizations	
%		Percent of Respondents										
Day Users Only												
1.1	Map of location of trails and features	38.4	3.6	37.8	25.5	29.5	16.9	43.0	33.8	1.4	26.6	
5.2	Rules and regulations for the area	4.5	0.6	14.8	16.4	40.0	24.7	48.6	14.4	0.5	12.0	
8.6	Tips on A.T. hiking and camping	15.3	3.3	47.0	16.1	9.1	17.3	28.0	25.3	1.3	21.6	
10.3	Types of plants and animals in the area	3.8	2.3	51.3	16.3	10.5	17.7	33.0	16.9	1.1	6.9	
45.6	Hunting or fishing in the area	9.5	2.2	9.5	8.4	6.1	10.9	20.8	10.8	0.3	2.7	
9.5	Trail safety	4.2	2.3	27.3	14.2	21.4	24.2	40.2	13.1	1.1	16.6	
8.9	Trail history and philosophy	3.1	3.6	46.3	15.9	10.8	15.6	31.7	18.3	1.9	16.6	
1.9	General forest and park information	5.3	3.0	23.4	21.3	14.4	25.2	53.9	21.4	1.3	10.6	
14.2	Low impact camping	8.3	2.8	38.4	15.0	8.4	15.0	28.4	16.1	0.9	19.7	
20.6	Volunteer opportunities	2.5	4.4	6.4	7.5	2.3	19.4	26.6	15.8	0.5	32.7	
8.4	Places similar to this area	11.7	5.6	38.6	13.6	3.6	12.0	24.5	28.8	1.3	16.3	
7.0	Other, please describe:	0.8	0.5	1.3	0.6	0.8	0.8	1.4	2.2	0.0	1.3	
Overnight Users Only												
1.6	Map of location of trails and features	42.4	1.2	37.6	11.0	17.7	14.5	32.9	25.6	0.5	33.6	
3.7	Rules and regulations for the area	4.8	0.7	21.9	12.4	29.5	28.6	43.5	15.7	0.0	20.0	
7.6	Tips on A.T. hiking and camping	13.3	2.5	52.1	10.1	6.9	16.4	22.6	26.9	1.2	29.9	
9.5	Types of plants and animals in the area	5.1	0.9	52.7	11.3	6.0	23.0	26.7	13.1	0.2	11.0	
46.6	Hunting or fishing in the area	9.5	0.4	14.8	4.8	3.7	12.9	17.3	5.5	0.2	5.5	
11.1	Trail safety	4.8	0.4	35.2	8.8	13.4	26.3	31.1	12.9	0.7	19.3	
8.0	Trail history and philosophy	4.1	1.6	51.4	10.8	7.6	18.9	26.9	16.6	1.1	20.7	
2.7	General forest and park information	3.4	1.9	29.2	17.1	13.4	33.6	47.0	21.4	0.4	13.4	
8.3	Low impact camping	7.2	1.8	46.6	11.5	7.4	17.8	21.0	15.5	0.7	20.8	
17.5	Volunteer opportunities	2.3	3.5	9.9	5.7	1.6	21.9	23.0	15.0	0.0	39.2	
11.8	Places similar to this area	9.0	2.5	39.8	8.8	2.5	14.0	17.0	23.0	0.5	18.2	
9.2	Other, please describe:	0.9	0.0	2.1	0.7	0.4	1.2	1.2	0.9	0.0	1.2	

If interested, where: [check each applicable column]

Not Interested	Type of Information	Percent of Respondents									
		Sporting Goods Stores	Newspapers	Books & Magazines	Brochures	Trailhead Signs	Ranger Or Volunteer	Visitor Center/ Ranger Station	The Internet	Audio or video tapes	Trail clubs/ organizations
Section Hikers Only											
1.9	Map of location of trails and features	31.2	0.4	27.8	7.1	15.8	11.7	19.2	22.2	0.4	57.5
6.0	Rules and regulations for the area	5.3	0.8	18.0	10.5	31.2	23.7	38.3	14.7	0.4	33.5
6.0	Tips on A.T. hiking and camping	8.3	1.9	45.9	12.0	3.4	13.5	15.0	28.6	1.1	41.0
9.0	Types of plants and animals in the area	1.5	1.9	54.5	8.6	3.8	18.0	23.3	11.7	0.8	18.4
57.1	Hunting or fishing in the area	5.3	0.4	9.4	0.8	1.9	7.1	8.3	5.6	0.0	3.0
8.6	Trail safety	4.5	1.9	38.0	10.9	12.8	22.6	22.2	15.0	0.0	36.8
6.0	Trail history and philosophy	0.4	1.9	48.9	8.3	4.5	12.0	19.2	16.2	0.0	39.5
2.6	General forest and park information	3.0	2.3	22.6	15.8	15.8	34.6	45.1	16.5	0.4	19.9
7.9	Low impact camping	4.9	2.6	43.2	9.8	7.9	14.7	14.7	16.2	1.1	33.1
14.3	Volunteer opportunities	3.0	4.1	8.3	5.6	1.5	15.8	14.7	13.5	0.0	50.0
19.2	Places similar to this area	3.8	2.3	34.6	7.5	1.5	8.3	10.9	19.5	0.0	21.1
9.4	Other, please describe:	0.4	0.0	1.5	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.8	0.0	1.5
Thru Hikers Only											
3.1	Map of location of trails and features	28.6	0.3	20.8	5.3	9.7	4.7	14.2	14.8	0.9	60.1
7.9	Rules and regulations for the area	2.8	0.0	10.7	10.1	41.8	22.0	38.1	4.1	0.0	22.0
7.5	Tips on A.T. hiking and camping	11.6	0.6	50.0	6.0	4.4	8.5	9.4	29.6	6.0	33.6
7.5	Types of plants and animals in the area	3.5	0.0	57.2	11.9	8.8	17.6	23.0	6.9	1.6	11.0
50.0	Hunting or fishing in the area	6.0	0.3	6.9	5.0	6.6	14.8	17.3	1.3	0.0	5.3
17.0	Trail safety	2.5	0.0	27.7	7.9	14.8	18.6	21.4	8.2	0.9	23.0
8.5	Trail history and philosophy	2.2	1.9	53.1	10.7	6.3	9.7	19.2	10.7	2.5	32.4
3.8	General forest and park information	2.8	0.6	15.4	12.9	22.3	24.8	47.8	8.2	0.9	14.5
11.0	Low impact camping	5.0	0.0	47.5	6.9	12.3	13.5	17.0	11.3	1.9	22.3
12.3	Volunteer opportunities	1.6	0.9	5.7	5.7	1.3	20.1	18.9	12.9	0.0	55.7
19.5	Places similar to this area	5.3	1.9	34.6	5.7	0.9	9.4	13.2	19.5	0.9	16.7
8.8	Other, please describe:	0.6	0.0	1.3	0.3	0.0	0.9	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.3

- All hiker types obtain information about volunteer opportunities primarily from trail clubs or organizations.
- Very little information was obtained from audio or video tapes by any of the hiker types.
- About half of all types of hikers were not interested in obtaining information about hunting or fishing in the area.
- Section hikers (60.1%) and thru hikers (57.5%) most frequently obtain maps of trails and features from trail clubs or organizations.
- Over 50% of all types of hikers use books and magazines to obtain information about plants and animals in the area.

(QB2) by Region

If interested, where: [check each applicable column]

Not Interested	Type of Information	Percent of Respondents									
		Sporting Goods Stores	Newspapers	Books & Magazines	Brochures	Trailhead Signs	Ranger Or Volunteer	Visitor Center/ Ranger Station	The Internet	Audio or video tapes	Trail clubs/ organizations
%											
New England Region Only											
1.3	Map of location of trails and features	35.3	1.4	38.8	11.7	22.7	14.6	28.2	25.9	0.7	39.2
4.6	Rules and regulations for the area	4.2	0.9	21.3	13.0	34.2	26.8	40.7	14.5	0.1	22.6
8.1	Tips on A.T. hiking and camping	9.6	2.6	48.6	10.7	7.5	17.2	21.7	23.0	0.9	30.0
10.0	Types of plants and animals in the area	3.5	1.7	52.4	11.6	6.8	20.0	25.8	12.4	0.3	10.7
47.0	Hunting or fishing in the area	8.1	0.9	12.7	4.1	3.2	10.9	12.6	5.9	0.0	4.2
9.8	Trail safety	4.1	1.0	35.2	10.1	14.8	24.0	28.4	11.1	0.6	22.4
7.2	Trail history and philosophy	2.5	1.9	48.6	10.3	7.8	16.1	25.2	14.5	0.7	23.6
2.5	General forest and park information	3.0	1.9	28.1	16.2	14.2	29.5	44.6	16.5	0.4	14.2
9.4	Low impact camping	4.3	1.6	43.6	11.7	8.0	15.9	21.6	13.2	0.7	22.3
16.2	Volunteer opportunities	2.0	3.6	10.3	5.8	2.3	19.0	20.3	13.6	0.0	39.4
12.3	Places similar to this area	6.5	3.2	38.2	9.3	2.0	12.4	16.5	21.4	0.3	17.9
8.7	Other, please describe:	0.9	0.0	1.6	0.4	0.6	1.0	0.6	1.2	0.0	1.0
Middle Atlantic Region Only											
1.5	Map of location of trails and features	36.1	2.2	31.8	11.7	17.2	13.9	26.3	23.7	1.1	48.5
6.6	Rules and regulations for the area	2.2	0.0	19.0	12.4	38.3	28.1	37.6	12.4	0.4	25.9
7.3	Tips on A.T. hiking and camping	8.8	0.7	51.5	13.1	4.7	16.4	17.9	27.0	1.5	39.8
10.6	Types of plants and animals in the area	3.3	1.1	52.2	9.9	6.6	20.8	25.2	13.9	0.7	15.7
56.9	Hunting or fishing in the area	5.5	0.4	8.8	4.4	3.6	8.0	12.4	5.5	0.4	5.1
11.3	Trail safety	3.3	0.4	32.5	10.2	17.9	28.8	30.7	16.1	1.1	29.9
5.8	Trail history and philosophy	2.6	1.8	52.2	12.8	8.4	16.1	26.3	18.2	2.2	33.2
2.6	General forest and park information	4.7	2.2	24.1	21.2	15.7	34.3	47.8	20.4	1.1	18.2
12.4	Low impact camping	6.6	1.5	47.1	9.1	8.8	19.0	16.8	16.4	0.7	30.7
20.1	Volunteer opportunities	1.8	2.2	6.9	6.2	1.5	17.9	15.3	13.1	0.0	46.0
13.1	Places similar to this area	6.9	3.6	40.1	11.7	4.4	11.3	12.8	25.5	1.5	24.1
8.4	Other, please describe:	1.1	0.7	2.2	0.4	0.7	0.4	1.1	0.7	0.0	2.6

If interested, where: [check each applicable column]

Not Interested	Type of Information	Percent of Respondents										
		Sporting Goods Stores	Newspapers	Books & Magazines	Brochures	Trailhead Signs	Ranger Or Volunteer	Visitor Center/ Ranger Station	The Internet	Audio or video tapes	Trail clubs/ organizations	
Southwest Virginia Region Only												
1.4	Map of location of trails and features	38.1	3.7	23.5	26.4	22.1	12.0	36.7	31.2	0.9	21.5	
4.0	Rules and regulations for the area	6.3	0.6	8.0	14.0	30.1	18.1	40.7	14.0	0.6	9.5	
8.6	Tips on A.T. hiking and camping	17.2	3.7	33.2	14.3	6.3	10.6	19.5	26.1	1.7	17.2	
7.4	Types of plants and animals in the area	4.3	1.7	41.3	16.3	8.9	13.5	27.5	16.3	1.4	7.7	
35.5	Hunting or fishing in the area	10.6	2.0	9.5	8.6	6.6	9.5	20.6	12.9	0.6	3.2	
10.6	Trail safety	4.3	2.6	19.5	12.6	15.8	16.9	31.8	12.6	0.9	13.5	
11.2	Trail history and philosophy	2.9	2.9	33.0	14.6	8.6	11.7	23.2	19.5	1.7	12.3	
2.6	General forest and park information	4.6	2.6	15.2	18.1	12.0	19.8	44.7	24.4	1.1	9.2	
11.7	Low impact camping	10.6	3.2	29.5	14.3	6.6	10.0	21.5	16.9	1.4	16.6	
17.5	Volunteer opportunities	3.2	4.6	3.4	6.3	1.4	16.3	24.4	16.0	0.9	28.9	
9.2	Places similar to this area	13.2	4.9	27.8	10.3	2.0	8.9	20.9	26.6	1.1	15.8	
6.9	Other, please describe:	0.6	0.3	1.1	1.1	0.3	0.9	1.7	2.6	0.0	1.1	
Deep South Region Only												
1.2	Map of location of trails and features	38.9	0.8	39.3	16.2	21.5	16.6	48.6	28.3	0.8	17.0	
2.8	Rules and regulations for the area	6.1	0.8	18.6	13.4	25.1	25.1	55.9	15.4	0.0	8.5	
4.0	Tips on A.T. hiking and camping	18.2	2.8	53.4	13.4	7.7	16.6	32.8	27.5	1.2	18.6	
8.5	Types of plants and animals in the area	3.6	1.6	52.2	11.7	6.5	21.5	34.4	13.0	0.4	4.5	
44.1	Hunting or fishing in the area	8.5	1.2	10.9	5.3	4.0	13.8	24.7	5.7	0.0	0.8	
5.3	Trail safety	6.1	2.0	32.8	12.1	16.6	25.9	42.1	13.0	0.4	13.0	
5.7	Trail history and philosophy	4.0	3.6	53.0	11.7	6.9	19.0	33.6	15.4	0.8	14.6	
1.2	General forest and park information	4.5	3.2	26.7	17.4	10.9	32.0	57.1	19.4	0.4	7.3	
8.5	Low impact camping	8.9	3.6	40.1	13.0	6.1	17.8	30.0	15.8	0.8	15.8	
17.4	Volunteer opportunities	2.8	4.9	7.7	6.9	1.2	22.3	29.6	14.6	0.0	27.9	
8.5	Places similar to this area	10.5	2.8	38.5	10.9	3.2	12.6	24.7	23.1	0.4	8.9	
6.5	Other, please describe:	0.0	0.0	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.8	1.2	0.8	0.0	0.4	

- Mid-Atlantic trail users were more likely than New England users to obtain many of the types of information listed from trail clubs and organizations.
- Hikers in the Southwest Virginia region were more likely than those from other regions to be interested in information about hunting or fishing in the area.
- Hikers in the two southern regions were less likely than those from the two northern regions to seek any kind of information from trail clubs and organizations.

3. How did you first learn about the Appalachian Trail? _____

(QB3)

- Verbatim responses to this question are shown in APPENDIX C and are organized by the 22 trail segments.

- Common responses to this question included:
 2. Word-of-mouth, other people
 3. Media such as signs and publications
 4. By association (i.e. grew up hiking it, summer camp, lived near it)

4. How would you rate your knowledge of minimum impact/leave-no-trace outdoor skills and practices? [Circle One]

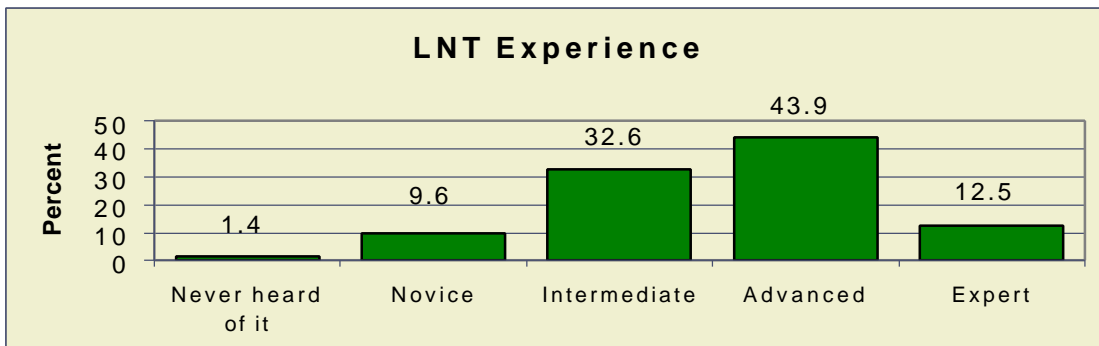
Never heard of it Novice Intermediate Advanced Expert

(QB4)

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Never heard of it	21	1.4	0	0.0
Novice	149	9.6	2	0.6
Intermediate	476	32.6	36	11.5
Advanced	634	43.9	190	60.9
Expert	175	12.5	84	26.9

N=632; 152

(QB4) Users (Non-Thru Hikers)



- Most AT users perceive their knowledge of minimum impact/leave-no-trace practices to be advanced or intermediate.
- Very few respondents had not heard of minimum impact/LNT programs or considered themselves just novices.
- The majority of thru hikers considered their knowledge to be advanced (61%) or expert (27%).

(QB4) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Never heard of it	2.9	0.2	0.4	0.0	1.1
Novice	17.5	6.6	1.2	0.6	8.6
Intermediate	38.5	31.7	21.6	11.5	29.0
Advanced	33.8	48.7	56.4	60.9	46.7
Expert	7.4	12.7	20.5	26.9	14.5

- The majority of all hiker types reported their knowledge of LNT/ Minimum Impact as intermediate or advanced.
- Section hikers (20.5%) and thru hikers (26.9%) were more likely to rate themselves as experts.

(QB4) by Region

	New England	Mid- Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Never heard of it	0.5	0.8	4.1	1.3	0.0	21
Novice	6.4	8.6	17.8	12.4	0.6	151
Intermediate	29.8	31.2	36.9	36.9	11.5	512
Advanced	47.5	46.6	34.4	41.6	60.9	824
Expert	15.9	12.8	6.7	7.7	26.9	259

- Users from the two northern regions tended to rate their knowledge of minimum impact/leave no trace skills and practices higher than users of the two southern regions.

5. The following statements pertain to minimum impact practices and backcountry behavior. Please indicate whether you believe the following statements are true or false.

- a) True False When selecting a campsite in obviously impacted areas you should spread activities to places that have not been disturbed.
- b) True False The same rules and regulations apply to the entire Appalachian Trail.
- c) True False When hiking and encountering a horse party you should wait until the horses have come to a stop and then move quickly past them.
- d) True False I cannot ride my mountain bike on the Appalachian Trail, because it is not allowed.
- e) True False While backpacking, you should never camp next to a stream.
- f) True False If I wanted to ride my All Terrain Vehicle on the A.T. I could do so as long as I stay on the trail.
- g) True False When hiking in remote, lightly used locations it is best to camp on a site with no evidence of previous use to minimize your impact on the wilderness environment.
- h) True False Building temporary fire rings by moving rocks and logs at your campsite is an accepted low-impact behavior.
- i) True False When traveling on existing trails it is best to walk single file and stay on the main path to minimize impact.
- j) True False Hikers should not collect plants and rocks along the Appalachian Trail.

(QB5)

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)			Thru Hikers		
	True	False	Number	True	False	Number
a. When selecting a campsite in obviously impacted areas you should spread activities to places that have not been disturbed.	9.7	90.3	1448	11.1	88.9	307
b. The same rules and regulations apply to the entire Appalachian Trail.	29.4	70.6	1432	12.8	87.2	312
c. When hiking and encountering a horse party you should wait until the horses have come to a stop and then move quickly past them.	27.5	72.5	1376	25.6	74.4	293
d. I cannot ride my mountain bike on the Appalachian Trail, because it is not allowed.	87.6	12.4	1408	96.8	3.2	310
e. While backpacking, you should never camp next to a stream.	68.9	31.1	1430	59.7	40.3	303
f. If I wanted to ride my All Terrain Vehicle on the A.T. I could do so as long as I stay on the trail.	.6	99.4	1445	0.6	99.4	311
g. When hiking in remote, lightly used locations it is best to camp on a site with no evidence of previous use to minimize your impact on the wilderness environment.	43.5	56.5	1429	72.9	27.1	310
h. Building temporary fire rings by moving rocks and logs at your campsite is an accepted low-impact behavior.	17.6	82.4	1431	8.4	91.6	309
i. When traveling on existing trails it is best to walk single file and stay on the main path to minimize impact.	99.3	.7	1457	99.0	1.0	313
j. Hikers should not collect plants and rocks along the Appalachian Trail.	97.6	2.4	1457	97.1	2.9	311

- Nearly all trail users knew that:
 - hikers should walk single file to minimize their impacts on the environment,
 - they should not collect plants and rocks along the trail, and
 - all terrain vehicles are not permitted on the trail.
- While most trail users realized that mountain biking is not allowed on the AT, the proportion getting this item correct was higher for thru hikers (97%) than for non-thru hikers (88%).
- About nine-tenths of both thru hikers and non-thru hikers knew that, in obviously impacted areas, they should not spread their campsites to areas that have not been disturbed.
- There was more uncertainty about proper campsite selection in lightly used areas, with 73% of thru hikers agreeing that it is best to camp on a site with no evidence of previous use, versus only 44% of non-thru hikers.
- Another area of uncertainty was the item stating that you should never camp next to a stream. Nearly one-third (31%) of non-thru hikers and 40% of thru hikers disagreed with this notion.
- Nearly one-third of non-thru hikers, but only 13% of thru hikers, did not realize that the same rules and regulations do not apply to the entire Appalachian Trail.
- About three-fourths of both groups understood that proper horse etiquette does not involve waiting for horses to stop and moving quickly past them.
- Over eighty percent of both thru hikers and non-thru hikers knew that building temporary fire rings is not an accepted low impact behavior.
- In general, thru hikers were slightly more knowledgeable than non-thru users about LNT principles, although both groups demonstrated high knowledge of most of the items listed.

(QB5) by Type of Hiker

	Day Users		Overnight		Section Hikers		Thru Hiker		Total	
	True	False	True	False	True	False	True	False	True	False
a. When selecting a campsite in obviously impacted areas you should spread activities to places that have not been disturbed.	9.0	91.0	9.6	90.4	13.5	86.5	11.1	88.9	10.2	89.8
b. The same rules and regulations apply to the entire Appalachian Trail.	32.4	67.6	29.2	70.8	24.8	75.2	12.8	87.2	26.7	73.3
c. When hiking and encountering a horse party you should wait until the horses have come to a stop and then move quickly past them.	31.2	68.8	24.4	75.6	26.7	73.3	25.6	74.4	27.4	72.6
d. I cannot ride my mountain bike on the Appalachian Trail, because it is not allowed.	86.0	14.0	86.7	13.3	95.0	5.0	96.8	3.2	89.5	10.5
e. While backpacking, you should never camp next to a stream.	64.1	35.9	73.4	26.6	63.6	36.4	59.7	40.3	66.2	33.8
f. If I wanted to ride my All Terrain Vehicle on the A.T. I could do so as long as I stay on the trail.	0.5	99.5	0.7	99.3	0.0	100.0	0.6	99.4	0.5	99.5
g. When hiking in remote, lightly used locations it is best to camp on a site with no evidence of previous use to minimize your impact on the wilderness environment.	37.2	62.8	46.7	53.3	49.4	50.6	72.9	27.1	48.4	51.6
h. Building temporary fire rings by moving rocks and logs at your campsite is an accepted low-impact behavior.	26.7	73.3	13.4	86.6	10.0	90.0	8.4	91.6	16.7	83.3
i. When traveling on existing trails it is best to walk single file and stay on the main path to minimize impact.	99.2	0.8	99.3	0.7	99.2	0.8	99.0	1.0	99.2	0.8
j. Hikers should not collect plants and rocks along the Appalachian Trail	96.7	3.3	97.8	2.2	98.8	1.2	97.1	2.9	97.4	2.6

- Each type of hiker generally knew that ATV's are not allowed on the trail, it is best to stay in a single file line when hiking existing trails, and that hikers should not collect plants and rocks along the AT.
- Thru hikers (72.9%) correctly answered the question concerning low use, remote, wilderness camping far more than day (37.2%) and overnight (46.7%) users.

(QB5) by Region

	New England		Mid-Atlantic		Southwest Virginia		Deep South		Thru Hikers		Total	
	True	False	True	False	True	False	True	False	True	False	True	False
a. When selecting a campsite in obviously impacted areas you should spread activities to places that have not been disturbed.	9.7	90.3	9.2	90.8	9.6	90.4	13.2	86.8	11.1	88.9	10.3	89.7
b. The same rules and regulations apply to the entire Appalachian Trail.	27.6	72.4	25.1	74.9	36.8	63.2	30.0	70.0	12.8	87.2	26.5	73.5
c. When hiking and encountering a horse party you should wait until the horses have come to a stop and then move quickly past them.	29.0	71.0	28.7	71.3	26.3	73.7	25.8	74.2	25.6	74.4	27.4	72.6
d. I cannot ride my mountain bike on the Appalachian Trail, because it is not allowed.	86.7	13.3	88.8	11.2	87.0	13.0	90.9	9.1	96.8	3.2	89.5	10.5
e. While backpacking, you should never camp next to a stream.	72.6	27.4	71.5	28.5	64.1	35.9	54.1	45.9	59.7	40.3	66.2	33.8
f. If I wanted to ride my All Terrain Vehicle on the A.T. I could do so as long as I stay on the trail.	0.8	99.2	0.0	100.0	0.3	99.7	0.8	99.2	0.6	99.4	0.6	99.4
g. When hiking in remote, lightly used locations it is best to camp on a site with no evidence of previous use to minimize your impact on the wilderness environment.	45.6	54.4	45.3	54.7	38.7	61.3	39.7	60.3	72.9	27.1	48.4	51.6
h. Building temporary fire rings by moving rocks and logs at your campsite is an accepted low-impact behavior.	10.6	89.4	18.1	81.9	30.5	69.5	24.1	75.9	8.4	91.6	16.7	83.3
i. When traveling on existing trails it is best to walk single file and stay on the main path to minimize impact.	99.5	0.5	100	0.0	98.7	1.3	98.3	1.7	99.0	1.0	99.2	0.8
j. Hikers should not collect plants and rocks along the Appalachian Trail	98.4	1.6	97.3	2.7	95.5	4.5	97.4	2.6	97.1	2.9	97.4	0.0

- There were few noticeable differences among regions in the responses to the minimum impact/LNT questions.
- Trail users in Southwest Virginia were somewhat less likely (63%) than those in the other regions (70-75%) to realize that the same rules and regulations do not apply to the entire Appalachian Trail.
- Users in the Deep South were least likely to agree that, while backpacking, you should never camp next to a stream.

6. According to accepted minimum impact practices for the Appalachian Trail,

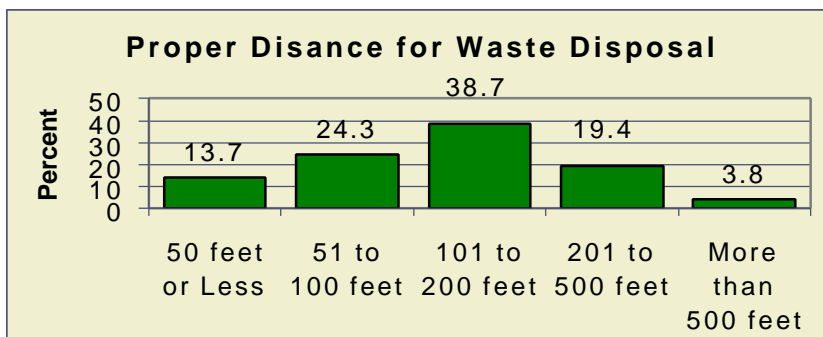
a. How far from a stream or water source (in feet) should you dispose of human wastes? _____ Feet

(QB6a)

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
50 feet or Less	182	13.7	8	2.6
51 to 100 feet	322	24.3	41	13.6
101 to 200 feet	513	38.7	177	58.6
201 to 500 feet	257	19.4	69	22.8
More than 500 feet	51	3.8	7	2.3
Mean	230.7		236.5	

N=1325; 302

(QB6a) Users (Non-Thru Hikers)



- The majority of thru hikers (59%) believed that human waste should be disposed of between 101 and 200 feet from a stream or water source.
- The responses of non-thru hikers were more evenly distributed, with greater proportions stating that the proper distance for disposal of human wastes should be 51 to 100 feet (24% versus 14% of thru hikers) or 50 feet or less (14% versus just 3% of thru hikers).

(QB6a) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
50 feet or Less	23.4	7.8	5.6	2.6	11.7
51 to 100 feet	29.4	21.9	18.7	13.6	22.3
101 to 200 feet	27.0	44.3	51.6	58.6	42.4
200 to 500 feet	17.0	21.4	20.2	22.8	20.0
More than 500 feet	3.2	4.6	4.0	2.3	3.6
Mean	206.2	246.9	250.1	236.5	232.0

- Day users (23.4%) were far more likely to report that human waste should be disposed of within 50 feet or less of a stream or water source than any other type of hiker.

(QB6a) by Region

	New England	Mid- Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
50 feet or Less	8.2	14.4	24.6	14.9	2.6	11.7
51 to 100 feet	17.8	22.0	29.9	38.1	13.6	22.3
101 to 200 feet	49.3	40.8	20.8	28.8	58.6	42.4
201 to 500 feet	19.8	20.0	20.5	16.3	22.8	20.0
More than 500 feet	4.9	2.8	4.2	1.9	2.3	3.6
Mean	246.9	213.7	256.5	174.1	236.5	231.8

- Trail users in the northern regions were more likely than those in the southern regions to report a distance of more than 100 feet from a stream or water source for disposal of human wastes.
- Hikers in the Deep South were most likely to state between 51 and 100 feet for the proper distance.

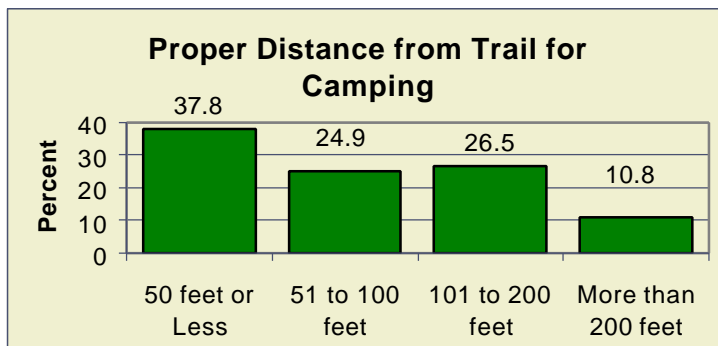
**6. According to accepted minimum impact practices for the Appalachian Trail,
b. How far from an established trail (in feet) should you camp? _____ Feet**

(QB6b)

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
50 feet or Less	480	37.8	70	24.2
51 to 100 feet	316	24.9	77	26.6
101 to 200 feet	337	26.5	104	36.0
More than 200 feet	137	10.8	38	13.1
Mean	156.8		162.9	

N=1270; 289

(QB6b) Users (Non-Thru Hikers)



- Non-thru hikers were most likely to state 50 feet or less (38%), while thru hikers were most likely to report between 101 and 200 feet (36.0%).

(QB6b) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
50 feet or Less	50.1	30.8	26.6	24.2	35.4
51 to 100 feet	26.5	21.7	27.9	26.6	25.2
101 to 200 feet	15.9	34.5	33.0	36.0	28.3
More than 200 feet	7.5	13.0	12.4	13.1	11.1
Mean	127.2	180.5	169.8	162.9	157.8

- Day users (50.1%) were far more likely to report that according to accepted minimum impact standards they should camp within 50 feet or less from an established trail.

(QB6b) by Region

	New England	Mid- Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
50 feet or Less	28.4	37.1	48.8	50.7	24.2	35.3
51 to 100 feet	20.2	29.7	26.0	30.9	26.6	25.2
101 to 200 feet	38.9	20.3	16.3	12.1	36.0	28.3
More than 200 feet	12.4	12.9	8.9	6.3	13.1	11.2
Mean	181.4	155.5	128.1	126.0	162.9	157.9

- Hikers in Southwest Virginia and the Deep South were much more likely than those in the northern regions to report a distance of 50 feet or less for camping near an established trail.

7. We are trying to determine visitors' perceptions of security on the Appalachian Trail. "Security" refers to feeling free from being threatened or attacked by other people on the trail.

a. On this trip, how secure did you feel:

while you were out on the A.T.	Very Secure	Reasonably Secure	Somewhat Insecure	Very Insecure
while leaving the A.T. (e.g. to go to town)	Very Secure	Reasonably Secure	Somewhat Insecure	Very Insecure

b. On this trip, how satisfied were you with:

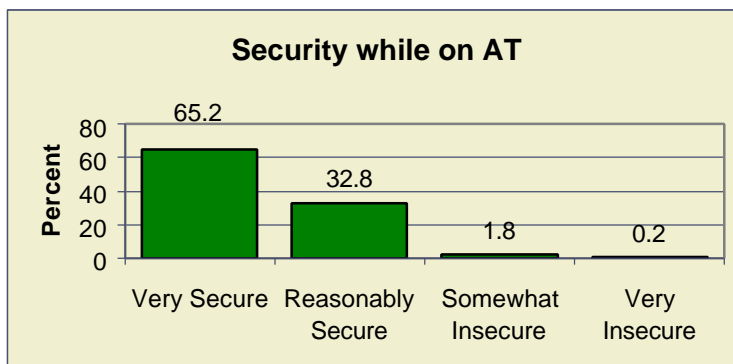
The level of security at trailheads and parking lots along the AT	Very Satisfied	Reasonably Satisfied	Somewhat Unsatisfied	Very Unsatisfied
The level of assistance from rangers, ridge runners, and volunteers along the AT	Very Satisfied	Reasonably Satisfied	Somewhat Unsatisfied	Very Unsatisfied

(QB7a) Feelings of security while out on the AT

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)			Thru Hikers	
	Scale	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Very Secure	1	950	65.2	234	74.5
Reasonably Secure	2	485	32.8	76	24.2
Somewhat Insecure	3	26	1.8	4	1.3
Very Insecure	4	3	0.2	0	0.0
Mean			1.4		1.3

N=1464; 314

(QB7a) Users (Non-Thru Hikers)



- The majority of both thru hikers (75%) and non-thru hikers (65%) felt very secure while out on the Appalachian Trail.
- Non-thru hikers were slightly more likely (33%) than thru hikers (24%) to feel reasonably secure on the trail.
- Very few (less than 2%) thru hikers or non-thru hikers felt less than reasonably secure while out on the trail.

(QB7a) by Type of Hiker

	Scale	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Very Secure	1	67.8	64.2	58.8	74.5	66.5
Reasonably Secure	2	30.6	33.6	38.8	24.2	31.7
Somewhat Insecure	3	1.3	2.0	2.3	1.3	1.6
Very Insecure	4	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.2

- Feelings of security were relatively consistent across the hiker types.

(QB7a) by Region

	Scale	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Very Secure	1	71.3	55.1	62.1	62.2	74.5	66.6
Reasonably Secure	2	27.8	40.4	34.7	37.4	24.2	31.6
Somewhat Insecure	3	0.9	4.2	2.5	0.4	1.3	1.7
Very Insecure	4	0.0	0.4	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.2
Mean		1.3	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.4

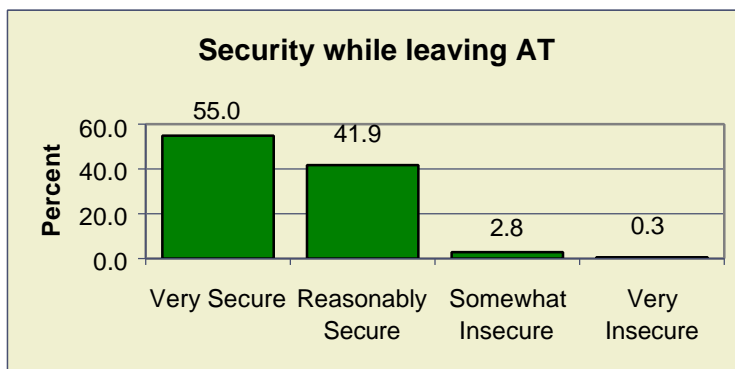
- There were only minor differences in feelings of security on the trail across regions.
- Hikers in the Mid-Atlantic region were least likely (55%) to feel “very secure” while out on the trail.

(QB7a) Feelings of security while leaving the AT

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)			Thru Hikers	
	Scale	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Very Secure	1	776	55.0	83	26.6
Reasonably Secure	2	574	41.9	210	67.3
Somewhat Insecure	3	39	2.8	19	6.1
Very Insecure	4	4	0.3	0	0.0
Mean			1.5		1.8

N=1393; 312

(QB7a) Users (Non-Thru Hikers)



- There was a more noticeable difference in perceptions of security while leaving the AT (e.g. to go to town) between thru hikers and non-thru hikers.
- The majority of non-thru hikers (55.0%) felt very secure when leaving the trail versus only 26.6% of thru hikers.
- Two-thirds of thru hikers reported feeling reasonably secure while leaving the AT.

(QB7a) Type of Hiker

	Scale	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Very Secure	1	64.8	55.9	34.0	26.6	50.3
Reasonably Secure	2	33.8	40.0	60.9	67.3	46.0
Somewhat Insecure	3	1.2	4.0	4.3	6.1	3.4
Very Insecure	4	0.2	0.2	0.8	0.0	0.2
Mean		1.3	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.4

- The vast majority of all types of hikers felt “very secure” or “reasonably secure” when leaving the AT.
- Day (64.8%) and overnight (55.9%) users reported feeling “very secure” far more than section (34.0%) and thru (26.6%) hikers.

(QB7a) by Region

	Scale	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Very Secure	1	58.7	45.9	57.3	56.6	26.6	50.4
Reasonably Secure	2	39.1	49.0	40.7	38.6	67.3	46.0
Somewhat Insecure	3	2.1	4.7	1.7	3.9	6.1	3.4
Very Insecure	4	0.0	0.4	0.3	0.9	0.0	0.2
Mean		1.4	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.8	1.5

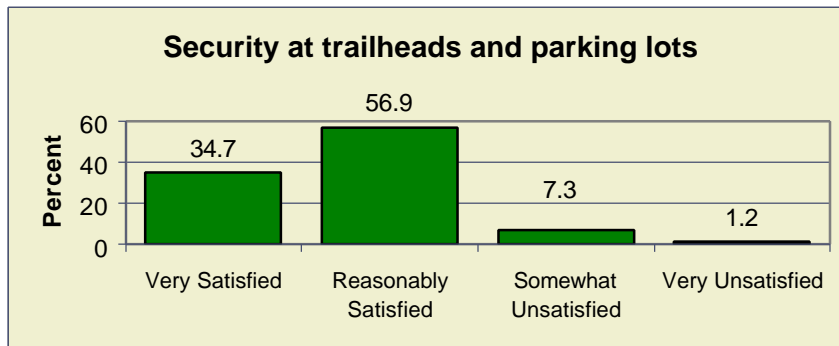
- Regional differences in feelings about security while leaving the trail mirrored those for feelings about security on the trail.
- Those in the Mid-Atlantic region were less likely (45.9%) than those in the other regions (57.3-58.7%) to feel “very secure” while leaving the trail.

(QB7b) Satisfaction with security at trailheads and parking lots

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)			Thru Hikers	
	Scale	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Very Satisfied	1	489	34.7	84	29.1
Reasonably Satisfied	2	799	56.9	173	59.9
Somewhat Unsatisfied	3	109	7.3	28	9.7
Very Unsatisfied	4	16	1.2	4	1.4
Mean			1.8		1.8

N=1413; 289

(QB7b) Users (Non-Thru Hikers)



- Most thru hikers and non-thru hikers were reasonably satisfied with the level of security at trailheads and parking lots along the AT.
- About one-third of each group was very satisfied with security at trailheads and parking lots.
- Only about 10% of either thru hikers or non-thru hikers were unsatisfied with security at trailheads and parking lots along the AT.

(QB7b) by Type of Hiker

	Scale	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Very Satisfied	1	35.7	36.3	27.7	29.1	33.6
Reasonably Satisfied	2	56.4	55.4	60.2	59.9	57.3
Somewhat Unsatisfied	3	6.9	7.7	9.6	9.7	8.1
Very Unsatisfied	4	1.0	0.6	2.4	1.4	1.1
Mean		1.4	1.5	1.7	1.8	1.5

- Feelings of security at trailheads and parking lots along the AT were generally consistent across the different types of hikers.

(QB7b) by Region

	Scale	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Very Satisfied	1	36.3	33.6	27.7	40.3	29.1	33.7
Reasonably Satisfied	2	56.1	59.1	60.1	50.2	59.9	57.1
Somewhat Unsatisfied	3	6.0	6.9	10.6	9.5	9.7	8.0
Very Unsatisfied	4	1.6	0.4	1.7	0.0	1.4	1.2
Mean		1.7	1.7	1.9	1.7	1.8	1.8

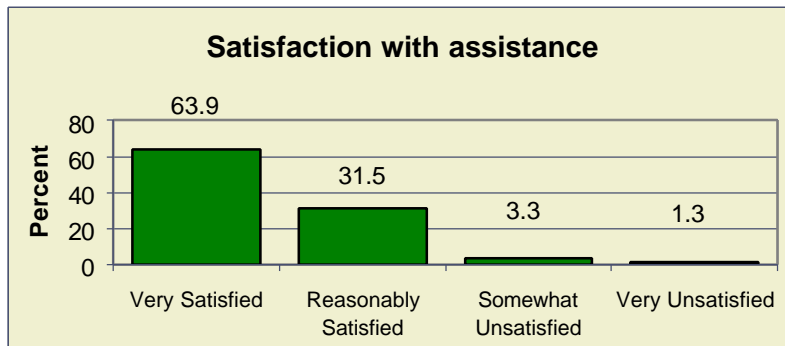
- Hikers in Southwest Virginia were slightly less likely to be “very satisfied” (28%) with security at trailheads and parking lots than hikers from other regions (34-40%).

(QB7b) Satisfaction with assistance from rangers, ridge runners, and volunteers

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)			Thru Hikers	
	Scale	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Very Satisfied	1	859	63.9	141	46.2
Reasonably Satisfied	2	452	31.5	147	48.2
Somewhat Unsatisfied	3	50	3.3	14	4.6
Very Unsatisfied	4	17	1.3	3	1.0
Mean			1.4		1.6

N=1378; 305

(QB7b) Users (Non-Thru Hikers)



- Most AT users were “very satisfied” with the assistance they received from rangers, ridge runners, and volunteers.
- AT users were generally more satisfied with the assistance they received from rangers, ridge runners, and volunteers along the AT than they were with the level of security at trailheads and parking lots.
- Non-thru hikers (63.9%) were much more likely than thru hikers (46.2%) to report that they were very satisfied with the level of assistance from rangers, ridge runners, and volunteers along the AT.

(QB7b) by Type of Hiker

	Scale	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Very Satisfied	1	56.7	68.9	60.2	46.2	59.3
Reasonably Satisfied	2	35.9	29.6	33.3	48.2	35.7
Somewhat Unsatisfied	3	5.4	0.9	5.6	4.6	3.8
Very Unsatisfied	4	1.9	0.6	0.8	1.0	1.1
Mean		1.7	1.7	1.9	1.8	1.8

- Overall, each type of hiker reported being “very satisfied” with the assistance they received from rangers, ridge runners, and volunteers.
- However, thru hikers (46.2%) were less likely to report being “very satisfied”.

(QB7b) by Region

	Scale	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Very Satisfied	1	65.5	68.7	48.8	63.5	46.2	59.4
Reasonably Satisfied	2	31.2	27.4	41.3	32.4	48.2	35.6
Somewhat Unsatisfied	3	2.4	2.8	6.7	4.1	4.6	3.8
Very Unsatisfied	4	0.8	1.2	3.2	0.0	1.0	1.2
Mean		1.4	1.4	1.6	1.4	1.6	1.5

- Hikers in Southwest Virginia were again slightly less likely to be very satisfied (48.8%) with the assistance from rangers, ridge runners, and volunteers along the AT than hikers from other regions (63.5-68.7%).

c. Have you encountered a security problem along the trail during the past 12 months?

Yes No

If yes, did the incident involve a personal threat or attack against you?

Yes No

Did the incident involve vandalism or theft of your personal property?

Yes No

Was the incident reported to law enforcement authorities? Yes No

Please describe the incident. (SEE APPENDIX C)

(QB7c) Security problems along the trail during the past 12 months

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	33	2.3	43	13.7
No	1433	97.7	272	86.3

N=1466; 315

- Only a small minority of AT users reported actually encountering a security problem along the trail during the past 12 months.
- Thru hikers, however, were much more likely to have encountered a security problem (13.7%) on the trail than non-thru hikers (2.3%).

(QB7c) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Yes	2.2	1.4	4.2	13.7	4.3
No	97.8	98.6	95.8	86.3	95.7

- Only a small minority of each type of hiker reported actually encountering a security problem along the trail during the past 12 months.

(QB7c) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Yes	2.0	3.4	2.8	0.8	13.7	4.3
No	98.0	96.6	97.2	99.2	86.3	95.7

- Nearly all the hikers in all regions reported not encountering a security problem along the Appalachian Trail during the past 12 months.
- Hikers in the Deep South were least likely to encounter a security problem along the trail (0.8%).

(QB7c) Did the incident involve a personal threat or attack against you?

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	9	14.8	7	14.6
No	46	85.2	41	85.4

N=55; 48

- Among the hikers who encountered a security problem along the trail in the last 12 months, only 15% of the incidents (both thru hikers and non-thru hikers) involved a personal threat or attack.

(QB7c) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Yes	10.0	6.7	33.3	14.6	15.8
No	90.0	93.3	66.7	85.4	84.2

- Among the hikers who encountered a security problem along the trail in the last 12 months (N=76), section hikers reported a higher percentage (33.3%) involving personal threat or attack.

(QB7c) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Yes	12.5	14.3	9.1	50.0	14.6	15.5
No	87.5	85.7	90.9	50.0	85.4	84.5

- The likelihood of a personal threat was greatest in the Deep South (50% of all reported security problems), but this finding should be interpreted with caution as it is based on the very small number of security incidents reported.

(QB7c) Did the incident involve vandalism or theft of your personal property?

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	4	7.5	13	27.7
No	51	92.5	34	72.3

N=51; 34

- For thru hikers, security incidents were more likely to involve vandalism or theft of property than threat of personal attack.
- Less than 10% of the incidents reported by non-thru hikers involved vandalism or theft of personal property, compared to 28% of the incidents reported by thru hikers.

(QB7c) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Yes	5.0	7.1	10.5	27.7	17.0
No	95.0	92.9	89.5	72.3	83.0

- Thru hikers (27.7%) reported more security incidents involving vandalism or theft of property than any other type of hiker (5-10.5%).

(QB7c) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Yes	8.7	0.0	9.1	16.7	27.7	16.7
No	91.3	100.0	90.9	83.3	72.3	83.3

- Only a small percentage of security incidents reported in any of the regions involved vandalism or theft of personal property.

(QB7c) Was the incident reported to law enforcement authorities?

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	8	17.4	17	37.8
No	39	82.6	28	62.2

N=39; 28

- The majority of security problems encountered on the Appalachian Trail were not reported to law enforcement authorities.
- Thru hikers were more than twice as likely (38%) as non-thru hikers (17%) to report the security problems they encountered to law enforcement authorities.

(QB7c) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Yes	10.5	20.0	23.5	37.8	27.5
No	89.5	80.0	76.5	62.2	72.5

- Thru hikers were far more likely (38%) to report security problems to the authorities than day users (10.5%).

(QB7c) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Yes	23.8	8.3	10.0	25.0	37.8	27.2
No	76.2	91.7	90.0	75.0	62.2	72.8

- Only a small percentage of the security problems encountered in any region were reported to law enforcement authorities.

d. Have you encountered a security problem at a trailhead or parking lot or within a few miles of the trail during the past 12 months?

Yes No

If yes, did the incident involve a personal threat or attack against you?

Yes No

Did the incident involve vandalism or theft of your personal property?

Yes No

Was the incident reported to law enforcement authorities? Yes No

Please describe the incident. (SEE APPENDIX C)

(QB7d) Security problem at a trailhead or parking lot in past 12 months

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	41	2.9	29	9.4
No	1416	97.1	280	90.6

N=1457; 280

- A very small percentage of AT users reported encountering a security problem at a trailhead or parking lot within a few miles of the trail during the past twelve months.
- As in the case of security incidents along the trail, thru hikers were much more likely (9%) than non-thru hikers (3%) to have encountered a security problem at a trailhead or parking lot.

(QB7d) Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Yes	1.6	3.1	5.3	9.4	4.0
No	98.4	96.9	94.7	90.6	96.0

- Only a small percentage of each type of hiker experienced a security problem at a trailhead or parking lot within a few miles of the trail during the past twelve months.

(QB7d) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Yes	3.1	2.3	1.9	3.8	9.4	4.0
No	96.9	97.7	98.1	96.2	90.6	96.0

- There was little variation across regions in the reporting of security problems at trailheads or parking lots.

(QB7d) Did the incident involve a personal threat or attack against you?

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	4	7.8	3	10.3
No	50	92.2	26	89.7

N=50; 29

- As in the case of incidents along the trail, only a very small percentage of security problems at trailheads or parking lots involved a threat of personal attack.

(QB7d) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Yes	7.1	5.3	10.5	10.3	8.6
No	92.9	94.7	89.5	89.7	91.4

- Again, only a very small percentage of each type of user encountered a security problem involving a personal threat or attack.

(QB7d) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Yes	15.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.3	8.4
No	84.6	100.0	100.0	100.0	89.7	91.6

- Hikers in the New England region were most likely to report a security problem at a trailhead or parking lot or within a few miles of the trail. However, these findings should be interpreted cautiously as they are based on a very small number of cases.

(QB7d) Did the incident involve vandalism or theft of your personal property?

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	16	31.9	5	17.2
No	34	68.1	24	82.8

N=50; 29

- Security incidents at trailheads/parking lots were more likely to involve vandalism or theft of property.
- Nearly one-third of the incidents reported by non-thru hikers involved theft or vandalism, compared to 17% of those reported by thru hikers.

(QB7d) Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Yes	23.1	47.1	27.8	17.2	27.3
No	76.9	52.9	72.2	82.8	72.7

- Incidents of vandalism or theft of property were most common among overnight hikers (47.1%).

(QB7d) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Yes	34.8	12.5	20.0	55.6	17.2	26.6
No	65.2	87.5	80.0	44.4	82.8	73.4

- Incidents of vandalism or theft of property were more common in New England (35%) and in the Deep South (56%), but these figures again are based on a very small number of incidents reported in each region.

(QB7d) Was the incident reported to law enforcement authorities?

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	22	52.5	13	50.0
No	20	47.5	13	50.0

N=42; 26

- Contrary to the reporting of incidents involving personal threat or attack, about half of the incidents involving vandalism or theft of property were reported to law enforcement authorities (thru hikers and non-thru hikers).

(QB7d) Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Yes	41.7	70.6	41.7	50.0	52.2
No	58.3	29.4	58.3	50.0	47.8

- Of the types of hikers who did experience an incident involving vandalism or theft of property, the vast majority of overnight hikers (70.6%) reported these incidents to law enforcement authorities.

(QB7d) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Yes	66.7	33.3	40.0	50.0	50.0	51.5
No	33.3	66.7	60.0	50.0	50.0	48.5

- Incidents of vandalism/theft were more likely to be reported in the New England region (67%), followed by the Deep South (50%). However, these findings should be interpreted cautiously as they are based on a small number of cases.

8. Are you aware of the Appalachian Trail Conference's Hiker Security Guidelines?
 Yes No

(QB8)

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	206	14.8	120	38.2
No	1253	85.2	194	61.8

N=1459; 314

- The majority of AT users are not aware of the Appalachian Trail Conference's Hiker Security Guidelines.
- Thru-hikers, however, are much more likely (38%) to be aware of the guidelines than non-thru hikers (15%).

(QB8) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Yes	6.5	11.2	36.6	38.2	18.1
No	93.5	88.8	63.4	61.8	81.9

- Section (36.6%) and thru (38.3%) hikers are far more likely to be aware of the Appalachian Trail Conference's Hiker Security Guidelines.

(QB8) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Yes	13.4	23.2	9.6	11.8	38.2	18.4
No	86.6	76.8	90.4	88.2	61.8	81.6

- Awareness of the ATC Hiker Security Guidelines is highest in the Mid-Atlantic region (23%) and lowest in Southwest Virginia (10%).

9. When traveling on the Appalachian Trail, do you ever intentionally hike or camp near other people for reasons of safety or personal security?

No

Yes. Please explain (SEE APPENDIX C) _____

(QB9)

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	212	15.4	126	40.6
No	1175	84.6	184	59.4

N=1387; 310

- A minority of AT users intentionally hike or camp near other people for reasons of safety or personal security.
- However, thru hikers are much more likely (41%) to hike or camp near others for security reasons than non-thru hikers (15%).

(QB9) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Yes	13.1	13.7	22.5	40.6	19.8
No	86.9	86.3	77.5	59.4	80.2

- Again, thru hikers are much more likely (41%) to hike or camp near others for security reasons than other types of hikers.

(QB9) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Yes	13.9	20.8	14.7	13.5	40.6	19.9
No	86.1	79.2	85.3	86.5	59.4	80.1

- Only a small minority (one-fifth or less) of users from any region reported hiking or camping near other people for reasons of safety or personal security.

PART C:
The Visitor Experience

1. People have many potential reasons for hiking. We would like to know what motivated you to hike on the Appalachian Trail on the trip when you were contacted for this study. Please indicate (1) how important each of the experiences listed below was to you as a reason to hike, and (2) the extent to which you attained each of these experiences on your hike. [Please circle one number under IMPORTANCE and one number under ATTAINED for each experience]

	IMPORTANCE					ATTAINED				
	Not at all Important				Extremely Important	Not at all Attained				Highly Attained
a. To be on my own	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
b. To take risks	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
c. To use my equipment	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
d. To do something with my family	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
e. To be with members of my group	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
f. To meet new people	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
g. To learn about the countryside	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
h. To enjoy the view along the trail	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
i. To think about my personal values	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
j. To be close to nature	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
k. To be creative by doing something such as sketching, painting, taking photographs	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
l. To bring back pleasant memories of a prior visit	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
m. To get exercise	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
n. To relax physically	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
o. To help reduce built-up tension	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
p. To experience solitude	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
q. To be away from the family for a while	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
r. To share my skill and knowledge with others	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
s. To reach a specific destination (e.g. mountain summit or lake)	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
t. To show others I can do it	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
u. To test my endurance	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
v. To experience a hike on the Appalachian Trail	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5

(QC1)**Users (Non-Thru Hiker) (N=1561)**

	Importance					Attained						
	Not at all Important				Extremely Important	Not at all Attained				Highly Attained		
	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5		
	Percent				Mean	Percent				Mean		
a) To be on my own	23.9	11.5	23.0	24.9	16.6	3.0	16.2	10.4	26.6	23.9	22.9	3.3
b) To take risks	49.3	20.5	19.3	8.0	2.8	1.9	27.6	17.3	24.4	14.1	16.6	2.7
c) To use my equipment	34.0	16.5	22.9	14.9	11.7	2.5	14.8	7.6	21.5	21.3	34.8	3.5
d) To do something with my family	44.8	5.7	8.3	11.9	29.3	2.8	37.7	3.5	6.6	9.2	43.1	3.2
e) To be with members of my group	28.5	5.0	11.6	20.5	34.4	3.3	20.1	2.9	8.6	18.1	50.4	3.8
f) To meet new people	42.5	18.2	22.0	11.8	5.5	2.2	21.3	13.1	25.2	19.8	20.5	3.1
g) To learn about the countryside	11.4	11.4	29.4	29.3	18.4	3.3	6.6	9.5	27.6	30.5	25.8	3.6
h) To enjoy the view along the trail	0.6	1.2	6.8	27.6	63.9	4.5	0.6	1.7	9.1	22.9	65.7	4.5
i) To think about my personal values	12.7	12.3	21.8	25.7	27.4	3.4	6.9	8.8	22.2	28.3	33.7	3.7
j) To be close to nature	1.2	1.4	8.3	26.2	62.8	4.5	0.4	1.3	9.1	25.7	63.5	4.5
k) To be creative by doing something such as sketching, painting, taking photographs	41.8	19.6	18.3	11.5	8.8	2.3	33.3	15	18.8	15.3	17.7	2.7
l) To bring back pleasant memories of a prior visit	36.6	12.2	20.2	17.3	13.8	2.6	27.9	6.9	20.7	20	24.6	3.1
m) To get exercise	0.8	2.1	12.0	30.8	54.4	4.4	0.2	0.6	6.6	21	71.5	4.6
n) To relax physically	10.6	7.6	18.3	25.2	38.4	3.7	8.6	6.3	16	24.4	44.6	3.9
o) To help reduce built-up tension	12.2	9.2	17.1	24.3	37.2	3.7	7.1	4.7	16.3	25	46.9	4
p) To experience solitude	14.3	11.4	21.1	28.3	24.9	3.4	10.9	12.8	26.5	24.9	24.8	3.4
q) To be away from the family for a while	59.9	11.5	12.7	8.6	7.3	1.9	40.2	6.6	14.4	11.2	27.5	2.8
r) To share my skill and knowledge with others	41.1	17.4	22.2	12.7	6.6	2.3	28.3	14.3	25.4	16.1	16	2.8
s) To reach a specific destination (e.g. mountain summit or lake)	12.3	5.8	15.8	26.8	39.3	3.8	8.6	4.6	12.1	18.2	56.5	4.1
t) To show others I can do it	56.3	15.5	12.9	8.4	6.8	1.9	35.2	10	16.2	13.3	25.2	2.8
u) To test my endurance	21.3	11.6	21.9	25.3	19.8	3.1	12	6.8	17.6	25.1	38.5	3.7
v) To experience a hike on the Appalachian Trail	10.8	6.9	18.5	20.8	43.0	3.8	4.9	2.9	14	16.7	61.5	4.3

- For non-thru hikers, the most important reasons for hiking on the AT include being close to nature (mean=4.5 on 5-point scale), enjoying the view along the trail (4.5) and getting exercise (4.4).
- These same three reasons were also the most highly attained motives of AT non-thru hikers.
- Nearly all of the reasons showed a higher score on the attainment scale than on the importance scale, suggesting trail users' expectations were exceeded relative to these types of experiences.
- Reasons showing the greatest "over-attainment" include: using equipment (difference between attainment and importance=1.0), getting away from the family for awhile (0.9), taking risks (0.8), meeting new people (0.9), and showing others I can do it (0.9).

Thru Hikers Only (N=318)	Importance					Attained						
	Not at all Important	2	3	4	Extremely Important	Mean	Not at all Attained	2	3	4	Highly Attained	Mean
	Percent					Percent						
To be on my own	11.2	9.0	25.6	27.2	26.9	3.5	4.5	14.9	26.6	28.6	25.3	3.6
To take risks	28.6	15.4	26.7	18.6	10.6	2.7	10.5	6.5	30.4	27.8	24.8	3.5
To use my equipment	26.4	18.8	18.8	19.1	16.8	2.8	4.0	5.0	12.0	18.4	60.5	4.3
To do something with my family	64.6	9.1	8.4	5.4	12.5	1.9	53.7	5.7	9.2	8.1	23.3	2.4
To be with members of my group	59.8	8.2	12.7	7.2	12.0	2.0	45.8	6.6	12.1	5.5	30.0	2.7
To meet new people	11.8	11.2	31.6	26.2	19.2	3.3	1.0	3.2	11.9	21.9	61.9	4.4
To learn about the countryside	3.9	9.6	26.7	32.2	27.7	3.7	1.3	5.2	25.9	31.7	35.9	4.0
To enjoy the view along the trail	1.0	2.9	9.9	28.4	57.8	4.4	0.3	3.5	11.6	30.3	54.2	4.4
To think about my personal values	4.8	9.3	10.6	22.2	53.1	4.1	2.6	6.8	14.3	23.1	53.1	4.2
To be close to nature	2.6	1.6	8.3	27.2	60.3	4.4	2.3	11.9	30.0	55.8	4.4	
To be creative by doing something such as sketching, painting, taking photographs	30.9	18.3	25.7	14.1	10.9	2.6	18.7	17.7	33.3	15.7	14.7	2.9
To bring back pleasant memories of a prior visit	58.2	13.2	10.2	8.6	9.9	2.0	44.2	8.6	16.8	12.0	18.5	2.5
To get exercise	6.4	7.1	22.4	27.9	36.2	3.8	1.0	4.9	12.0	82.1	4.7	
To relax physically	27.4	13.2	19.7	19.4	20.3	2.9	22.5	10.9	16.2	19.2	31.1	3.3
To help reduce built-up tension	25.0	11.7	18.8	21.8	22.7	3.1	12.9	7.0	20.9	18.5	40.7	3.7
To experience solitude	8.4	10.0	20.0	31.0	30.6	3.7	8.8	19.3	23.9	24.2	23.9	3.4
To be away from the family for a while	47.7	10.7	17.9	9.4	14.3	2.3	19.4	4.1	13.6	16.0	46.9	3.7
To share my skill and knowledge with others	45.0	20.6	21.5	9.0	3.9	2.1	17.0	17.7	35.0	19.0	11.3	2.9
To reach a specific destination (e.g. mountain summit or lake)	14.7	6.5	8.1	15.3	55.4	3.9	5.7	4.1	7.8	13.2	69.3	4.4
To show others I can do it	31.0	17.4	23.5	11.3	16.8	2.7	12.8	7.4	16.4	12.8	50.7	3.8
To test my endurance	10.2	8.0	15.3	27.2	39.3	3.8	3.2	2.3	7.5	20.8	66.2	4.4
To experience a hike on the Appalachian Trail	2.9	1.3	6.7	15.1	74.0	4.6	0.7	4.6	10.4	84.4	4.8	

- Like the non-thru hikers, the most important motives to thru hikers include being close to nature and enjoying the view along the trail.
- The single most important reason to thru hikers, however, was to experience a hike on the Appalachian Trail.
- Surprisingly, getting exercise was less important to thru hikers than it was to non-thru hikers; it is not surprising that thru hikers' attainment of getting exercise exceeded the importance they placed on exercise.
- Taking risks, using equipment and showing others they could do it were all relatively unimportant but were highly attained by the thru hikers.
- The only item where the importance exceeded the attainment for thru hikers was to experience solitude.
- Other reasons followed a pattern similar to that for the non-thru hikers, with most reasons' attainment scores exceeding their corresponding importance.

(QC1) by Type of Hiker

Motive Importance*	Day User	Overnight Hiker	Section Hiker	Thru Hiker	Total
a) To be on my own	2.7	3.1	3.5	3.5	3.1
b) To take risks	1.7	2.1	2.1	2.7	2.1
c) To use my equipment	1.9	3.1	2.8	2.8	2.6
d) To do something with my family	3.0	2.7	2.2	1.9	2.6
e) To be with members of my group	3.4	3.6	2.5	2.0	3.1
f) To meet new people	1.9	2.3	2.8	3.3	2.4
g) To learn about the countryside	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.7	3.4
h) To enjoy the view along the trail	4.6	4.5	4.4	4.4	4.5
i) To think about my personal values	3.2	3.5	3.7	4.1	3.5
j) To be close to nature	4.5	4.5	4.4	4.4	4.5
k) To be creative by doing something such as sketching, painting, taking photographs	2.2	2.3	2.4	2.6	2.3
l) To bring back pleasant memories of a prior visit	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.0	2.5
m) To get exercise	4.5	4.2	4.2	3.8	4.3
n) To relax physically	3.9	3.7	3.4	2.9	3.6
o) To help reduce built-up tension	3.8	3.6	3.5	3.1	3.5
p) To experience solitude	3.2	3.4	3.8	3.7	3.4
q) To be away from the family for a while	1.7	2.0	2.2	2.3	2.0
r) To share my skill and knowledge with others	2.0	2.6	2.3	2.1	2.2
s) To reach a specific destination (e.g. mountain summit or lake)	3.9	3.7	3.7	3.9	3.8
t) To show others I can do it	1.9	2.0	2.0	2.7	2.1
u) To test my endurance	2.9	3.2	3.4	3.8	3.2
v) To experience a hike on the Appalachian Trail	3.6	3.7	4.2	4.6	3.9

*Responses ranged from not at all important (1) to extremely important (5).

Motive Attainment*	Day User	Overnight Hiker	Section Hiker	Thru Hiker	Total
a) To be on my own	3.2	3.2	3.7	3.6	3.3
b) To take risks	2.6	2.8	2.9	3.5	2.9
c) To use my equipment	2.9	4.0	3.9	4.3	3.7
d) To do something with my family	3.4	3.1	2.7	2.4	3.0
e) To be with members of my group	3.9	3.9	3.1	2.7	3.6
f) To meet new people	2.7	3.1	3.6	4.4	3.3
g) To learn about the countryside	3.6	3.6	3.7	4.0	3.7
h) To enjoy the view along the trail	4.6	4.5	4.4	4.3	4.5
i) To think about my personal values	3.6	3.8	4.0	4.2	3.8
j) To be close to nature	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.4	4.5
k) To be creative by doing something such as sketching, painting, taking photographs	2.7	2.6	2.8	2.9	2.7
l) To bring back pleasant memories of a prior visit	3.1	3.0	3.0	2.5	3.0
m) To get exercise	4.6	4.6	4.7	4.7	4.7
n) To relax physically	4.1	3.8	3.7	3.3	3.8
o) To help reduce built-up tension	4.1	3.9	3.9	3.7	3.9
p) To experience solitude	3.3	3.3	3.7	3.3	3.4
q) To be away from the family for a while	2.6	2.8	3.3	3.7	3.0
r) To share my skill and knowledge with others	2.5	3.0	2.9	2.9	2.8
s) To reach a specific destination (e.g. mountain summit or lake)	4.2	4.0	4.0	4.4	4.1
t) To show others I can do it	2.7	2.8	3.1	3.8	3.0
u) To test my endurance	3.6	3.7	4.0	4.4	3.8
v) To experience a hike on the Appalachian Trail	4.2	4.2	4.6	4.8	4.4

*Responses ranged from not at all attained (1) to highly attained (5).

- Importance and attainment ratings varied significantly across types of hikers for all of the reasons for hiking the Appalachian Trail except for being close to nature. This was among the top ranked reasons for all hiker groups.
- Section and thru hikers attached the most importance to being on their own, while day users placed the least importance on this reason for hiking the AT.
- Thru hikers stood out from all other groups in their high ratings (importance and attainment) for taking risks. Overnight and section hikers attached considerably less importance to taking risks, and day users were the least motivated to take risks.
- This same pattern held for the reason, showing others I can do it. Thru hikers reported higher importance and attainment scores than any other group.
- Day users placed far less importance than all other groups on using their equipment. They also reported lower attainment scores for this reason for hiking.
- Day users and overnight hikers placed greater importance on social interaction with their family or their own group, while thru hikers were most interested in meeting new people on the trail.
- Day users placed the most importance on getting exercise, while all groups reported very high attainment of the exercise motive.
- Thru hikers differed from the other groups in the low importance assigned to relaxing and reducing built up tension.
- Overnight hikers were more strongly motivated than other types of hikers to share their skill and knowledge with others.

(QC1) by Region

Motive Importance*	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Total
a) To be on my own	3.1	3.3	2.6	3.0	3.1
b) To take risks	2.1	2.0	1.8	1.9	2.1
c) To use my equipment	2.6	2.7	2.2	2.7	2.6
d) To do something with my family	2.8	2.3	2.9	2.9	2.6
e) To be with members of my group	3.3	2.7	3.6	3.5	3.1
f) To meet new people	2.3	2.3	1.9	2.1	2.4
g) To learn about the countryside	3.3	3.4	3.2	3.4	3.4
h) To enjoy the view along the trail	4.5	4.4	4.7	4.6	4.5
i) To think about my personal values	3.5	3.6	3.2	3.4	3.5
j) To be close to nature	4.5	4.5	4.4	4.6	4.5
k) To be creative by doing something such as sketching, painting, taking photographs	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.3
l) To bring back pleasant memories of a prior visit	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.7	2.5
m) To get exercise	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.3
n) To relax physically	3.6	3.7	3.9	3.9	3.6
o) To help reduce built-up tension	3.6	3.7	3.8	3.8	3.5
p) To experience solitude	3.5	3.6	3.0	3.4	3.4
q) To be away from the family for a while	1.9	2.1	1.7	2.0	2.0
r) To share my skill and knowledge with others	2.4	2.2	2.1	2.2	2.2
s) To reach a specific destination (e.g. mountain summit or lake)	3.9	3.4	4.0	3.6	3.8
t) To show others I can do it	2.0	1.9	1.9	2.1	2.1
u) To test my endurance	3.3	3.0	2.8	3.2	3.2
v) To experience a hike on the Appalachian Trail	3.7	4.0	3.7	4.0	3.9

*Responses ranged from not at all important (1) to extremely important (5).

Motive Attainment*	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Total
a) To be on my own	3.2	3.5	3.0	3.4	3.3
b) To take risks	2.9	2.7	2.5	2.7	2.9
c) To use my equipment	3.7	3.7	3.0	3.6	3.7
d) To do something with my family	3.2	2.9	3.3	3.2	3.0
e) To be with members of my group	3.8	3.4	4.0	3.9	3.6
f) To meet new people	3.2	3.1	2.7	3.1	3.3
g) To learn about the countryside	3.6	3.7	3.5	3.7	3.7
h) To enjoy the view along the trail	4.5	4.4	4.6	4.6	4.5
i) To think about my personal values	3.7	3.9	3.5	3.7	3.8
j) To be close to nature	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.6	4.5
k) To be creative by doing something such as sketching, painting, taking photographs	2.7	2.8	2.7	2.6	2.7
l) To bring back pleasant memories of a prior visit	3.0	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.0
m) To get exercise	4.7	4.6	4.6	4.7	4.7
n) To relax physically	3.8	3.8	4.0	4.1	3.8
o) To help reduce built-up tension	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.1	3.9
p) To experience solitude	3.4	3.6	3.2	3.5	3.4
q) To be away from the family for a while	2.8	3.0	2.5	3.0	3.0
r) To share my skill and knowledge with others	2.8	2.8	2.6	2.9	2.8
s) To reach a specific destination (e.g. mountain summit or lake)	4.2	3.8	4.3	3.9	4.1
t) To show others I can do it	2.9	2.7	2.8	3.0	3.0
u) To test my endurance	3.8	3.5	3.5	3.9	3.8
v) To experience a hike on the Appalachian Trail	4.2	4.3	4.2	4.5	4.4

*Responses ranged from not at all attained (1) to highly attained (5).

- Reasons receiving the highest scores for both importance and attainment included being close to nature, enjoying the view, and getting exercise.
- Most of the items' attainment scores were higher than their importance, suggesting fulfillment of these motives.
- The only item that was attained below its importance score was experiencing solitude.
- The most important motives to Mid-Atlantic area hikers, like those from the other regions, were being close to nature, enjoying the views from the trail and getting exercise.
- Reasons receiving the highest scores for both importance and attainment included being close to nature, enjoying the view, and getting exercise.
- As in all regions, most of the items' attainment scores were higher than their importance, suggesting fulfillment of these motives.
- AT users in the New England region reported motives similar to those of the overall sample.
- Mid-Atlantic trail users rated being on their own as more important, and more highly attained, than users of any other region.
- Mid-Atlantic hikers also reported lower importance and attainment scores than hikers from the other regions for the motives, being with members of their group and reaching a specific destination.
- Mid-Atlantic hikers rated solitude as more important than hikers from the other regions
- The most important motives for hikers from Southwest Virginia were the same as those in the other regions (getting close to nature, views from the trail, and getting exercise).
- Southwest Virginia hikers stood out from the other regions in their relatively low ratings (importance and attainment) for meeting new people and being on their own.
- Respondents from the Southwest Virginia region also attached more importance, however, to being with members of their own group and reaching a specific destination.
- Those from Southwest Virginia attached less importance to experiencing solitude than those from the other regions.
- Deep South hikers reported higher attainment of the motive, to experience a hike on the Appalachian Trail, than hikers from other regions.

**2. How much of a problem do you think the following issues are on the Appalachian Trail?
[Please circle one number for each item]**

	EXTENT OF PROBELM			
	Not a Problem	A Small Problem	A Big Problem	Don't Know/ No Opinion
a. Trail poorly maintained	0	1	2	3
b. Trail poorly marked (difficult to find your way)	0	1	2	3
c. Trail too developed	0	1	2	3
d. Litter on the trail	0	1	2	3
e. Damage to soil and vegetation	0	1	2	3
f. Vandalism/graffiti	0	1	2	3
g. Too many other hikers	0	1	2	3
h. Groups encountered were too large	0	1	2	3
i. Some hikers were inconsiderate	0	1	2	3
j. Too many places congested with people	0	1	2	3
k. Not enough people on the trail	0	1	2	3
l. Too many rules and regulations	0	1	2	3
m. Regulations not adequately publicized	0	1	2	3
n. Not enough information available to hikers	0	1	2	3
o. Not enough information available on how to prepare for a safe hike	0	1	2	3
p. Not enough restrooms/outhouses along the trail	0	1	2	3
q. Not enough water available along the trail	0	1	2	3
r. Clearing of vegetation	0	1	2	3
s. Condition of shelters	0	1	2	3
t. Lack of overnight food storage facilities	0	1	2	3
u. Too many facilities along the trail	0	1	2	3
v. Not enough parking at the trailhead	0	1	2	3
w. Lack of public transportation between trailheads	0	1	2	3
x. Too many rangers/management staff on the trail	0	1	2	3
y. Too few rangers/management staff on the trail	0	1	2	3
z. Too many overnight shelters/camping areas	0	1	2	3
aa. Too few overnight shelters/camping areas	0	1	2	3
bb. Shelters/campsites too crowded	0	1	2	3
cc. Traffic noise from nearby roads	0	1	2	3
dd. Development that can be seen from the trail	0	1	2	3
ee. Dogs off leash	0	1	2	3
ff. Trail erosion	0	1	2	3
gg. Too many dogs	0	1	2	3
hh. Too many "social trails" or "informal trails"	0	1	2	3
ii. Conflict between different type of visitors	0	1	2	3
jj. Evidence of human waste (e.g. toilet paper, feces, etc.)	0	1	2	3
kk. Noisy/rowdy people	0	1	2	3
ll. Evidence of too many campers (fire rings, etc.)	0	1	2	3
mm. Feeling of being unsafe/insecure	0	1	2	3
nn. Campsites too heavily impacted	0	1	2	3
oo. Problems with bears	0	1	2	3
pp. Problems with rodents at shelters/campsites	0	1	2	3
qq. Theft of personal property	0	1	2	3
rr. Lack of privacy at shelters/campsites	0	1	2	3

(QC2)**User (Non-Thru Hiker) (N=1561)**

	Extent Of Problem				Mean
	Not a Problem	A Small Problem	A Big Problem	Don't Know/No Opinion	
	0	1	2	3	
a. Trail poorly maintained	59.8	34.6	4.7	0.9	0.4
b. Trail poorly marked (difficult to find your way)	62.0	32.7	5.0	0.3	0.4
c. Trail too developed	51.7	37.1	9.6	1.5	0.6
d. Litter on the trail	50.7	40.7	8.2	0.4	0.6
e. Damage to soil and vegetation	30.4	49.2	19.1	1.4	0.9
f. Vandalism/graffiti	60.9	32.3	5.9	0.9	0.4
g. Too many other hikers	45.8	40.2	12.7	1.3	0.7
h. Groups encountered were too large	57.9	27.4	13.2	1.5	0.6
i. Some hikers were inconsiderate	64.3	28.0	6.4	1.3	0.4
j. Too many places congested with people	50.2	37.7	10.9	1.2	0.6
k. Not enough people on the trail	93.8	3.7	0.5	2.0	0.1
l. Too many rules and regulations	82.8	11.7	2.6	2.9	0.2
m. Regulations not adequately publicized	57.8	31.6	7.6	3.0	0.5
n. Not enough information available to hikers	64.9	26.5	5.6	3.0	0.4
o. Not enough information available on how to prepare for a safe hike	72.0	20.3	4.4	3.3	0.3
p. Not enough restrooms/outhouses along the trail	73.0	19.7	4.8	2.5	0.3
q. Not enough water available along the trail	49.3	34.3	14.0	2.4	0.6
r. Clearing of vegetation	63.8	27.0	5.7	3.6	0.4
s. Condition of shelters	59.9	24.2	4.3	11.6	0.4
t. Lack of overnight food storage facilities	62.7	18.1	4.3	15.0	0.3
u. Too many facilities along the trail	77.6	11.6	2.2	8.6	0.2
v. Not enough parking at the trailhead	67.1	24.2	4.6	4.1	0.4
w. Lack of public transportation between trailheads	51.4	21.7	10.7	16.2	0.5
x. Too many rangers/management staff on the trail	90.1	3.8	0.8	5.3	0.1
y. Too few rangers/management staff on the trail	69.1	19.5	4.6	6.8	0.3
z. Too many overnight shelters/camping areas	84.9	5.3	1.2	8.6	0.1
aa. Too few overnight shelters/camping areas	73.0	14.5	2.9	9.7	0.2
bb. Shelters/campsites too crowded	46.6	30.9	10.0	12.6	0.6
cc. Traffic noise from nearby roads	59.6	31.0	6.5	2.9	0.5
dd. Development that can be seen from the trail	61.9	27.1	8.1	2.9	0.5
ee. Dogs off leash	67.3	21.1	8.4	3.2	0.4
ff. Trail erosion	35.7	45.2	16.6	2.5	0.8
gg. Too many dogs	72.7	16.8	6.7	3.8	0.3
hh. Too many "social trails" or "informal trails"	68.4	16.6	3.2	11.8	0.3
ii. Conflict between different type of visitors	76.2	14.6	3.1	6.1	0.2
jj. Evidence of human waste (e.g. toilet paper, feces, etc.)	59.1	29.9	8.4	2.5	0.5
kk. Noisy/rowdy people	68.0	25.2	4.4	2.4	0.4
ll. Evidence of too many campers (fire rings, etc.)	57.1	30.4	8.9	3.6	0.5
mm. Feeling of being unsafe/insecure	83.2	13.5	1.8	1.5	0.2
nn. Campsites too heavily impacted	48.1	32.5	11.5	7.9	0.6
oo. Problems with bears	80.7	11.1	1.1	7.2	0.1
pp. Problems with rodents at shelters/campsites	45.0	27.5	14.4	13.1	0.7
qq. Theft of personal property	85.2	6.5	1.2	7.1	0.1
rr. Lack of privacy at shelters/campsites	65.6	19.3	3.3	11.8	0.3

Thru Hikers Only (N=318)

	Extent Of Problem				Mean
	Not a Problem	A Small Problem	A Big Problem	Don't Know/No Opinion	
	0	1	2	3	
a. Trail poorly maintained	34.3	58.4	6.9	0.4	0.7
b. Trail poorly marked (difficult to find your way)	31.6	59.3	9.1	0	0.8
c. Trail too developed	37	41.5	19.3	2.2	0.8
d. Litter on the trail	28.4	58.5	13.1	0	0.9
e. Damage to soil and vegetation	17.2	56.9	25.2	0.7	1.1
f. Vandalism/graffiti	34.5	58.5	6.9	0	0.7
g. Too many other hikers	26.7	46.2	25.3	1.8	1.0
h. Groups encountered were too large	27	39.4	32.5	1.1	1.1
i. Some hikers were inconsiderate	31.8	54.4	13.5	0.4	0.8
j. Too many places congested with people	28.2	46.9	24.9	0	1.0
k. Not enough people on the trail	94.5	3.6	0.4	1.5	0.0
l. Too many rules and regulations	51.6	38.5	9.5	0.4	0.6
m. Regulations not adequately publicized	72	23.6	2.2	2.2	0.3
n. Not enough information available to hikers	82.5	14.2	1.5	1.8	0.2
o. Not enough information available on how to prepare for a safe hike	90.5	6.6	1.8	1.1	0.1
p. Not enough restrooms/outhouses along the trail	76.3	18.2	5.5	0	0.3
q. Not enough water available along the trail	37	46.2	16.5	0.4	0.8
r. Clearing of vegetation	50.9	36.7	8.6	3.7	0.6
s. Condition of shelters	52.2	42	5.1	0.7	0.5
t. Lack of overnight food storage facilities	66.3	23.4	8.8	1.5	0.4
u. Too many facilities along the trail	64.2	25.5	9.1	1.1	0.4
v. Not enough parking at the trailhead	72.2	3.7	0.4	23.8	0.1
w. Lack of public transportation between trailheads	57.7	19.5	4	18.8	0.3
x. Too many rangers/management staff on the trail	86	5.2	0.7	8.1	0.1
y. Too few rangers/management staff on the trail	70	18.3	4.4	7.3	0.3
z. Too many overnight shelters/camping areas	80.9	13.2	2.9	2.9	0.2
aa. Too few overnight shelters/camping areas	76	17	4.4	2.6	0.3
bb. Shelters/campsites too crowded	32.6	48.7	17.9	0.7	0.9
cc. Traffic noise from nearby roads	32.2	54.2	12.8	0.7	0.8
dd. Development that can be seen from the trail	38.8	48.4	12.5	0.4	0.7
ee. Dogs off leash	56.6	32.5	10.2	0.7	0.5
ff. Trail erosion	18	53.7	27.2	1.1	1.1
gg. Too many dogs	70.2	18.4	9.9	1.5	0.4
hh. Too many "social trails" or "informal trails"	63.9	19	3.7	13.4	0.3
ii. Conflict between different type of visitors	68.1	27.1	2.9	1.8	0.3
jj. Evidence of human waste (e.g. toilet paper, feces, etc.)	23	55.8	20.8	0.4	1.0
kk. Noisy/rowdy people	57.3	39.1	3.6	0	0.5
ll. Evidence of too many campers (fire rings, etc.)	33.7	47.3	18.7	0.4	0.9
mm. Feeling of being unsafe/insecure	88.3	11.3	0	0.4	0.1
nn. Campsites too heavily impacted	32.2	52.7	14.3	0.7	0.8
oo. Problems with bears	89	9.9	0.4	0.7	0.1
pp. Problems with rodents at shelters/campsites	12.4	44.7	42.2	0.7	1.3
qq. Theft of personal property	92	6.2	0	1.8	0.1
rr. Lack of privacy at shelters/campsites	71	22.4	5.5	1.1	0.3

- Most of the items listed were “not a problem” for the majority of trail users.
- Problems generally were rated as slightly more severe by thru hikers than by non-thru hikers.
- Various forms of environmental impact tended to receive the highest problem ratings for thru and non-thru hikers.
- The biggest problem to both groups was damage to soil and vegetation; this was rated as at least a small problem by 68.3% of non-thru hikers and 83.1% of thru hikers.
- Hiker ratings of trail erosion closely mirrored responses to damage to soil and vegetation.
- “Social problems” like too many hikers, congestion, and crowded shelters/campsites represent a second tier of problems on the trail.
- Thru hikers were particularly sensitive to encountering groups that were too large (71.9% considered at least a small problem), inconsiderate hikers (67.9%), evidence of human waste (76.6%), and problems with rodents at shelters or campsites (86.9%).
- The only problems considered more severe by non-thru hikers than thru hikers were information-related items (e.g. regulations not adequately publicized, not enough information available to hikers) and some items related to trail access (e.g. lack of trailhead parking and public transportation between trailheads).
- Thru hikers were more likely to consider the trail poorly marked (68.4% versus 37.7% of non-thru hikers).

(QC2) by Type of Hiker

Problem*	Day User	Overnight Hiker	Section Hiker	Thru Hiker	Total
a) Trail poorly maintained	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.7	0.5
b) Trail poorly marked (difficult to find your way)	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.8	0.5
c) Trail too developed	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.6
d) Litter on the trail	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.6
e) Damage to soil and vegetation	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.1	0.9
f) Vandalism/graffiti	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.7	0.5
g) Too many other hikers	0.6	0.7	0.7	1.0	0.7
h) Groups encountered were too large	0.5	0.5	0.9	1.1	0.6
i) Some hikers were inconsiderate	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.8	0.5
j) Too many places congested with people	0.5	0.6	0.7	1.0	0.7
k) Not enough people on the trail	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
l) Too many rules and regulations	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.6	0.2
m) Regulations not adequately publicized	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.4
n) Not enough information available to hikers	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.4
o) Not enough information available on how to prepare for a safe hike	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.3
p) Not enough restrooms/outhouses along the trail	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3
q) Not enough water available along the trail	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.8	0.7
r) Clearing of vegetation	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.4
s) Condition of shelters	0.3	0.3	0.6	0.5	0.4
t) Lack of overnight food storage facilities	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3
u) Too many facilities along the trail	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.2
v) Not enough parking at the trailhead	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.3
w) Lack of public transportation between trailheads	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.3	0.5
x) Too many rangers/management staff on the trail	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1
y) Too few rangers/management staff on the trail	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3
z) Too many overnight shelters/camping areas	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1
aa) Too few overnight shelters/camping areas	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2
bb) Shelters/campsites too crowded	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.9	0.6
cc) Traffic noise from nearby roads	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.8	0.5
dd) Development that can be seen from the trail	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.5
ee) Dogs off leash	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.4
ff) Trail erosion	0.7	0.8	0.9	1.1	0.9
gg) Too many dogs	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3
hh) Too many "social trails" or "informal trails"	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3
ii) Conflict between different type of visitors	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2
jj) Evidence of human waste (e.g. toilet paper, feces, etc.)	0.4	0.5	0.7	1.0	0.6
kk) Noisy/rowdy people	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.4
ll) Evidence of too many campers (fire rings, etc.)	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.8	0.6
mm) Feeling of being unsafe/insecure	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2
nn) Campsites too heavily impacted	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.6
oo) Problems with bears	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1
pp) Problems with rodents at shelters/campsites	0.4	0.7	1.0	1.3	0.8
qq) Theft of personal property	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
rr) Lack of privacy at shelters/campsites	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3

*Responses ranged from "not a problem" (0) to "a big problem" (2).

- Most of the problems listed showed significant differences across trail user groups.
- In an exception to this pattern, two of the problems that received the lowest ratings (i.e. were “not a problem”) did not vary. All user groups agreed that “not enough people on the trail” and “too many rangers/management staff on the trail” were not a problem.
- Thru hikers were more likely than any other group to think that there were too many rules and regulations.
- Day users were more likely than any other group to think there is not enough parking available at trailheads.
- In general, section hikers and thru hikers were more sensitive to both resource impacts such as trail erosion and social impacts such as too many hikers and groups that were too large or inconsiderate.
- Section hikers and thru hikers also rated problems at shelters and campsites (e.g. human waste, too many campers, rodents) as more severe than day users or overnight hikers.

(QC2) by Region

Problem*	New England	Mid- Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Total
a) Trail poorly maintained	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.5
b) Trail poorly marked (difficult to find your way)	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5
c) Trail too developed	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.6
d) Litter on the trail	0.5	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.6
e) Damage to soil and vegetation	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.9
f) Vandalism/graffiti	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
g) Too many other hikers	0.7	0.5	0.7	0.6	0.7
h) Groups encountered were too large	0.7	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.6
i) Some hikers were inconsiderate	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5
j) Too many places congested with people	0.7	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.7
k) Not enough people on the trail	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0
l) Too many rules and regulations	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2
m) Regulations not adequately publicized	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.4
n) Not enough information available to hikers	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.4
o) Not enough information available on how to prepare for a safe hike	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3
p) Not enough restrooms/outhouses along the trail	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3
q) Not enough water available along the trail	0.5	0.9	0.7	0.6	0.7
r) Clearing of vegetation	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
s) Condition of shelters	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.4
t) Lack of overnight food storage facilities	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3
u) Too many facilities along the trail	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2
v) Not enough parking at the trailhead	0.3	0.3	0.6	0.3	0.3
w) Lack of public transportation between trailheads	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.7	0.5
x) Too many rangers/management staff on the trail	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1
y) Too few rangers/management staff on the trail	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3
z) Too many overnight shelters/camping areas	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
aa) Too few overnight shelters/camping areas	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2
bb) Shelters/campsites too crowded	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6
cc) Traffic noise from nearby roads	0.4	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.5
dd) Development that can be seen from the trail	0.4	0.7	0.4	0.4	0.5
ee) Dogs off leash	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.4
ff) Trail erosion	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.9
gg) Too many dogs	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3
hh) Too many "social trails" or "informal trails"	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.3
ii) Conflict between different type of visitors	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
jj) Evidence of human waste (e.g. toilet paper, feces, etc.)	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.7	0.6
kk) Noisy/rowdy people	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4
ll) Evidence of too many campers (fire rings, etc.)	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.6
mm) Feeling of being unsafe/insecure	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
nn) Campsites too heavily impacted	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
oo) Problems with bears	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1
pp) Problems with rodents at shelters/campsites	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.9	0.8
qq) Theft of personal property	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
rr) Lack of privacy at shelters/campsites	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3

*Responses ranged from "not a problem" (0) to "a big problem" (2).

- New England trail users rated soil and vegetation damage and congestion-related problems as more severe than hikers in other regions.
- Conversely, litter on the trail was considered less of a problem in New England than elsewhere.
- Other items considered to be a smaller problem in the New England region were not enough information available to hikers and not enough water available along the trail.
- Mid-Atlantic hikers were least concerned about too many hikers but encountered the most difficulty with lack of water available along the trail.
- Encroachment of traffic noise and development that can be seen from the trail also stood out as more noticeable problems in the Mid-Atlantic region than elsewhere.
- Not enough parking at trailheads was more of a problem in Southwest Virginia than elsewhere.
- Congestion-related problems tended to be less severe in the Deep South region.
- Problems at shelters and campsites, such as rodents and evidence of human waste, were greater in the Deep South than elsewhere along the trail.

3. What did you enjoy most about your trip on the Appalachian Trail?

(QC3)

- **Verbatim responses to this question are shown in APPENDIX C and are organized by the 22 trail segments.**
- **Common responses to this question included:**
 - 1. Scenery, natural views, beauty**
 - 2. Personal challenge, accomplishment, the experience**
 - 3. Other visitors: both escape or avoidance of others, and comradery and sharing experiences with others**

4. What did you enjoy least about your trip on the Appalachian Trail?

(QC4)

- Verbatim responses to this question are shown in APPENDIX C and are organized by the 22 trail segments.
- Common responses to this question included:
 1. Too many people, crowds, rude or bad behavior of others
 2. Resource conditions such as privies, parking access, weather
 3. Personal: user preparedness, experience, physical pain or injury

5. If you could ask managers to improve some things about the way people experience the Appalachian Trail, what would you ask them to do?

(QC5)

- Verbatim responses to this question are shown in APPENDIX C and are organized by the 22 trail segments.
- Common responses to this question included:
 1. Provision of user education and information: LNT, minimum-impact practices, and trail etiquette
 2. Additional resources or management actions such as more signs, privies, shelters
 3. Manage group size and use levels

6. People can experience a variety of conditions on the Appalachian Trail. We would like to know how the following types of conditions might affect your hiking experience. Please indicate the extent to which each item would negatively or positively affect the quality of your experience on the Appalachian Trail. [Please circle one number for each item. Remember, these are hypothetical conditions and we would like to know how you would feel if you encountered them]

CONDITION ENCOUNTERED	EFFECT ON EXPERIENCE				
	Extremely Negative	Negative	Neutral	Positive	Extremely Positive
a. You hear aircraft while hiking	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
b. You encounter inconsiderate people	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
c. You rarely see other people along the trail	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
d. You frequently socialize with members of your group	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
e. You do not learn about the natural/cultural history of the area	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
f. You rarely see wildlife	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
g. You rarely hear wildlife while hiking	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
h. You rarely see litter along the trail	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
i. You rarely see soil and vegetation damage along the trail	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
j. You frequently see litter along the trail	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
k. You see wildlife frequently	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
l. You rarely encounter inconsiderate people	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
m. You frequently see other people along the trail	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
n. You rarely socialize with members of your group	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
o. You learn about the natural/cultural history of the area	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
p. You run short of food or water	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
q. You do not wear the proper clothing	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
r. You see soil and vegetation damage along the trail	-2	-1	0	+1	+2

(QC6)**Users (Non-Thru Hiker) (N=1561)**

	Effect On Experience					Mean
	Extremely Negative	Negative	Neutral	Positive	Extremely Positive	
	-2	-1	0	1	2	
	Percent					
a. You hear aircraft while hiking	8.7	42.2	47.3	1.5	0.3	-0.6
b. You encounter inconsiderate people	50.6	39.1	9.2	0.7	0.4	-1.4
c. You rarely see other people along the trail	1.2	6.7	32.4	36.4	23.3	0.7
d. You frequently socialize with members of your group	0.5	3.2	32.8	43.1	20.4	0.8
e. You do not learn about the natural/cultural history of the area	10.8	47.6	36.4	3.6	1.6	-0.6
f. You rarely see wildlife	30.6	53.0	14.5	1.5	0.4	-1.1
g. You rarely hear wildlife while hiking	26.7	52.8	17.4	2.3	0.8	-1.0
h. You rarely see litter along the trail	1.5	1.3	3.2	16.5	77.4	1.7
i. You rarely see soil and vegetation damage along the trail	1.2	2.5	5.7	29.5	61.0	1.5
j. You frequently see litter along the trail	84.6	10.1	3.1	1.2	1.0	-1.8
k. You see wildlife frequently	1.1	1.6	6.1	29.4	61.9	1.5
l. You rarely encounter inconsiderate people	0.7	1.2	4.1	25.6	68.5	1.6
m. You frequently see other people along the trail	10.0	38.3	35.1	14.3	2.2	-0.4
n. You rarely socialize with members of your group	14.9	41.1	38.2	4.9	0.9	-0.6
o. You learn about the natural/cultural history of the area	0.6	1.4	19.0	52.8	26.2	1.0
p. You run short of food or water	47.4	40.9	9.9	1.1	0.6	-1.3
q. You do not wear the proper clothing	50.8	39.9	7.8	1.1	0.4	-1.4
r. You see soil and vegetation damage along the trail	43.6	48.0	7.0	0.8	0.6	-1.3
Thru Hikers Only (N=318)						
a. You hear aircraft while hiking	3.7	49.8	44.7	1.8	0	-0.6
b. You encounter inconsiderate people	46.4	43.4	9.1	0.4	0.7	-1.3
c. You rarely see other people along the trail	0.4	7.4	31.4	35.8	25.1	0.8
d. You frequently socialize with members of your group	0.4	3.3	29.8	50.4	16.2	0.8
e. You do not learn about the natural/cultural history of the area	15	59.3	23.4	2.2	0	-0.9
f. You rarely see wildlife	44.4	44.7	10.5	0.4	0	-1.3
g. You rarely hear wildlife while hiking	40	45.8	13.5	0.4	0.4	-1.3
h. You rarely see litter along the trail	1.5	1.1	3.3	15.3	78.9	1.7
i. You rarely see soil and vegetation damage along the trail	0.7	1.5	6.9	32.5	58.4	1.5
j. You frequently see litter along the trail	85.8	10.9	1.5	1.1	0.7	-1.8
k. You see wildlife frequently	1.1	0	2.2	25.5	71.2	1.7
l. You rarely encounter inconsiderate people	0.4	0.7	4	24.6	70.2	1.6
m. You frequently see other people along the trail	9.1	39.8	31.8	17.5	1.8	-0.4
n. You rarely socialize with members of your group	11.4	44.3	38.5	4.4	1.5	-0.6
o. You learn about the natural/cultural history of the area	0	2.2	11	54.9	31.9	1.2
p. You run short of food or water	43.6	45.4	8.1	2.6	0.4	-1.3
q. You do not wear the proper clothing	51.1	40.1	8.1	0.7	0	-1.4
r. You see soil and vegetation damage along the trail	34.5	57.5	6.5	0.4	1.1	-1.2

- Conditions most likely to positively affect users' experience included rarely seeing litter or resource damage, seeing wildlife frequently, not encountering inconsiderate people, and learning about the area.
- Not surprisingly, the most negative events included seeing litter frequently, encountering inconsiderate people, seeing resource damage, and various personal factors such as running short of water, food or clothing.
- There were few differences between thru hikers and non-thru hikers in the effects of various kinds of conditions on the visitors' quality of experience, although thru hikers were more negatively impacted by seeing litter and resource damage along the trail, and not seeing wildlife or learning about the natural/cultural history of the area.

(QC6) by Type of Hiker

Condition Encountered*	Day User	Overnight Hiker	Section Hiker	Thru Hiker	Total
	-0.6	-0.6	-0.5	-0.6	-0.6
a) You hear aircraft while hiking	-1.4	-1.4	-1.3	-1.3	-1.4
b) You encounter inconsiderate people	0.7	0.8	0.6	0.8	0.7
c) You rarely see other people along the trail	0.8	0.9	0.7	0.8	0.8
d) You frequently socialize with members of your group	-0.6	-0.6	-0.6	-0.9	-0.7
e) You do not learn about the natural/cultural history of the area	-1.1	-1.1	-1.2	-1.3	-1.2
f) You rarely see wildlife	-1.0	-1.0	-1.0	-1.2	-1.1
g) You rarely hear wildlife while hiking	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.7	1.7
h) You rarely see litter along the trail	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.5
i) You rarely see soil and vegetation damage along the trail	-1.8	-1.8	-1.7	-1.8	-1.8
j) You frequently see litter along the trail	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.7	1.5
k) You see wildlife frequently	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6
l) You rarely encounter inconsiderate people	-0.4	-0.5	-0.3	-0.4	-0.4
m) You frequently see other people along the trail	-0.6	-0.7	-0.6	-0.6	-0.6
n) You rarely socialize with members of your group	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.2	1.0
o) You learn about the natural/cultural history of the area	-1.3	-1.4	-1.3	-1.3	-1.3
p) You run short of food or water	-1.4	-1.4	-1.3	-1.4	-1.4
q) You do not wear the proper clothing	-1.4	-1.3	-1.2	-1.2	-1.3
r) You see soil and vegetation damage along the trail	-0.6	-0.6	-0.5	-0.6	-0.6

*Responses ranged from “extremely negative” (-2) to “extremely positive” (+2).

- There was little variation in the responses to this battery of questions across hiker types.
- Thru hikers, however, reported a more negative effect from the condition “you frequently socialize with members of your group.”

(QC6) by Region

Condition Encountered*	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Total
a) You hear aircraft while hiking	-0.6	-0.5	-0.5	-0.6	-0.6
b) You encounter inconsiderate people	-1.4	-1.4	-1.4	-1.4	-1.4
c) You rarely see other people along the trail	0.8	0.6	0.8	0.7	0.7
d) You frequently socialize with members of your group	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.8
e) You do not learn about the natural/cultural history of the area	-0.6	-0.6	-0.6	-0.7	-0.7
f) You rarely see wildlife	-1.1	-1.1	-1.1	-1.1	-1.2
g) You rarely hear wildlife while hiking	-1.0	-1.1	-1.0	-1.0	-1.1
h) You rarely see litter along the trail	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.7	1.7
i) You rarely see soil and vegetation damage along the trail	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.5
j) You frequently see litter along the trail	-1.8	-1.8	-1.7	-1.8	-1.8
k) You see wildlife frequently	1.5	1.6	1.4	1.5	1.5
l) You rarely encounter inconsiderate people	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6
m) You frequently see other people along the trail	-0.5	-0.2	-0.4	-0.4	-0.4
n) You rarely socialize with members of your group	-0.6	-0.6	-0.7	-0.7	-0.6
o) You learn about the natural/cultural history of the area	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.1
p) You run short of food or water	-1.3	-1.4	-1.3	-1.3	-1.3
q) You do not wear the proper clothing	-1.4	-1.4	-1.4	-1.4	-1.4
r) You see soil and vegetation damage along the trail	-1.3	-1.3	-1.4	-1.3	-1.3

*Responses ranged from “extremely negative” (-2) to “extremely positive” (+2).

- There were few differences between hikers in the different regions in terms of the effects of various kinds of conditions on the visitors’ quality of experience.
- New England hikers were more negatively impacted than those in other regions by seeing other people along the trail.
- Mid-Atlantic hikers were the most positively impacted by seeing wildlife frequently along the trail.

7a. Approximately how many people (excluding members of your own group) did you see along the Appalachian Trail on the day you were contacted for this study?

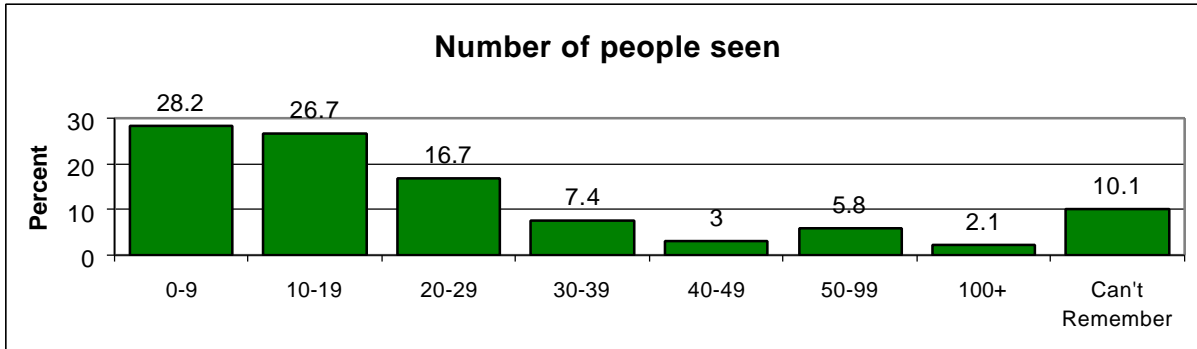
Number of people: _____ ÿ Can't remember

(QC7a)

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0-9	368	28.2	64	25.7
10-19	349	26.7	51	20.5
20-29	218	16.7	23	9.2
30-39	97	7.4	10	4.0
40-49	39	3.0	4	1.6
50-99	76	5.8	5	2.0
100+	28	2.1	3	1.2
Can't Remember	132	10.1	89	35.7
Average number seen	21.8		17.3	

N=1164; 157

(QC7a) Users (Non-Thru Hikers)



- Thru hikers reported seeing an average of 17 people along the trail on the day they were contacted for the study and non-thru hikers reported seeing an average of 22 people.
- About one-fourth of both groups saw fewer than 10 people, with another quarter seeing between 10 and 19.
- Thru hikers were much more likely to state that they can't remember (35.7% versus 10.1% of non-thru hikers), probably reflecting the difficulty of answering the question in light of the number of days they were out on the trail.

(Q7a) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
0-9	29.9	29.3	38.9	40.0	32.3
10-19	30.5	29.1	28.1	31.9	29.8
20-29	19.8	19.7	13.3	14.4	18.1
30-39	9.0	8.1	7.4	6.3	8.1
40-49	3.5	3.4	3.0	2.5	3.3
50-99	5.9	7.8	5.4	3.1	6.1
100+	1.4	2.7	3.9	1.9	2.3
Can't Remember	2.7	3.4	2.5	5.8	14.3
Average number seen	18.7	20.9	21.3	17.3	19.7

- The majority of all hiker types saw twenty or fewer people on the AT on the day they were contacted.
- However, the average number of people seen was relatively consistent across all user types (19.7 people).

(Q7a) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
0-9	23.9	53.6	25.5	33.5	25.7	32.4
10-19	30.7	23.2	30.1	34.1	20.5	30.0
20-29	19.8	11.8	23.2	16.5	9.2	18.1
30-39	10.1	4.5	9.3	6.0	4.0	8.0
40-49	3.7	1.4	5.0	2.2	1.6	3.2
50-99	8.2	4.5	5.8	4.9	2.0	6.1
100+	3.5	0.9	1.2	2.7	1.2	2.3
Can't Remember	5.4	12.7	9.3	9.9	35.7	16.6
Average number seen	28.6	13.7	19.6	19.5	17.3	21.8

- Hikers in New England reported seeing the highest number of other people (29 per day), while those in the Mid-Atlantic reported the lowest numbers (14 per day).
- The number of other hikers seen in Southwest Virginia and the Deep South were about the same (20 per day), and were in between the levels encountered in New England and the Mid-Atlantic.

7b. How acceptable was the number of people you saw along the Appalachian Trail that day?
 [Circle one number]

Very Unacceptable Very Acceptable

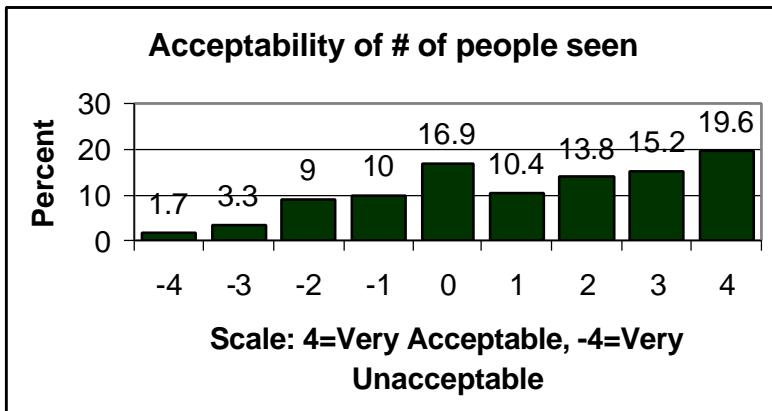
-4 -3 -2 -1 0 +1 +2 +3 +4

(QC7b)

	Level of Acceptability	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Very Unacceptable	-4	23	1.7	3	1.3
	-3	41	3.3	9	4.0
	-2	117	9.0	19	8.5
	-1	129	10.0	22	9.9
	0	210	16.9	45	20.2
	+1	136	10.4	21	9.4
	+2	178	13.8	29	13.0
	+3	197	15.2	31	13.9
Very Acceptable	+4	251	19.6	44	19.7
Mean		1.2		1.1	

N=1283; 223

(QC7b) Users (Non-Thru Hikers)



- Trail users generally responded favorably to the number of other hikers encountered; however, about one-fourth of both thru hikers and non-thru hikers rated their number of encounters in the unacceptable range.

(Q7b) by Type of Hiker

	Level of Acceptability	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Very Unacceptable	-4	1.3	2.0	2.6	1.3	1.7
	-3	3.3	3.2	3.1	4.0	3.3
	-2	9.5	8.3	10.1	8.5	9.0
	-1	8.6	13.3	6.6	9.9	10.0
	0	14.4	19.0	15.0	20.2	16.9
	+1	10.0	10.3	12.3	9.4	10.4
	+2	15.3	12.3	14.5	13.0	13.9
	+3	15.1	16.1	14.5	13.9	15.2
Very Acceptable	+4	22.4	15.5	21.1	19.7	19.5
Mean		1.3	1.0	1.2	1.1	1.2

- Each hiker type tended to rate the number of people they saw on the trail as acceptable.

(Q7b) by Region

	Level of Acceptability	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwestern Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Very Unacceptable	-4	1.7	2.1	1.0	1.4	1.3	1.7
	-3	2.9	2.5	2.6	4.0	4.0	3.3
	-2	7.0	11.7	4.6	8.5	8.5	9.0
	-1	4.5	11.4	12.8	9.9	9.9	10.0
	0	14.0	14.2	14.8	20.2	20.2	16.9
	+1	9.1	10.7	11.7	9.4	9.4	10.4
	+2	17.7	12.8	13.3	13.0	13.0	13.8
	+3	16.1	15.7	15.3	13.9	13.9	15.1
Very Acceptable	+4	27.2	18.9	24.0	19.7	19.7	19.6
Mean		0.9	1.7	1.1	1.5	1.1	1.2

- Hikers in the New England and Southwest Virginia regions reported somewhat lower mean scores for the acceptability of encounters with others, although they were also most likely to consider their encounters “very acceptable.”

**7c. Was the number of people you saw along the trail more or less than you expected to see?
[Circle one number]**

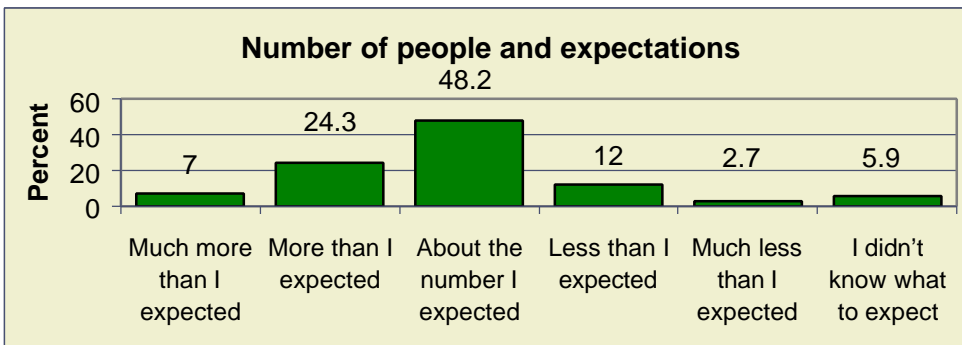
1	Much more than I expected
2	More than I expected
3	About the number I expected
4	Less than I expected
5	Much less than I expected
6	I didn't know what to expect

(QC7c)

	Scale	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Much more than I expected	1	91	7.0	34	13.5
More than I expected	2	317	24.3	77	30.7
About the number I expected	3	628	48.2	104	41.4
Less than I expected	4	156	12.0	16	6.4
Much less than I expected	5	35	2.7	1	0.4
I didn't know what to expect	6	77	5.9	19	7.6
Mean			2.8		2.5

N=1304; 251

(QC7c) Users (Non-Thru Hikers)



- Nearly one-half of non-thru hikers (48.2%) and thru hikers (41.4%) saw about the number of other hikers they expected.
- Thru hikers were more likely (44.2%) than non-thru hikers (31.3%) to see more people than they expected to see.
- Twice as many non-thru hikers (14.7%) saw fewer people than expected vs. thru hikers (6.8%).
- Relatively few from either group (5.9-7.6%) stated that they didn't know what to expect.

(Q7c) by Type of Hiker

	Scale	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Much more than I expected	1	5.2	7.0	11.4	13.5	8.1
More than I expected	2	22.2	25.8	27.5	30.7	25.6
About the number I expected	3	52.3	47.2	39.4	41.4	46.9
Less than I expected	4	12.1	12.0	11.9	6.4	11.1
Much less than I expected	5	3.1	2.0	3.4	0.4	2.3
No opinion	6	5.1	6.0	6.4	7.6	6.0
Mean		3.0	2.9	2.9	2.7	2.9

- The largest segment of all types of hikers (46.9% overall) reported seeing about the number of people that they expected.
- Section hikers (11.4%) and thru hikers (13.5%) were almost twice as likely to report that the number of people they encountered was much more than they expected as day (5.2%) or overnight (7.0%) hikers.

(Q7c) by Region

	Scale	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Much more than I expected	1	9.0	3.2	6.4	6.5	13.5	8.0
More than I expected	2	28.5	22.3	20.8	19.6	30.7	25.3
About the number I expected	3	46.3	46.6	52.3	49.7	41.4	47.1
Less than I expected	4	9.0	17.8	11.3	14.1	6.4	11.1
Much less than I expected	5	1.6	3.2	3.5	4.0	0.4	2.3
I didn't know what to expect	6	5.6	6.9	5.7	6.0	7.6	6.2
Mean		2.6	3.0	2.8	2.9	2.5	2.9

- New England hikers were most likely to see more people than they expected (37.5% versus about 26.1-27.2% for the other regions).
- For all regions, however, the most common response (46.3-52.3%) was that users saw about the number of other people that they expected to see.

**7d. Was the number of people you saw along the trail more or less than you preferred?
[Circle one number]**

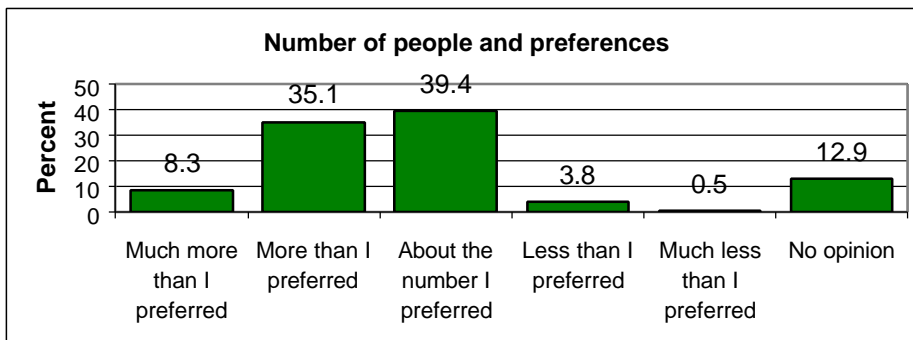
1	Much more than I preferred
2	More than I preferred
3	About the number I preferred
4	Less than I preferred
5	Much less than I preferred
6	No opinion

(QC7d)

	Scale	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Much more than I preferred	1	108	8.3	30	12.0
More than I preferred	2	458	35.1	106	42.4
About the number I preferred	3	513	39.4	89	35.6
Less than I preferred	4	49	3.8	5	2.0
Much less than I preferred	5	6	0.5	2	0.8
No opinion	6	168	12.9	17	6.8
Mean			2.5		2.3

N=1303; 250

(QC7d) Users (Non-Thru Hikers)



- Responses to how the number of people encountered compares to the number they would prefer to see were similar to those for the previous question about expectations, although only about one-third of the hikers encountered about the number they would prefer.
- The majority of thru hikers (54.4%) reported seeing more than they preferred to see, compared to 43.4% of non-thru hikers.

(Q7d) by Type of Hiker

	Scale	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Much more than I preferred	1	6.0	9.6	9.3	12.0	8.7
More than I preferred	2	35.6	35.0	34.6	42.6	36.4
About the number I preferred	3	42.8	38.0	35.9	35.7	39.0
Less than I preferred	4	3.8	3.6	4.2	2.0	3.5
Much less than I preferred	5	0.7	0.2	0.4	0.8	0.5
No Opinion	6	11.1	13.6	15.6	6.8	11.9
Mean		2.9	2.9	3.2	3.4	3.1

- In general, all types of hikers reported encountering as many or more people than they preferred (84.1%).

(Q7d) by Region

	Scale	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Much more than I preferred	1	9.7	7.3	8.8	4.5	12.0	8.9
More than I preferred	2	39.3	25.2	35.7	34.7	42.4	36.3
About the number I preferred	3	36.2	45.1	39.9	40.7	35.6	38.8
Less than I preferred	4	2.6	6.5	4.2	3.0	2.0	3.5
Much less than I preferred	5	0.3	0.0	0.7	1.0	0.8	0.7
No opinion	6	11.7	15.9	10.6	16.1	6.8	11.9
Mean		2.4	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.3	2.9

- As with expectations, New England AT hikers were most likely (49.0%) to have seen more people than they would prefer.
- Only one-third (32.5%) of the Mid-Atlantic users reported seeing more people than they prefer to see.

7e. How crowded did you feel on the Appalachian Trail on that day? [Circle one number]

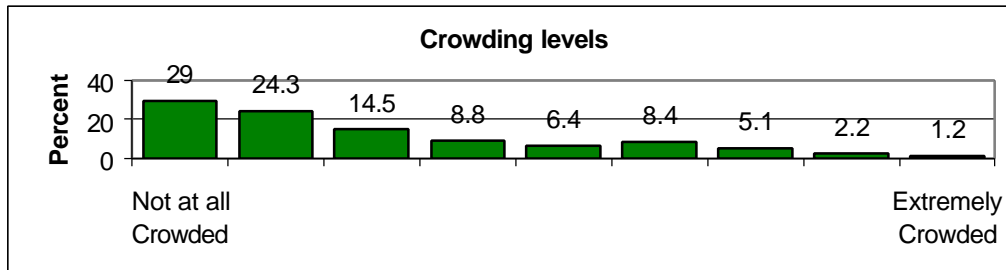
Not at all Crowded		Slightly Crowded		Moderately Crowded			Extremely Crowded	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

(QC7e)

	Crowding Level	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Not at all Crowded	1	374	29.0	60	25.8
	2	313	24.3	45	19.3
	3	187	14.5	34	14.6
	4	114	8.8	26	11.2
	5	82	6.4	18	7.7
	6	109	8.4	30	12.9
	7	66	5.1	10	4.3
	8	29	2.2	6	2.6
Extremely Crowded	9	16	1.2	4	1.7
Mean			3.0		3.4

N=1290; 233

(QC7e) Users (Non-Thru Hikers)



- Crowding levels, measured on a 9-point perceived crowding scale, were relatively low, averaging 3.0 for non-thru hikers and 3.4 for thru hikers.
- The majority of non-thru hikers (53.3%) reported a score in the “not at all crowded” range (1-2), compared with 45.1% of thru hikers.

(QC7e) by Type of Hiker

	Crowding Level	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Not at all Crowded	1	31.6	25.4	29.9	25.8	28.4
	2	24.7	24.3	23.5	19.3	23.6
	3	14.1	16.3	12.4	14.6	14.6
	4	8.0	9.9	8.5	11.2	9.2
	5	6.2	6.8	5.6	7.7	6.6
	6	8.6	8.0	8.1	12.9	9.0
	7	4.6	5.0	6.8	4.3	5.0
	8	1.8	2.4	3.0	2.6	2.3
Extremely Crowded	9	0.4	1.8	2.1	1.7	1.3
Mean		2.9	3.2	3.2	3.4	3.1

- Day users reported the lowest level of crowding (mean = 2.9).

(QC7e) by Region

	Crowding Level	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Not at all Crowded	1	23.7	41.9	27.1	30.8	25.8	28.5
	2	23.6	25.2	23.8	25.8	19.3	23.5
	3	16.3	9.3	14.8	15.2	14.6	14.5
	4	9.5	6.5	8.7	10.1	11.2	9.2
	5	7.2	5.3	5.8	6.1	7.7	6.6
	6	9.5	6.1	9.0	7.6	12.9	9.1
	7	6.5	2.4	7.2	1.5	4.3	5.0
	8	2.8	1.6	2.2	1.5	2.6	2.3
Extremely Crowded	9	0.9	1.6	1.4	1.5	1.7	1.3
Mean		3.3	2.5	3.2	2.8	3.4	3.1

- Crowding ratings were highest in New England (average=3.3), followed closely by Southwest Virginia (3.2).
- Crowding ratings were lowest in the Mid-Atlantic region.

7f. What is the highest number of people per day you think would be acceptable to meet along this section of the Appalachian Trail?

Maximum number of people acceptable: _____

7g. What is the maximum number of people per day you would prefer to meet along this section of the Appalachian Trail?

Maximum number of people preferred: _____

7h. What is the maximum number of people per day you could tolerate meeting along this section of the Appalachian Trail before you would no longer hike this section of the trail?

Maximum number of people tolerable: _____

7i. What is the maximum number of people per day you think you should see along this section of the Appalachian Trail before managers start to limit use? In other words, at what point should the managers of the Appalachian Trail begin to restrict public use? (If you feel that public use should not be limited or restricted, you may check the box indicated.)

Maximum number of people allowed: _____

Or

- Public use of the Appalachian Trail should not be limited.

(QC7f-i)

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)	Thru Hikers
	Mean	
f. Acceptable	29.5	27.5
g. Preferred	12.7	10.8
h. Maximum Tolerable	58.0	48.5
i. Maximum That Should Be Allowed*	72.2	47.7

*Public use of the Appalachian Trail should not be limited = 1024
N=1202; 216

- Trail users showed an ability to discriminate among the number of people per day that would be acceptable, preferred, tolerable, and that should be allowed.
- All of these values were slightly to moderately higher for non-thru hikers than for thru hikers.
- Generally, hikers preferred to see far few hikers (10-12 per day) than they would accept (28-30 per day).
- However, they could tolerate about twice as many (49-58 per day) as they found acceptable.
- When asked directly what is the maximum number of people per day that should be seen on the trail before managers start to limit use, the responses were similar to the maximum numbers visitors said they could tolerate.
- It is important to note that the "maximum that should be allowed" figures are based on a minority of the total sample. The majority of respondents (72.5%) stated that "public use of the Appalachian Trail should not be limited."

(Q7f-i) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
f. Acceptable	48.7	28.2	34.5	27.5	36.5
g. Preferred	33.3	12.6	10.6	10.8	19.5
h. Maximum Tolerable	51.7	55.3	80.0	48.4	56.7
i. Maximum That Should Be Allowed	76.3	70.8	66.3	47.7	68.3

- Day users preferred to see almost three times as many people (mean = 33.3) on the trail as any other type of hiker (mean = 10.6-12.6).

(Q7f-i) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
f. Acceptable	34.7	23.3	27.8	25.1	27.5	29.2
g. Preferred	13.3	11.3	13.6	11.8	10.8	12.4
h. Maximum Tolerable	58.4	44.4	68.8	58.7	48.5	56.5
i. Maximum That Should Be Allowed	84.3	87.5	42.1	54.7	47.7	68.4

- Preferred numbers of contacts with other hikers were consistent across regions, averaging 11-14 people per day.
- Acceptable levels varied more, with New England standing apart with an average of 35 people per day, versus 25-28 per day for the other regions.
- Hikers in the Mid-Atlantic region reported the lowest values for acceptable and maximum tolerable numbers of other hikers on the trail.

7j. Approximately how many miles did you hike on the Appalachian Trail on the day you were contacted for this study?

Number of miles: _____

☺ Can't remember

(QC7j)

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0-9	746	59.8	22	10.4
10-19	423	33.9	113	54.6
20-29	28	2.2	38	18.1
30+	6	0.5	5	2.4
Can't Remember	46	3.7	30	14.5
Mean	8.8		14.6	

N=1248; 207

- Most non-thru hikers hiked less than 10 miles on the day they were contacted on the Appalachian Trail.
- Thru hikers averaged nearly twice as many miles per day (15) as non-thru hikers (9).
- The majority of thru hikers (54.6%) reported hiking between 10 and 19 miles per day, compared to 33.9% of non-thru hikers.

(QC7j) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
0-9	75.7	64.2	25.6	12.6	55.2
10-19	23.0	33.7	67.6	65.7	39.5
20-29	0.9	1.9	5.9	21.7	5.0
30+	0.4	0.2	0.9	0.0	0.3
Can't Remember	1.1	1.1	0.9	2.4	5.5
Mean	7.7	8.5	11.9	14.6	9.6

- As expected, the vast majority of day and overnight hikers reported hiking less than ten miles on the day they were contacted for the study, while most section and thru hikers reported hiking between 10 and 20 miles.

(QC7j) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
0-9	56.2	48.5	81.9	67.2	12.6	54.8
10-19	41.4	45.1	16.6	31.8	65.7	39.4
20-29	2.0	5.5	0.7	1.0	21.7	5.0
30+	0.4	0.9	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.8
Can't Remember	4.0	4.3	3.7	3.1	2.4	5.7
Mean	9.0	9.9	7.8	8.1	14.6	9.6

- Hikers in the Mid-Atlantic region reported the greatest distances covered (9.9 miles), while those in Southwest Virginia (7.8 miles) and the Deep South (8.1 miles) reported the shortest distances.
- Over three-fourths (81.9%) of those in Southwest Virginia and two-thirds in the Deep South (67.2%) hiked less than 10 miles.

8. [This question is for overnight hikers only. Please think back about your camping location on the day you were contacted for this survey when answering these questions. Day hikers should skip to question 9]

a. On the day you were contacted for this study, what type of camping/overnight facility did you use? [check one]

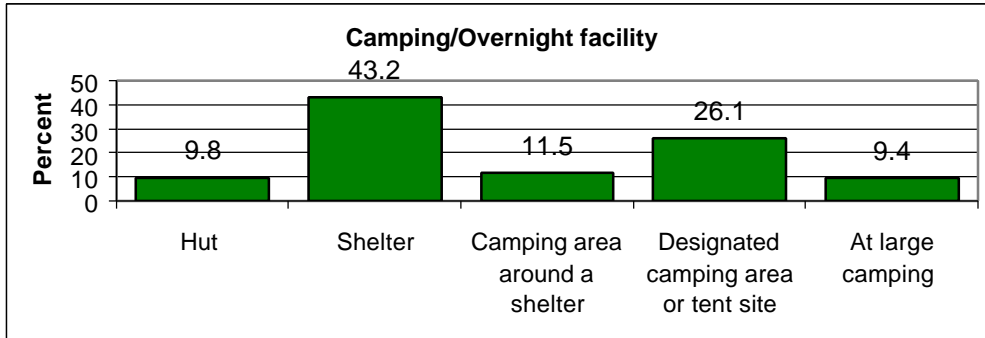
- Hut (skip to question 9 on next page)
- Shelter
- Camping area around a shelter
- Designated camping area or tentsite
- At large camping (undesignated campsites)

(QC8a)

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Hut	71	9.8	11	4.9
Shelter	312	43.2	131	58.7
Camping area around a shelter	83	11.5	31	13.9
Designated camping area or tent site	189	26.1	34	15.2
At large camping	68	9.4	16	7.2

N=723; 223

(QC8a) Users (Non-Thru Hikers)



- The reader should be aware that the terminology for the various types of camping areas may vary across regions and types of hikers and thus affect the study findings.
- Among those who camped during their AT visit, the most common choice of overnight site used was a shelter for both thru hikers (58.7%) and non-thru hikers (43.2%).
- Designated camping areas or tent sites were used by about one-fourth (26.1%) of non-thru hikers and (15.2%) of thru hikers.
- Areas around shelters were used by a small portion of thru hikers (13.9%) and non-thru hikers (11.5%).
- Huts were an infrequent choice of AT users but were twice as likely to be used by non-thru hikers (9.8%) as by thru hikers (4.9%).
- Generally, more experienced campers tended to use shelters while less experienced users stayed in designated camping areas or tentsites.

(QC8a) by Type of Hiker

	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Hut	12.2	4.4	4.9	8.6
Shelter	36.4	61.0	58.7	47.5
Camping area around a shelter	10.7	13.2	13.9	12.1
Designated camping area or tent site	30.3	15.6	15.2	23.3
At large camping	10.3	5.9	7.2	8.5

- Overnight hikers were twice as likely to use designated camping areas or tent sites.
- The vast majority of section hikers (61.0%) and thru hikers (58.7%) stayed in shelters.

(QC8a) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Hut	14.4	6.9	4.2	0.9	4.9	8.7
Shelter	37.6	39.3	32.4	74.8	58.7	46.8
Camping area around a shelter	11.1	16.6	12.7	5.4	13.9	12.1
Designated camping area or tent site	31.1	23.4	32.4	8.1	15.2	23.6
At large camping	5.8	13.8	18.3	10.8	7.2	8.9

- Shelters were used much more frequently in the Deep South (74.8%) than in any other region (32.4-39.3%).
- Designated camping areas or tent sites, conversely, were used much less in the Deep South (8.1%) than elsewhere (23.4-32.4%).
- Camping in the area around a shelter was less common in the Deep South (5.4%) than elsewhere (11-17%), probably reflecting the greater availability of space within the shelters in the Deep South.
- Hut use was greater in New England (14.4%) than in any other region (1-7%).
- Generally, regional variations may reflect the availability of various types of camping facilities within the regions.

b. Approximately how many parties of campers were camped within sight and sound of you on the day you were contacted for this study?

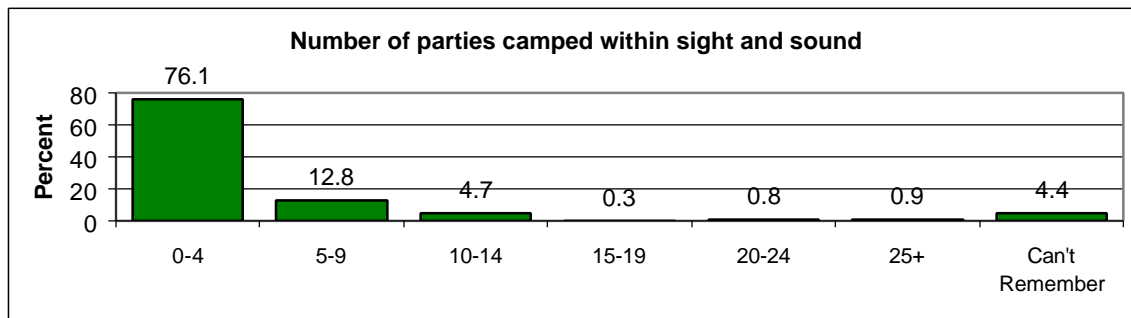
Number of parties: _____ ÿ Can't remember

(QC8b)

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0-4	504	76.1	132	60.0
5-9	85	12.8	35	15.9
10-14	31	4.7	3	1.4
15-19	2	0.3	2	0.9
20-24	5	0.8	4	1.8
25+	6	0.9	2	0.9
Can't Remember	29	4.4	42	19.1
Mean	3.2		3.4	

N=658; 205

(QC8b) Users (Non-Thru Hikers)



- The majority of overnight AT users reported camping within sight and sound of between zero and four other parties of campers.
- Thru hikers were more likely to not remember the number of other camping parties, reflecting the difficulty of answering the question for a particular night when they spent many nights out on the trail.

(QC8b) by Type of Hiker

	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
0-4	79.8	76.5	60.0	78.4
5-9	14.8	12.6	15.9	15.0
10-14	3.7	8.2	1.4	4.1
15-19	0.0	1.1	0.9	0.5
20-24	1.0	0.5	1.8	1.0
25+	0.7	1.1	0.9	1.0
Can't Remember	1.6	1.5	19.1	8.1
Average number seen	3.1	3.7	3.4	3.3

- Once again, thru hikers are more likely to not remember the number of other parties camped within sight and sound of them on the day they were contacted for this study.

(QC8b) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
0-4	72.4	87.7	86.6	86.6	60.0	78.5
5-9	20.0	6.2	6.0	6.6	15.9	14.8
10-14	5.2	4.6	3.0	5.7	1.4	4.2
15-19	0.3	0.8	0	0	0.9	0.5
20-24	1.5	0	0	0	1.8	1.0
25+	0.6	0.8	4.5	0	0.9	1.0
Can't Remember	4.5	6.2	4.5	1.7	19.1	8.8
Average number seen	3.7	2.5	3.4	2.8	3.4	3.3

- Overnight users in New England were most likely to report higher numbers of other parties camped within sight and sound of their campsite, with 27.6% reporting 5 or more parties compared to just 12-13% in the other regions.
- The average number of other campers within sight and sound of one's party ranged from 2.5 in the Mid-Atlantic region to 3.7 in New England.

**c. How acceptable was the number of parties camped within sight and sound of you on that day?
[Circle one number]**

Very Unacceptable					Very Acceptable			
-4	-3	-2	-1	0	+1	+2	+3	+4

(QC8c)

	Level of Acceptability	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Very Unacceptable	-4	21	3.2	6	2.9
	-3	14	2.1	0	0
	-2	32	4.9	6	2.9
	-1	48	7.3	12	5.9
	0	111	16.9	50	24.4
	+1	52	7.9	19	9.3
	+2	82	12.5	25	12.2
	+3	98	14.9	27	13.2
Very Acceptable	+4	200	30.4	60	29.3
Mean			1.6		1.7

N=658; 205

- The majority of both thru-hikers and non-thru hikers considered the number of parties camped within sight and sound of them to be in the acceptable range.
- Nearly one-third of both groups rated the number as “very acceptable.”
- Only 17.5% of non-thru hikers and 11.7% of thru hikers considered the number of other parties camped within sight and sound of them unacceptable, and most of these felt the number was just slightly unacceptable.

(QC8c) by Type of Hiker

	Level of Acceptability	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Very Unacceptable	-4	3.6	2.1	2.9	3.2
	-3	2.6	1.5	0.0	1.6
	-2	5.2	4.6	2.9	4.3
	-1	6.7	8.7	5.9	6.9
	0	16.9	18.5	24.4	18.8
	+1	8.1	6.7	9.3	8.3
	+2	12.1	13.3	12.2	12.5
	+3	13.3	19.0	13.2	14.4
Very Acceptable	+4	31.4	25.6	29.3	29.9
Mean		1.6	1.6	1.7	1.6

- The majority of each type of hiker considered the number of parties camped near them to be acceptable.
- Thru hikers more often reported being indifferent (“0” level of acceptability) than other users.

(QC8c) by Region

	Level of Acceptability	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Very Unacceptable	-4	2.9	2.9	8.7	0.9	3.1	3.1
	-3	2.3	2.2	1.4	1.8	1.6	1.6
	-2	5.0	3.6	5.8	5.5	4.4	4.4
	-1	9.4	5.8	4.3	4.6	7.0	7.0
	0	19.9	13.0	11.6	15.6	18.7	18.7
	+1	8.8	5.8	11.6	5.5	8.2	8.2
	+2	13.5	13.8	1.4	14.7	12.4	12.4
Very Acceptable	+3	12.6	16.7	20.3	16.5	14.5	14.5
	+4	25.7	36.2	34.8	34.9	30.1	30.1
Mean		1.4	2.0	1.6	2.0	1.7	1.6

- Ratings of acceptability for the number of parties camped within sight and sound of one's campsite were relatively consistent across regions.
- More than 80% of the hikers in all regions considered the number of hikers they saw to be in the "acceptable" range.
- Those in New England were slightly less likely to consider the number "very acceptable" (25.7%) than those in other regions (34.8-36.2%).

**d. Was the number of parties camped within sight and sound of you more or less than you expected?
[Circle one number]**

1	Much more than I expected
2	More than I expected
3	About the number I expected
4	Less than I expected
5	Much less than I expected
6	I didn't know what to expect

(QC8d)

	Scale	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Much more than I expected	1	31	4.7	10	4.7
More than I expected	2	118	17.8	26	12.3
About the number I expected	3	302	45.6	114	54.0
Less than I expected	4	119	18.0	35	16.6
Much less than I expected	5	38	5.7	6	2.8
I didn't know what to expect	6	54	8.2	20	9.5
Mean			3.3		3.3

N=662; 211

- About half of both thru hikers (54.0%) and non-thru hikers (45.6%) reported that the number of parties camped within sight and sound of them was about what they expected.
- Both groups were about equally likely to encounter fewer parties than expected camped within sight and sound of them.
- Less than one-tenth of both groups reported not knowing what to expect in terms of other parties camped within sight and sound of them.

(QC8d) by Type of Hiker

	Scale	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Much more than I expected	1	4.8	3.6	4.7	4.7
More than I expected	2	20.0	15.2	12.3	16.6
About the number I expected	3	43.5	49.7	54.0	47.5
Less than I expected	4	17.6	18.3	16.6	17.7
Much less than I expected	5	5.7	6.1	2.8	5.1
I didn't know what to expect	6	8.6	7.1	9.5	8.4
Mean		3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3

- Overnight hikers were more likely to report that the number of parties camped within sight and sound of them was more than they expected.

(QC8d) by Region

	Scale	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Much more than I expected	1	4.9	2.2	7.2	5.5	4.7	4.7
More than I expected	2	21.0	10.3	18.8	16.4	12.3	16.5
About the number I expected	3	47.6	47.8	36.2	42.7	54.0	47.7
Less than I expected	4	15.0	25.0	17.4	19.1	16.6	17.6
Much less than I expected	5	4.6	5.1	8.7	8.2	2.8	5.0
I didn't know what to expect	6	6.9	9.6	11.6	8.2	9.5	8.5
Mean		3.1	3.3	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.3

- There was relatively little variation across regions in how the number of parties camped within sight and sound of AT users compared to their expectations.
- The proportion of hikers seeing more parties than they expected within sight and sound of their campsite ranged from 12.5% in the Mid-Atlantic region to 25.9% in New England.

**e. Was the number of parties camped within sight and sound of you more or less than you preferred?
[Circle one number]**

1	Much more than I preferred
2	More than I preferred
3	About the number I preferred
4	Less than I preferred
5	Much less than I preferred
6	No opinion

(QC8e)

	Scale	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Much more than I preferred	1	43	6.5	16	7.5
More than I preferred	2	186	28.1	56	26.4
About the number I preferred	3	310	46.8	103	48.6
Less than I preferred	4	24	3.6	8	3.8
Much less than I preferred	5	2	0.3	0	0
No opinion	6	97	14.7	29	13.7
Mean			3.1		3.0

N=662; 212

- While very few respondents saw less than they preferred to see, about half of both thru hikers (48.6%) and non-thru hikers (46.8%) reported seeing about the preferred number of other parties camped within sight and sound of them.
- About- one-third of both thru hikers and non-thru hikers saw more than they preferred to see camping within sight and sound of them.

(QC8e) by Type of Hiker

	Scale	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Much more than I preferred	1	6.7	5.6	7.5	6.7
More than I preferred	2	29.9	26.8	26.4	27.7
About the number I preferred	3	46.6	46.5	48.6	47.5
Less than I preferred	4	3.1	3.5	3.8	3.6
Much less than I preferred	5	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.2
No opinion	6	13.8	16.7	13.7	14.2
Mean		3.0	3.2	3.0	3.1

- Preferences for the number of parties camped within sight and sound were relatively consistent across hiker types.

(QC8e) by Region

	Scale	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Much more than I preferred	1	6.6	5.1	7.2	7.3	7.5	6.8
More than I preferred	2	34.3	16.2	30.4	21.8	26.4	27.7
About the number I preferred	3	43.5	54.4	39.1	52.7	48.6	47.3
Less than I preferred	4	2.9	5.1	4.3	3.6	3.8	3.7
Much less than I preferred	5	0.3	0.0	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.2
No opinion	6	12.4	19.1	17.4	14.5	13.7	14.4
Mean		3.0	3.4	3.1	3.1	3.0	3.1

- Hikers in New England (40.9%) and Southwest Virginia (37.6%) were more likely than those in the Deep South (29.1%) or the Mid-Atlantic (21.3%) to report seeing more campers than they preferred to see camped within sight and sound of their group.
- The largest segment of users within each region (39.1-54.4%), however, reported seeing about the number of other parties they preferred to see camped within sight or sound of them.

f. How crowded did you feel in camp that night? [Circle one number]

Not at all Crowded		Slightly Crowded		Moderately Crowded			Extremely Crowded	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

(QC8f)

Crowding Level	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Not at all Crowded	281	42.9	91	44.6
	129	19.7	37	18.1
	81	12.4	25	12.3
	38	5.8	14	6.9
	31	4.7	10	4.9
	43	6.6	16	7.8
	26	4.0	1	0.5
	11	1.7	5	2.5
Extremely Crowded	15	2.3	5	2.5
Mean	2.7		2.6	

N=655; 204

- Crowding ratings at the campsite were lower than those reported while hiking on the trail, averaging 2.7 for non-thru hikers and 2.6 for thru hikers using the 9-point crowding scale.
- The most common response for both thru hikers (44.6%) and non-thru hikers (42.9%) was a crowding level of 1 (not at all crowded) at their campsite.

(QC8f) by Type of Hiker

	Scale	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Not at all Crowded	1	41.5	42.1	44.6	43.3
	2	21.0	19.5	18.1	19.4
	3	11.7	14.9	12.3	12.4
	4	5.7	6.7	6.9	6.0
	5	6.2	2.1	4.9	4.8
	6	5.3	8.2	7.8	6.7
	7	4.3	4.1	0.5	3.2
	8	1.4	1.5	2.5	1.9
Extremely Crowded	9	2.9	1.0	2.5	2.4
Mean		2.7	2.6	2.6	2.7

- Overall, each hiker type reported low levels of crowding at campsites.

(QC8f) by Region

	Crowding Level	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Not at all Crowded	1	35.2	57.4	48.5	45.5	44.6	43.3
	2	20.5	21.3	13.2	19.1	18.1	19.3
	3	15.2	6.6	4.4	15.5	12.3	12.3
	4	7.6	0.7	8.8	4.5	6.9	6.1
	5	4.7	5.1	2.9	5.5	4.9	4.8
	6	7.6	5.9	5.9	4.5	7.8	6.9
	7	4.7	1.5	5.9	3.6	0.5	3.1
	8	2.1	0.0	4.4	0.9	2.5	1.9
Extremely Crowded	9	2.3	1.5	5.9	0.9	2.5	2.3
Mean		2.9	2.1	3.0	2.4	2.6	2.7

- Only one-third (35.2%) of those camping in New England gave a crowding score of 1 for their camping area, compared to about half of the campers in the other regions.
- Average crowding scores for camping areas were higher in Southwest Virginia (3.0) and New England (2.9) than in the Deep South (2.4) or the Mid-Atlantic (2.1).

g. What is the highest number of parties of people that would be acceptable to camp within sight and sound of where you camped?

Maximum number of parties acceptable: _____

h. What is the maximum number of parties of people you would prefer to camp within sight and sound of where you camped?

Maximum number of parties preferred: _____

i. What is the maximum number of parties of people you could tolerate camping within sight and sound of where you camped before you would no longer camp in this section of the trail?

Maximum number of parties tolerable: _____

j. What is the maximum number of parties of people that you think should camp within sight and sound of where you camped before managers start to limit use? In other words, at what point should managers of the Appalachian Trail begin to restrict public use? (If you feel that public use should not be limited or restricted, you may check the box indicated.)

Maximum number of parties allowed: _____

Or

- Public use of the Appalachian Trail should not be limited.

(QC8g-j)

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)	Thru Hikers
	Mean	
g. Acceptable	5.2	6.4
h. Preferred	2.9	3.2
i. Maximum Tolerable	7.3	8.3
j. Maximum That Should Be Allowed*	8.7	10.2

*Public use of the Appalachian Trail should not be limited = 477
N=606; 198

- As in the case of hiker perceptions of acceptable numbers of hikers on the trail, respondents were able to report the number of parties that they would prefer, accept, tolerate and should be allowed to camp within sight and sound of their group.
- Both thru hikers and non-thru hikers would **prefer** to see, on average, no more than 3 parties camped within sight and sound of them.
- Both groups, as well, would **accept** seeing about twice as many parties as they would prefer camped within sight and sound of them.
- The maximum number of parties they would **tolerate** within sight and sound of their campsite was about 7 for non-thru hikers and about 8 for thru hikers.
- The maximum number of groups within sight and sound of each other that should be allowed (9 for non-thru hikers and 10 for thru hikers) again should be interpreted in light of the large number of respondents (59% of overnight campers) who indicated that public use of the Appalachian Trail should not be limited.

(QC8g-j) by Type Hiker

	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
g. Acceptable	18.4	6.7	6.4	12.2
h. Preferred	2.7	3.4	3.2	3.0
i. Maximum Tolerable	13.1	9.7	9.6	11.3
j. Maximum That Should Be Allowed*	8.0	10.3	10.2	9.0

- Acceptable crowding levels were highest amongst overnight hikers.
- Preferred crowding levels were consistent across hiker types.

(QC8g-j) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
	Mean					
g. Acceptable	5.5	4.7	4.3	5.2	6.4	5.5
h. Preferred	3.1	2.7	2.2	3.0	3.2	2.9
i. Maximum Tolerable	7.9	6.8	6.4	6.4	8.3	7.5
j. Maximum That Should Be Allowed*	8.8	10.0	8.1	7.8	10.2	9.0

- There was relatively little variation across regions in the pattern of responses to these crowding tolerance questions.
- In all regions, the preferred number of groups camped within sight and sound of each other was 2-3 and the acceptable number ranged from 4-6.
- The maximum tolerable number of groups camped within sight and sound of each other ranged from 6-8.

9. Listed below are a number of management actions that might be applied to the Appalachian Trail. Please indicate the extent to which you would support or oppose each management action as it would apply to the section of the Appalachian Trail you hiked on the day you were contacted for this study. [Circle one number for each management action]

	LEVEL OF OPPOSITION/SUPPORT				
	Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Neither Oppose Nor Support	Support	Strongly Support
a. Provide more information to hikers about appropriate use of the trail	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
b. Provide more signs along the trail about appropriate use	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
c. Limit the number of people allowed to use the trail	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
d. Require all hikers to have minimum supplies and equipment (e.g., adequate water, appropriate shoes/boots)	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
e. Charge a fee to help pay for trail maintenance and hiker education	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
f. Put more rangers along the trail to educate hikers about appropriate use and safety	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
g. Put more rangers along the trail to enforce rules and regulations	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
h. Require dogs to be on a leash	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
i. Prohibit dogs	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
j. Restrict horse use to certain sections of the trail	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
k. Prohibit horses	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
l. Prohibit campfires except at shelters	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
m. Prohibit all campfires	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
n. Require a permit for overnight use	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
o. Restrict group size	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
p. Restrict use of the trail by commercial groups	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
q. Restrict development of cell phone towers and similar structures	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
r. Provide primitive toilets at shelters and popular campsites	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
s. Provide primitive toilets at popular day use sites	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
t. Require campers to use shelters or designated campsites	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
u. Prohibit use of radios and cell phones	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
v. Provide wooden bridges over streams	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
w. Clear selected vegetation to improve views from the trail	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
x. Provide fire grates at campsites	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
y. Provide log tables at shelters	-2	-1	0	+1	+2

(QC9)**Users (Non-Thru Hiker) (N=1561)**

	Level Of Opposition/Support					Mean
	Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Neither Oppose Nor Support	Support	Strongly Support	
	-2	-1	0	1	2	
	Percent					
a. Provide more information to hikers about appropriate use of the trail	0.8	1.7	13.6	47.6	36.3	1.2
b. Provide more signs along the trail about appropriate use	4.8	14.6	26.6	40.3	13.7	0.4
c. Limit the number of people allowed to use the trail	31.4	33.9	21.5	10.6	2.7	-0.8
d. Require all hikers to have minimum supplies and equipment (e.g., adequate water, appropriate shoes/boots)	16.9	25.2	28.2	21.6	8.0	-0.2
e. Charge a fee to help pay for trail maintenance and hiker education	21.2	24.7	22.8	26.0	5.3	-0.3
f. Put more rangers along the trail to educate hikers about appropriate use and safety	7.5	21.1	34.2	30.8	6.5	0.1
g. Put more rangers along the trail to enforce rules and regulations	11.8	23.7	34.4	24.3	5.8	-0.1
h. Require dogs to be on a leash	10.1	15.6	22.4	24.7	27.1	0.4
i. Prohibit dogs	31.4	25.8	21.1	8.7	12.8	-0.6
j. Restrict horse use to certain sections of the trail	3.5	6.5	20.9	33.3	35.8	0.9
k. Prohibit horses	8.9	19.7	32.0	14.3	25.2	0.3
l. Prohibit campfires except at shelters	12.1	25.2	20.2	21.6	20.9	0.1
m. Prohibit all campfires	39.4	32.1	18.3	5.5	4.6	-1.0
n. Require a permit for overnight use	26.2	27.3	19.9	19.1	7.6	-0.5
o. Restrict group size	9.8	14.4	16.9	33.4	25.6	0.5
p. Restrict use of the trail by commercial groups	7.0	15.3	25.1	28.8	23.7	0.5
q. Restrict development of cell phone towers and similar structures	3.8	4.2	12.0	25.4	54.6	1.2
r. Provide primitive toilets at shelters and popular campsites	3.0	4.5	14.7	44.0	33.8	1.0
s. Provide primitive toilets at popular day use sites	2.7	6.2	16.8	44.5	29.7	0.9
t. Require campers to use shelters or designated campsites	16.4	26.6	22.2	23.0	11.8	-0.1
u. Prohibit use of radios and cell phones	14.0	23.8	29.0	17.1	16.1	0.0
v. Provide wooden bridges over streams	6.1	14.3	37.6	31.3	10.7	0.3
w. Clear selected vegetation to improve views from the trail	17.5	24.1	22.7	26.6	9.1	-0.1
x. Provide fire grates at campsites	9.3	16.4	36.2	30.4	7.7	0.1
y. Provide log tables at shelters	6.5	11.7	30.5	37.7	13.5	0.4

- Non-thru hikers were most supportive of the management strategies of providing more information to hikers about appropriate use of the trail (83.9% support or strongly support), restricting development of cell phone towers and similar structures (80.0% support), and providing primitive toilets at popular campsites (77.8% support) and day use sites (74.2% support).
- The majority of non-thru hikers (69.1%) support restricting horse use to certain sections of the trail, while only 10.0% oppose this option.
- Non-thru hikers were most opposed to prohibiting all campfires (71.5% opposed or strongly opposed) and limiting the number of people allowed to use the trail (65.3% opposed).

Thru Hikers Only (N=318)

	Level Of Opposition/Support					Mean
	Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Neither Oppose Nor Support	Support	Strongly Support	
	-2	-1	0	1	2	
	Percent					
a. Provide more information to hikers about appropriate use of the trail	0.7	5.2	20.1	42.8	31.2	1.0
b. Provide more signs along the trail about appropriate use	9	18.7	28.1	31.5	12.7	0.2
c. Limit the number of people allowed to use the trail	33.6	32.8	16.4	13.4	3.4	-0.9
d. Require all hikers to have minimum supplies and equipment (e.g., adequate water, appropriate shoes/boots)	31.8	31.4	17.4	12.9	6.4	-0.7
e. Charge a fee to help pay for trail maintenance and hiker education	43.8	27.3	14.2	13.9	0.7	-1.0
f. Put more rangers along the trail to educate hikers about appropriate use and safety	13.1	24.3	32.8	23.5	6.3	-0.1
g. Put more rangers along the trail to enforce rules and regulations	22.3	32.3	25.7	16	3.7	-0.5
h. Require dogs to be on a leash	16.9	21.3	20.6	20.6	20.6	0.1
i. Prohibit dogs	39.9	25.6	16.1	8.1	10.3	-0.8
j. Restrict horse use to certain sections of the trail	4.9	1.9	12.9	25.5	54.8	1.2
k. Prohibit horses	4	7	22.1	16.9	50	1.0
l. Prohibit campfires except at shelters	19.9	30.1	14.7	19.9	15.4	-0.2
m. Prohibit all campfires	53.7	26.7	11.9	4.8	3	-1.2
n. Require a permit for overnight use	46.6	28	14.6	9.7	1.1	-1.1
o. Restrict group size	8.9	6.6	8.1	34.3	42.1	0.9
p. Restrict use of the trail by commercial groups	3.3	12.2	20	33	31.5	0.8
q. Restrict development of cell phone towers and similar structures	1.9	4.9	11.9	21.6	59.7	1.3
r. Provide primitive toilets at shelters and popular campsites	1.5	1.5	13	40.1	43.9	1.2
s. Provide primitive toilets at popular day use sites	3.4	5.2	16.8	39.2	35.4	1.0
t. Require campers to use shelters or designated campsites	32.2	38.9	11.5	12.2	5.2	-0.8
u. Prohibit use of radios and cell phones	24	26.2	25.5	10.7	13.7	-0.4
v. Provide wooden bridges over streams	4.8	10.3	35.9	29.7	19.4	0.5
w. Clear selected vegetation to improve views from the trail	18.4	20.6	23.2	28.3	9.6	-0.1
x. Provide fire grates at campsites	7.7	12.2	42.1	30.3	7.7	0.2
y. Provide log tables at shelters	2.2	2.9	20.1	49.8	24.9	0.9

- Thru hikers agree with the non-thru hikers in their strong support for management strategies of providing more information to hikers about appropriate use of the trail (74.0% support or strongly support), restricting development of cell phone towers and similar structures (81.3% support), and providing primitive toilets at popular campsites (84.0% support) and day use sites (74.6% support).
- Thru hikers (80.3%) were even more likely than non-thru hikers (69.1%) to support restricting horse use to certain sections of the trail.
- Thru hikers were much more likely than non-thru hikers to oppose requiring a permit for overnight use and charging a fee to help pay for trail maintenance and hiker education.
- Three-fourths of thru hikers (74.7%) supported the idea of providing log tables at shelters, compared to only half (51.2%) of the non-thru hikers.

(QC9) by Type of Hiker

Management Action*	Day User	Overnight Hiker	Section Hiker	Thru Hiker	Total
a) Provide more information to hikers about appropriate use of the trail	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.0	1.1
b) Provide more signs along the trail about appropriate use	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.4
c) Limit the number of people allowed to use the trail	-0.8	-0.8	-0.8	-0.9	-0.8
d) Require all hikers to have minimum supplies and equipment (e.g., adequate water, appropriate shoes/boots)	-0.2	-0.2	-0.3	-0.7	-0.3
e) Charge a fee to help pay for trail maintenance and hiker education	-0.3	-0.2	-0.4	-1.0	-0.4
f) Put more rangers along the trail to educate hikers about appropriate use and safety	0.1	0.0	0.1	-0.1	0.0
g) Put more rangers along the trail to enforce rules and regulations	0.0	-0.1	-0.2	-0.5	-0.2
h) Require dogs to be on a leash	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.1	0.4
i) Prohibit dogs	-0.7	-0.5	-0.5	-0.8	-0.6
j) Restrict horse use to certain sections of the trail	0.8	0.9	1.1	1.2	1.0
k) Prohibit horses	0.0	0.3	0.9	1.0	0.4
l) Prohibit campfires except at shelters	0.2	0.1	0.1	-0.2	0.1
m) Prohibit all campfires	-1.0	-1.0	-1.0	-1.2	-1.0
n) Require a permit for overnight use	-0.3	-0.5	-0.8	-1.1	-0.6
o) Restrict group size	0.3	0.5	1.0	0.9	0.6
p) Restrict use of the trail by commercial groups	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.5
q) Restrict development of cell phone towers and similar structures	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.3	1.2
r) Provide primitive toilets at shelters and popular campsites	0.9	1.0	1.2	1.2	1.0
s) Provide primitive toilets at popular day use sites	0.8	1.0	1.1	1.0	0.9
t) Require campers to use shelters or designated campsites	0.1	-0.2	-0.4	-0.8	-0.2
u) Prohibit use of radios and cell phones	0.1	-0.1	-0.2	-0.4	-0.1
v) Provide wooden bridges over streams	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.3
w) Clear selected vegetation to improve views from the trail	-0.1	-0.3	0.1	-0.1	-0.1
x) Provide fire grates at campsites	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.1
y) Provide log tables at shelters	0.4	0.3	0.8	0.9	0.5

*Responses ranged from "strongly oppose" (-2) to "strongly support" (+2).

- Day users and overnight hikers generally expressed more support than section and thru hikers for information-based strategies like providing more signs and other information about appropriate use of the trail.
- All groups were equally opposed to limiting the number of people allowed on the trail.
- Thru hikers stood out from all groups in strong opposition to several management options, including charging a fee to help pay for trail maintenance and education, requiring a permit for overnight use, and requiring use of a shelter or designated campsite.
- Section and thru hikers were much more likely than day users or overnight hikers to favor prohibiting horses on the AT.
- Section and thru hikers were also far more likely to support restrictions on group size.

(QC9) by Region

Management Action*	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Total
a. Provide more information to hikers about appropriate use of the trail	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.1
b. Provide more signs along the trail about appropriate use	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.4
c. Limit the number of people allowed to use the trail	-0.7	-1.1	-0.8	-0.8	-0.8
d. Require all hikers to have minimum supplies and equipment (e.g., adequate water, appropriate shoes/boots)	-0.1	-0.4	-0.3	-0.2	-0.3
e. Charge a fee to help pay for trail maintenance and hiker education	-0.1	-0.6	-0.5	-0.3	-0.4
f. Put more rangers along the trail to educate hikers about appropriate use and safety	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0
g. Put more rangers along the trail to enforce rules and regulations	-0.1	-0.3	0.0	0.0	-0.2
h. Require dogs to be on a leash	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.4
i. Prohibit dogs	-0.5	-0.7	-0.8	-0.2	-0.6
j. Restrict horse use to certain sections of the trail	0.9	1.0	0.9	1.0	1.0
k. Prohibit horses	0.3	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.4
l. Prohibit campfires except at shelters	0.4	0.0	-0.1	-0.1	0.1
m. Prohibit all campfires	-0.8	-1.1	-1.1	-1.2	-1.0
n. Require a permit for overnight use	-0.5	-0.8	-0.4	0.0	-0.6
o. Restrict group size	0.7	0.5	0.2	0.5	0.6
p. Restrict use of the trail by commercial groups	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.6	0.5
q. Restrict development of cell phone towers and similar structures	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.4	1.2
r. Provide primitive toilets at shelters and popular campsites	1.2	1.0	0.8	0.8	1.0
s. Provide primitive toilets at popular day use sites	1.1	0.9	0.7	0.8	0.9
t. Require campers to use shelters or designated campsites	-0.1	-0.4	-0.2	0.2	-0.2
u. Prohibit use of radios and cell phones	0.1	-0.3	-0.1	0.1	-0.1
v. Provide wooden bridges over streams	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.3
w. Clear selected vegetation to improve views from the trail	-0.1	-0.2	-0.2	-0.1	-0.1
x. Provide fire grates at campsites	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1
y. Provide log tables at shelters	0.3	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.5

*Responses ranged from "strongly oppose" (-2) to "strongly support" (+2).

- New England hikers expressed the strongest support for providing primitive toilets at shelters and popular campsites and day use areas.
- New England trail users were more supportive of restrictions on campfires than users from other regions.
- Mid-Atlantic users were more negative about limiting the number of people on the trail than users in other regions.
- The majority of Mid-Atlantic hikers (59%) opposed charging fees to help pay for trail maintenance and hiker education, compared to 39-50% in the other regions.
- Mid-Atlantic trail users also expressed the most opposition to requiring campers to use shelters or designated campsites. Over half of the Mid-Atlantic hikers (53%) were opposed to such regulations, versus 36-43% of the users in the other regions.
- Hikers in Southwest Virginia were more likely than those in other areas to support the idea of providing more signs along the trail about appropriate use.
- Southwest Virginia hikers expressed the least support for restricting group size on the trail. Less than half of them (49%) supported restricting group size, compared to 57-64% of those in the other regions.

- The same pattern was true for restricting use of the trail by commercial groups. While 46% of Southwest Virginia hikers expressed support, the proportion in the other regions who supported restricting use of the trail by commercial groups was higher, ranging from 52-57%.
- Hikers in the Deep South were more likely to support prohibiting dogs on the trail. Nearly one-third of them (32%) were in support of prohibiting dogs, compared to just 15-23% in the other regions.
- Deep South hikers were neutral about requiring a permit for overnight use. While a majority of hikers in the other regions (ranging from 52-63%) opposed requiring such a permit, only 42% of those in the Deep South were opposed to requiring a permit for overnight use.
- Deep South trail users were more likely (44% support) than those in the other regions (26-37%) to favor requiring campers to use shelters or designated campsites.

10. Do you think that commercial uses of the Appalachian Trail should be allowed? “Commercial uses” are defined as groups whose members pay a fee to participate in the trip. [check one]

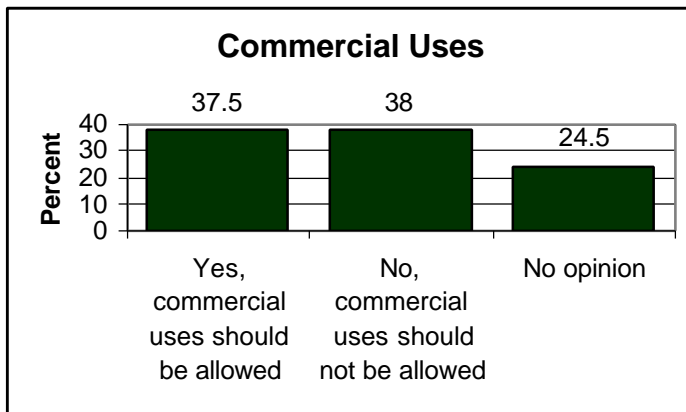
- Yes, commercial uses should be allowed
- No, commercial uses should not be allowed
- No opinion

(QC10)

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes, commercial uses should be allowed	466	37.5	102	39.2
No, commercial uses should not be allowed	473	38.0	106	40.8
No opinion	305	24.5	52	20.0

N=1244; 260

(QC10) Users (Non-Thru Hikers)



- Appalachian Trail users were almost evenly divided about whether or not commercial use of the trail should be allowed. About 40% of both thru hikers and non-thru hikers felt that commercial uses should be allowed, with an equal proportion feeling they should not be allowed.
- Less than one-quarter of non-thru hikers (25%) and thru hikers (20%) did not have an opinion about whether commercial uses should be allowed.

(QC10) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Yes, commercial uses should be allowed	39.1	36.1	36.2	39.2	37.7
No, commercial uses should not be allowed	33.3	40.1	44.0	40.8	38.4
No Opinion	27.6	23.8	19.8	20.0	23.8

- There was little variation in opinions about commercial use of the AT among hiker types.

(QC10) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Deep South	Southwest Virginia	Thru Hikers	Total
Yes, commercial uses should be allowed	37.1	40.5	36.0	36.5	39.2	37.8
No, commercial uses should not be allowed	39.6	34.2	38.7	37.6	40.8	38.5
No opinion	23.2	25.3	25.3	25.9	20.0	23.7

- There was little regional variation in opinions about commercial use of the AT.

**11. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.
[Circle one number for each statement]**

	LEVEL OF AGREEMENT				
	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral/ No	Agree	Strongly Agree
(a) I thoroughly enjoyed my trip on the Appalachian Trail	1	2	3	4	5
(b) I was pleased by the job being done by managers of the trail	1	2	3	4	5
(c) There is not enough parking at trailheads	1	2	3	4	5
(d) My use of the Appalachian Trail has not changed much	1	2	3	4	5
(e) I cannot imagine a better trip than the one I took on the Appalachian Trail	1	2	3	4	5
(f) I thought the trail and its surroundings were in good condition	1	2	3	4	5
(g) Information about the Appalachian Trail is hard to find	1	2	3	4	5
(h) I use the Appalachian Trail more in the off-season to avoid crowding	1	2	3	4	5
(i) My trip on the Appalachian Trail was well worth the money I spent on it	1	2	3	4	5
(j) I use the Appalachian Trail more during the early and/or later times of the day to avoid crowding	1	2	3	4	5
(k) I use the Appalachian Trail less now because of crowding	1	2	3	4	5
(l) There is not enough information provided at trailheads	1	2	3	4	5
(m) The number of people on the trail was about right	1	2	3	4	5
(n) I was disappointed with some aspects of my trip on the Appalachian Trail	1	2	3	4	5
(o) I use the Appalachian Trail more on weekdays than weekends to avoid crowding	1	2	3	4	5
(p) I do not want to have any more trips like that trip on the Appalachian Trail	1	2	3	4	5
(q) I use the Appalachian Trail more now than I used to	1	2	3	4	5
(r) I use a different section of the Appalachian Trail to avoid crowding	1	2	3	4	5

(QC11)**Users (Non-Thru Hiker) (N=1561)**

	Level Of Agreement					Mean
	Strongly Disagree 1	Disagree 2	Neutral/ No Opinion 3 Percent	Agree 4	Strongly Agree 5	
(a) I thoroughly enjoyed my trip on the Appalachian Trail	0.3	0.8	1.7	31.6	65.5	4.6
(b) I was pleased by the job being done by managers of the trail	0.4	3.0	10.5	48.8	37.3	4.2
(c) There is not enough parking at trailheads	13.1	29.6	37.0	16.4	3.9	2.7
(d) My use of the Appalachian Trail has not changed much	2.4	10.7	28.7	42.7	15.6	3.6
(e) I cannot imagine a better trip than the one I took on the Appalachian Trail	5.3	25.4	29.5	27.5	12.2	3.2
(f) I thought the trail and its surroundings were in good condition	0.7	4.4	7.4	66.5	21.0	4.0
(g) Information about the Appalachian Trail is hard to find	30.9	43.9	15.3	8.4	1.5	2.1
(h) I use the Appalachian Trail more in the off-season to avoid crowding	4.2	20.3	38.9	27.6	9.1	3.2
(i) My trip on the Appalachian Trail was well worth the money I spent on it	0.9	0.5	17.2	36.0	45.4	4.3
(j) I use the Appalachian Trail more during the early and/or later times of the day to avoid crowding	6.2	24.9	46.3	17.1	5.5	2.9
(k) I use the Appalachian Trail less now because of crowding	15.4	40.4	35.1	7.6	1.5	2.4
(l) There is not enough information provided at trailheads	8.0	34.4	29.0	25.1	3.5	2.8
(m) The number of people on the trail was about right	2.9	19.6	27.2	44.6	5.6	3.3
(n) I was disappointed with some aspects of my trip on the Appalachian Trail	16.5	40.8	19.4	20.8	2.5	2.5
(o) I use the Appalachian Trail more on weekdays than weekends to avoid crowding	8.4	30.8	34.8	20.2	5.8	2.8
(p) I do not want to have any more trips like that trip on the Appalachian Trail	62.2	29.7	5.5	1.6	1.0	1.5
(q) I use the Appalachian Trail more now than I used to	3.0	15.4	34.8	32.9	13.9	3.4
(r) I use a different section of the Appalachian Trail to avoid crowding	7.3	25.4	43.8	19.6	3.9	2.9

- Most non-thru hikers and thru hikers thoroughly enjoyed their trip on the Appalachian Trail.
- The vast majority of the non-thru hikers were pleased with the job being done by managers of the trail (86.1%) and felt that the trail and its surroundings were in good condition (87.5%).
- Substantial minorities of non-thru hikers reported making any adjustments in their trail visitation to avoid crowding on the trail. For example,
 - 22.6% use it during the early or later times of the day,
 - 26.0% reported using the trail more on weekends,
 - and 23.5% use a different section of the trail to avoid crowding.

Thru Hikers Only (N=318)

	Level Of Agreement					Mean
	Strongly Disagree 1	Disagree 2	Neutral/ No Opinion 3	Agree 4	Strongly Agree 5	
(a) I thoroughly enjoyed my trip on the Appalachian Trail	0.4	0.7	1.8	22.0	75.1	4.7
(b) I was pleased by the job being done by managers of the trail	0.7	4.1	12.2	57.2	25.8	4.0
(c) There is not enough parking at trailheads	10.4	14.9	72.0	2.6		2.7
(d) My use of the Appalachian Trail has not changed much	9.4	14.7	39.8	24.8	11.3	3.1
(e) I cannot imagine a better trip than the one I took on the Appalachian Trail	3.3	20.3	15.9	30.6	29.9	3.6
(f) I thought the trail and its surroundings were in good condition	1.1	5.9	10.7	65.3	17.0	3.9
(g) Information about the Appalachian Trail is hard to find	52.7	39.2	7.0	1.1		1.6
(h) I use the Appalachian Trail more in the off-season to avoid crowding	4.0	18.3	54.2	16.1	7.3	3.0
(i) My trip on the Appalachian Trail was well worth the money I spent on it			2.2	28.0	69.7	4.7
(j) I use the Appalachian Trail more during the early and/or later times of the day to avoid crowding	6.7	21.5	56.3	11.9	3.7	2.8
(k) I use the Appalachian Trail less now because of crowding	12.6	29.0	49.1	5.6	3.7	2.6
(l) There is not enough information provided at trailheads	11.8	46.7	28.3	12.5	0.7	2.4
(m) The number of people on the trail was about right	5.6	27.0	30.0	34.1	3.3	3.0
(n) I was disappointed with some aspects of my trip on the Appalachian Trail	10.3	19.9	15.8	51.1	2.9	3.2
(o) I use the Appalachian Trail more on weekdays than weekends to avoid crowding	5.6	18.2	55.8	14.9	5.6	3.0
(p) I do not want to have any more trips like that trip on the Appalachian Trail	60.2	26.4	7.4	3.3	2.6	1.6
(q) I use the Appalachian Trail more now than I used to	1.9	9.3	46.8	21.6	20.4	3.5
(r) I use a different section of the Appalachian Trail to avoid crowding	6.7	13.5	66.7	9.4	3.7	2.9

- Non-thru hikers (58.3%) were more likely than thru hikers (36.2%) to state that their use of the Appalachian Trail has not changed much.
- Non-thru hikers (28.6%) were also more likely than thru hikers (13.2%) to believe that there is not enough information provided at trailheads.
- While virtually all (97.7%) thru hikers agreed that their trip on the AT was well worth the money they spent on it, the majority (54.0%) also agreed that they were disappointed with some aspects of their trip on the Appalachian Trail.
- Thru hikers were less likely than non-thru hikers to believe that information about the Appalachian Trail is hard to find. Nearly all thru hikers (91.9%) and 74.8% of non-thru hikers disagreed with this statement.
- Thru hikers were slightly less likely (37.4%) than non-thru hikers (50.2%) to agree that the number of people on the trail was about right.

(QC11) by Type of Hiker

Statement*	Day User	Overnight Hiker	Section Hiker	Thru Hiker	Total
a) I thoroughly enjoyed my trip on the Appalachian Trail	4.6	4.6	4.7	4.7	4.6
b) I was pleased by the job being done by managers of the trail	4.2	4.3	4.1	4.0	4.2
c) There is not enough parking at trailheads	2.8	2.5	2.7	2.7	2.7
d) My use of the Appalachian Trail has not changed much	3.6	3.5	3.6	3.1	3.5
e) I cannot imagine a better trip than the one I took on the Appalachian Trail	3.1	3.1	3.5	3.6	3.2
f) I thought the trail and its surroundings were in good condition	4.1	4.0	4.0	3.9	4.0
g) Information about the Appalachian Trail is hard to find	2.2	2.0	1.8	1.6	2.0
h) I use the Appalachian Trail more in the off-season to avoid crowding	3.1	3.2	3.3	3.0	3.1
i) My trip on the Appalachian Trail was well worth the money I spent on it	4.1	4.3	4.5	4.7	4.3
j) I use the Appalachian Trail more during the early and/or later times of the day to avoid crowding	3.0	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.9
k) I use the Appalachian Trail less now because of crowding	2.4	2.5	2.3	2.6	2.4
l) There is not enough information provided at trailheads	3.0	2.7	2.7	2.4	2.8
m) The number of people on the trail was about right	3.4	3.3	3.2	3.0	3.3
n) I was disappointed with some aspects of my trip on the Appalachian Trail	2.4	2.6	2.7	3.2	2.6
o) I use the Appalachian Trail more on weekdays than weekends to avoid crowding	2.6	3.0	3.1	3.0	2.9
p) I do not want to have any more trips like that trip on the Appalachian Trail	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.6	1.5
q) I use the Appalachian Trail more now than I used to	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.5	3.4
r) I use a different section of the Appalachian Trail to avoid crowding	2.8	2.9	2.8	2.9	2.9

*Responses ranged from "strongly disagree" (1) to "strongly agree" (5).

- Day users were more likely than the other hiker types to believe that information about the AT is hard to find and that there is not enough information provided at trailheads.
- Thru hikers were the least likely to state that their use of the Appalachian Trail has not changed much.
- Day users were the least likely to report that they use the AT more on weekdays than weekends to avoid crowding.
- Thru hikers generally expressed even more satisfaction with their AT trip than non-thru hikers.
- Thru hikers were more likely than the other groups to indicate that they were disappointed with some aspect of their trip on the Appalachian Trail.

(QC11) by Region

Statement*	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Total
a. I thoroughly enjoyed my trip on the Appalachian Trail	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.7	4.6
b. I was pleased by the job being done by managers of the trail	4.2	4.3	4.0	4.3	4.2
c. There is not enough parking at trailheads	2.6	2.6	3.0	2.6	2.7
d. My use of the Appalachian Trail has not changed much	3.6	3.5	3.7	3.6	3.5
e. I cannot imagine a better trip than the one I took on the Appalachian Trail	3.3	3.0	3.0	3.2	3.2
f. I thought the trail and its surroundings were in good condition	4.0	4.1	4.0	4.1	4.0
g. Information about the Appalachian Trail is hard to find	1.9	2.0	2.4	2.1	2.0
h. I use the Appalachian Trail more in the off-season to avoid crowding	3.1	3.2	3.2	3.3	3.1
i. My trip on the Appalachian Trail was well worth the money I spent on it	4.3	4.3	4.0	4.3	4.3
j. I use the Appalachian Trail more during the early and/or later times of the day to avoid crowding	2.9	2.8	3.0	2.9	2.9
k. I use the Appalachian Trail less now because of crowding	2.5	2.2	2.4	2.4	2.4
l. There is not enough information provided at trailheads	2.7	2.8	3.1	2.9	2.8
m. The number of people on the trail was about right	3.2	3.5	3.3	3.4	3.3
n. I was disappointed with some aspects of my trip on the Appalachian Trail	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.5	2.6
o. I use the Appalachian Trail more on weekdays than weekends to avoid crowding	2.9	2.8	2.6	2.9	2.9
p. I do not want to have any more trips like that trip on the Appalachian Trail	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.5
q. I use the Appalachian Trail more now than I used to	3.4	3.5	3.3	3.5	3.4
r. I use a different section of the Appalachian Trail to avoid crowding	2.9	2.8	2.8	3.0	2.9

*Responses ranged from "strongly disagree" (1) to "strongly agree" (5).

- Hikers in New England showed few differences from the overall sample in their responses to this set of questions.
- New England hikers were most likely to agree that they cannot imagine a better trip than the one they took on the Appalachian Trail.
- New England hikers were also slightly more likely than those in the other regions to state that they use the trail less now because of crowding.
- New England trail users were slightly less likely to agree that the number of people on the trail was about right.
- Hikers in the Mid-Atlantic region showed few differences from the overall sample in their responses to this set of questions.
- Mid-Atlantic hikers were slightly less likely than those in the other regions to state that they use the trail less now because of crowding, and more likely to feel that the number of people on the trail was about right.
- Hikers in Southwest Virginia were less likely than those in other regions to be pleased with the job being done by managers of the trail.
- Southwest Virginia hikers were more likely to feel that there is not enough parking at trailheads and that information about the AT is hard to find.

- Hikers in Southwest Virginia are least likely to report using the Appalachian Trail more on weekdays than weekends to avoid crowding.
- Hikers in the Deep South showed no distinct differences from the overall sample in their responses to this set of questions.

12. We would like to know how satisfied you were with your hike on the Appalachian Trail on the trip when you were contacted for our study. On a scale of 1-10, with 10 being most satisfied, how satisfied were you with this trip on the Appalachian Trail? _____

(QC12)

Satisfaction Level (1 - 10)	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1-5	36	2.8	4	1.5
6	39	3.1	10	3.8
7	110	8.7	10	3.8
8	413	32.5	73	27.5
9	356	28.1	73	27.5
10	315	24.8	94	35.8
Mean	8.5		8.8	

N=1269; 265

- Appalachian Trail hikers reported very high levels of overall satisfaction with their trip on the AT.
- Thru hikers tended to report higher satisfaction levels than non-thru hikers.
- Over one-third of thru hikers (35.8%) and one-quarter of non-thru hikers (24.8%) reported the highest possible score of “10” for their trip on the Appalachian Trail.

(QC12) by Type of Hiker

Satisfaction Level (1-10)	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
1-5	1.7	4.1	3.0	1.5	2.6
6	2.6	3.9	2.6	3.8	3.2
7	7.8	9.5	9.4	3.8	7.9
8	34.0	35.1	25.5	27.5	31.9
9	28.3	25.3	33.6	27.5	28.0
10	25.7	22.0	26.0	35.8	26.3
Mean	8.6	8.4	8.6	8.8	8.6

- Overall, each hiker type reported high levels of satisfaction.
- Again, thru hikers tended to report higher satisfaction levels than other types of hikers.

(QC12) by Region

Satisfaction Level (1 - 10)	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
1-5	3.4	3.0	2.2	2.0	1.5	2.6
6	2.3	3.0	4.0	4.0	3.8	3.2
7	6.4	11.2	10.9	9.0	3.8	7.8
8	33.3	29.2	36.0	29.7	27.5	31.7
9	27.9	27.9	25.1	32.7	27.5	28.0
10	26.7	25.8	21.8	22.6	35.8	26.7
Mean	8.6	8.5	8.4	8.5	8.8	8.6

- Hiker satisfaction levels were generally consistent across geographic regions.

PART D:
Visitor Expenditures

1a. Which of the following best describes how you handled your expenses for your trip along the Appalachian Trail?

- _____ I paid all my expenses and the expenses of _____ other people. (Please indicate the number of people).
(In part 1b below, please report all of these expenses).
- _____ I paid all my own expenses. *(Please report your expenses in part 1b).*
- _____ I shared expenses. *(In part 1b, please indicate your personal expenses & your portion of the shared expenses).*
- _____ Someone else paid my expenses. *(Please go to question 2 below).*

(QD1a)

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Paid all my own expenses and expenses of others	321	23.8	30	10.6
Paid all my own expenses	677	50.2	202	71.1
Shared expenses	281	20.8	39	13.7
Someone else paid my expenses	69	5.1	13	4.6

N= 1348; 284

- One-half of the non-thru hikers paid their own expenses; most of the remainder paid the expenses of others or shared expenses.
- More than two-thirds of thru hikers paid only their own expenses.

(QD1a) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Paid all my own expenses and expenses of others	27.3	23.6	16.0	10.6	21.4
Paid all my own expenses	50.5	41.4	68.8	71.1	54.0
Shared expenses	17.5	28.1	12.9	13.7	19.6
Someone else paid my expenses	4.7	6.8	2.3	4.6	5.0

- The majority of all user types except overnight hikers paid their own expenses (54.0%).
- Day users (27.3%) and overnight users (23.6%) were more likely to pay own expenses and expenses of others.
- Overnight hikers more likely than other groups to share expenses.
- Section hikers were similar to thru hikers in that about two-thirds just pay their own expenses.

(QD1a) by Region

	New England	Mid- Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Paid all own and others	27.7	17.4	21.6	23.4	10.6	21.5
Paid all my own	43.7	62.5	54.3	48.6	71.1	53.9
Shared expenses	21.7	19.0	18.8	23.4	13.7	19.6
Someone else paid mine	6.9	1.2	5.3	4.6	4.6	5.0

N=1632

- Nearly two-thirds (62.5%) of hikers in the Mid-Atlantic paid expenses for only themselves.

(QD1a1)

# of others paid expenses for	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1	163	61.3	15	75.0
2	38	14.3	4	20.0
3	33	12.4	1	5.0
4	16	6.0	0	0.0
5	11	4.1	0	0.0
8	1	0.4	0	0.0
9	2	0.8	0	0.0
10	2	0.8	0	0.0

N= 266; 20

- The majority of thru hikers who paid the expenses of other hikers paid for only one additional hiker.
- No thru hikers paid expenses for more than three people, but non-thru hikers paid expenses for up to ten people.
- The vast majority, however, of non-thru hikers paid expenses for three or fewer people.

(QD1a1) by Type of Hiker

# of others paid expenses for	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
1	55.4	61.0	80.6	75.0	62.1
2	13.2	18.1	8.3	20.0	14.9
3	16.5	10.5	2.8	5.0	11.7
4	6.6	5.7	5.6	0.0	5.7
5	7.4	1.9	0.0	0.0	3.9
8	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4
9	0.0	1.9	0.0	0.0	0.7
10	0.0	1.0	2.8	0.0	0.7

- Of those respondents who reported paying the expenses of others, the majority of each type of hiker paid expenses for 1 other person.

(QD1a1) by Region

# of others paid expenses for	New England	Mid- Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
1	61.0	69.4	56.9	60.5	75.0	62.2
2	11.3	16.7	19.6	15.8	20.0	14.7
3	13.5	2.8	13.7	15.8	5.0	11.9
4	7.1	5.6	3.9	5.3	0.0	5.6
5	4.3	2.8	5.9	2.6	0.0	3.8
8	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3
9	0.7	2.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7
10	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7

- Nearly 70% of hikers in the Mid-Atlantic paid expenses for only themselves.
- New England and the Mid-Atlantic are the only sections where hikers paid expenses for eight or more people.

1b. In the spaces provided, please list your estimated expenses for your trip along the Appalachian Trail. For each type of expense, please indicate the amount you spent (a) in preparation for your trip before leaving home, (b) during your trip in communities along the Appalachian Trail and (c) on the trail itself.

(QD1b) OVERALL USERS (NON-THRU HIKERS)

Type of Expense	Where Expenditures Were Made			Total
	At Home or in your Home Community	In Communities along the Appalachian Trail	On the Trail	
Restaurant	1.86	20.03	1.65	23.54
Packaged food and beverages	22.31	11.42	2.45	36.18
Personal items	5.40	4.93	0.59	10.92
Equipment for your trip	87.72	10.07	3.74	101.53
Lodging expenses:	1.06	6.98	1.22	9.26
Hotel/motel	1.03	14.46	2.43	17.92
Camping or shelter fees	0.63	2.91	2.32	5.86
Other	0.25	1.25	1.83	3.33
Auto Expenses:	1.16	2.49	0.12	3.77
Gas and oil	6.74	7.68	0.06	14.48
Repairs/service	0.53	2.08	0.01	2.62
Parking and tolls	4.45	0.61	0.05	5.11
Permit or user fees	0.21	0.72	0.32	1.25
Guide or outfitter fees	0.19	0.29	0.06	0.54
Fees at other attractions/entertainment	0.29	2.40	0.06	2.75
All other expenses for this trip	11.24	7.15	0.95	19.34
Total	145.07	95.47	17.86	258.4

* average dollars spent

- Readers are advised that all numbers for this question are in average dollars spent. All non-responses were coded as \$0.00, assuming that respondents who did not enter an amount did not spend money on that item.
- Average trip expenditures of non-thru hikers equaled \$258.40.
- The largest portion of trip expenditures (average=\$145.07) occurred at home or in the user's home community, followed by communities along the AT (average=\$95.47), and on the trail (average=\$17.86).
- The single most costly expense for hikers was equipment for their trip (\$101.53).
- The amount spent on guide or outfitter fees did not average over \$0.30 for any of the three categories.
- The largest amount spent in communities along the AT was in restaurants (\$20.03).
- The second largest total expense (second to equipment) was packaged food and beverages (\$36.18).

THRU-HIKERS ONLY

Type of Expense*	Where Expenditures Were Made			Total
	At Home or in your Home Community	In Communities along the Appalachian Trail	On the Trail	
Restaurant	5.60	327.00	25.41	358.01
Packaged food and beverages	235.20	308.40	35.80	579.40
Personal items	60.70	68.99	4.89	134.58
Equipment for your trip	538.30	148.10	13.60	700.00
Lodging expenses:	0.06	78.13	9.07	87.26
Hotel/motel	0.75	240.90	11.07	252.72
Camping or shelter fees	0.02	11.80	11.75	23.57
Other	0.13	6.56	2.72	9.41
Auto Expenses:	3.96	15.00	0.52	19.48
Gas and oil	4.41	17.31	0.00	21.72
Repairs/service	0.69	8.74	0.00	9.43
Parking and tolls	0.07	1.77	0.06	1.90
Permit or user fees	0.06	0.68	1.35	2.09
Guide or outfitter fees	0.00	0.94	0.00	0.94
Fees at other attractions/entertainment	0.03	34.14	1.70	35.87
All other expenses for this trip	92.15	46.68	39.95	178.78
Total	942.13	1315.14	157.89	2415.16

* average dollars spent

- Thru hikers spent an average of \$700.00 on equipment for the trip, \$148.10 of this in communities along the AT.
- Thru hikers spent about \$300.00 for packaged food and beverages in communities along the AT.
- Thru hikers averaged only \$0.94 on guides or outfitter fees.
- Thru hikers reported spending an overall average of \$2,415.16 for their trip on the AT.
- Unlike the non-thru hikers, the majority of the money spent by thru hikers was spent in communities along the Appalachian Trail.

(QD1b) by Type of Hiker**DAY USERS ONLY**

Type of Expense	Where Expenditures Were Made			Total
	At Home or in your Home Community	In Communities along the Appalachian Trail	On the Trail	
Restaurant	1.53	7.73	0.11	9.37
Packaged food and beverages	4.46	3.33	0.56	8.35
Personal items	1.67	3.93	0.06	5.66
Equipment for your trip	27.54	2.05	0.11	29.7
Lodging expenses:	0.64	2.20	0.00	2.84
Hotel/motel	0.30	5.25	0.16	5.71
Camping or shelter fees	0.48	2.66	0.25	3.39
Other	0.00	0.47	0.01	0.48
Auto Expenses:	0.16	0.52	0.00	0.68
Gas and oil	4.70	5.50	0.11	10.31
Repairs/service	0.26	2.01	0.00	2.27
Parking and tolls	0.22	0.36	0.05	0.63
Permit or user fees	0.24	0.37	0.18	0.79
Guide or outfitter fees	0.04	0.05	0.02	0.11
Fees at other attractions/entertainment	0.23	0.69	0.02	0.94
All other expenses for this trip	2.34	4.38	0.94	7.66
Total	44.81	41.50	2.58	88.89

* average dollars spent

- Very little money was spent on the trail by any type of hiker.
- The majority of preparatory items such as equipment for the trip and packaged food and beverages were purchased at home or in the home communities of all types of hikers.
- As expected, day users spent less (average=\$88.89) for their trip than other types of hikers.
- Day users spent slightly more money at home or in their home community (\$44.81 total) as in communities along the trail (\$41.50 total).

OVERNIGHT HIKERS ONLY

Type of Expense	Where Expenditures Were Made			Total
	At Home or in your Home Community	In Communities along the Appalachian Trail	On the Trail	
Restaurant	2.30	14.27	1.63	18.2
Packaged food and beverages	20.88	4.16	2.03	27.07
Personal items	6.89	2.99	1.14	11.02
Equipment for your trip	94.02	7.27	3.93	105.22
Lodging expenses:	0.64	3.58	2.57	6.79
Hotel/motel	1.01	8.13	2.27	11.41
Camping or shelter fees	1.07	1.49	3.70	6.26
Other	0.67	0.76	4.13	5.56
Auto Expenses:	2.49	0.76	0.19	3.44
Gas and oil	8.26	6.71	0.04	15.01
Repairs/service	0.31	0.92	0.04	1.27
Parking and tolls	0.57	0.50	0.08	1.15
Permit or user fees	0.28	1.31	0.43	2.02
Guide or outfitter fees	0.03	0.52	0.05	0.6
Fees at other attractions/entertainment	0.11	1.65	0.01	1.77
All other expenses for this trip	5.23	3.89	0.21	9.33
Total	144.76	58.91	22.45	226.12

* average dollars spent

- Overnight hikers spent almost three times as much (average=\$226.12) on their trips as day users.
- About two-thirds of the money spent by overnight hikers was spent in their home community.

SECTION HIKERS ONLY

Type of Expense	Where Expenditures Were Made			Total
	At Home or in your Home Community	In Communities along the Appalachian Trail	On the Trail	
Restaurant	2.35	65.54	5.88	73.77
Packaged food and beverages	72.64	48.97	7.75	129.36
Personal items	12.43	12.50	0.90	25.83
Equipment for your trip	240.08	37.56	13.33	290.97
Lodging expenses:	0.19	26.84	1.65	28.68
Hotel/motel	3.10	53.96	8.90	65.96
Camping or shelter fees	0.27	4.91	4.68	9.86
Other	0.04	1.73	1.79	3.56
Auto Expenses:	1.13	11.77	0.30	13.2
Gas and oil	10.29	15.95	0.00	26.24
Repairs/service	1.75	5.00	0.00	6.75
Parking and tolls	24.16	1.58	0.02	25.76
Permit or user fees	0.06	0.52	0.53	1.11
Guide or outfitter fees	0.98	0.47	0.30	1.75
Fees at other attractions/entertainment	0.90	8.92	0.31	10.13
All other expenses for this trip	47.73	23.02	2.86	73.61
Total	418.10	319.24	49.20	786.54

* average dollars spent

- Section hikers spent over three times as much (average=\$786.54) as other overnight hikers.
- The dollars spent by each section hiker were more evenly distributed between their home community and communities along the Appalachian Trail.

(QD1b) by Region**NEW ENGLAND REGION ONLY**

Type of Expense*	Where Expenditures Were Made			Total
	At Home or in your Home Community	In Communities along the Appalachian Trail	On the Trail	
Restaurant	2.08	27.01	1.95	31.04
Packaged food and beverages	27.25	12.63	2.95	42.83
Personal items	6.04	4.09	1.12	11.25
Equipment for your trip	99.08	13.29	5.68	118.05
Lodging expenses:	0.82	9.25	2.60	12.67
Hotel/motel	1.89	18.04	3.46	23.39
Camping or shelter fees	1.33	3.01	4.85	9.19
Other	0.47	1.96	3.91	6.34
Auto Expenses:	0.65	4.72	0.27	5.64
Gas and oil	6.77	9.18	0.09	16.04
Repairs/service	0.69	1.89	0.03	2.61
Parking and tolls	0.54	0.98	0.07	1.59
Permit or user fees	0.33	1.49	0.46	2.28
Guide or outfitter fees	0.41	0.31	0.14	0.86
Fees at other attractions/entertainment	0.23	3.36	0.02	3.61
All other expenses for this trip	16.01	10.11	0.96	27.08
Total	164.59	121.32	28.56	314.47

* average dollars spent

- More was spent on restaurants in communities in the New England region than in any other region (\$27.01).
- More was spent on hotel/motel expenses in communities in the New England region than in any other region (\$18.04).
- Camping or shelter fees in the New England region were the most expensive. Hikers averaged \$4.85 on the trail in this region, while no other region averaged over a dollar.
- Hikers in the New England region tended to spend more money in communities along the trail for entertainment than hikers on other regions.

MID-ATLANTIC REGION ONLY

Type of Expense*	Where Expenditures Were Made			Total
	At Home or in your Home Community	In Communities along the Appalachian Trail	On the Trail	
Restaurant	2.07	25.78	1.92	29.77
Packaged food and beverages	26.03	21.19	2.64	49.86
Personal items	6.65	6.44	0.36	13.45
Equipment for your trip	115.60	8.34	2.19	126.13
Lodging expenses:	3.10	9.89	0.35	13.34
Hotel/motel	0.00	16.28	0.73	17.01
Camping or shelter fees	0.04	4.81	0.63	5.48
Other	0.20	0.89	0.57	1.66
Auto Expenses:	0.87	0.47	0.00	1.34
Gas and oil	7.58	8.20	0.00	15.78
Repairs/service	0.27	0.87	0.00	1.14
Parking and tolls	23.36	0.86	0.04	24.26
Permit or user fees	0.27	0.14	0.07	0.48
Guide or outfitter fees	0.00	0.13	0.00	0.13
Fees at other attractions/entertainment	0.64	0.99	0.12	1.75
All other expenses for this trip	10.07	9.18	2.88	22.13
Total	196.75	114.46	12.50	323.71

* average dollars spent

- More was spent at home on equipment for the trip by Mid-Atlantic (\$115.60) hikers than hikers in any other region.
- Mid-Atlantic hikers spent more in communities along the trail on packaged food and beverages (\$21.19) than any other region.
- Overall, more money was spent by Mid-Atlantic hikers (\$323.71) than in any other region.

SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA REGION ONLY

Type of Expense*	Where Expenditures Were Made			Total
	At Home or in your Home Community	In Communities along the Appalachian Trail	On the Trail	
Restaurant	0.87	5.41	1.83	8.11
Packaged food and beverages	12.99	4.62	0.76	18.37
Personal items	3.38	1.59	0.10	5.07
Equipment for your trip	41.74	5.14	1.36	48.24
Lodging expenses:	0.00	1.11	0.00	1.11
Hotel/motel	0.06	6.84	3.35	10.25
Camping or shelter fees	0.04	2.05	0.19	2.28
Other	0.03	0.07	0.01	0.11
Auto Expenses:	0.10	0.49	0.00	0.59
Gas and oil	3.66	4.70	0.07	8.43
Repairs/service	0.14	3.01	0.00	3.15
Parking and tolls	0.07	0.07	0.01	0.15
Permit or user fees	0.05	0.01	0.15	0.21
Guide or outfitter fees	0.02	0.18	0.01	0.21
Fees at other attractions/entertainment	0.00	1.95	0.14	2.09
All other expenses for this trip	0.09	0.47	0.00	0.56
Total	63.24	37.71	7.98	108.93

* average dollars spent

- Hikers in Southwest Virginia spent less than hikers in any other region of the trail (\$108.93), averaging less than half the overall total for all regions.
- Hikers in the Southwest Virginia region spent only \$48.24 on equipment for the trip.

DEEP SOUTH REGION ONLY

Type of Expense*	Where Expenditures Were Made			Total
	At Home or in your Home Community	In Communities along the Appalachian Trail	On the Trail	
Restaurant	2.43	14.81	0.25	17.49
Packaged food and beverages	17.56	6.83	3.22	27.61
Personal items	5.02	10.31	0.08	15.41
Equipment for your trip	89.95	9.98	3.40	103.33
Lodging expenses:	0.95	5.65	0.05	6.65
Hotel/motel	1.15	13.19	0.14	14.48
Camping or shelter fees	0.15	1.77	0.12	2.04
Other	0.00	1.33	0.00	1.33
Auto Expenses:	4.42	1.34	0.00	5.76
Gas and oil	10.05	7.10	0.00	17.15
Repairs/service	0.94	2.61	0.00	3.55
Parking and tolls	0.63	0.06	0.05	0.74
Permit or user fees	0.03	0.19	0.46	0.68
Guide or outfitter fees	0.04	0.57	0.00	0.61
Fees at other attractions/entertainment	0.47	1.93	0.00	2.40
All other expenses for this trip	14.96	6.08	0.10	21.14
Total	148.75	83.75	7.87	240.37

* average dollars spent

- Hikers in the Deep South spent more on personal items (\$15.41) than any other region.
- Hikers in the Deep South spent less for their trip than hikers in New England or the Mid-Atlantic, but they spent over twice as much as those in Southwest Virginia.

2. About how many miles (one-way) do you live from the Appalachian Trail?

- _____ one-way distance to nearest point on Appalachian Trail
 _____ one-way distance to section you hiked on the day you were contacted for this survey

(QD2)

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
	Mean	N	Mean	N
One-way distance to nearest point on AT	150.4	1286	529.5	269
One-way distance to section hiked on day contacted	252.9	1173	1019.5	158

- Non-thru hikers live an average of about 150 miles from the nearest point on the AT, but live about 250 miles away from the section they were hiking when contacted.
- Thru hikers live about 530 miles away from the nearest point on the AT, and about 1000 miles away from the section they were hiking when contacted.

(QD2) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
One-way distance to nearest point on AT	113.4	155.5	215.9	529.5	216.2
One-way distance to section hiked on day contacted	141.6	249.4	490.6	1019.5	342.4

- In general, all types of hikers traveled hundreds of miles to the AT.
- Day users tend to live closer to the trail than the other types of hikers.
- Overnight hikers live an average of 150 miles from the nearest point on the AT and 250 miles from the section where they were contacted.
- Section hikers tend to live about twice as close to the trail as thru hikers.
- Thru hikers live farther from the nearest point on the AT (average 529.5 mi.) and from the section they were hiking when contacted for the study (average 1019.5 mi.) than any other type of hiker.

(QD2) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
One-way distance to nearest point on AT	167.2	151.7	58.3	219.4	529.5	216.1
One-way distance to section hiked when contacted	322.7	247.3	104.9	267.4	1019.5	343.9

- Users in the Southwest Virginia region tend to live relatively close to the AT, about 58 miles away.
- Users traveled the farthest to hike the New England region. Hikers in this region live about 320 miles away from the section where they were contacted.
- The Deep South region attracts people who do not live close to the AT; users averaged a distance of approximately 220 miles away from the nearest point on the AT.

PART E:
Previous Experience and
Involvement

1a. Was this your first time on the Appalachian Trail? [check one]

_____ Yes [If yes, skip to question 2] _____ No

1b. About how many days have you spent on the A.T. in the last 12 months?

___ days

1c. In what year did you make your first visit to the A.T.? _____ year

1d. Do you prefer a particular time to hike along the Appalachian Trail? _____ Yes

_____ No

If yes, when? (e.g., season, month, day of the week, time of day, etc.)

(QE1a)

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	195	13.5	87	30.3
No	1248	86.5	200	69.7

N= 1443; 287

- The vast majority of non-thru hikers have hiked the trail before (86.5%).
- Nearly one-third of thru hikers had never been on the AT before (30.3%).

(QE1a) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Yes	12.7	15.7	10.6	30.3	16.3
No	87.3	84.3	89.4	69.7	83.7

- Section hikers were more likely than any other group (89.4%) to have previous experience on the AT.
- Over 80% of all types of non-thru hikers had been on the Appalachian Trail before.
- Again, thru hikers were less likely than other types of hikers to have been on the AT before (30.3% were first-timers).

(QE1a) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Yes	12.2	12.1	14.0	18.0	30.3	16.3
No	87.8	87.9	86.0	82.0	69.7	83.7

- Nearly one-fifth of the hikers in the Deep South had never been on the trail before.
- New England and the Mid-Atlantic regions had the highest number of returning users.

(QE1b)

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)	Thru Hikers
Mean	15.7	145.4
Median	8	165
Range	0-210	0-240

N= 1255; 219

- Non-thru hikers spent an average (median) of 8 days on the AT during the previous 12 months, while thru hikers spent an average (median) of 165 days.

(QE1b) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Days	10.8 (5)	11.2 (6)	34.7 (20)	145.4 (165)	34.9 (10)

Mean (median)

- There was little difference between day users and overnight hikers in frequency of hiking the AT. The median value for both types of users was 5-6 days during the past year.
- Section hikers, not surprisingly, reported more days on the trail during the previous 12 months (mean=35, median=20 days).

(QE1b) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Days	16.5 (8)	21.4 (10)	12.7 (7)	10.7 (6)	145.4 (165)	34.9 (10)

Mean (median)

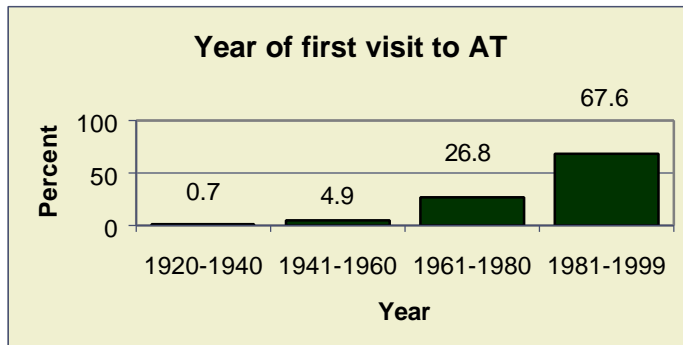
- Hikers in the Mid-Atlantic spent the most time on the trail in the last 12 months (mean=21.4 days).
- Hikers in the Deep South spent the least time on the trail in the last 12 months (mean=10.7days).

(QE1c)

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1920-1940	8	0.7	0	0.0
1941-1960	59	4.9	9	4.2
1961-1980	325	26.8	40	18.7
1981-1999	819	67.6	165	77.1

N= 1211; 214

(QE1c) Users (Non-Thru Hikers)



- Over three-quarters of thru hikers and two-thirds of non-thru hikers made their first trip to the AT since 1980.
- About one-quarter of non-thru hikers made their first trip to the AT between 1961 and 1980.
- Only 5.6% of non-thru hikers and 4.2% of thru hikers made their first trip to the AT before 1961.

(QE1c) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
1920-1940	0.8	0.2	0.9	0.0	0.5
1941-1960	5.0	4.2	5.7	4.2	4.7
1961-1980	28.9	33.4	32.2	18.7	29.3
1981-1999	65.3	62.1	61.2	77.1	65.4

- Approximately two-thirds of all types of hikers have made their first trip to the AT since 1980.

(QE1c) by Region

	New England	Mid- Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
1920-1940	0.2	2.3	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.6
1941-1960	6.1	3.2	4.9	3.2	4.2	4.8
1961-1980	35.7	33.6	21.3	29.3	18.7	31
1981-1999	58	60.9	73.0	67.6	77.1	69.8
Average Year	1983	1984	1984	1986	1987	

- More respondents in the New England and Mid-Atlantic regions reported visiting the AT before 1981 than in the southern regions.
- Southwest Virginia hikers were newer to the trail than hikers in any other region (73.0% have made their first visit since 1980.)

(QE1d)

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	773	61.7	131	60.4
No	479	38.3	86	39.6

N= 1252; 217

- About 60% of both thru hikers and non-thru hikers have a time that they prefer to hike the AT.

(QE1d) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Yes	55.9	65.8	68.2	60.4	61.7
No	44.1	34.2	31.8	39.6	38.3

- Day users are somewhat less likely (55.9%) than overnight (65.8%) or section hikers (68.2%) to have a preferred time to hike the AT.

(QE1d) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Yes	63.9	55.1	62.9	61.7	60.4	61.5
No	36.1	44.9	37.1	38.3	39.6	38.5

- The percentage of hikers who have a time they prefer to hike the AT is generally consistent across regions.

(QE1d)

	Number	Percent
Anytime	7	0.8
Anytime except summer	29	3.3
Spring	46	5.2
Fall	400	44.9
Spring & Fall	170	19.1
Summer	111	12.5
Winter	40	4.5
Anytime except winter	35	3.9
Weekdays	22	2.5
Weekends	9	1.0
Morning	17	1.9
Evening	5	0.6

N= 891

- Almost 45% of users prefer to hike in the fall.

(QE1d) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Anytime	1.0	0.3	1.3	0.8	0.8
Anytime except summer	5.2	2.3	0.7	4.0	3.3
Spring	4.9	3.0	9.2	6.3	5.2
Fall	38.1	55.7	41.2	41.3	45.0
Spring & Fall	23.5	13.0	20.3	21.4	19.1
Summer	9.1	14.7	13.1	13.5	12.3
Winter	4.9	4.0	3.9	4.8	4.4
Anytime except winter	2.9	3.3	8.5	2.4	4.0
Weekdays	2.3	2.7	2.0	3.2	2.5
Weekends	2.6	0.3	0.0	0.0	1.0
Morning	4.2	0.7	0.0	1.6	1.9
Evening	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.6

- Overnight hikers were especially likely (55.7%) to prefer hiking the AT during the fall.
- Day users (23.5%) and section hikers (20.3%) were more inclined to prefer both spring and fall hiking.

(QE1d) by Region

	New England	Mid- Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hiker	Total
Anytime	0.8	1.6	0.6	0.0	0.8	0.8
Anytime except summer	1.1	2.4	6.5	5.1	4.0	3.3
Spring	3.1	5.7	7.1	6.8	6.3	5.2
Fall	52.1	45.5	32.7	43.6	41.3	44.9
Spring & Fall	13.7	15.4	28.0	23.9	21.4	19.1
Summer	18.5	8.9	5.4	6.8	13.5	12.5
Winter	2.2	6.5	4.2	9.4	4.8	4.5
Anytime except winter	3.6	5.7	5.4	2.6	2.4	3.9
Weekdays	3.4	4.1	0.6	0.0	3.2	2.5
Weekends	0.3	0.8	4.2	0.0	0.0	1.0
Morning	1.1	3.3	3.0	1.7	1.6	1.9
Evening	0.0	0.0	2.4	0.0	0.8	0.6

- Preferred times to hike on the AT were generally consistent across regions.
- Hikers from Southwest Virginia were not as likely (32.7%) as those from other regions (44-52%) to report fall as their preferred season for hiking the AT.
- Hikers from Southwest Virginia were most likely, however, to report spring and fall as their preferred hiking time (28.0%).
- New England hikers were more likely (18.5%) to prefer hiking in summer than hikers in the other regions (5-9%), although summer hiking was relatively less preferred among hikers from all regions.

2. Which of the following was the most important reason for your visit to the Appalachian Trail? [check only one]

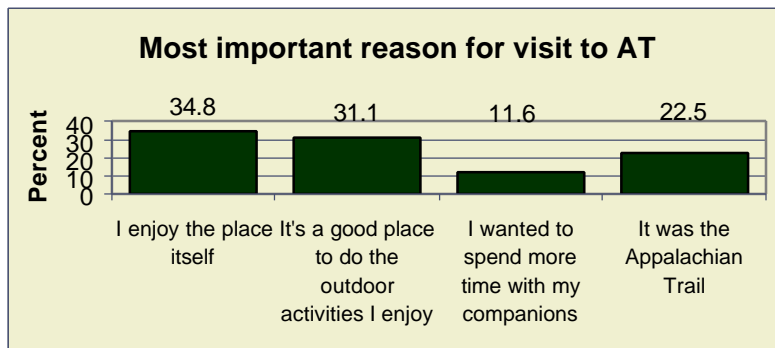
- I went there because I enjoy the place itself
- I went there because it's a good place to do the outdoor activities I enjoy
- I went there because I wanted to spend more time with my companions
- I went there because it was the Appalachian Trail

(QE2)

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
I enjoy the place itself	493	34.8	48	17.1
It's a good place to do the outdoor activities I enjoy	441	31.1	41	14.6
I wanted to spend more time with my companions	164	11.6	9	3.2
It was the Appalachian Trail	318	22.5	182	65.0

N= 1416; 280

(QE2) Users (Non-Thru Hikers)



- The most common reason for visiting the trail for non-thru hikers was because of enjoyment of the place (34.8%).
- The most common reason for visiting the trail for thru hikers was because it was the Appalachian Trail (65.0%).
- The least common reason for visiting the trail for both thru hikers and non-thru hikers was to spend more time with companions.

(QE2) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
I enjoy the place itself	40.2	34.3	24.3	17.1	32.1
It's a good place to do the outdoor activities I enjoy	33.6	34.1	19.7	14.6	28.4
I wanted to spend more time with my companions	11.9	15.7	2.7	3.2	10.2
It was the Appalachian Trail	14.3	15.9	53.3	65.0	29.3

- The most important reason for both section (53.3%) and thru (65.0%) hikers was “because it was the Appalachian Trail”.
- About one-third of both day users and overnight users indicated the most important reason for their visit was that the AT is a good place to do the outdoor activities they enjoy.
- “I wanted to spend more time with my companions” was the least cited reason for visiting the AT among all hiker types.

(QE2) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
I enjoy the place itself	34.8	29.0	37.3	38.3	17.1	31.9
It's a good place to do the outdoor activities I enjoy	33.7	24.7	35.9	25.2	14.6	28.4
I wanted to spend more time with my companions	11.4	12.4	12.7	9.6	3.2	10.2
It was the Appalachian Trail	20.1	34.0	14.1	27.0	65.0	29.5

- Southwest Virginia has the smallest percentage of hikers that are hiking the trail simply because it is the AT (14.1%).
- Hikers in the Mid Atlantic region and thru hikers are more often hiking the trail specifically because it is the AT.
- The two most common answers for New England and for Southwest Virginia hikers are because of enjoyment of the place and because it is a good place to do outdoor activities.

3. For this trail trip, how important was it to you that the trail was part of the Appalachian Trail [circle one number]

**Not at all
Important**

**Extremely
Important**

1

2

3

4

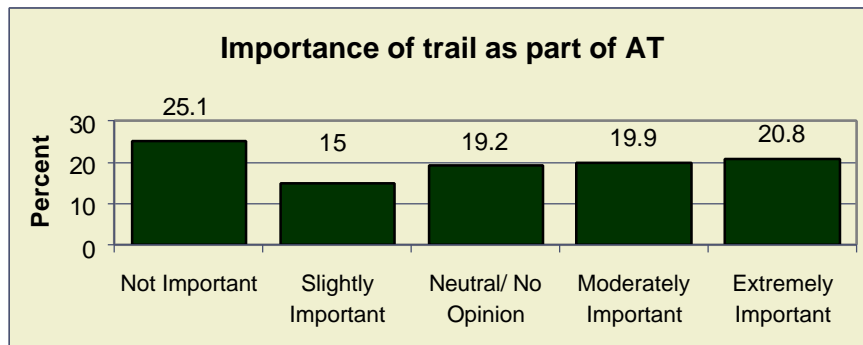
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(QE3)

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Not Important	357	25.1	12	4.2
Slightly Important	214	15.0	10	3.5
Neutral/ No Opinion	273	19.2	20	7.0
Moderately Important	284	19.9	43	15.1
Extremely Important	296	20.8	199	70.1

N= 1424; 284

(QE3) Users (Non-Thru Hikers)



- The fact that the trail was part of the AT was extremely important to thru hikers (70.1%), but was substantially less important to non-thru hikers.

(QE3) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Not Important	31.6	28.4	3.4	4.2	21.7
Slightly Important	18.1	16.8	5.4	3.5	13.3
Neutral/ No Opinion	21.8	20.6	9.6	7.0	17.1
Moderately Important	18.6	19.8	23.8	15.1	19.2
Extremely Important	9.9	14.4	57.9	70.1	28.8

- Section hikers were again similar to thru hikers in reporting that it was extremely important that they were hiking part of the Appalachian Trail.
- Nearly one-third of day users (31.6%) and overnight hikers (28.4%) indicated it was not important that they were on the AT.

(QE3) by Region

	New England	Mid- Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Not Important	32.5	12.0	26.7	17.4	4.2	21.6
Slightly Important	14.2	13.1	21.5	10.9	3.5	13.1
Neutral/ No Opinion	16.9	14.3	24.1	24.3	7.0	17.2
Moderately Important	17.7	26.3	16.0	24.3	15.1	19.1
Extremely Important	18.8	34.4	11.7	23.0	70.1	29.0

- Users in the New England region reported that it was "Not Important" that the trail was part of the AT more than in the other regions (32.5%).
- Those in the Mid-Atlantic were more likely (34.4%) than those in any other region to feel that it was "extremely important" that they were on the Appalachian Trail.
- Hikers in Southwest Virginia were least likely (11.7%) to state that being on the AT was "extremely important."

4. In a typical year, how often do you hike;

	Per week	Per month	Total miles hiked per year
(a) Along the Appalachian Trail			
(b) Other trails			

(QE4)

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)			Thru Hikers		
	Per Week	Per Month	Per Year	Per Week	Per Month	Per Year
(a) Along the AT	8.1(2)	6.0(2)	100.1(50)	28.0(3.5)	35.4(2)	571.7(100)
(b) Other Trails	4.6(2)	9.1(2)	131.2(60)	8.3(2)	16.3(4.5)	201.7(100)

Means(Median)

- Non-thru hikers averaged 100.1 miles a year on the AT and 131.2 miles on other trails.
- Thru hikers averaged significantly more miles on the AT than on other trails.

(QE4) by Type of Hiker

		Day user		Section hiker	Thru Hikers	Total
		Overnight				
(a) Along the Appalachian Trail						
	Per week	2.5	11.1	16.1	28.0	11.5
	Per month	3.3	3.8	21.2	35.4	9.2
	Total miles hiked per year	66.9	63.0	232.3	571.7	154.9
(b) Other trails						
	Per week	3.6	5.2	5.7	8.3	5.2
	Per month	8.4	8.8	12.1	16.3	10.3
	Total miles hiked per year	124.7	115.0	180.0	201.7	142.1

*Means

- Day users and overnight hikers reported similar levels of hiking participation (63-67 miles per year on the AT and 115-125 miles on other trails).
- Not surprisingly, section hikers reported more frequent hiking trips with the majority of their trail miles (232) on the AT.
- For day users and overnight users, about one-third of their total annual hiking was on the AT.

(QE4) by Region

	New England	Mid- Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
(a) Along the Appalachian Trail						
Per week	12.7	9.9	1.8	5.3	28.0	11.5
Per month	7.1	9.3	3.1	4.1	35.4	9.2
Total miles hiked per year	105.5	140.5	76.5	71.5	571.7	154.9
(b) Other trails						
Per week	4.9	3.1	4.7	5.7	8.3	5.2
Per month	11.0	6.3	8.7	7.0	16.3	10.3
Total miles hiked per year	123.8	154.1	121.5	138.4	201.7	142.1

*Means

- Non-thru hikers in the southern regions averaged significantly more miles on other trails than on the AT.
- Total miles hiked per year was relatively consistent across geographic regions.

5. How many days long was the longest backcountry trip you have ever taken? ___ days

(QE5)

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)	Thru Hikers
Mean	17.4	114.1
Median	6	149
Range	1-240	1-365

N= 1327; 234

- The longest backcountry trip non-thru hiker's ever took averaged (median) 6 days.
- The longest backcountry trip thru hiker's ever took averaged (median) 149 days.

(QE5) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Days	8.5 (3)	16.5 (6)	35.0 (15)	114.1 (149)	33.4 (7)

Mean (median)

- The longest backcountry trips reported by overnight users were twice as long as those reported by day users.
- Section hikers reported a longest trip that, on average, was twice as long as that reported by overnight hikers and quadruple that of day hikers.

(QE5) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Days	20.7 (7)	21.3 (7)	10.7 (4)	11.8 (5)	114.1 (149)	33.6 (7)

Mean (median)

- Users in the northern regions reported taking backcountry trips that were on average twice as long as those reported in the southern regions.

6. Do you belong to any hiking/outdoor clubs? ____Yes ____No

(QE6)

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	506	35.0	122	42.2
No	939	65.0	167	57.8

N= 1445; 289

- The majority of both non-thru hikers and thru hikers do not belong to a hiking or outdoor club.
- 35% of non-thru hikers and 42.2% of thru hikers belong to a hiking/outdoor club.

(QE6) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Yes	25.0	39.2	47.9	42.2	35.9
No	75.0	60.8	52.1	57.8	64.1

- The majority of all types of hikers do not belong to any hiking/outdoor clubs (64.1%).
- Day users were less likely than any other group (25%) to belong to a club.
- Section hikers were the most likely (47.9%) to belong to a hiking/outdoor club.

(QE6) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Yes	42.7	41.7	21.9	23.9	42.2	36.2
No	57.3	58.3	78.1	76.1	57.8	63.8

- Only about one-fifth of Southwest Virginia (21.9%) and the Deep South (23.9%) hikers belong to hiking/outdoor clubs.
- About two-fifths of New England (42.7%) and Mid-Atlantic (41.7%) hikers belong to hiking/outdoor clubs.

7. Do you belong to any trail maintenance organizations? _____ Yes _____ No

(QE7)

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	286	19.8	61	21.2
No	1158	80.2	227	78.8

N= 1444; 288

- About one fifth of both non-thru hikers and thru hikers belong to a trail maintenance organization.

(QE7) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Yes	15.5	20.6	27.5	21.2	19.9
No	84.5	79.4	72.5	78.8	80.1

- The vast majority of all types of hikers (80.1%) do not belong to any trail maintenance organizations.
- As in the case of hiking clubs, day users were the least likely (15.5%) and section hikers the most likely (27.5%) to belong to a trail maintenance organization.

(QE7) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Yes	22.6	27.4	13.6	11.6	21.2	20.0
No	77.4	72.6	86.4	88.4	78.8	80.0

- Respondents in the northern regions are more likely to belong to a trail maintenance organization.

8. Do you subscribe to any hiking/outdoor magazines? _____ Yes _____ No

(QE8)

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	604	41.7	144	50.3
No	843	58.3	142	49.7

N= 1447; 287

- Approximately half of thru hikers subscribe to hiking/outdoor magazines, while most non-thru hikers (58.3%) do not.

(QE8) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Yes	30.7	46.3	56.6	50.3	42.9
No	69.3	53.7	43.4	49.7	57.1

- Less than one-third of the day users subscribe to hiking/outdoor magazines.
- Section hikers were more likely than any other group (56.6%) to subscribe to hiking/outdoor magazines.

(QE8) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Yes	45.4	48.1	33.9	35.0	50.3	43.2
No	54.6	51.9	66.1	65.0	49.7	56.8

- About one-third of hikers in Southwest Virginia and the Deep South subscribe to hiking/outdoor magazines.
- About half of New England and Mid-Atlantic hikers subscribe to hiking/outdoor magazines.

9. Please rate your level of backcountry experience on the following scale [circle one number]

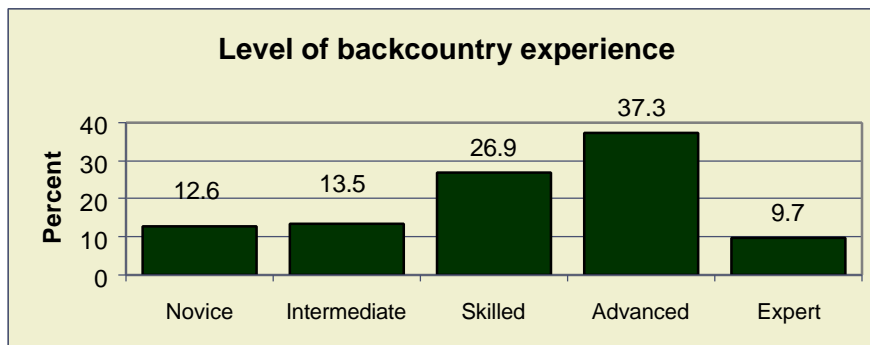
Novice					Expert
	1	2	3	4	5

(QE9)

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Novice	182	12.6	1	0.3
Intermediate	195	13.5	11	3.8
Skilled	387	26.9	33	11.5
Advanced	537	37.3	160	55.7
Expert	140	9.7	82	28.6

N= 1441; 287

(QE9) Users (Non-thru hikers)



- The vast majority of thru hikers rated themselves as advanced or expert in backcountry experience.
- About one-quarter of non-thru hikers rate themselves as novice or intermediate in backcountry experience.

(QE9) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Novice	21.7	7.4	2.3	0.3	10.6
Intermediate	20.6	10.9	3.4	3.8	12.0
Skilled	26.9	30.0	21.1	11.5	24.4
Advanced	25.6	40.9	56.6	55.7	40.3
Expert	5.3	10.9	16.6	28.6	12.7

- As expected, the self-reported level of backcountry experience increased from day users, to overnight users, to section hikers and thru hikers.
- Over two-fifths of day users rated their backcountry experience as novice or intermediate.
- Thru hikers (28.6%) were most likely to rate their level of backcountry experience as “Expert”.

(QE9) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Novice	7.7	11.4	22.4	14.6	0.3	10.6
Intermediate	11.2	12.9	18.2	14.6	3.8	11.9
Skilled	25.6	26.1	27.6	30.0	11.5	24.3
Advanced	42.8	39.8	25.3	35.2	55.7	40.3
Expert	12.7	9.8	6.5	5.6	28.6	12.8

- Reported experience levels were generally consistent across geographic regions.
- Southwest Virginia showed the highest proportion of novice hikers (22.4%).

10a. Have you volunteered for any trail maintenance or management activities in the past 12 months?

___ Yes

___ No

10b. If yes, what are they? _____

(QE10a)

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	287	19.8	47	16.2
No	1163	80.2	243	83.8

N=1450; 290

- Less than one-fifth of both non-thru hikers and thru hikers have volunteered for trail maintenance or management activities in the past 12 months.

(QE10a) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Yes	16.1	23.2	22.1	16.2	19.3
No	83.9	76.8	77.9	83.8	80.7

- There was little variation between types of hikers in terms of volunteering for trail maintenance or management activities, although day users and thru hikers were least likely to volunteer.

(QE10a) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Yes	21.6	21.0	17.3	16.9	16.2	19.2
No	78.4	79.0	82.7	83.1	83.8	80.8

- Volunteers' participation in trail maintenance or management activities is relatively consistent across geographic regions.

(QE10b)

	Number	Percent
Maintenance	136	43.3
Construction	32	10.2
Clean-up	22	7.0
Conservation	9	2.9
Education	3	1.0
Organization/ Membership	73	23.2
General	39	12.4

N=314

- The most common type of volunteer activities (43.3%) involved maintenance.

(QE10b) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Maintenance	47.3	37.5	43.6	51.1	43.5
Construction	10.8	10.0	9.1	11.1	10.2
Clean-up	10.8	5.0	7.3	4.4	7.0
Conservation	2.2	5.0	1.8	0.0	2.9
Education	0.0	2.5	0.0	0.0	1.0
Organization/ Membership	18.3	27.5	27.3	17.8	23.3
General	10.8	12.5	10.9	15.6	12.1

- Overnight hikers were the least likely to participate in maintenance activities.
- Overnight and section hikers were the most likely to participate in organization membership activities.

(QE10b) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hiker	Total
Maintenance	41.7	51.0	47.2	23.7	51.1	43.3
Construction	10.2	3.9	9.4	18.4	11.1	10.2
Clean-up	7.1	5.9	9.4	7.9	4.4	7.0
Conservation	3.1	0.0	1.9	10.5	0.0	2.9
Education	1.6	0.0	0.0	2.6	0.0	1.0
Organization/ Membership	23.6	21.6	30.2	21.1	17.8	23.2
General	12.6	17.6	1.9	15.8	15.6	12.4

- The Deep South region was more likely to engage in construction activities (18.4%) than the other regions, and less likely to participate in trail maintenance.
- Hikers in Southwest Virginia were more likely than those in other regions (30.2%) to volunteer for organization membership activities.

11. The following statements relate to your involvement in hiking. The statements sound similar to each other, so please read each one carefully and respond to each one as honestly as you can.

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Disagree Nor	Agree	Strongly Agree
a. I have little or no interest in hiking	1	2	3	4	5
b. Hiking says a lot about who I am	1	2	3	4	5
c. You can tell a lot about a person by seeing them hiking	1	2	3	4	5
d. Hiking is very important to me	1	2	3	4	5
e. Hiking offers me relaxation when pressures build up	1	2	3	4	5
f. Participating in hiking is one of the most satisfying things I do	1	2	3	4	5
g. When I participate in hiking I can really be myself	1	2	3	4	5
h. I find that a lot of my life is organized around hiking	1	2	3	4	5
i. Hiking has a central role in my life	1	2	3	4	5
j. Participating in hiking is one of the most enjoyable things I do	1	2	3	4	5
k. I enjoy discussing hiking with my friends	1	2	3	4	5
l. When I participate in hiking others see me the way I want them to see me	1	2	3	4	5
m. I find that a lot of my life is organized around hiking activities	1	2	3	4	5
n. I don't really know much about hiking	1	2	3	4	5
o. The decision to go hiking was not entirely my own	1	2	3	4	5
p. I consider myself to be an educated consumer regarding hiking	1	2	3	4	5
q. Hiking interests me	1	2	3	4	5
r. I am knowledgeable about hiking	1	2	3	4	5
s. The decision to go hiking was primarily my own	1	2	3	4	5
t. Hiking is pleasurable	1	2	3	4	5
u. Even if close friends recommended another recreational activity, I would not change my preference for hiking	1	2	3	4	5
v. Most of my friends are in some way connected with hiking	1	2	3	4	5
w. To change my preference from hiking to another leisure activity would require major rethinking	1	2	3	4	5
x. I really enjoy hiking	1	2	3	4	5

(QE11)

USERS (NON-THRU HIKERS)	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Disagree Nor Agree	Agree	Strongly Agree
a. I have little or no interest in hiking	76.8	19.1	2.1	1.0	1.0
b. Hiking says a lot about who I am	1.9	7.1	25.7	44.7	20.6
c. You can tell a lot about a person by seeing them hiking	2.8	12.7	40.7	37.2	6.6
d. Hiking is very important to me	0.4	3.6	13.0	46.7	36.2
e. Hiking offers me relaxation when pressures build up	0.3	2.4	12.0	52.5	32.8
f. Participating in hiking is one of the most satisfying things I do	0.4	5.8	15.3	45.5	33.0
g. When I participate in hiking I can really be myself	0.7	2.4	26.8	45.5	24.7
h. I find that a lot of my life is organized around hiking	8.8	31.4	32.7	19.5	7.6
i. Hiking has a central role in my life	11.6	26.3	28.8	23.6	9.7
j. Participating in hiking is one of the most enjoyable things I do	1.2	5.7	14.3	52.5	26.3
k. I enjoy discussing hiking with my friends	1.1	8.6	23.1	50.5	16.7
l. When I participate in hiking others see me the way I want them to see me	2.2	7.3	50.2	29.3	10.9
m. I find that a lot of my life is organized around hiking activities	8.8	33.1	32.5	18.7	6.9
n. I don't really know much about hiking	39.5	42.5	9.8	6.5	1.7
o. The decision to go hiking was not entirely my own	41.4	27.9	9.0	19.1	2.7
p. I consider myself to be an educated consumer regarding hiking	2.0	7.1	18.9	52.1	19.9
q. Hiking interests me	0.2	0.6	3.6	53.5	42.2
r. I am knowledgeable about hiking	1.2	4.7	12.4	54.5	27.3
s. The decision to go hiking was primarily my own	1.5	15.6	10.6	34.8	37.5
t. Hiking is pleasurable	0.2	0.3	2.3	46.2	51.0
u. Even if close friends recommended another recreational activity, I would not change my preference for hiking	2.7	15.3	33.6	30.3	18.1
v. Most of my friends are in some way connected with hiking	11.6	39.9	25.6	19.0	3.9
w. To change my preference from hiking to another leisure activity would require major rethinking	7.0	22.9	33.6	23.6	12.8
x. I really enjoy hiking	0.3	0.6	4.1	43.8	51.2

THRU HIKERS	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Disagree Nor Agree	Agree	Strongly Agree
a. I have little or no interest in hiking	81.2	15.0	2.4	0	1.4
b. Hiking says a lot about who I am	0.3	7.0	22.0	47.0	23.7
c. You can tell a lot about a person by seeing them hiking	3.5	12.6	40.2	36.4	7.3
d. Hiking is very important to me	0	2.8	11.9	46.2	39.2
e. Hiking offers me relaxation when pressures build up	0.3	5.9	12.2	51.7	29.7
f. Participating in hiking is one of the most satisfying things I do	0.4	6.0	11.2	52.6	29.8
g. When I participate in hiking I can really be myself	0.7	2.8	24.0	47.7	24.7
h. I find that a lot of my life is organized around hiking	6.7	29.8	31.6	25.3	6.7
i. Hiking has a central role in my life	8.7	26.6	29.4	24.8	10.5
j. Participating in hiking is one of the most enjoyable things I do	1.0	5.9	15.4	52.4	25.2
k. I enjoy discussing hiking with my friends	1.0	5.2	17.4	61.8	14.6
l. When I participate in hiking others see me the way I want them to see me	1.8	6.7	50.2	31.9	9.5
m. I find that a lot of my life is organized around hiking activities	7.1	33.6	32.5	21.6	5.3
n. I don't really know much about hiking	51.6	43.5	3.9	0.7	0.4
o. The decision to go hiking was not entirely my own	56.3	23.4	4.5	14.0	1.7
p. I consider myself to be an educated consumer regarding hiking	0.7	2.1	9.5	56.5	31.2
q. Hiking interests me	0	0.3	1.7	52.8	45.1
r. I am knowledgeable about hiking	0.7	0.3	4.2	57.7	37.1
s. The decision to go hiking was primarily my own	1.0	7.3	2.8	29.7	59.1
t. Hiking is pleasurable	0.3	1.0	4.2	47.4	47.0
u. Even if close friends recommended another recreational activity, I would not change my preference for hiking	4.3	20.0	37.5	26.4	11.8
v. Most of my friends are in some way connected with hiking	14.0	41.4	23.9	17.9	2.8
w. To change my preference from hiking to another leisure activity would require major rethinking	8.6	30.5	31.9	21.5	7.5
x. I really enjoy hiking	0.7	1.4	4.9	41.3	51.7

- 76.8% of respondents strongly disagreed with the statement, "I have little or no interest in hiking," but only 42.2% strongly agreed with the statement, "hiking interests me."
- Only 22.9% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the statement, "most of my friends are in some way connected with hiking."
- Approximately three-quarters of the respondents strongly disagreed with the statement, "I have little or no interest in hiking."
- About half of the respondents strongly agreed with both statements, "hiking is pleasurable" and "I really enjoy hiking."

(QE11) Average Involvement with Hiking by Type of Hiker.

	Day User	Overnight Hiker	Section Hiker	Thru Hiker	Total
a) I have little or no interest in hiking	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.3
b) Hiking says a lot about who I am	3.6	3.7	4.0	3.9	3.7
c) You can tell a lot about a person by seeing them hiking	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.3	3.3
d) Hiking is very important to me	4.0	4.1	4.4	4.2	4.1
e) Hiking offers me relaxation when pressures build up	4.1	4.2	4.2	4.0	4.2
f) Participating in hiking is one of the most satisfying things I do	3.9	4.0	4.3	4.1	4.0
g) When I participate in hiking I can really be myself	3.8	3.9	4.1	3.9	3.9
h) I find that a lot of my life is organized around hiking	2.7	2.8	3.2	3.0	2.9
i) Hiking has a central role in my life	2.7	3.0	3.3	3.0	2.9
j) Participating in hiking is one of the most enjoyable things I do	3.9	4.0	4.3	3.9	4.0
k) I enjoy discussing hiking with my friends	3.5	3.8	4.0	3.8	3.7
l) When I participate in hiking others see me the way I want them to see me	3.3	3.4	3.6	3.4	3.4
m) I find that a lot of my life is organized around hiking activities	2.7	2.8	3.1	2.8	2.8
n) I don't really know much about hiking	2.2	1.8	1.6	1.5	1.9
o) The decision to go hiking was not entirely my own	2.4	2.2	1.8	1.8	2.1
p) I consider myself to be an educated consumer regarding hiking	3.5	3.9	4.1	4.2	3.8
q) Hiking interests me	4.3	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.4
r) I am knowledgeable about hiking	3.7	4.1	4.3	4.3	4.0
s) The decision to go hiking was primarily my own	3.6	3.8	4.2	4.4	3.9
t) Hiking is pleasurable	4.5	4.5	4.6	4.4	4.5
u) Even if close friends recommended another recreational activity, I would not change my preference for hiking	3.4	3.5	3.8	3.2	3.5
v) Most of my friends are in some way connected with hiking	2.7	2.8	2.4	2.5	2.6
w) To change my preference from hiking to another leisure activity would require major rethinking	3.0	3.2	3.4	2.9	3.1
x) I really enjoy hiking	4.4	4.5	4.6	4.4	4.5

*Responses ranged from "strongly disagree" (1) to "strongly agree" (5).

- The majority all hiker types strongly disagreed with the statement that "I have little or no interest in hiking" (mean=1.3).
- The vast majority of all types of hikers either agree or strongly agree with statements concerning the enjoyment, relaxation, and satisfaction they get from hiking.
- Section and thru hikers were more likely to strongly agree with the statement "the decision to go hiking was primarily my own" (mean=4.2 and 4.4 respectively) and strongly disagree with the statement "the decision to go hiking was not entirely my own" (mean=1.8 for both).

(QE11) Average Involvement with Hiking by Region.

	New England	Mid- Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Total
a. I have little or no interest in hiking	1.3	1.2	1.4	1.4	1.3
b. Hiking says a lot about who I am	3.8	3.9	3.5	3.6	3.8
c. You can tell a lot about a person by seeing them hiking	3.3	3.4	3.2	3.3	3.3
d. Hiking is very important to me	4.2	4.3	3.9	4.0	4.1
e. Hiking offers me relaxation when pressures build up	4.2	4.2	4.1	4.2	4.2
f. Participating in hiking is one of the most satisfying things I do	4.1	4.1	3.8	4.0	4.0
g. When I participate in hiking I can really be myself	3.9	4.0	3.8	3.9	3.9
h. I find that a lot of my life is organized around hiking	2.9	3.0	2.6	2.7	2.9
i. Hiking has a central role in my life	3.1	3.0	2.6	2.7	2.9
j. Participating in hiking is one of the most enjoyable things I do	4.1	4.0	3.7	3.9	4.0
k. I enjoy discussing hiking with my friends	3.8	3.7	3.5	3.7	3.7
l. When I participate in hiking others see me the way I want them to see me	3.5	3.4	3.2	3.4	3.4
m. I find that a lot of my life is organized around hiking activities	2.9	3.0	2.6	2.6	2.8
n. I don't really know much about hiking	1.8	1.9	2.3	2.1	1.9
o. The decision to go hiking was not entirely my own	2.2	2.0	2.4	2.3	2.1
p. I consider myself to be an educated consumer regarding hiking	3.9	3.8	3.4	3.7	3.8
q. Hiking interests me	4.4	4.5	4.2	4.3	4.4
r. I am knowledgeable about hiking	4.1	4.0	3.7	3.9	4.0
s. The decision to go hiking was primarily my own	3.9	4.0	3.6	3.7	3.9
t. Hiking is pleasurable	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5
u. Even if close friends recommended another recreational activity, I would not change my preference for hiking	3.6	3.6	3.2	3.5	3.5
v. Most of my friends are in some way connected with hiking	2.7	2.5	2.7	2.6	2.6
w. To change my preference from hiking to another leisure activity would require major rethinking	3.3	3.3	2.8	3.1	3.1
x. I really enjoy hiking	4.5	4.5	4.4	4.5	4.5

*Responses ranged from "strongly disagree" (1) to "strongly agree" (5).

- New England hikers agreed or strongly agreed with the statement, "I am knowledgeable about hiking" (mean=4.1).
- New England respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the statement, "I enjoy discussing hiking with my friends." But were less likely to agree or strongly agree that, "Most of my friends are in some way connected with hiking."
- Respondents in the Mid-Atlantic region were than any other region more strongly disagreed with the statement, "I have little or no interest in hiking" (mean=1.2).
- Mid-Atlantic hikers were most likely to answer that they strongly agree with the statements, "Hiking is pleasurable" and "I really enjoy hiking".
- Hikers in the southern regions felt like their life was less organized around hiking than hikers in the north. The average ratings for the statement, "I find that a lot of my life is organized around hiking activities" were 2.6.

- Southwest Virginia hikers were least likely to strongly agree with any of the following statements, "Hiking is very important to me", "Participating in hiking is one of the most satisfying things I do", "Participating in hiking is one of the most enjoyable things I do", "Hiking interests me".
- Southwest Virginia hikers felt least educated regarding hiking. Their average response for the statement, "I consider myself to be an educated consumer regarding hiking" was the lowest rating at 3.4 on the five-point scale.
- Southwest Virginia respondents were most likely to strongly disagree or disagree with the statement, "I am knowledgeable about hiking."
- Deep South respondents strongly disagreed or disagreed with the statement, "Hiking has a central role in my life."
- The vast majority of thru hikers agreed or strongly agreed with the statement, "I am knowledgeable about hiking."
- Even though they were taking the time to thru hike the AT, most thru hikers strongly disagreed or disagreed with the statement, "I find that a lot of my life is organized around hiking activities."
- Most thru hikers agreed or strongly agreed with the statement, "I consider myself to be an educated consumer regarding hiking."

12. Please specify your estimated total investment on hiking equipment to date. [Circle the appropriate amount]

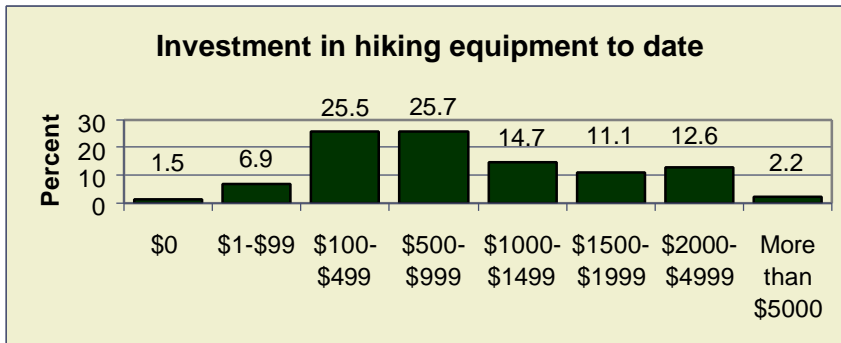
\$0 **\$1-\$99** **\$100-\$499** **\$500-\$999**
\$1000-\$1499 **\$1500-\$1999** **\$2000-\$4999** **More than \$5000**

(QE12)

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
\$0	21	1.5	1	0.4
\$1-\$99	99	6.9	0	0.0
\$100-\$499	365	25.5	7	2.5
\$500-\$999	368	25.7	39	13.8
\$1000-\$1499	210	14.7	58	20.6
\$1500-\$1999	159	11.1	56	19.9
\$2000-\$4999	180	12.6	103	36.5
More than \$5000	31	2.2	18	6.4

N= 1433; 282

(QE12) Users (Non-thru hikers)



- Most non-thru hikers had spent less than \$1000 on hiking equipment to date. Approximately one-quarter had spent \$100-\$499 and another quarter had spent \$500-\$999.
- Most thru hikers had spent \$1500 to \$5000 on hiking equipment to date. Approximately 20% had spent \$1500-\$1999 and 36.5% had spent \$2000-\$4999.

(QE12) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
\$0	3.1	0.4	0.0	0.4	1.3
\$1-\$99	13.2	2.9	0.4	0.0	5.8
\$100-\$499	37.0	19.4	12.0	2.5	21.8
\$500-\$999	22.3	32.5	19.4	13.8	23.8
\$1000-\$1499	10.9	16.5	20.2	20.6	15.7
\$1500-\$1999	4.4	13.9	19.8	19.9	12.4
\$2000-\$4999	7.7	12.8	22.9	36.5	16.4
More than \$5000	1.3	1.6	5.4	6.4	2.9

- As expected, the amount spent on hiking equipment increased from day users to overnight hikers to section hikers and thru hikers.
- Day users (3.1%) were most likely to report spending \$0 to date than any other type of hiker.
- Section (5.4%) and thru (6.4%) hikers were approximately five-times as likely to report spending more than \$5,000 than day (1.3%) and overnight (1.6%) users.

(QE12) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
\$0	0.5	0.4	4.6	1.3	0.4	1.3
\$1-\$99	4.1	4.7	15.6	5.5	0.0	5.8
\$100-\$499	20.1	24.0	31.3	34.0	2.5	21.7
\$500-\$999	27.0	27.1	22.8	24.3	13.8	23.7
\$1000-\$1499	16.1	15.9	11.4	13.6	20.6	15.6
\$1500-\$1999	13.6	12.8	6.2	8.9	19.9	12.5
\$2000-\$4999	16.1	13.6	6.2	10.2	36.5	16.5
More than \$5000	2.5	1.6	2.0	2.1	6.4	2.9

- Users in the Southwest Virginia region reported spending the least amount of money on hiking equipment to date.
- About half of New England and Mid-Atlantic hikers had spent between \$100 and \$1000 on hiking equipment.
- 18.6% of New England hikers had spent more than \$2000 on hiking equipment.

13. About how much did you spend on all expenses relating to hiking in the last 12 months? [Circle the appropriate amount]

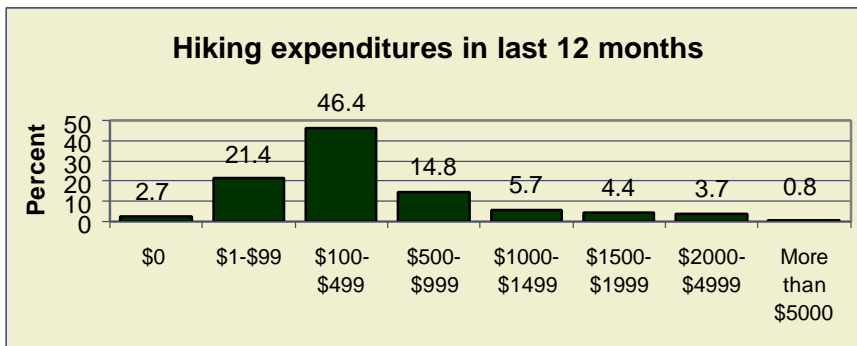
\$0 \$1-\$99 \$100-\$499 \$500-\$999
\$1000-\$1499 \$1500-\$1999 \$2000-\$4999 More than \$5000

(QE13)

	Users (Non-Thru Hiker)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
\$0	39	2.7	0	0.0
\$1-\$99	307	21.4	3	1.1
\$100-\$499	664	46.4	19	6.7
\$500-\$999	212	14.8	25	8.8
\$1000-\$1499	82	5.7	26	9.2
\$1500-\$1999	63	4.4	27	9.5
\$2000-\$4999	53	3.7	123	43.3
More than \$5000	12	0.8	61	21.5

N= 1432; 284

(QE13) Users (Non-thru hikers)



- Almost half of non-thru hiker spent \$100-\$499 in hiking related expenses in the last 12 months.
- Overall, thru-hikers spent more money on hiking in the last 12 months than non-thru hikers.

(QE13) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
\$0	5.7	0.5	0.0	0.0	2.2
\$1-\$99	33.9	15.3	5.8	1.1	18.2
\$100-\$499	43.7	55.1	35.7	6.7	40.0
\$500-\$999	9.7	16.4	24.0	8.8	13.9
\$1000-\$1499	2.8	5.8	12.0	9.2	6.2
\$1500-\$1999	1.6	4.4	9.7	9.5	5.1
\$2000-\$4999	1.8	2.0	10.9	43.3	10.2
More than \$5000	0.8	0.4	1.9	21.5	4.3

- As compared to hiking related expenditures to date, expenditures in the past twelve months were lower.
- However, the same relationship is exhibited where day and overnight hikers reported lower amounts than section and thru hikers.
- Thru hikers (21.5%) were far more likely to report spending more than \$5,000 than other types of hikers.

(QE13) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
\$0	1.1	1.9	6.5	3.0	0.0	2.3
\$1-\$99	15.3	20.2	36.2	20.1	1.1	18.1
\$100-\$499	49.7	42.4	42.7	46.6	6.7	39.8
\$500-\$999	15.6	17.5	8.8	17.5	8.8	13.8
\$1000-\$1499	6.3	6.2	2.6	7.7	9.2	6.3
\$1500-\$1999	5.5	5.8	2.6	2.1	9.5	5.2
\$2000-\$4999	5.2	4.3	0.7	3.0	43.3	10.3
More than \$5000	1.3	1.6	0.0	0.0	21.5	4.3

- Users in the Southwest Virginia region spent the least amount on hiking related expenses in the last 12 months; \$1-99 (36%), \$0 (6.5%).

14. Below is a list of statements that address your feelings about the AT. Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the statements below.

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Disagree Nor Agree	Agree	Strongly Agree
a. This trail means a lot to me	1	2	3	4	5
b. I enjoy hiking along the Appalachian Trail more than any other trail	1	2	3	4	5
c. I am very attached to the Appalachian Trail	1	2	3	4	5
d. I get more satisfaction out of visiting this trail than from visiting any other trail	1	2	3	4	5
e. I identify strongly with this trail	1	2	3	4	5
f. Hiking here is more important than hiking in any other place	1	2	3	4	5
g. I feel no commitment to this trail	1	2	3	4	5
h. I wouldn't substitute any other trail for the type of recreation I do here	1	2	3	4	5
i. I have a lot of fond memories about the Appalachian Trail	1	2	3	4	5
j. I know the Appalachian Trail better than the people who manage it	1	2	3	4	5
k. People should be free to do whatever they want along the Appalachian Trail	1	2	3	4	5
l. I have a special connection to the Appalachian Trail and the people who hike along it	1	2	3	4	5
m. Managers need to restrict use along the Appalachian Trail	1	2	3	4	5
n. I treat the Appalachian Trail better than most people who hike along it	1	2	3	4	5
o. Everyone should be able to hike along the Appalachian Trail	1	2	3	4	5
p. The Appalachian trail means more to me than any other trail I can think of	1	2	3	4	5
q. I don't tell many people about this trail	1	2	3	4	5
r. For me, lots of other trails could substitute for the Appalachian Trail	1	2	3	4	5
s. I will (or do) bring my children to this place	1	2	3	4	5
t. People who have used this place longest should have priority using it	1	2	3	4	5

(QE14)

USERS (NON-THRU HIKERS)	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Disagree Nor Agree	Agree	Strongly Agree
a. This trail means a lot to me	0.4	2.9	17.6	46.4	32.6
b. I enjoy hiking along the Appalachian Trail more than any other trail	3.7	20.5	41.1	22.0	12.6
c. I am very attached to the Appalachian Trail	1.8	14.0	35.7	30.8	17.7
d. I get more satisfaction out of visiting this trail than from visiting any other trail	5.2	28.5	37.9	20.0	8.4
e. I identify strongly with this trail	4.0	17.5	35.0	29.9	13.6
f. Hiking here is more important than hiking in any other place	9.5	35.9	37.9	11.1	5.7
g. I feel no commitment to this trail	22.7	43.6	20.6	11.7	1.4
h. I wouldn't substitute any other trail for the type of recreation I do here	9.1	45.2	36.2	7.5	2.0
i. I have a lot of fond memories about the Appalachian Trail	0.9	3.2	12.7	46.7	36.5
j. I know the Appalachian Trail better than the people who manage it	38.9	37.5	19.4	3.1	1.1
k. People should be free to do whatever they want along the Appalachian Trail	49.1	39.3	7.0	3.4	1.2
l. I have a special connection to the Appalachian Trail and the people who hike along it	3.9	15.7	36.6	32.2	11.6
m. Managers need to restrict use along the Appalachian Trail	14.9	36.6	32.3	14.4	1.8
n. I treat the Appalachian Trail better than most people who hike along it	0.8	8.5	45.9	36.7	8.2
o. Everyone should be able to hike along the Appalachian Trail	1.3	8.3	16.6	51.2	22.5
p. The Appalachian trail means more to me than any other trail I can think of	6.8	30.0	31.0	20.3	11.8
q. I don't tell many people about this trail	20.5	52.5	22.0	4.3	0.6
r. For me, lots of other trails could substitute for the Appalachian Trail	9.4	35.1	32.8	19.3	3.4
s. I will (or do) bring my children to this place	1.1	2.5	23.4	48.2	24.8
t. People who have used this place longest should have priority using it	28.7	47.1	19.8	3.6	0.9

THRU HIKERS	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Disagree Nor Agree	Agree	Strongly Agree
a. This trail means a lot to me	0	1.0	5.2	42.4	51.4
b. I enjoy hiking along the Appalachian Trail more than any other trail	4.5	20.2	39.4	22.0	13.9
c. I am very attached to the Appalachian Trail	0.7	7.0	21.3	38.0	33.1
d. I get more satisfaction out of visiting this trail than from visiting any other trail	3.1	26.6	42.7	17.8	9.8
e. I identify strongly with this trail	1.0	7.0	23.4	43.0	25.5
f. Hiking here is more important than hiking in any other place	9.1	37.4	37.4	10.1	5.9
g. I feel no commitment to this trail	35.1	46.3	11.6	6.3	0.7
h. I wouldn't substitute any other trail for the type of recreation I do here	12.6	49.0	28.3	8.0	2.1
i. I have a lot of fond memories about the Appalachian Trail	0.3	0.7	2.4	25.8	70.7
j. I know the Appalachian Trail better than the people who manage it	14.0	43.4	34.6	5.6	2.4
k. People should be free to do whatever they want along the Appalachian Trail	37.1	45.5	8.0	5.9	3.5
l. I have a special connection to the Appalachian Trail and the people who hike along it	1.1	2.8	13.0	51.8	31.3
m. Managers need to restrict use along the Appalachian Trail	18.7	30.7	33.6	15.5	1.4
n. I treat the Appalachian Trail better than most people who hike along it	0	9.4	35.3	42.3	12.9
o. Everyone should be able to hike along the Appalachian Trail	2.8	7.8	13.8	48.8	26.9
p. The Appalachian trail means more to me than any other trail I can think of	3.9	22.9	24.6	27.5	21.1
q. I don't tell many people about this trail	28.1	50.9	16.8	2.8	1.4
r. For me, lots of other trails could substitute for the Appalachian Trail	13.7	42.3	26.4	15.5	2.1
s. I will (or do) bring my children to this place	1.4	1.1	28.0	41.9	27.6
t. People who have used this place longest should have priority using it	32.2	46.2	18.9	2.4	0.3

- Almost 80% of AT users agreed or strongly agreed with the statement, "this trail means a lot to me."
- Approximately three quarters of the respondents strongly disagreed or disagreed with the statement, "I know the Appalachian Trail better than the people who manage it."
- Nearly 90% strongly disagreed or disagreed with the statement, "People should be free to do whatever they want along the Appalachian Trail," but only 16.2% felt that managers need to restrict use along the Appalachian Trail.
- Only 9.3% of respondents that they strongly disagree or disagree with the statement, "I treat the Appalachian Trail better than most people who hike along it."
- Over half of thru hikers strongly agreed that this trail means a lot to them.
- Nearly three quarters of thru hikers agreed or strongly agreed that they are very attached to the Appalachian Trail.
- 68.5% of thru hikers agreed or strongly agreed that they identify strongly with this trail.
- Over 80% of thru hikers agreed or strongly agreed that they "have a special connection to the Appalachian Trail and to the people who hike along it."
- Almost half of the thru hikers agreed or strongly agreed that "the Appalachian trail means more to them than any other trail they could think of."

(QE14) Average Attachment to the Appalachian Trail by Type of Hiker.

	Day User	Overnight Hiker	Section Hiker	Thru Hiker	Total
a) This trail means a lot to me	3.9	3.9	4.4	4.4	4.1
b) I enjoy hiking along the Appalachian Trail more than any other trail	3.1	3.1	3.6	3.2	3.2
c) I am very attached to the Appalachian Trail	3.3	3.3	3.9	4.0	3.5
d) I get more satisfaction out of visiting this trail than from visiting any other trail	2.9	2.9	3.4	3.0	3.0
e) I identify strongly with this trail	3.0	3.1	3.7	3.8	3.3
f) Hiking here is more important than hiking in any other place	2.6	2.6	3.1	2.7	2.7
g) I feel no commitment to this trail	2.5	2.4	1.9	1.9	2.3
h) I wouldn't substitute any other trail for the type of recreation I do here	2.5	2.4	2.7	2.4	2.5
i) I have a lot of fond memories about the Appalachian Trail	3.9	4.0	4.5	4.7	4.1
j) I know the Appalachian Trail better than the people who manage it	1.7	1.8	2.1	2.4	1.9
k) People should be free to do whatever they want along the Appalachian Trail	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.9	1.7
l) I have a special connection to the Appalachian Trail and the people who hike along it	2.9	3.1	3.8	4.1	3.3
m) Managers need to restrict use along the Appalachian Trail	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.5	2.5
n) I treat the Appalachian Trail better than most people who hike along it	3.3	3.4	3.5	3.6	3.4
o) Everyone should be able to hike along the Appalachian Trail	3.9	3.8	3.8	3.9	3.9
p) The Appalachian trail means more to me than any other trail I can think of	2.8	2.8	3.5	3.4	3.0
q) I don't tell many people about this trail	2.2	2.2	1.9	2.0	2.1
r) For me, lots of other trails could substitute for the Appalachian Trail	2.8	2.8	2.4	2.5	2.7
s) I will (or do) bring my children to this place	3.9	4.0	3.9	3.9	3.9
t) People who have used this place longest should have priority using it	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.9	2.0

*Responses ranged from "strongly disagree" (1) to "strongly agree" (5).

- Feelings of connectedness to the AT seemed to decline from thru hikers to day users.
- Thru hikers were more likely to agree or strongly agree to statements concerning identity with the AT.
- Section (mean=4.5) and thru hikers (mean=4.7) more strongly agree with the statement "I have a lot of fond memories about the Appalachian Trail than day (mean=3.9) or overnight users (mean=4.0).
- Thru hikers more strongly agree (mean=4.1) with the statement "I have a special connection to the Appalachian Trail and the people who hike along it" than the other types of hikers (means range from 2.9 to 3.8).

(QE14) Average Attachment to the Appalachian Trail by Region.

	New England	Mid- Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Total
a. This trail means a lot to me	3.9	4.2	4.0	4.0	4.1
b. I enjoy hiking along the Appalachian Trail more than any other trail	3.0	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.2
c. I am very attached to the Appalachian Trail	3.3	3.7	3.3	3.5	3.5
d. I get more satisfaction out of visiting this trail than from visiting any other trail	2.8	3.1	2.9	3.2	3.0
e. I identify strongly with this trail	3.1	3.5	3.2	3.3	3.3
f. Hiking here is more important than hiking in any other place	2.6	2.8	2.7	2.8	2.7
g. I feel no commitment to this trail	2.4	2.1	2.5	2.2	2.3
h. I wouldn't substitute any other trail for the type of recreation I do here	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5
i. I have a lot of fond memories about the Appalachian Trail	4.1	4.2	3.9	4.0	4.1
j. I know the Appalachian Trail better than the people who manage it	1.9	1.9	1.7	1.7	1.9
k. People should be free to do whatever they want along the Appalachian Trail	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.7
l. I have a special connection to the Appalachian Trail and the people who hike along it	3.2	3.3	3.0	3.2	3.3
m. Managers need to restrict use along the Appalachian Trail	2.6	2.3	2.5	2.5	2.5
n. I treat the Appalachian Trail better than most people who hike along it	3.3	3.5	3.4	3.5	3.4
o. Everyone should be able to hike along the Appalachian Trail	3.7	4.1	3.9	3.9	3.9
p. The Appalachian trail means more to me than any other trail I can think of	2.8	3.1	2.9	3.0	3.0
q. I don't tell many people about this trail	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1
r. For me, lots of other trails could substitute for the Appalachian Trail	2.8	2.6	2.8	2.7	2.7
s. I will (or do) bring my children to this place	3.9	3.9	4.0	4.0	3.9
t. People who have used this place longest should have priority using it	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.0

*Responses ranged from "strongly disagree" (1) to "strongly agree" (5).

- New England hikers were most likely to agree (mean=2.8) with the statement, "I get more satisfaction out of visiting this trail than from visiting any other trail" than hikers in any other region.
- New England hikers strongly disagreed or disagreed with the statement, "hiking here is more important than hiking in any other place".
- Hikers in the New England region were more apt to agree or strongly agree that managers need to restrict use along the Appalachian Trail.
- New England hikers are most likely to agree (mean =3.0) with the statement "I am very attached to the Appalachian Trail
- New England hikers felt less of a connection to the AT than other regions as they were less likely to strongly agree that this trail means a lot to them.

- Mid-Atlantic hikers strongly agreed (mean=2.8) with the statement, "I get more satisfaction out of visiting this trail than from visiting any other trail".
- Mid-Atlantic hikers strongly disagreed or disagreed with the statement, "I feel no commitment to this trail."
- Southwest Virginia hikers strongly agreed with the statement, "I am very attached to the Appalachian Trail".
- Deep South hikers more strongly agree that they get more satisfaction out of visiting this trail than from visiting any other trail than hikers in the other regions.
- Hikers in the Deep South strongly disagreed or disagreed that they know the Appalachian Trail better than the people who manage it.
- More Deep South hikers agreed or strongly agreed that they will, or do, bring their children to the trail than in hikers in the other regions.

PART F:

Visitor Characteristics

PART F: Background Information. The information in this section will help us to better understand who is using the Appalachian Trail. The results will be reported only as overall averages.

1. What is your gender? _____ Female _____ Male

(QF1)

	Users (Non-Thru Hikers)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Female	452	31.0	51	17.6
Male	1005	69.0	239	82.4

N= 1457; 290

- Most non-thru hikers (69.0%) and thru hikers (82.4%) are male.

(QF1) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Female	39.2	26.2	20.8	17.6	28.6
Male	60.8	73.8	79.2	82.4	71.4

- Nearly 40% of the day users on the AT are female.
- Only one-fourth of overnight hikers and one-fifth of section and thru hikers are female.

(QF1) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Female	30.0	25.3	40.1	28.3	17.6	28.8
Male	70.0	74.7	59.9	71.7	82.4	71.2

- Southwest Virginia has the largest percentage (40.1%) of female hikers.

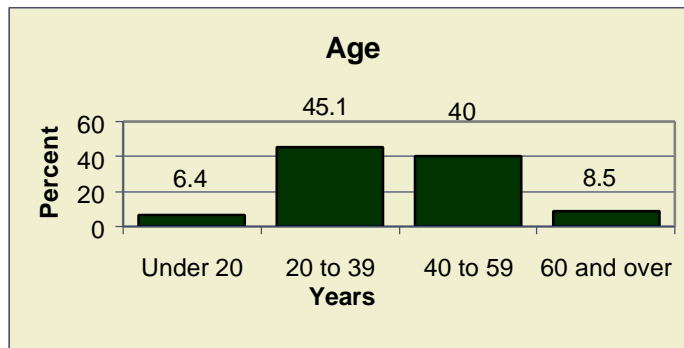
2. What is your age? ____ Years

(QF2)

	Users (Non-Thru Hikers)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Under 20	94	6.4	9	3.1
20 to 39	658	45.1	195	67.0
40 to 59	584	40.0	77	26.5
60 and over	124	8.5	10	3.4
Mean=38.8			Mean=33.5	
Median=39.0			Median=28.0	

N= 1460; 291

(QF2) Users (Non-thru hikers)



- Most thru hikers (67.0%) are between the ages of 20 and 39.
- The most common age group of non-thru hikers is also 20 to 39 (45.1%).
- The second most common age group for both thru hikers and non-thru hikers is 40 to 59.

(QF2) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Mean	38.8	36.4	43.3	33.5	37.8
Median	38.0	36.5	44.0	28.0	37.0

- Thru hikers tend to be the youngest type of hiker on the AT, and section hikers the oldest.
- There is little difference in the age distribution of overnight and day users.

(QF2) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Mean	39.8	40.3	35.3	39.6	33.5	38.0
Median	40.0	39.0	31.0	39.0	28.0	37.0

- Average age was relatively consistent across the geographic regions as well as the thru hiker population.

3. What is the highest level of education you have completed? [Check one of the following]

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 8th grade or less | <input type="checkbox"/> college graduate |
| <input type="checkbox"/> some high school | <input type="checkbox"/> some graduate school |
| <input type="checkbox"/> high school graduate or GED | <input type="checkbox"/> masters, doctoral, or professional degree |
| <input type="checkbox"/> business school, trade school, some college | |

(QF3)

	Users (Non-Thru Hikers)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
8th grade or less	1	0.1	0	0.0
Some high school	29	2.0	2	0.7
high school graduate or GED	111	7.6	27	9.3
Business school, trade school, some college	280	19.2	61	21.0
College graduate	448	30.7	135	46.4
Some graduate school	160	11.0	28	9.6
Masters, doctoral, or professional degree	429	29.4	38	13.1

N= 1458; 291

- The most common level of education for both thru hikers and non-thru hikers is a college graduate.
- The second most common level of education for non-thru hikers is a masters, doctoral or professional degree (29.4%).
- The second most common level of education for thru hikers is business school, trade school, some college (21.0%).
- Overall, non-thru hikers have more formal education than thru hikers, although both groups are highly educated.

(QF3) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
8th grade or less	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
some high school	1.1	2.3	3.1	0.7	1.7
high school graduate or GED	5.4	10.3	7.7	9.3	8.0
Business school, trade school, some college	18.8	21.1	16.1	21.0	19.5
College graduate	34.1	27.9	29.5	46.4	33.5
some graduate school	11.3	10.6	11.1	9.6	10.8
Masters, doctoral, or professional degree	29.0	27.7	32.6	13.1	26.5

- Day users, overnight hikers and section hikers show similar levels of educational attainment.
- Thru hikers stand out from the other three groups with the smallest proportion reporting a masters, doctoral, or professional degree.

(QF3) by Region

	New England	Mid- Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
8th grade or less	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
some high school	2.8	1.9	1.0	1.3	0.7	1.8
high school graduate or GED	8.1	6.7	6.1	9.4	9.3	7.9
business school, trade school, some college	17.4	19.1	24.0	17.9	21.0	19.5
college graduate	29.4	32.2	31.9	31.1	46.4	33.3
some graduate school	9.6	10.5	15.3	9.4	9.6	10.7
masters, doctoral, or professional degree	32.5	29.6	21.7	31.1	13.1	26.7

- Hikers across the four regions have similar levels of education.

4. Are you presently:

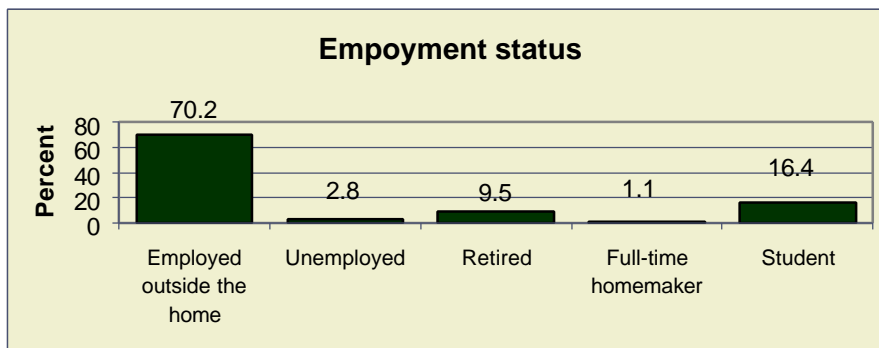
Employed outside the home ® **full time** **part time** ® **Occupation:** _____
 Unemployed
 Retired ® **Previous occupation:** _____
 Full-time homemaker
 Student® **full time** **part time**

(QF4)

	Users (Non-Thru Hikers)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Employed outside the home	968	70.2	121	43.4
Unemployed	38	2.8	104	37.3
Retired	131	9.5	30	10.8
Full-time homemaker	15	1.1	0	0.0
Student	226	16.4	24	8.6

N= 1387; 279

(QE4) Users (Non-Thru Hikers)



- Most non-thru hikers (70.2%) are employed outside the home, whereas only 43.4% of thru hikers are.
- Many thru hikers (37.3%) are unemployed, whereas only 2.8% of non-thru hikers are unemployed.
- Almost twice as many non-thru hikers are students as compared to thru hikers.

(QF4) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Employed outside the home	72.2	72.6	60.9	43.4	65.7
Unemployed	1.9	1.9	6.7	37.3	8.6
Retired	8.4	4.9	20.9	10.8	9.6
Full-time homemaker	1.5	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.9
Student	16.0	19.8	10.7	8.6	15.1

- Day users, overnight, and section hikers are all predominantly employed outside the home, whereas thru hikers (37.3%) are more likely to be unemployed.
- Section hikers are more likely than any other group (20.9%) to be retired.

(QF4) by Region

	New England	Mid- Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Employed outside the home	72.0	70.8	64.3	72.6	43.4	65.7
Unemployed	3.1	2.4	1.0	4.6	37.3	8.6
Retired	11.4	12.4	4.8	7.3	10.8	9.7
Full-time homemaker	0.5	1.6	2.4	0.5	0.0	0.9
Student	13.0	12.8	27.6	15.1	8.6	15.1

- Southwest Virginia has the highest percentage of student hikers, and the smallest percentage of retired hikers.
- New England and the Mid-Atlantic have the highest percentage of retired hikers.

(QF4)

	Users (Non-Thru Hikers)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Full-time	949	88.0	105	80.2
Part-time	130	12.0	26	19.8

N= 1079;131

- Most employed hikers have full time employment.

(QF4) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Full-time	88.1	86.4	91.2	80.2	87.1
Part-time	11.9	13.6	8.8	19.8	12.9

- This pattern held true across all types of hikers, with over four-fifths of all groups reporting full-time employment.

(QF4) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Full-time	89.2	86.2	88.4	86.0	80.2	87.1
Part-time	10.8	13.8	11.6	14.0	19.8	12.9

- Most employed hikers in all regions have full time employment.

(QF4) Non-Thru hikers

	Number	Percent
Administrative	18	1.8
Arts, design, entertainment, media	60	6.0
Community, social, counseling	51	5.1
Education, training	142	14.2
Farming, agricultural	11	1.1
Food service	38	3.8
Healthcare and support	94	9.4
Labor	39	3.9
Legal	24	2.4
Maintenance	5	0.5
Management, business, financial	115	11.5
Military	9	0.9
Protective services	16	1.6
Sales, retail	53	5.3
Sciences	40	4.0
Technical	160	16.0
Trade	88	8.8
Other	35	3.5

N=998

- The most common occupations of non-thru hikers were education/training (14.2%), management, business, financial (11.5%), or technical (16%) occupations.

(QF4) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Administrative	1.0	1.4	3.5	3.4	1.8
Arts, design, entertainment, media	4.5	5.8	12.6	3.4	6.0
Community, social, counseling	4.5	7.5	4.2	1.7	5.2
Education, training	13.9	15.6	16.8	9.2	14.3
Farming, agricultural	1.6	0.9	0.7	0.8	1.1
Food service	2.6	3.5	3.5	9.2	3.8
Healthcare and support	11.3	7.5	8.4	10.1	9.4
Labor	3.1	2.6	4.2	9.2	3.8
Legal	2.6	2.0	3.5	0.8	2.3
Maintenance	0.5	0.3	0.0	1.7	0.5
Management, business, financial	14.1	11.0	8.4	9.2	11.6
Military	1.3	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.9
Protective services	1.0	2.0	1.4	2.5	1.6
Sales, retail	7.3	4.9	2.1	2.5	5.2
Sciences	5.5	4.3	0.7	1.7	3.9
Technical	16.0	17.6	13.3	15.1	16.1
Trade	4.7	9.5	12.6	16.0	8.9
Other	4.5	2.3	4.2	3.4	3.5

- There is little apparent difference in the occupational patterns of the various types of hikers (14.1%).
- Day users reported the most management, business, financial occupations.
- Section hikers reported the most “art, design, entertainment and media” occupations (12.6%).

(QF4) Occupation by Region

	New England	Mid- Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Administrative	2.1	1.3	1.6	0.7	3.4	1.8
Arts, design, entertainment, media	5.4	11.9	6.5	2.7	3.4	6.0
Community, social, counseling	5.9	5.0	4.9	6.1	1.7	5.1
Education, training	15.0	17.6	16.8	9.5	9.2	14.2
Farming, agricultural	1.0	1.3	0.5	2.0	0.8	1.1
Food service	2.6	1.9	3.8	4.7	9.2	3.8
Healthcare and support	10.3	6.3	10.3	8.8	10.1	9.4
Labor	3.6	1.9	3.2	3.4	9.2	3.9
Legal	3.4	2.5	2.2	1.4	0.8	2.4
Maintenance	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.7	1.7	0.5
Management, business, financial	11.6	9.4	11.4	15.5	9.2	11.5
Military	0.3	1.3	2.2	1.4	0.0	0.9
Protective services	2.1	1.9	0.5	0.7	2.5	1.6
Sales, retail	5.4	4.4	4.9	8.8	2.5	5.3
Sciences	5.2	3.8	4.3	2.7	1.7	4.0
Technical	14.7	17.0	18.4	16.2	15.1	16.0
Trade	8.8	7.5	3.2	11.5	16.0	8.8
Other	2.6	5.0	4.3	3.4	3.4	3.5

- The Mid Atlantic region reported the most “art, design, entertainment, media” occupations (11.9%).
- The Deep South region reported the most “trade” occupations (11.5%)

(QE4) (Previous Occupation)

	Users (Non-Thru Hikers)		Thru Hikers	
	N	Percent	N	Percent
Administrative	6	4.7	1	3.4
Community, Social Services, Counseling	5	3.9	4	13.8
Education, Training	35	27.6	1	3.4
Farming, Agricultural	0	0.0	1	3.4
Food Service	2	1.6	0	0.0
Healthcare	7	5.5	1	3.4
Labor	7	5.5	5	17.2
Legal	1	0.8	0	0.0
Management, Business, Financial	18	14.2	5	17.2
Military	4	3.1	5	17.2
Protective Services	6	4.7	3	10.3
Sales, Retail	5	3.9	0	0.0
Sciences	1	0.8	0	0.0
Technical	19	15.0	2	6.9
Trade	6	4.7	0	0.0
Other	5	3.9	1	3.4

N=127;29

- Of the retired non-thru hikers education/training was the highest reported previous occupation (27.6%).
- The most common former occupations of thru hikers were labor, management, and military (17% each).

(QF4) (Previous Occupation) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Administrative	4.2	7.1	3.9	3.4	4.5
Community, Social Services, Counseling	0.0	3.6	7.8	13.8	5.8
Education, Training	41.7	14.3	21.6	3.4	23.1
Farming, Agricultural	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.4	0.6
Food Service	0.0	7.1	0.0	0.0	1.3
Healthcare	4.2	3.6	7.8	3.4	5.1
Labor	4.2	10.7	3.9	17.2	7.7
Legal	2.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6
Management, Business, Financial	10.4	17.9	15.7	17.2	14.7
Military	0.0	7.1	3.9	17.2	5.8
Protective Services	6.3	3.6	3.9	10.3	5.8
Sales, Retail	6.3	3.6	2.0	0.0	3.2
Sciences	0.0	0.0	2.0	0.0	0.6
Technical	14.6	10.7	17.6	6.9	13.5
Trade	2.1	7.1	5.9	0.0	3.8
Other	4.2	3.6	3.9	3.4	3.8

- Retired hikers of all types were previously employed in a wide range of occupations.
- Day hikers (41.7%) and section hikers (21.6%) were especially likely to be previously employed in education/training.

(QF4) (Previous Occupation) by Region

	New England	Mid- Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hiker	Total
Administrative	5.7	3.2	0.0	6.3	3.4	4.4
Community, Social Services, Counseling	2.9	6.5	0.0	6.3	13.8	5.7
Education, Training	25.7	25.8	46.2	31.3	3.4	23.9
Farming, Agricultural	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.4	0.6
Food Service	1.4	3.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.3
Healthcare	5.7	3.2	7.7	6.3	3.4	5.0
Labor	8.6	3.2	0.0	0.0	17.2	7.5
Legal	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6
Management, Business, Financial	14.3	12.9	7.7	18.8	17.2	14.5
Military	2.9	3.2	7.7	0.0	17.2	5.7
Protective Services	4.3	3.2	15.4	0.0	10.3	5.7
Sales, Retail	2.9	9.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.1
Sciences	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6
Technical	12.9	16.1	15.4	25.0	6.9	13.8
Trade	5.7	3.2	0.0	6.3	0.0	3.8
Other	4.3	6.5	0.0	0.0	3.4	3.8

- Previous occupation varied by region as well.
- Education and training occupations were especially common among hikers in the Southwest Virginia region (46.2%).

(QF4) Full or Part-time Student

	Users (Non-Thru Hikers)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Full-time	230	85.8	18	58.1
Part-time	38	14.2	13	41.9

N= 268; 31

- Most (85.8%) student non-thru hikers are full time students, and 58.1% of student thru hikers are full-time students.

(QF4) (Full/Part-Time Student) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Full-time	87.7	85.3	83.9	58.1	83.2
Part-time	12.3	14.7	16.1	41.9	16.8

- The majority of student hikers among all hiker types were full-time students.
- However, thru hikers stood out from the other hiker types with only 58% full-time students (versus 84-88%).

(QF4) (Full/Part-Time Student) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Full-time	86.5	78.6	90.1	82.1	58.1	82.9
Part-time	13.5	21.4	9.9	17.9	41.9	17.1

- The vast majority of student hikers in all regions (79-90%) are full-time students.

5. How many weeks of vacation did you take last year? _____ Weeks

(QF5)

	Users (Non-Thru Hikers)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0	33	2.5	12	4.9
1	82	6.2	11	4.5
2	286	21.5	35	14.3
3	290	21.8	23	9.4
4	225	16.9	16	6.6
5	101	7.6	7	2.9
6	67	5.0	14	5.7
7	16	1.2	0	0.0
8	44	3.3	7	2.9
9	10	0.8	3	1.2
10	42	3.2	5	2.0
10 to 20	97	7.3	23	7.2
More than 20	40	3.0	87	27.4

N= 1333; 244

- Many non-thru hikers took 2 or 3 weeks of vacation last year (21.5% and 21.8%, respectively).
- The most common response for thru hikers was over 20 weeks of vacation (27.4%).

(QF5) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Mean	4.6	5.3	9.0	15.5	7.2

- Section hikers reported about twice as much vacation time (9 weeks) as day users or overnight hikers.

(QF5) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Mean	6.8	4.9	4.4	4.5	15.5	7.0

- Hikers in New England reported more vacation time (6.8 weeks) than hikers in other regions.

6. What was your total household income (before taxes) in 1998? [Check one of the following]

- less than \$20,000 \$40,000 to \$59,999 \$80,000 to \$99,999
 \$20,000 to \$39,999 \$60,000 to \$79,999 \$100,000 or more

(QF6)

	Users (Non-Thru Hikers)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
less than \$20,000	240	17.8	97	36.1
\$20,000 to \$39,999	245	18.2	66	24.5
\$40,000 to \$59,999	272	20.2	36	13.4
\$60,000 to \$79,000	202	15.0	30	11.2
\$80,000 to \$99,000	156	11.6	10	3.7
\$100,000 or more	234	17.3	30	11.2

N= 1349; 269

- Overall, non-thru hikers have higher incomes than thru hikers.
- 60.6% of thru hikers earn less than \$40,000 compared to only 36% of non-thru hikers.
- 43.9% of non-thru hikers earn more than \$60,000 compared to only 26.1% of thru hikers.

(QF6) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
less than \$20,000	19.6	19.1	11.2	36.1	20.9
\$20,000 to \$39,999	17.3	18.5	19.9	24.5	19.3
\$40,000 to \$59,999	20.6	19.5	20.7	13.4	19.1
\$60,000 to \$79,000	13.9	14.1	19.5	11.2	14.3
\$80,000 to \$99,000	11.4	10.0	15.4	3.7	10.3
\$100,000 or more	17.2	18.9	13.3	11.2	16.1

- There is relatively little difference in the incomes reported by the different types of non-thru hikers.
- Thru hikers reported lower income levels than other types of hikers.

(QF6) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Less than \$20,000	15.3	14.4	27.0	16.2	36.1	20.8
\$20,000 to \$39,999	17.5	20.4	18.0	17.6	24.5	19.2
\$40,000 to \$59,999	20.7	18.8	19.0	21.8	13.4	19.0
\$60,000 to \$79,000	15.3	14.4	14.2	15.7	11.2	14.3
\$80,000 to \$99,000	11.3	14.0	9.7	12.0	3.7	10.3
\$100,000 or more	19.9	18.0	12.1	16.7	11.2	16.3

- Hikers in Southwest Virginia were most likely to report incomes lower than \$20,000.

7. In what race or ethnic group would you place yourself?

Ethnicity (Select one): Hispanic or Latino Not Hispanic or Latino
Race (Select one or more): Black or African American Asian American
 White American Indian or Alaskan Native Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander

(QF7) (Ethnicity)

	Users (Non-Thru Hikers)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Hispanic or Latino	17	2.0	6	3.9
Not Hispanic or Latino	816	98.0	146	96.1

N= 833; 152

- Only a very small percentage of both non-thru hikers (2.0%) and thru hikers (3.9%) are Hispanic or Latino.

(QF7) (Ethnicity) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Hispanic or Latino	2.2	1.9	2.0	3.9	2.3
Not Hispanic or Latino	97.8	98.1	98.0	96.1	97.7

- This pattern held true across all types of hikers.

(QF7) (Ethnicity) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Hispanic or Latino	1.3	5.3	0.6	2.3	3.9	2.3
Not Hispanic or Latino	98.7	94.7	99.4	97.7	96.1	97.7

- Hispanic or Latino hikers are most common in the Mid-Atlantic (5.3%) and least common in Southwest Virginia (0.6%).

(QF7) (Race)

	Users (Non-Thru Hikers)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Black or African American	23	1.6	2	0.7
Asian American	17	1.2	4	1.4
White	1365	96.5	269	96.8
American Indian or Alaskan Native	7	0.5	2	0.7
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	3	0.2	1	0.4

N= 1415; 278

- Only a very small percentage of non-thru hikers and thru-hikers are not white.
- Hiker racial group makeup does not change substantially for thru hikers versus non-thru hikers.

(QF7) (Race) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Black or African American	1.8	0.9	2.7	0.7	1.5
Asian American	1.3	1.3	0.4	1.4	1.2
White	95.7	97.2	96.9	96.8	96.5
American Indian or Alaskan Native	1.0	0.2	0.0	0.7	0.5
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	0.2	0.4	0.0	0.4	0.2

- Likewise, racial background is relatively consistent across all categories of hikers.

(QF7) (Race) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Black or African American	1.8	2.4	1.0	1.3	0.7	1.5
Asian American	1.4	1.2	0.7	1.3	1.4	1.2
White	96.3	95.7	97.4	96.4	96.8	96.5
American Indian or Alaskan Native	0.3	0.4	0.7	0.9	0.7	0.5
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.0	0.4	0.2

- There is little racial variation across the geographic regions of the trail.

8. In which of the following kinds of places did you spend the most time while growing up (to age 18)? [Please mark only one]

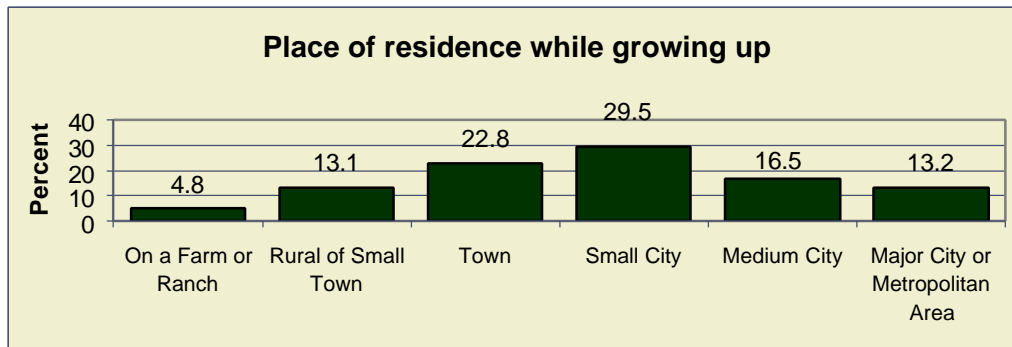
- On A Farm Or Ranch
- Rural Or Small Town (Under 1,000 Population)
- Town (1,000 - 5,000 Population)
- Small City (5,000 - 50,000 Population)
- Medium City (50,000 - 1 Million Population)
- In A Major City Or Metropolitan Area (Over One Million People)

(QF8)

	Users (Non-Thru Hikers)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
On a Farm or Ranch	70	4.8	20	6.9
Rural of Small Town	191	13.1	40	13.7
Town	331	22.8	52	17.9
Small City	429	29.5	83	28.5
Medium City	240	16.5	61	21.0
Major City or Metropolitan Area	192	13.2	35	12.0

N= 1453; 291

(QF8) Users (Non-Thru Hikers)



- Both non-thru hikers and thru hikers are most likely to have grown up in a small city.
- The second most common place to have grown up for non-thru hikers is in a town (22.8%)
- The second most common place to have grown up for thru hikers is in a medium city (21.0%)

(QF8) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
On a Farm or Ranch	5.9	3.4	5.3	6.9	5.2
Rural of Small Town	12.3	15.6	10.3	13.7	13.3
Town	19.7	24.5	25.6	17.9	21.8
Small City	29.1	30.4	29.0	28.5	29.4
Medium City	17.9	14.5	17.2	21.0	17.2
Major City or Metropolitan Area	15.0	11.6	12.6	12.0	13.1

- There is little variation in place of residence while growing up across various types of hikers.

(QF8) by Region

	New England	Mid- Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
On a Farm or Ranch	3.4	5.6	5.8	6.4	6.9	5.2
Rural of Small Town	12.3	11.7	14.4	15.4	13.7	13.2
Town	28.9	21.1	17.6	15.0	17.9	22.0
Small City	32.9	27.1	29.2	23.5	28.5	29.4
Medium City	12.3	13.9	21.8	23.9	21.0	17.3
Major City or Metropolitan Area	10.1	20.7	11.2	15.8	12.0	13.0

- Users in the northern regions were more apt to grow up in towns than hikers in the southern regions.
- The Mid-Atlantic region reported the most “Major City or Metropolitan Area” inhabitants (20.7%) during youth.

9. In which of the following kinds of places do you live now? [Please mark only one]

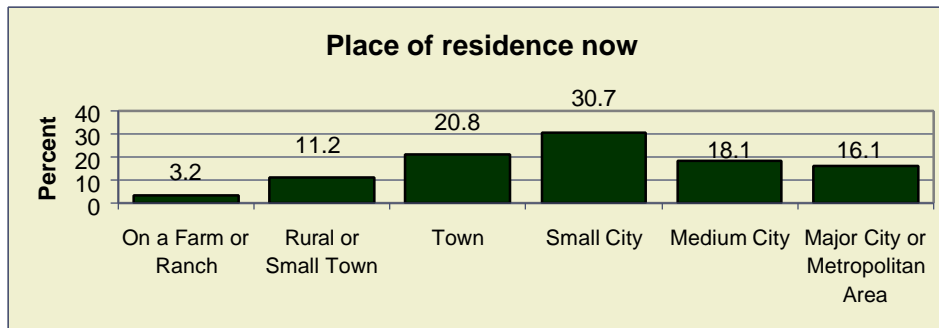
- _____ On A Farm Or Ranch
- _____ Rural Or Small Town (Under 1,000 Population)
- _____ Town (1,000 - 5,000 Population)
- _____ Small City (5,000 - 50,000 Population)
- _____ Medium City (50,000 - 1 Million Population)
- _____ In A Major City Or Metropolitan Area (Over One Million People)

(QF9)

	Users (Non-Thru Hikers)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
On a Farm or Ranch	46	3.2	13	4.5
Rural or Small Town	163	11.2	39	13.5
Town	303	20.8	50	17.3
Small City	448	30.7	77	26.6
Medium City	264	18.1	51	17.6
Major City or Metropolitan Area	235	16.1	59	20.4

N= 1459; 289

(QF9) Users (Non-Thru Hikers)



- The most common place for non-thru hikers (30.7%) and thru hikers (26.6%) to live now is in a small city.
- 20.4% of thru hikers live in a major city, versus only 16.1% of non-thru hikers.

(QF9) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
On a Farm or Ranch	2.7	3.1	3.8	4.5	3.3
Rural or Small Town	9.4	13.4	11.4	13.5	11.6
Town	18.7	22.6	22.3	17.3	20.2
Small City	32.4	30.7	26.1	26.6	29.9
Medium City	20.6	14.4	19.7	17.6	18.0
Major City or Metropolitan Area	16.3	15.9	16.7	20.4	16.9

- Day users are more likely than the other types of hikers to currently live in a small city (32.4%) or medium city (20.6%).

(QF9) by Region

	New England	Mid- Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
On a Farm or Ranch	2.2	4.1	4.2	3.4	4.5	3.4
Rural or Small Town	12.3	13.2	6.7	11.8	13.5	11.6
Town	27.5	22.2	13.7	10.1	17.3	20.2
Small City	32.7	21.8	41.2	21.5	26.6	30.0
Medium City	13.8	14.7	27.5	21.1	17.6	18.0
Major City or Metropolitan Area	11.5	24.1	6.7	32.1	20.4	16.8

- Hikers in Southwest Virginia are most likely to live in a small city (41.2%) or a medium city (27.5%).
- Nearly one third of hikers in the Deep South live in a major city, while only 6.7% of hikers from Southwest Virginia live in a major city.

10. What is your marital status?

___ Married ___ Single ___ Divorced ___ Widowed

(QF10)

	Users (Non-Thru Hikers)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Married	748	51.3	96	33.0
Single	561	38.5	168	57.7
Divorced	135	9.3	27	9.3
Widowed	14	1.0	0	0.0

N=1458; 291

- About half (51.3%) of non-thru hikers are married compared to one-third (33.0%) of thru hikers.
- Nearly 10% of both non-thru hikers and thru hikers are divorced.

(QF10) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Married	50.2	49.5	56.6	33.0	48.1
Single	40.2	40.8	30.6	57.7	41.8
Divorced	8.5	9.4	11.3	9.3	9.3
Widowed	1.1	0.4	1.5	0.0	0.7

- About half of all hiker types except thru hikers are married.
- Only a small percentage of all types of hikers are divorced (9.3%) or widowed (0.7%).
- Thru hikers are most likely to be single (57.7%).

(QF10) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Married	51.1	50.7	47.6	57.4	33.0	48.3
Single	38.3	39.2	43.5	31.5	57.7	41.7
Divorced	9.3	9.3	8.6	9.8	9.3	9.3
Widowed	1.2	0.7	0.3	1.3	0.0	0.8

- Marital status does not vary substantially by region.

11. How many children reside in your household? _____

(QF11)

	Users (Non-Thru Hikers)		Thru Hikers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0	915	66.7	216	87.1
1	139	10.1	14	5.6
2	214	15.6	11	4.4
3	76	5.5	5	2.0
4	21	1.5	1	0.4
5	4	0.3	1	0.4
6	1	0.1	0	0.0
7	1	0.1	0	0.0
8	1	0.1	0	0.0

N= 1372; 248

- Most thru hikers (87.1%) have no children.
- Two-thirds of non-thru hikers (66.7%) have no children.

(QF11) by Type of Hiker

	Day user	Overnight	Section hiker	Thru hiker	Total
Mean	0.6	0.8	0.5	0.2	0.6

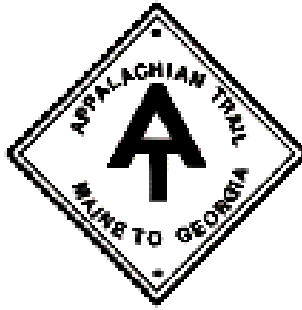
- There is little difference in the number of children in the household for different types of non-thru hikers.

(QF11) by Region

	New England	Mid-Atlantic	Southwest Virginia	Deep South	Thru Hikers	Total
Mean	0.8	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.2	0.6

- The average number of children per household (approximately 1 child) is relatively consistent across the geographic regions of the trail.

APPENDIX A:
Study Questionnaire
and Cover Letters



Appalachian Trail Visitor Survey - 1999

Part A: Trip Description. The following questions pertain to your recent trip on the Appalachian Trail, when you were contacted and agreed to participate in our visitor survey.

1. On this particular trip, were you a [check one]:
 day user (on the trail for one day only)
 overnight user/backpacker (out for more than one day)
 through hiker (hiking the length of the trail in one calendar year)
 section hiker (hiking sections of the Appalachian Trail with the intent of hiking the entire trail over an extended period of time)

2. How long was your trip? _____ # of days on trail _____ # of miles hiked

3. Including yourself, how many people were in your group? _____

4. Which of the following best describes the composition of your group? [check one]
 Alone Family Friends Family & friends Organized group (club or other organization)
 Commercial group (group of people who paid a fee to participate in this trip)
 Other [please specify] _____

5. Did you pay any type of fee (trip fee, membership fee, etc.) to participate in this trip/hike? [check one]
 Yes No

6a. Please look at the following list of activities and tell us which activities you and your group did during this trip on the Appalachian Trail. [Check all that apply]

PARTICIPATED (✓)	ACTIVITY	PARTICIPATED (✓)	ACTIVITY
	Day Hiking/Walking		Hunting
	Backpacking		Fishing
	Camping		Photography
	Viewing Scenery		Nature Study
	Picnicking		Jogging/Trail Running
	Horseback Riding		Other (please list _____)

6b. From the above list of activities, which was your group's primary activity? _____

7. Overall, which of the following best describes the section of the Appalachian Trail that you visited? [check one]
 wilderness – a place generally unaffected by the presence of people, providing outstanding opportunities for solitude and self-reliance.
 semi-wilderness – the kind of place where complete solitude is not expected, but the environment appears mostly unaffected by people
 undeveloped recreation area – the kind of place where a natural setting is provided but seeing other people is part of the experience.

Part B: User Preparedness. The following questions will help us to understand what types of information you are interested in and the best ways to provide that information to you.

1. Have you ever contacted any organization for information about the Appalachian Trail?

No Yes

a. If yes, what organization(s) did you contact? _____

b. How did you contact them?

letter phone personal visit Internet other [please specify]

c. What type of information did you receive? _____

d. Was the information you received adequate in helping you plan your trip to your satisfaction?

Yes No

e. Did you purchase any information? Yes No

2. Where would you most likely go to obtain each of the following types of information about the Appalachian Trail? [If you are not interested in a particular type of information please check the "Not Interested" column.]

Not Interested	Type of Information	If interested, where: [check each applicable column]									
		Sporting Goods Stores	Newspapers	Books & Magazines	Brochures	Trailhead Signs	Ranger Or Volunteer	Visitor Center/ Ranger Station	The Internet	Audio or video tapes	Trail clubs/ organizations
	Map of location of trails and features										
	Rules and regulations for the area										
	Tips on A.T. hiking and camping										
	Types of plants and animals in the area										
	Hunting or fishing in the area										
	Trail safety										
	Trail history and philosophy										
	General forest and park information										
	Low impact camping										
	Volunteer opportunities										
	Places similar to this area										
	Other, please describe:										

3. How did you first learn about the Appalachian Trail?

4. How would you rate your knowledge of minimum impact/leave-no-trace outdoor skills and practices? [Circle One]

Never heard of it Novice Intermediate Advanced Expert

5. The following statements pertain to minimum impact practices and backcountry behavior. Please indicate whether you believe the following statements are true or false.

-
- a) True False When selecting a campsite in obviously impacted areas you should spread activities to places that have not been disturbed.
 - b) True False The same rules and regulations apply to the entire Appalachian Trail.
 - c) True False When hiking and encountering a horse party you should wait until the horses have come to a stop and then move quickly past them.
 - d) True False I cannot ride my mountain bike on the Appalachian Trail, because it is not allowed.
 - e) True False While backpacking, you should never camp next to a stream.
 - f) True False If I wanted to ride my All Terrain Vehicle on the A.T. I could do so as long as I stay on the trail.
 - g) True False When hiking in remote, lightly used locations it is best to camp on a site with no evidence of previous use to minimize your impact on the wilderness environment.
 - h) True False Building temporary fire rings by moving rocks and logs at your campsite is an accepted low-impact behavior.
 - i) True False When traveling on existing trails it is best to walk single file and stay on the main path to minimize impact.
 - j) True False Hikers should not collect plants and rocks along the Appalachian Trail
-

6. According to accepted minimum impact practices for the Appalachian Trail,

- a. How far from a stream or water source (in feet) should you dispose of human wastes? _____ Feet
- b. How far from an established trail (in feet) should you camp? _____ Feet

7. We are trying to determine visitors' perceptions of security on the Appalachian Trail. "Security" refers to feeling free from being threatened or attacked by other people on the trail.

a. On this trip, how secure did you feel:

while you were out on the A.T.	Very Secure	Reasonably Secure	Somewhat Insecure	Very Insecure
while leaving the A.T. (e.g. to go to town)	Very Secure	Reasonably Secure	Somewhat Insecure	Very Insecure

b. On this trip, how satisfied were you with:

The level of security at trailheads and parking lots along the AT	Very Satisfied	Reasonably Satisfied	Somewhat Unsatisfied	Very Unsatisfied
The level of assistance from rangers, ridge runners, and volunteers along the AT	Very Satisfied	Reasonably Satisfied	Somewhat Unsatisfied	Very Unsatisfied

c. Have you encountered a security problem along the trail during the past 12 months? Yes No

If yes, did the incident involve a personal threat or attack against you? Yes No

Did the incident involve vandalism or theft of your personal property? Yes No

Was the incident reported to law enforcement authorities? Yes No

Please describe the incident.

d. Have you encountered a security problem at a trailhead or parking lot or within a few miles of the trail during the past 12 months?

Yes No

If yes, did the incident involve a personal threat or attack against you? Yes No

Did the incident involve vandalism or theft of your personal property? Yes No

Was the incident reported to law enforcement authorities? Yes No

Please describe the incident.

8. Are you aware of the Appalachian Trail Conference's Hiker Security Guidelines? Yes No

9. When traveling on the Appalachian Trail, do you ever intentionally hike or camp near other people for reasons of safety or personal security?

No

Yes. Please explain _____

Part C: The Visitor Experience

1. People have many potential reasons for hiking. We would like to know what motivated you to hike on the Appalachian Trail on the trip when you were contacted for this study. Please indicate (1) how important each of the experiences listed below was to you as a reason to hike, and (2) the extent to which you attained each of these experiences on your hike. [Please circle one number under IMPORTANCE and one number under ATTAINED for each experience]

	IMPORTANCE					ATTAINED				
	Not at all Important				Extremely Important	Not at all Attained				Highly Attained
a. To be on my own	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
b. To take risks	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
c. To use my equipment	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
d. To do something with my family	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
e. To be with members of my group	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
f. To meet new people	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
g. To learn about the countryside	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
h. To enjoy the view along the trail	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
i. To think about my personal values	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
j. To be close to nature	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
k. To be creative by doing something such as sketching, painting, taking photographs	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
l. To bring back pleasant memories of a prior visit	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
m. To get exercise	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
n. To relax physically	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
o. To help reduce built-up tension	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
p. To experience solitude	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
q. To be away from the family for a while	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
r. To share my skill and knowledge with others	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
s. To reach a specific destination (e.g. mountain summit or lake)	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
t. To show others I can do it	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
u. To test my endurance	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
v. To experience a hike on the Appalachian Trail	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5

2. How much of a problem do you think the following issues are on the Appalachian Trail?

[Please circle one number for each item]

	EXTENT OF PROBELM			
	Not a Problem	A Small Problem	A Big Problem	Don't Know/No Opinton
a. Trail poorly maintained	0	1	2	3
b. Trail poorly marked (difficult to find your way)	0	1	2	3
c. Trail too developed	0	1	2	3
d. Litter on the trail	0	1	2	3
e. Damage to soil and vegetation	0	1	2	3
f. Vandalism/graffiti	0	1	2	3
g. Too many other hikers	0	1	2	3
h. Groups encountered were too large	0	1	2	3
i. Some hikers were inconsiderate	0	1	2	3
j. Too many places congested with people	0	1	2	3
k. Not enough people on the trail	0	1	2	3
l. Too many rules and regulations	0	1	2	3
m. Regulations not adequately publicized	0	1	2	3
n. Not enough information available to hikers	0	1	2	3
o. Not enough information available on how to prepare for a safe hike	0	1	2	3
p. Not enough restrooms/outhouses along the trail	0	1	2	3
q. Not enough water available along the trail	0	1	2	3
r. Clearing of vegetation	0	1	2	3
s. Condition of shelters	0	1	2	3
t. Lack of overnight food storage facilities	0	1	2	3
u. Too many facilities along the trail	0	1	2	3
v. Not enough parking at the trailhead	0	1	2	3
w. Lack of public transportation between trailheads	0	1	2	3
x. Too many rangers/management staff on the trail	0	1	2	3
y. Too few rangers/management staff on the trail	0	1	2	3
z. Too many overnight shelters/camping areas	0	1	2	3
aa. Too few overnight shelters/camping areas	0	1	2	3
bb. Shelters/campsites too crowded	0	1	2	3
cc. Traffic noise from nearby roads	0	1	2	3
dd. Development that can be seen from the trail	0	1	2	3
ee. Dogs off leash	0	1	2	3
ff. Trail erosion	0	1	2	3
gg. Too many dogs	0	1	2	3
hh. Too many "social trails" or "informal trails"	0	1	2	3
ii. Conflict between different type of visitors	0	1	2	3
jj. Evidence of human waste (e.g. toilet paper, feces, etc.)	0	1	2	3
kk. Noisy/rowdy people	0	1	2	3
ll. Evidence of too many campers (fire rings, etc.)	0	1	2	3
mm. Feeling of being unsafe/insecure	0	1	2	3
nn. Campsites too heavily impacted	0	1	2	3
oo. Problems with bears	0	1	2	3
pp. Problems with rodents at shelters/campsites	0	1	2	3
qq. Theft of personal property	0	1	2	3
rr. Lack of privacy at shelters/campsites	0	1	2	3

3. What did you enjoy most about your trip on the Appalachian Trail?

4. What did you enjoy least about your trip on the Appalachian Trail?

5. If you could ask managers to improve some things about the way people experience the Appalachian Trail, what would you ask them to do?

6. People can experience a variety of conditions on the Appalachian Trail. We would like to know how the following types of conditions might affect your hiking experience. Please indicate the extent to which each item would negatively or positively affect the quality of your experience on the Appalachian Trail. [Please circle one number for each item. Remember, these are hypothetical conditions and we would like to know how you would feel if you encountered them]

CONDITION ENCOUNTERED	EFFECT ON EXPERIENCE				
	Extremely Negative	Negative	Neutral	Positive	Extremely Positive
a. You hear aircraft while hiking	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
b. You encounter inconsiderate people	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
c. You rarely see other people along the trail	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
d. You frequently socialize with members of your group	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
e. You do not learn about the natural/cultural history of the area	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
f. You rarely see wildlife	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
g. You rarely hear wildlife while hiking	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
h. You rarely see litter along the trail	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
i. You rarely see soil and vegetation damage along the trail	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
j. You frequently see litter along the trail	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
k. You see wildlife frequently	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
l. You rarely encounter inconsiderate people	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
m. You frequently see other people along the trail	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
n. You rarely socialize with members of your group	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
o. You learn about the natural/cultural history of the area	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
p. You run short of food or water	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
q. You do not wear the proper clothing	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
r. You see soil and vegetation damage along the trail	-2	-1	0	+1	+2

7a. Approximately how many people (excluding members of your own group) did you see along the Appalachian Trail on the day you were contacted for this study?

Number of people: _____ ÿ Can't remember

7b. How acceptable was the number of people you saw along the Appalachian Trail that day? [Circle one number]

Very Unacceptable Very Acceptable

-4 -3 -2 -1 0 +1 +2 +3 +4

7c. Was the number of people you saw along the trail more or less than you expected to see? [Circle one number]

1	Much more than I expected
2	More than I expected
3	About the number I expected
4	Less than I expected
5	Much less than I expected
6	I didn't know what to expect

7d. Was the number of people you saw along the trail more or less than you preferred? [Circle one number]

1	Much more than I preferred
2	More than I preferred
3	About the number I preferred
4	Less than I preferred
5	Much less than I preferred
6	No opinion

7e. How crowded did you feel on the Appalachian Trail on that day? [Circle one number]

Not at all Crowded Slightly Crowded Moderately Crowded Extremely Crowded

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

7f. What is the highest number of people per day you think would be acceptable to meet along this section of the Appalachian Trail?

Maximum number of people acceptable: _____

7g. What is the maximum number of people per day you would prefer to meet along this section of the Appalachian Trail?

Maximum number of people preferred: _____

7h. What is the maximum number of people per day you could tolerate meeting along this section of the Appalachian Trail before you would no longer hike this section of the trail?

Maximum number of people tolerable: _____

7i. What is the maximum number of people per day you think you should see along this section of the Appalachian Trail before managers start to limit use? In other words, at what point should the managers of the Appalachian Trail begin to restrict public use? (If you feel that public use should not be limited or restricted, you may check the box indicated.)

Maximum number of people allowed: _____

Or

Public use of the Appalachian Trail should not be limited.

7j. Approximately how many miles did you hike on the Appalachian Trail on the day you were contacted for this study?

Number of miles: _____ ÿ Can't remember

8. [This question is for overnight hikers only. Please think back about your camping location on the day you were contacted for this survey when answering these questions. Day hikers should skip to question 9]

a. On the day you were contacted for this study, what type of camping/overnight facility did you use? [check one]

- Hut (skip to question 9 on next page)
- Shelter
- Camping area around a shelter
- Designated camping area or tent site
- At large camping (undesignated campsites)

b. Approximately how many parties of campers were camped within sight and sound of you on the day you were contacted for this study?

Number of parties: _____ ÿ Can't remember

c. How acceptable was the number of parties camped within sight and sound of you on that day? [Circle one number]

Very Unacceptable									Very Acceptable
-4	-3	-2	-1	0	+1	+2	+3	+4	

d. Was the number of parties camped within sight and sound of you more or less than you expected? [Circle one number]

1	Much more than I expected
2	More than I expected
3	About the number I expected
4	Less than I expected
5	Much less than I expected
6	I didn't know what to expect

e. Was the number of parties camped within sight and sound of you more or less than you preferred? [Circle one number]

1	Much more than I preferred
2	More than I preferred
3	About the number I preferred
4	Less than I preferred
5	Much less than I preferred
6	No opinion

f. How crowded did you feel in camp that night? [Circle one number]

Not at all Crowded	Slightly Crowded				Moderately Crowded			Extremely Crowded	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	

g. What is the highest number of parties of people that would be acceptable to camp within sight and sound of where you camped?

Maximum number of parties acceptable: _____

h. What is the maximum number of parties of people you would prefer to camp within sight and sound of where you camped?

Maximum number of parties preferred: _____

i. What is the maximum number of parties of people you could tolerate camping within sight and sound of where you camped before you would no longer camp in this section of the trail?

Maximum number of parties tolerable: _____

- j. What is the maximum number of parties of people that you think should camp within sight and sound of where you camped before managers start to limit use? In other words, at what point should managers of the Appalachian Trail begin to restrict public use? (If you feel that public use should not be limited or restricted, you may check the box indicated.)

Maximum number of parties allowed: _____

Or

Public use of the Appalachian Trail should not be limited.

9. Listed below are a number of management actions that might be applied to the Appalachian Trail. Please indicate the extent to which you would support or oppose each management action as it would apply to the section of the Appalachian Trail you hiked on the day you were contacted for this study. [Circle one number for each management action]

	LEVEL OF OPPOSITION/SUPPORT				
	Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Neither Oppose Nor Support	Support	Strongly Support
a. Provide more information to hikers about appropriate use of the trail	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
b. Provide more signs along the trail about appropriate use	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
c. Limit the number of people allowed to use the trail	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
d. Require all hikers to have minimum supplies and equipment (e.g., adequate water, appropriate shoes/boots)	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
e. Charge a fee to help pay for trail maintenance and hiker education	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
f. Put more rangers along the trail to educate hikers about appropriate use and safety	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
g. Put more rangers along the trail to enforce rules and regulations	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
h. Require dogs to be on a leash	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
i. Prohibit dogs	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
j. Restrict horse use to certain sections of the trail	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
k. Prohibit horses	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
l. Prohibit campfires except at shelters	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
m. Prohibit all campfires	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
n. Require a permit for overnight use	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
o. Restrict group size	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
p. Restrict use of the trail by commercial groups	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
q. Restrict development of cell phone towers and similar structures	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
r. Provide primitive toilets at shelters and popular campsites	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
s. Provide primitive toilets at popular day use sites	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
t. Require campers to use shelters or designated campsites	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
u. Prohibit use of radios and cell phones	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
v. Provide wooden bridges over streams	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
w. Clear selected vegetation to improve views from the trail	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
x. Provide fire grates at campsites	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
y. Provide log tables at shelters	-2	-1	0	+1	+2

10. Do you think that commercial uses of the Appalachian Trail should be allowed? “Commercial uses” are defined as groups whose members pay a fee to participate in the trip. [check one]

- ___ Yes, commercial uses should be allowed
 ___ No, commercial uses should not be allowed
 ___ No opinion

11. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.
 [Circle one number for each statement]

	LEVEL OF AGREEMENT				
	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral/ No Opinion	Agree	Strongly Agree
(a) I thoroughly enjoyed my trip on the Appalachian Trail	1	2	3	4	5
(b) I was pleased by the job being done by managers of the trail	1	2	3	4	5
(c) There is not enough parking at trailheads	1	2	3	4	5
(d) My use of the Appalachian Trail has not changed much	1	2	3	4	5
(e) I cannot imagine a better trip than the one I took on the Appalachian Trail	1	2	3	4	5
(f) I thought the trail and its surroundings were in good condition	1	2	3	4	5
(g) Information about the Appalachian Trail is hard to find	1	2	3	4	5
(h) I use the Appalachian Trail more in the off-season to avoid crowding	1	2	3	4	5
(i) My trip on the Appalachian Trail was well worth the money I spent on it	1	2	3	4	5
(j) I use the Appalachian Trail more during the early and/or later times of the day to avoid crowding	1	2	3	4	5
(k) I use the Appalachian Trail less now because of crowding	1	2	3	4	5
(l) There is not enough information provided at trailheads	1	2	3	4	5
(m) The number of people on the trail was about right	1	2	3	4	5
(n) I was disappointed with some aspects of my trip on the Appalachian Trail	1	2	3	4	5
(o) I use the Appalachian Trail more on weekdays than weekends to avoid crowding	1	2	3	4	5
(p) I do not want to have any more trips like that trip on the Appalachian Trail	1	2	3	4	5
(q) I use the Appalachian Trail more now than I used to	1	2	3	4	5
(r) I use a different section of the Appalachian Trail to avoid crowding	1	2	3	4	5

12. We would like to know how satisfied you were with your hike on the Appalachian Trail on the trip when you were contacted for our study. On a scale of 1-10, with 10 being most satisfied, how satisfied were you with this trip on the Appalachian Trail? _____

Part D: Visitor Expenditures

1a. Which of the following best describes how you handled your expenses for your trip along the Appalachian Trail?

_____ I paid all my expenses and the expenses of _____ other people. (Please indicate the number of people). (*In part 1b below, please report all of these expenses*).

_____ I paid all my own expenses. (*Please report your expenses in part 1b*).

_____ I shared expenses. (*In part 1b, please indicate your personal expenses & your portion of the shared expenses*).

_____ Someone else paid my expenses. (*Please go to question 2 below*).

1b. In the spaces provided, please list your estimated expenses for your trip along the Appalachian Trail. For each type of expense, please indicate the amount you spent (a) in preparation for your trip before leaving home, (b) during your trip in communities along the Appalachian Trail and (c) on the trail itself.

Type of Expense	Where Expenditures Were Made		
	At Home or in your Home Community	In Communities along the Appalachian Trail	On the Trail
Restaurant (including fast food, sit down, etc.)			
Packaged food and beverages			
Personal items (film, souvenirs, etc.)			
Equipment for your trip (boots, camping equipment, etc.)			
Lodging expenses:			
Hotel/motel (including backcountry lodges)			
Camping or shelter fees			
Other			
Auto Expenses:			
Gas and oil			
Repairs/service			
Parking and tolls			
Permit or user fees			
Guide or outfitter fees			
Fees at other attractions/entertainment			
All other expenses for this trip (please specify)			

2. About how many miles (one-way) do you live from the Appalachian Trail?

_____ one-way distance to nearest point on Appalachian Trail

_____ one-way distance to section you hiked on the day you were contacted for this survey

Part E: Previous Experience and Involvement

1a. Was this your first time on the Appalachian Trail? [check one]

_____ Yes [If yes, skip to question 2] _____ No

1b. About how many days have you spent on the A.T. in the last 12 months? _____days

1c. In what year did you make your first visit to the A.T.? _____year

1d. Do you prefer a particular time to hike along the Appalachian Trail? _____Yes _____No

If yes, when? (e.g., season, month, day of the week, time of day, etc.) _____

2. Which of the following was the most important reason for your visit to the Appalachian Trail? [check only one]

- ___ I went there because I enjoy the place itself
- ___ I went there because it's a good place to do the outdoor activities I enjoy
- ___ I went there because I wanted to spend more time with my companions
- ___ I went there because it was the Appalachian Trail

3. For this trail trip, how important was it to you that the trail was part of the Appalachian Trail [circle one number]

Not at all Important Extremely Important

1 2 3 4 5

4. In a typical year, how often do you hike;

	Per week	Per month	Total miles hiked per year
(a) Along the Appalachian Trail			
(b) Other trails			

5. How many days long was the longest backcountry trip you have ever taken? _____ days

6. Do you belong to any hiking/outdoor clubs? _____Yes _____No

7. Do you belong to any trail maintenance organizations? _____Yes _____No

8. Do you subscribe to any hiking/outdoor magazines? _____Yes _____No

9. Please rate your level of backcountry experience on the following scale [circle one number]

Novice Expert

1 2 3 4 5

10a. Have you volunteered for any trail maintenance or management activities in the past 12 months?

___Yes ___No

10b. If yes, what are they? _____

11. The following statements relate to your involvement in hiking. The statements sound similar to each other, so please read each one carefully and respond to each one as honestly as you can.

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Disagree Nor Agree	Agree	Strongly Agree
a. I have little or no interest in hiking	1	2	3	4	5
b. Hiking says a lot about who I am	1	2	3	4	5
c. You can tell a lot about a person by seeing them hiking	1	2	3	4	5
d. Hiking is very important to me	1	2	3	4	5
e. Hiking offers me relaxation when pressures build up	1	2	3	4	5
f. Participating in hiking is one of the most satisfying things I do	1	2	3	4	5
g. When I participate in hiking I can really be myself	1	2	3	4	5
h. I find that a lot of my life is organized around hiking	1	2	3	4	5
i. Hiking has a central role in my life	1	2	3	4	5
j. Participating in hiking is one of the most enjoyable things I do	1	2	3	4	5
k. I enjoy discussing hiking with my friends	1	2	3	4	5
l. When I participate in hiking others see me the way I want them to see me	1	2	3	4	5
m. I find that a lot of my life is organized around hiking activities	1	2	3	4	5
n. I don't really know much about hiking	1	2	3	4	5
o. The decision to go hiking was not entirely my own	1	2	3	4	5
p. I consider myself to be an educated consumer regarding hiking	1	2	3	4	5
q. Hiking interests me	1	2	3	4	5
r. I am knowledgeable about hiking	1	2	3	4	5
s. The decision to go hiking was primarily my own	1	2	3	4	5
t. Hiking is pleasurable	1	2	3	4	5
u. Even if close friends recommended another recreational activity, I would not change my preference for hiking	1	2	3	4	5
v. Most of my friends are in some way connected with hiking	1	2	3	4	5
w. To change my preference from hiking to another leisure activity would require major rethinking	1	2	3	4	5
x. I really enjoy hiking	1	2	3	4	5

12. Please specify your estimated total investment on hiking equipment to date. [Circle the appropriate amount]

\$0 \$1-\$99 \$100-\$499 \$500-\$999
 \$1000-\$1499 \$1500-\$1999 \$2000-\$4999 More than \$5000

13. About how much did you spend on all expenses relating to hiking in the last 12 months? [Circle the appropriate amount]

\$0 \$1-\$99 \$100-\$499 \$500-\$999
 \$1000-\$1499 \$1500-\$1999 \$2000-\$4999 More than \$5000

14. Below is a list of statements that address your feelings about the Appalachian Trail. Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the statements listed below.

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Disagree Nor Agree	Agree	Strongly Agree
a. This trail means a lot to me	1	2	3	4	5
b. I enjoy hiking along the Appalachian Trail more than any other trail	1	2	3	4	5
c. I am very attached to the Appalachian Trail	1	2	3	4	5
d. I get more satisfaction out of visiting this trail than from visiting any other trail	1	2	3	4	5
e. I identify strongly with this trail	1	2	3	4	5
f. Hiking here is more important than hiking in any other place	1	2	3	4	5
g. I feel no commitment to this trail	1	2	3	4	5
h. I wouldn't substitute any other trail for the type of recreation I do here	1	2	3	4	5
i. I have a lot of fond memories about the Appalachian Trail	1	2	3	4	5
j. I know the Appalachian Trail better than the people who manage it	1	2	3	4	5
k. People should be free to do whatever they want along the Appalachian Trail	1	2	3	4	5
l. I have a special connection to the Appalachian Trail and the people who hike along it	1	2	3	4	5
m. Managers need to restrict use along the Appalachian Trail	1	2	3	4	5
n. I treat the Appalachian Trail better than most people who hike along it	1	2	3	4	5
o. Everyone should be able to hike along the Appalachian Trail	1	2	3	4	5
p. The Appalachian trail means more to me than any other trail I can think of	1	2	3	4	5
q. I don't tell many people about this trail	1	2	3	4	5
r. For me, lots of other trails could substitute for the Appalachian Trail	1	2	3	4	5
s. I will (or do) bring my children to this place	1	2	3	4	5
t. People who have used this place longest should have priority using it	1	2	3	4	5

PART F: Background Information. The information in this section will help us to better understand who is using the Appalachian Trail. The results will be reported only as overall averages.

1. What is your gender? Female Male
2. What is your age? Years
3. What is the highest level of education you have completed? [Check one of the following]

<input type="checkbox"/> 8th grade or less	<input type="checkbox"/> college graduate
<input type="checkbox"/> some high school	<input type="checkbox"/> some graduate school
<input type="checkbox"/> high school graduate or GED	<input type="checkbox"/> masters, doctoral, or professional degree
<input type="checkbox"/> business school, trade school, some college	

4. Are you presently:

- Employed outside the home → full time part time → Occupation: _____
 Unemployed
 Retired → Previous occupation: _____
 Full-time homemaker
 Student → full time part time

5. How many weeks of vacation did you take last year? _____ Weeks

6. What was your total household income (before taxes) in 1998? [Check one of the following]

- less than \$20,000 \$40,000 to \$59,999 \$80,000 to \$99,999
 \$20,000 to \$39,999 \$60,000 to \$79,999 \$100,000 or more

7. In what race or ethnic group would you place yourself?

- Ethnicity (Select one):* Hispanic or Latino Not Hispanic or Latino
Race (Select one or more): Black or African American Asian American
 White American Indian or Alaskan Native Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander

8. In which of the following kinds of places did you spend the most time while growing up (to age 18)? [Please mark only one]

- On A Farm Or Ranch
 Rural Or Small Town (Under 1,000 Population)
 Town (1,000 - 5,000 Population)
 Small City (5,000 - 50,000 Population)
 Medium City (50,000 - 1 Million Population)
 In A Major City Or Metropolitan Area (Over One Million People)

9. In which of the following kinds of places do you live now? [Please mark only one]

- On A Farm Or Ranch
 Rural Or Small Town (Under 1,000 Population)
 Town (1,000 - 5,000 Population)
 Small City (5,000 - 50,000 Population)
 Medium City (50,000 - 1 Million Population)
 In A Major City Or Metropolitan Area (Over One Million People)

10. What is your marital status?

- Married Single Divorced Widowed

11. How many children reside in your household? _____

Thank you for your assistance. Please use the postage paid reply envelope to return your completed survey.

PRIVACY ACT and PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT statement: 16 U.S.C. 1a-7 authorizes collection of this information. This information will be used by park managers to better serve the public. Response to this request is voluntary. No action may be taken against you for refusing to supply the information requested. Your name is requested for follow-up mailing purposes only. When analysis of the questionnaire is completed, all name and address files will be destroyed. Thus the permanent data will be anonymous. Please do not put your name or that of any member of your group on the questionnaire. Data collected through visitor surveys may be disclosed to the Department of Justice when relevant to litigation or anticipated litigation, or to appropriate Federal, State, local or foreign agencies responsible for investigating or prosecuting a violation of law. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Burden estimate statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 35 minutes per response. Direct comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this form to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs of OMB, Attention Desk Officer for the Interior Department, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, D.C. 20503; and to the Information Collection Clearance Officer, Audits and Accountability Team, National Park Service, 1849 C Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20240.



Dear Appalachian Trail Visitor:

We are writing you regarding your recent visit to the Appalachian Trail. You were contacted along the Trail and kindly agreed to participate in a study we are conducting. As a reminder, you were contacted on _____ at _____. We are planning for the future of the Appalachian Trail and we would like to obtain some information from visitors to the Trail.

You are one of a small number of visitors who has been selected at random along the Trail. As a visitor, we would like you to complete the questions contained in the enclosed booklet and return the booklet to us. A self-addressed, postpaid envelope has been provided. To control the costs of the study, we are asking only a small number of visitors to participate. Thus, it is important that each questionnaire be completed and returned.

You may be assured of complete confidentiality. The question booklet has an identification number for mailing purposes only. This is so we may check your name off the mailing list when your questionnaire is returned. Your name will never be placed on the questionnaire or otherwise associated with it. Experience shows that it takes about 30 minutes to complete the questions. We hope you will agree this is a worthy investment of your time. We also hope you might find some of the questions interesting.

This research has been planned and conducted in cooperation with the University of Vermont and Penn State University. These universities will compile and report results to the National Park Service and the Appalachian Trail Conference so this information can be used directly in Trail planning and management.

Again, thank you for your assistance.

Pam Underhill, Park Manager
Appalachian National Scenic Trail

David Startzel, Executive Director
Appalachian Trail Conference



Dear Appalachian Trail Visitor:

A few weeks ago you were sent a questionnaire regarding your recent visit to the Appalachian Trail. As of today your questionnaire has not been returned. We are sending you another questionnaire in case the first one has been lost or misplaced. We sincerely hope you might find time to complete this questionnaire at your earliest convenience and return it to us.

As we explained in our first letter, we are planning for the future of the Appalachian Trail. We feel that information from visitors like you is vital to this planning process. We have chosen only a small number of visitors to participate in this survey, thus it is important that each questionnaire be completed and returned. The questionnaire asks about your use of the Appalachian Trail and your opinions about some management issues.

If you recently returned the first questionnaire, and it has simply “crossed in the mail” with this letter, you may ignore the enclosed questionnaire and please accept our gratitude. If you did not complete the first questionnaire, please take the time necessary to complete the enclosed copy and return it to us in the enclosed self-addressed, stamped envelope.

As a reminder, you were contacted on _____ at _____.

Again, thank you for your assistance.

Pam Underhill, Park Manager
Appalachian National Scenic Trail

David Startzel, Executive Director
Appalachian Trail Conference

Dear Appalachian Trail Visitor:

Last week you were mailed a questionnaire concerning your recent trip on the Appalachian Trail. If you have completed this questionnaire and returned it, we would like to thank you for your cooperation. If you have not had an opportunity to complete the questionnaire, please do so at your earliest convenience. Your response to these questions are important in helping to determine how the Appalachian Trail should be managed.

Thank you,

Pam Underhill, Park Manager
Appalachian National Scenic Trail

David Startzel, Executive Director
Appalachian Trail Conference

APPENDIX B:
Sampling Plan

Appalachian Trail Visitor Survey - 1999

Overall Study Objectives

- The survey will help the Appalachian Trail's managing agencies (ATC, NPS, USFS, and Trail Maintaining Clubs) to better understand the quality of visitors' experience and develop future management plans and education initiatives. Survey topics include user characteristics, participation patterns, user preparedness and experience levels, perceptions of crowding and visitor use, acceptance of future regulation along the trail, and general knowledge about the Appalachian Trail and its management.

Overall Sampling Design

- The sample should represent all users of the AT (hikers/walkers, campers, picnickers, anglers, etc.) who are at least 18 years old.

Guidelines for Field Personnel (Staff/Volunteers)

- The actual sampling plan will vary for different sections of the trail. In general, each field person will be assigned a certain "quota" of names and addresses to collect each week (refer to the instructions detailed in the sampling plan (matrix) for your region).
- Selection of subjects should be aimed at gathering information from a random (i.e. representative) sample of users. It will be up to the discretion of the interviewers to obtain a variety of trail users according to the detailed instructions for their trail segment. Selection of subjects should include the following criteria:
 - Varying user groups (hikers, picnickers, campers, etc.)
 - Varying group sizes (small through large)
 - Varying age and gender
 - Varying time of day
- In most areas, it will be helpful to determine a sampling interval and select every "nth" user encountered (e.g. every fourth user, every tenth user, etc.). The interval used may vary widely depending on the sampling quota and use level of each trail segment (it may vary even within a trail segment or between weekends and weekdays). Field personnel will need to develop their own sampling intervals in the early stages of the survey through trial and error.
- The interviewer should approach each selected subject and, at an appropriate point in their interaction with the subject, should introduce the study with the following statement:

Example: *Hello, I am (name and affiliation). We are conducting a survey of Appalachian Trail users and would appreciate your input. We would like to send you a survey upon your return home from your hike. Would you be willing to give us your name and address so we can mail you a survey to complete at your convenience. You will not be placed on any commercial mailing lists and the information you give will be kept strictly confidential. Your input will assist us to better serve users of the Appalachian Trail as well as to preserve this valuable resource.*

- Staff/Volunteers will be provided with two types of cards:
 - a. One card for the subject to keep. This card will have the names and contacts of key people involved in the study for the subject to follow-up on should they have further questions.
 - b. Another card will be provided for the subject's name and address that is to be kept by the interviewer and sent to the university researchers on a weekly basis.
- If the subject agrees to participate in the study, the interviewer will ask them to indicate their type of trip on this outing (interviewer should check one of the following on the card provided):
 - Out for the day only*
 - Staying out overnight. **In Addition are you:***
 - Hiking sections of the Appalachian Trail with the intent of hiking the entire trail over an extended period of time, **or***
 - Hiking the entire trail in one season*

- The interviewer should request that the subjects print, legibly, their name and address in the space provided on the address card. Subjects will be encouraged to write their own name and address. It may be helpful for staff/volunteers to carry a small clipboard or pad for backing when writing names and addresses. It is imperative that field staff ensure that all necessary mailing information is printed on the card (e.g., state & zip code) and that the handwriting is legible.
- When the subject has completed writing his or her name and address, the interviewer should collect the address card, thank the respondent, and provide him or her with the follow-up contact card.

Refusals

- Should a subject refuse to offer their name and address:
 1. Thank them and wish them a safe hike.
 2. Complete the card anyway, recording the time, date and location of the visitor contact.
 3. Instead of recording the name and address, note the approximate age & gender of the individual contacted, and the size of their party on the back side of the card.
- Refusals are not counted as a valid survey and should not be included in the sample quotas. Keeping a record of refusals, however, is very important to enable us to calculate response rates and estimate nonresponse bias.

Mailing Completed Survey Cards

- Included in the interviewer package are postage paid envelopes for returning completed survey cards. Interviewers should enclose their completed survey cards (including refusals) within the envelopes provided and place them in the mail on a weekly basis.
- If interviewers are on the trail for extended periods, mailing of survey cards should take place at the earliest opportunity upon leaving the trail. If, however, interviewers' responsibilities along the trail only require them to be on the trail on a daily basis, survey cards should be mailed weekly.

Further Notes

- For caretakers, surveys should not be limited to guests staying at the particular overnight facility. Hikers simply passing through should also be included in sampling conducted at overnight areas.
- When approaching a large party (i.e., group), the interviewer should select *one* member of the group to participate in the study. The individual selected from the group should also be chosen "at random".
- In low use areas, it may be necessary to select all trail users encountered rather than using a sampling interval. In such cases, it may also become necessary to sample multiple individuals within large parties (using an appropriate interval within the party to achieve the sampling quota).
- If a selected trail user has already been contacted previously, do not survey them again. Rather, thank them for their participation and replace them with the next person encountered.
- Thru hikers will be asked to complete the survey at Harpers Ferry (rather than receiving it at their home address). But get their name and address anyway so we can follow-up with them and estimate the proportion of thru hikers in the overall sample.

Questions

If you have any problems or need further information about the study, please contact any of the following individuals:

Rita Hennessy, National Park Service (304) 535-6278
 Dr. Robert Manning, University of Vermont (802) 656-3096
 Dr. Alan Graefe, Penn State University (814) 863-8986
 Gerard Kyle, Penn State University (814) 863-4919

**Sampling Matrix for 1999 Appalachian Trail Visitor Survey
New England**

Summary

Region	# of segments	# of miles
New England	9	732

New England					
Segment Name	Boundaries	Miles	Sub-Sections	Use Pattern	Attractions
Connecticut	To Jug End Rd. & 20 miles into Massachusetts	63			Bear Mountain (heavy use)
Massachusetts	From Jug End Rd to state line	78			Upper Goose Pond Mt. Greylock
Vermont		103	LT/AT (Mass. Border) to Sherburne Pass	Moderate	Stratton Mtn Killington
		43	Sherburne to Rt 12	Low	
NH – South	Pre-White Mtn	53			Mt. Moosilauke
NH – White Mountains	Moosilauke to Androscogin River	95		Heavy	Mt. Washington Presidential Range
NH – Mahoosics	Androscogin River to Grafton Notch	31			Speck Pond
Western Maine	To Monson	149		Light	Piazza Rock Lean-to, Horns Pond Lean-to
100 mile wilderness		102		Light	Gulf Hagas
Baxter State Park		15		Moderate/Heavy	Daicy Pond Kathadin Stream

**Sampling Matrix for 1999 Appalachian Trail Visitor Survey
Mid-Atlantic**

Summary

Region	# of segments	# of miles
Mid-Atlantic	5	590

Mid-Atlantic					
Segment Name	Boundaries	Miles	Sub-Sections	Use Pattern	Attractions
Shenandoah	Rockfish Gap to Harper's Ferry	161	S. Shenandoah (80 miles)	Moderate/Heavy	Blackburn Overnight Center Bear's Den
			N. Shenandoah/N. Virginia (81 miles)		
Maryland		40		Moderate	
Pennsylvania		227	PA/Michaux (38 miles)	Moderate	501 Shelter Eckville
			Cumberland (62 miles)	Moderate	
			N. Cumberland (86 miles)	Light	
			Lehigh (41 miles)	Moderate	
New Jersey		74		Heavy	Sunfish Pond Del. Water Gap
New York		88			Bear Mountain Harriman Park Little Dam Lake

**Sampling Matrix for 1999 Appalachian Trail Visitor Survey
Southwest Virginia**

Summary

Region	# of segments	# of miles
Southwest Virginia	4	385

Southwest Virginia					
Segment Name	Boundaries	Miles	Sub-Sections	Use Pattern	Attractions
Mount Rogers	Damascus, VA to Mt Rogers NRH HQ	64	Mt Rogers (63.8 miles)	Heavy	
Outing Club of Va. Tech	VA Route 16 to VA Route 620 Trout Creek	157.5	Garden Mtn. (9 miles)	Chestnut Knob & Chestnut Ridge - Moderate	
			N. of Garden Mtn. (8 miles)		
			Kimberling Ck. (9 miles)		
			N. of Kimberling (34 miles)		
			Peters Mtn. (19 miles)	Light	
			N. of Peters Mtn (45 miles)		
Catawba	VA 620 to US 220 Daleville	32.5		Heavy	Dragon's Tooth McAfee Knob
Blue Ridge Parkway	US 220 to HWY 64 Rockfish Gap	130.6	N.to 501 (James River) (55 miles) and Hwy 64 (Rockfish Gap) (74 miles)	Moderate/Heavy	The Priest, Three Ridges, Humpback Rocks

Sampling Matrix for 1999 Appalachian Trail Visitor Survey

Deep South

Region	# of segments	# of miles
Deep South	4	451

Deep South					
Segment Name	Boundaries	Miles	Sub-Sections	Use Pattern	Attractions
Georgia	Springer Mountain to Bly Gap	75		Heavy spring use Moderate at Springer Mountain	
NC-Nantahala NF	Bly Gap to Fontana Dam	86			
Smoky Mountains	Fontana Dam to Davenport Gap	70		Heavy use throughout park	Icewater spring shelter
North of Smokies – Pisgah/Cherokee NF	Davenport Gap to Virginia border	215			

Sampling Strategy

Segment Name	Boundaries	Miles	Staff Coverage	Surveys	Sampling Strategy
Connecticut	To Jug End Rd. & 20 miles into Massachusetts	63	3 ridge runners 1 caretaker (rotating positions)	12-15 surveys per week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 3-4 surveys per week per staff person ◆ Evenly dispersed between AM and PM hikers (vary times of sampling throughout the day) ◆ Evenly dispersed throughout region (except for caretaker)
Massachusetts	From Jug End Rd to state line	78	2 state ridge runners (weekends) 1 caretaker (Upper Goose)	12-15 surveys per week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 5-6 surveys per week per ridge runner (evenly dispersed throughout region) ◆ 3 surveys per week by the caretaker (midweek) ◆ Evenly dispersed between AM and PM hikers (vary times of sampling throughout the day)
Vermont		103	1 ridge runner (Coolidge Range) 4 caretakers: Stratton Pond, Little Rock Rd, Stratton Mtn, Giffith Lake	12-15 surveys per week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 3-4 surveys per week by ridge runner (evenly dispersed throughout region) ◆ 2 surveys per week by each caretaker (include day users and overnight users) ◆ Evenly dispersed between AM and PM hikers (vary times of sampling throughout the day)
		43	Volunteers		
NH – South	Pre-White Mtn	53	1 ridge runner	12-15 per week by ridge runner.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Evenly dispersed between AM and PM hikers (vary times of sampling throughout the day) ◆ Evenly dispersed throughout region
NH – White Mountains	Moosilauke to Androscogin River	95	8 huts with staff 9 shelter/tent platforms w/ caretakers	12-18 surveys per week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 2-3 surveys per week at 6 selected facilities ◆ 3 Shelters (Liberty Springs Tentsite, Ethan Pond Shelter, Imp Shelter) ◆ 3 Huts (Lonesome Lake, Mizpah, Madison) ◆ Evenly dispersed between AM/PM, day/overnight, varying times of the day
NH/Maine – Mahoosics	Adroscogin River to Grafton Notch	31	1 ridge runner 1 caretaker (Speck Pond)	12-14 surveys per week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 6-7 surveys per week for ridge runner (evenly dispersed throughout region) ◆ 6-7 surveys per week for caretaker ◆ Evenly dispersed between AM/PM, day/overnight, varying times of the day
Western Maine	To Monson	149	2 caretakers	12-14 surveys per week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 6-7 surveys per week per caretaker. ◆ Evenly dispersed between AM/PM, day/overnight, varying times of the day
100 mile wilderness		102	1 ridge runner	12-15 surveys per week by ridgerunner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Evenly dispersed between AM/PM, day/overnight, varying times of the day

Baxter State Park		15	1 state employee	12-15 surveys per week by state employee	◆ Evenly dispersed between AM/PM, day/overnight, varying times of the day
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Sampling Strategy					
Segment Name	Boundaries	Miles	Staff Coverage	Surveys	Sampling Strategy
Shenandoah	Rockfish Gap to Harper's Ferry	161	2 ridge runners	12-14 per week by ridge runners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Evenly dispersed between AM and PM hikers (vary times of sampling throughout the day) ◆ Evenly dispersed throughout region ◆ 6-7 per week per ridge runner
Maryland		40	1 ridge runner	12-15 per week by ridge runner.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Evenly dispersed between AM and PM hikers (vary times of sampling throughout the day) ◆ Evenly dispersed throughout region
Pennsylvania		227	PA/Michaux (38 miles). 1 ridge runners.	3 per week.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Evenly dispersed between AM and PM hikers (vary times of sampling throughout the day) ◆ Evenly dispersed throughout region
			Cumberland (62 miles). 1 ridge runners.	3 per week.	
			N. Cumberland (86 miles). 2 caretakers.	1 per week per caretaker.	
			Lehigh (41 miles). 1 ridge runners.	3 per week.	
New Jersey		74	2 ridge runners 1 caretaker	12-15 per week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 4-5 per week per ridge runner ◆ 3 per week for caretaker ◆ Evenly dispersed between AM and PM hikers (vary times of sampling throughout the day) ◆ Evenly dispersed throughout region
New York		88	Volunteers	Sampling by volunteers on selected days. Goal of 12-15 surveys per day over 12 days.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 4 volunteer weekends (8 days) ◆ 12-15 per day <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Evenly dispersed between AM and PM hikers (vary times of sampling throughout the day) ◆ 4 volunteer weekdays ◆ 12-15 per day <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Evenly dispersed between AM and PM hikers (vary times of sampling throughout the day) ◆ Focus sampling attractions

Sampling Strategy						
Segment Name	Boundaries	Miles	Staff Coverage	Surveys	Sampling Strategy	
Mount Rogers	Damascus, VA to Mt Rogers NRH HQ	64	Mt Rogers (63.8 miles) 1 ridge runner 1 wildlife ranger	12-14 per week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Evenly dispersed between AM and PM hikers (vary times of sampling throughout the day) ◆ Evenly dispersed throughout region ◆ 6-7 per week for ridge runner ◆ 6-7 per week for wildlife ranger 	
Outing Club of Va. Tech	VA Route 16to VA Route 620 Trout Creek	157.5	Garden Mtn. (9 miles). 1 ridge runner	4 per week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Evenly dispersed between AM and PM hikers (vary times of sampling throughout the day) ◆ Evenly dispersed throughout region 	
			N. of Garden Mtn. (8 miles). Volunteers	A	For sections A, B, & C: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 4 volunteer weekends (8 days) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 12-15 per day <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Evenly dispersed between AM and PM hikers (vary times of sampling throughout the day) ◆ 4 volunteer weekdays <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 12-15 per day <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Evenly dispersed between AM and PM hikers (vary times of sampling throughout the day) 	
			Kimberling Ck. (9 miles). 1 ridge runner.	4 per week		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Evenly dispersed between AM and PM hikers (vary times of sampling throughout the day) ◆ Evenly dispersed throughout region
			N. of Kimberling (34 miles). Volunteers	B		◆ Same as A
			Peters Mtn. (19 miles). 1 ridge runner.	4 per week		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Evenly dispersed between AM and PM hikers (vary times of sampling throughout the day) ◆ Evenly dispersed throughout region
			N. of Peters Mtn (45 miles). Volunteers	C		◆ Same as A
Catawba	VA 620 to US 220 Daleville	32.5	1 ridge runner	12-15 per week by ridge runner.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Evenly dispersed between AM and PM hikers (vary times of sampling throughout the day) ◆ Evenly dispersed throughout region

Blue Ridge Parkway	US 220 to HWY 64 Rockfish Gap	130.6	N.to 501 (James River) (55 miles) and Hwy 64 (Rockfish Gap) (74 miles)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 4 volunteer weekends (8 days) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 12-15 per day <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Evenly dispersed between AM and PM hikers (vary times of sampling throughout the day) ◆ 4 volunteer weekdays <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 12-15 per day <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Evenly dispersed between AM and PM hikers (vary times of sampling throughout the day) ◆ Focus sampling around attractions
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Sampling Strategy

Segment Name	Boundaries	Miles	Staff Coverage	Surveys	Sampling Strategy
Georgia	Springer Mountain to Bly Gap	75	1 ridge runner Most coverage focused on the southern part of region Thursday thru Monday	12-15 per week by ridge runner.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Evenly dispersed between AM and PM hikers (vary times of sampling throughout the day) ◆ 80% of surveys in the southern section: 20% in the northern part
NC-Nantahala NF	Bly Gap to Fontana Dam	86	Volunteers	Sampling by volunteers on selected days. Goal of 8-10 surveys per day over 18 days.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 6 volunteer weekends (12 days) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 8-10 per day ◆ Evenly dispersed between AM and PM hikers (vary times of sampling throughout the day) ◆ 6 volunteer weekdays <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 8-10 per day ◆ Evenly dispersed between AM and PM hikers (vary times of sampling throughout the day)
Smoky Mountains	Fontana Dam to Davenport Gap	70	2 ridge runners 1 caretaker	12-15 per week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 8-10 surveys collected by ridge runners. ◆ 3-5 collected by caretakers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Evenly dispersed between AM and PM hikers (vary times of sampling throughout the day)
North of Smokies – Pisgah/Cherokee NF	Davenport Gap to Virginia border	215	Volunteers	Sampling by volunteers on selected days. Goal of 8-10 surveys per day over 18 days.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 6 volunteer weekends (12 days) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 8-10 per day ◆ Evenly dispersed between AM and PM hikers (vary times of sampling throughout the day) ◆ 6 volunteer weekdays <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 8-10 per day ◆ Evenly dispersed between AM and PM hikers (vary times of sampling throughout the day)

APPENDIX C:
Responses to Open-ended
Questions

(QB1a)* What organization(s) did you contact?

	Section																				Total	
	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m	n	o	p	q	r	s	u		v
NYINJ Trail Conference					1.0		2.3			12.5	25.0						4.0	7.1	2.2			2.1
Ranger Station			2.1		3.1		2.3								15.2	20.0	12.0	14.3	4.3	9.5		2.9
AMC	21.7	24.0	39.5	41.7	69.4	45.2	25.6	50.0	87.5	10.0	15.5	5.3	18.2		1.5		4.0		5.5	4.8	4.3	20.2
ATC public land management agencies	69.6	64.0	47.9	44.4	24.5	38.5	41.9	50.0	12.5	70.0	59.4	76.3	36.4	76.9	48.5	40.0	60.0	71.4	67.4	57.1	93.6	62.8
Green Mtn Club							20.9								1.5						0.9	1.4
Backpacker Magazine						3.8																0.1
Baxter State Park		4.0	2.1	5.6																		0.5
REI										2.5										9.5		0.3
Caledonia State Park Web site												5.3										0.2
Carolina's Mountain Club																	4.0					0.1
Daicy Pond C.G.	4.3																					0.1
Dartmouth Outing Club					1.0																	0.1
EMS			2.1																		0.4	0.2
GATC																				14.3		0.3
GORP, Baxter State Park		4.0																				0.1
Great Smoky Mountain Club/National Park	4.3												9.1							17.4		1.1
Mountain Trail Store														3.8								0.1
NH and ME AMC Clubs				2.8																		0.1
Outside Magazine																	4.0					0.1
PATC		4.0	2.1	5.6		3.8				5.0		10.5	36.4	19.2	1.5		4.0				0.4	2.6
Pennsylvania State Trail Association						3.8																0.1
PATH			2.1			3.8									16.7		8.0		2.2			1.8
V. Tech Outing Club			2.1				7.0					2.6			13.6	40.0		7.1		4.8	0.4	2.2
Washington and Lee Univ. Outing Club															1.5							0.1
www.outdoorscom					1.0																	0.1

* Values shown are percentages of respondents in each section that mentioned each organization. Section codes are as follows.

a. Baxter State Park b. 100 Mile Wilderness c. Western Maine d. NH-Mahoosucs e. NH-White Mountains f. NH-South g. Vermont h. Massachusetts i. Connecticut j. New York k. New Jersey l. Pennsylvania m. Maryland n. Shenandoah o. Outing Club of Va Tech p. Catawba q. Mount Rogers r. North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF s. Smoky Mountains t. NC-Nantahala NF u. Georgia v. Thru hiker

(QB1a) Other

Response	Section
Also personal visit	Baxter State Park
Pick up card while backpacking	
Also phone & internet	
Personal visit	
Also phone & personal visit	100 Mile Wilderness
Trail Card	
Response to another survey	
Form from lean to	
Personal visit and internet	Western Maine
Membership	
Member	
Membership to A TC	
Internet	N H-Mahoosucs
Also internet	
Brochures	
Purchased book	
Also phone and personal visit	
Phone and internet	NH-White Mountains
Phone and personal visit	
Internet	
Internet	
Internet	
Also internet	
Also internet	
Literature	
Internet	
Internet	
All of the above	
Phone, personal visit and internet	
Member	
Personal visit and internet	
Internet	Vermont
Personal visit	
Bookstore	
Member	
Also work for GMNF	
Membership	
Personal visit	
Phone and internet	New York
Books	
Member publications	
Life member	

Purchased	New Jersey
Trail guide books	
Membership solicitation	Pennsylvania
Letter	
Internet	
Phone and personal visit	Maryland
Personal visit	
Subscription	Shenandoah
e-mail	
Also phone & internet	
Member	Outing Club of Va. Tech
Personal contact on trail	
Personal visit	
Personal visit	
Phone, visit, and internet	
Phone and internet	Mount Rogers
Letter and internet	
Also internet	
Pamphlet	
Purchased	North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF
Personal visit	
Personal visit	
Internet	Smoky Mountains
Internet	
Phone	
Thru another member	
Person visit	
Internet	
Am a member	
Literature	
Meeting	
Letter	
Member	
Phone, personal visit, internet	Thru Hiker
Also phone & internet	
Also internet	
Also phone & internet	
Personal visit	
Personal visit	
Personal visit, internet	
Internet	
Website	
Internet	
Internet	
Internet	
Internet	

Phone	
Personal visit and internet	
Personal visit	
Internet	
Internet	
Personal visit	
Internet	
Internet also	
Also internet	
Also phone & internet	
Also internet	
Personal visit and internet	
Purchased books and maps	
Letter, phone, and personal visit	
Also phone and letter	
Internet and Trail days gathering	
Grapevine	
Also internet	
Also internet	
Member	
Also personal visit and internet	

What type of information did you receive? (QB1c)*

	Section																						Total
	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m	n	o	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	
Maps	27.3	20.0	17.8	16.7	20.4	29.2	21.2	12.5	22.2	24.4	35.0	42.5	18.2	29.6	26.1	42.9	20.8	36.4	30.4		20.8	27.1	25.7
1997 Thru-hikers handbook																						0.4	0.1
Publications and Maps		4.0																					0.1
Info about the Trail	9.1	4.0	4.4	2.8	1.0	4.2	9.6	12.5		17.1	5.0	2.5		11.1	1.4			9.1	8.9			11.6	6.7
Access Points and Hostel Info														3.7									0.1
Address for Mail drop					1.0														1.8			0.4	0.3
General Advice	18.2	4.0	8.9	5.6	2.0	4.2	3.8	12.5		4.9	7.5	5.0		7.4	10.1		12.5	18.2	3.6			8.9	6.7
Info about AMC			2.2		2.0					2.4													0.4
Maps, Guides, and Journals	13.6	16.0	26.7	16.7	26.5	12.5	15.4	12.5	11.1	22.0	17.5	15.0	54.5	11.1	15.9	28.6	20.8	9.1	17.9		33.3	12.0	17.8
Application for Club Membership	4.5	12.0	6.7	2.8	2.0	16.7	1.9	12.5	11.1	7.3	5.0	7.5		7.4	8.7		8.3		5.4		8.3	5.3	5.8
Application for Employment		4.0						12.5							1.4								0.3
AT Data Book		4.0			2.0		3.8						9.1	3.7	4.3			9.1	1.8		4.2	4.4	2.6
Trail Descriptions and Services																				100.0			0.1
Planning and Permits																						0.4	0.1
Best Hiking and Camping Spots				2.8																			0.1
Equipment Suggestions					1.0																		0.1
LTGuide							1.9																0.1

	Section																						Total	
	a	b	c	d	e	0	g	h	i	j	k	l	m	n	o	p	q	r	s	t	u	v		
Brochures about the Trail				5.6	2.0	4.2					2.5	2.5			4.3		8.3					2.7	2.0	
Bug Seasons			2.2																				0.1	
Cabin Rental Information		4.0																					0.1	
Camping Facilities				2.8	1.0	4.2				2.4			9.1							3.6			0.8	
Catalogs																			1.8			1.3	0.4	
CT Map and Trail Guide									11.1														0.1	
Guide Books and Maps														7.4					1.8			0.9	0.6	
Dates															1.4				1.8				0.2	
Description of Trips					2.0					2.4												0.9	0.6	
Directions to Trail Heads and Trails		4.0							22.2	2.4	5.0	2.5			1.4		4.2						1.0	
Distance, Terrain					1.0																		0.1	
Drought Conditions												2.5										0.4	0.2	
Thru Hikers Guide	4.5	8.0	2.2	2.8	2.0		7.7			2.4	5.0			3.7	4.3		4.2					6.7	3.8	
Equipment							1.9												1.8			0.9	0.4	
Fees					2.0																		0.2	
Rules and Regulations	4.5		4.4		1.0		1.9									14.3						0.4	0.8	
Weather Information	9.1		8.9	13.9	10.2		15.4	12.5		7.3	5.0	7.5		7.4	1.4				18.2	1.8		8.3	2.7	5.8
Newsletter							1.9																0.1	
Historic Information														3.7									0.1	
Hostel and Sheiter Information			2.2		1.0	4.2	1.9												1.8				0.6	
Trail Maintenance															1.4								0.1	
Hunting Access															1.4								0.1	

	Section																					Total	
	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m	n	o	p	q	r	s	t	u		v
Hut Availability		8.0	2.2	8.3	10.2				11.1													0.4	2.0
General Information		8.0	4.4	5.8	4.1	12.5	9.6	12.5	11.1	4.9	5.0	2.5			4.3		8.3		3.6		16.7	5.8	5.5
Journals											2.5												0.1
list of Camp Sites					1.0																		0.1
Low-Impact Practices																			1.8				0.1
Magazines																						0.4	0.1
Maine Traiis					1.0										1.4						4.2	0.9	0.6
News Updates						4.2																	0.1
NH-VT Trail Guides																						0.4	0.1
Office Locations												2.5											0.1
On-line Maps				2.8							2.5				5.8	14.3	4.2					2.7	1.6
Pamphlet			2.2	2.8	1.0																		0.3
NPS Information																			5.4				0.3
Permits											2.5												0.1
Parking	4.5		2.2												3.7								0.3
Ridgerunning Application																					4.2		0.1
Road and Trail Information																	4.2		1.8				0.2
Schedule of Summer Hikes					2.0							2.5			14		4.2					0.4	0.7
Shuttle Information							1.9					2.5			1.4				1.8				04
Water Access			2.2																				0.1
State Hiking Books													9.1										0.1
Suggestion for Service Proiects				2.8		4.2									1.4								0.3

	Section																				Total		
	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m	n	o	p	q	r	s	t		u	v
Trail Maintenance Positions												2.5											0.1
Taxi Service																			1.8				0.1
Backpacking																						0.4	0.1
Book References	4.5																					0.4	0.2
Videos				5.6																			0.2

.Values shown are percentages of respondents in each section that mentioned each organization Section codes are as follows

a Baxter State Park b. 100 Mile Wilderness c Western Maine d NH-Mahoosucs e. NH-White Mountains l. NH-South g. Vermont

h. Massachusetts l Connecticut j New York k New Jersey l. Pennsylvania m. Maryland n Shenandoah o. Outing Club of Va. Tech p. Catawba q. Mount Rogers r. North of Smokies-PisgahlCherokee NF s. Smoky Mountains t. NC-Nantahala NF u. Georgia v. Thru hiker

How did you first learn about the Appalachian Trail? (QB3)

Baxter State Park (N=41)

As a boy at summer camp (2)
As a child through scouts
Books (2)
Books and magazines and newspaper articles
Father
First climbed Mt. Katahdin 10 yrs ago. Try to return every
Friend (2)
Friend, and word of mouth
Friends who had hiked it
From a friend when I was 14 (in 1975)
From maps
From other hikers
From thru hikers and reading accounts
Geography lessons as a child in school
Grew up near AT (2)
Have belonged to ATC since 1956
Have lived near it all of my life, until 2 years ago
Heard about it from a friend
High School friends hiked it
Maga drive
Magazine & by hiking on it
Met thru hikers on the long trail in 95
Mt. Katahdin
My parents
National geographic
Newspaper (2)
Lived near it my whole life
Read about it in junior high school
Reading
Saw it while on vacation
School
Summer camp
Trailhead signs near my hometown
Traveling through my home state of MO we passed the trail
Was there as a youth with parents.

100 Mile Wilderness (N=77)

1967 via books and hiking small parts
A friend's family
A friend
A long time ago
As a boy at summer camp (4)
As a child (2)
As a grad student researching walking
Aware of it for about 60 years
Baxter State Park, news, books
Book-The Appalachian Trail, pub. By National
Geographic Society
Book
Childhood hikes
Family (2)
Father (3)
Folklore
Friends/books
Friend (8)
Friends + TV
Friend's family
From parents in 1960's trip to Baxter State Park
in Maine
General knowledge
Grade school
Grew up near AT (6)
Heard about it for many years
High school class
Hiking experiences

Hiking Mt. Katahdin
Hiking with relatives
History class
I've always known about it
I hiked 100 miles on it with Eagles Nest Camp at
age 12
I knew of it but learned more from a friend who
had hiked pa
I live in Maine.
Internet magazine
Literature
Magazine articles (2)
Maine outing club
Maps, books
Mother
My parents
Outing club in high school
Presentation when I was in high school
Previous hikers
School
Signs, books, news stories
Sporting goods store
The Maine atlas and gazetteer
USGA
When I joined AMC and ATC in 1970's
When I lived in the US as a child 1950s 1960
When I was a kid
Word-of-mouth

Western Maine (N=102)

1970's National Geographic AT Ron Fisher book
Have been hiking it all my life
AMC (3)
As a boy at summer camp (3)
As a child parent's took me on it
Backpacker magazine
Been camping since I was a child
Books
Books and magazines
By participating in day hikes in NY and NJ
Camping as teenager
College
Common knowledge (3)
Dartmouth college outing club
Day hiked on it
Ed Garvey's book
Ex boyfriend
Family (2)
Father
Friend (9)
Friend hiked it
Friends and family
Friends of the family took me on an
overnight/weekend trip as a kid
From living in Maine close to trails
From my parents
From people who'd hiked it and my friend's best
friend was murdered on it
From reading about various hiking possibilities
and talking to others who hiked
General reading
Grade school (2)
Gradual introduction through hearsay
Grammar school
Grew up in Rangely Maine climbing saddleback
Mtn
Grew up near AT (5)
Have summer home along the trail
High school

Hiked AT as a kid in the 1950's
Hiking GSMNP & Mt. Katahdin in 1960's
Hiking as youth
Hiking club
Hiking in New Jersey
Hiking in the White Mountains
Hiking the Long Trail
I've hiked here and there on the AT growing up
in Maine
I've known about it for over 20 years. Mountain
climbing
I did an outward bound thing when I was 15
I have always known about AT
I signed up for an AT clean up at my place of
work
Boy Scouts
Internet
Long Trail
Met AT hikers through the AMC
My camp, Flying Moose Lodge
My parents (2)
Newspaper (6)
On a 4 day Audubon trip.
Pine grove furnace youth hostel; met thru hikers
Pinkham notch station
Reading
Saw the trail and talked with hikers in Smokey
Mt. Nat. Park
School (2)
Through green mountain club
We grew up hiking in Maine, AT has always
been a part of life
Went to Baxter state park as a boy scout, 1970
When I heard stories about people living along
the AT corridor
When I was a child in 1956- family trip in the
south
Word-of-mouth (4)

NH – Mahoosics (N=54)

30 years ago from my brother
Always been aware of it, first day hike memorial
day, 1998
Always known (2)
As a boy at summer camp (2)
Book, magazines, & newspapers
Books & magazines as a child
Day hiking with friends
Family trips when young
Father (3)
Father thru hiked in 93
Friend (3)
Friends, received AMC as a gift
General logic
Green mountain club, Waterbury, VT
Grew up near AT (3)
Hike - AMC
Hikers on other trails
Hunting around in the 1960's
I-90 in Mass.
I grew up hiking.
I hiked the Presidents from Washington -> North
at age 10
I live in Maryland and visited it as a kid

I met someone hiking it when I was about 8
In boy scouts
It was so long ago I don't remember
Known about it for years
Known about it since I was a "little" kid
Magazine
My brother
My brother read about it in a magazine.
My parents
National geographic
Outward bound trip
People in my community who had hiked the
entire trail
Son
Summer camp
Through a summer camp
Through my camp
Through the AMC - Appalachian Mountain Club
Uncle of mine told me when I was knee high to a
grasshopper
Walking the Long Trail
Word-of-mouth
Worked for GMC

NH – White Mountains (N=158)

1995
A book by National Geographic
A friend (4)
AMC (5)
An interest in wilderness hiking/backpacking
As a boy at summer camp (7)
As a child (2)
ATC (2)
Aunt
Backpacking trip with family
Bill Bryson's *a walk in the woods*
Book (2)
Born in PA
BSA
By hiking other trails
Camp
Child
Climbing in NH as a child
Common knowledge (2)
Day hikes from school
Day hikes with my dad when I was young
Family (2)
Family and magazines
Family hikes on or near the AT
Father
First backpacking trip on 1972 in Stratton in Vermont
Friend (14)
Friends at Yale University
Friends who hike
From a co-worker
From brother
From my parents (2)
From working in the white Mt. National forest
Grandmother; people that have hiked it and from books
Grew up in NH
Grew up near AT (2)
Guidebook
Hard to remember...From a friend I suppose
Heard about it from friends
Hiking
Hiking and visiting in White Mtns.
Hiking as a child
Hiking in my local area
Hiking in NH as a child
Hiking partner was a thru-hiker in 1977
Hiking parts since I was little
Hiking the White Mountains on AT
Hiking with boys camp (2)
Hiking with friends
History books in school
I'm not sure, It is something I learned as a child

from my mother
I've always known about it
I've known about it for a long time
I found information on internet
I grew up in the Catskills
I have been hiking the AT for 25 years
I originally hiked parks in New Jersey w/ Boy Scouts
I think I've always known from childhood
I work at the environmental science program, a summer program
In a book about through hikers
In grade school
In local area
It was near my home in PA where I grew up.
It was over 40 years ago. I think it was a magazine article
Joined AMC in 1980's
Known about it for years
Learned about it 30 yrs ago - not sure how
Legend
Lifelong interest
Literature (Brochures, school, books)
Long Time Ago do not remember - Probably friends or family
Long time AMC member
Magazine (3)
Many years ago from AMC on Joy Street and subsequent hikes
Moving to New England
My parents (6)
My uncle who was an AMC member
National Geographic article in the 60's or early 70's
National geographic
Newspaper (2)
On the trail, hiking with people who were walking it
Outing club at UCONN in 1975
Penn state outing club
Personal experience
Read about it in newspaper
Read book of individual accounts of thru-hikes
Read the book walk across America in High School
Saw AT sign on blue Ridge Parkway 30 years ago
Saw it on a map
School? Seems like I always knew about it.
Seeing the bridge over the Mass Pike as a little kid and ask
Story in a magazine
Summer camp
Through experience of friends and family
Thru an eagle scout friend
Thru family

Traveling throughout White Mountains as a kid
Visit
Visit to Shenandoah in late 60's
Visiting the area
When I began hiking in Whites from books/AMC

When I joined an outing club
Word-of-mouth (4)
Years ago

NH – South (N=57)

A walk in the woods by Bill Bryson
AMC
Appalachian mountain club
As a boy at summer camp (4)
As hiker and camper in 1948
Book
Boston Globe
Day hike with mom in 66
Family (2)
Father (2)
Friend (4)
From older siblings/cousins into hiking
From someone who hiked them in the 1980's
Grade school
Grandfather
Grew up knowing it!
Grew up near AT (3)
Growing up adjacent to White Mtn, National Forest, NH
Hiking - proximity to White Mountains of NH
How did I first learn how to walk? It just is!
In school
Knew someone who hiked half of the AT
Library book
Long, long time ago.....don't even remember
LSC library
Many years ago, hiking in NY
Maps
My mom
My parents (2)
National geographic
People, books
Probably by day hiking sections in the 1930's
Read about it in various magazines
Road atlas on a trip through North Carolina on the blue ridge
Social studies
Trail Guide Books and Maps
Vacation home in White Mountains
Visiting SNP area while living in N. VA in 1972-77
Wife
Word-of-mouth (3)

Vermont (N=86)

1972
1987 article in National Geographic
As a boy at summer camp (5)
As a child in Georgia
As a teenager hiked into the Smokys
Book on the long trail
Books (2)
Boyscouts
College
Common knowledge
Drove over it in the Smokey Mtns.
Either a friend told me about it or I read it
Elementary school
Family
Family vacation to Fontana Village NC in 1963
Friend (10)
Friends and books
From a former thru-hiker
From being in the Old Dominion AT Club
From thru hiker friends
Girl scouts
Grew up knowing about it
Grew up near AT (4)
Have known about it for years
Hiking in NH and VT
Hiking it as a kid
Hiking it, reading books
Hiking with family/Killington Trail Camp
Hiking club, and brochure
Husband

I've been hiking in New England for 30 years
I-90 overpass
In college
Known about it since we were kids
Living in Vermont
Long Trail
Magazines and books
My boyfriend's past experience on the trail in
1996
My college was near it
My parents (2)
On TV
Other hikers
Reading
Reading years ago
Road sign from highway
School
Since childhood
Sister
So long ago I can't remember
Suggestion from a friend
Through activities in the Boy Scouts
Thru affiliation with AMC
Trail guides, other hikers, general knowledge
Trip when I was a child
TV
Vermont
When I moved to VT.
Word-of-mouth

Massachusetts (N=16)

Always known
AMC
As a boy at summer camp
Baxter state park when I was 16
College outing club trip
Common knowledge
Family
Friend (3)
From hikers who were doing a piece at a time
Girl scouts
Readers digest, 1960's
Through outdoor magazines
TV

Connecticut (N=16)

As a boy at summer camp
Books from library
Boyscouts and summer camp
College neighbor was condition to hike thru
Friend (3)
From my extensive hiking 25 years ago - growing up near trail
Have been using trail since childhood
Hiked on it in the 50's
Hiking group
I have lived near it all my life. Also, grade school
Working at Bascom Lodge on the AT
Wrote for info after a day hike

New York (N=70)

Article in NY Times
Articles in newspapers many years ago
As a boy at summer camp (4)
As a child from my father
Atlanta-journal constitution
Book (2)
Books, state park
By accident from a through hiker on a stretch of
the AT in the White Mountains
By living close to the AT
College
Day hike at Delaware water gap
Driving under the AT crossing on the Mass
Turnpike
Family
Father
First hiked on AT in Maine 1980
Friend (7)
From a friend whose father had thru-hiked in the
'70s
Grew up near AT (3)
Have always known about it
Hiked it with girl scouts in 1959
Hiked some of it as a boy scout when I was
younger
Hiking in Harriman Park
Hiking in Shenandoah National Park

Hiking with a hiking club
Hiking with Appalachian Mountain Club
In college(1954) from fellow students
Legend
Magazine
Mailing from ATC after joining NYNJTC
My brother
My cousin hiked it 20 years ago
My parents (4)
My step sister is a volunteer
National geographic (2)
PBS video
Probably from my parents in the early 1950's
Read about it when I was in high school
Reading about it
Saw its location on a map of Putnam County, NY
Saw trail sign off auto route
School
Seeing it cross the Mt Washington Cog railway
when I went up
Through the Sierra Club
Topographic map
TV newspapers
Went backpacking in Smokys with friends
When I was school kid
When I was younger from my parents
Word-of-mouth (3)

New Jersey (N=60)

A friend
As a boy at summer camp (2)
At summer camp in VT as a child
Book about thru-hiking the AT I received as a gift 28 years ago
Books, newspapers, friends, scouts, hunting
Brother
Calendar @ mall; a program at a state park 30 years ago
Day hikers when I was young, go right through town
Family lives along the at
Father (2)
First in school, learning much more with my job in Park Service
Friend (8)
From magazine articles
From my mother as a small child
From my neighbor adventurer from GA to ME
Grew up hiking on it
Grew up near AT (2)
Had been reading about the trail for years
Hiking at newfound gap (TN/NC border)
Hiking friends/club members
Hiking in girl scouts, reading a book about a thru-hike
Hiking with friends
Hiking with others who have been on it
History books in school, learning about Indians
I grew up in VA. It has been part of my life
I had friends that hiked the whole trail
I lived near it while growing up.
I read a book about it in elementary school
I went hiking there as a child with my family
Internet
Magazines
My daughter, an AT Ridge runner
Newspaper (2)
Outdoor education
Past experience
Read an article
Stokes state park map
Through my father
Through the AMC
Visiting Shenandoah National park
Went through near my hometown in CT
While hiking at Mt Katahdin in 1979
Word-of-mouth (2)
Young child

Pennsylvania (N=61)

A friend
Always known
AMC
As a boy at summer camp (7)
As a very happy boy - 45 years ago I live near the AT
Backpacker magazine
College
Family
Father (2)
Friend (3)
Friend who hiked it
Friends a long time ago
Friends in college told me about it.
Friends recommendation
General awareness?
Girlfriend
Grew up near AT (5)
Happened to be on it on Skyline DR 1964
Heard a friend tell me about it
Heard of it through boy scouts (2)
Hiked a section near Hawk Mountain - Purchased book/Maps in their store
Hiking
Hiking the Long Trail in Vermont
In college, 1973
Local lore? Seems I've always known about it
Moved to east coast
Newspaper (2)
Overnight camp in Northern JN in early 1960's
Probably through boy scouts
Read about it
Read about it in the 60's
Reading articles
Saw backpackers
School
Sierra club / books
Sister
Summer camp
Trip with Shippensburg University (PA) 1973
Used to live in NE Georgia - learned about it from friends
Visit to Bear Mountain NY
While in scouting, many years ago!
Word-of-mouth (3)

Maryland (N=16)

As a boy at summer camp (2)

Common knowledge

Family (2)

Family, location near home

Friend

Friends/Thru hikers

Grew up near AT (2)

History class

History Class in High School

I hiked on the AT at 8 years of age in Vermont in 1929

My parents (2)

Probably casual mention or reading

Summer camp (2)

Through friends who live near Weverton Cliffs

Tom Lupp

Word-of-mouth

Shenandoah (N=46)

A visit to N.C. Great Smoky Mtn National Park
As a boy at summer camp (5)
Books (2)
Books and magazines
Camping trips as a kid
Co-worker/friend
Common knowledge
Drove by it
Family
Father
Friend (4)
Friend who is a hike leader
Grammar school
Grew up near AT (2)
Growing up in Virginia
I grew up in Roanoke, VA
I have been aware of since I was in scouts early 1960's
I have no idea, I've known about it for years
Knew of it for years, extensive info came from internet, ATC
Known about it since I was a kid
Local lore
Magazines
Maps
Met thru hikers in the white mountains of NH
Met two thru-hikers at a shelter
Mostly from friends-I also remember seeing a segment about it
My brother was a thru hiker
My parents
Newspaper
Previous Thru hikers
Reading
Shenandoah national park
Skyline drive
The trail passes near my home at snickers gap
TV
Wilderness leadership training course

Outing Club of Virginia Tech (N=208)

A book by National Geographic
A family member told me
A friend (2)
A member of "explorers" a co-ed version of the boy scouts
A member of PATH
All my life
Appalachian trail club brochures
As a boy at summer camp (16)
As a native Virginian, I've almost always known
As part of US history in school.
Blue ridge outdoors
Blue ridge parkway
Books (5)
Books, PBS special on thru hikers
Books, stories, news, friends
Books, word of mouth
Boyfriend
Camp Bethel, Troutville, VA Age 10
Club organization day trip
Common knowledge
Driving through several states, and school
Drove by it as a youngster
During a hiking trip in the Smokys
Elementary school
Family (5)
Family and friends
Family, my sister is a big backpacker and we live close to the trail
Father (5)
Friend (37)
Friend in VA
Friends - word of mouth
From birth
From conversations as a kid with other youths
General knowledge of living on the east coast
Girl scouts (2)
Grandfather
Grew up hiking with family
Grew up in the Appalachian mountains
Grew up in the area
Grew up in Virginia
Grew up near AT (23)
Group camping experience in NC
Have been hiking the trail for 30 years
Have known about it since 1973 when I hiked on it as a child
Have lived by it for whole life
Heard about it all my life, live near parts of the

trail

Hiked with parent
Hiking
House is near the AT
Hunting
I grew up in Roanoke VA. I have always known about the Trail
I have hiked all my life
I have lived around the trails all my life.
I hiked on it
I really don't remember, I've been using it for over 45 year
In elementary school
In grade school
In the area I moved into
It's famous
It runs through a farm I grew up on
Knew about it, but never hiked on it, family member showed me
Living in NH as a child
Living in Roanoke through friends, paper, and college clubs
Living near the trail
Magazines
Magazines/ word of mouth
Many years ago in Tennessee it was near home
Member affiliated org, NY/NJ trail conference
My brother
My brother hiked and camped on a small section of the trail
My explorer post
My family- they hike there often
My family lived close to it in Northern VA.
My parents (2)
National Geographic (2)
Newspaper (3)
Notice in local newspaper
Other hikers
People at work
Read a book about a through hiker many years ago
Read about it in grade school
Reading books about hiking and backpacking
School
Sierra Club Backpacking trip in 1975
Since childhood through parents
Since I was a kid
Sister
Some friends and I passed by and decided to go
Someone at work

Son at Roanoke College
This is like asking how I knew about the state of Virginia
Through an ATC member
Through an organized club
Through friends and reading about it
Through friends who backpack, as I grew up

TV (2)
Venture Out brochure
Virginia Tech
Visitor center
Word-of-mouth (7)

Catawba (N=22)

As a boy at summer camp (2)
Backcountry
Books
Can't recall
Common knowledge
Elementary school history
Encountered it while hiking in Shenandoah Valley
Family and friends as a child
Father
Friend (5)
From a clothing patch given to me as a child
From living in the Shenandoah Valley
Girl scouts
Heard about it in college
I grew up hiking it with my family
I live 1/2 mile from where it crosses the road Rt. 621
Read about it

Mount Rogers (N=59)

A visit to Fontana Village
Always known
An uncle in Pittsburgh told me
As a boy at summer camp (9)
Brother
Day hiking as a teenager in 1968b while visiting GSMNP
During work at an outdoor rec. Facility
Father (2)
Friend (6)
From hiking the Smokys
From members of the local hiking group (The Roanoke VA Trail
Girl scouts
Grew up hiking sections of it in New England
Grew up near AT (4)
Have been hiking on it since 8 years old
Have hiked it for 35 years
High school (history and geography)
Hiked some of it with a church group 20 yrs ago
Hiking
Hiking with the Sierra Club
I dated someone who wanted to thru-hike so I bought him a book
I live here
Many years ago, probably read about it in the newspaper
My parents
Newspaper
North Carolina trail book
Other people/friends
Reading
School
Sierra club as a child
Through friends that were familiar with the AT
Through hiking experiences
Trail club member
Trail passes near area of home
Went to college near the trail in NC
Word-of-mouth (3)

North of Smokys – Pisgah/Cherokee NF (N=19)

As a boy at summer camp

Books

Brother

Camps

Childhood experience

Day hiking

Friend

Grew up in the area

Hiking on it and the ATC

Life

Magazine

Many years ago

Newspaper

Radio

Reading (2)

Thru hiked in 1992

TV

Smoky Mountains (N=116)

1970's camping in college
As a boy at summer camp (9)
As a child through parents.
As a teenager in 1983 from the US Forest Service in Eastern TN
Backpacker magazine & books
Backpacking
Books (2)
Books and articles
Boyscouts
Camp
Camping with parents
Church backpacking trip in high school.
Club members
College outdoor rec class
Desire to hike thru the entire AT just popped into my mind
Elementary school
Family (2)
Family members, outdoor magazines
Father (3)
Father and boy scouts
Fellow hiking friends
Friend (18)
Friends and writings
From early age, lived in Smoky Mountains area all my life
From my parents
From spending time in Smokey Mtn National Park
Grew up here
Grew up near AT (4)
Have been aware for years - began serious study in 1990 on at
Heard about trail years ago
High school teachers
High school, outdoor education
Hikers, magazines, etc.
Hiking it in the summer
History books in high school
I'm not sure I've known about it most of my life

58yrs

I've lived near it all my life
I first saw a white blaze in the Great Smoky Mtns. And asked about it in 1972
I know people who have hiked it before
I live close
In becoming familiar with the Great Smokys National Park
In school (2)
Living in the area
Living near the trail
Magazine and friends
Magazine or book
Magazines
My parents (2)
National Geographic
Newspaper
On Mt. Washington, NH cog railway, 1949, on honeymoon, saw Georgia to Maine sign on AT
Peter Jenkin's book "Walk Across America"
Read about it in books and magazines years ago
Read about it years ago
Readers digest
Reading- books and magazines
Reading and being in national parks where trail is
Reading and traveling
School (3)
Smokey mountains hiking club
Son
Thru the SMHC and the park
Tide water at club
Visiting the Smoky Mtn. National Park
Visits to the Appalachians for Day Hikes
When I was a teenager I hiked with two friends on a nine day 110 mile hike on the AT Starting at Blood Mountain
While visiting Smoky Mountains National Park
Who knows? AT info is ubiquitous
Word-of-mouth (3)

Georgia (N=88)

As a boy at summer camp (8)
As a child
Books (3)
Books and acquaintances--part of culture
Books on hiking and backpacking
Books, friends, family
Boyscouts
Camp
Camp Barney Medintein in GA
Camping in North Georgia Park/Family
Can't recall
Common knowledge
During a 6 month stay near New York City
Father (2)
Friend (17)
Friend that lives in Vermont
Friend who thru hiked
Friends, family, brochures
From a family member
From a friend in college(1988)
From a friend who is a seasoned
hiker/backpacker & from the book "As
Far as the Eye Can See"
Georgian native- Heard about it whole life
Girl scouts
Grammar school
Grew up near AT (2)
Have lived near it for 23 years
Hiked a portion of the trail while in school
Hiked it

Hiking equipment store
In grade school
In grammar school
Interested in it 10 yrs ago
It's been so long, I don't remember
Known about it all my life
Known about it for several years
Moved to Georgia
My parents
Newspaper
Other hikers
Reader's digest article in the late 1940's
Reading a book on hiking trails of Northern
Georgia
Reading about it as a child
School (5)
Seems like I've "always" known about the AT
Sierra Club, family living in Georgia
Son in law and daughter
Summer camp (2)
Through family/friends as youth
Through friends and hiking clubs and church
groups
Unsure. I have known of the trail a long trail
Visitor center/trail books
Visitors center
Walasi-yi Center
Watching the Learning Channel
Word-of-mouth (3)

Thru Hikers (N=298)

"Walk Across America" by Peter Jennings
1950's when I was a teenager starting to hike in
the White M
1987 Feb National Geographic magazine
1993 a friend took me on a trip
50 mile BSA hike in 96
A book by National Geographic (2)
A former thru hiker
A friend (10)
A newspaper article about a local guy who thru
hiked
A trailside video
About 30 years ago in the Boy Scouts
AMC (2)
Article in AMC magazine
Article in National Geographic
As a boy at summer camp (22)
As a child
As a child growing up in Atlanta
As a child through family members
As a teenager on a hiking trip
Backpacker magazine (3)
Backpacker magazine, geology professor
Backpacking as a kid w/ my dad, thru-hiking
from friend
Backpacking in the Smoky Mt National Park
Bill Bryson's a walk in the woods
Book (3)
Book by C. Ross, I found while conducting an
undergrad journal
Books and hiking circles
Books and magazines (4)
Books in local library.
Boyfriend
Boyscouts (3)
By living near the AT Pine Grove State Park
Camping in Smoky Mountains with Boy Scouts,
12 years old
Childhood hiking in New Hampshire
Cleared some with Maine Appalachian Trail Club
College (2)
College outdoor club
Crossed it hiking at loeb trail in N.C.
Dad
Day hike in Conn.
Day hikes around Franconia notch
Day hikes in the Smokys
Day hiking
Day hiking in the white mountains

Day hiking in the White Mountains
Explorer scouts
Family (2)
Father (7)
Fellow hikers
Former thru hiker, highway sign I-70 in MD
Found AT trail guide for Shenandoah Park while
doing paper on said park
Frank and Victoria Lognes's book
Friend (30)
Friend and internet
From a classmate in the 7th grade
From a friend who hiked some of it
From a weekend hike with friends
From another hiker
From members of my hiking club
From my parents
From other hikers/campers when I was in high
school
From other through hikers
From other thru-hikers
From others who hiked it
Girl scouts
Grew up in Roanoke, VA
Grew up near AT (10)
Grew up within sight of it
Have always known about trail since youth
Have been hiking in White Mtns all my life
Have vaguely known about it for years. First
thoughts of hiking it came with friends
from college
Heard about it in college
Heard about it in High School Geography class
Heard from other hikers 15 years ago
Hearing from others
High school
Hiked as a kid 30 years ago with parents
Hiked portions of it during summer camp 35
years ago in N. C
Hiking and clubs
Hiking club
Hiking in NH
Hiking in PA with family as a child
Hiking in Smokys
Hiking in the Blue Ridge range in lower central
Va. As a child
Hiking in the Smokys
Hiking in the White Mtns. Fourteen years ago
Hiking on it
Hiking on the long trail as a child
Hiking with my family as a child

Hiking on 20 yrs ago
I am 59. At 17 years old I began crossing the
Bear Mtn Bridge
I did a research paper on it in college
I drove underneath it one day
I heard about the trail because of my proximity to
it in the Shenandoah Valley
I hiked with friends on it when I was in high
school
I read about it when I encountered the trail in the
great SM
I saw the Rt. 30 overpass from a car when I was
seven, and asked what it was
I was hiking in the Whites (NH), and stumbled
upon it.
I was in College
I went on an overnight hike in CT with a friend
from the are
In 1989 climbing up Mt. Katahdin and watching
hikers taking their last steps
In elementary school
Internet
Invited by some friends, way back when
It is 3 miles from my house
It runs through a town adjacent to mine
It was just there
It's a 5 min. Drive from my house
Knew about it since I was a kid
Known about it since childhood
Known of it since youth, decided to hike it after
meeting a thru hiker
Leading trips at summer camp in North Georgia
Line around spring mountain
Local library
Long trail guide book when I hiked it in 1969
Magazine (2)
Magazine article (2)
My brother (2)
My partner
National geographic - 40 yrs ago
National Geographic (6)
Neighbor completed AT over 10 years,
newspaper article
New Hampshire AMC
Newspaper (4)
On trip during youth
Other hikers
Outdoor magazines
Outside Magazine article May 1996
Outward bound
Outward bound instructor was a former thru
hiker

Park Ranger on Blue Ridge Parkway
Passed under the pedestrian bridge on Mass.
Turnpike
Past thru hiker
PBS special
People talking about it here and there
Person
Read about it (3)
Read an article in a magazine (2)
Reading (3)
Reading Ray Jardine's "Pacific Coast Trail
Handbook"
Reading, talking to people, but really don't
remember
Rocky Mt Youth corps
Saw it on a road atlas
School
Section hiking (2)
Smoky Mtn.
So long ago I don't remember - probably while
vacationing NE
Story in National Geographic
Talking to people on the trail
The internet
The trail goes through my town
Through books about long distance hiking
Thru-hiker
Thru a family member who went to college in
Georgia
Thru hiker
Thru hiking in the Smokey Mountains
Trail passes close to hometown
TV (3)
Video "5 Million Steps"
Videotape at an outfitter in Orlando, Florida
Visit to Smoky mountains
Walked part of it as a kid
We had a Summer cabin in PA growing up
Weekend hike
Went to college near the trail
Went to the Smokys as a child
While backpacking in my home state (NH)
While hiking in ME & NH, & meeting thru hikers
then AMC
Word-of-mouth
Worked on trail maintenance as a boy scout

APPENDIX C: Responses to Open-ended Questions

**Have you ever encountered a security problem along the trail during the past 12 months?
Please describe the incident (QB7c).**

Incident	Section
I was followed into town in Conn	100 Mile Wilderness
Parked vehicles at a trailhead were vandalized	100 Mile Wilderness
Theft of MATC club gear from a crew stash. Thieves tracked, fund reprimanded stolen items returned	100 Mile Wilderness
The windows of my car were broken while parked in an AT parking lot overnight	Connecticut
Encountering uncontrolled aggressive dogs at campsites, owners lack of responsibility	Georgia
A car full of kids came by and verbally harassed us while waiting to be picked up by friends at Harper's Ferry	Maryland
I had a fire cracker thrown at me in Roan Mountain. Apparently the locals are upset over some land acquisitions the trail made	Maryland
Trail signs inadequate-removed and brush overgrown	Maryland
Encountered drunk locals at Doll Flats who drove up on road on 4 wheel truck and another pair of local dunks on an atv on the same night	Mount Rogers
Ponies are very aggressive if they realize someone is frightened	Mount Rogers
June `99 near Stratton VT, a caretaker had his sleeping bag and pad stolen. This made me reluctant to go far from my gear	New Hampshire-South
Attempted sexual act	New Jersey
Groups of five persons using illegal substances at a shelter. They had come from a nearby commercial campsite. A large family of 15 took over shelter and campsite. Had a bonfire during high fire danger	New Jersey
On arrival at the William Brian shelter an individual was there with a dog. The owner acted nervous and agitated so we moved on to the next shelter	New Jersey
Rape of female hiker in PA during 98	New Jersey
An intoxicated or drugged individual threatened another hiker with overtly aggressive behavior	New York
Shelter register destroyed	New York
Signs warning not to leave anything in car - but certainly I couldn't hike carrying everything I'd brought for a three week vacation	New York
At the trail head to Tinker Cliffs several windshields were smashed last fall	Outing Club of VA Tech
Camp not far off a state county road, locals came up to party	Outing Club of VA Tech
In fall 1998, I did encounter a local family whose father (adult male) was packing some type of large pistol in his hip holster. He told me it was to protect his family	Outing Club of VA Tech
Other hikers in shelter had guns and had been drinking at Roan Mtn.	Outing Club of VA Tech
Our vehicle was broken into, window broken, and personal items stolen	Outing Club of VA Tech
We were camped near a road and some trucks pulled up and started partying, luckily they didn't see us, we learned not to camp near the road	Outing Club of VA Tech
When approaching a shelter on Roan Mtn my friends and I heard gunshots	Outing Club of VA Tech
Person on a horse in area where horses are not allowed, 2) Person on a mountain bike	Pennsylvania
Horse back riders intoxicated threatened to go through things (backpack, food, etc) they were riding where horse stock is prohibited	Smoky Mountains
I noticed a few attempted robberies	Smoky Mountains
I saw a man walking w/ a knife on the trail. He walked off the trail toward someone I couldn't see. I ran away and didn't tell the police but told other hikers	Vermont

My group set up camp and there were some men fishing and drinking nearby. They made several rude comments that upset some members of my group	Vermont
There was a possible mental person who appeared to be living at Spruce Peak Shelter	Vermont
Three of us were in a shelter in NY sleeping. At midnight a group of young men came in and were annoyed by the shelter being occupied. They partied behind the shelter all evening. They were still up in the morning and intimidating.	Vermont
Our friend's car was broken into and plenty of gear was stolen. The police were contacted	Western Maine
Some guy got stabbed	Western Maine
Woke up in shelter (Smoky Mt) to a southbounder self-pleasuring next to me - he wasn't there the night before	Western Maine
2 ATV users drove into a campsite, they were drunk	Thru-hiker
2 individuals took over a shelter near us, refused to allow others to use shelter	Thru-hiker
A family's vehicle was stolen at a trailhead	Thru-hiker
A fellow hiker damaged some equipment near Elk Grove. There is a problem also	Thru-hiker
A gay freak dropped his pants and walked towards me	Thru-hiker
A large group of drunken teenagers had a keg party in the woods behind Rausch Gap. A lot of hooting and yelling (they were on the football team) and threats between groups. A very restless night for me. They left a horrid mess	Thru-hiker
A note left on a tree saying "I have killed one girl and I am watching you"	Thru-hiker
A person was writing trail info on lots of rocks, trees, signs etc. in permanent ink	Thru-hiker
Against a partner. A man approached my girlfriend, put his hands on her face, and said "I have to tell you something." The incident was reported	Thru-hiker
At a trailhead another hiker's car had a brick thrown through the windshield	Thru-hiker
At Annapolis Rocks some one reported a weird guy at Pogo memorial campsite, the ranger 4-wheeled down the trail at 10pm, I moved from that site for my own safety	Thru-hiker
At Fontana Dam Shelter, around 11 pm, police officers showed up with a search dog and searched the shelter for drugs. While searching, the dog urinated on several pieces of gear. After the search the police refused info on how to contact their supervisor	Thru-hiker
At the Governor Clements shelter in Vermont, confronted by two local guys who drove pickup truck up to shelter at midnight, making a lot of noise	Thru-hiker
Attacked by wild dogs while camping	Thru-hiker
Backpack cover stolen at Rustys Hardtime	Thru-hiker
Bag containing personal items taken at Fontana Village Laundry and bag containing \$150 value stolen	Thru-hiker
Bottles were thrown at campers near us from campers at a fire road USFS 83 (we were at Betty Creek Gap)	Thru-hiker
Camera stolen out of pack	Thru-hiker
Camped near logging road near The Priest in VA. Two four-wheel drive vehicles came along after midnight & hung out. Don't think they saw me & not sure what they were doing, but didn't go back to sleep till they left	Thru-hiker
Elk park, TN, off the AT – locals yelled things like "get the f out of this town" and would swerve, pretending they were going to hit us. Also, we met some locals on the way up Roan mountain & they were pushy and accusing of us having marijuana	Thru-hiker
Friend's pack was stolen from trailside parking lot in PA. Recovered later with help from local police	Thru-hiker
Had a camera stolen at the Fontana Hilton Shelter before the Smoky Mountains	Thru-hiker
In Virginia a church group intentionally ignored signs (and us) that said no fires because of endangered salamanders. I have seen some ATV use. I accidentally camped too near a road and was frightened by partyers at night. They were rowdy, but unaware of	Thru-hiker

Late May/early June '99 - At Rausch Gap Shelter in central PA there was a high school party with a keg, and people littering the woods. Yelling and fighting past 3am. Driving their trucks on old road, past the shelter to a campsite about 100 yards away	Thru-hiker
Map stolen in VA	Thru-hiker
Multiple incidents of hunters flagrantly disobeying established hunting rules. Carrying loaded weapons and hunting on the AT are two examples. I witnessed two bear poachers walking up the AT at midnight with rifles-they didn't see me. I felt unsafe	Thru-hiker
My daughter (21) and I were near Duncanon, PA, a guy who looked rather questionable drove by in a van. He yelled in a voice mimicking the wicked witch from the Wizard of Oz, "I'll get you my prettys!" We laughed it off, but still felt uneasy	Thru-hiker
My friend was attacked at a road crossing in NH by a convicted child molester who had been released from prison due to over crowding	Thru-hiker
My wallet was stolen at the Killington peak ski hut in Vermont	Thru-hiker
Night of 7/19/99 at Morgan Stuart Shelter in NY. I encountered a man with make-shift equipment. He exhibited strange behavior and wore a jacket with the hood up even though it was 70 deg. He didn't do anything but I met some people who reported	Thru-hiker
Not a big deal, some weekender randomly yelled at me	Thru-hiker
Not truly a theft, however, items I left at a trailhead for other hikers were taken and trash scattered about	Thru-hiker
Past US 19E, Roan Mountain, Tenn. On a paved but not much traffic road 3 Rottweillers came out of a white trailer and started to attack me. One in particular was vicious	Thru-hiker
Saw a vandalized car at Big Blue Mt.	Thru-hiker
Several estranged people with odd behavior that made me uncomfortable	Thru-hiker
Several individuals who did not appear to be legit. Hikers, actions, appearance, experience, + equipment did not correspond with their stories as thru hikers	Thru-hiker
Someone's pack was stolen in Pennsylvania	Thru-hiker
Stolen map in Damascus	Thru-hiker
Van at trailhead had been broken into	Thru-hiker
While in the town of Peekskill(project town) next to the post office I walked by a group of men hanging out for part-time work who said "You from the mountains – you can go back to the mountains" Peekskill is a bad town for thru-hikers to resupply	Thru-hiker
Witnessed several vandalized vehicles near Whitetop/Mt. Rage area, VA, and near Oquossoc, ME. Heard of a man behaving strangely and using obscene language towards female hikers in the Shenandoah National Park	Thru-hiker

(QB7d) Have you ever encountered a security problem at a trailhead or parking lot within a few miles of the trail during the past 12 months? Please describe the incident.

Incident	Section
Automobile break-in at White Mountain National Forest	100 Mile Wilderness
Car broken into in the white mountains	100 Mile Wilderness
Cars broken into	100 Mile Wilderness
The manager of hiker hostel repeated sexual advances	Baxter State Park
2 tires were slashed while I was out hunting. There has been no such activity since	Catawba
Automobile parked overnight at trailhead in PA was vandalized, discovered by my wife who waited for me at that spot	Catawba
The two cars parked next to ours at the trail head were broken into. Happened in Salisbury CT on July 17th, check the police records, it really happened!!!	Connecticut
Purse was stolen out of trunk of car	Georgia
Saw the window of a car left at trailhead knocked out	Georgia
Friend's car window broken nothing stolen	Mount Rogers
I was sleeping in the back of my truck and the Ford Explorer next to me was broken into, sounding the alarm, on Sunday. The time was 12:30 a.m. I was near Mt. Washington	New Hampshire – Mahoosics
Our car was broken into along Route 17 in Maine. \$1000 in property was stolen	New Hampshire - Mahoosics
Busted window on car. Gear stolen while rock climbing	New Hampshire – South
A car break in - window smashed- at the Appalachian parking area on rt2 in NH	New Hampshire- White Mountains
Did not feel comfortable leaving pack in backroom at Pinkham Notch so I could go to the AYCE buffet upstairs. My pack was not allowed in the eating area -I - like to see my pack at all times	New Hampshire – White Mountains
My car window was broken and the whole car was gone through but nothing was missing	New Hampshire – White Mountains
At the trailhead to Tinker Cliffs several windshields were smashed last fall	Outing Club of VA Tech
Car windows shot out of a car parked next to mine. This occurred in spring 1998	Outing Club of VA Tech
Men coming near my car while I was alone	Outing Club of VA Tech
A friend's car windows were broken at Bake Oven Knob's Parking Lot	Pennsylvania
My vehicle parked at Keys Gap (VA Rt9) Side window was chipped and gouged with a rock	Pennsylvania
Cars broken into at parking lot	Shenandoah
Not sure I'd call it security, but made me uncomfortable; was walking in WV from lot to trail, just 20 ft, and passers by were making cat calls out their vehicle windows	Shenandoah
While passing a parking area, I noticed a vehicle (truck) w/the drivers side window smashed, possible theft but it didn't happen to my property (just something I noticed)	Shenandoah
A man was naked in a non shower/bath facility. He came out of the stall as I walked in, and then he went back in the stall. A friend of mine was threatened later by this same naked guy	Smoky Mountains
Car break in	Smoky Mountains
Car vandalism	Smoky Mountains
I have had no problems but have heard of problems at Davenport Gap and Hay 19E on the AT	Smoky Mountains

Jeering by drinking males in a parking lot	Smoky Mountains
Observed broken glass at trailhead parking, indicating a break-in	Smoky Mountains
Window smashed and car vandalized. Nothing of value stolen. Incident on Clingman's Dome road	Smoky Mountains
At Gov. Clement Shelter a couple of days before I arrived there was someone shooting an assault rifle near the shelter.	Vermont
Saw a car stolen from the trailhead for the Skookumchuck trail (in NH), a side trail of the AT	Vermont
Vehicles at trailheads being broken into	Vermont
Very large group of unsavory looking individuals at Rt. 9 crossing, drinking and shooting craps.	Vermont
My vehicle was broken into and some items and money were taken	Western Maine
Some members of my party have had their vehicles vandalized	Western Maine
2 cars at trailhead were broken into	Thru hiker
A car parked at trail head was broken into-the window was broken - we were being dropped off by Hikers Paradise, Gorham NH when they called the police	Thru hiker
A car window was smashed out in the parking lot before Manchester Vt	Thru hiker
A man was looking to "pick up" other male hikers such as myself. I went to his house without realizing, but he was harmless enough if a little too forward	Thru hiker
A vehicle was broken into while it was parked at Clarendon Gorge in VT.	Thru hiker
A very strange individual who seemed drunk was hanging around the trailhead in NC. Before Waigaya bald. Very suspicious, and it caused my friends and I to become alarmed; thankfully we found a ranger soon after, and he said he'd look into the situation	Thru hiker
At Dick's Creek Gap, there's a local guy in a blue pickup truck that asked me 20 questions (where I was going, who was I with, etc) before he told me he was a shuttler. He scared other people I know	Thru hiker
Breaking and entering of a vehicle	Thru-hiker
Car broken into at trailhead parking lot, owner unknown	Thru-hiker
Cars were broken into, sometimes burned (near 19E in TN) or windows were broken out (near Height of Land Oquassic - Rangeley, ME)	Thru-hiker
Cars where we parked had been broken into and vandalized	Thru-hiker
I witnessed destruction of vehicles near Mt. Rogers, no parking area and the subsequent area of the victims to secure aid for cut battery cables, smashed windows and ransacked interiors	Thru-hiker
In areas where there is little/no security there is more beer drinking and singing, shooting and general rowdiness	Thru-hiker
Individual soliciting AT hikers – give them a ride to a town for a fee and warning us not to hitch-hike and finding that driver was dangerous	Thru-hiker
My pack was stolen from a restaurant in Woodstock, VT while I was inside. I told the cops and it was found	Thru-hiker
Not sure, broken windows in vehicle, Mt. Rodgers	Thru-hiker
On 4/5/99 there were many thru hikers @ the Fontana Hilton, @ 11 pm some cops came in and harassed everyone w/ a "drug dog." Cops searched everything and left contents wherever they felt while the dog pissed all over everything. They left with nothing	Thru-hiker
Read description of man who offered sexual favors to hikers. Two days later encountered man outside Port Clinton, PA, who matched perfectly. No advances were made	Thru-hiker
Same as above; a family's vehicle was stolen at a trailhead. A forest ranger was notified and he was helping the family	Thru-hiker
Saw a vandalized car at Big Blue Mt.	Thru-hiker
Saw two cars that had their windows broken out. Happened at AT crossing	

near Manchester Ctr. VT	Thru-hiker
Trash thrown on trail. Reports of threats – but people were nice to me	Thru-hiker
The driver of a car in rural NC viewed my wife and I (we are of differing races) at one gap and was waiting at the next secluded gap. Luckily another hiker had engaged him in conversation; there was a definite feeling of menace with this person and situation	Thru-hiker
There were 2 different groups of drunk rednecks. I avoided the first, and the second, more dangerous, group I dispersed with the help of several local residents	Thru-hiker
Vandalism to cars (theft of radios/broken windows). Our car was not involved. There were signs warning of theft in the area	Thru-hiker
Walked past a truck that had its windows broken	Thru-hiker
We saw the potential for an incident in a national forest with loud, drinking fellows, which might have become an incident with a young woman. We escorted this young woman (hiking alone) past this car (w/2 drinking guys) thereby avoiding an incident	Thru-hiker

(QB9)

When traveling on the Appalachian Trail, do you ever intentionally hike or camp near other people for reasons of safety or personal security

Response	Section
If hiking alone and there is a small youth group or coed group, I will often connect at group sites, lean-to, etc., at night. Don't generally hike during the day with them. This past outing my hiking buddy wanted to stop at the tree line.	Baxter State Park
I would if opportunity existed	
A gut feeling that something or someone is just not quite right.	
Its only the logical thing, also to make new friends	
When coming down from the top of a mountain later than thought safe	
Sometimes intentionally didn't camp near people if I got a bad vi be from them	
Stay at shelter or tent near shelter for water, privy, & safety	
When near accessible roads	
When hiking on myown I do generally feel safer at shelters, or with thru hikers.	
I never camped alone, it just felt more comfortable in a group	
In case of emergency it's best to be near people.	100 Mile Wilderness
If I get hurt there is someone else near to get help	
I would never hike alone	
Feel more secure if traveling with a group. Haven't intentionally hiked near people but feel safer if others are around.	
Try to camp where there is a caretaker	
Camp at established sites	
When alone	
If possible I hike with someone else because I am female	
I would camp near people when we were near road crossings	Western Maine
White Mountain Hot System.	
In 1997, in GA, we were concerned about the safety of female hikers traveling alone b/c a local ROTC group had "lost" 2 female cadets on the trail at the same time we were passing through. There had been rumors that the cadets were kidnapped.	
I met 2 spooky people. I work currently as a social worker so I have good clerical sense.	
Feel more comfortable with others around	
Was only on it once, but I felt more comfortable camping near a family	
Every time I sleep near a road crossing	
Companionship more than safety	
Prefer shelters with others present	
Only at established campsites otherwise we try to camp alone	
Contact with people is good	
I often hike alone, so I don't like to be too isolated in case I should get injured	
I always hike with at least one other person.	NH-Mahoosucs
Often useful to have an extra person	
There is comfort in groups	

Safety in number .		
Safety in numbers.		
When I am hiking alone		
I prefer to stay at campsites, I usually hike alone	NH-White Mountains	
I like the exposure to other hikers		
I hike alone. In steep areas I try to ensure that there are others around.		
Have not tent camped in years. This hike was hut-to-hut but not for security/safety reasons.		
Campgrounds - safety with others nearby		
Near roads		
I trust other hikers and I like to talk to them so my imagination doesn't run away from me		
One campsite was known to attack bears		
When backpacking alone I try to camp in or near shelters		
When camping at a designated area close to a main road.		
As a woman I do not like to camp alone although I like to hike alone.		
I would not stay alone at a site. I would hike with others or stay where there is a caretaker .		
If I expect really bad weather		
If I am hiking alone.		
Just feel more comfortable with others		
Feel more secure knowing that there are other people around.		
It's dangerous to be a young woman along - I hiked near other long distance hikers		
Because I was alone, I preferred knowing there were other campers within earshot. Of course, I had my trusty German Shepard with me as well		
Already in group		
Haven't had the opportunity to camp other than at designated sites		
When hiking (backpacking) years ago when my children were young (in case something happened to me)		
Because of strength in numbers		NH-South
Yes, especially if the site is near a road, its just good, common sense		
Often used shelters or tent near shelter, with several hikers if near roads		
if I am along - not when traveling with others		
Mostly for the comraderie	Vermont	
As a women hiking alone, I felt safer in shelters, with other thru-hikers		
We camped as a group in mass the weekend several high schools and let out and we heard it was going		
If I'm camping by myself I would likely try to camp near other "friendly-looking" folks.		
I believe there is safety in numbers, especially at night.		
Preferred camping at shelters only if more than one person camped there as well,		
Did not stay along at a shelter. Saw them as a target for someone looking for hikers.		
Our group included an adult male for security and also a dog. Also, see questionnaire.		
Sometimes feel safer if others are near .		
If I perceive a possible problem, I would rather move on or camp secretly		

alone	
I prefer staying in shelters: "safety in #'s." However my husband would prefer the woods--harder to find us!	
Safety in numbers. I will usually hike alone but, at night I will camp by others or at shelters.	
Safety in numbers	
If the campground or trail is near a road I would rather be near other people	
Afraid of being bothered by weird - MEN-. Not afraid of women or animals.	
For reasons of safety, different from "security" as you define it above	
I camp away from people for reasons of safety and security	
I camped in my group of 6 for total safety and security	
Camping with boyfriend the whole way for that reason	Massachusetts
Safety in numbers	
Depends on who the people are, how secure i feel around them	Connecticut
Safety in numbers.	
It's just more comfortable	
Whether it is psychological or physical, I don't know, but it is probably more psychologically reassuring	New York
Used shelters when possible	
Safety in numbers	
I try to stay within hearing distance in case help is needed	
I just feel safer	
Haven't camped overnight on the AT	
I'm more secure to be alone than to be camping near others.	
Bears - water gap	
Near huts	
Very limited	
Going down Katahdin, I found it foolhardy to be the last down a very steep cliff. Asked the party which overtook me to let me join them on steepest part.	
Hiking with college friend, stuck close, no real problems	New Jersey
Presence of black bears	
I feel more comfortable with a small group	
Prefer to camp near shelters but have camped in remote areas away from shelters.	
I camped at a backpackers site	
If I see someone or something suspicious I'll try to camp with others who are not.	
I am a paranoid New Yorker, I got that "Deliverance" feeling	
I do it for entertainment. I've never had concerns regarding my security	
I stick w/my buddies while hiking. Area of hike was reported to be high traffic area for bears due to drought.	
Generally use sites near lean-tos for all reasons; safety, low impact, convenience	
Very rarely, but at times on a long distance hike it seems to make sense.	
Most of the time I feel safer alone and hidden off the trail.	
I'm an ex-officer and always carry a gun (I have a permit), I would be concerned about letting my children go hiking alone or inappropriately supervised on the trail or anywhere else (some areas in a town or city	Pennsylvania

included)	
I try to camp with people I know (while thru hiking last year); If solo, I would use my instincts.	
The shelter areas seemed safer than elsewhere because it is where hikers congregate	
I was aware people were hiking ahead and behind me, camping at night near other packers was an important source of security .	
With people I hike in with	
I always camp with my partner or other thru hikers	
If I was by myself or with one other female (I'm female) I would change my behavior knowing that I'm more vulnerable. I might try to stay away from other people, depending on my impression of them. I'm aware that people have been murdered on the trail,	
Do not camp.	
At shelters, etc., combination of socializing and safety .	
If I was hiking alone I probably would. If they didn't mind, that is	
Stay at shelters	
I use shelters whenever possible.	
I feel more secure joining a group but will camp alone and feel unsafe.	
If it suits my schedule I will camp near people but sometimes I camp away from weird people for my own protection.	
Try to camp near established shelters	
If feels safer to camp where other people are	Maryland
I don't enjoy sleeping alone on the trail.	
It's nice to know that there are people sharing the same experience	
Depends on people, i tend to camp in secluded spots	
Security in numbers	
Feel safer away from everyone	
In case of an accident, help is not far off	Shenandoah
If we need to camp near a road crossing, i prefer groups nearby	
Feel safer when there are more people, and the campsite is easily accessible by car. Concerned about people coming in by car, hiking a short distance, and partying. Feel safer in more remote areas.	
Only when traveling alone, simply to be safer	
In small groups of friends if possible	
A few people meeting in shelters	
Sometimes don't go if I would have to go alone	
Safety in numbers	
Being a female, I never feel secure enough on the AT to camp alone	
The section of trail from US 19E to Moreland Gap in Tennessee has had some incidents on it so I was warned to stay with other hikers	
I prefer to camp within sight of other people	
Usually hike with a group	
As a female always like to hike with another person, I prefer to camp next to other people as well.	
Feel safer when I camp near a shelter, but will camp alone to get to my destination on time	
Near poles for food to protect from bears - is that not a type of protection?	
I always hike with someone (slipped and fell, got stung, got lost, etc)	Outing Club of Va. Tech

Feel more secure	
Safety in numbers for women hikers	
Safety in numbers, especially for women	
If a bear might be in the area, safety is in numbers	
If possible.	
Usually camp in the shelters.	
Makes me feel more comfortable.	
Camp at night near people to feel safer.	
When hiking alone I prefer to hike in more traveled areas because I am female and I feel safer when more people are around.	
I like to stay at shelters (away from roads) when I'm alone.	
I feel more secure with other people nearby .	
If I'm hiking alone I like to hike near families	
If I am not in a large group it makes me feel more secure	
Hate camping near others	
For security and first aid reasons I always hike with at least one other person	
I am a woman and hike with my 10 and 11 year old children. I try to hike where there will be others.	
I would definitely if I was alone I would never hike alone.	
Safety in numbers	
Never camped on the A T, but if I were to I probably would seek to be somewhat near other campers	
If camping in areas easily accessible by road	
Safety	
I'm female, and hiking in an unfamiliar area made me a little cautious	
Good to have someone in case of medical emergency, felons, or wild animal attacks.	
I feel safer with male companions to be away from other people.	
Travel with a group	
When my children go with me, they tend to wander ahead and knowing people are nearby lessens my fear of an attack.	
If I'm alone, I try to dayhike near other hikers. In 1981 I thru hiked and tried to stick with other groups after the Harrisburg incident.	
Security in numbers	
As a woman I don't feel that it is safe to hike/camp alone. Feel safer with others around at shelters	
I usually hike with fellow women friends, we don't feel very safe with hunters and locals in the area	Catawba
People are not to be trusted when camping alone	
The majority of time I hike alone. As a single female I feel more comfortable when I hike or camp near others.	
I'm a female and in some locations feel more comfortable, especially over night being with others	
If traveling alone	
I always hike with a friend	
As a woman, when/if alone on the trail, I do prefer to be at a shelter	Mount Rogers
Usually hike into a group or another individual. I don't hike alone.	
Always have a partner .	

When camping I feel much more secure and relaxed near other hikers	
Safety in numbers	
I always make an effort to stay close with the members of my group, but do not go out of the way to be near other groups	
I never hike alone, and we are always careful when talking to people we meet	
Worried about wild bears	North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF
I never hike alone	
Hiked with group starting in dangerous section.	
For safety reasons	Smoky Mountains
I believe it is a good safety precaution to hike or camp with others whenever possible	
Bear incidence - the bear dragged of my companions pack we got it back but moved our tent even closer to others on the site	
I hike alone most of the time, but prefer to camp with someone around due to being a solo female hiker .	
I was pleased when there were several hikers in shelters near roads	
I am a lone woman - some trepidation & I hope to get past this personally	
Am usually alone. Like to know that there are other humans nearby .	
I am deaf so I tend to hike alone but I feel more secure being around others.	
I always make reservations for shelters.	
Always travel with a group	
Strength is in numbers for whatever reason	
Staying with a group of individual or team hikers	
In case of bears, I feel safer camping near members of my party	
I always hike in a group for security	
Usually with members of trail club	
I like to be with our club group. I have never hiked or camped alone.	
Safety in numbers	
Hiking in a group of two females. It seemed safest when we were tenting near other tents or near an occupied shelter.	NC-Nantahala NF
Stay in shelters	Georgia
Solo female hiker, more fear of animals than people	
I go to get away from people. If I wanted to feel insecure I would stay at home.	
In case of emergency	
Stayed at shelters for protection	
Feel more secure in remote uninhabited areas	
I camp at shelters because there are more people around	
Safety in numbers	
In Smokies I was afraid to hike alone after seeing a grown bear at a shelter.	
Usually with other people - Do not hike alone	
With my young daughters I need more security	
I am a single female (usually alone)	
I would always take someone along or camp near a populated area.	
I camp near the shelters	
I would prefer to camp in small groups.	

If near a road or in a sketchy area like Roan Mtn.	Thru Hiker
In areas of the at companion reported some areas dangerous (Elf Park) camped in a group, while not intentionally camping near others on the whole trip it is sometimes comforting	
Groups are always more secure if you know it is families with them	
When accompanied by my daughter I avoided camping alone near road access points	
Only for the sake of a female with concern	
Additional safety in numbers	
Reasons of personal safety and security	
In areas that had been a trouble spot.	
When I am in a high traffic area near towns.	
Especially in NY & NJ. There is very easy access to the AT by roads & it was a quiet time of year. We simply -felt- more comfortable hiking with another young lady who was solo hiking. We weren't so concerned for ourselves, but for her, hiking alone & all.	
Safety in numbers	
Because of water we hit shelters	
As a general rule and in specific locations (Roan Mtn., TN.)	
On occasion, when we saw a sketchy character, we hung out with others for the evening	
Solo female hiker, I'm always worried about how safe I am, it's always preferable to camp near other hikers than alone.	
Especially if I'm less than a mile from a road and/or left town late in the day .	
Was asked by some women	
Usually hike alone, but prefer to camp around other hikers. I probably fear bears more than I fear locals or psychos. And I know from books that black bears attack solo hikers more often than groups.	
A woman alone, I felt more comfortable with others	
There is always safety in numbers	
Especially if our destination for one day was near a pond or day access for public	
I feel safer with a group of other campers	
Near road crossings or town visits	
I rarely camped alone (total of 5 times maybe), but I often hiked alone, or with my dog who traveled from Georgia to Maine with me. At night if I wasn't hiking with someone, I intentionally went to a shelter or stopped to camp with others.	
Places near civilization, (Safety in numbers)	
Shelter areas are always filled w/ people in peak season. I never felt threatened by a hiker so there is comfort that you will not spend the night alone, when you do not desire.	
Once while camping near a road (we had heard not to camp near roads) we camped in a group	
I liked to camp with others when I was near a road crossing	
Extreme weather	
I naturally tend to camp with people.	
When camping near roads or other places with easy public access I would camp with other thru hikers. We would look after each other .	
It's safer, particularly w/ in a few miles of a road crossing	

Sometimes bears, mental security
Only in areas with high bear sightings
It's not healthy to be totally alone for 6 months
Safety in numbers and companionship
When close to a road
Apple House shelter near US 19E on Friday Night
Strength in numbers, in case anything would happen I feel it would be nice to have a friend
Never got mental about it, but if I was camping near a road, which I rarely did, I felt more comfortable if other hikers were around.
When a strange acting person was around
Near roads or in areas used frequently by local peoples to party not to hike or camp
At the outset of my trip, but not N. Of NJ If I was to hike trail again, nest year, I would feel safe to camp alone from day 1
Especially near roads, busy areas
Shelters are a nice place to meet up with friends
I camp near others when I am near road crossings in the mid-Atlantic and sometimes down south.
Especially if the campsite is 112 mile from a trailhead
In Roan Mt., TN area-very fearful because of past assaults on hikers. Hiked 23 miles in one day just to be able to stay at a shelter .
Safety in numbers
When I started, but unafraid to stay alone
I stay at shelters because I enjoy the security when I'm around others.
You just never know
Safety in numbers, and for weather related safety concerns when in the mountains
Always travel together
Only if there are other hikers that I know.
I'm female and would rather be near people when possible to feel comfortable.
We've avoided shelters near roads in order to avoid local parties and when we were unable to do so, camped in numbers with other thru hikers to insure a stronger presence
Only areas that were historically notorious for insecurities along that section of the trail
Always felt safer around other thru hikers
I have met some weird people and don't feel too secure staying at some shelters and campsites. I've sought out friends at such places so we can feel mutually secure.
I usually stay at shelters for security of animals not people
I will if I discover something suspicious
Safety in numbers
Mental reassurance that someone is there if you need help
Camping near roads in rural areas where partying has been a problem I often teamed up with other thru-hikers. However, I never encountered any problems.
When near a road for very crowded areas like national parks

Very rarely, but near creepy places
Places near roads or if I observed someone I didn't trust in the area I would intentionally camp with other thru hikers
Safety in numbers (only occasionally)
I camp away from where I could normally be found easily
Felt more comfortable if near a road or close to a town
At times when access to trail is easy from roads or streets
In bad weather, just in case
Safety is always in numbers
Felt more comfortable when near an access point
When near road crossing and areas known to have problems
On occasion, I make sure that female hikers do not hike or camp alone
There were always the bikers at the shelters that I saw day in and day out
Felt more secure, but it wasn't a big problem if I camped alone at night
It is always best to hike/camp with a group
For safe crossing of high water roads
Preferred to camp with others; I believe there is safety in numbers and felt a need to converse from time to time although I started my hike alone, I preferred company at the end of the day
Whenever camping within five miles of a road
Bad weather high impact wild animals
I've felt threatened by unleashed dogs
Near road access points
Done this once in 25 years of walking, when trail was icy .
Female hiker traveling along
Safety in numbers, or it at least eases my mind
I feel more safe with other people
If a shelter is near a road I like it when others are around.
When I first started hiking I stayed in the shelters because I didn't know how save the AT was.
In the Shenendoah the double murder still creeps me out
It's good to be around people
There have been areas along the trail that were questionably safe. Normally I like to tent alone, but in these circumstances, I preferred the company of a fellow thru-hiker.
I'm female. It just makes me feel my best.
If camped out on a road and visible
I like knowing that someone will notice if something happens and I don't show up
Safety in numbers
2 heads are better than one when facing good bad situations
It is always safer to camp with other hikers
I feel safer camping in groups of 3-5 people because of history of a few murders that have occurred over the past 10 years on the AT usually involving people camping alone or in groups of 2.
When near roads or trailheads, it feels safer to be with others
Less chance of being bothered if near a road or developed areas - safety in numbers

Questionnaire people encountered at location night before	
Hiked with a partner mostly but also didn't like the huts near roads that were heavily traveled	
Just for general safety	
We camped near a road crossing and felt that safety could be an issue at that location.	
Power in numbers, especially near roads	
Never camped alone	
I hike with at least 1 other person for company as much security though I have stayed by myself without worrying for my safety .	
I can get lonely after a while. Safety in numbers.	
Stay in lean-tos or official campsites	
Safety in numbers,	
In a bad section of Tennessee	
Initially I simply felt safer with others camping near me.	
Nearly every night for the first few weeks on the trail	
In area close to roads and towns	
Safety in numbers	

(QC3) What did you enjoy most about your trip on the Appalachian Trail?

Baxter State Park (N=46)

Beautiful area, scenery, fresh air, exercise

Beautiful views

Being able to hike the entire trail in 2 years with my daughter

Being in the wilderness with friends

Camaraderie of friends

Challenge

Experiencing nature with family

Feeling of well being, simplifying life, carrying everything I need on my back, accomplishment

Hiking and exercise

Hiking in a beautiful secluded place and getting engaged

I enjoyed it as the AT, thru-hiked it in 94

It made me happy for no particular reason

Map or guide book to stay on the right trail. There wasn't many dangerous observations

Met someone on the trail, the views

Nature, scenery

Opportunity to hike up a big mountain alone

Scenery

Scenery, exercise, solitude

Scenery, wilderness experience, personal challenge

Solitude of hiking

Solitude, meeting other hikers (in small groups or individually)

Summitting Baxter Park and seeing the view companionship

The (backcountry) wilderness

The amazing people you meet

The changing conditions along the way. Also neat bridges to keep feet dry!

The freedom to be who you are and not have a lot of constraints

The mountains, forest, exercise, and the freedom

The number of people enjoying themselves

The opportunity to share with my dad the last 50 miles of his 99 thru-hike. Spectacular terrain

The people we met. Animals and the views

The physical exercise and scenery

The physical experience and beauty of the countryside

The simple lifestyle

The solitude and access to a stream at the campsite. The hike was really challenging but fun

The view from Baxter Peak

The views

The way I felt about being away from the civilized world, meeting new people every day

Wilderness (Maine)

Wilderness, sense of accomplishment, Enjoying view and exercise.

100 Mile Wilderness (N=91)

A chance to get away and enjoy the solitude
Being in woods, enjoying nature
Being out there
Being outdoors, enjoying nature
Being outdoors
Being outside with friends
Being with my daughter
Day hiking w/ cold falls to swim in at the summit
Doing something with my friends and family
Enjoyed the well-kept trail, the scenery
Fresh air, sunshine, exercise
Getting away for a while and finishing the entire trip
Getting out into wildlife
Great views, well marked trail
Having the opportunity to experience nature with some of my friends who'd only been "urban" camping
Hiking and views
Hiking, nature
I worked with the force crew in hardening the trail surface and learned trail maintenance
Just enjoyed the summer of Maine
Land and countryside views
Location
Longevity and environment
Natural beauty
Nature
Nature study and scenery
People
Scenery
Scenery and my partner
Scenery, isolation
Scenery/views
Sense of accomplishment
Solitude and scenery
Solitude, meeting new people, wildlife
Solitude, views
Spending time out - conversation with the prof.
Spending time with the friends I hiked with
The appreciation of our work from hikers
The beautiful forest, streams and Geology! Trail was exciting to hike with ascending & descending
The beauty and the serenity
The beauty of the area and the geological formation
The challenge of the trail, the natural beauty of Maine
The friendly people you meet while hiking. All for the same reasons
The geology
The scenery
The scenery, natural diversity, and physical challenge
The scenic views and vegetation
The short side trails with views over the river
The surroundings
The view
The view and exercise
The view of Gulf Hags
The view of the falls
The views and feeling of accomplishment
The views and the solitude and the lack of people on our particular hiking day
The waterfalls, the height of the gorge, the peace and quiet.

The waterfalls, the physical activity
Variety of this particular area, wonderful views
Views
Views, scenery
Walking/hiking
Waterfalls
We hiked Gulf Hagas- The waterfalls

Western Maine (N=115)

Views, feeling of accomplishments
Above timberline, seeing old friends, remembering my thru hike
Accomplishment
Adventure, exercise, beauty of scenery
Backpacking, freedom and appreciation
Beautiful trail work
Being away from society
Being back out, been hiking over 18 yrs, over 18,000 AT miles and 7.5 end to end trips, love the AT
Being out in the woods
Being outdoors, views, workout, smells, trees, company
Being with my daughter
Being with nature
Catching fresh trout & the high mt experience
Challenge of trail and good camping at Horn Pond
Challenge view
Challenging - physical demand - good exercise - great scenery - companionship
Challenging hike over a reasonably well maintained and naked trail
Challenging hike, great views, exercise
Challenging terrain and weather, beautiful lakes and views
Chatting with a thru hiker whom I met and hiked with for about 3 hours
Climbing mountains
Continuous small achievements
Diverse terrain, people, wildlife, views
Diversity of topography and plant life
Enjoyed the people I met, and continuing to climb New England's highest 65 peaks
Exercise and view
Exercise/view
Experience of natural surroundings
Family
Feeling of accomplishment, solitude
Finding Piazza Rock
Fishing
Fresh air
Getting away from the everyday, rangers were helpful and facilities were good
Great weather and scenery
Heather Merzack was a great ranger
Hiking and talking with thru hikers
I enjoyed the trail in its entirety
It was pretty, no garbage, great privys, and it was quiet
Its was a great experience to be on the trail and to experience the trail firsthand
Just being in the woods
Just feeling at peace in the wild
Liked climbing Saddleback mountain and liked little Wilson falls
Living the way I love to live
Meeting new people and seeing old friends from previous hikes
Meeting people along the corridor who knew the history of the area

New scenery and environment

Our ranger at Horn's Pond was great- so was the view

Quiet, challenging terrain, beautiful scenery

Ridge hiking

Scenery

Seclusion, scenery

Seeing all the trees left unharmed, being out in the quiet of nature

Seeing animals, meeting people, exercise

Seeing through hikers and talking with them

Sense of solitude and feeling of accomplishment

Solitude

Solitude, no phones, no electricity, no development. The view, meeting new people on my own standards

Solitude, scenery, hiking

Solitude, vistas, physical challenge

Spending time outside

Spending time with my son

Staying at the shelter

The ability to get out and hike, get good experiences & see things

The climbs, the views, the well managed camp sites(Piazza Rock, others in past yrs)

The effort, scenery and challenge

The other hikers just like family

The physical activity and camping outdoors

The scenery was stupendous, and the people on my trip were fun and interesting

The sheer beauty of the wilderness

The sights I saw and the wonderful people I met

The view from Saddleback Mt.

The views

The views and the fishing

The wonderful climbs/people

The wonderful trail - overall excellent condition

Unspoiled and beautiful/Good hike for kids

View, challenge, wildlife

Viewing wilderness, being with kids

Views

Views and atmosphere

Views and company

Views of mountains, rivers, ponds

Walking in the woods

Wilderness

Wonderful camaraderie with other hikers, Grayson highlands

NH - Mahoosucs (65)

A beautiful trail that is well maintained with breathtaking views

Backpacking. It was my first multi night hike

Beautiful scenery/weather. Great trails!

Being close to nature, exercise, change of environment

Being outside and seeing nature

Being with my group, views

Better maintained than state trails

Challenge of the hike, views, the trails

Challenge, views

Chatting with thru hikers getting to know the friend whom I hiked with

Enjoying the beauty of nature with friends and family

Exercise, feeling of accomplishment, meeting like minded people

Finally experiencing the infamous Mahoosuc Notch

Getting out of the city, the expansiveness of the mountains & sky, my family and friends
Hiking, scenery, family doing an activity together
Meeting and seeing people
Nice scenery in that region. Good to get outdoors
No noise
Putting the risk of life into perspective
Reaching the mountain tops with spectacular views and cool breezes
Rugged and scenic terrain
Saw a friend, views
Scenery & talking with thru hikers
Scenery, the company, the challenge
Scenic areas and talking to through hikers
Solitude
Solitude and scenery
Successfully completing a trail of historical significance
Swimming in Speck Pond once we reached it
Talking with thru hikers
The alpine environments at Saddleback and Gooseeye Crest
The beauty of the trail and mountains
The camaraderie from the other hikers; views from peaks & scenic turnouts
The challenge of hiking on rough trails, the scenery, weather, camping
The challenging section of the AT in south Maine
The experience
The group, the beauty, being close to nature
The people I met
The trail, the other hikers, experience - living my dream
The summit and company (group)
The various difficulties of terrain
The views and the wilderness
The views and wildlife
The views, Speck Pond was beautiful, I took pictures
Trout
Uphill hiking the baldplates in the fog and rain (felt tough)
Views
Views
Views from Old Speck, Speck Pond site
Visiting our daughter who is a shelter caretaker
Wilderness & alpine setting (flora, fauna, scenery)

NH - White Mountains (169)

A trip with my 6 and 12 year old boys and my wife
Above treeline parts of the trail
Beautiful views, met some nice people. Great weather for 3 days straight!
Beauty and challenge
Beauty, staff
Being able to hike and enjoy the outdoors
Being above the tree line with my 10yr old daughter and experiencing her joy and excitement
Being alone and the sense of accomplishment each day
Being alone w/ partner
Being alone with family
Being alone in nature's beauty
Being away from urban environment
Being in nature
Being in nature, the beauty of the area (White Mountains)
Being in the mountains away from work and stress

Being out on the trail and seeing God's creation of mountains and nature
Being out there
Being outdoors
Being outdoors in a natural setting
Being outdoors in nature
Being outdoors, snow on the summit of Mt. Washington
Being outside seeing a mature forest, views from top, friendly people, talking to a thru hiker
Being self-sufficient and away from civilization
Being with family
Being with friends
Being with my son
Birding
Boreal forest, steep climbs, rock outcrops
Challenge of trail
Challenge of walking 2160 miles
Climbing peaks
Companionship of our group - challenge of hiking during hurricane Floyd!
Contact with nature, view, solitude, and connecting with other hikers
Cutting at blow downs with my axe after tropical storm came through
Excellent trail conditions
Exercise
Exercise and use of equipment
Exercise, relaxation and solitude
Exercise, spending time with friends, being outdoors
Experiencing nature with my son and teaching him about backpacking and hiking
Experiencing the spectacular wilderness of Pemigewasset Area; summits, notches, cliffs, waterfalls
Fellowship with friends beauty of surroundings
Finishing it
Fishing Jimmy was moderate slope down from Lonesome Lake hut, along a nice creek
Getting away - the exercise - the views
Getting away from a big city to somewhere reasonably remote
Getting in condition to hike well and enjoying being in the forest
Good experience with son
Group socializing
Having perfect weather the day I hiked MT. Washington
Hiking
Hiking in rain, reaching summit, and seeing a new piece of the trail
Hiking with light pack
I enjoyed the views along with the physical demand/challenge of my body
I wanted a physical challenge and got it the first day (hurricane Floyd.) Also the views
In truth - getting off to less developed areas.
Isolation from "city people" and beauty of nature
Just being in the mountains
Just being in the woods with my son
Just being out in the woods
Leisure
Maine
Meeting new people, being in nature
Meeting other wilderness backpackers along the trail and enjoying the solitude of a long hike
Meeting people, seeing the countryside on foot
Meeting the thru-hikers
Meeting thru-hikers, finding neat places
Meeting thru-hikers, scenery and exercise
Mt. Garfield, eathen pond
My talks with the other hikers/ caretakers, the time to think, no rushes
Nature and great views

Opportunity to be in nature with my family
Overcoming the weather - hurricane- felt awesome to be outdoors in it
Passing over the Carter-Mariah range in the rain
Peace and quiet
Perfect scenery, other thru hikers, spending time w/ friend, being away from everything for a week
Relief from the sights, sounds, smells of NYC. The scenery, the independence and self-reliance
Scenery
Scenery and exhilaration of being there
Scenery and physical challenge
Scenery, convenience of AMC huts
Scenery, exercise, companionship
Scenery, feeling of accomplishment
Scenery, meeting people, sense of freedom
Scenery, physical challenge
Scenery, remoteness, well maintained trails
Sharing the experience with my family & other hikers
Sleeping under the stars on clear nights in my hammock with no other human sounds
Solitude
Solitude and ability to meditate
Solitude and people I met
Solitude, self reliance, scenery, relaxation
Solitude, views, resting my mind
Spending time outdoors with friends
Spending time with a friend, scenery
Talking to other thru hikers
That it was on the AT and we talked to some thru hikers
The accomplishment of climbing Mt. Washington in adverse weather
The alpine environment and ability to hike above timberline
The AMC staff - the solitude
The bond that quickly forms between the group on the trail. Challenge of hiking thru hurricane
The camaraderie of being with a group of friends sharing the AT experience
The challenge
The easy access and informative trail runner
The entire experience
The grandeur of the mountains, the spirit of the crew at huts, the convenience of hut services
The hike and reaching the summits
The hike, scenery, and challenge
The hiking and views
The incredible views. The chance to get outdoors and hike with friends and family
The mountain top view, meeting people, and pondering the world
The opportunity to spend time outside in nature
The peacefulness, the availability of campground, car parking, no fee, others appreciating nature
The people I met and the knowledge that I now have of myself
The physical activity, the quietness, and the beauty
The physical exercise
The Ruggedness of the trail made it a challenge to me
The scenery along the presidential ridges
The scenery and weather
The sensate experience
The sights--Crawford Notch is beautiful
The views, smell of pine, water cascades, beautiful campsites
The volunteer at the AMC Imp shelter
Views
Views
Views and friends
Views and personal time

Views and solitude
Views and variety of users I met - day hikers-thru hikers
Views in NH
Views, being outside
Views, people
Views, physical exertion, spending time with family and friends
We were together with our children away from work, stress, etc.
Well groomed, summit, few other hikers
Wilderness experience
Workout and scenery

NH - South (66)

Back to nature, smells and views
Being close to nature
Being out
Being outdoors hoping to finish the trail
Being part of the Appalachian when I hike or camp makes me alive and so happy
Being responsible for only myself
Being there
Brought back memories of boyhood hike
Camping out climbing the braven creek cascade
Climbing another 4000 footer
Exercise, beautiful views, fresh air, quiet times
Getting away
Getting to the top-the view-hiking along the waterfalls; it was beautiful
Good friends + good trail = great time!
Gorgeous cascades; in general, natural beauty
Hiking on the trail
I got to meet through hikers and scale another mountain
Incredible people I met and became friends with
Meeting people
Meeting people from across the world and different age groups, and feeling isolated at times
Meeting thru hikers
Nice views, both along the summit and along the way
On Franconia Ridge the scenery was spectacular, especially overlooking Pemigwasset Wilderness.
Physical challenge
Scenery
Scenery, physical challenge
Sights at old farm lands along the trail
Spending a day in the woods, the view from the top, enjoying the woods
Spending time with girlfriend, punishing my body, beautiful views
Spending time with mom
Summating Mt. Mooselauke
Taking pictures of groups of people I didn't know, being with my girlfriend
The fact that I was on my own, being my own boss
The great, giant, peak of Mt. Mooselauke and steep hiking along the cascades
The growth of others in my party
The opportunity to be there-currently practicing for and testing gear for through hike
The quiet solitude, being surrounded with relatively untouched wilderness, the rigorous hike
The scenery/natural beauty
The self-regulated balance between social interaction and solitude. And most of all nature!!!
The simple pleasures of being w/ the woods, hiking, breathing, self reliance
The view at the top
Time with grandfather, and the view
To enjoy nature and to help in exercise program

Trail in good condition, weather great
Trail well marked
View, and people
Viewing scenery, peacefulness
Views, achievement
Views, weather, exercise
Views, work-out, friendly hikers
Walking in the wild
Walking, especially above the tree lines in the Whites
Weather
Weather, views, accommodations
Well maintained, marked trails, scenery, views
Wilderness experience
Working with my students helping them to understand nature and what it has to offer

Vermont (103)

Ability to hike and camp
Arriving at the shelter at the end of the day
Be self reliant with my son out in the wilderness
Being alone, beauty
Being away from people (other than a few friends)
Being gone for 4 days at a time
Being on the trail with other people
Being out in nature
Being outdoors and hiking up to a summit
Being outside
Being outside, enjoying the trail, becoming more physically fit
Being there
Being with friends and nature
Being with my friend, sense of accomplishment
Challenging, quiet
Climbing fire lookout stations and pictures from some
Connection with nature
Cool days, good views
Daily progress and really getting to know my equipment.
Enjoying the "present"
Enjoying the outdoors, solitude, camping with friends, meeting new people, less stress
Escaping the developed world to the natural
Everything
Exercise
Experience with my family, relax physically
Family interaction, scenery
Feeling of being in the woods with nature and exercise
Fine trail, challenging
Fire tower - Stratton Mt. Stratton pond should have been nice. Messy around lean to, no view
Friends, scenery
Hiking
Hiking for 7 months, experience
I love hiking with my kids
Lake swimming
Landscape
Level trail
Love hiking the different parts of the trail mountains, ponds, plants etc.
Magnificent views
Meeting northbound thru-hikers and looking forward to my own thru-hike next year

Meeting the people
My friend, people we met, beauties of nature, physical challenge
Nature - beautiful wood mountains and views
Outdoor talking to hikers, knowledgeable rangers, hiking!
Peace and solitude, scenery, bonding with other hikers
Scenery
Scenery, being outdoors
Scenery, being outdoors, solitude
Scenery, hiking in the wilderness
Scenic view areas, friendly people peacefulness, changing scenery
Seeing new trails and towns nearby, meeting hikers
Sharing quality time with my son while participating in a setting and activity we both enjoy
Simply being in the woods and enjoying the time and work of being on the trail
Solitude
Solitude
Spending time with friends
Specific location and relative ease of hike to camp site/lake
The beauty of the natural world; it's so amazing to walk mile after mile with so little intrusion
The chance to be on the trail getting exercise taking in the beauty, and relieving stress
The chance to be out in the northeast, good views
The deep woods
The entire experience
The feeling of accomplishment of hiking 190 miles The beauty of the area
The hiking and solitude
The people I met
The people were wonderful. The trail was well marked, so I felt safe and was able to just get out
The scenery
The scenic vistas
The times I was alone and away from the weekends
The view at the summit; this is a hike I have taken hundreds of times
The view from Baxter Peak
The woods from GA to VA
Very peaceful
Views
Views from Bremley and Stratton Mtns
Views, photos
Volunteer trail work, tenting site at Stratton Pond
Walking in Vermont in Autumn

Massachusetts (N=19)

Being there
Exercise, being alone
Foliage, off season hiking with fewer people
Getting out of city, spending time with friends
Hiking alone--the beauty--the unknown hardships
Meeting new people - test skills
Pushing ourselves physically and the company
Relaxation of being outdoors, close to nature, time to reflect on life and focus on present and future
Solitude
Solitude and outdoor type people
The friends I made, the scenery
The solitude and the views - Needed to be alone to clear my head - perfect time of year
Views, quiet, beauty of outdoors
Whole experience

Connecticut (N=17)

Baxter state park and its maintenance as a primitive site
Beauty of the trail, hikers met along the way
Being close to nature.
Being on the AT is like being in a different time and place, like a floating path above the world
Chance to share nature with my two young daughters
Hearing about thru-hikers that I knew 3 yrs ago
Meeting thru-hikers
My 8 year old daughter's enthusiasm
Peacefulness
Physical exertion
Scenic beauty - getting away from NYC
Stress free
The beautiful scenery and remoteness. The stretch in CT is very clean, quiet. Nice people
The pride in knowing I could do it and the help from so many wonderful people

New York (N=76)

Beautiful views, good exercise, great day hike
Beauty & landscape
Beauty of the environment
Being able to get away from work to enjoy the outdoors
Being in a wilderness area that was still largely undeveloped and the perspective that brings to life
Being in the woods, the physical challenge
Being on the trail in NY - very different texture from other states after 3 years
Being out hiking by myself
Clearly marked, well maintained
Doing it
Encountering people
Exercise
Fall colors, Hariiman state park. Amazingly large undeveloped park so close to NY city
Feeling of community and achievement
Food and people and unexpected acts of kindness
Getting away with the dogs and not seeing other people
Good weather, good trail conditions, beauty
Great experience, great views, great weather
Hikers I met and volunteers who maintain trail and provided water
How life is so different when you're out in nature
I've only hiked on the AT
I enjoyed the scenery and the nature
I enjoyed the scenery on the trail the most
I enjoyed the views from the trail and the ability to use the trail to make a good two day loop
Just walking and meeting people
Maintenance allows me to give back to AT
Meeting people
Mental and physical awareness
Mountain top views meeting interesting people
My daughter, friendliness of other hikers
Natural beauty, challenge of the backpacking trip, peace and quiet
Nature observation
Realizing that I had begun to walk the Trail
Relative seclusion, natural resources
Ridge top views
Scenery
Scenery, peaceful environment

Seeing the area and meeting interesting people
Sight seeing and camping
Solitude
Solitude
Solitude and an opportunity to see wildlife (bear and deer) in a natural environment
Solitude, a certain kinship with other hikers who have used trail before me, physical exertion
Solitude, scenery
Solitude, views, experience
Terrain, trails and wilderness
The beautiful fall foliage
The beautiful views from some of the high ridges
The challenge, moving toward a goal of worshipping God and his creation
The challenge and other hikers
The challenge and solitude
The chance to be out walking & be responsible for only myself
The chance to get out and enjoy the beautiful scenery with my girlfriend
The fact that I didn't see too many people
The ruggedness of the trail; the views
The scenery
The scenery in the woods, the company of a friend
The scenery was gorgeous and being with my family
The solitude
The views, accomplishment, adventure, solitude
The views, water at the shelters, and the sun rises
Trail is well marked between Arden and Bear Mountain
Trail, physical challenge
Views
Views, physical exercise
Views, solitude

New Jersey (N=63)

A good hike
A nice Father and Daughter who took my friend and my picture. I then took their picture and mailed photos
Be able to spend a week with my friend out in the woods away from everything
Bear encounter
Being alone and experiencing a thunderstorm in a tent
Being alone in the woods for reflection and commune with nature. Seeing a new area
Being in the AT community again
Being out in the woods seeing the bears, beautiful overlooks and talking with thru-hikers
Being outdoors/exercise
Being outside in the fresh air enjoying nature
Black bears, deer and turkey vultures
Challenge, beauty, people
Completing the section
Conditions of the trail and varied terrain easily reached by connecting trails
Everything
Exercise, feeling of accomplishment
Exercise and conversation mingled with the joy of nature
Exercise and scenery
Feeling a part of something bigger and pushing myself to backpack
Freedom
Get away from society, helped to find inner peace that's hard to find sometimes
Getting away from work and responsibilities for a few months
Great break before leaving on a three day business trip

Have enjoyed the trail for many years, first back packing experience was on the trail
Hiking the ridges
Hiking with my children on a well marked trail
I enjoyed the exercise I got
I saw a bear and a rattlesnake which was amazing; I love wild animals
I was on the trail 4 hours
It was so beautiful, relaxing but challenging
Just doing it, with friends
Lessons the trail taught me
Meeting people
Meeting the physical challenge and interacting with various people-hikers, rangers, townspeople
My son's first backpacking trip and meeting other campers
Natural beauty
Nature! The trees, the smells, the creek, the rocks, the pond, my children, the exercise
Not going crazy
On this trip I was able to spend good time w/a family member and let her experience the AT
Other hikers. I love to talk with them and share experiences
Scenery
Scenic views, semi-wilderness experience, exercise, meeting new people, the wildlife
Sharing the experience and time with my son
Sighting bear with three cubs
Solitude, scenery, exercise
Spending time with my brothers, getting away
Talk with ridge runner
The challenge of accomplishing a fairly difficult goal
The challenge: mentally, emotionally and physically
The experience and the scenery
The scenery
The security
This is my element so he who follows is on my level
Thru-hike: enjoyed the natural beauty day hike: spending time with a loved one
Very pleasant-not many hikers at all
Walking

Pennsylvania (N=63)

All of the views
Being close to nature.
Botanizing
Chance to get out and see a new section of the trail
Clean shelter and hiking with my son
Connecting with nature
Exercise - steep, rocky climbing, bird watching
Getting away from everyday doldrums and absorbing myself in nature
Hiking and talking with a close friend, mutually discovering new scenes and experiences
Hiking until I was sore
Hiking with my friends
I enjoyed being in nature
I love that the trail is well marked. I love to hike the AT because of this and love meeting thru hikers
Isolation and quiet
Just being out, exercising and having fun
Just being outdoors
Just being outdoors
Just having an area to bring my children and their friends, to experience non-commercial camping
Life on the trail, traveling, being in nature, seeing the country, trail magic
Meeting great new people

Meeting other hikers and an AT Ridge Runner
 Mostly enjoyed hiking with my two friends in the wilderness and having to fend for ourselves
 Nature study, solitude, different environment, daily rhythms than the urban area where I live
 Peace
 Peacefulness, beauty of nature, quality time spent with friends
 Physical exercise
 Quiet lunch at a primitive site
 Scenery, challenge, people
 Scenery, getting away from work pressures
 Scenery, wild animals, wilderness
 Sense of accomplishment, being outdoors
 Sitting at a picnic table by the shelter, writing and looking around at the woods; meeting 2 hikers
 Solitude and scenery
 Solitude, beautiful views, Green Mt. General Store
 Spending time accomplishing a goal with my two best friends
 The actual walking and meeting other hikers. The kindness of local residents
 The air, the people and the magnificent ridge runner, Ross
 The challenge of making it to where I wanted to go in the amount of time I had to get there
 The friendships developed with group
 The scenic beauty
 The sense of achievement, and obviously the trail itself. Nature!
 The talk + info gained from the ridge runner we encountered
 The weather, company
 The workout I got
 Time alone as a couple
 Time spent with family in the woods
 Time to think and clear mind
 Time with my kids
 Views, exercise
 Views, scenery, the people I met
 Vistas
 Well kept trails, well marked
 Wilderness

Maryland (N=23)

Being able to bring my dog and learning low impact camping
 Being able to get out with friends in a great environment so close to home
 Being in the woods on top of a mountain
 Being outdoors
 Chance to get out away from civilization
 Entire trip was enjoyable
 Meeting people, scenery
 Occasional nice views
 Quiet out in nature
 Scenery
 Solitude
 Solitude and physical testing of myself and views
 Solitude, enjoying outdoors, being with nature
 Spending time with people in my group
 The joy of doing it
 The Simplicity the experience brought to my day
 The view from Weverton Cliffs
 The views - peaceful surroundings
 Time spent with friends and gorgeous weather and nice views
 Views

Views, company, nature
Walking, solitude being in nature

Shenandoah (N=49)

Beautiful scenery, peaceful
Beauty
Being on the trail, meeting people, trail community
Being out of doors and camping in my tent
Being outdoors and spending time with a friend
Being with friends
Being with, in, about nature
Bonding with my brother - meeting wonderful friends - betting over fears
Exercise, the view, solitude
Fine trail, good views, got some great exercise, cleaned a good portion of the trail
Getting away from town and enjoying nature
Getting away, completing trail sections, hiking long distance on our own
Getting out of town and away from people
Getting outdoors, being on the trail, scenery
Hiking
I enjoyed meeting the other hikers. Enjoyed talking with my hiking partners
Just being out in nature
Just hiking in the mountains
Knowledge I will need for future thru hike
Meeting great people of all ages, views, sleeping in beautiful areas
Meeting other thru hikers and the solitude
Mountain scenery
Nature study, learning the names of trees
Peace and serenity
Returning/visiting nature and the outdoors
Scenery
Scenery, wildlife, meeting through hikers, exercise
Scenery, joy of hiking, solitude
Seeing deer and grouse. Being in the woods. The personal physical challenge
So peaceful and beautiful, a vacation from the city
Solitude - exercise
Solitude
Solitude and great weather
The community, the diversity of terrain and biodiversity of species/plants/animals
The exercise, meeting other hikers
The hike and satisfaction from trail maintenance work
The peace and quiet, and view from the scenic overlooks
The simple lifestyle and the people I met
Traversing in one day mckafee knob, tinker cliffs and Dragons tooth and then getting food catawaba
Views
The solitude, the occasional friendly hiker, the beautiful scenery

Outing Club of VA Tech (N=258)

A well maintained footpath to a beautiful viewpoint
Beautiful day
Beautiful scenery, good companionship
Beautiful surroundings, well-marked trails, awesome views
Beautiful view at Mcafee's
Beautiful views
Being able to return to my favorite summit (Mcafee Knob) with my family & seeing some wildlife

Being in nature
Being in the forest with only myself to rely on
Being outdoors
Being outdoors and exercise
Being outdoors and the exercise
Being outdoors with friends, relaxing
Being outdoors, exercise, views
Being with a loved one
Being with family/exercise/views
Being with friends and family to enjoy nature
Being with friends and family
Being with my daughter
Being with my sister, beauty of nature
Being outdoors with nature and the magnificent views
Bouldering accessibility, views
Bouldering at McAfee's Knob
Boulders at top of mountain
Challenge to myself, beauty of nature, camaraderie of fellow packers
Challenging nature of the trail
Clear trails
Climb and view from McAfee's Knob
Climbing difficult trails
Doing what I set out to do. Feeling a sense of accomplishment
Enjoyed time alone camping with my girlfriend
Enjoying the beautiful views and spending time with family
Enjoying the beauty of the place and getting to know the friends I hiked with
Exercise, scenery
Exercise, the view
Exercise and being alone
Exercise and solitude.
Exercise and views
Exercise, being outdoors w/ friends enjoying nature
Exercise, scenic views, nature observations
Exercise, views
Exercise/view
Fall colors
Fresh air and getting exercise
Getting away from the pressures of reality
Getting back home
Getting exercise outside with friends views
Getting out of town, spending time with friends out away from town
Getting out with my scout troop
Getting the Boy Scouts out hiking and camping
Good exercise in a very beautiful area
Good weather, not too many other visitors to the trail
Good workout, beautiful views
Got my new backpack adjusted properly and view from McAfee's Knob
Great day, nice weather, no boulders
Hike itself
Hiking
Hiking the AT, scenery
How nice and relaxed people were
I enjoyed being outdoors, viewing scenery, and getting exercise
I enjoyed the view as we climbed higher up
I just love hiking and being outdoors
I like to climb to the top and take in the quiet and view from the mountain

Maine in the fall
Making it to the top
Mcafee's Knob
Mcafee's Knob scenery
Nature
Nature
Nature, physical challenge
Nature, solitude, views, peace and quiet
Opportunity to get out
Peacefulness of waking up to only friends & nature
Physical challenge and the view
Playing in the woods
Quiet
Quiet, nature, views, vistas
Reaching the destination tired and being able to relax and enjoy the surroundings
Reaching the summit and relaxing with a picnic lunch with a good friend
Relaxation and exercise
Remembering passing places on my 98 thru hike
Saw other people, but not too many
Scenery
Scenery and exercise
Scenery and solitude
Scenery in Washington-Jefferson National Forest
Scenery peace and quiet, being with my fiancé
Scenery, quiet
Scenery, solitude, challenge
Scenic view
Scenic views and the neat rock formations
Seeing the woods
Safe fun place for family fun
Sharing my experience and knowledge of Virginia
Solitude
Solitude and scenery
Solitude, escape from developed areas
Solitude, views, hiking in a natural setting
Spending a day outside with my boyfriend
Spending quiet time with my children and challenging ourselves physically
Spending time with family
Spending times with friends outside with no worries
Taking people that had never been
The view from Mcafee Knob
The arrangement that someone had to go first to develop the trail
The beautiful scenery and the people you meet
The beauty, the solitude, wildlife
The beginning. Laden with heavy pack, hiking uphill into woods, I could feel week's stress melt away
The challenge – the view
The endurance, exercise, and beauty of vistas
The exercise, the view
The exercise
The great views from the overlook
The Mcafee Knob was very nice. It was a great area to sit and experience a beautiful view
The natural rock formation at Mcafee's knob
The physical activity and the view
The physical challenge and the spectacular view
The quiet and the view
The relative solitude and exercise

The scenery
The scenery and being with a friend
The scenery and nature
The scenery and the experience
The scenery, smells and sounds of nature
The scenery, the weather, the companionship, the accomplishment
The serenity and beauty of the countryside, the other hikers
The serenity, solitude and beauty
The solitude and the view
The tree cover (shade)
The view
The view all along the trail
The view and the company
The view at the top of the peak (destination point) and being with friends
The view from McAfee's Knob.
The view from McAfee's
The view from McAfee's Knob
The view from McAfee Knob, being out on the trail and in the woods
The view from the summit was terrific
The view from the top
The view from the top of McAfee's/ climbing rocks
The view at the summit
The view when we marched McAfee's Knob. It was a gorgeous, clear day. Absolutely breathtaking!
The views
The views and the quiet
The weather
The view from McAfee Knob
Time with family
Trees
Vegetation and scenery
View
View and exercise
View and getting there
View at McAfee's Knob
View at McAfee's Knob
View from McAfee's Knob
View from McAfee's Knob
View from the summit
View, nature, exercise
View, trail markers were very helpful
View, wildlife
Viewing scenery and physical challenge
Views - challenges- I don't like making the trail easier all the time
Views
Views, exercise, and family time
Views, exercise, friendliness of other hikers
Views, wildlife, thick forest
Weather, beauty of nature
Well marked and challenging trail
What I enjoyed most was being outside getting a good workout, the scenery, and being away
Wilderness setting – views
Wonderful setting to be able to relax and really talk to friends
Wonderful summit views
Yes! The exercise and meeting new people

Catawba (N=24)

Beautiful weather, beautiful view at Kelly's Knob
Being away from civilization
Being in peaceful nature, getting fresh air and exercise
Being outdoors
Company, scenery, being outside
Exercise and socializing with friend
Experiencing variety of terrain & being out in the open air
No thorns on the trail
Quiet, not a lot of traffic on the trail, convenient location to where I live
Quiet, scenery, great trail/walk
Relaxing, scenic, a fun day trip
Scenery
Scenery, being outdoors, exercise
Scenery, solitude and the hike
Solitude, exercise, views
The actual hike itself - beautiful
The beauty
The scenery, closeness with nature
The scenic outlook over the mountains and valleys
The total seclusion I felt while hiking
The view, peace, solitude exercise
The wilderness
View from Kelly's Knob
Views

Mount Rogers (N=67)

Accomplished objective
Achieving highest elevation in state of VA
Backpacking in general, physical challenges, views to the south
Beautiful views, wild ponies, great trail
Being able to enjoy the outdoors, the animals and the scenery
Being able to get away from civilization and see beautiful wildlife
Being close to nature with my family away from the stresses of the rat race
Being in the woods, the walk, learning how to camp smarter
Being outside
Being with my son
Different natural environment compared to other section of the AT
Exercise and walk
Gaining information and enjoying the trail with my family
Going to the top of Mount Rogers
Grassy balds in the Mt Prgus area are beautiful, we need to preserve the balds on the southern AT
Great views
High country, Mt Rogers NRA, has great area for excess of other trails to find solitude
Hiking and camping
Hiking and sharing life with my 7 – year old son
I enjoyed the beautiful scenery
Just being outside, away from people
Just being there
Just being there, isolation
Landscape
Meeting others along the trail and having the same interests
Nice weather, clean smelling air beauty of nature
Scenery
Scenery, peace and quiet

Scenery, ponies, exercise
Scenery, sense of accomplishment
Scenery, terrain, overnight independence, exercise
Scenic views
Scenic woods
Sharing the hike with friends
Showing my family a small portion of the AT
The balds, and meeting new people at the shelters. I also liked the solitude
The beautiful scenery, an opportunity to get away for a little while
The beauty of the location
The contemplation and scenery
The fulfillment of just being there. The beauty of this section of the trail
The outdoor experience in general, the balds were liked as well as the wild horses and deer
The springs at old orchard shelter, we were hot and tired, and the water cool + clear
The time with my son. Scenery, beautiful country, outdoors
The view at the campsite
The view from the shelter near Mt Rogers
The view, and knowing the trail was well marked
View of the Mt. Rogers area
Views & open meadows
Views and scenery, meeting people
Walking alone
Weather was beautiful, high pressure in control, low humidity could see forever

North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF (N=22)

Back to nature
Beauty
Being in nature away from the "real" world
Being in nature, beauty
Challenge, covering as many miles as possible
Just being able to do it
Knowing how many others have done the AT
Meeting hikers
Meeting the interesting people along the way
Scenery + solitude, having time with family
Scenery and the well marked trail
Scenery, exercise
Scenery, exercise, being with family
Scenery, people
Scenic, experience
Solitude
The scenery-grand vistas
The views and solitude.
View from McAfee's Knob

Smoky Mountains (N=123)

Conversations with volunteers, ridge runners, other hikers, picking berries
Scenery
3 days of great weather with friends. We met a very nice ridge runner
A feeling of accomplishment when I finished
Accomplishment, learning to do better, fulfillment, beauty
Backpacking and camping
Beauty of nature
Beauty, scenery

Being away from civilization and being able to spend quality time in a natural environment
Being in nature
Being in the wilderness in the Great Smokies is beautiful
Being in the wilderness. It was a very peaceful experience
Being in the woods and meeting all the wonderful people
Being in the woods, walking
Being out away from development
Being out in the middle of nowhere
Being out there and the beauty surrounding
Being outdoors, Smoky Mountains
Being outside with my dad taking photos, sharing experiences. Spending time together
Being with my young family
Camping and hiking
Close to nature--people were great, nice and considerate
Completing another section with my best friend; the views; the camaraderie of fellow hikers
Enjoying nature
Everything about my trip
Finally seeing a ranger in the backcountry enforcing overnight usage laws and regulations
Getting away from the city and hiking with my son and friends, writing my journal
Getting away to a quiet and beautiful place
Good weather and beautiful views
Hiking and the views
Hiking on new trails
Hiking the trail/ enjoying the scenery
Hiking with my son, meeting a new Ridge Runner, reliving experiences, views of the last 40 years.
Hiking, getting exercise
I enjoyed the great views and meeting a few people on the trail
Being at the high elevation, the views, the cool temps, experiencing it together with my friends
Just being out in nature having a good time
Love the area
Outdoors, beautiful scenery
Physical challenge
Physical challenge, nature, solitude, self-reliance
Pleasant weather, scenery, nice people
Relaxing
Satisfaction of completing needed trail maintenance
Scenery
Scenery, fresh air
Scenery, time with friends and family, meeting and talking with Ranger Howard
Seeing the AT for the first time as well as Great Smoky MT NP
Sense of accomplishment
Sharing my hiking experience with two youngsters in a wilderness environment
Sights
Solitude
Solitude and natural beauty along a generally well marked and well maintained trail
Solitude, beauty and wind
Solitude, decent trail conditions, talking with ridge runner
Solitude, views
Spending time with my brothers, talking to AT volunteer
Spending time with my friends and the exercise
Spending time with my son
Swimming in the lakes, lying out undisturbed by the lake and enjoying the view
Taking my son. Letting him feel this experience
The adventure, never knowing what to expect from the animals, the weather
The beautiful scenery
The beautiful scenery

The beautiful scenery and the peace and quiet
The scenery, the people, the wildlife, the experience
The challenge of the hike
The challenge of the hike and the beauty of nature
The hike with my friends
The hike, being alone in thought
The new shelter, Charlie's Bunyon
The scenery
The smokie mountain mystique, the people
The view from Charlie's Bunyon
The view from Charlies Bunyon
The view from Charlies Bunyon and mist from the cloud
The views and solitude
The views, the solitude, and the physical demands of the trail
The weather was beautiful until the last day when it rained
The whole thing
The wildlife is unaffected by people for the most part. Seeing them in their own environment-good
Time with family
Views
Views
Views, having such facilities to use, don't feel there are too many restrictions
Views, hiking, park
Views, mountains, wildflowers
Well marked, well maintained trails. Enjoy the ability to plan long hikes on a known trail
Wilderness
Wildflowers, chatting with ridge runners and other campers, visiting Icewater Springs

Georgia (N=100)

Affiliate being able to use trails unrestricted almost anytime they want
Allow camping outside of shelter
Ask each to pack out more trash than they generated
Better trail signs, info
Better/more awareness of low impact camping, no horses!!!
Build all shelters like Icewater Springs but leave fence around shelter
Charge a fee for hiking the trail unless one has passed a leave no trace test, revenues to educate
Compost toilet at shelters to minimize impact
Continue to step up the education process by the ridge runners
Continue your good work!
Dart a bear and relocate it when it is frequenting a shelter
Educate by LNT
Educate people more
Educate people more on littering, leave-no-trace and low impact practices
Education about low/minimum impact hiking/camping
Encourage consideration/knowledge of camping skills at shelters
Everything is good, but some shelters need remodeling and rodent exterminating
Fix and maintain all trails, AT being the first
Fix up shelters
Get more info to day hikers on the significance of the AT & proper hiking procedures
Get rid of the rodents
Have information about what they are seeing on and along the trail and points of interest
Have more ridge runners and rangers on the trail
Have outhouses
Hire more law enforcement rangers to patrol the backcountry- especially shelters
I don't know
I like the parts of the AT I've been on as it is

I saw no need for improvement where I was
 I would ask them to educate/enforce more on leave no trace principles - especially pack it in and out
 Improve more of the shelter similar to the way IceWater Spring has been fixed up
 Improve toilet area
 Instruct users to pickup their trash
 Keep people without reservations out of shelters, and more protection from bears
 Keep the internet off the trail and the trail off the internet
 Keep weeds and nettles away from trail as much as possible and keep trash off trail and campsites
 Kill rodents
 Leave AT in its most primitive state as possible
 Leave shelters, campsites primitive. Don't create comforts
 Less impact of people - pollution, trash, etc.
 Make backcountry knowledge more readily available to inexperienced users
 Make people more aware of why it is wrong to feed the animals
 Make sure all hikers are informed of rules such as no dogs, low impact hiking, dogs and permits
 Make sure people understand rules and regulations
 Make the horses go to the bathroom off the trail
 Mark well which way to go from Icewater Springs
 Modify shelters in the GSM Nat'l Forest to look like the Icewater Spring Shelter
 More accurate water reports ridge runner justified the false report as "for our safety"
 More info and books about loop trails on the AT for hikers
 More piped springs, trail maintenance especially Smoky Mt. Natl. Park. New design for shelters
 More rest stops and rangers
 More shelters erected, maybe a "there's how to use the trail regulations booklet"
 No horses.
 No suggestions
 None
 Not allow alcohol in the park
 Not to litter
 Nothing, continue the aggressive education on low impact hiking
 Nothing, it was a wonderful experience
 Add more to ridge runner programs
 Offer guided outings to make more money for the park service
 Pack in, pack out. Make trail less accessible from road ways
 People I have met always seem to be enjoying the trail without causing problems to others
 Permits
 Possibly make bear proof trash cans available on trails frequented by large #'s of day hikers
 Provide more tent campsites on the AT
 Provide tent camping by the shelters
 Put water fountains or some place to get water
 Shuttles from trailheads to town locations, such as post office or hotels
 Some hikers need to have basic knowledge of parks. Don't come to a shelter without reservations
 Start hikers off with a short synopsis of the area
 Stop making so many unnecessary ups and downs in the trail just for the sake of making it harder
 Take time away from your paperwork to get out on the trail more and see the problems
 Have some trails without bridges over the streams so they are natural
 Top for shelters
 Try to control the crowds at shelters-education of users about trash left at shelters and campsites

Thru Hikers (N=318)

Coffee in the morning
 "Simple" living; solitude; room for mind to roam meet different people; in forest wildlife adventure
 Accomplishing personal challenge
 Accomplishment
 Adventure of thru hike

All the differences
 Beautiful ME and NH route
 Beautiful scenery, hanging out around the shelter/campsite with friends, beer at Abol Bridge
 Beautiful surroundings-sense of isolation and the care-free nature of a thru-hike. Nice trail
 Beauty and solitude and a sense of accomplishment
 Beauty of scenery
 Beauty, solitude, wildlife, sense of accomplishment
 Being outdoors, meeting people
 Being able to finish and the New England scenery
 Being able to spend 4 1/2 months outside with my best friend
 Being alone
 Being alone in the wilderness
 Being in the wilderness. Testing endurance. Camping. Beers & soda at abol bridge campsite
 Being in the woods away from my ex-wife with my 2 sons for 6 months and 19 days
 Being on the trail
 Being out in the woods, sharing journey with my husband
 Being outdoors so much; getting good exercise; drinking filtered, cool water from streams
 Being outside, able to tent where I wanted or to go to a shelter for a "social time"
 Being with my 2 sons and completing the entire A.T. over a 19 year period
 Beauty of countryside
 Being transient, active everyday, small towns, beauty of the old mountains, spring flowers, early autumn
 Can't tell you in two lines
 Challenge and meeting kind people
 Challenge, scenery, people, being outdoors for 6 months
 Climbing the mtns and seeing the views
 Communing with nature. Freedom
 Community of thru-hikers sense of accomplishment in completing trail
 Community, views
 Completed a wonderful nature trip with my spouse
 Completing thru hike
 Contact with nature, self sufficiency
 Daily challenge - views
 Developing friendships, local architecture, history, plant life, the trail is a vehicle
 Every day is a joy
 Every state seems to have its own character
 Everything
 Everything, especially hiking new trail everyday
 Exercise and "just being in the woods"
 Exercise, challenge and attaining goals
 Experience new people and new terrain everyday
 Experience others and God--Learn to enjoy life more
 Experiencing 4 seasons by living out in them for 7 months
 Experiencing a variety of places, both wilderness and towns
 Extreme physical exertion and mental discipline to stay with thru-hike
 Feeling of accomplishment
 Feeling of adventure, meeting people, enjoying nature
 Fellowship with other hikers
 Finishing this last northern section. We've done VT,NH,ME now time to head south MA,CT,NY,NJ
 Finishing
 Finishing! My trip went exactly as I wanted it to, so many things were right
 Franconia Ridge
 Free to camp practically anywhere along AT. Able walk new section daily. New challenges No backtrack
 Freedom
 Freedom
 Freedom and personal satisfaction
 Freedom from modern society

Freedom of camping along the trail
Freedom of self-reliance, being outdoors and in nature
Friendship, nature's beauty, White Mountains
Fulfillment of goals
Getting away from the "real" world
Getting on top of a mountain with view
Getting to know the countryside by traveling on foot
Getting to learn about the diversity of the people as well as nature of eastern US
Getting to the top of Katahdin!!
Going into towns - Being alone during most of the day hiking
Going to different part of country, seeing new plants and animals
Good balance of solitude and encounters with beautiful, sensitive people
Great views, talking with other thru hikers
Having the opportunity to hike the entire trail, I also got married right on the trail
Having the opportunity to observe spring emerge with the wild flowers and migrating birds and wildlife
Hiking
Hiking in the wilderness and at the same time meeting a good cross section of hikers from all over
Hiking with friends and family when they would join up with me and hugging old growth trees.
Hiking with my father and surprisingly - meeting new people
Hiking, scenery, people, weather, climate
I did it
I enjoyed the company of other thru hikers
I enjoyed the whole 7.5 months of my thru-hike, wouldn't change a thing
I like how much effort was made to bring the trail to scenic vistas. So far there's a good balance
I lived an epic journey
Impossible to even begin to describe experience and pick out one thing
It's all good, Omar.
It was challenging. We saw a bull moose at the campsite
Katahdin
Lack of stress
Learning about the surrounding environments and modifying my lifestyle
Lifestyle/people (thru hikers and townspeople)
Living a simple life in the woods
Living in the woods with my beloved
Living independently in a natural setting, yet experiencing a great sense of community among others
Living outside and being on the move
Making friends with other thru-hikers
Meeting people, scenery, satisfaction of completing thru hike
Meeting a challenge, being outdoors
Meeting all the great people between Georgia and Maine
Meeting different people
Meeting great people
Meeting great people along the trail
Meeting many different people
Meeting many people on the trail and still finding ample solitude
Meeting my goals, new people on trail and the grandeur of it all
Meeting new and interesting people but also having quiet reflective time for myself
Meeting new people
Meeting new people from different places
Meeting new people like myself
Meeting new people, solitude
Meeting other hikers
Meeting other people on my thru hike
Meeting other thru hikers, challenging myself
Meeting people
Meeting people similar to me

Meeting people, exercise, feeling of accomplishment
Meeting so many wonderful people while ultimately achieving my goal – Katahdin
My social experience and camaraderie with my fellow hikers
My trip
Nature, animals
New Hampshire, Maine, people, adventure
Nice people, great views, adventure
Nice shelter in excellent condition
No worries at all
On intimate fellowship with nature, intimacy with my partner and the grace of others
Opportunity to be close to God & nature; gratitude for great volunteer effort to maintain trail
Opportunity to spend extended time in wilderness and physical exercise
Out in God's world living how I was meant to be, fresh air, healthy food, exercise daily, people, scenery
Peace, beauty of nature
Peace, communion with nature, views, people
Peacefulness
People, balds in the south
People, nature, hiking on my own
People, places, views, experiences
People, scenery
Personal challenging, went looking for a wilderness experience, found a positive social experience
Physical and mental challenge and meeting many interesting people
Plant and animal life, meeting diverse types of hikers, friendship
Plants & animals, especially the wild flowers; scenic views; camaraderie of fellow thru hikers
Realizing the incredible beauty and diversity of the east coast
Ridge walks
Scenery
Scenery and wilderness
Scenery, "American experience", wilderness
Scenery, forest
Scenery, helpfulness of others
Scenery, physical challenge, being outside
Seeing a different part of the country, solitude, & meeting new like minded people
Seeing great places, meeting nice people
Seeing new country every day while thru hiking north
Seeing our beautiful country and meeting many wonderful people
Seeing the beauty of nature along a trail, that is well marked, well maintained, and safe
Seeing the land and people of different regions
Seeing the natural world up and down the east coast and meeting other thru hikers
Seeing the whole east coast, the different towns, people, plants, and animals
Sense of freedom from an everyday humdrum work life back home
Sharing experiences with new people
Sharing experiences with other thru hikers
Sight sound, smell, all the experience of senses working in unison to observe the world surrounding
Simple lifestyle
Social activity with new friends
Solitude
Solitude and freedom
Solitude and wildlife
Soul search and bounce ideas off other hikers, meeting new people
Starting
Struggling with daily problems and camaraderie with other thru-hikers
Successfully meeting the physical and mental challenges of thru-hike
Swimming in the river
Testing myself physically
The ability to hike a new section of trail, have an adventure everyday

The ability to retreat from the rat race and thoroughly enjoy an entirely different pace, and the people
The adventure, meeting the types of people seeing the country, experiencing and extended outing
The autonomy
The beauty
The beauty of the trail and mountains
The chance to be free in the woods
The changes of weather
The camaraderie at the shelters and the rural and forest scenery
The diversity of people I met
The duration of the journey, the opportunity to explore SO intimately a large part of the country
The entire experience
The entire experience from the trail community to beautiful views to time to reflect
The experience
The feeling of being completely self-sufficient, and experiencing total freedom
The freedom
The friendly people-The beautiful scenery & Pizgah Hut
The friends I made and the opportunity to simplify my life
The friends made and spontaneity that I found in myself. Memories created and being free
The great people. How enthusiastic everyone was about right
The great views and experiences
The great views forest and fellow hikers. The total environment
The journey
The last 5.2 miles up Kathadin and the opportunity to prove to myself what I'm capable of
The memories -I brought home 40 rolls of film - the satisfaction of my journey has too many to list
The nature
The one day we hiked without seeing anyone! The trail was beautiful and I saw tons of wildlife
The opportunity to be away from the stress and poison of everyday life in society, no car, nature
The opportunity to catch a sunrise/sunset at a new location every day
The opportunity to meet new people and hiking companions
The outdoors and seeing the seasons change; being in new places
The overall adventure
The peace and self assurance it brought me, the wonderful people I met, living with the earth
The peaceful setting
The people
The people and the whole outdoor experience. 6 months of beauty
The people I met
The people I met along the way
The personal freedom - mental and physical
The rare lovely views
The rhythm of walking on level ground
The scenery
The scenery and companionship of other hikers
The scenery, the fellow hikers
The scenic aspects of Va, NH, ME
The sense of accomplishment
The simplicity of life, meeting great people
The solitude
The solitude...when I had it
The time spent with my father
The trail life
The trail towns and the section of trail deep in the forest, away from roads
The unparalleled uniqueness of the experience
The variety of people, wildlife, and scenery
The varying experiences, & people met along the way
The views and little bit of solitude
The views and the other thru hikers

The views and vibes of the mountains, and the rare occasion of seeing unusual wildlife
The views from Saddleback
The views, other hikers, nature, and if you would like to be by yourself you could
The wide variety of people met along the trail
The wonderful people I met on the trail and off
Thru hiking with the entire AT with a son in a majestic scenic corridor
Time to grow in Jesus Christ, social aspect, talking with people at the end of the day
To see as much of the wilderness as possible and endure and enjoy the entire trail
Total freedom and lack of stress; meeting many great people
Totally new experiences for six months
Trail culture and ridgeline trails
Trail culture, solitude, nature
Trail, terrain, vistas, geology
Varied – too complex to answer briefly
Variety and the diversity of trail settings
Vegetation, animals, scenery
Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine and the feeling of accomplishment
Views
Views and accomplishments
Views from mountain tips, meeting lots of people, eating as much food as I can
Views while exercising
Walking
Walking by myself
Walking day after day
Walking from Georgia to Maine
Walking, simple walking
Watching & feeling seasons change, seeing beautiful views every day& being out in woods every night
Watching the forest type change as I hiked south to north
We hiked our 19 year goal - reaching Katahdin
What's more beautiful - rocks, clouds, thunderstorms, autumn, faith, success, a smile? Unfair question
What didn't I enjoy?
Wilderness experience + solitude lifestyle that a thru hike will give you I simplified my life

(QC4) What did you enjoy least about your trip on the Appalachian Trail?

Baxter State Park (N=46)

Baxter Park bullshit and bureaucracy and rigidity-something needs to be done about these people.
Degree of steepness off tableland from Katahdin
Encounters with uncontrolled dogs and large groups
Evidence of human waste
Evidence of mankind
Had to hike 4 miles in darkness w/ flashlight & trail WASN'T BLAZED OFTEN ENOUGH to hike efficiently
I didn't like going south because I was hiking mostly by myself
Inability to park at trailhead at Baxter peak
Inconsiderate hikers
Lack of nearby campsite in Baxter State Park
Litter on the trail
Meeting and camping with large groups
Moose flies
My knee pain from coming down the mountains
Noise pollution from planes and guns
Not being able to hike katahdin
Not enough time.
Outhouses smelled or non available
Overcrowding especially in the 100m wilderness and presidentials
Paying fees!
Rain, shelter mice, horses in GSMNP
Road walks
Running water
Soap bubbles in the stream, too many people lack of water
Sore feet!
Steep ridges. No views anymore
That we got to the ranger station 1 hour too late in order to park at trail head for Mount Katahdin
The congestion in the Smokies and Shenandoah
The crowds on top of Katahdin and seeing trash
The obnoxious know-it-alls and some trail routing
Too many people
Too many people at summit. Full parking lot where I wanted to hike. Rough dirt road to trail head.
Too many people on the peak- although most of the kids were fairly well behaved
Too many rocks and roots in the trail
Unseasonably warm temperatures, biting insects (not your fault), privies that need to be replaced
Volume of people on summit and along trails

100 Mile Wilderness (N=91)

Blisters: big ones. And the basic disdain from a select few through hikers.
Clearcuts
Crowding at the falls. Tried to get pictures and people would stop & _stand_ right in front of me
Families not watching their small children closely enough
Forgot my hiking boots, a tough hike for sneakers
Getting slightly turned around at the junction of several trails
Going home
Gulf Hagas is too busy (many people and lots of noise)
Having to leave
I wished I had more time to spend
Lack of time to hike the trail
Leaving
Long drive from home
More people than expected
Mosquitoes
My dog wasn't allowed and she's a great trail dog.
My Siberian pulling me for the whole hike
No animals! But that is extremely difficult to do anything about
None
Not enough time
Nothing
Nothing other than having to go home and back to work
Nothing, it was a good time
Nothing. Great weather great volunteers much learned and experienced
Our campsite was close to the road, cars and trucks were loud and fast
Outhouses too full and in poor condition
Overpopulation
Parking
Paying for trail access, lots of people
People
Rain
Rocks
Seeing litter
Seeing other people
Slippery in places
Soil erosion
Sometimes I couldn't see the trail blazes and I couldn't tell where the trail went
The end
The fee for this part of trail
The river crossing
There were quite a few people
Too hot for September in Maine
Too long
Too many hikers! Trails could be better marked in some areas
Too many people
Too many people, poorly cared for and maintained
Too many rocks and root , I know what my feet look like and unfortunately you have to look down
Too many roots to trip over.
Trails and waterholes were crowded
Very long and bumpy dirt road to get to the parking area
Wading across the river
Walking through a river to cross it
Wasn't prepared for physical activity
Way too many people crowding the trails.
Weather

Wide trails

Western Maine (N=115)

A healthy abundance of deer flies, but that's Maine!
Access points on logging roads hard to find
Avery Lean-to should have never been removed
Bad visibility and erosion on Fire Warden's Trail
Boy scout troops, out of control
Crowds, mice
Didn't expect to see so many people
Difficulty finding the trailhead
Dogs being leashed while hiking
Encountering a ridge runner who talked for 40 minutes about the summit. Not a peaceful summit experience
Enjoyed everything
Finding the trail head
Finding trailheads
Fog and rain which obscured the views
Food limitations
Heat
Heavy pack
I enjoyed the complete hike
I forgot my rain gear at home and it rained 2 out of 4 days
I generally travel as little as possible on AT since it is so heavily used especially in NH
I think the thru hiker stole a couple of my ll bean garments after I drove her to Rangeley for supplies
Lack of solitude, views of increasing human encroachment into wilderness areas. Litter on trail
Large groups
Low accuracy of map
Maybe some of the mud, but not really anything messed up, not seeing more wildlife
Mice in shelter
Mosquitoes (as always)
Mud
Muddy trail
No complaints
No place to take a shower after 3 days in the woods
No switch backs! On this section, mud in the lowlands.
No water on top of sugarloaf mtn.
Not getting a space in a shelter room - people that did not have tents.
Nothing
Nothing comes to mind
Number of hikers on the trail
Occasional patches of poor trail conditions
One large group of girls
People-too many
Purify water, trail maintenance, sewers
Rain
Scattered poor trail conditions, especially on steep areas in Maine. Witnessed falls and injuries
Sharing a lean-to with strangers
Shoulder was down wind from privy
Signs of other people
Some distances seemed longer than marked on trail signs
Some youth groups were inconsiderate; update, messy etc.
Sore feet
Steep difficult climbs leading to no views, rugged unnecessary descents, the Smokey shelter incident

Steep parts of trail
That it ended. Not enough white blazes in New Hampshire
That we were prohibited from killing the pesky chipmunks by the ranger
The approach trails are a little battered up
The ATV's that cross the trail
The fog and rain @ the summit
The inconsiderate actions of others and litter at the shelter areas
The increasing number of people
The number of people on the trail
The rain
The thought that saddleback might get spoiled by greed
There had been a draught so the springs were dry not enough water between horns pond and safety notice
Too many large freshman orientation groups
Too many people at shelter during rain-not enough solitary places to camp alone
Too many people at times
Traffic noise
Very crowded trails, very rude hikers, trail erosion in Maine is awful
Walking on split logs
Water quality
We didn't have a great map
Weather
What's not to like?
Whiskey Pete, a sleaze ball section hiker, and a noisy group from a nearby college

NH - Mahoosics (65)

AMC's attitude, huts, Croo's attitude the fees at shelters and huts
An approaching side trail we used for access to the AT had been clearcut
An area on the trail became very muddy and needed logs on it for walking through the mud
Clouds/fog
Crowded shelters
Downhill. Thru-hiker @ Carlo not practicing LNT
Felt rushed due to itinerary
Gross smelling toilets/ too full
Groups
Hard sections, need more relaxing hiking
Having our car broken into
I loved the hike - no negative experience
It is disrespectful to the others hikers + environment when I pass garbage in the middle of nowhere
It rained all the second day
Lack of physical preparedness
Large and unprepared groups
Large groups at shelters
Large summer camp groups leaving food scraps behind in a shelter water source
Losing an area Trail because of lumbering and having to bushwhack to the AT
Measure of difficulty.
Meeting large groups - outward bound
More education about the INT
Mud
My aching body
Nothing
Nothing that could be controlled
Old speck mountain was very rigorous in the rain
Overcrowded campsites

Pain & agony
Parking and access to the trailhead
RAIN - getting confused in the forge at a trail junction and hiking the wrong way for 3 mi.
Rain
Rain, sweat, and more people than I expected
Shenandoah
Smell from Berlin paper factory
So many people, and had to pay to camp \$7!!!
The AMC control of the huts. Older people could not stay while kids pick kids to stay
The amount of rain
The pace set by my group
The planning, the leaders had planned to stop at every other hut, but we did not make that
The rain
Time it kept me away from my family, friends career
Too crowded! Full privies esp. in Maine
Too many incursions of civilization
Too many people, arrogant people who drink too much beer
Unexpected heat and humidity
Watching a thru hiker hit on my friend

NH - White Mountains (169)

A-10's flying through valleys
A somewhat lonely feeling of hiking without any hiking partner
Abundance of other hikers
All the goof offs on top of Washington and at Pinkham
AMC huts
AMC huts, campsites and shelters should not be used by AMC to make profit
Arrogant thru hikers, impact of human waste on environment
Being able to hear traffic
Clouds in my way of the view, can't do much about the weather, can you?
Crowd at top of Mount Washington Observatory
Crowded campsites
Crowded conditions at some huts
Crowded shelters
Fatigue
Fumes from the gondola generator on Wildcat - we had to leave the area
Going home
Have an ethical problem with paying for trail twice
Having to share my tent platforms
Heat and humidity; slippery rocks
Heat, bugs, mud (but they are all part of the experience)
High humidity
Hikers with no appreciation of trail
Hostile in Crawford Notch. Staff was arrogant and rude. Information in AMC guide was inaccurate
How busy this area is, having to reserve a huts months in advance
Hurricane Floyd
Hurricane Floyd
I enjoyed everything
I never sleep well
Inadequate trail blazes
It rained - but it felt ok actually
It was little crowded at campsite
Lack of camping options
Lack of water sources and opportunity to bathe and wash clothes

Lack of wildlife
Large groups staying at campsites(Lib Springs) We were stuck in overflow
Large noisy groups
Large number of people on Liberty, terrible trail condition, no switch backs and very eroded
Listening to thru-hikers whine about day-hikers
Litter
Mileage was off and sold signs near Lakes of the Clouds and Mt. Washington
My own fears of heights and edges
N/a
NH
NH raising parking fees due to money lost in below-cost timer sales
No problems
Noisy campers
None I can recall
Not being able to camp with a campfire
Not being aware of where I was and how far I was from various destinations
Not enough choc of food at huts or enough. Some recipes were great. Need cereal with breakfast
Not enough time to explore
Nothing
Nothing`
Obnoxiously cocky thru hikers who think their god's gift to the planet and listening to them complain
Odor of restrooms
Pennsylvania blisters
Poorly designed and constructed trails in white mountains
Poorly marked white blazes in N.H.
Rain
Rain and fog
Rained like hell!
Relocations around small towns.
Road noise
Rockiness of the trail, having to cook with groups from Harvard and Yale
Smoke from cog railway on Mt. Washington
Smokers at huts
So many people!
Some scary dogs, hitching for mail drops
Some trails need maintenance
Someone had not buried human waste just off the summit of Mt. Field
Sore feet
Sore knees, cold hands
The amount of people at campsites
The concentration of people at huts and some shelters and the unleashed dogs
The crowds and the trash on the trail
The damaged trails - erosion & overuse in many areas has rendered trails nearly unhikable
The difficult boulder sections of the trail.
The end of the trail.
The experience was very enjoyable
The hordes of camp groups at Ethan Pond
The unavailability of free shelters in some areas
The lack of some switch backs
The lack of true wilderness area, too much development and noise pollution
The muddy trails
The regulations and rules
The smell and sound of the Cog Railway
The trail head signs haven't been updated to reflect new GPS distances
The trash along the trail, the copious amounts of thru-hikers
The unavoidable trips into towns

The weather

The weight of my pack, nearly running out of water, air force planes buzzing us on a mountain top

Too cold and windy

Too crowded. Too many day hikers & wealthy lodge visitors. Lodges too expensive. (Huts)

Too many crowds of people and their lack of consideration for the trail and other people

Too many day hikers on one section

Too many large, noise groups of hikers on trails

Too many mountains. Many mountains are trampled in an attempt to make the trail more difficult

Too many other people - especially at sites

Too many people and bad attitude of hikers

Too many people on trails and at campsites

Too many people, Cog Railway has got to go

Too many people, even in the rain

Too many people, noise at campsites, rude AMC hut crew, ill prepared people

Too restrictive on where you can camp with insufficient numbers of campsites

Too short

Too short a trip

Too warm and too many bugs, but that's not the AT's fault

Trail erosion

Unusually tropical weather for the time of year

Was nothing we didn't enjoy

We could have had better weather

We ran into a lot of people, a few very large groups

Weather

Weather (storm Floyd)

Weather conditions, mosquitoes

Weather, limited visibility

Wish I had a better tent, no complaints on the trail

Yuppies

NH - South (66)

Having caretakers at Madison Hut who couldn't smile and thought they were too cool for school

Appalachian mountain club

Cant think of anything

Comparatively dull section of trail - crossing lots of roads and very wooded mtns

Conflicting distances on maps and signs

Crowded at top of mountain

Finding a fee- required trailhead parking area

Forest service personnel, but mostly AMC huts which diminish the wilderness experience

Getting lost because of poor trail marking; others had trouble at the same points

Going home

Heavy rain, talking to hiker who appear to make foolish decision on distance& risk on ridge in storm

High humidity

Inconsiderate people who leave trash & graffiti behind & amount of commercialization esp. White Mtns!

Lack of solitude (too many hiking partners with various plans)

Lack of water

Large groups partying at campsites, most often a college club hiking over holidays, scouts use tents

Looking for change to pay for parking at trail head.

None

Not being able to camp in the wild

Nothing

Nothing, great trip, they all are

Nothing you can control; it was cold- but it was a very beautiful trail none the less

Poorly marked and maintained trail

Rain
Ride home
That portion of the trail (see above) can be overcrowded
The amc!!!
The sense that the eastern forests have been so heavily logged, I doubt if there's old trees (50yrs)
The summit was mobbed with people, the trail, however, was fine
The trash that assholes left and dogs off leashed they should make a rule to keep them on a leash
The weather turned hazy at the summit, restricting the view
Thru hikers with attitudes
Too many fees and regulation
Too many people
Too many people at the summit
Too many people in this area (it was also a very busy time of year)
Too many people, blisters
Trails not well maintained
Trails were very wet
Very small mountains (I am used to hiking in the Cascade Mtns.) Hot and humid
Water sources sparse
We did not plan enough time

Vermont (103)

1 side trail much more challenging than described in LT guide
50 lbs. Pack
At Stratton pond there was a large group of young people being noisy late into the night
Being forced to use developed site for fee by prohibiting camping elsewhere in the immediate area
Blisters, not in good enough shape
Bugs, sweat
Camping sites did not have pretty views
College orientation groups of 10 plus were too big
Cost of getting there from N.C.
Crowds at shelters, large group sizes
Crowded parking area at AT Trail head
Crowding at campsites of course we were the largest group
Didn't see much wildlife
Driving/packing there, I was leaving the area that day & was pulling a popup camper, parking a little
Ending it
Ever increasing number of thru-hikers and their arrogant attitudes. Most are insensitive to the nature
Feeling that the area needed a high level of management
Having to back to work
Had to terminate early because partner was sick
Hiking too many miles in one day
How much my feet hurt
I bring a dog with me and meet a lot of people who won't leash their dogs quickly
Impossible to say; this is one of my favorite places; and the experience was enjoyable
Inconsiderate backpackers at shelters
Inconsiderate through-hikers
Insects
It wasn't publicized anywhere that I had to pay for some lean-tos.
Lack of information at trail heads
Lack of roadside trash containers
Lg. Groups occupying shelters and leaving no room for thru-hikers (congdon shelter)
Long way to get to the trail
More opportunities for tenting with fewer shelters
No water because of drought at two shelters. Wet shoes and socks from the rains

Not enough switchbacks on incline
Not enough views, some areas should be "partially" cleared of trees for more scenic views
Nothing
Nothing
Nothing
Occasional overcrowding at shelters mostly from groups of scouts, newer campers, and college student
Our stove broke
Poor disclosure on where to camp
Poorly marked trails.
Population at Stratton pond
Rain - lack of views
Rain
Rich kids who are thru hiking for bragging rights at frat parties and singles bars
Some of the lakes
The AMC charging hikers to walk on FREE land.
The fact that some people are inconsiderate enough to throw their cigarette butts on trail
The five dollar fee I was charged at the Stratton Pond Shelter
The forced trail thru communities north of front royal. Didn't like the road walks
The humidity
The points where the Long Trail coincides with the AT the trail was too heavily traveled and impacted
The small amount of litter I did see
Too many people
Too many people around
Transportation from the end of the trail to beginning of the sections we hiked
Trash at one shelter
Tree roots tripping over - had to keep eyes down, because of this I probably will not return
Trouble sleeping
Trying to find trailhead from highway 7
Untrained, and uncontrolled trail dogs
Weather- it wasn't great
Weather and restricted views
Would have preferred to camp at site marked no-camping fires

Massachusetts (N=19)

Crowds
Group of boy scouts using Upper Goose Pond Cabin instead of camping
Lack of water
My trip extended into the weekend - there was a noticeable increase in hikers
Not a thing!!!
Nothing
Populations of people on top of Greylock
The night I stayed at Wilcox South lean-to. The site was covered with ashes from campfires, overused
The rocks-- the unbelievable steep climbs and decants
The weather
Too heavy of a pack
Too many people, not remote enough
When we stopped night 2, only 2 platforms and there were already 2 men there, we had 3 more tents

Connecticut (N=17)

Blisters
Encountering beer-drinking parties
Finding my car vandalized at the trip's end
Fire tower was closed
Friends quitting too soon and the mosquitoes
Getting this mailing twice
I wish I had more time
It was just fine
Many streams and water sources were dry, springs should be capped with pipes to keep water clean
Kicked my ass.
Obstructed view of river
Part of the trail followed a road
The 100 mile wilderness - it is not a wilderness - too many people
The fact that we had to leave

New York (N=76)

Bad water
Being away from my wife
Did not run into any thru hikers, I had brought food just in case
Distance between campsites are too far apart
Drought
Encountering large groups
Evidence of careless people
Fire damage, erosion blow downs
Getting lost
Getting there
Going down steep trails
Graffiti in shelters
Having to carry extra water because of drought
Having to walk over rocks where soil erosion had occurred
Heat, and dry conditions. Trail lacks grading in too many areas
Human feces on trail
I've never just hiked on the AT for any length of time
I did not like the heat and humidity
I enjoyed it entirely
Insect, mosquitoes and unbearable humidity and heat. Lack of water also
It rained a little
It was a lot tougher trail than we thought
Lack of bathroom/water facilities
Lack of parking lots
Lack of water
Lack of water
Latrines without toilet paper—minor problem
Leaving the trail
Loud noise in N.Y.
Low water supplies extremely rocky areas - climbing over fallen trees
No register in shelter visited
No showers at every shelter
None
Not always senior friendly-some hard climbs should have had an alternate route
Nothing
Nothing
Nothing, although the trail leading to the AT was poorly marked making it hard to get to the trail

People and the roads proximity and noise
Poor trail markings
Running into large crowds at viewpoints
Seeing the broken glass by all trailheads in NY and the cell phone towers
Sore knees/ having to fill this thing out!
The crowds of people we encountered
The number of people on the trail crossing the highway.
The unpredictability of water availability this summer
There were no problems, recent murders on AT had unexpected effect on me
Too many large groups, litter
Too many people, too large groups
Too many rules and regulations, discourage personal freedom and responsibility
Trails becoming less challenging as steep areas are avoided and rerouted
Trails very rocky
Transportation to trail leads
Trash
Trying to get to trailheads
Very rugged
Wet wet wet
Where the Appalachian Trail came too close to a public road (within 75 feet)
Wilderness
Worry about restrictive parking regulations which make it necessary to make long hike to trailhead

New Jersey (N=63)

A man passed me (female) and my two sons 3 times, he'd go up a 1/2 mile or so then come back again
A normal water source outside of Bpsite2 was dry
Both nights on the trail, hard to sleep because of people setting up camp after midnight
Camping at BP2 with large group of campers
Carrying my backpack the second day
Climb
Crowds at popular spots
Difficult trail conditions
Ending it
Enormous camp groups - some 20 or 30 people in size
Evidence of civilization such as crossing gas pipe line
Hard ascent up State Line Trail
Having to drive so far to get there
Having to leave
Hearing barking dogs and airplanes from my campsite
Heat and temperature
Heat, bears, no water
I got sick and we had to cut our trip in half & camp near the pond - didn't reach our goal
It was all good
Lack of water due to dry weather- however, we have no control over this.
Large crowds, but I expected it at the gap
Loneliness, I was a south bounder ME to PA and I was mostly by myself
Meeting the extremely agitated man at a shelter
My friend who was supposed to pick us up at the visitor center never showed up.
No water
Nothing but positive things to say
On this trip--nothing
Only doing it for a day
Overgrown sections of trail.
Possibility of dealing with bears

Rain
Rocky ground, didn't pack a proper sleeping bag
Same lessons
Tent leaked - (my fault)
The long road walks around private property
The mice and the shelters were too small
The mosquitoes
The rocks! But hey, it's New Jersey
The tip was too short
There are tons of rocks in the bottom half of New Jersey
There being no water for days at end, big uneducated groups and hikers camping at the side of trail
Too many careless people who don't realize the negative impacts their causing.
Too many people around Sunfish pond
Torture
Trail too difficult in Maine, looking for water
Trail was too rocky, too many bears
Walking
Wrong direction from teenage group late at night

Pennsylvania (N=63)

A bad campsite we went to and dried up spring. The hills!!
A few of the popular views had litter
Backpack
Being able almost always to hear traffic
Blisters
Carrying extra water due to dry springs
Clearcuts in Maine, no water in summer, paying to camp in the White mtns
Driving away
Encountering at least 3 (>15) groups going through new jersey
Enjoyed it all - always do
Finding/purifying water.
Found spring roof fallen in at spring site
Getting lost
Getting sick, filter breaking
Gnats
Heat
Humidity
I brought along poor hiking boots and my feet were bloody from the blisters
Incredible heat during 5 of the 16 days
Lack of water
Long drives and finding shuttles
Loose gravel and stones on trail
My own health problems which limited the time I had to hike
N/a
No ice cream
Not being able to see the landscape out of the trees
One unfriendly hiker who was needlessly rude. Nearing verbal abuse
Outhouses
PA rocks, water shortage (drought), not much really
Poorly warned drivers at road crossings
Primitive campsites are not noted on maps only shelters
Sometimes I overexerted. Maybe I wasn't eating the right stuff
Spider webs
Teenage one-nighters (loud)

The proximity of roads and other structures to the shelter sites
The terrain was so rocky it hurt - It was frustrating always having to watch your step while hiking
The workout I got (but no pain, no gain)
There was nothing except ending it
Too many people at shelters; large groups; no privys
Too short, and too long since my previous visit
Trail erosion.\

Trash at campsite
Trip was only a day hike
Unsure of water supply
Very hot and not much water - had to cover 16 miles in a day for a good source
Very hot day - cut hike short, but could always hear and smell highway where we hiked.
We had some rain - not too bad, though
When two guys showed up at my shelter at 4am (I'm a solo female hiker) but left also loud teens

Maryland (N=23)

A few too many people at the shelter
Brush overgrown, poorly marked trails
Could hear traffic at shelters
Destruction of wilderness
Didn't enjoy the company of my friends
Drive to get there
Dry conditions, causing dried up streams, concern for water sources
Extraneous noise
I enjoyed it all
Long, rough trail
On this specific occasion, too many people
People, dogs, rain
The dryness of the environment
The ground felt hard in the early morning and the sun comes up too early (ha ha)
The steep trail
Too close to civilization
Too developed
Too developed in spots, lack of water, too hot, large groups
Too many people at the overlook
Tropical storm Floyd

Shenandoah (N=49)

Blisters
Drive from Alexandria
Drive to get there
Finding myself at a shelter at night
Getting sore from walking/ jogging the trail - but it was good for me
Heat and humidity, lack of water, eroded trails due to lack of rain
Heat and insects
Hitch hiking
Lack of shower facilities
Lack of water - very hot weekend, underestimated water needs, springs were dry
Lack or shortage of water (rock hollow)
Messy, mice infested shelters
More crowded and less primitive than expected
My feet were a little sore, but this wasn't really a problem
My sister hikes too slow (obviously not at's fault)

Nothing
Nothing it's all good
Rain
Retracing steps back to trailhead and car
Rude campers at shelter
Seeing litter, broken glass, mainly at trailheads/parking lots and some overlooks
Some trails had high grass but it was being taken care of on our way back
Soreness in my knees
Such dramatic elevation changes were difficult and tiring, but still great exercise
That I had walked this section of trail a million times!
The blister on my heel at the end of our 13 mile hike
The blister on my heel
The bugs
The heat, some of the shelters were very dirty
The humidity, gypsy moth damage
The portions labeled "steep ascent" in the guides also high temp and humidity
The shelter filled with rats at night
The weather, 100 degree heat
There has never been a trip on the AT that I did not thoroughly enjoy
Too crowded at shelter
Too many obstructive views
Too many people
We encountered a very inconsiderate pair of snobby hikers at our planned shelter

Outing Club of VA Tech (N=258)

6 year old sprained her ankle - shortened trip and time on the trail, had to carry her back
A bit crowded
A return side trail an old dirt road badly eroded and monogamous (not the at)
Amount of people being loud and disturbing
At McAfee's Knob there was a surveyor's pin 3ft in the air near some rocks=dangerous
Being able to see electricity towers
Black flies at the summit of and we ran out of water
Blisters from boots
Bugs
Carrying water
Cattle on trail
Changes to climbing up trail to Dragon's Tooth
Couldn't get water to continue hike and overnight camping- drought
Crossing the road to the parking area
Crossing VA rt. 311
Crowded trail head parking.
Crowds of 30 or more
Crowds on the trail
Difficult to find campsite
Difficulty
Dog poop
Drinking and drugs a problem, we had to be very careful and felt unsafe in many places
Encountering AT rep in the trail
Enjoyed it all
Environmental damage of Roanoke Cement Plant
Even the bad times are better than being in the office
Feeling lost - we ended up hiking 5 miles in the wrong direction
Feeling of insecurity due to no rangers in an isolated area
Felt a bit ill at ease safety wise.

Fining litter
Getting lost
Getting lost, faulty equipment
Getting sick with a gastrointestinal virus that was posted on warning signs along the trail
Gnats
Going back to work Monday morning/leaving.
Hard to park
Heat
Hiking in the rain
How I tired I got on the return trip
How out of shape I am
It rained (uncontrollable)
It was crowded during our summer visit
Lack of availability of current trail info such as water and shelter
Lack of bathrooms
Lack of mile post markers
Lack of toilet facilities, lack of mileage signs - how far we've come
Lack of water
Lack of water at some sites
Landscape does change a lot during the hike
Large, noisy groups at destination prevented introspection and chased away wildlife
Leaving
Leaving too late and walking back in the dark
Litter
Map at Trailhead
Mcafee was very eroded, no peace, loud unruly groups
More people than I expected
Most people don't understand who yields to whom on the trail
My foot blisters and aching joints
N/a
Newly hatched swarm of gnats at mcafee's so I didn't get to enjoy the view for long
No bathroom
No water
No water and too many people.
Noisy fraternity party at Pickle Branch shelter
None
Not applicable
Not enough information
Not enough information posted on history of area
Not enough water
Not knowledgeable about more trails in my area.
Not prepared for degree of difficulty
Nothing
Nothing
Nothing I had a blast
Nothing to note here
Other people
Overcrowding in trailhead parking areas, litter
Pack was heavy
Parking
Parking at some trailheads is nonexistent - my big security problem
Parking was very crowded
People making noise, car traffic noise, electrical lines
People not controlling their dogs
Poison ivy everywhere
Poison ivy!! Overgrowing some parts of the trail

Portion of hike close to road
Power lines, traffic noise
Profuse sweating and haze at the peak
Questionable water sources
Rain!
Road noise
Rough, rocky, and poorly maintained trails
Running into other hikers
Running into people
Running out of water
Seeing a lone, freaky guy
Seeing and smelling to people smoking cigarettes along the trail
Seeing non native plant growing at the trail head
Seeing other people
Some litter on the trail
Sometimes too many hikers at the shelters, and section hikers not considerate to thru-hikers
Sore muscles
Spur trails not marked well enough
Steep, rocky ascent
Swarms of bugs at McAfee's Knob
The amount of people, and the fact that people didn't know the common courtesy of passing
The bugs (not that it can be helped)
The bugs flying on my face
The end
The end of the hike
The flying ants
The garbage at a hardly used shelter near a road. Group of people with 7 dogs.
The hard work to do what I set out to do.
The heat.
The humidity.....oh well.
The kids who had built a fire and were in a non-camping and no fire area
The large number of people encountered.
The noisy people
The number of cars at the trailhead when we returned
The number of day hikers
The rain!! The shelter was; full so we got a bit soggy outside.
The smell of human waste.
The speed at which we needed to travel as a group
The weather was a little chilly however I know you can't do anything about that.
There was a huge hatch of bugs going on at mcafee's Knob
There were too many visitors with dogs at mcafee's knob. I don't want to end dogs, just limit.
Tons of people out
Too hot!
Too many dogs
Too many hikers
Too many little screaming kids at the top
Too many people
Too many people
Too many people at this spot
Too Many people spending too much time at the views
Too many people, but this was expected, due to the section of trail we were on
Too many people, too developed
Too many people
Too many rocks on trail
Too physically enduring
Too short

Too short a stay
Trail was too crowded
Trees and forest weren't very old
Unknown
Was a thru hike which I have attempted twice, ankles gave out about ny
We took a tough hike and wound up completely exhausted
Weather was too hot—probably just me. Nothing.
Would've been nicer view without obvious development. Great but less civilization would be better

Catawba (N=24)

Finding graffiti on the rock outcroppings
Fire rings alongside the trail
Got lost momentarily, lack of directions
Hunting dogs running loose
I always enjoy hiking
It ended too soon
Lack of signs and litter
Lack of water due to drought
Lots of weedy vines in spots along the trail
Not enough parking
Nothing
Nothing but getting lost
Overall on trail need more water supplies
Seeing other people when were inadequately informed about other activities on the trail-ie hunting
The bear hunters and their radios
The graffiti on Kelly's Knob
The lack of trail maintenance
Too many people at the overlook
Trail not well maintained
Trying to find the trail marker & where to park & start the hike

Mount Rogers (N=67)

A lot of horse traffic
A lot of rocky trails
Conflict between hikers and drunk horse riders
Cows in the pasture
Damn cows
Dirty shelters
Dogs on the trail
Getting caught in a serious thunderstorm on the way out
Having a family of three tents set up right in our campsite - 40 ft from our tent. No solitude
Heavy use of trails
Highly impacted trail, seeing large groups
Hot! But at night and am it was great!
I would have liked to take a shower
In a few spots, many trail intersected and it was hard to determine which way to go
Large group outing camped just a few feet from old orchard shelter -very loud, not very respectful
Large group, rain (not your fault), shelter crowded
Lots of people
Low water, poor water
Mice in shelters
My complaining foster daughter
Noisy people

Nothing

Nothing that was unenjoyable...

On this section, evidence of grazing cattle on the trail and the problems associated with it

Ponies have become worse than a nuisance. Wouldn't let my wife & dog (on leash) pass thru exit gate.

Rain, boy scout troops, horse son the trail

Rationing of water, having to carry water five miles to a 'no-water' shelter for the night

Running into impacted areas and other trailhead parking areas

Running into people riding horses

Smog so thick and dead maples

Some concern about water, too many horses

Some trash in different areas

The chance of injury when walking over rocks and stones

The cows and their feces made it hard to find a decent camping site

The deep groove of the trail and the ozone/acid rain damage/destruction to elk ridge on the trees

The fan at the outhouse not natural sounding. What's wrong with the non-fan kind?

The large group at our first shelter

The last day leaving the trail

The number of people, many of which were completely unprepared for the weather

The people

The rain

The Tenn. section is poorly marked and maintained. Shelters stink, rodents. Need more views, groups.

Thinking about Monday morning

Toilet paper on or near trail

Too congested with campers, horses, and environmental impact.

Too many horses and hikers

Too many people

Too many people and loud children

Too many rocks on trails

Tried to squeeze in too many miles and was very tired last few miles

We picnicked in a crowded area

North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF (N=22)

Blisters

Disappointed in not being able to see more because of the dense growth along the trail

Enjoyed it all.

Erosion, garbage, stupid people

Getting lost

Having to retrace route or hitch hike to get to car

Identifying camping/water sites from the Xerox map and from the AT maps we purchased

Lonely, many empty shelters

No complaints.

Nothing

Nothing

Number of steep hills

Searching for water

Some climbs too steep, and the trail was poorly graded or laid out

Too many people at road crossings and nearby

Smoky Mountains (N=123)

9-mile uphill
An annoying volunteer
At 70 yrs. The uphill are getting a little tough, the lightning storm on day one
Badly eroded trail - like walking in dry streambed. Sleeping with 10 snoring people
Being sore the day after it
Big, crowded parking lot
Blisters
Blisters, not much wildlife
Can't stay long enough because I have to return to work
Carrying extra water due to dry springs
Cigarette butts on trail, litter
Condition of some shelters and some poorly maintained sections of the trail, rodents, trash/litter
Could not see sunset evening night or sunrise. This was due to weather
Crowds at Charlie's Bunion overlook
Dry springs
Evidence of pollution, other people everywhere
Exceptional horse impact
Feeling insecure near roads, human feces and toilet paper on trail
Filtering my water
Getting stuck in a camp site with a bunch of hicks about to get loaded
Going home
Having to be fenced in at night in National Park area
Horses and horse manure
I always enjoy the AT
I didn't have any major problems
I enjoyed it all!
I saw unburied human waste and paper
I wish I had taken more water
Inconsiderate hikers and day users who don't pack out their trash and vandalized the facilities
Inconsideration of other hikers
Lack of water
Litter
Long steep hills
Messy toilets, need more info to stress lids down on toilets small thing big impact
Mice at Russell field shelter
Mice at shelter, a snoring sleeper
Mice at the shelters
Mice in shelters
Mice in the shelter. Noseeums. Chiggers
Mice, & my 1st fungal skin infection
Mileage charts were off a bit
Mosquitoes, rain, hot weather, hikers who fart while sleeping
No problem
Not any
Not enough wildlife
Nothing
Number of people at shelter
People always telling me what to do
People at shelter ignoring signs and requests of ridge runner
People letting dogs run loose, people smoking pot on the trail
Picking up other people's toilet paper and feeling at risk at road crossing
Poor or lack of regular trail maintenance, too many rocks. Roots, etc
Rain, hiking "up" mountains
Reading some of the trash in the shelter registers, misinformation from front country rangers, litter
Rocks and roots on trail

Rodents at the shelters
Rough trail
Running out of water
Scarcity of water
Seeing effects of air pollution and exotic species
Shelter comfort
Shelter full 2 out of 3 nights
Shelters
Sleeping with mice in the shelters
Snakes, no bites just seeing them
Some people, no outhouse at some shelters
The blisters
The fact that there were 8-11 people at Ice water the one night we stayed there. Felt like a hostel
The false "no water" report which caused us to carry water for the first 2 days
The hard work it took to hike to the scenic places
The iron pipe at ice water springs
The number of people. Dirty shelters
The person I went with
The rain, the people
The rodents in the shelters
The rodents in the shelters, and the lightning
The soles of my boots coming off
The spacing of shelters in the Smokies are too close together
The trail all too often went up and down when there was no reason to do so
Time too short
Tired bones, I'm not so young
Too many large groups--Boy Scouts--used entire shelter sometimes rude--leaders need a bigger stick
Too many people
Too many weekend hikers who illegally use campsites and shelters w/o reservation
Too short!
Trail head full of tourists
Trail head signs used to be better kept, some falling down, deteriorated, and hard to read
Trip was too short
Uphill
Warm day
Work & exercise - 38 year old can't keep up with 16 year old son

Georgia (N=100)

A few over grown sections of the trail
Blisters
Blood Mtn. Crowded with tourists, little water
Bugs! I never, not enjoy the at
Bugs.-.think that its associated with overuse by humans
Crowds at campsites
Didn't spend enough time on trail
Dogs off leach
Drive to get there
Driving out to the trail
Enjoyed it all
Finding litter in the campsites
Finding out how out of shape I am
Foliage and vegetation in poor condition because of drought
Having to go home
Having to park two cars one at each end of my day hike

Heat

I ran into a rattlesnake

Inaccurate maps, lack of water

It had to end!

Lack of drinking water due to dry year

Lack of info for safe drinking water locations, noise from truck

Litter from novice hikers at campsites

Litter, picked up considerable quantity at picnic area

Longer trek than we expected

My 3 year old whining about the trail being too hard.

My sore legs after hiking

N/a

No toilets

No water supply or toilet facilities

Not many restrooms-even at campground sites

Not much water

Nothing

Other unfriendly hikers

Parking

Parking availability

People who litter and don't follow trail rules

Picking up trash, trail crowds

Seeing the abuse other campers have caused

Signs of erosion

Some areas of congestion

Sometimes going up and down, can be monotonous

Sore feet

Strenuous hike for a novice

The drive home

The fact that I'm out of shape

The heat

The heat

The parking area was almost full

There was a drought over the summer which made it very hard to find water

There were a lot of other groups/people on the trail.

Toilet facility

Too little water spots

Too many people

Too short of a visit

Trail was too narrow

Trash on trails, inconsiderate people littering their campsites

Unleashed dogs and too many people at mtn. peak

Up hill hike to parking lot

Water concerns

Yellow jackets at mountain top.

Thru Hikers (N=318)

(People) who littered and took the outdoors for granted

AMC hut system

Abundance of people

All the people hurrying to hike it all

All the same things I don't enjoy about the cities, hikers not respecting one another

All the uneducated people and having to deal with the AMC trying to collect money from thru hikers

All thru-hikers should be able to stay at the AMC huts in NH for the work for stay option

AMC pay for stay campsites- Large camp groups, Dartmouth outing club sections
An approaching side trail we used for access to the AT had been clearcut
Appalachian Mountain Club hut and camp system
Areas with a lot of day hikers who have little respect for what thru hikers are doing
Backpacking
Bad weather, especially cold and snow in November
Being apart from my wife for such long intervals
Being asked that last question (what did you enjoy most)
Being charged money for camping in the Whites
Being forced to stay in huts, watching boy scouts destroy springs while scout masters just watched
Being hungry or injuries
Being routed over every rock pile in PA.
Big noisy groups of kids, litter, drought, dirty privys, mosquitoes, how commercialized it has become
Blatant impact on the forest
Boring parts of the trail
Bugs
Bugs!
Bugs, mice, rain
Carrying a heavy pack!
Carrying lots of food
Chaffing
Cold weather
Cold, wet? Rain
Coming home
Crowded campsites / some groups way too large (20+)
Crowded shelter
Crowding and lack of shelters in White mountains for thru-hikers
Crowds and human impact
Crowds in a few areas (Shenandoah, the Whites), high heat & low water in VA, trash in the fire pits
Crowds of backpackers
Crowds, poison ivy
Degradation of the environment, high impact users, high numbers of people
Development in NY, MA, and CONN
Development is slowly encroaching on the AT (in some areas not so slowly)
Difficulty of trail once we hit White Mountains
Disappointed to see so much development close to the trail; farms, roads, large parks
DOC trail blazing, somebody send them a gallon of paint. PA rock fields
Dogs on trail
Drought-- occasional scarcity of H2O rodents
Drought
Drought, no privies in ny
Dry springs, uncertain water sources
Encountering the lack of concern for its presence
Encountering too many groups in certain areas, such as the 100 mile wilderness
End, restriction, being hassled by law enforcement officers in North woodstock NH & Blue ridge pkwy
Endangered by semi-wild dogs, vulnerability due to past incidents, meeting competitive thru hikers
Ending it
Erosion
Erosion caused by lack of switchbacks
Evidence of human waste, picking up littler, piles of litter present at trail heads and deer guts
Except for GA I didn't think the trail was well marked. It shouldn't be a game of find the blaze
Excessively difficult trails that seemed unnecessary
Experiencing the AMC philosophy in New Hampshire's white mountains
Feeling dirty
Feeling the need to complete a given number of miles a day
Finishing

Finishing and going back to work
 Forging streams in ME after heavy rains and crossing bogs where bridges are out or in need of repair
 Full shelters
 Getting off the trail after Mt. Katahdin was the worst. Worst areas were NH to Greylock.
 Getting hit by a Lincoln on 19E in N.Carolina to get a mail drop
 Getting Lyme disease in Pennsylvania
 Getting sick in Catawba, VA.
 Going on long relies daft to avoid a short road work
 Hard time getting to town for supplies
 Haven't seen a bear
 Having to carry all the extra stuff I did not need but still carried
 Having to say goodbye to all my new friends that I made on my thru-hike
 Heat, lack of water
 Heavily impacted underbrush and trail, constant noise of traffic and lights from towns and residents
 High water in Maine
 Hikers pretending to through hike hogging the shelters
 Hills - just kidding
 Hitchhiking into town
 Hordes of north bounders from VT to NJ
 Hot days in New York without water, too many day hikers/people in general
 I got sick of eating junk food
 I have no negative feelings about the trail; if something bothers me, I learn to cope
 In 99 the AT was very crowded all summer
 Inconsiderate and obnoxious hikers
 Inconsiderate hikers and drug using hikers
 Inconsiderate or negative hikers
 Inconsiderate others
 Inconsiderate/under prepared people of the trail
 Infested food drops
 Intense heat, blisters
 It ended
 Its all good
 Knee & ankle pain
 Lack of alternative trails or routes to bypass river fording- storm swollen rivers = safety issues
 Lack of beer
 Lack of solitude
 Lack of trail maintenance
 Lack of variety - too much of heavily wooded trails with no views going up or down the mountains
 Lack of water going through NY, Penn - Extreme heat wave
 Lack of water in NJ/NY pumps didn't work. The snow and ice of Smoky Mts. Sometimes too many hikers
 Lack of water in some areas
 Lack of water on some sections
 Lack of water or heat and bugs and too many people
 Lack of peace and quiet
 Large #'s o people in certain areas
 Large groups full privies
 Large groups of organized hikers especially around the shelters
 Large groups of people
 Leaving it behind
 Leaving too many places without exploring more thoroughly - felt a need to keep moving
 Lock of water due to the drought, Hut system in the White Mountains
 Lost mail drops at Post office
 Lots of litter at road crossings, toilet paper in the south
 Mass of humanity & how a lot of people don't know or care about burying waste & carrying out garbage
 Mice
 Mice and the AMC system to the thru-hikers not providing cash free lean to's. Did stealth camp

Mice attacking food
Mice in the shelter, dangerous portion of the trail
Mice, which leads to ticks
Mosquitoes
Mosquitoes in Maine and Mass. Large rats in shelter near tinker cliffs VA.
Mountains without views
My diet
My friends passing away at Bald mtn shelter
My sore feet
Negative and bitter things people write in the registers
Negative people
New Hampshire hut system-very few options for true hikers in NH-also trail poorest marked & maintain
NH white Mtns
No privys at shelters in the Smokies. Have more privys instead of piles of toilet paper litter
No white blazes in White Mountains, trail unclear, AT not identified on signs - not called AT
Nothing
Obstructed views, too many people, uneducated people, unprepared people, unmarked trails
Occasional insects and large crowds
Over developed areas along the trail, the soil erosion and damage to plants done by foot travel
Overcrowded sections
Overcrowded shelters
Over regulation in National/State Park areas
Over regulation, especially in state parks +amc areas, certain routing was unnecessary
Overuse of the trail
PA,NJ,MD poorest trail I've ever walked on
Pain
Patience
Paying a fee to camp in/around the white mountains
Paying money to stay at shelters or campsites
Pennsylvania rocks, and foot pain
Pennsylvania tough hiking in some parts with meager views as reward. NY had a lot of good climbs
People
People telling me how to hike my hike
Personal anxieties, money, timing, eating well
Physical discomforts
Picking up empty cans of Vienna Sausage
Pointless ups and downs on trails
Poor human sanitation - both facilities & other hikers' habits. Rodents in shelters
Poor quality of many water sources. Physical punishment of going up & down steep trails
Poorly maintained trails
Poorly maintained in some many places, over grown with weeds
Rain - 2 hurricanes
Rain
Rainy days
Reading disturbing journal entries (what I call trail psychos) and fearing bumping into them
Relocations of trail that added miles not updated in the Data book; whining through hikers
Rocks and roots
Rocks in PA, big groups of people
Rocks, roots, big hills
Rodents and mice
Rodents in shelters, fording rivers on cold days in Maine, and overcrowded shelters
Rodents in shelters/campsites, litter and graffiti, poor trail conditions
Some shelters poorly maintained (Blacknock), rodents bats in shelters
Scarcity of water, road walks
Sections in areas with lot of traffic eg PA. At times trail follows highway entire day traffic noise
Shelter and trail conditions in Smokies

Shenandoah's Skyline Drive. Bumper to Bumper up Mt. Washington I HATE THE COG
Snow
Snow in New England in October and November
Some poor trail conditions
Some trails too difficult and not in nature
Sometimes blazing was not adequate at trail intersections and roads
Sometimes the AT misses the most scenic spots, i.e., hiking north out of Damascus, VA-Creeper Trail
Sometimes thought trail unreasonably hard/ stupid, allowing for area. Up & over rocks just to do it
Sore feet and joints
Staying in shelters, hiking alone in high use areas with plenty of road access
Steep climbs
Stinky outhouses with lots of flies!
The AMC's total monopoly of every site in the White Mtns.
The AMC- particularly in the whites
The AMC and their illegal monopoly on camping in the way they make money
The AMC, of course litter, rowdy people etc. But it was to be expected. It's a social trail
The amount of people
The caretaker tried to convince us to use a tent even though the shelter had plenty of room
The closeness of shelters to major roads (allows drunks easier access to party).
The crowds in certain areas, e.g.- The Long Trail, The White Mountains
The crowds, and all the road crossing
The disappointment in realizing my expectations for indulging in solitude were far from compensated
The dried up water sources- was not a good year for a through hike
The drought this summer
The extreme heat and lack of water thru northern PA, but what do you expect during a drought?
The extreme summer heat
The fact that I've been brainwashed into thinking I need a filter for water
The heat (can you do something about that?), paying a great deal of money in the whites
The heat, having to walk so far to towns.
The hiking in the white mountains, highly eroded, too steep, no water, \$ cost to camp.
The lack of bog boards and bridges in Maine-some very dangerous-Also Mahoosuc Notch
The lack of courtesy to thru-hikers while hiking through the White Mountains
The lack of water - but it was expected as this has been a dry year
The last night of my hike, at shelters solely for thru hikers at the end (or beginning) of trip
The mental trial of hiking almost every day for over 5 months
The mice in the shelters
The mosquitoes in MA
The mosquitoes and heat
The notion that we were hiking the AT on the 100+ miles in PA
The people everywhere, the developed campgrounds
The rocks
The rocks in PA and the mosquitoes in MASS
The Shenandoah area wasn't too thru hiking friendly. Too many rules that instead of pure hiking
The sites which had rounded steps or thin boards w/electric fence underneath.
The trail was too difficult at times. It often seemed to go over every little hill
The way the AMC has raped the AT and ruined the White Mts. For everyone
The weather was a bum deal this year and the skeeters in Mass. Were intense, I almost cried
The White Mountains - a trail built for peak - bagging day hikers w/shelters at \$50 a night
Thru-hikers who made it seem like the trail and all its components were for their use only
Too many thru hikers
Too damn many human animals, most not interested in being quiet and observing nature
Too hot and we experienced a shortage of water due to continuing drought conditions
Too many large groups (5-20 people) hiking and camping together often loud and disrespectful
Too many people
Too many people at times, the encroachment of developed areas
Too many people on the trail, not enough real wilderness

Too many people on trail, too many roads, too many facilities, too much development
Too many people, too much damaged vegetation, soil erosion
Too many people on trail, littering and dumping of waste
Too many rocks in Pennsylvania Trail marking in New Hampshire
Trash on trail/shelters, human disrespect
Trash, heavily impacted areas, dogs
Trail gossip
Trail maintenance is sometimes lacking
Trail markings as well as accommodations in NH
Trail towns-I would avoid them if I were to thru hike again
Trail was too steep, too hot, too dry, bad footing
Trash, roads radio towers, too many signs of human activity
Trash, trash, trash on the trail, at the shelters at the campsites, in the streams
Unfriendly hikers
Very rough and rocky maintained trail bed; in some sections felt in danger of injury
Very wet, missed views early on from White Cap
Walking through the developed areas in the middle states
We could hear the road the whole time while climbing Bigelow from Flagstaff Lake
Wet boots and sore feet

(QC5) If you could ask managers to improve some things about the way people experience the Appalachian Trail, what would you ask them to do?

Baxter State Park (N=46)

Ban dogs and have better blazing at some road crossing
Ban horses
Be happy
Composting all outhouses and/or vented houses
Continue the effort to keep the trail a true experience of freedom
Continue working to educate people about trail etiquette: low impact, safety, respect, responsibility
Describe trails in more detail
Don't be afraid to use forest service roads, we don't have to be climbing or descending 40% grades!
Go around tops and not over them
Good to have a mt. Patrol ranger on the top, educating people about fragile plants. More of that
Have maximum time limit at Baxter peak
I had a good experience - no improvements to recommend
Keep wilderness areas wild
Limit access to the trail
Limit group size to about 6 people
Make a smooth path to walk on, and no dangerous climbs or river crossing
Make trail more inaccessible. Civilization is getting too close to the trail
More awareness of trail erosion; how to prevent it
No problems
Nothing
Of outward bound groups; they need to be smaller and people need to remember its not #of miles
Parts of trail VERY DANGEROUS. Should mark more clearly w/ ARROWS could groom by small scale blasting
Put people aware of potential problems and what to do about it (i.e. shortage of good water)
Put shelters far enough from parking areas to discourage party use
Regulate 1 or 2 mtc campers - creating solitude for thru hikers at campsites
Restrict levels of visitors, which keeps the trails, campgrounds and other facilities in good shape
To emphasize how important it is to carry in carry out and stay on the trail
Use more low impact techniques

100 Mile Wilderness (N=91)

A few more markers
Advertise less
Alert them to specific noteworthy points to be sure to experience
Ask people not to yell and holler on the trail (kids mostly)
Better info
Continue trail hardening
Control erosion
Educate users about low impact
Get the trail out of water and water out of the trail
Give more info about each part of the trail, maps for day hikers
Have the ranger station briefly teach some basic trail/outdoor etiquette.
I don't know
I thought it was beautiful the way it was
Incorporate more of the history of Appalachia itself
Keep groups small improve outhouses
Keep up the good work
Kill the spiders in the bathrooms
Leave it alone
Less rules better markers
Low impact
Make it legal to have dogs off leash
Maps at trailhead - signs
Maybe some plant / tree info along the way
More fresh/clear water facilities
More information on the flora and how to recognize them
More interpretive information to remind people of the real reason for the trails' existence
More signs
More switchbacks and don't continue to make the trail totally isolated
More trails or less people
More blue blaze trails
My only experience has been day hikes, I have no opinion
Need restrooms every 5-6 miles
NO DOGS, more signs at major junctions, limit number of groups and group size
None
Not make the trails too easy
Nothing
Ok
Path erosion
Provide a dry river crossing
Provide facilities for human waste, allow fire at some camp sites
Read about it - prerequisite for hiking
Send info about safe camping/wildlife concerns/low impact camping
Teach people not to wash dishes and mess kits in the streams
Tell others to stay home-selfish serious-Leave the dogs behind
Tell people to experience more of the trail
To travel in small groups
When large groups stop to rest, have them move slightly off the trail instead of blocking it

Western Maine (N=115)

At some sites have area for viewing night sky!
Be more careful with litter
Better bog bridges
Better bridges in the Currier Lakes area
Better info about shuttles
Build more shelters in New York
Check the mileages on the signs
Cleaning up after themselves
Continue the great trail work
Continue to leave nature as is in its pristine beauty, encourage more education of leaving no trace
Continue to manage the trail to minimize impact and preserve trail for future (keep up what you do!)
Don't know
Don't make lean-to's so large, just make more
Double check the mileage markers
Educate people in regards to their impact on the environment and the people
Enforce smaller groups
Food racks
Group size should be smaller
Hire more rangers that actually enjoy their jobs
If they came to hike please tell them to quit bitching
Improve shelters based on my reading of various books
Improve the trail conditions in Maine
Improve trail conditions on heavily impacted areas
Keep groups (college students, outward bounders) to small size
Keep the hiking equal for all, including _dogs_
Less impact/smaller groups
Limit the number of people on trail and at campsites
Make sure hikers understand the importance of staying on the trail, and avoid trampling vegetation
Make sure it stays a foot path
More care takers available to educate everyone
More education about the natural environment, flora, fauna, etc.
More education for people about how to properly go to the bathroom in the woods
More info about water resources and relocations
More information at trailheads and campsites
More internet info preparing for backpacking trips of varying length; tips suggestions meal planning
More privies like horns pond
More realistic spacing of shelters along trail- more switchbacks, more advertisement of ALDHA
More signs
More water
No requests
Not have trail go through clearcuts
Not much except deal with the rodent problem
Not paint trail markers
Place decks of cards in shelters
Place metal boxes at shelters/ campsites for food storage to alleviate problems with animals
Post a physical limitation sign
Post better, more detailed maps at trailheads
Prohibit the use of trekking poles, they tear up the trail and contribute heavily to erosion
Provide natural history guides and pamphlets of popular spots and interesting points
Provide safe drinking water
Provide shelters in the middle of long stretches between present shelters
Provide some certainty that vehicle/trail head, will be patrolled never had a problem
Provide trash cans at shelters for food. Rodents in food bags was a major aggravation
Publish info incl maps + directions to locate areas
Put chicken wire on board and log crossings

Recruit and encourage more trail users to upkeep trailheads
Replace wooden ladder; crib work with stone steps
Reroute to avoid towns. Reroute over more difficult not scenic areas vs. Easier routes
Shuttle services for large trips
Signage at the shelters discussing rules, safety, and the history of the trail in the area
Signs to identify plants and rocks
Smaller groups
Stop working so hard to remove the trail from towns
Tell the groups to whisper after sunset!
Thru-hikers should be encouraged to appreciate and support the Mountaineer Clubs
Try to keep the shelter areas cleaner and get the dog owners to keep Fido at home or on a leash

NH - Mahoosucs (65)

A bit more frequency of trail distance markers
Additional signs along the way, especially at stream crossings and trail forks
Allow campfires at shelters when managed by a caretaker
Ask trail users to assess how they may change... For the better without negatively impacting the A.T
Better trailhead parking security
Block up bootleg trails
Build more and larger tent platforms
Educated people to appreciate trail, safety
Fine as is
Having guidebooks include suggestions for campsites - primitive ones- away from crowded shelters
Help with erosion damage to soil
I don't know
I enjoy weekend circuit trips best, more blue blazed trails returning a diff. Route to trailheads
Keep people will informed about the conditions and hazards of backpacking and the necessary gear
Kick the AMC out of NH and run the huts like the Randolph Hiking Club
Like it just the way it is
Limit organized to a small size
Make it easier for thru hikers to stay in presidentials (more space like dungeon @ lake of the clouds
Make sure the trails are clearly marked and areas that are difficult are not overly dangerous
Make the trail more enjoyable
More info on low impact camping & proper disposal of human waste
More low impact education esp. for day hikers
More non-platform tent sites
More summit & elevation signs
Move the trail away from Blue Ridge Parkway/ Skyline Dr. And put trail back into small towns
No large groups
No partying at campsites, no drugs or alcohol allowed please
No suggestions
Not so developed - too much regulation
Nothing
Provide thru-hiker shelters in AMC country - we don't need huts, dinner, breakfast, or 4 walls
Publicize the rules/ resolutions of low impact camping
Put emphasis on advising people what to expect
Put more blazes & cairns on mtns above tree line; mark each mtn top with a sign
Quit charging fees
Reduce the size of groups
Regulate large groups
Respect trail. Don't ride mtn bike or motor vehicle on it. Place heavy fines on those disrespectful
Smaller groups
Very important to spread the word on low impact + carry-in carry-out hiking

NH - White Mountains (169)

Alternate trail @ heavy use area; esp. Nice for hiker not up to summit, rock climbing (kids & older)

Avoid Hotel accommodation on the trail. Doesn't promote good use of resources

Ban dogs from trail, post a code of 'polite camping' at established campsites

Be quiet, considerate and low impact

Better trail maintenance in Maine - encourage people to leave water at road crossings in dry years

Better trail markings

Better transportation between trail heads, better markings on trails

Build and staff effective composting toilets or require hikers to pack out all waste

Campsites too heavily used, keep large groups out of shelters

Close AMC hut system, take trail maintenance out of their hands

Close Mt. Washington auto road

Cut down the number of questions in this survey

Definitely tell people to stay overnight in the huts

Educate people

Educate people about leave no trace

Educate public

Educate users on back-country etiquette

Encourage courtesy, quietness help them to see and realize the beauty of the mature forests

Encourage visitors to learn more about the natural phenomena occurring

Enforce quiet hours at shelters

Enforce the rules

Exterminate 3/4 of all thru hikers. Miraculously rid thru hikers of their bad attitudes

Further education. Encourage people to get involved in trail work

Go home

Human waste disposal help + guidelines

I'm satisfied

I haven't hiked on the AT for years so I can't think of any suggestions

I think that groups should be coordinated in some fashion with reservations/regulations/restrictions

I think this is a very individual experience that is diff for each person

Improve attitude of hut employees Especially Crawford Notch hostel-- very hostile!!

Improve trail conditions

In the White Mts. Section of trail, I think they are doing a fine job

Increase low impact camping education

Info at trailhead on etiquette on trail, rules/guidelines

Inform 'causal' hikers of appropriate attire

Integrate people into natural world

Internet access to virtual hikes or an interactive hike planner where you enter type of hike you wan

Keep doing the good job they are doing (although, cold showers would be welcomed)

Keep on educating about usage

Keep the "mpkt" cow

Less people

Limit group sizes. Also, control trail erosion

Limit the number of people in backcountry, improve safety

Limit the number of permits for overnight camping

Make a few strategic switch backs

Make low impact hiking and envi. Impact more known on signs

Make more info available at trail heads. Decrease damage along trails and campsites.

Make sure inexperienced hikers are prepared for weather and other dangers

Mark trails better

Maybe have safer ways to get food, dogs on leashes please

Minimize litter

Monitor group size more closely

More attention to detail, such as updated trail signs & more enforcement of LNT resolutions

More emphasis on leave no trace

More information on nature available

More literature available in the area
 More tent sites
 More trail direction at intersections
 N/a
 No complaints
 No mountain bikers in areas of heavy hiker use
 None
 Not experienced enough to advise
 Not much from the section I hiked
 People need to improve experience by being better prepared
 Possibly smaller remote campsites to control use
 Post explicit use rules (for those uninformed)
 Post more signs relating to things I see (Mountains, vegetation)
 Programs to Develop love + appreciation for AT & Importance to our society/culture
 Prohibit dows from the trail
 Promote use of hammocks; can set up almost anywhere, no need for flat or dry, no ground impaction
 Provide more clean water sources. Signs naming roads at road crossings
 Provide more background info for specific areas
 Provide more camp sites
 Provide more information to inexperienced campers
 Put up more trail markers, water indicators
 Put up summit hears on mountains that tell how far to the next mountain
 Reduce commercial impact of AMC
 Remove all huts in White Mountains, remove stupid, ignorant people who don't know how to survive.
 Remove buildings roads etc. From the top of mountains
 Remove huts, more primitive camping
 Restrict group size (<10), remove huts, enforce minimum-impact practices, accurate trail signs.
 Separate smokers section
 Safety of walkers, especially women
 Somehow limit number of users
 Switch back the trail in steep locations
 Tear down worn out shelters and don't replace them
 Tell camp groups to butt out or try other site, this is a problem with WMNF
 The AT does not have to be difficult in order to be scenic or enjoyable
 To make more area information available
 To teach people the correct way to operate in the wild. Hiking is an activity of self-reliance
 Trail improvement, more water
 Train trail crews better; re-route those awful sections
 Try to control crowds and impact
 Unfortunately the only way to protect ones beautiful NR is to find a way to control use
 Use less traveled trails
 Work on Zeacliff Trail (not AT) it needs work or a warning about difficulty

NH - South (66)

At times I find it difficult to find the start of the trail when hiking a mountain.
 Be sure the trail goes through historic towns. Be sure al clubs use erosion control techniques
 Clean up after themselves
 Destroy those damn tourist huts in white mountains or at least try & regulate amt of people on trail
 Develop some blue trail loops to bring one back to same trail head
 Didn't like signs for hostels/food at intersections
 Don't have trail travel on roads ever; only cross. Control large rowdy groups
 Don't charge \$.75 for hot chocolate, especially after hiking in fog, high wind, rain, hail, etc
 Eliminate the user fee at National Forest Trailheads
 Encourage people to speak quietly
 Everyone experiences the a.t. In a dif. Way, people need to tolerate the way others travel the a.t.

Explain to the obvious city slickers the importance of low impact hiking.
Focus less on development of paved roads and easy access and ease up on rules & regulations
Get rid of Hut System in White Mountains and build shelters instead
Get rid of parking fees
I would encourage greater outdoor education-rangers at the top of each peak
Leave untrained dogs at home
Leave us alone. I don't not need supervision nor do I need lines painted in a trailhead parking area
Little more knowledge on safety
Maintain all sections of the trail, amc sections are the best
Make it more wilderness be removing shelters and blazes, de-emphasizing thru hiking and its trappings
Make more out house into Clevis units
Make people more aware of dangers on trail
Make trail blazers more visible
Maybe more shelters and tent platforms
More information about plants/wildlife on trail
Need more parking
No
No smoking at shelter/campsite
Nothing
Nothing new
Post no smoking signs at trail head
Post sign stating that this part of trail can be crowded and encourage hikers to take other trails
Seems good to me
Spread out camping
The section in nh is the only area that doesn't cater to long distance hikers, only day hikers w/\$\$\$
Tone down the communications- too many people on the trail
Unclear question

Vermont (103)

Ban dogs from shelters and camping areas. More enforcement of laws and regulations with fines
Be more helpful to the thru hikers-AMC in White Mountains
Better condition of lean-tos
Better education, group size limits, encourage people to leave cell phones at home
Better shelters
Charge and fee at some shelters/campsites, I.e., The Green Mountain Club caretaker sites
Clean up/ remove fire rings
Clear some trails for more visitors
Continue Maintaining the trail and shelters and continue to protect the trail corridor from development
Disallow large groups e.g. Summer camp mass visits
Do not continually advertise the trail then complain about overuse
Encourage hikers to hike AT in sections, it's the journey not the destination that is important
Experience it for a longer period of time spend a couple weeks on the trail
Fewer people in popular sections, better erosion control
Forest roads were very poorly marked and difficult to find. Improve signage in area
Get the message out more specifically to not litter the trail
Have caretakers where they are supposed to be
Have flyers available at trailhead with map and regulations
Have more info available at trailhead (pamphlets with map and/or nature info)
Have shorter questionnaires. This one is too long
Help educate hikers
Improve shelters and privys
Improve the conditions of the shelters, more tent platforms
Install bear boxes, or cables where needed
Introduce this activity to more people
Knowing the trail we used (2mi. To campground fairly easy hike) suggest similar section to visit

Less crowds

Less or no dogs, more rangers available and greater enforcement of no mountain bikes or ATV's

Less rocks on trail - stagger shelters at 15 mile –intervals

Limit group size, a group of 400 people near Bear Mtn- left a 5 mile trail of spring water bottles

Limit groups to 8 people and enforce the limit with fines/citations. Also build tent platforms

Maintain trails better, better respect needed from visitors

Make more maps available at trailheads fewer dogs

More education for day hikers and backpackers about low impact practices

More fire rings

More info on leave-no-trace particularly carry out of toilet paper, sanitary napkins

More information on being a responsible "low impact" hiker at trailheads

More shelters

More switchbacks, not shelters close to roadways

More tent platforms for small tents in more scenic locations (better views)

More tenting areas

More trail maps at trail heads better marked trails in the Adirondacks

Not sure-perhaps actually regulate the # of people coming in

Nothing really

Nothing really its just too bad there are so many tree roots in the well worn trail

Place trash receptacles at major road crossings

Provide larger or more shelters

Regulate the number of future thru hikers

Restrict group size to six and post at shelters that thru hikers or section hikers get first dibs

Route large groups of hikers to side trails

Slow down and enjoy

Some people are ignorant of basic trail etiquette and practice bad trail techniques

Stress importance of proper backcountry etiquette; personal sanitation; protection of water supply

The privy on Bromley needs to be fixed up make sure people know how to follow white blazes, not blue

White blaze the AT for a "well in the woods" and blue blaze these parts that are now white blazed

Winter visits are ruined by snowmobiles ripping through the area causing trail degradation and pollution

You should paint blazes. Standing at 1 blaze you should see the next. Not every 5 minutes.

Massachusetts (N=19)

Don't travel in large groups

Educate users on responsible camping

Make it less accessible to casual hikers

Maybe to post courtesy rules at the campsites and trail heads

Post reminders about proper camping etiquette. Ban pets

Reroute parts of the trail that make it almost impossible to climb

Secured parking

Trail maintenance-clear overgrown vegetation from sides of trail

Water sources improvement

Connecticut (N=17)

Don't tell people what to do, that is the quickest way to turn people off to low impact hiking

Have more care takers and ridge runners = esp in the 100 mile wilderness

I don't think it could be improved

I had no problems

Keep it as natural as possible

Limit large groups and rowdy groups

Monitor easily accessed campsites and be more strict about noise/ parties etc.

Nothing they are doing a great job

Prevent development

Respect rules and people

Sanitation, use the privys
Tell groups to be quieter, large groups tend to be noisy!
There's history up in the hills and along the trail, post info on the history of the area. Local history

New York (N=76)

Emphasize to weekenders the need to carry out their own trash
Little more attention paid to trail maintenance
Along every kind of trail user to use it. Also, make a parallel mountain bike trail
Better mark the trails, post no biking signs
Build pedestrian walkways across state highway (e.g. Palisades Interstate Parkway)
Can't think of anything
Check out and advise inexperienced teen campers with destructive practices
Clean your shelters
Cleanliness of shelter
Continue to promote "Leave no trace" behavior, especially "carry in, carry out"
Create more 7-12 mile loop hikes
Create more small campsites
Deter water in NY, NJ, and PA
Do left and right turn blazes in all states as they do in NY and NJ
Educate "weekenders" about the needs of long distance hikers and courtesy
Encourage more wilderness experiences and try to be less reliant on commercialism
Focus on education about the trail wilderness experience; minimize developed maintenance solutions
Guidelines for trail etiquette
Help people accept different types of trail experience- i.e. Welcome novice, boy scout, section, thru
I have no ideas at this time
I think just policing current regulations is important thing
I think they're doing a great job
Improve Shelter/privy sites
Improved water sources at designated shelters/camping areas would help
Inches number of parking sites along roads
Keep development to a minimum
Keep it clean
Keep up with trail maintenance., although in my area not a major problem
Large noisy social group which made unfunny jokes. But what can you do? Regulation would be worse
Latrines at all campsites/shelters
Limit group size to no more than 10
Make available information on other trails in area. Create acceptable loops for day hikers
Make sure they take their litter
More distance markers
More parking lots, post maps alongside trail
More Trail signs to show where it crosses minor roads
More views of surrounding countryside
More visibly marked trailheads/more parking
More water available at camp sites
Move the trail further away from population
Nothing
Nothing, it is perfectly fine
Prevent erosion by having less steep grades by using switch backs
Provide more information about side trails and give more information about 2 and 3 day backpacking
Provide more parking lots that are designated for trail users
Put up more informative signs like mileage to major locations, springs, shelters, etc.
Reduce development, prevent clear cutting and logging
Relocate the AT away from public roads
So these questions I can not really answer
Trailhead "bulletin boards" with regulations, minimum-impact info, trail mileages & map

We liked everything

New Jersey (N=63)

Arrange transport between trailheads, voluntary exchanges between hikers traveling in opposite direction

Bear boxes at each shelter more consistent quality of shelters

Better parking area

Cannot think of anything

Complete maps for other states/sections of one same quality as produced by NY-NJ TC

De-romanticize the trail. It's a wonderful experience but it can be hard work

Dependable water, waste assistance (I often collect others discard), distance markers to help w/ map

Don't allow large groups to use the shelters. They should be tenting

Educate people about low-impact camping! Especially the large camp groups that hike there

Educate the city people before you let them hike all over place

Emphasize preventive foot care, staying dry & warm, pure water and other key things

Encourage trail maintenance

Have more friendly, knowledgeable ridge runners like the one we met

I think they're doing an amazing job

Improve and put in some new wells

Increase overnight parking at some of the less popular trailheads in N.J.

Info on water

It appears that at times the trail goes over difficult terrain, just to do it-due to land ownership?

Just be respectful of everything

Keep group size down

Lessen the stringency on rules

Let people know they should dress properly and carry water

Limit group sizes

Make novice hikers more aware of trail courtesy and keep bikers/atv's off

Make them more considerate and neater campers

Make trail better

Mark side trails better

Nothing

Nothing

One day I saw a lot of litter. Not big stuff but same wrappers throughout most of the day

Organize shuttles from trailhead to trailhead Widen natural corridors & avoid roads as much as poss.

Please limit size/number of groups! Loud Jr. High kids yelled and shined lights in my tent all nigh

Post no litter signs, and have more maps/info. Posted on trail

Regulate group size, usage, and attitude

Sorry- no good ideas

Stop the erosion

Trail maps at trail heads that you can take with you

Try to educate hikers on impact more

Pennsylvania (N=63)

Better parking and more info at parking areas and more toilet facilities
Do not remove large rocks on trail to make camp fires
Don't make the trail go over the toughest climb or worst rocks possible, we aren't all 18-25
Don't know
Established reliable (safe) water locations
Emphasize pack in, pack out philosophy. But people need to self educate
Emphasize the "Pack it in, Pack it out" idealism to garbage disposal
Garbage can at trailhead to prevent some litter & provide a place for others to drop off items for us
Get rid of some of the rocks
Get rid of the litter and graffiti
Get rid of the rocks. Really, everything was great
Give thru hikers/ long distance hikers waiver of payment in the White Mtns
Have notices about water conditions posted on trails
Hire acoustic musicians to play music at shelters and vistas
I think all parties involved do the best possible job. Eventually there may be too much traffic
I would like to do overnight camping, but that is prohibited unless through hiker in PA.
Increase amount of information available about trail and low impact hiking, make people aware.
Instruct large groups on the experience smaller groups and/or individuals on the trail are trying to have
Keep bikes and horses off; encourage greater tolerance and appreciation between different types of hikers
Keep it clean and natural
Leave more water along roads during droughts.
Limit effect of locals bent on destroying areas near roads. There is so much litter & environmental damage
Make people feel safe
More attention to developed areas
More privys; more shelters/ campsites to spread out hikers
None
Nothing - at this time
Nothing - let it be
Nothing at this time
Pick up trash, dispose of waste properly - no glass at all
Public outreach to inform more people of AT
Put in some mile markers
Spring locations and trail safety issues on the internet
Stop relocation the trail from old woods roads to a parallel route at a short distance from old road
To do as much as possible to protect nearby land from development
While on the trip a phone# I could call to get information on current trail relocation and of water
Work with organized camp leaders to plan less impact on the at, teach kids low impact and courtesy

Maryland (N=23)

Develop more blue blazed trails to reduce traffic on the AT
Educate people as to low impact camping
Eliminate towers from trail views, roads that may encroach on trail experience
Fewer people, less human waste
Have rule books/ maps at the trailheads (that can be picked up)
I would like people to respect the conditions of nature, in general low impact camping
Keeping the trailhead info boxes stocked would be helpful
Leave it natural
Litter needs a little more effort
More info readily available about rules, regulations and suggestions for hikers
Nothing different
Offer small biohazard or Ziploc bags for people to bring for their toilet paper etc.
People need to know to be considerate of environment

Pick up trash -- get people to pick up after themselves
Small signs to identify plants/trees native to the area
Teach respect

Shenandoah (N=49)

Better descriptions of available trails
Better trail markings
Better upkeep of the trail, shelters, privies, etc
Build a clean privy at every shelter, provide water at trail heads during drought season
Cleaner shelter, make trails hikeable - i.e.: dragon tooth not a hike, a mountain climb
Continue to do everything currently doing
Do not build any more new structures along the trail. Improve existing structures
Don't know
Educate local/weekend trail users on low impact camping
Establish shuttle services with parking away from trail or add more safe water spots
Give more credit to clubs and trail maintainers, make public aware of low impact hiking and camping
I don't think there is anything that they don't already do
I think nature is best left on its own, keep teaching "leave no trace" it will be alright
Keep pets off the trail, restrict size of larger groups
Keep the trail primitive don't allow too much development (including fancy shelters)
Maintain pristine nature of the trail, protect from encroaching development. Recruit more volunteers
Maintain some consistency on the quality of shelters so a hiker doesn't have to skip one due to conditions
Make less hills
Make the public aware the shelters are for people who are spending more than 3 nights on AT
Maps @ trailheads
More clearly marked springs, and signs with distance to next spring
More garbage cans along the trail
More showers (separate cooking area at shelter)
More signs at points of interest, etc
Not as many people at once
Nothing - I think its great!
Nothing
Nothing, they are doing a great job
Offhand – nothing
PATC does a great job with the trail in Shenandoah national park
Publicize the proper place to park
Rebuild the rocky sections
Some areas require garbage cans @ road crossings so that thru hikers don't have to pack out their waste
Trim vegetation
Where signs exist, maybe they could be more accurate

Outing Club of VA Tech (N=258)

Description of the trail section was misleading as to the difficulty- more strenuous than implied
? Be courteous
Allow mountain bikes
Ask people not to be so noisy
At some remote areas, the trail is not well kept, rather over-grown
Be more considerate of other people
Be prepared, ex., a mountain of H2O and food
Better maps with more trails marked
Better parking facilities
Better signage
Better signs
Better trail markers

Better; more comprehensive maps at trailheads
 Brochures with specific travel info, safety info, pack lists for inexperienced day hikers
 Clean up camping areas and charge people leaving behind waste
 Clean up litter, prosecute violators
 Contribute more funds for trail maintenance and incentives to attract volunteer trail workers.
 Crack down on drinking and drugs
 Cracking down on the people who use the AT as a partying place
 Doing a great job!
 Emphasize the low impact camping/hiking more
 Enforce no littering, alternative trails that would reduce erosion
 Enlarge trailhead parking lot
 Everyone must remember to pick-up ALL trash
 Explain travel and campsite impact to visitors. Keep impact as minimal as possible
 Fine litterbugs
 Fine those dog owners who allow their dogs to run freely on the trail (no exceptions!)
 Focus on the restoration of natural communities, make the trail more natural/wilderness area
 For overnight hikers- find way to seal off the area under the floors of shelters to stop rodents
 Give public more info about rules on trail
 Good trail markers, maps at trailhead
 Have maps and brochures along trailheads
 Have more trailheads
 I was worried by the erosion along the sides of the trail
 I would like managers to help make people feel responsible for the condition of the trail
 I wouldn't. Let people make their own experiences.
 If people wanted to hike alone, I'd feel more comfortable with a ranger knowing where I'd be
 Improve trail education at trail heads
 Information on good day hikes
 Install water fountain at beginning of trail
 Keep groups in small numbers
 Keep the trails natural
 Leave things as they are
 Less noise, stay on trail, no litter, dogs on leashes
 Less people
 Limit the number of people in the groups, especially thru hikers in Southern sections
 Limit visitors to 1 dog
 Make it harder Another words leave it neutral
 Make side trails leading up to AT easier to find: i.e. Maps
 Make sure people aren't straying from the trail since vegetation becomes destroyed
 Make the trail easier to walk on
 Make the trailheads more visible
 Make their presence more conspicuous. Assign thru-hikers to be mentors. Have more volunteers
 Mark the trails better
 Mark trails better
 Maybe better parking!
 Maybe distance markers more common, every 1/2 mile etc.
 More brochures and info available
 More detailed maps at trailhead
 More direction signs.
 More education – signboards
 More info.
 More information about the hike at the trail head.
 More information should be available at the trailhead; i.e. history & more nature info
 More maps detailing distances, elevation changes, identify landmarks such as different mountains
 More minimum impact educations need move public lands to spread uses stiff fines for violations
 More restrooms
 More signs telling distances to destination

More trail guides or helpers? Especially on the more popular trails
 No improvement, although my hike was short
 No opinion
 No pets
 Not a thing
 Not sure, information available seems adequate
 Nothing
 Nothing at this point
 Nothing.
 Nothing. The information is available that one needs, and the trail is in good condition
 Pamphlets/brochures at trail heads. There was nothing about the trail or the area where we were
 Pick up campsites better before leaving
 Post a history of the trail at the trailheads
 Post more info about other trails on the at
 Post on the internet the location of shelters and water sources, restrict large groups to day use on
 Provide a degree of difficulty chart
 Provide more info on any possible dangers and what to do if one encounters dangers
 Provide more information about low-impact at trail heads and shelters
 Provide more mile markers on the day hike trails
 Provide water along the trail
 Publicize other trails so people can have other choices besides the AT
 Put more information at trail heads and along trail. Like maps showing destinations, shelters and etc.
 Reach out to more people about low impact skills
 Reduce congestion, bigger parking area
 Reduce perceived risk of having car broken into at trailhead
 Reduce speed limit at road crossings
 Remove old dilapidated shelters
 Remove surveyor's pin, more info. For people interested in history and nature around them
 Respect nature more, pick up the food and trash
 Respect privacy, be on lookout for dangerous folks
 Returnable wildflower identification cards
 Signage for alternate routes
 Signs showing progress - miles - estimated/time
 Smaller groups, no horses
 Some trails that I have visited seem too developed. Keep it as natural as possible
 STOP trend of moving trail further from towns and stores, people need to resupply and get on and off
 Teach people to respect and be aware of others on the trail and their interests
 Teach respect for trail and other people
 Tell them to take away garbage (especially cigarettes)& to have group discussions & radios elsewhere
 They must do a good job, actually it must be hard to maintain the trail
 To help people understand and appreciate the area a little more
 Trail map brochures at trailheads
 Unsure

Catawba (N=24)

Better maintained visible signs
 Better understanding of how they impact the land
 Keep it clean, or at least advise people not to litter
 Maintain signs, build fewer bridges and wooden walkways with stairs
 Mark trailheads more clearly- we came to an intersection in the trail & didn't know which way to go
 Maybe have awareness classes
 More connecting side trails, so that day hiking and loops are more feasible
 More info brochures about the trail, area, & regulations
 More info on hiking for inexperienced people
 Post regulations and other activities better

Reroute us past the ridiculous climbs up and over rock formations that have no value to the trail
The part of the trail that we hiked needed no improvement
There was an almost total lack of wildlife on trail, perhaps natural seed feeders could be made

Mount Rogers (N=67)

Advocate trail etiquette

Be visible; perhaps limit hiking numbers by requirements of permit

Better routine maintenance in some areas, less manicured look and feel in others

Clean shelters, picnic tables, privys

Continue to emphasize no trace

Continue to use ridge runners who employ gentle persuasion to educate hikers

Do not fill that managers can improve and individual experience

Don't limit the size of groups.

Don't make it easier, make it harder for people who have no respect, issue license after test to use

Don't "over maintain" the trails

Each person is responsible for their own experience, managers can not improve it for them

Educate some groups, especially BSA, to have the correct information when hiking, not assumed right

Emphasize low impact camping

Enforce group size, educate people on how/why to stay on trail

Have phone facilities at parking lots/trail heads to call for a ride to town

Help in what to take and not take

Keep horses away from the trail

Keep horses of the trails, improve hikes to vistas, put 4 wallson shelters.

Keep the trail maintained

Limit dogs and have designated campsites

Limit size of groups for both hikers and horse riders

Low numbers, enjoy nature, understand what a trail experience is

Maybe, to encourage people to get involved in more work hikes & improvement projects

More info books & maps reasonably priced

More mileage signs

More signposts and landmarks. Less rodents. Better shelters, more views, better maps

Nothing

Nothing additional

On this section of the trail through the mount roger's rec area, do a great job.

Put environmental protection ahead of pleasing local cattle farmers. Limit horseback

Reduce man made stairs and fences

Remove ponies completely from Park or stop feeding at gate

Remove shelters, do not maintain it at such high level

Set better rules for interaction between different types of users

Set up a transportation system

Smaller groups & higher publicized low impact hiking

Stress benefits of experiencing it in small groups or alone

Take their trash out

Teach them more about low impact hiking and be more visible on trails

Tell people to slow down and enjoy it some people are just putting accomplishments in their records

Try and find a way to keep the cows somewhat distant, but not totally gone from camping areas

Try to get more people out there on the trail

Warn many inexperienced day hikers about bringing water, the distance, time it may take per mile

North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF (N=22)

Access to information
Better signs
Better water directions
Get rid of rodents in shelter
Inform the average people of how to care for environment, no feces
Keep it as it is
Leave people free, quit doing surveys and let people use the trail as they need and want
Limit access
More trail signs, disposal of human waste
Nothing
Practice picking up their litter!
Provide better security at trail heads
Work on grading and locating trail

Smoky Mountains (N=123)

Affiliate being able to use trails unrestricted almost anytime they want
Allow camping outside of shelter
Ask each to pack out more trash than they generated
Better trail signs, info
Better/more awareness of low impact camping, no horses!!!
Build all shelters like ice water springs but leave fence around shelter
Charge a fee for hiking the trail unless one has passed a leave no trace test, revenues to educate
Compost toilet at shelters to minimize impact
Continue to step up the education process by the ridge runners
Continue your good work!
Dart a bear and relocate it when it is frequenting a shelter
Educate by LNT
Educate people more
Educate people more on littering, leave-no-trace and low impact practices
Education about low/minimum impact hiking/camping
Encourage consideration/knowledge of camping skills at shelters
Everything is good, but some shelters need remodeling and rodent exterminating
Fix and maintain all trails, AT being the first
Fix up shelters
Get more info to day hikers on the significance of the AT & proper hiking procedures
Get rid of the rodents
Have information about what they are seeing on and along the trail and points of interest
Have more ridge runners and rangers on the trail
Have outhouses
Hire more law enforcement rangers to patrol the backcountry- especially shelters
I don't know
I like the parts of the AT I've been on as it is
I saw no need for improvement where I was
I would ask them to educate/enforce more on leave no trace principles - especially pack it in and out
Improve more of the shelter similar to the way Ice Water Spring has been fixed up
Improve toilet area
Instruct users to pickup their trash
Keep people without reservations out of shelters, all more protection from bears
Keep the internet off the trail and the trail off the internet
Keep weeds and nettles away from trail as much as possible and keep trash off trail and campsites
Kill rodents
Leave AT in its most primitive state as possible
Leave shelters, campsites primitive. Don't create comforts
Less impact of people - pollution, trash, etc.

Make back country knowledge more readily available to inexperienced users
Make people more aware of why it is wrong to feed the animals
Make sure all hikers are informed of rules such as no dogs, low impact hiking, dogs and permits
Make sure people understand rules and regulations
Make the horses go to the bathroom off the trail
Mark well which way to go from ice water springs
Modify shelters in the GSM Nat'l Forest to look like the Ice water Spring Shelter
More accurate water reports ridge runner justified the false report as "for our safety"
More info and books about loop trail son the AT for hikers
More piped springs, trail maintenance especial Smokey Mtn. Natl. Park. New design for shelters
More rest stops and rangers
More shelters erected, maybe a "there's how to use the trail regulations booklet"
No horses
No suggestions
None
Not allow alcohol in the park
Not to litter
Nothing, continue the aggressive education on low impact hiking
Nothing, it was a wonderful experience
Add more to ridge runner programs
Offer guided outings to make more money for the park service
Pack in, pack out. Make trail less accessible from road ways
People I have met always seem to be enjoying the trail without causing problems to others
Permits
Possible make bear proof trash cans available on trails frequented by large #'s of day hikers
Provide more tent campsites on the AT
Provide tent camping by the shelters
Put water fountains or some place to get water
Shuttles from trailheads to town locations, such as post office or hotels.
Some hikers need to have basic knowledge of parks. Don't come to a shelter without reservations
Start hikers off with a short synopsis of the area
Stop making so many unnecessary ups and downs in the trail just for the sake of making it harder
Take time away from your paperwork to get out on the trail more and see the problems
To have some trails without bridges over the streams so they are natural
Top for shelters
Try to control the crowds at shelters-education of users about trash left at shelters and campsites

Georgia (N=100)

Allow campfires only after vegetation is growing back in thicker and more full
Ask the managers to tell people to be very considerate
Bathrooms at the trailhead parking areas
Better information
Better information for hikers about what they need
Better maps and directions from road to sites
Better maps at trail heads
Clearer markers and more trails
Data indicating good campgrounds, data showing when and where the trail is the busiest during year
Educate hikers
I would ask for properly marked markers
I would ask them to stress low impact hiking and camping to preserve the natural condition
Increase number of latrines, construct and maintain more campsites
Inform people abbot why erosion is a problem, not just that it is a problem
It was great
Keep it as wild as possible
Keep it natural

Keep trail as wild as possible
 Let everyone know the importance of picking up trash and debris even if it is not their own
 Litter prevention, less impact on the land
 Make day trips easier to find in N. Georgia
 Make sure litter is picked up. Enforce no trace rule
 Mile markers on the trail
 More campsites
 More information at trail heads
 More overlooks
 More rangers, more water spots
 More remote
 More safety signs showing the degree of difficulty of trails
 More signs giving mileage + possible time to do portions of the trail
 More signs, better detail and more accurate mileage
 More hiker safety and trail info on signs.
 No need for improvement on the section of the trail I hiked
 Not sure
 Nothing
 Nothing
 Nothing. I love it
 Post more signs on no littering
 Preserve nature at all costs
 Provide a better water source and cleaner bathroom at trailhead
 Provide info on water site conditions
 Put trail at end of the trail
 Remove access roads, make sections longer, reduce cars
 Separate shelter rooms with doors
 Some trail heads were hard to find, more clearly marked signs
 Spread out and learn LNT ethics
 Stress "leave no trace" concept, limit size of groups, require that dogs be leashed at ALL times
 Stress low impact camping--stay on the trails
 Teach hikers more about impacting the trails less
 Teach people how to be responsible for their litter especially toilet paper
 Teach people how to dispose of their own toilet paper and never leave it in the woods
 There is no good way to avoid being such a good public use facility
 They've done a good job so far
 This isn't a managers responsibility
 To ask people to tread on the trail as if it were your own home
 Train hikers to be quiet while walking the trail.
 Whatever means are necessary to keep vegetation from growing in the trail

Thru Hikers (N=318)

Try leave usual coping strategy/ escape mechanism (smoke, drink) home let trail nature God guide
 Find ways to help people realize they coexist with all other living things and need to be self sustain
 Somehow instill reverence for nature
 A scenic road walk isn't bad and is a nice break from the terrain, better than no views
 Add shelters on the trail in the White Mts.
 Add valleys, farms, fields.. Just a little variety
 Amount of large groups during their outings. Some had 20 kids at a time
 Ask them to tell people to hike other paces that are not so crowded
 At trailheads - construct signs identifying local wildlife + plant life (major species)
 Attempt to teach no trace techniques to new hikers/backpackers. Keep shelters 3 mi. from road
 Be aware of priority for long distance hikers at shelters
 Be considerate of others
 Beat up the people who don't realize its not our world to destroy

Better food storage. Better blazing & signage in NH. Signs/posted rules: "No trash in firepots"
 Better identification of trail heads and roads
 Better water supply
 Blaze the transitions better i.e.: trail to road
 Blow Up the cog
 Break up the amc, if it were a for profit business it would be deemed a monopoly, far too large
 Bring the trail back through or near small towns. Eliminate full service AMC huts in the whites
 Build bridge across streams in Maine, more campsites
 Build bridges in Maine. Towns are a major part of the AT Don't re-route the trail around towns
 Build new shelters in the Smokies
 Build shelters next to NH huts-give hikers more options than we're full get out
 Bury their stuff away from trail
 Butt out
 Buy more land, get rights to more land to widen trail corridor
 Check and publicize water availability
 Clean up fire pits at shelters
 Clean up the Smokies
 Clear blow downs
 Clear some rocks off the footed in PA
 Combine data book & thru hikers handbook so only have to carry one
 Consistently paint an offset white blaze when coming to a road and trail crossing for direction change
 Create a management plan that limits the amount of hikers that leave springer each day
 Develop more trails
 Discourage day use of the AT-use other trails instead
 Dispose of human waste properly
 Do away with 1/2 of the shelters, campsites--keep it primitive, natural
 Do away with the Amc and the way they control the White Mountains
 Do more listening, observing, respecting
 Do Something about all the trail erosion on the roan highlands and build bridges in ME!
 Don't advertise so heavily& if continue promoting don't fool people into thinking its lonely solitude
 Don't bring dogs; and try to be quiet
 Don't charge thru hikers to stay at the hotels, I mean in the whites
 Don't make trail rougher try to reduce the # of hikers pave the trail near cultural points
 Don't manipulate the way people experience the AT
 Don't publicize it so much, there are too many people as it is
 Ease up in rules for thru-hikers
 Educate better about low-impact, stop further development around the trail
 Educate people
 Educate scouts and scoutmasters, provide alternate camping instead of requiring hikers to use huts
 Educate trail clubs about how to design build and maintain trails
 Educate, educate, educate
 Education to help hikers understand minimal impact hiking/camping
 Eliminate fees for shelters and campsites
 Eliminate the Oct. 15 deadline at Baxter St. Park for AT thru hikers
 Ensure that all sections of the trail are adequately maintained. Some sections are as good as abandoned
 Experience is different and unique to everyone
 Explain problem with large campfires and negative impact on forest floor
 Fix erosion in Maine
 Fix the things in number 4, plus don't charge thru hikers in the Whites, we're already broke
 Get irresponsible people off of trail; people who drink, party, hunt
 Get rid of AMC huts in the White Mountains, close roads and railroad on Mt. Washington
 Get rid of road walks, hurt my feet
 Get rid of shelters
 Get rid of the AMC
 Get the AMC off the Trail
 Give more information about each areas' ecology

Have a mandatory low impact class (stressing silenced courtesy to other hikers) before thru hike
 Have approved or certified potable water at sites
 Have better consistency among maintainers
 Have respect for the land & others & try to get others to do the same
 Help improve relationships between hikers & businesses/facilities/people _near_ the trail
 How to make people aware of the need for conservation without overusing the resources
 I'd tell managers to not get so focused on wilderness experience
 I fear that shelters are becoming too crowded at peak season and weekends. Rodents bad
 I find the growing reliance on pack shuttles + slack packing to be disturbing. It's a footpath
 I only care about the thru hiking experience, tell day hikers to bring us food
 I think it's pretty well run as it is
 I wish there was less habitat fragmentation along the trail
 I would ask them to relax
 I would reroute parts of the trail through small towns via country roads in order to enjoy cultures
 If hikers believed yellow blazing were discouraged, social hikers would be fewer, and more thru hiker
 If thru hiking, people should not yellow blaze
 Improve food storage facilities
 Improve severely eroded sections in NH and ME
 Improve shelters
 Improve stream crossings - at high water, there are life threatening floods
 Improve trail maintenance, safer crossings in Maine
 In areas supervised by AMC there should be other camping resources provided
 In general, more signposts. At times even with maps & guidebooks is hard to figure out where one is
 Include more lowland areas to the trail (i.e. Riverside trails)
 Increase minimum impact awareness
 Inform college outing clubs of low impact camping and shelter etiquette
 Information about low impact hiking
 Install and maintain privies at each shelter along the trail
 Install more wells and outhouses
 Institute rigorous politeness lessons...no trash on trails or campsites
 Invalid question, I don't believe one can change the way someone experiences something
 Invest in trail maintenance, relocation, and hiker helps such as stairs
 Keep it rugged/ handicapped accessible is foolish to waste money on
 Keep primitive areas primitive
 Keep trying to educate the public about their impact on the environment while on AT
 Keep underbrush cut back, avoid unnecessary climbs to summit a mtn with no views, too much rock/roots
 Keep very large groups away from the trail
 Leave this system how it is. People are willing to volunteer they just need to know how.
 Lend some help and support to the volunteers working so hard to keep the AT maintained & free
 Less shelters
 Less shelters on trail
 Let people hike their own hikes, don't clutter them with rules, some are ok.
 Let the hikers stay for free in the AMC shelters in the white mountains
 Lime disease is of epic proportions
 Limit # of people in groups, especially overactive groups such as boy scouts
 Limit group size
 Limit group sizes. In NJ, I saw 3 groups of at least 20 people in one 15 mile stretch
 Limit of # of people on the trail
 Limit or stop development near the AT, Stop private development, stop building service roads
 Limit organized group sizes to a maximum of 10 people
 Limit road access to the trail, would like to see more diversity on the trail
 Limit the number of hikers
 Limit their group size, go out for more than an overnight trip
 Limit use, perhaps issue permits for thru hikers at Springer, people would need to apply for permit
 LNT-how to shit in the woods - the right way
 Lower fees through the white mountains

Maintain trails

Maintenance improvement would go a long way toward a better trail experience

Make all the fire towers accessible to the public

Make groups aware that they're expected to tent, and that shelters are for long distance hikers

Make it easier to hitch into towns

Make more trails

Make privies mandatory at all shelter facilities. Encourage all backcountry users to pick up trash

Make small groups and loud groups camp away from long distance hikers

Make sure water is supplied in areas during a drought

Maps at trailheads

Mark road crossing to indicate which direction the town is and what services they provide.

Mark the trail in the AMC area so we can get out of this high priced territory

More alternatives for solitary, free campsites, don't continue to increase trail difficulty

More blazes & better placing of blazes needed. Build bridges in Maine. Forging is not fun

More camping areas

More campsites between shelters

More education on low impact practices

More info @ local flora/fauna and history, otherwise it is great the way it is

More info about low impact camping

More primitive lodging in White Mountains, more safety features in Maine

More pumps that provide fresh water

More shelters further from roads to limit/reduce access and impact

More signs in some areas telling mileage to shelters and roads

More strict pack it in, pack it out rules, perhaps more education on it

More women

Move shelters away from roads and more info on water availability

Move shelters away from the roads. They were the dirtiest shelters

Move signs, better blaze marking in spots

Move the trail away from the AMC hut system in New Hampshire

Need no baby sitter. No park rangers, caretakers

No opinion

No problems

Not an easier trail by any mean but consistent, good responsible trail.

Not much

Nothing - no more parking areas for young people to party

Nothing

Nothing

Nothing the trail is an experience that the individual must undertake on their own

Nothing, the experience is everything and shouldn't be altered in anyway

Nothing`

Obtain more input from distance/older hikers in planning relocations; especially those on rock beds

Occasionally a nice flat road walk is a nice change of pace.

Organize the accessibility of the trail (i.e. The White Mountains, Shenandoah NP)

People should take a short land/trail management course to understand the impacts of their actions

Place more switchbacks on AT so we are not crippled for life from the steep descents

Post Info low impact camping at trail heads & highly used areas-esp. Info about fire rings & human w

Pot plants growing at shelters for thru hikers ONLY

Practice erosion control, teach low impact camping everywhere, teach people to pack out

Prevent the trail from being too wimpy, too many easy ways out, i.e. Hostels

Privies at all shelters so hikers know what to expect, mark road crossings better

Prohibit large-group camping such as college orientation and outward bound hordes

Promote self-reliance

Provide 3-4 designated tent sites at all shelter locations for those who prefer tenting then shelter

Provide a bit of local history at each shelter

Provide animal safe food storage as built in part of all shelters. The added cost is negligible.

Provide more bridges in Maine and provide free camping in the Whites

Provide thorough natural history information at shelters & campsites
Put in more water pumps in dry areas
Put the trail somewhere else beside the White Mountain range. Cost of huts too much.
Quit building new structures and focus on good soil structure on the trail itself
Quit glorifying the AT experience, make it more like backcountry
Reduce obvious signs of civilization to protect the wilderness value of the corridor; cell-cell phones
Reduce road walks and road crossings
Regulate number of thru hikers, issue permits
Remove all AMC huts to reduce impact
Remove shelters near roads & towns. Encourages too many non-hikers to come & party & destroy area
Remove Skyline Drive, Blue Ridge Parking and the road up Mt. Washington
Replace old small shelters with somewhat larger ones
Reroute road walks
Reroute trail to avoid mountaineering sections, supposed to be a hike not a rock climb
Resolve the conflict with AMC in the Whites. What they are doing is bullshit
Restrict group sizes and push gentle education instead of forced education
Run the trail back thru more small towns with bars
Share knowledge of volume of people and the availability of solitude as well
Smaller group sizes
Smaller groups, leave the phones and tv's out, leave no trace
Some sections need better maintenance and blazes
Something about keeping people from excessive noise and cell phones. Eliminate amc
Sometime they take you up and around places with no views. For no real reason at all
Split groups into smaller units with 6 or less
Stay out of it. People will experience what they want to, it's a trail through the woods
Stone steps, ladders, all very helpful. Small bridges across all those fords in me would be good too
Stop glorifying the thru-hike as a goal unto itself so a % of those hikers will stay home
Stop making the trail too easily acceptable. It is starting to lose some of the wilderness experience
Stop the practice of clear-cutting logging in ME and limit new ski resorts
Switchbacks
Take trash out with you, weekend hikers in the south left terrible messes at shelters
The experience depends on the hikers, maybe encourage more respect for plants and low impact
The (people) how to pick up after themselves
The trail is free for everyone, and that's great, but it's part of the crowding problem also
The trail seems to have become quite the social convention
The trail should include more beautiful things that may only be on side trails
There needs to be less of an attitude about doing high miles per day
Through towns, choose roads with services hikers need: grocery, laundry, P.O., library
To do away with the AMC's practice of charging fees at overnight stays in shelters
Trail maintenance
Updated reports on water
When approaching roads trailheads etc, that blazes clearly mark whether trail goes R, L, or straight

APPENDIX D:
Study Findings by the 22 Trail
Segments

PART A:

1. On this particular trip, were you a [check one]:
- day user (on the trail for one day only)
 - overnight user/backpacker (out for more than one day)
 - through hiker (hiking the length of the trail in one calendar year)
 - section hiker (hiking sections of the Appalachian Trail with the intent of hiking the entire trail over an extended period of time)

(QA1)

	Day User	Overnight Hiker	Thru Hiker	Section Hiker
Baxter State Park	36.4	18.2		45.5
100 Mile Wilderness	75.9	19.3		4.8
Western Maine	33.7	43.3		23.1
NH-Mahoosucs	11.5	57.4		31.1
NH-White Mountains	6.5	77.4		16.1
NH-South	52.5	27.9		19.7
Vermont	21.1	52.2		26.7
Massachusetts	17.6	41.2		41.2
Connecticut	50.0	43.8		6.3
New York	44.0	24.0		32.0
New Jersey	37.7	41.0		21.3
Pennsylvania	30.6	40.3		29.0
Maryland	47.8	43.5		8.7
Shenandoah	21.3	42.6		36.2
Outing Club of Va. Tech	86.7	10.3		3.0
Catawba	83.3	12.5		4.2
Mount Rogers	42.2	46.9		10.9
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	42.1	36.8		21.1
Smoky Mtns.	20.5	59.0		20.5
Georgia	70.8	20.8		8.3
Total	36.7	32.4	15.7	15.2

N=1879

2. How long was your trip? _____ # of days on trail _____ # of miles hiked

(QA2a & b)

	Miles	Days
Baxter State Park	199.7	19.0
100 Mile Wilderness	31.9	3.4
Western Maine	76.3	8.5
NH-Mahoosucs	79.9	7.5
NH-White Mountains	79.4	7.4
NH-South	118.9	11.6
Vermont	93.1	8.8
Massachusetts	202.3	17.4
Connecticut	22.9	3.5
New York	113.8	10.0
New Jersey	82.5	8.9
Pennsylvania	135.6	11.1
Maryland	59.0	6.5
Shenandoah	202.6	19.0
Outing Club of Va. Tech	9.9	1.5
Catawba	81.4	5.6
Mount Rogers	23.1	2.7
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	85.0	11.3
Smoky Mtns.	46.6	4.9
NC-Nantahala NF	282.0	29.5
Georgia	12.8	1.9
Total (Non-Thru Hiker)	71.0	7.2

3. Including yourself, how many people were in your group?

(QA3)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	More than 10	Mean
Baxter State Park	40.9	36.4	6.8	6.8	0.0	2.3	2.3	2.3	0.0	2.3	0.0	2.3
100 Mile Wilderness	3.7	61.7	6.2	13.6	0.0	4.9	1.2	1.2	2.5	0.0	4.9	3.3
Western Maine	21.9	32.4	12.4	10.5	2.9	4.8	3.8	2.9	1.9	3.8	2.9	3.5
NH-Mahoosucs	11.7	51.7	5.0	3.3	3.3	5.0	0.0	8.3	3.3	1.7	6.7	3.8
NH-White Mountains	22.8	35.9	13.2	4.8	3.0	4.8	0.6	3.6	0.0	1.2	10.2	4.2
NH-South	18.0	59.0	4.9	9.8	1.6	0.0	0.0	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	2.7
Vermont	26.7	37.8	14.4	8.9	2.2	2.2	0.0	2.2	1.1	2.2	2.2	2.9
Massachusetts	43.8	37.5	6.3	0.0	0.0	6.3	6.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.2
Connecticut	12.5	62.5	18.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.3	3.2
New York	45.2	31.5	12.3	0.0	5.5	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.7	1.4	2.3
New Jersey	26.2	49.2	13.1	0.0	1.6	1.6	0.0	4.9	0.0	0.0	3.3	2.6
Pennsylvania	31.7	38.1	14.3	3.2	4.8	3.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.8	2.7
Maryland	27.3	36.4	13.6	18.2	0.0	0.0	4.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.5
Shenandoah	35.4	43.8	16.7	4.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.9
Outing Club of Va. Tech	9.4	38.6	20.2	13.7	4.3	3.9	2.6	1.3	1.3	0.9	3.9	3.6
Catawba	25.0	45.8	4.2	4.2	20.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.5
Mount Rogers	18.8	32.8	14.1	4.7	1.6	7.8	0.0	1.6	1.6	12.5	4.7	4.1
North of Smokies- Pisgah/Cherokee NF	33.3	42.9	0.0	9.5	0.0	4.8	0.0	0.0	4.8	0.0	4.8	2.9
Smoky Mtns.	18.2	24.0	16.5	14.9	7.4	13.2	0.0	1.7	0.0	0.8	3.3	3.7
NC-Nantahala NF	50.0	50.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.5
Georgia	14.7	53.7	15.8	10.5	3.2	2.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.4
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	21.1	40.6	13.3	8.4	3.3	4.2	1.0	1.9	0.9	1.6	3.7	2.9

4. Which of the following best describes the composition of your group? [check one]

- Alone**
 Family
 Friends
 Family & friends
 Organized group (club or other organization)
 Commercial group (group of people who paid a fee to participate in this trip)
 Other [please specify] _____

(QA4)

	Alone	Family	Friends	Family & Friends	Organized Group	Commercial Group	Other
Baxter State Park	34.1	22.7	38.6	4.5	0.0	0.0	0.0
100 Mile Wilderness	7.1	25.0	46.4	11.9	4.8	1.2	3.6
Western Maine	21.7	31.1	23.6	8.5	9.4	0.9	4.7
NH-Mahoosucs	11.7	20.0	38.3	8.3	21.7	0.0	0.0
NH-White Mountains	22.2	29.9	25.7	11.4	9.0	0.0	1.8
NH-South	19.7	26.2	42.6	6.6	3.3	0.0	1.6
Vermont	26.4	23.1	36.3	6.6	3.3	0.0	4.4
Massachusetts	41.2	17.6	29.4	5.9	5.9	0.0	0.0
Connecticut	12.5	37.5	37.5	0.0	6.3	0.0	6.3
New York	46.7	17.3	32.0	0.0	2.7	0.0	1.3
New Jersey	26.2	31.1	31.1	3.3	6.6	1.6	0.0
Pennsylvania	31.7	28.6	25.4	4.8	4.8	3.2	1.6
Maryland	26.1	17.4	34.8	8.7	4.3	0.0	8.7
Shenandoah	37.5	22.9	35.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.2
Outing Club of Va. Tech	9.4	24.9	44.2	12.9	6.4	0.0	2.1
Catawba	20.8	20.8	37.5	16.7	4.2	0.0	0.0
Mount Rogers	14.1	25.0	34.4	4.7	18.8	0.0	3.1
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	28.6	38.1	23.8	4.8	0.0	4.8	0.0
Smoky Mtns.	18.9	18.9	36.1	13.1	10.7	0.0	2.5
NC-Nantahala NF	50.0	50.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Georgia	12.6	45.3	34.7	5.3	1.1	0.0	1.1
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	20.7	26.5	35.0	8.3	6.8	0.4	2.3

**5. Did you pay any type of fee (trip fee, membership fee, etc.) to participate in this trip/hike?
[check one]**

Yes No

(AQ5)

	Yes	No
Baxter State Park	4.8	95.2
100 Mile Wilderness	53.7	46.3
Western Maine	8.4	91.6
NH-Mahoosucs	26.2	73.8
NH-White Mountains	22.6	77.4
NH-South	12.3	87.7
Vermont	17.6	82.4
Massachusetts	0.0	100.0
Connecticut	0.0	100.0
New York	0.0	100.0
New Jersey	6.7	93.3
Pennsylvania	3.3	96.7
Maryland	0.0	100.0
Shenandoah	18.8	81.3
Outing Club of Va. Tech	3.2	96.8
Catawba	0.0	100.0
Mount Rogers	14.1	85.9
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	4.8	95.2
Smoky Mountains	3.4	96.6
NC-Nantahala NF	0.0	100.0
Georgia	7.4	92.6
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	12.1	87.9

6a. Please look at the following list of activities and tell us which activities you and your group did during this trip on the Appalachian Trail. [Check all that apply]

PARTICIPATED (✓)	ACTIVITY	PARTICIPATED (✓)	ACTIVITY
	Day Hiking/Walking		Hunting
	Backpacking		Fishing
	Camping		Photography
	Viewing Scenery		Nature Study
	Picnicking		Jogging/Trail Running
	Horseback Riding		Other (please list _____)

(QA6a)

	Viewing					Horseback			Photography	Nature Study	Jogging or	
	Dayhiking	Backpacking	Camping	Scenery	Picnicking	Riding	Hunting	Fishing			Running	Other
Baxter State Park	50.0	63.0	56.5	71.7	21.7	0.0	0.0	10.9	54.3	17.4	2.2	6.5
100 Mile Wilderness	82.4	30.8	26.4	84.6	41.8	0.0	0.0	6.6	56.0	19.8	2.2	12.1
Western Maine	55.7	63.5	55.7	80.0	29.6	0.0	0.0	5.2	51.3	18.3	0.9	2.6
NH-Mahoosucs	32.3	83.1	73.8	84.6	20.0	0.0	0.0	4.6	49.2	6.2	3.1	4.6
NH-White Mountains	56.8	92.9	66.3	85.8	26.0	0.0	0.0	1.8	47.9	23.1	4.1	5.9
NH-South	60.6	54.5	40.9	78.8	30.3	0.0	1.5	0.0	33.3	12.1	6.1	3.0
Vermont	38.8	69.9	48.5	71.8	16.5	0.0	0.0	3.9	33.0	13.6	3.9	4.9
Massachusetts	31.6	68.4	52.6	73.7	15.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	31.6	5.3	0.0	15.8
Connecticut	70.6	41.2	47.1	88.2	35.3	0.0	0.0	11.8	29.4	5.9	0.0	11.8
New York	59.2	51.3	46.1	81.6	23.7	0.0	0.0	3.9	44.7	22.4	3.9	6.6
New Jersey	61.9	60.3	54.0	84.1	31.7	0.0	1.6	0.0	50.8	23.8	3.2	11.1
Pennsylvania	54.0	73.0	65.1	90.5	22.2	0.0	1.6	0.0	57.1	30.2	3.2	15.9
Maryland	73.9	56.5	52.2	95.7	30.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	26.1	21.7	8.7	8.7
Shenandoah	57.1	77.6	65.3	89.8	38.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	42.9	18.4	6.1	10.2
Outing Club of Va. Tech	83.3	19.0	12.8	81.0	35.3	0.0	0.4	0.8	39.5	17.1	5.0	7.4
Catawba	83.3	16.7	16.7	83.3	33.3	0.0	4.2	0.0	41.7	29.2	4.2	8.3
Mount Rogers	59.7	58.2	52.2	82.1	32.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	40.3	10.4	0.0	4.5
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee	59.1	68.2	59.1	72.7	18.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	31.8	13.6	0.0	0.0
Smoky Mountains	49.6	78.9	59.3	83.7	18.7	0.8	0.0	0.0	65.0	23.6	3.3	8.1
NC-Nantahala NF	50.0	100.0	50.0	100.0	50.0	0.0	0.0	50.0	100.0	0.0	50.0	0.0
Georgia	77.0	34.0	28.0	78.0	31.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	25.0	7.0	3.0	1.0
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	61.9	56.6	45.5	81.9	28.4	0.1	0.3	2.3	44.7	17.7	3.5	6.8

7. Overall, which of the following best describes the section of the Appalachian Trail that you visited? [check one]

- wilderness – a place generally unaffected by the presence of people, providing outstanding opportunities for solitude and self-reliance.**
- semi-wilderness – the kind of place where complete solitude is not expected, but the environment appears mostly unaffected by people**
- undeveloped recreation area – the kind of place where a natural setting is provided but seeing other people is part of the experience.**

(QA7)

	wilderness	semi-wilderness	undeveloped recreation area
Baxter State Park	27.9	48.8	23.3
100 Mile Wilderness	14.1	55.3	30.6
Western Maine	11.2	57.9	30.8
NH-Mahoosucs	28.3	60.0	11.7
NH-White Mountains	9.0	60.8	30.1
NH-South	8.3	58.3	33.3
Vermont	6.6	59.3	34.1
Massachusetts	11.8	47.1	41.2
Connecticut	12.5	56.3	31.3
New York	13.3	53.3	33.3
New Jersey	4.9	55.7	39.3
Pennsylvania	9.5	68.3	22.2
Maryland	4.5	54.5	40.9
Shenandoah	25.0	54.2	20.8
Outing Club of Va. Tech	5.2	59.1	35.8
Catawba	12.5	75.0	12.5
Mount Rogers	4.8	48.4	46.8
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	19.0	57.1	23.8
Smoky Mountains	21.3	63.9	14.8
NC-Nantahala NF	0.0	100.0	0.0
Georgia	10.5	69.5	20.0
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	11.8	59.2	29.1

PART B:

1. Have you ever contacted any organization for information about the Appalachian Trail?

No Yes

a. If yes, what organization(s) did you contact? _____

b. How did you contact them?

letter phone personal visit Internet

other [please specify] _____

c. What type of information did you receive? _____

d. Was the information you received adequate in helping you plan your trip to your satisfaction?

Yes No

e. Did you purchase any information? Yes No

(QB1)

	Yes	No
Baxter State Park	57.1	42.9
100 Mile Wilderness	32.9	67.1
Western Maine	45.7	54.3
NH-Mahoosucs	60.7	39.3
NH-White Mountains	62.0	38.0
NH-South	41.9	58.1
Vermont	56.7	43.3
Massachusetts	35.3	64.7
Connecticut	62.5	37.5
New York	56.9	43.1
New Jersey	61.3	38.7
Pennsylvania	67.2	32.8
Maryland	52.2	47.8
Shenandoah	56.3	43.8
Outing Club of Va. Tech	30.5	69.5
Catawba	30.4	69.6
Mount Rogers	47.6	52.4
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	66.7	33.3
Smoky Mountains	45.4	54.6
NC-Nantahala NF	50.0	50.0
Georgia	23.7	76.3
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	48.9	51.1

(QB1b)

	Letter	Phone	Personal Visit	Internet	Other
Baxter State Park	36.0	44.0	4.0	12.0	4.0
100 Mile Wilderness	29.6	37.0	7.4	14.8	11.1
Western Maine	8.5	61.7	8.5	14.9	6.4
NH-Mahoosucs	36.1	27.8	19.4	13.9	2.8
NH-White Mountains	19.4	51.0	10.2	15.3	4.1
NH-South	24.0	44.0	16.0	8.0	8.0
Vermont	19.2	48.1	11.5	19.2	1.9
Massachusetts	0	50.0	0	50.0	0
Connecticut	62.5	25.0	0	12.5	0
New York	27.3	34.1	9.1	18.2	11.4
New Jersey	18.9	43.2	8.1	27.0	2.7
Pennsylvania	15.8	39.5	21.1	21.1	2.6
Maryland	16.7	33.3	16.7	33.3	0
Shenandoah	19.2	46.2	11.5	19.2	3.8
Outing Club of Va. Tech	15.9	33.3	31.9	15.9	2.9
Catawba	0	16.7	66.7	16.7	0
Mount Rogers	16.0	40.0	28.0	8.0	8.0
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	28.6	50.0	0	14.3	7.1
Smoky Mountains	28.6	44.6	3.6	17.9	5.4
NC-Nantahala NF	0	0	0	100.0	0
Georgia	29.2	25.0	20.8	25.0	0
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	21.6	42.8	13.6	17.3	4.7

(QB1d)

	Yes	No
Baxter State Park	95.8	4.2
100 Mile Wilderness	88.0	12.0
Western Maine	91.7	8.3
NH-Mahoosucs	94.7	5.3
NH-White Mountains	94.9	5.1
NH-South	100.0	0
Vermont	96.2	3.8
Massachusetts	75.0	25.0
Connecticut	100.0	0
New York	95.3	4.7
New Jersey	89.7	10.3
Pennsylvania	97.4	2.6
Maryland	100.0	0
Shenandoah	100.0	0
Outing Club of Va. Tech	92.4	7.6
Catawba	100.0	0
Mount Rogers	92.6	7.4
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	91.7	8.3
Smoky Mountains	94.7	5.3
NC-Nantahala NF	100.0	0
Georgia	95.8	4.2
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	94.4	5.6

(QB1e)

	Yes	No
Baxter State Park	73.9	26.1
100 Mile Wilderness	50.0	50.0
Western Maine	60.0	40.0
NH-Mahoosucs	74.4	25.6
NH-White Mountains	65.4	34.6
NH-South	65.5	34.5
Vermont	70.4	29.6
Massachusetts	87.5	12.5
Connecticut	80.0	20.0
New York	72.7	27.3
New Jersey	62.5	37.5
Pennsylvania	89.7	10.3
Maryland	58.3	41.7
Shenandoah	86.2	13.8
Outing Club of Va. Tech	55.1	44.9
Catawba	28.6	71.4
Mount Rogers	66.7	33.3
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	78.6	21.4
Smoky Mountains	57.4	42.6
NC-Nantahala NF	100.0	0
Georgia	55.6	44.4
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	66.1	33.9

2. Where would you most likely go to obtain each of the following types of information about the Appalachian Trail? [If you are not interested in a particular type of information please check the "Not Interested" column.]

QB2 - Baxter State Park

Not Interested	Type of information	Sporting Goods Stores	Newspapers	Books & Magazines	Brochures	Trailhead Signs	Ranger or Volunteer Visitor Center/Ranger Station	The Internet	Audio or Video	Trail Clubs/Organization	
2.2	Map of location of trails and features	37.0	0.0	37.0	10.9	23.9	21.7	30.4	32.6	0.0	45.7
6.5	Rules and regulations for the area	0.0	0.0	15.2	13.0	26.1	30.4	54.3	15.2	0.0	23.9
6.5	Tips on A.T. hiking and camping	13.0	4.3	56.5	17.4	10.9	26.1	26.1	23.9	0.0	26.1
8.7	Types of plants and animals in the area	8.7	2.2	47.8	8.7	8.7	23.9	32.6	10.9	0.0	4.3
47.8	Hunting or fishing in the area	2.2	0.0	6.5	2.2	0.0	15.2	13.0	10.9	0.0	2.2
4.3	Trail safety	4.3	0.0	39.1	10.9	13.0	39.1	37.0	10.9	0.0	19.6
4.3	Trail history and philosophy	2.2	2.2	56.5	13.0	6.5	19.6	28.3	15.2	0.0	23.9
4.3	General forest information	2.2	4.3	23.9	23.9	10.9	32.6	50.0	13.0	0.0	15.2
10.9	Low impact camping	4.3	0.0	41.3	10.9	2.2	21.7	28.3	13.0	0.0	26.1
15.2	Volunteer opportunities	2.2	6.5	10.9	10.9	0.0	17.4	26.1	21.7	0.0	45.7
17.4	Places similar to this area	8.7	4.3	32.6	8.7	0.0	15.2	23.9	21.7	0.0	19.6
6.5	Other, please describe:	0.0	0.0	4.3	0.0	0.0	2.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.2

QB2 - 100 Mile Wilderness

Not Interested	Type of information	Sporting Goods Stores	Newspapers	Books & Magazines	Brochures	Trailhead Signs	Ranger or Volunteer Visitor Center/Ranger Station	The Internet	Audio or Video	Trail Clubs/Organization	
0.0	Map of location of trails and features	26.4	4.4	47.3	20.9	26.4	18.7	40.7	36.3	2.2	28.6
4.4	Rules and regulations for the area	1.1	1.1	20.9	20.9	29.7	28.6	49.5	19.8	0.0	16.5
8.8	Tips on A.T. hiking and camping	11.0	2.2	53.8	18.7	7.7	19.8	20.9	26.4	0.0	18.7
8.8	Types of plants and animals in the area	2.2	2.2	56.0	18.7	8.8	18.7	26.4	20.9	0.0	3.3
38.5	Hunting or fishing in the area	8.8	2.2	18.7	8.8	2.2	16.5	16.5	11.0	0.0	2.2
7.7	Trail safety	2.2	1.1	35.2	11.0	15.4	25.3	29.7	14.3	1.1	13.2
4.4	Trail history and philosophy	1.1	4.4	48.4	18.7	9.9	16.5	36.3	15.4	0.0	11.0
2.2	General forest information	2.2	3.3	29.7	16.5	12.1	24.2	50.5	22.0	0.0	4.4
8.8	Low impact camping	3.3	0.0	49.5	16.5	4.4	18.7	30.8	16.5	0.0	14.3
19.8	Volunteer opportunities	0.0	0.0	9.9	5.5	1.1	24.2	22.0	15.4	0.0	28.6
7.7	Places similar to this area	5.5	4.4	45.1	14.3	1.1	14.3	23.1	28.6	1.1	8.8
4.4	Other, please describe:	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.0	1.1

QB2 - Western Maine

Not Interested	Type of information	Sporting Goods Stores	Newspapers	Books & Magazines	Brochures	Trailhead Signs	Ranger or Volunteer Visitor Center/Ranger Station	The Internet	Audio or Video	Trail Clubs/Organization	
2.6	Map of location of trails and features	40.0	1.7	33.0	7.8	21.7	16.5	21.7	20.9	0.0	39.1
3.5	Rules and regulations for the area	4.3	1.7	13.9	9.6	36.5	25.2	34.8	12.2	0.0	20.0
10.4	Tips on A.T. hiking and camping	10.4	2.6	47.8	5.2	4.3	20.0	18.3	19.1	0.9	27.8
8.7	Types of plants and animals in the area	4.3	2.6	54.8	11.3	6.1	20.9	20.0	13.0	0.9	11.3
41.7	Hunting or fishing in the area	9.6	1.7	11.3	2.6	3.5	11.3	10.4	5.2	0.0	6.1
7.8	Trail safety	3.5	0.9	31.3	8.7	13.0	18.3	23.5	7.8	0.0	21.7
8.7	Trail history and philosophy	1.7	3.5	47.8	7.0	5.2	18.3	14.8	13.9	0.9	28.7
2.6	General forest information	1.7	2.6	26.1	11.3	13.9	28.7	31.3	10.4	0.0	15.7
10.4	Low impact camping	5.2	1.7	46.1	12.2	7.8	16.5	15.7	12.2	1.7	25.2
15.7	Volunteer opportunities	0.9	4.3	7.8	4.3	1.7	18.3	20.0	13.9	0.0	40.9
12.2	Places similar to this area	7.0	4.3	32.2	9.6	1.7	14.8	15.7	20.0	0.0	21.7
8.7	Other, please describe:	1.7	0.0	1.7	0.0	0.0	1.7	0.0	0.9	0.0	0.9

QB2 - New Hampshire - Mahoosucs

Not Interested	Type of information	Sporting Goods Stores	Newspapers	Books & Magazines	Brochures	Trailhead Signs	Ranger or Volunteer Visitor Center/Ranger Station	The Internet	Audio or Video	Trail Clubs/Organization	
0.0	Map of location of trails and features	50.8	4.6	26.2	9.2	23.1	15.4	26.2	20.0	0.0	44.6
6.2	Rules and regulations for the area	6.2	3.1	18.5	9.2	29.2	29.2	40.0	12.3	0.0	23.1
4.6	Tips on A.T. hiking and camping	15.4	4.6	40.0	16.9	9.2	18.5	23.1	18.5	1.5	41.5
13.8	Types of plants and animals in the area	7.7	3.1	55.4	10.8	6.2	20.0	23.1	7.7	0.0	16.9
44.6	Hunting or fishing in the area	13.8	1.5	18.5	0.0	0.0	6.2	16.9	4.6	0.0	6.2
13.8	Trail safety	7.7	3.1	33.8	12.3	15.4	26.2	30.8	10.8	0.0	21.5
7.7	Trail history and philosophy	3.1	4.6	44.6	10.8	6.2	16.9	29.2	10.8	0.0	29.2
1.5	General forest information	6.2	6.2	27.7	18.5	18.5	40.0	53.8	12.3	1.5	21.5
9.2	Low impact camping	4.6	6.2	33.8	16.9	9.2	18.5	23.1	9.2	0.0	30.8
10.8	Volunteer opportunities	3.1	4.6	6.2	6.2	4.6	15.4	23.1	3.1	0.0	49.2
15.4	Places similar to this area	6.2	4.6	33.8	9.2	3.1	10.8	18.5	6.2	0.0	21.5
13.8	Other, please describe:	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.5	0.0	1.5

QB2 - New Hampshire - White Mountains

Not Interested	Type of information	Sporting Goods Stores	Newspapers	Books & Magazines	Brochures	Trailhead Signs	Ranger or Volunteer Visitor Center/Ranger Station	The Internet	Audio or Video	Trail Clubs/Organization	
2.4	Map of location of trails and features	31.4	0.0	43.2	10.1	18.9	12.4	32.0	30.2	0.6	42.0
4.1	Rules and regulations for the area	4.1	0.0	26.6	13.6	30.2	30.8	48.5	21.3	0.0	29.6
7.1	Tips on A.T. hiking and camping	7.1	1.2	54.4	7.1	8.9	15.4	27.8	27.2	2.4	36.7
8.9	Types of plants and animals in the area	3.0	1.2	56.2	13.6	4.7	20.7	29.0	18.3	0.0	13.0
50.3	Hunting or fishing in the area	8.9	0.0	11.8	5.3	3.0	9.5	14.2	7.1	0.0	5.3
10.7	Trail safety	3.6	0.6	39.6	10.7	13.0	27.2	34.3	17.2	1.8	32.0
6.5	Trail history and philosophy	2.4	0.0	52.1	11.2	8.3	17.8	30.8	21.9	1.8	28.4
3.0	General forest information	2.4	0.0	32.0	18.9	13.0	33.1	49.7	24.3	0.6	17.8
7.7	Low impact camping	3.6	0.0	45.0	10.7	7.7	17.2	26.0	18.9	0.6	26.6
13.0	Volunteer opportunities	3.0	3.6	14.8	5.3	2.4	21.9	24.3	20.7	0.0	43.8
11.2	Places similar to this area	5.3	0.6	43.2	10.1	3.0	12.4	16.0	28.4	0.6	20.1
6.5	Other, please describe:	1.8	0.0	1.8	1.8	1.2	1.8	1.8	1.8	0.0	1.2

QB2 - New Hampshire - South

Not Interested	Type of information	Sporting Goods Stores	Newspapers	Books & Magazines	Brochures	Trailhead Signs	Ranger or Volunteer Visitor Center/Ranger Station	The Internet	Audio or Video	Trail Clubs/Organization	
1.5	Map of location of trails and features	40.9	0.0	37.9	9.1	34.8	15.2	27.3	21.2	3.0	33.3
7.6	Rules and regulations for the area	10.6	0.0	21.2	7.6	54.5	22.7	33.3	7.6	0.0	15.2
19.7	Tips on A.T. hiking and camping	10.6	7.6	33.3	6.1	7.6	15.2	21.2	15.2	0.0	22.7
18.2	Types of plants and animals in the area	3.0	1.5	43.9	7.6	12.1	16.7	21.2	6.1	0.0	7.6
60.6	Hunting or fishing in the area	3.0	1.5	9.1	3.0	6.1	3.0	9.1	1.5	0.0	4.5
18.2	Trail safety	3.0	1.5	25.8	6.1	24.2	21.2	28.8	4.5	0.0	19.7
13.6	Trail history and philosophy	4.5	1.5	39.4	4.5	12.1	10.6	27.3	9.1	0.0	18.2
3.0	General forest information	7.6	1.5	25.8	12.1	19.7	28.8	51.5	16.7	0.0	7.6
16.7	Low impact camping	4.5	1.5	34.8	4.5	16.7	9.1	15.2	6.1	0.0	16.7
33.3	Volunteer opportunities	3.0	4.5	6.1	6.1	7.6	15.2	9.1	7.6	0.0	27.3
21.2	Places similar to this area	4.5	4.5	25.8	3.0	4.5	15.2	12.1	15.2	0.0	10.6
18.2	Other, please describe:	1.5	0.0	1.5	0.0	3.0	1.5	1.5	1.5	0.0	0.0

QB2 - Vermont

Not Interested	Type of information	Sporting Goods Stores	Newspapers	Books & Magazines	Brochures	Trailhead Signs	Ranger or Volunteer Visitor Center/Ranger Station	The Internet	Audio or Video	Trail Clubs/Organization	
0.0	Map of location of trails and features	31.1	1.0	41.7	10.7	18.4	9.7	20.4	21.4	0.0	39.8
3.9	Rules and regulations for the area	3.9	1.0	27.2	15.5	35.9	18.4	28.2	8.7	1.0	25.2
1.9	Tips on A.T. hiking and camping	4.9	1.0	50.5	10.7	6.8	13.6	17.5	21.4	0.0	33.0
7.8	Types of plants and animals in the area	1.9	1.0	46.6	8.7	6.8	19.4	28.2	4.9	0.0	13.6
44.7	Hunting or fishing in the area	6.8	0.0	13.6	2.9	5.8	14.6	9.7	3.9	0.0	2.9
6.8	Trail safety	4.9	1.0	37.9	12.6	16.5	18.4	15.5	8.7	0.0	22.3
4.9	Trail history and philosophy	1.9	0.0	48.5	7.8	7.8	13.6	14.6	8.7	0.0	24.3
1.0	General forest information	1.9	0.0	27.2	16.5	15.5	24.3	36.9	11.7	0.0	15.5
5.8	Low impact camping	4.9	2.9	45.6	10.7	8.7	14.6	14.6	8.7	1.0	18.4
13.6	Volunteer opportunities	1.9	4.9	11.7	5.8	1.0	20.4	17.5	9.7	0.0	37.9
8.7	Places similar to this area	8.7	2.9	43.7	6.8	1.0	9.7	12.6	15.5	0.0	23.3
8.7	Other, please describe:	8.7	2.9	43.7	6.8	1.0	9.7	12.6	15.5	0.0	23.3

QB2 - Massachusetts

Not Interested	Type of information	Sporting Goods Stores	Newspapers	Books & Magazines	Brochures	Trailhead Signs	Ranger or Volunteer Visitor Center/Ranger Station	The Internet	Audio or Video	Trail Clubs/Organization	
0.0	Map of location of trails and features	21.1	0.0	31.6	15.8	21.1	5.3	15.8	10.5	0.0	47.4
0.0	Rules and regulations for the area	5.3	0.0	21.1	21.1	26.3	21.1	21.1	5.3	0.0	21.1
5.3	Tips on A.T. hiking and camping	10.5	0.0	31.6	15.8	5.3	5.3	5.3	36.8	0.0	21.1
0.0	Types of plants and animals in the area	10.5	0.0	57.9	10.5	0.0	15.8	26.3	0.0	0.0	5.3
52.6	Hunting or fishing in the area	10.5	0.0	15.8	5.3	0.0	5.3	10.5	0.0	0.0	0.0
10.5	Trail safety	10.5	0.0	36.8	5.3	0.0	10.5	21.1	10.5	0.0	10.5
10.5	Trail history and philosophy	10.5	0.0	52.6	10.5	5.3	5.3	10.5	10.5	0.0	15.8
0.0	General forest information	5.3	0.0	26.3	10.5	5.3	26.3	47.4	10.5	0.0	10.5
5.3	Low impact camping	10.5	5.3	52.6	10.5	0.0	0.0	10.5	15.8	0.0	15.8
5.3	Volunteer opportunities	5.3	0.0	10.5	0.0	0.0	10.5	10.5	10.5	0.0	42.1
15.8	Places similar to this area	10.5	0.0	42.1	5.3	0.0	0.0	10.5	26.3	0.0	10.5
0.0	Other, please describe:	21.1	0.0	31.6	15.8	21.1	5.3	15.8	10.5	0.0	47.4

QB2 - Connecticut

Not Interested	Type of information	Sporting Goods Stores	Newspapers	Books & Magazines	Brochures	Trailhead Signs	Ranger or Volunteer Visitor Center/Ranger Station	The Internet	Audio or Video	Trail Clubs/Organization	
0.0	Map of location of trails and features	47.1	0.0	35.3	29.4	23.5	17.6	35.3	29.4	0.0	41.2
5.9	Rules and regulations for the area	0.0	0.0	11.8	0.0	41.2	41.2	47.1	11.8	0.0	11.8
11.8	Tips on A.T. hiking and camping	11.8	0.0	47.1	11.8	5.9	17.6	17.6	29.4	0.0	23.5
17.6	Types of plants and animals in the area	0.0	0.0	41.2	0.0	5.9	23.5	23.5	11.8	5.9	17.6
58.8	Hunting or fishing in the area	5.9	0.0	0.0	5.9	5.9	11.8	5.9	0.0	0.0	0.0
11.8	Trail safety	0.0	0.0	29.4	5.9	11.8	35.3	47.1	0.0	0.0	17.6
11.8	Trail history and philosophy	0.0	0.0	47.1	5.9	5.9	17.6	29.4	11.8	5.9	11.8
5.9	General forest information	0.0	0.0	23.5	11.8	11.8	17.6	17.6	11.8	5.9	11.8
17.6	Low impact camping	0.0	0.0	35.3	11.8	11.8	11.8	23.5	11.8	5.9	11.8
17.6	Volunteer opportunities	0.0	0.0	5.9	11.8	0.0	0.0	17.6	0.0	0.0	41.2
5.9	Places similar to this area	5.9	5.9	35.3	17.6	0.0	5.9	11.8	35.3	0.0	5.9
11.8	Other, please describe:	0.0	0.0	5.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

QB2 - New York

Not Interested	Type of information	Sporting Goods Stores	Newspapers	Books & Magazines	Brochures	Trailhead Signs	Ranger or Volunteer Visitor Center/Ranger Station	The Internet	Audio or Video	Trail Clubs/Organization	
0.0	Map of location of trails and features	34.2	2.6	31.6	14.5	14.5	9.2	21.1	22.4	1.3	55.3
7.9	Rules and regulations for the area	1.3	0.0	15.8	11.8	30.3	15.8	32.9	11.8	1.3	30.3
11.8	Tips on A.T. hiking and camping	7.9	0.0	46.1	5.3	3.9	9.2	14.5	19.7	1.3	35.5
14.5	Types of plants and animals in the area	2.6	0.0	53.9	7.9	3.9	10.5	17.1	11.8	0.0	11.8
65.8	Hunting or fishing in the area	0.0	0.0	7.9	6.6	3.9	6.6	9.2	9.2	1.3	3.9
18.4	Trail safety	3.9	1.3	34.2	5.3	11.8	17.1	19.7	14.5	2.6	28.9
5.3	Trail history and philosophy	2.6	2.6	43.4	7.9	9.2	9.2	25.0	22.4	1.3	38.2
1.3	General forest information	5.3	2.6	27.6	22.4	13.2	23.7	52.6	15.8	1.3	18.4
18.4	Low impact camping	7.9	2.6	47.4	10.5	5.3	10.5	10.5	17.1	1.3	27.6
21.1	Volunteer opportunities	0.0	0.0	3.9	6.6	1.3	14.5	10.5	11.8	0.0	48.7
17.1	Places similar to this area	9.2	2.6	44.7	11.8	5.3	5.3	7.9	22.4	1.3	27.6
9.2	Other, please describe:	1.3	1.3	2.6	0.0	1.3	0.0	1.3	1.3	0.0	2.6

QB2 - New Jersey

Not Interested	Type of information	Sporting Goods Stores	Newspapers	Books & Magazines	Brochures	Trailhead Signs	Ranger or Volunteer Visitor Center/Ranger Station	The Internet	Audio or Video	Trail Clubs/Organization	
1.6	Map of location of trails and features	36.5	3.2	39.7	11.1	15.9	19.0	36.5	25.4	1.6	49.2
7.9	Rules and regulations for the area	1.6	0.0	17.5	7.9	38.1	38.1	42.9	12.7	0.0	25.4
7.9	Tips on A.T. hiking and camping	7.9	0.0	52.4	11.1	4.8	22.2	20.6	30.2	3.2	42.9
12.7	Types of plants and animals in the area	3.2	1.6	42.9	11.1	7.9	31.7	31.7	19.0	3.2	15.9
58.7	Hunting or fishing in the area	9.5	0.0	4.8	1.6	1.6	6.3	11.1	1.6	0.0	1.6
7.9	Trail safety	6.3	0.0	36.5	11.1	23.8	31.7	33.3	17.5	1.6	28.6
9.5	Trail history and philosophy	1.6	1.6	49.2	11.1	11.1	20.6	31.7	22.2	1.6	28.6
4.8	General forest information	6.3	1.6	22.2	15.9	23.8	46.0	49.2	20.6	1.6	20.6
14.3	Low impact camping	6.3	0.0	50.8	4.8	12.7	28.6	17.5	14.3	1.6	33.3
23.8	Volunteer opportunities	3.2	0.0	6.3	4.8	3.2	28.6	19.0	11.1	0.0	41.3
15.9	Places similar to this area	6.3	1.6	30.2	11.1	3.2	19.0	23.8	27.0	3.2	23.8
9.5	Other, please describe:	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.6	0.0	0.0	3.2

QB2 - Pennsylvania

Not Interested	Type of information	Sporting Goods Stores	Newspapers	Books & Magazines	Brochures	Trailhead Signs	Ranger or Volunteer Visitor Center/Ranger Station	The Internet	Audio or Video	Trail Clubs/Organization	
1.6	Map of location of trails and features	38.1	1.6	27.0	9.5	22.2	15.9	25.4	30.2	0.0	54.0
4.8	Rules and regulations for the area	3.2	0.0	20.6	15.9	47.6	34.9	36.5	15.9	0.0	27.0
4.8	Tips on A.T. hiking and camping	12.7	1.6	55.6	19.0	4.8	15.9	17.5	38.1	0.0	41.3
9.5	Types of plants and animals in the area	4.8	1.6	52.4	12.7	7.9	23.8	28.6	17.5	0.0	23.8
42.9	Hunting or fishing in the area	7.9	1.6	14.3	7.9	3.2	11.1	15.9	11.1	0.0	9.5
9.5	Trail safety	3.2	0.0	31.7	9.5	19.0	36.5	41.3	22.2	0.0	36.5
6.3	Trail history and philosophy	4.8	3.2	57.1	17.5	4.8	12.7	27.0	23.8	3.2	36.5
1.6	General forest information	4.8	3.2	20.6	22.2	17.5	42.9	49.2	27.0	0.0	25.4
9.5	Low impact camping	9.5	3.2	50.8	11.1	7.9	15.9	20.6	22.2	0.0	30.2
17.5	Volunteer opportunities	4.8	6.3	6.3	7.9	0.0	15.9	17.5	15.9	0.0	49.2
7.9	Places similar to this area	6.3	6.3	41.3	15.9	6.3	14.3	17.5	34.9	1.6	30.2
6.3	Other, please describe:	0.0	0.0	3.2	0.0	0.0	1.6	1.6	1.6	0.0	3.2

QB2 - Maryland

Not Interested	Type of information	Sporting Goods Stores	Newspapers	Books & Magazines	Brochures	Trailhead Signs	Ranger or Volunteer Visitor Center/Ranger Station	The Internet	Audio or Video	Trail Clubs/Organization	
0.0	Map of location of trails and features	39.1	0.0	34.8	13.0	21.7	17.4	26.1	21.7	4.3	30.4
4.3	Rules and regulations for the area	4.3	0.0	21.7	13.0	60.9	26.1	39.1	13.0	0.0	8.7
4.3	Tips on A.T. hiking and camping	13.0	0.0	56.5	21.7	4.3	26.1	26.1	26.1	0.0	34.8
4.3	Types of plants and animals in the area	4.3	0.0	56.5	8.7	8.7	17.4	30.4	8.7	0.0	8.7
52.2	Hunting or fishing in the area	4.3	0.0	8.7	0.0	13.0	8.7	21.7	0.0	0.0	4.3
13.0	Trail safety	0.0	0.0	26.1	21.7	26.1	34.8	34.8	8.7	0.0	17.4
0.0	Trail history and philosophy	4.3	0.0	65.2	13.0	8.7	30.4	21.7	8.7	8.7	21.7
0.0	General forest information	8.7	4.3	34.8	34.8	8.7	30.4	39.1	17.4	4.3	4.3
13.0	Low impact camping	8.7	0.0	52.2	17.4	8.7	17.4	17.4	17.4	0.0	17.4
17.4	Volunteer opportunities	0.0	4.3	8.7	0.0	0.0	17.4	21.7	8.7	0.0	39.1
0.0	Places similar to this area	8.7	8.7	56.5	21.7	0.0	4.3	8.7	21.7	0.0	0.0
8.7	Other, please describe:	8.7	56.5	21.7	0.0	4.3	8.7	21.7	0.0	13.0	0.0

QB2 - Shenandoah

Not Interested	Type of information	Sporting Goods Stores	Newspapers	Books & Magazines	Brochures	Trailhead Signs	Ranger or Volunteer Visitor Center/Ranger Station	The Internet	Audio or Video	Trail Clubs/Organization	
4.1	Map of location of trails and features	34.7	2.0	26.5	10.2	14.3	10.2	22.4	16.3	0.0	38.8
6.1	Rules and regulations for the area	2.0	0.0	22.4	14.3	28.6	26.5	38.8	8.2	0.0	26.5
4.1	Tips on A.T. hiking and camping	4.1	2.0	51.0	16.3	6.1	16.3	16.3	20.4	2.0	42.9
6.1	Types of plants and animals in the area	2.0	2.0	59.2	8.2	6.1	20.4	22.4	8.2	0.0	14.3
61.2	Hunting or fishing in the area	6.1	0.0	8.2	2.0	2.0	8.2	10.2	0.0	0.0	6.1
6.1	Trail safety	0.0	0.0	28.6	12.2	14.3	30.6	28.6	12.2	0.0	30.6
4.1	Trail history and philosophy	0.0	0.0	57.1	16.3	8.2	18.4	22.4	4.1	0.0	32.7
4.1	General forest information	0.0	0.0	20.4	18.4	10.2	26.5	40.8	20.4	0.0	12.2
4.1	Low impact camping	0.0	0.0	34.7	6.1	10.2	24.5	20.4	10.2	0.0	38.8
18.4	Volunteer opportunities	0.0	2.0	12.2	8.2	2.0	12.2	12.2	16.3	0.0	46.9
16.3	Places similar to this area	4.1	2.0	36.7	2.0	4.1	10.2	2.0	18.4	0.0	16.3
12.2	Other, please describe:	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.0

QB2 - Outing Club of Va. Tech.

Not Interested	Type of information	Sporting Goods Stores	Newspapers	Books & Magazines	Brochures	Trailhead Signs	Ranger or Volunteer Visitor Center/Ranger Station	The Internet	Audio or Video	Trail Clubs/Organization	
1.6	Map of location of trails and features	35.7	4.7	24.4	28.7	22.9	10.1	32.9	34.1	1.2	20.5
4.7	Rules and regulations for the area	5.8	0.8	8.5	15.1	30.6	19.0	37.2	15.9	0.8	10.5
9.7	Tips on A.T. hiking and camping	16.7	3.9	32.9	15.5	6.6	10.1	19.0	26.4	1.6	16.3
8.5	Types of plants and animals in the area	4.3	1.9	40.7	17.4	11.2	12.8	27.1	18.2	1.6	8.1
36.4	Hunting or fishing in the area	10.5	1.9	11.2	8.5	8.1	7.8	20.2	14.3	0.8	3.9
12.0	Trail safety	4.7	3.1	18.6	12.4	18.2	17.1	31.0	14.3	1.2	13.6
12.4	Trail history and philosophy	3.1	2.7	33.7	15.1	8.1	12.8	21.7	20.9	1.6	12.0
3.1	General forest information	5.0	2.7	15.9	17.8	12.0	19.0	43.8	26.0	1.2	9.7
13.2	Low impact camping	10.9	3.1	27.5	15.9	6.2	10.9	23.3	18.6	1.6	17.1
19.0	Volunteer opportunities	3.9	3.9	3.1	7.0	1.6	15.1	23.6	18.2	1.2	28.7
9.3	Places similar to this area	13.6	4.3	26.7	10.1	2.3	8.9	21.7	26.0	1.2	14.7
7.0	Other, please describe:	0.4	0.4	1.6	1.2	0.4	0.8	1.9	3.1	0.0	1.6

QB2 - Catawba

Not Interested	Type of information	Sporting Goods Stores	Newspapers	Books & Magazines	Brochures	Trailhead Signs	Ranger or Volunteer Visitor Center/Ranger Station	The Internet	Audio or Video	Trail Clubs/Organization	
0.0	Map of location of trails and features	45.8	0.0	25.0	37.5	29.2	25.0	54.2	20.8	0.0	20.8
0.0	Rules and regulations for the area	8.3	0.0	8.3	20.8	25.0	16.7	45.8	4.2	0.0	0.0
12.5	Tips on A.T. hiking and camping	8.3	4.2	45.8	16.7	8.3	8.3	16.7	12.5	0.0	12.5
8.3	Types of plants and animals in the area	0.0	0.0	45.8	12.5	8.3	12.5	25.0	8.3	0.0	4.2
37.5	Hunting or fishing in the area	16.7	4.2	4.2	12.5	4.2	16.7	29.2	8.3	0.0	4.2
16.7	Trail safety	0.0	0.0	4.2	12.5	4.2	8.3	33.3	0.0	0.0	16.7
16.7	Trail history and philosophy	0.0	4.2	29.2	12.5	16.7	8.3	29.2	12.5	0.0	16.7
0.0	General forest information	8.3	4.2	12.5	16.7	16.7	20.8	41.7	12.5	0.0	8.3
12.5	Low impact camping	8.3	0.0	45.8	8.3	8.3	8.3	12.5	8.3	0.0	20.8
12.5	Volunteer opportunities	0.0	4.2	0.0	4.2	4.2	25.0	33.3	4.2	0.0	29.2
12.5	Places similar to this area	12.5	4.2	29.2	8.3	4.2	8.3	25.0	12.5	0.0	16.7
0.0	Other, please describe:	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

QB2 - North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF

Not Interested	Type of information	Sporting Goods Stores	Newspapers	Books & Magazines	Brochures	Trailhead Signs	Ranger or Volunteer Visitor Center/Ranger Station	The Internet	Audio or Video	Trail Clubs/Organization	
1.5	Map of location of trails and features	44.8	1.5	19.4	13.4	16.4	14.9	44.8	23.9	0.0	25.4
3.0	Rules and regulations for the area	7.5	0.0	6.0	7.5	29.9	14.9	52.2	10.4	0.0	9.0
3.0	Tips on A.T. hiking and camping	22.4	3.0	29.9	9.0	4.5	13.4	22.4	29.9	3.0	22.4
3.0	Types of plants and animals in the area	6.0	1.5	41.8	13.4	0.0	16.4	29.9	11.9	1.5	7.5
31.3	Hunting or fishing in the area	9.0	1.5	4.5	7.5	1.5	13.4	19.4	9.0	0.0	0.0
3.0	Trail safety	4.5	1.5	28.4	13.4	10.4	19.4	34.3	10.4	0.0	11.9
4.5	Trail history and philosophy	3.0	3.0	31.3	13.4	7.5	9.0	26.9	16.4	3.0	11.9
1.5	General forest information	1.5	1.5	13.4	19.4	10.4	22.4	49.3	22.4	1.5	7.5
6.0	Low impact camping	10.4	4.5	31.3	10.4	7.5	7.5	17.9	13.4	1.5	13.4
13.4	Volunteer opportunities	1.5	7.5	6.0	4.5	0.0	17.9	23.9	11.9	0.0	29.9
7.5	Places similar to this area	11.9	7.5	31.3	11.9	0.0	9.0	16.4	34.3	1.5	19.4
9.0	Other, please describe:	1.5	0.0	0.0	1.5	0.0	0.0	1.5	1.5	0.0	0.0

QB2 - Smoky Mountains

Not Interested	Type of information	Sporting Goods Stores	Newspapers	Books & Magazines	Brochures	Trailhead Signs	Ranger or Volunteer Visitor Center/Ranger Station	The Internet	Audio or Video	Trail Clubs/Organization	
4.2	Map of location of trails and features	54.2	0.0	33.3	16.7	25.0	20.8	29.2	12.5	0.0	29.2
4.2	Rules and regulations for the area	16.7	0.0	29.2	12.5	20.8	29.2	37.5	12.5	0.0	12.5
8.3	Tips on A.T. hiking and camping	33.3	4.2	33.3	8.3	4.2	16.7	8.3	12.5	0.0	16.7
12.5	Types of plants and animals in the area	4.2	0.0	33.3	12.5	4.2	25.0	20.8	8.3	0.0	4.2
54.2	Hunting or fishing in the area	4.2	0.0	4.2	0.0	0.0	4.2	8.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
0.0	Trail safety	16.7	0.0	33.3	16.7	16.7	25.0	20.8	12.5	0.0	16.7
0.0	Trail history and philosophy	8.3	0.0	45.8	8.3	4.2	29.2	16.7	16.7	4.2	20.8
4.2	General forest information	16.7	4.2	20.8	20.8	4.2	37.5	20.8	16.7	0.0	12.5
4.2	Low impact camping	16.7	0.0	37.5	8.3	0.0	12.5	12.5	12.5	8.3	20.8
4.2	Volunteer opportunities	16.7	0.0	37.5	8.3	0.0	12.5	12.5	12.5	8.3	20.8
12.5	Places similar to this area	20.8	0.0	20.8	12.5	4.2	8.3	8.3	12.5	0.0	8.3
8.3	Other, please describe:	0.0	0.0	4.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

QB2 - North Carolina-Nantahala NF

Not Interested	Type of information	Sporting Goods Stores	Newspapers	Books & Magazines	Brochures	Trailhead Signs	Ranger or Volunteer Visitor Center/Ranger Station	The Internet	Audio or Video	Trail Clubs/Organization	
1.6	Map of location of trails and features	30.9	0.8	35.0	15.4	13.0	17.9	62.6	27.6	0.0	22.8
2.4	Rules and regulations for the area	1.6	1.6	15.4	13.8	17.9	30.1	70.7	16.3	0.0	11.4
2.4	Tips on A.T. hiking and camping	11.4	4.1	53.7	15.4	4.9	18.7	43.9	30.9	1.6	22.8
5.7	Types of plants and animals in the area	0.0	1.6	53.7	13.0	4.1	27.6	45.5	13.8	0.8	8.1
48.0	Hunting or fishing in the area	5.7	0.8	8.9	4.1	2.4	13.8	26.8	4.1	0.0	0.8
4.9	Trail safety	1.6	2.4	34.1	13.8	14.6	35.0	54.5	13.8	0.8	14.6
8.1	Trail history and philosophy	0.8	4.9	50.4	14.6	3.3	22.0	40.7	15.4	0.0	15.4
0.8	General forest information	0.8	4.9	27.6	19.5	8.9	40.7	71.5	19.5	0.8	8.9
7.3	Low impact camping	4.9	4.1	39.0	16.3	4.9	22.8	36.6	17.1	0.0	17.9
17.9	Volunteer opportunities	2.4	5.7	5.7	6.5	0.8	25.2	36.6	13.8	0.0	29.3
11.4	Places similar to this area	8.1	2.4	34.1	10.6	1.6	13.8	29.3	18.7	0.0	8.9
8.9	Other, please describe:	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.0	1.6	1.6	0.8	0.0	0.0

QB2 - Georgia

Not Interested	Type of information	Sporting Goods Stores	Newspapers	Books & Magazines	Brochures	Trailhead Signs	Ranger or Volunteer Visitor Center/Ranger Station	The Internet	Audio or Video	Trail Clubs/Organization	
0.0	Map of location of trails and features	44.0	1.0	46.0	17.0	31.0	14.0	36.0	32.0	2.0	7.0
2.0	Rules and regulations for the area	9.0	0.0	20.0	13.0	34.0	18.0	42.0	15.0	0.0	4.0
5.0	Tips on A.T. hiking and camping	23.0	1.0	56.0	12.0	12.0	14.0	25.0	27.0	1.0	14.0
10.0	Types of plants and animals in the area	8.0	2.0	54.0	10.0	10.0	13.0	24.0	13.0	0.0	0.0
35.0	Hunting or fishing in the area	13.0	2.0	15.0	8.0	7.0	16.0	26.0	9.0	0.0	1.0
6.0	Trail safety	9.0	2.0	31.0	9.0	18.0	15.0	32.0	12.0	0.0	10.0
4.0	Trail history and philosophy	7.0	3.0	56.0	9.0	11.0	13.0	29.0	15.0	1.0	12.0
1.0	General forest information	6.0	1.0	26.0	14.0	13.0	20.0	48.0	20.0	0.0	4.0
10.0	Low impact camping	12.0	4.0	42.0	10.0	8.0	13.0	26.0	15.0	0.0	12.0
16.0	Volunteer opportunities	3.0	5.0	6.0	7.0	2.0	20.0	27.0	16.0	0.0	27.0
4.0	Places similar to this area	11.0	4.0	46.0	11.0	5.0	12.0	23.0	31.0	1.0	9.0
3.0	Other, please describe:	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	1.0

QB2 - Thru Hikers

Not Interested	Type of information	Sporting Goods Stores	Newspapers	Books & Magazines	Brochures	Trailhead Signs	Ranger or Volunteer Visitor Center/Ranger Station	The Internet	Audio or Video	Trail Clubs/Organization	
1.3	Map of location of trails and features	14.3	1.3	16.9	5.2	3.9	3.9	6.5	14.3	1.3	31.2
5.8	Rules and regulations for the area	2.9	0.0	8.7	7.2	21.7	11.6	21.7	4.3	0.0	15.9
2.9	Tips on A.T. hiking and camping	4.3	0.0	30.4	2.9	2.9	4.3	4.3	21.7	4.3	21.7
10.8	Types of plants and animals in the area	1.5	0.0	33.8	10.8	3.1	13.8	10.8	4.6	1.5	9.2
41.2	Hunting or fishing in the area	13.7	0.0	5.9	3.9	2.0	13.7	11.8	2.0	0.0	5.9
11.1	Trail safety	1.9	0.0	29.6	5.6	5.6	9.3	11.1	5.6	1.9	18.5
4.1	Trail history and philosophy	1.4	2.7	33.8	6.8	1.4	6.8	10.8	9.5	5.4	17.6
4.1	General forest information	1.4	1.4	12.2	9.5	9.5	12.2	27.0	9.5	2.7	10.8
11.1	Low impact camping	1.6	0.0	33.3	6.3	3.2	4.8	7.9	12.7	3.2	15.9
14.0	Volunteer opportunities	1.8	0.0	5.3	5.3	0.0	15.8	15.8	8.8	0.0	33.3
18.0	Places similar to this area	4.9	3.3	23.0	4.9	0.0	8.2	9.8	18.0	1.6	8.2
0.0	Other, please describe:	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	25.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

4. How would you rate your knowledge of minimum impact/leave-no-trace outdoor skills and practices? [Circle One]

Never heard of it Novice Intermediate Advanced Expert

(QB4)

	Never					Mean
	Heard of It 1	Novice 2	Intermediate 3	Advanced 4	Expert 5	
Baxter State Park	0	2.4	16.7	59.5	21.4	4.0
100 Mile Wilderness	2.4	10.8	33.7	36.1	16.9	3.5
Western Maine	0	5.6	28.0	49.5	16.8	3.8
NH-Mahoosucs	0	4.9	26.2	54.1	14.8	3.8
NH-White Mountains	0	4.8	28.7	49.7	16.8	3.8
NH-South	0	5.0	33.3	41.7	20.0	3.8
Vermont	1.1	8.0	35.2	44.3	11.4	3.6
Massachusetts	0	5.9	41.2	47.1	5.9	3.5
Connecticut	0	17.6	23.5	52.9	5.9	3.5
New York	0	9.6	30.1	45.2	15.1	3.7
New Jersey	1.6	14.8	26.2	47.5	9.8	3.5
Pennsylvania	0	9.8	26.2	47.5	16.4	3.7
Maryland	0	4.3	43.5	43.5	8.7	3.6
Shenandoah	2.1	0	39.6	47.9	10.4	3.7
Outing Club of Va. Tech	5.7	19.4	38.8	30.4	5.7	3.1
Catawba	0	21.7	34.8	43.5	0	3.2
Mount Rogers	0	10.9	31.3	45.3	12.5	3.6
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	0	10.0	35.0	40.0	15.0	3.6
Smoky Mountains	0.8	7.6	38.7	43.7	9.2	3.5
NC-Nantahala NF	0	0	50.0	50.0	0	3.5
Georgia	2.2	19.6	34.8	39.1	4.3	3.2
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	1.4	9.6	32.6	43.9	12.5	

5. The following statements pertain to minimum impact practices and backcountry behavior. Please indicate whether you believe the following statements are true or false.

- a) True False When selecting a campsite in obviously impacted areas you should spread activities to places that have not been disturbed.
 - b) True False The same rules and regulations apply to the entire Appalachian Trail.
 - c) True False When hiking and encountering a horse party you should wait until the horses have come to a stop and then move quickly past them.
 - d) True False I cannot ride my mountain bike on the Appalachian Trail, because it is not allowed.
 - e) True False While backpacking, you should never camp next to a stream.
 - f) True False If I wanted to ride my All Terrain Vehicle on the A.T. I could do so as long as I stay on the trail.
 - g) True False When hiking in remote, lightly used locations it is best to camp on a site with no evidence of previous use to minimize your impact on the wilderness environment.
 - h) True False Building temporary fire rings by moving rocks and logs at your campsite is an accepted low-impact behavior.
 - i) True False When traveling on existing trails it is best to walk single file and stay on the main path to minimize impact.
 - j) True False Hikers should not collect plants and rocks along the Appalachian Trail
-

(QB5 a-j)

	a		b		c		d		e		f		g		h		i		j	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Baxter State Park	14.3	85.7	25.0	75.0	35.9	64.1	97.6	2.4	61.9	38.1	0	100.0	0	100.0	7.1	92.9	100.0	0	100.0	0
100 Mile Wilderness	9.5	90.5	34.9	65.1	27.5	72.5	86.1	13.9	59.8	40.2	1.2	98.8	1.2	98.8	20.3	79.7	100.0	0	100.0	0
Western Maine	10.5	89.5	33.7	66.3	24.7	75.3	89.1	10.9	71.3	28.7	0	100.0	0	100.0	5.7	94.3	100.0	0	98.1	1.9
NH-Mahoosucs	11.7	88.3	33.9	66.1	32.1	67.9	86.9	13.1	77.0	23.0	0	100.0	0	100.0	10.0	90.0	96.7	3.3	96.7	3.3
NH-White Mountains	10.9	89.1	19.5	80.5	26.7	73.3	82.0	18.0	81.2	18.8	1.8	98.2	1.8	98.2	7.4	92.6	100.0	0	98.2	1.8
NH-South	6.7	93.3	32.8	67.2	36.7	63.3	89.7	10.3	70.2	29.8	0	100.0	0	100.0	15.0	85.0	98.4	1.6	96.7	3.3
Vermont	5.6	94.4	19.1	80.9	27.8	72.2	82.8	17.2	70.9	29.1	1.1	98.9	1.1	98.9	14.8	85.2	100.0	0	98.9	1.1
Massachusetts	17.6	82.4	29.4	70.6	23.5	76.5	100.0		88.2	11.8	0	100.0	0	100.0	11.8	88.2	100.0	0	100.0	0
Connecticut	0	100.0	43.8	56.3	37.5	62.5	87.5	12.5	70.6	29.4	0	100.0	0	100.0	0	100.0	100.0	0	100.0	0
New York	8.5	91.5	30.0	70.0	35.7	64.3	89.9	10.1	65.7	34.3	0	100.0	0	100.0	21.4	78.6	100.0	0	98.6	1.4
New Jersey	6.7	93.3	23.7	76.3	26.2	73.8	88.3	11.7	74.1	25.9	0	100.0	0	100.0	8.3	91.7	100.0	0	98.4	1.6
Pennsylvania	6.7	93.3	20.3	79.7	26.2	73.8	83.3	16.7	67.2	32.8	0	100.0	0	100.0	21.3	78.7	100.0	0	95.1	4.9
Maryland	4.3	95.7	21.7	78.3	26.1	73.9	91.3	8.7	82.6	17.4	0	100.0	0	100.0	30.4	69.6	100.0	0	100.0	0
Shenandoah	18.8	81.3	27.1	72.9	26.1	73.9	93.6	6.4	77.1	22.9	0	100.0	0	100.0	15.2	84.8	100.0	0	95.8	4.2
Outing Club of Va. Tech	8.4	91.6	36.8	63.2	30.8	69.2	85.6	14.4	64.6	35.4	0.4	99.6	0.4	99.6	33.6	66.4	98.7	1.3	94.2	5.8
Catawba	8.7	91.3	39.1	60.9	26.1	73.9	81.8	18.2	56.5	43.5	0	100.0	0	100.0	39.1	60.9	100.0	0	100.0	0
Mount Rogers	14.3	85.7	35.9	64.1	11.1	88.9	93.8	6.3	65.1	34.9	0	100.0	0	100.0	16.1	83.9	98.4	1.6	98.4	1.6
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	14.3	85.7	15.0	85.0	33.3	66.7	95.2	4.8	57.1	42.9	0	100.0	0	100.0	31.6	68.4	100.0	0	100.0	0
Smoky Mountains	10.9	89.1	31.1	68.9	19.3	80.7	89.6	10.4	59.0	41.0	1.7	98.3	1.7	98.3	17.6	82.4	98.3	1.7	98.3	1.7
NC-Nantahala NF	0	100.0	50.0	50.0	50.0	50.0	100.0	0	0	100.0	0	100.0	0	100.0	0	100.0	100.0	0	100.0	0
Georgia	16.3	83.7	31.5	68.5	32.2	67.8	91.4	8.6	48.4	51.6	0	100.0	0	100.0	31.5	68.5	97.8	2.2	95.7	4.3
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	9.7	90.3	29.4	70.6	27.5	72.5	87.6	12.4	68.9	31.1	0.6	99.4	43.5	56.5	17.6	82.4	99.3	0.7	97.6	2.4

^a = The following statements pertain to minimum impact practices and backcountry behavior. Please indicate whether you believe the following statements are true or false.
(QB5 a-j)

- a. When selecting a campsite in obviously impacted areas you should spread activities to places that have not been disturbed.
 - b. The same rules and regulations apply to the entire Appalachian Trail.
 - c. When hiking and encountering a horse party you should wait until the horses have come to a stop and then move quickly past them.
 - d. I cannot ride my mountain bike on the Appalachian Trail, because it is not allowed.
 - e. While backpacking, you should never camp next to a stream.
 - f. If I wanted to ride my All Terrain Vehicle on the A.T. I could do so as long as I stay on the trail.
 - g. When hiking in remote, lightly used locations it is best to camp on a site with no evidence of previous use to minimize your impact on the wilderness environment.
 - h. Building temporary fire rings by moving rocks and logs at your campsite is an accepted low-impact behavior.
 - i. When traveling on existing trails it is best to walk single file and stay on the main path to minimize impact.
 - j. Hikers should not collect plants and rocks along the Appalachian Trail
-

6. According to accepted minimum impact practices for the Appalachian Trail,

a. How far from a stream or water source (in feet) should you dispose of human wastes? _____ Feet

b. How far from an established trail (in feet) should you camp? _____ Feet

(QB6a & b)

	a	b
Baxter State Park	256.9	139.9
100 Mile Wilderness	229.1	156.5
Western Maine	256.8	154.2
NH-Mahoosucs	203.9	161.7
NH-White Mountains	265.7	253.3
NH-South	261.7	212.9
Vermont	241.8	132.4
Massachusetts	230.0	155.8
Connecticut	205.4	102.7
New York	200.9	132.7
New Jersey	270.0	128.2
Pennsylvania	190.0	189.1
Maryland	204.8	157.8
Shenandoah	195.8	177.5
Outing Club of Va. Tech	181.1	99.1
Catawba	284.7	112.4
Mount Rogers	474.9	221.6
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	158.4	115.6
Smoky Mountains	185.0	118.2
NC-Nantahala NF	155.0	75.0
Georgia	163.0	139.1
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	223.4	151.0

7. We are trying to determine visitors' perceptions of security on the Appalachian Trail. "Security" refers to feeling free from being threatened or attacked by other people on the trail.

a. On this trip, how secure did you feel:

while you were out on the A.T.	Very Secure	Reasonably Secure	Somewhat Insecure	Very Insecure
while leaving the A.T. (e.g. to go to town)	Very Secure	Reasonably Secure	Somewhat Insecure	Very Insecure

b. On this trip, how satisfied were you with:

The level of security at trailheads and parking lots along the AT	Very Satisfied	Reasonably Satisfied	Somewhat Unsatisfied	Very Unsatisfied
The level of assistance from rangers, ridge runners, and volunteers along the AT	Very Satisfied	Reasonably Satisfied	Somewhat Unsatisfied	Very Unsatisfied

(QB7a)

	Very Secure	Reasonably Secure	Somewhat Secure	Very Insecure	Mean
Baxter State Park	78.6	21.4	0	0	1.21
100 Mile Wilderness	75.3	24.7	0	0	1.25
Western Maine	76.6	21.5	1.9	0	1.25
NH-Mahoosucs	68.9	29.5	1.6	0	1.33
NH-White Mountains	71.7	27.7	0.6	0	1.29
NH-South	71.0	27.4	1.6	0	1.31
Vermont	66.7	32.2	1.1	0	1.34
Massachusetts	47.1	52.9	0	0	1.53
Connecticut	52.9	47.1	0	0	1.47
New York	60.6	36.6	2.8	0	1.42
New Jersey	62.9	32.3	3.2	1.6	1.44
Pennsylvania	44.3	47.5	8.2	0	1.64
Maryland	56.5	43.5	0	0	1.43
Shenandoah	50.0	45.8	4.2	0	1.54
Outing Club of Va. Tech	63.4	33.5	2.2	0.9	1.41
Catawba	65.2	34.8	0	0	1.35
Mount Rogers	56.3	39.1	4.7	0	1.48
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	71.4	28.6	0	0	1.29
Smoky Mountains	62.8	37.2	0	0	1.37
NC-Nantahala NF	0	100.0	0	0	2.00
Georgia	60.6	38.3	1.1	0	1.40
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	65.2	32.8	1.8	0.2	1.37

(QB7a) On this trip, how secure did you feel while leaving the A. T. (e.g. to go to town)?

	Very Secure 1	Reasonably Secure 2	Somewhat Secure 3	Very Insecure 4	Mean
Baxter State Park	78.6	21.4	0	0	1.2
100 Mile Wilderness	75.3	24.7	0	0	1.3
Western Maine	76.6	21.5	1.9	0	1.3
NH-Mahoosucs	68.9	29.5	1.6	0	1.3
NH-White Mountains	71.7	27.7	0.6	0	1.3
NH-South	71.0	27.4	1.6	0	1.3
Vermont	66.7	32.2	1.1	0	1.3
Massachusetts	47.1	52.9	0	0	1.5
Connecticut	52.9	47.1	0	0	1.5
New York	60.6	36.6	2.8	0	1.4
New Jersey	62.9	32.3	3.2	1.6	1.4
Pennsylvania	44.3	47.5	8.2	0	1.6
Maryland	56.5	43.5	0	0	1.4
Shenandoah	50.0	45.8	4.2	0	1.5
Outing Club of Va. Tech	63.4	33.5	2.2	0.9	1.4
Catawba	65.2	34.8	0	0	1.4
Mount Rogers	56.3	39.1	4.7	0	1.5
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	71.4	28.6	0	0	1.3
Smoky Mountains	62.8	37.2	0	0	1.4
NC-Nantahala NF	0	100.0	0	0	2.0
Georgia	60.6	38.3	1.1	0	1.4
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	65.2	32.8	1.8	0.2	1.4

(QB7b) On this trip, how satisfied were you with the level of security at trailheads and parking lots along the AT?

	Very Satisfied 1	Reasonably Satisfied 2	Somewhat Unsatisfied 3	Very Unsatisfied 4	Mean
Baxter State Park	50.0	47.6	2.4	0	1.5
100 Mile Wilderness	51.3	43.8	5.0	0	1.5
Western Maine	31.1	56.3	7.8	4.9	1.9
NH-Mahoosucs	38.3	51.7	8.3	1.7	1.7
NH-White Mountains	35.0	60.0	4.4	0.6	1.7
NH-South	41.0	52.5	4.9	1.6	1.7
Vermont	24.1	68.7	6.0	1.2	1.8
Massachusetts	20.0	60.0	20.0	0	2.0
Connecticut	25.0	62.5	6.3	6.3	1.9
New York	33.3	58.0	8.7	0	1.8
New Jersey	43.6	46.8	9.7	0	1.7
Pennsylvania	26.7	66.7	5.0	1.7	1.8
Maryland	38.1	52.4	9.5	0	1.7
Shenandoah	27.7	70.2	2.1	0	1.7
Outing Club of Va. Tech	28.3	59.8	9.6	2.3	1.9
Catawba	35.0	45.0	20.0	0	1.9
Mount Rogers	23.4	65.6	10.9	0	1.9
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	42.1	57.9	0	0	1.6
Smoky Mountains	44.6	47.9	7.4	0	1.6
NC-Nantahala NF	50.0	50.0	0	0	1.5
Georgia	33.7	51.7	14.6	0	1.8
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	34.7	56.9	7.3	1.2	1.8

(QB7b) On this trip, how satisfied were you with the level of assistance from rangers, ridge runners, and volunteers along the A. T.?

	Very Satisfied 1	Reasonably Satisfied 2	Somewhat Unsatisfied 3	Very Unsatisfied 4	Mean
Baxter State Park	73.17	26.8	0	0	1.3
100 Mile Wilderness	74.70	19.3	6.0	0	1.3
Western Maine	66.04	30.2	0.9	2.8	1.4
NH-Mahoosucs	58.33	35.0	6.7	0	1.5
NH-White Mountains	58.13	38.8	1.9	1.3	1.5
NH-South	60.38	35.8	3.8	0	1.4
Vermont	71.76	28.2	0	0	1.3
Massachusetts	56.25	43.8	0	0	1.4
Connecticut	88.24	11.8	0	0	1.1
New York	44.26	45.9	8.2	1.6	1.7
New Jersey	82.26	16.1	0	1.6	1.2
Pennsylvania	79.66	18.6	0	1.7	1.2
Maryland	63.64	31.8	4.5	0	1.4
Shenandoah	70.83	27.1	2.1	0	1.3
Outing Club of Va. Tech	44.12	45.1	6.4	4.4	1.7
Catawba	31.25	50.0	18.8	0	1.9
Mount Rogers	68.25	27.0	4.8	0	1.4
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	55.56	44.4	0	0	1.4
Smoky Mountains	82.35	16.0	1.7	0	1.2
NC-Nantahala NF	50.00	50.0	0	0	1.5
Georgia	38.55	53.0	8.4	0	1.7
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	63.9	31.5	3.3	1.3	1.5

c. Have you encountered a security problem along the trail during the past 12 months?
 Yes No

If yes, did the incident involve a personal threat or attack against you? Yes
 No

Did the incident involve vandalism or theft of your personal property? Yes
 No

Was the incident reported to law enforcement authorities? Yes No

Please describe the incident. (SEE APPENDIX B)

(QB7c)

	%	# of Incidents
Baxter State Park	5.0	1
100 Mile Wilderness	6.5	2
Western Maine	7.8	8
NH-Mahoosucs	3.2	3
NH-White Mountains	1.1	2
NH-South	2.6	2
Vermont	3.7	5
Massachusetts	2.4	2
Connecticut	10.5	9
New York	0	0
New Jersey	8.7	2
Pennsylvania	4.2	3
Maryland	6.4	5
Shenandoah	9.7	13
Outing Club of Va. Tech	3.1	2
Catawba	0	0
Mount Rogers	3.4	8
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	1.0	1
Smoky Mountains	0	0
NC-Nantahala NF	.8	1
Georgia	4.2	1
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	2.3	70

If yes, did the incident involve a personal threat or attack against you? (QB7c)
Did the incident involve vandalism or theft of your personal property? (QB7c)
Was the incident reported to law enforcement authorities? (QB7c)

	Personal Threat/Attack		Theft		Reported?	
	%	N	%	N	%	N
Baxter State Park	0	0	0	0	0	0
100 Mile Wilderness	0	0	0	0	0	0
Western Maine	50.0	1	50.0	1	50.0	1
NH-Mahoosucs	0	0	0	0	0	0
NH-White Mountains	0	0	0	0	0	0
NH-South	0	0	0	0	100.0	1
Vermont	25.0	1	0	0	25.0	1
Massachusetts	0	0	0	0	0	0
Connecticut	0	0	100.0	1	0	0
New York	0	0	0	0	0	0
New Jersey	50.0	1	0	0	50.0	1
Pennsylvania	0	0	0	0	0	0
Maryland	100.0	1	0	0	0	0
Shenandoah	0	0	0	0	0	0
Outing Club of Va. Tech	0	0	16.7	1	20.0	1
Catawba	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mount Rogers	50.0	1	0	0	0	0
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	100.0	1	0	0	0	0
Smoky Mountains	100.0	1	0	0	100.0	1
NC-Nantahala NF	0	0	0	0	0	0
Georgia	100.0	1	0	0	0	0
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	14.8	8	7.5	3	17.4	6

d. Have you encountered a security problem at a trailhead or parking lot or within a few miles of the trail during the past 12 months?

Yes No

If yes, did the incident involve a personal threat or attack against you?

Yes No

Did the incident involve vandalism or theft of your personal property?

Yes No

Was the incident reported to law enforcement authorities? Yes No

Please describe the incident.

Have you encountered a security problem at a trailhead or parking lot or within a few miles of the trail during the past 12 months? (QB7d)

	Yes	# of Incidents
Baxter State Park	2.3	1
100 Mile Wilderness	3.7	3
Western Maine	4.7	5
NH-Mahoosucs	1.7	1
NH-White Mountains	1.8	3
NH-South	1.6	1
Vermont	4.5	4
Massachusetts	0	0
Connecticut	11.8	2
New York	1.4	1
New Jersey	0	0
Pennsylvania	3.2	2
Maryland	0	0
Shenandoah	6.3	3
Outing Club of Va. Tech	.9	2
Catawba	8.7	2
Mount Rogers	3.2	2
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	0	0
Smoky Mountains	5.9	7
NC-Nantahala NF	0	0
Georgia	2.1	2
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	2.9	40

If yes, did the incident involve a personal threat or attack against you? (QB7d)
Did the incident involve vandalism or theft of your personal property? (QB7d)
Was the incident reported to law enforcement authorities? (QB7d)

	Personal Threat/Attack		Theft		Reported?	
	%	N	%	N	%	N
Baxter State Park	100.0	1	0	0	0	0
100 Mile Wilderness	100.0	1	66.7	2	100.0	3
Western Maine	0	0	50.0	2	66.7	2
NH-Mahoosucs	0	0	100.0	1	100.0	1
NH-White Mountains	0	0	33.3	1	50.0	1
NH-South	100.0	1	100.0	1	100.0	1
Vermont	0	0	0	0	100.0	3
Massachusetts	0	0	0	0	0	0
Connecticut	0	0	50.0	1	100.0	1
New York	0	0	50.0	1	0	0
New Jersey	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pennsylvania	0	0	0	0	50.0	1
Maryland	0	0	0	0	0	0
Shenandoah	0	0	0	0	50.0	1
Outing Club of Va. Tech	0	0	0	0	0	0
Catawba	0	0	50.0	1	100.0	2
Mount Rogers	0	0	50.0	1	100.0	2
North of Smokies- Pisgah/Cherokee NF	0	0	0	0	0	0
Smoky Mountains	0	0	66.7	4	50.0	3
NC-Nantahala NF	0	0	0	0	0	0
Georgia	0	0	100.0	1	100.0	1
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	7.8	3	31.9	16	52.5	22

**8. Are you aware of the Appalachian Trail Conference's Hiker Security Guidelines?
 ___Yes___No**

(QB8)

	Yes	No
Baxter State Park	27.3	72.7
100 Mile Wilderness	7.4	92.6
Western Maine	10.5	89.5
NH-Mahoosucs	13.3	86.7
NH-White Mountains	11.5	88.5
NH-South	12.9	87.1
Vermont	15.7	84.3
Massachusetts	35.3	64.7
Connecticut	11.8	88.2
New York	23.3	76.7
New Jersey	19.4	80.6
Pennsylvania	24.2	75.8
Maryland	13.0	87.0
Shenandoah	31.9	68.1
Outing Club of Va. Tech	8.7	91.3
Catawba	4.3	95.7
Mount Rogers	14.8	85.2
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	14.3	85.7
Smoky Mountains	16.8	83.2
NC-Nantahala NF	50.0	50.0
Georgia	4.2	95.8
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	14.8	85.2

9. When traveling on the Appalachian Trail, do you ever intentionally hike or camp near other people for reasons of safety or personal security?

No

Yes. Please explain _____

(QB9)

	Yes	No
Baxter State Park	20.9	79.1
100 Mile Wilderness	12.9	87.1
Western Maine	14.4	85.6
NH-Mahoosucs	10.2	89.8
NH-White Mountains	11.9	88.1
NH-South	8.8	91.2
Vermont	18.4	81.6
Massachusetts	18.8	81.3
Connecticut	21.4	78.6
New York	15.9	84.1
New Jersey	20.7	79.3
Pennsylvania	16.4	83.6
Maryland	25.0	75.0
Shenandoah	31.9	68.1
Outing Club of Va. Tech	13.9	86.1
Catawba	30.4	69.6
Mount Rogers	11.5	88.5
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	15.8	84.2
Smoky Mountains	12.5	87.5
NC-Nantahala NF	50.0	50.0
Georgia	13.5	86.5
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	15.4	84.6

PART C:

1. People have many potential reasons for hiking. We would like to know what motivated you to hike on the Appalachian Trail on the trip when you were contacted for this study. Please indicate (1) how important each of the experiences listed below was to you as a reason to hike, and (2) the extent to which you attained each of these experiences on your hike. [Please circle one number under IMPORTANCE and one number under ATTAINED for each experience]

(QC1) (Items a through k)

	a ¹	a ²	b ¹	b ²	c ¹	c ²	d ¹	d ²	e ¹	e ²	f ¹	f ²	g ¹	g ²	h ¹	h ²	i ¹	i ²	j ¹	j ²	k ¹	k ²
Baxter State Park	3.0	3.2	1.9	3.1	2.6	3.8	2.0	2.8	2.8	3.6	2.7	3.4	3.5	3.8	4.5	4.6	3.7	4.0	4.6	4.7	2.0	2.8
100 Mile Wilderness	2.9	3.3	2.0	3.2	2.2	3.3	3.2	3.4	3.5	4.0	2.0	2.8	3.7	3.8	4.6	4.7	3.4	3.8	4.6	4.7	2.6	3.1
Western Maine	2.9	3.3	2.0	2.9	2.6	3.6	2.8	3.2	3.3	3.9	2.3	3.3	3.4	3.8	4.5	4.5	3.4	3.8	4.4	4.4	2.4	2.9
NH-Mahoosucs	3.1	3.2	2.1	3.0	2.9	3.8	2.7	3.1	3.5	3.9	2.5	3.3	3.2	3.3	4.4	4.4	3.5	3.6	4.3	4.5	2.3	2.5
NH-White Mountains	3.1	3.2	2.2	2.9	2.8	3.9	3.0	3.5	3.3	3.9	2.6	3.4	3.3	3.6	4.6	4.5	3.6	3.9	4.5	4.4	2.2	2.7
NH-South	3.0	3.2	2.0	3.1	2.5	3.6	2.9	3.2	3.1	3.8	2.2	3.2	3.2	3.5	4.5	4.5	3.3	3.6	4.5	4.5	2.2	2.6
Vermont	3.3	3.4	2.0	2.7	2.6	3.7	2.5	2.7	3.0	3.3	2.1	3.1	3.2	3.5	4.3	4.1	3.2	3.5	4.5	4.6	2.1	2.4
Massachusetts	3.1	3.4	2.1	2.4	2.5	3.3	1.8	2.5	2.7	3.1	2.5	3.2	3.1	3.4	4.6	4.4	3.7	3.9	4.4	4.5	1.9	2.3
Connecticut	2.7	3.3	2.3	2.9	2.9	4.3	2.9	3.3	3.6	3.9	2.4	3.3	2.9	3.4	4.4	4.4	3.6	3.9	4.7	4.7	2.3	2.5
New York	3.1	3.4	2.0	2.6	2.6	3.4	2.3	2.9	2.3	3.0	2.1	2.7	3.7	4.0	4.5	4.4	3.6	4.0	4.4	4.4	2.4	2.9
New Jersey	3.0	3.2	1.9	2.9	2.4	3.6	2.4	3.3	2.9	3.6	2.2	3.3	3.2	3.4	4.3	4.5	3.7	4.0	4.5	4.4	2.2	2.7
Pennsylvania	3.5	3.7	2.0	2.6	2.7	3.9	2.4	2.8	2.7	3.1	2.2	2.9	3.3	3.5	4.3	4.4	3.4	3.7	4.5	4.5	2.3	2.6
Maryland	3.5	3.7	1.8	2.4	2.7	3.8	2.2	2.7	3.7	4.2	1.9	2.4	3.4	3.5	4.6	4.6	3.5	4.0	4.5	4.5	2.1	2.4
Shenandoah	3.4	3.9	1.8	2.6	2.9	3.8	2.2	2.7	3.0	3.6	2.9	3.8	3.6	3.8	4.6	4.4	4.0	4.1	4.6	4.6	2.4	3.0
Outing Club of Va. Tech	2.6	3.0	1.8	2.4	2.0	2.9	3.0	3.3	3.7	4.1	1.8	2.6	3.1	3.4	4.7	4.6	3.2	3.5	4.4	4.5	2.3	2.7
Catawba	2.7	3.3	1.8	2.1	2.5	3.0	3.1	3.7	3.3	3.9	1.4	2.4	3.3	3.5	4.6	4.7	3.1	3.8	4.5	4.8	2.4	2.9
Mount Rogers	2.7	3.0	1.7	2.8	2.7	3.6	2.8	3.4	3.4	4.0	2.3	2.9	3.5	3.7	4.6	4.6	3.2	3.5	4.5	4.5	2.2	2.6
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	3.4	3.6	1.9	2.8	2.7	3.7	2.8	3.2	2.9	3.7	2.3	2.8	3.5	3.6	4.6	4.5	3.5	3.7	4.7	4.9	1.7	2.1
Smoky Mountains	3.0	3.5	2.0	2.8	3.0	4.0	2.5	2.9	3.6	3.9	2.3	3.4	3.6	3.8	4.6	4.6	3.5	3.8	4.5	4.6	2.5	2.7
NC-Nantahala NF	3.5	3.5	2.0	2.5	1.0	5.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	4.0	4.0	3.5	3.0	4.5	3.0	4.5	4.0	4.0	5.0	3.0	2.0
Georgia	3.0	3.3	1.8	2.6	2.4	3.2	3.3	3.6	3.5	3.8	1.9	2.8	3.1	3.6	4.5	4.5	3.2	3.6	4.6	4.5	1.9	2.4
Total (Non-Thru Hiker)	3.1	3.4	2.0	2.7	2.5	3.7	2.7	3.1	3.2	3.7	2.3	3.1	3.3	3.6	4.5	4.4	3.5	3.8	4.5	4.6	2.3	2.6

¹ = Importance

² = Attained

Importance and Attained items measured on a 5-point scale where 1=Not at all important through 5=Extremely important, and 1=Not at all attained through 5=Highly attained.

QC1 - Importance - Attained (Items l through v)

	l ¹	l ²	m ¹	m ²	n ¹	n ²	o ¹	o ²	p ¹	p ²	q ¹	q ²	r ¹	r ²	s ¹	s ²	t ¹	t ²	u ¹	u ²	v ¹	v ²
Baxter State Park	2.7	3.1	4.5	4.8	3.7	4.1	3.7	4.1	3.4	3.4	1.9	3.0	2.4	2.9	4.2	4.3	2.0	3.3	3.4	4.0	3.9	4.4
100 Mile Wilderness	2.3	2.7	4.4	4.6	3.8	4.0	3.6	4.1	3.3	3.4	1.6	2.3	2.2	2.5	3.6	4.1	1.9	2.9	3.0	3.7	3.8	4.3
Western Maine	2.6	2.9	4.3	4.6	3.7	3.9	3.4	3.9	3.4	3.5	2.0	2.8	2.4	2.7	3.9	4.3	1.9	2.7	3.2	3.7	3.7	4.1
NH-Mahoosucs	2.7	3.1	4.1	4.6	3.3	3.5	3.5	3.8	3.7	3.5	2.1	3.0	2.7	3.0	4.2	4.5	2.3	3.0	3.6	4.1	3.8	4.2
NH-White Mountains	2.6	3.2	4.3	4.7	3.6	3.8	3.5	4.1	3.5	3.3	1.8	2.8	2.5	3.1	4.0	4.2	1.9	2.8	3.3	3.9	3.6	4.1
NH-South	2.7	3.4	4.5	4.7	3.6	3.7	3.7	4.2	3.3	3.2	2.1	3.0	2.4	2.8	3.9	4.2	2.0	3.0	3.5	4.0	3.4	4.2
Vermont	2.4	2.8	4.2	4.6	3.6	3.7	3.5	3.8	3.6	3.5	1.8	2.7	2.1	2.6	3.8	4.2	2.0	2.7	3.1	3.5	3.7	4.2
Massachusetts	2.8	2.9	4.2	4.6	3.9	3.5	4.0	4.1	3.4	3.4	2.6	3.4	2.4	2.8	2.7	3.0	2.3	2.9	2.8	3.3	4.1	4.2
Connecticut	2.7	3.8	4.8	4.9	4.3	4.5	3.9	4.5	3.5	3.4	2.1	2.7	2.7	3.4	3.1	3.9	1.8	2.9	3.4	4.3	4.1	4.5
New York	2.7	3.2	4.4	4.7	3.9	4.0	3.3	3.9	3.5	3.5	1.9	2.9	2.1	2.5	3.6	4.1	2.0	2.7	3.1	3.5	4.1	4.4
New Jersey	2.9	3.5	4.4	4.6	3.9	4.0	3.9	4.1	3.5	3.4	2.2	3.3	2.4	3.1	3.8	4.2	1.8	3.0	2.9	3.7	3.9	4.4
Pennsylvania	2.3	2.6	4.2	4.5	3.4	3.5	3.5	3.9	3.5	3.5	2.2	3.0	2.3	2.9	2.9	3.4	1.8	2.7	3.0	3.5	4.0	4.3
Maryland	2.7	3.0	4.1	4.4	3.8	3.9	3.9	4.4	3.6	3.6	2.0	2.7	1.8	2.3	3.3	3.8	1.8	2.2	2.9	3.4	3.4	3.9
Shenandoah	2.5	2.9	4.5	4.7	3.7	3.8	4.0	4.1	4.0	4.0	2.2	3.0	2.2	2.7	3.3	3.4	1.9	2.6	3.1	3.6	4.1	4.5
Outing Club of Va. Tech	2.6	3.1	4.5	4.6	3.9	4.0	3.8	4.0	3.0	3.1	1.7	2.5	2.0	2.5	4.1	4.2	1.9	2.8	2.9	3.5	3.7	4.2
Catawba	2.2	3.0	4.3	4.6	4.0	4.1	3.5	4.0	2.7	3.7	1.7	2.3	2.0	2.4	3.9	4.6	1.7	2.5	2.6	3.2	3.4	4.2
Mount Rogers	2.7	3.0	4.3	4.5	3.6	3.8	3.6	3.8	3.3	3.3	1.7	2.5	2.4	2.9	3.5	4.1	1.8	2.8	2.7	3.7	3.6	4.3
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	2.7	2.9	4.5	4.6	3.8	3.9	3.4	3.7	3.2	3.6	1.8	2.8	2.2	2.9	3.4	3.6	2.2	2.7	3.3	3.6	4.4	4.7
Smoky Mountains	2.7	3.2	4.2	4.7	3.7	4.0	3.7	4.0	3.5	3.6	2.2	3.3	2.5	3.0	3.7	4.1	2.1	3.2	3.2	4.0	4.0	4.5
NC-Nantahala NF	1.5	2.0	4.5	5.0	4.5	5.0	5.0	5.0	3.5	4.0	1.0	2.5	2.0	4.0	2.5	2.5	4.0	4.5	4.5	5.0	4.0	5.0
Georgia	2.7	3.2	4.5	4.7	4.0	4.3	3.9	4.2	3.4	3.4	1.8	2.7	2.0	2.8	3.5	3.8	1.9	2.8	3.2	3.8	3.9	4.4
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	2.6	3.0	4.4	4.7	3.8	4.0	3.7	4.1	3.4	3.5	1.9	2.8	2.3	2.8	3.6	3.9	2.0	2.9	3.2	3.8	3.8	4.3

¹ = Importance

² = Attained

Importance and Attained items measured on a 5-point scale where 1=Not at all important through 5=Extremely important, and 1=Not at all attained through 5=Highly attained.

^a = **Importance of Experiences as Reasons to Hike and the Extent of Attainment of those Experiences (QC1)**

- a. To be on my own
 - b. To take risks
 - c. To use my equipment

 - d. To do something with my family
 - e. To be with members of my group
 - f. To meet new people

 - g. To learn about the countryside
 - h. To enjoy the view along the trail
 - i. To think about my personal values

 - j. To be close to nature
 - k. To be creative by doing something such as sketching, painting, taking photographs
 - l. To bring back pleasant memories of a prior visit

 - m. To get exercise
 - n. To relax physically
 - o. To help reduce built-up tension

 - p. To experience solitude
 - q. To be away from the family for a while
 - r. To share my skill and knowledge with others

 - s. To reach a specific destination (e.g. mountain summit or lake)
 - t. To show others I can do it
 - u. To test my endurance
 - v. To experience a hike on the Appalachian Trail
-

**2. How much of a problem do you think the following issues are on the Appalachian Trail?
[Please circle one number for each item]**

(QC2) (Items a through w)

	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m	n	o	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w
Baxter State Park	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.7	1.1	0.4	0.8	0.9	0.6	0.9	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.6
100 Mile Wilderness	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.8	0.3	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.7	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.4
Western Maine	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	1.0	0.4	0.7	0.7	0.4	0.6	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.5
NH-Mahoosucs	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.7	1.1	0.5	0.8	0.7	0.5	0.8	0.1	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.6	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.4
NH-White Mountains	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.5	1.1	0.3	0.8	0.7	0.5	0.8	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.5
NH-South	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.5	1.0	0.3	0.8	0.6	0.4	0.7	0.0	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.4
Vermont	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.9	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.0	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.7	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.4
Massachusetts	0.5	0.3	0.7	0.6	1.0	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.1	0.5	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.1	0.4	0.9
Connecticut	0.5	0.4	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.4	0.6	0.8	0.5	0.4	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.1	0.3	0.6
New York	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.9	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.9	0.4	0.7	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.6
New Jersey	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.4	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.0	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.8	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.3	0.8
Pennsylvania	0.2	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.3	1.1	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.6
Maryland	0.4	0.3	0.8	0.6	0.9	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.8	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.5
Shenandoah	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.8	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.1	0.2	0.6
Outing Club of Va. Tech	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.8	0.5	0.7	0.5	0.3	0.6	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.8	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.7	0.4
Catawba	0.5	0.9	0.5	0.5	0.9	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.6	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.7	0.2
Mount Rogers	0.6	0.5	0.8	0.7	1.1	0.6	1.0	0.9	0.6	0.8	0.0	0.1	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.0	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.8	0.3	0.7	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.6
Smoky Mountains	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.8	0.9	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.0	0.2	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.6	0.4	0.7	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.7
NC-Nantahala NF	1.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.5	1.0	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5
Georgia	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.0	0.1	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.4	0.6
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.9	0.4	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.5

Items measured on a 4-point scale where 0=Not problem, 1=A small problem, 3=A big problem, and 4=Don't know/No opinion

(QC2) (Items x through rr)

	x	y	z	aa	bb	cc	dd	ee	ff	gg	hh	ii	jj	kk	ll	mm	nn	oo	pp	qq	rr
Baxter State Park	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.8	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.8	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.8	0.4	0.6	0.1	0.8	0.2	1.0	0.1	0.3
100 Mile Wilderness	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.9	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.1	0.6	0.1	0.5	0.1	0.3
Western Maine	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.6	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.9	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.5	0.1	0.7	0.1	0.3
NH-Mahoosucs	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.8	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.9	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.7	0.1	0.6	0.1	0.9	0.1	0.3
NH-White Mountains	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.8	0.4	0.4	0.5	1.0	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.1	0.7	0.2	0.6	0.1	0.4
NH-South	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.7	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.8	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.1	0.6	0.1	0.5	0.1	0.2
Vermont	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.8	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.8	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.2	0.5	0.1	0.6	0.1	0.3
Massachusetts	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.2	0.9	0.2	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.6	0.1	1.0	0.0	0.3
Connecticut	0.1	0.4	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.9	0.6	0.7	0.3	0.8	0.1	0.6	0.1	0.2
New York	0.1	0.4	0.1	0.3	0.5	0.7	0.7	0.4	0.8	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.5	0.3	0.5	0.2	0.6	0.1	0.6	0.1	0.3
New Jersey	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.7	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.1	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.1	0.4
Pennsylvania	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.5	0.8	0.7	0.4	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.3	0.5	0.2	0.5	0.1	0.2
Maryland	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.2	0.4	1.1	0.9	0.3	1.1	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.8	0.2	0.7	0.1	0.3	0.0	0.2
Shenandoah	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.3	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.7	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.3	0.5	0.2	0.5	0.2	1.0	0.1	0.3
Outing Club of Va. Tech	0.1	0.5	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.2
Catawba	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.7	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.1	0.4	0.1	0.3
Mount Rogers	0.0	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.4	1.0	0.3	0.6	0.2	0.7	0.6	0.9	0.2	0.9	0.1	0.9	0.0	0.4
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.6	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.7	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.5	0.3	0.9	0.1	0.3
Smoky Mountains	0.1	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.7	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.9	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.9	0.3	0.5	0.2	0.7	0.2	1.1	0.2	0.3
NC-Nantahala NF	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.5	0.5	0.0	2.0	0.0	0.0
Georgia	0.0	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.7	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.5	0.2	0.5	0.2	0.6	0.1	0.5	0.1	0.2
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.8	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.2	0.6	0.1	0.7	0.1	0.3

Items measured on a 4-point scale where 0=Not problem, 1=A small problem, 3=A big problem, and 4=Don't know/No opinion

^b = Extent of Problems on the AT (QC2)

- a. Trail poorly maintained
 - b. Trail poorly marked (difficult to find your way)
 - c. Trail too developed

 - d. Litter on the trail
 - e. Damage to soil and vegetation
 - f. Vandalism/graffiti

 - g. Too many other hikers
 - h. Groups encountered were too large
 - i. Some hikers were inconsiderate

 - j. Too many places congested with people
 - k. Not enough people on the trail
 - l. Too many rules and regulations

 - m. Regulations not adequately publicized
 - n. Not enough information available to hikers
 - o. Not enough information available on how to prepare for a safe hike

 - p. Not enough restrooms/outhouses along the trail
 - q. Not enough water available along the trail
 - r. Clearing of vegetation

 - s. Condition of shelters
 - t. Lack of overnight food storage facilities
 - u. Too many facilities along the trail

 - v. Not enough parking at the trailhead
 - w. Lack of public transportation between trailheads
 - x. Too many rangers/management staff on the trail

 - y. Too few rangers/management staff on the trail
 - z. Too many overnight shelters/camping areas
 - aa. Too few overnight shelters/camping areas

 - bb. Shelters/campsites too crowded
 - cc. Traffic noise from nearby roads
 - dd. Development that can be seen from the trail

 - ee. Dogs off leash
 - ff. Trail erosion
 - gg. Too many dogs

 - hh. Too many "social trails" or "informal trails"
 - ii. Conflict between different type of visitors
 - jj. Evidence of human waste (e.g. toilet paper, feces, etc.)

 - kk. Noisy/rowdy people
 - ll. Evidence of too many campers (fire rings, etc.)
 - mm. Feeling of being unsafe/insecure

 - nn. Campsites too heavily impacted
 - oo. Problems with bears
 - pp. Problems with rodents at shelters/campsites

 - qq. Theft of personal property
 - rr. Lack of privacy at shelters/campsites
-

6. People can experience a variety of conditions on the Appalachian Trail. We would like to know how the following types of conditions might affect your hiking experience. Please indicate the extent to which each item would negatively or positively affect the quality of your experience on the Appalachian Trail. [Please circle one number for each item. Remember, these are hypothetical conditions and we would like to know how you would feel if you encountered them]

(QC6)

	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m	n	o	p	q	r
Baxter State Park	-0.8	-1.3	1.0	0.8	-0.5	-1.1	-0.9	1.7	1.7	-1.7	1.5	1.7	-0.4	-0.6	1.0	-1.2	-1.1	-1.3
100 Mile Wilderness	-0.5	-1.3	0.9	0.6	-0.8	-1.2	-1.0	1.7	1.5	-1.7	1.5	1.6	-0.3	-0.4	1.1	-1.1	-1.3	-1.4
Western Maine	-0.5	-1.4	0.9	0.8	-0.7	-1.2	-1.1	1.6	1.3	-1.8	1.6	1.6	-0.7	-0.5	1.0	-1.3	-1.5	-1.3
NH-Mahoosucs	-0.6	-1.3	0.9	0.8	-0.6	-1.1	-1.0	1.6	1.3	-1.7	1.5	1.5	-0.5	-0.6	0.8	-1.3	-1.3	-1.3
NH-White Mountains	-0.6	-1.4	0.9	0.8	-0.6	-1.1	-1.1	1.7	1.5	-1.8	1.5	1.6	-0.6	-0.6	1.0	-1.3	-1.5	-1.3
NH-South	-0.6	-1.4	0.8	0.8	-0.5	-1.0	-1.0	1.5	1.5	-1.7	1.5	1.5	-0.5	-0.8	1.0	-1.4	-1.5	-1.3
Vermont	-0.6	-1.4	0.7	0.8	-0.6	-1.2	-1.0	1.8	1.5	-1.9	1.6	1.7	-0.4	-0.8	1.0	-1.5	-1.6	-1.4
Massachusetts	-0.7	-1.4	0.5	1.1	-0.9	-1.1	-0.7	1.7	1.5	-1.8	1.2	1.5	0.0	-0.9	1.4	-1.5	-1.3	-1.5
Connecticut	-0.6	-1.1	0.5	0.9	-0.4	-0.9	-0.8	2.0	1.7	-1.7	1.5	1.9	-0.1	-0.6	1.1	-1.2	-1.4	-1.1
New York	-0.6	-1.2	0.7	0.7	-0.6	-1.1	-1.1	1.6	1.4	-1.7	1.6	1.6	-0.3	-0.6	1.0	-1.4	-1.3	-1.3
New Jersey	-0.4	-1.5	0.7	0.9	-0.5	-1.1	-1.0	1.6	1.6	-1.8	1.7	1.7	-0.2	-0.6	1.0	-1.7	-1.5	-1.4
Pennsylvania	-0.7	-1.5	0.6	0.7	-0.7	-1.4	-1.3	1.8	1.6	-1.9	1.7	1.6	-0.4	-0.7	1.1	-1.4	-1.4	-1.3
Maryland	-0.5	-1.4	0.7	1.0	-0.6	-0.6	-0.8	1.6	1.6	-1.7	1.5	1.7	-0.3	-0.7	1.1	-1.5	-1.6	-1.4
Shenandoah	-0.5	-1.3	0.2	0.8	-0.7	-1.1	-1.0	1.7	1.4	-1.8	1.4	1.6	0.1	-0.7	1.1	-1.3	-1.3	-1.3
Outing Club of Va. Tech	-0.5	-1.5	0.7	0.8	-0.6	-1.1	-1.0	1.6	1.4	-1.7	1.3	1.6	-0.3	-0.7	1.1	-1.3	-1.4	-1.4
Catawba	-0.4	-1.2	0.9	0.9	-0.7	-1.2	-1.1	1.9	1.5	-1.7	1.5	1.7	-0.2	-0.5	1.1	-1.3	-1.3	-1.4
Mount Rogers	-0.6	-1.4	1.1	1.0	-0.6	-1.3	-1.0	1.8	1.5	-1.7	1.5	1.7	-0.6	-0.5	1.0	-1.2	-1.3	-1.3
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	-0.5	-1.5	0.4	0.4	-0.4	-0.8	-0.5	1.5	1.6	-1.8	1.3	1.7	-0.1	-0.3	0.9	-1.4	-1.4	-1.4
Smoky Mountains	-0.7	-1.4	0.7	0.9	-0.7	-1.1	-1.0	1.7	1.5	-1.8	1.5	1.6	-0.4	-0.7	1.1	-1.4	-1.4	-1.3
NC-Nantahala NF	-1.0	-1.0	-1.0	0.5	-2.0	-2.0	-2.0	2.0	2.0	-2.0	2.0	2.0	-1.0	-1.0	2.0	-2.0	-1.5	-1.0
Georgia	-0.5	-1.4	0.7	0.8	-0.7	-1.1	-1.1	1.8	1.4	-1.8	1.4	1.5	-0.4	-0.8	1.1	-1.3	-1.3	-1.4
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	-0.6	-1.4	0.7	0.8	-0.6	-1.1	-1.0	1.7	1.5	-1.8	1.5	1.6	-0.4	-0.6	1.0	-1.3	-1.4	-1.3

Items measured on a 5-point scale where -2=Extremely negative through 2=Extremely positive

^c = Effects of Conditions on the Visitors' Experience (QC6)

- a. You hear aircraft while hiking
 - b. You encounter inconsiderate people
 - c. You rarely see other people along the trail
-
- d. You frequently socialize with members of your group
 - e. You do not learn about the natural/cultural history of the area
 - f. You rarely see wildlife
-
- g. You rarely hear wildlife while hiking
 - h. You rarely see litter along the trail
 - i. You rarely see soil and vegetation damage along the trail
-
- j. You frequently see litter along the trail
 - k. You see wildlife frequently
 - l. You rarely encounter inconsiderate people
-
- m. You frequently see other people along the trail
 - n. You rarely socialize with members of your group
 - o. You learn about the natural/cultural history of the area
-
- p. You run short of food or water
 - q. You do not wear the proper clothing
 - r. You see soil and vegetation damage along the trail
-

7a. Approximately how many people (excluding members of your own group) did you see along the Appalachian Trail on the day you were contacted for this study?

Number of people: _____ ÿ Can't remember

(QC7a)

	1	2-5	6-10	11-20	21-50	> 50	Average
Baxter State Park	0	2.7	24.3	29.7	24.3	18.9	32.7
100 Mile Wilderness	0	13.2	22.1	27.9	35.3	1.5	19.4
Western Maine	0	3.6	25.3	43.4	25.3	2.4	18.2
NH-Mahoosucs	0	16.7	26.2	28.6	21.4	7.1	91.8
NH-White Mountains	0	9.2	19.1	29.0	31.3	11.5	28.1
NH-South	0	11.5	21.2	25.0	34.6	7.7	25.3
Vermont	1.4	13.9	33.3	33.3	15.3	2.8	15.9
Massachusetts	0	9.1	45.5	36.4	0	9.1	15.8
Connecticut	0	7.1	28.6	28.6	28.6	7.1	21.2
New York	9.1	40.0	25.5	14.5	7.3	3.6	13.9
New Jersey	0	12.0	24.0	24.0	36.0	4.0	20.0
Pennsylvania	4.0	20.0	42.0	28.0	6.0	0	10.3
Maryland	4.5	36.4	13.6	31.8	13.6	0	14.0
Shenandoah	5.3	42.1	34.2	15.8	0	2.6	9.6
Outing Club of Va. Tech	0	9.1	23.5	34.2	31.6	1.6	19.9
Catawba	5.0	60.0	35.0	0	0	0	4.9
Mount Rogers	2.0	6.0	26.0	28.0	28.0	10.0	24.7
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	14.3	21.4	28.6	28.6	7.1	0	12.1
Smoky Mountains	2.2	17.2	23.7	32.3	20.4	4.3	22.3
NC-Nantahala NF	0	0	50.0	50.0	0	0	10.0
Georgia	0	12.3	26.0	37.0	21.9	2.7	17.5
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	2.3	17.3	28.5	28.9	18.5	4.6	21.3

**7b. How acceptable was the number of people you saw along the Appalachian Trail that day?
[Circle one number]**

Very Unacceptable **Very Acceptable**

-4 -3 -2 -1 0 +1 +2 +3 +4

(QC7b)

	Very Unacceptable					Very Acceptable					Mean
	-4	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3	4		
Baxter State Park	0	2.4	17.1	7.3	9.8	4.9	19.5	22.0	17.1	1.3	
100 Mile Wilderness	2.8	5.6	12.7	12.7	21.1	5.6	12.7	7.0	19.7	0.6	
Western Maine	3.3	2.2	6.7	10.0	18.9	13.3	17.8	14.4	13.3	1.0	
NH-Mahoosucs	1.9	3.8	11.5	3.8	25.0	9.6	9.6	21.2	13.5	1.0	
NH-White Mountains	2.7	3.4	9.5	12.2	20.3	12.8	12.8	18.2	8.1	0.7	
NH-South	1.8	3.6	16.1	10.7	25.0	10.7	7.1	8.9	16.1	0.6	
Vermont	0	5.2	6.5	13.0	15.6	13.0	13.0	14.3	19.5	1.2	
Massachusetts	0	7.1	7.1	14.3	0	7.1	14.3	7.1	42.9	1.8	
Connecticut	0	7.7	7.7	15.4	15.4	15.4	0	15.4	23.1	1.0	
New York	3.0	6.1	4.5	6.1	10.6	13.6	13.6	16.7	25.8	1.5	
New Jersey	1.8	1.8	10.5	5.3	19.3	3.5	19.3	12.3	26.3	1.5	
Pennsylvania	0	0	10.7	5.4	14.3	7.1	17.9	12.5	32.1	1.8	
Maryland	0	8.7	8.7	4.3	8.7	4.3	21.7	30.4	13.0	1.4	
Shenandoah	2.4	0	0	0	14.6	14.6	19.5	17.1	31.7	2.2	
Outing Club of Va. Tech	1.5	2.5	11.4	11.4	12.9	10.4	14.9	15.8	19.3	1.2	
Catawba	0	4.2	4.2	0	8.3	8.3	12.5	33.3	29.2	2.3	
Mount Rogers	5.5	1.8	16.4	16.4	21.8	12.7	5.5	7.3	12.7	0.2	
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	6.7	6.7	0	13.3	6.7	20.0	0	26.7	20.0	1.2	
Smoky Mountains	1.0	2.0	6.1	13.1	19.2	10.1	14.1	10.1	24.2	1.3	
NC-Nantahala NF	0	0	0	0	0	0	50.0	0	50.0	3.0	
Georgia	0	2.5	3.8	12.5	11.3	12.5	13.8	20.0	23.8	1.7	
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	1.7	3.3	9.0	10.0	16.9	10.4	13.8	15.2	19.6	1.2	

**7c. Was the number of people you saw along the trail more or less than you expected to see?
[Circle one number]**

1	Much more than I expected
2	More than I expected
3	About the number I expected
4	Less than I expected
5	Much less than I expected
6	I didn't know what to expect

(QC7c)

	Much more than I expected	More than I expected	About the number I expected	Less than I expected	Much less than I expected	No opinion	Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Baxter State Park	19.0	21.4	42.9	11.9	2.4	2.4	2.6
100 Mile Wilderness	11.0	26.0	39.7	9.6	5.5	8.2	2.7
Western Maine	7.7	33.0	45.1	6.6	0	7.7	2.5
NH-Mahoosucs	20.8	34.0	32.1	7.5	1.9	3.8	2.3
NH-White Mountains	4.0	26.7	57.3	9.3	0.7	2.0	2.8
NH-South	6.9	41.4	37.9	8.6	0	5.2	2.5
Vermont	6.3	21.5	50.6	10.1	2.5	8.9	2.8
Massachusetts	13.3	26.7	40.0	6.7	0	13.3	2.5
Connecticut	7.1	21.4	50.0	14.3	0	7.1	2.8
New York	1.5	23.5	50.0	16.2	4.4	4.4	3.0
New Jersey	5.2	22.4	41.4	20.7	1.7	8.6	2.9
Pennsylvania	1.8	19.6	46.4	19.6	1.8	10.7	3.0
Maryland	4.3	26.1	56.5	8.7	0	4.3	2.7
Shenandoah	4.8	21.4	42.9	19.0	7.1	4.8	3.0
Outing Club of Va. Tech	5.9	21.3	53.0	11.4	4.0	4.5	2.9
Catawba	4.2	12.5	54.2	12.5	4.2	12.5	3.0
Mount Rogers	8.8	22.8	49.1	10.5	1.8	7.0	2.7
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	0	18.8	56.3	18.8	0	6.3	3.0
Smoky Mountains	7.9	17.8	47.5	14.9	5.9	5.9	2.9
NC-Nantahala NF	50.0	0	0	0	50.0	0	3.0
Georgia	5.0	22.5	52.5	12.5	1.3	6.3	2.8
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	7.0	24.3	48.2	12.0	2.7	5.9	2.8

**7d. Was the number of people you saw along the trail more or less than you preferred?
[Circle one number]**

1	Much more than I preferred
2	More than I preferred
3	About the number I preferred
4	Less than I preferred
5	Much less than I preferred
6	No opinion

(QC7d)

	Much more than I preferred	More than I preferred	About the number I preferred	Less than I preferred	Much less than I preferred	No Opinion	Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Baxter State Park	19.0	35.7	33.3	0	2.4	9.5	2.2
100 Mile Wilderness	9.7	40.3	34.7	1.4	1.4	12.5	2.4
Western Maine	8.7	45.7	29.3	2.2	0	14.1	2.3
NH-Mahoosucs	13.2	34.0	37.7	5.7	0	9.4	2.4
NH-White Mountains	11.3	37.3	40.0	2.0	0	8.7	2.4
NH-South	5.1	49.2	32.2	3.4	0	10.2	2.4
Vermont	5.1	33.3	38.5	5.1	0	17.9	2.5
Massachusetts	6.7	26.7	53.3	0	0	13.3	2.5
Connecticut	7.1	50.0	35.7	0	0	7.1	2.3
New York	8.8	20.6	51.5	7.4	0	11.8	2.7
New Jersey	13.8	32.8	36.2	3.4	0	13.8	2.3
Pennsylvania	1.8	28.6	44.6	3.6	0	21.4	2.6
Maryland	8.7	30.4	39.1	8.7	0	13.0	2.6
Shenandoah	2.4	14.6	51.2	12.2	0	19.5	2.9
Outing Club of Va. Tech	9.4	35.1	40.1	4.0	0.5	10.9	2.5
Catawba	0	20.8	58.3	8.3	0	12.5	2.9
Mount Rogers	10.5	43.9	31.6	3.5	1.8	8.8	2.4
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	6.3	18.8	62.5	6.3	6.3	0	2.9
Smoky Mountains	5.9	33.7	38.6	3.0	0	18.8	2.5
NC-Nantahala NF	0	0	50.0	0	50.0	0	4.0
Georgia	2.5	40.0	38.8	2.5	0	16.3	2.5
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	8.3	35.1	39.4	3.8	0.5	12.9	2.5

7e. How crowded did you feel on the Appalachian Trail on that day? [Circle one number]

Not at all Crowded		Slightly Crowded		Moderately Crowded			Extremely Crowded	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

(QC7e)

	Not at all Crowded		Slightly Crowded		Moderately Crowded			Extremely Crowded		Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Baxter State Park	14.3	21.4	23.8	7.1	9.5	9.5	11.9	2.4	0	3.6
100 Mile Wilderness	30.1	21.9	15.1	8.2	6.8	5.5	6.8	4.1	1.4	3.1
Western Maine	23.3	26.7	12.2	8.9	8.9	14.4	3.3	1.1	1.1	3.2
NH-Mahoosucs	15.1	30.2	11.3	13.2	11.3	5.7	5.7	7.5	0	3.5
NH-White Mountains	20.0	26.0	18.0	6.7	6.7	10.7	8.0	2.7	1.3	3.4
NH-South	22.8	14.0	17.5	15.8	7.0	12.3	8.8	1.8	0	3.5
Vermont	28.0	24.0	20.0	10.7	5.3	6.7	4.0	0	1.3	2.9
Massachusetts	46.7	13.3	13.3	13.3	0	6.7	0	6.7	0	2.6
Connecticut	50.0	14.3	7.1	7.1	0	7.1	7.1	7.1	0	2.8
New York	35.8	31.3	11.9	4.5	4.5	4.5	3.0	1.5	3.0	2.6
New Jersey	27.6	22.4	10.3	12.1	8.6	6.9	6.9	3.4	1.7	3.3
Pennsylvania	55.4	16.1	7.1	7.1	5.4	8.9	0		0	2.2
Maryland	34.8	30.4	17.4	8.7	0	4.3	0	4.3	0	2.4
Shenandoah	57.1	28.6	2.4	0	4.8	4.8	0		2.4	2.0
Outing Club of Va. Tech	24.9	23.4	14.7	9.1	6.6	10.7	7.6	2.0	1.0	3.3
Catawba	54.2	29.2	8.3	0	4.2	0	4.2	0	0	1.9
Mount Rogers	23.2	23.2	17.9	10.7	3.6	7.1	7.1	3.6	3.6	3.4
North of Smokies- Pisgah/Cherokee NF	47.1	23.5	5.9	11.8	0	11.8	0	0	0	2.3
Smoky Mountains	31.0	23.0	14.0	9.0	9.0	7.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	3.0
NC-Nantahala NF	50.0	50.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1.5
Georgia	26.6	29.1	19.0	11.4	3.8	7.6	1.3	1.3	0	2.7
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	29.0	24.3	14.5	8.8	6.4	8.4	5.1	2.2	1.2	3.0

7f. What is the highest number of people per day you think would be acceptable to meet along this section of the Appalachian Trail?

Maximum number of people acceptable: _____

7g. What is the maximum number of people per day you would prefer to meet along this section of the Appalachian Trail?

Maximum number of people preferred: _____

7h. What is the maximum number of people per day you could tolerate meeting along this section of the Appalachian Trail before you would no longer hike this section of the trail?

Maximum number of people tolerable: _____

7i. What is the maximum number of people per day you think you should see along this section of the Appalachian Trail before managers start to limit use? In other words, at what point should the managers of the Appalachian Trail begin to restrict public use? (If you feel that public use should not be limited or restricted, you may check the box indicated.)

Maximum number of people allowed: _____

Or

- Public use of the Appalachian Trail should not be limited.

(QC7f-i)

	Acceptable	Preferable	Maximum Tolerable	Maximum that Should be Allowed
Baxter State Park	36.0	11.5	104.8	68.1
100 Mile Wilderness	24.7	14.7	43.6	53.2
Western Maine	59.1	10.5	55.0	163.5
NH-Mahoosucs	17.7	13.0	50.4	74.7
NH-White Mountains	30.6	15.1	58.7	70.8
NH-South	46.3	15.8	73.5	110.0
Vermont	32.1	11.1	50.5	41.1
Massachusetts	17.5	10.9	29.5	25.0
Connecticut	25.1	13.6	37.1	213.3
New York	20.4	9.5	43.8	83.8
New Jersey	29.0	14.7	50.5	130.9
Pennsylvania	19.8	9.2	43.0	47.5
Maryland	34.9	13.8	51.0	118.3
Shenandoah	18.4	11.1	34.8	65.6
Outing Club of Va. Tech	31.3	14.6	54.9	49.2
Catawba	14.5	8.1	260.4	38.0
Mount Rogers	20.5	12.5	37.7	27.3
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	61.7	10.1	193.6	35.0
Smoky Mountains	22.1	10.4	51.7	68.9
NC-Nantahala NF	20.0	15.0	87.5	25.0
Georgia	20.4	13.9	36.2	40.1
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	28.7	12.3	69.0	73.8

7j. Approximately how many miles did you hike on the Appalachian Trail on the day you were contacted for this study?

Number of miles: _____

ÿ Can't remember

(QC7j)

	0-9	10-19	20-29	30+	Mean
Baxter State Park	26.8	68.3	2.4	2.4	11.4
100 Mile Wilderness	60.6	38.0	1.4	0	8.5
Western Maine	56.8	40.9	1.1	1.1	8.9
NH-Mahoosucs	57.1	38.8	4.1	0	9.4
NH-White Mountains	59.2	39.4	1.4	0	8.4
NH-South	73.6	26.4	0	0	7.7
Vermont	49.3	46.7	4.0	0	9.8
Massachusetts	46.7	46.7	6.7	0	9.1
Connecticut	64.3	35.7	0	0	8.8
New York	47.1	47.1	5.9	0	9.6
New Jersey	61.5	38.5	0	0	8.8
Pennsylvania	38.9	53.7	7.4	0	10.8
Maryland	77.3	22.7	0	0	7.0
Shenandoah	30.8	51.3	12.8	5.1	26.2
Outing Club of Va. Tech	88.1	10.8	0.5	0.5	7.5
Catawba	86.4	13.6	0	0	5.6
Mount Rogers	58.2	38.2	1.8	1.8	9.6
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	72.2	27.8	0	0	7.2
Smoky Mountains	62.2	36.7	1.0	0	8.8
NC-Nantahala NF	0	100.0	0	0	11.0
Georgia	74.0	24.7	1.3	0	7.5
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	59.8	33.9	2.2	0.5	8.8

8. [This question is for overnight hikers only. Please think back about your camping location on the day you were contacted for this survey when answering these questions. Day hikers should skip to question 9]

a. On the day you were contacted for this study, what type of camping/overnight facility did you use? [check one]

- Hut (skip to question 9 on next page)
- Shelter
- Camping area around a shelter
- Designated camping area or tent site
- At large camping (undesignated campsites)

(QC8a)

	Hut	Shelter	Camping Area Around a Shelter	Designated Camping Area or Tent site	At Large Camping
Baxter State Park	3.8	57.7	15.4	23.1	0
100 Mile Wilderness	0	23.5	0	52.9	23.5
Western Maine	1.6	62.5	4.7	25.0	6.3
NH-Mahoosucs	0	35.6	28.9	33.3	2.2
NH-White Mountains	38.1	20.9	9.4	30.2	1.4
NH-South	3.8	38.5	15.4	15.4	26.9
Vermont	0	44.1	8.5	40.7	6.8
Massachusetts	9.1	54.5	9.1	18.2	9.1
Connecticut	0	33.3	11.1	55.6	0
New York	3.2	45.2	16.1	12.9	22.6
New Jersey	0	20.0	20.0	48.6	11.4
Pennsylvania	8.1	56.8	10.8	18.9	5.4
Maryland	0	25.0	33.3	16.7	25.0
Shenandoah	20.0	40.0	13.3	13.3	13.3
Outing Club of Va. Tech	6.5	19.4	16.1	41.9	16.1
Catawba	0	33.3	0	33.3	33.3
Mount Rogers	2.7	43.2	10.8	24.3	18.9
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	0	22.2	22.2	33.3	22.2
Smoky Mountains	1.3	92.3	1.3	1.3	3.8
NC-Nantahala NF	0	50.0	50.0	0	0
Georgia	0	36.4	9.1	22.7	31.8
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	9.8	43.2	11.5	26.1	9.4

b. Approximately how many parties of campers were camped within sight and sound of you on the day you were contacted for this study?

Number of parties: _____ ÿ Can't remember

(QC8b)

	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25+	Mean
Connecticut	78.3	13.0	8.7	0	0	0	3.6
Massachusetts	94.4	5.6	0	0	0	0	1.4
Vermont	81.4	15.3	0	1.7	1.7	0	3.1
NH-South	55.8	34.9	7.0	0	0	2.3	4.8
NH-White Mountains	52.9	29.9	13.8	0	2.3	1.1	5.2
NH-Mahoosucs	84.0	16.0	0	0	0	0	2.0
Western Maine	83.9	12.5	0	0	3.6	0	3.0
100 Mile Wilderness	100.0	0	0	0	0	0	1.8
Baxter State Park	88.9	11.1	0	0	0	0	2.4
Shenandoah	100.0	0	0	0	0	0	0.6
Maryland	72.7	18.2	6.1	3.0	0	0	3.7
Pennsylvania	91.2	2.9	5.9	0	0	0	2.2
New Jersey	90.0	10.0	0	0	0	0	2.2
New York	87.5	0	8.3	0	0	4.2	3.5
Mount Rogers	86.2	3.4	3.4	0	0	6.9	4.1
Outing Club of Va. Tech	100.0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Catawba	85.7	8.6	2.9	0	0	2.9	3.1
Georgia	100.0	0	0	0	0	0	1.4
North Carolina-Nantahala NF	83.8	8.1	8.1	0	0	0	3.4
Smoky Mountains	100.0	0	0	0	0	0	2.5
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	95.5	4.5	0	0	0	0	1.3
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	76.1	12.8	4.7	0.3	0.8	0.9	3.2

**c. How acceptable was the number of parties camped within sight and sound of you on that day?
[Circle one number]**

Very Unacceptable

Very Acceptable

-4 -3 -2 -1 0 +1 +2 +3 +4

(QC8c)

	Very Unacceptable				Very Acceptable				Mean	
	-4	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3		4
Baxter State Park	4.2	0	4.2	12.5	4.2	25.0	4.2	29.2	16.7	1.5
100 Mile Wilderness	0	0	0	5.9	17.6	5.9	11.8	11.8	47.1	2.5
Western Maine	3.1	1.6	1.6	3.1	17.2	12.5	17.2	10.9	32.8	1.9
NH-Mahoosucs	0	4.5	6.8	15.9	22.7	4.5	20.5	6.8	18.2	1.0
NH-White Mountains	3.3	3.3	6.7	15.6	23.3	8.9	11.1	10.0	17.8	0.8
NH-South	4.0	0	4.0	0	28.0	0	16.0	12.0	36.0	1.9
Vermont	5.1	3.4	6.8	6.8	22.0	6.8	8.5	16.9	23.7	1.2
Massachusetts	0	0	0	0	9.1	0	27.3	18.2	45.5	2.9
Connecticut	0	0	12.5	12.5	12.5	12.5	12.5	0	37.5	1.5
New York	3.2	0	3.2	0	16.1	9.7	6.5	6.5	54.8	2.4
New Jersey	5.7	8.6	0	2.9	14.3	2.9	17.1	22.9	25.7	1.6
Pennsylvania	0	0	8.6	11.4	5.7	8.6	20.0	22.9	22.9	1.8
Maryland	0	0	8.3	16.7	8.3	8.3	16.7	16.7	25.0	1.6
Shenandoah	4.0	0	0	4.0	20.0	0	8.0	12.0	52.0	2.4
Outing Club of Va. Tech	10.3	0	3.4	3.4	13.8	3.4	0	17.2	48.3	2.0
Catawba	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100.0	4.0
Mount Rogers	8.1	2.7	8.1	5.4	10.8	18.9	2.7	24.3	18.9	1.1
North of Smokies-										
Pisgah/Cherokee NF	0	0	11.1	0	11.1	11.1	0	0	66.7	2.6
Smoky Mountains	1.4	2.7	5.4	6.8	14.9	5.4	16.2	17.6	29.7	1.8
NC-Nantahala NF	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100.0	4.0
Georgia	0	0	4.2	0	20.8	4.2	16.7	20.8	33.3	2.3
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	3.2	2.1	4.9	7.3	16.9	7.9	12.5	14.9	30.4	1.6

**d. Was the number of parties camped within sight and sound of you more or less than you expected?
[Circle one number]**

1	Much more than I expected
2	More than I expected
3	About the number I expected
4	Less than I expected
5	Much less than I expected
6	I didn't know what to expect

**e. Was the number of parties camped within sight and sound of you more or less than you preferred?
[Circle one number]**

1	Much more than I preferred
2	More than I preferred
3	About the number I preferred
4	Less than I preferred
5	Much less than I preferred
6	No opinion

(QC8d) and (QC8e)

	Expectations							Preferences						
	Much more than I expected	More than I expected	About the number I expected	Less than I expected	Much less than I expected	I didn't know what to expect	Mean	Much more than I preferred	More than I preferred	About the number I preferred	Less than I preferred	Much less than I preferred	No Opinion	Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6		1	2	3	4	5	6	
Baxter State Park	0	8.0	68.0	16.0	8.0	0	3.2	1.0	2.0	3.0	4.0	5.0	6.0	3.0
100 Mile Wilderness	0	0	55.6	11.1	27.8	5.6	3.8	0	36.0	52.0	0	0	12.0	3.1
Western Maine	3.1	13.8	49.2	20.0	6.2	7.7	3.4	0	11.1	83.3	0	0	5.6	3.3
NH-Mahoosucs	13.3	26.7	33.3	17.8	0	8.9	2.9	3.1	23.4	50.0	4.7	1.6	17.2	2.8
NH-White Mountains	4.5	36.0	43.8	11.2	2.2	2.2	2.8	17.8	26.7	37.8	4.4	0	13.3	2.4
NH-South	7.7	19.2	50.0	7.7	0	15.4	3.2	8.9	56.7	26.7	3.3	0	4.4	3.2
Vermont	3.4	19.0	50.0	15.5	3.4	8.6	3.2	7.7	23.1	50.0	0	0	19.2	3.2
Massachusetts	8.3	8.3	50.0	16.7	8.3	8.3	3.3	5.2	32.8	41.4	1.7	0	19.0	3.3
Connecticut	0	11.1	44.4	22.2	0	22.2	3.8	0	25.0	50.0	8.3	0	16.7	2.8
New York	0	3.4	31.0	37.9	6.9	20.7	4.1	0	22.2	77.8	0	0	0	3.9
New Jersey	5.7	14.3	42.9	22.9	5.7	8.6	3.3	0	6.9	55.2	10.3	0	27.6	3.1
Pennsylvania	2.9	5.9	67.6	14.7	2.9	5.9	3.3	17.1	5.7	57.1	5.7	0	14.3	3.1
Maryland	0	25.0	50.0	25.0	0	0	3.0	2.9	26.5	52.9	2.9	0	14.7	3.1
Shenandoah	0	11.5	46.2	26.9	7.7	7.7	3.5	0	41.7	41.7	0	0	16.7	3.6
Outing Club of Va. Tech	6.9	17.2	20.7	24.1	6.9	24.1	3.8	0	15.4	57.7	3.8	0	23.1	3.6
Catawba	0	0	66.7	0	33.3	0	3.7	6.9	24.1	34.5	0	3.4	31.0	3.0
Mount Rogers	8.1	21.6	45.9	13.5	8.1	2.7	3.0	0	0	100.0	0	0	0	2.8
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	0	11.1	66.7	11.1	0	11.1	3.3	8.1	37.8	37.8	8.1	0	8.1	3.6
Smoky Mountains	5.3	19.7	35.5	22.4	9.2	7.9	3.3	0	22.2	44.4	11.1	0	22.2	3.1
NC-Nantahala NF	0	50.0	50.0	0	0	0	2.5	9.2	23.7	48.7	1.3	0	17.1	3.5
Georgia	8.7	4.3	56.5	13.0	8.7	8.7	3.4	0	0	50.0	50.0	0	0	2.9
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	4.7	17.8	45.6	18.0	5.7	8.2	3.3	6.5	28.1	46.8	3.6	0.3	14.7	3.1

f. How crowded did you feel in camp that night? [Circle one number]

Not at all Crowded		Slightly Crowded		Moderately Crowded			Extremely Crowded		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	

(QC8f)

	Not at all Crowded		Slightly Crowded		Moderately Crowded			Extremely Crowded		Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Baxter State Park	47.8	21.7	8.7	8.7	4.3	8.7	0	0	0	2.3
100 Mile Wilderness	50.0	16.7	11.1	5.6	5.6	11.1	0	0	0	2.3
Western Maine	36.5	28.6	11.1	4.8	9.5	6.3	3.2	0	0	2.5
NH-Mahoosucs	20.5	27.3	18.2	9.1	2.3	9.1	6.8	4.5	2.3	3.4
NH-White Mountains	22.5	13.5	19.1	7.9	7.9	12.4	6.7	3.4	6.7	3.9
NH-South	57.7	11.5	15.4	3.8	0	3.8	3.8	3.8	0	2.2
Vermont	42.1	22.8	12.3	14.0	0	0	7.0	1.8	0	2.4
Massachusetts	41.7	8.3	25.0	0	0	16.7	0	0	8.3	3.1
Connecticut	44.4	33.3	22.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1.8
New York	83.3	3.3	6.7	0	3.3	3.3	0	0	0	1.5
New Jersey	47.1	14.7	5.9	0	8.8	11.8	5.9	0	5.9	3.0
Pennsylvania	50.0	29.4	5.9	0	8.8	5.9	0	0	0	2.1
Maryland	33.3	41.7	8.3	8.3	0	8.3	0	0	0	2.3
Shenandoah	61.5	30.8	7.7	0	0	0	0	0	0	1.5
Outing Club of Va. Tech	62.1	0	10.3	10.3	3.4	0	3.4	3.4	6.9	2.7
Catawba	100.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1.0
Mount Rogers	33.3	25.0	0	8.3	2.8	11.1	8.3	5.6	5.6	3.5
North of Smokies- Pisgah/Cherokee NF	77.8	11.1	0	0	0	0	11.1	0	0	1.8
Smoky Mountains	37.7	20.8	16.9	6.5	6.5	6.5	2.6	1.3	1.3	2.7
NC-Nantahala NF	50.0	50.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1.5
Georgia	59.1	13.6	18.2	0	4.5	0	4.5	0	0	2.0
Total (Non-Thru Hiker)	42.9	19.7	12.4	5.8	4.7	6.6	4.0	1.7	2.3	2.7

g. What is the highest number of parties of people that would be acceptable to camp within sight and sound of where you camped?

Maximum number of parties acceptable: _____

h. What is the maximum number of parties of people you would prefer to camp within sight and sound of where you camped?

Maximum number of parties preferred: _____

i. What is the maximum number of parties of people you could tolerate camping within sight and sound of where you camped before you would no longer camp in this section of the trail?

Maximum number of parties tolerable: _____

j. What is the maximum number of parties of people that you think should camp within sight and sound of where you camped before managers start to limit use? In other words, at what point should managers of the Appalachian Trail begin to restrict public use? (If you feel that public use should not be limited or restricted, you may check the box indicated.)

Maximum number of parties allowed: _____

Or

- Public use of the Appalachian Trail should not be limited.

(QC8g-j)

	Acceptable	Preferable	Maximum Tolerable	Maximum that Should Be Allowed
Baxter State Park	7.3	4.5	13.0	13.1
100 Mile Wilderness	2.7	1.7	3.5	4.0
Western Maine	5.3	3.2	8.2	9.5
NH-Mahoosucs	6.1	3.5	8.2	8.9
NH-White Mountains	6.6	3.4	9.4	9.3
NH-South	3.7	1.9	4.9	5.0
Vermont	4.3	2.4	5.8	6.8
Massachusetts	5.8	3.2	7.3	8.1
Connecticut	6.4	3.8	7.0	8.3
New York	3.8	1.8	5.7	7.7
New Jersey	6.1	3.4	8.2	10.2
Pennsylvania	5.0	2.5	7.9	13.3
Maryland	4.0	1.6	5.5	8.3
Shenandoah	3.7	3.4	5.6	7.4
Outing Club of Va. Tech	3.9	2.5	5.8	9.5
Catawba	2.0	0.0	3.5	
Mount Rogers	4.7	2.1	7.0	7.3
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	9.7	6.1	4.2	5.3
Smoky Mountains	5.6	3.1	7.3	8.6
NC-Nantahala NF	6.5	7.0	9.0	4.0
Georgia	2.9	1.1	4.0	5.4
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	5.2	2.9	7.3	8.7

9. Listed below are a number of management actions that might be applied to the Appalachian Trail. Please indicate the extent to which you would support or oppose each management action as it would apply to the section of the Appalachian Trail you hiked on the day you were contacted for this study. [Circle one number for each management action]

(QC9)

(a through l)

	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l
Baxter State Park	1.1	0.6	-0.3	0.1	-0.3	0.1	-0.2	0.6	-0.1	0.9	1.1	0.6
100 Mile Wilderness	1.3	0.4	-0.4	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.8	-0.5	0.9	1.3	0.4
Western Maine	1.0	0.3	-0.9	-0.1	-0.2	0.0	-0.1	0.3	-0.5	0.9	1.0	0.3
NH-Mahoosucs	1.1	0.3	-0.6	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	-0.2	0.1	-0.6	1.1	1.1	0.3
NH-White Mountains	1.1	0.3	-0.7	0.1	0.0	0.1	-0.1	0.4	-0.4	0.9	1.1	0.3
NH-South	1.0	0.4	-0.9	-0.4	-0.3	0.0	-0.4	0.1	-0.8	0.7	1.0	0.4
Vermont	1.0	0.5	-0.8	-0.2	-0.1	0.0	-0.2	0.2	-0.8	0.7	1.0	0.5
Massachusetts	1.5	0.3	-0.3	0.0	-0.8	0.5	0.1	0.9	0.0	1.1	1.5	0.3
Connecticut	1.3	0.4	-0.8	-0.5	-0.7	0.2	0.0	0.5	-0.3	0.9	1.3	0.4
New York	1.0	0.4	-1.1	-0.4	-0.7	-0.2	-0.5	0.4	-0.7	0.9	1.0	0.4
New Jersey	1.3	0.2	-1.0	-0.5	-0.5	0.0	-0.2	0.3	-0.7	1.1	1.3	0.2
Pennsylvania	1.2	0.2	-1.2	-0.5	-0.6	0.2	-0.2	0.4	-0.6	0.8	1.2	0.2
Maryland	1.6	0.7	-1.2	-0.2	-1.0	0.0	-0.3	0.4	-1.1	1.0	1.6	0.7
Shenandoah	1.3	0.8	-1.0	-0.2	-0.5	0.2	-0.4	0.8	-0.4	1.1	1.3	0.8
Outing Club of Va. Tech	1.2	0.6	-0.8	-0.3	-0.6	0.1	0.0	0.3	-0.9	0.8	1.2	0.6
Catawba	1.0	0.8	-1.0	-0.7	-0.5	0.0	-0.3	0.0	-1.3	0.3	1.0	0.8
Mount Rogers	1.2	0.4	-0.7	-0.2	0.0	0.4	0.4	0.7	-0.3	1.4	1.2	0.4
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	0.9	0.4	-1.1	-0.4	-0.2	-0.2	-0.4	0.2	-0.6	0.8	0.9	0.4
Smoky Mountains	1.3	0.4	-0.6	-0.1	-0.2	0.3	0.2	0.9	0.3	1.2	1.3	0.4
NC-Nantahala NF	0.0	0.0	-0.5	-1.5	-1.0	-0.5	-2.0	-1.5	-1.5	-0.5	0.0	0.0
Georgia	1.4	0.4	-1.0	-0.3	-0.3	0.0	-0.1	0.5	-0.7	0.9	1.4	0.4
Total (Non-Thru Hiker)	1.2	0.4	-0.8	-0.2	-0.3	0.1	-0.1	0.4	-0.6	0.9	0.3	0.1

(m through y)

	m	n	o	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w	x	y
Baxter State Park	0.7	0.3	-0.8	-0.6	1.1	0.7	1.0	1.4	1.4	-0.1	0.4	0.5	-0.1
100 Mile Wilderness	0.2	0.5	-0.9	-0.5	0.5	0.6	1.4	1.0	1.1	0.3	0.5	0.2	-0.2
Western Maine	0.3	0.3	-1.0	-0.7	0.5	0.3	1.3	1.3	1.1	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.0
NH-Mahoosucs	0.4	0.4	-0.9	-0.6	0.8	0.5	1.2	1.3	1.1	-0.1	0.3	0.4	-0.2
NH-White Mountains	0.4	0.6	-0.4	-0.2	0.7	0.6	1.3	1.0	0.9	-0.1	0.0	0.2	-0.5
NH-South	-0.2	-0.3	-1.1	-0.6	0.3	0.4	0.9	1.0	0.8	-0.4	-0.4	0.3	0.0
Vermont	0.3	0.2	-0.9	-0.5	0.7	0.4	1.3	1.3	1.2	-0.3	-0.1	0.4	0.2
Massachusetts	0.6	0.8	-1.1	-0.7	1.0	1.1	1.7	1.5	1.5	0.3	0.7	0.7	0.4
Connecticut	0.8	1.0	-0.1	-0.7	0.7	0.8	1.3	1.1	1.3	0.4	-0.2	0.5	0.1
New York	0.2	0.1	-1.1	-0.8	0.6	0.5	1.2	1.1	1.0	-0.4	0.0	0.3	0.0
New Jersey	0.7	0.2	-0.9	-0.8	0.5	0.6	1.1	0.9	0.7	-0.2	-0.4	0.2	-0.4
Pennsylvania	0.5	-0.2	-1.3	-1.0	0.3	0.2	1.0	1.1	0.8	-0.5	-0.5	0.3	-0.2
Maryland	0.2	0.3	-1.0	-0.8	0.2	0.3	1.3	0.7	0.9	-0.3	-0.2	-0.2	-0.3
Shenandoah	0.7	-0.1	-1.1	-0.6	0.6	0.5	1.3	1.1	1.1	-0.6	-0.3	0.3	0.1
Outing Club of Va. Tech	0.0	0.1	-1.1	-0.4	0.0	0.1	1.2	0.7	0.6	-0.1	-0.1	0.3	-0.1
Catawba	-0.8	-0.6	-1.5	-0.8	-0.1	-0.1	1.0	0.7	0.8	-0.5	-0.5	0.3	-0.2
Mount Rogers	0.9	-0.2	-1.0	-0.3	0.9	1.0	1.4	1.1	1.1	-0.5	-0.2	0.2	-0.5
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	0.2	-0.3	-1.0	-0.6	0.4	0.8	1.3	0.6	0.6	-0.5	0.3	0.4	0.0
Smoky Mountains	0.3	0.3	-1.2	0.5	0.9	0.8	1.5	1.1	0.9	0.6	0.0	0.3	0.0
NC-Nantahala NF	-1.5	-1.5	-2.0	-2.0	-0.5	0.0	2.0	-0.5	-0.5	-2.0	-1.5	0.5	2.0
Georgia	-0.1	-0.4	-1.2	-0.4	0.1	0.3	1.3	0.6	0.7	-0.2	0.2	-0.1	-0.4
Total (Non-Thru Hiker)	-1.0	-0.5	0.5	0.5	1.2	1.0	0.9	-0.1	0.0	0.3	-0.1	0.1	0.4

Items measured on a 5 point scale where -2=Strongly oppose through 2=Strongly support

^d = **Support for Management Actions (QC9)**

- a. Provide more information to hikers about appropriate use of the trail
 - b. Provide more signs along the trail about appropriate use
 - c. Limit the number of people allowed to use the trail
 - d. Require all hikers to have minimum supplies and equipment (e.g., adequate water, appropriate shoes/boots)
 - e. Charge a fee to help pay for trail maintenance and hiker education
 - f. Put more rangers along the trail to educate hikers about appropriate use and safety
 - g. Put more rangers along the trail to enforce rules and regulations
 - h. Require dogs to be on a leash
 - i. Prohibit dogs
 - j. Restrict horse use to certain sections of the trail
 - k. Prohibit horses
 - l. Prohibit campfires except at shelters
 - m. Prohibit all campfires
 - n. Require a permit for overnight use
 - o. Restrict group size
 - p. Restrict use of the trail by commercial groups
 - q. Restrict development of cell phone towers and similar structures
 - r. Provide primitive toilets at shelters and popular campsites
 - s. Provide primitive toilets at popular day use sites
 - t. Require campers to use shelters or designated campsites
 - u. Prohibit use of radios and cell phones
 - v. Provide wooden bridges over streams
 - w. Clear selected vegetation to improve views from the trail
 - x. Provide fire grates at campsites
 - y. Provide log tables at shelters
-

10. Do you think that commercial uses of the Appalachian Trail should be allowed? “Commercial uses” are defined as groups whose members pay a fee to participate in the trip. [check one]

- Yes, commercial uses should be allowed**
- No, commercial uses should not be allowed**
- No opinion**

(QC10)

	Yes	No	No Opinion
Baxter State Park	33.3	38.1	28.6
100 Mile Wilderness	32.4	32.4	35.2
Western Maine	42.5	39.1	18.4
NH-Mahoosucs	42.3	38.5	19.2
NH-White Mountains	35.9	41.4	22.8
NH-South	40.0	40.0	20.0
Vermont	39.5	39.5	21.1
Massachusetts	13.3	53.3	33.3
Connecticut	33.3	58.3	8.3
New York	36.4	36.4	27.3
New Jersey	30.9	36.4	32.7
Pennsylvania	54.7	30.2	15.1
Maryland	45.5	27.3	27.3
Shenandoah	39.0	36.6	24.4
Outing Club of Va. Tech	40.1	34.8	25.1
Catawba	33.3	25.0	41.7
Mount Rogers	25.5	52.7	21.8
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	47.1	41.2	11.8
Smoky Mountains	29.0	41.9	29.0
NC-Nantahala NF	50.0	50.0	0
Georgia	41.9	33.8	24.3
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	37.5	38.0	24.5

**11. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.
[Circle one number for each statement]**

	LEVEL OF AGREEMENT				
	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral/ No Opinion	Agree	Strongly Agree
(a) I thoroughly enjoyed my trip on the Appalachian Trail	1	2	3	4	5
(b) I was pleased by the job being done by managers of the trail	1	2	3	4	5
(c) There is not enough parking at trailheads	1	2	3	4	5
(d) My use of the Appalachian Trail has not changed much	1	2	3	4	5
(e) I cannot imagine a better trip than the one I took on the Appalachian Trail	1	2	3	4	5
(f) I thought the trail and its surroundings were in good condition	1	2	3	4	5
(g) Information about the Appalachian Trail is hard to find	1	2	3	4	5
(h) I use the Appalachian Trail more in the off-season to avoid crowding	1	2	3	4	5
(i) My trip on the Appalachian Trail was well worth the money I spent on it	1	2	3	4	5
(j) I use the Appalachian Trail more during the early and/or later times of the day to avoid crowding	1	2	3	4	5
(k) I use the Appalachian Trail less now because of crowding	1	2	3	4	5
(l) There is not enough information provided at trailheads	1	2	3	4	5
(m) The number of people on the trail was about right	1	2	3	4	5
(n) I was disappointed with some aspects of my trip on the Appalachian Trail	1	2	3	4	5
(o) I use the Appalachian Trail more on weekdays than weekends to avoid crowding	1	2	3	4	5
(p) I do not want to have any more trips like that trip on the Appalachian Trail	1	2	3	4	5
(q) I use the Appalachian Trail more now than I used to	1	2	3	4	5
(r) I use a different section of the Appalachian Trail to avoid crowding	1	2	3	4	5

(QC11)

	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m	n	o	p	q	r
Baxter State Park	4.7	4.3	2.9	3.7	3.8	4.1	1.8	3.4	4.5	3.1	2.4	2.5	3.2	2.6	3.1	1.5	3.3	3.0
100 Mile Wilderness	4.5	4.3	2.7	3.6	3.2	4.1	2.0	3.1	4.1	2.9	2.6	2.7	3.2	2.4	2.9	1.5	3.1	2.8
Western Maine	4.5	4.2	2.7	3.5	3.3	4.0	2.0	3.1	4.3	2.9	2.6	2.8	3.3	2.5	3.0	1.4	3.3	2.8
NH-Mahoosucs	4.6	4.3	2.7	3.5	3.6	4.1	1.9	3.0	4.4	2.8	2.4	2.6	3.1	2.5	3.0	1.5	3.6	2.9
NH-White Mountains	4.7	4.1	2.5	3.6	3.2	3.9	1.9	3.2	4.4	3.0	2.5	2.6	3.1	2.6	3.1	1.5	3.3	2.9
NH-South	4.6	4.0	2.3	3.7	3.3	4.0	1.8	2.8	4.1	2.9	2.4	2.8	3.1	2.5	2.7	1.6	3.5	2.8
Vermont	4.5	4.2	2.5	3.5	3.1	4.1	1.9	3.0	4.4	2.8	2.4	2.7	3.3	2.5	2.9	1.5	3.5	3.0
Massachusetts	4.6	4.0	2.6	3.8	3.3	4.2	1.5	2.9	4.3	2.6	2.4	3.1	3.6	3.3	2.6	1.6	3.1	2.6
Connecticut	4.8	4.5	2.7	3.3	3.8	4.4	1.8	2.9	4.3	2.7	2.3	2.5	3.3	2.3	2.9	1.5	3.3	2.7
New York	4.6	4.2	2.6	3.8	2.9	4.0	2.0	3.3	4.3	2.8	2.3	2.9	3.3	2.5	2.7	1.5	3.3	2.8
New Jersey	4.6	4.5	2.7	3.5	3.1	4.1	2.1	3.2	4.4	2.9	2.4	2.7	3.3	2.4	2.9	1.4	3.4	2.7
Pennsylvania	4.6	4.4	2.4	3.4	3.2	4.3	1.9	3.2	4.3	2.8	2.0	2.7	3.6	2.5	3.0	1.4	3.8	2.8
Maryland	4.5	4.2	2.5	3.3	2.9	3.9	2.2	3.1	4.3	3.0	2.2	2.9	3.5	2.7	2.8	1.7	3.4	3.2
Shenandoah	4.7	4.5	2.8	3.4	3.1	4.3	2.1	3.1	4.4	2.9	2.2	2.8	3.7	2.3	2.9	1.6	3.7	2.7
Outing Club of Va. Tech	4.6	4.0	3.1	3.7	2.9	4.0	2.5	3.3	3.9	3.1	2.4	3.1	3.4	2.5	2.6	1.5	3.3	2.8
Catawba	4.7	3.9	3.3	3.9	2.8	3.9	2.5	3.0	3.6	2.8	2.2	3.5	3.9	2.5	2.5	1.5	3.2	2.7
Mount Rogers	4.5	4.0	2.5	3.7	3.1	3.8	2.0	3.3	4.3	2.9	2.6	2.8	3.0	2.8	2.9	1.6	3.3	2.9
North of Smokies-																		
Pisgah/Cherokee NF	4.6	4.4	2.9	3.9	3.3	4.3	2.7	2.9	4.2	2.4	2.2	2.9	3.5	2.2	2.9	1.4	3.6	2.6
Smoky Mountains	4.7	4.3	2.6	3.6	3.3	4.0	2.0	3.5	4.4	3.0	2.5	2.9	3.4	2.7	3.1	1.5	3.4	3.0
NC-Nantahala NF	5.0	4.0	2.5	1.0	4.0	4.5	2.5	3.0	4.5	3.0	1.5	2.5	4.0	3.5	3.0	1.0	4.5	3.0
Georgia	4.7	4.3	2.6	3.6	3.0	4.1	2.0	3.2	4.2	2.9	2.3	2.9	3.4	2.2	2.6	1.4	3.5	3.1
Total (Non-Thru Hiker)	4.6	4.2	2.7	3.6	3.2	4.0	2.1	3.2	4.3	2.9	2.4	2.8	3.3	2.5	2.8	1.5	3.4	2.9

Items measured on a 5-point scale where 1=Strongly disagree through 5=Strongly agree

e = Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. (QC11)

- (a) I thoroughly enjoyed my trip on the Appalachian Trail
- (b) I was pleased by the job being done by managers of the trail
- (c) There is not enough parking at trailheads

- (d) My use of the Appalachian Trail has not changed much
- (e) I cannot imagine a better trip than the one I took on the Appalachian Trail
- (f) I thought the trail and its surroundings were in good condition

- (g) Information about the Appalachian Trail is hard to find
- (h) I use the Appalachian Trail more in the off-season to avoid crowding
- (i) My trip on the Appalachian Trail was well worth the money I spent on it

- (j) I use the Appalachian Trail more during the early and/or later times of the day to avoid crowding
- (k) I use the Appalachian Trail less now because of crowding
- (l) There is not enough information provided at trailheads

- (m) The number of people on the trail was about right
- (n) I was disappointed with some aspects of my trip on the Appalachian Trail
- (o) I use the Appalachian Trail more on weekdays than weekends to avoid crowding

- (p) I do not want to have any more trips like that trip on the Appalachian Trail
- (q) I use the Appalachian Trail more now than I used to
- (r) I use a different section of the Appalachian Trail to avoid crowding

12. We would like to know how satisfied you were with your hike on the Appalachian Trail on the trip when you were contacted for our study. On a scale of 1-10, with 10 being most satisfied, how satisfied were you with this trip on the Appalachian Trail? _____

(QC12)

	1-5	6	7	8	9	10	Mean
Baxter State Park	2.3	0	2.3	32.6	16.3	46.5	9.0
100 Mile Wilderness	5.8	5.8	5.8	31.9	20.3	30.4	8.4
Western Maine	3.4	2.2	4.5	31.5	29.2	29.2	8.6
NH-Mahoosucs	2.0	3.9	5.9	33.3	31.4	23.5	8.6
NH-White Mountains	2.7	1.4	6.8	34.9	35.6	18.5	8.5
NH-South	0	3.4	5.1	35.6	25.4	30.5	8.8
Vermont	6.5	1.3	11.7	27.3	27.3	26.0	8.4
Massachusetts	6.7	0	13.3	46.7	13.3	20.0	8.1
Connecticut	0	0	0	46.2	30.8	23.1	8.8
New York	0	3.1	18.8	31.3	28.1	18.8	8.4
New Jersey	5.6	3.7	7.4	25.9	27.8	29.6	8.5
Pennsylvania	3.6	1.8	3.6	30.9	29.1	30.9	8.7
Maryland	0	9.5	19.0	33.3	23.8	14.3	8.1
Shenandoah	5.1	0	10.3	25.6	28.2	30.8	8.6
Outing Club of Va. Tech	1.5	3.6	11.2	36.7	26.0	20.9	8.5
Catawba	0	4.2	0	50.0	25.0	20.8	8.6
Mount Rogers	5.5	5.5	14.5	27.3	21.8	25.5	8.2
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	0	5.3	0	21.1	52.6	21.1	8.8
Smoky Mountains	3.1	5.1	10.2	32.7	26.5	22.4	8.4
NC-Nantahala NF	0	0	0	50.0	50.0	0	8.5
Georgia	1.3	2.5	10.0	27.5	35.0	23.8	8.6
Total (Non-Thru Hiker)	2.8	3.1	8.7	32.5	28.1	24.8	8.5

PART D:

1a. Which of the following best describes how you handled your expenses for your trip along the Appalachian Trail?

_____ I paid all my expenses and the expenses of _____ other people. (Please indicate the number of people). (In part 1b below, please report all of these expenses).

_____ I paid all my own expenses. (Please report your expenses in part 1b).

_____ I shared expenses. (In part 1b, please indicate your personal expenses & your portion of the shared expenses).

_____ Someone else paid my expenses. (Please go to question 2 below).

(QD1a)

	Paid all my own expenses and expenses of others	Paid all my own expenses	Shared expenses	Someone else paid my expenses
Baxter State Park	16.7	52.4	28.6	2.4
100 Mile Wilderness	39.7	27.4	24.7	8.2
Western Maine	24.5	41.5	20.2	13.8
NH-Mahoosucs	24.6	45.6	19.3	10.5
NH-White Mountains	31.6	41.8	20.9	5.7
NH-South	20.4	44.4	25.9	9.3
Vermont	31.4	50.0	17.4	1.2
Massachusetts	0.0	75.0	25.0	0.0
Connecticut	26.7	53.3	20.0	0.0
New York	9.1	74.2	16.7	0.0
New Jersey	19.0	58.6	19.0	3.4
Pennsylvania	20.0	66.7	13.3	0.0
Maryland	38.1	42.9	19.0	0.0
Shenandoah	14.6	54.2	29.2	2.1
Outing Club of Va. Tech	23.5	54.5	17.0	5.0
Catawba	8.3	75.0	12.5	4.2
Mount Rogers	20.7	44.8	27.6	6.9
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	27.8	55.6	11.1	5.6
Smoky Mountains	12.8	54.1	28.4	4.6
NC-Nantahala NF	0.0	50.0	50.0	0.0
Georgia	36.0	40.4	19.1	4.5
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	23.8	50.2	20.8	5.1

(QD1a1)

	1	2	3	4	5	8	9	10
Baxter State Park	85.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
100 Mile Wilderness	72.0	8.0	4.0	4.0	8.0	4.0	0.0	0.0
Western Maine	38.9	5.6	38.9	5.6	5.6	0.0	0.0	5.6
NH-Mahoosucs	78.6	14.3	0.0	7.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
NH-White Mountains	53.7	22.0	12.2	7.3	2.4	0.0	0.0	2.4
NH-South	50.0	0.0	20.0	20.0	10.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Vermont	69.6	4.3	13.0	8.7	0.0	0.0	4.3	0.0
Connecticut	33.3	33.3	33.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
New York	75.0	25.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
New Jersey	70.0	30.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Pennsylvania	50.0	16.7	0.0	16.7	8.3	0.0	8.3	0.0
Maryland	80.0	0.0	20.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Shenandoah	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Outing Club of Va. Tech	56.4	17.9	12.8	5.1	7.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
Mount Rogers	58.3	25.0	16.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	0.0	33.3	66.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Smoky Mountains	81.8	9.1	9.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Georgia	58.3	16.7	12.5	8.3	4.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	61.3	14.3	12.4	6.0	4.1	0.4	0.8	0.8

1b. In the spaces provided, please list your estimated expenses for your trip along the Appalachian Trail. For each type of expense, please indicate the amount you spent (a) in preparation for your trip before leaving home, (b) during your trip in communities along the Appalachian Trail and (c) on the trail itself.

QD1b

BAXTER STATE PARK

Type of Expense*	Where Expenditures Were Made			Total
	At Home or in your Home Community	In Communities along the Appalachian Trail	On the Trail	
Restaurant	6.15	55.43	2.61	64.19
Packaged food and beverages	58.11	30.33	1.96	90.40
Personal items	11.37	11.15	0.22	22.74
Equipment for your trip	168.46	11.52	0	179.98
Lodging expenses:	4.35	26.61	2.15	33.11
Hotel/motel	4.35	26.61	1.96	32.92
Camping or shelter fees	0.70	5.46	5.35	11.51
Other	0	0	6.52	6.52
Auto Expenses:	1.85	5.98	0	7.83
Gas and oil	9.89	17.37	0	27.26
Repairs/service	0.72	4.57	0	5.29
Parking and tolls	0	2.22	0	2.22
Permit or user fees	0.74	0.65	1.41	2.80
Guide or outfitter fees	4.35	1.04	0	5.39
Fees at other attractions/entertainment	0.78	22.72	0	23.5
All other expenses for this trip	36.89	24.04	13.04	73.97
Total	308.71	245.7	35.22	589.63

* average dollars spent

QD1b

100 MILE WILDERNESS

Type of Expense*	Where Expenditures Were Made			Total
	At Home or in your Home Community	In Communities along the Appalachian Trail	On the Trail	
Restaurant	2.01	6.63	4.62	13.26
Packaged food and beverages	16.68	2.14	1.18	20.00
Personal items	5.92	1.18	2.63	9.73
Equipment for your trip	40.92	0.44	17.80	59.16
Lodging expenses:	0.16	0.75	5.60	6.51
Hotel/motel	1.43	2.53	0	3.96
Camping or shelter fees	1.80	6.85	1.09	9.74
Other	0	2.20	0.09	2.29
Auto Expenses:	0.11	0.11	0	0.22
Gas and oil	6.05	6.12	0.71	12.88
Repairs/service	0.11	3.30	0	3.41
Parking and tolls	0.63	0.80	0.16	1.59
Permit or user fees	0.62	1.60	0.77	2.99
Guide or outfitter fees	0.11	0.11	0.11	0.33
Fees at other attractions/entertainment	0.11	2.31	0.11	2.53
All other expenses for this trip	0.88	26.59	0	27.47
Total	77.54	63.66	34.87	176.07

*average dollars spent

QD1b

WESTERN MAINE

Type of Expense*	Where Expenditures Were Made			Total
	At Home or in your Home Community	In Communities along the Appalachian Trail	On the Trail	
Restaurant	1.17	18.39	.19	19.75
Packaged food and beverages	24.76	6.26	2.39	33.41
Personal items	3.87	1.54	0.37	5.78
Equipment for your trip	92.44	2.61	0	95.05
Lodging expenses:	0.61	7.40	0.05	8.06
Hotel/motel	0.57	17.12	0	17.69
Camping or shelter fees	0.12	0.89	0.14	1.15
Other	0	0.52	0	0.52
Auto Expenses:	0.18	1.75	0	1.93
Gas and oil	7.17	6.63	0	13.8
Repairs/service	0.27	0.83	0	1.10
Parking and tolls	0.57	0.77	0	1.34
Permit or user fees	0	4.36	0	4.36
Guide or outfitter fees	0	0.44	0.17	0.61
Fees at other attractions/entertainment	0	0.23	0	0.23
All other expenses for this trip	36.94	9.36	0.35	46.65
Total	168.67	79.1	3.66	251.43

* average dollars spent

QD1b

NEW HAMPSHIRE - MAHOOSUCS

Type of Expense*	Where Expenditures Were Made			Total
	At Home or in your Home Community	In Communities along the Appalachian Trail	On the Trail	
Restaurant	2.14	23.32	3.23	28.69
Packaged food and beverages	30.57	3.83	12.92	47.32
Personal items	3.51	0.85	1.00	5.36
Equipment for your trip	70.43	1.54	30.77	102.74
Lodging expenses:	0	1.52	0.62	2.14
Hotel/motel	1.23	12.51	0.09	13.83
Camping or shelter fees	0.20	2.29	5.62	8.11
Other	0	0.77	0	0.77
Auto Expenses:	0.15	0	0	0.15
Gas and oil	6.69	11.46	0	18.15
Repairs/service	0	3.08	0	3.08
Parking and tolls	0.23	0.66	0	0.89
Permit or user fees	0.31	0.03	0	0.34
Guide or outfitter fees	0	0.22	0	0.22
Fees at other attractions/entertainment	0	6.40	0	6.40
All other expenses for this trip	25.62	7.03	0.28	32.93
Total	141.08	75.51	54.53	271.12

* average dollars spent

QD1b

NEW HAMPSHIRE – WHITE MTNS.

Type of Expense*	Where Expenditures Were Made			Total
	At Home or in your Home Community	In Communities along the Appalachian Trail	On the Trail	
Restaurant	2.75	25.66	1.47	29.88
Packaged food and beverages	25.40	9.91	1.11	36.42
Personal items	5.52	2.78	1.19	9.49
Equipment for your trip	109.16	11.16	0.50	120.82
Lodging expenses:	1.66	6.11	5.21	12.98
Hotel/motel	1.97	20.36	6.78	29.11
Camping or shelter fees	3.93	2.65	10.21	16.79
Other	1.93	0.62	14.16	16.71
Auto Expenses:	0.32	3.99	0.65	4.96
Gas and oil	7.06	8.82	0	15.88
Repairs/service	0.06	0.47	0.12	0.65
Parking and tolls	0.64	1.07	0.12	1.83
Permit or user fees	0.57	0.86	0.63	2.06
Guide or outfitter fees	0.09	0.09	0.02	0.20
Fees at other attractions/entertainment	0	1.62	0.01	1.63
All other expenses for this trip	7.72	3.07	0.04	10.83
Total	168.78	99.24	42.22	310.24

* average dollars spent

QD1b

NEW HAMPSHIRE - SOUTH

Type of Expense*	Where Expenditures Were Made			Total
	At Home or in your Home Community	In Communities along the Appalachian Trail	On the Trail	
Restaurant	0.83	39.08	3.03	42.94
Packaged food and beverages	17.48	33.02	1.36	51.86
Personal items	16.97	12.71	0.08	29.76
Equipment for your trip	51.52	50.00	0.30	101.82
Lodging expenses:	0	9.02	0	9.02
Hotel/motel	0	19.32	6.29	25.61
Camping or shelter fees	0	3.80	0.91	4.71
Other	0	0	0	0
Auto Expenses:	0	22.88	0	22.88
Gas and oil	5.29	7.42	0	12.71
Repairs/service	0	0	0	0
Parking and tolls	0.61	0.88	0.23	1.72
Permit or user fees	0.05	0.91	0.09	1.05
Guide or outfitter fees	0	0	0	0
Fees at other attractions/entertainment	0	0.76	0	0.76
All other expenses for this trip	1.70	2.47	0	4.17
Total	94.45	202.27	12.29	309.01

* average dollars spent

QD1b

VERMONT

Type of Expense*	Where Expenditures Were Made			Total
	At Home or in your Home Community	In Communities along the Appalachian Trail	On the Trail	
Restaurant	1.48	42.73	0.96	45.17
Packaged food and beverages	35.51	19.73	4.32	59.56
Personal items	3.09	5.36	2.04	10.49
Equipment for your trip	159.66	26.46	1.94	188.06
Lodging expenses:	0	22.09	0.10	22.19
Hotel/motel	4.85	29.73	4.71	39.29
Camping or shelter fees	0.33	2.38	5.42	8.13
Other	0	9.12	0	9.12
Auto Expenses:	2.61	5.73	0.78	9.12
Gas and oil	7.10	13.90	0	21.00
Repairs/service	3.90	4.09	0	7.99
Parking and tolls	0.81	1.25	0	2.06
Permit or user fees	0.16	1.42	0.59	2.17
Guide or outfitter fees	0.58	0.58	0.58	1.74
Fees at other attractions/entertainment	0.49	2.91	0	3.40
All other expenses for this trip	13.69	11.09	0	24.78
Total	234.26	198.57	21.44	454.27

* average dollars spent

QD1b

MASSACHUSETTS

Type of Expense*	Where Expenditures Were Made			Total
	At Home or in your Home Community	In Communities along the Appalachian Trail	On the Trail	
Restaurant	1.32	23.95	1.37	26.64
Packaged food and beverages	27.79	13.21	0.32	41.32
Personal items	2.47	5.79	0	8.26
Equipment for your trip	85.79	5.26	0	91.05
Lodging expenses:	0	13.16	13.16	26.32
Hotel/motel	0	23.95	13.16	37.11
Camping or shelter fees	0	0	14.11	14.11
Other	0	0	0	0
Auto Expenses:	0	0	0	0
Gas and oil	5.05	0.53	0	5.58
Repairs/service	0	0.11	0	0.11
Parking and tolls	0	0.32	0	0.32
Permit or user fees	0	0	0.42	0.42
Guide or outfitter fees	0	0.79	0	0.79
Fees at other attractions/entertainment	3.16	0	0	3.16
All other expenses for this trip	10.53	0.68	0	11.21
Total	136.11	87.75	42.54	266.4

* average dollars spent

QD1b

CONNECTICUT

Type of Expense*	Where Expenditures Were Made			Total
	At Home or in your Home Community	In Communities along the Appalachian Trail	On the Trail	
Restaurant	0	6.18	0	6.18
Packaged food and beverages	10.12	2.00	0	12.12
Personal items	1.41	0	0	1.41
Equipment for your trip	109.41	11.76	0	121.17
Lodging expenses:	0	0	0	0
Hotel/motel	0	0	0	0
Camping or shelter fees	0	0.59	0	0.59
Other	0	0	0	0
Auto Expenses:	0	0	0	0
Gas and oil	2.76	3.53	0	6.29
Repairs/service	0	0	0	0
Parking and tolls	0	0	0	0
Permit or user fees	0	0	0	0
Guide or outfitter fees	0	0	0	0
Fees at other attractions/entertainment	0	0	0	0
All other expenses for this trip	20.59	5.29	0	25.88
Total	144.29	29.35	0	173.64

* average dollars spent

QD1b

NEW YORK

Type of Expense*	Where Expenditures Were Made			Total
	At Home or in your Home Community	In Communities along the Appalachian Trail	On the Trail	
Restaurant	1.78	23.17	0.66	25.61
Packaged food and beverages	18.91	26.78	3.62	49.31
Personal items	5.93	13.13	0.33	19.39
Equipment for your trip	88.16	11.64	1.71	101.51
Lodging expenses:	0.66	13.95	0	14.61
Hotel/motel	0	19.26	1.74	21
Camping or shelter fees	0	2.43	0	2.43
Other	0.63	0.33	0	0.96
Auto Expenses:	0.33	0	0	0.33
Gas and oil	5.82	9.00	0	14.82
Repairs/service	0.26	0.39	0	0.65
Parking and tolls	0.46	0.92	0	1.38
Permit or user fees	0.25	0.07	0	0.32
Guide or outfitter fees	0	0	0	0
Fees at other attractions/entertainment	0.33	1.32	0	1.65
All other expenses for this trip	7.30	5.20	0.39	12.89
Total	130.82	127.59	8.45	266.86

* average dollars spent

QD1b

NEW JERSEY

Type of Expense*	Where Expenditures Were Made			Total
	At Home or in your Home Community	In Communities along the Appalachian Trail	On the Trail	
Restaurant	1.63	12.52	0.32	14.47
Packaged food and beverages	13.49	17.17	2.14	32.80
Personal items	3.86	0.98	0.16	5.00
Equipment for your trip	105.68	3.17	0	108.85
Lodging expenses:	0	2.94	0	2.94
Hotel/motel	0	11.46	0.60	12.06
Camping or shelter fees	0.16	0.57	0	0.73
Other	0	0	0	0
Auto Expenses:	0	0.73	0	0.73
Gas and oil	8.46	3.05	0	11.51
Repairs/service	0.16	0.30	0	0.46
Parking and tolls	0.45	0.86	0	1.31
Permit or user fees	0	0.03	0	0.03
Guide or outfitter fees	0	0.24	0	0.24
Fees at other attractions/entertainment	0	0	0.16	0.16
All other expenses for this trip	20.24	30.03	10.32	60.59
Total	154.13	84.05	13.70	251.88

* average dollars spent

QD1b

PENNSYLVANIA

Type of Expense*	Where Expenditures Were Made			Total
	At Home or in your Home Community	In Communities along the Appalachian Trail	On the Trail	
Restaurant	1.73	31.65	3.16	36.54
Packaged food and beverages	43.65	12.22	2.70	58.57
Personal items	6.51	5.70	0.16	12.37
Equipment for your trip	154.59	3.49	3.17	161.25
Lodging expenses:	12.70	8.49	0.73	21.92
Hotel/motel	0	7.78	0	7.78
Camping or shelter fees	0	14.52	2.06	16.58
Other	0	1.38	2.02	3.40
Auto Expenses:	3.25	1.19	0	4.44
Gas and oil	7.29	13.13	0	20.42
Repairs/service	0.08	3.02	0	3.10
Parking and tolls	0.86	1.25	0	2.11
Permit or user fees	0	0.08	0	0.08
Guide or outfitter fees	0	0.32	0	0.32
Fees at other attractions/entertainment	0	0.27	0.05	0.32
All other expenses for this trip	2.38	1.33	1.59	5.30
Total	233.04	105.82	15.64	354.5

* average dollars spent

QD1b

MARYLAND

Type of Expense*	Where Expenditures Were Made			Total
	At Home or in your Home Community	In Communities along the Appalachian Trail	On the Trail	
Restaurant	1.13	9.04	0	10.17
Packaged food and beverages	10.65	0.61	0	11.26
Personal items	1.74	2.39	0	4.13
Equipment for your trip	25.13	18.48	0	43.61
Lodging expenses:	0	8.70	0	8.70
Hotel/motel	0	8.70	0	8.70
Camping or shelter fees	0	5.35	0	5.35
Other	0	0	0	0
Auto Expenses:	0.09	0	0	0.09
Gas and oil	5.22	5.96	0	11.18
Repairs/service	1.74	0	0	1.74
Parking and tolls	0.43	0	0	0.43
Permit or user fees	0	0	0	0
Guide or outfitter fees	0	0	0	0
Fees at other attractions/entertainment	0	0	0	0
All other expenses for this trip	1.35	3.70	0.43	5.48
Total	47.48	62.93	0.43	110.84

* average dollars spent

QD1b

SHENANDOAH

Type of Expense*	Where Expenditures Were Made			Total
	At Home or in your Home Community	In Communities along the Appalachian Trail	On the Trail	
Restaurant	3.94	47.16	5.27	56.37
Packaged food and beverages	37.76	38.88	2.90	79.54
Personal items	13.86	5.92	1.08	20.86
Equipment for your trip	163.27	11.33	5.51	180.11
Lodging expenses:	0	14.90	1.02	15.92
Hotel/motel	0	32.33	0.61	32.94
Camping or shelter fees	0	1.20	0.86	2.06
Other	0.12	2.71	0.61	3.44
Auto Expenses:	0.12	0.16	0	0.28
Gas and oil	10.67	8.29	0.02	18.98
Repairs/service	0	0	0	0
Parking and tolls	0.49	0.65	0.20	1.34
Permit or user fees	1.12	0.51	0.41	2.04
Guide or outfitter fees	0	0	0	0
Fees at other attractions/entertainment	3.06	3.16	0.41	6.63
All other expenses for this trip	15.27	1.22	0	16.49
Total	249.68	168.42	18.90	437.00

* average dollars spent

QD1b

OUTING CLUB OF VA TECH

Type of Expense*	Where Expenditures Were Made			Total
	At Home or in your Home Community	In Communities along the Appalachian Trail	On the Trail	
Restaurant	0.74	2.09	0.04	2.87
Packaged food and beverages	3.39	0.71	0.25	4.35
Personal items	1.40	1.23	0	2.63
Equipment for your trip	17.96	0.66	0	18.62
Lodging expenses:	0	0.59	0	0.59
Hotel/motel	0	1.84	0	1.84
Camping or shelter fees	0.02	0.34	0.02	0.38
Other	0	0	0	0
Auto Expenses:	0.06	0.17	0	0.23
Gas and oil	3.19	1.09	0.02	4.3
Repairs/service	0.17	0	0	0.17
Parking and tolls	0.02	0.02	0	0.04
Permit or user fees	0.08	0	0	0.08
Guide or outfitter fees	0.02	0	0	0.02
Fees at other attractions/entertainment	0	0.06	0	0.06
All other expenses for this trip	0.02	0	0	0.02
Total	27.07	8.80	0.33	36.20

* average dollars spent

QD1b

CATAWBA

Type of Expense*	Where Expenditures Were Made			Total
	At Home or in your Home Community	In Communities along the Appalachian Trail	On the Trail	
Restaurant	0	29.17	25.08	54.25
Packaged food and beverages	126.08	50.46	6.25	182.79
Personal items	21.79	6.38	1.04	29.21
Equipment for your trip	176.25	45.83	5.21	227.29
Lodging expenses:	0	4.17	0	4.17
Hotel/motel	0	66.67	45.83	112.50
Camping or shelter fees	0	22.92	2.08	25.00
Other	0	0	0.21	0.21
Auto Expenses:	0	0	0	0
Gas and oil	1.83	15.00	0	16.83
Repairs/service	0.21	43.75	0	43.96
Parking and tolls	0	0	0	0
Permit or user fees	0.42	0	2.08	2.50
Guide or outfitter fees	0	0	0	0
Fees at other attractions/entertainment	0	27.71	2.08	29.79
All other expenses for this trip	0	4.92	0	4.92
Total	326.58	316.98	89.86	733.42

* average dollars spent

QD1b

MOUNT ROGERS

Type of Expense*	Where Expenditures Were Made			Total
	At Home or in your Home Community	In Communities along the Appalachian Trail	On the Trail	
Restaurant	1.70	9.67	0.40	11.77
Packaged food and beverages	9.46	3.22	0.75	13.43
Personal items	4.42	1.27	0.15	5.84
Equipment for your trip	85.15	7.84	5.22	98.21
Lodging expenses:	0	2.06	0	2.06
Hotel/motel	0.30	4.67	1.04	6.01
Camping or shelter fees	0.12	1.13	0.18	1.43
Other	0.15	0.37	0	0.52
Auto Expenses:	0.30	1.90	0	2.20
Gas and oil	6.16	14.91	0.30	21.37
Repairs/service	0	0	0	0
Parking and tolls	0.27	0.31	0.03	0.61
Permit or user fees	0.07	0.06	0.03	0.16
Guide or outfitter fees	0.05	0.94	0.05	1.04
Fees at other attractions/entertainment	0	0	0	0
All other expenses for this trip	0.37	0.67	0	1.04
Total	108.52	49.02	8.15	165.69

* average dollars spent

QD1b

NORTH OF SMOKIES-PISGAH/CHEROKEE NF

Type of Expense*	Where Expenditures Were Made			Total
	At Home or in your Home Community	In Communities along the Appalachian Trail	On the Trail	
Restaurant	2.73	21.82	0.91	25.46
Packaged food and beverages	13.41	17.95	12.95	44.31
Personal items	2.95	5.68	0	8.63
Equipment for your trip	56.82	15.00	0.45	72.27
Lodging expenses:	5.68	14.45	0.55	20.68
Hotel/motel	1.14	20.91	1.59	23.64
Camping or shelter fees	0.45	0.68	1.36	2.49
Other	0	0	0	0
Auto Expenses:	0.45	0	0	0.45
Gas and oil	11.91	7.27	0	19.18
Repairs/service	0.91	0	0	0.91
Parking and tolls	4.09	0	0	4.09
Permit or user fees	0	1.36	0	1.36
Guide or outfitter fees	0	0	0	0
Fees at other attractions/entertainment	4.55	0	0	4.55
All other expenses for this trip	26.36	2.36	1.14	29.86
Total	131.45	107.48	18.95	257.88

* average dollars spent

QD1b

SMOKY MOUNTAINS

Type of Expense*	Where Expenditures Were Made			Total
	At Home or in your Home Community	In Communities along the Appalachian Trail	On the Trail	
Restaurant	3.06	16.59	0.24	19.89
Packaged food and beverages	22.36	7.57	3.09	33.02
Personal items	7.73	17.30	0	25.03
Equipment for your trip	132.60	6.91	0	139.51
Lodging expenses:	0	5.54	0	5.54
Hotel/motel	1.99	14.54	0	16.53
Camping or shelter fees	0.12	2.74	0	2.86
Other	0	2.06	0	2.06
Auto Expenses:	8.72	2.44	0	11.16
Gas and oil	12.63	9.53	0	22.16
Repairs/service	0.81	5.16	0	5.97
Parking and tolls	0.37	0.07	0	0.44
Permit or user fees	0	0.04	0.06	0.10
Guide or outfitter fees	0	1.14	0	1.14
Fees at other attractions/entertainment	0	2.80	0	2.80
All other expenses for this trip	22.15	11.28	0	33.43
Total	212.54	105.71	3.39	321.64

* average dollars spent

QD1b

NORTH CAROLINA - NANTAHALA NF

Type of Expense*	Where Expenditures Were Made			Total
	At Home or in your Home Community	In Communities along the Appalachian Trail	On the Trail	
Restaurant	0	100.00	0	100.00
Packaged food and beverages	197.50	12.50	0	210.00
Personal items	37.50	35.00	0	72.50
Equipment for your trip	250.00	20.00	0	270.00
Lodging expenses:	0	25.00	0	25.00
Hotel/motel	0	110.00	0	110.00
Camping or shelter fees	0	17.50	0	17.50
Other	0	0	0	0
Auto Expenses:	0	0	0	0
Gas and oil	10.00	15.00	0	25.00
Repairs/service	30.00	0	0	30.00
Parking and tolls	3.50	0	0	3.50
Permit or user fees	0	0	5.00	5.00
Guide or outfitter fees	0	0	0	0
Fees at other attractions/entertainment	7.50	0	0	7.50
All other expenses for this trip	0	0	0	0
Total	536.00	335.00	5.00	876.00

* average dollars spent

QD1b

GEORGIA

Type of Expense*	Where Expenditures Were Made			Total
	At Home or in your Home Community	In Communities along the Appalachian Trail	On the Trail	
Restaurant	1.64	9.37	0.12	11.13
Packaged food and beverages	8.97	3.35	1.31	13.63
Personal items	1.50	2.23	0.20	3.93
Equipment for your trip	41.58	12.46	8.30	62.34
Lodging expenses:	1.10	3.46	0	4.56
Hotel/motel	0.15	7.90	0	8.05
Camping or shelter fees	0.12	0.50	0	0.62
Other	0	0.75	0	0.75
Auto Expenses:	0.01	0.30	0	0.31
Gas and oil	6.47	3.91	0	10.38
Repairs/service	0.51	0.01	0	0.52
Parking and tolls	0.14	0.07	0.12	0.33
Permit or user fees	0.08	0.13	0.96	1.17
Guide or outfitter fees	0.01	0	0	0.01
Fees at other attractions/entertainment	0	1.32	0	1.32
All other expenses for this trip	3.90	0.62	0	4.52
Total	66.18	46.38	11.01	123.57

* average dollars spent

2. About how many miles (one-way) do you live from the Appalachian Trail?

_____ one-way distance to nearest point on Appalachian Trail

_____ one-way distance to section you hiked on the day you were contacted for this survey

(QD2)

	One way distance to nearest point on AT	One-way distance to section hiked on day contacted
Baxter State Park	246.2	622.9
100 Mile Wilderness	176.1	257.0
Western Maine	173.1	359.5
NH-Mahoosucs	78.9	357.3
NH-White Mountains	140.7	266.9
NH-South	254.3	277.8
Vermont	148.9	309.9
Massachusetts	435.9	468.8
Connecticut	42.8	59.0
New York	111.9	243.3
New Jersey	196.6	254.2
Pennsylvania	141.5	250.6
Maryland	114.9	174.1
Shenandoah	183.0	271.6
Outing Club of Va. Tech	51.0	85.3
Catawba	24.2	69.7
Mount Rogers	99.7	195.8
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	307.1	346.5
Smoky Mountains	264.8	355.7
NC-Nantahala NF	420.0	850.0
Georgia	146.3	134.0
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	150.4	252.9

PART E:

1a. Was this your first time on the Appalachian Trail? [check one]

_____ Yes [If yes, skip to question 2] _____ No

1b. About how many days have you spent on the A.T. in the last 12 months? _____ days

1c. In what year did you make your first visit to the A.T.? _____ year

1d. Do you prefer a particular time to hike along the Appalachian Trail? _____ Yes _____ No

If yes, when? (e.g., season, month, day of the week, time of day, etc.)_____

(QE1a)

	Yes	No
Baxter State Park	11.4	88.6
100 Mile Wilderness	22.9	77.1
Western Maine	9.7	90.3
NH-Mahoosucs	9.8	90.2
NH-White Mountains	10.2	89.8
NH-South	10.2	89.8
Vermont	11.2	88.8
Massachusetts	17.6	82.4
Connecticut	12.5	87.5
New York	8.5	91.5
New Jersey	8.2	91.8
Pennsylvania	19.4	80.6
Maryland	4.5	95.5
Shenandoah	16.7	83.3
Outing Club of Va. Tech	14.6	85.4
Catawba	16.7	83.3
Mount Rogers	10.3	89.7
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	20.0	80.0
Smoky Mountains	21.6	78.4
NC-Nantahala NF	50.0	50.0
Georgia	12.6	87.4
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	13.5	86.5

(QE1b)

	Days on AT
Baxter State Park	34.5
100 Mile Wilderness	12.9
Western Maine	12.1
NH-Mahoosucs	21.5
NH-White Mountains	14.1
NH-South	15.1
Vermont	16.3
Massachusetts	32.6
Connecticut	10.3
New York	18.6
New Jersey	23.1
Pennsylvania	21.4
Maryland	15.3
Shenandoah	26.8
Outing Club of Va. Tech	11.9
Catawba	13.5
Mount Rogers	15.6
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	13.5
Smoky Mountains	9.5
NC-Nantahala NF	14.0
Georgia	11.5
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	15.7

(QE1c)

	1920-1940	1941-1960	1961-1980	1981-1999
Baxter State Park	0.0	8.3	38.9	52.8
100 Mile Wilderness	0.0	3.1	41.5	55.4
Western Maine	0.0	6.7	32.6	60.7
NH-Mahoosucs	0.0	3.9	39.2	56.9
NH-White Mountains	0.0	7.7	33.6	58.7
NH-South	1.9	5.8	40.4	51.9
Vermont	0.0	5.1	33.3	61.5
Massachusetts	0.0	0.0	23.1	76.9
Connecticut	0.0	15.4	38.5	46.2
New York	1.7	6.8	37.3	54.2
New Jersey	1.8	1.8	30.9	65.5
Pennsylvania	2.1	2.1	40.4	55.3
Maryland	5.0	5.0	15.0	75.0
Shenandoah	2.6	0.0	33.3	64.1
Outing Club of Va. Tech	1.0	5.2	18.7	75.1
Catawba	0.0	0.0	23.5	76.5
Mount Rogers	0.0	5.7	30.2	64.2
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	0.0	6.7	26.7	66.7
Smoky Mountains	0.0	5.5	37.4	57.1
Georgia	0.0	0.0	21.0	79.0
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	0.7	4.9	26.8	67.6

(QE1d)

	Yes	No
Baxter State Park	2.4	2.8
100 Mile Wilderness	4.3	5.0
Western Maine	6.7	6.2
NH-Mahoosucs	3.9	3.2
NH-White Mountains	10.6	9.4
NH-South	3.9	3.2
Vermont	6.0	4.2
Massachusetts	0.8	0.9
Connecticut	1.0	0.9
New York	4.2	4.1
New Jersey	3.1	5.0
Pennsylvania	2.8	4.2
Maryland	1.3	1.6
Shenandoah	2.4	3.2
Outing Club of Va. Tech	13.4	13.5
Catawba	1.8	0.7
Mount Rogers	3.8	3.7
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	1.0	1.2
Smoky Mountains	6.6	5.8
NC-Nantahala NF	0.0	0.2
Georgia	5.5	5.8
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	61.7	38.3

**2. Which of the following was the most important reason for your visit to the Appalachian Trail?
[check only one]**

- I went there because I enjoy the place itself
- I went there because it's a good place to do the outdoor activities I enjoy
- I went there because I wanted to spend more time with my companions
- I went there because it was the Appalachian Trail

(QE2)

	I enjoy the place itself	It's a good place to do the outdoor activities I enjoy	I wanted to spend more time with my companions	It was the Appalachian Trail
Baxter State Park	31.8	25.0	9.1	34.1
100 Mile Wilderness	41.3	32.5	13.8	12.5
Western Maine	37.4	34.3	12.1	16.2
NH-Mahoosucs	28.3	25.0	18.3	28.3
NH-White Mountains	38.9	38.3	11.1	11.7
NH-South	30.9	32.7	9.1	27.3
Vermont	29.5	34.1	8.0	28.4
Massachusetts	23.5	29.4	5.9	41.2
Connecticut	31.3	50.0	12.5	6.3
New York	25.4	32.4	8.5	33.8
New Jersey	28.8	22.0	20.3	28.8
Pennsylvania	23.0	23.0	9.8	44.3
Maryland	50.0	27.3	13.6	9.1
Shenandoah	32.6	17.4	10.9	39.1
Outing Club of Va. Tech	40.4	35.0	13.0	11.7
Catawba	33.3	37.5	16.7	12.5
Mount Rogers	27.1	39.0	10.2	23.7
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	50.0	10.0	5.0	35.0
Smoky Mountains	41.2	26.3	4.4	28.1
NC-Nantahala NF	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
Georgia	33.0	27.7	17.0	22.3
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	34.8	31.1	11.6	22.5

**3. For this trail trip, how important was it to you that the trail was part of the Appalachian Trail
[circle one number]**

Not at all Important					Extremely Important
1	2	3	4	5	

(QE3)*

	Not Important	Slightly Important	Neutral/ No Opinion	Moderately Important	Extremely Important	Mean
Baxter State Park	16.3	2.3	20.9	20.9	39.5	3.7
100 Mile Wilderness	42.2	20.5	15.7	14.5	7.2	2.2
Western Maine	27.5	16.7	20.6	15.7	19.6	2.8
NH-Mahoosucs	24.6	8.2	13.1	26.2	27.9	3.2
NH-White Mountains	39.0	17.7	12.2	18.9	12.2	2.5
NH-South	42.9	3.6	19.6	14.3	19.6	2.6
Vermont	29.9	17.2	17.2	13.8	21.8	2.8
Massachusetts	11.8	0.0	11.8	35.3	41.2	3.9
Connecticut	20.0	20.0	46.7	6.7	6.7	2.6
New York	15.9	11.6	13.0	23.2	36.2	3.5
New Jersey	8.3	16.7	16.7	23.3	35.0	3.6
Pennsylvania	9.5	6.3	11.1	31.7	41.3	3.9
Maryland	33.3	14.3	23.8	28.6	0.0	2.5
Shenandoah	4.3	19.6	13.0	26.1	37.0	3.7
Outing Club of Va. Tech	26.7	22.7	25.8	16.0	8.9	2.6
Catawba	34.8	30.4	13.0	13.0	8.7	2.3
Mount Rogers	23.7	13.6	22.0	16.9	23.7	3.0
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	15.0	5.0	25.0	10.0	45.0	3.7
Smoky Mountains	18.3	11.3	23.5	23.5	23.5	3.2
NC-Nantahala NF	0.0	0.0	0.0	50.0	50.0	4.5
Georgia	17.2	11.8	25.8	28.0	17.2	3.2
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	25.1	15.0	19.2	19.9	20.8	3.2

* Response scale: 1=Not Important, 5= Extremely Important

4. In a typical year, how often do you hike;

	Per week	Per month	Total miles hiked per year
(a) Along the Appalachian Trail			
(b) Other trails			

(QE4)*

	(a) Along the AT			(b) Other trails		
	Per week	Per month	Per year	Per week	Per month	Per year
Baxter State Park	4.0	4.7	181.0	5.6	17.7	182.3
100 Mile Wilderness	8.0	4.8	79.3	5.8	5.0	90.8
Western Maine	24.3	11.6	112.6	6.0	8.6	113.1
NH-Mahoosucs	11.5	8.4	84.1	7.7	8.9	141.5
NH-White Mountains	11.8	9.6	86.1	3.5	9.2	124.0
NH-South	1.7	1.7	155.5	1.6	4.6	126.9
Vermont	43.0	2.7	94.5	6.6	8.0	123.5
Massachusetts	0.0	1.3	132.8	1.5	7.3	108.8
Connecticut	0.0	1.6	65.6	1.8	92.8	166.5
New York	2.2	3.3	116.6	3.2	5.5	184.3
New Jersey	1.8	2.3	184.1	2.6	4.1	95.7
Pennsylvania	2.7	6.1	132.6	2.9	7.8	187.8
Maryland	5.0	4.8	61.8	2.3	4.7	115.6
Shenandoah	36.3	35.1	190.1	4.4	8.9	133.0
Outing Club of Va. Tech	1.3	2.6	77.8	3.0	6.4	136.3
Catawba	5.3	3.3	42.4	7.3	4.4	53.2
Mount Rogers	1.5	5.3	84.6	12.3	22.2	96.8
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	1.0	3.7	59.6	1.0	5.7	108.2
Smoky Mountains	8.0	6.0	74.7	7.3	10.5	164.3
NC-Nantahala NF	0.0	1.0	20.0	1.0	2.0	50.0
Georgia	2.3	3.0	71.2	4.2	2.9	112.0
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	8.2	5.8	100.3	4.4	11.8	124.5

5. How many days long was the longest backcountry trip you have ever taken? ___ days

(QE5)

	Days
Baxter State Park	44.9
100 Mile Wilderness	18.1
Western Maine	20.7
NH-Mahoosucs	25.0
NH-White Mountains	15.1
NH-South	23.1
Vermont	14.7
Massachusetts	36.4
Connecticut	14.3
New York	22.2
New Jersey	23.3
Pennsylvania	17.1
Maryland	10.2
Shenandoah	27.3
Outing Club of Va. Tech	9.0
Catawba	4.0
Mount Rogers	19.4
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	28.7
Smoky Mountains	11.2
NC-Nantahala NF	29.5
Georgia	8.7
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	17.4

6. Do you belong to any hiking/outdoor clubs? ____Yes ____No

(QE6)

	Yes	No
Baxter State Park	40.9	59.1
100 Mile Wilderness	26.8	73.2
Western Maine	46.1	53.9
NH-Mahoosucs	41.0	59.0
NH-White Mountains	48.8	51.2
NH-South	41.4	58.6
Vermont	46.1	53.9
Massachusetts	23.5	76.5
Connecticut	56.3	43.8
New York	45.8	54.2
New Jersey	42.6	57.4
Pennsylvania	38.1	61.9
Maryland	36.4	63.6
Shenandoah	41.7	58.3
Outing Club of Va. Tech	21.1	78.9
Catawba	4.2	95.8
Mount Rogers	32.2	67.8
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	15.0	85.0
Smoky Mountains	31.6	68.4
NC-Nantahala NF	0.0	100.0
Georgia	16.8	83.2
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	35.0	65.0

7. Do you belong to any trail maintenance organizations? _____ Yes _____ No

(QE7)

	Yes	No
Baxter State Park	20.9	79.1
100 Mile Wilderness	18.1	81.9
Western Maine	23.3	76.7
NH-Mahoosucs	19.7	80.3
NH-White Mountains	26.1	73.9
NH-South	18.6	81.4
Vermont	24.7	75.3
Massachusetts	17.6	82.4
Connecticut	31.3	68.8
New York	38.9	61.1
New Jersey	29.5	70.5
Pennsylvania	19.0	81.0
Maryland	27.3	72.7
Shenandoah	18.8	81.3
Outing Club of Va. Tech	12.8	87.2
Catawba	4.2	95.8
Mount Rogers	20.7	79.3
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	5.0	95.0
Smoky Mountains	17.9	82.1
NC-Nantahala NF	0.0	100.0
Georgia	5.3	94.7
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	19.8	80.2

8. Do you subscribe to any hiking/outdoor magazines? _____ Yes _____ No

(QE8)

	Yes	No
Baxter State Park	45.5	54.5
100 Mile Wilderness	25.3	74.7
Western Maine	42.7	57.3
NH-Mahoosucs	54.1	45.9
NH-White Mountains	47.9	52.1
NH-South	42.4	57.6
Vermont	55.1	44.9
Massachusetts	52.9	47.1
Connecticut	56.3	43.8
New York	50.0	50.0
New Jersey	52.5	47.5
Pennsylvania	52.4	47.6
Maryland	31.8	68.2
Shenandoah	41.7	58.3
Outing Club of Va. Tech	28.2	71.8
Catawba	37.5	62.5
Mount Rogers	54.2	45.8
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	30.0	70.0
Smoky Mountains	47.0	53.0
NC-Nantahala NF	0.0	100.0
Georgia	22.1	77.9
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	41.7	58.3

9. Please rate your level of backcountry experience on the following scale [circle one number]

Novice					Expert
1	2	3	4	5	

(QE9)

	Novice	Intermediate	Skilled	Advanced	Expert	Mean*
	1	2	3	4	5	
Baxter State Park	0.0	9.1	25.0	56.8	9.1	3.7
100 Mile Wilderness	13.3	16.9	24.1	30.1	15.7	3.2
Western Maine	8.8	6.9	27.5	45.1	11.8	3.4
NH-Mahoosucs	8.2	14.8	16.4	45.9	14.8	3.4
NH-White Mountains	4.8	9.6	29.5	45.8	10.2	3.5
NH-South	8.5	11.9	27.1	35.6	16.9	3.4
Vermont	6.8	9.1	26.1	44.3	13.6	3.5
Massachusetts	5.9	17.6	29.4	35.3	11.8	3.3
Connecticut	25.0	18.8	6.3	37.5	12.5	2.9
New York	8.3	5.6	25.0	48.6	12.5	3.5
New Jersey	16.7	8.3	30.0	41.7	3.3	3.1
Pennsylvania	12.7	11.1	27.0	36.5	12.7	3.3
Maryland	9.1	40.9	22.7	22.7	4.5	2.7
Shenandoah	8.5	19.1	23.4	36.2	12.8	3.3
Outing Club of Va. Tech	26.1	19.0	24.3	23.9	6.6	2.7
Catawba	20.8	25.0	29.2	25.0	0.0	2.6
Mount Rogers	8.6	12.1	39.7	31.0	8.6	3.2
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	20.0	5.0	40.0	25.0	10.0	3.0
Smoky Mountains	11.2	12.1	28.4	40.5	7.8	3.2
NC-Nantahala NF	0.0	0.0	50.0	50.0	0.0	3.5
Georgia	17.9	20.0	29.5	30.5	2.1	2.8
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	12.6	13.5	26.9	37.3	9.7	3.3

*[Novice=1; Expert=5]

10a. Have you volunteered for any trail maintenance or management activities in the past 12 months?

___ Yes ___ No

10b. If yes, what are they? _____

(QE10a)

	Yes	No
Baxter State Park	25.6	74.4
100 Mile Wilderness	15.5	84.5
Western Maine	21.6	78.4
NH-Mahoosucs	16.4	83.6
NH-White Mountains	22.2	77.8
NH-South	25.0	75.0
Vermont	22.2	77.8
Massachusetts	41.2	58.8
Connecticut	20.0	80.0
New York	21.4	78.6
New Jersey	21.3	78.7
Pennsylvania	21.7	78.3
Maryland	21.7	78.3
Shenandoah	18.8	81.3
Outing Club of Va. Tech	16.5	83.5
Catawba	4.2	95.8
Mount Rogers	25.4	74.6
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	4.8	95.2
Smoky Mountains	26.7	73.3
NC-Nantahala NF	0.0	100.0
Georgia	7.5	92.5
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	19.8	80.2

11. The following statements relate to your involvement in hiking. The statements sound similar to each other, so please read each one carefully and respond to each one as honestly as you can.

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Disagree Nor	Agree	Strongly Agree
a. I have little or no interest in hiking	1	2	3	4	5
b. Hiking says a lot about who I am	1	2	3	4	5
c. You can tell a lot about a person by seeing them hiking	1	2	3	4	5
d. Hiking is very important to me	1	2	3	4	5
e. Hiking offers me relaxation when pressures build up	1	2	3	4	5
f. Participating in hiking is one of the most satisfying things I do	1	2	3	4	5
g. When I participate in hiking I can really be myself	1	2	3	4	5
h. I find that a lot of my life is organized around hiking	1	2	3	4	5
i. Hiking has a central role in my life	1	2	3	4	5
j. Participating in hiking is one of the most enjoyable things I do	1	2	3	4	5
k. I enjoy discussing hiking with my friends	1	2	3	4	5
l. When I participate in hiking others see me the way I want them to see me	1	2	3	4	5
m. I find that a lot of my life is organized around hiking activities	1	2	3	4	5
n. I don't really know much about hiking	1	2	3	4	5
o. The decision to go hiking was not entirely my own	1	2	3	4	5
p. I consider myself to be an educated consumer regarding hiking	1	2	3	4	5
q. Hiking interests me	1	2	3	4	5
r. I am knowledgeable about hiking	1	2	3	4	5
s. The decision to go hiking was primarily my own	1	2	3	4	5
t. Hiking is pleasurable	1	2	3	4	5
u. Even if close friends recommended another recreational activity, I would not change my preference for hiking	1	2	3	4	5
v. Most of my friends are in some way connected with hiking	1	2	3	4	5
w. To change my preference from hiking to another leisure activity would require major rethinking	1	2	3	4	5
x. I really enjoy hiking	1	2	3	4	5

QE11 by sections (within New England and Mid-Atlantic regions)

The following statements relate to your involvement in hiking.

1=Strongly Disagree, 2=Disagree, 3=Neither Disagree or Agree, 4=Agree, 5=Strongly Agree

	Baxter State Park	100 Mile Wilderness	Western Maine	NH- Mahoosuc s	NH- White Mtns.	NH- South	VT	MA	CT	NY	NJ	PA	MD	Shenandoah	Total
I have little or no interest in hiking	1.2	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.4	1.2	1.3
Hiking says a lot about who I am	3.8	3.7	3.7	3.9	3.8	3.9	3.7	4.2	4.1	4.0	3.9	4.0	3.5	3.9	3.8
You can tell a lot about a person by seeing them hiking	3.5	3.3	3.2	3.5	3.4	3.2	3.4	3.4	3.8	3.5	3.4	3.6	3.3	3.2	3.3
Hiking is very important to me	4.2	4.1	4.2	4.3	4.2	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.2	4.3	4.0	4.2	4.1
Hiking offers me relaxation when pressures build up	4.2	4.0	4.0	4.2	4.2	4.3	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.1	4.3	4.4	4.3	4.2	4.2
Participating in hiking is one of the most satisfying things I do	4.2	4.0	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.2	4.1	4.2	4.3	4.2	4.0	4.2	4.0	4.1	4.0
When I participate in hiking I can really be myself	4.0	4.0	3.8	4.1	3.9	3.9	3.8	3.9	4.1	4.0	3.9	4.1	4.2	4.1	3.9
I find that a lot of my life is organized around hiking	3.0	2.8	2.9	3.1	2.9	2.8	3.0	3.0	3.6	3.1	2.8	2.8	3.0	3.0	2.9
Hiking has a central role in my life	3.1	2.9	3.0	3.2	3.1	3.0	3.2	3.0	3.6	3.1	3.0	2.9	3.0	3.1	2.9
Participating in hiking is one of the most enjoyable things I do	4.0	3.9	4.0	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.0	4.6	4.1	3.9	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.0
I enjoy discussing hiking with my friends	3.8	3.7	3.7	3.9	3.8	3.9	3.8	3.9	4.1	3.8	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.8	3.7
When I participate in hiking others see me the way I want them to see me	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.7	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.4	3.5	3.3	3.1	3.7	3.4
I find that a lot of my life is organized around hiking activities	2.9	2.8	2.9	3.0	2.9	2.9	3.0	2.8	3.4	3.1	2.8	2.9	2.8	3.2	2.8
I don't really know much about hiking	1.8	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.9	1.7	1.5	1.7	1.6	2.0	1.9	2.0	1.9	1.9
The decision to go hiking was not entirely my own	2.1	2.4	2.3	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.0	2.0	1.8	1.9	1.9	1.9	2.4	2.2	2.1
I consider myself to be an educated consumer regarding hiking	4.0	3.6	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.8	4.3	3.9	3.9	3.7	3.8	3.9	3.9	3.8
Hiking interests me	4.4	4.4	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.7	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.4
I am knowledgeable about hiking	4.3	4.0	4.1	4.0	4.2	4.2	4.1	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0
The decision to go hiking was primarily my own	4.0	3.5	3.8	4.0	3.9	3.8	4.1	4.2	3.9	4.1	4.0	4.0	3.6	4.0	3.9
Hiking is pleasurable	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.6	4.7	4.6	4.4	4.6	4.5	4.6	4.5
Even if close friends recommended another recreational activity, I would not change my preference for hiking	3.6	3.4	3.5	3.6	3.6	3.5	3.8	3.5	4.3	3.7	3.5	3.4	3.2	3.8	3.5
Most of my friends are in some way connected with hiking	2.5	2.9	2.6	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.6	3.4	2.6	2.5	2.4	2.5	2.6	2.6
To change my preferences from hiking to another leisure activity would require major rethinking	3.0	3.2	3.1	3.3	3.4	3.2	3.5	3.7	3.9	3.4	3.1	3.1	3.2	3.5	3.1
I really enjoy hiking	4.5	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.6	4.5	4.6	4.6	4.5	4.6	4.6	4.5	4.5

QE11 by sections (within Southwest VA and Deep South regions)

The following statements relate to your involvement in hiking.

1=Strongly Disagree, 2=Disagree, 3=Neither Disagree or Agree, 4=Agree, 5=Strongly Agree

	Outing Club of Va. Tech	Catawba	Mount Rogers	North of Smokies- Pisgah/Cherokee NF	Smoky Mtns.	NC-Nantahala NF	GA	Thru Hiker	Total
I have little or no interest in hiking	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.6	1.3	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.3
Hiking says a lot about who I am	3.4	3.5	3.8	3.7	3.6	4.0	3.5	3.9	3.8
You can tell a lot about a person by seeing them hiking	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.0	3.3	4.5	3.2	3.3	3.3
Hiking is very important to me	3.8	4.0	4.3	4.3	4.1	4.0	3.9	4.2	4.1
Hiking offers me relaxation when pressures build up	4.1	4.3	4.3	3.9	4.2	4.5	4.2	4.0	4.2
Participating in hiking is one of the most satisfying things I do	3.7	3.8	4.1	4.2	4.1	4.5	3.9	4.1	4.0
When I participate in hiking I can really be myself	3.8	3.8	3.9	3.7	4.0	3.5	3.8	3.9	3.9
I find that a lot of my life is organized around hiking	2.6	2.5	2.9	2.6	2.8	2.0	2.6	3.0	2.9
Hiking has a central role in my life	2.6	2.4	2.9	2.8	2.9	2.0	2.5	3.0	2.9
Participating in hiking is one of the most enjoyable things I do	3.7	3.6	4.1	4.0	4.1	4.0	3.8	3.9	4.0
I enjoy discussing hiking with my friends	3.4	3.4	4.0	3.5	3.9	4.0	3.5	3.8	3.7
When I participate in hiking others see me the way I want them to see me	3.2	3.3	3.4	3.2	3.5	3.0	3.3	3.4	3.4
I find that a lot of my life is organized around hiking activities	2.5	2.5	2.8	2.6	2.7	1.5	2.5	2.8	2.8
I don't really know much about hiking	2.4	2.2	2.0	2.1	1.9	2.0	2.3	1.5	1.9
The decision to go hiking was not entirely my own	2.4	2.5	2.2	1.7	2.2	2.5	2.6	1.8	2.1
I consider myself to be an educated consumer regarding hiking	3.3	3.4	3.8	3.7	3.8	4.0	3.4	4.2	3.8
Hiking interests me	4.2	4.1	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.5	4.3	4.4	4.4
I am knowledgeable about hiking	3.6	3.5	4.0	3.9	4.0	4.0	3.7	4.3	4.0
The decision to go hiking was primarily my own	3.6	3.4	3.9	4.4	3.8	3.5	3.5	4.4	3.9
Hiking is pleasurable	4.5	4.3	4.6	4.6	4.5	4.5	4.4	4.4	4.5
Even if close friends recommended another recreational activity, I would not change my preference for hiking	3.2	2.8	3.7	3.6	3.7	2.0	3.4	3.2	3.5
Most of my friends are in some way connected with hiking	2.6	2.7	2.8	2.5	2.6	1.5	2.7	2.5	2.6
To change my preferences from hiking to another leisure activity would require major rethinking	2.8	2.6	3.3	3.0	3.3	1.5	3.0	2.9	3.1
I really enjoy hiking	4.3	4.3	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.4	4.4	4.5

**12. Please specify your estimated total investment on hiking equipment to date.
[Circle the appropriate amount]**

\$0 **\$1-\$99** **\$100-\$499** **\$500-\$999**
\$1000-\$1499 **\$1500-\$1999** **\$2000-\$4999** **More than \$5000**

(QE12)

	\$0	\$1-\$99	\$100-\$499	\$500-\$999	\$1000-\$1499	\$1500-\$1999	\$2000-\$4999	More than \$5000	Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
Baxter State Park	0.0	2.3	25.6	16.3	23.3	18.6	11.6	2.3	4.7
100 Mile Wilderness	2.5	9.9	38.3	18.5	14.8	3.7	12.3	0.0	3.9
Western Maine	0.0	5.9	22.5	23.5	13.7	16.7	16.7	1.0	4.7
NH-Mahoosucs	0.0	0.0	21.3	36.1	21.3	6.6	13.1	1.6	4.6
NH-White Mountains	0.6	1.2	13.2	32.9	15.6	12.6	19.8	4.2	5.0
NH-South	0.0	6.8	20.3	25.4	11.9	13.6	18.6	3.4	4.7
Vermont	0.0	3.4	10.2	35.2	12.5	18.2	17.0	3.4	5.0
Massachusetts	0.0	0.0	18.8	6.3	37.5	31.3	0.0	6.3	5.1
Connecticut	0.0	12.5	18.8	6.3	18.8	25.0	18.8	0.0	4.8
New York	0.0	5.8	24.6	24.6	15.9	10.1	17.4	1.4	4.6
New Jersey	0.0	5.0	18.3	30.0	20.0	13.3	13.3	0.0	4.6
Pennsylvania	0.0	3.3	26.2	34.4	9.8	13.1	11.5	1.6	4.4
Maryland	4.3	4.3	26.1	34.8	17.4	4.3	8.7	0.0	4.0
Shenandoah	0.0	4.4	26.7	13.3	17.8	20.0	13.3	4.4	4.8
Outing Club of Va. Tech	6.2	17.7	33.6	22.1	9.7	4.4	4.0	2.2	3.5
Catawba	0.0	26.1	39.1	17.4	4.3	4.3	8.7	0.0	3.5
Mount Rogers	0.0	3.4	19.0	27.6	20.7	13.8	13.8	1.7	4.7
North of Smokies- Pisgah/Cherokee NF	4.8	4.8	47.6	19.0	4.8	4.8	9.5	4.8	3.9
Smoky Mountains	1.7	3.4	27.7	25.2	16.0	11.8	12.6	1.7	4.4
NC-Nantahala NF	0.0	0.0	50.0	50.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.5
Georgia	0.0	8.6	38.7	23.7	12.9	6.5	7.5	2.2	4.0
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	1.5	6.9	25.5	25.7	14.7	11.1	12.6	2.2	4.6

**13. About how much did you spend on all expenses relating to hiking in the last 12 months?
[Circle the appropriate amount]**

\$0 **\$1-\$99** **\$100-\$499** **\$500-\$999**
\$1000-\$1499 **\$1500-\$1999** **\$2000-\$4999** **More than \$5000**

(QE13)

	\$0	\$1-\$99	\$100-\$499	\$500-\$999	\$1000-\$1499	\$1500-\$1999	\$2000-\$4999	More than \$5000	Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
Baxter State Park	0.0	16.7	42.9	14.3	7.1	4.8	11.9	2.4	3.9
100 Mile Wilderness	3.7	28.0	45.1	14.6	2.4	3.7	2.4	0.0	3.0
Western Maine	1.0	18.8	49.5	16.8	2.0	8.9	2.0	1.0	3.4
NH-Mahoosucs	0.0	11.5	55.7	13.1	9.8	1.6	6.6	1.6	3.6
NH-White Mountains	0.0	10.8	53.3	13.8	9.0	6.6	5.4	1.2	3.7
NH-South	3.3	18.3	46.7	11.7	8.3	6.7	3.3	1.7	3.5
Vermont	0.0	9.1	48.9	23.9	4.5	4.5	6.8	2.3	3.8
Massachusetts	5.9	11.8	41.2	17.6	11.8	0.0	11.8	0.0	3.6
Connecticut	0.0	12.5	56.3	12.5	6.3	6.3	6.3	0.0	3.6
New York	1.4	18.8	43.5	17.4	5.8	8.7	2.9	1.4	3.5
New Jersey	0.0	20.0	41.7	23.3	6.7	3.3	5.0	0.0	3.5
Pennsylvania	0.0	24.6	47.5	13.1	3.3	8.2	1.6	1.6	3.3
Maryland	13.6	13.6	40.9	13.6	13.6	0.0	0.0	4.5	3.2
Shenandoah	2.2	20.0	35.6	17.8	6.7	4.4	11.1	2.2	3.8
Outing Club of Va. Tech	8.4	40.4	39.1	8.0	2.2	0.9	0.9	0.0	2.6
Catawba	4.3	52.2	39.1	0.0	4.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.5
Mount Rogers	0.0	13.6	57.6	15.3	3.4	10.2	0.0	0.0	3.4
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	5.0	15.0	45.0	15.0	20.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.3
Smoky Mountains	3.4	13.4	43.7	22.7	10.9	1.7	4.2	0.0	3.5
NC-Nantahala NF	0.0	0.0	50.0	0.0	50.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.0
Georgia	2.2	30.1	50.5	11.8	0.0	3.2	2.2	0.0	3.0
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	2.7	21.4	46.4	14.8	5.7	4.4	3.7	0.8	3.8

14. Below is a list of statements that address your feelings about the AT. Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the statements below.

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Disagree Nor	Agree	Strongly
a. This trail means a lot to me	1	2	3	4	5
b. I enjoy hiking along the Appalachian Trail more than any other trail	1	2	3	4	5
c. I am very attached to the Appalachian Trail	1	2	3	4	5
d. I get more satisfaction out of visiting this trail than from visiting any other trail	1	2	3	4	5
e. I identify strongly with this trail	1	2	3	4	5
f. Hiking here is more important than hiking in any other place	1	2	3	4	5
g. I feel no commitment to this trail	1	2	3	4	5
h. I wouldn't substitute any other trail for the type of recreation I do here	1	2	3	4	5
i. I have a lot of fond memories about the Appalachian Trail	1	2	3	4	5
j. I know the Appalachian Trail better than the people who manage it	1	2	3	4	5
k. People should be free to do whatever they want along the Appalachian Trail	1	2	3	4	5
l. I have a special connection to the Appalachian Trail and the people who hike along it	1	2	3	4	5
m. Managers need to restrict use along the Appalachian Trail	1	2	3	4	5
n. I treat the Appalachian Trail better than most people who hike along it	1	2	3	4	5
o. Everyone should be able to hike along the Appalachian Trail	1	2	3	4	5
p. The Appalachian trail means more to me than any other trail I can think of	1	2	3	4	5
q. I don't tell many people about this trail	1	2	3	4	5
r. For me, lots of other trails could substitute for the Appalachian Trail	1	2	3	4	5
s. I will (or do) bring my children to this place	1	2	3	4	5
t. People who have used this place longest should have priority using it	1	2	3	4	5

QE14 by section (within New England and Mid-Atlantic regions)

Below is a list of statements that address your feelings about the Appalachian Trail. Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the statements listed below. 1=Strongly Disagree, 2=Disagree, 3= Neither Disagree or Agree, 4=Agree, 5=Strongly Agree

	Baxter State Park	100 Mile Wilderness	Western Maine	NH- Mahoosucs	NH- White Mtns	NH- South	VT	MA	CT	NY	NJ	PA	MD	Shenandoah	Total
This trail means a lot to me	4.2	3.9	4.1	4.0	3.8	3.8	3.9	4.4	4.4	4.0	4.3	4.3	4.0	4.3	4.1
I enjoy hiking along the Appalachian Trail more than any other trail	3.1	3.2	3.1	3.2	2.8	2.9	2.9	3.4	3.1	3.0	3.5	3.5	2.8	3.5	3.2
I am very attached to the Appalachian Trail	3.5	3.2	3.3	3.6	3.1	3.1	3.3	3.8	3.6	3.5	3.8	3.7	3.5	3.6	3.5
I get more satisfaction out of visiting this trail than from visiting any other	2.8	3.0	2.9	2.9	2.7	2.8	2.7	3.5	2.9	2.9	3.3	3.2	2.9	3.3	3.0
I identify strongly with this trail	3.4	3.2	3.0	3.2	2.9	3.0	3.0	3.9	3.4	3.4	3.6	3.5	3.2	3.5	3.3
Hiking here is more important than hiking in any other place	2.7	2.7	2.5	2.7	2.5	2.5	2.5	3.1	2.8	2.5	2.9	3.0	2.5	3.1	2.7
I feel no commitment to this trail	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.3	2.5	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.0	1.9	2.5	1.9	2.3
I wouldn't substitute any other trail for the type of recreation I do here	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.7	2.6	2.4	2.6	2.6	2.3	2.6	2.5
I have a lot of fond memories about the Appalachian Trail	4.1	4.0	4.0	4.2	3.9	4.0	4.1	4.4	4.4	4.1	4.3	4.2	4.0	4.3	4.1
I know the Appalachian Trail better than the people who manage it	2.0	1.7	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.7	2.1	1.9	2.1	1.8	1.8	1.8	2.0	1.9
People should be free to do whatever they want along the Appalachian Trail	1.7	1.5	1.7	1.9	1.7	1.7	1.5	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.7
I have a special connection to the Appalachian Trail and the people who hike along it	3.5	3.1	3.1	3.2	3.0	3.2	3.2	3.6	3.7	3.2	3.5	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.3
Managers need to restrict use along the Appalachian Trail	2.9	2.6	2.7	2.5	2.6	2.4	2.6	2.6	2.8	2.3	2.6	2.3	1.9	2.4	2.5
I treat the Appalachian Trail better than most people who hike along it	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.2	3.3	3.4	3.2	3.4	3.6	3.4	3.3	3.6	3.4
Everyone should be able to hike along the Appalachian Trail	3.5	3.7	3.8	3.7	3.8	3.9	3.6	3.8	3.9	4.1	3.9	4.0	4.3	4.0	3.9
The Appalachian Trail means more to me than any other trail I can think of	2.9	2.9	2.9	3.0	2.6	2.8	2.6	3.4	3.3	2.9	3.1	3.4	2.7	3.3	3.0
I don't tell many people about this trail	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.1	1.9	2.2	1.9	2.1	2.1	2.0	2.1
For me, lots of other trails could substitute for the Appalachian Trail	2.5	2.6	2.9	2.7	3.1	2.8	2.9	2.2	2.7	2.8	2.5	2.5	2.9	2.5	2.7
I will (or do) bring my children to this place	3.8	3.9	3.7	4.0	4.0	3.9	3.8	3.9	4.2	3.8	4.0	4.1	4.0	3.9	3.9
People who have used this place longest should have priority using it	2.0	1.9	2.0	2.1	2.0	1.9	1.9	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.0	2.0	1.9	2.0	2.0

QE14 by section (within Southwest VA and Deep South regions)

Below is a list of statements that address your feelings about the Appalachian Trail. Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the statements listed below. 1=Strongly Disagree, 2=Disagree, 3= Neither Disagree or Agree, 4=Agree, 5=Strongly Agree

	Outing Club of Va. Tech	Catawba	Mount Rogers	North of Smokies- Pisgah/Cherokee NF	Smoky Mtns.	NC-Nantahala NF	GA	Thru Hiker	Total
This trail means a lot to me	3.9	3.8	4.3	4.3	4.0	4.5	4.0	4.4	4.1
I enjoy hiking along the Appalachian Trail more than any other trail	3.3	3.1	3.4	3.7	3.3	4.0	3.5	3.2	3.2
I am very attached to the Appalachian Trail	3.3	3.0	3.7	3.9	3.3	4.0	3.5	4.0	3.5
I get more satisfaction out of visiting this trail than from visiting any other trail	2.9	2.5	3.2	3.7	3.1	4.0	3.2	3.0	3.0
I identify strongly with this trail	3.1	2.9	3.6	3.7	3.2	4.0	3.3	3.8	3.3
Hiking here is more important than hiking in any other place	2.6	2.4	2.9	3.3	2.7	3.0	2.8	2.7	2.7
I feel no commitment to this trail	2.6	2.8	2.0	1.9	2.3	2.0	2.1	1.9	2.3
I wouldn't substitute any other trail for the type of recreation I do here	2.5	2.2	2.6	2.4	2.5	3.5	2.5	2.4	2.5
I have a lot of fond memories about the Appalachian Trail	3.9	3.6	4.2	4.2	4.0	4.5	3.9	4.7	4.1
I know the Appalachian Trail better than the people who manage it	1.7	1.5	1.8	1.7	1.7	2.0	1.6	2.4	1.9
People should be free to do whatever they want along the Appalachian Trail	1.6	1.7	1.5	1.8	1.5	3.0	1.6	1.9	1.7
I have a special connection to the Appalachian Trail and the people who hike along it	2.9	2.9	3.4	3.4	3.1	4.5	3.1	4.1	3.3
Managers need to restrict use along the Appalachian Trail	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.3	2.7	2.0	2.4	2.5	2.5
I treat the Appalachian Trail better than most people who hike along it	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.4	3.6	3.5	3.4	3.6	3.4
Everyone should be able to hike along the Appalachian Trail	3.9	3.7	3.7	4.0	3.8	3.5	3.9	3.9	3.9
The Appalachian Trail means more to me than any other trail I can think of	2.9	2.4	3.2	3.4	3.0	4.5	3.0	3.4	3.0
I don't tell many people about this trail	2.2	2.2	2.0	1.9	2.1	1.5	2.1	2.0	2.1
For me, lots of other trails could substitute for the Appalachian Trail	2.9	3.0	2.5	2.7	2.7	2.0	2.7	2.5	2.7
I will (or do) bring my children to this place	3.9	4.0	4.1	4.0	3.9	4.5	4.1	3.9	3.9
People who have used this place longest should have priority using it	2.1	2.1	1.9	2.2	2.2	1.5	2.0	1.9	2.0

PART F:

1. What is your gender?

Female

Male

(QF1)

	Female	Male
Baxter State Park	33.3	66.7
100 Mile Wilderness	40.5	59.5
Western Maine	22.9	77.1
NH-Mahoosucs	30.0	70.0
NH-White Mountains	27.5	72.5
NH-South	24.6	75.4
Vermont	30.8	69.2
Massachusetts	29.4	70.6
Connecticut	56.3	43.8
New York	19.4	80.6
New Jersey	29.5	70.5
Pennsylvania	22.6	77.4
Maryland	27.3	72.7
Shenandoah	31.3	68.8
Outing Club of Va. Tech	39.9	60.1
Catawba	54.2	45.8
Mount Rogers	35.0	65.0
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	28.6	71.4
Smoky Mountains	22.9	77.1
NC-Nantahala NF	50.0	50.0
Georgia	34.4	65.6
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	31.0	69.0

2. What is your age? ____ Years

(QF2)

	Age
Baxter State Park	44.1
100 Mile Wilderness	39.1
Western Maine	39.1
NH-Mahoosucs	36.1
NH-White Mountains	39.8
NH-South	39.2
Vermont	41.8
Massachusetts	39.2
Connecticut	40.4
New York	43.9
New Jersey	40.4
Pennsylvania	38.2
Maryland	36.1
Shenandoah	39.7
Outing Club of Va. Tech	34.0
Catawba	33.1
Mount Rogers	41.2
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	50.0
Smoky Mountains	39.0
NC-Nantahala NF	25.0
Georgia	37.3
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	37.1

3. What is the highest level of education you have completed? [Check one of the following]

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 8th grade or less | <input type="checkbox"/> college graduate |
| <input type="checkbox"/> some high school | <input type="checkbox"/> some graduate school |
| <input type="checkbox"/> high school graduate or GED | <input type="checkbox"/> masters, doctoral, or professional degree |
| <input type="checkbox"/> business school, trade school, some college | |

(QF3)

	8th grade or less	Some high school	High school graduate or GED	Business school, trade school, some college	College graduate	Some graduate school	Masters, doctoral, or professional degree
Baxter State Park	0.0	0.0	9.5	16.7	45.2	2.4	26.2
100 Mile Wilderness	0.0	2.4	8.3	27.4	29.8	8.3	23.8
Western Maine	0.0	4.8	4.8	17.1	37.1	6.7	29.5
NH-Mahoosucs	0.0	9.8	11.5	18.0	27.9	4.9	27.9
NH-White Mountains	0.0	0.6	9.0	12.6	25.7	13.8	38.3
NH-South	1.6	3.3	9.8	14.8	29.5	8.2	32.8
Vermont	0.0	0.0	7.8	16.7	18.9	12.2	44.4
Massachusetts	0.0	11.8	0.0	17.6	47.1	11.8	11.8
Connecticut	0.0	0.0	6.3	31.3	18.8	18.8	25.0
New York	0.0	5.6	5.6	11.1	29.2	6.9	41.7
New Jersey	0.0	0.0	8.1	14.5	37.1	12.9	27.4
Pennsylvania	0.0	1.6	8.1	24.2	27.4	9.7	29.0
Maryland	0.0	0.0	4.3	34.8	26.1	26.1	8.7
Shenandoah	0.0	0.0	6.3	22.9	39.6	6.3	25.0
Outing Club of Va. Tech	0.0	1.3	6.1	23.1	30.1	17.0	22.3
Catawba	0.0	0.0	8.3	12.5	37.5	16.7	25.0
Mount Rogers	0.0	0.0	5.0	31.7	36.7	8.3	18.3
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	0.0	0.0	4.8	9.5	42.9	4.8	38.1
Smoky Mountains	0.0	1.7	9.5	20.7	31.0	9.5	27.6
NC-Nantahala NF	0.0	0.0	50.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	50.0
Georgia	0.0	1.0	9.4	16.7	29.2	10.4	33.3
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	0.1	2.0	7.6	19.2	30.7	11.0	29.4

4. Are you presently:

- Employed outside the home** ® **full time** **part time** ® **Occupation:** _____
 Unemployed
 Retired ® **Previous occupation:** _____
 Full-time homemaker
 Student® **full time** **part time**

(QF4)

	Employed outside the home	Unemployed	Retired	Full-time homemaker	Student
Baxter State Park	61.0	7.3	24.4	0.0	7.3
100 Mile Wilderness	62.8	5.1	14.1	1.3	16.7
Western Maine	74.3	1.0	9.9	1.0	13.9
NH-Mahoosucs	67.8	1.7	6.8	0.0	23.7
NH-White Mountains	75.2	3.0	7.3	0.0	14.5
NH-South	72.9	5.1	15.3	0.0	6.8
Vermont	78.0	1.2	13.4	1.2	6.1
Massachusetts	70.6	5.9	5.9	0.0	17.6
Connecticut	84.6	0.0	15.4	0.0	0.0
New York	76.1	1.4	14.1	1.4	7.0
New Jersey	74.1	3.7	13.0	1.9	7.4
Pennsylvania	74.1	0.0	6.9	1.7	17.2
Maryland	43.5	0.0	13.0	4.3	39.1
Shenandoah	68.2	6.8	15.9	0.0	9.1
Outing Club of Va. Tech	61.8	1.4	3.7	2.3	30.9
Catawba	60.0	0.0	10.0	5.0	25.0
Mount Rogers	75.4	0.0	7.0	1.8	15.8
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	70.0	0.0	25.0	0.0	5.0
Smoky Mountains	75.0	6.5	6.5	0.0	12.0
NC-Nantahala NF	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
Georgia	71.9	3.4	4.5	1.1	19.1
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	70.2	2.8	9.5	1.1	16.4

Is your employment full or part-time? (QF4)

	Full-time	Part-time
Baxter State Park	85.7	14.3
100 Mile Wilderness	88.7	11.3
Western Maine	89.9	10.1
NH-Mahoosucs	90.2	9.8
NH-White Mountains	90.7	9.3
NH-South	90.9	9.1
Vermont	87.5	12.5
Massachusetts	69.2	30.8
Connecticut	100.0	0.0
New York	94.3	5.7
New Jersey	80.9	19.1
Pennsylvania	87.5	12.5
Maryland	71.4	28.6
Shenandoah	85.3	14.7
Outing Club of Va. Tech	86.0	14.0
Catawba	94.1	5.9
Mount Rogers	93.8	6.3
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	85.7	14.3
Smoky Mountains	87.2	12.8
NC-Nantahala NF	0.0	100.0
Georgia	85.7	14.3
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	88.0	12.0

Are you a full or part-time student? (QF4)

	Full-time	Part-time
Baxter State Park	100.0	0.0
100 Mile Wilderness	85.7	14.3
Western Maine	94.1	5.9
NH-Mahoosucs	83.3	16.7
NH-White Mountains	85.2	14.8
NH-South	66.7	33.3
Vermont	85.7	14.3
Massachusetts	100.0	0.0
Connecticut	100.0	0.0
New York	100.0	0.0
New Jersey	75.0	25.0
Pennsylvania	84.6	15.4
Maryland	77.8	22.2
Shenandoah	57.1	42.9
Outing Club of Va. Tech	94.7	5.3
Catawba	66.7	33.3
Mount Rogers	70.0	30.0
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	100.0	0.0
Smoky Mountains	82.4	17.6
NC-Nantahala NF	100.0	0.0
Georgia	78.9	21.1
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	85.8	14.2

5. How many weeks of vacation did you take last year? _____ Weeks

(QF5)

	Weeks of Vacation
Baxter State Park	12.2
100 Mile Wilderness	6.1
Western Maine	7.2
NH-Mahoosucs	7.5
NH-White Mountains	6.2
NH-South	5.3
Vermont	7.2
Massachusetts	6.4
Connecticut	3.9
New York	4.4
New Jersey	5.2
Pennsylvania	5.9
Maryland	5.0
Shenandoah	6.4
Outing Club of Va. Tech	4.1
Catawba	5.5
Mount Rogers	5.1
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	6.7
Smoky Mountains	4.6
NC-Nantahala NF	8.0
Georgia	3.8
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	5.8

6. What was your total household income (before taxes) in 1998? [Check one of the following]

- less than \$20,000
 \$40,000 to \$59,999
 \$80,000 to \$99,999
 \$20,000 to \$39,999
 \$60,000 to \$79,999
 \$100,000 or more

(QF6)

	less than \$20,000	\$20,000 to \$39,999	\$40,000 to \$59,999	\$60,000 to \$79,000	\$80,000 to \$99,000	\$100,000 or more
Baxter State Park	15.0	12.5	32.5	17.5	15.0	7.5
100 Mile Wilderness	25.3	20.3	24.1	15.2	3.8	11.4
Western Maine	11.2	17.3	25.5	13.3	10.2	22.4
NH-Mahoosucs	12.0	16.0	20.0	24.0	10.0	18.0
NH-White Mountains	10.3	21.2	13.5	12.8	15.4	26.9
NH-South	21.4	16.1	21.4	12.5	8.9	19.6
Vermont	17.9	10.7	17.9	19.0	13.1	21.4
Massachusetts	18.8	25.0	18.8	12.5	12.5	12.5
Connecticut	13.3	20.0	33.3	13.3	6.7	13.3
New York	3.0	20.9	34.3	11.9	10.4	19.4
New Jersey	20.7	20.7	5.2	13.8	20.7	19.0
Pennsylvania	17.2	15.5	19.0	15.5	17.2	15.5
Maryland	22.7	22.7	18.2	9.1	13.6	13.6
Shenandoah	15.6	24.4	13.3	20.0	6.7	20.0
Outing Club of Va. Tech	30.8	16.8	17.8	15.4	10.6	8.7
Catawba	21.7	39.1	17.4	4.3	4.3	13.0
Mount Rogers	15.5	13.8	24.1	13.8	8.6	24.1
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	12.5	25.0	18.8	12.5	18.8	12.5
Smoky Mountains	17.7	22.1	20.4	15.0	13.3	11.5
NC-Nantahala NF	50.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	50.0
Georgia	14.1	10.6	24.7	17.6	9.4	23.5
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	17.8	18.2	20.2	15.0	11.6	17.3

7. In what race or ethnic group would you place yourself?

Ethnicity (Select one): **Hispanic or Latino** **Not Hispanic or Latino**
Race (Select one or more): **Black or African American** **Asian American**
 White **American Indian or Alaskan Native** **Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander**

(QF7)

	Hispanic or Latino	Not Hispanic or Latino
Baxter State Park	0.0	100.0
100 Mile Wilderness	3.8	96.2
Western Maine	1.5	98.5
NH-Mahoosucs	0.0	100.0
NH-White Mountains	1.0	99.0
NH-South	2.5	97.5
Vermont	0.0	100.0
Massachusetts	0.0	100.0
Connecticut	0.0	100.0
New York	2.6	97.4
New Jersey	3.1	96.9
Pennsylvania	2.8	97.2
Maryland	11.8	88.2
Shenandoah	10.7	89.3
Outing Club of Va. Tech	0.8	99.2
Catawba	0.0	100.0
Mount Rogers	0.0	100.0
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	0.0	100.0
Smoky Mountains	1.7	98.3
Georgia	3.3	96.7
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	2.0	98.0

In what race group would you place yourself? (QF7)

	Black or African American	Asian American	White	American Indian or Alaskan Native	Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
Baxter State Park	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0
100 Mile Wilderness	4.9	0.0	95.1	0.0	0.0
Western Maine	1.9	1.9	95.2	1.0	0.0
NH-Mahoosucs	0.0	1.7	96.6	1.7	0.0
NH-White Mountains	0.0	1.9	97.5	0.0	0.6
NH-South	5.2	1.7	93.1	0.0	0.0
Vermont	2.2	1.1	96.7	0.0	0.0
Massachusetts	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0
Connecticut	0.0	6.7	93.3	0.0	0.0
New York	1.4	0.0	98.6	0.0	0.0
New Jersey	0.0	1.6	96.7	1.6	0.0
Pennsylvania	1.7	0.0	96.6	0.0	1.7
Maryland	4.8	0.0	95.2	0.0	0.0
Shenandoah	6.7	4.4	88.9	0.0	0.0
Outing Club of Va. Tech	1.3	0.4	96.9	0.9	0.4
Catawba	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0
Mount Rogers	0.0	1.7	98.3	0.0	0.0
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0
Smoky Mountains	0.9	0.9	98.3	0.0	0.0
NC-Nantahala NF	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Georgia	0.0	2.2	95.5	2.2	0.0
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	1.6	1.2	96.5	0.5	0.2

8. In which of the following kinds of places did you spend the most time while growing up (to age 18)?

[Please mark only one]

- On A Farm Or Ranch**
- Rural Or Small Town (Under 1,000 Population)**
- Town (1,000 - 5,000 Population)**
- Small City (5,000 - 50,000 Population)**
- Medium City (50,000 - 1 Million Population)**
- In A Major City Or Metropolitan Area (Over One Million People)**

(QF8)

	On a Farm or Ranch	Rural of Small Town	Town	Small City	Medium City	Major City or Metropolitan Area
Baxter State Park	4.5	18.2	31.8	29.5	6.8	9.1
100 Mile Wilderness	3.5	17.6	29.4	30.6	7.1	11.8
Western Maine	5.7	11.4	26.7	38.1	7.6	10.5
NH-Mahoosucs	1.7	8.5	28.8	33.9	10.2	16.9
NH-White Mountains	2.4	12.0	29.9	33.5	13.8	8.4
NH-South	3.4	10.3	32.8	27.6	17.2	8.6
Vermont	2.2	11.1	30.0	25.6	22.2	8.9
Massachusetts	5.9	0.0	11.8	70.6	5.9	5.9
Connecticut	6.3	18.8	18.8	31.3	12.5	12.5
New York	5.6	11.1	18.1	23.6	12.5	29.2
New Jersey	4.8	4.8	33.9	29.0	9.7	17.7
Pennsylvania	6.3	20.6	19.0	25.4	11.1	17.5
Maryland	8.7	13.0	13.0	26.1	8.7	30.4
Shenandoah	4.3	8.7	15.2	32.6	28.3	10.9
Outing Club of Va. Tech	5.7	14.4	17.9	28.8	21.4	11.8
Catawba	16.7	4.2	12.5	33.3	25.0	8.3
Mount Rogers	1.7	18.6	18.6	28.8	22.0	10.2
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	5.0	25.0	15.0	20.0	25.0	10.0
Smoky Mountains	8.5	14.5	12.0	23.9	27.4	13.7
NC-Nantahala NF	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Georgia	4.2	14.7	16.8	24.2	20.0	20.0
Thru Hiker	6.9	13.7	17.9	28.5	21.0	12.0
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	4.8	13.1	22.8	29.5	16.5	13.2

9. In which of the following kinds of places do you live now? [Please mark only one]

- On A Farm Or Ranch
- Rural Or Small Town (Under 1,000 Population)
- Town (1,000 - 5,000 Population)
- Small City (5,000 - 50,000 Population)
- Medium City (50,000 - 1 Million Population)
- In A Major City Or Metropolitan Area (Over One Million People)

(QF9)

	On a Farm or Ranch	Rural of Small Town	Town	Small City	Medium City	Major City or Metropolitan Area
Baxter State Park	2.3	9.1	29.5	27.3	25.0	6.8
100 Mile Wilderness	3.5	16.5	31.8	24.7	14.1	9.4
Western Maine	2.9	5.7	31.4	41.0	10.5	8.6
NH-Mahoosucs	1.6	18.0	31.1	23.0	11.5	14.8
NH-White Mountains	1.8	12.0	25.7	35.9	12.6	12.0
NH-South	1.7	10.2	30.5	27.1	13.6	16.9
Vermont	2.2	18.0	20.2	33.7	14.6	11.2
Massachusetts	0.0	5.9	11.8	47.1	17.6	17.6
Connecticut	0.0	6.3	25.0	37.5	18.8	12.5
New York	4.2	15.5	26.8	16.9	8.5	28.2
New Jersey	4.8	9.7	27.4	27.4	14.5	16.1
Pennsylvania	3.2	15.9	25.4	20.6	15.9	19.0
Maryland	4.3	13.0	8.7	26.1	17.4	30.4
Shenandoah	4.3	10.6	10.6	21.3	21.3	31.9
Outing Club of Va. Tech	3.1	5.7	12.7	42.8	29.7	6.1
Catawba	8.3	4.2	16.7	54.2	12.5	4.2
Mount Rogers	6.7	11.7	16.7	30.0	25.0	10.0
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	5.0	15.0	5.0	25.0	30.0	20.0
Smoky Mountains	4.2	13.3	12.5	25.0	27.5	17.5
NC-Nantahala NF	0.0	0.0	50.0	50.0	0.0	0.0
Georgia	2.1	9.5	7.4	15.8	11.6	53.7
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	3.2	11.2	20.8	30.7	18.1	16.1

10. What is your marital status?

Married
 Single
 Divorced
 Widowed

(QF10)

	Married	Single	Divorced	Widowed
Baxter State Park	45.5	45.5	6.8	2.3
100 Mile Wilderness	38.1	51.2	10.7	0.0
Western Maine	52.4	40.8	5.8	1.0
NH-Mahoosucs	59.0	36.1	3.3	1.6
NH-White Mountains	58.4	32.5	9.0	0.0
NH-South	51.7	38.3	6.7	3.3
Vermont	46.2	34.1	17.6	2.2
Massachusetts	52.9	35.3	11.8	0.0
Connecticut	43.8	31.3	18.8	6.3
New York	50.7	38.4	9.6	1.4
New Jersey	53.2	33.9	11.3	1.6
Pennsylvania	54.0	36.5	9.5	0.0
Maryland	47.8	47.8	4.3	0.0
Shenandoah	44.7	46.8	8.5	0.0
Outing Club of Va. Tech	48.0	44.5	7.0	0.4
Catawba	37.5	58.3	4.2	0.0
Mount Rogers	50.0	33.3	16.7	0.0
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	65.0	20.0	10.0	5.0
Smoky Mountains	57.1	30.3	11.8	0.8
NC-Nantahala NF	50.0	50.0	0.0	0.0
Georgia	56.4	35.1	7.4	1.1
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	51.3	38.5	9.3	1.0

11. How many children reside in your household? _____

(QF11)

	0	1	2	3	More than 3
Baxter State Park	80.0	2.5	12.5	2.5	2.5
100 Mile Wilderness	70.0	11.3	13.8	3.8	1.3
Western Maine	60.2	11.8	16.1	8.6	3.2
NH-Mahoosucs	59.0	9.8	24.6	4.9	1.6
NH-White Mountains	53.4	15.5	18.0	8.7	4.3
NH-South	63.2	12.3	15.8	7.0	1.8
Vermont	62.1	9.2	21.8	5.7	1.1
Massachusetts	58.8	5.9	17.6	11.8	5.9
Connecticut	46.7	20.0	26.7	6.7	0.0
New York	70.8	9.7	15.3	2.8	1.4
New Jersey	74.1	3.4	19.0	3.4	0.0
Pennsylvania	62.9	11.3	21.0	4.8	0.0
Maryland	85.7	4.8	4.8	0.0	4.8
Shenandoah	83.0	4.3	10.6	2.1	0.0
Outing Club of Va. Tech	77.9	6.1	9.9	4.2	1.9
Catawba	68.2	13.6	9.1	4.5	4.5
Mount Rogers	60.8	11.8	17.6	9.8	0.0
North of Smokies-Pisgah/Cherokee NF	77.8	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.6
Smoky Mountains	58.9	16.8	15.9	5.6	2.8
NC-Nantahala NF	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Georgia	69.7	9.0	14.6	5.6	1.1
Total (Non-Thru Hikers)	65.6	8.9	14.2	5.1	2.1