



Public Use Statistics - Monthly Report January 2008

Recreation Visits

Units of the National Park System received 10.8 million recreation visits in January 2008.¹ This was a 5.5% decrease in recreation visits, or 0.6 million fewer visits than in 2007. January has historically been the least visited month of the year, providing less than 4% of the annual total of recreation visits.

The largest year-to-date increases (in thousands) in recreation visits were reported at:

Independence National Historic Park	+39	Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park	+31
Vietnam Veterans Memorial	+31	San Antonio Missions National Historic Park	+28
Big Cypress National Preserve	+31	Saguaro National Park	+21

The largest year-to-date decreases (in thousands) in recreation visits were reported at:

Blue Ridge Parkway	-285	Pint Reyes National Seashore	-39
Amistad National Recreation Area	-109	Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument	-37
Lake Mead National Recreation Area	-58	Gulf Islands National Seashore	-37

The following January changes in visitation (in thousands) over the same month in 2007 are notable:

Blue Ridge Parkway	-285 (-38%)	Weather related road closures.
Amistad National Recreation Area	-109 (-57%)	Special event in 2007.
Ford's Theater National Historic Site	-19 (-60%)	The Theater is closed for renovation.
Mount Rainier National Park	+20 (+1,531%)	Major storm in late 2006.

Non-Recreation Visits (Commuters)

Units of the National Park System received 12.9 million non-recreation visits in January 2008. The 1.5% change in non-recreation visits was 191,000 more commuter visits than in the same time period in 2007.

Overnight Stays (Year-to-Date)

Lake Mead National Recreation Area had a total of 9,100 more overnight stays in the seven categories. Everglades National Park had 5,000 fewer overnight stays in their Tents & Recreation Vehicles. Grand Canyon National Park reported 13,400 more Backcountry stays.

¹ NPS Public Use Statistics Office, preliminary data, 2008. Data are adjusted for delinquent reports and comparisons are made against the same time period in 2007.

Change in Overnight Stays in NPS Units 2007-2008

(January 2008, numbers in thousands)

Overnight Stay Category	Year-To-Date 2007	Year-To-Date 2008	Difference	% Change
Concessioner Lodging	87	89	+2	+3
Concessioner Camping	16	23	+6	+39
Tents	38	40	+2	+6
Recreational Vehicles	51	48	-3	-6
Backcountry	29	40	+11	+40
Groups & Boats	49	52	+3	+6
Non-recreation	24	23	-1	-2

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Public Use Statistics Office Web site: <http://www.nature.nps.gov/stats>

Social Science Program Web site: <http://www2.nature.nps.gov/socialscience>