



## Public Use Statistics - Monthly Report January - April 2008

### Recreation Visits

Units of the National Park System received 63.7 million recreation visits in January-April 2008.<sup>1</sup> This was a 0.2% decrease in recreation visits, or 106,000 fewer visits than in 2007. The top five units with the largest year-to-date increases were from the National Capital Region. These four units showed a cumulative 1.3 million increase in recreation visits from last year. Meanwhile, the Southeast Region had two of the top six units with the largest year-to-date decreases, resulting in a -6% change from last year or a decrease of 911,000 visits.

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

President's Park	+464	Thomas Jefferson Memorial	+167
Vietnam Veterans Memorial	+258	World War II Memorial	+153
Lincoln Memorial	+246	Joshua Tree national Park	+132

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

National Mall and Memorial Parks	-502	Everglades National Park	-161
Ford's Theatre National Historic Site	-210	Golden Gate National Recreation Area	-126
Blue Ridge Parkway	-206	Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore	-121

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

National Mall and Memorial Parks	-371 (-55%)	395,000 fewer special event visitors.
Ford's Theater National Historic Site	-104 (-71%)	The Theater is closed for renovation.
Vicksburg National Military Park	-52 (-44%)	53,000 fewer vehicles due to error in 2007.
Amistad National Recreation Area	+155(+141%)	Fishing tournament in April this year. It was in March in 2007.
President's Park & Vietnam Veterans Memorial	+150 (+212%)	Washington, DC is still very popular this year.
& Lincoln Memorial	+95 (+20%)	
& Thomas Jefferson Memorial	+45 (+9%)	
Mount Rainier National Park	+43 (+12%)	
	+19 (+338%)	Major storm in late 2006.

<sup>1</sup> 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.

**Non-Recreation Visits (Commuters)**

Units of the National Park System received 51.1 million non-recreation visits in January-April 2008. The 1.9% decrease in non-recreation visits was 1.0 million fewer commuter visits than in the same time period in 2007.

**Overnight Stays (Year-to-Date)**

Lake Mead National Recreation Area had 22,600 more Concessioner Campground overnight stays and 19,600 more Tent & Recreational Vehicle overnight stays but had 15,100 fewer Nonrecreation overnight stays. Sixty-six percent of the units reported a decrease in both Tent overnight stays and in Groups and Boats. Buffalo National River reported 8,900 fewer Tent overnight stays and 4,000 fewer Backcountry overnight stays.

**Change in Overnight Stays in NPS Units 2007-2008**

(April 2008, numbers in thousands)

<b>Overnight Stay Category</b>	<b>Year-To-Date 2007</b>	<b>Year-To-Date 2008</b>	<b>Difference</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Concessioner Lodging	532	536	+4	+1
Concessioner Camping	92	113	+21	+23
Tents	364	358	-6	-2
Recreational Vehicles	369	367	-1	-1
Backcountry	262	252	-11	-4
Groups & Boats	306	292	-14	-5
Non-recreation	90	73	-17	-19

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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>