

Regional

Regional

Update

Annual Use Estimate of the Metropolitan Regional Park System for 1999

**Based on a four-year average of visitation
data from 1996 through 1999**

April 2000



Metropolitan Council

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The Metropolitan Council coordinates regional planning and guides development in the seven-county area through joint action with the public and private sectors. The Council also operates regional services, including wastewater collection and treatment, transit and the Metro HRA, an affordable-housing service that provides assistance to low-income families in the region. Created by the legislature in 1967, the Council establishes policies for airports, regional parks, highways and transit, sewers, air and water quality, land use and affordable housing, and provides planning and technical assistance to communities in the Twin Cities region.

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Acknowledgements

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Anoka County

City of Bloomington

Carver County

Dakota County

Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board

Ramsey County

City of Saint Paul

Suburban Hennepin Regional Park District

Scott County (joint powers agreement with SHRPD)

Washington County

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Executive Summary

- There were an estimated 29,272,000 visits to the Metropolitan regional park system in 1999.
- The annual visitation estimate is based on a four-year average of counts of visitors taken during the summer months for 1996 through 1999.
- Distribution of use by season, camping and special events:

Season	Total Visits	% of All Visits
Summer	13,391,500	45.7
Fall	6,446,750	22.0
Spring	6,446,750	22.0
Winter	1,833,100	6.3
Camping	279,900	1.0
Special events	874,000	3.0
Total	29,272,000	100.00

- Non-summer visitation estimates for 1999 are based on data collected and analyzed in 1998 and 1999. Previous to 1999, non-summer visitation estimates were based on data collected in 1982. The updated information shows that there has been a significant increase in the amount of visits to the regional park system during the non-summer months over the last 17 years.
- 32 % of all 1999 visits were to trails. 68 % were visits to regional parks, reserves and special recreation features.
- The five most visited regional parks and reserves in 1999 were:

Park/Reserve	1999 Visits
Minneapolis Chain of Lakes Regional Park	5,524,300
Mississippi Gorge Regional Park (Minneapolis & St. Paul combined)	2,982,600
Minnehaha Parkway	2,701,300
Como Regional Park , Zoo and Conservatory	2,511,400
Hyland-Bush-Anderson Lakes Park Reserve (Hennepin Parks & Bloomington combined)	1,305,200

- 69 % of all regional visits were to regional parks and trails within Minneapolis and St. Paul.
 - 59.5 % of all visits to regional parks and trails are considered "local" visits. A local visit is defined as a visit to a park/trail by a person who lives within the jurisdiction of the park agency which owns/manages that regional park or trail.
 - 33.6 % of all visits are "regional" visits. Regional visits are the non-local visits by persons living within the metropolitan area. 3.2 % of all visits are from residents of Minnesota who live outside of the metropolitan area. 3.7 % of all visits are from people who live in other states or countries.
 - Walking is the top activity in the regional park system (33 % of all visits involved walking), followed by biking (19 %), swimming (15 %) and picnicking (11 %).
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Introduction

The existing Metropolitan regional park system open for public use in 1999 encompassed approximately 46,500 acres of parkland and includes 32 regional parks, 11 park reserves, 4 special recreation features and 18 regional trails. These park/trail units are owned and operated by 10 implementing agencies – counties, special park districts and cities. Scott County has a joint powers agreement with Suburban Hennepin Parks Regional Park District. Consequently the text of this report refers to nine implementing agencies.

This report includes annual use estimates for the 65-unit regional park system that was sampled in 1999. The information is reported by park and categorized by agency. Use estimates are reported for 75 park/trail areas because several parks and trails are operated jointly by more than one implementing agency. These are:

<u>Park/Trail</u>	<u>Agencies</u>
Battle Creek Regional Park	Ramsey County and St. Paul (Indian Mounds)
Coon Rapids Dam Regional Park	Hennepin Parks and Anoka County
Hyland-Bush-Anderson Lakes Park Reserve	Hennepin Parks (Hyland Lake) and the City of Bloomington (Bush and Normandale Lakes)
Mississippi Gorge Regional Park	Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board and the City of St. Paul
North Mississippi Regional Park	Hennepin Parks and the Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board
Phalen-Keller Regional Park	City of St. Paul (Phalen) and Ramsey County (Keller)
Rice Creek North Regional Trail	Anoka County and Ramsey County
Rice Creek West Regional Trail	Anoka County and Ramsey County
Mississippi River Regional Trail	Anoka County, Dakota County and the City of St. Paul

In addition, the Cherokee Heights portion of Lilydale-Harriet Island Regional Park is counted and reported separately.

Use estimates are reported in “visits”. One person entering the park represents one visit. Therefore if an individual visits a particular park once each week for a year, that represents 52 visits to that park.

There were an estimated 29,272,000 visits to the regional park system in 1999.

How the Annual Use Estimate is calculated

The annual use estimate is based on the average of four years (1996 – 1999) of summer counts of bikers, pedestrians, horse-riders, boats, vehicles and charter buses that enter the park through recognized park entrances. People in vehicles and buses are not counted. To determine the number of people entering in vehicles or buses, a person-per-vehicle (PPV) average is multiplied by the number of vehicles or buses in each count. The PPV and PPB averages come from the 1998 Regional Parks Visitor Study.

Counts are taken in two-hour periods between Memorial Day and Labor Day. Two-hour blocks of time begin at 8 AM, 10 AM, Noon, 2 PM, 4 PM and 6 PM. The entrances and times are randomly chosen to be sampled. Typically, sixteen samples are drawn for each park or trail in one summer season. Sixteen samples are not enough to accurately reflect actual summer use. It is too expensive to collect a minimum of 25 samples on weekends and 25 samples on weekdays in each park every summer. Consequently, the samples for the current year and the three previous years are used to determine the annual use for each park. This results in about 32 samples on weekends and 32 samples on weekdays and is statistically acceptable in determining annual use.

The annual use for each park and trail is based on a four-year average of counts for each park/trail. The four-year average reduces the effect of extreme weather or other anomalies on each park's estimated visitation. It reduces the effects of a temporary closure of a popular facility and from road construction. The four-year average also somewhat under-estimates increased visitation associated with a new major facility such as a swim pond or play structure. By the fourth year of the facility's existence, its visitation is fully represented in the data. The annual estimate makes no attempt to correct for over-estimates for temporary closures or under-estimates for facility additions. All agencies in the regional system are adding desirable facilities and experiencing temporary closures of facilities that are being redeveloped. Consequently, it is believed that the four-year average has negligible effects when comparing visitation across agencies. It is important that visitation estimate for each park and for each agency be calculated using the same set of standards and methods.

Total visitation is initially calculated by taking the total number of people entering the park during each sample and multiplying it by the number of entrances and time slots that sample represents. The sample totals are then averaged according to a predetermined low, medium or high use classification. The average for each sample class is then aggregated to calculate the total visitation estimate for the park.

Important changes for 1999

There are three important changes in the methods used to estimate visitation. The base summer visitation is now estimated using 1998 person-per-vehicle figures for each park. In the past estimates were made using figures from 1982. The second change involves the use of more current seasonal multipliers for estimating non-summer visitation. The third change involves the discontinuation of inclusion of winter specific activity counts (skiing, sledding, nature interpretation), spring/fall nature interpretation, and other summer activities such as archery and stable use.

Discussion on updated person-per-vehicle figures used in the visitation estimate

The summer visitation for each park is partially based on counts of cars entering each park through the designated counting sites. Instead of trying to count the number of individuals within each car, the total number of cars is multiplied by the average people-per-vehicle (PPV) for that park. All previous estimates of annual visitation were based on PPV figures from 1982. As part of the 1998 Regional Parks Visitor Study, new PPV figures were identified for each park and trail. The 1999 annual use estimate uses these updated figures. A similar update of the people-per-charter-bus was also incorporated into the 1999 use estimate, though the impact of that change is very small due to the low numbers of buses entering the parks.

The majority of parks and trails saw a decrease in the average number of people per vehicle. The decrease reflects decreased family sizes and increased use of the parks and trails by individuals who are exercising. About one-third of all parks and trails saw an increase in the average number of people per vehicle. This is partially explained by the addition and development of family and child focused facilities such as large play structures and beaches. The change varies in impact for each park or trail, because in some parks and trails, the majority of visitors do not access the park or trail in a vehicle.

Not all parks and trails were included in the 1998 Regional Parks Visitor Study. For those parks, the agency average PPV was used. For those trails, the regional trails' average PPV was used.

Como Park/Zoo/Conservatory is a special situation. In the past, the PPV multiplier was 4.55 people per vehicle. The 1998 study showed that those visitors arriving by car whose primary purpose was to visit the Zoo/Conservatory had a PPV of 3.61. For the park (non-zoo) visitors arriving by car, the PPV was 2.31. It was determined that it would be most accurate to use the Zoo/Conservatory PPV of 3.61 for those cars counted at entrance sites that primarily service the Zoo/Conservatory and to use the PPV of 2.31 for those cars counted at the other park entrance sites. No other park utilizes two PPV figures in the visitation formula.

Discussion on new seasonal multipliers

Non-summer use is estimated by multiplying the summer general use estimate by a pre-determined percentage or "multiplier". For nearly all parks and reserves, winter use was 5 % of summer general use (a multiplier of 0.05) and combined spring and fall use was between 10 % and 25 % of summer general use (multipliers ranging from 0.10 to 0.25). For regional trails, winter use was 5 % of the summer general use, and for the combined spring/fall, use was 20 % of the summer general use. These multipliers are very old, coming from research done in 1982.

Data collected in the 1998 Regional Parks Visitor Study indicates that these multipliers significantly under-represent the actual non-summer use of the regional park system. New multipliers were identified using data from the 1998 Regional Parks Visitor Study. The table below shows the old and new multipliers.

Facility	Winter		Spring		Fall		Combined Spring & Fall	
	1982	1999	1982	1999	1982	1999	1982	1999
Regional Park/Reserve	0.05	0.062	0.05	0.35	0.05	0.25	0.10	0.60
Regional Trail	0.05	0.267	0.10	0.79	0.10	0.80	0.20	1.59

How the new multipliers were determined

As part of the 1998 Regional Parks Visitor Study, a detailed mail-back survey was randomly distributed to about 750 park visitors during the month of July. This survey asked respondents to estimate their total number of visits to the regional park system for that summer (including visits foreseen for the remainder of the summer), and to estimate their number of visits for each of the three previous seasons. Nearly 500 usable surveys were returned for a response rate of 66 %. Since the survey respondents and non-respondents both were part of the initial on-site interview, it was possible to see if there were any important differences between respondents and non-respondents. Analysis showed that there were no statistically significant differences, meaning that the 500 respondents accurately represent visitors to the regional park system. Each season was defined using dates and respondents were provided with a map of the regional park system so that they would not count visits to non-regional facilities. Extreme values (such as 120 visits in the winter) were identified using statistical tests and were removed from the analysis.

The total number of visits for each season was identified. From these totals it was possible to identify the percent of total use for each non-summer season as compared to the summer season.

Regional trail seasonal visitation data was collected during the interviews of regional trail users. However, the regional trail interviews were conducted during the fall and spring. To accommodate for this, it was estimated from the mail-back survey that 11% of all visitors use the regional park system during the summer only. The seasonal percentages for regional trails were reduced by 11 % to account for the initial lack of sampling during the summer.

The final step involved separating the regional trail use out of the overall seasonal use identified by the mail-back survey. The remaining use represents the seasonal park/reserve use.

Lastly, facilities where it is obvious that there would be no winter visitation (Noerenberg Gardens and Square Lake) had their winter multipliers reduced to zero. Multipliers for the Minneapolis Chain of Lakes were adjusted to reflect the 80 % of use that is primarily trail-based.

Similarly, Mississippi Gorge was treated as a regional parkway and trail multipliers were used for that park.

Concerns

The new multipliers are significantly higher than the old multipliers and have a dramatic effect on both total visitation and individual agency visitation. The distribution of operations and maintenance grants from state appropriations are allocated on a formula that is based in part on each park agency's visitation. Consequently, it was desirable to assess the validity of the new multipliers.

The primary concern centers on a known tendency of recreation participants to over-estimate their number of visits. In other words, when a person is asked how many times they visited the parks, they may say "10" but in actuality may have only visited 6 or 7 times. Short of doing a count at some test parks and trails during each season, it is impossible to identify to what degree people over-estimate their visits. However, the methods used to calculate the new multipliers are concerned only with the *ratio* of visits between summer and the other seasons. The assumption that is made is that people consistently over-estimate the number of visits for each season.

Support for the validity of the new seasonal multiplier figures

It is believed that the new multipliers accurately reflect the seasonal use of the regional parks. This confidence is a product of “triangulation analysis” – a technique of looking at an issue from a combination of qualitative and quantitative approaches. There are three primary supports for the new multipliers:

1. Trends

Other recreation and travel research has shown that there has been a dramatic increase in use of parks during the fall and spring “shoulder” seasons. The new multipliers reflect this documented trend. Walking and other exercise in the regional parks and trails has also increased since 1982. These activities are pursued year-round and result in higher use in the non-summer seasons.

2. Expert Panel

The analysis was examined by five professors¹ who specialize in outdoor recreation research. The consensus was that the primary assumption of consistent over-estimation of use is acceptable and that this is the best available method and is more accurate than the old multipliers. They suggested that a sample of parks and trails be counted in the non-summer seasons to help validate and/or adjust the new multipliers.

3. Hennepin Parks Data

Hennepin Parks provided quarterly use data for 1995 and 1996. Their quarterly data showed visitation distribution that is nearly identical to the estimators used in this report.

Discontinuation of the specific activity counts

The third change is the discontinuation of inclusion of winter specific activity counts (skiing, sledding, nature interpretation, Zoo/Conservatory visitation), spring/fall nature interpretation, and other day-use summer activities (archery and stable use).

The 1998 Regional Parks Visitor Study data indicates that nearly all non-summer visitors also use the regional park system during the summer. Consequently, the new seasonal multipliers reflect the non-summer specific activity uses. To include these uses in the annual estimate would result in double counting of these visits.

Zoo/Conservatory visits in the past had been double counted due to sample count sites that cover those visitors to these facilities. The non-inclusion of specific estimates for the Zoo & Conservatory corrects this mistake. Since these visits are part of the summer general use estimate, the new multipliers also reflect visits to these facilities in other seasons.

A secondary but important consideration for not including the above data in the counts is the wide variation in accuracy of the data. In the past the data for those activities was provided by each agency. The estimates were likely too low in the past. For example, ski use of Baylor was based on the number of ski rentals at that park. It is now known that less than 10 % of skiers rent their equipment in the regional parks, so Baylor ski use was underestimated by a factor of at least 10. For 1999, sledding at Theodore Wirth was estimated to be around 400 visits. Interns

¹ The professors are: Dr. Dorothy Anderson, University of Minnesota; Dr. David Lime, University of Minnesota; Dr. William McLaughlin, University of Idaho; Dr. Ronald Nickerson, Minnesota State University-Mankato; Dr. Nick Sanyal, University of Idaho.

working for the Metropolitan Council who were on site at that park last year to do a winter use survey counted more than 400 sledders at T. Wirth during the times they were at that park doing interviews.

Other visitation that should continue to be included

Camping visits need to be included in the annual use estimate, as it is not reflected in the new multipliers. Camping is a unique use of the regional system and is computed based on camping party size and number of camping days per party. For most parks, campers are not counted when they enter the park because the sample is specifically designed to exclude them. At three parks (Bunker Hills, Lake Elmo and St. Croix Bluffs) campers are counted as they enter a main gate. For those parks, the initial base summer visitation estimate included campers entering the park. Those estimates were adjusted to remove the counted campers so as to not double count camp visits.

Special events over 300 need to be included in the annual use estimate. Agency personnel who do the summer counts are instructed to change the day of the count if it has been scheduled to occur during a known event that will be attended by 300 or more visitors. Consequently, events of 300 or greater are not reflected in the summer estimate summer or for any of the other seasons. Table 2 of this report lists all events with over 300 people in attendance for each of the regional parks and trails.

Table 2 also includes snowmobile visitation and visits to nature centers by student groups during the school year. It is believed that the winter multiplier does not include snowmobile use in its estimate. This is primarily due to the nature of snowmobiling as a motorized recreational sport, and to the difficulty for snowmobilers to identify that the trail they are using may be passing through a regional park. Student groups who visit nature centers during the school year are also included as they would not have been part of the summer count, nor would they have had the opportunity to be surveyed in the 1998 Regional Parks Visitor Study.

Methodology Conclusion

The methods and data used to compute the 1999 Annual Use of the Regional Parks provide the most accurate estimate of regional park use since the mid 1980's. The methods and data have been reviewed by Implementing Agency staff, the Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission, Metropolitan Council staff and a panel of five experts in recreation sampling and research. The methods will continue to be refined and reviewed as updated data becomes available.

Table 1: 1999 Visitation

	Summer	Winter		Spring/Fall		Other *			O & M
Agency/Park	visits	use multiplier	visits	use multiplier	visits	Camping	Special Events	Total Visits	Adjustments
ANOKA COUNTY:									
Anoka Co. Riverfront RP ¹	78.1	0.210	16.4	1.32	103.1	-	0.5	198.1	
Bunker Hills RP	243.9	0.062	15.1	0.60	146.3	9.5	53.7	468.6	
Coon Rapids Dam RP	149.6	0.062	9.3	0.60	89.8	-	10.5	259.1	
Lake George RP	97.5	0.062	6.0	0.60	58.5	-	18.9	180.9	
Martin-Island-Linwood Lakes RP	27.0	0.062	1.7	0.60	16.2	1.4	10.0	56.3	
Mississippi River RT	38.3	0.267	10.2	1.59	60.9	-	-	109.4	
Rice Creek Chain PR	92.8	0.062	5.8	0.60	55.7	14.1	21.2	189.5	
Rice Creek N. RT	22.4	0.267	6.0	1.59	35.6	-	-	64.0	
Rice Creek W. RT	96.2	0.267	25.7	1.59	153.0	-	0.9	275.7	
Rum River Central RP ^A	24.7	0.062	1.5	0.60	14.8	-	-	41.1	
Subtotal:	870.5		97.7		733.9	25.0	115.7	1,842.8	1,842.8

	Summer	Winter	Spring/Fall	Other *					
Agency/Park	visits	use multiplier	visits	use multiplier	visits	Camping	Special Events	Total Visits	O & M Adjustments
BLOOMINGTON:									
Bush and Normandale Lakes	457.0	0.062	28.3	0.60	274.2	-	47.0	806.5	
Subtotal:	457.0		28.3		274.2	-	47.0	806.5	806.5

	Summer	Winter		Spring/Fall		Other *			O & M
Agency/Park	visits	use multiplier	visits	use multiplier	visits	Camping	Special Events	Total Visits	Adjustments
CARVER COUNTY:									
Baylor RP	21.8	0.062	1.4	0.60	13.1	22.4	-	58.6	
Lake Waconia ²	19.3	0.000	0.0	0.60	11.6	-	-	30.9	(30.9)
Lake Minnewashta RP	51.2	0.062	3.2	0.60	30.7	-	-	85.1	
Subtotal:	92.3		4.5		55.4	22.4	-	174.6	143.7

Notes:

All visits are listed in units of 1,000 (i.e. "50.5" is equivalent to 50,500 visits).

* OTHER: Camping is in "visitor-days", where each visit is one person in the park for one day. A family of four staying one night would have 8 visitor-days. Special events include events over 300 and any unusual park-specific situations. Special events and situations are detailed in Table 2.

^A 1st year sampled

^B 2nd year sampled

^C 3rd year sampled

¹ In this park the vast majority of users are trail users. The multipliers were adjusted to reflect the mix of trail and park use.

² Lake Waconia is not an official Regional Park. It's visitation is not included in O&M calculations

Table 1: 1999 Visitation

Agency/Park	Summer	Winter		Spring/Fall		Other *		Total Visits	O & M Adjustments
	visits	use multiplier	visits	use multiplier	visits	Camping	Special Events		
DAKOTA COUNTY:									
Big Rivers RT	41.1	0.267	11.0	1.59	65.3	-	-	117.4	
Lake Byllesby RP	43.6	0.062	2.7	0.60	26.2	18.0	-	90.5	
Lebanon Hills RP	174.0	0.062	10.8	0.60	104.4	46.1	0.3	335.6	
Mississippi River RT ^A	9.8	0.267	2.6	1.59	15.6	-	-	28.0	
Miesville Ravine RP	44.3	0.000	0.0	0.60	26.6	-	-	70.9	
Spring Lake PR	57.5	0.062	3.6	0.60	34.5	8.4	3.3	107.3	
Subtotal:	370.3		30.6		272.6	72.5	3.6	749.6	749.6

Agency/Park	Summer	Winter		Spring/Fall		Other *		Total Visits	O & M Adjustments
	visits	use multiplier	visits	use multiplier	visits	Camping	Special Events		
MPLS. PARK & RECREATION BOARD:									
Cedar Lake RT	188.5	0.267	50.3	1.59	299.7	-	-	538.5	
Central Mississippi Riverfront RP	403.3	0.062	25.0	0.60	242.0	-	195.1	865.4	
Mpls. Chain-of-Lakes RP ³	2,097.6	0.226	474.1	1.39	2,915.7	-	37.0	5,524.3	
Minnehaha RP	514.7	0.062	31.9	0.60	308.8	-	9.0	864.4	
Minnehaha Parkway RT	934.8	0.267	249.6	1.59	1,486.3	-	30.6	2,701.3	
Mississippi Gorge RP - Mpls	831.0	0.267	221.9	1.59	1,321.3	-	22.6	2,396.8	
Nokomis-Hiawatha RP	780.5	0.062	48.4	0.60	468.3	-	8.0	1,305.2	
North Mississippi RP	36.9	0.062	2.3	0.60	22.1	-	-	61.3	
Theodore Wirth RP	142.5	0.062	8.8	0.60	85.5	-	31.2	268.0	
Wirth Memorial Parkway RT	349.6	0.267	93.3	1.59	555.9	-	1.2	1,000.0	
Subtotal:	6,279.4		1,205.6		7,705.6	-	334.7	15,525.3	15,525.3

Notes:

All visits are listed in units of 1,000 (i.e. "50.5" is equivalent to 50,500 visits).

* OTHER: Camping is in "visitor-days", where each visit is one person in the park for one day. A family of four staying one night would have 8 visitor-days. Special events include events over 300 and any unusual park-specific situations. Special events and situations are detailed in Table 2.

^A 1st year sampled

^B 2nd year sampled

^C 3rd year sampled

³ In this park the vast majority of users are trail users. The multipliers were adjusted to reflect the mix of trail and park use.

Table 1: 1999 Visitation

Agency/Park	Summer	Winter		Spring/Fall		Other *		Total Visits	O & M Adjustments
	visits	use multiplier	visits	use multiplier	visits	Camping	Special Events		
Suburban Hennepin Regional Park District									
Morris T. Baker PR	228.2	0.062	14.1	0.60	136.9	77.0	5.8	462.1	Downhill ski (116.1)
Bryant Lake RP	59.4	0.062	3.7	0.60	35.6	-	-	98.7	
Carver PR	50.7	0.062	3.1	0.60	30.4	14.2	18.0	116.5	
Clifton E. French RP	269.9	0.062	16.7	0.60	161.9	-	8.2	456.8	
Coon Rapids Dam RP--Hennepin ^C	38.0	0.062	2.4	0.60	22.8	-	3.7	66.9	
Crow-Hassan PR	7.9	0.062	0.5	0.60	4.7	4.8	-	17.9	
Elm Creek PR	171.0	0.062	10.6	0.60	102.6	3.9	20.0	308.1	
East Medicine Lake RT ^A	46.2	0.267	12.3	1.59	73.5	-	-	132.0	
Fish Lake RP	67.8	0.062	4.2	0.60	40.7	-	-	112.7	
Hyland Lake PR	226.1	0.062	14.0	0.60	135.7	3.3	129.6	508.7	
Lake Rebecca PR	71.2	0.062	4.4	0.60	42.7	5.2	12.6	136.1	
Lake Minnetonka RP	70.7	0.062	4.4	0.60	42.4	-	3.7	121.2	
Lake Minnetonka Islands ⁴	69.1	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	-	-	69.1	
Noerenberg Gardens SFR	31.9	0.000	0.0	0.60	19.1	-	2.8	53.8	
North Hennepin RT	62.9	0.267	16.8	1.59	100.0	-	-	179.7	
North Mississippi RP--Hennepin	14.9	0.062	0.9	0.60	8.9	-	-	24.8	
Southwest LRT RT-North	75.9	0.267	20.3	1.59	120.7	-	-	216.8	
Southwest LRT RT-South	53.5	0.267	14.3	1.59	85.1	-	-	152.8	
Hennepin Parks Subtotal:	1,615.3		142.8		1,163.8	108.4	204.4	3,234.7	3,118.6
Scott County/SHRPD									
Clary Lake RP	73.0	0.062	4.5	0.60	43.8	11.1	2.8	135.2	
Murphy-Hanrehan PR	16.1	0.062	1.0	0.60	9.7	-	-	26.8	
Scott County RT ^A	8.7	0.267	2.3	1.59	13.8	-	-	24.9	
Scott/SHRPD Subtotal:	97.8		7.8		67.3	11.1	2.8	186.8	186.8
SHRPD TOTAL	1,713.1		150.6		1,231.1	119.5	207.2	3,421.5	3,305.4

Notes:

All visits are listed in units of 1,000 (i.e. "50.5" is equivalent to 50,500 visits).

* OTHER: Camping is in "visitor-days", where each visit is one person in the park for one day. A family of four staying one night would have 8 visitor-days. Special events include events over 300 and any unusual park-specific situations. Special events and situations are detailed in Table 2.

^A 1st year sampled

^B 2nd year sampled

^C 3rd year sampled

⁴ Lake Minnetonka Islands total annual visitation data is provided from Hennepin Parks and is not based on the Met Council sample.

Table 1: 1999 Visitation

	Summer	Winter		Spring/Fall		Other *			O & M
Agency/Park	visits	use multiplier	visits	use multiplier	visits	Camping	Special Events	Total Visits	Adjustments
RAMSEY COUNTY									
Bald Eagle-Otter Lake RP	34.8	0.062	2.2	0.60	20.9	-	11.8	69.6	
Battle Creek RP	150.5	0.062	9.3	0.60	90.3	-	11.2	261.3	
Birch Lake RT	23.4	0.267	6.2	1.59	37.2	-	-	66.9	
Burlington Northern RT	18.4	0.267	4.9	1.59	29.3	-	-	52.6	
Highway 96 RT - Shoreview ^A	15.7	0.267	4.2	1.59	25.0	-	-	44.9	
Highway 96 RT - White Bear ^A	12.8	0.267	3.4	1.59	20.4	-	-	36.6	
Grass-Vadnais-Snail Lake RP	194.0	0.062	12.0	0.60	116.4	-	2.8	325.2	
Keller RP	117.8	0.062	7.3	0.60	70.7	-	2.9	198.7	
Long Lake RP	171.5	0.062	10.6	0.60	102.9	-	14.9	299.9	
Rice Creek North RT ^B	35.0	0.267	9.3	1.59	55.7	-	-	100.0	
Rice Creek West RT- Ramsey	42.5	0.267	11.3	1.59	67.6	-	-	121.4	
Subtotal:	816.4		80.9		636.2	-	43.6	1,577.1	

Notes:

All visits are listed in units of 1,000 (i.e. "50.5" is equivalent to 50,500 visits).

* OTHER: Camping is in "visitor-days", where each visit is one person in the park for one day. A family of four staying one night would have 8 visitor-days. Special events include events over 300 and any unusual park-specific situations. Special events and situations are detailed in Table 2.

^A 1st year sampled

^B 2nd year sampled

^C 3rd year sampled

Table 1: 1999 Visitation

Agency/Park	Summer	Winter		Spring/Fall		Other *		Total Visits	O & M adjustments
	visits	use multiplier	visits	use multiplier	visits	Camping	Special Events		
WASHINGTON COUNTY									
Cottage Grove Ravine RP	15.8	0.062	1.0	0.60	9.5	-	-	26.3	
Lake Elmo PR	208.5	0.062	12.9	0.60	125.1	31.0	-	377.5	
Square Lake SRF	39.4	0.000	0.0	0.60	23.6	-	-	63.0	
St. Croix Bluffs RP	66.1	0.062	4.1	0.60	39.7	9.5	-	119.4	
Subtotal:	329.8		18.0		197.9	40.5	-	586.2	586.2

REGIONAL TOTALS

	Summer	Winter	Spring/fall	Camping	Special Events	Total Visits	O & M Adjusted
REGIONAL TOTALS	13,391.5	1,833.1	12,893.5	279.9	874.0	29,272.0	29,116.8

Notes:

All visits are listed in units of 1,000 (i.e. "50.5" is equivalent to 50,500 visits).

* OTHER: Camping is in "visitor-days", where each visit is one person in the park for one day. A family of four staying one night would have 8 visitor-days. Special events include events over 300 and any unusual park-specific situations. Special events and situations are detailed in Table 2.

^A 1st year sampled

^B 2nd year sampled

^C 3rd year sampled

Table 2: Special Event Counts for 1999

(Note: these event occurred on days that were specifically not sampled to avoid double-counting)

Agency/Park	Date	Event	Visits (1,000s)
ANOKA COUNTY:			
Anoka Co. Riverfront RP		TOTAL:	0.50
	Jun-99	Picnic	0.50
Bunker Hills RP		TOTAL:	53.70
	Apr-99	N Suburban Striders Run	0.50
	May-99	Memorial Day Observance	0.30
	Aug-99	Picnic	0.30
	Aug-99	Picnic	0.30
	Oct-99	Hike for Ike	0.50
	Oct-99	St Stephens Fun Run	0.30
	Oct-99	Picnic	0.60
	Summer	10 concerts	4.50
	Summer	Stables (not included in general count)	30.00
	All Year	Archery Building Rental (various pvt groups)	14.00
	Winter	ABC Relays - skiing	2.40
Coon Rapids Dam RP		TOTAL:	10.52
	school yr	School groups @ Visitor Center	0.32
	Feb-99	Winterfest	0.30
	May-99	Kids Fishing Clinic	1.10
	Jun-99	Concerts in the Park (seven concerts)	5.70
	Jun-99	Picnic	0.30
	Aug-99	Picnic	0.30
	Aug-99	Picnic	0.30
	Sep-99	Picnic	0.30
	Oct-99	Picnic	0.90
	?	Epiphany fundraiser	1.00
Lake George RP		TOTAL:	18.90
	Jul-99	Picnic	0.30
	Aug-99	Picnic	0.30
	Sep-99	Picnic	0.30
	winter	snowmobile trail use through park	18.00
Martin-Island-Linwood Lakes RP		TOTAL:	10.00
	winter	snowmobile trail use through park	10.00
Mississippi River RT		None	-
Rice Creek Chain PR		TOTAL:	21.20
	school yr	School groups @ Wargo N.C.	7.30
	Apr-99	Earth Day	0.90
	Fall	Heritage Lab (3 weeks of school groups)	3.00
	Winter	Snowmobile trail through park	10.00
Rice Creek N. RT		None	-
Rice Creek W. RT		TOTAL:	0.90
	Jun-99	Picnic	0.30
	Jun-99	Picnic	0.30
	Sep-99	Picnic	0.30
Rum River Central RP		None	-

Table 2: Special Event Counts for 1999*(Note: these event occurred on days that were specifically not sampled to avoid double-counting)*

Agency/Park	Date	Event	Visits (1,000s)
BLOOMINGTON:			
Bush and Normandale Lakes		TOTAL:	47.00
	Jul-99	SummerFete	45.00
	Aug-99	Jazz Festival	2.00
CARVER COUNTY:			
Baylor RP		None	-
Lake Waconia		None	-
Lake Minnewashta RP		None	-
DAKOTA COUNTY:			
Big Rivers RT		None	-
Lake Byllesby RP		None	-
Lebanon Hills RP		TOTAL:	0.30
	Fall	Twin City Suburban Cross-Country Conf Meet	0.30
Mississippi River RT		None	-
Miesville Ravine RP		None	-
Spring Lake PR		TOTAL:	3.30
	Summer	Summer Program (Charlie McGuire)	0.30
	Fall	ST. Thomas Academy X-C Run	0.40
	Fall	ST. Thomas Academy X-C Run	0.40
	Fall	ST. Thomas Academy X-C Run	0.40
	Fall	ST. Thomas Academy X-C Run	0.40
	Fall	EDS Company Picnic	0.35
	Fall	MN Street Rod Fall Picnic	0.75
	Fall	Edward Jones Co Picnic	0.30

Table 2: Special Event Counts for 1999*(Note: these event occurred on days that were specifically not sampled to avoid double-counting)*

Agency/Park	Date	Event	Visits (1,000s)
MPLS. PARK & RECREATION BOARD:			
Cedar Lake RT		None	-
Central Mississippi Riverfront RP		TOTAL	195.13
	3/5	retirement party for Mpls park superintendent	0.30
	4/25	Annual River Clean-up	0.30
	5/5	Childrens peace event	0.60
	5/7	Wedding reception	0.30
	5/15	Thai Two ON 5K Run	1.50
	5/15	Wedding reception	0.35
	5/20	Wine tasting	0.80
	5/28	Wedding reception	0.30
	5/30	Wedding reception	0.30
	6/3	Company picnic	0.30
	6/19	Stone Arch Festival of Arts	40.00
	6/28	Union picnic	0.45
	7/3	4th of July festival	30.00
	7/4	4th of July fireworks and parade	50.40
	7/10	Picnic - Life USA	0.70
	7/10	Life USA picnic	0.70
	7/15	Dain Rauscher picnic	0.50
	7/24	Aquatennial fireworks	50.00
	7/31	Exclusive use picnic	1.00
	8/3	In-line skating event	1.50
	8/5	Summer playground picnic	0.30
	8/11	Builders club picnic	1.00
	8/14	Wedding reception	0.50
	8/16	Wedding reception	0.33
	8/22	Plumbers picnic	0.60
	9/11	Wedding reception	0.30
	9/12	Headwaters Walk	1.00
	9/18	Wedding reception	0.35
	9/23	Olympic Games	0.40
	9/23	Company picnic	0.30
	9/25	5K Race	0.70
	9/25	James Page Run	0.70
	10/9	Wedding reception	0.30
	10/15	Wedding reception	0.45
	10/23	Wedding reception	0.30
	10/30	Wedding reception	0.30
	12/31	New Years Eve fireworks	7.00

Table 2: Special Event Counts for 1999*(Note: these event occurred on days that were specifically not sampled to avoid double-counting)*

Agency/Park	Date	Event	Visits (1,000s)
MPLS. PARK & RECREATION BOARD: Continued			
Mpls. Chain-of-Lakes RP		TOTAL	37.03
	4/17	Annual River clean-up	0.30
	4/18	MS Walk (1/2 in Harriet, 1/2 in Minnehaha)	2.25
	4/25	March of Dimes (1/2 Harriet, 1/2 Parade)	1.50
	5/1	Cystic Fibrosis Walk	0.60
	5/22	Mt Olivet Walk	0.50
	5/30	Christ the King Sunday worship	0.35
	6/6	Judson Baptist Sunday worship	0.80
	6/9	School Picnic	0.60
	6/12	KFAN Bass Tournament	0.30
	6/13	St. John's Lutheran Sunday worship	0.43
	6/20	Lynnhurst UCC Sunday worship	0.35
	6/27	Spirit Garage Sunday worship	0.80
	7/4	Annunciation Sunday worship	1.00
	7/11	Visitation Sunday worship	0.50
	7/11	Festival/Renaissance Preview Party	0.35
	7/16	Aquatennial Youth Sailing	0.30
	7/18	Bethlehem Sunday worship	1.20
	7/20	Paddling for everyone	1.00
	7/24	Volleyball tournament	1.00
	7/25	Good Shepherd Sunday worship	0.45
	7/25	Aquatennial Sand Sculptures	8.00
	8/1	St Johns Sunday worship	1.10
	8/1	Southwest Community Ed Picnic	0.30
	8/8	La Iglesia Todos Los Santos Sunday worship	1.50
	8/8	Sporting Life Run	2.00
	8/15	Lake Harriet Methodist Sunday worship	0.60
	8/22	St Joan of Arc Sunday worship	1.10
	8/29	Linden Hills Sunday Worship (occurred during a sample - not included in total)	-
	9/5	Mt Olivet Sunday worship	0.40
	9/12	City of Lakes 25K	1.70
	9/25	Lifeworks Walk	0.75
	9/25	Bandstand festival	0.30
	10/2	Walk for Diabetes	0.35
	10/2	Walktoberfest	0.35
	10/3	Twin Cities Marathon (1/3 Harriet, 1/3 Miss Gorge, 1/3 Minn Pkwy)	2.50
	12/4	5k on the run (1/2 Harriet, 1/2 Minn Pkwy)	1.50
Minnehaha RP		TOTAL	9.00
	5/1	VFW Loyalty Day	0.30
	6/11	Memorial Service	0.30
	7/11	Norway Days	2.50
	7/18	Church service	0.70
	8/7	Jazz Festival	0.70
	8/13	Civil War Camp	0.30
	6/26	Svenskarnas Dag	3.00
	7/25	picnic	0.30
	8/18	Company picnic	0.30
	9/4	picnic	0.30
	9/25	Company Picnic	0.30

Table 2: Special Event Counts for 1999*(Note: these event occurred on days that were specifically not sampled to avoid double-counting)*

Agency/Park	Date	Event	Visits (1,000s)
MPLS. PARK & RECREATION BOARD: Continued			
Minnehaha Parkway RT		TOTAL	30.60
	4/18	MS Walk (1/2 in Harriet, 1/2 in Minnehaha)	2.25
	6/12	People Incorporated/Bike Ride & Picnic	0.35
	9/11	UNCF Walk	1.00
	10/2	Marathon for Non-public Ed (1/2 Miss Gorge, 1/2 Minn Pkwy)	3.50
	10/3	Twin Cities Marathon (1/3 Harriet, 1/3 Miss Gorge, 1/3 Minn Pkwy)	2.50
	5/16	Aids Walk	17.00
	8/14	In-line skating event & picnic	1.50
	10/31	Theater performance	1.00
	12/4	5k on the run (1/2 Harriet, 1/2 Minn Pkwy)	1.50
Mississippi Gorge RP - Mpls		TOTAL	22.63
	6/29	Red Cross Community Celebration	2.50
	7/3	5K Marathon/Run free in the Son	0.80
	7/12	Chicago Aids Ride (1/2 in St Paul)	1.00
	8/7	Picnic for Sheridan Neighborhood	0.30
	8/14	Great River Roll (1/2 St. Paul)	2.50
	9/18	Bolder Dash (1/2 in DT)	0.18
	10/2	Head of Mississippi Regatta	0.30
	10/2	Marathon for Non-public Ed (1/2 Miss Gorge, 1/2 Minn Pkwy)	3.50
	10/3	Twin Cities Marathon (1/3 Harriet, 1/6 Miss Gorge (Mpls), 1/3 Minn Pkwy)	1.30
	4/24	Get in Gear (half in St. Paul)	4.00
	9/25	Vals run for kids (1/2 in St. Paul)	0.25
	11/26	NW Athletic Club 5K run	6.00
Nokomis-Hiawatha RP		TOTAL	7.95
	5/8	Walk for AMI Research	0.30
	5/8	Arbor Day Celebration	0.50
	6/26	Fans Run	0.35
	7/18	Aquaticennial Milk Carton Races	5.00
	8/15	Daffodil Dash	0.30
	8/21	Paddles and Portages	0.40
	8/28	A Leonard Cancer Run	0.35
	9/25	St. Jude Dog Walk	0.40
	10/10	Walk for AMI Research	0.35
North Mississippi RP		None	-
Theodore Wirth RP		TOTAL	31.20
	school yr	school groups @ Eloise Butler	0.35
	5/8	Animal Humane Society	3.00
	6/19	Juneteenth	25.00
	8/17	Rec Plus picnic	0.45
	9/17	JD Rivers Festival	2.40
Wirth Memorial Parkway RT		TOTAL	1.20
	7/11	Whiz Bang Days	0.30
	9/6	Victory 10 K (1/2 in Webber)	0.90

Table 2: Special Event Counts for 1999*(Note: these event occurred on days that were specifically not sampled to avoid double-counting)*

Agency/Park	Date	Event	Visits (1,000s)
Suburban Hennepin Regional Park District			
Morris T. Baker PR			
		TOTAL	5.84
	school yr	School groups @ visitor center/near wilderness	1.27
	Winter	Snowmobile use	2.30
	5/23	Near Wilderness open house	0.85
	6/11	School picnic	0.34
	10/2	Bike marathon	0.60
	10/23	Baker Boo	0.48
Bryant Lake RP			
		None	-
Carver PR			
		TOTAL	18.05
	school yr	School groups @ nature center	15.30
	Winter	Snowmobile use	2.20
	4/2	Spring Rock Hunt	0.55
Cleary Lake RP			
		TOTAL	2.80
	Winter	Snowmobile use	2.40
	5/25	School picnic	0.40
Clifton E. French RP			
		TOTAL	8.22
	school yr	School groups @ visitor center	7.20
	1/9	Snowshoe Festival	0.42
	10/2	Bike marathon	0.60
Coon Rapids Dam RP--Hennepin			
		TOTAL	3.70
	school yr	School groups	3.70
Crow-Hassan PR			
		None	-
Elm Creek PR			
		TOTAL	19.97
	school yr	School groups @ nature center	9.50
	Winter	Snowmobile use	1.80
	3/21	Maple Syrup festival	0.37
	4/24	Spring Bird Release	3.50
	5/8	Arbor Day Festival	0.30
	5/26	School picnic	0.30
	6/13	Retirement party	0.30
	7/13	Company picnic	0.30
	8/1	Church picnic	0.30
	8/14	Company picnic	0.30
	8/15	Company picnic	0.30
	8/22	Company picnic	0.30
	8/24	Company picnic	0.30
	9/12	Company picnic	0.30
	9/18	Company picnic	0.30
	9/25	Company picnic	0.30
	10/18	Autumn Woods Race	1.20
East Medicine Lake RT			
		None	-
Fish Lake RP			
		None	-
Hyland Lake PR			
		TOTAL	129.51
	school yr	School groups @ nature center	8.90
	Winter	Hyland Park Downhill Ski Use (Enterprise facility)	116.10
	1/23	Ice Harvest Festival	0.42
	4/17	Trail Mix 50 K	0.40
	4/22	Trail Mix 50 K	0.40
	7/31	Subaru Rendezvous	0.38
	8/1	Subaru Rendezvous	0.57
	9/25	Fall Bird Release	2.34

Table 2: Special Event Counts for 1999*(Note: these event occurred on days that were specifically not sampled to avoid double-counting)*

Agency/Park	Date	Event	Visits (1,000s)
Suburban Hennepin Regional Park District: <i>Continued</i>			
Lake Rebecca PR		TOTAL	12.55
	5/8	Humane Society Dog Walk	0.50
	6/11	School picnic	0.30
	6/12	Company picnic	0.40
	6/12	Church picnic	0.70
	6/13	Family picnic	0.30
	7/11	Church picnic	0.50
	7/17	Company picnic	0.50
	7/18	Church picnic	1.00
	7/18	Church picnic	0.30
	7/24	Company picnic	0.70
	7/25	Church picnic	0.50
	7/25	Family reunion	0.30
	7/31	Company picnic	0.35
	8/1	Church picnic	0.50
	8/7	Wedding	0.50
	8/8	Company picnic	0.50
	8/8	Church picnic	0.40
	8/14	Company picnic	0.60
	8/20	Church picnic	0.30
	8/21	Company picnic	0.50
	8/22	Family picnic	0.30
	8/22	Company picnic	0.50
	8/28	Company picnic	0.35
	8/28	Company picnic	0.30
	8/29	Company picnic	0.50
	9/12	Church picnic	0.30
	9/16	Delano cross country meet	0.30
	9/18	Company picnic	0.35
Lake Minnetonka RP		TOTAL	3.66
	school yr	School groups @ visitor center	1.90
	5/23	Pro-Events Int. Rest Stop/Bike Ride	0.50
	6/17	Creative Play Area Grand Opening	1.26
Lake Minnetonka Islands		None	-
Murphy-Hanrehan PR		TOTAL	2.80
	Winter	Snowmobiling	2.80
Noerenberg Gardens SFR		None	-
North Hennepin RT		None	-
North Mississippi RP--Hennepin		None	-
Scott County RT		None	-
Southwest LRT RT-North		None	-
Southwest LRT RT-South		None	-

Table 2: Special Event Counts for 1999*(Note: these event occurred on days that were specifically not sampled to avoid double-counting)*

Agency/Park	Date	Event	Visits (1,000s)
RAMSEY COUNTY			
Bald Eagle-Otter Lake RP			TOTAL 11.82
	school yr	School visits @ Tamarack nature center	11.22
	6/27	100K Midsummer Days Ride (1/3 Bald Eagle, 1/3 Keller, 1/3 Snail)	0.15
	9/11	Final stretch 20 mile race	0.45
Battle Creek RP			TOTAL 11.15
	4/24	Earth Day clean up	0.30
	5/22	Reunion	0.50
	5/23	Fairview picnic	0.40
	5/30	Family reunion	0.40
	6/5	Family reunion	0.40
	6/12	Family picnic	0.40
	6/24	Webb company picnic	0.30
	6/26	Whirlpool picnic	0.30
	6/27	Pioneer Press picnic	0.50
	7/10	Family reunion	0.30
	7/11	Church picnic	0.30
	7/17	Church picnic	0.40
	7/24	Family picnic	0.40
	7/26	Firefighters picnic	1.00
	7/31	Family reunion	0.30
	8/2	Kodak picnic	0.30
	8/14	Plumbers picnic	0.40
	8/15	Church picnic	0.50
	8/21	Big Brothers picnic	0.40
	8/29	Pipefitters picnic	1.00
	9/11	Hoikka House picnic	0.40
	9/12	Pillsbury picnic	0.40
	9/20	Year 2000 bike demo	0.30
	9/21	Year 2000 bike demo	0.30
	9/25	Wedding	0.35
	9/26	dog events	0.60
Birch Lake RT		None	-
Burlington Northern RT		None	-
Highway 96 RT - Shoreview		None	-
Highway 96 RT - White Bear		None	-
Grass-Vadnais-Snail Lake RP			TOTAL 2.75
	1/30	fishing contest	0.40
	5/22	MN solar regatta	0.50
	6/5	Church picnic	0.60
	6/20	Family reunion	0.40
	6/27	100K Midsummer Days Ride (1/3 Bald Eagle, 1/3 Keller, 1/3 Snail)	0.15
	8/22	Church picnic	0.40
	9/12	Company picnic	0.30
Keller RP			TOTAL 2.85
	6/27	100K Midsummer Days Ride (1/3 Bald Eagle, 1/3 Keller, 1/3 Snail)	0.15
	7/24	Jet ski demos	0.50
	7/29	Volleyball tournament	0.60
	8/21	Waterski event	0.80
	8/22	Waterski event	0.80

Table 2: Special Event Counts for 1999*(Note: these event occurred on days that were specifically not sampled to avoid double-counting)*

Agency/Park	Date	Event	Visits (1,000s)
RAMSEY COUNTY: Continued			
Long Lake RP			
		TOTAL	14.85
	5/15	DARE bike a thon	0.40
	5/19	Early childhood ed picnic	0.40
	5/22	Family gathering	0.30
	5/28	Irondale class picnic	0.35
	6/19	Church picnic	0.40
	6/23	Company picnic	0.60
	6/24	Army Corps of engineers ceremony	0.40
	7/17	Church picnic	0.35
	7/18	Company picnic	0.35
	7/21	Company picnic	0.35
	7/25	Company picnic	0.30
	7/26	Company picnic	0.30
	8/1	Company picnic	0.30
	8/15	family reunion	0.30
	8/20	Stockyard days	0.40
	8/21	Stockyard days	6.00
	8/22	Stockyard days	1.00
	8/25	Company picnic	0.30
	8/26	Company picnic	0.35
	9/12	Hearing dog walk	1.20
	9/25	Company picnic	0.50
Rice Creek North RT		None	-
Rice Creek West RT- Ramsey		None	-

Table 2: Special Event Counts for 1999*(Note: these event occurred on days that were specifically not sampled to avoid double-counting)*

Agency/Park	Date	Event	Visits (1,000s)
CITY OF ST. PAUL			
Burlington Northern RT		TOTAL	1.00
	May-99	March for Jesus Assembly	1.00
Cherokee Heights RP		TOTAL	0.50
	Jul-99	Fourth of July	0.50
Como RP, Zoo & Conservatory SRF		TOTAL	93.20
	Winter	Como downhill Ski (Enterprise facility)	8.20
	Jan-99	Winter Carnival Orchid Show	5.80
	Jan-99	La La Palooza Loppet X-C Ski Race	0.30
	Feb-99	Rainforest	9.40
	Mar-99	Stamp Unveiling	0.40
	Apr-99	Earth Day 5K Race	1.10
	Apr-99	Am Legion Easter Egg Hunt	0.30
	Apr-99	Parks Clean-up Celebration	0.50
	Apr-99	Wonder Walk	0.80
	Apr-99	Walk America	1.50
	May-99	Bonsai/Daffodil Show	1.30
	May-99	Cost Cutters Haircut Day	0.50
	May-99	K9 5K Run	1.00
	May-99	S.P. Public Schools	1.00
	May-99	S.P. Police Picnic	2.00
	Jun-99	Commonwealth Elec. Picnic	0.30
	Jun-99	Saturn/Riverfront School	0.40
	Jun-99	Conservatory Volunteers	0.30
	Aug-99	Japanese Lantern Lighting Festival	5.00
	Sep-99	AZA Visit	1.00
	Sep-99	Bike Classic	6.00
	Sep-99	Catholic Charities Picnic	0.40
	Sep-99	Alzheimer's Picnic	3.20
	Sep-99	Lupus Walkathon	0.50
	Sep-99	Como Education Pow Wow	0.50
	Oct-99	Tiger Cub Days	0.40
	Oct-99	Zoo Boo	26.30
	Oct-99	J.J. Hill School Walk	0.50
	Oct-99	Down Syndrome Walk	0.50
	Oct-99	Mayor's Children Initiative	0.40
	Oct-99	US West Picnic	0.40
	Nov-99	Turkey 5K Run	0.40
	Dec-99	Holiday Kingdom	4.00
	summer	Various company picnics (300+)	8.60
Hidden Falls-Crosby Farm RP		TOTAL	0.60
	Jun-99	Group Picnic	0.30
	Jul-99	Mississippi River Canoe	0.30
Lilydale-Harriet Island RP		None	-
Indian Mounds RP		TOTAL	1.00
	Jul-99	Dayton's Bluff Summerfest	1.00

Table 2: Special Event Counts for 1999*(Note: these event occurred on days that were specifically not sampled to avoid double-counting)*

Agency/Park	Date	Event	Visits (1,000s)
CITY OF ST. PAUL: Continued			
Mississippi Gorge RP (St. Paul)		TOTAL	18.65
	Apr-99	12th Annual Brauns Fashion	6.50
	Apr-99	Get in Gear (half in Mpls.)	4.00
	May-99	1999 Melpomene Inst.	1.40
		Twin Cities Marathon (1/3 Harriet, 1/6 Miss Gorge (St. Paul), 1/3 Minn Pkwy)	1.30
	Jul-99	Chicago Aids Ride (1/2 in St Paul)	1.00
	Aug-99	Annual Highland fest	0.70
	Aug-99	United Negro College fund	0.60
	Aug-99	Great River Roll (1/2 St. Paul)	2.50
	Sep-99	Vals run for kids (1/2 in St. Paul)	0.25
	Oct-99	St. Paul Cropwalk	0.40
Mississippi River RT- St. Paul		None	-
Phalen RP		TOTAL	7.30
	Jan-99	King Boreas X-C Ski Race	0.30
	May-99	Nokomis PTA Walkathon	0.40
	May-99	School Picnic	0.30
	Jun-99	MN Rowing Classic	0.40
	Jun-99	Group Picnic	0.50
	Jun-99	Wedding	0.40
	Jul-99	Company Picnic	0.30
	Jul-99	Family Reunion	0.30
	Aug-99	Clown Day	0.70
	Aug-99	Arlington Hills Lutheran	0.30
	Aug-99	Company Picnic	0.40
	Aug-99	Animal Art Wakathon	0.30
	Aug-99	Millwrights Local 548 Picnic	0.30
	Sep-99	Merrick Community Service	0.50
	Sep-99	Ramsey Action Programs	0.40
	Sep-99	Ceremonial Fire	0.50
	Oct-99	Adams Spanish Immersion	0.40
	Jun-00	Local 323 Picnic	0.30
	Jun-00	Group Picnic	0.30
WASHINGTON COUNTY			
Cottage Grove Ravine RP		None	-
Lake Elmo PR		None	-
Square Lake SRF		None	-
St. Croix Bluffs RP		None	-

Table 3a: Comparison of 1998 and 1999 Total Visitation Estimates

Agency	1998 ¹ (1,000's)	1999 (1,000's)	# change (1,000's)	% change
Anoka	1,977.2	1,842.8	(134.4)	-6.8% ²
Bloomington	782.8	806.5	23.7	3.0%
Carver	175.0	174.6	(0.4)	-0.2%
Dakota	838.9	749.6	(89.3)	-10.6% ³
Hennepin (Scott)	3,169.5	3,421.5	252.0	8.0%
Minneapolis	14,268.1	15,525.3	1,257.2	8.8% ⁴
Ramsey	1,417.8	1,577.1	159.3	11.2% ⁵
St Paul	4,597.2	4,588.4	(8.8)	-0.2%
Washington	577.8	586.2	8.4	1.5%
TOTAL	27,804.3	29,272.0	1,467.7	5.3%

NOTES FOR TABLE 3a

¹ For Table 3a & 3b, 1998 visits were calculated using the updated person-per-vehicle and charter bus figures, and the updated seasonal multipliers. Consequently, these numbers are different than those found in last year's report.

² The 1998 Anoka estimate reflects unusually high numbers of visitors in the 1995 counts for Bunker Hills and Rice Creek North RT. The 1999 estimate does not include data from 1995.

³ The 1999 Lebanon Hills counts are much lower than any of the previous years and this is reflected in the drop in visitation from 1998 to 1999.

⁴ The 1995 counts at Minnehaha Parkway, Theodore Wirth RP and Wirth-Memorial Parkway were very low compared to their 1999 counts. This resulted in a large increase in the visitation numbers for 1999.

⁵ Rice Creek North RT is only in its second year of sampling. This resulted in a significant increase in the visitation estimate for that trail. 1995 Rice Creek West RT counts were much lower than the 1999 counts for that trail. These trails accounted for the majority of the increase between the 1998 and 1999 estimates. However, they were somewhat muted by a significant decrease in counted visits in 1999 to Bald Eagle RP as compared to the 1995 counts. That reduction reflects major reconstruction in that park during 1999.

Table 3b: Comparison of 1998 and 1999 Park vs. Trail Visitation Estimates

	1998 (1,000's)	1999 (1,000's)	# change (1,000's)	% change	% of all visits in 1999
Trail Visits ¹	8046.1	9271.4	1225.3	15.2%	32%
Park/Reserve Visits	19758.4	20000.6	242.2	1.2%	68%

NOTES FOR TABLE 3b

¹ The 1999 trail total includes trail use on East Medicine Lk Trail, Highway 96 Trail, Mississippi Trails in Dakota and St. Paul, and Scott County Trail. These trails were not part of the 1998 estimate. For 1999, there a total of 468,100 visits estimated for these trails. These trails are responsible for 38 % of the increase in trail use over 1998.

Note: About 80 % of all visits to the Mpls Chain of Lakes RP are trail visits. However, the above trail totals do not include those trail visits. Mississippi Gorge is more similar to a parkway than a regional park, so visits to that park are included under the trail total visits. If Mpls Chain of Lakes trail visits were included in the trail total, about 48 % of all regional system visits are trail visits.

Table 4: Most Visited Regional Parks and Trails in 1999

Rank	Park/trail	Agency	1999
			Visitation (1,000's)
1	Mpls. Chain-of-Lakes RP	MPRB	5,524.3
2	Mississippi Gorge RP	MPRB/St. Paul	2,982.6
3	Minnehaha Parkway RT	MPRB	2,701.3
4	Como RP, Zoo & Conservatory SRF	St. Paul	2,511.4
5	Hyland/Bush/Anderson Lake PR	SHRPD/Bloomington	1,315.2
6	Nokomis-Hiawatha RP	MPRB	1,305.2
7	Wirth Memorial Parkway RT	MPRB	1,000.0
8	Central Mississippi Riverfront RP	MPRB	865.4
9	Minnehaha RP	MPRB	864.4
10	Phalen/Keller RP	St. Paul/Ramsey	665.4
11	Cedar Lake RT	MPRB	538.5
12	Bunker Hills RP	Anoka	468.6
13	Morris T. Baker PR	SHRPD	462.1
14	Clifton E. French RP	SHRPD	456.8
15	Lake Elmo PR	Washington	377.5
Total			22,038.7
Percent of 1999 Visitation			75.3%

Table 4a: Urban Parks Visitation

Agency	1999 Visitation (1,000's)
Minneapolis Parks Total	15,525.3
St. Paul Parks Total	4,580.2
Urban Total	20,105.5
Urban Percentage of 1999 visitation	68.7%

Table 5: 1999 Visitation Estimates by Agency for O & M Purposes

Agency	1999 Visitation (1,000's)	% of total
Anoka	1,842.8	6.3%
Bloomington	806.5	2.8%
Carver	143.7	0.5%
Dakota	749.6	2.6%
Hennepin	3,305.4	11.4%
Minneapolis	15,525.3	53.3%
Ramsey	1,577.1	5.4%
St Paul	4,580.2	15.7%
Washington	586.2	2.0%
TOTAL	29,116.8	

Note: O & M visitation estimates do not include Enterprise Facility visitation (downhill skiing at Hyland and Como), nor does it include visitation to Lake Waconia, which is not yet a Regional Park.

Table 6: Regional Parks, Park Reserves, Regional Trails and Special Recreation Features Open for Public Use in 1999

Regional Parks		Regional Trails	
	Park Agency		Park Agency
1 Anoka Co. Riverfront RP	Anoka Co.	1 Mississippi River RT (Anoka Co.)	Anoka Co.
2 Bunker Hills RP	Anoka Co.	2 Rice Creek N. RT	Anoka Co./Ramsey Co.
3 Lake George RP	Anoka Co.	3 Rice Creek W. RT	Anoka Co./Ramsey Co.
4 Martin-Island-Linwood Lakes RP	Anoka Co.	4 Big Rivers RT	Dakota Co.
5 Rum River RP	Anoka Co.	5 Mississippi River (Dakota)	Dakota Co.
6 Coon Rapids Dam RP	Anoka Co./Hennepin Parks	6 East Medicine Lake RT	Hennepin Parks
7 Baylor RP	Carver Co.	7 North Hennepin RT	Hennepin Parks
8 Lake Minnewashta RP	Carver Co.	8 Scott Co. RT	Hennepin Parks
9 Lake Byllesby RP	Dakota Co.	9 Southwest LRT RT-North	Hennepin Parks
10 Lebanon Hills RP	Dakota Co.	10 Southwest LRT RT-South	Hennepin Parks
11 Bryant Lake RP	Hennepin Parks	11 Cedar Lake RT	Mpls. Park & Rec. Bd.
12 Clifton E. French RP	Hennepin Parks	12 Minnehaha Parkway RT	Mpls. Park & Rec. Bd.
13 Fish Lake RP	Hennepin Parks	13 Wirth Memorial Pkwy. RT	Mpls. Park & Rec. Bd.
14 Lake Minnetonka Islands	Hennepin Parks	14 Birch Lake RT	Ramsey Co.
15 Lake Minnetonka RP	Hennepin Parks	15 Hwy 96 RT - Shoreview	Ramsey Co.
16 Cleary Lake RP	Hennepin Parks/Scott Co.	16 Hwy 96 RT - White Bear	Ramsey Co.
17 Central Miss. Riverfront RP	Mpls. Park & Rec. Bd.	17 Burlington Northern RT	Ramsey Co./St. Paul
18 Minnehaha RP	Mpls. Park & Rec. Bd.	18 Mississippi River RT (St. Paul)	St. Paul
19 Mpls. Chain-of-Lakes RP	Mpls. Park & Rec. Bd.		
20 Nokomis-Hiawatha RP	Mpls. Park & Rec. Bd.	Special Recreation Features	
21 Theodore Wirth RP	Mpls. Park & Rec. Bd.	1 Noerenberg Gardens SRF	Hennepin Parks
22 North Mississippi RP	Mpls. Park & Rec. Bd./Hennepin Parks	2 Como Conservatory	St. Paul
23 Mississippi Gorge RP	Mpls. Park & Rec. Bd./St. Paul	3 Como Zoo	St. Paul
24 Bald Eagle-Otter Lake RP	Ramsey Co.	4 Square Lake SRF	Washington Co.
25 Long Lake RP	Ramsey Co.		
26 Snail Lake (Grass-Vadnais-Snail) RP	Ramsey Co.		
27 Battle Creek & Indian Mounds RP	Ramsey Co./St. Paul		
28 Harriet Island-Lilydale & Cherokee Heights RP	St. Paul		
29 Hidden Falls-Crosby Farm RP	St. Paul		
30 Phalen-Keller RP	St. Paul/Ramsey Co.		
31 Cottage Grove Ravine RP	Washington Co.		
32 St. Croix Bluffs RP	Washington Co.		
Park Reserves			
1 Rice Creek Chain-of-Lakes PR	Anoka Co.		
2 Miesville Ravine PR	Dakota Co.		
3 Spring Lake PR	Dakota Co.		
4 Baker PR	Hennepin Parks		
5 Carver PR	Hennepin Parks		
6 Crow-Hassan PR	Hennepin Parks		
7 Elm Creek PR	Hennepin Parks		
8 Lake Rebecca PR	Hennepin Parks		
9 Hyland-Bush-Anderson L. PR	Hennepin Parks/Bloomington		
10 Murphy-Hanrehan PR	Hennepin Parks/Scott Co.		
11 Lake Elmo PR	Washington Co.		
		65 TOTAL UNITS	

Table 7: Comparison of Estimated Visits by Regional Park Agency: 1982, 1988 and 1999

Agency	Estimated Annual Visits (1,000's)			% increase		
	1982	1988	1999	82 to '88	88 to '99	82 to '99
Anoka	376	767	1,843	104%	140%	390%
Bloomington	155	295	807	90%	174%	421%
Carver	30	135	175	351%	29%	482%
Dakota	212	389	750	84%	93%	254%
Hennepin Parks/Scott Co.	1,379	2,087	3,422	51%	64%	148%
Mpls Park & Rec. Board	3,621	5,133	15,525	42%	202%	329%
Ramsey Co.	388	860	1,577	122%	83%	306%
St. Paul	2,197	3,234	4,588	47%	42%	109%
Washington	22	254	586	1052%	131%	2564%
Totals	8,380	13,155	29,272	57%	123%	249%

Note: Over the last 17 years there has been a significant increase in the use of the system during the non-summer months, especially on trails.

Table 8A: Visitor Origin by Agency

Agency	Camping	Day	Total	Number and percent of visits from people who live in the following agency jurisdictions:													TOTAL
				Anoka	Carver	Dakota	Hennepin	Minneapolis	Ramsey	St Paul	Scott	Washington	Other MN	Out of state	Foreign	Bloomington	
Anoka County Total Visitation	25.0	1,817.8	1,842.8	1,007.0	2.8	46.8	254.9	115.1	213.5	63.5	-	40.2	55.2	37.2	6.5	-	1,842.8
Anoka Visitation by Percent	1.4%	98.6%	100.0%	54.6%	0.2%	2.5%	13.8%	6.2%	11.6%	3.4%	< 0.1%	2.2%	3.0%	2.0%	0.4%	< 0.1%	100.0%
City of Bloomington Total Visitation	-	806.5	806.5	12.9	19.4	66.9	237.1	73.4	6.5	12.9	16.1	6.5	9.7	29.0	-	316.2	806.5
Bloomington Visitation by Percent	0.0%	100.0%	100.0%	1.6%	2.4%	8.3%	29.4%	9.1%	0.8%	1.6%	2.0%	0.8%	1.2%	3.6%	0.1%	39.2%	100.0%
Carver County Total Visitation	22.4	152.2	174.5	1.4	72.4	2.0	32.6	7.2	1.1	-	6.1	-	47.5	4.2	-	-	174.5
Carver Visitation by Percent	12.8%	87.2%	100.0%	0.8%	41.5%	1.1%	18.7%	4.1%	0.6%	< 0.1%	3.5%	< 0.1%	27.2%	2.4%	0.1%	< 0.1%	100.0%
Dakota County Total Visitation	72.5	677.2	749.7	12.6	-	505.1	30.0	35.5	14.0	41.1	5.0	7.1	44.0	43.1	12.1	-	749.7
Dakota Visitation by Percent	9.7%	90.3%	100.0%	1.7%	< 0.1%	67.4%	4.0%	4.7%	1.9%	5.5%	0.7%	0.9%	5.9%	5.8%	1.6%	< 0.1%	100.0%
Minneapolis Park & Rec. Bd Total Visitation	-	15,525.0	15,525.3	85.3	25.7	454.8	2,278.9	10,837.7	127.4	1,031.7	31.7	62.4	218.1	371.6	-	-	15,525.3
Minneapolis Visitation by Percent	0.0%	100.0%	100.0%	0.5%	0.2%	2.9%	14.7%	69.8%	0.8%	6.6%	0.2%	0.4%	1.4%	2.4%	0.1%	< 0.1%	100.0%
Hennepin Parks Total Visitation	493.5	3,126.4	3,234.8	232.5	129.8	88.6	1,955.0	243.6	44.3	40.9	32.4	18.4	173.2	72.7	5.3	198.1	3,234.8
Hennepin Parks Visitation by Percent	15.3%	96.6%	100.0%	7.2%	4.0%	2.7%	60.4%	7.5%	1.4%	1.3%	1.0%	0.6%	5.4%	2.2%	0.2%	6.1%	100.0%
Scott County Total Visitation	11.1	175.7	186.8	5.0	-	72.7	21.5	1.7	-	-	66.1	-	9.9	9.9	-	-	186.8
Scott Visitation by Percent	5.9%	94.1%	100.0%	2.7%	< 0.1%	38.9%	11.5%	0.9%	< 0.1%	< 0.1%	35.4%	< 0.1%	5.3%	5.3%	0.1%	< 0.1%	100.0%
Ramsey County Total Visitation	-	1,577.0	1,577.0	179.5	0.7	31.1	43.1	60.9	750.5	352.4	-	111.6	20.0	26.5	0.8	-	1,577.0
Ramsey Visitation by Percent	0.0%	100.0%	100.0%	11.4%	< 0.1%	2.0%	2.7%	3.9%	47.6%	22.3%	< 0.1%	7.1%	1.3%	1.7%	0.1%	< 0.1%	99.95%
City of St. Paul Total Visitation	-	4,588.4	4,588.4	137.4	8.6	274.2	297.5	591.4	522.6	1,640.0	8.0	332.1	358.0	409.7	9.0	-	4,588.4
St. Paul Visitation by Percent	0.0%	100.0%	100.0%	3.0%	0.2%	6.0%	6.5%	12.9%	11.4%	35.7%	0.2%	7.2%	7.8%	8.9%	0.2%	< 0.1%	100.0%
Washington County Total Visitation	40.5	545.7	586.2	7.5	2.2	79.9	19.4	13.4	44.8	96.5	1.4	268.8	6.4	45.3	0.7	-	586.2
Washington Visitation by Percent	6.9%	93.1%	100.0%	1.3%	0.4%	13.6%	3.3%	2.3%	7.6%	16.5%	0.2%	45.8%	1.1%	7.7%	0.1%	< 0.1%	100.0%
TOTAL VISITATION	665.0	28,991.9	29,272.1	1,681.2	261.7	1,622.1	5,170.0	11,979.8	1,724.7	3,278.9	166.8	846.9	941.9	####	34.4	514.3	29,272.0
TOTAL VISITATION by PERCENT	2.3%	99.0%	100.0%	5.7%	0.9%	5.5%	17.7%	40.9%	5.9%	11.2%	0.6%	2.9%	3.2%	3.6%	0.1%	1.8%	100.0%

NOTES:

All visits are listed in units of 1,000

Local Visits are defined as visits to a park by visitors who reside in that Park Agency's jurisdiction. Local visits for each agency are in bold and are highlighted.

Table 8B: Local, Regional, Greater MN and Out-of-state Visitation by Agency

Agency	Number and percent of visits by visitors who live in the following jurisdictions:				
	Total	Local Agency*	Non-local, Regional	Greater MN	Out of State
Anoka County Total visitation	1,842.8	1,007.0	736.8	55.2	43.7
Anoka Visitation by Percent	100.0%	54.6%	40.0%	3.0%	2.4%
City of Bloomington Total Visitation	806.5	316.2	451.7	9.7	29.0
Bloomington Visitation by Percent	100.0%	39.2%	56.0%	1.2%	3.6%
Carver County Total Visitation	174.5	72.4	50.5	47.5	4.2
Carver Visitation by Percent	100.0%	41.5%	28.9%	27.2%	2.4%
Dakota County Total Visitation	749.7	505.1	145.4	44.0	55.2
Dakota Visitation by Percent	100.0%	67.4%	19.4%	5.9%	7.4%
Minneapolis Park & Rec. Board Total Visitation	15,525.3	10,837.7	4,097.9	218.1	371.6
Minneapolis Visitation by Percent	100.0%	69.8%	26.4%	1.4%	2.4%
Hennepin Parks Total Visitation	3,234.8	1,955.0	1,028.6	173.2	78.0
Hennepin Parks Visitation by Percent	100.0%	60.4%	31.8%	5.4%	2.4%
Scott County Total Visitation	186.8	66.1	100.9	9.9	9.9
Scott Visitation by Percent	100.0%	35.4%	54.0%	5.3%	5.3%
Ramsey County Total Visitation	1,577.0	750.5	779.2	20.0	27.3
Ramsey Visitation by Percent	100.0%	47.6%	49.4%	1.3%	1.7%
City of St. Paul Total Visitation	4,588.4	1,640.0	2,171.7	358.0	418.7
St. Paul Visitation by Percent	100.0%	35.7%	47.3%	7.8%	9.1%
Washington County Total Visitation	586.2	268.8	265.1	6.4	45.9
Washington Visitation by Percent	100.0%	45.8%	45.2%	1.1%	7.8%
TOTAL VISITATION	29,272.0	17,418.8	9,827.8	942.0	1,083.5
TOTAL VISITATION by PERCENT	100.0%	59.5%	33.6%	3.2%	3.7%

Notes:

All visits are listed in units of 1,000

* Local Visits are defined as visits to a park by visitors who reside in that Park Agency's jurisdiction.

Table 9: Top Activities in the Regional Park System

Activity	% of park activity occasions ¹	# of park activity occasions	% of trail activity occasions ²	# of trail activity occasions	Total # of activity occasions	% of total visits
Walking/hiking	29.8%	5960.2	38.7%	3,588.0	9,548.2	33%
Biking	12.9%	2580.1	31.3%	2,901.9	5,482.0	19%
Swimming/wading	21.4%	4280.1	0.0%	-	4,280.1	15%
Picnicking	16.2%	3240.1	0.0%	-	3,240.1	11%
Relaxing ³	15.1%	3020.1	0.0%	-	3,020.1	10%
Jogging/running	6.2%	1240.0	17.3%	1,604.0	2,844.0	10%
Zoo visits	11.0%	2200.1	0.0%	-	2,200.1	8%
Playground use	10.0%	2000.1	0.0%	-	2,000.1	7%
Sunbathing	8.2%	1640.0	0.0%	-	1,640.0	6%
In-line skating	4.3%	860.0	6.5%	602.6	1,462.7	5%
Fishing	5.8%	1160.0	0.0%	-	1,160.0	4%
Dog-walking	0.6%	120.0	5.7%	528.5	648.5	2%

	Regional Parks	Regional Trails	System-wide
1999 system-wide visits			
<i>(in 1,000's of visits)</i>	20,000.6	9,271.4	29,272.0
% of 1999 visits	68.3%	31.7%	

Notes:

Visits and occasions are reported in units of 1,000

¹ Visitors could do more than one activity during their visit to a regional park. Each time they did an activity, it was considered an activity occasion. Consequently, the total number of activity occasions is greater than the actual number of visits.

² For trail visits, visitors were asked to indicate only their primary trail activity. Consequently, each trail activity occasion represents one visit. However, it is believed that most trail visits involved only one activity.

³ "Relaxing" was a general activity on a list of activities that park visitors used to indicate what they did during their park visit. This activity was not specifically defined.