

Alberta Recreation Survey

Confidential

2004



Hello:

Every four years, information is collected about the recreation activities of Albertans. Information gathered is used by the province, municipalities and private firms who work on behalf of public groups to plan recreation, parks and leisure services across Alberta. Your participation in this survey is voluntary but your response is very important, as we don't send out many questionnaires. **In appreciation for filling out the survey and returning it to us, we would like to give you the opportunity to enter your name into a prize draw (see enclosed form).**

Most of the questions are easy to answer. Just fill in the boxes, circle the numbers, or write in a few words. If there are any questions you prefer not to answer, you may leave them blank. Individual responses will be kept confidential. Your answers will be combined with those of other Albertans and the results will be used for planning purposes.

Please spend a few minutes to complete the questionnaire and return it within two weeks of receiving it. For your convenience, a prepaid return envelope is enclosed.

The collection of this information is in accordance with section 32 of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

Thank you for your help.

2004 Alberta Recreation Survey

Survey Partners:



2004 Alberta Recreation Survey

905, Standard Life Centre
10405 - Jasper Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta T5J 4R7

For more information please call (780) 427-6549. To call toll-free anywhere in Alberta, dial 310-0000.

Who should answer our questions?

Please **give the survey to the ADULT** who will **NEXT HAVE A BIRTHDAY** and have that person complete the survey.

1. (a) Please indicate the **NUMBER OF PEOPLE** in **your household** who took part in each of the following leisure or recreational activities during the **PAST 12 MONTHS**. In the last column, please indicate whether **YOU** personally took part in that activity.

	Number of people <small>(including yourself)</small>	Did you personally take part? <small>(please check those that apply)</small>
Walking for Pleasure	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Picnicking (within a city)	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Picnicking (in the countryside)	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Swimming (in pools)	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Swimming (e.g., in lakes, rivers, ponds)	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Martial Arts (e.g., Judo, Karate)	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Weight Training	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aerobics/Fitness/Aquasize/Yoga	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jogging/Running	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Track and Field	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gymnastics	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Table Tennis	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Badminton	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Racquetball	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Squash	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tennis	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ice Skating (not hockey)	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
In-line Skating	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Skateboarding	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bicycling	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mountain Biking (off-road)	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
BMX Racing	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Curling	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Number of
people**
(including
yourself)

**Did you
personally
take part?**
(please check those
that apply)

Ice Hockey	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ringette	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Basketball	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Volleyball	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Softball/Baseball	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Football	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rugby	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Soccer	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bowling/Lawn Bowling	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Golf (other than driving range or mini-golf)	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tobogganing/Sledding	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cross-country Skiing	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Downhill Skiing	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Snowboarding	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Canoeing	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sailing	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
River Rafting	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sailboarding/Windsurfing	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Motor Boating	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Water Skiing	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Overnight Backpacking	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Overnight Camping	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mountain Climbing	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wall Climbing	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day Hiking	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Orienteering	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Birdwatching	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Horseback Riding/Trail Riding	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fishing	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hunting	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>

	Number of people <small>(including yourself)</small>	Did you personally take part? <small>(please check those that apply)</small>
Shooting (Trap/Skeet/Target)	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Archery	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Snowmobiling	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Motorized Trail Biking (e.g., dirt biking)	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Moto-cross	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
ATV/Off-Road Vehicles	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gardening	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Visiting a museum, art gallery	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Attending live theatre (not movies)	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Doing a craft or hobby (e.g., photography, woodwork, sewing)	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Taking part in the arts (e.g., drama, music, drawing, writing)	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dancing (e.g., social, folk, ballet, jazz)	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Attending educational courses	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Playing bingo, casinos	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Playing video, computer or electronic games	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Attending a sports event as a spectator	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Attending a fair or festival	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (please specify): _____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (please specify): _____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>

1. (b) Walking for pleasure is an important recreational activity. This question breaks down this activity into several types of walking. Please answer this question according to the instructions given in question 1. (a).

Walking as transportation to work and elsewhere	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Walking a pet	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Walking on trails	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>

	Number of people (including yourself)	Did you personally take part? (please check those that apply)
Walking on streets	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (please specify): _____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>

1. (c) **Cycling** is a popular recreational activity. This question breaks down this activity into several types of cycling. Please answer this question according to the instructions given for question 1. (a).

Cycling as transportation	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Long distance bicycle touring	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cycling on trails	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cycling on streets	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mountain bike riding on challenging terrain	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (please specify): _____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please answer the following questions about the way YOU spend your leisure time. Your answers will help us learn more about the leisure or recreational activities of Albertans.

2. (a) Please **LIST** your **three (3)** favorite leisure or recreational activities and indicate how many times you participated in **EACH** activity during the **PAST 12 MONTHS**.

Activities	Number of times you participated in the past 12 months					
	<u>1 - 2</u>	<u>3 - 5</u>	<u>6 - 10</u>	<u>11 - 30</u>	<u>31 - 50</u>	<u>51 +</u>
Favorite _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2 nd Favorite _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3 rd Favorite _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. (b) People have many reasons for taking part in leisure activities. Based on your favorite leisure activity, how **IMPORTANT** are **EACH** of the following reasons to you? (Please circle **ONE** number for **EACH**.)

1 = Not Important	2 = Somewhat Important	3 = Important	4 = Very Important	
To compete with others			1	2 3 4
Because I am good at it			1	2 3 4
To show others I can do it			1	2 3 4
To improve my skills or knowledge			1	2 3 4
To learn new skills and abilities			1	2 3 4
For a challenge			1	2 3 4
For excitement			1	2 3 4
To keep busy			1	2 3 4
To help my community			1	2 3 4
To be creative			1	2 3 4
For physical health or exercise			1	2 3 4
To be with my family			1	2 3 4
To do things with my friends			1	2 3 4
To meet new people			1	2 3 4
To relax			1	2 3 4
For pleasure			1	2 3 4
To do something different from work			1	2 3 4
To enjoy nature			1	2 3 4
To be alone			1	2 3 4
To be away from my family			1	2 3 4

3. (a) Is there any leisure or recreational activity that you **DO NOT take part in now**, but you **WOULD LIKE to start** doing regularly? (Please check **ONE** box only.)

- No** Go to question 4. (a)
- Yes** Please continue

3. (b) Please specify which leisure or recreational activity you would **MOST LIKE TO START**. (Name **ONE** activity only.)

Activity: _____

3. (c) People have many reasons for **NOT** taking part in a leisure or recreational activity. Based on the activity you listed in question 3(b), how **IMPORTANT** are **EACH** of the following reasons for not starting this activity? (Please circle **ONE** number for **EACH**.)

1 = Not Important	2 = Somewhat Important	3 = Important	4 = Very Important
Admission fees or other charges for facilities or programs	1	2	3 4
The cost (rental or purchase) of equipment, material and supplies	1	2	3 4
The recreational facilities or areas are overcrowded	1	2	3 4
The recreational facilities or areas are poorly kept or maintained	1	2	3 4
I don't know where I can take part in this activity .	1	2	3 4
There is no opportunity to do it near my home . .	1	2	3 4
The cost of transportation	1	2	3 4
Lack of transportation	1	2	3 4
Too busy with my family	1	2	3 4
Too busy with my work	1	2	3 4
I don't have the physical abilities	1	2	3 4
I am physically unable to take part	1	2	3 4
I am not at ease in social situations	1	2	3 4
The recreational facilities are not physically convenient to use	1	2	3 4

4. (a) In 2003, the province launched the Live Outside the Box campaign.
Are you aware of this campaign?

No

Yes

5. (a) Have you done volunteer work connected with culture, recreation, sports or parks in the **PAST 12 MONTHS?** (Please check **ONE** only.)

No

Yes

5. (b) With what kind of group did you work as a volunteer?
(Please check **ALL** boxes that apply.)

Conservation, parks, ecology

Community league or association

Youth group (e.g., Scouts, Guides, Cadets)

School

Church

Cultural group

Service club

Local sport team or club

Recreation or parks board

Special sport/recreation event (e.g., tournaments, Regional Games)

Other (please specify): _____

5. (c) What job(s) did you do as a volunteer? (Please check **ALL** boxes that apply.)

Executive (e.g., President, Secretary)

Committee member

Coach, Manager or Instructor

Volunteer worker

Other (please specify): _____

5. (d) How many hours in an average week did you spend doing volunteer work during the **PAST 12 MONTHS?** (Please check **ONE** box only.)

1-5 hours 6-10 hour 11-15 hours more than 15 hours

We would like to know your opinions on the following questions. Your answers will help us plan better recreation, parks and leisure services to meet your needs.

6. Recreation and parks can provide benefits to communities. Below are a few benefits that some Albertans feel they receive from having recreation in their community. For each benefit, please rate **how important** you think they are.

1 = Not Important	2 = Somewhat Important	3 = Important	4 = Very Important				
Recreation and parks facilities and services improve quality of life.				1	2	3	4
Recreation provides opportunities for children and youth to take part in a variety of activities.				1	2	3	4
Recreation provides opportunities for families to spend time together.				1	2	3	4
Recreation creates partnerships and renews community spirit.				1	2	3	4
Recreation provides opportunities for people to contribute to their communities in many ways.				1	2	3	4
Recreation and parks contribute to the economy of a community.				1	2	3	4
Parks and open spaces preserve Alberta's landscapes, plants and animals.				1	2	3	4

7. (a) On the average, Albertans pay about \$116.00 per person per year on taxes for municipal recreation and parks services. The amount you actually pay may be more or less, but \$116.00 is the average. Do you feel your recreation and park services are worth \$116.00 per person?

- The amount is too low. Go to question 7. (c)
- The amount is reasonable. Go to question 7. (c)
- The amount is too high. Go to question 7. (b)

7. (b) If you think the amount is too high, how much would you allocate per person per year?

7. (c) How should recreation services and public parks be supported?

Mainly through taxes

Mainly through fees for users

Through a combination of taxes and user fees

Other (please specify): _____

8. (a) Did you visit an **Alberta Provincial Park** in the last 12 months?
Provincial parks are managed by the provincial government and **NOT** managed by municipal or federal agencies.

No Go to question 8. (d)

Yes Go to questions 8. (b), 8. (c)

Don't Know Go to questions 8. (b), 8. (c)

8. (b) Which **Alberta Provincial Parks** did you visit?

8. (c) Which of the following services/information sources did you use for planning your trips to Alberta's Provincial Parks? (Please check **ALL** boxes that apply).

Internet/world wide web

Advertising (e.g., newspaper, magazine)

Recommendations from others

Travel information centres/kiosks

Alberta Motor Association

Radio/television

Personal experience or previous visit

Travel counselors/agents

Campground guide/directories

Road maps

Other (please specify): _____

8. (d) The following is a list of reasons why you might not have visited an **Alberta Provincial Park** during the last 12 months. For each one, please indicate how important each is in your decision not to visit an Alberta Provincial Park during the past 12 months. (Please circle **ONE** number for **EACH**).

1 = Not Important	2 = Somewhat Important	3 = Important	4 = Very Important	
Lack of time (e.g., family responsibilities or work commitments)	1	2	3	4
Not interested in outdoor recreation activities or parks	1	2	3	4
Parks are too crowded	1	2	3	4
Poor health	1	2	3	4
Noisy or rowdy activities of other people	1	2	3	4
Age	1	2	3	4
Prefer National Parks (e.g., Banff or Jasper National Park)	1	2	3	4
Prefer municipal parks (e.g., neighbourhood or city park)	1	2	3	4
Prefer private parks/campgrounds	1	2	3	4
Prefer camping in undeveloped areas	1	2	3	4
Fear of crime, safety and security	1	2	3	4
Lack of information	1	2	3	4
Unaware of opportunities in parks	1	2	3	4
Parks are too far away	1	2	3	4
Costs of camping are too high	1	2	3	4
Transportation and equipment costs are too much	1	2	3	4
Too many restrictive regulations	1	2	3	4
Private sector operation of provincial parks campgrounds	1	2	3	4
Facilities are poorly kept or maintained	1	2	3	4
Lack of interpretative programs or facilities	1	2	3	4
Lack of RV campsites	1	2	3	4
Lack of handicapped accessible facilities	1	2	3	4
Lack of things to do	1	2	3	4
Others (please specify):				
_____	1	2	3	4
_____	1	2	3	4

9. (a) In your opinion, should the following activities or services be allowed in provincial parks? (Please circle ONE number for EACH.)

1 = Yes 2 = No 3 = No Opinion

Accommodation facilities:

Private cottages	1	2	3
Primitive rental cabins	1	2	3
Hostels or dormitories	1	2	3
Hotels or motels	1	2	3
Resorts	1	2	3

Sport and recreation facilities:

Courts (e.g., tennis, volleyball, basketball)	1	2	3
Playing fields (e.g., baseball, soccer)	1	2	3
Golf courses	1	2	3
Downhill ski areas	1	2	3
Cross-country ski trails	1	2	3

Service facilities:

Grocery stores and laundromats	1	2	3
Restaurants or lounges	1	2	3
Gas stations	1	2	3

Outdoor activities:

Hunting	1	2	3
Snowmobiling	1	2	3
Horse rentals	1	2	3
Motorized off-road vehicles (e.g., quads)	1	2	3
Mountain biking	1	2	3

9. (b) In your opinion, should the following activities or services be allowed in municipal parks and recreation areas? (Please circle ONE number for EACH.)

1 = Yes 2 = No 3 = No Opinion

Accommodation facilities:

Tents and campgrounds	1	2	3
Hostels and dormitories	1	2	3

Sport and recreation facilities:

Courts (e.g., tennis, volleyball, basketball)	1	2	3
Playing fields (e.g., baseball, soccer)	1	2	3
Golf courses	1	2	3
Downhill ski areas	1	2	3
Cross-country ski trails	1	2	3

Service facilities:

Picnic areas	1	2	3
Restaurants or snack bars	1	2	3

1 = Yes 2 = No 3 = No Opinion

Outdoor activities:

Snowmobiling	1	2	3
Horse rentals	1	2	3
Motorized off-road vehicles (e.g., quads)	1	2	3
Mountain biking	1	2	3

This part of the survey requests general information about you and the other people who live in your household.

ALL REPLIES WILL BE HELD IN THE STRICTEST CONFIDENCE

10. What is your gender?

Male

Female

11. What year were you born? _____

12. What is the **HIGHEST** level of education **YOU** have completed?
(Please check **ONE** box only.)

Elementary, Junior or Senior High School

Technical or vocational program

College

University

Other (please describe): _____

13. (a) In what village, town or city do you live?

Please specify: _____

13. (b) If you live on a farm or acreage, to what village, town or city is your mail addressed?

Please specify: _____

14. Which of the following best describes your household?
(Please check **ONE** box only.)

- Couple with no children
- Couple with children
- Single person
- Single parent family
- Two or more unrelated single adults
- Two or more related adults
- Other (please describe): _____

15. How many members of your household are in the following age groups? Please specify the **NUMBER OF PEOPLE** in each **AGE GROUP**. (**REMEMBER** to include yourself.)

	How Many?
Under 5 years of age	_____
from 5 to 9	_____
from 10 to 14	_____
from 15 to 19	_____
from 20 to 29	_____
from 30 to 49	_____
from 50 to 64	_____
65 years and over	_____

16. In terms of your household financial situation, would you say that you consider yourself to be:

- Experiencing difficulties financially
- Living reasonably comfortably
- Living very comfortably

Is there anything else you would like to tell us about parks, recreation or leisure issues? If so, please use this space for that purpose.

Thank you very much for your assistance in answering and returning this questionnaire.

Please remember that the envelope enclosed does not require postage.

If you would like us to send you a summary of the results, write your name and address on the back of the return envelope. We will make sure that you get a copy.