

# NEVADA

Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

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Esmerelda County Report

Every five years, the Nevada Division of State Parks (NDSP) leads the development of the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), a research-based plan that evaluates the supply and demand of outdoor recreation resources and facilities across all jurisdictions. Specifically, the SCORP identifies outdoor recreation needs and opportunities for recreation improvements and development, provides the foundation for the distribution of Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) monies for outdoor recreation and open space acquisition, and outlines the overall status of outdoor recreation in Nevada.

The 2022-2026 Nevada SCORP was developed over a 12-month period and represents a collaboration between NDSP and the Nevada Division of Outdoor Recreation (NDOR). The following pages provide valuable information that was gained through two public surveys. The data summary includes all 6,072 initial public survey responses and 720 responses to the Part 2: How and Where We Recreate survey. The report further segments the survey respondent data from the eleven frontier counties and provides highlights for the Nye County-specific data set.

This report is intended to assist land management agencies with applications for LWCF funds through the Open Project Selection Process (OPSP). We also hope that this profile will be utilized by legislators, county commissioners, planning commissions, city councils, travel and tourism offices, non-profits, and Parks and Recreation departments to assist with outdoor recreation planning, funding and advocacy.

For more information about the SCORP, please go to <http://parks.nv.gov/about/grant-programs/land-and-water-conservation-fund/nvscorp>

Public Survey Responses:	All Respondents	11 Frontier Counties	Esmerelda County
	6,072	453	3
	100%	8.55%	.05%

There were three 2021 Nevada Outdoor Recreation Public Survey responses from Esmerelda County. Therefore, the survey data results for Esmerelda County have been aggregated with the eleven Frontier Counties.



### Question 1

About how much time per week do you spend being active outdoors?

	All Respondents	11 Frontier Counties
More than 8 hours	38.04%	38.50%
5 – 8 hours	22.78%	20.58%
3 – 5 hours	18.41%	17.70%
1 – 3 hours	13.54%	14.60%
31 – 60 minutes	3.79%	4.65%
I don't spend time outdoors every week	1.79%	1.55%
1 – 30 minutes	1.66%	2.43%

### Question 3

How many people are usually in your group when you enjoy outdoor recreation?

	All Respondents	11 Frontier Counties
2 people (you and 1 other person)	60.17%	60.57%
I am by myself	43.02%	44.47%
3 to 5 people	32.76%	29.35%
6 to 10 people	8.85%	11.23%
11 to 20 people	3.23%	3.16%
More than 20 people	1.73%	1.44%

### Question 2

On average, how often did you engage in outdoor recreation during the past 12 months?

	All Respondents	11 Frontier Counties
More than once a week	44.43%	36.97%
Once a day	26.27%	18.93%
Once a week	20.38%	31.85%
Once a month	6.51%	9.13%
Once every quarter (three months)	1.23%	1.11%
I am not sure	.81%	1.34%
Never	.36%	.67%

### Question 4

How important to you are the following reasons to recreate outdoors?

	All Respondents	11 Frontier Counties
For mental well-being/to feel restored	80.01%	75.61%
To enjoy or spend time in nature	77.16%	76.06%
To relax/unplug/for solitude	73.52%	76.00%
To exercise/improve physical health	69.31%	57.65%
To spend time with friends/family	49.91%	52.44%
To learn about wildlife, plants, insects, etc.	27.96%	36.73%
For spiritual/cultural purposes	21.36%	23.78%

### Question 5

Do any of the following prevent you from enjoying outdoor recreation?

	All Respondents	11 Frontier Counties
Areas too crowded	47.49%	28.96%
Recreation areas damaged or overused	29.20%	23.76%
None of the above	25.69%	34.16%
Conflicts btw people using same trails/parks	25.14%	19.23%
Availability of nearby recreational facility	18.71%	26.70%
Don't have enough time	17.63%	16.52%
Too expensive/don't have the money	8.42%	8.60%
Not in good enough shape/not physically fit	7.92%	15.16%
Don't have the right equipment	5.86%	8.60%
Physically unable	2.37%	3.17%

### Question 6

What trail/road activities have you participated in during the past 12 months?

	All Respondents	11 Frontier Counties
Walking	81.00%	80.67%
Hiking	80.95%	74.89%
Mountain biking	34.14%	21.33%
Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) or 4-wheeling	33.50%	56.89%
Jogging/Running	30.65%	22.67%
Backpacking	24.31%	25.33%
Road biking	23.98%	14.67%
Other	13.65%	10.44%
Motorcycling	12.18%	12.67%
Horseback riding	5.88%	8.44%
None of the above	1.24%	1.11%

### Question 7

What water-based activities have you participated in during the past 12 months?

	All Respondents	11 Frontier Counties
Swimming	52.90%	46.24%
Kayaking	33.13%	20.13%
None of the above	28.92%	35.40%
Stand-up paddle boarding	22.07%	15.71%
Power boating	16.92%	15.71%
Water/jet skiing	9.72%	9.29%
Canoeing	8.46%	12.61%
Other	7.22%	11.06%
Whitewater rafting	4.50%	1.99%
SCUBA/snorkeling	3.19%	.88%
Sailing	3.09%	1.11%

### Question 8

What winter outdoor activities have you participated in during the past 12 months?

	All Respondents	11 Frontier Counties
None of the above	36.09%	43.30%
Resort-based skiing/snowboarding	31.02%	10.04%
Snowshoeing	27.48%	18.53%
Sledding/tubing	20.01%	26.12%
Back country skiing/snowboarding	14.81%	6.47%
Cross country (Nordic) skiing	11.14%	9.38%
Other	9.61%	14.06%
Ice skating (outdoors)	5.83%	3.35%
Snowmobiling	4.80%	7.37%

### Question 9

What wildlife-related activities have you participated in during the past 12 months?

	All Respondents	11 Frontier Counties
Wildlife viewing (excluding bird watching)	45.85%	63.56%
Bird watching	36.87%	46.67%
Fishing	31.23%	51.33%
None of the above	29.74%	11.33%
Hunting	16.08%	38.44%
Other	3.24%	6.00%
Ice fishing	2.68%	10.44%

### Question 10

What outdoor sports (team/individual) have you participated in during the past 12 months?

	All Respondents	11 Frontier Counties
None of the above	47.10%	49.78%
Swimming	20.19%	19.11%
Golf	16.41%	15.33%
Disc/Frisbee golf	14.28%	6.44%
Tennis/pickleball	10.84%	4.67%
Basketball	7.31%	7.78%
Other	9.19%	9.56%
Soccer	7.08%	5.78%
Volleyball	4.29%	5.78%
Softball	4.25%	8.22%
Rodeo	3.91%	9.11%
Baseball	3.81%	4.89%
Football	2.96%	2.22%

### Question 11

What other outdoor activities have you participated in during the past 12 months?

	All Respondents	11 Frontier Counties
Tent camping	51.38%	52.99%
Picnicking	51.12%	57.87%
RV camping/cabins	42.02%	55.88%
Target or skeet shooting	22.44%	38.14%
Playground activities	21.94%	23.50%
Rock climbing	18.81%	13.08%
Geocaching	11.18%	17.07%
None of the above	10.8%	4.66%
Other	7.87%	10.64%

### Question 13

Approximately how close to where you live is your nearest outdoor recreation facility or opportunity?

	All Respondents	11 Frontier Counties
Less than 1 mile	45.84%	30.75%
1 - 5 miles	39.06%	31.86%
6 - 10 miles	8.95%	14.38%
More than 10 miles	6.15%	23.01%

### Question 12

Are there local outdoor recreation facilities or opportunities within a comfortable walking distance of your home?

	All Respondents	11 Frontier Counties
Yes	67.77%	45.90%
No	32.23%	54.10%

### Question 14

How important is it for you to have a local outdoor recreation facility/opportunity within a comfortable walking distance of your home?

	All Respondents	11 Frontier Counties
Open space	87.72%	68.23%
Park	72.42%	33.18%
Trailhead	74.37%	32.43%
Recreational facility	49.81%	22.48%

### Question 15

How far are you or members of your family willing to travel to recreate outdoors in Nevada?

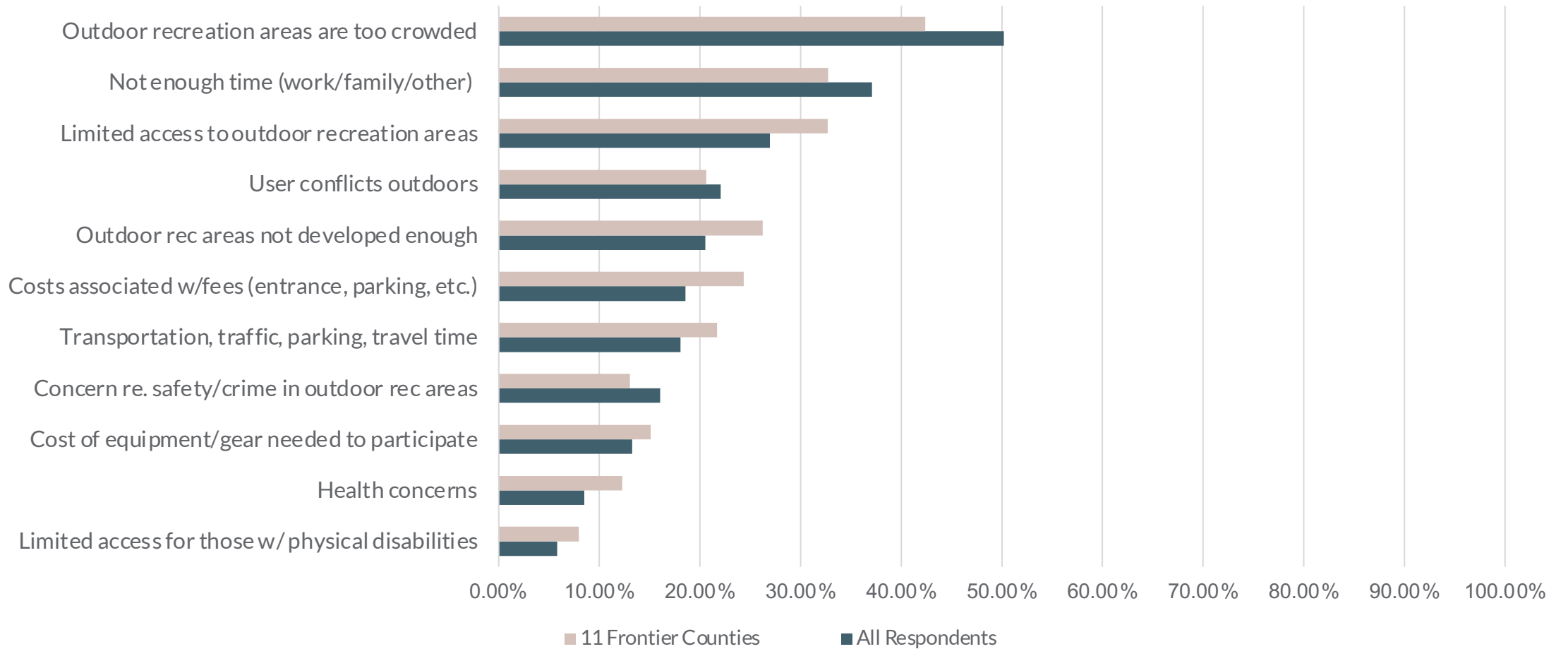
	All Respondents	11 Frontier Counties
More than 50 miles	58.97%	76.77%
25 - 50 miles	18.63%	13.72%
11 - 25 miles	11.32%	4.65%
4 - 10 miles	7.57%	3.10%
½ - 3 miles	2.87%	1.33%
Less than ½ mile	.63%	.44%





Question 16

Indicate how much of a barrier each choice is in preventing you from participating in outdoor recreation in NV? (moderate + significant)



### Question 17

Do you or anyone in your household have a disability that must be considered when planning outdoor activities?

	All Respondents	11 Frontier Counties
No	85.53%	75.06%
Yes	14.47%	24.94%

### Question 18

If yes, what type of disability?

	All Respondents	11 Frontier Counties
Physical	79.61%	85.09%
Other	15.69%	20.18%
Hearing	12.49%	14.04%
Learning/Cognitive	8.02%	4.39%
Vision	6.07%	4.39%

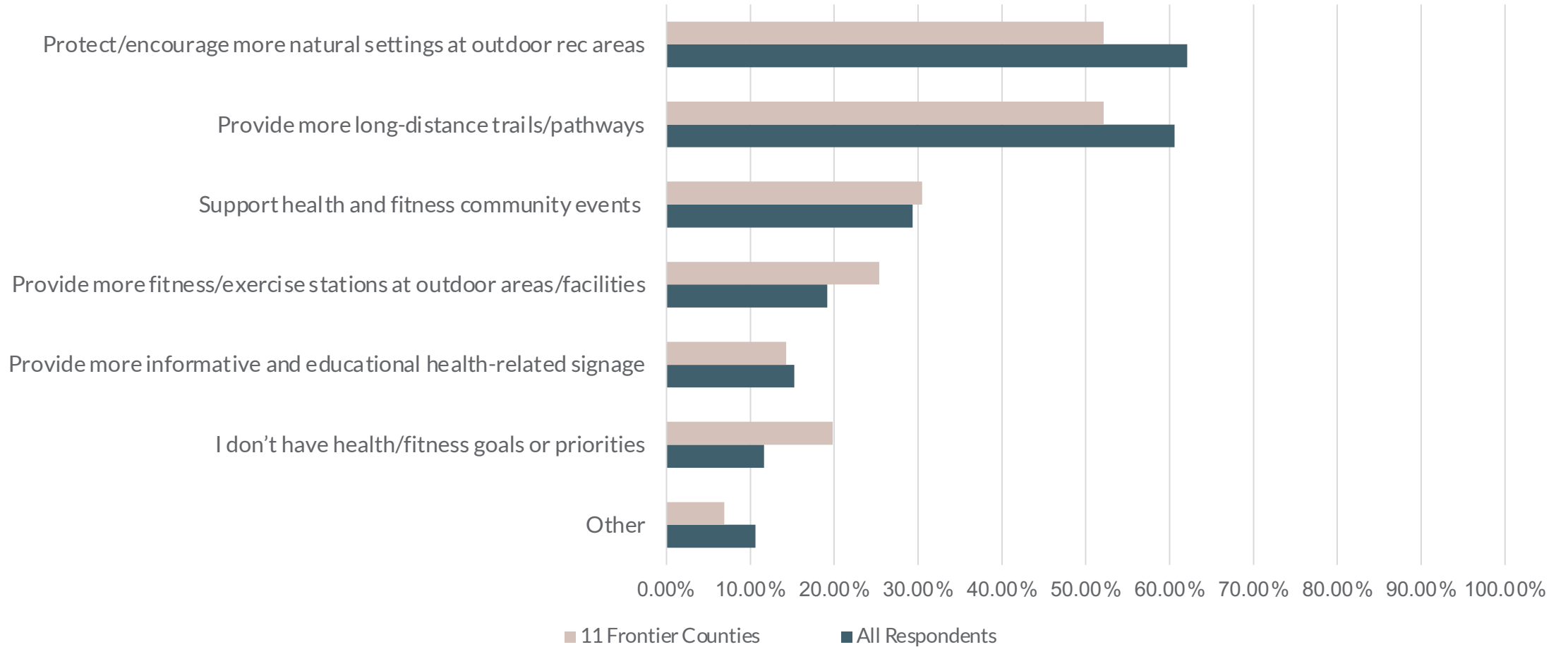
### Question 19

Do the outdoor recreational facilities and/or public lands you use to recreate outdoors meet the needs of your disability?

	All Respondents	11 Frontier Counties
Yes	74.14%	74.58%
No	25.86%	25.42%

Question 20

How could outdoor recreation areas/facilities assist you in achieving your health and fitness goals or priorities?



### Question 21

Have you or has your family increased or decreased your outdoor activities as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic

	All Respondents	11 Frontier Counties
Increased	40.27%	30.46%
Decreased	22.79%	22.52%
No Change	36.43%	47.02%

### Question 22

Do you have any of the following?

	All Respondents	11 Frontier Counties
None of the above	53.98%	44.92%
Arthritis	14.57%	20.77%
Depression	13.22%	15.35%
Hypertension/high blood pressure	12.77%	17.61%
Asthma	11.18%	15.12%
Obesity	8.77%	14.22%
Other	5.15%	6.32%
Mental health problems	5.01%	3.84%
Diabetes	4.89%	8.35%
PTSD	4.68%	6.55%
Heart disease	3.17%	6.32%
Epilepsy	.42%	.45%

### Question 23

Do you have any children under 18?

	All Respondents	11 Frontier Counties
No	72.03%	69.91%
Yes	27.97%	30.09%

### Question 24

What outdoor activities have your children tried in the past?

	All Respondents	11 Frontier Counties
Camping	79.55%	87.63%
Hiking	78.34%	81.27%
Bicycling (road, mountain, BMX)	66.24%	59.36%
Swimming/water sports	62.88%	62.90%
Fishing	55.59%	78.09%
Team or individual sports	53.23%	53.71%
Running, jogging, trail running	52.45%	55.12%
Skiing/snowboarding/snowshoeing	52.28%	43.11%
Rafting/kayaking/boating	48.23%	43.46%
Wildlife viewing	45.79%	61.48%
Off-highway vehicle riding (OHV)	36.09%	55.83%
Target shooting/trap shooting/archery	34.98%	54.77%
Skateboarding	32.75%	32.86%
Rock climbing	28.66%	21.91%
Hunting	20.85%	46.64%
Other	7.30%	7.07%
None of the above	2.47%	2.47%

### Question 25

What factors limit your children's engagement with the outdoors?

	All Respondents	11 Frontier Counties
Busy schedule	62.46%	63.74%
Other entertainment options	31.21%	25.15%
Money/finances	17.74%	28.65%
Lack of interest	17.59%	15.79%
No open/natural spaces nearby	15.18%	14.03%
Lack of accessibility	13.52%	18.71%
No safe open/natural spaces nearby	13.27%	12.28%
Other	11.31%	10.53%
No transportation	6.13%	8.77%

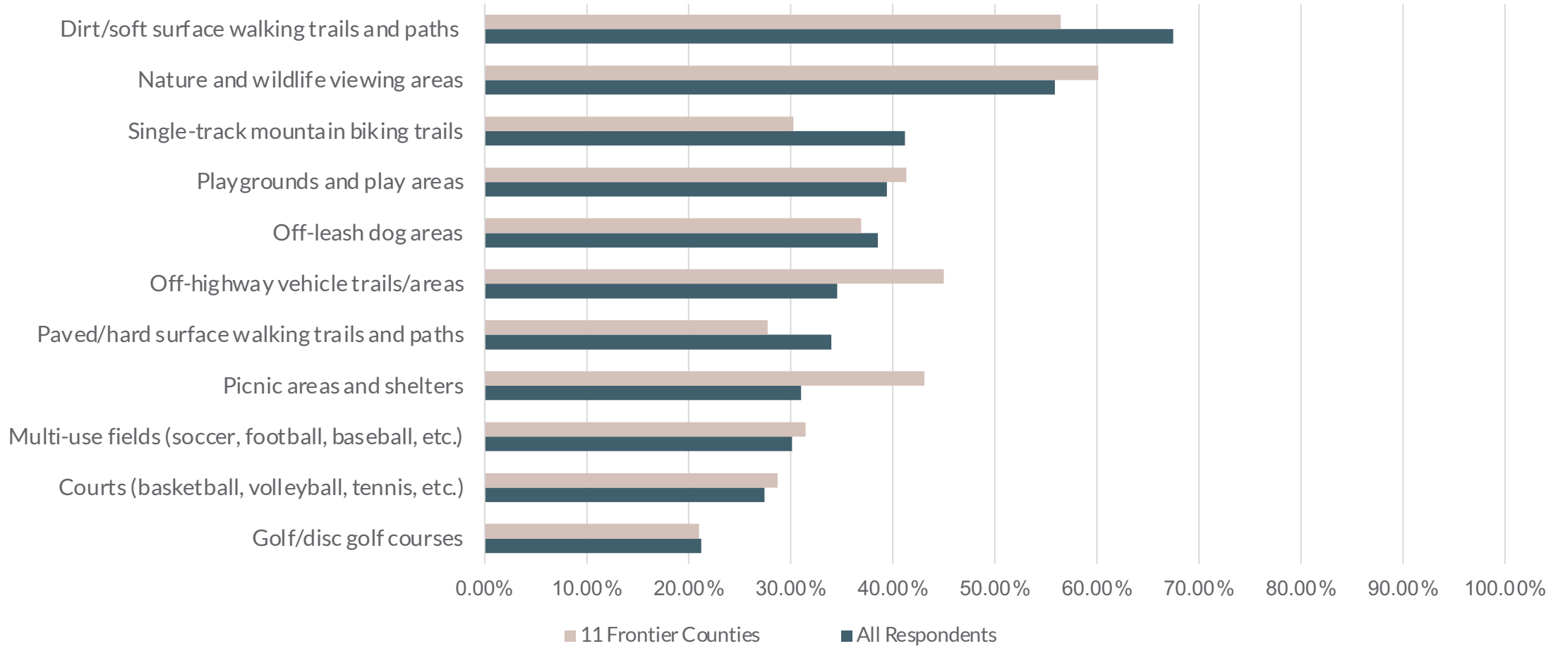
### Question 26

Indicate if you have used any of the following types of outdoor recreation areas in NV in the past 12 months?

	All Respondents	11 Frontier Counties
State parks, forests or wildlife management areas	88.24%	84.96%
National parks, forests, and recreation areas	80.13%	76.11%
Local/municipal parks	79.96%	67.04%
County parks	64.59%	47.12%
Private/commercial recreation areas	29.68%	24.78%
Other	4.74%	8.41%
I have not used any of these types of facilities	1.42%	3.32%

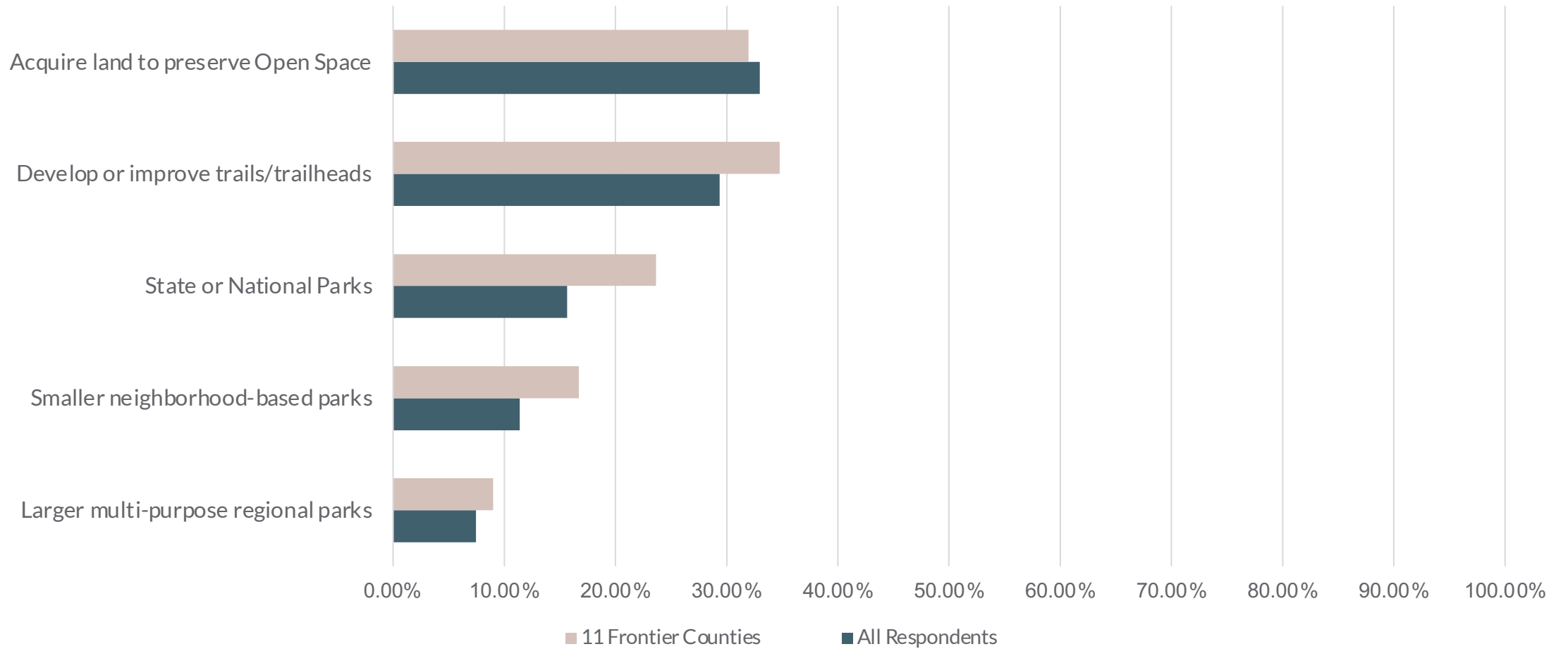
Question 27

How much of a priority do you feel each of the following types of recreation areas should be for future investment where you live?  
(essential + high priority)



Question 28

Where would you like to see the biggest focus of recreation resources in NV? (#1 priority)





**Question 29**

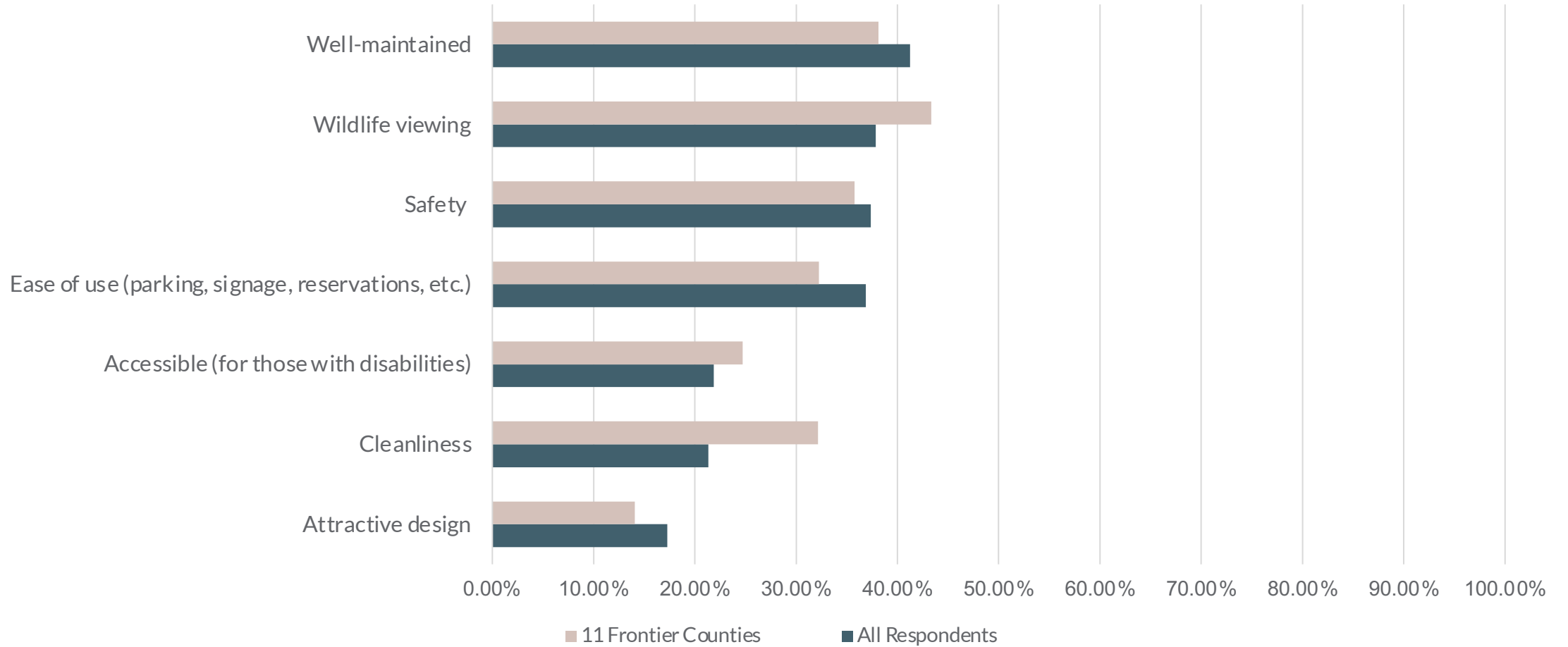
**What level of priority do you personally place on allocating funding for parks, trails, open space and outdoor recreation facilities in NV?**

	All Respondents	11 Frontier Counties
High priority	66.38%	57.08%
Medium priority	28.54%	33.41%
Low priority	3.85%	6.86%
Not a priority	1.23%	2.65%



Question 30

Provide your top three priorities from the following elements of outdoor recreation facilities in NV? (#1 priority)



## DEMOGRPAHICS

### Highlights of “typical” survey respondents (most frequent answers) based on SCORP public survey demographic questions:

- **AGE GROUP:**
  - Of all survey respondents, 40% were 45 to 64-years. Frontier county respondents, 39% were 45 to 64-years.
- **GENDER:**
  - Of all survey respondents, 52% were male. Frontier county respondents tied 50% male/female.
- **RACIAL/ETHNIC BACKGROUND:**
  - Of all survey respondents, 87% were white, non-Hispanic/Latino. Frontier respondents were 89% white, non-Hispanic/Latino.
- **LEVEL OF ACTIVITY:**
  - Of all respondents, 53% were moderately active. Frontier county respondents, 57% are moderately active.
- **EDUCATION:**
  - Of all respondents, 34% have a bachelor’s degree. Frontier county respondents, 29% have bachelor’s degrees.
- **YEARS IN NEVADA:**
  - Of all survey respondents, 26% have lived in Nevada 21–35 years. 24% of Frontier county respondents have lived in Nevada 21–35 years.
- **HOUSEHOLD ANNUAL INCOME:**
  - 25% of all survey respondents cited household annual income between \$100,000 - \$149,000. Frontier county respondents, 24% cited household annual income between \$80,000 and \$99,999 per year.

Public Survey Part 2 Responses:	All Respondents	11 Frontier Counties
	720	56
	100%	7.78%

**Part 2 - Question 1**

**Approximately how many of your outdoor recreation experiences were day trips (started and ended on the same day) during the previous 12 months?**

	All Respondents	11 Frontier Counties
More than 12 day-trips last year	67.27%	58.93%
6 to 11	12.12%	10.71%
2 to 5	9.47%	16.07%
Once a month (12x in last year)	8.64%	12.50%
None	1.25%	0
One	.97%	1.79%
I am not sure	.28%	0

**Part 2 - Question 2**

**Approximately how many of your outdoor recreation trips were overnight trips during the previous 12 months?**

	All Respondents	11 Frontier Counties
2 to 5	36.07%	32.14%
6 to 11	22.28%	23.21%
None	18.25%	17.86%
More than 12 trips last year	10.03%	8.93%
One	8.91%	8.93%
Once a month (12x last year)	4.04%	8.93%
I am not sure	.42%	0

**Part 2 - Question 3**

**How do you learn about outdoor activities and events?**

	All Respondents	11 Frontier Counties
Online (social media, sites, apps, blogs, ads)	83.92%	78.57%
Word of mouth	73.15%	71.43%
Print (newspaper, magazine, brochures)	36.64%	53.57%
Other	16.36%	14.29%
Television	12.59%	12.50%
Radio	6.57%	10.71%
Library	3.78%	3.57%

### Part 2 - Question 4a

What technology do you use to do research on where to go/visit?

	All Respondents	11 Frontier Counties
All Trails	52.79%	38.46%
Facebook	40.87%	46.15%
Instagram	18.89%	7.69%
Trail Forks	17.49%	7.69%
MTB Project	15.94%	9.62%
Gaia	9.44%	5.77%
Strava	8.67%	11.54%
Onyx Hunt	6.35%	19.23%
Garmin	5.73%	9.62%
Onyx Off-Road	5.26%	7.69%
Apple Activity	2.48%	5.77%
TikTok	.93%	1.92%
Slopes	.62%	1.92%
Fitbit	.62%	1.92%
Nike	.46%	1.92%
Polar	.31%	1.92%

### Part 2 - Question 4b

What technology do you use to track your activities (speed, distance, route elevation, etc.)?

	All Respondents	11 Frontier Counties
Garmin	26.93%	28.85%
Strava	19.81%	17.31%
All Trails	14.71%	15.38%
Fitbit	10.68%	17.31%
Gaia	9.75%	5.77%
Apple Activity	7.89%	5.77%
Facebook	6.66%	5.77%
Trail Forks	6.35%	3.85%
Onyx Hunt	3.72%	11.54%
Onyx Off-Road	3.25%	7.69%
MTB Project	2.32%	0
Instagram	1.70%	1.92%
Polar	.62%	0
Slopes	.62%	0
Nike	.31%	1.92%
TikTok	0	0

### Part 2 - Question 4c

What technology do you use to assist in the activity (navigation, payment of fees, etc.)?

	All Respondents	11 Frontier Counties
All Trails	21.05%	17.31%
Garmin	15.59%	19.23%
Facebook	10.03%	9.62%
Gaia	9.10%	3.85%
Trail Forks	9.10%	1.92%
MTB Project	4.78%	0
Strava	4.01%	1.92%
Onyx Hunt	4.01%	13.46%
Onyx Off-Road	2.93%	7.69%
Apple Activity	2.01%	5.77%
Instagram	2.01%	1.92%
Slopes	.46%	1.92%
Fitbit	.31%	0%
Nike	.15%	0%
Polar	0%	0%
TikTok	0%	0%

### Part 2 - Question 4d

What technology do you use to share your adventures (photos, blogs, etc.)?

	All Respondents	11 Frontier Counties
Facebook	51.70%	59.62%
Instagram	38.70%	19.23%
Strava	9.60%	5.77%
All Trails	4.17%	3.85%
Garmin	2.48%	1.92%
Trail Forks	1.55%	0
Gaia	1.24%	1.92%
Apple Activity	1.08%	0
TikTok	.77%	3.85%
Onyx Off-Road	.62%	1.92%
Onyx Hunt	.62%	3.85%
MTB Project	.62%	0
Slopes	.15%	0
Fitbit	.15%	0
Polar	0%	0
Nike	0%	0

### Part 2 - Question 5

In the last year, did you recreate outdoors one day or more in Region 1? (Northeastern NV = Elko, Spring Creek, Lamoille, Wells, West Wendover, Jarbridge, Jackpot, Lovelock, Winnemucca, Battle Mountain, Gerlach and Denio)

	All Respondents	11 Frontier Counties
Yes	40.11%	73.21%
No	59.89%	26.79%

### Part 2 - Question 19

In the last year, did you recreate outdoors one day or more in Region 3? (Central NV = Dayton, Austin, Eureka, Ely, Baker, Fallon and Fernley)

	All Respondents	11 Frontier Counties
Yes	44.05%	46.43%
No	55.95%	53.57%

### Part 2 - Question 33

In the last year, did you recreate outdoors one day or more in Region 5? (South NV = Las Vegas, North Las Vegas, Boulder City, Henderson, Laughlin, Mesquite, Moapa Valley and Primm)

	All Respondents	11 Frontier Counties
Yes	48.67%	44.64%
No	51.33%	55.36%

### Part 2 - Question 12

In the last year, did you recreate outdoors one day or more in Region 2? (Western NV = Carson City, Carson Valley, Gardnerville, Genoa, Minden, North Lake Tahoe, South Lake Tahoe, Reno, Sparks, and Virginia City)

	All Respondents	11 Frontier Counties
Yes	70.69%	41.07%
No	29.31%	58.93%

### Part 2 - Question 26

In the last year, did you recreate outdoors one day or more in Region 4? (Southern NV = Alamo, Rachel, Amargosa Valley, Pahrump, Beatty, Caliente, Pioche, Goldfield, Tonopah, Hawthorne, and Yerington)

	All Respondents	11 Frontier Counties
Yes	47.20%	56.36%
No	52.80%	43.64%

## Region-Specific Outdoor Recreation Maps

The purpose of the Part 2 survey was to gather more specific information about outdoor recreation activities over the past year, and where survey respondents participated in those activities. To determine location, we utilized the five geographic regions of Nevada as designated by Travel Nevada, the state's tourism marketing portal ([travelnevada.com](http://travelnevada.com)), and correlated responses by survey respondent's county of residence.

Esmerelda County is located in Region 4

## Region 4

**Out** - Where do the 25 survey respondents from Region 4 recreate, and in what top activities do they participate in each Region? The outdoor recreation activity in each region is followed by the number of county survey respondents for that activity.

## Region 4: Out

Where do the 25 survey respondents from **Region 4** recreate, and in what top activities do they participate in each Region?

**44%** Region 4 respondents go to Region 1 to:

Walk/Hike 7	Hunt 3
OHV 6	Fish 3
RV Camp 5	View Wildlife 3
Tent Camp 5	Birdwatch 3
Picnic 5	

**28%** Region 4 respondents go to Region 2 to:

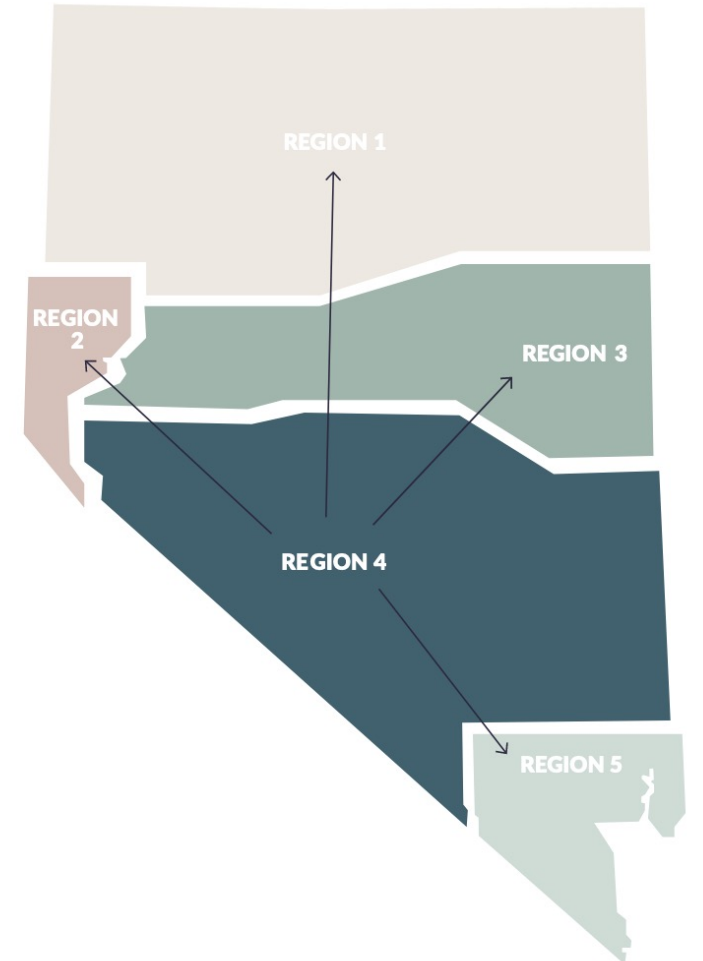
Walk/Hike 5	Fish 3
RV Camp 5	Tent Camp 3
OHV 3	Picnic 3
Hunt 3	

**44%** Region 4 respondents go to Region 3 to:

Walk/Hike 6	Hunt 4
RV Camp 5	Birdwatch 4
OHV 5	Tent Camp 4
Fish 5	Picnic 4
View Wildlife 5	

**80%** Region 4 respondents go to Region 5 to:

Walk/Hike 16	OHV 7
Picnic 11	Birdwatch 7
View Wildlife 9	Fish 6
Swim 8	Mtn Bike 5
RV Camp 8	





## Region 4

In - What % of survey respondents from other Regions come to Region 4 to recreate, and in what top activities do they participate in Region 4? The outdoor recreation activity in each region is followed by the number of county survey respondents for that activity.

## Region 4: In

What % of survey respondents from other Regions come to Region 4 to recreate, and in what top activities do they participate in Region 4?

**21%** Region 1 respondents go to Region 4 to:

Walk/Hike 3  
View Wildlife 3  
RV Camp 2

**100%** Region 4 respondents stay in Region 4 to:

Walk/Hike 17      Birdwatch 11  
OHV 17            Swim 10  
RV Camp 13      Fish 9  
View Wildlife 12    Tent Camp 9  
Picnic 12           Rock Climb 8

**33%** Region 2 respondents go to Region 4 to:

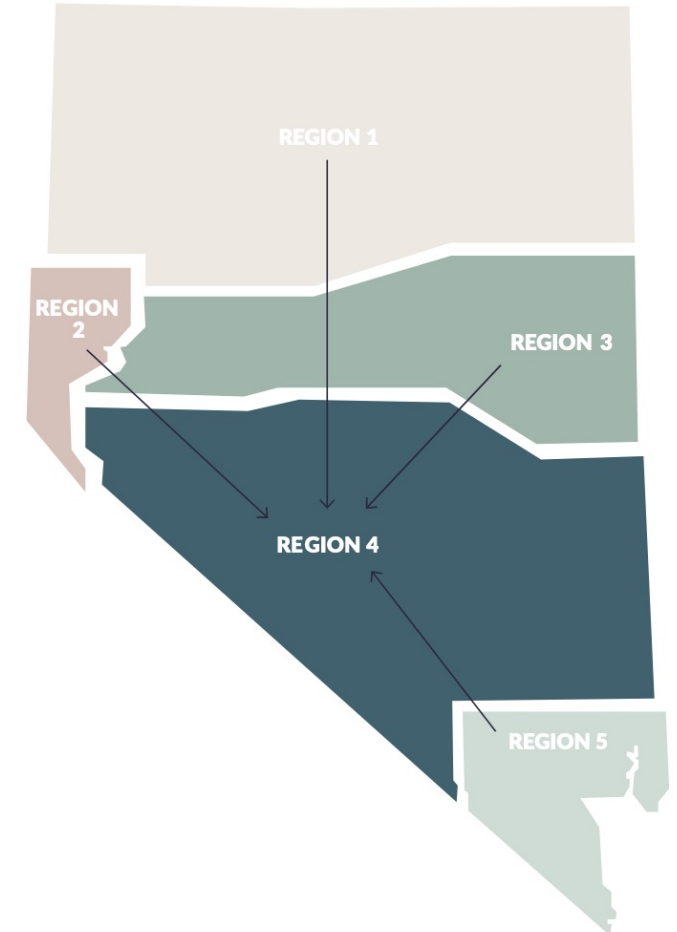
Walk/Hike 72      Picnic 39  
RV Camp 50      Tent Camp 34  
View Wildlife 47    OHV 25  
Birdwatch 41      Mtn Bike 24

**58%** Region 3 respondents go to Region 4 to:

OHV 7  
View Wildlife 6  
Walk/Hike 5  
RV Camp 4  
Motorcycle 4  
Birdwatch 3

**70%** Region 5 respondents go to Region 4 to:

Walk/Hike 90      Birdwatch 37  
OHV 55            RV Camp 35  
Tent Camp 50      Fish 15  
View Wildlife 49    Backpack 12  
Picnic 49



**Thank You**