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# Recreation Statistics Update



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## Participation in Outdoor Recreation Activities: Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Other Pacific Islanders<sup>1</sup>

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The 2000 Census estimated that 3.6% of U.S. residents (10.1 million people) are “Asian American.” Another 0.1% are “Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander.” Combined, Asian American, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders have increased 44 percent since 1990. This growth was well over 3 times the overall national population growth rate of 13 percent. Just under half (49.8%) of Asian, Hawaiian, and Pacific Islanders (AHPI) live in the West Census Region, including 35.8% in California alone. California at 3.8 million has more than 3 times the Asian American/Pacific Islander population of the next largest state, New York, with just over 1 million AHPI residents. Three states –California, New York, and Hawaii– have more than half (51.5%) of the AHPI population. Five other states –Texas, New Jersey, Illinois, Washington, and Florida– account for another 20%. Following the West census region are the Northeast with 20.3% and the South with 18.7%. The Midwest has the smallest proportion of the AHPI population with just 11.6%.

Shown in the table below are percentages of the AHPI and White populations, age 16 or older, in the United States who participated in each of 25 outdoor recreation activities. The percentages of these two broad population groups who participated are fairly close to one another for some activities. About 85% of each walked for pleasure, about three quarters of each attended outdoor family gatherings, about 57% went picnicking, and approximately 40% went bicycling in the past year. Percentages of AHPI were more than 1% higher than Whites for just two activities, mountain climbing and attending family gatherings. Percentages of Whites participating were noticeably greater across a number of activities, with 13 participation rates that were 5% greater for Whites. Activities with the greatest difference in participation rates were yard games, driving for pleasure, visiting a wilderness or primitive area, visiting a farm or agricultural setting, and hunting (any type). Nearly across the board, Whites are more likely to participate in land-based outdoor recreation than are AHPI. The only real exception is mountain

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climbing, which reflects the influence of the number of AHPI Americans residing in the mountainous western United States.

Percentages of Asian Americans and Non-Hispanic Whites, Age 16 and Older Participating in Land-Based Outdoor Recreation Activities, 2000-2004.

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Asian Americans</b>	<b>Whites</b>
Walk for pleasure	84.6	85.5
Family gathering	77.3	75.1
Gardening or landscaping for pleasure	64.9	70.2
Picnicking	57.2	56.7
Driving for pleasure	44.2	59.1
Attend outdoor concerts, plays, etc.	40.6	44.4
Bicycling	38.3	40.6
Day hiking	30.4	34.4
Visit a wilderness or primitive area	26.6	37.6
Developed camping	23.1	30.7
Yard games, e.g., horseshoes	22.2	45.8
Visit a farm or agricultural setting	21.3	31.9
Mountain biking	17.1	22.9
Drive off-road (any type)	12.9	21.1
Primitive camping	12.1	19.4
Backpacking	11.3	11.8
Mountain climbing	10.9	6.9
Horseback riding (any type)	5.5	11.0
Horseback riding on trails	4.4	8.9
Hunting (any type)	4.1	14.0
Orienteering	2.4	2.1
Big game hunting	2.3	11.0
Rock climbing	2.0	4.9
Small Game hunting	2.0	9.1
Migratory bird hunting	1.0	3.0

This Recreation Statistics Update Report is based on recent data that updates the estimated participation statistics reported in **Outdoor Recreation for 21<sup>st</sup> Century America**, published by Venture Publishing, College Station, PA. Copies of **Outdoor Recreation for 21<sup>st</sup> Century America** may be obtained from Venture Publishing at their website (<http://www.venturepublish.com>) or telephone at 1-814-234-4561. To see more of our research, please visit our website (<http://www.srs.fs.fed.us/trends>).