



# *Alpine Loop Visitor Use Study*

## Preliminary Data Analysis



**WESTERN**  
COLORADO UNIVERSITY

Kendall Cox  
MEM Candidate  
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# Outline



- Study Design
- Overall Visitation
- Types of Visitor Use
- Historic Traffic Count Comparisons
- Campsite Inventories
- GPRA Survey Results

# Study Design

- Visitor Use Level Estimation
  - TRAFx Counters
  - Direct Observation
  - Campsite Monitoring
- Visitor Use Survey
  - Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) Survey









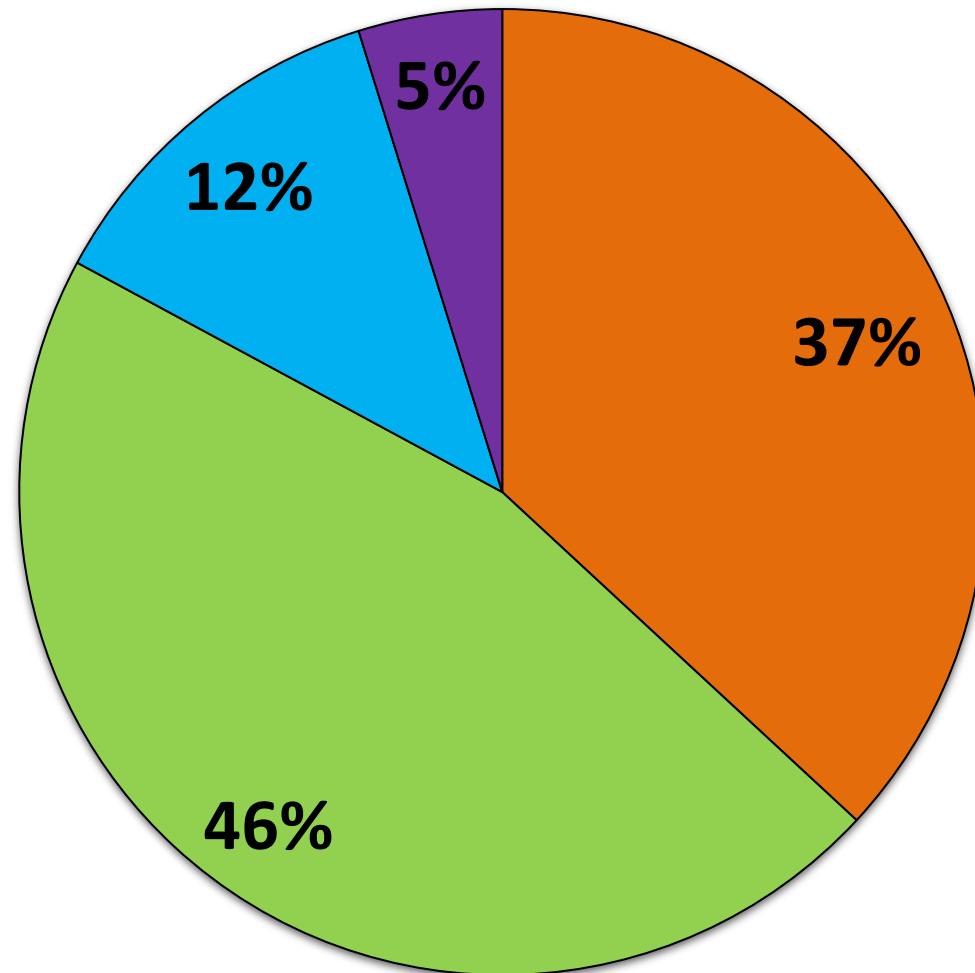
# Overall Visitation

| Month               | Total Vehicle Count | Total People Count |
|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| May                 | 9,037               | 18,566             |
| June                | 24,293              | 46,485             |
| July                | 55,687              | 112,194            |
| August              | 38,239              | 76,550             |
| September           | 31,623              | 59,601             |
| <b>Season Total</b> | <b>158,879</b>      | <b>313,396</b>     |
| Monthly Average     | 35,800              | 62,679             |
| Daily Average       | 1,038               | 2,048              |

- Minimum Daily Traffic:
  - 5/30/18 – 197 Vehicle Count
- Maximum Daily Traffic:
  - 7/21/18 – 2,194 Vehicle Count

# Visitation by Entrance Zone

- Silverton
- Lake City
- HWY 550
- Stony Pass



# Silverton Entrance Visitation

| Site            | <i>Gladstone</i> |        | <i>Howardsville</i> |         | <b><i>Total for Silverton</i></b> |                |
|-----------------|------------------|--------|---------------------|---------|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| Month           | Traffic Count    | People | Traffic Count       | People  | Vehicle Count                     | People Count   |
| May             | 533              | 1,052  | -                   | -       | <b>533</b>                        | <b>1,052</b>   |
| June            | 588              | 1,160  | 8,894               | 17,544  | <b>9,482</b>                      | <b>18,703</b>  |
| July            | 1,737            | 3,427  | 18,805              | 37,094  | <b>20,542</b>                     | <b>40,520</b>  |
| August          | 1,283            | 2,531  | 12,501              | 24,659  | <b>13,784</b>                     | <b>27,190</b>  |
| September       | 1,003            | 1,979  | 10,913              | 21,526  | <b>11,916</b>                     | <b>23,505</b>  |
| Season Total    | 5,145            | 10,148 | 51,113              | 100,822 | <b>56,257</b>                     | <b>110,970</b> |
| Monthly Average | 1,029            | 2,030  | 12,778              | 25,207  | <b>13,807</b>                     | <b>27,235</b>  |
| Daily Average   | 34               | 66     | 419                 | 826     | <b>453</b>                        | <b>893</b>     |

# Lake City Entrance Visitation

| <i>Site</i>     | <i>Henson Creek</i> |        | <i>Lake Fork</i> |        | <i>Total for Lake City</i> |                |
|-----------------|---------------------|--------|------------------|--------|----------------------------|----------------|
| Month           | Traffic Count       | People | Traffic Count    | People | Vehicle Count              | People Count   |
| May             | 3,553               | 7,008  | 3,819            | 7,534  | <b>7,372</b>               | <b>14,541</b>  |
| June            | 5,222               | 10,301 | 6,090            | 12,013 | <b>11,312</b>              | <b>22,313</b>  |
| July            | 10,859              | 21,420 | 11,792           | 23,260 | <b>22,651</b>              | <b>44,680</b>  |
| August          | 7,544               | 14,881 | 8,390            | 16,550 | <b>15,934</b>              | <b>31,431</b>  |
| September       | 6,196               | 12,222 | 6,663            | 13,143 | <b>12,859</b>              | <b>25,365</b>  |
| Season Total    | 33,374              | 65,831 | 36,754           | 72,499 | <b>70,128</b>              | <b>138,330</b> |
| Monthly Average | 6,675               | 13,166 | 7,351            | 14,500 | <b>14,026</b>              | <b>27,666</b>  |
| Daily Average   | 218                 | 430    | 240              | 474    | <b>458</b>                 | <b>904</b>     |



# Highway 550 Entrance Visitation

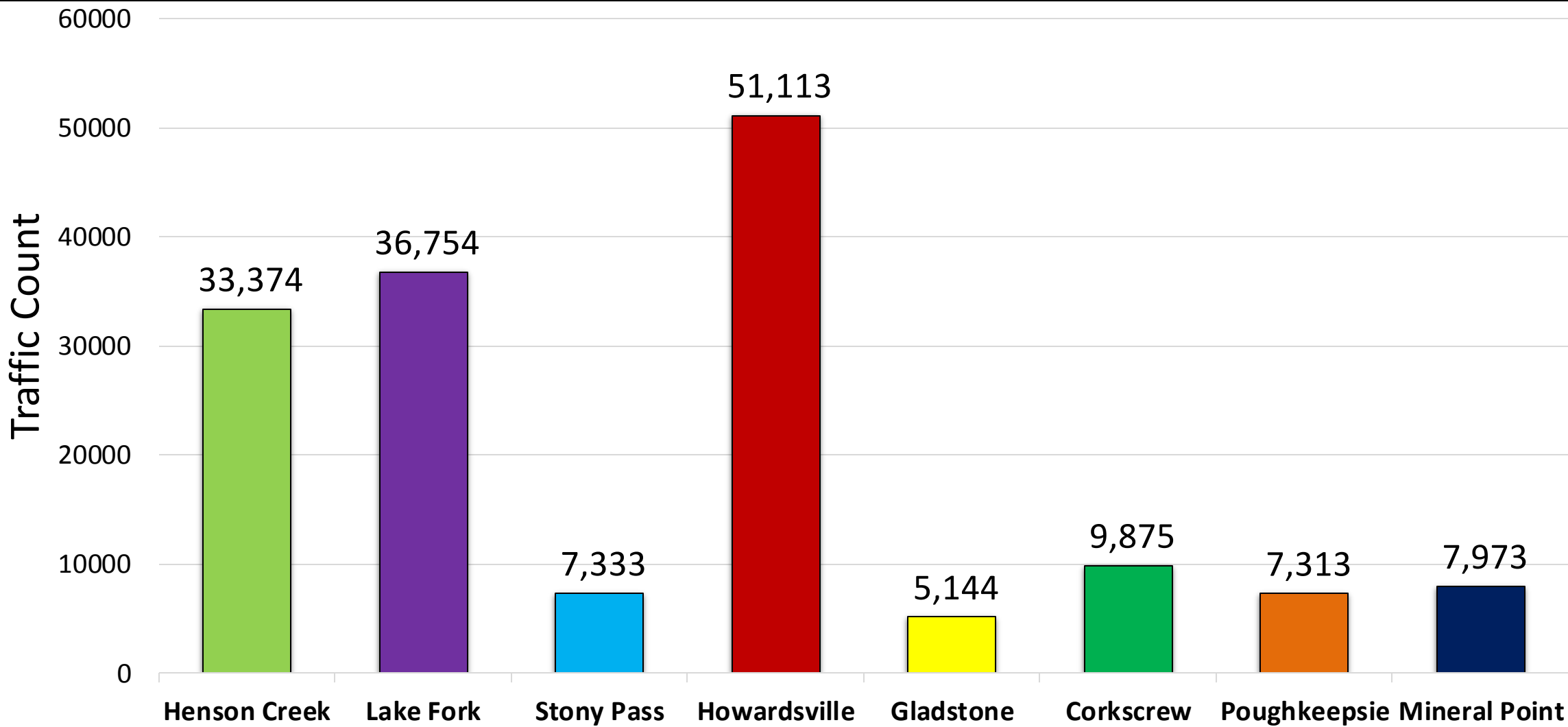
| Site            | <i>Corkscrew</i> |        | <i>Poughkeepsie</i> |        | <i>Mineral Point</i> |        | <b><i>HWY 550 Total</i></b> |               |
|-----------------|------------------|--------|---------------------|--------|----------------------|--------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| Month           | Traffic Count    | People | Traffic Count       | People | Traffic Count        | People | Vehicle Count               | People Count  |
| May             | -                | -      | -                   | -      | 450                  | 887    | <b>450</b>                  | <b>887</b>    |
| June            | 1,486            | 2,932  | -                   | -      | 1,203                | 2,373  | <b>2,689</b>                | <b>5,304</b>  |
| July            | 3,500            | 6,904  | 3,627               | 7,154  | 2,773                | 5,470  | <b>9,900</b>                | <b>19,528</b> |
| August          | 2,646            | 5,219  | 2,171               | 4,282  | 1,911                | 3,769  | <b>6,728</b>                | <b>13,271</b> |
| September       | 2,243            | 4,424  | 1,515               | 2,988  | 1,637                | 3,229  | <b>5,395</b>                | <b>10,642</b> |
| Season Total    | 9,875            | 19,479 | 7,313               | 14,425 | 1,595                | 3,145  | <b>18,783</b>               | <b>37,050</b> |
| Monthly Average | 2,469            | 4,870  | 2,438               | 4,808  | 7,973                | 15,727 | <b>12,880</b>               | <b>25,405</b> |
| Daily Average   | 81               | 160    | 80                  | 157    | 52                   | 103    | <b>213</b>                  | <b>419</b>    |

# Stony Pass Entrance Visitation

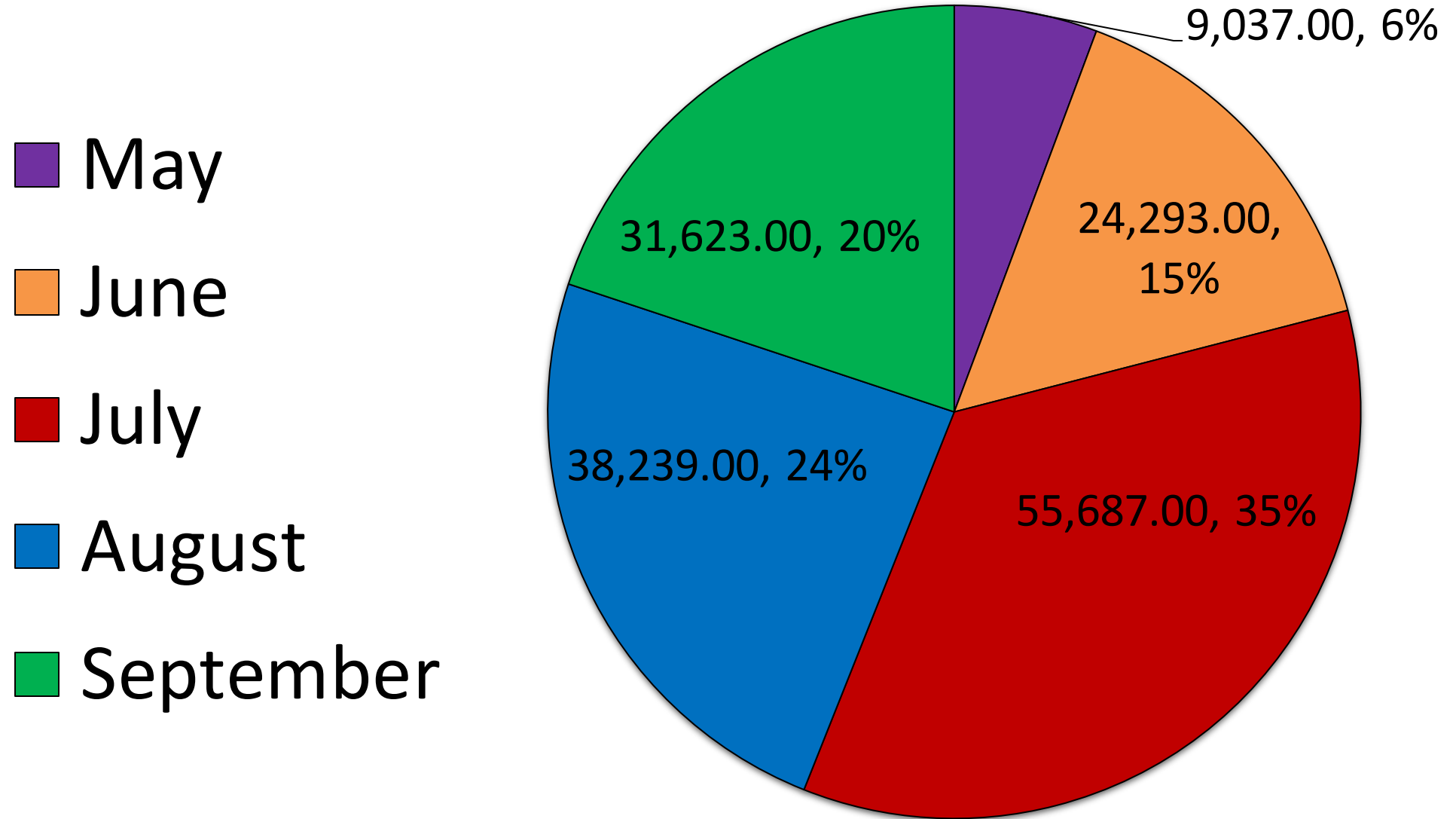
| Month           | Traffic Count | People        |
|-----------------|---------------|---------------|
| May             | 682           | 1,345         |
| June            | 810           | 1,599         |
| July            | 2,594         | 5,119         |
| August          | 1,793         | 3,537         |
| September       | 1,453         | 2,866         |
| Season Total    | <b>7,333</b>  | <b>14,464</b> |
| Monthly Average | 1,467         | 2,893         |
| Daily Average   | 48            | 95            |



# Total Season Traffic



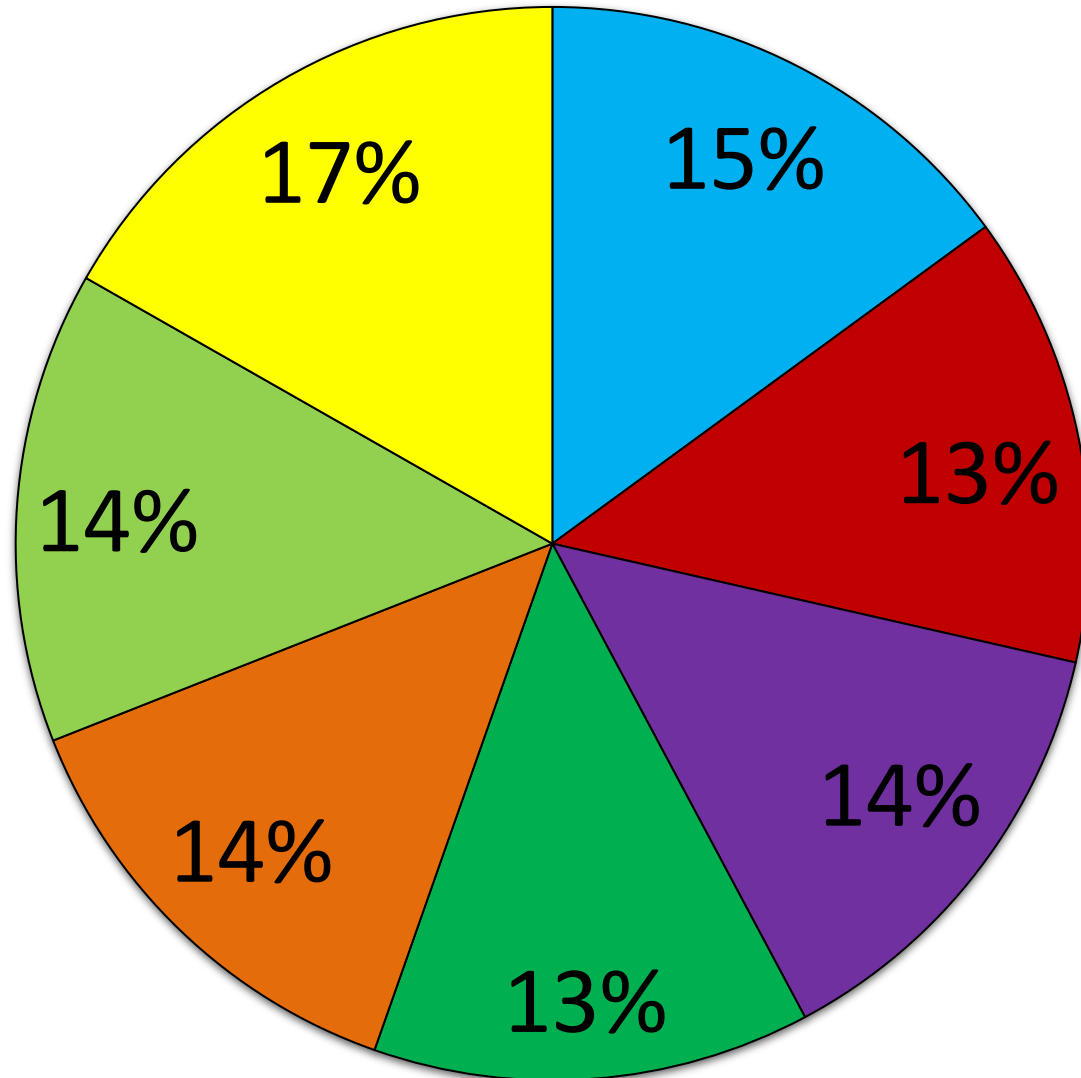
# Total Monthly Vehicle Count



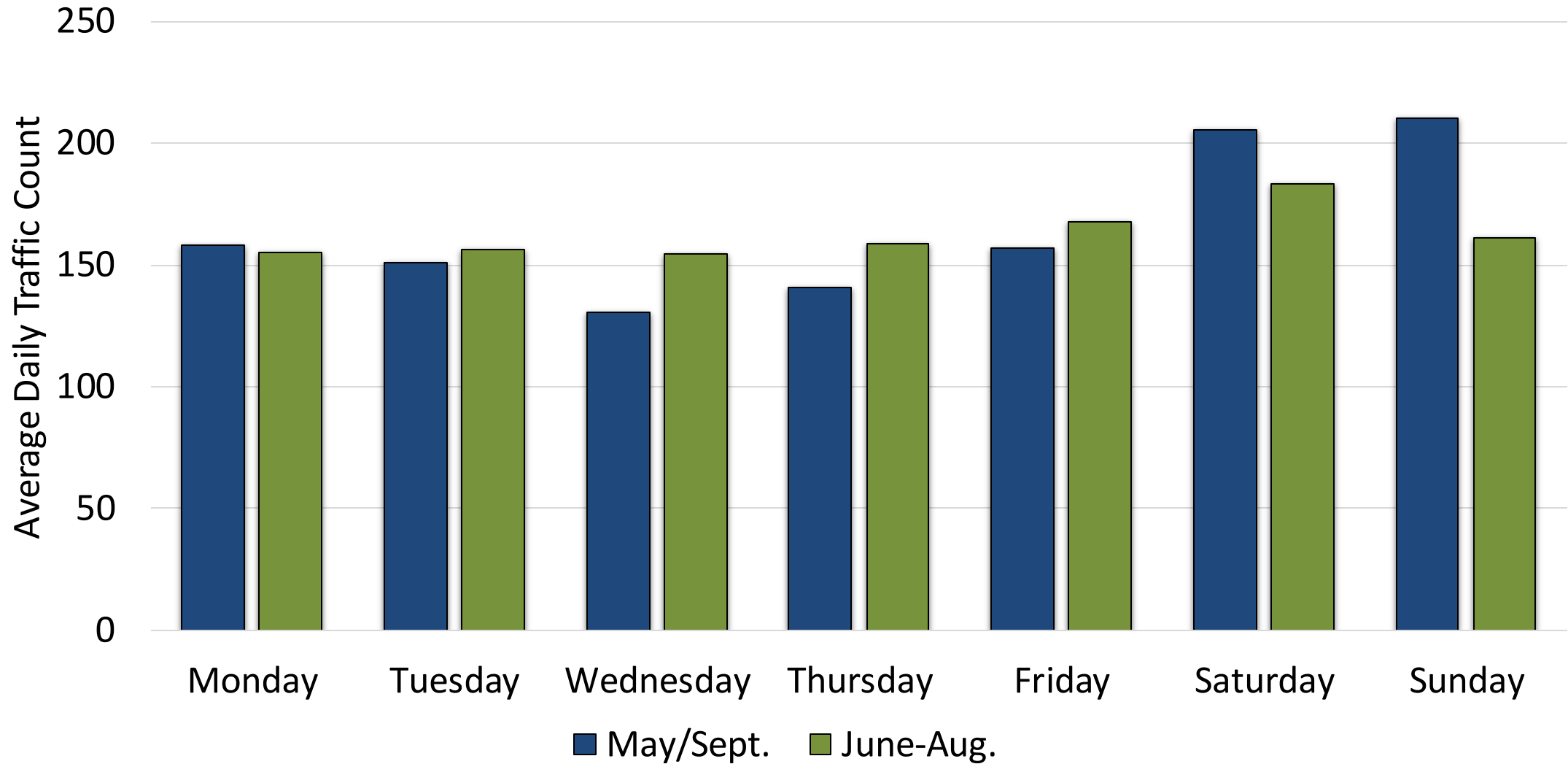


# Average Traffic by Day of Week

- Sunday
- Monday
- Tuesday
- Wednesday
- Thursday
- Friday
- Saturday

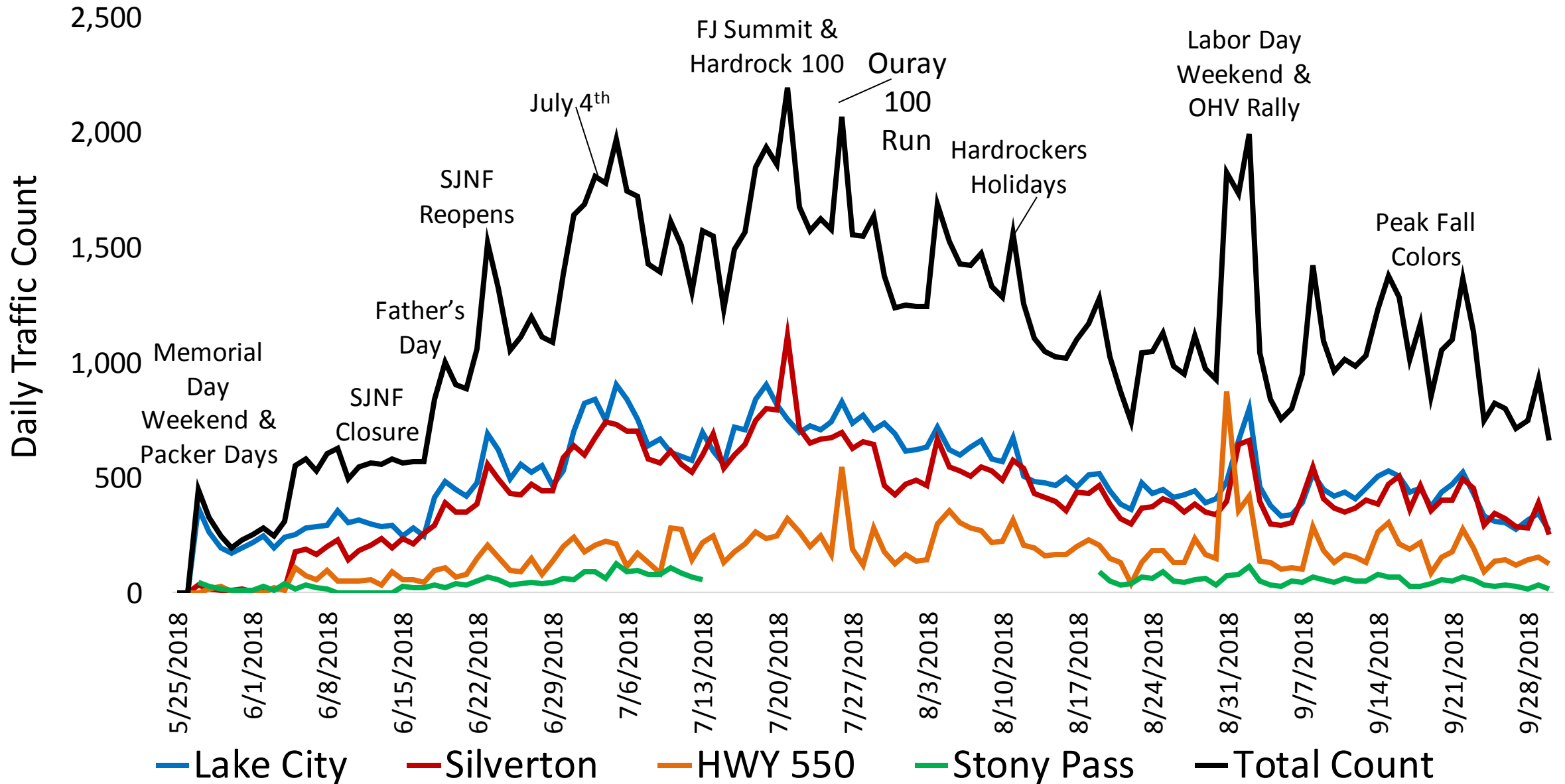


# Shoulder & Main Season Comparison





# Daily Totals





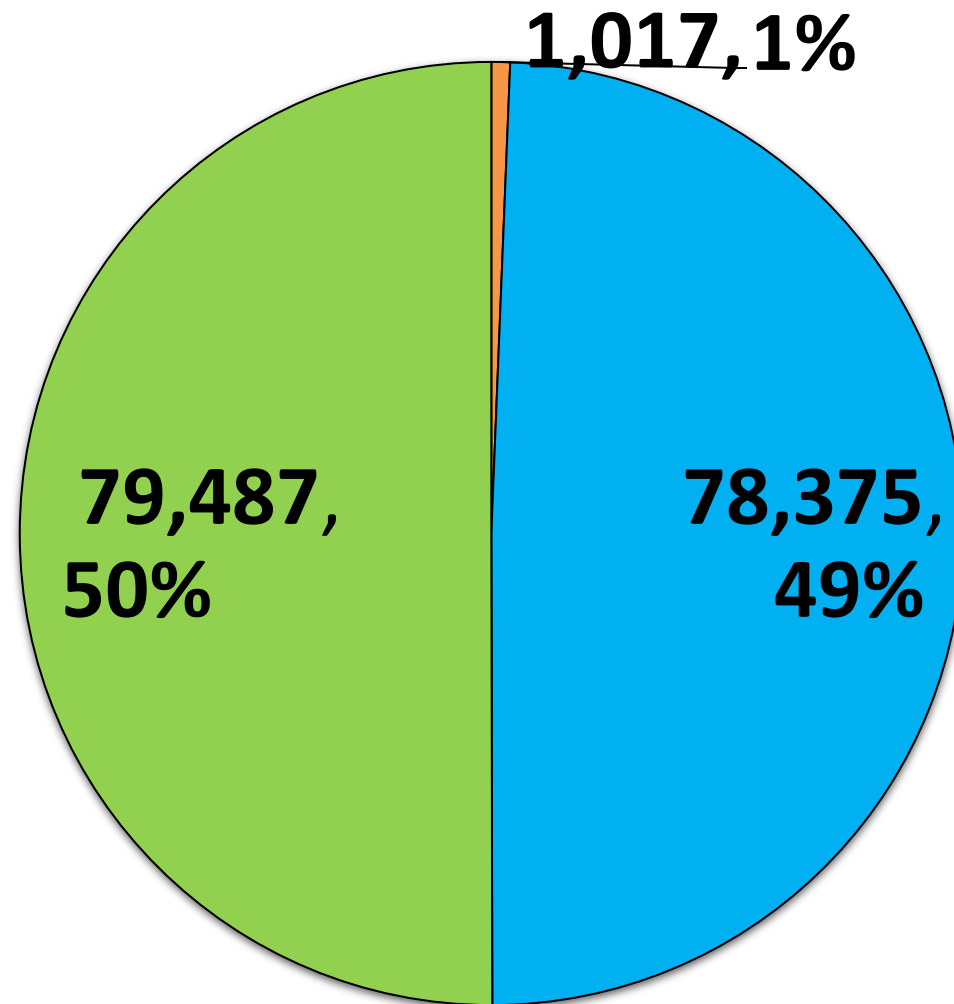
# *Types of Visitor Use*

# Visitor Mode of Travel

■ Non-Motorized

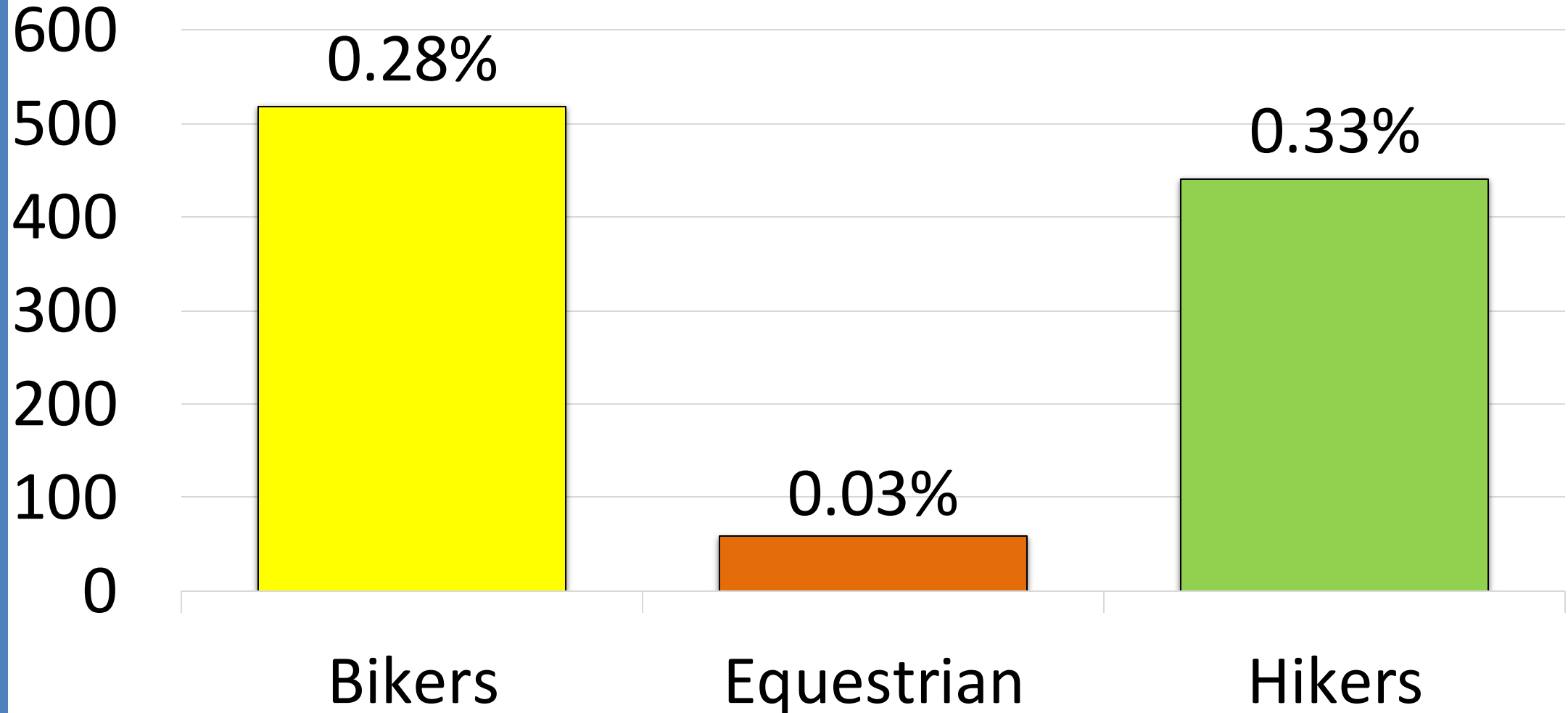
■ OHV

■ Highway Vehicle

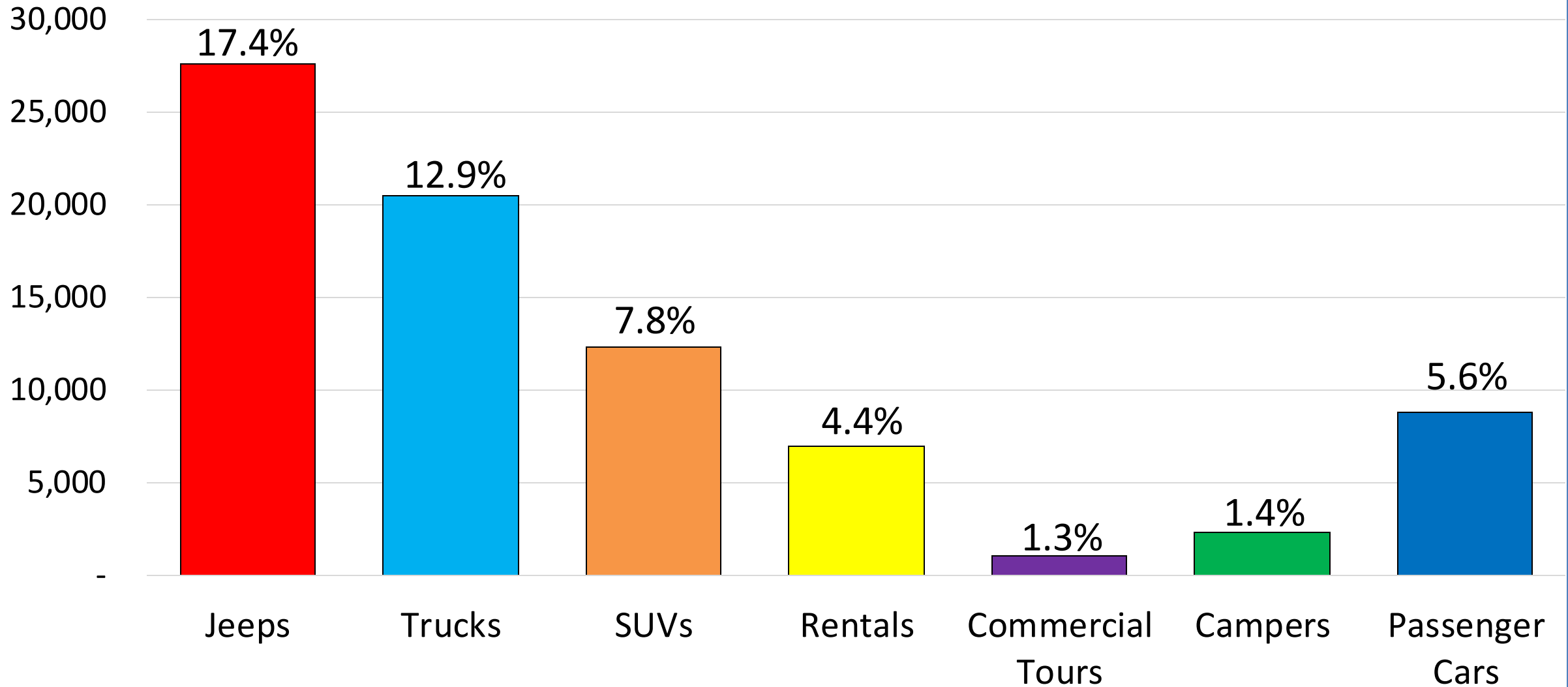




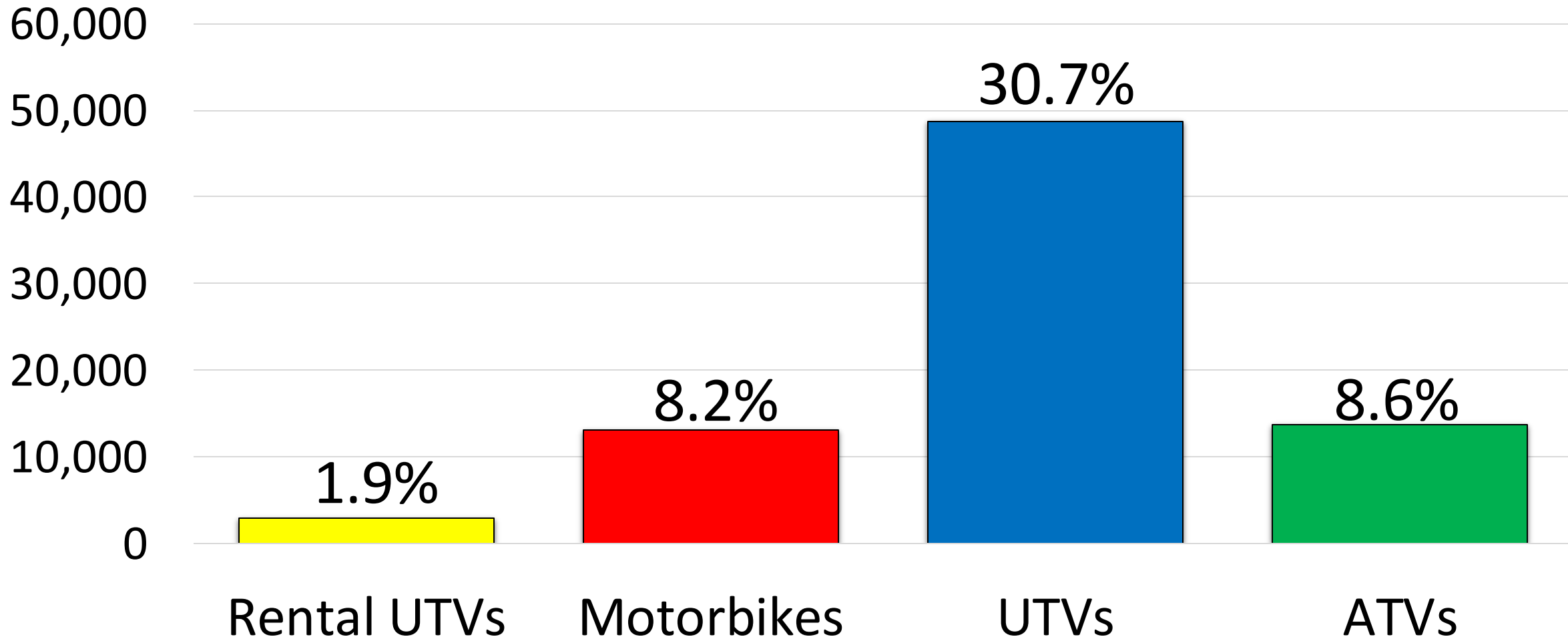
# Non-Motorized (0.64% of the Total)



# Highway Vehicles (50.03% of the Total)



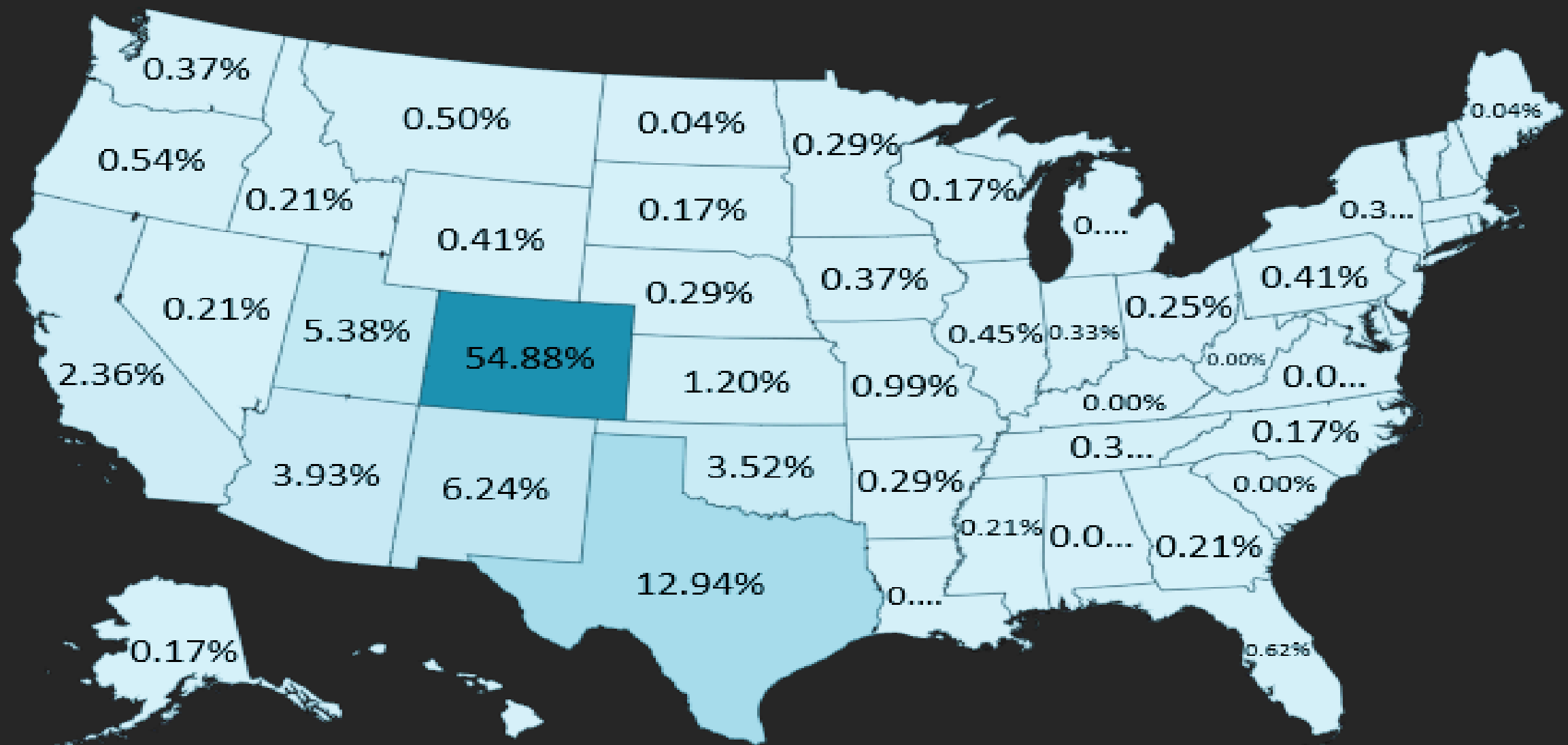
# Off-Highway Vehicles (49.33% of the Total)





# License Plate Observations

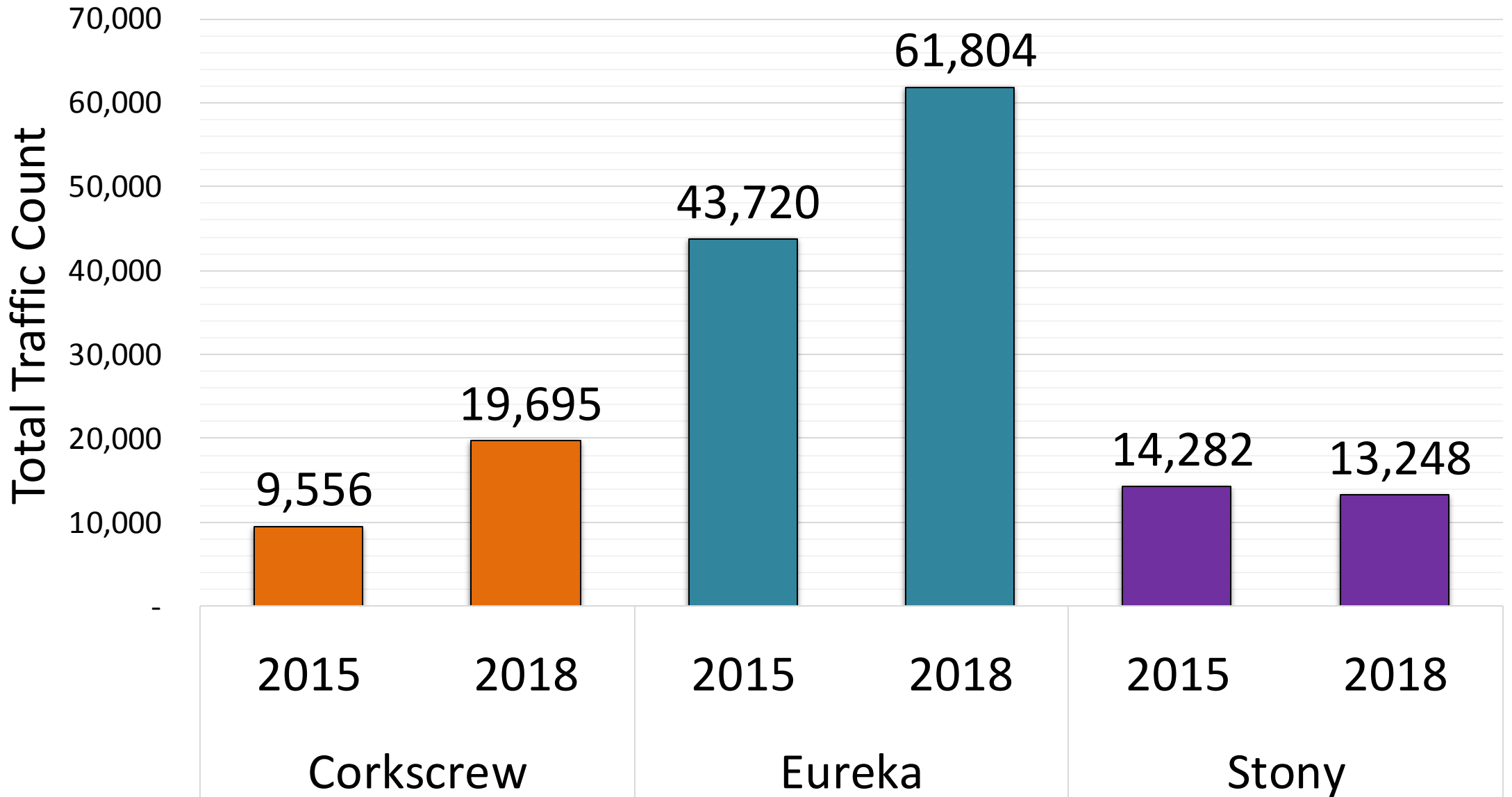
Series1 0.00% 54.88%





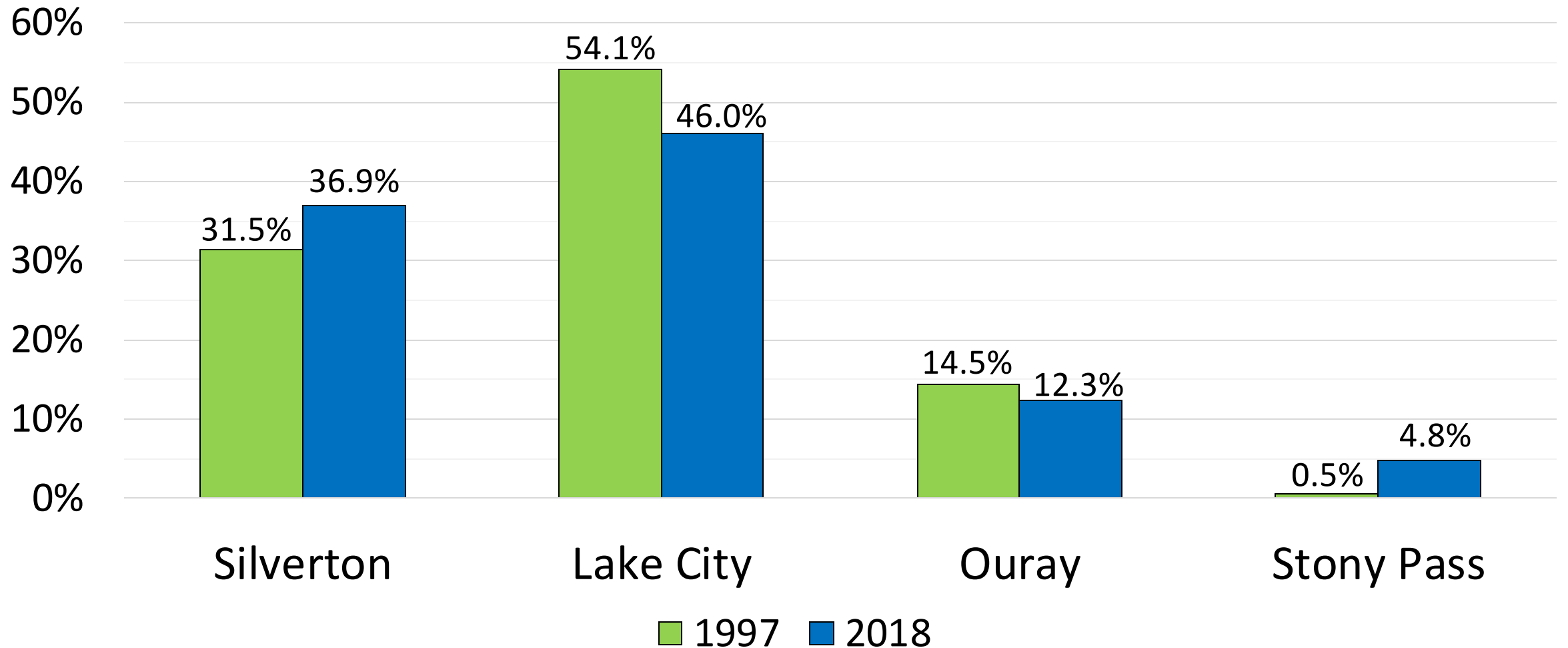
# *Historic Traffic Comparisons*

# 2015 Traffic Count Comparison

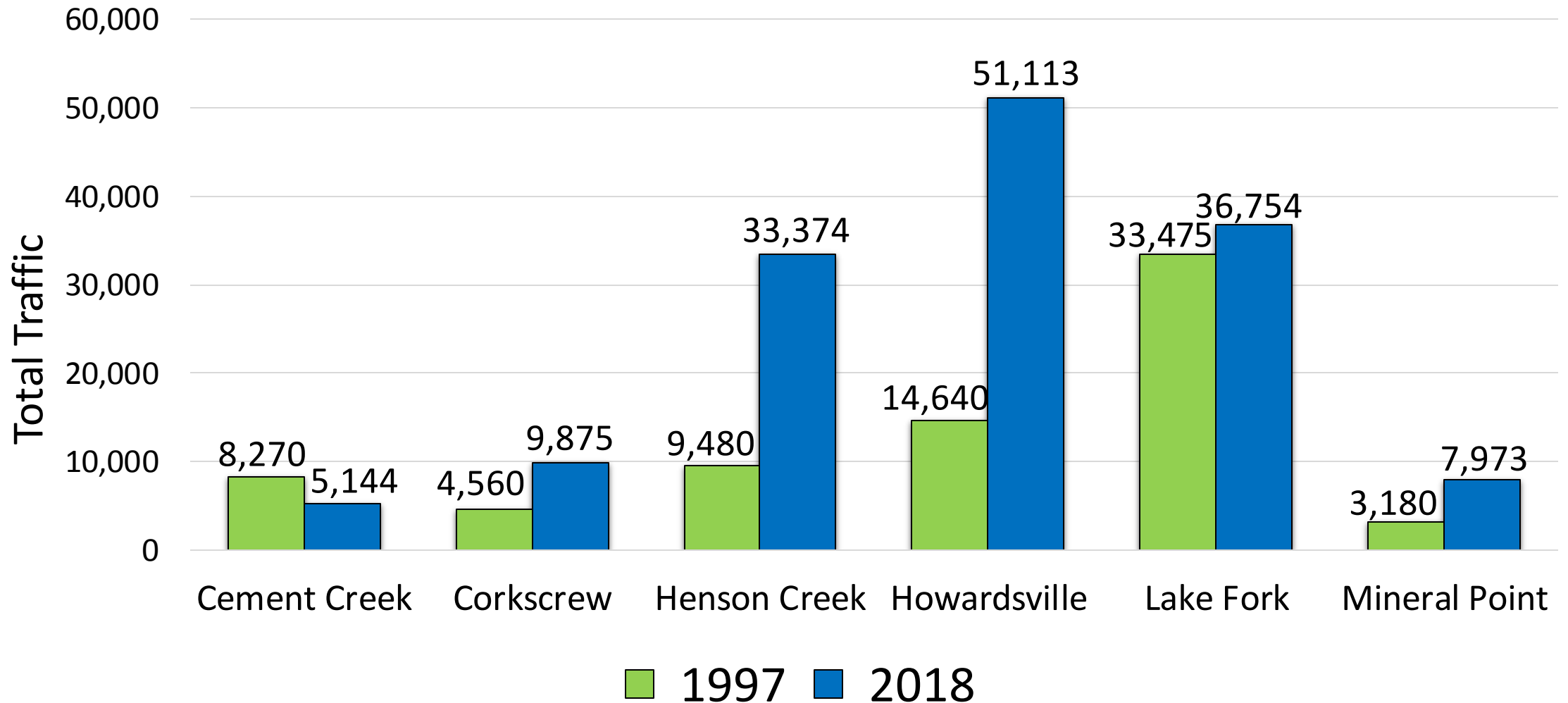




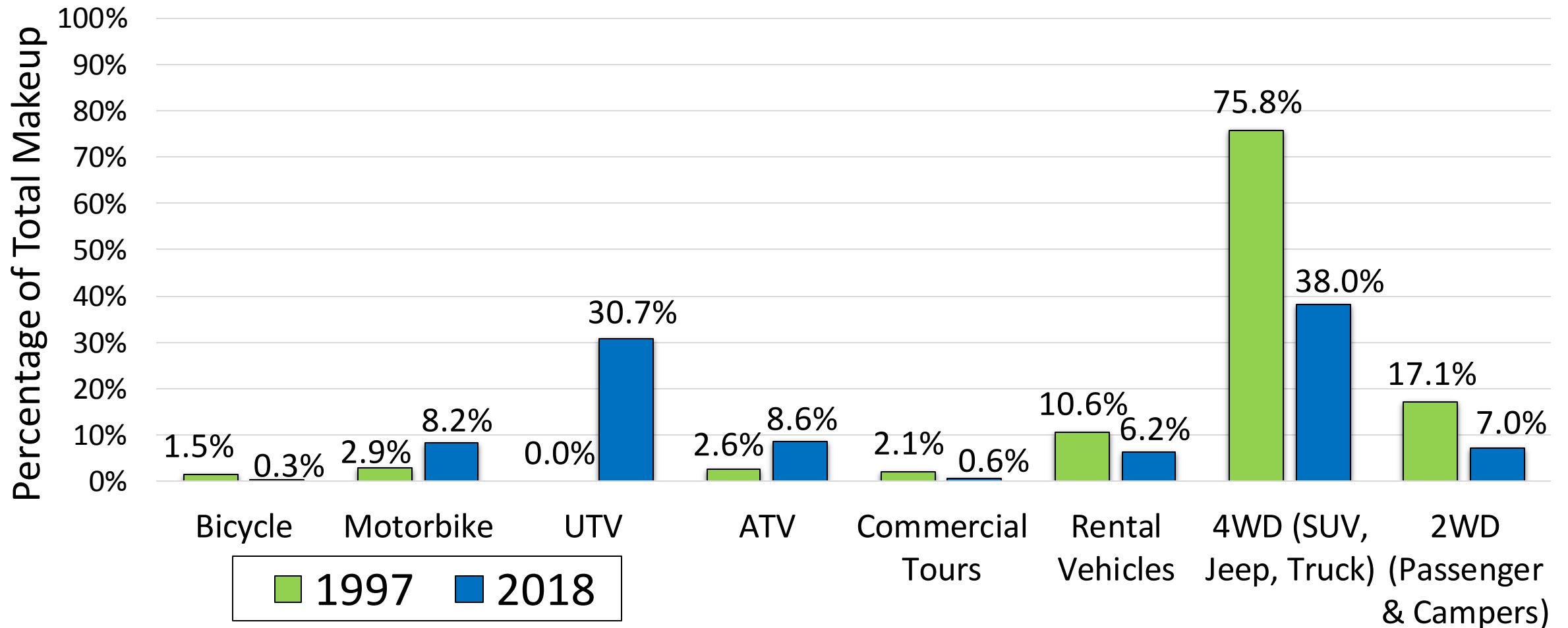
# 1997 Visitation by Entrance Zone Comparison



# 1997 Vehicle Count Comparison



# 1997 Types of Visitor Use Comparison





# *Campsite Inventories*

| Month     | Monthly Count | Daily Average |
|-----------|---------------|---------------|
| June      | 440           | 15            |
| July      | 961           | 31            |
| August    | 709           | 23            |
| September | 369           | 12            |
| Total     | 620           | 20            |

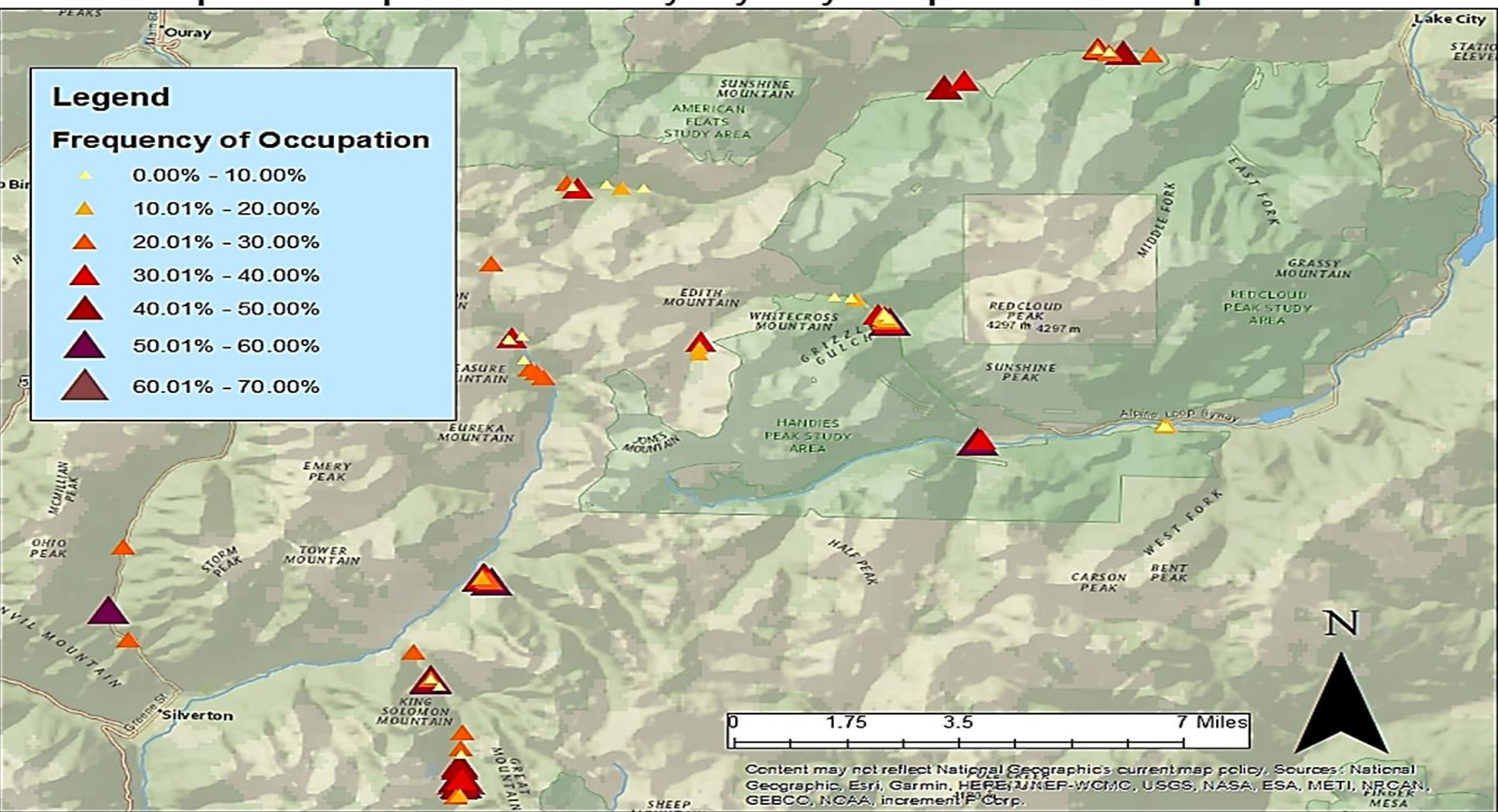
|                          |              |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| <b>Grand Total Count</b> | <b>2,478</b> |
|--------------------------|--------------|



# Alpine Loop Backcountry Byway Dispersed Campsites

## Legend

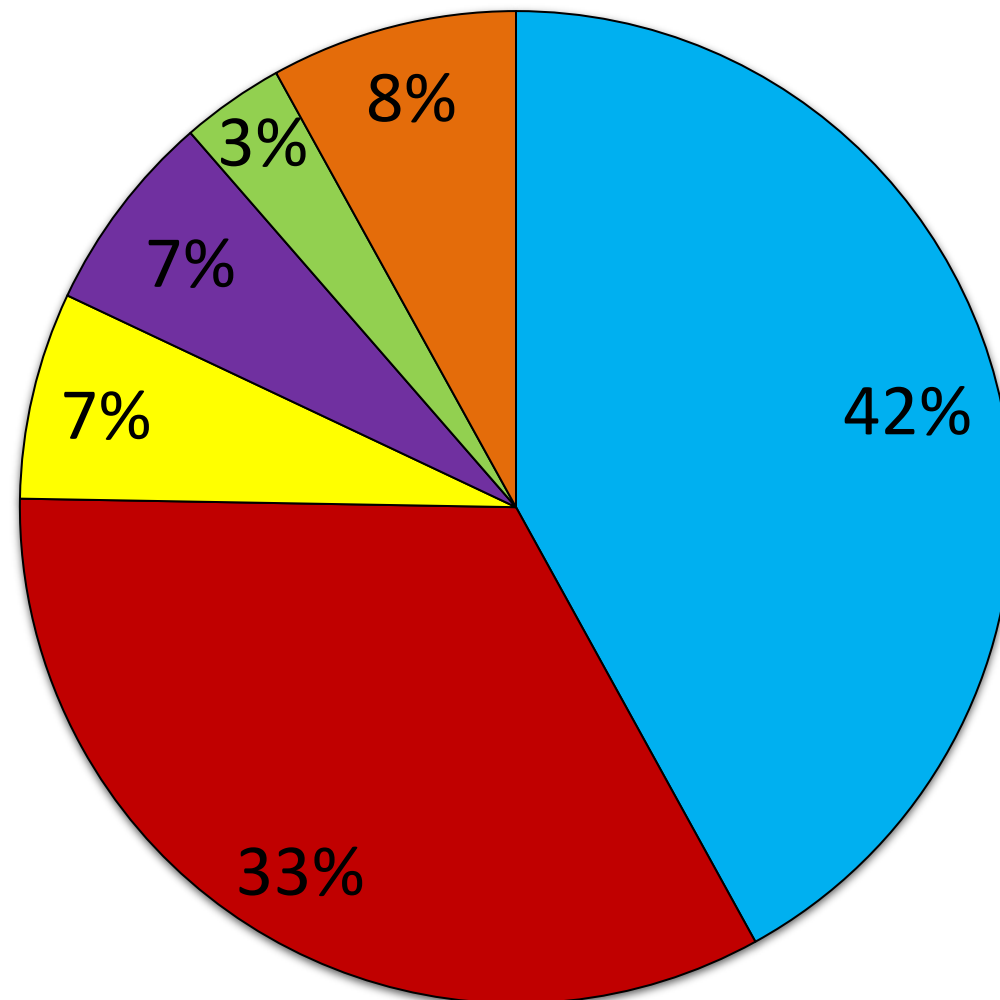
### Frequency of Occupation



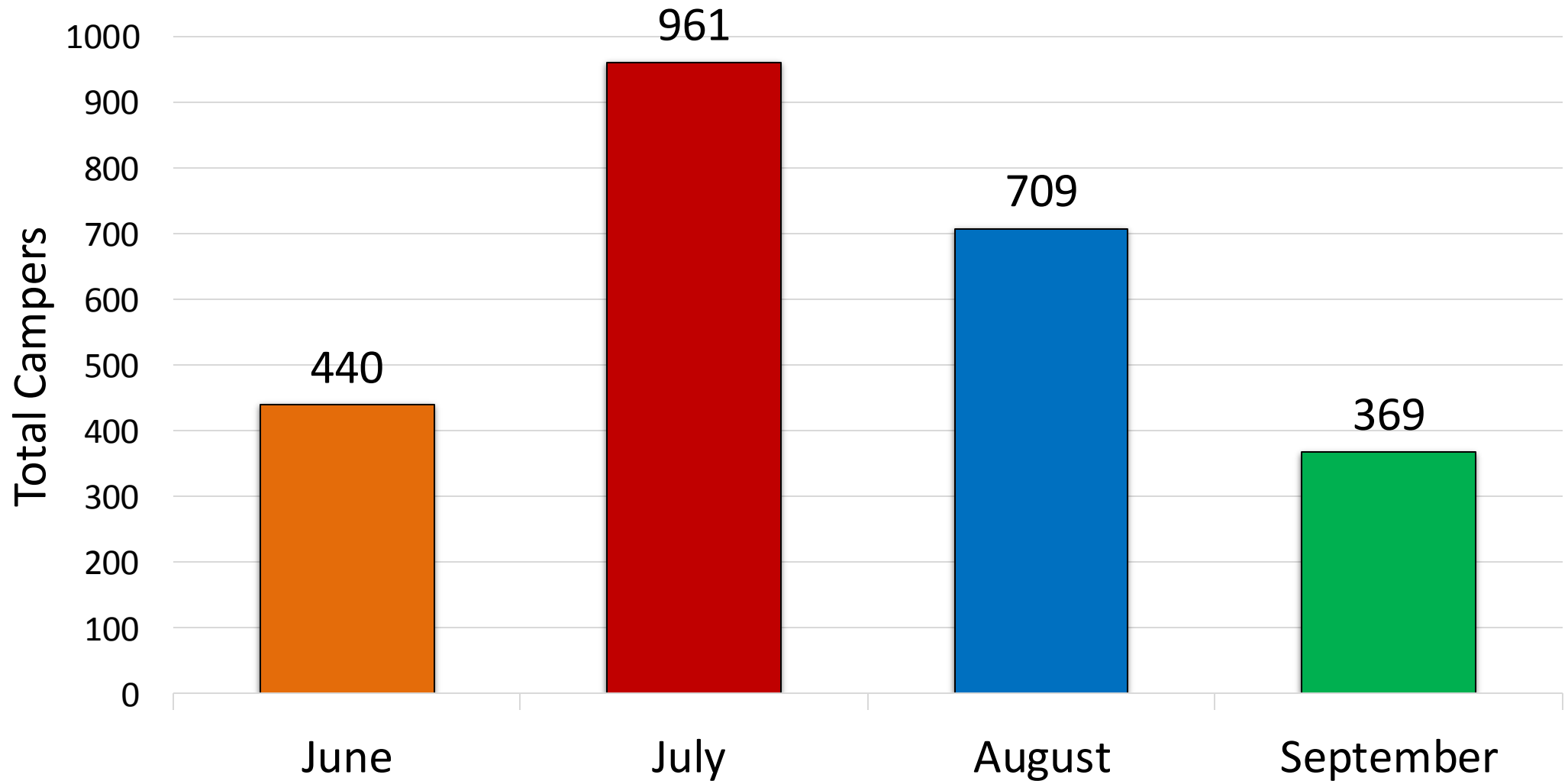
Content may not reflect National Geographic's current map policy. Sources: National Geographic, Esri, Garmin, HERE, UNEP-WCMC, USGS, NASA, ESA, METI, NRCAN, GEBCO, NOAA, increment P Corp.

# Camper Types

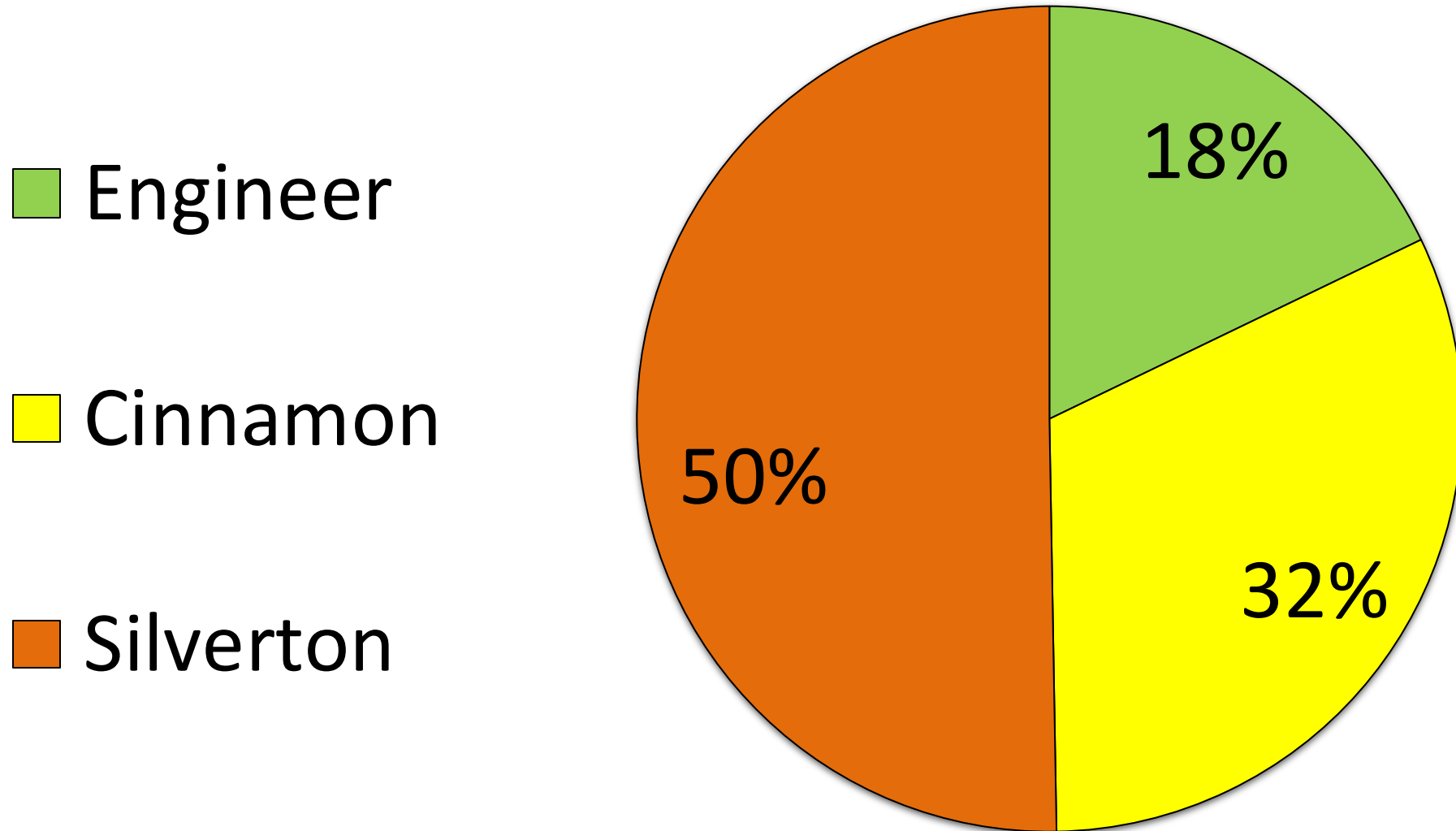
- Tents
- Camper Trailer
- RV
- Truck-Topper
- Pop-Up
- Van/car camper



# Campers Per Month



# Campsite Locations

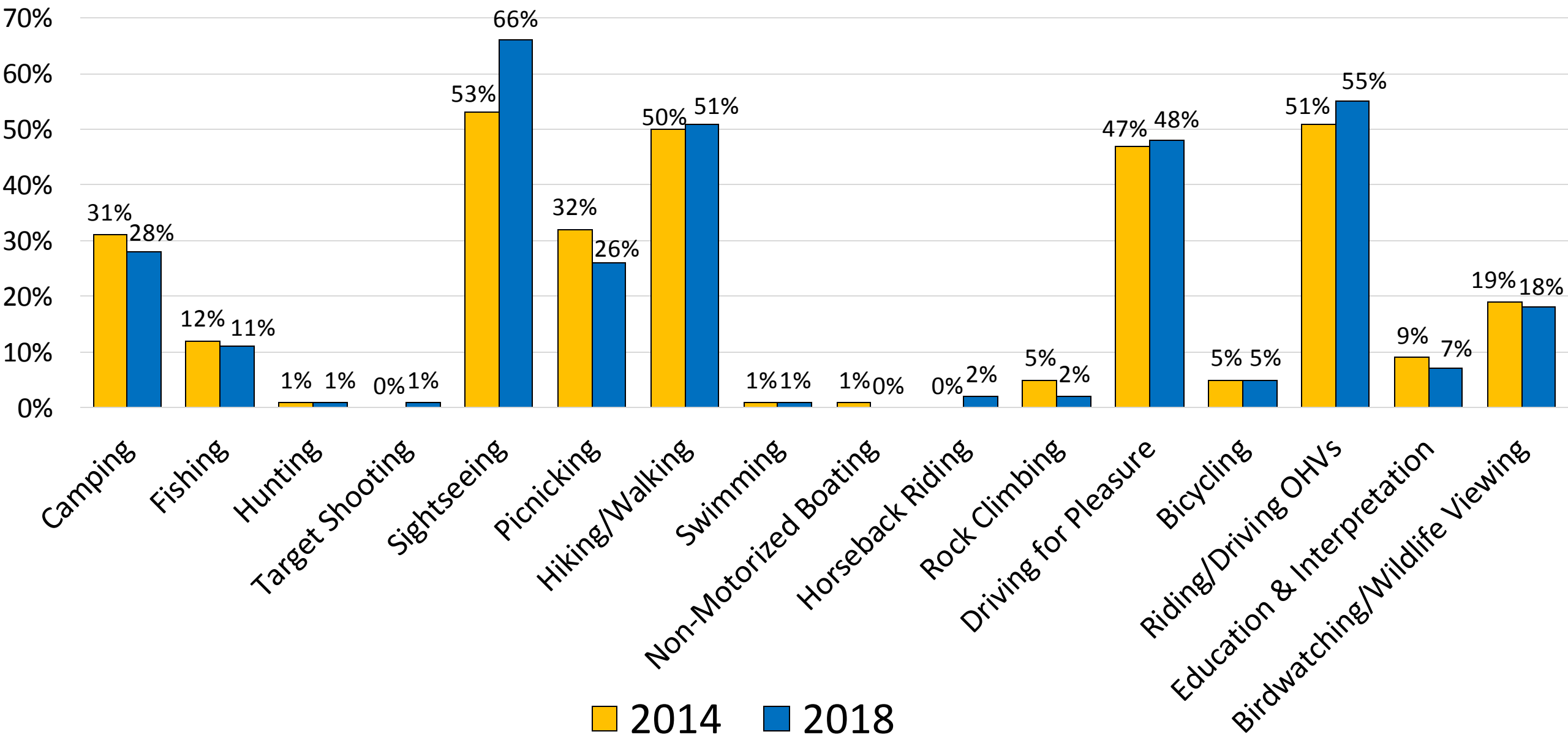




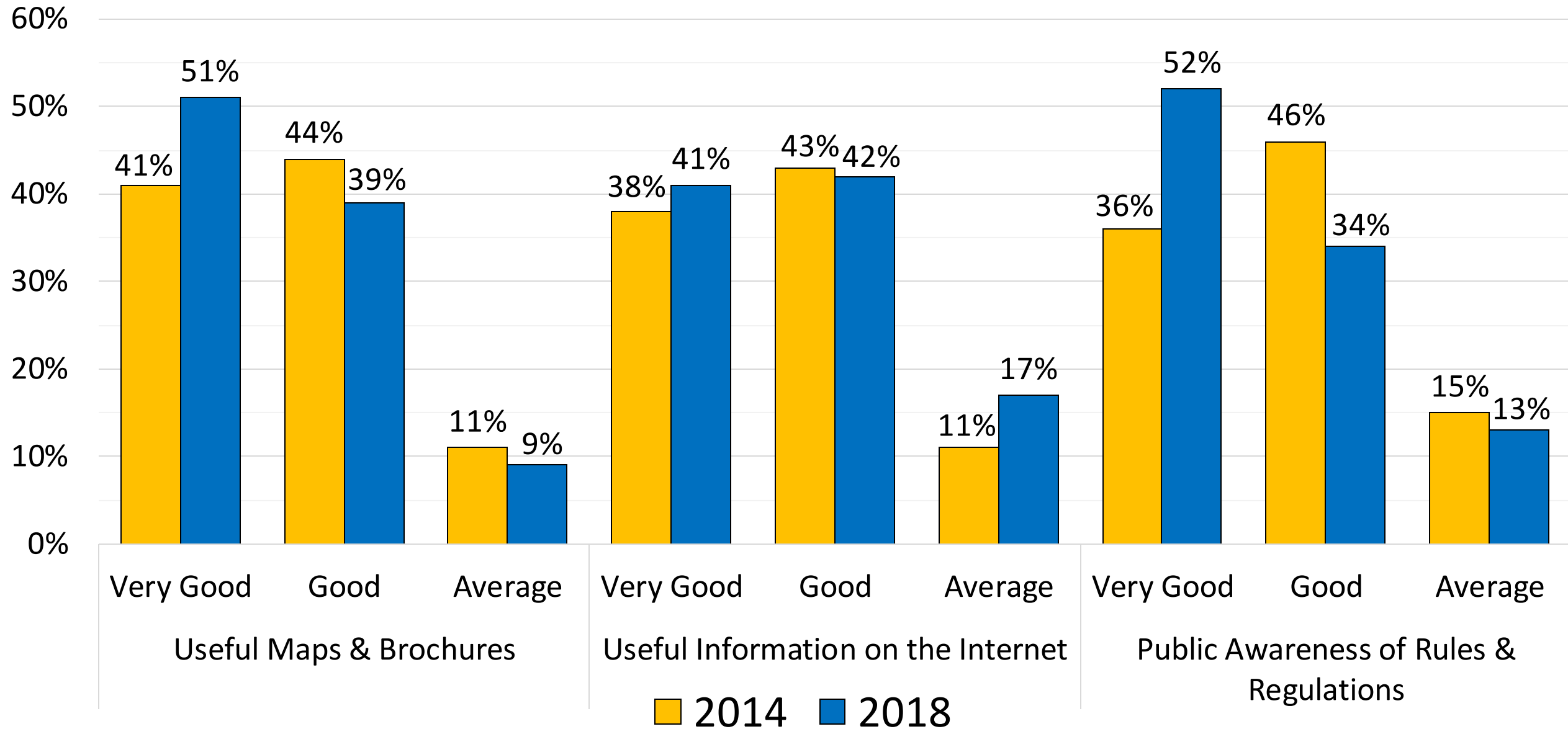


# *GPRA Survey Results*

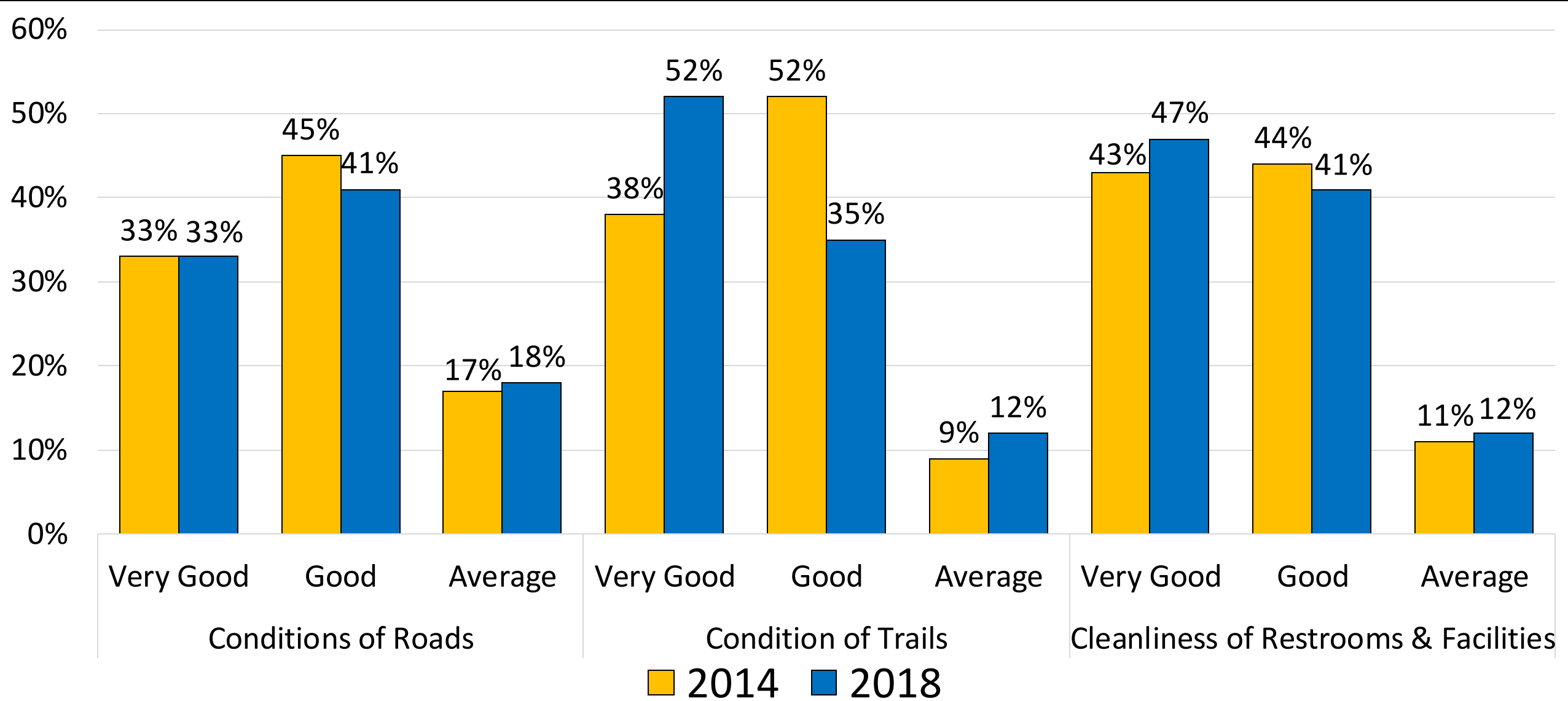
# Visitor Activities



# Visitor Information Ratings

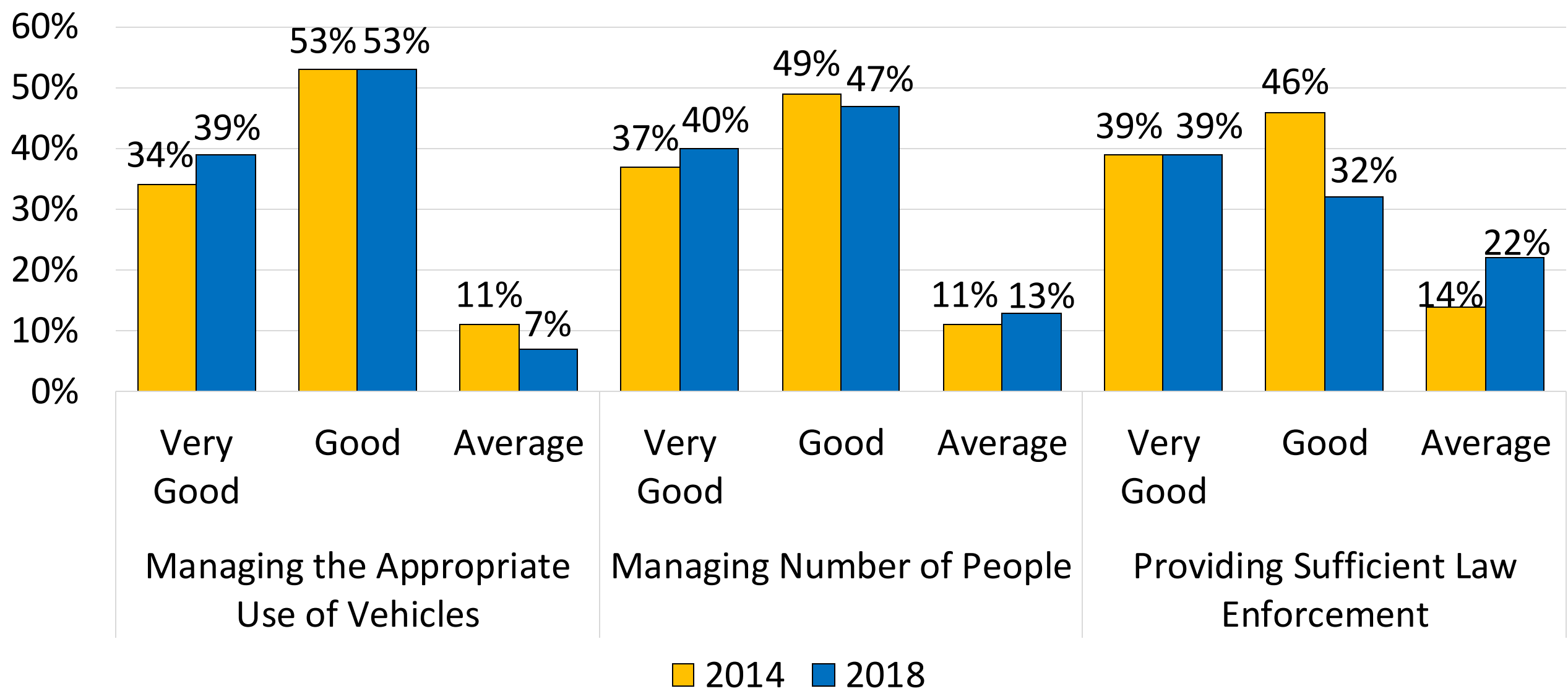


# Developed Facilities Ratings

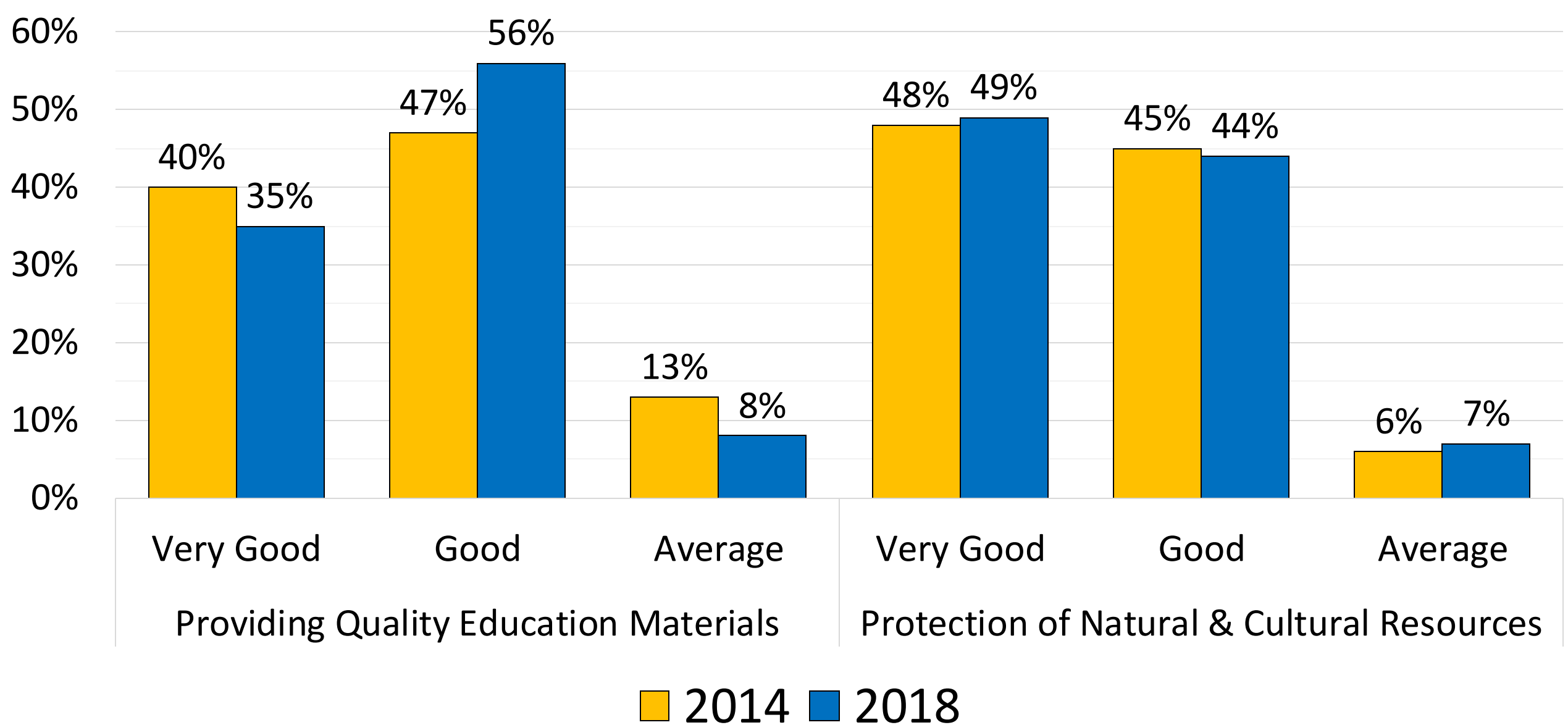




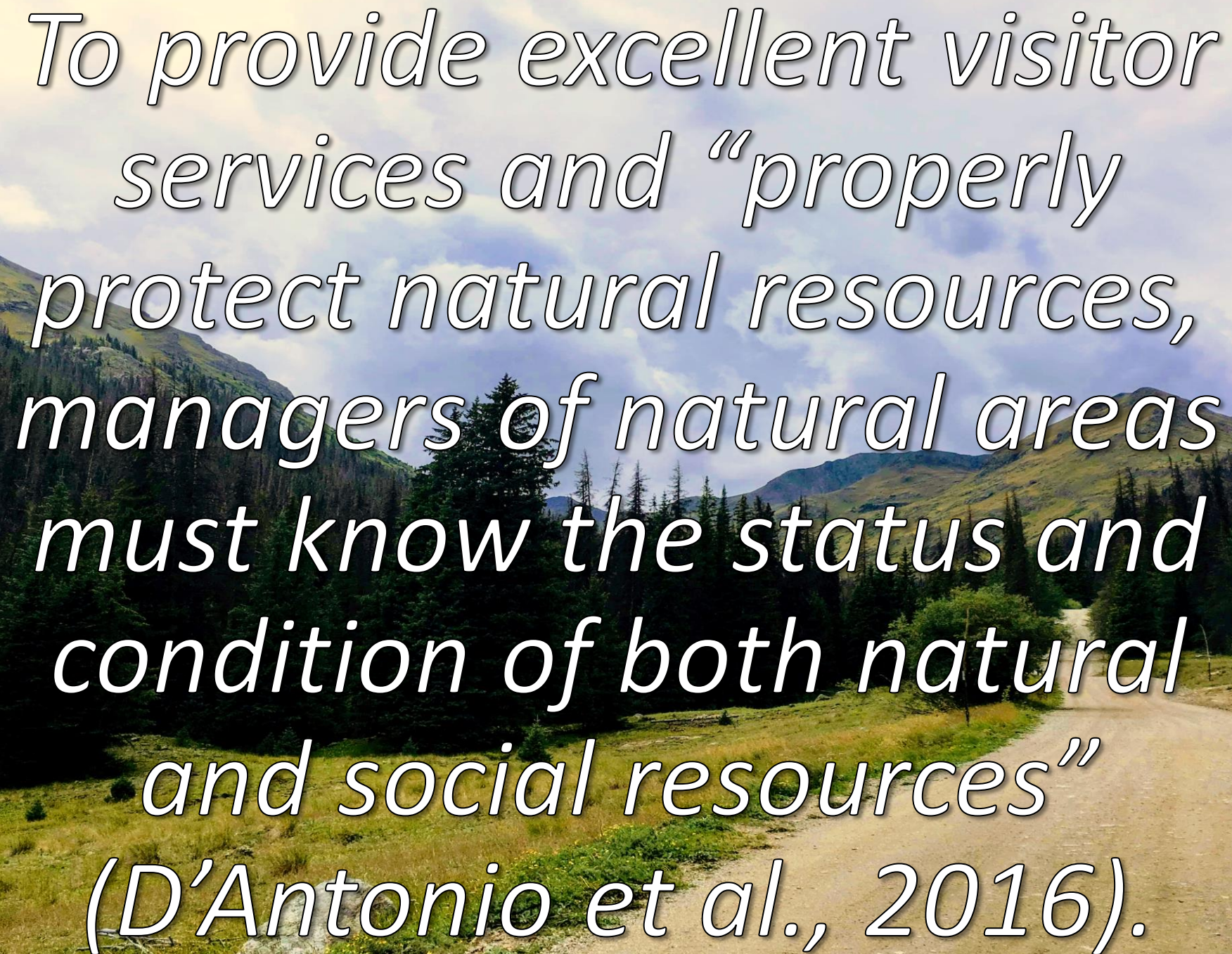
# Recreation Use Management Ratings



# Resource Management & Education Ratings







*To provide excellent visitor services and “properly protect natural resources, managers of natural areas must know the status and condition of both natural and social resources” (D’Antonio et al., 2016).*