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Camping Demand in Alabama

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Information contained herein is available to everyone, regardless of race, color, or national origin.

CAMPING DEMAND IN ALABAMA*

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INTRODUCTION

PEOPLE TODAY LIVE in a fast paced society and have many different activities which compete for their limited time. Time is required for earning a living and maintaining one's health. People also usually obligate some time for maintaining status or appearance in the social community to ensure the stability of a job or business. Time is used for stretching incomes which have not fully kept up with inflation so the family can live at an acceptable level. After all these uses have been subtracted from total available time, the residual is termed "discretionary time".

Though work time has decreased over the years, other uses of time have increased; so the actual amount of discretionary or free time has at best remained constant and even decreased for some individuals. Because of its scarcity, people tend to choose the use of free time so that it will yield the greatest satisfaction. One major means of obtaining satisfaction during discretionary time is through recreational activities. An activity is recreational if it rests, relaxes, or in some other way gives the person a feeling of contentment. The activity accomplishes recreation by providing a change in the person's physical or mental environment. Recreational activities are not necessarily engaged in only during free time, but they are a major user of this type of time.

Under this definition of recreation, camping can be both a recreational activity and a bridge to other recreational activities. Camping trips require a large block of free time per trip, such as a weekend or holiday; therefore, participants must have had a strong enticement to devote a relatively large part of scarce discretionary time to a single activity such as camping. An accurate estimate of factors that could influence people to camp would be of interest to private and

*This report was derived from "Camper Perception as a Motivating Force in Selection of Equipment and Facilities in Alabama," an unpublished master's thesis by John L. Boutwell, Auburn University, 1976, and is submitted as a contributing part of Hatch project 299.

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public planners. However, a review of available literature revealed no studies conducted in the area of camper motivation. The void in the area of motivation research was possibly due to the difficulty in first identifying and then measuring various motivations. Because of the lack of research in the area, a decision was made to further pursue the subject of camper motivation.

METHODOLOGY

Data on motivation were collected from a cross section of Alabama campers during the summer of 1974. The survey was accomplished by conducting 882 useable personal interviews with respondents while they were in campgrounds. Interviewers visited campgrounds throughout the week and on special holidays in order to include a cross section of campers in the sample. Sample diversity was also accomplished by including campers from 58 campgrounds in the survey.

The campgrounds used in the survey varied in location, setting, and facilities. Campgrounds were located at the Gulf, beside rivers, beside lakes, near interstate highways or special attractions, in National Forests, and in mountains. Some campgrounds offered a setting of seclusion, peace, and quiet while others were filled with activity and people. Campers had a choice of staying where they had few conveniences other than hand-pump drinking water; or they could have hot showers, washer-dryer facilities, and a camp store nearby. The degree of attraction that various campgrounds had for different campers was determined by the personal preferences of each camper. Because of differences in preference among campers, inclusion of as many types of campgrounds as possible was necessary before the sample could be called representative of all Alabama campers.

The ownership of campground often determined to a large extent its general location and what facilities that campground offered. This was especially true when ownership by different governmental agencies was involved, and the majority of the total number of campgrounds in Alabama were owned by such agencies. Since it was felt that ownership of a campground might influence the type of campers who visited that site, a diversified sampling procedure was needed to contact as many types of campers as possible. Therefore, a direct effort was made to visit as many campgrounds as feasible under each of the five major ownership categories, Appendix table 1.

DESCRIPTIVE ANALYSIS

Origin of Camper

Of 882 camping parties interviewed during the study, more than two-thirds (69 percent) lived in Alabama while only 31 percent lived in states other than Alabama. Previous studies had predicted significantly more out-of-state campers for the time period encompassing this study (6). However, certain developments prior to and during the summer of 1974 helped explain the high percentage of in-state campers.

The first of these developments was a rather abrupt increase in the price of petroleum. Gasoline prices at the retail level averaged up to and sometimes more than 50 percent higher during the summer of 1974 than during the preceding summer. Coupled with higher prices were purchase limits at some gas stations and also a national policy of closing most stations on Sunday. A combination of higher prices and relative difficulty in purchasing gasoline over weekends led many campers to limit their camping trips to campgrounds nearer home. For Alabama families, this situation led to more camping within Alabama.

Complementing the increased demand by Alabama campers for nearby campgrounds was an increase in better camping facilities over the State. In the 2 years prior to the summer of 1974, the Division of State Parks of Alabama opened 818 new improved campsites located in the five following State Parks: Gulf State Park, Camden State Park, Lake Lurleen State Park, Oak Mountain State Park, and Cheaha State Park. In addition there were improvements and campsites added to many National Forest and Corps of Engineers campgrounds; and new city, county, and privately owned campgrounds were opened.

In conjunction with the openings of the new State Park recreational complexes, an extensive advertising campaign was conducted by the State Bureau of Publicity and Information. The campaign had as its theme "Alabama Has It All" and "See Alabama First." The advertisements brought notice to Alabama's scenic attractions and natural beauty, and Alabamians were encouraged to vacation in their home state.

Of the 273 total out-of-state campers interviewed, 63 percent were from states bordering Alabama. An additional 20 percent were from other Southern States, and only 17 percent from states outside the Southern Region. (See appendix for sample description.)

The same situation of limited travel was also observed in Alabama campers. The largest number of in-state campers were from counties which met two locational requirements. First, a large population center

was located in the county; and second, one or more developed recreation campgrounds were located no further than 30 miles from that population center. Unless both of these requirements were met simultaneously, few campers from that county were encountered. Montgomery and Tuscaloosa counties illustrated this point well. Montgomery county, with a population of 167,790 in 1970, contained the city of Montgomery which was 40 miles from the nearest recreation campground. Tuscaloosa County, with a population of 116,029 in 1970, contained the city of Tuscaloosa which had access to both a State Park and a National Forest campground within 25 miles. In the survey nearly ten times as many families from Tuscaloosa County were encountered camping than were found from Montgomery County. Few or no campers were encountered from counties which had neither a population center nor a campground close by.

Camping Data

Household heads of the camping families interviewed had an average 9.44 years prior camping experience. Prior experience was measured as cumulative years of camping not including interim years during which no camping was done. About 44 percent of the household heads had less than 5 years camping experience; and for some, 1974 was their initial experience in camping. The camping population constantly changes as new entrants begin the activity while other previous campers no longer participate due to health or other reasons.

Average size for a camping party was 4.00 which was slightly larger than the average household size of 3.67. This difference was largely due to the common practice of some camping families who regularly include friends of the children or non-household relatives in their camping party.

Travel trailers were the most numerous type camping unit found. Thirty-four percent of the 882 campers interviewed were in travel trailers. Tents were the second most popular type of camping unit and housed 25 percent of the campers. A noteworthy observation, however, was that even though there were many more travel trailers than tents in privately owned and city-county owned campgrounds, tents significantly outnumbered travel trailers in Corps of Engineer, National Forest, and State Park Campgrounds. According to this observation, the apparent relative popularity of one type camping unit over other types could be significantly influenced by ownership of the campgrounds where enumerations were taken. Tent trailers were the third most popular type camping unit and were used by 19 percent of the campers. Pickup campers and motor homes accommodated 13 percent and 9 percent of the campers respectively.

<i>Type camping unit</i>	<i>Number of camping units</i>
Tent	222
Tent trailer	168
Pickup camper	117
Travel trailer	301
Motor home	74

The average amount of total camping in 1973 for all campers was 20.6 nights per family. Total camping nights included all camping done during 1973 regardless of where it was done. For Alabama campers this figure included nights spent in Alabama and in other states. The same was true for out-of-state visitors who were interviewed while camping in Alabama. Alabama campers, with an average of 19.5 nights, camped slightly less than visitors to the State who averaged camping 23.1 nights in 1973.

Summer was by far the most popular camping season in 1973. Seventy-nine percent of all parties interviewed went camping during the summer of 1973. Spring and fall were the next most popular camping seasons with 24 percent and 22 percent of the 882 campers participating in those respective seasons. The least popular season for camping was winter, during which only 12 percent of the total campers ventured out. Of course there were some families interviewed in 1974 who for various reasons did not camp at all during 1973, and these campers are included in the number that took no trips during each particular season. Of the total 882 parties interviewed, 82 were first year campers in 1974. There were also 74 campers who did not participate in 1973 because of lack of convenient vacation time, sickness in family, or other reasons.

In addition to the difference in numbers of campers participating during the seasons, there was a slight difference in number of camping trips taken by participants in different seasons. Those campers participating during the spring, fall, and winter averaged taking just over three trips (3.3, 3.1, and 3.2) in each season. People utilizing the summer months for camping averaged taking 4.2 trips during that season.

Camping trips during 1973 were further categorized into short trips (four nights or less) and long trips (five nights or more). Two-thirds of the total campers took some short trips during 1973 and 47 percent took long trips. However, a larger difference appears in the number of short trips and long trips taken. An average 6.5 trips were taken by those campers taking short trips, while campers taking long trips averaged only 1.7 trips per year of five nights or longer.

COMPARISON OF 1970 ALABAMA CENSUS STATISTICS TO ALABAMA CAMPER STATISTICS

Information on the 609 campers who lived in Alabama was separated from that of out-of-state visitors and was analyzed to reveal certain characteristics of the population of in-state campers.

Income has been shown to be a primary determinant of demand for outdoor recreation. Income influenced not only the amount, but also the type of recreation that a family participated in (6). Gross family incomes of campers were compared to the incomes of all Alabama families, table 1.

Income levels for campers were significantly higher than those of the general population taken from the 1970 census information. Average gross family income of Alabama campers was \$14,391 which was significantly more than the state population average of \$8,357. Since income figures have been trending upward over time, part of the difference could have been attributed to the 4-year time lag of general population figures. Predicted increases in income for the general population, however, could account for less than 50 percent of this \$6,034 difference (18). Other studies have shown Alabama campers to have incomes higher than the state average, and the same was true to a lesser degree for outdoor recreationalists in general (8).

Part of the income difference could be explained by the noticeable absence of two population groups from the camping sample: the elderly and blacks. Only 3 percent of the total household heads were above 65 years of age; and even though many different campgrounds were included in the sample, no blacks were encountered during the study. Both of these figures were notably smaller than the percentage these two groups comprise of the state population. The average family income of both groups was less than the state average.

TABLE 1. PROPORTION OF ALABAMA CAMPER POPULATION IN 1973 and ALABAMA POPULATION IN 1969
BY GROSS FAMILY INCOME LEVELS

Gross family income (dollars)	Percent of camper population	Percent of Alabama population ¹
under 3,000	.9	18.5
3,000-5,999	6.5	22.0
6,000-8,999	8.7	21.7
9,000-11,999	16.8	14.6
12,000-14,999	27.7	12.0
15,000-17,999	15.6	3.0
18,000-20,999	11.0	2.4
21,000 and above	12.8	5.8

¹U.S. Department of Commerce, *U.S. Census of Population: 1970, Detailed Characteristics, Alabama* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1972), p. 807.

The largest portion of Alabama’s families (over 62 percent) had incomes of less than \$9,000. However, approximately 84 percent of the camper population had incomes of over \$9,000, and of this number 24 percent had over \$15,000 in gross family income. The absence of lower income families from the camper population could have been due to costs involved in camping. Even a primitive outing required a fixed investment in a tent, sleeping gear, and cooking utensils. On the other extreme, an investment in a travel trailer could have exceeded \$15,000. Variable expenses included transportation to and from campgrounds, food items, and sometimes a campground fee. Unless some of these costs were eliminated, camping may not have been economically feasible for many families in the low income group.

Many other factors helped explain the relatively high income of the camper population. Education and income were highly related, and the heads of camping households had a higher education level than the average male household head in the State. Median school years for camping heads was 12.0 compared to 11.3 years for household heads in the total state.

<i>Education level</i>	<i>Percent Alabama males 20 years and older¹</i>	<i>Percent camping household heads</i>
Less than high school	54.7	20.7
High school completed	25.8	47.8
Some college or further training	19.5	31.5

¹U.S. Census of Population: 1970, Detailed Characteristics, Alabama, p. 492.

Further explanation of high camper incomes was found in employment figures. Relatively more camping household heads than males of the total Alabama population were in the labor force: 86.7 percent camping heads as compared with 77.9 percent of males 20 years of age and over in the general population. Of these persons in the labor force, a smaller percentage of the camper population were blue-collar workers than were blue-collar workers of the general population of Alabama. The ratio of blue-collar to white-collar workers was 1.1:1 for the camper population, while in the general population there were 1.6 blue-collar workers for every white-collar worker.

A slightly smaller percentage of the female spouses in camping families were in the labor force than was found for female spouses of all families in the state: 33.8 percent and 39.0 percent respectively. Again, the difference in figures was possibly the result of higher incomes of camping families. The greater incomes produced by some camping heads allowed more of the spouses to stay out of the labor force but still enjoy a relatively high family income level.

Almost all of the camping families were headed by a male with only 2.8 percent of the total having female heads. This figure was notably smaller than the 12.5 percent of all Alabama families which had female heads. The fairly large difference may have resulted from the lack of blacks and elderly persons camping and from the decreased income level of female headed households. The decreased income could have been caused by the combination of lower paying jobs generally available to females and the absence of one major income earner from the family unit. Furthermore, camping has been traditionally thought of as a rugged type of recreation activity, and this idea could have discouraged many female heads from taking their family camping. The same problem of low income and physical limitations may have prevented more of the elderly from participating in camping activity.

MOTIVATIONAL ANALYSIS

In order to accurately identify the motivation of campers, a questionnaire was needed that would approach the subject from several different directions. Four main areas of inquiry were explored. Answers to these four areas along with answers to various short questions were used to indicate camper motivation. The main areas of questioning were (1) reasons for beginning camping, (2) reasons for continuing camping, (3) activities engaged in while camping, and (4) facilities desired while camping.

Analysis of Campers Treated as a Single Group

When respondents stated their reasons for beginning and continuing to camp, they were indicating their own perception of motivations. Most campers gave only one answer; however, a few respondents had two equally important reasons for beginning camping. A large portion of campers began camping so they could be outdoors in the open air, table 2. Also important was the camper's expectation to be able to relax and forget business pressures for awhile. Both reasons indicated that campers were seeking a change in environment: the first reason

TABLE 2. NUMBER OF RESPONSES BY REASON FOR BEGINNING CAMPING, 882 CAMPERS, ALABAMA, 1974

Reasons for beginning camping	Number choosing reasons
Get out in open air or outdoors	406
Relax or get away from business	226
Save money	137
Be close to water and/or recreation	107
Be together with family	70
All others	110

involving a change in physical environment and the second a change in mental environment.

The third largest group of campers indicated they began camping in anticipation of saving money. This group included persons who either expected to spend less on a vacation since they were camping, or they expected to be able to stay longer and do more on their vacation with the money saved on lodging and food. The relative importance of this reason was surprising since the previously mentioned ORRRC Study had received little response on monetary motivation without first prompting the respondent. Being close to water and other recreation and being together with the family were listed as the most important reason for beginning camping by the next two largest groups of campers. Various other reasons such as "see more of the U.S." or "get children outdoors" were given by 110 persons interviewed.

Following the inquiry on beginning motivation, a question was asked to determine what influenced people to continue to camp once they had begun. For the purpose of measuring this motivation, campers were requested to rate 16 possible reasons that might influence them to camp. The 16 reasons were designed to bring together many of the aspects of camping mentioned in the introduction section. Possible ratings were either extremely important, important, slightly important, or not important.

For analytical purposes, reasons that were rated "slightly important" and "not important" were both treated as insignificant considerations for motivation. The number of campers from the total sample who rated selected reasons either extremely important or important are presented in table 3. Only the nine reasons that had the highest weighted total of importance were listed. Weighted totals for

TABLE 3. NUMBER, TYPE OF RESPONSE, AND WEIGHTED TOTAL BY REASON FOR CONTINUED CAMPING, 882 CAMPERS, ALABAMA, 1974

Reason for continued camping	Number of responses		Weighted total
	Extremely important	Important	
Rest and relax	658	169	1,485
Be close to nature and outdoors	617	211	1,445
Enjoy camping	602	218	1,422
Enjoy other activities while camping	596	197	1,410
Be together with family	592	182	1,366
Get away from house	553	201	1,307
Save money on lodging expense	526	219	1,271
Spend less money on vacation	519	211	1,249
Have freedom of travel	441	275	1,157

each reason were calculated by giving each answer of extremely important a value of two, and each answer of important a value of one. The sums of values for both answers were combined to form the weighted total for each reason.

Campers felt that resting and relaxing was still an important motivation for them to camp. Seventy-five percent of the total sample considered this reason to be extremely important. The second most important reason for continuing to camp was to be close to nature and outdoors, which was rated as extremely important by 70 percent of the campers. The importance of both reasons was also high when these people began to camp. As a reason for beginning camping, being close to nature was important to nearly twice as many people as was relaxing. After engaging in camping for awhile, however, campers considered relaxing more important than being close to nature. This shift in importance illustrates how a camper's original motivation could change over time and with practical experience.

Although saving money was the third most important reason for beginning camping, various reasons associated with saving money were noticeably low in importance for continued camping. Two monetary reasons were rated as extremely important by approximately 60 percent of the campers, but four other monetary related motivations were rated much lower in importance. Other reasons such as enjoying camping and other activities, being together with the family, and getting away from the house were more important to campers than money.

There were obviously changes over time in motivation for some campers. However, before accepting the changes as being justifiable and logical, a check was needed to determine if the respondents were reasonably consistent in their answers. This check was accomplished by comparing each camper's beginning motivation to the importance he placed on related reasons for continuing to camp. Even though each respondent's reasons for beginning to camp and continuing to camp need not have been exactly the same, answers by the campers as a whole should have shown a degree of similarity between the two sets of reasons.

For example, saving money was one reason given by certain respondents for beginning camping. Four of the possible reasons for continuing to camp dealt directly with saving money. Of the total number listing saving money as their major reason for beginning camping, 88.1 percent also said monetary savings were strong inducements for them to continue camping. Of those campers not giving savings as a reason for beginning camping, only 75.9 percent

though monetary reasons were important considerations in their decision to continue camping. Thus, even though saving money had diminished in relative importance over time as a motivation to camp, those who began camping to save money still showed consistency in their answers. The same consistency was true of respondents who had other reasons for beginning camping.

<i>Reasons for beginning</i>	<i>Percentage of campers indicating specified reason for beginning who also indicated related reasons for continuing to camp</i>	<i>Percentage of campers not indicating specified reason for beginning who indicated related reasons for continuing to camp</i>
Save money	88.1	75.9
Be with family and/or friends	92.7	78.9
Be close to recreation	93.5	89.6
Rest and relax	86.7	81.4

Campers were asked what recreational activities they participated in while camping. These activities helped illustrate how the population fulfilled their motivations while camping. Again the respondent was to receive little or no prompting from the interviewer. The camper could list up to five activities if he wished. Answers were somewhat varied, so where applicable they were grouped under general headings such as “water sports” which encompassed several related activities. For that reason some respondents may have answered more than one activity under a certain heading. However, the relative popularity of recreational activities was still ascertained, table 4.

The results were much the same as those of previous studies mentioned earlier. Water sports of all types ranked highest among campers as a recreational activity. Since most campgrounds used in this study were located on or near recreational water, the high popularity of

TABLE 4. NUMBER OF RESPONSES BY RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES WHILE CAMPING, 882 CAMPERS, ALABAMA, 1974

Recreational activities	Number of answers listed
Water sports (swim, boat, ski, surf, etc.)	726
Fishing, hunting	667
Relaxing, resting, unwinding	569
Cooking outdoors, picnicking	301
Hiking, nature walks	226
Visiting, meeting new people, sightseeing	157
Active individual sports (golf, biking, skating)	121
Other (active group sports, getting away, etc.)	91

water sports might have been attributable to available supply as well as demand. The same could have been true for cooking outdoors, picnicking, hiking, and nature walks since each was readily accessible at most campgrounds. However, relative popularity of activities that were possible in Alabama campgrounds was clearly shown by the summation of answers to this question.

Relaxing, resting, and unwinding were the third most popular group of recreation activities. The importance of this group indicated that campers recognized the re-creative aspect of camping. The campers' belief that relaxing and resting were an important activity also supported their perception that relaxing and resting were an important motivation to camp.

Fishing and hunting activities were grouped together because they were the best examples of the "recreational bridge" role of camping. Often when fishing and hunting were activities, they were the main purpose of the trip and camping was simply a means to reach that end. In such cases the campground was probably chosen for its location or features which were advantageous to hunting or fishing. The outing may have been more accurately termed a "hunting trip made possible by camping" rather than a "camping trip."

The last of the four major indicators of motivation was which facilities and features in a campground were most desired by campers. The desirability of facilities and features was a good indicator of the strength of several motivations. The answers also gave some insight into the camper's perception of a "perfect campground." Respondents were asked to rate a selected group of possible facilities and features on their desirability. Campers could rate each facility as being one of the following: (1) necessary in a campground before I will camp there; (2) desirable in a campground but not absolutely necessary; (3) neither desirable nor undesirable; or (4) undesirable. A weighted total of desirability was calculated so that comparison of desirability among facilities would be easier. The weighted total for each facility was calculated by giving each answer of "necessary" a value of two, each answer of "desirable" a value of one, each answer of "indifferent" a value of zero, and each answer of "undesirable" a value of minus one. The facilities and features were ranked in desirability according to the weighted total, table 5.

All weather roads within campgrounds were considered a necessity by 81 percent of the respondents, and they were considered desirable by an additional 18 percent. Even those campers who sometimes desired undeveloped campgrounds indicated they wanted campgrounds that could be reached by cars and were equipped with a good system of

TABLE 5. NUMBER, TYPE OF RESPONSES, AND WEIGHTED TOTAL BY CAMPGROUND FACILITIES AND FEATURES, 882 CAMPERS, ALABAMA, 1974

Facilities and features	Number of responses			Weighted total
	Necessary	Desirable	Undesirable	
All-weather roads	711	155	3	1,574
Drinking water	650	227	1	1,526
Restrooms	647	206	1	1,499
Showers	501	360	0	1,362
Electricity	485	347	14	1,303
Shade	430	443	0	1,303
Hot water	313	516	7	1,135
Picnic tables	246	598	1	1,089
Level sites	238	610	4	1,082
Sewage hookups or dumps	334	410	4	1,074
Garbage cans	268	539	2	1,073
Camp store	120	704	19	925
Recreation area	174	604	42	910
Fire pits	154	617	24	901
Grills	116	676	11	897
Washer-dryer facilities	75	631	61	720
Night lights	92	607	108	683

roads within its boundaries. Thus, the majority implied that in spite of their motivation to enjoy the outdoors, they did not care for the inconvenience of having to backpack to get close to nature.

The second most necessary or desirable feature in a campground was some type of provision for drinking water. The high importance of providing drinking water indicated that most campers preferred not to have the added trouble of hauling water from home. The necessity seemed to be adequately filled since all campgrounds visited during the study provided some access to drinking water. However, all campgrounds did not have campsite hookups for water; and when given a choice of what type water facility they desired, 750 campers chose campsite hookup. Other choices included central hydrants, hand pumps, and clean spring water. Fifty-seven said they preferred either clean spring water or hand pumps if given the choice.

Restrooms were another near necessity in campgrounds for sanitation reasons. Ninety-seven percent of the campers said they would rather have flush toilets than pit toilets. Cleanliness in restrooms was perhaps equally as significant as initially providing them. The high importance given such facilities as showers, electricity, and sewage hookups implied that the majority of campers desired to have many of the conveniences of home at the campsite while enjoying the outdoors.

Shaded sites were highly desirable to campers. In addition to providing relief from the hot summer sun, shade was probably

associated with a forest or wooded site. For most Alabama campers, being outdoors and close to nature was symbolized by trees, so part of the importance of shade might have been attributed to a campers motivation toward nature. When asked whether they preferred having underbrush screening between sites or having underbrush removed, 417 indicated they wanted the underbrush removed while 401 desired underbrush screening.

Even though some were more important than others, most of the facilities and features mentioned thus far were generally accepted by campers as being undesirable in a campground. Few received any ratings of undesirable. However, a campground could apparently become overdeveloped for some campers. Electricity was undesirable to 14 respondents, and camp store was undesirable to 19. Recreation areas, washer-dryer facilities, and night lights received undesirable ratings by 42, 61, and 108 respectively. These campers had a diminished demand for campgrounds with those facilities. Likewise, some persons found the smell and presence of smoke annoying and did not wish to have grills or fire pits at campsites. Fire pits also presented some danger of fire.

To summarize their feelings about desirable facilities and features, campers were asked if in general they preferred developed campsites, primitive campsite, or both. Developed sites were to be associated with highly developed and highly used campgrounds, while primitive sites were associated with less developed campgrounds affording more isolation. Seventy-three percent of the 870 persons who responded to this question said they preferred developed sites. Twenty percent stated that they preferred to camp at both developed and primitive sites during the year, and seven percent preferred only primitive sites. From these results the logical inference was that the majority of campers were capable of resting, relaxing, and receiving a feeling of being close to nature while staying in highly developed and sometimes crowded campgrounds.

This section has presented a reasonably complete description and analysis of motivation for campers in Alabama when treated as a homogeneous group. For the group there were perceptible changes in motivation over time, but these changes could logically be accepted because they were not so radical as to indicate that the campers had misinterpreted the questions.

Analysis of Camper Sub-groups

Personal motivation is not only influenced by the situation as it exists but also by past experience and individual perceptions. The study

by Clark, et al, (3) divided campers into two groups: modern and traditional. The traditional group was represented by park managers, and the modern consisted of users of park campgrounds. The modern camper as defined in the study was relatively unconcerned about experiencing the environment and nature in its primitive state. The modern group was satisfied with the prevailing campground situation. The traditional managers, however, perceived the campground situation as highly developed, crowded, and very undesirable for meaningful camping experiences.

A readily definable group of traditional campers was not included in this study. However, two separable groups were available. In the initial decision to purchase equipment, the campers were subdivided into tent and non-tent users. Tent and non-tent campers did not significantly differ with respect to income; and, as indicated previously, saving money was not a major determinant of camping activity. While in this instance tent campers by no means represented a purely traditional group, the thrust of their motivations were expected to be similar to that of traditionalists.

Since each type camping unit had accompanying advantages and disadvantages, the decision to choose a tent rather than a wheeled unit could have affected the type experiences received from camping. Tents offered relatively less insulation from the environment than other type units and, therefore, gave the tenter the feeling of closeness to nature. Tents were also more compact and easier to transport, thus enabling tent users to reach campsites that were inaccessible to non-tent units. A noticeable difference was that tents offered only shelter for the user, while most wheeled camping units were either partially or completely self-contained. The self-contained units had built-in sleeping accommodations, water storage, cooking facilities, a complete bathroom, possibly heating and cooling appliances, and a power supply: all the comforts of home. Many such conveniences were also available to tenters, but only at the price of added cost, added weight, and added bulk.

The following tables illustrate how the type of camping unit played a fundamental role in the varying experiences that campers were seeking at their selected sites. Of the 660 respondents using some unit other than a tent at the time of the study, 58 percent had previously camped in a tent at some time, table 6. The individuals who had never camped in a tent represented a distinct subgroup within non-tent campers. Not only had this group not tent camped, but 81 percent would discontinue camping if tents were the only type unit available. Those respondents who had not and would not consider tent camping comprised 70

TABLE 6. NUMBER AND WILLINGNESS OF PRESENT NON-TENT CAMPERS TO USE A TENT, BY PREVIOUS TENT CAMPING EXPERIENCE, 660 CAMPERS, ALABAMA, 1974

Tent camping experience	Number willing to tent camp	Number unwilling to tent camp	Total number
Have not tent camped	223	52	275
Have tent camped	95	290	385
Total	318	342	660

percent of the total who would cease camping if tents were the only available unit. Clearly the type unit used represented a significant aspect of the camping experience for those respondents.

Within the group who had tent camped at some time, 78 percent initially began camping in their own tent. The response rate to the tent camping question for former tent owners was almost the reverse of the one for individuals who had never experienced camping in a tent, table 7. Individuals who had camped in a tent but had never owned a tent had approximately a 50-50 ratio toward continuing camping if tents were all that was available. In contrast, over 80 percent of the former tent owners would still camp even though they had to switch from wheeled units.

Again the demarcation was apparent. To a significant number of users tents do not represent a viable alternative as a camping unit. Almost half of the 660 persons using wheeled units at the time of the study felt that tent camping was apparently too close to nature and too inconvenient, and they would not engage in the activity if tents were the only unit available. If tent users were also considered, approximately 36 percent of the total sample would find some other means to attain their outdoor objectives rather than be subject to tent camping.

The former tent owners continued using tents for varying time periods. About 18 percent switched to a different type unit during the first year, while 28 percent continued in tents for an excess of 5 years. The great majority of former tent owners switched to other units to

TABLE 7. NUMBER AND WILLINGNESS OF PREVIOUS TENT CAMPERS TO USE A TENT BY PREVIOUS TENT OWNERSHIP, 385 CAMPERS, ALABAMA, 1974

Tent ownership	Number willing to tent camp	Number unwilling to tent camp	Total number
Have not owned tent	39	46	85
Have owned tent	56	244	300
Total	95	290	385

gain greater comfort and convenience, as shown below. The tenor of responses implied that non-tent camping units were “better” for varying reasons, and the camping experience was enhanced by the non-tent unit.

<i>Reasons for switching type of unit</i>	<i>Number</i>
Desire for greater comfort or convenience	274
Able to afford better unit	14
Old unit wore out	5
Disliked camping in old unit	3
Desired different type unit for longer trips	2
Other reasons	2
Total	300

When the former tent owners purchased a different unit, the largest number chose tent trailers, a type unit that closely resembled a tent on a mobile platform. The type unit chosen by former tent owners was distributed differently from those selected by individuals who had never been tent owners, table 8. Over one-third of the former tent owners sought greater comfort and convenience in a unit that changed the camping experience very little. In some instances the tent trailer represented only a convenient storage and transporting facility for camping equipment rather than a great increase in camping comfort.

The non-tent campers thus represent an entirely different group from tent campers. Each attributes a significant portion of the recreational experience to their type unit. Many of the non-tent campers could not engage in their conception of camping if a tent was the only unit available.

In addition to the type unit used, other factors such as campground facilities enhance or detract from the camping experience. Again tenters and non-tenters differed on what facilities and features should be included in a campground. The clearest distinction was the expressed need for electricity at campsites. Only 28 percent of the tent campers responded that electricity was necessary for them while 64 percent of the non-tent campers said electricity must be readily

TABLE 8. PREVIOUS TENT OWNERSHIP BY TYPE OF UNIT PRESENTLY OWNED, 660 CAMPERS, ALABAMA, 1974

Type of unit	Number never owning tents	Number previously owning tents	Total number
Tent trailer	50	118	168
Pickup camper	44	73	117
Travel trailer	213	88	301
Motor home	55	21	74
Total	360	300	660

available before they would utilize the facility. As shown below, tenters also had a decreased demand for campground improvements such as hot water in restrooms and all-weather roads. Tent users had a

<i>Necessary facility or feature</i>	<i>Percentage of tent campers</i>	<i>Percentage of non-tent campers</i>
Hot water	29	38
Electricity	28	64
All-weather roads	77	82
Underbrush screening	55	43
Drinking water	78	72
Restrooms	82	73

higher preference for underbrush screening between sites which perhaps indicated a desire for privacy and seclusion. The lower demand of non-tent campers for campground restrooms and a water supply was probably due to the high incidence of their wheeled units being self-contained.

Increased crowding and noise often accompanied more development and addition of facilities within a campground. On the other hand, campgrounds that remained relatively primitive usually had a lower occupancy rate and a more uniform pattern of visitation over the year. Therefore, when a camper indicated a preference for developed campgrounds, he implied that either noise and crowding were preferred to solitude or his preference for certain facilities outweighed his desire for seclusion. Respondents were asked what type campgrounds they tended to visit during an average year. A comparison between the responses of campers who used tents and those who had wheeled units again revealed a difference in preference. Twice the proportion of tent campers as compared to non-tent campers utilized primitive sites at some time during the year, as shown below.

<i>Type campground desired</i>	<i>Percent tent campers</i>	<i>Percent non-tent campers</i>
Developed only	54	77
Primitive only	14	6
Both developed and primitive	32	17
Total	100	100

The environment in which an individual lives and works can perform an important role in shaping his experiences and perceptions. Hence, another factor which could affect personal motivation of campers was their dwelling location. The campers apparently felt that location of dwelling did play an important part in determining their frequency of camping participation. When asked how moving to a different type area to live would affect their camping habits, rural

people had quite a different response from their urban counterparts, table 9. Over half of the persons living on rural farms felt that they would be motivated to camp more if they moved to an urban area. In contrast one third of the urban dwellers thought that simply living in a rural area would satisfy their desire for being outdoors and, therefore, cause them to camp less. In like manner only 11 percent of the urban people perceived themselves as camping more if they moved away from town even though campsites may be more accessible. Interestingly, rural non-farm people were more undecided on whether a move would increase or decrease camping desire for them. Non-farm rural campers seemed to have perceptions on the location of dwelling that showed a blend of both urban and farm background.

The same phenomenon was apparent when type of unit owned was expressed in terms of where each respondent lived, table 10. Rural non-farm dwellers' preferences were not clearly different from either of the two categories. Tents and pickup units were decidedly more popular with rural farm people than with urban campers. Pickup campers were quite logical for farmers since many already owned the vehicle and only

TABLE 9. NUMBER AND RESPONSE TO THE QUESTION, "IF YOU MOVED TO A DIFFERENT AREA TO LIVE, WOULD YOU CAMP MORE, OR THE SAME?" BY LOCATION OF DWELLING, 882 CAMPERS, ALABAMA, 1974

Location of dwelling	Number answering			Total number
	More	Less	Same	
Rural farm	41	9	28	78
Rural non-farm	71	49	108	228
Urban	63	193	302	576
Total	175	251	456	882

TABLE 10. PROPORTION OF RURAL FARM, RURAL NON-FARM, AND URBAN CAMPERS BY TYPE OF UNIT USED, 882 CAMPERS, ALABAMA, 1974

Type of unit	Percent of total		
	Rural farm	Rural non-farm	Urban
Tent trailer	32	29	23
Tent trailer	15	17	20
Pickup camper	23	14	12
Travel trailer	22	33	36
Motor home	8	7	9
Total	100	100	100

needed to add the camper unit to have a complete outfit. On the other hand, towable units such as the travel trailer or tent trailer were noticeably preferred by a larger proportion of urban dwellers than rural farm people.

Ownership of a campground usually dictated its general location, facilities, and features. State park camping facilities tended to be highly developed and recreation oriented, while National Forest sites were more simply designed with a peaceful forest setting. Corps of Engineers campgrounds were almost always near good fishing waters, but probably offered the least development of any group. For assorted reasons including location and facilities, campgrounds owned by various agencies seemed to be more attractive to persons using certain type camping units.

The same kind of difference in preference for campgrounds was exhibited by persons living in various settings, table 11. Both rural farm and non-farm respondents showed a higher relative desire for lesser developed Corps and National Forest campgrounds than for the State Park ones. Conversely, urban outdoors enthusiasts were more noticeably present in State Park campgrounds than in facilities owned by other governmental agencies. The phenomenon was quite obvious when the proportion of urban campers staying at State Park facilities was compared to the proportion staying in campgrounds operated by the National Forest Service. Apparently the prospects of good fishing lured a slightly higher proportion of urban sportsmen to Corps of Engineer sites in spite of the lack of development.

This preference difference was perhaps due to a distinction between urban and rural perceptions of exactly what constituted being outdoors and close to nature. There was no measurable difference in the two groups' stated objectives for camping. Their main goals were the same: (1) to rest and relax and (2) to be close to nature and the outdoors. Furthermore, as a whole, each group probably achieved their

TABLE 11. PROPORTION OF CAMPERS AT STATE PARK, NATIONAL FOREST, AND CORPS OF ENGINEERS CAMPGROUNDS AND TOTAL SAMPLE BY LOCATION OF DWELLING, 882 CAMPERS, ALABAMA, 1974

Location of dwelling	Percent of			
	State Park	National Forest	Corps	Total sample
Rural farm	9	12	16	9
Rural non-farm	17	36	25	26
Urban	74	52	59	65
Total	100	100	100	100

set desires. What differed was their perception of which conditions must be met before goal accomplishment was possible.

To some urban dwellers, staying at a State Park campground in a travel trailer might have made them feel as if they were thoroughly isolated and literally throwing themselves at the mercy of nature. Under these conditions all goals were met. When compared to the downtown business district of a large city, they were certainly outdoors and close to nature. In this atmosphere that they perceived as isolated and quiet, resting and relaxing was a simple matter. On the other hand to certain rural people the same setting would have been entirely uncondusive to a meaningful camping experience. From a rural perspective, the campground atmosphere may have seemed more similar to a crowded urban slum than an idyllic country setting. Also, the travel trailer may have seemed more like a luxury motel room than any type of "outdoors equipment".

The tone of the preceding paragraph was neither meant to imply that all urban campers would be satisfied to stay at a crowded and noisy facility, nor would all rural persons have to sleep under the stars and be 10 miles from the nearest human before they are satisfactorily close to nature. Such was not the case. Neither group had just one perception of what camping should be. No sub-group of campers was so completely homogeneous that all persons in that group had identical personal perceptions and motivations. Also, some campers within groups indicated that they desired different type facilities and units depending on the time of year and the circumstances of the specific camping trip. However, when these individuals were viewed as separate whole groups, these groups did have identifiable characteristics. Rural campers did tend to use traditional type units and visit lesser developed facilities while their urban counterparts seemed to prefer a somewhat different method of attaining camping goals.

A similar inference could be made about the distinction between people who use or had used tents and people who had not. Not all tent users were devoted to that type unit because it allowed them to "really camp". Some used tents not because of their own choice but as a result of financial reasons, family preference, or perhaps peer pressure. Compromises were made on the use of other type units as well.

Even though the selected sub-groups sought the same basic goals from their outdoor activities, there definitely were various means for attaining those goals. The differences could be attributed to campers' perceptions of what constituted a meaningful outdoor experience. People differed on what constituted a peaceful campground; what was a restful atmosphere; which site provided a sufficiently natural outdoor

setting; what type unit was most appropriate; and which conveniences of home were necessary on a trip.

Campers did vary, but their actions could still be loosely placed into two broad categories: traditional and modern. There was no exact line of demarcation separating the two. The groups could be described as areas of action surrounding two central themes with both groups sharing certain gray areas that were common to both themes. They were alike in their motivation but varied in some of their methods of achieving satisfaction. Different facilities, units, and settings were often required to satisfy similar needs.

Even though traditionalists are a minority, the important point is that a demand does exist for both types of camping. Governmental recreation planning personnel as well as private entrepreneurs with intentions of investing in recreation should be aware of both demands and their corresponding peculiarities. There are certain combinations of campground features that are incompatible to most campers. For example, a large number of closely spaced tent sites near an urban population center would neither attract traditionalists nor modernists and, therefore, be a poor investment for either public or private money. Highly developed wheeled vehicle sites which are too isolated from each other would also be a result of poor planning. According to the responses received in this study, planners could use either Corps or National Forest sites as a pattern for traditionalist oriented campgrounds. Those wishing to attract the modern group of campers should examine the features offered in the newer State Park campgrounds. Being outdoors and close to nature was a major motivation of campers in general, so it should be remembered that "parking lot" campgrounds would be undesirable to both traditionalists and moderns except as an overnight site on a trip to a recreational campground.

The camping population is not a stagnant one, however. It has been and will continue to be alive and constantly changing. Planners and potential investors need not only be concerned with the situation as it exists, but also consider what the situation may be in the future. The proportions of tent campers to non-tent campers can change, as can rural to urban or traditional to modern. Many factors are often interrelated.

One good indicator of the popular trends in camping is the type of units bought by first-year campers. A somewhat normal procedure is to begin with a relatively inexpensive tent; and as experience is obtained over time, progress to other type units. This way if the first few trips prove so disastrous that the person becomes nauseated just

thinking about camping, at least he does not have an unbearably large investment in unwanted equipment. Apparently some people still believe in this logic since the largest group of first year campers (37 percent) were tent owners, as shown below. Groups owning other types of units were relatively small with the exception of travel trailers. Almost one third of the beginning campers in 1974 had chosen to use travel trailers.

<i>Type of unit owned</i>	<i>Number of first year campers</i>
Tent	30
Tent trailer	9
Pickup camper	11
Travel trailer	27
Motor home	<u>5</u>
Total	82

Another main indicator of future trends is the intention of campers to purchase other type units within a short time. As shown on the following page, tents were the top group in this respect also. Over half of those that planned to purchase another type main unit were tenters, and most intended to switch to a tent trailer or travel trailer. Over 30 percent of the total intending to change were using tent trailers or pickup campers at the time. Only seven of 301 travel trailer users intended to switch to other units. Furthermore, 28 owners at that time indicated they planned to purchase a replacement travel trailer within a year. Forty percent of those going to other units were switching to travel trailers. Present owners' loyalty in addition to the influx of new first-year campers and switch overs would indicate an upward trend in the number of travel trailers in Alabama. This being the case, there will probably be an increased demand for full service campgrounds which cater to self-contained units.

<i>Type unit owned</i>	<i>Number planning to switch</i>
Tent	54
Tent trailer	17
Pickup camper	14
Travel trailer	7
Motor home	<u>7</u>
Total	99

However, there are other factors to be considered: the price of gasoline and other petroleum products for example. High gas prices would diminish the attractiveness of larger, heavier units such as motor homes and travel trailers. Results of this study revealed a higher incidence of tent users among in-state campers (29 percent tenters) when compared to out-of-state visitors (17 percent tenters). If high gas prices restrict long distance travel, more people might be using tents

rather than a unit designed to provide comfort on extended trips. If respondents act as they say they will act, a shift in population from urban to rural would diminish camping activity in general. Attitude changes of the general population could influence camping activity also. A "back to the land" kind of idealism by the public could affect both the type and amount of camping activity. There are surely other worthwhile factors that are not mentioned. These factors can only be analyzed as a group of hypothetical situations. If the opposite circumstances occur in each situation, then certainly different repercussions can be expected. However, the status quo should not be expected to remain indefinitely.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

The four main areas of motivational questioning were (1) reasons for beginning camping, (2) reasons for continuing camping, (3) activities engaged in while camping, and (4) facilities desired while camping. Other related questions were used to clarify and discriminate among the responses to the above four areas.

In reply to the inquiry about reasons for beginning and continuing to camp, respondents had a chance to state their own perception of what their motivations were. Campers said the main reasons for beginning were to get out in the open air or outdoors, to relax or get away from business, and to save money. After time had passed and experience was gained, however, reasons for continued camping seemed to shift in importance. Resting and relaxing were the most important reason for continuing, while being close to nature and outdoors had moved to second in importance. Saving money was a far less important reason for continuing to camp than it was for beginning.

Campers engaged in a variety of recreational activities. The most popular activities of campers were water sports, fishing and hunting, and resting and relaxing. The reasons for camping and activities seemed to indicate that people recognized a recreational aspect in camping. All-weather roads, clean drinking water, and restrooms topped the list of facilities and conveniences most desired by all campers. Also a highly developed composite campground was described when all the desired facilities and features were combined.

A need to rest and relax and/or a desire to be outdoors and close to nature were the respondents' stated reasons for camping. Camping was perceived as satisfying these needs; and furthermore, the needs could be met in a highly developed campground.

Camper responses were divided into groups according to income, type of unit used, location of dwelling, location of childhood, occupation, activities while camping, and facilities desired while

camping. No recognizable differences in stated motivations were found within any of the groupings.

When camping attitudes were grouped as either modern or traditional oriented, differences in implied motivations were revealed. For example, over one-third of the total sample would have discontinued camping if they had to use a tent. The respondents would have quit camping even though their stated motivation for camping was to get outdoors and be close to nature. Their idea of being close to nature was somewhat different from that of tenters. Tenters in the study exhibited a decreased demand for many campground improvements; and almost half of the tent campers (compared to less than one-fourth of the non-tenters) preferred to stay in a primitive type campground some time during the year.

Similar differences were found between respondents living in rural areas and those living in urban areas. Rural people generally tended to use traditional type camping units, while urban dwellers liked units that provided more of the comforts of home. Urban respondents also preferred full-facility campgrounds, whereas their rural counterparts tended to visit lesser developed ones. Thus, the implication was that rural or tent campers tended to have a traditional attitude toward camping.

A demand for two different type campgrounds stemmed from the distinction between traditional and modern ideas on what constituted meaningful outdoor recreation. Certain facilities and features were found to be incompatible with either type of camper, and such combinations should be avoided by planners. Planners should also take into consideration changes and new trends in the camping industry. Changing attitudes of campers or moves toward using different types of units could substantially shift the demand for certain types of campgrounds.

There are numerous factors which can influence the camper population's activities and demands. General price levels, back to nature movements, petroleum supplies and prices, urbanization, or general economic conditions are only a few. Furthermore, the influence that advertising by the recreation vehicle industry can have on camper demand should not be taken lightly.

No recreational planner can predict exactly how each individual camper will react to variation within these factors. He can only be aware of the possibility of such changes and use all available data to project how most of the campers will react and how their demands will shift. Hopefully, accurate recommendations can then be made which will adequately satisfy the new demand of the majority of campers.

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APPENDIX

APPENDIX TABLE 1. CAMPGROUNDS USED IN SURVEY AND COUNTY LOCATION BY OWNERSHIP OF CAMPGROUND, ALABAMA, 1974

Ownership of campground	Campground name	County location
State Park	Gulf State Park Campground	Baldwin
	Cheaha State Park Campgrounds (2)	Cleburne
	Buck's Pocket State Park Campground	Dekalb
	Joe Wheeler State Park Campgrounds (2)	Lauderdale
	Lake Guntersville State Park Campground	Marshall
	Oak Mountain State Park Campground	Shelby
	Wind Creek State Park Campground	Tallapoosa
	Lake Lurleen State Park Campground	Tuscaloosa
	Tannehill State Park Campground	Tuscaloosa
	Camden State Park Campground	Wilcox
Corps of Engineers	White Oak Creek	Barbour
	Old Creek Town	Barbour
	Hardridge Creek Landing	Barbour
	Birdeye	Greene
	Conaco	Greene
	Jennings Ferry	Hale
	Lock 5	Hale
	Lock 6	Hale
	Lock 8	Hale
	Foscue Creek	Marengo
	Lock 4	Marengo
Millers Ferry	Wilcox	
National Forest	Lake Chinnabee	Clay
	Coleman Lake	Cleburne
	Pine Glenn	Cleburne
	Blue Pond	Covington
	Lake Payne	Hale
	Corinth	Winston
City or County	Canyon Mouth Park	Cherokee
	Smith Lake Park	Cullman
	Noccalula Falls Family Campground	Etowah
	Jackson County Park	Jackson
	McFarland Bottoms Municipal Park	Lauderdale
	Point Park	Lauderdale
	Fort Gaines Campground	Mobile
Point Mallard Park	Morgan	
Private	Laguna Campground	Baldwin
	Perdido Bay K.O.A.	Baldwin
	Surf Side Trailer Park	Baldwin
	Sea Side Trailer Court	Baldwin
	Eufaula K.O.A.	Barbour
	Bay Springs Campground	Cherokee
	Cherokee Campgrounds	Cherokee
	Little River Marina	Cherokee
	Pruitt's Fish Campground	Cherokee
	Tab Fish Bowl Campgrounds	Cherokee
	Sequoyah Caverns K.O.A.	Dekalb
	South Sauty Creek Boat Dock	Jackson
	Trav-L-Camp	Madison

(Continued)

APPENDIX TABLE 1. (CONTINUED) CAMPGROUNDS USED IN SURVEY AND COUNTY LOCATION BY OWNERSHIP OF CAMPGROUND, ALABAMA, 1974

Donahoo's Resort Area and Campground	Marshall
Jellystone Campground	Marshall
South Sauty Creek Campground	Marshall
Dog River K.O.A.	Mobile
Peavy's Island	Mobile
Holiday Travel Camp and Marina	St. Clair
T.T.T. Campground	Talladega

APPENDIX TABLE 2. NUMBER STAYING IN CAMPGROUNDS OF DIFFERENT OWNERSHIP BY TYPE OF UNIT USED, 882 CAMPERS, ALABAMA, 1974

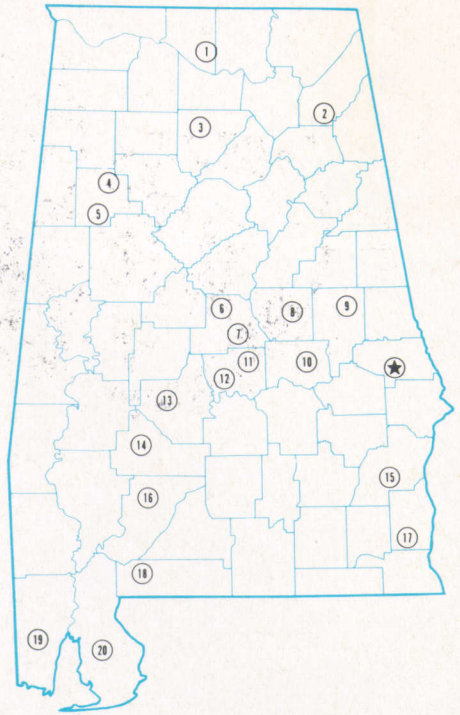
Type Unit Used	Ownership of Campground				
	State Park	National Forest	Corps of Engineers	City or County	Private
Tent	84	44	31	28	35
Tent trailer	67	14	7	27	53
Pickup camper	35	11	18	17	36
Travel trailer	67	12	14	81	127
Motor home	23	4	6	17	24
	276	85	76	170	275

APPENDIX TABLE 3. NUMBER OF CAMPERS, TOTAL NUMBER OF CAMPING TRIPS, AND AVERAGE NUMBER OF CAMPING TRIPS, BY TYPE OF TRIP, 726 CAMPERS, ALABAMA, 1973

Type Trip	Number of Campers Taking Some Trips	Total Number Trips Taken	Average Number Trips Taken
Spring	216	717	3.3
Summer	693	2908	4.2
Fall	192	591	3.1
Winter	109	350	3.2
Short	595	3864	6.5
Long	412	702	1.7

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With an agricultural research unit in every major soil area, Auburn University serves the needs of field crop, livestock, forestry, and horticultural producers in each region in Alabama. Every citizen of the State has a stake in this research program, since any advantage from new and more economical ways of producing and handling farm products directly benefits the consuming public.



Research Unit Identification

★ Main Agricultural Experiment Station, Auburn.

1. Tennessee Valley Substation, Belle Mina.
2. Sand Mountain Substation, Crossville.
3. North Alabama Horticulture Substation, Cullman.
4. Upper Coastal Plain Substation, Winfield.
5. Forestry Unit, Fayette County.
6. Thorsby Foundation Seed Stocks Farm, Thorsby.
7. Chilton Area Horticulture Substation, Clanton.
8. Forestry Unit, Coosa County.
9. Piedmont Substation, Camp Hill.
10. Plant Breeding Unit, Tallassee.
11. Forestry Unit, Autauga County.
12. Prattville Experiment Field, Prattville.
13. Black Belt Substation, Marion Junction.
14. Lower Coastal Plain Substation, Camden.
15. Forestry Unit, Barbour County.
16. Monroeville Experiment Field, Monroeville.
17. Wiregrass Substation, Headland.
18. Brewton Experiment Field, Brewton.
19. Ornamental Horticulture Field Station, Spring Hill.
20. Gulf Coast Substation, Fairhope.