

Mammoth Lakes

Town of Mammoth Lakes Winter

October, 2007

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Objectives & Methodology

	The Town of Mammoth Lakes seeks to better understand visitors to the Mammoth Lakes area during the winter season.
Study	 To aid in this understanding, they asked winter visitors to complete a survey while in the area during the winters of 2004 and 2007.
Background	 Leisure Trends Group was asked to analyze and compare the results of these two surveys to identify a general profile of their winter visitor.
	In 2003-2004 snowfall was 436 inches and in 2006-2007 snowfall was 231 inches.
	To gain an in-depth understanding of winter visitors to the Town of Mammoth Lakes.
	 To gain an in-depth understanding of winter visitors to the Town of Mammoth Lakes. Who they are, why they came, where they come from, what they did, what
Study Objectives	they most enjoyed and whether they will return in the future.
<i>Chjeenvee</i>	 This knowledge of winter visitors will help guide the town's decisions regarding future development, programming and marketing efforts.
	 2004: Visitors to the Mammoth Lakes Welcome Center were asked to complete the survey during the months of January, February and March and offered a Mammoth Lakes 'goodie bag' filled with a chap stick, sunscreen, and an energy bar, as an incentive for their time. At the end of the survey participants were offered a chance to win a Mammoth Weekend Getaway if they opted to provide their information.

- 2007: Visitors to the Mammoth Lakes Welcome Center, riders of the local transit system and guests of Mammoth Mountain Ski Area restaurant establishments were asked to complete the survey during the months of February and March, and were offered chap sticks and Mammoth zip pulls as an incentive for their time. At the end of the survey participants were offered a chance to win a Mammoth Weekend Getaway if they opted to provide their information.
- The Town of Mammoth Lakes provided Leisure Trends with the 2004 data in Excel format for 198 total respondents and 305 completed 2007 paper surveys.
 - The 2007 survey data was data entered by Tourism and Recreation staff, then processed by Leisure Trends Group.
 - Some of the results for 2004 appear anomalous. Such instances are highlighted in the report.

Methodology



- The average profile of a winter visitor to The Town of Mammoth Lakes is a 32 year old Californian traveling with 5 people in their party and staying 4 nights.
 - The majority bring children with them, which is a shift from 2004.
 - Verifying that activities appeal to a range of ages and tracking satisfaction for children's amenities may be an area to explore in future studies.
- Visitors select The Town of Mammoth Lakes based on information gathered from friends and family and come for personal recreation and family vacations.
 - The scenery and quality skiing terrain puts Mammoth Lakes above other destinations.
- Winter visitors spend nearly \$600 a day at The Town of Mammoth Lakes and enjoy skiing, snowboarding, and shopping.
- Only a third of visitors use public transportation while at The Town of Mammoth Lakes and they are satisfied with the service they receive.
- > The majority are repeat visitors to Mammoth Lakes and feel pleased with their trip.
 - In fact, nearly all stated they would return.

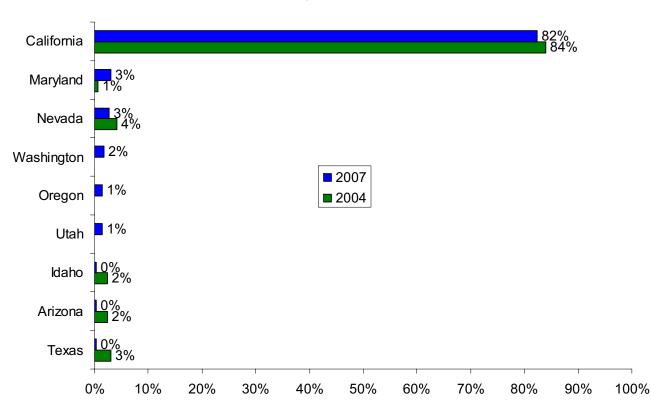
Detailed Findings

Profile of Visitor



Q: Where are you visiting from?

California is the top feeder market by state.

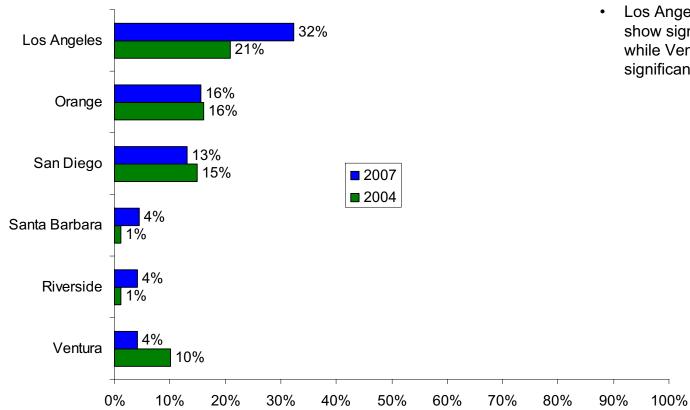


Top State Visitors

Base = 290 Respondents 2007, 168 Respondents 2004



Q: Where are you visiting from?



Top County Visitors

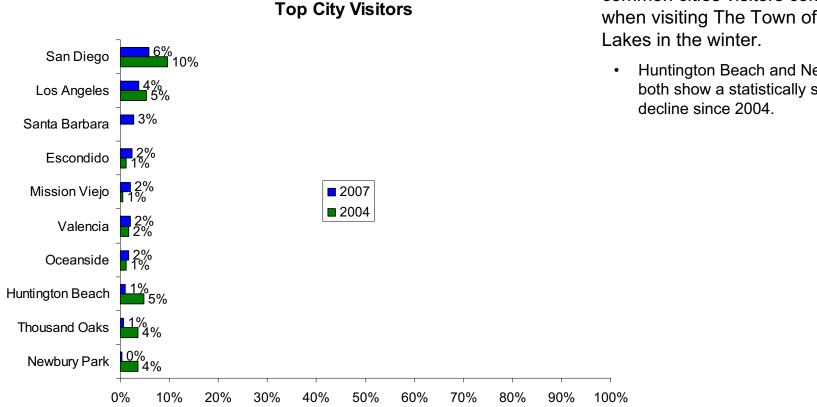
The majority of visitors come from Los Angeles, Orange and San Diego counties.

 Los Angeles and Santa Barbara both show significant increases from 2004, while Ventura County shows a significant decline.

Base = 290 Respondents 2007, 167 Respondents 2004



Q: Where are you visiting from?



San Diego and LA top the list of common cities visitors come from when visiting The Town of Mammoth

Huntington Beach and Newbury Park both show a statistically significant

Base = 290 Respondents 2007, 167 Respondents 2004

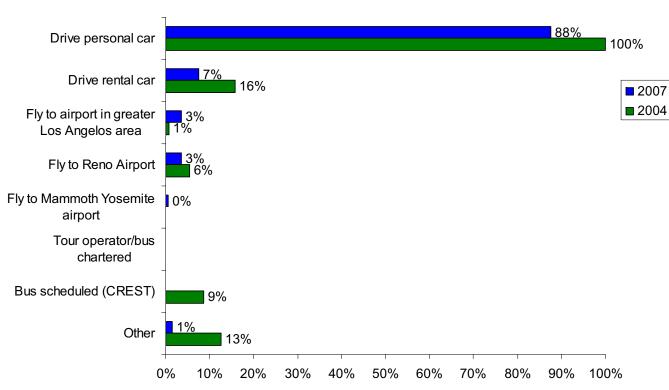


9 in 10 travel by personal car

Q: How did you travel here?*

Almost all respondents travel to Mammoth Lakes by car.

Mammoth Lakes



How Traveled

Base = 201 Respondents 2007, 127 Respondents 2004

*Visitors could select more than one answer

2004 data questionable

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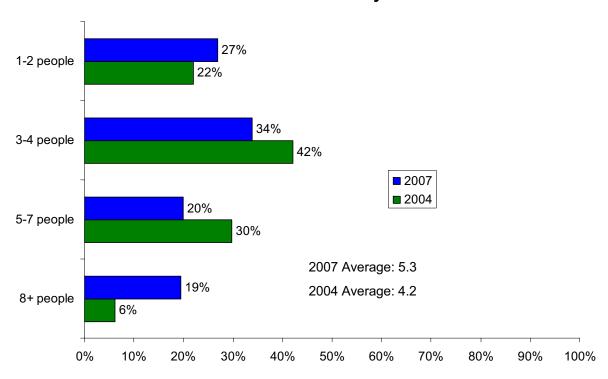
Q: How many total people are in your party?

The average number of visitors in a

Mammoth Lakes

• This is a significant increase from the average party of 4.2 in 2004.

respondent's party is 5.3 in 2007.



Total In Party

Base = 201 Respondents 2007, 195 Respondents 2004

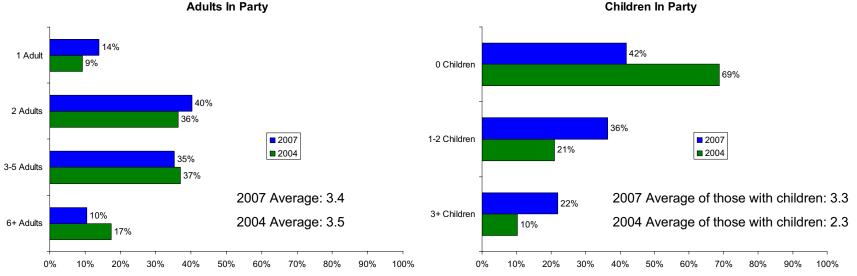


Q: How many Adults (18+) are in your party?

Q: How many Children (under 18) are in your party?

The average party to Mammoth Lakes has 3.4 adults and among those who visited with children, the average party has 3.3 children.

Fifty-eight percent traveled with ٠ children in 2007, a significant increase from 31% in 2004.

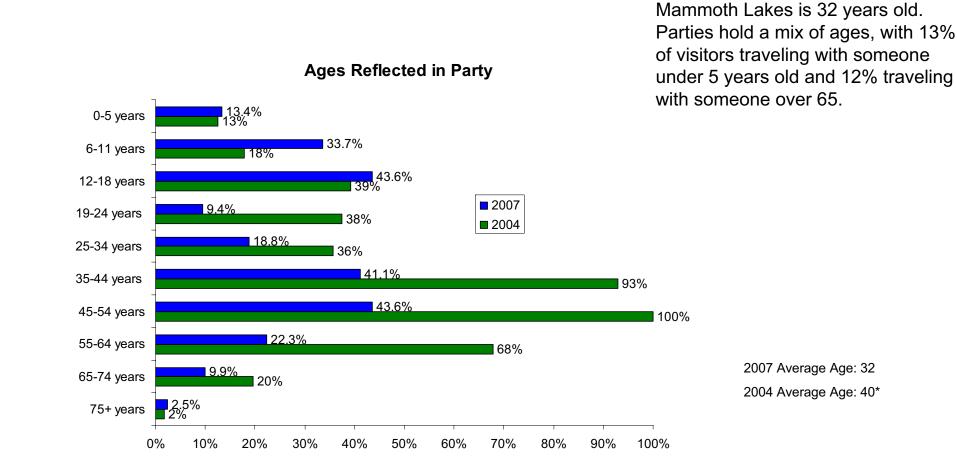




Base = 201 Respondents 2007, 195 Respondents 2004



Q: Age range in your party?



*Small base size for 2004

2004 data questionable

The average winter visitor to

Base = 202 Respondents 2007, 56 Respondents 2004

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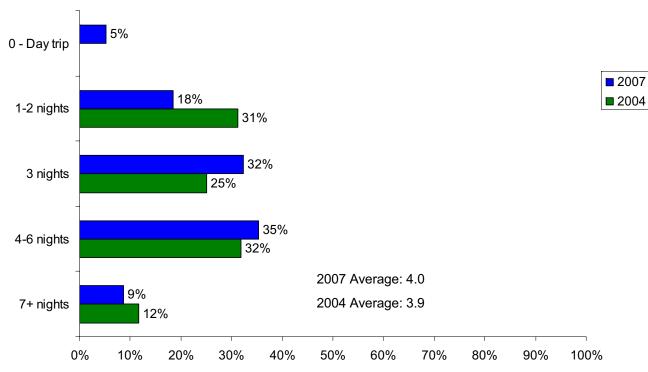
Profile of Visit



Q: How many nights are you staying during this trip?

There are very few winter day trips to The Town of Mammoth Lakes.

The average length of stay (4 nights) is consistent between the years.

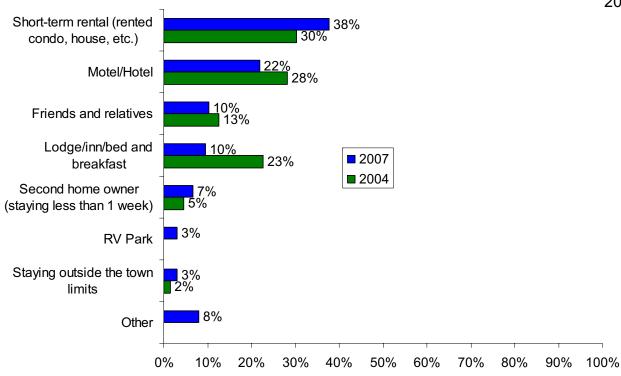


Nights Stayed

Base = 195 Respondents 2007, 163 Respondents 2004



Q: What type of lodging are you staying in?



Lodging Type

The most common lodging is short-term rental and motel/hotel.

Manmoth Lakes

 Lodge/inn/bed and breakfast was a more popular winter lodging option in 2004.

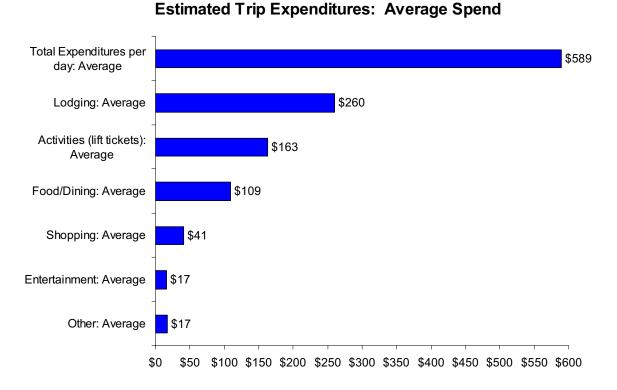


Q: What were your estimated trip expenditures PER DAY in each category for your entire party?*

Respondents spend almost \$600 a day during their winter visit to Mammoth Lakes.

Lodging and lift tickets claim the majority of their budget.

*Question added in 2007



Base = 163 Respondents

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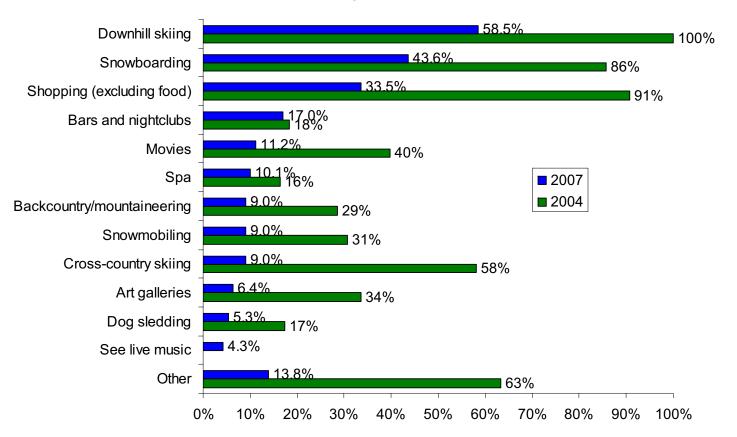
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Mammoth Lakes

Q: What activities did you or will you participate in?*

Downhill skiing, snowboarding and shopping top the list of activities.



Activity Participation

Base = 188 Respondents 2007, 98 Respondents 2004

*Visitors could select more than one answer

2004 data questionable

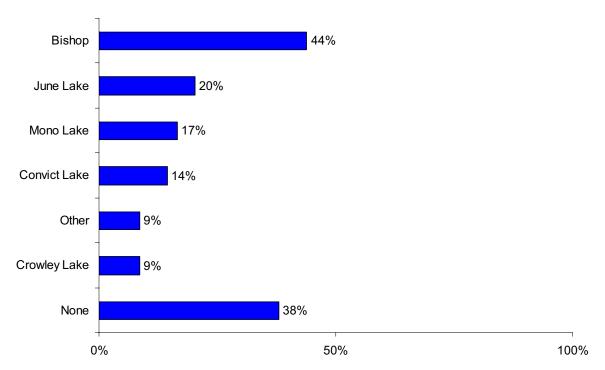
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Bishop top side trip destination

Q: Which of the following regional destinations will you visit outside the Town of Mammoth Lakes during this trip?*

Four in ten (38%) winter visitors plan to stay in The Town of Mammoth Lakes for the duration of their trip.



Destinations

Base = 187 Total Respondents

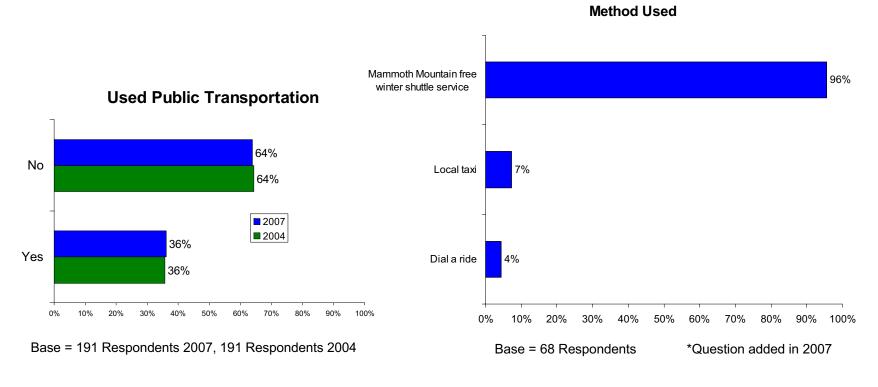
*Question added in 2007



Q: Have you used any public transportation while in Mammoth? Q: If yes, what type?

Only a third of visitors use public transportation while staying in Mammoth Lakes.

The free winter shuttle is the main transportation option for those who use public transportation.*

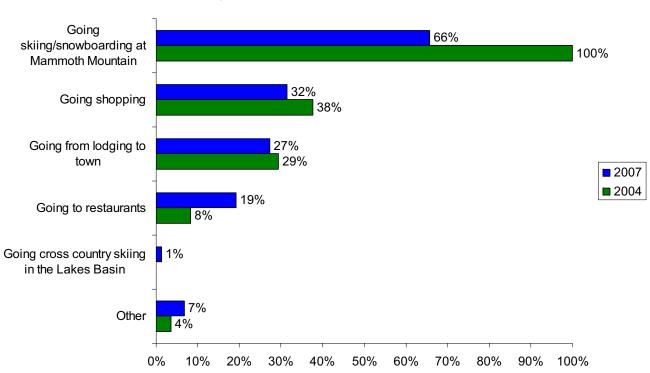




The majority of those who use public transportation use it for skiing, shopping and going to

town from their lodging.

Q: If yes, what have you used it for?*



Why Used Public Transportation

*Visitors could select more than one answer

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Base = 73 Respondents 2007, 85 Respondents 2004

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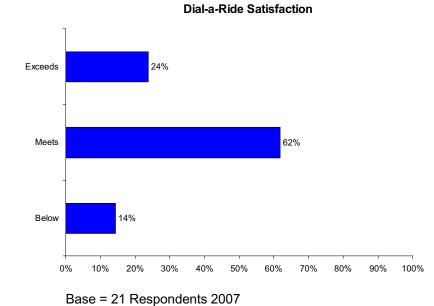


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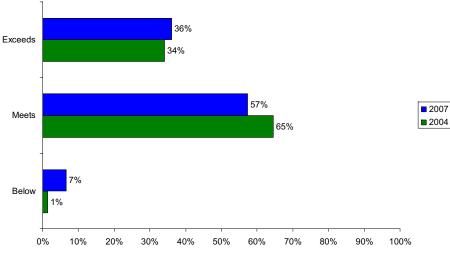
Q: Would you rate the shuttle service as having met, exceeded or fallen below your expectations? Dial-a-Ride/Free Shuttle

The Dial-a-Ride meets or exceeds most visitors' expectations.*

The Free Shuttle receives higher marks than Dial-a-Ride.



Free Shuttle Satisfaction



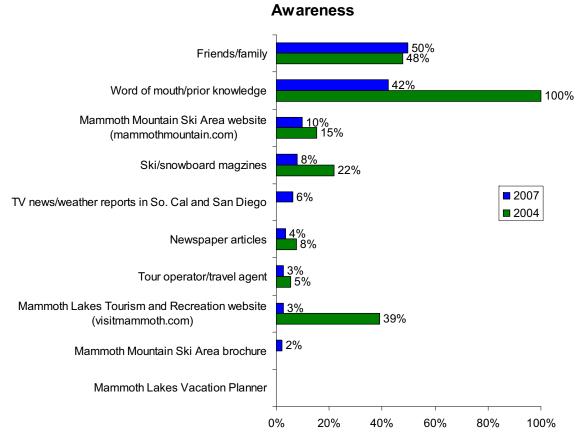
Base = 61 Respondents 2007, 144 Respondents 2004

*Question added in 2007, small base size

Selection & Satisfaction



Q: How did you hear about Mammoth Lakes as a winter vacation destination?*



Friends and family and word of mouth are the main information sources on Mammoth Lakes.

*Visitors could select more than one answer

2004 data questionable

Base = 191 Respondents 2007, 92 Respondents 2004

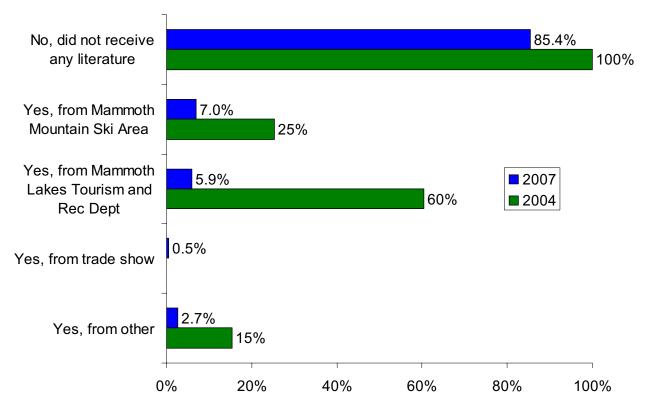
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Q: Did you receive any promotional literature prior to your current visit?

The majority of visitors do not receive literature prior to their visit.



Promotional Literature

Base = 185 Respondents 2007, 91 Respondents 2004

2004 data questionable

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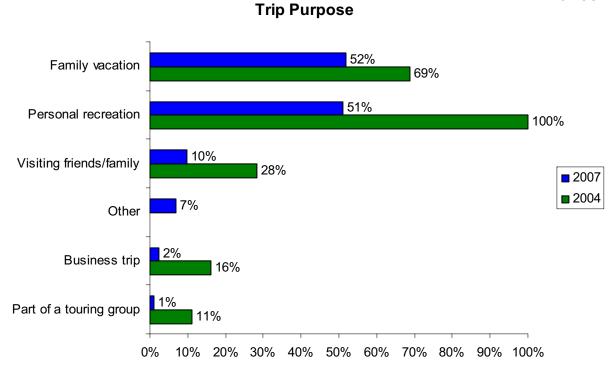
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Mammoth Lakes

Q: What is the purpose of this trip to Mammoth Lakes?*

Family vacation and personal recreation draws equal support as the reason visitors come to Mammoth Lakes in the winter.



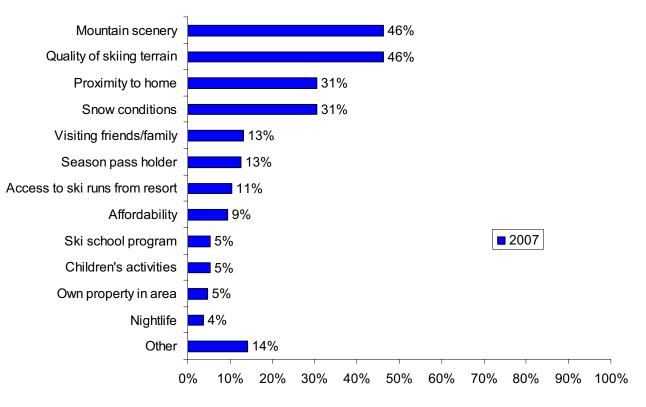
Base = 204 Respondents 2007, 99 Respondents 2004

*Visitors could select more than one answer

2004 data questionable



Q: Why did you choose to visit Mammoth Lakes, over another snow sport resort area?*



Reasons for Choosing Mammoth Lakes

Mountain scenery and quality of skiing terrain are major drivers in visitors choosing Mammoth Lakes as a winter destination.

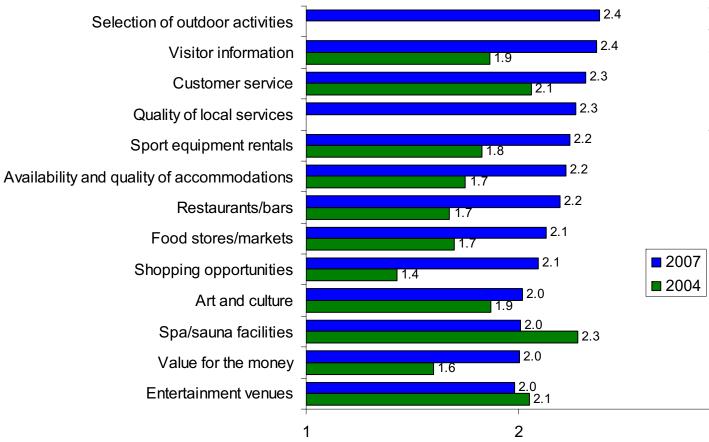
Proximity to home and snow conditions are second-tier drivers.

Base = 190 Respondents 2007, 2004 data not comparable

^{*}Visitors could select more than one answer



Q: Please rate other amenities available in Mammoth Lakes as having met, exceeded, or fallen below your expectations:(1=Below; 2=Meets; 3=Exceeds)



Satisfaction with Amenities: Mean Score

Outdoor activities, visitor information and customer service are the top rated amenities, while entertainment venues are the lowest.

Most features are rated higher in 2007 than they were in 2004.

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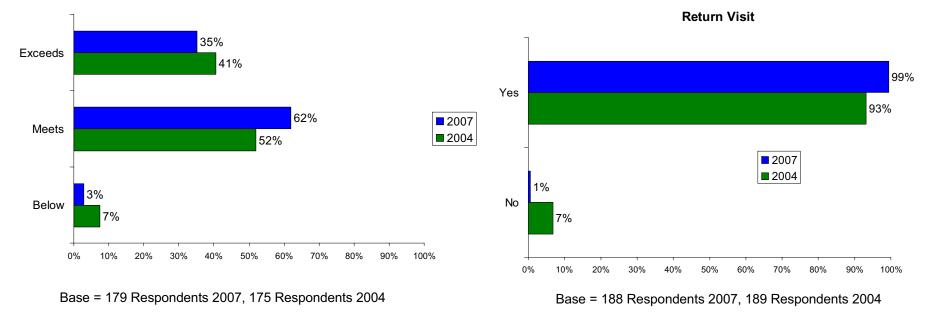
Base = 174 Respondents 2007, 179 Respondents 2004



Q: So far, has this visit to Mammoth Lakes met, exceeded, or fallen below your expectations? Q: Would you make a return visit?

Over a third of respondents feel that their visit to Mammoth Lakes exceeds their expectations and six in ten feel it is what they expected. Nearly all state that they will be back to visit in the future!

Visit to Mammoth Lakes Overall Satisfaction





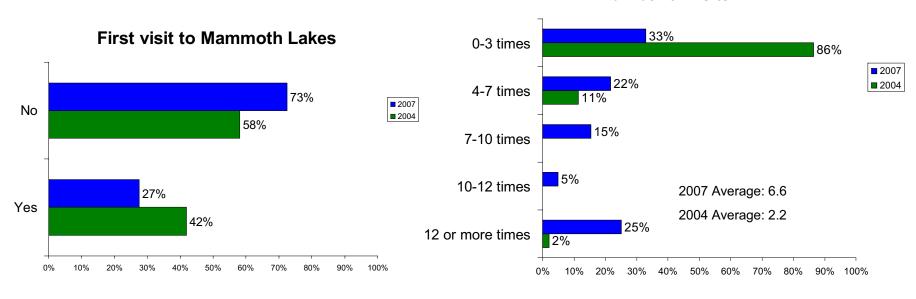
Q: Is this your first visit to Mammoth Lakes?

Q: If not first visit, how many times have you been to Mammoth Lakes in the last 5 years?

Three-quarters (73%) are repeat visitors to Mammoth Lakes.

• Visitors in 2007 are significantly more likely to be repeat visitors than were visitors in 2004.

Previous visitation patterns vary widely between the years with 2004 visitors averaging 2.2 previous visits and 2007 visitors averaging 6.6.



Number of visits

Base = 204 Respondents 2007, 191 Respondents 2004

Base = 143 Repeat Visitors 2007, 96 Repeat Visitors 2004



Over half plan to return this season

Mammoth Lakes

Q: Will you plan any more visits to Mammoth Lakes this winter before the end of the ski season?

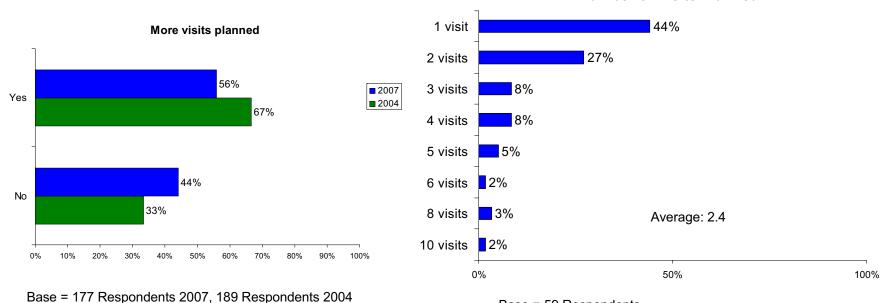
Q: How many more visits to Mammoth Lakes do you plan this winter before the end of the ski season?

The majority of visitors plan on another trip during the season.

• The caveat is that the timing of the survey biases the response. We suggest that this question be dropped from the tracking study as the season shift makes it unreliable.

Those who intend to return, plan an average of 2.4 visits.*

Number of Visits Planned



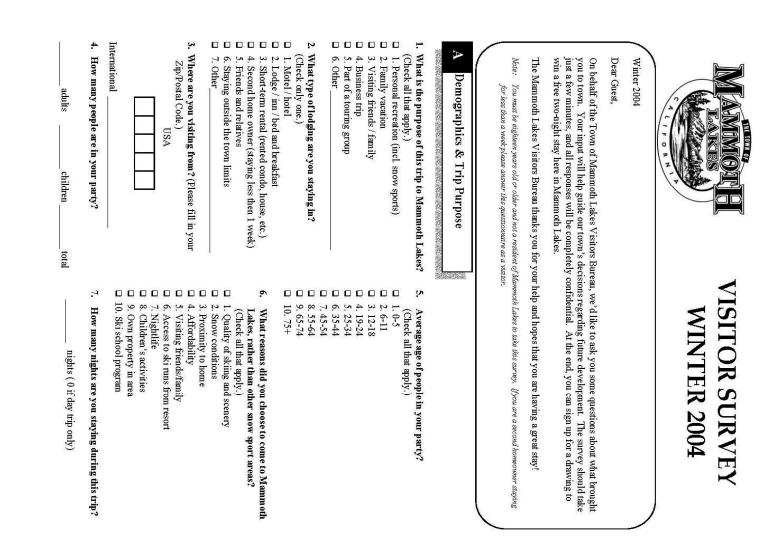


*Question added in 2007



Appendix





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Mammoth Lakes



10. How many times and nights have you visited Mammoth in the past year during the following seasons? Season Avg. # # Visits a. Spring 2003 Nights/Visit # b. Summer 2003	9. Is this your first visit to Mammoth Lakes? 1. Yes (Skip to Question 11) 2. No (Answer Question 10)	 How did you travel here? (Check all that apply.) Drive personal car Drive rental Drive rental Fly to Reno Airport Fly to airport in greater Los Angeles area Fly to Mammoth Yosemite Airport Fly to schartered Nus chartered S. Other
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в Activities

- 14. What activities did you or will you participate in? (Check all that apply for your whole party / household.)
 Downhill skiing
 Cross-country skiing
- ______ Snow boarding
 Backcountry / mountaineering

 - 5. Snowmobiling

 - 6. Dog sledding
 7. Ice skating
 8. Shopping (excluding food)
 9. Bars and nightelubs

 - 10. Art galleries
- 1 11. Spa 1 12. Movies 1 13. Golf (Bishop)
- 14. Other
- 15.
- Which of the following Regional Destinations will you visit outside the Town of Mammoth Lakes during this trip? (Check all that apply.)

11.

Do you plan any more visits to Mammoth Lakes this winter before the end of the ski season? (2003-2004)

12.

Have you or will you stay overnight at any other skiing/snow destinations (other than Mammoth Lakes) during this winter of 2003-2004?

nights stayed

1. Yes 2. No

- I. None
 J. June Lake
 J. Mono Lake
 J. Convict Lake
 J. Other

C **Promotion and the Internet**

- 16. How did you hear about Mammoth Lakes as a winter vacation destination? (Check all that apply.)
- Tour operator / travel agent
 Ski/snowboard magazines

Oregon/Washington
 Western Canada
 Colorado/Utah

Big Bear Lake
 Lake Tahoe area
 Mt. Shasta/Lassen area

- 3. Newspaper articles
 4. Resort literature and/or website
 5. Mammoth Lakes Visitors Bureau literature and/or
- website
- 6. Word of mouth/prior knowledge
 7. Friends
 8. Other

13.

Last year (winter 2002-2003) how many nights did you stay at winter snow sport areas and where?

nights stayed

00

. Other

International

- 17. Did you receive any promotional literature prior to your current visit? (Check all that apply.)
 1. Yes, from the Mammoth Lakes Visitors Bureau
 2. Yes, from a local resort operator
 3. Yes, from other
 4. No, did not receive any literature

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Other

Colorado/Utah
 International

Big Bear Lake
 Lake Tahoe area
 Ant. Shasta/Lassen area
 A. Oregon/Washington
 S. Western Canada

- Did you purchase a package for this trip?
 1. Yes (Go to Question 19)
 2. No (Go to Question 20)

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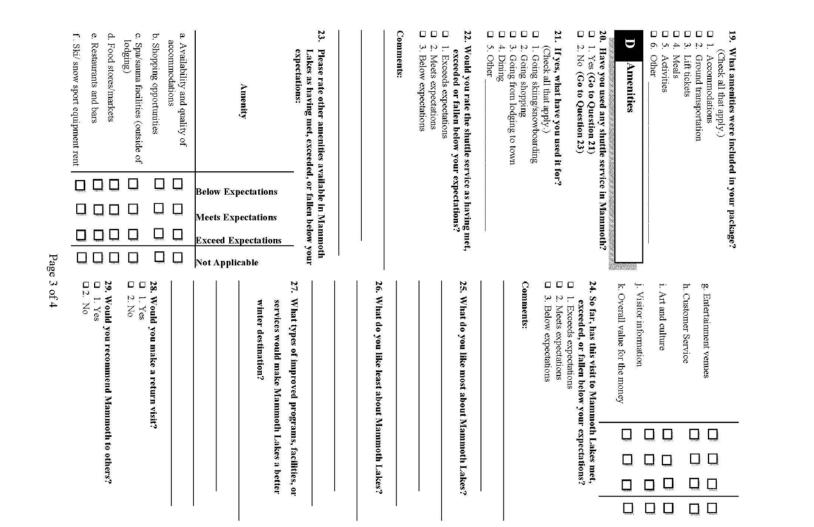






1.

2004 Survey





Mammoth Lakes

	The Mammoth Lakes Visitors Bureau thanks you very much for your help!	
Page 4 of 4	Please enter me in the drawing for a free two-night stay in (Please pint clearly) NAME: ADDRESS: CITY/STATE/ZIP: PHONE: PHONE: PHONE: PHONE: PHONE: PHONE: PHONE: OTTY/STATE/ZIP: PHONE: PHONE: OTTY/STATE/ZIP: PHONE: OTTY/STATE/ZIP: PHONE: OTTY/STATE/ZIP: PHONE: OTTY/STATE/ZIP: PHONE: OTTY/STATE/ZIP: PHONE: OTTY PHONE: OTTY PHONE: OTTY Complementary two-mght stay is courtesy of Mammoth Lakes Visitors Bureau, and subject to availability.	VISITOR SURVEY WINTER 2004



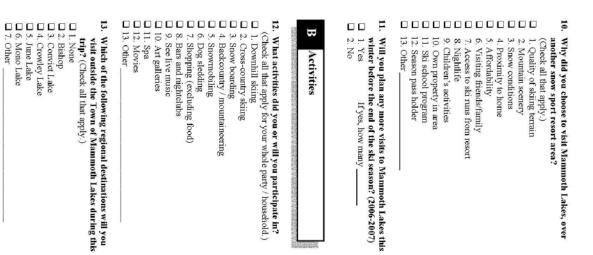


7

	Adults (18 and over) Children (under 18) Total	International country and country code 4. How many people are in your party?	N 2 90	 3. Short-term rental (rented condo, house, etc.) 4. Second home owner (staying less then 1 week) 5. Friends and relatives 6. Staying outside the town limits 7. RV Park 	PF64	 What is the purpose of this trip to Mammoth Lakes? (Check all that apply.) I. Personal recreation (incl. snow sports) 2. Family vacation 3. Visiting friends / family 4. Business trip 5. Part of a touring group 6. Other 	A Demographics & Trip Purpose	Winter 2007 Dear Guest, On behalf of the Town of Maramoth Lakes Touris some questions to understand what prompted your regarding future development and programming, will be kept confidential. At the end of the survey accommodation in Mammoth Lakes.	NAME OF CONTRACT O
Page 1 of 4	 If you answered no to # 8, how many times have you been to Mammoth Lakes in the last 5 years? 0-3 □4-7 □ 7-10 □10-12 □ 12 or more 	 8. Is this your first visit to Mammoth Lakes? 1. Yes 2. No 		 How many nights are you staying during this trip? Nights (0 if day trip only) How did you travel here? (Check all that anoly.) 	7.45-54 123456789 7.45-54 123456789 8.55-64 123456789 9.65-74 123456789 10.75+ 123456789	r of people per age rang all that apply and circle n <u>Number in party</u> 123456789 123456789 123456789 123456789 123456789	ie and we wrat you a greut visit win us in Atlantion Lakes: one years of age or older and not a readent of Mammoth Lakes to take this survey. (fyou are a second homeonener is neek please aurner this questionnaire as a visitor. & Trip Purpose	Winter 2007 Dear Guest, On behalf of the Town of Mammoth Lakes Tourism and Recreation Department, we would like to ask you some questions to understand what prompted your visit. Your input will help guide our town's decisions regarding future development and programming. The survey should take just a few minutes, and all responses will be kept confidential. At the end of the survey, you may enter to win a two-night stay in a luxury accommodation in Mammoth Lakes.	VISITOR SURVEY WINTER 2007

Mammoth Lakes





C **Awareness and Information**

over

14. How did you hear about Mammoth Lakes as a winter vacation destination? (Check all that apply.) 1. Tour operator / travel agent 2. Ski/snowboard magazines 3. Newspaper articles 4. TV news / weather reports in So. Cal and San Diego 5. Mammoth Mountain Ski Area website (mammothmountain.com) 6. Mammoth Mountain Ski Area brochure 7. Mammoth Lakes Tourism and Recreation website (visitmammoth.com) 8. Mammoth Lakes Vacation Planner 9. Word of mouth/prior knowledge 10. Friends / Family 11. Other

- 15. Did you receive any promotional literature prior to your current visit? (Check all that apply.)
 11. Yes, from the Mammoth Lakes Tourism and Rec Dept
 2. Yes, from Mammoth Mountain Ski Area
 3. Yes, from trade show, Which one:
 4. Yes, from other
 5. No, did not receive any literature

D Amenities

16. Have you used any public transportation while in

- Mammoth? 1. Yes 2. No skip to question 20

- If yes, what type? (Check all that apply)
 1. Dial a Ride
 2. Mammoth Mountain free winter shuttle service
 3. Local taxi

- 18. If yes, what have you used it for?
 (Check all that apply.)
 1. Going sking/snowboarding at Mammoth Mountain
 2. Going cross country skiing in the Lakes Basin
 3. Going shopping
 4. Going from lodging to town
 5. Going to restaurants
 6. Other

19. Would you rate the shuttle service as having met, exceeded or fallen below your expectations?

1	-	1	-
Below	Meets	. Exceeds	a Ride
□ 3. Below	2. Meets	1. Exceeds	Free Shuttle
3. Below	2. Meets	1. Exceeds	Local taxi

Comments:

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Mammoth Lakes

20. What were your estimated trip expenditures PER DAY in each category for your entire party?



S	23. What do you lik	Comments:	□ 3. Below expectations		 22. So far, has this visit to Ma or fallen below your expe 1. Exceeds expectations 	13. Customer service		1	10. Art and culture		9 Selection of a	8. Quality of local		7. Entertainment	6. Sport equipment	5. Restaurants / bars		3. Spa/sauna facilities	2. Shopping		 Availability and quality of 	AMENITY	Lakes as havin expectations:	21. Please rate oth	S	S	s	~		S
	e most abou		ectations	ectations	visit to Mam your expect spectations		ley	tion								/ bars 🛛	5				and	MEETS	g met, excee	er amenities						
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24. What do you like least about Mammoth Lakes?

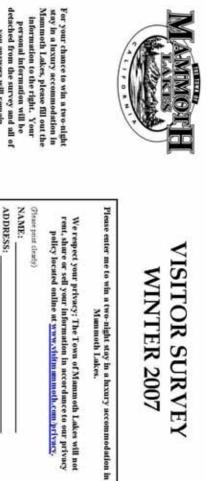
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vould make Mammoth Lakes a better es of improved programs, facilities, or

estination?

ou make a return visit?





Please pr	(Please print clearly)			
NAME:				
ADDRESS:	:SS:			
CITY/S	CITY/STATE/ZIP:			00
PHONE: (EXT.	
E-MAIL:	5			
DATE (DATE OF BIRTH: Must be 21years of age or adder to be eligible to win.	lder to be eligible	to white	
D Ple	Please contact me with promotional materi Lakes or Mammoth Mountain Ski Area.	with promotic th Mountain S	Please contact me with promotional material about Mammoth Lakes or Mammoth Mountain Ski Area.	ut Mammoth
- 2 B	Complimentary two- Tourism and Recreat	nght stay is court ion Department,	Complimentary two-night stay is courtesy of The Town of Mammoth Lakes Tourism and Recreation Department, is subject to availability and black out	Maximoth Lakes step and black out

you answers will r confidential.

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The Town of Mammoth Lakes Tourism and Recreation Department would like to thank you for your time and input! Please come back and visit us again soon!

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