Forestry Statistics 2019

Chapter 6: Social

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Introduction

This chapter contains statistics on:

- the number and profile of visits to all woodlands from household surveys; and
- the number and profile of visits to Forestry England/Forestry and Land Scotland/Natural Resources Wales/Forest Service woodlands from on-site surveys and administrative sources.

Geographical coverage for recreation statistics varies. Estimates are presented at country level and, where possible, UK or GB totals are included. Further information on the data sources and methodology used to compile the figures is provided in the Sources chapter.

Most of the statistics presented in this chapter have been previously released by other organisations. The latest year figures for day visitors to Forest Service sites in Northern Ireland are published for the first time in this release. Figures for earlier years have not been revised from those previously published. For further details on revisions, see the Recreation section of the Sources chapter.

The frequency with which the estimates in this chapter are updated varies depending on the data sources used. Whilst some of the information presented is now several years old, it represents the latest available data and has been included to provide a more rounded picture of forest recreation in the UK.

Further information on the advantages and disadvantages of household surveys and on-site surveys is provided in the Recreation section of the Sources chapter.

A copy of all social tables can be accessed in spreadsheet format from the Data Downloads web page at www.forestresearch.gov.uk/tools-and-resources/statistics/data-downloads/.

Previous editions of Forestry Statistics have also included statistics on public access to woodland in this chapter, using data from the Woodland Trust’s Woods for People and Spaces for People projects. As no new data is available, this section has now been excluded; the latest results can be accessed from Forestry Statistics 2018 at www.forestresearch.gov.uk/tools-and-resources/statistics/forestry-statistics/forestry-statistics-2018/recreation/public-access-to-woodland/.
Key findings

The main findings are:

- There were an estimated 437 million visits to woodland in England in 2017-18. (Monitor of Engagement with the Natural Environment 2017-18).

- There were an estimated 117 million visits to woodland in Scotland in 2017-18. (Scotland's People and Nature Survey 2017/18).

- “Health and exercise” and “fresh air or to enjoy pleasant weather” were important reasons for visits to woodlands in Wales. (National Survey for Wales, 2016-17 and 2017-18).

- Over three fifths (63%) of the UK population have visited woodland in the last few years. (UK Public Opinion of Forestry Survey 2019).

- Around 532 thousand people visited Forest Service sites where a charge is made in Northern Ireland in 2018-19.
6.1 Visits to woodland - household surveys

The information shown below in Table 6.1 has been obtained from the following general population household surveys.

- GB Day Visits Survey (2002/3)
- Scottish Recreation Survey (2004 to 2012)
- Monitor of Engagement with the Natural Environment (England, 2009-10 onwards)
- Scotland’s People and Nature Survey (2013, 2017/18)

It is likely that differences in survey design and methodology have contributed to a considerable proportion of the differences in results between these surveys. The figures in Table 6.1 should not be interpreted as time trends but instead as separate results from each survey. Further information on the differences between surveys is provided in the Recreation section of the Sources chapter.

In common with all sample based surveys, the results from each survey are subject to the effects of chance, depending on the particular survey method used and the sample achieved, thus confidence limits apply to all results from these surveys.

Results from the Monitor of Engagement with the Natural Environment 2017-18 estimate a total of 437 million visits to woodlands in England (Table 6.1). This is not significantly different from the 2016-17 figure.

The Welsh Outdoor Recreation Survey 2014 estimates a total of 68 million visits to woodlands by Welsh residents. This is a statistically significant decrease from the estimated total of 86 million in 2011, but similar to the 2008 estimate (64 million).

Scotland’s People and Nature Survey 2017/18 reports an estimated total of 117 million visits to woodlands in Scotland. This is a statistically significant increase from the 2013 estimate of 90 million visits.

Table 6.1 Number of visits to woodland

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Journey starting point</th>
<th>England</th>
<th>Wales</th>
<th>Scotland</th>
<th>GB million visits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td></td>
<td>273</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>303</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td></td>
<td>308</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>346</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td></td>
<td>321</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>355</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td></td>
<td>222</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>252</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td></td>
<td>..</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>..</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td></td>
<td>170</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>..</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td></td>
<td>..</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>..</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td></td>
<td>..</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>..</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td></td>
<td>..</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>..</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>England</td>
<td>Wales</td>
<td>Scotland</td>
<td>GB</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
<td>---------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>----</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>317</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>..</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>326</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>..</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>358</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>..</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>357</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>..</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>378</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>..</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>417</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>..</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>446</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>..</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>439</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>..</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>437</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>..</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources:
1994, 1996, 1998: UK Day Visit Surveys, carried out by National Centre for Social Research (not available online);
2002: GB Day Visits Survey 2002-03, carried out by TNS Travel & Tourism;
England 2005: England Leisure Visits Survey (ELVS), carried out by Research International;
England 2009 on: Monitor of Engagement with the Natural Environment (MENE), carried out by TNS;
Scotland 2004 - 2012: Scottish Recreation Survey (ScRS), carried out by TNS;
Scotland 2013, 2017: Scotland’s People and Nature Survey (SPANs), carried out by TNS.

Notes:
1. The UK and GB Day Visits Surveys collected data about day trips from home, for all countries of GB. The 1994, 1996 and 1998 surveys covered calendar years; the 2002-03 survey covered a 12-month period starting in March 2002.
2. ELVS and MENE covered trips taken in England, including those from holiday bases, by respondents living in England. ELVS ran for 12 months from February 2005. MENE results relate to 12 month periods from March to February.
3. The Welsh Outdoor Recreation Survey totals shown are for trips with woodland as the main destination.
4. The Scottish Recreation Survey ran from July 2003 until December 2012. It was replaced by Scotland’s People and Nature Survey that ran from March 2013 to February 2014 and from May 2017 to April 2018. Both surveys covered visits to the outdoors for leisure and recreation in Scotland by people living in Scotland. The total shown is for all trips that included a visit to woodland.
5. In each survey, visits to overseas destinations are excluded.

.. Denotes data not available.

These figures are outside the scope of National Statistics. For further information see the Sources chapter.
6.1.1 England

Household surveys in England

In March 2009 fieldwork commenced on the Monitor of Engagement with the Natural Environment (MENE) survey, which includes collecting information on visits to the outdoors in England. Further information on the survey, including copies of annual reports and online data viewers to access more detailed results, is available at www.gov.uk/government/collections/monitor-of-engagement-with-the-natural-environment-survey-purpose-and-results.

Table 6.2 shows the main characteristics of visits to woodlands over the most recent 5 years. In 2017-18, walking was the main mode of transport for around one half (52%) of visits to woodland. Over one half (56%) of visits to woodland were within 2 miles.

Table 6.2 Woodland visit characteristics\(^1\) - England 2013-14 to 2017-18

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Main mode of transport</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On foot</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Car/ van</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bicycle</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Distance travelled (one way)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than 1 mile</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 to 2 miles</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 to 5 miles</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 to 10 miles</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 10 miles</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Monitor of Engagement with the Natural Environment (MENE), carried out by TNS, for Natural England and Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (Defra).

Notes:
1. All trips that included a visit to woodland.
.. Denotes data not available.

These figures are outside the scope of National Statistics. For further information see the Sources chapter.
6.1.2 Wales

Household surveys in Wales
The National Survey for Wales began in March 2016 and replaced a number of separate surveys of households in Wales, including the Welsh Outdoor Recreation Survey (WORS). The survey is completed by around 12,000 people each year and covers a wide range of topics. Further information on the survey, including copies of reports and data, is available at https://gov.wales/national-survey-wales.

Table 6.3 shows the reasons provided for their visit to the outdoors by respondents who stated that the main destination of visit was woodland. “Health and exercise” and “fresh air or to enjoy pleasant weather” were important reasons for visits to woodlands in Wales.

Table 6.3 Reasons for visit to woodland or forest - Wales

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reasons for visit</th>
<th>2016-17</th>
<th>2017-18</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>For health or exercise</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For fresh air or to enjoy pleasant weather</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For pleasure / enjoyment</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To spend time with family</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To relax and unwind</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To enjoy scenery and wildlife</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To exercise the dog</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For peace and quiet</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To spend time with friends</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: National Survey for Wales (Welsh Government).

Notes:
1. Visits where the main destination was woodland.
2. Respondents were able to select more than one option, so results do not sum to 100%.
3. Excludes other reasons for visiting, each reported by fewer than 20% of respondents in 2017-18.
6.1.3 Public Opinion of Forestry Survey - Woodland visitors

The Public Opinion of Forestry Survey is carried out every two years and obtains people’s attitudes to forestry and forestry-related issues, including visits to woodland. Copies of reports and detailed data tables are available at www.forestrresearch.gov.uk/tools-and-resources/statistics/statistics-by-topic/public-opinion-of-forestry/.

The results shown in Tables 6.4 and 6.5 and Figure 6.1 have been taken from the UK and country reports on the latest surveys in 2019 and from surveys in earlier years. The reports also include other recreation-related results, such as whether the woodlands visited were in towns or the countryside and any reasons given by survey respondents for not visiting woodlands.

In the UK 2019 survey, over three fifths (63%) of respondents said that they had visited woodland in the last few years for walks, picnics or other recreation (Table 6.4).

Table 6.4 Woodland visitors¹

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>England</th>
<th>Wales</th>
<th>Scotland</th>
<th>Northern Ireland</th>
<th>UK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>per cent of respondents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>..</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>..</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: UK/GB, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland Public Opinion of Forestry Surveys
Base: UK/GB = 4,000 respondents (2003 to 2007), 2,000 respondents (2009 to 2019); Scotland and Wales = 1,000 respondents each; Northern Ireland = 120 respondents (2003), 1,000 respondents (all other years).

Notes:
1. Those stating that they had visited woodland in the last few years.
2. The range of uncertainty around any result should be no more than ±3.5% (for surveys with around 2,000 respondents) and ±4.7% (for surveys with around 1,000 respondents). To compare results over time, a difference of at least 5 percentage points (for surveys each with around 2,000 respondents) and at least 7 percentage points (for surveys each with around 1,000 respondents) is required to indicate that there is a significant difference.
3. Denotes data not available (survey not run that year or question not asked)
4. These figures are outside the scope of National Statistics. For further information see the Sources chapter.
Survey respondents were asked how frequently they had visited during the previous summer and winter. Figure 6.1, which presents aggregated UK results for the 2015 to 2019 surveys, shows that respondents visited much more often during the summer, with 44% of respondents visiting at least once a month in the summer compared to around one quarter (27%) in the winter.

**Figure 6.1 Frequency of visits to woodlands**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Summer</th>
<th>Winter</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Several times per week</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Several times per month</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>About once a month</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less often</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Base: Average visit frequencies from last three UK surveys: 2,000 respondents per survey.
Notes:
1. The range of uncertainty around any result should be no more than ±3.5% in any individual year and no more than ±1.1% for the 3 surveys combined.

These figures are outside the scope of National Statistics. For further information see the Sources chapter.
6.1.4 Public Opinion of Forestry Survey - woodland visitors by age group

In the UK 2019 Public Opinion of Forestry survey, 71% of respondents aged 35 to 54 said that they had visited woodland in the last few years for walks, picnics or other recreation (Table 6.5). This compares with around three fifths (61%) of respondents aged 16 to 34 and 56% of those aged 55 or over.

Table 6.5 Woodland visitors\(^1\) by age group

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Aged 16 to 34</th>
<th>Aged 35 to 54</th>
<th>Aged 55 and over</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>per cent of respondents</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes:  
1. Those stating they had visited woodland in the last few years.  
2. The range of uncertainty around any result should be no more than ±3.5% (for surveys with around 2,000 respondents) and ±2.3% (for surveys with around 4,000 respondents). To compare results over time, a difference of at least 5 percentage points (for surveys each with around 2,000 respondents) is required to indicate that there is a significant difference.

These figures are outside the scope of National Statistics. For further information see the Sources chapter.
6.2 Visits to woodland - on-site surveys

The previous section provided information on visits to all woodlands (regardless of ownership), based on data from household surveys. This section provides information on visits to Forestry England/ Forestry and Land Scotland/ Natural Resources Wales/ Forest Service woodland only, based on data from on-site surveys and administrative sources.

The information provided in this section covers:

- Visits to the National Forest Estate in Scotland (Forestry and Land Scotland woodlands) from the All Forests Scotland surveys run from 2004 to 2007 and in 2012-13. An updated estimate of total visits in 2016 is also provided.
- Day visitors to Northern Ireland Forest Service sites where an admission charge was made.

Further information on these and other sources of on-site visit data are available from the Sources chapter and from the recreation statistics web pages at www.forestresearch.gov.uk/tools-and-resources/statistics/statistics-by-topic/recreation-statistics/.
6.2.1 Scotland All Forests Survey

All Forests surveying in Scotland has been undertaken on two occasions. The first All Forests Survey in Scotland was carried out across a three-year period from June 2004 to June 2007, with over 5,000 hours of fieldwork undertaken over 1,158 days, achieving almost 2,700 face to face interviews. The study estimated that around 8.2 million visits are made annually to Forestry and Land Scotland woodland. An estimated 150-200 thousand visits to events in forests and around 300 thousand visits during the hours of darkness (when fieldwork was not undertaken) were also made, giving an overall total of around 8.7 million visits per year.

The second All Forests Survey was carried out from November 2012 to October 2013. The survey made greater use of data from automatic counters, but also achieved over 400 days of fieldwork and 1,970 face-to-face interviews.

The 2012-13 survey estimated an annual total of 9.1 million visits (including visits to events and in the hours of darkness) to Forestry and Land Scotland woodland. This represents a 5% increase on the estimated overall total of 8.7 million visits from the 2004-2007 survey.

The estimated number of visits has been updated using data from 224 automatic counters at 165 sites. For sites without counters, estimates have been produced using the results from the 2012-13 All Forests Survey and advice from local managers. This gives an overall estimate of 10.2 million visits to Forestry and Land Scotland woodland in 2016, a 12% increase from 2012-13.

Table 6.6 provides a summary of the key characteristics and results obtained from the Scotland All Forests surveys and appears to show some change in visit characteristics over time, with a general trend towards longer, more distant and less frequent visits. From the 2012-13 survey, around two thirds of visitors to Forestry and Land Scotland woodlands were on a day trip from home. Walking (with or without a dog) was the main activity undertaken by around three quarters of visitors. Over four fifths travelled to the site by car or van and around one third travelled more than 15 miles to get to the site. Around one third of visitors were on short trips, spending one hour or less in the forest. Around one half of respondents visited the site at least monthly.
Table 6.6 Woodland visit characteristics - Scotland All Forests Survey

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Woodland visit characteristics</th>
<th>2004-2007</th>
<th>2012-13</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>per cent of respondents</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Type of trip</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Day trip</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overnight trip</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Main activity during visit</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dog walking</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other walking</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cycling</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Main transport</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Car / van</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walked</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cycled</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Distance travelled (one way)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than 6 miles</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 to 15 miles</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 to 25 miles</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 25 miles</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Duration of visit (time spent in forest)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Up to 1 hour</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 1 hour, up to 2 hours</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 2 hours, up to 3 hours</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 3 hours</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Frequency of visit to site of interview</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than once a day</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Once a day</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 to 3 times per week</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 to 3 times per month</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 to 3 times per year</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less often</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First ever visit</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Scotland All Forests Survey 2004-2007 and All Forests Survey 2, carried out by TNS.

These figures are outside the scope of National Statistics. For further information see the Sources chapter.
6.2.2 Northern Ireland Forest Service day visitors

Information on visitors to Forest Service sites in Northern Ireland is provided by the Forest Service and relates only to sites where an admission charge is made.

In Northern Ireland in 2018-19, 532 thousand people visited those Forest Service sites where an admission charge was made (Table 6.7). This represented a 5% increase from the previous year, but remained lower than the peak in 2016-17.

Table 6.7 Day visitors to Northern Ireland Forest Service sites

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Visitors to Forest Service sites thousands</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2009-10</td>
<td>473</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010-11</td>
<td>468</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011-12</td>
<td>430</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012-13</td>
<td>340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013-14</td>
<td>364</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014-15</td>
<td>397</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015-16</td>
<td>432</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016-17</td>
<td>584</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017-18</td>
<td>509</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018-19</td>
<td>532</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Forest Service

Notes:
1. Number of people visiting sites where an admission charge was made, excluding campers.

These figures are outside the scope of National Statistics. For further information see the Sources chapter.