

## **Research Report: Latino and Hispanic Perceptions of Open Space in Boulder County**

**By Abby Hickcox**

### **Abstract**

This research gathered detailed data about Latino and Hispanic Boulder County residents' use and views of county parks and open space. The primary research question investigated was: Why do a smaller proportion of Latinos and Hispanics visit Boulder County Open Space than their population in the county would suggest? Utilizing surveys and interviews conducted through organizations and local government, and at parks and events organized for Hispanics, it provides Boulder County Parks and Open Space staff with a random sample of Latino and Hispanic county residents' views of parks and open space, in general, and Boulder County Parks and Open Space properties, specifically. Surveys were conducted at 15 parks and events between May and October of 2008, and 83 surveys were completed by Hispanics. The survey was designed to find out if Hispanics are dissatisfied with Boulder County Open Space amenities or cannot get to parks because of time constraints or transportation problems. It was also designed to find out what changes can be made to increase Latino and Hispanic county residents' access to and use of Boulder County Parks and Open Space.

The study indicates that many Hispanic people (including people who identify as Hispanic, Latino, or Chicano) in Boulder County tend to: visit parks and open space in a group or with one or two others; relax, socialize, do children's activities, picnic or grill, and hike in parks and open space; go to parks and open space to enjoy nature, because of the scenery, because they are close to home and have good facilities and trails. The most common recommended change in parks and open space by Hispanics was more restrooms, followed by more shelters, more tables, more facilities for children, more benches, and more grills. Hispanics ranked recreational access and use as the most important benefit provided by open space, followed by wildlife habitat, open space buffers between communities. Boulder County properties visited by the most Hispanics included: Boulder County Fairgrounds, Boulder Canyon Trail, Hall Ranch, Coal Creek Trail, and Rabbit Mountain.

Activities undertaken (relax, socialize, do children's activities, picnic or grill, and hike), motivations for going to parks and open space (enjoying nature and beautiful scenery, proximity to home, and good facilities and trails) and amenities sought (restrooms, shelters, tables, children's facilities, benches, and grills) by Hispanics in Boulder County were not prohibitive to their recreation in Boulder County Open Space areas. Two-thirds of Hispanic respondents drive to parks and open space, and over half travel at least five miles from their homes or varying distances to many parks or open space. Slightly fewer poorer Hispanics (<\$20,000/year) drive to parks. While time for recreation and access to transportation limit Hispanics' use of parks and open space to some extent, the primary reason that more Hispanics surveyed do not visit Boulder County Parks and Open Space is because they do not know about them.

### **Introduction and Literature Review**

This research gathered specific data about Latino and Hispanic Boulder County residents' opinions, preferences, and park visitation patterns in reference to parks and open space in Boulder County, and specific to Boulder County Open Space and amenities. Analysis of data gathered is intended for the county's use in planning improved access to its parks and open space by Latino and Hispanic county residents. Boulder County Parks and Open Space Department conducts periodic studies of visitors' uses and perceptions of its lands to serve its residents better. This research supplements these surveys with a focus on the parks and open space needs of Latino and Hispanic county residents, so the county can better serve a wider portion of its population. The primary research question investigated was: Why do a smaller proportion of Hispanics visit Boulder County Open Space than their population in

the county would suggest? Expected reasons for low visitation rates among Hispanics included: not enough time and lack of access to transportation because open space sites are located far from most people's homes. Other possible reasons included: Hispanics' preference for parks includes those with amenities such as shelters, grills, and, especially, group recreation areas.

Recreation literature has recently emphasized the intra-ethnic differences among Hispanics, including country of origin, U.S.-born or foreign-born, and socio-economic status (Carr and Williams, 1993, Lopez et al., 2005). At the same time, much attention has been paid to the increase in Hispanic population in many areas of the United States (Lopez et al., 2005). The literature says that Hispanics tend to participate in outdoor recreation in groups of family or friends (Carr, 1993; Chavez, 2002; Sasidharan, 2004; Shores et al., 2007) and prefer "developed" recreation sites, which have recreational amenities such as picnic tables and grills (Carr, 1993; Chavez, 2002, Shores et al., 2007). Activities most commonly participated in by Hispanics include swimming, barbecuing, picnicking, relaxing, hiking, socializing, and enjoying the place (Carr, 1993; Sasidharan, 2004), while people of Anglo descent tend to offer time with family and friends as the primary reason for visiting open space (Carr, 1993). Lopez et al. (2005) suggest that habitat restoration for an individual species would be unpopular among Hispanics, but conservation projects concerned with clean air, clean water, and green space would be more popular. Discrimination in outdoor recreation is also highlighted in the literature (Shores et al., 2007).

### **Materials and Methods**

In this research project, survey and ethnographic data were collected about Boulder County Hispanic residents' use of parks and open space in the county. Data were collected primarily from Hispanic residents of Boulder County. Data were also collected from non-Hispanic people in Boulder County in survey locations chosen for their concentrations of Hispanic visitors.

The survey instrument included a two-page questionnaire (see Appendix A) that addressed use of parks in the county and, specifically, Boulder County Open Space as well as demographic data. To determine characteristics of Hispanics' use of parks, questions included group size, activities, motivation for going to parks, and frequency of visits. To determine Hispanics' needs for improved amenities and access, questions addressed how parks could be improved, any negative experiences in parks, perceived benefits of parks, distance traveled to parks, and mode of transportation. To determine which parks Hispanics already visit, the survey included space to indicate any Boulder County Open Space participants had heard of or visited, and what activities they did there. Demographic data included zip code, length of residency in Boulder County, age, gender, education level, race, ethnicity, and income. Maps of Boulder County Parks and Open Space properties were also provided for respondents' reference (See Appendix B). A County Parks and Open Space brochure (in Spanish or English) including information about Boulder County's Open Space properties was provided to survey participants and also given to those who were asked to participate but declined.

Most questions were closed-ended (where respondents check one or more responses) to limit the amount of time needed to complete the survey. Open-ended questions included: activities in Boulder County Open Space (Question 7), negative interactions in parks (Questions 4 and 5), and specifics for answers such as "other" or requests for regulation changes (especially Question 3). One scalar item was included (Question 6), in which participants ranked six potential benefits of open space. Each benefit was ranked "1, not a benefit," "2, somewhat a benefit," or "3, significant benefit."

Questionnaires were conducted in both English and Spanish. Most questionnaires were self-administered; approximately 10% were administered by the researcher.

Questionnaires were administered in parks, open space, and recreation areas in Boulder County. Questionnaires were also administered at events organized by and for Latino and Hispanic people.

The sampling strategy originally focused on working through organizations and government agencies that serve Hispanics country residents. However, early in the research it became clear that this approach was not efficient enough to gather the number of surveys desired. Consequently, a sampling method based in parks and recreation centers was added. Using U.S. Census population data, parks located in neighborhoods where at least 10% of the population is Hispanic were identified in Longmont, Boulder, and Lafayette (see Appendix C). Recommendations from Parks and Open Space staff were also taken into account in constructing the sample. Preliminary visits to parks during the day on weekdays showed low attendance during midday at all parks and low attendance during early evening at almost all parks. Parks were most populated on weekday evenings and weekends, thus, surveys were conducted on weekday evenings and weekends in the parks observed to be most popular among Hispanic county residents (see Appendix D). In addition to on-the-spot survey administration, the researcher also distributed surveys in self addressed stamped envelopes to be returned via postal service.

Parks, recreation centers, and events where surveys were administered were chosen for their likelihood to be attended by a high concentration of Hispanics. In order to include all portions of the Hispanic population in the survey, a random sample of visitors to parks, recreation centers, and events where surveys were administered were asked to participate in the survey. At smaller events or less populated parks, all people were asked to fill out the survey. This sampling technique was utilized to maximize Hispanic inclusion, but also, by necessity, included Non-Hispanics.

It was necessary to include Non-Hispanics in the sample because participants' ethnicity cannot be determined prior to filling out the survey. Participants' ethnicity cannot be determined prior to filling out the survey for two reasons. The first reason is that asking potential participants to identify as Hispanic or Non-Hispanic prior to taking the survey is off-putting. The topic of ethnicity is sensitive in U.S. society, and asking a person to identify himself or herself ethnically has the potential to put people on their guard and to discourage potential participants from completing the questionnaire, thus reducing response rates. Asking someone to identify as an ethnic *minority* (e.g. "Do you identify as Hispanic, Latino, or Chicano?") is particularly sensitive and open to misinterpretation or suspicion, especially when asked by a surveyor collecting data for any level of government. Compounded with the general sensitivity of the topic is the observation that many Hispanics identify primarily as some other category – such as Latino, Chicano, *Mexicano* (Mexican), *Puertorriqueño* (Puerto Rican), or another nationality – and only secondarily as Hispanic (see Anzaldúa, 1987 and Foley, 2005). The second reason Non-Hispanics were included in the survey is that it is impossible to tell who identifies as Hispanic by visual cues, which contributed to the impossibility of screening out Non-Hispanics prior to administering the questionnaire. It is impossible to tell who identifies as Hispanic by sight in part because phenotypic characteristics and racial ancestry vary widely across the category "Hispanic." For example, people who might identify as "Hispanic" include, among others: Mexican *mestizos* (descended from both indigenous Mexican and Spanish ancestors); Mexican Hispanics (who trace their ancestry to Spain); indigenous Mexicans; Caribbean, Central and South American nationals of African descent (e.g. significant numbers of Cubans, Dominicans, Hondurans, Nicaraguans, Venezuelans, Brazilians); Caribbean, Central and South American nationals of European descent; American Indians;

people of Spanish descent whose families have lived in the U.S. for centuries; and children or descendants of any of the people listed. Thus, it is impossible to link Hispanic ethnicity to race. Due to the status of race as a social category that includes but is not solely determined by appearance (rather than, as previously thought, a phenotypic, genetic, or scientific category) it is doubly impossible to determine Hispanic (or any other) ethnicity by people's appearance. Finally, it is impossible to tell who identifies as Hispanic because ethnic identity is, in part, an individual decision; people decide whether or not they identify as "Hispanic" based on many factors (such as lineage, racial identification, linguistic and cultural practices, and other personal reasons related to identity). This self-identification occurs regardless of the definitions of ethnic categories decided by governments (e.g. the U.S. Bureau of the Census) or non-governmental organizations (e.g. the League of United Latin American Citizens; see Foley, 2005).

It should be noted that events organized for Hispanics were attended by Non-Hispanics, as well.

Due to time constraints, response rates were not recorded on-site but were estimated after surveys sessions were complete (see Appendix D).

In semi-structured interviews, open-ended questions were asked, exploring Hispanic county residents' attitudes about, use of, and reasons for non-use of county parks and open space. County residents active in leadership roles in the Latino and Hispanic communities were interviewed. These key community contacts provided additional names and sampling opportunities for Hispanic county residents. Interviewees included employees and volunteers from: El Comité de Longmont, Intercambio de Comunidades (Boulder, Longmont), Sister Carmen Community Center (Lafayette), Boulder County Latino Chamber of Commerce, Boulder County Office of the Board of County Commissioners, City of Boulder Recreation Centers, City of Boulder Parks and Open Space, and Lafayette Youth and Family Transitioning in Schools (LYFTS).

## **Results (Data Analysis)**

### General

A total of 139 questionnaires were administered to 83 Hispanics and 56 Non-Hispanics. About two-thirds (96) of the questionnaires were administered in English and one-third (42) were conducted in Spanish. Approximately one-half of Hispanics who took the survey chose to use the Spanish version.

Geographically, 63 questionnaires were conducted in Longmont, 37 in Boulder, and 29 in Lafayette.<sup>1</sup> In addition, 7 were administered in Eldorado Canyon State Park, and 3 were distributed at a Head Start event and returned via mail. Response rate is estimated to be at least 50% for questionnaires administered in person. In contrast, of 70 questionnaires distributed at two Head Start events, only 3 were returned.

### Park Visitation

Only 5 people (3 Hispanics, 2 Non-Hispanics) reported not attending any parks or open space in Boulder County (Question 1).<sup>2</sup> These include Boulder County properties, City of Boulder properties, City of Longmont properties, City of Lafayette properties, State of Colorado properties, and any other park or open space located in Boulder County.

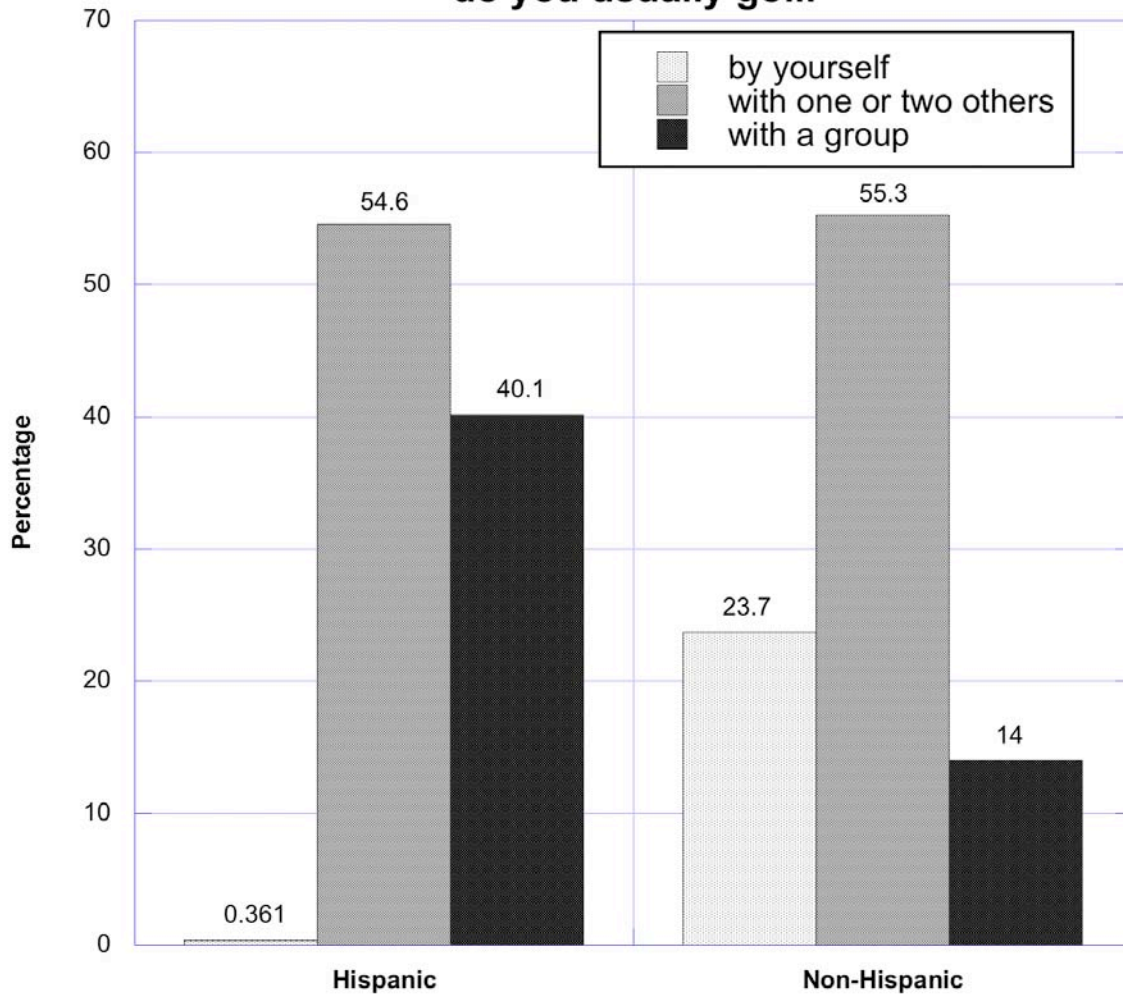
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<sup>1</sup> Longmont, Boulder, and Lafayette together were home to 83 percent of Boulder's 30,000 Latino and Hispanic residents in 2000 (Boulder County Colorado Land Use Department, 2008).

<sup>2</sup> Oddly, several of these 5 questionnaires were administered in parks in Boulder County.

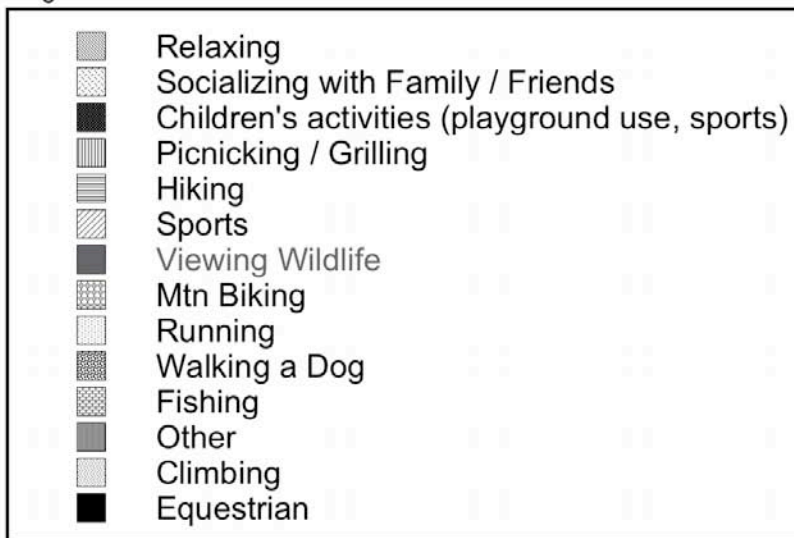
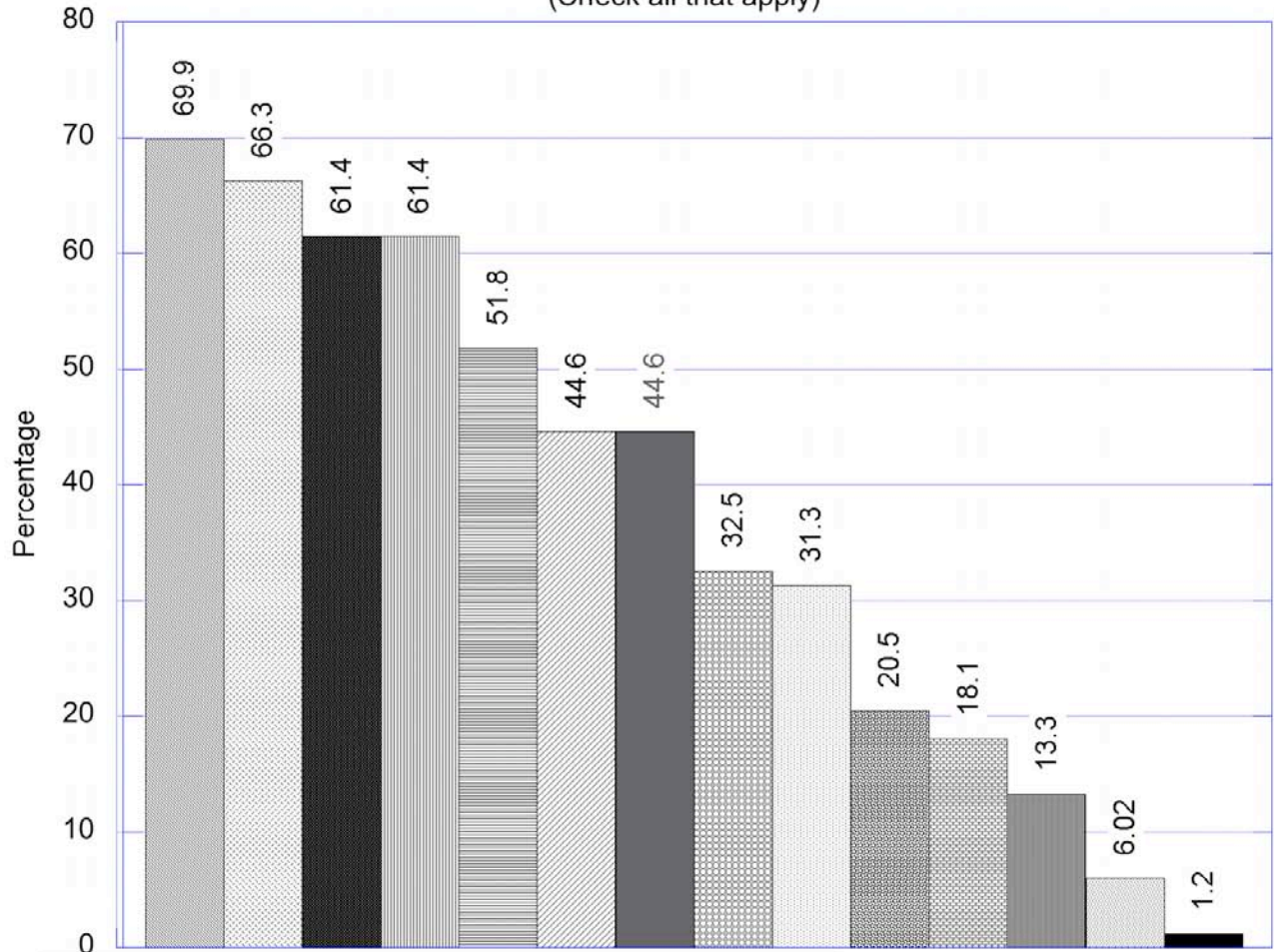
Of those who reported going to parks, over half said they go with one or two others (Question 1, part 3). Hispanics reported going to parks in a group (40%) more than Non-Hispanics (14%), and non-Hispanics reported going alone (24%) much more often than Hispanics (less than 1%) (See Table 1).

**Table 1: When you go to parks or open space, do you usually go...**



Question 1, part 4 asked which activities people do in parks (respondents were asked to check all that apply). The activities reported by the most Hispanics include: Relaxing (70%), Socializing with Family / Friends (66%), Children’s activities (61%), Picnicking / Grilling (61%), and Hiking (52%) (See Table 2).

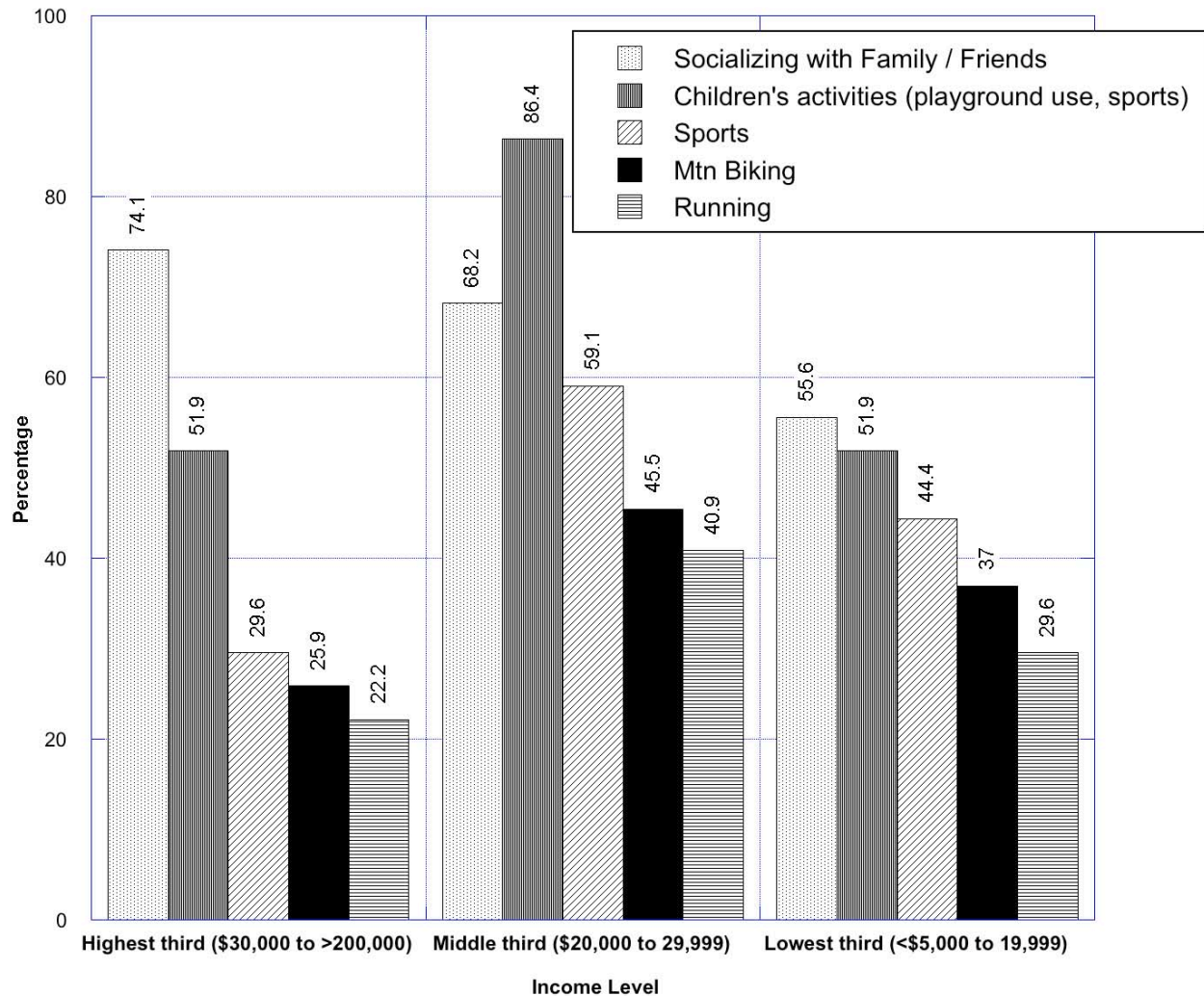
**Table 2: Which of these activities do you do in parks?**  
(Check all that apply)





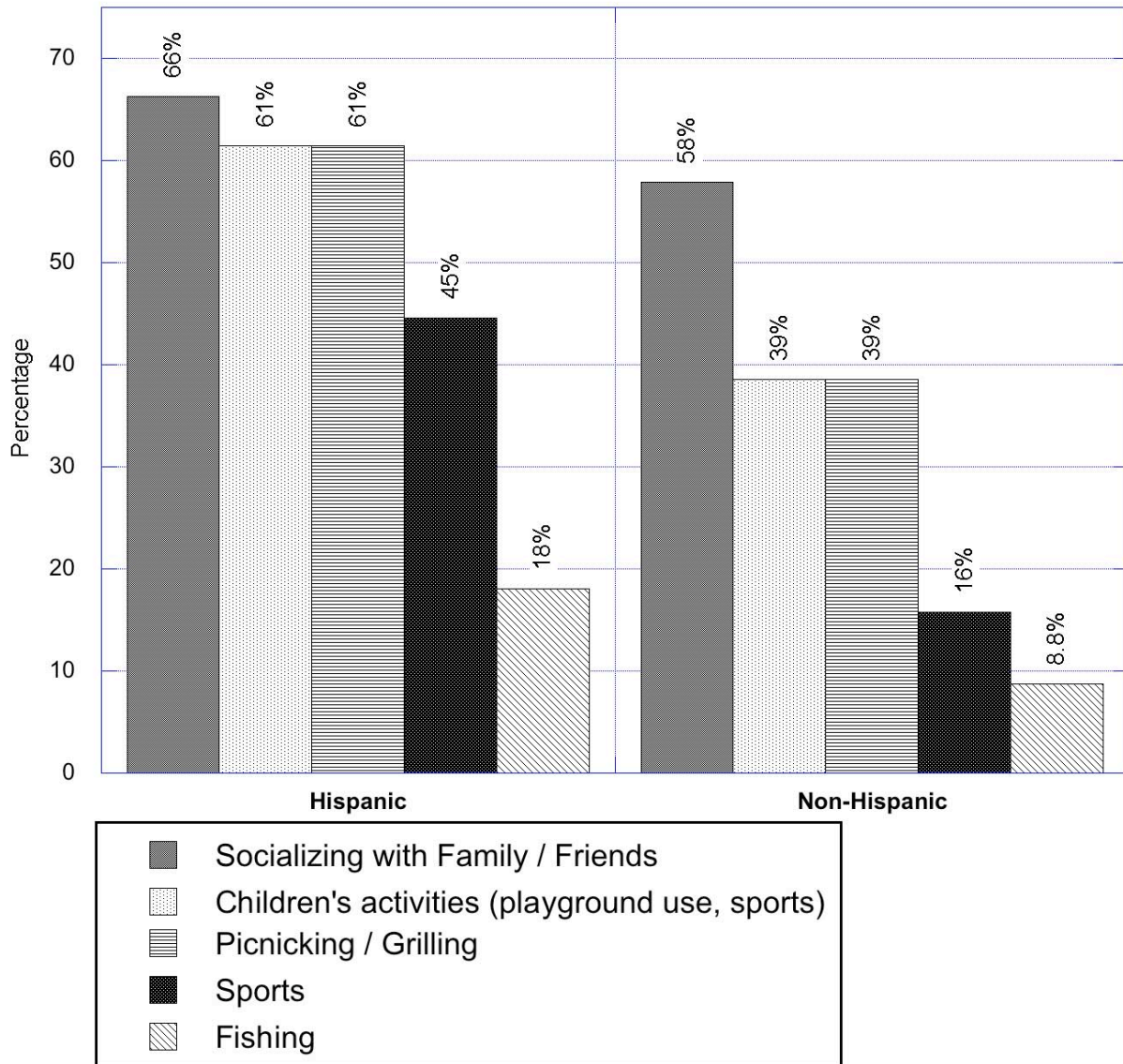
When the Hispanic respondents are broken into approximately evenly sized thirds by income level (\$30,000 to >200,000; \$20,000 to 29,999; <\$5,000 to 19,999), five activities were reported with a substantial difference. The richest third reported socializing with family and friends more than the poorest third. More of the middle income group reported participating in children's activities and running than the higher or lower income groups. More of the middle income group also reported participating in sports and biking than the higher income group (See Table 3).

**Table 3: Hispanics' activities by income level**  
(activities with the most variation among income levels)



There were several differences between Hispanics and Non-Hispanics in frequency of activities reported, as well. There are 5 activities that a greater percentage of Hispanics reported participating in than did Non-Hispanics: Socializing with Family / Friends (66% and 58%), Children's activities (61% and 39%), Picnicking / Grilling (61% and 39%), Sports (45% and 16%), and Fishing (18% and 9%) (See Table 4).

**Table 4: Which of these activities do you do in parks?  
Hispanics participate more than Non-Hispanics**



Several activities were reported in roughly equal percent by Hispanics and Non-Hispanics. These include: Viewing Wildlife (45% and 40%, respectively), Biking (33% and 30%), Running (31% and 30%), Climbing (6% and 12%), Equestrian (less than 2% for both), and Other.

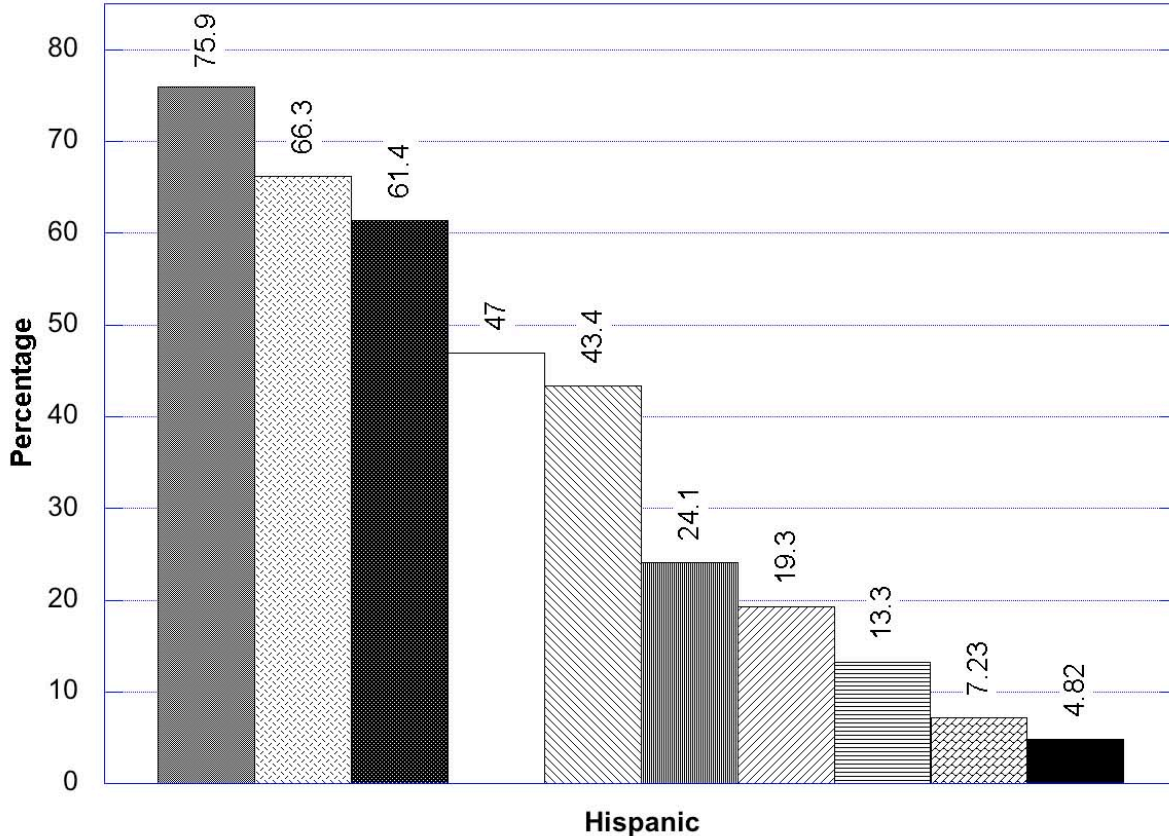
Activities in which a higher percentage of Non-Hispanics than Hispanics reported participation included: Hiking (74% of Non-Hispanics and 52% of Hispanics) and Walking the Dog (30% and 21%).













Reasons offered for visiting parks (Question 1, part 5) most frequently by Hispanics were: enjoy nature / being outdoors, beautiful scenery, and close to home (See Table 5).

**Table 5: Why do you go to those parks?**

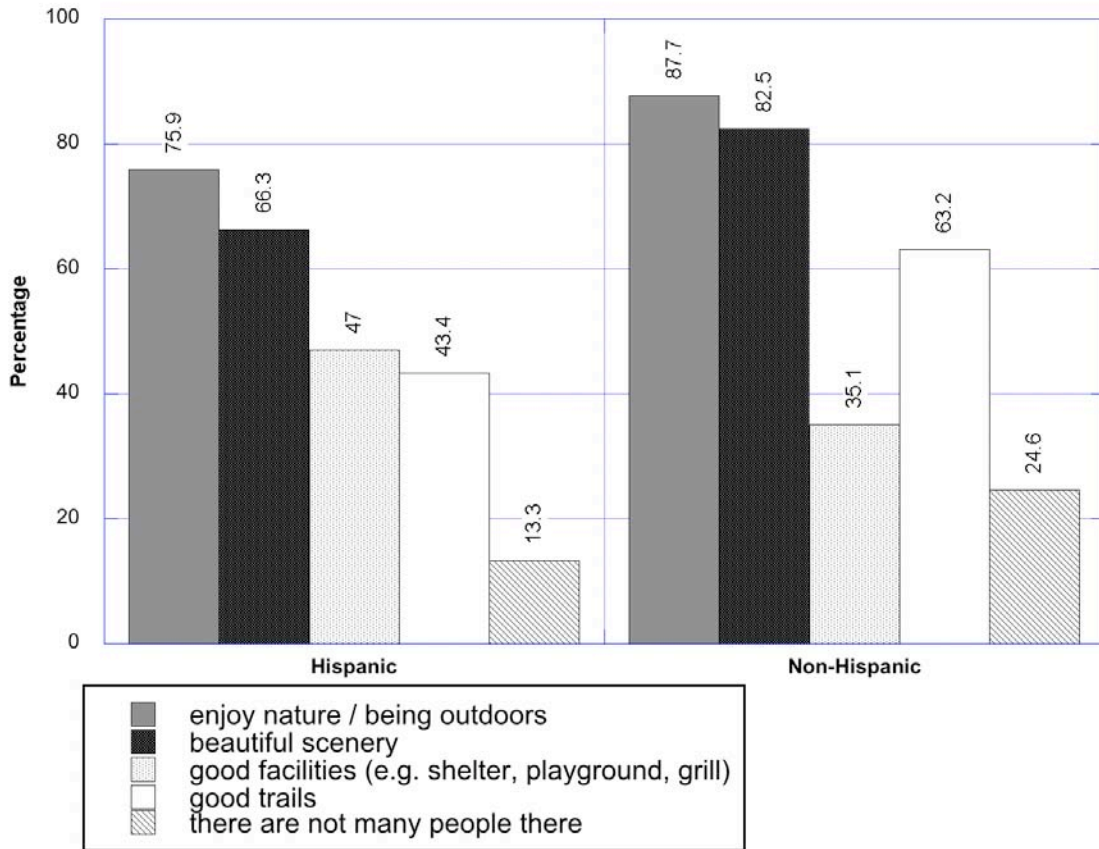
(Check all that apply)



-  enjoy nature / being outdoors
-  beautiful scenery
-  close to my house
-  good facilities (e.g. shelter, playground, grill)
-  good trails
-  dogs are allowed
-  I see people I know there
-  there are not many people there
-  close to my work
-  dogs are not allowed

The same percentage of Hispanics and Non-Hispanics reported going to parks because they are close to home (both 61%) and dogs are allowed (24% and 26%). The frequency differed more substantially in other reasons. Enjoy being outdoors, beautiful scenery, good trails, and there are not many people there were offered by a higher percentage of Non-Hispanics than Hispanics (See Table 6). In contrast, a higher percentage of Hispanics cited good facilities (such as shelter, playground, and grill) as a reason to visit the park.

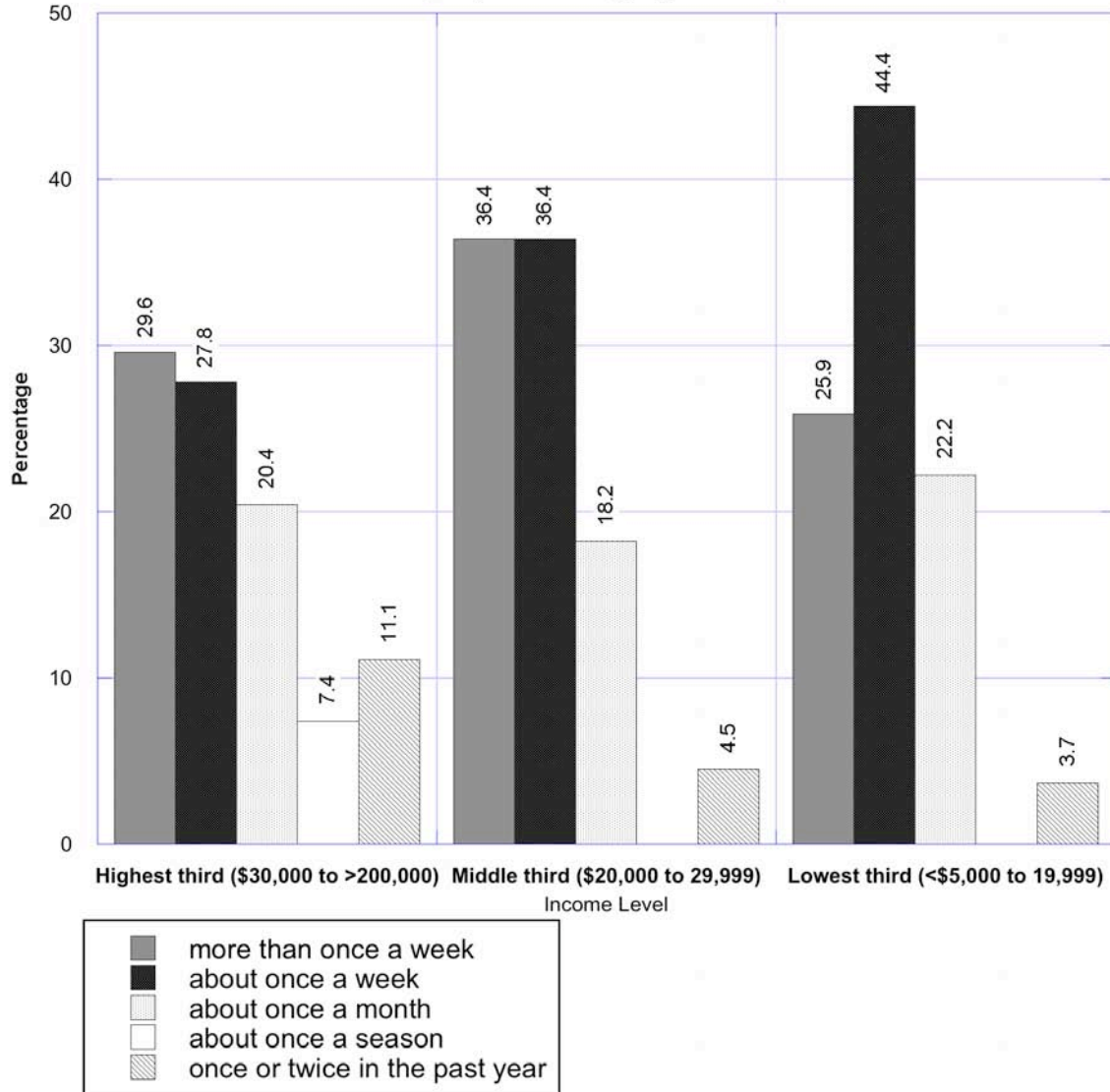
**Table 6: Why do you go to these parks?  
Hispanic/Non-Hispanic Differences**  
(Check all that apply)



All people surveyed reported similar park visitation patterns (Question 1, part 6). About two-thirds of all respondents reported visiting a park once per week or more often, 15% to 20% reported visiting a park once a month, and about 10% reported visiting a park once per season or once or twice in the past year.

Divided by income level into thirds, difference among Hispanics' park visitation patterns is minimal, with about two-thirds of each income group visiting parks once per week or more (See Table 7).

**Table 7: In the past year, about how many times have you visited a park or open space area? (Hispanics only, by income)**



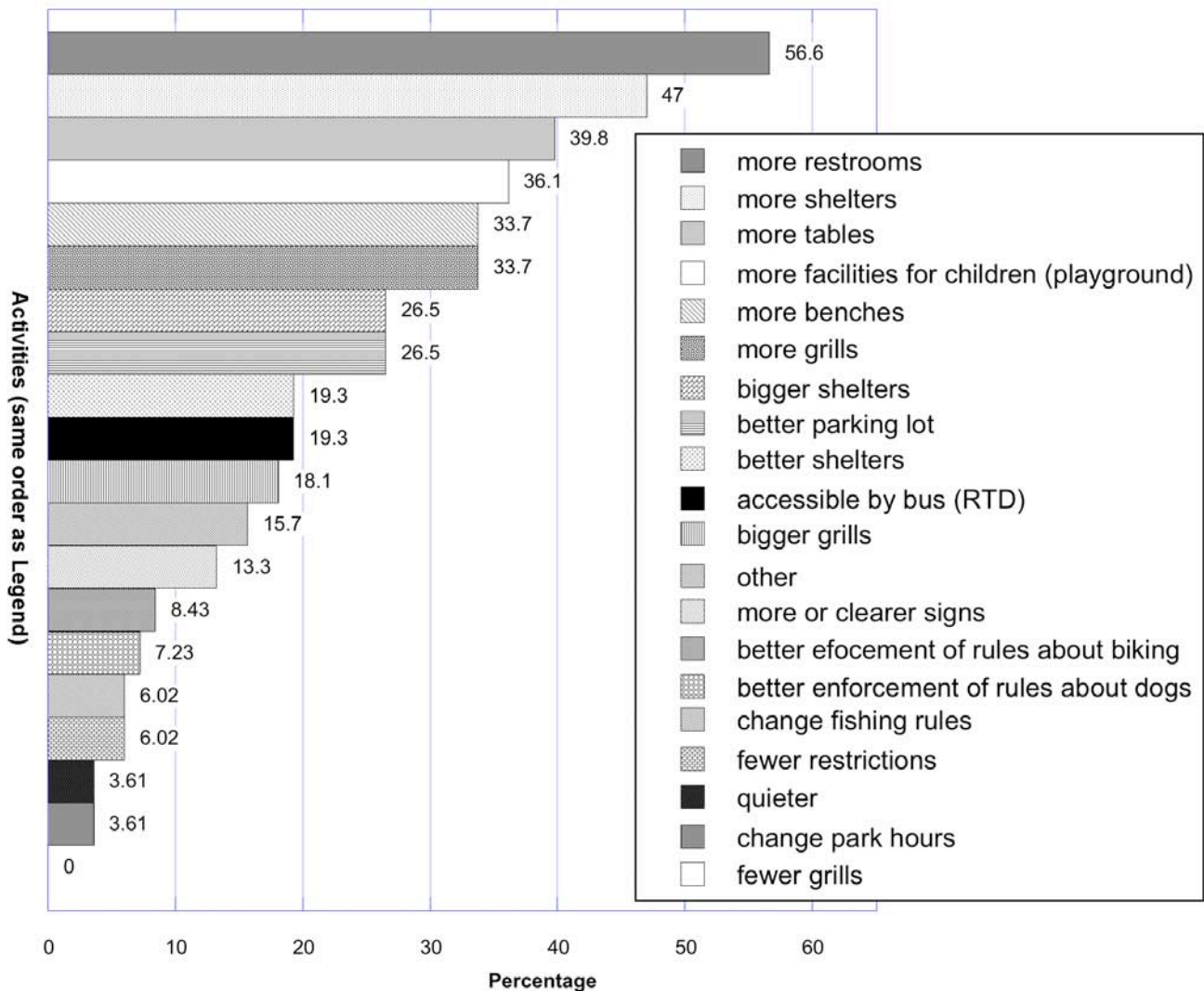
Ninety-eight percent of Hispanic respondents said they plan to visit parks or open space again (Question 2). Only 2.4% of Hispanic respondents said they do not plan to visit parks or open space again (several Non-Hispanics did not answer the question). No reasons were offered by Hispanics for not planning to visit parks or open space again. Three people who identify as Hispanic and said they do plan to visit parks again marked reasons not to, which include: not enough time (1 person), other: signs in Spanish (1 person), and other: does not plan to visit when there is snow on the ground (1 person).

**Changes to Parks**

When asked what they would change about parks (Question 3), the most frequent change offered by Hispanic respondents was more restrooms (57% of Hispanics, Table 8; compared to 21% of Non-Hispanics). Hispanics would also add more shelters (47%), more tables (40%), more facilities for children (36%), more benches (33%), more grills (34%), bigger shelters (27%), a better parking lot (27%), better shelters (19%), accessible by bus (19%), bigger grills (18%), other (16%), and more or clearer signs (13%). Less than 10% of Hispanics surveyed would request better enforcement of rules about biking (8%), better enforcement of rules about dogs (7%), change fishing rules (6%), make fewer restrictions (6%), make parks quieter (4%), change park hours (4%), or have fewer grills (0%).

Hispanics reported desired changes more frequently overall than Non-Hispanics did. The largest percentage of Non-Hispanics who would change any single thing was only 26% (other). A higher percentage of Non-Hispanics (22.8%) would improve enforcement of rules about dogs than Hispanics (7.23%) would.

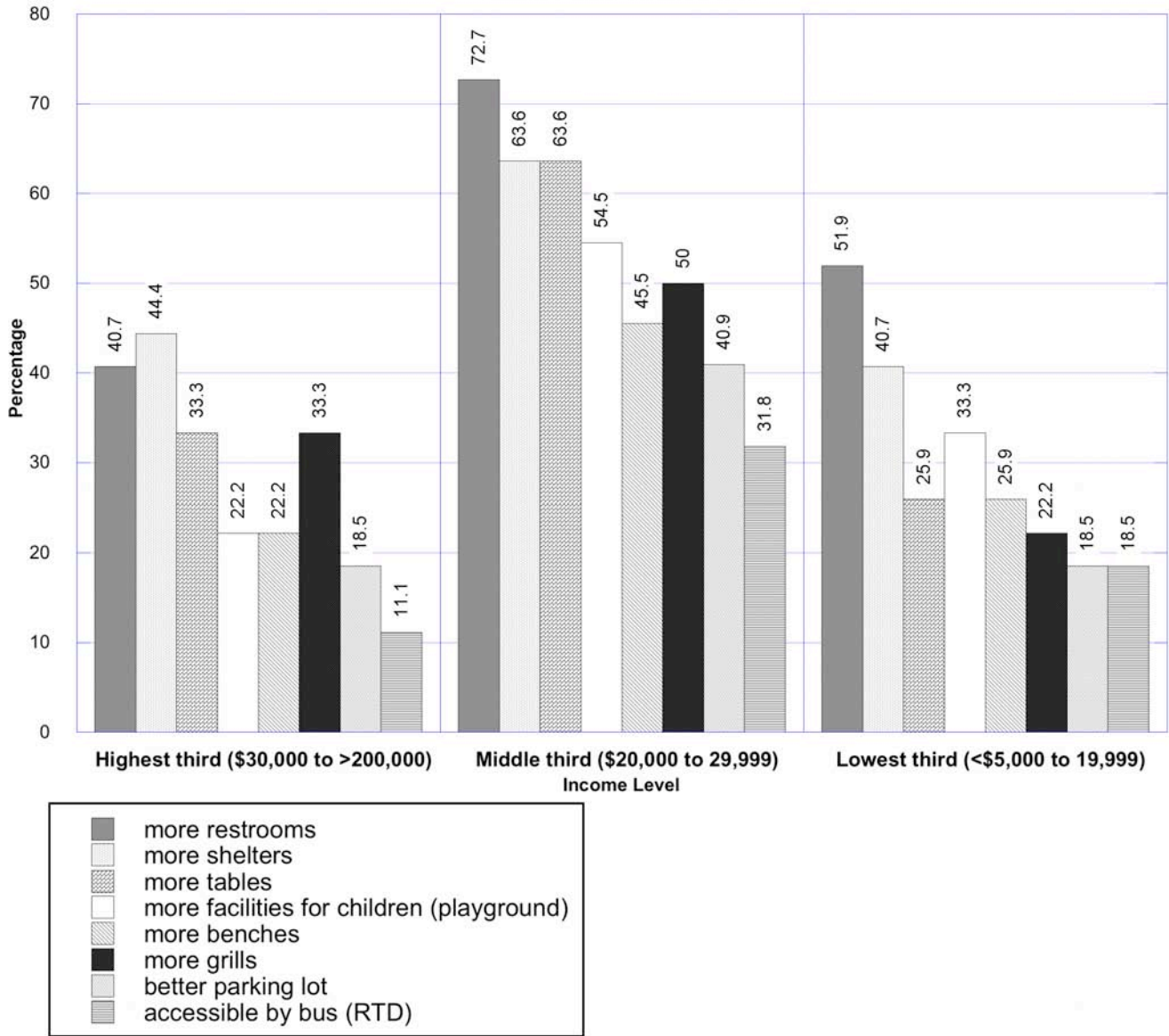
**Table 8: What would you change about parks or open space to improve your experience? (Hispanics only)**





When the Hispanic respondents are broken into thirds by income level, differences among income levels are apparent in eight answers. More of the middle income group would add more restrooms, more shelters, more tables, more facilities for children, more benches, more grills, and better parking lots than the higher or lower income groups. More of the middle income group would also like more bus accessibility than the higher income group (See Table 9).

**Table 9: What would you change about parks or open space...?  
(Hispanics, by income)**





### Interaction in Parks

Few people (7.2% of Hispanics, 10.8% overall, 15.8% of Non-Hispanics) reported negative interactions with visitors or park employees (Question 4). Descriptions of negative interactions reported by Hispanics include:

- interactions with supervisors
- being thrown out of a park by security because of noise
- a conflict over shelter reservation and use
- dirty looks and “everybody in my way”
- finding other people’s trash
- dog owners not cleaning up after their dogs or letting their dogs poop near people who are eating.\*

\* Only one person reported each interaction.

Descriptions of negative interactions reported by Non-Hispanics include:

- interactions with people fishing who don’t like sailboats
- pre-teens taunting a person’s young child
- encountering “drunks” around Red Rocks
- “gangs”
- “grumpy people”
- negative encounters with dogs, e.g. dogs off leash, dogs in dog-free area, rude dog owners (2 people)
- encountering a cow with calves and unable to get around them
- receipt of a parking ticket for parking in a no parking zone at Eldorado Canyon State Park\*

\* Only one person reported each interaction, unless otherwise noted.

Even fewer (3.6% of Hispanics) reported having an experience visiting parks that caused them not to return (Question 5). Reasons reported include: being chased by 3 bears at Chautauqua years ago, “scary people; I avoid them,” and the parking ticket mentioned in Question 4, above.

Question 6 reads:

Do you think there are benefits to having open space in the community? Please rate the potential benefits of parks and open space: Rate each on a scale of 1 to 3: 1 = not a benefit, 2 = somewhat a benefit, 3 = significant benefit

Responses on average (Hispanic and Non-Hispanic, omitting questionnaires in which *none* of the 6 was ranked) ranked:

- 2.70 Other (19.4% of respondents marked other)
- 2.53 Open space buffers between communities
- 2.48 Recreational access and use
- 2.48 Wildlife Habitat
- 2.27 Preserving rural and agricultural landscape
- 2.24 Land protection and undeveloped land

Hispanic rankings differed substantially from Non-Hispanic rankings:

<u>Hispanic</u>	<u>Non-Hispanic</u>
2.64 Other (16.9% marked other)	2.81 Preserving rural and agricultural landscape
2.48 Open space buffers between communities	2.80 Other (36% marked other)
2.29 Recreational access and use	2.77 Wildlife Habitat
2.27 Wildlife Habitat	2.75 Recreational access and use
1.88 Preserving rural and agricultural landscape	2.75 Land protection and undeveloped land
1.87 Land protection and undeveloped land	2.62 Open space buffers between communities

A larger percentage of Hispanic respondents left only a few of the 6 categories blank than did Non-Hispanic respondents. Omitting any blanks (counted as a rank of zero above) adjusts Hispanic rankings up substantially:

Hispanic (including blanks)

- 2.64 Other (16.9% marked other)
- 2.48 Open space buffers between communities
- 2.29 Recreational access and use
- 2.27 Wildlife Habitat
- 1.88 Preserving rural and agricultural landscape
- 1.87 Land protection and undeveloped land

Hispanic (omitting blanks)

- 2.71 Recreational access and use
- 2.65 Open space buffers between communities
- 2.65 Wildlife Habitat
- 2.64 Other (16.9% marked other)
- 2.44 Land protection and undeveloped land
- 2.42 Preserving rural and agricultural landscape

This adjustment brings the average ranking by Hispanics closer to the average ranking by Non-Hispanics, though the benefits are still ranked in a different order:

Hispanic (omitting blanks)

- 2.71 Recreational access and use
- 2.65 Open space buffers between communities
- 2.65 Wildlife Habitat
- 2.64 Other (16.9% marked other)
- 2.44 Land protection and undeveloped land
- 2.42 Preserving rural and agricultural landscape

Non-Hispanic

- 2.81 Preserving rural and agricultural landscape
- 2.80 Other (36% marked other)
- 2.77 Wildlife Habitat
- 2.75 Land protection and undeveloped land
- 2.75 Recreational access and use
- 2.62 Open space buffers between communities

Appropriateness and implications of this adjustment are discussed below.

Responses for “Other” benefits reported by Hispanics included:

- air quality / trees provide oxygen (3 people)
- more trees / shade (2 people)
- clean, fresh environment
- fish
- places to get away
- that my daughters play and have fun
- want more stores near parks
- more water fountains / bathrooms
- more light in parks\*

\* Only one person reported each interaction, unless otherwise noted.

Responses for “Other” benefits reported by Non-Hispanics included:

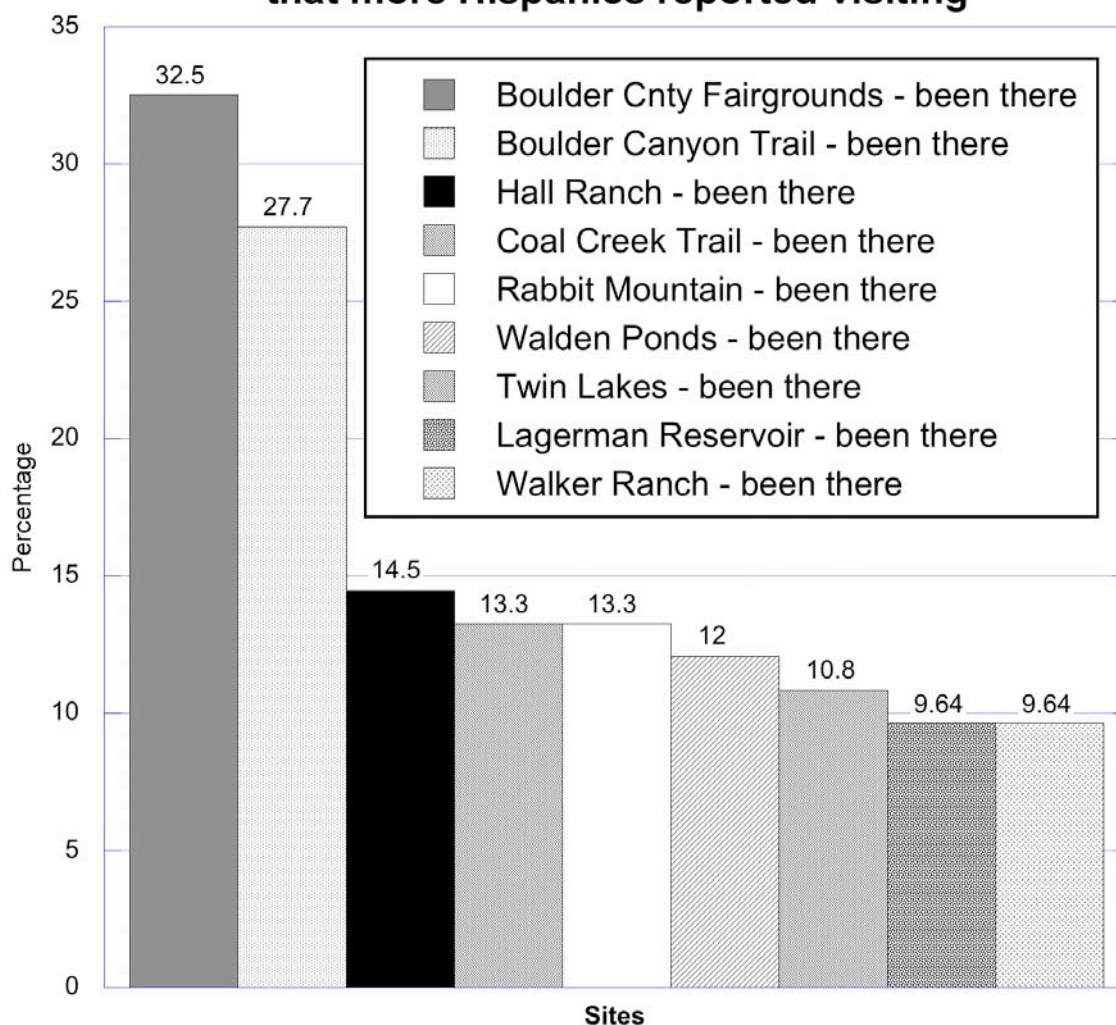
- health benefit / healthy, active, outdoor lifestyles (2 people)
- quality of life / opportunity (2 people)
- physical, emotional, and psychological well-being
- peace and tranquility
- place for people to do different hobbies
- Nordic skiing
- education programs / outdoor education
- connecting bike paths on open space land\*

\* Only one person reported each interaction, unless otherwise noted.

### Boulder County Open Space

Question 7 gathered data concerning respondents' familiarity with and use of Boulder County Open Space land. Most sites had low percentages of people who reported having heard of or visited the sites among both Hispanics and Non-Hispanics. The open space lands that the highest percentage of Hispanics reported visiting includes: Boulder County Fairgrounds (33%), Boulder Canyon Trail<sup>3</sup> (28%), Hall Ranch (15%), Coal Creek Trail (13%), Rabbit Mountain (13%), Walden Ponds (12%), Twin Lakes (11%), Lagerman Reservoir (10%), and Walker Ranch (10%) (See Table 10).

**Table 10: Boulder County Open Space sites that more Hispanics reported visiting**



<sup>3</sup> Anyone who inquired about the location of Boulder Canyon Trail was informed that it is farther up the canyon from or past Eben Fine Park, thus distinguishing it from Eben Fine Park.

Activities reported by Hispanics at the Boulder County Open Space properties visited by most people include:

Boulder County Fairgrounds: fair / festival / event (10 people), family / kids play (2 people), farmers' market, walk, rest, fish

Boulder Canyon Trail: walk / hike (6 people), grill / picnic / barbeque (4 people), bike (2 people), swim (2 people), run, family, fish, soccer

Hall Ranch: grill / picnic / barbeque (4 people), sports / soccer (2 people), walk / hike (2 people), family (2 people), bike (2 people)

Coal Creek Trail: bike (2 people), walk (2 people), walk a dog, grill, play, enjoy quietness

Rabbit Mountain: hike (3 people)

Walden Ponds: fish (2 people), hike, birdwatching

Twin Lakes: fish (2 people), hike / walk (2 people), run, sports

Lagerman Reservoir: fish (3 people), walk

Walker Ranch: hike (2 people), bike (2 people), grill, run

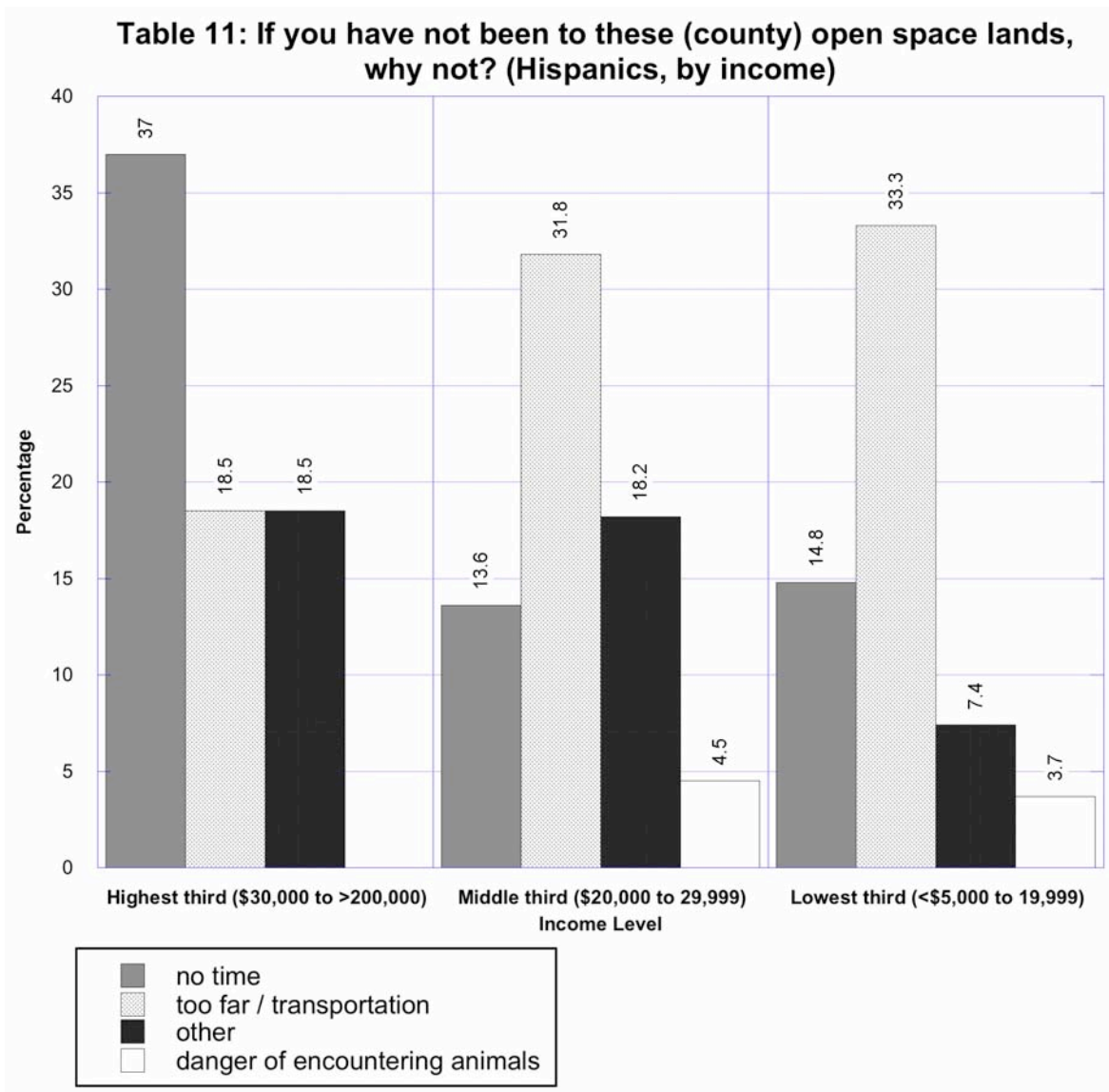
More Hispanics had heard of Boulder County Fairgrounds, Boulder Canyon Trail, Hall Ranch, and Coal Creek Trail than had visited them.

The sites with the biggest difference between percent of Hispanics and Non-Hispanics who reported visiting the parks include: Beech Open Space (9% and 2%), Heil Valley Ranch (7% and 30%), Niwot Loop Trail (8% and 18%), Walker Ranch (10% and 51%), Walden Ponds (12% Hispanic and 53% Non-Hispanic), Hall Ranch (15% and 33%), Boulder Canyon Trail (28% and 44%), and Boulder County Fairgrounds (33% and 47%).

Reasons given by Hispanics for not visiting Boulder County Open Space lands include: too far / transportation (28%), no time (23%), other (15%), and danger of encountering wild animals (2%). Reasons listed by Hispanics for “Other” include: haven’t heard of them / not familiar / didn’t know they existed (4 people), don’t know where they are, don’t know park names, just never went, lived out of state, I go to other parks, I go to parks near the house, and drunk drivers on the road (especially on weekends).

Broken into thirds by income level, more high income Hispanics reported not having enough time to visit parks. In contrast, more middle and low income participants said parks were too far or lacked transportation (See Table 11).

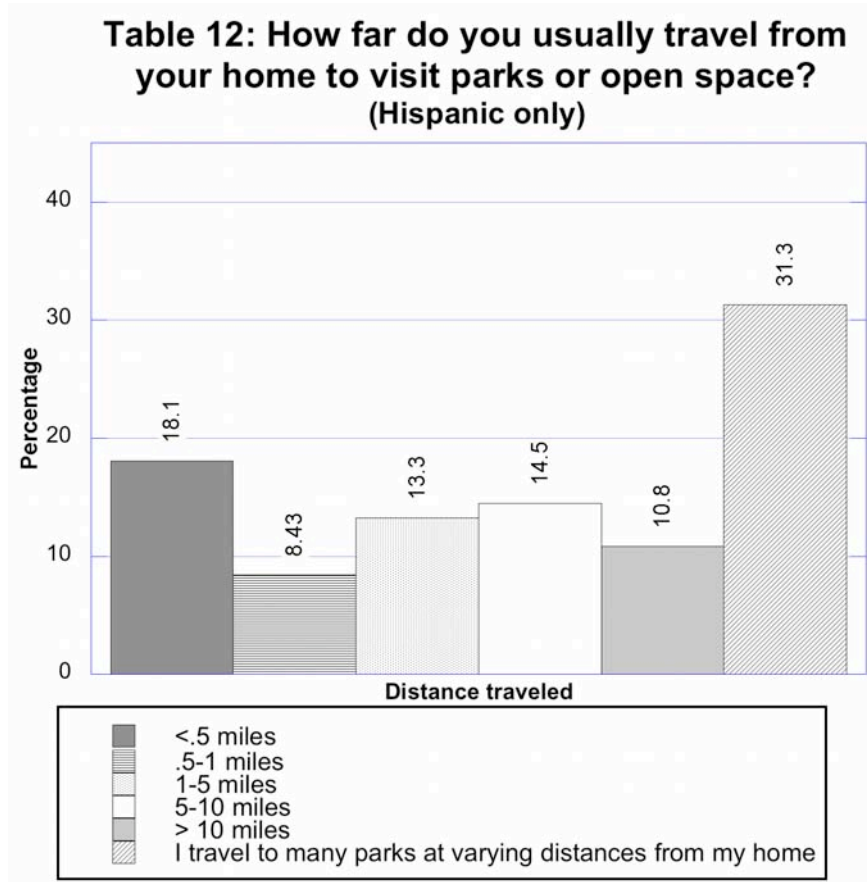
Non-Hispanics reported Other most (25%), followed by no time (19%) and too far / transportation (18%). The majority of those who chose Other gave the reason that they had not heard of the open space site.





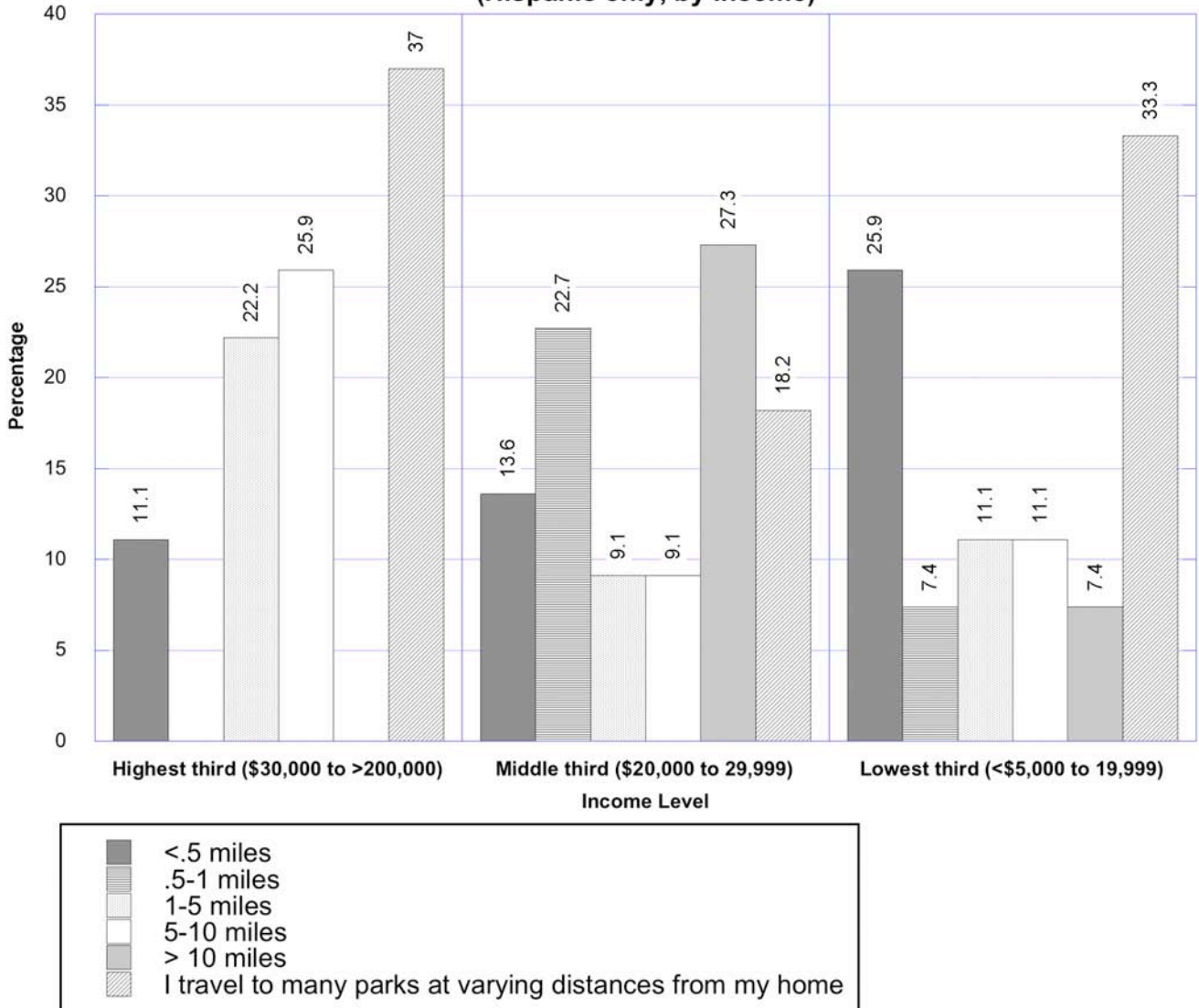
Distance Traveled and Transportation

About one-third of Hispanic respondents reported that they travel to many parks at varying distances from their homes (Table 12). One-quarter of Hispanics travel between 1 and 10 miles to parks (compared to almost half of Non-Hispanics). Eighteen percent of Hispanics reported traveling less than one-half mile to parks (compared to 4% of Non-Hispanics). Eleven percent of Hispanics reported traveling more than 10 miles to parks (compared to 2% of non-Hispanics).



When divided by income (See Table 13), more lower income respondents said they go to parks less than one-half mile from their houses. More higher income respondents said they travel between 1 and 10 miles, but no higher income respondents said they travel more than 10 miles. All incomes had a significant number of respondents report traveling to many parks at varying distances from their homes.

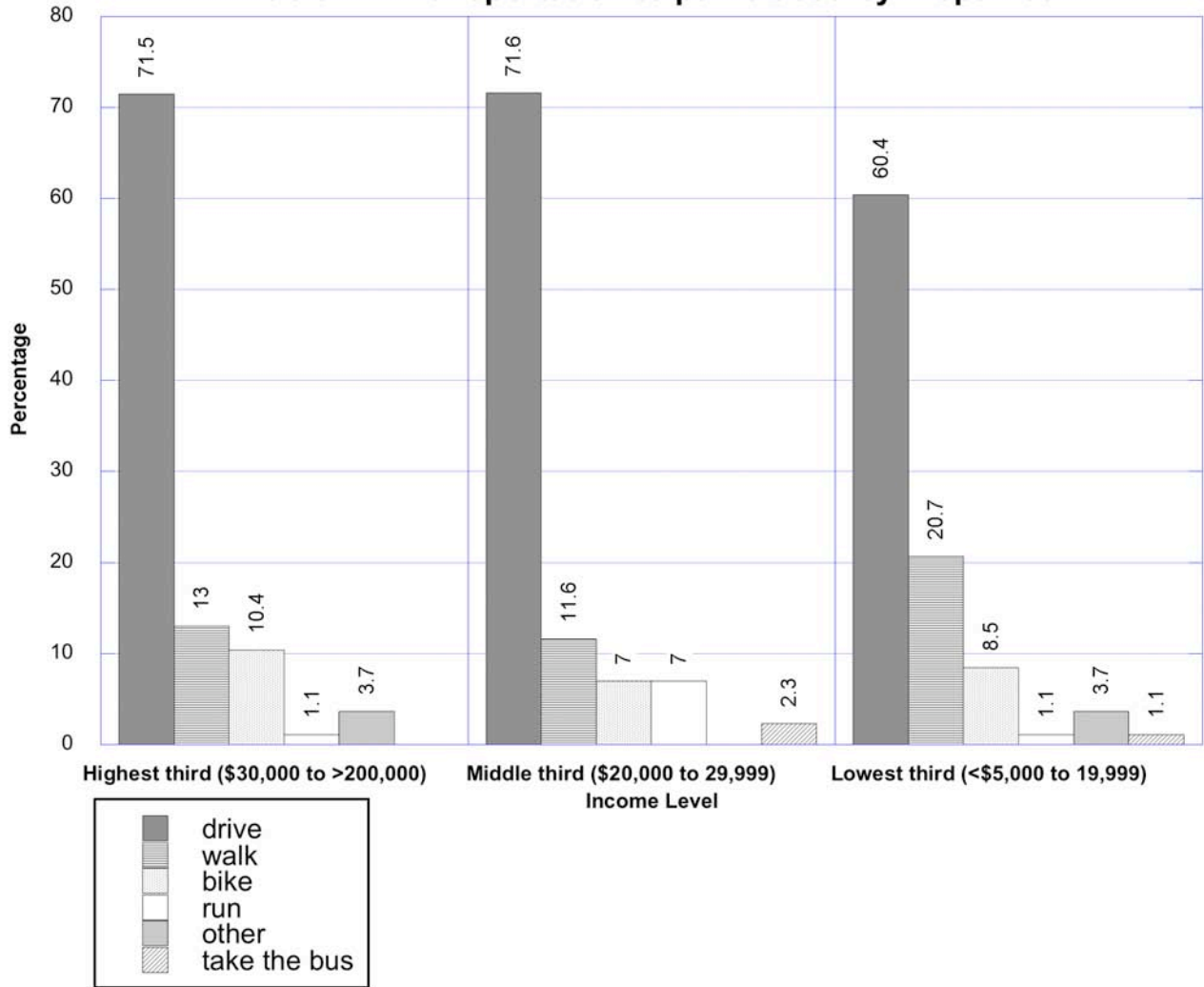
**Table 13: Distance traveled to parks from home  
(Hispanic only, by income)**



In Question 10, two-thirds of Hispanic respondents reported driving to parks or open space. The second and third most common mode of transportation for Hispanics were walking (8%) and biking (16%). Some Hispanics (less than 3%) reported running, taking the bus, or other forms of transportation, including riding with friends.

Divided by income (See Table 14), most Hispanics of all income levels drive to parks. Somewhat fewer lower income Hispanics drove, and more lower income Hispanics walked to parks.

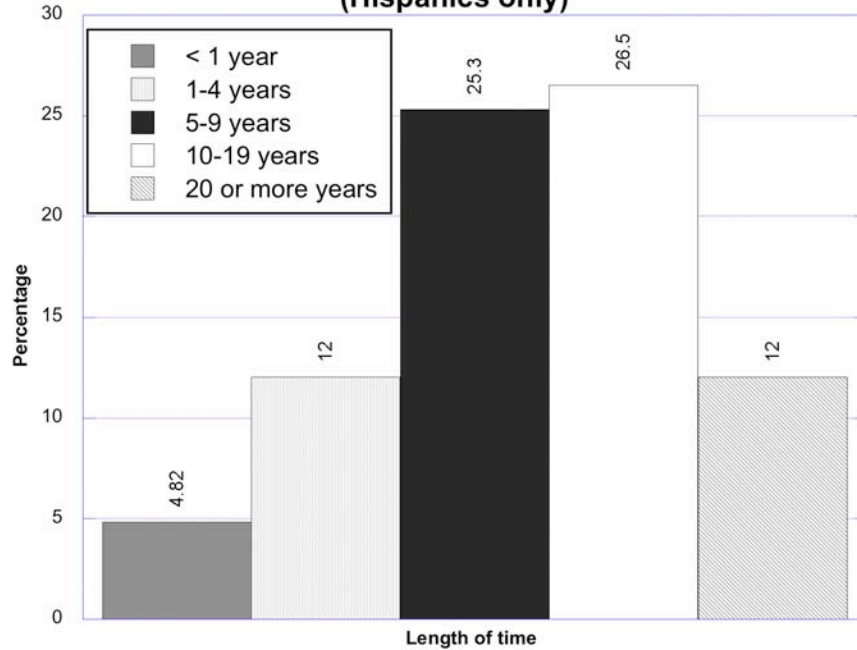
**Table 14: Transportation to parks used by Hispanics**



Demographics

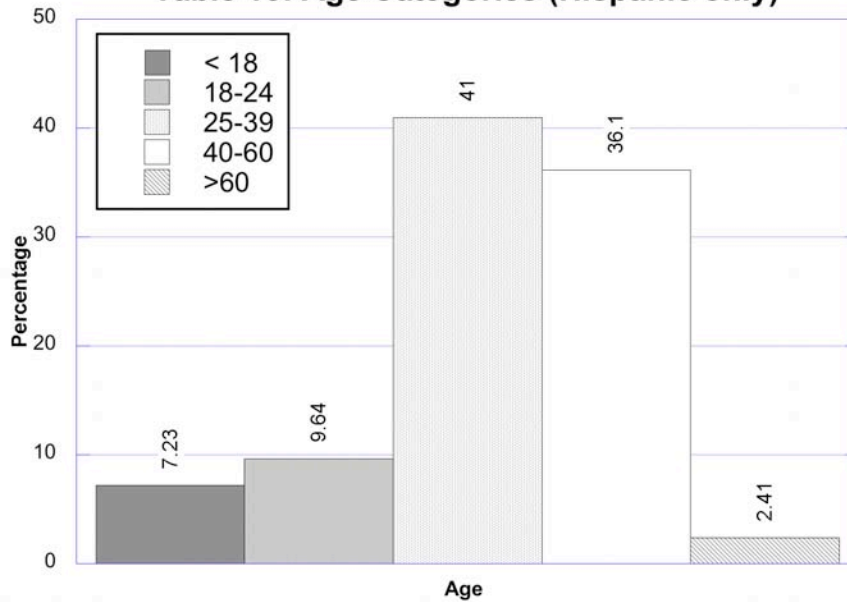
The length of time Hispanic respondents reported having lived in Boulder County (Question 12) varied, with 17% living there less than 5 years and 12% living there more than 20 years (See Table 15). Half of Hispanic respondents reported living in Boulder County between 5 and 19 years. A significant proportion of Hispanics surveyed in Boulder County reported not living in Boulder County currently (19%).

**Table 15: How long have you lived in Boulder County? (Hispanics only)**



Forty percent of Hispanics surveyed were between the ages of 25 and 39 (Question 13). Thirty-six percent were between the ages of 40 and 60 (see Table 16).

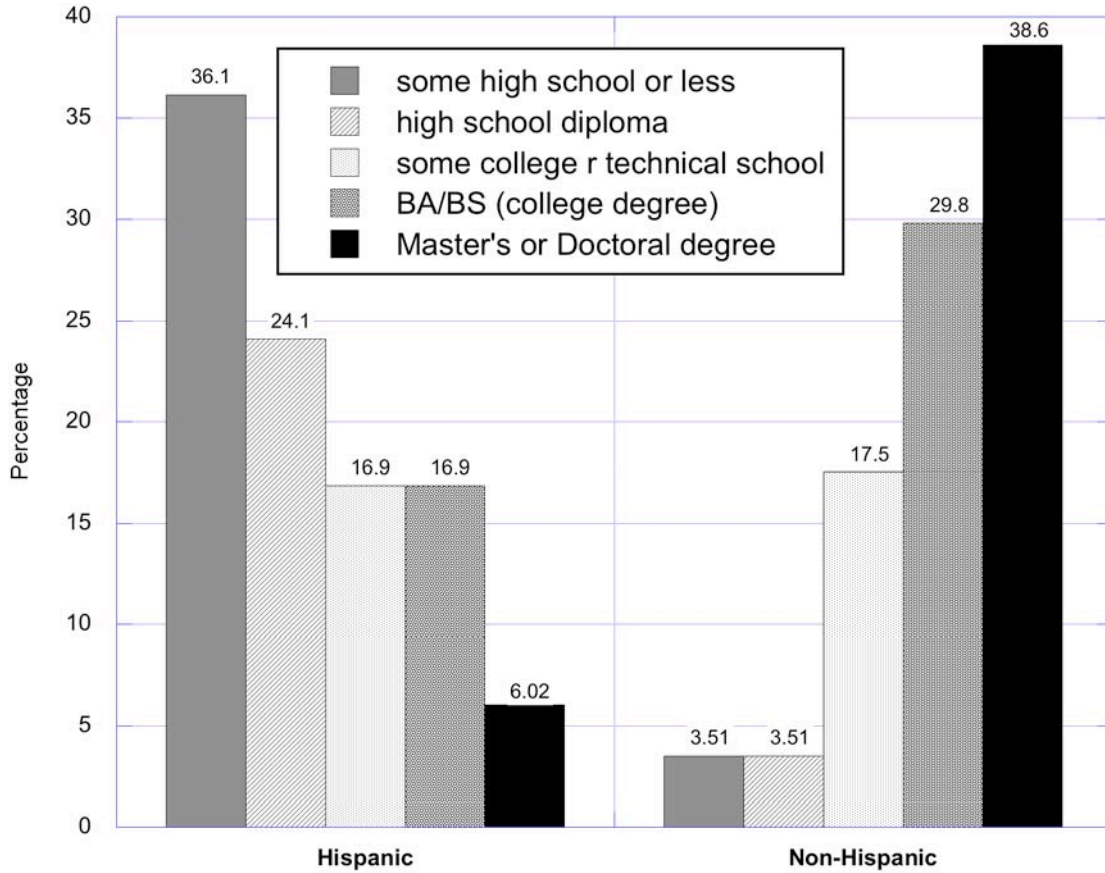
**Table 16: Age Categories (Hispanic only)**



One of the most striking characteristics of the Hispanic population surveyed was their level of education (Question 15). More than one-third of Hispanics reported not completing high school, and another quarter reported a high school diploma as their highest level of education (See Table 17). One-quarter of Hispanics reported earning a college, Master’s, or Doctoral degree.

In contrast, only 7% of Non-Hispanics earned a high school degree or lower, and two-thirds reported earning a college, Master’s, or Doctoral degree.

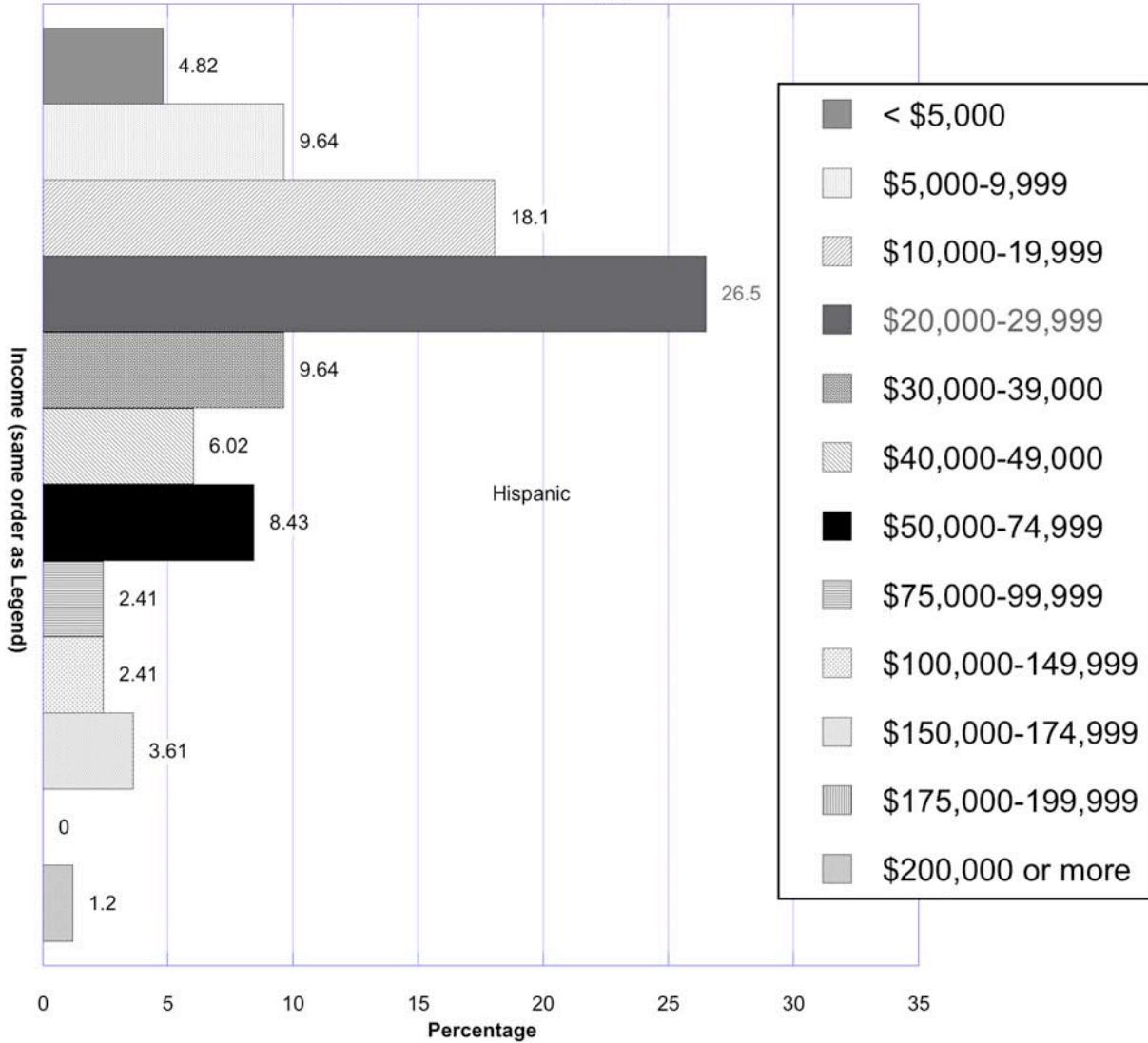
**Table 17: How would you describe your highest level of education?**





Hispanic respondents reported relatively low incomes (Question 18) in the previous year (See Table 18). Fifty-nine percent of Hispanics reported earning \$30,000 or less in the past year (compared to 21% of Non-Hispanics). Only one-quarter of Hispanics earned more than \$40,000. Seven percent earned \$100,000 or more.

**Table 18: What was your income last year?  
(Hispanic Only)**



Half of Non-Hispanics earned between \$30,000 and \$100,000, and one-quarter earned more than \$100,000.

**Discussion**

General

Half of the people who identified as Hispanic chose to fill out the questionnaire in Spanish. This percentage is close to the percentage of Hispanic Boulder County residents who reported speaking a language other than English in their homes in the 2000 Census (64% of Hispanics over the age of 5 in Boulder County; U.S. Census, 2000). Several people who filled out the questionnaire in Spanish also spoke English.

Several interviewees and Hispanic people who filled out questionnaires commented positively on the fact that someone (who speaks Spanish) is researching the outdoor recreation needs of Hispanics in Boulder County.

Among Hispanic survey participations, the majority of people asked were willing to take 5 minutes to fill out a questionnaire themselves or continue with their activity (fishing, watching a soccer game, watching kids play, relaxing) while I administered the questionnaire. Most Hispanics who filled out a questionnaire were friendly, patient, and generous with their time.

### Park Visitation

Several interviewees expected Hispanics not to have a lot of free time to go to parks and expected Hispanics to have difficulty with transportation to parks. Park visitation data contradicted this expectation, with the vast majority of Hispanics reporting that they go to parks or open space in Boulder County (Question 1).

Data (Question 1, part 3 “When you go to parks or open space, do you usually go...”) confirmed that a higher frequency of Hispanics than Non-Hispanics go to parks in groups.

Question 1, part 4 asked, “Which of these activities do you do there [in parks]?” Also in conformity with recreation literature was the finding that picnicking and grilling are very popular forms of outdoor recreation, more popular with Hispanics (61%) than Non-Hispanics (39%). However, it is important to note that relaxing, socializing with family and friends, and children’s activities were even more popular activities among Hispanics than picnicking and grilling.

Hiking (*dar una caminata*) was reported by high numbers (52%), as predicted by recreation literature.

Viewing wildlife (*observar plantas y animals*) was also reported in higher numbers (45%) than recreation literature suggests. In English, the question would generally be interpreted to include only viewing animals, but in Spanish it includes viewing plants and animals. “Active” wildlife viewing (going to parks to look for wildlife) was not distinguished from “passive” wildlife viewing (seeing wildlife at parks) in either language version of the questionnaire. Because viewing wildlife was offered as an answer to the question about activities, rather than as a reason to go to parks, it is impossible to infer whether respondents engaged in active or passive wildlife viewing.

Numbers of Hispanics who reported mountain biking may be slightly high due to the translation *andar en bicicleta*, which does not necessarily have the connotation of *mountain* biking as a sport or leisure activity.

“Running” (*Correr*) was not distinguished from “Trail Running.” Likewise “climbing” (*escalar*) could have been interpreted as technical rock climbing, bouldering, or scrambling.

It is important to note from a management perspective that sports are also an activity that many Hispanics (45%) participate in at parks. Where appropriate, the maintenance or establishment of small grassy areas for volleyball or soccer on open space lands might be utilized and appreciated by Hispanic county residents. The fact that children’s activities were also mentioned by such a high percentage of Hispanic respondents (61%) also suggests an opportunity for site enhancement, as appropriate.

Hispanic utilization of park facilities such as shelter, playgrounds, and grills (almost half) is slightly lower than recreation literature suggests. It is important to note that more Hispanics chose enjoy nature and being outdoors (76%) and beautiful scenery (66%) as reasons to visit parks, and almost as many (43%) chose good trails.

I was intrigued by the answer, “Here, no” when I asked (while administering questionnaires) if Hispanics ride horses in parks or open space. Some who have moved from other countries (Honduras and Mexico were mentioned in relation to horseback riding) did ride horses there but do not here.

### Changes to Parks

Question 3 asked “What would you change about parks and open space to improve your experience?” Hispanics’ choice to add more shelters (47%), more tables (40%), more facilities for children (36%), more benches (33%), more grills (34%), bigger shelters (27%), and a better parking lot (27%) to parks is a clear and helpful statement to park managers about what facilities many Hispanics value in parks. Several people also made requests for cleaner restrooms. However, the relatively low percentage of people requesting those changes (each less than half) suggests that facilities are not the only (or primary) reason for the perception that Hispanics visit Boulder County Open Space with less frequency than Non-Hispanic county residents do.

Most of the questionnaires were administered on hot, summer days, and many people mentioned or wrote shade, shade trees, or shelters as an asset in parks.

Only a small portion (less than 9%) of Hispanic respondents expressed concern about enforcement of rules about dogs or bicycles or wanted to change regulations, restrictions or park hours.

### Interactions in Parks

More Non-Hispanics (15.8%) than Hispanics (7.2%) reported negative interactions with visitors or park employees (Question 4 “Have you ever had negative interactions with other visitors or park employees at any park or open space in Boulder County?” and Question 5 “Have you ever had an experience while visiting any park or open space that caused you not to return there?”). However, besides a parking ticket, none of the interactions reported by Non-Hispanics involved park or city authorities. Hispanics reported slightly more negative interactions with park staff or security. This is worth noting and exploring with further research, but no part of this survey can explain this descriptive data.

### Benefits of Parks and Open Space

Question 6 asked, “Do you think there are benefits to having parks and open space? Please rate the potential benefits of parks and open space: (rate each on a scale of 1 to 3: 1 = not a benefit, 2 = somewhat a benefit, 3 = significant benefit).”

Overall, all 5 benefits listed were ranked high (at 2.24 or above). The two with the lowest ranking overall were “land protection and undeveloped land” and “preserving rural and agricultural landscapes.” Non-Hispanics ranked these higher than “open space buffers between communities” but Hispanics ranked them much lower, even when omitting blanks. This is partly explained by the fact that several respondents asked me what “undeveloped land / *las tierras no desarrolladas*” and “preserving rural and agricultural landscape / *preservación del paisaje rural y agrícola*” meant, in both English and Spanish. Some people, both Hispanic and not, also asked what “buffers / *zonas verdes*”

between communities were. These inquiries also might explain the proportionally higher number of blanks left next to these categories.

This lack of clarity is important to note in terms of how Hispanics conceptualize and communicate benefits of parks and open space. For example, one interviewee distinguished between city parks and open space outside the city, predicting that Hispanics would not visit open space as often and would have a different attitude about it, that it was perhaps *wasted* space. When I explained what buffers between communities, undeveloped land, and rural landscapes meant, many Hispanics responded in the affirmative, citing the salubrious properties of vegetation, its importance for clean air, and the necessity of clean air for lung health. These comments are reflected in some of the responses to the option “Other,” as described above.

### Boulder County Open Space

Question 7 listed Boulder County Parks and Open Space properties and asked respondents to indicate whether they had heard of or been to each, and if they had visited, to list what activities they participated in there. Although still a relatively small percentage (and smaller than Non-Hispanics), more Hispanics had heard of or been to Boulder County Open Space than expected. The data (above) concerning activities in which Hispanic people have engaged at specific Boulder County Open Space sites might offer insight into the type of sites most appreciated by Hispanic park visitors.

Both Hispanics and Non-Hispanics expressed confusion about the distinction between county parks or open space and city, state (like Eldorado Canyon State Park), and even federal parks (like Rocky Mountain National Park), indicating that such distinctions are not well understood by the general population.

For reasons why people have not been to Boulder County Open Space, although only one person wrote “don’t know park names,” several more people said this to me when I administered the survey. When they said this, I proceeded to show them the map, and sometimes they located Boulder County Open Space they had visited using its location (e.g. “It’s on the other side of Lyons” for Hall Ranch). However, it is possible that Hispanics have visited some of these locations but not known the names. Consequently, any further publicity of Open Space should take this into account and utilize location, proximity, or features to advertise rather than relying on site names (unless the attempt is to get people to know the name). The Open Space brochure, with its information about facilities and amenities, was received well by many.

It is most likely that the primary reason more Hispanics do not visit Boulder County Open Space sites is because they have not heard of them. Conducting this research disseminated Boulder County Open Space information to some people (I gave out brochures to people who filled out a questionnaire, as well as to those who chose not to fill out a questionnaire and gave brochures to social services groups to distribute or display). More distribution of brochures through social service and civic organizations might inform more Hispanics about Boulder County Parks and Open Space lands. If appropriate, canvassing (by bilingual people, preferably) in areas where Hispanics already drive to recreate could also be an effective means of education about county parks and open space. Contacting organizations with a majority of Hispanic members which already organizes picnics and outings (such as Intercambio de Comunidades and the Boulder County Latino Chamber of Commerce) and inviting them to use Boulder County Parks and Open Space (giving them shelter reservation information like phone numbers in addition to maps and facilities information) might promote awareness among key portions of the Hispanic population in the county.

### Distance Traveled and Transportation

While a significant minority of Hispanics reported walking to parks (16%, compared to 9% of non-Hispanics), two-thirds said they drive. One hypothesis for lower proportions of Hispanics visiting Boulder Open Space sites was lack of access to transportation. While more Hispanics reported traveling only one-half mile or less to parks (18%), many more traveled more than 5 miles, and one-third reported traveling to many parks at various distances from home. Many of these results are comparable to Non-Hispanic respondents' travel distance, minimizing the likelihood that transportation alone is the biggest reason that fewer Hispanics would visit open space. Furthermore, more Hispanics reported driving to parks or open space (67%) than Non-Hispanics did (61%).

### Demographics

While the median age of Hispanics in Boulder County is 24 and it is 33 for the total county population (U.S. Census, 2000), an additional factor might affect the age data gathered in this study. The age demographics of Hispanics surveyed is skewed somewhat by the fact that when I approached a small group (what seemed like a family, sometimes extended family, sometimes including friends, often multi-generational) in a park and asked people to fill out a survey, a common response was to delegate the task to a young female (approximately age 20-35) in the group "for everyone." This phenomenon of filling out a questionnaire for a whole group or for someone else happened numerous times in parks and also included parents who asked their high school age children to fill out the form. When I tried to ask more people in a group to fill out the questionnaire, they often said, "No, no, she will answer for all of us." This did not ever happen with Non-Hispanics, partly because I did not encounter similar groups in parks. A comparable problem was Hispanic and non-Hispanic couples filling out the survey together, but reporting only one gender, income, or education level and counting as a questionnaire filled out by an individual.

Because a significant proportion (19%) of Hispanics surveyed in Boulder County reported not living in Boulder County but in other counties in the area, it is worth noting that Hispanics who live in neighboring counties come to Boulder County for outdoor recreation.

The question on income shows that most, though not all, Hispanics earn less than Non-Hispanics in the study. This is consistent with county income data. It is important to point out that one-third of the Hispanic population earns less than \$20,000, which is the poverty line in Colorado for a family of four (Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, 2005). But clearly not all Hispanics in the county are poor; 10% earn \$75,000 or more per year. Nearly all are park visitors.

### **Conclusion**

From this research, I conclude that the greatest impediment to Hispanics visiting Boulder County Parks and Open Space properties is limited access to information about the sites. Access to transportation and lack of time also played a smaller role in limiting Hispanics' use of Boulder County Open Space. The most effective actions to increase the percentage of the county's Hispanic population who visit parks center on dissemination of information about Boulder County Parks and Open Space locations, facilities, and reservation policies. One possible venue for information dissemination is through social service, non-profit, and civic organizations that organize outings and events in outdoor recreation areas.



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**Appendix A Questionnaire** English and Spanish (1 page front and back, each)

**Parks and Open Space Use in Boulder County 2008**

1. Do you visit any parks or open space in Boulder County?  No  Yes

If **No**: Are there any ways to change parks that would make them more appealing to visit? (please list)

If **Yes**:

When you go to parks or open space, do you usually go: (check one)

by yourself  with one or two others  with a group

Which of these activities do you do there? (check all that apply)

Children's activities (playground use, sports)  Socializing with family or friends  
 Climbing  Mountain Biking  Sports  
 Equestrian  Picnicking or Grilling  Viewing Wildlife  
 Fishing  Relaxing  Walking a dog  
 Hiking  Running  Other \_\_\_\_\_

Why do you go to those parks? (check all that apply)

close to my house  enjoy nature / being outdoors  good trails  
 close to my work  there are not many people there  dogs are allowed  
 beautiful scenery  I see people I know there  dogs are not allowed  
 good facilities (e.g. shelter, playground, grill)

In the past year, about how often have you visited a park or open space area?

more than once a week  about once a month  once or twice in the past year  
 about once a week  about once a season

2. Do you plan to visit parks or open space again?  Yes  No

If **No**, why not? (check all that apply)

not interested in parks  too far from home  too few people there  
 park facilities were inadequate  transportation problems  signs and rules not clear  
 not enough time  too many people there  other \_\_\_\_\_

3. What would you change about parks or open space to improve your experience? (check all that apply)

more benches  more grills  more or clearer signs  
 more tables  bigger grills  better parking lot  
 more shelters  fewer grills  accessible by bus (RTD)  
 better shelters  more restrooms  quieter  
 bigger shelters  more facilities for children (playground)  
 better enforcement of rules about biking  better enforcement of rules about dogs  
 change fishing rules (Please describe: \_\_\_\_\_)  
 change park hours (Please describe: \_\_\_\_\_)  
 fewer restrictions (Please describe: \_\_\_\_\_)  
 other \_\_\_\_\_

4. Have you ever had negative interactions with other visitors or park employees at any park or open space in Boulder County?  No  Yes: What kind of interactions, with whom? \_\_\_\_\_

5. Have you ever had an experience while visiting any park or open space that caused you not to return there?

No  Yes: Where? What happened? \_\_\_\_\_

6. Do you think there are benefits to having parks and open space in the community? Please rate the potential benefits of parks and open space: *Rate each on a scale of 1 to 3:*

*1 = not a benefit, 2 = somewhat a benefit, 3 = significant benefit*

Open space buffers between communities  Recreational access and use  
 Land protection and undeveloped land  Wildlife habitat  
 Preserving rural and agricultural landscape  Other \_\_\_\_\_

*please see other side =>*

7. Have you heard of or visited any of the following parks or open space? **See Map (on the clipboard)**

<i>Park Name</i>	<i>Heard of it</i>	<i>Been there</i>	<i>What activity I did there (list)</i>	<i>Park Name</i>	<i>Heard of it</i>	<i>Been there</i>	<i>What activity I did there (list)</i>
Pella Crossing . . .	_____	_____	_____	Lefthand Valley Grange	_____	_____	_____
Lagerman Reservoir	_____	_____	_____	Twin Lakes . . . . .	_____	_____	_____
Niwot Loop Trail . .	_____	_____	_____	Walden Ponds . . . .	_____	_____	_____
Beech Open Space	_____	_____	_____	Coal Creek Trail . . .	_____	_____	_____
Legion Park . . . . .	_____	_____	_____	Rabbit Mountain . . . .	_____	_____	_____
Flagg Park . . . . .	_____	_____	_____	Heil Valley Ranch . . .	_____	_____	_____
Hall Ranch . . . . .	_____	_____	_____	Boulder Canyon Trail .	_____	_____	_____
Anne U. White Trail	_____	_____	_____	Betasso Preserve . . .	_____	_____	_____
Bald Mountain . . .	_____	_____	_____	Mud Lake . . . . .	_____	_____	_____
Caribou Ranch . . .	_____	_____	_____	Boulder Cnty Fairgrounds	_____	_____	_____
Walker Ranch . . . .	_____	_____	_____	Carolyn Holmberg Preserve at Rock Creek Farm	_____	_____	_____

8. If you have not been to these open space lands, why not? (check all that apply)  
 too far / transportation     no time     danger of encountering wild animals     other \_\_\_\_\_

9. How far do you usually travel from your home to visit parks or open space?  
 less than half a mile     5-10 miles  
 one-half to one mile     more than 10 miles  
 1-5 miles     I travel to many parks at varying distances from my home

10. When you go to parks or open space, how do you usually get there? (check one)  
 drive     bike     run     walk     take the bus     other

11. Where do you currently live? What is your zip code? \_\_\_\_\_  
 A city or town inside Boulder County: Which city? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Unincorporated Boulder County

12. If you live in Boulder County, how long have you lived here?  
 Less than 1 year     1-4 years     5-9 years     10-19 years     20 or more years

13. Please check the appropriate age category:  Under 18     18-24     25-39     40-60     Over 60

14. What is your gender?     Male     Female     Other

15. How would you describe your highest level of education?  
 Some high school or less     Some college or technical school     Master's or Doctoral degree  
 High school diploma     BA/BS (college) degree

16. What is your race? (please pick the most appropriate category or indicate *Other*)  
 Caucasian or White     American Indian or Native Alaskan     Two or more races  
 African American or Black     Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander  
 Asian     Other race \_\_\_\_\_

17. Ethnicity (please check one or indicate *Other*)  
 Hispanic, Latino, or Chicano (family's country or countries of origin: \_\_\_\_\_)  
 Non-Hispanic  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

18. What was your income last year? (check one)  
 less than \$5,000     \$20,000-29,999     \$50,000-74,999     \$150,000-174,999  
 \$5,000-9,999     \$30,000-39,999     \$75,000-99,999     \$175,000-199,999  
 \$10,000-19,999     \$40,000-49,999     \$100,000-149,999     \$200,000 or more

*This questionnaire is completely anonymous. You will not be identified or contacted based on your zip code, race, ethnicity, or income as reported in this questionnaire. **Thank you for your time!***

## Uso de los parques y las zonas verdes en el Condado de Boulder en el 2008

1. ¿Usted visita parques o zonas verdes en el Condado de Boulder?  No  Sí

Si su respuesta es **No**: ¿De qué manera se podrían cambiar los parques para que fueran más agradables para visitar? (favor de enumerar) \_\_\_\_\_

Si su respuesta es **Sí**: ¿Cuándo va a los parques, cuántas personas le acompañan? (favor de marcar sólo una opción)  solo  con una o dos personas  con un grupo

¿Cuáles de estas actividades lleva a cabo en los parques? (marque todas las que haga)

Actividades de niños (columpios, resbaladillas, deportes)

Socializar con la familia o los amigos

Correr

Andar en bicicleta

Picnic o asar a la parrilla

Dar una caminata

Montar a caballo

Relajarse

Escalar

Pasear con el perro

Observar plantas y animales

Jugar deportes

Pescar

Otra(s) \_\_\_\_\_

¿Por qué va a estos parques? (indique todo lo que sea relevante)

están cerca de mi hogar

tienen buenos caminos

están cerca de mi trabajo

no hay mucha gente allí

tienen bonitos paisajes

me encuentro gente que conozco en el parque

para disfrutar la naturaleza y el aire libre

se permiten perros

buenas instalaciones (áreas techadas, parrillas)

no se permiten perros

¿Durante el año pasado, más o menos cuántas veces visitó un parque o zona verde?

más de una vez por semana

una vez por mes

una o dos veces durante el año pasado

una vez por semana

una vez por estación

2. ¿Piensa visitar los parques o las zonas verdes otra vez?  Sí  No

Si su respuesta es **No**, ¿por qué no? (indique cuáles)  hay problemas con el transporte

no me interesan los parques

hay demasiada gente en el parque

las instalaciones fueron insuficientes

hay muy poca gente en el parque

no tengo tiempo para visitar

la señalización es insuficiente

están demasiado lejos de mi hogar

otra razón \_\_\_\_\_

3. ¿Qué cambiaría sobre los parques y las zonas verdes para mejorar su experiencia? (indique cuáles)

más bancos

más parrillas

mejor señalización

más mesas

parrillas más grandes

área de estacionamiento

más áreas techadas

menos parrillas

mejorar acceso por autobús (RTD)

mejores áreas techadas

más sanitarios

menos ruido

áreas techadas más grandes

más instalaciones para niños

mejor seguimiento de las reglas para bicicletas

mejor seguimiento de las reglas para perros

cambiar las reglas de pesca (Favor explique: \_\_\_\_\_)

cambiar las horas del parque (Favor explique: \_\_\_\_\_)

menos restricciones (Favor explique: \_\_\_\_\_)

otro(s) cambio(s) \_\_\_\_\_

4. ¿Ha tenido interacciones negativas con otros visitantes o con los empleados de los parques en cualquier parque o zona verde del Condado de Boulder?  No  Sí: ¿Qué tipo de interacciones y con quién?  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. ¿Ha tenido alguna experiencia negativa durante su visita al parque por la que no quiera regresar?

No  Sí: ¿Dónde? ¿Qué pasó? \_\_\_\_\_

6. ¿Piensa que existen beneficios al tener parques y zonas verdes en la comunidad? Favor de clasificar los beneficios de los parques y las zonas verdes: *Clasifique cada uno de los beneficios en una escala del 1 al 3:*

**1 = ningún beneficio, 2 = algún beneficio, 3 = beneficio importante**

Las zonas verdes entre las comunidades

El acceso y el uso por la recreación

Preservación de las tierras no desarrolladas

Lugares para las plantas y los animales

Preservación del paisaje rural y agrícola

Otro beneficio \_\_\_\_\_

otro lado ⇒

7. ¿Ha visitado u oído sobre alguno de los lugares a continuación? **Ver el mapa (en la tabla con clip)**

Nombre del parque	Oí	visité	Actividades que hice allí (enumere)	Nombre del Parque	Oí	Visité	Actividades que hice allí
Pella Crossing . . .	_____	_____	_____	Lefthand Valley Grange	_____	_____	_____
Lagerman Reservoir	_____	_____	_____	Twin Lakes . . . . .	_____	_____	_____
Niwot Loop Trail . .	_____	_____	_____	Walden Ponds . . . .	_____	_____	_____
Beech Open Space	_____	_____	_____	Coal Creek Trail . . .	_____	_____	_____
Legion Park . . . . .	_____	_____	_____	Rabbit Mountain . . . .	_____	_____	_____
Flagg Park . . . . .	_____	_____	_____	Heil Valley Ranch . . .	_____	_____	_____
Hall Ranch . . . . .	_____	_____	_____	Boulder Canyon Trail .	_____	_____	_____
Anne U. White Trail	_____	_____	_____	Betasso Preserve . . .	_____	_____	_____
Bald Mountain . . .	_____	_____	_____	Mud Lake . . . . .	_____	_____	_____
Caribou Ranch . . .	_____	_____	_____	Boulder Cnty Fairgrounds	_____	_____	_____
Walker Ranch . . . .	_____	_____	_____	Carolyn Holmberg Preserve at Rock Creek Farm	_____	_____	_____

8. Si no visitó ninguna de estas zonas verdes ¿Por qué no? (indique todo lo que sea relevante)  
 \_\_\_ demasiado lejos / sin transporte \_\_\_ no tengo tiempo \_\_\_ por peligro de encontrarme con animales salvajes  
 \_\_\_ otra razón \_\_\_\_\_

9. ¿Usualmente, qué distancia viaja desde su hogar al parque o la zona verde?

- \_\_\_ menos de media milla                      \_\_\_ 5-10 millas  
 \_\_\_ de media milla a una milla              \_\_\_ más de 10 millas  
 \_\_\_ 1-5 millas                                      \_\_\_ viajo a varios parques a varias distancias del hogar

10. Cuando va a los parques o las zonas verdes ¿Qué tipo de transporte usa? (indique uno sólo)

- \_\_\_ mi propio auto    \_\_\_ en bicicleta            \_\_\_ corriendo    \_\_\_ caminando            \_\_\_ por autobús  
 \_\_\_ otro tipo de transporte

11. ¿Dónde vive actualmente? ¿Cuál es su código postal? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Una ciudad o pueblo adentro del Condado de Boulder: ¿Qué ciudad? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ La parte del Condado de Boulder no incorporado

12. Si vive en el Condado de Boulder ¿Cuánto tiempo ha vivido aquí?

- \_\_\_ Menos de un año    \_\_\_ 1-4 años    \_\_\_ 5-9 años    \_\_\_ 10-19 años    \_\_\_ más de 20 años

13. Favor de marcar su edad:            \_\_\_ Menos de 18 años    \_\_\_ 18-24    \_\_\_ 25-39    \_\_\_ 40-60    \_\_\_ Más de 60

14. Favor marque su género: \_\_\_ Masculino    \_\_\_ Femenino    \_\_\_ Otro

15. ¿Cómo describiría su nivel de educación?

- \_\_\_ Parte de la preparatoria o más bajo    \_\_\_ Parte de la universidad o colegio técnico    \_\_\_ Maestría o Doctorado  
 \_\_\_ Certificado de preparatoria            \_\_\_ Certificado universitario

16. ¿Cual es su raza? (favor marque la opción más apropiada o indique *Otra raza*)

- \_\_\_ Caucásico / Blanco            \_\_\_ Indígena de América o Indígena de Alaska            \_\_\_ Dos o más razas  
 \_\_\_ Afroamericano / Negro    \_\_\_ Hawaiana o Habitante de las Islas del Pacífico  
 \_\_\_ Asiático                            \_\_\_ Otra raza \_\_\_\_\_

17. Origen étnico / etnia: (favor marque una opción o indique *Otro*)

\_\_\_ Hispano, Latino o Chicano (países de origen de su familia: \_\_\_\_\_)

\_\_\_ No Hispano o Latino

\_\_\_ Otro \_\_\_\_\_

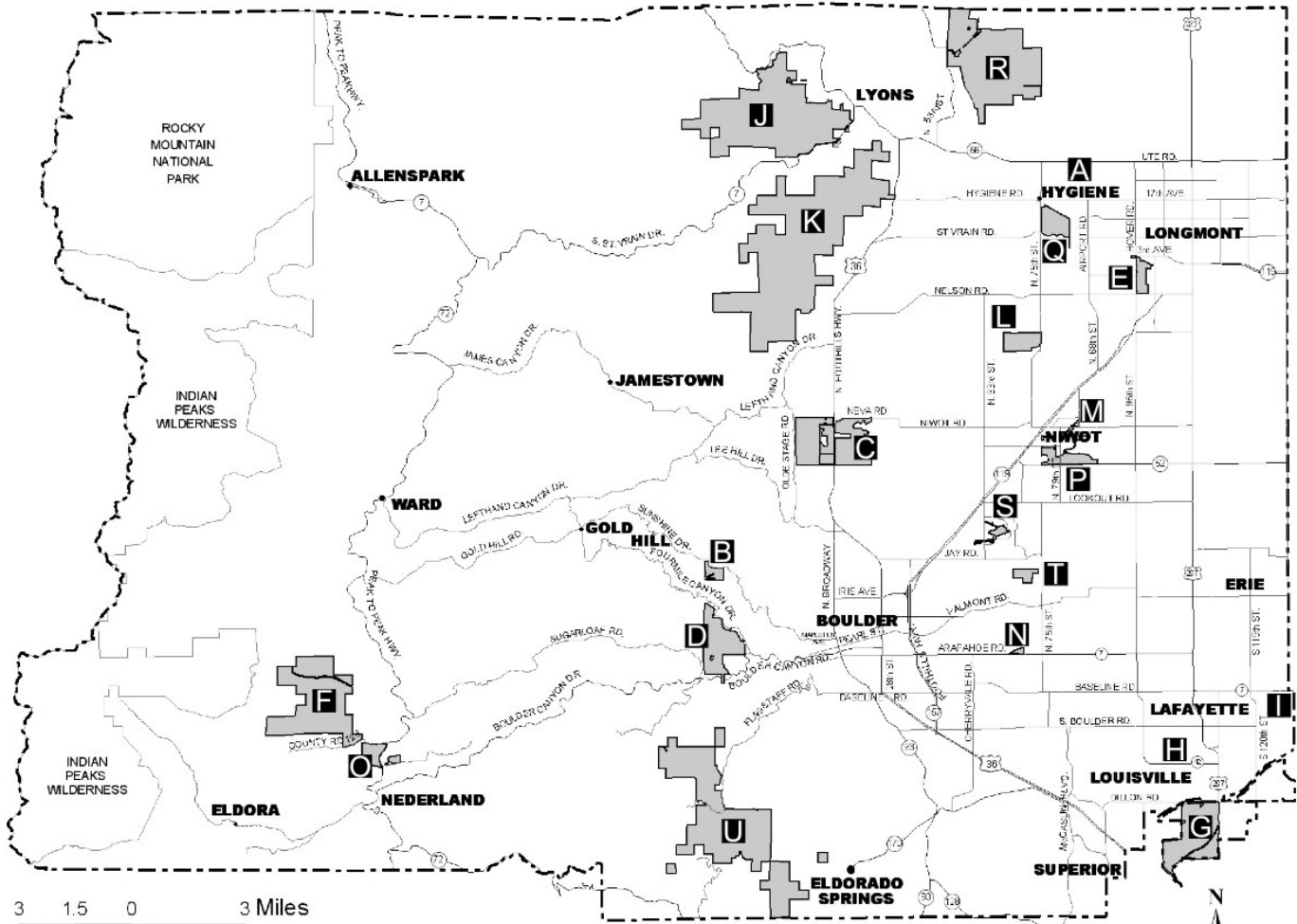
18. ¿De cuánto fueron sus ingresos el año pasado? (marque una opción)

- \_\_\_ menos de \$5,000    \_\_\_ \$20,000-29,999    \_\_\_ \$50,000-74,999    \_\_\_ \$150,000-174,999  
 \_\_\_ \$5,000-9,999    \_\_\_ \$30,000-39,999    \_\_\_ \$75,000-99,999    \_\_\_ \$175,000-199,999  
 \_\_\_ \$10,000-19,999    \_\_\_ \$40,000-49,999    \_\_\_ \$100,000-149,999    \_\_\_ \$200,000 o más

*El cuestionario es completamente anónimo. No se le identificará usando los datos del código postal, la raza, la etnicidad, ni el nivel de ingreso que escribió en este cuestionario. ¡Gracias por su tiempo y colaboración!*

Appendix B Map Provided to Survey Respondents

Boulder County Parks



- A Agriculture Heritage Center at Lohr/McIntosh Farm
- B Bald Mountain Scenic Area
- C Beech Open Space
- D Betasso Preserve
- E Boulder County Fairgrounds
- F Caribou Ranch Open Space
- G Carolyn Holmberg Preserve at Rock Creek Farm
- H Coal Creek/Rock Creek Tail
- I Flagg Park
- J Hall Ranch
- K Heil Valley Ranch

- L Lagerman Reservoir
- M Lefthand Valley Grange
- N Legion Park
- O Mud Lake
- P Niwot Loop Trail
- Q Pella Crossing
- R Rabbit Mountain
- S Twin Lakes
- T Walden Ponds Wildlife Habitat
- U Walker Ranch

\* If this map was downloaded from another site other than <http://www.co.boulder.co.us/openspace> it may not be the most current version



## **Appendix C Sampling Method for Parks**

Parks located in Census tracts with a Hispanic population of 10% or greater in Longmont, Boulder, and Lafayette:

### Longmont

Affolter Park  
Alta Park  
Athletic Field (11<sup>th</sup> & Kimbark)  
Carr Park  
Clark Park  
Dog Park I (21<sup>st</sup> & Francis)  
Garden Acres Park  
Hamm Nature Center  
Izaak Walton  
Kanemoto Park  
Kensington Park  
Lanyon Park  
Loomiller Park  
Raber Park  
Rogers Grove  
Rothrock Dell Park  
Spangler Park  
Sunset Park  
Thompson Park  
Union Reservoir

### Lafayette

Autumn-Ash Park  
Barberry Park  
City Park  
Flagg Park  
LaMont Does Park  
Library Park  
Linderwood Park  
Simpson Mine Park  
The Great Bark Dog Park  
Waneka Lake Park  
Wilson Gardens

### Other Parks Recommended

Alpine (Boulder)  
Eben Fine (Boulder)

### Boulder

Arrowwood  
Aurora 7  
Boulder Valley Village / Violet  
Catalpa  
Christensen  
Columbine  
Crestview  
East Mapleton Ballfields  
Elmers Two Mile  
Gerald Stazio Ballfields  
Howard Heuston  
Lover's Hill  
Melody  
North Boulder Recreation Center / Olmsted  
Park East  
Salberg  
Valmont City Park  
Holiday

**Appendix D Data Collected at Parks and Events**

<i>Park Name or Event</i>	<i>City</i>	<i>Number of Hispanic Respondents (n=83)</i>	<i>Number of Non-Hispanic Respondents (n=56)</i>	<i>Estimated Response Rate</i>	<i>Day and Time</i>
Mexican Independence Festival	Longmont	13	0	65%	
Affolter Park	Longmont	10	0	90%	Weekend afternoon
Rhythm on the River	Longmont	10	8	60%	
Latino Chamber of Commerce	Longmont	8	3	44%	
Lanyon Park	Longmont	5	0	62%	Weekend afternoon
Union Reservoir	Longmont	2	2	50%	Weekend afternoon
Eben G. Fine Park	Boulder	2	3	33%	Weekend afternoons
Boulder High School fields	Boulder	3	0	15%	Weekend evenings
North Boulder Recreation Center	Boulder	3	22	56%	Weekends midday
Centaurus High School Resource Fair	Lafayette	8	3	85%	
Bob L. Burger Recreation Center	Lafayette	6	10	36%	Weekday evenings
Waneka Lake Park	Lafayette	2	0	22%	Weekday evenings
Eldorado Canyon State Park	Eldorado Springs	6	1	32%	Weekend afternoons
Head Start (2 events)	Mail-in surveys	2	1	2%	
Unknown site	Mail-in surveys	3	3	NA	