

California's Health in Parks Survey

Introduction

Please give us 10 minutes of your time to respond to 15 quick questions.

Your responses will help decision makers understand what park and recreation improvements are needed for the overall health of your community.

Your responses will reach park and recreation departments, health agencies, and the Governor's Office.

Thank you for sharing your opinion!

California's Health in Parks Survey

Verify Participation

*Parental/Legal Guardian permission is required for respondents under the age of 18.

- Check here if you are at least 18 years of age or have parental/legal permission to complete this survey.

Identify Your Community

This survey focuses on the park and recreation services of your local community.

1. Please provide the following to help identify your community:

City/Town _____

Neighborhood
Or Major cross-streets _____

Zip Code _____

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Community Needs

For Questions 2. - 6. think about what you and your family need in order to use a park more often for health and wellness.

These questions will ask you about getting to a park, features, programs, and safety

Park Access (Getting to a park)

2. What do you need to get to a park more often?

	Already Good This need is met in my community	No This will not increase my/our use of a park	Yes This will increase my/our use of a park
A park closer to my home	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Safe streets, sidewalks, bike lanes, and trails to walk/ride to the park that are free from violence	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public Transportation to the park	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Be a part of a community planning group for park access, park projects, and recreation programs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Signage (welcoming and directional signs inside and outside the park)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Your thoughts: What are your most important needs and ideas for getting to a public park more often?

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Park Features

3. If provided, what features would lead you to use a park more often?

	Already Good This need is met in my community	No This will not increase my/our use of a park	Yes This will increase my/our use of a park
Nature and public open space (creating nature where it does not exist by turning a vacant building, lot, and concrete area into a park; or opening a natural area to the public through trails, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
New physical activity features (playground, sport court/field, outdoor gym, walking loop, bike trail, track, skate park, swimming pool, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
New social and cultural features (picnic table, barbeque area, dog park, public art, plaza, amphitheater, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lighting for nighttime use of park, sports fields, pathways, and facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
New park support facilities (restroom, drinking fountain, bench, parking lot, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Beautification (flowers, trees, gardens, other native and drought tolerant landscaping, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maintenance/Repairs Cleanliness and upkeep of the park and facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Facilities that are designed for all ages and abilities (including Americans with Disabilities Act compliance)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Your thoughts: What are your most important needs and ideas for park features?

Park Programs

4. What programs do you want in a park?

	Already Good This need is met in my community	No This will not increase my/our use of a park	Yes This will increase my/our use of a park
Physical activity programs (sports leagues, such as soccer, basketball, baseball, swimming, flag football; and exercise groups, such as tai-chi, yoga, Zumba, and water aerobics, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Art programs (dance, music, visual, crafts, theater/plays, etc.) that are culturally relevant	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Social/Cultural events (concerts, movie nights, farmer's markets, festivals, "Parks After Dark", "Summer Night Lights", etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community gardens and healthy food classes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Free or low-cost recreation programs (use, entrance or registration fees that consider my ability to pay)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Social Services programs (free meals, health screenings, promote mental health, life skills, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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	Already Good This need is met in my community	No This will not increase my/our use of a park	Yes This will increase my/our use of a park
Educational programs (lifelong learning, job skills, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Better advertising and outreach (Use new ways to inform me about programs offered at the park, especially if I do not go to the park.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Programs that are designed for families, people of all ages and abilities, and are culturally relevant	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Offered in languages that represent the community	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Programs offered at a time that meet my or my family's schedule (evenings, weekends, after-school hours, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Your thoughts: What are your most important needs and ideas for park programs?

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Park Safety

5. What do you need to feel safe in a park?

	Already Good This need is met in my community	No This will not increase my/our use of a park	Yes This will increase my/our use of a park
Staff or Volunteers that make people feel welcome and safe	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Increase programs and events to prevent crime	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
More/New Lighting	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Surveillance Cameras	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Park Rangers, Police, or Security Patrol	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Signage (directional signs in languages that represent the community)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Your thoughts: What are your most important needs and ideas for park safety?

Community Improvement

6. Are there any other needs or ideas for improving your community?

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Park Most Often Visited

In the prior question, you told us about unmet needs and your ideas to improve the community. Now, please think about a park that you like to visit often.

7. Is there a park you like to visit often?

- Yes No (if no, skip to #8)

Tell us more about the park you like to visit often:

Please provide the name of the park, if you know it: _____

If you don't know the park's name, please provide
the nearest cross streets: _____

City or Town: _____

Why do you visit this park? (Check all that apply)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exercise or be physically fit | <input type="checkbox"/> Sports leagues |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Have fun | <input type="checkbox"/> Experience excitement / adventure |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Be with family or friends | <input type="checkbox"/> Close to my home / easy to get to |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Be closer to nature | <input type="checkbox"/> Relax or relieve stress |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Learn a new skill or craft | <input type="checkbox"/> Wellness or therapeutic programs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Social services such as food distribution | <input type="checkbox"/> Afterschool youth programs or childcare |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boating or fishing | <input type="checkbox"/> Off-highway vehicle recreation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Have social contact and build new relationships | <input type="checkbox"/> To bond and spend time with my children / grandchildren |
| <input type="checkbox"/> To take my dog / pet to exercise or socialize | <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural / social events (art, music, dance, theater, farmer's market, etc.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Facilities comply with American's with Disabilities Act (universally accessible, boundless playground standards, etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Program and facilities that are designed for my age, ability and interests |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please describe): _____ | |

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Ways to Connect

8. What are the **two best ways** for your local park and recreation provider to let you know about programs, events, or facilities offered to the public? (Check your **top two** choices)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hand out flyers in-person outreach | <input type="checkbox"/> Television advertising |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Direct mail | <input type="checkbox"/> Radio advertising |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Billboards, banners, posters at high pedestrian / traffic areas | <input type="checkbox"/> Local newspaper or community newsletter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Facebook | <input type="checkbox"/> Website / online advertising |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Instagram | <input type="checkbox"/> Email |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Twitter | <input type="checkbox"/> Text message |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nextdoor | <input type="checkbox"/> Phone calls |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other social media/network (please specify): _____ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____ | |

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Statewide Outdoor Recreation Priorities

9. Beyond your community, how would you rate each of the following for outdoor recreation throughout California?

	Not a Priority	Low Priority	High Priority
Restore and protect nature (California wetlands, waterways, beaches, lakes, rivers, wildlife refuge, forests, open space, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Create new parks in communities that do not have them	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maintenance and repair of existing parks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Add new features in existing parks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Offer programs in parks (Youth development, senior wellness, family events, performing and visual arts, sports leagues, and fitness programs, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ensure all people have equal access and feel welcome to all parks and programs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other (please explain):

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Tell Us About Yourself

You may select "Decline to state", if you prefer not to tell us about yourself.

10. Select your gender identity: (Check one)

- Male
- Female
- Decline to state
- Self-identify: _____

11. Select your age range: (Check one)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 12 or younger | <input type="checkbox"/> 45-54 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 13-15 | <input type="checkbox"/> 55-64 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 16-17 | <input type="checkbox"/> 65-74 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 18-24 | <input type="checkbox"/> 75-84 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 25-34 | <input type="checkbox"/> 85 and above |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 35-44 | <input type="checkbox"/> Decline to state |

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12. Which of the following best represents your ethnic identity? (Check all that apply)
Please describe where applicable.

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Afro-Caribbean | <input type="checkbox"/> Asian: Hmong | <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific Islander: Native Hawaiian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alaskan Native/Aleutian | <input type="checkbox"/> Asian: Japanese | <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific Islander: Samoan |
| <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian/Native American | <input type="checkbox"/> Asian: Korean | <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific Islander: Guamanian/Chamorro |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black/African- American | <input type="checkbox"/> Asian: Laotian | <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific Islander: Other _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> White/Euro-American | <input type="checkbox"/> Asian: Pakistani | <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic/Latino: Mexican-American |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asian: Indian | <input type="checkbox"/> Asian: Thai | <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic/Latino: Puerto Rican |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asian: Cambodian | <input type="checkbox"/> Asian: Vietnamese | <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic/Latino: Cubano |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asian: Chinese | <input type="checkbox"/> Asian: Other _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic/Latino: Other _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asian: Filipino | <input type="checkbox"/> Decline to state | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please share): _____ | | |

13. Select an option that describes your overall physical health: (Check one)

- Excellent
- Very good
- Good
- Fair
- Poor
- Decline to state

Would you use a public park to improve your overall physical health?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, if it offers facilities and programs that meet my needs, and is safe and clean | <input type="checkbox"/> No, I would not, even if it offers facilities and programs that meet my needs, and is safe and clean |
|--|---|

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14. Select an option that describes your overall stress level: (Check one)

- No stress
- Some stress
- Stressed
- High stress
- Decline to state

Would you use a public park to reduce your overall stress level?

- Yes, if it offers facilities and programs that meet my needs, and is safe and clean
- No, I would not, even if it offers facilities and programs that meet my needs, and is safe and clean

Your Ideas

15. Is there anything else you would like for us to know about the park and recreation needs of your community?

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**Thank you for completing
California's Health in Parks Survey!**

Would you like to share a video about parks and recreation in your community and possibly win an award?

Go to parks.ca.gov/SCORP/Tools and look for "Stories"



This survey was developed by the
California Department of Parks and Recreation for the
2020 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP).

To learn more, go to www.parks.ca.gov/SCORP