



2022 Season Highlights



NWTParks

The 2022 parks season demonstrated a substantial recovery following two years of pandemic-related travel restrictions. With restored access granted to all travellers as of April 1st, the season saw a rebound in visitation across all parks in the Northwest Territories; even exceeding pre-pandemic visitation numbers in some facilities.

Key Indicators and Notes

The Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment is responsible for compiling and reporting statistical data related to campground reservations. Unless specifically noted, the data provided in this report is seasonal (May - September).

Reported data is based on paid camping reservations. The data reported for 2020 is from the June 12 to September 30 time period. The tabulation of overnight visitors and visitor origin includes

seasonal permits. The tabulation of average length of stay excludes seasonal permits. This season's total overnight visitor numbers are based on actual visitor numbers as entered during the reservation and check in process. In years prior to 2021, the total overnight visitor numbers were calculated by multiplying the average party size in each territorial park by the total number of camping permits issued in each territorial park. Party sizes were benchmarked to 2013.



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PHOTO: HANNAH EDEN



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NWT Parks Overnight Visitors

NWT Parks overnight visitation rebounded, with a total of **33,586 overnight visitors** during the 2022 season, a **30% increase** versus the 2021 season.

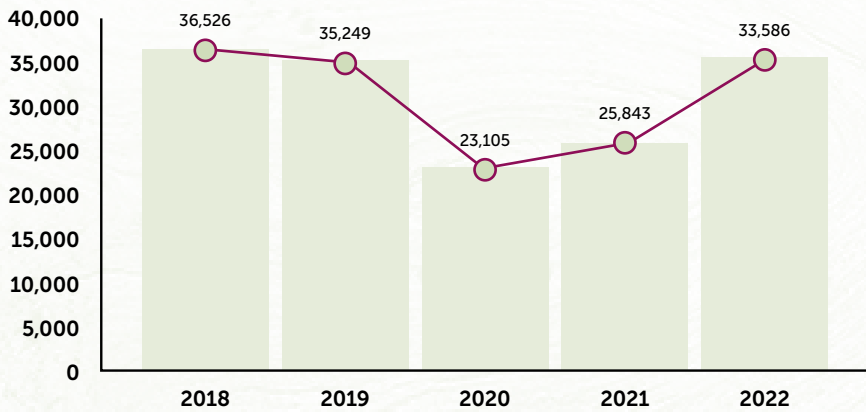
Total Number of Overnight Visitors

33,586

Total Overnight Visitors

NWT Parks overnight visitation rebounded to normal, pre-pandemic visitation levels.

TOTAL NWT PARK OVERNIGHT VISITORS



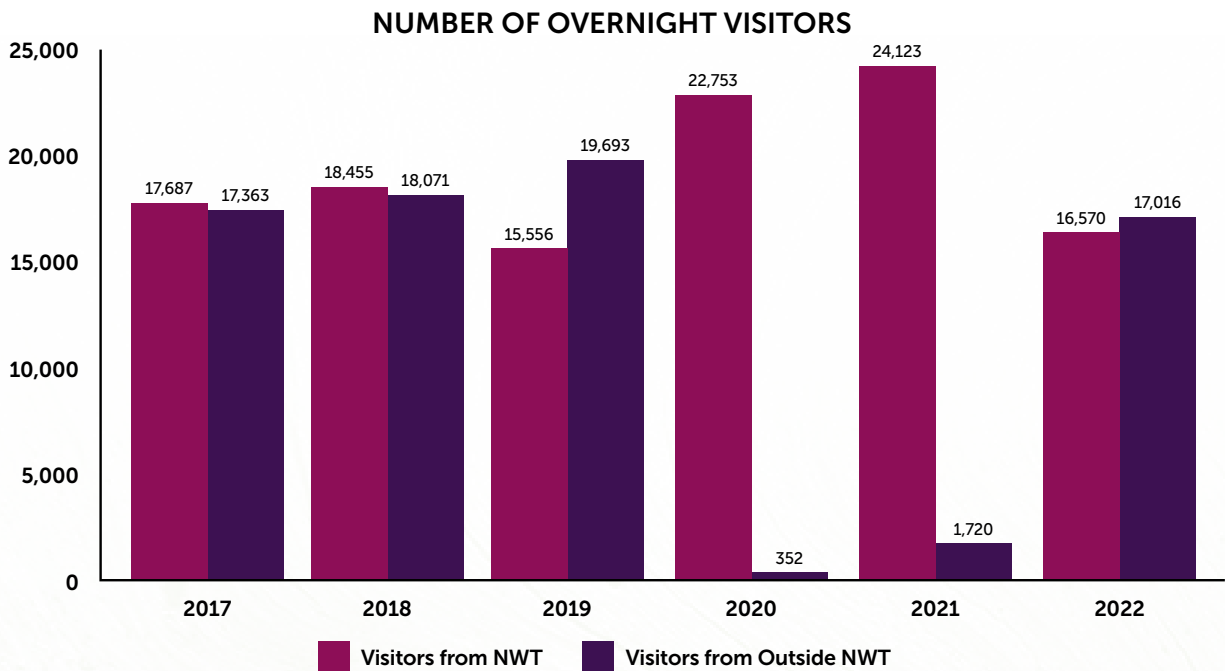
15,296

Increase in Overnight Visitors from Outside the NWT

Compared to 2021 pandemic levels, overnight visitors from outside the NWT increased to typical season values.

NWT PARKS - ESTIMATED OVERNIGHT VISITORS BY REGION						2022 vs 2021
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	YOY %
Beaufort Delta Region	5,615	6,292	842	1,100	4,371	297%
Dehcho Region	2,156	1,931	1,371	1,417	2,108	49%
North Slave Region	16,623	15,430	14,968	16,568	15,792	-5%
South Slave Region	12,133	11,596	5,924	6,758	11,315	67%
Total overnight visitors	36,527	35,249	23,105	25,843	33,586	30%

NWT Parks Visitor Origin



Typically, NWT residents make up about half of all NWT Parks visitors. The 2020 and 2021 pandemic conditions resulted in more NWT residents travelling and vacationing locally, yielding a spike in park visits compared to pre-COVID-19 years.

During the 2017-2019 seasons the average number of resident visitors to NWT Parks was slightly over 17,000, for the 2020-2021 seasons the average resident visitation was over 23,000 visitors per year – a 36% increase.

As restrictions lifted, beginning in 2022, the upward trend in resident visitation, reversed falling almost 31%. As national and international travel became more viable, NWT Parks experienced a large influx of these travellers, even in comparison to pre-COVID-19 levels at select parks. This more than offset the decrease in local visitors to parks in 2022.



17,016

Overnight Visitors from Outside the NWT

With travel restrictions and sentiment on travelling relaxed, visitation numbers in NWT Parks returned to pre-pandemic levels.

For the 2022 season, overall almost 50% of overnight visitors to the parks were from outside of the NWT as follows:

36% FROM OTHER AREAS OF CANADA

UP TO 12% INTERNATIONAL COUNTRIES

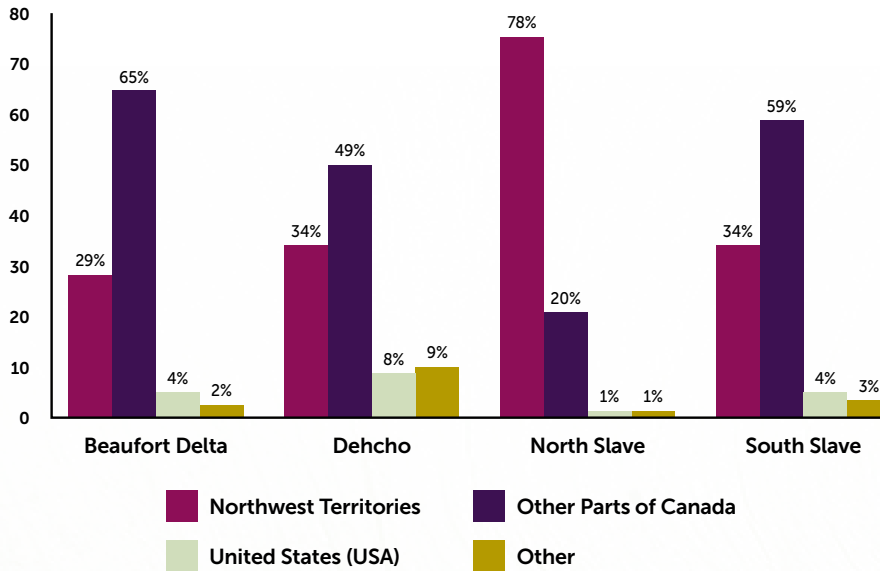
International percentage includes overnight visitors with undisclosed origins.

16,570

Overnight Visitors from the Northwest Territories

Returning to average (2017-2019) Overnight Visitation Levels.

2022 SEASON VISITOR ORIGIN (% OF REGIONAL TOTAL)



The distribution of visitor origin varied between parks. However, most regions reported that greater than 60% of their total visitors were from out of the Territory; as high as 71% in the Beaufort Delta. The North Slave is the exception, as 78% of the region's total visitors reported that they resided within the NWT.



7/17 Parks

Reached all time visitation highs in the 2022 season

11/17 Parks

Recovered to pre-pandemic (2017 to 2019) visitation levels

All Parks

Reached visitations near or well above pre-pandemic levels



PHOTO: DAVE BROSHA



Number of Overnight Visitors by NWT Park

NWT PARK	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2021 season vs. 2022 season
Beaufort Delta	5,614	6,292	842	1,100	4,371	297%
Gwich'in Territorial Park	288	603	271	262	50**	-99%
Happy Valley Territorial Park	3,442	3,548	19	0*	1,130	N/A
Ják Territorial Park	1,258	1,258	534	805	2,243	179%
Nataiinlaih Park	626	883	18	33	995	2915%
Dehcho	2,156	1,931	1,371	1,417	2,108	49%
Blackstone Territorial Park	784	656	275*	269	622	131%
Fort Simpson Territorial Park	472	459	315	191*	672	252%
Sambaa Deh Territorial Park	900	816	781	957	814	-15%
North Slave	16,623	15,430	14,968	16,568	15,792	-5%
Fred Henne Territorial Park	11,323	10,548	8,370	10,183	9,049	-11%
Prelude Lake Territorial Park	3,043	2,872	3,657	3,668	3,974	8%
Reid Lake Territorial Park	2,257	2,011	2,940	2,717	2,769	2%
South Slave	12,133	11,596	5,924	6,758	11,315	67%
60 th Parallel	342	250	0*	0*	196	N/A
Fort Providence Territorial Park	2,016	1,860	594	584	2,303	294%
Hay River Territorial Park	3,777	4,052	2,340	2,401	2,231	-7%
Lady Evelyn Falls Territorial Park	1,624	1,281	1,270	1,256	1,944	55%
Little Buffalo River Crossing Territorial Park	726	928	213	167	1,027	515%
Queen Elizabeth Territorial Park	1,115	1,106	825	1,292	1,413	9%
Twin Falls Gorge – Louise Falls Campground	2,504	2,102	682	1,058	2,201	108%
Grand Total	36,526	35,249	23,105	25,843	33,586	30%

*In the 2020 and/or 2021 seasons the 60th Parallel Park, Fort Simpson Park and Happy Valley Parks experienced varying degrees of closures due to the operation of border facilities, spring flooding and border closures (respectively).

**Self-registration permitting system operating; permit count is not necessarily representative of actual park visitation.

The average length of stay in NWT parks was **2.3 days** in 2022, in-line with 2019 figures, but down from 3.3 days in 2021. Likely due to a change in visitor demographic. Residents on 'staycations' booked longer stays in 2021, while non-resident visitors tend to book shorter stays in more parks across the territory.

