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An Analysis of the Advertising Efforts of the Harrison County Tourism Commission

NATIONAL SEA GRANT DEPOSITORY PELL LIBRARY BUILDING URI, NARRAGANSETT BAY CAMPUS NARRAGANSETT, RI 02882

November 1984 MASGP-84-013 Jerry Hemphill Rick Haygood Wally Hall Dr. David Veal

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MASGP-84-013

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SUMMARY

In order to gain additional information on individuals who had requested travel information about the Mississippi Gulf Coast, a questionnaire was mailed to six thousand nine hundred and sixty-nine (6,969) individuals whose names were drawn at random from a list of forty-four thousand and nine hundred and twenty-nine (44,929) persons who had written for information in 1982. Of the individuals questioned, two thousand and thirty-three (2,033) or thirty (30.0) percent completed and returned the questionnaire.

Approximately thirty (30) percent of the respondents returning the questionnaire visited the Mississippi Coast after receiving the requested information. The returned questionaires revealed that forty-eight (48) percent of the respondents indicated they had visited another area. The survey also indicated that ninety (90) percent were planning a trip to the Mississippi Coast at sometime in the future.

Data from the returned questionnaires revealed that seventy (70) percent of those who had visited the Mississippi Coast were vacationing, and made weekend trips. Seventy-three (73) percent indicated that the greatest attraction was the beach.

Additionally the study revealed the number and percentage of respondents who had visited the area, and the magazine or advertisement that had prompted their interest.

INTRODUCTION

Although the Mississippi Coast has enjoyed a thriving tourism industry since before the turn of the century, it was not until the fifties and sixties that the major hotels along the Mississippi Coast were augmented by dozens of smaller properties. These formed the basis for a tourism industry that began to rank in economic importance with the seafood industry, military installations, and manufacturing.

Recognizing that a concerted effort was needed to nurture this industry the Harrison County Board of Supervisors, with legislative approval, formed the Harrison County Advertising Advisory Committee in 1965.

Industry officials, in an effort to augment the lucrative summer months with new business for the fall, winter and spring expressed interest in developing a convention market. By the early sixties there were thousands of hotel rooms; but a central facility, providing the essential meeting, banquet, and exhibit areas did not exist.

In 1972, when the legislature allowed the imposition of a two (2) percent sales tax on hotels, restaurants and alcoholic beverages, a twenty-six (26) million dollar coliseum and convention center was constructed.

In order to allow for vigorous promotion of this facility

as a convention destination, a convention and visitors bureau was formed and eventually placed under the direction of the Harrison County Tourism Commission, the successor organization to the Advisory Committee.

Activities of the Tourism Commission are funded by a one (1) mill ad valorem tax in Harrison County, an additional one (1) percent sales tax on hotel rooms only, and a ten (10) percent fee on Commission booked convention rooms. These funding sources allow the Tourism Commission to carry out convention solicitation and tourism promotion efforts in this highly competitive industry.

The primary objective of this investigation was to determine the percentage of people who, after seeing an advertisement sponsored by the Harrison County Tourism Commission and subsequently wrote for additional information, actually visited the area. A secondary objective was to gather data on the comparative effectiveness of the various mediums of advertising.

METHODOLOGY

The major objective of this study was to ascertain the percentage of people who came to the Mississippi Gulf Coast after having seen an advertisement and requesting information from the Harrison County Tourism Commission. Additional information concerning visitor characteristics, was also desired. To determine these answers a research study was undertaken and the following describes the methodological procedures utilized to provide the data base.

SAMPLE

During the calendar year 1982 the offices of the Harrison County Tourism Commission received 57,671 requests for information (inquiries). Of these, 44,929 were determined to be attributable to a specific form of media advertising purchased for the 1982 fiscal year, Table I. As Table I shows, there were eleven (11) different magazines utilized as well as two time periods of television advertising - fall/winter and summer.

	Number of
FORM OF	Inquiries
Advertising	Received
Family Circle	17,382
Golf Digest	2,652
House Beautiful	585
House and Gardens	1,107
Southern Living	3,073
Southern Outdoors	683
Television	7,203
(Golf)Fall/Winter	2 454
Summer	4 740
Travel Holiday	T (7)
Travel and Loicuro	7,073
Travel and Derburg	3,056
Travel weekly	318
T.V. Guide	627
Your Happy Wander	570
TOTAL	44,929
	,

TABLE I. INQUIRIES BY FORM OF ADVERTISING

The remaining 12,742, of the 57,671, were comprised of general inquiries and inquiries received in the offices of the State Division of Tourism. The latter were processed (answered) and then forwarded to the Harrison County Tourism Commission. They generally requested information on the State of Mississippi and not on the Gulf Coast in particular. Since the inquiries were not the result of the Harrison County Tourism Commission's advertising efforts, they were eliminated from the study. The general inquiries were eliminated for purposes of this study because they too could not be attributed to a specific form of advertising. Examples of general inquiries were telephone calls requesting information and letters from individuals.

It was determined that a sample size of fifteen (15) percent of the study population would provide an adequate data base, or approximately 7000 units of study. A decision was made to have each magazine contribute to the sample size, the same proportion of inquiries the magazine contributed to the total number of inquiries, Table II. For example: if "Family Circle" produced twenty (20) percent of the total inquiries then "Family Circle" would contribute 20 percent to the sample. In utilizing proportionate sampling, it was assumed a more accurate analysis could be made of a magazine's ability to produce conversions (individuals that requested information then came to the Gulf Coast).

This idea of proportionate sampling was taken one step further in this study. Inquiries are received in two forms -1) "direct inquiries" where the individual inquiry was mailed directly to the Harrison County Tourism Commission and, 2) "reader response" where the inquiry was sent to a third party and that party collected a group of names before forwarding them to the Tourism Commission. It was decided that the sample should keep the same proportion of reader response and direct inquiries for each form of advertisement as appeared in the It must be noted, however, not all forms universe. of advertisement provided both reader response direct anđ inquiries. Table II provides a more complete analysis.

	Total	Number		oat	Beadaw	<u></u>
Form of	of Inc	number	Teriaria		Reduer	Response
	oi mé	luiries	Tuđaj	.ries		
Advertising	ŧ	8	. #	÷	ŧ	€
Family Circle	17,382	30.1	783	5	16.599	95
Golf Digest	2,652	4.6	1100	41	1,552	59
House Beautiful	585	1.0	351	60	234	40
House & Gardens	1,107	1.9	10	1	1,097	99
Southern Living	3,073	5.3	951	31	2,122	69
Southern Outdoors	683	1.1	81	12	602	88
Television						•••
Fall/Winter (G	olf) .0	.0	.0	.0	2,454	109
Summer	.0	.0	.0	.0	4,749	100
Travel Holiday	7,673	13.3	1033	13	6,640	87
Travel & Leisure	3,056	5.3	604	20	2,452	80
Travel Weekly	318	0.5	21	7	297	93
T.V. Guide	627		627	100		
Your Happy Wander	570	0.9			570	100
TOTAL	44,929		<u> </u>		<u> </u>	

TABLE II. TYPE OF INQUIRY BY ADVERTISING FORM

Due to the record-keeping process for inquiries (see below), it was decided to utilize a cluster sampling technique to arrive at the fifteen (15) percent. For each publication, a number was drawn from a table of random numbers (Kerlinger, 1973 pgs. 714 - 717)² and every Nth sheet of names was included in the sample with the names being progressively totalled until the desired sample was obtained or slightly surpassed for that

NOTE: In processing inquiries, names and addresses of individuals are transposed from their request for information to a sheet of labels. These labels are then kept separate by magazine. Due to the volume and timing of the inquiries some label sheets are completely full of names, while others contain only a few.

² Kerlinger, Foundations of Behavioral Research, 1973, Holt, Rhinehart & Winston, Inc., N.Y., N.Y.

particular form of advertising. If a sheet of names was to be included in the study, all names on the sheet were included. Thus, sample sizes were generally slightly larger than fifteen (15) percent.

Upon completion of the sampling process there were six thousand eight hundred and eight (6,808) names and addresses included in the sample, representing fifteen (15%) percent.

The names and addresses were encoded with both an identification number and an advertisement identification code and the data was then entered into the computer. Two sets of address labels were generated - one for the mailing envelope and the second to be placed on the return questionnaire, to expedite the identification of the non-respondents for the second mailing. One hundred sixty-one (161) names, two (.02) percent had to be discarded due to insufficient addresses.

THE INSTRUMENT

The survey instrument was a one page questionnaire (Appendix A) and was used to discern information concerning demographics, vacation planning, and if applicable, vacations in Mississippi. This information was gathered through a series of fifteen (15) items of which two (2) were open-ended and thirteen (13) closed form.

No attempt was made to determine the reliability of the instrument; however, due to the general nature of the questions

some reliability is assured. Questions such as" did you visit the Coast" should provide the same response over time.

The first survey forms were mailed in November of 1983 and a follow-up mailing was conducted six weeks later. Returned questionnaires from both mailings totalled two thousand and thirty-three (2,033) or a usable response rate of thirty (30) percent.

Results and Discussion

In order to conduct this investigation a questionnaire (Appendix A) was designed to be quickly and easily completed by the respondents, and was divided into two sections. Section "A" was completed by respondents who had requested and received information on the Mississippi Coast, but had not visited the area. Section "B" was designed to gather more information regarding the motives and characteristics of respondents who had visited the area.

In some cases respondents would fail to complete all of the questions, but the available answers were encoded in such a fashion that would allow for maximum flexibility of data.

The initial question of section "A" simply requested whether or not information received was factual enough for trip planning purposes. An overwhelming 87 percent answered in the affirmative.

In response to whether or not the economy (in 1982) prevented the respondent from taking a vacation, nearly 40 percent of those answering indicated they had decided not to take a vacation, and attributed their decision, in general, to economic conditions.

The survey respondents indicated that forty-eight (48) percent visited another area with four hundred and forty-seven (447) respondents indicating the location of their alternative choice. The alternative locations (Appendix B) are divided into particular areas or cities, and states. The answers are very evenly spread. Myrtle Beach was the most frequently listed and represented six (6) percent of the responses. States most often given as alternative destinations were; Florida 23.2 percent, the Carolinas 13.5 percent, Texas 7.3 percent and California 6.9 percent.

The final question in section "A" asked whether or not the respondent was planning a trip to the Mississippi Coast in the future. An impressive 89.8 percent indicated that they had plans to visit the area in the future.

Section "B" was completed by respondents who <u>had</u> visited the Mississippi Coast subsequent to receiving requested information.

The initial question asked for the respondents to give state of origin. The top five states and the percentages each garnered, are listed in Table III. As shown in the following:

TABLE III.

Top Five States for Respondents

States	Percentages		
Louisiana Illinois Mississippi Missouri Texas	14.9 percent 10.7 percent 6.4 percent 6.4 percent 6.2 percent		

It is important to note that mailed requests for information are more likely to come from individuals who are not familiar with the area, or are too far away for visitor information to be common knowledge. This might account for the relatively low percentage (21.3%) of requests from Louisiana and Mississippi, the two largest contributors of visitors to the Mississippi coast, according to a companion study of visitor characteristics.

The number of individuals in each party was also ascertained with the largest percentage, forty-five (45) percent responding that there were two in their party, with four (4) person groups and three (3) person groups representing twentythree (23) percent and twelve (12) percent respectively. The remaining 20 percent ranged from individual visitors to 99 in a party. These results are reflected in Table IV.

TABLE IV.

Party Size A	As	Percent	of	Respondents
--------------	----	---------	----	-------------

Party Size	Percentage	
two (2) in party	45	
four (4) in party	23	
three (3) in party	12	
other	20	

The survey also attempted to determine the purpose of the respondents trip. Vacations seemed to be the main reason to visit the Coast representing almost seventy (70) percent, however, there seemed to be little difference between visiting friends, and business/pleasure, both showing a little over eleven (11) percent.

TABLE V.

Purpose of Trip

Purpose	Percent	
Vacation	69.7	
Business/Pleasure	11.6	i
Visit Friends/Relatives	11.4	
Groups Meetings/Conventions	s 4.1	
Other	2.9	

The length of time required for trip planning had five options for selection, these were; less than four (4) weeks, one (1) month, two (2) months, three (3)

13

,

months, and longer. Most respondents indicated two (2) months or longer was required as reflected in the following table.

Time	Percent
less than a month	11.0
one (1) month	18.3
two (2) months	26.8
three (3) months	22.1
longer than three (3) months	21.5

TABLE VI. Length of Trip Planning

Answers were also sought concerning the length of the respondent's stay on the Mississippi coast. Survey answers indicate that the largest percentage stayed on the coast for three days and two nights, presumably a week-end trip.

The top five percentages for days and nights on the coast are listed in Table VII. Note that the percentages for days and nights were sometimes inconsistent, and probably due to error or misunderstanding on the part of the respondent.

TABLE VII.

Duration of Visit to Mississippi Coast

Days	Percent	Nights	Percent	
з	20.8	2	21 2	
7	15.8	4	14.5	
5	13.1	3	14.3	
4	12.2	6	12.9	
2	20.8	5	9.6	

An evaluation of the respondent's answers for the length of their stay, reveals that the largest percentage 10.2 percent stayed for seven days. Percentages for overall trip lengths can be found in Table VIII.

TABLE VIII.

Duration o	f Overa	ill Trip)
------------	---------	----------	---

7	12.7	2	10.2	
10	10.6	7	10.0	
14	9.9	6	8.9	
3	8.1	9	7.2	
8	7.2	2	10.2	
	7 10 14 3 8	7 12.7 10 10.6 14 9.9 3 8.1 8 7.2	7 12.7 2 10 10.6 7 14 9.9 6 3 8.1 9 8 7.2 2	712.7210.21010.6710.0149.968.938.197.287.2210.2

The survey also attempted to determine the amount of money spent on each of the various categories, listed in Table IX. The answers in this table indicate the dollar amount that received the highest percent from the respondents.

TABLE IX.

Expenditures With Highest Percent by Category

	Options	Dollars/Percent				
a)	entertainment/sightseeing	50	1	22.9		
b)	food and beverage	100	1	14.5		
c)	lodging	200	1	11.9		
d)	recreating or sports	50	1	21.5		
e)	other purchases	50	1	23.7		

The dollar figures and percentages for each amount can be found in Appendix C, however, since 50 and 100 were almost invariably the highest percentage of dollars in each category, it appears that rounding, guess-work, or both, are reflected in the answers.

An attempt was also made to identify the aspects of the Mississippi Coast that most attracted the visitor to the area. The options and percentages are shown in Table X. It is quite apparent that the beach, as indicated by 73 percent of the respondents, is clearly the favored attraction. The options and percentages for each are reflected in Table X.

TABLE X.

Visitor Attractions

1	Attraction	Percent	
		70 0	
a)	Beacnes	/3.8	
b)	Accommodation	9.0	
c)	Historical Attractions	5.6	
d)	Golf	9.5	
e)	Restaurants	.3	
f)	Fishing	.6	
g)	Water sports	.0	
h)	Family attractions	.8	
	-		

Of the people who returned the questionnaires, 29.2 percent actually traveled to the Mississippi Gulf Coast after receiving information. Care should be exercised when interpreting the meaning of this 29.2 percent. The first group of

completed questionnaires returned showed a higher attendance rate 31.8 percent than the second group at 25.7 percent. This difference, though small, might suggest that the people who visited the Gulf Coast were more likely to return the questionnaire, therefore biasing upward the survey results. The actual percentage of the surveyed group that attended the Gulf Coast is probably lower than 29.2 percent.

Another upward bias is that the people who requested information on the Gulf Coast may have gone to the Gulf Coast regardless of whether or not they received information. Therefore, you cannot assume that the survey respondents who indicated that they came to the Gulf Coast, came because of the advertisements. However, it should also be noted that many people may have come to the Mississippi Gulf Coast after seeing advertising, but without requesting information. This might especially be true of those persons living in Mississippi, Louisiana, and other states already familiar with our area. Other persons may have been influenced by advertising, but were planning a trip not yet taken during the survey period. Results by Medium

Information on the number of surveys mailed and returned, by advertising medium, can be found in columns 2 and 3 of Table XI. The percentage of respondents who had written for information and subsequently visited the Mississippi Coast can be

found in column 4, with column 5 containing the range of confidence that the information is 99% accurate.

This "conversion rate" (column 4) ranged from a low of 10.7% for "Happy Wanderer" to a high of 51.9% for "Golf Digest". These conversion rates must be tempered by other factors such as the size and frequency of advertisements, cost, and the circulation of the various publications. For example; "House Beautiful's" conversion rate of 22.6% might be more favorable than "Southern Outdoors'" 43.3% when consideration is given to "House Beautiful's" circulation of 1,000,000; five times greater than "Southern Outdoors".

This analysis does not attempt to suggest the "best" advertising medium of those reviewed, but rather, to present information helpful in the decision-making process of those involved in the tourism industry.

<u>j</u>	CABLE 2	KI.
General	Survey	7 Results

Magazine	Mailed Surveys (Number)	Returned Surveys (Number)	Percent Yes (%)	99% Confidence Interval (%)
Family Circle T.V. Guide Happy Wanderer Travel Weekly Southern Outdo House Beautifu House & Garden Southern Living Travel & Leisu Travel & Leisu Travel Holiday Summer TV Golf TV	2,661 94 85 67 ors 127 1 119 175 g 483 re 470 1,154 373 465	743 33 28 11 30 31 47 155 133 412 117 96	20.7 39.4 10.7 18.2 43.3 22.6 29.8 43.2 35.3 24.0 39.3 49.0	16.9-24.5 $17.2-61.6$ $0-27.2$ $0-56.9$ $19.6-67.0$ $2.9-42.3$ $12.4-47.2$ $32.9-53.5$ $24.6-36.0$ $18.6-29.4$ $27.6-51.0$ $35.8-62.2$
Golf Digest TOTAL	<u>696</u> 6,679	154 1,990	<u>51.9</u> 29.7	<u>41.5-62.3</u> 27.1-32.2

Comments

Each questionaire had a small space for comments concerning what was "liked or disliked" about the Mississippi Gulf Coast. Three hundred and twelve (312) respondents added comments to the returned forms.

Of these comments two hundred and thirteen (213) were generally positive, sixty four (64) were negative and thirty-five (35) were fairly neutral. The greatest number of positive comments (70) were concerning the beach, with "good weather," "good food," and "friendly people" accounting for an additional one hundred twenty (120) positive statements.

Negative comments also addressed these same areas, with complaints concerning, litter, unclean water, prices, etc.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Results of this survey indicate the relative effectiveness of various mediums of advertising, as indicated by the respondents to a mailed questionnaire. While conversion rates varied considerably from one medium to another, this data should be considered in light of other information such as time of placement, cost, region, etc. The overall conversion rate among all mediums proved to be thirty (30) percent.

The results also indicate that forty-eight (48) percent of those respondents who received the requested information chose another area to visit. Also, ninety (90) percent indicated that they were planning a trip to the Mississippi Coast at some time in the future.

The survey also indicated that seventy (70) percent of the respondences who visited were on vacation and seventy-three (73) percent. are primarily attracted by the beach.

The information in this report should be helpful to tourism decision makers; however, <u>it is obvious that an on-</u> <u>going analysis of media effectiveness should be instituted to</u> <u>augment this base of information, and to provide early</u> <u>indications of trends in visitors and promotion effectiveness.</u>

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A

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QUESTIONAIRE

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Appendix "A"



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STATE OF MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

WILLIAM T. HACKETT, JR. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Mississippi Department of Economic Development, in cooperation with the Mississippi Coast Tourism Industry, is conducting a survey to determine the effectiveness of various promotional programs, and to learn more about the area's visitors. According to available records you have, within the past 18 months, requested additional information about the Mississippi Gulf

We would like for you to take a moment to complete and return the following questionnaire. If you did not make a trip to the Mississippi Gulf Coast, please complete portion "A" only.

Our goal is to better serve the coast's visitors and your cooperation in this survey will aid us greatly in our efforts.

VISITOR INFORMATION SURVEY

After receiving information on the Mississippi Gulf Coast, did you visit the area?

YES (If yes, please complete Box B and return questionnaire) NO (If no, please complete Box A and return questionnaire)

٨.	1.	Was the information you received factual enough to plan a trip to the Coast?
	2.	Did you not take a vacation due to the economy?
	3.	Did you decide to visit another area instead? (If yes, where)
	4.	Are you considering a trip to the Gulf Coast in the future?
B.	1.	Residence: City State
	2.	Number of people in your party?
	3.	Purpose of trip?
		a. <u>Group Meeting/Convention</u> b. <u>Business/Pleasure</u> c. <u>Visit Friends/Relatives</u> d. <u>Vacation</u> e. Other (Please specify)
	4.	How far in advance did you plan your trip?
		weeks1 month2 months3 months longer
	5.	Length of stay on the Gulf Coast? days nights
	6.	Length of entire trip?daysdays
	7.	While on the Gulf Coast, approximately how much did you spend on each of the following?
		aEntertainment/Sightseeing bFood/Beverage cLodging dRecreation/Sports eOther Purchases
	8.	Which of the following attracted you to the Gulf Coast? (Check as many as apply)
		Beaches b. Accommodations c. Historical Attractions d. Golf e. Restaurants f. Fishing S. Water Sports h. Family Attractions

9. What did you like or dislike about the Mississippi Gulf Coast?

APPENDIX B

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ALTERNATIVE LOCATIONS

	CITY FREQUE	NCY CUM FREG PERCE	NT CUN PERCENT	
	EASTERN CANADA 1		17 25 079	
	EDISTC ISLAND 1 England 4		70 25 714	
	EURECA-SPRINGS	ġġ	17	
	EUROPE-HANAII 1	6.3	17 10:159	
	FLATHEAD LAKE		17 30.796	
	FERT BALTON BEAC 1 . FREDERICK 1			
	FT MARSH 1		17 31-774	
	GALVESTON 1 GALVESTON 2	102 0.3	17 32-381	
	GETTYSÖURG I	125 0.3		
	GRAND ISLE	100 0:3	17 34.256	·····
	GREAT SHOKEY FITN T GREENVILLE 1		17 34.603 17 34.921	
		2.2	2237 • 143	
	HAMPTON 1 HALATT	115 015	17 37.778	
<u> </u>	HILLIN-HEAD-ISLA		17	·
	HILTON HEAD ISLA	125 0.3	17 39.683	
	HCNG KONG 1 HORSESHOEBEND		17 40.000 17 40.317	·····
	HCT SPRINGS 2 HCT Springs Vill 1	128 0-6		
	HCUSTCN 1	11 0.3	17 41.587	
	JACKSCN 2	135 0.6	42:557	
	JEKYLL ISLAND		1/ 43.175 35 43.810	
	KIAGAN-ISLAND	140 0.3	1766,127	
	LAKE ERIE PORT C 1 Lake lanier 1		17 44.762	· ·
<u> </u>			17 45.397	
	LISBON, PORTGLAL	176 0.3	46 934	
	LCNG-8EACH	isoo.s	47.619	
	MAGGIE VALLEY 2	154 0.6	20 48.254 35 48.889	
	NAMOTH CAVE 1 MANITOU-SPRINGS		17 49.206 17 49.524 49.5	
	MERIDIAN & VIČKS I	157 0.3		
	MEXICC-CARIBEAN 1	162 Q-31	7 51 429	
	MCUNTAIN NCRE 1	164 Q.3	2 52.663	
	MTRTLE BCH 1	166 0.31	17 52.381 17 52.698	
	······································	,		••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••
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		<u> </u>		-
		····		
	-			
•				<u> </u>
•				

	CITY MYRTLE BEACH	FREQUENCY	CUMFREG	PÉRCENI	CUM PERCENT	
	MYSTIC CT SOUTHA	1	150	0.317	59.048	
	NASHVILLE	\$	192	1.587	60.952	
	NATCHEZ, VICKSOU		194	0.317	61.587	····
	NEW ENGLAND NEW ENGLAND STAT	. 13	207	0.952	65.716 66.667	
		<u>1</u> 2	213		67.619 71.629	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	NEW YCRK NEL YCRK CTTY		220	0.317	71.746	
	ORIENT	į		ğ. <u>şi</u> z_		
	OVERSEAS	· 1	237	6.317	75.238	
		<u>_</u>	238	0.317 -	75.556	
	PANAMA CITY Panama city beac	23	241	0.635	76-508 77-460	
	PENSACCLA	2	246	0.635	78-095	
	PCCONO MOUNTAINS		248	0.317	78.730	
	PORT ARANSAS	i	250	0.31 <u>/</u>	79-365	
	RAPID CITY		252	0.317	50.000	
	ROCKY POUNTAINS Rocky PTS	1	253		80.317 80.635	
		1		0-317		
	SAN ANTONIC		257	0.317	81.587	
	SAN-DIEGO	<u>i</u>	261			
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	SEATTLE Shore	. 1	267 268	8-317	84.762	
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	SPOKIES SPOKY POURTAIL A	1	271	0.317	86-032	
	SPORY POUNTAINS	Ż	274 -	0.635	64.984	
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	SCUTH CARCLINA	1	279	0.317	88.571	
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	SPIRIT LAKE St touts	1	292	0.317	90-159	
	SHITZERLAND	į	288	0:317	91-429	
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APPENDIX C

DOLLARS SPENT BY CATEGORY

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DEP	-10	-ECCNOMICS	-DEVELOPMEN	T-COMBINE SUP	RVEYS REPORT	
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The following section contains the survey results, by <u>publication</u> of the respondents who answered they <u>had</u> visited the area after receiving the requested information. Individual breakdowns, because of insufficient data, are absent on the following publications:

- 1. Happy Wanderer
- 2. Travel Weekly
- 3. Southern Outdoors
- 4. House Beautiful
- 5. House and Garden

APPENDIX D

FAMILY CIRCLE MAGAZINE

In analyzing the data from Family Circle Magazine respondents, we find that Texas contributed the largest percentage of respondents. Louisiana followed closely and together they accounted for approximately twenty-five (25) percent of the total. The data also showed that a party size of two was the most common accounting for forty-four (44) percent.

		TABI	LE 1,	
Top	Five	States	for	Respondents

States	Percentages
Texas	13.1
Louisiana	11.1
Illinois	7.8
Arkansas	5,9
California	5.2

TABLE 2. Party Size As Percent of Respondents

Party Size	Percentage	
two (2) in party	44.1	
three (3) in party	13.6	
four (4) in party	22.7	
other	19.6	

Concerning purpose of trip. The data showed that over eighty-five percent of the individuals came because of friends, relatives, or just a vacation. Adding a combination of business/pleasure to that, we found that over ninety-six (96) percent came to the Coast for some form of pleasure. The majority of these pleasure trips were planned well in advance with the planning horizon of three months accounting for twenty-four (24) percent, while two months accounted for twenty-three (23) percent.

TABLE 3. Purpose of Trip

Purpose	Percent
Groups Meetings/Conventions	1.2
Business/Pleasure	10.3
Visit Friends/Relatives	17.5
Vacation	68.8
Other	1.9

	TAI	3LE 4,	
Length	of	Trip	Planning

Time	Percent	
less than a month	13.8	
one (1) month	17.7	
two (2) months	23.0	
three (3) months	24.3	
longer than three (3) months	21.0	

Concerning trip length, the highest percentage of individuals responded that their overall trip lasted for seven days. A discrepancy appears in the data when you consider the number of nights spent on the overall trip. The highest percentage of nights was found to be two. When examining the duration of visit on the Gulf Coast, we find that three days and two nights are the most frequent.

		TI	\BL I	35.	
Duration	of	Visit	to	Mississippi	Coast

Days	Percent	Nights	Percent	
2	19.3	2	26.7	
3 .	23.4	3	18.3	
5	13.7	4	17.5	
4	13.1	1	11.4	
7	11.0	6	10.6	

TABLE 6. Duration of Overall Trip

Days	Percent	Nights	Percent	
7	12.1	2	12.1	
14	9.2	6	8.6	
3	8.5	13	8.6	
8	7.1	3	7.8	
10	6.4	8	6.0	

When examining the expenditures, the data reveals that the highest expenditures came for lodging and for food/beverage. The percentages in Table 7 relate to the particular dollar amount shown. For example, the highest percentage of people (17.9) stated that they spent \$50 on entertainment/sightseeing.

TABLE 7.Expenditures With Highest Percent by Category

	Options	Dollars/Percent
a)	entertainment/sightseeing	50 / 17.9
b)	food and beverage	100 / 14.6
c)	lodging	100/200 / 10.7
d)	recreating or sports	50 / 31.0
e)	other purchases	50 / 23.6

In determining what attracted the individuals to the Coast, we find that the beaches were the greatest attraction and accounted for approximately eighty (80) percent. Only ten (10) percent of the respondents stated that historical attractions were what attracted them to the Coast and accommodations accounted for only five (5) percent.

TAI	3LE	8.
Visitor	Att	ractions

	Attraction	Percent
a)	Beaches	79.7
b)	Accommodation	5.4
c)	Historical Attractions	10.8
d)	Golf	1.3
e)	Restaurants	.6
f)	Fishing	.6
q)	Water sports	.0*
ň)	Family attractions	1.3

* .0 means insufficient data.

APPENDIX E

TRAVEL & LEISURE MAGAZINE

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Data from Travel & Leisure Magazine respondents indicate that Louisiana (12.7 percent) and Illinois (10.6 percent,) were the largest contributors of respondents. The data also revealed that a party size of two was the most common to visit the Coast.

States	Percentages	
Louisiana	12.7	
Illinois	10.6	
Florida	6.3	
Ohio	6.3	
Pennsylvania	6.3	
Texas	6.3	

		TAI	BLE]	L.
Top	Six	States	for	Respondents

TABLE 2.

Party Size As Percent of Respondents

Party Size	Percentage	
one (1) in party	6.5	
two (2) in party	56.5	
four (4) in party	28.2	
other	8.8	

It is interesting to note, that the purpose of trip differs, for this magazine when compared to Family Circle. Respondents indicated the group meetings/conventions were the primary purpose for their trip. Vacations and visiting friends/relatives accounted for only twenty-seven(27) percent. When considering the planning horizon for trips to the Coast, the respondents indicated that two and three months, both representing twenty-seven (27) percent, were the most common.

TABLE 3. Purpose of Trip

Purpose	Percent
Groups Meetings/Conventions	53.1
Business/Pleasure	14.8
Visit Friends/Relatives	17.0
Vacation	10.6
Other	4.5

TABLE 4. Length of Trip Planning

Time	Percent
less than a month	8.5
one (1) month	17.0
two (2) months	27.6
three (3) months	19.1
longer than three (3) months	27.6

Respondents indicated that the two most frequent trip lengths were ten and seven days and nights. The most frequently to stay on the Coast, however, accounted for only three days and two nights.

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Days	Percent	Nights	Percent	
3	17.7	2	17.0	
7	15.5	3	12.1	
4	15.5	5	12.1	
6	8.8	4	9.7	
5	6.6	6	7.3	
8	6.6	7	7.3	
11	6.6	10	7.3	

TABLE 5. Duration of Visit to Mississippi Coast

TABLE 6. Duration of Overall Trip

Days	Percent	Nights	Percent	
10	23.9	10	14.7	
7	15.2	7	14.7	
14	10.8	6	8.8	
3	8.6	2	5.8	
8	6.5	4	5.8	
		5	5.8	

Concerning expenditures, the data reveals the most money was spent on lodging followed by food/beverage and other purchases.

TABLE 7. S With Highest Percent by

Expenditures With Highest Percent by Category

	Options	Dollars/Percent
a)	entertainment/sightseeing	50 / 29.6
b)	food and beverage	100 / 14.7
c)	lodging	150 / 12.5
d)	recreating or sports	50 / 28.5
<u>e)</u>	other purchases	100 / 28.5

As was shown by Family Circle data, the beaches again, were the major attraction for the Coast and accounted for seventy (70) percent and was followed by accommodations and golf.

TABLE 8. Visitor Attractions

Ä	ttraction	Percent	
a) ¯	Beaches	73.9	
b)	Accommodation	10.8	
c)	Historical Attractions	4.3	
đ)	Golf	8.6	
e)	Restaurants	.0*	
f)	Fishing	2.1	İ
(p	Water sports	.0*	
<u>h</u>)	Family attractions	.0*	

* .0 means insufficient data.

APPENDIX F

TRAVEL HOLIDAY MAGAZINE

The majority of Travel Holiday respondents came from the Mid-West with Iowa providing fifteen (15) percent and Illinois ten (10) percent. As with both previous magazines, we find that a party size of two was far and away the most common and accounted for one-half of the total groups.

TABLE 1.

Top Five States for Respondents

States	Percentages	
Ohio	15.1	
Illinois	10.1	
Mississippi	9.0	:
Florida	7.0	
Oklahoma	6.0	

TABLE 2. Party Size As Percent of Respondents

Party Size	Percentage	
two (2) in party	52.0	
three (3) in party	15.3	
four (4) in party	16.3	
other	16.4	

Pleasure trips (vacation and visiting friends/relatives) accounted for approximately seventy-five (75) percent of the trips to the Coast. Most trips were planned three months in advance (27 percent) and twenty-four (24) percent of the respondents indicated a planning time of two months.

TABLE 3. Purpose of Trip

Purpose	Percent	
Groups Meetings/Conventions	6.0	
Business/Pleasure	16.1	
Visit Friends/Relatives	11.1	
Vacation	63.6	
Other	3.0	

	TAE	3LE 4.	
Length	of	Trip	Planning

Time	Percent
less than a month	12.2
one (1) month	12.2
two (2) months	24.4
three (3) months	27.5
longer than three (3) months	23.4

The data reveals that the highest percentage of trips lasted for fourteen days. The stay on the Coast however, was reported to be three days (21 percent) and two nights (18 percent).

			T2	ABLI	Ξ 5.		
Dura	ation	of	Visit	to	Mississippi	Coast	
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 Days	Percent	Nights	Percent	
3	21.2	2	18.8	
7	14.8	4	16.4	
5	11.7	3	14.1	
2	11.7	7	11.7	
4	9.5	6	7.0	

TABLE 6. Duration of Overall Trip

Days	Percent	Nights	Percent	
14	14.2	9	12.1	
10	10.9	2	9.4	
7	9.8	14	9.4	
21	8.7	7	8.1	
15	7.6	15	5.4	
		20	5.4	
		8	5.4	

Lodging and food/beverage were categories with the highest expenditures. Both categories had the largest number of respondents indicating that they spent \$200 for each.

TABLE 7. Expenditures With Highest Percent by Category

	Options	Dollars/Percent
a)	entertainment/sightseeing	50/100 / 15.5
b)	food and beverage	100/200 / 12.1
c)	lodging	200 / 8.2
a)	recreating or sports	50/100 / 22.7
e)	other purchases	50 / 21.7

Over eighty (80) percent of the respondents indicated that the beaches were what attracted them to the Coast. Accommodations were a distant second with nine (9) percent.

Ā	ttraction	Percent	
a)	Beaches	81.2	<u> </u>
b)	Accommodation	9.3	
c)	Historical Attractions	8.3	
d)	Golf	1.0	
e)	Restaurants	.0*	
f)	Fishing	.0*	
g)	Water sports	.0*	
ĥ)	Family attractions	.0*	

TABLE 8. Visitor Attractions

* .0 means insufficient data.

APPENDIX G

GOLF DIGEST MAGAZINE

Three states, Illinois, Indiana and Missouri each provided the greatest percentage of Golf Digest respondents (16.4 percent) while Michigan followed closely with fifteen point one (15.1) percent. One half the respondents indicated there were two people in the party while visiting the Coast.

States	Percentages	
 Illinois	16.4	
Indiana	16.4	
Missouri	16.4	
Michigan	15.1	
Wisconsin	8.8	

TABLE 1. Top Five States for Respondents

TABLE 2. Party Size As Percent of Respondents

Party Size	Percentage	
two (2) in party	50.6	
four (4) in party	27.2	
six (6) in party	5.1	
other	17.1	

Data indicated that vacations (76.2 percent) was the primary reason for visiting the Coast. Visiting friends/relatives was a distant second with ten (10) percent. Two months provided the most frequent planning time for the trip and three months followed closely.

TABLE 3. Purpose of Trip

Purpose	Percent	
Groups Meetings/Conventions	2.5	
Business/Pleasure	7.5	
Visit Friends/Relatives	10.0	
Vacation	76.2	
Other	3.7	

TABLE 4. Length of Trip Planning

Time	Percent
less than a month	.0*
one (1) month	15.0
two (2) months	31.2
three (3) months	27.5
longer than three (3) mont	hs 26.2

The largest percentage of respondents indicated that the overall trip lasted seven days and seven nights. This coincided with the duration of stay on the Gulf Coast which also had seven days and seven nights as the most frequently reported figures.

Di	ays	Percent	Nights	Percent	
	7	26,9	6	27.5	
(5	21.7	5	24.6	
<u> </u>	5	16.6	7	11.5	
	4	10.2	3	11.5	
	3	7.6	4	10.1	

		T7	ABL I	35.	
Duration	of	Visit	to	Mississippi	Coast

TABLE 6. Duration of Overall Trip

 Days	Percent	Nights	Percent	
7	14.4	7	18.0	
10	13.1	6	11.4	
9	10.5	9	11.4	
8	9.2	8	9.8	
5	9.2	3,4,10,11	6.5	

As with the previous magazines, the data revealed that expenditures for lodging were the highest and food/beverage followed.

TABLE 7.Expenditures With Highest Percent by Category

	Options	Dollars/Percent
a)	entertainment/sightseeing	50 / 36.1
ь)	food and beverage	100 / 24.1
c)	lodging	200 / 19.6
d)	recreating or sports	50 / 22.2
e)	other purchases	50 / 37.5

For Golf Digest respondents, it was combination of beaches and golf that attracted them to the Coast. Beaches accounted for over forty percent (42.5) and golf followed closely with over thirty-six (36) percent.

TABLE 8. Visitor Attractions

2	Attraction	Percent	
a)	Beaches	42.5	
b)	Accommodation	18.7	
c)	Historical Attractions	1.2	
d)	Golf	36.2	
e)	Restaurants	.0*	
f)	Fishing	.0*	
g)	Water sports	.0*	
h)	Family attractions	1.2	

* .0 means insufficient data.

The Mid-West accounted for over fifty (50) percent of respondents with Illinois accounting for approximately thirty-eight (38) percent. Thirty-eight (38) percent was also the percentage of the total respondents who indicated a party size of two. More than four in a party was the second highest percentage providing thirty-one (31) percent of the responses.

TABLE 1. Top Seven States for Respondents

States	Percentages	
Illinois	38.4	
Michigan	15.3	
New Mexico	15.3	
KY, MO, OH, TN	7.6	

TABLE 2.

Party Size As Percent of Respondents

Party Size	Percentage	
two (2) in party	38.4	
three (3) in party	23.0	
four (4) in party	7.6	
other	31.0	

Vacations and visiting friends/relatives accounted for ninety-nine point nine (99.9) percent of the respondents who indicated their purpose of trip. One-half of these respondents indicated that they had planned their trip three months in advance while an additional one-third indicated the trip was planned two months in advance.

TABLE 3. Purpose of Trip

Purpose	Percent	
Groups Meetings/Conventions	.0*	
Business/Pleasure	.0*	
Visit Friends/Relatives	15.3	
Vacation	84.6	
Other	.0*	

TABLE 4. Length of Trip Planning

Time	Percent
less than a month	.0*
one (1) month	8.3
two (2) months	33.3
three (3) months	50.0
longer than three (3) months	8.3

The greatest percentage of respondents (33 percent,) indicated spending ten days on their entire trip. The data reports the largest percentage of respondents, (33 percent,) indicated that seven of those days were spent on the Coast.

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Duration of Visit to Mississippi Coast

	Days	Percent	Nights	Percent	
	7	33.3	5	33.3	
4	4,5	16.6	6,7,8	16.6	
3, 6, 8	8,9	8.3	3, 4	8.3	

TABLE 6. Duration of Overall Trip

Day	s Percent	Nights	Percent
10	33.3	8	25.0
9	16.6	11	25.0
6, 7, 12	8.3	6, 7, 9, 21	12.5

Recreation and sports was the category with the highest expenditures and was followed by food/beverage and entertainment/sight-seeing.

TABLE 7.

Expenditures With Highest Percent by Category

	Options	Dollars/Percent
a)	entertainment/sightseeing	100 / 40.0
b)	food and beverage	150 / 33.3
c)	lodging	N/A
a)	recreating or sports	200 / 50.0
e)	other purchases	40 / 40.0

Approximately seventy-seven (77) percent of the respondents from T.V. Guide indicated that the beaches attracted them to the Coast, while golf was a distant second with fifteen (15) percent.

TABLE 8. Visitor Attractions

Ă	Attraction		
a)	Beaches	76.9	
b)	Accommodation	.0*	
c)	Historical Attractions	7.6	
d)	Golf	15.3	
e)	Restaurants	.0*	
f)	Fishing	.0*	
a)	Water sports	.0*	
h)	Family attractions	.0*	<u> </u>

* .0 means insufficient data.

APPENDIX H

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T.V. GUIDE MAGAZINE

APPENDIX I

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SUMMER TELEVISION

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The State of Louisiana was the major contributor of respondents and accounted for eighty (80) percent. Together with Mississippi, over ninety (90) percent of the total number of respondents were accounted for. Summer TV was the first medium to produce a different party size as a major contributor. Thirty-eight (38) percent of the respondents indicated that there were four people in the group and three person parties were the second largest contributor with nineteen (19) percent.

		TABI	LE 1.	•
Top	Six	States	for	Respondents

<u> </u>	Percentages
Louisiana	80.8
Mississippi	10.6
AR, OR, TN, TX	2.1

TABLE 2	2	
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Party Size As Percent of Respondents

Party Size	Percentage	
two (2) in party	17.0	
three (3) in party	19.1	
four (4) in party	38.2	
other	25.7	

As with Travel & Leisure Magazine, group meetings and conventions was the primary reason for visiting the Coast showing a seventy-six (76) percent response. Business/pleasure followed and was indicated by ten (10) percent. Responses from this magazine indicated a planning time of less than a month to one month. Both categories had approximately thirty (30) percent and combined show a planning horizon of a month or less. This may be accounted for due to the closeness of the people to the area. It seems logical that if the distance to a destination increases so will the planning time.

TABLE 3. Purpose of Trip

Purpose	Percent	
Groups Meetings/Conventions	76.5	
Business/Pleasure	10.6	
Visit Friends/Relatives	6.3	
Vacation	2.1	
Other	4.2	

Time	Percent	——————————————————————————————————————
less than a month	29.7	
one (1) month	29.7	ł
two (2) months	19.1	1
three (3) months	10.6	
longer than three (3) months	10,6	

TABLE 4. Length of Trip Planning

Concerning duration of trip, the highest percentage of respondents indicated three days, (27.9 percent) and two nights (28.9 percent). The largest percentage of respondents also indicated they spent three days, (39.1 percent) and two nights, (37.2 percent) on the Coast.

TABLE 5. Duration of Visit to Mississippi Coast

Days	Percent	Nights	Percent	
3	39.1	2	37.2	
4,5	17.3	3	18.6	
2,6	8.6	4	16.2	
		5	11.6	
		6	6.9	

TABLE 6. Duration of Overall Trip

Days	Percent	Nights	Percent	
3	27.9	2	28,9	
6	16.2	4	18.4	
7	13.9	5	15.7	
5	11.6	6, 7	10.5	
4	9.3	•		

Recreation and sports accounted for the highest amount of expandinues with sixteen (16) percent stating they had spent \$2. and sixteen percent spending \$300. Lodging and food peverage followed with \$200.

TABLE 7. Expenditures With Highest Percent by Category

	Options	Dollars/Percent
a)	entertainment/sightseeing	50 / 25.8
b)	food and beverage	200 / 22.5
c)	lodging	80/120/200 / 11.1
d)	recreating or sports	250/300 / 16.6
<u>e)</u>	other purchases	50 / 37.5

1	Attraction	Percent	
a)	Beaches	91.4	
b)	Accommodation	4.2	
c)	Historical Attractions	.0*	
d)	Golf	.0*	
e)	Restaurants	.0*	-
f)	Fishing	.0*	
g)	Water sports	.0*	
ň)	Family attractions	4.2	

TABLE 8. Visitor Attractions

* .0 means insufficient data.

GOLF TELEVISION

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APPENDIX J

Data from respondents from Golf TV indicate that approximately thirty-seven (37) percent have Illinois as their state of origin. Wisconsin follows with thirteen (13) percent, showing that the Mid-West accounts for approximately fifty (50) percent of the respondents. A party size of two is the most frequently listed (11.3 percent,) while a group of four was indicated on thirty (30) percent of the responses.

TABLE 1.				
Top	Seven	States	for	Respondents

Percentages	
36.9	
13.0	
10.8	
8.6	
6.5	
	Percentages 36.9 13.0 10.8 8.6 6.5

			TABLE 2.	
Party	Size	As	Percent of	Respondents

Party Size	Percentage	<u></u>
two (2) in party	41.3	
three (3) in party	6.5	
four (4) in party	30.4	
 other	21.8*	

Eighty-two (82) percent of the respondents indicated their purpose of trip to be a vacation and thirty-three (33) percent planned their trip two months in advance.

TABLE 3. Purpose of Trip

Purpose	Percent	
Groups Meetings/Conventions	6.5	<u> </u>
Business/Pleasure	8.6	
Visit Friends/Relatives	2.1	
Vacation	82.6	
Other	.0	

TABLE 4. Length of Trip Planning

Time	Percent
less than a month	11.1
one (1) month	24.4
two (2) months	33.3
three (3) months	17.7
longer than three (3) months	13.3

The highest percentage of respondents stated they spent seven days/nights on their entire trip. Of that, three days and four nights were spent on the Coast.

TABLE 5.

Duration of Visit to Mississippi Coast

Days	Percent	Nights	Percent	
3	20.4	4	22.5	<u></u>
5,7	18.1	6	17.5	
6	11.3	3	15.0	
4,8	9.0	2, 5, 7	10.0	

TABLE 6. Duration of Overall Trip

Days	Percent	Nights	Percent	
7	17.5	6, 7	17.2	
8	15.0	9	13.7	
10	12.5	2, 8	10.3	
14	10.0	•		
3	7.5			

Lodging was a category with the highest number of dollars spent with almost twenty (20) percent stating they spent \$200 for accommodations.

TABLE 7.

Expenditures With Highest Percent by Category

	Options	Dollars/Percent
a)	entertainment/sightseeing	100 / 36.3
b)	food and beverage	150 / 16.1
c)	lodging	200 / 18.7
d)	recreating or sports	100 / 15.0
<u>e)</u>	other purchases	50/100 / 23.6

Beaches again appear to be the major attraction reported by forty-five (45) percent. while golf followed with thirty-seven (37) percent.

TABLE 8. Visitor Attractions

Attrac	tion	Percent	
a) Bea	ches	45.6	
b) Acc	commodation	13.0	
c) His	torical Attractions	14.3	
đ) Gol	f	36.9	
e) Res	taurants	.0*	
f) fis	hing	.0*	
g) Wat	er sports	.0*	
h) Fam	ily attractions	.0*	
* .0 means insuff	icient data.		

APPENDIX K

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SOUTHERN LIVING MAGAZINE

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Louisiana with twenty (20) percent, was the top state for providing respondents from Southern Living Magazine. Arkansas and Missouri followed with a little over ten (10) percent. As the majority of magazines have related, a party size of two was the most common and accounted for over fifty (50) percent.

		TABI	JE 1,	
Top	Six	States	for	Respondents

States	Percentages
Louisiana	19.6
Arkansas, Missouri	10.6
Texas	7.6
Alabama, Kentucky	6.0

TABLE 2.

Party Size As Percent of Respondents

Party Size	Percentage	
two (2) in party	53.7	
three (3) in party	22.3	
four (4) in party	11.9	
other	12.1	

The respondents indicated that a vacation was the primary purpose for the visit and together with visiting friends/ relatives accounted for eighty (80) percent. These trips were planned two months in advance by over thirty-one (31) percent of the respondents and twenty-two (22) percent stated the trips were planned over three months in advance.

TABLE 3. Purpose of Tilp

Purpose	Percent		
Groups Meetings/Conventions	.0*		
Business/Pleasure	18.1		
Visit Friends/Relatives	9.0		
Vacation	71.2		
Other	1.5		

TABLE 4. Length of Trip Planning

Time	Percent
less than a month	10.6
one (1) month	18.1
two (2) months	31.8
three (3) months	16.6
longer than three (3) months	22.7

The overall trip, as revealed by the data, lasted for ten days, while the greatest number of respondents indicated spending seven days on the Coast.

TABLE 5.

Duration of Visit to Mississippi Coast

Days	Percent	Nights	Percent	
7	21.3	2	26.2	
3	19.6	4,6	13.1	
2,4	14.7	· 7	11.4	i
10	9.8	1, 3	8.1	

TABLE 6. Duration of Overall Trip

Days	Percent	Nights	Percent	
10	13.1	7	11.3	
4, 7, 14	9.8	3, 9	9.4	-
5	8.1	4, 14	7.5	

As one might expect, food/beverage and lodging were the categories with the highest expenditures. Both categories appeared to have the largest percent of individuals spending \$200.

TABLE 7. Expenditures With Highest Percent by Category

	Options	Dollars/Percent
a)	entertainment/sightseeing	50 / 29.4
b)	food and beverage	200 / 16.6
c)	lodging	200 / 12.5
d)	recreating or sports	50 / 31.8
e)	other purchases	50 / 16.6

Respondents from Southern Living indicated the beaches as the major item that attracted them to the Gulf Coast. This category was selected by approximately eighty-three (83) percent of the respondents.

TABLE 8. Visitor Attractions

	Attraction	Percent	
a)	Beaches	82.9	
b)	Accommodation	10.9	
c)	Historical Attractions	.0*	
d)	Golf	3.1	
e)	Restaurants	1.5	
f)	Fishing	1.5	
g)	Water sports	.0*	
h)	Family attractions	.0*	
g) h)	Water sports Family attractions	.0* 0*	

* .0 means insufficient data.