# 2012 Trail Town Business Survey Report for The Progress Fund 

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## Executive Summary

The Great Allegheny Passage runs through several counties and affects a variety of businesses because of the number of visitors to the trail. The 91 businesses that responded to this survey were in five counties: Allegheny, PA, Westmoreland, PA, Fayette, PA, Somerset, PA, and Allegany, MD.

The majority of responding businesses were classified as a hotel/motel/B\&B. Retail/gift/specialty stores and Bike rental/sales/supplies store were the second most cited groups.

Most responding businesses (18) had been open of 6-10 years. However, the distribution was relatively equal with those that been open 3-5 years (17) equal to those that had been opened 21-40 years. One average the businesses had been open 16.7 years.

Not surprisingly, summer and fall were the peak seasons for the trail businesses. Winter was the season that most businesses saw a downturn in trail user business. However, only 23 of the 88 responding businesses close for more than two weeks during the year, most commonly in December and January.

The responding trail businesses were generally small in terms of employment. Most responding businesses (43 of 88) use one to five full time employees. Most responding businesses (33 of 88) also use one to five part time employees.

The same pattern occurs for the off peak season. Most responding businesses ( 37 of 88 ) use one to five full time employees. Most responding businesses (23 of 88) also use one to five part time employees.

The majority of responding businesses (42) said that full time employees worked between 31 and 40 hours per week in the off peak season. The majority of responding businesses (24) said that part time employees worked between 16 and 30 hours per week in the off peak season.

When asked if they planned to expand, only 30 percent of businesses said yes. This is somewhat below the $32 \%$ that said yes in the 2008-2009 survey. When asked if the trail affected this decision 14 of the 30 businesses said yes.

About one-fourth of responding businesses reported gross revenue of more than $\$ 250 \mathrm{~K}$. Comparing 2010 and 2011, responding businesses in every county reported an increase in gross revenues. Responding businesses in all but two business types reported an increase also. Retail and outdoor trail business showed a small percent decrease. Responding businesses reported about onethird of their gross revenue can be attributed to the trail.

On average about 30 percent of gross revenues were attributed to the trail. This is higher than the $25.5 \%$ reported in the 2008-2009 survey.

Estimated annual revenues generated from the trail per establishment was computed using reported annual gross revenue values, and the reported percentage of gross revenue from trail use. At the county aggregation level, the weighted average annual revenue generated from the trail per establishment was about $\$ 650,000$. At the firm type aggregation level, the weighted average annual revenues generated from the trail per establishment was $\$ 2.1$ million.

## Question 1. What is the ZIP code of your business?

|  | Total | \% | Lodging | Restaurant | Retail | Outdoor/Trail Business | Other |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 88 |  | 31 | 22 | 12 | 9 | 14 |
| Allegheny County, PA | 8 | 9.1\% | 3 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Westmoreland County, PA | 6 | 6.8\% | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Fayette County, PA | 19 | 21.6\% | 6 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 4 |
| Somerset County, PA | 33 | 37.5\% | 15 | 9 | 2 | 2 | 5 |
| Allegany County, MD | 22 | 25.0\% | 6 | 5 | 6 | 2 | 3 |

All (100.0\%) of the respondents reported that their business location to be in one of the five primary counties through which the trail passes: Allegheny, Westmoreland, Fayette, and Somerset Counties in Pennsylvania and Allegany County in Maryland compared to 70.0\% in 2007.

## Primary Business Classification

| Responses: |  | Percent |
| :--- | :--- | :---: |
| Lodging | $\mathbf{9 1}$ |  |
| $\quad$Hotel/motel/B\&B (23) <br> $\quad$ Campgrounds (9) | 32 | $35.2 \%$ |
| Restaurant/tavern/café/ice cream shop <br> Retail | 24 | $26.4 \%$ |
| $\quad$Retail/gift/specialty store (16) <br> $\quad$ Convenience/grocery store (8) | 24 | $26.4 \%$ |
| Outdoor/Trail related business |  |  |
| $\quad$ Bike rental/sales/supplies (7) |  |  |
| $\quad$ Outdoor recreation/outfitter (2) |  |  |

Most of the respondents (35.2\%) of the respondents described their business as either a lodging. Approximately one fourth (26.4\%) mentioned operating a restaurant/café/ice cream shop and about ten percent operated an outdoor/trail related businesses.

## Question 3: How long have you been in business in this location?

## Age of Business (Number of Respondents by Range)

|  | Total | Lodging | Restaurant | Retail | Outdoor/Trail <br> Business | Other |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Responses: | $\mathbf{8 4}$ | $\mathbf{3 2}$ | $\mathbf{2 0}$ | $\mathbf{1 2}$ | $\mathbf{9}$ | $\mathbf{1 1}$ |
| 1-2 years | 11 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| 3-5 years | 17 | 8 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 0 |
| 6-10 years | 18 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 2 |
| 11-20 years | 14 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 21-40 years | 17 | 6 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 3 |
| More than 40 years | 7 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| Mean (years) | 16.7 | 13.2 | 15.9 | 18.9 | 11.4 | 26.0 |

On Average, the respondents tended to have businesses that were in these locations for a period of 16.7 years.

This average was influenced primarily by the majority (58.3\%) of respondents that cited either 6-20 years (38.1\%) or 21-40 years (20.2\%).

Fewer than one in four businesses each reported operating at their current locations for either 1-2 years, 3-5 years, or more than 40 years (13.1\%, $20.2 \%$, and $8.3 \%$, respectively).

Question 4a: What months of the year do you consider to be your peak season?
Peak Season Months (Number of Respondents)

|  | Total | Lodging | Restaurant | Retail | Outdoor/Trail <br> Business | Other |
| ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total Months |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Selected: | $\mathbf{4 6 3}$ | $\mathbf{1 5 8}$ | $\mathbf{1 3 6}$ | $\mathbf{5 9}$ | $\mathbf{4 5}$ | $\mathbf{6 5}$ |
| (Net) Spring | $\mathbf{8 9}$ | $\mathbf{2 3}$ | $\mathbf{3 1}$ | $\mathbf{9}$ | $\mathbf{1 1}$ | $\mathbf{1 5}$ |
| \% Spring Months | $19.2 \%$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| March | 9 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 4 |
| April | 30 | 8 | 9 | 3 | 4 | 6 |
| May | 50 | 15 | 18 | 5 | 7 | 5 |
| (Net) Summer | $\mathbf{2 0 0}$ | $\mathbf{7 4}$ | $\mathbf{5 2}$ | $\mathbf{2 2}$ | $\mathbf{2 6}$ | $\mathbf{2 6}$ |
| \% Spring Months | $43.2 \%$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| June | 66 | 24 | 17 | 7 | 9 | 9 |
| July | 67 | 25 | 17 | 7 | 9 | 9 |
| August | 67 | 25 | 18 | 8 | 8 | 8 |
| (Net) Fall | $\mathbf{1 3 8}$ | $\mathbf{5 8}$ | $\mathbf{4 1}$ | $\mathbf{1 9}$ | $\mathbf{8}$ | $\mathbf{1 2}$ |
| \% Fall Months | $29.8 \%$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| September | 62 | 29 | 18 | 7 | 5 | 3 |
| October | 55 | 26 | 15 | 7 | 3 | 4 |
| November | 21 | 3 | 8 | 5 | 0 | 5 |
| (Net) Winter | $\mathbf{3 6}$ | $\mathbf{3}$ | $\mathbf{1 2}$ | $\mathbf{9}$ | $\mathbf{0}$ | $\mathbf{1 2}$ |
| \% Winter Months | $7.8 \%$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| December | 22 | 1 | 9 | 6 | 0 | 6 |
| January | 5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| February | 9 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 4 |

More than three in four (85.7\%) of the reported that they experience the majority and/or all of their peak sales months during what is considered to be the bike season (April to October). 2012 Trail Town Survey Center for Regional Progress Frostburg State University May, 2012 Page 5

Approximately half (50.9\%) of the respondents each mentioned peak sales months during either summer (June, July and/or August) (43.2\%) and/or winter (December, January and/or February) (7.7\%).

Question 4b: What months of the year do you consider to be your off season?
Off Season Months (Number of Respondents)

|  | Total | Lodging | Restaurant | Retail | Outdoor/Trail <br> Business | Other |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Responses: | $\mathbf{3 4 0}$ | $\mathbf{1 4 5}$ | $\mathbf{7 5}$ | $\mathbf{3 0}$ | $\mathbf{4 8}$ | $\mathbf{4 2}$ |
| (Net) Spring | $\mathbf{8 6}$ | $\mathbf{4 5}$ | $\mathbf{1 5}$ | $\mathbf{9}$ | $\mathbf{1 0}$ | $\mathbf{7}$ |
| \% Spring Months | $25.3 \%$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| March | 50 | 25 | 10 | 5 | 7 | 3 |
| April | 27 | 15 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 1 |
| May | 9 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 3 |
| (Net) Summer | $\mathbf{2 1}$ | $\mathbf{3}$ | $\mathbf{8}$ | $\mathbf{2}$ | $\mathbf{0}$ | $\mathbf{8}$ |
| \% Spring Months | $6.2 \%$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| June | 6 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| July | 8 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| August | 7 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 4 |
| (Net) Fall | $\mathbf{6 2}$ | $\mathbf{2 5}$ | $\mathbf{1 2}$ | $\mathbf{5}$ | $\mathbf{1 2}$ | $\mathbf{8}$ |
| \% Fall Months | $18.2 \%$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| September | 6 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| October | 13 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 |
| November | 43 | 23 | 8 | 2 | 8 | 2 |
| (Net) Winter | $\mathbf{1 7 1}$ | $\mathbf{7 2}$ | $\mathbf{4 0}$ | $\mathbf{1 4}$ | $\mathbf{2 6}$ | $\mathbf{1 9}$ |
| \% Winter Months | $50.3 \%$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| December | 47 | 24 | 7 | 3 | 8 | 5 |
| January | 64 | 24 | 17 | 5 | 9 | 9 |
| February | 60 | 24 | 16 | 6 | 9 | 5 |

Accordingly, businesses most frequently mentioned experiencing off-peak sales during winter (50.3\% -- December, January and/or February). About one in four (25.3\%) respondents reported that they experience off-peak sales during spring (March, April and/or May) and less than one in ten (6.2\%) mentioned summer (June, July and/or August).

Question 5: Is your business closed for more than 2 weeks in any given month during the year?

## Closures (Number of Respondents)

|  | Total | Lodging | Restaurant | Retail | Outdoor/Trail <br> Business | Other |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Responses: | 89 | 33 | 22 | 12 | 9 | 14 |
| Less than 2 <br> Weeks | 66 | 24 | 19 | 8 | 5 | 10 |
| More than <br> 2 Weeks | 23 | 9 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 4 |

Most firms were closed less than two weeks and this occurred primarily in the winter months.
Question 5 cont'd: What months is your business closed?


## Closure Months (Number of Respondents)

|  |  |  |  |  | Outdoor / <br> Trail |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Total | Lodging | Restaurant | Retail | Business | Other |
| Total Months <br> Selected: | $\mathbf{5 2}$ | $\mathbf{1 9}$ | $\mathbf{8}$ | $\mathbf{8}$ | $\mathbf{9}$ | $\mathbf{8}$ |
| January | 22 | 8 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| February | 21 | 8 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 3 |
| March | 16 | 7 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 2 |
| April | 5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| May | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| June | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| July | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| August | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| September | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| October | 3 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| November | 11 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| December | 16 | 6 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 |

Of the months that businesses were closed January, February and December had closure from each type of business including lodging, restaurant and retail stores.

## Question 6a: How many persons, including yourself if appropriate, do you employ during peak season?

|  | Total | Lodging | Restaurant | Retail | Outdoor/ <br> Trail <br> Business | Other |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Responses: | 68 | 24 | 20 | 7 | 7 | 10 |
| 1-5 people | 43 | 14 | 14 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| 6-10 people | 11 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 4 |
| 11-25 people | 8 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| More than 25 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Mean | 16.25 | 5.3 | 5.0 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 2.5 |

Part Time Employees During Peak (Number of Respondents by Range)

|  | Total | Lodging | Restaurant | Retail | Outdoor/ <br> Trail <br> Business | Other |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Responses: | 63 | 22 | 19 | 7 | 7 | 8 |
| 1-5 people | 33 | 16 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| 6-10 people | 14 | 1 | 8 | 1 | 3 | 1 |
| 11-25 people | 11 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| More than 25 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Mean | 15.75 | 5.5 | 4.75 | 1.5 | 2 | 2 |

Most businesses used more full than part time employees during the peak season. Most businesses employed less than 5 persons in both full and part time capacity.

## Question 6b: How many persons, including yourself if appropriate, do you employ during off season?

Full Time Employees During Off-Peak Season (Number of Respondents by Range)

|  |  |  |  | Outdoor/ <br>  <br>  <br>  <br> Trail <br> Business | Other |  |
| ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Responses: | $\mathbf{6 3}$ | Lodging | Restaurant | Retail | $\mathbf{2 0}$ | $\mathbf{1 7}$ |
| $\mathbf{7}$ | $\mathbf{7}$ | $\mathbf{8}$ | $\mathbf{1 1}$ |  |  |  |
| 1-5 people | 37 | 11 | 12 | 4 | 6 | 4 |
| 6- 10 people | 10 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 3 |
| 11-25 people | 5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| More than 25 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Mean | 13.5 | 4.0 | 4.25 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 2.25 |


| Part Time Employees During Off-Peak Season (Number of Respondents by |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | Outdoor/ <br> Trail <br> Business | Other |  |
| Responses: | $\mathbf{5 6}$ | $\mathbf{2 0}$ | $\mathbf{1 4}$ | $\mathbf{6}$ | $\mathbf{8}$ | $\mathbf{8}$ |
| 1-5 people | 23 | 12 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| 6-10 people | 9 | 0 | 7 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 11-25 people | 9 | 3 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| More than 25 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Mean | 10.8 | 3.8 | 3.5 | 1.0 | 0.8 | 1.8 |

Most of these businesses tend to staff full time employees during their off-peak than they do part time employees. The majority of businesses employ 1-5 people, who are either part or full time (50.4\%). Less than one in twenty of these businesses will employ more than 25 people.

## Question 7a: How many hours per week does a person that you employ work during the peak season?

| Average Full Time Hours During Peak Season (Number of Respondents by Ran |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Total | Lodging | Restaurant | Retail | Outdoor/ <br> Trail <br> Business | Other |
| Responses: | $\mathbf{6 1}$ | $\mathbf{1 7}$ | $\mathbf{1 7}$ | $\mathbf{9}$ | $\mathbf{8}$ | $\mathbf{1 0}$ |
| 15 hours or less | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| $16-30$ hours | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| $31-40$ hours | 42 | 6 | 16 | 6 | 5 | 9 |
| More than 40 hours | 14 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| Mean | 19.7 | 4.7 | 6.3 | 3.0 | 2.3 | 3.3 |

In the peak season the average hours worked by full time employees was 19.7. No employees worked less than 15 hours that was employed at full time. The majority of employees worked between 31 to 40 hours.

Average Part Time Hours During Peak Season (Number of Respondents by Range)

|  |  |  |  |  | Outdoor/ Trail <br> Business | Other |
| ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Responses: | $\mathbf{6 2}$ | $\mathbf{2 2}$ | $\mathbf{1 8}$ | $\mathbf{7}$ | $\mathbf{6}$ | $\mathbf{9}$ |
| 15 hours or less | 15 | 12 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| $16-30$ hours | 39 | 5 | 17 | 5 | 4 | 8 |
| $31-40$ hours | 6 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 1 |
| More than 40 hours | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Mean | 15.3 | 5.3 | 4.5 | 1.8 | 1.5 | 2.3 |

For part time hours that average was 15.3 hours, but majority worked no more than 30 hours.

## Question 7b: How many hours per week does a person that you employ work during the off season?

## Average Full Time Hours During Off-Peak (Number of Respondents by Range)

|  | Total | Lodging | Restaurant | Retail | Outdoor/ Trail Business | Other |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Responses: | 58 | 15 | 15 | 9 | 8 | 11 |
| 15 hours or less | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 16-30 hours | 8 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 0 |
| 31-40 hours | 32 | 7 | 11 | 5 | 1 | 8 |
| More than 40 hours | 9 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| Mean | 12.8 | 3.0 | 3.8 | 2.3 | 1.5 | 2.3 |


| Average Part Time Hours During Off-Peak (Number of Respondents by Range) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  | Outdoor/ <br> Trail <br> Business | Other |
|  | Total | Lodging | Restaurant | Retail | $\mathbf{1 4}$ | $\mathbf{5}$ |
|  | $\mathbf{5 2}$ | $\mathbf{1 7}$ | $\mathbf{1 4}$ | $\mathbf{7}$ |  |  |
|  | 13 | 8 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 1 |
|  | 24 | 3 | 12 | 3 | 1 | 5 |
|  | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| More than 40 hours | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Mean | 10.0 | 3.0 | 3.5 | 1.0 | 0.8 | 1.8 |

Full-time employees on average worked 14.8 hours per week during peak sales months, and 12.8 hours per week during off-peak sales months. Additionally, part-time employees worked an average of 15.3 hours per week during peak sales months, and 10.0 hours during off-peak sales months.

Generally speaking, part-time employees working for either restaurants or lodging worked longer hours on average than did those working in any of the other business types.

Question 8: Do you plan to expand your business?


| Business Expansions by County (Number of Respondents) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Total | Allegheny, <br> PA | Westmoreland, <br> PA | Fayette, <br> PA | Somerset, <br> PA | Allegany, <br> MD |
| Responses | $\mathbf{8 0}$ | $\mathbf{8}$ | $\mathbf{6}$ | $\mathbf{1 9}$ | $\mathbf{3 3}$ | $\mathbf{2 2}$ |
| Expand | 30 | 3 | 3 | 9 | 8 | 7 |
| Not Expand | 47 | 4 | 3 | 9 | 24 | 15 |
| Unknown | 3 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |

Business Expansions by Type (Number of Respondents)

|  |  |  |  |  | Outdoor <br> / Trail <br>  |  |
| ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Total | Lodging | Restaurant | Retail | Business | Other |
| Responses | $\mathbf{8 9}$ | $\mathbf{3 3}$ | $\mathbf{2 2}$ | $\mathbf{1 2}$ | $\mathbf{9}$ | $\mathbf{1 4}$ |
| Expand | 30 | 11 | 10 | 3 | 4 | 2 |
| Not Expand | 47 | 22 | 12 | 9 | 5 | 12 |
| Unknown | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Most businesses did not plan to expand. Of those that did, the majority were in the lodging and restaurant businesses.

## Question 8a: If yes, did the Trail have an impact on this decisions?

Trail Impacts by County (Number of Respondents)

|  | Total | Allegheny, <br> PA | Westmoreland, <br> PA | Fayette, <br> PA | Somerset, <br> PA | Allegany, <br> MD |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Responses | $\mathbf{3 0}$ | $\mathbf{3}$ | $\mathbf{3}$ | $\mathbf{9}$ | $\mathbf{8}$ | $\mathbf{7}$ |
| Trail Affected | 14 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 4 |
| Not Affected | 12 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 2 | 3 |
| Unknown | 4 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 |

Trail Impacts by Type of Business (Number of Respondents)

|  |  |  |  |  | Outdoor <br> / Trail <br>  | Business |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | Other | Responses | $\mathbf{3 0}$ | $\mathbf{1 1}$ | $\mathbf{1 0}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathbf{4 0}$ | Redging | Restaurant | Retail |
| Trail Affected | 14 | 7 | 4 |
| 0 | 3 | 0 |  |
| Not Affected | 12 | 4 | 4 |
| 1 | 1 | 2 |  |
| Unknown | 4 | 0 | 2 |
| 2 | 0 | 0 |  |

About half of the businesses said that the trail affected their decision to expand.

## Question 9: Approximately what were the annual gross revenue figures for this business location?

Annual Gross Revenue 2010 by County (Number of Respondents by Range)

|  | Total | Allegheny, <br> PA | Westmoreland, <br> PA | Fayette, <br> PA | Somerset, <br> PA | Allegany, <br> MD |
| ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Responses: | $\mathbf{8 4}$ | $\mathbf{8}$ | $\mathbf{6}$ | $\mathbf{1 8}$ | $\mathbf{3 0}$ | $\mathbf{2 2}$ |
| Less than \$50K | 12 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 8 | 1 |
| $\$ 50 \mathrm{~K}-\$ 149 \mathrm{~K}$ | 8 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 1 |
| \$150K - \$249K | 7 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 1 |
| More than \$250K | 19 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 6 |
| Refused/don't <br> know | 38 | 3 | 3 |  |  |  |
| Mean (dollars) | $\$ 750,697$ | $\$ 1,450,200$ | $\$ 449,231$ | $\$ 768,549$ | $\$ 351,618$ | $\$ 733,889$ |

Of the businesses providing annual gross revenue information, the average gross revenue was approximately $\$ 751,000$ for 2010 and $\$ 3.4$ million for 2011, though there was a wide range of 2012 Trail Town Survey Center for Regional Progress Frostburg State University May, 2012 Page 13
values across the five county regions. This same pattern was seen for 2010 and 2011. The firms may have had more ready information for 2011 than for 2010 but several counties experienced a significant rise in the average gross revenue.

## Annual Gross Revenue 2011 by County (Number of Respondents by Range)

|  | Total | Allegheny, <br> PA | Westmoreland, <br> PA | Fayette, <br> PA | Somerset, <br> PA | Allegany, <br> MD |
| ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Responses: | $\mathbf{8 5}$ | $\mathbf{8}$ | $\mathbf{6}$ | $\mathbf{1 8}$ | $\mathbf{3 1}$ | $\mathbf{2 2}$ |
| Less than \$50K | 16 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 8 | 2 |
| \$50K - \$149K | 9 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 0 |
| \$150K - \$249K | 9 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 2 |
| More than \$250K | 20 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 7 |
| Refused/don't know | 31 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 9 | 11 |
| Mean (dollars) | $\$ 3,454,494$ | $\$ 1,558,000$ | $\$ 418,653$ | $\$ 663,557$ | $\$ 349,094$ | $\$ 14,283,164$ |

Gross Revenue 2010 and 2011 by County (\$)

|  | Total | Allegheny, <br> PA | Westmoreland, <br> PA | Fayette, <br> PA | Somerset, <br> PA | Allegany, <br> MD |
| ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Responses: | $\mathbf{4 5}$ | $\mathbf{5}$ | $\mathbf{3}$ | $\mathbf{9}$ | $\mathbf{1 9}$ | $\mathbf{9}$ |
| 2010 gross revenue | $\$ 647,533$ | $\$ 1,450,200$ | $\$ 449,231$ | $\$ 768,549$ | $\$ 369,388$ | $\$ 733,889$ |
| 2011 gross revenue | $\$ 705,519$ | $\$ 1,558,000$ | $\$ 531,537$ | $\$ 879,598$ | $\$ 388,241$ | $\$ 785,644$ |
| $\%$ difference | $9.0 \%$ | $7.4 \%$ | $18.3 \%$ | $14.4 \%$ | $5.1 \%$ | $7.1 \%$ |

Annual Gross Revenue 2010 by Business Type (Number of Respondents by Range)

|  |  |  |  |  | Outdoor <br> / Trail <br> Business | Other |
| ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Responses: | $\mathbf{8 5}$ | $\mathbf{3 0}$ | $\mathbf{2 1}$ | $\mathbf{1 2}$ | $\mathbf{8}$ | $\mathbf{1 4}$ |
| Less than \$50K | 12 | 10 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| \$50K - \$149K | 8 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| \$150K - \$249K | 7 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| More than \$250K | 20 | 7 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 3 |
| Refused/don't know | 38 | 9 | 11 | 8 | 0 | 10 |
| Mean (dollars) | $\$ 1,534,954$ | $\$ 4,730,078$ | $\$ 429,262$ | $\$ 242,250$ | $\$ 307,368$ | $\$ 1,965,812$ |

Annual Gross Revenue 2011 by Business Type (Number of Respondents by Range)

|  | Total | Lodging | Restaurant | Retail | Outdoor/ <br> Trail <br> Business | Other |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Responses: | 86 | 31 | 21 | 12 | 8 | 14 |
| Less than \$50K | 16 | 11 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 0 |
| \$50K - \$149K | 9 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| \$150K - \$249K | 9 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| More than \$250K | 21 | 7 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 3 |
| Refused/don't know | 31 | 8 | 9 | 4 | 0 | 10 |
| Mean (dollars) | \$5,258,056 | \$4,581,077 | \$413,468 | \$18,874,475 | \$303,735 | \$2,117,526 |

Annual Gross Revenue 2010 and 2011 by Business Type (\$)

|  | Total | Lodging | Restaurant | Retail | Outdoor/Trail <br> Business | Other |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Responses: | $\mathbf{4 6}$ | $\mathbf{2 0}$ | $\mathbf{1 0}$ | $\mathbf{4}$ | $\mathbf{8}$ | $\mathbf{4}$ |
| 2010 gross <br> revenue | $\$ 1,751,648$ | $\$ 4,928,806$ | $\$ 427,169$ | $\$ 242,250$ | $\$ 307,368$ | $\$ 1,965,812$ |
| 2011 gross <br> revenue | $\$ 1,866,633$ | $\$ 5,263,799$ | $\$ 465,161$ | $\$ 230,200$ | $\$ 303,735$ | $\$ 2,117,526$ |
| \% difference | $6.6 \%$ | $6.8 \%$ | $8.9 \%$ | $-5.0 \%$ | $-1.2 \%$ | $7.7 \%$ |

When looking at the businesses by type all but two types had experienced an increase in revenue from 2010 to 2011. Retail showed the highest decrease in revenue, but was still very close to the numbers of the previous year.

## Trail Related Revenue as a Percent of Gross Revenue



Estimated Range of Gross Revenue from Trail by Location
(Number of Respondents by Range)

|  |  | Allegheny, | Westmoreland, <br> PA | Fayette, <br> PA | Somerset, <br> PA | Allegany, <br> MD |
| ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Responses (number): | $\mathbf{8 0}$ | $\mathbf{8}$ | $\mathbf{6}$ | $\mathbf{1 9}$ | 33 | $\mathbf{2 2}$ |
| None | 9 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 6 |
| Less than $5 \%$ | 14 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 6 |
| $5 \%-10 \%$ | 11 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 4 |
| $11 \%-50 \%$ | 16 | 0 | 2 | 8 | 6 | 3 |
| $51 \%-100 \%$ | 17 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 14 | 2 |
| Refused/don't know | 13 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 1 |
| Mean (percentage) | $30.6 \%$ | $17.0 \%$ | $46.0 \%$ | $35.0 \%$ | $48.0 \%$ | $14.0 \%$ |

There was a wide variation in the percentage of gross revenue attributed to the trail. Some locations may serve more trail users exclusively, while other locations may serve a larger proportion of local patrons. On average about 30 percent of gross revenues were attributed to the trail.

## Gross Revenue from Trail by Type of Business



Estimated Range of Gross Revenue from Trail (Number of Respondents by Range)

|  |  |  |  | Outdoor/ <br> Trail | Other |  |
| ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Total | Lodging | Restaurant | Retail | Business | Othes: |
| Responses: | $\mathbf{9 0}$ | $\mathbf{3 3}$ | $\mathbf{2 2}$ | $\mathbf{1 2}$ | $\mathbf{9}$ | $\mathbf{1 4}$ |
| None | 9 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Less than $5 \%$ | 14 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| $5 \%-10 \%$ | 11 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| $11 \%-50 \%$ | 20 | 7 | 7 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| $51 \%-100 \%$ | 23 | 12 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 1 |
| Refused/don't know | 13 | 2 | 5 | 2 | 0 | 4 |
| Mean (percentage) | $32.2 \%$ | $42.0 \%$ | $25.0 \%$ | $27.0 \%$ | $53.0 \%$ | $14.0 \%$ |

Of the business that responded outdoor/trail businesses and lodging have revenues that are the most effected by the trail usage.

Trail Location Revenue by County

|  | Overall | Allegheny, <br> PA | Westmoreland, <br> PA | Fayette, PA | Somerset, <br> PA | Allegany, <br> MD |
| ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Mean percentage of revenue <br> associated with the trail per <br> establishment | $30.6 \%$ | $17.0 \%$ | $46.0 \%$ | $35.0 \%$ | $48.0 \%$ | $14.0 \%$ |
| x Mean gross revenue <br> (dollars) per establishment | $\$ 3,454,494$ | $\$ 1,558,000$ | $\$ 418,653$ | $\$ 663,557$ | $\$ 349,094$ | $\$ 14,283,164$ |
| = dollars associated with <br> Trail Activity per <br> establishment | $\$ 1,057,075$ | $\$ 264,860$ | $\$ 192,580$ | $\$ 232,245$ | $\$ 167,565$ | $\$ 1,999,643$ |

Trail Location Revenue by Business Type

|  | Overall | Lodging | Restaurant | Retail | Outdoor/ <br> Trail <br> Business | Other |
| ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Mean percentage of revenue <br> associated with the trail per <br> establishment | $32.2 \%$ | $42.0 \%$ | $25.0 \%$ | $27.0 \%$ | $53.0 \%$ | $14.0 \%$ |
| x Mean gross revenue <br> (dollars) per establishment | $\$ 5,258,056$ | $\$ 4,581,077$ | $\$ 413,468$ | $\$ 18,874,475$ | $\$ 303,735$ | $\$ 2,117,526$ |
| = dollars associated with <br> Trail Activity per <br> establishment | $\$ 1,693,094$ | $\$ 1,924,052$ | $\$ 103,367$ | $\$ 5,096,108$ | $\$ 160,980$ | $\$ 296,454$ |

The trail has a positive effect on each county and business type by the revenue that it brings to the area that without the trail would not be occurring.

## Question 11: What percent of your 2011 annual revenue would you estimate was generated through the indicated activities?

Percent of Gross Revenue

|  | Rentals | Repairs | Sales | Supplies | Other |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Number of Responding Businesses | 31 | 9 | 41 | 5 | 5 |
| Percentage of Annual Revenue | $74 \%$ | $41 \%$ | $84 \%$ | $26 \%$ | $40 \%$ |
| Responding businesses with more than 75\% <br> annual revenue from activity | 23 |  | 33 |  |  |

1. What is the zip code of your business?
2. What is the primary classification of your business?
[ ] Bike rentals/repairs/sales/supplies
[ ] Campgrounds
[ ] Convenience/grocery store
[ ] Hotel/motel/B\&B
[ ] Outdoor recreation/outfitter
[ ] Pharmacy/drug store
[ ] Restaurant/tavern/café/ice cream shop
[ ] Retail/gift/specialty store
[ ] Transportation/shuttling
[ ] Other
3. How long have you been in business in this location?
$\qquad$ years $\qquad$ months
4. What months of the year do you consider to be your...? Circle the months.
a) Peak season months:

| Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |

b) Off-peak season months:

| Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |

5. Is your business closed for more than 2 weeks in any given month during the year?
[ ] No
[ ] Yes
If yes, which months? Circle the months.

| Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |

6. How many persons, including yourself if appropriate, do you employ during...?
a) Peak season: full-time $\qquad$
part-time $\qquad$
b) Off-peak season:
full-time part-time
7. On average, how many hours per week does a person that you employ work during...?
a) Peak season: full-time $\qquad$ part-time $\qquad$
b) Off-peak season: full-time $\qquad$ part-time $\qquad$
8. Do you plan to expand your business?
[ ] Yes [ ] No
If yes, did the trail impact this decision?
[ ] Yes
[ ] No
9. Approximately what were the annual gross revenue figures for this business location? 2010: \$
2011:
\$
10. What percent of your annual business would you estimate to be attributable to the trail?

11. What percent of your 2011 annual revenue would you estimate was generated through:

| Rentals?: ___\% | Repairs?: ___ |
| :---: | :---: |
| Sales?: ___ \% | Supplies?: ___\% |
| Other?: __\% |  |

12. Please explain any other actions that you have taken to attract and/or cater to trail users.
13. Please provide any comments related to the economic environment of your community, the impact of the trail, and/or the trail itself.
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
Optional: If you would like a copy of the key findings of this study, please provide your email address below.
