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# UNDERSTANDING VISITORS TO BROWN v BOARD OF EDUCATION NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

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## RESEARCH TO SUPPORT MANAGEMENT DECISIONS AT BROWN V BOARD OF EDUCATION NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

**Ryan Sharp, PhD**

**Brooke Mechels** ----- Kansas State University – Park Management and Conservation

**Michael Brunson, M.A.**

**KANSAS STATE**  
UNIVERSITY | Park Management  
and Conservation



## **Research to support management decisions at Brown v Board of Education National Historic Site**

### ABSTRACT

Social interactions and interpretation may impact the visitor experience at cultural and historic sites and alternatively, may impact the local economy. With an increased use of parks, protected areas, and historical/cultural sites, understanding the social impacts of this increased use, is of critical importance in order to maintain the value of Brown v Board of Education and parks like it. This study was designed to collect data about levels, types, patterns, and impacts of visitor experience at Brown v Board of Education in Kansas, and thus, help inform the ongoing and future planning process.

Prepared by faculty and staff in the Park Management and Conservation program at Kansas State University.

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Photos by Ryan L. Sharp

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Brown v Board of Education National Historic Site (BRVB) is located at the Monroe Elementary School in Topeka, KS. Monroe Elementary was chosen due to its significance in to the Brown v Board of Education Supreme Court case in 1954 and stands as an important historic and educational landmark. Visitors are attracted to BRVB to enhance their understanding, education, and appreciation of the history of the site. This study was conducted to provide managers at BRVB with a clear understanding of how visitors understand and use Brown v Board of Education National Historic Site. Research staff approached visitors (not including school groups) at the entrance of the school from May to October of 2017.

### **Major findings include:**

- 62% of visitors come to BRVB with their family
- 61% of visitors stated that BRVB was one of multiple other destinations on their trip away from home
- The majority of visitors do not visit any other historical site(s) in the Topeka area
- 62% of visitors stay an average of 1-2 hours at BRVB
- 70% of visitors were visiting BRVB for their first time
- Visitors did not feel crowded when visiting BRVB
- 64% of visitors had visited other NPS sites across the country within the last 12 months
- Learning about US history and learning about other cultures were the most important aspects of visiting BRVB
- Gaining a sense of self-confidence, meeting other people, and getting away from the usual demands of life were the least important aspects of visiting BRVB

- Parking spaces and signage to find the park in town were the most important facilities noted by visitors
- Aside from the walkway from the parking lot to the main entrance, the majority of visitors were *at least* very satisfied with the rest of the facilities provided at BRVB
- Visitors placed great importance on the helpfulness of staff at BRVB, and the large majority were *at least* very satisfied with the current conditions of staff at BRVB
- Classrooms for education programs and more opportunities for interacting with rangers were the most highly supported potential services
- The majority of visitors reported strong disagreement regarding any potential barriers to visiting BRVB
- The Brown v Board website, along with the National Parks website, were the leading sources of information for visitors
- More than half of respondents stayed at least one night in the Topeka area (66%)
- 70% of those visitors who stayed at least one night in the Topeka area stayed at a hotel, inn, or bed and breakfast
- The overall mean expenditure reported by visitors for their trip was \$43.07 with a median response of \$13.00
- Visitors spent the greatest amount on gas/transportation and food/meals/drinks during their trip to BRVB
- Over half of visitors were female (64%)
- The mean age of visitors was 47 years old
- 76% of visitors identified as white

- Visitors were highly educated, with 84% reporting achieving a bachelor's degree or higher
- Just over half of the visitors reported being employed full-time (57%), with another 15% reporting being retired, and 10% being students
- An average household income of \$75,001 - \$100,000 was the most reported (17.49%), followed closely by \$25,001 - \$50,000 (16.5%), and \$50,001 - \$75,000 (15.8%)
- The vast majority of visitors reported being from outside the Topeka area (93%), with only 7% reporting living in Topeka

## **INTRODUCTION, STUDY PURPOSE AND IMPORTANCE**

Protected area management occurs in a complicated environment that bridges social, cultural and environmental factors (Manning & Anderson, 2012). While scientists and managers usually make decisions based on scientific evidence, visitors and stakeholders often respond to issues based on emotional attachments (Rikoon, 2006). Consequently, identifying visitors' perceptions and attitudes towards current issues or potential management action is critical to anticipate public response and decrease opportunities for conflict. Managers' new knowledge of visitors' opinions provided by this research can directly inform the design of interpretation and public outreach in a very intentional and prescriptive manner. Interpretation and outreach is about conveying historical knowledge and an understanding of context and significance, and helping visitors relate history to their lives and experiences which can then be used to influence beliefs, attitudes, and social norms. Addressing and influencing these elements through interpretation can ultimately alter stakeholders' acceptance of management policies (Absher et al., 2008; Sharp et al., 2012). The selection of on-site visitors will provide managers with insight into those who are already coming to the park. This will allow managers to understand what is currently working, what is not and what demands are not being met by the everyday visitor.

Park visitors represent critical stakeholders who may contribute positively or negatively to the management at Brown v Board of Education National Historic Site (BRVB). A fundamental step in managing parks and providing high quality experiences, is identifying peoples' opinions of important resources and management actions (Manning, 2011). Also, among the primary goals for any park are providing for public enjoyment and high-quality visitor experiences. Visitors are attracted to parks, and specifically BRVB to enhance their

understanding, education, and appreciation of the history of the site. Managers success can be attributed to their proactive approach to understand what visitors want, what can be accommodated and how to reach new audiences. This research project supports this proactive approach not only by addressing current issues and understanding at BRVB, but the information reported here will also provide a baseline to help managers confidently tackle future issue or opportunities that will inevitably arise. Ultimately, the information gathered through this project aims to assist managers in avoiding pitfalls encountered at other similar areas due in part to a lack of information.

The overall goal of this study was to provide managers with a clear understanding of how visitors understand and use BRVB. This project addressed five main objectives tailored to the management environment at BRVB:

1. To identify visitors' knowledge of and attitudes towards BRVB
2. To identify attitudes towards current, proposed, or potential management actions
3. To identify and characterize specific subgroups of stakeholders that hold different preferences for management
4. To inform current and potential interpretation and outreach methods regarding management at BRVB
5. To identify demographic characteristics of visitors to BRVB

## STUDY METHODS

The study incorporated a quantitative survey to understand park visitors understanding of BRVB. Previously developed scales (validated in the peer-review literature) were included in the questionnaire and manager input helped with the modification and contextualization of the measurements. As a result, the questionnaire developed was context specific to BRVB and reliable and defensible based on psychometric testing in other protected area settings. Second, the developed questionnaire was reviewed by BRVB management, pilot tested with BRVB visitors (including statistical tests for reliability and validity), and adjusted appropriately.

The investigators used a stratified randomized probability sampling approach (Vaske, 2008). Sampling times, and intercept methods were determined in consultation with BRVB managers but selected in a manner to ensure that the resulting sample is statistically and conceptually representative of the populations of interest. The Dillman Tailored Design Method was used for the internet based surveys (Dillman, Smyth, & Christian, 2014). Research staff approached visitors at the entrance of the school from May to October of 2017, explained the study and asked them if they would be willing to participate (Figure 1).



*Figure 1. Sampling Location*

Those who gave their consent provided their email address on a tablet computer (e.g. iPad) in order to be contacted a week after their visit. This method was chosen to ensure that

visitors had a complete experience at BRVB and in the Topeka area (economic data was collected for visitor's complete trip to the area). There was an onsite response rate of 94% (530 total emails collected), or in other words, 94% of those asked to provide their email address agreed to do so. Visitor's emails were entered into Qualtrics (an online survey platform) and an email was sent to them 1-week after their visit to the park. The follow message was sent that included a link that would direct visitors to the online survey:

**Hello Visitor,**

**This is a reminder that you were contacted by a Kansas State University researcher on site at Brown v Board of Education National Historic Site a week ago. During that time, you gave your email address to a research assistant and have been awaiting the survey to be emailed to you within a weeks time. This is that survey! It will take less than 15 minutes for you to complete. Thank you, we appreciate your responses and time!**

Automated reminders were set up in Qualtrics to be sent to those visitors who had not completed the survey at two and three weeks after their visit to the park, thus giving visitors three opportunities to complete the survey. A total of 530 surveys were sent out through Qualtrics to emails provided by visitors, and of those, 34 emails bounced back as undeliverable, thus producing 496 possible survey participants. Of those who were sent the survey, the response rate was 67%, yielding 330 useable surveys. This response rate is much higher than a typical online survey (Shih & Fan, 2009), providing a good deal of confidence in the results. However, this may be likely to the on-site contact and follow up email method, which personalizes the interaction.

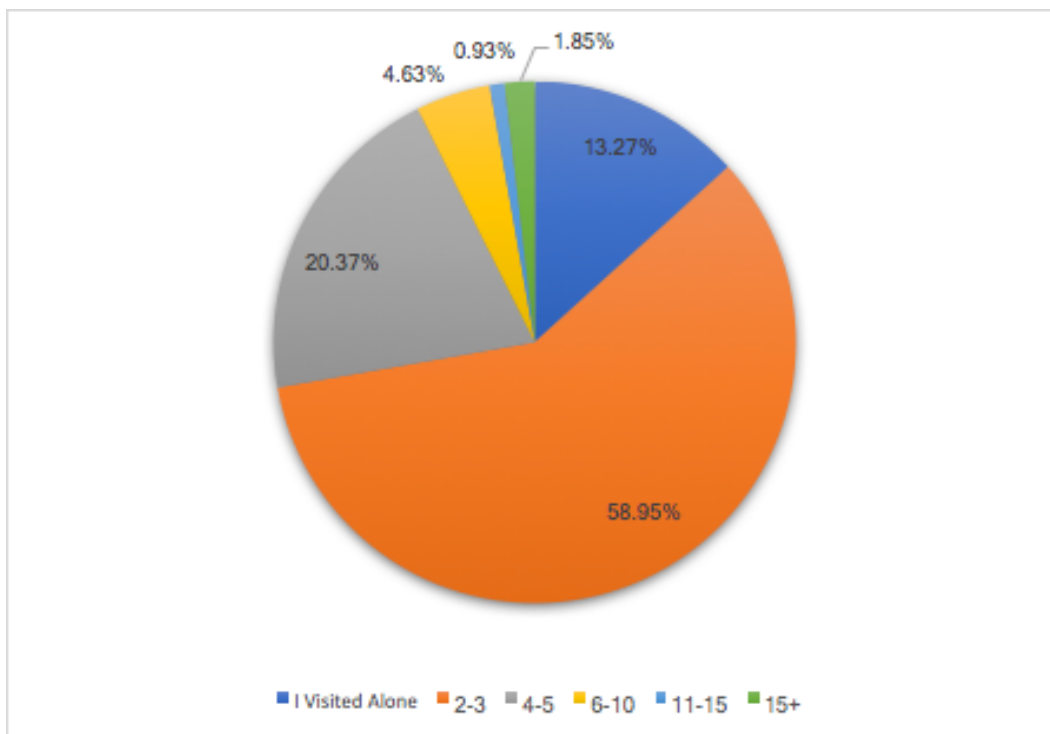
During initial analysis, standard calculations for leverage, kurtosis, and skewness (measures of distribution) were used to identify statistical outliers and to verify univariate and multivariate normality of the data. Frequency and descriptive statistical analysis specific to this



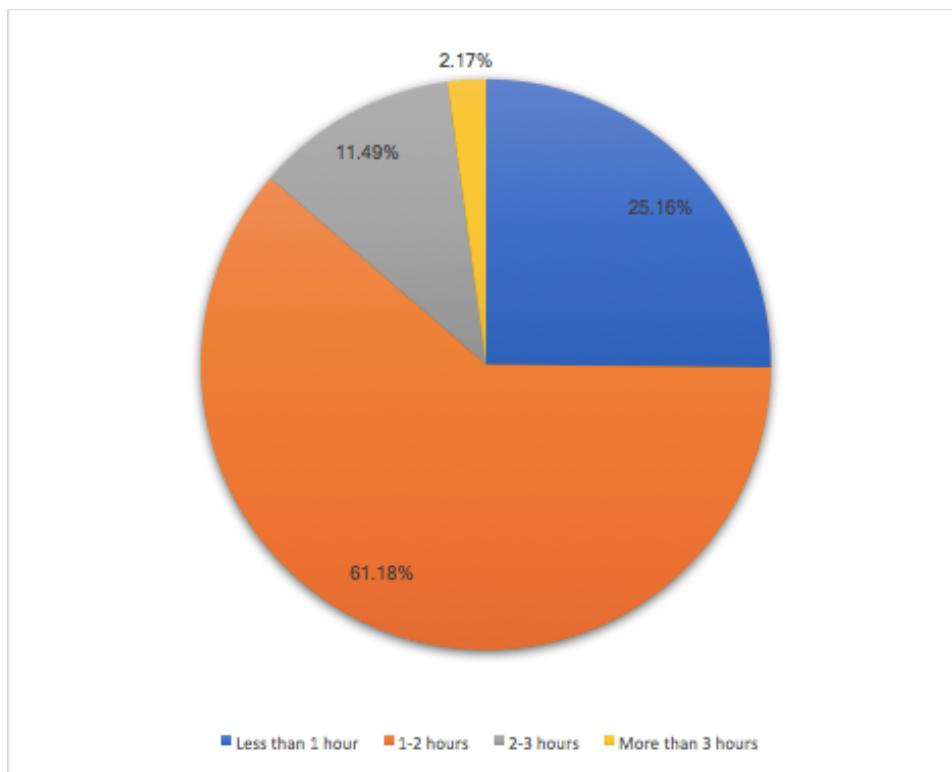
project's research questions and project objectives were addressed using SPSS 23.0 statistical software.

## SURVEY RESULTS

Overall, visitors surveyed reported satisfaction with their visit to BRVB, with 46% reporting being *very satisfied* and 34% being *extremely satisfied*. People tended to visit BRVB in groups as over three-quarters reported visiting with two or more people (Figure 2). Only 13% of visitors reported visiting alone. Over half of respondents reported visiting with their family (62%) and educational reasons were cited as the main purpose of their visit (72%). The majority of visitors surveyed stayed at BRVB for one to two hours (61%) (Figure 3), with 81% reporting that this was their first and only visit to the park (range = 1-30). Crowding at BRVB was not an issue among respondents. When asked on a seven-point scale how crowded they felt, 1 being *not at all crowded* and 7 being *extremely crowded*, the mean was 1.87 (SD=1.46).

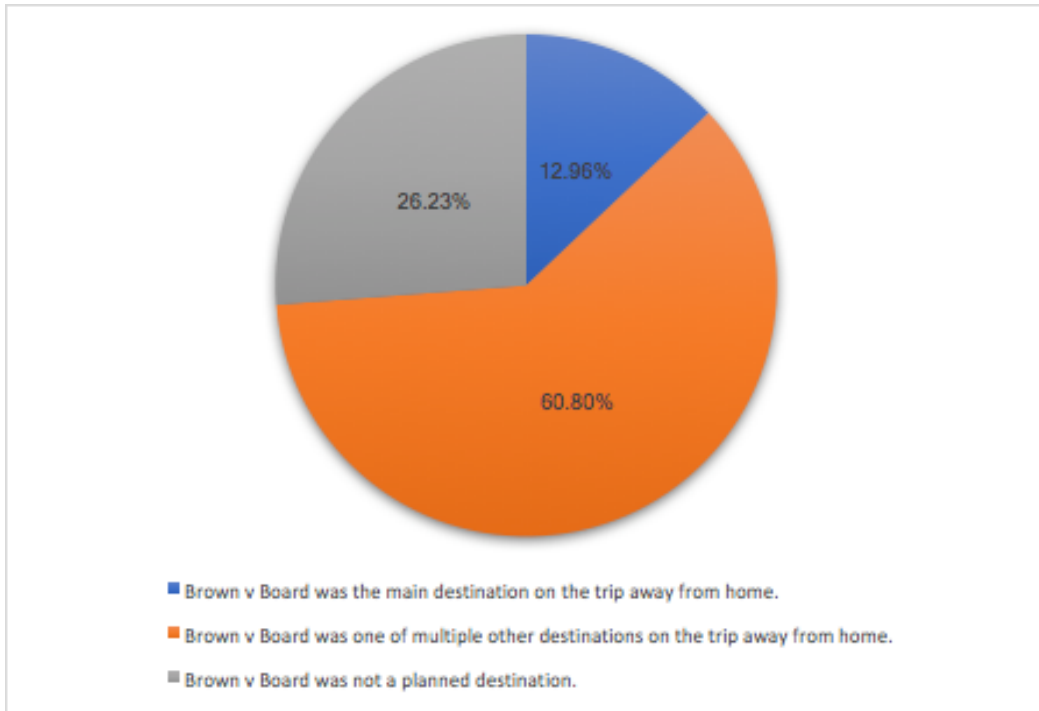


**Figure 2:** Number of People in Each Visiting Group

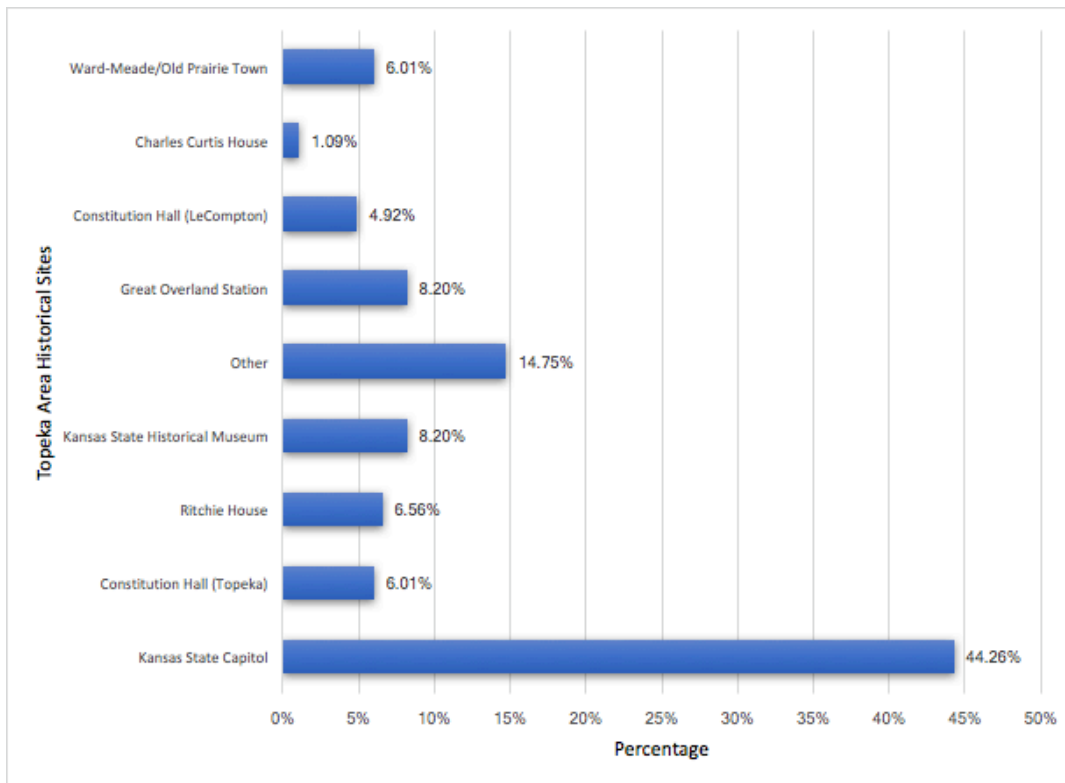


***Figure 3: Hours Visitors Spent at BRVB***

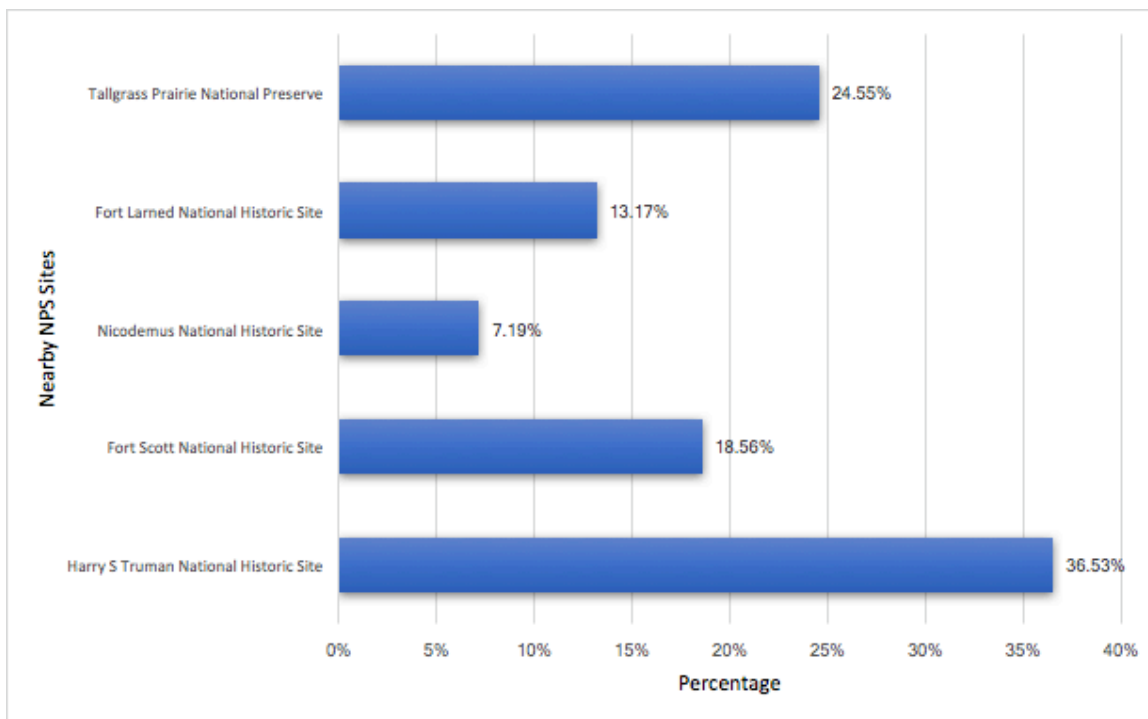
Results showed that BRVB was a stopover point for the majority of visitors, with 61% of respondents stating that BRVB was one of multiple destinations on their trip away from home (Figure 4), with 61% stating that they spent 1-2 hours at the park and an additional 25% spending less than one hour. Despite only 33% of visitors reporting they visited other historical landmarks in the Topeka area (Figure 5), 64% of respondents stated that they have visited other *nearby* National Park sites, as well as others around the country, in the last 12 months (Figure 6). Visitors self-reported visiting NPS sites such as Yellowstone, Grand Canyon, Badlands, a variety of memorials and historic sites, and many reporting “too many to list” (Full list in Appendix A.3).



*Figure 4: Description of Visit to BRVB*

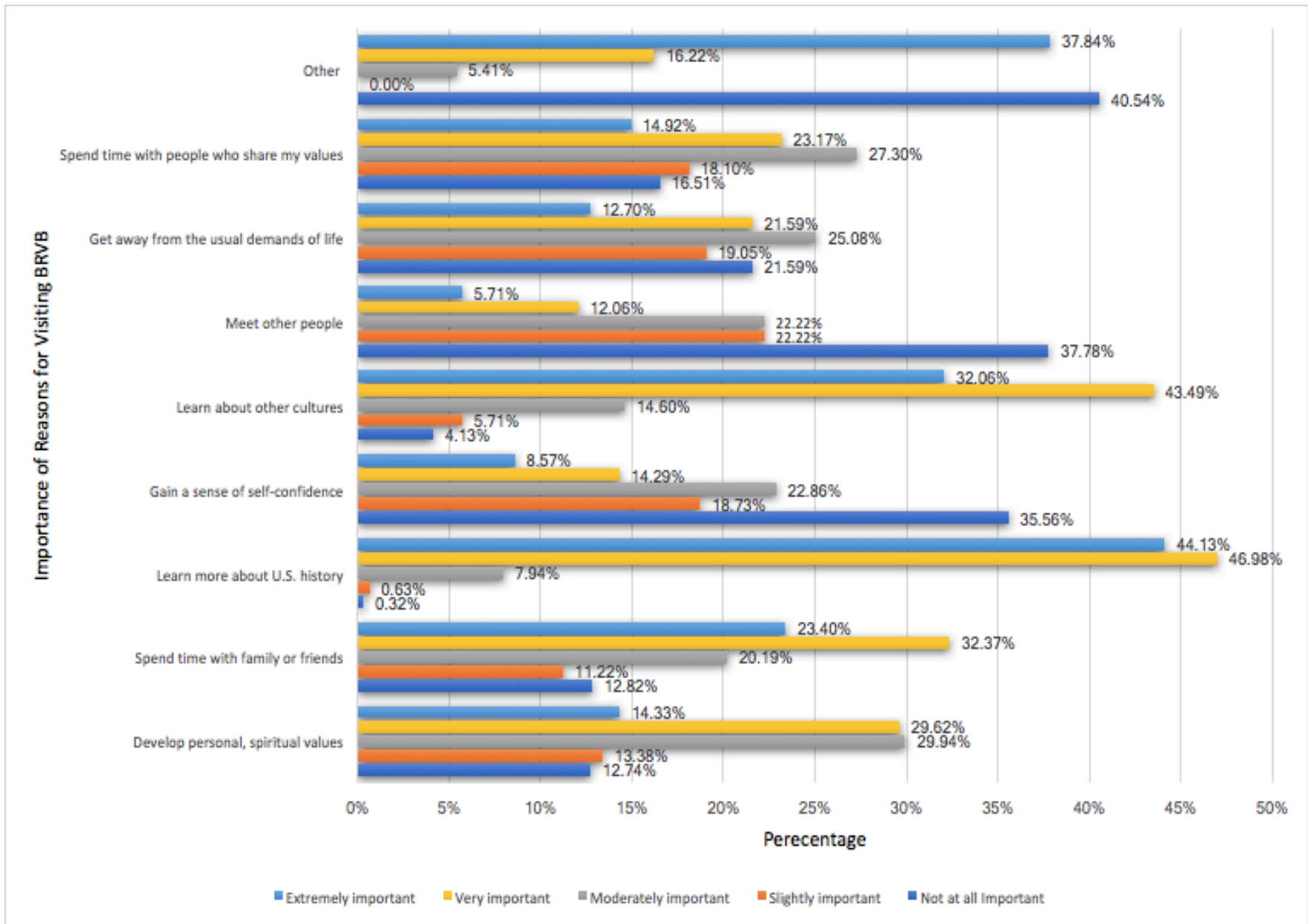


*Figure 5: Other Topeka Area Sites Visited by BRVB Visitors*



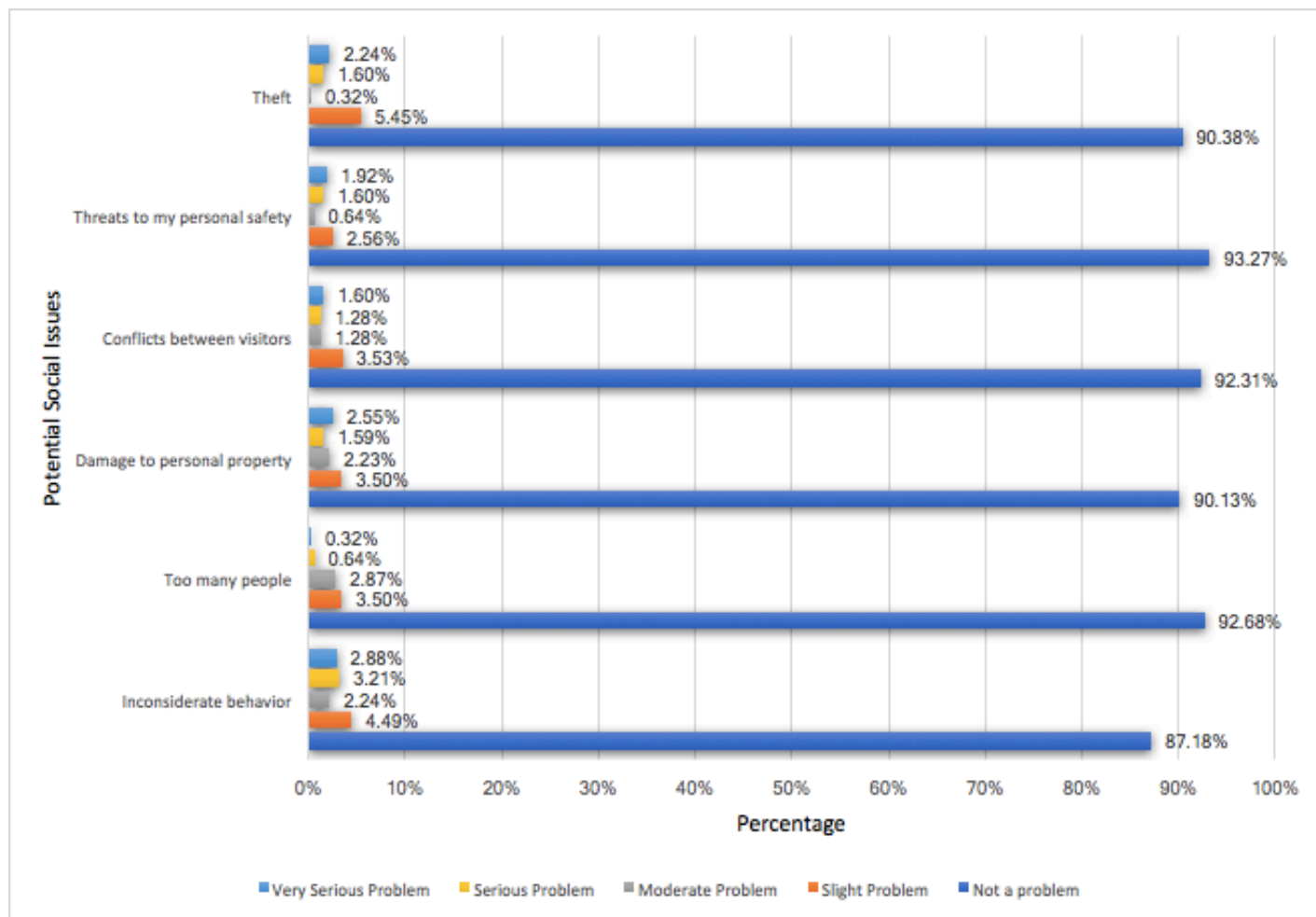
**Figure 6:** *Nearby NPS Sites Visited by BRVB Visitors*

Learning more about U.S. history and learning about other cultures were the most important reasons given by respondents for their visit (Figure 7). A total of 91% and 75%, respectively, of visitors reported these reasons were *very* or *extremely important*. Social issues were not a problem at BRVB, as at least 87% of visitors stated having no problem at all with any social issues (Figure 8). The highest reported issue was inconsiderate behavior, with 3% of respondents stating it as a *very serious problem*.



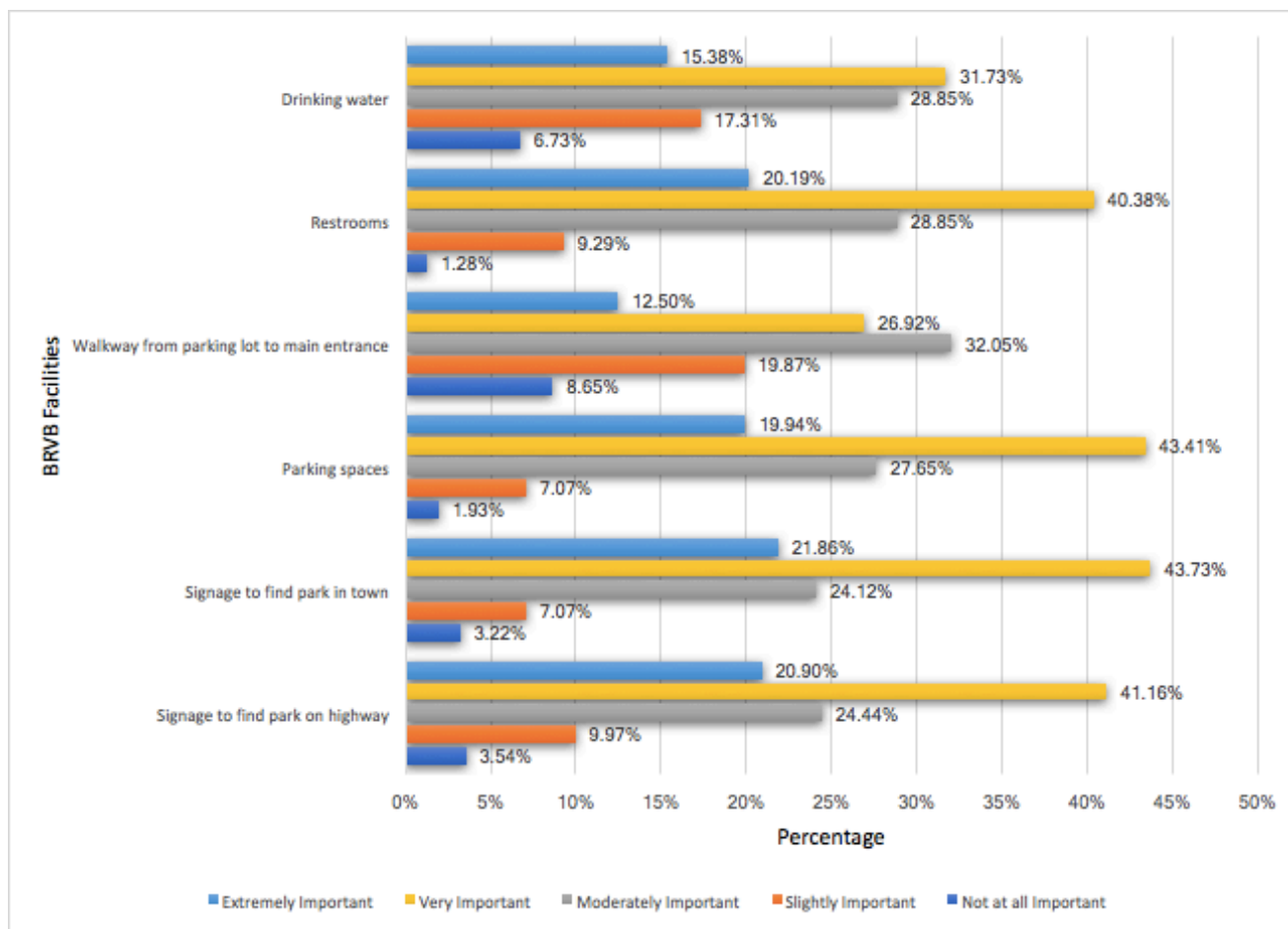
**Figure 7: Visitors' Importance of Reasons to Visit BRVB**

*Understanding visitors to Brown V Board of Education National Historic Site*



**Figure 8: Perceptions of Potential Social Issues at BRVB**

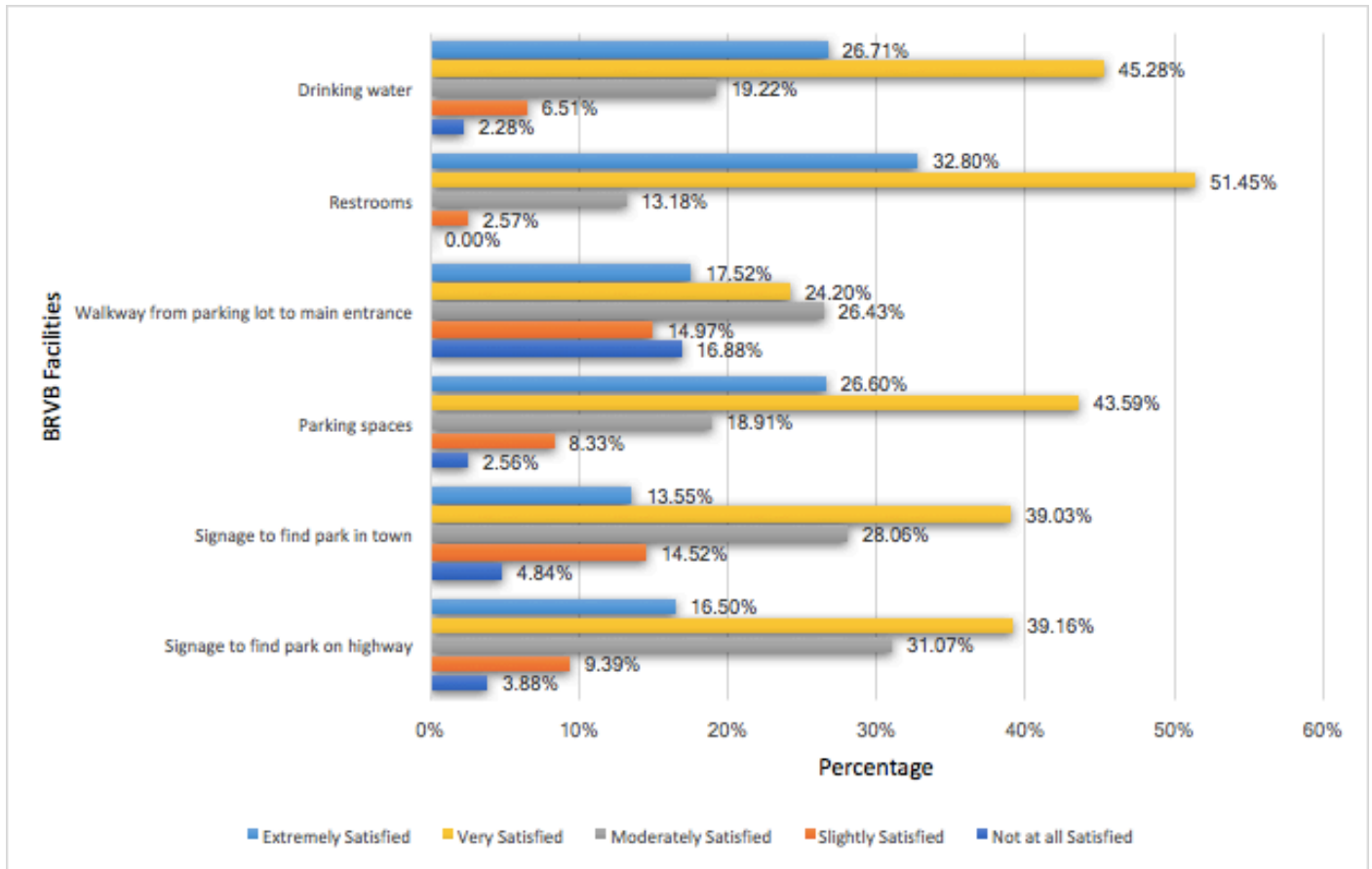
Regarding facilities at BRVB, *signage to find park in town* and *parking spaces* were frequently reported as the most important to visitors (Figure 9). *Restrooms* and *signage to find park on highway* were also listed highly in importance. Over 60% responded that *signage to find the park in town* was either *very important* or *extremely important* and *parking spaces* were *very important* or *extremely important* to 63% of visitors.



**Figure 9: Importance of Facilities at BRVB**

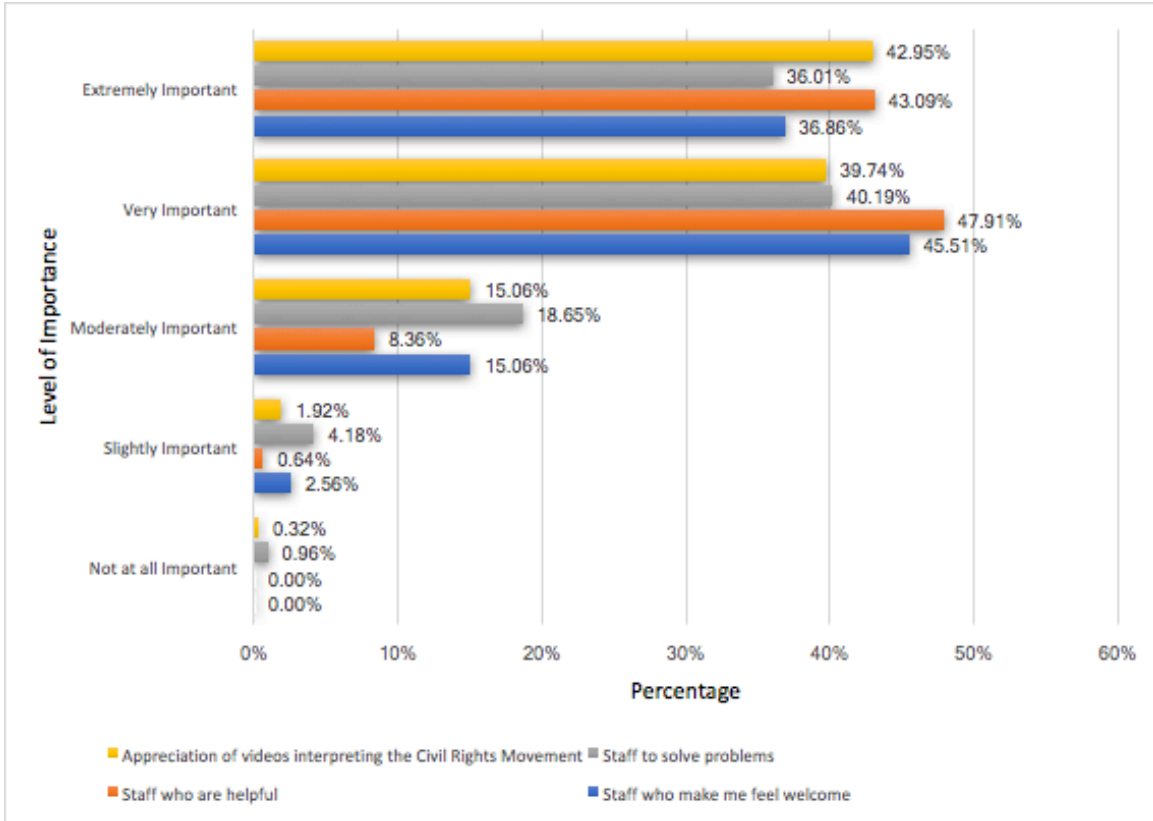
Levels of satisfaction with facilities was high, with the *walkway from parking lot to main entrance* having the lowest percentage of *very to extremely satisfied* visitors (42%) (Figure 10). Those facilities with the highest percentage of *very to extremely satisfied* visitors were restrooms (84%), drinking water (72%), and parking spaces (71%).



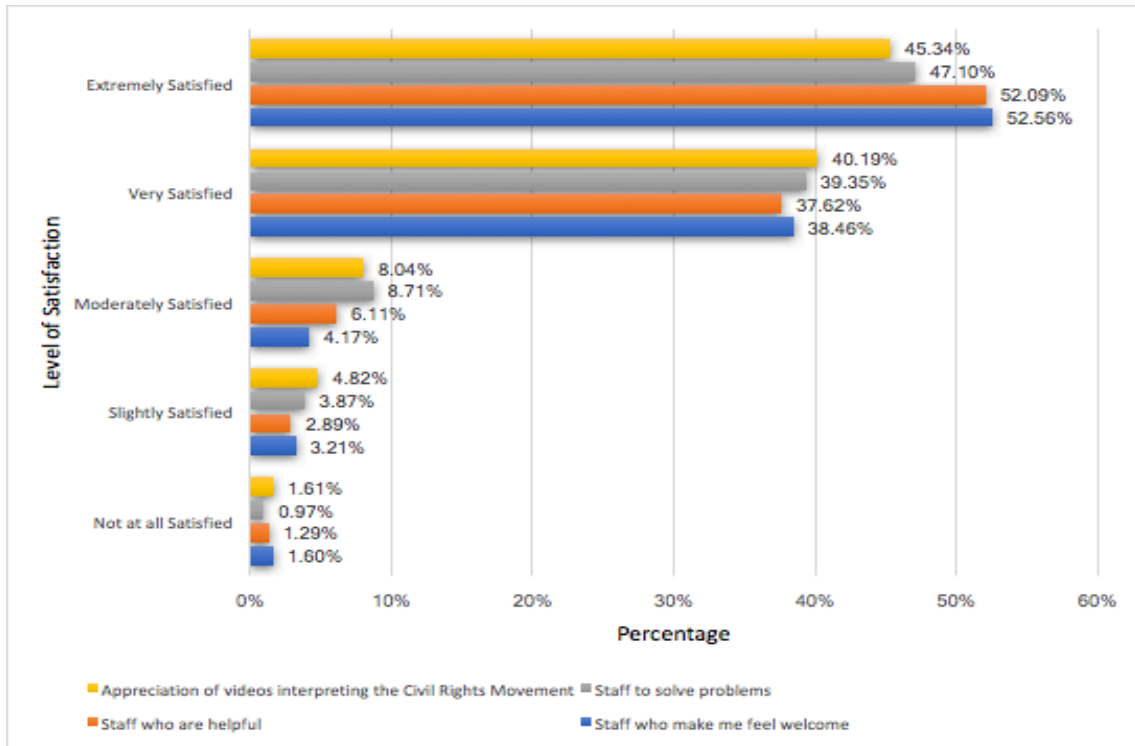


**Figure 10: Visitor Satisfaction with Facilities at BRVB**

When asked about programs and services at BRVB, respondents placed the highest importance on *staff who are helpful*, with 91% stating that aspect as *very* or *extremely important*. This was followed by *staff who make me feel welcome* and *appreciation of videos interpreting the Civil Rights Movement* (83%), and then *staff to solve problems* (76%). When asked about current conditions of staff, the majority of visitors were *extremely satisfied* with all aspects of the staff (Figures 11 and 12).

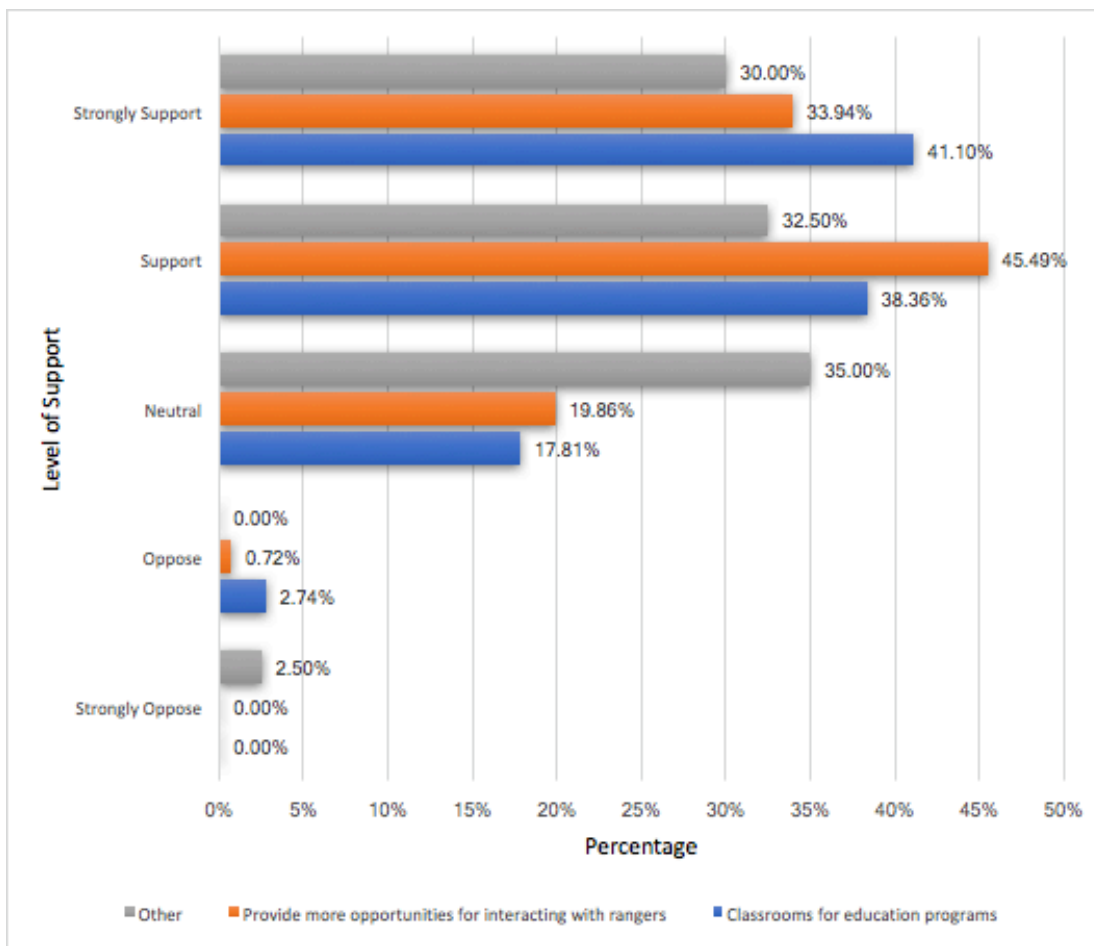


**Figure 1: Importance Placed on Programs and Services at BRVB**



**Figure 2: Level of Satisfaction among Visitors Regarding Programs and Services at BRVB**

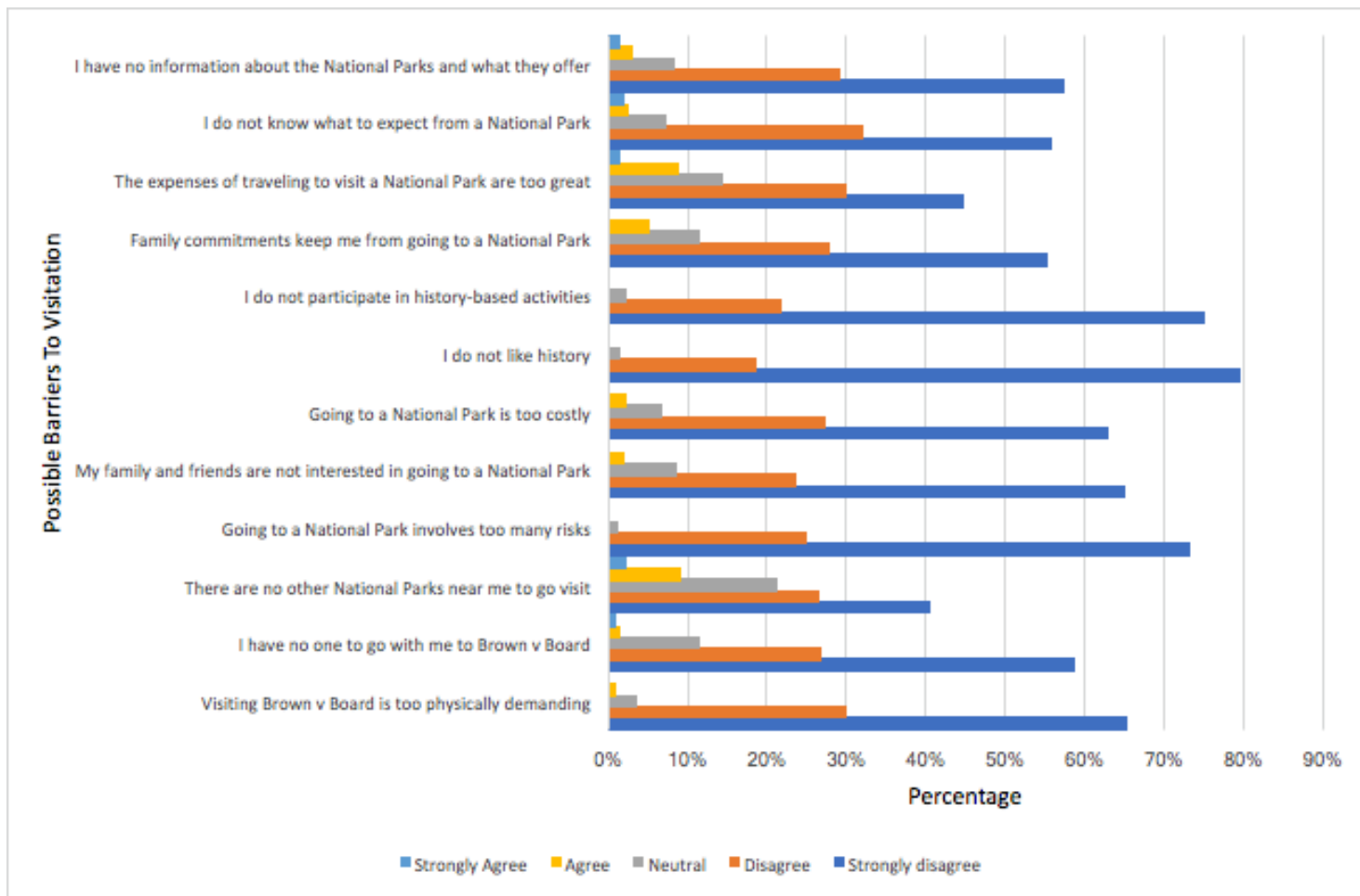
Visitors were very supportive of *providing more opportunities for interacting with rangers*, with 80% of respondents *supportive or strongly supportive* (Figure 13). Open-ended, write-in suggested included respondents being supportive of guided tours, guest presentations, better accessibility, and a café.



**Figure 3: Level of Support by Visitors Regarding Management Aspects at BRVB**

When asked the open-ended question regarding what they would like to see changed at BRVB, common answers included; rangers and/or interpretive staff more available for information, updated video(s) for viewing, improved parking areas and access to the building itself, options to see more of the school, and more educational/interpretive materials suited for children (A full list is provided in Appendix A.5). For the open-ended question about what

visitors liked about BRVB, common responses included; cleanliness and general upkeep of the facilities, use of the timelines, classroom exhibits, video clips, and the helpfulness and knowledge of the staff (A full list is provided in Appendix A.6). When presented with possible barriers to visiting BRVB, the overwhelming majority disagreed with any of the possible scenarios presented (Figure 14).



**Figure 4: Level of Agreement in Possible Barriers to Visiting BRVB**

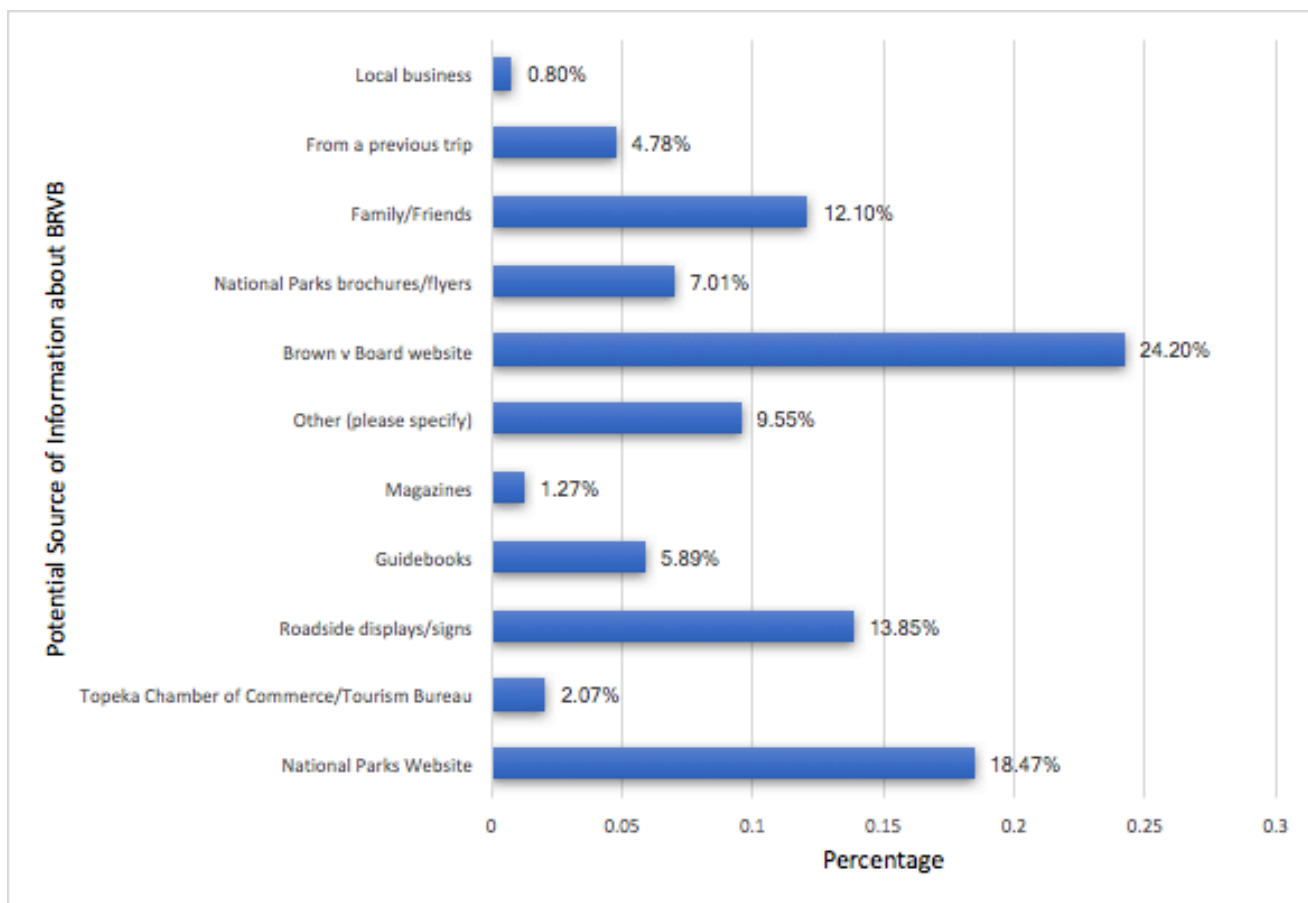
Depending on the nature of the visit, there was a wide range of travel expenses among visitors (A full list is provided in Appendix A.7), which were asked to report expenses accrued while visiting BRVB and the Topeka area. The mean cost of gas and transportation for respondents was \$42.74 (S.D. \$77.36) with a range from \$0 - \$555. The mean cost of lodging

(e.g. hotels, motels, resorts, campgrounds, etc.) for visitors staying in the Topeka area was \$99.27 (S.D. \$264.82) with a range from \$0 - \$3,000. The mean cost of food, meals, and drinks (e.g. restaurants, groceries, taverns, etc.) was \$46.08 (S.D. \$69.73) with a range from \$0 - \$775. The mean cost of tourist services (e.g. tours, rentals, equipment rentals, etc.) \$4.12 (S.D \$20.35) with a range from \$0 - \$185. The mean cost of shopping and gifts (e.g. clothes, gifts, souvenirs, etc.) was \$23.14 (S.D. \$45.52 with a range from \$0 - \$400 (Table 1). The overall, total mean expenditure for the visitor's trip to BRVB and the Topeka area was \$43.07. The means should be considered with caution, as the medians (midpoint of the distribution) were, in most cases, considerably lower than the means, and the mode for all but one measure was zero. For example, there was a \$30 difference between the overall mean and median expenditure (Mean = \$43.07 and Median = \$13.00). Additionally, the standard deviations reveal a wide distribution in the visitor's responses to the economic questions. Many visitors chose not to answer these questions.

**Table 1: Travel Expenses Among Visitors to BRVB**

<b>Travel Expenses</b>	<b>Gas and transportation</b>	<b>Lodging</b>	<b>Food, meals, and drinks</b>	<b>Tourist services</b>	<b>Shopping and gifts</b>
<b><i>n</i></b>	237	182	219	142	204
<b>Mean</b>	\$42.74	\$99.27	\$46.08	\$4.12	\$23.14
<b>Median</b>	\$20.00	\$5.00	\$30.00	\$0.00	\$10.00
<b>Mode</b>	\$20.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>S.D.</b>	\$77.36	\$264.82	\$69.73	\$20.35	\$43.52
<b>Min</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Max</b>	\$555.00	\$3,000.00	\$775.00	\$185.00	\$400.00
<b>Total Mean Expenditure = \$43.07</b>					
<b>Total Median Expenditure = \$13.00</b>					

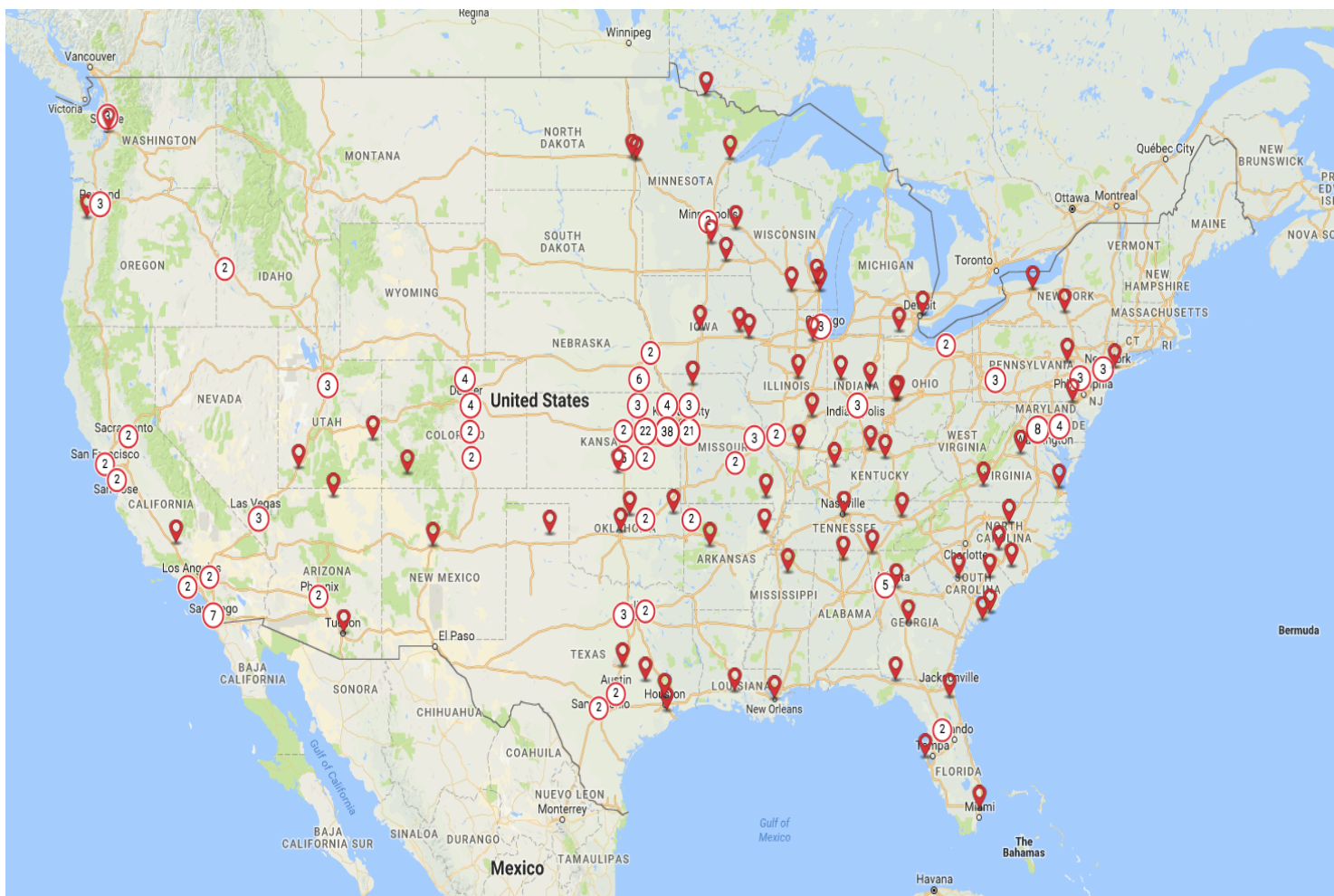
Over half of respondents stayed at least one night in the Topeka area (66%), with 70% of those individuals using a hotel, inn, or bed and breakfast. Slightly over 12% of those staying in the Topeka area stayed with family or friends, 11% camped, with the remaining visitors using another form of lodging, such as a house rental. When planning their visit, respondents reported using the BRVB website and the National Park Service website the most. Almost a quarter (24%) of respondents used the BRVB website and another 18% used the National Park Service website. These were followed by the use of roadside signs and displays (14%) and information from family and friends (12%) (Figure 15). Write-in answers included travel websites, information from National Parks Passport book, phone apps, conferences, and AAA (A full list is provided in Appendix A.8).



**Figure 5: Possible Sources of Information used by Visitors about BRVB**

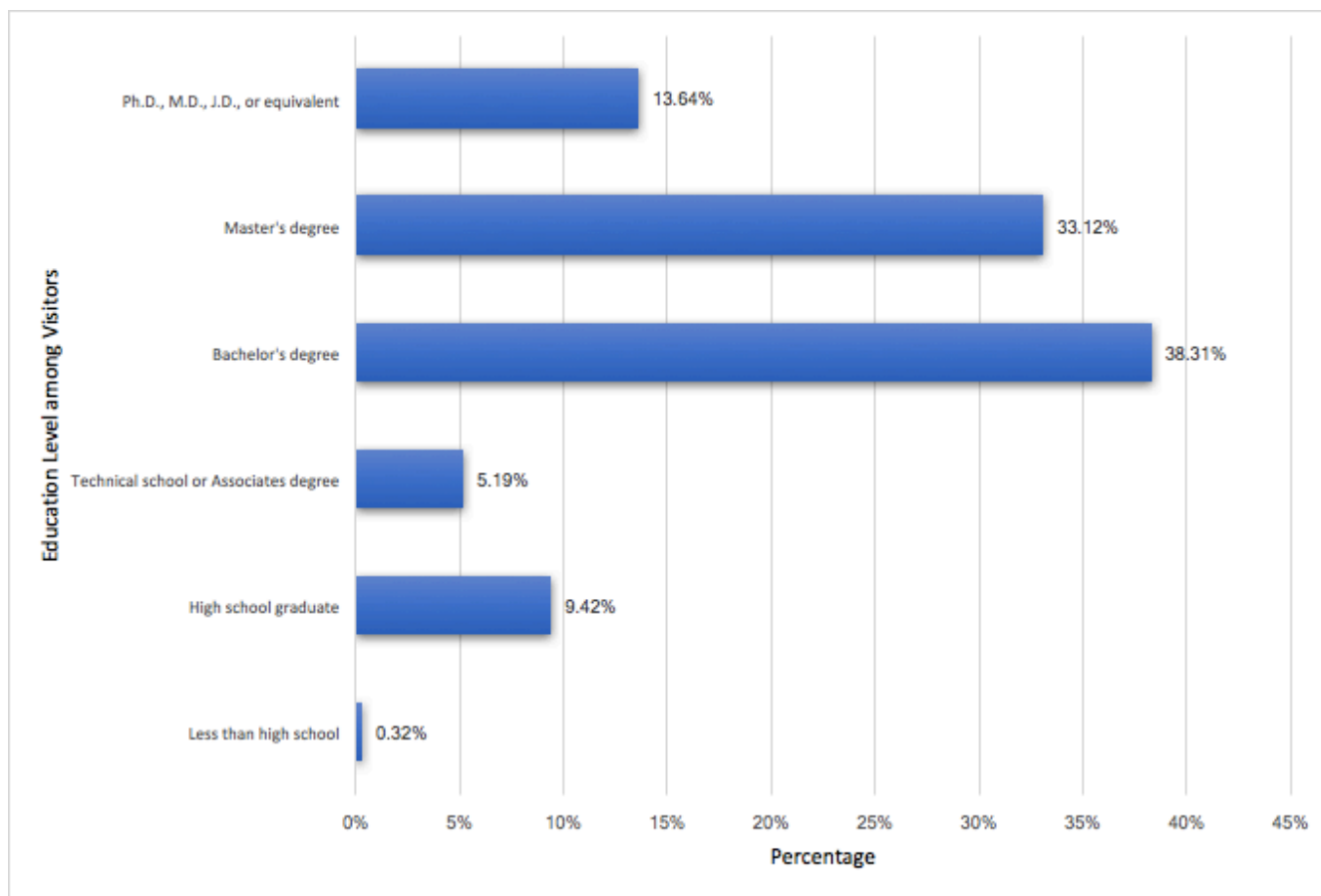
## DEMOGRAPHICS

Visitors were asked what their home zip code was to provide a sense of the distribution of visitors across the contiguous United States (Figure 16). Visitors to BRVB were from 38 states with a large percentage being from the Midwest region of the U.S.



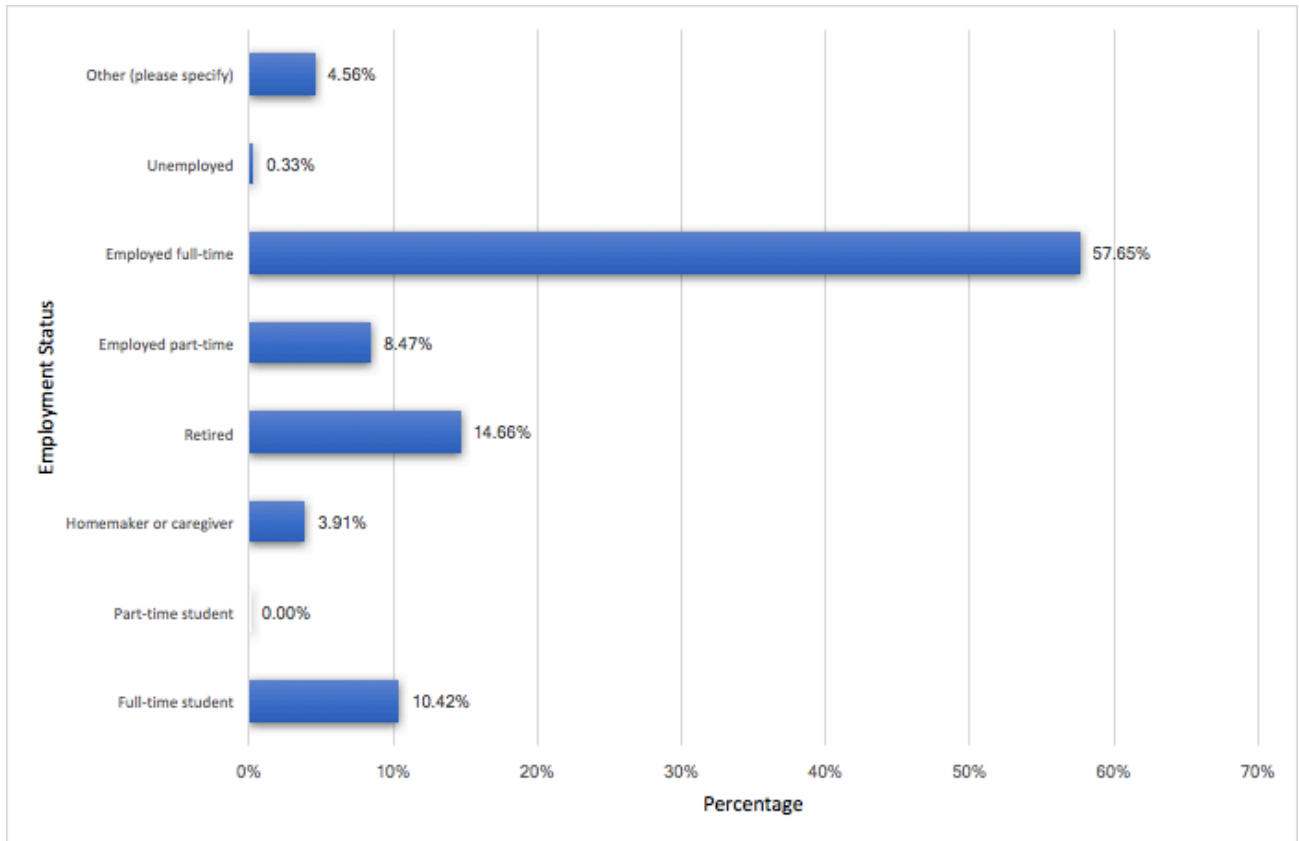
**Figure 6: Distribution of Visitors Based on Zip Codes in the Contiguous United States (red pins = 1 visitor)**

The mean age of visitors was 47 (S.D. 15) with a range from 18-79. Almost two-thirds (64%) of respondents were female, while 36% were male. Over three-quarters (76%) of respondents identified as White, while 11% responded as black or African American, 5% as Asian, 2% as American Indian or Alaska Native, and 6% chose Other, which included Hispanic, Latino, and multiethnic. Visitors were highly educated, with 47% holding graduate degrees or higher (Figure 17). Just over half of all respondents indicated they currently work full-time (57%), with 15% reporting being retired and 10% being students (Figure 18).



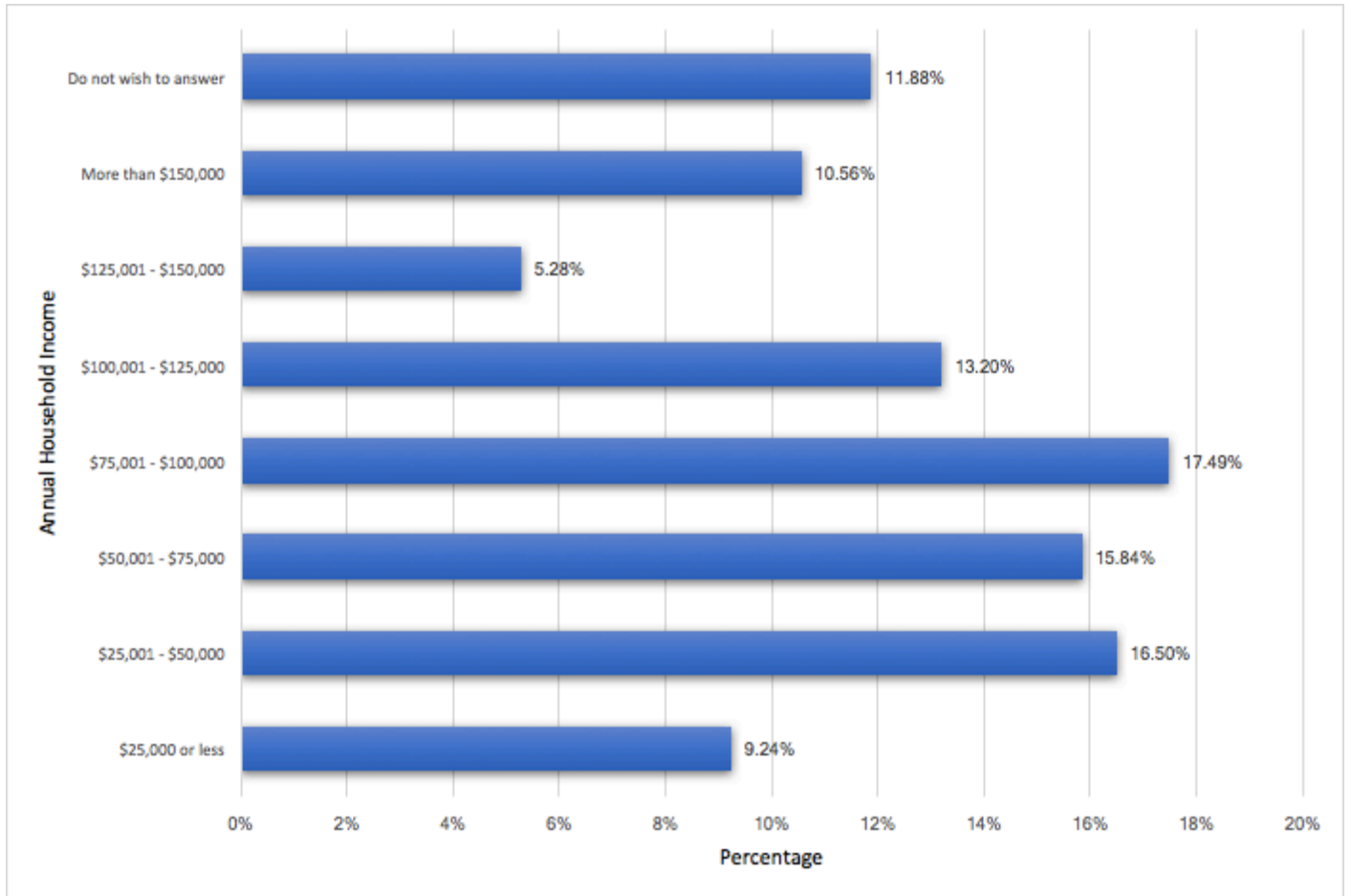
**Figure 7: Education Level Among Visitors to BRVB**





**Figure 8: Employment Status Among Visitors to BRVB**

When asked about their total household income, 50% of visitors reported making between \$25,000 and \$100,000. (Figure 19). A small percentage (11%) reported making over \$150,000 and 12% chose not to answer.



**Figure 9:** *Reported Annual Household Income Among BRVB Visitors*

## DISCUSSION

The majority of visitors to BRVB are first time visitors, where BRVB is one of multiple other destinations, who stay for a couple of hours and are interested in learning about American history and other culture. Nearly half of the respondents stated that they used the BRVB or NPS website to plan their visit, revealing that this should be a focus for visitor information related to the park. Printed materials were less used by visitors to plan their trip. A third of the visitors coming to BRVB stated that they have or will be visiting other historical sites in the Topeka area, with the Capital Building be the most mentioned (44% of those who visited other sites than BRVB). These finding may reveal that there is an opportunity to further partner with other historic sites in the area to create a more holistic experience for visitors. In many other locations across the country, “historic trails” have been developed that guide visitors to related sites throughout an area. Perhaps there is such an opportunity in the Topeka area. Also, visitors to BRVB spent money on primarily gas and food when in the Topeka area, thus providing an economic incentive to develop more regionally focused visitor services. Many visitors spent at least one night in the Topeka area, which also translate into visitors spending at hotels and restaurants.

Visitors to BRVB were very satisfied with their experience, and encountered few (if any) issues during their stay. Visitors only identified two potential problems with their visit, with one being the availability of a walkway from the parking area to the visitor center and the signage to find the park while in town. Even so, the percentage of people not satisfied with these elements was 30% and 19% respectively. Improving upon these elements may not be critical, but could certainly make the visitor experience easier and more enjoyable. Visitors were also satisfied with the level of service at the park and strongly supported the inclusion of more opportunities to

interact with Rangers. Many of the written comments suggested that they wanted to interact with a Ranger and have the ability to ask questions.

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## **APPENDICIES – SURVEY RESULTS – OPEN ENDED REPOSSES (VERBATUM)**

### **A.1 OTHER PURPOSES FOR VISIT**

#### **Section 1 - Question 5**

- bradley amily reunion
- Vacation
- To get the NP stamp
- Love visiting all nps sites
- Education and social
- Visiting National Parks
- fun
- Senior Park Passes
- Passing by on a big drive
- Interest tour with education AL purposr
- Track championships
- Stop during travel
- Photography
- NA
- It was a professional visit to bring a client to work on socialization skills
- I grew up in Topeka, moved from Sumner district to Potwin before we started school; current concern for country
- Personal interest while in city
- Curious
- To personally visit a historical site that has personal relevance to me.
- Personal interest

## **A.2 OTHER HISTORICAL SITES VISITED IN TOPEKA**

### **Section 1 - Question 8**

- master gardener office location
- Truman library, ft Leavenworth
- Topeka High and Washburn University
- Westboro "Baptist Church"
- Washburn University Art Gallery
- NOTO art district
- Rotary Freedom Festival
- Eisenhower Library and Museum
- Eisenhower Library
- Atchison, KS- Amelia Earhart festival
- Burnetts Mound
- Park
- Tall grass Prairie
- Eisenhower Museum
- Gender Equity House
- Downtown and pocket parks
- Combat Air Museum
- Topeka High School 50th reunion!
- Rainbow House near westboro baptist
- Holley Museum of Military History
- Library (the big one with an art gallery) Plus TruckHedge

### A.3 OTHER NPS SITES VISITED BY BRVB VISITORS IN LAST 12 MONTHS

#### Section 1 - Question 13

- Too many to list
- None
- WW1
- Cuyahoga, Minuteman Missile, Badlands, Mt. Rushmore, Wind Caves, Jewel Caves, Arches, Grand Tetons, Yellowstone, John Rockefeller Parkway, Olympic, Lewis & Clark, Grant-Kohrs Ranch
- Hot Springs Ar, Smokey Mts
- Chamizal, Fort Bowie, Chiricahua, Saguaro, Tonto, El Morro, El Malpais, Petroglyph, Pecos, Fort Union, Chickasaw, Alibates, Washita, Pea Ridge, Wilson's Creek, Chattanooga & Chickamauga, Cumberland Gap, Dayton Aviation Heritage, William Howard Taft, Charles Young Buffalo Soldiers, Pictured Rocks, Apostle Islands, Effigy Mounds, Fort Smith
- Colonial Jamestown and Yorktown, Yorktown battlefield, historic jamestown,
- Yellowstone , Grand Canyon
- Gulf shores national seashore, St. Louis arch, White House, hot springs, Shenandoah, great falls,
- Yellowstone. Grand teton
- None
- Fort union, New Mexico, capelin volcano, petroglyphs
- 3
- Rocky Mountain, Petroglyphs Natl Monument,
- Death Valley, Lake Mead, Joshua Tree, Mojave, Yosemite
- Pt Reyes National seashore, Sequoia Kings Canyon, White Sands
- Wright Brothers Memorial



- Yosemite National Park, Sequoia National Park, King's Canyon National Park, Pinnacles National Park, Dayton Aviation Historical Area, Mono Lake, Paul Lawrence Dunbar House, Wright Brothers Huffman Field
- San Francisco sites
- Canyonlands, Arches
- Rocky Mountain National Park
- Grand Canyon
- Gulf Shores Seashore
- Glacier NP, Arches NP, Balands NP, Mt. Rushmore NP, Wind Cave NP, Jefferson National Expansion Memorial NP, and Mammoth Cave NP
- 0
- Fort Pickens - Pensacola, FL
- shenandoah, liberty bell, rocky mt, lasson,
- Arches, Capitol Reef, Great Basin, Mt Rushmore, Tetons, Glacier, Yellowstone, Devils Tower, Badlands, Minuteman
- Rocky Mountain National Park
- Buffalo National River
- Buffalo National River
- Channel Islands, manzanar, yosemite
- Duluth, International Falls Parks
- sorry to say, none
- Eisenhower museum
- Zion, canyon lands
- Little Rock Central HS, Pea Ridge, Ulysses S. Grant, Wilson's Creek, Jefferson National Expansion Memorial (arch and courthouse), George Washington Carver, Ice Age National Scenic Reserve, Motor Cities National Heritage Area, Indiana Dunes, Timucuan Ecological Preserve, Fort Caroline, De Soto National Memorial, Canaveral

National Seashore, Abe Lincoln birthplace, Fort Necessity, Friendship Hill, Gettysburg, Eisenhower NHS, Paterson Falls, Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller, Martin Van Buren, Springfield Armory, Vanderbilt, Eleanor Roosevelt, FDR home

- Grand Teton, Yellowstone, little Big Horn, Wind Cave, Mt Rushmore
- John Day Fossil Beds NM, Whitman Mission NHS, Fossil Butte NM, Sand Creek Massacre NHS, Waco Mammoth NM
- Smoky Mountains, Old Fort Lee,
- Acadia, Glacier, Mesa Verde, Redwoods, Crater Lake, Arches
- Eisenhower Home and Library
- Glacier national park, Yellowstone, Yosemite, Death Valley , grand Teton, mount Rainer, great Smoky, Rocky Mountain, crater lake
- Eisenhower museum, hoover museum
- Have visited quite a number in California, Washington DC and Florida this year.
- Abraham Lincoln Springfield Il home.
- Rocky Mountain National Park, Chickamauga Battlefield, Castillo de San Marcos, Pointe Park
- Canyonlands, Arches, Craters of the Moon, Mesa Verde
- Yellowstone
- Ellis Island, NY
- George Washington Carver NM, Wilson's Creek NB
- Grand canyon
- Rocky Mountain, smoky mountain, Hawaii volcanoes, Denali
- Over 40?
- Yosemite, Arches, Capitol Reef, Bryce
- Colorado NM, Arches, Canyonlands, Capitol Reef, Bryce, Zion, Grand Canyon, Mojave, Joshua Tree, Cabrillo, Walnut Canyon, Sunset Crater, Petrified Forest, El Morro, El Malpais, Great Sand Dunes

- Zion and Rocky Mountain
- too many to list
- Over 100 NP sites ... we are RV ing to as many sites as possible. From Dec to April we visited sites From Florida across the gulf to California. This June thru Sept we went from Il to the Pacific NW, thru Oregon, Northern Cal and back across Colo, Kansas. Stopping at NP sites all along the way.
- Buffalo National River, Pearidge National Battlefield, Fort Smith NHS, Hot Springs NHS, Clinton NHS, Lake Mead NRA
- Coronado National Monument, Chiricahua National Monument, Tuzigoot National Monument, Montezuma Castle National Monument, Tonto National Monument, Casa Grande Ruins National Monument, Tumacacori National Historic Park, Petroglyph National Mounment. White Sands National Monument, Three Rivers National Petroglyph National Recreation Site,
- Niobrara, Wind Cave, Agate Fossil Beds, Minuteman Missile, Mt Rushmore, Jewel Cave, Th Roosevelt, Knife River, Fort Union Tr Post, Chickasaw, Kalaupapa, Haleakala, Hawaii Volcanoes, Puuhonouoa, Puukohola, Koloko, Valles Grande, Manhattan Project, Geo Wash Birthplace, Shenandoah, Fred-Spotsylvania, Bluestone, New River Gorge, Gauley River, Richmond, Petersburg, Ft Monroe, Colonial, Assateague Island, Harriet Tubman URR, First State, Blue Ridge Pkway
- Acadia National Park
- Wilson's Creek National Historic Site, LBJ National Historic Site
- Martin Luther King Jr. NHS, Jefferson National Expansion Memorial, Badlands National Park, Minuteman Missile NHS, Great Basin National Park, Theodore Roosevelt National Park, Fort Union Trading Post NHS, Yellowstone National Park, Grand Teton National Park
- Mesa Verde
- way too many to list
- Mount Evans, RMNP, blue ridge parkway
- Zion, Grand Canyon, Badlands, Yellowstone
- GW Carver home, Wilson's Creek Battlefield, Scotts Bluff, Fort Laramie, Governors Island, Statue of Liberty

- Ford Theatre, Harpers Ferry
- Sand Creek NHS, Homestead NM, Petrified Forest NP, Lake Meade NRA, Tule Springs Fossil Beds NM
- Mammoth cave, coconino mountains, Abraham Lincoln childhood home, Grasslands in Colorado.
- Death Valley
- Several in Washington DC area.
- Grand Canyon, Arches, Canyon Glen, New River National River, National Mall, Wolftrap Park for Performing Arts
- I am not from USA
- Lewis and Clark Landing
- Yellowstone, Grand Canyon, Olympic, Chimney Rock, Cascades
- St. Louis Arch and court house
- Natchez NHP, Natchez Trace NST, Natchez Trace PKWY, Alibates Flint Quarries NM, Padre Island NS, Palo Alto Battlefield NHP, Fort Union NM, Pecos NHP, Petroglyph NM, Salinas Pueblo Missions NM, White Sands NM, George Washington Carver NM, Wilson's Creek NB, Cape Cod NS
- Shenandoah
- Gateway Arch, Independence, Civil Rights at Loraine Motel, Vicksburg, Tuskegee Airmen, Tuskegee Institute
- Mammoth Cave, Rocky Mountain
- Joshua Tree, Death Valley, Zion, Bryce Canyon, Arches,
- Jefferson Expansion Memorial
- Olympic National Park, Mt rainier National Park, Rosie the Riveter Home Front WWII National Historic Park, San Francisco Maritime, Fort Point National Historic Site
- Yellowstone, Olympic,

- Saguaro
- Konza Prairie
- Shenandoah national park
- Rocky Mountain / Craters of the Moon / Mutlnomah Falls
- Haleakala National Park
- Martin Luther King Jr
- Natl Mall, Jamestown, Yorktown,
- Voyageurs
- Rocky Mountain, Theodore Roosevelt, Craters of the Moon
- Grand Canyon
- Rocky Mountain National Park, Ozark National Scenic Riverways, Ulysses S. Grant National Historic Site, Wilson's Creek National Battlefield, George Washington Carver National Monument, Jefferson National Expansion Memorial
- Natchez, MS
- World War 1 museum
- Grand Canyon, Arches, Grand Teton, Craters of the Moon
- Mt. Rainier National Park & Rocky Mountain National Park
- Zion, Arches, Prince William Forest Park (VA), George Rogers Clark (IN), Rainbow Bridge
- Eisenhower Presidential Museum/Library
- yellowstone, arches, grand titon, glacier,
- Grand Canyon, sequioa, Death Valley, Rocky Mountain, St. Louis arch, Washington monument, Lincoln monument, fdr memorial, Vietnam memorial, ww2 memorial
- Grand Canyon
- Great Teton NP, Yellowstone, Agate Fossil Beds NM, Homestead NM

- Sequoia, Kings Canyon, Death Valley, Zion, Bryce Canyon, Capitol Reef, Arches, Canyonland, Mesa Verde, Black Canyon, Great Dunes, Rockies, Great Smoky, Mammoth Caves, Joshua Tree, Grand Canyon, Saguero, Big Bend, Carlsbad Caverns, Guadalupe Mountains
- Zion, Eisenhower national historic site
- Mount Rushmore
- Rocky Mountain State Park
- Salina Pueblo Missions, Washita Battlefield, Wilson's Creek, Alibates Flint Quarry, several in Alaska, maybe more
- Washington DC
- Yellowstone
- 0
- Grand Canyon
- 15
- Yellowstone, Grand Teton, Agate Fossil, Homestead National Monument, Fort Laramie, George Washington Carver
- Mt. Rushmore, Black Hills
- Natchez, Mississippi
- Great sand dunes, yellowstone, mesa verde, grand canyon, wind cave, mount Rushmore, badlands, garden of the gods,
- Rocky Mountain, Capitol Reef, Bryce, Zion, Grand Canyon, Mesa Verde, Sand Dunes
- Cesar Chavez NM, Golden Gate NRA, Carl Sandburg NHS, Timpanogos Cave NM, Dinosaur NM, Great Smoky Mountains NP, Fort Raleigh NHS, Golden Spike NM, Wright Brothers NM, Colonial NHP, Yorktown, Maggie Walker NHS, Fort Monroe NM, Adams NHP, Acadia NP, Joshua Tree NP, Sequoia NP, Cedar Breaks, Saint-Gaudens NHS
- Badlands, Rocky Mountain National Park, Mt Rushmore

- Mississippi River connection in Minneapolis, Edmund Pettus Bridge, MLK Historic Site, Badlands National Park, Mt. Rushmore, Teddy Roosevelt National Park
- Fort Laramie, Scott's Bluff, Agate Fossil, Grand Canyon, Lake Mead, Sunset Crater, Wapatki, Death Valley, George Rodgers Clark, Lincoln Boyhood
- White Sands, Carlsbad Caverns
- Badlands, Mt Rushmore, Great Sand Dunes, MLK jr site in Atlanta, Everglades, Minuteman Missile Site, Wind Cave, Grand Portage
- Rocky Mountain National park
- San Antonio Mission, Geetysburg, Bull Run, Arlington Cemetery, Wilson Creek
- Yellowstone, Rocky Mountain, Bears Ears, Grand Tetons, Gateway Arch, Canyonlands, Arches
- Rocky Mountain National Park
- Smoky Mountain NP. Niagara Falls. Seneca Falls historical sites. Lots actually.
- None
- Rocky Mtn. NP
- Wilson Creek, George Washington Carver, Minuteman Missile, Badlands, Mt Rushmore, Wind Cave, Jewel Cave,
- Gateway arch, Yellowstone, Canyonlands, Arches, Zion, Yosemite, Grand Tetons
- Fort Laramie, Homestead, George Washington Carver
- Garden of the Gods, President Eisenhower's boyhood home
- Frederick Douglass Historic Site, Ford's Theatre,
- 0
- Ocmulgee national monument
- Rocky Mountain National Park
- 15
- Florissant fossil site

- Arches, Canyonlands, Capitol Reef, Great Basin, Zion, Mesa Verde, Grand Canyon, many others
- Carlsbad Caverns, Dinosaur, Homestead, Great Sand Dunes, Mesa Verde, Bent's Old Fort, Fort Laramie, Agate, Gulf Islands, Vicksburg, Chattanooga Chickamauga, Kennesaw Mountain, Fort Sumter, Congaree, Mammoth Caves, Lincoln's Birthplace, Great Smoky Mountains,
- Rocky Mountain national park
- The Great Smokey Mountains, Grand Canyon, Mesa Verde, Joshua Tree
- Ft sumpter
- Hatteras lighthouse, bodie island lighthouse
- James Garfield NHS, St Gaudens NHS, Golden Gate Bridge
- Scottsbluff, Mount Rushmore, Badlands
- Yellowstone, Grand Teton, Rocky Mountain, Mount Rushmore, Jewel Cave, Badlands, Buffalo Bill Dam
- Rocky mountain NP, Wilson's battlefield, San Creek National historical site, GW Carver NHP, Arcadia NP
- Big Bend, Lassen Volcano, Redwoods, Crater Lake, Fort Necessity, Friendship Hill, Gettysburg, Manassas, Antietam, Shenandoah, Washington Mall, White House, Ford Theater, Yorktown, Jamestowne, Timpaganos, Fort Davis, Guadalupe
- Grand Canyon, George Washington Carver National Monument
- Grand Canyon, Lincoln Monument (Springfield IL), St. Louis Arch
- Rushmore
- Mount Rainer, Olympic National Park, St. Louis Arch, Ulysses S. Grant House, Arches, Grand Tetons, Yellowstone, Teddy Roosevelt, Badlands, Mt Rushmore, Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, Mammoth Cave and a few more sites that I cannot remember. On this trip to Topeka we visited a total of 14 parks/sites
- I've visited about 40 NPS sites all over the country in the last year
- Apostle Islands NL, Herbert Hoover NHS, St. Croix NSRR, Kenai Fjords NP, Homestead of America NHP, Fort Scott NHS



- Yosemite, Sequoia
- Theodore Roosevelt Natl Park, Eisenhower Muesum and home, Everglades Natl Park
- Wilson's Creek National Battlefield, George Washington Carver National Monument, Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site, Rocky Mountain National Park, Sleeping Bear Sand Dunes National Lakeshore, Bunker Hill National Historic Site, Minute Man National Historical Park, Acadia National Park, Ozark National Scenic Riverways, Glacier National Park, Crater Lake National Park, Oregon Caves National Monument
- Ft. McHenry, Fords Theater, DC memorials
- MLK Historical Site
- 2
- Jefferson National Expansion Memorial; Banff National Park, Canada; Jasper National Park, Canada
- Too many to count
- Effigy mounds, river raisin, flight 93, biscayne NP, big cypress, Everglades, Santa Monica mountains NRA, andrew Johnson NCemetery, carl Sandburg
- None
- 5
- Grand Canyon, Bryce, Zion, Canyon Land, Yuma Prison, Glen Canyon NRA, Vermilion Cliffs, Arches,
- Zion, Bryce, Capital Reef,
- Ford's Theater, Grand Canyon
- Too many to list, 12 in total
- Lyndon B. Johnson Presidential Library
- Rocky Mountain NP, Bent's Old Fort, Homestead, Ulysses Grant, Jefferson Expansion.
- None
- Cumberland Island, Kennesaw Mountain, Chattahoochee River Rec Area, Ice Age Trail,

## **A.4 OTHER REASONS FOR VISITING BRVB**

### **Section 2 – Question 1**

- In light of what is happening now, this issues is very up to date
- learning and recall of historical events
- Collect NPS passport stamps
- reinforcement; empowerment
- Experience the history that affects us as teachers
- Learn other perspectives to US history
- teach my kids about this landmark case
- Celebration of Cultural/Societal Achievements
- Important historical reminder of Black oppression
- history lesson
- Being an educator with children of mixed races I wanted them to learn about school before them
- learn about civil rights and the Black experience
- College Football Game
- Visiting all NP sites
- Recall of how much effort was done to date yet things might go backwards thanks to trump and his racist agenda.
- Identity
- Travel the US
- Understand and appreciate the diverse/complicated historical tapestry of injustice and march toward equality
- Recall the "bad old days" of segregation when I was a child (I am white)
- Learn the details about Brown vs Board and who and what were impacted by this decision. Also it'ss impact on the future of our country

## A.5 WHAT VISITORS WOULD LIKE TO SEE CHANGED AT BRVB

### Section 4 – Question 2

- Better parking.
- A cafe is a place where people can sit and process with others as well as divide up the trip. Also, while the videos are very good, they often compete with one another when several are going at the same time in one space which diminishes their effectiveness.
- Promoted more so there are more visitors.
- Nothing at all.
- I was very impressed by this site. I saw no obvious changes needed. I hope that it is more visited than it was the day that my son and I were there since this is a story and an era that needs more visibility.
- Nothing needs to be addressed at this time
- The screens way up toward the ceiling was very hard on my neck. Screens should be more eye level. The main screen that was on the "stage" was not even used. That would have made it easier to watch. Also the multiple videos playing at the same time in the main hall was distracting and made it difficult to focus on the main movie that was playing.
- Nothing needs to be changed
- Would love to see more of the buildings open to view (gym, library, etc.)
- I would like for them to add some education & interactive items upstairs.
- More interaction, personal moments, and engagement. Also- I would have taken this survey when I walked out and had more details. Suggest survey on a tablet and collect right then. This is now weeks later, survey responses, I'm sure go down, and I would have been more than happy to provide right then!
- More interaction with Ranger
- I was shocked that the perspective seemed to be from a white person's point of view primarily. The video in the gym was hokey and had long, long pauses in between sections.

- I did not like the setup of the room with the main movie. One had to look up which was straining on the neck. Additionally different images were shown at different angles so you couldn't see everything. The film also seemed to have an abrupt ending.
- More videos would be great.
- Parking lot should be paved with a sidewalk leading from parking lot to entrance.
- Nothing we thoroughly enjoyed our visit.
- I would have liked to see more reenacted classrooms or even just more pictures, if they exist, of what the school would have looked like at the time. I also was confused or felt like more information was needed for that doll exhibit. I would have liked to see more interviews with students from the case, but perhaps those existed and I didn't see those parts of videos.
- The movie was placed too high in the “main” theater. My neck began hurting partway through. Also, the transitions between “chapters” in the movie were too long and redundant.
- I'm not sure if the building or the parking lot is ADA accessible.
- The main thing that the area is lacking is better parking and walkway to the museum.
- Better water fountains, the ones there were not very cooling. Access to the upstairs as well as more information about the various learning/teaching methods and requirements during the time period of which the school was open.
- I wouldn't change anything.
- One of the things that the NPS staff person mentioned/challenged me to discover was what empirical research was the basis for challenging "separate but equal" at the U.S. Supreme Court. I was able to find the research that was conducted by Dr. Kenneth and Mamie Clark, but I found it not displayed as prominently as it should be, not only given the historical significance in the court case, but its lasting reverberating effects today (still dealing w/ psychological effects on kids of color due to societal pressures and biases towards whiteness).
- sometime the sound was too loud
- Nothing! They have done a wonderful job
- Additional civil rights history info - (not necessarily related to Brown v. Board).

- More info as to what happened to the school, teachers, students after the decision
- Time of video listed outside of main auditorium.
- Many National Parks have an orientation film that is about 15-20 minutes long. I can't recall if Brown v Board had a film that was not working or if it had a film at all. These films are very helpful when first visiting a National Park.
- we parked across the street and a walkway would have been nice. As we drove away we saw the parking lot behind the building
- None come to mind
- Volume and clarity of video.
- didn't catch some of the audio
- This was not a planned visit, we saw the sign on the highway and wanted to learn more. But when we pulled off the highway, the signs were very poor to find the location and we thought we missed it.
- Walkway from parking lot to school. More interactive displays
- Information as to the best place to start the exhibition in each room, for instance, we weren't sure which way round to go and ended up doing the time line in reverse order.
- I do not feel there is anything that I would change.
- It would be nice if there were a paved parking lot for guests. I could see how it would be hard to get into the building if you were handicapped.
- Can't think of anything
- The park is under-staffed. With one ranger on the first floor tasked with several responsibilities, he was literally running from one task to another. If more NPS staff can't be provided for public contact, volunteers should be added.
- A paved parking lot.
- Walkway to get to sight.
- Actually, two things. There should be a sidewalk or walkway from the parking lot to the building over the grassy area, as patrons should not have to walk over the grass to get to the building. Although there is a sign on the highway indicating the exit for this site, there was not a sign on the city street directing you to the building, so after we

realized we had gone past it, we had to turn around and go back to get to it. I believe the street I am referring to is SE 10th Street westbound, which needs a brown sign with the name of the facility and an arrow pointing to the left, and this should be placed right before you get to Monroe St. We noticed after we turned around that there is such a sign when you are heading eastbound, but not one when you are heading westbound.

- The auditorium video seemed outdated and the way you view it was awkward.
- Better signage leading to Brown V Board
- Think the path through the exhibits was not clear. This caused us to walk though in the wrong direction of the timeline. Not terrible though was confusing for a bit.
- Walkway from parking lot in front to building.
- The timelines on the walls did not flow chronologically and were confusing.
- integrate a little more information about the surrounding community with the school.
- The introduction video had too many stopping points and would be better if it was one long segment instead of being broken into different segments. Also the timeline was a bit hard to follow, I felt that it jumped years from wall to wall.
- More interactive exhibits
- A walkway from the parking spots to the building would be appreciated.
- When I first arrived I ended up in the parking lot in the back but I figured out that I was in the wrong place because all the parking spots said reserved.
- None I felt it was what I expected and more I was impressed
- Play movie when a person wants to see it, not the movie being fixed to be shown at a certain time.
- Nothing, the park is perfect!
- Everything was good
- I would like to follow a map directing the self guided tour walking me down a timeline visiting each classroom/room

- I would like to have seen a little more direction in and around the facility. From the outside we were not sure if the facility was even open and once inside we didn't know which doors led to exhibits or to rooms used for other purposes.
- Opening up the upstairs for more access to the building.
- Paved parking lot
- No needed changes.
- When I visited B v B several years ago, the "Unequal Scales of Education" sculpture was on display. I was informed that it has been disturbed (by children), so had to be hidden. I recommend a case be made for it and be prominently displayed. It is a powerful symbol of the separate but unequal education system that was once pervasive in our nation.
- The rooms with timelines are not laid out chronologically. I would enter one section and be immediately presented with a timeline; the rest of the timeline (both pre- and post-) were scattered elsewhere. If space constraints limit the options for arranging these components, perhaps signage could help direct visitors so that the flow is more logical.
- We rode our bikes from our campground but there were no bike racks in the area to lock up our bikes. Would be nice to have a bike rack. The chronology of the events was nicely laid out but was hard to follow in temporal order between sections.
- A better walkway between the parking lot and building.
- Additional interaction with rangers or staff to help coordinate or suggest visit plan of facility and share historical importance. Visit should include an "honest" look as to what is going on today; that is, what progress/changes have been made, are civil rights being diminished and how can we make certain the laws of the land are upheld.
- Nothing to add.
- not sure at this point
- While the content of the interpretive video was great, the editing was horrible. Far too many title cards between sections, too much time spent on them, and far too repetitive. Video could have been a third as long with just as educational a content level.
- I think the school is just fine.

- I think some more information about how far away Linda Brown lived would be helpful. A map that shows how far she would have to walk. It's amazing. We wouldn't have children walk that distance today.
- I would have liked more information about the neighborhood the school is located in and how it fit in with Topeka and Kansas at the time. It was a little crowded in the main display rooms and sometimes it was hard to know what order to look at things.
- Perhaps add a sidewalk from the parking area to the building. It was rainy on the day of our visit.
- The building was more of a museum explaining the situation. I was expecting to see the actual classrooms
- I don't see anything to be changed.
- A designated walkway from the parking lot to the site, including a crosswalk.
- I'd love to be able to see the second floor of the building
- Better film presentation, and an updated film
- I was surprised to learn that the Brown case was not fully implemented until 1996 when I was reading one of the interpretive signs! The video was out of date and had too many long pauses. Something up to date.
- Nothing really, it was great!
- I don't feel that enough attention was given to (i) the legal aspects of the court cases and (ii) what followed the decision in terms of education, specifically busing as a reaction.
- We would like to have seen more information specific to the lead up to the supreme court decision, and specific to the post-decision activity.
- Updated exhibit of how Brown v. Board's legacy has impacted current political climate (i.e. Black Lives Matter movement, deconstruction of the prison industrial complex, effects of Rockefeller drug laws on POC.)
- I could not easily find the story of Brown v Board, but rather the focus was on civil rights in general. I would like to see the actual story of Mr. Brown and his case in addition to how it fit into the civil rights movement
- I'd love for the upstairs to be opened and see more content...and the ability to walk around and appreciate and get a sense for the building: maybe beyond the kindergarten



classroom to other period classrooms. Beyond that, maybe more staff - the one Ranger was stationed in the gift shop. She did meet me at the door and provide guidance and an overview, but other events would be welcomed. It seems so important right now in light of the divide and ongoing challenges across our nation.

- Nothing. My dad McKinley Burnett was the NAACP president
- More artifacts.
- Clearer instructions for movement through the museum. Where does it make sense to start if I am trying to go chronologically? What should I be sure not to miss if I have limited time? Which spaces are public and which are only used on special occasions? ( We pulled on a locked door several times in our zeal not to miss anything)
- Nothing, the museum was put together really well and did an amazing job at informing and educating. The one thing I might change is the walkway from the parking lot to the museum although, it looked as if they were already planning to put a sidewalk in.
- The exhibits gave inadequate attention to the actual lawsuit and participants. It was interesting in the classroom that there was a photo of Brown's daughter, but little background on the family and precise circumstances in the school. The entry with the White and Colored signs was compelling, but there was limited sense of what the school was actually like during the 1950s as the litigation was proceeding.
- Nothing, It was very well done.
- better video for adults in the gym. even though it was informative, it was also corny, too much like sesame street.
- I would like to see a little more about the current state of the Civil Rights Act, especially given recent supreme court cases involving voting rights.
- I am a 26 year old social studies teacher and I felt like the most engaging part of the building is the room with video clips that show interactions between African Americans and whites. I felt somewhat satisfied with my experience, and to be honest I was somewhat disappointed. I feel like younger people visiting this building, especially kids, cannot really be engaged by the content/significance of this site. I think the NPS should work on making the information more relatable to students/children.
- Add more content from the Summerton case which was part of the Brown vs Board of Education. Scotts Branch school still exist. They built a new high school 20 years ago. A movie call separate but equal address the summerton story with sidney poiter.

- I would like to see the broken video/audio presentations repaired.
- More interactive videos
- More people aware of it and visiting
- I loved it
- The main hallway in the building was a little small, as was the gift shop. It made it hard to get around once you walk in through the main doors.
- The video was on a continuous loop, which was helpful, but it was difficult to determine the beginning and the ending.
- i thought the museum was excellent
- I would like more information on the Jim Crow laws, and I would like to be able to explore more of the school's actual history, as well.
- Personal guides posters with the Warren quote on it Directions to the Ritchie house, maybe I missed them
- Add a paved walkway from the parking area to the building site. Make capital improvements at the highway exit and along the road to the site to make it more appealing to visitors.
- Left wondering about what was on second floor
- like it as it is
- it would be neat to see more of the school like upstairs. It would also be neat to have someone there who went to the school during segregation to share their story almost like a living history.
- Provide written guidance about each of the spaces.
- None thank you very much
- The classroom didn't help my understanding at all.
- Label doors into the exhibits based on the years those rooms comprised. it would be nice to know which era I was entering before opening the doors.
- There is not one aspect I would like to see changed at this time.

- There was a lot of teachers standing and chatting in the gift shop. It would have been nice if there would have been another location for groups to gather and discuss what they have seen. As someone who wanted to get in and get out we struggled getting anything.
- The day I visited, the sidewalk was bordered by yellow tape, and it wasn't clear where I was supposed to walk.
- No real feedback here, it was a great visit.
- Parking lots paved and walkway from parking lot to site paved.
- I was a one time visitor from the state of Massachusetts .I enjoyed the site immensely I learned a great amount of information that I never realized ....as far as change I was satisfied with everything .
- Guided tour or self guided (headset) because there was just so much to read, it might have been easier to learn it all if I heard it rather than read it.
- A better video- one that discusses the issue and is informational. A quick 10 minute video in the auditorium.
- A different movie on Brown vs Board of Education. The current movie was outdated and boring
- More interactive activities or display. Have more merchandising for tourists to purchase such as shot glasses, t-shirts, and glasses. Also have the staff at the merchandise store greet customers stepping inside and tell them thanks for stopping in. Small things are remembered by guests.
- Have kid appropriate learning materials.
- More interactive exhibits
- I wanted to learn more about this case for myself since I am a Criminal Justice major and for my daughters to learn about history. I teach my children the importance of not discriminating anyone for any reason and I thought this was a great opportunity, however, it was not. Although the building itself was great and taught a lot the real issue was the staff. My mother, myself and my daughters were in one of the classrooms and were followed in by a staff member who made me feel like I should be ashamed or that we were not welcome. She was not very nice and just stood there staring at us with no smile on her face or anything welcoming us to the building. We ended our visit then and there without even looking at anything else. The staff needs to realize that this building exists to educate and how important this case is for equality, not use it as a tool for white visitors to feel discriminated, like we do not belong there. I really wanted

to visit this building 3 years ago when I was in Kansas last and was not able to so I made it a point this year to make that happen.

- I would have enjoyed a guided tour.
- It's difficult to emphasize the importance and modern-day relevance to the "internet" generation, but we have to keep trying. Would better marketing, bigger road signs, community outreach, or more sophisticated and interactive exhibits work to bring more people in? We have high hopes for the future.
- There need to be more staff on board to deal with large groups
- rangers are interns. They do not know anything about the place at all. After spending one and half hour, and watching the documentary film, we still have no idea why the site is so important. And the interns do not know, either.
- Clearer visibility for the videos and how to find the content in the Junior Ranger booklet; clear signage about the junior ranger program as you enter if you have children.
- When I went in to the gift shop/front desk area, I was not greeted or offered any information about the site. The front desk person (not a ranger) saw my national parks passport and showed me where the stamp was. They did not offer me any other information or ask if I had questions. As a shy person, I prefer park representatives to initiate conversations.
- I liked the videos, but the one played in the auditorium felt dated (not content wise, but presentation wise). Also, the breaks in between the different parts of that video are very long. It caused others to think the video was over and leave before the duration of the presentation.
- Open more of the site to see and wander around.
- The videos in the auditorium were cheesy to the point that I couldn't take them seriously. They need to be updated or something.
- The chronology timeline (across from the kindergarten room) is awkward. I am not referring to the information or to the general visual design.
- A dedicated ranger (or multiple rangers) walking around the building and generally being available to answer questions and provide insights.
- Parking closer to the facility for handicapped

- There wasn't a welcoming center/person. It was by chance I stumbled into the gift shop and asked a person about the museum.
- Offer Tours
- We would have liked a brief statement when you first walk in to explain the significance of the building location and what happened there. We went into the last room first and didn't find out the main idea until we were ready to leave. The rooms should be numbered.
- It would be nice to bring in a small dog that we carry in our arms.
- More educational movies that work in the exhibit rooms.
- Plant some trees for shade, the parking lot was very hot and I was traveling with a dog. Fuentes to the heat, I didn't stay as long as I would have liked.
- There was a lot of information to read and study for adults. It would have been impactful if there was something for the kids to really get a feel for how children lived at the time. The classroom was cute but not really impactful.
- Some videos didn't work
- Besides use of video have staff that well-knowledge on topic to help guide visitors.
- I would like to see more about the actual case, the attorneys arguments and the justices making the decision. I think the video should be more tailored to that case and school segregation. We go to a lot of National Historic sites and study a lot about the civil rights movement, etc. I was excited to visit here to show my kids more about school segregation and that movement. However, I was disappointed to find that the site is not really about school segregation and the students' experiences and the changes that came with *Brown v. Bd of Ed*, but really on racial discrimination, in general. We were at MLK Jr national historic site last year fall and was similar. Good information and much to think about and teach and talk about, but I was hoping for more about students and these cases.
- I would like to see more classrooms set up as classrooms. The only one I remember seeing was a kindergarten classroom.
- I would like Rangers telling stories of what it was like going to school. The history of the school. I would like to be able to tour the whole school.
- I have no suggestions

- It would be nice to have the start times for the main auditorium video available.
- Nothing, I thought it was excellent.
- Pave that sidewalk from parking lot to building. This is a very nice museum..glad I came.
- I would not like to see anything changed.
- I appreciated all the Civial Rights movement parts, but I really wish I could have learned more about the Brown family and why this was important to them and how they got started. Also more about the other families that became involved.
- Better parking and access to the building.
- I didn't see anything I would change.
- Some of the exhibits were closed or the screens weren't working. I also think that it could use some updating and possibly something more focused on where we are presently. Like statistics on diversity in schools and where segregation exists by other means.
- It was excellent. Just keep updating it and maintaining it. It was great to show my kids that and have a conversation about race with them, which we usually don't do (we are white people living in a mostly white area, so it doesn't come up as much as for some people).
- No ideas at this time.
- Once in each room, it was confusing to determine where to start. It would nice to show us where to start in each room
- Other information (brochure, leaflets, etc.) that can be taken to go so they can be revisited at a later date.
- During this visit several of the video projectors were not working properly and focus to have things working is necessary to make it a good visit.
- Was not exactly sure where to park.
- The video that we watched at the beginning was educational but the actors from the video did not help offer information.
- Overall very good experience. I would say an area of improvement would be to mark a trail to the other historical sites in the neighborhood. It was difficult to find them just

by the map. A marked trail would be easier and provide more people the opportunity to see them all.

- Maybe they could make a drive to drop off people. Parking lot is far from entrance.
- This site needs the resources, (replacement parts, maintenance crew) to resolve issues (projector bulbs, projectors) in a short timeframe so that visitors can get the full experience of this important historic site.
- More emphasis on why the building is important.
- It would be nice to have a Ranger do a program in the classroom, talking about what it was like in the classroom back when Brown attended school.
- The videos could be updated. Also, viewing them so high up was awkward and the children had difficulty following the videos. The long pauses between sections were weird. I wished there was a counter with rangers like at other parks. Talking to someone who is selling souvenirs was not ideal.
- This was very well done, but we did not see a ranger to ask questions to. My daughters had questions and there was no one to talk to. Also, the Junior Ranger packet had a section that was geared to asking a ranger questions and they could not.
- Better video explaining the civil rights movement.
- Nothing I would like to see changed. I suppose a more extensive exhibit, if you have the resources and space, would be nice.
- Two of the interaction spaces had the AC on full blast and was very cold in the rooms. My daughters had trouble with looking at the exhibits because they were distracted by the cold.
- Could there be something interactive and low-key? For example, at the Women's Rights site in Seneca Falls, there is a place to write a little message of women's empowerment and stick it on a wall or on a table or something. Could there be something like that here? Post-it notes on a wall? Or would there be too much risk of stupid people writing stupid racist stuff? I would not want to make the case that such racist notes would be educational--they would just be depressing and sad and spoil the day for others. I don't know what to think.
- Update "today" exhibit to reference Obama presidency -- it was noticeably absent.
- More people have opportunity to visit

- Bigger library of books for sale. Or have an actual library of historical civil rights books to check out to students.
- On my first visit a young staff member spent about 20 minutes in the kindergarten room providing very interesting info on the Brown case. He discussed some of the lawyers who handled the case. He gave details about the education students received in Monroe school. He also provided very interesting info on what happened to the black teachers in Topeka's black schools when the schools were integrated. On this visit, the only staff we saw were in the book shop. They were helpful but I would like to have had the option of touring with a guide.
- During my one visit, I did not see anything that I would change.
- Sidewalk from gravel parking lot to entrance was under construction during our visit, As such, we approached through the lawn. We didn't mind much, as it felt kind of school-kid like. But, the new sidewalk is necessary infrastructure.
- More information about length about videos. Unsure when a video was going to start, end or move to next segment.
- I would like more class analysis included in the exhibit. When she asks why does racism exist, lets look at that question and go back to when the settlers decided to stop allowing blacks to work their way to freedom to divide poor blacks and whites, how they gave poor whites little scraps of things over time to keep them loyal and preventing them from uniting with blacks--when they decided to allow non property owning men the right to vote, paid them to capture slave. Racism was created by those in power and I would like to see more analysis of that and just crazy anger racists white people doing things
- Maybe having access to the upstairs...
- Offer interpretive markers outdoors on the park grounds to explain more about the school's grounds, and explain more about the surrounding neighborhood and how it may have affected the school and its operation and the civil rights movement for that particular area around the school.
- I would like to see more interactive surroundings...perhaps a guided tour.
- Water fountain should be updated. Signs to show the order of the exhibition in a chronological manner.



- Apparently guided tours are not a regular part of the park experience but our ranger did a fantastic job of guiding us. We felt we got much more information and appreciation from our ranger than we would have gotten from the self-guided tours.
- Nothing needs to be changed
- One of the video presentations wasn't working while we were there.
- More of a introduction to the site is needed. Be good if it was led by a NPS person.
- The history of the school prior to the decision was not abundantly clear.
- I do not recall seeing a sign on the main roads that would have been helpful in locating the museum.
- While I enjoy the video experience in the auditorium, the seating situation is not the best.
- More funding for the facility to have staffed properly
- I cannot think of anything right now.
- Is there a way to let people know in advance of events when they will be occurring at the facility? There was an interesting event that happened last week or the week prior and I didn't get a Facebook notice until the day of the event and I already had a commitment.
- Ranger talks or docent-lead talks.
- In the auditorium we had to look up to watch the short videos instead of having a functioning screen in front of us. If the screen had worked, it would have been better.
- I enjoyed the experience. It doesn't need to be changed.
- The parking coming on a motor cycle. Parking is not possible on the gravel with a bike. We had to use the company parking site on the south of the parking lot. Also, the walk way from the parking lot to the building is grass, could be difficult to maneuver for people in wheelchairs, with canes or just difficulty walking.
- Better restroom signage
- Updated main video shown in the auditorium
- I think the timelines in the two rooms should've been laid out in a less-confusing way. They didn't seem to flow properly from one side to the next.

- I thought the videos were difficult to follow since they were in segments and run on a loop. I think one video with basic information about the cultural climate and details about the case and decision would be more helpful and easier to understand.
- Please update the videos! This museum has so much potential to be educational, but fell greatly short of it. I feel this is especially true since I went to the Harry Truman Presidential Library just the day before, and found it to be a FAR more educational experience. It was such easier to navigate as well, unlike the Brown v Board museum whose timelines were all out of order when you walk into the exhibit.
- Include additional information about the history of the neighborhood. Are there other interesting/important sites nearby?

## **A.6 ASPECT(S) VISITORS ENJOYED ABOUT BRVB**

### **Section 4 – Question 3**

- The video segments were well done.
- I thought the videos were well done. I also thought the bookstore was very good. And I really liked the park ranger who was in the bookstore. She was very friendly and willing to converse and answer questions.
- Thought the story was told well, as well as the civil rights movement.
- The ranger was extremely personable & knowledgeable.
- Information given about Brown v Board was informative and educational
- When I walked through the door and saw the signs for "White" and "Colored" it through me back to the fifties immediately. I liked the shock factor for those of us who lived then and the potential for younger people to inquire about what that meant.
- The stories told in video.
- I loved the tour that was given it was very interactive and the Ranger was amazing
- The timelines to show the transition towards the civil rights movement and how there were extreme gaps between changes.
- Kindergarten classroom

- The Little library in the hallway!
- The way the timelines were presented, helped understand the events that led up to this case. The fact that people were speaking out in the 1900, 20, 30, that led to this. We knew the history but this help us gain a better understanding. So much we were never taught.
- I really liked the all the interactive videos & information that they provided
- The park ranger greeting upon entrance.
- The Ranger but she was only staff present so manned the gift shop
- The video screens that you walked through with barking dogs and screaming people really made you feel what it might have been like.
- I liked the presentation of the historical context of the events. What came before and after Brown v Biard.
- I liked the timeline. It helped me put the events in perspective.
- Very intimate atmosphere, very straight forward place, friendly and helpful ranger on hand
- I enjoyed seeing the actual photos and videos from that era of history.
- Our park ranger was a fantastic docent, he really made the site come to life and I don't think our visit would have been as impactful without him.
- Everything was very organized and clean and easy to walk through. I also liked that you could very easily choose how much time you wanted to spend there, with the videos being five minutes each, and all of it being self-guided.
- I thought walking through the “tunnel” of protestors evoked an emotional response and allowed visitors to experience a sense of what it must have been like to be there.
- The ranger was amazing and I liked how I could spend as much time as I wanted there
- The interactive aspects of the exhibit are great for getting visitors engaged.
- The Ranger on duty on the 30th of Sep 2017 in the afternoon was a very well spoken and knowledgeable professional who if time and visitor numbers allowed took a real interest in the instructor of children. I highly recommend her.
- The young woman in the gift shop was so nice and knowledgeable.

- The facilities. They're top notch. I love that the facility offers you the opportunity to step through the doors of the once segregated school that is at the counterpoint of a landmark Supreme Court case, and gives you an opportunity to try to imagine what it was like for a child of color. The displays, videos, and interactive programming is also well done, and invites you to dig a little deeper on these historical issues.
- well done timelines
- Video and the gift shop
- The preservation of the building itself. It is a very nice old school building and really added to the experience to know what it was like in the past.
- Testing your knowledge after reading displays
- The overall description of the issue was very well done.
- The ranger (a college student) was VERY enthusiastic and knowledgeable
- Self paced aspect
- Individual rooms.
- Its very existence, plus other information/exhibits that are all part of the bigger history, not just only B v B, and how they inform our greater understanding/knowledge of literally hundreds of years of that bigger story.
- I was so impressed with the knowledge of the rangers and I learned an appreciation of the courage for these young people during the civil rights movement.
- The walkway showing people shouting and being hateful. As an african american growing up during that area I had to experience similar types of behavior. I thought it interesting and important that others get an idea how dramatic and traumatic an experience like that might be.
- The time line, it put everything else that was happening in the USA and the world into context
- I really enjoyed being able to learn more about the Brown v Board case. I was always interested in different historical events so it was definitely worth going,
- I liked the wall that you had to walk through with all of the anti- civil rights people seemingly shouting at you. I think it made you feel the weight of those moments.

- I thought the video was excellent at giving the background of why Brown v Board was needed at all
- I like the videos and real life quotes
- The interpreter's explanation of the strategy used by plaintiffs in the arguments before the Supreme Court. The arguments were based on the negative effects of segregation on school children, not (at least in the case of Kansas) on differential funding or teachers' qualifications.
- The Rangers were absolutely terrific. Two young ladies were both very interactive and supportive of the visit.
- Quality of exhibits.
- The young male employee who had previously worked in Alaska was extremely friendly, helpful and informative.
- I really like how the information is very visual and videos has captioning
- Exhibits that traced the history of segregation and the fight for equality.
- The Ranger was friendly and very informative. The video was incredibly well produced.
- I think they have done a nice job of compartmentalizing the various portions of the story to allow movement and not too much noise from other portions of the exhibit.
- Great young woman park ranger. She was great!
- The broad scope of civil rights struggles
- Was able to learn
- The ranger on duty was very friendly, eager to assist and answer questions. I was impressed with the quality of restoration of the school, including the cleanliness. The auditorium movie was excellent.
- I really liked hearing the stories and reaction of people who lived through the changes. I learned a lot of new things I didn't know.
- The ranger working
- The variety of short films.

- I loved the videos and interactive displays
- None I thought it was a very educational experience
- The rooms with nothing but pure history in it.
- I really appreciate that they used the same school building.
- Sign ; white colored
- Information and screens also interactive games
- The exhibits were great and very informative.
- The park ranger who greeted us. She was so energetic and positive. She really helped set us up to have a great experience.
- Video was excellent
- Love that it is the original building with original items still there.
- Layout and displays are good; but best of all is accessibility like captioning on all videos
- The videos were powerful
- Seeing the kindergarten room.
- Having a ranger on site to ask questions/talk too.
- Learning about racial discrimination by an specific event and situation in American history and how it developed into a greater change
- The park ranger allowed me to photograph the sculpture. I also like how the interpretive exhibits are laid out in the different rooms.
- The 25 minute video presentation provided a nice overview and summary for framing the rest of the exhibits. The park ranger was also very friendly and helpful.
- Getting to know the underlying details of the story of events, the families involved and the contextual background all helped bring focus to something I "knew" about all my life without really understanding the details. This brought it all together.
- The displays.

- The impact of Brown v Board across the US. The history of US citizens act toward others persist; driven by race, gender, religion, politics, money, power and sense of entitlement. Ironically, the state of Kansas continues to keep its' head in the sand about civil rights, science and equal treatment for all as witnessed by 49 other states and the world. I cannot remember a class trip offered for students to visit Brown v Board within the Blue Valley School District (one hour ride) in recent years to learn first hand... yet, Uncle Tom's Cabin is mandatory reading within curriculum. Ignorance and intolerance is perpetuated by the educators themselves.
- Like the authenticity of the building. still smelled like my old grade school classroom.
- it was both broader and more in-depth than I'd expected - really appreciated it
- I can tell that at the time I'd been there It was very pleasant because each aspect were chronologically approached.
- Care with which exhibits were designed.
- The timelines are my favorite, second would be the classrooms because you have visual image of what it was like, I also love the videos and photos of the chaos that existed. This leaves a ln impact of the visitors.
- The very informative materials which also gave room for discussions.
- We had a wonderful ranger who helped us understand what we were looking at. It is a complicated story.
- I liked that the timelines started before the civil war (although it was hard to know where to start) and progressed forward. I am embarrassed to admit that it was the first time I realized it hasn't been that long that black Americans have been fighting for their civil rights and why the past still haunts some black Americans.
- Learning more about our civil rights history.
- I learned about other events linked to Brown, eg Farmville, that I hadn't known about before.
- I felt really welcome by the staff. Our guide was well informed.
- The way that each issue that was happening during that time, like education and justice, has its own room so then you don't feel rushed and there is more to look at.
- The Kindergarten class and walking through tunnel reminiscent of what the first students to integrate would have felt.

- Great interp.
- All the history. The kindergarten class that has been restored to what it would have looked like.
- The exhibits were well done and very informative
- Being able to share this part of history with my children - it's important to understand so we can navigate the issues of today more effectively and with an appreciation for what has come before.
- The timeline was good and the video was excellent.
- The setting at the Monroe School vastly enhances the experience.
- Great videos and was very impressed with how the timeline included historic events around the oppression of other marginalized groups throughout US history.
- The facility was clean and well done. I particularly enjoyed the doll on display that was part of the study that showed the detrimental effects of segregation on African Americans
- I very much enjoyed the exhibits. I felt like I had the place to myself - sadly there weren't many other visitors around (I was there on a Sunday around 1 or 2pm in the afternoon. Lots of things are closed on Sundays in Topeka so this makes sense...but, Sunday seems to be a prime time for visitors. Maybe they can all talk about this. Otherwise, the exhibits were on point, provided enough, but not overwhelming amounts of information, invited you to engage as much or as little as desired. I thought, overall, that this site was very well done. There just could be more.
- Everything
- The film was really great
- The setting! Being in an old school made the information more relevant and stirring. (And it brought back memories of my own elementary education and experience with busing in Louisville, KY in the 70's)
- I loved being in the original building and seeing how they repaired it. I also really enjoyed the interactive displays and videos within the museum.
- The video with the young girl and grandfather's friend was well done and informative.
- More than one: The chronology of events leading to and after the Supreme Court decision. Also, interacting with the Ranger. My son and I had visited the Eisenhower



library the previous day and we discussed with her that library as well as others she and we had visited. I also liked the various mentions of Native Americans and other minorities in the exhibit.

- The variety in settings and exhibits.
- the narrow area where there was video and audio in the gallery. it made it feel more real, like i was experiencing what the african americans were experiencing during that time
- Along with the fantastic staff, I thought the presentation of BvB in the context of a web of court cases and legal challenges was a really interesting way to look at a well known historical event.
- The room with video clips that shows the struggles of peaceful African American pushing for equality.
- The rich history of what took place on Topeka
- I really enjoyed the video presentations as well as the audio presentations.
- Original classroom
- The White and Colored signs in our faces when we walked in
- I really like the videos
- I enjoyed that it showed the legacy of the Brown decision as well as how the case came about and was argued.
- I liked being able to go into a classroom.
- i liked the video walk through. it was intense and really took you back to the time.
- I liked the abundance of history on both the Civil Rights Movement and Brown v Board of Education in specific.
- Authentic building and classrooms Good background of the case
- The manner in which the building hasbeen preserved, the video, and the souvenir options.
- I learned something new about my home town of Baltimore
- movies, gift shop

- I liked how clean it was and how so much was still in tact.
- Everything! It was an amazing surprise on a very long road trip!
- It was quiet and I didn't feel rushed or pestered
- I loved the small hallway where videos were playing and you felt as if you were a part of the situation.
- I appreciated seeing the modern issues we still face in regards to racial diversity in our schools. Seeing how socio-economic status greatly segregates our school just as extremely today as laws have in the past.
- Videos, history and the attempt to keep the place as close as possible to the original settings
- The timeline for the Civil Rights Movement and the content was very thorough!
- Talking to a ranger about questions I had.
- All the historical exhibits that provided important context
- Outside of building is well preserved.
- i truly enjoyed the video timelines and the quizzes
- There were so many informative displays (posters) with so much to read, and with children, it was nice to allow them to learn from the interactive displays since they were not interested in reading so many words. The visit sparked a lot of family conversation and we all learned a lot.
- The interactive learning areas in the rooms- videos, etc.
- Ranger who greeted us
- The live classroom setting and the ranger staff.
- Videos were very powerful.
- In depth displays and information. Very interesting and educational.
- The building itself was educational.
- I liked all of the historical information leading up to the Civil Rights Movement.

- This is an important place/event/series of events in the lives of every American. We should all feel equally responsible (for good or ill) for this moment in history. Brown v Board encourages us all, regardless of race, to continue fighting for the fair and equal treatment of all the people's of the world.
- The knowledge they had about the school and how they were excited to be there
- nice building
- Several interactive exhibits
- I loved the timeline and the way it connected the Brown v Board of Education decision to modern day civil rights issues around the world.
- I loved the whole exhibit! I was immersed. Very educational. I liked the video halls. Very eye opening.
- Very clean, staff was very informative, liked the displays
- The classroom where children could play and see what it was like then. We enjoyed all of the interactive exhibits.
- I liked how individual it was. I enjoyed going at my own pace and enjoying it as I pleased. I also enjoyed how few people were around so I had space to take everything in.
- The ranger took time to introduce us to the motivations behind the decision. This was foundational and important.
- The interactive information on the walls, in videos, and on tables was great. I was happy there was a nice balance of long vs. short content to consume.
- I loved the Videos
- The timeline depicting events throughout the years.
- The interactive exhibits
- I thought the interpretative exhibits were polished and effective; some of the best I've seen in the country and I've been to more than 100 park sites! Relatedly, the Junior Ranger booklet was well done.
- Dioramas were excellent. It was nice talking with the intern at the gift shop.
- The video describing the lawsuit of Brown vs Board

- The exhibits and staff were wonderful
- The details. I remembered a lot of names and facts from high school but there was a lot of information that painted a more personal picture.
- The displays are well done and easy to read
- The use of media really captures the evolution of change from the past to now. Although there is always room for growth, it was nice to see how the facility attempted to capture all details.
- The classroom was nice and the hands-on exhibits. I like that we are in the actual school building too.
- Excellent informational exhibits
- The entrance with colored and white people was shocking to our party as all of us are Hispanic but under 53 years of age so we did not experience this first-hand. Also there was a display that was offensive in the ranger and child both African American... not sure why any color was needed there. Could just be body
- The videos throughout the school.
- I liked the timelines and the features about the different people.
- I liked the exhibits
- The restored kindergarten classroom was a special space to be in to reflect about U.S. history and equality for all people.
- Viewing the classrooms and the videos.
- Immediate visual impact of racial segregation.
- The History
- I liked in the room across the hall from the kindergarten room that it showed how long it actually took for desegregation of schools to finally be implemented everywhere. And I liked the music that was listed showing people fighting for civil rights....just wished the headphones actually worked.
- Movie and displays.
- Enthusiastic and helpful staff.

- Looking at the timeline it made me think about how long America has been a free and independent country and saddened by the never ending struggle that blacks have seen despite our country's proclaimed values of equal opportunity for all.
- The videos and exhibits did an excellent job of showing the problems with racial inequality and racism, without being preachy. It presented the experiences in a very personal way without telling people what they should think, allowing them to come to their own conclusions. It's a fine line to walk, and the videos and exhibits did it very, very well. Everyone in America should come and experience this site.
- It was free to the public. We brought 2 Girl Scout troops from Lansing as the start to a week long trip together learning .....
- I liked that they had someone who showed me the best order to navigate the Brown v Board.
- The video that plays in the auditorium was very insightful and interesting.
- I like it when the Rangers participate in the presentations.
- The HVAC system, I thought that was very interesting and was happy they put the sign up.
- I like the halls and interactive games like fact or fiction.
- The layout was good. The kids liked the interactive classroom. The videos and displays were engaging and educational
- Staff, informative
- The staff were welcoming, knowledgeable, and helpful with the resources they had.
- I liked the time line throughout the displays. It was interesting because i had also visited Gettysburg on the trip so to see the actual progression on how long it took civil rights and better equality to come about after the emancipation proclamation...which was too long.
- I liked the classroom and the history of education.
- The displays were very nicely laid out and had a lot of information given in interesting ways. It was interactive, even an adult enjoyed reading the questions and trying to answer them.
- Exhibits and the classroom.

- The massive resistance coverage was especially good.
- The experience of video images of historical events showing the hatefulness of segregation.
- I loved the young, enthusiastic folks who were working at the site. The young man who showed me around surely thought of all of this ancient history (and he is not even from Kansas--what must he think?), but his youth and kindness struck me. A lot of this seemed new to him. I regret asking him if he knew where the Westboro Baptist Church is--he didn't know what it is. Anyway, he and the woman who seemed to be a supervisor were friendly, kind, smart people, and I enjoyed them. Also, the tunnel I walked through with videos all around and people yelling at me--very powerful.
- The interactive displays and videos are very well done.
- Eye opening reminder to civil rights issues in our no so distant history.
- Civil rights film and displays.
- The amount of information available and the way it is presented.
- Ranger led tour was fabulous. Extremely knowledgeable about history. Great interaction with family. Very knowledgeable about book recommendations.
- The kids room. It was fun to play with woodblocks
- I enjoyed the timelines. It really put into perspective how we are not far removed from these events. I also enjoy the videos in different classrooms.
- The entrance with hanging signs "White" and "Colored" is extremely high impact. I'll carry that image with me a long time.
- I really liked the rooms with videos. You could spend time reading and touching as well as sit when necessary. I think this is important when you take your entire family. It will have activities that all can enjoy at their own pace.
- My son really like the video with the baton and passing it on.
- I liked the dark setting in contrast to the bright, black and white films from the Civil Rights area to transport you into the past and people's shoes who walked that harrowing road to desegregation and more equal rights. I appreciate the large timeline of America's 400 year history of slavery and how it affects us today.
- The appearance of the building and the grounds are well maintained.

- I liked how clean the facilities were and well-presented the information was. Also, the staff was extremely nice, professional, and helpful!
- The ranger is very helpful!
- The video presentations in the auditorium and classrooms were very well done and added much to the experience.
- Very educational and learning experience
- The historical background of the "big" picture, that Brown v Board was just one story of the Civil Rights Movement. I really like the how the issue was brought to current time to reflect on in the exhibits. The documentary film of a young person hearing of the story from an older person was well done.
- The fact that the school still looks like the school.
- The videos were awesome.
- I enjoyed the museum setting in that it led us through the history up to brown vs. board and after. I thought the exhibits were very interactive and thorough.
- I enjoyed all of the multimedia visitor experiences, e.g. the video's with different cases around the country, the walkway with large screens all around you.
- The ranger was very knowledgeable and enthusiastic
- Exhibits and interactive videos. Gift shop and easy to follow information. I enjoyed the kindergarten room setting!
- I think it was a very well done and well maintained museum
- I always learn something new when I tour Brown v Board. The exhibits brought in are always so educational.
- I like to see the quotes from all the advocates and activists. I liked reading the letter to the teacher on the desk in the Kindergarten room.
- I really felt the "walkthrough" (with the videos playing at each side of you) of what was endured was very powerful and humbling.
- That it was an actual school and had so many visual stuff to help understand along the way.

- I liked the context provided by the site. It was not just about the specific court case, it put it into context.
- Really liked the museum. Watched all the movies, learned a lot and it's sad that we haven't learned more from this history !!!
- Displays and photos were informative.
- The history pictures and explanations.
- The amount of audio/visual elements of the exhibit
- Speaking with the interpretive rangers was invaluable. Their wealth of knowledge about the site and events really made the experience a wonderful one for me.
- I enjoyed the interactive parts of the exhibit - video screens, moveable blocks, etc. I appreciate that there were multiple ways to adsorb the information.
- A historian greeted us when we entered and gave us an overview.
- The site was educational and poignant. The ranger present on the day of our visit was informed and helpful. Excellent experience.
- The site is well-maintained. It helps convey the history to know the building is accurate to the time of BvB.



**A.7 VISITOR EXPENSES AND TOTALS (all number reported as \$'s)****Section 6 – Question 1**

<b>Gas and transportation</b>	<b>Lodging (e.g., hotels, motels, resorts, campgrounds, etc.)</b>	<b>Food, meals, and drinks (e.g., restaurants, groceries, taverns, etc.)</b>	<b>Tourist services (e.g., tours, rentals, equipment rentals, etc.)</b>	<b>Shopping and gifts (e.g., clothes, gifts, souvenirs, etc.)</b>	<b>Totals</b>
20	0	0	0	10	<b>30</b>
40	125	50	0	20	<b>235</b>
30	120	30	0	15	<b>195</b>
10	0	0	0	0	<b>10</b>
0	0	0	0	5	<b>5</b>
0	0	0	0	20	<b>20</b>
40	0	40	0	15	<b>95</b>
40	0	60	0	100	<b>200</b>
3	0	0	0	5	<b>8</b>
30	570	104	0	0	<b>704</b>
25	0	35	0	0	<b>60</b>
18	0	30	0	10	<b>58</b>
50	179	50	0	30	<b>309</b>
50	0	100	0	0	<b>150</b>
0	100	20	0	10	<b>130</b>
20	0	150	0	0	<b>170</b>
0	300	0	0	0	<b>300</b>
22	520	60	0	0	<b>602</b>
10	0	0	0	0	<b>10</b>
250	150	50	0	75	<b>525</b>
20	0	0	0	0	<b>20</b>
12	0	35	0	0	<b>47</b>
2	0	0	0	0	<b>2</b>
50	0	125	0	0	<b>175</b>
700	575	100	0	0	<b>1375</b>
30	100	50	50	75	<b>305</b>
5	0	0	0	0	<b>5</b>
40	150	40	0	50	<b>280</b>
11	0	30	0	5	<b>46</b>

20	40	40	0	50	<b>150</b>
25	120	10	0	5	<b>160</b>
5	0	25	0	0	<b>30</b>
5	0	10	0	0	<b>15</b>
2	0	50	0	100	<b>152</b>
150	220	150	55	0	<b>575</b>
0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
15	0	35	0	6	<b>56</b>
20	30	20	0	0	<b>70</b>
20	0	15	0	10	<b>45</b>
0	0	0	0	50	<b>50</b>
5	0	5	0	0	<b>10</b>
50	300	150	0	0	<b>500</b>
20	0	50	0	20	<b>90</b>
30	125	30	0	20	<b>205</b>
25	0	50	0	0	<b>75</b>
30	110	10	0	10	<b>160</b>
20	0	20	0	0	<b>40</b>
0	100	10	0	40	<b>150</b>
33	0	0	0	0	<b>33</b>
20	0	60	0	30	<b>110</b>
15	0	20	0	5	<b>40</b>
0	0	0	0	7	<b>7</b>
120	65	50	0	5	<b>240</b>
20	0	8	0	55	<b>83</b>
100	120	150	0	50	<b>420</b>
5	0	0	0	0	<b>5</b>
200	800	300	200	20	<b>1520</b>
20	0	10	0	0	<b>30</b>
40	30	30	0	25	<b>125</b>
15	0	0	0	0	<b>15</b>
20	0	100	0	150	<b>270</b>
40	0	85	0	34	<b>159</b>
50	300	150	0	0	<b>500</b>
25	0	30	0	30	<b>85</b>
20	0	0	0	0	<b>20</b>
175	110	0	0	10	<b>295</b>
30	100	0	0	25	<b>155</b>
40	120	60	0	5	<b>225</b>

58	250	30	0	0	<b>338</b>
15	0	6	0	0	<b>21</b>
60	0	100	0	20	<b>180</b>
10	0	20	0	0	<b>30</b>
0	0	0	0	20	<b>20</b>
0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
30	90	60	0	10	<b>190</b>
21	0	0	0	10	<b>31</b>
0	0	35	0	10	<b>45</b>
5	0	0	0	10	<b>15</b>
20	100	25	0	0	<b>145</b>
20	110	25	0	0	<b>155</b>
1	0	13	0	0	<b>14</b>
24	50	50	0	10	<b>134</b>
30	120	80	0	0	<b>230</b>
555	1331	775	0	0	<b>2661</b>
10	100	30	0	100	<b>240</b>
25	0	10	0	200	<b>235</b>
81	228	55	0	42	<b>406</b>
35	20	15	0	0	<b>70</b>
0	40	30	0	0	<b>70</b>
20	110	30	0	5	<b>165</b>
0	0	0	0	15	<b>15</b>
25	106	50	0	75	<b>256</b>
10	0	0	0	0	<b>10</b>
15	0	30	0	75	<b>120</b>
20	100	40	0	100	<b>260</b>
20	0	40	0	15	<b>75</b>
50	0	10	0	0	<b>60</b>
20	0	120	0	100	<b>240</b>
20	0	0	0	0	<b>20</b>
1	0	0	0	0	<b>1</b>
50	0	0	0	100	<b>150</b>
100	0	25	0	30	<b>155</b>
0	0	0	0	17	<b>17</b>
5	25	50	0	10	<b>90</b>
15	0	0	0	0	<b>15</b>
25	0	20	0	20	<b>65</b>
25	0	10	0	50	<b>85</b>

20	0	50	0	0	<b>70</b>
800	180	100	0	25	<b>1105</b>
50	0	0	0	0	<b>50</b>
20	120	100	0	0	<b>240</b>
10	0	10	0	15	<b>35</b>
20	0	0	0	7	<b>27</b>
100	300	100	0	0	<b>500</b>
480	71	45	0	20	<b>616</b>
20	45	40	0	50	<b>155</b>
10	40	10	0	15	<b>75</b>
10	0	0	0	0	<b>10</b>
0	0	0	0	10	<b>10</b>
10	0	20	0	0	<b>30</b>
715	180	105	0	25	<b>1025</b>
100	980	550	0	375	<b>2005</b>
34	60	100	0	350	<b>544</b>
20	100	30	0	0	<b>150</b>
30	300	100	100	100	<b>630</b>
50	80	80	0	0	<b>210</b>
150	150	250	0	200	<b>750</b>
100	76	25	0	15	<b>216</b>
400	300	250	0	400	<b>1350</b>
40	0	20	0	0	<b>60</b>
35	0	30	0	80	<b>145</b>
60	636	400	435	35	<b>1566</b>
0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
10	0	15	0	0	<b>25</b>
5	0	0	0	5	<b>10</b>
5	0	40	0	30	<b>75</b>
36	1000	300	400	200	<b>1936</b>
500	2500	450	185	1447	<b>5082</b>
5	0	50	0	20	<b>75</b>
20	0	10	0	5	<b>35</b>
0	0	0	0	20	<b>20</b>
20	0	12	0	0	<b>32</b>
20	0	20	0	0	<b>40</b>
10	150	30	0	10	<b>200</b>
100	100	75	0	40	<b>315</b>
21	150	200	50	50	<b>471</b>

10	0	0	0	0	<b>10</b>
100	300	60	0	30	<b>490</b>
5	0	0	0	0	<b>5</b>
0	0	0	0	50	<b>50</b>
10	0	30	0	0	<b>40</b>
40	0	30	0	15	<b>85</b>
20	0	50	0	10	<b>80</b>
200	400	100	0	0	<b>700</b>
100	160	100	200	50	<b>610</b>
0	0	12	0	0	<b>12</b>
300	0	100	0	75	<b>475</b>
10	0	60	0	0	<b>70</b>
40	120	40	0	12	<b>212</b>
75	0	0	0	0	<b>75</b>
5	0	0	0	0	<b>5</b>
25	100	35	0	25	<b>185</b>
2	0	0	0	5	<b>7</b>
40	0	40	0	0	<b>80</b>
50	0	40	0	5	<b>95</b>
10	0	40	0	15	<b>65</b>
15	0	20	0	0	<b>35</b>
20	0	30	0	0	<b>50</b>
40	120	30	0	5	<b>195</b>
25	0	50	0	0	<b>75</b>
25	0	50	0	0	<b>75</b>
100	0	30	0	20	<b>150</b>
20	0	40	0	15	<b>75</b>
20	0	40	0	15	<b>75</b>
0	0	0	0	10	<b>10</b>
35	75	0	0	10	<b>120</b>
20	0	25	0	28	<b>73</b>
10	0	12	0	0	<b>22</b>
400	0	50	0	0	<b>450</b>
30	140	60	0	4	<b>234</b>
25	60	20	0	60	<b>165</b>
20	0	20	0	0	<b>40</b>
2	0	0	0	0	<b>2</b>
100	300	180	0	200	<b>780</b>
20	0	0	0	0	<b>20</b>

40	0	40	0	20	<b>100</b>
20	40	15	0	0	<b>75</b>
0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
40	0	10	0	0	<b>50</b>
15	121	42	0	0	<b>178</b>
10	20	15	0	0	<b>45</b>
30	0	0	0	20	<b>50</b>
25	0	0	0	0	<b>25</b>
22	0	5	0	0	<b>27</b>
20	0	10	0	0	<b>30</b>
0	0	50	0	0	<b>50</b>
2	0	5	0	0	<b>7</b>
0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
10	0	0	0	24	<b>34</b>
20	0	60	0	45	<b>125</b>
5	0	0	0	0	<b>5</b>
21	110	15	0	25	<b>171</b>
13	421	289	0	26	<b>749</b>
20	0	0	0	75	<b>95</b>
25	0	30	75	5	<b>135</b>
10	0	0	0	20	<b>30</b>
20	0	7	0	0	<b>27</b>
0	20	0	0	30	<b>50</b>
0	0	60	0	0	<b>60</b>
10	0	30	0	0	<b>40</b>
25	0	60	0	45	<b>130</b>
20	0	20	0	0	<b>40</b>
5	0	25	0	0	<b>30</b>
12	0	7	0	0	<b>19</b>
150	200	100	0	20	<b>470</b>
10	0	0	0	30	<b>40</b>
30	150	100	20	30	<b>330</b>
3	130	0	0	10	<b>143</b>
200	45	35	300	40	<b>620</b>
8	0	15	0	0	<b>23</b>
107	150	0	0	10	<b>267</b>
0	0	0	0	10	<b>10</b>
20	0	10	0	21	<b>51</b>
725	0	250	0	0	<b>975</b>

0	0	0	0	25	<b>25</b>
20	0	30	0	15	<b>65</b>
40	25	30	0	50	<b>145</b>
20	0	0	0	30	<b>50</b>
7	0	4	0	0	<b>11</b>
0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
0	0	25	0	10	<b>35</b>
10	0	25	0	5	<b>40</b>
10	0	0	0	25	<b>35</b>
0	0	0	0	40\$	<b>0</b>
28	45	10	0	0	<b>83</b>
600	3000	750	0	0	<b>4350</b>
20	200	30	0	20	<b>270</b>
20	60	50	0	20	<b>150</b>
10	0	0	0	5	<b>15</b>
0	0	50	0	20	<b>70</b>
15	0	30	0	0	<b>45</b>
20	80	30	0	0	<b>130</b>
100	75	25	0	20	<b>220</b>
300	800	150	0	0	<b>1250</b>
20	255	35	230	3	<b>543</b>
20	10	40	0	0	<b>70</b>
5	0	0	0	0	<b>5</b>
25	0	0	0	10	<b>35</b>
0	0	0	0	20	<b>20</b>
60	110	200	0	60	<b>430</b>
45	160	80	0	30	<b>315</b>
0	0	50	0	0	<b>50</b>
5	0	0	0	0	<b>5</b>
15	0	15	0	0	<b>30</b>
15	0	30	0	0	<b>45</b>
20	150	100	0	20	<b>290</b>
8	0	20	0	0	<b>28</b>
5	0	11	0	0	<b>16</b>
60	0	30	0	0	<b>90</b>
20	0	20	0	0	<b>40</b>
20	0	0	0	0	<b>20</b>
10	0	20	0	10	<b>40</b>
20	0	0	0	0	<b>20</b>

## **A.8 SOURCES USED TO GATHER INFORMATION ABOUT BRVB**

### Section 6 – Question 2

- Expedia
- National Park Passport stamp program
- Google Search
- Internet Info on chocolate festival
- TripAdvisor website<sup>3</sup>
- internet search
- National Park Passport Book
- Conference
- internet
- note re: Topeka attractions in Topeka High School reunion info; plus, I grew up in Topeka, aware of site, grade school during the case's time
- Recommendation on Trip Advisor
- School
- Parks Passports
- Travelocity
- Passport To Your National Parks book
- APP on phone by Chimani
- Trip Advisor, Yelp
- Passing through on the way home using a different auto route
- KU Staff
- Topeka tourism guide
- I live in topeka
- local KU managed our trip visiting historical places



- National Park Traveller's Club
- TripAdvisor
- Trip advisor
- National Park Travelers Club website (I'm a member)
- Google Maps
- Lonely Planet
- Various internet searches for activities nearby
- They had flyers at track meet at Univ of Kansas
- Pinterest
- Trip Advisor.com
- national geographic road atlas
- TripAdvisor (online)
- Brooke Nelson
- TripAdvisor
- internet search for things to do in topeka
- Internet
- roadtrippers.com
- Google search, "Roadtrippers" app
- None. We saw the building as we drive by.
- Trip Advisor
- Internet travel postings on what to see on I70
- Online researching trip.
- Internet
- Used to live in KS and always wanted to visit.

- AAA
- recommended by Kansas state judicial conference, to whom I was speaking
- I have a BS in History
- National park passport app (iOS)
- Road atlas
- We saw sign on highway. We stopped. We were on a national parks tour and this did hit our radar until we hit Topeka.
- trip advisor
- NPS phone app
- None, our trip to Brown v Board was unplanned.
- TripAdvisor
- Internet
- Kansas Division of Tourism

## A.9 – GENERAL COMMENTS

- Great experience! Was especially moved when I had to walk through the movies being played and it thrust me into the experience of being Black during the Civil Rights movement. Very powerful and unnerving...
- Passport was a great idea for National Parks. Stopping at places and making us more aware of park system.
- I live in the area, so I just need to make it a point to schedule time to visit each time there is a new exhibit. Always so educational. I'm always telling my friends that I work with at KU and who have moved to Kansas from another state to schedule a time to visit. Great facility!! Thanks.
- Thanks for the wonderful opportunity to visit and enjoy historical exhibits!
- We like to bring our annual youth tour students here. Just wish there was more for them to do.
- The young lady doing the surveys was very pleasant
- My husband and I belong to the National Parks Club. He has been to all of the NP's, at that time 412. I've been to approx 250.
- Brown v Board was a fun visit that was also educational. The staff were outstanding and very friendly!
- Nice job on this Park. It was an unscheduled drop in, and a nice treat. Bonus was the school bus full of teenagers visiting at the same time...their (big) presence fleshed-out a "school" ambiance.
- "I live in Topeka and always try to take visiting friends and family to the Brown v. Topeka Board of Ed. site. I think it would be great if the Sumner School site was also made a part of this educational experience. I take my visitors by Sumner School on our way to Monroe School to show how far children living in the Sumner area had to travel to attend school.
- It would also be nice if visitors had access to the federal courtroom where the Brown case was heard.
- I really appreciate the effort that has gone into educating the public on this important part of American history. The Monroe school site is extremely well done. I also appreciate the book store on site."
- It was not so educational for me in the normal sense--I know quite a bit about the period and the movement. But the images and sounds were moving, and just being there was powerful. Every once in a while, I need to remind myself of where we've come from--mistakes we've made. We must be ever vigilant.
- I am a law professor at Harvard and have written extensively about Brown v. Board, the civil rights movement, and race in American history
- This was a nice stop. The only thing we would change would be a ranger.
- I wish Mendez vs Westminster was included.

- Thank you
- Wife works at US District Court in Topeka since 1994 and docketed and filed in the Brown v. Board case.
- My wife and I are both white but our children are all bi racial (African American/White and White/Hispanic) We felt it was important for all of us to visit this site, and it was a good experience for all of us.
- Walkway from parking lot to entrance needs some work to provide a good path or walkway to get to the entrance.
- I have visited Topeka many times and this is the first time I visited Brown vs. Board of Education. I can't believe I missed it for so long. I think the National Park Service needs to increase their marketing budget. They have some really, really excellent sites and exhibits. I hated history in school but I love learning about history through the parks. I worry that ignorant people in our country will eliminate or negatively affect the parks service. Please market yourselves better! And keep crushing it, you are doing it right.
- Please keep up the National Park resistance to the current administration. Our National Parks are a treasure.
- Visiting this site was a really special experience, but we didn't even know about it until we passed the sign on the highway. Is there a National Park Service brochure or area on their website that shows a list of all parks, monuments, historic sites, etc. based on region of travel? It would be really cool for citizens to be able to see what areas they'll be driving near that they wouldn't otherwise think about visiting.
- The parking is poor. Needs paved walkway from parking lot to bldg to be more accessible
- We enjoyed our visit.
- "We are on a big trip and Brown v. Board was on the way. I'm glad we stopped. Pamphlet on John Brown helped me understand civil rights issues/history in Kansas. Helpful as we traveled through Kansas."
- Great historical site which needs to be a destination on everyone's list.
- I enjoyed the museum. It was a great experience.
- I was taking a road trip to move from Massachusetts to California, and this was one of the first stops I decided on and then I knew I had to make sure my trip stopped in Topeka. I am very glad I did as I really enjoyed the museum and it was by far one of the best educational stops I made on my trip.
- We were on a cross country trip and Brown vs. Board of Ed was one of our planned stops. It was very eye opening for our 4 children.
- I will not select a gender when only two are presented.
- We enjoyed our visit to Brown v. Board. We are studying American History in homeschool this year and have one week specifically on Brown v. Board and several on Civil Rights so we wanted to visit this while we were in town. There wasn't too much to see, but the junior ranger booklet helped keep me and 3 of my children on track and interacting with the exhibits. They are 8, 5, and 4. It was a bit difficult to find several of the answers in the

booklet. The last video was apparently in the gift shop, which we learned from another guest. I wish the video in the auditorium was about 15 minutes instead of 30 and we would have done it then. I would not have known about the junior ranger program had the KSU student outside not told me before we went in. The rangers were pretty busy talking to others when we arrived, so we didn't really know where to start or where to get the booklets.

- there should be a documentary film about the Monroe school, so that visitors can know why it is so important.
- Topeka has really grown since the last time I have been there. There is so much to do with kids and family. There really should be something related to the Wizard of Oz I feel, my personal preference. I was really interested in Burnetts Mound but it was too hard to get there with my children and my mother not being able to walk that far in the heat. I got to see it from the side road sort of. Although I was disappointed with the Brown Vs Board building I did enjoy my stay in Topeka otherwise. I love how much has been done in the past few years.
- We enjoyed visiting the site and learning about the events that led to the decision and the impact it had in the nation. I cried as I walked through the wall of videos. It was very powerful. Even the sign separating each race (white/black) stood out in our minds. Thank you for not charging admission. It's always great for big families to be able to visit places without having to pay so much. Our entire family enjoyed the whole experience. Thank you.
- Brown v Board was a really cool place to stopover - we had some time to kill before a wedding in Topeka, so it fit the bill perfectly.
- I'm semi-retired, was traveling on business, and included Brown v. Board of Education as one of the stops on my trip. I like to visit national park sites as much as I can.
- Having only two gender options is a poor way to end your survey at the very least include an other fill in the blank option.
- We were passing through Topeka and happened to learn about brown v education site. We are so glad we did - it was a highlight of our cross-country trip.
- Would be nice to list reason we were visiting Topeka. our trip was not for museum but we happened to attend while on our trip.
- Would be nice to list ethnicity of group members. My daughters are mixed black and white."
- Everything was awesome
- Thanks for a thought-provoking and valuable experience
- We stopped by the park on the way through Kansas on a road trip so it was not necessarily a planned destination. Nevertheless, we have already recommended it to multiple friends and family. I was particularly happy to speak with the staff but was sad to hear that many of them were on their last day on the job (literally, I think). I hope that the BvB park and the National Park Service more generally can secure more funding, even in the current political climate, and continue its important work.
- My son and I are visiting various Presidential libraries and museums and flew into and stayed in Manhattan. We visited the Eisenhower Museum on Saturday and, in looking for other places of interest in the area, he located Brown v Board. We thoroughly enjoyed our visits to

both as well as hiking in the Flint Hills. Although there was no charge for Brown v Board, I have a Senior National Park pass. That leads us to search for National Parks in the areas where we travel. I was somewhat surprised that we saw no blacks during our visit to Brown v Board other than one ranger. Just an observation.

- Good luck on the project! I fully support the national parks and services and plan on attending as many as I can!
- I specifically planned a trip to Kansas as it is the only state I haven't been to, besides Alaska. I am headed to Alaska next month, and wanted to get Kansas in. I spent time in Leavenworth learning about the Buffalo Soldiers, Atchison to see Amelia Earhart's birthplace, and then went to St. Joseph MO to learn about the Pony Express one day. I also explored into Brownville NE and Hamburg, IA. The next day, I explored the National World War I Museum and the Topeka area including the Brown vs. Board of Education Site. I also stopped at Lewis and Clark sites here and there. There is so much to do in the general area, but I did a lot of driving to get a lot in. I think Kansas did a fairly decent job of promoting the area - I found road trip maps/brochures at rest areas that were very helpful. I think the biggest issue is how deserted Topeka is on Sunday. I'm grateful Brown vs. Board of Ed was open. It would have been nice if other things in Topeka were open. Best wishes with your study and good luck with your graduate program.
- We enjoyed our visit and found it educational. However, I think the presentation could be stronger both educationally and emotionally. As to education, see my specific comments above. I think the museum tries to be too comprehensive as a civil rights museum and would be stronger if it focused more narrowly. I end up a little confused as to the goal of the site. Emotionally, the two most powerful things for me were the White/Colored signs at the entrance and the doll (black child found white doll prettier) in the exhibition case in the hall (also mentioned in the video). However, I think this very memorable and telling story about the doll could have been more powerfully presented. It gets somewhat lost as exhibited. I thought the video was most appropriate for schoolchildren rather than adult visitors, but it was very well done and I think it must be an excellent teaching tool. In general, I think that the emotional component of the visitor's experience could be strengthened.
- Maybe this museum could also address the issue of African American teachers who lost jobs as a result of integration. Most change, even positive change, involves some degree of collateral damage and it seems to me that many teachers of color were lost at this time, and even now, teaching is a predominately white profession.
- We enjoyed our visit! Roadside sign alerted us to the existence of the museum. So glad to have stopped there.
- A wonderful spot and a great resource
- Passing through Topeka on way from Kansas City, MO back home to Pueblo, CO. Vacation style is to visit as many NPS and other museum sites as I can in any given trip so while there were no costs directly associated with visiting BvBOE, this was part of a week-long vacation planned around eclipse, baseball (Rockies at Royals), and museums in the KC area.

- Please reach out to the communities to provide a historical treasure in their back yard. As families travel to and thru Topeka for other events e.g. soccer, encourage and promote a visit to Brown v Board National Park.
- My primary reason for visiting the area was to run the Hawk Hundred Marathon in Lawrence, Kansas (Clinton Lake State Park), on Saturday. My Sunday flight didn't leave until the afternoon, so I drove to Topeka mainly because I enjoy visiting capitol buildings. Because the capitol is closed on Sunday and I had another 1-2 hours before I needed to leave Topeka, I looked at the guidebook and saw the Brown v Board of Education national park site nearby. It seemed like the perfect activity to fit my schedule and learn more about a part of U.S. history that has been particularly pertinent in recent months.
- I'm curious if there are plans to open the second floor of the building for visitation.
- Expand at end to look ahead on what need to be done, knowing still long way to go given w recent uprising and trumpism. Not mention police shootings, phobias abt other people or immigration.
- We were on a cross country road trip when we passed by a road sign promoting the museum. We had not originally planned on stopping in the Topeka area.
- I traveled from Kansas City, MO to Topeka primarily to meet family that I have never met. However, I took the opportunity to visit what I considered a site that is extremely important to the history of the United States.
- I was disappointed that the ranger was a white man.
- This is a hidden treasure that I think should be publicized more.
- I have visited many historical sites in the past. I have read and learned about Brown v Board of Education in text books in classes during undergraduate school. Visiting this park not only gave me a different perspective but helped me redefine myself as an individual. The sign at the end of the first hallway, White/Black, left me with an indelible feeling that I still cannot describe. I am very glad that I visited this site and plan to take my wife on the next trip. To the two young ladies who were quite informative, I greatly appreciate you!
- I discovered the National Parks passport program a little over a year ago and have thoroughly enjoyed going to as many as possible since. Overall, with just two slight exceptions, the rangers (and volunteers) have been excellent - they are very welcoming and knowledgeable, and really enjoy their work. Brown v Board, with its video and exhibits, does a fantastic job of explaining the history.
- We were travelling around from the UK. The Brown v Board was one of many places we visited and it was very interesting especially from an educational point of view
- I suggest it would be of interest to explain what the survey is for, how it came to be conducted, what the results are going to be used for, etc."
- We very much enjoyed the visit, the ranger made it especially good! (and good gift shop!)
- Just passing through on 70 enroute to Colorado and thought the exhibit looked interesting

- Educating people on civil rights history is so important! It might be nice to offer additional sites that people might be interested in around the country (like MLK/Civil Rights Museum at the Lorraine Motel in Memphis).
- There wasn't a guided tour when we visited and we didn't see anyone to ask. We were not sure which rooms to go into, where to start our tour could we go upstairs? We still enjoyed the tour and learning more about Brown vs Board of Education. Thanks for making this museum available and at no cost.
- well done historic site.
- I brought my mother on this trip (I had previously visited Brown v. Board once before) and one of the things she was reminiscing about (reflecting on Brown v. Board) was the conversation we had with the NPS staff person, who was African-American. They shared some personal insights on their experiences as in individual of color, and for her, she was able to directly connect their experience with how far/little we've come since the 1950s.
- Excellent experience.
- I learned about this getting my M.Ed. and wish I had come sooner.
- I really enjoyed the trip to Brown v Board. The displays were sophisticated and informative. The staff was accommodating and friendly.
- Thanks for the great experience! Perhaps signs that show which door to walk in if you'd like to start at the beginning of timelines. Sometimes we walked in and realized we were at the end of those timelines. I know it's probably fine to walk in any door, but it might help to tell people that if you did want to walk through chronologically, a certain door is better to start with.
- I hope my answers can be of some use to you. Thanks!
- Enjoyed the tour very much!
- We really enjoyed the visit. Learned a lot, renewed by commitment to civil rights advocacy. Put many things in their historical context that I had forgotten or did not have knowledge of.
- This is a remarkable site and I was delighted it was so well preserved and presented. The video sequence with the older man telling the young woman about how things used to be was quite effective without the vitriol we see in so much of today's film-making. I liked the availability of postcards in both color and classic black and white as would have been more common back in the early 1950s. I hope more people take advantage of what the NPS has done to make the story available to us.



## A.10 – SURVEY INSTRUMENT

### **SECTION 1: Overall Visit to Brown v Board of Education National Historic Site**

1. Overall, how satisfied were you with your recent visit? (*please ✓ one*)

Not at all satisfied	Slightly satisfied	Satisfied	Very satisfied	Extremely Satisfied
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. Including yourself, how many people were in your personal group during your recent visit? (*✓ one*)

I visited alone     2 – 3     4 – 5     6 – 10     11 – 15     15+

3. What type of group were you with during your recent visit? (*✓ one*)

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I visited alone	Family only	Friends only	Family and friends	Professional

4. Was your personal group part of an organized group? (*✓ one*)    \_\_\_No    \_\_\_Yes

If **YES**, what was the purpose of your visit?     Educational     Service     Social  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

5. Which of the following source of information did you use when planning your most recent trip to this area?

<input type="checkbox"/> National Parks Website	<input type="checkbox"/> Brown v Board website	<input type="checkbox"/> Topeka Chamber of Commerce/ Tourism Bureau
<input type="checkbox"/> National Parks brochures/flyers	<input type="checkbox"/> Family/Friends	<input type="checkbox"/> From a previous trip
<input type="checkbox"/> Roadside displays/signs	<input type="checkbox"/> Local business	<input type="checkbox"/> Guidebooks <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Magazines	<input type="checkbox"/> Other ( <i>please specify</i> ) _____	

6. Which of the following statements best describes your recent visit to Brown v Board? (*✓ one*)

\_\_\_ Brown v Board was the **main destination** on the trip away from home.

\_\_\_ Brown v Board was one of **multiple other destinations** on the trip away from home.

\_\_\_ Brown v Board **was not a planned destination**

7. Did you visit any other historical sites in the Topeka area?    \_\_\_No    \_\_\_Yes

8. If yes, where did you visit? (*✓ all sites that apply*)

<input type="checkbox"/> Kansas State Capitol	<input type="checkbox"/> Ritchie House	<input type="checkbox"/> Charles Curtis House
<input type="checkbox"/> Constitution Hall (Topeka)	<input type="checkbox"/> Constitution Hall (LeCompton)	<input type="checkbox"/> Great Overland Station
<input type="checkbox"/> Kansas State Historical Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Ward-Meade/Old Prairie Town	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

9. How long did you stay during your recent visit to Brown v Board? (*✓ one*)  
 \_\_\_ Less than 1 hour \_\_\_ 1-2 hours \_\_\_ 2-3 hours \_\_\_ More than 3 hours

10. How many times have you visited Brown v Board? Number of Visits \_\_\_\_\_

11. Overall, how crowded did you feel during your recent visit (*please circle a number*)?  
 1 2 3 4 5 6  
 Not at all Barely Slightly Moderately Noticeably Very Extremely  
 Crowded Crowded Crowded Crowded Crowded Crowded Crowded

12. Have you visited any other National Parks in the past 12 months? \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No

13. If yes, please (select the parks in the surrounding area you visited. Otherwise list any others in the space provided. (*✓all Area parks that apply – list any others*))

- Harry S Truman National Historic Site       Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve  
 Fort Larned National Historic Site       Nicodemus National Historic Site  
 Fort Scott National Historic Site       Other

**SECTION 2: Next, we would like to ask you about your experiences at Brown v Board**

14. How important is each of the following reasons to you when visiting Brown v Board? (Please circle one response for each item).

Visiting Brown v Board to:	Not at all Important	Slightly Important	Moderately Important	Very Important	Extremely Important
Develop personal, spiritual values	1	2	3	4	5
Spend time with family or friends	1	2	3	4	5
Learn more about U.S. history	1	2	3	4	5
Gain a sense of self confidence	1	2	3	4	5
Learn about other cultures	1	2	3	4	5
Meet other people	1	2	3	4	5
Get away from the usual demands of life	1	2	3	4	5
Spend time with people who share my values	1	2	3	4	5
Other (specify )	1	2	3	4	5

15. To what extent do you think each of the following social situations is or is not a problem in and around the Brown v Board facilities? (*please circle one response for each item*)

	<i>Not a Problem</i>	<i>Slight Problem</i>	<i>Moderate Problem</i>	<i>Serious Problem</i>	<i>Very Serious Problem</i>
Inconsiderate behavior	1	2	3	4	5
Too many people	1	2	3	4	5
Damage to personal property	1	2	3	4	5
Conflicts between visitors	1	2	3	4	5
Threats to my personal safety	1	2	3	4	5
Theft	1	2	3	4	5

16. This question has two parts and asks your opinions about current facilities. **First**, indicate how important each of the facilities is to you. **Then**, indicate your level of satisfaction with the current conditions. (*Please indicate the importance and your satisfaction for each item.*)

<b>Facilities</b>	<b>Importance to you</b>				
	<b>Not at all Important</b>	<b>Slightly Important</b>	<b>Moderately Important</b>	<b>Very Important</b>	<b>Extremely Important</b>
Signage to find park on highway	1	2	3	4	5
Signage to find park in town	1	2	3	4	5
Parking spaces	1	2	3	4	5
Walkway from parking lot to main entrance	1	2	3	4	5
Restrooms	1	2	3	4	5
Drinking water	1	2	3	4	5

<b>Facilities</b>	<b>Your Satisfaction with Current Conditions</b>				
	<b>Not at all Satisfied</b>	<b>Slightly Satisfied</b>	<b>Moderately Satisfied</b>	<b>Very Satisfied</b>	<b>Extremely Satisfied</b>
Signage to find park on highway	1	2	3	4	5
Signage to find park in town	1	2	3	4	5
Parking spaces	1	2	3	4	5
Walkway from parking lot to main entrance	1	2	3	4	5
Restrooms	1	2	3	4	5
Drinking water	1	2	3	4	5

17. This question also has two parts and asks your opinions about current programs and services. **First**, indicate how important each of the items is to you. **Then**, indicate your level of satisfaction with the current conditions. (*Please indicate the importance and your current satisfaction for each item.*)

Facilities	Importance to you				
	Not at all Important	Slightly Important	Moderately Important	Very Important	Extremely Important
	1	2	3	4	5
Staff who make me feel welcome	1	2	3	4	5
Staff who help to solve problems	1	2	3	4	5
Videos that interpret the Civil Rights Movement	1	2	3	4	5

Programs and Services	Your Satisfaction with Current Conditions				
	Not at all Satisfied	Slightly Satisfied	Moderately Satisfied	Very Satisfied	Extremely Satisfied
Signage to find park on highway	1	2	3	4	5
Staff who make me feel welcome	1	2	3	4	5
Staff who help to solve problems	1	2	3	4	5
Videos that interpret the Civil Rights Movement					

**SECTION 4: Now, we want to know your opinions about how the area should be managed in the future**

18. . Please indicate your level of support or opposition for each of the following facilities, services, or options that might be offered in this area

Management Option	Strongly Oppose	Somewhat Oppose	Neutral	Somewhat Support	Strongly Support
Classrooms for education programs	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
Provide more opportunities for interacting with rangers	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
Other:	-2	-1	0	+1	+2

19. Tell us about one aspect you would like to see changed at Brown v Board.

20. Tell us about one aspect that you really liked at Brown v Board.

***SECTION 5: Possible barriers to your visitation to Brown v Board and other National Park Service Units***

21. Please indicate your level of agreement for each of the following possible barriers to visiting Brown v Board or other National Park Service units.

<b><i>Potential Barriers</i></b>	<b><i>Strongly Disagree</i></b>	<b><i>Disagree</i></b>	<b><i>Neutra l</i></b>	<b><i>Agree</i></b>	<b><i>Strongly Agree</i></b>
Visiting Brown v Board is too physically demanding.	1	2	3	4	5
I have no one to go with me to a Brown v Board.	1	2	3	4	5
There are no other National Parks near me to go visit.	1	2	3	4	5
Going to a National Park involves too many risks.	1	2	3	4	5
My family and friends are not interested in going to a National Park.	1	2	3	4	5
Going to a National Park is too costly.	1	2	3	4	5
I do not like history.	1	2	3	4	5
I do not participate in history-based activities.	1	2	3	4	5
Family commitments keep me from going to a National Park.	1	2	3	4	5
The expenses of traveling to visit a National Park are too great.	1	2	3	4	5
I do not know what to expect from a National Park.	1	2	3	4	5
I have no information about the National Parks and what they offer.					

**SECTION 6: In this final part, we would like to ask you some background information. This information will help the park managers discuss the economic impacts of this Historic Site as they collaborate with the City of Topeka and other historic sites in Topeka and the surrounding area.**

22. Please estimate the amount of money you and your group spent on your visit to **Brown v Board and the greater Topeka area**. (*Leave blank if you did not spend money on that category*)

Gas and transportation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Lodging (e.g., hotels, motels, resorts, campgrounds, etc.) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Food, meals, and drinks (e.g., restaurants, groceries, taverns, etc.) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Tourist services (e.g., tours, rentals, equipment rentals, etc.) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Shopping and gifts (e.g., clothes, gifts, souvenirs, etc.) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

23. If your stay included overnights, how long did you stay in the greater Topeka area? (*number of nights*) \_\_\_\_\_

24. If your stay included overnights, where did you stay? (*✓ one*)

\_\_\_\_ Hotel/Inn/B&B    \_\_\_\_ Family/Friends    \_\_\_\_ Camping    \_\_\_\_ Other

25. What is your gender?    \_\_ Male    \_\_ Female

26. What year were you born? \_\_\_\_\_

27. Are you Hispanic or Latino?    \_\_ Yes    \_\_\_\_ No

28. Which racial group(s) do you identify with? (*✓ all that apply*)

\_\_\_\_ American Indian or Alaska Native    \_\_\_\_ Asian    \_\_\_\_ Black or African American

\_\_\_\_ Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander    \_\_\_\_ White

29. What is the highest level of education you have attained? (*✓ one*)

\_\_\_\_ Less than high school

\_\_\_\_ High school graduate

\_\_\_\_ Technical school or Associates degree

\_\_\_\_ Bachelor's degree

\_\_\_\_ Master's Degree    \_\_\_\_ Ph.D., M.D., J.D., or equivalent

30. What was your employment status during the past year? (*✓ all that apply*)

\_\_\_\_ Full-time student    \_\_\_\_ Part-time student    \_\_\_\_ Employed part-time

\_\_\_\_ Employed full-time    \_\_\_\_ Unemployed    \_\_\_\_ Homemaker or caregiver

\_\_\_\_ Retired    \_\_\_\_ Other (*please specify* \_\_\_\_\_)

31. Which of the following broad categories best describes your total annual household income for the last calendar year ( one)

\$25,000 or less

\$25,001 – \$50,000

50,001 – \$75,000

\$75,001 – \$100,000

\$100,001 – 125,000

125,001 – 150,000

More than 150,000

32. What is your zip code? \_\_\_\_\_

### COMMENTS?

*Thank you for helping us with this important study.  
If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Ryan Sharp at [ryansharp@ksu.edu](mailto:ryansharp@ksu.edu).*