

ALGER COUNTY TOURISM PROFILE

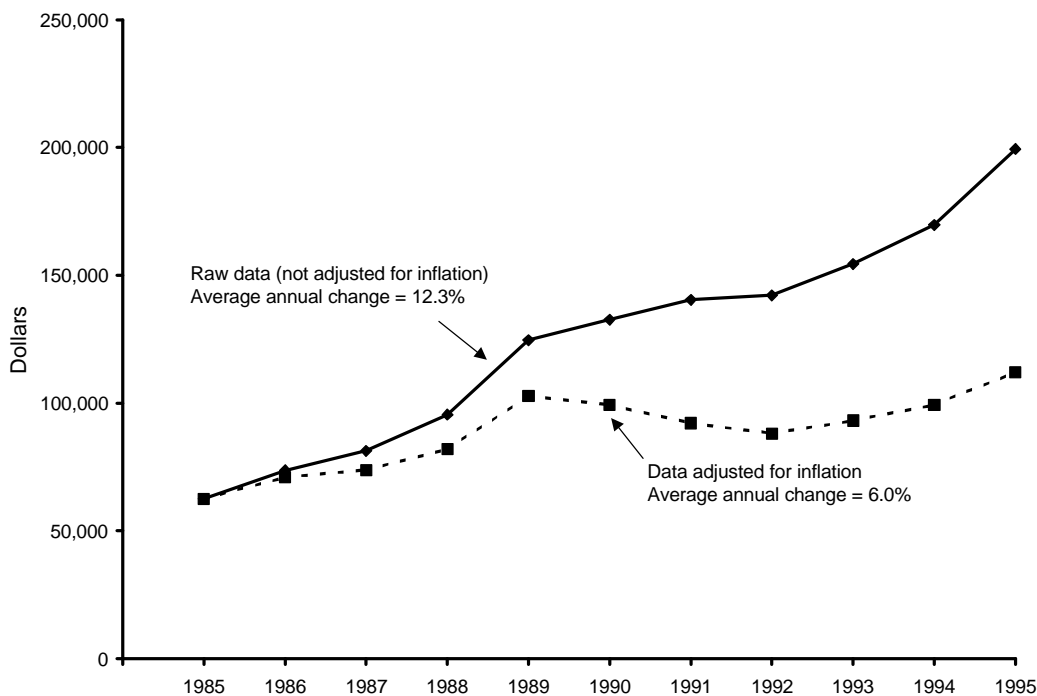
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MSU Extension has prepared this profile to help developers, tourism professionals, public officials, and others make informed decisions regarding the travel and tourism industry in Alger County. All statistics pertain to Alger County unless otherwise noted, and are the most current available. Further assistance is available from the Travel, Tourism, and Recreation Resource Center at Michigan State University (517/353-0793) or the MSU Extension office in Alger County (906/387-2530).



TRENDS IN STATE OF MICHIGAN LODGING USE TAX COLLECTIONS FOR ALGER COUNTY



NOTE: The lodging use tax is a state tax on the rental of a guest-room or cabin. To ensure comparability of statistics over the entire 10-year period shown, tax collections after May 1, 1994, when the tax rate increased from 4% to 6%, were adjusted so that they equaled what they would have been at the 4% rate. The comparable statewide average annual change figures are 6.3% in the case of raw data and 0.4% in the case of adjusted data.

SOURCE: Michigan Department of Treasury, Systems Division.

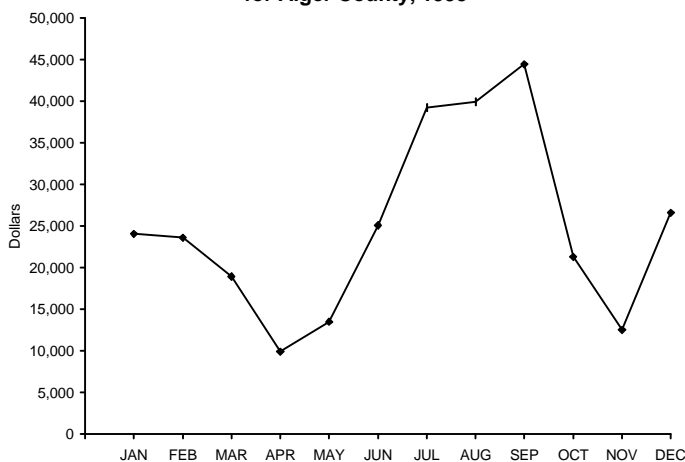
ESTIMATED MARKET SHARE, TRIP VOLUME, AND EXPENDITURES BY TOURISTS IN ALGER AND NEIGHBORING COUNTIES, 1996

<u>COUNTY OF MAIN DESTINATION</u>	<u>ESTIMATED MARKET SHARE</u>	<u>ESTIMATED NO. PLEASURE TRIP-NIGHTS</u>	<u>ESTIMATED DIRECT EXPENDITURES</u>
Alger	0.8%	710,300	\$38,591,000
Delta	0.9%	877,100	\$47,650,000
Luce	0.2%	204,700	\$11,119,000
Marquette	1.5%	1,425,600	\$77,448,000
Schoolcraft	0.1%	97,000	\$5,269,000

NOTE: Estimates are based on results from a telephone survey being conducted by the Travel, Tourism, and Recreation Resource Center at Michigan State University. "Pleasure trips" are overnight or day trips to places at least 50 miles from respondents' homes that were made for enjoyment, including vacations, weekend getaways, shopping trips, and trips to visit friends and relatives. The study region consists of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin, and Ontario. "Market share" is the percentage of pleasure trips to Michigan that originated from this region and had a given county as its main destination. Estimated pleasure trip-nights are the product of these percentages and a survey-based estimate of 93.8 million pleasure trip-nights in Michigan in 1996. Direct expenditures are the product of these percentages and a survey-based estimate of \$5.1 billion in direct pleasure trip expenditures in Michigan in 1996. Estimates do not include pleasure trip-nights or expenditures of travelers who resided outside the study region or who merely passed through a county. Estimates are preliminary and subject to revision as additional data become available. They should be used judiciously since they are in some cases based on small samples for a given county.

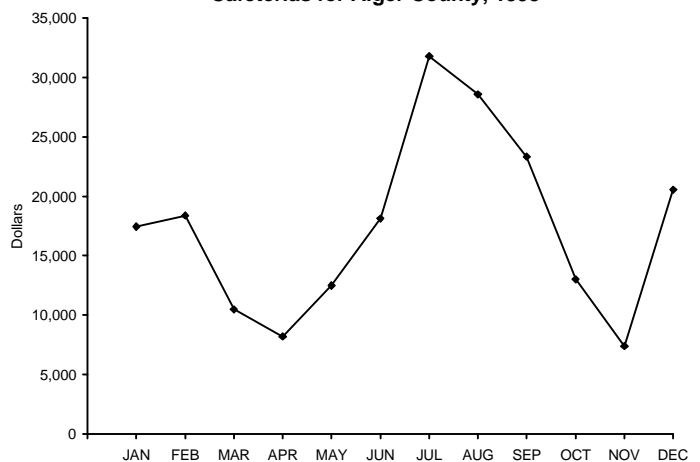
SEASONALITY IN ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

**State of Michigan Lodging Use Tax Collections
for Alger County, 1995**



SOURCE: Michigan Department of Treasury.

**State of Michigan Sales Tax Collections of Family Restaurants and
Cafeterias for Alger County, 1995**



SOURCE: Michigan Department of Treasury.

INDICATORS OF TRAVEL ACTIVITY FOR ALGER COUNTY

Estimated number of visits to Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore (1996)	556,459
Unadjusted (6%) State of Michigan lodging use tax collections (1995)	\$299,100

RECREATION AND TRAVEL RESOURCES

NATURAL RESOURCES

No. land acres in county (1989)	583,488
No. water acres in county (1989)	23,424
Total no. acres in county (1989)	609,912
No. acres of public recreation land (1990)	
National parks/lakeshores	35,770
National wildlife refuges	0
National forests	127,539
State parks and recreation areas	983
State boating and fishing sites	693
State game/wildlife areas	1,588
State forests	93,625
Other areas	0
Total	260,198
No. acres of publicly or privately owned forest land (1994)	531,600
Total no. acres of designated state or federal wilderness (1990) ...	4,640
Average no. inches of snowfall (1981/82-1990/91)	176.9
No. miles of Great Lake shoreline	120
Total no. miles of rivers and streams	709
No. miles of state or federal wild/scenic/natural river (1990)	30.5
No. inland lakes > 50 acres in size	51
Combined acres of natural or artificial lakes and ponds (1991)	14,235
Total no. acres of legislatively protected sand dunes (1989)	3,987
Natural heritage sites: Chapel Rock; Devil's Logslide, Laughing Whitefish Falls scenic site; Miners Castle; Miners Falls; Munising Falls; Pictured Rocks in general; Rock River Canyon; Sable Falls; Wager Falls scenic site.	

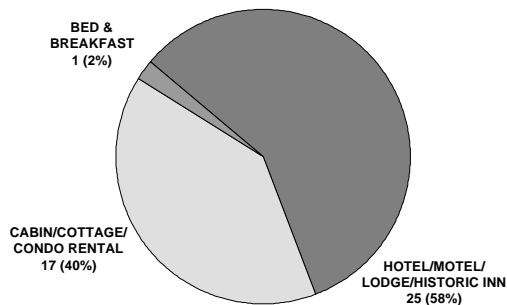
RECREATION AND TRAVEL FACILITIES

No. public access sites (1990)	9
No. recreational harbors on the Great Lakes (1990)	2
No. Great Lake marinas (1994)	2
No. Great Lake marina slips (1994)	19
No. licensed charter boats (1996)	7
No. 9-hole golf courses (1995)	0
No. 18-hole golf courses (1995)	1
No. agricultural markets/wineries/u-picks (1993)	3
No. miles of designated scenic highway (1990)	51
No. owned second homes (1990)	1,738
No. licensed food service establishments (1995)	
Table service	38
Fast food	4
Cafeteria	13
Bar only	11
Other	1
Total	67
No. boat liveries (1990)	10
No. watercraft for rent (1990)	77
No. miles of state-funded snowmobile trail (1990)	112.3
No. miles of hiking/skiing/mtn. biking trail (1994)	230.2
No. miles of designated off-road vehicle trail (1992)	14.3
No. museums (1990)	1
No. historical attractions open to the public (1990)	0
No. miles of interstate highway (1990)	0.0

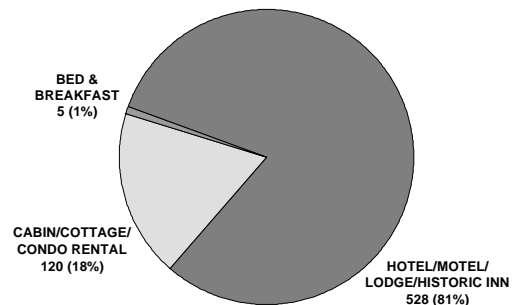
PRINCIPAL ATTRACTIONS AND EVENTS

Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore; Hiawatha National Forest; Laughing Whitefish Falls scenic site; trails (part of North County Trail Network); 10 scenic waterfalls; recreational harbor facilities at Grand Marais and Munising on Lake Superior; Grand Island National Recreation Area; Alger Underwater Preserve; Pictured Rocks Cruises; charter fishing boats; Grand Marais Airport Fly-in (September); snowmobiling, cross-country skiing, mountain biking, hunting, and fishing.

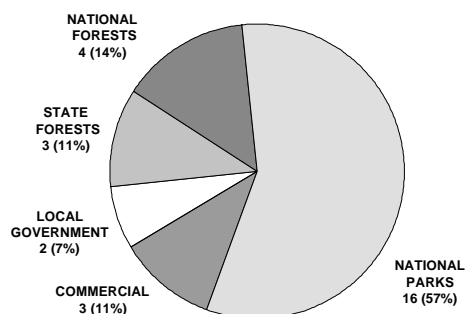
NO. COMMERCIAL LODGING ESTABLISHMENTS, 1990



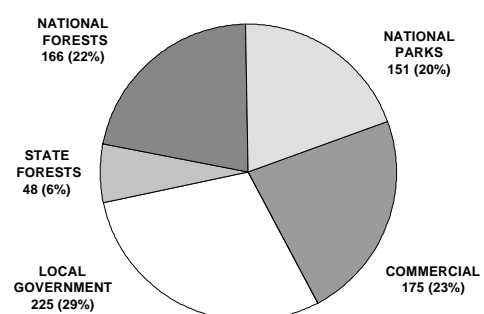
NO. GUEST-ROOMS IN COMMERCIAL LODGING ESTABLISHMENTS, 1990



NO. CAMPGROUNDS, 1990



NO. CAMPSITES, 1990



RANK IN RELATION TO OTHER MICHIGAN COUNTIES

<u>Variable</u>	<u>Date of Data</u>	<u>Value</u>	<u>County's Rank</u>	<u>Range of Ranks Statewide</u>
No. natural heritage sites	1990	10	1	1-7
No. miles of designated hiking/skiing/mtn. biking trail	1994	230.23	3	1-79
Average no. inches of snowfall (1981/82-1990/91)	Avg.	176.9	4	1-82
No. eating and drinking places per 1,000 residents	1995	6.80	5	1-74
No. miles of Great Lake shoreline	n.d.	120.4	7	1-38
No. historical attractions open to the public	1990	0	9	1-9
No. acres of public recreation land	1990	260,199	9	1-83
No. acres of publicly or privately owned forest land	1994	531,600	10	1-82
No. miles of state-funded snowmobile trail	1990	112.3	12	1-47
No. museums	1990	1	13	1-14
Total no. miles of rivers and streams	1944	709	13	1-77
No. miles of designated scenic highway	1990	51.0	16	1-35
No. licensed charter boats	1996	7	16	1-22
Combined area of natural or artificial lakes and ponds	1991	14235	17	1-83
No. lifts or tows at downhill ski areas	1990	0	20	1-20
No. miles of state or federal wild/scenic/natural river	1990	30.5	23	1-39
No. agricultural markets/wineries/u-picks per 1,000 residents	1993	0.31	23	1-48
No. licensed rental watercraft per 1,000 residents	1990	8.58	25	1-76
Total no. public golf course holes per 1,000 residents	1995	1.83	32	1-74
No. miles of designated off-road vehicle trail	1992	14.3	34	1-38
No. Great Lake marina slips per 1,000 residents	1994	1.94	38	1-41
Total no. units in commercial lodging establishments	1990	653	39	1-82
Estimated direct pleasure trip expenditures	1996	\$38,591,000	40	1-83
No. designated campsites	1990	765	48	1-81
No. owned second homes	1990	1,738	52	1-83
No. public access sites	1990	9	61	1-83
Estimated population	1995	9,846	75	1-83

NOTE: This table is intended to provide an indication of the county's competitive advantages and disadvantages. Many types of tourism facilities are patronized by local residents as well as tourists. The number of such facilities in a given county is therefore a function of the county's population as well as its popularity as a tourist destination. To provide a meaningful indication of popularity in such cases, counts of facilities are presented as number of facilities per 1,000 residents. "Natural heritage sites" are scenic vistas, unique geological features, significant wildlife observation areas, or major waterfalls. Range of ranks statewide is not always 1-83 due to ties.

SOURCES OF STATISTICS IN THIS PUBLICATION

U.S. Bureau of the Census; Michigan Departments of Agriculture, Natural Resources, Public Health, Transportation, and Treasury; Travel, Tourism, and Recreation Resource Center at Michigan State University.

RESOURCES FOR FURTHER ASSISTANCE

- Alger Chamber of Commerce: P.O. Box 405, Munising, MI 49862.
- Munising Area Visitors Bureau: 422 E. Munising Avenue, P.O. Box 405, Munising, MI 49862. (906) 387-2138. Fax: (906) 387-5205.
- Upper Peninsula Travel and Recreation Association: 618 Stephenson Avenue, P.O. Box 400, Iron Mountain, MI 49801-0400. (906) 774-5480. Fax: (906) 774-5190. Web site: <http://www.travel.com>
- Travel Michigan: P.O. Box 30226, Lansing, MI 48909. (517) 373-0670. Web site: <http://www.Michigan.org/>
- Travel, Tourism, and Recreation Resource Center, Michigan State University: 172 Natural Resources Building, East Lansing, MI 48824-1222. Phone: (517) 353-0793. Fax: (517) 432-2296. E-mail: dholecek@pilot.msu.edu Web site: <http://www.tourism.msu.edu/>



Travel, Tourism, and Recreation Resource Center
Michigan State University

