

## 2001 UK Attraction Closure due to Foot and Mouth

The Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) epidemic in the UK dominated tourism during 2001. In the 2001, Visits to Visitor Attractions Survey, operators were asked whether they had to close their operation because of FMD at a time it would normally have been open. Some 3,015 operators responded to the question. The tables below provide information on the percentage of attractions closed due to FMD by country and attraction category.

### ▶ UK Attractions Closure Due to FMD by Country in 2001

Country	Open	Closed
	%	%
England	74	26
Northern Ireland	47	53
Scotland	81	19
Wales	73	27
UK	74	26

A quarter of UK attractions indicated that they closed their attraction to the public during part of their normal opening season due to FMD restrictions. In Northern Ireland as many as half reported such closure as a result of the restrictions on movement.

### ▶ UK Attractions Closure Due to FMD in 2001

Category	Open	Closed
	%	%
Country Parks	21	79
Farms	8	92
Gardens	64	36
Historic Houses/Castles	62	38
Other Historic Properties	69	31
Leisure/Theme Parks	88	12
Museums/Art Galleries	95	5
Steam/Heritage Railways	87	13
Visitor/Heritage Centres	76	24
Wildlife Attractions/Zoos	39	61

Workplaces	90	10
Places of worship	96	4
Other	82	18
UK	74	26

The widespread affect of FMD restrictions across the attractions sector can be seen in the table above. Farms, Country parks and Wildlife Attractions/Zoos reported the highest proportion of attractions that had to close during their normal opening season due to restrictions at 92%, 79% and 61% respectively.

**Source:** Sightseeing in the UK 2001