

CARIBBEAN TOURISM ORGANIZATION LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS



SEPTEMBER 2016

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Overall Performance

- A total of 27 destinations reported tourist arrival data for the year so far, 21 of which recorded increases while six destinations recorded declines.
- Six destinations recorded arrival data for the period January to August. Of the four destinations registering growth during this time, Belize (15.7%) recorded the largest increase in visitor trips, while Trinidad & Tobago (-5.9%) and Aruba (-2.2%) recorded decreases.
- For the period January to July, seven destinations (out of eight reporting) recorded growth in visitor arrivals ranging from 0.8% recorded in the Cayman Islands to 10.2% in Anguilla. Saint Lucia recorded the only decline (-0.6%) in tourist arrivals for this period.
- Growth was recorded in all five destinations reporting arrival data for the period of January to June, ranging between 0.5% recorded in Puerto Rico to 15.7% in Guyana.
- Between the months January and May, two destinations reported arrival data. During this time, St. Vincent & the Grenadines recorded growth of 8.2%, while a decrease was recorded in Dominica (-9.8%).
- Between the two destinations reporting tourist arrival data for the period January to April, St. Maarten recorded an increase of 9.6%, while Haiti recorded a -14.5% contraction.
- All three destinations reporting data for the period January to March recorded growth rates between 2.4% in The Bahamas and 13.5% in Cuba.
- The only destination to report data for the period January to February was Suriname, which recorded a significant -25.6% contraction in arrivals during this time.

By Month

- International trips during the month of January increased in 19 destinations (out of 27 reporting). Belize (24.0%) recorded the highest percentage increase in tourist arrivals this month followed closely by St. Maarten (21.8%). Decreases were recorded in eight destinations during this month with the largest decline recorded in Suriname (-37.5%).
- Out of the 27 destinations reporting tourist arrivals for the month of February, 19 recorded growth. Arrivals in Grenada increased by 23.6% this month followed by continued strong performances in Belize (18.5%) and the Turks & Caicos Islands (16.9%). Eight destinations reported fewer tourist arrivals during this month with Haiti (-18.5%) recording the largest percentage decline.
- Growth was recorded in 21 out of 26 reporting destinations during the month of March while just five destinations recorded declines, making it the best performing month so far. Montserrat (60.7%) recorded the highest percentage increase this month, while other upturns ranged from 1.4% in Saint Lucia to 22.1% in the Turks & Caicos Islands. Trinidad & Tobago recorded an 8.9% fall-off in tourist arrivals, the largest percentage decrease for this month.
- In April, there was significant fall-off in the number of destinations registering growth. Nine (out of 23) destinations recorded increased visitor arrivals ranging between 0.3% in Puerto Rico and 13.9% in St. Vincent & the Grenadines. Declines were registered in 14 destinations ranging from -0.7% in Jamaica to -16.7% in Dominica.

- During May, arrivals increased in 10 destinations (out of 21 reporting) and decreased in the remaining destinations. Guyana reported a robust 102.0% increase, the largest percentage increase in arrivals this month, while other increases ranged from 0.5% recorded in Saint Lucia to 19.6% in Belize. Montserrat recorded the largest percentage decrease of -35.2% followed by -20.5% in Dominica.
- Growth was recorded in 12 out of 19 destinations in June, led by continued strong performance in Belize (17.4%) followed by Guyana (11.1%), and Anguilla (10.5%). International trips declined in seven destinations ranging from -0.9% in Aruba to -9.7% in Montserrat.
- In July, 12 destinations (out of 14 reporting) recorded increased visitor arrivals ranging between 2.8% in Saint Lucia and 126.3% in Anguilla. Aruba (-9.0%) and Trinidad & Tobago (-5.7%) registered declines in tourist arrivals during this month.
- Six destinations reported tourist arrivals for the month of August, four of which recorded growth ranging between 3.6% recorded in Antigua & Barbuda and 14.9% in the US Virgin Islands. The destinations to record a decline in arrivals during this month were Aruba with -13.6% and Trinidad & Tobago (-6.3%).

By Market

United States¹

- Growth in international trips from the United States was reported in 17 destinations out of 22 reporting, while five recorded decreased arrivals.
- Four out of the five destinations reporting arrivals from this market for the period January to August recorded growth ranging between 1.2% in Aruba and 24.2% in Belize. Trinidad & Tobago (-3.9%) was the only destination to register a decrease in the period.
- Tourist trips from the United States during the January to July period increased in all eight destinations submitting data for this time. Grenada (19.2%) recorded the largest percentage increase in visits from this market followed by Bermuda (11.2%).
- Both destinations reporting arrival data from the United States during the period January to June recorded growth. Trips to Guyana grew by 17.7%, while Barbados registered a 13.1% increase.
- St. Vincent & the Grenadines (9.6%) was the only destination to register an increase in international visits from the United States for the period January to May. The remaining two destinations reporting for this period, Dominica (-1.5%), and Puerto Rico (-1.4%), recorded declines.
- Haiti was the only destination to report arrival data from the United States for the period January to April, registering a -17.5% decline in visits from this market.
- Arrivals from the United States increased in both destinations reporting arrival data for the period January to March, with The Bahamas recording growth of 6.7% and Turks & Caicos Islands receiving 16.8% more trips from the United States during this time.

¹ Tourist arrivals from the USA to Cuba are captured in "Other". Refer to Table 3.

- The only destination to report tourist visits for the period January to February was Suriname, which recorded a decline of -16.4% in arrivals from the United States.

Canada

- Trips originating from Canada grew in eight destinations (out of 24 reporting) and decreased in 16 destinations.
- For the period January to August, the Dominican Republic was the only destination to record growth in visits from Canada, while four destinations recorded declines ranging from -6.8% in Aruba to -15.3% in Belize.
- Seven out of the eight destinations submitting data for the period January to July registered declines in arrivals from Canada ranging between -4.7% in the Cayman Islands and -9.0% in Bermuda. Curacao, however, recorded a 4.4% increase in the same period.
- Growth in international trips from Canada during the period January to June was recorded in two destinations, Guyana (4.7%) and Barbados (0.9%).
- Out of the three destinations reporting arrival data from Canada for the period January to May, St. Vincent & the Grenadines (1.6%) was the only destination to register growth, while declines occurred in Dominica and Puerto Rico.
- Between January and April Haiti, the only destination reporting for this period, received 12.2% fewer trips from Canada.
- Significant growth in trips from Canada during the period January to March was recorded in the Turks & Caicos Islands (24.9%), while Cuba and The Bahamas recorded declines.
- Suriname, the only destination reporting for only January to February, recorded an increase of 14.1% in arrivals from Canada.

Europe

- Growth in visitor arrivals from Europe was recorded in 17 destinations (out of 24 reporting), while decreases were registered in the remaining seven.
- Between January and August, moderate growth in arrivals from Europe was recorded in four of the destinations reporting during this period ranging from 2.7% recorded in Antigua & Barbuda to 8.0% in Aruba. Trinidad & Tobago, the other destination reporting data for the period, recorded a decline of 13.8% from this market.
- Half of the eight destinations reporting arrival data for the period January to July, recorded growth in European arrivals. These destinations were Anguilla (12.0%), Curacao (6.3%), Jamaica (5.7%) and Montserrat (1.2%). The other four destinations recorded decreases in international trips from Europe ranging between -1.4% in Bermuda and -14.5% in the Cayman Islands.
- Both destinations reporting European visits for the period January to June recorded increases, as visits to Guyana and Barbados grew by 27.7% and 1.8%, respectively.
- Out of the three destinations submitting data for the period January to May, Puerto Rico (11.9%) and St. Vincent and the Grenadines (4.2%) recorded growth in European arrivals, while Dominica (-1.9%) recorded fewer arrivals from the region during this time.

- European stopover arrivals to both destinations reporting arrival data for the period January to April increased significantly with Haiti recording a growth rate of 34.6% and St. Maarten registering an increase of 24.8%.
- Similarly, growth was recorded in all three destinations reporting visitor arrivals from Europe between January and March led by a robust 67.0% growth rate registered in the Turks & Caicos Islands.
- Visitor trips to Suriname from Europe decreased by -26.8% between January and February.

Cruise Arrivals

- Overall, 25 destinations have so far reported cruise passenger arrivals for 2016. Of this number, 15 destinations recorded increases, while 10 destinations indicated fewer cruise passengers
- Growth was recorded in all three destinations reporting data for the period January to August with Cozumel recording a modest increase of 2.7%, while marginal increases were recorded in US Virgin Islands and Belize.
- Seven destinations reported cruise data for the period January to July, four of which registered increases ranging between 5.6% recorded in the Cayman Islands and 33.2% in Belize. Double digit declines were recorded in Curacao, Saint Lucia and St. Maarten.
- For the period January to June, six destinations (out of 10 reporting) recorded growth in cruise passenger arrivals, headed by Dominican Republic (58.4%) and the British Virgin Islands (48.4%). The remaining four destinations registered declines ranging from -2.7% in Antigua & Barbuda to -14.2% in Puerto Rico.
- Growth in cruise visits was recorded in both Trinidad & Tobago (47.8%) and St. Vincent & the Grenadines (8.0%) during the January to May period.
- In contrast, during the period January to April declines were recorded in Haiti (-9.4%) and in the Turks & Caicos Islands (-3.4%), the only two destinations reporting data for this time.
- Guadeloupe received 19.1% fewer cruise visits between January and February.