

# **CARIBBEAN TOURISM ORGANIZATION LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS**



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## Overall Performance

- The number of destinations reporting tourist arrival data for the year so far increased to 27 with the addition of The Bahamas. Overall increases were recorded in 20 destinations, while just seven destinations recorded declines.
- Five destinations reported arrival data for the period January to July, four of which reported increases ranging between 0.8% recorded in the Cayman Islands and 16.6% in Belize. Aruba was the only destination to record a decline during this period.
- For the period January to June, ten destinations (out of 11 reporting) recorded growth in tourist arrivals ranging from 1.5% recorded in Curacao to 15.7% in Guyana. Saint Lucia recorded the only decline in tourist arrivals for this period of -1.2%.
- Growth was recorded in only two (St. Vincent & the Grenadines (8.2%) and Puerto Rico (1.1%)) of the five destinations reporting data for the period January to May. During this period declines were recorded in Dominica (-9.8%), Trinidad & Tobago (-5.9%), and the US Virgin Islands (-0.9%).
- 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% decline.
- Growth was recorded in all three destinations reporting data for the period January to March with the Bahamas recording a moderate increase of 2.4%, while larger increases were recorded in Cuba (13.5%) and the Turks & Caicos Islands (18.5%).
- Suriname was the only destination to report data for the January to February period and arrivals contracted significantly by -25.6%.

## By Month

- Growth in international trips for the month of January was recorded in 19 out of 27 destinations. The highest percentage increase in tourist arrivals this month was recorded in Belize (24.0%) followed closely by St. Maarten with 21.8% growth recorded. Out of the eight destinations recording declined tourist arrivals during the month of January, Suriname recorded the largest percentage decrease of -37.5% followed by Haiti with -21.9%.
- Similar growth was recorded during the month of February for 19 destinations, while eight destinations recorded declines in visits this month. Grenada (23.6%) registered the highest percentage increase in arrivals in February, followed by continued strong performances in Belize (18.5%) and the Turks & Caicos Islands (16.9%). Haiti (-18.5%) recorded the largest decline in overall tourist arrivals in February, while other declines for this month ranged between -0.2% in The Bahamas and -13.3% recorded in Suriname.
- The month of March was the best performing month with 21 destinations (out of 26) recording increased visitor arrivals, the most for the year so far, and just five destinations recording declines. Montserrat (60.7%) recorded the highest percentage increase this month followed by strong performances in Grenada (22.9%) and the Turks & Caicos. Trinidad & Tobago (-8.9%) recorded the largest percentage decrease of -8.9% followed by Haiti (-5.0%) and Dominica (-4.0%).

- Growth dropped off significantly in April with just nine destinations out of 23 reported growth in visitor arrivals ranging from a marginal 0.3% in Puerto Rico, to a more significant 13.9% recorded in St. Vincent & the Grenadines. Visitor arrivals declined in 14 destinations ranging from -0.7% in Jamaica to -16.7% recorded in Dominica.
- Performance during the month of May was split with ten destinations recording growth and 11 destinations recording declines in visitor arrivals. Trips to Guyana doubled, while other increases ranged between 0.5% recorded in Saint Lucia and 19.6% in Belize. The largest percentage decrease for this month was recorded in Montserrat (-35.2%) followed by Dominica (-20.5%).
- Arrivals continued to recover in eleven out of 16 destinations during the month of June, while five destinations recorded declines. Increases in visitor arrivals ranged between 1.8% recorded in Martinique and 17.4% in Belize, while declines ranged from -0.9% recorded in Aruba to -9.7% in Montserrat.
- For the month of July, four destinations (out of five reporting) recorded increased visitor arrivals ranging between 9.0% in the Dominican Republic to 16.9% in Belize. Aruba (-9.0%) was the only destination to record a decline during this month.

## By Market

### United States<sup>1</sup>

- Sixteen destinations out of 22 reporting arrivals from the United States recorded increased trips from this market, while six recorded decreased arrivals.
- Growth from this market was recorded in all five destinations reporting data for the period January to July including strong performances in Antigua & Barbuda (20.3%) and Belize (25.5%).
- Between January and June, nine destinations (out of ten reporting) recorded increased visitor arrivals from the United States ranging from 2.4% recorded in Saint Lucia to 26.2% in Grenada. Curacao was the only destination to record a decrease in arrivals from this market during this period.
- Out of the three destinations reporting arrival data from the United States during the period January to May, St. Vincent & the Grenadines (9.6%) was the only destination to record growth while declines were recorded in Trinidad & Tobago (-3.8%) and Dominica (-1.5%).
- Arrivals from the United States declined in both destinations reporting arrival data for the period January and April, with Haiti recording a -17.5% decline and Puerto Rico recording -0.1% fewer arrivals from the United States.
- In contrast, the only two destinations to report arrival data from the United States for the period January to March, the Bahamas (6.7%) and the Turks & Caicos Islands (16.8%) recorded growth during this time.
- Suriname was the only destination to report arrival data for the period January to February, recording a -16.4% decline in arrivals from the United States.

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

## Canada

- Visitor arrivals from Canada grew in eight destinations (out of 24 reporting) and decreased in 16 destinations.
- The Dominican Republic was the only destination recording growth from the Canadian market between January and July, while the other four destinations recorded declines ranging between -4.7% in the Cayman Islands and -14.6% recorded in Belize during this period.
- Out of the nine destinations reporting visitor arrivals from Canada during the period January to June, three recorded moderate growth ranging between 0.9% in Barbados and 6.7% recorded in Curacao. Declines were recorded in the other six destinations ranging between -0.7% in Anguilla and -11.4% in Saint Lucia.
- Growth in the Canadian market was reported in St. Vincent & the Grenadines (1.6%) during the January to May period, while Trinidad & Tobago (-11.1%) and Dominica (-9.4%) recorded declines in visitor arrivals from Canada during this time.
- St. Maarten recorded an 11.9% increase in trips from Canada between January and April, while during this period arrivals from the Canadian market declined in Haiti (-12.2%) and Puerto Rico (-8.4%).
- The Turks & Caicos Islands (24.9%) was the only destination (out of three reporting) to record growth in arrivals from the Canadian market during the period January to March, while the Bahamas (-15.0%) and Cuba (-4.3%) registered declines.
- Suriname experienced robust growth in the Canadian market between January and February with arrivals increasing by 14.1%.

## Europe

- Overall visitor arrivals from Europe grew in eighteen destinations (out of 24 reporting) and contracted in six.
- Between January and July, modest growth in visits from the European market was recorded in four destinations ranging from 2.5% in Antigua & Barbuda to 6.5% in Aruba. The Cayman Islands (-14.5%) was the only destination to record a decline in visitor arrivals from Europe during this period.
- Seven destinations (out of nine reporting) registered growth in international trips from Europe during the period January to June including strong performances in Anguilla (21.6%) and Guyana (27.7%). Fewer arrivals from Europe during this period were recorded in Saint Lucia (-7.3%) and Grenada (-6.7%).
- European stopover arrivals to St. Vincent & the Grenadines increased by 4.2% during the January to May time period, while declines were recorded in Trinidad & Tobago (-18.0%) and Dominica (-1.9%).
- All three destinations reporting European visitor arrival data for the period January to April recorded growth. Puerto Rico recorded the highest percentage increase in arrivals from this market during this time of 35.5% followed closely by Haiti with 34.6% and St. Maarten with 24.8%.



- Similarly, growth was recorded in all three destinations reporting visitor arrivals from Europe between January and March lead by a robust 67.0% growth rate registered in the Turks & Caicos Islands.
- European visitor trips to Suriname decreased by -26.8% between January and February.

## Cruise Arrivals

- Performance of the cruise passenger arrivals to the region was mixed, with 13 out of the 24 reporting destinations recording increases and the other 11 registering decreases.
- Between January and July, cruise passenger arrivals increased moderately in three destinations (out of four reporting) ranging between 1.9% recorded in Belize and 5.6% in the Cayman Islands. St. Maarten (-17.7%) was the only destination to record a decline in cruise passenger arrivals during this period.
- Fourteen destinations reported cruise passenger arrival data for the period January to June, eight of which recorded growth ranging from a moderate 3.8% in Barbados, to a robust 58.4% in the Dominican Republic. The other six destinations reporting cruise passenger arrival data for this period registered declines ranging from -16.1% in Saint Lucia to -0.3% in The US Virgin Islands.
- Both destinations reporting cruise passenger visits for the period January to May recorded increases, as visits to St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Trinidad & Tobago grew by 8.0% and 47.8%, respectively.
- 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.
- While the Bahamas registered a mild 1.6% decrease in cruise passenger visits between January and March, Guadeloupe received 19.1% fewer passengers between January and February.