

CARIBBEAN TOURISM ORGANIZATION LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS



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Overall Performance

- Arrival data was reported by 23 destinations for 2017, 13 of which recorded growth, while declines were recorded in ten.
- Nineteen destinations reported arrival data for the period January to December, ten of which recorded growth ranging from 3.1% in Martinique to 11.0% in Saint Lucia. Arrivals declined in the remaining nine destinations ranging from -2.9% in Aruba to -17.9% in the British Virgin Islands.
- Barbados was the only destination reporting international arrivals for the period January to November, recording growth of 4.4% during this time.
- Similarly, Dominica, the only destination reporting arrival data for the period January to September recorded growth of 7.9%.
- During the period January to August, international trips also increased in the US Virgin Islands (1.8%), the only destination reporting arrivals for this period.
- In contrast, St. Maarten, the only destination reporting arrival data for the period January to July, recorded a decline of -0.3% during this time.

By Month

- In January, 12 out of 23 destinations reported increased international trips, while the other 11 registered declines. The highest percentage increase in tourist arrivals during this month was recorded in Bermuda (36.0%). Other increases ranged from 0.7% recorded in both Belize and the Turks & Caicos Islands to 17.6% in Suriname. In contrast, declines recorded during this month ranged from -0.2% in both Anguilla and Barbados to -20.0% in Trinidad & Tobago.
- Fourteen out of 23 reporting destinations recorded growth in arrivals in February. Suriname (30.3%) recorded the highest percentage increase this month followed by Dominica (18.9%) and Bermuda (11.9%). Decreases were registered in nine destinations during this month ranging from -0.3% in Anguilla to -12.6% recorded in Curaçao.
- During March, eight out of the 23 reporting destinations saw increases, while declines were registered in the other 15 destinations. Barbados led growth with 8.5% followed by Bermuda (6.1%) and Martinique (5.1%). Curaçao (-22.8%) recorded the largest percentage decrease during this time followed by St. Vincent & the Grenadines (-18.6%) and Aruba (-18.1%).
- April, the best performing month of the year, had 21 destinations out of 23 recording growth in international visits led by a 58.4% increase in Dominica and strong performances in Guyana (43.7%) and Anguilla (31.7%). Aruba (-1.9%) and Curaçao (-6.5%) were the only two destinations to register decreased arrivals during this month.
- The number of destinations recording growth in tourist arrivals in May dropped to 18 (out of 23 reporting) ranging from a flat performance in Aruba to 17.0% in Bermuda. Declines were recorded in five destinations ranging from -1.5% in the US Virgin Islands to -26.9% in Guyana.
- Twenty-three destinations reported data for June, 16 of which registered growth in arrivals ranging from 1.3% recorded in the US Virgin Islands to 21.1% in Saint Lucia. Declines recorded in the other seven destinations ranged between -1.6% in Aruba and -15.0% in Suriname.

- In July, 12 out of 23 reporting destinations recorded growth in arrivals while 11 destinations recorded contractions. Puerto Rico (21.2%) led growth during this month followed by Saint Lucia (14.7%) and Jamaica (9.0%). Curaçao recorded a -18.9% fall-off in tourist arrivals, the largest percentage decrease for this month.
- Out of the 22 destinations reporting tourist arrivals for August, 15 destinations recorded increases led by the British Virgin Islands (47.6%), Anguilla (39.6%), and Belize (19.1%). International arrivals decreased in the other six destinations reporting during this time ranging from -0.2% in Suriname to -19.6% in Curaçao.
- Eight out of the 21 destinations reporting for September registered growth ranging from 0.4% in Aruba to 41.7% in Suriname while the other 13 destinations recorded declines between -2.6% in Martinique and -90.8% in the British Virgin Islands.
- Growth in international arrivals was recorded in 13 out of 20 destinations reporting for October ranging from 0.3% in Martinique to 36.1% in Suriname. Declines recorded in the remaining seven destinations during this month ranged from -6.8% in Curaçao to -90.7% in the British Virgin Islands.
- During November, 11 out of 20 reporting destinations recorded increased international visitor arrivals ranging between 4.2% in the Dominican Republic and 22.7% in Belize. On the other hand, nine destinations registered declines led by the British Virgin Islands which recorded -87.7% fewer arrivals this month.
- Nineteen destinations reported international visitor arrival data for the month of December, ten of which recorded growth ranging from 3.1% in Antigua & Barbuda to 21.6% in the Cayman Islands. Declines were recorded in the remaining nine destinations ranging from -1.4% in Curaçao to -79.5% in the British Virgin Islands (-79.5%).

By Market

United States

- International trips from the United States grew in half of the 20 reporting destinations overall.
- Growth in international arrivals from the United States was recorded in nine out of 16 reporting destinations for the period January to December led by Grenada (16.1%) followed by the Cayman Islands (13.4%) and Aruba (10.6%). The seven remaining destinations registered declines between -0.5% (the Dominican Republic) and 14.2% (Anguilla).
- The only destination reporting arrival data for the period January to November from the United States, Barbados, registered growth of 11.5%.
- Dominica, the only destination reporting arrival data from the United States for the period January to September, recorded a marginal decline of -0.8% during this time.
- International trips from the United States decreased in both destinations reporting for the period January to June, dropping by -1.6% in the Turks & Caicos Islands and -3.0% in the US Virgin Islands.

Canada

- Visitor trips to the region from Canada increased in 16 out of 20 reporting destinations, while four destinations recorded declines from this market.
- Thirteen out of the 16 destinations reporting international arrivals from Canada during the period January to December recorded growth ranging from 0.2% in Guyana to 19.3% in Belize. Declines in Canadian arrivals were recorded Puerto Rico (-26.8%), Suriname (-26.7%), and Anguilla (-19.5%) during this time.
- Growth was recorded in Barbados (7.8%), the only destination reporting arrivals from Canada during the period January to November.
- International arrivals from Canada increased by 9.7% in Dominica during the period January to September, the only destination reporting for this period.
- While the US Virgin Islands recorded a 10.9% increase in arrivals from Canada during the period January to June, the Turks & Caicos Islands registered a decline of -6.7% in arrivals from this market during this time.

Europe

- Overall visitor arrivals from Europe increased in nine of the 20 reporting destinations with contractions registered in the remaining 11 destinations.
- Growth in arrivals from the European market was recorded in seven out of the 16 destinations reporting for the period January to December ranging between 4.8% in Aruba and 51.9% in Suriname. Nine destinations recorded declines in arrivals from this market during this time, ranging from -1.1% in Curaçao to -35.9% in Puerto Rico.
- Barbados, the only destination to report arrivals from Europe during the period January to November, registered a decline of -1.2%.

- Visitor trips from Europe increased in Dominica (25.7%) during the period January to September, the only destination reporting arrival data from this market for this time.
- International trips from Europe increased in the US Virgin Islands by 13.1% during the period January to June, but declined by -4.4% in the Turks & Caicos Islands during this time.

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Cruise Arrivals

- Cruise passenger arrivals to the region increased in 14 out of 23 reporting destinations, while the remaining nine registered decreases.
- Growth in cruise passenger arrivals during the period January to December was recorded in 13 out of 19 reporting destinations ranging from 0.9% in Belize to 75.0% in St. Vincent & the Grenadines. Fewer cruise passenger arrivals were recorded in six destinations during this time ranging between -1.4% in the Bahamas and -26.6% in the US Virgin Islands.
- During the period January to November, Puerto Rico, the only destination reporting cruise passenger arrivals for this period, registered a decline of -12.7%.
- Similarly, one destination, the British Virgin Islands (-23.7%), reported fewer cruise passenger arrivals for the period January to October.
- Dominica, the only destination reporting cruise passenger arrivals for the period January to September, registered a decline of -7.7%.
- St. Kitts & Nevis was the only destination reporting for the period January to August, registering a 13.9% increase cruise passenger arrivals for this period.