

# **CARIBBEAN TOURISM ORGANIZATION LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS**



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## Overall Performance

- Thus far, 27 destinations reported tourist arrival data for the year. The number of destinations recording growth increased to 22, while just five destinations recorded declines in tourist arrivals.
- Three destinations out of four reporting for the period January to September registered growth with Belize (16.4%) recording the largest increase and Trinidad & Tobago (-5.9%) being the only destination to record a decrease.
- Out of the nine destinations reporting for the period January to August, eight destinations observed increases in visitor trips ranging between 0.3% in Saint Lucia to 8.5% recorded in Bermuda. Aruba (-2.2%) was the only destination to record a decrease during this time.
- Growth was recorded in all five destinations reporting arrival data for the period January to July. Turks & Caicos Islands (20.4%) recorded the largest percentage increase, while Puerto Rico (0.7%) registered the smallest percentage increase during this time.
- During the period January to June, all four destinations reporting also saw visitor arrivals increase from 5.6% in Barbados to 15.7% in Guyana.
- Dominica was the only destination to report arrival data for the period January to May and registered a -9.8% decline.
- Haiti recorded a -14.5% decline in visitor trips during the period January to April.
- A significant decrease in arrivals was registered in Suriname (-25.6%) during the period January to February.

## By Month

- During the month of January, international trips increased in 19 destinations out of 27 reporting and declined in eight. Belize (24.0%) recorded the highest percentage increase in tourist arrivals this month followed by St. Maarten (21.6%). In contrast, Suriname (-37.5%) recorded the largest decrease during this month followed by Haiti (-21.9%).
- The number of destinations recording growth during the month of February mirrored that of the previous month with 19 destinations (out of 27 reporting) also registering increases and eight recording declines. The highest percentage increase recorded this month was registered in Grenada (23.6%), while strong performances were recorded in Belize (18.5%) and the Turks & Caicos Islands (16.9%). Haiti recorded a -18.5% decrease in tourist arrivals, the largest percentage decrease during this month, followed by -13.3% recorded in Suriname, and -12.5% in Trinidad & Tobago.
- As the best performing month thus far, March saw 21 destinations out of 26 recording increases in international visits and just five recording declines. Substantial growth observed in Montserrat (60.7%) was followed by other increases that ranged from 1.4% in Saint Lucia to 22.1% recorded in the Turks & Caicos Islands. Visitor trips to Trinidad & Tobago declined by -8.9% during this month while the other decreases ranged between -0.6% in the Cayman Islands and -5.0% in Haiti.
- A drop in the number of destinations recording growth occurred in the month of April as just 10 destinations (out of 24 reporting) registered increases in tourist arrivals, while 14 recorded

declines. The Turks & Caicos Islands led growth with a strong 32.7% increase in arrivals followed by 13.9% recorded in St. Vincent & the Grenadines. The declines recorded during this month ranged from -0.7% in Jamaica to -16.7% in Dominica.

- Performances during the month of May were mixed as 11 out of 23 destinations reported increased tourist arrivals ranging from a high of 102.0% in Guyana to a low of 0.5% in Antigua & Barbuda. Arrivals declined in 12 destinations with Montserrat (-35.2%) recording the largest percentage decrease for this month followed by -20.5% recorded in Dominica.
- Destinations continued to recover in the month of June as 15 destinations (out of 22 reporting) recorded increased international trips. Seven destinations registered contracting visitor arrivals for this month. Increases ranged between 1.1% in St. Maarten and 17.8% in the Turks & Caicos Islands, while declines ranged from to -0.9% in Aruba to -9.7% recorded in Montserrat.
- For the month of July, 16 out of 18 destinations registered increases in visitor trips ranging between 1.0% in Curacao and 26.3% in Anguilla. Aruba (-9.0%) and Trinidad & Tobago (-5.7%) were the only destinations to record declines during this month.
- Performances during the month of August were split with six destinations recording growth and six recording declines. Increased trips ranged between 3.6% in Antigua & Barbuda and 14.9% recorded in the US Virgin Islands. The largest percentage decrease for this month was recorded in Aruba (-13.6%) while other declines ranged from -6.3% recorded in Trinidad & Tobago to -1.4% in the Cayman Islands.
- The month of September saw three destinations record increases in international trips led by Belize (26.9%), while Trinidad & Tobago (-5.3%) registered a decline.

## By Market

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

- International trips from the United States increased in 17 destinations out of 22 reporting overall and declined in five.
- Out of the three destinations reporting arrivals from this market for the period January to September, Belize (24.9%) and Antigua & Barbuda (18.7%) recorded increases while Trinidad & Tobago registered a -3.7% decrease.
- Tourist trips from the United States during the January to August period increased in all eight destinations submitting data for this time. The largest percentage increase in visits from this market was recorded in Grenada (15.9%) followed by Bermuda (12.6%).
- Similarly, all three destinations reporting arrival data from the United States during the period January to July recorded growth ranging between 0.4% in Curacao and 19.4% in the Turks & Caicos Islands.
- Three out of the four destinations reporting arrivals from this market for the period January to June recorded double-digit growth ranging from 10.4% in St. Vincent & the Grenadines to 17.7% in Guyana. Puerto Rico (-2.1%) recorded the only decline in the period.

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

- Dominica was the only destination to report arrival data from the United States for the period January to May, registering a -1.5% decline in visits from this market.
- On the other hand, The Bahamas recorded a 6.7% increase in trips from the United States during the period January to March.
- Haiti (-17.5%) recorded declined arrivals from this market during the period January to April.
- Visitor trips from the United States also declined in Suriname (-16.4%) during the period January to February.

## Canada

- The number of visitor trips from Canada continues to be depressed as growth was registered in just eight destinations (out of 24 reporting), while declines were recorded in 16 destinations from this market.
- All three destinations reporting for the period January to September recorded reduced numbers of Canadian tourists ranging between -8.6% in Trinidad & Tobago and -15.1% in Belize. .
- Out of the nine destinations reporting arrival from this market for the period January to August, St. Maarten (8.3%) and The Dominican Republic (2.7%) observed growth, while the other seven destinations recorded declines that ranged from -1.7% in Anguilla to -12.2% in Haiti.
- Growth in international trips from Canada during the period January to July was recorded in two destinations, the Turks & Caicos Islands (27.4%) and Curacao (4.4%), while Montserrat (-6.1%) was the only destination to register a decline in this market during this time.
- For the period January to June, moderate growth was recorded in three destinations (out of four reporting) ranging from 0.9% in Barbados to 4.7% in Guyana. Puerto Rico (-12.3%) was the only destination to observe a decline in Canadian visitor arrivals during this time.
- Dominica, the only destination reporting for the period January to May, received -9.4% fewer trips from Canada,
- The only destination reporting for the January to April period, Haiti, also registered a decline of -17.5%.
- Declines in Canadian visitor arrivals were also recorded in both destinations reporting for the period January to March, The Bahamas (-15.0%) and Cuba (-4.3%).
- Suriname, the only destination reporting arrival data for the period January to February, recorded a 14.1% increase in trips from Canada during this time.

## Europe

- Overall visitor arrivals from Europe grew in 17 destinations (out of 24 reporting) and contracted in seven.
- Between January and September, growth in visits from European countries was recorded in Belize (4.1%) and Antigua & Barbuda (1.8%), while Trinidad & Tobago received -13.3% fewer arrivals from this market.



- Out of the nine destinations reporting for the period January to August, European visitor trips increased in five ranging between 4.9% in Jamaica to 23.6% recorded in St. Maarten. Contractions in this market during this time, however, were recorded in four destinations ranging from -1.8% in Bermuda to -12.7% in the Cayman Islands.
- All three destinations reporting arrivals from Europe for the period January to July recorded growth led by the Turks & Caicos Islands (34.8%).
- Similarly, all four reporting destinations for the period January to June recorded increased visitor trips from Europe between 1.8% in Barbados to 27.7% in Guyana.
- Dominica, the only destination reporting arrival data for the period January to May, registered a -9.4% decline in arrivals from Europe.
- Haiti recorded a substantial 34.6% increase in European arrivals during the period January to April.
- European stopover arrivals increased in both destinations reporting data for the period January to March, Cuba (37.7%) and The Bahamas (2.9%).
- In contrast, Suriname recorded a considerable -26.8% decline in arrivals from Europe during the period January to 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.
- Four destinations reported cruise passenger arrival data for the period January to September, two of which recorded growth, Cozumel (Mexico) (4.7%) and Belize (1.3%), and the other two recording declines of -5.8% in Antigua & Barbuda, and -0.6% in the US Virgin Islands.
- Between January and August, cruise passenger arrivals increased in six out of seven reporting destinations ranging from a modest 5.9% in the Cayman Islands to a significant 63.3% in The Dominican Republic, while Saint Lucia (-18.1%) was the only destination to record a decline in cruise passenger arrivals during this period.
- In contrast, the British Virgin Islands (47.7%) was the only destination to record an increase in cruise passenger arrivals during the period January to July, while declines recorded in the other four reporting destinations ranged between -6.4% in the Turks & Caicos Islands and -17.7% in St. Maarten.
- Out of the six destinations reporting cruise passenger arrivals for the period January to June, four registered growth ranging from 1.7% in The Bahamas to 21.0% recorded in Martinique. Declines were recorded in St. Kitts & Nevis (-7.3%) and Dominica (-4.6%) during this time.
- Trinidad & Tobago recorded a 47.8% increase in cruise passenger arrivals during the period January to May.
- Haiti received -9.4% fewer cruise passenger arrivals during the period January to April.
- Guadeloupe (-19.1%) also recorded a decline in cruise passenger visits during the period January to February.