CARIBBEAN TOURISM ORGANIZATION LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS



DECEMBER 2016

Copyright© 2016,Caribbean Tourism Organization (CTO)

Published by the Caribbean Tourism Organization (CTO),2016. All rights reserved.

The designations employed and the presentation of material in this publication do not imply the expression of any opinions whatsoever on the part of the Caribbean Tourism Organization concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area, or of its authorities or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

Caribbean Tourism Organization (CTO)

Ground Floor,Baobab Tower Warrens,St Michael Barbados Tel.: (246) 427-5242 Website:www.onecaribbean.org E-mail:statspub@caribtourism.com

All CTO publications are protected by copyright. Therefore and unless otherwise specified, no part of aCTO publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or utilized in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, microfilm, scanning, without prior permission in writing. CTO encourages dissemination of its work and is pleased to consider permissions, licensing, and translation requests related to CTO publications.

For authorization of the reproduction of CTO works, please contact the CTO at the address and email above.

Overall Performance

- Arrival data was reported by 28 destinations for the year and while growth was recorded in 21 destinations, declines were recorded in seven.
- For the period January to October, out of the 13 destinations reporting during this time, 10 destinations recorded growth ranging from 0.1% in the Cayman Islands to 16.3% in Belize,while declines were recorded in the other three destinations, Aruba (-7.0%), Trinidad & Tobago (-6.3%),and Curacao (-3.2%).
- During January to September five out of six reporting destinations recorded growth between 1.5% in Puerto Rico and 19.0% in Turks & Caicos Islands, while Dominica (-6.4%) recorded a decline.
- Growth was recorded in all four destinations reporting for January to August ranging from 3.9% in the British Virgin Islands to 11.7% in Cuba.
- Similarly,both destinations,The Bahamas (2.8%) and Montserrat (5.5%), reporting visitor trips for January to July registered increases.
- Haiti,the only destination to report data for the period January to April, received -14.5% fewer internationalvisitors.
- Suriname recorded a -25.6% decrease in stay-over arrivals during January to February.
- The only destination reporting arrival data for the month of January alone, St. Kitts & Nevis, recorded a -4.0% decline.

By Month

- In January, 19 out of 28 destinations reported increased international trips, while nine destinations registered declines. The highest percentage increase in tourist arrivals during this month was recorded in Belize (24.0%) followed by St. Maarten (21.6%) and the Turks & Caicos Islands (16.1%). In contrast, Suriname (-37.5%) recorded the largest decrease in arrivals during this month followed by Haiti(-21.9%) and Montserrat (-15.0%).
- Twenty out of 27 reporting destinations recorded growth in arrivals in February, while seven destinations recorded decreases. Grenada (23.6%) recorded the highest percentage increase this month followed by strong performances in Belize (18.5%) and the Turks & Caicos Islands (16.9%). The largest decrease during this month was recorded in Haiti (-18.5%) followed by Suriname (-13.3%) and Trinidad & Tobago (-12.5%).
- March,the best performing month for the year so far, had 21destinations out of 26 recording increases in international visits and just five recording declines. Substantial growth registered 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 other decreases ranged between -0.6% in the Cayman Islands and -5.0% in Haiti.
- The number of destinations recording growth in tourist arrivals in April dropped to 11 destinations (out of 26 reporting), while 15 recorded contractions. The Turks & Caicos Islands led growth with a strong 32.7% increase in arrivals followed by 13.9% recorded in St. Vincent & the

Grenadines and 11.2% in Belize. The declines recorded during this month ranged between -0.7% in Jamaica and -16.7% in Dominica.

- Making a slight recovery, performances during the month of May were mixed as 13 out of 25 destinations registered increased tourist arrivals ranging between 0.5% in Saint Lucia and 102.0% in Guyana. Arrivals declined in 12 destinations, the largest decrease from this month was recorded in Montserrat (-35.2%), while other declines ranged from -0.3% in Jamaica to -20.5% in Dominica.
- Destinations continued to recover in the month of June as 17 out of 25 reporting destinations recorded increased international trips, while eight 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 -0.9% in Aruba to -9.7% recorded in Montserrat.
- In July,growth in arrivals was reported in 21out of 25 destinations,ranging between 0.8% in The Bahamas and 26.3% in Anguilla. In contrast,four destinations recorded decreases during this month ranging from -1.8% in St. Vincent & the Grenadines to -9.0% in Aruba.
- During August, the number of destinations recording increases in trips slipped to 14 (out of 23 reporting destinations), while eight recorded declines. The US Virgin Islands led growth with a 14.9% increase followed closely by Bermuda (14.2%), while the declines recorded during this month ranged between -Q.7% in Puerto Rico and -13.6% in Aruba.
- Fourteen destinations (out of 19) registered increases in trips during September, led by the Turks & Caicos Islands (27.4%) and followed by Belize (26.9%) and Bermuda (21.4%). Five destinations registered declines that ranged from -2.1% recorded in Grenada to -20.5% in Aruba.
- In October, nine destinations (out of 13) recorded increases in arrivals led by Belize (14.7%) followed closely by Anguilla (14.3%) and the US Virgin Islands (13.4%). Declines were recorded in four destinations with Aruba registering the largest percentage decrease of -29.8%.

By Market

United States¹

- International trips from the United States to the region increased in 17 destinations out of 23 reporting overall and declined in six.
- Out of the 11destinations reporting arrivals from this market for the period January to October, nine recorded increases ranging from 1.0% in Aruba to 23.7% in Belize. Trinidad and Tobago(-4.3%) and Curacao (-2.6%) were the only destinations to record decreases during this time.
- Tourist trips from the United States during the January to September increased in five out of six destinations, led by the Turks & Caicos Islands (17.5%) followed by Grenada (14.5%) and Barbados (10.7%). The only destination to record a decline during this time was Puerto Rico (-0.2%).
- St. Vincent & the Grenadines (6.1%) was the only destination to report arrival data from the US
 market for the period January to August.

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

- Growth in arrivals from the United States was recorded in Montserrat (10.5%) and The Bahamas (5.0%),the two destinations submitting data for the period January to July.
- During the period January to April, Haiti recorded -17.5% fewer visitor trips from the United States.
- Fewer arrivals from the US market was recorded in Suriname (-16.4%) during the period January to February.
- Visitor trips from the United States also declined in St. Kitts & Nevis (-13.6%) during the month of January.

Canada

- Eight destinations (out of 24 reporting) registered growth in visitor trips from Canada, while declines were recorded in 16 destinations from this market.
- Out of the 11 destinations reporting arrivals from this market for the period January to October, growth was recorded in Curacao (3.4%),the Dominican Republic {3.1%},and Anguilla (2.5%). The other eight destinations recorded declines that ranged from -4.6% in Saint lucia to -14.1% in Belize.
- Growth in international trips from Canada during the period January to September was recorded in two destinations, Turks & Caicos (27.8%) and Barbados (1.1%). Declines were registered in four destinations during this time ranging between -0.4% recorded in Guyana and -13.3% in Puerto Rico.
- St. Vincent & the Grenadines (2.7%) recorded increases in visitor trips from Canada during the period January to August.
- In contrast, decreased arrivals were recorded in both Montserrat (-6.1%) and The Bahamas (-13.4%) during the period January to July.
- For the period January to April, Haiti recorded a -12.2% decline in Canadian visitor arrivals.
- Similarly,Cuba received -4.3% fewer international trips from Canada during the period January to March.
- Suriname recorded a 14.1% increase in arrivals from this market during the period January to February.
- For the month of January, St. Kitts & Nevis registered an 11.5% increase in arrivals from Canada.

Europe

- Overall visitor arrivals from Europe grew in 18 destinations (out of 25 reporting) and contracted in seven.
- Between January and October,growth in visits from European countries was recorded in seven destinations ranging between 0.3% in Antigua & Barbuda and 14.5% in Anguilla. In the same period, arrivals declined in four destinations namely the Cayman Islands (-14.1%),Trinidad & Tobago (-13.2%),Saint Lucia (-7.0%) and Bermuda (-2.7%).

- Visitor arrivals from Europe increased in five destinations for the period January to September ranging from a flat performance in Dominica to 35.1% in the Turks & Caicos Islands. Grenada(-7.9%) was the only destination to record a decline in arrivals from this market during this time.
- Both St. Maarten (23.6%) and St. Vincent & the Grenadines (3.4%) reported higher arrivals from Europe for the period January to August.
- Similarly,the two destinations reporting for the period January to July,The Bahamas (3.9%) and Montserrat (1.7%),recorded growth in this market.
- Growth in visitor trips from Europe increased by 34.6% in Haiti during the period January to April.
- Cuba, the only destination reporting arrival data for the period January to March, registered a 37.7% increase in arrivals from Europe.
- In contrast, Suriname recorded a considerable -26.8% decline in arrivals from Europe during the period January to February.
- St. Kitts & Nevis (-4.0%) also recorded decreased European stopover arrivals during January.

Cruise Arrivals

- Performance of the cruise passenger arrivals to the region was mixed, with 13 out of the 25 reporting destinations recording increases and the other 12 registering decreases.
- Six destinations out of 11 reporting cruise passenger arrival data for the period January to October recorded increases ranging from 3.4% in Belize to 18.4% in Martinique. The other five destinations registered declines ranging between -1.8% in the US Virgin Islands to -22.6% in Saint Lucia.
- Between January and September, cruise passenger visits increased in three destinations led by the Dominican Republic (66.8%) followed by Grenada (33.8%) and Aruba (14.2%). Declines were recorded in the other three destinations reporting during this time with Antigua & Barbuda (-5.8%) registering the largest percentage decrease followed by Dominica (-4.7%) and Barbados(-0.4%).
- During the period January to August, both St. Vincent & the Grenadines (8.7%) and the British Virgin Islands (47.9%) recorded growth in cruise passenger visits.
- St. Maarten, the only destination reporting for the period January to July, recorded a -17.7% decrease in cruise passenger arrivals during this time.
- While The Bahamas registered a 1.7% increase in cruise passenger arrivals between January and June,St.Kitts & Nevis received -7.3% fewer visits during this time.
- Trinidad & Tobago recorded a 47.8% increase in cruise passenger arrivals during the period January to May.
- Haitirecorded a -9.4% decline in cruise passenger visits during the period January to April.
- Guadeloupe (-19.1%) also received fewer cruise passenger visits during the period January to February.