

CARIBBEAN TOURISM ORGANIZATION LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS



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Overall Performance

- Arrival data was reported by 28 destinations during 2016 and while growth was recorded in 22 destinations, declines were recorded in six.
- For the January to December period, 14 destinations out of 17 reported growth ranging between 0.0% recorded in the Cayman Islands and 17.5% in the Turks & Caicos Islands. Declines were recorded in Aruba (-10.0%), Trinidad & Tobago (-7.0%), and Curaçao (-5.8%) during this time.
- During the period January to November, Dominica, the only destination reporting arrival data for this period, registered an increase of 2.8%.
- For the period January to October, both St. Vincent & the Grenadines (6.6%) and Puerto Rico (0.1%) recorded growth in arrivals.
- Similarly, both reporting destinations for the period January to September registered increases of 11.1% in Guyana and 2.5% in The Bahamas.
- Growth was recorded in both destinations reporting for January to August, 11.7% in Cuba and 5.5% in St. Maarten.
- International arrivals increased by 5.5% in Montserrat during the period January to July, the only destinations reporting data for that period.
- Haiti, the only destination to report data for the period January to April, received -14.5% fewer international visitors.
- Suriname (-25.6%) and St. Kitts & Nevis (-6.1%) both recorded decreases in stay-over arrivals during January to February.

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 28 reporting destinations recorded growth in arrivals in February, while eight 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 21 destinations 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 expansions of 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, and 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% in Montserrat.
- In July, growth in arrivals was reported in 21 destinations, ranging between 1.0% in Curaçao 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 15 (out of 24 reporting destinations), while nine recorded declines. The US Virgin Islands led growth rates with a 14.9% increase followed closely by Bermuda (14.2%), while the declines recorded during this month ranged between -0.7% in Puerto Rico and -13.6% in Aruba.
- Sixteen destinations (out of 22) registered increases in trips during September, led by the Turks & Caicos Islands (27.4%) followed by Belize (26.9%) and Bermuda (21.4%). Six destinations registered declines that ranged from -1.1% recorded in St. Vincent & the Grenadines to -20.5% in Aruba.
- In October, fifteen destinations (out of 20) registered increases in arrivals led by Dominica (103.2%) followed by the Turks & Caicos Islands (25.3%), and Belize (14.7%). Declines were recorded in five destinations with Aruba registering the largest percentage decrease of -29.8%.
- During the month of November, the performance of destinations reporting tourist arrival data was evenly split. Increases were recorded in nine destinations ranging between 2.9% in the Dominican Republic and 31.4% in Bermuda, while decreases in the other nine destinations ranged from -1.3% in Belize to -28.7% in Aruba.
- Out of the 17 destinations reporting arrivals during the month of December, 12 destinations registered increases led by Bermuda (20.7%). Declines in the other five destinations ranged from -0.9% in Grenada to -18.1% in Aruba.

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.
- During the period January to December, 12 out of 14 destinations registered growth in arrivals from the United States, led by Belize (18.3%) followed by Bermuda (16.4%) and the Turks & Caicos Islands (16.1%). Trinidad and Tobago (-4.4%) and Curaçao (-3.3%) were the only destinations to record decreases during this time.
- Growth in arrivals from the United States was recorded in Dominica (9.2%), the only destination reporting during the period January to November.
- The only destination reporting arrivals from this market for the period January to October, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, recorded an increase of 6.8%.
- Tourist trips from the United States during the January to September period increased in two out of three destinations, Guyana (6.6%) and The Bahamas (4.1%). The only destination to record a decline during this time was Puerto Rico (-0.2%).
- Montserrat (10.5%) was the only destination to report arrival data from the US market 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 were also recorded in both St. Kitts & Nevis (-11.4%) and Suriname (-16.4%) during the period January to February.

Canada

- Seven destinations (out of 24 reporting) registered growth in visitor trips from Canada, while declines were recorded in 17 destinations from this market.
- Out of 14 destinations reporting arrivals from this market for the period January to December, four destinations recorded growth from this market ranging from 3.0% in the Dominican Republic to 23.2% in the Turks & Caicos. Declines registered in the other ten destinations ranged from -0.6% in Grenada to -9.0% in Belize.
- During the period January to November, Dominica recorded a -0.7% decrease in arrivals from Canada.
- Between January and October, growth of 1.6% was recorded in St. Vincent & the Grenadines.
- International trips from Canada during the period January to September decreased in Guyana (-0.4%), The Bahamas (-13.0%), and Puerto Rico (-13.3%).
- A decrease in tourist visits was recorded in Montserrat (-6.1%) during the period January to July.
- For the period January to April, Haiti recorded a -12.2% decline in Canadian visitor arrivals.

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

- Similarly, Cuba received -4.3% fewer international trips from Canada during the period January to March.
- Suriname (14.1%) and St. Kitts & Nevis (10.7%) recorded increases in arrivals from this market during the period January to February.

Europe

- Overall visitor arrivals from Europe grew in 17 destinations (out of 25 reporting) and contracted in seven.
- During the period January to December, eight destinations (out of 14 reporting) recorded growth in European arrivals led by the Turks & Caicos Islands (27.7%). Declines from this market during this time ranged from -0.3% recorded in Antigua & Barbuda to -14.5% in the Cayman Islands.
- Arrivals from Europe increased in Dominica (4.7%), the only destination reporting during the period January to November.
- Between January and October, growth in visits from European countries was recorded in St. Vincent & the Grenadines (2.8%).
- Visitor arrivals from Europe increased in all three destinations reporting for the period January to September, 7.3% in The Bahamas, 8.3% in Puerto Rico, and 15.8% in Guyana.
- St. Maarten (23.6%) reported higher arrivals from Europe for the period January to August.
- Similarly, the only destination reporting for the period January to July, 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.
- While St. Kitts & Nevis reported a flat performance during the period January to February, Suriname recorded a -26.8% decline in arrivals from Europe during this time.

Cruise Arrivals

- Performance of the cruise passenger arrivals to the region was mixed, with 13 out of the 25 reporting destinations recording increases, while the other 12 registered decreases.
- Ten destinations out of 17 reporting cruise passenger arrival data during the period January to December recorded increases ranging from 1.3% in Barbados to 35.4% in the British Virgin Islands. Declines reported during this time ranged between -0.3% recorded in the Cayman Islands and -13.2% in Saint Lucia.
- The only destination reporting cruise passenger arrivals during the period January to November, the Dominican Republic, registered growth of 59.4%.
- For the period January to October, The Bahamas (3.8%) and St. Vincent & the Grenadines (9.2%) recorded increases. Puerto Rico (-5.7%) was the only destination to register a decline during this time.
- St. Maarten, the only destination reporting for the period January to July, recorded a -17.7% decrease in cruise passenger arrivals during this time.
- St. Kitts & Nevis registered a -7.3% decrease in cruise passenger arrivals between January and June.
- Haiti recorded 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.