

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 21 destinations, declines were recorded in seven.
- For the January to December period, 19 destinations out of 23 reported growth ranging from flat growth in the Cayman Islands to 17.5% in the Turks & Caicos Islands. Declines during this time were registered in four destinations ranging from -10.0% in Aruba to -0.1% in The Bahamas.
- During the period January to November, visitor arrivals declined in Puerto Rico (-0.6%), the lone destination reporting arrival data for this time.
- Growth was recorded in Cuba (11.7%), the only destination reporting for January to August.
- International arrivals increased by 5.5% in Montserrat during the period January to July, the single destination reporting data for that period.
- Both destinations reporting data for the period January to April, Haiti (-14.5%) and St. Kitts & Nevis (-3.8%) received fewer international visitors than registered one year ago.

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, Haiti (-21.9%) recorded the largest decrease in arrivals during this month followed by Montserrat (-15.0%) and Suriname (-11.5%).
- Twenty out of 28 reporting destinations recorded growth in arrivals in February, while eight destinations recorded decreases. Grenada (23.3%) 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 Trinidad & Tobago (-12.5%) and Dominica (-9.4%).
- March, the best performing month of the year, had 23 destinations out of 28 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 12 destinations (out of 28 reporting), while 16 recorded contractions. The Turks & Caicos Islands led growth with a strong 32.7% increase in arrivals followed by expansions of 13.9% registered in St. Vincent & the Grenadines and 11.2% in Belize. The declines recorded during this month ranged from -0.4% in the British Virgin Islands to -16.7% in Dominica.
- Performances during the month of May were mixed as 13 out of 26 destinations registered increased tourist arrivals ranging from 0.5% in Saint Lucia to 102.0% in Guyana. Arrivals declined in the other 13 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 18 out of 26 reporting destinations recorded increased international trips, while eight registered contracting visitor arrivals for this month. Increases were 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, out of 26 reporting destinations, growth in arrivals was reported in 22 destinations, ranging between 1.1% 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 16 (out of 25 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 were between -0.7% in Puerto Rico and -13.6% in Aruba.
- Seventeen destinations (out of 24 reporting) registered increases in trips during September, led by Suriname (35.3%) followed by the Turks & Caicos Islands (27.4%) and Belize (26.9%). Seven destinations registered declines that ranged from -1.1% recorded in St. Vincent & the Grenadines to -20.5% in Aruba.
- In October, 17 out of the 24 reporting destinations registered increases in arrivals led by Dominica (118.9%) followed by Suriname (45.3%) and the Turks & Caicos Islands (25.3%). Declines were recorded in six destinations with The Bahamas registering the largest percentage decrease of -34.8%.
- During the month of November, the performance of the 24 destinations reporting tourist arrival data was evenly split. Increases were recorded in eleven destinations ranging between 0.4% in St. Maarten and 65.2% in Suriname, while decreases in the other twelve destinations ranged from -0.3% in St. Vincent & the Grenadines to -28.7% in Aruba.
- Out of the 23 destinations reporting arrivals during the month of December, 17 destinations registered increases led by Suriname (26.3%). Declines in the other six destinations ranged from -3.4% in The Bahamas to -18.1% in Aruba.

By Market

United States¹

- International trips from the United States to the region increased in 19 destinations out of 24 reporting overall and declined in five.
- During the period January to December, 18 out of 20 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%). Curaçao (-5.5%) and Trinidad and Tobago (-4.4%) were the only destinations to record decreases during this time.
- Puerto Rico, the only destination reporting arrivals from this market for the period January to November, recorded a decline of -1.4%.
- 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, both Haiti (-17.5%) and St. Kitts & Nevis (-4.9%) registered fewer visitor trips from the United States.

Canada

- Ten destinations (out of 25 reporting) registered growth in visitor trips from Canada, while declines were recorded in 15 destinations from this market.
- Out of 20 destinations reporting arrivals from this market for the period January to December, eight destinations recorded growth ranging from 0.1% in Grenada to 28.6% in St. Maarten. Declines registered in the other ten destinations ranged from -0.7% in Guyana to -15.9% in The Bahamas.
- Between January and November, a decline of -14.6% was recorded in arrivals from Canada to Puerto Rico.
- A decrease in tourist visits was recorded in Montserrat (-6.1%) during the period January to July.
- For the period January to April, St. Kitts & Nevis registered a 2.8% increase in Canadian visitor arrivals, while Haiti recorded a -12.2% decline.
- During the period January to March, Cuba received -4.3% fewer international visits from Canada.

Europe

- Overall, visitor arrivals from Europe grew in 17 destinations (out of 25 reporting) and contracted in eight.
- During the period January to December, 13 destinations (out of 20 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% in Antigua & Barbuda to -14.5% in the Cayman Islands.
- Arrivals from Europe increased in Puerto Rico (2.0%), the only destination reporting during the period January to November.

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

- Similarly, the only destination reporting for the period January to July, Montserrat (1.7%), recorded growth in this market.
- While visitor trips from Europe increased by 34.6% in Haiti during the period January to April, St. Kitts & Nevis arrivals from this market contracted by -0.3% during this time.
- Cuba (37.7%) registered a strong increase in arrivals from Europe between January and March.

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Cruise Arrivals

- The 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.
- Thirteen out of 22 destinations reporting cruise passenger arrival data during the period January to December recorded increases ranging from 1.3% in Barbados to 53.0% in the Dominican Republic. Declines reported during this time were between -0.3% in the Cayman Islands and -13.2% in Saint Lucia.
- 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 compared to a year ago.

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