

U.S. Department of Commerce
International Trade Administration



Office of Travel and Tourism Industries

2011 Market Profile: Central America



2011 Market Profile: Central America

Visitation Trends (Arrivals)

[Thousands of Central America Visitors]	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Change 2011/2004
Total Arrivals	692	696	694	786	776	758	760	747	56
Percentage Change (%)	5	1	0	13	-1	-2	0	-2	8

Spending Trends (Exports)

[Millions of U.S. Dollars]	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Change 2011/2004
Total Travel & Tourism Exports (1)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Travel Receipts	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Passenger Fare Receipts	Data Unavailable								
Change (%) in Total Exports	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Information Sources Used for Trip Planning

Information Sources Used (multiple response: top 4 of 12)	2010 (Percent)	2011 (Percent)	Point Change (2)
Airlines Directly	32	33	1.4
Personal Computer	32	33	0.7
Travel Agency	32	28	-3.7
Friends/Relatives	15	18	2.1

2011 Market Profile: Central America

Main Purpose of Trip

Main Purpose of Trip (top 4 of 8)	2010 (Percent)	2011 (Percent)	Point Change (2)
Leisure/Rec./Holidays	33	34	0.5
Visit Friends/Relatives	29	33	4.1
Business/Professional	27	14	-12.4
Study/Teaching	3	8	5.0
Convention/Conference	6	8	1.9

All Purposes of Trip

Purpose of Trip (multiple response--top 4 of 8)	2010 (Percent)	2011 (Percent)	Point Change (2)
Visit Friends/Relatives	41	51	10.1
Leisure/Rec./Holidays	50	49	-1.9
Business/Professional	29	21	-8.4
Study/Teaching	3	11	7.5
NET PURPOSES OF TRIP:			
Leisure & VFR	73	79	5.5
Business & Convention	35	28	-6.8

Transportation Used in the United States

Transportation Types Used in United States (multiple response--top 5 of 8)	2010 (Percent)	2011 (Percent)	Point Change (2)
Company or Private Auto	42	36	-6.5
Airlines in U.S.	19	32	12.5
Taxi/Cab/Limousine	26	26	0.0
Rented Auto	30	22	-8.2
City Subway/Tram/Bus	11	15	3.8

2011 Market Profile: Central America

Activity Participation While in the United States

Activity Participation While in the U.S. (multiple response--top 10 of 25)	2010 (Percent)	2011 (Percent)	Point Change (2)
Shopping	86	83	-3.1
Dining in Restaurants	74	72	-1.9
Visit Historical Places	27	36	8.6
Visit Small Towns	21	28	6.5
Amusement/Theme Parks	22	27	4.7
Sightseeing in Cities	29	20	-8.4
Visit National Parks	12	12	0.5
Art Gallery/Museum	18	11	-7.1
Concert/Play/Musical	9	11	1.4
Nightclubs/Dancing	15	10	-4.4
Touring Countryside	9	10	1.1

Select Traveler Characteristics

Traveler Characteristics	2010	2011	Change (2)
Advance Trip Decision Time (mean days)	53	55	1.6 days
Advance Trip Decision Time (median days)	30	30	0.0 days
Prepaid Package	4%	2%	-2.5 pts.
First International Trip to the U.S.	5%	11%	5.7 pts.
Length of Stay in U.S. (mean nights)	13.3	16.4	3.1 nights
Length of Stay in U.S. (median nights)	7	7	0 nights
Number of States Visited (% 1 state)	82%	79%	-2.7 pts.
Average Number of States Visited	1.2	1.3	0.1 states
Hotel/Motel (% 1+ nights)	64%	61%	-2.2 pts.
Average # of Nights in Hotel/Motel	4.9	7.4	2.5 nights
Travel Party Size (mean # of persons)	1.4	1.4	0.0
Gender: % Male (among adults)	47%	54%	6.6 pts.
Household Income (mean average)	\$66,200	\$73,200	\$7,000
Household Income (median average)	\$54,400	\$49,900	-\$4,500
Average Age: Female	41	36	-4.8 years
Average Age: Male	43	42	-0.8 years

2011 Market Profile: Central America

U.S. Destinations Visited (States, Cities, and Regions)

Visitation to U.S. Destinations/Regions (3)	Market Share 2010 (Percent)	Volume 2010 (000)	Market Share 2011 (Percent)	Volume 2011 (000)
No destinations meet the minimum sample requirement.				

- (1) Total Travel & Tourism Exports = travel receipts (purchase of travel and tourism-related goods and services, to include food, lodging, recreation, gifts, entertainment, local transportation in the country of travel, and other items incidental to a foreign visit) + passenger fare receipts (fares paid to U.S. air carriers and vessel operators for travel between the United States and foreign countries and between two foreign points).
- (2) Percentage-point and percentage changes are based on non-rounded data.
- (3) Only census region, state, and city destinations having a sample size of 400 or more are displayed. Due to quarterly data weighting by country and port of entry, some unreported destinations may have a higher proportion of total than those reported.

n/a = Not Available.

Note: This profile shows only a portion of the 35 travel characteristics data reported on international arrivals to the United States. Additional information may be obtained for a fee. To learn more, please visit: <http://tinnet.ita.doc.gov/research/programs/ifs/index.html>.

For a list of the states that comprise each census region, please visit: http://tinnet.ita.doc.gov/outreachpages/census_regions.html.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, ITA, Office of Travel and Tourism Industries; Bureau of Economic Analysis.

Publication Date: May 2012



INTERNATIONAL
TRADE
ADMINISTRATION

Survey of International Air Travelers

The Survey of International Air Travelers provides a level of detail and insight into the traveler characteristics and travel patterns of international visitors to and from the United States not found elsewhere. Responses are weighted with data from the Department of Homeland Security and the following thirty-five tables are then populated. This report, which was constructed using just a fraction of the data available, summarizes what we know about Central America travelers who visits the United States.

Survey of International Air Travelers: Table Number and Description

Table 1	Country of Residence	Table 19	Number of States Visited
Table 2	Advance Trip Decision	Table 20	Number of Destinations Listed
Table 3	Advance Airline Reservation	Table 21	Transportation in U.S.
Table 4	Means of Booking Air Trip	Table 22	Port of Entry
Table 5	Information Sources	Table 23	Main Destination
Table 6	Use of Package	Table 24	U.S. Destinations Visited
Table 7	Use of Prepaid Lodging	Table 25	Leisure Activities
Table 8	Advance Package Booking	Table 26	Total Trip Expenditures
Table 9	Pre-Booked Lodging	Table 27	Itemized Trip Expenditures
Table 10	Travel Companions	Table 28	Trip Expenses Payment Method
Table 11	Travel Party Size	Table 29	Factors in Airline Choice
Table 12	Main Purpose of Trip	Table 30	Main Factor in Airline Choice
Table 13	Purpose of Trip	Table 31	Type of Airline Ticket
Table 14	Type of Accommodation	Table 32	Seating Area
Table 15	Nights in the U.S.	Table 33	Gender & Age of Traveler
Table 16	First Int'l U.S. Trip	Table 34	Occupation
Table 17	U.S. Trips Last 12 Months	Table 35	Annual Household Income
Table 18	U.S. Trips Last 5 Years		



Interested in obtaining data for your organization?

OTTI collects, analyzes and disseminates international travel and tourism statistics from the U.S. Travel and Tourism Statistical System and produces visitation data tables, including a business and pleasure arrivals rate of change analysis and detailed region, country and port analyses.

To learn more, you are encouraged to visit:

<http://tinet.ita.doc.gov/research/programs/ifs/customized.html>

For OTTI programs of interest visit:

<http://www.tinet.ita.doc.gov/research/index.html>

- Summary of International Travel to the United States (I-94)
- U.S. International Air Traveler Statistics (I-92)
- Canadian Statistics
- Survey of International Air Travelers (SIAT)
- Forecast of International Arrivals to the United States
- U.S. Travel and Tourism Exports, Imports and the Balance of Trade
- U.S. Travel and Tourism Satellite Accounts
- Travel Trade Barometer

U.S. Department of Commerce

International Trade Administration
Manufacturing and Services
Office of Travel and Tourism Industries
1401 Constitution Ave, NW
Washington, D.C. 20230
Phone: (202) 482-0140
Fax: (202) 482-2887
otti@trade.gov

<http://tinet.ita.doc.gov>