

U.S. Department of Commerce
International Trade Administration



National Travel and Tourism Office

2013 Market Profile: Central America



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Visitation Trends (Arrivals)

[Thousands of Central America Visitors]	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	Change 2013/2006
Total Arrivals	694	786	776	758	760	747	803	834	140
Percentage Change (%)	0	13	-1	-2	0	-2	7	4	20

Spending Trends (Exports)

[Millions of U.S. Dollars]	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	Change 2013/2006
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 6 of 9)	2012 (Percent)	2013 (Percent)	Point Change (2)
Airlines	46	51	5.7
Online Travel Agency	22	29	6.8
Personal Recommendation	20	21	1.3
National/State/City Travel Office	18	17	-1.2
Travel Agency Office	25	12	-12.5
Corporate Travel Dept.	5	9	4.5

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Main Purpose of Trip

Main Purpose of Trip (top 4 of 8)	2012 (Percent)	2013 (Percent)	Point Change (2)
Vacation/Holiday	46	46	0.5
Visit Friends/Relatives	24	24	0.0
Business	14	17	3.0
Convention/Conference/Trade Show	12	7	-4.9

All Purposes of Trip

Purpose of Trip (multiple response--top 4 of 8)	2012 (Percent)	2013 (Percent)	Point Change (2)
Vacation/Holiday	60	59	-0.8
Visit Friends/Relatives	44	41	-3.6
Business	20	21	0.6
Convention/Conference/Trade Show	13	10	-2.4
NET PURPOSES OF TRIP:			
Leisure & VFR	79	78	-1.0
Business & Convention	28	28	-0.1

Transportation Used in the United States

Transportation Types Used in United States (multiple response--top 6 of 11)	2012 (Percent)	2013 (Percent)	Point Change (2)
Auto, Private or Company	41	43	1.7
Rented Auto	31	40	8.9
Air Travel between U.S. Cities	39	34	-5.7
Taxicab/Limousine	16	19	2.7
Bus between Cities	9	12	2.5
City Subway/Tram/Bus	14	11	-2.9

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Activity Participation While in the United States

Activity Participation While in the U.S. (multiple response--top 10 of 22)	2012 (Percent)	2013 (Percent)	Point Change (2)
Shopping	89	90	0.8
Sightseeing	56	59	3.6
Experience Fine Dining	41	47	5.4
Amusement/Theme Parks	29	34	4.7
Small Towns/Countryside	26	23	-3.2
National Parks/Monuments	21	22	1.1
Art Gallery/Museum	23	20	-3.6
Historical Locations	15	18	2.9
Nightclubbing/Dancing	15	14	-0.3
Concert/Play/Musical	10	13	2.7

Select Traveler Characteristics

Traveler Characteristics	2012	2013	Change (2)
Advance Trip Decision Time (mean days)	56	58	1.8
Advance Trip Decision Time (median days)	30	45	15.0
Prepaid Package	3	4	0.4
First International Trip to the U.S.	2	5	2.9
Length of Stay in U.S. (mean nights)	11.4	14.9	3.5
Length of Stay in U.S. (median nights)	7	8	1.0
Number of States Visited (% 1 state)	79	81	2.5
Average Number of States Visited	1.2	1.2	0.0
Hotel/Motel (% 1+ nights)	51	59	8.5
Average # of Nights in Hotel/Motel	5.3	5.9	0.6
Travel Party Size (mean # of persons)	1.3	1.5	0.2
Gender: % Male (among adults)	53	51	-1.5
Household Income (mean average)	\$57,434	\$57,284	-\$150
Household Income (median average)	\$35,000	\$50,000	\$15,000
Average Age: Female (among adults)	47	41	-6.4
Average Age: Male (among adults)	40	40	-0.4

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

Visitation to U.S. Destinations/Regions (3)	Market Share 2012 (Percent)	Volume 2012 (000)	Market Share 2013 (Percent)	Volume 2013 (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 incident 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.
- (**) Estimate not shown due to sample size fewer than 400 for this year.

Note: This profile shows only a portion of the 37 travel characteristics data reported on international arrivals to the U.S. Additional information may be obtained for a fee. To learn more, please visit our website: <http://travel.trade.gov/research/index.html>

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

Interested in data for your destination? NTTO sells custom reports. To learn more, go to: <http://travel.trade.gov/research/programs/ifs/customized.html>

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

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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-seven 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 visit the United States.

Survey of International Air Travelers: Table Number and Description

Table 1	Country of Residence	Table 20	Number of Destinations Visited
Table 2	Information Sources	Table 21	Transportation in the U.S.
Table 3	Advance Trip Decision	Table 22	Port of Entry
Table 4	Advance Airline Reservation	Table 23	Main Destination
Table 5	Means of Booking Air Trip	Table 24	U.S. Destinations Visited
Table 6	Advance Air Ticket Payment	Table 25	Leisure Activities
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Table 8	Pre-Booked Lodging	Table 27	Itemized Trip Expenditures
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Table 10	Travel Companions	Table 29	Payment Methods- Frequency
Table 11	Travel Party Size	Table 30	Payment Methods - Expen.Weighted
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Table 13	Purpose(s) of Trip	Table 32	Main Factor in Airline Choice
Table 14	Type of Accommodation	Table 33	Seating Area
Table 15	Nights in the U.S.	Table 34	Type of Airline Ticket
Table 16	Total Nights Away From Home	Table 35	Gender and Age of Travelers
Table 17	First Trip to the U.S.	Table 36	Occupation
Table 18	U.S. Trips Last 12 months	Table 37	Annual Household Income
Table 19	Number of States Visited		



Interested in obtaining data for your organization?

One of the unique features of the Survey program is its 'data-mining' potential. The Survey research data, collected from the questionnaire, is maintained in a computer database. Therefore, customized reports, special tables and data files are available.

To learn more, go to: <http://travel.trade.gov/research/programs/ifs/index.html>

For NTTO programs of interest visit:

<http://travel.trade.gov/research/index.html>

- Summary of International Travel to the United States (I-94)
- U.S. International Air Traveler Statistics (APIS, formerly I-92)
- Survey of International Air Travelers (SIAT)
- Canadian Statistics
- 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

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