

# U.S. Virgin Islands

## April 2009 Tourism Indicators

Bureau of Economic Research

August 2009

1050 Norre Gade No. 5, Suite 301, St. Thomas, VI Tel: (340) 714-1700 Fax: (340) 776-7953

### Visitor Arrivals for April 2009 down by 11.9 Percent

There were 221,364 visitors to the Territory in April 2009, down 29,882 or 11.9 percent from April 2008. There were 155,626 cruise ship passenger arrivals this month compared to 184,125 last April. The number of cruise ship calls fell to 57 from 69 a year ago. Air arrivals, which totaled 65,738 this April, decreased by 2.1 percent when compared with last April.

### *Arrivals by District*

The St. Thomas/St. John district received 54,747 air visitors, a 3.1 percent decline over the previous April. Conversely, St. Croix district received 10,991 air visitors, a 3.6 percent increase over 10,605 who arrived last April. The St. Thomas/St. John district received 155,626 cruise passengers a 15.5 percent decrease over April 2008. There were no cruise ship calls to St. Croix this month or last April.

### *Hotel Occupancy*

The Territory's hotels reported occupancy rate averaged 59.6 percent--9 percentage points down from 68.6 percent last April. The rate for St. Croix was 35.9 percent compared to 55.0 percent reported last April. The rate for St. Thomas and St. John was 67.7 percent compared to 73.0 percent one year earlier. Territory-wide occupied room nights this April were 88,831 compared with 99,866 last April. Total hotel room revenue for April was \$1,756,799, a 40.3 percent loss from April 2008.

### Tourism Statistics January to April 2009

There were 954,928 visitors to the Territory during the first four months of the year, a 14.4 percent drop from the 1,115,165 visitors who came one year earlier. There were 249,896 air visitors this period compared to 279,138 for the corresponding period in 2008, a 10.5 percent decline from last year. A total of 705,032 cruise passengers visited this period in 2009 or a 15.7 percent decline when compared to the 836,027 passengers who visited in 2008. There were a total of 310 cruise ship calls, about 13.4 percent fewer calls than a year ago.

April 2009 year-to-date air arrivals to the St. Thomas/St. John district were down 9.8 percent to 209,917 versus the 232,731 who came one year ago. The district of St. Croix had 39,979 air visitors or a 13.8 percent decrease. Cruise passenger arrivals fell by 16.1 percent to 700,209 from in the St. Thomas/St. John district. St. Croix received 18,040 cruise passengers for the four-month period compared to the 1,876 in 2008.

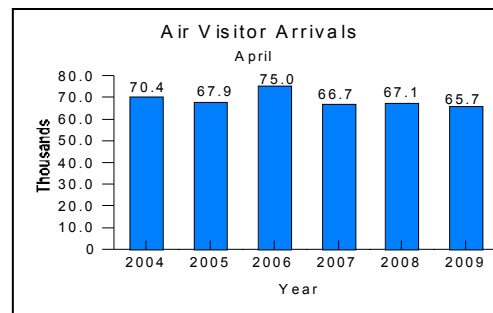
The Territory's hotel occupancy rate from January to April averaged 62.3 percent. The year-to-date hotel guest registrations were 321,445 this period. Guest Registrations were up from the following regions: The U.S. (1.2 percent), Local Residents (18.7), Europe (20.2 percent), Canada and Other Areas by (44.7 percent) and (39.4 percent). On the other hand, hotel guest decreased from Other West Indies (18.6 percent), Central America (31.7 percent), Puerto Rico (5.9 percent), and South America (9.5 percent).



## Tourism Statistics for April 2009

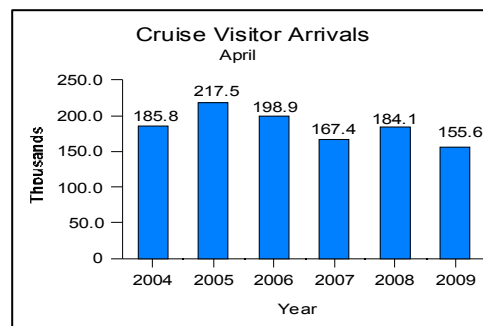
### PASSENGER ARRIVALS

	Apr 09	Mar 09	Apr 08	09 CY Jan-Apr	08 CY Jan-Apr	% Ch. 09/08
Air Visitors	65,738	62,585	67,121	249,896	279,138	-10.5
St. Thomas and St. John	54,747	53,513	56,516	209,917	232,731	-9.8
St. Croix	10,991	9,072	10,605	39,979	46,407	-13.9
Cruise Ship Visitors	155,626	181,175	184,125	705,032	836,027	-15.7
St. Thomas and St. John	155,626	180,520	184,125	700,209	834,151	-16.1
St. Croix	0	6,266	0	18,040	1,876	-
Cruise Ship Calls	57	85	69	310	357	-13.2
St. Thomas and St. John	57	83	69	304	358	-15.1
St. Croix	0	4	0	14	1	-



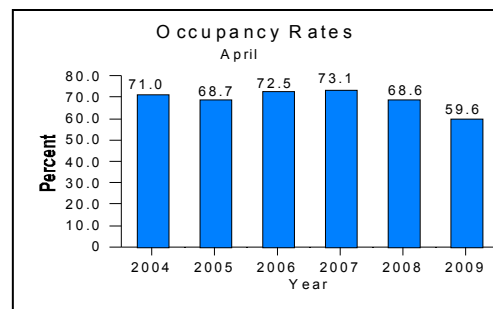
### HOTEL REGISTRATION

	Apr 09	Mar 09	Apr 08	09 CY Jan-Apr	08 CY Jan-Apr	% Ch. 09/08
Total	89,525	89,462	81,770	321,445	311,400	3.2
Residents	7,789	7,809	6,455	28,484	24,004	18.7
Non Residents	81,736	81,653	75,315	292,961	287,396	1.9
United States	76,136	75,148	69,889	270,202	266,918	1.2
Puerto Rico	1,592	1,702	1,728	5,846	6,213	-5.9
Other West Indies	810	582	486	2,235	2,746	-18.6
Canada	952	1,333	694	4,615	3,189	44.7
Europe	1,696	1,982	2,102	7,649	6,364	20.2
Central America	43	8	39	99	145	-31.7
South America	174	94	98	418	462	-9.5
Other Areas	333	189	279	1,896	1,360	39.4
Average Stay (nights)	4.1	4.0	4.3	4.2	4.5	-6.7



### HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

	Apr 09	Mar 09	Apr 08	09 CY Jan-Apr	08 CY Jan-Apr	% Ch. 09/08
Total Tourist Rooms Available	4,898	4,897	4,854	4,897	4,846	1.1
Occupied Room Nights	88,831	95,861	99,866	371,944	417,304	-10.9
Available Room Nights	149,138	153,713	145,620	596,584	584,075	2.1
Occupancy Rate (%)	59.6	62.4	68.6	62.3	71.4	-
St. Thomas and St. John	67.7	69.7	67.7	69.5	76.2	-
St. Croix	55.0	41.0	35.9	41.6	56.8	-



Note: CY = Calendar Year.

% Ch. 09/08 = year-to-date

Data subject to revision.

Tourism Indicators is a Bureau of Economic Research publication that compiles basic economic and statistical information from numerous sources. The table featured in this publication compares the reported month's data with figures from the preceding month and from the month of one year earlier figure. Data are subject to revision.

Visit us on the web at [WWW.USVIBER.ORG](http://WWW.USVIBER.ORG) for more detailed statistics!