

This Issue August 2012:

Visitor Overview P.1

Visitor Arrivals Data P.2

Estimated Guests by Origin P.4

AUGUST HIGHLIGHTS

- There were 139,199 visitors to the Territory in August compared to 156,794 for the corresponding month last year.
- Only the St. Thomas and St. John district received Cruise passengers to the Territory this month, there was 89,692 cruise passenger arrivals.
- The Territory's hotels reported occupancy rate averaged 41.2 percent this month, a 1.9 percentage point increase over last August.
- Territory-wide occupied room nights in August were up 2.3 percent to 64,242 from 62,828 in August 2011.
- The Hotel Occupancy Rate average 51.5 percent for the first eight months of this year, compared to 55.0 percent reported during August of last year.

VISITOR ARRIVALS AUGUST 2012

The month of August saw an 11.2 percent decrease in overall visitor arrivals when compared to August last year. There were 139,199 visitors to the Territory in August compared to 156,794 for the corresponding month last year. Air arrivals increased by 4.3 percent to 49,507 compared to 47,507 air arrivals of August 2011. Conversely, cruise passenger arrivals fell by 18.0 percent to 89,692 from 109,334 a year earlier.

ARRIVALS BY DISTRICT

The St. Thomas and St. John district experienced an uptick of 6.0 percent in air visitors to 38,533 this month compared to 36,365 in August 2011. St. Croix experienced its first decline in air arrivals for the year; a drop of 1.1 percent to 10,974 from 11,095. The St. Thomas and St. John district received all 89,692 cruise passengers who came to the Territory this month. There were 23 cruise ship calls to the Territory this August compared to 29 for August 2011. There were no cruise passengers to St. Croix this August.

HOTEL OCCUPANCY

The Territory's hotels reported an occupancy rate that averaged 41.2 percent this month, a 1.9 percentage point increase over last August. The rate for St. Thomas and St. John was 44.0 percent the same recorded rate a year ago. The island of St. Croix rate was 31.9 percent compared to 40.1 percent a year earlier. Territory-wide occupied room nights in August were up 2.3 percent to 64,242 from 62,828 in August of 2011. The increase in occupied room night and the additional 2 percent hotel tax moved total hotel room revenues up 110.0 percent from August 2011. Hotel room revenues increased to \$1,861,976compared to \$886,077 in August of 2011.

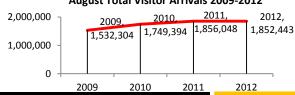
TOURISM STATISTICS JANUARY TO AUGUST 2012

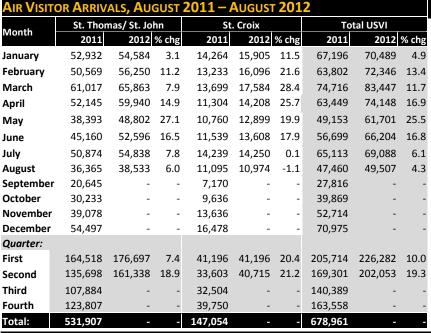
A total of 1,852,443 visitors arrived in the Territory during the first eight months of 2012, unchanged from the number of visitors that came during in 2011. Cruise passengers arrivals were 1,305,513 versus 1,368,460 last year. There were 577,231 air visitors a 12.0 percent increase over than 515,404 air visitors for the same eight-month period in 2011. There were 454 cruise ship calls during this period or 4.8 percent fewer calls than last year.

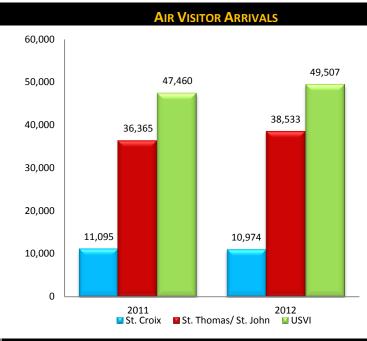
The hotel occupancy rate average 51.5 percent for the first eight months of this year, compared to 55.0 percent reported during the same period in 2011. Occupied room nights were 622,723 compared to 651,118 in 2011. Room nights available were 1,209,005 compared to 1,183,908 during the same period in 2011.

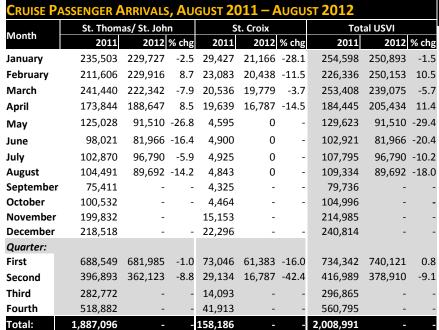
August year-to-date guest registrations reported were 502,613 compared to 524,657 for the same period a year ago. Guests from the United States, who comprised 83.4 percent of all hotel guests, diminished 4.2 percent during same period in 2011. Virgin Islands residents staying at local hotels waned by 12.3 percent, while Canadian residents rose by 4.6 percent. Guests from Europe rose 75.6 percent over last year. Visitors from Central and South America grew by 15.0 percent and 60.0 percent, respectively. Visitors from other West Indian islands declined by 14.7 percent and the Other Areas category decreased by 55.4 percent due to adjustments and corrections made to the data submitted by some hotels.

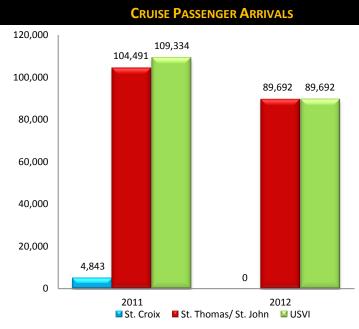
August Total Visitor Arrivals 2009-2012



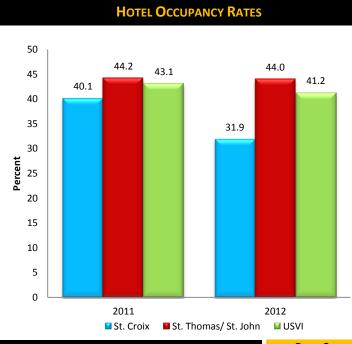








							,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	
HOTEL OC	CUPANCY	RATES,	Augu	JST 2011	- Aug	ust 20	012	
	St. Thon	nas/ St. Jo	hn	St	. Croix		Total	USVI
Month	2011	2012	% chg	2011	2012	% chg	2011	2012 % chg
January	60.3	61.4	1.0	49.3	54.2	5.0	57.6	59.6 2.0
February	65.1	66.2	1.1	59.5	59.1	-0.3	63.7	64.4 0.7
March	71.4	57.2	-14.1	50.6	55.1	4.5	66.3	56.7 -9.6
April	61.9	57.3	-4.5	41.2	41.7	0.5	56.9	53.6 -3.3
May	56.0	46.0	-10.0	36.6	34.8	-1.9	51.0	43.3 -7.7
June	51.6	45.7	-5.9	40.4	34.7	-5.7	48.7	43.1 -5.7
July	53.2	52.5	-0.7	47.5	36.5	-11.1	51.7	48.7 -3.0
August	44.2	44.0	-0.1	40.1	31.9	-8.2	43.1	41.2 -1.9
September	33.7	-	-	35.9	-	-	34.3	
October	47.1	-	-	36.5	-	-	44.5	
November	46.7	-	-	52.7	-	-	48.2	
December	59.4	-	-	52.1	-	-	57.6	
Quarter:								
First	65.6	61.3	-4.4	52.9	56.1	3.2	62.5	60.2 -2.5
Second	56.6	49.6	-7.0	39.4	37.0	-2.4	52.3	46.6 -5.7
Third	43.8	-	-	41.2	-	-	43.2	
Fourth	51.1	-	-	47.0	-	-	50.1	
Total:	60.6		-	45.8	-	-	57.0	
D	FECONIONALE							



OCCUDANCY REDOTT

TABLE 1: ESTIMATED ROOM (OCCUPANCY BY ISLAN	ID AND TYPE OF VISITO	OR A CCOMMODATIONS

All Visitor Accommodations	August	t Only		gust :o-date	Small Hotels	Augu	st Only	August Year-to-date	
	2011	2012	2011	2012		2011	2012	2011	2012
USVI					usvi				
Occupancy Rate (%)	43.1	41.5	55.0	51.5	Occupancy Rate (%)	42.4	41.6	52.9	53.1
Room Nights Occupied	62,828	64,732	651,118	623,212	Room Nights Occupied	10,788	10,688	107,891	107,373
Room Nights Available	145,762	155,963	1,183,908	1,209,005	Room Nights Available	25,420	25,699	203,924	202,156
Ave. Guest stay in Nights	5.3	6.2	5.3	5.0	Ave. Guest stay in Nights	3.9	4.4	3.9	4.1
St. Thomas/ St. John					St. Thomas/ St. John				
Occupancy Rate (%)	44.2	44.0	58.2	54.0	Occupancy Rate (%)	44.6	48.4	56.6	59.5
Room Nights Occupied	47,656	52,592	515,904	495,659	Room Nights Occupied	6,033	6,680	62,595	64,487
Room Nights Available	107,911	119,443	886,935	917,650	Room Nights Available	13,516	13,795	110,612	108,460
Ave. Guest stay in Nights	5.8	7.0	5.7	5.2	Ave. Guest stay in Nights	4.4	5.1	4.3	4.6
St. Croix					St. Croix				
Occupancy Rate (%)	40.1	33.2	45.5	43.8	Occupancy Rate (%)	39.9	33.7	48.5	45.8
Room Nights Occupied	15,173	12,140	135,214	127,553	Room Nights Occupied	4,756	4,008	45,295	42,886
Room Nights Available	37,851	36,520	296,973	291,355	Room Nights Available	11,904	11,904	93,312	93,696
Ave. Guest stay in Nights	4.3	4.1	4.2	4.2	Ave. Guest stay in Nights	3.5	3.6	3.4	3.6

Large Hotels	2011	2012	2011	2012
USVI				
Occupancy Rate (%)	47.8	44.5	58.3	52.5
Room Nights Occupied	40,791	42,188	411,548	386,296
Room Nights Available	85,405	94,767	705,515	736,080
Ave. Guest stay in Nights	5.5	6.4	5.5	4.8
St. Thomas/ St. John				
Occupancy Rate (%)	47.8	46.8	61.4	54.6
Room Nights Occupied	32,824	36,491	352,377	329,961
Room Nights Available	68,603	77,965	573,809	603,832
Ave. Guest stay in Nights	1.5	1.5	5.7	4.9
St. Croix				
Occupancy Rate (%)	47.4	33.9	44.9	42.6
Room Nights Occupied	7,967	5,697	59,171	56,335
Room Nights Available	16,802	16,802	131,706	132,248
Ave. Guest stay in Nights	4.5	4.0	4.3	4.2

Condominiums/Other	2011	2012	2011	2012
USVI				
Occupancy Rate (%)	32.2	33.4	48.0	47.8
Room Nights Occupied	11,249	11,855	131,680	129,543
Room Nights Available	34,937	35,497	274,469	270,769
Ave. Guest stay in Nights	7.1	8.0	6.7	6.9
St. Thomas/ St. John				
Occupancy Rate (%)	34.1	34.0	49.8	49.3
Room Nights Occupied	8,799	9,421	100,932	101,211
Room Nights Available	25,792	27,683	202,514	205,358
Ave. Guest stay in Nights	7.4	8.9	6.8	7.2
St. Croix				
Occupancy Rate (%)	26.8	31.2	42.7	43.3
Room Nights Occupied	2,450	2,434	30,748	28,332
Room Nights Available	9,145	7,814	71,955	65,411
Ave. Guest stay in Nights	6.0	5.9	6.3	6.0

Explanatory Notes

Average guest stay in nights or "average length of stay" is the mean stay in nights of all visiting parties during a given period. Average guest stay equals room nights occupied divided by party arrivals.

Hotels are the most traditional of visitor accommodations. Guests are provided a full range of services such as food, entertainment and laundry. Large hotels are those maintaining 50 or more units. Small hotels maintain less than 50 units.

Condominiums or "condos" are self-contained apartment-style visitor accommodations. Private kitchens and other such day-to-day living facilities are most often included with the unit. Maid services are generally the only services provided. Condominiums are generally individually-owned but grouped in multi-unit structures. Maintenance and management of condominiums are usually handled by an independent second party.

BUREAU OF ECONOMIC RESEARCH Page 3

Explanatory Notes Continued....

Other is inclusive of all other visitor accommodation types such as rental homes or campgrounds that are not accounted for under hotels or Condominiums.

Room is the minimum private space that can be sold or "keyed" separately to unrelated guest parties for an overnight stay. A two-bay suite, for example, is reported as one room if it has only one lockable entrance. Similarly, a multi-bay suite could be reported as several units if component parts of it are keyed separately and hence, can be sold separately to unrelated guests. Room is synonymous to unit. Room is generally used in reference to hotels; units are most associated with condominiums.

Occupancy rate equals the number of estimated room nights occupied as a percentage of the number of estimated room nights available during a given period.

Room nights occupied is the estimated sum, across all units for all establishments reporting or not, of the number of nights each unit was occupied during a given period.

Room nights available is the estimated sum, across all rooms for all establishments reporting or not, of the number of nights each room was available for occupancy during a given period.

Table 2: Estimated Hotel Guests by Area of Origin TOTALS AND ORIGIN DISTRIBUTION BY ISLAND; AUGUST 2011 AND 2012 August Year-to-Date **August Only** Percent Area of Origin Total Distribution 2012 2012 USV .7

VI HOTEL GUESTS FROM:						
U.S. Mainland	46,572	40,204	443,769	418,932	84.6	83.4
Puerto Rico	1,335	1,394	13,171	13,404	2.5	2.7
U.S.V.I.	5,073	4,383	38,719	33,966	7.4	6.8
Other West Indies	765	654	6,445	5,500	1.2	1.1
Canada	228	332	5,037	5,267	1.0	1.0
Europe	865	1,033	12,226	21,463	2.3	4.3
Central America	28	55	408	469	0.1	0.1
South America	33	88	1,240	1,986	0.2	0.4
Other Areas	331	188	3,641	1,625	0.7	0.3

Other Areas	331	188	3,641	1,625	0.7	0.3
TOTAL	55,229	48,330	524,657	502,613	100.0	100.0
r. Thomas/st. John Hotel Gu	ESTS FROM:					
U.S. Mainland	39,728	35,645	387,042	377,470	87.1	87.7
Puerto Rico	752	808	8,080	7,567	1.8	1.8
U.S.V.I.	3,657	3,262	26,895	23,272	6.0	5.4
Other West Indies	673	558	5,848	4,109	1.3	1.0

	45 745	44 407	444 600	420 FC0	100.0	100.0
Other Areas	115	111	1,334	1,077	0.3	0.3
South America	11	55	1,125	1,033	0.3	0.2
Central America	17	7	358	239	0.1	0.1
Europe	604	771	9,379	11,112	2.1	2.6
Canada	188	282	4,539	4,687	1.0	1.1

ST.

BUREAU OF ECONOMIC RESEARCH

TOTAL	9,485	6,832	80,057	72,044	100.0	100.0
Other Areas	216	77	2,307	548	2.9	0.8
South America	21	33	116	953	0.1	1.3
Central America	11	47	51	230	0.1	0.3
Europe	261	262	2,847	10,351	3.6	14.4
Canada	40	51	498	580	0.6	0.8
Other West Indies	92	96	597	1,392	0.7	1.9
U.S.V.I.	1,416	1,121	11,824	10,694	14.8	14.8
Puerto Rico	583	586	5,091	5,836	6.4	8.1
U.S. Mainland	6,843	4,559	56,727	41,461	70.9	57.5
T. CROIX HOTEL GUESTS FROM:						

Fig. 5: USVI Hotel Guests By Origin August 2012 Year To Date Total: 502,613

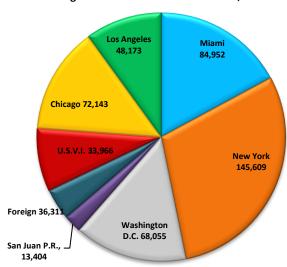


Fig. 6: USVI Hotel Guests By Origin August 2011 Year To Date Total: 524,657

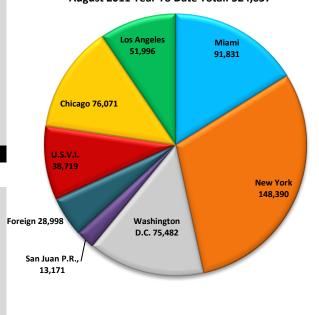


TABLE 3: ESTIMATED HOTEL GUESTS BY U.S. SALES REGION TOTAL AND REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION BY ISLAND; AUGUST 2011 AND 2012

August Year-to-Date

				August Te	ai-to-Date	
Sales Region of Origin	Augus	t Only	Total		Percent Distribution	
	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012
USVI HOTEL GUESTS FROM:						
Chicago	6,238	5,184	76,071	72,143	16.6	16.7
Los Angeles	4,949	5,844	51,996	48,173	11.4	11.1
Miami	11,979	10,440	91,831	84,952	20.1	19.6
New York City	13,460	11,825	148,390	145,609	32.5	33.7
Washington D.C.	9,947	6,911	75,482	68,055	16.5	15.7
San Juan, P.R.	1,335	1,394	13,171	13,404	2.9	3.1
TOTAL	47,907	41,598	456,940	432,335	100.0	100.0
ST. THOMAS/ST. JOHN HOTEL GUEST	S FROM:					
Chicago	5,427	4,574	67,005	65,998	17.0	17.1
Los Angeles	4,061	5,298	44,039	42,178	11.1	11.0
Miami	9,652	8,693	75,494	72,978	19.1	19.0
New York City	11,765	10,862	133,999	135,088	33.9	35.1
Washington D.C.	8,823	6,219	66,506	61,229	16.8	15.9
San Juan, P.R.	752	808	8,080	7,567	2.0	2.0
TOTAL	40,480	36,453	395,123	385,038	100.0	100.0
ST. CROIX HOTEL GUESTS FROM:						
Chicago	811	611	9,066	6,145	14.7	13.0
Los Angeles	888	546	7,957	5,996	12.9	12.7
Miami	2,327	1,747	16,338	11,974	26.4	25.3
New York City	1,694	963	14,391	10,521	23.3	22.2
Washington D.C.	1,123	692	8,976	6,826	14.5	14.4
San Juan, P.R.	583	586	5,091	5,836	8.2	12.3
TOTAL	7,427	5,145	61,818	47,297	100.0	100.0

Tourism sales region is a marketing area of the U.S. designated by the U.S. Virgin Islands Department of Tourism. Chicago represents the states of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota and Wisconsin. Los Angeles represents the states of Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wyoming. Miami Represents The States Of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Tennessee And Texas. New York City represents the states of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and Vermont. Washington D.C. represents the states of Delaware, Kentucky, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia and the District of Columbia. San Juan represents the commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

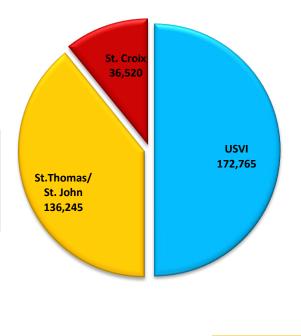
Visitor accommodation- is a business establishment oriented toward serving the needs of transient guests. Visitor accommodations provide lodging and other services to visiting guests on a temporary basis, not more than six months. Accommodations are categorized by large hotel, small hotel, and condominium or other.

Year-to-date data are tabulated for the period beginning in January of a given year and ending in the listed month of the same year.

TABLE 4: VISITOR ACCOMMODATIONS & ROOM NIGHTS AVAILABLE TOTAL NUMBER AND PERCENT REPORTING TO BER BY ISLAND; AUGUST 2011 AND 2012

District	Visitor Accor Augus		Room Night August	
	2011	2012	2011	2012
USVI				
Total Number	99	99	162,564	172,765
Percent Submitting:				
Complete Report (%)	94.9	90.9	98.7	92.5
Partial Report (%)	2.0	7.1	0.8	7.3
No Report (%)	3.0	2.0	0.5	0.2
ST. THOMAS/ST. JOHN Total Number Percent Submitting:	71	71	124,713	136,245
Complete Report (%)	94.4	90.1	98.6	90.9
Partial Report (%)	2.8	8.5	1.0	9.1
No Report (%)	2.8	1.4	0.4	0.0
ST. CROIX				
Total Number Percent Submitting:	28	28	37,851	36,520
Complete Report (%)	96.4	92.9	99.0	98.2
Partial Report (%)	0.0	3.6	0.0	0.8
No Report (%)	3.6	3.6	1.0	1.0

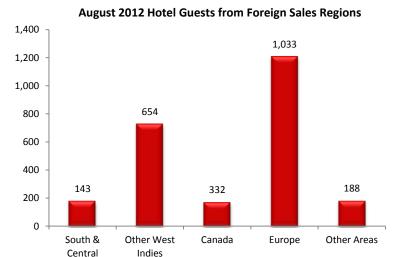
Room Nights Available, August only 2012



Bureau of Economic Research Page 5

ESTIMATED HOTEL	GUESTS BY	AREA O	ORIGIN											
	·		2011				2012							August YTD
Area of Origin	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Total 2012
U.S. Mainland	46,572	28,418	35,429	46,452	62,176	65,488	63,435	66,019	48,457	41,589	44,063	49,677	40,204	418,932
Chicago	6,238	3,748	5,847	6,381	10,963	13,736	12,145	12,105	9,411	6,158	6,566	6,837	5,184	72,143
Los Angeles	4,949	2,986	4,870	8,123	8,268	5,191	6,155	5,476	6,290	6,615	6,078	6,525	5,844	48,173
Miami	11,979	9,175	10,045	8,926	10,887	8,968	9,763	11,747	7,616	9,960	12,749	13,710	10,440	84,952
New York City	13,460	7,043	8,309	15,742	21,827	28,865	26,569	25,310	17,822	11,299	10,692	13,226	11,825	145,609
Washington D.C.	9,947	5,466	6,357	7,280	10,230	8,728	8,802	11,381	7,319	7,558	7,977	9,379	6,911	68,055
Puerto Rico	1,335	1,262	1,379	1,423	1,621	1,618	1,516	1,507	1,873	1,871	1,594	2,032	1,394	13,404
U.S.V.I.	5,073	3,602	3,928	3,858	4,388	3,443	3,654	3,600	4,210	4,207	5,186	5,284	4,383	33,966
Other West Indies	765	491	673	478	800	486	600	746	806	685	789	735	654	5,500
Canada	228	259	257	479	868	974	939	1,061	1,034	477	208	242	332	5,267
Europe	865	430	2,154	4,026	3,575	5,177	5,179	5,241	2,457	721	432	1,224	1,033	21,463
Central America	28	42	30	37	65	51	74	30	46	76	45	93	55	469
South America	33	32	98	77	164	375	341	246	258	259	250	170	88	1,986
Other Areas	331	199	273	407	435	224	265	161	258	162	177	190	188	1,625
TOTAL	55,229	34,736	44,221	57,236	73,962	77,835	76,003	78,609	59,400	50,047	52,743	59,647	48,330	502,613





General

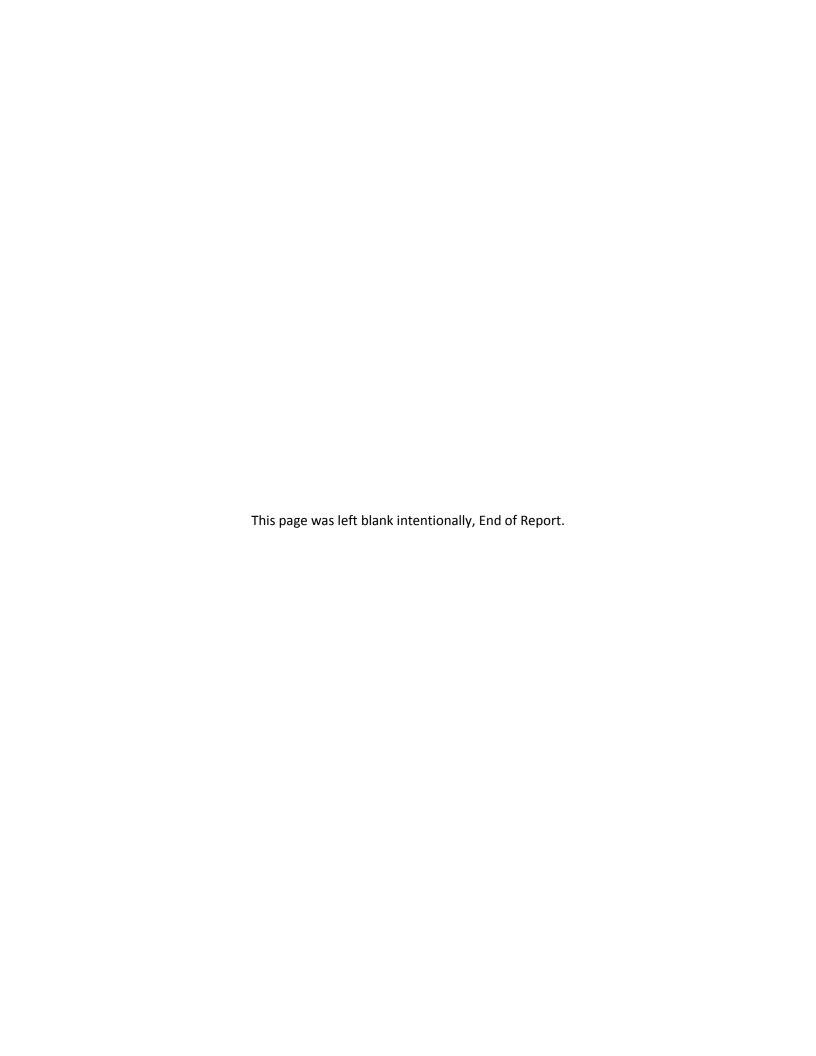
Data presented in all tables are estimates based on monthly information submitted by individual visitor accommodations. Data represent occupancy status for all U.S. Virgin Islands properties, reporting or not. Reported totals are adjusted within each accommodation category to account for properties that fail to report in any given month. All data are subject to further revision.

Table 4 presents several measures of survey participation for the current month and preceding month, one year prior. The row, "Total Number," is a count of the current inventory of accommodation establishments in the U.S. Virgin Islands and the number of Room Nights Available associated with those establishments during the months listed. "Total Number" includes all accommodations on the islands whether or not Occupancy Reports were submitted to BER. The rows under, "Percent Submitting," list the distribution of Accommodations and corresponding Room Nights Available according to reporting status for the months listed. "Complete Report" is that share of establishments submitting complete Occupancy Reports to BER with no inconsistencies in the data provided. "Partial Report" is that share submitting a report only partially filled out or containing inconsistent data. "No Report" is the percentage of Accommodations and corresponding Room Nights not reporting to BER in the months listed.

Notes:

Data are estimates of all territory guests based on Hotel Occupancy Reports submitted to the USVI Bureau of Economic Research. These estimates include actual guest totals submitting reports as well as an estimated component for those properties not reporting. All data subject to revision as new information becomes available.

Bureau of Economic Research Page 6





Office of the Governor Bureau of Economic Research

Contact us at: Office: 340-714-1700

Fax: 340-776-7953

Government Development Bank 1050 Norre Gade #5, Suite 301

St. Thomas, VI 00801

Email: Webmaster@usviber.org