

# U.S. Virgin Islands

## January 2009 Tourism Indicators

Bureau of Economic Research

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### Total visitors arrivals fell by 16.1 percent in January 2009

The downward slide in visitor arrivals continued into the new year. Total visitor arrivals in January numbered 247,084, or 16.1 percent year-on-year decline from the 294,529 visitors in January 2008. A total of 186,405 cruise passengers visited this month, compared with the 230,098 for January 2008—a passenger loss of 19.1 percent. While the overall number of cruise passengers has dropped, the growth in the number of cruise ship passengers visiting St. Croix is encouraging. The St. Croix district welcomed 5,437 cruise ship passengers versus the 1,876 who visited a year earlier. There were 86 cruise ship calls to the Territory, about 17.3 percent fewer calls than a year ago.

Similarly, total air arrivals contracted by 5.8 percent to 60,679 from 64,431 a year ago. Air arrivals to the St. Thomas/St. John district decreased to 49,733 from 52,977 in January 2008—a deficit of 6.1 percent. The St. Croix district also saw a reduction in air arrivals, posting a smaller loss of 4.4 percent from 11,454 to 10,946 in January 2009.

### Hotel Occupancy

The Territory's hotel occupancy rate was 59.2 percent in January compared to 67.4 percent last January. The rate was 65.4 percent for St. Thomas/St. John and 41.0 percent for St. Croix. Occupied room nights were 90,942 compared to 97,614 occupied rooms for the corresponding period in 2008. Total hotel guests registrations were at the same levels as in January of 2008 from 64,176 to 64,153 this January. Total hotel room revenues collected in January was \$1,669,035, a 1.4 percent gain from last January's total of \$1,645,832.

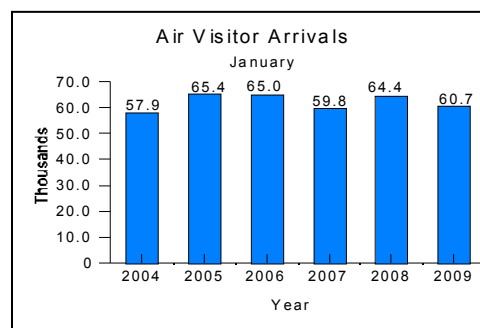
Guest registrations were up from the following countries: United States 0.7 percent, Canadian residents 31.6 percent, and Europe 36.3 percent. Guest registrations were down from Puerto Rico 20.7 percent, Other West Indies 34.1 percent, Central America 66.7 percent, South America 68.3, and 32.4 percent from Other areas.



## Tourism Statistics for January 2009

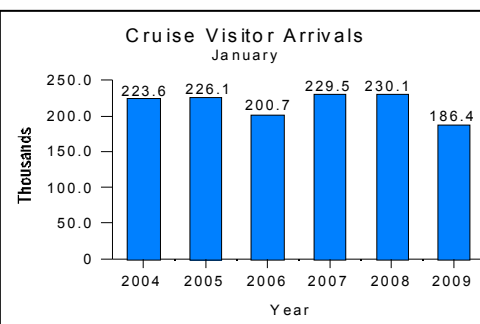
### PASSENGER ARRIVALS

	Jan 09	Dec 08	Jan 08	09 CY Jan-Jan	08 CY Jan-Jan	% Ch. 09/08
Air Visitors	60,679	63,743	64,431	60,679	64,431	-5.8
St. Thomas and St. John	49,733	51,889	52,977	49,733	52,977	-6.1
St. Croix	10,946	11,854	11,454	10,946	11,454	-4.4
Cruise Ship Visitors	186,405	219,369	230,098	186,405	230,098	-19.0
St. Thomas and St. John	184,266	219,369	228,222	184,266	228,222	-19.3
St. Croix	5,437	0	1,876	5,437	1,876	-
Cruise Ship Calls	86	95	104	86	104	-17.3
St. Thomas and St. John	83	95	103	83	103	-19.4
St. Croix	5	0	1	5	1	-



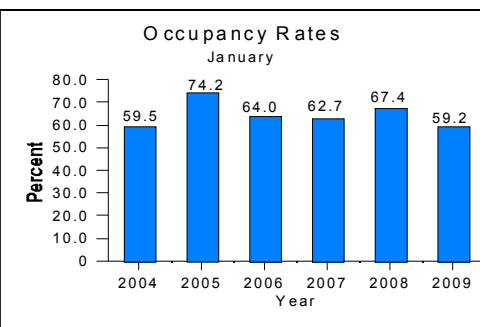
### HOTEL REGISTRATION

	Jan 09	Dec 08	Jan 08	09 CY Jan-Jan	08 CY Jan-Jan	% Ch. 09/08
Total	64,153	78,121	64,176	64,153	64,176	0.0
Residents	5,034	6,252	5,401	5,034	5,401	-6.8
Non Residents	59,119	71,869	58,775	59,119	58,775	0.6
United States	54,553	66,799	54,179	54,553	54,179	0.7
Puerto Rico	1,113	1,691	1,403	1,113	1,403	-20.7
Other West Indies	373	622	566	373	566	-34.1
Canada	1,020	1,152	775	1,020	775	31.6
Europe	1,718	1,068	1,260	1,718	1,260	36.3
Central America	11	31	33	11	33	-66.7
South America	40	91	126	40	126	-68.3
Other Areas	292	416	432	292	432	-32.4
Average Stay (nights)	4.3	4.2	4.5	4.3	4.5	-4.4



### HOTEL ACCOMODATIONS

	Jan 09	Dec 08	Jan 08	09 CY Jan-Jan	08 CY Jan-Jan	% Ch. 09/08
Total Tourist Rooms Available	4,897	4,896	4,745	4,897	4,745	3.2
Occupied Room Nights	90,942	74,126	97,614	90,942	97,614	-6.8
Available Room Nights	153,715	137,648	144,875	153,715	144,875	6.1
Occupancy Rate (%)	59.2	53.9	67.4	59.2	67.4	-
St. Thomas and St. John	65.4	57.2	71.7	65.4	71.7	-
St. Croix	41.0	44.9	54.7	41.0	54.7	-



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.

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