

# Tourism Statistical Review

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Bahamas Ministry of Tourism & Aviation



## In October 2020:

- Air & sea arrivals were down 98.4% for the month and 70.5% 2020 YTD.
- Stopover arrivals were down 95.6% for the month and 74.2% 2020 YTD.
- There were no cruise arrivals to The Bahamas in October 2020. Cruise arrivals were down by 69.6% for October 2020 YTD.

## Total Visitor Arrivals

In October 2020, The Bahamas received **7.6K** foreign air and sea arrivals, a decline of **98.4%** relative to October 2019, and foreign air arrivals to the Bahamas as a whole declined by **92.7%** and stood at **5.5K**. At the end of March 2020, the Bahamas had closed its borders to international traffic. In June 2020, the Bahamas officially reopened to international traffic that were coming by private planes or private boats and remained open for October 2020 for these visitors that travelled this way.

Air arrivals were up in the following islands in October 2020 compared to the same period of 2019: Andros (up 16.4% to 412), Berry Islands (up 17.5%), Cat Cay (up 18.3%), and Cat Island (up 318.2%). In September 2019, Hurricane Dorian passed through the Bahamas.

Air arrivals during the month of October were down in all the following islands: Nassau/Paradise Island (-

96.9% to 2K), Grand Bahama (-37.9%), Abaco (-18.3%), Bimini (-85.4% to 169), Eleuthera (-70.9% to 483), Exuma (-90.3% to 361), Long Island (down 26.7%), and San Salvador (-99.6%), the major hotel on island was still closed in October).

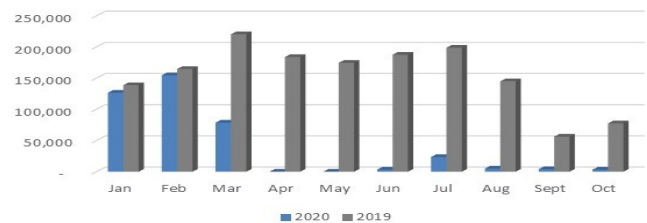
In October 2020, stopover arrivals were down 95.6% compared to October 2019. This reflects decreased stopover arrivals to most major island destinations in the Bahamas like Abaco (-97.3%), Andros (-77.9%), Bimini (-82.9%), Exuma (94.4%), Grand Bahama (-

97.2%), Mainland Eleuthera (-91.5%), Harbour Island (-99.1%), and Nassau/Paradise Island (96.5%), and decreased arrivals from all source markets. The Berry Islands saw an increase in stopovers during the month (+10.4%).

By the end of October YTD, stopovers to all of the islands in the Bahamas were down significantly for the period.

At the end of March 2020, most of the large hotels in Nassau/Paradise Island closed as a result of the border closures that took effect at that time and only a couple were open during the month of October 2020.

Stopover Arrivals by Month



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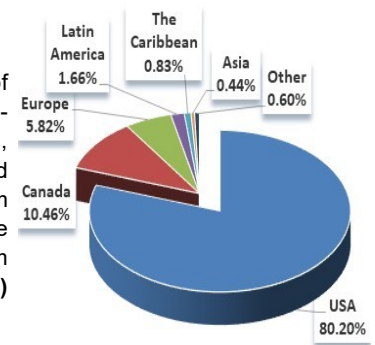
## Stopover Arrivals (October YTD)

From January to October 2020, The Bahamas received **400.2K** stopovers, (down 74.2% compared to the same period in 2019).

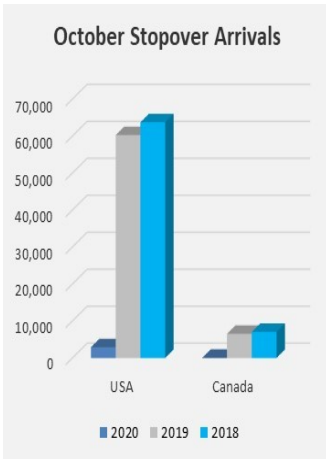
This reflects decreases in stopovers from the United States (down 74.7%), Canada (down 61.6%), Europe (down 76.9%), Latin America (down 78.1%), Caribbean (down 82.6%), Asia (down 82.2%), Africa (down 69.8%), Australasia (down 75.4%) and the Middle East (down 79.5%) for

January to October YTD.

For the year to date, **80.2%** of stopover visitors (**320.9K**) originated from the United States, while **10.5% (41.9K)** originated from Canada, **5.8% (23.3K)** from Europe, **0.8% (3.3K)** from the Caribbean, **1.7% (6.7K)** from Latin America, and **1.0% (4.1K)** from the rest of the world.



Source Regions 2020 YTD



## North American Arrivals

### United States

In October 2020, 2.9K stopover arrivals were received from the United States, a decrease of **97.8%**, compared to October 2019.

In this regard, arrivals from all sales territories across the US declined, including: the Northeast (down 97.8%), the Midwest (down 96.3%), the Southeast (down 96.5%), and Florida (down 91.2%).

In October 2020 YTD the top 10 producing states were Florida (down 77.6%), New York (down 72.4%), Massachusetts (down 60.9%), Texas (down 81.1%),

New Jersey (down 76.6%), Pennsylvania (down 74.1%), California (down 80.7%) Georgia (down 77.7%), Illinois (down 72.7%), and Virginia (down 74.1%).

The top ten DMAs during the period October YTD were: New York, Miami-Ft. Lauderdale, Boston (Manchester), West Palm Beach-Ft. Pierce, Washington DC (Hagerstown), Philadelphia, Atlanta, Chicago, Orlando-Daytona Bch-Melbrn, and Los Angeles.

### Canada

In October 2020, a miniscule amount of stopover arrivals were received from Canada, a de-

crease of **99.3%**, compared to October 2019.

In October 2020 YTD, the top five producing provinces for stopovers were: Ontario (down 64.2%), Quebec (down 54.0%), Alberta (down 55.2%), British Columbia (down 59.0%), and Manitoba (down 47.5%).

The top ten producing cities YTD were: Toronto, Montreal, Mississauga, Ottawa, Calgary, Oakville, Brampton, London, Hamilton and Burlington.

In October, European arrivals were down 98.0% for the month and 76.9% October YTD.

## European Arrivals

In October 2020, a miniscule amount of stopover arrivals were received from European countries, a decrease of **98.0%**, compared to October 2019.

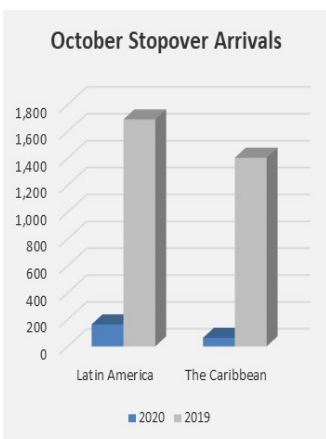
In October 2020, stopover arrivals from all sales territories across Europe were down, including: the UK, covering Italy, Netherlands, and the Nordic

region (down by 98.1%); France, covering Spain, Belgium, Portugal, Luxembourg, Monaco and Andorra (down 98.8%); and Germany, covering Central and Eastern Europe (down 97.3%).

By the end of October YTD, the top ten producing countries for stopover visitors 2020 were: the United Kingdom, France, Ger-

many, Italy, Switzerland, Spain, Poland, Netherlands, Russia, and Romania.

The top ten producing cities were: London, Paris, Rome, Moscow, Portland, Munich, Hamburg, Milan, Vienna, and Stockholm.



## Latin American & Caribbean Arrivals

### Latin America

In October 2020, a miniscule amount of stopover arrivals were received from Latin American countries, a decrease of **90.3%** compared to October 2019.

By the end of October YTD the top ten producing countries for stopover visitors during the period were: Brazil, Mexico, Argentina, Columbia, Chile, Panama, Peru, Venezuela, Ecuador and Uruguay.

The top ten producing cities were: Sao Paulo, Buenos Aires,

Mexico City, Santiago, Rio de Janeiro, Panama City, Bogota, Lima, Cancun, and Guatemala City.

### The Caribbean

In October 2020, a miniscule amount of stopover arrivals were received from Caribbean countries, a decrease of **95.4%**, compared to October 2019.

By the end of October YTD, the top ten producing countries for stopover visitors from the Caribbean were: Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, Turks and Caicos,

Cayman Islands, Puerto Rico, Dominican Republic, Barbados, Bermuda, Cuba, and Haiti.

The top ten producing cities were: Kingston, Lucea, George Town, Montego Bay, St. Catharines, Guaynabo, West Bay, Spanish Town, Port of Spain, Havana, and East End.

## Arrivals from the Rest of the World

### Asia

In October 2020, a miniscule amount of stopover arrivals were received from Asian countries, a decrease of **95.7%** compared to October 2019. **1.7K** Asian visitors were received by October 2020 YTD, a 82.2% decrease from the same period in 2019.

The top ten producing countries for stopover visitors for October 2020 YTD were: China, Philippines, India, Japan, South Korea, Hong Kong, Singapore, Indonesia, Thailand and Armenia.

The top ten producing cities were: Shanghai, Beijing, Caba, Mumbai, Seoul, Tokyo, Shenzhen, Cebu City, Xi'an, and Shenyang.

### Australasia

In October 2020, a miniscule

amount of stopover arrivals were received from Australasian countries, a decrease of **93.8%** compared to October 2019.

The top producing countries for stopover visitors in October 2020 YTD were: Australia, and New Zealand.

### Africa

In October 2020, a miniscule amount of stopover arrivals were received from African countries, a decrease of **80.8%** compared to October 2019.

The top five producing countries for stopover visitors for October YTD 2020 were: South Africa, Kenya, Morocco, Mauritius, and Nigeria.

The top five producing cities were: Cape Town, Durban, Johannesburg, Pretoria, and Nairobi.

### Middle East

In October 2020, a miniscule amount of stopover arrivals were received from Middle Eastern countries, a decrease of **97.6%** compared to October 2019.

The top six producing countries for stopover visitors for October 2020 YTD were: Israel, United Arab Emirates, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Qatar.

The top six producing cities were: Dubai, Tel Aviv-Yafo, Abu Dhabi, Ramat Gan, Doha and Irbid.

In October, stopover arrivals from Asia, Australasia, Africa and the Middle East were down for the month and YTD.

## Visitor Arrivals By Island

In October 2020, stopover arrivals decreased for most of the destinations in the Bahamas.

During the month, stopover visitor arrivals were down for the following islands: Nassau/Paradise Island (-96.5%), Grand Bahama (-97.2%), Abaco (-97.3%), Mainland Eleuthera (-91.5%), Harbour Island in Eleuthera (-99.1%), and Exuma (-94.4%).

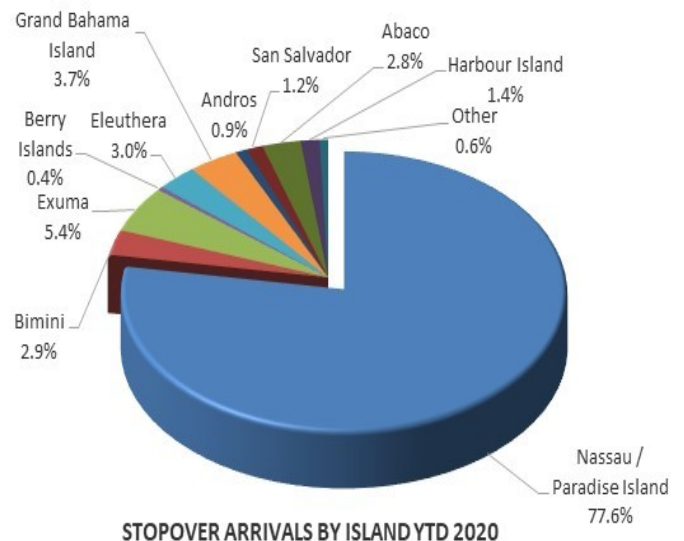
The Berry Islands (10.4%) experienced an increase in stopovers during the month.

From January to October 2020, compared to the same period in 2019, Nassau received **310.6K** stopover visitors, a decrease of 73.3%. During the period stopover declines were also noted on other Islands like Abaco (down 88.8% to 11.3K), Bimini (down

73.7% to 11.7K), Cat Island (down 66.8% to 702 visitors), Crooked Island (down 70.4% to 69), Exuma (down 68.2% to 21.2K), Harbour Island Eleuthera (down 65.6% to 5.6K) and San Salvador (down 67.7% to 4.9K).

In October YTD 2020, Nassau was the top island destination for visitors from all source markets, receiving **77.6%** of stopover arrivals, followed by Exuma which had 5.4% and Grand Bahama with 3.7%.

Eleuthera as a whole including Harbour Island had **4.4%** of the market share of stopovers: i.e., Eleuthera mainland with **3.0%** and Harbour Island with **1.4%**. The next biggest destination for stopovers to the Bahamas was Abaco with **2.8%** of visitors, and Bimini with **2.9%** of the arrivals.



## Travel Trends

From January to October 2020, the average length of stay of stopover visitors to The Bahamas was 7.0 nights with 58.0% staying 4 to 7 nights, 21.6% staying 2 to 3 nights, 10.2% staying 8 to 14 nights and 3.3% staying 22-90 nights.

Among the main source markets not including Africa (27.5 nts.) visitors from Latin America (9.3 nts.), Europe (9.5 nts.), Asia (11.2 nts.) and Australasia (14.9 nts.) stayed the longest on average, compared to an average stay of 6.6 nights for US visitors.

During this period, 45.1% of

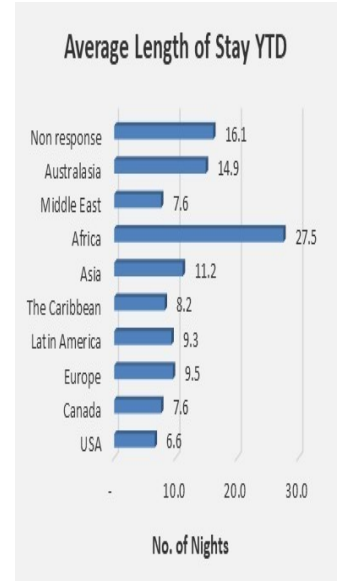
visitors from all regions, were repeat visitors, with the largest proportion of repeat visitors from the main source markets coming from the Caribbean (i.e., 54.0% were repeat visitors), Africa (i.e. 61.3%), the US (i.e., 47.0%) and the lowest from Asia (26.0%).

During the period, 68.4% of all stopover visitors came to The Bahamas primarily for a vacation, with 9.9% coming for weddings and honeymoons, and 6.8% for business.

Approximately nine in ten (88.3%) visitors stayed in hotels, 3.4% in vacation rentals/

apartments or villas, 2.8% in timeshare properties, 1.2% on private boats and 2.4% with friends and relatives.

The average age of stopover visitors during this period was 41.3 years, with 48.2% of all visitors being between the ages of 25 and 54 years. As such, Generation X and Millennials accounted for 25.9% and 24.9% of visitors, respectively, followed by Baby Boomers (19.6%) and Post-Millennials (17.6%).



As of October YTD

2020, 9.9% of stopover visitors came to The Bahamas primarily for weddings and honeymoons.

## Mode of Arrival

From January to October 2020 YTD, 82.5% of stopover visitors to The Bahamas arrived by commercial airline, 10.0% by private plane, 3.7% by private boat/yacht, and 2.1% by cruise ship. This generally reflects the travel patterns of US visitors.

For other source regions, the proportions of stopover visitors arriving by commercial airline, private plane, private boat and cruise ship varied by degree for each market.

For instance, the top transportation modes used by visitors to come to the Bahamas from:

Canada were commercial airlines (94.3%), private planes (3.8%) and cruise ships (0.6%); Europe were commercial airlines (85.2%), private planes (6.9%) and cruise ships (4.0%); Latin America were commercial airlines (77.4%), private planes (13.0%) and cruise ships (3.8%); The Caribbean were commercial airlines (85.9%), private planes (8.9%) and cruise ships (1.4%); Africa were commercial airlines (55.4%), private yacht/boat (28.4%), private planes (5.0%), and cruise ships (3.5%); Austral-

asia were commercial airlines (76.9), private yacht/boat (8.8%), and private plane (6.5%); Asia were commercial airlines (85.5%), private planes (6.0%) and cruise ships (3.9%).

### Airlift

In October YTD, the top ten commercial airlines were: American Airlines, Delta Air Lines, JetBlue, United Airlines, Air Canada, Silver Airways, Bahamasair, Southwest Airlines, WestJet, and Sunwing Airlines.

For the US YTD, American Airlines delivered the most stopover visitors from the Midwest (26.99K), followed by Delta (20.2K) and United (10.1K). American Airlines delivered the most visitors from the Northeast (26.2K), followed by Delta (26.0K) and Jetblue (22.5K). Delta delivered the most visitors from the Southeast (12.3K), followed by American (9.5K) and Silver Airways (1.5K). Of the commercial airlines, JetBlue delivered the most visitors from Florida (8.0K), followed by American (7.4K) and Bahamasair (6.4K).

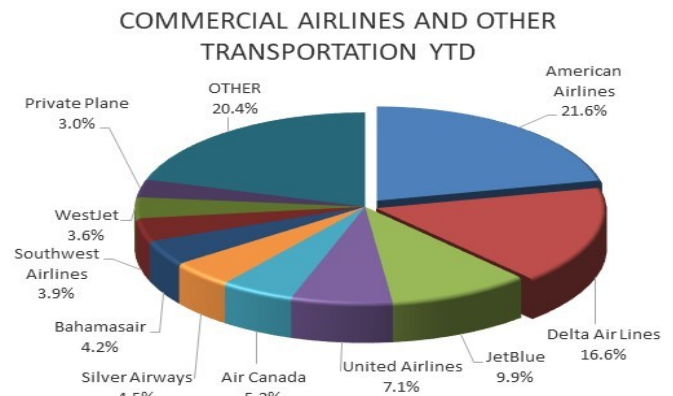
For Canada YTD, Air Canada

delivered the most stopover visitors (16.9K) followed by WestJet (12.4K), and Sunwing (5.4K).

For Europe YTD, American Airlines delivered the most stopover visitors (5.97K), followed by British Airways (5.1K) and Bahamasair (2.5K).

For Latin America YTD, American Airlines delivered the most stopover visitors (2.3K), followed by Copa Airlines (768 visitors) and Bahamasair (649 visitors).

For the Caribbean YTD, American Airlines delivered the most stopover visitors (955 visitors), followed by Caribbean Airlines (777 visitors) and Bahamasair (272 visitors).



In October 2020, there were no cruise arrivals that came to the Bahamas during the month and so by the end of October YTD cruise arrivals were down by 69.6%.



## Cruise Arrivals

In October 2020, The Bahamas did not receive any cruise arrivals by first port of entry. The Bahamas did not receive any cruise arrivals in April, May, June, August, September or October and for this reason there was a significant decline by the end of October YTD.

Cruise arrivals (first port of entry) by October YTD 2020 decreased by 69.6% and remained at 1.33M. Most of the cruise ports in the Bahamas experienced declines in cruise arrivals

between January to October 2020 except Bimini. Cruise arrivals to Bimini were still up by October YTD 2020 because of the increase in cruise arrivals to Ocean Cay (cay in Bimini) during the first two months of 2020.

Cruise arrivals to Bimini (namely the cruise port of Ocean Cay) remained at 63.2K by October 2020 YTD. Cruise arrivals to the port were only up October YTD because of the strong performance in the early months of 2020; this port opened at the end

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The Ministry of Tourism is a national destination management agency for the Islands of The Bahamas—mandated to advertise and promote the destination, as well as to strategically facilitate the growth of the commercial tourism industry.

For further information or details regarding our statistics, please contact our Research and Statistics Unit at (242) 302-2094 or [gdelancy@bahamas.com](mailto:gdelancy@bahamas.com).

## Tables and Charts

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## Foreign Air &amp; Sea Arrivals - October [first port of entry only]

	2020	2019	2020/2019	2020	2019	%Chg 20/19
	Air and Sea		% Chg Air/Sea	Air Only		% Chg Air
Nassau/Paradise Island	2,359	265,799	-99.1%	1,995	65,259	-96.9%
Grand Bahama	476	8,438	-94.4%	228	367	-37.9%
Abaco	788	22,092	-96.4%	744	911	-18.3%
Andros	412	358	15.1%	412	354	16.4%
Berry Islands	622	121,030	-99.5%	543	462	17.5%
Bimini	780	3,507	-77.8%	169	1,155	-85.4%
Cat Cay	1,154	628	83.8%	387	327	18.3%
Cat Island	46	11	318.2%	46	11	318.2%
Eleuthera	491	28,061	-98.3%	483	1,660	-70.9%
Exuma	365	3,746	-90.3%	361	3,720	-90.3%
Half Moon Cay	-	27,469	-100.0%	-	-	0.0%
Inagua	93	88	5.7%	88	88	0.0%
Long Island	22	709	-96.9%	22	30	-26.7%
San Salvador	3	740	-99.6%	3	723	-99.6%
<b>Bahamas Overall</b>	<b>7,611</b>	<b>482,676</b>	<b>-98.4%</b>	<b>5,481</b>	<b>75,067</b>	<b>-92.7%</b>

Source: Immigration and Customs various ports of entry in the Bahamas, & Research and Statistics Dept. Ministry of Tourism. All numbers are subject to revision.

## Foreign Air &amp; Sea Arrivals - October YTD [first port of entry only]

	2020	2019	2020/2019	2020	2019	%Chg 20/19
	Air and Sea		% Chg Air/Sea	Air Only		% Chg Air
Nassau/Paradise Island	888,584	3,432,743	-74.1%	300,031	1,098,035	-72.7%
Grand Bahama	109,892	470,346	-76.6%	9,253	49,115	-81.2%
Abaco	79,284	339,200	-76.6%	8,695	98,037	-91.1%
Andros	3,867	7,879	-50.9%	3,802	7,742	-50.9%
Berry Islands	330,654	852,186	-61.2%	4,932	9,232	-46.6%
Bimini	80,310	89,558	-10.3%	4,523	17,920	-74.8%
Cat Cay	4,937	9,651	-48.8%	2,018	3,922	-48.5%
Cat Island	521	1,023	-49.1%	498	968	-48.6%
Eleuthera	104,791	314,215	-66.6%	20,048	56,736	-64.7%
Exuma	18,385	60,682	-69.7%	18,048	59,917	-69.9%
Half Moon Cay	120,417	325,635	-63.0%	-	-	0.0%
Inagua	627	1,182	-47.0%	330	564	-41.5%
Long Island	746	2,005	-62.8%	686	1,147	-40.2%
San Salvador	3,679	14,184	-74.1%	3,593	13,852	-74.1%
<b>Bahamas Overall</b>	<b>1,746,694</b>	<b>5,920,489</b>	<b>-70.5%</b>	<b>376,457</b>	<b>1,417,187</b>	<b>-73.4%</b>

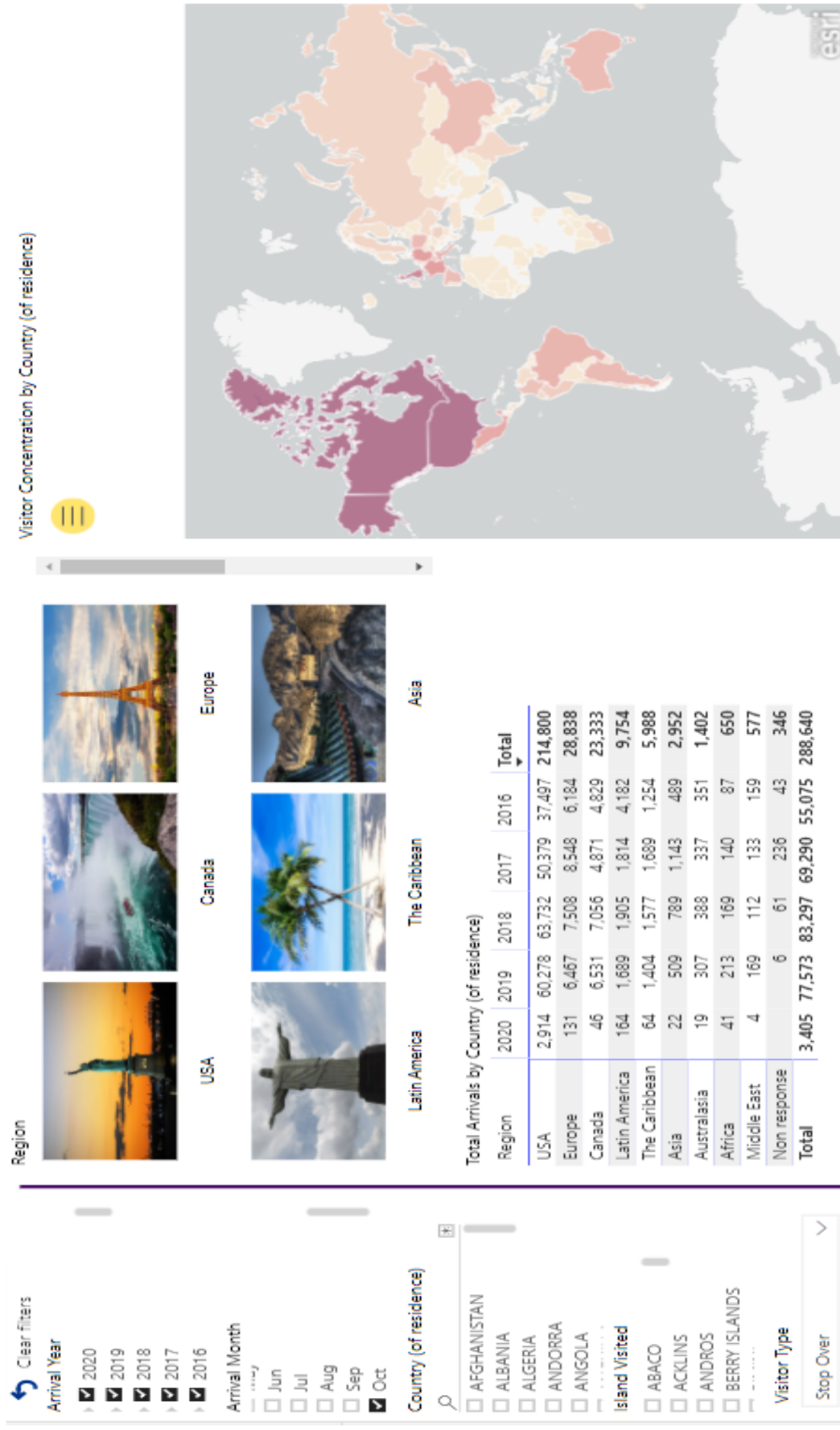
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## Foreign Air &amp; Sea Arrivals - Year to Date [first port of entry only]

	Air and Sea Arrivals			Air Arrivals Only		
	2020	2019	%Chg 20/19	2020	2019	%Chg 20/19
January	687,200	636,881	7.9%	125,308	129,912	-3.5%
February	711,699	608,371	17.0%	146,486	151,136	-3.1%
March	302,118	749,044	-59.7%	75,656	201,578	-62.5%
April	43	657,617	-100.0%	11	171,167	-100.0%
May	20	589,102	-100.0%	20	158,741	-100.0%
June	3,935	641,410	-99.4%	1,705	168,392	-99.0%
July	23,820	650,353	-96.3%	15,355	175,971	-91.3%
August	5,385	553,541	-99.0%	3,293	131,120	-97.5%
September	4,863	351,494	-98.6%	3,142	54,103	-94.2%
October	7,611	482,676	-98.4%	5,481	75,067	-92.7%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1,746,694</b>	<b>5,920,489</b>	<b>-70.5%</b>	<b>376,457</b>	<b>1,417,187</b>	<b>-73.4%</b>

Source: Immigration, Customs various ports of entry in the Bahamas, and Port Authorities. Research and Statistics Dept. Ministry of Tourism  
All numbers are subject to revision

# All Stopover Arrivals—October



**Total Arrivals by Country (of residence)**

Region	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	Total
USA	2,914	60,278	63,732	50,379	37,497	214,800
Europe	131	6,467	7,508	8,548	6,184	28,838
Canada	46	6,531	7,056	4,871	4,829	23,333
Latin America	164	1,689	1,905	1,814	4,182	9,754
The Caribbean	64	1,404	1,577	1,689	1,254	5,988
Asia	22	509	789	1,143	489	2,952
Australasia	19	307	388	337	351	1,402
Africa	41	213	169	140	87	650
Middle East	4	169	112	133	159	577
Non response		6	61	236	43	346
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,405</b>	<b>77,573</b>	<b>83,297</b>	<b>69,290</b>	<b>55,075</b>	<b>288,640</b>



## All Stopover Arrivals—October YTD

