

# **Oceania Fact Sheet**

### **Oceania Overview**

Hawai'i Tourism Oceania (HTO) is contracted by the Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) for Brand Marketing Management Services in Oceania. The marketing approach for Oceania is based around a recovery plan that facilitates a timely and appropriate return of visitors from Australia and New Zealand. HTO's brand position is underpinned by HTA's key pillars and is aligned with the themes of natural beauty, unique culture, and responsible tourism.

## Year-to-Date May 2025 Quick Facts<sup>1/</sup>

Visitor Expenditures: \$186.5 million

Primary Purpose of Stay: Pleasure (66,917) vs. MCI (1,574)

Average Length of Stay: 8.65 days
First Time Visitors: 45.6%
Repeat Visitors: 54.4%

							2025			
							Annual	YTD May	YTD May	
OCEANIA MMA (by Air)	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024RP	Forecast*	2025P	2024RP	% Change
Visitor Expenditures (\$ Millions)	895.1	NA	19.8	516.8	631.2	542.9	531.3	186.5	201.6	-7.5%
Visitor Days	3,420,593	479,534	84,413	1,815,212	2,135,047	1,812,120	1,752,400	634,480	690,768	-8.1%
Arrivals	363,551	50,710	6,524	186,551	236,127	206,626	200,963	73,317	79,916	-8.3%
Average Daily Census	9,371	1,310	231	4,973	5,849	4,951	4,801	4,202	4,545	-7.5%
Per Person Per Day Spending (\$)	261.7	NA	235.1	284.7	295.6	299.6	303.2	294.0	291.8	0.8%
Per Person Per Trip Spending (\$)	2,462.1	NA	3,041.5	2,770.4	2,673.2	2,627.3	2,643.8	2,544.4	2,522.3	0.9%
Length of Stay (days)	9.41	9.46	12.94	9.73	9.04	8.77	8.72	8.65	8.64	0.1%

NA= Comparative annual 2020 visitor spending statistics were not available, as the Departure Survey could not be conducted between April to October 2020 due to COVID-19 restrictions. P=Preliminary data. RP=March and April 2024 preliminary data were revised.

### **Contact Information**

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<sup>1/ 2024</sup>P and 2025P visitor data are preliminary. 2019 to 2023 visitor data are the final numbers and reflect updated airfare statistics from DIIO Mi Airline database, data from the National Travel and Tourism Office, and final passenger counts from Airline Traffic Summary reports.

### **Market Summary**

- In the first five months of 2025, there were 57,780 visitors from Australia, compared to 64,400 visitors (-10.3%) in the first five months of 2024 and 107,167 visitors (-46.1%) in the first five months of prepandemic 2019. Visitors from Australia spent \$147.1 million in the first five months of 2025, compared to \$164.4 million (-10.6%) in the first five months of 2024 and \$268.5 million (-45.2%) in the first five months of 2019. Daily visitor spending in the first five months of 2025 was \$299 per person, compared to \$298 per person (+0.3%) in the first five months of 2024 and \$267 per person (+12.1%) in the first five months of 2019.
- In the first five months of 2025, there were 15,537 visitors from New Zealand, compared to 15,517 visitors (+0.1%) in the first five months of 2024 and 26,005 visitors (-40.3%) in the first five months of 2019. Visitors from New Zealand spent \$39.2 million in the first five months of 2025, compared to \$39.0 million (+0.6%) in the first five months of 2024 and \$59.5 million (-34.0%) in the first five months of 2019. Daily visitor spending in the first five months of 2025 was \$275 per person, compared to \$280 per person (-1.8%) in the first five months of 2024 and \$253 per person (+8.8%) in the first five months of 2019.
- In the first five months of 2025, there were 330 scheduled flights with 92,327 seats from Melbourne and Sydney compared to 322 flights with 94,915 seats from Melbourne and Sydney in the first five months of 2024. Air capacity remained below the first five months of 2019 level (475 flights with 149,798 seats) with service from Brisbane, Melbourne, and Sydney.
- There were 97 scheduled flights with 27,110 seats from Auckland in the first five months of 2025, compared to 104 flights with 29,498 seats in the first five months of 2024 and 175 flights with 50,886 seats in the first five months of 2019.
- In 2024, there were 167,718 visitors from Australia, compared to 185,887 visitors in 2023 and 287,995 visitors in 2019. Visitors from Australia spent \$445.1 million in 2024, compared to \$504.7 million in 2023 and \$730.4 million in 2019. Daily visitor spending in 2024 was \$305 per person, compared to \$302 per person in 2023 and \$268 per person in 2019.
- In 2024, there were 38,908 visitors from New Zealand, compared to 50,241 visitors in 2023 and 75,556 visitors in 2019. Visitors from New Zealand spent \$101.2 million in 2024, compared to \$129.7 million in 2023 and \$167.0 million in 2019. Daily visitor spending in 2024 was \$285 per person, compared to \$281 per person in 2023 and \$242 per person in 2019.
- In 2024, there were 811 scheduled flights with 235,167 seats from Melbourne and Sydney compared to 787 flights (+3.0%) with 237,995 seats (-1.2%) in 2023. Air capacity remained below 2019 level (1,189 flights, -31.8% with 369,282 seats, -36.3%) with service from Brisbane, Melbourne, and Sydney.
- There were 209 scheduled flights with 60,254 seats from Auckland in 2024, compared to 316 flights (-33.9%) with 91,190 seats (-33.9%) in 2023 and 434 flights (-51.8%) with 125,300 seats (-51.9%) in 2019.

# **Market Conditions (Updated Quarterly)**

#### Currency/Economy.

- January 2025 The strong US Dollar continued to have a negative effect on the local AU and NZ currencies. January saw a large amount of fluctuations related to policy announcements from the US, a key trading partner for the region. The value at month-end was AUD 62cents and the NZD 56cents against the USD. January 2025 - Australia's GDP reached approximately \$1.84 trillion, marking a 2.0 percent growth rate.
- February 2025 Just like the rest of the world, Australia and New Zealand have seen some dramatic effects
  of the recent Trade Tarriff announcements from the United States and volatility, further weakening against
  the USD. Even though both Australia and New Zealand were at the lower end of the original applied tariff
  scale announcement (at 10%), they are seeing the overall influence of the effects on global economies.
   February 2025 exchange rate dipped to approximately AUD 0.60cents and NZD 55cents versus the USD.

- March 2025 Both countries have continued to brace for continued economic volatility while implementing measures to stabilize their economies and maintain growth. While the exchange rate stayed the same as the prior month, Australia's GDP growth has slowed to a modest 1.8 percent year-over-year, reflecting the impact of recent trade tariffs imposed by the United States. The inflation rate spiked to 4.2 percent, driven by increased costs of imports and energy prices. Politically, Australia was navigating its response to the tariffs while also addressing internal debates on climate policy and energy transition.
- New Zealand experienced a similar economic landscape, with GDP growth at 2.1 percent and inflation reaching 3.9 percent. On the political front, New Zealand's government focused on strengthening trade relationships with Asia-Pacific countries to mitigate the adverse effects of the tariffs and to diversify its export markets.
- ANZ-Roy Morgan Australian Consumer Confidence rose 2.5pts during January 2025 to 88.5pts, its highest level since May 2022. Households are feeling more confident about the economic outlook, with short-term economic confidence rising to its highest level since April 2022, while economic confidence over the next five years reached a 12-month high.

#### Airlift (Specific to Hawai'i)

• Hawaiian Airlines has confirmed the dates for their next seasonal schedule between New Zealand and Hawaii. The current 3 x weekly service paused April 30, 2025, and will return November 18, 2025.

#### **Outbound Travel Market**

- New Zealand-resident travelers (outbound) were 330,300 which was a record-breaking month in January 2025 (the highest travel in any recorded month was in July 2018 with 345,100 traveler arrivals), thus an increase of 2,100 from January 2024. The biggest changes were in arrivals from: Australia (up 6,500), Indonesia (up 2,700), Philippines (up 2,200), India (up 2,000), Japan (up 2,000), China (down 3,000), Notably the USA was down 4.9 percent.
- Japan Airlines Flight Reductions: Japan Airlines announced a reduction in its Melbourne-Tokyo (Narita) service from six flights per week to three, effective March 30, 2025, to October 25, 2025.
- A Roy Morgan survey indicated that 23 percent of Australians plan to travel overseas within the next 12 months, up from 16 percent in October 2022.

#### From DBEDT findings

- January 2025 Arrivals of 20,860 visitors were down by 8 percent from January 2024. The statistics reveal an increase in per person per trip spend (up 6%) as well as an increase in multiple island visitation up 14 percent.
- February 2025 Arrivals were down by 20 percent from February 2024. The most positive statistic was the increase in Neighbor Island visitation, with over 20 percent of visitors incorporating a multi-island stay.

#### Competitive Environment

- Fiji has achieved a historic milestone in tourism, welcoming more than one million visitors in 2024 the
  highest annual total ever recorded in the country. A total of 982,938 tourists arrived by air, while 81,854
  travelers visited via cruise ships, surpassing the initial target of 966,930. Notably, the number of U.S.
  visitors reached 107,821, reflecting an 8 percent rise from 2023 and marking the first time Fiji has crossed
  the one-million-visitor threshold.
- Strong growth was also seen from Australia, New Zealand and China.

### Consumer Trends (Only trends that could have an impact on travel)

Despite rising living costs, Australians continue to prioritize travel. A survey indicated that 78% plan to take
up to three holidays in 2025, with 68% selecting destinations that match their budgets. Additionally, 44%
intend to use reward points to offset travel expenses.

## **Distribution by Island**

							YTD May	YTD May	%
OCEANIA MMA (by Air)	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024RP	2025P	2024RP	Change
O'ahu	356,298	49,419	4,847	182,278	232,500	202,321	71,970	78,450	-8.3%
Maui County	61,691	7,371	1,161	26,986	25,261	22,483	7,684	7,035	9.2%
Maui	60,582	7,202	1,125	26,305	24,736	21,544	7,522	6,363	18.2%
Moloka'i	4,680	703	21	1,391	1,863	1,927	697	918	-24.0%
Lāna'i	6,129	718	36	1,895	2,391	2,029	1,020	736	38.5%
Kaua'i	32,168	4,177	572	11,342	17,351	16,723	5,120	4,811	6.4%
Island of Hawai'i	47,411	6,377	672	18,799	25,840	24,305	7,820	6,524	19.9%

P=Preliminary data. RP=March 2024 preliminary data were revised.

## Airlift: Scheduled Seats and Flights

Scheduled	2025						2024					%CHANGE				
seats	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual	
OCEANIA	73,442	71,949	67,705	74,278	287,374	80,291	66,633	72,637	75,860	295,421	-8.5	8.0	-6.8	-2.1	-2.7	
Auckland	19,879	14,447	10,752	16,282	61,360	21,708	10,618	11,346	16,582	60,254	-8.4	36.1	-5.2	-1.8	1.8	
Melbourne	8,040	9,687	10,200	9,945	37,872	8,710	8,710	8,710	8,710	34,840	-7.7	11.2	17.1	14.2	8.7	
Sydney	45,523	47,815	46,753	48,051	188,142	49,873	47,305	52,581	50,568	200,327	-8.7	1.1	-11.1	-5.0	-6.1	

Scheduled	2025					2024					%CHANGE				
flights	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual
OCEANIA	262	260	249	272	1,043	269	233	252	266	1,020	-2.6	11.6	-1.2	2.3	2.3
Auckland	71	52	39	59	221	75	36	39	59	209	-5.3	44.4	0.0	0.0	5.7
Melbourne	24	35	40	39	138	26	26	26	26	104	-7.7	34.6	53.8	50.0	32.7
Sydney	167	173	170	174	684	168	171	187	181	707	-0.6	1.2	-9.1	-3.9	-3.3

Source: DBEDT analysis from Diio Mi flight schedules as of April 25, 2025, subject to change.

# Group vs. True Independent; Leisure vs. Business

OCEANIA MMA (by Air)	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024RP	YTD May 2025P	YTD May 2024RP	% Change
Group vs True Independent (Net)									
Group Tour	7,017	NA	72	2,670	5,364	5,535	1,327	1,730	-23.3%
True Independent (Net)	214,622	NA	5,956	138,997	168,918	148,867	52,881	58,485	-9.6%
Leisure vs Business									
Pleasure (Net)	339,605	46,357	4,978	170,983	214,545	187,225	66,917	72,222	-7.3%
MCI (Net)	4,470	717	128	5,394	6,015	4,196	1,574	1,941	-18.9%
Convention/Conf.	3,214	575	34	2,118	2,758	3,217	967	1,482	-34.7%
Corp. Meetings	420	33	61	2,312	2,161	270	167	68	144.8%
Incentive	858	108	38	1,117	1,171	770	445	439	1.4%

NA = Visit Status/Travel Method data statistics were not available from May – October 2020 as a result of limited fielding due to COVID-19 restrictions. P=Preliminary data. RP=March 2024 preliminary data were revised.

# First Timers vs. Repeat Visitors

							YTD May	YTD May	%
OCEANIA MMA (by Air)	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024RP	2025P	2024RP	Change
First Time Visitors (%)	47.0	NA	57.1	36.7	42.8	45.1	45.6	44.8	0.8
Repeat Visitors (%)	53.0	NA	42.9	63.3	57.2	54.9	54.4	55.2	-0.8

NA = Visit Status/Travel Method data statistics were not available from May – October 2020 as a result of limited fielding due to COVID-19 restrictions. P=Preliminary data. RP=March 2024 preliminary data were revised.

### Tax Revenue

							YTD May	YTD May	%
OCEANIA MMA (by Air)	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024RP	2025P	2024RP	Change
State tax revenue generated (\$ Millions) 2/	104.48	NA	2.32	59.95	73.22	62.97	21.64	23.38	-7.5%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>/State government tax revenue generated (direct, indirect, and induced)

P=Preliminary data. RP=March 2024 preliminary data were revised.