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**TI News:** *Information service from the Office of Travel & Tourism Industries (OTTI)*

**September 19, 2013**

**INTERNATIONAL VISITATION UP 10 PERCENT IN MARCH 2013**

The U.S. Department of Commerce today announced that 5.8 million international visitors traveled to the United States in March 2013, a 10 percent increase over March 2012. March 2013 registered the 24<sup>th</sup> straight month of increases in total U.S. visits.

In March 2013, the top inbound markets continued to be Canada and Mexico. Non-resident visits from Canada increased 11 percent while visits from Mexico grew five percent. Japan (+7%) the United Kingdom (+2%) and Germany (+4%) rounded out the top five. All nine top inbound overseas regional markets posted increases in non-resident visits in March 2013. Seven of those regions posted double-digit increases.

For the first three months of 2013, international visits (15.0 million) were up six percent compared to the same period in 2012.

**Highlights**
**Top 10 Countries**

- In March 2013, the top 10 countries posted increases in non-resident visits.
- During the first three months of 2013, six of the top 10 countries (sort based on March 2013) posted increases in non-resident visits to the United States.

**Top 10 Countries (Sort based on March 2013)**

Country of Residence	% Change March 2013 vs. 20112	% Change YTD March 2013 vs. 2012
Canada	11%	7%
Mexico	5%	0%
Japan	7%	5%
United Kingdom	2%	-1%
Germany	4%	-1%
Brazil	27%	19%
France	10%	-3%
People's Republic of China (EXCL HK)	21%	27%
South Korea	6%	4%

Australia

7%

6%

### Non-Resident Visits from Overseas Countries

- In March 2013, non-resident visits from overseas countries (2.5 million) were up 12 percent over March 2012, accounting for 44 percent of total international visits to the United States.
- During the first three months of 2013, non-resident visits from overseas countries (6.6 million) were up nine percent compared to the same period of 2012, accounting for 44 percent of total international visits.

### Top Ports: YTD March 2013

YTD March 2013, visitation through the top 15 ports of entry accounted for 85 percent of all overseas visits-the same as last year. The top three ports (Miami, New York and Los Angeles) accounted for 41 percent of all overseas arrivals, one half of one percentage point more than last year. Fourteen of the top 15 ports posted increases in arrivals during the first three months of 2013. Seven of these ports posted double-digit increases.

### Access to OTTI Data

Manufacturing and Services' Office of Travel and Tourism Industries (OTTI) collects, analyzes and disseminates international travel and tourism statistics from the U.S. Travel and Tourism Statistical System. OTTI produces visitation data tables, including a more detailed region, country and port analyses. To access these data, you are encouraged to visit the OTTI monthly arrivals page at <<http://www.tinet.ita.doc.gov/view/m-2013-I-001/index.html>>.

### National Export Initiative

To improve conditions that directly affect the private sector's ability to export and to boost employment recovery, on March 11, 2010 President Obama created the National Export Initiative (NEI). I-94 automation supports this initiative as it will greatly improve the measurement of international visitation data to the United States. To learn more about the NEI, you are encouraged to visit <<http://www.trade.gov/nej/index.asp>>. For more information on I-94 automation, please visit <[www.cbp.gov](http://www.cbp.gov)>.

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Throughout this report, percent changes posted for international visitation to the United States for March 2013 were calculated by comparing data in March 2013 to data in March 2012. Also, percent changes posted for year to date 2013 were calculated by comparing data January - March 2013 to data January - March 2012.