

Alberta Tourism Market Monitor

Edmonton International Airport numbers soar in July

Air traffic at Edmonton International Airport (EIA) is up, with consistent solid year-over-year performance from March through July compared to the same months last year. This July's increase of 6.7% over 2016 was driven by strong performance in domestic air traffic (up by 6.9%) and a double-digit increase to international numbers (+14.8%). Transborder air numbers at EIA also bounced back with a 2.1% increase following declines in June (-22.5%).

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Total receipts for food services and drinking places from January to May have increased by 2.0% compared to the first five months last year. The stronger sales are complemented by employment increases in the accommodation and food services industry each month in 2017 to date. This trend continued in July with 6.2% growth over the same month last year.

Also on the upswing for 2017 are visits to the province's historical sites and museums, which have grown by 1.5% for the first seven months of this year compared to the same months last year.



New look for Alberta Market Monitor



Based on feedback from readers and users, this edition of the Alberta Market Monitor features a new look with infographics of the key tourism performance indicators for the province. This fall, the Alberta Market Monitor will transition to an infographics- and charts-only format. The goal is to provide readers and users with a comprehensive and easy-to-use data set that can be applied towards financial forecasting, business planning and more.

We welcome your feedback to further enhance this publication and meet your needs. Please share your feedback to tourism.research@gov.ab.ca.

2017 Alberta Tourism Market Monitor
Alberta Culture and Tourism

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Yr-to-Date
Air Passengers 2017 (000's of arrivals and departures) ¹													
Edmonton International Total	572.5r	549.5r	608.9r	604.5r	615.8r	592.3r	688.4p						4,231.9p
Per cent change from 2016	1.8%	-0.8%	5.3%	13.0%	4.0%	1.5%	6.7%						4.5%
Domestic	427.2r	412.4r	462.8r	461.7r	523.1r	522.2r	597.4r						3,406.7p
Per cent change from 2016	6.8%	3.6%	8.5%	15.6%	6.2%	4.9%	6.9%						7.3%
Transborder	84.8r	83.4p	90.5p	87.0p	64.6p	48.8r	61.5p						520.5p
Per cent change from 2016	-12.6%	-12.4%	-5.2%	1.2%	-8.5%	-22.5%	2.1%						-8.2%
International	60.5p	53.7p	55.6p	55.8p	28.1p	21.4p	29.5p						304.6p
Per cent change from 2016	-7.4%	-12.1%	-1.0%	12.3%	-2.2%	-6.2%	14.8%						-1.6%
Calgary International Total	1,234.3r	1,192.3p	1,320.0p	1,296.8r	1,296.3r	1,375.8p							7,715.9p
Per cent change from 2016	2.2%	-0.1%	1.2%	8.2%	3.0%	4.1%							3.1%
Domestic	829.6r	796.5p	874.3p	881.6r	939.1r	990.9p							5,312.0p
Per cent change from 2016	2.0%	-1.9%	-2.2%	5.3%	1.9%	2.5%							1.3%
Transborder	237.9p	243.5p	279.9p	255.6p	243.7p	262.1p							1,522.9p
Per cent change from 2016	0.6%	2.7%	6.4%	15.0%	8.2%	8.8%							6.9%
International	166.9r	152.3p	165.8p	159.6r	113.6p	122.8p							881.0p
Per cent change from 2016	5.8%	5.0%	12.3%	14.9%	1.7%	7.7%							8.1%
Fort McMurray International Total	58.1p	54.9p	61.6p	63.0p	64.6p	61.1p							363.3p
Per cent change from 2016	-14.5%	-22.7%	-19.4%	-12.7%	n/a*	32.5%							5.8%
Highway Count 2017 (000's of vehicles) ²													
Hwy 1 -Sask border w-bound	57.7	57.7	65.3	74.8	81.1	87.3							423.9
Per cent change from 2016	1.1%	0.4%	-8.0%	11.3%	2.4%	4.6%							2.0%
Hwy 1 - Banff Pk Gate (2-way)	538.7	525.2	591.6	615.4	722	775.3							3768.2
Per cent change from 2016	-0.6%	-4.6%	-5.5%	7.3%	5.3%	4.6%							1.3%
Hwy 16 - Jasper Pk Gate (2-way)	89.8	87.7	110.3	121	152.2	186.8							747.8
Per cent change from 2016	-0.3%	-1.5%	-7.2%	5.8%	2.1%	7.6%							1.7%
Hwy 16 - Blackfoot w-bound	143.9	141.8	160.4	161.4	180.3	184.7							972.5
Per cent change from 2016	0.0%	1.9%	0.1%	0.4%	3.1%	5.4%							1.9%
National Park Attendance (000's of visitors) 2017³ Does not include Group Tours													
Banff	201.7	201.6	228.4	267.8	320.0	370.6							1,590.1
Per cent change from 2016	2.6%	-5.0%	-4.5%	10.4%	6.5%	6.0%							3.2%
Jasper	51.2	52.0	64.9	151.1	186.3	224.5							730.0
Per cent change from 2016	0.3%	-5.8%	-9.4%	7.7%	3.3%	6.2%							2.9%
Waterton Lakes	9.2	9.6	12.7	20.4	56.3	92.4							200.6
Per cent change from 2016	8.7%	-16.9%	-3.3%	4.1%	34.4%	15.5%							14.9%
Elk Island	17.9	18.8	22.6	26.3	69.9	68.6							224.1
Per cent change from 2016	29.6%	16.4%	16.5%	-5.7%	94.0%	70.9%							46.1%
Wood Buffalo	0.02	0.01	0.01										0.05
Per cent change from 2016	214.3%	-72.2%	-39.1%										-34.3%
Employment (000's of persons) 2017 Seasonally Adjusted⁴													
Accommodation and Food Services	143.8p	144.9p	146.4p	147.5p	149.2p	150.7p	154.6p						148.2p
Per cent change from 2016	4.4%	6.5%	5.6%	5.8%	5.5%	2.6%	6.2%						5.1%

Sources: Edmonton International Airport, Calgary International Airport, Fort McMurray International Airport, Alberta Transportation, Parks Canada, and Statistics Canada.

Accommodation Indices for Major Regions 2017 ⁵													
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Yr-to-Date
Edmonton Occupancy Rate	46.8%	56.7%	62.0%	59.6%	55.3%	56.3%							56.1%
Point change from 2016	-3.1	-1.7	0.8	-1.0	-19.2	-5.7							-4.9
Average Daily Room Rate	\$128.56	\$133.48	\$133.13	\$132.44	\$130.55	\$128.54							\$131.26
Variance from 2016	-1.0%	0.1%	0.3%	0.7%	4.7%	-0.1%							1.1%
Revenue per available room	\$60.13	\$75.67	\$82.48	\$78.87	\$72.22	\$72.42							\$73.69
Calgary Occupancy Rate	42.5%	50.8%	53.0%	56.1%	58.9%	67.0%							54.7%
Point change from 2016	-3.1	0.5	-0.4	-0.3	-4.4	-0.7							-1.4
Average Daily Room Rate	\$134.61	\$138.79	\$138.10	\$139.35	\$145.41	\$151.16							\$141.86
Variance from 2016	-4.7%	-1.5%	-1.2%	-3.3%	2.8%	-4.1%							-1.9%
Revenue per available room	\$57.15	\$70.45	\$73.26	\$78.16	\$85.65	\$101.23							\$77.59
Alberta Resorts Occupancy Rate	42.9%	53.2%	56.4%	53.7%	68.4%	84.5%							60.4%
Point change from 2016	0.2	-1.0	0.7	6.2	4.1	0.2							2.1
Average Daily Room Rate	\$195.37	\$206.57	\$198.74	\$190.13	\$224.58	\$313.61							\$229.75
Variance from 2016	6.8%	6.5%	2.4%	7.0%	6.8%	13.5%							8.1%
Revenue per available room	\$83.72	\$109.80	\$112.13	\$102.18	\$153.64	\$264.95							\$138.76
Other Alberta** Occupancy Rate	37.4%	42.0%	46.0%	42.1%	47.0%	54.1%							45.0%
Point change from 2016	2.2	2.7	6.1	2.9	4.2	5.8							4.1
Average Daily Room Rate	\$115.85	\$115.98	\$115.99	\$116.30	\$116.84	\$117.84							\$116.88
Variance from 2016	-5.2%	-6.0%	-3.8%	-1.0%	2.3%	-4.9%							-3.1%
Revenue per available room	\$43.33	\$48.72	\$53.38	\$48.93	\$54.96	\$63.80							\$52.54
Total Alberta (excl. Resorts) Occupancy Rate	41.6%	48.9%	52.8%	51.1%	52.9%	58.6%							50.9%
Point change from 2016	-0.8	1.0	3.0	1.2	-4.5	0.9							0.2
Average Daily Room Rate	\$125.81	\$129.01	\$128.57	\$129.04	\$130.30	\$132.14							\$129.25
Variance from 2016	-3.9%	-2.4%	-1.7%	-1.3%	3.0%	-3.4%							-1.5%
Revenue per available room	\$52.33	\$63.03	\$67.83	\$65.93	\$68.87	\$77.46							\$65.83
Food Services and Drinking Places 2017 (\$ Millions) unadjusted⁶													
Total Receipts for Alberta	690.96r	675.10r	752.82r	756.46r	787.10p								732.49p
Per cent change from 2016	0.3%	-2.1%	1.6%	1.7%	0.8%								2.0%
Historic Sites and Museums 2017 (000's of visitors)⁷													
Visitor Attendance***	10.5p	25.3p	27.5p	36.9p	70.3r	105.7p	190.1p						467.5p
Per cent change from 2016	-0.9%	2.9%	-24.2%	10.8%	-3%****	10.9%	0.1%						1.5%
Exchange Rates 2017⁸													
Canadian Dollar/U.S. Dollar (noon)	0.76	0.76	0.75	0.74	0.73	0.75	0.79						0.75
Canadian Dollar/ Euro	0.71	0.72	0.70	0.69	0.67	0.67	0.68						0.69
Canadian Dollar/ Great British Pounds	0.61	0.61	0.61	0.59	0.57	0.59	0.61						0.60
Oil Price: Western Texas Intermediate (WTI) 2017⁹													
Cushing, OK Spot Price (US Dollar per Barrel)	52.5	53.47	49.33	51.06	48.48	45.18	46.63						49.52
Major Tourism Projects Valued \$5 million or Greater 2017 (\$ Millions)¹⁰													
Total Value of Hotel Projects Inventory	\$666	\$499	\$449	\$450	\$450	\$444							\$444

Sources: CBRE Hotels Trends in the Hotel Industry National Market Report, Statistics Canada, Alberta Culture, Bank of Canada, WTI, Government of Alberta.

*Commercial Air Service Suspended from May 5, 2016 - June 10, 2016 due to wildfire in Fort McMurray.

**Other Alberta includes Lethbridge, Red Deer and other Alberta communities.

***Please note some of the historical sites have changed their hours of operation - see Notes section for details.

Note: New monthly figures are shown in bold type. Revisions will be bolded.

r=revised p=preliminary

1. Air Passengers - Numbers are preliminary estimates of air passenger arrivals and departures at the Edmonton International and Calgary International Airports. From September 2015, total domestic passengers at Fort McMurray International Airport has been added.

Source: Edmonton International Airport, Calgary International Airport and Fort McMurray International Airport websites.

2. Highway Traffic- These are monthly totals. The monthly average daily traffic (average number of vehicles per day) is calculated by dividing the monthly total by the number of days in the month passing the counter locations and in the direction indicated for a particular month. Automatic Traffic Recorders counts all vehicles by direction. Year to date is a cumulative total for all vehicles.

Source: Alberta Transportation's Automatic Traffic Recorders (ATR). <http://www.transportation.alberta.ca/3459.htm>

3. National Park Attendance - Attendance is reported as the number of visits to National Parks in Alberta. Data are preliminary unless otherwise noted.

Banff National Park and Jasper National Park reflect independent travellers only and do not include people travelling as part of a tour group. Tour group data is included in the annual edition of Market Monitor.

Source: Parks Canada.

4. Employment Food and Accommodation Sector - The employment figure represents all persons who worked for pay, profit or unpaid work in the food services and accommodation sector, including businesses or other ventures owned or operated by a related family member(s) during the reference period of the survey. The year-to-date total is an average for the year.

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.

5. Accommodation Indices for Major Regions - Occupancy rates and average daily room rates are based on monthly averages of all reporting hotels, motels and motor hotels in each designated region. Alberta Resorts includes the resort communities of Banff, Lake Louise, Kananaskis, Canmore and Jasper.

Revenue per available room is calculated using the occupancy rate and average daily room rate.

Source: CBRE Hotels Trends in the Hotel Industry National Market Report, with reproduction and use of information subject to CBRE Disclaimer and Restrictions as detailed at www.cbre.ca

6. Food Services and Drinking Places - The monthly survey of Food Services and Drinking Places provides estimates of the value of sales and the number of locations of restaurants, caterers, and drinking places by province and by industry at the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) four-digit level. Includes total receipts from restaurants, caterers and taverns for chain and independent establishments. The target population is the three-digit NAICS level of 722, which includes: full-service restaurants, limited service eating places, special food places and drinking places. The year-to-date total is an average for the year.

Source: Statistics Canada, Food Services and Drinking Places.

7. Historic Sites and Museums - Visitor attendance figures are monthly totals based on 14 historic sites, the Royal Tyrrell Museum of Paleontology and the Tyrrell Field Station. **The Royal Alberta Museum closed on December 6, 2015.

Source: Alberta Culture and Tourism.

8. Exchange Rate - this is the average monthly exchange rate.

Source: Bank of Canada.

9. Western Texas Intermediate - This is the average monthly oil price.

Source: Cushing, OK WTI Spot Price FOB.

10. Major hotel projects in Alberta - This is the inventory of hotel projects in Alberta, including new hotels and renovations valued at \$5 million or greater. It is not a complete list of hotel projects. The project stages included in the reported number are: announced, under construction and completed. If the project is completed, it will be

removed from the inventory after 30 days from completion. More information on other tourism and recreation projects is available on the website provided below.
Source: Government of Alberta. <http://majorprojects.alberta.ca/>

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