

# Q1 2009



GOVERNMENT OF BERMUDA  
Cabinet Office  
Department of Statistics

## Quarterly Bulletin of Statistics

### Q1 2009 Highlights

**Air Arrivals** – Bermuda hosted 32,235 tourists.

**Tourist Accommodations** – Gross Hotel Receipts amounted to \$24 million.

**Hotel Employment** – The Hotel Industry employed close to 50 additional workers.

**Overseas Spending** – Purchases declared from abroad totaled \$14 million.

**Retail** – Retail sales reached \$250 million.

### Visitors Arrivals and Expenditure:

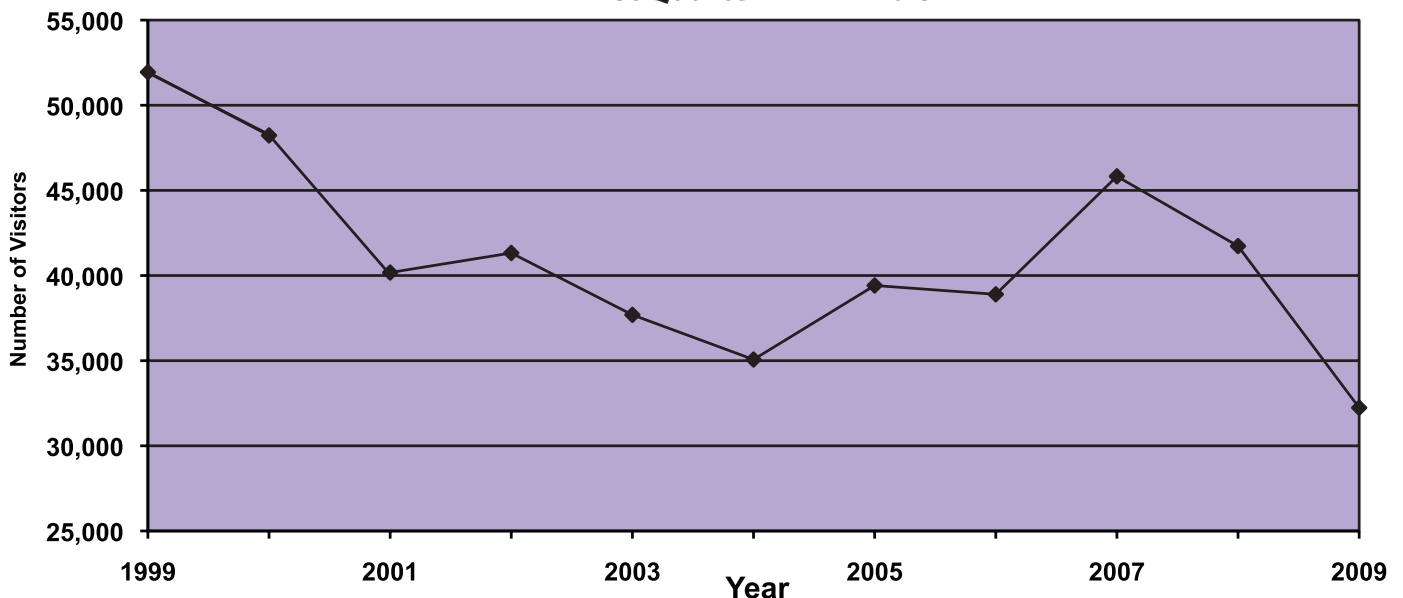
#### Air Arrivals

Air arrivals during the first quarter of 2009 fell 22.8% when compared to the same quarter in 2008. A total of 32,235 tourists visited the Island during the period, down from 41,729 in 2008.

The United States market experienced the strongest drop in air visitors with 7,298 fewer travellers. Arrivals for the first quarter totaled 21,549 visitors from that region. Similarly, air arrivals from Canada and the United Kingdom contracted 15.0% and 19.6%, respectively. This corresponded to 800 fewer visitors from each region. The number of visitors from all other countries fell 17.4% in the first quarter of 2009.

The decline in air arrivals translated into fewer bookings across the board for all types of accommodation properties. The number of visitors staying at resort hotels during the first quarter of 2009 fell 29.1% over the same period last year. Visitors staying at small hotels, housekeeping accommodations and guest houses also experienced double-digit declines of 23.2%, 32.6%, and 27.6% respectively. Private homes recorded a 7% decrease in guests.

First Quarter Air Arrivals



## Cruise Arrivals and Expenditure

There were no cruise ship visits to the Island during the first quarter of 2009. In comparison, Bermuda received visits from three cruise liners with 2,799 passengers embarking on Bermuda's ports during the same period in 2008.

### Expenditure by Air Arrivals

Visitor spending fell 45.5% during the first quarter of 2009, a direct result of fewer air arrivals and scaled back spending by visitors. Total expenditure was estimated at \$29.7 million, a decline of \$24.8 million over the previous period last year. Average spending per



tourist fell by 28%. In absolute terms, this represented a decline of \$358 in expenditure to \$922 this quarter, down from \$1,280 reported last year.

Expenditure on accommodation and food fell 46.6% to \$22.5 million, compared to \$42.1 million for the same period last year. Spending on shopping, entertainment and transportation decreased 41.9% to \$7.2 million, or \$5.2 million less than the first quarter of 2008.

### Hotel Gross Receipts

In the first quarter of 2009, hotel gross receipts declined by \$9.5 million directly reflecting fewer air arrivals.

**TABLE 1 – VISITOR ARRIVALS**

	Air Visitors by Country of Origin						Cruise & Air Visitors
	Cruise Passengers	U.S.A.	Canada	U.K.	Other	Total <sup>(1)</sup>	
<b>2006</b>							
1st Qtr	425	26,732	5,855	4,016	2,293	38,896	39,321
2nd Qtr	122,560	79,368	8,450	8,003	5,312	101,133	223,693
3rd Qtr	164,467	76,024	6,966	8,523	5,140	96,653	261,120
4th Qtr	48,847	45,601	6,404	6,466	3,820	62,291	111,138
<b>Year</b>	<b>336,299</b>	<b>227,725</b>	<b>27,675</b>	<b>27,008</b>	<b>16,565</b>	<b>298,973</b>	<b>635,272</b>
<b>2007</b>							
1st Qtr	2,765	32,946	5,785	4,310	2,784	45,825	48,590
2nd Qtr	130,304	77,648	8,059	8,451	5,436	99,594	229,898
3rd Qtr	175,148	75,328	7,014	9,946	5,587	97,875	273,023
4th Qtr	45,807	43,576	6,986	7,679	4,013	62,254	108,061
<b>Year</b>	<b>354,024</b>	<b>229,498</b>	<b>27,844</b>	<b>30,386</b>	<b>17,820</b>	<b>305,548</b>	<b>659,572</b>
<b>2008</b>							
1st Qtr	2,799	28,847	5,869	4,316	2,697	41,729	44,528
2nd Qtr	129,344	65,262	8,193	8,541	5,459	87,455	216,799
3rd Qtr	114,233	61,691	6,763	10,006	6,003	84,463	198,696
4th Qtr	40,032	33,588	6,382	6,392	3,604	49,966	89,998
<b>Year</b>	<b>286,408</b>	<b>189,388</b>	<b>27,207</b>	<b>29,255</b>	<b>17,763</b>	<b>263,613</b>	<b>550,021</b>
<b>2009</b>							
1st Qtr	0	21,549	4,989	3,468	2,229	32,235	32,235

1. Excludes ship and yacht visitors

Source: Tourism Department

**TABLE 2 – VISITORS BY INTENDED TYPE OF ACCOMMODATION**

	Resort Hotels	Small Hotels, Cottage Colonies & Clubs	Housekeeping Accommodations <sup>(3)</sup>	Guest Houses <sup>(4)</sup>	Private Homes <sup>(1)</sup>	Not Stated	Total <sup>(2)</sup>
<b>2006</b>							
1st Qtr	20,139	6,857	2,045	437	9,384	34	38,896
2nd Qtr	51,394	20,369	5,820	727	22,669	154	101,133
3rd Qtr	46,895	19,363	5,790	673	23,788	144	96,653
4th Qtr	30,485	11,984	3,396	508	15,750	168	62,291
<b>Year</b>	<b>148,913</b>	<b>58,573</b>	<b>17,051</b>	<b>2,345</b>	<b>71,591</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>298,973</b>
<b>2007</b>							
1st Qtr	25,370	7,608	2,197	468	10,087	95	45,825
2nd Qtr	46,690	21,631	7,079	899	22,948	347	99,594
3rd Qtr	43,869	20,935	6,766	788	25,337	180	97,875
4th Qtr	29,086	12,212	3,382	567	16,779	228	62,254
<b>Year</b>	<b>145,015</b>	<b>62,386</b>	<b>19,424</b>	<b>2,722</b>	<b>75,151</b>	<b>850</b>	<b>305,548</b>
<b>2008</b>							
1st Qtr	22,065	6,567	2,111	410	10,521	55	41,729
2nd Qtr	40,613	17,515	5,800	732	22,312	483	87,455
3rd Qtr	37,132	16,235	5,441	694	24,751	210	84,463
4th Qtr	22,329	8,747	2,581	455	15,751	103	49,966
<b>Year</b>	<b>122,139</b>	<b>49,064</b>	<b>15,933</b>	<b>2,291</b>	<b>73,335</b>	<b>851</b>	<b>263,613</b>
<b>2009</b>							
1st Qtr	15,640	5,041	1,422	297	9,787	48	32,235

1. This category includes persons staying in commercial accommodations with less than twelve beds, as well as persons visiting with friends and relatives.

2. Excludes cruise visitors.

3. Includes Cottage Suites/Apt. and Inns

4. Includes Bed & Breakfast

Source: Tourism Department

Total receipts declined by 25.7% to \$27.4 million despite discounted room sales to attract more guests. Resort hotels (Bermuda's main tourism revenue contributor) recorded \$24.2 million during the quarter, or 27.3% less than last year. Small hotels and other tourist accommodations also reported lower revenue of 19.3% and 0.6%, respectively. In contrast, cottage colonies were the only tourist properties to record growth with a fractional (0.4%) gain in revenue.

## Hotel Employment

There were 2,503 workers employed in the hotel industry at the end of January 2009. This level of employment represented a 1.9% increase or 47

more employees in the industry compared to the same period in 2008. All types of tourist establishments reported an increase in the number of employees compared to January 2008. Total employment within resort hotels experienced the largest growth, increasing by 38 employees. Similarly, employment within guest houses and micro-units posted growth of 6 new workers over the same period, with cottage colonies and housekeeping units adding 3 workers.

Major resort hotels remained the largest employer in the accommodations industry, employing 1,968 workers or 79% of the industry total. Cottage colonies and housekeeping units

employed 20% of the hotel industry workforce, representing 512 workers. Guest houses and micro-units continued to employ less than 1% of workers in the accommodations industry, with 23 employees.

## Overseas Spending by Residents

Overseas spending levels in the first quarter of 2009 fell \$1.2 million short of the levels reached during the same period of 2008. Residents declared roughly \$14.0 million in goods purchased abroad, representing a decline of 8.0%. Similarly, domestic spending in the retail sector also fell, but marginally by 0.7%, reflecting residents' conservative spending overseas as well as locally.

Purchases of goods for all broad commodity groups contracted during the first quarter. Outlays on clothing and footwear represented almost half of total overseas purchases in the first quarter of 2009. The \$6.2 million spent on clothing was 5.4% or \$0.4 million less than the spending in the same quarter of 2008. Similarly, domestic clothing retailers registered a 17.1% decline in sales during the same period. Spending on miscellaneous items fell by \$0.3 million in the first quarter of 2009 from the \$3.5 million recorded in 2008.

Other notable declines in overseas spending were reported for purchases of toys and sports goods (-\$120,000), jewellery and watches (-\$106,000), computer hardware and software

(-\$102,000), household items, furniture and appliances (-\$102,000) and tapes and compact discs (-\$99,000).

### Retail Sales

Retail sales for the first quarter of 2009 decreased 1.8% compared to the first quarter of 2008. Depressed sales at retail stores reflected residents' reluctance to spend on non-essential items, as all retail sectors with the exception of food stores (+7.0%) experienced lower sales activity. A monthly analysis showed that the retail year started with a modest increase of 0.8% reported in year-over-year sales for January. These gains however, where offset by a 5.6% drop in sales for the month of February. The quarter ended on a low note in March with sales activity easing back a further 1.4%.



**TABLE 3 – ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE OF VACATION AND BUSINESS VISITORS – \$MILLION**

	Air Visitors			Cruise Visitors	Total Expenditure <sup>(2)</sup>
	Accommodation and Food	Shopping, Entertainment, Transport, Etc.	Total <sup>(1)</sup>		
<b>2006</b>					
1st Qtr	40.0	10.6	50.6	0.1	50.7
2nd Qtr	104.0	27.5	131.5	23.8	155.3
3rd Qtr	99.5	26.3	125.8	31.9	157.7
4th Qtr	64.1	16.9	81.0	9.5	90.5
<b>Year</b>	<b>307.6</b>	<b>81.3</b>	<b>388.9</b>	<b>65.3</b>	<b>454.2</b>
<b>2007</b>					
1st Qtr	52.1	14.3	66.4	0.5	66.9
2nd Qtr	113.2	31.1	144.3	26.0	170.3
3rd Qtr	111.3	30.5	141.8	34.9	176.7
4th Qtr	70.8	19.4	90.2	9.1	99.3
<b>Year</b>	<b>347.4</b>	<b>95.3</b>	<b>442.7</b>	<b>70.5</b>	<b>513.2</b>
<b>2008</b>					
1st Qtr	42.1	12.4	54.5	0.4	54.9
2nd Qtr	88.2	26.0	114.2	26.1	140.3
3rd Qtr	85.1	25.1	110.2	23.1	133.3
4th Qtr	50.4	14.8	65.2	8.1	73.3
<b>Year</b>	<b>265.8</b>	<b>78.3</b>	<b>344.1</b>	<b>57.7</b>	<b>401.8</b>
<b>2009</b>					
1st Qtr	22.5	7.2	29.7	0.0	29.7

1. Air visitors subtotals are not comparable prior to 2004.

2. Estimates for air and cruise expenditure includes departure tax.

**TABLE 4 – EMPLOYMENT IN HOTEL INDUSTRY BY TYPE OF ESTABLISHMENT <sup>(1)</sup>**

	Hotels	Cottage Colonies and Housekeeping	Guest Houses and Micro-Units <sup>(2)</sup>	All Establishments
<b>2006</b>				
1st Qtr January	2,148	562	19	2,729
2nd Qtr April	2,241	652	17	2,910
3rd Qtr July	2,340	735	15	3,090
4th Qtr October	<b>2,255</b>	<b>664</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>2,936</b>
<b>2007</b>				
1st Qtr January	1,938	498	16	2,452
2nd Qtr April	2,081	674	17	2,772
3rd Qtr July	2,183	653	11	2,847
4th Qtr October	<b>2,065</b>	<b>663</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>2,741</b>
<b>2008</b>				
1st Qtr January	1,930	509	17	2,456
2nd Qtr April	1,944	630	16	2,590
3rd Qtr July	2,023	633	12	2,668
4th Qtr October	<b>2,070</b>	<b>589</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>2,679</b>
<b>2009</b>				
1st Qtr January	1,968	512	23	2,503

1. As at the end of each reference month.

2. Micro units are establishments having a capacity of 6–11 beds.

Source: Department of Statistics

**TABLE 5 – RETAIL SALES INDEX <sup>(1)</sup> Average Monthly Sales 2006 = 100.0**

	Total	Food Stores	Liquor Stores	Motor Vehicle Dealers	Service Stations	Building Materials	Apparel Stores	All Other Store Types
<b>2006</b>								
1st Qtr	86.1	90.0	77.2	95.9	88.4	98.3	62.2	82.6
2nd Qtr	103.9	102.2	103.4	105.2	103.8	110.2	106.1	102.3
3rd Qtr	102.1	104.4	110.0	100.1	108.7	101.2	96.5	100.6
4th Qtr	108.0	103.4	109.5	98.8	99.2	90.3	135.1	114.3
<b>Year</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>2007</b>								
1st Qtr	93.6	99.5	83.0	101.5	93.3	99.3	76.1	89.0
2nd Qtr	105.4	106.9	108.3	95.1	112.2	98.9	112.2	106.0
3rd Qtr	106.5	108.9	117.6	95.4	112.9	96.2	106.9	110.1
4th Qtr	111.7	110.8	108.9	88.2	105.8	91.3	141.7	119.5
<b>Year</b>	<b>104.3</b>	<b>106.5</b>	<b>104.5</b>	<b>95.1</b>	<b>106.1</b>	<b>96.4</b>	<b>109.2</b>	<b>106.2</b>
<b>2008</b>								
1st Qtr	94.9	105.4	86.5	89.5	103.8	92.2	77.4	92.2
2nd Qtr	109.2	114.1	108.0	92.4	124.2	102.5	114.3	108.0
3rd Qtr	108.7	118.7	121.8	94.6	129.3	92.9	99.6	108.1
4th Qtr	110.8	119.3	107.7	85.1	103.2	86.2	124.3	119.6
<b>Year</b>	<b>105.9</b>	<b>114.4</b>	<b>106.0</b>	<b>90.4</b>	<b>115.1</b>	<b>93.5</b>	<b>103.9</b>	<b>107.0</b>
<b>2009</b>								
1st Qtr	93.2	112.8	82.3	83.4	87.9	85.9	64.2	91.6

1. Quarterly averages derived from monthly series

Source: Department of Statistics



Sales at apparel stores fell sharply, decreasing 17.1% compared to the same quarter last year. Within the retail sector, sales for clothing stores have been negatively impacted by the economic downturn, with first quarter of 2009 representing the third consecutive quarter of flagging sales for clothing retailers.

Service stations recorded a 15.3% decline in sales activity during the first quarter of 2009. This fall is partially attributed to the continued reduction in fuel prices year-over-year, as consumers experienced a 7.8% drop in fuel prices during the quarter.

Building material stores and motor vehicle dealerships both experienced receding sales of 6.8%, while liquor store sales also contracted by 4.9% during the quarter.


**TABLE 6 – RESIDENT PURCHASES ABROAD <sup>(1)</sup> \$000**

	Clothing & Footwear	Electronic & Photographic Equipment	Hhld items Furniture & Appliances	Toys & Sports Goods	Tapes & Compact Discs	Computer Hardware & Software	Jewellery & Watches	Tools Machinery & Parts	Misc.	Total
<b>2006</b>										
1st Qtr	5,348	1,144	566	509	649	591	427	253	2,762	12,249
2nd Qtr	8,311	1,119	717	535	597	581	396	267	3,261	15,784
3rd Qtr	8,039	1,290	815	654	760	739	571	278	3,718	16,864
4th Qtr	9,109	1,580	863	938	838	784	628	280	3,890	18,910
<b>Year</b>	<b>30,807</b>	<b>5,133</b>	<b>2,961</b>	<b>2,636</b>	<b>2,844</b>	<b>2,695</b>	<b>2,022</b>	<b>1,078</b>	<b>13,631</b>	<b>63,807</b>
<b>2007</b>										
1st Qtr	5,458	1,062	634	520	593	618	430	234	2,830	12,379
2nd Qtr	9,090	1,217	726	609	633	729	460	264	3,456	17,184
3rd Qtr	8,757	1,564	803	722	717	770	633	272	4,184	18,422
4th Qtr	10,299	2,093	904	1,023	894	908	677	287	4,464	21,550
<b>Year</b>	<b>33,604</b>	<b>5,936</b>	<b>3,067</b>	<b>2,874</b>	<b>2,837</b>	<b>3,025</b>	<b>2,200</b>	<b>1,057</b>	<b>14,934</b>	<b>69,535</b>
<b>2008</b>										
1st Qtr	6,601	1,394	690	688	647	863	528	261	3,516	15,188
2nd Qtr	9,480	1,392	705	643	550	684	557	267	3,951	18,229
3rd Qtr	8,999	1,577	683	735	658	788	594	254	4,717	19,005
4th Qtr	9,982	2,006	791	1,038	804	904	632	268	4,626	21,050
<b>Year</b>	<b>35,062</b>	<b>6,369</b>	<b>2,869</b>	<b>3,104</b>	<b>2,659</b>	<b>3,239</b>	<b>2,311</b>	<b>1,050</b>	<b>16,810</b>	<b>73,472</b>
<b>2009</b>										
1st Qtr	6,245	1,322	588	568	548	761	422	253	3,263	13,970

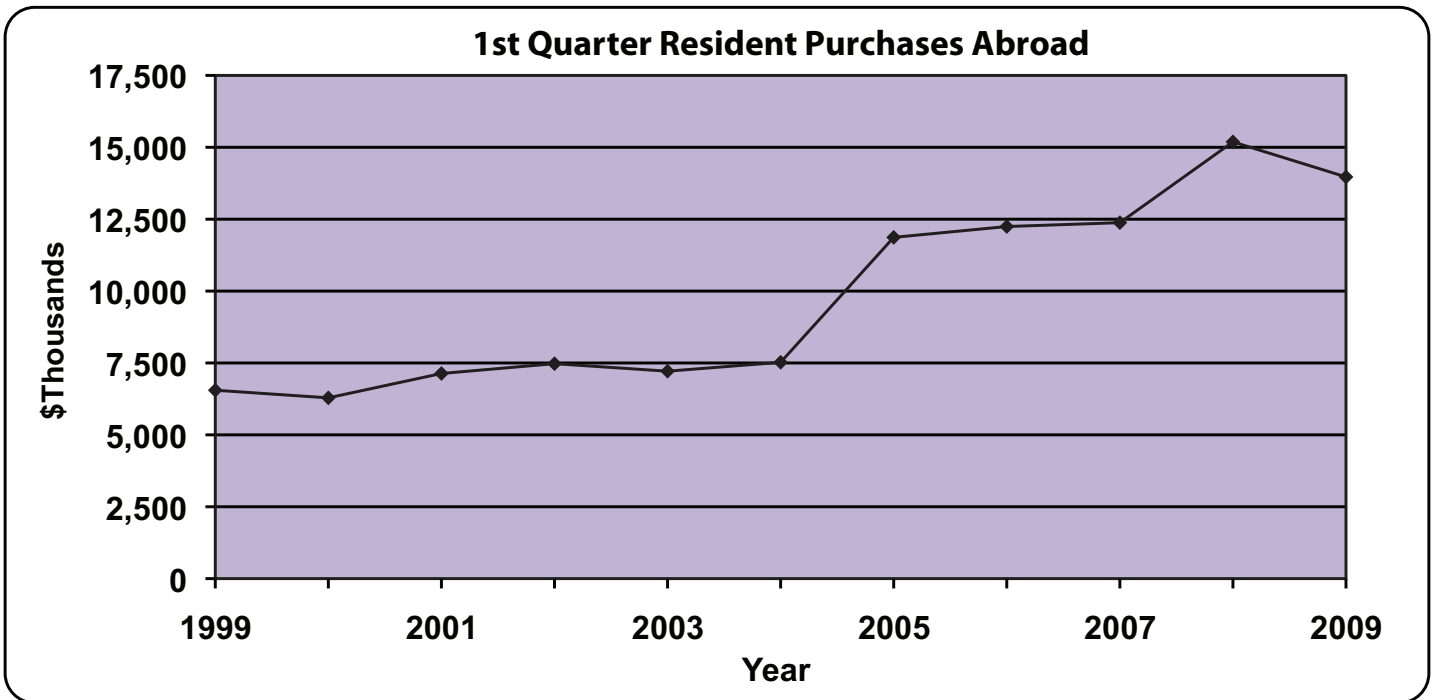
1. Value of goods as declared to H.M. Customs on entry or re-entry to Bermuda. Does not include purchases through mail-order or on the internet.

Source: H.M. Customs

**TABLE 7 – HOTEL GROSS RECEIPTS \$000**

	Resort Hotels	Small Hotels	Cottage Colonies	Other	Total
<b>2006</b>					
1st Qtr	29,253	1,706	1,040	351	32,350
2nd Qtr	81,471	11,576	1,986	573	95,606
3rd Qtr	84,554	11,773	1,815	692	98,834
4th Qtr	47,464	5,157	1,468	453	54,542
<b>Year</b>	<b>242,741</b>	<b>30,213</b>	<b>6,309</b>	<b>2,068</b>	<b>281,331</b>
<b>2007</b>					
1st Qtr	38,450	2,028	1,223	400	42,101
2nd Qtr	84,979	13,246	2,210	608	101,043
3rd Qtr	81,449	14,182	2,248	902	98,781
4th Qtr	49,706	6,372	1,581	668	58,327
<b>Year</b>	<b>254,584</b>	<b>35,828</b>	<b>7,262</b>	<b>2,578</b>	<b>300,252</b>
<b>2008</b>					
1st Qtr	33,367	1,959	1,163	463	36,952
2nd Qtr	84,546	10,149	2,091	499	97,285
3rd Qtr	72,530	10,737	2,009	812	86,088
4th Qtr	47,010	4,077	1,358	595	53,040
<b>Year</b>	<b>237,453</b>	<b>26,922</b>	<b>6,621</b>	<b>2,369</b>	<b>273,365</b>
<b>2009</b>					
1st Qtr	24,243	1,580	1,168	460	27,451

Source: Tourism Department





**Symbols used in tables:**

- (..) not available
- (-) nil or negligible
- (e), (p) estimated or provisional
- figure revised figure
- (r) revised figure
- Q1 1st quarter (Jan.-Mar.)
- Q2 2nd quarter (Apr.-Jun.)
- Q3 3rd quarter (Jul.-Sep.)
- Q4 4th quarter (Oct.-Dec.)

**Other Statistical Publications:**

- Monthly Consumer Price Index
- Monthly Retail Sales Index
- Annual Facts and Figures Pamphlet
- Annual Employment Survey Brief
- Report on the 2000 Census of Population & Housing
- Bermuda Labour Force Trends
- Bermuda Social Dynamics
- The Changing Face of Bermuda's Seniors Report
- The 2004 Household Expenditure Survey (HES) Report
- Literacy in Bermuda

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