

Virginia Tourism Monitor

Information current as of 4/07/09

Airports:



Newport News/ Williamsburg International Airport

Newport News/Williamsburg International Airport served 122,822 airline passengers through Feb. 2009. This is a 9.7% decrease compared to the same period of 2008.

Norfolk International Airport

Norfolk International Airport served 448,782 airline passengers through February 2009. This is a 8.8% decrease compared to the same period of 2008.

Richmond International Airport

Richmond International Airport served 458,734 airline passengers through Feb. 2009. This is a 9.7% decrease compared to the same period of 2008.

Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport

Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport served 2,459,467 airline passengers through Feb. 2009. This is a 2.3% decrease compared to the same period of 2008.

Washington Dulles International Airport

Washington Dulles International Airport served 3,228,953 airline passengers through Feb 2009. This is a 6.5% decrease compared to the same period of 2008.

Parks (State and National)



Recreational visits to Virginia's State Parks through February 2009 were down 5.9% compared to the same period of 2008
2009 year to date 378,920
2008 year to date 402,734

Recreational visits to Virginia's *National Parks* through February 2009 are up 6.0% compared to the same period of 2008.

2009 Year-to-date – 1,754,590
2008 Year-to-date – 1,655,641

National Trends:

TIA's Travel Price Index

The Travel Price Index for February 2009 reflects a decrease of 5.9% year to date. Developed by the Travel Industry Association of America (TIA), the Travel Price Index (TPI) measures the seasonally unadjusted inflation rate of the cost of travel away from home in the United States. The TPI is released monthly and is directly comparable to the CPI.

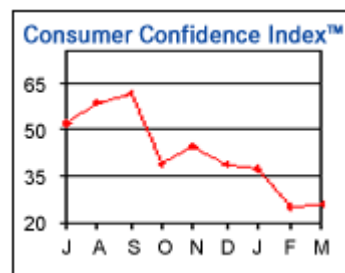
CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) increased 0.5 percent in February, before seasonal adjustment, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. The February level of 212.193 (1982-84=100) was 0.2 percent higher than in February 2008. (<http://www.bls.gov/news.release/cpi.nr0.htm>)

Consumer Confidence

The Conference Board Consumer Confidence Index, which had declined sharply in February, was flat in March. The Index now stands at 26.0 (1985=100), up from 25.3 in February.

<http://www.conferenceboard.org/economics/consumerconfidence.cfm>



International

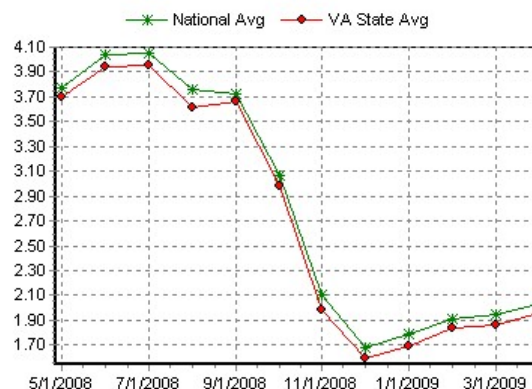
The U.S. Department of Commerce announced that a record 58 million international visitors traveled to the United States during 2008, an increase of nearly four percent over 2007. Thirteen of the top 25 arrivals markets broke records set in previous years. In December 2008, the total monthly visitation reached 3.9 million, down seven percent when compared to December 2007.

(Source: *Tourism Industry NEWS* – March 24, 2009)

<http://www.tinet.ita.doc.gov/tinews/archive/tinews2009/20090324.html>

Gasoline Prices in VA compared to National Average

(Source: AAA's Daily Fuel Gauge Report – 12 month average)



Source: AAA Fuel gauge Report

<http://www.fuelgauge.com/VAavg.asp>