### 2018 YEAR END MARKETING REPORT

Branson Convention & Visitors Bureau March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019

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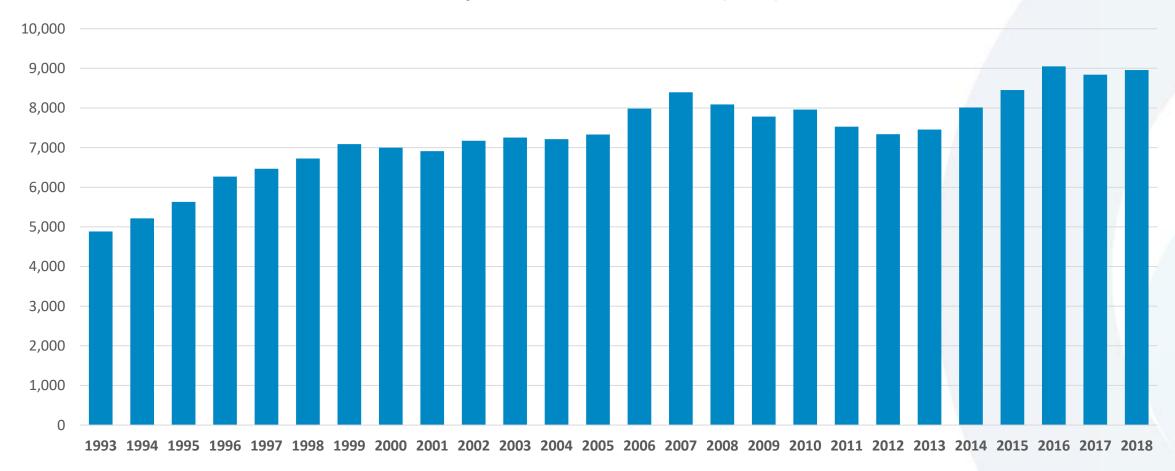
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### **Key Performance Indicators**

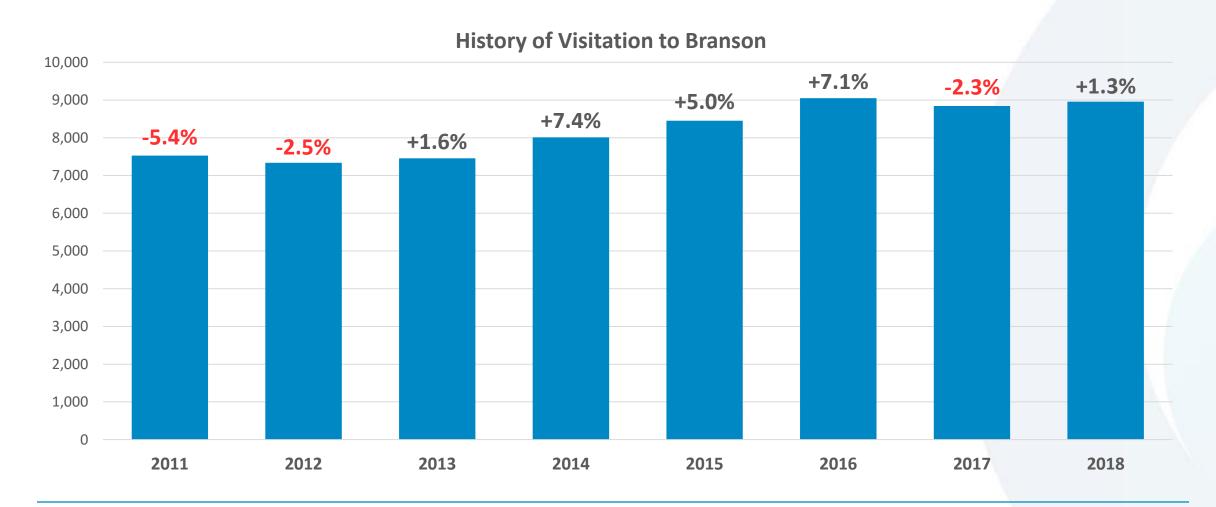
# Visitation this year remains strong at roughly 8.9 million\*, which was Branson's 2nd biggest recorded visitation year in history.

**History of Visitation to Branson (000s)** 

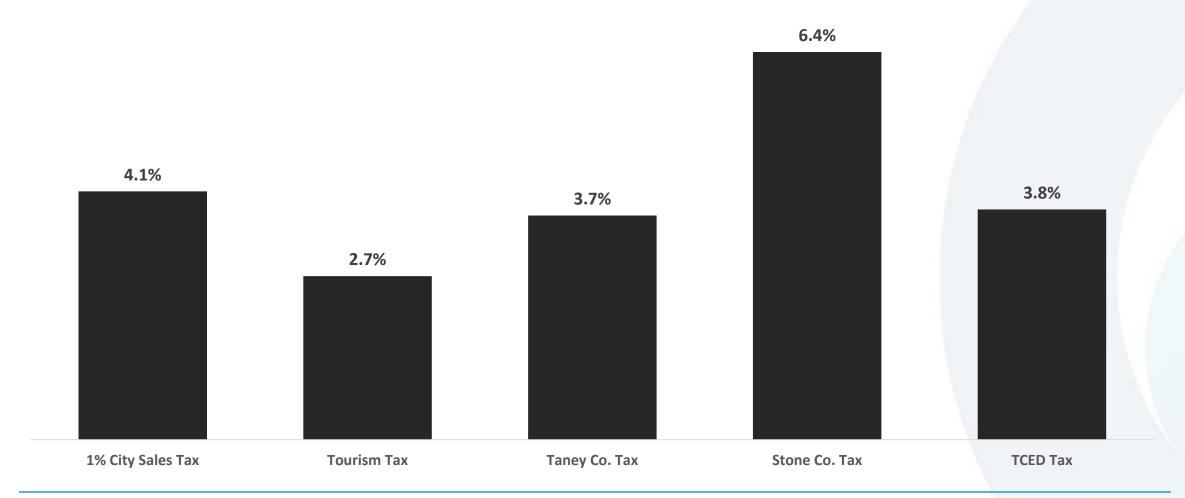


<sup>\*</sup>Branson no longer uses "visitation" as an official estimate of performance. Base=7.0M (2000, DKSA)

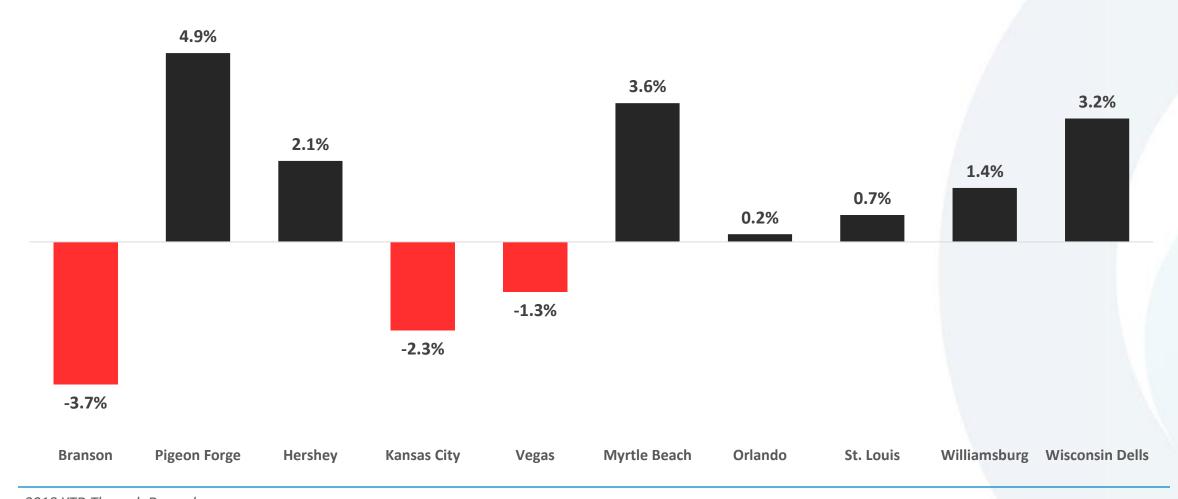
#### Branson's visitation has increased 5 times in the past 6 years.



#### Branson area sales tax revenues were up across all sources in 2018.



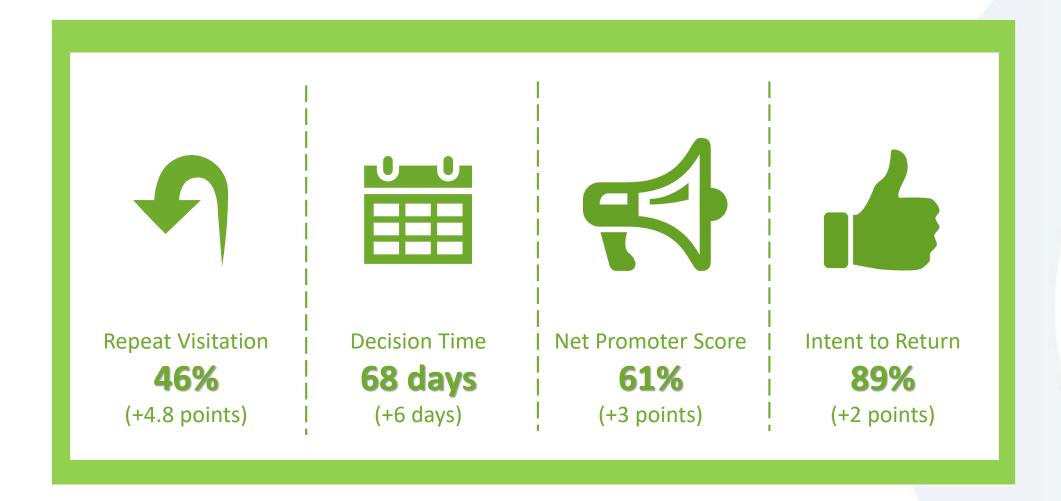
#### According to STR\*, however, room demand fell by 3.7%.



2018 YTD Through December

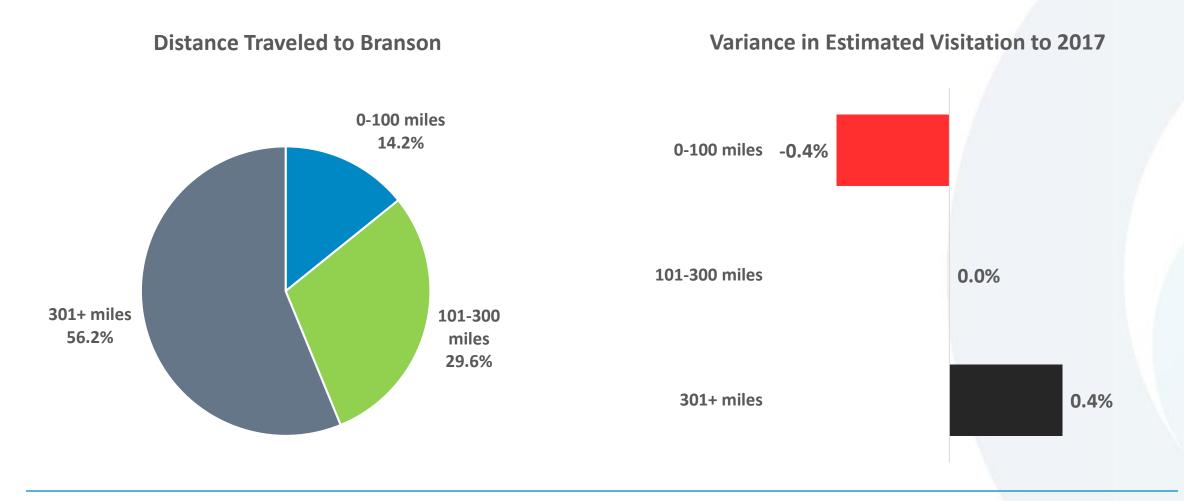
### Behavioral Profile

#### BEHAVIORAL PROFILE KPI\*

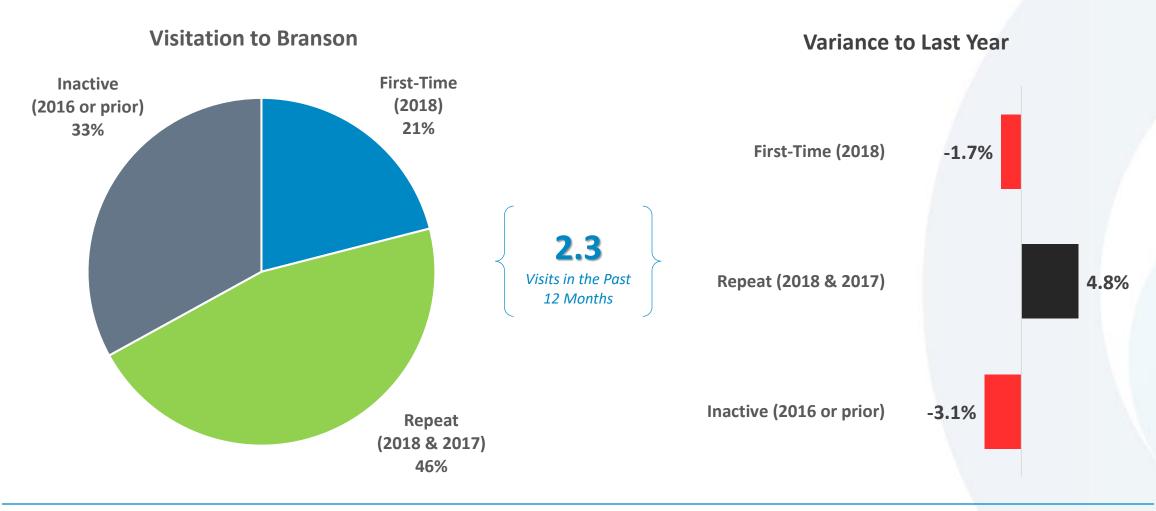


\*KPI = Key Performance Indicators

# Outer Markets (301+ miles) represented the majority of Branson visitation, and experienced the largest year-over-year increase of any tier.

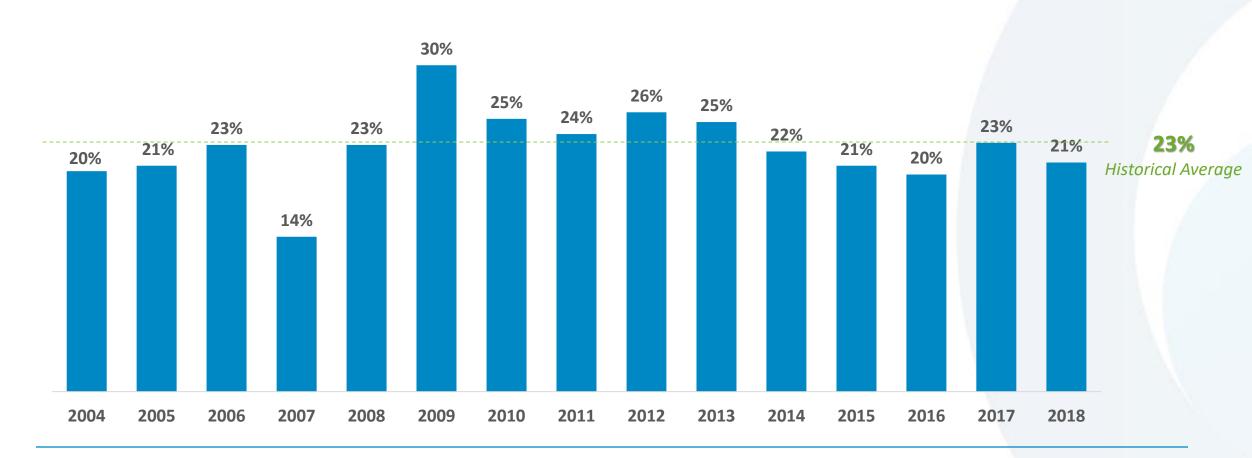


# In 2018, Branson hosted a larger number of Repeat Visitors (+4.8 pts). The average Branson traveler visited the area 2.3X over the past 12 months.

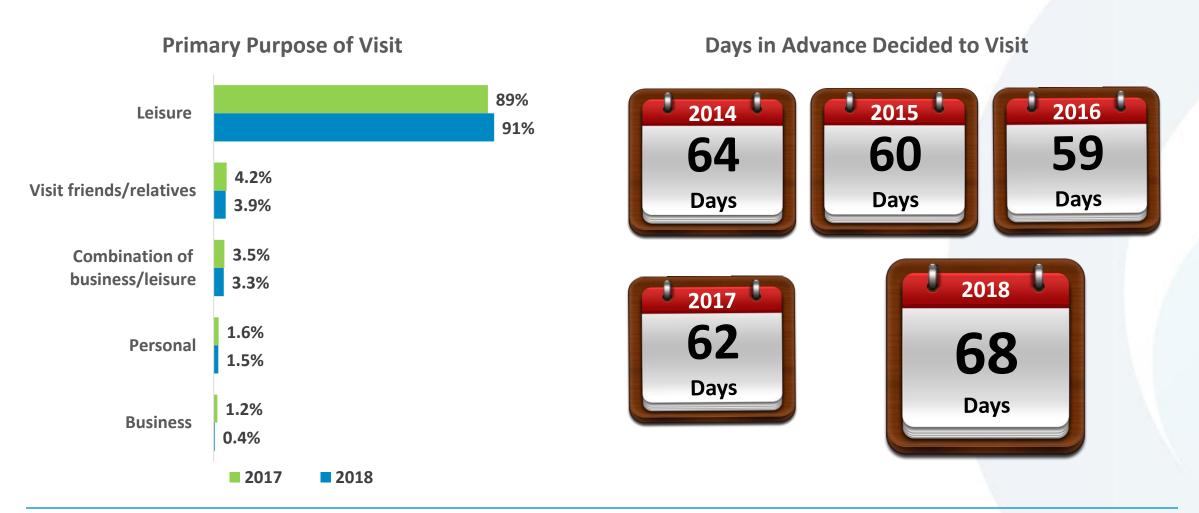


# First-time visitation slipped a bit this year after experiencing big growth in 2017, falling slightly below the Historical Average.

#### **History of First Time Visitation**



# Leisure travel continues to be the primary purpose of visitation to Branson. Decision time increased again this year, up 6 days to 68.



Q6: Which of the following was your primary purpose for this visit?

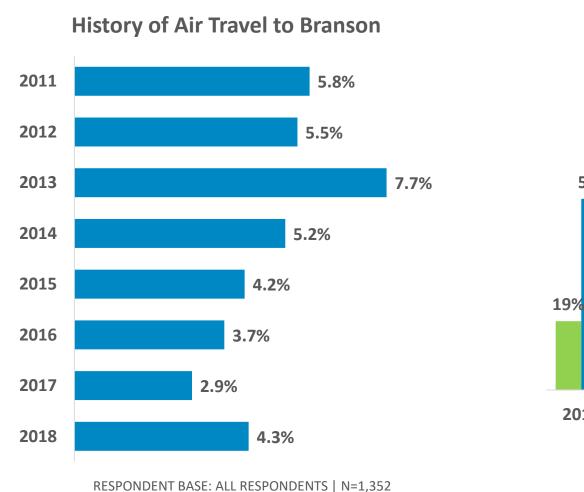
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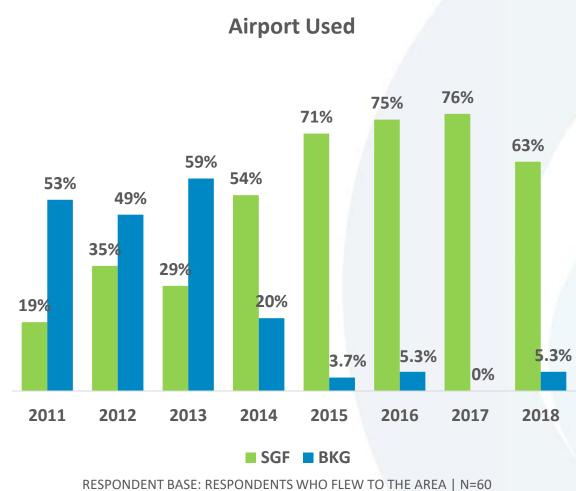
# Personal autos remain the most popular mode of transportation. And, for those who fly, the Springfield-Branson National Airport remained the most popular.



Q10: How did you travel to the Branson/Lakes area on this most recent visit? Q11: Which airport did you use?

### Branson visitors who use air travel rebounded in 2018, with a small percentage of visitors choosing to use the Branson airport.

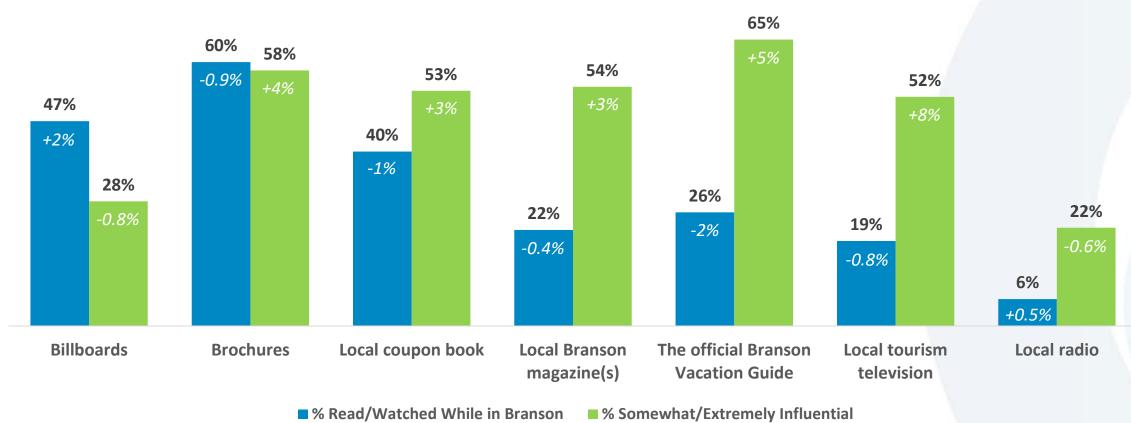




Q10: How did you travel to the Branson/Lakes area on this most recent visit? Q11: Which airport did you use?

# In-market media usage decreased across most intercept media sources this year. However, overall usage remained consistent (83%) and the influence of those media was much higher in many cases.

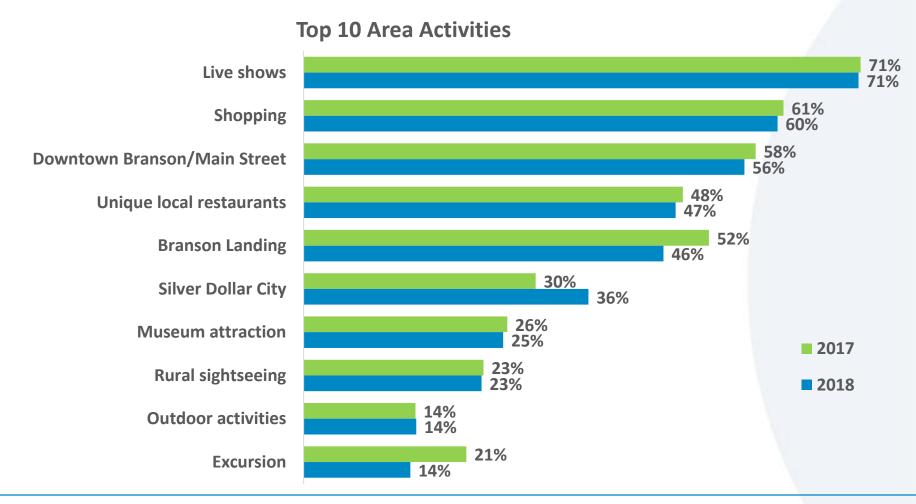




White numbers represent variance to 2017

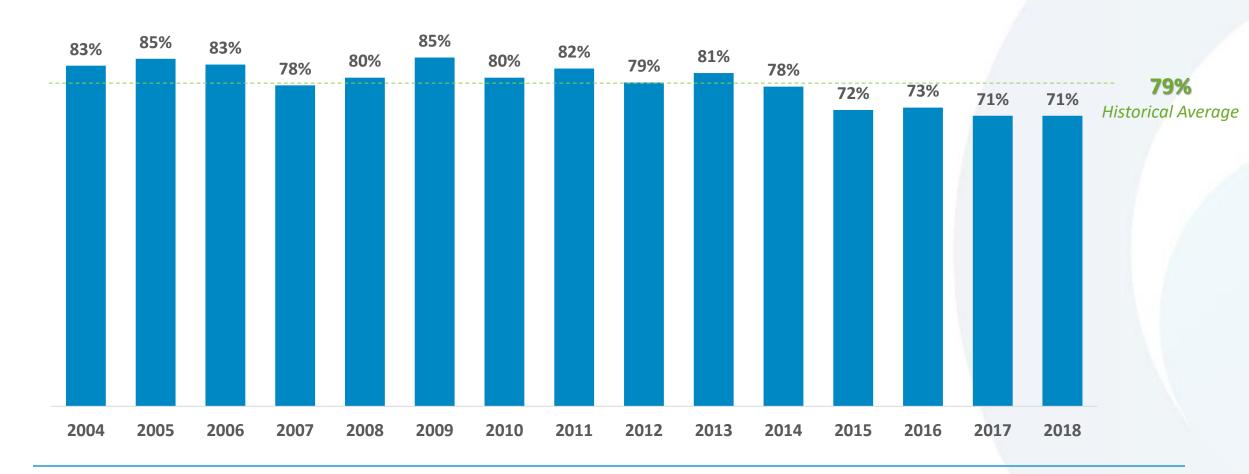
Q12: Which of the following local media, if any, did you read or watch during this most recent visit in Branson? Please select all that apply. Q13: Using the scale provided, please rate how influential each of these media were at persuading you to visit specific shows, attractions, restaurants, etc. (5-pt. scale)

# The top area activities continue to be Live Shows, Shopping and Downtown Branson. Although, Silver Dollar City posted a significant increase this year with its introduction of Time Traveler.



# Live Show participation (71%) remained on par with 2017, but remains below the Historical Average (79%).

#### **Live Show Participants**



# Live Shows (as a category) remain Branson's biggest functional driver, followed by Silver Dollar City (specific brand) and Shopping in general.

#### **Activities That Were a Primary Reason for Visiting Branson**







**56%** 

**Live Shows** 

+0 points

31%

Silver Dollar City

+8 points

**15%** 

Shopping

-2 points

Gray numbers represent variance to 2017

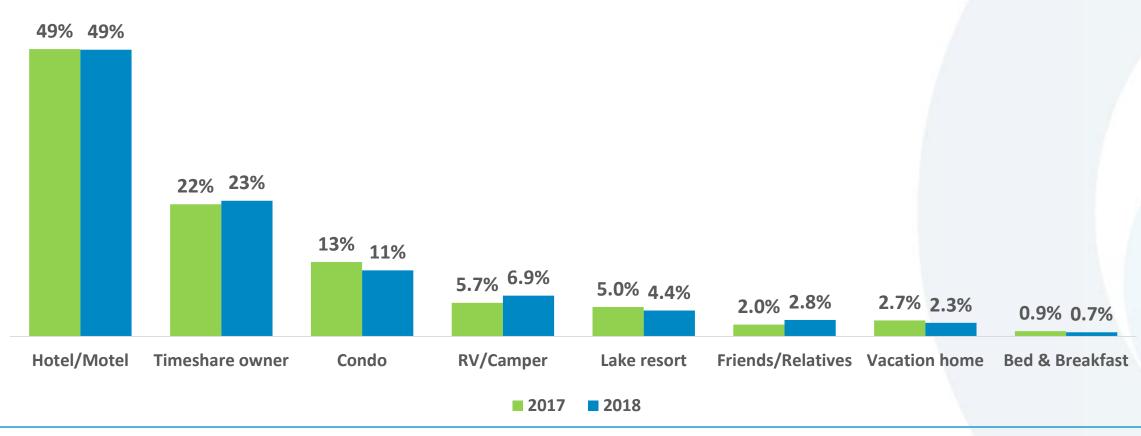
Total Shows Seen (+0.1 points)

Q15: Which of these activities, if any, were among your primary reasons for visiting Branson on this trip? Please select up to your top 3.

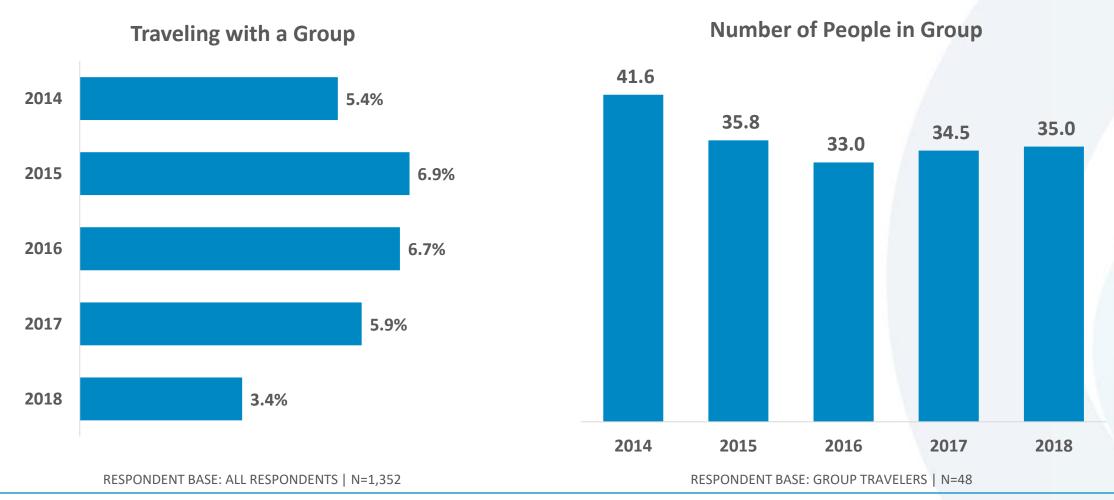
Q16: What is the total number of Branson shows you saw on this trip?

Overnight visitors are most likely to choose Hotels/Motels for their overnight stays. But, this year's gains came from timeshares, RV/Camper stays and Friends/Relatives.

#### **Accommodation Type**



# Group travel dropped slightly this year while the average group size increased slightly.



# Branson visitors spent slightly more money (+3%) on their trip compared to last year, with First-Time Visitors spending significantly more than Repeat Visitors.



**Party Trip Spending** \$972

Past Party Trip Spending

2017 - \$946

2016 - \$911

2015 - \$882

2014 - \$914

2013 - \$985

2012 - \$935

2011 - \$925

First-Time Visitors: \$1,182

Repeat Visitors: \$903



### Per Person Trip Spending \$315

Past Per Person Trip Spending

2017 - \$279

2016 - \$264

2015 - \$252

2014 - \$276

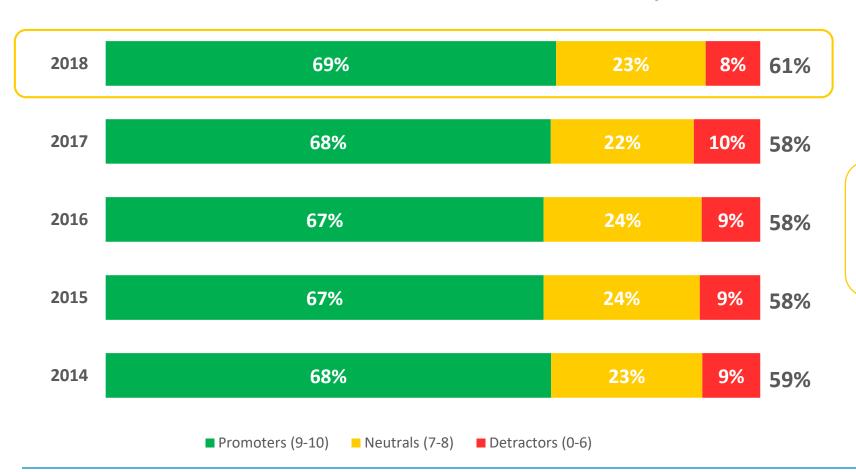
2013 - \$273

2012 - \$266

2011 - \$249

Branson's Net Promoter Score increased significantly this year, up 3 points to 61%, posting a record high score in the 5 years NPS has been asked.

#### **BCVB Net Promoter Score History**



"I love Branson area! We vacationed there every year when I was growing up and now I am continuing the tradition with my family. I love that there is so much to do there and we feel safe while enjoying our vacation."

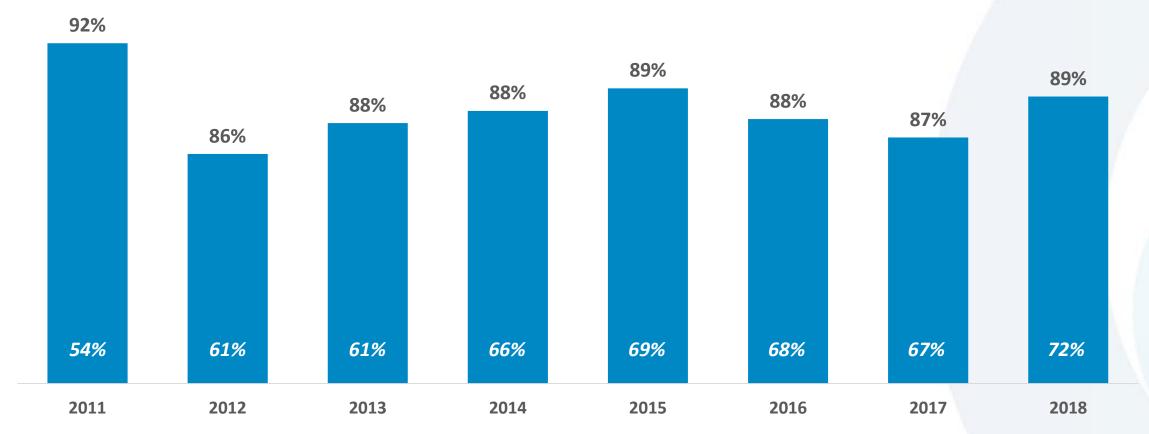
"Branson has a family oriented environment with a variety of entertainment for all ages. The people are friendly. The lake and surrounding area is beautiful."

"The congestion and means to get from one place to another discouraged further exploration of the area."

Q28: Using the scale provided, please indicate how likely you would be to recommend the Branson area to friends and family members. (11-pt. scale)

## Intent to return increased in 2018, with 72% indicating they definitely will return next year, a 9-year high.





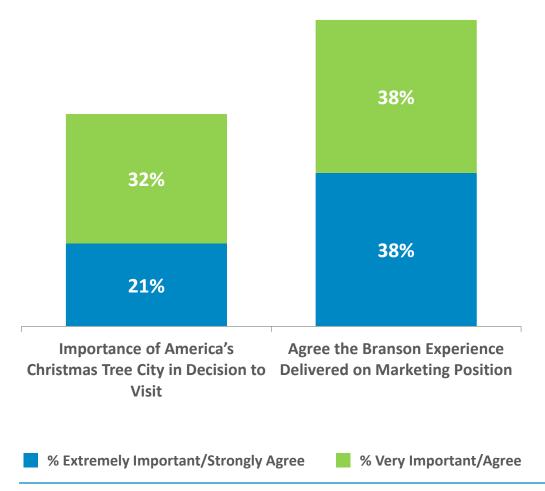
White numbers represent % Definitely Will Return

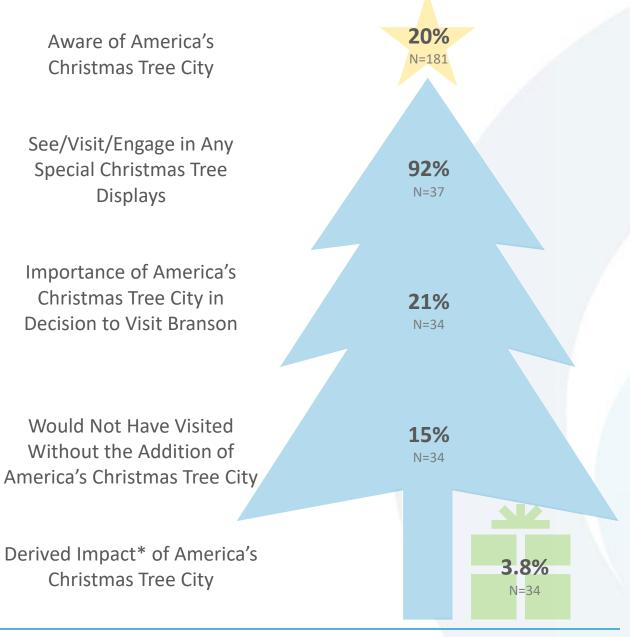
# The demographic profile of the Branson visitor revealed a slightly older traveler, but with more parties visiting with children.

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Average Visitor Adult Age	57	59	58	59	59	56	56	58
% Under 12	11%	9%	9%	9%	10%	14%	12%	12%
% 12-17	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	6%
% 18-34	9%	8%	89	9%	9%	11%	12%	9%
% 35-54	22%	20%	20%	18%	18%	22%	22%	20%
% 55+	53%	59%	57%	59%	58%	49%	49%	53%
Families	38%	32%	33%	34%	39%	41%	40%	43%
Adults	62%	68%	67%	66%	61%	59%	60%	57%
HH Income	n/a	\$81.2k	\$81.2k	\$82.9k	\$81.2k	\$81.6k	\$82.7k	\$84.7k
% from Beyond 300 Miles	49%	54%	59%	57%	56%	56%	56%	56%

### **America's Christmas Tree City**

### Importance of and Satisfaction with America's Christmas Tree City

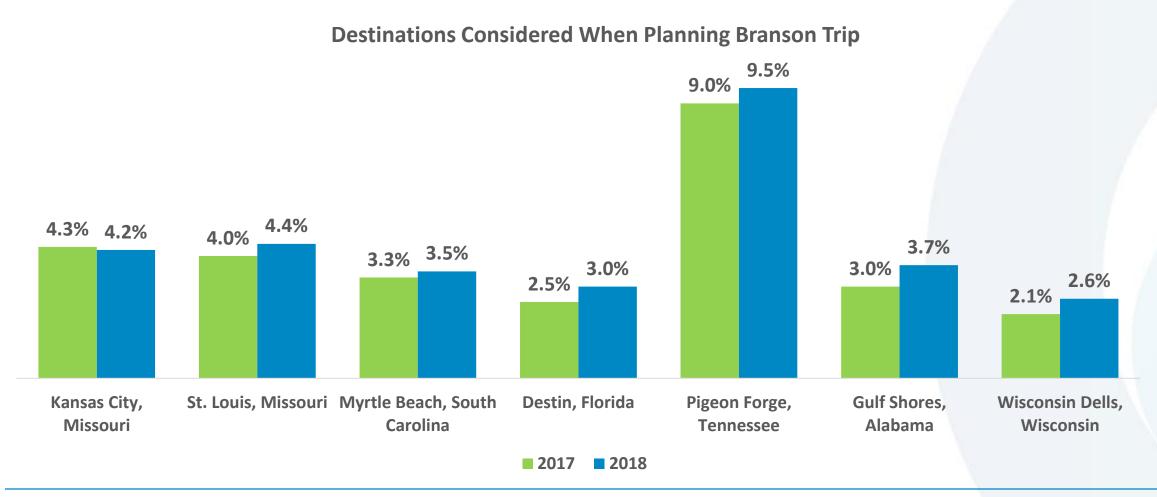




### Travel Planning and Future Experiences



## 3 in 10 (31%) visitors considered other destinations such as Pigeon Forge (+6%) prior to deciding to visit Branson.

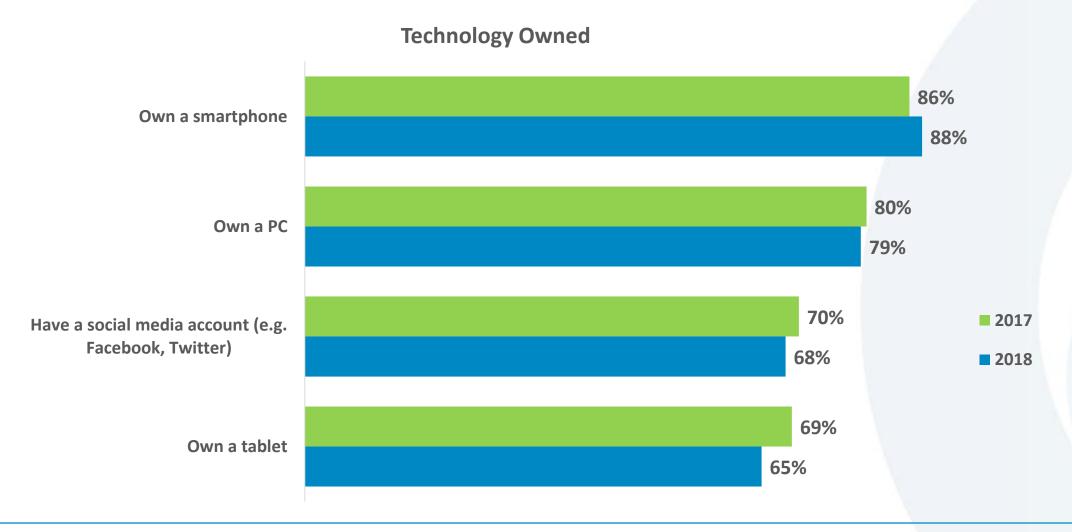


# While previous experience is still the way most plan their trips to Branson, online travel agencies saw a significant increase in usage.

#### **Sources Used to Plan Trip to Branson**

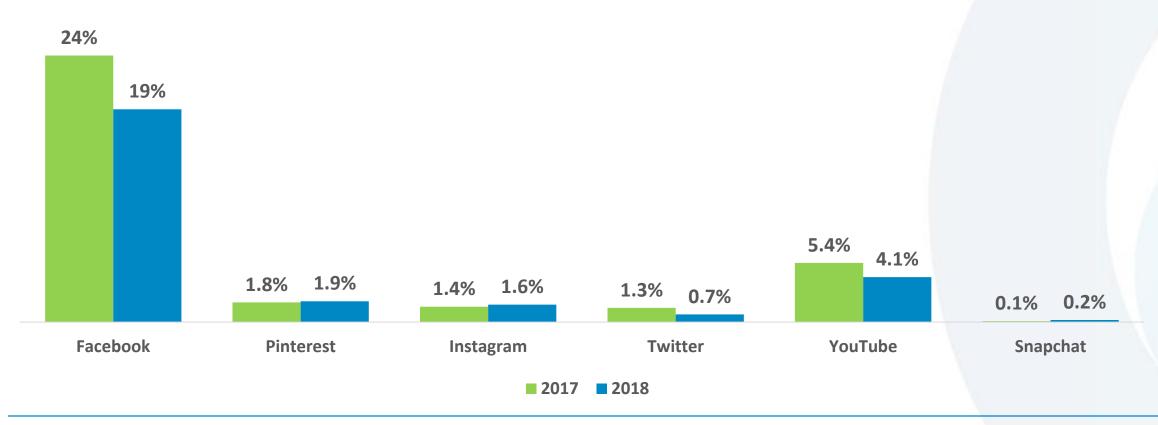


# Technology usage and ownership of smartphone devices increased, while other technology and devices decreased.



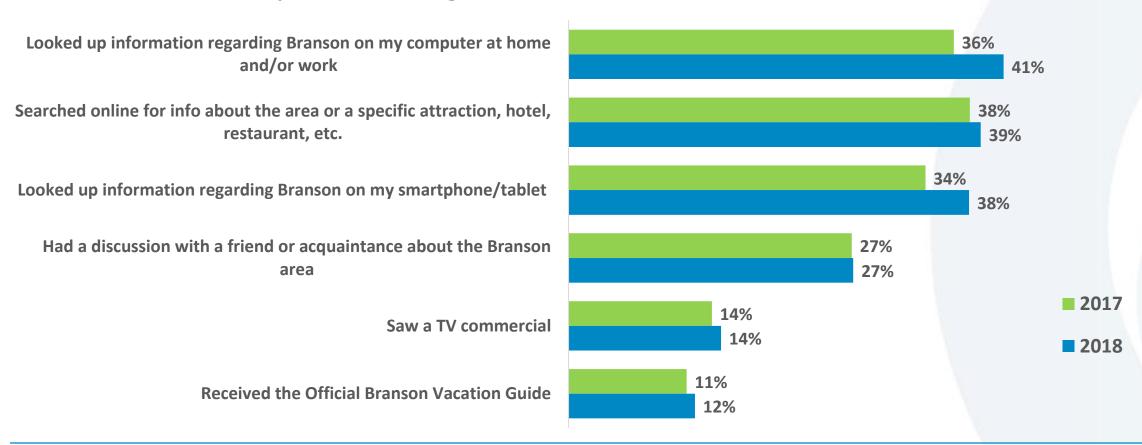
Facebook continues to be Branson's most popular social media site, despite a significant decrease in usage. Usage of other social media channels held steady.

#### **Branson Social Media Usage**



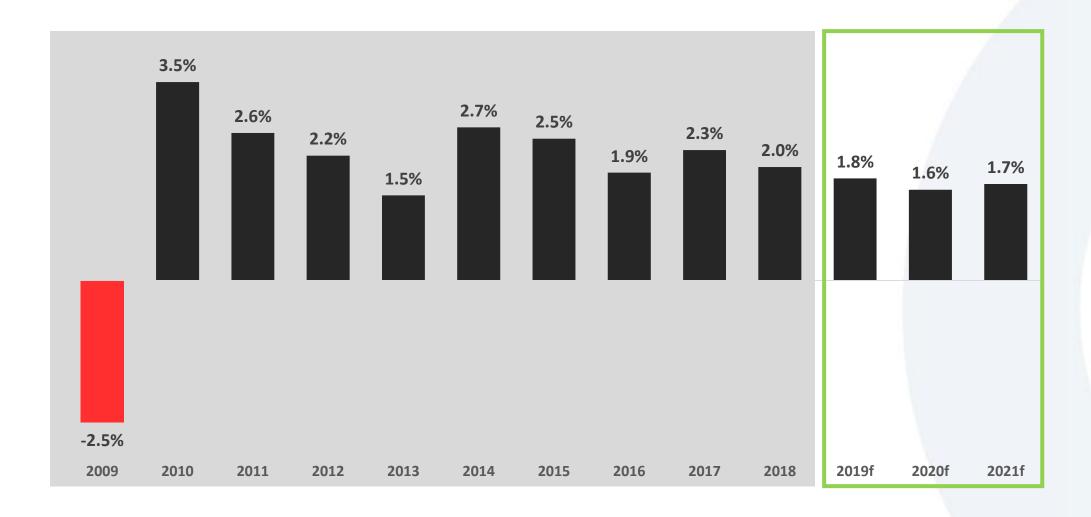
# Branson's top marketing engagement channels continue to be online searches from home computers and/or searches for specific brands.

#### Top Branson Messages Received, Read, Saw or Heard Prior to Visit

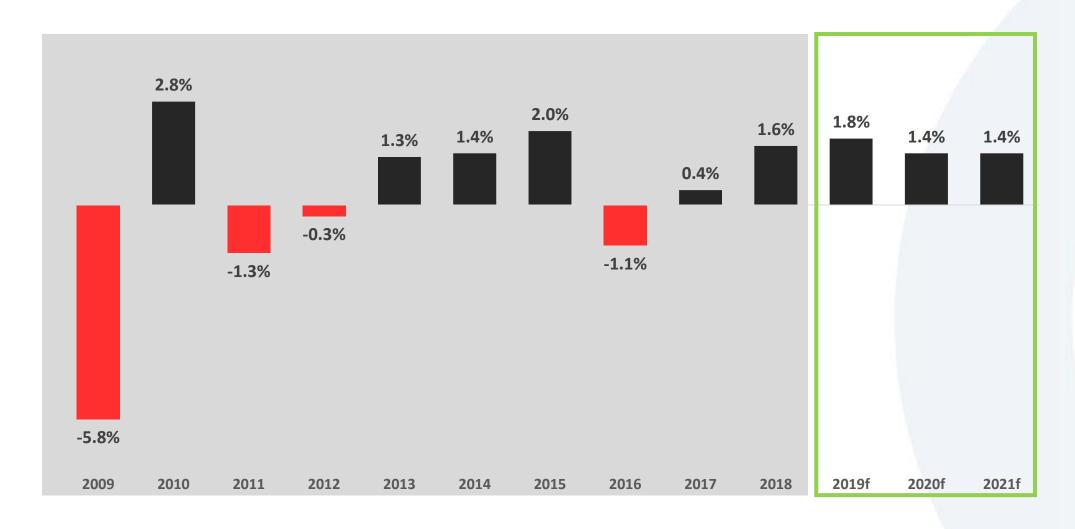


### U.S. Travel Performance

## The U.S. Travel Association forecasts that leisure travel will grow by 1.8% in 2019, slightly slower than what was predicted for 2018 (+2.0%).



## Business travel is also expected to grow by 1.8% in 2019, somewhat faster than what was experienced in 2018 (+1.6%).



### Thank you! Questions?