

Punta Gorda/Englewood Beach VCB Visitor Tracking Report July – September 2022



Visitor Journey

This report presents the economic impact of visitors to Punta Gorda/Englewood Beach during July through September, 2022. In the report, we follow visitors in their journeys from pre-trip planning to the economic impact of their expenditures in our destination. Along the way, we examine profiles of visitors, their experiences in our destination, and how they evaluate experiences in Punta Gorda/Englewood Beach.



Executive Summary

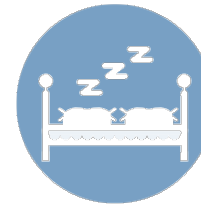


Visitor Journey – Impact of Tourism



Quarterly Snapshot

- » In July-September 2022, Charlotte County has a decrease in visitation while having an increase in visitor spending due to visitors spending more (partially due to inflation)
- » International visitation has increased as 6% of visitors came from international locations in 2022 compared to 3% in 2021
- » An increase in visitors traveling for a couples' vacation has increased considerably leading to a small travel party size decrease



45.6%

OCCUPANCY
RATE

↓ 12.3%



\$133.44

AVERAGE DAILY
RATE

↑ 5.4%



\$60.85

REVENUE PER
ROOM

↓ 7.7%

Vs. 2021

Key Performance Indicators

Visitor Statistics	July - Sept 2021	July - Sept 2022	Percent Change
<i>Visitors¹</i>	269,800	260,700	-3.4%
<i>Direct Expenditures²</i>	\$141,021,100	\$156,465,400	+11.0%
<i>Total Economic Impact</i>	\$204,480,600	\$226,874,800	+11.0%

Lodging Statistics	July - Sept 2021	July - Sept 2022	Percent Change
<i>Occupancy³</i>	52.0%	45.6%	-12.3%
<i>Room Rates³</i>	\$126.64	\$133.44	+5.4%
<i>RevPAR³</i>	\$65.92	\$60.85	-7.7%
<i>Room Nights³</i>	276,703	252,200	-8.9%
<i>TDT Collections</i>	\$1,248,479	\$1,305,611	+4.6%

¹Total visitation decreased in visitation while having an increase in visitor spending due to visitors spending more (partially due to inflation)

²Includes spending for: accommodations, restaurants, entertainment, shopping, transportation, groceries, and "other" expenses.

³Sources: STR and All The Rooms

Travel Party Spending

- » Visiting travel parties staying with friends and relatives spent **\$217** per day and **\$2,268** on their trip
- » Visiting travel parties staying in paid accommodations spent **\$418** per day and **\$2,777** on their trip



Visitor Journey – Pre-Visit



Top Trip Planning¹

- » **Nearly 3 in 5** visitors planned their trip 1 month or less in advance
- » Average trip planning cycle was **57 days**
- » Top trip planning sources:



Internet (44%)



Previous visit (37%)



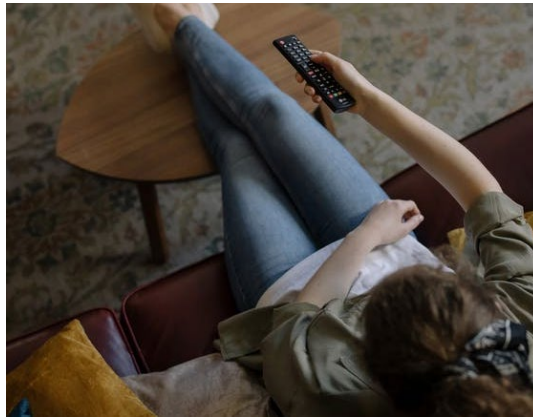
Friend, coworker, etc. (33%)

Punta Gorda/Englewood Beach Promotions¹

- » **19%** of visitors recalled promotions about the Punta Gorda/Englewood Beach area before their visit
- » **75%** of those who recalled advertising were influenced to come to the area
- » Top sources of noticed promotions:



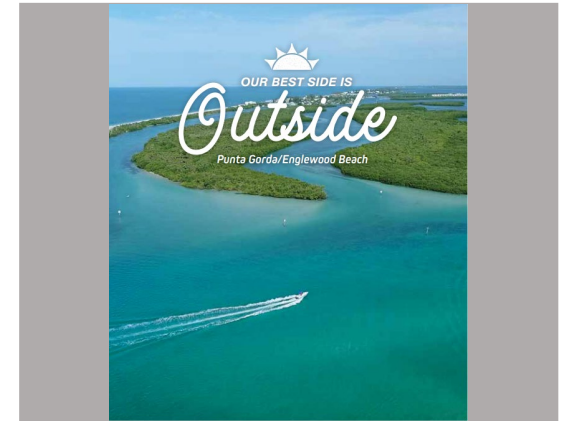
Online Article (28%)



Television (25%)



Personal social media (21%)



Travel/Visitor Guide (18%)

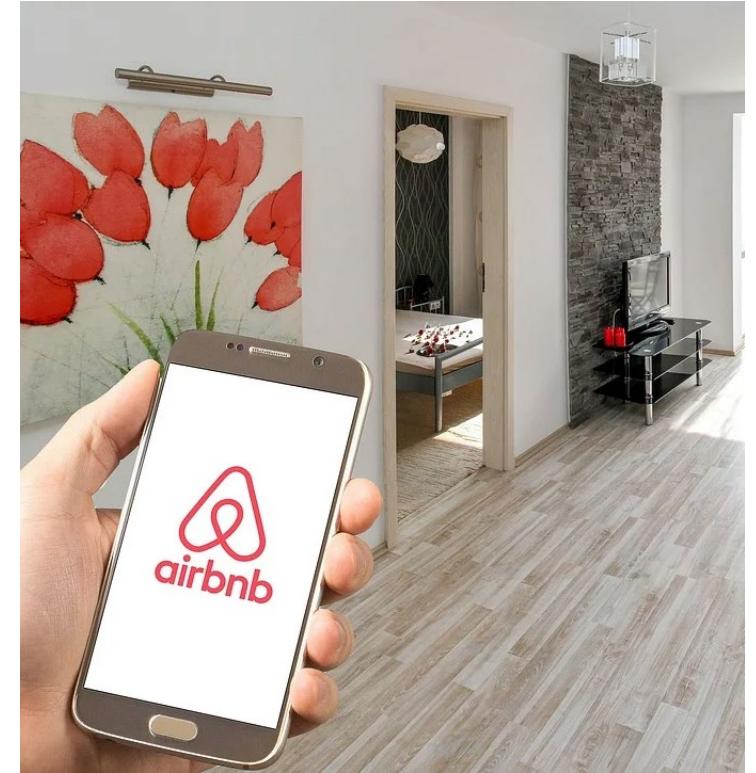
Top Methods of Accommodation Booking¹



49% Directly with hotel/condo



24% Online travel agency



15% Airbnb

¹Visitors staying in paid accommodations.

Transportation



60% of visitors drove to
Punta Gorda/Englewood Beach



13% of all visitors flew in via
the Punta Gorda Airport



13% of all visitors flew in via
the Southwest Florida
International Airport

Top Reasons for Visiting¹



Family vacation (34%)



Visit friends/relatives (33%)



Beach (26%)

Other Destinations Considered¹

- » 63% of visitors only considered visiting Punta Gorda/Englewood Beach when planning their trip
- » Other destinations considered:



Sarasota (9%)



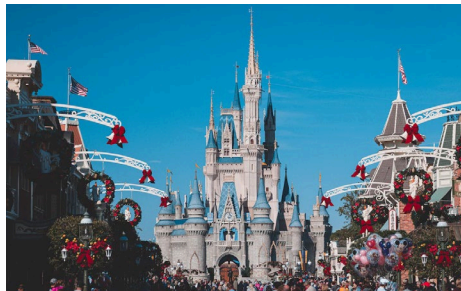
Ft. Myers/Cape Coral (8%)



Naples (6%)



Tampa (5%)



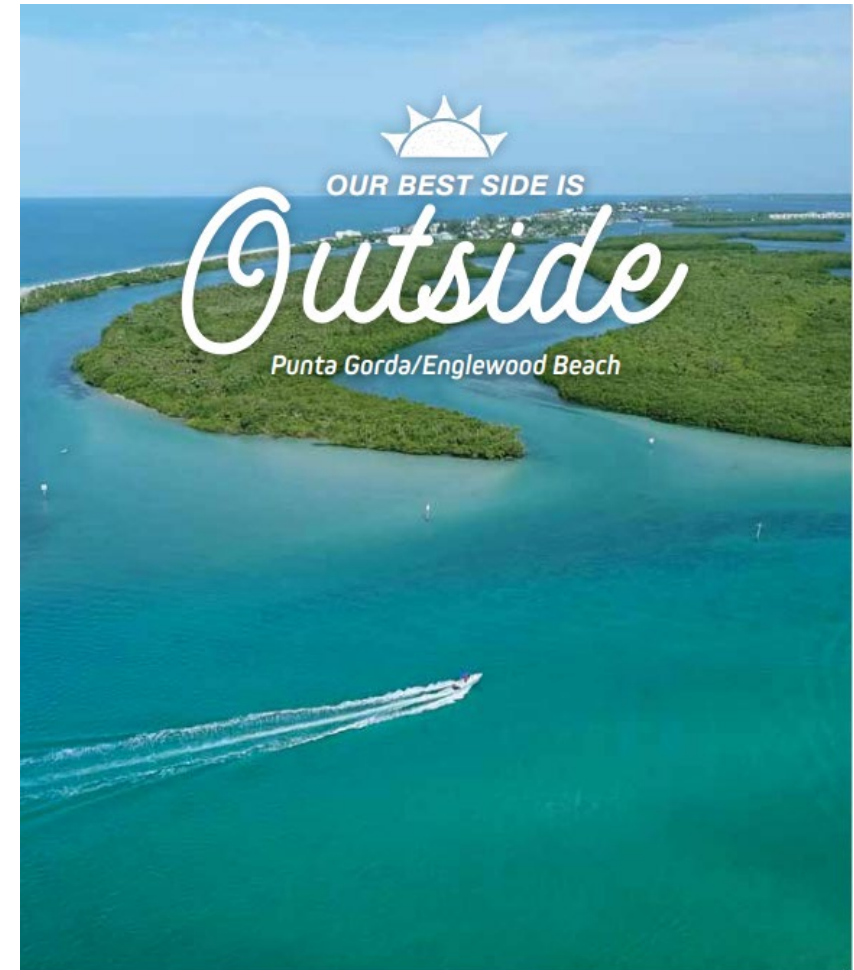
Orlando (5%)



Florida Keys (4%)

Visitors Guide

- » **12%** of visitors requested a Visitors Guide
- » Visitors Guide received a rating of **7.8 out of 10.0**¹



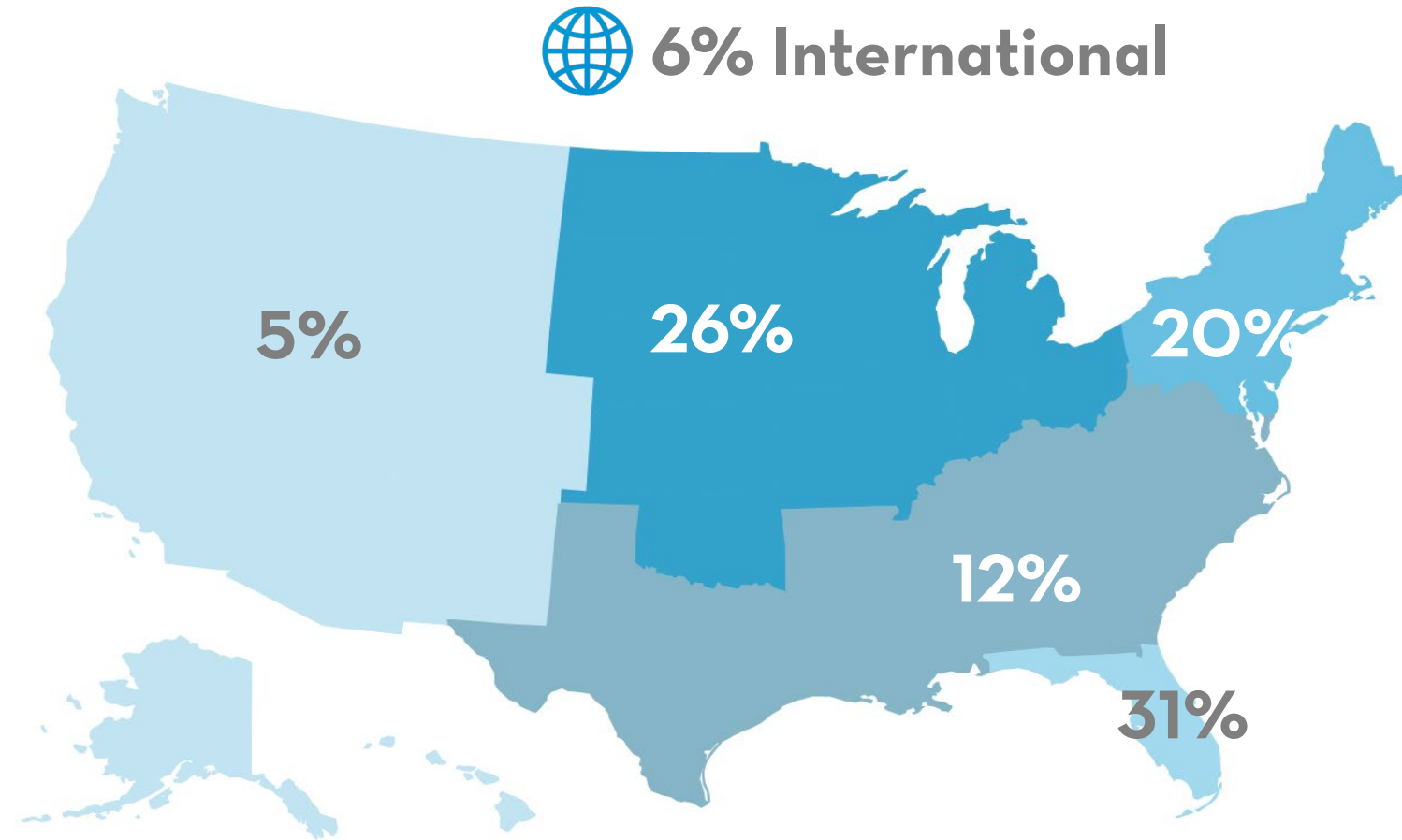
¹Rated on a 10-point scale where 10 is extremely useful and 1 is not at all useful.

Visitor Journey – Traveler Profile



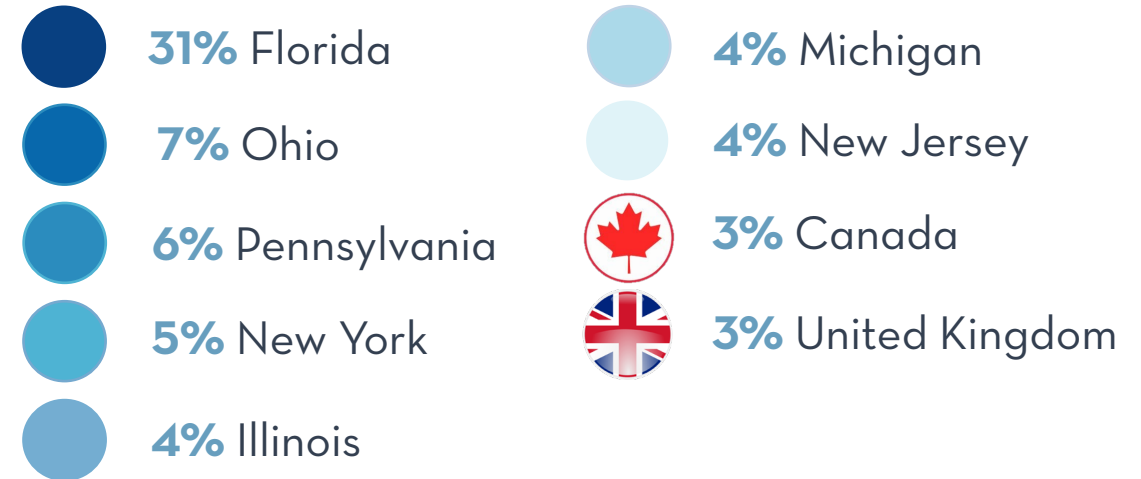
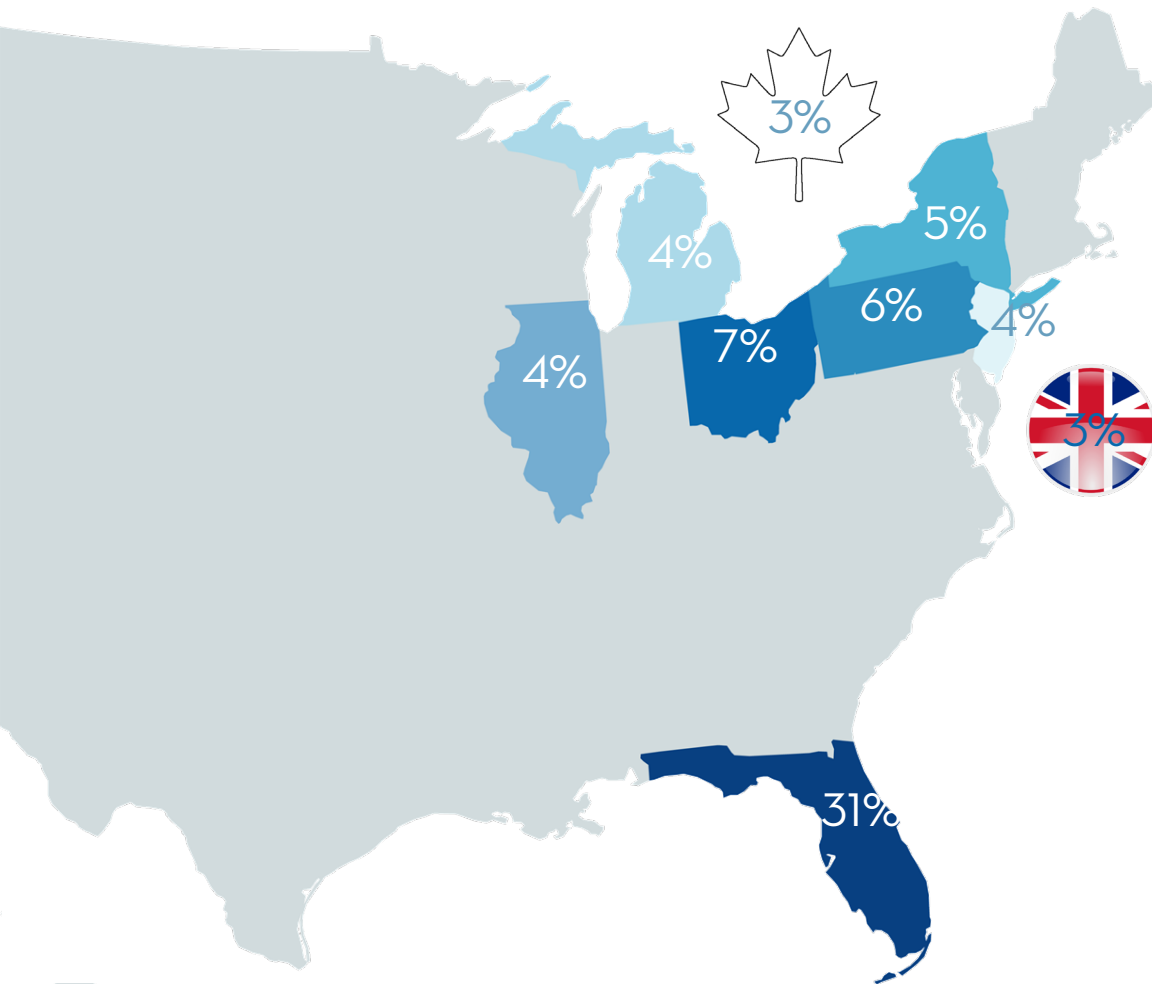
Top Origin Regions of Visitors

- » **94%** of Charlotte County visitors lived in the United States
- » **6%** of visitors were from outside of the United States, mostly from Canada and the United Kingdom
- » The Midwest and Northeast accounted for nearly half of all visitors



Top Origin States of Visitors

67% of visitors traveled to Charlotte County from 7 states, Canada and the United Kingdom



Top Origin Markets of Visitors

34% of visitors come from 6 markets



8% Fort Myers-Naples



7% Sarasota-Bradenton



6% New York¹



6% Tampa-St. Pete



4% Orlando



3% Chicago

¹NYC metro area includes parts of New York, New Jersey & Connecticut.

Travel Party Size and Composition

- » The typical visitor traveled in a party composed of **2.8** people
- » **40%** traveled with at least one person under the age of 20
- » **2 in 5** traveled as a family
- » **3 in 10** visitors traveled as a couple



Length of Stay – All Visitors¹

- » Visitors spent **5.9¹** nights in Punta Gorda/Englewood Beach



¹Nights stayed capped at 30 nights. Average length of stay is 8.9 nights when nights stayed is not capped.

¹Nights stayed includes Day Trippers.

First Time Visitors

- » **21%** were first time visitors
- » **36%** had visited more than 10 times



Typical Punta Gorda/Englewood Beach Visitor

» The typical Visitor:

- » Was 45 years old
- » Had a median household income of \$89,800
- » Was equally likely female (51%) or male (49%)
- » Was from:
 - » Florida (31%)
 - » Midwest (26%)
 - » Northeast (20%)



Visitor Journey – Trip Experience



Top Visitor Accommodations



32% Hotel/motel/resort



30% Day Tripper



20% Family/friend's residence



10% Personal second home

Top Activities During Visit¹



Beach (55%)



Restaurants (54%)



Visit friends/relatives
(41%)



Shopping (34%)



Nature related (27%)

¹Multiple responses permitted

Reason for Visit vs. Visitor Activities

Key Reasons for Visiting

Trip Enhancements

Reason for visit¹

Visitor activities¹



¹Multiple responses permitted.

Visitor Journey – Post-Trip Evaluation



Visitor Satisfaction

- » **71%** of visitors would definitely recommend Punta Gorda/Englewood Beach
- » **86%** will definitely return
- » **96%** were satisfied or very satisfied with their stay (**74%** were very satisfied)



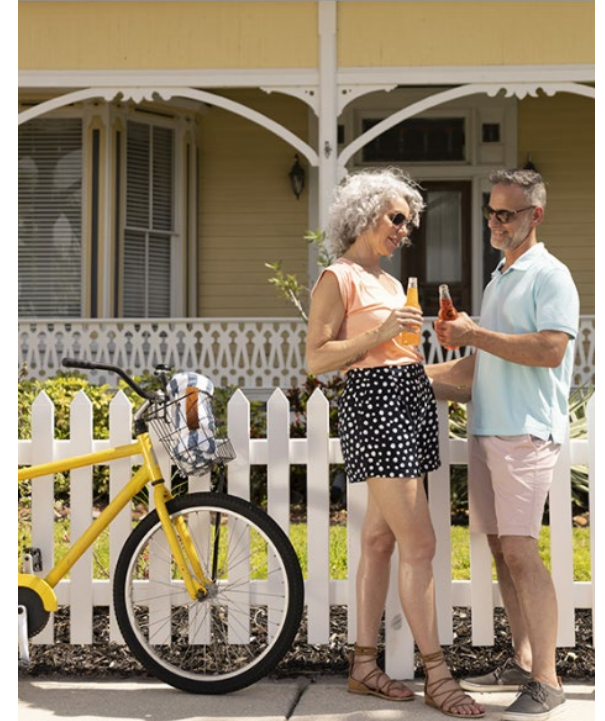
Top Requested Amenities¹



28% Family friendly activities



21% More outdoor activities



20% More transportation options

¹Multiple responses permitted

Perceptions of Punta Gorda/Englewood Beach¹

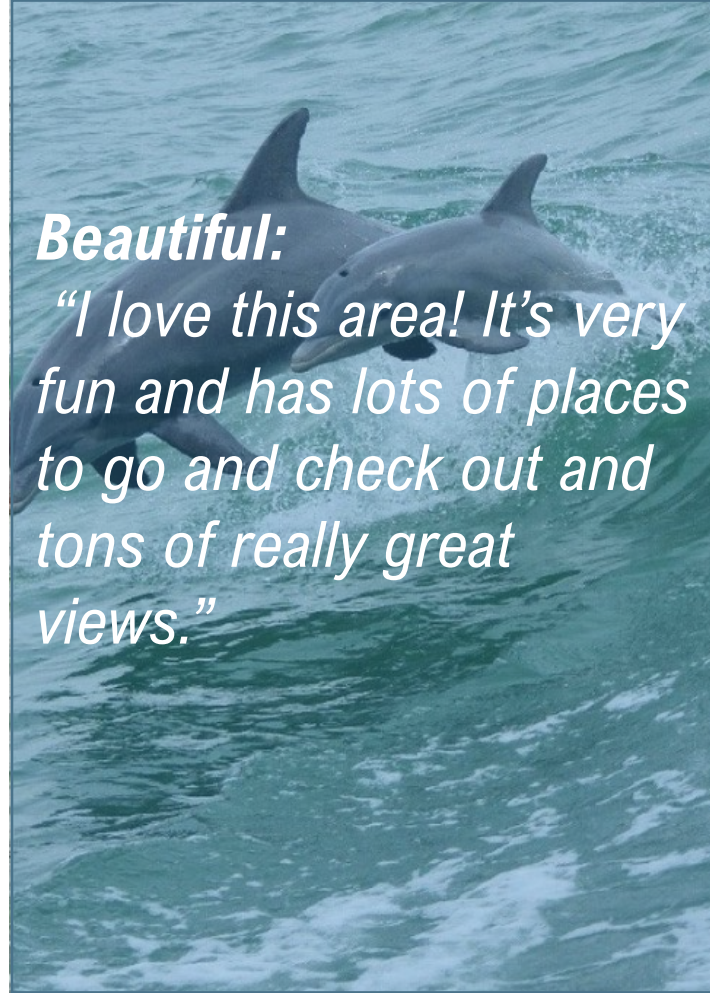
Great Area:

"Punta Gorda is a great place to visit! We loved it so much that we are wanting to move here and settle down."



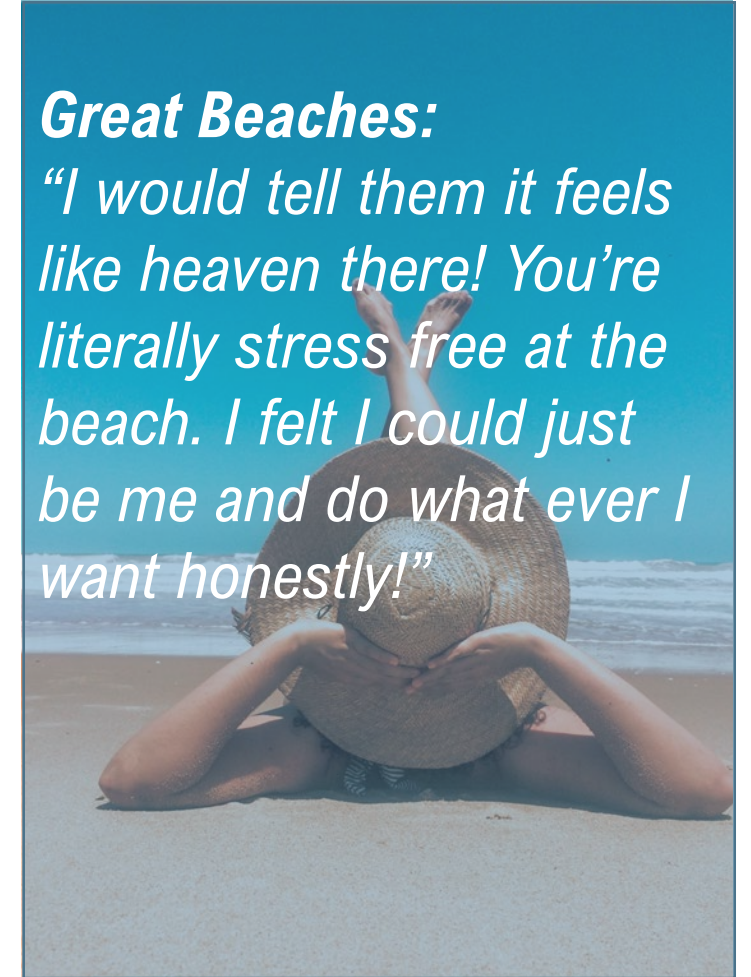
Beautiful:

"I love this area! It's very fun and has lots of places to go and check out and tons of really great views."



Great Beaches:

"I would tell them it feels like heaven there! You're literally stress free at the beach. I felt I could just be me and do what ever I want honestly!"



¹Coded open-ended responses.

Detailed Findings



Visitor Journey – Impact of Tourism



Visitor Spending by Visitor Type

- » All visitors spent **\$156,465,400** over the course of their visits
- » While the number of visitors staying in paid accommodations was **1.7 times** the number of visitors in non-paid accommodations, those staying in paid accommodations spent **1.8 times** what visitors in non-paid accommodations spent

	Paid Accommodations	Non-paid Accommodations	Day Trippers	Total
<i>Visitors</i>	<i>113,700</i>	<i>67,800</i>	<i>79,200</i>	260,700
<i>Spending</i>	<i>\$97,890,000</i>	<i>\$54,009,500</i>	<i>\$4,565,900</i>	\$156,465,400

Daily Travel Party Spending

	Paid Accommodations	Non-paid Accommodations	Day Trippers	All Visitors
<i>Accommodations</i>	<i>\$133</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$58</i>
<i>Restaurants</i>	<i>\$90</i>	<i>\$71</i>	<i>\$55</i>	<i>\$74</i>
<i>Groceries</i>	<i>\$34</i>	<i>\$37</i>	<i>\$14</i>	<i>\$29</i>
<i>Shopping</i>	<i>\$43</i>	<i>\$40</i>	<i>\$25</i>	<i>\$36</i>
<i>Entertainment</i>	<i>\$54</i>	<i>\$40</i>	<i>\$31</i>	<i>\$43</i>
<i>Transportation</i>	<i>\$42</i>	<i>\$26</i>	<i>\$14</i>	<i>\$29</i>
<i>Other</i>	<i>\$22</i>	<i>\$3</i>	<i>\$10</i>	<i>\$13</i>
Total	\$418	\$217	\$149	\$282

Total Travel Party Spending

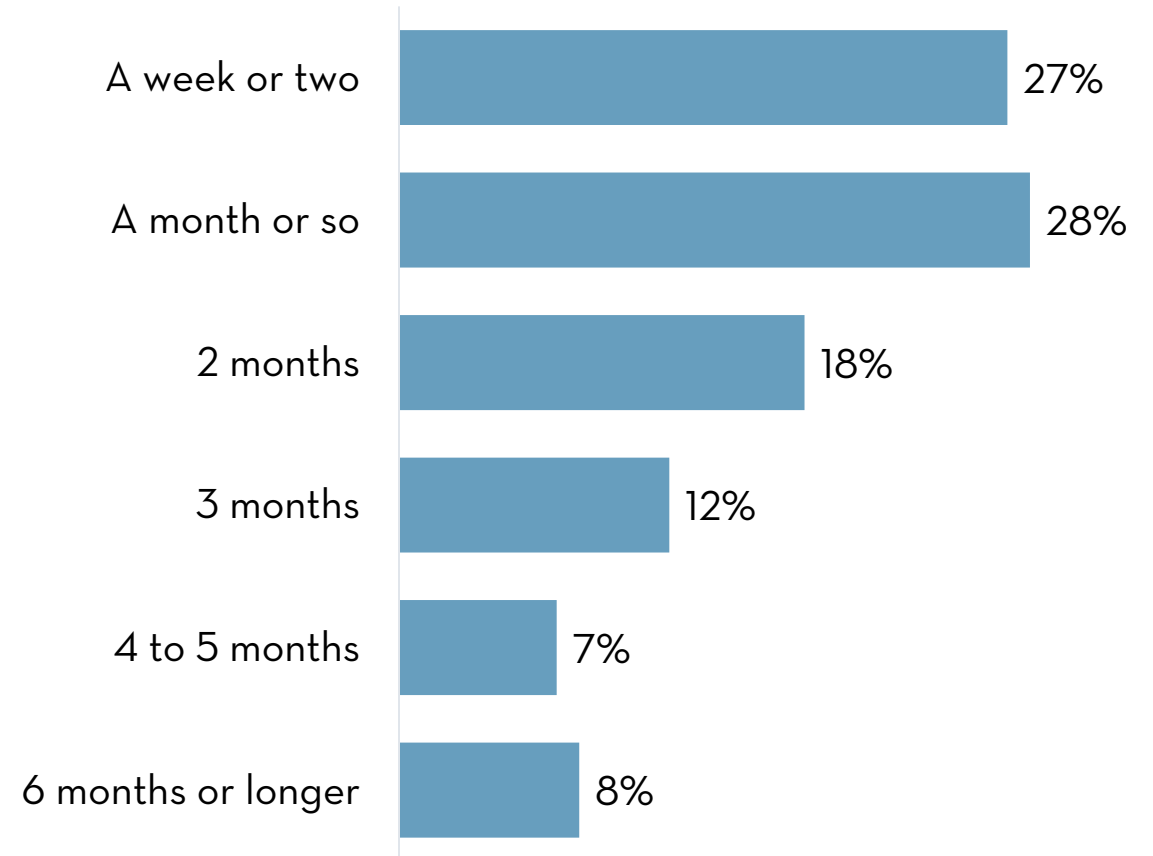
	Paid Accommodations	Non-paid Accommodations	Day Trippers	All Visitors
<i>Accommodations</i>	<i>\$883</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$343</i>
<i>Restaurants</i>	<i>\$598</i>	<i>\$742</i>	<i>\$55</i>	<i>\$438</i>
<i>Groceries</i>	<i>\$226</i>	<i>\$387</i>	<i>\$14</i>	<i>\$172</i>
<i>Shopping</i>	<i>\$286</i>	<i>\$418</i>	<i>\$25</i>	<i>\$213</i>
<i>Entertainment</i>	<i>\$359</i>	<i>\$418</i>	<i>\$31</i>	<i>\$255</i>
<i>Transportation</i>	<i>\$279</i>	<i>\$272</i>	<i>\$14</i>	<i>\$172</i>
<i>Other</i>	<i>\$146</i>	<i>\$31</i>	<i>\$10</i>	<i>\$77</i>
Total	\$2,777	\$2,268	\$149	\$1,670

Visitor Journey – Pre-Visit



Trip Planning Cycle

- » Over 1 in 4 visitors had **long planning windows** (3 months or longer in advance)
- » Nearly 3 in 5 visitors planned their trips a month or less in advance
- » Average trip planning cycle was **57 days** compared to 61 days in 2021



Trip Planning Sources¹

- » **Over 2 in 5** visitors used **Internet** to plan their trip. **Google** was the top site used
- » **Nearly 2 in 5** visitors planned their trips based on **previous visits**
- » **1 in 3** used their friends, family and coworkers to plan their trip

Trip Planning Source

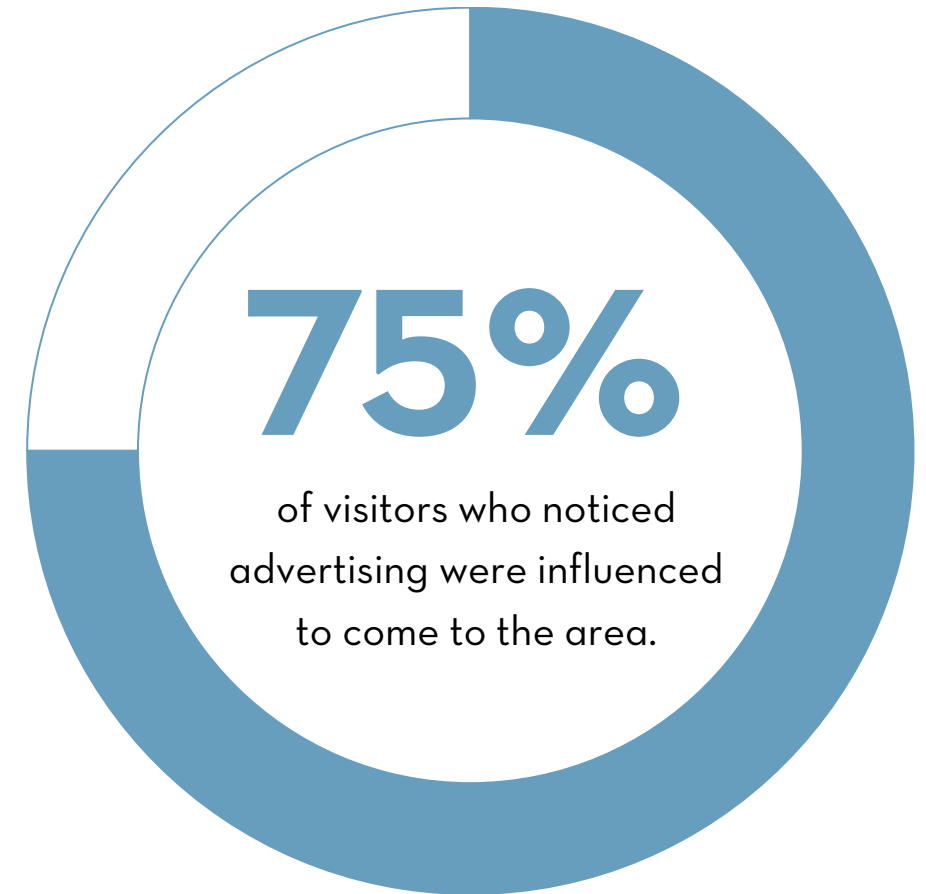
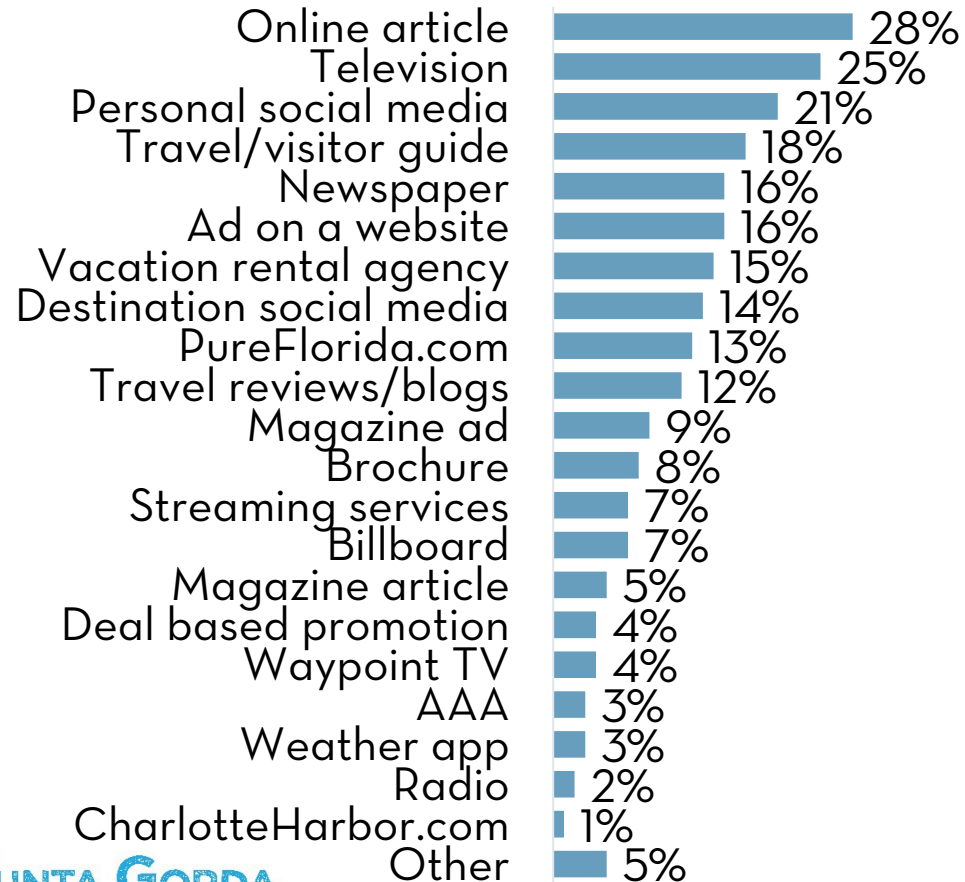
Internet	44%
Google search	32%
Airline websites/apps	12%
Rental car websites/apps	12%
Previous visit	37%
Friend, co-worker, etc.	33%
Brochures/travel guides/visitor guides	6%
PureFlorida Website	5%
Special Events	4%
Television	4%
Newspapers	4%
AAA	3%
Business/conference/meeting information	3%
Travel agent	3%
Magazines	2%
Convention and Visitors Bureau	1%
Radio	1%
Other	2%
None/don't know	9%

¹Multiple responses permitted.

Punta Gorda/Englewood Beach Promotions¹

- » **19%** of visitors noticed promotions or travel stories about the Punta Gorda/Englewood Beach area on the following sources:

Base = 19% who noticed promotions



¹Multiple responses permitted.

Charlotte County Promotion Influences

- » Awareness of promotions was highest among visitors staying in paid accommodations

Saw Advertising	Paid Accommodations	Non-paid Accommodations	Day Trippers	All Visitors
Yes	29%	18%	12%	19%
No	64%	73%	84%	74%
Don't know	7%	9%	4%	7%

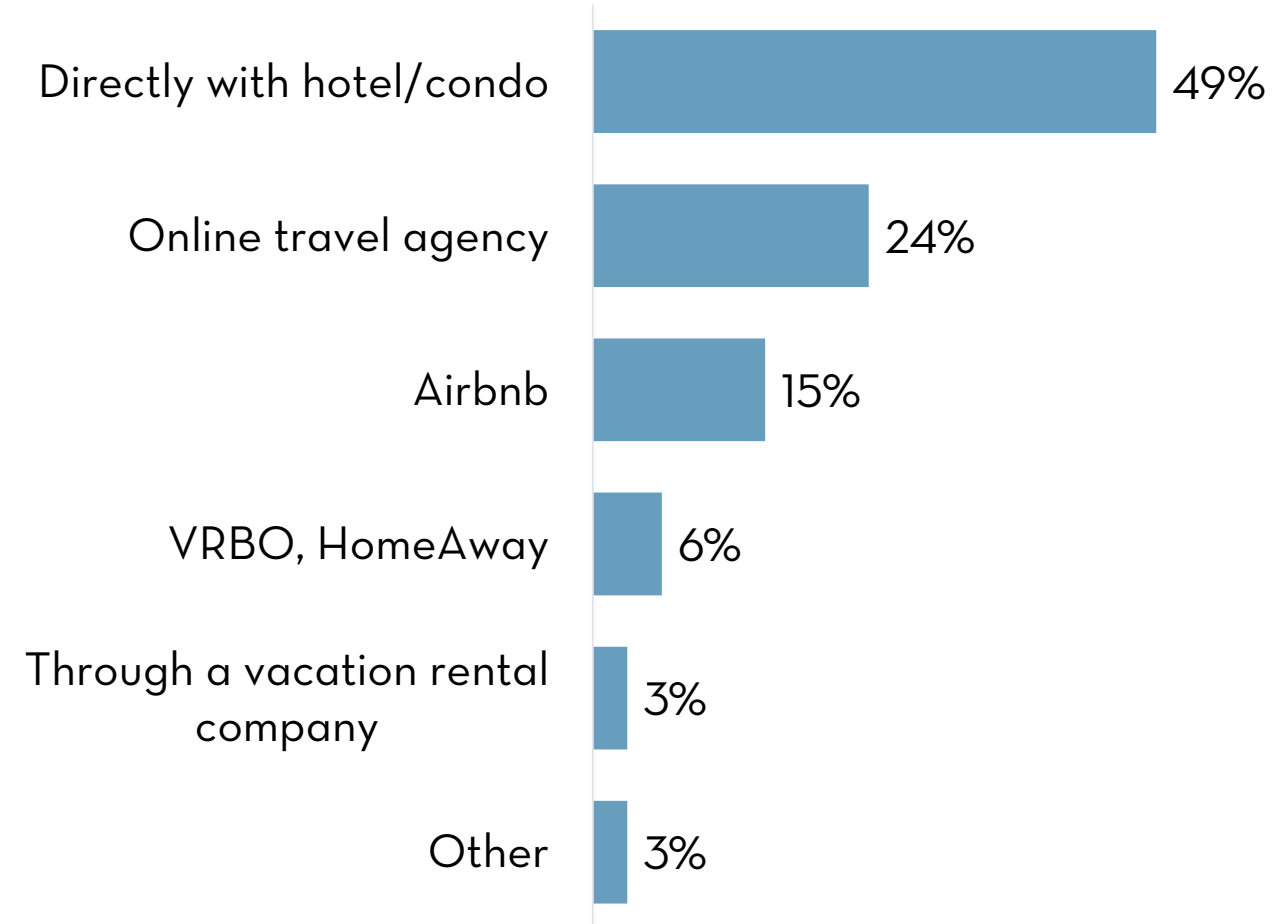
- » Visitors staying in non-paid accommodations were least impacted by promotions as a whole

Influenced by Advertising	Paid Accommodations	Non-paid Accommodations	Day Trippers	All Visitors
Yes	91% ¹	56% ¹	62% ¹	75% ¹
No	6%	35%	38%	20%
Don't know	3%	9%	0%	5%

¹ Base is percentage of visitors who noticed advertising

Paid Accommodation Booking¹

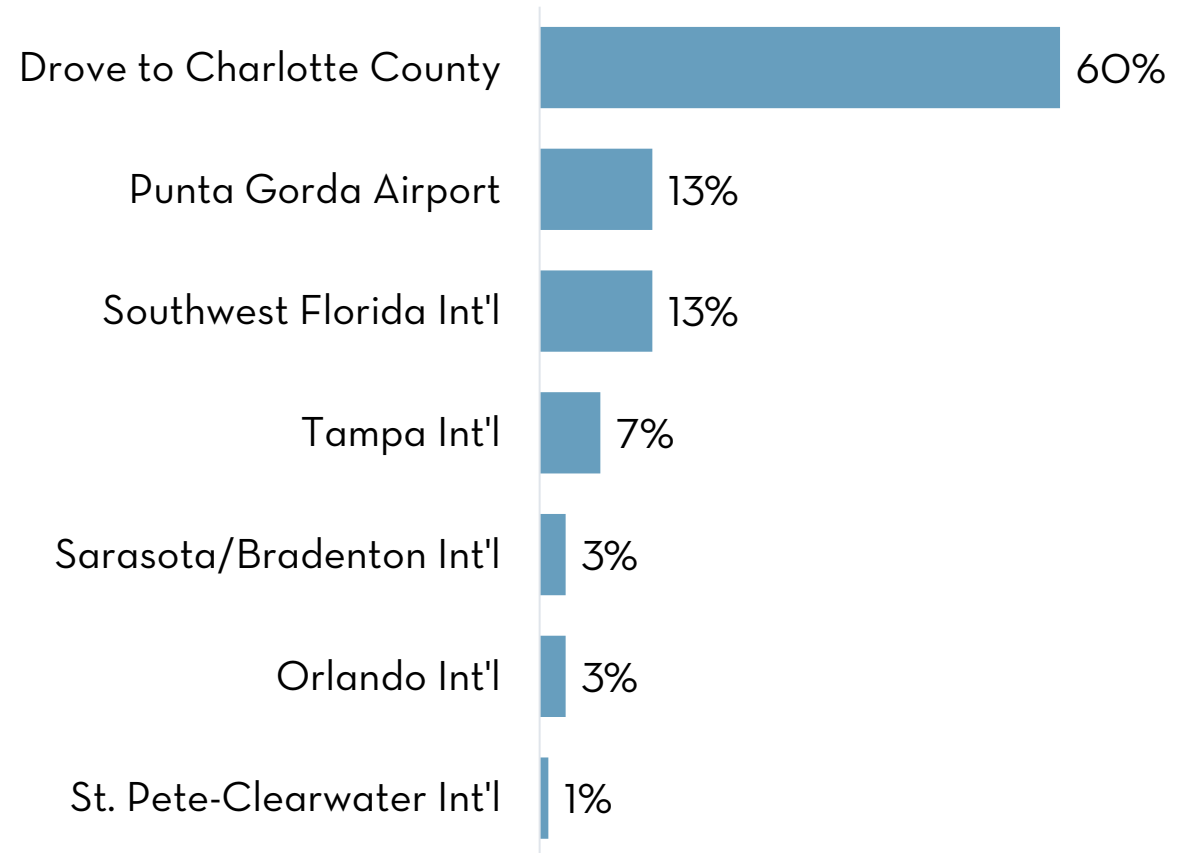
- » **Nearly 1 in 2** visitors who stayed in paid accommodations booked directly with a hotel/condo
- » Online travel agencies accounted for **nearly 1 in 4** bookings



¹ Visitors staying in paid accommodations.

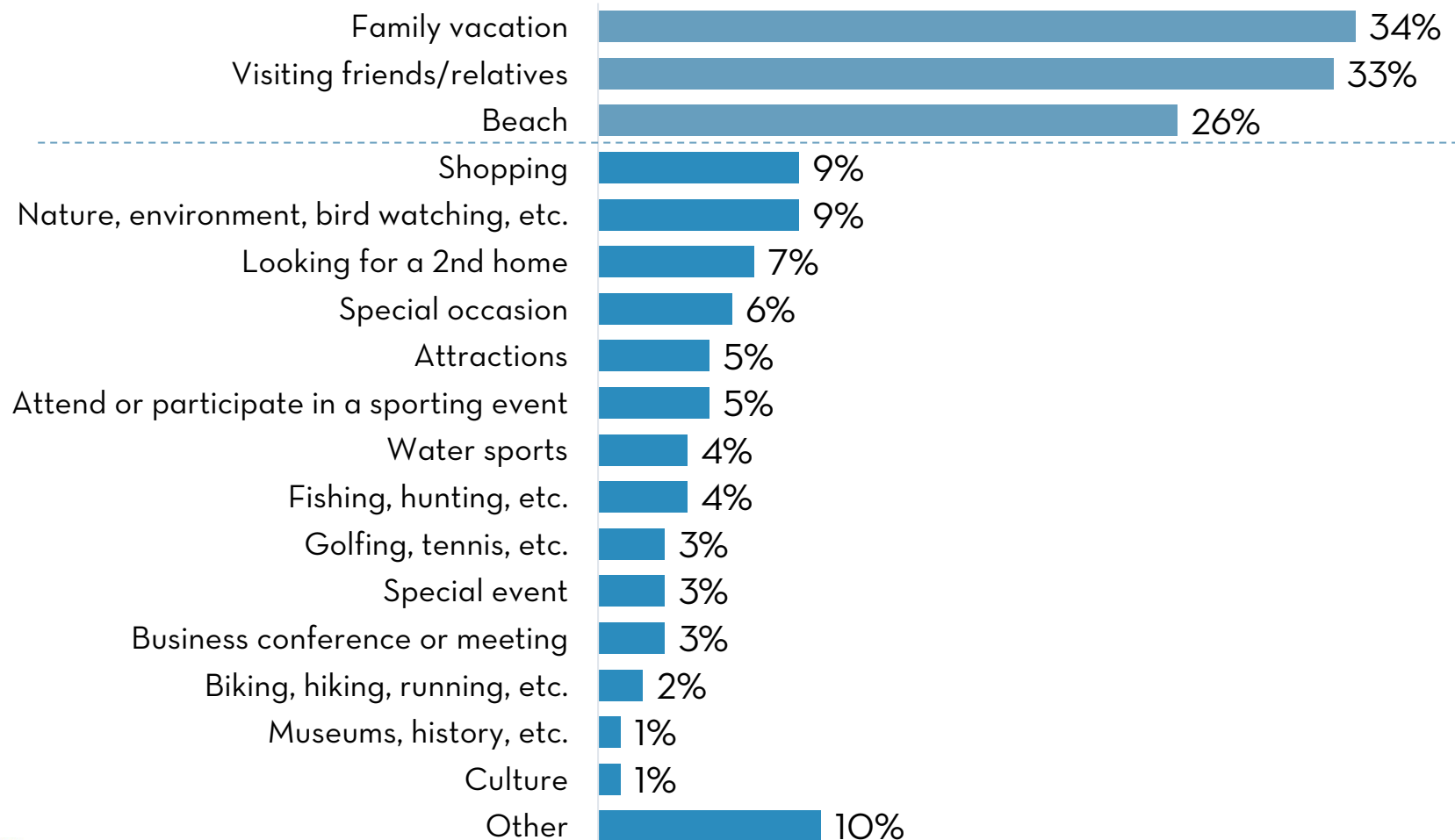
Visitor Transportation

- » **3 in 5** visitors **drove** to Punta Gorda/Englewood Beach (**60%**)
- » **1 in 8** visitors flew into Punta Gorda Airport (**13%**)
- » **1 in 8** visitors flew into Southwest Florida International Airport (**13%**)



Reasons for Visiting¹

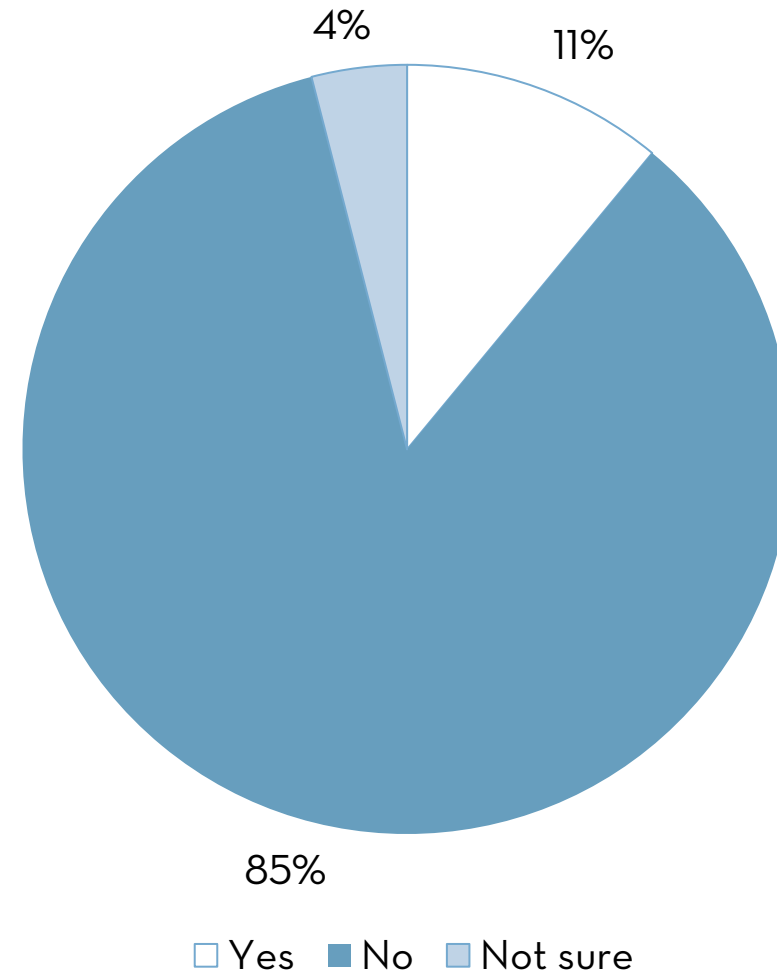
People come to Charlotte County to vacation, to visit family or friends, and to go to the beach.



¹Multiple responses permitted.

Vacation replacement¹

» **11%** of visitors came to the Punta Gorda/Englewood Beach area rather than a previously planned destination



¹Multiple responses permitted.

Why did you choose to come to this area over other vacation destinations?¹



“We haven’t visited this part of Florida yet and we love it here now!”



“We came here because of the good value and good weather that Punta Gorda provides.”



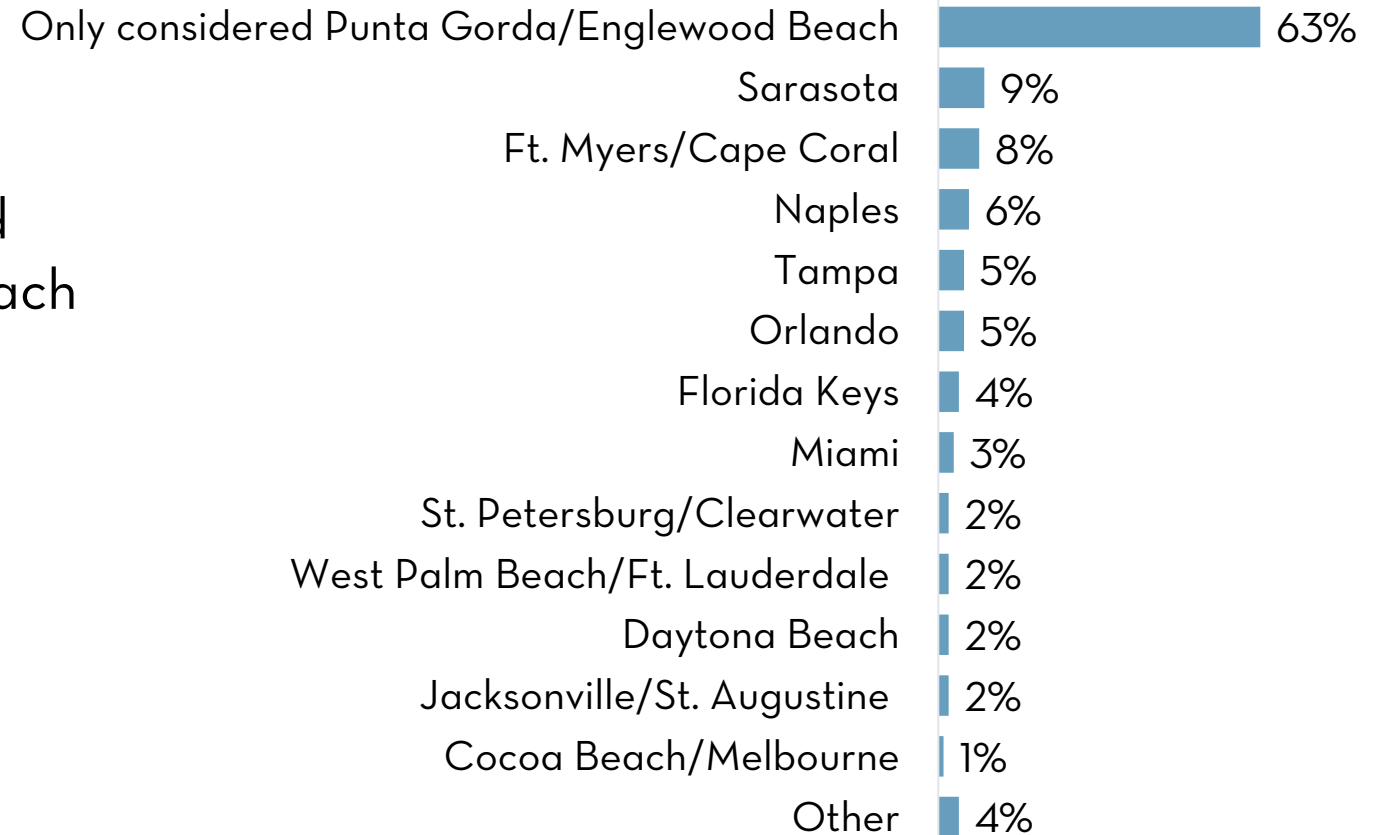
“I wanted to visit some friends down here and the flights were convenient, so we decided to come.”



“We have a second home here and decided to come down for the summer.”

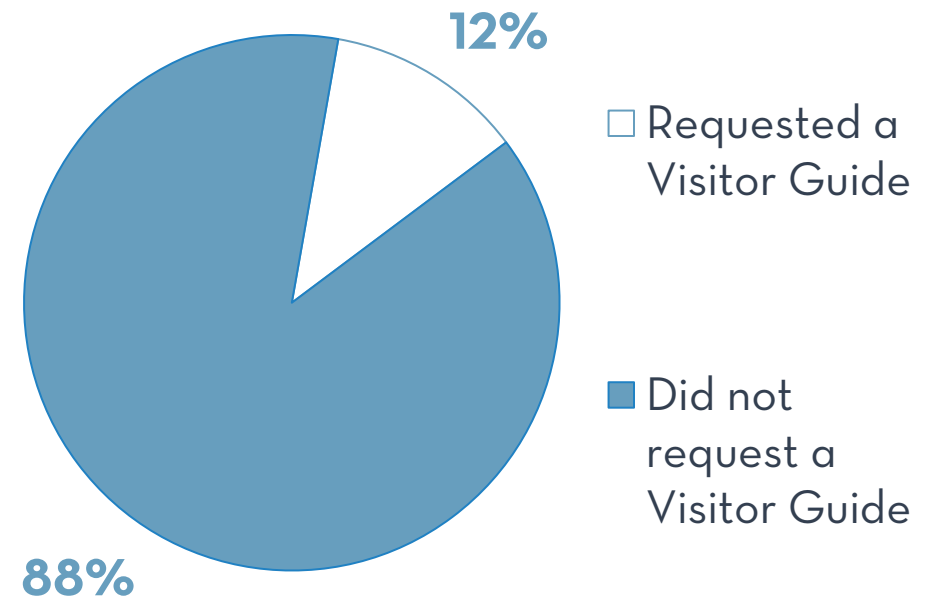
Other Destinations Considered¹

- » **Nearly 2 in 3** visitors only considered visiting Punta Gorda/Englewood Beach when planning their trip
- » **Nearly 1 in 10** visitors considered Sarasota and Ft. Myers/Cape Coral



Visitors Guide¹

- » **12%** of visitors requested a Visitors Guide before their trip
 - » **6%** requested a print version
 - » **6%** requested an online version
- » Visitors Guide received a rating of **7.8 out of 10.0**¹

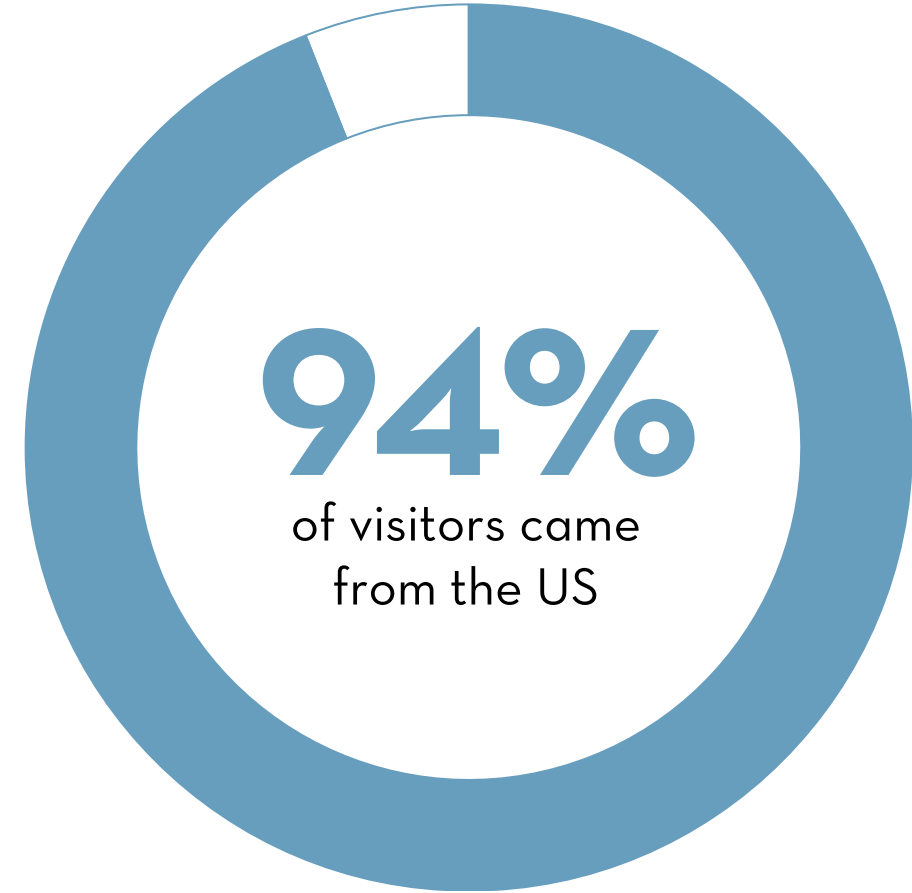
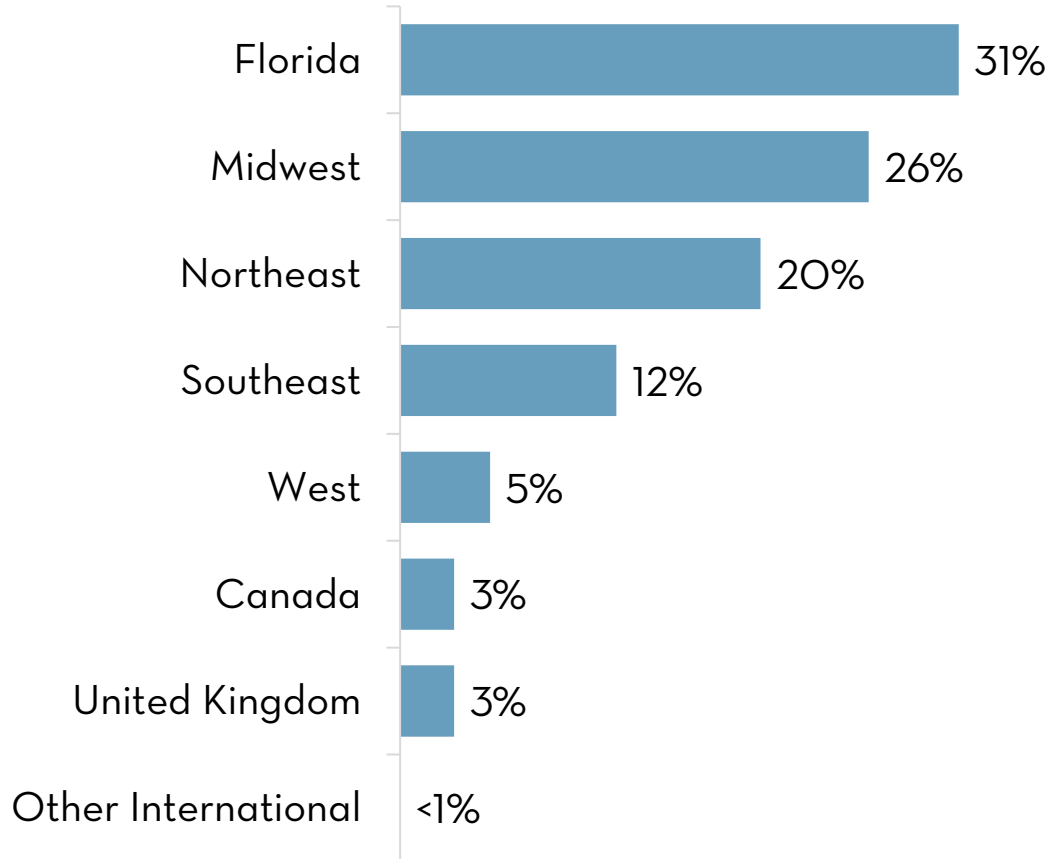


¹Rated on a 10-point scale where 10 is extremely useful and 1 is not at all useful.

Visitor Journey – Traveler Profile



Origin of Visitors – By Region



Origin of Visitors – By State

Percentage of Visitors

Florida	31%
Ohio	7%
Pennsylvania	6%
New York	5%
Illinois	4%
Michigan	4%
New Jersey	4%
Canada	3%
United Kingdom	3%



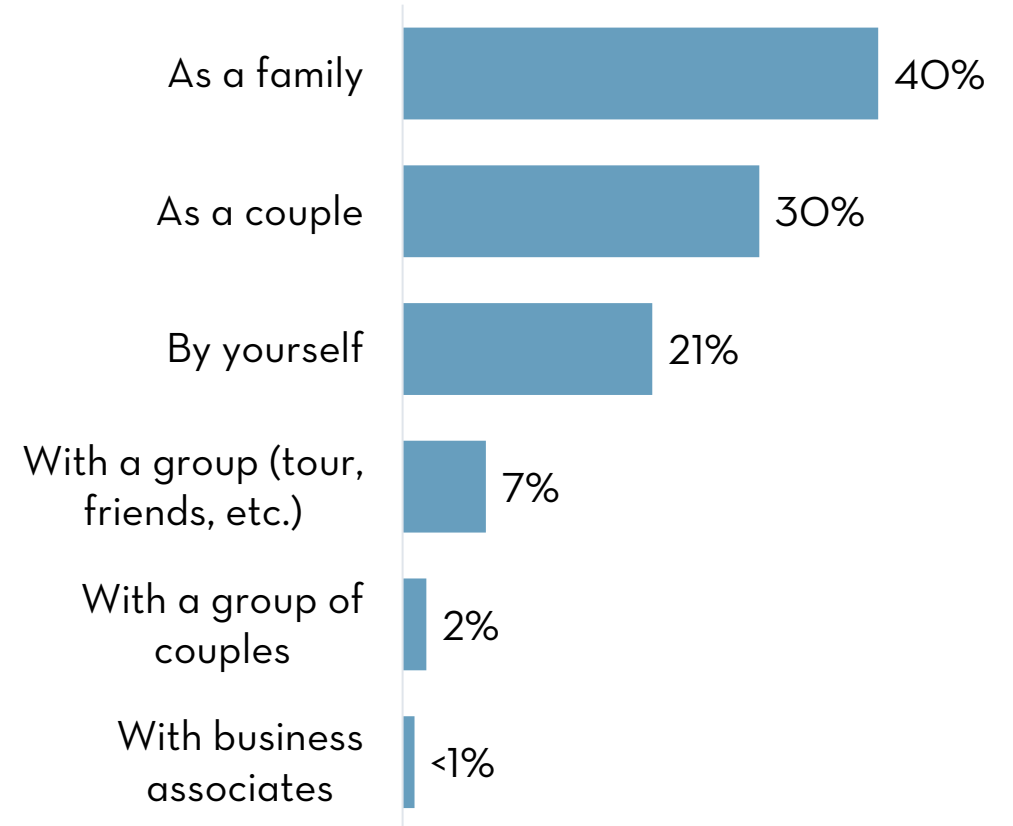
Origin of Visitors – By Market

Market	% of All Visitors	Market	% of Overnight Visitors
Fort Myers-Naples	8%	New York ¹	9%
Sarasota-Bradenton	7%	Chicago	8%
New York ¹	6%	Orlando-Daytona Beach-Melbourne	6%
Tampa-St. Petersburg	6%	Cleveland-Akron	5%
Orlando-Daytona Beach-Melbourne	4%	Washington DC-Hagerstown	4%
Chicago	3%	Grand Rapids	3%
Atlanta	2%	Burlington, VT-Plattsburgh, NY	3%
Cleveland-Akron	2%		
Harrisburg-Lancaster, PA	2%		
Miami-Ft. Lauderdale	2%		
Washington DC-Hagerstown	2%		

¹NYC metro area includes parts of New York, New Jersey & Connecticut.

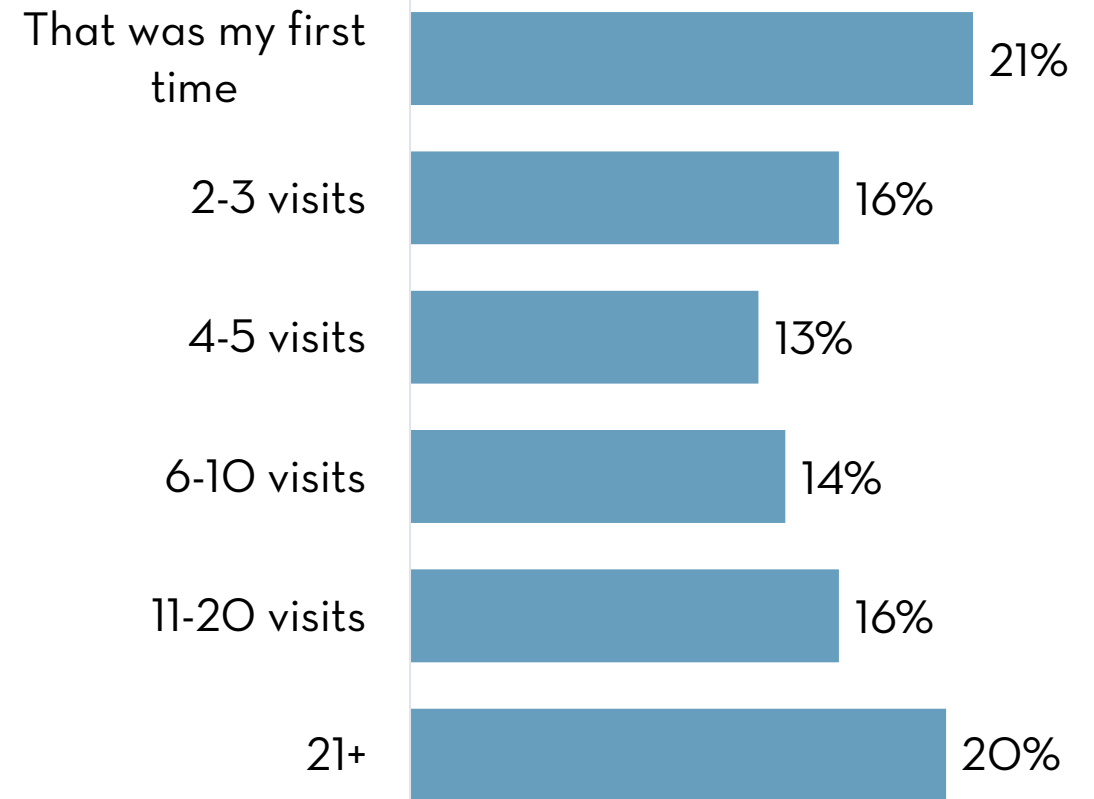
Travel Parties

- » The typical visitor traveled in a party composed of **2.8** people
- » **40%** traveled with at least one person under the age of 20
- » **2 in 5** traveled as a family
- » **3 in 10** visitors traveled as a couple



Typical Punta Gorda/Englewood Beach Visitor

- » Typical visitors spent **5.9** nights in Punta Gorda/Englewood Beach
 - » When including long term visitors¹, average nights stayed is **8.9**
- » **1 in 5** were first time visitors
- » **Over 1 in 3** had visited more than 10 times



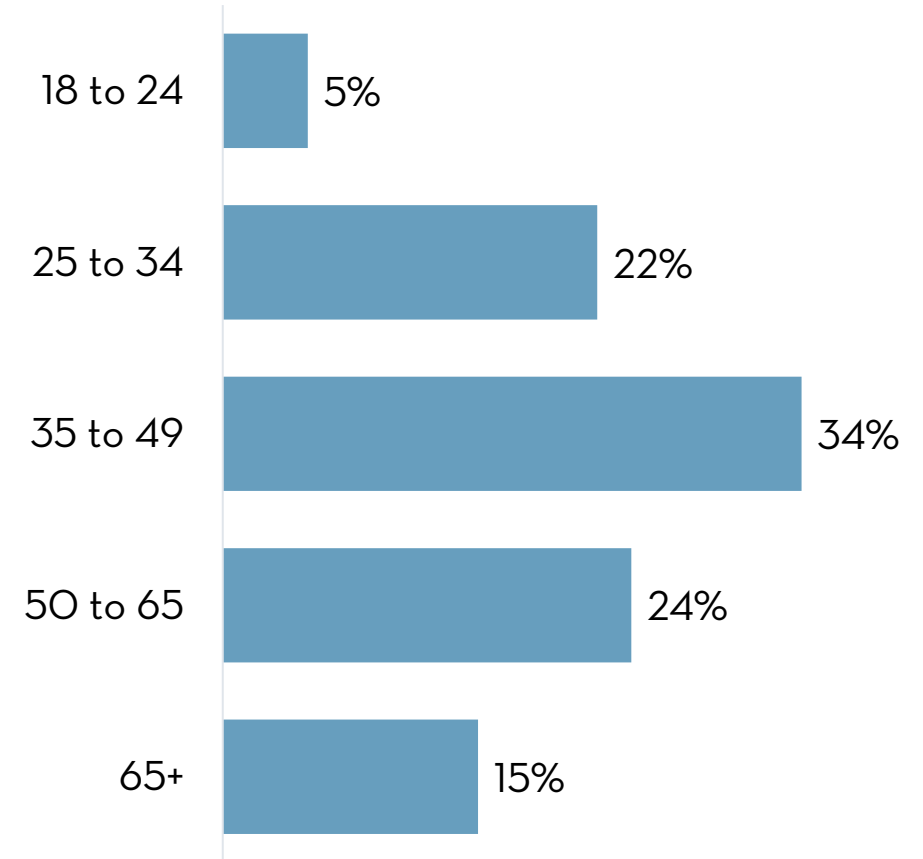
¹Visitors who stayed longer than 1 month

Punta Gorda/Englewood Length of Stay

- » Visitors who stayed in non-paid accommodations spent more time in Punta Gorda/Englewood Beach than other visitor types

	Paid Accommodations	Non-paid Accommodations	Day Trippers	Average
<i>Length of Stay¹</i>	<i>6.6</i>	<i>10.4</i>	<i>1.0</i>	5.9
<i>Travel Party Size</i>	<i>3.0</i>	<i>2.8</i>	<i>2.6</i>	2.8

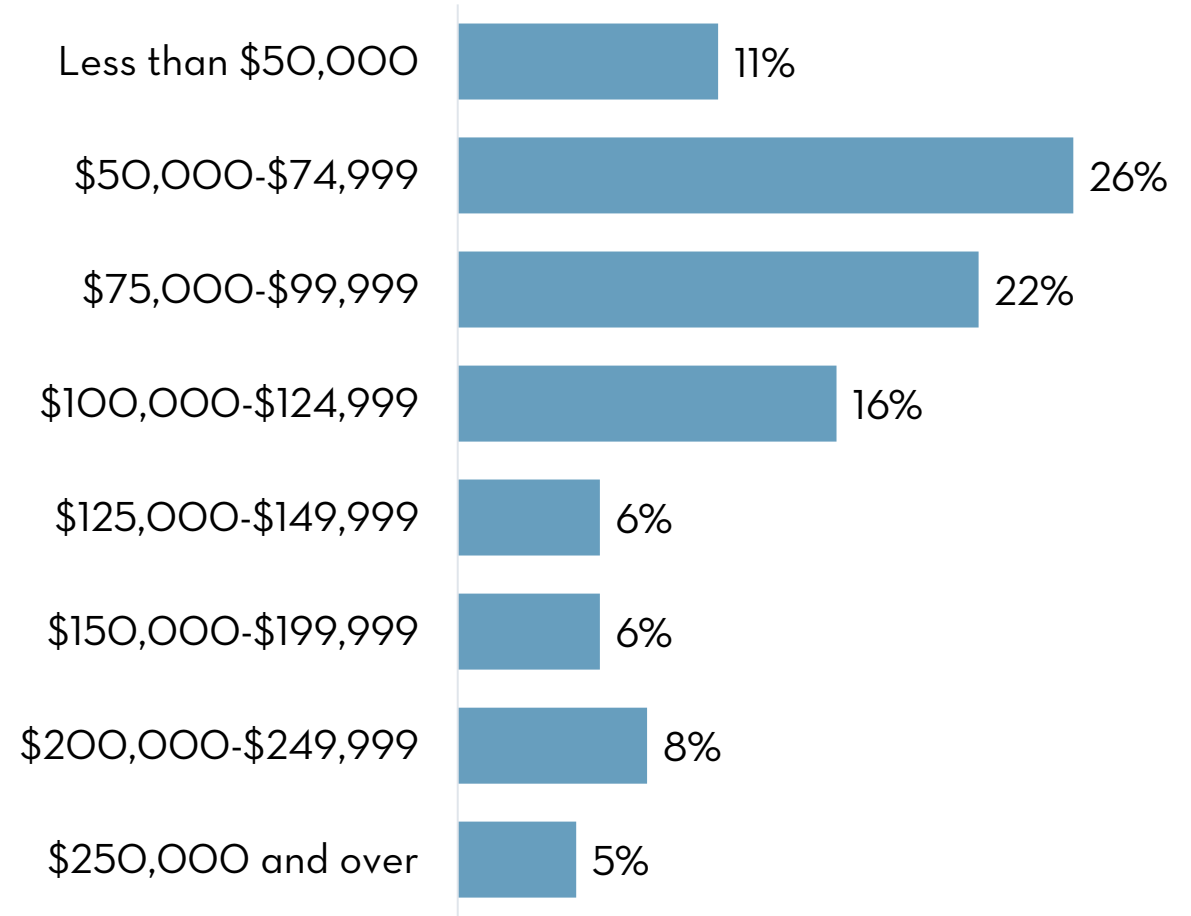
» **45** is the median age of July - Sept visitors



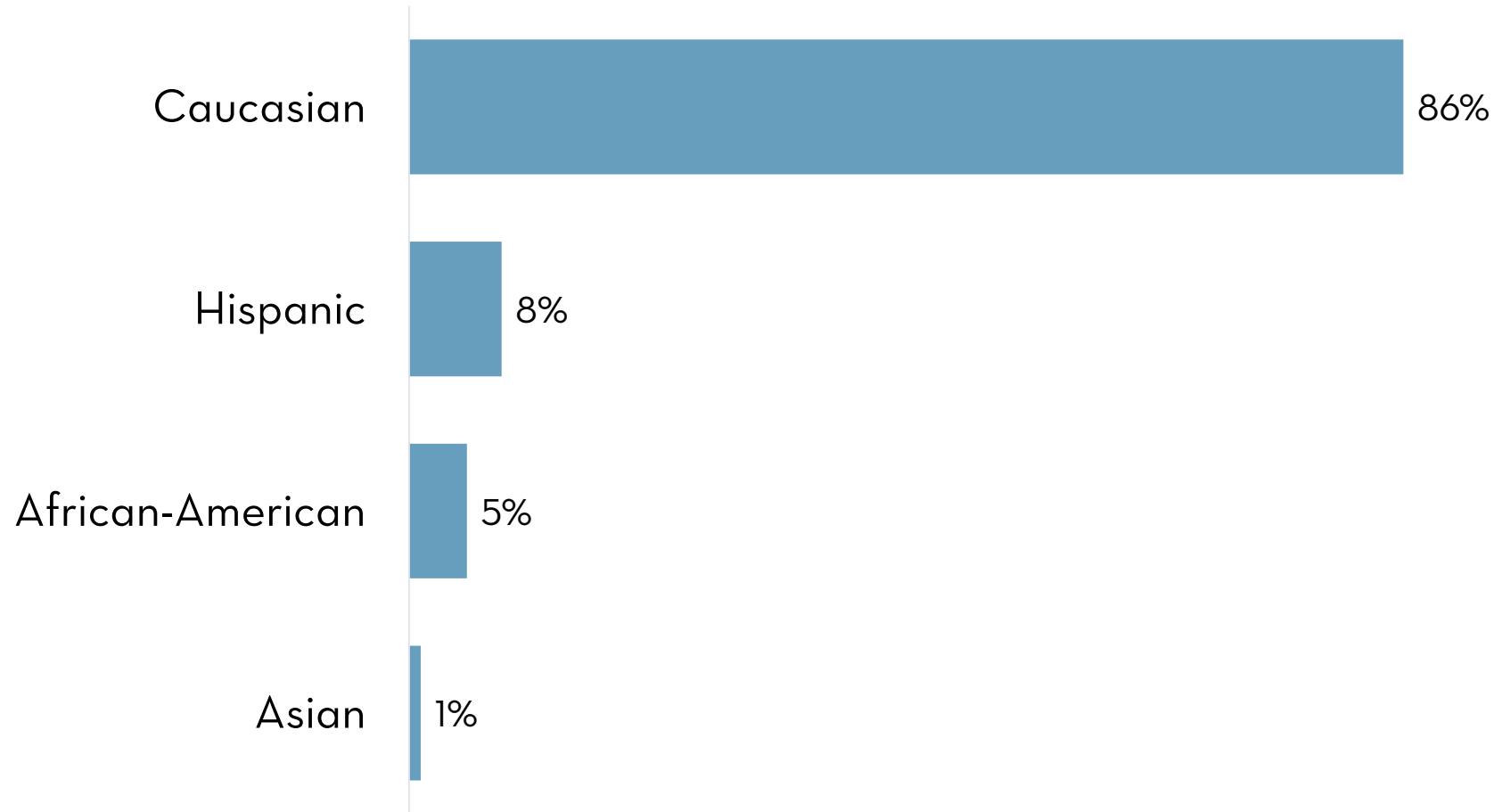
Household Income

Median Household Income

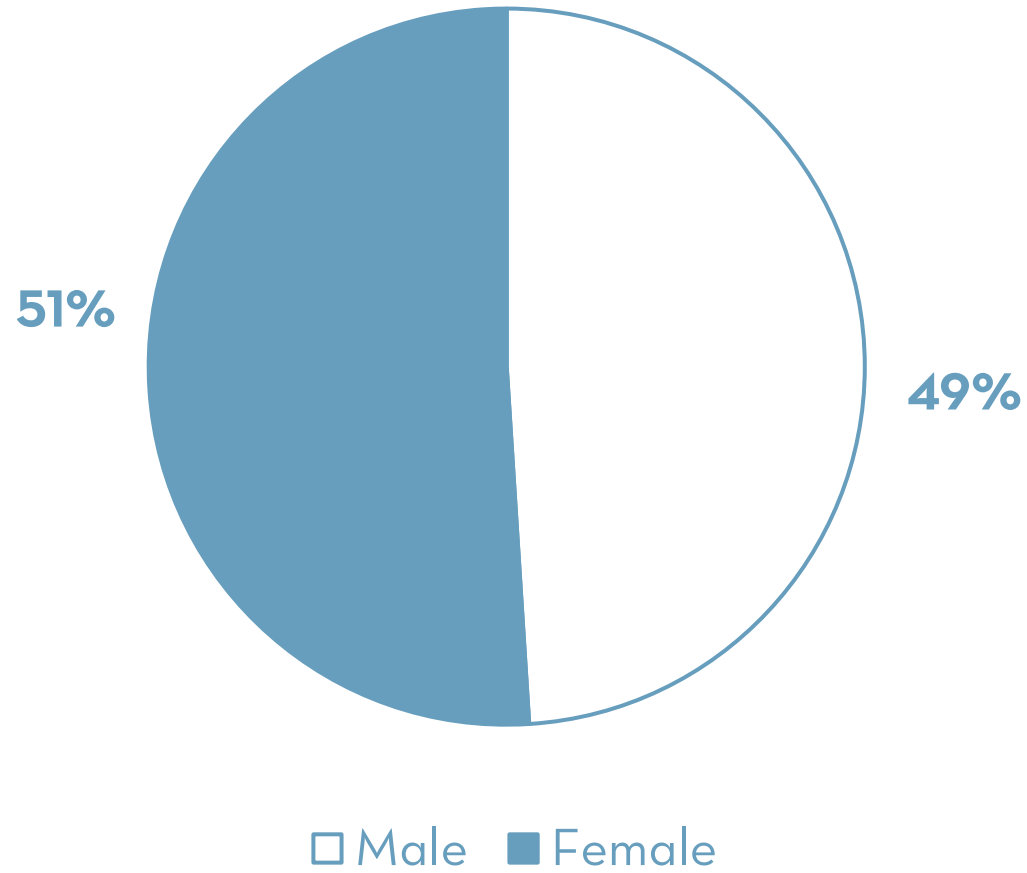
- » **\$89,800** is the median household income for July – Sept visitors
- » **Nearly 1 in 5** visitors had a household income in excess of \$150,000



Race/Ethnicity



Gender

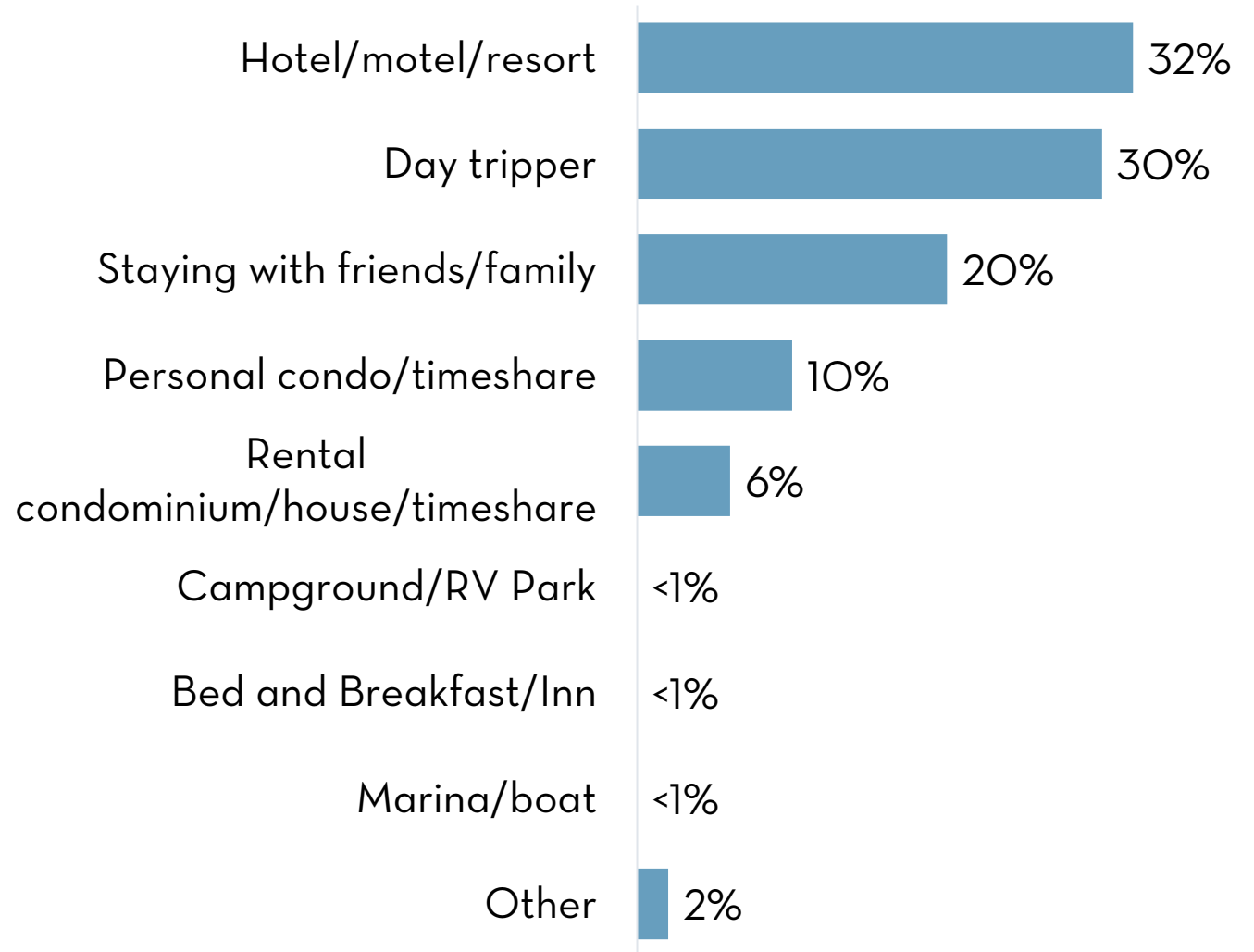


Visitor Journey – Trip Experience

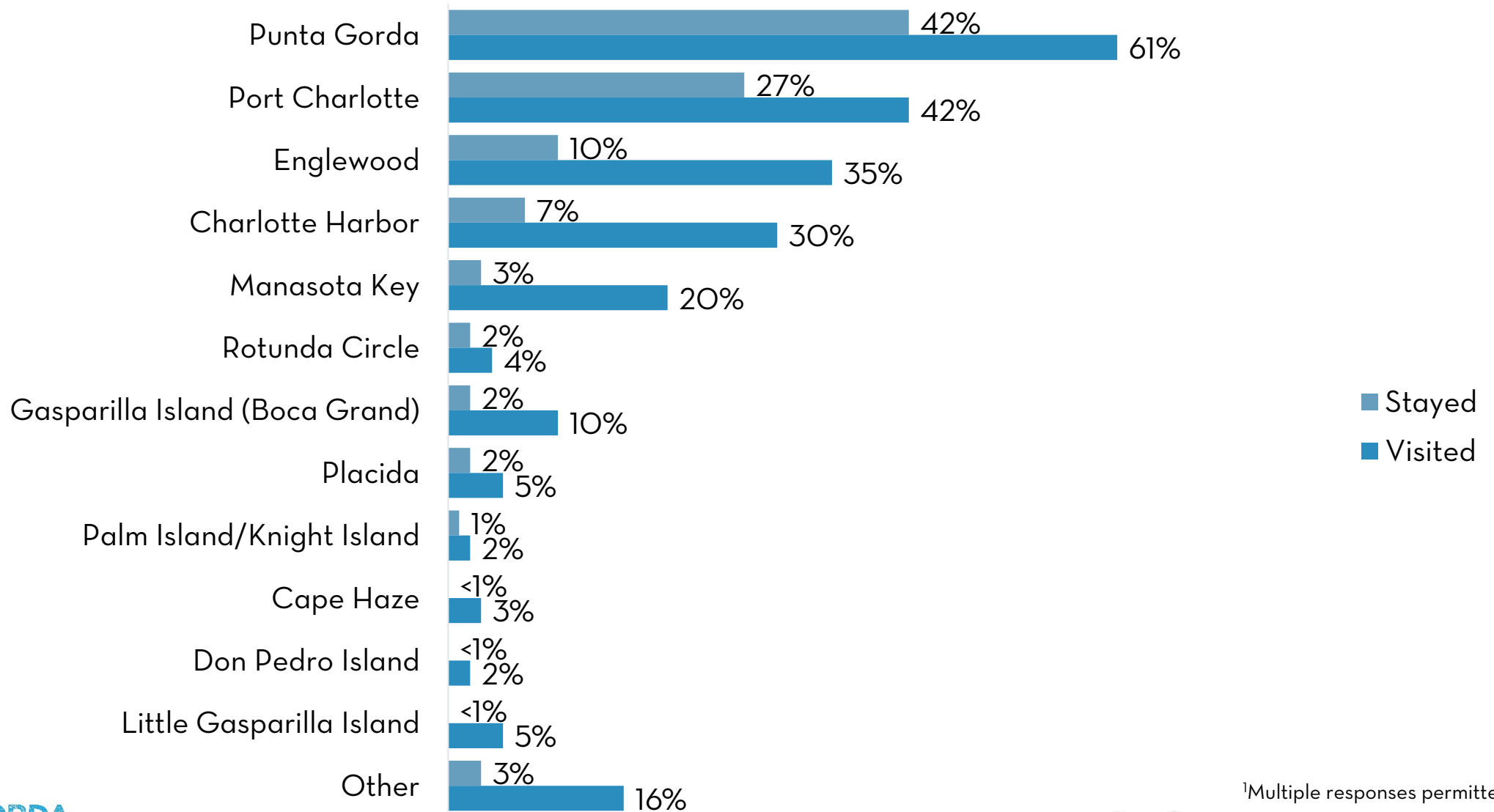


Visitor Accommodations

- » **70%** of visitors stayed overnight in Punta Gorda/Englewood Beach
- » **1 in 5** visitors stayed in a with friends and family
- » **Nearly 1 in 3** visitors stayed in hotels/motels



Area Stayed vs. Areas Visited¹



Visitor Activities¹

- » Visitors love to hang out at the beach, spend time with friends and relatives, and enjoy area restaurants while in town
- » Visitors are also enticed to go shopping and enjoy nature while in Charlotte County

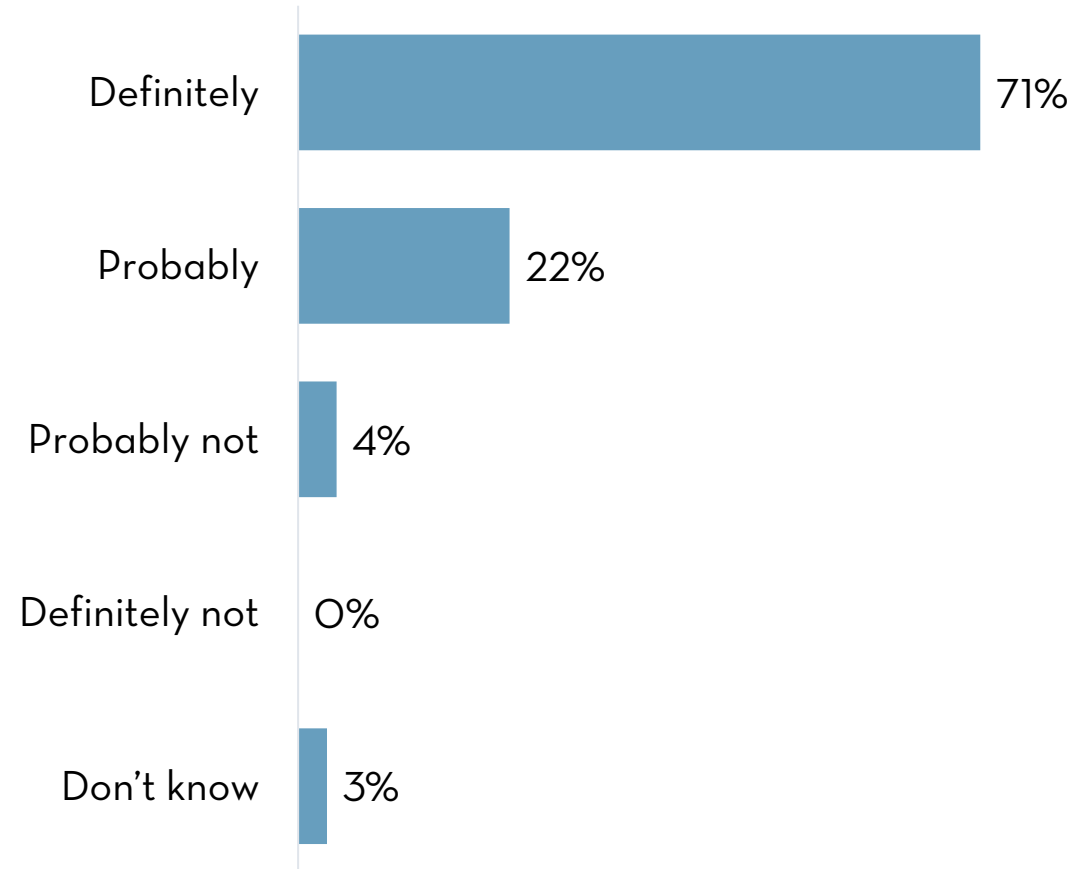


Visitor Journey – Post-Trip Evaluation



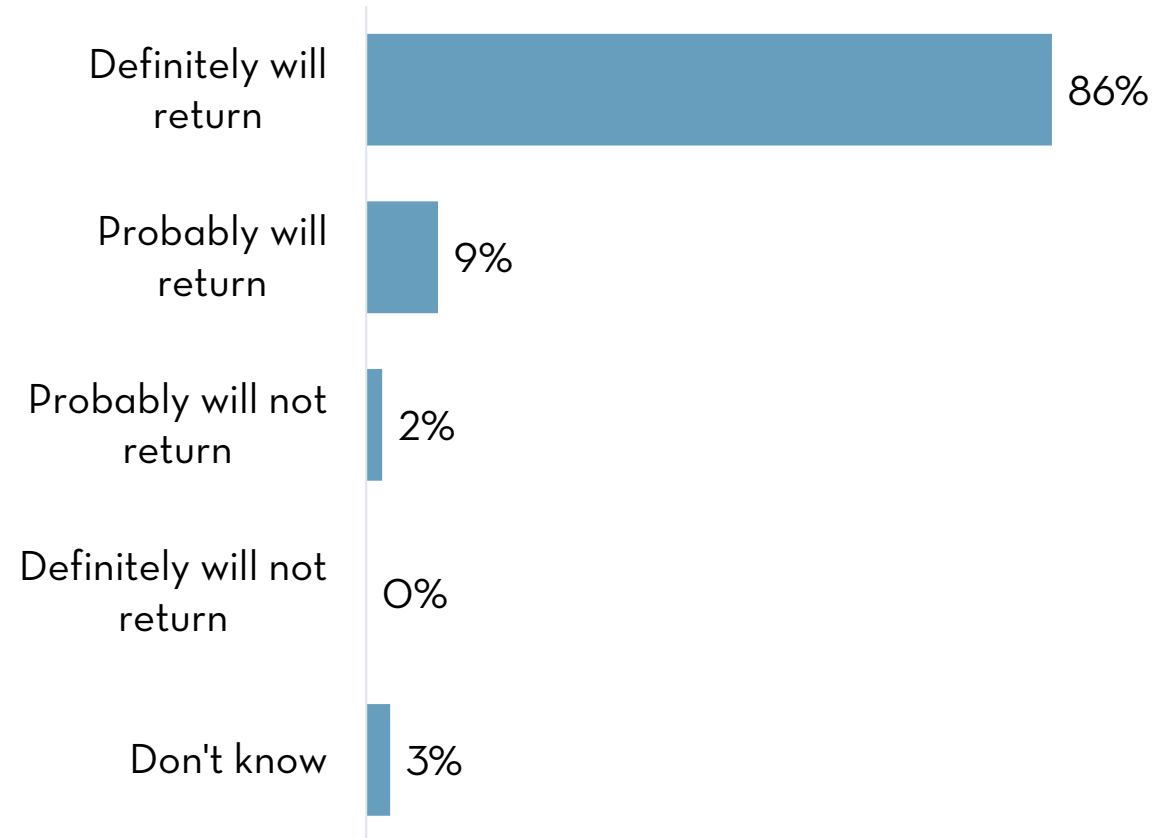
Visitor Satisfaction

» **71%** would definitely recommend Punta Gorda/Englewood Beach to a friend



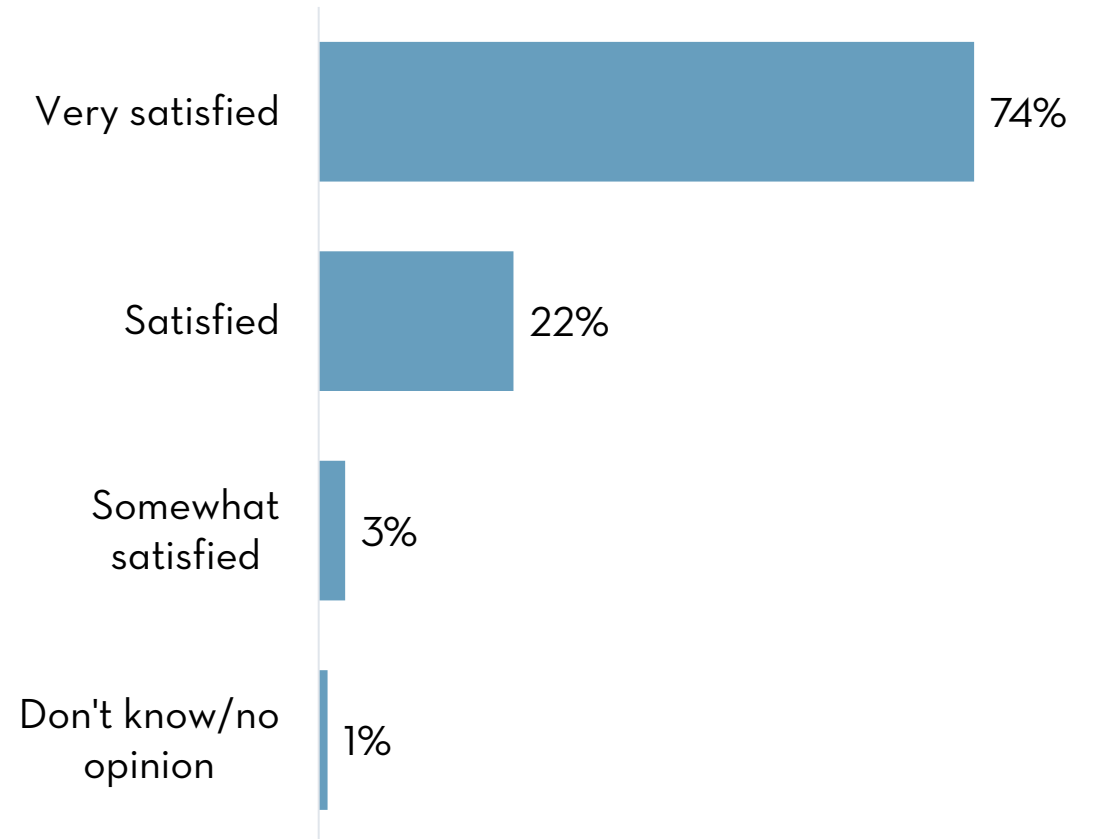
Visitor Satisfaction

» **86%** will definitely return



Visitor Satisfaction

» **96%** were satisfied or very satisfied with their stay (**74%** were very satisfied)



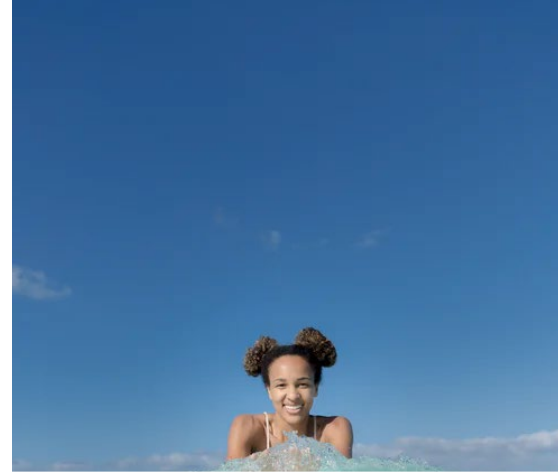
If you were talking to a friend, how would you describe Charlotte County as a place to visit?



"We encountered lovely, friendly people at our hotel, restaurants and the airport!"



"I love this area! It's very fun and has lots of places to go and check out and tons of really great views."



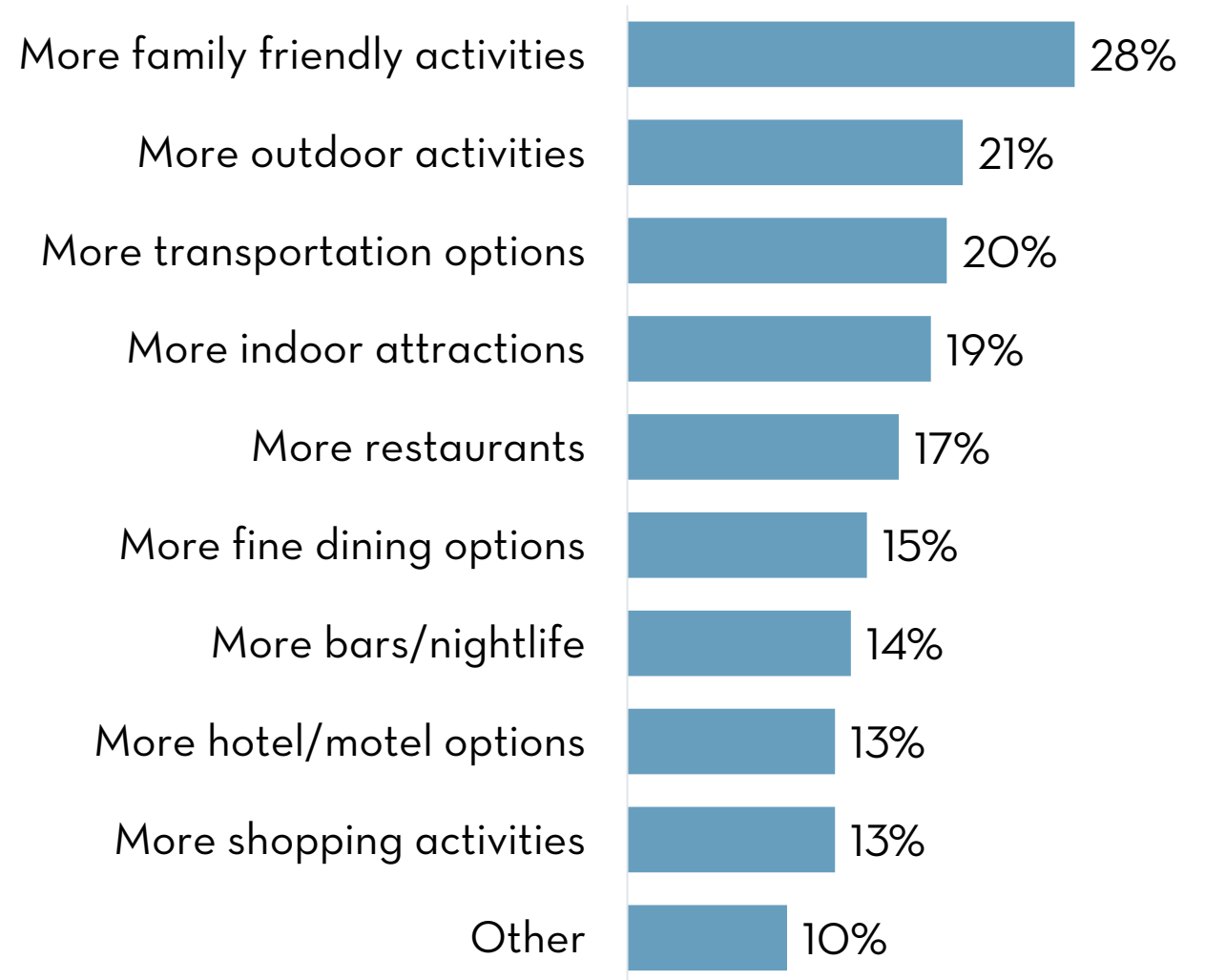
"I would tell them it feels like heaven there! You're literally stress free at the beach. I felt I could just be me and do what ever I want honestly!"



"Punta Gorda is a great place to visit! We loved it so much that we are wanting to move here and settle down."

What type of attraction or amenity would make your return to the area more desirable if it were available?

- » **Over 1 in 4** visitors mentioned more family friendly activities as something that would make a return visit more desirable
- » **1 in 5** visitors said that more outdoor activities and more transportation options would make Charlotte County more desirable



¹multiple responses permitted.

Year-to-Year comparisons



YEAR-TO-YEAR COMPARISONS

Trip Planning Cycle	July - Sept 2021	July - Sept 2022
A week or two in advance	32%	27%
A month or so in advance	20%	28%
2 months in advance	15%	18%
3 months in advance	12%	12%
4 to 5 months in advance	9%	7%
6 months of more in advance	11%	8%
Average Trip planning cycle (in days)	61	57

Top Trip Planning Sources	July - Sept 2021	July - Sept 2022
Previous visit	29%	37%
Talk to family/friends	29%	33%
Google search	22% ¹	32%

¹Question set up differently in 2021

YEAR-TO-YEAR COMPARISONS

Top Reasons for Visiting	July - Sept 2021	July - Sept 2022
Vacation	26%	34%
Visit friends and relatives	28%	33%
Beach	20%	26%
Shopping	5%	9%
Nature activities	4%	9%
Looking for a second home	NA	7%
Special occasion	5%	6%

Visitor Guide and Transportation	July - Sept 2021	July - Sept 2022
Requested a Visitors Guide	6%	12%
Drove to Charlotte County	57%	60%
Flew to Charlotte County	43%	40%

YEAR-TO-YEAR COMPARISONS

Market of Origin	July - Sept 2021	July - Sept 2022
Fort Myers- Naples	13%	8%
Sarasota-Bradenton	7%	7%
New York ¹	4%	6%
Tampa - St. Petersburg	4%	6%
Orlando	4%	4%
Chicago	2%	3%

Region of Origin	July - Sept 2021	July - Sept 2022
Southeast (including Florida)	49%	43%
Midwest	24%	26%
Northeast	18%	20%
West	6%	5%
International	3%	6%

YEAR-TO-YEAR COMPARISONS

Travel Parties	July - Sept 2021	July - Sept 2022
Travel Party Size	3.0	2.8
Traveled with Children	53%	40%
Traveled as a family	53%	40%
Traveled as a couple	22%	30%

Visitor Profile	July - Sept 2021	July - Sept 2022
Median Age	42	45
Gender (Female)	49%	51%
Median Household Income	\$88,600	\$89,800
White/Caucasian	80%	86%
Hispanic	10%	8%
African American	9%	5%

YEAR-TO-YEAR COMPARISONS

Accommodations	July - Sept 2021	July - Sept 2022
Day Tripper	29%	30%
Hotel/Motel	34%	32%
Friends/Family Home	17%	20%
Personal Second Home	7%	10%
Vacation Rental Home/Airbnb	10%	6%
Camping/RV	1%	<1%

Trips Experience	July - Sept 2021	July - Sept 2022
Average nights stayed	6.1	5.9
1 st Time Visitor	21%	21%
10+ Prior Visits to Charlotte County	39%	36%

YEAR-TO-YEAR COMPARISONS

Top Activities	July - Sept 2021	July - Sept 2022
Beach	44%	55%
Restaurants	48%	54%
Visit friends and family	37%	41%
Shopping	25%	34%
Nature related	25%	27%
Fishing, hunting, etc.	15%	13%
Biking, hiking, running, etc.	9%	13%
Looking for a second home	12%	13%
Water sports	9%	12%
Bars/nightclubs	10%	11%
Golfing, tennis, etc.	6%	10%
Attractions	7%	10%

YEAR-TO-YEAR COMPARISONS

Average Daily Trip Spending	July - Sept 2021	July - Sept 2022
Accommodations	\$63	\$58
Restaurants	\$71	\$74
Groceries	\$25	\$29
Shopping	\$28	\$36
Entertainment	\$45	\$43
Transportation	\$25	\$29
Other	\$4	\$13
Total	\$261	\$282

Average Total Trip Spending	July - Sept 2021	July - Sept 2022
Accommodations	\$384	\$343
Restaurants	\$433	\$438
Groceries	\$153	\$172
Shopping	\$171	\$213
Entertainment	\$275	\$255
Transportation	\$152	\$172
Other	\$24	\$77
Total	\$1,592	\$1,670

YEAR-TO-YEAR COMPARISONS

Post Trip Evaluation	July - Sept 2021	July - Sept 2022
Will return to Charlotte County	98%	95%
Satisfied or very satisfied with their stay	96%	96%
Would definitely recommend to friend	96%	93%



Visitor Tracking Study

- » **413** interviews were completed with Charlotte County visitors at public areas, beaches, the airport and with online surveys.

Data Collection

- » Visitor interviews were completed in person and online between **July 1st, 2022 and September 31st, 2022**

Punta Gorda/Englewood Beach VCB Visitor Tracking Report

July – September 2022

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