



Prepared: August 2019



#### **Topline Takeaways**

Nationwide leisure travel held steady heading into the first quarter of 2019, and TravelTrakAmerica Travel Confidence indicators suggest that travel demand will hold steady moving forward

- First Quarter 2019: Americans reported taking 286 million leisure person trips in the first quarter of 2019, a level relatively even (-0.2%) with the number of person trips logged nationally for the opening quarter of 2018. However, while leisure travel held steady, a drop in business person trips (-14.6%) pulled overall travel -2.9 percent down below prior (record) year levels.
- Looking Ahead: While travel and tourism is generally at peak levels, TravelTrakAmerica Travel Confidence indicators show that interest in travel continues strong. More than nine-out-of-10 travelers (91%) surveyed in the first quarter said they were more interested (49%) or just as interested (42%) in traveling as they were compared to a year ago. However, Travel Confidence indicators also showed that affordability (i.e., 39% of travelers see travel as less affordable than a year ago) and personal finances (i.e., 29% of travelers feel their personal finances are less conducive to travel) are the two greatest concerns that could slow conversion of this strong interest in travel into actual trips.



#### **Topline Takeaways (...continued)**

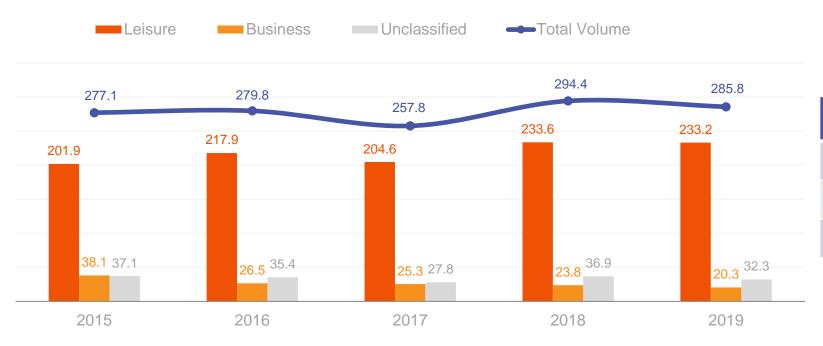
#### Within the national travel marketplace...

- Alternative Accommodations Become Alternatives: While hotels held steady as the most popular type of accommodations used by overnight travelers (i.e., 59% of overnight travelers used hotels in both 2019 Q1 and 2018 Q1), Sharing Economy (+3 points to 6% of travelers in 2019 Q1) and B&B's (+2 points to 5%) accommodations attracted a growing share of travelers in the opening quarter of the year. As overnight travelers' use of private homes (-2 points), rental condos (-1 point), timeshares (-1 point) and second home/condos (-1 point) declined in the first quarter, these shifts in the marketplace suggest that travelers are trading one type of alternative accommodations (e.g., rental condo, timeshare) for another (e.g., sharing economy), more so than trading use of hotel accommodations for alternative accommodations.
- Personal Vehicle Use Declines: Travelers' use of personal vehicles declined in the first quarter of 2019, on both a primary mode of transport (- 2 points to 73%) and multi-mode of transport (- 4 points to 74%) basis. By comparison, use of other top modes of transport (i.e., airplanes and rental cars) held relatively steady.



#### Travel volume returns to earlier levels in Q1 2019, following last year's spike

Travel Volume (Person-Trips) Q1: 2015 – 2019 (000,000)



	% Change 2019 vs. 2018	% Change 2019 vs. 2017				
Total	-2.9%	10.9%				
Leisure	-0.2%	14.0%				
Business	-14.6%	-19.8%				

Green = improvement; Red = drop

Travel Volume - Q4a and Q1b. (Trip Level, Projected Q4a/d Weight)



# Looking Ahead: Travel Confidence measures indicate that nearly all travelers (91%) are more interested/just as interested in traveling as they were a year ago. However, travel affordability and personal finances could be a concern

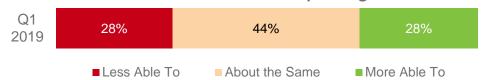
#### How has your interest in taking a leisure trip changed?



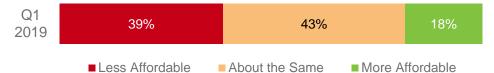
# Thinking about the different demands on your time, how has your ability to take a leisure trip changed?



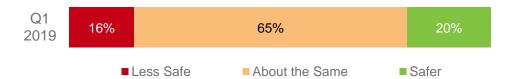
# Given your personal finances, how has your ability to take a leisure or leisure/business trip changed?



Thinking about how much you have to spend for airfare, accommodations, ground transportation, shopping entertainment, etc., is the cost of leisure travel now ...



#### Would you say that, for people like you, travel is ...



Q38. Current feelings/situation regarding a trip compared to a year ago (Interview Level; Demo Weight)



# Accommodations: Overnighters usually stay in hotels or private homes, but shared economy properties gain

#### **All Accommodations Types**

Trend Q1: 2015 - 2019

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	%-Pt. Change 2019 vs. 2018*
Hotel	55%	56%	58%	59%	59%	0
B&B	2	3	3	3	5	+2
Shared Economy	na	3	3	3	6	+3
Private Home	39	36	33	34	32	-2
Personal Second Home/Condo	4	4	4	4	3	-1
Rental Condo	2	3	2	2	1	-1
Rental Home	2	2	2	2	1	-1
Time Share	2	3	2	2	1	-1
RV/Tent	2	3	2	2	2	-1
Other	4	5	5	4	3	-1

Green = gain; Red = drop \*decimals rounded





### Mode of Travel: Fewer travelers note multiple modes of transportation ...

#### **All Modes Travel**

Trend Q1: 2015 - 2019

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	%-Pt. Change 2019 vs. 2018*
Own Auto/Truck	78%	79%	76%	78%	74%	-4%
Airplane	19	15	19	18	17	-1%
Rental Car	11	11	13	10	10	-1%
Bus	4	4	4	4	2	-1%
Train	4	3	3	3	2	-1%
Shared (Uber, Lyft, etc.)	na	na	5	6	3	-2%
Taxi	na	na	4	3	2	-2%
Ship/Boat	2	2	3	2	2	-1%
Camper/RV	2	2	2	2	1	-1%
Motorcoach/Group Tour	2	2	2	2	0	-1%
Motorcycle	2	2	2	2	1	-1%
Other	4	4	4	4	2	-2%

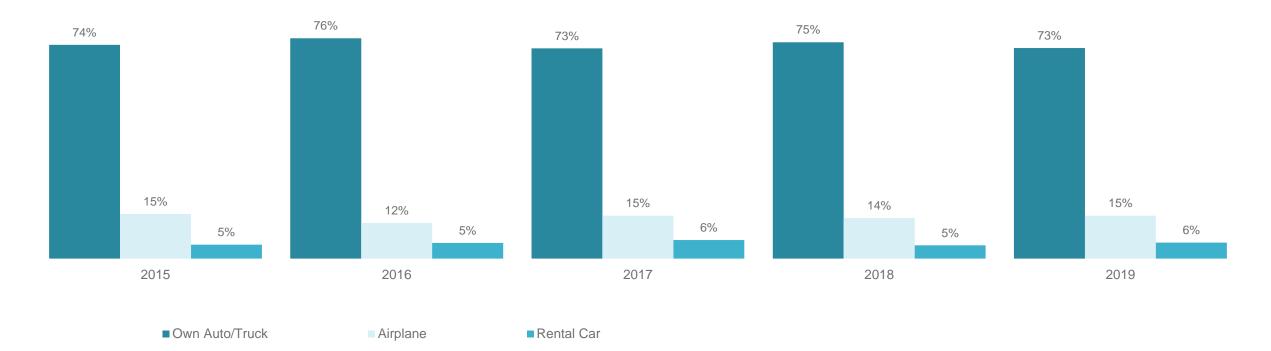
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Q2a. Modes of Transportation Used on Trip (Trip Level; Demo Weight)



### ... while the leading choices mirror the past

# Primary Mode of Travel – Top 3 Trend Q1: 2015 - 2019

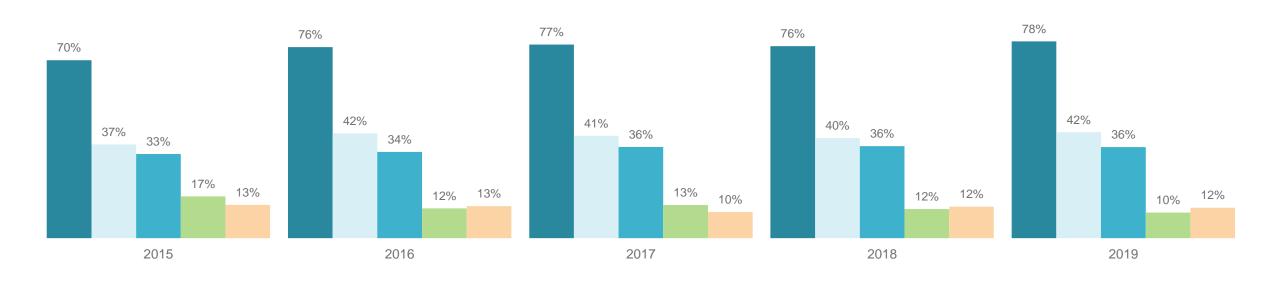


Q2b. Primary Mode of Transportation (Trip Level; Demo Weight)



#### Roughly three-quarters travel for leisure, with VFR holding a slight edge over other reasons





Personal Business/Other

Q1b. Primary Purpose of Trip (Trip Level; Demo Weight)

Leisure - VFR

Leisure - Non-VFR

VFR=Visit friends and relatives

Business



Leisure

#### Visitors tend to stay nearby

• In general, travelers stay close-to-home, taking most of their trips in the same census division where they live. However, four census divisions draw a relatively larger share of out-of-region visitors ... roughly a third to half of visitors to the East South Central, Mountain, Middle Atlantic, and South Atlantic regions live elsewhere.

#### **Visitor Source by Census Division**

#### **Census Divisions 2019 (Diagonal Shows Residence = Destination) Destination** Middle South **East South West South East North West North** International % From Origin **New England** Mountain **Pacific Atlantic** Atlantic Central Central Central Central **Destinations New England** Middle Atlantic **South Atlantic East South Central West South Central East North Central West North Central** Mountain **Pacific**

Note: Since some census divisions have more residents than others, the numbers will not sum to 100% horizontally. Every destination will likely draw a larger number of visitors from more populous divisions and fewer from smaller divisions.

Q38. States visited (Trip Level; Demo Weight)



# Compared to a year ago, generally minor shifts appear, with New England gaining more from relatively local traffic and international destinations gaining a larger share from West South Central

#### Shift in Visitor Source Q1 2019 vs. Q1 2018

# Census Divisions 2019 (Diagonal Shows Residence = Destination) (Circles show changes of 5%+)

## Destination

% From Origin	New England	Middle Atlantic	South Atlantic	East South Central	West South Central	East North Central	West North Central	Mountain	Pacific	International Destinations
New England	(5)	-2	-1	1	0	0	1	0	0	2
Middle Atlantic	(-5)	-1	0	1	1	2	0	2	1	-4
South Atlantic	-1	1	0	-1	1	2	0	1	0	2
East South Central	0	1	1	3	-1	0	0	0	0	-2
West South Central	-1	0	1	-1	-1	4	-1	-1	1	<u>(6)</u>
East North Central	0	1	1	-4	0	(-5)	2	-2	0	-4
West North Central	0	0	0	1	0	-2	0	1	0	0
Mountain	1	0	0	1	0	0	-1	-1	2	-1
Pacific	1	0	0	-1	1	0	-2	0	-3	-1

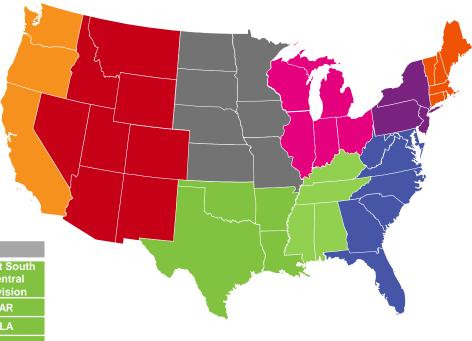
Q38. States visited (Trip Level; Demo Weight)



## Census Geography (Region/Division/State) Composition

North Cent	ral Region	West Region			
East N. Central Division	West N. Central Division	Mountain Division	Pacific Division		
IL	IA	AZ	CA		
IN	KS	СО	OR		
MI	MN	ID	WA		
ОН	MO	MT			
WI	NE	NV			
	ND	NM			
	SD	UT			
		WY			











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