

## LOUISIANA OFFICE OF TOURISM

### PERFORMANCE INDICATOR DOCUMENTATION

**Program:** Administration  
**Activity:** Sales  
**Objective:** 1 – Increase the amount of spending by visitors by 30 percent from \$18.5 billion in 2024 to \$24 billion in 2031.  
**Indicator Name:** Direct visitor spending by visitors to Louisiana.  
**Indicator LaPAS PI Code:** 1322

#### 1. Type and Level:

Outcome – Key

#### 2. Rationale, Relevance, Reliability:

Measures the total spending by visitors to Louisiana annually, which is a direct measure of progress toward meeting our objective of increasing visitor spending. This is a measurement of direct impact from visitors who choose Louisiana as their destination.

#### 3. Use:

This indicator is used by management to analyze the effectiveness of marketing strategies.

#### 4. Clarity:

See Glossary of Terms.

#### 5. Data Source, Collection and Reporting:

A report titled Louisiana Visitor Volume and Spending is generated annually by D.K. Shifflet (DKSA), a MMGY Global Company, through a licensed agreement with the Office of Tourism. The Research Section receives the report from DKSA in May.

#### 6. Calculation Methodology:

DKSA estimates the types of visitors using an online sample panel from a national sample. The sample is surveyed each month enabling DKSA to generate the best estimate of travel incidence (volume) within the total U.S. population. Person-Stays, which counts every stay on a trip.

#### 7. Scope:

This indicator comes from a national aggregate, which is then divided into state data based on the results of nationwide travel surveys.

#### 8. Caveats:

Dependent upon the annual renewal of the Office of Tourism's agreement with DKSA for the report, and timely and consistent updating by DKSA.

#### 9. Accuracy, Maintenance, Support:

This indicator comes from the leading sources of national travel data and has been reviewed by the Legislative Auditor.

#### 10. Responsible Person:

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## PERFORMANCE INDICATOR DOCUMENTATION

**Program:** Administration  
**Activity:** Sales  
**Objective:** 1 – Increase the amount of spending by visitors by 30 percent from \$18.5 billion in 2024 to \$24 billion in 2031.  
**Indicator Name:** Number of visitors to Louisiana.  
**Indicator LaPAS PI Code:** 1323

### 1. Type and Level:

Output – Key

### 2. Rationale, Relevance, Reliability:

Measures the total number of people who chose Louisiana as their leisure/business destination. This is a valid indication of our progress toward meeting the objective to increase visitor spending.

### 3. Use:

This indicator is used to track the quantity of visitors to Louisiana annually and quarterly to assess the effectiveness of marketing efforts.

### 4. Clarity:

See Glossary of Terms.

### 5. Data Source, Collection and Reporting:

Total domestic & foreign visitation is calculated from the Louisiana Visitor Volume and Spending report by D.K. Shifflet (DKSA), a MMGY Global Company, and Tourism Economics International Travel Dashboard. Also, the number of international visitors is obtained annually from Tourism Economics.

### 6. Calculation Methodology:

DKSA data are collected using an online methodology employing KnowledgePanel®, an address based sample panel offered by Knowledge Networks. The sample is drawn as a national probability sample and returns are balanced to ensure representation of the U.S. population according to the most recent U.S. Census. Tourism Economics database leverages multiple sources of data sets to arrive at estimates.

### 7. Scope:

This indicator comes from a national aggregate, which is then divided into state data based on the results of nationwide travel surveys.

### 8. Caveats:

Dependent upon the annual renewal of the Office of Tourism's agreement with DKSA and Tourism Economics, and timely and consistent updating from DKSA and Tourism Economics.

### 9. Accuracy, Maintenance, Support:

This indicator comes from the leading sources of national travel data and has been reviewed by the Legislative Auditor.

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## PERFORMANCE INDICATOR DOCUMENTATION

**Program:** Marketing  
**Activity:** Advertising  
**Objective:** 1 – Increase the number of visitors to Louisiana by 30 percent from 44.5 million in 2024 to 53.4 million in 2031.  
**Indicator Name:** State taxes collected from visitor spending (in millions).  
**Indicator LaPAS PI Code:** 1325

### 1. Type and Level:

Outcome – Key

### 2. Rationale, Relevance, Reliability:

This indicator measures the total amount of state taxes generated by visitor spending. Since the Office of Tourism receives its budget from state tax revenue, there is a connection to the amount of state taxes generated by visitors.

### 3. Use:

This indicator is used to monitor annual growth as the result of visitor spending in Louisiana. It is used to analyze the success of the marketing plan.

### 4. Clarity:

See Glossary of Terms.

### 5. Data Source, Collection and Reporting:

A report titled Economic Impact of Tourism in Louisiana is generated annually by Tourism Economics through a contract with the Office of Tourism. The Research Section receives the report from Tourism Economics in May.

### 6. Calculation Methodology:

Tourism Economics compiles diverse data sets to measure visitor expenditures and uses a data cross-check method utilizing an Input-Output (I-O) model based on an IMPLAN (an economic impact assessment software system) model to create the report. An I-O model represents a profile of an economy by measuring the relationships among industries and consumers. The model will estimate direct, indirect, and induced impacts by industry and provide related economic impact data (payroll income, employment, and federal, state, and local tax revenue) on travel in Louisiana.

### 7. Scope:

This indicator comes from a national aggregate, which is then divided into state data based on the results of nationwide travel surveys.

### 8. Caveats:

Dependent upon the annual renewal of the Office of Tourism's contract with Tourism Economics, and timely and consistent updating by Tourism Economics.

### 9. Accuracy, Maintenance, Support:

This indicator comes from the leading sources of national travel data and has been reviewed by the Legislative Auditor.

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## PERFORMANCE INDICATOR DOCUMENTATION

**Program:** Marketing  
**Activity:** Advertising  
**Objective:** 1 – Increase the number of visitors to Louisiana by 30 percent from 44.5 million in 2024 to 53.4 million in 2031.  
**Indicator Name:** Total mail, telephone, internet inquires and walk-ins.  
**Indicator LaPAS PI Code:** 15675

### 1. Type and Level:

Output – Key

### 2. Rationale, Relevance, Reliability:

Measures the total number of inquiries received by the Office of Tourism, which is an indication of the effectiveness of marketing efforts.

### 3. Use:

The Office no longer relies solely on inquiry counts or research conducted of inquiries as a performance indicator. The discontinued use of inquiries as a primary indicator is due to the greater use and unpredictability of the Office of Tourism's website to produce inquiries. The website contains all of the same information that is in the Louisiana Inspiration Guide. Almost all inquiries are generated from advertising. However, not all inquiries generate a mailed packet since the large majority of internet inquiries do not request a mailed packet of information on Louisiana. This information is useful in decision making concerning marketing strategies as well as determining the volume of promotional materials (tour guides, brochures, etc.) that should be produced.

### 4. Clarity:

See Glossary of Terms.

### 5. Data Source, Collection and Reporting:

From monthly reports generated by the Office of Tourism through counts generated within each welcome center. Total inquiry counts are generated monthly and reported in monthly tracking reports developed by the Research Section.

### 6. Calculation Methodology:

Actual Count.

### 7. Scope:

This indicator includes all mail, telephone, e-mail and Internet inquiries as well as walk-in visitors.

### 8. Caveats:

None.

### 9. Accuracy, Maintenance, Support:

This indicator is an actual count of all inquiries, so there is no sample error.

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## PERFORMANCE INDICATOR DOCUMENTATION

**Program:** Marketing  
**Activity:** Advertising  
**Objective:** 1 – Increase the number of visitors to Louisiana by 30 percent from 44.5 million in 2024 to 53.4 million in 2031.  
**Indicator Name:** Number of U.S. resident visitors.  
**Indicator LaPAS PI Code:** 21270

### 1. Type and Level:

Output – General Performance Information

### 2. Rationale, Relevance, Reliability:

Measures total number of U.S. resident visitors who choose Louisiana as a leisure/business trip destination. This is a valid indication of our progress toward meeting the objective of increasing visitor spending.

### 3. Use:

This indicator is used to track visitor volume to Louisiana among U.S. residents and compare our volume trends with other competing states in order to measure the effectiveness of our marketing efforts.

### 4. Clarity:

See Glossary of Terms.

### 5. Data Source, Collection and Reporting:

From Louisiana Visitor Volume and Spending report by D.K. Shifflet (DKSA), a MMGY Global Company. Total U.S. resident visitor counts are obtained annually from DKSA.

### 6. Calculation Methodology:

DKSA estimates the types of visitors using an online sample panel from a national sample. The sample is surveyed each month enabling DKSA to generate the best estimate of travel incidence (volume) within the total U.S. population.

### 7. Scope:

This indicator comes from a national aggregate, which is then divided into state data based on the results of nationwide travel surveys.

### 8. Caveats:

Dependent upon the annual renewal of the Office of Tourism's agreement with D.K. Shifflet for the report, and timely and consistent updates from DKSA.

### 9. Accuracy, Maintenance, Support:

This indicator comes from the leading sources of national travel data and has been reviewed by the Legislative Auditor.

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## PERFORMANCE INDICATOR DOCUMENTATION

**Program:** Marketing  
**Activity:** Advertising  
**Objective:** 1 – Increase the number of visitors to Louisiana by 30 percent from 44.5 million in 2024 to 53.4 million in 2031.  
**Indicator Name:** Number of Canadian and overseas visitors.  
**Indicator LaPAS PI Code:** 21271 and 21272

### 1. Type and Level:

Output – General Performance Information

### 2. Rationale, Relevance, Reliability:

Measures total number of overseas and Canadian resident visitors, who choose Louisiana as a leisure/business trip destination. This is a valid indication of our progress toward meeting the objective of increasing visitor spending.

### 3. Use:

This indicator is used to track the success of overseas and Canadian marketing initiatives in order to measure the effectiveness of our marketing efforts.

### 4. Clarity:

See Glossary of Terms.

### 5. Data Source, Collection and Reporting:

The number of total international visitors, including Canada and Mexico, to Louisiana is obtained from Tourism Economics.

### 6. Calculation Methodology:

Tourism Economics leverages multiple data sets to arrive at estimates.

### 7. Scope:

This indicator encompasses all visitors whose residence is not in the U.S.

### 8. Caveats:

Dependent on the annual renewal of the Office of Tourism's subscriptions to Tourism Economic International Travel Dashboard.

### 9. Accuracy, Maintenance, Support:

The validity of the data on international visitors is very reliable because it comes from a trusted source (Tourism Economics) and a sound methodology.

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## PERFORMANCE INDICATOR DOCUMENTATION

**Program:** Marketing  
**Activity:** Communications  
**Objective:** 2 – Increase the number of jobs within the Louisiana tourism industry by 15 percent from 224,600 in 2024 to 258,290 in 2031.  
**Indicator Name:** Number of people employed directly in travel and tourism in Louisiana.  
**Indicator LaPAS PI Code:** 15677

### 1. Type and Level:

Outcome – Key

### 2. Rationale, Relevance, Reliability:

Measures the total number of people directly employed in tourism due to visitor spending. This is a measurement of direct impact from visitors, who choose Louisiana as their destination and is a valid measurement of our success in meeting our objective to increase jobs in the tourism industry in Louisiana.

### 3. Use:

This indicator is used to track the size and scope of the travel industry in Louisiana, and to monitor the growth of this industry in comparison with other states. This information is useful in measuring the growth of the tourism industry in Louisiana.

### 4. Clarity:

See Glossary of Terms.

### 5. Data Source, Collection and Reporting:

Calendar year tourism direct employment is calculated by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), which provides Louisiana statewide leisure & hospitality employment calculations on a monthly basis and is seasonally adjusted.

### 6. Calculation Methodology:

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics produces detailed industry estimates of employment of workers each month from NAICS classifications and a sample of establishments.

### 7. Scope:

This indicator includes all employees in Louisiana directly supported by visitor spending in Louisiana.

### 8. Caveats:

Dependent upon the monthly release of employment from BLS.

### 9. Accuracy, Maintenance, Support:

This indicator comes from a leading source of employment data and national data availability.

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## PERFORMANCE INDICATOR DOCUMENTATION

**Program:** Marketing  
**Activity:** Research  
**Objective:** 2 – Increase the number of jobs within the Louisiana tourism industry by 15 percent from 224,600 in 2024 to 258,290 in 2031.  
**Indicator Name:** Hotel/motel room nights sold.  
**Indicator LaPAS PI Code:** 15678

### 1. Type and Level:

Input – Supporting

### 2. Rationale, Relevance, Reliability:

Measures level of effort in pursuit of accomplishing objective.

### 3. Use:

This indicator is used to track hotel usage within the state of Louisiana and its large metropolitan areas. This information is used by management to track the growth of the travel industry in Louisiana.

### 4. Clarity:

See Glossary of Terms.

### 5. Data Source, Collection and Reporting:

Data collected and published from STR weekly and monthly destination lodging reports.

### 6. Calculation Methodology:

Proprietary from STR.

### 7. Scope:

This indicator includes all hotel/motel occupancy, average daily rate, room revenue, supply & demand in Louisiana.

### 8. Caveats:

Dependent on hotels/motels that submit information to STR.

### 9. Accuracy, Maintenance, Support:

This indicator comes from the leading source of national data on hotel/motel usage.

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## PERFORMANCE INDICATOR DOCUMENTATION

**Program:** Welcome Center  
**Activity:** Welcome Center  
**Objective:** 1 – Increase the number of welcome center visitors by 15 percent from 583,712 in 2024 to 671,269 in 2031.  
**Indicator Name:** Total visitors to welcome centers.  
**Indicator LaPAS PI Code:** 1328

### 1. Type and Level:

Output – Key

### 2. Rationale, Relevance, Reliability:

Measures level of users of the welcome centers as recorded by the welcome center program's sign-in sheets. This is the only method of measuring the level of use a welcome center experiences.

### 3. Use:

Measuring the number of visitors to the welcome center aids the tracking of printed materials distributed at each center, as well as other traffic issues related to the welcome centers.

### 4. Clarity:

See Glossary of Terms.

### 5. Data Source, Collection and Reporting:

Each month, each welcome center compiles the results of those who have voluntarily signed the registration book and sends the results to the regional coordinator. The Regional Coordinator then compiles this information into a report and the Research Section extracts the data from the welcome center logging-reporting administration online site. Monthly, calendar year and fiscal year reports are generated.

### 6. Calculation Methodology:

Total sum of all visitors, who sign the registration sheets along with those in their travel party.

### 7. Scope:

This indicator encompasses all state welcome center visitors that are registered on the sign-in sheets. It is comparable to the methods used by other states' welcome centers.

### 8. Caveats:

Several welcome centers have been permanently closed. This and any highway construction as well as weather, natural disasters, special events, and holidays can adversely affect the amount of traffic through the centers.

### 9. Accuracy, Maintenance, Support:

This indicator is an actual figure and relies on no formulas or projections; therefore, the accuracy is good. However, since the indicator is dependent on the visitors who fill out the sign-in log at each center, it is strictly a voluntary system and may miss some visitors who refuse to sign the sheets.

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## PERFORMANCE INDICATOR DOCUMENTATION

**Program:** Welcome Center  
**Activity:** Welcome Center  
**Objective:** 2 – Maintain average length of stay by welcome center visitors at 2.0 nights from 2024 to 2031.  
**Indicator Name:** Cost per visitor  
**Indicator LaPAS PI Code:** 1329

**1. Type and Level:**  
Efficiency – Supporting

**2. Rationale, Relevance, Reliability:**

Measures level of users of the welcome centers as recorded by the welcome center program's registration sheets and divided by the welcome center budget expenditures. This calculation measures the level of resources allocated per welcome center visitor.

**3. Use:**

This indicator is used to illustrate the amount of resources that are allocated to the centers in proportion to their traffic volume. It is a measure of efficiency and is helpful to management in determining the allocation of resources.

**4. Clarity:**

See Glossary of Terms.

**5. Data Source, Collection and Reporting:**

Each month, each welcome center compiles the results of those who have voluntarily signed the registration book and sends the results to the regional coordinator. The Regional Coordinator then compiles this information into a report and the Research Section extracts the data from the welcome center logging-reporting administration online site. The annual count is then divided by the total budget allocated to welcome center program. Monthly, calendar year and fiscal year reports are generated on welcome center visitors.

**6. Calculation Methodology:**

The total sum of all visitors who sign the registration sheets along with those in their travel party is divided into the total annual welcome center expenditures.

**7. Scope:**

This indicator encompasses all state welcome center visitors that are registered on the sign-in sheets.

**8. Caveats:**

The welcome centers have been undergoing extensive renovations. This and any highway construction as well as weather, special events, and holidays can adversely affect the amount of traffic through the centers.

**9. Accuracy, Maintenance, Support:**

This indicator is an actual figure and relies on no formulas or projections, therefore the accuracy is good. However, since the indicator is dependent on the visitors who fill out the sign-in log at each center, it is strictly a voluntary system and may miss some visitors who refuse to sign the sheets.

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## PERFORMANCE INDICATOR DOCUMENTATION

**Program:** Welcome Center  
**Activity:** Welcome Center  
**Objective:** 2 – Maintain average length of stay by welcome center visitors at 2.0 nights from 2024 to 2031.  
**Indicator Name:** Average length of stay for welcome center visitors.  
**Indicator LaPAS PI Code:** 1327

### 1. Type and Level:

Outcome – Key

### 2. Rationale, Relevance, Reliability:

Measures the results of the travel counselors' efforts for visitors to extend their stay in Louisiana.

### 3. Use:

This indicator is used to measure the effectiveness of the welcome center staff whose role is to counsel the visitors to stay longer in Louisiana.

### 4. Clarity:

See Glossary of Terms.

### 5. Data Source, Collection and Reporting:

The average length of stay has been incorporated into the registration sheet that a visitor is requested to sign when a visitor enters the center. This provides more timely and accurate information.

### 6. Calculation Methodology:

The average number of nights per party in Louisiana is determined by dividing the total number of nights in Louisiana as indicated on the sign-in sheets, by the total number of parties registered at the welcome centers.

### 7. Scope:

This indicator encompasses all state welcome center visitors that are registered on the sign-in sheets.

### 8. Caveats:

None.

### 9. Accuracy, Maintenance, Support:

This indicator is an actual figure and relies on no formulas or projections, therefore the accuracy is good. However, since the indicator is dependent on the visitors who fill out the sign-in log at each center, it is strictly a voluntary system and may miss some visitors who refuse to sign the sheets.

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