



TENNESSEE

SOUNDS PERFECT

REAL VALUE, REAL RESULTS FOR TENNESSEE COMMUNITIES

Tennessee Department of Tourist Development




THE VALUE OF A **VISITOR**



**NO STATE
INCOME TAX**



**NO STATE
PROPERTY
TAX**



**3rd
LOWEST TAX
BURDEN
(PER CAPITA)**

[TaxFoundation.org](https://taxfoundation.org)

TENNESSEANS LOVE OUR LOW TAXES



VOLUME

+



MARGIN

=



PROFIT

SUCCESS OF ANY BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION

TENNESSEE

IS THE FASTEST
GROWING TOP 40
STATE SINCE 2018
& THE ONLY STATE
IN THE TOP 18
WITHOUT A BEACH
OR CASINO



VOLUME

11th

HIGHEST
VISITOR
SPEND

RECORD-
BREAKING
VISITOR SPEND

US Travel Association, 2022

Note: 2023 ranking release Spring 2025



VOLUME

11th

HIGHEST
VISITOR
SPEND

**RECORD-
BREAKING**
VISITOR SPEND

US Travel Association, 2022

TOP 18 STATES BY VISITOR SPENDING

CALIFORNIA

FLORIDA

NEW YORK

TEXAS

NEVADA

ILLINOIS

GEORGIA

NORTH CAROLINA

VIRGINIA

PENNSYLVANIA

TENNESSEE

HAWAII

NEW JERSEY

MASSACHUSETTS

MICHIGAN

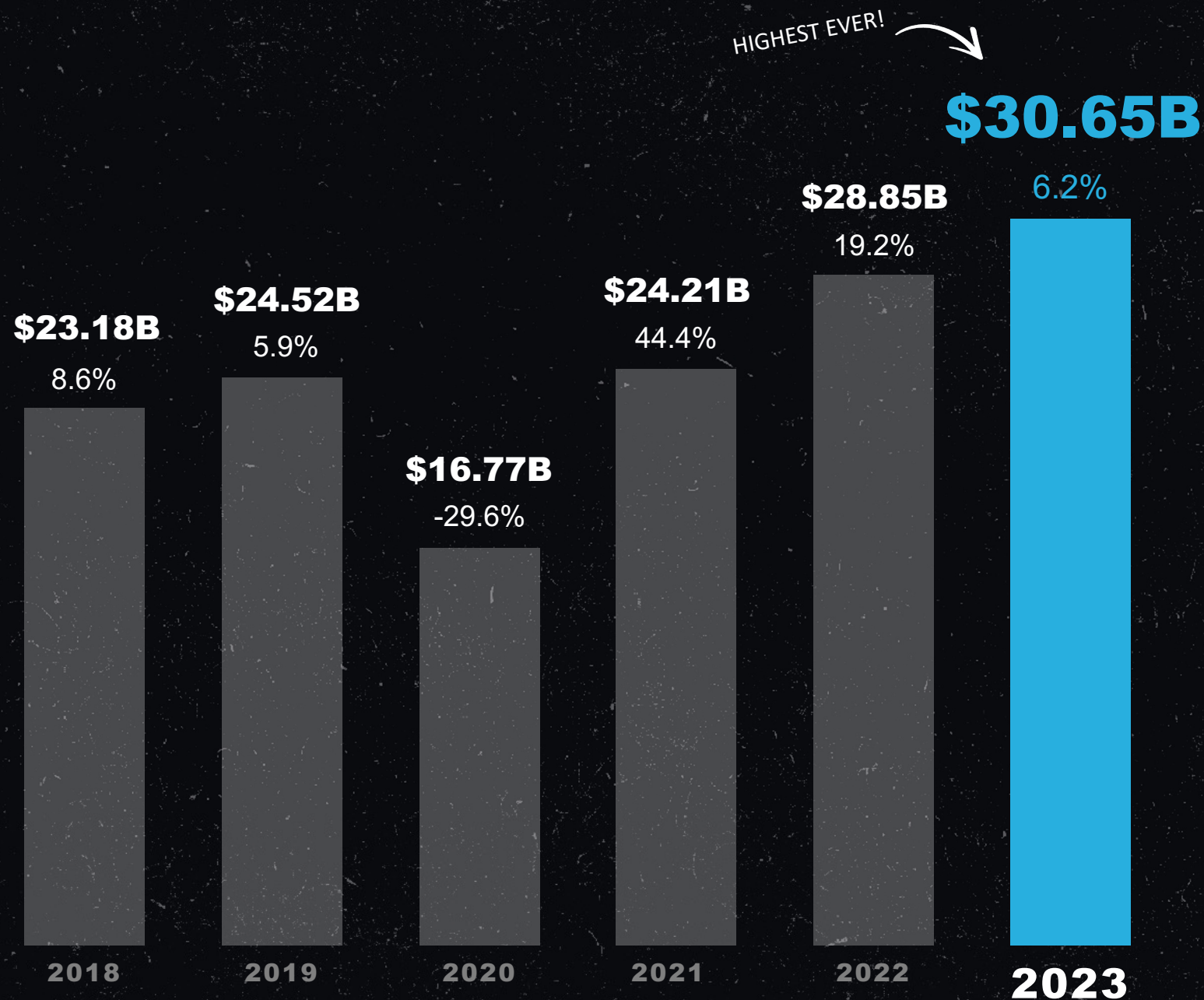
COLORADO

OHIO

WASHINGTON

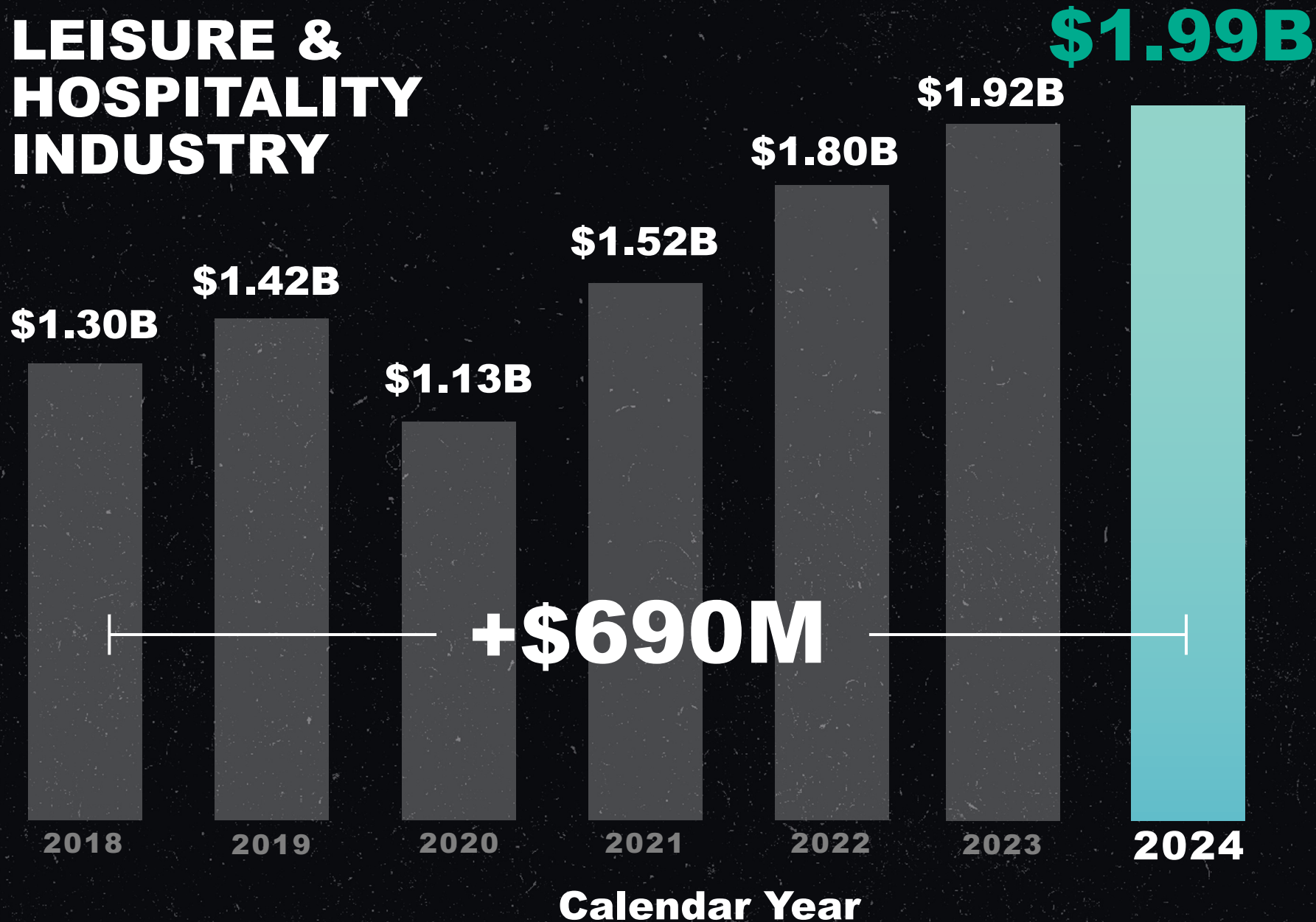
REAL MONEY

DIRECT VISITOR SPENDING IN TENNESSEE



Source: Tourism Economics 2023

LEISURE & HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY



\$1.99B

**SALES &
USE TAX
COLLECTIONS**

↑ 3% YOY

Actual state sales & use tax
collections by L&H industry



VOLUME

11th

HIGHEST
VISITOR
SPEND

US Travel Association, 2023

+

**A VISITOR IS WORTH
MORE IN TN**

MARGIN

9.55%

AVERAGE
COMBINED
SALES TAX RATE

TaxFoundation.org

\$1,000

OF VISITOR SPENDING IS WORTH...

NC
\$70

FL
\$70

PA
\$63

VA
\$58

TN
\$95

IN STATE & LOCAL SALES TAX COLLECTIONS

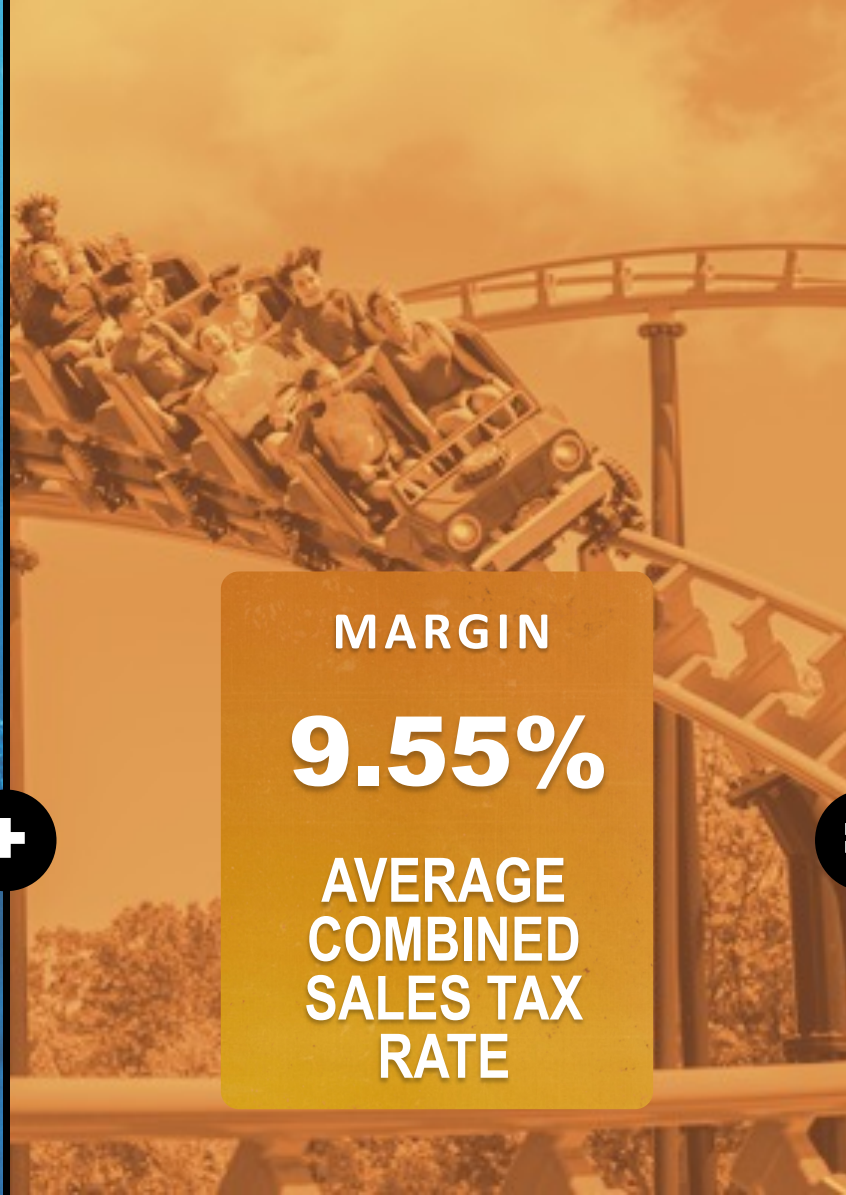


VOLUME

11th

HIGHEST
VISITOR
SPEND

+

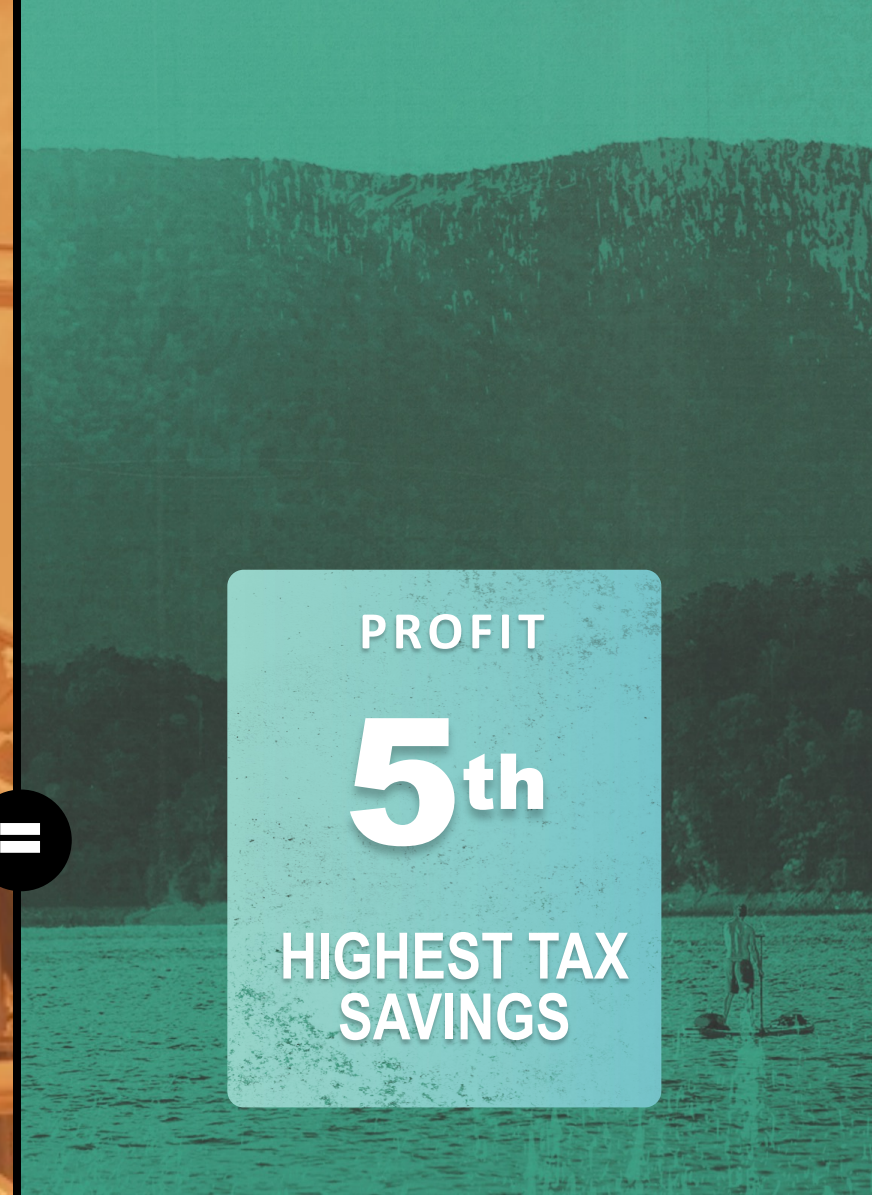


MARGIN

9.55%

AVERAGE
COMBINED
SALES TAX
RATE

=



PROFIT

5th

HIGHEST TAX
SAVINGS

TRANSLATES TO TAX BENEFITS FOR EVERY TENNESSEAN

TDTD calculations based on US Travel Association (2022 Data) & TaxFoundation.org

RETURN

5th
HIGHEST
TAX
SAVINGS

FOR RESIDENTS &
HOUSEHOLDS

HAWAII

NEVADA

NEW YORK

NORTH DAKOTA

TENNESSEE

FLORIDA

70% | ABOVE
NATIONAL
AVERAGE

Tennessee nearly doubled 2022
household savings national average.

TAX BENEFITS FOR EVERY TENNESSEAN

TDTD calculations based on US Travel Association (2022 Data) & TaxFoundation.org

VISITOR-CONTRIBUTED TAXES

LOCAL BUDGETS

\$1.25B

STATE BUDGET

\$1.9B

TOTAL

\$3.2B

BRAND CAMPAIGN PILLARS

BRAND

TENNESSEE

**CREATIVE
FILTER**

MUSIC & SOUND

PILLARS

KID FRIENDLY

OUTDOORS

**HISTORY &
CULTURE**

**LIVE
ENTERTAINMENT**

EAT & DRINK

BRAND NEW!

PLAYCATION + DOLLY (as **WILLY WONKA**) CAMPAIGN



Market Expansion and Reach

• TDTD Advertising Campaigns

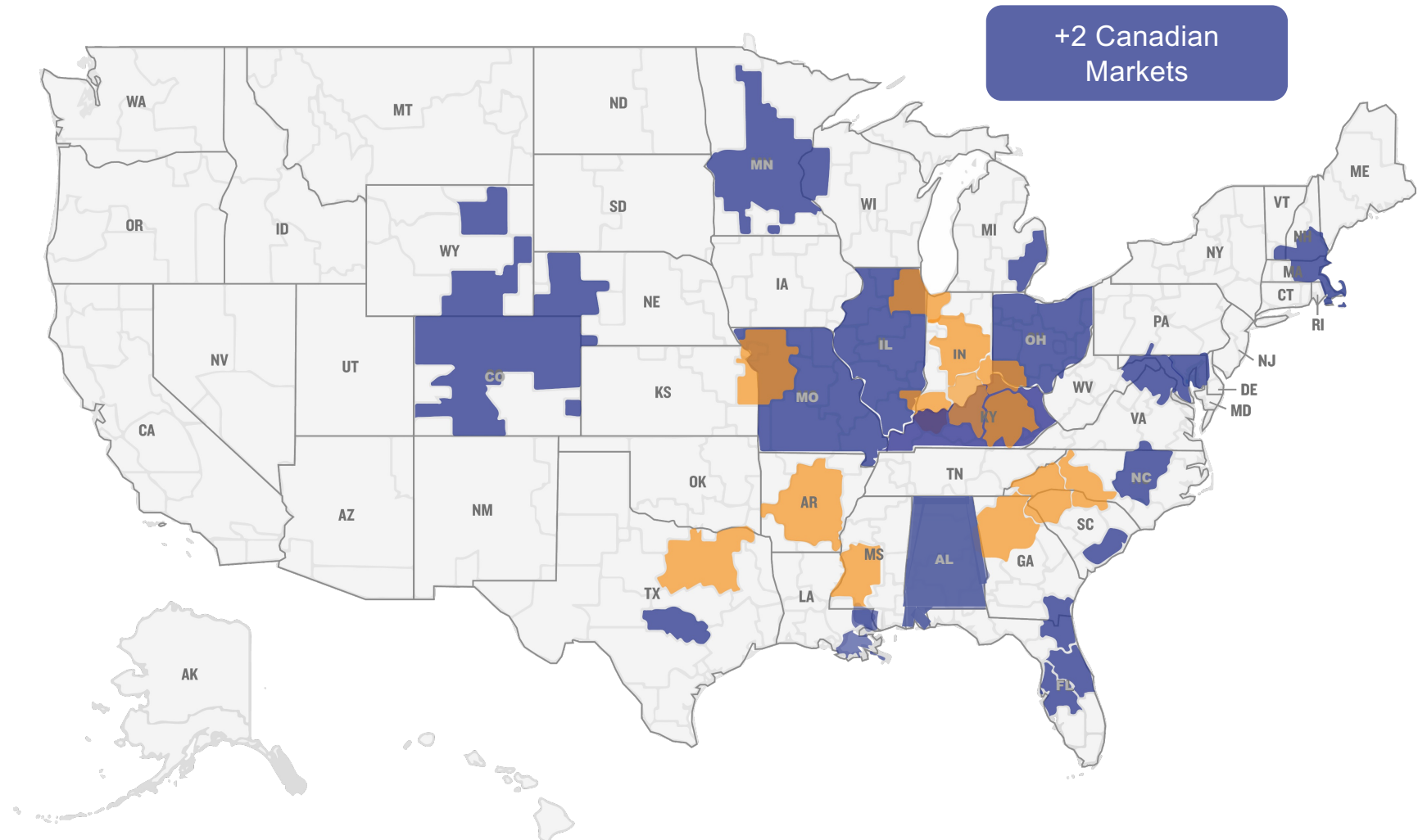
Market expansion since 2019 has grown our potential brand and advertising reach by an additional 87 million people

35M

Total Potential Reach
in 2019 (**orange only**)

112M

Total Potential Reach
in 2025 (**orange + blue**)



Why this is so important...

TDTD Market Expansion by Year

2017 Atlanta Chicago Cincinnati Dallas Greenville Indianapolis Jackson Little Rock Louisville	2021 Detroit Huntsville Lexington Kansas City New Orleans Orlando Raleigh Tampa Washington, D.C. Kentucky Statewide Missouri Statewide Ohio Statewide	2023 Austin Baltimore Boston Charleston Denver Evansville Jacksonville Minneapolis Illinois Statewide
2019 Charlotte	2022 Alabama Statewide Toronto	2024 Edmondton Hartford

Airline Seats YOY Change (2018 - 2024)

How has plane seat supply changed since 2018?

38% Growth in seats from new advertising markets to TN airports

2.1M+ New seats that must be filled

Represents air service routes from 2021-2024 expanded markets (30 airports) to Nashville, Memphis, Knoxville, Tri-Cities, and Chattanooga thru Oct 2024

REAL INVESTMENT

At least

\$10.7B+

Completed Leisure & Hospitality
developments (2018-2024)

Hotel Growth

11%

GROWTH IN AVAILABLE
HOTEL ROOMS
2019-2024

US AVERAGE: 4%

Source: CoStar

25%

MORE HOTEL ROOMS
EXPECTED BY 2028

HIGHEST AMONG
ALL 50 STATES

Source: CoStar

GLOBAL FOOTPRINT

NORTH AMERICA

Canada

SOUTH AMERICA

Brazil

EUROPE

Austria

Belgium

Benelux Union

Denmark

Finland

France

Germany

Ireland

Italy

Luxembourg

Netherlands

Nordic Union

Norway

Sweden

Switzerland

United Kingdom

ASIA

India

Japan

OCEANIA

Australia

New Zealand

DIRECT
FLIGHTS



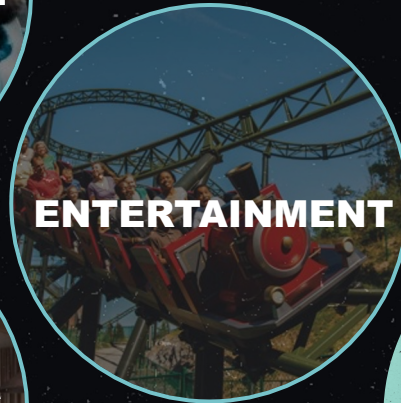
London, England

Dublin, Ireland

Reykjavik, Iceland

Canada

WHEN
VISITORS
COME TO TN,
**THEY
BRING
MONEY
WITH
THEM.**

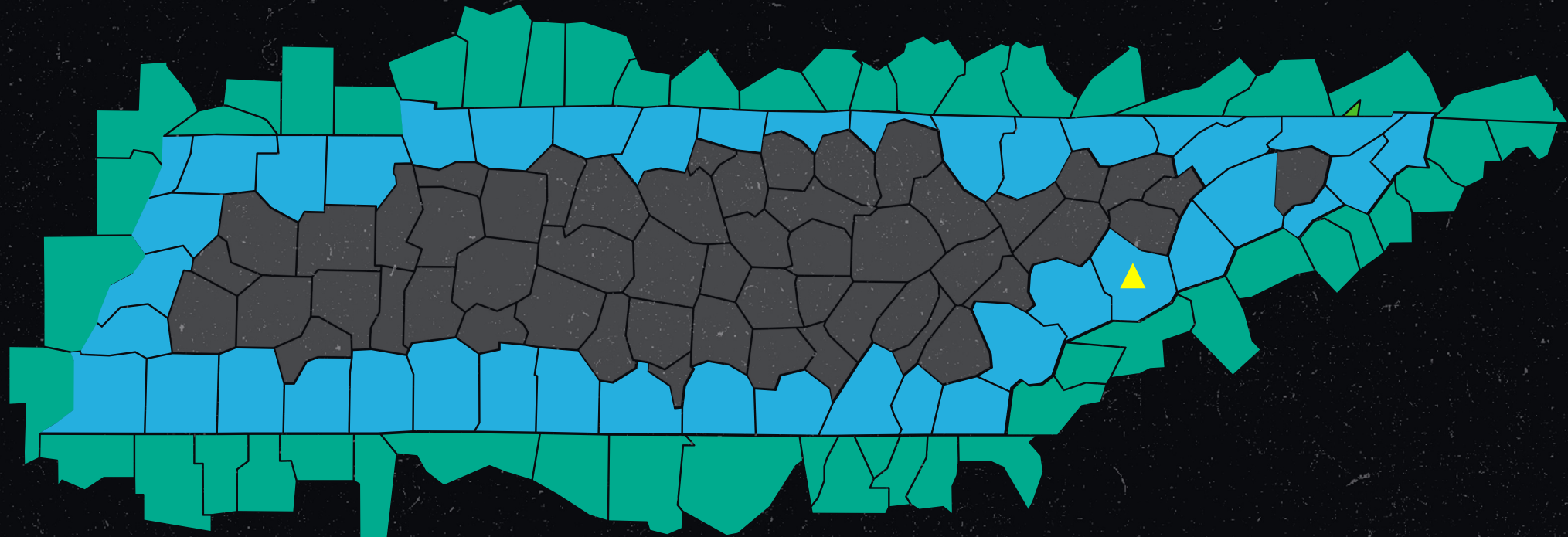


**TAXES
COLLECTED**

There is a fight for visitor spending

\$21.06B
OF VISITOR SPENDING
HAPPENS ALONG
TN BORDERS

TN captures 57% of contiguous
border visitor spending market share



Source: CY23 data for all but Missouri (FY23). 7/9 states use Tourism Economics.



DAY VISITOR
\$115

+186%



OVERNIGHT VISITOR
\$329

STATEWIDE AVERAGE VISITOR VALUE

DAY VISITOR
(\$115 AVG TRIP SPEND)

OVERNIGHT VISITOR
(\$329 AVG TRIP SPEND)

SPENDING - LODGING

\$0.00

\$170.00

SPENDING - OTHER

\$115.00

\$159.00

**STATE SALES TAX
(7%)**

\$8.05

\$23.03

**LOCAL OPTIONS TAX
(2.55% AVG)**

\$2.93

\$8.39

**LOCAL OCCUPANCY TAX
(5% AVG)**

\$0.00

\$8.50

TOTAL TAXES

\$10.98

\$39.92

\$2.93 FOR CITY/COUNTY

\$16.89 FOR CITY/COUNTY



— Data Overview —

- **National**

Fundamentals are solid but some softening

“In the face of macro uncertainty, people are cautious and they're pulling back a little bit on travel, waiting to see what's going to transpire, whether it's tariffs or macroeconomic policy changes or just a little bit of the unsettledness of the market that we all see.”

Delta earnings call (March 11, 2025, edited for brevity)

“For full year 2025, we expect global RevPAR growth of 2 to 4 percent.”

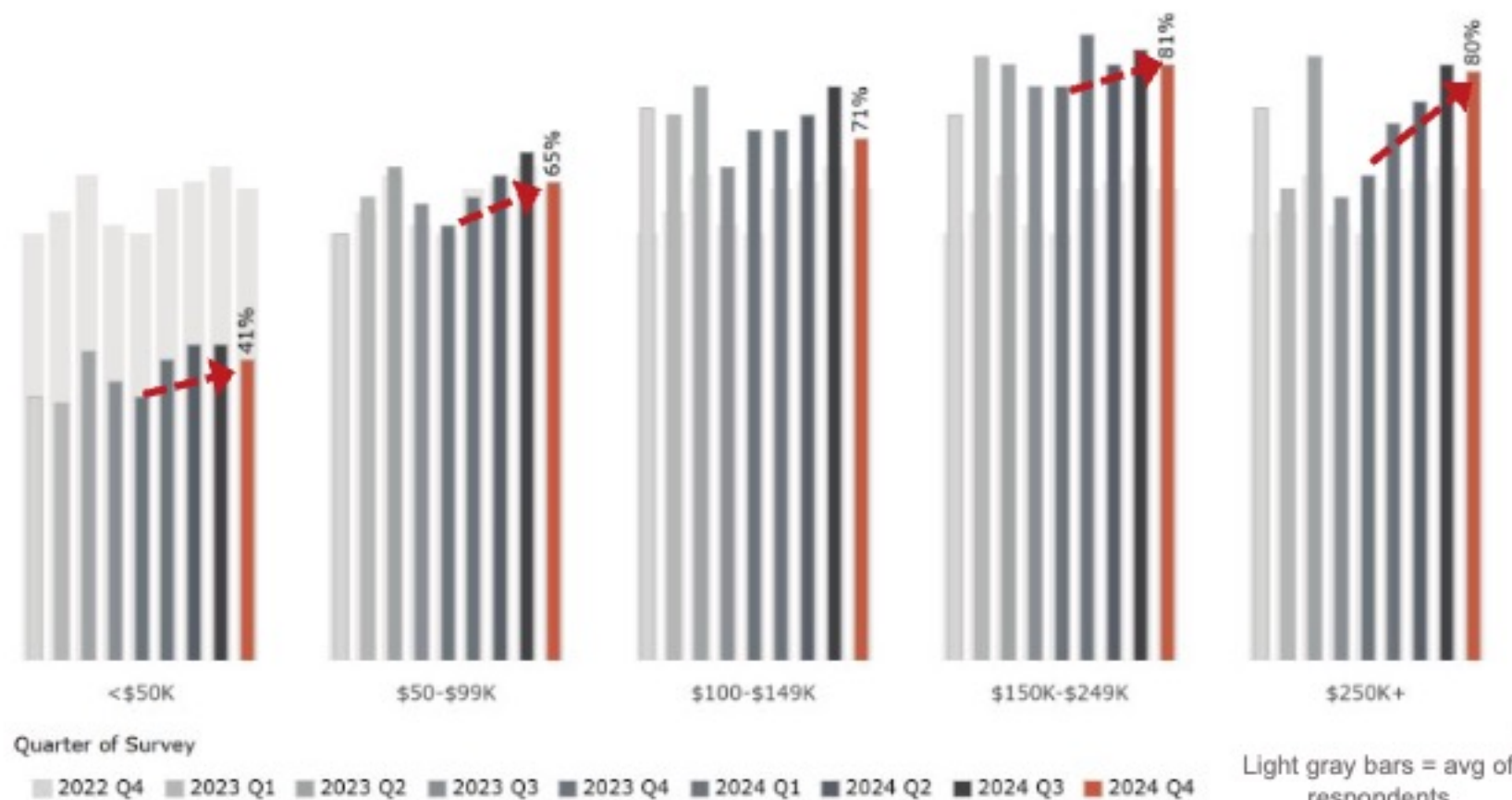
Marriott earnings call (February 2025)

“We're seeing is kind of a broad softness in the macro economy that it's hard to attribute to any one thing [leading to] a modest softening through the rest of the year.”

Southwest earnings call (March 11, 2025, edited for brevity)

Leisure travel intentions remain strong among higher-income households

Planning Leisure Travel Within the Next 6 Months
% of American Consumers



Source: MMGY Portrait of American Travelers; Tourism Economics Symphony



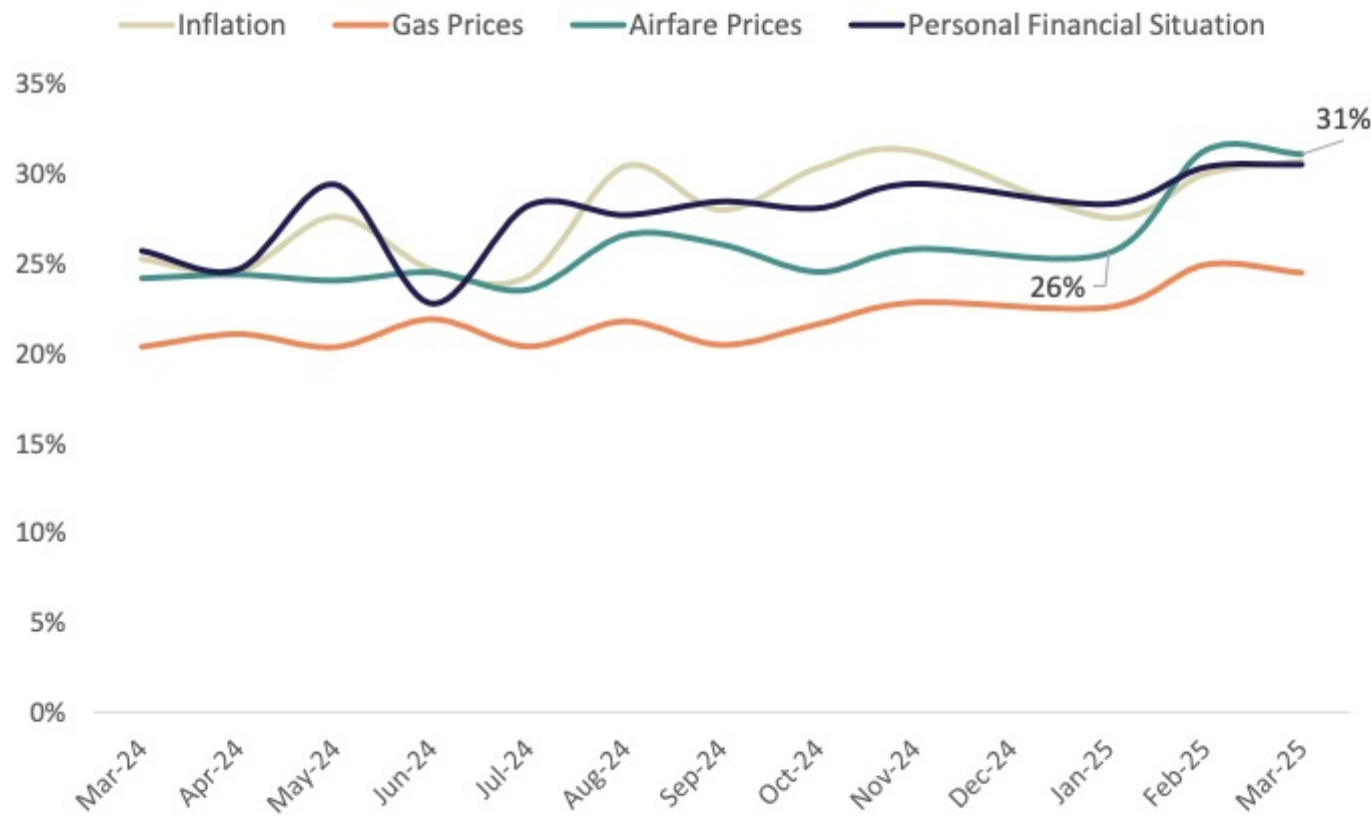
Consumer sentiment declined for third consecutive month



Increased Impact of Airfare Prices on Travel Plans: January 2025 vs. March 2025

Trends in Factors with Great Impact on Travel Plans (Mar'24 – Mar'25)

The chart illustrates the monthly trends in the share of travelers indicating that Inflation, Gas Prices, and Airfare Prices have a **Great Impact** on their future travel plans.

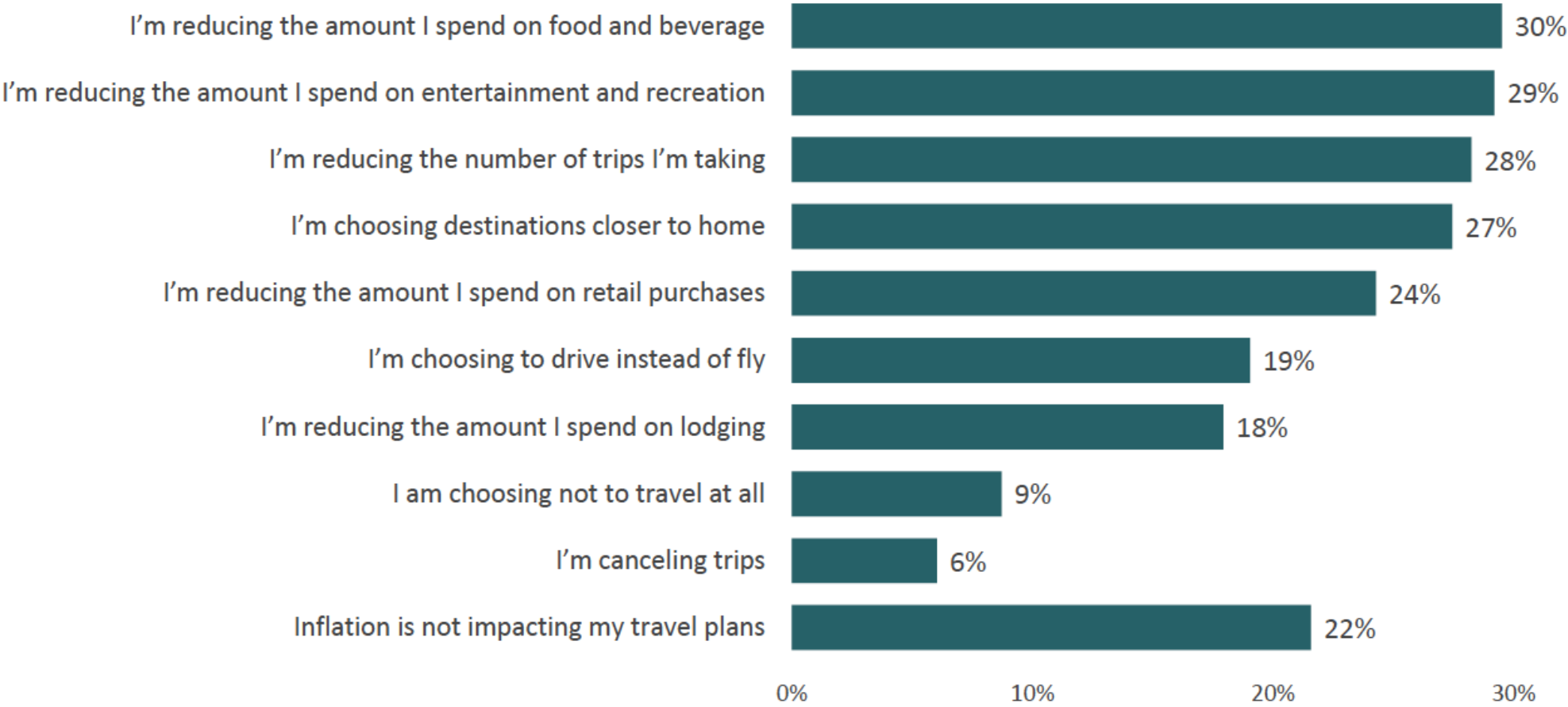


The impact of airfare prices on travel plans appears to continue to be a concern for travelers. In February and March, 31% of travelers indicated that airfare prices had a great impact on their future travel plans, an **increase from January where it was 26%**. Meanwhile, concerns about personal financial situations, inflation, and gas prices remained stable.

Source: Longwoods International ATS Wave 94
Percentages are based only on respondents who are confirmed travelers and intend on traveling in the next six months

IMPACT ON TRAVEL PLANS

Impact of Inflation on Travel Plans





— Data Overview —

- **National**
- **Sevier County**

Sevier County Exceeds Benchmarks in Economic Key Performance Indicators



72%

Share of Spend From
Visitors

Benchmark: 40%



53%

Visitor Spend at Local
Businesses

Benchmark: 36%



74%

Share of Restaurant
Spend from Visitors

Benchmark: 50%



24%

Share of Visits at
Attractions

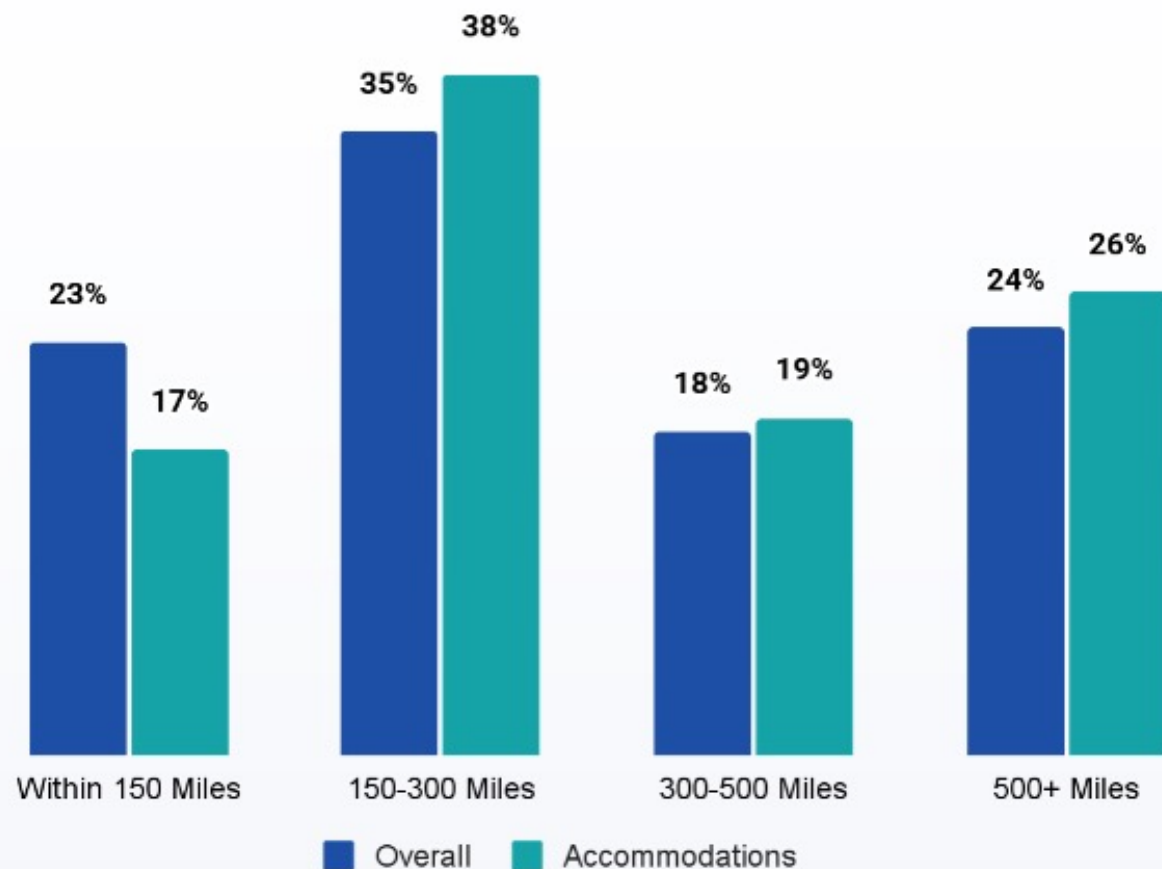
Benchmark: 9%

Benchmark looks at 8 counties and cities that display similar visitor patterns, tourism product and drivers as Sevier County.

86% of visitors to Sevier County are from outside of Tennessee, exceeding the East region's average of 75%



Over Half the Visitors Come From Within 300 Miles of Sevier County



- Accommodation visitors do tend to be from further away, however over half of accommodation visitors are still from within 300 miles of the county
- Top markets remain the same, with Atlanta, Nashville, Greenville and Charlotte accounting for the largest share of visitation



———— Data Overview ————

- **National**
- **Sevier County**
- **Pigeon Forge**

Lodging Summary

February 2025
Pigeon Forge Data

TENNESSEE

Aggregate Lodging

	Occupancy	ADR	RevPAR	Supply	Demand	Revenue
	51.2%	\$154	\$79	5.3M	2.7M	\$414.5M
vs. Previous Year	▼ -5.5%	▲ 0.3%	▼ -5.3%	▲ 3.2%	▼ -2.5%	▼ -2.2%
YTD Calendar Year	47.1%	\$152	\$71	11.2M	5.3M	\$801.2M
YTD vs. Previous Year	▼ -4.9%	▲ 1.9%	▼ -3.1%	▲ 3.5%	▼ -1.5%	▲ 0.3%

Hotels: Tennessee

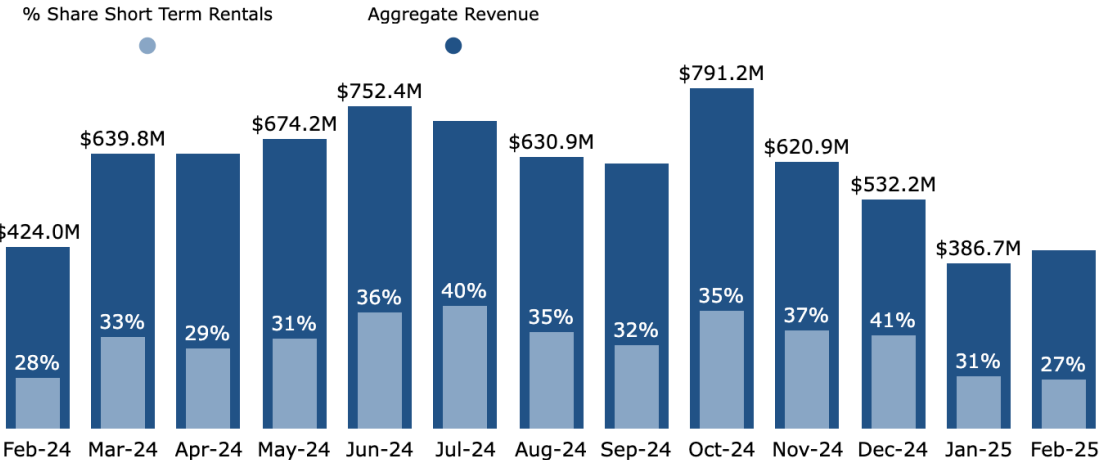
	Occupancy	ADR	RevPAR	Supply	Demand	Revenue
	53.2%	\$131	\$70	4.3M	2.3M	\$300.7M
vs. Previous Year	▼ -5.2%	▲ 0.7%	▼ -4.5%	▲ 3.1%	▼ -2.3%	▼ -1.6%
YTD Calendar Year	49.3%	\$127	\$62	9.1M	4.5M	\$566.5M
YTD vs. Previous Year	▼ -4.9%	▲ 1.6%	▼ -3.4%	▲ 3.1%	▼ -1.9%	▼ -0.3%

Short Term Rentals: Tennessee

	Occupancy	ADR	RevPAR	Supply	Demand	Revenue
	41.7%	\$289	\$121	941.8K	393.0K	\$113.7M
vs. Previous Year	▼ -7.1%	▼ -0.2%	▼ -7.3%	▲ 3.6%	▼ -3.7%	▼ -3.9%
YTD Calendar Year	37.9%	\$290	\$110	2.1M	808.6K	\$234.7M
YTD vs. Previous Year	▼ -4.5%	▲ 1.5%	▼ -3.1%	▲ 5.2%	▲ 0.5%	▲ 2.0%

Lodging Revenue & Contribution

Aggregate of Tennessee (Hotels) and Tennessee (Short Term Rentals)

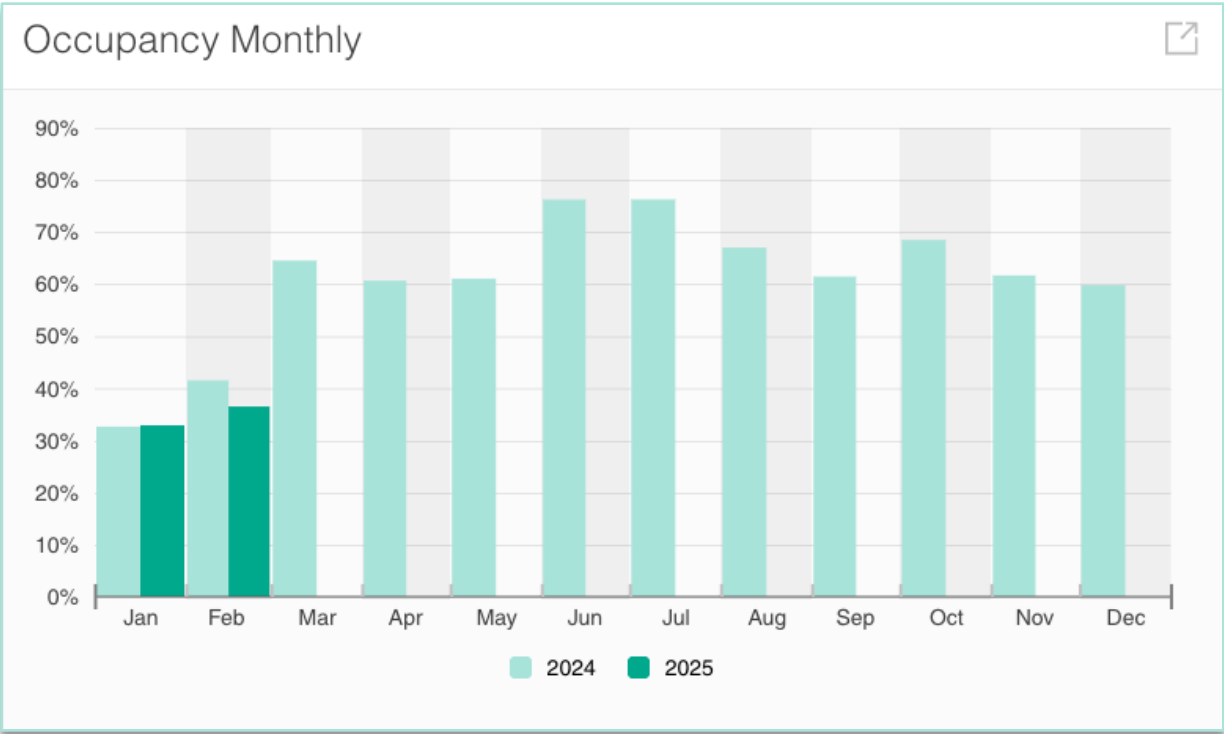


- Supply is presently outpacing demand
- Pigeon Forge Hotel ADR is up 1.4% YTD
- Pigeon Forge Hotel Revenue is up 1.2% YTD
- STR market is seeing more significantly reduced activity YoY

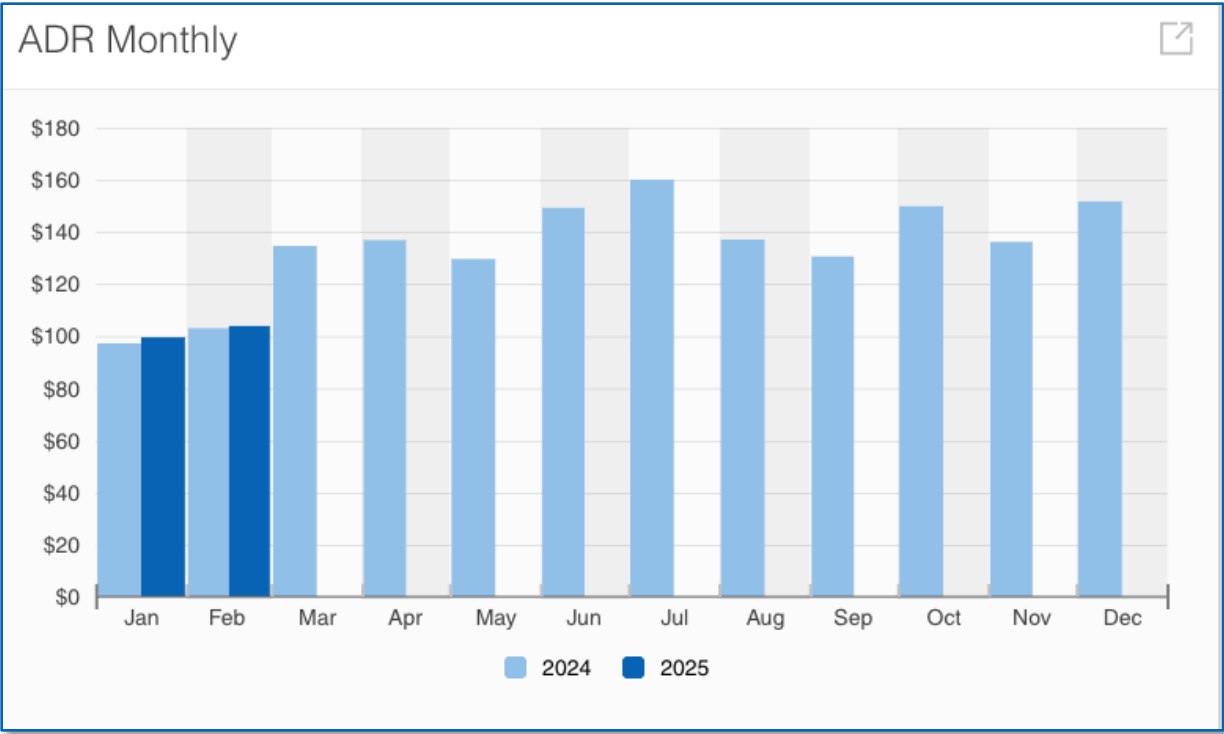
Pigeon Forge Hotels – YoY Trends

Source: CoStar

Occupancy



ADR



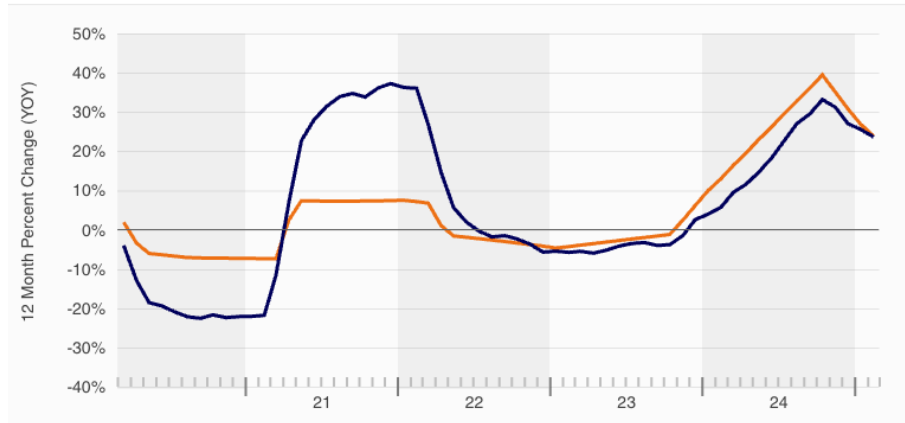
Pigeon Forge has trended closely with 2024, especially in modeled ADR

Pigeon Forge Hotels

12-Month % Change (Source: CoStar)

Luxury/Upper Upscale

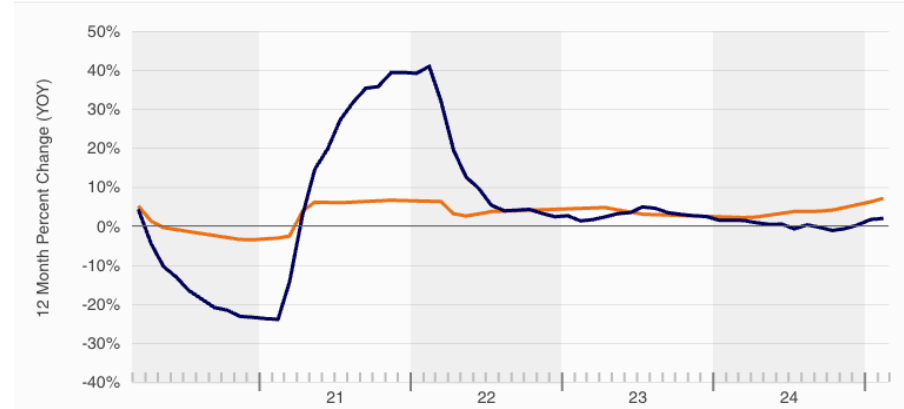
Supply & Demand Change



- You are successfully diversifying to capture higher spend visitors
- The more price sensitive the client, the more demand has flattened or reduced.
- Midscale and Economy hotels (existing and open) in Pigeon Forge represent:
 - 56.9% of properties
 - 47.7% of rooms

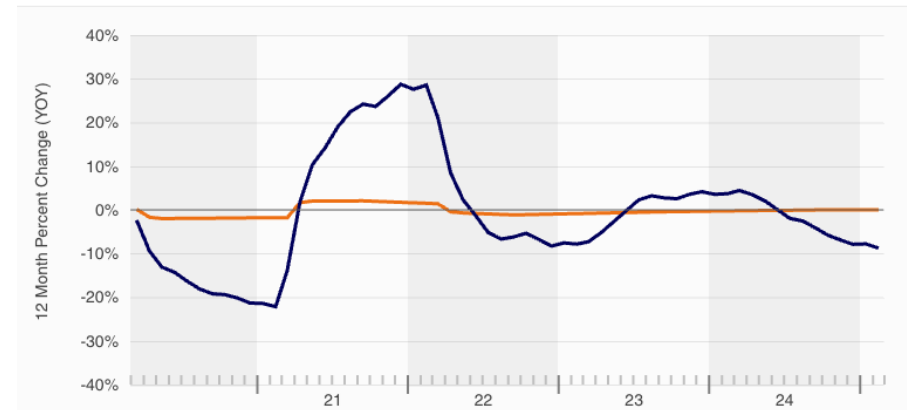
Upscale/Upper Midscale

Supply & Demand Change



Midscale/Economy

Supply & Demand Change



Mosaic Methodology

Demographics

Socio-economics

Location

Finances

Property
Characteristics

A

Power Elite

The wealthiest households in the US, living in the most exclusive neighborhoods, and enjoying all that life has to offer

B

Flourishing Families

Affluent, middle-aged families and couples earning prosperous incomes and living very comfortable, active lifestyles

C

Booming with Confidence

Prosperous, established couples in their peak earning years living in suburban homes

D

Suburban Style

Middle-aged, ethnically-mixed suburban families and couples earning upscale incomes

E

Thriving Boomers

Upper-middle-class baby boomer-age couples living comfortable lifestyles settled in suburban homes

F

Promising Families

Young couples with children in starter homes, living child-centered lifestyles

G

Young City Solos

Younger and middle-aged singles living active and energetic lifestyles in metropolitan areas

H

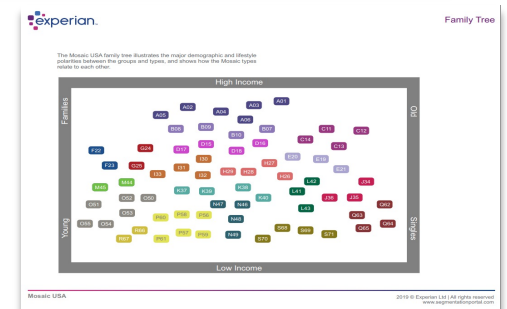
Bourgeois Melting Pot

Middle-aged, established couples living in suburban homes

I

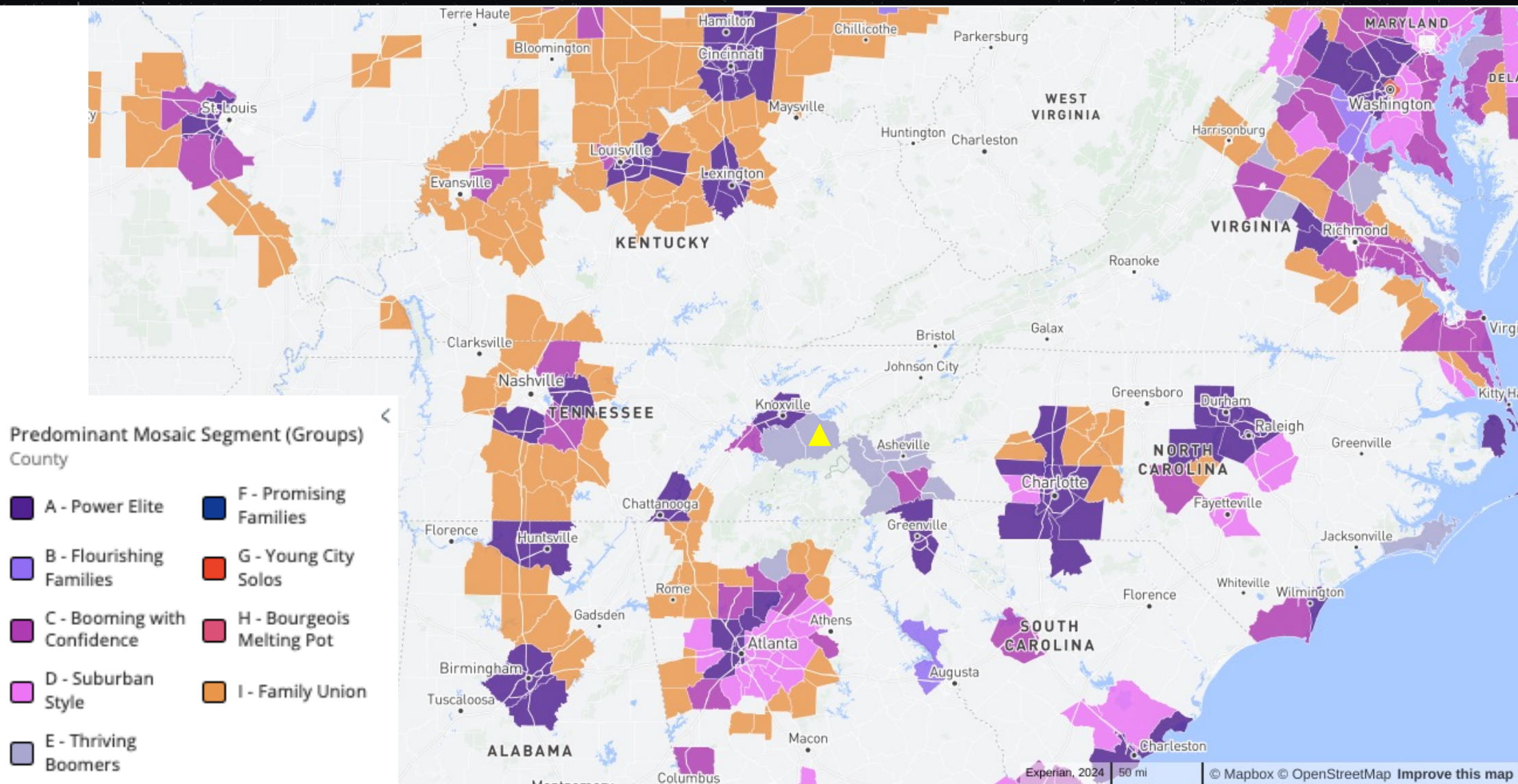
Family Union

Middle income, middle-aged families living in homes supported by solid blue-collar occupations



Target Audience

Based on Top 9 Mosaic Profiles



Apr 1, 2024 - Mar 31, 2025

Data provided by Placer Labs Inc. (www.placer.ai)

I-40 @ Hartford Re-Opened

• Good News for Pigeon Forge

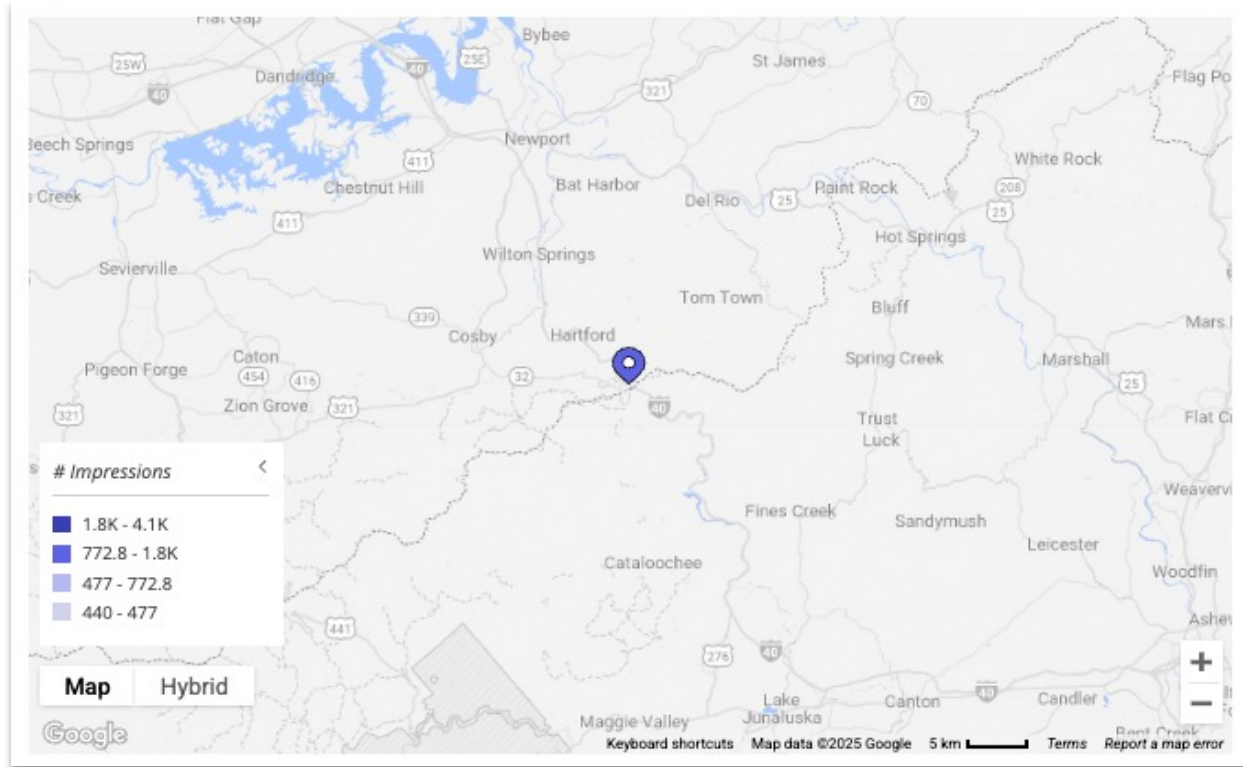
Impressions Trend ?



Placer.AI traffic pin data Jan 2024 thru Mar 2025

I-40 @ Hartford Re-Opened

• Good News for Pigeon Forge



Placer.AI traffic pin data for Mar 2025

City	Impressions
Glenwood, NC ★	4.1K (1.2%)
Taylors, SC ★	2.8K (0.8%)
Easley, SC ★	2.5K (0.7%)
Knoxville, TN	2.4K (0.7%)
Tigerville, SC ★	2.3K (0.7%)
Greer, SC ★	2K (0.6%)
Greenville, SC ★	2K (0.6%)

★ Traffic coming into Tennessee

I-40 @ Hartford Re-Opened

Good News for Pigeon Forge

Location	Visitors
Buc-ee's	51K (18%)
Tanger Outlets	40.5K (14.3%)
The Island in Pigeon Forge ★	40.2K (14.1)
Dollywood ★	26.5K (9.3%)
Walmart	23.2K (8.2%)
Tower Shops ★	21.3K (7.5%)
Buc-ee's (Richmond, KY)	20K (7%)
Haywood Mall (Greenville, SC)	15.1K (5.3%)
Harrah's Cherokee Casino (Cherokee, NC)	13.6K (4.8%)

Placer.AI traffic pin data for Mar 2025

★ Pigeon Forge locations

The background image on the left side of the slide shows a park scene. In the foreground, there is a large, ornate fountain with multiple water jets. Behind the fountain, a two-story building with a sign that says "McClintock" is visible. The scene is set in a park-like environment with trees and a clear sky.

Pigeon Forge Top Level Insights

- **Tourism Leader:** 69.2% of all devices belong to visitors (vs. 65.4% Sevier County, 27.6% TN)
- **Economic Engine:** Visitors generate 83.0% of all spending (vs. 66.4% Sevier County, 20.1% TN)
- **Local Business Champion:** 62% of visitor spending flows to local businesses (vs. 52% Sevier County, 40% TN)
- **Attraction-First Destination:** 35.1% of visitors prioritize attractions (vs. 22.0% in Sevier County) — creating a distinctive experience identity and opportunity

Takeaways

We can weather the storm together.

Stay the course on marketing.

Promote value over discount.

Target quality visitors, fill demand.



What can we learn from the business world?

Harvard Business Review, March 2010

- Harvard analyzed strategy selection and corporate performance of 4,700 public companies
- Focused on three global downturns: **1980, 1990, and 2000**

		PROMOTION-FOCUSED MOVES		
		MARKET DEVELOPMENT	ASSET INVESTMENT	BOTH
PREVENTION-FOCUSED MOVES	EMPLOYEE REDUCTION	GOOD SALES 4.6% EBITDA 6.6%	BAD SALES 3.9% EBITDA 3.3%	WORST SALES 3.3% EBITDA -5.2%
	OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY	GOOD SALES 7.1% EBITDA 4.2%	GOOD SALES 8.4% EBITDA 8.4%	BEST SALES 13.0% EBITDA 12.2%
	BOTH	BAD SALES 5.2% EBITDA 2.1%	BAD SALES 5.2% EBITDA -0.5%	GOOD SALES 9.2% EBITDA 4.6%

Major finding: Those companies that do well...“reduce costs selectively by focusing more on operational efficiency than their rivals do, even as they invest relatively comprehensively in the future by spending on marketing, R&D, and new assets.”

A serene lake scene framed by large trees, with two people kayaking in the distance.

Thanks!

TENNESSEE
SOUNDS PERFECT

Appendix

