# Maine Office of Tourism Visitor Tracking Research

# **Summer 2012 Seasonal Topline**

*Prepared by* 



# **Purpose and Methodology**



## **Research Purpose and Methodology**

The purpose of the Maine Office of Tourism's Visitor Tracking Research is to provide insight into the tourism activity in Maine. These insights are provided by three distinct surveys.

#### **National Omnibus Survey**

Information is collected from a nationally representative sample of the population of the United States

#### **Overnight Visitor Survey**

Information is collected from overnight travelers who live in Maine's core advertising markets (New England, NJ, NY, PA, DE, MD, DC and Eastern Canada) and who have taken a trip to Maine in the last four weeks

#### **Day Visitor Survey**

Information is collected from day travelers who live within a 100-mile radius of Maine's borders who have traveled to Maine within the last four weeks on a trip of greater than 50 miles outside of their usual routine

Identify Maine's share of the US travel market

Estimate the number of visitors who come to Maine

Provide a profile of Maine visitors

Estimate the amount of spending devoted to tourism in Maine

Determine the Maine traveler's level of satisfaction and view of Maine

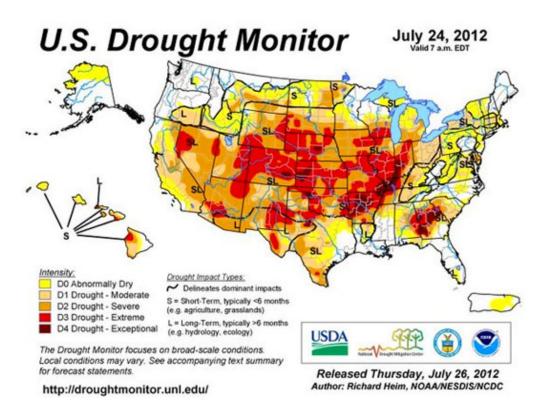


## **2012 Summer Season Travel Context**



#### **National Weather**

#### **Drought hits US hard during Summer 2012**



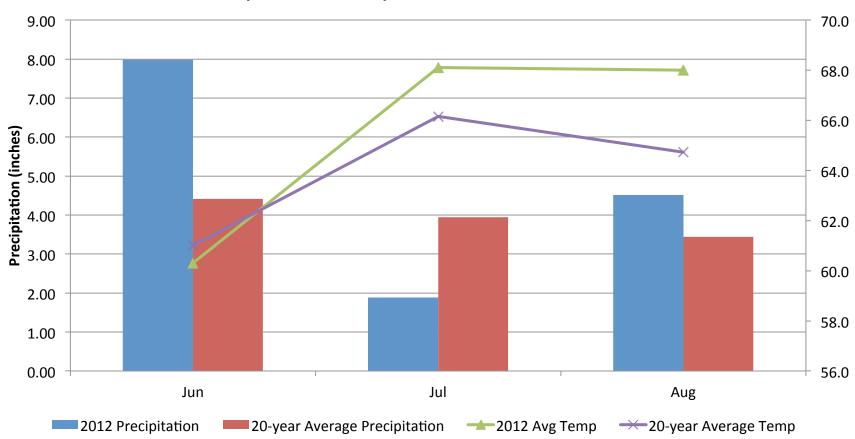


\*\*Note: 1984 = 100

Source: US Drought Monitor - NOAA.gov

#### **Maine Weather**

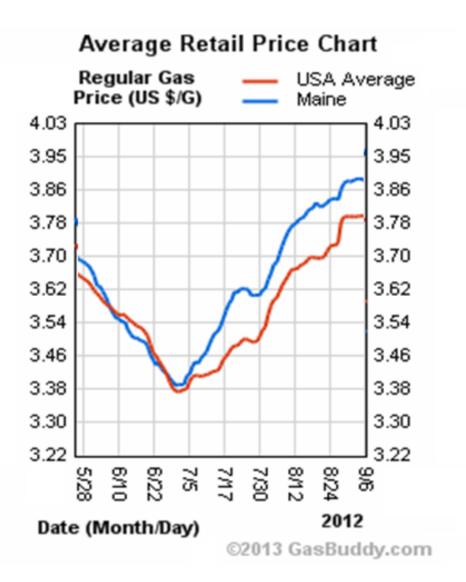
#### **Precipitation and Temperature – Maine Summer 2012**





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#### **Gas Prices**

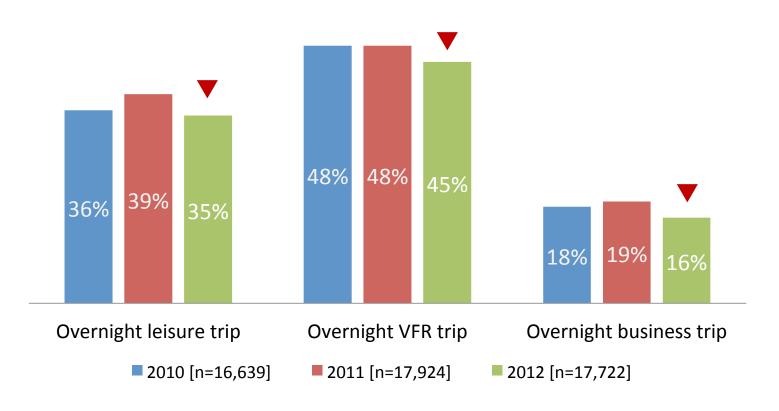




Source: GasBuddy.com

#### **National Travel Context**

## Proportion of U.S. Residents Taking a Trip During the Summer Season

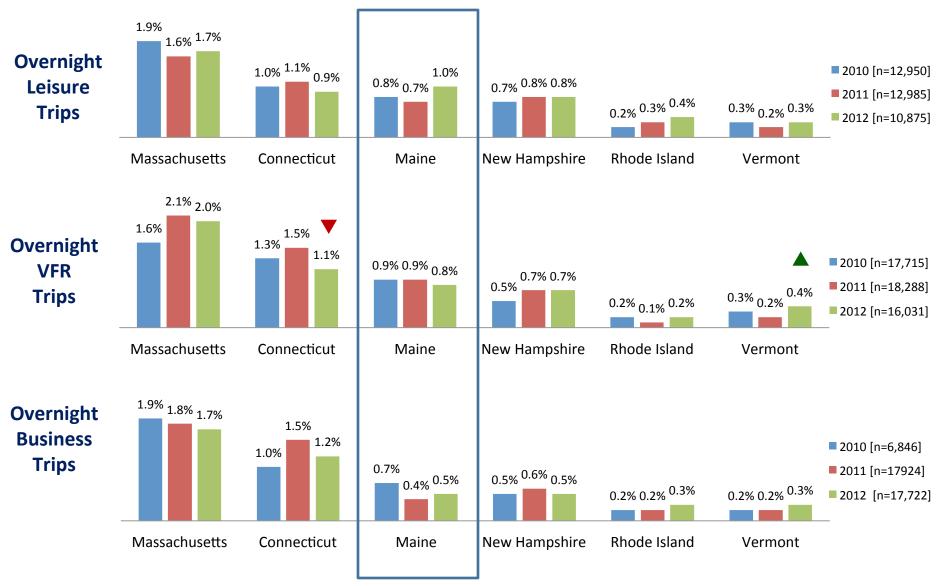




Nat'l Omnibus Q1. During the past four weeks, how many times have you taken a trip on which you spent at least one night away from home for either business, visiting friends/relatives, or leisure?



#### Maine's Market Share



dpass-

Nat'l Omnibus Q2. In which U.S. state, Canadian province, or other country was the primary destination of each of these trips? Share of total trips taken by U.S. residents.

# **2012 Summer Season Highlights**



#### **Estimated Summer Visitation to Maine\***

| Estimates          | 2012       | 2011       | 12 vs. 11<br>% Chg |
|--------------------|------------|------------|--------------------|
| Overnight Visitors | 8,725,048  | 8,333,341  | 4.7%               |
| Leisure            | 5,925,044  | 4,603,922  | 28.7%              |
| VFR                | 2,525,619  | 3,533,238  | -28.5%             |
| Business           | 274,385    | 196,181    | 39.9%              |
| Day Visitors       | 11,422,366 | 11,620,295 | -1.7%              |
| Leisure            | 7,816,642  | 7,778,359  | 0.5%               |
| VFR                | 3,001,568  | 3,438,073  | -12.7%             |
| Business           | 604,156    | 403,863    | 49.6%              |

- All leisure trips.
- VFR trips that are a general visit to see friends or relatives, a wedding, or a holiday visit.
- Business trips that are for a convention/conference/trade show or training/professional development.



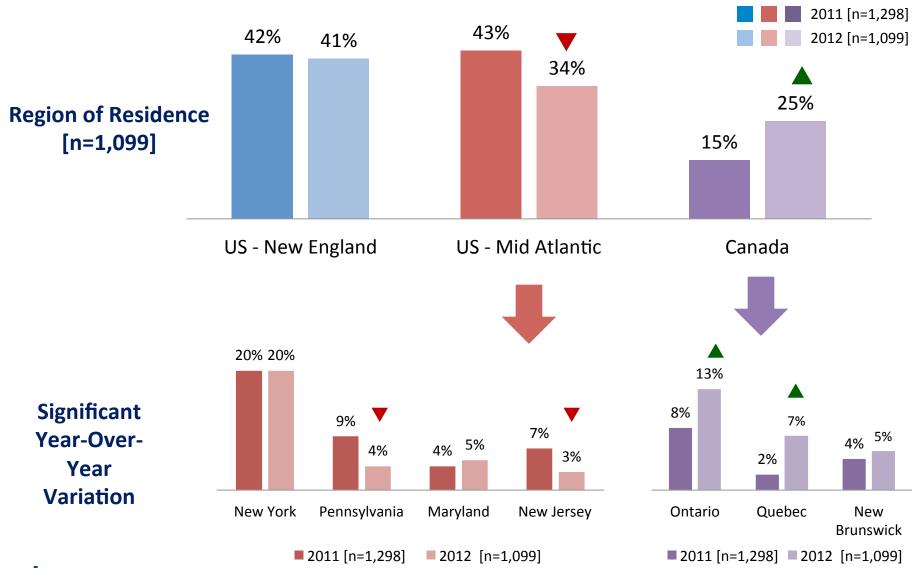
<sup>\*</sup>For the purposes of visitation estimates, <u>only visitors on tourism related trips</u> are included. Tourism related trips include:

## **Age of Maine Summer Visitors**





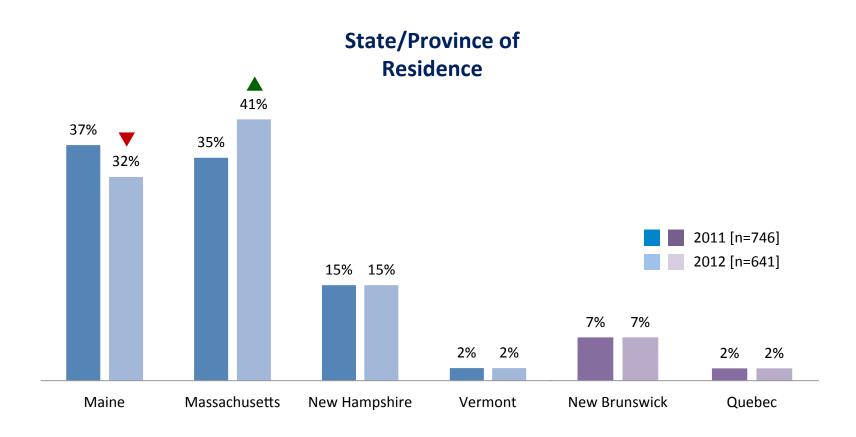
#### **Primary Residence of Maine Summer Overnight Visitors**





State/Province of Residence

#### **Primary Residence of Maine Summer Day Visitors**



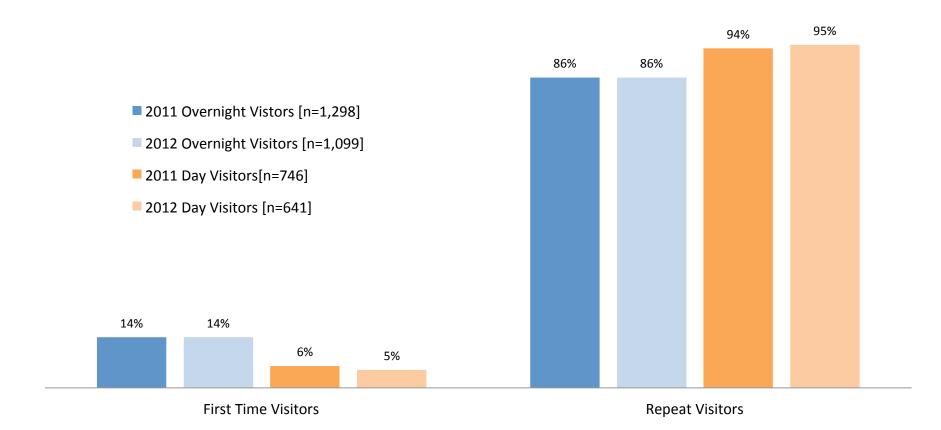
US – New England

Canada





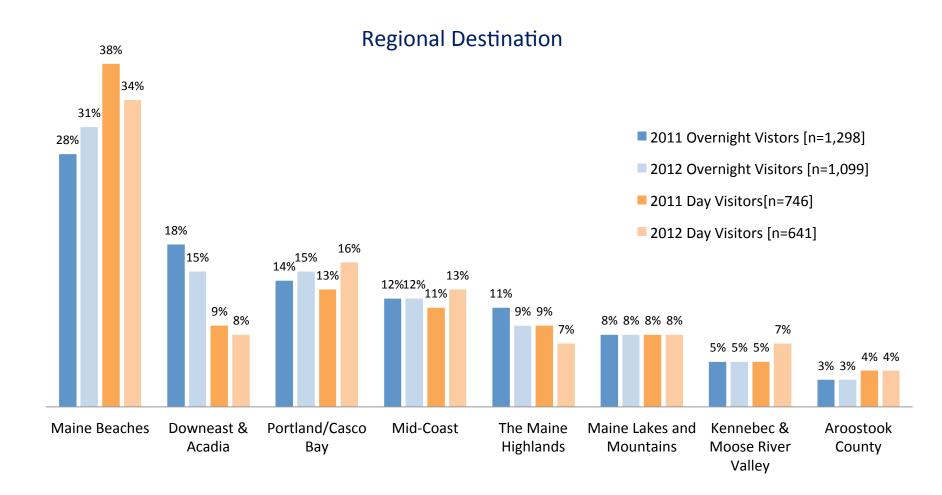
## **First Time and Repeat Visitors**







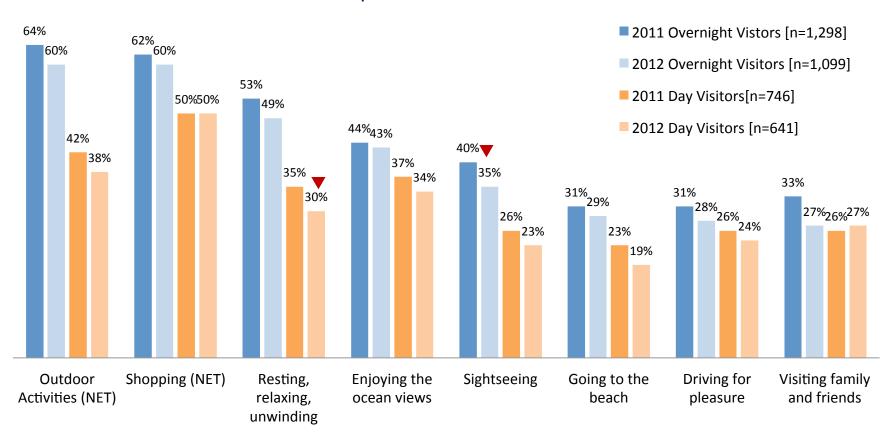
## **Regional Destination of Maine Summer Visitors**





## **Trip Activities of Maine Summer Visitors**

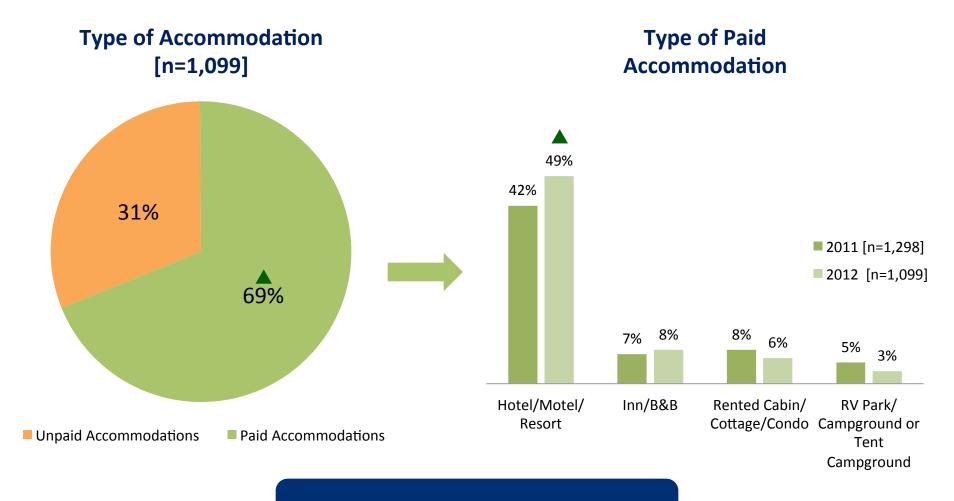
#### **Trip Activities**





Regional Q32. In which of the following activities did you participate during this trip? (Please check all that apply) Day Q10. In which of the following activities did you participate in during your most recent trip to Maine? (Please check all that apply)

#### **Accommodations – Overnight Visitors**



Average Length of Stay: 3.7 Nights

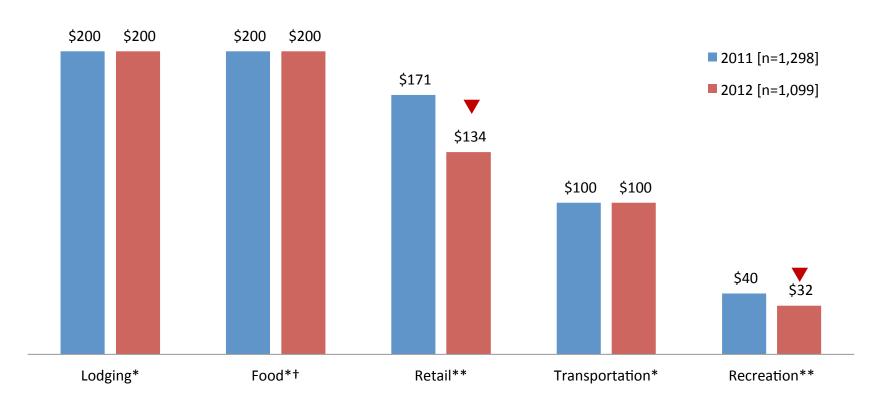


Regional Q8. On this trip to Maine, how many nights were you away from home?
Regional Q27. In which of the following types of accommodations did you spend the most nights on this trip to Maine?



## **Average Spending – Overnight Visitors**

#### **Spending**



Regional Q33. Please tell us the amount of money you and your immediate travel party spent on this trip in Maine in each of the following categories below.

<sup>†</sup>Food expenditures from 2011 and 2012 are not directly comparable due to the addition of the "grocery" category in 2012.

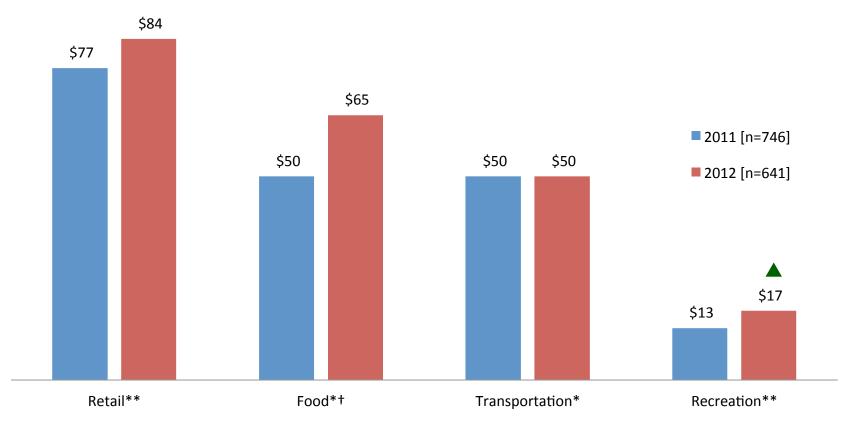


<sup>\*</sup>Median Expenditures

<sup>\*\*</sup>Mean Expenditures

## **Average Spending – Day Visitors**





Day Q14. Please tell us the amount of money you and your immediate travel party spent on this trip in Maine in each of the following categories below.

<sup>†</sup>Food expenditures from 2011 and 2012 are not directly comparable due to the addition of the "grocery" category in 2012.



<sup>\*</sup>Median Expenditures

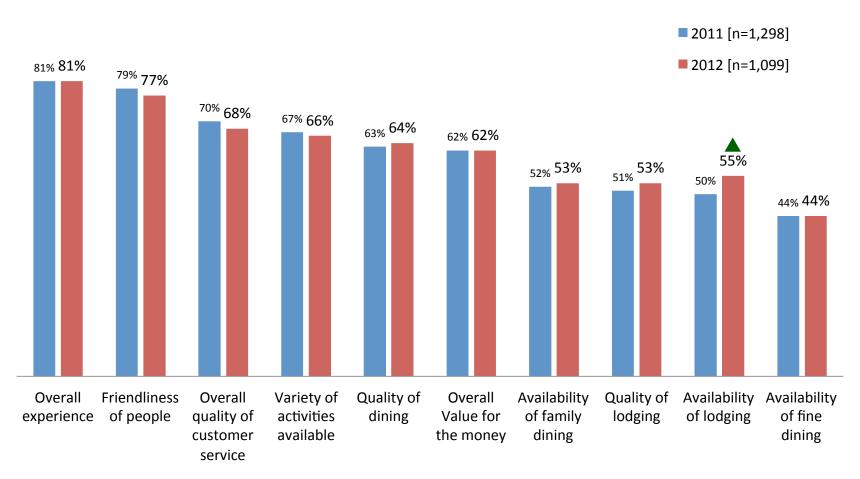
<sup>\*\*</sup>Mean Expenditures

# **Trip Evaluation**



## **Maine Compared to Other Destinations – Overnight Visitors**

Top 2 Box Rating – "Better than Others"



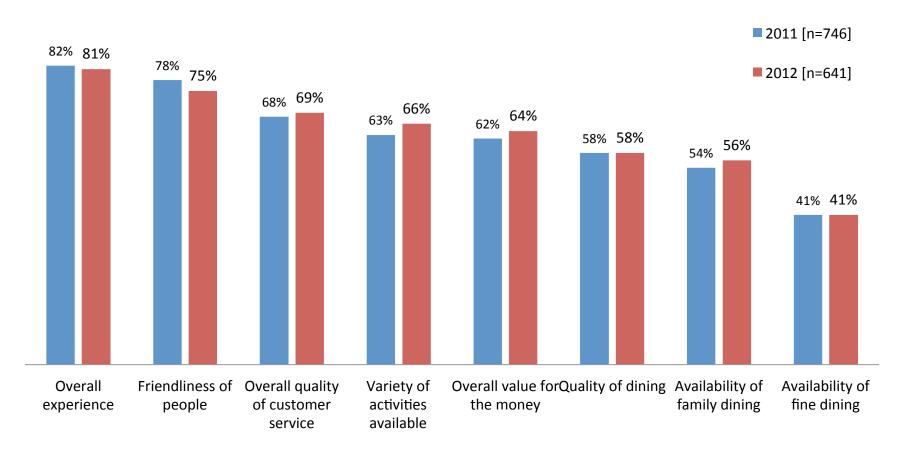


Regional Q34. Using the scale provided in the table below, please evaluate your trip to Maine as compared to other destinations you've visited.



## Maine Compared to Other Destinations – Day Visitors

#### Top 2 Box Rating – "Better than Others"

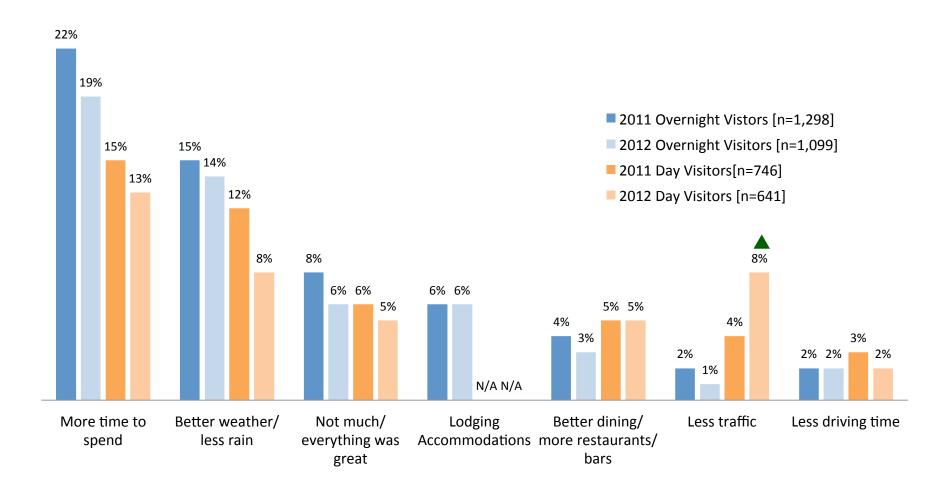




Day Q13. Using the scale provided in the table below, please evaluate your day trip in Maine as compared to other destinations you've visited.



#### **Aspect of the Trip that Could Have Been Better**





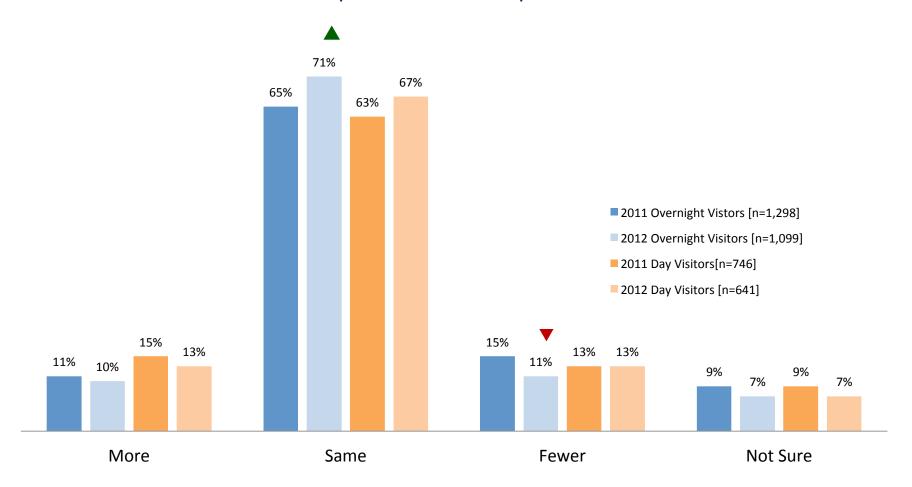
Regional Q36. What do you wish could have been better on this trip in Maine? Day Q17. What do you wish could have been better?

# **Future Travel Prospects**



## **Future Intentions for Leisure Trips to Anywhere**

Overall Leisure Trips Planned in Comparison to Last Year

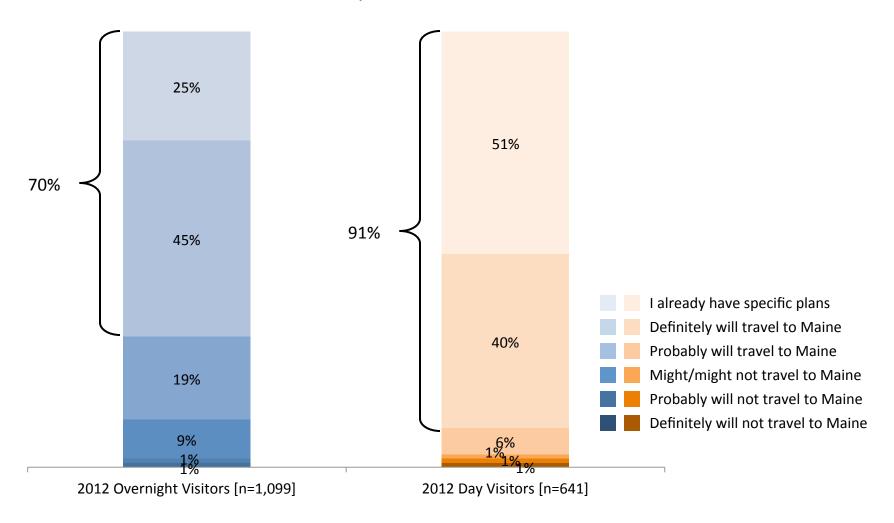




Regional Q46, Day Q23. Is this more, the same, or fewer than the number of <u>leisure</u> trips you took during the same period <u>last</u> year?

#### **Future Travel to Maine**

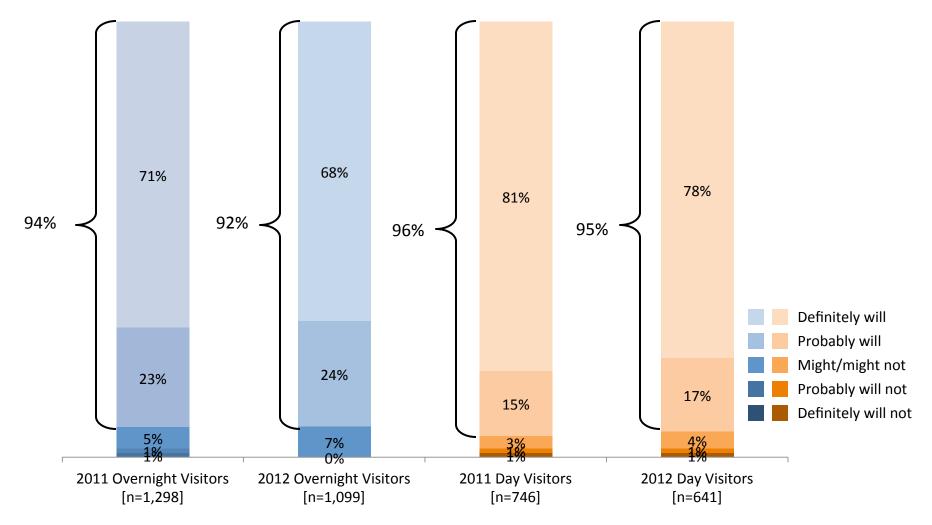
#### Likelihood of Trip to Maine in Next Two Years





#### **Recommend a Trip to Maine**

#### Likelihood of Recommending a Trip to Maine to Friends and Family





Regional Q38, Day Q19b. How likely will you be to recommend Maine as a vacation destination to friends or relatives?



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