

Sanibel & Captiva Islands, Fort Myers Beach, Fort Myers, Bonita Springs, Estero, Cape Coral, Pine Island, Boca Grande & Outer Islands, North Fort Myers, Lehigh Acres

## September 2012 Visitor Profile and Occupancy Analysis November 16, 2012

#### **Prepared for:**

Lee County Board of County Commissioners

Lee County Visitor and Convention Bureau

Prepared by:

**Davidson-Peterson Associates** 





# **Executive Summary September 2012**

Throughout this report, statistically significant differences between responses for 2011 and 2012 at the 95% confidence level are noted with an A,B lettering system. For example:

2010	2011
A	B
60%	70%A

In the table above 70% in Column B is statistically greater than 60% in Column A.





## **Executive Summary**

#### **Visitation Estimates**

- During September 2012, Lee County hosted 139,200 visitors staying in paid accommodations and 101,100 staying with friends or relatives while visiting, for a total of about 240,300 visitors.
- September 2012 visitation among paid accommodations guests was up 4.6% year-over-year. Visitation among those staying with friends or relatives was down 15.1% from September 2011, when there was substantial growth over 2010. The total number of visitors during September 2012 was 4.7% lower than the prior year but on par with 2010.

Estimated Visitation	2011	2012	% Change
Paid Accommodations	133,071	139,239	4.6%
Friends/Relatives	119,068	101,063	-15.1%
Total Visitation	252,139	240,302	-4.7%

#### **Visitor Expenditures**

- September 2012 visitors spent an estimated \$104.4 million during their stay a healthy increase from spending levels estimated for September 2011 (+9.6%).
- Paid accommodations guests contributed \$70
  million roughly two-thirds of the total. Those
  visiting friends and relatives added another \$34
  million. Spending among both visitor segments
  was showed increases over the prior year, despite
  the decline in VFR visitation.

Estimated Expenditures	2011	2012	% Change
Paid Accommodations	\$68,176,524	\$69,930,031	2.6%
Friends/Relatives	\$27,087,605	\$34,459,161	27.2%
Total Expenditures	\$95,264,129	\$104,389,192	9.6%





#### **Visitor Origin**

- Fully three-quarters of September 2012 visitors staying in paid accommodations were U.S. residents (77%) – a higher proportion than last year (65%). Lee County drew the largest share of international visitors from Germany.
- A sizeable minority of September 2012 domestic paid accommodations guests came from the South (39%) – most of them Florida residents. Three in ten are from the Midwest (30%) and two in ten from the Northeast (22%).
- New York was the top domestic feeder market for the Lee County lodging industry in September 2012 and Tampa ranked second. West Palm Beach, Chicago, and Washington, DC had a strong presence among paid lodging guests.

2012 Top DMAs (Paid Accommodations)						
New York	9%	9,875				
Tampa-Saint Petersburg (Sarasota)	7%	7,900				
West Palm Beach-Fort Pierce	5%	4,938				
Chicago	5%	4,938				
Washington, DC (Hagerstown)	5%	4,938				
Miami-Fort Lauderdale	4%	3,950				
Dayton	4%	3,950				
Columbus, OH	3%	2,963				
Cincinnati	3%	2,963				

Visitors Staying in Paid Accommodations						
	9	6	Visitor E	stimates	% Change	
Country of Origin	2011	2012	2011	2012		
United States	65%	<77%>	86,155	106,651	23.8%	
Germany	13%	13%	17,060	17,775	4.2%	
UK	<12%>	2%	15,354	2,963	-80.7%	
Canada	4%	1%	5,971	1,975	-66.9%	
BeNeLux	1%	1%	1,706	1,975	15.8%	
Switzerland	1%	1%	1,706	1,975	15.8%	
Scandinavia	1%	1%	853	1,975	131.5%	
Other Europe	1%	1%	853	1,975	131.5%	
France	2%	1%	2,559	988	-61.4%	
Austria	1%	-	853	-	-	
Other	-	1%	-	988	-	

Visitors Staying in Paid Accommodations						
	9	6	Visitor E	stimates	% Change	
U.S. Region of Origin	2011	2012	2011	2012		
Florida	28%	19%	23,885	20,738	-13.2%	
South (including Florida)	46%	39%	39,239	41,475	5.7%	
Midwest	30%	30%	25,591	31,600	23.5%	
Northeast	15%	22%	12,795	23,700	85.2%	
West	-	4%	-	3,950	-	
No Answer	10%	6%	8,530	5,925	-30.5%	

<> indicates a significant difference between 2011 and 2012 responses at the 95% confidence level.

Note: The percentage of visitors by origin market is based on data collected from visitors in the Visitor Profile Survey.





#### **Trip Planning**

- The trip planning window reported by September 2012 visitors was similar in length to that of September 2011 visitors. Well over half said they started talking about and chose Lee County for their trip destination three or more months in advance but fewer than half made their lodging reservations that far out.
  - 71% started talking about trip in that timeframe (vs. 68% September 2011)
  - 63% chose Lee County for trip (vs. 59% September 2011)
  - 45% made lodging reservation (vs. 48% September 2011)
- Use of the internet while planning their Lee County trip continued to be prevalent among September 2012 visitors eighty-six percent claim to have visited one or more websites. Visitors most often mentioned using airline websites (42%). While laptop or desktop computers were still the most frequently mentioned device visitors said they typically access online destination planning information, about one-third indicated they use a smartphone (36%).
- Consistent with reports from September 2011 visitors, the attributes that received the highest ratings among September 2012 visitors with regard to influencing their selection when talking about coming to Lee County were:
  - Peaceful/relaxing (85%),
  - Warm weather (83%), and
  - White sandy beaches (80%).

#### Visitor Profile

- More than two-thirds of September 2012 visitors arrived by plane when traveling to the area (71%). Most of those who flew came through Southwest Florida International Airport (82%). In contrast, only 63% of September 2011 visitors traveling by air claimed they flew into RSW a significantly lower proportion.
- The average number of days away from home (9.6), in Florida (8.9), and in Lee County (7.4) was about one day shorter among September 2012 visitors than among September 2011 visitors.
- About half of visitors interviewed indicated they were staying in hotel/motel/resorts (49%) during their trip. One-third said they were staying in a condo/vacation home property (34%). Fully half of those staying in paid accommodations reported that the quality of their accommodations far exceeded or exceeded expectations (51%).





#### Visitor Profile (cont'd)

- The top activities visitors enjoyed in Lee County during September 2012 were beaches (96%), relaxing (80%), dining out (76%), swimming (65%), and shopping (57%).
- Overall, visitor satisfaction remains extremely high nine in ten September 2012 visitors reported being *very satisfied* (58%) or *satisfied* (35%) with their visit. About the same proportion indicated they are likely to return to Lee County (88%), more than half of whom claimed they will return next year (57%). The majority also said they will recommend Lee County to a friend over other areas in Florida (85%).
- When asked what they disliked about the Lee County area, about one-quarter of September 2012 visitors reported *insects* (27%) as a concern, which was also the most frequent mention among September 2011 visitors (21%). September 2012 visitors also cited *traffic* as a dislike but at much lower levels (15%), although a higher incidence than reported by 2011 visitors.
- The demographic composition of September 2012 visitors can be summarized as follows:
  - 48 years of age on average
  - \$96,600 household income on average
  - 70% married
  - 27% traveling as a family
  - 47% traveling as a couple
  - 86% traveling without children
  - 2 to 3 people in travel party on average





#### **Lodging Industry Assessments**

• For the Lee County lodging industry in total, available room nights declined 2.1% from September 2011 to 2012 while occupied room nights rose 1.8%. Hotel/motel/resort and RV Park/campground properties had increases in occupied room nights coupled with flat or declining room night availability. Condos/vacation homes had a drop in available room nights but the corresponding rate of decline in occupied room nights was not as great.

	Occup	pied Room Ni	ghts	Avail	able Room Ni	ghts
	2011	2012	% Change	2011	2012	% Change
Hotel/Motel/Resort/B&B	138,505	142,441	2.8%	334,440	328,290	-1.8%
Condo/Cottage/Vacation Home	47,200	46,212	-2.1%	147,885	140,940	-4.7%
RV Park/Campground	32,513	33,564	3.2%	144,150	144,228	0.1%
Total	218,218	222,217	1.8%	626,475	613,458	-2.1%

- As a result, the industry-wide average occupancy rate in Lee County jumped from 34.8% in September 2011 to 36.2% in September 2012 (+4.0%). Average occupancy rate increased for all three property types.
- At the same time, Lee County's average daily rate held showed somewhat of increase year-over-year (+1.4%). ADR was relatively unchanged versus last September for hotels/motels/resorts and RV parks/campgrounds, while condos/vacation homes saw notable growth in ADR (+6.7%).
- These increase in both average occupancy rate and ADR fostered a 5.4% uptick in RevPAR for September year-over-year. As with average occupancy rate, increases were observed across all three property types.

	Averag	e Occupan	cy Rate	Ave	rage Daily	Rate		RevPAR	
	2011	2012	% Change	2011	2012	% Change	2011	2012	% Change
<b>Property Managers Responding</b>	106	101		107	100		106/107	101/100	
Hotel/Motel/Resort/B&B	41.4%	43.4%	4.8%	\$101.38	\$101.43	0.1%	\$41.99	\$44.01	4.8%
Condo/Cottage/Vacation Home	31.9%	32.8%	2.8%	\$107.38	\$114.54	6.7%	\$34.27	\$37.56	9.6%
RV Park/Campground	22.6%	23.3%	3.1%	\$41.80	\$41.47	-0.8%	\$9.43	\$9.65	2.3%
AVERAGE	34.8%	36.2%	4.0%	\$93.80	\$95.10	1.4%	\$32.67	\$34.45	5.4%





#### Lodging Industry Assessments (cont'd)

• Lee County property managers' commentary on projected reservations for the fall season 2012 (October – December) matched the level of optimism expressed this time last year. About one-third of managers responding reported that their total level of reservations for the next three months (October, November, and December) are <u>up</u> over the same period the prior year (32%) – about the same as reports in 2011 (37%). Slightly fewer than half said reservations for the next three months of 2012 are at least the <u>same</u> as the same time last year (46% vs. 36% September 2011), and two in ten claimed that their reservations are <u>down</u> for the next three months (21% vs. 26% September 2011).





## **September 2012 Lee County Snapshot**

Total Visitation						
% Visitor Estimates						
	2011	2012	2011	2012		
Paid Accommodations	53%	58%	133,071	139,239		
Friends/Relatives	47%	42%	119,068	101,063		
Total Visitation			252,139	240,302		

Total Visitor Expenditures					
2011 2012 % Chang					
Total Visitor Expenditures	\$95,264,129	\$104,389,192	9.6%		
Paid Accommodations	\$68,176,524	\$69,930,031	2.6%		

Visitor Origin - Visitors Staying in Paid Accommodations						
	9	6	Visitor Estimates			
	2011	2012	2011	2012		
Florida	28%	19%	23,885	20,738		
United States	65%	77%	86,155	106,651		
Germany	13%	13%	17,060	17,775		
UK	12%	2%	15,354	2,963		
Canada	4%	1%	5,971	1,975		
Other International	6%	7%	8,530	9,875		
No Answer	-	-	-	-		

Average Per Person Per Day Expenditures					
2011	2011 2012 % Change				
\$100.50	\$103.50	+3.0%			

First-Time/Repeat Visitors to Lee County						
	2011	2012				
First-time	27%	32%				
Repeat	72%	68%				

	Averag	Average Occupancy Rate			Average Daily Rate			RevPAR		
	2011	2012	% Change	2011	2012	% Change	2011	2012	% Change	
<b>Property Managers Responding</b>	106	101		107	100		106/107	101/100		
Hotel/Motel/Resort/B&B	41.4%	43.4%	4.8%	\$101.38	\$101.43	0.1%	\$41.99	\$44.01	4.8%	
Condo/Cottage/Vacation Home	31.9%	32.8%	2.8%	\$107.38	\$114.54	6.7%	\$34.27	\$37.56	9.6%	
RV Park/Campground	22.6%	23.3%	3.1%	\$41.80	\$41.47	-0.8%	\$9.43	\$9.65	2.3%	
AVERAGE	34.8%	36.2%	4.0%	\$93.80	\$95.10	1.4%	\$32.67	\$34.45	5.4%	





## **Calendar YTD 2012 Lee County Snapshot**

Total Calendar Year Visitation						
	% Visitor Estimates					
	2011	2012	2011	2012		
Paid Accommodations	53%	50%	1,913,600	1,862,636		
Friends/Relatives	47%	50%	1,705,073	1,839,482		
Total Visitation			3,618,673	3,702,118		

Total Visitor Expenditures					
2011 2012 % Change					
Total Visitor Expenditures	\$2,202,557,505	\$2,166,114,218	-1.7%		
Paid Accommodations	\$1,396,063,027	\$1,389,302,507	-0.5%		

Visitor Origin - Visitors Staying in Paid Accommodations						
	%	6	Visitor E	stimates		
	2011	2012	2011	2012		
Florida	14%	11%	217,820	167,123		
US	81%	80%	1,545,206	1,496,965		
Germany	4%	6%	71,632	114,272		
Canada	6%	3%	111,103	62,850		
UK	4%	3%	73,094	54,279		
Other International	5%	7%	95,022	131,413		
No Answer	1%	<1%	17,543	2,857		

Average Per Person Per Day Expenditures				
2011	2012	% Change		
\$113.74	\$118.23	+4.0%		

First-Time/Repeat Visitors to Lee County					
2011 2012					
First-time	26%	26%			
Repeat	72%	73%			

	Averag	e Occupan	cy Rate	Average Daily Rate			RevPAR		
	2011	2012	% Change	2011	2012	% Change	2011	2012	% Change
Hotel/Motel/Resort/B&B	59.7%	61.9%	3.8%	\$137.32	\$141.11	2.8%	\$81.95	\$87.40	6.6%
Condo/Cottage/Vacation Home	58.3%	59.9%	2.9%	\$174.70	\$180.62	3.4%	\$101.78	\$108.25	6.4%
RV Park/Campground	51.8%	50.1%	-3.3%	\$47.05	\$50.17	6.6%	\$24.38	\$25.14	3.1%
AVERAGE	57.5%	58.7%	2.0%	\$126.63	\$131.94	4.2%	\$72.80	\$77.39	6.3%





## Visitor Profile Analysis September 2012

A total of 204 interviews were conducted with visitors in Lee County during the month of September 2012. A total sample of this size is considered accurate to plus or minus 6.9 percentage points at the 95% confidence level.

A total of 206 interviews were conducted with visitors in Lee County during the month of September 2011. A total sample of this size is considered accurate to plus or minus 6.8 percentage points at the 95% confidence level.

Due to the short time period and the sample size involved, monthly results will fluctuate and should be viewed with caution for decision-making purposes.





## **Travel Planning**

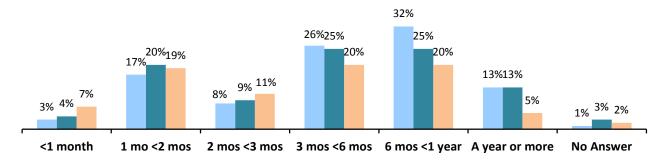
	Started Talking About Trip		Chose Lee Co	ounty for Trip	Made Lodging Reservations	
	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012
	Α	В	Α	В	Α	В
<b>Total Respondents</b>	206	204	206	204	206	204
Less than 3 months (NET)	<u>30%</u>	<u>28%</u>	<u>36%</u>	<u>33%</u>	<u>43%</u>	<u>37%</u>
<1 month	6%	3%	6%	4%	9%	7%
1 month - <2 months	13%	17%	15%	20%	17%	19%
2 months - <3 months	12%	8%	16%	9%	16%	11%
3 months or more (NET)	<u>68%</u>	<u>71%</u>	<u>59%</u>	<u>63%</u>	<u>48%</u>	<u>45%</u>
3 months - <6 months	26%	26%	22%	25%	20%	20%
6 months - <1 year	29%	32%	26%	25%	21%	20%
A year or more	13%	13%	10%	13%	7%	5%
No Lodging Reservations Made	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	16%
No Answer	1%	1%	5%	3%	9%	2%

Q3a: When did you "start talking" about going on this trip? Q3b: When did you choose Lee County for this trip?

Q3c. When did you make lodging reservations for this trip?

#### September 2012 Travel Planning

■ Started talking about trip ■ Chose Lee County for trip ■ Made Lodging reservations







#### **Devices Used to Access Destination Planning Information** 2012 **Total Respondents** 204 100% Any (NET) 97% Laptop computer 65% Desktop computer 49% Smartphone (iPhone, Blackberry, etc.) 36% Tablet (iPad, etc.) 23% E-Reader (Nook, Kindle, etc.) 2% Other portable device 1% None of these 2% <1% No Answer

Q5. Which of the following devices, if any, do you typically use to access destination planning information available online? (Please mark ALL that apply.)

Note: New question added in 2012.

### **Travel Planning**

Travel Websites Visited					
	2011	2012			
	Α	В			
Total Respondents 2011 - who have access to a computer 2012 - who use devices for destination planning	195	198			
Visited web sites (net)	<u>81%</u>	<u>86%</u>			
Airline websites	31%	42%A			
Hotel websites	29%	31%			
Search Engines	28%	30%			
Booking websites	23%	30%			
Trip Advisor	20%	19%			
www.FortMyers-Sanibel.com	15%	16%			
Visit Florida	13%	8%			
Facebook	N/A	5%			
AAA	6%	4%			
Travel Channel	1%	N/A			
Other	17%	11%			
None/Didn't visit websites	15%	12%			
No Answer	4%	2%			

Q6. While planning this trip, which of the following web sites did you visit? (Please mark ALL that apply.)

Note: Question 6 revised in 2012. Results are not directly comparable to the same month last year.





## **Travel Planning**

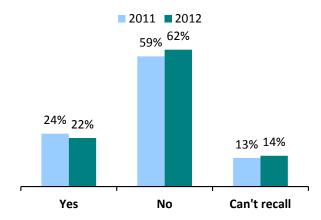
Travel Information Requested					
	2011	2012			
	Α	В			
Total Respondents	206	204			
Requested information (NET)	<u>32%</u>	31%			
Hotel Web Site	12%	12%			
VCB website	9%	8%			
Call hotel	5%	8%			
Visitor Guide	6%	3%			
Other	10%	10%			
None/Did not request information	<u>57%</u>	<u>64%</u>			
No Answer	11%B	4%			

Q7: For this trip, did you request any information about our area by: (Please mark ALL that apply.)

Recall of Lee County Promotions						
	2011	2012				
	Α	В				
Total Respondents 206 204						
Yes	24%	22%				
No	59%	62%				
Can't Recall	13%	14%				

Q8: Over the past six months, have you seen, read or heard any travel stories, advertising or promotions for the Lee County area?

#### **Recall of Promotions**







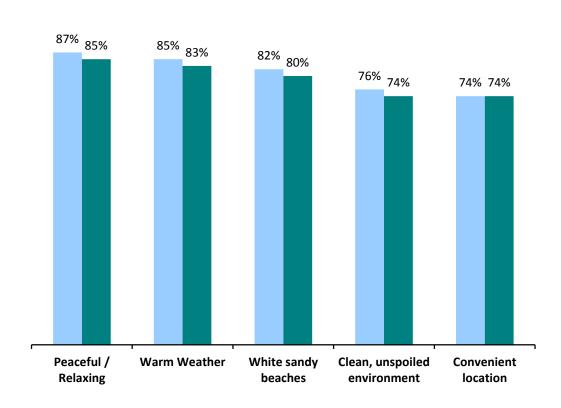
#### **Travel Decision Influences\*** 2011 2012 В Α **Total Respondents** 206 204 Peaceful / Relaxing 87% 85% Warm weather 85% 83% White sandy beaches 82% 80% Clean, unspoiled environment 76% 74% Convenient location 74% 74% A safe destination 77% 73% Good value for the money 74% 72% Upscale accommodations 57% 51% Reasonably priced lodging 71%B 62% Plenty to see and do 63% 61% Affordable dining 61% 61% A "family" atmosphere 63%B 53%

Q9: When you were talking about coming to Lee County, if one (1) is "Not at All Influential" and five (5) is "Definitely Influential," how strongly did the following influence your selection?

## **Travel Planning**

#### **TopTravel Decisions Influences\***







<sup>\*</sup> Percentages shown reflect top 2 box scores (rating of 4 or 5)



## **Trip Profile**

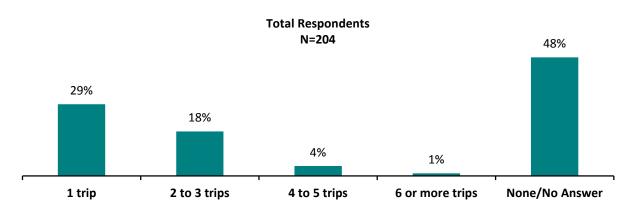
Mode of Transportation				
2011 2012				
	Α	В		
Total Respondents	206	204		
Fly	64%	71%		
Drive a personal vehicle	26%	23%		
Drive a rental vehicle	7%	6%		
Drive an RV	2%	-		
Other/No Answer (NET)	1%	1%		

Q1: How did you travel to our area? Did you...

Airport Used			
	2011	2012	
	Α	В	
Total Respondents	132	145	
SW Florida Int'l (Fort Myers)	63%	82%A	
Miami Int'l	15%B	8%	
Orlando Int'l	10%B	2%	
Tampa Int'l	3%	2%	
Ft. Lauderdale Int'l	4%	3%	
West Palm Beach Int'l	-	-	
Sarasota / Bradenton	-	1%	
Other/No Answer (NET)	5%	4%	

Q2: At which Florida airport did you land?

### Frequency of Using SW Florida Int'l (in Past Year)



Q40. In the past year, how many trips have you taken where you used Southwest Florida International airport (Fort Myers) for your air travel? *Note: New question added in January 2012.* 

providing direction



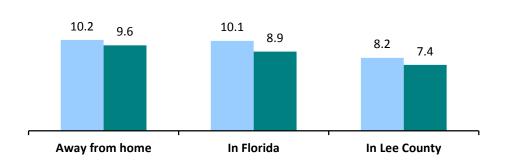
**Trip Profile** 

Trip Length Mean # of Days					
	2011	2012	% Change		
	Α	В			
Total Respondents	206	204			
Away from home	10.2	9.6	-5.9%		
In Florida	10.1	8.9	-11.9%		
In Lee County	8.2	7.4	-12.9%		

Q4a/b/c: On this trip, how many days will you be:

Trip Length (mean # of days)







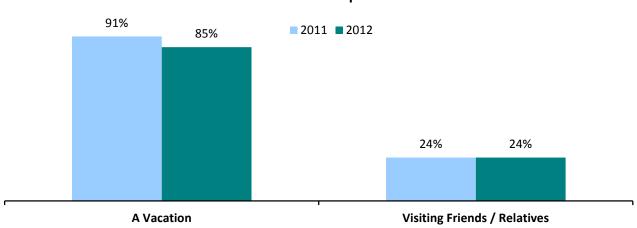


**Trip Profile** 

Reason(s) for Visit				
2011 2012				
	Α	В		
Total Respondents	206	204		
A Vacation	91%	85%		
Visiting Friends / Relatives	24%	24%		
Other Business Trip	<1%	3%		
Personal Business	2%	2%		
Sporting Event(s)	-	1%		
A Convention / Trade Show	-	<1%		
A Conference / Meeting	1%	-		
Other/No Answer	1%	<1%		

Q10: Did you come to our area for...(Please mark all that apply.)

## **Reason for September Visit**







## **Trip Profile**

First Time Visitors to Lee County								
	То	tal	Florida R	tesidents	Out-of-Stat	e Residents	Internation	nal Visitors
	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012
	Α	В	Α	В	Α	В	Α	В
<b>Total Respondents</b>	206	204	36*	27*	89	124	43*	179
First-time visitor	27%	32%	11%	N/A	22%	33%	47%	33%
Repeat visitor	72%	68%	87%	N/A	78%	67%	51%	66%
No Answer	1%	<1%	3%	N/A	-	-	2%	1%

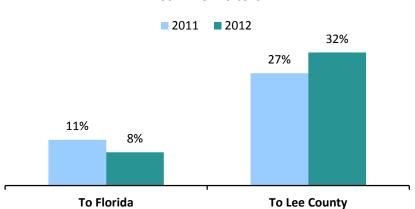
Q15: Is this your first visit to Lee County?

<sup>\*\*</sup>N/A: Insufficient number of responses for statistical analysis (N<30).

First Time Visitors to Florida			
2011 2012			
Total Respondents	206	204	
	Α	В	
Yes, first-time visitor	11%	8%	
No	70%	76%	
No answer	1%	2%	
FL Residents*	18%	13%	

Q13: Is this your first visit to Florida?

#### **First Time Visitors**



<sup>\*</sup>Note: Small sample size. (N<70) Please interpret results with caution.

<sup>\*</sup>Florida residents are shown as a proportion of total visitor interviews conducted, though FL residents are <u>not</u> asked this question .



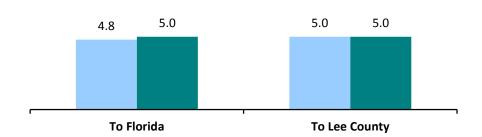
## **Trip Profile**

Previous Visits in Five Years					
	Mean # of Visits to Florida Mean # of Visits to Lee County				
	2011	2012	2011	2012	
	Α	В	Α	В	
Base: Repeat Visitors	145(FL res. Excl)	156(FL res. Excl)	149	138	
Number of visits	4.8	5.0	5.0	5.0	

Q14: Over the past five (5) years, how many times have you visited Florida? Q16: Over the past five (5) years, how many times have you visited Lee County?

#### **Previous Visits in Five Years**

**■** 2011 **■** 2012





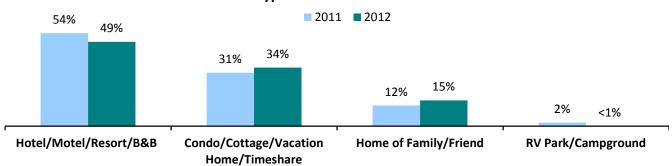


**Trip Profile** 

Type of Accommodations Used				
	2011	2012		
	Α	В		
Total Respondents	206	204		
Hotel/Motel/Resort/B&B (NET)	<u>54%</u>	<u>49%</u>		
At a hotel/motel/historic inn	32%	30%		
At a resort	21%	19%		
At a Bed and Breakfast	1%	-		
Condo/Cottage/Vacation Home/Timeshare (NET)	<u>31%</u>	<u>34%</u>		
Rented home/condo	20%	20%		
Owned home/condo	8%	9%		
Borrowed home/condo	4%	5%		
At the home of family or a friend	12%	15%		
RV Park/Campground (NET)	2%	<1%		
Daytripper (No Accommodations)	1%	1%		

Q20: Are you staying overnight (either last night or tonight):

### **Type of Accommodations Used**







**Trip Profile** 

Quality of Accommodations				
	Total Respondents Paid Accommodations			
	2011	2012	2011	2012
	Α	В	Α	В
Respondents	206	204	156	141
Far exceeded/Exceeded expectations	54%	51%	50%	51%
Met your expectations	38%	39%	46%	42%
Did not meet/Far below expectations	2%	2%	2%	3%
No Answer	6%	7%	3%	4%

Q21: How would you describe the quality of your accommodations? Do you feel they:

## **Quality of Accommodations**



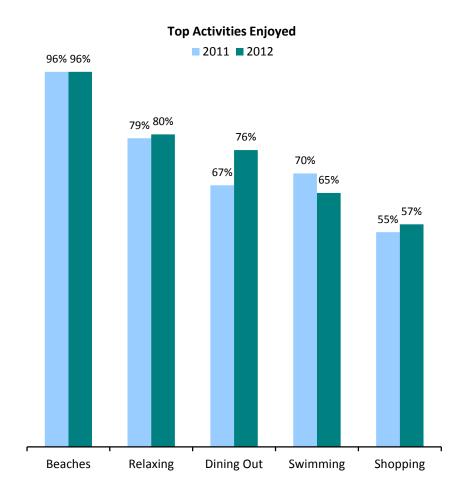




Activities Enjoyed				
	2011	2012		
	Α	В		
<b>Total Respondents</b>	206	204		
Beaches	96%	96%		
Relaxing	79%	80%		
Dining Out	67%	76%A		
Swimming	70%	65%		
Shopping	55%	57%		
Shelling	37%	37%		
Sightseeing	33%	35%		
Visiting Friends/Relatives	25%	24%		
Watching Wildlife	22%	22%		
Photography	21%	22%		
Attractions	22%	21%		
Bars / Nightlife	15%	16%		
Exercise / Working Out	12%	12%		
Bicycle Riding	12%	10%		
Birdwatching	12%	10%		
Fishing	7%	8%		
Parasailing / Jet Skiing	9%	7%		
Boating	8%	7%		
Guided Tour	8%	6%		
Kayaking / Canoeing	7%	6%		
Golfing	6%	6%		
Miniature Golf	8%	5%		
Cultural Events	5%	2%		
Scuba Diving / Snorkeling	2%	1%		
Sporting Event	2%	1%		
Tennis	1%	1%		
Other	3%	1%		
No Answer	-	1%		

Q23: What activities or interests are you enjoying while in Lee County? (Please mark ALL that apply.)

## **Trip Activities**



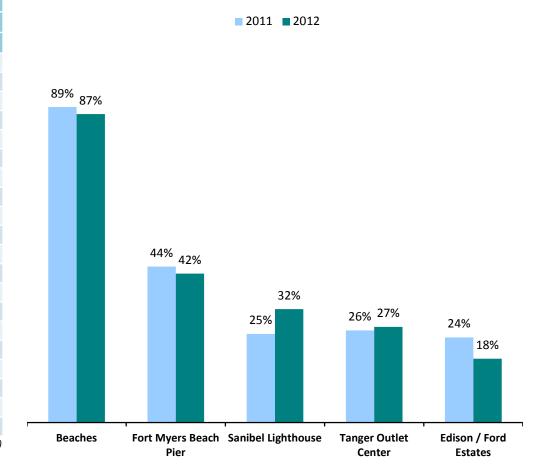




## **Trip Activities**

Attractions Visited				
	2011	2012		
	Α	В		
<b>Total Respondents</b>	206	204		
Beaches	89%	87%		
Fort Myers Beach Pier	44%	42%		
Sanibel Lighthouse	25%	32%		
Tanger Outlet Center	26%	27%		
Edison / Ford Estates	24%	18%		
Miromar Outlets Mall	20%	16%		
Coconut Point Mall	13%	13%		
Ding Darling National Wildlife Refuge	10%	12%		
Shell Factory and Nature Park	7%	12%		
Edison Mall	10%	11%		
Periwinkle Place	14%	10%		
Bell Tower Shops	12%	10%		
Gulf Coast Town Center	6%	8%		
Manatee Park	2%	5%		
Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum	1%	5%A		
Babcock Wilderness Adventures	1%	1%		
Broadway Palm Dinner Theater	1%	1%		
Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall	1%	-		
Other	5%	6%		
None/No Answer	1%	4%		

Q24. On this trip, which attractions are you visiting? (Please mark ALL that apply.)



**Top Attractions Visited** 





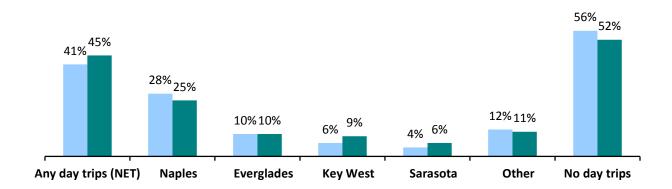
**Trip Activities** 

Day Trips Outside Lee County				
	2011	2012		
	Α	В		
Total Respondents	206	204		
Any day trips (NET)	41%	44%		
Naples	28%	25%		
Everglades	10%	10%		
Key West	6%	9%		
Sarasota	4%	6%		
Other	12%	11%		
No day trips	<u>56%</u>	<u>52%</u>		
No Answer	9%	11%		

Q25: Where did you go on day trips outside Lee County?

#### **Day Trips Outside Lee County**

2011 2012





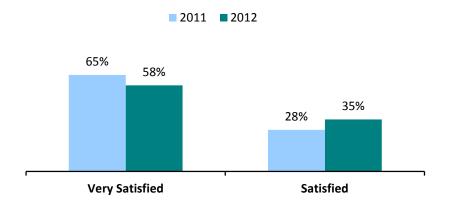


## **Lee County Experience**

Satisfaction with Visit						
	2011	2012				
	Α	В				
Total Respondents	206	204				
Very Satisfied/Satisfied	<u>93%</u>	94%				
Very Satisfied	65%	58%				
Satisfied	28%	35%				
Neither	1%	2%				
Dissatisfied/Very Dissatisfied	1%	1%				
Don't know/no answer	4%	4%				

Q28: How satisfied are you with your stay in Lee County?

#### **Satisfaction with Visit**







#### **Future Plans**

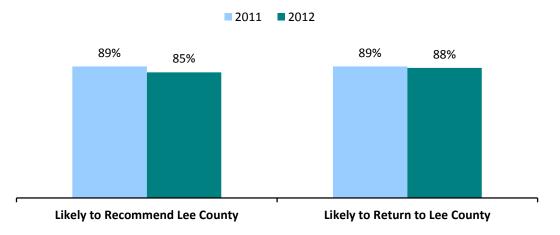
Likelihood to Recommend/Return to Lee County							
2011 2012							
	A	В					
Total Respondents	206	204					
Likely to Recommend Lee County	89%	85%					
Likely to Return to Lee County 89% 8							
Base: Total Respondents Planning to Return	184	180					
Likely to Return Next Year	53%	57%					

Q27: Would you recommend Lee County to a friend over other vacation areas in Florida?

Q31: Will you come back to Lee County?

Q32: Will you come back next year?

## Likelihood to Recommend/Return to Lee County (Responded "Yes")







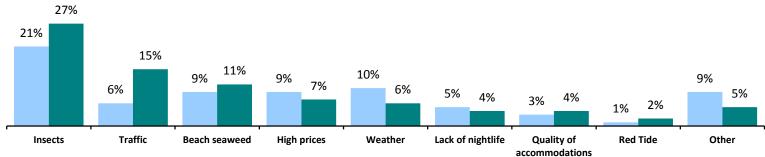
## **Trip Activities**

Least Liked Features						
	2011	2012				
	Α	В				
Total Respondents	206	204				
Insects	21%	27%				
Traffic	6%	15%A				
Beach seaweed	9%	11%				
High prices	9%	7%				
Weather	10%	6%				
Lack of nightlife	5%	4%				
Quality of accommodations	3%	4%				
Red Tide	1%	2%				
Other	9%	5%				
Nothing/No Answer (NET)	45%	43%				

Q29: During this specific visit, which features have you liked **LEAST** about our area? (*Please mark ALL that apply.*)

#### **Least Liked Features**

**■ 2011 ■ 2012** 







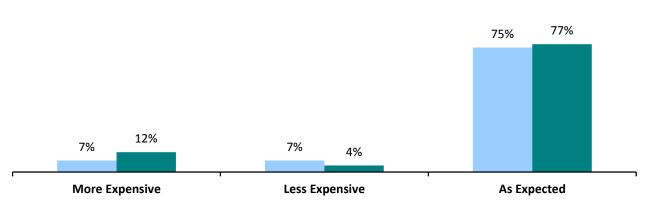
**Trip Activities** 

Perception of Lee County as Expensive							
2011 2012							
	Α	В					
Total Respondents	206	204					
More Expensive	7%	12%					
Less Expensive	7%	4%					
As Expected	75%	77%					
Don't know/No Answer (NET)	11%	6%					

Q26: From your experience, would you say that our area is more expensive, less expensive, or as expensive as you had expected?

### **Perception of Lee County as Expensive**









## **Visitor and Travel Party Demographic Profile**

Visitor Demographic Profile						
	2011	2012				
	Α	В				
Total Respondents	206	204				
Age of respondent (mean)	48.5	48.1				
Annual household income (mean)	\$97,064	\$96,648				
Martial Status						
Married	73%	70%				
Single	14%	12%				
Vacations per year (mean)	3.2	2.7				
Short getaways per year (mean)	3.9	3.7				

Q37: What is your age, please?

Q39: What is your total annual household income before taxes?

Q36. Are you: Married/Single/Other

Q33: How many vacations, lasting FIVE (5) OR MORE NIGHTS

AWAY FROM HOME, do you take in an average year?

Q34: And how many short getaway trips lasting AT LEAST (1)  $\operatorname{BUT}$ 

NOT MORE THAN FOUR (4) NIGHTS AWAY FROM HOME, do you

take in an average year?

Travel Party						
	2011	2012				
	Α	В				
Total Respondents	206	204				
Family	31%	27%				
Couple	47%	47%				
Single	7%	6%				
Group of couples/friends	11%	19%A				
Mean travel party size	3.0	2.8				
Mean adults in travel party	2.6	2.6				

Q17: On this trip, are you traveling:

Q18: Including yourself, how many people are in your immediate travel party?

Travel Parties with Children						
2011 2012						
	Α	В				
Total Respondents	206	204				
Traveling with any Children (net)	<u>15%</u>	<u>14%</u>				
Any younger than 6	7%	4%				
Any ages 6-11	6%	7%				
Any 12-17 years old	6%	7%				
No Children	85%	86%				

Q19: How many of those people are:

Younger than 6 years old/ 6-11 years old/ 12-17 years old/ Adults





## **Visitor Origin and Visitation Estimates**

Total Visitation						
% Visitor Estimates						
	2011	2012	2011	2012	% Change	
Paid Accommodations	53%	58%	133,071	139,239	4.6%	
Friends/Relatives	47%	42%	119,068	101,063	-15.1%	
Total Visitation			252,139	240,302	-4.7%	

Paid Accommodations Visitors							
	%		Visitor E				
<b>Country of Origin</b>	2011	2012	2011 2012		% Change		
United States	65%	<77%>	86,155	106,651	23.8%		
Germany	13%	13%	17,060	17,775	4.2%		
UK	<12%>	2%	15,354	2,963	-80.7%		
Canada	4%	1%	5,971	1,975	-66.9%		
BeNeLux	1%	1%	1,706	1,975	15.8%		
Switzerland	1%	1%	1,706	1,975	15.8%		
Scandinavia	1%	1%	853	1,975	131.5%		
Other Europe	1%	1%	853	1,975	131.5%		
France	2%	1%	2,559	988	-61.4%		
Austria	1%	-	853	-	-		
Other International	0%	1%	-	988	-		

U.S. Region of Origin	2011	2012	2011	2012	% Change
Florida	28%	19%	23,885	20,738	-13.2%
South (including Florida)	46%	39%	39,239	41,475	5.7%
Midwest	30%	30%	25,591	31,600	23.5%
Northeast	15%	22%	12,795	23,700	85.2%
West	-	4%	-	3,950	-
No Answer	10%	6%	8,530	5,925	-30.5%

<> indicates a significant difference between 2011 and 2012 responses at the 95% confidence level.

2012 Top DMAs (Paid Accommodations)								
New York	9%	9,875						
Tampa-Saint Petersburg (Sarasota)	7%	7,900						
West Palm Beach-Fort Pierce	5%	4,938						
Chicago	5%	4,938						
Washington, DC (Hagerstown)	5%	4,938						
Miami-Fort Lauderdale	4%	3,950						
Dayton	4%	3,950						
Columbus, OH	3%	2,963						
Cincinnati	3%	2,963						

Note: The percentage of visitors by origin market is based on data collected from visitors in the Visitor Profile Survey.





## Occupancy Data Analysis September 2012

Property managers representing 113 properties in Lee County were interviewed for the September 2012 Occupancy Survey between September 1 and September 15, 2012, a sample considered accurate to plus or minus 9.2 percentage points at the 95% confidence level.

Property managers representing 103 properties in Lee County were interviewed for the September 2011 Occupancy Survey between September 1 and September 15, 2011, a sample considered accurate to plus or minus 9.7 percentage points at the 95% confidence level.





## **Occupancy/Daily Rates**

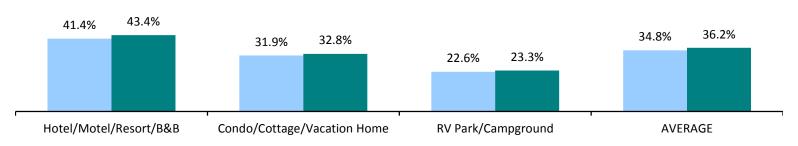
	Average Occupancy Rate		Average Daily Rate			RevPAR			
	2011	2012	% Change	2011	2012	% Change	2011	2012	% Change
<b>Property Managers Responding</b>	106	101		107	100		106/107	101/100	
Hotel/Motel/Resort/B&B	41.4%	43.4%	4.8%	\$101.38	\$101.43	0.1%	\$41.99	\$44.01	4.8%
Condo/Cottage/Vacation Home	31.9%	32.8%	2.8%	\$107.38	\$114.54	6.7%	\$34.27	\$37.56	9.6%
RV Park/Campground	22.6%	23.3%	3.1%	\$41.80	\$41.47	-0.8%	\$9.43	\$9.65	2.3%
AVERAGE	34.8%	36.2%	4.0%	\$93.80	\$95.10	1.4%	\$32.67	\$34.45	5.4%

Q16: What was your overall average occupancy rate for the month of September?

Q17: What was your average daily rate (ADR) in September?

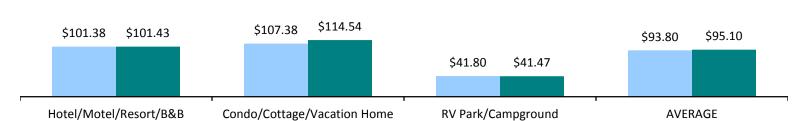
#### **Average Occupancy Rate**





#### **Average Daily Rate**

**■** 2011 **■** 2012





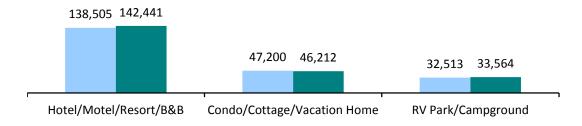


## **Room/Unit/Site Nights**

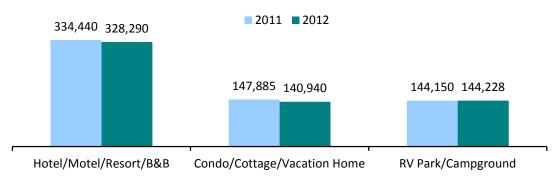
	Occupied Room Nights			Available Room Nights		
	2011	2012	% Change	2011	2012	% Change
Hotel/Motel/Resort/B&B	138,505	142,441	2.8%	334,440	328,290	-1.8%
Condo/Cottage/Vacation Home	47,200	46,212	-2.1%	147,885	140,940	-4.7%
RV Park/Campground	32,513	33,564	3.2%	144,150	144,228	0.1%
Total	218,218	222,217	1.8%	626,475	613,458	-2.1%

#### **Occupied Room Nights**

■ 2011 ■ 2012



## **Available Room Nights**







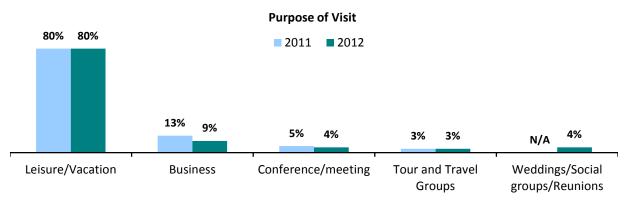
## **Lodging Management Estimates**

Guest Profile					
	2011	2012			
	Α	В			
Property Managers Responding	92	90			
<u>Purpose of Visit</u>					
Leisure/Vacation	80%	80%			
Business	13%	9%			
Conference/meeting	5%	4%			
Tour and Travel Groups	3%	3%			
Weddings/Social groups/Reunions (net)	N/A	4%			
Property Managers Responding	101	89			
Average guests per room	2.4	2.6			
Property Managers Responding	100	90			
Average length of stay in nights	4.6	5.7			

Q22: What percent of your September room/site/unit occupancy do you estimate was generated by:

Q18: What was your average number of guests per room/site/unit in September?

Q19: What was the average length of stay (in nights) of your guests in September?







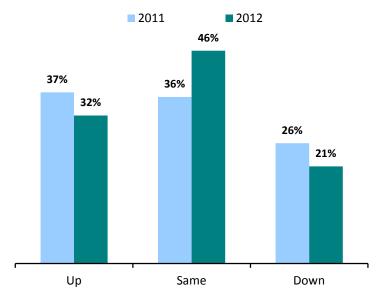
## **Occupancy Barometer**

Level of Reservations	for Next 3 Months Com	pared to Last Year
Ecver of Reservations	ioi iteat o itioiitiis coiii	parca to Last Icai

	2011	2012
	Α	В
Total Respondents	107	100
Up/Same (net)	<u>73%</u>	<u>78%</u>
Up	37%	32%
Same	36%	46%
Down	26%	21%

Q24: Compared to October, November, and December of one year ago, is your property's total level of reservations up, the same or down for the upcoming October, November, and December ?

#### **Level of Reservations for Next 3 Months**







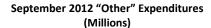
# **Economic Impact Analysis September 2012**

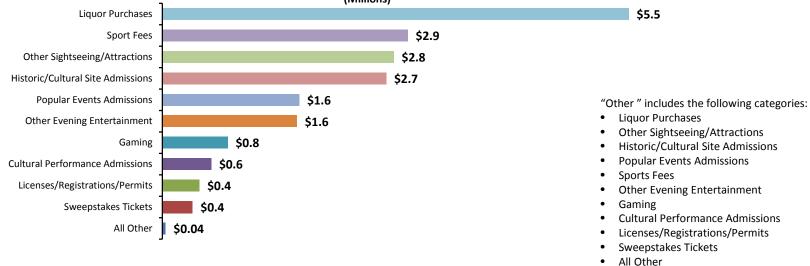




## **Total Visitor Expenditures by Spending Category**

TOTAL EXPENDITURES					
	2011	2012	% Change		
TOTAL	<u>\$95,264,129</u>	<u>\$104,389,192</u>	<u>-9.6%</u>		
Food and Beverages	\$25,031,876	\$28,200,917	12.67%		
Shopping	\$24,535,767	\$26,985,598	10.0%		
Lodging Accommodations	\$20,469,854	\$21,132,044	3.2%		
Ground Transportation	\$8,082,473	\$8,784,803	-8.7%		
Other	\$17,144,159	\$19,285,830	12.5%		





dpa \*\*providing direction



## **Total Visitor Expenditures by Lodging Type**

TOTAL EXPENDITURES							
	Stayin	Staying Paid Accommodations			Visiting Friends and Relatives/Day Trippers		
	2011	2012	% Change	2011	2012	% Change	
TOTAL	\$68,176,524	\$69,930,031	<u>-2.6%</u>	<u>\$27,087,605</u>	\$34,459,161	27.2%	
Lodging Accommodations	\$20,469,854	\$21,132,044	3.2%	\$0	\$0	-	
Food and Beverages	\$15,785,097	\$16,576,454	5.0%	\$9,246,779	\$11,624,463	25.7%	
Shopping	\$16,072,231	\$16,071,599	-	\$8,463,536	\$10,913,999	29.0%	
Ground Transportation	\$5,097,262	\$5,515,878	8.2%	\$2,985,211	\$3,268,925	9.5%	
Other	\$10,752,080	\$10,634,056	-1.1%	\$6,392,079	\$8,651,774	35.4%	

"Other" includes the following categories:

- Liquor Purchases
- Other Sightseeing/Attractions
- Historic/Cultural Site Admissions
- Popular Events Admissions
- Sports Fees
- Other Evening Entertainment
- Gaming
- Cultural Performance Admissions
- Licenses/Registrations/Permits
- Sweepstakes Tickets
- All Other





## **Total Visitor Expenditures by Lodging Type**

Total Expenditures by Lodging Type					
	2011	2012	% Change	2011	2012
TOTAL	\$95,264,129	\$104,389,192	9.6%	100%	100%
Visiting Friends & Relatives/Day Trippers	\$27,087,605	\$34,459,161	-9.7%	28%	33%
Paid Accommodations	\$68,176,524	\$69,930,031	2.6%	<u>72%</u>	<u>67%</u>
Hotel/Motel/Resort/B&B	\$43,923,260	\$44,978,721	2.4%	46%	43%
Condo/Cottage/Vacation Home	\$17,584,076	\$18,310,860	4.1%	18%	18%
RV Park/Campground	\$6,669,188	\$6,640,450	-0.4%	7%	6%









# Appendix September 2012





## **September 2012 Interviewing Statistics**

City	Event/Location	Interviewing Dates	Number of Interviews
Fort Myers	RSW Airport	9/1/12	25
Bonita Springs	Bonita Beach	9/4/12	25
Fort Myers Beach	Estero Beach Club	9/6/12	9
Fort Myers Beach	Neptune Inn	9/6/12	6
Fort Myers Beach	Diamond Head Resort	9/6/12	7
Sanibel	Holiday Inn	9/12/12	10
Sanibel	Sundial Resort	9/12/12	8
Sanibel	Lighthouse Beach	9/12/12	8
Fort Myers	Edison Estates	9/14/12	11
Sanibel	Sanibel Inn	9/18/12	7
Sanibel	Sanibel Moorings	9/18/12	6
Sanibel	Sanibel Arms	9/18/12	6
Sanibel	Lighthouse Beach	9/18/12	5
Fort Myers Beach	Best Western	9/21/12	10
Fort Myers Beach	Windward Passage	9/21/12	6
Fort Myers Beach	Pink Shell Resort	9/21/12	10
Fort Myers	Edison Estates	9/26/12	15
Fort Myers	Hilton Garden Inn	9/28/12	7
Cape Coral	Cape Coral Yacht Club	9/28/12	5
Fort Myers	Centennial Park	9/29/12	10
North Fort Myers	Shell Factory	9/29/12	8
Total			204





## **Occupancy Interviewing Statistics**

Interviews were conducted from September 1 – September 15, 2012. Information was provided by 104 Lee County lodging properties.

Lodging Type	Number of Interviews		
Hotel/Motel/Resort/B&Bs	63		
Condo/Cottage/Vacation Home/Timeshare	26		
RV Park/Campground	15		
Total	104		

