



MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY
News Release

Tourism is Everybody's Business!

PERRY JOHN P. TENORIO
MVA MANAGING DIRECTOR

For Immediate Release- July 15, 2015

For further information, contact:
Perry John P. Tenorio, Managing Director
Marianas Visitors Authority
Telephone: (670) 664-3200/3201 Facsimile: (670) 664-3237
mva@my Marianas.com
www.mymarianas.com

NMI VISITOR ARRIVALS GROW 8% IN JUNE 2015

Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands (NMI) – Visitor arrivals to the Northern Mariana Islands (NMI) in June 2015 were up 8 percent compared to June 2014. According to the Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA), arrivals to the islands of Saipan, Tinian and Rota registered 38,342 visitors in June 2015, compared to 35,638 visitors received in June 2014.

“Arrivals were up 8 percent in June and so far this fiscal year, total visitors arrivals are up 13 percent compared to the same period last year, but there is still work to be done,” said MVA Managing Director Perry Tenorio. “While Korea and China are healthy, we continue to work on reviving the Japan market and we are actively seeking opportunities for the restoration of direct flights from Russia.”

Arrivals from Korea jumped 48 percent in June to 13,985 visitors. Asiana Airlines has been operating summer charter flights four times weekly from July 7 to Aug. 16 using an A321 with 171 seats and the MVA has been working with the airline and major travel agencies to promote and boost sales through various channels to convert this seasonal charter service to new regular flight service.

Arrivals from China were almost the same compared to June 2014 at 14,894 visitors. Century Tours plans to operate four charter flights a week from Beijing to Saipan from July 12 until Aug. 19 instead of the current three flights a week. Dynamic Airways is also planning to launch new charter flights from Hong Kong to Saipan from July 19, operating three times a week

and targeting the South China market. This increased airlift ensures continuing strong growth from the China market for the summer season and into the fall.

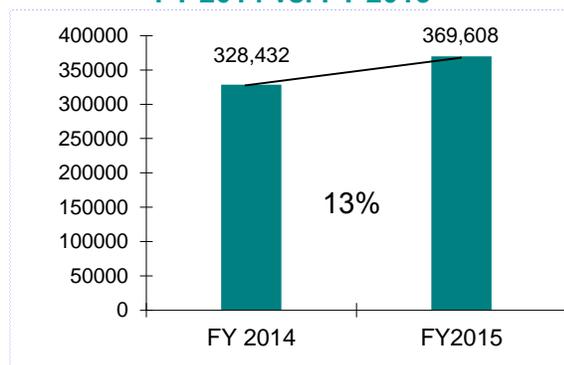
Arrivals from Japan fell 17 percent to 6,305 visitors without any charter flights from Japan to the NMI during the month of June. Delta Air Lines and major Japanese travel agents are working with the MVA to launch a major summer campaign designed to boost arrivals from the Japan market in July, August, and September. In addition, the MVA continues to actively seek possibilities to increase airlift to the NMI, with a particular focus on negotiations to secure new flights to Saipan direct non-stop from the Osaka market.

Source Markets Economic Highlights

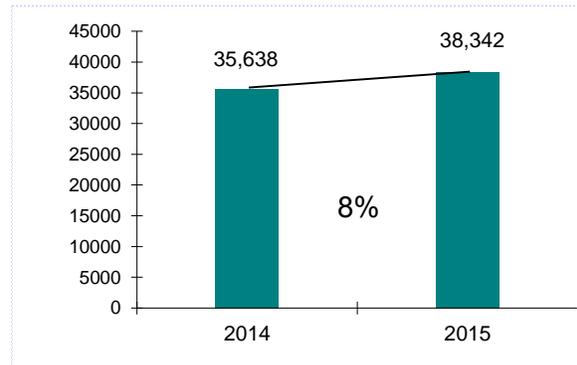
The Japanese government kept its opinion of the economy unchanged for June 2015, but upgraded its view on capital spending as companies moved to increase investment. During the month of June, the yen continued to depreciate against the US dollar, to 123.84 yen to the dollar. A recent JATA survey of Japan's top five travel agencies about the status of outbound travel for the 2015 summer period (July 1 – Sept. 30) showed that demand for summer vacations this year is shifting, from July to September, due to the good positioning of national holidays in September's Silver Week holiday period, which will allow Japanese travelers to take longer vacations overseas.

Increased domestic spending had stimulated the South Korean economy which, before the outbreak of Middle East Respiratory Syndrome, was facing stiff challenges from falling exports. The South Korean won/dollar exchange rate rose 12.44 won over the past month to close at 1,126.89 against the U.S. dollar.

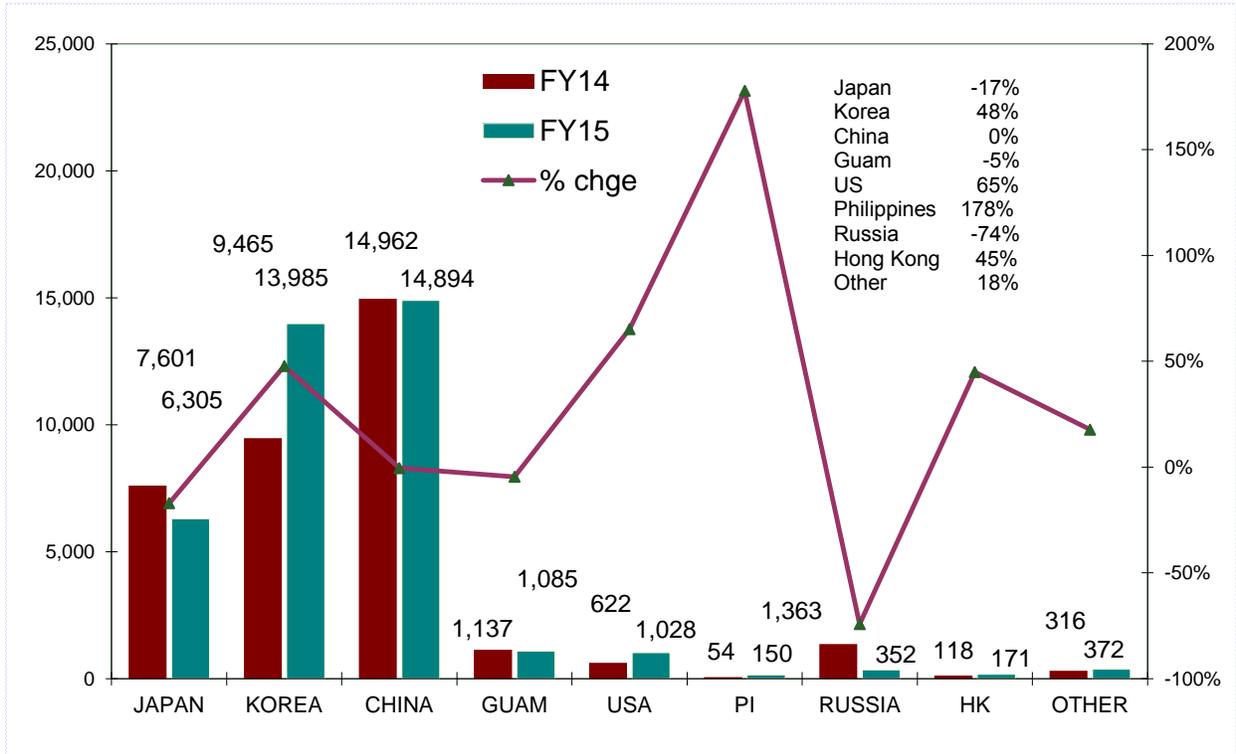
**Visitor Arrivals Year to Date
FY 2014 vs. FY 2015**



**Visitor Arrivals
June 2014 vs. June 2015**



CNMI Source Market Arrivals June 2014 vs. June 2015



The Northern Mariana Islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota are a chain of idyllic islands in the West Pacific, offering a friendly, fun and exciting vacation in paradise. They are an excellent destination for families, adventure and sports-minded travelers, as well as business people looking for a tropical haven. Adventurous travelers from Asia, Australia, Europe and elsewhere looking for new travel discoveries will find them in the Mariana Islands, just three hours travel from most cities in Japan, and four from Asia and Australia. The Northern Marianas are served from Tokyo and Osaka in Japan by Delta and Asiana Airlines. From Korea, Asiana provides direct daily flights from Seoul and Busan and Jeju Air provides daily service from Seoul. From China, direct flight service from Shanghai, Beijing, Guangzhou, to Saipan is available. United Airlines has daily flight connections from nine cities in Japan to Saipan with one stop. United States mainland connections can be made by Delta Air Lines to Saipan via Tokyo Narita, and United Airlines via Guam. Russian and Taiwanese visitors usually arrive via Seoul. For more information, visit www.mymarianas.com.

###