



# U.S. Outbound Leisure Travel Overview

Presented by  
Ed McWilliams, Ph.D.  
Snr. Vice President  
D.K. Shifflet & Associates. Ltd.



November 4, 2005  
to  
Canadian Chapter, TTRA  
Kelowna, BC

Month 2005 | D.K. Shifflet & Associates, Ltd. | Excellence in Travel Intelligence<sup>SM</sup>





## *US Leisure Travel to Canada Presentation Outline*



- **Background & Methodology**
- **4 Cs of US Travel Post 9-11**
- **Market Assessment**
  - U.S. Visitor Volume
  - Destination Satisfaction & Value Ratings
- **Targeting**
  - U.S. Traveler Demographics
- **Positioning**
  - Party Composition
  - Stay Purpose
  - Activities
- **Communicating**
  - Visitor Origin Markets
- **Where is the Market Headed?**
  - Growth Segments



## DKS&A Company Overview



- Founded in 1982, DKS&A specializes in syndicated and custom market research in the travel and tourism industry.
- Our syndicated study *PERFORMANCE/Monitor*<sup>SM</sup> is the largest, ongoing travel tracking study in the industry.
  - Mail out an average of 45,000 surveys monthly
    - Each survey collects the previous 3 months of travel behavior.
    - More than 70,000 traveling households respond to the survey each year. This results in more than 145,000 stays at destinations throughout the U.S.
  - Each returned survey is rebalanced to accurately represent the U.S. population
    - age, gender, income, education, number of adults, and state of residence
- New in 2005 - TIA Partnership for TravelScope & Great New Products!
- New in 2005 -Added Online Sample
  - Side Note-Only conducting studies online? -Better know your customer well!



## *DKS&A Client Types*



- **Hotels: 35+ Separate Chains**
- **Associations: TIA, AH&LA, IH&RA, DMAI**
- **Timeshare: Several Companies**
- **Destinations: 20+ States, 52+ CVBs**
- **Governments: U.S.A., Canada +**
- **Attractions: Major Theme Parks**
- **Credit Cards, Rental Cars, Airlines**
- **Financial: Accounting Firms, Wall Street**



## *Definitions Used in this Presentation*



- **TRIP:**  
The basic unit of measurement of the DKS&A traveler database. A travel party leaving home to visit one or more destinations is one trip.
- **PERSON-TRIP:**  
Adds to TRIP the size of the travel party. A family of four visiting a destination is four-person trips.
- **STAY:**  
A travel party visits one or more destinations on a trip. Each Destination captures a Stay (day or overnight) from the travel party.
- **PERSON-STAY:**  
Adds to Stay the size of the travel party. A family of four visiting destinations A & B is four person stays for destination A and four person stays for Destination B for a total of 8 person stays.
- **ROOM-NIGHTS:**  
The room demand generated by a travel party staying in a hotel, motel, bed & breakfast, all-suite, and resort hotel. In this presentation we are excluding condo/timeshare ownership or rental, campgrounds, and second-home ownership or rental. A couple staying in a hotel for five nights is five room nights. For perspective, hotels and motels account for 95+% of all paid accommodations on a trip basis.



**2000-2005**

## Six Years of Dramatic Social Changes





## Three Major Consumer Shocks 2000-2005

- National Recession
- 9-11
- 2005 Gulf Coast Hurricanes





## The 4 C's of Travel Post 9-11

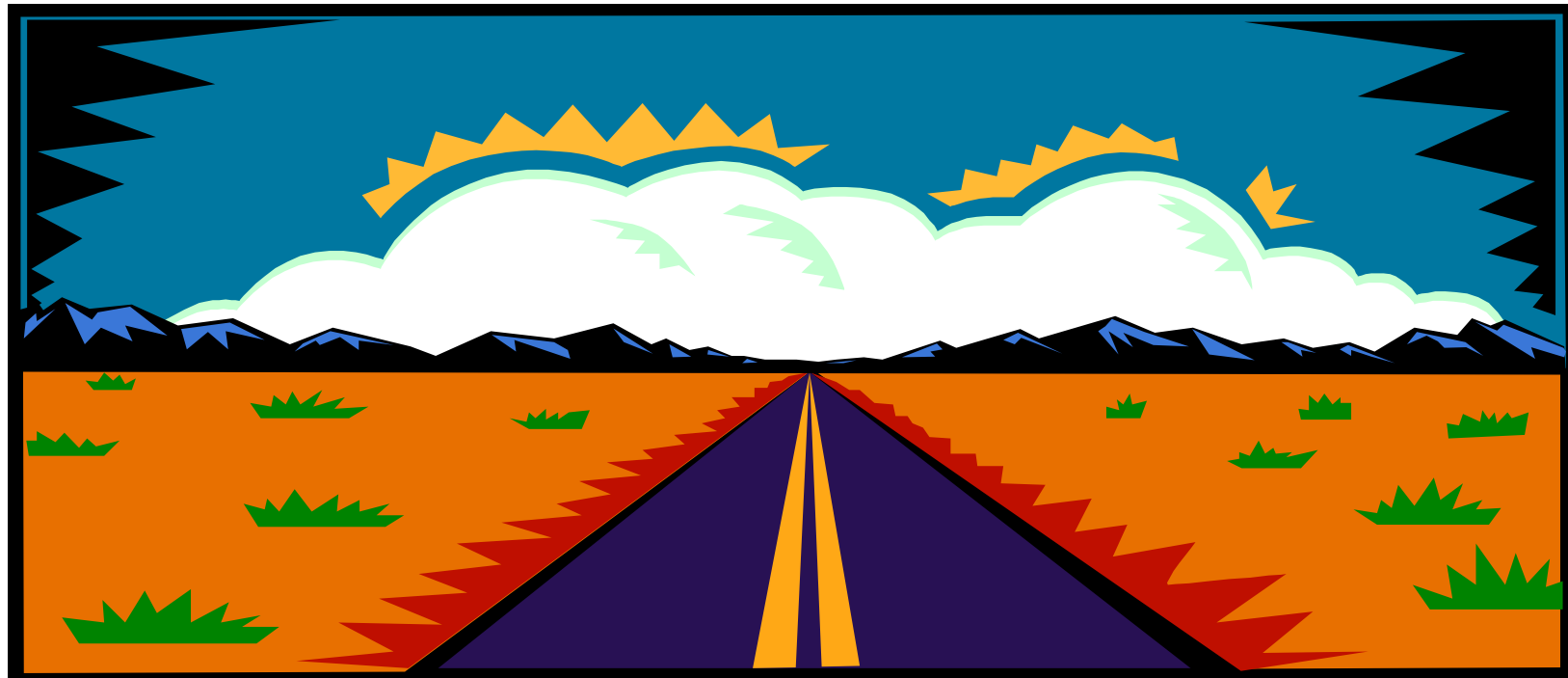
- Control
- Connection
- Cutting Costs
- Close to Home







## Where are we now ?





## **Market Assessment**

How many visitors did Canada attract and what's their market share?  
What were visitors' acceptability ratings of Canada?



## **Targeting**

Who is Canada's visitor?



## **Positioning**

How to better position Canada's travel products and services?



## **Communicating**

Where to advertise and promote to attract travelers to Canada?



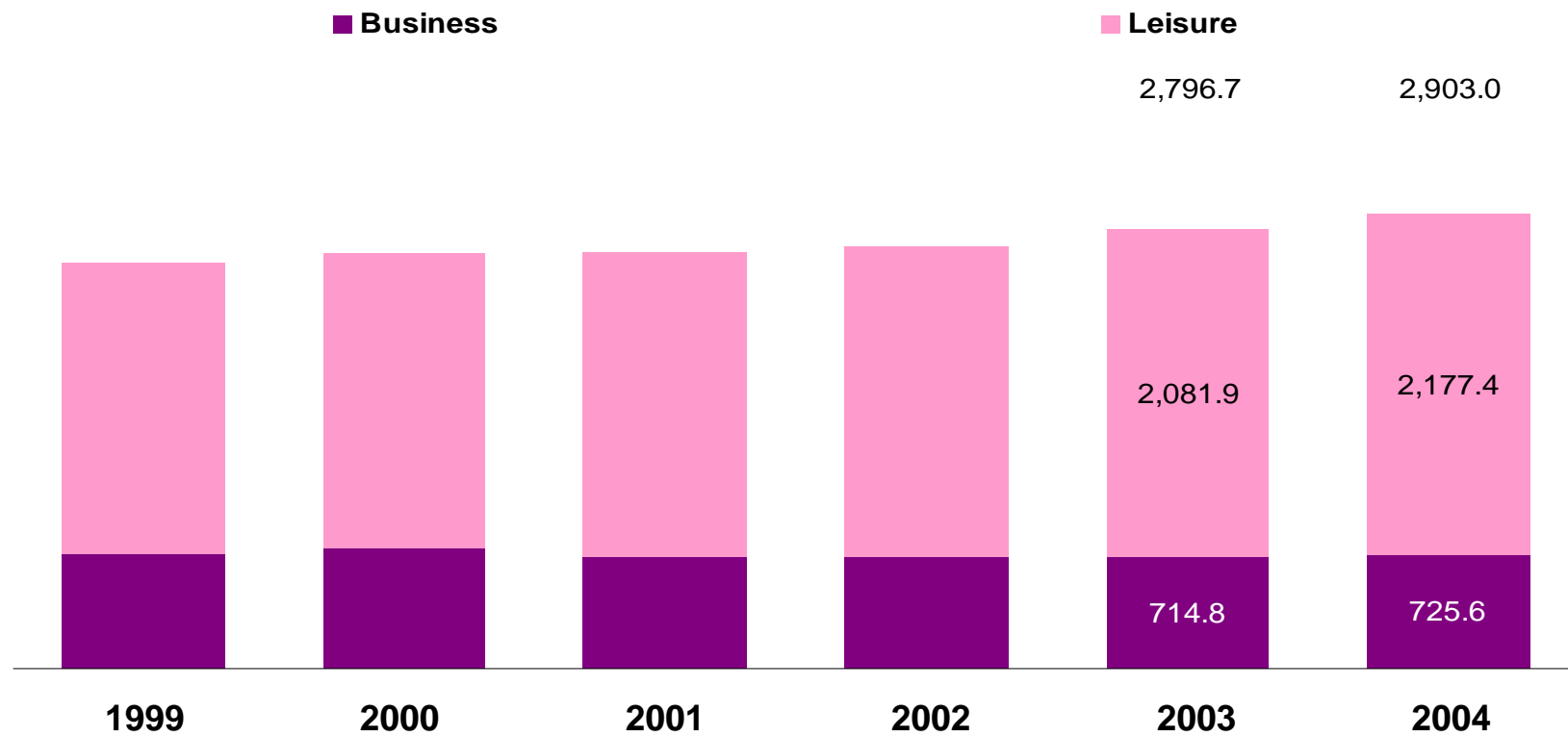
What is the size and scope of tourism nationally?  
What are the trends?



## U.S. Person-Stays Volume: Business vs. Leisure (1999-2004/millions)



U.S. residents visiting U.S. destinations produced a record 2.90 billion Person-Stays in 2004 (+3.8%). The leisure segment led this growth (4.6%). By comparison, the business segment grew only 1.5% in 2004. Leisure grew from 71% of all Person-Stays in 1992 to a record 75% in 2004.

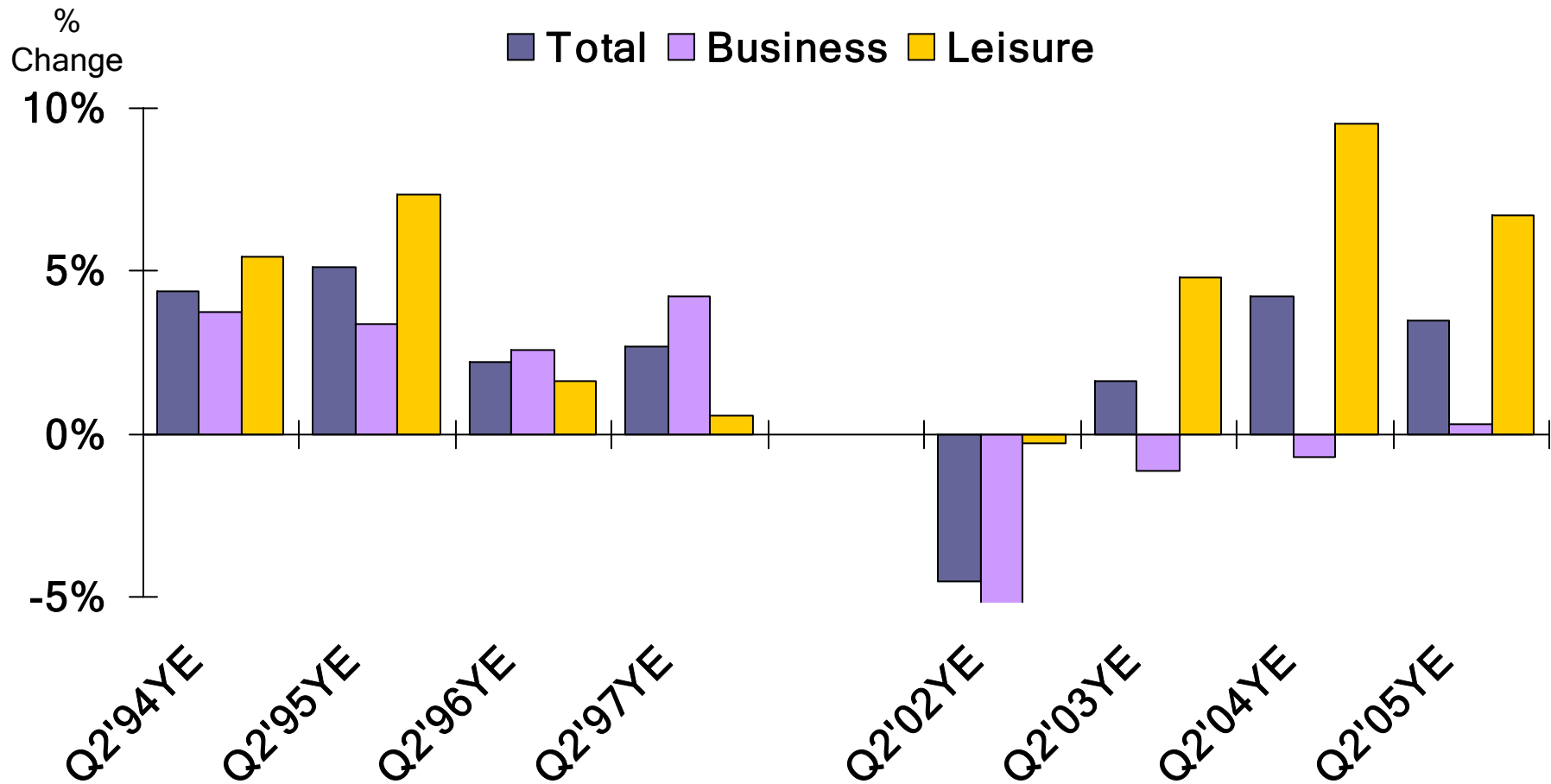




# *In mid 90's Business and Total Industry Closely Matched- This Time Business Very Slow to Recover*



## HML Paid Room-Nights

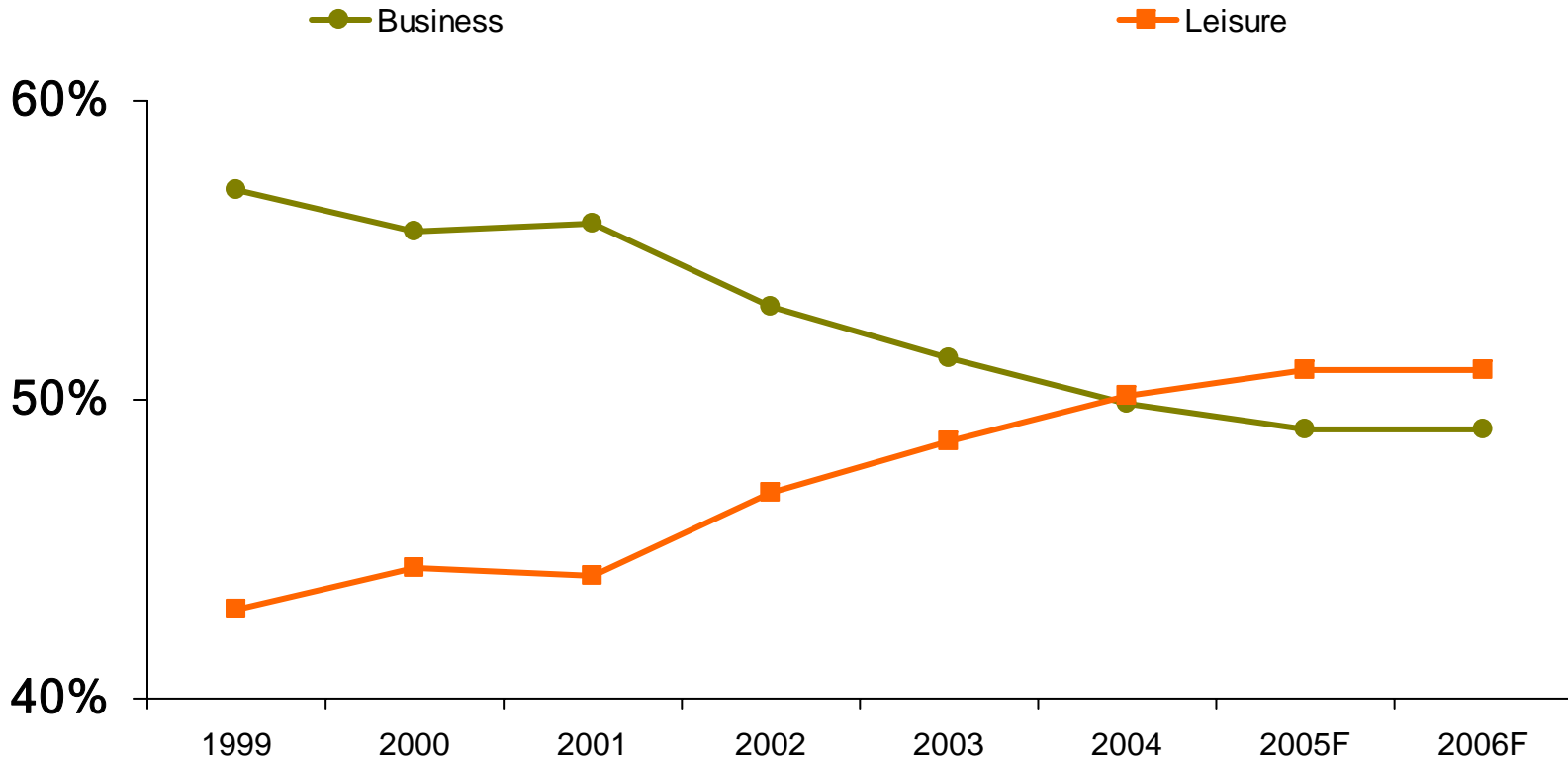




# U.S. Domestic Room-Nights Volume: Business vs. Leisure (1999-2006F/% of Paid Hotel Room-Nights)



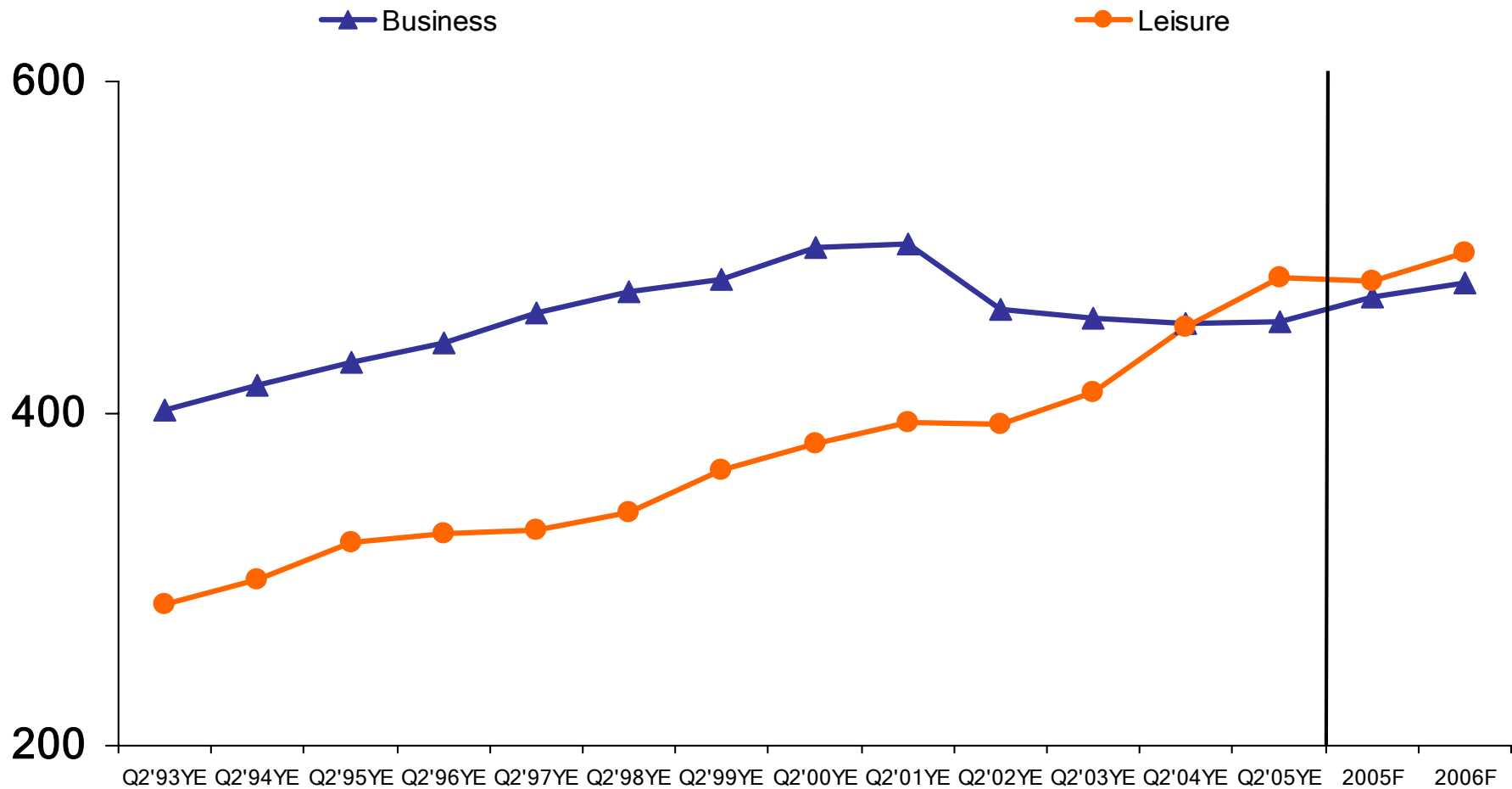
In 2004, leisure room nights surpassed business room nights in share of total for the first time. How have you changed your marketing strategies in response?





# U.S. Leisure Nights Now Surpassing Business

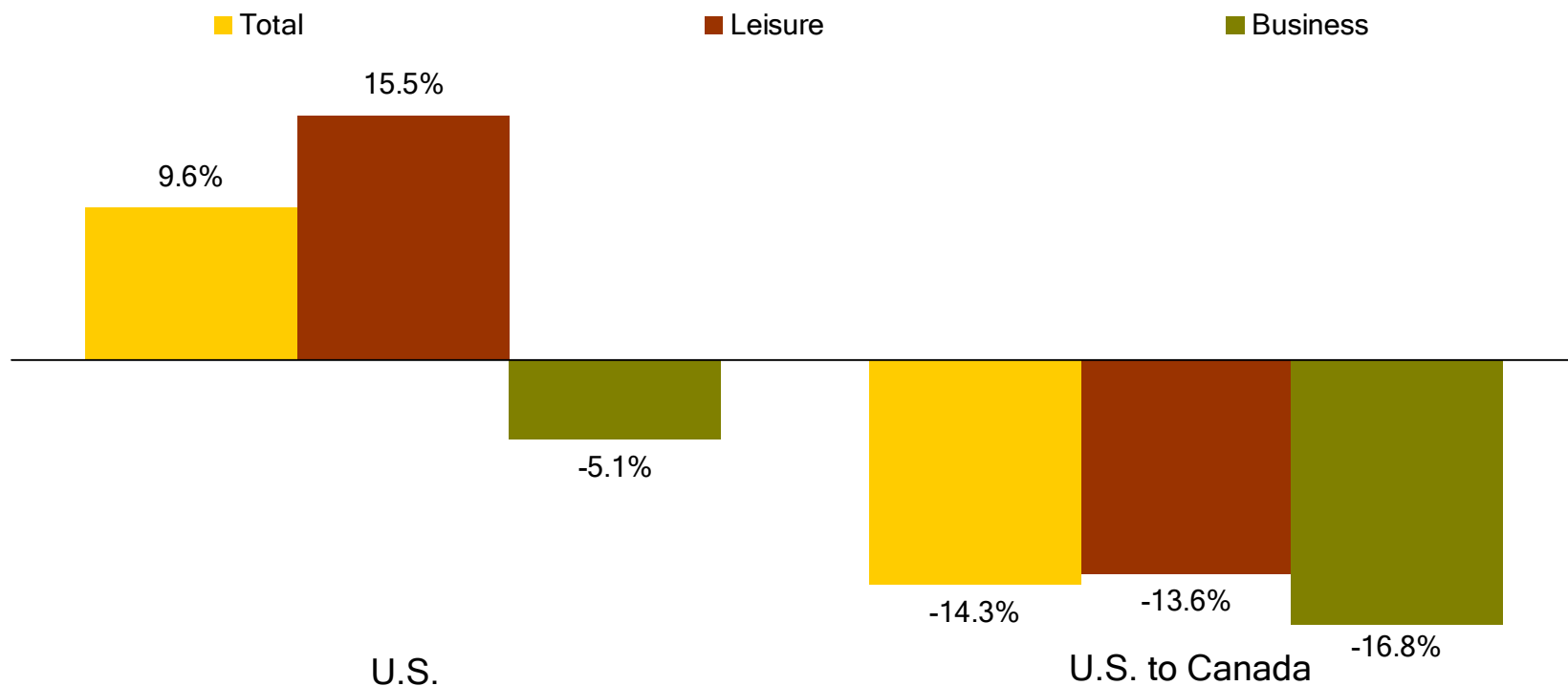
(1993 - 2006F/ Millions of Total Paid Hotel Room-Nights)



## Change in U.S. Travel Volume (2000 vs. 2004/ % of Person-Stays by U.S. Residents)



- US Business Travel slow to recover-slower still to Canada
- US Leisure Travel led US industry Recovery
- US Leisure to Canada rose 01-02 then fell and remains depressed
- Canada net losses are significant.







## Leisure Guests

Now Provide The Most  
Industry Room-Nights.

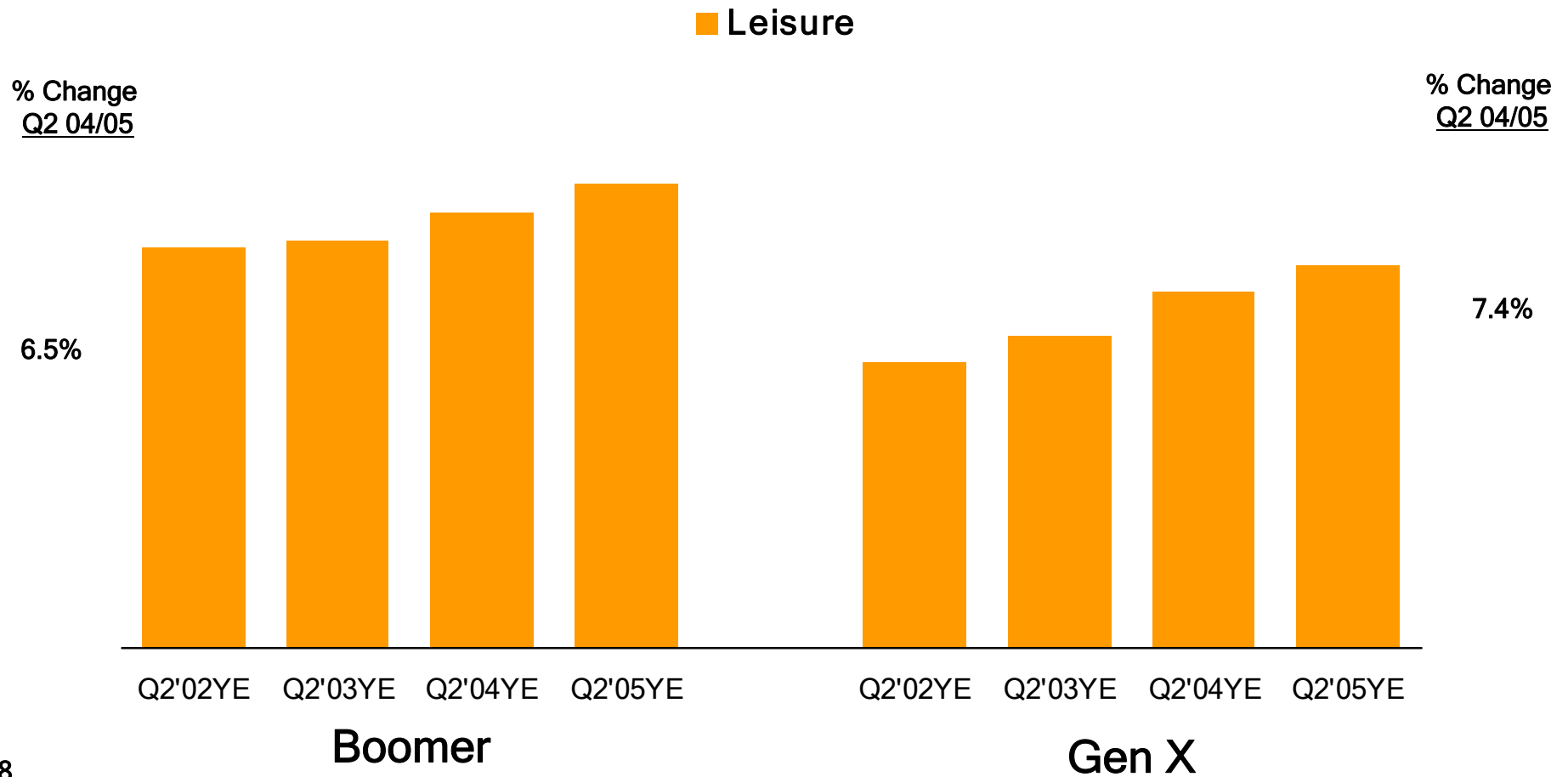
Leisure Guests Are Changing  
and Different

# U.S. LEISURE: Gen X Driving Growth

(2002-2005/Millions of Paid Hotel Room-Nights)



Faster growth among Gen X results in volume gains.

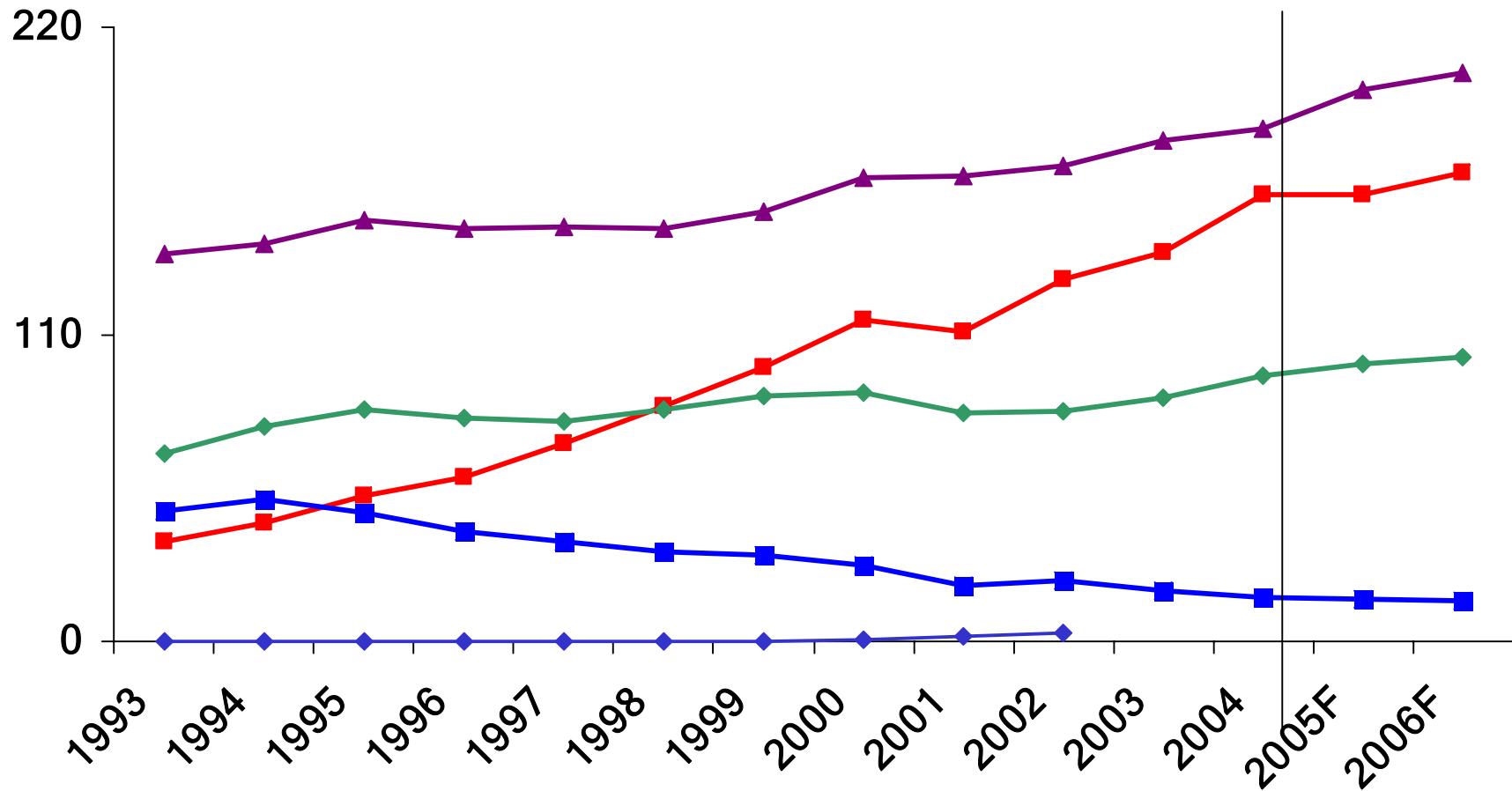


# Gen X, Boomer Leisure on Rise

(1993-2006F/Millions of Total Leisure Paid Hotel Room-Nights)



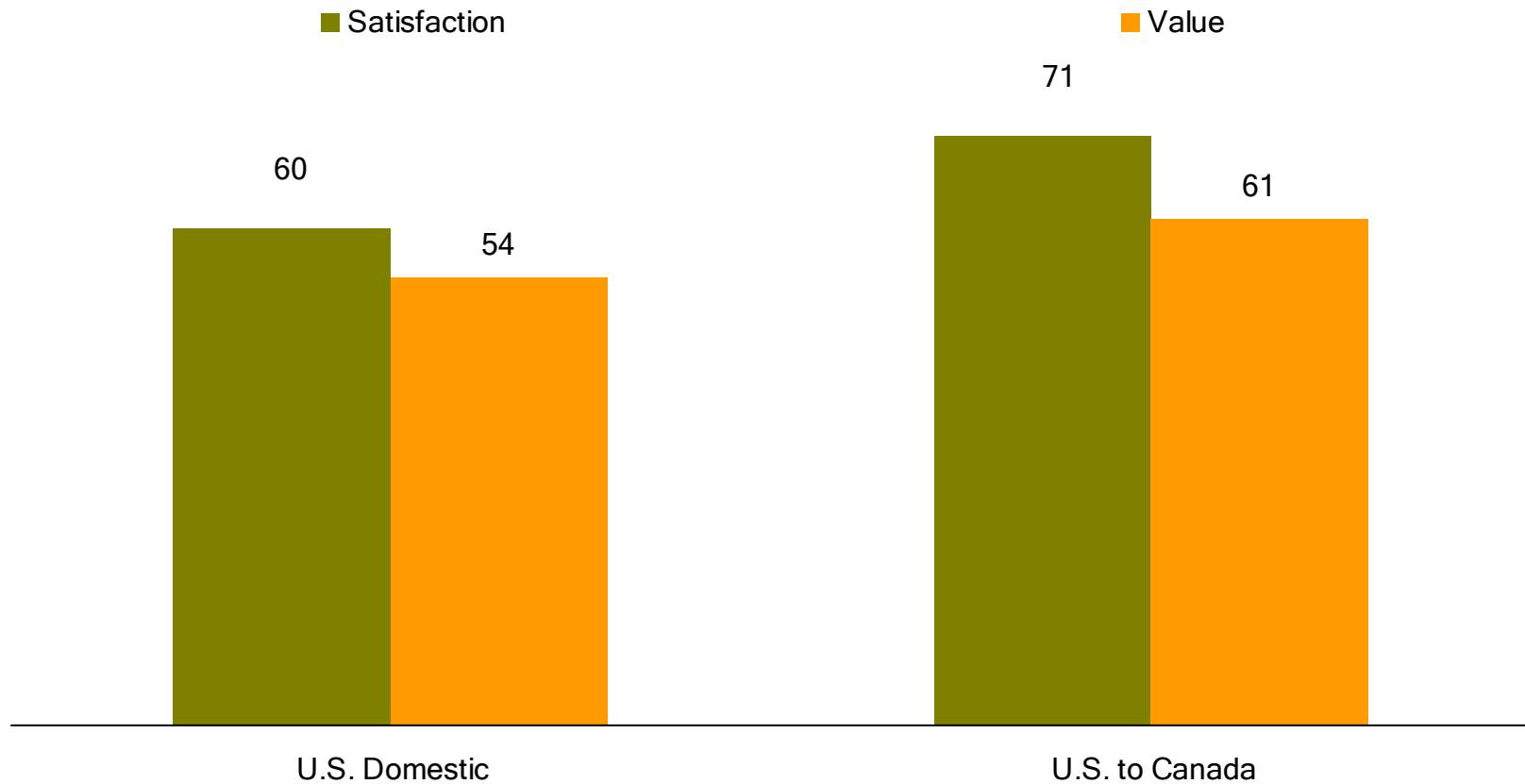
- ◆ Millennials (1981-2005)
- ◆ Silent Generation (1930-1945)
- Gen X (1965-1980)
- G.I. Generation (Pre 1930)
- ▲ Boomers (1946-1964)



## Leisure Satisfaction & Value Excellent Ratings (8-10) (2004/% of Leisure Person-Stays by U.S. Residents)



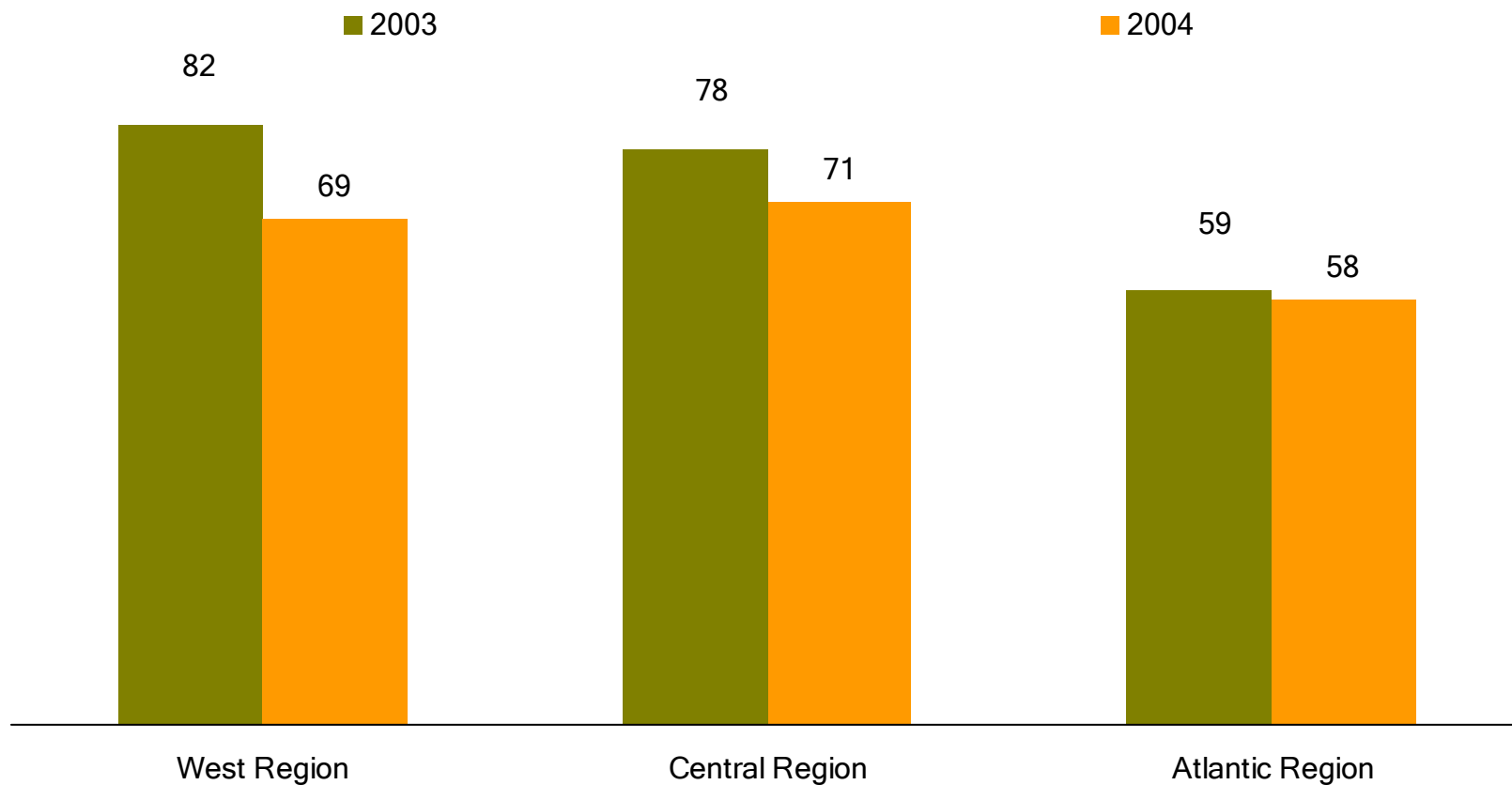
- US Visitors to Canada rate their Stays higher in Satisfaction and Value than their Stays in the US.



# Canada's Satisfaction Excellent Ratings (8-10) (2003 vs. 2004/% of Canada Person-Stays by U.S. Residents)

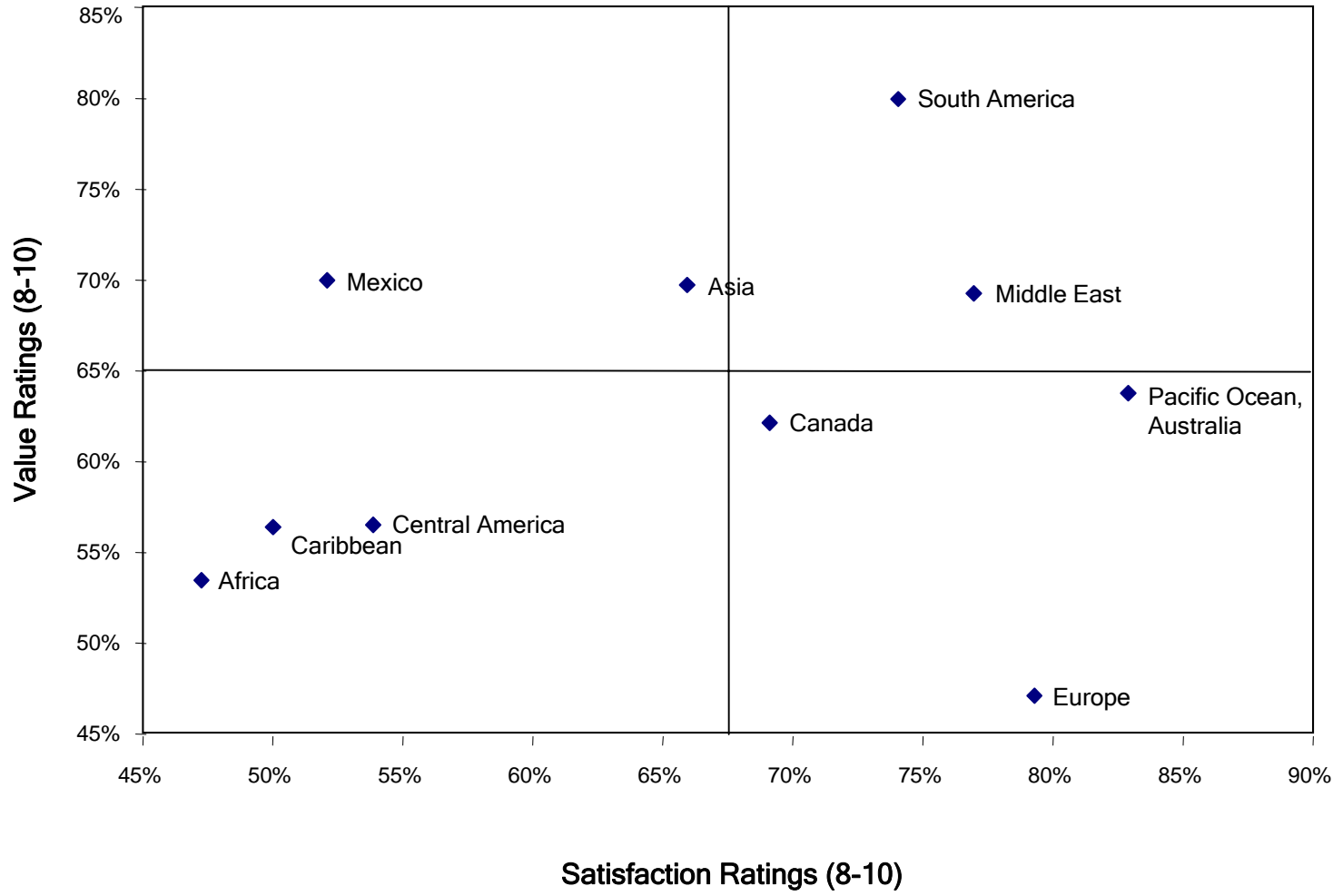


## • US Traveler Ratings Vary Across Canada





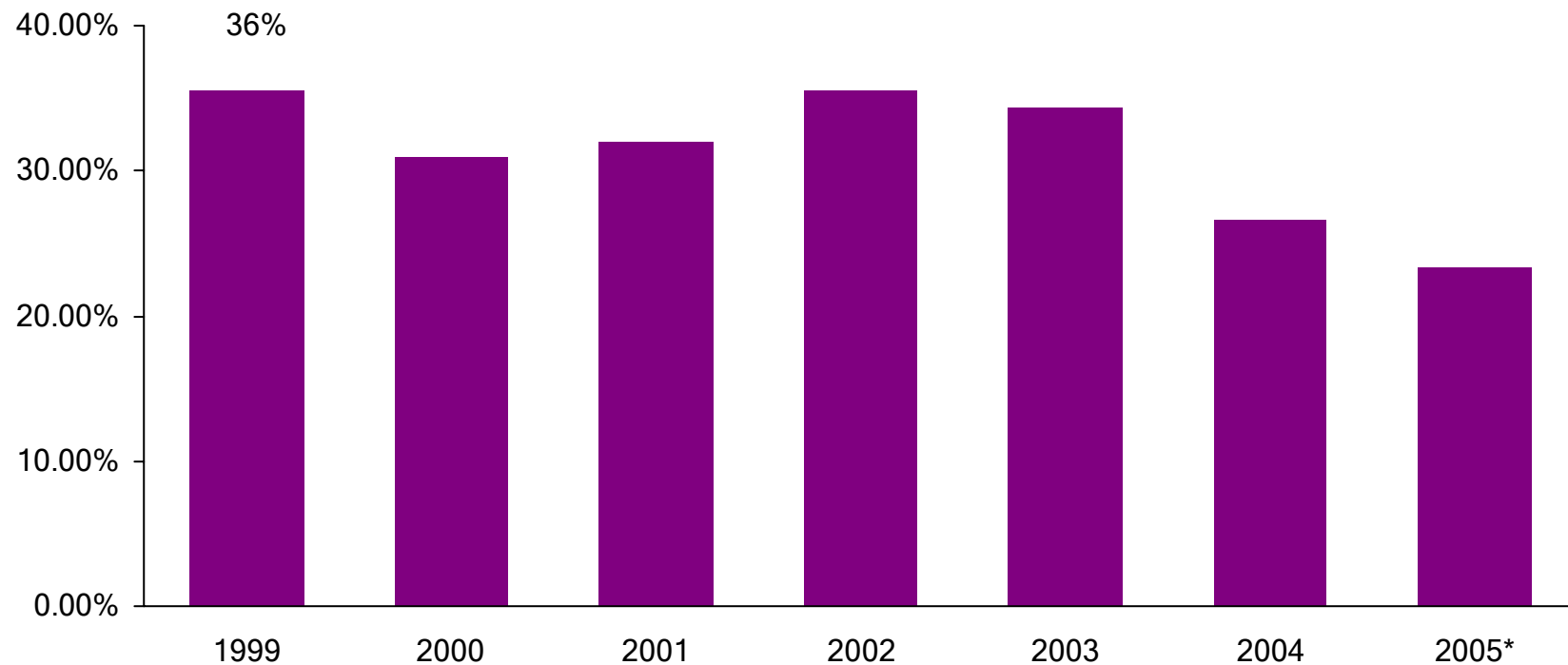
# International Destination Satisfaction & Value Ratings (2004/% of Total International Person-Stays by U.S. Residents)



## Canada's Share of U.S. Outbound Leisure Travel (1999-2004/% of Leisure Canadian Person-Stays by U.S. Residents)

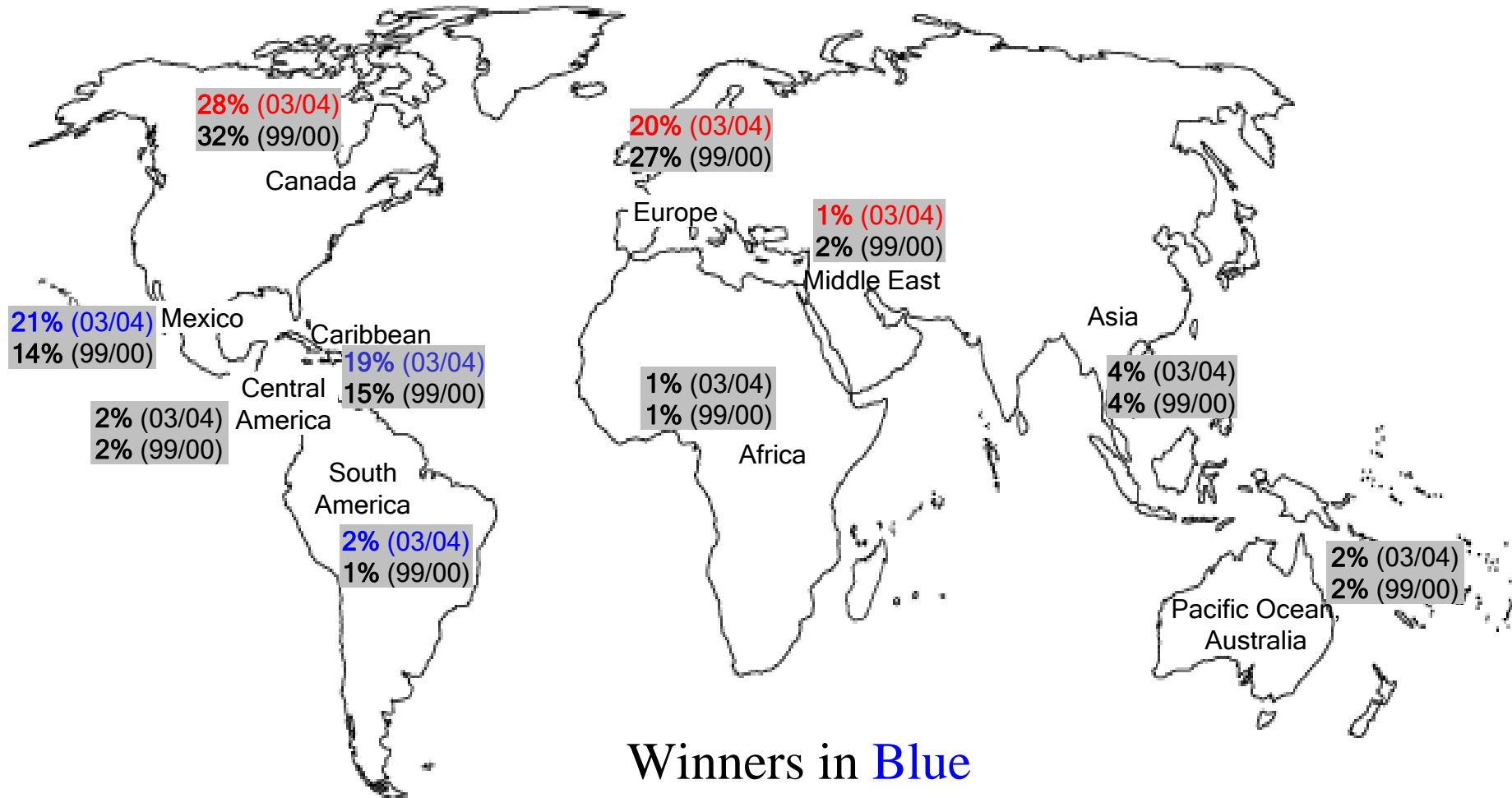


- Canada share has been in decline since 2002.



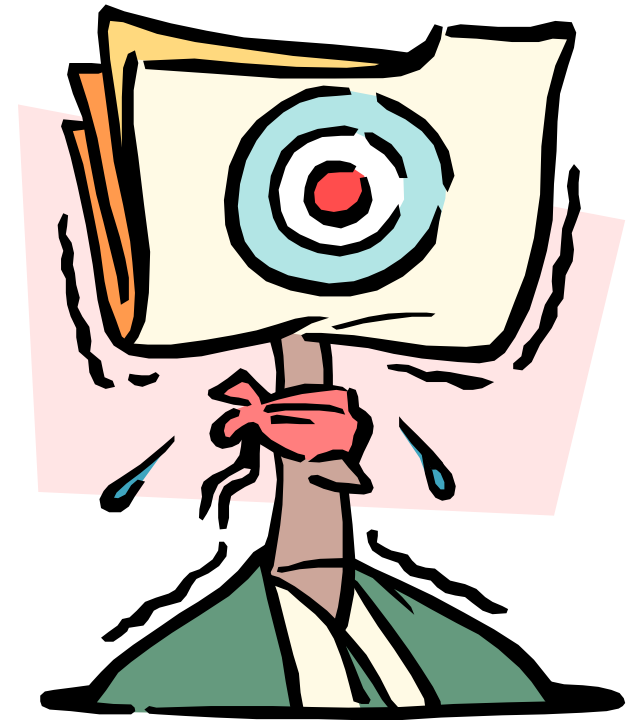
# U.S. Outbound Share of Travel Volume

(1999/2000 vs. 2003/2004/% of International Person-Stays by U.S. Residents)



Winners in Blue





## Average HH Income of Total U.S. Travelers (2003 vs. 2004/\$000 of Person-Stays by U.S. Residents)

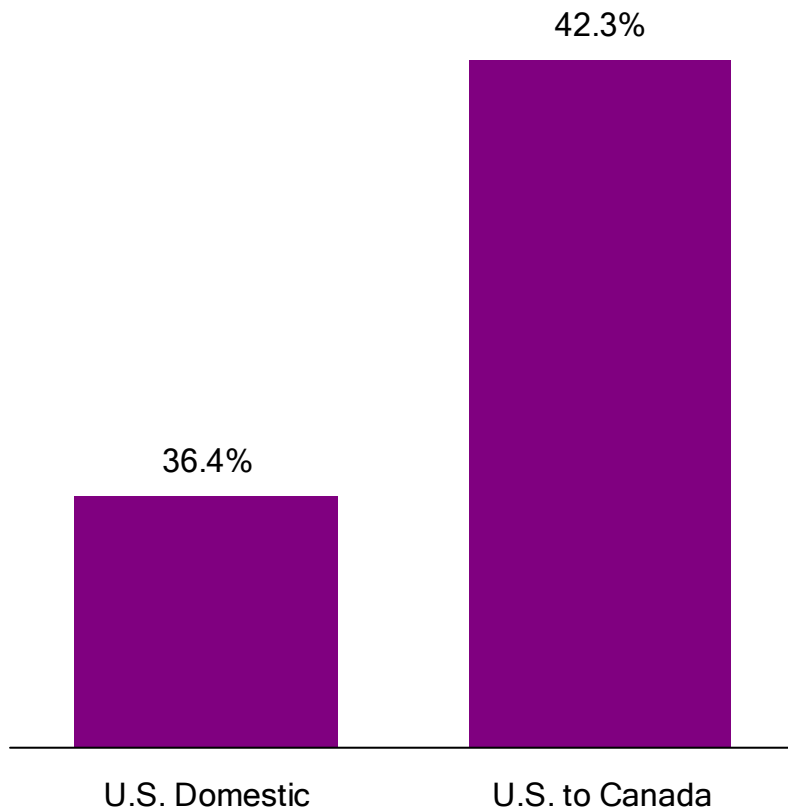


- Average Income of US visitors to Canada rose in 2004.
- This was driven by share growth in older more affluent travelers and a share drop in younger less affluent travelers.

## College Graduate Level of Total U.S. Travelers (2004/% of Person-Stays by U.S. Residents)



- Among US residents total travel, Canada captures a higher share of educated travelers than the does the US.





Lifestage analysis combines three variables

- 1) age
- 2) household income, and
- 3) presence of children in the household

into one variable creating seven mutually-exclusive segments.

Age: 18-34

Age of the household head.

1) Free

No children under 18 in the household

2) Family

One or more children under 18 in the household.

Age: 35-54

Age of the household head.

3) Free

No children under 18 in the household

4) Lo Fmly

HHIncome under \$50K, 1+children

5) Hi Fmly

HHIncome \$50K or higher, 1+children

Age: 55+

Age of the household head.

6) Lo Free

HHIncome under \$50K and no children

7) 7) Hi Free

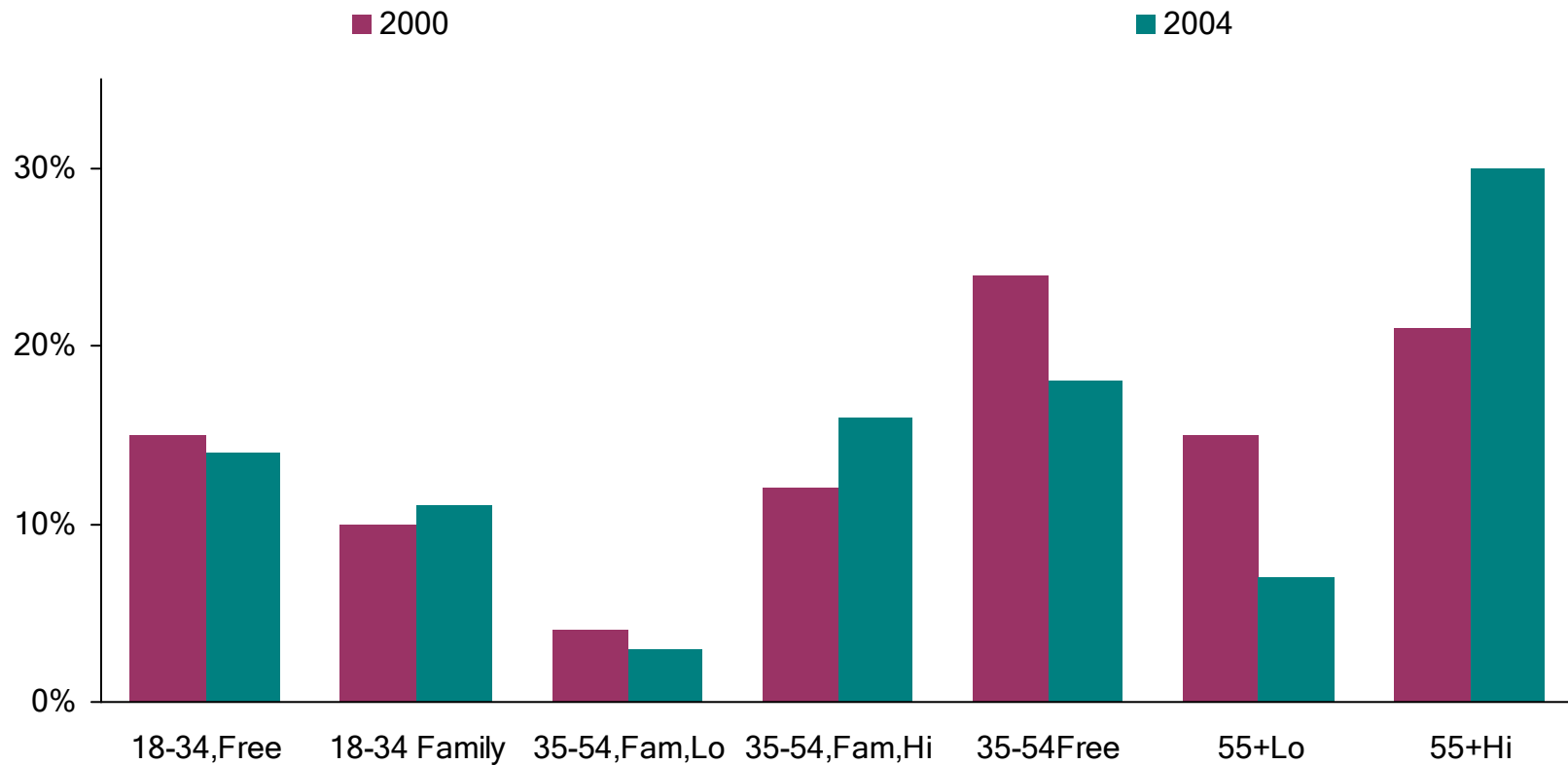
HHIncome \$50K or higher



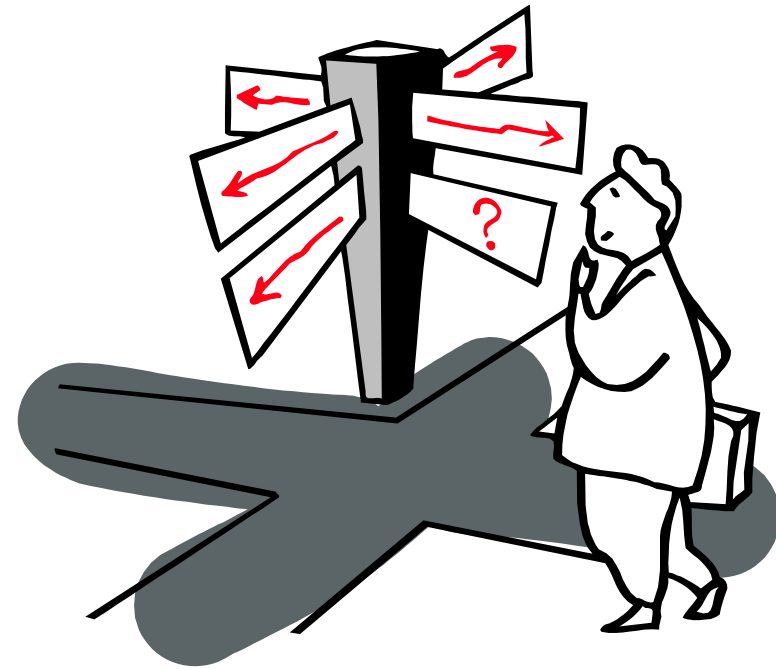
## Change in Share of Room Nights by Lifestage (2003-2004/\$ of Roomnights by U.S. Residents to Canada)



- Greatest growth among affluent 35-54 families & 55+ Hi
- Greatest loss among 35-54 couples & less affluent.
- While 18-34 Couple up in stays, down in nights.

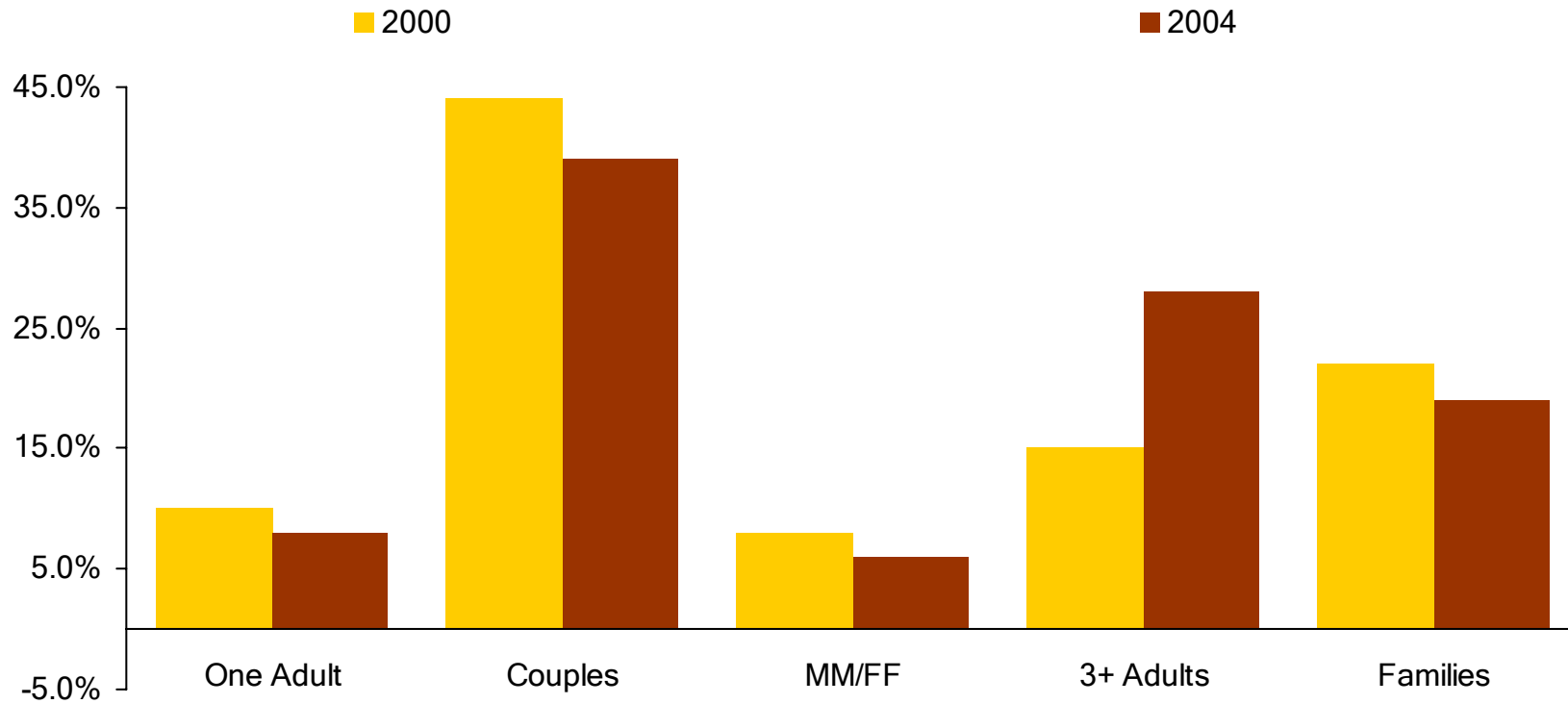


U.S. to Canada



# Travel Party Composition

(2004/% of Leisure Domestic and Canada Travel Party by U.S. Residents)

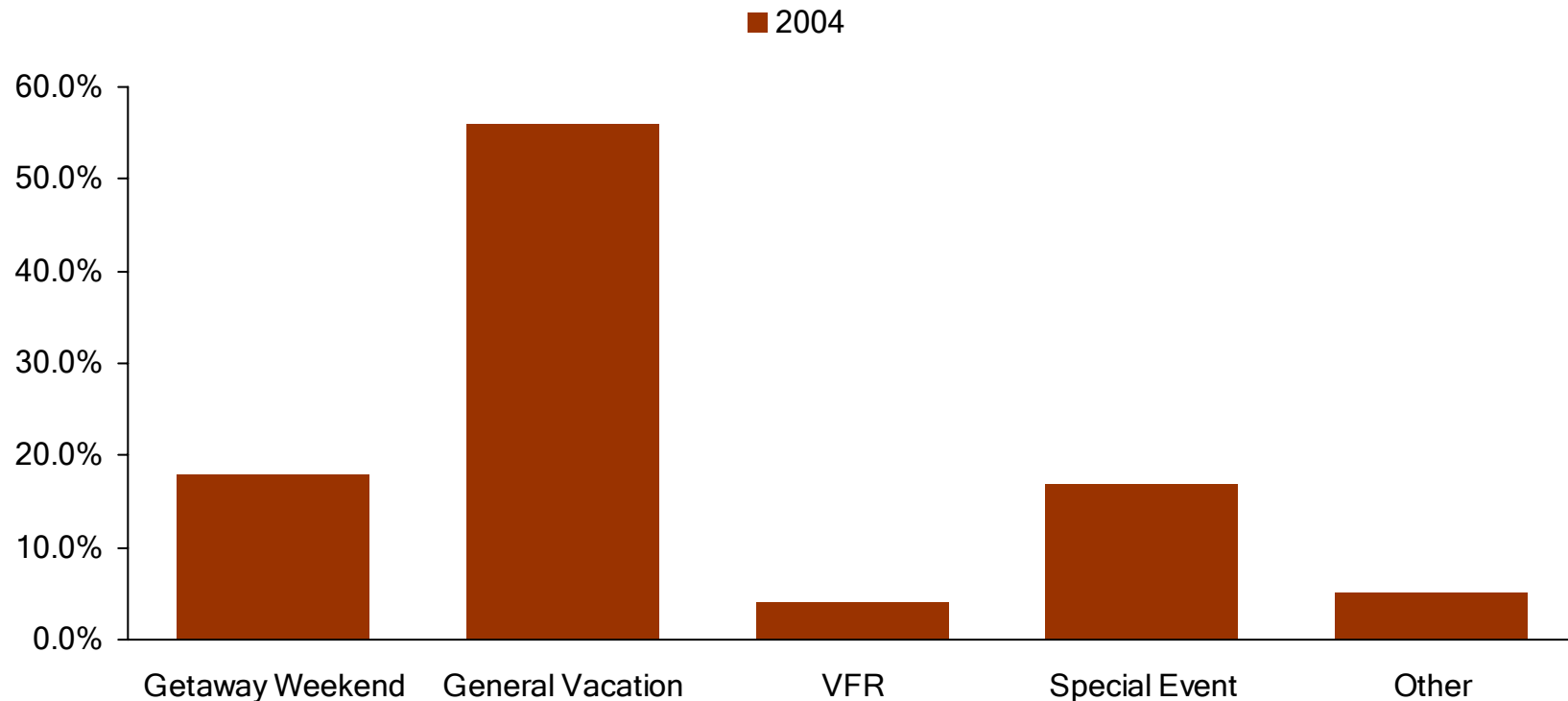




## *Leisure Purpose of Stay* *(2004/% of Leisure Room Nights by U.S. Residents)*



- General Vacation accounts for more than half of all Room Night sales.
- Getaway Weekend accounts for less than 20%.
- Share of Getaway Weekend was up 01-03, declined in 04.
- Gen Vacation rose in 01-Has declined since.

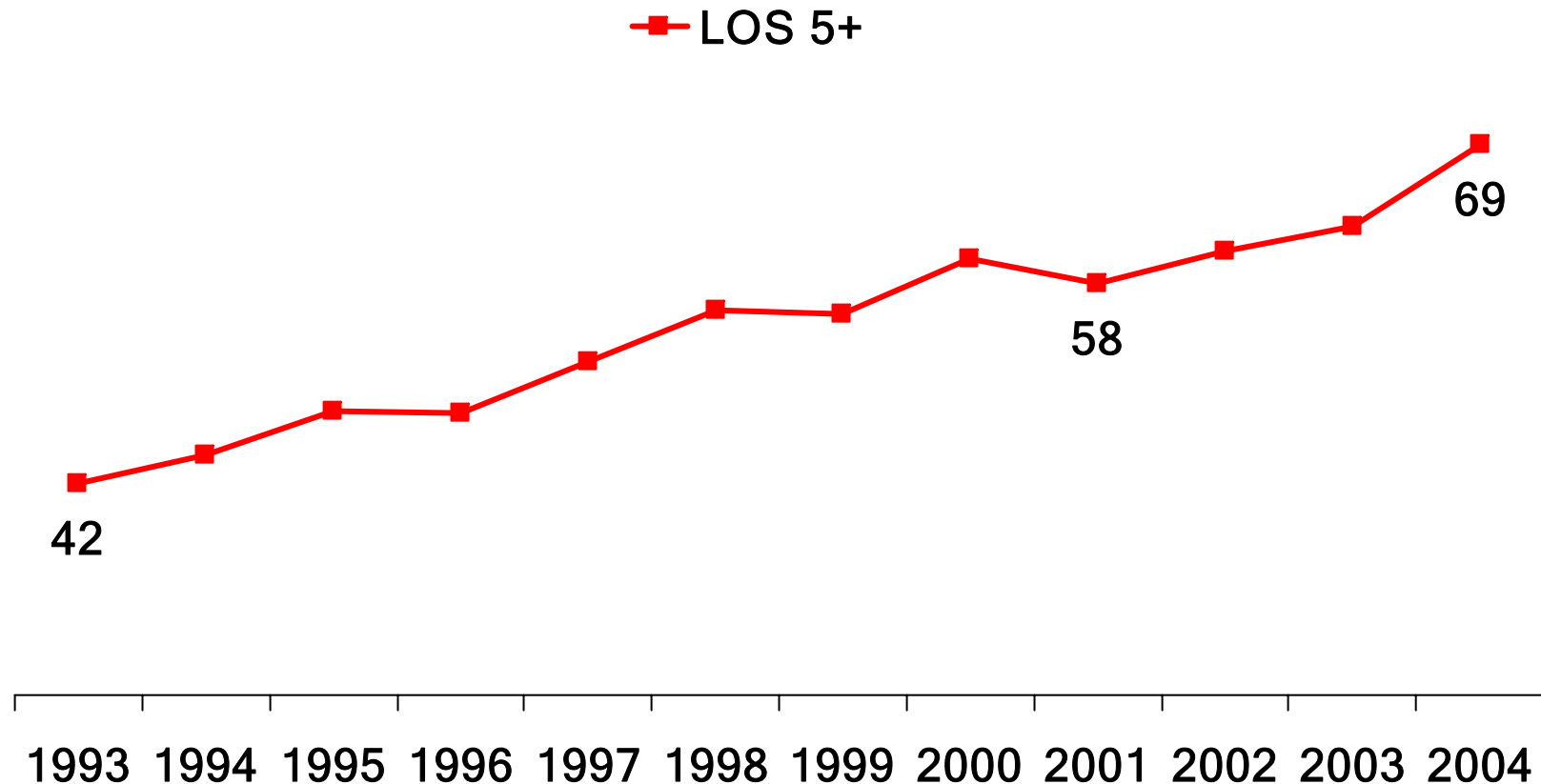




## Entitlement: Longer US Vacations Growing (1993-2004/Millions of U.S. General Vacation Room-Nights)



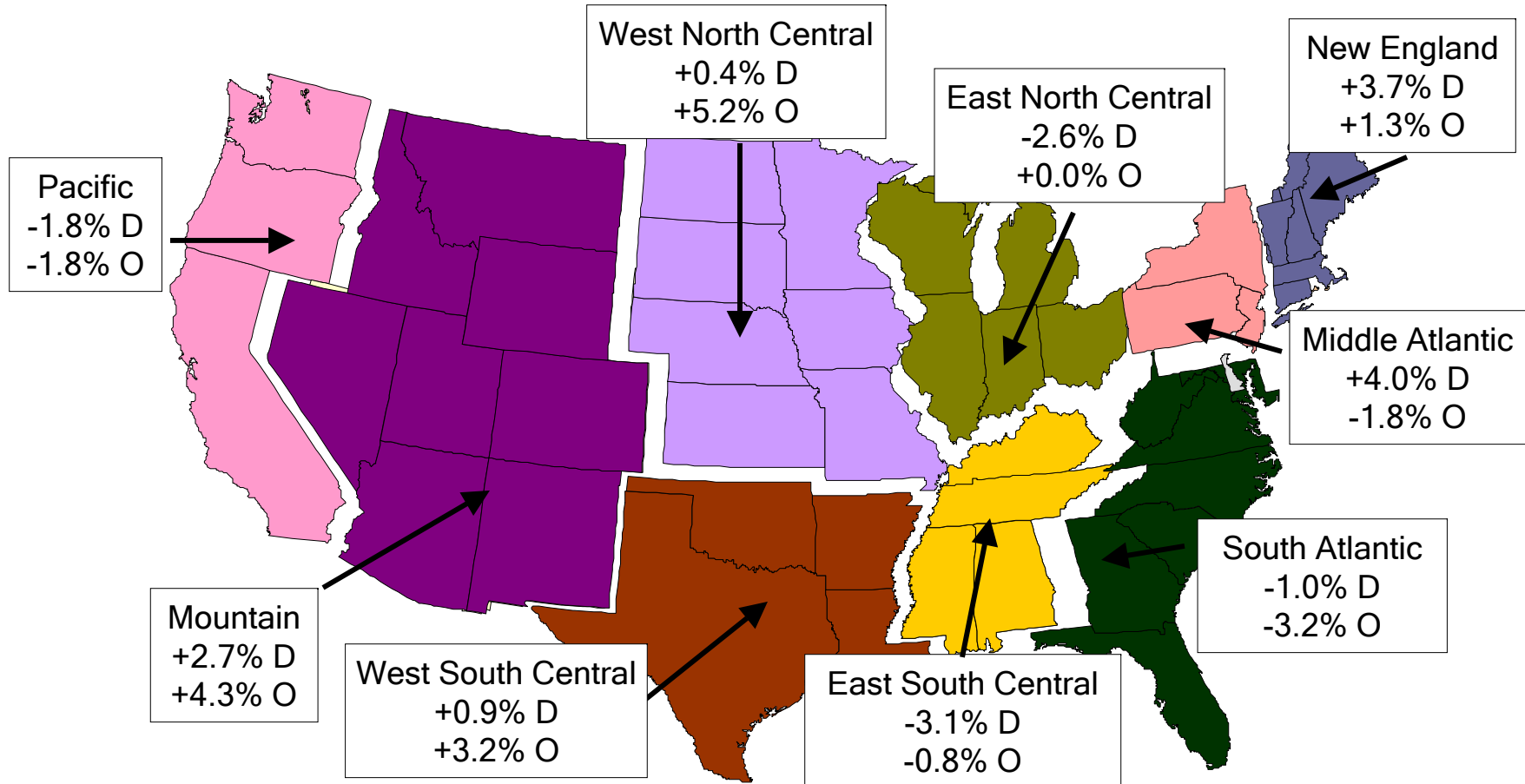
- Overall US Leisure Demand for 5+ night stays has grown 9% since 9-11
- 5 + Night US Vacation travel since 9-11 has grown by 19%.
- Canada length of stays among US 5+ Night is down among growth segments





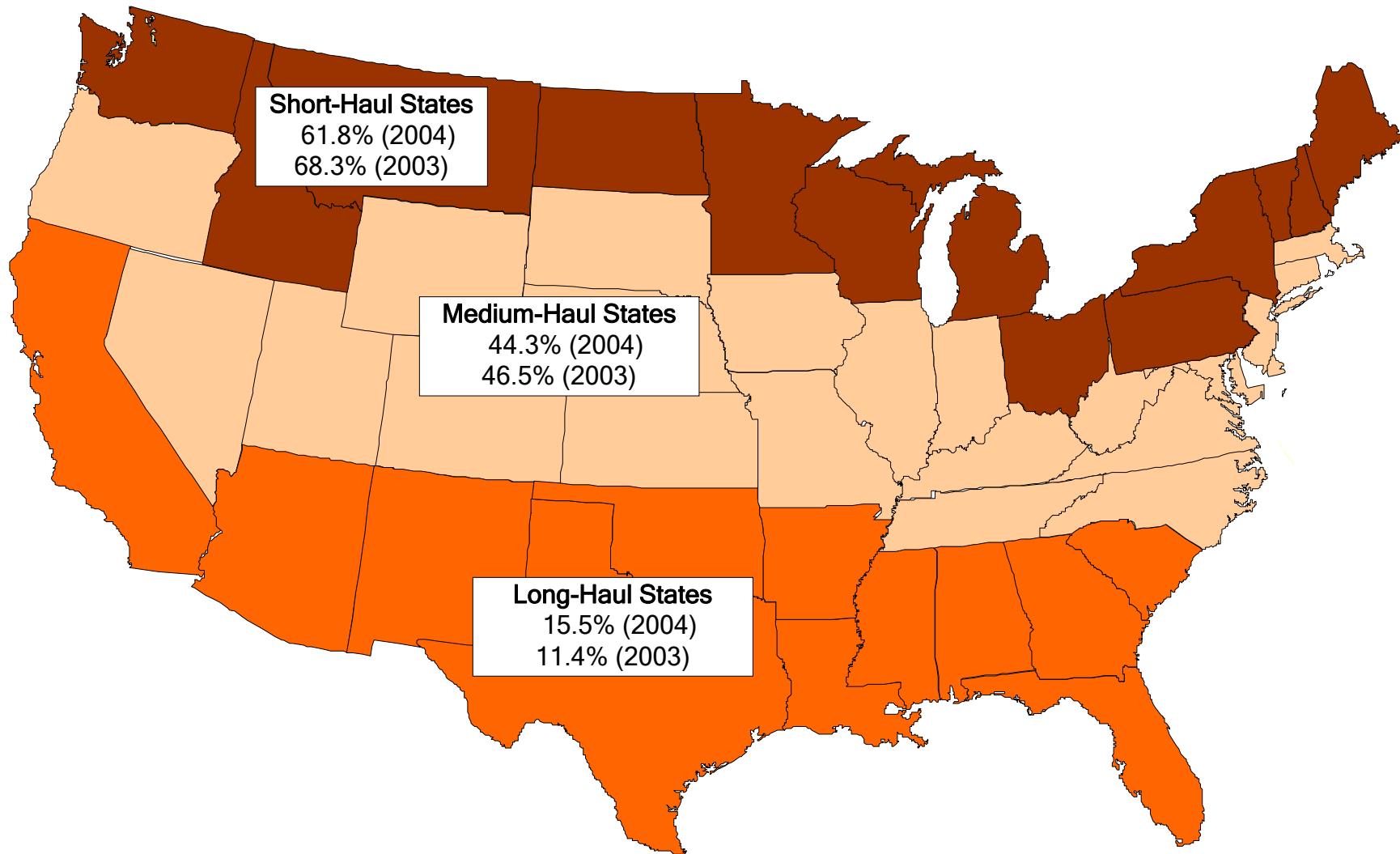
# Regions as Drivers and Benefactors of Growth

(2003 vs. 2004/% change of Leisure Domestic Person-Stays by U.S. Residents)



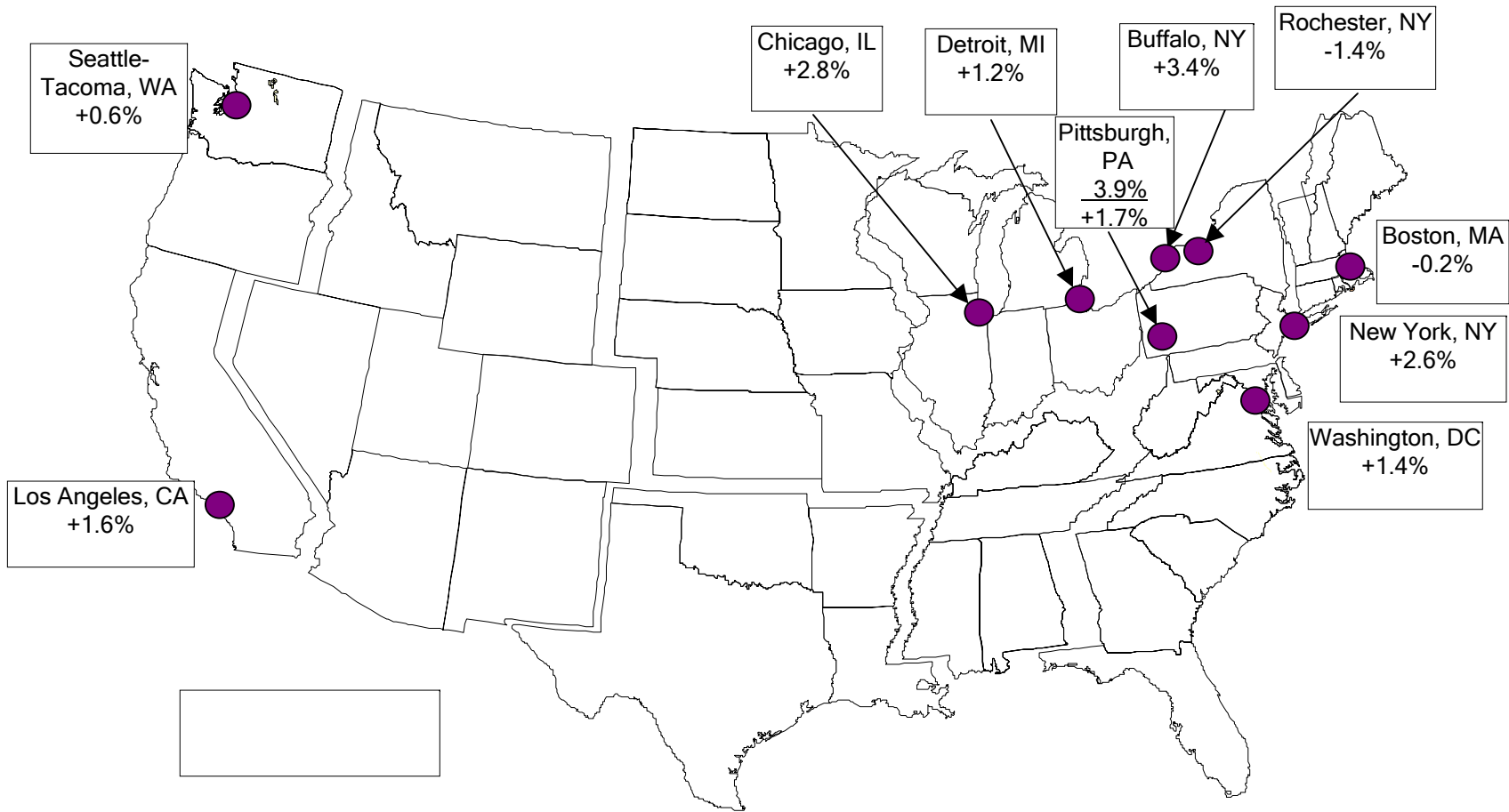
# Origin State's Share of U.S. Total Outbound Travel to Canada

(2003-2004/% of Total Canadian Person-Stays by U.S. Residents)



# Top DMA Feeder Markets for Canada

(2000-2004/ % Change in share of Overnight Leisure Person-Stays by U.S. Residents)





## *Summary: Factors Driving Share/Revenue Loss from US*



- Share and Volume of Total US outbound to Canada is down for both Business & Leisure travel. Decline in Leisure runs counter to US trends.
- Shares of Weekend Getaway trips are rising and Average Stay length rose slightly.
- Shares of General Vacation travel dropped and then recovered in 2004.
- However stay length for Vacation Travel and thus # of Room Nights continued a decline.
- Though party size grew slightly (do to more 3+ adult parties), so did number in hotel rooms so effect on Room sales was flat.
- Transfer of room night share from Hotels to Condo-Timeshare has occurred since 9-11.
- Condo Timeshare is small share of total Room Nights but up 20% in Person Stays, up 10% in share of Room Nights.



## *Summary: Positive Signs Among Target Segments*



- Rising Income Levels among visitors
- Rising education level among visitors.
- Shift to older travelers with more income and discretionary time.

# *Where is the U.S. Leisure Market Headed?*







## *Where is the U.S. Leisure Market Headed? Segments to Target*



- Segments with the greatest near term leisure growth in paid lodging:
  - 55+ No Kids HI
  - 35-54, Family , HI
  - **35-54, No Kids Big Loss Segment, Growth in US-Big Declines in Canada**
- Segment with the greatest spending growth:
  - 55+ No Kids,HI
- Package trip sales including cruise-strongest growth from:
  - 55+ no Kids, HI
  - **35-54, No Kids- Problem segment with sharp declines to Canada**



## Canada Activity Participation

(2000 vs. 2004/% of Canadian-US Leisure Stays by U.S. Residents)



Activity	US to Canada 2000 vs. 2004
Touring/Sightseeing	Up
Dining	Up
Nature/Culture: Ecotravel	Up
Other Adventure Sports	Up
Hunt, Fish	Up
Boat/Sail	Up
Concert, Play, Dance	Flat
Snow Ski	Flat
Play Golf	Flat
Shopping	Flat
Festival, Craft Fair+	Flat
Night Life	Down
Hike, Bike	Down
Camping	Down
Watch Sport Events	Down
Entertainment	Down
Museum, Art Exhibit	Down
Beach/Waterfront	Down
Parks: National, State+	Down
Theme/ Amusement Park	Down
Gamble	Down
Group Tour	Down
Visit Historic Site	Down

Color =  
2X > change  
Than in US



Thank You!

- Presentation Can Be Downloaded From...

[www.DKSA.com](http://www.DKSA.com)

**Ed McWilliams**

Snr. Vice President, Account Services

D.K. Shifflet & Associates, Ltd.

Falls Church, Virginia 22043

Phone: 703.536.0575

Fax: 703.536.0580

Email: [emcwilliams@dksa.com](mailto:emcwilliams@dksa.com)

