

HVS Central Florida: 2020 State of the Hotel Market

By [Donald C. C. Stephens Jr.](#), Managing Director of HVS Orlando Consulting & Valuation

Orlando has long been distinguished as an iconic vacation destination by continuing its ranking as the No. 1 destination in the United States, according to Visit Florida. Since 2013, Orlando has reigned as the nation's "Most Visited Tourist Destination." With multiple factors driving Orlando's appeal, hotel investors and developers are curious as to what is on the horizon for the hospitality market in Central Florida. With a variety of hotels and attractions in the Metro Orlando pipeline, and major international brands continuing investment in the market, the metrics point toward continued success in 2020 and beyond.

Orlando's \$75.2-billion tourism industry is the region's dominant economic engine, drawing 75 million-plus visitors annually. With visitation up 4.2%, domestic visitation grew to 68.55 million people, up 4.1%, while international visitation grew to 6.48 million, representing a 5.4% annual gain.

Metro Orlando Visitor Volume (millions)		2017-18						
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	YOY % Chg.	CAGR
Domestic	Leisure	47.129	49.811	51.754	54.980	57.265	4.2%	5.0%
	Business	10.306	10.764	10.588	10.875	11.290	3.8%	2.3%
	Convention/Group Meeting	5.823	6.013	5.892	6.065	6.170	1.7%	1.5%
International		5.373	5.898	6.120	6.153	6.488	5.4%	4.8%
Total		62.808	66.473	68.010	72.008	75.043	4.2%	4.5%

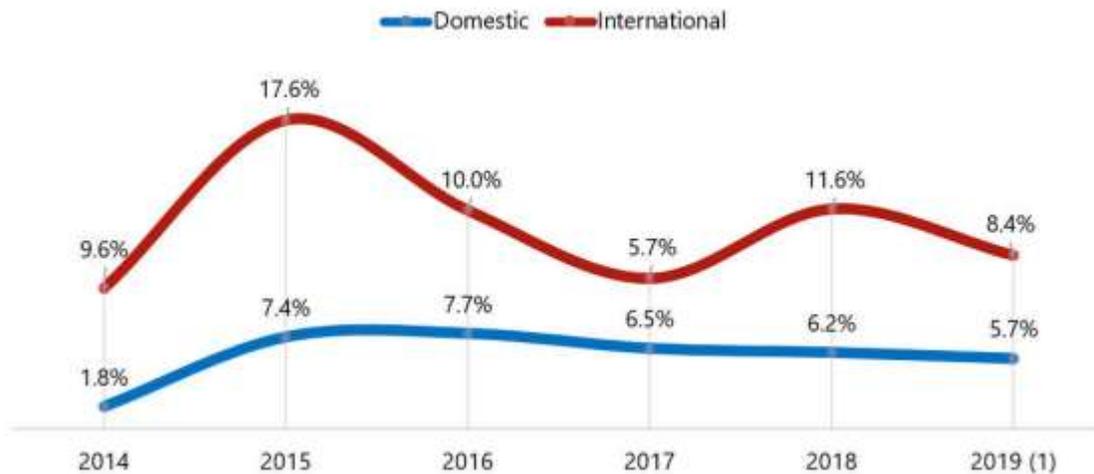
Note: Convention/Group Meeting included in Business

Source: HVS, STR & Visit Orlando Market Research and Insights Department Note: The National Travel & Tourism Office, Dept. of Commerce, methodology change in 2015

Combined passenger traffic at the Orlando International Airport (MCO) surpassed 50 million passengers for the first time in 2019, up 6.11% over last year. Domestic travel increased 5.7%, while international passenger volume was up a strong 8.4%.

With more than 50.6 million annual passengers, MCO is the busiest airport in Florida and the tenth busiest in the U.S. According to the Greater Orlando Aviation Authority, the airport is currently engaged in a \$4.2-billion capital improvement program to increase capacity and enhance customer convenience. Most notably, Phase I of the improvement project will include the \$2.8-billion South Terminal, set to debut in late 2021. The new, state-of-the-art facility will add 19 new airline gates to accommodate up to 27 aircraft, including narrow body, jumbo, and super-jumbo jets. These planned improvements should allow MCO to handle traffic increases moving forward.

Orlando International Airport Statistics - Annual Percentage Change



(1) 12-month rolling through December 2019 Source: Greater Orlando Aviation Authority

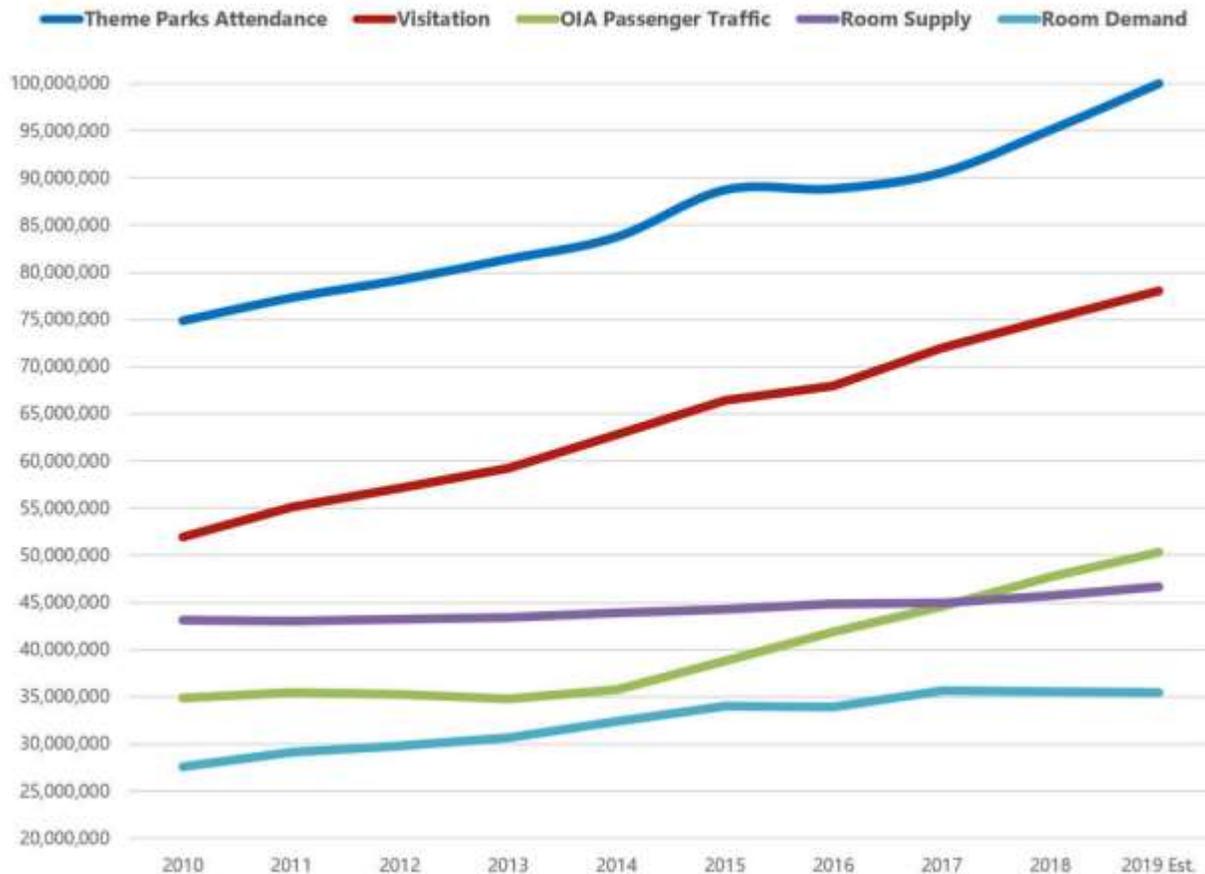
According to official statements, the September termination of flight service by Thomas Cook Airlines notably affected volume at MCO in 2019. The airline, which had served MCO since 2014, averaged between two and sixteen flights per week, depending on the time of year. Thomas Cook offered service between Orlando and destinations like Manchester, London, and Glasgow. The loss accounted for 12,000 of the 30,000 fewer seats into Orlando International when compared to November 2018. Domestic seat capacity, however, increased by 6.8%, with an additional 268,000 seats available year-over-year.

As the United States' most visited destination, Orlando theme parks offer some of the most desired attractions in the world.

According to the TEA Global Attractions Attendance Report, dated May 2019, Walt Disney's Orlando parks welcomed a total of 62,585 million visitors, up 4.3% over the prior year, accounting for nearly 66% of the 95,095 million theme-park-visitor market share owned by Disney, Universal, and SeaWorld parks.

- Magic Kingdom: 20.8 million visitors, up 2%
- Disney's Animal Kingdom: 13.75 million, up 10%
- Epcot: 12.4 million, up 2% (currently being upgraded)
- Disney's Hollywood Studios: 11.25 million, up 5%

The year 2019 marked another milestone for Orlando, as the highly anticipated Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge opened at Disney's Hollywood Studios and as Universal Orlando unveiled its next theme park, Universal Epic Universe, which will be Orlando's eighth theme park. These new attractions are expected to have a profound impact on the area's correlating economics.



Source: HVS, STR & Visit Orlando Market Research and Insights Department

Universal's 750-acre Epic Universe's new gates will allow for a massive expansion, including the recently announced Nintendo theme park scheduled to open in 2023, an entertainment center, several new hotels, shops, and retail components to support these expansions. The venture will have a major impact on Central Florida, including the potential to draw millions of new visitors to the region, creating more than \$11 billion in new economic impact. With the openings of the sixth hotel in the theme park, Universal's Aventura Hotel, along with two new towers at Cabana Bay Resort and the 750-room Endless Summer Resort, Universal's current inventory is 6,950 rooms. Another 2,050 rooms at Universal's Dockside Inn & Suites will bring the company to 9,000 rooms across eight hotels in 2020.

Comparing this to Orlando's ever-growing vacation home market, often referred to as Orlando's "phantom room inventory," Encore Resort at Reunion, a single-family vacation home community, will contain 769 luxury pool homes ranging from four to thirteen bedrooms at build-out, which is equivalent to over 5,000 hotel rooms.

The Orange County Convention Center (OCCC) is a vital component of the economic health of Orlando's hotel market and provides an average annual economic impact of \$2.4 billion to the Central Florida economy. OCCC is the second largest in contiguous space in the U.S., with over 2.3 million gross square feet. A \$605-million expansion is currently underway that will include a new concourse connecting the North and South Concourses and will feature an 80,000-square-foot ballroom and a 200,000-square-foot multipurpose room that can hold between 18,000 and 20,000 people with retractable seating. The project is scheduled to be completed in 2023.



Port Canaveral is one of Central Florida's greatest assets when it comes to cruise-related tourism by creating pre- and post-sailing hotel demand. Construction is on schedule at Cruise Terminal 3 with a new, \$163-million facility dubbed "Launch Pad." This facility will allow the world's second-busiest sea hub to accommodate mega cruise ships, which will bring more visitors to the port and benefit the overall region. The 188,000-square-foot passenger terminal will be home to Miami-based Carnival Corporation's new Mardi Gras cruise ship, the largest in the company's fleet, carrying up to 6,500 passengers when it begins sailing in 2020.

The Port continues to boost its technological capabilities, aiming to add facial recognition technologies to help process passengers at a quicker pace. Cruise Terminal 1 already uses the technology and has had success in processing passengers quicker, which affects the overall guest experience.

Other projects include the renovation of Cruise Terminals 8 and 10, which will be used by Disney Cruise Line and Norwegian Cruise Line. The overall project includes improving Terminal 8, Disney's primary facility with a new baggage-screening area, a larger arrivals hall and concierge area, a new ADA-compliant ramp for disembarking passengers, a new jetway-style passenger boarding bridge, and more terminal seating. The Terminal 10 upgrades include expanding the entrance bridge, adding a new concierge area, expanding seating, and adding new restrooms and other amenities for a future Disney Cruise Line ship.

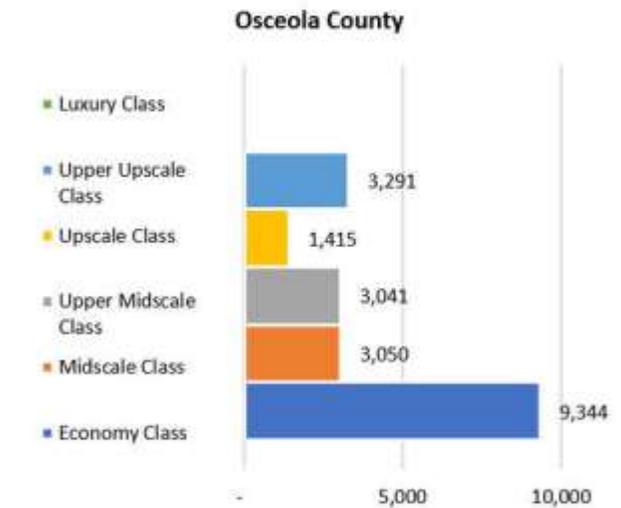
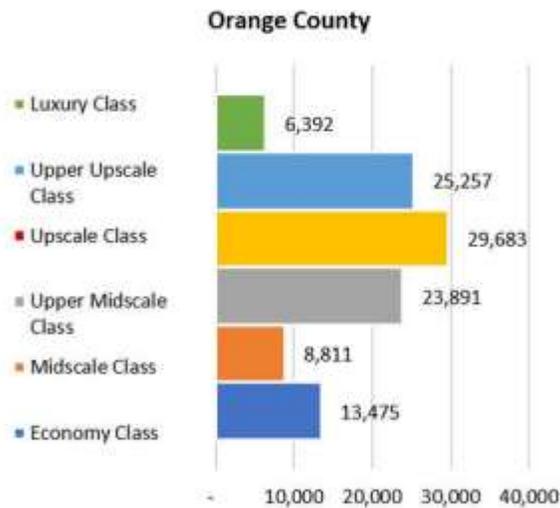
Now let's get started with a deep dive into the performance metrics of Metro Orlando's hotels and resorts.

Metro Orlando - Inventory Statistics & Supply Growth

According to STR, as of December 31, 2019, the greater Metro Orlando region (including Orange, Osceola, and Seminole Counties) boasted 486 hotels with a total of 127,809 guestrooms, up 1.9% over the 2018 year-end inventory of 125,370 guestrooms.

Based on market intelligence conducted by HVS Orlando, deliverables in 2020 will collectively introduce 4,702 rooms spread among 15 new hotels in the Metro Orlando market. Thus, Orlando's tri-county room supply will increase by 3.7% in 2020. The two largest projects entering the market are the 561-room JW Marriott at Bonnet Creek and Universal's 2,050-room Endless Summer Resort Dockside Inn & Suites. Together, these two entrants account for roughly 55% of the total 2020 new supply pipeline. Our analysis excludes nine additional hotels collectively containing 2,021 rooms that are currently under construction. Many of these hotels are located near the western edge of the coverage area but are not expected to be completed within this calendar year.

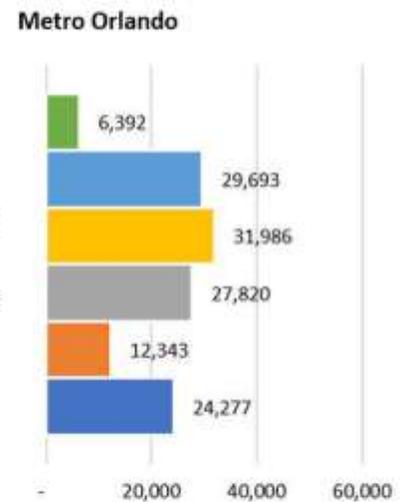
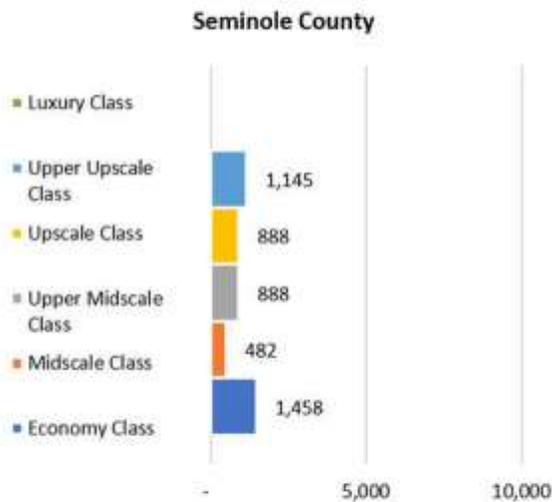
Orange County				Osceola County			
Economy Class	13,475	12.5	%	Economy Class	9,344	46.4	%
Midscale Class	8,811	8.2		Midscale Class	3,050	15.1	
Upper Midscale Class	23,891	22.2		Upper Midscale Class	3,041	15.1	
Upscale Class	29,683	27.6		Upscale Class	1,415	7.0	
Upper Upscale Class	25,257	23.5		Upper Upscale Class	3,291	16.3	
Luxury Class	6,392	5.9		Luxury Class	-	-	
Total Inventory (See Note)	107,509			Total Inventory (See Note)	20,141		
% of Total	81.1%			% of Total	15.2%		



2018 New Deliveries	1,792		2018 New Deliveries	431	
2019 New Construction	2,439		2019 New Construction	-	
2020 New Construction	4,495		2020 New Construction	-	
2017 Year-End Census	98,783	---	2017 Year-End Census	19,710	---
2018 Year-End Census	100,575	1.8%	2018 Year-End Census	20,141	2.2%
2019 Year-End Census	103,014	2.4%	2019 Year-End Census	20,141	0.0%
2020 Year-End Census (See Note)	107,509	4.4%	2020 Year-End Census (See Note)	20,141	0.0%

Source: HVS, STR & Visit Orlando Market Research and Insights Department Note: Includes new inventory currently under construction with official openings in 2020. Lodging census statistics include Disney properties

Seminole County			Metro Orlando		
Economy Class	1,458	30.0 %	Economy Class	24,277	18.3 %
Midscale Class	482	9.9	Midscale Class	12,343	9.3
Upper Midscale Class	888	18.3	Upper Midscale Class	27,820	21.0
Upscale Class	888	18.3	Upscale Class	31,986	24.1
Upper Upscale Class	1,145	23.6	Upper Upscale Class	29,693	22.4
Luxury Class	-	-	Luxury Class	6,392	4.8
Total Inventory (See Note)	4,861		Total Inventory (See Note)	132,511	
% of Total	3.7%		% of Total	100%	



2018 New Deliveries	-
2019 New Construction	-
2020 New Construction	207

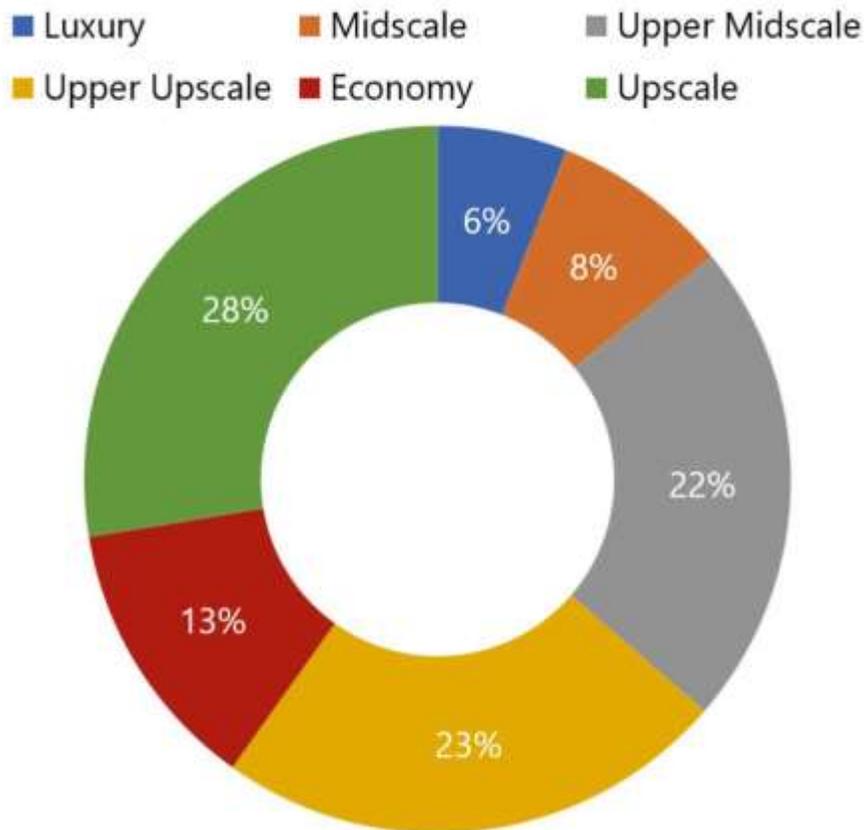
2018 New Deliveries	2,223
2019 New Construction	2,439
2020 New Construction	4,702

2017 Year-End Census	4,654	---
2018 Year-End Census	4,654	0.0%
2019 Year-End Census	4,654	0.0%
2020 Year-End Census (See Note)	4,861	4.4%

2017 Year-End Census	123,147	---
2018 Year-End Census	125,370	1.8%
2019 Year-End Census	127,809	1.9%
2020 Year-End Census (See Note)	132,511	3.7%

Source: HVS, STR & Visit Orlando Market Research and Insights Department Note: Includes new inventory currently under construction with official openings in 2020. Lodging census statistics include Disney properties

Metro Orlando - Inventory Composition (by STR Chain Scale)



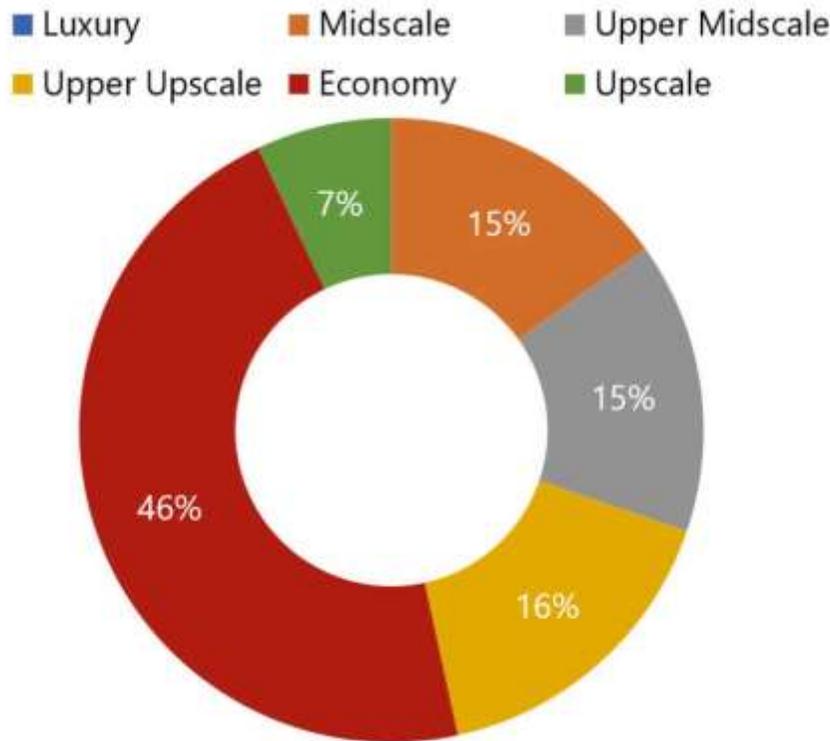
Source: HVS, STR & Visit Orlando Market Research and Insights Department

STR Chain Scale	2019			2020			Percentage Change		Room Census Change	
	Rooms	%	Properties	Rooms	%	Properties	Rooms	Properties	Rooms	Properties
Orange County										
Economy Class	12,254	12%	82	13,475	13%	85	10.0%	3.7%	1,221	3
Midscale Class	6,970	7%	41	8,811	8%	42	26.4%	2.4%	1,841	1
Upper Midscale Class	12,607	12%	67	23,891	22%	78	89.5%	16.4%	11,284	11
Upscale Class	46,375	45%	96	29,683	28%	87	-36.0%	-9.4%	-16,692	-9
Upper Upscale Class	18,674	18%	34	25,257	23%	44	35.3%	29.4%	6,583	10
Luxury Class	6,134	6%	10	6,392	6%	10	4.2%	0.0%	258	0
Total	103,014	100%	330	107,509	100%	346	4.4%	4.8%	4,495	16

Source: HVS, STR & Visit Orlando Market Research and Insights Department

Our year-over-year review specific to inventory composition, by STR chain scale, reveals an 89.5% increase in the number of rooms classified as upper-midscale, a 35.3% increase in the upper-upscale tier, and a 26.4% increase in the midscale segment. The 2020 data show a significant lateral move out of the upscale tier, declining by nearly 17,000 rooms spread among nine properties. Contributing factors to the shift in classification (or reclassification) are attributed to new product entering the market, post-renovation

reclassifications, and changing performance indices meeting STR's reclassification criteria. The data demonstrate the ever-changing dynamics of the Metro Orlando hotel market, giving support for on-the-ground knowledge an insight, a major consideration in selecting the right consultant for your project.

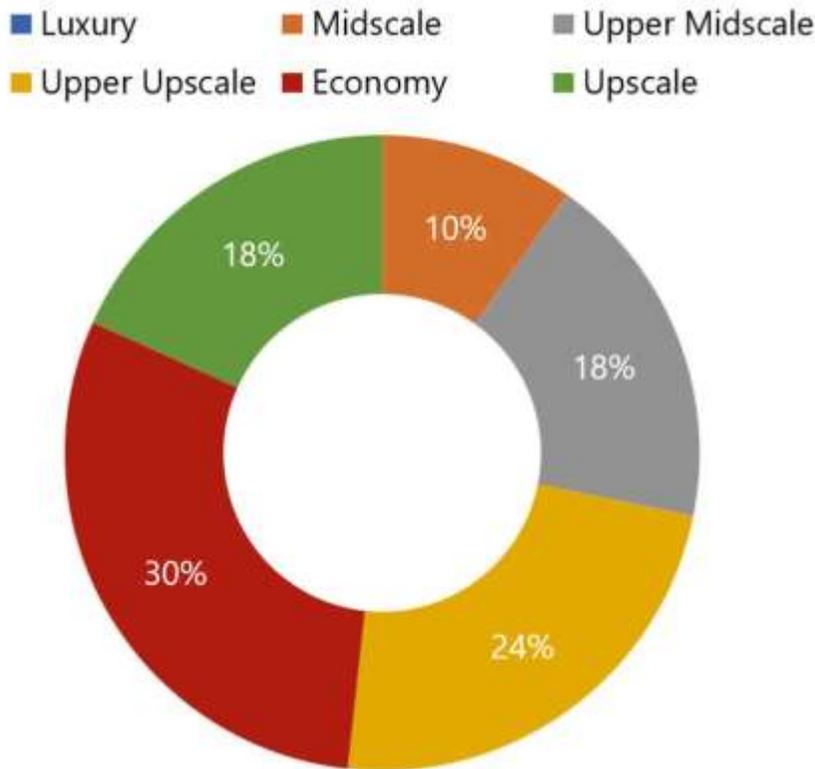


Source: HVS, STR & Visit Orlando Market Research and Insights Department

	2019			2020			Percentage Change		Room Census Change	
	Rooms	%	Properties	Rooms	%	Properties	Rooms	Properties	Rooms	Properties
Osceola County										
STR Chain Scale										
Economy Class	8,097	40%	71	9,344	46%	75	15.4%	5.6%	1,247	4
Midscale Class	2,971	15%	13	3,050	15%	14	2.7%	7.7%	79	1
Upper Midscale Class	4,108	20%	19	3,041	15%	17	-26.0%	-10.5%	-1,067	-2
Upscale Class	1,737	9%	9	1,415	7%	8	-18.5%	-11.1%	-322	-1
Upper Upscale Class	3,228	16%	7	3,291	16%	8	2.0%	14.3%	63	1
Luxury Class	0	0%	0	0	0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0
Total	20,141	100%	119	20,141	100%	122	0.0%	2.5%	0	3

Source: HVS, STR & Visit Orlando Market Research and Insights Department

For Osceola County, the data indicate a shift of three assets in the upper-midscale and upscale tier group (representing 1,389 rooms), as well as an increase of four assets to the economy class segment. One of the newest entrants to the Osceola County market is the 184-room Jimmy Buffet-themed Margaritaville Resort that opened in early 2019. Room inventory is expected to remain flat in 2020. This market is dominated by economy hotels, which represent 46% of the overall market. However, this market is heavily influenced by vacation home inventory. Within this market, signs of hotel conversion to apartment use are on the rise, such as the 550-room Red Lion Kissimmee Maingate, among others.



Source: HVS, STR & Visit Orlando Market Research and Insights Department

	2019			2020			Percentage Change		Room Census Change	
	Rooms	%	Properties	Rooms	%	Properties	Rooms	Properties	Rooms	Properties
Seminole County										
STR Chain Scale										
Economy Class	1,458	31%	15	1,458	30%	15	0.0%	0.0%	0	0
Midscale Class	610	13%	5	482	10%	4	-21.0%	-20.0%	-128	-1
Upper Midscale Class	553	12%	5	888	18%	8	60.6%	60.0%	335	3
Upscale Class	888	19%	8	888	18%	8	0.0%	0.0%	0	0
Upper Upscale Class	1,145	25%	4	1,145	24%	4	0.0%	0.0%	0	0
Luxury Class	0	0%	0	0	0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0
Total	4,654	23%	37	4,861	24%	39	4.4%	5.4%	207	2
Totals	127,809		486	132,511		507	3.7%	4.3%	4,702	21

Source: HVS, STR & Visit Orlando Market Research and Insights Department

Metro Orlando - Submarket Statistics

Orlando's occupancy level finished the year at 76.1%, down 1.6 percentage points over the prior year, while average rate (ADR) increased 1.1% to reach a new all-time high of \$126.95.

The entrance of new supply, coupled with a correction in demand levels related to the aftermath of Hurricane Irma in Q4 2017, contributed to the latest trend. Moreover, the later timing of Easter in 2019 affected the Spring Break vacations, which affected room rates, as well. Additionally, the prolonged threat of bad weather surrounding Hurricane Dorian influenced many vacationers' travel plans over the Labor Day weekend, causing a 9.0% drop in September's occupancy (67.7% in 2018 to 61.6% in 2019). ADR also decreased that month, dropping 3.2% to \$104.78 (versus \$108.21 in 2018). Year-end results were also affected by drops in occupancy (-6.5%) and ADR (-3.5%) in June, and weak performing metrics in January, with occupancy and ADR declining -4.9% and -2.6%, respectively. Metro Orlando's lodging sector recently posted its strongest growth in November; occupancy (76.5%) rose 3.5% over November 2018, while the ADR (\$125.55) went up 4.8%, room-nights sold rose 5.2%, and RevPAR jumped 8.5%. Closing out the year, December's strong performance benefited from popular college football games held at Camping World Stadium and the official opening of Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge ride.

Occupancy Rate

Rank	Submarket	2017	2018	2019	% Chg.
1	Lake Buena Vista	84.8 %	83.2 %	80.9 %	-2.7%
2	International Drive	80.6	80.4	78.7	-2.1%
3	Orlando South	78.8	78.1	77.0	-1.4%
4	Orlando Central	73.4	73.2	74.4	1.6%
5	Orlando North	74.2	71.0	71.0	0.1%
6	Kissimmee East	69.8	65.9	64.4	-2.3%
7	Kissimmee West	69.8	67.6	62.4	-7.8%
Metro Orlando		79.3	77.7	76.1	-2.1%

Hotel Classification

Leisure	79.3 %	77.4 %	75.5 %	-2.5%
Convention	78.6	78.7	77.8	-1.2%

Geographic Segments

Orange County	81.3 %	80.4 %	78.8 %	-2.0%
Florida	73.7	72.9	72.3	-0.8%
National	65.9	66.1	66.1	0.0%

Occupancy Rate

5-Year Point Change	10-Year Point Change	20-Year Point Change	25-Year Point Change	Post-Recession Occupancy Point Change
2.4	15.4	5.2	5.7	12.9

Average Rate					
Rank	Submarket	2017	2018	2019	% Chg.
1	International Drive	\$132.64	\$136.50	\$138.29	1.3%
2	Lake Buena Vista	133.44	135.71	137.48	1.3%
3	Orlando South	119.70	126.22	127.60	1.1%
4	Orlando Central	114.71	121.24	121.54	0.3%
5	Orlando North	89.83	94.63	95.42	0.8%
6	Kissimmee East	91.52	95.98	94.37	-1.7%
7	Kissimmee West	73.07	76.51	77.52	1.3%
Metro Orlando		\$121.53	\$125.59	\$126.95	1.1%

Hotel Classification					
Leisure		\$103.17	\$104.13	\$104.60	0.4%
Convention		173.38	184.55	188.70	2.2%

Geographic Segments					
Orange County		\$129.31	\$132.98	\$134.52	1.2%
Florida		138.00	143.64	145.21	1.1%
National		126.77	129.97	131.21	1.0%

ADR (Average Daily Rate)				Post-Recession ADR CAGR
5-Year	10-Year	20-Year	25-Year	
CAGR	CAGR	CAGR	CAGR	
3.3%	3.2%	1.8%	2.6%	4.1%

Source: HVS, STR & Visit Orlando Market Research and Insights Department Year-to-Date through December 31, 2019 Note: Lodging statistics do not include Disney properties

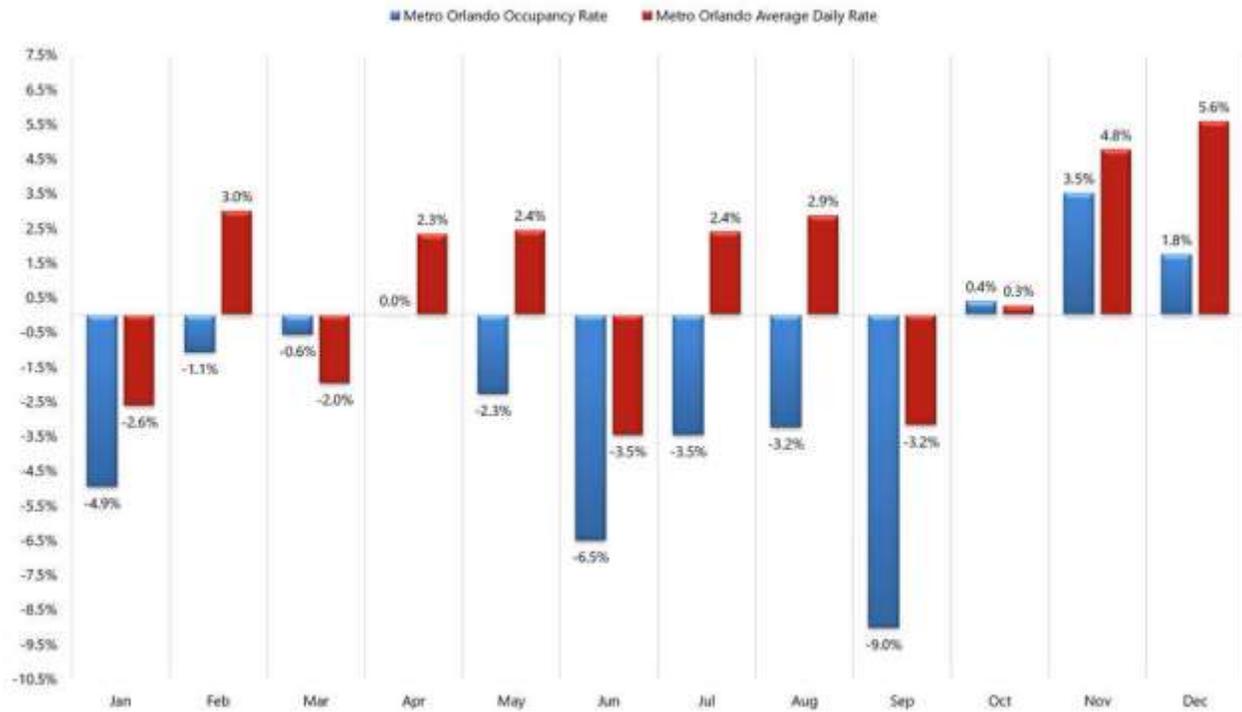
Positive RevPAR growth over the past nine years has brought the competitive market from the depth of the Great Recession to performance levels not seen in some time, and while RevPAR declined in 2019, it did so by a mere 1.0%.

RevPAR					
Rank	Submarket	2017	2018	2019	% Chg.
1	Lake Buena Vista	\$113.16	\$112.88	\$111.22	-1.5%
2	International Drive	106.91	109.75	108.83	-0.8%
3	Orlando South	94.32	98.58	98.25	-0.3%
4	Orlando Central	84.20	88.75	90.43	1.9%
6	Orlando North	66.65	67.19	67.79	0.9%
5	Kissimmee East	63.88	63.25	60.77	-3.9%
7	Kissimmee West	51.00	51.72	48.34	-6.5%
Metro Orlando		\$96.37	\$97.58	\$96.61	-1.0%

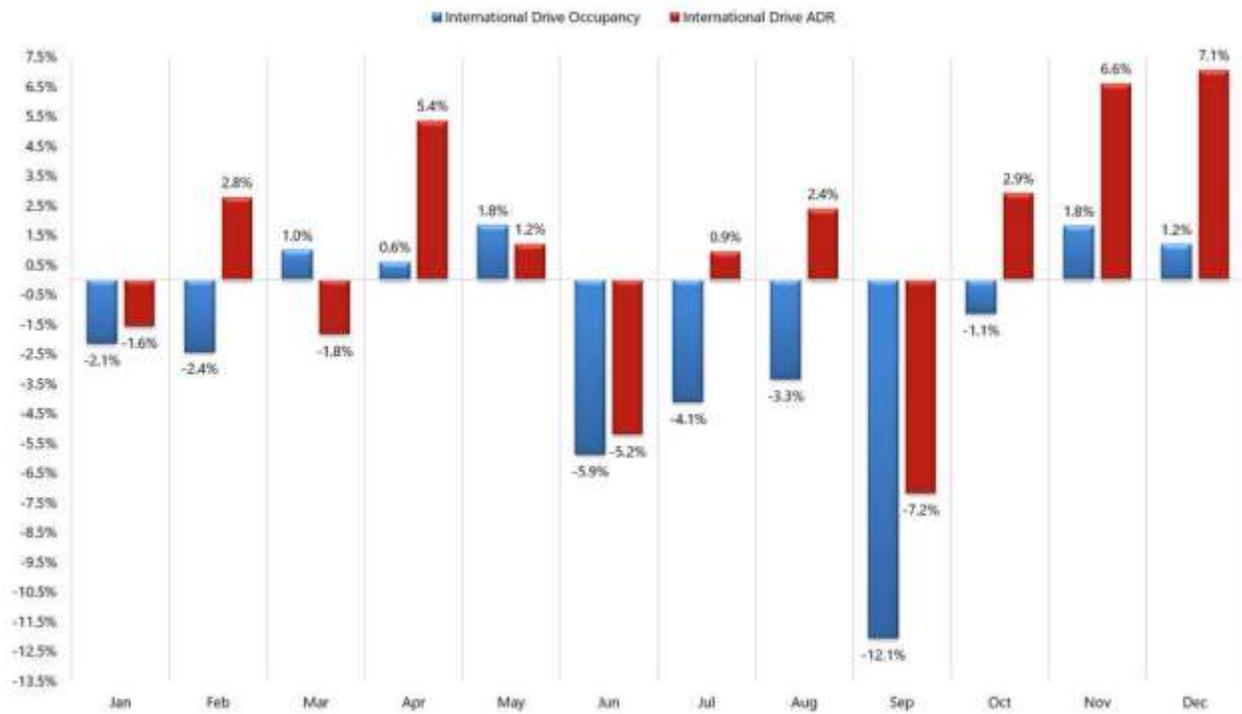
Source: HVS, STR & Visit Orlando Market Research and Insights Department Year-to-Date through December 31, 2019 Note: Lodging statistics do not include Disney properties

Metro Orlando - A Year in Review

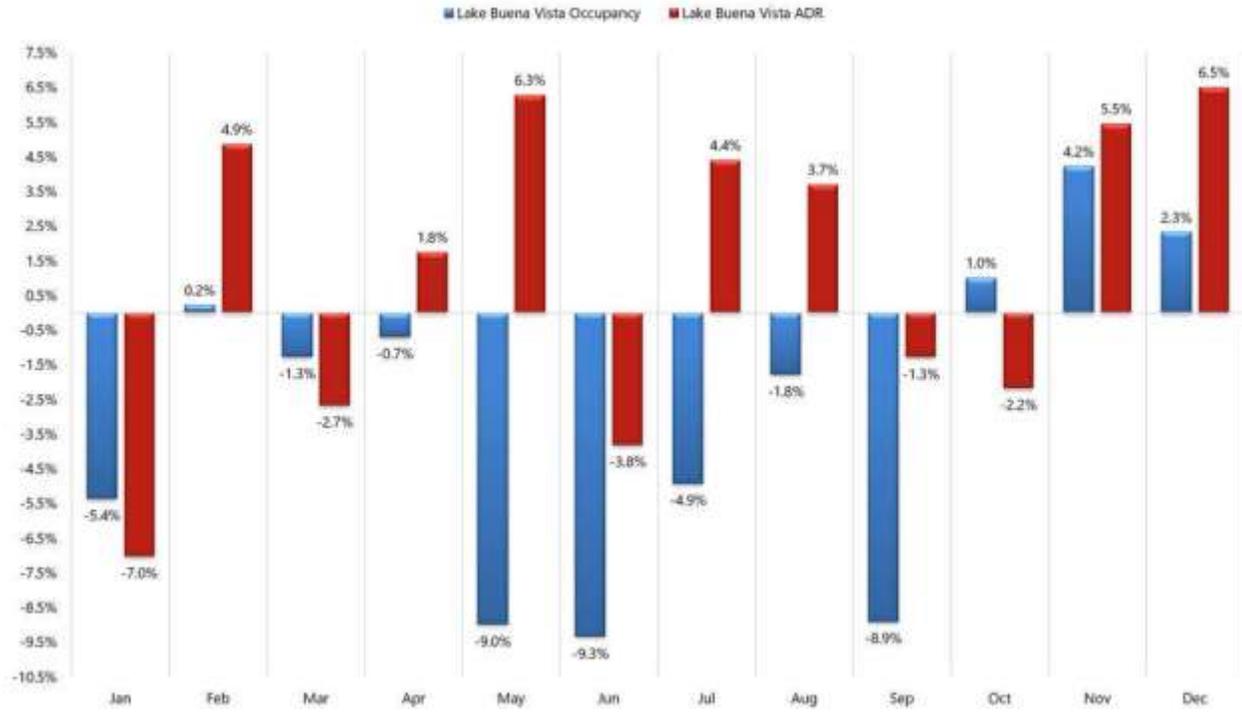
Metro Orlando's 2019 performance levels are graphically presented below on a month-by-month percentage-change basis. From an annual perspective, the Lake Buena Vista submarket has consistently registered the highest occupancy ranking of the seven submarkets constituting the Metro Orlando area. On the other hand, the International Drive submarket recorded the highest ADR over the past two years by overtaking the Lake Buena Vista submarket.



Source: HVS, STR & Visit Orlando Market Research & Insights Department



Source: HVS, STR & Visit Orlando Market Research & Insights Department

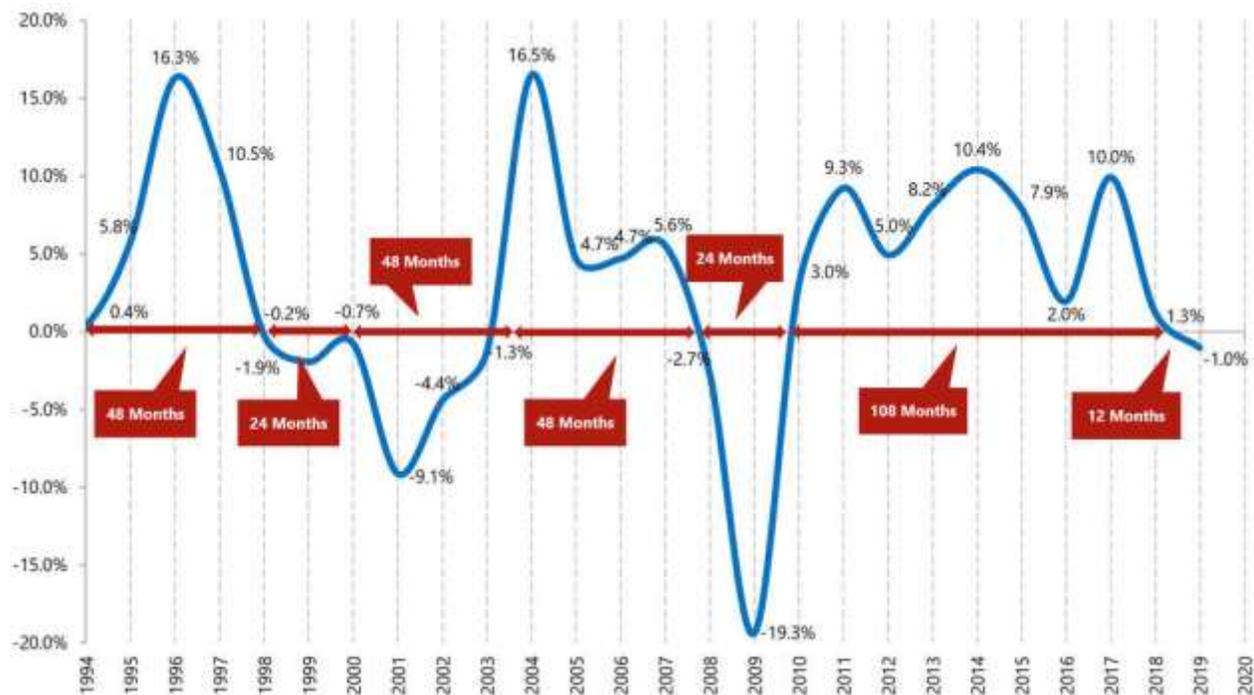


Source: HVS, STR & Visit Orlando Market Research & Insights Department

Metro Orlando - Long-Term RevPAR Trends

RevPAR (Revenue-Per-Available-Room)				Post-Recession RevPAR CAGR
5-Year	10-Year	20-Year	25-Year	
CAGR	CAGR	CAGR	CAGR	
3.9%	5.5%	2.2%	2.9%	6.6%

Source: HVS, STR & Visit Orlando Market Research and Insights Department



Source: HVS, STR & Visit Orlando Market Research and Insights Department

Final thoughts ...

- Prompted by a 2.1% decline in Metro Orlando's occupancy rate, RevPAR declined for the first time in nine years by a mere 1.0% in 2019.
- ADR ended the year up 1.1%, preceded by gains of 3.3% in 2018 and 4.8% in 2017.
- New supply in the defined tri-county area increased by 1.9% in 2019.
- Collections from Orange County's Tourist Development Tax posted yet another record year, generating \$289 million in 2019, up 3.2%, and the tenth straight year of growth.
- A rise in conversions from hotel to apartments represents a new trend in the Central Florida market.
- Hard construction costs are stabilizing, but labor costs remain high.
- Signs of some brand saturation in selected areas.

- In-the-ground construction with official openings in 2020 forecast to increase aggregate supply by 3.7%.
- Metro Orlando's combined room census will break the 130,000-room threshold in 2020.
- Opportunity gaps in select markets remain strong.
- Advanced bookings for 2020 are ahead of prior-year levels.

Moving forward ...

- RevPAR is forecast to moderate in 2020, with ADR gains owing to aggressive yield-management strategies amid steady growth in room-night demand levels but tempered by new hotel supply entering the Metro Orlando market.
- Economic growth throughout Metro Orlando, ongoing expansions at the Orlando International Airport, transit-oriented development, and new adventures at area resorts and attractions should support future demand growth.
- The one "wild card" in the forecast that could have an impact on RevPAR in 2020 is the anticipated ADR growth and the degree to which revenue managers will be able to leverage room price levels.