



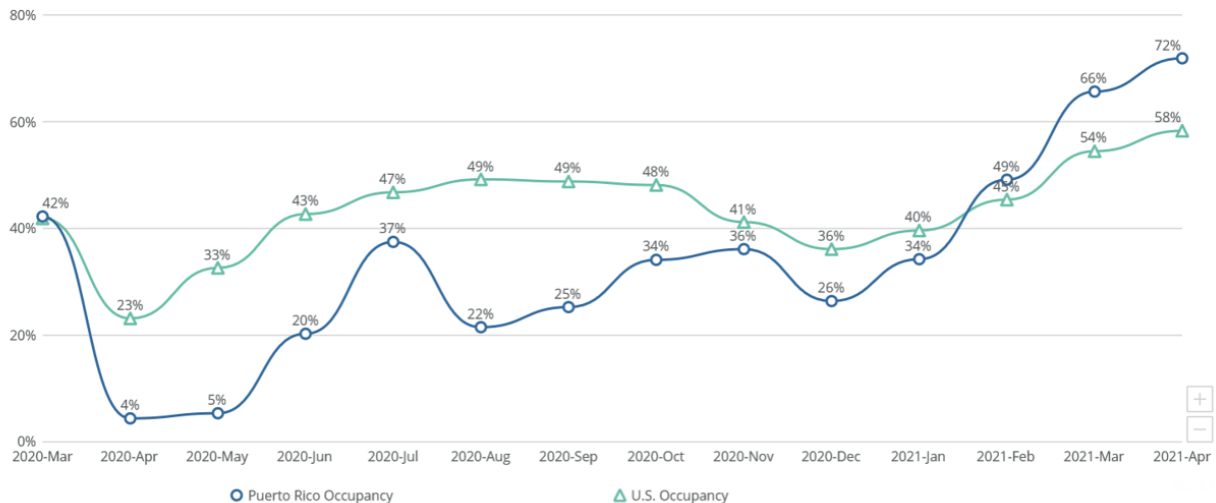
### **Research Dashboard- April 28, 2021**

Increasing vaccination rates have eased consumer sentiment surrounding travel. Though this is certainly reflective of the increases in the average U.S. hotel occupancy in recent months, the increases are modest compared to the surge in activity in Puerto Rico.

Average U.S. hotel occupancy has increased 45% since the beginning of the year while Puerto Rico's recent performance is 112% higher than January. This week's Coronavirus Travel Sentiment Index Research fielded by Destination Analysts shows that American's anxiety about contracting the virus is at a pandemic low, as are concerns about travel activities being unsafe.

# CONTINUE TO OUTPACE U.S. AVERAGE

## Dramatic rebound in the last eight weeks

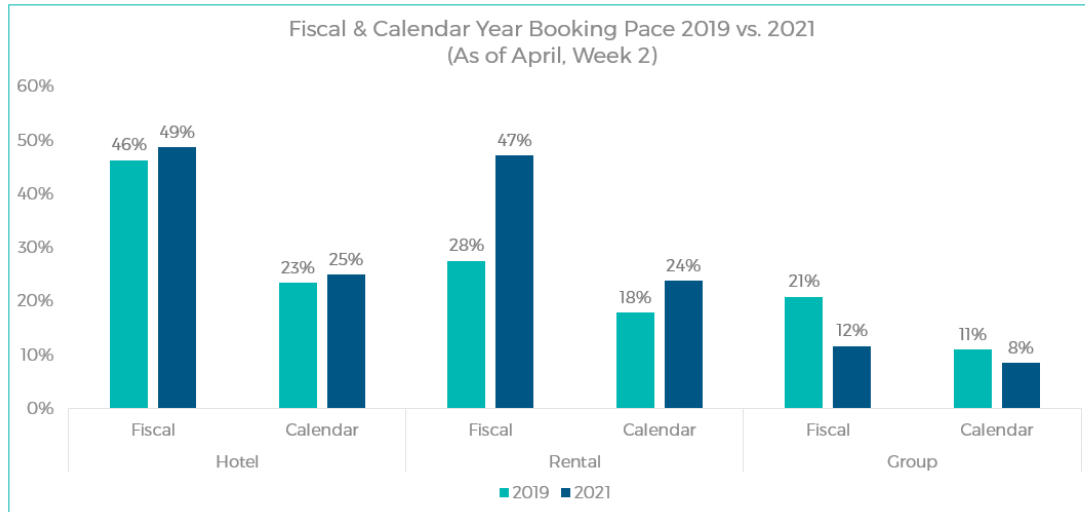


With improving sentiment, consumers have not only resumed travel that pushed hotel occupancy higher in March and April but are also making reservations for the remainder of 2021. Both hotel and rental bookings through the end of the fiscal year in June and through the rest of the calendar year are above that of 2019, the year Puerto Rico welcomed more visitors than ever before.

Hotel and rental bookings currently above the record pace of 2019 are being driven by leisure travel as group hotel occupancy remains down as business travel continues to lag. Discover Puerto Rico's data partner at Adara reports there have been more than \$237 million in hotel bookings since the start of the year by consumers exposed to the organization's marketing. This is 145% higher than the \$96.6 million in hotel bookings by consumers exposed to Discover Puerto Rico's advertising during the same period in 2019.

# LEISURE DRIVING MORE BOOKINGS THAN 2019

## Significant increases in rentals from record-setting year



Reservations already on the books are following the pattern of anticipated travel Destination Analysts found in the sentiment research fielded April 24-25. They report, “71.6% say they will take a vacation or getaway between Memorial Day and Labor Day, up nearly 10 percentage points from last month and up nearly 36 percentage points from 2020. Across all American travelers, the average number of leisure trips being taken this Summer is 1.7. July remains the peak month, with over half of American travelers planning to take one or more trips in that month.”

In evaluating the year-over-year hotel booking pace through the rest of calendar year against where things stood during the same period in 2019, it is May, June and July that are currently booking significantly faster.

# SUMMER TRAVEL OUTLOOK

## More than a third ready to book air travel



The Destination Analysts' report also shows that, "over 70% of Summer travelers plan to head out of state (and one-in-ten will travel abroad) so, while car is still the predominant transportation method, 34.2% will be getting on an airplane."

This increasing willingness to get on a plane by American travelers is reflected in the changes in airline seat capacity in the next six months. Though domestic airline seats for the previous six months were down 14% from the same period two years ago, the current schedules from domestic markets through September have an additional 20% capacity than 2019, a year for record domestic arrivals.

International travel will continue to lag as vaccination rates around the world are farther behind the U.S. in many countries. In the previous six months, international seat capacity was down 61% from two years ago. For the coming six months, that capacity remains 36% lower than 2019. Of the international seats available for the next six months, over 60% are from flights originating in the Dominican Republic when during the same period two years ago, DR seats accounted for only 38% of the international capacity.

# AIR CAPACITY IN COMING MONTHS

## More domestic seats than previous record inbound volume

