The State of Tourism in New Mexico: A Review of the Data

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TANM Research Conference November 3, 2011 New Mexico Tourism has suffered declines since 2008, although market share has held flat at 1.0% (36th in U.S.)



USTA data: New Mexico Travel Spending (\$ Millions)



NM Travel Market Mix: Domestic vs. International

NM Travel Market Mix: Leisure vs. Business



Sources: Longwoods, 2010. International share based on previous TNS estimates of international visitor share

Top 5 states of Origin for NM overnight visitors



New Mexico <u>IS</u> Different:

There have long been significant differences from neighboring states and U.S. averages AGE: NM Overnight Visitors vs. U.S. average by Age (Average age NM visitors 48.1, U.S. 45.7)



In Line with the economy, average spending has declined since 2008...



New Mexico is a "Weak Magnet" It has a Regional, not National market



Source: Longwoods International 2010

Top 15 DMAs for New Mexico



Source: Longwoods International 2010

Potential NM National market - top 15 DMAs



Asked of residents of each state: Intent to take an overnight vacation within your own state



New Mexico's Pass Through Rate* of 32% for Overnight Visitors is **TWICE** the Mountain state average of 16%



*Pass through = stayed overnight in a given state, but did not spend most of their time in that state

Source: Longwoods, 2010

*Mountain states: Arizona, Colorado and Utah

PRIMARY Overnight Visitors are even more concentrated (% from top 5 states):



Attracting out-of-state overnight visitors will be key to driving economic impact:



Sources: Longwoods, CY 2010; USTA Travel Spending CY2009; Katie Connolly & Associates Custom Analysis, 2011 *Economic values estimate based on USTA 2009 NM Travel Spending data and weighted share of traveler expenditures by trip type

Differences between NM Primary and Pass through visitors:

Primary visitors:

- Are younger (ave age 46.4 vs. 51.5)
- Much more likely to be employed and not retired
- More active, more likely to participate in outdoor activities, fine dining and special events, and attending museums, parks and historic sites
- Less likely to be in NM to visit friends and relatives (36.5% vs. 44.4%) and to participate in touring (12.8% vs. 24.7%), to have an RV or camper (3.7% vs. 7.3%) and to travel by bus (1.8% vs. 5.2%)
- Spend more per day (+58%) on shorter trips (3.6 days vs. 10.5)

For all these characteristics, NM Primary visitors look much more like the average visitor in the U.S. and in neighboring mountain states.

PRIMARY Overnight Visitors: Main purpose in visiting New Mexico

| | NM |
|----------------------------|---------------|
| Visiting friends/relatives | 36.6 % |
| Touring | 12.8 % |
| Outdoors | 9.9 % |
| Special event | 9.1 % |
| City trip | 3.4% |
| Casino | 3.4 % |
| Theme park | 0.8% |
| Resort | 1.8% |
| Skiing/snowboarding | 1.1% |
| Conference/convention | 4.3% |
| Other business trip | 10.8% |
| Business-leisure | 5.8 % |
| | |

Lower than U.S. ave Higher than U.S. ave

New Mexico has an image problem compared with its neighbors: Impressions of New Mexico compared to Colorado & Arizona*



*Source: 2010 New Mexico Branding On-Line Survey – CRC & Associates, Southwest Planning & Marketing TNS national and regional samples n=883

Additionally, a social media audit showed New Mexico has lower visibility & more negative consumer perceptions



18

Source: MutualMind Social Media Audit, May 2011

Google Search Insights also shows few searches for New Mexico (less interest in?) compared to the competition:





The Percent of overnight Primary visitors who intend to return to New Mexico within one year is low*



20

REPORTING: We have aligned our performance measurement against our two key problems to solve:

Consumer Problem to Solve

"New Mexico? I've never really thought about it as a place to vacation. With all the places to choose from, I just don't know why I'd go there. What is there to do?"

Low/No Awareness & Misperceptions



Marketing Objective:

Make New Mexico a primary travel destination

by giving "Venturesome" travelers compelling reasons to choose NM as their next great travel experience Industry Problem to Solve

"Help us fill our beds, tables and attractions so we can thrive."

Slow Growth & Under-utilized Assets



Economic Objective:

<u>Accelerate tourism</u>, driving unprecedented revenue growth and occupancy rates

*US Travel Association, 2009

We have identified 4 key measures of our performance with the traveling consumer...

| | OBJECTIVES | INDICATORS |
|----------------------|---|---|
| | Make NM the fastest growing leisure travel destination in the US | Visitation growth |
| BRAND PERFORMANCE | Improve brand recognition/awareness and regard | Recognition/AwarenessRegard |
| | Improve conversion | Conversion rates of advertising (incl. web) |
| | Improve repeat visit | repeat visits |
| | grow active consumer relationships | Social media presence & sentiment |
| | | Website interaction |
| CONSUMER | | E-newsletter performance |
| RELATIONSHIPS/ | | NM Magazine subscribership |
| TOUCHPOINTS | grow consumer touchpoints | VICs visitation |
| | | Visitor Guide distribution |
| | | PR/Media outreach |
| | | |
| CONSUMER | reduce % of visitors from 5 bordering states | Visitor & website demographics |
| PROFILE | reduce average age | Visitor & website demographics |
| | Increase % visitors who choose NM as primary destination (not stopover) | Visitation data |
| VISIT | Grow fly market as % of total visits | Visitation data & airport passenger data |
| CHARACTERISTICS | Grow visitation to NM's unique natural and cultural attractions | Visitation rates of State Parks, Museums, Monuments |
| | | Visitation rates National Parks & Monuments |

From the economic perspective, we will measure our impact relative to 5 critical performance objectives...

| | OBJECTIVES | INDICATORS |
|--------------------|--|--|
| | Make tourism the economic growth engine for NM | ROI share growth of total US tourism \$ |
| | Increase visitor spending | self-reported spend |
| | | total tourism spending |
| ECONOMIC IMPACT | Grow tourism tax revenue | NM Gross Receipts |
| | | Lodgers Tax |
| | | Total Tax Receipts |
| | Maximize tourism assets | Hotel/Motel Occupancy Rates |
| | Grow tourism jobs | Leisure & Hospitality Employment |
| | | Travel Payroll |

Further Research: 2-Part Approach

Establish Baseline

Measure Impact

| WHAT | Longwoods Quantitative Image Study | Longwoods R.O.EYE Quantitative Research Defensible , benchmarkable ROI for the Department | |
|--|--|---|--|
| WHY | Assess current brand dynamics as critical baseline of performance | | |
| HOW On line panel of 600 regional and 600 national (key metro markets) consumers | | On line, statistically representative sample of ~1,400 consumers with forced exposure to NM advertising stimuli (TV, print, radio, web) | |
| KEY LEARNING | Travel motivators (triggers) Current brand image/regard (40+ customized attributes) Comparisons to up to 4 competitive states Gaps in image vs. actual experiences (among recent visitors) Intent/interest in visiting | Awareness of NM advertising Short-term conversion (trips taken as a direct result of NM's advertising during and immediately following the campaign) Future intent to visit <u>ROI calculation</u> based on projection of survey results to population of advertising markets (# aware, # of incremental trips taken and planned) and applying visitor spending data from Travel USA | |
| TIMING | G OCT – NOV, 2011 AUG – SEPT, 2012 | | |

Appendix: Additional Information

Where NM Primary and Pass through visitors come from:

• The top 5 states Primary and Pass through overnight NM visitors originate from:

| Primary (68%) | Pass through (32%) | |
|---------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| NM 36.9% | TX 19.9% | Probability of staying in NM* |
| TX 21.3% | CA 13.9% | High |
| CO 9.4% | AZ 12.9% | Medium |
| AZ 6.5% | NM 5.9% | Lowest |
| CA 4.1% | WA 4.4% | |

*New Mexico is the primary destination for most overnight visitors from New Mexico and Colorado (the CO Not Primary % is 2.6%). Overnight visitors from AZ and CA are more likely to pass through the state on their way somewhere else (about ½ of Arizonans and 63% of Californians). A little more than 2/3 of Texans are primary visitors.

26

New Mexico's image problem (continued):

Impressions of New Mexico compared to Colorado & Arizona*

Negatives:

- > considered to be harder to get to, and a less exciting destination with fewer vacation packages
- considered much less scenic and lush than Colorado
- considered to have fewer recreational opportunities, especially compared with Colorado
- receives a lower rating as a place for couples, singles, or families to visit
- ranks lower when it comes to amusement, entertainment and spas
- considered to be a less popular and less well known destination with less advertising
- thought to have more affordable food and accommodations, but less quality and variety

Positives:

- > better known for its native culture, historic sites, architecture, unique local cuisine and museums
- > recognized for its different culture and interesting customs and traditions
- recognized for having interesting local people and not too crowded with tourists
- ranks higher than Colorado for retirees

New Mexico has several key strategic issues in terms of our performance vs. competition:



*Source: U.S. Travel Association

OUT-CONVERTED



Source: TNS, 2010 Branding Survey

29

More specific reporting info:

...with specific metrics, sources and measurement intervals for each (continued on next pg)

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METRICS

BRAND PERFORMANCE

| CONSUMER | |
|------------------------|--|
| RELATIONSHIPS / | |
| TOUCHPOINTS | |

| • | % growth in total leisure person trips to NM vs. all other states | Longwoods data set | annual |
|---|--|-------------------------------|-----------|
| • | % aware | Longwoods custom | annual |
| • | % positive, specific attributes | Longwoods custom | annual |
| • | % advertising viewers who planned trip (broadcast conversion rate) | Longwoods custom study | annual |
| • | website conversion rate | Future web booking engine? | TBD |
| • | intent to return within 12 months, vs. competitive set | Longwoods data set | annual |
| _ | | | |
| • | monthly active users, % change | Facebook insights | Monthly |
| • | post views | | Monthly |
| • | number of fans, % change | | Monthly |
| • | positive/negative ratio vs. competitive states | Mutual Mind? | Quarterly |
| • | visitors/unique visitors/mo., % change | Google analytics | monthly |
| • | total number of unique visitors to all department websites | | annual |
| • | pages per visit, % change | | monthly |
| • | bounce rate | | monthly |
| • | average time on site, % change | | monthly |
| • | number of e-newsletters sent & open rate | Internet Honey | monthly |
| • | total number of subscribers, % change | NM Magazine | annual |
| • | total number of online subscribers, % change | | quarterly |
| • | # of visits to VICs, % change | VICs | monthly |
| • | # of visits to online Visitor Guide, % change | Zmags | monthly |
| • | # of online downloads | | monthly |
| • | # of requested mailed visitor guides, % change | | monthly |
| • | number of stories placed in the media, % change | DCI/New PR Agency | quarterly |

SOURCE

INTERVAL

...with specific metrics, sources and measurement intervals for each (continued from previous pg.)

CONSUMER PROFILE

| | | METRICS | SOURCE | INTERVAL |
|---|---|--|---|-----------|
| | • | % visitors from 5 bordering states, % change and vs. competitors | Longwoods annual data set | annual |
| | • | % website visitors from 5 bordering states, % change | Google analytics | monthly |
| | • | average age of primary overnight visitor indexed to competitive set | Longwoods annual data set | annual |
| , | • | average age of website visitor, % change | Quantcast | quarterly |
| | | | | |
| | • | % of overnight visitors who choose NM as primary destination, change vs. YA, vs. competitive set | Longwoods annual data set | annual |
| | • | % fly of total overnight visits, % change, vs. competitive set | Longwoods annual data set | annual |
| , | • | total passengers, % change | ABQ Sunport | monthly |
| | • | total passengers, % change | Santa Fe Municipal Airport | monthly |
| | • | # of Visitors, % change | NM Energy, Minerals, Natl Resources Dept, Park & Rec Division | monthly |
| | • | # of Visitors, % change | US Dept of the Interior, NPS | monthly |
| , | • | # of Visitors, % change | NM DCA | monthly |
| , | • | # of Visitors, % change | NM DCA | monthly |

VISIT CHARACTERISTICS

LFC Required

...also with specific metrics, sources and measurement intervals for each

| | OBJECTIVES | METRICS | SOURCE | INTERVAL |
|--------------|---|---|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| | Make tourism the economic | New Mexico's domestic tourism market share, % change | USTA | annual |
| | growth engine for NM | ROI (incremental tourism spend per \$ of marketing investment) | Longwoods | annual |
| | Increase visitor spending | avg \$ spend per person per day, % change, vs. national and competitive set | Longwoods | annual |
| | | total tourism \$ spend | USTA | annual |
| ECONOMIC | Grow tourism tax revenue | Eating/Drinking Establishments and Lodging establishments, % change | NM Tax & Rev | annual |
| IMPACT | | Percent increase in lodgers tax revenue | NM DFA | annual |
| | | Tax Receipt \$, % change | USTA | annual |
| | Maximize tourism assets | % occupancy, % change | Rocky Mtn Lodging Assoc. Report | monthly |
| | | avg room rate, % change | | monthly |
| | • Grow tourism | total # of people employed, % change | NM Dept of Workforce Solutions | quarterly |
| LFC Required | jobs | total # of people employed, % change | USTA | annual |
| | | total payroll \$, % change | USTA | annual |