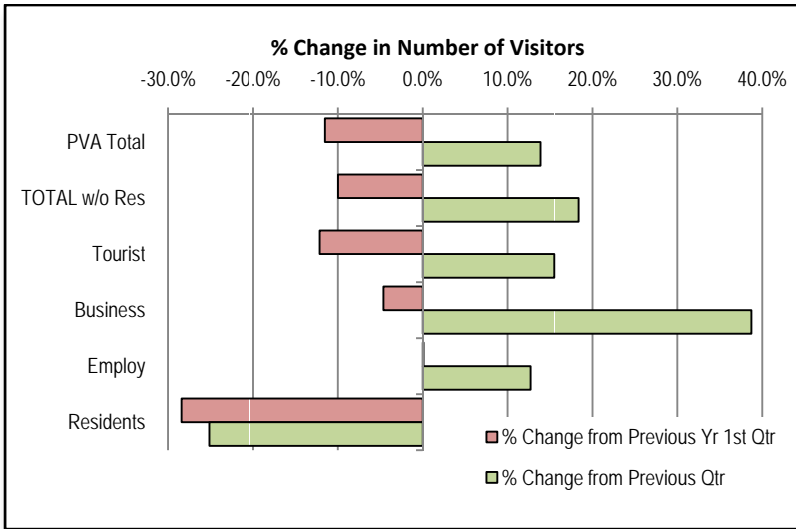


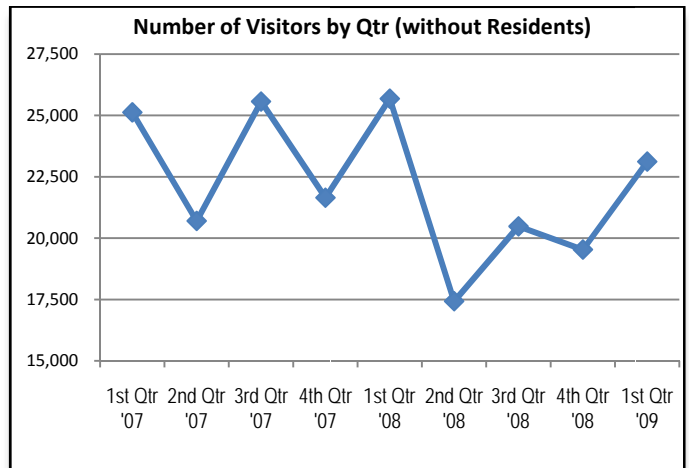


**MARCH 2009 QUARTER RELEASE**  
**VISITOR ARRIVALS INDICATORS**



**MARCH 2009 QTR KEY FIGURES**

Purpose of Entry	1 <sup>ST</sup> Qtr 2008	1 <sup>ST</sup> Qtr 2009	Annual % Change
Tourist	23,701	20,822	-12.1%
Business	992	946	-4.6%
Employment	921	922	0.1%
Other	68	426	-526.5%
<b>TOTAL excluding Residents</b>	<b>25,682</b>	<b>23,116</b>	<b>-10%</b>
Residents	2,349	1,682	-28.4%
<b>Total including Residents</b>	<b>28,031</b>	<b>24,798</b>	<b>-11.5%</b>



**MARCH 2009 QTR KEY POINTS**

Source: Palau Visitors Authority

- The total number of visitors increased 13.9 percent from last quarter.
- Compared to last quarter, the number of tourist visitors increased 15.5%, whereas Business arrivals rose 38.7%.
- Annual percent changes show that all categories of visitors dropped compared to the same period last year with the exception of the Employment purpose visitors whose numbers stayed relatively the same. Overall, visitor arrivals fell by 11.5%, including residents compared to the same period last year.
- In comparing across quarters, tourism statistics show an encouraging rise from its all time 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2008 low, increasing 18.4% (without resident numbers) since last quarter.
- Visitors from Japan, Korea, and Taiwan once more dominated the visitors market and were the top three in terms of visitor numbers for 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2009.