



## Anguilla: Hotel Occupancy Rates Report September 2003

The average hotel occupancy rate for September 2003 was fairly constant with last years', as the rate this year was 8.0%, a decrease of only 0.1 percentage point from September 2002, which is a rather insignificant decline. Hotel Occupancy at each category increased for this period except small hotels, which experienced a significant decline in its occupancy rate.

Tourist arrivals for September 2003 were up by 22.9 % from 2002 tourist arrivals at all ports in Anguilla yet the occupancy rates small decrease depicted that even though tourist arrivals are increasing it does not mean that they are necessarily staying in hotels. Tourists may patronise the homes of friends and family, rented property, own property, boats et cetera. The percentage change in tourists coming from the Caribbean, Dutch West Indies and French West Indies had a higher percentage change than tourist coming from other countries in September 2003 from September 2002. The incidence of a Caribbean resident staying with friends and family in Anguilla is much higher than that of tourist coming from other distant countries. There were also fewer hotels open this year in September than there were in September 2002.

The small hotels category, which is hotels with less than 20 rooms in service, had an occupancy rate of 9.8%, a decrease of 6 percentage points from last year September's figure.

The medium sized hotels had an occupancy rate of 30.8 %, which experienced the highest increase of all the hotel categories from September 2002's occupancy rates by 7.1 percentage points.

The occupancy rate for large hotels, characteristically for the month of September, is much smaller than those of the other hotel categories. The large hotels category includes all hotels with 51 or more rooms, and had an occupancy rate of 2.9%, experiencing an increase from last year's figure by 1.4 percentage points.

Hotels (Rooms)	2002	2003	Change in Tourist Arrivals %	
<b>September</b>	Occup Rate	Occup Rate	01/02	02/03
< 20 Rooms	15.8	9.8		
20 - 50 Rooms	23.7	30.8		
51+ Rooms	1.5	2.9		
<b>Avg</b>	<b>8.1</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>(14.4)</b>	<b>22.9</b>