

SCOTTISH ACCOMMODATION OCCUPANCY SURVEY REPORT:

September 2023/2022 Report - HOSTEL

1.0 Introduction September 2023/2022

Welcome to the VisitScotland Scottish Accommodation Occupancy Survey Report covering September 2023 and benchmarking against September 2022. The report reviews Accommodation performance throughout Scotland, highlighting trends across various industry sectors and categories. This report offers a snapshot of accommodation performance based on participating providers. Comments and feedback should be directed to Hugh Sheridan (E-mail: hugh.sheridan@gcu.ac.uk).

2.0 Executive Summary September 2023

The SOAS Report: September 2023/2022 Hostel report continued to show growth in the Hostel sector in Scotland when compared to the same period in 2022. Hostel Bedspace Occupancy rates for September 2023 showed a percentage point increase of **11.27** compared to September 2022.

Data from the Scottish Retail Consortium showed that the September retail sales figures in Scotland rose to 6.1% from 5.6% in August, however. Food sales continue to be the biggest growth area.

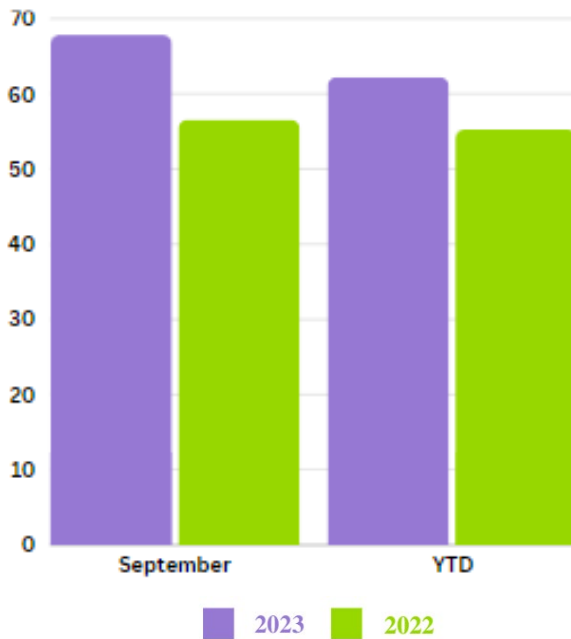
Domestic consumer sentiment provided by the GB National Tourist Boards for September 2023 found that 18% of respondents said they were "...been hit hard - no option but to cut back on spending" (a 4% decrease on the August 2023 survey). The survey recorded 46% of respondents (a 1 % increase on the August 2023 Survey) saying they were "...cautious - things are ok but I feel I have to be very careful". Despite consumer concern about the state of the economy, 33% of UK adults intend to take a domestic overnight trip in the third quarter of 2023 although that figure rose to 76% in the following 12 months. However, the key three barriers to taking an overnight UK trip in the next six months are the rising cost of living, Personal finances and the UK weather. The figures above have been consistent across the last three waves of the GB National Tourist Survey (VisitBritain 2023) and evidence the importance attached to holiday expenditure even in a challenging economic environment.

The recovery in international inbound visitation stalled in September 2023; with the Eurocontrol (European Air Traffic Agency) indicating that UK air connectivity saw a 10% increase when compared to the same period in 2022, however, UK air connectivity had seen a 9% decrease in year-to-date flights compared to 2019.

3.0 Hostel Accommodation

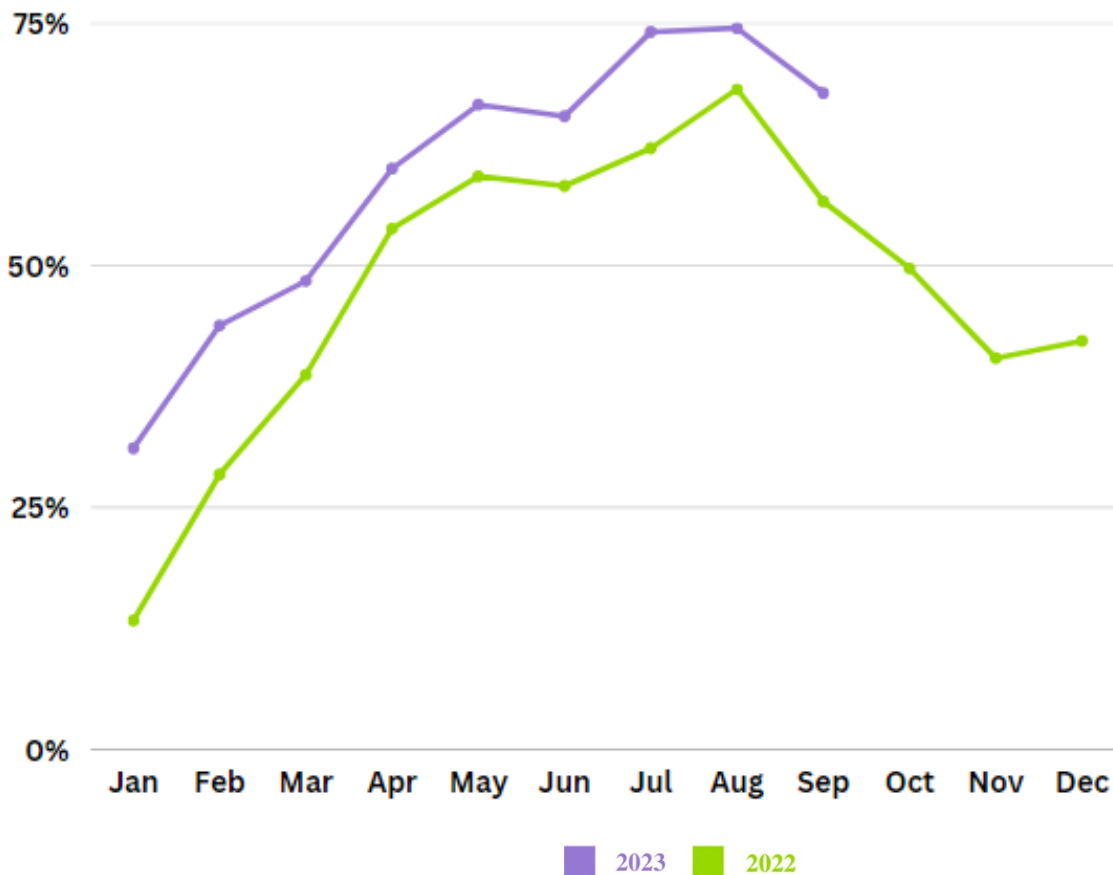
3.1 Performance by Hostel Category

Bed Space Occupancy – September 2023/2022



Hostel occupancy for September 2023 was 67.84% when compared to data from the previous year of 56.57%; this shows an overall percentage point increase of 11.27.

Bed Space Occupancy – Year-to-Date



Bed Space Occupancy Scotland – September 2023/2022

Hostels	September 23	September 22	23/22 Diff ¹	Change ²	YTD 23	YTD 22	23/22 Diff	Change
Bed Space Occupancy	67.84%	56.57%	11.27	111	62.22%	55.26%	6.96	107

Bed Occupancy by Type – September 2023/2022

Type	September 23	September 22	23/22 Diff	Change	YTD 23	YTD 22	23/22 Diff	Change
SYHA	65.47%	58.54%	6.93	107	62.11%	57.06%	5.05	105
Independent	83.44%	*	61.64	162	65.59%	14.67%	50.92	151

- Sample Size = Nil *Sample Size (between 1 and 4) too small to be included

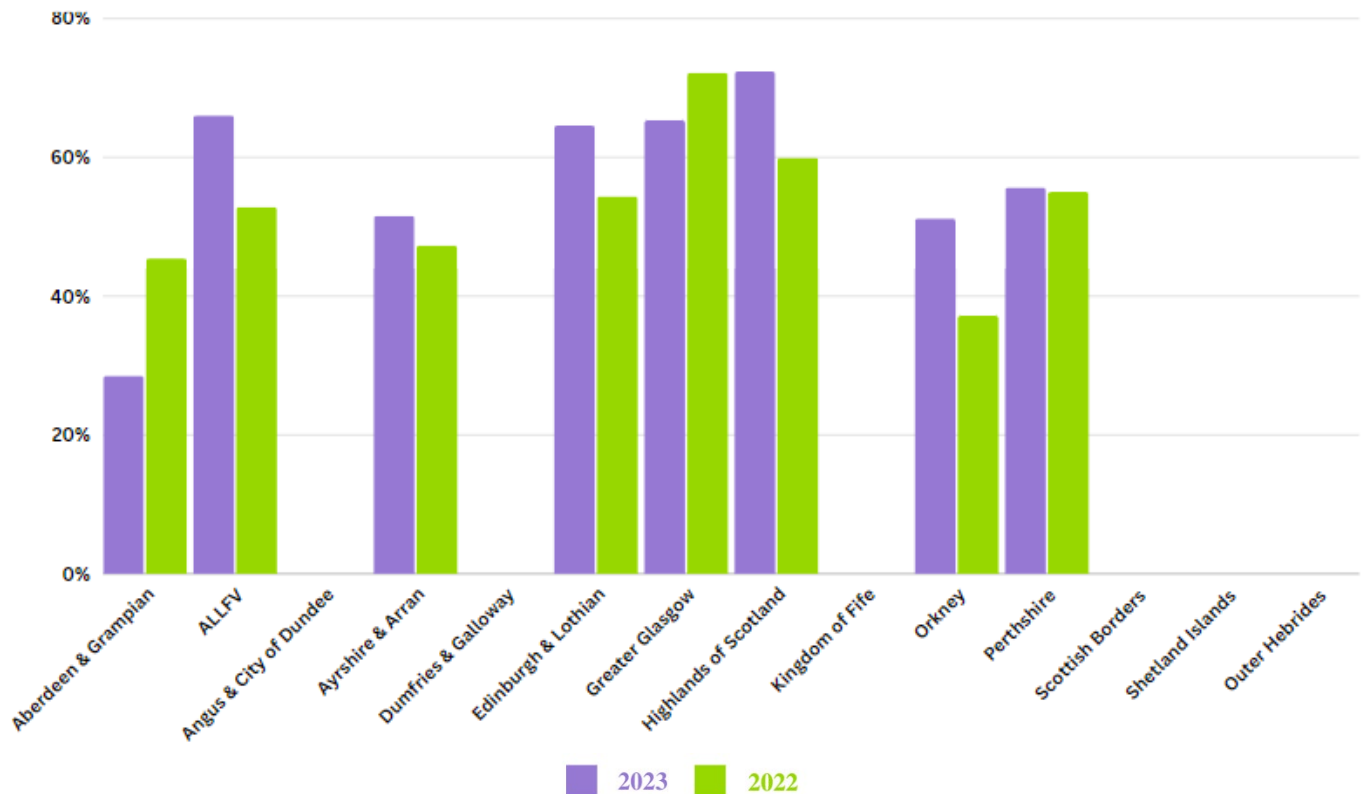
Bed Occupancy by Grading – September 2023/2022

Grading	September 23	September 22	23/22 Diff	Change	YTD 23	YTD 22	23/22 Diff	Change
1 Star	*	*	*	*	52.76%	65.67%	-12.91	87
2 Stars	*	*	*	*	53.74%	66.54%	-12.80	87
3 Stars	63.12%	58.91%	4.21	104	63.36%	44.44%	18.92	119
4 Stars	68.62%	58.00%	10.62	111	64.24%	61.42%	2.82	103
5 Stars	*	*	*	*	57.44%	61.14%	-3.70	96
Unclassified	*	*	*	*	0.00%	0.00%	0.00	100

- Sample Size = Nil *Sample Size (between 1 and 4) too small to be included

Bed Occupancy by Former VisitScotland Area

Bed Space Occupancy by Former VisitScotland Area – September 2023/2022



¹ 23/22 Diff throughout this report is expressed by % Point Change

² Change is Expressed by % Index Value; e.g. if the value has a Change increase of 15%, the index is 115; if it has fallen 5%, the index is 95. No change is expressed by 100 Index value.

