



## Highlights

- Decline in visitors entering Canada via B.C. in February

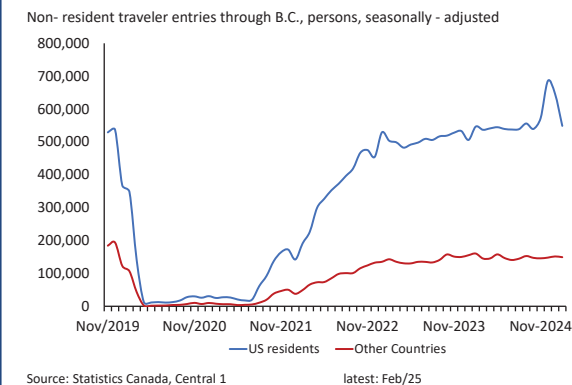
### Decrease in U.S. visitors to B.C.

Alan Chow, Business Economist

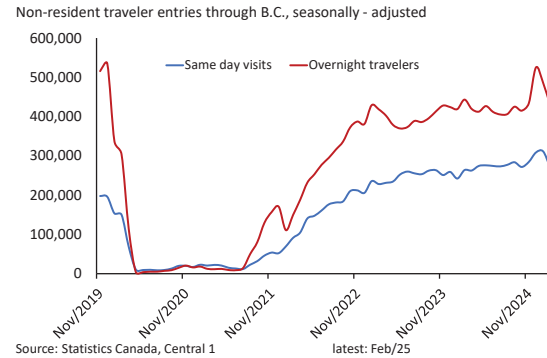
The number of non-resident visitors entering Canada through British Columbia declined again in February. On a seasonally adjusted basis, there were 12.4 per cent fewer non-resident visitors in February than January. This is the second consecutive monthly decline. The number of overnight tourists fell by 11.9 per cent, while the number of same day excursions declined by 13.3 per cent. Despite the month-over-month decline in visitors, the number is still around 97.7 per cent of the monthly average of the previous 12 months.

The overall decline in visitors was primarily driven by a 15.0 per cent drop in the number of U.S. residents visiting Canada through British Columbia from January to February — marking the second consecutive monthly decline. Amongst U.S. residents, there was a fall in overnight tourist of around 15.6 per cent along with 14.3 per cent decline in same day excursions. Residents from countries other than the U.S. saw a 1.5 per cent monthly decline with overnight excursions declining by 1.7 per cent while same day excursions declined by 0.8 per cent.

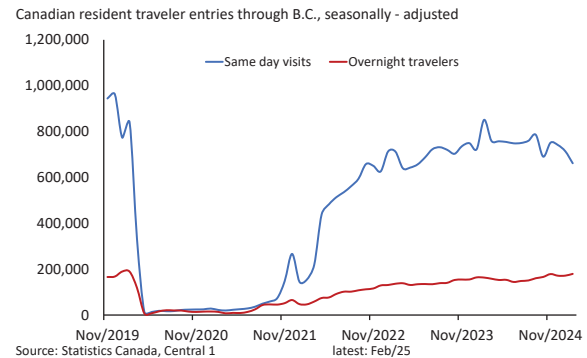
### Sharp decline in U.S. resident visitors



### Decline in overnight and same day visitors



### Fewer Canadian residents return via U.S.



Canadian resident visitors returning to Canada via British Columbia declined by 5.0 per cent in February. This was the third month in a row it declined. This was largely led by a decline in those returning from the U.S., as it was down 7.3 per cent — the lowest level since April 2023. In contrast, Canadian resident visitors returning to Canada from places other than the U.S. rose 4.5 per cent this month. This is the second consecutive monthly growth and the highest number since February 2020. Ongoing trade tensions with the U.S. are likely driving this shift, with more Canadians choosing alternative international destinations or staying within Canada.

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