



## Annual Lodging Tax Expenditure Report FAQ

### What is this?

This report is submitted annually to the Washington State Legislature and reviewed by the (Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee (JLARC)) to collect data about lodging tax expenditures as required by state law: <https://leg.wa.gov/jlarc/LodgingTax/default.html>

This report covers lodging tax expenses made in that year. JLARC recognizes that data for all fields may not be possible to obtain for all activity types so please be descriptive in the explanation.

### [Data Fields Definitions for Reporting Lodging Tax Expenditures](#)

#### What questions am I asked to complete data for?

- |  |                           |
|--|---------------------------|
| 1. Overall Attendance                            | <a href="#">More Info</a> |
| 2. Attendance 50+ Miles                          | <a href="#">More Info</a> |
| 3. Attendance, Out of State, Out of Country      | <a href="#">More Info</a> |
| 4. Attendance, Paid for Overnight Lodging        | <a href="#">More Info</a> |
| 5. Attendance, Did Not Pay for Overnight Lodging | <a href="#">More Info</a> |
| 6. Paid Lodging Nights                           | <a href="#">More Info</a> |

#### What data do I need to provide per question?

1. Predicted vs. Actual Count
2. Method of obtaining Count
  - a) Direct Count: Actual count of visitors using methods such as paid admissions or registrations, clicker counts at entry points, vehicle counts, or number of chairs filled. A direct count may also include information collected directly from businesses, such as hotels, restaurants, or tour guides, likely to be affected by an event.
  - b) Indirect Count: Estimate based on information related to the number of visitors such as raffle tickets sold, redeemed discount certificates, brochures handed out, police requirements for crowd control or visual estimates.
  - c) Representative Survey: Information collected directly from individual visitors/participants. A representative survey is a highly structured data collection tool, based on a defined random sample of participants, and the results can be reliably projected to the entire population attending an event and includes margin of error and confidence level.
  - d) Informal Survey: Information collected directly from individual visitors or participants in a nonrandom manner that is not representative of all visitors or participants. Informal survey results cannot be projected to the entire visitor population and provide a limited indicator of attendance because not all participants had an equal chance of being included in the survey.
  - e) Structured Estimate: Estimate produced by computing known information related to the event or location. For example, one jurisdiction estimated attendance by dividing the square footage of the event area by the international building code allowance for persons (3 square feet).