

# **The Expenditure of U.S. Tourists and Concentration of the Accommodation and Food Service Industry: A Quantile Regression Analysis**

**Julio César Hernández, Ph.D.**

University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez Campus.

**Rafael A. Pérez Ramírez, M.B.A.**

Universidad del Turabo, Gurabo Campus.

The aim of this paper is to study how the concentration of the accommodation and food service industry affect the expenditure of US tourists in Puerto Rico. Using data from 2012 and data of about 10,000 tourists this study also controlled for variables such as economic characteristics and property crime rate. The results suggest that higher concentrations of traveler accommodations and rooming and boarding houses establishments are associated with higher levels of expenditures. Conversely, increasing the concentrations of special food services and restaurants and other eating places that have been associated with lower levels of expenditures.

**Julio César Hernández, Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor

Agricultural Science Faculty

University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez, Puerto Rico

email: julio.hernandez3@upr.edu

**Rafael Perez, M.B.A.**

Lecturer

School of Business and Entrepreneurship

Universidad del Turabo, Gurabo Campus.

email: [perezr3@suagm.edu](mailto:perezr3@suagm.edu)