

Tourism, January - June 1985

Tourist arrivals

The total number of tourist arrivals increased from 65,910 in the first half of 1984 to 68,100 in the same period of 1985 (Table I), that is an increase of about 3.5%. This compares with a much faster increase of about 16.5% between the first half of 1983 and that of 1984. It is estimated that the number of tourists coming to Mauritius during the whole of 1985 will be around 147,000, representing an increase of about 5% over 1984.

Table II shows that one of the main reasons for the reduced rate of increase is the 17% decrease in the number of tourist arrivals from the Republic of South Africa: in fact the number stood at 12,500 for January - June 1985 as compared to 15,160 for January - June 1984. On the other hand, tourist arrivals from the Federal Republic of Germany have risen by 22% from 3,750 to 4,590, whilst those from India increased by 67% from 970 to 1,620.

Table II also shows that France continues to be the most important long-haul market with almost 19% of total arrivals. The short-haul markets are still dominated by Reunion with a 24% share of total arrivals followed by South Africa with 18%.

Tourist nights

The number of tourist nights for the period under review was 749,000, representing an increase of 3% over the figure of 727,000 registered for the same period in 1984. The average number of nights which a tourist spent in Mauritius was 11.0, which is the same as for the first half of 1984.

Occupancy rates

The room occupancy rate for large hotels has fallen from 72% in the first half of 1984 to 69% in the same period of 1985. The corresponding fall in the bed occupancy rate was from 61% to 57%. The main reason for these declines is the fall in the number of tourists from South Africa.

However, part of the decline is also a result of the rise in the number of rooms available: there were about 1,290 rooms in 1985 as compared to 1,180 in the first half of 1984.

Tourist earnings

It is estimated that tourist earnings amounted to 401 million rupees for the period under review as compared to 322 million for the corresponding period of 1984. The average amount spent by a tourist was 5,974 rupees against 4,887 rupees in 1984, representing an increase of 22%.

Central Statistical Office,
Rose Hill.

August 1985

Table 1 - Selected Tourism Statistics, 1981 - 1985

Year	Tourist arrivals (Number)	Tourist nights (Million)	Tourist earnings (Rs Mn)
1981	121,620	1.36	421
1982	118,360	1.39	450
1983	123,820	1.41	503
1984	139,670	1.54	630
1984: 1st Qr.	36,160	0.399	176.7
2nd Qr.	29,750	0.328	145.4
1st Semester	<u>65,910</u>	<u>0.727</u>	<u>322.1</u>
3rd Qr.	35,060	0.387	134.6
4th Qr.	38,700	0.426	173.3
2nd Semester	<u>73,760</u>	<u>0.813</u>	<u>307.9</u>
1985: 1st Qr.	36,650	0.403*	216.0
2nd Qr.	31,450	0.346*	185.0*
1st Semester	<u>68,100</u>	<u>0.749*</u>	<u>401.0*</u>

* provisional

Table II - Distribution of tourist arrivals by country of residence, 1983 - 1985

Country of residence	N U M B E R											
	1983		1984				1985				1985	
	Year	1984	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	1st Semester	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	2nd Semester	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.*	1st Semester*	1st Semester*
France	22,050	25,460	6,840	4,260	11,100	6,400	7,960	14,360	6,880	5,850	12,730	
Germany, Fed. Rep.	6,960	7,890	2,010	1,740	3,750	1,490	2,650	4,140	2,850	1,740	4,590	
Italy	5,520	6,170	2,340	950	3,290	1,240	1,640	2,880	2,400	1,080	3,480	
Switzerland	2,570	5,440	1,630	940	2,570	920	1,950	2,870	1,670	1,300	2,970	
United Kingdom	5,860	5,760	1,470	1,040	2,510	1,270	1,980	3,250	1,420	1,250	2,670	
Malagasy Republic	8,110	7,780	1,660	1,840	3,500	2,120	2,160	4,280	1,460	1,440	2,900	
Réunion Island	30,180	32,300	8,510	7,360	15,870	9,790	6,640	16,430	8,390	7,840	16,230	
Seychelles	560	340	80	50	130	90	120	210	90	60	150	
Kenya	690	700	150	200	350	80	270	350	180	150	330	
South Africa, Rep. of	27,210	31,560	7,850	7,310	15,160	7,520	8,880	16,400	7,100	5,400	12,500	
Zambia	720	680	180	170	350	140	190	330	60	180	240	
Zimbabwe	1,730	1,800	390	560	950	480	370	850	400	520	920	
Australia	1,680	1,580	210	300	510	610	460	1,070	280	560	840	
India	1,710	2,540	340	630	970	650	920	1,570	600	1,020	1,620	
U.S.A.	1,020	1,130	330	230	560	230	340	570	330	260	590	
Other countries	7,250	8,540	2,170	2,170	4,340	2,030	2,170	4,200	2,540	2,800	5,340	
All countries	123,820	139,670	36,160	29,750	65,910	35,060	38,700	73,760	36,650	31,450	68,100	

* provisional

Table III - Tourist arrivals by month, 1983 - 1985

M O N T H	N U M B E R		
	1 9 8 3	1 9 8 4	1 9 8 5
January	13,130	14,180	14,250
February	9,190	10,850	10,620
March	9,780	11,130	11,780
1st Quarter	<u>32,100</u>	<u>36,160</u>	<u>36,650</u>
April	8,570	11,080	11,480
May	9,550	11,080	11,470
June	6,370	7,590	8,500
2nd Quarter	<u>24,490</u>	<u>29,750</u>	<u>31,450</u>
1st Semester	<u>56,590</u>	<u>65,910</u>	<u>68,100</u>
July	9,790	10,430	
August	12,970	13,650	
September	10,070	10,980	
3rd Quarter	<u>32,830</u>	<u>35,060</u>	
October	10,020	11,360	
November	10,450	12,420	
December	13,930	14,920	
4th Quarter	<u>34,400</u>	<u>38,700</u>	
2nd Semester	<u>67,230</u>	<u>73,760</u>	
Whole Year	<u>123,820</u>	<u>139,670</u>	

Table IV - Monthly room occupancy rates in large hotels, 1983 - 1985

M O N T H	P E R C E N T A G E		
	1 9 8 3	1 9 8 4	1 9 8 5
January	67.9	79.3	79.4
February	69.5	80.9	80.6
March	66.3	78.0	75.6
1st Quarter	<u>67.8</u>	<u>79.4</u>	<u>78.4</u>
April	57.5	74.0	69.8
May	50.4	69.2	61.1
June	44.9	51.9	46.6*
2nd Quarter	<u>51.0</u>	<u>65.1</u>	<u>59.0*</u>
1st Semester	<u><u>59.4</u></u>	<u><u>72.3</u></u>	<u><u>68.6*</u></u>
July	49.8	56.1	
August	57.7	65.7	
September	60.9	65.9	
3rd Quarter	<u>56.1</u>	<u>62.4</u>	
October	66.8	73.9	
November	82.3	81.5	
December	73.2	72.3	
4th Quarter	<u>74.0</u>	<u>75.8</u>	
2nd Semester	<u><u>65.0</u></u>	<u><u>69.2</u></u>	
Whole Year	<u><u>62.3</u></u>	<u><u>70.7</u></u>	

* provisional

Table V - Monthly bed occupancy rates in large hotels, 1983 - 1985

M O N T H	P E R C E N T A G E		
	1 9 8 3	1 9 8 4	1 9 8 5
January	57.2	69.9	68.7
February	56.1	68.5	68.5
March	54.2	64.4	61.9
1st Quarter	<u>55.8</u>	<u>67.6</u>	<u>66.3</u>
April	48.8	64.6	59.2
May	40.1	57.3	50.1
June	35.0	41.8	36.5*
2nd Quarter	<u>41.4</u>	<u>54.7</u>	<u>48.6*</u>
1st Semester	<u>48.6</u>	<u>61.2</u>	<u>57.3*</u>
July	40.5	47.4	
August	47.5	56.6	
September	49.9	55.9	
3rd Quarter	<u>45.9</u>	<u>53.2</u>	
October	57.0	62.1	
November	66.3	67.9	
December	63.7	62.8	
4th Quarter	<u>62.3</u>	<u>64.3</u>	
2nd Semester	<u>54.1</u>	<u>58.8</u>	
Whole Year	<u>51.4</u>	<u>60.0</u>	

* provisional