



Republic of Mauritius

# **ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL INDICATORS**

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**1 ⇨ INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL & TOURISM  
1st Semester 2000**

**2 ⇨ EDUCATION STATISTICS 2000**

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Central Statistical Office  
Ministry of Economic Development, Productivity and Regional Development  
Port-Louis  
Republic of Mauritius

# INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL & TOURISM

1<sup>st</sup> Semester 2000

## 1. Passenger Traffic

### (i) *Total Passenger Traffic*

Passenger traffic for the first semester of 2000 totalled 837,560, made up of 415,150 arrivals and 422,410 departures. Compared to same period of 1999, these figures represent increases of 14% in arrivals and 12% in departures. Movements by sea accounted for 5% of both arrivals and departures. Table 1 shows monthly details of passenger traffic.

Total arrivals by air included 5,700 “excursionists”, i.e. passengers arriving and leaving on the same day. Of these, 1,950 (34%) came from Reunion Island and 1,130 (20%) from France. Total arrivals by sea also included 10,460 cruise “excursionists” (5,840 passengers and 4,620 crews) aboard 16 cruise ships which visited our port during the first six months of 2000.

### (ii) *Departures of Mauritian Residents*

During the period under review, the number of Mauritian residents travelling abroad increased by 9%, from 70,090 in 1999 to 76,680 in 2000, and accounted for 18% of total departures. The following trends were observed in the major destinations: Reunion Island (-1%), France (+11%), United Kingdom (+1%), India (+7%), Singapore (-4%) and Rep. of South Africa (+4%). A more detailed distribution by country visited is presented in Table 2.

### (iii) *Tourist Arrivals*

Tourist arrivals, which numbered 271,950 in the first semester of 1999, increased by 15% to 313,890 in the corresponding semester of 2000. This was mainly due to growths from all major generating countries like France, United Kingdom, Italy, Germany, Switzerland, Reunion Island, Republic of South Africa and India as well as from the emerging markets like Belgium and Austria.

Most (91%) of the tourists came on holiday while 4% were on business/conference trips and 3% were in transit (Table 4).

Table 5 shows that tourist arrivals from Europe went up by 18% during the first semester of 2000, accounting for 67% of total tourist arrivals. France, our leading source market, recorded a growth of 16% to reach a figure of 97,380. Double digits growth was also registered from the other major generating countries, namely Germany (+16%), Italy (+18%) and United Kingdom (+22%). Among the European markets, the highest growth rate (i.e. +36%) was achieved by Switzerland, from 6,820 in 1999 to 9,270 in 2000. Arrivals from some minor markets as Austria (+18%) and Belgium (+18%) have also shown promising trends.

Tourist arrivals from Africa, progressed by 8% during the first six months of 2000 compared to the first semester of 1999. This was mainly the result of growth in arrivals from the major generating countries Reunion Island (+6%) and Republic of South Africa (+10%). Changes in arrivals from other African countries were as follows: Kenya (+5%), Malagasy Republic (-8%), Seychelles (+22%) and Zimbabwe (+47%).

An overall growth of 20% was noted in arrivals from Asia. This was mainly attributable to increase in arrivals from India, the largest market of the continent, that reached 8,490, i.e. a growth of 25%. Changes among other Asian sources were as follows: Japan (-16%), Malaysia (+3%) and Singapore (+12%).

Arrivals from Oceania grew by 4%, mainly reflecting increases in arrivals from other Oceanian countries, while Australia showed a slight drop of less than 1%.

Arrivals from the continent of America increased by 34% being the result of growth from USA (+6%), Canada (+13%) and other American countries (+19%).

## **2. Tourist Nights**

Total tourist nights spent by tourists in Mauritius during the first semester of 2000 is estimated at 3.1 million, representing an increase of 15% over the corresponding period of last year (Table 6). The average length of stay of a tourist works out to around 10 nights.

### **3. Hotel Statistics**

At the end of June 2000, there was a total of 92 registered hotels in operation. The total room capacity for these registered hotels was 8,310 with 17,050 bedplaces (Table 7). The room occupancy rate for all hotels for the first semester of 2000 averaged 70% while the bed occupancy rate was 61% (Table 8).

“Large” hotels, i.e. well-established beach hotels with more than 80 rooms, numbered 33 ( 36% of all registered hotels ). These "Large" hotels had a room capacity of 6,090 with 12,370 bedplaces, representing 73% of total room capacity and 73% of total bedplaces. The average room occupancy rate for these hotels for the first six months of 2000 was of the order of 73% while bed occupancy rate averaged 65% (Table 8).

### **4. Gross Tourism Receipts**

Gross receipts from tourism for the first semester of 2000 is estimated at Rs 7,120 million, i.e. an increase of 11% compared to Rs 6,440 million for the corresponding period of 1999. Quarterly figures of tourism receipts are given in Table 6.

### **5. Employment**

According to the Survey of Employment and Earnings, direct employment in travel and tourism establishments employing 10 persons or more stood at 18,570 at the end of March 2000, that is 9% higher than last year. Of this number, 13,270 or 71% were engaged in hotels (Table 9).

### **6. Forecast Year 2000**

Based on the trends during the first six months of the year and patterns of previous years, the number of tourist arrivals for the year 2000 is now estimated at 640,000 with gross receipts of the order of Rs 15,500 million.

**Central Statistical Office**

**Ministry of Economic Development, Productivity and Regional Development**

**Port Louis**

August 2000

## **Explanatory Notes**

### **1. Tourist**

A tourist is defined as a non-resident staying for more than 24 hours but less than a year, who is not involved in any gainful occupation in the country during his/her stay.

### **2. Transit**

A transit passenger is one who stops over in the country for flight connections to other destinations. There are two types of transit passengers:

*Type I* : Passengers who do not leave the transit area of the airport or the harbour.

*Type II* : Passengers who do leave the airport or harbour and stay in the country for more than 24 hours but only for flight connection purposes.

Only Type II transit passengers, as defined above, are included in the definition of "Tourists".

### **3. Excursionist or Same-day Visitor**

Excursionists are non-resident visitors, other than those who do not leave the airport, who stay in the country for less than 24 hours. They also include passengers as well as crews of *cruise ships*.

### **4. Tourist Nights**

"Tourist nights" means the total number of nights spent in the country by tourists, as defined above, during the period under review.

### **5. Large Hotels**

Large hotels are well established beach hotels with more than 80 rooms.

### **6. CIS**

CIS denotes the Commonwealth of Independent States, which consists of the states of the former Soviet Union.

Table 1:- Passenger Traffic by month 1998 - 2000

Month	1998		1999		2000	
	Arrivals	Departures	Arrivals	Departures	Arrivals	Departures
January	67,517	80,079	77,871	88,105	81,209 <sup>1</sup>	88,227
February	52,753	52,817	57,371	59,233	66,835 <sup>1</sup>	68,718
March	63,130	67,896	65,278	62,785	71,610 <sup>1</sup>	71,610
<u>1st Quarter</u>	<u>183,400</u>	<u>200,792</u>	<u>200,520</u>	<u>210,123</u>	<u>219,654<sup>1</sup></u>	<u>228,555</u>
April	60,745	60,376	58,456	63,173	74,386	72,319
May	56,977	59,203	54,703	52,609	65,261	64,174
June	43,904	42,384	51,604	51,034	55,850	57,364
<u>2nd Quarter</u>	<u>161,626</u>	<u>161,963</u>	<u>164,763</u>	<u>166,816</u>	<u>195,497</u>	<u>193,857</u>
<b><i>1st Semester</i></b>	<b><i>345,026</i></b>	<b><i>362,755</i></b>	<b><i>365,283</i></b>	<b><i>376,939</i></b>	<b><i>415,151</i></b>	<b><i>422,412</i></b>
July	56,918	47,300	61,520	51,412		
August	73,980	80,635	76,587	80,516		
September	52,789	53,822	55,333	55,202		
<u>3rd Quarter</u>	<u>183,687</u>	<u>181,757</u>	<u>193,440</u>	<u>187,130</u>		
October	62,674	57,243	70,698	63,990		
November	68,394	69,975	73,541	73,674		
December	78,240	63,620	74,969	62,383		
<u>4th Quarter</u>	<u>209,308</u>	<u>190,838</u>	<u>219,208</u>	<u>200,047</u>		
<b><i>2nd Semester</i></b>	<b><i>392,995</i></b>	<b><i>372,595</i></b>	<b><i>412,648</i></b>	<b><i>387,177</i></b>		
<b>Whole Year</b>	<b>738,021</b>	<b>735,350</b>	<b>777,931</b>	<b>764,116</b>		

<sup>1</sup> Revised

**Table 2 : - Departure of Mauritian residents by country of disembarkation,  
January - June of 1999 and 2000**

Country of disembarkation	Jan - June 1999	Jan - June 2000	% Change
<b>EUROPE</b>	<b>20,611</b>	<b>23,310</b>	<b>13.1</b>
Belgium	292	1,078	269.2
France	8,927	9,874	10.6
Germany	589	809	37.4
Italy	1,151	1,563	35.8
Switzerland	727	955	31.4
United Kingdom	8,787	8,875	1.0
Other European	138	156	13.0
<b>AFRICA</b>	<b>31,569</b>	<b>31,921</b>	<b>1.1</b>
Kenya	752	386	-48.7
Malagasy Republic	2,497	3,063	22.7
Reunion	20,522	20,281	-1.2
Seychelles	1,669	1,625	-2.6
S. Africa, Rep. of	5,462	5,685	4.1
Zimbabwe	487	542	11.3
Other African	180	339	88.3
<b>ASIA</b>	<b>16,017</b>	<b>18,412</b>	<b>15.0</b>
India	5,931	6,368	7.4
Malaysia	611	2,171	255.3
Singapore	6,520	6,263	-3.9
Saudi Arabia	2,026	2,119	4.6
Other Asian	929	1,491	60.5
<b>OCEANIA</b>	<b>1,826</b>	<b>2,540</b>	<b>39.1</b>
Australia	1,826	2,540	39.1
Other Oceanian	-	-	-
<b>AMERICA</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>33.3</b>
U.S.A	14	14	0.0
Canada	49	69	40.8
Other American	-	1	-
<b>NOT STATED</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>408</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>All Countries</b>	<b>70,088</b>	<b>76,675</b>	<b>9.4</b>

Table 3:- Tourist arrivals by month, 1998 - 2000

Month	Number		
	1998	1999	2000
January	54,839	59,680	62,355
February	41,928	41,859	50,466
March	48,440	50,707	54,872
<i>1st Quarter</i>	<u>145,207</u>	<u>152,246</u>	<u>167,693</u>
April	45,433	41,536	56,353
May	43,790	42,254	49,960
June	30,387	35,910	39,885
<i>2nd Quarter</i>	<u>119,610</u>	<u>119,700</u>	<u>146,198</u>
<i>1st Semester</i>	<u>264,817</u>	<u>271,946</u>	<u>313,891</u>
July	40,700	42,862	
August	54,651	57,321	
September	39,228	41,383	
<i>3rd Quarter</i>	<u>134,579</u>	<u>141,566</u>	
October	49,090	55,128	
November	52,563	56,584	
December	57,146	52,861	
<i>4th Quarter</i>	<u>158,799</u>	<u>164,573</u>	
<i>2nd Semester</i>	<u>293,378</u>	<u>306,139</u>	
<b>Whole Year</b>	<b>558,195</b>	<b>578,085</b>	

Table 4 :- Tourist arrivals by main purpose of visit, January-June of 1999 and 2000

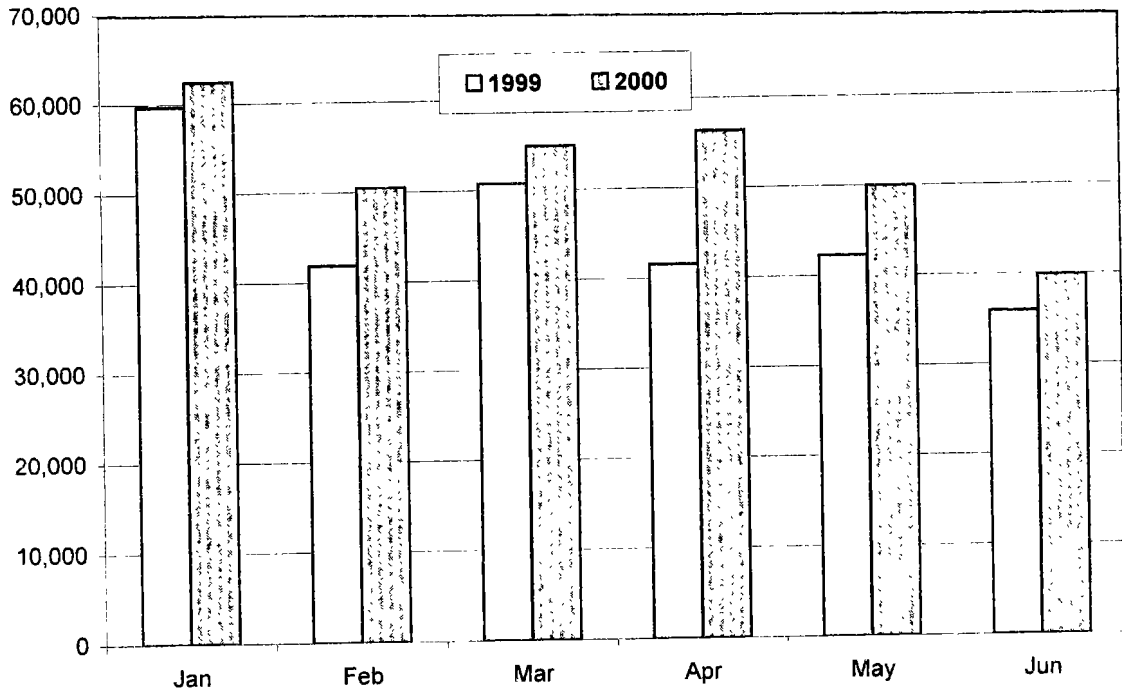
Purpose of visit	Jan -June 1999	Jan - June 2000	% Change
Holiday	248,255	286,152	15.3
Business	11,635	11,710	0.6
Transit	6,765	8,408	24.3
Conference	2,049	2,334	13.9
Sports	656	467	-28.8
Other & Not Stated	2,586	4,820	86.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>271,946</b>	<b>313,891</b>	<b>15.4</b>



Table 5 : - Tourist Arrivals by Country of Residence, January - June of 1999 and 2000

Country of residence	Jan-June 1999	2000						Jan-June 1999/00	% Change 1999/00
		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun		
<b>EUROPE</b>	<b>179,484</b>	<b>38,236</b>	<b>39,631</b>	<b>37,407</b>	<b>39,373</b>	<b>31,319</b>	<b>25,646</b>	<b>211,612</b>	<b>17.9</b>
Austria	4,052	840	1,054	876	769	654	574	4,767	17.6
Belgium	4,304	827	751	1,076	1,168	535	713	5,070	17.8
France	84,048	18,541	19,281	18,213	17,031	13,991	10,327	97,384	15.9
Germany	22,236	4,542	4,219	4,671	5,385	3,134	3,732	25,683	15.5
Italy	18,738	5,905	4,425	3,862	2,870	3,039	1,965	22,066	17.8
Netherlands	1,886	249	431	409	441	253	306	2,089	10.8
Spain	2,331	269	352	400	648	660	701	3,030	30.0
Sweden	2,397	492	817	489	473	185	217	2,673	11.5
Switzerland	6,818	1,849	1,850	1,474	2,079	1,182	833	9,267	35.9
United Kingdom	25,421	3,002	4,469	4,569	6,962	6,783	5,217	31,002	22.0
CIS	871	374	262	149	183	129	71	1,168	34.1
Other European	6,382	1,346	1,720	1,219	1,364	774	990	7,413	16.2
<b>AFRICA</b>	<b>72,324</b>	<b>21,317</b>	<b>7,050</b>	<b>13,527</b>	<b>12,833</b>	<b>13,598</b>	<b>9,664</b>	<b>77,989</b>	<b>7.8</b>
Comoros	362	35	56	81	83	60	70	385	6.4
Kenya	784	44	106	148	211	213	103	825	5.2
Malagasy Rep.	3,778	625	580	520	748	571	445	3,489	-7.6
Reunion	39,223	16,597	2,633	6,959	4,430	7,840	3,261	41,720	6.4
Seychelles	3,068	468	434	465	1,029	577	767	3,740	21.9
S/ Africa Rep. of	21,372	3,005	2,811	4,626	5,167	3,345	4,499	23,453	9.7
Zimbabwe	1,065	151	135	231	604	241	200	1,562	46.7
Other African	2,672	392	295	497	561	751	319	2,815	5.4
<b>ASIA</b>	<b>13,969</b>	<b>1,686</b>	<b>2,682</b>	<b>2,592</b>	<b>2,743</b>	<b>3,844</b>	<b>3,181</b>	<b>16,728</b>	<b>19.8</b>
India	6,803	648	997	1,270	1,397	2,355	1,818	8,485	24.7
Japan	1,183	145	257	184	160	144	110	1,000	-15.5
Malaysia	857	92	217	148	120	112	196	885	3.3
P. Rep. of China	1,047	137	158	163	119	245	191	1,013	-3.2
Singapore	1,790	236	442	341	422	244	315	2,000	11.7
Other Asian	2,289	428	611	486	525	744	551	3,345	46.1
<b>OCEANIA</b>	<b>3,621</b>	<b>443</b>	<b>447</b>	<b>642</b>	<b>741</b>	<b>637</b>	<b>840</b>	<b>3,750</b>	<b>3.6</b>
Australia	3,480	407	416	613	690	587	746	3,459	-0.6
Other Oceanian	141	36	31	29	51	50	94	291	106.4
<b>AMERICA</b>	<b>2,521</b>	<b>484</b>	<b>576</b>	<b>614</b>	<b>621</b>	<b>541</b>	<b>543</b>	<b>3,379</b>	<b>34.0</b>
USA	1,514	202	272	258	356	218	295	1,601	5.7
Canada	655	111	110	121	121	120	158	741	13.1
Other American	352	171	194	235	144	203	90	1,037	194.6
<b>OTHER &amp; N.S.</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>433</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>All Countries</b>	<b>271,946</b>	<b>62,355</b>	<b>50,466</b>	<b>54,872</b>	<b>56,353</b>	<b>49,960</b>	<b>39,885</b>	<b>313,891</b>	<b>15.4</b>

**Chart 1 - Monthly Distribution of Tourist Arrivals,  
January - June 1999 and 2000**



**Chart 2 - Tourist Arrivals from Top Ten Markets,  
January - June of 1999 and 2000**

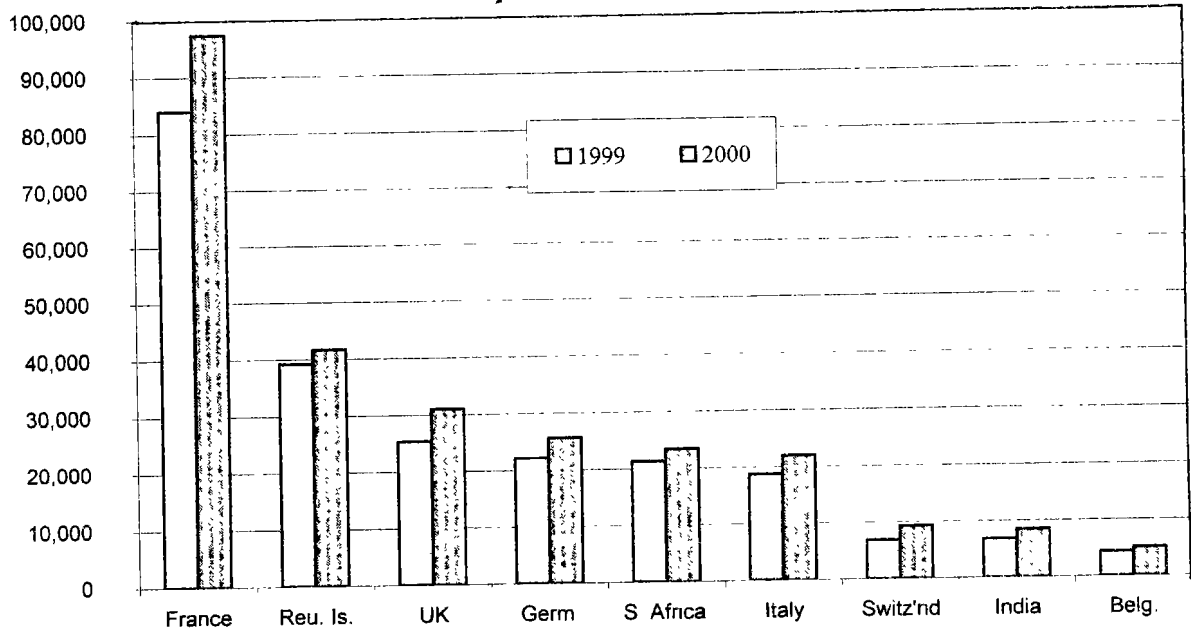


Table 6 :- Selected Tourism Statistics, 1997 - 2000

Year		Tourist arrivals (Number)	Tourist nights (000)	Tourism receipts (Rs million)
	1997	536,125	5,451	10,068
	1998	558,195	5,568	11,890
	1999	578,085	5,729	13,668
1998	1st Qr.	145,207	1,450	3,040
	2nd Qr.	119,610	1,192	2,528
	<b>1st Semester</b>	<b>264,817</b>	<b>2,642</b>	<b>5,568</b>
	3rd Qr.	134,579	1,340	2,714
	4th Qr.	158,799	1,586	3,608
	<b>2nd Semester</b>	<b>293,378</b>	<b>2,926</b>	<b>6,322</b>
1999	1st Qr.	152,246	1,510	3,543 *
	2nd Qr.	119,700	1,190	2,898 *
	<b>1st Semester</b>	<b>271,946</b>	<b>2,700</b>	<b>6,441 *</b>
	3rd Qr.	141,566	1,400	3,300 *
	4th Qr.	164,573	1,629	3,927 *
	<b>2nd Semester</b>	<b>306,139</b>	<b>3,029</b>	<b>7,227 *</b>
2000	1st Qr.	167,693	1,650	3,985 *
	2nd Qr.	146,198	1,450	3,132 *
	<b>1st Semester</b>	<b>313,891</b>	<b>3,100</b>	<b>7,117 *</b>

\* Provisional

1 Source: Bank of Mauritius

Table 7:- Hotels, rooms and bedplaces, 1997 - 2000

Year	Number as at end of period			
	Hotels	Rooms	Bedplaces	
1997	87	6,809	14,126	
1998	90	7,267	14,995	
1999	92	8,255	16,947	
1998	1st Qr.	87	6,979	14,457
	2nd Qr.	88	7,039	14,569
	3rd Qr.	89	7,074	14,639
	4th Qr.	90	7,267	14,995
1999	1st Qr.	90	7,426	15,289
	2nd Qr.	89	7,365	15,167
	3rd Qr.	91	7,903	16,243
	4th Qr.	92	8,255	16,947
2000	1st Qr.	92	8,269	16,975
	2nd Qr.	92	8,307	17,048

Table 8 :- Monthly Occupancy Rates (%) for All Hotels and "Large" Hotels, 1998- 2000

Month	All Hotels						"Large" Hotels					
	1998		1999		2000*		1998		1999		2000*	
	Room	Bed	Room	Bed	Room	Bed	Room	Bed	Room	Bed	Room	Bed
January	84	74	79	69	73	64	89	78	83	74	75	67
February	79	69	73	64	74 <sup>1</sup>	65	83	73	77	68	77	68
March	73	63	71	62	71 <sup>1</sup>	62	78	69	76	67	72	64
<u>1st Quarter</u>	<u>79</u>	<u>68</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>72</u>	<u>64</u>	<u>83</u>	<u>73</u>	<u>79</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>66</u>
April	70	61	68	59	73	64	75	66	74	65	78	69
May	67	59	67	59	67	59	71	63	73	64	71	63
June	50	44	60	52	59	52	55	48	64	56	63	56
<u>2nd Quarter</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>66</u>	<u>58</u>	<u>67</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>71</u>	<u>63</u>
<i>1st Semester</i>	<i>71</i>	<i>62</i>	<i>70</i>	<i>61</i>	<i>70</i>	<i>61</i>	<i>75</i>	<i>66</i>	<i>75</i>	<i>66</i>	<i>73</i>	<i>65</i>
July	59	51	65	57	70	61	64	56	70	62	70	62
August	74	65	73	63	73	63	77	68	74	66	74	66
September	75	65	73	64	73	64	82	72	77	68	77	68
<u>3rd Quarter</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>61</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>61</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>61</u>	<u>74</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>74</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>74</u>	<u>65</u>
October	78	69	77	68	83	73	83	74	83	73	83	73
November	84	73	83	73	83	73	87	77	88	78	88	78
December	71	62	61	54	61	54	74	65	62	55	62	55
<u>4th Quarter</u>	<u>78</u>	<u>68</u>	<u>74</u>	<u>64</u>	<u>74</u>	<u>64</u>	<u>82</u>	<u>72</u>	<u>77</u>	<u>68</u>	<u>77</u>	<u>68</u>
<i>2nd Semester</i>	<i>73</i>	<i>64</i>	<i>72</i>	<i>63</i>	<i>72</i>	<i>63</i>	<i>78</i>	<i>69</i>	<i>75</i>	<i>67</i>	<i>75</i>	<i>67</i>
<b>Whole Year</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>62</b>			<b>77</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>67</b>

1 Revised

\* Provisional

**Table 9 :- Employment in the tourist industry as at end of March, 1996 - 2000**

<b>Year</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>
<b>Establishments</b>					
Restaurants	1,154	1,118	1,389	1,288	1,134
Hotels	9,666	10,575	11,177	11,715	13,267
Travel and Tourism	3,596	3,732	3,924	4,108	4,170
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,416</b>	<b>15,425</b>	<b>16,490</b>	<b>17,111</b>	<b>18,571</b>

*Note: The above figures refer to large establishments only (i.e. employing 10 or more persons)*