

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL & TOURISM

Year 2000

1. Passenger Traffic

(i) *Total Passenger Traffic*

Passenger traffic for the year 2000 totalled 1,711,260, composed of 865,220 arrivals and 846,040 departures. These figures, compared to 1999, represent an increase of 11% in arrivals as well as in departures. Movements by sea represented 3% of both arrivals and departures. Table 1 shows monthly details of passenger traffic.

Total arrivals by air included 10,920 "excursionists", i.e. passengers arriving and leaving on the same day. Of these, 3,280 (30%) came from Reunion Island and 1,900 (17%) from France. Total arrivals by sea also included 11,090 "cruise excursionists" (6,210 passengers and 4,880 crews) aboard 17 cruise ships which visited our port in 2000.

(ii) *Departures of Mauritian Residents*

The number of Mauritian residents travelling abroad went up by 6%, from 154,130 in 1999 to 163,350 in 2000, and constituted 19% of total departures. The following changes were noted in the major destinations: Reunion Island (-4%), France (+8%), United Kingdom (-3%), India (+7%), Singapore (+8%) and Rep. of South Africa (+3%). A more detailed distribution by country visited is given in Table 2.

(iii) *Tourist Arrivals*

Tourist arrivals for the year 2000 numbered 656,450 against 578,090 in 1999. This increase of 14% is largely attributable to increases in arrivals from the 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 (92%) of the tourists came on holiday while 4% were on business/conference trips and another 3% were in transit (Table 4).

Table 5 shows that tourist arrivals from Europe increased by 16%, accounting for around two thirds of total tourist arrivals. France, our leading source market, representing 30% of total tourist arrivals and 45% of the European market, recorded a 13% rise to attain a figure of 198,420. Double digits growths were also registered in the case of the other major generating countries, namely Germany (+17%), United Kingdom (+27%), and Switzerland (+26%), except Italy with an increase of 6%. Among other European Countries, the following changes were observed: Austria (+10%), Belgium (+15%), Netherlands (+20%), Spain (+17%), Sweden (+25%) and CIS (41%).

Tourist arrivals from Africa grew by 5% and accounted for 25% of all arrivals in 2000. This was mainly due to increases in arrivals from the major generating countries like Reunion Island (+4%) and Republic of South Africa (+5%). Changes in arrivals from other African markets were as follows: Kenya (+9%), Malagasy Republic (-10%), Seychelles (+17%) and Zimbabwe (+32%).

The Asian market supplied around 5% of our total tourist arrivals in 2000. An overall growth of 23% was noted in arrivals from Asia. This was mainly due to arrivals from India, our largest market in the continent, which grew by 27% to attain 17,240 in year 2000. The growth observed from other Asian countries were as follows: Japan (+3%), Malaysia (+6%), Singapore (+12%) and People's Republic of China (+12%).

Tourist arrivals from Oceania rose by 11%, mainly as a result of an increase of 9% in arrivals from Australia.

A 32% increase in arrivals from the continent of America was the result of growth from USA (+11%), Canada (+20%) and other American countries (+121%).

2. Tourist Nights

Total tourist nights in 2000 is estimated at 6.5 million, representing an increase of 13% over last year (Table 6). The average length of stay of a tourist works out to around 10 nights.

3. Hotel Statistics

The number of registered hotels which was 92 at the end of 1999, increased to 95 in 2000. Consequently, the number of rooms available increased from 8,260 to 8,660 and the number of bedplaces from 16,950 to 17,780. (Table 7). The room occupancy rate for all hotels in 2000 averaged 70% while the bed occupancy rate was 62%.

“Large” hotels, i.e. well-established beach hotels with more than 80 rooms, numbered 34 (36% of all registered hotels). These "Large" hotels had a room capacity of 6,330 with 12,840 bedplaces, representing 73% of total room capacity and 72% of total bedplaces. The average room occupancy rate for these hotels for 2000 was of the order of 73% while bed occupancy rate averaged 65% (Table 8).

4. Gross Tourism Receipts

Column 4 of Table 6 shows the evolution of Tourism Receipts. Gross receipts from tourism for the year under review is estimated at Rs 14,230 million, i.e. an increase of 4% over the figure of Rs 13,670 million for 1999.

5. Employment

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

6. Forecast Year 2001

Based on the trends of preceding years, the number of tourist arrivals for the year 2001 is expected to be around 700,000, with gross receipts of the order of Rs 15,500 million.

Central Statistical Office

Ministry of Economic Development, Financial Services and Corporate Affairs

Port Louis

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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	88,227
February	52,753	52,817	57,371	59,233	66,835	68,718
March	63,130	67,896	65,278	62,785	71,630	71,610
<u>1st Quarter</u>	<u>183,400</u>	<u>200,792</u>	<u>200,520</u>	<u>210,123</u>	<u>219,674</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>
<i>1st Semester</i>	<i>345,026</i>	<i>362,755</i>	<i>365,283</i>	<i>376,939</i>	<i>415,171</i>	<i>422,412</i>
July	56,918	47,300	61,520	51,412	72,579	58,928
August	73,980	80,635	76,587	80,516	80,378	88,587
September	52,789	53,822	55,333	55,202	62,100	64,646
<u>3rd Quarter</u>	<u>183,687</u>	<u>181,757</u>	<u>193,440</u>	<u>187,130</u>	<u>215,057</u>	<u>212,161</u>
October	62,674	57,243	70,698	63,990	76,488	66,158
November	68,394	69,975	73,541	73,674	73,915	78,612
December	78,240	63,620	74,969	62,383	84,591	66,696
<u>4th Quarter</u>	<u>209,308</u>	<u>190,838</u>	<u>219,208</u>	<u>200,047</u>	<u>234,994</u>	<u>211,466</u>
<i>2nd Semester</i>	<i>392,995</i>	<i>372,595</i>	<i>412,648</i>	<i>387,177</i>	<i>450,051</i>	<i>423,627</i>
Whole Year	738,021	735,350	777,931	764,116	865,222	846,039

**Table 2 : - Departure of Mauritian residents by country of disembarkation,
1999 / 2000**

Country of disembarkation	1999	2000	% Change
EUROPE	48,504	52,025	7.3
Belgium	992	1,923	93.9
France	22,415	24,103	7.5
Germany	1,693	2,172	28.3
Italy	2,808	3,395	20.9
Switzerland	1,766	2,069	17.2
United Kingdom	18,507	18,029	-2.6
Other European	323	334	3.4
AFRICA	66,530	66,051	-0.7
Kenya	1,347	970	-28.0
Malagasy Republic	5,130	6,187	20.6
Reunion	43,826	42,096	-3.9
Seychelles	3,742	3,461	-7.5
S. Africa, Rep. of	10,904	11,279	3.4
Zimbabwe	1,142	1,117	-2.2
Other African	439	941	114.4
ASIA	35,132	39,725	13.1
Hong Kong SAR*	2,465	3,966	60.9
India	13,392	14,376	7.3
Malaysia	2,852	3,782	32.6
Singapore	13,871	14,999	8.1
Saudi Arabia	2,380	2,572	8.1
Other Asian	172	30	-82.6
OCEANIA	3,815	4,696	23.1
Australia	3,813	4,696	23.2
Other Oceanian	2	-	-
AMERICA	144	132	-8.3
U.S.A	26	19	-26.9
Canada	117	111	-5.1
Other American	1	2	-
NOT STATED	3	720	-
All Countries	154,128	163,349	6.0

* Special Administrative Region of China

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	51,577
August	54,651	57,321	59,731
September	39,228	41,383	47,634
<i>3rd Quarter</i>	<u>134,579</u>	<u>141,566</u>	<u>158,942</u>
October	49,090	55,128	61,526
November	52,563	56,584	57,334
December	57,146	52,861	64,760
<i>4th Quarter</i>	<u>158,799</u>	<u>164,573</u>	<u>183,620</u>
<i>2nd Semester</i>	<u>293,378</u>	<u>306,139</u>	<u>342,562</u>
Whole Year	558,195	578,085	656,453

Table 4 :- Tourist arrivals by main purpose of visit, 1999 / 2000

Purpose of visit	1999	2000	% Change
Holiday	530,792	602,606	13.5
Business	23,234	23,022	-0.9
Transit	13,071	16,965	29.8
Conference	3,708	3,982	7.4
Sports	1,113	779	-30.0
Other & Not Stated	6,167	9,099	47.5
Total	578,085	656,453	13.6

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

Country of residence	1999 Year	2000												% Change 1999/2000	
		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec		Year
EUROPE	378,761	38,236	39,631	37,407	39,373	31,319	25,646	33,905	33,874	32,658	43,480	43,943	40,517	439,989	16.2
Austria	8,095	840	1,054	876	769	654	574	658	488	596	803	921	641	8,874	9.6
Belgium	9,586	827	751	1,076	1,168	535	713	800	625	963	1,376	1,222	942	10,998	14.7
France	175,431	18,541	19,281	18,213	17,031	13,991	10,327	14,768	15,460	11,131	18,570	21,188	19,922	198,423	13.1
Germany	45,206	4,542	4,219	4,671	5,385	3,134	3,732	3,479	3,182	4,590	4,879	6,579	4,477	52,869	17.0
Italy	36,675	5,905	4,425	3,862	2,870	3,039	1,965	1,880	3,868	2,675	2,758	2,342	3,411	39,000	6.3
Netherlands	4,110	249	431	409	441	253	306	672	278	563	513	461	349	4,925	19.8
Spain	6,204	269	352	400	648	660	701	691	926	883	838	459	399	7,226	16.5
Sweden	4,552	492	817	489	473	185	217	309	170	214	928	657	743	5,694	25.1
Switzerland	16,281	1,849	1,850	1,474	2,079	1,182	833	1,610	754	1,547	2,665	2,846	1,784	20,473	25.7
United Kingdom	58,683	3,002	4,469	4,569	6,962	6,783	5,217	7,750	7,093	8,197	8,420	5,687	6,339	74,488	26.9
CIS	1,476	374	262	149	183	129	71	165	156	91	87	184	232	2,083	41.1
Other European	12,462	1,346	1,720	1,219	1,364	774	990	1,123	874	1,208	1,643	1,397	1,278	14,936	19.9
AFRICA	156,314	21,317	7,050	13,527	12,833	13,598	9,664	13,027	21,117	10,233	12,979	9,327	19,249	163,921	4.9
Comoros	728	35	56	81	83	60	70	67	70	123	108	109	83	945	29.8
Kenya	1,655	44	106	148	211	213	103	108	301	135	180	131	121	1,801	8.8
Malagasy Rep.	7,880	625	580	520	748	571	445	591	705	460	665	525	622	7,057	-10.4
Reunion	83,749	16,597	2,633	6,959	4,430	7,840	3,261	6,833	14,808	3,178	6,911	4,017	9,478	86,945	3.8
Seychelles	7,893	468	434	465	1,029	577	767	609	934	827	814	929	1,376	9,229	16.9
S/ Africa Rep. of	46,583	3,005	2,811	4,626	5,167	3,345	4,499	4,189	3,437	4,850	3,480	3,042	6,232	48,683	4.5
Zimbabwe	2,606	151	135	231	604	241	200	167	404	225	228	233	616	3,435	31.8
Other African	5,220	392	295	497	561	751	319	463	458	435	593	341	721	5,826	11.6

Table 5 (contd.) : - Tourist Arrivals by Country of Residence, 1999 and 2000

Country of residence	1999 Year	2000												% Change 1999/2000	
		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec		Year
ASIA	28,442	1,686	2,682	2,592	2,743	3,844	3,181	3,042	3,281	3,152	3,278	2,559	2,867	34,907	22.7
Hong Kong SAR*	859	40	120	100	153	130	101	94	109	84	106	61	129	1,227	42.8
India	13,583	648	997	1,270	1,397	2,355	1,818	1,511	1,776	1,536	1,577	1,082	1,274	17,241	26.9
Japan	2,324	145	257	184	160	144	110	215	280	261	192	148	293	2,389	2.8
Malaysia	1,529	92	217	148	120	112	196	110	110	123	123	144	121	1,616	5.7
P. Rep. of China	2,189	137	158	163	119	245	191	202	186	318	336	206	198	2,459	12.3
Singapore	3,661	236	442	341	422	244	315	310	268	321	345	369	491	4,104	12.1
Other Asian	4,297	388	491	386	372	614	450	600	552	509	599	549	361	5,871	36.6
OCEANIA	8,503	443	447	642	741	637	840	788	852	1,145	1,015	776	1,134	9,460	11.3
Australia	8,076	407	416	613	690	587	746	741	751	1,051	972	732	1,065	8,771	8.6
Other Oceanian	427	36	31	29	51	50	94	47	101	94	43	44	69	689	61.4
AMERICA	5,831	484	576	614	621	541	543	799	602	440	765	717	978	7,680	31.7
USA	3,345	202	272	258	356	218	295	376	316	205	312	339	555	3,704	10.7
Canada	1,506	111	110	121	121	120	158	261	149	98	176	165	222	1,812	20.3
Other American	980	171	194	235	144	203	90	162	137	137	277	213	201	2,164	120.8
OTHER & N.STATED	234	189	80	90	42	21	11	16	5	6	9	12	15	496	112.0
All Countries	578,085	62,355	50,466	54,872	56,353	49,960	39,885	51,577	59,731	47,634	61,526	57,334	64,760	656,453	13.6

* Special Administrative Region of China

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

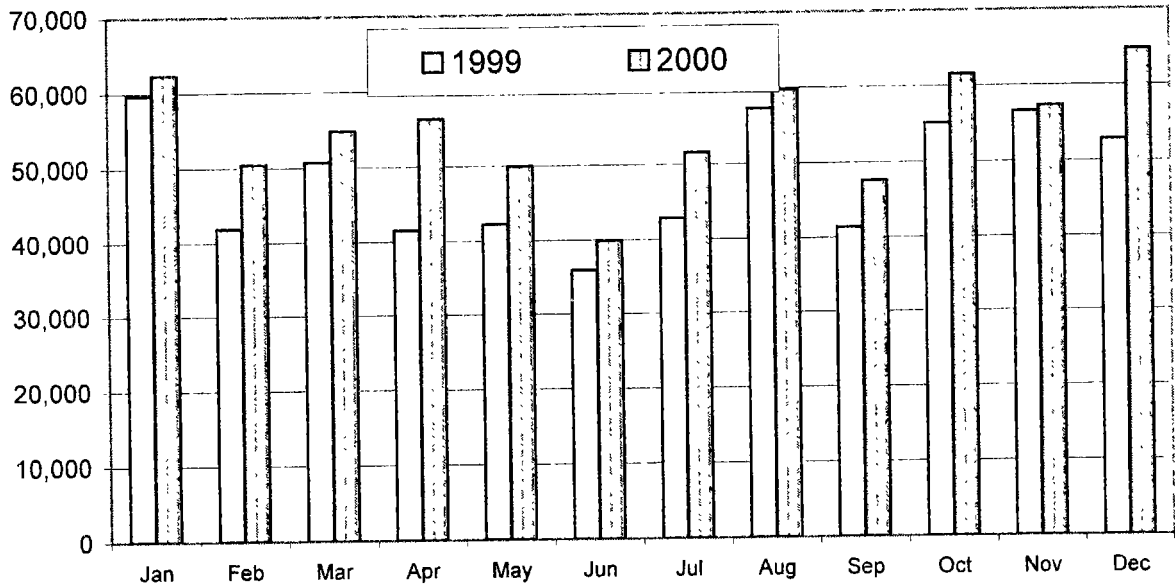


Chart 2 - Tourist Arrivals from Top Ten Markets, 1999 and 2000

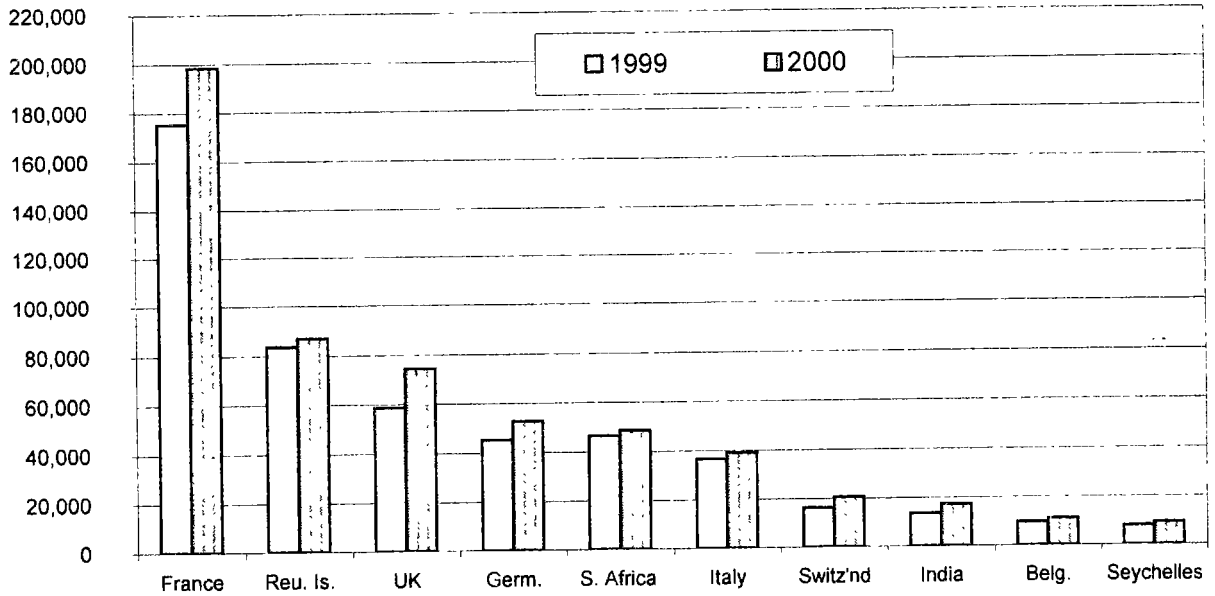


Table 6 :- Selected Tourism Statistics, 1997 - 2000

Year		Tourist arrivals (Number)	Tourist nights (000)	Tourism receipts ¹ (Rs million)
	1997	536,125	5,451	10,068
	1998	558,195	5,568	11,890
	1999	578,085	5,729	13,668
	2000	656,453	6,500	14,234
1998	1st Qr.	145,207	1,450	3,040
	2nd Qr.	119,610	1,192	2,528
	1st Semester	264,817	2,642	5,568
	3rd Qr.	134,579	1,340	2,714
	4th Qr.	158,799	1,586	3,608
	2nd Semester	293,378	2,926	6,322
1999	1st Qr.	152,246	1,510	3,543
	2nd Qr.	119,700	1,190	2,898
	1st Semester	271,946	2,700	6,441
	3rd Qr.	141,566	1,400	3,300
	4th Qr.	164,573	1,629	3,927
	2nd Semester	306,139	3,029	7,227
2000	1st Qr.	167,693	1,650	3,985 *
	2nd Qr.	146,198	1,450	3,132 *
	1st Semester	313,891	3,100	7,117 *
	3rd Qr.	158,942	1,580	3,085 *
	4th Qr.	183,620	1,820	4,032 *
	2nd Semester	342,562	3,400	7,117 *

* 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	
2000	95	8,657	17,776	
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
	3rd Qr.*	93	8,388	17,238
	4th Qr.	95	8,657	17,776

* Revised

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	73	64	83	73	77	68	77	68
March	73	63	71	62	71	62	78	69	76	67	72	64
<u>1st Quarter</u>	79	68	75	65	72	63	83	73	79	70	75	66
April	70	61	68	59	73	64	75	66	74	65	77	68
May	67	59	67	59	67	58	71	63	73	64	71	63
June	50	44	60	52	58	51	55	48	64	56	62	55
<u>2nd Quarter</u>	62	55	65	57	66	58	67	59	70	62	70	62
<i>1st Semester</i>	71	62	70	61	69	61	75	66	75	66	72	64
July	59	51	65	57	61	53	64	56	70	62	64	57
August	74	65	73	63	71	62	77	68	74	66	73	65
September	75	65	73	64	73	64	82	72	77	68	76	67
<u>3rd Quarter</u>	70	61	70	61	68	60	74	65	74	65	71	63
October	78	69	77	68	77	67	83	74	83	73	79	70
November	84	73	83	73	80	70	87	77	88	78	83	74
December	71	62	61	54	69	60	74	65	62	55	71	63
<u>4th Quarter</u>	78	68	74	64	75	66	82	72	77	68	78	69
<i>2nd Semester</i>	73	64	72	63	72	63	78	69	75	67	74	66
Whole Year	72	63	71	62	70	62	77	68	75	67	73	65

* Provisional

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

Year	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Establishments					
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
Total	14,416	15,425	16,490	17,111	18,571

Source: Survey of Employment and Earnings in large Establishments (March 2000).

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