

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL & TOURISM

1st Semester 2001

1. Passenger Traffic

(i) *Total Passenger Traffic*

Total passenger traffic for the first semester of 2001 amounted to 833,590, composed of 409,510 arrivals and 424,080 departures. Compared to the corresponding period of the preceding year, these figures represent a decrease of 1% in arrivals and a slight increase of less than 1% in departures. Table 1 shows monthly details of passenger traffic.

Total arrivals by air included 4,080 “excursionists”, i.e. passengers arriving and leaving on the same day. Of these excursionists, 1,210 (30%) came from Reunion Island and 740 (18%) from France. Total arrivals by sea also included 4,770 cruise “excursionists” (2,980 passengers and 1,790 crews) aboard 7 cruise ships which visited our port during the first semester of 2001.

(ii) *Departures of Mauritian Residents*

The number of Mauritian residents travelling abroad went down by 3%, from 76,670 for the first six months of 2000 to 74,460 for the same period in 2001, and accounted for 18% of total departures. The following changes were noted in the number of Mauritians visiting the major destinations: France (-0.4%), United Kingdom (+3%), Malagasy Republic (+6%), India (+16%), Singapore (-19%), Australia (-19%), Reunion Island (-3%) and Malaysia (-16%). Table 2 shows a more detailed distribution of countries visited.

(iii) *Tourist Arrivals*

During the first semester of 2001, tourist arrivals rose marginally by 1%, from 313,890 in 2000 to 315,790 in 2001. Details are given in Tables 3 to 6.

Total arrivals from Europe (Table 5), which constituted 67% of total tourist arrivals, went down slightly by 0.3% to 210,980 during the first semester of 2001 against 211,610 in the corresponding semester of 2000. Arrivals from France, our leading market, increased slightly by 1% to reach 98,720 at the end of June 2001. Arrivals from United Kingdom

progressed by 5% from 31,000 in the first six months of 2000 to 32,420 for the same period in 2001. Among the other major markets, arrivals from Germany and Italy decreased by 3% and 9% respectively. Trends among the other countries were as follows: Sweden (+3%), Belgium (-1%), Austria (-5%), Switzerland (-7%) and Spain (-10%).

For the period January to June 2001, arrivals from Africa, with a share of 24% of total tourist arrivals, registered a decline of 1%. Arrivals from Reunion Island, the major generating country of the region, recorded an increase of 1% while those for Republic of South Africa dropped by 4% compared to the corresponding period of the previous year. Changes in arrivals from other African countries were as follows: Seychelles (+3%), Zimbabwe (+5%), Comoros (+10%), Malagasy Republic (-10%). and Kenya (-23%).

Tourist arrivals from the Asian market grew by 16% for the period under review and accounted for 6% of total tourist arrivals. Arrivals from India, the largest market of the continent, went up by 19% to attain 10,100. The performance of other Asian countries was as follows: People's Republic of China (+80%), Malaysia (+39%), Hong Kong (+25%), Singapore (-8%) and Japan (-21%).

Arrivals from Oceania increased by 10%, influenced mostly by a rise of 11% in arrivals from Australia.

An increase of 26% was noted in arrivals from America. This was the result of growths from USA (+27%), Canada (+19%) and other American countries (+28%).

Around 91% of the tourists came mainly for holidays while 4% were on business / conference trips and another 3% were in transit (Table 4).

2. Tourist Nights

Total tourist nights spent in the country during the first semester of 2001 remained almost the same as that of the corresponding period of last year, i.e. 3.1 million (Table 6)

3. Hotel Statistics

At the end of June 2001, there were a total of 95 registered hotels in operation. The total room capacity for these registered hotels was 8,710 with 17,970 bedplaces (Table 7). The room occupancy rate for all hotels for the first six months of 2001 averaged 66% while the bed occupancy rate was 58% (Table 8).

“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 the first semester of 2001 was of the order of 70% while bed occupancy rate averaged 62% (Table 8).

4. Gross Tourism Receipts

Column 4 of Table 6 shows the evolution of tourism receipts. Gross tourism receipts for the first half of 2001 is estimated at Rs 8,410 million, representing an increase of 18% over the corresponding period of 2000. The average receipts per tourist during that period works out to Rs 26,630 against Rs 22,670 in 2000.

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, 71% or 13,270 were engaged in hotels (Table 9).

6. Forecast Year 2001

On the basis of the trends observed during the first six months of the year and patterns of preceding years, total tourist arrivals for the year 2001 is expected to be around 700,000 with gross receipts of the order of Rs 15,500 million.

Port Louis
August 2001

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, 1999 - 2001

Month	1999		2000		2001	
	Arrivals	Departures	Arrivals	Departures	Arrivals	Departures
January	77,871	88,105	81,209	88,227	83,006	96,568
February	57,371	59,233	66,835	68,718	62,662	63,034
March	65,278	62,785	71,630	71,610	73,365	74,278
1st Quarter	200,520	210,123	219,674	228,555	219,033	233,880
April	58,456	63,173	74,386	72,319	70,185	68,642
May	54,703	52,609	65,261	64,174	65,600	69,705
June	51,604	51,034	55,850	57,364	54,696	51,854
2nd Quarter	164,763	166,816	195,497	193,857	190,481	190,201
1st Semester	365,283	376,939	415,171	422,412	409,514	424,081
July	61,520	51,412	72,579	58,928		
August	76,587	80,516	80,378	88,587		
September	55,333	55,202	62,100	64,646		
3rd Quarter	193,440	187,130	215,057	212,161		
October	70,698	63,990	76,488	66,158		
November	73,541	73,674	73,915	78,612		
December	74,969	62,383	84,591	66,696		
4th Quarter	219,208	200,047	234,994	211,466		
2nd Semester	412,648	387,177	450,051	423,627		
Whole Year	777,931	764,116	865,222	846,039		

**Table 2 : - Departure of Mauritian residents by country of disembarkation,
January - June of 2000 and 2001**

Country of disembarkation	Jan - June 2000	Jan - June 2001	% Change
EUROPE	23,310	22,183	-4.8
Belgium	1,078	147	-86.4
France	9,874	9,833	-0.4
Germany	809	868	7.3
Italy	1,563	1,134	-27.4
Switzerland	955	995	4.2
United Kingdom	8,875	9,166	3.3
Other European	156	40	-74.4
AFRICA	31,921	31,064	-2.7
Kenya	386	110	-71.5
Malagasy Republic	3,063	3,248	6.0
Reunion	20,281	19,631	-3.2
Seychelles	1,625	1,444	-11.1
S. Africa, Rep. of	5,685	5,619	-1.2
Zimbabwe	542	485	-10.5
Other African	339	527	55.5
ASIA	18,412	18,529	0.6
Hong Kong SAR*	1,481	2,316	56.4
India	6,368	7,373	15.8
Malaysia	2,171	1,817	-16.3
Singapore	6,263	5,057	-19.3
Saudi Arabia	2,119	1,934	-8.7
Other Asian	10	32	220.0
OCEANIA	2,540	2,064	-18.7
Australia	2,540	2,063	-18.8
Other Oceanian	-	1	-
AMERICA	84	39	-53.6
U.S.A	14	5	-64.3
Canada	69	34	-50.7
Other American	1	-	-
NOT STATED	408	584	43.1
All Countries	76,675	74,463	-2.9

* *Special Administrative Region of China*

Table 3:- Tourist arrivals by month, 1999 - 2001

Month	Number		
	1999	2000	2001*
January	59,680	62,355	65,122
February	41,859	50,466	49,464
March	50,707	54,872	55,944
<i>1st Quarter</i>	<u>152,246</u>	<u>167,693</u>	<u>170,530</u>
April	41,536	56,353	54,794
May	42,254	49,960	51,969
June	35,910	39,885	38,496
<i>2nd Quarter</i>	<u>119,700</u>	<u>146,198</u>	<u>145,259</u>
<i>1st Semester</i>	271,946	313,891	315,789
July	42,862	51,577	
August	57,321	59,731	
September	41,383	47,634	
<i>3rd Quarter</i>	<u>141,566</u>	<u>158,942</u>	
October	55,128	61,526	
November	56,584	57,334	
December	52,861	64,760	
<i>4th Quarter</i>	<u>164,573</u>	<u>183,620</u>	
<i>2nd Semester</i>	306,139	342,562	
Whole Year	578,085	656,453	

* Provisional

**Table 4 :- Tourist arrivals by main purpose of visit,
January-June of 2000 and 2001**

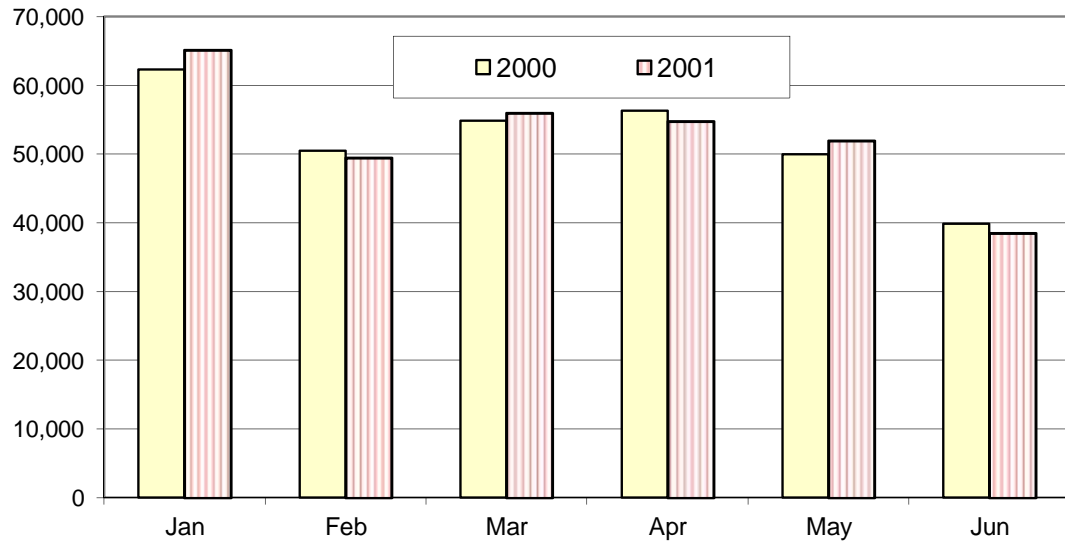
Purpose of visit	Jan - June 2000	Jan - June 2001	% Change
Holiday	286,152	288,489	0.8
Business	11,710	11,736	0.2
Transit	8,408	9,347	11.2
Conference	2,334	1,771	-24.1
Sports	467	572	22.5
Other & Not Stated	4,820	3,874	-19.6
Total	313,891	315,789	0.6

Table 5 : - Tourist Arrivals by Country of Residence, January - June of 2000 and 2001

Country of residence	Jan-June 2000	2001 ¹							% Change 2000/01
		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jan-June	
EUROPE	211,612	40,151	38,192	39,388	37,494	31,572	24,183	210,980	-0.3
Austria	4,767	710	693	1,106	738	816	446	4,509	-5.4
Belgium	5,070	805	928	943	840	709	778	5,003	-1.3
France	97,384	19,921	18,081	18,314	17,845	15,029	9,535	98,725	1.4
Germany	25,683	4,694	4,643	4,937	4,302	3,146	3,153	24,875	-3.1
Italy	22,066	5,369	4,171	3,963	3,088	1,995	1,552	20,138	-8.7
Netherlands	2,089	295	405	448	289	310	341	2,088	0.0
Spain	3,030	276	254	472	541	603	578	2,724	-10.1
Sweden	2,673	783	811	484	295	166	226	2,765	3.4
Switzerland	9,267	1,669	1,820	1,398	1,956	946	781	8,570	-7.5
United Kingdom	31,002	3,734	4,572	5,527	6,230	6,795	5,564	32,422	4.6
CIS	1,168	563	161	149	178	157	84	1,292	10.6
Other European	7,413	1,332	1,653	1,647	1,192	900	1,145	7,869	6.2
AFRICA	77,989	20,952	7,157	12,539	12,691	14,567	9,124	77,030	-1.2
Comoros	385	61	67	52	61	84	99	424	10.1
Kenya	825	65	124	118	139	87	104	637	-22.8
Malagasy Rep.	3,489	465	475	486	647	620	437	3,130	-10.3
Reunion	41,720	15,631	2,650	6,795	4,269	9,085	3,882	42,312	1.4
Seychelles	3,740	475	488	687	831	693	696	3,870	3.5
S/ Africa Rep. of	23,453	3,645	2,839	3,868	5,505	3,184	3,439	22,480	-4.1
Zimbabwe	1,562	209	148	194	716	253	127	1,647	5.4
Other African	2,815	401	366	339	523	561	340	2,530	-10.1
ASIA	16,728	2,435	2,847	2,697	3,066	4,489	3,813	19,347	15.7
Hong Kong SAR ²	644	243	94	97	174	113	82	803	24.7
India	8,485	894	1,439	1,213	1,460	2,793	2,299	10,098	19.0
Japan	1,000	187	96	123	129	100	150	785	-21.5
Malaysia	885	100	320	255	189	195	170	1,229	38.9
P. Rep. of China	1,013	227	230	297	397	489	181	1,821	79.8
Singapore	2,000	321	208	182	301	351	485	1,848	-7.6
Other Asian	2,701	463	460	530	416	448	446	2,763	2.3
OCEANIA	3,750	684	566	668	847	737	623	4,125	10.0
Australia	3,459	618	531	632	796	715	540	3,832	10.8
Other Oceanian	291	66	35	36	51	22	83	293	0.7
AMERICA	3,379	888	688	646	694	592	745	4,253	25.9
USA	1,601	264	336	336	375	339	385	2,035	27.1
Canada	741	183	111	132	122	110	227	885	19.4
Other American	1,037	441	241	178	197	143	133	1,333	28.5
OTHER & N.STATED	433	12	14	6	2	12	8	54	-87.5
All Countries	313,891	65,122	49,464	55,944	54,794	51,969	38,496	315,789	0.6

¹ Provisional² Special Administrative Region of China

**Chart 1 - Monthly Distribution of Tourist Arrivals,
January - June of 2000 and 2001**



**Chart 2 - Tourist Arrivals from Top Ten Markets,
January - June of 2000 and 2001**

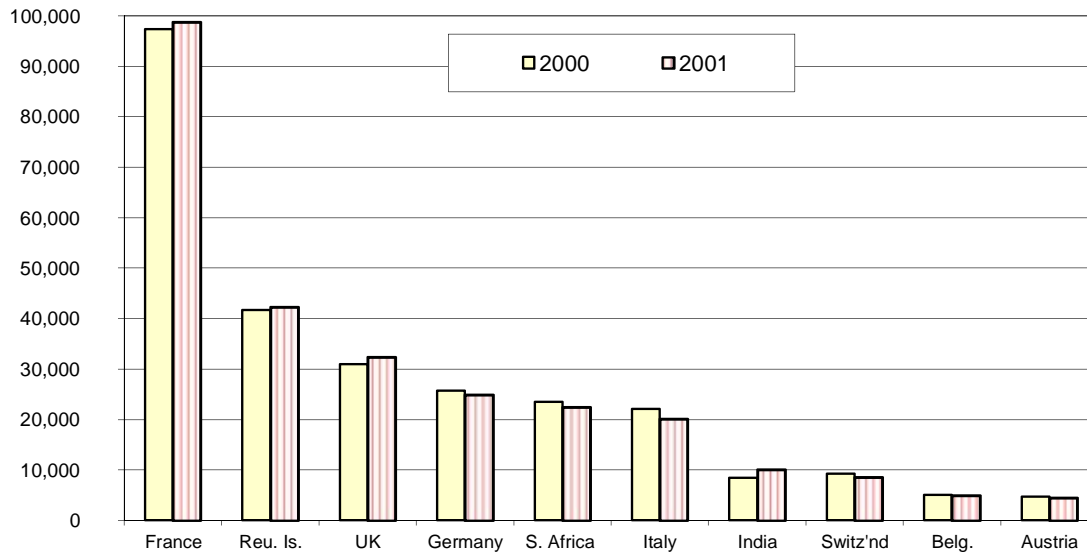


Table 6 :- Selected Tourism Statistics, 1998 - 2001

Year		Tourist arrivals (Number)	Tourist nights (000)	Tourism receipts ¹ (Rs million)
	1998	558,195	5,568	11,890
	1999	578,085	5,729	13,668
	2000	656,453	6,500	14,234
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
2001*	1st Qr.	170,530	1,680	4,584
	2nd Qr.	145,259	1,440	3,825
	1st Semester	315,789	3,120	8,409

* Provisional

¹ Source: Bank of Mauritius**Table 7:- Hotels, rooms and bedplaces, 1998 - 2001**

Year		Number as at end of period		
		Hotels	Rooms	Bedplaces
	1998	90	7,267	14,995
	1999	92	8,255	16,947
	2000	95	8,657	17,776
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
2001*	1st Qr.	95	8,667	17,796
	2nd Qr.	95	8,715	17,972

* Provisional

Table 8 :- Monthly Occupancy Rates (%) for All Hotels and "Large" Hotels, 1999- 2001

Month	All Hotels						"Large" Hotels					
	1999		2000		2001*		1999		2000		2001*	
	Room	Bed	Room	Bed	Room	Bed	Room	Bed	Room	Bed	Room	Bed
January	79	69	73	64	74	65	83	74	75	67	78	69
February	73	64	73	64	67	59	77	68	77	68	70	63
March	71	62	71	62	68	60	76	67	72	64	72	64
1st Quarter	<u>75</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>72</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>71</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>79</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>66</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>66</u>
April	68	59	73	64	66	57	74	65	77	68	70	62
May	67	59	67	58	64	56	73	64	71	63	68	61
June	60	52	58	51	50	43	64	56	62	55	51	46
2nd Quarter	<u>65</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>66</u>	<u>58</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>53</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>64</u>	<u>57</u>
1st Semester	70	61	69	61	66	58	75	66	72	64	70	62
July	65	57	61	53			70	62	64	57		
August	73	63	71	62			74	66	73	65		
September	73	64	73	64			77	68	76	67		
3rd Quarter	<u>70</u>	<u>61</u>	<u>68</u>	<u>60</u>			<u>74</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>71</u>	<u>63</u>		
October	77	68	77	67			83	73	79	70		
November	83	73	80	70			88	78	83	74		
December	61	54	69	60			62	55	71	63		
4th Quarter	<u>74</u>	<u>64</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>66</u>			<u>77</u>	<u>68</u>	<u>78</u>	<u>69</u>		
2nd Semester	72	63	72	63			75	67	74	66		
Whole Year	71	62	70	62			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

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