

## International Travel and Tourism - 1st Quarter 1991

### Passenger traffic

The volume of passenger traffic handled at the airport during the first quarter of 1991 was about 200,000 compared to 196,780 during the same period last year, representing an increase of about 2%. The corresponding increase for the same period from 1989 to 1990 was around 6%.

Though departures stayed at the same level of 104,000 during the first quarters of 1990 and 1991, arrivals however have shown an increase of about 4% from 92,670 to 96,000 between the two periods. The corresponding increase from 1989 to 1990 for arrivals was 6%.

### Tourist arrivals

The number of tourists who visited the country during the first quarter of 1991 grew by 3% to reach 69,500. The corresponding increase from 1989 to 1990 was 7%. It seems that the Gulf war has to a certain extent affected tourist arrivals during this first quarter and these effects may be felt for some more months to come during the year, especially during the first semester.

The main tourist generating countries for Mauritius - Reunion Island, France and the Republic of South Africa - together accounted for 62% of all arrivals.

The traditional European markets supplied 30,300 tourists, of whom nearly half (15,300) was from France, about one third (10,640) from Germany, Italy and Switzerland, and about 13% (4,000) from the United Kingdom.

Reunion Island, with tourist arrivals numbering 18,600 (i.e. an increase of 6% over 1990), continued to be the most important short-haul market for Mauritius, with a share of about 27% of tourist arrivals. Tourist arrivals from Malagassy Republic, India and Japan numbered 1,600, 1,000 and 900 respectively.

The Republic of South Africa which has maintained its position as a major medium-haul market, supplied 13% (9,000) of total tourists who visited Mauritius.

### Tourist nights

Assuming an average length of stay per tourist to be 12 nights, the number of tourist nights for the quarter is estimated at 840,000, that is, 4% above the figure for the same period last year.

### Occupancy rates

During the first quarter there were 4,661 rooms available for renting to tourists. However, because of the unexpected low increase in the number of tourist (3%), due mainly to the Gulf war and larger number of rooms made available - from 3,878 in first quarter of 1990 to 4,661 by end of March 1991 - this had the effect of lowering down the occupancy rates for both rooms and beds.

The room occupancy rate for all hotels during the quarter was 51% as compared to 63% for the corresponding quarter of 1990. Consequently the bed occupancy rate showed an average low figure of 45% during the quarter, dropping from 55% for the corresponding previous quarter.

Tourist receipts

Gross tourist receipts are estimated at around Rs 900 million for the quarter. This gives an average receipt per tourist of about R 13,000 as compared to R 13,800 a year ago.

Employment

The number of persons employed in tourism establishments with 10 or more persons as at the end of the quarter was estimated to be 9,800, showing an increase of about 10% over March 1990 when it was 8,900.

*Central Statistical Office*  
Ministry of Economic Planning and Development  
PORT LOUIS

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Table 1 - Selected tourism statistics, 1986 - 1991

Year	Number as at end of period			Tourist arrivals (Number)	Tourist nights (Million)	Tourist receipts (Rs Mn)
	Hotels	Rooms	Bedplaces			
1986	56	2,888	5,955	165,310	1.88	1,190
1987	60	3,108	6,418	207,570	2.37	1,786
1988	64	3,399	7,005	239,300	3.00	2,381
1989	67	3,605	7,374	262,790	3.20	2,796
1990	75	4,603	9,572	291,550	3.50 <sup>1/</sup>	3,500 <sup>1/</sup>
1990: <u>1st Qr.</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>3,878</u>	<u>7,908</u>	<u>67,100</u>	<u>0.805</u>	<u>928.0</u>
<u>2nd Qr.</u>	<u>72</u>	<u>4,291</u>	<u>8,801</u>	<u>66,770</u>	<u>0.780</u>	<u>786.0</u>
<u>1st Semester</u>	<u>72</u>	<u>4,291</u>	<u>8,801</u>	<u>133,870</u>	<u>1.585</u>	<u>1,714.0</u>
<u>3rd Qr.</u>	<u>72</u>	<u>4,384</u>	<u>9,132</u>	<u>76,790</u>	<u>0.922</u>	<u>860.0</u>
<u>4th Qr.</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>4,603</u>	<u>9,572</u>	<u>80,890</u>	<u>0.993<sup>1/</sup></u>	<u>926.0<sup>1/</sup></u>
<u>2nd Semester</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>4,603</u>	<u>9,572</u>	<u>157,680</u>	<u>1.915<sup>1/</sup></u>	<u>1,786.0<sup>1/</sup></u>
1991: <u>1st Qr.</u>	<u>76</u>	<u>4,661</u>	<u>9,710</u>	<u>69,500<sup>1/</sup></u>	<u>0.840<sup>1/</sup></u>	<u>900.0<sup>1/</sup></u>

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Table 2 - Passenger traffic by month, 1989 - 1991

Month	Number					
	1989		1990		1991	
	Arrivals	Departures	Arrivals	Departures	Arrivals	Departures
January	37,450	43,490	38,640	43,540	39,000 <sup>1/</sup>	45,000 <sup>1/</sup>
February	23,270	27,310	26,880	31,400	25,000 <sup>1/</sup>	29,000 <sup>1/</sup>
March	26,630	27,750	27,150	29,170	32,000 <sup>1/</sup>	30,000 <sup>1/</sup>
<u>1st Quarter</u>	<u>87,350</u>	<u>98,550</u>	<u>92,670</u>	<u>104,110</u>	<u>96,000<sup>1/</sup></u>	<u>104,000<sup>1/</sup></u>
April	27,930	27,600	34,770	31,840		
May	28,020	30,900	32,210	36,140		
June	22,940	25,210	27,020	28,920		
<u>2nd Quarter</u>	<u>78,890</u>	<u>83,710</u>	<u>94,000</u>	<u>96,900</u>		
<u>1st Semester</u>	<u>166,240</u>	<u>182,260</u>	<u>186,670</u>	<u>201,010</u>		
July	33,100	27,830	34,890	29,850		
August	39,970	39,430	44,980	44,840		
September	30,250	35,350	34,140	38,620		
<u>3rd Quarter</u>	<u>103,320</u>	<u>102,610</u>	<u>114,010</u>	<u>113,310</u>		
October	35,140	31,630	37,000	33,570		
November	32,080	34,920	34,520	37,520		
December	42,300	33,630	46,000	36,820		
<u>4th Quarter</u>	<u>109,520</u>	<u>100,180</u>	<u>117,520</u>	<u>107,910</u>		
<u>2nd Semester</u>	<u>212,840</u>	<u>202,790</u>	<u>231,530</u>	<u>221,220</u>		
Whole Year	379,080	385,050	418,200	422,230		

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Table 3 - Tourist arrivals by country of residence, 1989 - 1991

Country of residence	Number					1991 <sup>1/</sup>	
	1989	1990	1990				
			1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter		4th Quarter
France	53,660	53,170	14,750	10,050	11,160	17,210	15,300
Germany Fed. Rep.	18,210	19,680	4,160	4,690	4,500	6,330	4,300
Italy	14,470	14,180	3,670	2,740	3,980	3,790	3,500
Switzerland	10,690	10,740	2,730	1,930	2,140	3,940	2,840
United Kingdom	16,550	21,920	4,210	5,960	6,090	5,660	4,000
Belgium	1,630	1,920	360	430	490	640	370
Malagasy Rep.	6,530	6,550	1,510	1,480	1,720	1,840	1,570
Reunion Island	65,550	73,310	17,490	16,410	23,490	15,920	18,580
Seychelles	3,260	3,500	640	650	1,040	1,170	660
Kenya	1,100	1,440	290	340	360	450	300
South Africa, Rep. of	36,860	41,860	8,280	11,110	10,110	12,360	9,000
Zambia	1,810	1,490	350	390	410	340	360
Zimbabwe	2,870	3,670	540	1,010	990	1,130	560
Australia	2,510	3,060	680	740	750	890	700
India	4,790	8,190	970	3,060	2,400	1,760	1,010
U.S.A.	1,890	2,220	560	640	550	470	580
Singapore	1,990	2,110	340	570	670	530	350
Japan	2,900	3,220	830	350	840	1,200	860
Other Countries	15,520	19,320	4,740	4,220	5,100	5,260	4,660
All Countries	262,790	291,550	67,100	66,770	76,790	80,890	69,500

<sup>1/</sup> Provisional

Table 4 - Tourist arrivals by month, 1989 - 1991

M o n t h	N u m b e r		
	1 9 8 9	1 9 9 0	1 9 9 1
January	26,200	27,950	28,000 <sup>1/</sup>
February	16,900	19,520	18,000 <sup>1/</sup>
March	19,510	19,630	23,500 <sup>1/</sup>
<u>1st Quarter</u>	<u>62,610</u>	<u>67,100</u>	<u>69,500<sup>1/</sup></u>
April	19,430	25,570	
May	20,190	23,210	
June	14,630	17,990	
<u>2nd Quarter</u>	<u>54,250</u>	<u>66,770</u>	
<u><u>1st Semester</u></u>	<u><u>116,860</u></u>	<u><u>133,870</u></u>	
July	21,110	22,180	
August	27,310	31,420	
September	20,770	23,190	
<u>3rd Quarter</u>	<u>69,190</u>	<u>76,790</u>	
October	25,360	26,940	
November	22,470	24,300	
December	28,910	29,650	
<u>4th Quarter</u>	<u>76,740</u>	<u>80,890</u>	
<u><u>2nd Semester</u></u>	<u><u>145,930</u></u>	<u><u>157,680</u></u>	
Whole Year	262,790	291,550	

<sup>1/</sup> Provisional

Table 5 - Monthly room occupancy rate for all hotels, 1989 - 1991

M o n t h	P e r c e n t a g e		
	1 9 8 9	1 9 9 0	1 9 9 1
January	74.0	68.6	55.0 <sup>1/</sup>
February	66.5	61.9	48.9 <sup>1/</sup>
March	63.4	57.4	48.1 <sup>1/</sup>
<u>1st Quarter</u>	<u>68.0</u>	<u>62.6</u>	<u>50.7<sup>1/</sup></u>
April	54.1	58.6	
May	58.5	61.0	
June	46.9	49.5	
<u>2nd Quarter</u>	<u>53.2</u>	<u>56.5</u>	
<u>1st Semester</u>	<u>60.3</u>	<u>59.5</u>	
July	55.5	58.4	
August	64.1	64.4	
September	66.6	65.3	
<u>3rd Quarter</u>	<u>62.1</u>	<u>62.9</u>	
October	70.0	68.3	
November	72.1	68.8	
December	61.9	58.4	
<u>4th Quarter</u>	<u>67.9</u>	<u>65.0</u>	
<u>2nd Semester</u>	<u>65.1</u>	<u>64.0</u>	
Whole Year	64.0	61.8	

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Table 6 - Monthly bed occupancy rate for all hotels, 1989 - 1991

M o n t h	P e r c e n t a g e		
	1 9 8 9	1 9 9 0	1 9 9 1
January	66.5	62.2	50.3 <u>1/</u>
February	58.4	53.0	43.0 <u>1/</u>
March	55.7	49.0	41.1 <u>1/</u>
<u>1st Quarter</u>	<u>60.3</u>	<u>54.8</u>	<u>44.9 1/</u>
April	47.8	51.1	
May	51.2	53.7	
June	39.6	41.3	
<u>2nd Quarter</u>	<u>46.2</u>	<u>48.8</u>	
<u>1st Semester</u>	<u>53.0</u>	<u>51.8</u>	
July	49.2	50.9	
August	57.4	59.6	
September	59.1	58.0	
<u>3rd Quarter</u>	<u>55.3</u>	<u>56.3</u>	
October	62.0	59.7	
November	62.1	59.6	
December	55.0	51.9	
<u>4th Quarter</u>	<u>59.7</u>	<u>57.0</u>	
<u>2nd Semester</u>	<u>57.5</u>	<u>56.7</u>	
Whole Year	55.3	54.3	

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Table 7 - Monthly room occupancy rate for large hotels, 1989 - 1991

Month	Percentage		
	1989	1990	1991
January	88.5	82.1	66.8 <u>1/</u>
February	84.4	80.5	61.4 <u>1/</u>
March	76.6	73.6	60.9 <u>1/</u>
<u>1st Quarter</u>	<u>83.2</u>	<u>78.7</u>	<u>63.1</u> <u>1/</u>
April	73.0	74.7	
May	74.6	77.6	
June	61.3	68.8	
<u>2nd Quarter</u>	<u>69.7</u>	<u>73.9</u>	
<u>1st Semester</u>	<u>76.6</u>	<u>76.4</u>	
July	67.4	73.9	
August	73.0	74.8	
September	81.0	74.5	
<u>3rd Quarter</u>	<u>73.7</u>	<u>74.4</u>	
October	88.3	83.2	
November	89.6	84.6	
December	75.3	70.1	
<u>4th Quarter</u>	<u>84.4</u>	<u>79.2</u>	
<u>2nd Semester</u>	<u>79.1</u>	<u>77.0</u>	
Whole Year	77.8	76.7	

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Table 8 - Monthly bed occupancy rate for large hotels, 1989 - 1991

M o n t h	P e r c e n t a g e		
	1 9 8 9	1 9 9 0	1 9 9 1
January	80.3	75.1	61.6 <u>1/</u>
February	75.1	73.7	54.8 <u>1/</u>
March	68.6	63.6	53.8 <u>1/</u>
<u>1st Quarter</u>	<u>74.6</u>	<u>69.7</u>	<u>56.8 <u>1/</u></u>
April	63.8	66.6	
May	66.3	68.9	
June	53.1	59.6	
<u>2nd Quarter</u>	<u>51.2</u>	<u>65.3</u>	
<u>1st Semester</u>	<u>67.9</u>	<u>67.6</u>	
July	59.9	64.8	
August	66.3	67.2	
September	73.4	67.4	
<u>3rd Quarter</u>	<u>66.5</u>	<u>66.6</u>	
October	79.8	75.3	
November	80.0	75.1	
December	68.5	64.0	
<u>4th Quarter</u>	<u>76.1</u>	<u>71.3</u>	
<u>2nd Semester</u>	<u>71.3</u>	<u>69.2</u>	
Whole Year	69.8	68.4	

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Table 9 - Employment<sup>1/</sup> in the tourist industry, 1987 - 1991

Industrial Group	1987		1988		1989		1990		1991
	March	September	March	September	March	September	March	September	March 2/
Restaurants	674	725	855	867	949	1,019	935	900	900
Hotels	3,453	3,670	4,045	4,116	4,379	4,600	5,581	5,995	5,800
Travel and Tourism	1,428	1,732	1,893	1,991	1,877	2,065	2,386	2,775	3,100
Total	5,555	6,127	6,793	6,974	7,205	7,684	8,902	9,670	9,800

<sup>1/</sup> Large establishments only (i.e. employing 10 or more persons)

<sup>2/</sup> Provisional