

# INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL & TOURISM

1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2002

## 1. Passenger Traffic

### *1.1 Total Passenger Traffic*

During the first quarter of 2002, a total of 235,605 arrivals were registered against 248,325 departures, i.e. an excess of 12,720 departures over arrivals. Compared to the corresponding period of year 2001, these figures represent increases of 7.6% and 6.2% in arrivals and departures respectively. Movements by sea accounted for 8.3% of both arrivals and departures. Further details on monthly trends are given in Table 1.

### *1.2 Excursionists*

Total arrivals by air included 1,985 "excursionists", i.e. visitors arriving and leaving on the same day. Of these excursionists, 752 (37.9%) came from Reunion Island while 394 (19.8%) came from France. Total arrivals by sea included 14,243 "cruise excursionists" (8,118 passengers and 6,125 crews) aboard 17 cruise ships, which visited our port during the first three months of 2002.

### *1.3 Mauritian Residents*

The number of Mauritian residents travelling abroad during the first quarter of 2002 went down by 2.6% to stand at 36,788 against 37,757 for the corresponding period of the preceding year. The following changes were observed in the number of Mauritians visiting the major destinations: Hong Kong (+56.5%), Australia (+28.7%), Republic of South Africa (+24.5%), United Kingdom (+13.3%), France (+3.1%), Singapore (-4.3%), Reunion Island (-10.5%), India (-15.7%), Saudi Arabia (-28.6%) and Malagasy Republic (-50.3%). Table 2 shows a more detailed distribution of countries visited.

### *1.4 Tourist Arrivals*

During the first quarter of 2002, tourist arrivals numbered 181,659, which is 6.5% higher than the figure of 170,530 attained in the same period of 2001. Further details on tourist arrivals are given in Tables 3 to 6.

Around 93% of the tourists came mainly for holidays while 3% were on business/conference trips, and another 3% were in transit (Table 4).

Arrivals from Europe, which accounts for 69.8% of total tourist arrivals, went up by 7.7% to 126,836 during the first quarter of 2002 against 117,731 in the same quarter of 2001. Arrivals from France, our leading market representing 33% of total tourist arrivals and 47% of the European market, rose by 6.5% and attained 59,966 at the end of March 2002. Growths were also noted in arrivals from the other major generating countries, namely Germany (+19.2%) and United Kingdom (+18%). On the other hand, arrivals from Italy registered a drop of 12.7%. Trends among the other countries were as follows: Spain (+48.9%), Austria (+13.1%), Netherlands (-3.4%), Belgium (-6.0%), Switzerland (-7.1%) and Sweden (-17.2%).

For the first quarter of 2002, arrivals from Africa, with a share of 24.0% of total tourist arrivals, went up by 7.4% to 43,651. Arrivals from Reunion Island, the major market of the region, increased by 9.9% while those from Republic of South Africa dropped by 3.7%. Changes in arrivals from other African countries were as follows: Zimbabwe(+70.2%), Kenya (+44.3%), Seychelles (+40.5%), Malagasy Republic(-9.7%) and Comoros (-27.8%).

Tourist arrivals from the Asian market regressed by 3.4% for the reference period and constituted 4.2% of total tourist arrivals. Arrivals from India, our major source on this continent, went down by 2.4% to reach 3,460. The performance of other Asian countries was as follows: Japan (+48.0%), People's Republic of China (+4.1%), Hong Kong (-2.3%), Singapore (-6.3%) and Malaysia (-31.6%).

Arrivals from Oceania fell by 8.9% due largely to a decline of 7.8% in arrivals from Australia.

Arrivals from the continent of America went down by 24.0%, being the result of the net effect of decreases of 12.9% and 56% from Canada and countries classified in "other American" respectively, coupled with a growth of 0.3% from U.S.A.

## **2. Tourist Nights**

Total tourist nights spent in the country during the first quarter of 2002 is estimated at 1.8 million, representing an increase of 6.4% over the same period of 2001.

## **3. Hotel Statistics**

At the end of March 2002, there was a total of 94 registered hotels in operation. The total room capacity for these registered hotels was 8,770 with 17,846 bed places (Table 7). The room occupancy rate for all hotels for the first three months of 2002 averaged 72% while the bed occupancy rate was 64% (Table 8).

“Large” hotels, i.e. well-established beach hotels with more than 80 rooms, numbered 36 (38.3% of all registered hotels). These "Large" hotels had a room capacity of 6,424 with 12,963 bedplaces, representing 73.2% of total room capacity and 72.6% of total bedplaces. The average room occupancy rate for these hotels for the first quarter of 2002 was of the order of 77% while bed occupancy rate averaged 69% (Table 8).

## **4. Gross Tourism Receipts**

Data from the Bank of Mauritius indicate that gross tourism receipts for the first quarter of 2002 were of the order of Rs 5,005 million, i.e. an increase of 9.2% compared to Rs 4,584 million for the same period of 2001. The average receipts per tourist during that period was Rs 27,552 against Rs 26,880 in 2001 (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 19,944 at the end of March 2001, that is 12.0% higher than the previous year. Of this number, 75.3% or 15,023 were engaged in hotels (Table 9).

## **6. Forecast Year 2002**

The World Tourism Organisation (WTO) expects continued recovery in the world tourism industry, with pre-crisis levels being attained by the third or fourth quarter of 2002. In the light of the number of tourist arrivals registered in the first quarter of 2002, in particular in March, total tourist arrivals for the year 2002 are now expected to reach 695,000, that is around 5% higher than the preceding year.

**Central Statistics Office**

**Ministry of Economic Development, Financial Services and Corporate Affairs.**

**Port Louis**

**May 2002**

**Contact person:**

Mr. C.Ramnath  
Statistician  
Ministry of Tourism  
Ken Lee Tower  
Port Louis  
Tel: 210-9832  
Fax: 208-6776

## **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 **C**ommonwealth of **I**ndependent **S**tates, which consists of the states of the former Soviet Union.

**Table 1:- Passenger Traffic by month 2000 - 2002**

Month	2000		2001		2002	
	Arrivals	Departures	Arrivals	Departures	Arrivals	Departures
January	81,209	88,227	83,006	96,568	82,203	98,297
February	66,835	68,718	62,662	63,034	63,657	63,562
March	71,630	71,610	73,365	74,278	89,745	86,466
<i>1st Quarter</i>	<u>219,674</u>	<u>228,555</u>	<u>219,033</u>	<u>233,880</u>	<u>235,605</u>	<u>248,325</u>
April	74,386	72,319	70,185	68,642		
May	65,261	64,174	65,600	69,705		
June	55,850	57,364	54,696	51,854		
<i>2nd Quarter</i>	<u>195,497</u>	<u>193,857</u>	<u>190,481</u>	<u>190,201</u>		
<i>1st Semester</i>	<b>415,171</b>	<b>422,412</b>	<b>409,514</b>	<b>424,081</b>		
July	72,579	58,928	77,552	63,875		
August	80,378	88,587	72,980	83,574		
September	62,100	64,646	63,876	66,230		
<i>3rd Quarter</i>	<u>215,057</u>	<u>212,161</u>	<u>214,408</u>	<u>213,679</u>		
October	76,488	66,158	73,660	70,007		
November	73,915	78,612	72,147	70,362		
December	84,591	66,696	88,453	72,167		
<i>4th Quarter</i>	<u>234,994</u>	<u>211,466</u>	<u>234,260</u>	<u>212,536</u>		
<i>2nd Semester</i>	<b>450,051</b>	<b>423,627</b>	<b>448,668</b>	<b>426,215</b>		
<b>Whole Year</b>	<b>865,222</b>	<b>846,039</b>	<b>858,182</b>	<b>850,296</b>		

**Table 2 : - Departure of Mauritian residents by country of disembarkation,  
January - March of 2001 and 2002**

Country of disembarkation	1st Quarter 2001	1st Quarter 2002	% Change
<b>EUROPE</b>	<b>10,364</b>	<b>11,089</b>	<b>7.0</b>
Belgium	48	119	147.9
France	4,703	4,851	3.1
Germany	455	454	-0.2
Italy	743	752	1.2
Switzerland	481	452	-6.0
United Kingdom	3,918	4,438	13.3
Other European	16	23	43.8
<b>AFRICA</b>	<b>15,202</b>	<b>14,126</b>	<b>-7.1</b>
Kenya	65	343	427.7
Malagasy Republic	1,712	851	-50.3
Reunion	9,130	8,171	-10.5
Seychelles	767	783	2.1
S. Africa, Rep. of	2,981	3,711	24.5
Zimbabwe	220	160	-27.3
Other African	327	107	-67.3
<b>ASIA</b>	<b>10,643</b>	<b>9,703</b>	<b>-8.8</b>
Hong Kong SAR*	857	1,341	56.5
India	4,216	3,552	-15.7
Malaysia	979	504	-48.5
Singapore	2,636	2,523	-4.3
Saudi Arabia	1,934	1,381	-28.6
Other Asian	21	402	1,814.3
<b>OCEANIA</b>	<b>1,279</b>	<b>1,646</b>	<b>28.7</b>
Australia	1,279	1,646	28.7
Other Oceanian	-	-	-
<b>AMERICA</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>-82.4</b>
U.S.A	5	1	-80.0
Canada	29	5	-82.8
Other American	-	-	-
<b>NOT STATED</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>All Countries</b>	<b>37,757</b>	<b>36,788</b>	<b>-2.6</b>

\* *Special Administrative Region of China*

**Table 3:- Tourist arrivals by month, 2000 - 2002**

Month	Number		
	2000	2001	2002
January	62,355	65,122	63,551
February	50,466	49,464	50,554
March	54,872	55,944	67,554
<u>1st Quarter</u>	<u>167,693</u>	<u>170,530</u>	<u>181,659</u>
April	56,353	54,794	
May	49,960	51,969	
June	39,885	38,496	
<u>2nd Quarter</u>	<u>146,198</u>	<u>145,259</u>	
<i>1st Semester</i>	<i>313,891</i>	<i>315,789</i>	
July	51,577	57,274	
August	59,731	52,923	
September	47,634	48,953	
<u>3rd Quarter</u>	<u>158,942</u>	<u>159,150</u>	
October	61,526	59,325	
November	57,334	57,326	
December	64,760	68,728	
<u>4th Quarter</u>	<u>183,620</u>	<u>185,379</u>	
<i>2nd Semester</i>	<i>342,562</i>	<i>344,529</i>	
<b>Whole Year</b>	<b>656,453</b>	<b>660,318</b>	

**Table 4 :- Tourist arrivals by main purpose of visit,  
1st Quarter 2001 / 2002**

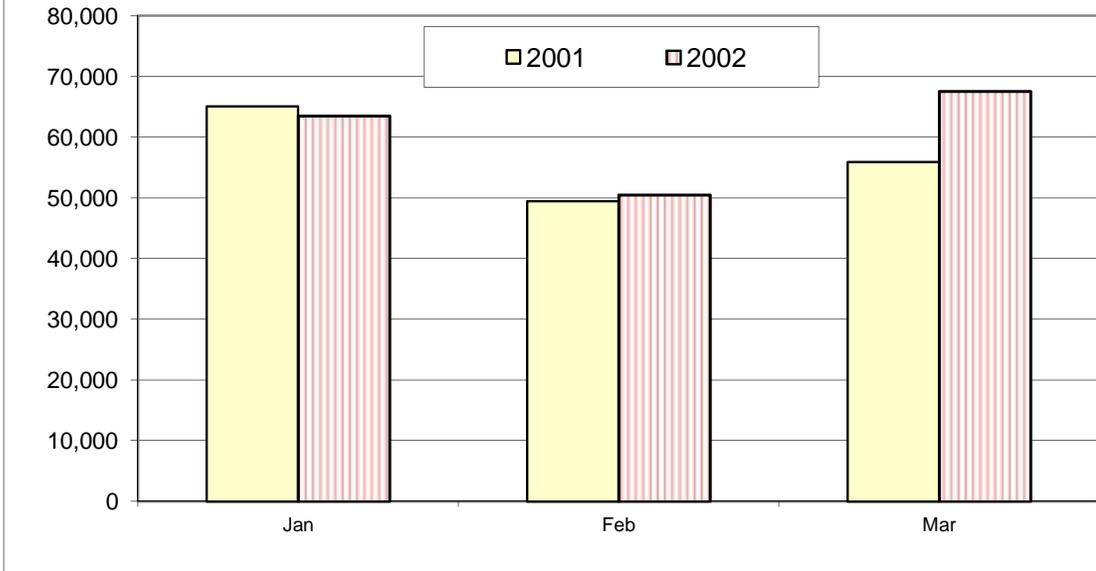
Purpose of visit	1st Quarter 2001	1st Quarter 2002	% Change
Holiday	157,012	168,081	7.0
Business	5,592	4,962	-11.3
Transit	5,050	5,844	15.7
Conference	759	801	5.5
Sports	171	215	25.7
Other & Not Stated	1,946	1,756	-9.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>170,530</b>	<b>181,659</b>	<b>6.5</b>

**Table 5 : - Tourist Arrivals by Country of Residence, January - March of 2001 and 2002**

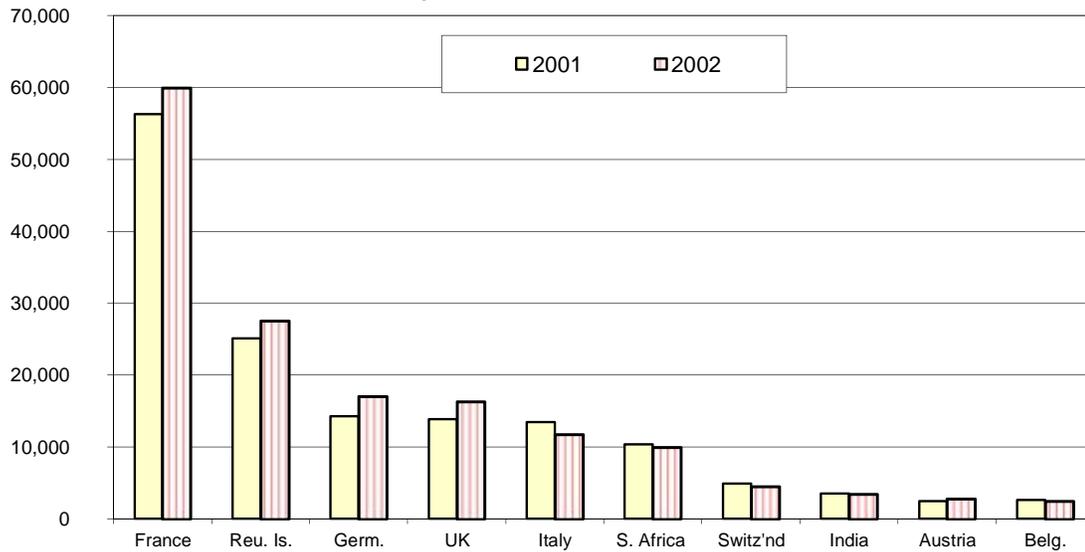
Country of residence	1st Quarter 2001	2002 <sup>1</sup>				% Change 2002/2001
		Jan	Feb	Mar	1st Quarter	
<b>EUROPE</b>	<b>117,731</b>	<b>39,501</b>	<b>40,004</b>	<b>47,331</b>	<b>126,836</b>	<b>7.7</b>
Austria	2,509	865	991	982	2,838	13.1
Belgium	2,676	712	811	992	2,515	-6.0
France	56,316	19,356	18,831	21,779	59,966	6.5
Germany	14,274	5,463	5,103	6,449	17,015	19.2
Italy	13,503	4,058	3,863	3,863	11,784	-12.7
Netherlands	1,148	301	372	436	1,109	-3.4
Spain	1,002	208	519	765	1,492	48.9
Sweden	2,078	452	628	640	1,720	-17.2
Switzerland	4,887	1,326	1,508	1,706	4,540	-7.1
United Kingdom	13,833	4,262	5,253	6,805	16,320	18.0
CIS	873	733	175	309	1,217	39.4
Other European	4,632	1,765	1,950	2,605	6,320	36.4
<b>AFRICA</b>	<b>40,648</b>	<b>21,068</b>	<b>6,587</b>	<b>15,996</b>	<b>43,651</b>	<b>7.4</b>
Comoros	180	51	34	45	130	-27.8
Kenya	307	213	140	90	443	44.3
Malagasy Rep.	1,426	329	431	528	1,288	-9.7
Reunion	25,076	15,864	2,641	9,041	27,546	9.9
Seychelles	1,650	688	691	939	2,318	40.5
S/ Africa Rep. of	10,352	3,361	2,110	4,500	9,971	-3.7
Zimbabwe	551	229	229	480	938	70.2
Other African	1,106	333	311	373	1,017	-8.0
<b>ASIA</b>	<b>7,979</b>	<b>1,856</b>	<b>2,905</b>	<b>2,948</b>	<b>7,709</b>	<b>-3.4</b>
Hong Kong SAR <sup>2</sup>	434	91	218	115	424	-2.3
India	3,546	855	1,142	1,463	3,460	-2.4
Japan	406	69	386	146	601	48.0
Malaysia	675	108	204	150	462	-31.6
P. Rep. of China	754	272	273	240	785	4.1
Singapore	711	149	245	272	666	-6.3
Other Asian	1,453	312	437	562	1,311	-9.8
<b>OCEANIA</b>	<b>1,918</b>	<b>573</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>622</b>	<b>1,748</b>	<b>-8.9</b>
Australia	1,781	543	503	596	1,642	-7.8
Other Oceanian	137	30	50	26	106	-22.6
<b>AMERICA</b>	<b>2,222</b>	<b>546</b>	<b>497</b>	<b>645</b>	<b>1,688</b>	<b>-24.0</b>
USA	936	286	291	362	939	0.3
Canada	426	113	121	137	371	-12.9
Other American	860	147	85	146	378	-56.0
<b>OTHER &amp; N.STATED</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>-15.6</b>
<b>All Countries</b>	<b>170,530</b>	<b>63,551</b>	<b>50,554</b>	<b>67,554</b>	<b>181,659</b>	<b>6.5</b>

<sup>1</sup> Provisional<sup>2</sup> Special Administrative Region of China

**Chart 1 - Monthly Distribution of Tourist Arrivals,  
January - March of 2001 and 2002**



**Chart 2 - Tourist Arrivals from Top Ten Markets,  
January - March of 2001 and 2002**



**Table 6 :- Selected Tourism Statistics, 1999 - 2002**

Year		Tourist arrivals (Number)	Tourist nights (000)	Tourism receipts <sup>1</sup> (Rs million)
	1999	578,085	5,729	13,668
	2000	656,453	6413 2	14,234
	2001	660,318	6528 2	18,166
<b>2000</b>	1st Qr.	167,693	1,628	3,985
	2nd Qr.	146,198	1,431	3,132
	<b>1st Semester</b>	<b>313,891</b>	<b>3,059</b>	<b>7,117</b>
	3rd Qr.	158,942	1,559	3,085
	4th Qr.	183,620	1,795	4,032
	<b>2nd Semester</b>	<b>342,562</b>	<b>3,354</b>	<b>7,117</b>
<b>2001</b>	1st Qr.	170,530	1,682	4,584
	2nd Qr.	145,259	1,442	3,825
	<b>1st Semester</b>	<b>315,789</b>	<b>3,124</b>	<b>8,409</b>
	3rd Qr.	159,150	1,572	4,460
	4th Qr.	185,379	1,832	5,297
	<b>2nd Semester</b>	<b>344,529</b>	<b>3,404</b>	<b>9,757</b>
<b>2002</b> <sup>3</sup>	1st Qr.	181,659	1,790	5,005

<sup>1</sup> Source: Bank of Mauritius<sup>2</sup> Revised<sup>3</sup> Provisional**Table 7:- Hotels, rooms and bedplaces, 1999 - 2002**

Year	Number as at end of period			
	Hotels	Rooms	Bedplaces	
1999	92	8,255	16,947	
2000	95	8,657	17,776	
2001	95	9,024	18,350	
<b>2000</b>	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
<b>2001</b>	1st Qr.	95	8,667	17,796
	2nd Qr.	95	8,715	17,972
	3rd Qr.	95	8,640	17,718
	4th Qr.	95	9,024	18,350
<b>2002</b> *	1st Qr.	94	8,770	17,846

\* Provisional

**Table 8 :- Monthly Occupancy Rates (%) for All Hotels and "Large" Hotels, 2000 - 2002**

Month	All Hotels						"Large" Hotels					
	2000		2001		2002*		2000		2001		2002*	
	Room	Bed	Room	Bed	Room	Bed	Room	Bed	Room	Bed	Room	Bed
January	73	64	74	65	71	63	75	67	78	69	76	68
February	73	64	67	59	69	62	77	68	70	63	74	66
March	71	62	68	60	75	66	72	64	72	64	81	72
<i>1st Quarter</i>	<u>72</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>71</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>72</u>	<u>64</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>66</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>66</u>	<u>77</u>	<u>69</u>
April	73	64	66	57			77	68	70	62		
May	67	58	64	56			71	63	68	61		
June	58	51	50	43			62	55	51	46		
<i>2nd Quarter</i>	<u>66</u>	<u>58</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>53</u>			<u>70</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>64</u>	<u>57</u>		
<i>1st Semester</i>	<u>69</u>	<u>61</u>	<u>66</u>	<u>58</u>			<u>72</u>	<u>64</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>62</u>		
July	61	53	55	48			64	57	57	51		
August	71	62	62	55			73	65	65	58		
September	73	64	68	60			76	67	74	66		
<i>3rd Quarter</i>	<u>68</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>55</u>			<u>71</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>66</u>	<u>59</u>		
October	77	67	70	62			79	70	76	67		
November	80	70	73	64			83	74	78	70		
December	69	60	69	61			71	63	72	64		
<i>4th Quarter</i>	<u>75</u>	<u>66</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>62</u>			<u>78</u>	<u>69</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>67</u>		
<i>2nd Semester</i>	<u>72</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>66</u>	<u>58</u>			<u>74</u>	<u>66</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>63</u>		
<b>Whole Year</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>58</b>			<b>73</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>62</b>		

\* Provisional

**Table 9 :- Employment in the tourist industry as at end of March, 1997 - 2001**

<b>Year</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999*</b>	<b>2000*</b>	<b>2001</b>
<b>Establishments</b>					
Restaurants	1,118	1,389	1,168	1,256	1,269
Hotels	10,575	11,177	11,835	13,239	15,023
Travel and Tourism	3,732	3,924	3,232	3,316	3,652
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,425</b>	<b>16,490</b>	<b>16,235</b>	<b>17,811</b>	<b>19,944</b>

*\*Revised in the light of new classification based on International Standard Industrial Classification Rev. 3*

*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)*