

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL & TOURISM

Year 2002

1. Passenger Traffic

1.1 Total Passenger Traffic

Total passenger traffic for the year 2002 amounted to 1,773,627, consisting of 891,106 arrivals and 882,521 departures. Compared to 2001, these figures represent increases of 3.8% both in arrivals and in departures. Movements by sea accounted for 4.2% of both arrivals and departures. Further details on monthly trends are given in Table 1.

1.2 Excursionists

Total arrivals by air included 9,208 "excursionists", i.e. passengers arriving and leaving on the same day. Of these excursionists, 2,769 (30.1%) came from Reunion Island and 1,777 (19.3%) from France. Total arrivals by sea included 19,613 cruise "excursionists" (10,814 passengers and 8,799 crews) aboard 25 cruise ships which visited our port in 2002.

1.3 Mauritian Residents

The number of Mauritian residents travelling abroad rose by 0.3% from 161,001 in 2001 to 161,534 in 2002. Departures of these residents represented 18.3% of total departures. The following changes were noted in the number of Mauritians visiting the major destinations: Singapore (+8.3%), United Kingdom (+7.9%), France (+4.2%), Australia (+4.0%), India (-9.3%), Reunion Island (-12.0%), Malaysia (-54.1%) and Malagasy Republic (-55.1%). A more elaborate distribution of countries visited is given in Table 2.

1.4 Tourist Arrivals

Tourist arrivals for the year 2002 attained 681,648 against 660,318 in 2001, representing an increase of 3.2%. Details are given in Tables 3 to 6.

Around 91% of the tourists came mainly for holidays while 4.2% were on business/conference trips and another 3.5% were in transit (Table 4).

Arrivals from Europe (Table 5), which accounted for 66.2% of total tourist arrivals, went up by 3.2% to 451,504 during the year 2002 against 437,305 for the preceding year. Arrivals from France, our leading market, representing 29.8% of total tourist arrivals and 44.9% of the European market, increased by 2.7% to reach 202,869 in 2002. Growths were also noted in arrivals from the other major generating countries, namely Germany (+5.7%), United Kingdom (+3.6%) and Italy (+2.5%). Trends among the other countries were as follows: Spain (+10.1%), Belgium (+1.7%), Austria (+1.0%), Switzerland (-5.7%) and Sweden (-10.4%).

In 2002, arrivals from Africa, with a share of 25.3% of total tourist arrivals, recorded an increase of 2.4% compared to the previous year. Arrivals from Reunion Island, the major generating country of the region, registered an increase of 5.7%, while those from the Republic of South Africa dropped by 10.9%. Changes in arrivals from other African countries were as follows: Malagasy Republic (+41.1%), Seychelles (+26.0%), Comoros (+9.9%), Kenya (-13.1%) and Zimbabwe (-17.5%).

Tourist arrivals from the Asian market grew by 10.7% for the period under review and accounted for 6.0% of total tourist arrivals. Arrivals from India, the largest market of the continent, went up by 10.6% to attain 20,898. The following changes were observed from the other Asian countries: United Arab Emirates (+983.6%), Japan (+23.2%), People's Republic of China (+17.5%), Singapore (-9.2%), Malaysia (-12.2%) and Hong Kong (-19.3%).

Arrivals from Oceania fell by 4.4%, mainly because of a drop of 4.6% in arrivals from Australia.

A decrease of 7.5% was noted in arrivals from America. This was the net result of growth from USA (+4.9%)

and decline from Canada (-0.2%) and other American countries (-34.4%).

2. Tourist Nights

Total tourist nights spent in the country in 2002 is estimated at 6.7 million, that is 3.4% more than the preceding year (Table 6).

3. Hotel Statistics

At the end of December 2002, there were a total of 95 registered hotels in operation. Due to renovation, two hotels were not operational. The total room capacity for these registered hotels was 9,623 with 19,597 bedplaces (Table 7). The room occupancy rate for all hotels for the year 2002 averaged 67% while the bed occupancy rate was 59%.

"Large" hotels, i.e. well-established beach hotels with more than 80 rooms, numbered 38 (40% of all registered hotels). These "Large" hotels had a room capacity of 7,293 with 14,868 bedplaces, representing 75.8% of total room capacity and 75.9% of total bedplaces. The average room occupancy rate for these hotels for 2002 was of the order of 70% while bed occupancy rate averaged 62% (Table 8).

4. Gross Tourism Receipts

Data from the Bank of Mauritius indicate that gross tourism receipts for the year 2002 amounted to Rs 18,328 million, which is 0.9% higher than the figure of Rs 18,166 million registered for the year 2001.

5. Employment

According to the Survey of Employment and Earnings, direct employment in travel and tourism establishments employing 10 persons or more, stood at 21,115 at the end of March 2002, that is 5.9% higher than last year. Of this number, 75.3% or 15,890 were engaged in hotels (Table 9).

Central Statistics 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 **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
<u>1st Quarter</u>	<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	63,961	69,431
May	65,261	64,174	65,600	69,705	67,030	69,414
June	55,850	57,364	54,696	51,854	54,781	51,274
<u>2nd Quarter</u>	<u>195,497</u>	<u>193,857</u>	<u>190,481</u>	<u>190,201</u>	<u>185,772</u>	<u>190,119</u>
<i>1st Semester</i>	<i>415,171</i>	<i>422,412</i>	<i>409,514</i>	<i>424,081</i>	<i>421,377</i>	<i>438,444</i>
July	72,579	58,928	77,552	63,875	75,786	62,403
August	80,378	88,587	72,980	83,574	73,431	84,849
September	62,100	64,646	63,876	66,230	65,381	65,607
<u>3rd Quarter</u>	<u>215,057</u>	<u>212,161</u>	<u>214,408</u>	<u>213,679</u>	<u>214,598</u>	<u>212,859</u>
<i>Jan. to Sep.</i>	<i>630,228</i>	<i>634,573</i>	<i>623,922</i>	<i>637,760</i>	<i>635,975</i>	<i>651,303</i>
October	76,488	66,158	73,660	70,007	81,830	77,979
November	73,915	78,612	72,147	70,362	78,362	75,840
December	84,591	66,696	88,453	72,167	94,939	77,399
<u>4th Quarter</u>	<u>234,994</u>	<u>211,466</u>	<u>234,260</u>	<u>212,536</u>	<u>255,131</u>	<u>231,218</u>
<i>2nd Semester</i>	<i>450,051</i>	<i>423,627</i>	<i>448,668</i>	<i>426,215</i>	<i>469,729</i>	<i>444,077</i>
Whole Year	865,222	846,039	858,182	850,296	891,106	882,521

Table 2 : - Departure of Mauritian residents by country of disembarkation, 2001 / 2002

Country of disembarkation	2001	2002	% Change
EUROPE	52,470	55,085	5.0
Belgium	613	561	-8.5
France	24,159	25,168	4.2
Germany	2,198	2,134	-2.9
Italy	3,057	3,076	0.6
Switzerland	2,221	2,294	3.3
United Kingdom	19,942	21,523	7.9
Other European	280	329	17.5
AFRICA	65,577	60,509	-7.7
Kenya	530	1,149	116.8
Malagasy Republic	6,518	2,928	-55.1
Reunion	42,331	37,245	-12.0
Seychelles	3,117	3,689	18.4
S. Africa, Rep. of	11,302	14,460	27.9
Zimbabwe	1,093	924	-15.5
Other African	686	114	-83.4
ASIA	37,173	40,379	8.6
Hong Kong SAR*	5,624	7,304	29.9
India	15,181	13,768	-9.3
Malaysia	3,558	1,634	-54.1
Singapore	10,824	11,720	8.3
Saudi Arabia	1,934	1,473	-23.8
Other Asian ¹	52	4,480	8,515.4
OCEANIA	4,526	4,705	4.0
Australia	4,525	4,705	4.0
Other Oceanian	1	0	-
AMERICA	83	89	7.2
U.S.A	19	16	-15.8
Canada	64	73	14.1
Other American	0	0	-
NOT STATED	1,172	767	-34.6
All Countries	161,001	161,534	0.3

* Special Administrative Region of China

¹ Including United Arab Emirates

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
1st Quarter	<u>167,693</u>	<u>170,530</u>	<u>181,659</u>
April	56,353	54,794	48,187
May	49,960	51,969	53,813
June	39,885	38,496	39,048
2nd Quarter	<u>146,198</u>	<u>145,259</u>	<u>141,048</u>
1st Semester	313,891	315,789	322,707
July	51,577	57,274	56,709
August	59,731	52,923	53,395
September	47,634	48,953	49,774
3rd Quarter	<u>158,942</u>	<u>159,150</u>	<u>159,878</u>
Jan. to Sep.	472,833	474,939	482,585
October	61,526	59,325	65,291
November	57,334	57,326	61,326
December	64,760	68,728	72,446
4th Quarter	<u>183,620</u>	<u>185,379</u>	<u>199,063</u>
2nd Semester	342,562	344,529	358,941
Whole Year	656,453	660,318	681,648

* Provisional

[Home](#)

Table 4 :- Tourist arrivals by main purpose of visit, 2001 - 2002

Purpose of visit	2001	2002	% Change
Holiday	606,545	620,124	2.2
Business	22,879	23,730	3.7
Transit	18,962	24,090	27.0
Conference	3,644	4,828	32.5
Sports	1,101	1,043	-5.3
Other & Not Stated	7,187	7,833	9.0
Total	660,318	681,648	3.2

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

Country of residence	Year 2001	2002 ¹													% Change 2002/2001
		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year	
EUROPE	437,305	39,501	40,004	47,331	34,224	32,330	25,206	32,757	30,316	33,194	42,998	47,711	45,932	451,504	3.2
Austria	8,696	865	991	982	695	616	419	606	531	590	703	1,090	694	8,782	1.0
Belgium	10,398	712	811	992	956	855	706	724	631	1,029	1,201	950	1,012	10,579	1.7
France	197,595	19,356	18,831	21,779	14,987	15,531	9,924	14,447	12,579	11,093	18,771	23,640	21,931	202,869	2.7
Germany	50,866	5,463	5,103	6,449	3,817	3,879	3,036	2,732	3,311	4,532	4,653	5,882	4,905	53,762	5.7
Italy	37,343	4,058	3,863	3,863	3,928	2,221	1,859	2,088	3,316	2,736	3,180	2,483	4,668	38,263	2.5
Netherlands	4,913	301	372	436	539	281	329	493	243	439	454	419	319	4,625	-5.9
Spain	7,058	208	519	765	436	675	822	597	920	788	717	672	651	7,770	10.1
Sweden	5,186	452	628	640	279	161	181	149	109	155	517	793	583	4,647	-10.4
Switzerland	18,427	1,326	1,508	1,706	1,280	831	763	1,049	547	1,626	2,268	2,403	2,064	17,371	-5.7
United Kingdom	77,888	4,262	5,253	6,805	5,990	5,967	5,971	8,415	6,916	8,524	8,541	7,138	6,885	80,667	3.6
CIS	2,459	733	175	309	283	368	87	103	115	115	179	238	424	3,129	27.2
Other European	16,476	1,765	1,950	2,605	1,034	945	1,109	1,354	1,098	1,567	1,814	2,003	1,796	19,040	15.6
AFRICA	168,522	21,068	6,587	15,996	10,352	16,254	8,598	18,927	18,078	10,669	16,489	9,155	20,468	172,641	2.4
Comoros	860	51	34	45	64	92	90	76	67	110	150	84	82	945	9.9
Kenya	1,734	213	140	90	124	126	103	80	132	103	104	97	195	1,507	-13.1
Malagasy Rep.	6,674	329	431	528	793	730	753	906	1,228	659	1,069	853	1,138	9,417	41.1
Reunion	91,140	15,864	2,641	9,041	3,440	10,375	2,695	12,445	10,941	3,815	10,052	3,972	11,094	96,375	5.7
Seychelles	10,687	688	691	939	1,242	1,123	1,208	1,101	1,561	1,203	1,183	1,091	1,438	13,468	26.0
S/ Africa Rep. of	47,882	3,361	2,110	4,500	3,833	3,111	3,230	3,436	3,412	4,218	3,271	2,580	5,623	42,685	-10.9
Zimbabwe	3,860	229	229	480	482	283	192	216	254	175	128	157	360	3,185	-17.5
Other African	5,685	333	311	373	374	414	327	667	483	386	532	321	538	5,059	-11.0
ASIA	36,855	1,856	2,905	2,948	2,465	4,023	3,950	3,342	3,843	4,255	4,127	3,147	3,935	40,796	10.7
Hong Kong SAR ²	1,488	91	218	115	77	74	78	83	107	97	81	54	126	1,201	-19.3
India	18,890	855	1,142	1,463	1,187	2,669	2,462	1,645	2,205	1,888	2,246	1,523	1,613	20,898	10.6
Japan	1,589	69	386	146	134	62	76	114	192	150	142	148	339	1,958	23.2
Malaysia	2,215	108	204	150	125	174	187	122	130	190	198	121	235	1,944	-12.2
P. Rep. of China	3,615	272	273	240	328	183	215	321	415	771	518	398	314	4,248	17.5
Singapore	3,431	149	245	272	171	318	405	208	194	213	177	291	471	3,114	-9.2
United Arab Emirates	110	9	59	47	37	34	47	186	116	245	132	116	164	1,192	983.6
Other Asian	5,517	303	378	515	406	509	480	663	484	701	633	496	673	6,241	13.1
OCEANIA	9,441	573	553	622	701	600	618	876	584	1,122	977	672	1,132	9,030	-4.4
Australia	8,790	543	503	596	665	534	585	754	549	1,006	933	631	1,088	8,387	-4.6
Other Oceanian	651	30	50	26	36	66	33	122	35	116	44	41	44	643	-1.2
AMERICA	8,075	546	497	645	444	580	665	782	558	501	673	619	962	7,472	-7.5
USA	3,923	286	291	362	252	281	382	419	354	274	358	345	512	4,116	4.9
Canada	1,845	113	121	137	101	145	155	233	162	74	146	135	320	1,842	-0.2
Other American	2,307	147	85	146	91	154	128	130	42	153	169	139	130	1,514	-34.4
OTHER & N.STATED	120	7	8	12	1	26	11	25	16	33	27	22	17	205	70.8
All Countries	660,318	63,551	50,554	67,554	48,187	53,813	39,048	56,709	53,395	49,774	65,291	61,326	72,446	681,648	3.2



¹ Provisional

Table 6 :- Selected Tourism Statistics, 1999 - 2002

Year		Tourist arrivals (Number)	Tourist nights (000)	Tourism receipts ² (Rs million)
	1999	578,085	5,729	13,668
	2000	656,453	6,413	14,234
	2001	660,318	6,528	18,166
	2002	681,648	6,750	18,328
2000	1st Qr.	167,693	1,628	3,985
	2nd Qr.	146,198	1,431	3,132
	1st Semester	313,891	3,059	7,117
	3rd Qr.	158,942	1,559	3,085
	4th Qr.	183,620	1,795	4,032
	2nd Semester	342,562	3,354	7,117
2001	1st Qr.	170,530	1,682	4,584
	2nd Qr.	145,259	1,442	3,825
	1st Semester	315,789	3,124	8,409
	3rd Qr.	159,150	1,572	4,460
	4th Qr.	185,379	1,832	5,297
	2nd Semester	344,529	3,404	9,757
2002 ¹	1st Qr.	181,659	1,790	5,005
	2nd Qr.	141,048	1,400	4,283
	1st Semester	322,707	3,190	9,288
	3rd Qr.	159,878	1,580	4,041
	4th Qr.	199,063	1,980	4,999
	2nd Semester	358,941	3,560	9,040

¹ 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
	2002	95	9,623	19,597
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
	3rd Qr.	95	8,640	17,718
	4th Qr.	95	9,024	18,350
2002 ¹	1st Qr.	94	8,770	17,846
	2nd Qr.	89	8,136	16,588
	3rd Qr.	92	8,317	16,875
	4th Qr.	95 ²	9,623	19,597

¹ 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
<u>1st Quarter</u>	<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	62	56	77	68	70	62	68	61
May	67	58	64	56	67	59	71	63	68	61	73	65
June	58	51	50	43	50	45	62	55	51	46	53	47
<u>2nd Quarter</u>	<u>66</u>	<u>58</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>53</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>64</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>58</u>
1st Semester	69	61	66	58	66	59	72	64	70	62	71	64
July	61	53	55	48	59	52	64	57	57	51	62	56
August	71	62	62	55	63	56	73	65	65	58	69	62
September	73	64	68	60	69	62	76	67	74	66	76	68
<u>3rd Quarter</u>	<u>68</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>64</u>	<u>56</u>	<u>71</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>66</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>69</u>	<u>62</u>
Jan. to Sep.	69	60	64	56	65	58	72	64	68	60	71	63
October	77	67	70	62	76	68	79	70	76	67	82	73
November	80	70	73	64	76	67	83	74	78	70	81	71
December	69	60	69	61	70	62	71	63	72	64	72	64
<u>4th Quarter</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>66</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>74</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>78</u>	<u>69</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>67</u>	<u>78</u>	<u>69</u>
2nd Semester	72	63	66	58	67	60	74	66	70	63	70	62
Whole Year	70	62	66	58	67	59	73	65	70	62	70	62

* Provisional

Table 9 :- Employment in the tourist industry as at end of March, 1998 - 2002

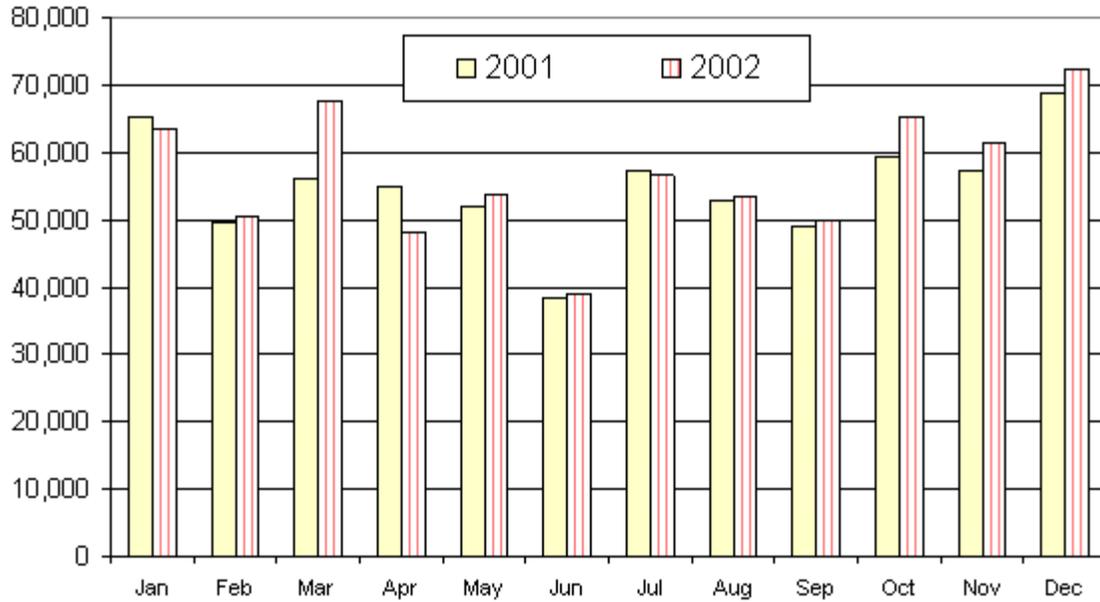
Year / Establishments	1998	1999 ¹	2000 ¹	2001	2002 ²
Restaurants	1,389	1,168	1,256	1,269	1,252
Hotels	11,177	11,835	13,239	15,023	15,890
Travel and Tourism	3,924	3,232	3,316	3,652	3,973
Total	16,490	16,235	17,811	19,944	21,115

¹ Revised in the light of new classification based on International Standard Industrial Classification Rev. 3

² Provisional

Source: Survey of Employment and Earnings in large Establishments (i.e employing 10 or more persons)

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



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

