

# INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL AND TOURISM

## 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2014

### 1. INTRODUCTION

This issue of the Economic and Social Indicators presents data on International Travel and Tourism for the first quarter of 2014. A brief on the compilation of these statistics is given at Annex I and a glossary of terms at Annex II.

### 2. INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL

#### Passenger traffic, 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2013 and 2014

	2013	2014	% change
Arrivals by			
Air	330,392	336,265	+1.8
Sea	14,819	18,022	+21.6
<i>of which Cruise travellers</i>	<i>12,603</i>	<i>17,148</i>	<i>+36.1</i>
<b>Total</b>	<b>345,211</b>	<b>354,287</b>	<b>+2.6</b>
Departures by			
Air	354,252	366,244	+3.4
Sea	15,794	18,434	+16.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>370,046</b>	<b>384,678</b>	<b>+4.0</b>

#### 2.1 Arrivals in 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2014

Compared to 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2013

- total arrivals increased by 2.6% to 354,287;
- tourist arrivals decreased by 1.0% to 263,293; and
- the number of excursionists (arriving and leaving on the same day) rose by 73.2% to 12,810.

In the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2014, 10 cruise ships arrived in the country and carried some 17,148 cruise travellers made up of 1,613 tourists, 9,763 excursionists and 5,772 crew members.

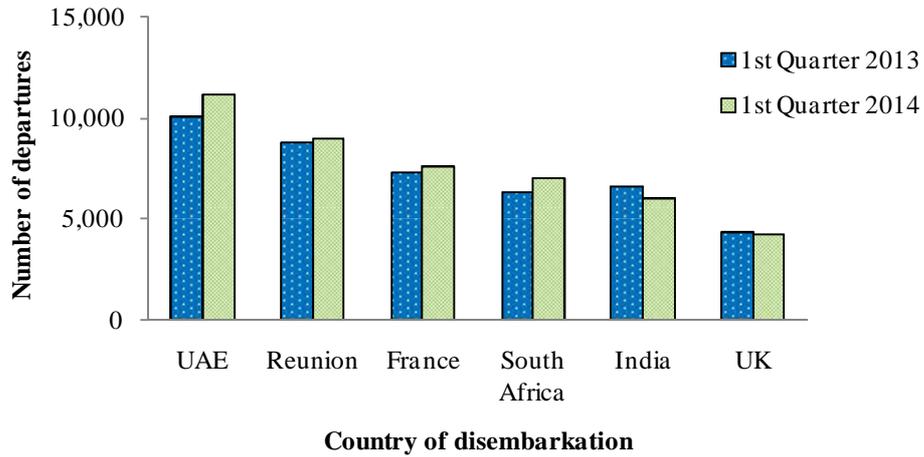
#### 2.2 Departures in 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2014

Compared to 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2013,

- total departures increased by 4.0% to 384,678;
- departures of Mauritian residents increased by 2.8% to 59,167.

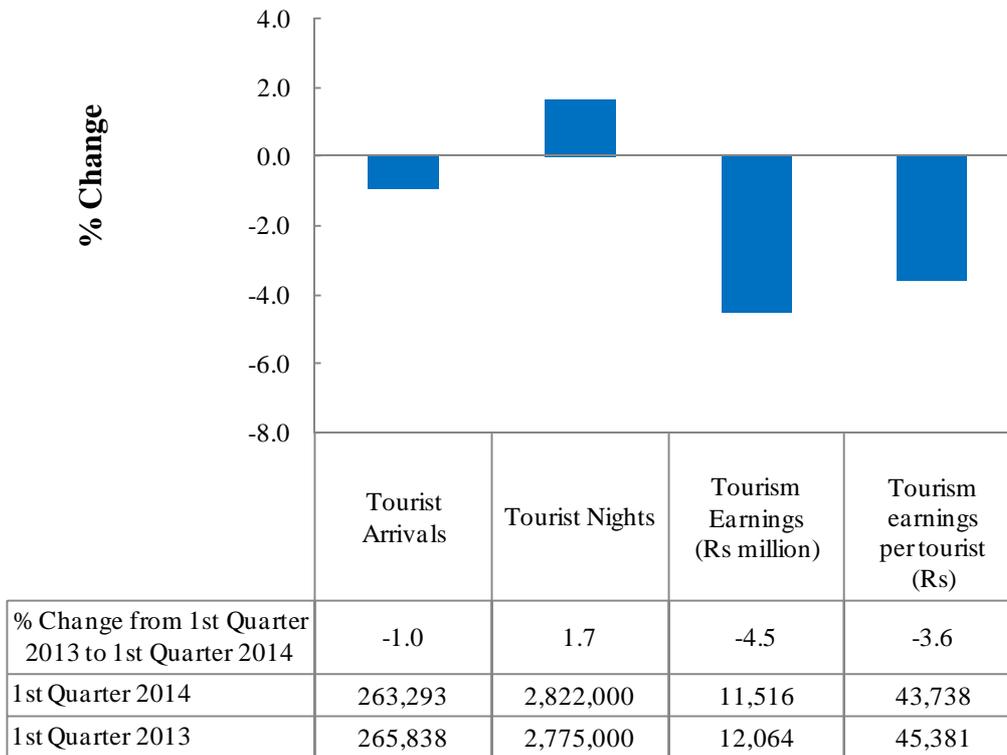
In the first quarter of 2014, the main countries of disembarkation (country of final destination or transit country) for Mauritian residents were United Arab Emirates (11,067 or 18.7%), Reunion Island (8,943 or 15.1%), France (7,509 or 12.7%), Republic of South Africa (6,956 or 11.8%), India (5,992 or 10.1%) and United Kingdom (4,147 or 7.0%).

**Figure 1 - Mauritian departures by main country of disembarkation, 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2013 and 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2014**



### 3. TOURISM

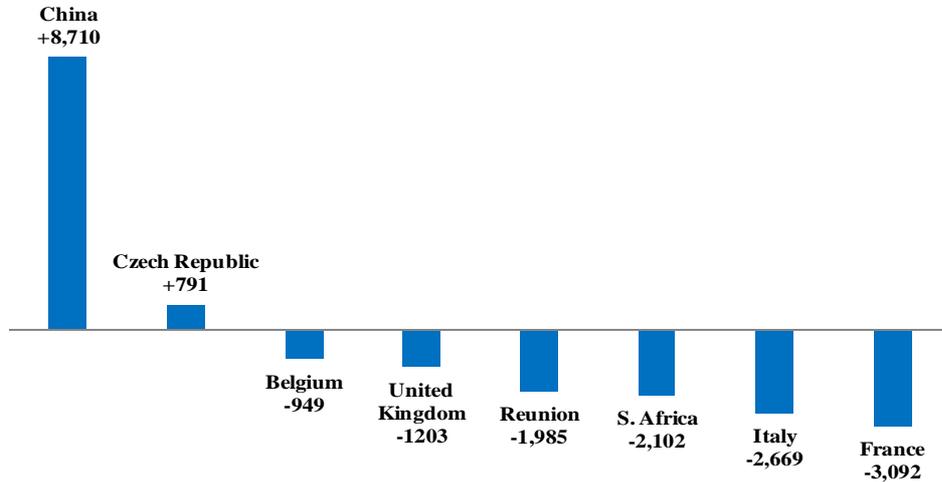
**Figure 2 - % change in main tourism indicators, 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2014 compared to 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2013**



### 3.1 Tourist Arrivals

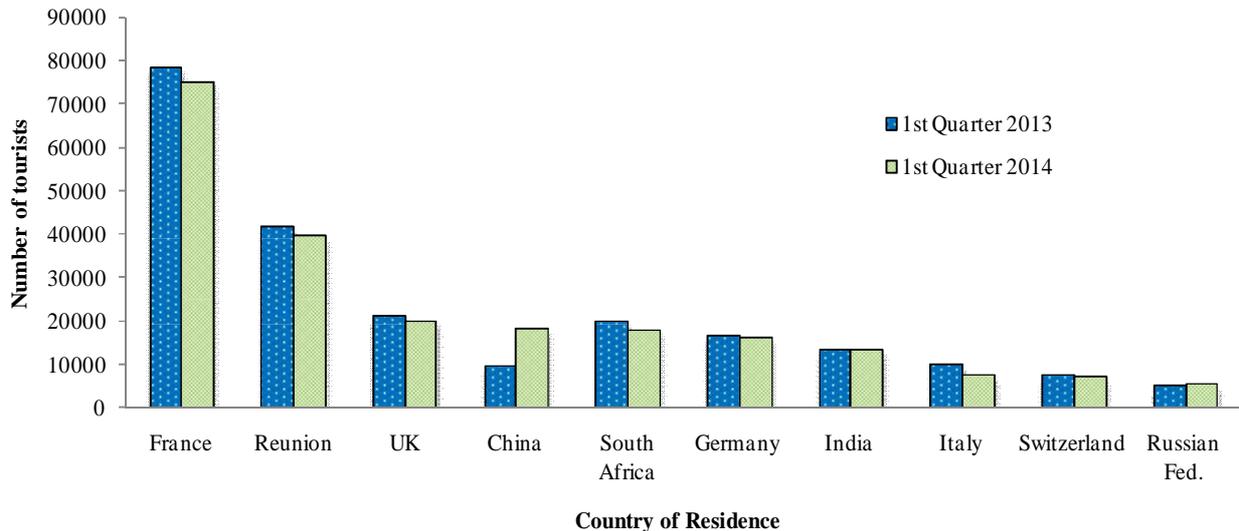
Compared to 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2013, the number of tourist arrivals decreased by 2,545 or 1.0% to 263,293 in 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2014 as a result of main changes shown below.

**Figure 3 - Main changes in tourist arrivals by selected country of residence, 1st Quarter 2013 to 1st Quarter 2014**



In spite of decreases registered from France and Reunion, these two countries remained the two top tourist generating countries and respectively contributed 28.5% and 15.1% of all tourist arrivals in 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2014.

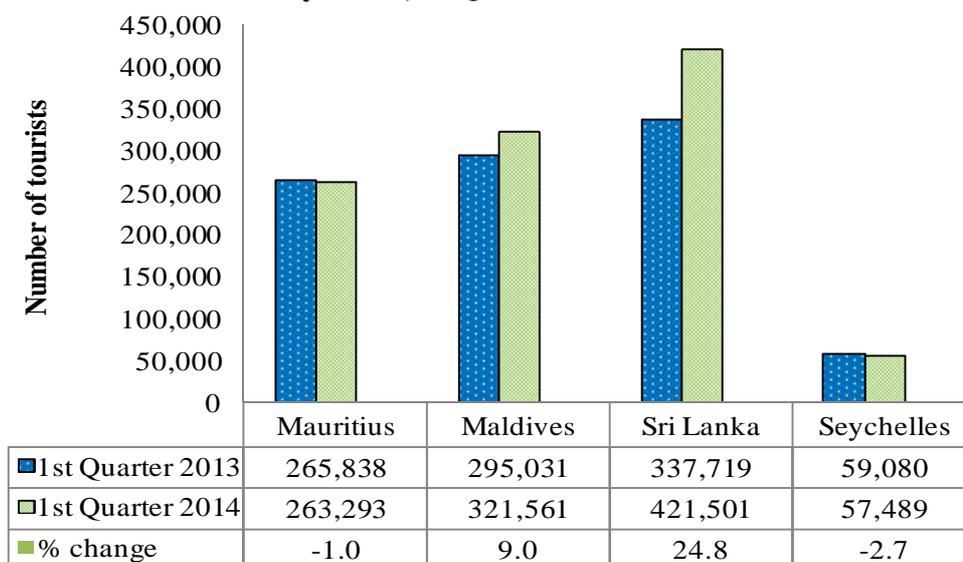
**Figure 4 - Tourist Arrivals from main and emerging markets, 1st Quarter 2013 and 2014**



### 3.2 Tourist arrivals in Mauritius compared to selected tourist destinations

During 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2014, Mauritius registered a decrease of 1.0% in tourist arrivals while Maldives and Sri Lanka registered high growths of 9.0% and 24.8% respectively. Seychelles, on the other hand, experienced a decline of 2.7%.

**Figure 5 - Tourist Arrivals for Mauritius, Maldives, Sri Lanka & Seychelles, 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2013 & 2014**



Source ;Maldives Statistics section - Ministry of Tourism Arts & Culture; Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority; Seychelles National Bureau of Statistics

### 3.3 Tourist Nights

Compared to 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2013,

- the number of nights spent by tourists increased by 1.7% from 2,822,000 to 2,775,000;
- the average length of stay increased from 10.4 to 10.7 nights.

### 3.4 Tourism Earnings

According to the Bank of Mauritius, the gross tourism earnings decreased by 4.5% from Rs 12,064 million in the first quarter 2013 to Rs 11,516 million in the first quarter 2014. Tourism earnings per tourist therefore declined from Rs 45,381 to Rs 43,738.

### 3.5 Employment

Employment data for the tourism sector as obtained from the Survey of Employment and Earnings relate to employment in restaurants, hotels and, travel and tourism establishments with 10 or more workers. Latest available data for March 2013 indicate that employment in these establishments decreased marginally by 0.1% to 28,356.

### 3.6 Accommodation

#### Licensed hotels in the island of Mauritius

As at end of March 2014, there were 114 licensed hotels of which 109 were in operation and 5 were not operating due to renovation works. The total room capacity of the 109 operating hotels was 12,653 with 25,652 bed places.

During the first quarter of 2014,

- the room occupancy rate of all licensed hotels in operation averaged 68%, up from 65% in the first quarter of 2013; and
- the bed occupancy rate was 60% higher than 57% in the first quarter of 2013.

'Large' hotels in the island of Mauritius

At the end of March 2014, 51 'large' hotels (i.e. well-established beach hotels with more than 80 rooms) were in operation; they had a total room capacity of 9,478 with 19,308 bed places. These 'large' hotels represent 47% of all licensed hotels in operation but make up 75% of both total room capacity and total bed places.

During the first quarter of 2014,

- the room occupancy rate of large hotels was 70% up from 68% in the first three months of 2013;
- the bed occupancy rate was 61%, higher than 59% in the same period of 2013.

### **3.7 Forecast Year 2014**

Based on latest available data on tourist arrivals and information gathered from stakeholders, the forecast of tourist arrivals for the year 2014 is 1,030,000 which represents an increase of 3.7% over the figure of 993,106 in 2013.

According to the Bank of Mauritius, tourism earnings for the year 2014 will be around Rs 44,500 million (+9.7%) compared to Rs 40,557 million in 2013.

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**20 May 2014**

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- I    Compilation of passenger traffic statistics
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**Table 1:- Passenger Traffic <sup>1</sup> by month, 2012 - 2014**

Month	2012		2013		2014 <sup>2</sup>	
	Arrivals	Departures	Arrivals	Departures	Arrivals	Departures
January	132,789	154,685	124,571	149,067	128,035	149,573
February	105,802	106,969	103,021	103,726	105,398	107,632
March	106,939	111,605	117,619	117,253	120,854	127,473
<u>1st Quarter</u>	<u>345,530</u>	<u>373,259</u>	<u>345,211</u>	<u>370,046</u>	<u>354,287</u>	<u>384,678</u>
April	109,760	110,366	105,561	109,657		
May	92,684	100,829	97,003	106,945		
June	77,955	75,456	79,653	76,918		
<u>2nd Quarter</u>	<u>280,399</u>	<u>286,651</u>	<u>282,217</u>	<u>293,520</u>		
<b><i>1st Semester</i></b>	<b><i>625,929</i></b>	<b><i>659,910</i></b>	<b><i>627,428</i></b>	<b><i>663,566</i></b>		
July	105,542	94,119	107,351	95,837		
August	93,502	102,936	103,559	111,560		
September	89,426	90,724	96,690	97,365		
<u>3rd Quarter</u>	<u>288,470</u>	<u>287,779</u>	<u>307,600</u>	<u>304,762</u>		
<b><i>Jan. to Sep.</i></b>	<b><i>914,399</i></b>	<b><i>947,689</i></b>	<b><i>935,028</i></b>	<b><i>968,328</i></b>		
October	113,613	106,643	118,395	112,555		
November	110,477	110,296	114,413	113,141		
December	148,355	121,463	153,611	126,681		
<u>4th Quarter</u>	<u>372,445</u>	<u>338,402</u>	<u>386,419</u>	<u>352,377</u>		
<b><i>2nd Semester</i></b>	<b><i>660,915</i></b>	<b><i>626,181</i></b>	<b><i>694,019</i></b>	<b><i>657,139</i></b>		
<b>Whole Year</b>	<b>1,286,844</b>	<b>1,286,091</b>	<b>1,321,447</b>	<b>1,320,705</b>		

<sup>1</sup> Excluding inter island traffic between the main island of Mauritius and the other constituent islands of the Republic of Mauritius

<sup>2</sup> Provisional

**Table 2 : - Departure of Mauritian residents by country of disembarkation <sup>1</sup>,  
1<sup>st</sup> Quarter of 2013 and 2014**

Country of disembarkation	2013	2014 <sup>2</sup>	% Change
<b>EUROPE</b>	<b>12,547</b>	<b>12,513</b>	<b>-0.3</b>
France	7,280	7,509	3.1
Germany	460	386	-16.1
Italy	425	394	-7.3
United Kingdom	4,326	4,147	-4.1
Other European	56	77	37.5
<b>AFRICA</b>	<b>19,508</b>	<b>20,435</b>	<b>4.8</b>
Malagasy Republic	2,633	2,589	-1.7
Reunion	8,743	8,943	2.3
Seychelles	980	1,165	18.9
South Africa	6,267	6,956	11.0
Other African	885	782	-11.6
<b>ASIA</b>	<b>22,841</b>	<b>23,602</b>	<b>3.3</b>
P. Rep. of China	634	972	53.3
Hong Kong SAR <sup>3</sup>	2,043	2,125	4.0
India	6,518	5,992	-8.1
Malaysia	1,482	2,976	100.8
Singapore	2,011	469	-76.7
United Arab Emirates	10,015	11,067	10.5
Other Asian	138	1	-99.3
<b>OCEANIA</b>	<b>2,624</b>	<b>2,617</b>	<b>-0.3</b>
Australia	2,624	2,617	-0.3
<b>NOT STATED</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-100.0</b>
<b>All Countries</b>	<b>57,532</b>	<b>59,167</b>	<b>2.8</b>

<sup>1</sup> Country of disembarkation may either be the country of final destination or the transit country

<sup>2</sup> Provisional

<sup>3</sup> Special Administrative Region of China

**Table 3:- Tourist arrivals by month, 2012 - 2014**

Month	2012	2013	2014 <sup>1</sup>
January	98,837	92,894	96,332
February	79,331	81,185	78,984
March	83,827	91,759	87,977 <sup>2</sup>
<u>1st Quarter</u>	<u>261,995</u>	<u>265,838</u>	<u>263,293 <sup>2</sup></u>
April	79,137	76,223	
May	71,396	74,596	
June	54,625	55,007	
<u>2nd Quarter</u>	<u>205,158</u>	<u>205,826</u>	
<b><i>1st Semester</i></b>	<b><i>467,153</i></b>	<b><i>471,664</i></b>	
July	76,166	77,374	
August	65,896	73,454	
September	66,369	71,951	
<u>3rd Quarter</u>	<u>208,431</u>	<u>222,779</u>	
<b><i>Jan. to Sep.</i></b>	<b><i>675,584</i></b>	<b><i>694,443</i></b>	
October	89,994	92,520	
November	84,398	89,057	
December	115,465	117,086	
<u>4th Quarter</u>	<u>289,857</u>	<u>298,663</u>	
<b><i>2nd Semester</i></b>	<b><i>498,288</i></b>	<b><i>521,442</i></b>	
<b>Whole Year</b>	<b>965,441</b>	<b>993,106</b>	

<sup>1</sup> Provisional<sup>2</sup> Revised**Table 4:- Tourist arrivals by main purpose of visit, 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter of 2013 and 2014**

Purpose of visit	2013	2014 <sup>1</sup>	% Change
Holiday	249,513	246,539	-1.2
Business	8,586	8,728	1.7
Transit	6,574	6,361	-3.2
Conference	651	952	46.2
Sports	143	210	46.9
Other	371	503	35.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>265,838</b>	<b>263,293 <sup>2</sup></b>	<b>-1.0</b>

<sup>1</sup> Provisional<sup>2</sup> Revised

Table 5 : - Tourist Arrivals by Country of Residence, 1st Quarter of 2013 and 2014

Country of residence	1st Quarter 2013	2014 <sup>1</sup>				% Change Q1 2013 to Q1 2014
		Jan	Feb	Mar <sup>2</sup>	1st Quarter <sup>2</sup>	
<b>EUROPE</b>	<b>158,722</b>	<b>50,548</b>	<b>51,339</b>	<b>49,808</b>	<b>151,695</b>	<b>-4.4</b>
Austria	2,889	1,132	1,172	807	3,111	7.7
Belgium	2,775	640	458	728	1,826	-34.2
France	78,120	24,274	26,149	24,605	75,028	-4.0
Germany	16,565	4,871	5,147	6,191	16,209	-2.1
Italy	10,010	2,891	2,204	2,246	7,341	-26.7
Netherlands	774	327	257	207	791	2.2
Spain	1,519	305	310	360	975	-35.8
Sweden	1,463	700	663	421	1,784	21.9
Switzerland	7,502	2,571	2,399	2,138	7,108	-5.3
United Kingdom	21,150	6,271	6,751	6,925	19,947	-5.7
CIS <sup>3</sup>	6,416	3,362	1,325	2,025	6,712	4.6
<i>of which:</i>						
<i>Russian Federation</i>	<i>5,113</i>	<i>2,744</i>	<i>998</i>	<i>1,515</i>	<i>5,257</i>	<i>2.8</i>
Czech Republic	2,028	706	1,177	936	2,819	39.0
Denmark	1,283	293	659	190	1,142	-11.0
Luxemburg	292	51	71	72	194	-33.6
Norway	1,055	201	332	199	732	-30.6
Other European	4,881	1,953	2,265	1,758	5,976	22.4
<b>AFRICA</b>	<b>69,553</b>	<b>29,504</b>	<b>11,819</b>	<b>23,892</b>	<b>65,215</b>	<b>-6.2</b>
Comoros	259	88	48	86	222	-14.3
Kenya	574	161	152	288	601	4.7
Malagasy Rep.	3,455	967	1,064	910	2,941	-14.9
Reunion	41,742	20,817	5,094	13,846	39,757	-4.8
Seychelles	1,192	523	483	490	1,496	25.5
S. Africa, Rep. of	19,736	6,160	4,188	7,286	17,634	-10.7
Zimbabwe	207	77	70	88	235	13.5
Other African	2,388	711	720	898	2,329	-2.5
<b>ASIA</b>	<b>29,997</b>	<b>13,096</b>	<b>13,940</b>	<b>11,776</b>	<b>38,812</b>	<b>29.4</b>
Hong Kong SAR <sup>4</sup>	386	114	141	60	315	-18.4
India	13,402	4,259	5,100	4,022	13,381	-0.2
Japan	434	104	117	120	341	-21.4
Korea Republic	558	236	251	237	724	29.7
Malaysia	544	193	212	228	633	16.4
P. Rep. of China	9,323	6,706	6,831	4,496	18,033	93.4
Singapore	417	83	87	134	304	-27.1
United Arab Emirates	1,687	385	382	726	1,493	-11.5
Other Asian	3,246	1,016	819	1,753	3,588	10.5
<b>OCEANIA</b>	<b>3,172</b>	<b>1,323</b>	<b>744</b>	<b>890</b>	<b>2,957</b>	<b>-6.8</b>
Australia	3,028	1,229	678	830	2,737	-9.6
Other Oceanian	144	94	66	60	220	52.8
<b>AMERICA</b>	<b>4,128</b>	<b>1,772</b>	<b>1,092</b>	<b>1,558</b>	<b>4,422</b>	<b>7.1</b>
USA	1,317	592	314	722	1,628	23.6
Canada	992	407	300	350	1,057	6.6
Brazil	905	395	203	192	790	-12.7
Other American	914	378	275	294	947	3.6
<b>OTHER &amp; N.STATED</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>-27.8</b>
<b>ALL COUNTRIES</b>	<b>265,838</b>	<b>96,332</b>	<b>78,984</b>	<b>87,977</b>	<b>263,293</b>	<b>-1.0</b>

<sup>1</sup> Provisional<sup>2</sup> Revised<sup>3</sup> Commonwealth of Independent States (Ex Soviet Union Countries)<sup>4</sup> Special Administrative Region of China

**Table 6:- Tourist arrivals, nights, average length of stay and earnings, 2011 - 2014**

Year	Tourist arrivals (Number)	Tourist nights (000)	Average Length of stay	Tourism earnings <sup>3</sup> (Rs million)	
<b>2011</b>	1st Quarter	262,626	2,609	9.9	11,949
	2nd Quarter	201,978	1,908	9.4	9,355
	3rd Quarter	209,779	2,344	11.2	8,845
	4th Quarter	290,259	3,139	10.8	12,568
	<b>Year</b>	<b>964,642</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>10.4</b>	<b>42,717</b>
<b>2012</b>	1st Quarter	261,995	2,674	10.2	13,768
	2nd Quarter	205,158	2,079	10.1	9,780
	3rd Quarter	208,431	2,459	11.8	8,406
	4th Quarter	289,857	3,249	11.2	12,424
	<b>Year</b>	<b>965,441</b>	<b>10,461</b>	<b>10.8</b>	<b>44,378</b>
<b>2013<sup>1</sup></b>	1st Quarter	265,838	2,775	10.4	12,064
	2nd Quarter	205,826	2,054	10.0	9,991
	3rd Quarter	222,779	2,583	11.6	7,050
	4th Quarter	298,663	3,370	11.3	11,452
	<b>Year</b>	<b>993,106</b>	<b>10,782</b>	<b>10.9</b>	<b>40,557</b>
<b>2014<sup>2</sup></b>	1st Quarter	263,293	2,822	10.7	11,516

<sup>1</sup> Figures for tourist nights and average length of stay are provisional as from 2nd quarter 2013

<sup>2</sup> Provisional

<sup>3</sup> Source: Bank of Mauritius

**Table 7:- Hotels, rooms and bedplaces, 2011 - 2014**

Year	Number as at end of period			
	Hotels <sup>1</sup>	Rooms	Bedplaces	
<b>2011</b>	1st Qr.	112	12,082	24,664
	2nd Qr.	111	11,999	24,493
	3rd Qr.	109	11,816	24,018
	4th Qr.	109	11,925	24,242
<b>2012</b>	1st Qr.	110	12,027	24,446
	2nd Qr.	107	11,822	24,089
	3rd Qr.	105	11,715	23,899
	4th Qr.	117	12,527	25,496
<b>2013</b>	1st Qr.	117	12,676	25,887
	2nd Qr.	109	11,977	24,438
	3rd Qr.	106	11,866	24,085
	4th Qr.	107	12,376	25,105
<b>2014<sup>2</sup></b>	1st Qr.	109 <sup>3</sup>	12,653	25,652

<sup>1</sup> Refers to hotels in the island of Mauritius which were operational

<sup>2</sup> Provisional

<sup>3</sup> Excluding five hotels not operational because of renovation works

**Table 8:- Monthly Occupancy Rates (%) for All Hotels and "Large" Hotels, 2012 - 2014**

Month	All Hotels						"Large" Hotels					
	2012		2013		2014 <sup>1</sup>		2012		2013		2014 <sup>1</sup>	
	Room	Bed	Room	Bed	Room	Bed	Room	Bed	Room	Bed	Room	Bed
January	74	65	67	59	72	64	76	67	69	61	74	66
February	67	59	66	57	67	59	69	60	67	59	69	61
March	65	57	63	56	64	56	66	58	66	58	65	57
<u>1st Quarter</u>	<u>69</u>	<u>61</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>68</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>68</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>61</u>
April	62	55	60	53			66	58	63	56		
May	59	52	58	51			61	54	61	53		
June	45	39	42	36			46	41	42	37		
<u>2nd Quarter</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>49</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>47</u>			<u>58</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>49</u>		
July	52	45	53	47			53	47	54	48		
August	56	50	60	53			60	52	62	55		
September	60	53	65	57			62	54	67	60		
<u>3rd Quarter</u>	<u>56</u>	<u>49</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>52</u>			<u>58</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>61</u>	<u>54</u>		
October	67	59	71	63			70	62	72	64		
November	69	61	74	65			71	63	75	67		
December	71	63	73	65			74	65	74	66		
<u>4th Quarter</u>	<u>69</u>	<u>61</u>	<u>73</u>	<u>64</u>			<u>72</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>74</u>	<u>65</u>		
<b>Year</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>55</b>			<b>65</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>57</b>		

<sup>1</sup> Provisional

**Table 9:- Employment in large <sup>1</sup> establishments of the tourism industry as at end of March, 2009 - 2013**

<b>Year</b> <b>Establishments</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011 <sup>2</sup></b>	<b>2012 <sup>2</sup></b>	<b>2013 <sup>2</sup></b>
Restaurants	2,388	2,337	2,262	2,340	2,388
Hotels	20,904	21,255 <sup>2</sup>	21,823	22,161	22,202
Travel and Tourism	4,162	3,850	4,052	3,886	3,766
<b>Total</b>	<b>27,454</b>	<b>27,442 <sup>2</sup></b>	<b>28,137</b>	<b>28,387</b>	<b>28,356</b>

<sup>1</sup> Large establishments are those employing 10 or more persons.

<sup>2</sup> Revised

Source: Survey of Employment and Earnings in large Establishments

## COMPILATION OF PASSENGER TRAFFIC STATISTICS

### Sources of data

The main source of data for the compilation of passenger traffic statistics is the Passport and Immigration Office, which maintains a database of all travellers entering and leaving the country. The data are collected from the passport of travellers, disembarkation cards filled in by non-residents and questions put to non-residents entering the country. At the end of every month, the electronic database of passenger traffic for that particular month is downloaded and supplied to the statistics unit of the Ministry of Tourism and Leisure within fifteen days. Additional data on cruises are obtained from the Mauritius Ports Authority.

### Tourism earnings

The Bank of Mauritius is responsible for the estimation of tourism earnings based on monthly statements of Inward and Outward Remittances of Commercial Banks.

### Monthly Occupancy Rates

All hotels are contacted by phone at the end of every month for data on room/bed nights available and rented during the month for the calculation of room and bed occupancy rates.

### Short-term projections of tourist arrivals

A Tourism Statistics Committee grouping various stakeholders of the tourism industry meet regularly under the chairmanship of Statistics Mauritius to discuss performance of the tourism sector and to provide information for short-term forecast of tourist arrivals.

### Publications

The regular publications of the unit are:

- (i) Monthly tourist arrivals (by mid of each month)
- (ii) Quarterly Economic and Social Indicators on International Travel and Tourism  
(with a lag of seven weeks)
- (iii) Quarterly tourism statistics (Pamphlet)
- (iv) Digest of International Travel and Tourism
- (v) Handbook of statistical data on tourism
- (vi) Report of the Survey of Inbound and Outbound Tourism

## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

### 1. Tourist

A tourist is defined as a non-resident staying overnight but less than a year, and who has no employer-employee relationship with a resident.

### 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 overnight 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 depart on the same day they arrived.

### 4. Tourist Nights

"Tourist nights" for year Y refer to tourist nights spent by tourists arriving in year Y.

### 5. Large Hotels

Large hotels are well established beach hotels with more than 80 rooms.

### 6. Occupancy rate

The room/bed occupancy rate is the ratio of room/bed nights rented to the total number of room/bed nights available.

$$= \frac{\text{Total number of room/bed nights rented}}{\text{Total number of room/bed nights available}} \times 100$$

### 7. CIS

CIS denotes the Commonwealth of Independent States. It consists of the States of the former Soviet Union.