

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL AND TOURISM

1st Semester 2014

1. INTRODUCTION

This issue of the Economic and Social Indicators presents data on International Travel and Tourism for the first semester 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, 1st Semester 2013 and 2014

	2013	2014	% change
Arrivals by			
Air	606,971	640,200	+5.5
Sea	20,457	21,026	+2.8
<i>of which Cruise travellers</i>	<i>16,290</i>	<i>19,702</i>	<i>+20.9</i>
Total	627,428	661,226	+5.4
Departures by			
Air	641,343	674,596	+5.2
Sea	22,223	21,560	-3.0
Total	663,566	696,156	+4.9

2.1 Arrivals in 1st Semester 2014

Compared to 1st Semester 2013

- total arrivals increased by 5.4% to 661,226;
- tourist arrivals increased by 4.0% to 490,697; and
- the number of excursionists (arriving and leaving on the same day) rose by 34.9% to 17,087.

In the 1st Semester of 2014, 13 cruise ships arrived in the country and carried some 19,702 cruise travellers made up of 1,927 tourists, 10,889 excursionists and 6,886 crew members.

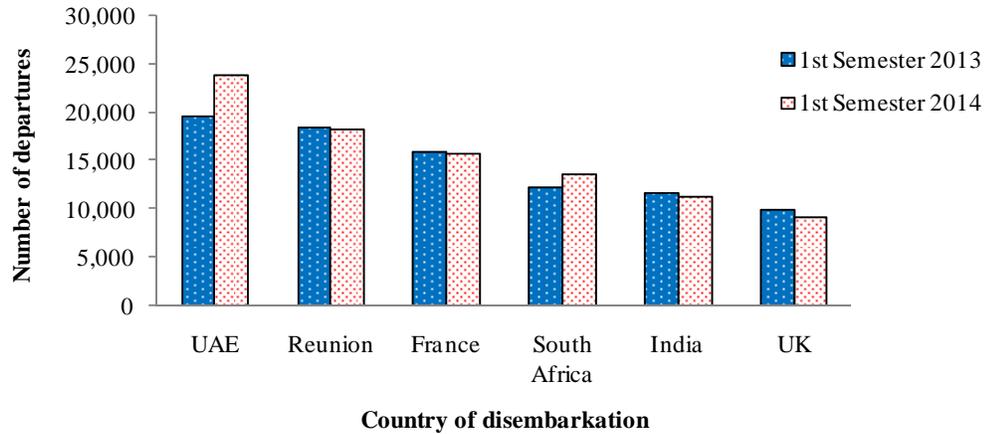
2.2 Departures in 1st Semester 2014

Compared to 1st Semester 2013,

- total departures increased by 4.9% to 696,156;
- departures of Mauritian residents increased by 3.2% to 120,323.

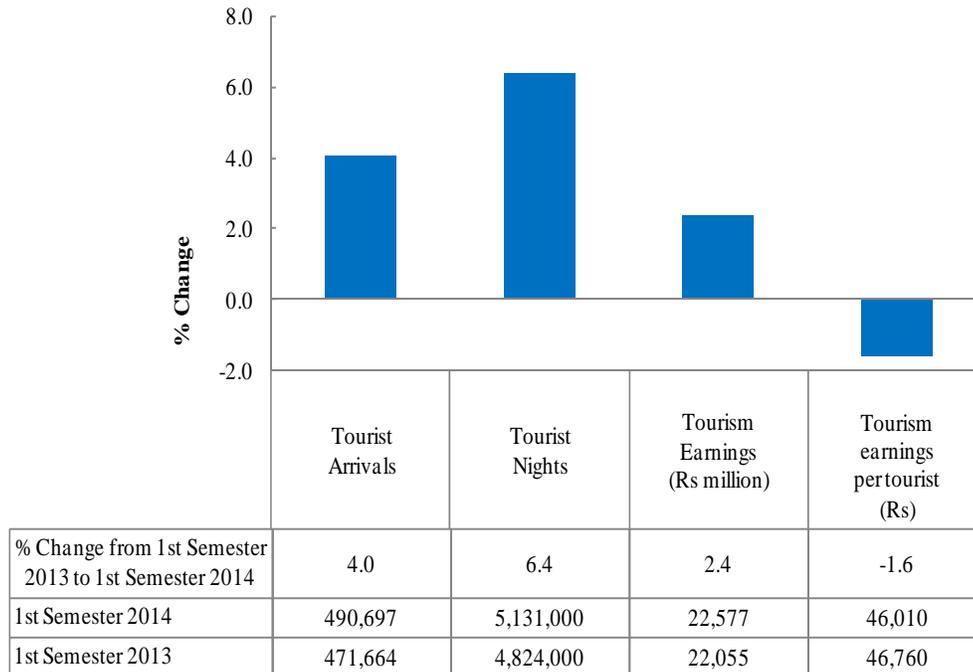
In the first semester of 2014, the main countries of disembarkation (country of final destination or transit country) for Mauritian residents were United Arab Emirates (23,837 or 19.8%), Reunion Island (18,222 or 15.1%), France (15,780 or 13.1%), Republic of South Africa (13,587 or 11.3%), India (11,264 or 9.4%) and United Kingdom (9,128 or 7.6%).

Figure 1 - Mauritian departures by main country of disembarkation, 1st Semester 2013 and 1st Semester 2014



3. TOURISM

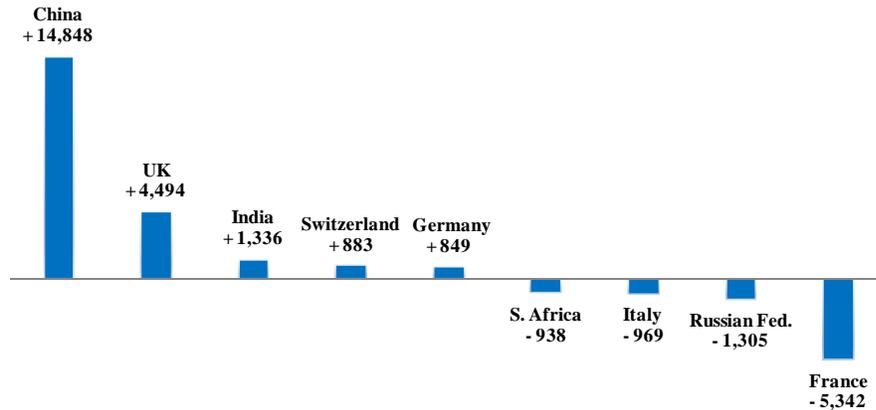
Figure 2 - % change in main tourism indicators, 1st Semester 2014 compared to 1st Semester 2013



3.1 Tourist Arrivals

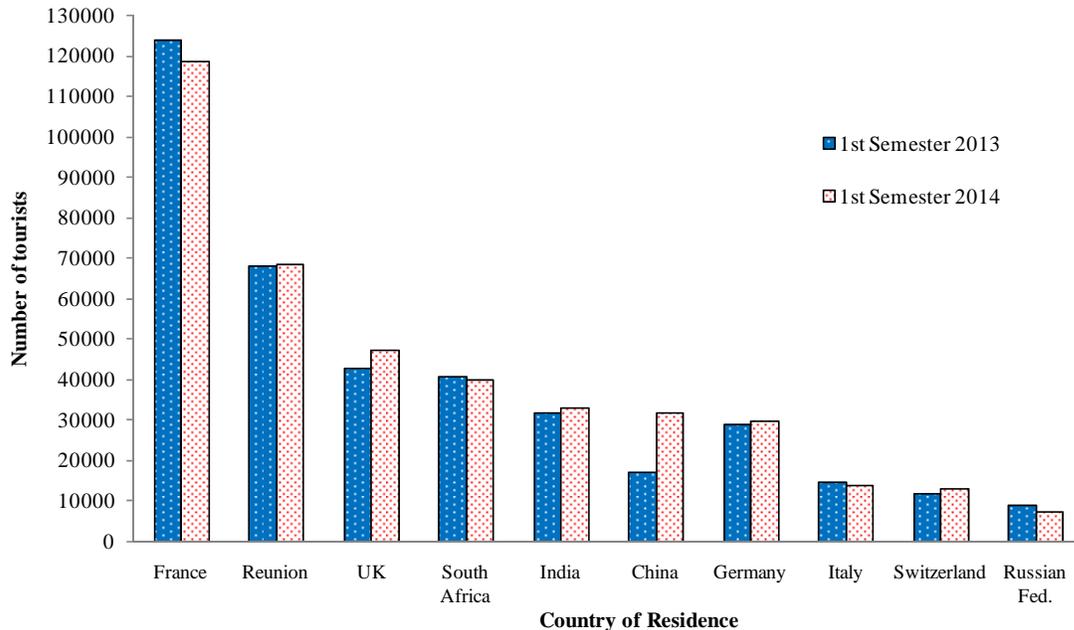
Compared to 1st semester 2013, the number of tourist arrivals increased by 19,033 or 4.0% to 490,697 in 1st semester 2014 as a result of main changes shown below.

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



In spite of a decrease of 4.3%, France remained the top tourist generating country and contributed 24.2% of all tourist arrivals in 1st semester 2014.

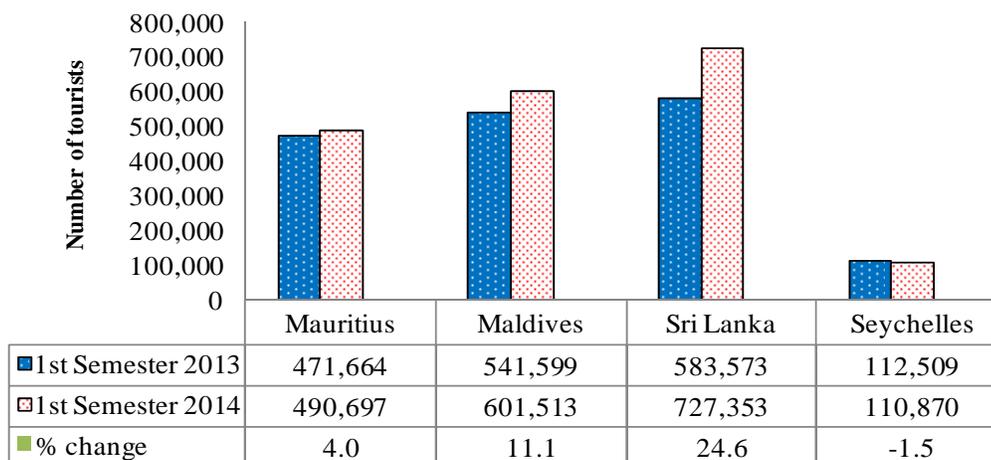
Figure 4 - Tourist Arrivals from main and emerging markets, 1st Semester 2013 and 2014



3.2 Tourist arrivals in Mauritius compared to selected tourist destinations

During 1st Semester 2014, Mauritius registered an increase of 4.0% in tourist arrivals while Sri Lanka and Maldives registered high growths of 24.6% and 11.1% respectively. Seychelles, on the other hand, experienced a decline of 1.5%.

Figure 5 -Tourist Arrivals for Mauritius, Maldives, Sri Lanka & Seychelles, 1st Semester 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 1st Semester 2013,

- the number of nights spent by tourists increased by 6.4% from 4,824,000 to 5,131,000;
- the average length of stay increased from 10.2 to 10.5 nights.

3.4 Tourism Earnings

According to the Bank of Mauritius, the gross tourism earnings increased by 2.4% from Rs 22,055 million in the first semester 2013 to Rs 22,577 million in the first semester of 2014. Tourism earnings per tourist however declined by 1.6% from Rs 46,760 to Rs 46,010 due to a higher increase in the number of tourists (4%).

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 June 2014, there were 114 licensed hotels of which 105 were in operation and 9 were not operating due to renovation works. The total room capacity of the 105 operating hotels was 12,307 with 25,308 bed places.

During the first semester of 2014,

- the room occupancy rate of all licensed hotels in operation averaged 62%, up from 60% in the first semester of 2013; and
- the bed occupancy rate was 55%, higher than 52% in the first semester of 2013.

'Large' hotels in the island of Mauritius

At the end of June 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 9,310 with 19,308 bed places. These 'large' hotels represent 49% of all licensed hotels in operation but make up 76% of both total room capacity and total bed places.

During the first semester of 2014,

- the room occupancy rate of large hotels was 64% up from 61% in the first six months of 2013;
- the bed occupancy rate was 56%, higher than 54% 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 1,030,000 tourist arrivals for the year 2014 is maintained. This 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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ANNEX

- I Compilation of passenger traffic statistics
- II Glossary of terms

Table 1:- Passenger Traffic ¹ by month, 2012 - 2014

Month	2012		2013		2014 ²	
	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	117,371	112,588
May	92,684	100,829	97,003	106,945	102,884	112,665
June	77,955	75,456	79,653	76,918	86,684	86,225
<u>2nd Quarter</u>	<u>280,399</u>	<u>286,651</u>	<u>282,217</u>	<u>293,520</u>	<u>306,939</u>	<u>311,478</u>
<i>1st Semester</i>	<i>625,929</i>	<i>659,910</i>	<i>627,428</i>	<i>663,566</i>	<i>661,226</i>	<i>696,156</i>
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>		
<i>Jan. to Sep.</i>	<i>914,399</i>	<i>947,689</i>	<i>935,028</i>	<i>968,328</i>		
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>		
<i>2nd Semester</i>	<i>660,915</i>	<i>626,181</i>	<i>694,019</i>	<i>657,139</i>		
Whole Year	1,286,844	1,286,091	1,321,447	1,320,705		

¹ Excluding inter island traffic between the main island of Mauritius and the other constituent islands of the Republic of Mauritius

² Provisional

**Table 2: - Departure of Mauritian residents by country of disembarkation ¹,
1st Semester of 2013 and 2014**

Country of disembarkation	2013	2014 ²	% Change
EUROPE	27,951	26,640	-4.7
France	16,055	15,780	-1.7
Germany	964	775	-19.6
Italy	939	860	-8.4
United Kingdom	9,915	9,128	-7.9
Other European	78	97	24.4
AFRICA	40,178	41,726	3.9
Malagasy Republic	5,557	5,629	1.3
Reunion	18,454	18,222	-1.3
Seychelles	2,018	2,583	28.0
South Africa	12,299	13,587	10.5
Other African	1,850	1,705	-7.8
ASIA	44,016	47,725	8.4
P. Rep. of China	1,126	1,991	76.8
Hong Kong SAR ³	4,059	3,858	-5.0
India	11,671	11,264	-3.5
Malaysia	3,233	5,797	79.3
Singapore	4,034	977	-75.8
United Arab Emirates	19,755	23,837	20.7
Other Asian	138	1	-99.3
OCEANIA	4,436	4,225	-4.8
Australia	4,436	4,225	-4.8
NOT STATED	12	7	-41.7
All Countries	116,593	120,323	3.2

¹ Country of disembarkation may either be the country of final destination or the transit country

² Provisional

³ Special Administrative Region of China

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

Month	2012	2013	2014 ¹
January	98,837	92,894	96,332
February	79,331	81,185	78,984
March	83,827	91,759	87,977
<u>1st Quarter</u>	<u>261,995</u>	<u>265,838</u>	<u>263,293</u>
April	79,137	76,223	88,404
May	71,396	74,596	78,555
June	54,625	55,007	60,445
<u>2nd Quarter</u>	<u>205,158</u>	<u>205,826</u>	<u>227,404</u>
1st Semester	467,153	471,664	490,697
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>	
Jan. to Sep.	675,584	694,443	
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>	
2nd Semester	498,288	521,442	
Whole Year	965,441	993,106	

¹ Provisional**Table 4:- Tourist arrivals by main purpose of visit, 1st Semester of 2013 and 2014**

Purpose of visit	2013	2014 ¹	% Change
Holiday	437,694	457,086	4.4
Business	18,588	18,442	-0.8
Transit	11,082	10,434	-5.8
Conference	2,956	2,764	-6.5
Sports	523	965	84.5
Other	821	1,006	22.5
Total	471,664	490,697	4.0

¹ Provisional

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

Country of residence	1st Semester 2013	2014 ¹							% Change Jan-Jun 2014 / Jan-Jun 2013
		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	1st Semester	
EUROPE	264,200	50,548	51,339	49,808	53,809	35,420	25,371	266,295	0.8
Austria	4,191	1,132	1,172	807	664	421	322	4,518	7.8
Belgium	5,290	640	458	728	1,249	790	671	4,536	-14.3
France	124,194	24,274	26,149	24,605	22,012	14,295	7,517	118,852	-4.3
Germany	28,829	4,871	5,147	6,191	5,908	4,177	3,384	29,678	2.9
Italy	14,859	2,891	2,204	2,246	3,570	1,413	1,566	13,890	-6.5
Netherlands	1,793	327	257	207	406	300	307	1,804	0.6
Spain	3,311	305	310	360	763	861	701	3,300	-0.3
Sweden	1,914	700	663	421	412	174	151	2,521	31.7
Switzerland	11,989	2,571	2,399	2,138	3,594	1,310	860	12,872	7.4
United Kingdom	42,648	6,271	6,751	6,925	10,471	9,019	7,705	47,142	10.5
CIS ²	10,973	3,362	1,325	2,025	1,606	1,028	567	9,913	-9.7
<i>of which:</i>									
<i>Russian Federation</i>	8,856	2,744	998	1,515	1,263	713	318	7,551	-14.7
Czech Republic	3,068	706	1,177	936	702	335	163	4,019	31.0
Denmark	1,606	293	659	190	341	128	121	1,732	7.8
Luxemburg	416	51	71	72	227	55	54	530	27.4
Norway	1,431	201	332	199	242	98	227	1,299	-9.2
Other European	7,688	1,953	2,265	1,758	1,642	1,016	1,055	9,689	26.0
AFRICA	127,018	29,504	11,819	23,892	19,728	24,790	16,883	126,616	-0.3
Comoros	576	88	48	86	90	86	123	521	-9.5
Kenya	1,110	161	152	288	341	252	260	1,454	31.0
Malagasy Rep.	6,463	967	1,064	910	1,160	922	883	5,906	-8.6
Reunion	68,267	20,817	5,094	13,846	7,039	15,005	6,589	68,390	0.2
Seychelles	3,213	523	483	490	548	627	665	3,336	3.8
S. Africa, Rep. of	40,940	6,160	4,188	7,286	9,068	6,460	6,840	40,002	-2.3
Zimbabwe	586	77	70	88	235	129	95	694	18.4
Other African	5,863	711	720	898	1,247	1,309	1,428	6,313	7.7
ASIA	64,124	13,096	13,940	11,776	11,391	15,456	15,534	81,193	26.6
Hong Kong SAR ³	588	114	141	60	117	108	144	684	16.3
India	31,837	4,259	5,100	4,022	4,150	7,929	7,713	33,173	4.2
Japan	780	104	117	120	120	202	116	779	-0.1
Korea Republic	1,204	236	251	237	348	380	253	1,705	41.6
Malaysia	1,118	193	212	228	174	390	321	1,518	35.8
P. Rep. of China	17,090	6,706	6,831	4,496	4,282	4,650	4,973	31,938	86.9
Singapore	984	83	87	134	119	179	174	776	-21.1
United Arab Emirates	3,946	385	382	726	868	686	743	3,790	-4.0
Other Asian	6,577	1,016	819	1,753	1,213	932	1,097	6,830	3.8
OCEANIA	8,198	1,323	744	890	2,119	1,191	1,458	7,725	-5.8
Australia	7,813	1,229	678	830	2,013	1,118	1,366	7,234	-7.4
Other Oceanian	385	94	66	60	106	73	92	491	27.5
AMERICA	7,642	1,772	1,092	1,558	1,298	1,640	1,149	8,509	11.3
USA	2,811	592	314	722	588	798	497	3,511	24.9
Canada	1,963	407	300	350	380	454	378	2,269	15.6
Brazil	1,444	395	203	192	191	227	148	1,356	-6.1
Other American	1,424	378	275	294	139	161	126	1,373	-3.6
OTHER & N.STATED	482	89	50	53	59	58	50	359	-25.5
ALL COUNTRIES	471,664	96,332	78,984	87,977	88,404	78,555	60,445	490,697	4.0

¹ Provisional² Commonwealth of Independent States (Ex Soviet Union Countries)³ 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 ⁴ (Rs million)
2011	1st Semester	464,604	4,517	9.7	21,304
	2nd Semester	500,038	5,483	11.0	21,413
	Year	964,642	10,000	10.4	42,717
2012	1st Semester	467,153	4,753	10.2	23,548
	2nd Semester	498,288	5,708	11.5	20,830
	Year	965,441	10,461	10.8	44,378
2013 ¹	1st Semester	471,664	4,824 ³	10.2	22,055
	2nd Semester	521,442	6,011	11.5	18,502
	Year	993,106	10,835	10.9	40,557
2014 ²	1st Semester	490,697	5,131	10.5	22,577

¹ Figures of tourist nights and average length of stay are provisional as from 2nd Semester 2013

² Provisional

³ Revised

⁴ Source: Bank of Mauritius

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

Year	Number as at end of period			
	Hotels ¹	Rooms	Bedplaces	
2011	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
2012	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
2013	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
2014 ²	1st Qr.	109	12,653	25,652
	2nd Qr.	105 ³	12,307	25,308

¹ Refers to hotels in the island of Mauritius which were operational

² Provisional

³ Excluding nine 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 ¹		2012		2013		2014 ¹	
	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	65	57	66	58	63	56	69	60
May	59	52	58	51	59	52	61	54	61	53	62	54
June	45	39	42	36	46	41	46	41	42	37	47	41
<u>2nd Quarter</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>49</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>47</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>58</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>49</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>52</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>		
Year	62	55	63	55			65	57	65	57		

¹ Provisional

Table 9:- Employment in large¹ establishments of the tourism industry as at end of March, 2009 - 2013

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

¹ Large establishments are those employing 10 or more persons.

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 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.