

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL AND TOURISM

JANUARY TO SEPTEMBER 2014

1. INTRODUCTION

This issue of the Economic and Social Indicators presents data on International Travel and Tourism for the first nine months 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, January-September 2013 and 2014

	January- September 2013	January- September 2014	% change
Arrivals by			
Air	912,023	961,988	+5.5
Sea	23,005	21,732	-5.5
<i>of which Cruise travellers</i>	<i>16,290</i>	<i>19,702</i>	<i>+20.9</i>
Total	935,028	983,720	+5.2
Departures by			
Air	943,241	992,119	+5.2
Sea	25,087	22,245	-11.3
Total	968,328	1,014,364	+4.8

2.1 Arrivals in January to September 2014

Compared to January to September 2013:

- total arrivals increased by 5.2% to 983,720;
- tourist arrivals increased by 4.5% to 725,623; and
- the number of excursionists (arriving and leaving on the same day) rose by 27.7% to 21,217.

In the first nine months 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.

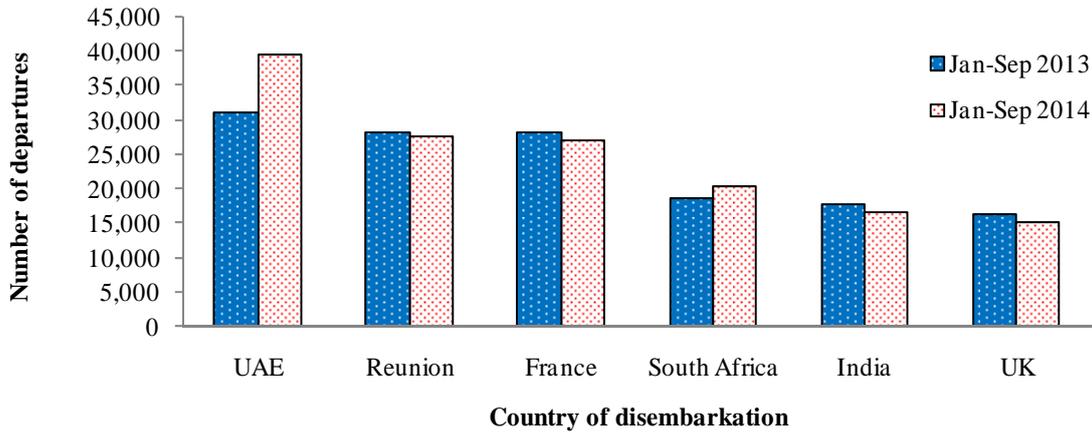
2.2 Departures in January to September 2014

Compared to January to September 2013,

- total departures increased by 4.8% to 1,014,364;
- departures of Mauritian residents increased by 2.3% to 190,796.

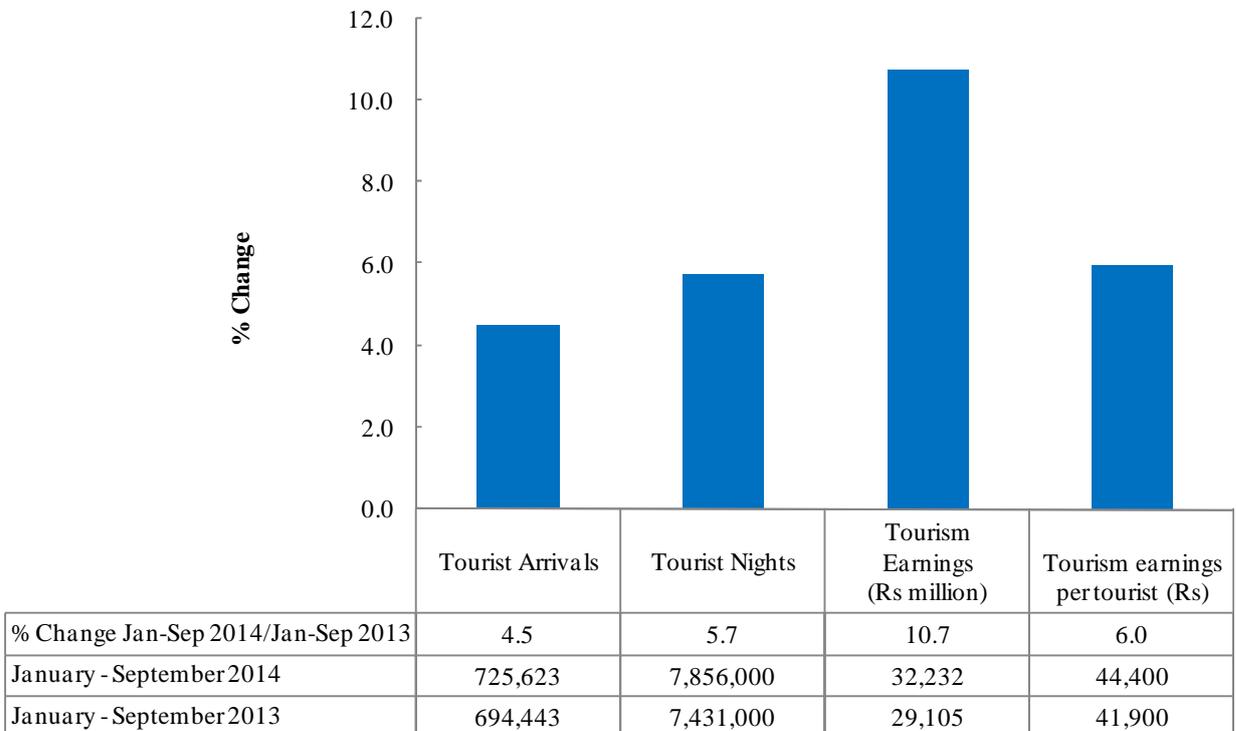
In the first nine months of 2014, the main countries of disembarkation (country of final destination or transit country) for Mauritian residents were United Arab Emirates (39,497 or 20.7%), Reunion Island (27,627 or 14.5%), France (27,058 or 14.2%), Republic of South Africa (20,469 or 10.7%), India (16,685 or 8.7%) and United Kingdom (15,206 or 8.0%).

Figure 1 - Mauritian departures by main country of disembarkation, January-September 2013 and January-September 2014



3. TOURISM

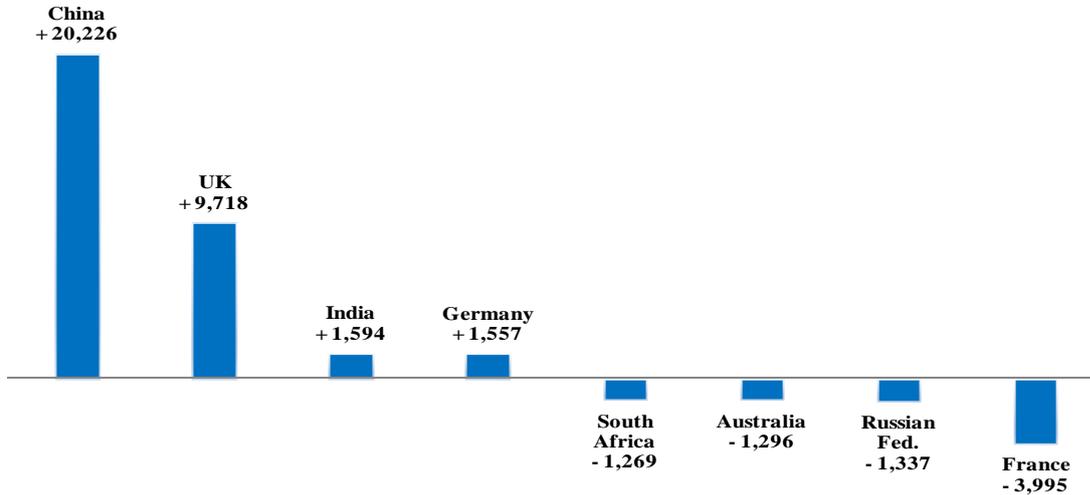
Figure 2 - % change in main tourism indicators, January-September 2014 compared to January-September 2013



3.1 Tourist Arrivals

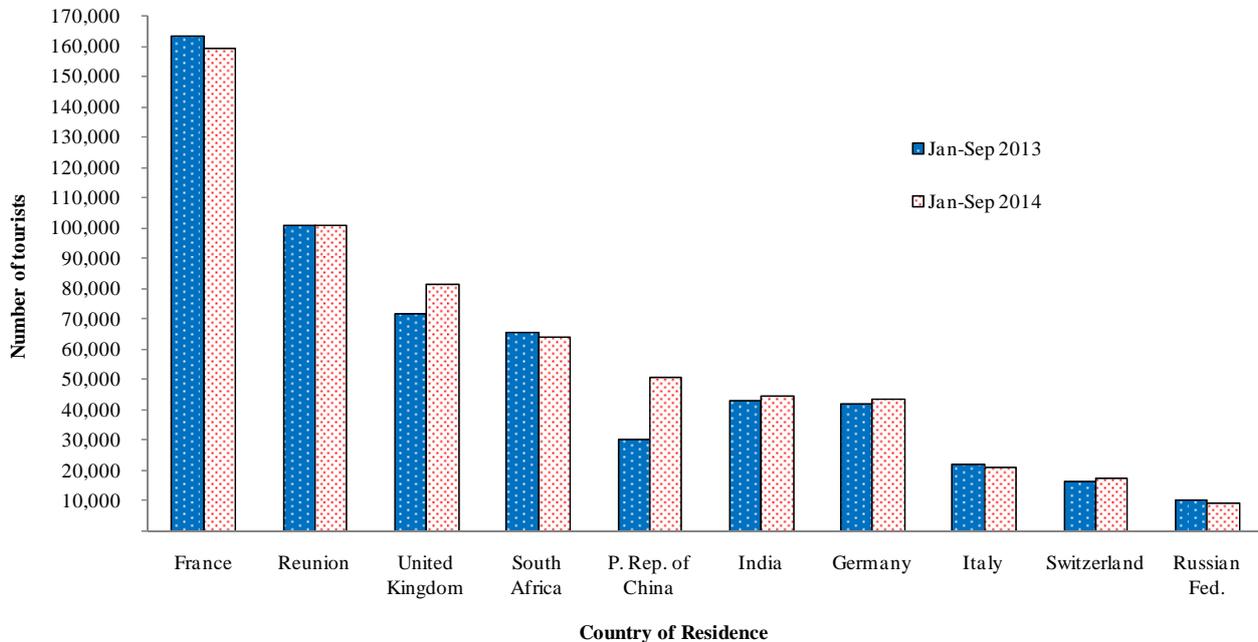
Compared to first nine months of 2013, the number of tourist arrivals increased by 31,180 or 4.5% to 725,623 in January to September 2014 as a result of main changes shown below.

Figure 3 - Main changes in tourist arrivals by selected country of residence, January-September 2013 to January-September 2014



In spite of a decrease of 2.4%, France remained the top tourist generating country and contributed 21.9% of all tourist arrivals in January to September 2014.

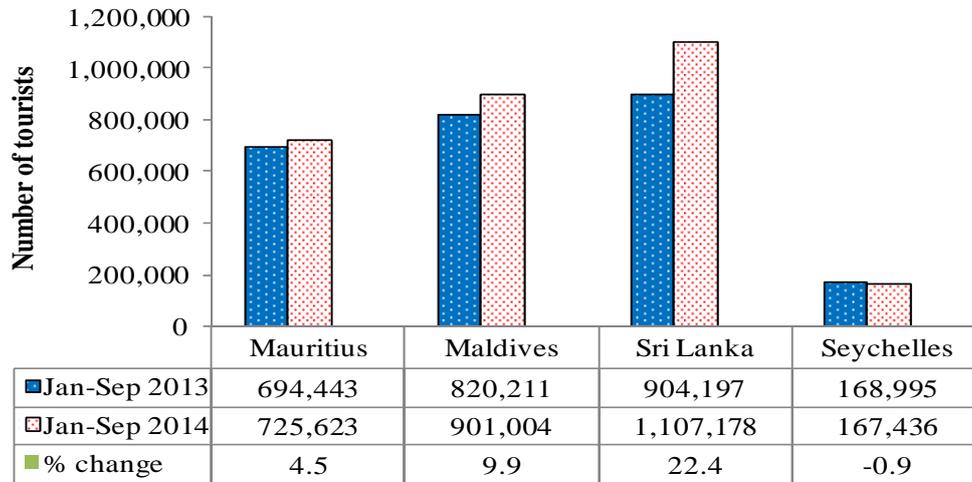
Figure 4 - Tourist Arrivals from main and emerging markets, January-September 2013 and 2014



3.2 Tourist arrivals in Mauritius compared to selected tourist destinations

During the first nine months of 2014, Mauritius registered an increase of 4.5% in tourist arrivals while Sri Lanka and Maldives registered high growths of 22.4% and 9.9% respectively. Seychelles, on the other hand, experienced a decline of 0.9%.

Figure 5 -Tourist Arrivals for Mauritius, Maldives, Sri Lanka & Seychelles, January-September 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 January to September 2013,

- the number of nights spent by tourists increased by 5.7% from 7,431,000 to 7,857,000;
- the average length of stay increased from 10.7 to 10.8 nights.

3.4 Tourism Earnings

According to the Bank of Mauritius, gross tourism earnings increased by 10.7% from Rs 29,105 million in January to September 2013 to Rs 32,232 million in January to September 2014. Tourism earnings per tourist increased by 6.0% from Rs 41,900 to Rs 44,400 due to an increase of 4.5% in the number of tourists.

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 2014 indicate that employment in these establishments slightly increased by 0.6% to 28,584.

3.6 Accommodation

Licensed hotels in the island of Mauritius

As at end of September 2014, there were 115 licensed hotels of which 108 were in operation and 7 were not operating due to renovation works. The total room capacity of the 108 operating hotels was 12,481 with 25,620 bed places.

During the first nine months of 2014,

- the room occupancy rate of all licensed hotels in operation averaged 62%, up from 59% in the first nine months of 2013; and
- the bed occupancy rate was 55%, higher than 52% in the first nine months of 2013.

'Large' hotels in the island of Mauritius

At the end of September 2014, 52 'large' hotels (i.e. well-established beach hotels with more than 80 rooms) were in operation; they had a total room capacity of 9,425 with 19,498 bed places. These 'large' hotels represent 48% of all licensed hotels in operation but make up 76% of both total room capacity and total bed places.

During the first nine months of 2014,

- the room occupancy rate of large hotels was 64% up from 61% in the first nine months of 2013;
- the bed occupancy rate was 57%, 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 tourist arrivals for year 2014 is revised upwards from 1,030,000 to 1,040,000. This represents an increase of 4.7% over the figure of 993,106 in 2013. The forecast number of tourists for 2015 is around 1,100,000.

The Bank of Mauritius has revised its forecast of tourism earnings for the year 2014 from Rs 44,500 million to Rs 45,000 million, representing an increase of 11% compared to Rs 40,557 million in 2013. For year 2015, tourism earnings are forecasted at around Rs 50,000 million.

Statistics Mauritius
Ministry of Finance and Economic Development
Port Louis
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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	112,006	98,420
August	93,502	102,936	103,559	111,560	110,101	120,442
September	89,426	90,724	96,690	97,365	100,387	99,346
<u>3rd Quarter</u>	<u>288,470</u>	<u>287,779</u>	<u>307,600</u>	<u>304,762</u>	<u>322,494</u>	<u>318,208</u>
<i>Jan. to Sep.</i>	<i>914,399</i>	<i>947,689</i>	<i>935,028</i>	<i>968,328</i>	<i>983,720</i>	<i>1,014,364</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,
January - September 2013 and 2014**

Country of disembarkation	2013	2014 ²	% Change
EUROPE	48,443	45,466	-6.1
France	28,248	27,058	-4.2
Germany	1,524	1,294	-15.1
Italy	2,044	1,810	-11.4
United Kingdom	16,546	15,206	-8.1
Other European	81	98	21.0
AFRICA	61,413	62,706	2.1
Malagasy Republic	8,016	8,131	1.4
Reunion	28,342	27,627	-2.5
Seychelles	3,482	3,910	12.3
South Africa	18,753	20,469	9.2
Other African	2,820	2,569	-8.9
ASIA	69,921	76,268	9.1
P. Rep. of China	2,344	3,836	63.7
Hong Kong SAR ³	6,557	5,410	-17.5
India	17,804	16,685	-6.3
Malaysia	6,582	9,007	36.8
Singapore	5,269	1,832	-65.2
United Arab Emirates	31,226	39,497	26.5
Other Asian	139	1	-99.3
OCEANIA	6,774	6,348	-6.3
Australia	6,774	6,348	-6.3
NOT STATED	25	8	-68.0
All Countries	186,576	190,796	2.3

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
<i>1st Quarter</i>	<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
<i>2nd Quarter</i>	<u>205,158</u>	<u>205,826</u>	<u>227,404</u>
<i>1st Semester</i>	467,153	471,664	490,697
July	76,166	77,374	81,935
August	65,896	73,454	78,475
September	66,369	71,951	74,516
<i>3rd Quarter</i>	<u>208,431</u>	<u>222,779</u>	<u>234,926</u>
<i>Jan. to Sep.</i>	675,584	694,443	725,623
October	89,994	92,520	
November	84,398	89,057	
December	115,465	117,086	
<i>4th Quarter</i>	<u>289,857</u>	<u>298,663</u>	
<i>2nd Semester</i>	498,288	521,442	
Whole Year	965,441	993,106	

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

Purpose of visit	2013	2014 ¹	% Change
Holiday	642,377	674,970	5.1
Business	27,628	27,994	1.3
Transit	16,591	16,047	-3.3
Conference	5,167	3,945	-23.7
Sports	1,385	1,242	-10.3
Other	1,295	1,425	10.0
Total	694,443	725,623	4.5

¹ Provisional

Table 5 :- Tourist Arrivals by Country of Residence, January - September 2013 and 2014

Country of residence	Jan - Sep 2013	Jan -Sep 2014 ¹										% Change Jan-Sep 2013 / Jan-Sep 2014
		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Jan - Sep	
EUROPE	374,540	50,548	51,339	49,808	53,809	35,420	25,371	38,110	39,201	41,440	385,046	2.8
Austria	5,360	1,132	1,172	807	664	421	322	329	298	491	5,636	5.1
Belgium	8,046	640	458	728	1,249	790	671	1,255	706	927	7,424	-7.7
France	163,232	24,274	26,149	24,605	22,012	14,295	7,517	14,822	14,643	10,920	159,237	-2.4
Germany	41,934	4,871	5,147	6,191	5,908	4,177	3,384	2,943	4,270	6,600	43,491	3.7
Italy	22,011	2,891	2,204	2,246	3,570	1,413	1,566	1,645	2,586	2,863	20,984	-4.7
Netherlands	3,211	327	257	207	406	300	307	707	483	417	3,411	6.2
Spain	6,590	305	310	360	763	861	701	1,000	1,143	1,253	6,696	1.6
Sweden	2,318	700	663	421	412	174	151	167	116	141	2,945	27.0
Switzerland	16,756	2,571	2,399	2,138	3,594	1,310	860	2,050	901	2,042	17,865	6.6
United Kingdom	72,043	6,271	6,751	6,925	10,471	9,019	7,705	10,432	11,587	12,600	81,761	13.5
CIS ²	13,227	3,362	1,325	2,025	1,606	1,028	567	578	693	910	12,094	-8.6
<i>of which:</i>												
<i>Russian Federation</i>	<i>10,521</i>	<i>2,744</i>	<i>998</i>	<i>1,515</i>	<i>1,263</i>	<i>713</i>	<i>318</i>	<i>382</i>	<i>532</i>	<i>719</i>	<i>9,184</i>	<i>-12.7</i>
Czech Republic	3,759	706	1,177	936	702	335	163	142	187	440	4,788	27.4
Denmark	2,182	293	659	190	341	128	121	272	156	162	2,322	6.4
Luxemburg	702	51	71	72	227	55	54	110	168	92	900	28.2
Norway	2,205	201	332	199	242	98	227	429	140	249	2,117	-4.0
Other European	10,964	1,953	2,265	1,758	1,642	1,016	1,055	1,229	1,124	1,333	13,375	22.0
AFRICA	195,213	29,504	11,819	23,892	19,728	24,790	16,883	26,354	23,434	17,436	193,840	-0.7
Comoros	840	88	48	86	90	86	123	44	60	79	704	-16.2
Kenya	2,026	161	152	288	341	252	260	263	410	232	2,359	16.4
Malagasy Rep.	10,069	967	1,064	910	1,160	922	883	1,014	1,667	1,020	9,607	-4.6
Reunion	101,029	20,817	5,094	13,846	7,039	15,005	6,589	15,880	11,129	5,847	101,246	0.2
Seychelles	5,167	523	483	490	548	627	665	454	610	565	4,965	-3.9
South Africa	65,530	6,160	4,188	7,286	9,068	6,460	6,840	7,689	7,831	8,739	64,261	-1.9
Zimbabwe	1,020	77	70	88	235	129	95	97	329	149	1,269	24.4
Other African	9,532	711	720	898	1,247	1,309	1,428	913	1,398	805	9,429	-1.1

¹ Provisional

² Commonwealth of Independent States (Ex Soviet Union Countries)

³ Special Administrative Region of China

Table 5 (cont'd.) :- Tourist Arrivals by Country of Residence, January - September 2013 and 2014

Country of residence	Jan - Sep 2013	Jan- Sep 2014 ¹										% Change Jan-Sep 2013 / Jan-Sep 2014
		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Jan - Sep	
ASIA	98,550	13,096	13,940	11,776	11,391	15,456	15,534	14,154	13,404	12,601	121,352	23.1
Hong Kong SAR ³	1,081	114	141	60	117	108	144	163	147	99	1,093	1.1
India	43,376	4,259	5,100	4,022	4,150	7,929	7,713	4,513	3,651	3,633	44,970	3.7
Japan	1,284	104	117	120	120	202	116	130	200	126	1,235	-3.8
Korea Republic	1,690	236	251	237	348	380	253	156	121	303	2,285	35.2
Malaysia	2,035	193	212	228	174	390	321	334	203	457	2,512	23.4
P. Rep. of China	30,419	6,706	6,831	4,496	4,282	4,650	4,973	6,574	6,365	5,768	50,645	66.5
Singapore	1,610	83	87	134	119	179	174	137	171	195	1,279	-20.6
United Arab Emirates	6,444	385	382	726	868	686	743	1,062	924	409	6,185	-4.0
Other Asian	10,611	1,016	819	1,753	1,213	932	1,097	1,085	1,622	1,611	11,148	5.1
OCEANIA	14,360	1,323	744	890	2,119	1,191	1,458	2,011	1,555	1,921	13,212	-8.0
Australia	13,711	1,229	678	830	2,013	1,118	1,366	1,905	1,488	1,788	12,415	-9.5
Other Oceanian	649	94	66	60	106	73	92	106	67	133	797	22.8
AMERICA	11,107	1,772	1,092	1,558	1,298	1,640	1,149	1,262	840	1,068	11,679	5.1
USA	4,215	592	314	722	588	798	497	520	394	404	4,829	14.6
Canada	3,033	407	300	350	380	454	378	550	237	257	3,313	9.2
Brazil	2,009	395	203	192	191	227	148	77	110	303	1,846	-8.1
Other American	1,850	378	275	294	139	161	126	115	99	104	1,691	-8.6
OTHER & N.STATED	673	89	50	53	59	58	50	44	41	50	494	-26.6
All Countries	694,443	96,332	78,984	87,977	88,404	78,555	60,445	81,935	78,475	74,516	725,623	4.5

¹ Provisional

² 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 ³ (Rs million)
2011	January - September	674,383	6,860	10.2	30,149
	Year	964,642	10,000	10.4	42,717
2012	January - September	675,584	7,212	10.7	31,954
	Year	965,441	10,461	10.8	44,378
2013 ¹	January - September	694,443	7,431	10.7	29,105
	Year	993,106	10,802	10.9	40,557
2014 ²	January - September	725,623	7,857	10.8	32,232

¹ Revised² Provisional³ 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	12,307	25,308
	3rd Qr.	108 ³	12,481	25,620

¹ Refers to hotels in the island of Mauritius which were operational² Provisional³ Excluding seven 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
1st Quarter	<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
2nd Quarter	<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	54	49	53	47	54	48	57	52
August	56	50	60	53	62	57	60	52	62	55	67	62
September	60	53	65	57	64	58	62	54	67	60	68	61
3rd Quarter	<u>56</u>	<u>49</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>58</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>61</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>64</u>	<u>58</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		
4th Quarter	<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, 2010 - 2014

Year \ Establishments	2010	2011 ²	2012 ²	2013 ²	2014 ³
Restaurants	2,337	2,262	2,340	2,388	2,406
Hotels	21,255	21,815	22,166	22,244	22,452
Travel and Tourism	3,850	4,052	3,896	3,787	3,726
Total	27,442	28,129	28,402	28,419	28,584

¹ Large establishments are those employing 10 or more persons.

² Revised

³ Provisional

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.