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Tourism - 1988

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Tourism 1988

Tourist arrivals

The number of tourist arrivals during the year 1988, is estimated to be about 240,000 representing an overall increase of about 15% over the 1987 figure of 207,570. This percentage increase is much lower than that noted between 1986 and 1987 which was about 26%.

France, Reunion Island and the Republic of South Africa are still the major tourist generating countries for Mauritius. Together they accounted for nearly 60% of our total tourist arrivals in 1988.

Tourist arrivals from France, the major European tourist generating country for Mauritius showed an increase of about 14% to reach 50,270 for the period under review. It is to be noted that tourist arrivals from France accounted for nearly 50% of all tourists coming from the major European traditional market for Mauritius and about 21% of all tourist generating countries for Mauritius. The other four main European markets Italy, United Kingdom, West Germany and Switzerland which together accounted for 53,770 tourists in 1988, showed increases of about 22%, 18%, 14% and 13% respectively over the previous year.

Reunion Island continues to be the most important short-haul market for Mauritius with about 23% share of all tourist arrivals. In fact the estimated number of tourist arrivals from Reunion Island rose from 47,970 in 1987 to 54,690 in 1988 representing an increase of about 14%. The Malagasy Republic, the only other short-haul market for Mauritius, accounted for about 7,540 tourists for the period under review.

The number of tourist arrivals from the Republic of South Africa the major medium-haul market for Mauritius continues to increase, but is losing its relative share in the distribution of tourist arrivals. Compared to 1987, tourist arrivals from South Africa increased from 30,960 to 36,900 in 1988 representing an increase of about 19%. However its relative share has remained around 15% for the last two years, compared to about 22% in 1984.

Tourist nights

The total number of nights for the period under review is estimated to be about 2.75 million representing an increase over the previous year, of about 16%. The average length of stay per tourist is estimated to be about 11.5 nights as compared to 11.4 in 1987.

Occupancy rate

The room occupancy rate for all hotels increased from about 63% in 1987 to about 66% in 1988 while that of large hotels increased from about 81% to about 83%.

The corresponding increase in bed occupancy for all hotels and for large hotels were from about 55% to 58% and from about 72% to about 74%. The increase in room and bed occupancy would have been more substantial had the number of rooms and beds not increased from 3,108 and 6,418 in 1987 to 3,381

and 6,921 in 1988 respectively. It is to be noted that room occupancy rate for both all hotels and large hotels for the month of December 1988 dropped from about 62% and about 81% to about 60% and 75% respectively. The corresponding fall in bed occupancy was from about 55% and 72% to 54% and 69% respectively.

Tourist receipt

It is estimated that receipt from Tourism increased by about 33% in 1988, from 1,786 million rupees to about 2,374 million rupees. The average expenditure per tourist was 9,890 rupees as compared to 8,605 rupees in 1987 thus representing an increase of about 15%.

Employment

A new section on employment has been introduced in this issue due to the growing importance of the Tourism sector in the overall economy.

In September 1988 there were about 6,800 persons employed directly in Tourism establishments employing 10 or more persons as compared to about 6,100 a year before. This represents an annual increase of about 11%. Further details are given in Table VIII.

Central Statistical Office
Rose Hill

March 1989

Table I - Selected Tourism Statistics, 1984 - 1988

Year	Tourist arrivals (Number)	Tourist nights (Million)	Tourist earnings (Rs Mn)
1984	139,670	1.54	630
1985	148,860	1.74	845
1986	165,310	1.88	1,190
1987	207,570	2.37	1,786
1988	240,000 ^{1/}	2.75 ^{1/}	2,373.6
1987: 1st Quarter	<u>46,350</u>	<u>0.530</u>	<u>435.4</u>
2nd Quarter	<u>47,180</u>	<u>0.539</u>	<u>386.6</u>
1st Semester	<u>93,530</u>	<u>1,069</u>	<u>822.0</u>
3rd Quarter	<u>55,050</u>	<u>0.629</u>	<u>413.4</u>
4th Quarter	<u>58,990</u>	<u>0.674</u>	<u>550.3</u>
2nd Semester	<u>114,040</u>	<u>1,303</u>	<u>963.7</u>
1988: 1st Quarter	<u>57,410</u>	<u>0.658^{2/}</u>	<u>625.8</u>
2nd Quarter	<u>50,520</u>	<u>0.579^{2/}</u>	<u>546.0</u>
1st Semester	<u>107,930</u>	<u>1.237^{2/}</u>	<u>1,171.8</u>
3rd Quarter	<u>62,510</u>	<u>0.717^{1/}</u>	<u>568.8</u>
4th Quarter	<u>69,560^{1/}</u>	<u>0.797^{1/}</u>	<u>633.0</u>
2nd Semester	<u>132,070^{1/}</u>	<u>1.514^{1/}</u>	<u>1,201.8</u>

^{1/} Provisional

^{2/} Revised Estimates

Table II - Distribution of tourist arrivals by country of residence, 1987 - 1988

Country of Residence	NUMBER											
	1987	1988 ^{1/}	1987				1988				4th Qr. ^{1/}	
			1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.		
France	44,200	50,270	10,580	10,000	9,360	14,260	12,840	9,840	10,740	16,850		
Germany Fed Rep.	13,780	15,670	2,810	3,530	3,080	4,360	3,850	3,270	3,400	5,150		
Italy	12,240	14,970	3,300	1,820	3,710	3,410	3,810	2,910	4,250	4,000		
Switzerland	8,180	9,270	1,990	1,420	1,790	2,980	2,320	1,580	1,870	3,500		
United Kingdom	11,790	13,860	2,390	2,360	3,130	3,910	2,990	2,750	3,520	4,600		
Malagasy Republic	7,190	7,540	1,470	1,640	2,020	2,060	1,890	1,800	1,400	2,450		
Réunion Island	47,970	54,690	11,560	11,300	15,570	9,540	14,380	10,180	18,880	11,250		
Seychelles	1,090	1,630	200	260	280	350	230	430	570	400		
Kenya	1,020	1,080	220	360	230	210	180	250	400	250		
South Africa Rep. of	30,960	36,900	6,430	7,150	7,920	9,460	7,950	9,250	8,550	11,150		
Zambia	860	2,160	170	240	150	300	330	640	840	350		
Zimbabwe	2,370	2,620	360	1,000	560	450	300	900	870	550		
Australia	3,150	3,140	510	750	750	1,140	750	600	440	1,350		
India	2,980	3,950	410	810	1,120	640	660	1,350	1,190	750		
U.S.A.	1,880	1,860	250	470	510	650	360	420	330	750		
Singapore	1,030	1,350	240	190	300	300	250	310	440	350		
Other countries	16,880	19,040	3,460	3,880	4,570	4,970	4,320	4,040	4,820	5,860		
All Countries	207,570	240,000	46,350	47,180	55,050	58,990	57,410	50,520	62,510	69,560		

^{1/} Provisional

Table III - Tourist arrivals by month, 1986 - 1988

M o n t h	N U M B E R		
	1 9 8 6	1 9 8 7	1 9 8 8
January	16,450	18,930	23,070
February	11,520	13,950	16,330
March	13,880	13,470	18,010
1st Quarter	<u>41,850</u>	<u>46,350</u>	<u>57,410</u>
April	11,830	18,180	17,320
May	13,090	14,730	19,770
June	8,710	14,270	13,430
2nd Quarter	<u>33,630</u>	<u>47,180</u>	<u>50,520</u>
1st Semester	<u>75,480</u>	<u>93,530</u>	<u>107,930</u>
July	12,540	15,730	19,230
August	18,090	20,990	25,050
September	12,100	18,330	18,230
3rd Quarter	<u>42,730</u>	<u>55,050</u>	<u>62,510</u>
October	12,630	18,920	22,000 ^{1/}
November	16,340	18,380	22,000 ^{1/}
December	18,130	21,690	25,560 ^{1/}
4th Quarter	<u>47,100</u>	<u>58,990</u>	<u>69,560^{1/}</u>
2nd Semester	<u>89,830</u>	<u>114,040</u>	<u>132,070^{1/}</u>
Whole Year	165,310	207,570	240,000 ^{1/}

^{1/} Provisional

Table IV - Monthly room occupancy rate for all hotels, 1986 - 1988

Month	PERCENTAGE		
	1986	1987	1988
January	63.3	68.2	74.3
February	60.8	64.6	69.0
March	55.5	56.0	64.7
<u>1st Quarter</u>	<u>59.9</u>	<u>62.8</u>	<u>69.4</u>
April	54.0	64.3	66.3
May	50.0	56.4	63.5
June	36.9	49.4	54.4
<u>2nd Quarter</u>	<u>47.3</u>	<u>56.6</u>	<u>61.5</u>
<u>1st Semester</u>	<u>53.7</u>	<u>59.7</u>	<u>65.6</u>
July	49.1	55.7	60.1
August	56.6	64.5	69.0
September	52.2	68.3	65.2
<u>3rd Quarter</u>	<u>52.7</u>	<u>62.8</u>	<u>64.8</u>
October	53.8	68.8	74.0
November	68.6	71.7	71.6
December	57.7	62.4	60.1
<u>4th Quarter</u>	<u>59.7</u>	<u>67.5</u>	<u>68.4</u>
<u>2nd Semester</u>	<u>56.3</u>	<u>65.2</u>	<u>66.6</u>
Whole Year	55.0	62.5	66.1

Table V - Monthly bed occupancy rate for all hotels, 1986 - 1988

Month	PERCENTAGE		
	1986	1987	1988
January	56.9	60.8	65.4
February	52.2	56.3	59.5
March	47.3	47.9	55.4
<u>1st Quarter</u>	<u>52.2</u>	<u>54.9</u>	<u>60.1</u>
April	46.4	57.2	58.2
May	44.1	47.7	53.8
June	30.2	41.8	46.5
<u>2nd Quarter</u>	<u>40.6</u>	<u>48.8</u>	<u>52.9</u>
<u>1st Semester</u>	<u>46.5</u>	<u>51.8</u>	<u>56.7</u>
July	42.8	49.5	52.5
August	51.0	59.6	63.5
September	45.1	59.6	58.5
<u>3rd Quarter</u>	<u>46.4</u>	<u>56.3</u>	<u>58.4</u>
October	46.6	60.3	66.3
November	58.8	61.3	63.0
December	52.3	55.4	53.7
<u>4th Quarter</u>	<u>52.4</u>	<u>58.9</u>	<u>60.8</u>
<u>2nd Semester</u>	<u>49.4</u>	<u>57.6</u>	<u>59.6</u>
Whole Year	48.0	54.8	58.2

Table VI - Monthly room occupancy rate for large hotels, 1986 - 1988

Month	PERCENTAGE		
	1986	1987	1988
January	84.2	85.7	91.4
February	82.0	84.8	90.6
March	73.0	72.1	84.6
<u>1st Quarter</u>	<u>79.6</u>	<u>80.6</u>	<u>88.8</u>
April	72.0	83.2	80.5
May	63.5	75.1	79.4
June	47.6	63.1	66.0
<u>2nd Quarter</u>	<u>61.2</u>	<u>73.8</u>	<u>75.4</u>
<u>1st Semester</u>	<u>70.6</u>	<u>77.2</u>	<u>82.2</u>
July	61.8	74.8	72.7
August	69.4	81.3	85.6
September	66.8	82.9	84.9
<u>3rd Quarter</u>	<u>66.1</u>	<u>79.7</u>	<u>81.0</u>
October	68.4	89.8	92.3
November	87.1	91.0	92.6
December	72.8	80.8	74.7
<u>4th Quarter</u>	<u>76.3</u>	<u>87.1</u>	<u>86.3</u>
<u>2nd Semester</u>	<u>71.4</u>	<u>83.4</u>	<u>83.7</u>
Whole Year	71.0	80.7	82.9

Table VII - Monthly bed occupancy rate for large hotels, 1986 - 1988

Month	PERCENTAGE		
	1986	1987	1988
January	75.0	78.7	82.6
February	70.7	75.7	79.4
March	62.7	62.6	73.7
<u>1st Quarter</u>	<u>69.4</u>	<u>72.0</u>	<u>78.6</u>
April	62.0	74.5	71.9
May	55.1	64.2	68.4
June	38.9	54.7	57.3
<u>2nd Quarter</u>	<u>52.3</u>	<u>64.5</u>	<u>66.0</u>
<u>1st Semester</u>	<u>60.9</u>	<u>68.2</u>	<u>72.3</u>
July	53.5	67.1	64.9
August	62.8	75.4	79.0
September	56.8	74.4	75.9
<u>3rd Quarter</u>	<u>57.8</u>	<u>72.3</u>	<u>73.3</u>
October	58.2	79.8	84.0
November	73.4	79.0	83.1
December	66.1	72.3	68.7
<u>4th Quarter</u>	<u>65.8</u>	<u>77.0</u>	<u>78.4</u>
<u>2nd Semester</u>	<u>61.9</u>	<u>74.7</u>	<u>75.9</u>
Whole Year	61.4	71.6	74.1

Table VIII - Employment^{1/} in the Tourist Industry, 1984 - 1988

Industrial Group	1984		1985		1986		1987		1988	
	March	September	March	September	March	September	March	September	March	September
Restaurants	488	514	576	610	692	672	674	725	855	867
Hotels	2,685	2,691	2,918	2,910	2,933	3,079	3,453	3,670	4,045	4,116
Travel and Tourism	1,040	1,096	1,156	1,207	1,237	1,239	1,428	1,732	1,893	1,991
TOTAL	4,213	4,301	4,650	4,727	4,862	5,080	5,555	6,127	6,793	6,974

^{1/} Large establishments only (i.e. employing 10 or more persons)