INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL AND TOURISM

1st Semester 2015

1. INTRODUCTION

This issue of the Economic and Social Indicators presents data on International Travel and Tourism for the first semester of 2015. 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 2014 and 2015

	2014	2015	% change
Arrivals by			
Air	640,200	686,284	+ 7.2
Sea	21,026	27,749	+ 32.0
of which Cruise travellers	19,702	24,915	+ 26.5
Total	661,226	714,033	+ 8.0
Departures by			
Air	674,596	722,981	+ 7.2
Sea	21,560	26,221	+ 21.6
Total	696,156	749,202	+ 7.6

2.1 Arrivals in 1st Semester 2015

Compared to 1st semester 2014:

- total arrivals increased by 8.0% to 714,033;
- tourist arrivals increased by 8.9% to 534,182; and
- the number of excursionists (arriving and leaving on the same day) decreased by 21.5% to 13,417.

In the 1st semester of 2015, 17 cruise ships arrived in the country and carried some 24,915 cruise travellers which include 10,513 tourists, 5,926 excursionists, 206 Mauritian residents and 8,270 crew members.

2.2 Departures in 1st Semester 2015

Compared to 1st semester 2014:

- total departures increased by 7.6% to 749,202;
- departures of Mauritian residents increased by 2.4% to 123,214.

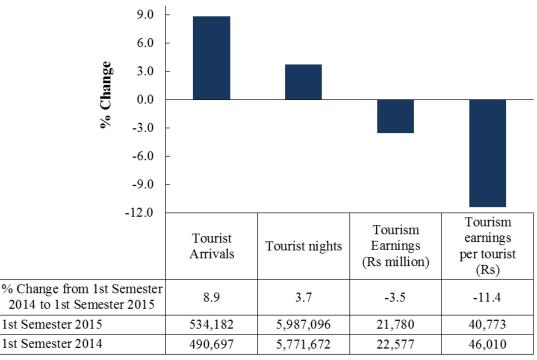
In the 1st semester of 2015, the main countries of disembarkation (country of final destination or transit country) for Mauritian residents were United Arab Emirates (29,472 or 23.9%), Reunion Island (18,241 or 14.8%), France (15,456 or 12.5%), Republic of South Africa (13,155 or 10.7%), India (9,686 or 7.9%) and United Kingdom (9,054 or 7.3%).

35,000 ■ 1st Semester 2014 Number of departures 30,000 □ 1st Semester 2015 25,000 20,000 15,000 10,000 5,000 0 UAE UK Reunion France South India Africa Country of disembarkation

Figure 1 - Mauritian departures by main country of disembarkation, 1st Semester 2014 and 1st Semester 2015

3. TOURISM

Figure 2 - % Change in main tourism indicators, 1st Semester 2014 compared to 1st Semester 2015

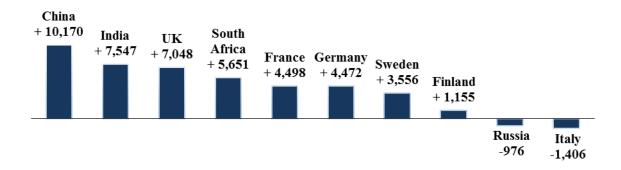


Note: Henceforth tourist nights for a reference period will refer to nights spent by tourists departing in that reference period.

3.1 Tourist Arrivals

Compared to 1^{st} semester 2014, the number of tourist arrivals increased by 43,485 or 8.9% to 534,182 in 1^{st} semester 2015 as a result of main changes shown below.

Figure 3 - Main changes in tourist arrivals by selected country of residence, 1st Semester 2014 to 1st Semester 2015

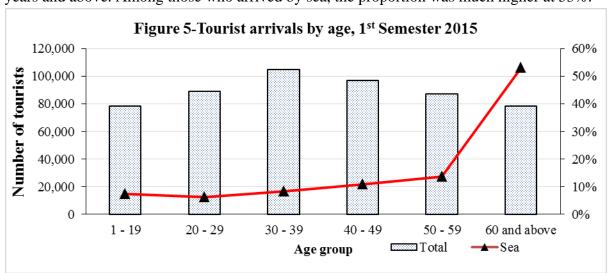


In the 1st semester of 2015, Russia registered a decline of 12.9% while France, our top tourist generating country, registered a growth of 3.8%. Sweden and Finland registered high growth of 141.1% and 86.2% respectively as a result of direct flights from Stockholm and Helsinki.

Figure 4 - Tourist Arrivals from main and emerging markets, 1st Semester 2014 and 1st Semester 2015 140,000 ■ 1st Semester 2014 120,000 □ 1st semester 2015 Number of tourists 100,000 80,000 60,000 40,000 20,000 France Reunion United South India Germany Switzerland Italy Australia Kingdom Africa **Country of Residence**

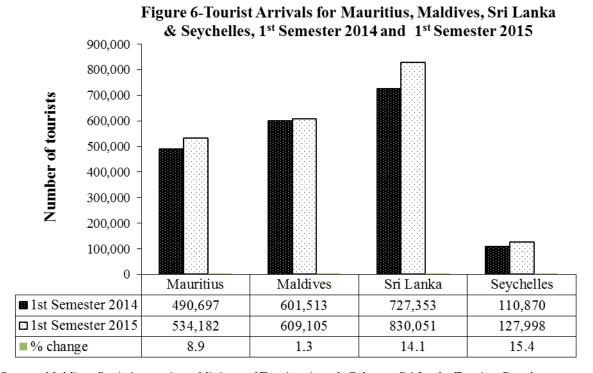
3.2 Tourist arrivals by age

During the 1st semester of 2015, 78,165 or 15% of tourists who visited Mauritius were aged 60 years and above. Among those who arrived by sea, the proportion was much higher at 53%.



3.3 Tourist arrivals in Mauritius compared to selected tourist destinations

During 1st semester 2015, tourist arrivals in Mauritius increased by 8.9%. This compares with a lower growth of 1.3% in Maldives and higher growths of 15.4% in Seychelles and 14.1% in Sri Lanka.



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

3.4 Tourist Nights

Compared to 1st Semester 2014:

- the number of nights spent by tourists who departed during the 1st semester of 2015 increased by 3.7% from 5,771,672 to 5,987,096;
- the average length of stay decreased from 11.0 to 10.6 nights.

3.5 Tourism Earnings

According to the Bank of Mauritius, the gross tourism earnings decreased by 3.5% from Rs 22,577 million in the 1st semester 2014 to Rs 21,780 million in the 1st semester 2015. Tourism earnings per tourist also declined by 11.4%, from Rs 46,010 to Rs 40,773.

3.6 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 increased slightly by 1.1% to 28,872 as compared to 28,562 for March 2013.

3.7 Accommodation

Licensed hotels in the island of Mauritius

As at end of June 2015, there were 116 licensed hotels of which 107 were in operation and 9 were not operating due to renovation works. The total room capacity of the 107 operating hotels was 12,264 with 25,085 bed places.

During the 1st semester of 2015,

- the room occupancy rate of all licensed hotels in operation averaged 67%, up from 62% in the 1st semester of 2014; and
- the bed occupancy rate was 62%, higher than 55% in the 1st semester of 2014.

'Large' hotels in the island of Mauritius

At the end of June 2015, 51 'large' hotels (i.e. well-established beach hotels with more than 80 rooms) were in operation; they had a total room capacity of 9,267 with 19,020 bed places. These 'large' hotels represent 48% of all licensed hotels in operation but make up 76% of total room capacity and 76% of total bed places.

During the 1st semester of 2015,

- the room occupancy rate of large hotels was 69% up from 64% in the 1st semester 2014;
- the bed occupancy rate was 64%, higher than 56% in the 1st semester 2014.

3.8 Forecast Year 2015

Based on latest available data on tourist arrivals and information gathered from stakeholders, the forecast of tourist arrivals for the year 2015 is revised upwards from 1,100,000 to 1,115,000. This represents an increase of 7.3% over the figure of 1,038,968 in 2014.

The Bank of Mauritius has revised its forecast of tourism earnings for the year 2015 downwards from Rs 48,500 million to Rs 46,500 million. This revised forecast represents an increase of 5% when compared to Rs 44,304 million in 2014.

Statistics Mauritius Ministry of Finance and Economic Development Port Louis 21 August 2015

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

Table 1:- Passenger Traffic 1 by month, 2013 - 2015

Month	20	13	20)14	2015 ²		
Month	Arrivals	Departures	Arrivals	Departures	Arrivals	Departures	
January	124,571	149,067	128,035	149,573	139,076	164,024	
February	103,021	103,726	105,398	107,632	116,454	114,890	
March	117,619	117,253	120,854	127,473	130,539	135,445	
1st Quarter	345,211	370,046	354,287	384,678	386,069	414,359	
April	105,561	109,657	117,371	112,588	123,409	122,212	
May	97,003	106,945	102,884	112,665	113,225	124,533	
June	79,653	76,918	86,684	86,225	91,330	88,098	
2nd Quarter	282,217	293,520	306,939	311,478	327,964	334,843	
1st Semester	627,428	663,566	661,226	696,156	714,033	749,202	
July	107,351	95,837	112,006	98,420			
August	103,559	111,560	110,101	120,442			
September	96,690	97,365	100,387	99,346			
3rd Quarter	307,600	304,762	322,494	318,208			
Jan. to Sep.	935,028	968,328	983,720	1,014,364			
October	118,395	112,555	127,731	119,230			
November	114,413	113,141	120,448	121,845			
December	153,611	126,681	157,337	129,704			
4th Quarter	386,419	352,377	405,516	370,779			
2nd Semester	694,019	657,139	728,010	688,987			
Whole Year	1,321,447	1,320,705	1,389,236	1,385,143			

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

² Provisional

Table 2: - Departure of Mauritian residents by country of disembarkation 1 , $1^{\rm st}$ Semester of 2014 and 2015

Country of disembarkation	2014	2015 2	% Change
EUROPE	26,640	25,692	-3.6
France	15,780	15,456	-2.1
Germany	775	645	-16.8
Italy	860	527	-38.7
United Kingdom	9,128	9,054	-0.8
Other European	97	10	-89.7
AFRICA	41,726	41,819	0.2
Malagasy Republic	5,629	4,711	-16.3
Reunion	18,222	18,241	0.1
Seychelles	2,583	4,356	68.6
South Africa	13,587	13,155	-3.2
Other African	1,705	1,356	-20.5
ASIA	47,725	51,432	7.8
P. Rep. of China	1,991	2,468	24.0
Hong Kong SAR ³	3,858	3,056	-20.8
India	11,264	9,686	-14.0
Malaysia	5,797	5,504	-5.1
Singapore	977	1,236	26.5
United Arab Emirates	23,837	29,472	23.6
Other Asian	1	10	900.0
OCEANIA	4,225	4,267	1.0
Australia	4,225	4,267	1.0
NOT STATED	7	4	-42.9
All Countries	120,323	123,214	2.4

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, 2013 - 2015

1	Month	2013	2014	2015 1
January		92,894	96,332	103,606
February		81,185	78,984	91,128
March		91,759	87,977	96,595
	1st Quarter	<u>265,838</u>	<u>263,293</u>	<u>291,329</u>
April		76,223	88,404	90,327
May		74,596	78,555	87,067
June		55,007	60,445	65,459
	2nd Quarter	<u>205,826</u>	<u>227,404</u>	<u>242,853</u>
	1st Semester	471,664	490,697	534,182
July		77,374	81,935	
August		73,454	78,475	
September		71,951	74,516	
	3rd Quarter	<u>222,779</u>	<u>234,926</u>	
	Jan. to Sep.	694,443	725,623	
October		92,520	101,327	
November		89,057	91,234	
December		117,086	120,784	
	4th Quarter	<u>298,663</u>	<u>313,345</u>	
	2nd Semester	521,442	548,271	
WI	hole Year	993,106	1,038,968	

¹ Provisional

Table 4:- Tourist arrivals by main purpose of visit, 1st Semester 2014 and 2015

Purpose of visit	2014	2015 1	% Change
Holiday	457,086	498,342	9.0
Business	18,442	20,375	10.5
Transit	10,434	10,439	0.0
Conference	2,764	2,986	8.0
Sports	965	1,241	28.6
Other	1,006	799	-20.6
Total	490,697	534,182	8.9

¹ Provisional

Table 5:- Tourist arrivals by country of residence, 1st Semester of 2014 and 2015

	1st				2015 1				% Change
Country of residence	Semester	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	1st	S1 2015/
ELIDADE	2014				_			Semester	S1 2014
EUROPE	266,295	56,563	56,770	55,796	52,875	39,385	26,985	288,374	8.3
Austria	4,518	1,237	1,248	1,169	542	430 17	281 35	4,907	8.6
Belarus	273	55	24	57 701	1 422		33 799	232	-15.0 10.8
Belgium	4,536	690	663	701	1,433	738 49		5,024	
Bulgaria	376	121	111	89	89		21	480	27.7
Czech Republic	4,019	858	1,203	977	643	380	237	4,298	6.9
Croatia	202	67	31	37 506	30	27	16	208	3.0
Denmark	1,732	471	603	586	222	156	118	2,156	24.5
Estonia	159	50	51	29	26	16	6	178	11.9
Finland	1,340	878	908	526	66	45	72	2,495	86.2
France	118,852	25,572	28,081	22,496	23,409	15,862	7,930	123,350	3.8
Germany	29,678	5,092	5,732	8,336	5,610	5,877	3,503	34,150	15.1
Greece	295	74	40	62	89	81	64	410	39.0
Hungary	592	321	218	111	73	42	42	807	36.3
Ireland	965	152	106	157	185	181	180	961	-0.4
Italy	13,890	3,282	2,379	2,696	2,032	1,097	998	12,484	-10.1
Kazakhstan	149	41	18	26	24	24	14	147	-1.3
Lithuania	199	51	35	57	24	24	26	217	9.0
Luxemburg	530	58	85	76	284	79	109	691	30.4
Netherlands	1,804	274	241	261	387	470	471	2,104	16.6
Norway	1,299	361	400	406	132	110	327	1,736	33.6
Poland	1,812	459	330	312	280	196	316	1,893	4.5
Portugal	895	111	134	261	156	142	135	939	4.9
Romania	540	119	175	115	102	65	100	676	25.2
Russian Federation	7,551	2,019	751	1,372	1,309	752	372	6,575	-12.9
Slovakia	1,318	251	308	257	191	106	45	1,158	-12.1
Slovenia	392	92	109	54	57	18	30	360	-8.2
Spain	3,300	551	434	779	560	1,178	706	4,208	27.5
Sweden	2,521	2,431	1,964	924	377	185	196	6,077	141.1
Switzerland	12,872	2,343	2,134	2,257	3,706	1,441	962	12,843	-0.2
Turkey	417	68	74	50	66	32	59	349	-16.3
Ukraine	1,313	319	166	148	209	143	88	1,073	-18.3
United Kingdom	47,142	7,904	7,855	10,198	10,304	9,303	8,626	54,190	15.0
Other European	814	191	159	214	214	119	101	998	22.6
AFRICA	126,616	32,595	12,229	23,613	20,196	25,999	15,863	130,495	3.1
IOC ² countries	78,153	22,932	6,123	14,943	8,446	16,817	6,750	76,011	-2.7
of which:									
Comoros	521	44	76	76	62	92	69	419	-19.6
Malagasy Republic	5,906	840	772	953	1,267	833	882	5,547	-6.1
Reunion	68,390	21,611	4,974	13,528	6,586	15,374	5,361	67,434	-1.4
Seychelles	3,336	437	301	386	531	518	438	2,611	-21.7
Kenya	1,454	175	180	284	322	270	193	1,424	-2.1
Mayotte	451	53	58	116	101	137	58	523	16.0
Mozambique	353	170	108	40	87	45	36	486	37.7
Namibia	664	97	40	69	135	242	59	642	-3.3
South Africa, Rep. of	40,002	8,578	4,927	7,160	9,863	7,147	7,978	45,653	14.1
Zimbabwe	694	65	88	109	237	173	120	792	14.1
Other African	4,845	525	705	892	1,005	1,168	669	4,964	2.5

¹ Provisional

Indian Ocean Commission

Table 5 (cont'd):- Tourist arrivals by country of residence, 1st semester of 2014 and 2015

	1st				2015 1				% Change
Country of residence	Semester	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	1st	S1 2015/
ASIA	2014 81,193	11,332	20,168	14,449	13,883	18,902	19,743	Semester 98,477	S1 2014 21.3
Afghanistan	322	11,332 68	20,108 67	14,449 52	13,883 58	72	19,743 50	367	14.0
•	224	33					17		32.6
Bangladesh	684	33 79	41	64 97	66 97	76 65		297 551	-19.4
Hong Kong SAR ³			108				105		
India	33,173	4,470	6,142	5,120	5,602	10,325	9,061	40,720	22.8
Indonesia	860	119	101	383	266 49	135	152	1,156	34.4 -17.4
Israel	298	36	45	44		37	35	246	
Japan	779	50	114	122	143	101	92	622	-20.2
Korea Republic	1,705	192	154	254	247	209	276	1,332	-21.9
Malaysia	1,518	130	117	135	147	214	189	932	-38.6
Pakistan	624	92	47	50	73	93	146	501	-19.7
People's Rep. of China	31,938	4,924	12,074	5,500	5,600	6,052	7,958	42,108	31.8
Philippines	852	83	115	226	170	188	133	915	7.4
Singapore	776	65	93	105	113	135	198	709	-8.6
Sri Lanka	154	20	16	18	27	33	43	157	1.9
Taiwan	585	98	92	151	109	65	107	622	6.3
Thailand	160	11	23	22	41	68	24	189	18.1
Vietnam	236	27	41	128	22	15	19	252	6.8
MIDDLE EAST Countries	6,124	<i>7</i> 98	747	1,924	993	938	1,087	6,487	5.9
of which:									
Bahrein	49	3	7	14	28	10	14	76	55.1
Iran	448	11	32	599	17	13	15	687	53.3
Jordan	82	3	4	14	3	16	14	54	-34.1
Kuwait	207	25	27	22	62	33	30	199	-3.9
Lebanon	164	23	17	23	54	33	83	233	42.1
Oman	<i>7</i> 8	10	10	7	13	24	23	87	11.5
Qatar	138	45	31	20	27	16	22	161	16.7
Saudi Arabia	1,142	267	117	299	96	150	125	1,054	-7.7
United Arab Emirates	3,790	410	500	919	689	639	758	3,915	3.3
Other Middle East	26	1	2	7	4	4	3	21	-19.2
Other Asian	181	37	31	54	60	81	51	314	73.5
OCEANIA	7,725	1,357	778	1,196	1,899	1,412	1,338	7,980	3.3
Australia	7,234	1,278	705	1,139	1,795	1,314	1,246	7,477	3.4
New Zealand	290	51	41	44	65	47	50	298	2.8
Other Oceanian	201	28	32	13	39	51	42	205	2.0
AMERICA	8,509	1,672	1,069	1,436	1,463	1,354	1,517	8,511	0.0
Brazil	1,356	254	128	1 ,430 161	193	1,334	92	962	-29.1
Canada	2,269	439	332	429	374	446	650	2,670	-29.1 17.7
USA	3,511	758	424	721	758	650	680	3,991	17.7
Other American		738 221	185	125	138	124		3,991	
	1,373						95 12		-35.3
Others & not stated	359	87	114	105	11	15	13	345	-3.9
All countries	490,697	103,606	91,128	96,595	90,327	87,067	65,459	534,182	8.9

¹ Provisional

³ Special Administrative Region of China

Table 6(i):- Tourist arrivals by age and sex, 1st Semester of 2014 and 2015

A 20 20000 (10220)	1 st	Semester 20	14	1 st Semester 2015 ¹		
Age group (years)	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Under 5	9,739	9,642	19,381	10,401	10,177	20,578
5 - 9	10,390	10,073	20,463	11,187	10,958	22,145
10 - 14	9,310	9,366	18,676	10,109	10,136	20,245
15 - 19	6,511	7,460	13,971	7,144	8,292	15,436
20 - 24	8,132	14,238	22,370	9,238	15,355	24,593
25 - 29	25,304	30,520	55,824	29,559	34,805	64,364
30 - 34	26,783	26,310	53,093	28,924	27,738	56,662
35 - 39	23,556	22,122	45,678	25,002	22,914	47,916
40 - 44	24,710	22,217	46,927	25,408	22,899	48,307
45 - 49	24,108	22,445	46,553	24,818	23,856	48,674
50 - 54	22,717	21,648	44,365	24,798	23,274	48,072
55 - 59	18,634	17,345	35,979	20,175	18,850	39,025
60 - 64	15,347	13,711	29,058	16,447	15,457	31,904
65 - 69	10,906	9,372	20,278	12,623	11,282	23,905
70 & over	9,790	8,291	18,081	12,253	10,103	22,356
Total	245,937	244,760	490,697	268,086	266,096	534,182

¹ Provisional

Table6(ii):- Tourist arrivals by broad age group and mode of arrival, 1st Semester of 2014 and 2015

A go group (voorg)	1 st	Semester 201	14	1 st Semester 2015 ¹			
Age group (years)	Air	Sea	Total	Air	Sea	Total	
Under 15	58,244	276	58,520	62,401	567	62,968	
15 - 59	363,722	1,038	364,760	388,026	5,023	393,049	
60 & over	66,180	1,237	67,417	71,836	6,329	78,165	
Total	488,146	2,551	490,697	522,263	11,919	534,182	

¹ Provisional

Table 7:- Tourist arrivals, tourist departures, tourist nights, average length of stay and earnings, 2012 - 2015

	Year	Tourist arrivals (Number)	Tourist departures (Number)	Tourist Nights ¹	Average Length of stay ²	Tourism earnings ³ (Rs million)
2012	1st Semester	467,153	490,874	5,105,738	10.4	23,548
	2nd Semester	498,288	461,620	4,937,945	10.7	20,830
	Year	965,441	952,494	10,043,683	10.5	44,378
2013	1st Semester	471,664	502,486	5,436,550	10.8	22,055
	2nd Semester	521,442	484,897	5,230,521	10.8	18,502
	Year	993,106	987,383	10,667,071	10.8	40,557
2014	1st Semester	490,697	522,623	5,771,672	11.0	22,577
	2nd Semester	548,271	507,792	5,494,674	10.8	21,727
	Year	1,038,968	1,030,415	11,266,346	10.9	44,304
2015 4	1st Semester	534,182	562,633	5,987,096	10.6	21,780

¹ Revised; Henceforth tourist nights for a reference period will refer to nights spent by tourists departing in that reference period

Table 8:- Hotels, rooms and bedplaces, 2012 - 2015

*		Num	Number as at end of period					
Y	ear	Hotels ¹	Rooms	Bedplaces				
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	1st Qr.	109	12,653	25,652				
	2nd Qr.	105	12,307	25,308				
	3rd Qr.	108	12,481	25,620				
	4th Qr.	112	12,799	26,174				
2015 ²	1st Qr.	114	13,100	26,776				
	2nd Qr.	107 ³	12,264	25,085				

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

² Revised

³ Source: Bank of Mauritius

⁴ Provisional

² Provisional

³ Excluding nine hotels not operational because of renovation works

Table 9:- Monthly Occupancy Rates (%) for All Hotels and "Large" Hotels, 2013 - 2015

	All Hotels						"Large" Hotels					
Month	2013		2014		2015 1		2013		2014		2015 1	
	Room	Bed	Room	Bed	Room	Bed	Room	Bed	Room	Bed	Room	Bed
January	67	59	72	64	75	69	69	61	74	66	77	72
February	66	57	67	59	75	69	67	59	69	61	79	73
March	63	56	64	56	68	62	66	58	65	57	70	65
1st Quarter	<u>65</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>68</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>73</u>	<u>67</u>	<u>68</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>61</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>70</u>
April	60	53	65	57	68	63	63	56	69	60	71	66
May	58	51	59	52	66	60	61	53	62	54	68	63
June	42	36	46	41	51	46	42	37	47	41	52	48
2nd Quarter	<u>54</u>	<u>47</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>56</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>49</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>64</u>	<u>59</u>
1 st Semester	60	52	62	55	67	62	61	54	64	56	69	64
July	53	47	54	49			54	48	57	52		
August	60	53	62	57			62	55	67	62		
September	65	57	64	58			67	60	68	61		
3rd Quarter	<u>59</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>54</u>			<u>61</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>64</u>	<u>58</u>		
October	71	63	71	65			72	64	75	68		
November	74	65	76	67			75	67	78	70		
December	73	65	74	68			74	66	76	71		
4th Quarter	<u>73</u>	<u>64</u>	<u>74</u>	<u>67</u>			<u>74</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>76</u>	<u>70</u>		
2 nd Semester	66	58	67	61			68	60	70	64		
Year	63	55	65	58		·	65	57	67	60		

¹ Provisional

Table 10:- Employment in large ¹ establishments of the Tourism Industry as at end of March, 2010 - 2014

Year Establishments	2010 ²	2011 2	2012 2	2013 ²	2014 2
Restaurants	2,020	2,174	2,348	2,358	2,413
Hotels	21,255	21,815	22,207	22,336	22,544
Travel and Tourism ³	3,850	4,052	3,896	3,868	3,915
Total	27,125	28,041	28,451	28,562	28,872

¹ Large establishments are those employing 10 or more persons.

² Revised

³ Travel and tourism include air transport services, tour operators, travel agencies and car rental. 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 External Communication 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 who departed 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.

= Total number of room/bed nights rented x 100

Total number of room/bed nights available