



Vanuatu Bureau of Statistics  
Bureau des Statistiques du Vanuatu

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Date: May 31<sup>st</sup> 2024

# PRESS RELEASE

To Whom It May Concern

## Re: Notification of Delay in January 2024 International Visitors Arrival Statistics Report

Dear Stakeholders and Members of the Public,

The Vanuatu Bureau of Statistics (VBoS) regrets to inform you of a delay in the release of the January 2024 International Visitors Arrival Statistics Report. This delay stems from the ongoing migration of systems from Customs to Immigration, a strategic transition aimed at bolstering data integration and operational efficiency within our bureau.

Typically offering pivotal insights into international visitor arrivals and associated trends, the January 2024 report has encountered unforeseen delays in its preparation. Our dedicated team at VBoS has been diligently collaborating with both Immigration and Customs departments to seamlessly merge data from ASYCUDA to the new Immigration system, known as MIDAS (Migration Information Data Analysis System).

Please rest assured that every possible effort is being exerted to expedite the preparation and release of the January 2024 International Visitors Arrival Statistics Report. Throughout this transitional phase, the bureau remains steadfast in upholding principles of transparency and accountability.

For further updates and information regarding the release of the report, we encourage stakeholders and interested parties to visit the Vanuatu Bureau of Statistics website or utilize the contact details provided above.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support.

Sincerely,

Mr. KAP Calo Andy  
Chief Statistician





Vanuatu Bureau of Statistics  
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RELEASE DATE: 31<sup>st</sup> of May 2024

**STATISTICS UPDATE: INTERNATIONAL VISITORS ARRIVALS**

**1.Contents**

Page	
1. Overview.....	1
2. Purpose of visit(For visitors arriving by air).....	2
3. Country of usual residence (for visitors arriving by air).....	2
4. Average intended length of stay (for visitors arriving by air).....	3
5. Average intended length of stay (for visitors by sea).....	3
6. Average age of visitors (arriving by air).....	3
7. Share of visitors to outer islands.....	3
8. Summary visitors to outer islands by Province.....	4
Province.....	4
Tables.....	6-13

**1. January 2024 highlights**

- Total arrivals by air in January 2024 stood at **7,602**.
- Residents arrival makes up **18%** and visitor arrivals make up **82%** of the total arrivals by air.
- Holiday visitors represent **76%** of all air arrivals.
- Visitors residing in Australia recorded the highest percent at **52%** of all air arrivals.
- The average length of stay for visitors is **16 days**.
- The average age of visitors is **38** Years.
- Day visitors at **52,901** in January 2024
- Total departures stood at **10,477** in January 2024. Residents represents **15%** of all departure and visitor’s departure with **85%**.

**2.Overview**

- The total international arrival stood at 59,162 in which the total visitor’s arrivals by air is 6,256. The decrease was attributed to a decrease in the number of air arrivals for holiday purposes by 16% when compared to the previous month.
- There were 15 cruise ships in Vanuatu in January 2024 carrying a total of 52,901 day visitors and 5 are visitor arrivals by yacht which makes up a total of 89% of visitors arriving by sea in January 2024.

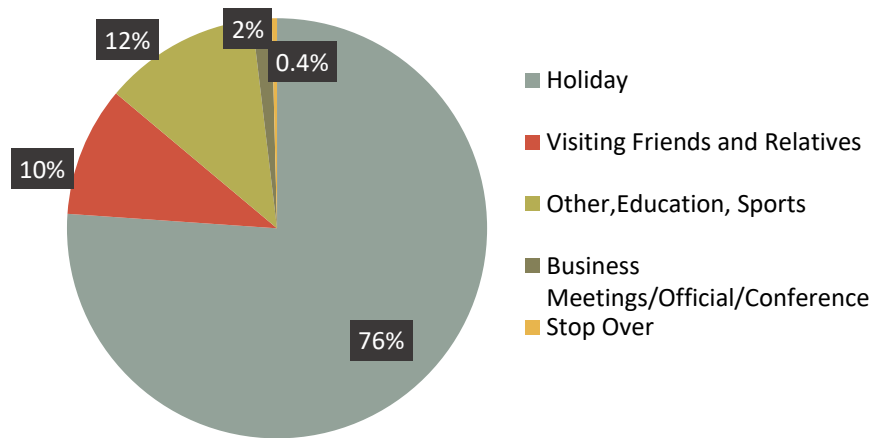
Figure 1: Visitor Arrivals by Air and Sea: January 2023 to January 2024



### 3. Purpose of visit

- Holiday visitors made up 76% of all international visitor arrivals to Vanuatu; followed by Visiting Other, Education and Sports at 12%, Friends and relatives at 10%, Business meetings or conferences at 2% and stop-over visitors at less than 1%.

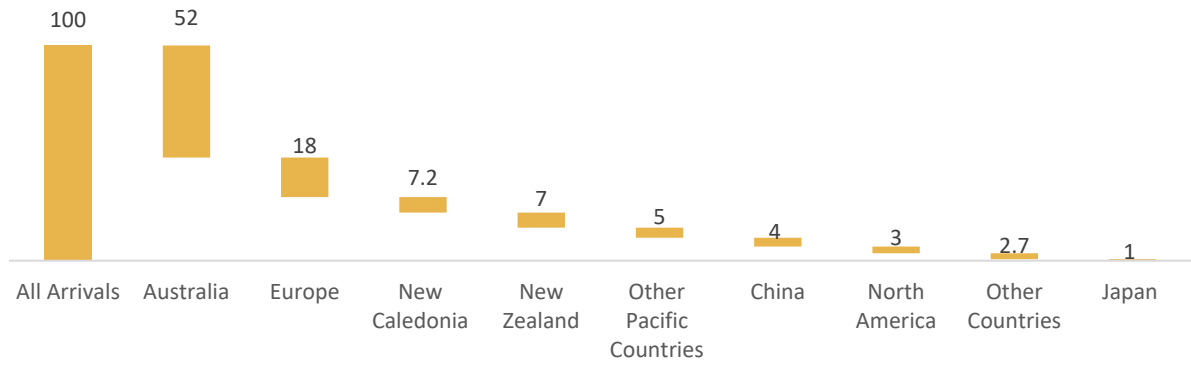
Figure 2: Percentage share of visitors by purpose of visit



### 4. Country of usual residence (for visitors arriving by air)

- Australian visitors accounted for 52% of all international visitors by air followed by Europe at 18%, New Caledonia and New Zealand at 7% each, Other Pacific Countries at 5%, China at 4%, North America and Other Countries at 3% each and Japan at 1%.

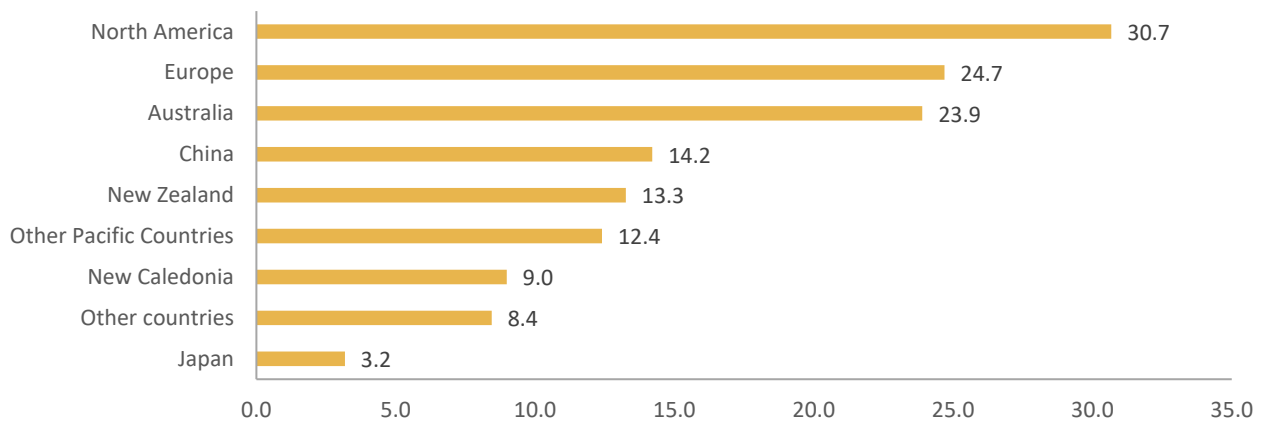
Figure 3: Percentage share of visitors by Country of Usual Residence



### 5. Average intended length of stay (for visitors arriving by air)

- International visitors by air spent an average of 16 days in Vanuatu. Visitors to Port Vila spent an average of 9 days and Luganville with 23 days.

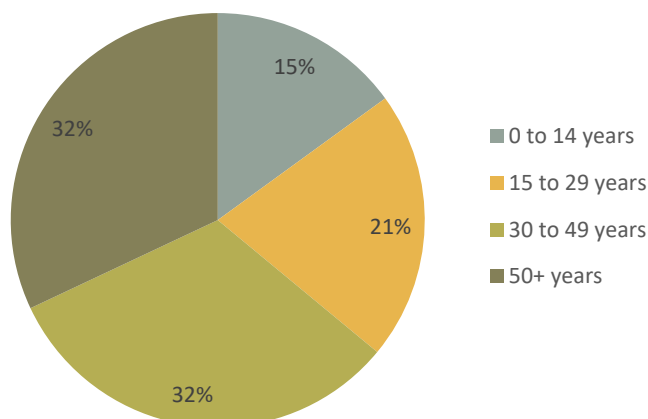
Figure 4: Average length of stay by country of usual residence



### 6. Average age of visitors (for visitors arriving by air)

- The average age for visitors travelling by air is 38 years old.
- This represents 32% of all visitors arriving to Vanuatu within the age group of 30 - 49 years old and also 32% within the age group of 50+ years old.

Figure 5: Proportion of visitors by age group



## DATA SOURCE AND REVISIONS

All International arrival by air provided in this report is sourced from the passenger processing modules within ASYCUDA World system from the Department of Customs and the Migration Information Data Analysis System (MIDAS) from the department of immigration through International Organization for Migration (IOM). Cruise ship figures are also supplied by the Department of Customs through the Passenger processing module.

The Vanuatu Bureau of Statistics is releasing monthly provisional international visitor arrivals highlighted in the tables from January 2019 onwards. This will allow for anomalies and consistency checks with the Department of Customs and Inland Revenue (DCIR) before release of actual figures in Quarterly or Annual Statistical Indicator report.

## NEXT UPDATE (MONTHLY)RELEASE DATE

February 2024

## PROVINCIAL STATISTICS OFFICES

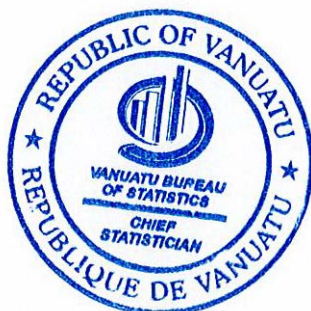
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Mr. KAP Calo Andy  
Chief Statistician



**Table 1 : Summary of Overseas Migration**  
**Tableau 1 : Résumé des échanges migratoires avec l'extérieur**

Year	Month	ARRIVALS / ARRIVEES						DEPARTURES / DEPARTURES						Arrivals		Cruiseship Arrivals/ Croisiéristes	Total Visitors	Année	Mois
		PORT VILA		LUGANVILLE		TOTAL		PORT VILA		LUGANVILLE		TOTAL		Yacht	Voilier				
		Residents Résidents	Visitors Visiteurs	Residents Résidents	Visitors Visiteurs	Residents Résidents	Visitors Visiteurs	Resident Résidents	Visitor Visiteurs	Resident Résidents	Visitors Visiteurs	Resident Résidents	Visitors Visiteurs						
2019		34,575	117,154	326	3,474	34,901	120,628	35,876	142,012	529	3,303	36,405	145,315	-	-	135,357	255,985	2019	
2020		10,392	21,764	17	201	10,409	21,965	9,122	28,095	253	39	9,375	28,134	-	-	60,401	82,366	2020	
2021		3,495	-	-	-	3,495	-	8,964	-	-	-	8,964	-	-	-	-	-	2021	
2022		18,547	30,374	-	-	18,547	30,374	18,172	27,637	-	12	18,172	27,637	158	-	34,554	65,086	2022	
2023	[p]	20,244	75,302	350	1,697	20,594	76,999	18,752	88,150	156	1,231	18,908	89,381	1,028	-	263,578	341,605	2023	[p]
2019	Jan	2,561	9,244	25	304	2,586	9,548	2,288	13,563	9	423	2,297	13,986	-	-	14,440	23,988	2019	Jan
2020	Jan	2,610	11,732	17	201	2,627	11,933	2,754	15,805	253	37	3,007	15,842	-	-	36,023	47,956	2020	Jan
2021	Jan	325	-	-	-	325	-	660	-	-	-	660	-	-	-	-	-	2021	Jan
2022	Jan	-	-	-	-	-	-	955	-	-	-	955	-	-	-	-	-	2022	Jan
2023	Jan	1,703	6,598	-	-	1,703	6,598	2,047	9,307	-	-	2,047	9,307	6	-	25,851	32,455	2023	Jan
	Feb	1,635	3,239	-	-	1,635	3,239	3,121	4,357	-	-	3,121	4,357	39	-	16,827	20,105		Fév
	Mar	[p]	239	551	-	-	239	551	1,219	1,505	-	-	1,219	1,505	-	20,541	21,092		Mar
	Apr	2,619	6,898	-	-	2,619	6,898	2,338	7,045	-	-	2,338	7,045	43	-	20,610	27,551		Avr
	May	4,168	5,992	-	-	4,168	5,992	2,502	7,395	-	-	2,502	7,395	72	-	14,666	20,730		Mai
	June	3,247	8,429	91	223	3,338	8,652	2,164	7,883	23	153	2,187	8,036	121	-	18,408	27,181		Juin
	Jul	2,596	9,443	39	255	2,635	9,698	2,340	11,106	13	292	2,353	11,398	118	-	19,906	29,722		Juil
	Aug	2,570	8,158	28	108	2,598	8,266	2,119	9,469	18	137	2,137	9,606	191	-	21,849	30,306		Août
	Sep	[p]	652	7,398	39	296	691	7,694	392	8,649	26	164	418	8,813	121	24,521	32,336		Sep
	Oct	[p]	310	6,977	44	222	354	7,199	224	8,220	2	116	226	8,336	161	16,119	23,479		Oct
	Nov	[p]	347	5,172	41	272	388	5,444	116	6,398	9	45	125	6,443	78	19,038	24,560		Nov
	Dec	[p]	158	6,447	68	321	226	6,768	170	6,816	65	324	235	7,140	78	45,242	52,088		Déc
2024	Jan	[p]	1,315	6,114	31	142	1,346	6,256	1,549	8,729	15	184	1,564	8,913	5	52,901	59,162	2024	Jan

Source: Department of Customs/Département des douanes  
 - No visitors/residents were recorded for the reference month  
 p: provisiona figures

**Table 2 : Visitor Arrivals by Purpose of Visit**  
**Tableau 2 : Arrivées de visiteurs selon le motif du voyage**

Year	Month	<u>VISITORS/VISITEURS</u>						Total Visitors	Année	Mois
		Holidays Vacances	Visiting Friends and relatives Visite à des amis et à la famille	Business, Meetings/ Conferences Affaires, réunions ou conférence	Stop Over Escale	Others, Education, sports Autres, education, sport	Visiteurs global			
2019		95,849	8,764	8,059	524	7,432	120,628	2019		
2020		17,166	1,445	1,085	448	1,821	21,965	2020		
2021		-	-	-	-	-	-	2021		
2022		23,859	3,202	1,757	204	1,352	30,374	2022		
2023[p]		66,478	3,870	2,705	742	3,204	76,999	2023[p]		
2019	Jan	7,816	717	426	16	573	9,548	2019	Jan	
2020	Jan	9,837	676	316	270	834	11,933	2020	Jan	
2021	Jan	-	-	-	-	-	-	2021	Jan	
2022	Jan	-	-	-	-	-	-	2022	Jan	
2023	Jan	5,919	349	95	91	144	6,598	2023	Jan	
	Feb	2,576	214	163	64	222	3,239		Fév	
	Mar[p]	352	51	79	-	69	551		Mar[p]	
	Apr	6,128	310	89	29	342	6,898		Avr	
	May	5,178	207	355	17	235	5,992		Mai	
	Jun	7,720	357	265	68	242	8,652		Juin	
	Jul	8,534	375	247	74	468	9,698		Juil	
	Aug	7,085	308	390	93	390	8,266		Aoû	
	Sep[p]	6,750	332	303	73	236	7,694		Sep[p]	
	Oct[p]	6,148	355	300	94	302	7,199		Oct[p]	
	Nov[p]	4,431	360	264	57	332	5,444		Nov[p]	
	Dec[p]	5,657	652	155	82	222	6,768		Déc[p]	
2024	Jan[p]	4,759	631	96	24	746	6,256	2024	Jan[p]	

Source: Department of Customs/Département des douanes

- No visitors/residents were recorded for the reference month

p: provisiona figures

**Table 3 : Visitor Arrivals by Usual Country of Residence**  
**Tableau 3 : Arrivées des visiteurs par pays de résidence habituelle**

Year	Month	Australia	New Zealand	New Caledonia	Other Pacific Countries	Europe	North America	Japan	China	Other Countries	TOTAL	Année	Mois
		Australie	Nouvelle-Zélande	Nouvelle-Calédonie	Autres Pays du Pacifique		Amérique du Nord	Japon	Chine	Autres pays			
2019		63,122	15,085	14,738	6,560	8,992	3,120	1,107	4,671	3,233	120,628	2019	
2020		11,248	1,819	3,778	1,241	1,728	692	171	680	608	21,965	2020	
2021		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2021	
2022		17,460	4,124	3,224	1,613	1,981	761	118	406	686	30,373	2022	
2023	[p]	45,232	8,536	6,347	3,177	7,399	1,993	528	2,056	1,731	76,999	2023	[p]
2019	Jan	5,251	767	1,786	481	523	229	61	284	166	9,548	2019	Jan
2020	Jan	6,425	943	2,087	402	837	335	89	522	293	11,933	2020	Jan
2021	Jan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2021	Jan
2022	Jan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2022	Jan
2023	Jan	3,835	471	1,163	199	592	142	32	64	100	6,598	2023	Jan
	Feb	1,536	152	518	182	430	139	25	142	115	3,239		Fév
	Mar	[p]	357	36	45	15	43	4	27	14	551		Mar
	Apr	4,272	669	566	275	604	166	47	162	137	6,898		Avr
	May	3,540	545	361	341	652	202	40	160	151	5,992		Mai
	Jun	5,381	973	624	289	647	280	26	213	219	8,652		Juin
	Jul	5,705	1,516	436	386	975	196	51	226	207	9,698		Juil
	Aug	4,083	1,493	481	360	1,070	179	105	287	208	8,266		Aoû
	Sep	[p]	5,178	838	310	271	512	98	222	110	7,694		Sep
	Oct	[p]	4,324	691	632	339	631	37	199	167	7,199		Oct
	Nov	[p]	3,067	548	442	248	583	34	164	167	5,444		Nov
	Dec	[p]	3,954	604	769	272	660	29	190	136	6,768		Déc
2024	Jan	[p]	3,258	439	450	291	1,150	197	43	256	6,256	2024	Jan

Source: Department of Customs/Département des douanes

- No visitors/residents were recorded for the reference month

p: provisiona figures



**Table 4 : Overseas Arrivals of Residents by Nationality**

**Tableau 4 : Arrivées des résidents par nationalité**

Year	Month	Ni-Vanuatu	Australian	French	British	New Zealand	Asian	Pacific Islanders	North Americans	Other countries	TOTAL	Année	Mois
		Australien	Français	Anglais	Néo-Zélandais	Asiatiques	Autres pays du Pacifique	Américain du Nord	Autres pays				
2019		26,317	2,344	884	329	780	2,809	665	409	364	34,901	2019	
2020		8,374	719	285	42	243	283	273	87	103	10,409	2020	
2021		2,659	343	63	10	79	210	67	17	47	3,495	2021	
2022		15,012	1,501	381	89	297	562	392	152	155	18,541	2022	
2023[p]		17,907	972	287	29	292	602	279	92	131	20,591	2023[p]	
2019	Jan	120	125	14	204	130	1,828	33	89	43	2,586	2019	Jan
2020	Jan	1,852	243	106	17	100	115	112	42	40	2,627	2020	Jan
2021	Jan	276	34	1	0	0	9	5	0	0	325	2021	Jan
2022	Jan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2022	Jan
2023	Jan	1,484	87	25	2	24	37	33	7	4	1,703	2023	Jan
	Feb	1,446	53	30	5	16	31	32	5	17	1,635		Fév
	Mar[p]	172	21	13	1	5	15	4	4	4	239		Mar[p]
	Apr	2,345	102	19	3	25	82	24	10	8	2,618		Avr
	May	3,776	127	46	8	36	115	28	9	23	4,168		Mai
	Jun	3,033	118	29	2	26	82	26	7	15	3,338		Juin
	Jul	2,333	116	20	2	27	56	50	12	17	2,633		Juil
	Aug	2,300	106	44	0	32	61	22	13	20	2,598 r		Aoû
	Sep[p]	529	72	14	3	17	30	14	8	4	691		Sept[p]
	Oct[p]	131	91	22	1	29	43	20	11	6	354		Oct[p]
	Nov[p]	225	39	16	0	48	32	16	4	8	388		Nov[p]
	Dec[p]	133	40	9	2	7	18	10	2	5	226		Déc[p]
2024	Jan[p]	1,222	40	17	0	13	24	21	2	7	1,346	2024	Jan[p]

Source: Department of Customs/Départemen

*p: provisiona figures*

*- No visitors/residents were recorded for the reference month*

*r:revised figure*

**Table 5 : Visitors Arriving by Air Intended Length of Stay\*****Tableau 5 : Arrivée des Visiteurs à longue durée de Séjour**

Year	Month	AVERAGE INTENDED LENGTH OF STAY / LA MOYENNE DE LONGUE DUREE DE SEJOUR			Année	Mois
		Port Vila	Luganville	Vanuatu		
2019		10.4	13.4	11.9	2019	
2020		2.8	1.5	3.1	2020	
2021		-	-	-	2021	
2022		6.9	-	6.9	2022	
2023[p]		10.1	8.4	11.2	2023[p]	
2019	Jan	12.4	12.0	12.2	2019	Jan
2020	Jan	11.8	17.5	14.6	2020	Jan
2021	Jan	-	-	-	2021	Jan
2022	Jan	-	-	-	2022	Jan
2023	Jan	9.4	-	9.4	2023	Jan
	Feb	8.6	-	8.6		Fév
	Mar[p]	15.1	-	15.1		Mar[p]
	Apr	12.9	-	12.9		Avr
	May	9.0	-	9.0		Mai
	Jun	12.1	20	16.1		Juin
	Jul	9.7	12	10.8		Juil
	Aug	8.8	12	10.3		Aoû
	Sep[p]	8.3	12	10.3		Sep[p]
	Oct[p]	8.6	13	10.9		Oct[p]
	Nov[p]	8.9	12	10.3		Nov[p]
	Dec[p]	10.0	12	10.8		Dec[p]
2024	Jan[p]	9.0	23	15.9	2024	Jan[p]

Source: Department of Customs/Département des douanes

p: provisional figures

**Table 6 : Visitors Arriving by Air Average Age**  
**Tableau 6 : Arrivée des Visiteurs par Age moyen**

Year	Month	AVERAGE AGE OF VISITORS / L'AGE MOYEN DES VISITEURS			Année	Mois
		Port Vila	Luganville	Vanuatu		
2019		39.10	42.47	40.79	2019	
2020		9.88	3.09	9.95	2020	
2021		-	-	-	2021	
2022		3.48	-	3.48	2022	
2023[p]					2023[p]	
2019	Jan	35.1	37.7	36.4	2019	Jan
2020	Jan	35.4	37.1	36.3	2020	Jan
2021	Jan	-	-	-	2021	Jan
2022	Jan	-	-	-	2022	Jan
2023	Jan	36.3	-	36.3	2023	Jan
	Feb	42.6	-	42.6		Fév
	Mar[p]	38.3	-	38.3		Mar[p]
	Apr	38.7	-	38.7		Avr
	May	43.2	-	43.2		Mai
	Jun	39.2	45.3	42.2		Juin
	Jul	43.3	48.6	46.0		Juil
	Aug	41.8	49.1	45.5		Août
	Sep[p]	39.9	47.1	45.5		Sep[p]
	Oct[p]	42.3	56.7	49.5		Oct[p]
	Nov[p]	42.9	44.5	43.7		Nov[p]
	Dec[p]	37.7	39.0	38.4		Déc[p]
2024	Jan[p]	37.9	37.8	37.9	2024	Jan[p]

Source: Department of Customs/Département des douanes

p: provisional figures

**Table 7: Visitors travelling to Outer Islands, Vanuatu**

**Tableau 7: Les visiteurs en voyage d'Îles Extérieures, Vanuatu**

Year	Month	Tanna	Santo	Efate offshore Islands Efate et les îles côtières	Pentecost Island îles Pentecôte	Malekula Malicolo	Ambrym	Other Islands D'autres îles	TOTAL	Année	Mois
2019		10,848	10,255	4,751	660	899	404	2,442	30,259	2019	
2020		2,283	2,489	634	64	205	47	512	6,234	2020	
2021		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2021	
2022		1,656	2,439	1,423	42	150	28	434	6,172	2022	
2023[p]		3,762	4,821	1,820	131	325	109	945	11,913	2023[p]	
2019	Jan	779	873	192	13	60	4	158	2,079	2019	Jan
2020	Jan	1,338	1,211	350	30	78	26	258	3,291	2020	Jan
2021	Jan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2021	Jan
2022	Jan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2022	Jan
2023	Jan	501	736	214	3	33	5	92	1,584	2023	Jan
	Feb	191	301	62	2	9	4	35	604		Fév
	Mar[p]	83	153	79	3	7	-	19	344		Mar[p]
	Apr	149	197	109	2	20	8	50	535		Avr
	May	224	351	107	17	23	4	80	806		Mai
	Jun	380	416	167	15	35	18	67	1,098		Juin
	Jul	765	1,077	513	34	70	29	251	2,739		Juil
	Aug	669	646	224	27	60	18	165	1,809		Aoû
	Sep[p]	195	260	56	8	19	7	39	584		Sep[p]
	Oct[p]	243	279	97	9	16	8	37	689		Oct[p]
	Nov[p]	229	218	116	5	20	7	81	676		Nov[p]
	Dec[p]	133	187	76	6	13	1	29	445		Déc[p]
2024	Jan[p]	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	2024	Jan[p]

**Source: Department of Customs/Département des douanes**

Note: 1. Data on visitors travelling to outer islands is only available from May 2014

p: provisional figures

**Table 8: Visitors usual residence arrivals by purpose of visit****Tableau 8: Visiteurs résidences habituelles arrivées par voie aérienne, par motif de visite**

Country of Usual Residence Pays de résidence habituelle	Visiting Friends and relatives Visite d'amis et de parents		Holiday Vacances		Business Affaires		All Other us les autres		Total Visitors
	% share		% share		% share		% share		
Australia/Australie	252	8%	2729	84%	29	1%	248	8%	3,258
China/Chine	24	9%	141	55%	3	1%	88	34%	256
Europe/L'europe	134	12%	888	77%	6	1%	124	11%	1,152
Japan/Japon	5	12%	27	63%	3	7%	8	19%	43
New Caledonia/Nouvelle Calédonie	65	14%	364	81%	6	1%	15	3%	450
New Zealand/Nouvelle Zélande	56	13%	319	73%	6	1%	58	13%	439
North America/ Amérique du Nord	30	15%	117	59%	7	4%	43	22%	197
Other countries/Autres pays	15	9%	74	44%	9	5%	70	42%	168
Other pacific countries/ Autres pays du pacifique	50	17%	100	34%	27	9%	116	40%	293
<b>Total Visitors</b>	<b>631</b>		<b>4,759</b>		<b>96</b>		<b>770</b>		<b>6,256</b>

Source: Department of Customs/Département des douanes