



RELEASE DATE: 23<sup>rd</sup> of November 2023

# 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.....	

## The opening of border to international travels

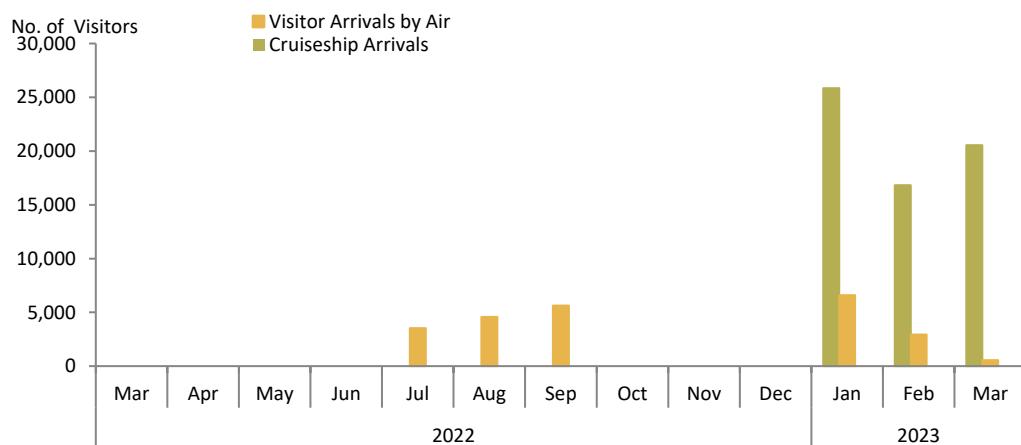
### 1. March 2023 highlights

- Total arrivals by air in March stood at **790**.
- Residents' arrival makes up **30%** and visitor arrivals make up **70%** of the total arrivals by air.
- Holiday visitors represent **64%** of all air arrivals.
- Visitors residing in Australia recorded the highest percent at **65%** of all air arrivals.
- The average length of stay for visitors is **15 days**
- The average age of visitors is **38 years**.
- Out of all air arrivals, **62%** were able to visit outer islands with Santo being the highest destination visited at **44%** share.
- Day visitors stood at **20,541**.
- Total departures are **2,724** in March 2023.

### 2. Overview

- The total international arrival stood at 21,092, in which the total visitor's arrivals by air stood at 551. The total visitor's arrivals by air declined by 81% over the previous month. The decrease was attributed to the decline in the number of air arrivals for holiday purposes due to the twin cyclones at the beginning of March 2023.
- There were 6 cruise ships that arrived in Vanuatu in March 2023 with 20,541-day visitors which makes up 97% of all visitor arrivals.

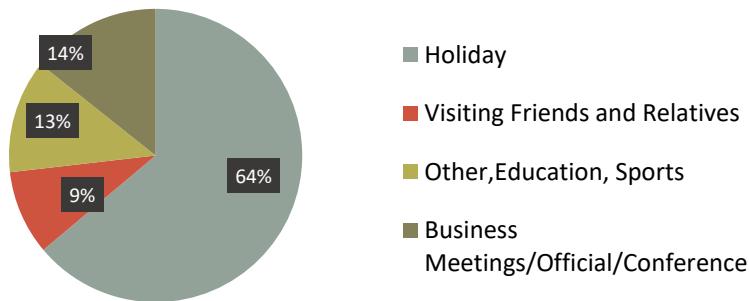
Figure 1: Visitor Arrivals by Air and Sea: March 2022 to March 2023



### 3. Purpose of visit

- Holiday visitors made up 64% of all international visitor arrivals to Vanuatu; followed by business meetings or conferences at 14%, Other, education and sports at 13%, visiting friends and relatives at 9% and stop over with none.

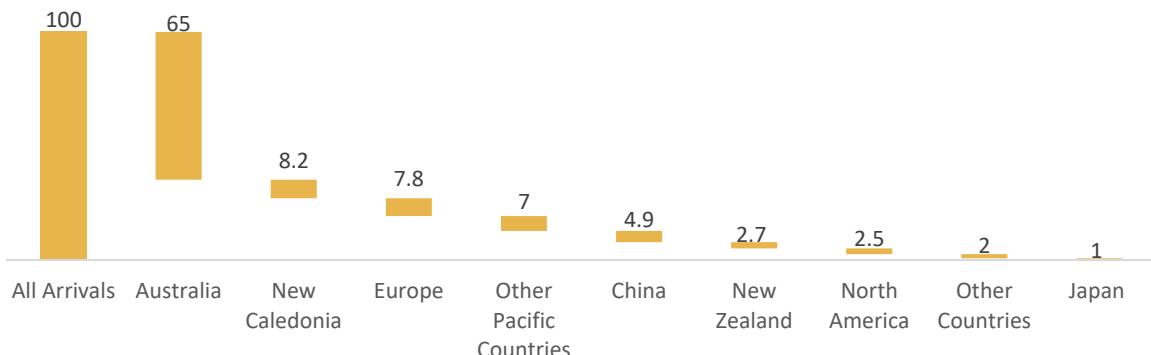
Figure 2: Percentage share of visitors by purpose of visit



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

- Australian visitors accounted for 65% of all international visitors by air followed by New Caledonia and Europe at 8% each, New Zealand at 7%, China at 5%, Other Pacific Countries and Other Countries at 3% each, North America at 2%, and Japan at 1%.

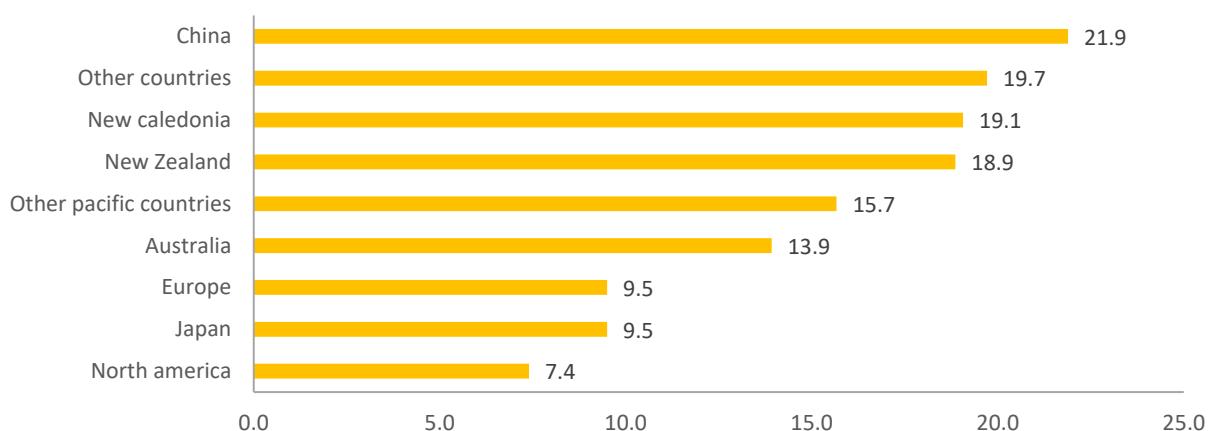
Figure 3: Percentage share of visitors by Country of Usual Residence



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

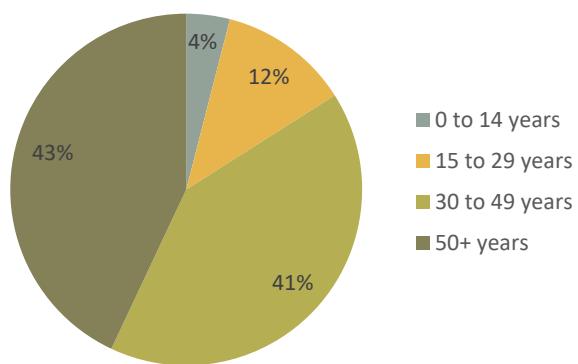
- International visitors by air spent an average of 15 days in Vanuatu.

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 stood at 38 years.
- This represents 41% of all visitors arriving to Vanuatu within the age group of 30 - 49 years old. Figure 5: Proportion of visitors by age group



## 7. Share of visitors to outer islands

- Santo received the highest number of visitors at 44%, followed by visitors to Tanna Island at 24%. (see table 7)

## 8. Summary visitors to outer islands<sup>1</sup>, by province

- Sanma received the highest number of visitors at 48%, followed by Tafea province at 28%.
- Visitors who travelled to outer islands spent an average of 8 days.

Figure 6: Proportion of visitors to outer islands

<sup>1</sup> Data on visitors travelling to outer islands is only available from July 2014

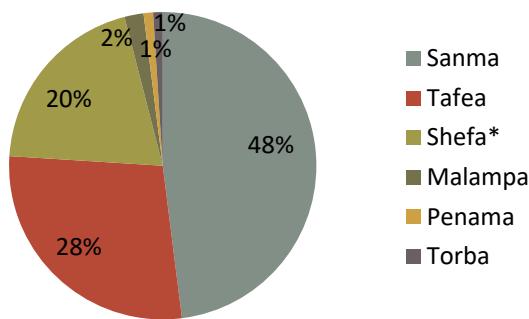


Figure 7: Summary of visitors to other provinces by country of usual residence

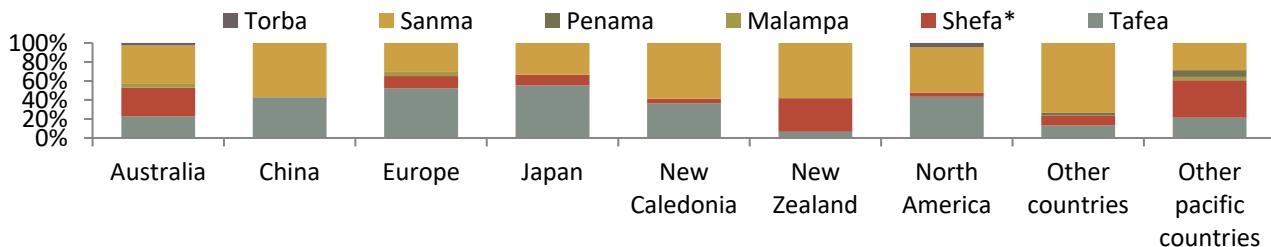


Table 1: Visitors to outer islands, by province

Year	Month	Province						TOTAL
		Torba	Sanma	Penama	Malampa	Shefa*	Tafea	
2023	Jan	16	577	13	28	158	418	1,210
2023	Feb	9	315	5	14	60	201	604
2023	Mar	4	165	3	7	70	95	344

Table 2: The average length of stay (nights spend) for visitors travelling to outer islands, by province

Year	Month	Province						TOTAL
		Torba	Sanma	Penama	Malampa	Shefa*	Tafea	
2023	Jan	11	10	8	12	6	6	9
2023	Feb	21	8	10	11	5	4	10
2023	Mar	0	9	15	15	3	7	8

Table 3: The proportion of visitors to other provinces by Country of usual residence

Country of Usual Residence	Province							Total
	Malampa	Penama	Sanma	Shefa*	Tafea	Torba	Total	
Australia	2%	0%	41%	30%	23%	2%		123
China	0%	0%	57%	0%	43%	0%		28
Europe	0%	0%	30%	13%	52%	0%		23
Japan	0%	0%	33%	11%	56%	0%		9
New Caledonia	4%	0%	59%	5%	37%	0%		41
New Zealand	0%	0%	58%	35%	6%	0%		31
North America	0%	0%	48%	4%	43%	4%		23
Other countries	5%	3%	74%	11%	13%	0%		38
Other pacific countries	10%	7%	29%	39%	21%	0%		28

\*Exclude Efate Island

## DATA SOURCE AND REVISIONS

All International arrival and departure statistics by air provided in this report is sourced from the passenger processing module within ASYCUDA World system and also completed Arrival and Departure cards from the Department of Customs. 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

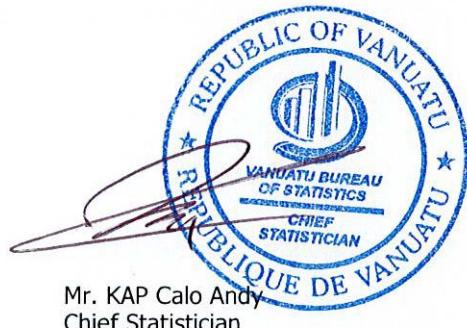
April 2023

## PROVINCIAL STATISTICS OFFICES

Sanma Office  
PO Box 273  
Luganville, SANTO  
Tel/Fax: (678) 33755  
Voip: 6330

Tafea Office  
MFEM Building, Isangel  
Ph (678) 88014  
Ext/voip 8361

Malampa Office  
MFEM Building  
Lakatoro, Malekula  
Ph (678) 48400



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						Yacht Voilier	Cruiseship Arrivals/ Croisières	Total Visitors	Année Mois				
		PORT VILA		LUGANVILLE		TOTAL		PORT VILA		LUGANVILLE		TOTAL									
		Residents Résidents	Visitors Visiteurs	Residents Résidents	Visitors Visiteurs	Residents Résidents	Visitors Visiteurs	Residents Résidents	Visitor Visiteurs	Resident Résidents	Visitors Visiteurs	Residents Résidents	Visitors Visiteurs								
2018	28,426	111,296	510	4,338	28,936	115,634	28,160	120,736	231	3,840	28,391	124,576	-	234,567	350,201	2018					
	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					
	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					
	3,495	-	-	-	3,495	-	8,964	-	-	-	8,964	-	-	-	-	2021					
	10,739	13,749	-	-	r	10,739	9,603	11,230	-	12	9,603	11,230	156	-	13,751	2022					
2018	Mar	1,594	6,864	58	252	1,652	7,116	2,647	6,073	60	189	2,707	6,262		30,844	37,960	2018 Mar				
2019	Mar	2,151	6,807	37	219	2,188	7,026	2,717	7,940	13	233	2,730	8,173		12,237	19,263	2019 Mar				
2020	Mar	1,229	3,438	-	-	1,229	3,438	1,904	4,793	-	2	1,904	4,795		7,885	11,323	2020 Mar				
2021	Mar	279	-	-	-	279	-	882	-	-	-	882	-	-	-	-	2021 Mar				
2022	Jan	-	-	-	-	-	-	955	-	-	-	955	-	-	-	-	2022 Jan				
2022	Feb	374	-	-	-	374	-	1,179	-	-	-	1,179	-	-	-	-	2022 Fév				
2022	Mar	16	-	-	-	16	-	865	-	-	-	865	-	-	-	-	2022 Mar				
	Apr	65	-	-	-	65	-	1,213	-	-	-	1,213	-	-	-	-	Avr				
	May	1,056	-	-	-	1,056	-	1,040	-	-	-	1,040	-	-	-	-	Mai				
	Jun	950	-	-	-	950	-	827	-	-	-	827	-	-	-	-	Juin				
	Jul	3,342	3,538	-	r	3,342	3,540	1,150	3,623	-	12	1,150	3,623	-	-	3,540	Juil				
	Aug	2,390	4,575	-	-	2,390	4,575	1,343	4,579	-	-	1,343	4,579	156	-	4,575	Aoû				
	Sep	2,546	5,636	-	-	2,546	5,636	1,031	3,028	-	-	1,031	3,028	-	-	5,636	Sep				
	Oct	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	Oct				
	Nov	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	Nov				
	Dec	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	Déc				
2023	Jan[p]	1,703	6598	-	-	1,703	6,598	2,047	9,307	-	-	2,047	9,307	6	25,851	32,455	2023 Jan[p]				
	Feb[p]	1,938	2935	-	-	1,938	2,935	3,121	4,357	-	-	3,121	4,357	39	16,827	19,801	Fév[p]				
	Mar[p]	239	551	-	-	239	551	1,219	1,505	-	-	1,219	1,505	-	20,541	21,092	Mar[p]				

Source: Department of Customs/Département des douanes

- No visitors/residents were recorded for the reference month

na not available

r: revised figure

**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	Visiting Friends and relatives	Business, Meetings/Conferences	Stop Over	Others, Education, sports				
		Vacances	Visite à des amis et à la famille	Affaires, réunions ou conférence	Escale	Autres, education, sport	Visiteurs global			
2018		91,726	8,616	7,552	645	7,095	115,634	2018		
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		10,833	1,284	679	111	743	13,650	2022		
2018 Mar		5,630	600	561	18	307	7,116	2018 Mar		
2019 Mar		5,299	610	726	4	387	7,026	2019 Mar		
2020 Mar		2,638	299	224	44	233	3,438	2020 Mar		
2021 Mar		-	-	-	-	-	-	2021 Mar		
2022 Mar		-	-	-	-	-	-	2022 Mar		
Apr		-	-	-	-	-	-		Avr	
May		-	-	-	-	-	-		Mai	
Jun		-	-	-	-	-	-		Juin	
Jul		2,753	367	156	42	121	3,439		Juil	
Aug		3,765	369	171	58	212	4,575		Aoû	
Sep		4,315	548	352	11	410	5,636		Sep	
Oct		na	na	na	na	na	na		Oct	
Nov		na	na	na	na	na	na		Nov	
Dec		na	na	na	na	na	na		Déc	
2023 Jan[p]		5,919	349	95	91	144	6,598	2023	Jan[p]	
Feb[p]		2,578	2	69	64	222	2,935		Fév[p]	
Mar[p]		352	51	79	-	69	551		Mar[p]	

Source: Department of Customs/Département des douanes

- No visitors/residents were recorded for the reference month

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

Year	Month	Other Pacific Countries				Europe	North America	Japan	China	Other Countries	TOTAL	Année	Mois
		Australia	New Zealand	New Caledonia	Autres Pays du Pacifique								
2018		60,616	13,432	15,105	6,545	8,023	3,347	963	4,007	3,596	115,634	2018	
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		7,635	2,079	1,001	777	1,209	366	62	208	312	13,649	2022	
2018	Mar	3,819	523	1,000	424	465	219	60	321	285	7,116	2018	Mar
2019	Mar	3,864	611	949	411	413	209	71	331	167	7,026	2019	Mar
2020	Mar	1,808	351	438	260	300	134	8	51	88	3,438	2020	Mar
2021	Mar	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2021	Mar
2022	Mar	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2022	Mar
	Apr	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		Avr
	May	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		Mai
	Jun	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		Juin
	Jul	1,894	571	183	143	444	85	7	49	63	3,439		Juil
	Aug	2,061	739	513	283	542	140	39	108	150	4,575		Aoû
	Sep	3,680	769	305	351	223	141	16	51	99	5,635		Sep
	Oct	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na		Oct
	Nov	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na		Nov
	Dec	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na		Déc
2023	Jan[p]	3,835	471	1,163	199	592	142	32	64	100	6,598	2023	Jan[p]
	Feb[p]	1,438	116	478	134	415	104	22	129	99	2,935		Fév[p]
	Mar[p]	357	36	45	15	43	10	4	27	14	551		Mar[p]

Source: Department of Customs/Département des douanes

- No visitors/residents were recorded for the reference month

**Table 4 : Overseas Arrivals of Residents by Nationality****Tableau 4 : Arrivées des résidents par nationalité**

Year	Month	Ni-Vanuatu	Australian	French	British	New Zealander	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				
2018		23,610	1,919	750	97	591	875	593	273	228	28,936	2018	
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		8,601	1,031	187	51	167	326	209	77	85	10,734	2022	
2018	Mar	1,329	140	38	4	24	59	23	18	17	1,652	2018	Mar
2019	Mar	1,629	208	88	15	48	93	41	28	38	2,188	2019	Mar
2020	Mar	857	156	53	7	45	27	41	19	24	1,229	2020	Mar
2021	Mar	184	34	2	0	10	17	25	4	3	279	2021	Mar
2022	Mar	0	9	6	0	0	1	0	0	0	16	2022	Mar
	Apr	54	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	65		Avr
	May	876	95	4	9	9	32	10	12	9	1,056		Mai
	Jun	756	80	14	3	9	63	15	2	8	950		Juin
	Jul	2,589	343	85	13	91	100	57	30	34	3,342		Juil
	Aug	2,187	56	16	6	9	31	68	9	8	2,390		Aoû
	Sep	2,139	116	50	12	46	92	49	20	22	2,546		Sep
	Oct	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na		Oct
	Nov	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na		Nov
	Dec	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na		Déc
2023	Jan[p]	1,484	87	25	2	24	37	33	7	4	1,703	2023	Jan[p]
	Feb[p]	1,445	151	86	0	52	65	80	40	19	1,938		Fév[p]
	Mar[p]	172	21	13	1	5	15	4	4	4	239		Mar[p]

Source: Department of Customs/Département d

p: provisional figures

- No visitors/residents were recorded for the reference month

**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		
2018		9.9	11.9	10.9	2018	
2019		10.4	13.4	11.9	2019	
2020		2.8	1.5	3.1	2020	
2021		-	-	-	2021	
2022		4.8	-	4.8	2022	
2018	Mar	9.2	11.2	10.2	2018	Mar
2019	Mar	8.8	9.4	9.1	2019	Mar
2020	Mar	8.7	-	8.7	2020	Mar
2021	Mar	-	-	-	2021	Mar
2022	Mar	-	-	-	2022	Mar
	Apr	-	-	-		Avr
	May	-	-	-		Mai
	Jun	-	-	-		Juin
	Jul	14	-	14		Juil
	Aug	13.9	-	13.9		Aoû
	Sep	16	-	16		Sept
	Oct	na	na	na		Oct
	Nov	na	na	na		Nov
	Dec	na	na	na		Déc
2023	Jan[p]	9.4	-	9.4	2023	Jan[p]
	Feb[p]	8.6	-	8.6		Fév[p]
	Mar[p]	15.1	-	15.1		Mar[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		
2018		38.89	43.22	41.05	2018	
2019		39.10	42.47	40.79	2019	
2020		9.88	3.09	9.95	2020	
2021		-	-	-	2021	
2022		13.83	8.81	15.44	2022	
2018	Mar	41.0	43.9	42.5	2018	Mar
2019	Mar	42.1	44.4	43.2	2019	Mar
2020	Mar	41.8	-	41.8	2020	Mar
2021	Mar	-	-	-	2021	Mar
2022	Mar	-	-	-	2022	Mar
	Apr	-	-	-		Avr
	May	-	-	-		Mai
	Jun	-	-	-		Juin
	Jul	41.6	70.5	56.1		Juil
	Aug	43.4	-	43.4		Aoû
	Sep	39.5	-	39.5		Sep
	Oct	na	na	na		Oct
	Nov	na	na	na		Nov
	Dec	na	na	na		Déc
2023	Jan[p]	36.3	-	36.3	2023	Jan[p]
	Feb[p]	42.6	-	42.6		Fév[p]
	Mar[p]	38.3	-	38.3		Mar[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	Pentecost Island îles Pentecôte	Malekula	Ambrym	Other Islands	TOTAL	Année	Mois
		Efate et les îles côtières		Malicolo	D'autres îles						
2018		11,258	10,349	4,419	527	1,220	874	2,460	31,107	2018	
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		510	912	324	14	71	17	135	1,983	2022	
2018	Mar	404	428	130	10	33	27	118	1,150	2018	Mar
2019	Mar	487	482	292	20	60	29	172	1,542	2019	Mar
2020	Mar	304	496	167	14	52	5	129	1,167	2020	Mar
2021	Mar	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2021	Mar
2022	Mar	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2022	Mar
	Apr	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		Avr
	May	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		Mai
	Jun	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		Juin
	Jul	98	270	27	-	16	-	32	443		Juil
	Aug	211	359	82	2	40	15	58	767		Aoû
	Sep	201	283	215	12	15	2	45	773		Sep
	Oct	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na		Oct
	Nov	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na		Nov
	Dec	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na		Déc
2023	Jan[p]	501	736	214	3	33	5	92	1,584	2023	Jan[p]
	Feb[p]	191	301	62	2	9	4	35	604		Fév[p]
	Mar[p]	83	153	79	3	7	-	19	344		Mar[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							Total Visitors
	Holiday	Business		All Other				
	% share	Vacances	% share	Affaires	% share is les autres	% share		
Australia/Australie	29	8%	267	75%	32	9%	29	8% 357
China/Chine	5	19%	10	37%	6	22%	6	22% 27
Europe/L'europe	5	11%	24	55%	9	20%	6	14% 44
Japan/Japon	1	25%	3	75%	0	0%	0	0% 4
New Caledonia/Nouvelle Caledonie	5	11%	21	48%	11	25%	7	16% 44
New Zealand/Nouvelle Zeland	6	17%	9	25%	8	22%	13	36% 36
North America/ Amerique du Nord	0	0%	8	80%	0	0%	2	20% 10
Other countries/Autres pays Other pacific countries/ Autres pays du pacifique	0	0%	7	50%	4	29%	3	21% 14
0	0%	3	20%	9	60%	3	20% 15	
Total Visitors	51	352	79	69				551

Source: Department of Customs/Département des douanes