



Vanuatu Bureau of Statistics  
Bureau des Statistiques du Vanuatu

## VANUATU BUREAU of STATISTICS

Private Mail Bag 9019  
Ministry of Finance and Economic Management  
Port Vila, Vanuatu  
Ph: +678 33040/22110/22111  
E-mail: [stats@vanuatu.gov.vu](mailto:stats@vanuatu.gov.vu), Web: [www.vnso.gov.vu](http://www.vnso.gov.vu)



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

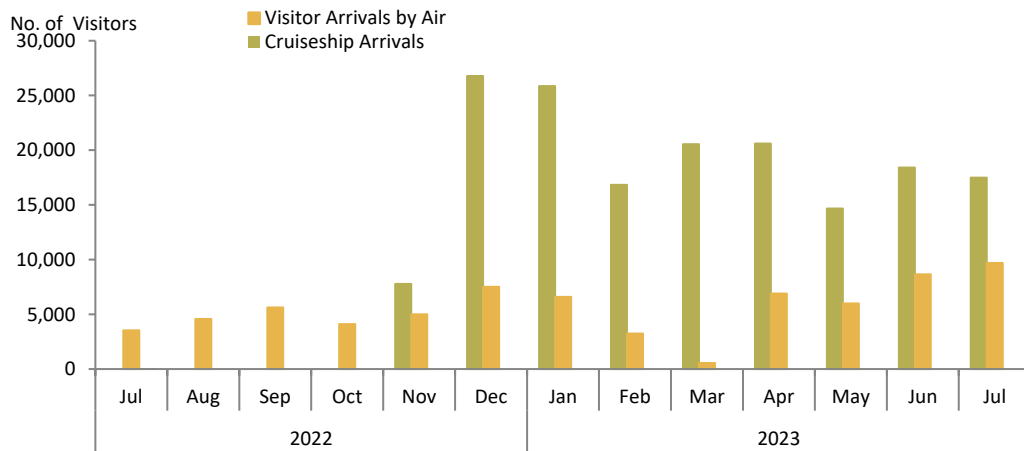
### 1. July 2023 highlights

- Total arrivals by air in July stood at **12,333**.
- Residents' arrival makes up **21%** and visitor arrivals make up **79%** of the total arrivals by air.
- Holiday visitors represent **88%** of all air arrivals.
- Visitors residing in Australia recorded the highest percent at **59%** of all air arrivals.
- The average length of stay for visitors in Vanuatu is **11** days.
- The average age of visitors is **46** years
- Out of all air arrivals, **11%** were able to visit outer islands with Santo being the highest destination visited at **39%** share.
- Day visitors at **17,483** in July 2023.
- Total departures are **13,751** in July 2023. Residents represents **17%** of all departure and visitor's departure with **83%**.

### 2. Overview

- The total international arrival stood at 27,229 in which the total visitor's arrivals by air stood at 9,698 and the total visitors by sea by 17,601. The increase was attributed to the rise in the number of air arrivals for holiday purposes with a total number of 8,534 visitors.
- There were 5 cruise ships that arrived in Vanuatu in July carrying 17,483- day visitors and 118 visitors by yacht which make up 64% of total visitors arriving by sea in July 2023.

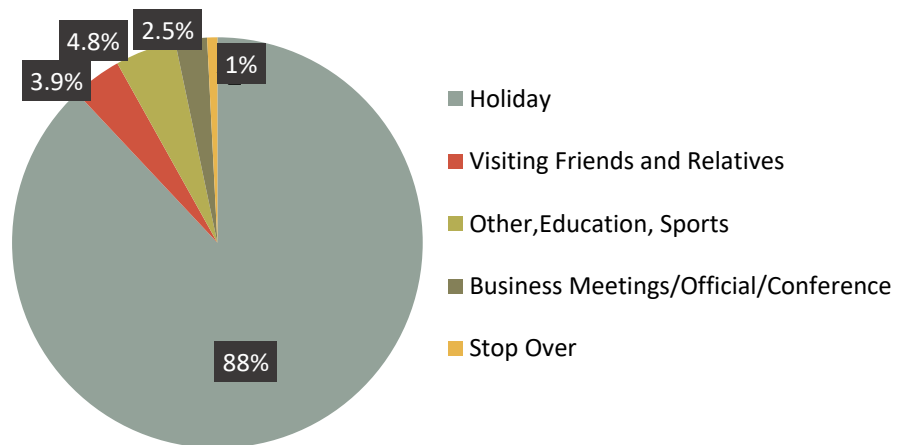
Figure 1: Visitor Arrivals by Air and Sea: July 2022 to July 2023



### 3. Purpose of visit

- Holiday visitors made up 88% of all international visitor arrivals to Vanuatu; followed by Other, education and sports at 5%, Visiting Friends and relatives at 4%, business meetings or conferences at 3% and stop-over visitors at 1%.

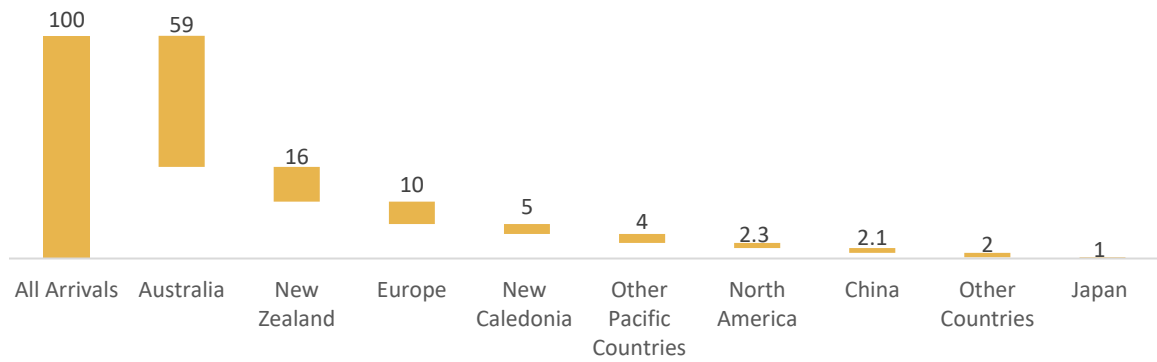
Figure 2: Percentage share of visitors by purpose of visit



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

- Australian visitors accounted for 59% of all international visitors by air followed by New Zealand at 16%, Europe at 10%, New Caledonia at 5%, Other Pacific Countries at 4%, North America, Other Countries and China at 2% each and Japan with 1%.

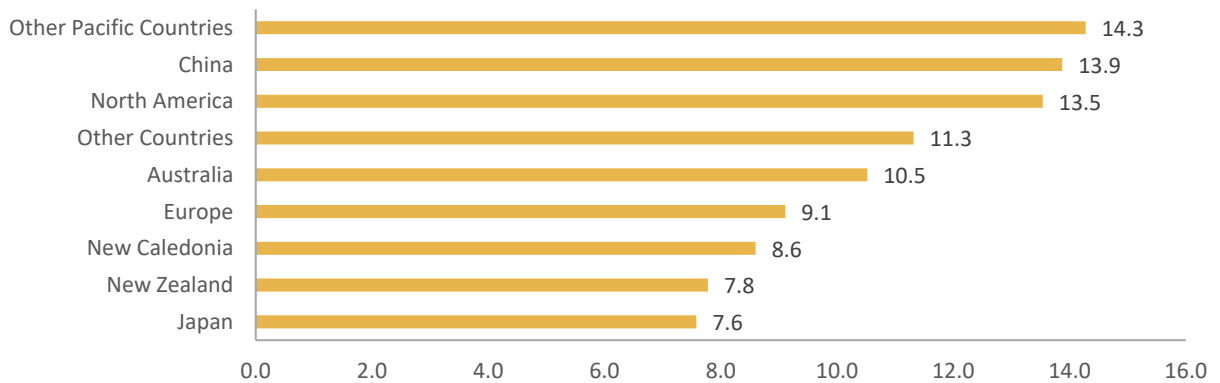
Figure 3: Percentage share of visitors by Country of Usual Residence



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

- International visitors by air spent an average of 11 days in Vanuatu. Port Vila represent an average of 10 days and Luganville with 12 days.

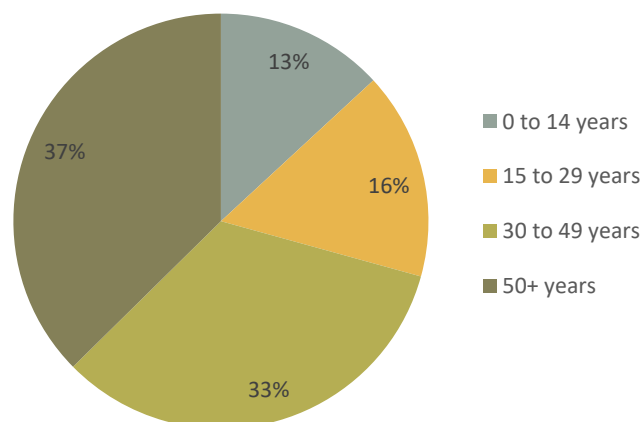
Figure 4: Average length of stay by country of usual residence



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

- The average age for visitors travelling by air is 46 years. Port Vila visitors with an average age of 43 years and Luganville with 49 years.
- This represents 33% of all visitors arriving to Vanuatu within the age group of 30 - 49 years old and 37% within the age group of 50 + 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 39%, followed by visitors to Tanna Island at 28%. (see table 7)

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

- Sanma received the highest number of visitors at 46%, followed by Tafea province at 31%.
- Visitors who travelled to outer islands spent an average of 6 days.

Figure 6: Proportion of visitors to provinces

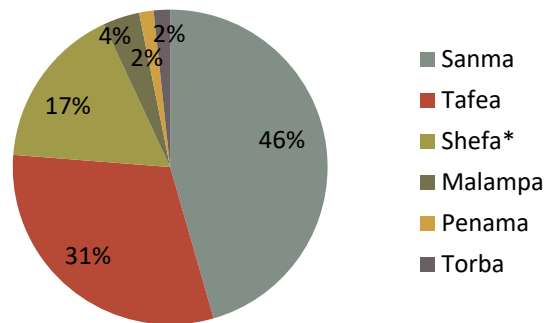


Figure 7: Summary of visitors to other provinces by country of usual residence

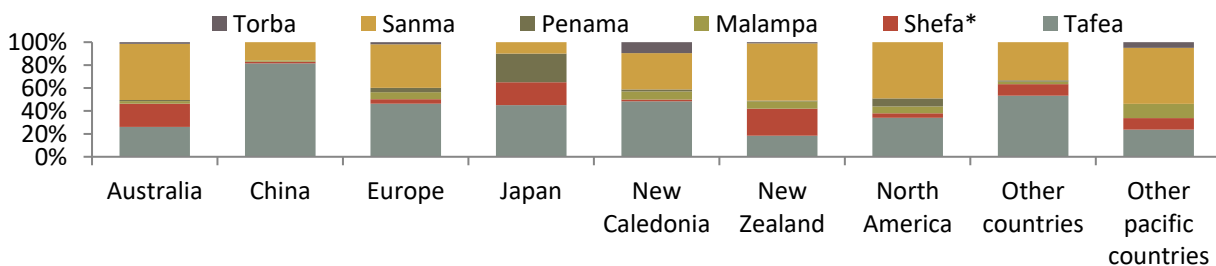


Table 1: Visitors to outer islands, by province

Year	Month	Province						TOTAL
		Torba	Sanma	Penama	Malampa	Shefa*	Tafea	
2023	July	47	1250	42	105	453	842	2,739

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	July	9.6	6.7	6.5	6.7	2.8	3.5	6

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

Country of Usual Residence	Province						Total
	Torba	Sanma	Penama	Malampa	Shefa*	Tafea	
Australia	1%	49%	1%	2%	20%	26%	1,596
China	0%	16%	0%	1%	1%	82%	76
Europe	2%	38%	4%	6%	4%	46%	261
Japan	0%	10%	25%	0%	20%	45%	20
New Caledonia	10%	32%	2%	7%	2%	48%	126
New Zealand	1%	50%	1%	6%	24%	18%	390
North America	0%	49%	7%	6%	4%	34%	100
Other countries	0%	33%	1%	2%	10%	53%	90
Other pacific countries	5%	49%	0%	13%	10%	24%	80

\*Exclude Efate Island

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

## 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

August 2023

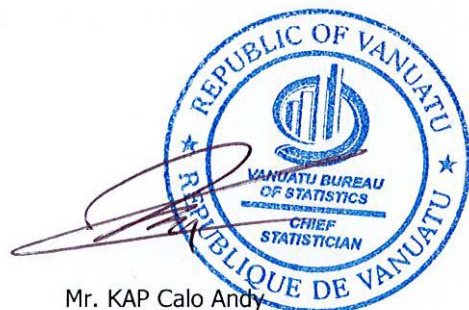
13<sup>th</sup> Nov 2023

## 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						Arrivals		Total Visitors	Année	Mois
		PORT VILA		LUGANVILLE		TOTAL		PORT VILA		LUGANVILLE		TOTAL		Yacht Voilier	Cruiseship Arrivals/ Croisiéristes			
		Residents Résidents	Visitors Visiteurs	Residents Résidents	Visitors Visiteurs	Residents Résidents	Visitors Visiteurs	Resident Résidents	Visitor Visiteurs	Resident Résidents	Visitors Visiteurs	Resident 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	
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	
2018	Jul	2,133	12,793	6	391	2,139	13,184	2,196	13,448	3	377	2,199	13,825	-	11,662	24,846	2018	Juil
2019	Jul	2,258	12,196	6	416	2,264	12,612	2,267	14,677	22	387	2,289	15,064	-	10,728	23,340	2019	Juil
2020	Jul	-	-	-	-	-	-	41	37	-	-	41	37	-	-	-	2020	Juil
2021	Jul	98	-	-	-	98	-	822	-	-	-	822	-	-	-	-	2021	Juil
2022	Jul	3,342	3,538	-	-	3,342	3,538	1,150	3,623	-	12	1,150	3,623	2	-	3,540	2022	Juil
	Aug	2,390	4,575	-	-	2,390	4,575	1,343	4,579	-	-	1,343	4,579	156	-	4,731		Aoû
	Sep	2,546	5,636	-	-	2,546	5,636	1,031	3,028	-	-	1,031	3,028	-	-	5,636		Sep
	Oct	1,955	4,104	-	-	1,955	4,104	1,498	5,098	-	-	1,498	5,098	-	-	4,104		Oct
	Nov	2,444	4,999	-	-	2,444	4,999	4,283	5,233	-	-	4,283	5,233	-	7,782	12,781		Nov
	Dec	3,409	7,522	-	-	3,409	7,522	2,788	6,076	-	-	2,788	6,076	-	26,772	34,294		Déc
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[p]
	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[p]	2,596	9,443	39	255	2,635	9,698	2,340	11,106	13	292	2,353	11,398	118	17,483	27,299		Juil[p]

Source: Department of Customs/Département des douanes

- No visitors/residents were recorded for the reference month

p: provisiona figures

r:revised figure

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

Year	Month	VISITORS/VISITEURS					Total Visitors  Visiteurs global	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			
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		23,859	3,202	1,757	204	1,352	30,374	2022	
2018	Jul	10,736	820	714	117	797	13,184	2018	Juil
2019	Jul	10,192	846	852	20	702	12,612	2019	Juil
2020	Jul	-	-	-	-	-	-	2020	Juil
2021	Jul	-	-	-	-	-	-	2021	Juil
2022	Jul	2,852	367	156	42	121	3,538	2022	Juil
	Aug	3,765	369	171	58	212	4,575		Aoû
	Sep	4,315	548	352	11	410	5,636		Sep
	Oct	3,391	394	189	9	121	4,104		Oct
	Nov	3,501	494	656	39	309	4,999		Nov
	Dec	6,035	1,030	233	45	179	7,522		Déc
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[p]	8,534	375	247	74	468	9,698		Juil[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			
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		17,460 r	4,124 r	3,224 r	1,613 r	1,981 r	761 r	118	406 r	687	30,374	2022	
2018	Jul	7,056	2,135	1,129	728	835	436	93	366	406	13,184	2018	Juil
2019	Jul	6,533	2,344	1,019	578	939	295	97	477	330	12,612	2019	Juil
2020	Jul	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2020	Juil
2021	Jul	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2021	Juil
2022	Jul	1,958 r	582 r	186 r	151 r	446 r	93 r	7	52 r	63	3,538 r	2022	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	100 r	5,636		Sep
	Oct	2,346	683	566	186	166	66	7	27	57	4,104		Oct
	Nov	2,806	634	501	349	283	174	27	61	164	4,999		Nov
	Dec	4,609	717	1,153	293	321	147	22	107	153	7,522		Déc
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	10	4	27	14	551		Mar[p]
	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[p]	5,705	1,516	436	386	975	196	51	226	207	9,698		Juil[p]

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 Australien	French Français	British Anglais	New Zealander Néo- Zélandais	Asian Asiatiques	Pacific Islanders Autres pays du Pacifique	North Americans Américain du Nord	Other countries Autres pays	TOTAL	Année	Mois
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		15,012	1,501	381	89	297	562	392	152	155	18,541	2022	
2018	Jul	1,642	154	46	7	41	92	106	31	20	2,139	2018	Juil
2019	Jul	1,604	253	80	7	73	112	68	30	37	2,264	2019	Juil
2020	Jul	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2020	Juil
2021	Jul	63	21	3	0	4	1	1	2	3	98	2021	Juil
2022	Jul	2,589	343	85	13	91	100	57	30	34	3,342	2022	Juil
	Aug	2,187	56	16	6	9	31	68	9	8	2,390		Août
	Sep	2,139	116	50	12	46	92	49	20	22	2,546		Sep
	Oct	1,557	138	63	4	36	52	58	22	24	1,954		Oct
	Nov	1,958	166	79	14	49	91	50	23	14	2,444		Nov
	Dec	2,896	166	52	20	45	93	75	30	32	3,409		Déc
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[p]	2,333	116	20	2	27	56	50	12	17	2,633		Juil[p]

Source: Department of Customs/Département d

*p: provisiona 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		6.9	-	6.9	2022	
2018	Jul	10.6	13.3	11.9	2018	Juil
2019	Jul	9.2	11.9	10.5	2019	Juil
2020	Jul	-	-	-	2020	Juil
2021	Jul	-	-	-	2021	Juil
2022	Jul	14	-	14	2022	Juil
	Aug	13.9	-	13.9		Aoû
	Sep	13.3	-	13.3		Sept
	Oct	11.5	-	11.5		Oct
	Nov	16.3	-	16.3		Nov
	Dec	13.6	-	13.6		Déc
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[p]	9.7	12	10.8		Juil[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		3.48	-	3.48	2022	
2018	Jul	38.4	40.6	39.5	2018	Juil
2019	Jul	38.8	42.6	40.7	2019	Juil
2020	Jul	-	-	-	2020	Juil
2021	Jul	-	-	-	2021	Juil
2022	Jul	41.6	- r	56.1	2022	Juil
	Aug	43.4	-	43.4		Aoû
	Sep	39.5	-	39.5		Sep
	Oct	41.3	-	41.3		Oct
	Nov	42.8	-	42.8		Nov
	Dec	36.6	-	36.6		Déc
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[p]	43.3	48.6	46.0		Juil[p]

Source: Department of Customs/Département des douanes

p: provisional figures

r:revised figure

**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
		2018		11,258	10,349	4,419	527	1,220	874		
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	
2018	Jul	1,565	1,566	628	81	145	133	335	4,453	2018	Juil
2019	Jul	1,594	1,584	906	65	123	50	414	4,736	2019	Juil
2020	Jul	-	5	-	-	1	-	-	6	2020	Juil
2021	Jul	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2021	Juil
2022	Jul	98	270	27	-	16	-	32	443	2022	Juil
	Aug	211	359	82	2	40	15	58	767		Aoû
	Sep	201	283	215	12	15	2	45	773		Sep
	Oct	355	481	401	10	27	3	108	1,385		Oct
	Nov	371	491	417	15	30	5	95	1,424		Nov
	Dec	420	555	281	3	22	3	96	1,380		Déc
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[p]	765	1,077	513	34	70	29	251	2,739		Juil[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	103	2%	5379	94%	63	1%	160	3%	5,705
China/Chine	17	8%	189	84%	3	1%	17	8%	226
Europe/L'europe	53	5%	796	81%	29	3%	101	10%	979
Japan/Japon	2	4%	43	84%	3	6%	3	6%	51
New Caledonia/Nouvelle Calédonie	57	13%	354	81%	12	3%	13	3%	436
New Zealand/Nouvelle Zélande	57	4%	1377	91%	30	2%	52	3%	1,516
North America/ Amérique du Nord	26	13%	139	71%	7	4%	24	12%	196
Other countries/Autres pays	17	8%	128	63%	16	8%	42	21%	203
Other pacific countries/ Autres pays du pacifique	43	11%	129	33%	84	22%	130	34%	386
<b>Total Visitors</b>	<b>375</b>		<b>8,534</b>		<b>247</b>		<b>542</b>		<b>9,698</b>

Source: Department of Customs/Département des douanes