

PREFACE

This is the sixteenth bulletin in a series of migration reports produced by the Statistics Department as the main reference on volume of overseas visitors, cruise ship passengers, yacht passengers and residents movement to and from the Kingdom of Tonga. This bulletin covers the period from January to December 2015. Included are tables providing a monthly breakdown of the data.

The data is extracted from the arrival and departure cards of the Immigration Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Customs Department's vessel & yacht log book.

This bulletin presents information relating to number of arrivals and departures by port, passenger's type, transport mode, gender, age group, purpose of travel and country of usual residence.

Special thanks are extended to the Immigration Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Customs Department of the Ministry of Revenue Services, Airport Terminal Services, Tonga Airports Limited and Ports Authority for their assistance in providing their administrative information relating to these statistics. I am also grateful particularly to my staff in the Population and Social Statistics Division who contributed to the compilation of this report.

Any suggestions that recipients of this bulletin wish to make for its future improvement will be welcome by the Statistics Department.

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1. MAIN FEATURES

1.1 General

- a. Net overseas migration is one component of population change used to estimate the Tonga usually resident population, as are births and deaths.
- b. Individuals are considered to be residents when they reside in Tonga for at least one year
- c. Due to the limitation on the data collected we are unable at this stage to determine whether arrivals and departures are of a long term or short term duration.
- d. For 2015, total international arrivals were 104,070 and total departures were 105,379, a net outflow of 1,309
- e. This means that there are more persons departing the Kingdom than persons arriving for the year 2015

1.2 Total International Arrivals and Departures

Fig. 1: Total International Arrivals & Departures 2004 - 2015

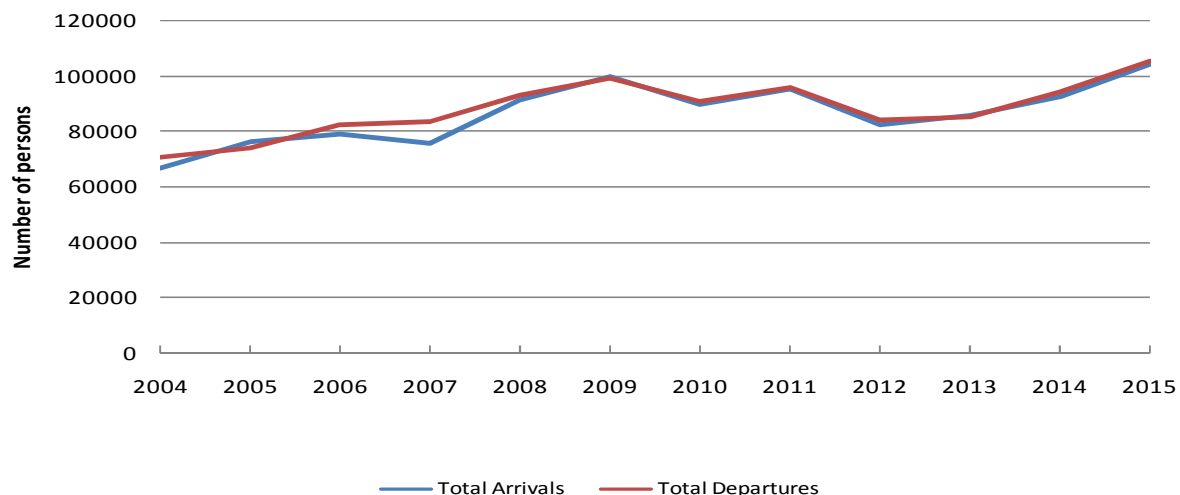


Fig 1. Shows the Total Arrivals and Departures to and from the Kingdom of Tonga for the years 2004 to 2015. The above diagram shows a slightly upward trend from 2004 to 2009 and both declined in 2010, increased again in 2011 and again declined in 2012. In the year 2013 there were more people arriving the Kingdom than departing. Year 2014 and 2015 shows that there was a slightly increase in departures compared to arrivals.

1.3 Total International Arrivals and Departures by Annual Percentage Change

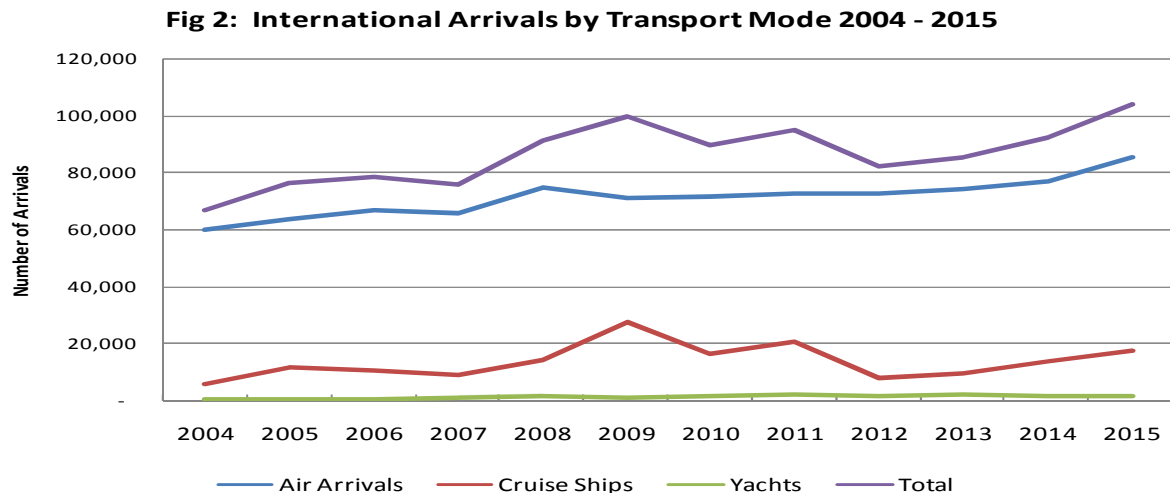
Table 1.1 Total International Arrivals and Departures 2004 - 2015

Year	Total Arrivals	% Change	Total Departures	% Change
2004	66,639	-	70,206	-
2005	76,286	14.5	73,540	4.7
2006	78,652	3.1	82,268	11.9
2007	75,587	-3.9	83,416	1.4
2008	91,128	20.6	92,890	11.4
2009	99,803	9.5	99,360	7.0
2010	89,506	-10.3	90,607	-8.8
2011	94,960	6.1	95,607	5.5
2012	82,400	-13.2	83,805	-12.3
2013	85,473	3.7	85,134	1.6
2014	92,374	8.1	94,090	10.5
2015	104,070	12.7	105,379	12.0

Table 1 shows the total arrivals with the highest point in 2015 with 104,070 persons arriving in the Kingdom. The largest increase in arrivals in 2008 was 20.6% from 2007. In 2015, there was an increase of 12.7% from 2014. Similarly to total arrivals, total departures had the highest point in 2015 with 105,379 persons leaving Tonga. There was an increase on departures of 12.0% from 2014.

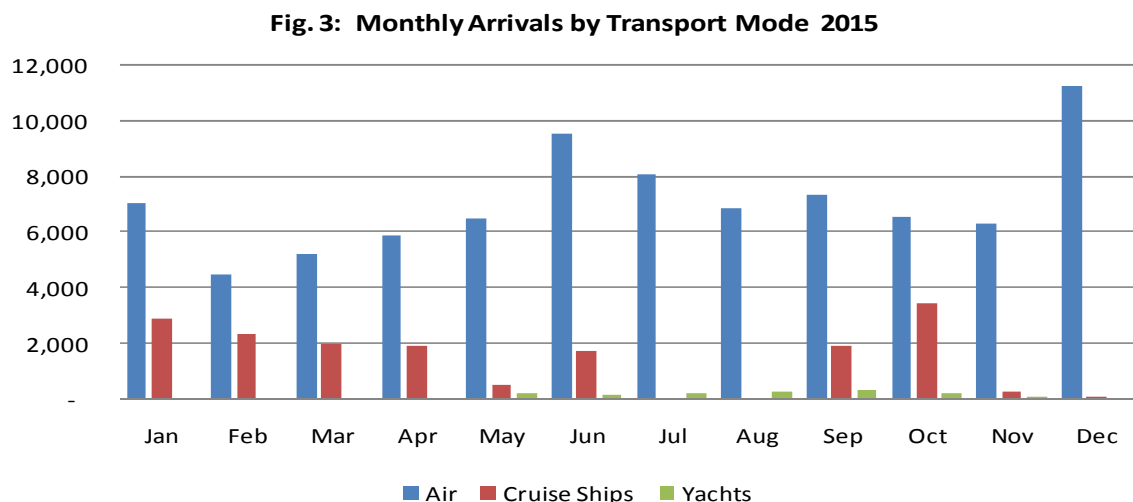
2. INTERNATIONAL ARRIVALS

2.1 International Arrivals by Transport Mode 2004 - 2015



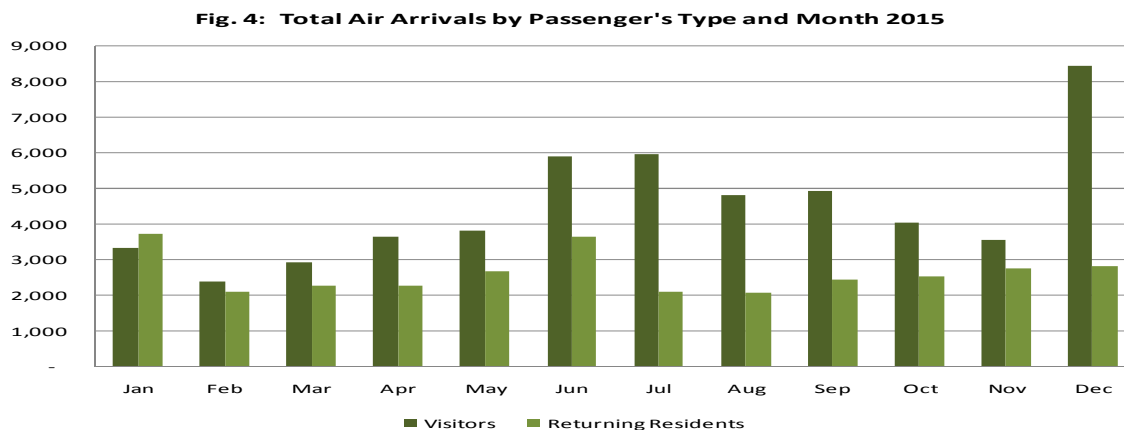
The above graph shows the total international arrivals to the Kingdom by transport mode for the year 2004 - 2015. It clearly shows that international air arrivals dominated the total international arrivals to the Kingdom followed by arrivals on cruise ships and then arrivals by yachts. The increase of total arrivals in 2009 and 2011 is mainly due to the increase in arrivals by cruise ships which was 27,641 in 2009 compared to 14,599 in 2008 and 20,519 in 2011 compared with 16,265 in 2010. Yachts arrivals increased from 1,816 in 2012 to 2,045 in 2013. There's also an increase on both air arrivals and cruise ship arrivals in 2015.

2.2 Total Arrivals by Transport Mode and Month 2015



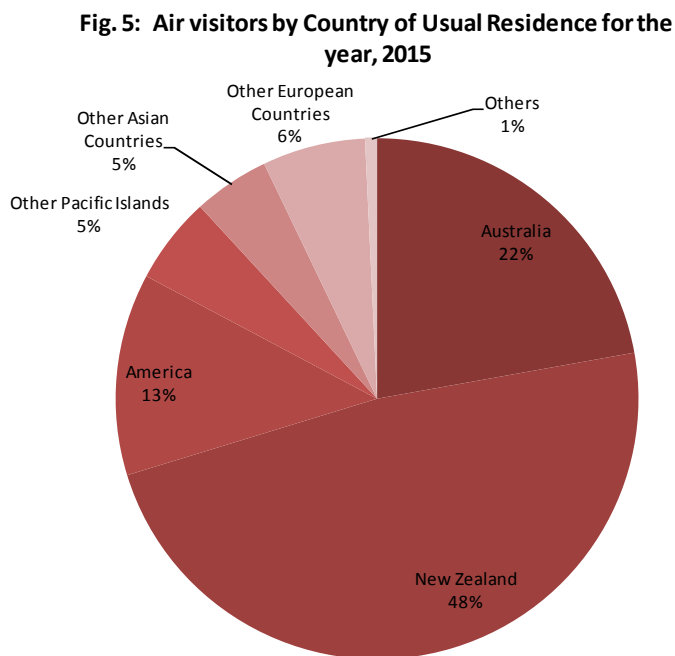
The above graph illustrates the total arrivals by transport mode and month for the year 2015. The air arrivals were highest in December (11,274) followed by June (9,550). Cruise ships visited the Kingdom in the month of January, February, March, April, May, June, September, October, November and December with the highest number of cruise ship arrivals was in October (3,460) followed by January (2,935)

2.3 Total Air Arrivals by Passenger Type and Month 2015



The highest number of returning residents arrived in Tonga was in January 2015. Visitors arrivals had the highest in December with Tongans residing overseas visiting Tonga for Christmas Holidays.

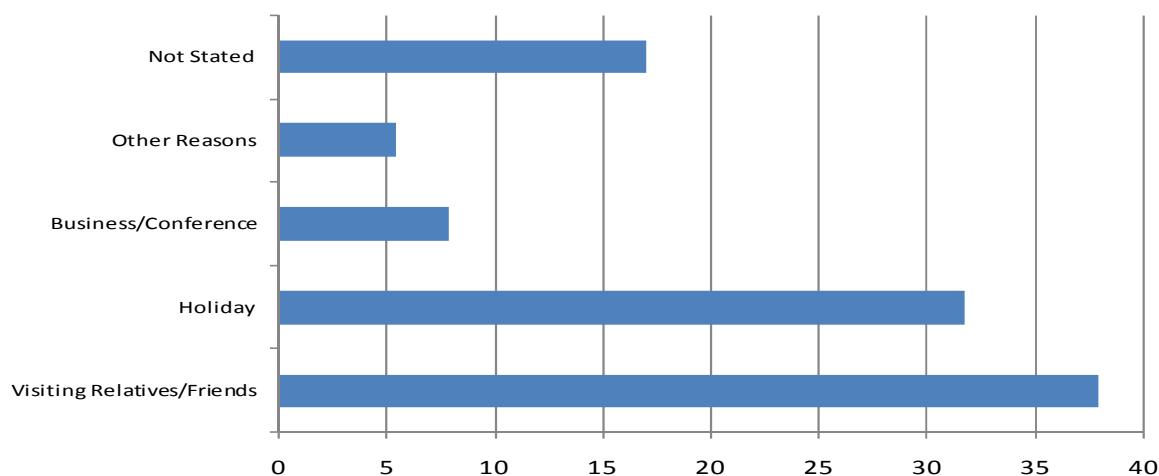
2.4 Total Air Visitors by Country of Usual Residence 2015



New Zealand remains as the leading country in visitors arrivals by country of usual residence accounting for 48.1% (25,838). This was followed by Australia with 22.2% (11,929) and the United States 12.5% (6,718)

2.5 Visitors Arrivals by Purpose of Visit 2015

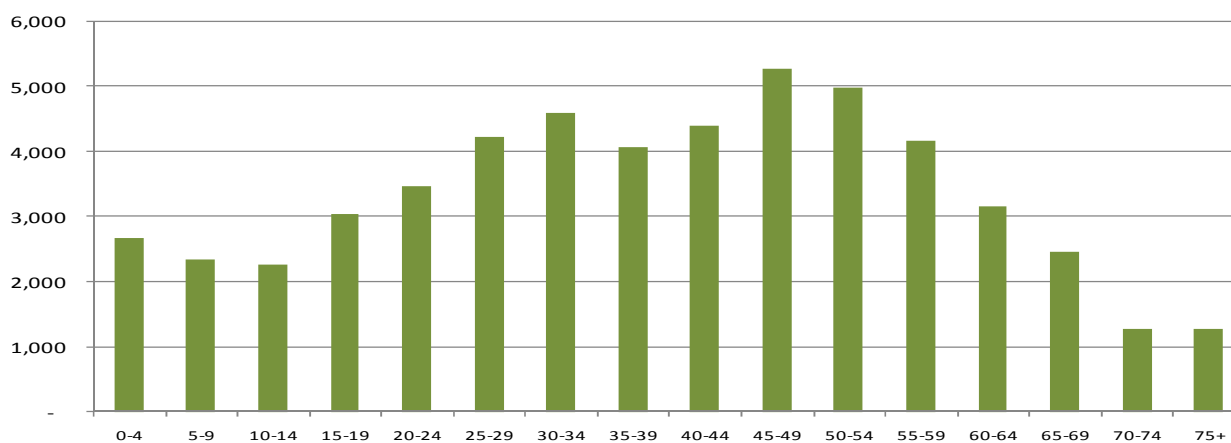
Fig. 6: Air Visitors by Purpose of Visit for the year, 2015



Most visitors to the Kingdom were visiting relatives and friends 37.9% (20,347). This was followed by 31.7% (17,064) who were here on Holiday/Vacation

2.6 International Air Visitors by Age Group 2015

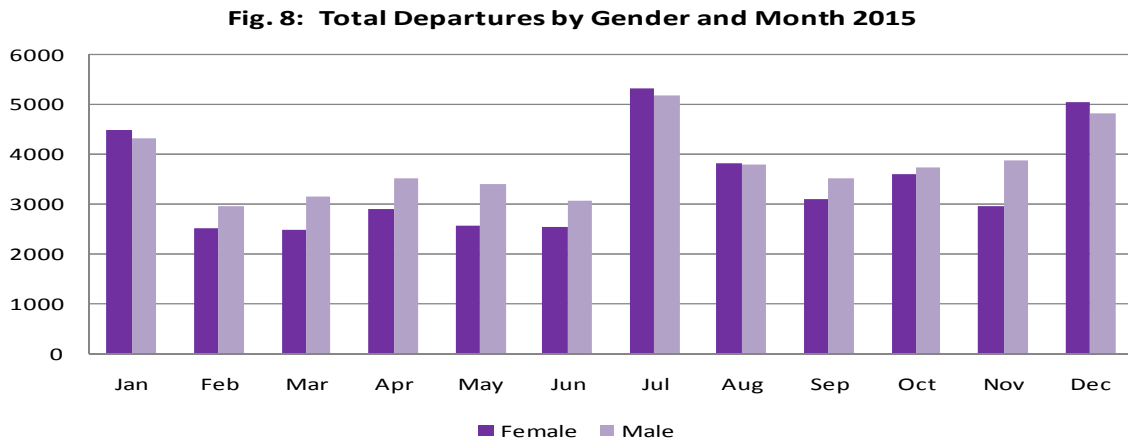
Fig. 7: Air Visitors by Age Group - 2015



The majority of the air visitors were in the 45 – 49 (5,283) age group followed by 50 – 54 (4,986) age group

3 International Departures

3.1 Air Departures by Gender and Month 2015



The above figure shows that the lowest departures for female was in the month of March followed by February. The highest number of departures was in the month of July with 5,320 for females and 5,169 for males in the same month.

3.2 Air Departures by Country of Usual Residence, 2015

Fig.9: Air Departures by Country of Usual Residence for the year 2015

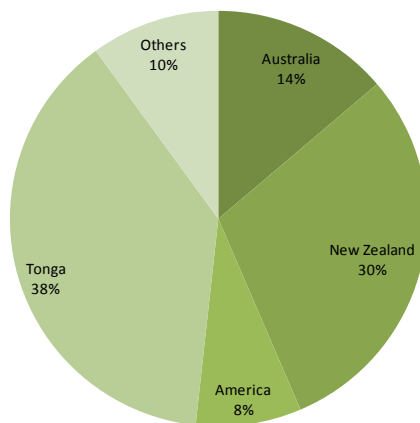


Figure 9 shows that most of the persons departing in the year 2015 were persons residing in the Kingdom of Tonga 33,078 (38.2)% followed by New Zealand 25,742 (29.7)% and Australia 11,949 (13.8)%.

4 EXPLANATORY NOTES

4.1 PURPOSE

The purpose of this bulletin is to give an overview of total international arrivals and departures and their main social and economic characteristics.

Statistics on Overseas Arrivals and Departures related to the number of movements of travelers rather than the number of travelers (i.e. the multiple movements of individual persons during a given reference period are all counted).

4.2 COVERAGE

This bulletin covers all international arrivals and departures from the Kingdom of Tonga, including yachts and those through Lupepau'u Airport and all outer islands, during 2015. Final totals of arrivals and departures are based on the reconciliation between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Immigration Electronic data, Customs Wharf Register and Air Terminal Services Manifest.

4.3 SOURCE OF DATA

Data is extracted from the arrival and departure cards of the Immigration Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Customs vessel and yacht log book. The Statistics Department reconciles the figures from the Air Terminal Services Manifest and Ports Authority Manifest to produce final published data.

4.4 DATA LIMITATIONS

Passengers on yachts and ships do not complete arrival and departure cards therefore we are unable to provide details on Age, Sex and Purpose of visit.

Due to the limitation on data collected, we are unable at this stage to determine whether arrivals and departures are of a long term or short term duration.

5 GLOSSARY

- A Visitor is a person other than a Tongan citizen, permit holder and exempted person, who usually stays at least 24 hours in the kingdom, or who stays overnight in accommodation within Tonga. This refers to passengers arriving by air and yacht only.
- Cruise Ship Passengers are defined as those who arrive and depart in the same vessel which is a cruise trip, and use that vessel's accommodation during their stay in Tonga. They are also known as "Excursionist"
- A Returning Resident is a person who has the Kingdom of Tonga as their permanent address for more than six months of the year and returns to Tonga after a trip overseas. Tongan residence is self-defined as reported by travelers when completing the Passenger Arrival Card.
- Main reason for journey On arrival in Tonga, all overseas visitors and Tongan residents are asked to state their purpose of journey. Statistics are published using the following categories: Holiday, Business, Visiting friends and /or relatives, Conference and Others.
- Mode of Transport Only air, yacht and cruise ships passengers are included. Passenger/crew on cargo, navy or special vessels are excluded.

The Statistics Department wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the Immigration Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Custom Department of the Ministry of Revenue Services, Air Terminal Services, Ports Authority for making it possible to publish these important statistics.

Table 2. Total Air Arrivals by Age Group and Month 2015

Age Group	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
0-4	343	190	245	237	255	437	328	249	292	280	268	695	3,819
5-9	474	157	171	199	186	248	348	174	243	207	199	702	3,307
10-14	568	201	138	190	119	255	322	140	306	137	164	767	3,307
15-19	703	307	197	248	182	532	518	209	442	226	273	890	4,727
20-24	600	366	382	431	544	773	624	567	460	471	629	984	6,831
25-29	584	355	480	525	640	773	675	655	660	648	635	938	7,567
30-34	587	378	466	520	633	882	711	787	641	663	607	943	7,819
35-39	533	322	452	499	556	773	644	661	653	544	492	787	6,915
40-44	555	371	504	508	582	787	697	663	682	631	561	864	7,406
45-49	583	421	530	606	680	919	795	716	697	681	601	1,040	8,268
50-54	425	377	434	572	610	773	721	610	714	604	544	850	7,234
55-59	354	336	369	456	546	751	575	522	555	496	419	662	6,041
60-64	282	259	336	357	384	445	485	382	396	388	357	462	4,533
65-69	220	235	262	244	278	532	284	293	308	301	281	318	3,556
70-74	142	111	122	155	153	270	173	145	164	166	146	183	1,929
75+	110	114	133	172	161	401	176	121	156	131	143	189	2,008
Total	7,063	4,500	5,221	5,919	6,510	9,550	8,076	6,894	7,369	6,574	6,319	11,274	85,269
% Distribution	8.3	5.3	6.1	6.9	7.6	11.2	9.5	8.1	8.6	7.7	7.4	13.2	100.0
GENDER													
Male	3,457	2,317	2,827	3,156	3,776	4,753	4,126	3,742	3,889	3,430	3,396	5,741	44,610
Female	3,606	2,183	2,394	2,763	2,734	4,797	3,950	3,152	3,480	3,144	2,923	5,533	40,659
Total	7,063	4,500	5,221	5,919	6,510	9,550	8,076	6,894	7,369	6,574	6,319	11,274	85,269
PASSENGERS TYPE													
Returning Residents	3,720	2,119	2,277	2,277	2,690	3,652	2,115	2,085	2,454	2,529	2,769	2,830	31,517
Visitors	3,343	2,381	2,944	3,642	3,820	5,898	5,961	4,809	4,915	4,045	3,550	8,444	53,752
Total	7,063	4,500	5,221	5,919	6,510	9,550	8,076	6,894	7,369	6,574	6,319	11,274	85,269

Table 3: Air Visitors by Country of Residence and Purpose of Visit, 2015

Country of Usual Residence	Purpose of Visit						
	Total	% Distribution	Holiday/Vacation	Business/Conference	Visiting Relative/Friends	Other Reasons	Not Stated
Australia	11,929	22.2	3,978	772	4,832	606	1,740
New Zealand	25,838	48.1	7,561	1,554	11,439	1,053	4,232
Fiji	1,784	3.3	238	611	366	293	277
American Samoa	114	0.2	9	12	66	16	10
Western Samoa	230	0.4	26	79	65	46	13
Other Pacific Islands	767	1.4	76	260	185	143	102
Japan	826	1.5	322	131	121	120	132
China	939	1.7	284	185	122	141	206
India	65	0.1	10	22	10	12	10
Korea	132	0.2	47	26	17	13	29
Other Asian Countries	574	1.1	238	106	59	72	99
UK	786	1.5	403	44	78	39	221
Germany	848	1.6	608	6	60	6	168
France	445	0.8	186	17	56	29	156
Italy	144	0.3	105	7	7	1	24
Other European Countries	1,218	2.3	852	31	79	17	239
All African Countries	49	0.1	11	9	9	4	16
United States of America	6,718	12.5	1,913	349	2,741	319	1,397
Canada	228	0.4	125	11	22	14	56
Other American Countries	117	0.2	71	21	11	4	9
Total	53,752	100.0	17,064	4,255	20,347	2,950	9,136
Percent Distribution	100.0		31.7	7.9	37.9	5.5	17.0

Table 4: Total Air Arrivals by Country of Residence and Purpose of Visit, 2015

Country of Usual Residence	Purpose of Visit						
	Total	% Distribution	Holiday/Vacation	Business/Conference	Visiting Relative/Friends	Other Reasons	Not Stated
Australia	11,929	14.0	3,978	772	4,832	606	1,740
New Zealand	25,839	30.3	7,561	1,554	11,439	1,053	4,232
Fiji	1,784	2.1	238	611	366	293	277
American Samoa	114	0.1	9	12	66	16	10
Western Samoa	230	0.3	26	79	65	46	13
Tonga	31,516	37.0	43	3	137	21	31,312
Other Pacific Islands	767	0.9	76	260	185	143	102
Japan	826	1.0	322	131	121	120	132
China	939	1.1	284	185	122	141	206
India	65	0.1	10	22	10	12	10
Korea	132	0.2	47	26	17	13	29
Other Asian Countries	574	0.7	238	106	59	72	99
UK	786	0.9	403	44	78	39	221
Germany	848	1.0	608	6	60	6	168
France	445	0.5	186	17	56	29	156
Italy	144	0.2	105	7	7	1	24
Other European Countries	1,218	1.4	852	31	79	17	239
All African Countries	49	0.1	11	9	9	4	16
United States of America	6,718	7.9	1,913	349	2,741	319	1,397
Canada	228	0.3	125	11	22	14	56
Other American Countries	117	0.1	72	21	11	4	9
Total	85,269	100.0	17,108	4,258	20,484	2,971	40,448
% Distribution	100.0		20.1	5.0	24.0	3.5	47.4

Table 5: AIR DEPARTURES by Age Group and Passanger's Type for the year 2015

Age Group	Departing Residents	Percent Distribution	Visitors	Percent Distribution	Total	Percent Distribution
0 - 4	1,255	1.5	2,563	3.0	3,818	4.4
5 - 9	1,183	1.4	2,348	2.7	3,531	4.1
10 - 14	1,350	1.6	2,253	2.6	3,603	4.2
15 - 19	2,090	2.4	3,067	3.5	5,157	6.0
20 - 24	3,590	4.1	3,448	4.0	7,038	8.1
25 - 29	3,582	4.1	4,193	4.8	7,775	9.0
30 - 34	3,337	3.9	4,530	5.2	7,867	9.1
35 - 39	2,946	3.4	3,980	4.6	6,925	8.0
40 - 44	2,953	3.4	4,406	5.1	7,359	8.5
45 - 49	2,927	3.4	5,154	6.0	8,081	9.3
50 - 54	2,234	2.6	5,072	5.9	7,306	8.4
55 - 59	1,841	2.1	4,214	4.9	6,055	7.0
60 - 64	1,403	1.6	3,319	3.8	4,721	5.5
65 - 69	1,043	1.2	2,475	2.9	3,518	4.1
70 - 74	629	0.7	1,308	1.5	1,936	2.2
75+	716	0.8	1,168	1.3	1,883	2.2
All Ages	33,078	38.2	53,496	61.8	86,574	100.0
YACHT	-	-	1,422	0	1,422	0
CRUISE SHIP	-	-	17,383	0	17,383	0
Total	33,078	38.2	72,301	61.8	105,379	100.0

Table 6. Total Departures by Country of Residence and Gender for the year 2015

Country of Usual Residence	Male	Percent	Female	Percent	Total	Percent
	No.	Distribution	No.	Distribution	No.	Distribution
Australia	5,821	6.7	6,128	7.1	11,949	13.8
New Zealand	12,560	14.5	13,182	15.2	25,742	29.7
Fiji	1,141	1.3	677	0.8	1,818	2.1
American Samoa	49	0.1	44	0.1	93	0.1
Western Samoa	128	0.1	87	0.1	215	0.2
Tonga	18,346	21.2	14,732	17.0	33,078	38.2
Other Pacific Islands	419	0.5	291	0.3	710	0.8
Japan	488	0.6	271	0.3	759	0.9
China	528	0.6	314	0.4	841	1.0
India	53	0.1	7	0.0	60	0.1
Korea	71	0.1	49	0.1	120	0.1
Other Asian Countries	337	0.4	163	0.2	500	0.6
UK	398	0.5	359	0.4	756	0.9
Germany	391	0.5	408	0.5	799	0.9
France	175	0.2	139	0.2	314	0.4
Italy	80	0.1	60	0.1	140	0.2
Other European Countries	614	0.7	518	0.6	1,132	1.3
All African Countries	36	0.0	19	0.0	55	0.1
United States of America	3,467	4.0	3,652	4.2	7,119	8.2
Canada	112	0.1	116	0.1	229	0.3
Other American Countries	73	0.1	72	0.1	145	0.2
Total	45,287	52.3	41,287	47.7	86,574	100.0