

## STATISTICS UPDATE: INTERNATIONAL VISITORS ARRIVALS

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### The opening of border to international travels

Since the 1<sup>st</sup> of July 2022, the Government of Vanuatu has reopened its border to the international travel after two years of travel restriction that begins from mid-March of 2020 due to the outbreak of Covid-19 global pandemic.

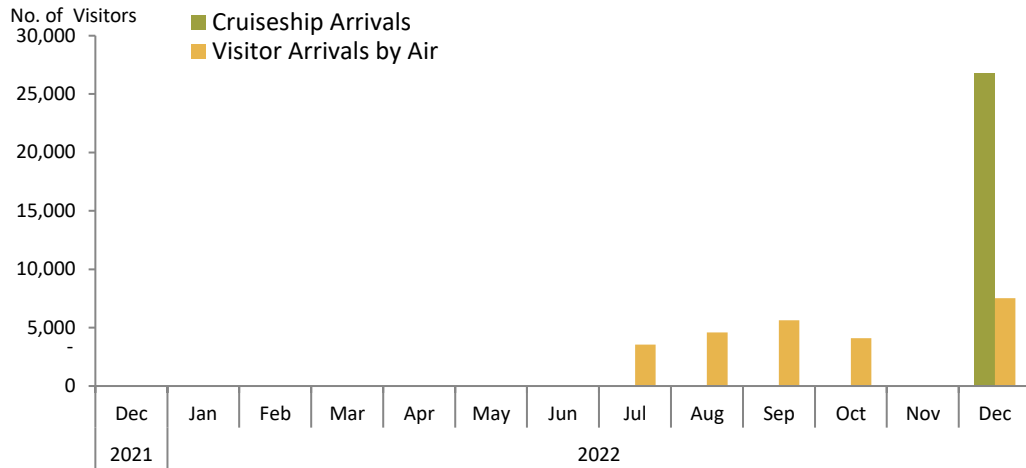
#### 1. December 2022 highlights

- Total arrivals by air in December are **10,931**.
- Residents' arrival makes up **31%** and visitor arrivals make up **69%** of the total arrivals.
- Holiday visitors represent **80%** of all air arrivals.
- Visitors residing in Australia recorded the highest percent at **61%** of all air arrivals.
- The average length of stay for visitors is **14 days**
- The average age of visitors is **37 years**
- Out of all air arrivals, **18%** were able to visit outer islands with Santo being the highest destination visited at **40%** share.
- Day visitors stood at **26,772**.
- Total departures are **8,864** in December 2022.

#### 2. Overview

- The total international arrival stood at 34,294, in which the total visitor's arrivals by air stood at 7,522 and the total residents stood at 3,409. The increase was attributed to the rise in the number of air arrivals for holiday purposes with a total number of 6,035.
- There were 7 cruise ships in Port Vila with 78% of visitors arriving by sea and 22% of visitors by air in December 2022.

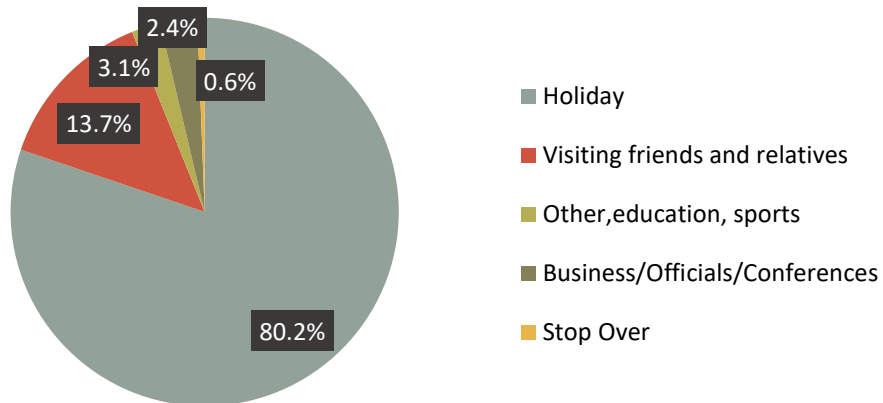
Figure 1: Visitor Arrivals by Air and Sea: December 2021 to December 2022



### 3. Purpose of visit

- Holiday visitors made up 80% of all international visitor arrivals to Vanuatu; followed by Visiting Friends and relatives at 14%, business meetings or conferences at 3% Other, education and sports at 2% and stop-over visitors at less than 1%.

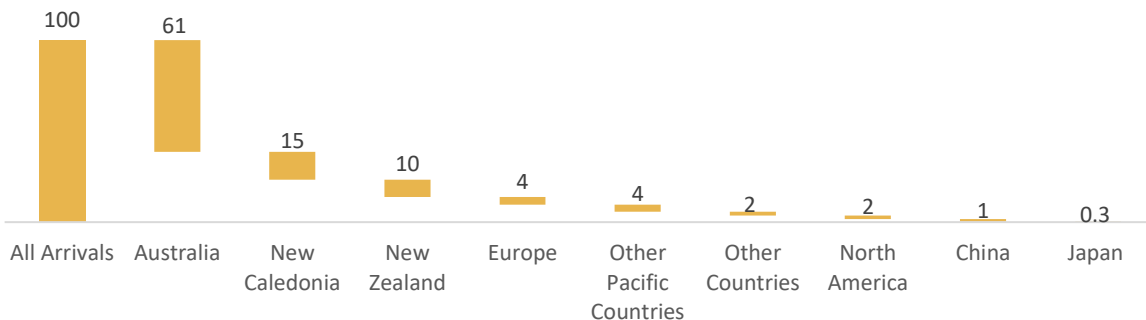
Figure 2: Percentage share of visitors by purpose of visit



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

- Australian visitors accounted for 61% of all international visitors by air followed by New Caledonia at 15%, New Zealand at 10%, Europe and Other Pacific Countries at 4% each, Other Countries and North America at 2% each, China at 1% and Japan with less than 1%.

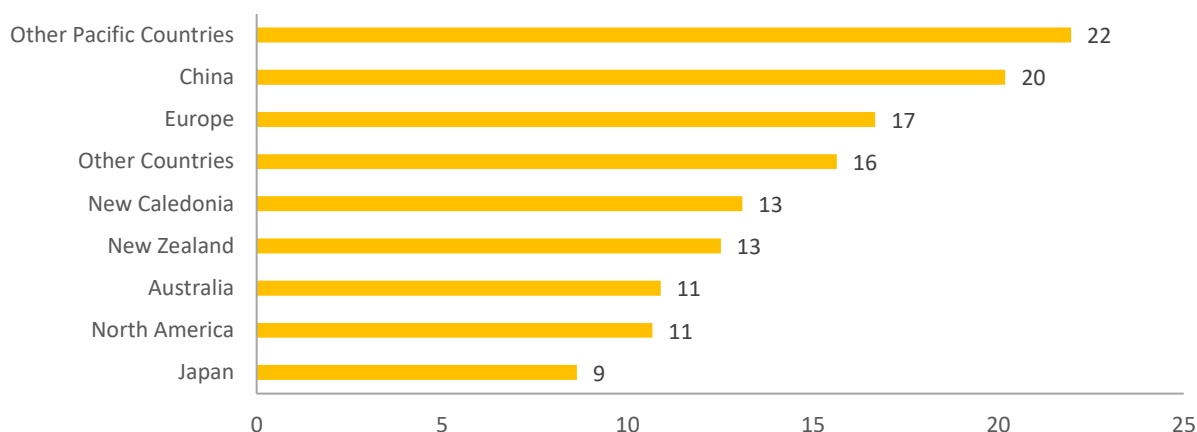
Figure 3: Percentage share of visitors by Country of Usual Residence



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

- International visitors by air spent an average of 14 days in Vanuatu.

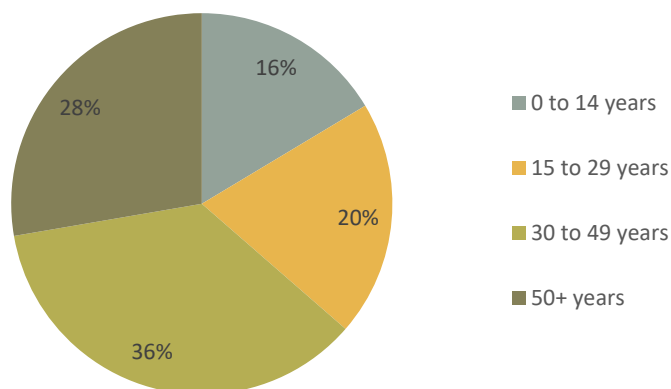
Figure 4: Average length of stay by country of usual residence



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

- The average age for visitors travelling by air stood at 37 years.
- This represents 36% of all visitors arriving to Vanuatu within the age group of 30 - 49 years old and 28% 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 40%; followed by visitors to Tanna Island at 30%. (see table 7)

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

- Sanma received the highest number of visitors at 43%, followed by Tafea province at 31%.
- Visitors who travelled to outer islands spent an average of 6 days.

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

Figure 6: Proportion of visitors to outer islands

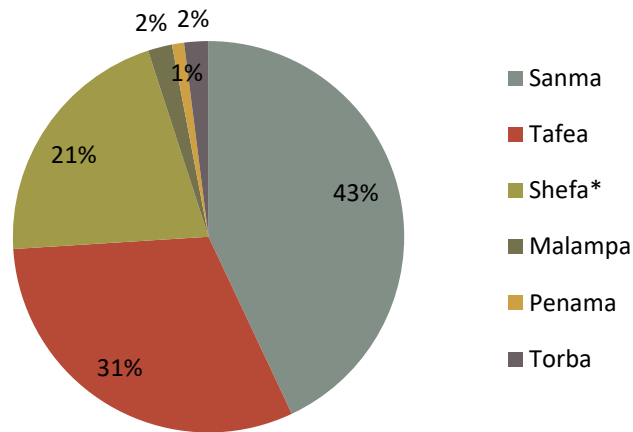


Figure 7: Summary of visitors to other provinces by country of usual residence

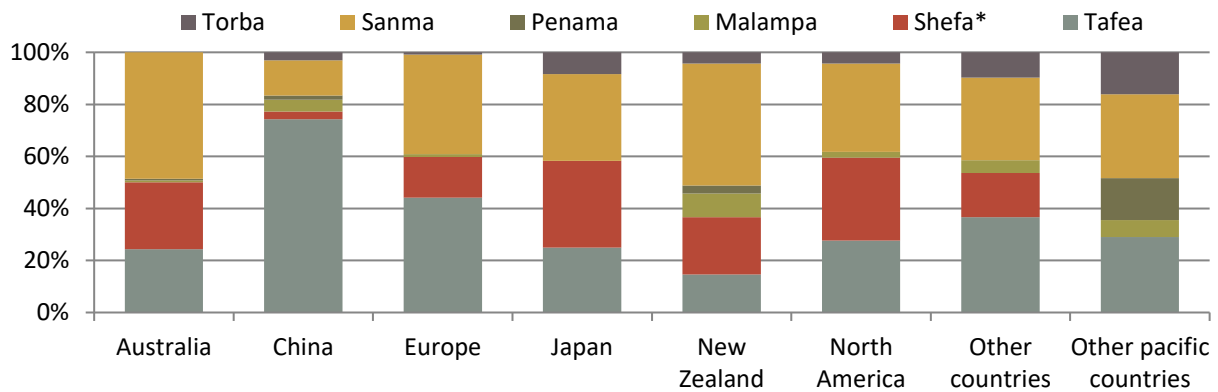


Table 1: Visitors to outer islands, by province

Year	Month	Province						TOTAL
		Torba	Sanma	Penama	Malampa	Shefa*	Tafea	
2022	Jul	6	270	0	17	44	106	
	Aug	2	393	14	56	88	214	767
	Sept	1	313	17	19	188	235	773
	Oct	18	617	11	31	269	439	1,385
	Nov	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
	Dec	24	587	15	32	290	432	1,380

\*Exclude Efate Island

na: not available

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	
2022	Jul	5.4	5.6	0	2.6	7.7	3.3	5
	Aug	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	4.1	3.4	6
	Sept	6	8.4	20.8	26.6	6.5	4.7	12
	Oct	3.5	2.2	2.9	6.9	5.9	12.0	8.9
	Nov	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
	Dec	3.6	7.4	4.2	16.3	2.5	4.2	6.4

\*Exclude Efate Island

na: not available

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	
Australia	1%	1%	49%	26%	24%	0%	665
China	5%	2%	14%	3%	74%	3%	66
Europe	1%	0%	38%	16%	44%	1%	353
Japan	0%	0%	33%	33%	25%	8%	12
New Caledonia	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%	1
New Zealand	9%	3%	47%	22%	15%	4%	164
North America	2%	0%	34%	32%	28%	4%	47
Other countries	5%	0%	32%	17%	37%	10%	41
Other pacific countries	6%	16%	32%	0%	29%	16%	31

\*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

## NEXT UPDATE (MONTHLY)RELEASE DATE

January 2023

30<sup>th</sup> June 2023

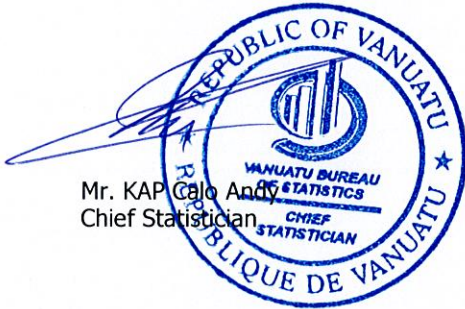
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report.



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 Croisiéristes	Total Visitors	Année	Mois	
		PORT VILA		LUGANVILLE		TOTAL		PORT VILA		LUGANVILLE		TOTAL							
		Residents Résidents	Visitors Visiteurs	Residents Résidents	Visitors Visiteurs	Residents Résidents	Visitors Visiteurs	Resident Résidents	Visitor Visiteurs	Resident Résidents	Visitors Visiteurs	Resident Résidents	Visitors Visiteurs						
2017		27,418	103,463	830	5,707	28,248	109,170	25,845	108,427	441	3,831	26,286	112,258		223,551	332,721	2017		
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		
2017	Dec	2,765	11,567	138	716	2,903	12,283	2,134	11,650	49	196	2,183	11,846		31,907	44,190	2017	Dec	
2018	Dec	3,710	10,221	7	247	3,717	10,468	2,006	10,034	18	148	2,024	10,182		17,321	27,789	2018	Dec	
2019	Dec	4,602	12,084	70	397	4,672	12,481	3,082	9,854	258	212	3,340	10,066		23,900	36,381	2019	Dec	
2020	Dec	506	-	-	-	506	-	337	53	-	-	337	53		-	-		Déc	
2021	Dec	353	-	-	-	353	-	353	-	-	-	353	-		-	-	2021	Déc	
2022	Jan	-	-	-	-	-	-	955	-	-	-	955	-		-	-	2022	Jan	
	Feb	374	-	-	-	374	-	1,179	-	-	-	1,179	-		-	-		Feb	
	Mar	16	-	-	-	16	-	865	-	-	-	865	-		-	-		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	-	2	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[p]	1,955	4,104	-	-	1,955	4,104	1,498	5,098	-	-	1,498	5,098		-	4,104		Oct[p]	
	Nov[p]	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.ε	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a		Nov[p]
	Dec[p]	3,409	7,522	-	-	3,409	7,522	2,788	6,076	-	-	2,788	6,076		26,772	34,294		Déc[p]	

Source: Department of Customs/Département des douanes

- No visitors/residents were recorded for the reference month

r revised

na: not available

**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			
2017		83,465	8,940	8,338	897	7,530	109,170	2017	
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	
2017	Dec	9,702	1,116	374	37	1,054	12,283	2017	Dec
2018	Dec	8,808	957	417	55	231	10,468	2018	Dec
2019	Dec	10,411	1,032	467	151	420	12,481	2019	Dec
2020	Dec	-	-	-	-	-	-	2020	Dec
2021	Dec	-	-	-	-	-	-	2021	Déc
2022	Jan	-	-	-	-	-	-	2022	Jan
	Fev	-	-	-	-	-	-		Fev
	Mar	-	-	-	-	-	-		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[p]	3,391	394	189	9	121	4,104		Oct[p]
	Nov[p]	na	na	na	na	na	na		Nov[p]
	Dec[p]	6,035	1,030	233	45	179	7,522		Déc[p]

Source: Department of Customs/Département des douanes

- No visitors/residents were recorded for the reference month

na: not available



**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			
2017		57,387	11,554	15,880	7,147	6,806	3,016	1,076	3,612	2,692	109,170	2017	
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	
2017	Dec	6,598	1,098	1,952	993	673	312	82	327	248	12,283	2017	Dec
2018	Dec	6,146	1,067	1,485	451	504	209	84	318	204	10,468	2018	Dec
2019	Dec	6,921	1,330	1,673	514	995	263	150	368	267	12,481	2019	Dec
2020	Dec	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2020	Dec
2021	Dec	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2021	Déc
2022	Jan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2022	Jan
	Feb	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		Fév
	Mar	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		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		Août
	Sep	3,680	769	305	351	223	141	16	51	100	5,636		Sep
	Oct[p]	2,346	683	566	186	166	66	7	27	57	4,104		Oct[p]
	Nov[p]	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na		Nov[p]
	Dec[p]	4,609	717	1,153	293	321	147	22	107	153	7,522		Déc[p]

Source: Department of Customs/Département des douanes

- No visitors/residents were recorded for the reference month

na: not available

**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
2017		21,967	2,463	1,036	118	797	712	564	358	233	28,248	2017	
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	
2017	Dec	2,652	116	28	4	29	19	28	14	13	2,903	2017	Dec
2018	Dec	3,391	102	47	5	32	61	34	27	18	3,717	2018	Dec
2019	Dec	4,097	230	55	11	71	86	58	36	28	4,672	2019	Dec
2020	Dec	449	23	15	2	3	10	2	0	2	506	2020	Dec
2021	Dec	314	4	5	2	14	1	5	0	8	353	2021	Dec
2022	Jan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2022	Jan
	Feb	0	321	12	8	3	7	10	4	4	369		Fév
	Mar	0	9	6	0	0	1	0	0	0	16		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[p]	1,557	138	63	4	36	52	58	22	24	1,954		Oct[p]
	Nov[p]	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na		Nov[p]
	Dec[p]	2,896	166	52	20	45	93	75	30	32	3,409		Déc[p]

Source: Department of Customs/Département

*p: provisiona figures**- No visitors/residents were recorded for the reference month*

na: not available

**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		
2017		10.4	12.3	11.4	2017	
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	
2017	Dec	10.2	12.8	11.5	2017	Déc
2018	Dec	7.6	11.8	9.7	2018	Déc
2019	Dec	11.5	16.8	14.1	2019	Déc
2020	Dec	-	-	-	2020	Déc
2021	Dec	-	-	-	2021	Déc
2022	Jan	-	-	-	2022	Jan
	Feb	-	-	-		Fév
	Mar	-	-	-		Mar
	Apr	-	-	-		Avr
	May	-	-	-		Mai
	Jun	-	-	-		Juin
	Jul	14.0	-	14.0		Juil
	Aug	13.9	-	13.9		Aoû
	Sep	13.3	-	13.3		Sept
	Oct[p]	11.5	-	11.5		Oct[p]
	Nov[p]	na	na	na		Nov[p]
	Dec[p]	13.6	-	13.6		Déc[p]

Source: Department of Customs/Département des douanes

p: provisional figures

na: not available

**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		
2017		38.95	42.30	40.48	2017	
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	
2017	Dec	36.5	38.1	37.3	2017	Déc
2018	Dec	36.0	38.8	37.4	2018	Déc
2019	Dec	36.2	39.4	37.8	2019	Déc
2020	Dec	-	-	-	2020	Déc
2021	Dec	-	-	-	2021	Déc
2022	Jan	-	-	-	2022	Jan
	Feb	-	-	-		Fév
	Mar	-	-	-		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[p]	41.3	-	41.3		Oct[p]
	Nov[p]	na	na	na		Nov[p]
	Dec[p]	36.6	-	36.6		Déc[p]

Source: Department of Customs/Département des douanes

p: provisional figures

na: not available

**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
		2017		10,301	8,840	3,333	550	1,071	837		
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	
2017	Dec	838	657	131	28	92	28	129	1,903	2017	Déc
2018	Dec	363	335	76	4	31	7	60	876	2018	Déc
2019	Dec	717	640	250	18	63	26	133	1,847	2019	Déc
2020	Dec	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2020	Déc
2021	Dec	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2021	Déc
2022	Jan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2022	Jan
	Feb	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		Fév
	Mar	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		Mar
	Apr	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		Avr
	May	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		Mai
	Jun	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		Juin
	Jul	98	270	27	-	16	-	32	443		Juil
	Aug	211	359	82	2	40	15	58	767		Août
	Sep	201	283	215	12	15	2	45	773		Sep
	Oct[p]	355	481	401	10	27	3	108	1,385		Oct[p]
	Nov[p]	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na		Nov[p]
	Dec[p]	420	555	281	3	22	3	96	1,380		Déc[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

na: not available

**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	404	9%	4038	88%	109	2%	58	1%	4,609
China/Chine	15	14%	56	52%	9	8%	27	25%	107
Europe/L'europe	57	18%	248	77%	7	2%	9	3%	321
Japan/Japon	3	14%	16	73%	1	5%	2	9%	22
New Caledonia/Nouvelle Calédonie	255	22%	836	73%	21	2%	41	4%	1,153
New Zealand/Nouvelle Zélande	117	16%	567	79%	24	3%	9	1%	717
North America/ Amérique du Nord	46	31%	92	63%	5	3%	4	3%	147
Other countries/Autres pays	23	15%	99	65%	20	13%	11	7%	153
Other pacific countries/ Autres pays du pacifique	111	38%	82	28%	37	13%	63	22%	293
<b>Total Visitors</b>	<b>1,031</b>		<b>6,034</b>		<b>233</b>		<b>224</b>		<b>7,522</b>

Source: Department of Customs/Département des douanes