

## STATISTICS UPDATE: INTERNATIONAL 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.

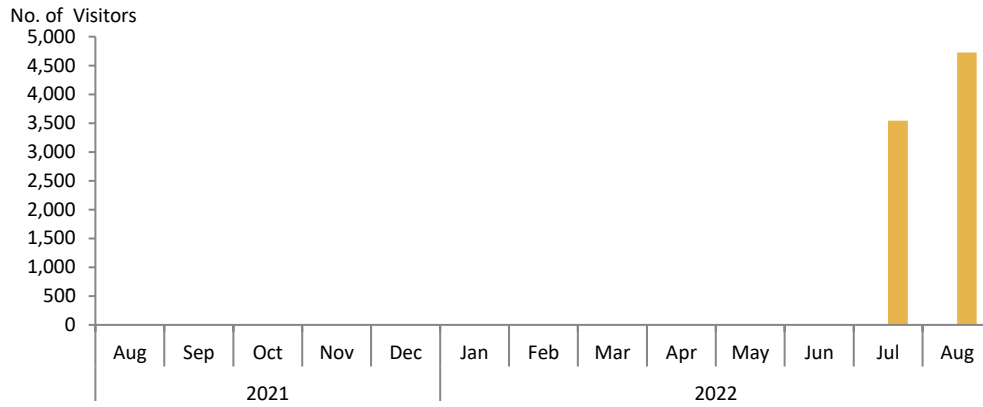
#### 1. August 2022 highlights

- Total arrivals in August are **7,121**. Visitors by air account for **64%** of arrivals
- Residents and visitor arrivals by air make up **98%** of the total arrivals.
- Visitors who come for holiday represent **82%** of all air arrivals.
- Visitors residing in Australia recorded the highest percent at **45%** of all air arrivals.
- The average length of stay for visitors is **14 days**
- The average age of visitors is **43** years
- Out of all air arrivals, **17%** were able to visit outer islands with Santo being the highest destination visited at **47%** share.
- Visitors from yachts stood at **156**.
- There are **0**-day visitors as there are no cruise ship visits in July
- There are **0** visitors by air directly to Santo
- Total departures are **5,992** in August 2022.

#### 2. Overview

- The total international arrival stood at 4,731, in which air arrivals account for 98% and the remaining 2% are visitors from yachts. The total visitors by air stood at 4,575 in August 2022 after the opening of the border in July. The increase was attributed to the rise in the number of arrivals for holiday purposes with a total number of 3,765.

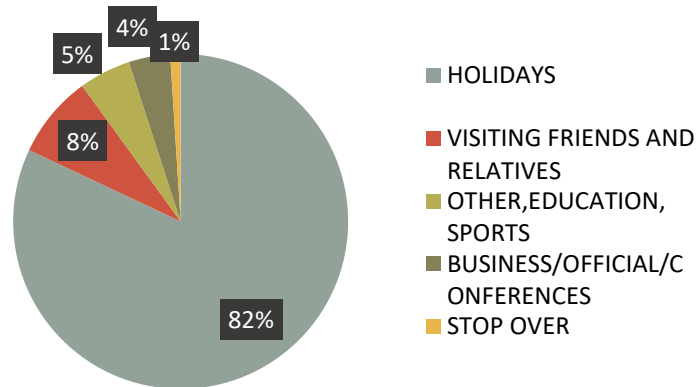
Figure 1: Visitor Arrivals by air: August 2021 to August 2022



### 3. Purpose of visit

- Holiday visitors made up 82% of all international visitor arrivals to Vanuatu; followed by Visiting Friends and relatives at 8%, Other, education and sports at 5% business, meetings or conferences at 4%, while stop-over visitors accounted for 1%.

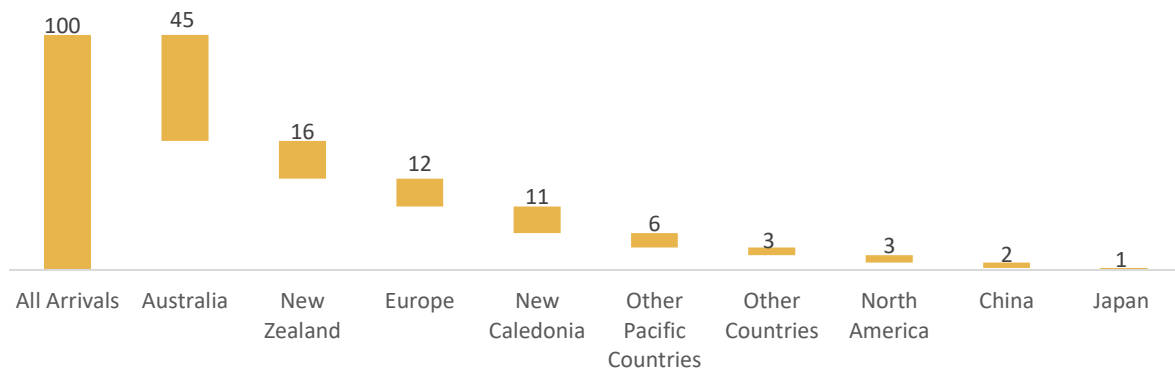
Figure 2: Percentage share of visitors by purpose of visit



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

- Australian visitors accounted for 45% of all international visitors by air followed by New Zealand at 16%, Europe at 12%, New Caledonia at 11%, Other Pacific Countries at 6%, Other Countries and North America at 3% each, China at 2% and Japan at 1%.

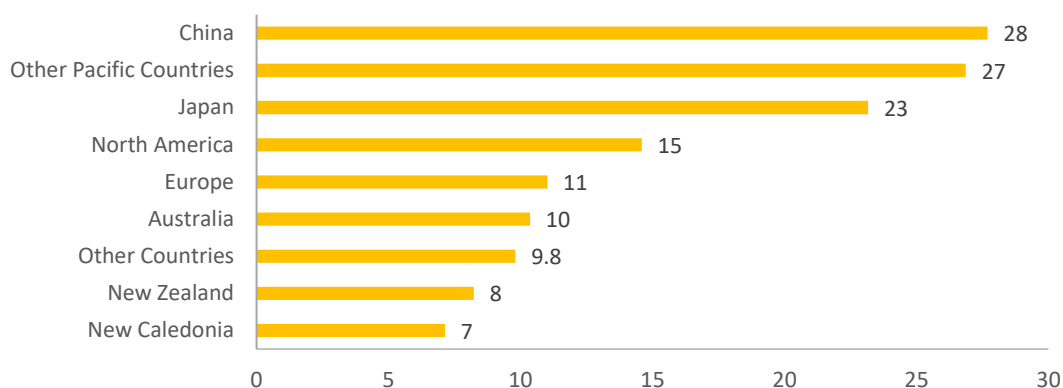
Figure 3: Percentage share of visitors by Country of Usual Residence



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

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

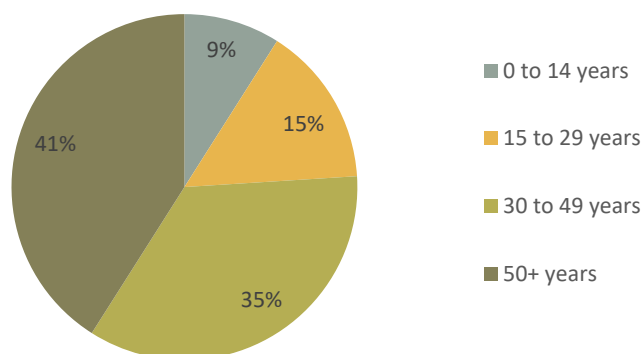
Figure 4: Average length of stay by country of usual residence



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

- The average age for visitors travelling by air stood at 43 years.
- This represents 41% of all visitors arriving to Vanuatu within the age group of 30 - 49 years old and 35% 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 47%; 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 51%, followed by Tafea province at 28%.
- 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

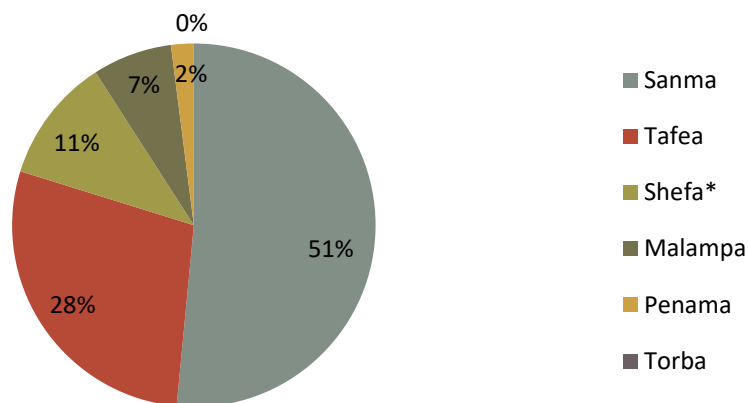


Figure 7: Summary of visitors to other provinces by country of usual residence

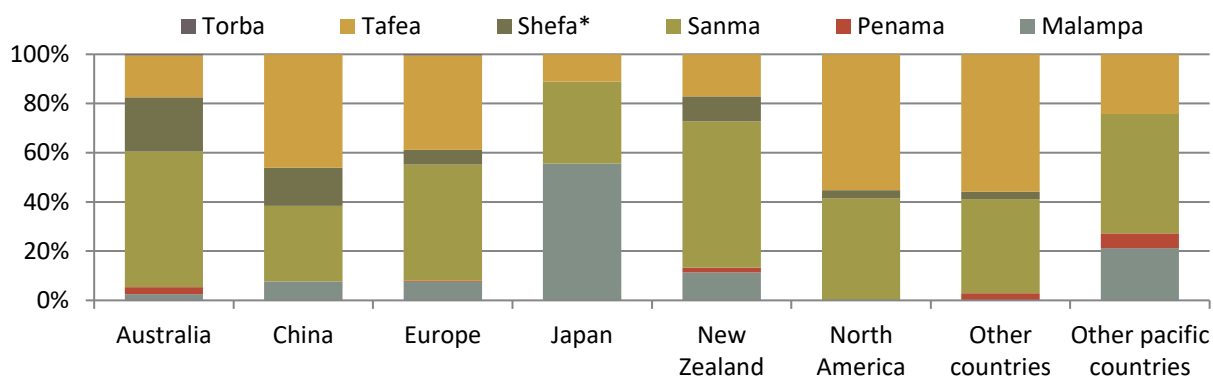


Table 1: Visitors to outer islands, by province

Year	Month	Province						TOTAL
		Torba	Sanma	Penama	Malampa	Shefa*	Tafea	
2022	Jul	6	270	0	17	44	106	443
	Aug	2	393	14	56	88	214	767

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

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	2%	3%	55%	22%	17%	0%	241
China	8%	0%	31%	15%	46%	0%	13
Europe	8%	0%	47%	6%	38%	5%	250
Japan	56%	0%	33%	0%	11%	0%	9
New Zealand	11%	2%	59%	10%	17%	0%	158
North America	0%	0%	41%	3%	55%	0%	29
Other countries	0%	3%	38%	3%	56%	0%	34
Other pacific countries	21%	6%	48%	0%	24%	0%	33

\*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.

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## NEXT UPDATE (MONTHLY)RELEASE DATE

September 2022

25<sup>th</sup> May 2023

## PROVINCIAL STATISTICS OFFICES



Mr. KAPICALO 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/ 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	Aug	1,468	7,840	83	461	1,551	8,301	1,733	8,446	57	357	1,790	8,803		17,791	26,092	2017	Aoû
2018	Aug	1,425	8,575	39	397	1,464	8,972	2,441	11,810	15	453	2,456	12,263		10,751	19,723	2018	Aoû
2019	Aug	2,687	12,032	19	243	2,706	12,275	2,676	13,317	46	187	2,722	13,504		8,402	20,677	2019	Aoû
2020	Aug	141	-	-	-	141	-	29	15	-	-	29	15		-	-	2020	Aoû
2021	Aug	244	-	-	-	244	-	1,007	-	-	-	1,007	-		-	-	2021	Aoû
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

Source: Department of Customs/Département des douanes

- No visitors/residents were recorded for the reference month

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**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	Aug	6,828	561	529	41	342	8,301	2017	Aoû
2018	Aug	7,212	687	711	20	342	8,972	2018	Aoû
2019	Aug	9,477	979	1,004	16	799	12,275	2019	Aoû
2020	Aug	-	-	-	-	-	-	2020	Aoû
2021	Aug	-	-	-	-	-	-	2021	Aoû
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[p]	3,765	369	171	58	212	4,575		Aoû [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	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	Aug	4,081	1,234	1,278	317	537	236	157	269	192	8,301	2017	Aoû
2018	Aug	4,071	1,483	1,195	424	737	278	102	385	297	8,972	2018	Aoû
2019	Aug	5,700	2,048	1,354	753	931	322	157	531	479	12,275	2019	Aoû
2020	Aug	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2020	Aoû
2021	Aug	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2021	Aoû
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 [p]	2,061	739	513	283	542	140	39	108	150	4,575		Aoû [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 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	Aug	1,081	183	88	9	63	48	33	30	16	1,551	2017	Aoû
2018	Aug	1,186	95	54	7	39	34	32	11	6	1,464	2018	Aoû
2019	Aug	2,024	225	112	8	78	105	85	44	25	2,706	2019	Aoû
2020	Aug	132	0	6	0	2	0	1	0	0	141	2020	Aoû
2021	Aug	152	46	12	2	10	12	1	1	8	244	2021	Aoû
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 [p]	2,187	56	16	6	9	31	68	9	8	2,390		Aoû [p]

Source: Department of Customs/Département des

*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		
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	Aug	9.6	11.8	10.7	2017	Aoû
2018	Aug	8.8	11.0	9.9	2018	Aoû
2019	Aug	11.1	11.2	11.2	2019	Aoû
2020	Aug	-	-	-	2020	Aoû
2021	Aug	-	-	-	2021	Aoû
2022	Jan	-	-	-	2022	Jan
	Feb	-	-	-		Fév
	Mar	-	-	-		Mar
	Apr	-	-	-		Avr
	May	-	-	-		Mai
	Jun	-	-	-		Juin
	Jul	14	-	14		Juil
	Aug[p]	13.9	-	13.9		Aoû[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		
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	Aug	41.6	44.1	42.8		Aoû
2018	Aug	39.5	46.1	42.8	2018	Aoû
2019	Aug	41.3	44.5	42.9	2019	Aoû
2020	Aug	-	-	-	2020	Aoû
2021	Aug	-	-	-	2021	Aoû
2022	Jan	-	-	-	2022	Jan
	Feb	-	-	-		Fév
	Mar	-	-	-		Mar
	Apr	-	-	-		Avr
	May	-	-	-		Mai
	Jun	-	-	-		Juin
	Jul	41.6	70.5	56.1		Juil
	Aug[p]	43.4	-	43.4		Aoû[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
		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		
2021		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
2017	Aug	994	753	262	21	117	99	264	2,510	2017	Aoû
2018	Aug	1,465	1,303	544	31	206	126	247	3,922	2018	Aoû
2019	Aug	1,012	906	531	102	86	37	234	2,908	2019	Aoû
2020	Aug	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2020	Aoû
2021	Aug	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2021	Aoû
2022	Jan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2022	Jan
	Feb	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		Fév
	Mar	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		Mar
	Apr	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		Avr
	May	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		Mai
	Jun	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		Juin
	Jul	98	270	27	-	16	-	32	443		Juil
	Aug[p]	211	359	82	2	40	15	58	767		Aoû[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	115	6%	1814	88%	50	2%	81	4%	2,060
China/Chine	8	7%	78	72%	10	9%	12	11%	108
Europe/L'europe	59	11%	426	79%	18	3%	39	7%	542
Japan/Japon	2	5%	27	68%	3	8%	8	20%	40
New Caledonia/Nouvelle Calédonie	60	12%	431	84%	3	1%	19	4%	513
New Zealand/Nouvelle Zélande	42	6%	649	88%	18	2%	30	4%	739
North America/ Amérique du Nord	27	19%	95	68%	9	6%	9	6%	140
Other countries/Autres pays	10	6%	117	74%	16	10%	15	9%	158
Other pacific countries/ Autres pays du pacifique	45	16%	128	47%	44	16%	58	21%	275
<b>Total Visitors</b>	<b>368</b>		<b>3,765</b>		<b>171</b>		<b>271</b>		<b>4,575</b>

Source: Department of Customs/Département des douanes