

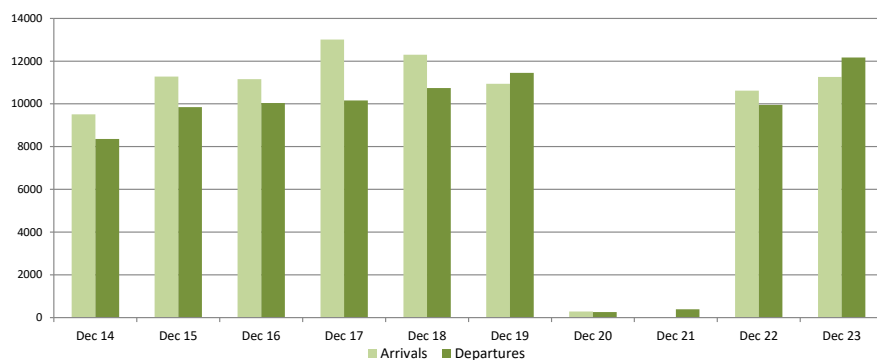
Summary of Arrivals

Table 1.: Total Arrivals by month and changes from previous month and year

Month of December 2023	Dec 2023	Number Nov 2023	Dec 2022	Change from previous month (no.)	Change from previous year (no.)
All Arrivals	13,034	12,834	10,620	1.6	22.7
Air Visitors	7,323	4,196	7,351	74.5	(0.4)
Air Returning Residents	3,940	3,459	3,269	13.9	20.5
Cruise Ships	1,759	4,702	-	(62.6)	-
Yachts	12	425	-	(97.2)	-

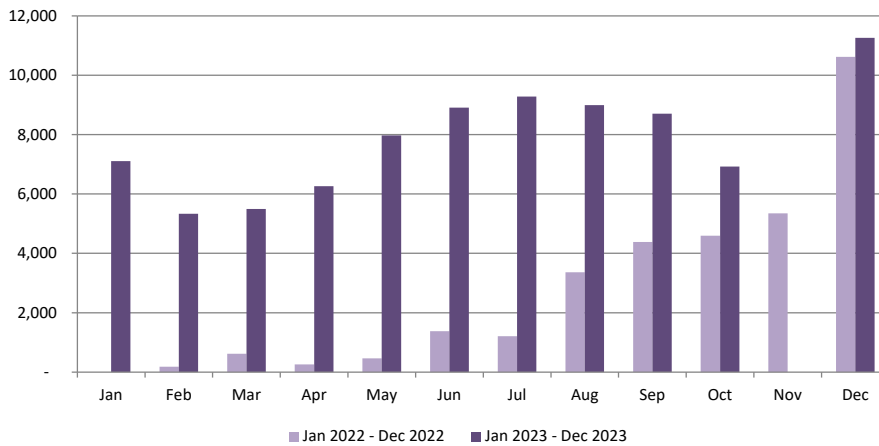
- The total of all arrivals in December 2023 were 13,034, this is an increase of 1.6% compared to the total arrivals in November 2023, 12,834.
- An increase of 74.5% of all air visitors (7,323) compared to previous month (4,196).
- An increase of 13.9% of returning residents (3,940) compared to the previous month (3,459)
- A decline of 62.6% of arrivals by Cruise ship in December 2023 (1,759) compared to previous month (4,702) and again a decline of 97.2% of yachts arrivals (12)12 compared to previous month (425).

Fig. 1. December Air Arrivals and Departures 2014 – 2023



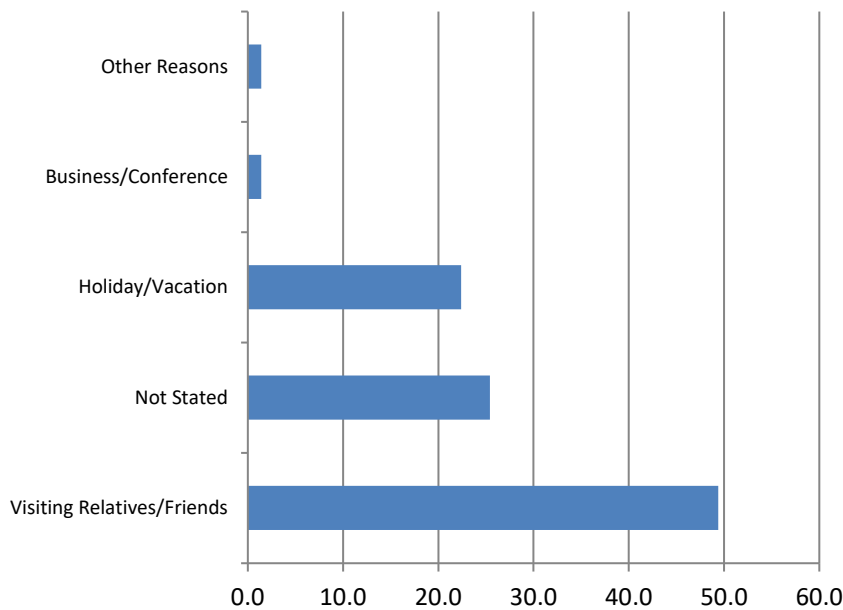
- Total air arrivals in December 2023 were 11,263 an increase of 6.1% compared to the previous year, there were 10,620 air arrivals for the month of December 2022
- Total air departures of 12,171 in December 2023, an increase of 22.3% compared to December 2022 (9951).

Fig. 2. Monthly Air Arrivals vs the corresponding month of the previous year



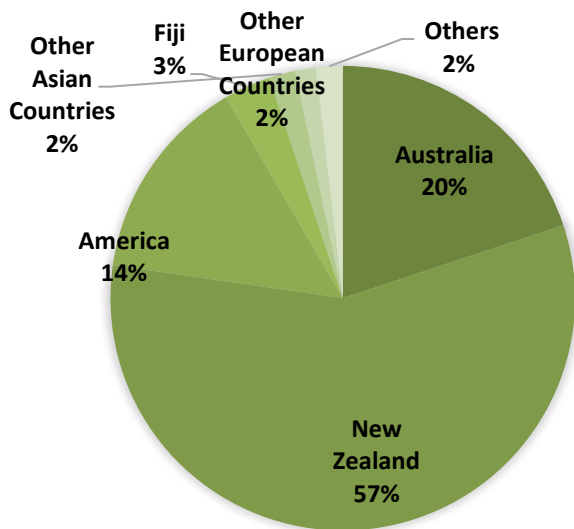
- Total air visitor arrivals in December 2023 were 7,323 comparing to December 2022 (7351) a decline of 0.4%.

Fig. 3. Air Visitors by Purpose of Visit December, 2023



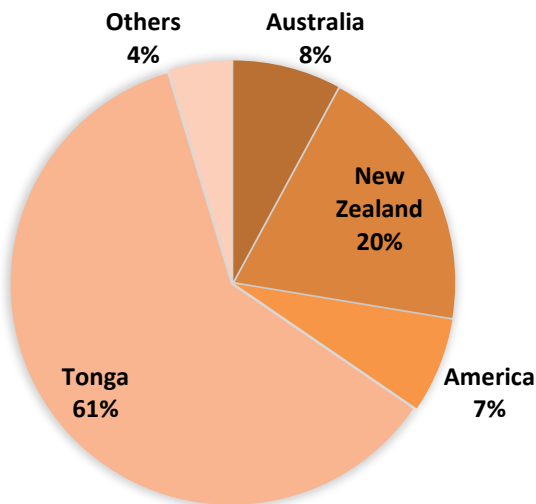
- 49.4% (3,618) of the total air visitors were here to visit relative/friends
- Those who were here on Holiday/Vacation made up 22.4% (1,638)
- Visitors who didn't state the purpose of their visit made up 25.4% (1,861)

Fig. 4. Air Visitors by Country of Usual Residence December 2023



- New Zealand was the leading country in visitors arrivals by country of usual residence, accounting for 57.4% (4,201) of total air visitors
- This was followed by Australia with 19.9 % (1,458), and America with 14.3% (1,050)

Fig. 5. Air Departures by Country of Usual Residence December, 2023



- Most of the persons departing in the month of December were Tongan residents (7,398) followed by New Zealand (2,399) and Australia (961)

Definitions

- ▶ **A Visitor** is a person other than a Tongan citizen, permit holder and exempted person, who usually stay 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 on 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.
- ▶ **Mode of Transport** Only air, yacht and cruise ships passengers are included. Passenger/crew on cargo, navy or special vessels are excluded.

Table 1. Monthly Arrival and Departure by Mode of Travel and Net Migration, 2012 - 2023

Period	Visitors Arrivals				Returning Residents				Total Arrivals				Total Departures				Net Migration
	Air	Ship	Yacht	Total	Air	Ship	Yacht	Total	Air	Ship	Yacht	Total	Air	Ship	Yacht	Total	
2015	53,752	17,375	1,426	72,553	31,517			31,517	85,269	17,375	1,426	104,070	86,574	17,383	1,422	105,379	(1,309)
2016	59,130	25,714	1,818	86,662	36,800			36,800	95,930	25,714	1,818	123,462	95,043	25,703	1,520	122,266	1,196
2017	62,506	21,719	2,354	86,579	38,124			38,124	100,630	21,719	2,354	124,703	99,280	21,698	1,992	122,970	1,733
2018	54,046	21,708	1,552	77,306	51,428			51,428	105,474	21,708	1,552	128,734	108,770	21,714	1,602	132,086	(3,352)
2019	67,284	24,667	2,021	93,972	42,087			42,087	109,371	24,667	2,021	136,059	112,714	24,749	2,064	139,527	(3,468)
2020	9,010	2,530	6	11,546	13,836			13,836	22,846	2,530	6	25,382	26,769	2,529	8	29,306	(3,924)
2021	202	-	-	202	1,701			1,701	1,903	-	-	1,903	4,132	-	-	4,132	(2,229)
2022	18,427	3,799	92	22,318	13,996			13,996	32,423	3,799	92	36,314	33,018	3,797	65	36,880	(566)
2023	55,749	23,943	2,002	81,694	38,222			38,222	93,971	23,943	2,002	119,916	100,980	23,937	1,949	126,866	(6,950)
2020																	
Jan	4,665	852	-	5,517	7,087			7,087	11,752	852	-	12,604	14,576	851	-	15,427	(2,823)
Feb	3,008	1,678	6	4,692	3,328			3,328	6,336	1,678	6	8,020	6,680	1,678	8	8,366	(346)
Mar	1,259	-	-	1,259	2,219			2,219	3,478	-	-	3,478	3,778	-	-	3,778	(300)
Apr	-	-	-	-	-			-	-	-	-	-	579	-	-	579	(579)
May	-	-	-	-	-			-	-	-	-	-	93	-	-	93	(93)
Jun	-	-	-	-	-			-	-	-	-	-	62	-	-	62	(62)
Jul	1	-	-	1	56			56	57	-	-	57	96	-	-	96	(39)
Aug	5	-	-	5	145			145	150	-	-	150	130	-	-	130	20
Sep	16	-	-	16	84			84	100	-	-	100	100	-	-	100	-
Oct	13	-	-	13	379			379	392	-	-	392	218	-	-	218	174
Nov	20	-	-	20	275			275	295	-	-	295	196	-	-	196	99
Dec	23	-	-	23	263			263	286	-	-	286	261	-	-	261	25
2021																	
Jan	18	-	-	18	219			219	237	-	-	237	207	-	-	207	30
Feb	41	-	-	41	180			180	221	-	-	221	407	-	-	407	(186)
Mar	23	-	-	23	252			252	275	-	-	275	406	-	-	406	(131)
Apr	2	-	-	2	25			25	27	-	-	27	441	-	-	441	(414)
May	18	-	-	18	229			229	247	-	-	247	368	-	-	368	(121)
Jun	52	-	-	52	453			453	505	-	-	505	339	-	-	339	166
Jul	22	-	-	22	130			130	152	-	-	152	220	-	-	220	(68)
Aug	14	-	-	14	-			-	14	-	-	14	63	-	-	63	(49)
Sep	4	-	-	4	6			6	10	-	-	10	380	-	-	380	(370)
Oct	8	-	-	8	207			207	215	-	-	215	479	-	-	479	(264)
Nov	-	-	-	-	-			-	-	-	-	-	429	-	-	429	(429)
Dec	-	-	-	-	-			-	-	-	-	-	393	-	-	393	(393)
2022																	
Jan	-	-	-	-	-			-	-	-	-	-	123	-	-	123	(123)
Feb	34	-	-	34	149			149	183	-	-	183	259	-	-	259	(76)
Mar	112	-	-	112	508			508	620	-	-	620	1,079	-	-	1,079	(459)
Apr	40	-	-	40	218			218	258	-	-	258	598	-	-	598	(340)
May	130	-	-	130	335			335	465	-	-	465	525	-	-	525	(60)
Jun	282	-	-	282	1,095			1,095	1,377	-	-	1,377	1,131	-	-	1,131	246
Jul	415	-	-	415	792			792	1,207	-	-	1,207	1,385	-	-	1,385	(178)
Aug	1,809	-	-	1,809	1,556			1,556	3,365	-	-	3,365	2,706	-	-	2,706	659
Sep	2,474	-	-	2,474	1,909			1,909	4,383	-	-	4,383	4,252	-	-	4,252	131
Oct	2,491	2,204	76	4,771	2,104			2,104	4,595	2,204	76	6,875	4,846	2,202	43	7,091	(216)
Nov	3,289	1,595	16	4,900	2,061			2,061	5,350	1,595	16	6,961	6,163	1,595	22	7,780	(819)
Dec	7,351	-	-	7,351	3,269			3,269	10,620	-	-	10,620	9,951	-	-	9,951	669
2023																	
Jan	3,330	2,856	-	6,186	3,780			3,780	7,110	2,856	-	9,966	9,346	2,856	-	12,202	(2,236)
Feb	2,671	319	-	2,990	2,666			2,666	5,337	319	-	5,656	6,346	319	-	6,665	(1,009)
Mar	3,085	207	-	3,292	2,407			2,407	5,492	207	-	5,699	6,621	207	-	6,828	(1,129)
Apr	3,540	2,872	6	6,418	2,724			2,724	6,264	2,872	6	9,142	6,689	2,872	20	9,581	(439)
May	4,349	-	213	4,562	3,626			3,626	7,975	-	213	8,188	7,515	0	36	7,551	637
Jun	5,861	-	137	5,998	3,050			3,050	8,911	-	137	9,048	7,122	-	192	7,314	1,734
Jul	6,435	4,832	294	11,561	2,847			2,847	9,282	4,832	294	14,408	10,411	4,832	397	15,640	(1,232)
Aug	6,058	2,369	273	8,700	2,940			2,940	8,998	2,369	273	11,640	9,638	2,369	257	12,264	(624)
Sep	5,141	-	357	5,498	3,564			3,564	8,705	-	357	9,062	9,299	-	399	9,698	(636)
Oct	3,760	4,027	285	8,072	3,167			3,167	6,927	4,027	285	11,239	7,562	4,025	342	11,929	(690)
Nov	4,196	4,702	425	9,323	3,511			3,511	7,707	4,702	425	12,834	8,260	4,700	282	13,242	(408)
Dec	7,323	1,759	12	9,094	3,940			3,940	11,263	1,759	12	13,034	12,171	1,757	24	13,952	(918)

Table 2. Total Arrivals by Age, Type of Passangers and Gender December, 2023

Age Group	Type of Passangers								
	Total			Visitors			Returning Residents		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
0-4	556	302	254	466	256	210	90	46	44
5-9	666	347	319	537	273	264	129	74	55
10-14	748	367	381	618	307	311	130	60	70
15-19	864	427	437	586	275	311	278	152	126
20-24	1,060	546	514	531	213	318	529	333	196
25-29	1,045	487	558	526	217	309	519	270	249
30-34	900	455	445	493	224	269	407	231	176
35-39	888	483	405	524	263	261	364	220	144
40-44	809	473	336	479	256	223	330	217	113
45-49	768	374	394	523	243	280	245	131	114
50-54	791	424	367	504	263	241	287	161	126
55-59	793	392	401	563	260	303	230	132	98
60-64	583	321	262	419	228	191	164	93	71
65-69	390	184	206	277	129	148	113	55	58
70-74	223	112	111	160	89	71	63	23	40
75+	179	76	103	117	44	73	62	32	30
Total	11,263	5,770	5,493	7,323	3,540	3,783	3,940	2,230	1,710
% Distribution	100.0	51.2	48.8	65.0	31.4	33.6	35.0	19.8	15.2

Table 3. Total Visitors by Usual Residence and Purpose of Visit December, 2023

Country of Usual Residence	Country of							Not Stated
	Total	% Distribution	Holiday/Vacation	Business/Conference	Visiting Relative/Friends	Other Reasons		
Australia	1,458	19.9	278	25	791	12	352	
New Zealand	4,201	57.4	844	36	2207	36	1078	
Fiji	238	3.3	52	17	87	17	65	
American Samoa	15	0.2	6	0	5		4	
Western Samoa	41	0.6	9	5	17	3	7	
Other Pacific Islands	49	0.7	13	5	18	5	8	
Japan	14	0.2	4	0	6	3	1	
China	68	0.9	27	1	17	0	23	
India	6	0.1	1	1	0	0	4	
Korea	4	0.1	1	0	1	0	2	
Other Asian Countries	43	0.6	19	3	8	7	6	
UK	25	0.3	16	1	2	1	5	
Germany	23	0.3	12	1			10	
France	25	0.3	10	1	6	1	7	
Italy	-	-	0				0	
Other European Countries	32	0.4	21	3	2	1	5	
All African Countries	4	0.1	3	0	1	0	0	
United States of America	1,050	14.3	309	4	448	14	275	
Canada	20	0.3	10	0	2	2	6	
Other American Countries	7	0.1	3	1	0	0	3	
Total	7,323	100.0	1,638	104	3,618	102	1,861	
% Distribution	100.0		22.4	1.4	49.4	1.4	25.4	

Table 4: AIR DEPARTURES by Age Group, Passanger's Type for December, 2023

Age Group	Returning Residence	Percentage Distribution	Visitors	Percentage Distribution	Total	Percentage Distribution
0 - 4	371	5.0	225	4.7	596	4.9
5 - 9	633	8.6	215	4.5	848	7.0
10 - 14	785	10.6	213	4.5	998	8.2
15 - 19	930	12.6	284	6.0	1214	10.0
20 - 24	716	9.7	397	8.3	1113	9.1
25 - 29	626	8.5	354	7.4	980	8.1
30 - 34	530	7.2	384	8.0	914	7.5
35 - 39	494	6.7	348	7.3	842	6.9
40 - 44	464	6.3	342	7.2	806	6.6
45 - 49	368	5.0	352	7.4	720	5.9
50 - 54	401	5.4	373	7.8	774	6.4
55 - 59	361	4.9	455	9.5	816	6.7
60 - 64	277	3.7	361	7.6	638	5.2
65 - 69	197	2.7	229	4.8	426	3.5
70 - 74	115	1.6	142	3.0	257	2.1
75+	130	1.8	99	2.1	229	1.9
All Ages	7,398	100.0	4,773	100.0	12,171	100.0
YACHT	-	-	24		24	0
CRUISE SHIP	-	-	1,757		1,757	0
Total	7,398	100.0	6,554	100.0	13,952	100.0

Table 5. Total Departures by Country of Residence and Gender December, 2023

Country of Usual Residence	Male		Female		Total	
	No.	Percent Distribution	No.	Percent Distribution	No.	Percent Distribution
Australia	439	7.8	522	7.9	961	7.9
New Zealand	1,099	19.6	1,300	19.8	2,399	19.7
Fiji	122	2.2	97	1.5	219	1.8
American Samoa	3	0.1	1	0.0	4	0.0
Western Samoa	9	0.2	9	0.1	18	0.1
Tonga	3,310	59.1	4,088	62.2	7,398	60.8
Other Pacific Islands	22	0.4	18	0.3	40	0.3
Japan	6	0.1	2	0.0	8	0.1
China	49	0.9	22	0.3	71	0.6
India	6	0.1	1	0.0	7	0.1
Korea	2	0.0	2	0.0	4	0.0
Other Asian Countries	32	0.6	14	0.2	46	0.4
UK	19	0.3	9	0.1	28	0.2
Germany	11	0.2	9	0.1	20	0.2
France	13	0.2	12	0.2	25	0.2
Italy	-	-	3	0.0	3	0.0
Other European Countries	28	0.5	14	0.2	42	0.3
All African Countries	5	0.1	2	0.0	7	0.1
United States of America	408	7.3	437	6.7	845	6.9
Canada	10	0.2	7	0.1	17	0.1
Other American Countries	7	0.1	2	0.0	9	0.1
Total	5,600	100.0	6,571	100.0	12,171	100.0