



**SERIES NO.
SDT: 39-M 95**



Government of Tonga

STATISTICAL BULLETIN

ON



MONTHLY MIGRATION STATISTICS JUNE 2024



Statistics Department
P.O. Box 149,
Nuku'alofa,
Kingdom of Tonga
Website: www.tongastats.gov.to
E-mail: dept@stats.gov.to

July 2024
Price:

Preface

This is a monthly bulletin of migration reports produced by the Statistics Department as the main reference on a volume of overseas visitors, cruise ship passengers, yacht passengers and resident's movement to and from the Kingdom of Tonga. This bulletin covers the period of June 2024, includes tables providing a monthly breakdown of the data. Comparative data for previous years are also included in this bulletin. Most of the information contained in this bulletin was obtained from the Immigration Department database on international arrivals and departures.

The main purpose of collecting and compiling statistics on International Arrivals and Departures, or Migration Statistics, is to make migration data available for planners and decision-makers. Tonga has a high rate of Net Migration, with more people moving out of Tonga than arriving. Production of Migration Statistics and their components enables the Statistics Department to estimate the resident population and to produce Population Projections for the whole Kingdom.

This bulletin presents information relating to the number of arrivals and departures by sex, purpose of travel, reasons for absence, country of usual residence and country visited.

A special thanks are extended to the Immigration Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Customs Departments of the Ministry of Revenue Services, Airport terminal Services and Port 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 welcomed by the Statistics Department.




Sione F Lolohea

Government Statistician

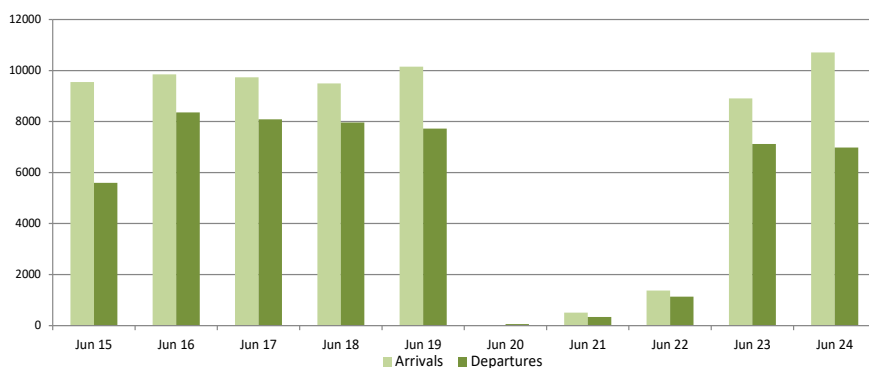
Summary of Arrivals

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

Month of June 2024	Number June 2024	Number May 2024	Number Jun 2023	Change from previous month (%)	Change from previous year (%)
All Arrivals	11,020	9,034	9,048	22.0	21.8
Air Visitors	7,277	5,039	5,861	44.4	24.2
Air Returning Residents	3,434	3,632	3,050	(5.5)	12.6
Cruise Ships	-	-	-	-	-
Yachts	309	363	137	(14.9)	125.5

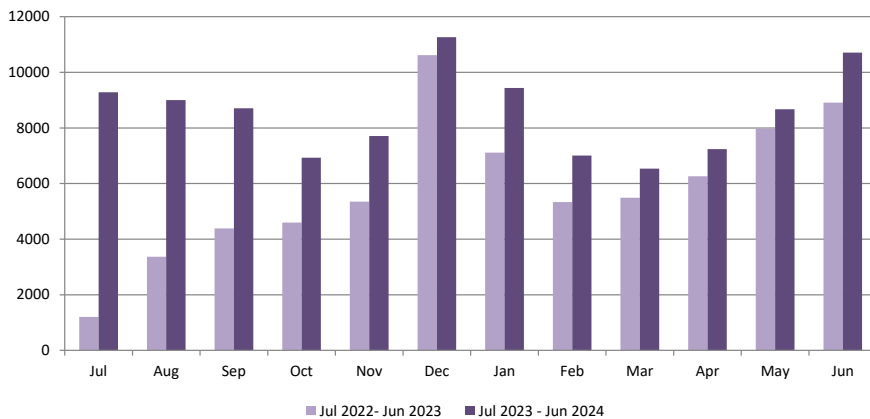
- The total of all arrivals in June 2024 were 11,020 people, this is an increase of 22.0% compared to the total arrivals in May 2024, (9,034).
- An increase of 44.4 percentage of all air visitors (7,277) compared to previous month (5,039).
- A decline of 5.5 percentage of returning residents (3,434) compared to the previous month (3,632)
- There were no Cruise Ships for the month of June 2024 and a decline of 14.9 percentage on arrivals by yachts (309) compared to previous month (363).

Fig. 1. June Air Arrivals and Departures 2015 – 2024



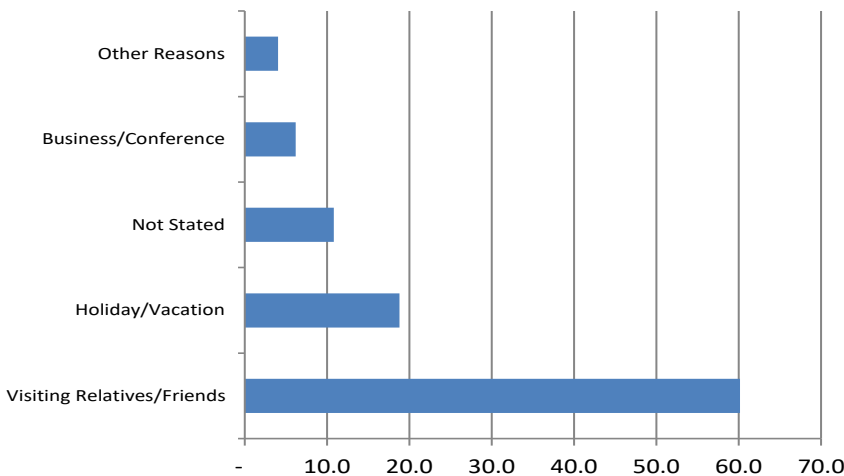
- Total air arrivals in June 2024 were 10,711 an increase of 20.2 percentage compared to June 2023 (8,911).
- Total air departures of 6,982 in June 2024, a decline of 2.0 percentage compared to June 2023 (7,122)

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



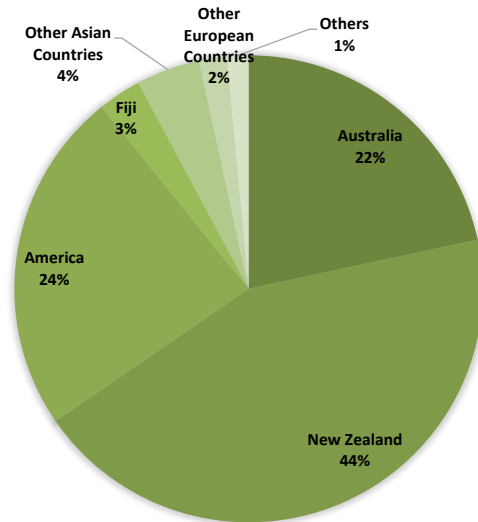
- July 2022 to June 2023 shows that Air arrivals are low compared to July 2023 to June 2024 indicating Tonga’s gradual recovery from the Covid – 19 pandemic and the Hunga Tonga and Hunga Ha’apai eruption and the tsunami in January 2022

Fig. 3. Air Visitors by Purpose of Visit June, 2024



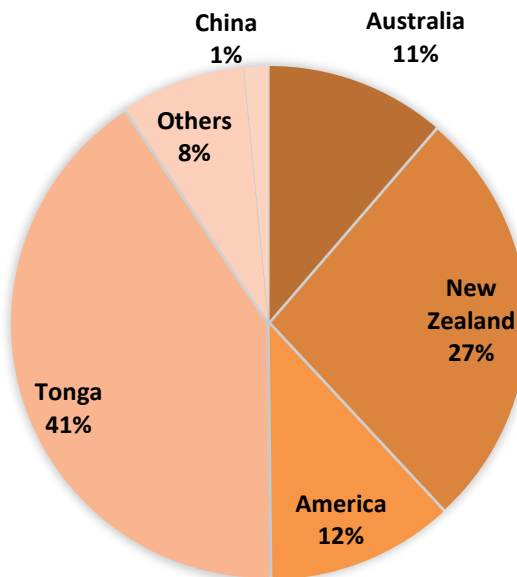
- 60.2% (4,378) of the total air visitors who were here to visit relative/friends
- Those who were here on Holiday/Vacation made up 18.8 % (1,368)
- 10.8% (786) didn’t state the reason of their visit
- Visitors who were here on Business/Conference made up 6.2% (450)

Fig. 4. Air Visitors by Country of Usual Residence June 2024



- New Zealand was the leading country in visitors arrivals by country of usual residence, accounting for 43.8% (3,186) of total air visitors
- This was followed by America with 23.8 % (1,732), and Australia with 21.6% (1,574)

Fig. 5. Air Departures by Country of Usual Residence June, 2024



- Most of the persons departing in the month of June were Tongan residents (2,847) followed by New Zealand (1,872) and America (819)

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 for years 2015 - 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)
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	-	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)
2024																	
Jan	3,762	-	11	3,773	5,672			5,672	9,434	674	11	10,119	11,330	674	-	12,004	(1,885)
Feb	3,240	2,340	-	5,580	3,766			3,766	7,006	2,340	-	9,346	7,385	2,339	-	9,724	(378)
Mar	3,520	1,378	-	4,898	3,013			3,013	6,533	1,378	-	7,911	7,075	1,377	-	8,452	(541)
Apr	3,882	611	29	4,522	3,355			3,355	7,237	611	29	7,877	6,947	611	2	7,560	317
May	5,039	-	363	5,402	3,632			3,632	8,671	-	363	9,034	8,330	-	103	8,433	601
Jun	7,277	-	309	7,586	3,434			3,434	10,711	-	309	11,020	6,982	-	414	7,396	3,624

Table 2. Total Arrivals by Age, Type of Passengers and Sex June, 2024

Age Group	Type of Passengers								
	Total			Visitors			Returning Residents		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
0-4	394	206	188	301	162	139	93	44	49
5-9	385	189	196	296	153	143	89	36	53
10-14	397	175	222	358	158	200	39	17	22
15-19	615	280	335	488	215	273	127	65	62
20-24	913	405	508	485	188	297	428	217	211
25-29	861	401	460	452	199	253	409	202	207
30-34	821	403	418	474	223	251	347	180	167
35-39	778	403	375	487	238	249	291	165	126
40-44	800	409	391	508	256	252	292	153	139
45-49	767	380	387	532	257	275	235	123	112
50-54	883	429	454	599	288	311	284	141	143
55-59	999	498	501	719	349	370	280	149	131
60-64	770	366	404	581	278	303	189	88	101
65-69	580	283	297	437	215	222	143	68	75
70-74	424	216	208	324	165	159	100	51	49
75+	324	149	175	236	112	124	88	37	51
Total	10,711	5,192	5,519	7,277	3,456	3,821	3,434	1,736	1,698
% Distribution	100.0	48.5	51.5	67.9	32.3	35.7	32.1	16.2	15.9

Table 3. Total Visitors by Usual Residence and Purpose of Visit June, 2024

Country of Usual Residence	Country of						
	Total	% Distribution	Holiday/ Vacation	Business/ Conference	Visiting Relative/ Friends	Other Reasons	Not Stated
Australia	1,574	21.6	343	118	888	54	171
New Zealand	3,186	43.8	391	167	2152	51	425
Fiji	217	3.0	24	49	87	40	17
American Samoa	37	0.5	0	3	33	1	0
Western Samoa	29	0.4	3	1	23	0	2
Other Pacific Islands	12	0.2	0	4	3	5	0
Japan	80	1.1	18	13	41	3	5
China	130	1.8	57	22	31	17	3
India	14	0.2	1	2	1	8	2
Korea	39	0.5	4	1	0	34	0
Other Asian Countries	57	0.8	21	12	9	10	5
UK	51	0.7	25	6	11	7	2
Germany	20	0.3	19	0	1	0	0
France	7	0.1	3	1	2	0	1
Italy	6	0.1	2	0	2	1	1
Other European Countries	55	0.8	45	3	1	2	4
All African Countries	6	0.1	1	3	0	2	0
United States of America	1,732	23.8	396	40	1090	58	148
Canada	15	0.2	9	4	2	0	0
Other American Countries	10	0.1	6	1	1	2	0
Total	7,277	100.0	1,368	450	4,378	295	786
% Distribution	100.0		18.8	6.2	60.2	4.1	10.8

Table 4: AIR DEPARTURES by Age Group, Passenger's Type for June, 2024

Age Group	Returning Residence	Percentage Distribution	Visitors	Percentage Distribution	Total	Percentage Distribution
0 - 4	85	3.0	195	4.7	280	4.0
5 - 9	85	3.0	135	3.3	220	3.2
10 - 14	83	2.9	142	3.4	225	3.2
15 - 19	207	7.3	217	5.2	424	6.1
20 - 24	307	10.8	244	5.9	551	7.9
25 - 29	342	12.0	260	6.3	602	8.6
30 - 34	264	9.3	312	7.5	576	8.2
35 - 39	265	9.3	357	8.6	622	8.9
40 - 44	245	8.6	334	8.1	579	8.3
45 - 49	194	6.8	342	8.3	536	7.7
50 - 54	227	8.0	350	8.5	577	8.3
55 - 59	217	7.6	390	9.4	607	8.7
60 - 64	131	4.6	334	8.1	465	6.7
65 - 69	89	3.1	237	5.7	326	4.7
70 - 74	59	2.1	164	4.0	223	3.2
75+	47	1.7	122	3.0	169	2.4
All Ages	2,847	100.0	4,135	100.0	6,982	100.0
YACHT	-	-	414	-	414	0
CRUISE SHIP	-	-	-	-	-	0
Total	2,847	100.0	4,549	100.0	7,396	100.0

Table 5. Total Departures by Country of Residence and Sex June, 2024

Country of Usual Residence	Male	Percent	Female	Percent	Total	Percent
	No.	Distribution	No.	Distribution	No.	Distribution
Australia	367	10.4	421	12.2	788	11.3
New Zealand	918	26.1	954	27.5	1,872	26.8
Fiji	103	2.9	62	1.8	165	2.4
American Samoa	6	0.2	7	0.2	13	0.2
Western Samoa	6	0.2	12	0.3	18	0.3
Tonga	1,436	40.8	1,411	40.7	2,847	40.8
Other Pacific Islands	13	0.4	10	0.3	23	0.3
Japan	27	0.8	14	0.4	41	0.6
China	66	1.9	42	1.2	108	1.5
India	15	0.4	1	0.0	16	0.2
Korea	22	0.6	15	0.4	37	0.5
Other Asian Countries	29	0.8	19	0.5	48	0.7
UK	41	1.2	17	0.5	58	0.8
Germany	16	0.5	17	0.5	33	0.5
France	6	0.2	4	0.1	10	0.1
Italy	4	0.1	1	0.0	5	0.1
Other European Countries	26	0.7	16	0.5	42	0.6
All African Countries	4	0.1	-	-	4	0.1
United States of America	388	11.0	431	12.4	819	11.7
Canada	14	0.4	5	0.1	19	0.3
Other American Countries	10	0.3	6	0.2	16	0.2
Total	3,517	100.0	3,465	100.0	6,982	100.0

**Printed by STATISTICS DEPARTMENT
Nuku'alofa, TONGA—2024**
