

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 March 2020, 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, Tonga Airport Limited 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.


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Dr. Viliami K Fifita

Government Statistician



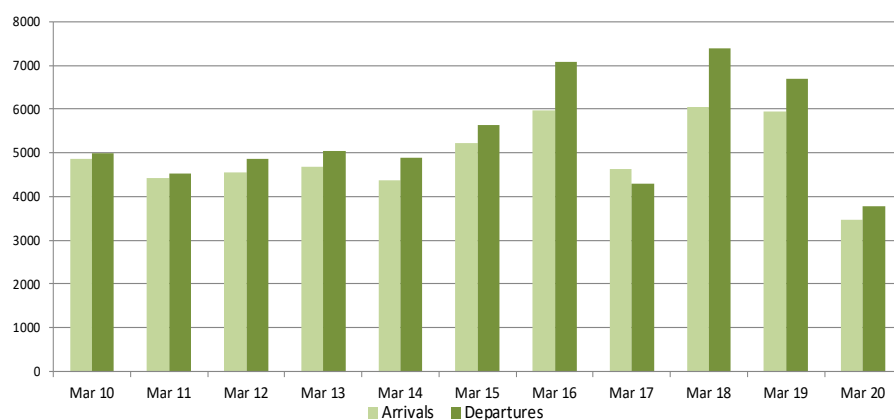
Summary of Arrivals

Table 1.: Total Arrivals by month and annual percentage change

Type and Mode of Arrivals	Number			Percent	
	March 2020	February 2020	March 2019	Change from previous month	Change from previous year
All Arrivals	3,478	8,020	11,532	-56.6	-69.8
Air Visitors	1,259	3,008	3,109	-58.1	-59.5
Air Returning Residents	2,219	3,328	2,846	-33.3	-22.0
Cruise Ships	0	1,678	5,570	0.0	0.0
Yachts	0	6	7	0.0	0.0

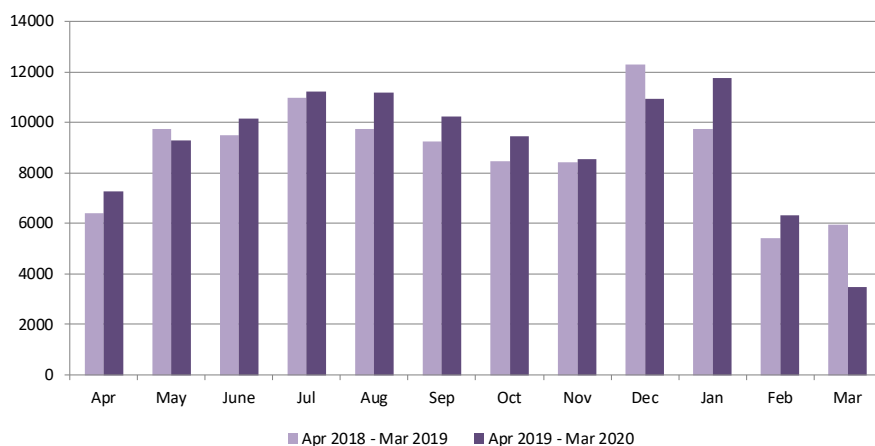
- The total of all arrivals in March 2020 was 3,478 peoples, this is a decline of 56.6 percent compared to the total arrivals in February, 8,020.
- A decline of 58.1% of all air visitors (1,259) compared to February 2020 (3,008).
- Again a decline of 33.3% (2,219) of returning residents compared to the previous month (3,328)
- There were no Cruise Ships and yachts for the month of March 2020

Fig. 1. March Air Arrivals and Departures 2010 – 2020



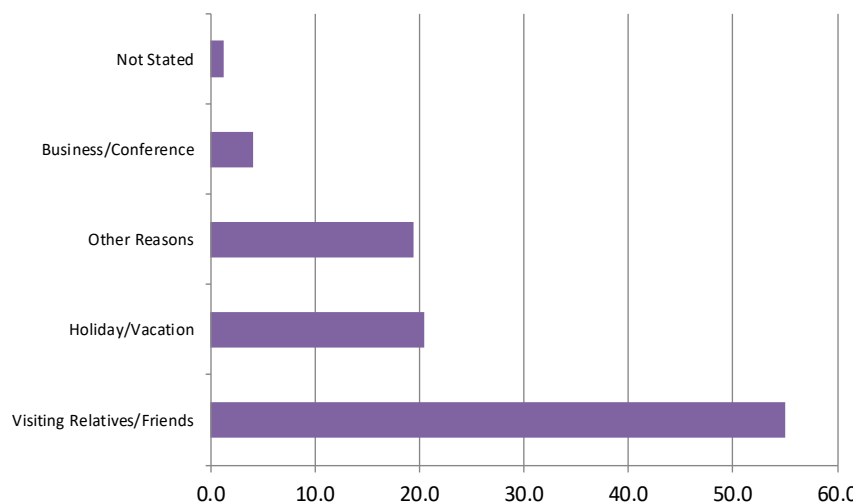
- Total air arrivals in March 2020 were 3,478 a decline of 41.8% compared to March 2019 (5,955).
- Total air departures of 3,778 in March 2020, a decline of 43.3% compared to March 2019 (6,686)

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



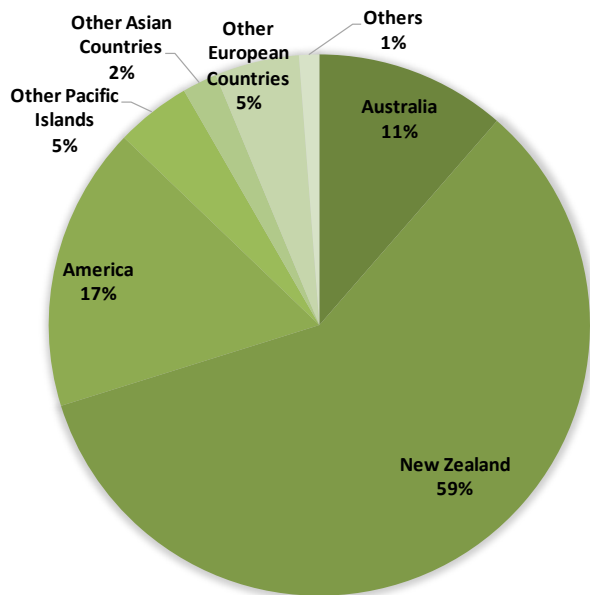
- Total air visitor arrivals in March 2020 were 1,259 a decline of 59.5% compared to March 2019 (3,109)

Fig. 3. Air Visitors by Purpose of Visit March, 2020



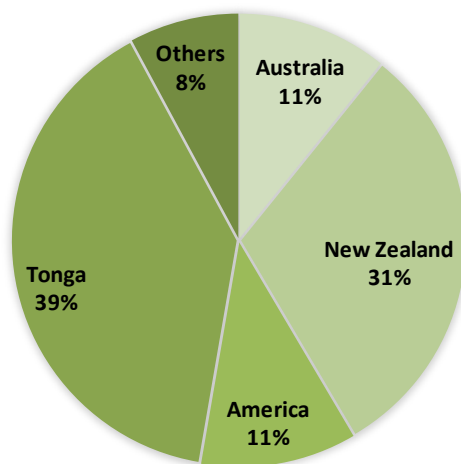
- Over half 55.0% (692) of the total air visitors were here to Visit friends and relatives.
- Holiday/Vacation made up 20.4% (257) of all air visitors to the Kingdom in the month of March
- Visitors who were here on Business or Conference made up 4.1% (51) and those with other reasons were 19.4% (244)

Fig. 4. Air Visitors by Country of Usual Residence March 2020



- New Zealand remains as the leading country in visitors arrivals by country of usual residence, accounting for 58.8% (740) of total air visitors
- This was followed by America with 17.0 % (214), and Australia 11.4% (144)

Fig. 5. Air Departures by Country of Usual Residence March, 2020



- Most of the persons departing in the month of March were Tongan residents (1,490) followed by New Zealand (1,162) and America (423)

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, 2010 - 2019

Period	Visitors Arrivals				Returning Residents				Total Arrivals				Total Departures				Net Migration
	Air	Ship	Yacht	Total	Air	Ship	Yac	Total	Air	Ship	Yacht	Total	Air	Ship	Yacht	Total	
2010	47,081	16,265	1,659	65,005	24,501			24,501	71,582	16,265	1,659	89,506	72,533	16,244	1,830	90,607	(1,101)
2011	46,005	20,519	1,849	68,373	26,587			26,587	72,592	20,519	1,849	94,960	73,589	20,550	1,468	95,607	(647)
2012	47,457	7,957	1,816	57,230	25,170			25,107	72,627	7,957	1,816	82,400	74,098	7,987	1,720	83,805	(1,405)
2013	48,188	9,432	2,045	59,665	25,808			25,808	73,996	9,432	2,045	85,473	73,938	9,427	1,769	85,134	339
2014	48,854	13,733	1,632	64,219	26,128			26,128	74,982	13,733	1,632	90,347	78,604	13,724	1,762	94,090	(3,743)
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	1,816	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	2,344	124,693	99,280	21,698	1,992	122,970	(3,857)
2018	54,046	21,708	1,559	77,306	51,428			51,428	105,474	21,708	1,559	128,741	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)
2018																	
Jan	4,294	3,346	7	7,640	4,828			4,828	9,122	3,346	7	12,475	12,147	3,349	6	15,502	(3,034)
Feb	2,336	1,520	-	3,856	3,217			3,217	5,553	1,520	-	7,073	6,686	1,526	-	8,212	(1,139)
Mar	2,835	3,062	14	5,911	3,205			3,205	6,040	3,062	14	9,116	7,376	3,062	1	10,439	(1,323)
Apr	3,099	2,344	34	5,477	3,309			3,309	6,408	2,344	34	8,786	6,454	2,343	39	8,836	(50)
May	4,348	627	166	5,141	5,385			5,385	9,733	627	166	10,526	8,275	631	56	8,962	1,564
Jun	4,785	3,318	305	8,408	4,711			4,711	9,496	3,318	305	13,119	7,962	3,316	275	11,553	1,566
Jul	7,011	1,861	174	9,046	3,960			3,960	10,971	1,861	174	13,006	11,444	1,863	272	13,579	(573)
Aug	5,855	-	252	6,107	3,868			3,868	9,723	-	252	9,975	10,408	-	319	10,727	(752)
Sep	5,061	-	256	5,317	4,200			4,200	9,261	-	256	9,517	8,976	-	316	9,292	225
Oct	4,504	4,746	295	9,545	3,948			3,948	8,452	4,746	295	13,493	9,781	4,744	218	14,743	(1,250)
Nov	3,636	884	50	4,570	4,776			4,776	8,412	884	50	9,346	8,520	880	88	9,488	(142)
Dec	6,282	-	6	6,288	6,021			6,021	12,303	-	6	12,309	10,741	-	12	10,753	1,556
2019																	
Jan	4,372	313	3	4,688	5,352			5,352	9,724	313	3	10,040	12,073	313	3	12,389	(2,349)
Feb	2,709	3,448	-	6,157	2,719			2,719	5,428	3,448	-	8,876	6,889	3,497	-	10,386	(1,510)
Mar	3,109	5,570	7	8,686	2,846			2,846	5,955	5,570	7	11,532	6,686	5,569	3	12,258	(726)
Apr	4,183	3,508	13	7,704	3,091			3,091	7,274	3,508	13	10,795	7,195	3,509	9	10,713	82
May	5,166	1,506	128	6,800	4,132			4,132	9,298	1,506	128	10,932	8,041	1,512	83	9,636	1,564
Jun	6,647	1,798	489	8,934	3,505			3,505	10,152	1,798	489	12,439	7,722	1,798	602	10,122	2,317
Jul	8,121	-	194	8,315	3,092			3,092	11,213	-	194	11,407	11,754	-	346	12,100	(693)
Aug	7,890	-	288	8,178	3,302			3,302	11,192	-	288	11,480	11,517	-	218	11,735	(255)
Sep	6,811	636	382	7,829	3,418			3,418	10,229	636	382	11,247	9,987	636	209	10,832	415
Oct	5,649	2,178	428	8,255	3,782			3,782	9,431	2,178	428	12,037	10,611	2,181	394	13,186	(1,149)
Nov	4,938	2,712	72	7,722	3,595			3,595	8,533	2,712	72	11,317	8,786	2,743	171	11,700	(383)
Dec	7,689	2,998	17	10,704	3,253			3,253	10,942	2,998	17	13,957	11,453	2,991	26	14,470	(513)
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)

Table 2. Total Arrivals by Age, Type of Passangers and Gender March, 2020

Age Group				Type of Passangers					
	Total			Visitors			Returning Residents		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
0-4	111	49	62	52	23	29	59	25	33
5-9	116	65	51	40	18	22	76	47	29
10-14	80	36	44	37	17	21	43	20	23
15-19	153	84	70	40	19	21	113	64	49
20-24	368	209	160	87	39	48	281	170	111
25-29	294	119	175	97	37	59	197	82	115
30-34	269	142	127	81	40	41	188	102	86
35-39	273	133	140	105	51	54	168	82	86
40-44	265	138	127	105	44	61	160	94	66
45-49	289	157	132	108	64	44	182	94	88
50-54	340	178	163	135	70	65	205	107	98
55-59	297	152	145	127	62	65	170	90	80
60-64	214	107	107	87	39	48	127	68	59
65-69	201	105	96	80	52	28	121	53	68
70-74	96	44	52	41	17	25	55	27	27
75+	110	52	58	36	17	19	74	35	39
Total	3,478	1,769	1,709	1,259	609	650	2,219	1,160	1,059
% Distribution	100.0	50.9	49.1	36.2	17.5	18.7	63.8	33.4	30.4

Table 3. Total Visitors by Usual Residence and Purpose of Visit March, 2020

Country of Usual Residence	Country of						
	Total	% Distribution	Holiday/ Vacation	Business/ Conference	Visiting Relative/ Friends	Other Reasons	Not Stated
Australia	144	11.4	25	7	83	28	1
New Zealand	740	58.8	106	32	450	139	12
Fiji	43	3.4	11	7	14	11	0
American Samoa	6	0.4	3	0	3	0	0
Western Samoa	1	0.1	0	0	1	0	0
Other Pacific Islands	7	0.5	1	0	4	1	0
Japan	4	0.3	4	0	0	0	0
China	17	1.3	14	1	1	0	0
India	1	0.1	0	0	0	1	0
Korea	1	0.1	1	0	0	0	0
Other Asian Countries	3	0.2	0	0	3	0	0
UK	23	1.9	12	0	7	4	0
Germany	14	1.1	10	0	0	4	0
France	3	0.2	0	0	0	3	0
Italy	1	0.1	1	0	0	0	0
Other European Countries	22	1.8	15	1	3	3	0
All African Countries	8	0.7	3	0	0	6	0
United States of America	214	17.0	46	3	123	41	1
Canada	4	0.3	1	0	0	3	0
Other American Countries	3	0.2	3	0	0	0	0
Total	1,259	100.0	257	51	692	244	15
% Distribution	100.0		20.4	4.1	55.0	19.4	1.2

Table 4: AIR DEPARTURES by Age Group, Passanger's Type for March, 2020

<i>Age Group</i>	<i>Returning Residence</i>	<i>Percentage Distribution</i>	<i>Visitors</i>	<i>Percentage Distribution</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Percentage Distribution</i>
0 - 4	48	2.3	54	3.1	102	2.7
5 - 9	46	2.2	57	3.3	102	2.7
10 - 14	41	2.0	46	2.7	87	2.3
15 - 19	79	3.9	72	4.2	152	4.0
20 - 24	303	14.8	128	7.4	431	11.4
25 - 29	301	14.7	138	8.0	439	11.6
30 - 34	200	9.7	142	8.2	342	9.1
35 - 39	202	9.8	136	7.9	338	8.9
40 - 44	161	7.9	150	8.7	311	8.2
45 - 49	168	8.2	128	7.4	296	7.8
50 - 54	176	8.6	163	9.5	339	9.0
55 - 59	96	4.7	155	9.0	252	6.7
60 - 64	72	3.5	107	6.2	179	4.7
65 - 69	65	3.2	115	6.6	180	4.8
70 - 74	63	3.0	84	4.9	147	3.9
75+	31	1.5	50	2.9	81	2.2
All Ages	2,053	100.0	1,725	100.0	3,778	100.0
YACHT	-	-	-	-	0	-
CRUISE SHIP	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	2,053	100.0	1,725	100.0	3,778	100.0

Table 5. Total Departures by Country of Residence and Gender March, 2020

<i>Country of Usual Residence</i>	<i>Male No.</i>	<i>Percent Distribution</i>	<i>Female No.</i>	<i>Percent Distribution</i>	<i>Total No.</i>	<i>Percent Distribution</i>
Australia	187	9.2	220	12.6	407	10.8
New Zealand	545	26.9	617	35.2	1,162	30.7
Fiji	59	2.9	35	2.0	94	2.5
American Samoa	3	0.2	3	0.2	7	0.2
Western Samoa	3	0.2	5	0.3	9	0.2
Tonga	928	45.7	562	32.1	1,490	39.4
Other Pacific Islands	3	0.2	3	0.2	7	0.2
Japan	10	0.5	3	0.2	14	0.4
China	7	0.3	10	0.6	17	0.5
India	-	-	2	0.1	2	0.0
Korea	-	-	2	0.1	2	0.0
Other Asian Countries	9	0.4	7	0.4	16	0.4
UK	14	0.7	21	1.2	35	0.9
Germany	17	0.9	10	0.6	28	0.7
France	2	0.1	3	0.2	5	0.1
Italy	2	0.1	-	-	2	0.0
Other European Countries	23	1.1	23	1.3	45	1.2
All African Countries	2	0.1	-	-	2	0.0
United States of America	206	10.2	217	12.4	423	11.2
Canada	5	0.3	3	0.2	9	0.2
Other American Countries	2	0.1	2	0.1	3	0.1
Total	2,028	100.0	1,750	100.0	3,778	100.0