

STATISTICAL NEWS

FBoS Release No.79, 2019

16th September, 2019

PROVISIONAL VISITOR ARRIVALS – AUGUST 2019

Provisional numbers show that 88,834 visitors arrived into the country in August 2019. The number was a record for the month of August and represents an increase of 0.2% compared to a year earlier.

Increases were recorded in the number of visitors from the United States of America [994 or 12.9% to 8,721]; New Zealand [725 or 3.0% to 24,790]; China [441 or 8.9% to 5,411]; Rest of Asia [232 or 10.0% to 2,559]; Continental Europe [167 or 3.9% to 4,468].

There were decreases in the number of visitors only from Australia [down 1,916 or 5.5% to 32,755]; Canada [down 193 or 13.4% to 1,244]; Pacific Islands [down 128 or 3.0% to 4,091]; Japan [down 91 or 3.7% to 2,363]; South Korea [down 58 or 8.5% to 627] and the United Kingdom [down 40 or 2.7% to 1,446].

Visitors arriving for holiday purposes accounted for 72.6% of total arrivals, 10.7% came to visit their friends or relatives 3.4% came for business purposes, while 13.3% visited Fiji for other reasons.

Table 1 below presents actual numbers and the 2019 and 2018 comparisons of visitor arrivals for the month of August, January to August and twelve months to August 2019.

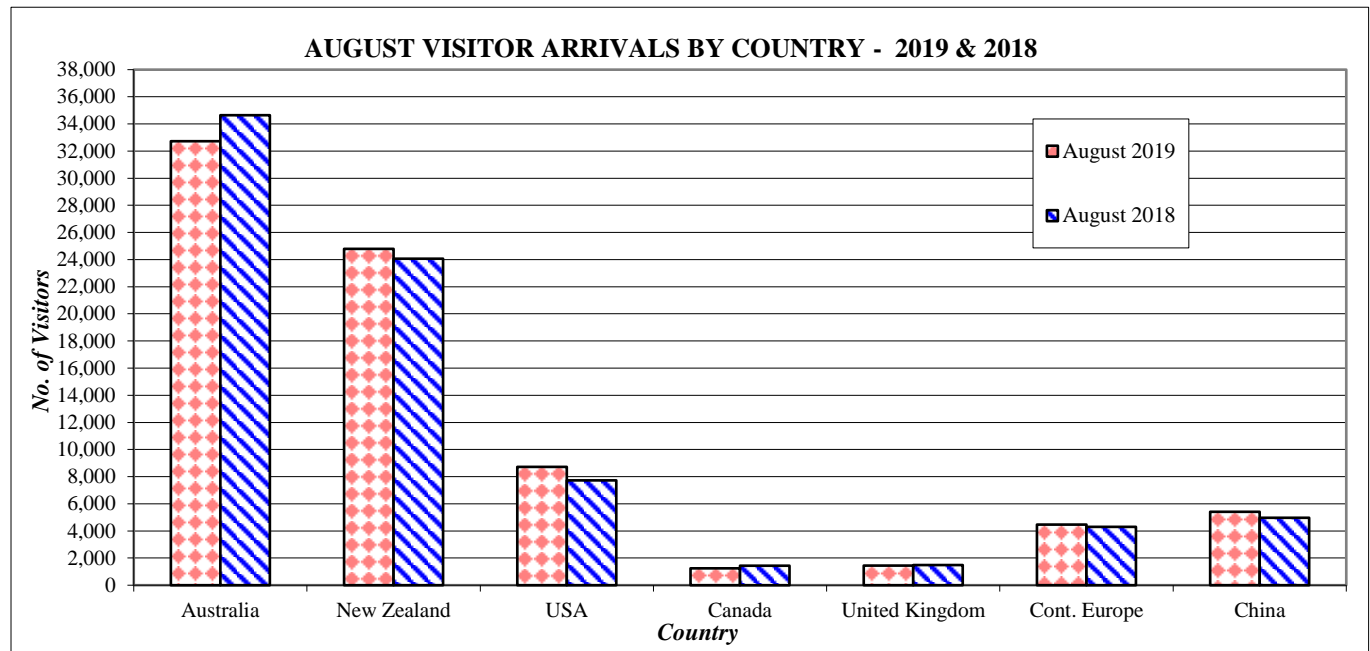
Table 1

	AUGUST			JANUARY TO AUGUST						12 MONTHS TO AUGUST		
	2019	2018	% CHANGE	2019	% TO TOTAL	2018	% TO TOTAL	% CHANGE		2019	2018	% CHANGE
ARRIVALS												
Australia	32,725	34,641	-5.5	233,350	39.4	230,096	40.5	1.4		368,914	367,250	0.5
New Zealand	24,790	24,065	3.0	136,502	23.0	130,276	22.9	4.8		204,944	194,726	5.2
USA	8,721	7,727	12.9	65,561	11.1	58,854	10.4	11.4		92,782	85,132	9.0
Canada	1,244	1,437	-13.4	9,259	1.6	9,142	1.6	1.3		13,337	12,968	2.8
United Kingdom	1,446	1,486	-2.7	12,000	2.0	11,143	2.0	7.7		17,154	16,481	4.1
Cont. Europe	4,468	4,301	3.9	24,495	4.1	24,240	4.3	1.1		37,688	36,167	4.2
Japan	2,363	2,454	-3.7	10,604	1.8	6,797	1.2	56.0		15,710	8,665	81.3
China	5,411	4,970	8.9	34,218	5.8	34,912	6.1	-2.0		48,577	49,512	-1.9
South Korea	627	685	-8.5	5,266	0.9	5,503	1.0	-4.3		7,939	8,878	-10.6
Rest of Asia	2,559	2,327	10.0	21,172	3.6	18,555	3.3	14.1		29,545	26,922	9.7
Pacific Islands	4,091	4,219	-3.0	36,690	6.2	34,780	6.1	5.5		53,564	53,536	0.1
Others	389	381	2.1	3,588	0.6	3,438	0.6	4.4		5,124	5,273	-2.8
TOTAL VISITORS	88,834	88,693	0.2	592,705	100.0	567,736	100.0	4.4		895,278	865,510	3.4

Note: Visitor statistics are released monthly using data sourced from the Immigration System. The limited number of tables released is due to the new system which came on line in April 2013.

Figure 1 below is a graphical comparison of Visitor Arrivals by Country for August 2019 and 2018.

Figure 1



In the moving twelve-monthly numbers ending August 2019, the total number of visitors to Fiji increased by 3.4% compared with the same period in 2018. Visitors from Japan increased by [81.3%]; Rest of Asia [9.7%]; the United States of America [9.0%]; New Zealand [5.2%]; Continental Europe [4.2%]; the United Kingdom [4.1%]; Canada [2.8%]; Australia [0.5%] and Pacific Islands [0.1%].

Decreases were recorded for visitors from South Korea [10.6%]; Other Countries [2.8%] and China [1.9%].

January to August 2019, showed that visitor arrivals increased by 4.4% over the corresponding period in 2018, up from 567,736 to 592,705.

Figure 2 below shows a graphical comparison of visitor arrivals by country during the period January to August 2019.

Figure 2

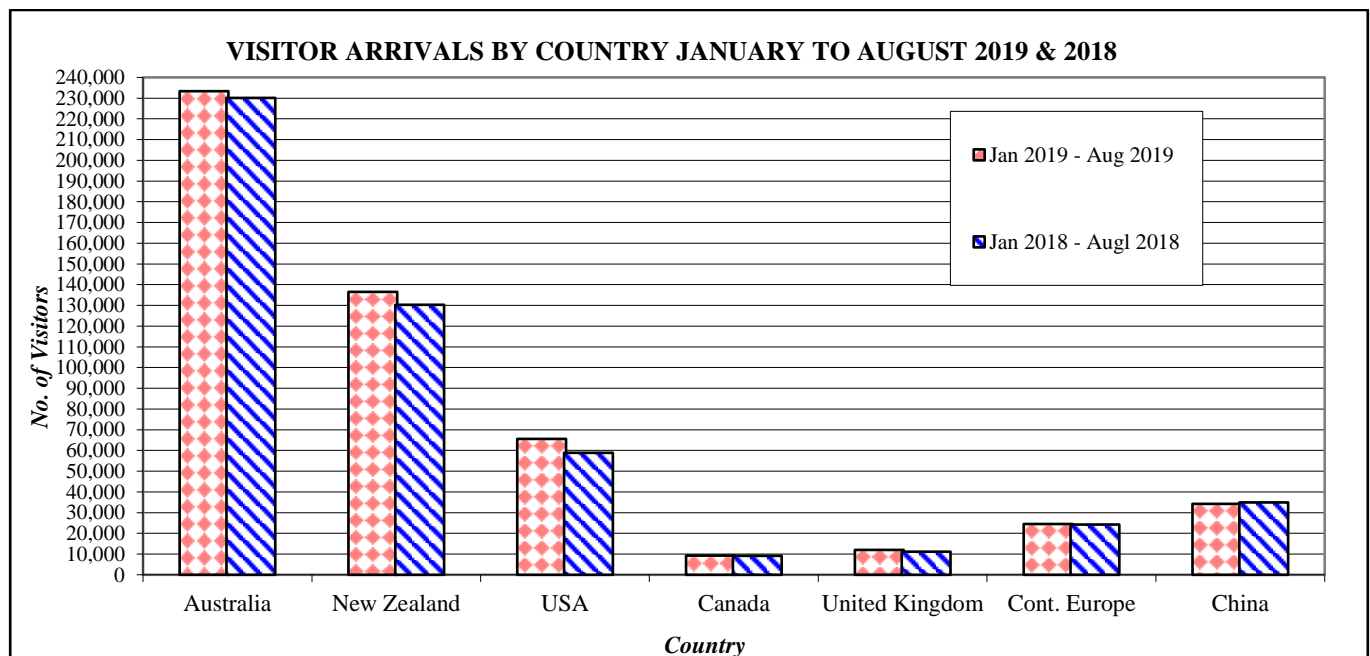
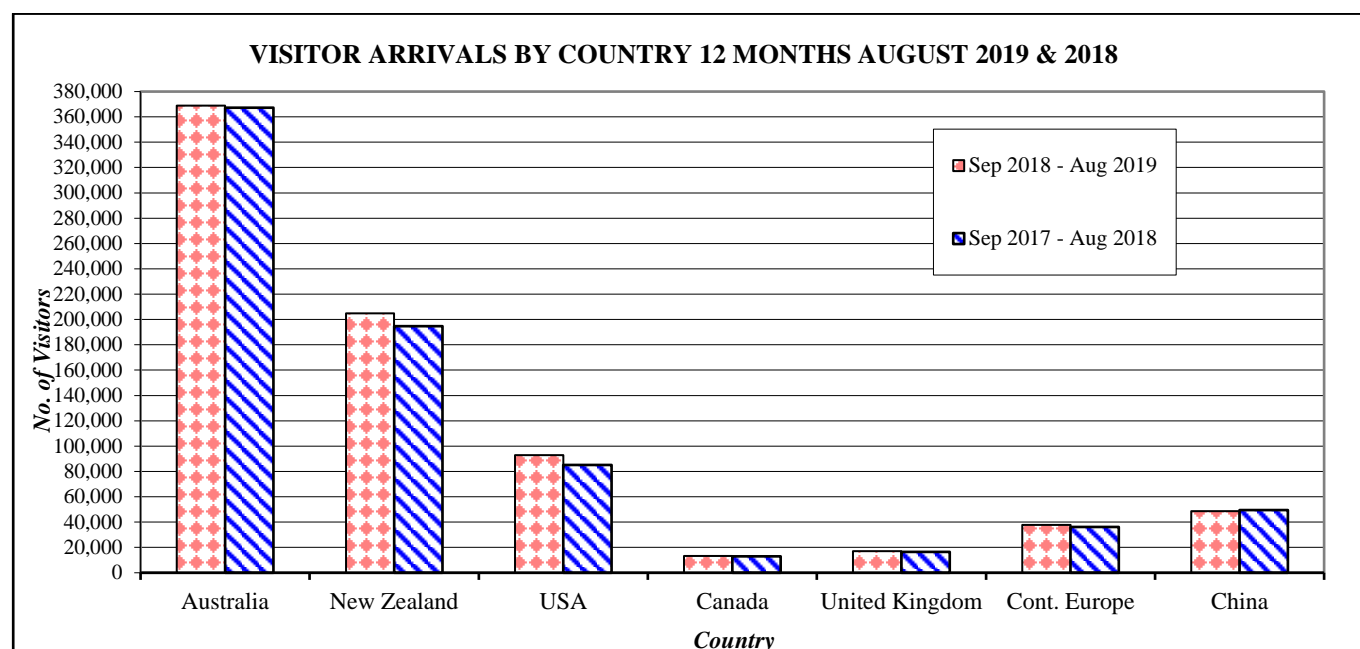


Figure 3 below shows the twelve-monthly comparisons.

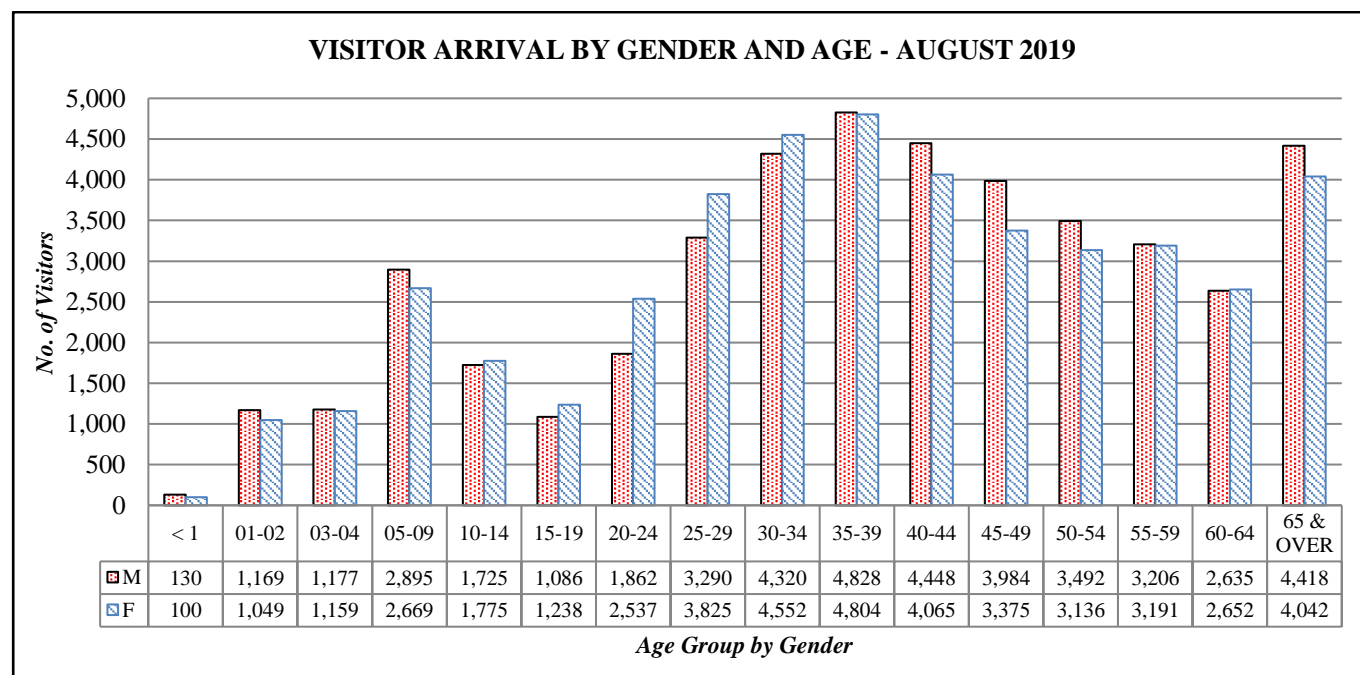
Figure 3



The majority of visitors to Fiji in August 2019 were in the age range 25-64 (67.3%), which accounts for the vast majority of the working age population. Children aged 14 and below accounted for 15.6% of the August visitor arrivals; 9.5% comprising those in the predominantly retirement age group of 65 and over with the remaining 7.6% were youths aged 15-24.

Figure 4 below shows a significant gender differential in the age groups 20-24, 25-29, 30-35, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54 and 65+;

Figure 4



Visitors by Occupation

For the month of August 2019, the top 5 Occupational Groups for visitors engaged in gainful employment in their home countries are as follows;

- 1) Professional Workers – increased by [908 or 5.2% to 18,509].
- 2) Clerical Workers – increased by [501 or 16.8% to 3,475].
- 3) Service Workers – increased by [104 or 2.0% to 5,420].
- 4) Technician and Related Workers – increased by [97 or 0.9% to 10,475].
- 5) Craft Workers – decreased by [306 or 7.0% to 4,061].

August 2019 visitors who are not in the labour force were categorised into two major groups. The categories and numbers are as follows;

- 1) Retirees, Housewives, Children & Others – increased by [440 or 2.5% to 17,927].
- 2) Students – decreased by [1,891 or 12.8% to 12,846].

Additional details are provided in Figure 5 below;

Figure 5

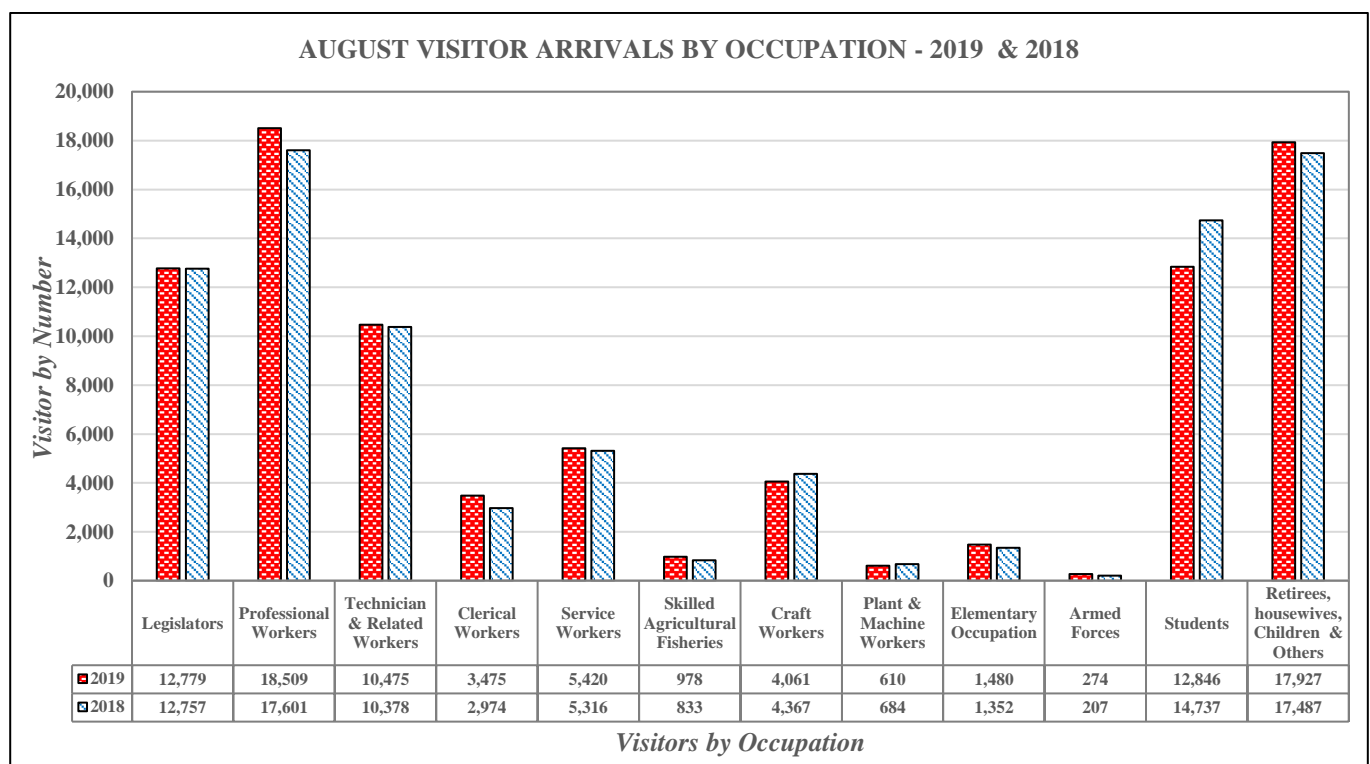


Table 2

Resident Departures for July 2019

Purpose of Visit	Length of Absence					% To Total
	Under 3 months	3 months - 12 months	1 year - 5 years	Over 5 years or Permanently	Grand Total	
Holiday	4,545 (42.7%)	444			4,989	37.4%
Visiting Friends or Relatives	3,723 (35.0%)	348			4,071	30.5%
Business	1,340 (12.6%)	52			1,392	10.4%
Employment	493 (4.6%)	281	411	56	1,241	9.3%
Education/Training	496 (4.7%)	211	191		898	6.7%
Emigration			44	520	564	4.2%
Others	50 (0.5%)	26	27	71	174	1.3%
Grand Total	10,647 (100%)	1,362	673	647	13,329	
% To Total	79.9%	10.2%	5.0%	4.9%		100.0%

Note: Percentage August not sum to 100% due to rounding of figures

A total of 13,329 Fiji Residents departed our shores during the month of July of which 10,647 or 79.9% were for a short-term absence of under three months. A total of 1,320 or 9.9% of resident departures were for a longer-term absence of 1 year or more.

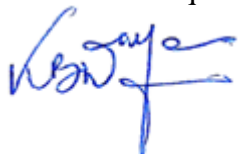
The reasons for departure as reported by residents leaving for a short-term absence were as follows;

- Holiday – 42.7%
- Visiting Friends or Relatives – 35.0%
- Business – 12.6%
- Education/Training – 4.7%
- Employment – 4.6%.

More detailed information is provided in the accompanying Tables.

TABLE 1:	ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES: NUMBER OF RESIDENTS, VISITORS AND PERSONS IN TRANSIT.
TABLE 2:	VISITOR ARRIVALS BY COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE.
TABLE 3:	VISITOR ARRIVALS BY PURPOSE OF VISIT.
TABLE 4:	VISITOR ARRIVALS FROM CONTINENTAL EUROPE.
TABLE 5:	VISITOR ARRIVALS BY COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE, SEX AND AGE – AUGUST 2019.
TABLE 6:	VISITOR ARRIVALS BY COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE AND OCCUPATION – AUGUST 2019.
TABLE 7:	RESIDENT DEPARTURE BY FINAL DESTINATION AND BY PURPOSE OF ABSENCE – JULY 2019.

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