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# STATISTICAL NEWS

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## PROVISIONAL VISITOR ARRIVALS – OCTOBER 2019

Provisional numbers show that visitor arrivals for October 2019 totaled 77,467, a decrease of 2.0% compared to a year earlier.

There were decreases in the number of visitors from the following countries; Australia [down 1,160 or 3.3% to 33,739]; China [down 824 or 20.5% to 3,189]; Japan [down 525 or 39.3% to 810]; South Korea [down 517 or 67.0% to 255]; Continental Europe [down 407 or 11.2% to 3,214]; the United Kingdom [down 215 or 15.6% to 1,164]; Rest of Asia [down 133 or 6.0% to 2,095] and Canada [71 or 7.4% to 886].

Increases were recorded in the number of visitors from the United States of America [1,424 or 20.3% to 8,428]; New Zealand [462 or 2.5% to 19,024] and Pacific Islands [333 or 8.5% to 4,256].

Visitors arriving for holiday purposes accounted for 77.0% of total arrivals, 7.7% came to visit their friends or relatives 3.4% came for business purposes, while 11.9% visited Fiji for other reasons.

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

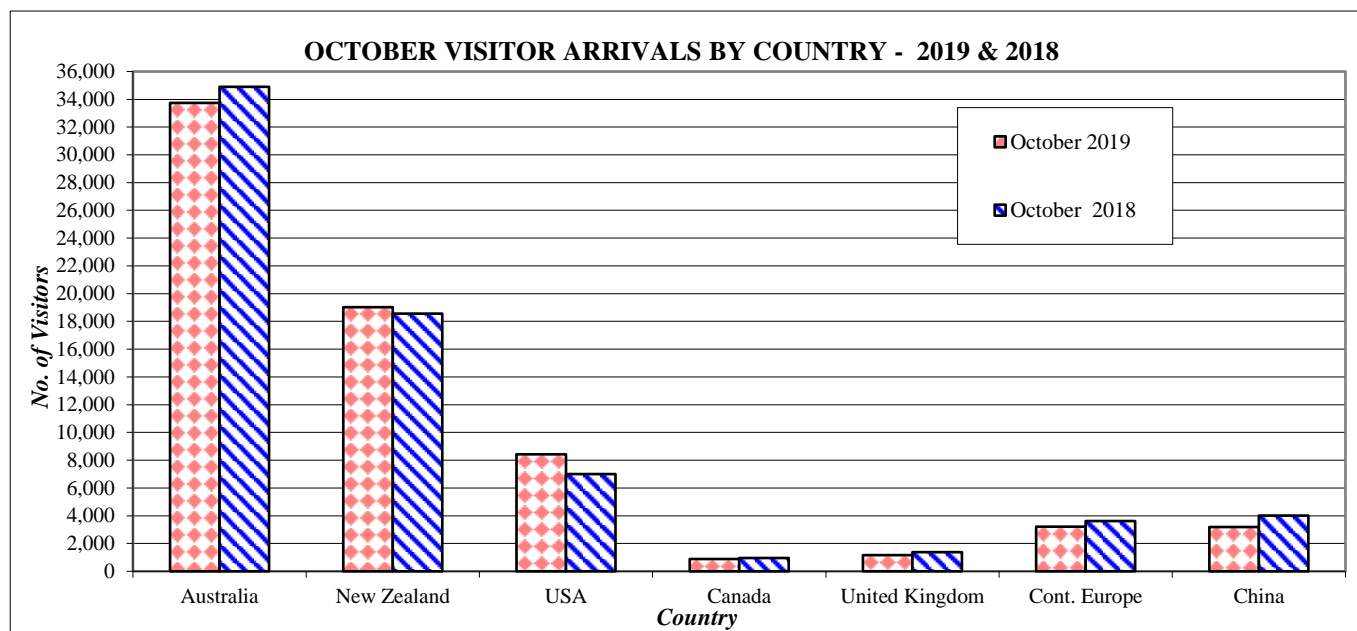
**Table 1**

	OCTOBER			JANUARY TO OCTOBER					12 MONTHS TO OCTOBER		
	2019	2018	% CHANGE	% TO 2019	TOTAL	% TO 2018	TOTAL	% CHANGE	2019	2018	% CHANGE
<b>ARRIVALS</b>											
Australia	33,739	34,899	-3.3	300,418	40.0	300,580	41.3	-0.1	365,498	367,052	-0.4
New Zealand	19,024	18,562	2.5	177,158	23.6	170,513	23.4	3.9	205,363	197,300	4.1
USA	8,428	7,004	20.3	82,016	10.9	71,918	9.9	14.0	96,173	85,645	12.3
Canada	886	957	-7.4	11,042	1.5	10,982	1.5	0.5	13,280	12,963	2.4
United Kingdom	1,164	1,379	-15.6	14,410	1.9	13,522	1.9	6.6	17,185	16,381	4.9
Cont. Europe	3,214	3,621	-11.2	30,740	4.1	31,037	4.3	-1.0	37,136	37,214	-0.2
Japan	810	1,335	-39.3	12,905	1.7	9,855	1.4	30.9	14,953	10,658	40.3
China	3,189	4,013	-20.5	41,404	5.5	42,995	5.9	-3.7	47,680	49,708	-4.1
South Korea	255	772	-67.0	6,262	0.8	6,860	0.9	-8.7	7,578	8,464	-10.5
Rest of Asia	2,095	2,228	-6.0	25,439	3.4	23,053	3.2	10.4	29,314	27,454	6.8
Pacific Islands	4,256	3,923	8.5	45,244	6.0	42,717	5.9	5.9	54,181	52,817	2.6
Others	407	384	6.0	4,488	0.6	4,218	0.6	6.4	5,244	5,175	1.3
<b>TOTAL VISITORS</b>	<b>77,467</b>	<b>79,077</b>	<b>-2.0</b>	<b>751,526</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>728,250</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>893,585</b>	<b>870,831</b>	<b>2.6</b>

**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 October 2019 and 2018.

**Figure 1**



In the moving twelve-monthly numbers ending October 2019, the total number of visitors to Fiji increased by 2.6% compared with the same period in 2018. Visitors from Japan increased by [40.3%]; the United States of America [12.3%]; Rest of Asia [6.8%]; the United Kingdom [4.9%]; New Zealand [4.1%]; Pacific Islands [2.6%]; Canada [2.4%] and Other Countries [1.3%].

Decreases were recorded for visitors from South Korea [10.5%]; China [4.1%]; Australia [0.4%] and Continental Europe [0.2%].

January to October 2019, showed that visitor arrivals increased by 3.2% over the corresponding period in 2018, up from 728,250 to 751,526.

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

**Figure 2**

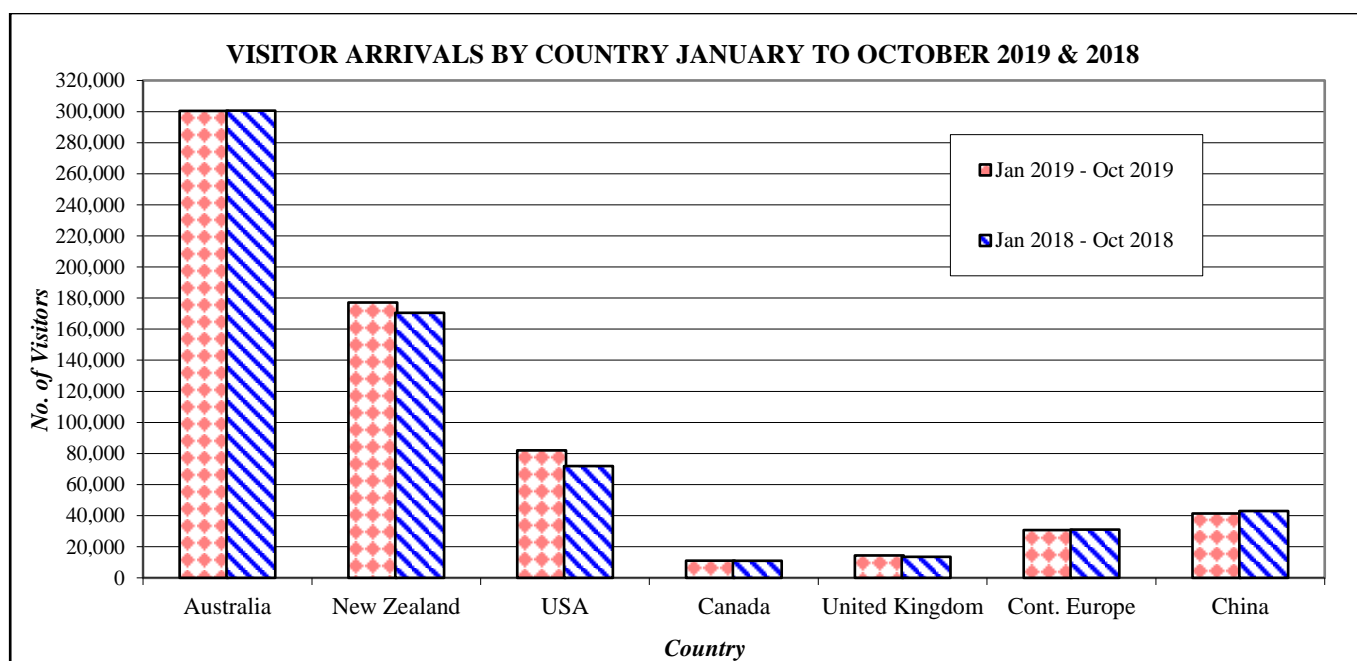
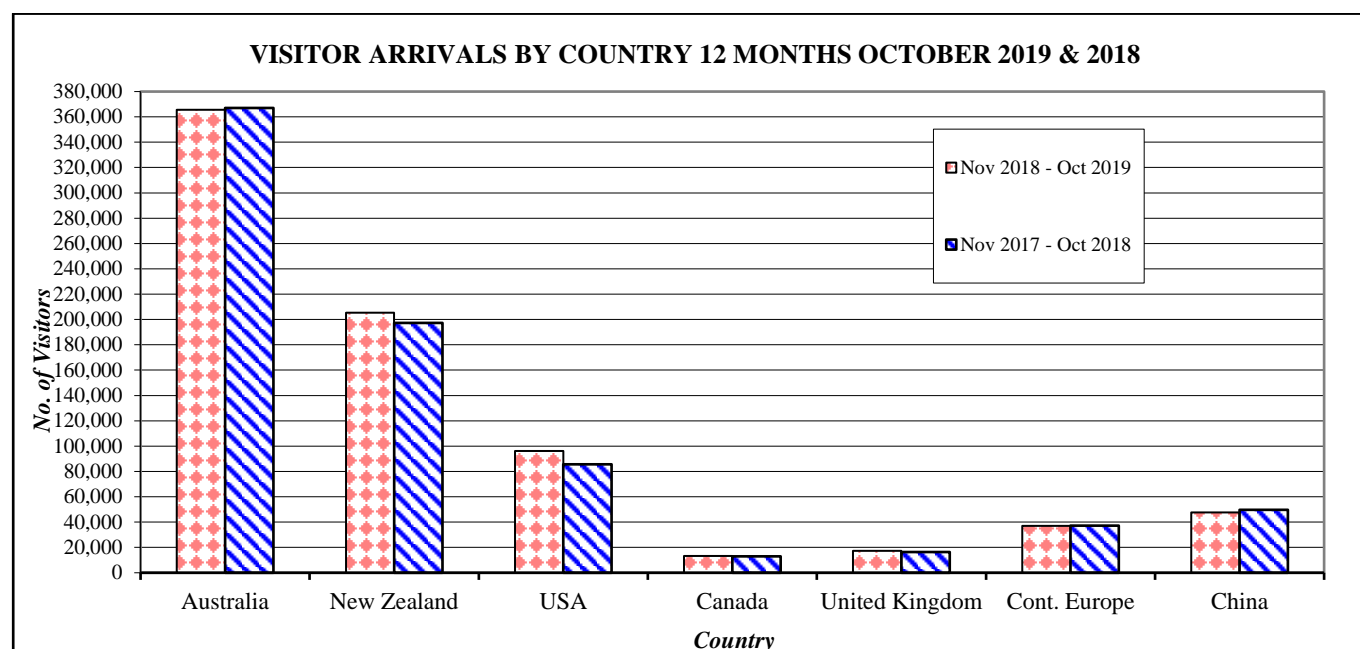


Figure 3 below shows the twelve-monthly comparisons.

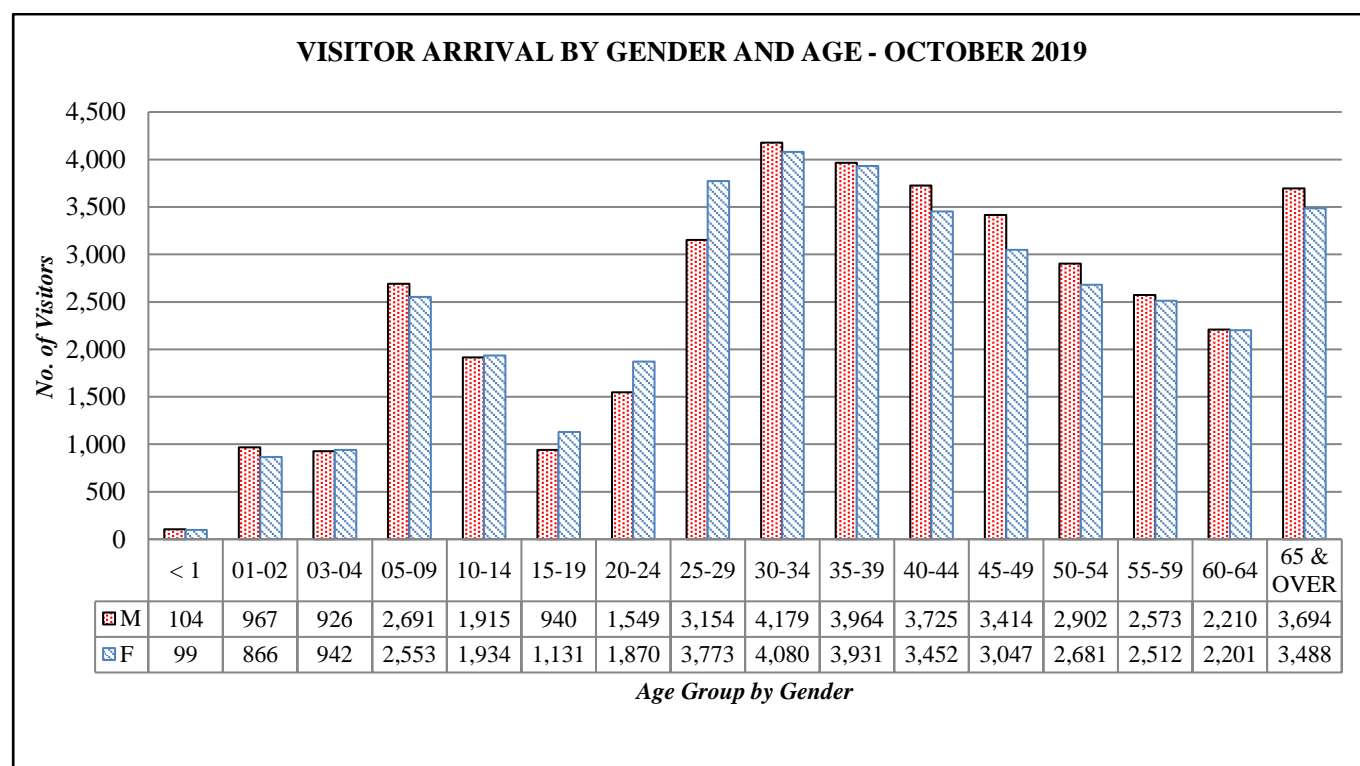
**Figure 3**



The majority of visitors to Fiji in October 2019 were in the age range 25-64 (66.9%), which accounts for the vast majority of the working age population. Children aged 14 and below accounted for 16.7% of the October visitor arrivals; 9.3% comprising those in the predominantly retirement age group of 65 and over with the remaining 7.1% were youths aged 15-24.

Figure 4 below shows a significant gender differential in the age groups 15-19, 20-24, 25-29, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54 and 65+;

**Figure 4**



## Visitors by Occupation

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

- 1) Professional Workers – increased by [1,022 or 6.2% to 17,606].
- 2) Service Workers – increased by [349 or 7.2% to 5,223].
- 3) Technician and Related Workers – increased by [76 or 0.8% to 9,281].
- 4) Legislators – decreased by [1,980 or 17.1% to 9,588].
- 5) Clerical Workers – decreased by [443 or 13.9% to 2,752].

October 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 [291 or 2.0% to 15,023].
- 2) Students – decreased by [798 or 6.5% to 11,538].

Additional details are provided in Figure 5 below;

**Figure 5**

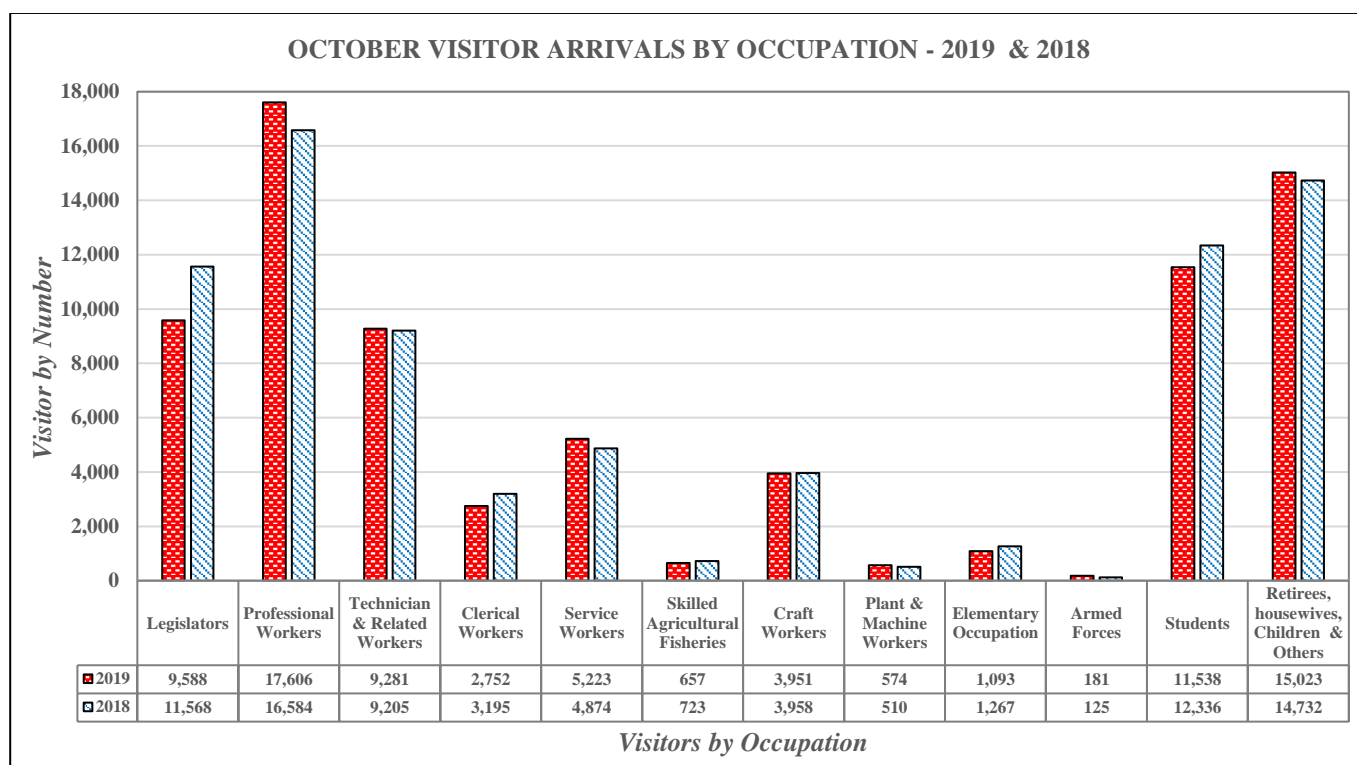


Table 2

**Resident Departures for September 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	4,829 (44.5%)	420			5,249	38.8%
Visiting Friends or Relatives	3,053 (28.1%)	461			3,514	26.0%
Business	1,807 (16.6%)	67	38		1,912	14.2%
Employment	498 (4.6%)	308	390	50	1,246	9.2%
Education/Training	647 (6.0%)	113	143		903	6.7%
Emigration			33	501	534	4.0%
Others	29 (0.3%)	2	54	69	154	1.1%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>10,863 (100%)</b>	<b>1,371</b>	<b>658</b>	<b>620</b>	<b>13,512</b>	
<b>% To Total</b>	80.4%	10.1%	4.9%	4.6%		100.0%

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

A total of 13,512 Fiji Residents departed our shores during the month of September of which 10,863 or 80.4% were for a short-term absence of under three months. A total of 1,278 or 9.5% 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 – 44.5%
- Visiting Friends or Relatives – 28.1%
- Business – 16.6%
- Education/Training – 6.0%
- 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 – OCTOBER 2019.
TABLE 6:	VISITOR ARRIVALS BY COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE AND OCCUPATION – OCTOBER 2019.
TABLE 7:	RESIDENT DEPARTURE BY FINAL DESTINATION AND BY PURPOSE OF ABSENCE – SEPTEMBER 2019.

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