

# STATISTICAL NEWS

FBoS Release No.82, 2018

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## PROVISIONAL VISITOR ARRIVALS – SEPTEMBER 2018

Provisional numbers show that visitor arrivals for September 2018 totaled 81,437, a record for the month of September and represented an increase of 5.7% compared to a year earlier.

Increases were recorded in the number of visitors from New Zealand [2,576 or 13.5% to 21,675]; Japan [1,068 or 163.1% to 1,723]; Continental Europe [881 or 38.4% to 3,176]; Rest of Asia [515 or 29.3% to 2,270]; China [420 or 11.5% to 4,070]; the United States of America [265 or 4.6% to 6,060] and Canada [91 or 11.5% to 883].

There were decreases in the number of visitors from the following countries; Australia [down 738 or 2.0% to 35,585]; Pacific Islands [down 298 or 6.9% to 4,014]; South Korea [down 218 or 27.1% to 585] and the United Kingdom [down 183 or 15.5% to 1,000].

Visitors arriving for holiday purposes accounted for 77.2% of total arrivals, 8.6% came to visit their friends or relatives 3.3% came for business purposes, while 10.9% visited Fiji for other reasons.

Table 1 below presents actual numbers and the 2018 and 2017 comparisons of visitor arrivals for the month of September, January to September and twelve months to September 2018.

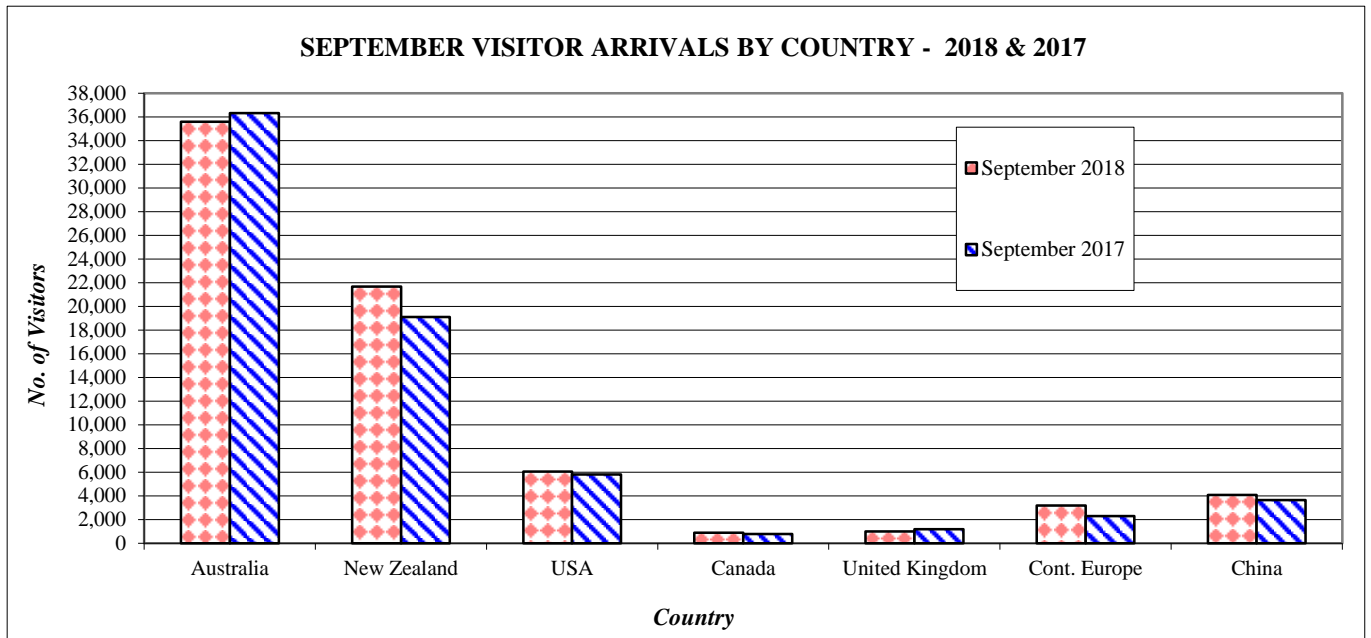
**Table 1**

	SEPTEMBER			JANUARY TO SEPTEMBER					12 MONTHS TO SEPTEMBER		
	2018	2017	% CHANGE	% TO		% TO		%	2018	2017	% CHANGE
				2018	TOTAL	2017	TOTAL	CHANGE			
<b>ARRIVALS</b>											
Australia	35,585	36,323	-2.0	265,681	40.9	264,858	42.6	0.3	366,512	365,026	0.4
New Zealand	21,675	19,099	13.5	151,951	23.4	139,244	22.4	9.1	197,302	178,781	10.4
USA	6,060	5,795	4.6	64,914	10.0	60,715	9.8	6.9	85,397	79,072	8.0
Canada	883	792	11.5	10,025	1.5	9,387	1.5	6.8	13,059	12,734	2.6
United Kingdom	1,000	1,183	-15.5	12,143	1.9	12,770	2.1	-4.9	16,298	16,955	-3.9
Cont. Europe	3,176	2,295	38.4	27,416	4.2	25,006	4.0	9.6	37,048	33,431	10.8
Japan	1,723	655	163.1	8,520	1.3	5,137	0.8	65.9	9,733	6,522	49.2
China	4,070	3,650	11.5	38,982	6.0	37,846	6.1	3.0	49,932	49,301	1.3
South Korea	585	803	-27.1	6,088	0.9	6,299	1.0	-3.3	8,660	8,654	0.1
Rest of Asia	2,270	1,755	29.3	20,825	3.2	18,339	2.9	13.6	27,437	23,594	16.3
Pacific Islands	4,014	4,312	-6.9	38,794	6.0	39,276	6.3	-1.2	53,238	52,571	1.3
Others	396	367	8.2	3,834	0.6	3,262	0.5	17.6	5,302	4,300	23.3
<b>TOTAL VISITORS</b>	<b>81,437</b>	<b>77,029</b>	<b>5.7</b>	<b>649,173</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>622,139</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>869,918</b>	<b>830,941</b>	<b>4.7</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 September 2018 and 2017.

**Figure 1**



In the moving twelve monthly numbers ending September 2018, the total number of visitors to Fiji increased by 4.7% compared with the same period in 2017. Visitors from Japan increased by [49.2%]; Other Countries [23.3%]; Rest of Asia [16.3%]; Continental Europe [10.8%]; New Zealand [10.4%]; the United States of America [8.0%]; Canada [2.6%]; both China and Pacific Islands [1.3%]; Australia [0.4%] and South Korea [0.1%].

Decreases were recorded for visitors from the United Kingdom [3.9%].

January to September 2018, showed that visitor arrivals increased by 4.3% over the corresponding period in 2017, up from 622,139 to 649,173.

Figure 2 below shows a graphical comparison of visitor arrivals by country during the period January to September 2018.

**Figure 2**

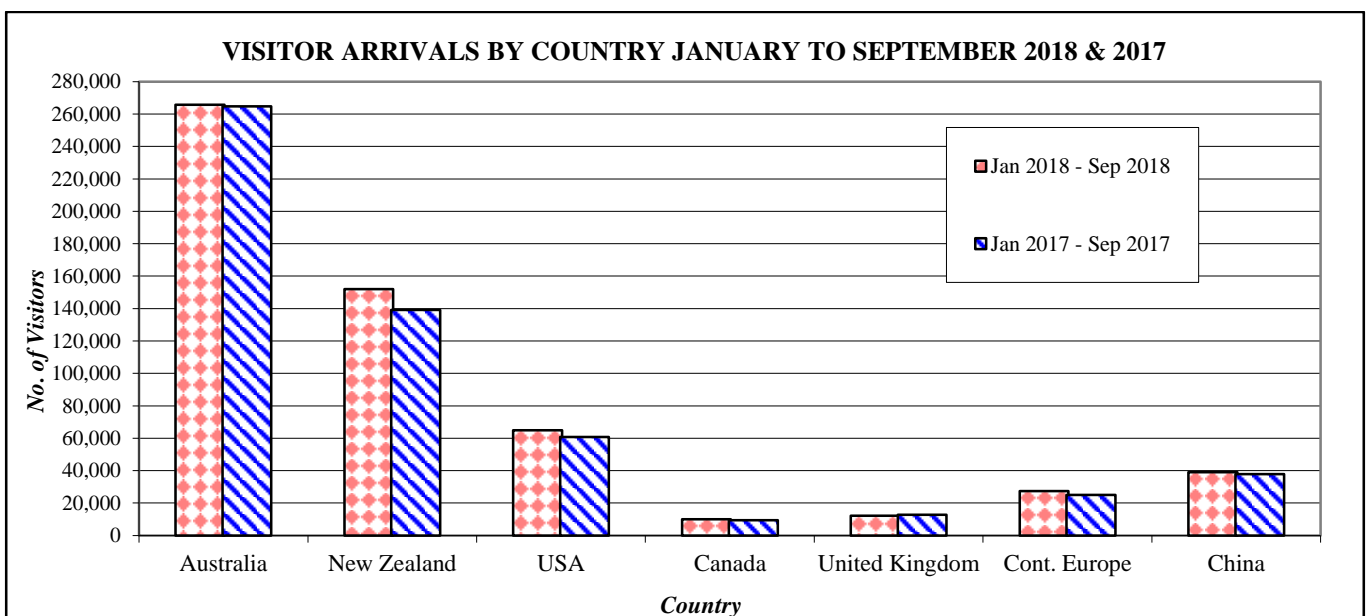
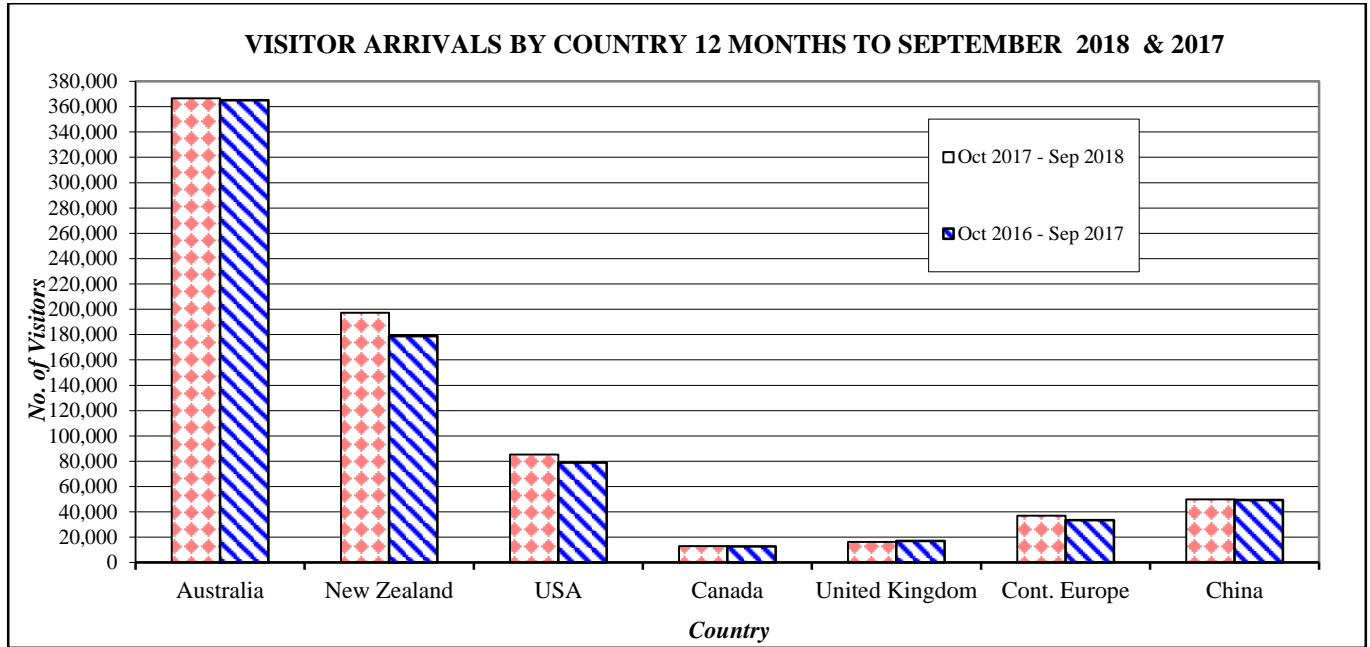


Figure 3 below shows the twelve monthly comparisons.

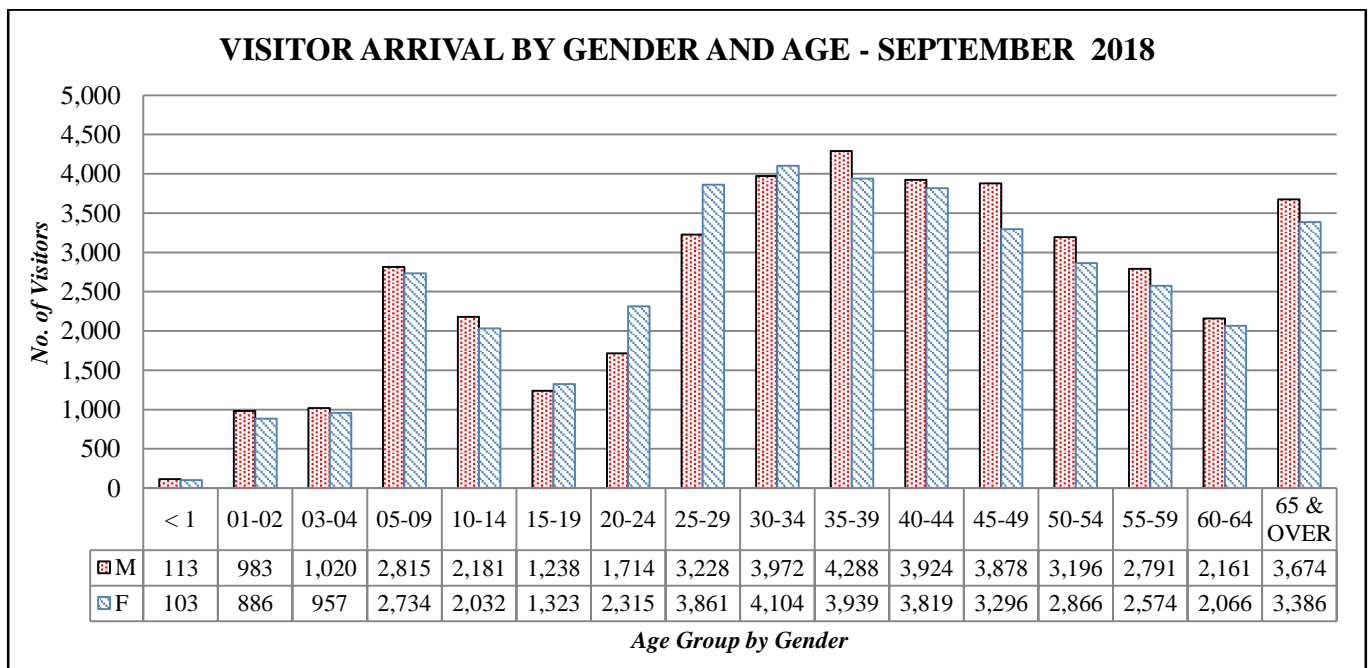
**Figure 3**



The majority of visitors to Fiji in September 2018 were in the age range 25-64 (66.3%), which accounts for the vast majority of the working age population. Children aged 14 and below accounted for 17.0% of the September visitor arrivals; 8.7% comprising those in the predominantly retirement age group of 65 and over with the remaining 8.0% were youths aged 15-24.

Figure 4 below shows a significant gender differential in the age groups 20-24, 25-29, 35-39, 45-49, 50-54 and 65+;

**Figure 4**



## Visitors by Occupation

For the month of September 2018 the top 5 Occupational Groups for visitors engaged in gainful employment in their home countries are as follows;

- 1) Professional Workers – increased by [1,340 or 8.7% to 16,808].
- 2) Legislators – increased by [1,056 or 9.5% to 12,157].
- 3) Service Workers – increased by [527 or 8.6% to 6,642].
- 4) Clerical Workers – increased by [393 or 15.1% to 2,991].
- 5) Technician and Related Workers – decreased by [184 or 2.5% to 7,150].

September 2018 visitors who are not in the labour force were categorised into two major groups. The categories and numbers are as follows;

- 1) Students – increased by [664 or 4.7% to 14,784].
- 2) Retirees, Housewives, Children & Others – increased by [401 or 2.8% to 14,528].

Additional details are provided in Figure 5 below;

**Figure 5**

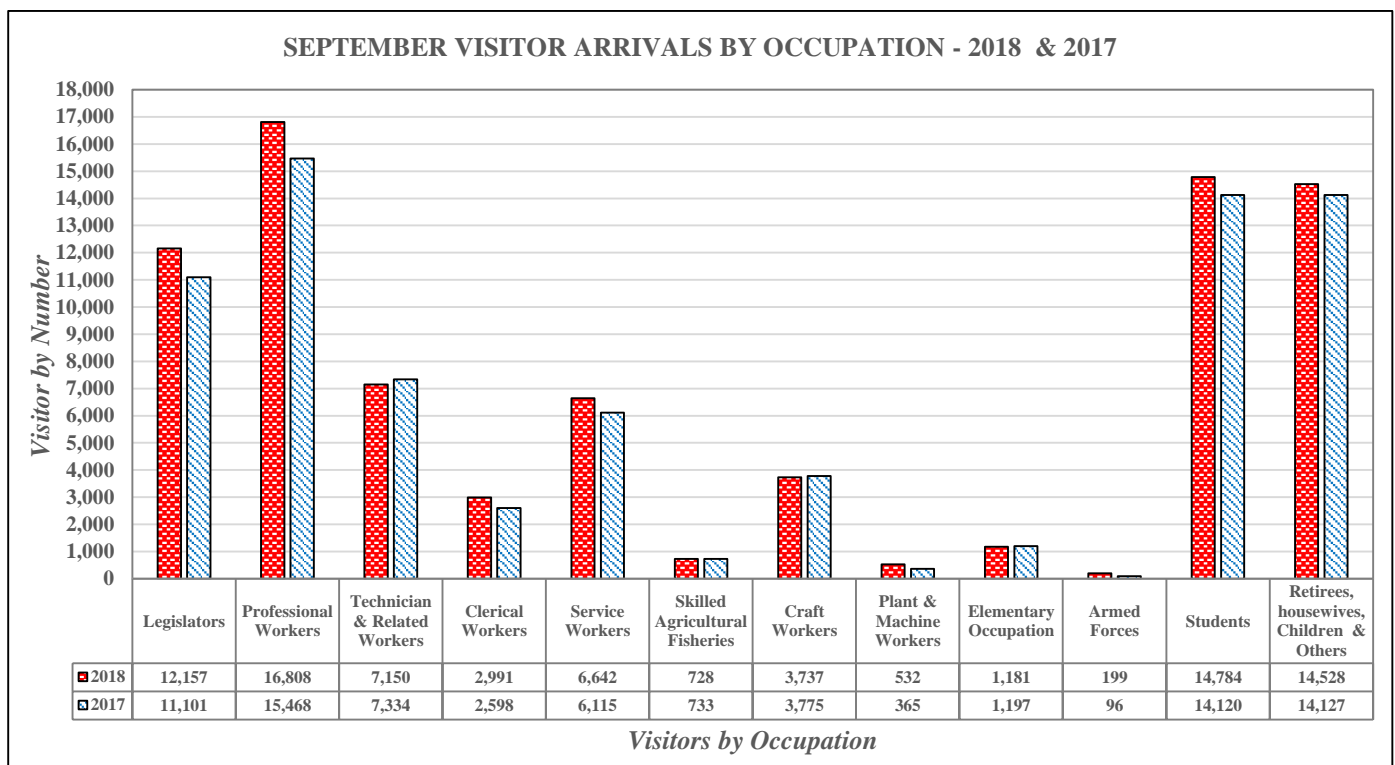


Table 2

**Resident Departures for August 2018**

Purpose of Visit	Length of Absence					
	Under 3 months	3 months - 12 months	1 year - 5 years	Over 5 years or Permanently	Grand Total	% To Total
Holiday	4,748 (40.4%)	422			<b>5,170</b>	36.6%
Business	1,214 (10.3%)	129	127		<b>1,470</b>	10.4%
Employment	844 (7.2%)	85	144	186	<b>1,259</b>	8.9%
Education/Training	404 (3.4%)	80	68	110	<b>662</b>	4.7%
Visiting Friends or Relatives	4,464 (37.9%)	479	18	39	<b>5,000</b>	35.4%
Emigration			275	39	<b>314</b>	2.2%
Others	89 (0.8%)		60	109	<b>258</b>	1.8%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>11,763 (100%)</b>	<b>1,195</b>	<b>692</b>	<b>483</b>	<b>14,133</b>	
<b>% To Total</b>	83.2%	8.5%	4.9%	3.4%		100.0%

Note: Percentage may not sum to 100 due to rounding of figures

A total of 14,133 Fiji Residents departed our shores during the month of August of which 11,763 or 83.2% were for a short-term absence of under three months. A total of 1,175 or 8.3% 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 – 40.4%
- Visiting Friends or Relatives – 37.9%
- Business – 10.3%
- Employment – 7.2%
- Education/Training – 3.4%.

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 – SEPTEMBER 2018.
TABLE 6:	VISITOR ARRIVALS BY COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE AND OCCUPATION – SEPTEMBER 2018.
TABLE 7:	RESIDENT DEPARTURE BY FINAL DESTINATION AND BY PURPOSE OF ABSENCE – AUGUST 2018.

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