

Tourism Growth Trends - 1970 to 2018

| YEAR | Tourist Arrivals | Excursionist Arrivals | Tourist Nights '000 | Official Tourist Receipts | | | | Receipt per Tourist per day (in US \$) | Average Duration Nights | Accommodation Capacity(Graded) | | Annual Room Occupancy Rate (Graded) | Sri Lanka Nationals | | Employment | |
|------|------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|----------|----------|----------|--|-------------------------|--------------------------------|---------|-------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------|------------|----------|
| | | | | Rs. Mn | US\$ Mn | Euro Mn | SDR Mn | | | Rooms | Beds | | Arrival | Departure | Direct | Indirect |
| 1970 | 46,247 | 68,529 | 489 | 21.5 | 3.6 | | 3.6 | 7.4 | 10.5 | 1,408 | 2,816 | 42.8 | - | - | 5,138 | 6,940 |
| 1971 | 39,654 | 58,292 | 395 | 20.3 | 3.4 | | 3.4 | 8.6 | 10.5 | 1,767 | 3,534 | 31.1 | - | - | 6,397 | 8,640 |
| 1972 | 56,047 | 48,310 | 614 | 43.8 | 7.3 | | 6.5 | 11.9 | 10.9 | 1,891 | 3,646 | 38.8 | 26,624 | 32,971 | 7,040 | 9,500 |
| 1973 | 77,888 | 27,920 | 804 | 79.5 | 12.8 | | 10.4 | 15.9 | 10.3 | 2,468 | 4,801 | 42.4 | 35,188 | 42,305 | 7,134 | 10,780 |
| 1974 | 85,011 | 23,434 | 874 | 107.1 | 16.4 | | 13.3 | 18.7 | 10.3 | 2,905 | 5,699 | 39.7 | 37,868 | 44,825 | 8,551 | 11,550 |
| 1975 | 103,204 | 25,490 | 1,015 | 157.1 | 22.4 | | 18.6 | 22.0 | 9.8 | 3,632 | 7,142 | 36.8 | 46,999 | 53,848 | 10,148 | 13,700 |
| 1976 | 118,971 | 14,499 | 1,194 | 237.8 | 28.2 | | 24.5 | 23.8 | 10.0 | 4,581 | 8,913 | 37.7 | 46,425 | 53,305 | 11,752 | 15,900 |
| 1977 | 153,665 | 7,672 | 1,645 | 363.1 | 40.0 | | 34.8 | 24.3 | 10.7 | 4,851 | 9,447 | 42.0 | 58,992 | 66,900 | 13,716 | 18,520 |
| 1978 | 192,592 | 8,494 | 2,061 | 870.0 | 55.8 | | 44.4 | 27.1 | 10.8 | 5,347 | 10,431 | 47.7 | 102,142 | 117,075 | 15,404 | 20,795 |
| 1979 | 250,164 | 5,565 | 2,777 | 1,209.4 | 77.7 | | 60.1 | 28.0 | 11.1 | 5,599 | 11,212 | 52.8 | 100,603 | 122,197 | 18,472 | 24,937 |
| 1980 | 321,780 | 8,636 | 3,548 | 1,830.3 | 110.7 | | 85.1 | 31.2 | 11.0 | 6,042 | 11,790 | 57.8 | 105,484 | 137,797 | 19,878 | 28,022 |
| 1981 | 370,742 | 7,737 | 3,907 | 2,546.5 | 132.4 | | 112.3 | 33.9 | 10.5 | 6,891 | 13,773 | 54.5 | 142,426 | 185,035 | 23,023 | 32,232 |
| 1982 | 407,230 | 6,632 | 4,048 | 3,050.4 | 146.6 | | 129.8 | 36.2 | 10.0 | 7,539 | 15,001 | 47.8 | 162,034 | 216,466 | 26,776 | 37,486 |
| 1983 | 337,530 | 7,208 | 3,179 | 2,896.1 | 125.8 | | 115.1 | 39.6 | 9.6 | 8,852 | 17,605 | 35.9 | 180,729 | 244,955 | 22,374 | 31,234 |
| 1984 | 317,734 | 8,638 | 2,818 | 2,669.5 | 104.9 | | 102.4 | 37.2 | 8.9 | 9,627 | 18,970 | 35.6 | 212,365 | 274,418 | 24,541 | 34,357 |
| 1985 | 257,456 | 9,882 | 2,365 | 2,233.3 | 82.2 | | 80.8 | 34.8 | 9.2 | 9,826 | 19,352 | 32.7 | 220,094 | 239,272 | 22,723 | 31,810 |
| 1986 | 230,106 | 6,266 | 2,513 | 2,300.1 | 82.1 | | 69.9 | 32.7 | 10.9 | 9,794 | 19,301 | 32.9 | 220,614 | 229,386 | 22,285 | 31,199 |
| 1987 | 182,620 | 2,417 | 2,414 | 2,415.2 | 82.0 | | 63.4 | 34.0 | 13.2 | 9,921 | 19,322 | 31.5 | 217,127 | 257,760 | 20,338 | 28,473 |
| 1988 | 182,662 | 6,108 | 2,305 | 2,438.3 | 76.6 | | 57.0 | 33.3 | 12.6 | 9,977 | 19,432 | 32.1 | 245,065 | 298,583 | 19,960 | 27,944 |
| 1989 | 184,732 | 4,064 | 1,970 | 2,739.7 | 76.0 | | 59.3 | 38.6 | 10.7 | 9,459 | 18,464 | 31.0 | 258,950 | 285,510 | 21,958 | 30,741 |
| 1990 | 297,888 | 3,954 | 3,225 | 5,303.3 | 132.0 | | 97.5 | 41.1 | 10.8 | 9,556 | 18,669 | 47.2 | 306,367 | 296,884 | 24,964 | 34,950 |
| 1991 | 317,703 | 2,665 | 3,633 | 6,485.8 | 156.8 | | 114.6 | 42.8 | 11.4 | 9,679 | 18,947 | 48.4 | 237,424 | 310,373 | 26,878 | 37,629 |
| 1992 | 393,669 | 5,651 | 4,055 | 8,825.6 | 201.4 | | 142.9 | 49.7 | 10.3 | 10,214 | 19,907 | 55.3 | 339,109 | 420,749 | 28,790 | 40,306 |
| 1993 | 392,250 | 6,093 | 4,148 | 10,036.8 | 208.0 | | 149.0 | 50.1 | 10.6 | 10,365 | 20,242 | 57.0 | 375,740 | 416,246 | 30,710 | 42,994 |
| 1994 | 407,511 | 8,413 | 4,251 | 11,401.6 | 230.7 | | 161.1 | 54.2 | 10.4 | 10,742 | 20,929 | 56.6 | 422,367 | 448,437 | 33,956 | 47,538 |
| 1995 | 403,101 | 10,556 | 4,024 | 11,551.6 | 225.4 | | 148.6 | 56.1 | 10.0 | 11,255 | 21,680 | 52.6 | 459,441 | 504,420 | 35,068 | 49,095 |
| 1996 | 302,265 | 12,863 | 2,947 | 9,559.1 | 173.0 | | 119.1 | 57.9 | 9.8 | 11,600 | 22,040 | 40.3 | 488,055 | 494,258 | 31,963 | 44,748 |
| 1997 | 366,165 | 18,265 | 3,680 | 12,980.3 | 216.7 | | 160.4 | 58.6 | 10.1 | 12,370 | 22,944 | 49.1 | 482,850 | 530,712 | 34,006 | 47,608 |
| 1998 | 381,063 | 27,629 | 3,944 | 14,868.0 | 230.5 | | 169.9 | 59.5 | 10.4 | 12,770 | 23,373 | 52.8 | 481,793 | 518,050 | 34,780 | 48,692 |
| 1999 | 436,440 | 28,335 | 4,479 | 19,297.3 | 274.9 | | 201.0 | 61.4 | 10.3 | 12,918 | 24,216 | 57.6 | 521,073 | 496,963 | 36,560 | 51,184 |
| 2000 | 400,414 | 44,518 | 4,056 | 19,162.2 | 252.8 | 274.1 | 191.9 | 62.3 | 10.1 | 13,311 | 24,953 | 52.3 | 514,448 | 524,212 | 37,943 | 53,120 |
| 2001 | 336,794 | 60,084 | 3,342 | 18,863.3 | 211.1 | 236.1 | 165.7 | 63.1 | 9.9 | 13,626 | 25,595 | 42.1 | 487,356 | 505,341 | 33,710 | 47,194 |
| 2002 | 393,171 | 63,560 | 3,989 | 24,202.0 | 253.0 | 267.7 | 179.3 | 63.4 | 10.1 | 13,818 | 25,956 | 43.1 | 493,947 | 533,565 | 38,821 | 54,349 |
| 2003 | 500,642 | 82,066 | 5,093 | 32,810.0 | 340.0 | 300.5 | 242.6 | 66.8 | 10.2 | 14,137 | 26,511 | 53.2 | 560,602 | 591,126 | 46,761 | 65,465 |
| 2004 | 566,202 | 110,000 | 5,742 | 42,666.3 | 416.8 | 334.3 | 298.6 | 72.2 | 10.1 | 14,322 | 26,854 | 59.3 | 646,990 | 680,248 | 53,766 | 75,272 |
| 2005 | 549,308 | 119,618 | 4,754 | 36,377.3 | 362.3 | 289.8 | 244.6 | 74.6 | 8.7 | 13,162 | 24,740 | 45.4 | 683,169 | 727,301 | 52,085 | 72,919 |
| 2006 | 559,603 | 128,719 | 5,793 | 42,585.5 | 410.3 | 326.1 | 278.3 | 83.4 | 10.4 | 14,218 | 27,117 | 47.8 | 734,421 | 756,735 | 55,649 | 77,909 |
| 2007 | 494,008 | 98,432 | 4,940 | 42,519.3 | 384.4 | 280.5 | 250.9 | 79.1 | 10.0 | 14,604 | 27,500 | 46.2 | 817,524 | 862,011 | 60,516 | 84,722 |
| 2008 | 438,475 | 87,695 | 4,166 | 37,094.0 | 319.5 | 217.2 | 202.1 | 76.7 | 9.5 | 14,793 | 28,698 | 43.9 | 900,815 | 966,337 | 51,306 | 71,828 |
| 2009 | 447,890 | 89,526 | 4,075 | 40,133.0 | 349.3 | 250.5 | 226.5 | 81.8 | 9.1 | 14,461 | 28,344 | 48.4 | 914,584 | 962,786 | 52,071 | 72,899 |
| 2010 | 654,476 | 112,497 | 6,548 | 65,018.0 | 575.9 | 433.2 | 376.9 | 88.0 | 10.0 | 14,714 | 28,978 | 70.1 | 1,081,417 | 1,122,212 | 55,023 | 77,032 |
| 2011 | 855,975 | 119,875 | 8,560 | 91,926.0 | 838.9 | 603.4 | 530.2 | 98.0 | 10.0 | 14,653 | 28,844 | 77.1 | 1,210,951 | 1,239,290 | 57,786 | 80,899 |
| 2012 | 1,005,605 | 126,523 | 10,056 | 132,427.0 | 1038.3 | 807.5 | 677.7 | 103.0 | 10.0 | 15,510 | 30,880 | 71.2 | 1,210,914 | 1,268,792 | 67,862 | 95,007 |
| 2013 | 1,274,593 | 140,009 | 10,909 | 221,147.1 | 1,715.5 | 1,291.4 | 1,128.8 | 156.5 | 8.6 | 16,223 | 32,284 | 71.7 | 1,200,788 | 1,261,711 | 112,550 | 157,600 |
| 2014 | 1,527,153 | 138,097* | 15,119* | 317,501.7 | 2,431.1 | 1,830.0 | 1,600.3 | 160.8 | 9.9 | 18,078 | 35,976 | 74.3 | 1,263,494 | 1,311,063 | 129,790 | 170,100 |
| 2015 | 1,798,380 | 195,134* | 18,163* | 405,492.0 | 2,980.6 | 2,686.1 | 2,129.7 | 164.1 | 10.1 | 18,954 | 37,720* | 74.5 | 1,361,877 | 1,356,411 | 135,930 | 183,506 |
| 2016 | 2,050,832 | 116,544* | 20,918* | 512,593.6 | 3,518.5 | 3,178.9 | 2,531.3 | 168.2 | 10.2 | 21,888 | 45,965 | 74.76 | 1,485,004 | 1,447,786 | 146,115 | 189,544 |
| 2017 | 2,116,407 | 131,409* | 23,068* | 598,356.0 | 3,924.9 | 3,484.3 | 2,829.2 | 170.1 | 10.9 | 23,477 | 48,550 | 73.27* | 1,481,239 | 1,439,429 | 156,369* | 202,846* |
| 2018 | 2,333,796 | 186,862* | 25,205* | 712,027.3* | 4,380.6* | 3,714.3* | 3,097.1* | 173.8 | 10.8 | 24,757 | 52,237 | 72.77* | 1,484,891 | 1,471,481 | 169,003* | 219,484* |

*Provisional

Source - Exchange Rate : Central Bank of Sri Lanka