YEAR IN REVIEW 2021

- **HIGHLIGHTS**
- **TOURIST ARRIVALS TO SRI LANKA**
  - **Arrivals by region**
  - **Top ten markets**
  - **Top source markets to Sri Lanka, 2016 to 2021**
  - **Tourist arrivals from main tourist source markets**
  - **Major setbacks & the impact of tourist arrivals**
  - **Recovery volumes of source markets**
- TOURISM ACCOMMODATION
  - **SLTDA registered accommodation establishments,2018 – 2020**
  - **Province wise distribution of classified hotels, 2021**
  - Geographical distribution of rooms
  - Geographical distribution of rooms of SLTDA registered accommodation establishments
  - Occupancy
- TOURISM ACCOMMODATION INVESTMENT
  - **Tourism investment projects, 2018 to 2021**
  - **Geographical distribution of rooms & projects**

HIGHLIGHTS


Tourist Arrivals
194,495
Tourism Revenue
506.9 USD Mn
Receipt per Tourist per day
172.6 USD
Average Duration
15.1 Tourists Nights

TOURIST ARRIVALS TO SRI LANKA

Chart 01: Tourist arrivals to Sri Lanka by month, 2020 & 2021

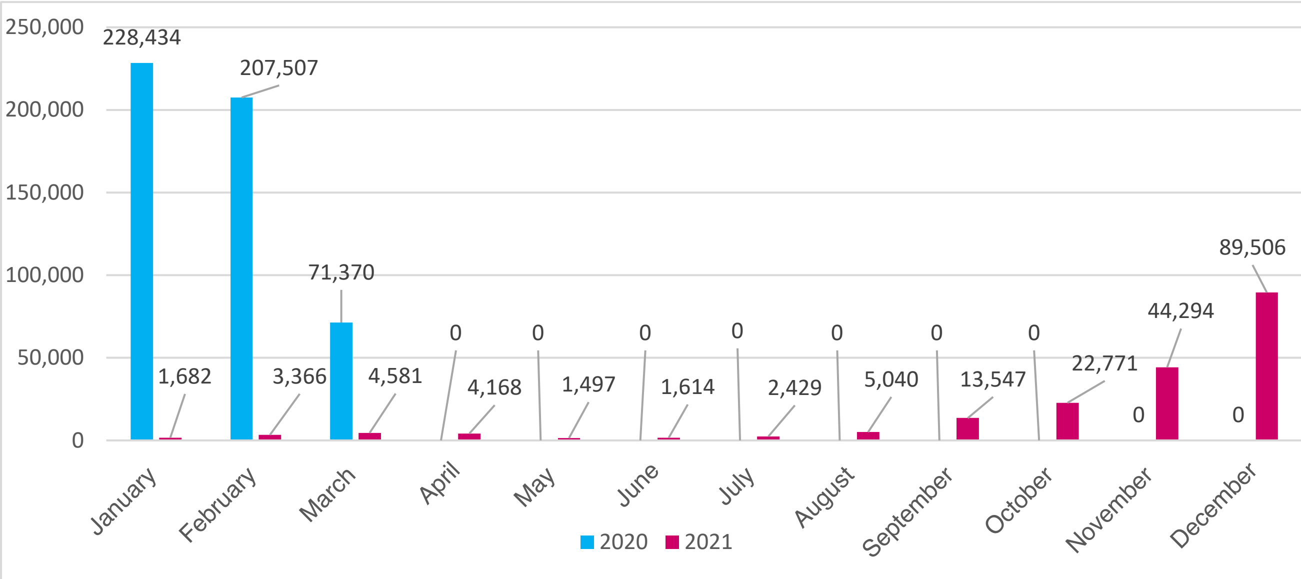


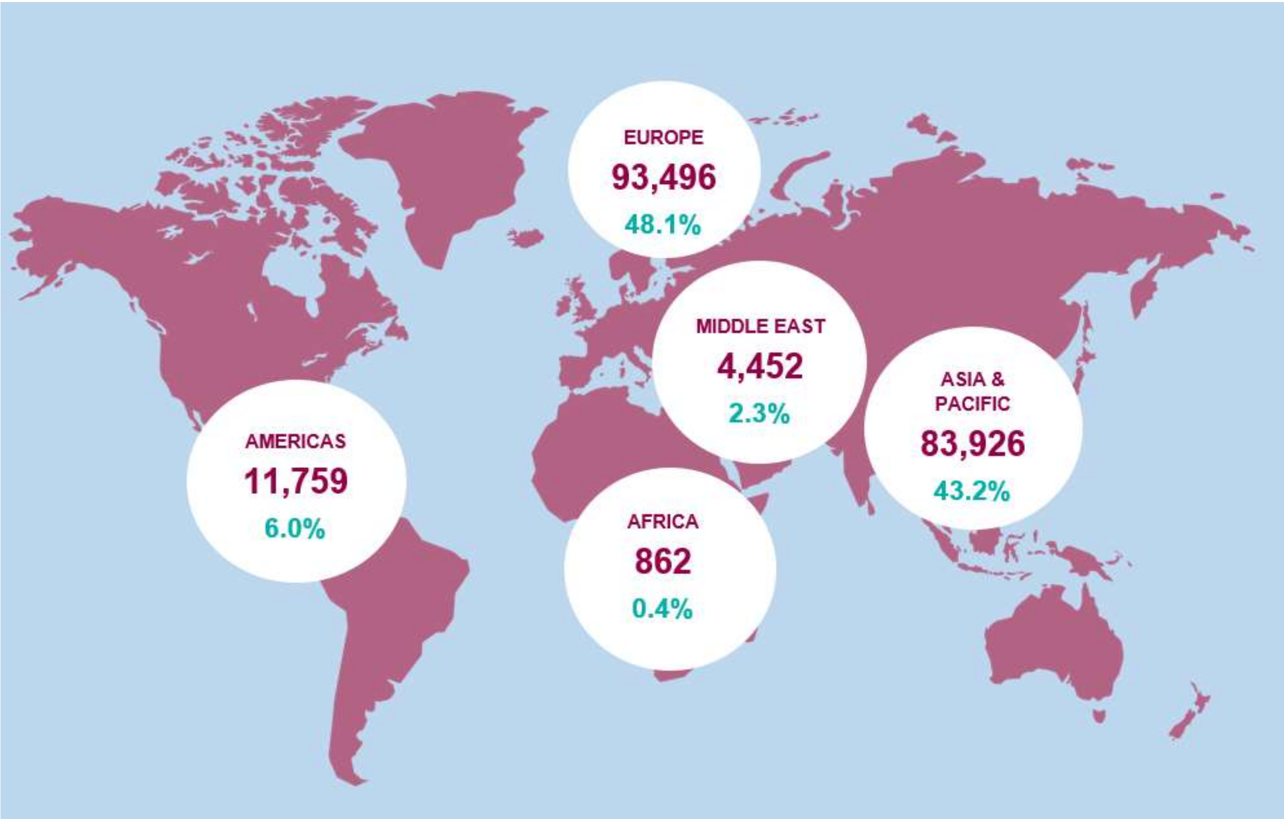
Table 01: Tourist arrivals to Sri Lanka by month & percentage change, 2020 & 2021

Month	2020	2021	% change 2021/20
January	228,434	1,682	(99.3)
February	207,507	3,366	(98.4)
March	71,370	4,581	(93.6)
April	0	4,168	-
May	0	1,497	-
June	0	1,614	-
July	0	2,429	-
August	0	5,040	-
September	0	13,547	-
October	0	22,771	-
November	0	44,294	-
December	393	89,506	-
TOTAL	507,704	194,495	(61.7)

The total international arrivals recorded for the year 2021 was 194,495. It is a decline of 61.7% over 2020, when 507,704 tourists had visited the country from January to December. The airport officially opened to international tourists on 21st January 2021, and a gradual increase in arrivals was observed in the months of March and April. The arrivals kick started in September onward with the starting of peak season of arrivals in Sri Lanka. The gradual growth in tourist arrivals reflects the improvement in international arrivals potentially owing to factors such as increasing vaccination advances around the world, softer travel restrictions for vaccinated travellers, use of digital tools to facilitate safe travel, and growing consumer confidence in some outbound source markets.

ARRIVALS BY REGION

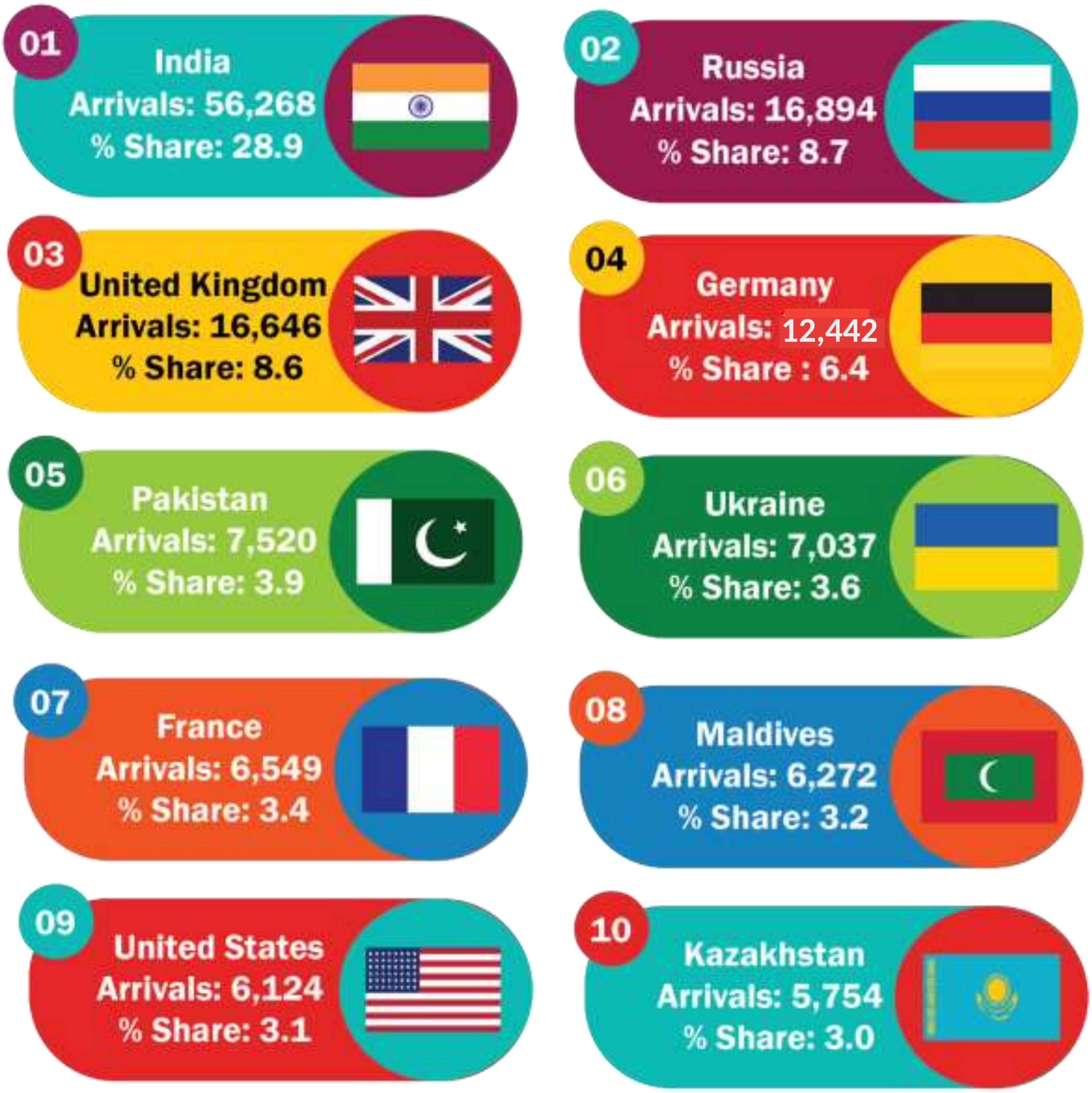
Figure 01: Tourist arrivals to Sri Lanka by region, 2021



Europe became the largest source of tourist traffic to Sri Lanka with 48.1% of the total traffic received in 2021. Pent up demand especially from countries such as Russia, the United Kingdom, Germany, France and Ukraine is likely to have driven this growth momentum. Asia and the Pacific accounted for 43.2% of total arrivals. TheAmericas accounted for 6.0% of the total traffic, while the Middle East accounted for 2.3%. In comparison to January to December last year, the highest decline of 70.1% was recorded for Africa, while Asia & the Pacific recorded a decline of 53.7%. The Middle East recorded a decline of 56.5%, whereas the Americas recorded a decline of 63.1%. A decline of 67.0% was recorded from Europe. Even though signs of recovery were evident, the uncertainty for travel continued throughout the year and consumer confidence remained unstable with the emergence of new COVID-19 variants.

TOP TEN MARKETS, 2021

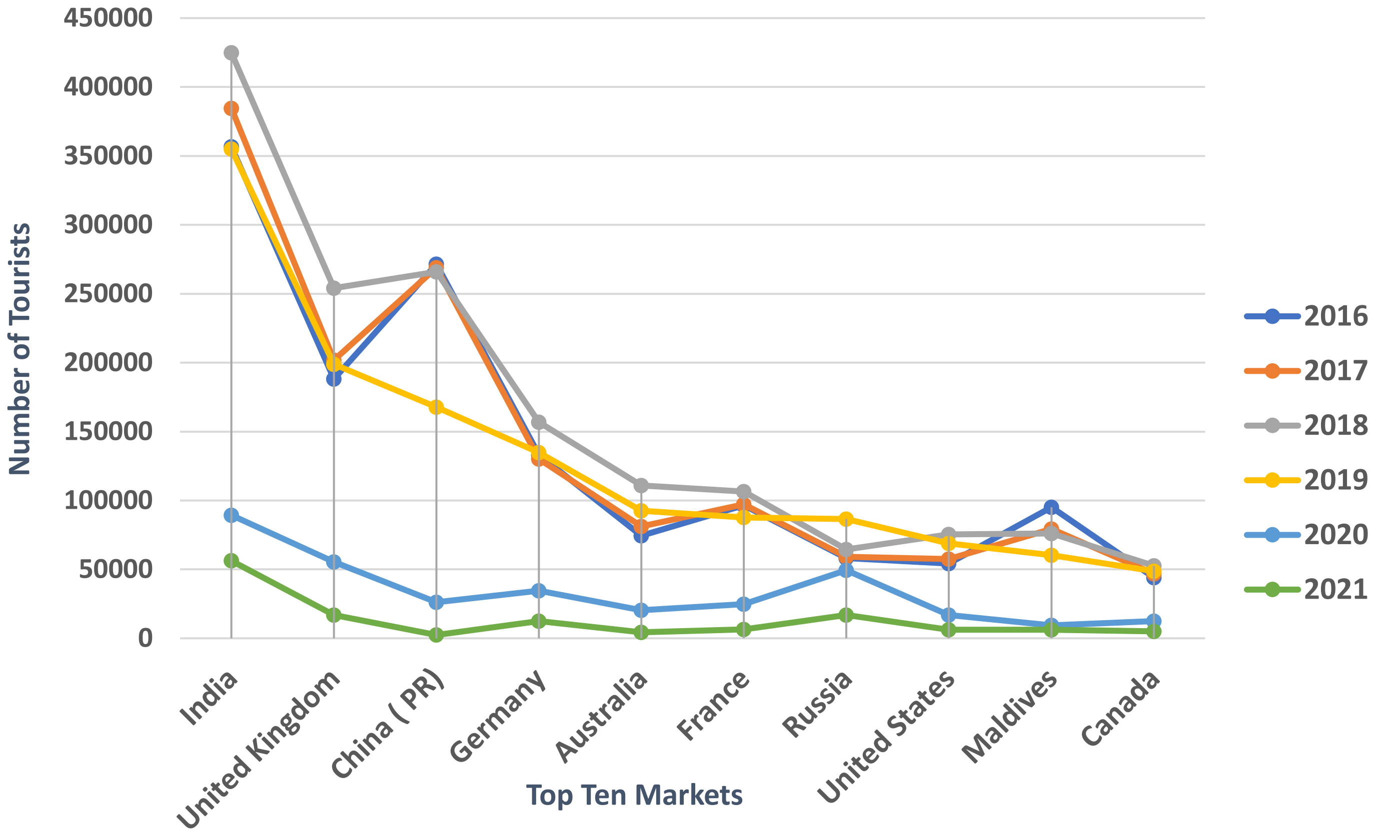
Figure 2: Top ten tourist arrivals markets to Sri Lanka, 2021



India, Russia, the United Kingdom, Germany and Pakistan were Sri Lanka's top five international tourist generating markets in the period from January to December 2021. India was the largest source of tourist traffic to Sri Lanka with 28.9% of the total traffic received in the above period. Russia accounted for 8.7% of the total traffic; while the United Kingdom, Germany and Pakistan accounted for 8.6%, 6.4% and 3.9% respectively. In comparison to top source markets of last year, the presence of South Asian countries such as Pakistan and the Maldives in the top source markets is noteworthy. In addition, the absence of China, which was one of the long term source markets of Sri Lanka is noticeable, owing to the strict travel restrictions imposed in China.

TOP SOURCE MARKETS 2016 TO 2021

Chart 02: Top source markets to Sri Lanka, 2016 - 2021



TOURIST ARRIVALS FROM MAIN TOURIST SOURCE MARKETS, 2016 TO 2021

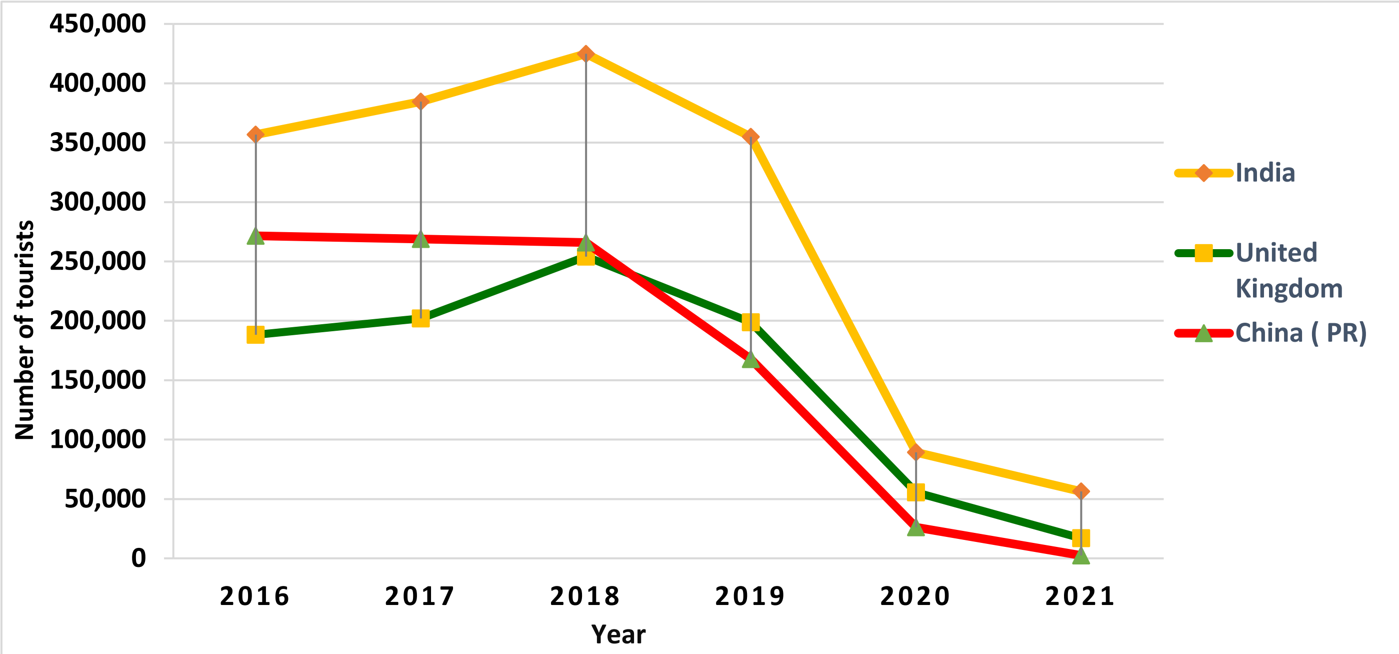
Table 02: Tourist arrivals from main tourist source markets to Sri Lanka, 2016 - 2021

Rank	Country of Residence	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
1	India	356,729	384,628	424,887	355,002	89,357	56,268
2	United Kingdom	188,159	201,879	254,176	198,776	55,455	16,646
3	China (PR)	271,577	268,952	265,965	167,863	26,147	2,417
4	Germany	133,275	130,227	156,888	134,899	34,507	12,442
5	Australia	74,496	81,281	110,928	92,674	20,283	4,421
6	France	96,440	97,282	106,449	87,623	24,838	6,549
7	Russia	58,176	59,191	64,497	86,549	49,397	16,894
8	United States	54,254	57,479	75,308	68,832	16,842	6,124
9	Maldives	95,167	79,371	76,108	60,278	9,407	6,272
10	Canada	44,122	46,896	52,681	48,729	12,436	5,079
11	Netherlands	41,373	51,148	57,160	38,993	8,656	2,422
12	Italy	29,791	31,428	38,379	36,147	8,603	1,309
13	Ukraine	31,302	32,346	36,515	35,051	17,169	7,037
14	Japan	43,110	44,988	49,450	30,079	6,644	392
15	Switzerland	26,282	28,402	33,965	29,981	6,389	2,974
16	Spain	19,425	22,361	29,208	24,489	3,385	2,015
17	Sweden	21,589	24,275	28,267	22,464	7,061	1,601
18	Poland	14,432	15,346	20,378	20,896	11,908	2,110
19	Czech Republic	17,858	15,712	17,600	19,204	7,599	1,864
20	Denmark	18,097	18,647	19,223	16,869	4,905	1,302
21	Malaysia	24,727	26,414	22,808	16,861	3,494	323
22	Saudi Arabia	38,836	35,481	34,703	15,707	4,755	1,596
23	Belgium	14,387	14,616	17,519	14,948	3,371	1,283
24	Israel	10,391	11,080	13,833	14,770	3,556	1,724
25	Austria	16,995	17,466	19,320	14,713	4,300	1,502
26	Pakistan	29,965	31,815	19,116	14,655	3,065	7,520
27	Philippines	12,747	16,845	19,303	14,590	4,249	529
28	Singapore	19,033	19,457	19,861	13,871	2,545	557
29	Norway	12,790	14,159	17,217	13,446	3,019	1,141
30	New Zealand	9,045	10,332	13,825	12,463	2,324	325
31	South Korea	14,520	15,963	15,748	12,195	2,499	389
32	Thailand	9,462	10,828	9,178	9,861	1,880	247
33	Bangladesh	17,098	15,510	10,487	8,261	1,986	1,496
34	Ireland	7,912	9,806	10,830	8,254	2,294	559
35	South Africa	5,208	5,726	7,416	7,132	1,364	272
36	Taiwan (P.C.)	6,252	7,636	8,187	7,127	1,985	42

Table 02 (Contd)

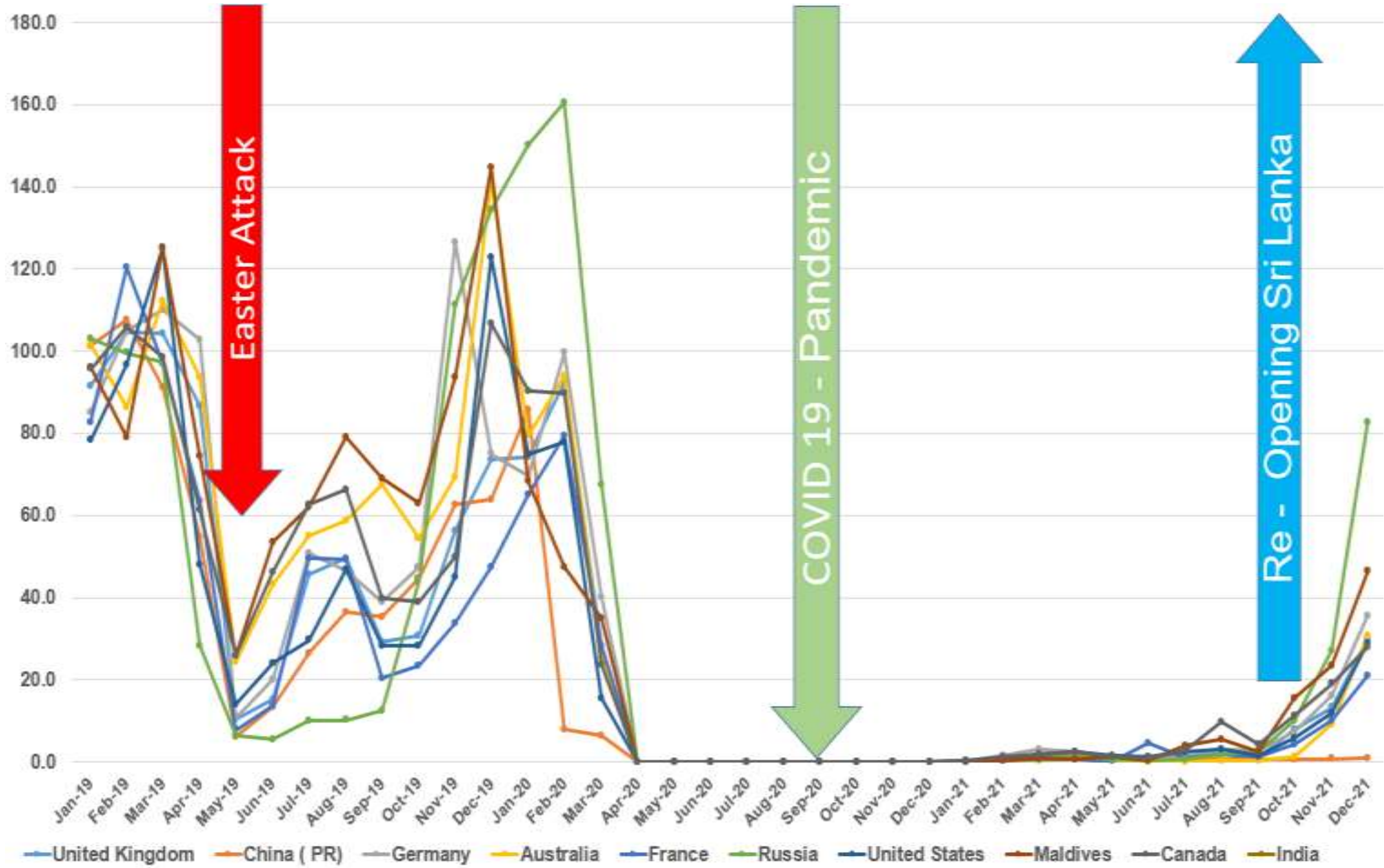
Rank	Country of Residence	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
37	Finland	6,682	7,334	8,888	7,028	2,298	341
38	Greece	6,146	5,651	7,778	6,980	1,573	249
39	Romania	4,189	4,652	5,931	5,463	1,724	820
40	Nepal	12,838	5,144	5,302	5,414	1,384	325
41	Portugal	3,931	5,060	5,933	5,193	1,602	372
42	Turkey	3,874	4,609	4,262	4,972	2,121	309
43	Slovakia	5,550	6,579	5,289	4,944	1,513	664
44	Indonesia	16,047	25,806	5,365	4,919	1,114	1,856
45	Belarus	4,387	4,268	4,621	4,796	2,627	646
46	Lebanon	6,169	7,152	5,521	4,304	483	547
47	Oman	13,268	8,343	6,846	4,117	1,045	246
48	Hungary	3,911	4,951	4,514	4,091	1,588	445
49	Egypt	3,432	3,907	3,854	3,708	956	400
50	UAE	8,475	7,136	5,785	3,528	352	254
51	Iran	4,400	6,816	5,720	3,249	648	397
52	Kuwait	5,726	4,327	3,465	3,239	825	166
53	Myanmar	3,286	4,365	3,241	3,124	532	39
54	Jordan	4,290	5,165	3,156	3,085	627	682
55	Brazil	1,727	1,822	2,774	2,964	875	159
56	Cambodia	881	1,311	771	2,841	372	14
57	Lithuania	2,304	2,959	3,386	2,793	1,054	383
58	Vietnam	2,200	2,551	3,189	2,643	709	52
59	Estonia	2,761	2,881	2,744	2,516	1,185	376
60	Kazakhstan	7,769	6,122	2,721	2,399	2,333	5,754
61	Bahrain	3,119	3,296	2,858	2,285	549	128
62	Croatia	1,962	2,136	2,181	1,922	693	102
63	Seychelles	2,406	422	416	1,864	331	118
64	Kenya	845	853	874	1,559	110	39
65	Argentina	706	921	1,809	1,403	416	50
66	Yemen	1,855	1,725	1,367	1,114	173	56
67	Qatar	1,683	1,859	1,676	1,063	129	34
68	Morocco	1,075	1,121	1,036	1,031	311	85
69	Chile	579	631	1,002	938	271	23
70	Palestine	1,227	1,426	1,078	871	128	68
71	Iraq	1,035	1,111	1,021	852	138	262
72	Mauritius	652	703	720	739	170	23
73	Colombia	600	710	702	713	201	76
74	Cyprus	426	558	672	709	183	61
75	Sudan	887	1,078	858	584	143	97
76	Afghanistan	860	745	861	473	146	15
77	Bhutan	468	737	679	343	208	5
78	Nigeria	444	416	412	172	25	11
79	Comoros	366	303	191	128	17	1
80	Others	10,372	1,772	24,944	22,377	6,148	2,002
	Total	2,050,832	2,116,407	2,333,796	1,913,702	507,704	194,495

Chart 03: Tourist arrivals to Sri Lanka from main source markets, 2016 - 2021



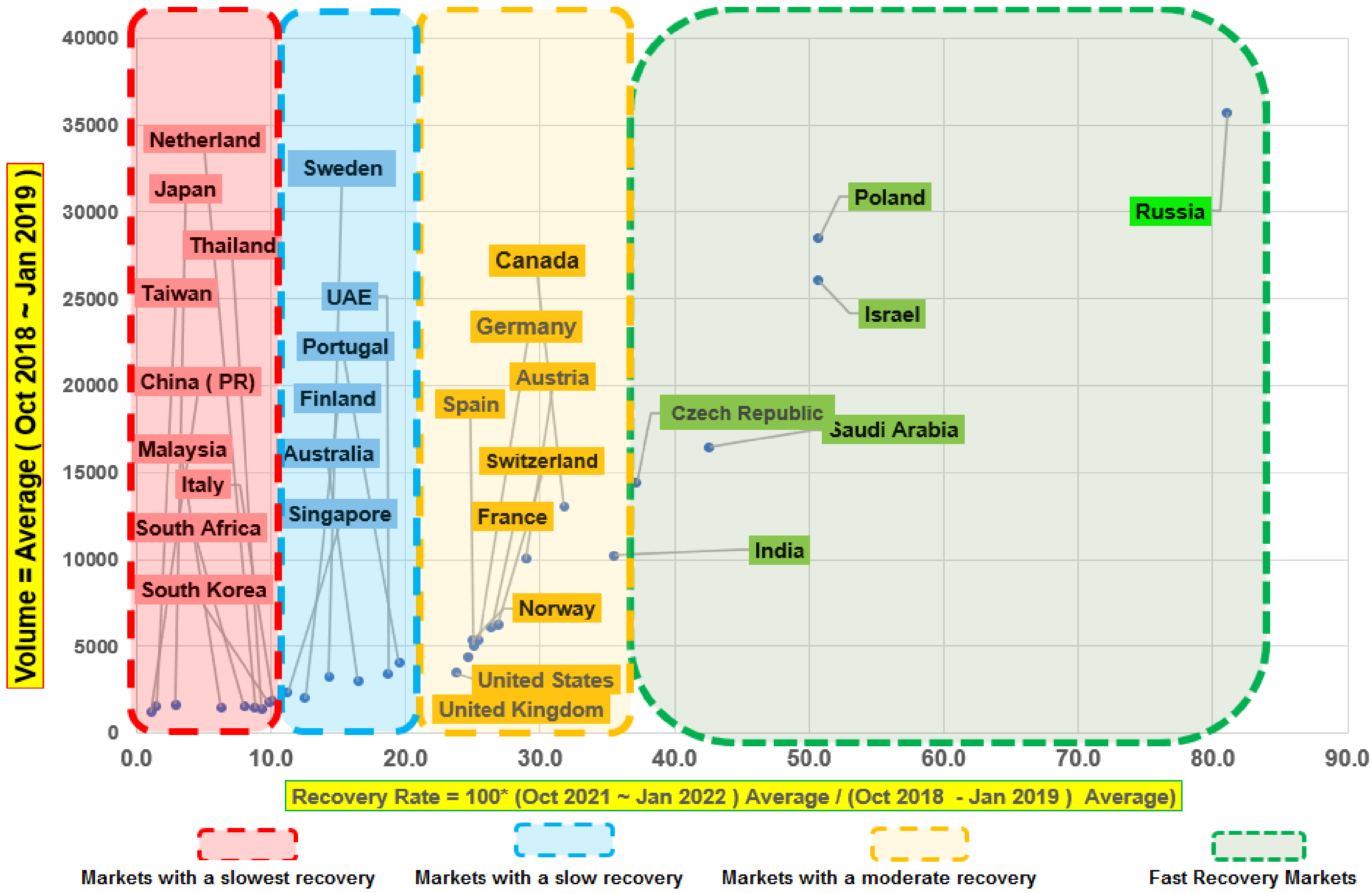
Almost all main source market have recorded declines in arrivals very likely due to the persistence of the pandemic situation and the outbreak of new variants such as Omicron. The sharp contraction in arrivals from countries such as China, Japan, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand are noteworthy, owing to factors such as strict travel restrictions, protocols and closure of borders at various stages.

Chart 04: Major setbacks in the tourism industry and the impact of tourist arrivals from main source markets, January 2019 – December 2021



As depicted in the above chart, the tourism industry in Sri Lanka encountered its heaviest blows in 2019, when the Easter attack occurred and then again in 2020, when the pandemic started to spread throughout the world, bringing the industry almost entirely to a standstill. With the opening of borders, in January 2021 a gradual growth in arrivals was evident and by September, with the start of the peak travel season, the arrivals gradually increased, recording 194,495 arrivals for the year. The factors such as lower levels of COVID cases in Sri Lanka, higher levels of vaccination rates, combined with easing of travel restrictions are likely to be the main factors behind this growth. As depicted in the chart, source markets such as Russia, the Maldives, Germany, Australia and Canada recorded high recovery by the end of the year.

Chart 05: Recovery vol**umes of Sri Lanka's primary and potential** source markets, 2021



Tourism inflows have been hindered by various factors and in the recent past, the Easter attack, the COVID-19 pandemic and the Russian invasion of Ukraine can be considered as major setbacks to the tourism in industry in Sri Lanka. An analysis of recovery rates calculated using arrivals figures from October 2018 to January 2019, and October 2021 to January 2022, reveals that Russia, Poland, Israel, Saudi Arabia and India are the main source markets with the highest recovery rates. Canada, Austria, Switzerland, France, Germany, Spain, Norway, United States and the United Kingdom are the source markets with a moderate recovery level. Portugal, UAE, Australia, Sweden, Finland and Singapore can be considered as source markets with a slow recovery rate, while the slowest recovery rates are recorded from Italy, South Korea, Thailand, Netherland, South Africa, Malaysia, Japan, Taiwan and China.

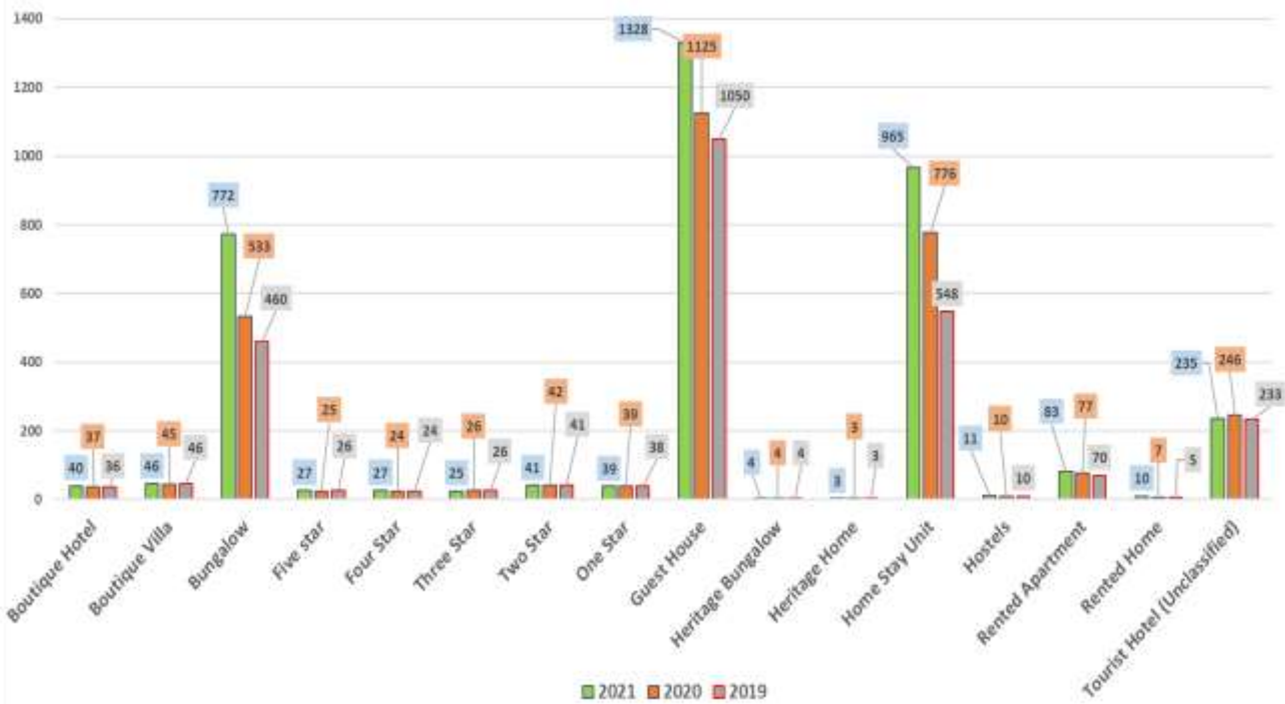
Tourist Accommodation

Table 03: SLTDA registered accommodation establishments, 2018 - 2021

	2021		2020		2019		2018	
Categorization	Number of Establishments	Number of Rooms	Number of Establishments	Number of Rooms	Number of Establishments	Number of Rooms	Number of Establishments	Number of Rooms
Boutique Hotel	40	845	37	732	36	722	31	628
Boutique Villa	46	325	45	315	46	326	40	265
Bungalow	772	3,118	533	2,146	460	1862	395	1633
Classified Tourist Hotels	159	14,717	156	14,232	155	14,093	145	13,408
Five star	27	5,630	25	5,354	26	5354	23	5150
Four Star	27	2,914	24	2,564	24	2564	21	2302
Three Star	25	2,394	26	2,513	26	2513	24	2416
Two Star	41	2,068	42	2,090	41	2000	38	1788
One Star	39	1,711	39	1,711	38	1662	39	1752
Guest House	1,328	14,842	1,125	12,553	1,050	11,661	936	10,218
Heritage Bungalow	4	19	4	19	4	19	4	19
Heritage Home	3	9	3	9	3	9	3	9
Home Stay Unit	965	2,908	776	2,236	548	1672	442	1337
Hostels	11	133	10	109	10	125	*	*
Rented Apartment	83	314	77	253	70	226	69	222
Rented Home	10	36	7	18	5	14	6	19
Tourist Hotel (Unclassified)	235	10,071	246	10,128	233	9,636	241	10,456
Total	3,656	47,337	3,019	42,750	2,620	40,365	2,312	38,214

*Registration of Hostels commenced from 2020 onwards

Chart 06: SLTDA registered accommodation establishments, 2018 – 2020



The total number of SLTDA registered accommodation establishments as at 31st December 2021, were 3,656. The number of classified tourist hotels were 159 and among them 27 were five-star hotels.

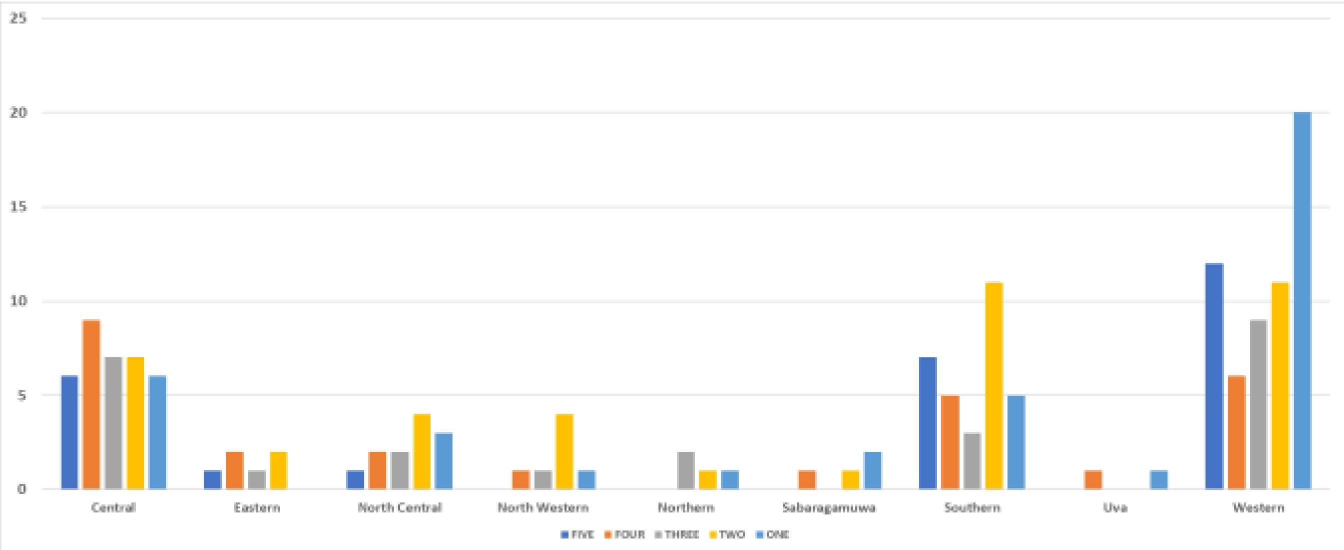
The presence of small and medium enterprises is strong with guest houses, homestays and bungalows recording the highest number of registered establishments with 1,328, 965 and 772 respectively in 2021. As a percentage, 36% of the accommodation sector consist of Guest Houses. Homestay units consist of 26%, while 21% represents Bungalows. It is noteworthy that Classified Tourist Hotels consists of only 4.3%. The total room inventory for 2021 was 47,337. It is noteworthy that Guest Houses had the highest inventory of 14,842 rooms. This could be likely due to the provisional licenses obtained by the service providers as a result of improved awareness on the importance of inclusion into the formal sector of the industry.

A comparison of the total number of establishments and total number of rooms in the consecutive years of 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021, reveals that the total number of establishments in year 2021, has increased by 58% in comparison to 2018, whereas the number of rooms had increased by 24%. A comparison of room inventory for 2020 and 2021, reveals that the room inventory has increased by 11% and the number of establishments has increased by 21%. The fluctuations in the number of establishments could be likely due to the opening of new establishments, the yearly renewal process in which establishments are upgraded or downgraded, registration of service providers at SLTDA and closure of establishments due to various reasons including the COVID 19 pandemic. The growth of the small and medium enterprises in these consecutive years is noteworthy. Homestay units have increased by 24% in 2021 in comparison to 2020, while Bungalows have increased in 2021 by 45% in comparison to 2020.

Table 04: Province wise distribution of classified hotels, 2021

Province	Star Category					Total classified Hotels
	Five	Four	Three	Two	One	
Central	6	9	7	7	6	35
Eastern	1	2	1	2	0	6
North Central	1	2	2	4	3	12
North Western	0	1	1	4	1	7
Northern	0	0	2	1	1	4
Sabaragamuwa	0	1	0	1	2	4
Southern	7	5	3	11	5	31
Uva	0	1	0	0	1	2
Western	12	6	9	11	20	58
Total	27	27	25	41	39	159

Chart 07: Province wise distribution of classified hotels, 2021



The above table and chart depict the geographical distribution of Classified Tourist Hotels by Province. The Western province recorded the highest number of Classified Hotels (Star wise), amounting to 58. Among the classified Hotels, 12 five star, 6 four star, 9 three star, 11 two star and 20 one-star hotels are located in the Western province. Central (35) and Southern (31) provinces also recorded the highest number of classified hotels. It is noteworthy that the lowest number of Classified Hotels have been recorded from Uva Province with 1 four star & 1 one-star hotel. The concentration of classified tourist hotels in the Western, Central and Southern provinces hints to the uneven development of tourism related infrastructure facilities & tourist destinations. Out of the total classified hotels two-star hotels constitute 26% while one-star hotels constitute 24% five four- & three-star hotels constitute 17% (both), 16% respectively.

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF ROOMS OF SLTDA REGISTERED ACCOMMODATION ESTABLISHMENTS

Table 05: Provincial distribution of rooms, 2021

Province	Total Number of Rooms	Percentage Share
Western	16,489	34.8
Southern	12,094	25.5
Central	7,991	16.9
Eastern	2,432	5.1
Uva	2,381	5
North Central	2,302	4.9
North Western	1,834	3.9
Sabaragamuwa	1,037	2.2
Northern	777	1.6
Total	47,337	100

An analysis of room distribution throughout the nine provinces of Sri Lanka reveals that the highest concentration (34.8%) of rooms is in the Western province followed by the Southern (25.5%) and Central provinces (16.9%).

Figure 03: Percentage share of provincial distribution of rooms, 2021

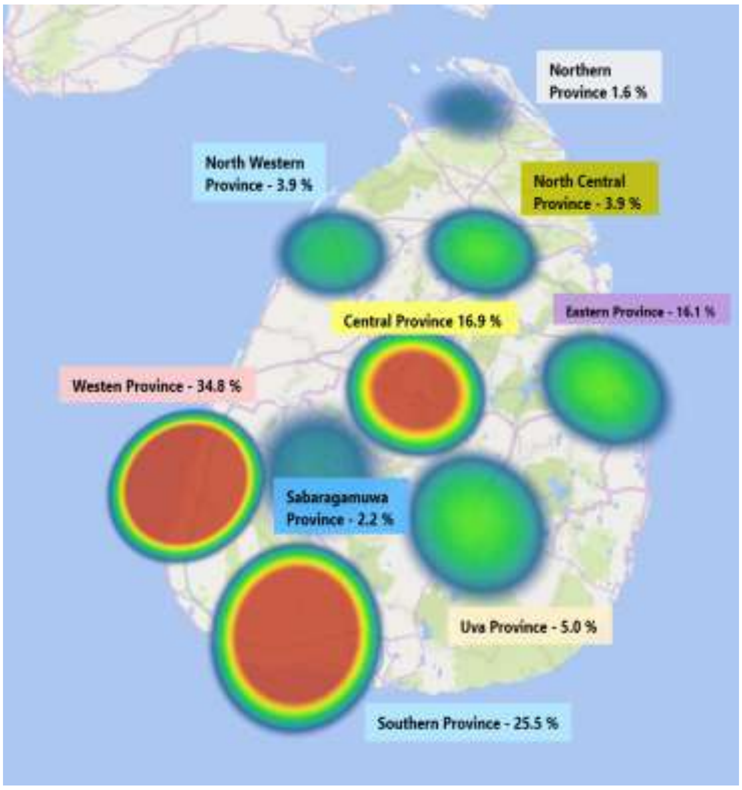


Table 06: District wise distribution of rooms of SLTDA registered accommodation establishments, 2020 and 2021

District	Number of Rooms 2021	Number of Rooms 2020
Colombo	8,575	8,396
Galle	7,865	6,370
Gampaha	4,191	3,956
Kalutara	3,723	3,465
Kandy	3,698	3,482
Matale	2,166	1,942
Matara	2,145	1,717
Nuwara Eliya	2,127	1,850
Hambantota	2,084	1,863
Badulla	1,775	1,484
Anuradhapura	1,619	1,301
Puttalam	1,355	1,185
Batticaloa	914	949
Ampara	778	720
Trincomalee	740	671
Polonnaruwa	683	678
Ratnapura	630	605
Moneragala	606	544
Jaffna	541	522
Kurunegala	479	454
Kegalle	407	365
Vavuniya	81	81
Kilinochchi	68	63
Mullaitivu	50	50
Mannar	37	37
Total Rooms	47,337	42,750

The above table depicts the distribution of rooms in SLTDA registered accommodation establishments within each district in 2020 & 2021. The Colombo district recorded 8,575 rooms which is the highest for the country. Less than 500 rooms were recorded in the districts of Kurunegala, Kegalle, Vavuniya, Kilicochchi, Mullaitivu and Mannar. It is noteworthy that the number of rooms in Vavuniya, Mullaitivu and Mannar remain the same from 2020 onwards. A significant growth in room numbers in Matara (24.9%), Anuradhapura (24.4%) and Galle (23.5%) for the year 2021 can be observed in comparison to 2020. It could be likely due to the steps taken for the inclusion of the informal sector through awareness programmes held during the course of the year. It is noteworthy that room numbers in the Batticaloa district have decreased by 4%. This could be likely due to the low number of tourist arrivals in this area that resulted in the closure of accommodation facilities.

DISTRICT WISE DISTRIBUTION OF SLTDA REGISTERED RESTAURANTS

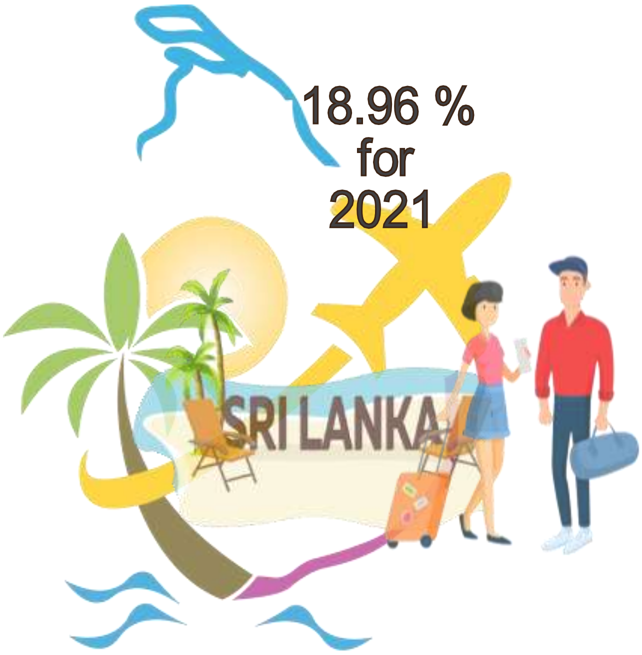
Table 07: District wise distribution of SLTDA registered restaurants, 2021

District	Grade			Total number of restaurants 2021	Total number of restaurants 2020
	A	B	Provisional Status		
Anuradhapura	2	2	2	6	4
Badulla	3	2	1	6	4
Batticaloa	0	1	0	1	1
Colombo	249	34	13	296	270
Galle	28	8	1	37	36
Gampaha	43	23	2	68	64
Hambantota	2	0	1	3	2
Jaffna	6	2	0	8	8
Kalutara	8	2	0	10	10
Kandy	17	5	1	23	22
Kegalle	12	4	0	16	16
Kilinochchi	1	0	0	1	1
Kurunegala	9	3	1	13	12
Matale	7	4	0	11	11
Matara	4	6	1	11	9
Moneragala	2	2	0	4	4
Mullaitivu	1	2	0	3	3
Nuwara Eliya	3	2	2	7	5
Polonnaruwa	1	0	1	2	1
Puttalam	1	3	1	5	4
Ratnapura	3	0	0	3	3
Trincomalee	4	0	0	4	3
Mannar	0	0	0	0	0
Vavuniya	0	0	0	0	0
Ampara	0	0	0	0	0
Total	406	105	27	538	493

The Table 07 depicts the distribution of SLTDA registered restaurants in each district. The total number of SLTDA registered restaurants in 2020 are 538. Among them 75.4% are Grade A restaurants while 19.5% are grade B restaurants. 5% of restaurants have been awarded provisional licenses. Accordingly, the Colombo district records the highest number of SLTDA registered restaurants (296) as well as Grade A restaurants (249). Except for Colombo, Galle, Gampaha, Kalutara, Kandy, Kegalle, Kurunegala, Matara and Matale, all the other districts have less than 10 SLTDA registered restaurants. In comparison to 2020, the registered restaurants have increased by 9%.

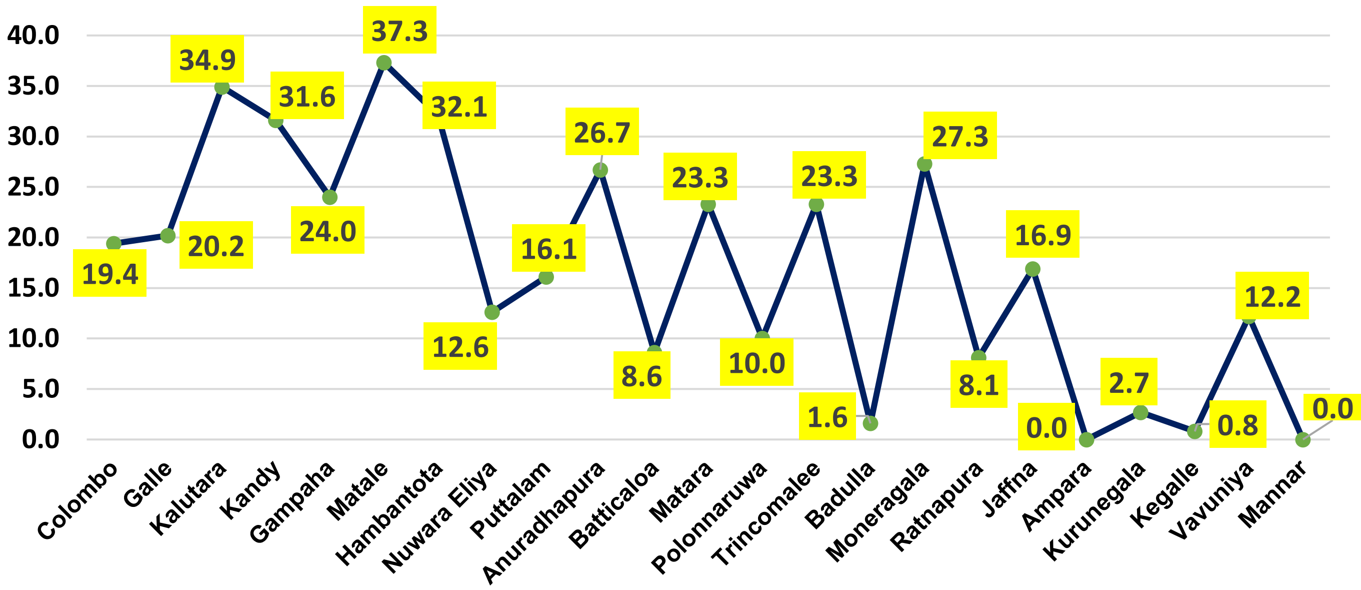
OCCUPANCY

Average Annual Occupancy Rate



District wise distribution of occupancy rates

Chart 08: District wise distribution of occupancy rates of SLTDA Registered Tourists Hotels* (Classified/Unclassified/ Boutique Hotels), 2021



The highest occupancy rates have been recorded from Matale & Kalutara, while the lowest rate has been recorded from Kegalle. killinochchi, Mullativu, Jaffna and Mannar recorded zero occupancy.

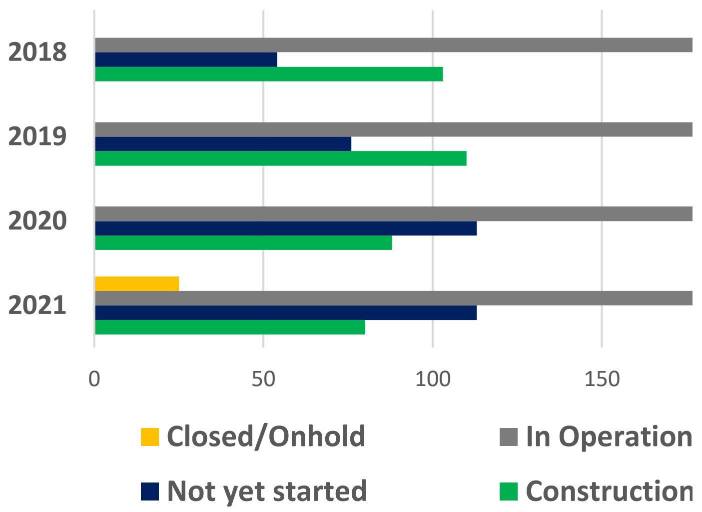
TOURISM ACCOMMODATION INVESTMENT

Table 08: Investment Projects, 2018 to 2021

Status of the project	Number of Projects	Number of Rooms	Investment US $ million	Number of Projects	Number of Rooms	Investment US $ million	Number of Projects	Number of Rooms	Investment US $ million	Number of Projects	Number of Rooms	Investment US $ million
	2021			2020			2019			2018		
Construction in progress	80	6,093	1,324.28	88	6560	702.9	110	6,966	975.05	103	6815	962.7
Not yet started	113	3,560	407	113	3970	1059.1	76	3,523	1,020.91	54	2042	237.5
In Operation	239	11,826	2,048.98	226	10690	1975.6	221	10,462	1,785.59	193	9,903	1754.5
Closed/On hold *	25	688	67.95	-			-			-		
Final Approval Granted	457	22,167	3,848.21	427	21,220	3,738.00	407	20,951	3,781.60	350	18,760	2,954.80

***Closed/on hold projects: Up to 2020 closed/on hold projects were included in the category "Not yet started". From 2021 onwards the project status was** clarified and closed/on hold projects were categorized separately

Chart 09: Investment Projects, 2018 to 2021



The above table and chart depict the number of investment projects handled by SLTDA for the consecutive years of 2018 to 2021. In comparison to 2018 there is a growth of 30.5% in the final approval granted projects. In terms of number of rooms, a growth of 18.1% was recorded in comparison to year 2018. A growth of 30.2% in investment value was recorded in comparison to year 2018. A comparison of figures of 2021 with figures of 2020 reveals that final approval granted projects had increased by 7% while the number of rooms had increased only by 4.5%. The investment value had increased by 2.9%.

Table 09: Distribution of rooms of final approval granted projects

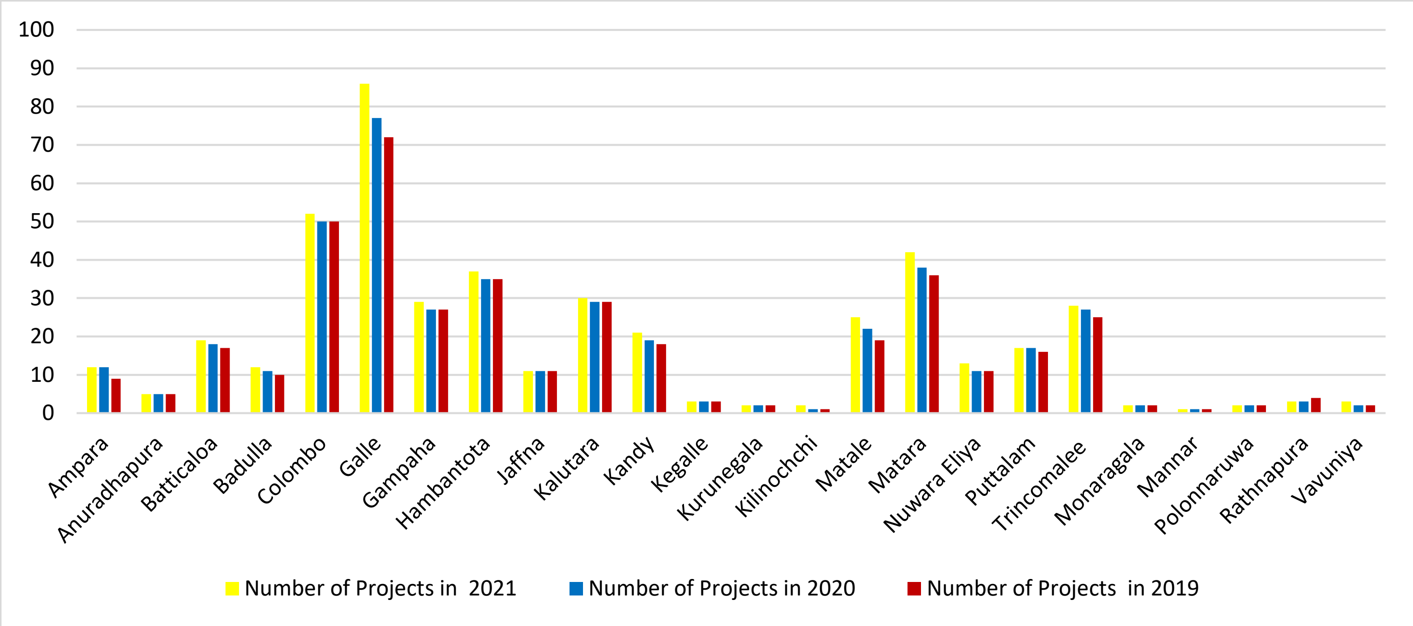
Number of Rooms	Number of Projects 2021	Number of Projects 2020	Number of Projects 2019	Number of Projects 2018
Over 200	24	22	24	22
100 - 200	22	22	21	19
50 - 99	72	71	67	65
Less than 49	339	310	295	244
Total	457	425	407	350

Distribution of projects by number of rooms over the years 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021 reveals that projects with less than 49 rooms have gradually increased from 244 in 2018 to 457 in 2022. In comparison to 2018 a growth of 30.5% and in comparison, to 2019 a growth of 12.2% were recorded for year 2021 in relation to number of projects with less than 49 rooms. An increase of 9% in the projects with over 200 rooms has been recorded in relation to 2018 whereas an increase of 15.7% in the projects with rooms with 100- 200 has been recorded in relation to 2018.

Table 10: Distribution of tourism projects and number of room by district

Districts	Number of Projects	Rooms	Number of Projects	Rooms	Number of Projects	Rooms
Ampara	12	144	12	144	9	118
Anuradhapura	5	143	5	143	5	143
Batticaloa	19	490	18	464	17	438
Badulla	12	304	11	300	10	300
Colombo	52	6,339	50	6,277	50	6,583
Galle	86	3,552	77	3,415	72	3,318
Gampaha	29	1,644	27	1,388	27	1,316
Hambantota	37	1,840	35	1,822	35	1,820
Jaffna	11	336	11	336	11	336
Kalutara	30	1,691	29	1,685	29	1,685
Kandy	21	918	19	669	18	591
Kegalle	3	70	3	70	3	70
Kurunegala	2	27	2	27	2	27
Kilinochchi	2	36	1	15	1	15
Matale	25	882	22	834	19	677
Matara	42	1,242	38	1,184	36	1,124
Nuwara Eliya	13	753	11	725	11	725
Puttalam	17	725	17	725	16	703
Trincomalee	28	750	27	716	25	694
Monaragala	2	42	2	42	2	42
Mannar	1	52	1	52	1	52
Polonnaruwa	2	54	2	54	2	54
Rathnapura	3	66	3	66	4	71
Vavuniya	3	67	2	49	2	49
Total	457	22,167	425	21,202	407	20,951

Chart 10: Distribution of tourism projects by districts, 2019 to 2021



The above table and chart depict the distribution of final approval granted projects and number of rooms by district. Accordingly, during the last three years Galle district has the highest number of projects, while Colombo district has the highest number of rooms. Galle, Colombo, Matara, Hambantota, Kalutara, Gampaha, Trincomalee, Matale and Kandy have more than 20 projects i n year 2021 while Mannar had only one project. The concentration of tourism investments in the aforesaid areas hints to the need to disperse them into other districts where there are potentiality for tourism development.

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