



## PAPUA NEW GUINEA TOURISM PROMOTION AUTHORITY

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### 2020 FIRST SIX MONTHS INTERNATIONAL VISITOR ARRIVAL REPORT

#### *First six months arrival Summary*

After recording a healthy growth in international visitor arrivals to PNG last year (2019), this year's international visitor arrivals to the country will be hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic. In the first six months (Jan – Jun) of 2020, statistics indicates that there was a **56%** fall in international visitors to Papua New Guinea. This is about 42,000 fewer international arrivals compared to the 75,000 international visitors received in the first six months of 2019. All segments of arrivals to the country dropped with nil record of cruise ship visits to the country in the first six months of 2020:

- Holiday (69% drop)
- Business (66% drop)
- VFR (51% drop)
- MICE (61% (drop)
- Employment (45% drop)
- Sports (44% drop)
- Others (69% drop)

Arrivals from all our key source markets also show double digit drop in the first six months of this year:

- Australia (59% drop)
- New Zealand (52% drop)
- China (84% drop)
- Japan (60% drop)
- Korea (67% drop)
- Singapore (70% drop)
- Malaysia (55% drop)
- Philippines (45% drop)
- Other Asia (57% drop)
- UK (45% drop)
- Germany (60% drop)
- France (61% drop)
- Netherlands (42% drop)
- Other Europe (53% drop)
- Russia (53% drop)
- USA (52% drop)
- Canada (51% (drop)
- Other America (33% (drop)

This downward trend is expected to continue throughout the year as the world is currently facing an unprecedented health and economic crisis, thus, leading to a decline of between 50% and 70% arrivals to PNG in 2020 compared to last year.

## First six months arrivals Summary table - 2020

Visitors Arrival Analysis												January to June - 2020	
Country	Busins	MICE	VFR	Holiday	EmPLYnt	Educatn	Sports	Other	Total 2020	Total 2019	Change	% +/-	
Australia	4142	172	968	1377	5904	72	77	219	12931	31863	-18932	-59	
New Zealand	543	18	71	99	854	8	40	29	1662	3472	-1810	-52	
Oceania	317	90	199	97	494	247	81	62	1587	3007	-1420	-47	
China	200	8	55	210	579	3	0	21	1076	6666	-5590	-84	
Japan	178	21	9	260	79	2	0	7	556	1373	-817	-60	
Korea	63	2	9	58	58	0	0	8	198	600	-402	-67	
Malaysia	305	15	64	96	1096	3	0	25	1604	3564	-1960	-55	
Singapore	107	7	2	20	73	2	0	6	217	721	-504	-70	
Philippines	310	41	221	200	3780	39	0	147	4738	8555	-3817	-45	
Indonesia	100	42	40	25	478	0	0	23	708	1397	-689	-49	
India	229	16	150	73	971	6	3	76	1524	2446	-922	-38	
Other Asia	182	8	57	78	284	12	1	20	642	1509	-867	-57	
United Kingdom	325	12	47	109	455	10	1	16	975	1761	-786	-45	
Germany	76	4	15	73	100	9	0	7	284	711	-427	-60	
France	58	2	3	37	44	3	1	6	154	390	-236	-61	
Netherlands	41	1	12	19	51	0	0	11	135	232	-97	-42	
Other Europe	213	10	25	92	268	8	1	18	635	1345	-710	-53	
USA	462	32	169	250	437	25	6	157	1538	3181	-1643	-52	
Canada	91	4	24	47	164	0	0	22	352	716	-364	-51	
Other America	48	3	14	21	96	2	2	8	194	288	-94	-33	
Africa	197	2	54	24	379	9	0	25	690	972	-282	-29	
Russia	31	0	5	11	54	0	0	1	102	218	-116	-53	
Italy	41	4	10	13	28	1	1	4	102	159	-57	-36	
Scandinavia	40	6	10	25	34	4	0	6	125	237	-112	-47	
Chile	0	0	1	0	3	0	0	1	5	29	-24	0	
Israel	24	0	0	23	21	1	0	2	71	144	-73	0	
<b>Total 2020</b>	<b>8323</b>	<b>520</b>	<b>2234</b>	<b>3337</b>	<b>16784</b>	<b>466</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>927</b>	<b>32805</b>	<b>75556</b>	<b>-42751</b>	<b>-56.6</b>	
<b>Total 2019</b>	<b>24745</b>	<b>1342</b>	<b>4602</b>	<b>10807</b>	<b>30071</b>	<b>805</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>3024</b>					
<b>Change</b>	<b>-16422</b>	<b>-822</b>	<b>-2368</b>	<b>-7470</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>-339</b>	<b>-168</b>	<b>-2097</b>					
<b>% +/-</b>	<b>-66</b>	<b>-61</b>	<b>-51</b>	<b>-69</b>	<b>-44</b>	<b>-42</b>	<b>-44</b>	<b>-69</b>					

In line with the current UNWTO assessment, PNG's initial international visitor arrival forecasts to record 3% to 5% growth has been downgraded to 50% to 70% decline in 2020 after recording a 56.6% drop in arrivals during the first six months of this year. Our arrival forecasts are lower in percentage term compared to UNWTO forecasts because of the fact that not many coronavirus (COVID-19) related deaths have been reported in PNG so far, and also visitor arrival numbers are expected to pick-up quickly when the situation is contained and safety relating to coronavirus will be minimal for visitors as soon as the ban on international cruise ships and flights are lifted to enter the country.

### Recommendations for consideration

- TPA should work closely with the tourism industry partners and other tourism product owners to develop new tourism product packages while waiting for situations to improve.
- TPA in partnership with TIA should encourage operators and tourism service providers to maintain the quality of their services and work with tourism product owners/operators to promote the unique tourism products and destination on the social media platform so that both international and domestic tourists can access and purchase the products when the situation improves.

Please contact our research & statistics team if you have any queries or need further information.

Thank you.