

Explanatory Notes on FSM International Visitor Arrivals data

Data source:

The data are based on visitor declarations to immigration officials upon their arrival into each state. FSM citizens are not required to make arrival declarations and are excluded from the statistics.

Data presentation:

The tables present visitor arrivals for each of the four states and for the whole of the FSM. Users should note that the sum of the four state totals exceeds the FSM totals, because visitors may visit more than one state. Each international visitor is counted only once in the FSM table, but may be included in several state tables.

The tables present visitors by 'purpose of visit' and 'region of citizenship'. 'Purpose of visit' includes four categories; 1) 'Tourism and visitors', 2) 'Business and employment', 3) 'Volunteer, religious etc' and 4) 'Seamen and crew'. Dependents are included in the same purpose as their spouse or parents. Further details are given in Appendix A. Region of Citizenship shows the individual countries that are important sources of visitors to the FSM, such as the USA and Japan. Other countries are grouped into regions such as Asia, Europe, Pacific Islands etc.

Appendix A: Purpose of Visit Classification

The 'Purpose of Visit' statistical classification is based on a categorization made by customs offices for immigration purposes, based on information declared by arriving visitors. The visitors are allocated from the immigration categories into the purpose of visit classification as follows:

Tourism and visitors: This includes tourists arriving via aircraft and vessels, plus visitors.

Business and employment: This includes employment, sales persons, foreign investors, plus dependents of these categories.

Volunteer, religious etc: This includes missionary, volunteers, research, foreign students, spouses of FSM citizens, plus dependents of these categories.

Seamen and crew: This category includes Crew Members who disembark from Aircraft or Vessels passing through the FSM, plus Seamen who arrive to Embark on a vessel. Crew Members who do not disembark are excluded.