

**DEPARTMENT OF CENSUS & STATISTICS**  
**MINISTRY OF FINANCE & PLANNING**



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### Introduction

National Center for Migration Statistics (NCMS) was specially created with the intention of achieving a long felt need of establishing a mechanism for migration data collection in Sri Lanka. It is entrusted with the task of collecting, analyzing and disseminating migration statistics in Sri Lanka.

### Mission

We assist and encourage informed decision making, research and discussion within government and the community, by providing up to date, relevant and reliable statistical information through a multi-agency migration data collection system.

### Partner agencies

- ◆ Department of Immigration & Emigration
- ◆ Sri Lanka Bureau of Foreign Employment
- ◆ Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority
- ◆ International Organization for Migration (IOM)

**Table 1: Arrivals by nationality and year**

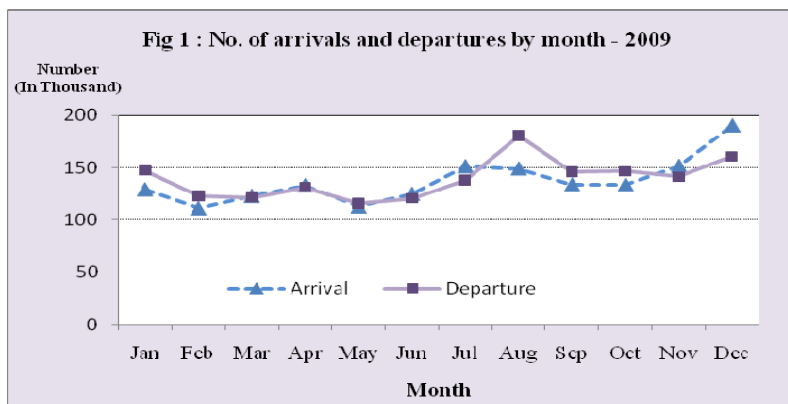
Year	Nationality								Total
	Sri Lankan	Asian (Excluding Sri Lankan)	European	North American	South American	African	Australian	Other	
2000	514,44	53,035	-	-	-	-	-	434,888	1,002,371
2001	478,35	50,736	-	-	-	-	-	350,913	880,008
2002	517,35	94,078	-	-	-	-	-	411,609	1,023,046
2003	572,32	136,809	-	-	-	-	-	494,990	1,204,120
2004	647,17	197,606	-	-	-	-	-	618,596	1,463,377
2005	696,38	328,972	267,311	56,179	745	4,332	34,847	1,924	1,390,692
2006	732,01	353,044	303,231	43,028	859	4,587	31,205	1,717	1,469,681
2007	811,23	362,985	278,866	39,391	825	5,783	28,866	1,668	1,529,619
2008	900,81	400,281	266,805	37,804	1,408	6,833	28,890	1,334	1,644,170
2009	914,58	384,827	264,385	38,473	981	5,133	34,677	1,525	1,644,585

Source: Department of Immigration & Emigration

**Table 2: Departures by nationality and year**

Year	Nationality								Total
	Sri Lankan	Asian (Excluding Sri Lankan)	European	North American	South American	African	Australian	Other	
2000	524,212	48,516	-	-	-	-	-	400,659	973,387
2001	500,218	49,727	-	-	-	-	-	361,097	911,042
2002	548,440	92,874	-	-	-	-	-	392,381	1,033,695
2003	601,387	137,749	-	-	-	-	-	490,545	1,229,681
2004	679,953	195,514	-	-	-	-	-	611,576	1,487,043
2005	739,440	325,807	258,549	55,538	744	4,171	34,683	1,843	1,420,775
2006	754,455	325,381	305,806	44,341	863	4,665	33,020	1,760	1,470,291
2007	862,011	363,439	265,617	38,128	841	5,757	27,944	1,604	1,565,341
2008	966,337	396,892	248,549	37,927	1,318	6,638	28,960	1,323	1,687,944
2009	962,792	378,107	255,815	37,212	890	4,936	32,021	1,531	1,673,304

Source: Department of Immigration & Emigration



Source: Department of Immigration & Emigration

- ◆ An increasing trend is seen in the number of arrivals and departures in the recent past.
- ◆ The highest number of arrivals and departures are seen in Asians excluding Sri Lankans from year 2005 to up to date.

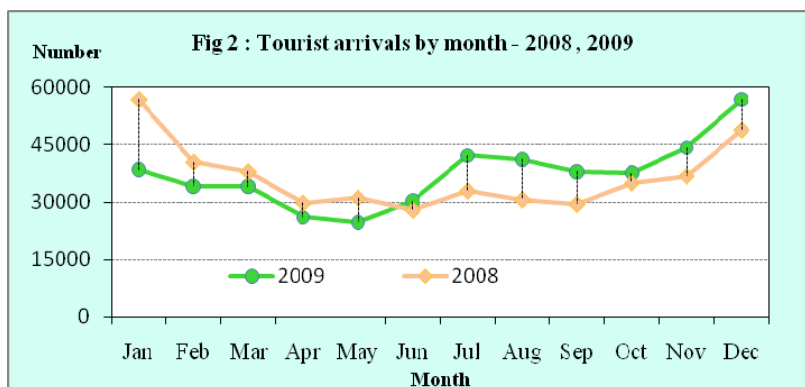
- ◆ In year 2009, the highest number of arrivals was recorded in December and the highest number of departures recorded in August.

**Table 3: Tourist arrivals by sex and age group - 2009**

Background characteristics	Number
<b>Total</b>	<b>447,890</b>
<b>By sex</b>	
Male	267,278
Female	180,612
<b>By age group</b>	
3-19	42,774
20-29	68,385
30-39	127,182
40-49	128,128
50-59	51,381
60 & above	30,040

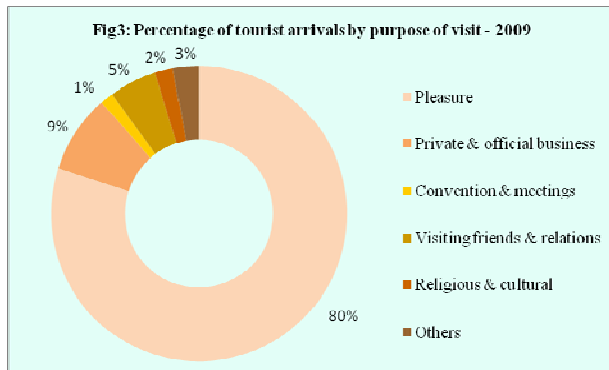
Source: Annual Statistical Report – 2009  
Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority

- ◆ There were more male tourists than females in 2009.
- ◆ The majority of tourist was in (40-49) yrs. age group.



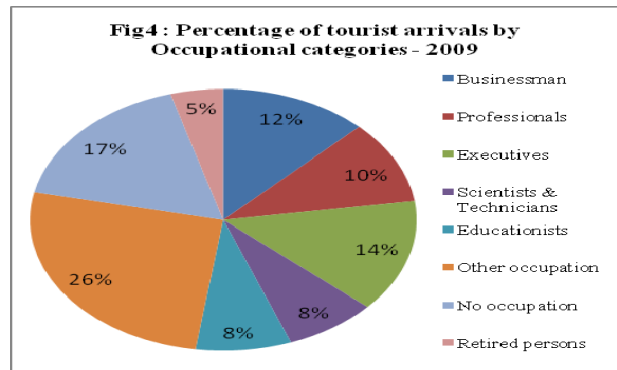
Source: Annual Statistical Report – 2009  
Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority

- ◆ It is seen that the highest number of arrivals was recorded in January for year 2008 and in December for year 2009.
- ◆ Compared to year 2008 first half of the year showed decreases while second half of the year showed remarkable increases.



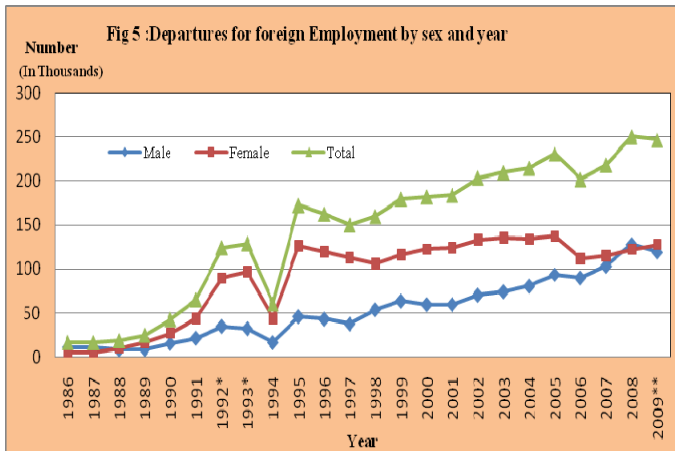
Source: Annual Statistical Report – 2009  
Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority

◆ The largest proportion of tourists visit to Sri Lanka for their pleasure while business purposes taking the second place.



Source: Annual Statistical Report – 2009  
Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority

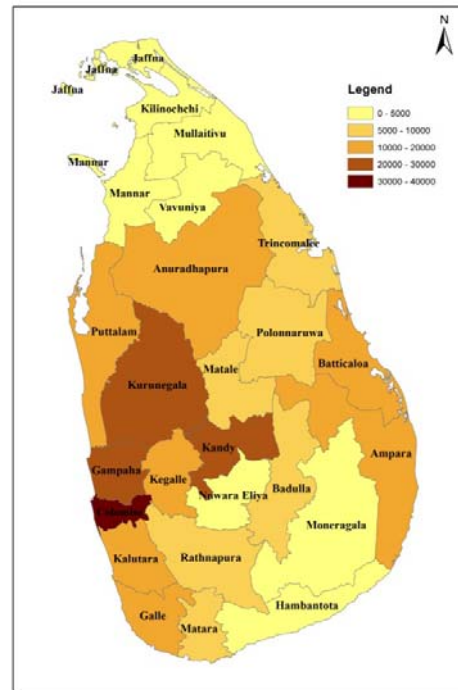
◆ Out of the total tourist 78.4 percent of them were occupied in 2009.  
◆ Housewives and dependants (No occupation) constituted 17.2 percent while the balance 4.4 percent constituted retired persons.



Note: \* - Airport survey SLBFE  
\*\* - Provisional  
Source: Annual Statistical Report 2009 - Sri Lanka Bureau of Foreign Employment

◆ In early stages male migrant workers were higher than females; however that pattern has changed and females dominated since 1988 to 2007.  
◆ During the year 2008 that situation has been changed to male due to temporary reasons and during the year 2009 again it has been changed to female.  
◆ There was a slight decrease in the total departures for foreign employment in year 2009, when compared with 2008.

Fig6: Number of departures for foreign employment by district 2009\*



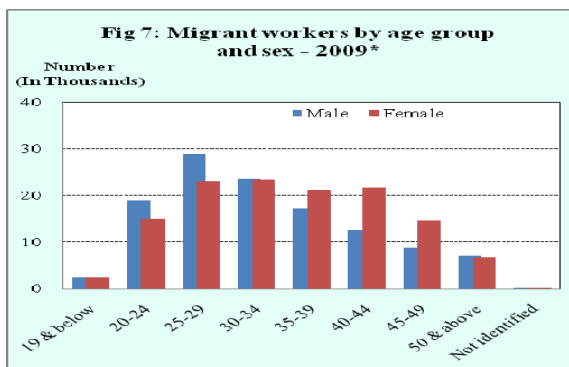
Source: Annual Statistical Report 2009  
Sri Lanka Bureau of Foreign Employment  
Note: \* - Provisional

◆ There is a wide variation among district by sex  
◆ Colombo district shows the highest male departures and Kurunegala shows the highest female departures

**Table 5: Departures for foreign employment by Age group & sex – 2009\***

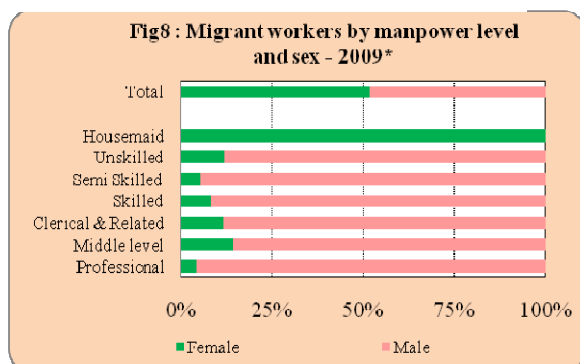
Age group	Sex		Total
	Male	Female	
<b>Total</b>	119,276	127,843	247,119
19 & below	2,446	2,546	4,992
20-24	18,904	14,977	33,881
25-29	28,991	22,904	51,895
30-34	23,414	23,248	46,662
35-39	17,172	21,154	38,326
40-44	12,481	21,627	34,108
45-49	8,741	14,621	23,362
50 & above	7,050	6,708	13,758
Not identified	77	58	135

Source: Annual Statistical Report 2009  
Sri Lanka Bureau of foreign employment  
Note: \* - Provisional

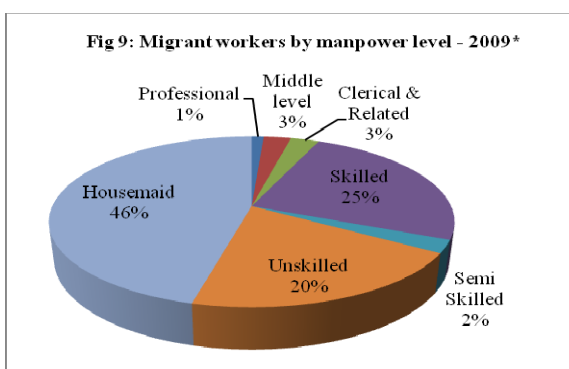


Source: Annual Statistical Report 2009  
Sri Lanka Bureau of foreign employment  
Note: \* - Provisional

- ◆ In year 2009 majority of migrant workers were in the age group of (25-29) yrs.
- ◆ Majority of male migrant workers were in (25-29) yrs. while females (30-34) yrs.



Source: Annual Statistical Report 2009  
Sri Lanka Bureau of foreign employment  
Note: \* - Provisional



Source: Annual Statistical Report 2009  
Sri Lanka Bureau of foreign employment  
Note: \* - Provisional

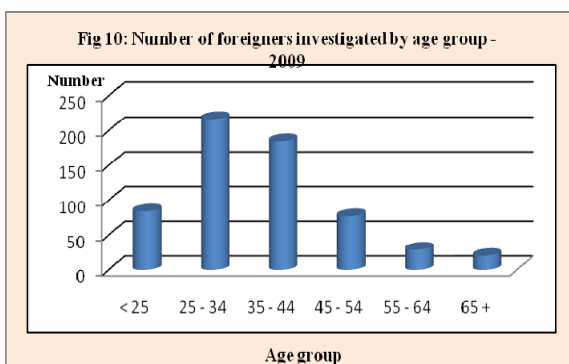
- ◆ Female migrant workers were 51.7 percent out of total migrant workers in year 2009.
- ◆ Comparing males and females between manpower levels, males are higher than females.

- ◆ Most of migrant workers were housemaids (46 percent)
- ◆ Only 1 percent of migrant workers were professional levels.

**Table 6: Number of foreigners investigated by Type of investigation and sex -2009**

Type of investigation	Sex	
	Male	Female
<b>Total</b>	<b>507</b>	<b>105</b>
Arrested	257	54
Removed	128	19
Removal Order	83	13
Release from camp	17	3
Release	21	16
Other	1	0

Source: Department of Immigration & Emigration



Source: Department of Immigration & Emigration

- ◆ Out of total foreigners investigated, one sixth of females were investigation.

- ◆ Majority of foreign investigated were in (25 – 29) age group.

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