



MINISTRY OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORT



OFFICE OF THE CHIEF GOVERNMENT STATISTICIAN

MONTHLY TRANSPORT STATISTICAL RELEASE



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SEA TRANSPORT IN ZANZIBAR



1.1 Vessels Movements

Total trips of vessels (Enter and Exit) in August 2026 reached 2,118 which increased by 24.9 percent compared with the corresponding month of the previous year and increased by 10.5 percent compared with the previous month. The rise was mainly driven by Dhow, which recorded an increase of 16.5 percent and almost four percent (3.6%) compared with corresponding month of the previous year and previous month respectively.

The total of nine (9) calls/trips were made by foreign vessels, 832 calls by local vessel and 1,277 calls by dhow. Foreign vessel trips decreased by 60.9 percent and by 10.0 percent compared with the corresponding month of the previous year and the previous month respectively. Their registered tonnage (GRT) increased by more than one hundred percent compared with the corresponding month of the previous year and increased by 33.9 percent compared with previous month.

Table 1.1: Traffic Movement (Trips- Enter/Exit) at Zanzibar Seaports, August 2026, July 2026 and August 2025.

Description	Unit		Number			Percentage Change	
			August, 2025	July, 2026	August, 2026	August,2026-July,2026	August,2026-August,2025
Foreign Vessel	Calls	Number	23	10	9	-10.0	-60.9
	GRT	Tons	26,600	85,831	114,945	33.9	332.1
Local Vessel	Calls	Number	577	674	832	23.4	44.2
Dhow	Calls	Number	1,096	1,233	1,277	3.6	16.5
Total Trips	Total CALLS	Number	1,696	1,917	2,118	10.5	24.9
	Total GRT	Tons	26,600	85,831	114,945	33.9	332.1

N.B

CALLS: Number of Vessels

GRT (Growth Registered Tonne): Vessel Weight

1.2 Passengers

A total of 279,915 passengers were handled at the Zanzibar seaport in August 2026, which decreased by less than ten percent (9.2%) and increased by almost five percent (4.5 %) compared with the corresponding month of the previous year and the previous month respectively. Among the passengers handled, a total of 157,286 passengers were inbound and 122,629 were outbound.

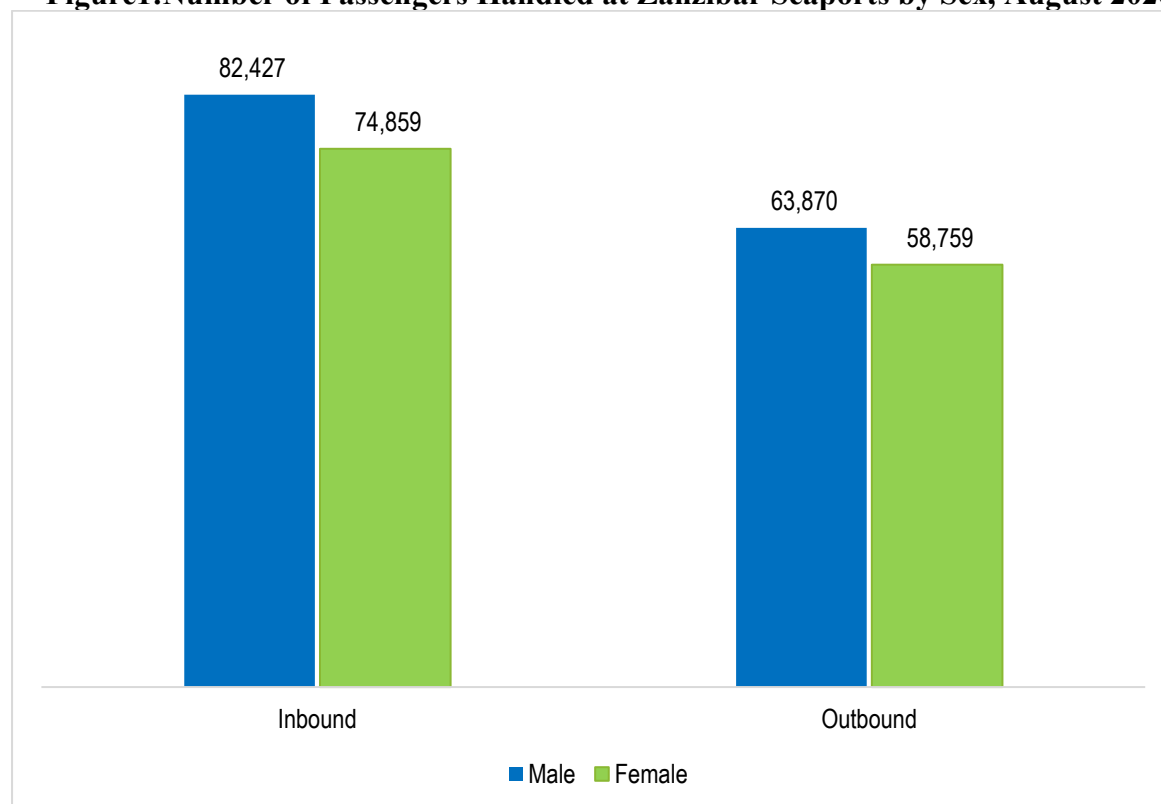
Inbound passengers show slightly decreased by about three percent (2.9%) compared with the corresponding month of the previous year and increased by 13.2 percent compared with previous month. The number of outbound passengers decreased by 16.2 percent compared with

the corresponding month of the previous year and less than five percent (4.8%) compared with the previous month.

Table 1.2: Number of Passengers Handled at Zanzibar Seaports, August 2026, July 2026 and August 2025.

Passenger	Number			Percentage Change	
	August, 2025	July, 2026	August, 2026	August,2026-July,2026	August,2026-August,2025
Inbound	161,936	138,965	157,286	13.2	-2.9
Outbound	146,420	128,869	122,629	-4.8	-16.2
Total	308,356	267,834	279,915	4.5	-9.2

Figure1: Number of Passengers Handled at Zanzibar Seaports by Sex, August 2026.



1.3 Cargo

A total of 256,275.5 tons of general and Dhow Cargo were handled at Zanzibar seaport in August 2026. This is a decrease of almost ten percent (9.8%) and an increase of less than one percent (0.5%) percent compared with the corresponding month of the previous year and previous month respectively. A total of 8,310.0 TEUs were handled in August 2026, which increased by 5.2 percent and 14.6 percent compared with the corresponding month of the previous year and the previous month respectively.

Out of the total tons of general and dhows cargo, 234,722.8 tons were imported to Zanzibar and 21,552.7 tons were exported from Zanzibar in August 2026. Imported general and dhows cargo decreased by about seven percent (6.8%) and by less than one percent (0.2%) compared with the corresponding month of the previous year and previous month respectively while exported general and dhows cargo decreased by 33.1 percent and increased by about four percent(3.8%) compared with the corresponding month of the previous year and preceding month respectively.

The total number of imported TEUs were 4,259.0 which decreased by almost four percent (3.6%) and increased by about ten percent (9.9%) percent compared with the corresponding month of the previous year and previous month respectively while 4,051.0 TEUs were exported in the same period, which increased by 16.3 percent and by 20.0 percent compared with the corresponding month of the previous year and preceding month respectively.

Table 1.3: Import and Export of Cargo at Zanzibar Seaports, August 2026, July 2026 and August 2025.

Description	Unit	Number			Percentage Change	
		August, 2025	July, 2026	August, 2026	August,2026-July,2026	August,2026-August,2025
Import						
General Cargo	Tons	148,696.6	139,133.0	131,124.9	-5.8	-11.8
Dhow	Tons	103,076.2	95,020.3	103,597.9	9.0	0.5
Total	Tons	251,772.8	234,153.3	234,722.8	0.2	-6.8
Fuel	Tons	22,168.8	26,180.4	23,811.9	-9.0	7.4
Container	TEUS	4,420.0	3,876.0	4,259.0	9.9	-3.6
Export						
General Cargo	Tons	30,487.0	19,498.1	20,691.8	6.1	-32.1
Dhow	Tons	1,741.5	1,269.8	861.0	-32.2	-50.6
Total	Tons	32,228.5	20,767.8	21,552.7	3.8	-33.1
Container	TEUS	3,482.0	3,375.0	4,051.0	20.0	16.3
Total cargo						
General and Dhow Cargo	Tons	284,001.3	254,921.1	256,275.5	0.5	-9.8
Fuel	Tons	22,168.8	26,180.4	23,811.9	-9.0	7.4
Containers	TEUS	7,902.0	7,251.0	8,310.0	14.6	5.2

AIR TRANSPORT ZANZIBAR



2.1 Aircraft Movements

Total of 9,425 aircraft movements was recorded in August 2026, increased by 12.0 percent compared with 8,413 movements recorded in the corresponding month of the previous year and increased by 15.4 percent compared with 8,164 movements recorded in July 2026. Arriving aircrafts made 4,713 movements which increased by 12.0 percent compared with 4,208 movements recorded in the corresponding month of the previous year and increased by 15.3 percent compared with 4,086 movement recorded in the preceding month. Departing aircrafts made 4,712 movements, which increased by 12.1 percent compared with corresponding month of the previous year and increased by 15.5 percent compared with preceding month.

International aircrafts made a total of 1,750 movements, which increased by 12.5 percent compared with corresponding month of the previous year and also increased slightly by six percent (6.2%) compared with preceding month. Among those international movement, 893 movements were made by arriving international aircrafts and 857 movements were made by departing international aircrafts.

Domestic aircrafts made a total of 7,675 movements which increased by about twelve percent (11.9%) compared with corresponding month of the previous year and increased by 17.8 percent compared with preceding month. Among those domestic movements, 3,820 movements were made by arriving aircrafts and 3,855 movements were made by departing aircrafts.

Table 2.1: Aircraft Movements in Zanzibar Airports, August 2026, July 2026 and August 2025.

Description	Number			Percentage Change	
	August, 2025	July, 2026	August, 2026	August,2026- July,2026	August,2026- August,2025
International					
Arrivals	777	840	893	6.3	14.9
Departures	778	808	857	6.1	10.2
Total	1,555	1,648	1,750	6.2	12.5
Domestic					
Arrivals	3,431	3,246	3,820	17.7	11.3
Departures	3,427	3,270	3,855	17.9	12.5
Total	6,858	6,516	7,675	17.8	11.9
Total Movements					
Arrivals	4,208	4,086	4,713	15.3	12.0
Departures	4,205	4,078	4,712	15.5	12.1
Total	8,413	8,164	9,425	15.4	12.0

2.2 Aircraft Passengers

Total of 332,067 passengers were handled at the Zanzibar Airport in August 2026, which is an increase of eight percent (8.4%) and by 21.1 percent compared with the corresponding month of the previous year and preceding month respectively. Among the passengers handled at airports, a total of 160,822 passengers were disembarked and 171,245 were embarked.

Disembarked passengers increased by about nine percent (8.5%) compared with corresponding month of the previous year and increased by 14.7 percent compared with preceding month which means that more people were arriving in Zanzibar than the same time in last year. The number of embarked passengers increased by less than ten percent (8.4%) compared with corresponding month of the previous year and increased by 27.9 percent compared with preceding month.

Total of 184,778 passengers from international flight were handled at airport, increased by 12.4 percent compared with corresponding month of the previous year and increased by 21.5 percent compared with preceding month. Among those passengers from international flight, 78,338 were disembarked passengers and 106,440 were embarked.

Total of 147,289 passengers from domestic flight were handled at airports, which increased by less than five percent (3.9%) compared with corresponding month of the previous year and increased by 20.7 percent compared with the preceding month. Among those passengers from domestic flight, 82,484 were disembarked and 64,805 were embarked.

Table 2.2: Number of Passengers Handled at Zanzibar Airports, August 2026, July 2026 and August 2025.

Description	Number			Percentage Change	
	August, 2025	July, 2026	August, 2026	August,2026-July,2026	August,2026-August,2025
International flight					
Disembarked	69,914	70,133	78,338	11.7	12.0
Embarked	94,544	81,977	106,440	29.8	12.6
Total	164,458	152,110	184,778	21.5	12.4
Transit	7,058	14,337	11,840	-17.4	67.8
Domestic flight					
Disembarked	78,344	70,120	82,484	17.6	5.3
Embarked	63,428	51,906	64,805	24.9	2.2
Total	141,772	122,026	147,289	20.7	3.9
Transit	17,223	15,319	15,531	1.4	-9.8

Description	Number			Percentage Change	
	August, 2025	July, 2026	August, 2026	August,2026- July,2026	August,2026- August,2025
Total Passengers					
Disembarked	148,258	140,253	160,822	14.7	8.5
Embarked	157,972	133,883	171,245	27.9	8.4
Total	306,230	274,136	332,067	21.1	8.4
Transit	24,281	29,656	27,371	-7.7	12.7

2.3 Amount of Cargo in the Aircraft

The volume of Cargo handled at Zanzibar airports reached 424.8 tons in August 2026, which decreased by 22.7 percent compared with 549.7 tons recorded in corresponding month of the previous year and decreased by 28.1 percent compared with 590.5 tons recorded in the preceding month. Among the cargo handled, a total of 39.7 tons was loaded for exportation and 385.1tons was unloaded as importation from Tanzania Mainland and rest of the world.

International aicrafts transported a total of 422.6 tons, a decrease of 22.9 percent compared with 547.8 tons recorded in the corresponding month of the previous year and a decrease of 26.0 percent compared with 571.0 tons recorded in the preceding month.

Domestic aicrafts transported a total of 2.2 tons, an increase of 22.1 percent compared with 1.8 tons recorded in the corresponding month of the previous year and decreased by 88.6 percent compared with the preceding month. A total of less than one tons (0.1) was loaded for exports and 2.2 tons were unloaded as an import.

Table 2.3: Cargo (Tons) Handled in Zanzibar Airport, August 2026, July 2026 and August 2025.

Description	Number			Percentage Change	
	August, 2025	July, 2026	August, 2026	August,2026- July,2026	August,2026- August,2025
International					
Loaded	11.6	17.1	39.7	131.6	241.9
Unloaded	536.2	553.9	382.9	-30.9	-28.6
Total	547.8	571.0	422.6	-26.0	-22.9
Domestic					
Loaded	0.7	0.6	0.1	-91.0	-92.6
Unloaded	1.1	19.0	2.2	-88.5	93.1
Total	1.8	19.6	2.2	-88.6	22.1
Total Cargo					
Loaded	12.3	17.7	39.7	124.4	222.9
Unloaded	537.4	572.8	385.1	-32.8	-28.3
Total	549.7	590.5	424.8	-28.1	-22.7

Glossary

Office of the Chief Government Statistician (OCGS), under the mandate bestowed to it, collects and compiles data from various institutions, including Ministries and departments. Data sources for transport statistics encompass Zanzibar Port Corporation (ZPC), Zanzibar Maritime Authority, Zanzibar Airports Authority (ZAA) and Zanzibar Road Transport and Safety Authority.

The transport statistical report presents statistics and information on the number of movements and trips (enter/exit), as well as traffic handling of passengers and cargo, both on airports and seaports.

OCGS believes that Monthly estimates of transport statistics will find great use to the Government as well as the Private sector as inputs in assessing volume and directions of transportation, planning and transport policy reviews. The statistics will also serve as a motivation towards developing the transport management system in Zanzibar.

Concepts and Definitions

GRT - Growth Registered Tonne: Vessel Weight

TEUS - Twenty equivalent units

For More Clarifications Please Contact:

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