



OFFICE OF THE CHIEF GOVERNMENT STATISTICIAN



MINISTRY OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORT

MONTHLY TRANSPORT STATISTICAL RELEASE



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SEA TRANSPORT IN ZANZIBAR



1.1 Vessels Movements

Total trips of vessels (Enter and Exit) in February 2026 reached 1,561 which decreased by seven (7.0) percent compared with the corresponding month of the previous year 2025 and decreased by less than one percent (0.8) compared with the previous month of January, 2026. The decline was mainly driven by local vessel, which recorded decrease of 27.2 percent compared with February 2025 and decrease of 12.5 percent compared with January 2026.

The total of 54 percent calls/trips were made by foreign vessels, 572 calls by local vessel and 935 calls by dhow. Foreign vessel trips increased by more than one hundred percent (145.5) compared with the corresponding month of the previous year 2025 and increased by 10.2 percent compared with the previous month in January 2026. Their registered tonnage (GRT) increased tremendously compared with the corresponding month of the previous year and by 20.1 percent compared with the previous month in January 2026.

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

Description		Unit	Number			Percentage Change	
			Feb, 2025	Jan, 2026	Feb, 2026	Feb,2026- Jan,2025	Feb,2026- Feb,2025
Foreign Vessel	Calls	Number	22	49	54	10.2	145.5
	GRT	Tons	8,400	317,934	381,698	20.1	4444.0
Local Vessel Dhow	Calls	Number	786	654	572	-12.5	-27.2
	Calls	Number	870	871	935	7.3	7.5
Total Trips	Total CALLS	Number	1,678	1,574	1,561	-0.8	-7.0
	Total GRT	Tons	8,400	317,934	381,698	20.1	4444.0

N.B

CALLS: Number of Vessels

GRT (Growth Registered Tonne): Vessel Weight

1.2 Passengers

A total of 266,616 passengers were handled at the Zanzibar seaport in February 2026, which increased by 19.8 percent compared with the corresponding month of the previous year and decreased by 28.3 percent compared with the previous month of January 2026. Among the passengers handled, a total of 125,376 passengers were inbound and 141,240 were outbound.

Inbound passengers increased by 39.3 percent compared with the corresponding month of the previous year and decreased by 32.4 percent compared with previous months which means

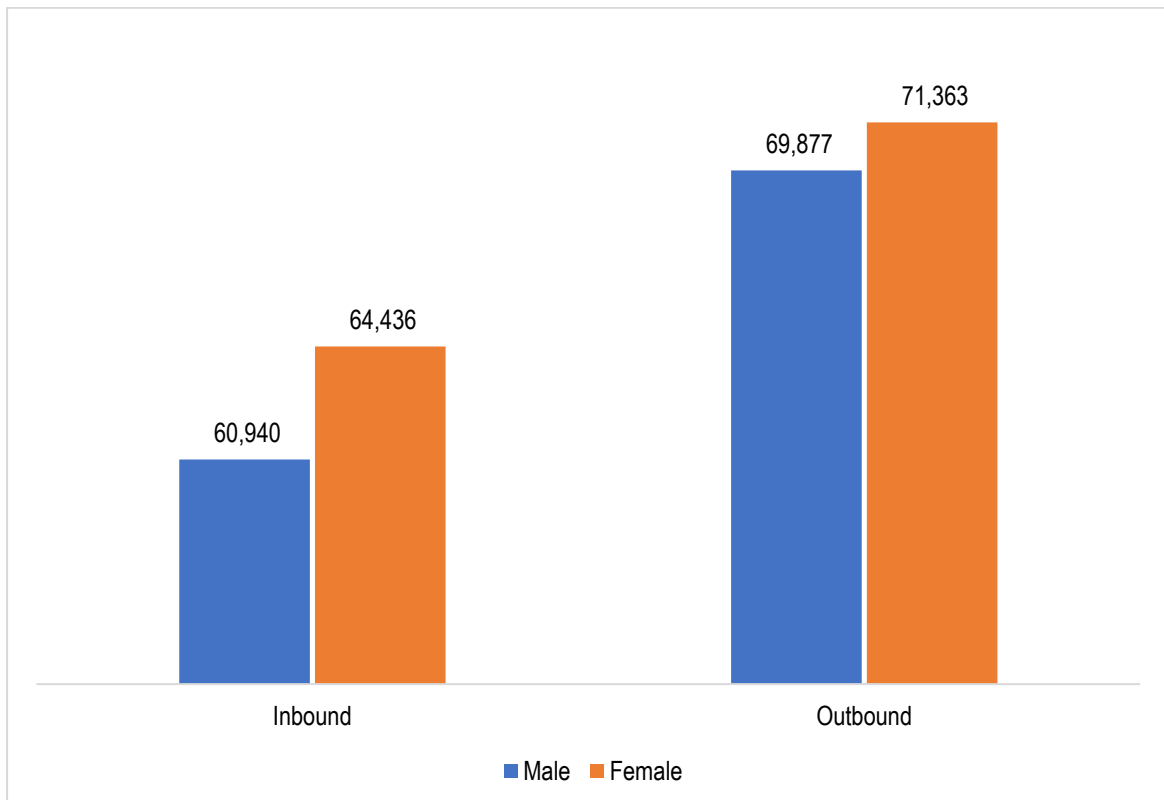
than more people were arriving in Zanzibar than the same time last year and few people arrived compared with previous month.

The number of outbound passengers increased by almost seven percent compared with the corresponding month of the previous year and decreased by 24.2 percent compared with the previous month.

Table 1.2: Number of Passengers Handled at Zanzibar Seaports, February 2026, January 2026 and February 2025.

Passenger	Number			Percentage Change	
	Feb-25	Jan, 2026	Feb, 2026	Feb,2026-Jan,2026	Feb,2026-Feb,2025
Inbound	90,003	185,499	125,376	-32.4	39.3
Outbound	132,589	186,443	141,240	-24.2	6.5
Total	222,592	371,942	266,616	-28.3	19.8

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



1.3 Cargo

A total of 237,131.7 tons of general and Dhow Cargo were handled at the seaport in February 2026. This is an increase of 19.3 percent compared with the corresponding month in 2025 and 12.3 percent compared with the previous month in January 2026. A total of 6,364.0 TEUs were handled in February 2026, which increased by 26.4 percent and decreased by 21.6 percent compared with the corresponding month of the previous year and the preceding month respectively.

Out of the total tons of general and dhows cargo, 228,187.0 tons were imported to Zanzibar and 8,944.7 tons were exported from Zanzibar in February 2026. Imported general and dhows cargo increased by 30.4 percent and 11.6 percent compared with the corresponding month of the previous year and preceding month respectively while exported general and dhows cargo decreased by 62.4 percent and increased by 32.2 percent compared with the corresponding month of the previous year and preceding month respectively.

The total number of imported TEUs were 3,164.0 which increased by one percent compared with the corresponding month in 2025 and decreased by 17.8 percent compared with previous month in January 2026 while 3,200.0 TEUs were exported in the same period, which increased by 68.2 percent compared with the corresponding month of the previous year and decreased by 25.0 percent compared with preceding month.

Table 1.3: Import and Export of Cargo at Zanzibar Seaports, February 2026, January 2026 and February 2025.

Description	Unit	Number			Percentage Change	
		Feb, 2025	Jan, 2026	Feb, 2026	Feb,2026- Jan,2025	Feb,2026- Feb,2025
Import						
General Cargo	Tons	57,585.6	85,966.4	138,976.8	61.7	141.3
Dhow	Tons	117,361.5	118,493.4	89,210.3	-24.7	-24.0
Total	Tons	174,947.1	204,459.8	228,187.0	11.6	30.4
Fuel	Tons	12,751.1	19,454.9	21,591.6	11.0	69.3
Container	TEUS	3,133.0	3,849.0	3,164.0	-17.8	1.0
Export						
General Cargo	Tons	22,060.9	5,574.0	7,233.7	29.8	-67.2
Dhow	Tons	1,710.3	1,193.0	1,711.0	43.4	0.0
Total	Tons	23,771.2	6,767.0	8,944.7	32.2	-62.4
Container	TEUS	1,903.0	4,268.0	3,200.0	-25.0	68.2
Total cargo						
General and Dhow Cargo	Tons	198,718.2	211,226.8	237,131.7	12.3	19.3
Fuel	Tons	12,751.1	19,454.9	21,591.6	11.0	69.3
Containers	TEUS	5,036.0	8,117.0	6,364.0	-21.6	26.4

AIR TRANSPORT ZANZIBAR



2.1 Aircraft Movements

Total of 6,652 aircraft movements was recorded in February 2026, rose by 11.4 percent compared with 5,969 movements recorded in the corresponding month of the previous year and decreased by 6.9 percent compared with 7,152 movements recorded in the preceding month. Arriving aircrafts made 3,331 movements which is an increase of almost 12 percent compared with 2,987 movements recorded in the corresponding month of the previous year and decreased by 6.8 percent compared with 3,574 movement recorded in the preceding month. Departing aircrafts made 3,321 movements, which increased by 11.4 percent compared with corresponding month of the previous year and decreased by 7.2 percent compared with preceding month. This suggesting that, the seasonal aircraft increased compared with February, 2025.

International aircrafts made a total of 1,347 movements, which increased by 11.9 percent compared with corresponding month of the previous year and also decreased by 13.5 percent compared with preceding month. Among those international movement, 701 movements were made by arriving international aircrafts and 646 movements were made by departing international aircrafts.

Domestic aircrafts made a total of 5,305 movements which increased by 11.3 percent compared with corresponding month of the previous year and a decrease by 5.2 percent compared with preceding month. Among those domestic movements, 2,630 movements were made by arriving aircrafts and 2,675 movements were made by departing aircrafts

Table 2.1: Aircraft Movements in Zanzibar Airports, February 2026, January 2026 and February 2025.

Description	Number			Percentage Change	
	Feb-25	Jan, 2026	Feb, 2026	Feb,2026- Jan,2026	Feb,2026- Feb,2025
International					
Arrivals	609	803	701	-12.70	15.11
Departures	594	754	646	-14.32	8.75
Total	1,203	1,557	1,347	-13.49	11.97
Domestic					
Arrivals	2,378	2,771	2,630	-5.09	10.60
Departures	2,388	2,824	2,675	-5.28	12.02
Total	4,766	5,595	5,305	-5.18	11.31
Total Movements					
Arrivals	2,987	3,574	3,331	-6.80	11.52
Departures	2,982	3,578	3,321	-7.18	11.37
Total	5,969	7,152	6,652	-6.99	11.44

2.2 Aircraft Passengers

Total of 247,618 passengers were handled at the Zanzibar Airport in February 2026, which is an increase of 8.1 percent compared with the corresponding month of the previous year and decreased by almost seven (6.9) percent compared with the preceding month. Among the passengers handled at airports, a total of 121,739 passengers were disembarked and 125,879 were embarked.

Disembarked passengers increased by about seven percent compared with corresponding month of the previous year and slightly decreased by almost five percent compared with preceding month which means more people were arriving in Zanzibar than the same time in last year. The number of embarked passengers increased by 9.5 percent compared with corresponding month of the previous year and decreased by 8.9 percent compared with preceding month. This suggest that January 2026 was much busier than February 2026.

Total of 153,262 passengers from international flight were handled at airport, increased by almost six (5.8) percent compared with corresponding month of the previous year and decreased by (6.1) percent compared with preceding month. Among those passengers from international flight, 82,781 were embarked and 70,481 were disembarked passengers.

Total of 94,356 passengers from domestic flight were handled at airports, which increased by 12.1 percent compared with corresponding month of the previous year and decreased by eight percent compared with the preceding month. Among those passengers from domestic flight, 51,258 were disembarked and 43,098 were embarked.

Table 2.2: Number of Passengers Handled at Zanzibar Airports, February 2026, January 2026 and February 2025.

Description	Number			Percentage Change	
	Feb-25	Jan, 2026	Feb, 2026	Feb,2026- Jan,2026	Feb,2026- Feb,2025
International flight					
Disembarked	67,787	73,942	70,481	-4.68	3.97
Embarked	77,075	89,217	82,781	-7.21	7.40
Total	144,862	163,159	153,262	-6.07	5.80
Transit	4,280	9,628	6,758	-29.81	57.90
Domestic flight					
Disembarked	46,353	53,843	51,258	-4.80	10.58
Embarked	37,851	48,953	43,098	-11.96	13.86
Total	84,204	102,796	94,356	-8.21	12.06
Transit	12,663	17,155	14,113	-17.73	11.45

Description	Number			Percentage Change	
	Feb-25	Jan, 2026	Feb, 2026	Feb,2026- Jan,2026	Feb,2026- Feb,2025
Total Passengers					
Disembarked	114,140	127,785	121,739	-4.73	6.66
Embarked	114,926	138,170	125,879	-8.90	9.53
Total	229,066	265,955	247,618	-6.89	8.10
Transit	16,943	26,783	20,871	-22.07	23.18

2.3 Amount of Cargo in the Aircraft

The volume of Cargo handled at Zanzibar airports reached 635.9 tons in February 2026, an increase of more than one hundred (173.9) percent compared with 232.2 tons recorded in corresponding month of the previous year and increased by 47.6 percent compared with 430.76 tons recorded in preceding month. Among the cargo handled, a total of 20.3 tons was loaded for exportation and 615.5 tons was unloaded as importation from Tanzania Mainland and rest of the world.

International aircrafts transported a total of 634.5 tons, an increase of more than one hundred percent compared with 231.8 tons recorded in the corresponding month of the previous year and increased by 47.7 percent compared with 429.56 tons recorded in the preceding month. A total of 20.3 tons was loaded for exports and 614.1 tons were unloaded as an import.

Domestic aircrafts transported a total of 1.4 tons which were unloaded in Zanzibar . There was no cargo that loaded for February 2026.

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

Description	Number			Percentage Change	
	Feb-25	Jan, 2026	Feb, 2026	Feb,2026- Jan,2026	Feb,2026- Feb,2025
International					
Loaded	5.7	10.3	20.3	97.2	256.6
Unloaded	226.1	419.2	614.1	46.5	171.6
Total	231.8	429.6	634.5	47.7	173.7
Domestic					
Loaded	0.0	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Unloaded	0.3	0.0	1.4	0.0	305.8
Total	0.3	1.2	1.4	17.5	305.8
Total Cargo					
Loaded	5.7	11.5	20.3	76.7	256.6
Unloaded	226.5	419.2	615.5	46.8	171.8
Total	232.2	430.8	635.9	47.6	173.9

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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