



MINISTRY OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORT



OFFICE OF THE CHIEF GOVERNMENT STATISTICIAN

MONTHLY TRANSPORT STATISTICAL



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SEA TRANSPORT IN ZANZIBAR



1.1 Vessels Movements

Total trips of vessels (Enter and Exit) in March 2026 reached 1,689 which decreased by 13.3 percent compared with the corresponding month of the previous year 2025 and increased by about eight percent compared with the previous month of February, 2026. The decline was mainly driven by local vessel and Dhow, which recorded a decrease of 28.4 percent and about five percent compared with March 2025 respectively.

The total of 69 calls/trips were made by foreign vessels, 613 calls by local vessel and 1,007 calls by dhow. Foreign vessel trips increased by more than one hundred percent (155.6) compared with the corresponding month of the previous year 2025 and increased by 27.8 percent compared with the previous month in February 2026. Their registered tonnage (GRT) increased tremendously compared with the corresponding month of the previous year and by 11.3 percent compared with previous month.

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

Description	Unit		Number			Percentage Change	
			March, 2025	Feb, 2026	March,2026	March,2026- Feb,2026	March,2026- March,2025
Foreign Vessel	Calls	Number	27	54	69	27.8	155.6
	GRT	Tons	21,600	381,698	425,012	11.3	1867.6
Local Vessel	Calls	Number	856	572	613	7.2	-28.4
Dhow	Calls	Number	1065	935	1,007	7.7	-5.4
Total Trips	Total CALLS	Number	1948	1,561	1,689	8.2	-13.3
	Total GRT	Tons	21,600	381,698	425,012	11.3	1,867.60

N.B

CALLS: Number of Vessels

GRT (Growth Registered Tonne): Vessel Weight

1.2 Passengers

A total of 265,055 passengers were handled at the Zanzibar seaport in March 2026, which increased by almost nine (8.9%) percent compared with the corresponding month of the previous year and decreased by less than one percent compared with the previous month. Among the passengers handled, a total of 124,090 passengers were inbound and 140,965 were outbound.

Inbound passengers decreased by about five percent (5.5%) compared with the corresponding month of the previous year and decreased by less than one percent compared with previous

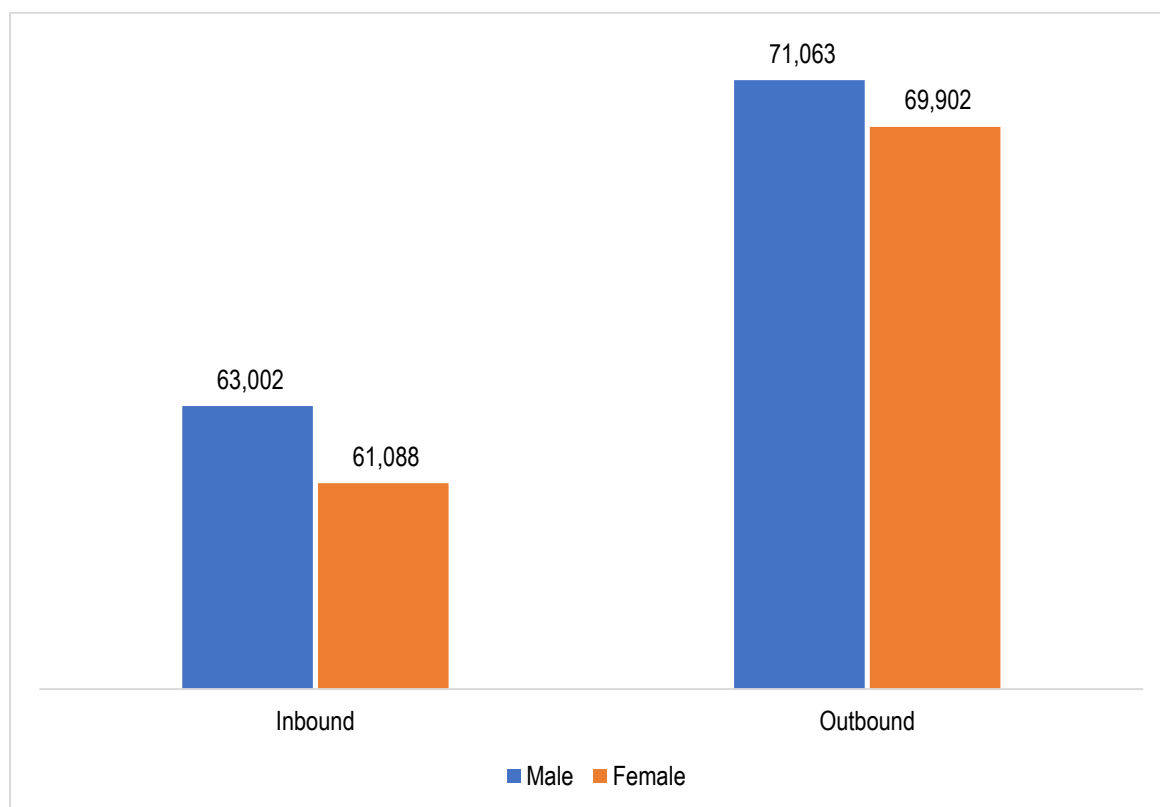
months, which means few people were arriving in Zanzibar than the same time last year and previous month.

The number of outbound passengers increased by 25.6 percent compared with the corresponding month of the previous year and show slightly decrease by less than one (0.4) percent compared with the previous month.

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

Passenger	Number			Percentage Change	
	March, 2025	Feb, 2026	March, 2026	March,2026- Feb,2026	March,2026- March,2025
Inbound	131,251	125,066	124,090	-0.8	-5.5
Outbound	112,205	141,550	140,965	-0.4	25.6
Total	243,456	266,616	265,055	-0.6	8.9

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



1.3 Cargo

A total of 203,840.4 tons of general and Dhow Cargo were handled at the seaport in March 2026. This is a decrease of 11.1 percent compared with the corresponding month in 2025 and 14.0 percent compared with the previous month. A total of 9,480.0 TEUs were handled in March 2026, which increased by 13.2 percent and 49.0 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, 190,825.4 tons were imported to Zanzibar and 13,015 tons were exported from Zanzibar in March 2026. Imported general and dhows cargo decreased by about three percent and 16.4 percent compared with the corresponding month of the previous year and preceding month respectively while exported general and dhows cargo decreased by 59.0 percent and increased by 45.5 percent compared with the corresponding month of the previous year and preceding month respectively.

The total number of imported TEUs were 4,593.0 which decreased by almost ten percent (9.9%) compared with the corresponding month in 2025 and increased by 45.2 percent compared with previous month while 4,887.0 TEUs were exported in the same period, which increased by 49.1 percent compared with the corresponding month of the previous year and 52.7 percent compared with preceding month.

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

Description	Unit	Number			Percentage Change	
		March, 2025	Feb, 2026	March, 2026	March,2026-Feb,2026	March,2026-March,2025
Import						
General Cargo	Tons	58,358.5	138,976.8	107,642.4	-22.5	84.5
Dhow	Tons	139,077.8	89,210.3	83,183.0	-6.8	-40.2
Total	Tons	197,436.2	228,187.0	190,825.4	-16.4	-3.3
Fuel	Tons	20,075.2	21,591.6	23,790.6	10.2	18.5
Container	TEUS	5,096.0	3,164.0	4,593.0	45.2	-9.9
Export						
General Cargo	Tons	28,609.0	7,233.7	11,372.0	57.2	-60.3
Dhow	Tons	3,121.9	1,711.0	1,643.0	-4.0	-47.4
Total	Tons	31,730.9	8,944.7	13,015.0	45.5	-59.0
Container	TEUS	3,278.0	3,200.0	4,887.0	52.7	49.1
Total cargo						
General and Dhow Cargo	Tons	229,167.1	237,131.7	203,840.4	-14.0	-11.1
Fuel	Tons	20,075.2	21,591.6	23,790.6	10.2	18.5
Containers	TEUS	8,374.0	6,364.0	9,480.0	49.0	13.2

AIR TRANSPORT ZANZIBAR



2.1 Aircraft Movements

Total of 5,749 aircraft movements was recorded in March 2026, rose by 15.2 percent compared with 4,991 movements recorded in the corresponding month of the previous year and decreased by 13.6 percent compared with 6,652 movements recorded in February, 2026. Arriving aircrafts made 2,874 movements which increased by 15.1 percent compared with 2,497 movements recorded in the corresponding month of the previous year and decreased by 13.7 percent compared with 3,331 movement recorded in the preceding month. Departing aircrafts made 2,875 movements, which increased by 15.3 percent compared with corresponding month of the previous year and decreased by 13.4 percent compared with preceding month. This suggesting that, the seasonal aircraft increased compared with March, 2025.

International aircrafts made a total of 1,211 movements, which increased by 10.8 percent compared with corresponding month of the previous year and also decreased by 10.1 percent compared with preceding month. Among those international movement, 630 movements were made by arriving international aircrafts and 581 movements were made by departing international aircrafts.

Domestic aircrafts made a total of 4,538 movements which increased by 16.4 percent compared with corresponding month of the previous year and a decrease by 14.5 percent compared with preceding month. Among those domestic movements, 2,244 movements were made by arriving aircrafts and 2,294 movements were made by departing aircrafts

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

Description	Number			Percentage Change	
	March, 2025	Feb, 2026	March, 2026	March,2026- Feb,2026	March,2026- March,2025
International					
Arrivals	565	701	630	-10.1	11.5
Departures	528	646	581	-10.1	10.0
Total	1,093	1,347	1,211	-10.1	10.8
Domestic					
Arrivals	1,932	2,630	2,244	-14.7	16.1
Departures	1,966	2,675	2,294	-14.2	16.7
Total	3,898	5,305	4,538	-14.5	16.4
Total Movements					
Arrivals	2,497	3,331	2,874	-13.7	15.1
Departures	2,494	3,321	2,875	-13.4	15.3
Total	4,991	6,652	5,749	-13.6	15.2

2.2 Aircraft Passengers

Total of 169,515 passengers were handled at the Zanzibar Airport in March 2026, which is an increase of 3.2 percent compared with the corresponding month of the previous year and

decreased by 31.5 percent compared with the preceding month. Among the passengers handled at airports, a total of 77,491 passengers were disembarked and 92,024 were embarked.

Disembarked passengers increased by about almost six (5.5) percent compared with corresponding month of the previous year and decreased by 36.3 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 1.4 percent compared with corresponding month of the previous year and decreased by 26.9 percent compared with preceding month. This suggest that February 2026 was much busier than March 2026.

Total of 103,365 passengers from international flight were handled at airport, decreased by almost three (2.6) percent compared with corresponding month of the previous year and 32.6 percent compared with preceding month. Among those passengers from international flight, 59,415 were embarked and 43,950 were disembarked passengers.

Total of 66,150 passengers from domestic flight were handled at airports, which increased by 14 percent compared with corresponding month of the previous year and decreased by 29.9 percent compared with the preceding month. Among those passengers from domestic flight, 33,541 were disembarked and 32,609 were embarked.

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

Description	Number			Percentage Change	
	March, 2025	Feb, 2026	March, 2026	March,2026- Feb,2026	March,2026- March,2025
International flight					
Disembarked	42,795	70,481	43,950	-37.6	2.7
Embarked	63,379	82,781	59,415	-28.2	-6.3
Total	106,174	153,262	103,365	-32.6	-2.6
Transit	3,593	6,758	7,545	11.6	110.0
Domestic flight					
Disembarked	30,638	51,258	33,541	-34.6	9.5
Embarked	27,396	43,098	32,609	-24.3	19.0
Total	58,034	94,356	66,150	-29.9	14.0
Transit	14,292	14,113	17,198	21.9	20.3
Total Passengers					
Disembarked	73,433	121,739	77,491	-36.3	5.5
Embarked	90,775	125,879	92,024	-26.9	1.4
Total	164,208	247,618	169,515	-31.5	3.2
Transit	17,885	20,871	24,743	18.6	38.3

2.3 Amount of Cargo in the Aircraft

The volume of Cargo handled at Zanzibar airports reached 577.8 tons in March 2026, an increase of 25.6 percent compared with 460.0 tons recorded in corresponding month of the previous year and decreased by 9.1 percent compared with 635.9 tons recorded in preceding month. Among the cargo handled, a total of 23.9 tons was loaded for exportation and 553.9 tons was unloaded as importation from Tanzania Mainland and rest of the world.

International aircrafts transported a total of 572.3 tons, an increase of 24.5 percent compared with 459.6 tons recorded in the corresponding month of the previous year and decreased by 9.8 percent compared with 634.5 tons recorded in the preceding month. A total of 23.9 tons was loaded for exports and 548.5 tons were unloaded as an import.

Domestic aircrafts transported a total of 5.4 tons which were unloaded in Zanzibar . There was no cargo that loaded for March 2026.

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

Description	Number			Percentage Change	
	March, 2025	Feb, 2026	March, 2026	March,2026- Feb,2026	March,2026- March,2025
International					
Loaded	17.9	20.3	23.9	17.3	33.4
Unloaded	441.7	614.1	548.5	-10.7	24.2
Total	459.6	634.5	572.3	-9.8	24.5
Domestic					
Loaded	0.4	0.0	0.0	0	-100.0
Unloaded	0.0	1.4	5.4	286.6	0
Total	0.4	1.4	5.4	286.6	1299.5
Total Cargo					
Loaded	18.3	20.3	23.9	17.3	30.5
Unloaded	441.7	615.5	553.9	-10.0	25.4
Total	460.0	635.9	577.8	-9.1	25.6

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:

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF GOVERNMENT STATISTICIAN

Attention: Head Economic Statistics Section

E-mail: zanstat@ocgs.go.tz

Tovuti: www.ocgs.go.tz
