



stats sa

Department:
Statistics South Africa
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X44, Pretoria, 0001, South Africa, ISibalo House, Koch Street, Salvokop, Pretoria, 0002
www.statssa.gov.za, info@statssa.gov.za, Tel +27 12 310 8911

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Muthetho Nkwinika
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Preface

This monthly statistical release provides information on South African residents and foreign travellers who entered or left South Africa in October 2024. Specific focus is on foreign tourists who entered the country in October 2024. Tourists are classified by region and country of residence. Details of their mode of travel; purpose of visit; age and sex distribution are also provided.

The March, June, September and December releases include summaries of the number of tourists for the current quarter and comparisons with previous periods.

NB: Users are advised that some of the ports of entry/exit are missing data (such as Maseru Bridge) this could be due to data capturing system changes being introduced by the Departments of Home Affairs. Stats SA is currently in constant communication with the department and it may be necessary to revise the data once the matter is concluded in the future.

1. Highlights of the results

In October 2024, 2 365 952 travellers (arrivals, departures and transits) entered and exited South Africa. They were made up of 642 974 (27,2%) South African residents and 1 722 978 (72,8%) foreign travellers. Foreign arrivals were made up of 20 888 (2,3%) non-visitors and 891 341 (97,7%) visitors. Visitors consisted of 186 084 (20,9%) same-day visitors and 705 257 (79,1%) overnight visitors (tourists).

Tourists

Overseas tourists constituted 26,9% (189 575) of all tourists. United Kingdom (UK) (29 919), United States of America (USA) (28 075) and Germany (27 120) contributed 44,9% to overseas tourists. Tourists from Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries constituted 70,8% (499 446) of all tourists. Zimbabwe (158 753), Mozambique (129 036) and Eswatini (70 213) contributed 71,7% to SADC tourists. 'Other' African countries (non-SADC) tourists were 2,1% (15 132) of all tourists. Kenya (4 358), Ghana (3 555) and Nigeria (1 806) contributed 64,2% to 'other' African tourists. The country of residence of 1 104 (0,2%) tourists was classified as unspecified.

Purpose of visit

'Holiday'¹ continues to be the main purpose of visit. About 96,9% of all the tourists were in South Africa for holiday purposes.



Risenga Maluleke
Statistician-General

¹ The holiday category includes tourists who came for vacation, visiting friends and relatives, shopping and other personal reasons such as attending weddings.

2. Key findings

2.1 Travellers

2.1.1 Number of travellers

The routine data collected by the Department of Home Affairs’ (DHA) immigration officers at the ports of entry into and out of South Africa shows that a total of 2 365 952 travellers (arrivals, departures and transits) passed through South African ports in October 2024. As presented in Table 1 below, these travellers were made up of 642 974 South African residents and 1 722 978 foreign travellers. A further breakdown of the figures for South African residents indicates that there were 336 431 arrivals, 306 103 departures and 440 travellers in transit. The corresponding volume for foreign arrivals, departures and travellers in transit was 912 229, 769 916 and 40 833 respectively.

A comparison between the movements in September 2024 and October 2024 indicates that the volume of arrivals and departures decreased for South African residents but increased for foreign travellers. The volume of transits decreased for both groups of travellers. For South African residents, the volume of arrivals decreased by 1,5% (from 341 582 in September 2024 to 336 431 in October 2024), departures decreased by 14,2% (from 356 924 in September 2024 to 306 103 in October 2024) and transits decreased by 25,9% (from 594 in September 2024 to 440 in October 2024). For foreign travellers, arrivals increased by 6,2% (from 859 361 in September 2024 to 912 229 in October 2024), departures increased by 5,5% (from 729 710 in September 2024 to 769 916 in October 2024) while transits decreased by 5,7% (from 43 314 in September 2024 to 40 833 in October 2024).

A comparison between the movements in October 2023 and October 2024 indicates that the volume of arrivals and departures decreased for both South African residents and foreign travellers. The volume of transits decreased for South African residents but increased for foreign travellers. For South African residents, the volume of arrivals decreased by 17,0% (from 405 388 in October 2023 to 336 431 in October 2024), departures decreased by 14,6% (from 358 439 in October 2023 to 306 103 in October 2024) and transits decreased by 6,2% (from 469 in October 2023 to 440 in October 2024). For foreign travellers, arrivals decreased by 8,8% (from 1 000 462 in October 2023 to 912 229 in October 2024), departures decreased by 9,1% (from 846 895 in October 2023 to 769 916 in October 2024) while transits increased by 11,1% (from 36 739 in October 2023 to 40 833 in October 2024).

Table 1 – Number of South African residents and foreign travellers by travel direction

Travel Direction	October 2023	September 2024	October 2024	% Change Sep 2024 – Oct 2024	% Change Oct 2023 – Oct 2024
Total	2 648 392	2 331 485	2 365 952	1,5%	-10,7%
South African residents	764 296	699 100	642 974	-8,0%	-15,9%
Arrivals	405 388	341 582	336 431	-1,5%	-17,0%
Departures	358 439	356 924	306 103	-14,2%	-14,6%
Transits	469	594	440	-25,9%	-6,2%
Foreign travellers	1 884 096	1 632 385	1 722 978	5,5%	-8,6%
Arrivals	1 000 462	859 361	912 229	6,2%	-8,8%
Departures	846 895	729 710	769 916	5,5%	-9,1%
Transits	36 739	43 314	40 833	-5,7%	11,1%

2.1.2 Mode of travel of travellers

Information presented in Table 2 below shows the number of South African residents and foreign travellers by travel direction and mode of travel. In October 2024, road was the most common mode of travel used by 1 479 087 (62,5%) of the 2 365 952 travellers. The total number of air travellers was 880 912 (37,2%). Compared to air and road, a smaller number of travellers, 5 953 (0,3%) used sea into and out of South Africa. Information on arrivals of South African residents shows that 170 665 (50,7%) came by air, 165 730 (49,3%) came by road and 36 (less than 0,1%) arrived by sea. For departures, 144 575 (47,2%) used air, 161 490 (52,8%) used road and 38 (less than 0,1%) left by sea. All travellers in transit, 440 (100,0%) used air.

In the case of foreign travellers, 257 406 (28,2%) arrived by air, 652 155 (71,5%) came by road and 2 668 (0,3%) arrived by sea. When departing South Africa, 266 993 (34,7%) foreign travellers left by air, 499 712 (64,9%) left by road and 3 211 (0,4%) left by sea. Of all travellers in transit, 40 833 (100,0%) used air.

Table 2 – Number of South African residents and foreign travellers by travel direction and mode of travel

Travel direction	Total	Air					Road	Sea
		Cape Town	King Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total		
Total	2 365 952	219 246	9 771	650 005	1 890	880 912	1 479 087	5 953
South African residents	642 974	58 016	6 303	250 043	1 318	315 680	327 220	74
Arrivals	336 431	31 025	3 604	135 384	652	170 665	165 730	36
Departures	306 103	26 988	2 699	114 222	666	144 575	161 490	38
Transit	440	3	-	437	-	440	-	-
Foreign travellers	1 722 978	161 230	3 468	399 962	572	565 232	1 151 867	5 879
Arrivals	912 229	76 162	1 471	179 425	348	257 406	652 155	2 668
Departures	769 916	84 367	1 997	180 405	224	266 993	499 712	3 211
Transit	40 833	701	-	40 132	-	40 833	-	-
Visitors	891 341	74 117	1 238	174 608	237	250 200	640 002	1 139
Same-day	186 084	1 254	4	17 458	39	18 755	167 327	2
Tourist	705 257	72 863	1 234	157 150	198	231 445	472 675	1 137

2.2 Visitors

Detailed information on the departure of travellers is not available in the movement control system. Data on the purpose of travel and the number of days South African residents intend to spend or spent abroad are not collected by the DHA. It is therefore not possible to categorise South African residents as tourists or non-tourists. However, some data are available on foreign arrivals for this categorisation.

As presented in Table 3 on page 4, in October 2024, 20 888 (2,3%) of foreign arrivals were classified as non-visitors, while 891 341 (97,7%) were classified as visitors. Visitors were categorised into three groups:

- i. Arrivals only – comprising visitors who entered the country in October 2024 but did not depart in October 2024 [350 603 (39,3%)];
- ii. Single trips – visitors who came to South Africa once in October 2024 and left in October 2024 [291 496 (32,7%)]; and
- iii. Multiple trips – visitors who came to and left South Africa more than once in October 2024 [249 242 (28,0%)].

Visitors were further grouped as same-day visitors and overnight visitors (tourists). In October 2024, there were 186 084 (20,9%) same-day visitors and 705 257 (79,1%) tourists. Between September 2024 and October 2024, the volume of same-day visitors increased by 8,4% (from 171 709 in September 2024 to 186 084 in October 2024) and that of tourists increased by 5,8% (from 666 718 in September 2024 to 705 257 in October 2024). Between October 2023 and October 2024, the volume of same-day visitors decreased by 22,0% (from 238 483 in October 2023 to 186 084 in October 2024) and that of tourists decreased by 3,5% (from 731 108 in October 2023 to 705 257 in October 2024).

Table 2 on page 3 further shows that of the 186 084 same-day visitors, a majority, 167 327 (89,9%) arrived in the country by road, 18 755 (10,1%) arrived by air and two (less than 0,1%) arrived by sea. Information on tourists shows that 472 675 (67,0%) came by road, 231 445 (32,8%) used air and 1 137 (0,2%) used sea.

Table 3 – Number of visitors by type of visitor

Travel Direction	October 2023	September 2024	October 2024	% Change Sep 2024 – Oct 2024	% Change Oct 2023 – Oct 2024
Foreign arrivals	1 000 462	859 361	912 229	6,2%	-8,8%
Non-visitors	30 871	20 934	20 888	-0,2%	-32,3%
Visitors	969 591	838 427	891 341	6,3%	-8,1%
Visitors	969 591	838 427	891 341	6,3%	-8,1%
Arrivals only	328 794	334 311	350 603	4,9%	6,6%
Single trips	317 711	270 258	291 496	7,9%	-8,3%
Multiple trips	323 086	233 858	249 242	6,6%	-22,9%
Visitors	969 591	838 427	891 341	6,3%	-8,1%
Same-day	238 483	171 709	186 084	8,4%	-22,0%
Overnight (Tourists)	731 108	666 718	705 257	5,8%	-3,5%

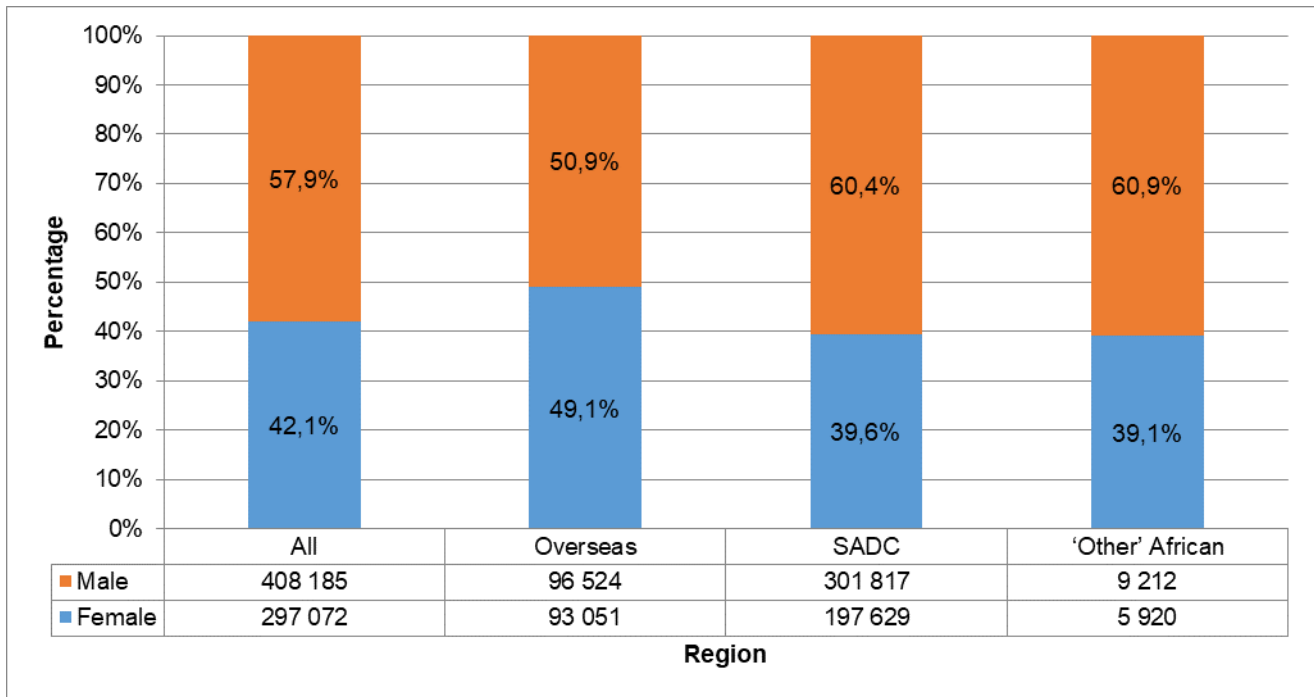
2.3 Tourists

2.3.1 Sex and age distribution of tourists

Sex

Figure 1 on page 5 shows that there were more male [408 185 (57,9%)] than female [297 072 (42,1%)] tourists. Male tourists constituted the majority of tourists for all three regions, SADC countries [301 817 (60,4%)], overseas countries [96 524 (50,9%)] and 'other' African countries [9 212 (60,9%)]. Similarly, the largest portion of female tourists was from SADC countries [197 629 (39,6%)], followed by overseas countries [93 051 (49,1%)] and 'other' African countries [5 920 (39,1%)].

Figure 1 – Percentage distribution of tourists by region of residence and sex, October 2024

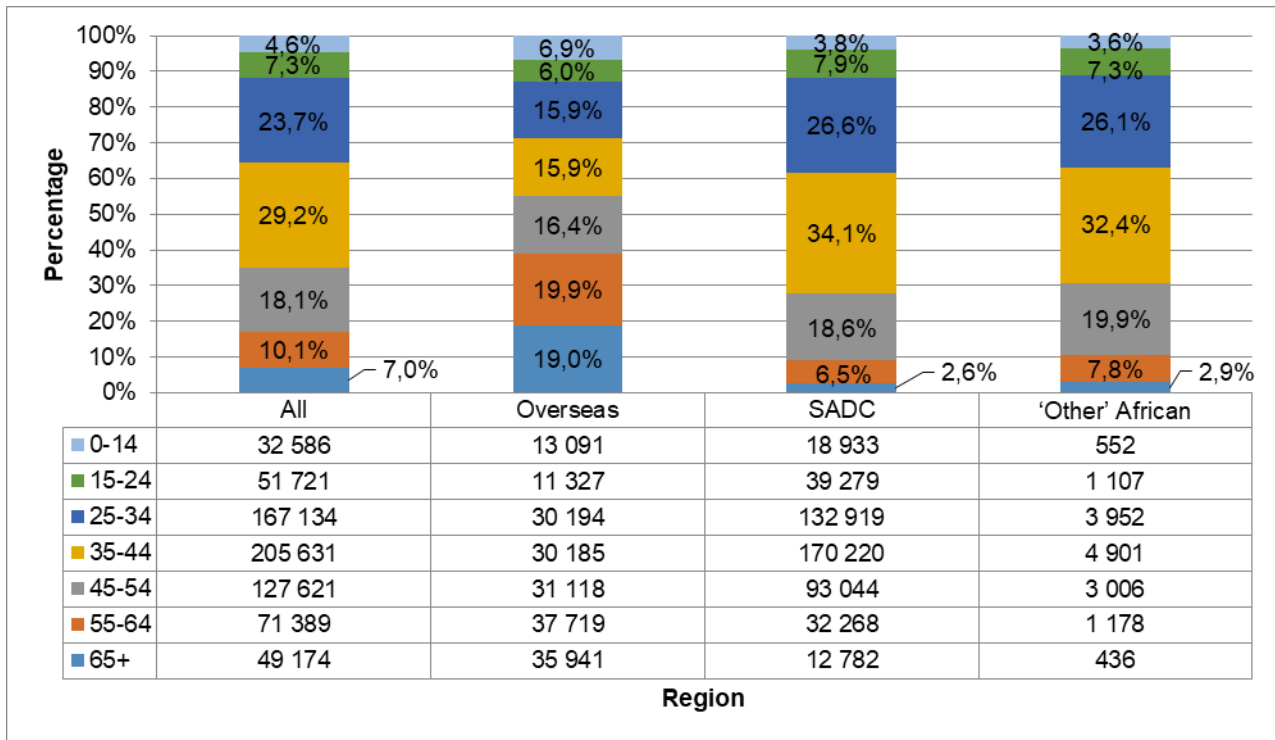


Age

The age distribution, as shown in Figure 2 on page 6, indicates that out of all tourists, [4,6% (32 586)] were aged younger than 15 years; [7,3% (51 721)] were aged between 15 and 24 years; [23,7% (167 134)] were aged between 25 and 34 years; [29,2% (205 631)] were aged between 35 and 44 years; [18,1% (127 621)] were aged between 45 and 54 years; [10,1% (71 389)] were aged between 55 and 64 years; [7,0% (49 174)] were aged 65 years and older.

Taking the region of residence into consideration, the results show that the highest proportion of tourists from SADC countries [34,1% (170 220)] and those from 'other' African countries [32,4% (4 901)] were aged between 35 and 44 years, whereas those from overseas countries [19,9% (37 719)] were aged between 55 and 64 years. The second highest proportion of tourists from SADC countries [26,6% (132 919)] and those from 'other' African countries [26,1% (3 952)] were aged between 25 and 34 years, whereas those from overseas countries [19,0% (35 941)] were aged 65 years and above. The proportion of tourists aged younger than 15 years was higher among tourists from overseas countries, 6,9% (13 091) compared to those from SADC countries, 3,8% (18 933) and those from 'other' African countries, 3,6% (552). The median ages of tourists from overseas, SADC and 'other' African countries were 48, 38 and 38 years, respectively.

Figure 2 – Percentage distribution of tourists by region of residence and age, October 2024

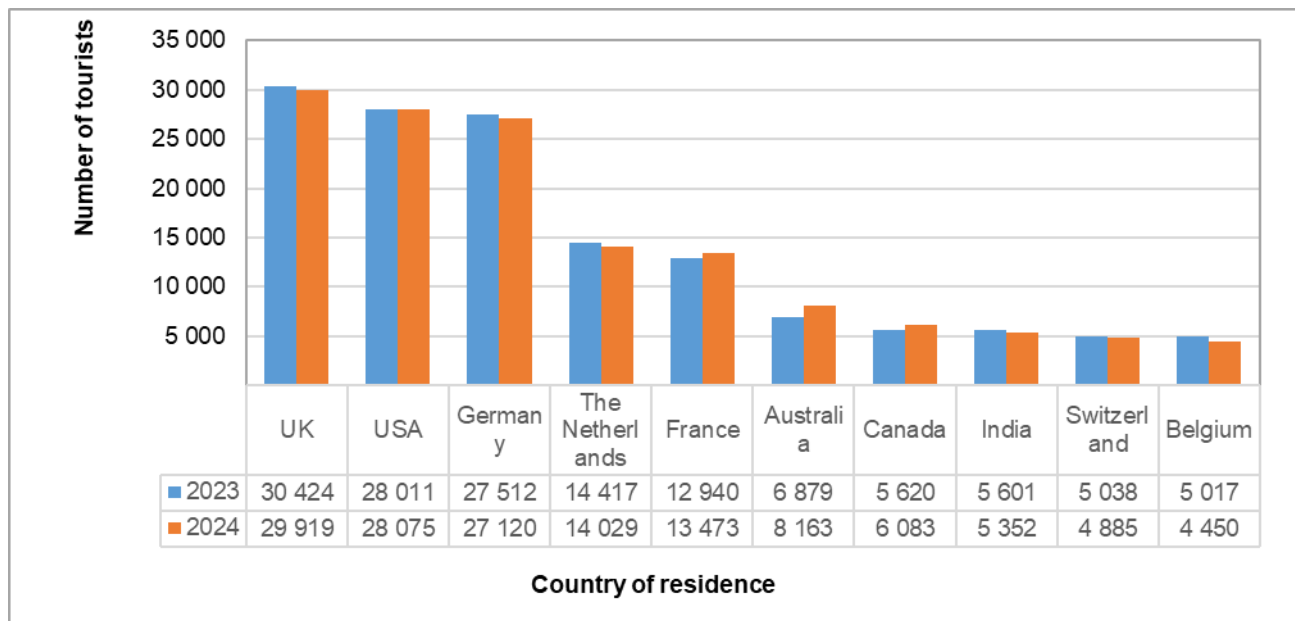


2.3.2 Regional and national distribution of tourists

Table 4 on page 9 shows the distribution of overseas tourists as follows: Europe, 120 385 (63,5%); North America, 34 158 (18,0%); Asia, 16 605 (8,8%); Australasia, 9 828 (5,2%); Central and South America, 6 404 (3,4%) and Middle East, 2 195 (1,2%).

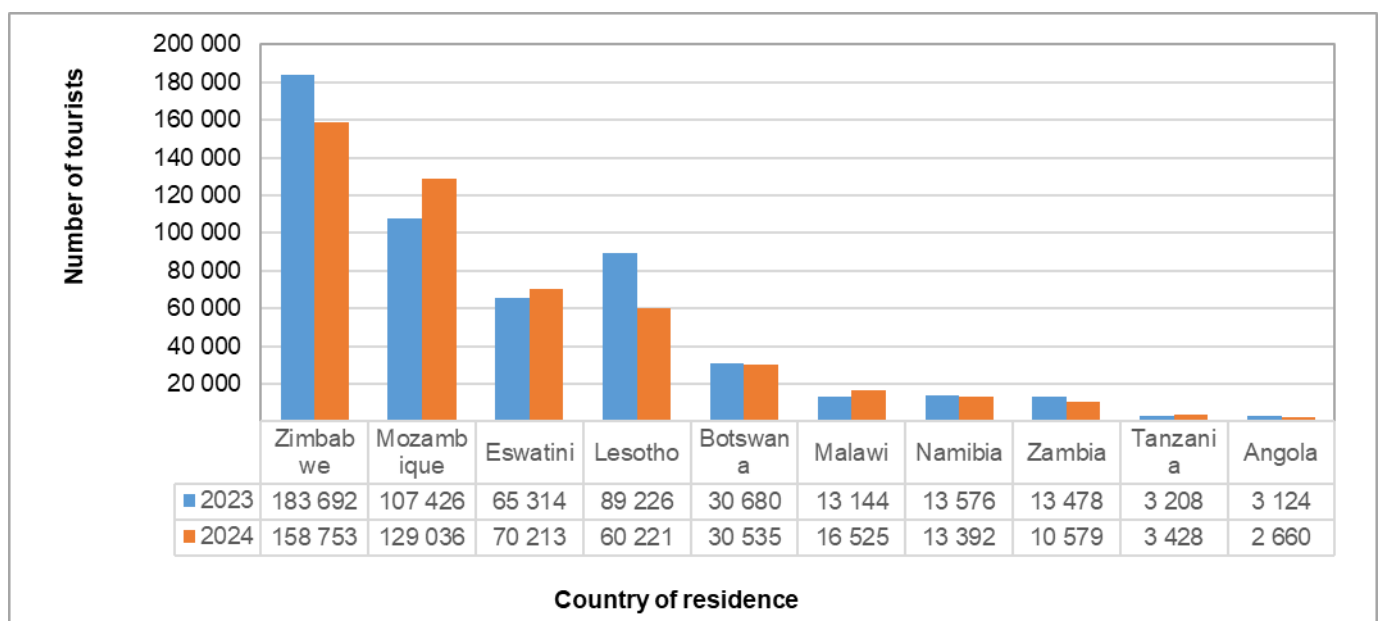
Figure 3 on page 7 indicates that the 10 leading overseas countries in terms of the number of tourists visiting South Africa in October 2024 were: UK, 29 919 (15,8%); USA, 28 075 (14,8%); Germany, 27 120 (14,3%); The Netherlands, 14 029 (7,4%); France, 13 473 (7,1%); Australia, 8 163 (4,3%); Canada, 6 083 (3,2%); India, 5 352 (2,8%); Switzerland, 4 885 (2,6%) and Belgium, 4 450 (2,3%). Tourists from these 10 countries constituted 74,7% of all tourists from overseas countries. A comparison of movements in the 10 leading countries between October 2023 and October 2024 shows that the number of tourists increased for 4 of 10 leading countries. Australia had the highest increase of 18,7% (from 6 879 tourists in October 2023 to 8 163 tourists in October 2024).

Figure 3 – Number of tourists from the 10 leading overseas countries in October 2023 and October 2024



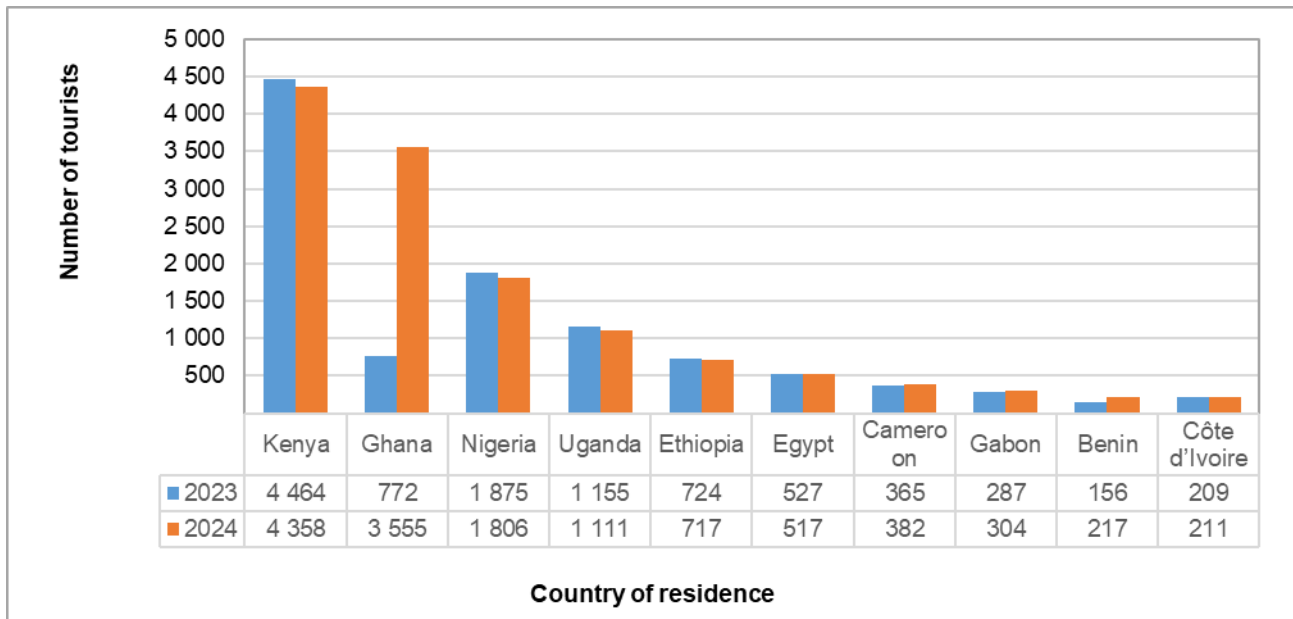
Virtually, most tourists from Africa, 499 446 (97,1%), came from SADC countries. The distribution of the remaining tourists from Africa was as follows: East and Central Africa, 7 511 (1,5%); West Africa, 6 563 (1,3%) and North Africa 1 058 (0,2%). Ten leading SADC countries in terms of the number of tourists visiting South Africa in October 2024 were: Zimbabwe, 158 753 (31,8%); Mozambique, 129 036 (25,8%); Eswatini, 70 213 (14,1%); Lesotho, 60 221 (12,1%); Botswana, 30 535 (6,1%); Malawi, 16 525 (3,3%); Namibia, 13 392 (2,7%); Zambia, 10 579 (2,1%); Tanzania, 3 428 (0,7%) and Angola, 2 660 (0,5%) (see Figure 4 below). Tourists from these 10 countries constituted 99,2% of all tourists from the SADC countries. A comparison of movements in the 10 leading countries between October 2023 and October 2024 shows that the number of tourists increased for 4 of the 10 leading countries. Malawi showed the highest increase of 25,7% (from 13 144 tourists in October 2023 to 16 525 tourists in October 2024).

Figure 4 – Number of tourists from the 10 leading SADC countries in October 2023 and October 2024



The 10 leading countries in terms of the number of tourists visiting South Africa in October 2024 from 'other' African countries, as shown in Figure 5 below, were: Kenya, 4 358 (28,8%); Ghana, 3 555 (23,5%); Nigeria, 1 806 (11,9%); Uganda, 1 111 (7,3%); Ethiopia, 717 (4,7%); Egypt, 517 (3,4%); Cameroon, 382 (2,5%); Gabon, 304 (2,0%); Benin, 217 (1,4%) and Côte d'Ivoire, 211 (1,4%). Tourists from these 10 countries constituted 87,1% of all tourists from 'other' African countries. A comparison between movements in October 2023 and October 2024 shows that the number of tourists increased for 5 of 10 leading countries. Ghana showed the highest increase of 360,5% (from 772 tourists in October 2023 to 3 555 tourists in October 2024).

Figure 5 – Number of tourists from the 10 leading 'other' African countries in October 2023 and October 2024



2.3.3 Purpose of visit of tourists

Table 4 on page 9, shows the number of tourists by region and sub-region. Detailed data on the country of residence and purpose of visit is presented in Annexure C on pages 19 to 22. It is observed that in October 2024, the majority of tourists, 683 387 (96,9%), were in South Africa for holiday compared to 19 486 (2,8%); 2 151 (0,3%) and 233 (less than 0,1%) who were in South Africa for business, study and medical treatment respectively.

Within the overseas regions, Australasia, 99,2% (9 751) had the highest proportion of tourists who came for holiday followed by North America, 98,5% (33 653); Europe, 98,4% (118 513); Central and South America, 97,8% (6 260); Middle East, 95,7% (2 101) and Asia, 94,4 % (15 669).

Asia, 4,7% (774) had the highest proportion of tourists who came to South Africa for business, followed by Middle East, 2,5% (54); Central and South America, 1,8% (117); Europe, 1,3% (1 563); North America, 1,3% (443) and Australasia, 0,7% (67).

Middle East, 1,8% (40) had the highest proportion of tourists who came to study, followed by Asia, 1,0% (158); Central and South America, 0,4% (26); Europe, 0,2% (270); North America, 0,2% (52) and Australasia, less than 0,1% (3).

Australasia (7), had 0,1% of tourists who came for medical treatment. Europe (39), North America (10), Asia (4) and Central and South America (1), had less than 0,1% of medical treatment tourists, whereas Middle East had none.

Majority of African tourists, 496 412 (96,5%) came to South Africa for holiday. However, the following differences in terms of reasons for travel were observed between tourists from the SADC countries and 'other' African countries, namely:

- Holiday makers constituted 96,6% (482 552) of tourists from SADC countries compared to 91,6% (13 860) from 'other' African countries. Information on the regions of 'other' African countries shows that 92,5% (6 073) of tourists from West Africa were on holiday, followed by tourists from East and Central Africa, 91,2% (6 849) and those from North Africa, 88,7% (938).
- Business persons constituted 3,1% (15 494) of tourists from SADC countries and 5,9% (898) from 'other' African countries. North Africa, 7,0% (74) had the highest proportion of tourists who came to South Africa for business purposes, followed by East and Central Africa, 6,3% (475) and West Africa, 5,3% (349).
- Students constituted 0,3% (1 266) of tourists from SADC countries compared with 2,2% (336) from 'other' African countries. North Africa, 4,2% (44) had the highest proportion of tourists who came to South Africa for study purposes, followed by East and Central Africa, 2,2% (168) and West Africa, 1,9% (124).
- Tourists who came for medical treatment constituted less than 0,1% (134) of tourists from SADC countries, while those from 'other' African countries constituted 0,3% (38). West Africa, 0,3% (17) had the highest proportion of tourists who came for medical treatment, followed by East and Central Africa, 0,3% (19) and North Africa, 0,2% (2).

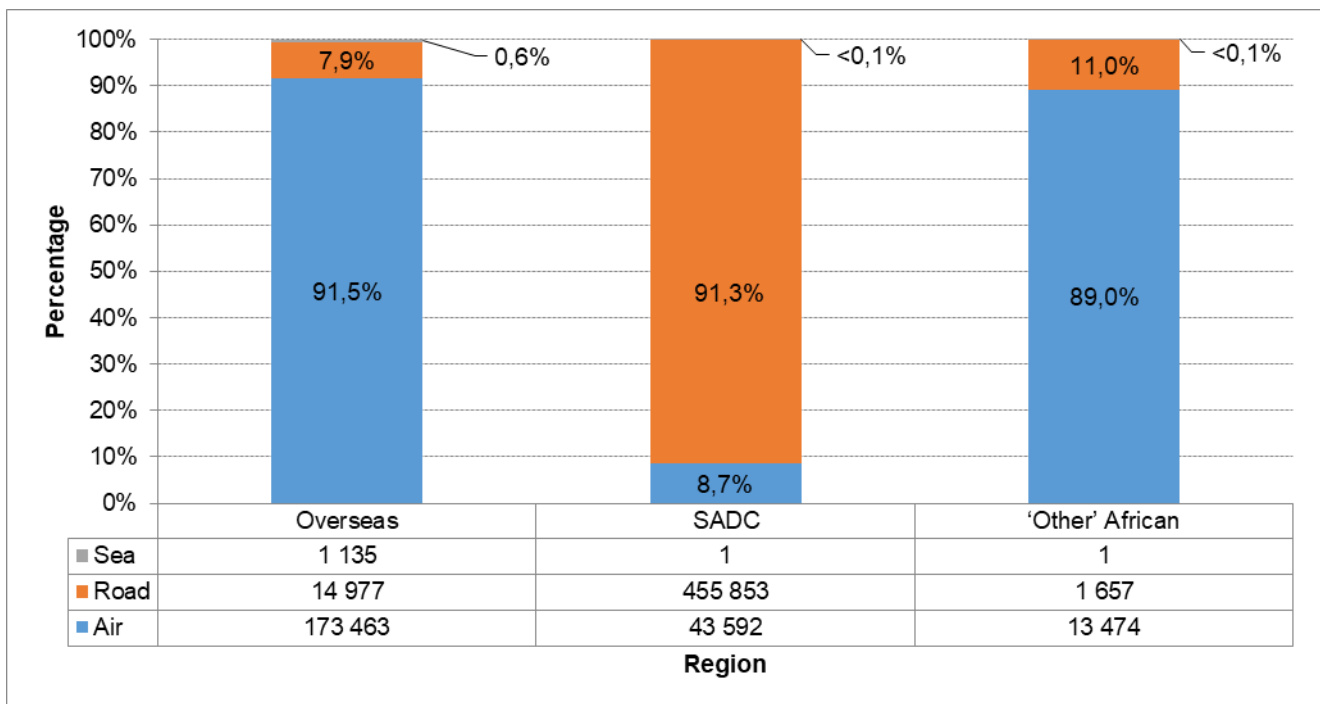
Table 4 – Number of tourists by region of residence and purpose of visit

Region of residence	October 2024	Business	Holiday	Study	Medical treatment
Total	705 257	19 486	683 387	2 151	233
Overseas	189 575	3 018	185 947	549	61
Europe	120 385	1 563	118 513	270	39
North America	34 158	443	33 653	52	10
Central and South America	6 404	117	6 260	26	1
Australasia	9 828	67	9 751	3	7
Middle East	2 195	54	2 101	40	-
Asia	16 605	774	15 669	158	4
Africa	514 578	16 392	496 412	1 602	172
SADC	499 446	15 494	482 552	1 266	134
'Other' African	15 132	898	13 860	336	38
East and Central Africa	7 511	475	6 849	168	19
West Africa	6 563	349	6 073	124	17
North Africa	1 058	74	938	44	2
Unspecified	1 104	76	1 028	-	-

2.3.4 Mode of travel of tourists

Tourists are categorised by their countries of residence and regions. Information on the specific region and country of residence of tourists and the mode of travel used to enter South Africa is provided in Annexure B on pages 15 to 18, whereas the port of entry used by tourists is provided in Annexure E on page 27. As shown in Figure 6 below, 173 463 (91,5%) overseas tourists arrived in the country by air, whilst 14 977 (7,9%) came in by road and 1 135 (0,6%) arrived by sea. Tourists from the SADC countries, on the other hand, came predominantly by road, 455 853 (91,3%), 43 592 (8,7%) came by air and one (less than 0,1%) arrived by sea. The number of tourists who came into South Africa by air from 'other' African countries was 13 474 (89,0%); while 1 657 (11,0%) used road transport and one (less than 0,1%) preferred sea. Most tourists who arrived by road came through Lebombo port (132 629) and Beit Bridge port (127 783). The majority of tourists who came by air entered through OR Tambo International Airport (157 150). Tourists who arrived by sea came through Cape Town Harbour (1 137).

Figure 6 – Percentage distribution of tourists by region of residence and mode of travel, October 2024



3. Annexures

3.1 Annexure A – Number of tourists' difference between October 2023 and October 2024 by country of residence

Country of residence	October 2023	October 2024	Difference between October 2023 and October 2024	% change between October 2023 and October 2024
Total	731 108	705 257	-25 851	-3,5%
Overseas	189 778	189 575	-203	-0,1%
Europe	122 599	120 385	-2 214	-1,8%
Austria	2 239	2 047	-192	-8,6%
Belgium	5 017	4 450	-567	-11,3%
Denmark	1 903	1 782	-121	-6,4%
France	12 940	13 473	533	4,1%
Germany	27 512	27 120	-392	-1,4%
Ireland	2 137	2 259	122	5,7%
Italy	4 246	3 818	-428	-10,1%
Portugal	1 475	1 591	116	7,9%
Russian Federation	2 949	3 298	349	11,8%
Spain	2 944	2 531	-413	-14,0%
Sweden	2 552	2 331	-221	-8,7%
Switzerland	5 038	4 885	-153	-3,0%
The Netherlands	14 417	14 029	-388	-2,7%
UK	30 424	29 919	-505	-1,7%
Other	6 806	6 852	46	0,7%
North America	33 631	34 158	527	1,6%
Canada	5 620	6 083	463	8,2%
USA	28 011	28 075	64	0,2%
Central and South America	4 980	6 404	1 424	28,6%
Argentina	330	485	155	47,0%
Brazil	2 878	4 116	1 238	43,0%
Mexico	351	377	26	7,4%
Other	1 421	1 426	5	0,4%

Annexure A – Number of tourists' difference between October 2023 and October 2024 by country of residence (continued)

Country of residence	October 2023	October 2024	Difference between October 2023 and October 2024	% change between October 2023 and October 2024
Australasia	8 446	9 828	1 382	16,4%
Australia	6 879	8 163	1 284	18,7%
New Zealand	1 538	1 612	74	4,8%
Other	29	53	24	82,8%
Middle East	2 835	2 195	-640	-22,6%
Israel	1 165	561	-604	-51,8%
Lebanon	173	214	41	23,7%
Saudi Arabia	786	785	-1	-0,1%
Other	711	635	-76	-10,7%
Asia	17 287	16 605	-682	-3,9%
Bangladesh	620	475	-145	-23,4%
China	3 046	3 269	223	7,3%
India	5 601	5 352	-249	-4,4%
Japan	1 870	1 748	-122	-6,5%
Malaysia	601	658	57	9,5%
Pakistan	997	1 089	92	9,2%
Singapore	514	607	93	18,1%
South Korea	891	844	-47	-5,3%
Thailand	571	545	-26	-4,6%
Vietnam	687	512	-175	-25,5%
Other	1 889	1 506	-383	-20,3%
Africa	540 111	514 578	-25 533	-4,7%
SADC	527 616	499 446	-28 170	-5,3%
Angola	3 124	2 660	-464	-14,9%
Botswana	30 680	30 535	-145	-0,5%
DRC	2 164	1 719	-445	-20,6%
Eswatini	65 314	70 213	4 899	7,5%

Annexure A – Number of tourists' difference between October 2023 and October 2024 by country of residence (continued)

Country of residence	October 2023	October 2024	Difference between October 2023 and October 2024	% change between October 2023 and October 2024
Lesotho	89 226	60 221	-29 005	-32,5%
Madagascar	370	387	17	4,6%
Malawi	13 144	16 525	3 381	25,7%
Mauritius	1 790	1 630	-160	-8,9%
Mozambique	107 426	129 036	21 610	20,1%
Namibia	13 576	13 392	-184	-1,4%
Seychelles	424	368	-56	-13,2%
Tanzania	3 208	3 428	220	6,9%
Zambia	13 478	10 579	-2 899	-21,5%
Zimbabwe	183 692	158 753	-24 939	-13,6%
'Other' African	12 495	15 132	2 637	21,1%
East and Central Africa	7 629	7 511	-118	-1,5%
Burundi	92	112	20	21,7%
Cameroon	365	382	17	4,7%
Central African Republic	26	24	-2	-7,7%
Chad	45	52	7	15,6%
Comoros	71	38	-33	-46,5%
Congo	120	161	41	34,2%
Djibouti	8	7	-1	-12,5%
Equatorial Guinea	68	29	-39	-57,4%
Eritrea	30	41	11	36,7%
Ethiopia	724	717	-7	-1,0%
Gabon	287	304	17	5,9%
Kenya	4 464	4 358	-106	-2,4%
Rwanda	105	97	-8	-7,6%
São Tomé and Príncipe	13	10	-3	-23,1%
Somalia	56	68	12	21,4%
Uganda	1 155	1 111	-44	-3,8%

Annexure A – Number of tourists' difference between October 2023 and October 2024 by country of residence (concluded)

Country of residence	October 2023	October 2024	Difference between October 2023 and October 2024	% change between October 2023 and October 2024
West Africa	3 695	6 563	2 868	77,6%
Benin	156	217	61	39,1%
Burkina Faso	68	56	-12	-17,6%
Cape Verde Island	29	33	4	13,8%
Côte d'Ivoire	209	211	2	1,0%
Gambia	44	71	27	61,4%
Ghana	772	3 555	2 783	360,5%
Guinea	108	108	-	0,0%
Guinea-Bissau	11	15	4	36,4%
Liberia	41	107	66	161,0%
Mali	70	70	-	0,0%
Mauritania	30	26	-4	-13,3%
Niger	28	27	-1	-3,6%
Nigeria	1 875	1 806	-69	-3,7%
Saint Helena	2	2	-	0,0%
Senegal	159	123	-36	-22,6%
Sierra Leone	52	72	20	38,5%
Togo	41	64	23	56,1%
North Africa	1 171	1 058	-113	-9,6%
Algeria	79	75	-4	-5,1%
Egypt	527	517	-10	-1,9%
Libya	36	46	10	27,8%
Morocco	150	123	-27	-18,0%
South Sudan	133	83	-50	-37,6%
The Sudan	48	85	37	77,1%
Tunisia	197	129	-68	-34,5%
Western Sahara	1	-	-1	-100,0%
Unspecified	1 219	1 104	-115	-9,4%

3.2 Annexure B – Number of tourists by country of residence and mode of travel, October 2024

Country of residence	October 2024	Air					Road	Sea
		Cape Town	King Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total		
Total	705 257	72 863	1 234	157 150	198	231 445	472 675	1 137
Overseas	189 575	64 185	974	108 168	136	173 463	14 977	1 135
Europe	120 385	44 821	586	63 298	68	108 773	10 647	965
Austria	2 047	825	7	980	-	1 812	213	22
Belgium	4 450	1 530	9	2 362	1	3 902	545	3
Denmark	1 782	403	3	1 286	-	1 692	90	-
France	13 473	3 113	16	8 362	8	11 499	1 974	-
Germany	27 120	12 502	94	11 556	5	24 157	2 071	892
Ireland	2 259	1 059	21	1 104	1	2 185	74	-
Italy	3 818	1 614	8	1 924	3	3 549	269	-
Portugal	1 591	355	6	668	-	1 029	562	-
Russian Federation	3 298	1 686	8	1 431	2	3 127	153	18
Spain	2 531	753	1	1 560	1	2 315	214	2
Sweden	2 331	1 046	17	1 176	2	2 241	88	2
Switzerland	4 885	2 066	9	2 453	11	4 539	338	8
The Netherlands	14 029	4 666	59	6 864	8	11 597	2 425	7
UK	29 919	10 657	258	17 923	24	28 862	1 056	1
Other	6 852	2 546	70	3 649	2	6 267	575	10
North America	34 158	11 688	79	20 522	48	32 337	1 667	154
Canada	6 083	2 244	26	3 351	2	5 623	458	2
USA	28 075	9 444	53	17 171	46	26 714	1 209	152
Central and South America	6 404	1 540	10	4 546	2	6 098	300	6
Argentina	485	118	-	333	-	451	34	-
Brazil	4 116	964	1	2 949	-	3 914	201	1
Mexico	377	168	-	204	-	372	4	1
Other	1 426	290	9	1 060	2	1 361	61	4

Annexure B – Number of tourists by country of residence and mode of travel, October 2024 (continued)

Country of residence	October 2024	Air					Road	Sea
		Cape Town	King Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total		
Australasia	9 828	1 666	62	7 730	15	9 473	353	2
Australia	8 163	1 324	19	6 537	14	7 894	268	1
New Zealand	1 612	338	19	1 169	1	1 527	84	1
Other	53	4	24	24	-	52	1	-
Middle East	2 195	831	11	1 261	-	2 103	92	-
Israel	561	99	-	437	-	536	25	-
Lebanon	214	28	-	168	-	196	18	-
Saudi Arabia	785	458	6	314	-	778	7	-
Other	635	246	5	342	-	593	42	-
Asia	16 605	3 639	226	10 811	3	14 679	1 918	8
Bangladesh	475	49	43	296	-	388	87	-
China	3 269	629	14	2 410	-	3 053	212	4
India	5 352	1 114	43	3 463	2	4 622	730	-
Japan	1 748	402	12	1 278	1	1 693	54	1
Malaysia	658	191	17	371	-	579	79	-
Pakistan	1 089	126	36	520	-	682	407	-
Singapore	607	219	-	386	-	605	2	-
South Korea	844	257	3	434	-	694	150	-
Thailand	545	108	13	403	-	524	21	-
Vietnam	512	14	-	490	-	504	8	-
Other	1 506	530	45	760	-	1 335	168	3
Africa	514 578	8 561	260	48 183	62	57 066	457 510	2
SADC	499 446	6 001	251	37 284	56	43 592	455 853	1
Angola	2 660	899	-	1 117	2	2 018	642	-
Botswana	30 535	331	2	2 525	6	2 864	27 671	-
DRC	1 719	71	-	1 496	-	1 567	152	-
Eswatini	70 213	152	35	1 009	-	1 196	69 017	-

Annexure B – Number of tourists by country of residence and mode of travel, October 2024 (continued)

Country of residence	October 2024	Air					Road	Sea
		Cape Town	King Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total		
Lesotho	60 221	24	1	738	1	764	59 457	-
Madagascar	387	9	-	367	-	376	11	-
Malawi	16 525	30	-	2 131	2	2 163	14 362	-
Mauritius	1 630	389	-	1 162	-	1 551	79	-
Mozambique	129 036	514	4	3 203	17	3 738	125 297	1
Namibia	13 392	1 778	-	2 580	1	4 359	9 033	-
Seychelles	368	12	-	352	-	364	4	-
Tanzania	3 428	262	-	1 526	2	1 790	1 638	-
Zambia	10 579	101	19	3 547	3	3 670	6 909	-
Zimbabwe	158 753	1 429	190	15 531	22	17 172	141 581	-
'Other' African	15 132	2 560	9	10 899	6	13 474	1 657	1
East and Central Africa	7 511	1 570	3	5 145	3	6 721	790	-
Burundi	112	10	-	95	-	105	7	-
Cameroon	382	63	1	300	-	364	18	-
Central African Republic	24	-	-	24	-	24	-	-
Chad	52	2	-	49	-	51	1	-
Comoros	38	3	-	35	-	38	-	-
Congo	161	34	-	125	-	159	2	-
Djibouti	7	-	-	7	-	7	-	-
Equatorial Guinea	29	2	-	27	-	29	-	-
Eritrea	41	1	-	40	-	41	-	-
Ethiopia	717	143	1	514	-	658	59	-
Gabon	304	38	-	259	2	299	5	-
Kenya	4 358	1 030	1	2 719	1	3 751	607	-
Rwanda	97	7	-	79	-	86	11	-
São Tomé and Príncipe	10	2	-	6	-	8	2	-
Somalia	68	7	-	43	-	50	18	-
Uganda	1 111	228	-	823	-	1 051	60	-

Annexure B – Number of tourists by country of residence and mode of travel, October 2024 (concluded)

Country of residence	October 2024	Air					Road	Sea
		Cape Town	King Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total		
West Africa	6 563	747	4	4 982	3	5 736	827	-
Benin	217	20	-	177	-	197	20	-
Burkina Faso	56	10	-	46	-	56	-	-
Cape Verde Island	33	8	-	23	-	31	2	-
Côte d'Ivoire	211	41	-	169	-	210	1	-
Gambia	71	8	-	59	-	67	4	-
Ghana	3 555	225	1	2 734	-	2 960	595	-
Guinea	108	6	2	77	-	85	23	-
Guinea-Bissau	15	1	-	12	-	13	2	-
Liberia	107	19	-	87	1	107	-	-
Mali	70	12	1	33	-	46	24	-
Mauritania	26	4	-	22	-	26	-	-
Niger	27	6	-	21	-	27	-	-
Nigeria	1 806	339	-	1 319	-	1 658	148	-
Saint Helena	2	-	-	2	-	2	-	-
Senegal	123	28	-	94	-	122	1	-
Sierra Leone	72	8	-	59	-	67	5	-
Togo	64	12	-	48	2	62	2	-
North Africa	1 058	243	2	772	-	1 017	40	1
Algeria	75	10	-	62	-	72	3	-
Egypt	517	126	-	383	-	509	7	1
Libya	46	5	-	34	-	39	7	-
Morocco	123	42	1	77	-	120	3	-
South Sudan	83	11	-	70	-	81	2	-
The Sudan	85	20	-	59	-	79	6	-
Tunisia	129	29	1	87	-	117	12	-
Unspecified	1 104	117	-	799	-	916	188	-

3.3 Annexure C – Number of tourists by country of residence and purpose of visit, October 2024

Country of residence	October 2024	Purpose of visit			
		Business	Holiday	Study	Medical Treatment
Total	705 257	19 486	683 387	2 151	233
Overseas	189 575	3 018	185 947	549	61
Europe	120 385	1 563	118 513	270	39
Austria	2 047	32	2 011	4	-
Belgium	4 450	37	4 410	2	1
Denmark	1 782	33	1 745	4	-
France	13 473	107	13 323	40	3
Germany	27 120	224	26 822	72	2
Ireland	2 259	46	2 209	2	2
Italy	3 818	74	3 738	6	-
Portugal	1 591	27	1 560	4	-
Russian Federation	3 298	26	3 266	6	-
Spain	2 531	69	2 455	6	1
Sweden	2 331	38	2 284	7	2
Switzerland	4 885	46	4 823	14	2
The Netherlands	14 029	123	13 870	23	13
UK	29 919	463	29 387	56	13
Other	6 852	218	6 610	24	-
North America	34 158	443	33 653	52	10
Canada	6 083	69	6 010	4	-
USA	28 075	374	27 643	48	10
Central and South America	6 404	117	6 260	26	1
Argentina	485	13	470	1	1
Brazil	4 116	49	4 047	20	-
Mexico	377	16	359	2	-
Other	1 426	39	1 384	3	-

Annexure C – Number of tourists by country of residence and purpose of visit, October 2024 (continued)

Country of residence	October 2024	Purpose of visit			
		Business	Holiday	Study	Medical Treatment
Australasia	9 828	67	9 751	3	7
Australia	8 163	44	8 109	3	7
New Zealand	1 612	12	1 600	-	-
Other	53	11	42	-	-
Middle East	2 195	54	2 101	40	-
Israel	561	3	557	1	-
Lebanon	214	13	196	5	-
Saudi Arabia	785	12	761	12	-
Other	635	26	587	22	-
Asia	16 605	774	15 669	158	4
Bangladesh	475	11	461	3	-
China	3 269	199	3 042	28	-
India	5 352	318	4 968	65	1
Japan	1 748	32	1 712	4	-
Malaysia	658	6	649	3	-
Pakistan	1 089	24	1 044	20	1
Singapore	607	23	583	1	-
South Korea	844	17	819	8	-
Thailand	545	11	531	2	1
Vietnam	512	7	502	3	-
Other	1 506	126	1 358	21	1
Africa	514 578	16 392	496 412	1 602	172
SADC	499 446	15 494	482 552	1 266	134
Angola	2 660	76	2 494	73	17
Botswana	30 535	384	29 824	318	9
DRC	1 719	49	1 541	80	49
Eswatini	70 213	2 376	67 677	156	4

Annexure C – Number of tourists by country of residence and purpose of visit, October 2024 (continued)

Country of residence	October 2024	Purpose of visit			
		Business	Holiday	Study	Medical Treatment
Lesotho	60 221	293	59 906	22	-
Madagascar	387	8	373	6	-
Malawi	16 525	201	16 291	30	3
Mauritius	1 630	18	1 601	10	1
Mozambique	129 036	2 782	126 188	50	16
Namibia	13 392	3 839	9 369	175	9
Seychelles	368	1	367	-	-
Tanzania	3 428	94	3 310	24	-
Zambia	10 579	2 480	8 055	41	3
Zimbabwe	158 753	2 893	155 556	281	23
'Other' African	15 132	898	13 860	336	38
East and Central Africa	7 511	475	6 849	168	19
Burundi	112	8	100	2	2
Cameroon	382	40	325	14	3
Central African Republic	24	3	21	-	-
Chad	52	4	44	4	-
Comoros	38	1	37	-	-
Congo	161	7	142	10	2
Djibouti	7	-	7	-	-
Equatorial Guinea	29	1	23	5	-
Eritrea	41	-	41	-	-
Ethiopia	717	85	596	35	1
Gabon	304	13	267	20	4
Kenya	4 358	176	4 130	48	4
Rwanda	97	4	93	-	-
São Tomé and Príncipe	10	-	10	-	-
Somalia	68	5	63	-	-
Uganda	1 111	128	950	30	3

Annexure C – Number of tourists by country of residence and purpose of visit, October 2024 (concluded)

Country of residence	October 2024	Purpose of visit			
		Business	Holiday	Study	Medical Treatment
West Africa	6 563	349	6 073	124	17
Benin	217	6	205	6	-
Burkina Faso	56	5	51	-	-
Cape Verde Island	33	-	33	-	-
Côte d'Ivoire	211	39	169	3	-
Gambia	71	6	64	1	-
Ghana	3 555	108	3 431	9	7
Guinea	108	13	89	6	-
Guinea-Bissau	15	-	15	-	-
Liberia	107	11	93	1	2
Mali	70	7	61	-	2
Mauritania	26	5	20	1	-
Niger	27	6	20	1	-
Nigeria	1 806	94	1 614	94	4
Saint Helena	2	-	2	-	-
Senegal	123	30	93	-	-
Sierra Leone	72	9	61	2	-
Togo	64	10	52	-	2
North Africa	1 058	74	938	44	2
Algeria	75	2	69	4	-
Egypt	517	42	461	14	-
Libya	46	-	41	5	-
Morocco	123	16	106	1	-
South Sudan	83	6	74	1	2
The Sudan	85	-	70	15	-
Tunisia	129	8	117	4	-
Unspecified	1 104	76	1 028	-	-

3.4 Annexure D – Number of tourists' difference between Jan – Oct 2023 and Jan – Oct 2024 by country of residence

Country of residence	Jan – Oct 2023	Jan – Oct 2024	Difference between Jan – Oct 2023 and Jan – Oct 2024	% change between Jan – Oct 2023 and Jan – Oct 2024
Total	6 889 196	7 231 296	342 100	5,0%
Overseas	1 659 080	1 702 143	43 063	2,6%
Europe	985 257	978 551	-6 706	-0,7%
Austria	15 712	15 513	-199	-1,3%
Belgium	37 378	35 676	-1 702	-4,6%
Denmark	14 642	14 295	-347	-2,4%
France	98 017	103 060	5 043	5,1%
Germany	189 780	188 495	-1 285	-0,7%
Ireland	21 529	22 277	748	3,5%
Italy	43 762	41 657	-2 105	-4,8%
Portugal	15 716	16 638	922	5,9%
Russian Federation	21 677	22 959	1 282	5,9%
Spain	26 904	26 238	-666	-2,5%
Sweden	17 811	17 666	-145	-0,8%
Switzerland	32 393	31 705	-688	-2,1%
The Netherlands	105 056	105 785	729	0,7%
UK	282 493	272 733	-9 760	-3,5%
Other	62 387	63 854	1 467	2,4%
North America	337 492	354 194	16 702	4,9%
Canada	44 070	45 815	1 745	4,0%
USA	293 422	308 379	14 957	5,1%
Central and South America	35 290	61 782	26 492	75,1%
Argentina	3 062	4 636	1 574	51,4%
Brazil	18 006	40 700	22 694	126,0%
Mexico	3 776	3 970	194	5,1%
Other	10 446	12 476	2 030	19,4%

Annexure D – Number of tourists' difference between Jan – Oct 2023 and Jan – Oct 2024 by country of residence (continued)

Country of residence	Jan – Oct 2023	Jan – Oct 2024	Difference between Jan – Oct 2023 and Jan – Oct 2024	% change between Jan – Oct 2023 and Jan – Oct 2024
Australasia	86 607	94 208	7 601	8,8%
Australia	70 828	78 224	7 396	10,4%
New Zealand	15 555	15 714	159	1,0%
Other	224	270	46	20,5%
Middle East	49 010	40 297	-8 713	-17,8%
Israel	18 860	6 196	-12 664	-67,1%
Saudi Arabia	14 204	16 254	2 050	14,4%
United Arab Emirates	6 164	6 361	197	3,2%
Other	9 782	11 486	1 704	17,4%
Asia	165 424	173 111	7 687	4,6%
Bangladesh	6 614	4 764	-1 850	-28,0%
China	31 379	34 845	3 466	11,0%
India	65 997	63 344	-2 653	-4,0%
Japan	10 914	14 647	3 733	34,2%
Malaysia	4 848	5 389	541	11,2%
Pakistan	10 739	10 971	232	2,2%
Philippines	5 395	5 216	-179	-3,3%
Singapore	5 740	7 798	2 058	35,9%
South Korea	8 181	10 600	2 419	29,6%
Thailand	4 159	4 675	516	12,4%
Other	11 458	10 862	-596	-5,2%
Africa	5 219 656	5 519 582	299 926	5,7%
SADC	5 115 881	5 387 378	271 497	5,3%
Angola	32 686	30 791	-1 895	-5,8%
Botswana	276 195	308 787	32 592	11,8%
DRC	17 166	21 861	4 695	27,4%
Eswatini	593 044	688 428	95 384	16,1%

Annexure D – Number of tourists' difference between Jan – Oct 2023 and Jan – Oct 2024 by country of residence (continued)

Country of residence	Jan – Oct 2023	Jan – Oct 2024	Difference between Jan – Oct 2023 and Jan – Oct 2024	% change between Jan – Oct 2023 and Jan – Oct 2024
Lesotho	973 058	750 188	-222 870	-22,9%
Madagascar	2 980	3 587	607	20,4%
Malawi	110 986	127 082	16 096	14,5%
Mauritius	13 734	13 899	165	1,2%
Mozambique	1 093 231	1 324 147	230 916	21,1%
Namibia	128 197	130 520	2 323	1,8%
Seychelles	3 480	3 253	-227	-6,5%
Tanzania	26 988	29 552	2 564	9,5%
Zambia	116 082	124 090	8 008	6,9%
Zimbabwe	1 728 054	1 831 193	103 139	6,0%
'Other' African	103 775	132 204	28 429	27,4%
East and Central Africa	60 247	65 151	4 904	8,1%
Burundi	892	1 001	109	12,2%
Cameroon	3 584	3 457	-127	-3,5%
Central African Republic	173	144	-29	-16,8%
Chad	365	360	-5	-1,4%
Comoros	354	248	-106	-29,9%
Congo	1 298	1 292	-6	-0,5%
Djibouti	87	76	-11	-12,6%
Equatorial Guinea	288	231	-57	-19,8%
Eritrea	327	366	39	11,9%
Ethiopia	5 156	6 075	919	17,8%
Gabon	3 333	3 333	-	0,0%
Kenya	33 018	36 909	3 891	11,8%
Réunion	22	43	21	95,5%
Rwanda	792	900	108	13,6%
São Tomé and Príncipe	71	90	19	26,8%
Somalia	523	714	191	36,5%
Uganda	9 964	9 912	-52	-0,5%

Annexure D – Number of tourists' difference between Jan – Oct 2023 and Jan – Oct 2024 by country of residence (concluded)

Country of residence	Jan – Oct 2023	Jan – Oct 2024	Difference between Jan – Oct 2023 and Jan – Oct 2024	% change between Jan – Oct 2023 and Jan – Oct 2024
West Africa	33 309	56 706	23 397	70,2%
Benin	1 396	1 653	257	18,4%
Burkina Faso	595	527	-68	-11,4%
Cape Verde Island	246	247	1	0,4%
Côte d'Ivoire	1 862	2 088	226	12,1%
Gambia	342	353	11	3,2%
Ghana	8 344	29 041	20 697	248,0%
Guinea	1 109	976	-133	-12,0%
Guinea-Bissau	78	78	-	0,0%
Liberia	496	451	-45	-9,1%
Mali	850	868	18	2,1%
Mauritania	158	205	47	29,7%
Niger	236	231	-5	-2,1%
Nigeria	15 493	17 920	2 427	15,7%
Saint Helena	43	18	-25	-58,1%
Senegal	1 252	1 212	-40	-3,2%
Sierra Leone	420	487	67	16,0%
Togo	389	351	-38	-9,8%
North Africa	10 219	10 347	128	1,3%
Algeria	923	640	-283	-30,7%
Egypt	4 726	4 913	187	4,0%
Libya	500	547	47	9,4%
Morocco	1 280	1 352	72	5,6%
South Sudan	818	633	-185	-22,6%
The Sudan	877	734	-143	-16,3%
Tunisia	1 083	1 511	428	39,5%
Western Sahara	12	17	5	41,7%
Unspecified	10 460	9 571	-889	-8,5%

3.7 Annexure E – Number of tourists by port of entry and province, October 2024

Port of entry and province	Frequency
Total	705 257
Western Cape	74 000
Cape Town Harbour	1 137
Cape Town International Airport	72 863
Eastern Cape	3 520
Telle Bridge	3 520
Northern Cape	8 810
Nakop	4 758
Violsdrift	4 052
Free State	55 908
Caledonspoor	11 096
Ficksburg	44 520
Maseru Bridge	292
KwaZulu Natal	24 661
Golela	15 637
King Shaka International Airport	1 234
Kosibay	7 790
North West	36 397
Kopfontein	21 561
Ramathlabama	6 407
Schilpad Gate	8 429
Gauteng	157 348
Lanseria International Airport	198
Oliver Tambo International Airport	157 150
Mpumalanga	205 410
Emahlatini	4 494
Jeppes Reef	12 373
Lebombo	132 629
Mahamba	7 200
Mananga	8 496
Nerston	578
Oshoek	39 640
Limpopo	139 203
Beit Bridge	127 783
Groblers Bridge	11 420

4. Explanatory notes

4.1 Introduction

Legal movements across South African borders, as well as legal immigration into South Africa, fall under the jurisdiction of the DHA. Stats SA then processes, analyses and publishes this information.

Administrative data sources from the DHA, that is, information from all the country's ports of entry and applications for permanent residence, constitute the only comprehensive source of information on foreign arrivals and departures, documented immigrants and emigrants. The information from this source of data provides the best national coverage (in terms of both space and time) of the population movements of South African residents and foreign travellers. The data can be used for the following:

- To estimate, monitor and understand salient characteristics of foreign travellers and volumes of South African residents travelling outside South Africa.
- To provide information that can be used to (a) assess the extent of government's progress in strengthening bilateral political and economic relations by assessing the number of international tourist arrivals, and (b) benchmark surveys focusing on the demand for local tourism services by foreign travellers.

4.2 Purpose of the statistical release

This release reports on arrivals, departures and transit travellers of South African residents and foreign travellers. Detailed information on the age and sex distribution; mode of travel; national and regional distribution; and purpose of travel of overnight visitors or tourists are also provided.

4.3 Scope and coverage

The release covers data collected by DHA officials on travellers who departed from or entered the Republic of South Africa (RSA). It is crucial to note that unlike data from census or sample surveys that count individual persons, border statistics by their nature, measure events i.e. movements of persons rather than the physical persons. The reason is that the same person can cross the border several times during a specified time and his or her information is recorded every time he or she passes through the border.

4.4 Data

Information published in this release is based on data obtained from the following data sources within the DHA:

- Data routinely collected by immigration officers at all road, air and sea entry ports on all travellers (South African residents and foreign travellers) arriving into or departing from South Africa are captured into the DHA's population Movement Control System (MCS). The counts/statistics relate to the number of individual movements, rather than to the number of people. Hence, the multiple movements of individual people during the calendar month are each counted separately. Generally, the data are collected directly from travel documents either by scanning or capturing onto the ports' electronic database. No forms or cards are used (except on rare occasions when the capturing system is down) to collect information from travellers. Individual ports regularly transmit data onto the national database at the head office of the DHA.
- Stats SA receives downloaded data covering a particular calendar month from the DHA.
- As part of data interrogation, data from OR Tambo International Airport, which has the highest volume of travellers, are compared with passenger statistics from the Airports Company of South Africa (ACSA). As expected, in any specific month, an increase in the volume of passengers reported by ACSA is also reflected in an increase in the volume of travellers recorded by DHA. A similar pattern has also been observed when the volume of travellers decreased. In October 2024, the DHA data was 5,3% lower than that of ACSA.

4.5 Limitations

4.5.1 Outbound tourists

The information on the total number of arrivals and departures of South African residents is collected from the scanning of passports. However, data on the country visited are not collected from passengers; country of final destination; intended duration of stay and purpose of visit. With this limitation, it is impossible to identify the number of tourists from the data on South African residents.

4.6 Definition of terms

4.6.1 Definitions used by the United Nations Tourism (UN Tourism)

Traveller is someone who moves between different geographical locations for any purpose and any duration.

Visitor refers to any person travelling to a place other than that of his/her usual environment for less than 12 months and whose main purpose of the trip is other than the exercise of an activity remunerated from within the place visited.

Same-Day visitor is a visitor who visits a place for less than one night.

Tourist (overnight visitor) is a visitor who stays at least one night in collective or private accommodation in the place visited.

Tourism comprises the activities of persons travelling to, and staying in places outside their usual environment, for not more than one consecutive year, for leisure, business and other purposes. The usual environment of a person consists of a certain area around his/her place of residence, plus all the other places he/she frequently visits.

4.6.2 Definitions used specifically in this release

South African resident refers to either a South African citizen or a non-South African citizen with a South African permanent residence permit.

Foreign traveller refers to a traveller who is not a South African citizen or permanent resident.

Region refers to the following country classification:

- Overseas: Europe, North America, Central and South America, Australasia, the Middle East and Asia.
- Africa: SADC and 'other' Africa (East and Central Africa, West Africa and North Africa).

Country refers to individual countries within a region. The country of residence is used. The country of residence should not be confused with the country from which the visitor travelled.

Africa refers to all the countries in Africa (both mainland and island countries).

SADC refers to the fourteen countries, excluding South Africa, which belong to the Southern African Development Community.

'Other' African refers to all non-SADC African countries.

Overseas refers to all countries outside Africa.

Trip refers to the arrival and departure of a visitor in a specified month.

4.7 Symbols used

- = nil

< = less than

4.8 Rounding off

Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

5. General information

Stats SA publishes approximately 300 different statistical releases each year. It is not economically viable to produce them in more than one of South Africa's 12 official languages, since the releases are used extensively, not only locally but also by international economic and social-scientific communities. Stats SA releases are published in English.

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Enquiries

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Fax: (012) 310 8500/ 8495 (user information services)
(012) 310 6937 (technical enquiries)

Email: MuthethoN@statssa.gov.za (technical enquiries)
info@statssa.gov.za (user information services)

Postal address: Private Bag X44, Pretoria, 0001

Produced by Stats SA