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KEY FINDINGS

1. Number of travellers

The April 2007 data collected by Department of Home Affairs' (DHA) immigration officers at the ports of entry into South Africa show that a total of 2 340 504 travellers (arrivals and departures) passed through the ports of entry. As presented in Table 1, these travellers are made up of 848 879 South African residents and 1 491 625 foreign travellers. A further breakdown of the figures indicates that 423 311 and 425 568 South African resident arrivals and departures respectively were recorded. The corresponding volume for foreign arrivals and departures are 795 901 and 695 724. A comparison between the movements in March 2007 and April 2007 indicates that there was an increase in all movements. The April 2007 figure (423 311) for South African resident arrivals shows an increase of 9,4% compared to the April 2006 figure of 386 997. Similarly, there was an increase of 9,4% for foreign arrivals from 727 272 in April 2006 to 795 901 April 2007.

2. Mode of travel

It is observed from Table 2 that road transport was the most common (66,2%) mode of travel used by 1 549 672 out of the 2 340 504 travellers. Besides road transport, OR Tambo International Airport was used by 23,8% of all travellers. The arrival data on South African residents show that 34,9% came by air and 61,9% by road. For their departure, 35,6% and 61,2% used air and road transport respectively. When taking into consideration the countries of residence of these travellers, it was found that for foreign arrivals, overseas travellers generally used air (86,0%) compared to road transport (12,0%) whereas travellers from Africa used road (85,4%) more than air transport (6,7%). Information on specific countries from which travellers came from and the mode of travel used is provided in Table 3.

3. Foreign arrivals

The data on travellers received from the DHA do not provide detailed information on departures; neither do they provide any information other than total numbers, travel direction and mode of travel of South African residents. Therefore the following findings pertain to foreign arrivals.

Data presented in Table 3 show that more than two thirds (78,5%) of foreign arrivals were from Africa whilst approximately one fifth (20,9%) were from overseas countries. Information on the country of residence was not available on 0,6% of the travellers. A comparison of the changes between April 2006 and April 2007 indicates that the number of overseas arrivals increased by 1,3% from 163 879 in 2006 to 166 049 in 2007. Arrivals from Africa increased by 11,6% from 560 307 in 2006 to 625 180 in 2007.

3.1 Gender and age distribution

The travellers from Africa comprised of 343 727 males, 280 113 females and 1 340 with unspecified gender. The data on overseas travellers had 94 594 males, 71 251 females and gender was not specified in 204 cases. Overall, slightly more males than females from African (males: 55,0%; females: 44,8%) and overseas countries (males: 57,0%; females: 42,9%) came to South Africa. The age distribution of foreign arrivals presented in Figure 1 shows that travellers from Africa are generally younger compared to those from overseas. Thus the bulk (82,3%) of African travellers is clustered between ages 15-49, peaking at age group 25-29. However, the age distribution of overseas travellers is widely spread. Thus 85,5% of overseas travellers were between ages 20 to 69 years. The percentage of older persons (65 years and older) from overseas countries was significantly higher (8,3%) compared to that among persons from Africa (2,5%). This would have implications for spending capacity.

3.2 Regional and national distribution

Overseas travellers came mainly from Europe (64,3%) followed by North America (14,0%), Asia (11,6%), Australasia (5,6%), Central and South America (2,8%) and Middle East (1,6%). Virtually all arrivals (98,0%) from Africa came from the SADC countries. The distribution of the remaining arrivals from Africa is as follows: East and Central Africa (1,0%), West Africa (0,9%) and North Africa (0,2%). April data for the past five years (See figure 2) reveal that, arrivals from 'other' African countries have been quite stable unlike from SADC countries that have been escalating since 2004. There were minor fluctuations in overseas arrivals from 2003 to 2007. Data presented in Figure 3 indicates that the UK, USA, Germany, France, Australia, Netherlands, India and Canada were the eight leading overseas source countries. Travellers from these eight countries constitute 66,8% of all travellers from overseas. The number of travellers from these overseas countries increased in April 2007 compared to April 2006 with the exception of the UK and Germany (4,9% from 40 795 in April 2006 to 38 808 in April 2007 and 11,3% from 20 708 in April 2006 to 18 373 in April 2007 respectively).

The eight leading countries from SADC and the 'other' African countries are shown in Figures 4 and 5. Whereas travellers from the eight SADC countries made up 96,8% of all arrivals from Africa, the eight 'other' countries from Africa constituted only 1,6%. The number of travellers from these SADC countries was higher in April 2007 compared to April 2006 with the exception of two countries - Namibia and Zimbabwe. Travellers from Namibia declined by 16,7% from 25 838 to 21 524 and those from Zimbabwe by 8,9% from 88 918 to 80 982. The number of travellers from 'other' African countries increased with the exception of Congo and Cameroon (0,5% from 577 in April 2006 to 574 in April 2007 and 1,7% from 348 in April 2006 to 342 in April 2007 respectively).

3.3 Purpose of travel

As observed from data given in Table 4, an overwhelming majority (93,3%) of foreign arrivals was admitted into South Africa on visitors' temporary residence permit. These visitors are mainly made up of same-day travellers as well as tourists. This is in vast contrast to those who have come to study (1,5%), those on business (1,8%) and those who have come for work (1,2%).

Overall, 91,3% of overseas travellers came to South Africa to visit. A detailed analysis reveals that with the exception of Asia (78,3%), all the overseas regions had more than 85,0% travellers coming to South Africa for holidays, travellers from Europe (93,1%), Australasia (96,0%), Central and South America (92,2%), North America (93,0%) and the Middle East (85,3%) were admitted into South Africa as visitors. Travellers from Asia were more diverse in their purpose and consequently Asia had the highest proportion of overseas travellers who came here for work (12,5%), for business (6,2%) and to study (1,1%).

Although the majority (94,3%) of African travellers came into the country on visitors' permits, there is a significant difference between travellers from SADC countries and 'other' African countries, namely:

- Whereas 94,6% of travellers from the SADC countries were recorded as on holiday, 81,3% of travellers from 'other' African countries were admitted on visitor's permit. Proportionally, the lowest percentage (77,7%) of visitors came from North Africa, a region where proportionally, a large percentage of travellers were in South Africa as workers (4,9%) and business persons (12,6%).
- A relatively high percentage of 'other' African travellers were here to study, work or for business.
- Overall, 7,2% and 6,9% of travellers from West Africa and East and Central Africa respectively were in South Africa for business as compared to only 1,2% among the SADC travellers.

PJ Lehohla
Statistician-General

Figure 1: Percentage distribution of overseas and African arrivals by age groups in April 2007

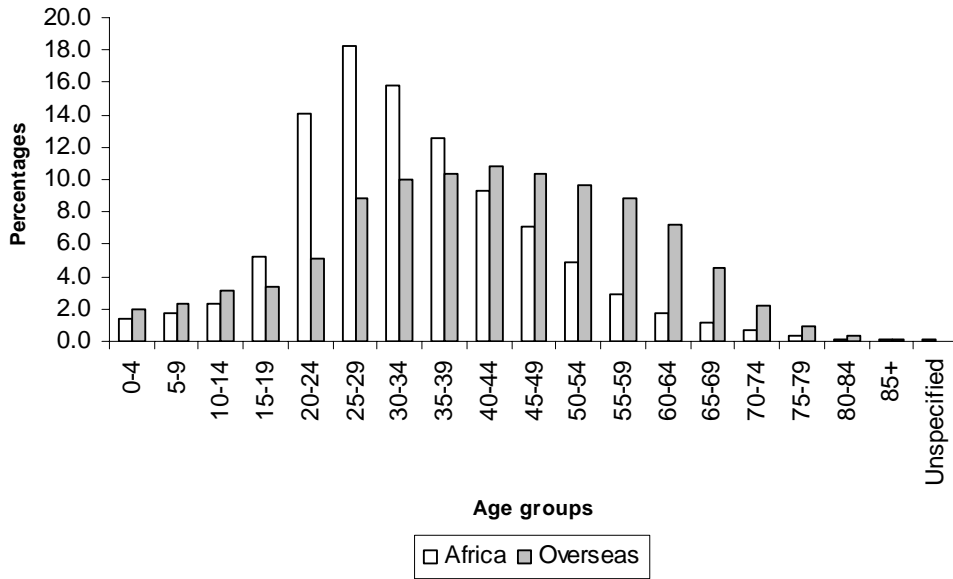


Figure 2: Number of April arrivals by region (2003 - 2007)

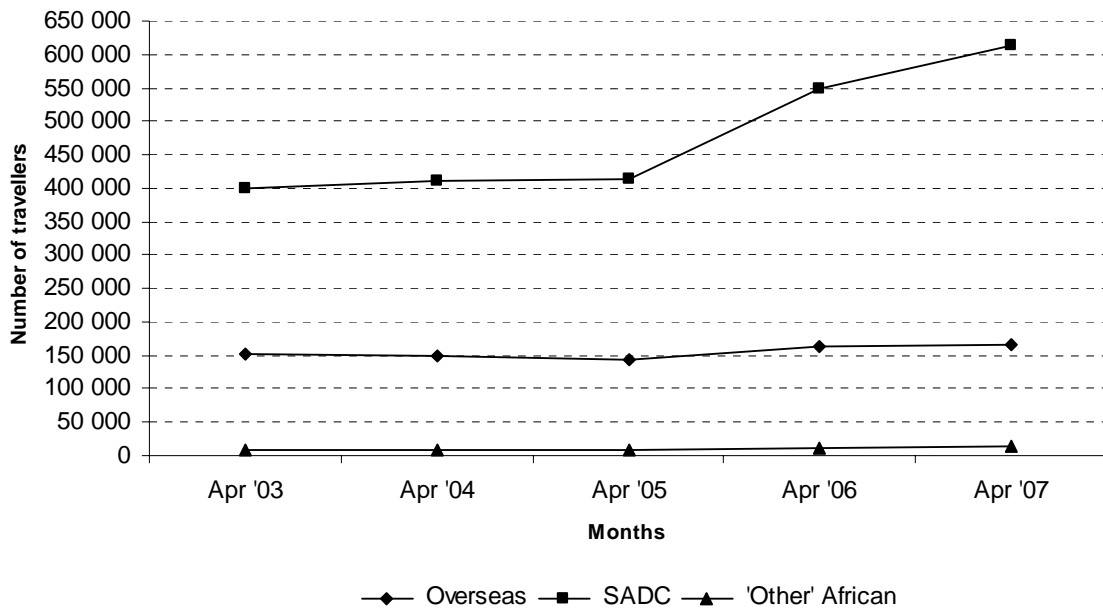


Figure 3: Number of overseas travellers arriving from leading source countries in April 2007 compared to April 2006

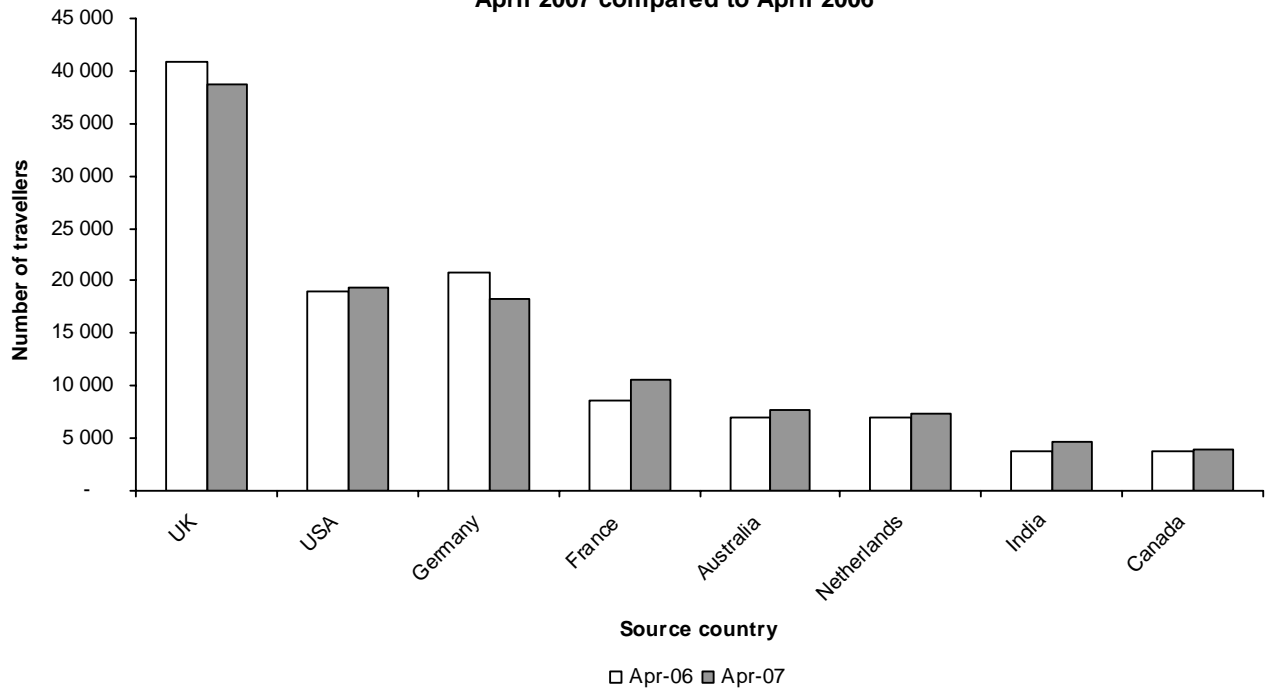


Figure 4: Number of travellers from SADC countries arriving from leading source countries in April 2007 compared to April 2006

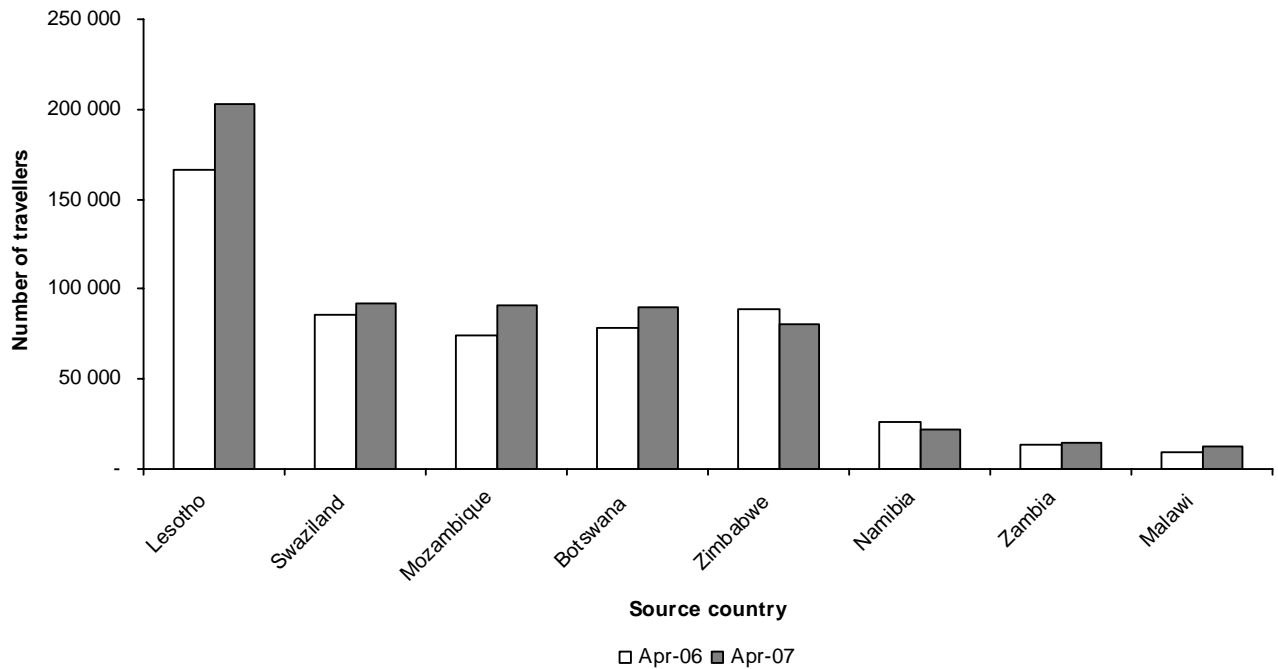


Figure 5: Number of travellers from 'other' African countries arriving from leading source countries in April 2007 compared to April 2006

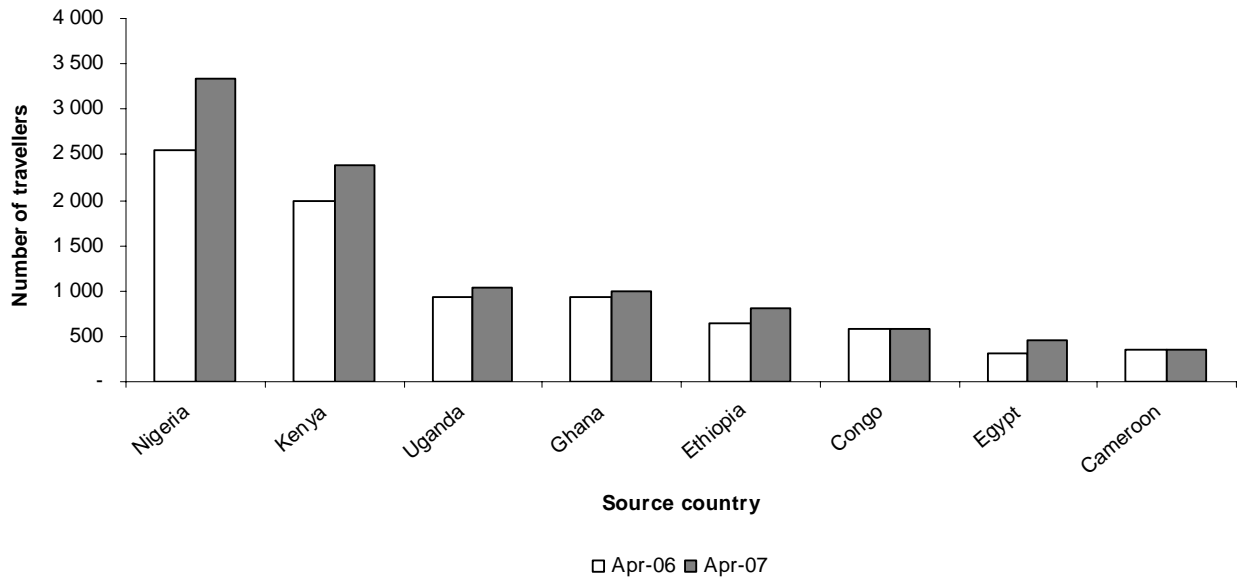


Table 1. Number of South African residents and foreign travellers by travel direction

Travel direction	April	March	April	% change	% change
	2006	2007	2007	Apr 06–Apr 07	Mar 07–Apr 07
South African residents					
Arrivals	386 997	295 577	423 311	9,4	43,2
Departures	413 611	331 064	425 568	2,9	28,5
Foreign travellers					
Arrivals	727 272	723 090	795 901	9,4	10,1
Departures	657 019	652 647	695 724	5,9	6,6
Grand total	2 184 899	2 002 378	2 340 504	7,1	16,9

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

Travel direction	Total	Mode of travel (April 2007)								
		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspec.
		(C/Town)	(Durban)	(OR Tambo)	(Other)	Total				
Grand total	2 340 504	106 618	3 466	557 203	8 761	676 048	28	1 549 672	962	113 794
Arrivals:	1 219 212	48 749	1 732	278 996	4 352	333 829	25	819 910	497	64 951
South African residents	423 311	15 488	1 267	128 200	3 132	148 087	3	262 381	69	12 771
Foreign travellers	795 901	33 261	465	150 796	1 220	185 742	22	557 529	428	52 180
Overseas	166 049	30 940	203	110 916	826	142 885	7	21 584	423	1 150
Africa	625 180	2 265	261	38 953	389	41 868	15	534 169	4	49 124
Unspecified	4 672	56	1	927	5	989	-	1 776	1	1 906
Departures:	1 121 292	57 869	1 734	278 207	4 409	342 219	3	729 762	465	48 843
South African residents	425 568	16 389	1 265	130 601	3 304	151 559	-	260 624	134	13 251
Foreign travellers	695 724	41 480	469	147 606	1 105	190 660	3	469 138	331	35 592

Table 3. Number of foreign arrivals by country and mode of travel

Country	Mode of travel (April 2007)										
	April		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspec.
	2006	2007	(C/Town)	(Durban)	(OR Tambo)	(Other)	Total				
Grand total	727 272	795 901	33 261	465	150 796	1 220	185 742	22	557 529	428	52 180
Overseas total	163 879	166 049	30 940	203	110 916	826	142 885	7	21 584	423	1 150
Europe	109 102	106 704	26 038	117	64 549	406	91 110	4	14 910	228	452
Austria	1 598	1 393	422	3	792	7	1 224	-	164	5	-
Belgium	3 535	3 359	626	3	2 103	35	2 767	-	580	-	12
Denmark	2 127	1 641	241	-	1 090	4	1 335	-	286	16	4
France	8 532	10 625	643	18	8 457	30	9 148	-	1 442	9	26
Germany	20 708	18 373	6 428	8	8 338	50	14 824	1	3 393	21	134
Greece	606	732	24	-	614	-	638	-	83	4	7
Ireland	2 959	3 105	899	7	1 758	10	2 674	-	405	3	23
Italy	3 074	3 323	749	4	2 260	19	3 032	-	289	-	2
Netherlands	7 031	7 397	2 099	6	3 836	36	5 977	-	1 393	4	23
Portugal	2 591	2 967	107	6	1 490	12	1 615	-	1 343	4	5
Spain	2 672	2 477	195	-	2 033	3	2 231	-	224	22	0
Sweden	2 630	2 839	719	2	1 695	5	2 421	-	398	8	12
Switzerland	3 432	3 055	511	-	2 033	24	2 568	-	479	-	8
UK	40 795	38 808	10 922	53	23 892	137	35 004	3	3 633	33	135
Other	6 812	6 610	1 453	7	4 158	34	5 652	-	798	99	61
North America	22 799	23 321	2 205	9	17 977	304	20 495	-	2 610	23	193
Canada	3 830	4 012	599	1	2 840	45	3 485	-	491	12	24
USA	18 965	19 300	1 606	8	15 129	259	17 002	-	2 118	11	169
Other	4	9	-	-	8	-	8	-	1	-	-
Central and South America	4 235	4 656	369	1	3 742	22	4 134	-	469	26	27
Argentina	754	633	220	-	370	4	594	-	38	-	1
Brazil	2 162	2 691	46	1	2 424	8	2 479	-	211	-	1
Chile	186	182	21	-	128	-	149	-	26	7	-
Other	1 133	1 150	82	-	820	10	912	-	194	19	25

Table 3. Number of foreign arrivals by country and mode of travel (continued)

Country	Mode of travel (April 2007)										
	April		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspec.
	2006	2007	(C/Town)	(Durban)	(OR Tambo)	(Other)	Total				
Australasia	8 970	9 339	531	57	7 847	29	8 464	-	828	13	34
Australia	6 991	7 651	401	50	6 532	22	7 005	-	607	13	26
New Zealand	1 915	1 623	126	7	1 288	7	1 428	-	187	-	8
Other	64	65	4	-	27	-	31	-	34	-	-
Middle East	2 638	2 698	145	1	2 306	26	2 478	-	210	3	7
Israel	1 241	1 143	26	-	1 025	5	1 056	-	87	-	-
Saudi Arabia	140	218	11	-	180	8	199	-	19	-	-
Turkey	405	422	48	-	341	1	390	-	28	3	1
Other	852	915	60	1	760	12	833	-	76	-	6
Asia	16 135	19 331	1 652	18	14 495	39	16 204	3	2 557	130	437
China	3 005	3 479	257	-	2 819	-	3 076	-	264	1	138
Hong Kong	539	505	32	-	459	-	491	-	12	-	2
India	3 834	4 731	91	16	3 512	8	3 627	2	951	16	135
Japan	2 227	2 278	108	-	2 049	-	2 157	-	109	7	5
Malaysia	891	951	270	-	640	2	912	-	30	7	2
Philippines	653	878	175	-	577	-	752	-	62	32	32
Rep of China (Taiwan)	851	1 244	102	-	598	11	711	-	467	23	43
Rep of Korea	1 105	1 368	87	-	1 121	12	1 220	-	132	5	11
Singapore	707	678	177	-	471	2	650	-	18	3	7
Other	2 323	3 219	353	2	2 249	4	2 608	1	512	36	62

Table 3. Number of foreign arrivals by country and mode of travel (continued)

Country	Mode of travel (April 2007)										
	April		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspec.
	2006	2007	(C/Town)	(Durban)	(OR Tambo)	(Other)	Total				
Africa total	560 307	625 180	2 265	261	38 953	389	41 868	15	534 169	4	49 124
SADC	549 626	612 415	2 179	251	28 801	343	31 574	12	531 888	1	48 940
Angola	2 360	2 705	153	1	2 353	31	2 538	-	165	-	2
Botswana	78 575	90 158	20	2	2 156	123	2 301	-	87 362	-	495
DRC	1 744	2 079	1	-	1 415	9	1 425	-	652	-	2
Lesotho	166 679	202 424	2	-	511	-	513	-	154 948	-	46 963
Madagascar	219	225	4	-	212	-	216	-	7	-	2
Malawi	9 550	12 094	4	-	1 730	24	1 758	1	10 255	-	80
Mauritius	1 325	1 410	247	149	851	6	1 253	-	146	-	11
Mozambique	74 251	90 605	55	77	1 866	51	2 049	7	88 352	-	197
Namibia	25 838	21 524	1 650	-	2 363	33	4 046	-	17 409	1	68
Swaziland	85 799	92 323	2	16	647	4	669	2	91 248	-	404
Tanzania	1 102	1 112	4	1	832	-	837	-	255	-	20
Zambia	13 266	14 774	8	1	5 532	8	5 549	-	9 139	-	86
Zimbabwe	88 918	80 982	29	4	8 333	54	8 420	2	71 950	-	610

Table 3. Number of foreign arrivals by country and mode of travel (continued)

Country	Mode of travel (April 2007)										
	April		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspec.
	2006	2007	(C/Town)	(Durban)	(OR Tambo)	(Other)	Total				
East and Central	5 472	6 369	31	10	4 659	22	4 722	1	1 564	3	79
Burundi	83	92	-	-	64	-	64	-	28	-	-
Cameroon	348	342	6	-	288	2	296	-	43	-	3
Central African Rep	20	7	-	-	6	-	6	-	1	-	-
Chad	13	13	-	-	13	-	13	-	-	-	-
Comoros	17	20	-	-	19	-	19	-	1	-	-
Congo	577	574	9	-	426	-	435	-	129	-	10
Djibouti	6	10	-	-	10	-	10	-	-	-	-
Equatorial Guinea	19	45	-	-	6	-	6	-	39	-	-
Eritrea	55	52	3	-	34	-	37	-	13	-	2
Ethiopia	640	808	-	-	398	1	399	-	401	-	8
Gabon	154	193	1	-	181	5	187	-	6	-	-
Kenya	1 986	2 388	7	-	1 997	12	2 016	-	350	-	22
Reunion	33	30	-	5	25	-	30	-	-	-	-
Rwanda	276	304	2	-	254	-	256	-	48	-	-
Sao Tome and Principe	11	16	1	-	13	-	14	-	2	-	-
Seychelles	173	197	1	5	168	-	174	-	22	1	-
Somalia	137	249	-	-	9	-	9	-	240	-	-
Tristan da Cunha	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Uganda	924	1 028	1	-	748	2	751	1	240	2	34

Table 3. Number of foreign arrivals by country and mode of travel (concluded)

Country	Mode of travel (April 2007)										
	April		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspec.
	2006	2007	(C/Town)	(Durban)	(OR Tambo)	(Other)	Total				
West Africa	4 353	5 401	29	-	4 672	23	4 724	2	583	-	92
Ascension	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Benin	69	100	-	-	84	-	84	-	14	-	2
Burkina Faso	47	35	-	-	32	-	32	-	2	-	1
Cape Verde Island	41	54	3	-	44	-	47	-	7	-	-
Cote D'Ivoire	151	171	5	-	154	9	168	-	3	-	-
Gambia	71	52	-	-	49	-	49	-	2	-	1
Ghana	924	1 000	2	-	853	9	864	-	125	-	11
Guinea	65	95	1	-	59	1	61	-	34	-	-
Guinea-Bissau	14	15	-	-	9	-	9	-	6	-	-
Liberia	36	46	1	-	37	-	38	-	7	-	1
Madeira Island	11	9	3	-	1	-	4	-	5	-	-
Mali	35	82	-	-	72	-	72	-	10	-	-
Mauritania	12	16	-	-	12	-	12	-	4	-	-
Niger	12	25	1	-	24	-	25	-	-	-	-
Nigeria	2 547	3 343	11	-	2 931	2	2 944	2	323	-	74
St Helena	16	6	-	-	3	-	3	-	3	-	-
Senegal	203	239	1	-	212	2	215	-	22	-	2
Sierra Leone	58	86	1	-	74	-	75	-	11	-	-
Togo	38	26	-	-	22	-	22	-	4	-	-
Western Sahara	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
North Africa	856	995	26	-	821	1	848	-	134	-	13
Algeria	218	145	3	-	83	1	87	-	54	-	4
Egypt	301	450	9	-	397	-	406	-	39	-	5
Libya	42	63	2	-	37	-	39	-	21	-	3
Morocco	78	58	6	-	49	-	55	-	3	-	-
Sudan	185	168	3	-	150	-	153	-	14	-	1
Tunisia	32	111	3	-	105	-	108	-	3	-	-
Unspecified	3 086	4 672	56	1	927	5	989	-	1 776	1	1 906

Table 4. Number of foreign arrivals by purpose of travel

Region	Total	Purpose of travel (April 2007)							Contract worker	Border Traffic
		Business	Holiday	Study	Work	Transit	Unspec.	Total		
Grand total	795 901	14 516	742 376	11 775	9 685	4 034	72	782 458	-	13 443
Overseas total	166 049	5 926	151 639	1 327	6 164	698	6	165 760	-	289
Europe	106 704	3 431	99 305	693	2 876	330	1	106 636	-	68
North America	23 321	695	21 679	311	501	81	-	23 267	-	54
Central and South America	4 656	126	4 293	33	157	45	-	4 654	-	2
Australasia	9 339	240	8 928	26	106	31	-	9 331	-	8
Middle East	2 698	226	2 302	42	110	12	2	2 694	-	4
Asia	19 331	1 208	15 132	222	2 414	199	3	19 178	-	153
Africa total	625 180	8 534	589 467	9 591	2 914	3 325	66	613 897	-	11 283
SADC	612 415	7 581	579 091	9 003	2 243	3 224	32	601 174	-	11 241
East and Central Africa	6 369	437	5 211	320	319	34	33	6 354	-	15
West Africa	5 401	391	4 392	251	303	41	1	5 379	-	22
North Africa	995	125	773	17	49	26	-	990	-	5
Unspecified	4 672	56	1 270	857	607	11	-	2 801	-	1 871

Table 5. Number of foreign arrivals by country and purpose of travel

Country	April		Purpose of travel (April 2007)							Contract worker	Border traffic concession
	2006	2007	Business	Holiday	Study	Work	Transit	Unspec.	Total		
Grand total	727 272	795 901	14 516	742 376	11 775	9 685	4 034	72	782 458	-	13 443
Overseas total	163 879	166 049	5 926	151 639	1 327	6 164	698	6	165 760	-	289
Europe	109 102	106 704	3 431	99 305	693	2 876	330	1	106 636	-	68
Austria	1 598	1 393	54	1 310	2	24	3	-	1 393	-	-
Belgium	3 535	3 359	89	3 143	24	84	18	-	3 358	-	1
Denmark	2 127	1 641	64	1 537	5	28	4	-	1 638	-	3
France	8 532	10 625	282	9 980	59	260	42	-	10 623	-	2
Germany	20 708	18 373	629	17 208	141	355	31	-	18 364	-	9
Greece	606	732	24	644	3	52	9	-	732	-	-
Ireland	2 959	3 105	61	2 961	20	50	11	-	3 103	-	2
Italy	3 074	3 323	115	3 125	14	58	11	-	3 323	-	-
Netherlands	7 031	7 397	218	6 906	73	185	8	-	7 390	-	7
Portugal	2 591	2 967	34	2 855	27	40	8	-	2 964	-	3
Spain	2 672	2 477	62	2 286	8	110	11	-	2 477	-	-
Sweden	2 630	2 839	138	2 578	27	87	3	-	2 833	-	6
Switzerland	3 432	3 055	70	2 924	12	44	5	-	3 055	-	-
UK	40 795	38 808	1 253	36 480	223	735	84	-	38 775	-	33
Other	6 812	6 610	338	5 368	55	764	82	1	6 608	-	2
North America	22 799	23 321	695	21 679	311	501	81	-	23 267	-	54
Canada	3 830	4 012	129	3 723	34	112	10	-	4 008	-	4
USA	18 965	19 300	566	17 947	277	389	71	-	19 250	-	50
Other	4	9	-	9	-	-	-	-	9	-	-
Central and South America	4 235	4 656	126	4 293	33	157	45	-	4 654	-	2
Argentina	754	633	12	600	7	12	2	-	633	-	-
Brazil	2 162	2 691	41	2 548	12	54	36	-	2 691	-	-
Chile	186	182	9	157	1	15	-	-	182	-	-
Other	1 133	1 150	64	988	13	76	7	-	1 148	-	2

Table 5. Number of foreign arrivals by country and purpose of travel (continued)

Country	April		Purpose of travel (April 2007)								Contract worker	Border traffic concession
	2006	2007	Business	Holiday	Study	Work	Transit	Unspec.	Total			
Australasia	8 970	9 339	240	8 928	26	106	31	-	9 331	-	8	
Australia	6 991	7 651	214	7 299	18	87	26	-	7 644	-	7	
New Zealand	1 915	1 623	26	1 574	3	16	3	-	1 622	-	1	
Other	64	65	-	55	5	3	2	-	65	-	-	
Middle East	2 638	2 698	226	2 302	42	110	12	2	2 694	-	4	
Israel	1 241	1 143	53	1 032	4	45	9	-	1 143	-	-	
Saudi Arabia	140	218	15	196	4	3	-	-	218	-	-	
Turkey	405	422	34	352	6	29	1	-	422	-	-	
Other	852	915	124	722	28	33	2	2	911	-	4	
Asia	16 135	19 331	1 208	15 132	222	2 414	199	3	19 178	-	153	
China	3 005	3 479	238	2 562	41	544	34	-	3 419	-	60	
Hong Kong	539	505	21	479	-	4	1	-	505	-	-	
India	3 834	4 731	409	3 689	40	515	31	-	4 684	-	47	
Japan	2 227	2 278	136	1 983	10	133	16	-	2 278	-	-	
Malaysia	891	951	37	839	15	44	16	-	951	-	-	
Philippines	653	878	11	457	2	362	36	-	868	-	10	
Rep of China (Taiwan)	851	1 244	80	791	23	329	3	1	1 227	-	17	
Rep of Korea	1 105	1 368	38	1 190	61	49	28	-	1 366	-	2	
Singapore	707	678	28	616	1	30	3	-	678	-	-	
Other	2 323	3 219	210	2 526	29	404	31	2	3 202	-	17	

Table 5. Number of foreign arrivals by country and purpose of travel (continued)

Country	April		Purpose of travel (April 2007)							Contract worker	Border traffic concession
	2006	2007	Business	Holiday	Study	Work	Transit	Unspec.	Total		
Africa total	560 307	625 180	8 534	589 467	9 591	2 914	3 325	66	613 897	-	11 283
SADC	549 626	612 415	7 581	579 091	9 003	2 243	3 224	32	601 174	-	11 241
Angola	2 360	2 705	65	2 351	182	75	32	-	2 705	-	-
Botswana	78 575	90 158	120	86 468	2 632	261	620	-	90 101	-	57
DRC	1 744	2 079	81	1 848	59	53	19	18	2 078	-	1
Lesotho	166 679	202 424	578	188 595	1 224	201	1 279	-	191 877	-	10 547
Madagascar	219	225	13	199	6	6	-	-	224	-	1
Malawi	9 550	12 094	500	11 405	83	72	25	2	12 087	-	7
Mauritius	1 325	1 410	30	1 321	24	19	16	-	1 410	-	-
Mozambique	74 251	90 605	250	89 642	379	113	46	-	90 430	-	175
Namibia	25 838	21 524	1 717	17 452	1 503	74	772	-	21 518	-	6
Swaziland	85 799	92 323	437	89 910	1 489	166	220	-	92 222	-	101
Tanzania	1 102	1 112	118	884	77	27	1	-	1 107	-	5
Zambia	13 266	14 774	1 632	12 794	202	103	37	-	14 768	-	6
Zimbabwe	88 918	80 982	2 040	76 222	1 143	1 073	157	12	80 647	-	335

Table 5. Number of foreign arrivals by country and purpose of travel (continued)

Country	April		Purpose of travel (April 2007)								Contract worker	Border traffic concession
	2006	2007	Business	Holiday	Study	Work	Transit	Unspec.	Total			
East and Central	5 472	6 369	437	5 211	320	319	34	33	6 354	-	15	
Burundi	83	92	11	75	3	2	-	1	92	-	-	
Cameroon	348	342	45	250	16	28	-	3	342	-	-	
Central African Rep	20	7	2	5	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	
Chad	13	13	-	9	1	1	2	-	13	-	-	
Comoros	17	20	1	17	1	1	-	-	20	-	-	
Congo	577	574	14	514	14	20	4	2	568	-	6	
Djibouti	6	10	2	8	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	
Equatorial Guinea	19	45	-	40	3	2	-	-	45	-	-	
Eritrea	55	52	3	46	-	1	-	1	51	-	1	
Ethiopia	640	808	36	710	15	28	2	16	807	-	1	
Gabon	154	193	3	166	16	7	1	-	193	-	-	
Kenya	1 986	2 388	213	1 845	152	167	7	2	2 386	-	2	
Reunion	33	30	2	26	2	-	-	-	30	-	-	
Rwanda	276	304	29	227	28	6	12	2	304	-	-	
Sao Tome and Principe	11	16	-	15	-	1	-	-	16	-	-	
Seychelles	173	197	2	189	3	1	2	-	197	-	-	
Somalia	137	249	3	241	-	-	-	5	249	-	-	
Tristan da Cunha	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	
Uganda	924	1 028	71	827	66	54	4	1	1 023	-	5	

Table 5. Number of foreign arrivals by country and purpose of travel (concluded)

Country	April		Purpose of travel (April 2007)								Contract worker	Border traffic concession
			Business	Holiday	Study	Work	Transit	Unspec.	Total			
	2006	2007										
West Africa	4 353	5 401	391	4 392	251	303	41	1	5 379	-	22	
Ascension	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	
Benin	69	100	10	86	1	3	-	-	100	-	-	
Burkina Faso	47	35	5	24	-	5	1	-	35	-	-	
Cape Verde Island	41	54	1	50	2	1	-	-	54	-	-	
Cote D'Ivoire	151	171	18	117	7	26	3	-	171	-	-	
Gambia	71	52	6	39	2	-	5	-	52	-	-	
Ghana	924	1 000	101	805	18	66	7	-	997	-	3	
Guinea	65	95	7	81	6	1	-	-	95	-	-	
Guinea-Bissau	14	15	2	11	1	-	1	-	15	-	-	
Liberia	36	46	10	30	-	5	-	-	45	-	1	
Madeira Island	11	9	-	9	-	-	-	-	9	-	-	
Mali	35	82	10	70	-	2	-	-	82	-	-	
Mauritania	12	16	1	15	-	-	-	-	16	-	-	
Niger	12	25	5	19	-	-	1	-	25	-	-	
Nigeria	2 547	3 343	170	2 778	209	157	12	-	3 326	-	17	
St Helena	16	6	-	6	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	
Senegal	203	239	34	157	2	33	11	1	238	-	1	
Sierra Leone	58	86	6	74	3	3	-	-	86	-	-	
Togo	38	26	5	20	-	1	-	-	26	-	-	
Western Sahara	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
North Africa	856	995	125	773	17	49	26	-	990	-	5	
Algeria	218	145	20	108	6	10	1	-	145	-	-	
Egypt	301	450	38	370	1	19	19	-	447	-	3	
Libya	42	63	6	37	4	10	4	-	61	-	2	
Morocco	78	58	11	42	-	3	2	-	58	-	-	
Sudan	185	168	23	134	6	5	-	-	168	-	-	
Tunisia	32	111	27	82	-	2	-	-	111	-	-	
Unspecified	3 086	4 672	56	1 270	857	607	11	-	2 801	-	1 871	

EXPLANATORY NOTES

1. Introduction

Legal movements across South African borders as well as legal immigration into South Africa fall under the jurisdiction of the Department of Home Affairs (DHA). Statistics South Africa then processes 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 (both in terms of space and time) of the population movements of South African residents and foreign travellers. The data -

- can be used to estimate, monitor and understand salient characteristics of foreign travellers and volumes of South African residents travelling outside South Africa;
- can, in the absence of information on foreign tourists, be further analysed to provide some indication of international tourism; and
- 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 demand for local tourism services by foreign travellers.

The information on documented migrants provides crucial information on receiving countries of South African emigrants which could be targeted in initiatives geared towards attracting back migrants into the country. In addition, the data on permanent residents are valuable in assessing not only the demographic and economic profiles of immigrants but also their contribution to national social and economic programmes.

2. Purpose of the statistical release

This release reports on arrivals and departures of foreign and South African travellers. Travellers include (a) same-day visitors and tourists and (b) other travellers such as migrant workers from other countries paid in South Africa.

3. Scope and coverage

This release covers all the data as received from the DHA. The arrivals of foreign travellers are more detailed than departures as they are reported by mode of travel, gender, age and purpose of visit whereas statistics on South African residents are reported by mode of travel. Statistics on documented migration, i.e. self-declared emigrants and documented immigrants, are currently not reported due to the unavailability of data from the DHA.

4. Data

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

- Department of Home Affairs' (DHA) database on population Movement Control System (MCS): Data routinely collected by immigration officers at all land, 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 system. Generally the data are collected directly from travel documents either by scanning or capturing onto the port's electronic database. Individual ports regularly transmit data onto the national database at the head office of the DHA. Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) downloads the data covering a particular calendar month from the mainframe of the State Information Technology Agency (SITA), where the DHA stores its data.
- DHA departure forms: the DHA departure forms are specifically designed for the collection of data from South African residents departing South Africa. The completed forms from OR Tambo, Cape Town and Durban international airports covering a particular calendar month are processed and analysed accordingly by Stats SA.
- The database for applicants for South African permanent residence: a printout of data on the successful applicants covering a particular calendar month is issued to Stats SA.

5. Limitations

The main limitation of the published information is its inability to directly measure the volume of tourists. The main aspects of the United Nations World Tourism Organisation's (UNWTO) definition of a tourist are duration of stay and whether individuals are remunerated in the place being visited. Although the intended duration of stay can be inferred from the expiry date of the temporary residence permit, this does not necessarily translate into actual duration of stay. In addition, the data do not provide information on the remuneration status of travellers in South Africa.

The information on the total number of arrivals and departures of South African residents is collected from the scanning of passports. However, data on country of final destination and purpose of visit will be available when the re-introduction of the departure forms is in full operational at the three international airports (OR Tambo, Cape Town and Durban). Processing of available departure forms from the three international airports is currently underway.

Due to unavailability of data from the DHA, information on documented immigrants is not included in this current publication. The documented immigration information will be provided as soon as it is made available to Stats SA.

6. Glossary of terms

Key terms used in this release are defined as follows:

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

Border traffic concession is granted to a person who crosses the border on a frequent basis. The concession is granted for a maximum period of six months after which it can be renewed if necessary.

Country refers to individual countries within a region. Note that not all the lists of countries available in the data are reported in the release owing to the few monthly arrivals from those countries. Data on these countries will be made available to individuals on request.

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

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

Overseas refers to all other countries outside Africa.

Region refers to the following country classification: Europe, North America, Central and South America, Australasia, the Middle East, Asia and Africa.

SADC refers to the thirteen countries, excluding South Africa, that belong to the Southern African Development Community.

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

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

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 not related to the exercise of an activity remunerated from within the place visited. The usual environment of a person consists of a certain area around his/her place of residence plus all other places he/she frequently visits. *Even though the data from the DHA used in this release do not provide information on duration of stay and remuneration status of the travellers, activities of most of these travellers will comprise tourism.*

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

Traveller is any person on a trip between two or more localities (e.g. countries). Travellers can include Visitors (same-day and overnight) and other travellers such as workers paid in the country visited, migrants, refugees, diplomats and others within the usual environment.

Visitor is 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. However, in this release, the concept visitor is used to indicate an individual that entered the country on visitor's temporary permit.

7. Symbols and abbreviations used

- = nil

Unspec. = unspecified

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 eleven 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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