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Users who would like to continue using foreign arrival (rather than tourists) as their base denominator for comparison and trend analysis purposes could send their data request to: TshwaroG@statssa.gov.za or DudzileGu@statssa.gov.za

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KEY FINDINGS

1. Travellers

1.1 Number of travellers

The routine data collected by the Department of Home Affairs' (DHA) immigration officers at the ports of entry into South Africa show that a total of 2 466 368 travellers (arrivals and departures) passed through South African ports of entry in April 2010. As presented in Table 1, these travellers are made up of 807 582 South African residents and 1 658 786 foreign travellers. A further breakdown of the figures indicates that there were 418 434 and 389 148 South African residents' arrivals and departures respectively. The corresponding volumes for foreign arrivals and departures were 890 590 and 768 196 respectively. A comparison between the movements in March 2010 and April 2010 indicates that the volume of arrivals and departures for both South African residents and foreign travellers increased. There was an increase of 27,8% from 327 444 in March 2010 to 418 434 in April 2010 for South African arrivals and an increase of 6,6% from 364 913 in March 2010 to 389 148 in April 2010 for their departures. Foreign arrivals increased by 3,3% from 862 333 in March 2010 to 890 590 in April 2010 and foreign departures increased by 2,3% from 751 268 in March 2010 to 768 196 in April 2010. A comparison between movements in April 2009 and April 2010 indicate that there was an increase in all movements except for South African residents' departures. Thus, South African residents departures declined by 6,1% from 414 307 in April 2009 to 389 148 in April 2010. Detailed information on the departure of travellers is not available in the movement data. Data on the purpose of travel and the number of days South African travellers intend to spend or spent abroad are not collected by South Africa immigration officers. Hence, it is not possible to categorise them as tourists and non tourists. However, data are available on foreign arrivals for this categorisation. As presented in Table 1, in April 2010, 32 279 (3,6%) foreign arrivals were classified as non-visitors while 858 311 (96,4%) were visitors. The visitors were categorised into three groups: arrivals only comprising of visitors who entered the country in April but did not depart in April (305 623); visitors who came once and left in April (351 518); and those who came more than once and left in April (201 170). Visitors were further grouped as same day visitors 216 140 (25,2%) and overnight visitors/tourists 642 171 (74,8%).

1.2 Mode of travel of travellers and same day visitors

Travellers who cross South Africa's borders rarely use trains and ships since these are mainly used for transporting goods. Data presented in Table 2 show that in April 2010, road transport was the most common mode of travel used by 1 797 453 (72,9%) out of the 2 466 368 travellers. The total number of travellers who used air transport was 656 189 (26,6%). The arrival data on South African residents show that 141 579 (33,8%) came by air and 275 873 (65,9%) by road. For departure, 133 898 (34,4%) and 254 734 (65,5%) used air and road transport respectively. In the case of foreign travellers, 180 334 (20,2%) arrived by air. Those who came by road were 702 006 (78,8%). When departing South Africa, 200 378 (26,1%) foreign travellers left by air whilst 564 840 (73,5%) left by road. As shown in Table 2 an overwhelming majority, 200 748 (92,9%) of same day visitors arrived in the country by road. Only 15 333 (7,1%) same day visitors flew into the country. However, data on overnight visitors/tourists show that, 486 366 (75,7%) used road transport whereas 155 392 (24,2%) came by air.

2. Tourists

2.1 Mode of travel of tourists

The country of residence of tourists is used to categorise them into their respective regions and countries. Information on the specific region and country of residence of the tourists and the mode of travel used to enter South Africa is provided in Table 3. In April 2010, a high number of overseas tourists arrived in the country by air 112 620 (87,5%) whilst 15 825 (12,3%) came in by road. This is in contrast to tourists from SADC countries who came into South Africa predominantly by road 466 133 (94,1%) whereas 29 214 (5,9%) came in by air. A relatively high number 10 812 (82,7%) of tourists from 'other' African countries flew into the country while 2 257 (17,3%) used road transport.

2.2 Regional and national distribution of tourists

In April 2010, overseas tourists came mainly from Europe, 78 014 (60,6%); followed by North America, 20 227 (15,7%); Asia, 15 043 (11,7%); Australasia, 8 917 (6,9%); Central and South America, 4 293 (3,3%); and Middle East, 2 279 (1,8%). Virtually all tourists from Africa came from the SADC countries, 495 420 (97,4%). The distribution of the remaining tourists from Africa is as follows: East and Central Africa, 6 487 (1,3%); West Africa, 5 761 (1,1%) and North Africa 833 (0,2%).

Data presented in Figure 1 indicate that UK, 30 176 (23,4%); USA, 16 885 (13,1%); Germany, 10 695 (8,3%); France, 7 773 (6,0%); Australia, 7 344 (5,7%); The Netherlands, 6 802 (5,3%); India, 4 498 (3,5%); and China, 3 893 (3,0%) were the eight leading overseas countries. Tourists from these eight countries constitute 68,3% of all tourists from overseas countries. A comparison between movements in April 2009 and April 2010 shows that the number of tourists decreased in all these countries with the exception of China, USA and Australia. The volume of tourists from China increased by 62,3% from 2 398 in April 2009 to 3 893 in April 2010, the volume of tourists from USA increased by 1,0% from 16 726 in April 2009 to 16 885 in April 2010 and the tourists from Australia increased by 0,5% from 7 308 in April 2009 to 7 344 in April 2010.

The eight leading countries from SADC (see Figure 2) were Zimbabwe, 144 180 (29,1%); Lesotho, 103 624 (20,9%); Mozambique, 76 810 (15,5%); Botswana, 63 985 (12,9%); Swaziland, 58 735 (11,9%); Namibia, 17 957 (3,6%); Zambia, 13 315 (2,7%) and Malawi, 8 885 (1,8%). Tourists from these eight countries constitute 98,4% of all tourists from SADC countries.

A comparison between movements in April 2009 and April 2010 shows that the number of tourists increased in all these countries with the exception of Malawi, Mozambique and Swaziland. The volume of tourists from Malawi decreased by 20,8% from 11 214 in April 2009 to 8 885 in April 2010, the volume of tourists from Mozambique decreased by 10,0% from 85 355 in April 2009 to 76 810 in April 2010 and the tourists from Swaziland decreased by 7,6% from 63 550 in April 2009 to 58 735 in April 2010.

The eight leading countries from 'other' African countries, shown in Figure 3, were Nigeria, 3 770 (28,8%); Kenya, 1 996 (15,3%); Ghana, 1 040 (8,0%); Uganda, 1 001 (7,7%); Ethiopia, 858 (6,6%); Somalia, 581 (4,4%); Congo, 526 (4,0%); and Gabon, 416 (3,2%). Tourists from these eight countries constitute 78,0% of all tourists from 'other' African countries. A comparison between movements in April 2009 and April 2010 shows that the number of tourists increased in all these countries with the exception of Congo and Nigeria. The volume of tourists from Congo declined by 19,2% from 651 in April 2009 to 526 in April 2010 and the tourists from Nigeria declined by 2,2% from 3 855 in April 2009 to 3 770 in April 2010.

2.3 Purpose of visit of tourists

As observed from data given in Table 4, in April 2010, an overwhelming majority (96,9%) of tourists were in South Africa for holidays compared to only 1,6% and 1,3% of tourists who were in South Africa to study and do business. A detailed analysis reveals that all the overseas regions had at least 91,0% of their tourists coming to South Africa for holidays. Tourists from Australasia (98,3%), North America (97,2%), Europe (96,9%), Central and South America (96,7%), Middle East (91,9%), and Asia (91,5%) were in South Africa mostly for holidays. Tourists from Middle East and Asia were more diverse in their purpose. Middle East and Asia had 7,0% and 6,1% respectively of their tourists in South Africa for business. Furthermore, students made up 1,2% and 0,9% of Asia and Middle East tourists respectively.

Although the majority (97,4%) of African tourists came to South Africa for holidays, there were differences between tourists from SADC countries and those from 'other' African countries, namely:

- Whereas 97,5% of tourists from the SADC countries were on holidays; 92,7% of tourists from 'other' African countries were on holidays. Proportionally, the lowest percentage (86,8%) of tourists on holidays came from North Africa, a region from where 2,5% of tourists had come to study.
- Overall, of the tourists from North Africa, East and Central Africa and West Africa, 9,6%, 3,7% and 2,6% respectively were in South Africa for business compared with only 1,0% of business persons among the tourists from SADC countries.
- Similarly, 4,5%; 2,5% and 2,3% of tourists from: East and Central Africa; North Africa and West Africa respectively were students compared with only 1,4% among tourists from SADC countries.

2.4 Sex and age distribution of tourists

As indicated in Table 5, in April 2010, there were 346 653 (54,0%) male and 294 680 (45,9%) female tourists. The overseas tourists were made up of 73 021 (56,7%) male tourists and 55 645 (43,2%) female tourists. Tourists from 'other' African countries had a high proportion (67,3%) of males compared with that of SADC (52,9%). The proportions of female tourists from 'other' African countries and SADC countries were 32,7% and 46,9% respectively.

The ages of the tourists were categorised into three broad groups, namely those younger than 15 years, those aged between 15 and 64 years, and persons 65 years and older. The overall results presented in Table 5 show that 89,3% of tourists were aged between 15 and 64 years; 6,5% aged less than 15 years and 3,5% aged 65 years and older. Taking the country of residence into consideration, the results further show that 80,4% of overseas tourists were aged between 15 and 64 years compared to 91,6% and 89,4% of tourists from SADC and 'other' African countries respectively. There were very few tourists younger than 15 years and those aged 65 years and older. The data show relatively high proportions of the elderly among both male (8,4%) and female (9,0%) tourists from overseas. This is in contrast to tourists from SADC countries amongst which 1,9% of males and 2,6% of females were aged 65 years and older. Similarly among tourists from 'other' African countries 1,6% of males and 1,7% of females were aged 65 years and older.

P J Lehohla
Statistician-General

Figure 1. Number of tourists from eight leading overseas countries in April 2010 and April 2009

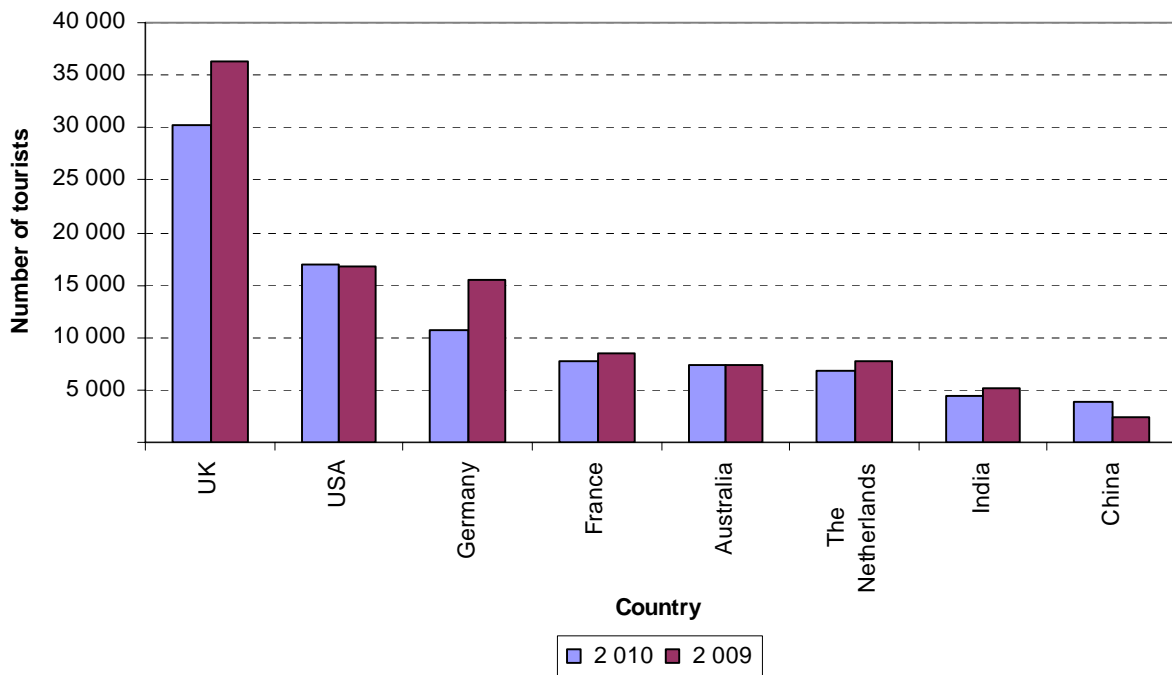
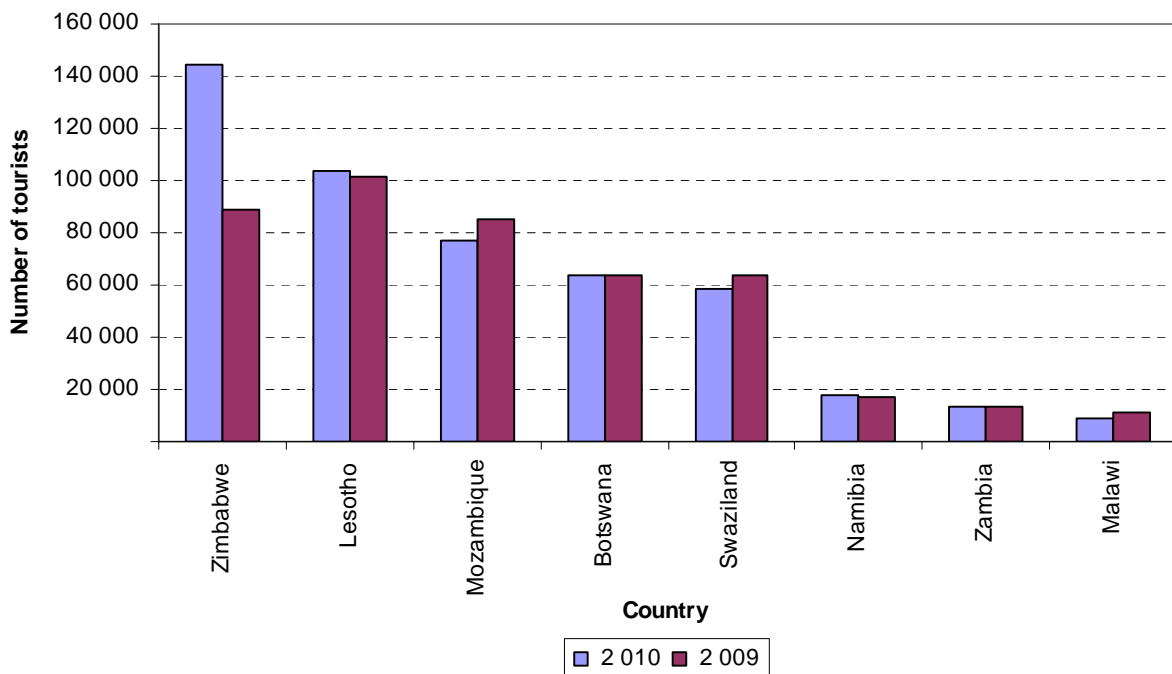


Figure 2. Number of tourists from eight leading SADC countries in April 2010 and April 2009



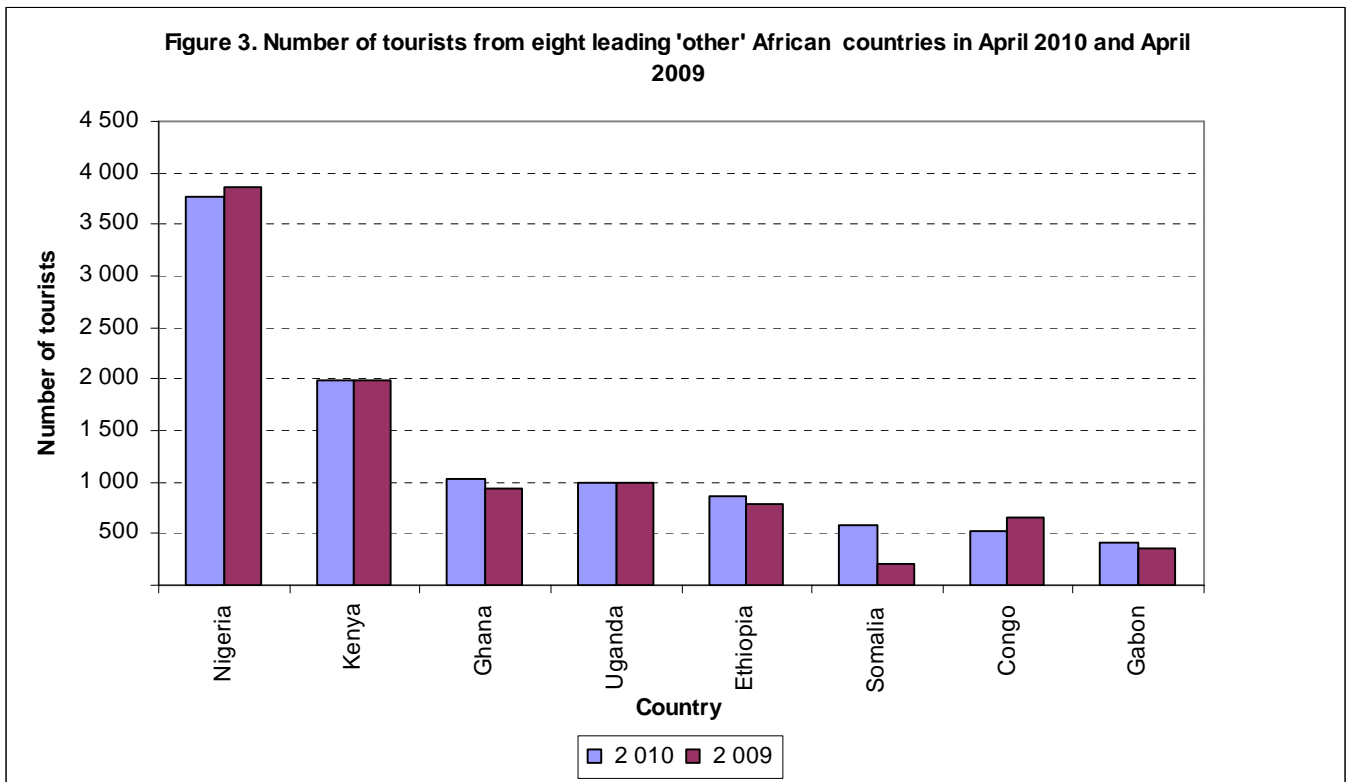


Table 1. Number of South African residents and foreign travellers by travel direction

Travel direction	April	March	April	% change	% change
	2009	2010	2010	April 09 - April 10	March 10 -April 10
Grand total	2 433 205	2 305 958	2 466 368	1,4	7,0
South African residents	829 194	692 357	807 582	-2,6	16,6
Arrivals	414 887	327 444	418 434	0,9	27,8
Departures	414 307	364 913	389 148	-6,1	6,6
Foreign travellers	1 604 011	1 613 601	1 658 786	3,4	2,8
Arrivals	848 997	862 333	890 590	4,9	3,3
Departures	755 014	751 268	768 196	1,7	2,3
Foreign arrivals	848 997	862 333	890 590	4,9	3,3
Non-visitors	29 695	33 355	32 279	8,7	-3,2
Visitors	819 302	828 978	858 311	4,8	3,5
Visitors	819 302	828 978	858 311	4,8	3,5
Arrivals only	263 873	286 405	305 623	15,8	6,7
Single trips	352 098	328 138	351 518	-0,2	7,1
Multiple trips	203 331	214 435	201 170	-1,1	-6,2
Visitors	819 302	828 978	858 311	4,8	3,5
Same day	204 126	225 499	216 140	5,9	-4,2
Overnight (tourists)	615 176	603 479	642 171	4,4	6,4

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

Travel direction	April		Mode of travel (April 2010)								
			Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2009	2010	Cape Town	Durban	OR Tambo	Other	Total				
Grand total	2 433 205	2 466 368	96 794	5 601	547 059	6 735	656 189	605	1 797 453	4 566	7 555
South African residents	829 194	807 582	32 040	3 038	235 695	4 704	275 477	309	530 607	506	683
Arrivals	414 887	418 434	16 185	1 769	121 311	2 314	141 579	165	275 873	136	681
Departures	414 307	389 148	15 855	1 269	114 384	2 390	133 898	144	254 734	370	2
Foreign travellers	1 604 011	1 658 786	64 754	2 563	311 364	2 031	380 712	296	1 266 846	4 060	6 872
Arrivals	848 997	890 590	28 672	1 407	149 342	913	180 334	121	702 006	1 284	6 845
Departures	755 014	768 196	36 082	1 156	162 022	1 118	200 378	175	564 840	2 776	27
Visitors	819 302	858 311	27 417	1 351	141 133	824	170 725	112	687 114	153	207
Same day	204 126	216 140	313	-	14 907	113	15 333	31	200 748	28	-
Overnight (tourists)	615 176	642 171	27 104	1 351	126 226	711	155 392	81	486 366	125	207

Table 3. Number of tourists by country of residence and mode of travel

Country	Mode of travel (April 2010)										
	April		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2009	2010	Cape Town	Durban	OR Tambo	Other	Total				
Grand Total	615 176	642 171	27 104	1 351	126 226	711	155 392	81	486 366	125	207
Overseas	146 504	128 773	24 480	1 293	86 392	455	112 620	18	15 825	108	202
Europe	95 450	78 014	19 068	887	47 263	215	67 433	10	10 442	64	65
Austria	1 307	988	205	9	654	2	870	-	115	3	-
Belgium	2 999	3 159	663	7	2 025	6	2 701	-	455	3	-
Denmark	1 737	1 058	156	2	748	2	908	-	148	2	-
France	8 481	7 773	1 185	36	5 581	18	6 820	4	942	4	3
Germany	15 490	10 695	2 685	49	6 259	9	9 002	2	1 682	2	7
Ireland	2 778	1 828	474	22	1 014	7	1 517	-	311	-	-
Italy	2 874	2 477	565	9	1 601	9	2 184	-	291	2	-
Norway	1 484	882	249	-	495	1	745	-	136	-	1
Portugal	2 395	2 732	247	4	1 334	21	1 606	-	1 122	4	-
Spain	1 854	1 421	133	1	1 165	2	1 301	-	120	-	-
Sweden	2 058	1 695	306	1	1 099	4	1 410	-	285	-	-
Switzerland	2 669	2 226	396	14	1 532	4	1 946	-	277	3	-
The Netherlands	7 810	6 802	2 006	21	3 661	18	5 706	1	1 071	23	1
UK	36 233	30 176	8 817	688	17 518	97	27 120	3	3 034	15	4
Other	5 281	4 102	981	24	2 577	15	3 597	-	453	3	49
North America	20 293	20 227	2 170	39	15 479	171	17 859	6	2 339	6	17
Canada	3 563	3 341	590	10	2 253	18	2 871	4	462	2	2
USA	16 726	16 885	1 580	29	13 226	153	14 988	2	1 876	4	15
Other	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Central and South America	4 393	4 293	413	6	3 382	14	3 815	-	473	5	-
Argentina	887	598	227	-	346	-	573	-	25	-	-
Brazil	2 251	2 506	42	2	2 203	13	2 260	-	242	4	-
Mexico	221	214	19	-	181	-	200	-	14	-	-
Other	1 034	975	125	4	652	1	782	-	192	1	-

Table 3. Number of tourists by country of residence and mode of travel (continued)

Country	Mode of travel (April 2010)										
	April		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2009	2010	Cape Town	Durban	OR Tambo	Other	Total				
Australasia	9 115	8 917	593	62	7 572	20	8 247	2	662	2	4
Australia	7 308	7 344	475	40	6 284	13	6 812	2	528	1	1
New Zealand	1 748	1 519	106	22	1 265	7	1 400	-	116	1	2
Other	59	54	12	-	23	-	35	-	18	-	1
Middle East	2 588	2 279	315	11	1 749	6	2 081	-	195	1	2
Israel	1 448	1 176	42	-	997	6	1 045	-	131	-	-
Lebanon	168	161	31	1	110	-	142	-	19	-	-
Saudi Arabia	311	274	68	3	194	-	265	-	9	-	-
Other	661	668	174	7	448	-	629	-	36	1	2
Asia	14 665	15 043	1 921	288	10 947	29	13 185	-	1 714	30	114
China	2 398	3 893	528	-	3 201	3	3 732	-	161	-	-
India	5 160	4 498	460	119	3 290	2	3 871	-	600	5	22
Japan	1 318	1 380	99	2	1 216	-	1 317	-	62	1	-
Korea	869	927	90	2	733	-	825	-	99	-	3
Malaysia	593	415	92	-	300	-	392	-	15	-	8
Pakistan	757	834	86	71	427	-	584	-	240	9	1
Philippines	340	394	77	6	200	4	287	-	35	10	62
Taiwan	731	629	103	62	290	12	467	-	150	1	11
Thailand	477	496	152	2	310	-	464	-	32	-	-
Other	2 022	1 577	234	24	980	8	1 246	-	320	4	7
Africa	465 441	508 501	2 514	58	37 207	247	40 026	63	468 390	17	5
SADC	452 855	495 420	2 344	44	26 628	198	29 214	62	466 133	7	4
Angola	2 902	2 775	262	-	2 304	46	2 612	-	161	-	2
Botswana	63 464	63 985	12	-	1 871	27	1 910	51	62 024	-	-
DRC	2 319	2 422	-	-	1 816	14	1 830	-	592	-	-
Lesotho	101 745	103 624	5	-	320	2	327	-	103 297	-	-
Madagascar	218	220	-	-	213	-	213	-	7	-	-

Table 3. Number of tourists by country of residence and mode of travel (continued)

Country	Mode of travel April 2010)										
	April		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2009	2010	Cape Town	Durban	OR Tambo	Other	Total				
Malawi	11 214	8 885	3	1	1 885	13	1 902	-	6 983	-	-
Mauritius	1 282	1 237	212	9	900	-	1 121	-	116	-	-
Mozambique	85 355	76 810	83	28	1 757	20	1 888	8	74 908	4	2
Namibia	17 235	17 957	1 711	-	2 231	20	3 962	-	13 995	-	-
Swaziland	63 550	58 735	-	-	414	2	416	2	58 317	-	-
Tanzania	1 180	1 275	3	-	847	2	852	-	423	-	-
Zambia	13 161	13 315	8	-	4 210	5	4 223	-	9 091	1	-
Zimbabwe	89 230	144 180	45	6	7 860	47	7 958	1	136 219	2	-
'Other' African	12 586	13 081	170	14	10 579	49	10 812	1	2 257	10	1
East and Central Africa	6 002	6 487	61	5	4 745	31	4 842	-	1 643	2	-
Burundi	77	73	-	-	65	-	65	-	8	-	-
Cameroon	387	387	6	1	340	-	347	-	40	-	-
Central African Republic	5	15	-	-	14	-	14	-	1	-	-
Chad	15	21	2	-	19	-	21	-	-	-	-
Comoros	11	9	-	-	7	-	7	-	2	-	-
Congo	651	526	14	-	325	4	343	-	182	1	-
Djibouti	2	6	-	-	5	-	5	-	1	-	-
Equat Guinea	13	26	3	-	14	-	17	-	9	-	-
Eritrea	43	61	5	1	48	-	54	-	7	-	-
Ethiopia	795	858	1	-	532	-	533	-	325	-	-
Gabon	360	416	2	-	404	9	415	-	1	-	-
Kenya	1 996	1 996	5	3	1 683	17	1 708	-	288	-	-
Reunion	71	20	-	-	20	-	20	-	-	-	-
Rwanda	243	242	2	-	217	1	220	-	22	-	-
Sao Tome and Principe	6	13	1	-	11	-	12	-	1	-	-
Seychelles	127	236	16	-	217	-	233	-	3	-	-
Somalia	211	581	-	-	11	-	11	-	570	-	-
Uganda	989	1 001	4	-	813	-	817	-	183	1	-

Table 3. Number of tourists by country of residence and mode of travel (concluded)

Country	Mode of travel (April 2010)										
	April		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2009	2010	Cape Town	Durban	OR Tambo	Other	Total				
West Africa	5 866	5 761	38	5	5 173	6	5 222	1	530	8	-
Ascension	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Benin	146	91	-	-	78	-	78	-	13	-	-
Burkina Faso	57	40	-	-	40	-	40	-	-	-	-
Cape Verde Island	40	49	3	2	40	-	45	-	4	-	-
Cote D'Ivoire	219	106	4	-	98	-	102	-	4	-	-
Gambia	49	29	-	-	27	-	27	-	2	-	-
Ghana	936	1 040	3	-	950	-	953	-	86	1	-
Guinea	82	89	1	-	50	-	51	-	38	-	-
Guinea-Bissau	14	40	-	-	13	-	13	-	27	-	-
Liberia	33	56	-	-	50	-	50	-	6	-	-
Madeira Islands	5	3	-	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	-
Mali	65	73	-	-	60	-	60	-	13	-	-
Mauritania	9	14	-	-	14	-	14	-	-	-	-
Niger	14	10	-	-	9	-	9	-	1	-	-
Nigeria	3 855	3 770	24	3	3 415	5	3 447	1	315	7	-
Saint Helena	5	4	1	-	2	-	3	-	1	-	-
Senegal	232	227	1	-	223	-	224	-	3	-	-
Sierra Leone	62	85	1	-	71	1	73	-	12	-	-
Togo	42	35	-	-	32	-	32	-	3	-	-
North Africa	718	833	71	4	661	12	748	-	84	-	1
Algeria	93	98	3	-	80	-	83	-	15	-	-
Egypt	283	403	43	2	328	9	382	-	20	-	1
Libya	50	86	3	-	57	-	60	-	26	-	-
Morocco	59	56	5	-	43	1	49	-	7	-	-
The Sudan	163	117	12	-	92	2	106	-	11	-	-
Tunisia	69	72	5	2	60	-	67	-	5	-	-
Western Sahara	1	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Unspecified	3 231	4 897	110	-	2 627	9	2 746	-	2 151	-	-

Table 4. Number of tourists by country of residence and purpose of visit

Country	April		Purpose of visit (April 2010)			
	2009	2010	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
Grand Total	615 176	642 171	8 466	622 069	10 174	1 462
Overseas	146 504	128 773	3 164	124 024	1 067	518
Europe	95 450	78 014	1 573	75 574	660	207
Austria	1 307	988	24	959	2	3
Belgium	2 999	3 159	52	3 081	21	5
Denmark	1 737	1 058	30	1 020	5	3
France	8 481	7 773	135	7 555	71	12
Germany	15 490	10 695	224	10 342	111	18
Ireland	2 778	1 828	32	1 774	19	3
Italy	2 874	2 477	76	2 379	21	1
Norway	1 484	882	20	842	18	2
Portugal	2 395	2 732	16	2 688	19	9
Spain	1 854	1 421	32	1 379	5	5
Sweden	2 058	1 695	50	1 622	21	2
Switzerland	2 669	2 226	38	2 161	22	5
The Netherlands	7 810	6 802	153	6 574	68	7
UK	36 233	30 176	564	29 336	218	58
Other	5 281	4 102	127	3 862	39	74
North America	20 293	20 227	351	19 670	141	65
Canada	3 563	3 341	73	3 235	22	11
USA	16 726	16 885	278	16 434	119	54
Other	4	1	-	1	-	-
Central and South America	4 393	4 293	66	4 151	37	39
Argentina	887	598	10	583	2	3
Brazil	2 251	2 506	15	2 466	18	7
Mexico	221	214	13	191	8	2
Other	1 034	975	28	911	9	27

Table 4. Number of tourists by country of residence and purpose of visit (continued)

Country	April		Purpose of visit (April 2010)			
	2009	2010	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
Australasia	9 115	8 917	102	8 764	25	26
Australia	7 308	7 344	91	7 217	16	20
New Zealand	1 748	1 519	10	1 499	5	5
Other	59	54	1	48	4	1
Middle East	2 588	2 279	160	2 095	21	3
Israel	1 448	1 176	28	1 141	6	1
Lebanon	168	161	19	141	1	-
Saudi Arabia	311	274	23	245	6	-
Other	661	668	90	568	8	2
Asia	14 665	15 043	912	13 770	183	178
China	2 398	3 893	275	3 591	23	4
India	5 160	4 498	359	4 037	57	45
Japan	1 318	1 380	45	1 318	7	10
Korea	869	927	20	857	42	8
Malaysia	593	415	11	389	6	9
Pakistan	757	834	61	764	8	1
Philippines	340	394	32	283	2	77
Taiwan	731	629	18	594	6	11
Thailand	477	496	12	476	8	-
Other	2 022	1 577	79	1 461	24	13
Africa	465 441	508 501	5 194	495 132	7 239	936
SADC	452 855	495 420	4 722	483 003	6 795	900
Angola	2 902	2 775	47	2 533	171	24
Botswana	63 464	63 985	55	62 230	1 592	108
DRC	2 319	2 422	64	2 290	51	17
Lesotho	101 745	103 624	37	102 488	584	515
Madagascar	218	220	5	207	6	2

Table 4. Number of tourists by country of residence and purpose of visit (continued)

Country	April		Purpose of visit (April 2010)			
	2009	2010	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
Malawi	11 214	8 885	155	8 625	88	17
Mauritius	1 282	1 237	20	1 190	20	7
Mozambique	85 355	76 810	203	76 375	210	22
Namibia	17 235	17 957	1 730	15 063	1 133	31
Swaziland	63 550	58 735	476	56 615	1 609	35
Tanzania	1 180	1 275	53	1 147	75	-
Zambia	13 161	13 315	851	12 270	170	24
Zimbabwe	89 230	144 180	1 026	141 970	1 086	98
'Other' African	12 586	13 081	472	12 129	444	36
East and Central Africa	6 002	6 487	243	5 935	290	19
Burundi	77	73	7	63	3	-
Cameroon	387	387	20	346	18	3
Central African Republic	5	15	1	14	-	-
Chad	15	21	2	18	1	-
Comoros	11	9	-	4	3	2
Congo	651	526	16	477	26	7
Djibouti	2	6	1	5	-	-
Equat Guinea	13	26	-	24	2	-
Eritrea	43	61	1	59	1	-
Ethiopia	795	858	16	829	13	-
Gabon	360	416	3	387	26	-
Kenya	1 996	1 996	111	1 736	143	6
Reunion	71	20	1	16	3	-
Rwanda	243	242	16	211	15	-
Sao Tome and Principe	6	13	1	12	-	-
Seychelles	127	236	2	233	1	-
Somalia	211	581	1	579	1	-
Uganda	989	1 001	44	922	34	1

Table 4. Number of tourists by country of residence and purpose of visit (concluded)

Country	April		Purpose of visit (April 2010)			
	2009	2010	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
West Africa	5 866	5 761	149	5 471	133	8
Ascension	1	-	-	-	-	-
Benin	146	91	1	90	-	-
Burkina Faso	57	40	5	35	-	-
Cape Verde Island	40	49	-	46	2	1
Cote D'Ivoire	219	106	12	90	4	-
Gambia	49	29	1	28	-	-
Ghana	936	1 040	34	986	19	1
Guinea	82	89	2	82	5	-
Guinea-Bissau	14	40	2	38	-	-
Liberia	33	56	3	50	3	-
Madeira Islands	5	3	1	2	-	-
Mali	65	73	3	70	-	-
Mauritania	9	14	1	13	-	-
Niger	14	10	2	8	-	-
Nigeria	3 855	3 770	66	3 601	99	4
Saint Helena	5	4	-	4	-	-
Senegal	232	227	13	212	-	2
Sierra Leone	62	85	1	84	-	-
Togo	42	35	2	32	1	-
North Africa	718	833	80	723	21	9
Algeria	93	98	5	84	6	3
Egypt	283	403	47	351	4	1
Libya	50	86	8	69	4	5
Morocco	59	56	6	48	2	-
The Sudan	163	117	7	105	5	-
Tunisia	69	72	7	65	-	-
Western Sahara	1	1	-	1	-	-
Unspecified	3 231	4 897	108	2 913	1 868	8

Table 5. Number of tourists from overseas, SADC and 'other' African regions by sex and age group April 2010

Sex	Age group	Total	Region			
			Overseas	SADC	'other' African	Unspecified
All	Total	642 171	128 773	495 420	13 081	4 897
	<15	41 874	10 652	29 714	857	651
	15-64	573 173	103 583	453 926	11 694	3 970
	65+	22 500	11 152	11 051	217	80
	Unspecified	4 624	3 386	729	313	196
Males	Total	346 653	73 021	262 255	8 798	2 579
	<15	21 104	5 512	14 829	448	315
	15-64	311 784	59 482	242 187	8 012	2 103
	65+	11 194	6 119	4 881	145	49
	Unspecified	2 571	1 908	358	193	112
Females	Total	294 680	55 645	232 449	4 278	2 308
	<15	20 770	5 140	14 885	409	336
	15-64	260 676	44 020	211 118	3 679	1 859
	65+	11 240	5 012	6 127	72	29
	Unspecified	1 994	1 473	319	118	84
Unspecified	Total	838	107	716	5	10
	<15	-	-	-	-	-
	15-64	713	81	621	3	8
	65+	66	21	43	-	2
	Unspecified	59	5	52	2	-

Explanatory notes

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 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; 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. Detailed information on the gender and age structure; mode of travel; national and regional distribution; and purpose of travel of overnight visitors or tourists are provided.

3. Scope and coverage

The release covers data on arrival and departure of South African residents and foreign travellers. A detailed analysis of the data on foreign tourists with respect to: mode of travel, purpose of visit, sex and age distribution is covered in the release. Statistics on documented migration, that is self-declared emigrants, are not reported due to the unavailability of data.

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 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 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 port's electronic database. No forms or cards are used (except in 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.
- 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.
- As part of data interrogation, data from the OR Tambo International Airport, which has the highest volume of travellers, are compared with passenger statistics from the Airport Company of South Africa (ACSA). As expected, in any specific month, an increase in the volume of passengers reported by ACSA has been accompanied by an increase in the volume of travellers recorded by DHA. A similar pattern was also observed when the volume of travellers decreased. However, the volume of passengers recorded by ACSA is higher than that of the DHA because of, among other reasons, travellers who are in transit and those who boarded airplanes but refused entry into the country. In April 2010, the DHA data was 22,1% lower than that of ACSA.

5. Limitations

The information on the total number of arrivals and departures of South African residents is collected from the scanning of passports. However, data are not collected from passengers on country visited; country of final destination, the duration of stay; 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.

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. Definitions of terms

6.1 Definitions used by the United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO)

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 other places he/she frequently visits.

6.2 Definitions used specifically in this report

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, Asia. Africa: SADC, 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 thirteen countries, excluding South Africa, that 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

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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