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Statistical release

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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 April 2013. Specific focus is on foreign tourists who entered the country during this month. The tourists are classified by region and country of residence. Details of their mode of travel; purpose of visit; and age and sex distribution are also provided.

PJ Lehohla
Statistician-General

1. Key findings

1.1 Travellers

1.1.1 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 3 183 228 travellers (arrivals and departures) passed through South African ports of entry in April 2013. As presented in Table 1 on page 8, these travellers were made up of 827 188 South African residents and 2 356 040 foreign travellers. A further breakdown of the figures for South African residents indicates that there were 436 896 arrivals and 390 292 departures. The corresponding volumes for foreign arrivals and departures were 1 278 502 and 1 077 538, respectively.

A comparison between the movements in March 2013 and April 2013 indicates that the volumes of arrivals increased for both South African residents and foreign travellers while the volume of departures decreased for both South African residents and foreign travellers. The volume of arrivals for South African residents increased by 12,5% (from 388 245 in March 2013 to 436 896 in April 2013) and the volume of departures for South African residents decreased by 15,3% (from 460 973 in March 2013 to 390 292 in April 2013). Foreign arrivals increased by 3,4% (from 1 235 930 in March 2013 to 1 278 502 in April 2013) while foreign departures decreased by 4,5% (from 1 128 559 in March 2013 to 1 077 538 in April 2013).

A comparison between the movements in April 2012 and April 2013 indicates that the volumes of arrivals and departures decreased for South African residents and increased for foreign travellers. For South African residents, the volume of arrivals decreased by 4,2% (from 455 895 in April 2012 to 436 896 in April 2013) and the volume of departures decreased by 14,6% (from 457 250 in April 2012 to 390 292 in April 2013). The volume of arrivals for foreign travellers increased by 10,5% (from 1 157 430 in April 2012 to 1 278 502 in April 2013) and the volume of departures increased by 11,1% (from 970 112 in April 2012 to 1 077 538 in April 2013).

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. Hence, it is not possible to categorise South African residents as tourists and non-tourists. However, some data are available on foreign arrivals for this categorisation.

As presented in Table 1, in April 2013, 79 892 (6,2%) foreign arrivals were classified as non-visitors while 1 198 610 (93,8%) were classified as visitors. The visitors were categorised into three groups:

- i. arrivals only – comprising of visitors who entered the country in April 2013 but did not depart in April 2013 [411 906 (34,4%)];
- ii. single trips – visitors who came once in April 2013 and left in April 2013 [354 226 (29,6%)]; and
- iii. multiple trips – visitors who came and left more than once in April 2013 [432 478 (36,1%)].

Visitors were further grouped as same-day visitors and overnight visitors (tourists). In April 2013, there were 395 135 (33,0%) same-day visitors and 803 475 (67,0%) tourists. Between March 2013 and April 2013, the volume of same-day visitors increased by 9,3% (from 361 593 in March 2013 to 395 135 in April 2013) and tourists decreased by 1,4% (from 815 075 in March 2013 to 803 475 in April 2013). Furthermore, between April 2012 and April 2013, the volume of same-day visitors increased by 34,2% (from 294 482 in April 2012 to 395 135 in April 2013) while the volume of tourists increased by 0,08% (from 802 834 in April 2012 to 803 475 in April 2013).

1.1.2 Mode of travel

Travellers who cross South Africa's borders rarely use trains since they are mainly used for transporting goods. Data presented in Table 2 on page 9 show that in April 2013, road transport was the most common mode of travel used by 2 328 804 (73,2%) out of the 3 183 228 travellers. The total number of travellers who used air transport was 830 688 (26,1%). The arrivals data on South African residents show that 149 666 (34,3%) came by air and 279 560 (64,0%) came by road. For departures, 150 861 (38,7%) and 233 894 (59,9%) used air and road transport respectively.

In the case of foreign travellers, 273 633 (21,4%) arrived by air while those who came by road were 997 395 (78,0%). When departing South Africa, 256 528 (23,8%) foreign travellers left by air whilst 817 955 (75,9%) left by road. Table 2 further shows that an overwhelming majority [379 037 (95,9%)] of same-day visitors arrived in the country by road. Only 15 856 (4,0%) same-day visitors flew into the country. Data on tourists show that, 567 943 (70,7%) used road transport but 232 590 (28,9%) came by air.

1.2 Tourists

1.2.1 Mode of travel

The country of residence of tourists is used to categorise them into their respective countries and regions. 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 on page 10. In April 2013, 170 835 (88,1%) overseas tourists arrived in the country by air whilst 20 154 (10,4%) came in by road. This is in contrast to the number of tourists from the Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries who came into South Africa predominantly by road [545 439 (92,5%)]. Only 44 161 (7,5%) tourists from the SADC countries came in by air. The number of tourists who came into South Africa by air from 'other' African countries was 16 480 (90,8%); with 1 644 (9,1%) using road transport.

1.2.2 Regional and national distribution

In April 2013, the distribution of overseas tourists was as follows; Europe, 105 016 (54,2%); Asia, 34 254 (17,7%); North America, 29 181 (15,1%); Australasia, 13 492 (7,0%); Central and South America, 9 283 (4,8%) and Middle East, 2 622 (1,4%). Virtually all tourists from Africa came from the SADC countries, [589 646 (97,0%)]. The distribution of the remaining tourists from Africa is as follows: West Africa, 10 017 (1,6%); East and Central Africa, 6 827 (1,1%) and North Africa 1 313 (0,2%).

Data presented in Figure 1 on page 6 indicate that United Kingdom (UK), 32 322 (16,7%); United States of America (USA), 23 833 (12,3%); Germany, 19 190 (9,9%); China 12 052 (6,2%); Australia, 11 552 (6,0%); France, 10 904 (5,6%); India 9 815 (5,1%); The Netherlands, 8 163 (4,2%); Brazil, 6 155 (3,2%) and Canada, 5 347 (2,8%) were the ten leading overseas countries visiting South Africa in April 2013. Tourists from these ten countries constituted 71,9% of all tourists from overseas countries. A comparison between movements in April 2012 and April 2013 shows that the number of tourists increased in eight countries (China, Australia, The Netherlands, France, India, Germany, Canada and USA) and decreased in two countries (UK and Brazil). China had the highest increase of 17,3% (from 10 277 tourists in April 2012 to 12 052 tourists in April 2013) while UK had the largest decrease of 10,6% (from 36 145 tourists in April 2012 to 32 322 tourists in April 2013).

The ten leading SADC countries in the number of tourists visiting South Africa in March 2013 were Zimbabwe, 184 972 (31,4%); Lesotho, 142 959 (24,2%); Mozambique, 93 399 (15,8%); Swaziland, 69 342 (11,8%); Botswana, 38 596 (6,5%); Namibia, 19 735 (3,3%); Zambia, 15 760 (2,7%); Malawi, 12 659 (2,1%); Angola, 4 033 (0,7%) and Tanzania, 2 986 (0,5%) (see Figure 2 on page 6). Tourists from these ten countries constituted 99,1% of all tourists from the SADC countries. A comparison between movements in April 2012 and April 2013 shows that the number of tourists increased in six countries (Namibia, Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia, Angola and Zimbabwe) and decreased for (Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland and Tanzania). Namibia had the highest increase of 17,4% (from 16 814 tourists in April 2012 to 19 735 tourists in April 2013). Botswana showed the largest decrease of 14,9% (from 45 335 tourists in April 2012 to 38 596 tourists in April 2013).

The ten leading countries in the number of tourists visiting South Africa in April 2013 from 'other' African countries, as shown in Figure 3 on page 7, were Nigeria, 6 304 (34,7%); Kenya, 2 964 (16,3%); Ghana, 2 168 (11,9%); Uganda, 1 242 (6,8%); Ethiopia, 763 (4,2%); Egypt, 691 (3,8%); Cameroon, 510 (2,8%); Gabon, 412 (2,3%); Senegal, 301 (1,7%) and Congo, 288 (1,6%). Tourists from these ten countries constituted 86,2% of all tourists from 'other' African countries. A comparison between movements in April 2012 and April 2013 shows that the number of tourists increased in five countries (Ethiopia, Kenya, Ghana, Uganda and Nigeria) and decreased for (Gabon, Senegal, Congo, Cameroon and Egypt). Ethiopia had the highest increase of 40,3% (from 544 tourists in

April 2012 to 763 tourists in April 2013). Gabon showed the largest decrease of 14,2% (from 480 tourists in April 2012 to 412 tourists in April 2013).

1.2.3 Purpose of visit

As observed from data given in Table 4 on page 14, in April 2013, a majority [733 675 (91,3%)] of tourists were in South Africa for holidays compared to only 47 179 (5,9%), 15 294 (1,9%), and 7 327 (0,9%) of tourists who were in South Africa in transit; for business and for study purposes respectively. A detailed analysis reveals that of all the tourists from each of the overseas regions, at least 57,0% came to South Africa for holidays. A total of 11 610 (86,1%) tourists came from Australasia; 2 182 (83,2%) from Middle East; 24 157 (82,8%) from North America; 83 737 (79,7%) from Europe, 24 054 (70,2%) from Asia and 5 293 (57,0%) from Central and South America were in South Africa for holidays. Middle East had a higher proportion (7,6%) of their tourists in South Africa for business compared to other overseas regions while Central and South America (41,0%) had higher proportions of their tourists in transit.

The majority of African tourists [581 227 (95,6%)] came to South Africa for holidays. However, there were differences between tourists from the SADC countries and 'other' African countries namely:

- Whereas 566 659 (96,1%) of tourists from the SADC countries were on holidays; 14 568 (80,2%) of tourists from 'other' African countries came for the same purpose. Data on the regions of 'other' African countries show that tourists on holidays constituted 82,1% (8 225); 79,1% (5 401) and 71,7% (942) for West Africa; East and Central Africa; and North Africa, respectively.
- Business persons constituted 4,1% (737) of tourists from 'other' African countries and 1,2% (7 014) from the SADC countries. North Africa had the highest proportion of 8,3% (109) of its tourists in South Africa for business.
- Students made up 3,0% (540) of tourists from 'other' African countries compared with 1,0% (5 672) from the SADC countries. East and Central Africa had the highest proportion of 4,4% (302) of their tourists in South Africa for study purposes.
- The proportion of tourists in transit was higher for those from 'other' African countries [12,7% (2 312)] compared to those from SADC countries [1,7% (10 301)]. North Africa had the highest proportion of 17,2% (226) of their tourists in transit.

1.2.4 Sex and age distribution

Table 5 on page 18 shows that, in April 2013, there were 455 864 (56,7%) male and 346 742 (43,2%) female tourists. Overseas tourists were made up of 113 711 (58,7%) male tourists and 79 924 (41,2%) female tourists. There were 328 607 (55,7%) male and 260 390 (44,2%) female tourists from the SADC countries. The tourists from 'other' African countries were made up of 12 357 (68,1%) males and 5 794 (31,9%) females.

The ages of the tourists were categorised into three broad groups namely; those younger than 15 years, 15 to 64 years, and 65 years and older. The overall results presented in Table 5 show that 718 752 (89,5%) of tourists were aged between 15 and 64 years; 35 818 (4,5%) were aged 65 years and older and 48 319 (6,0%) were aged less than 15 years. Taking the regions of residence into consideration, the results further show that 158 477 (81,8%) of overseas tourists were aged between 15 and 64 years compared with 541 575 (91,8%) and 16 913 (93,1%) of tourists in the same age range from the SADC countries and 'other' African countries respectively.

The proportion of tourists aged less than 15 years was higher among tourists from overseas [6,2% (12 020)] and those from the SADC countries [6,0% (35 386)] than among tourists from 'other' African countries [4,9% (897)]. There was a higher proportion of young female tourists in comparison to young male tourists for all the three regions. A comparison of the three regions shows relatively high proportions of the elderly among both male [11,0% (12 524)] and female 13,4% (10 696) tourists from overseas. This is in contrast to the pattern observed among tourists from the other two regions. Thus 1,7% (5 609) of male and 2,5% (6 524) of female tourists from the SADC countries were aged 65 years and older. Likewise, 1,5% (191) of male and 2,5% (143) of female tourists from 'other' African countries were aged 65 years and older.

2. Figures

Figure 1. Number of tourists from the ten leading overseas countries in April 2013 compared to April 2012

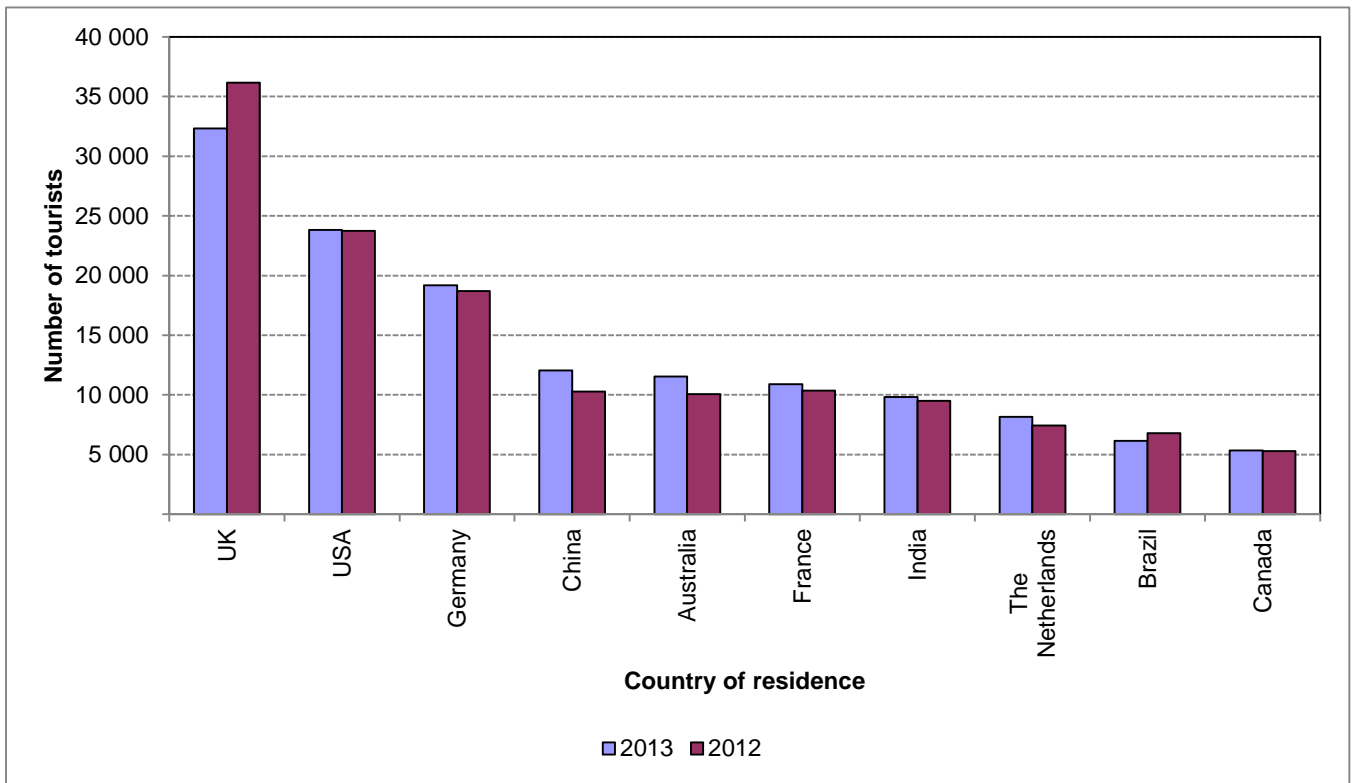


Figure 2. Number of tourists from the ten leading Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries in April 2013 compared to April 2012

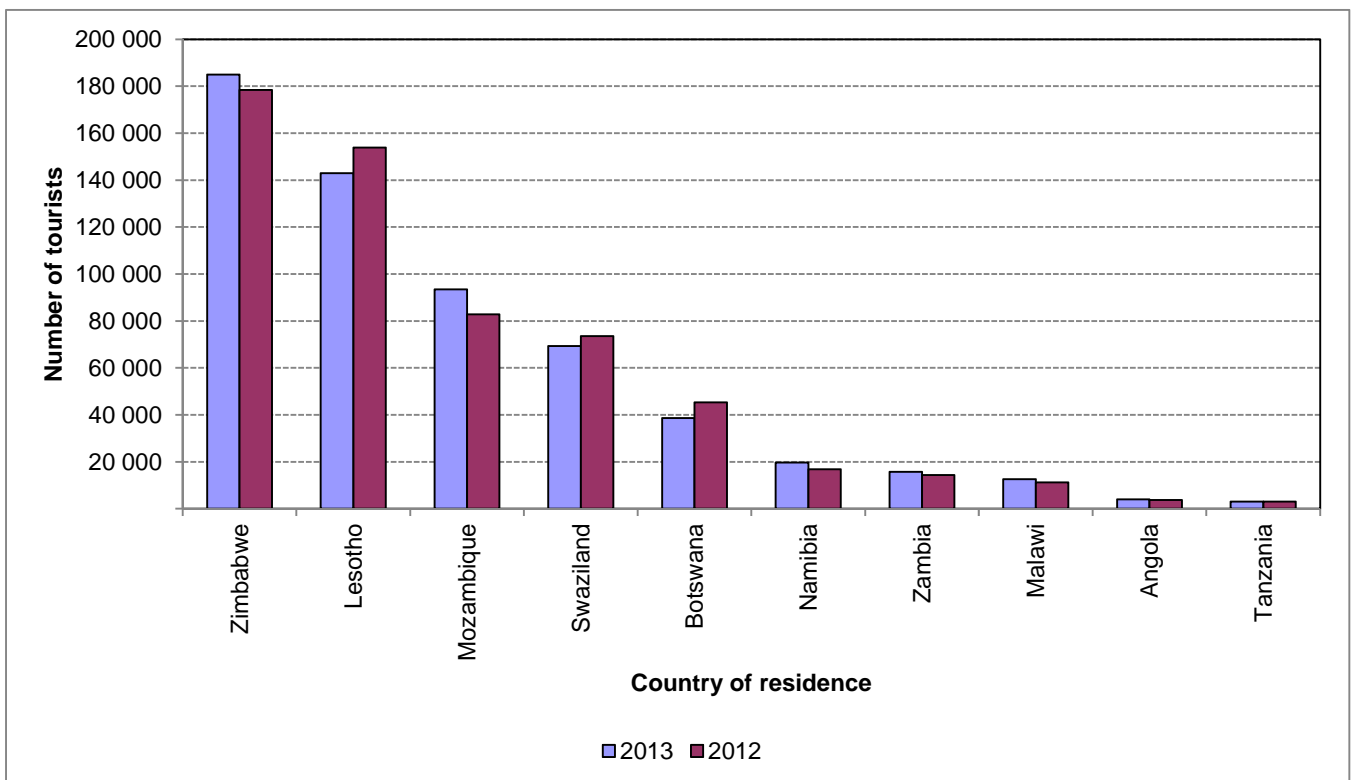
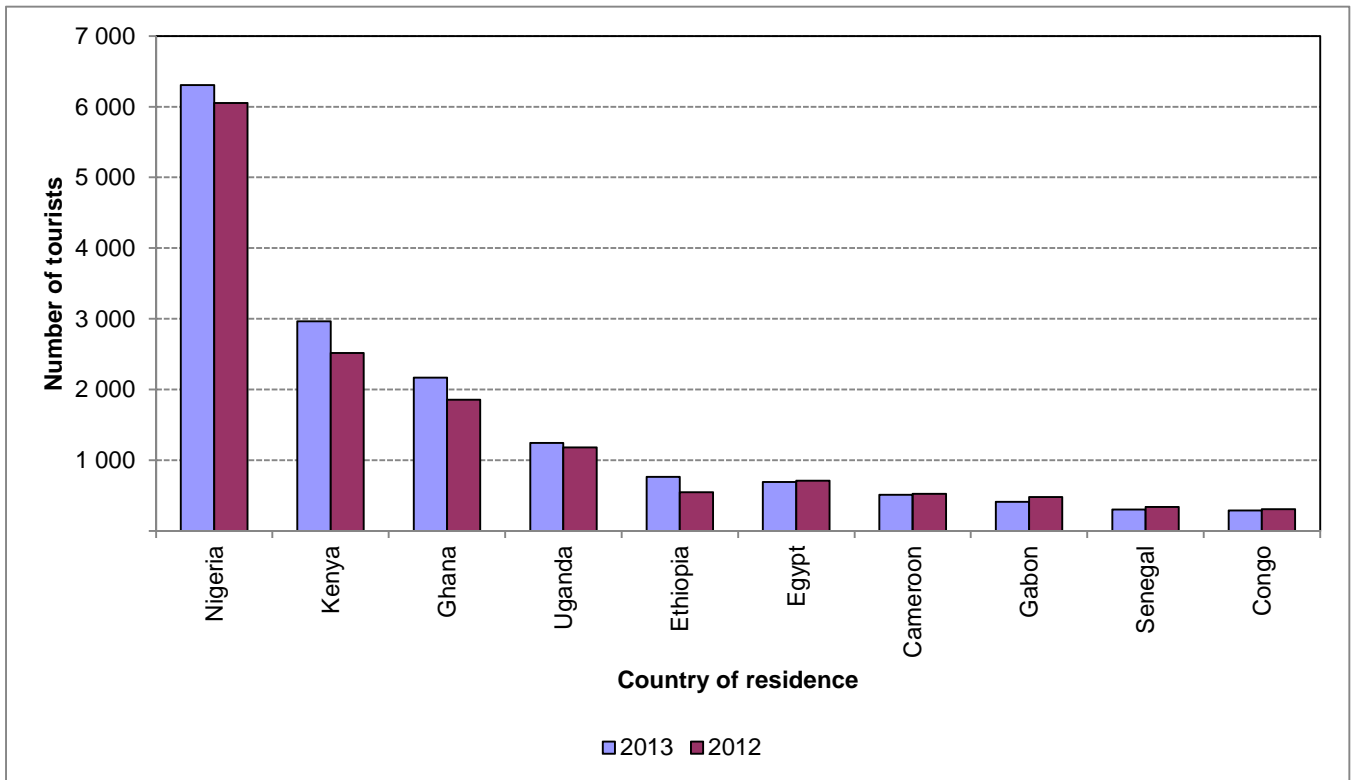


Figure 3. Number of tourists from the ten leading 'other' African countries in April 2013 compared to April 2012



3. Tables

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

Travel direction	2012	2013		% change	
	April	March	April	April 2012 - April 2013	March 2013 - April 2013
Total	3 040 687	3 213 707	3 183 228	4,7	-0,9
South African residents	913 145	849 218	827 188	-9,4	-2,6
Arrivals	455 895	388 245	436 896	-4,2	12,5
Departures	457 250	460 973	390 292	-14,6	-15,3
Foreign traveller	2 127 542	2 364 489	2 356 040	10,7	-0,4
Arrivals	1 157 430	1 235 930	1 278 502	10,5	3,4
Departures	970 112	1 128 559	1 077 538	11,1	-4,5
Foreign arrivals	1 157 430	1 235 930	1 278 502	10,5	3,4
Non-visitors	60 114	59 262	79 892	32,9	34,8
Visitors	1 097 316	1 176 668	1 198 610	9,2	1,9
Visitors	1 097 316	1 176 668	1 198 610	9,2	1,9
Arrivals only	426 140	386 179	411 906	-3,3	6,7
Single trips	390 677	445 613	432 478	10,7	-2,9
Multiple trips	280 499	344 876	354 226	26,3	2,7
Visitor	1 097 316	1 176 668	1 198 610	9,2	1,9
Same-day	294 482	361 593	395 135	34,2	9,3
Overnight (tourists)	802 834	815 075	803 475	0,1	-1,4

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

Travel Direction	April		Mode of travel (April 2013)							
			Air					Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2012	2013	Cape Town	K Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total			
Total	3 040 687	3 183 228	108 893	22 841	690 576	8 378	830 688	2 328 804	23 718	18
South African residents	913 145	827 188	33 499	13 366	248 334	5 328	300 527	513 454	13 207	-
Arrivals	455 895	436 896	16 893	6 975	123 100	2 698	149 666	279 560	7 670	-
Departures	457 250	390 292	16 606	6 391	125 234	2 630	150 861	233 894	5 537	-
Foreign travellers	2 127 542	2 356 040	75 394	9 475	442 242	3 050	530 161	1 815 350	10 511	18
Arrivals	1 157 430	1 278 502	33 259	3 975	234 898	1 501	273 633	997 395	7 456	18
Departures	970 112	1 077 538	42 135	5 500	207 344	1 549	256 528	817 955	3 055	-
Visitors	1 097 316	1 198 610	29 602	2 971	214 777	1 096	248 446	946 980	3 173	11
Same-day	294 482	395 135	352	10	15 413	81	15 856	379 037	242	-
Overnight (tourists)	802 834	803 475	29 250	2 961	199 364	1 015	232 590	567 943	2 931	11

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

Country of residence	April		Mode of travel (April 2013)							
	2012	2013	Air					Road	Sea	Unspecified
			Cape Town	K Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total			
Total	802 834	803 475	29 250	2 961	199 364	1 015	232 590	567 943	2 931	11
Overseas	195 934	193 848	25 855	2 484	141 736	760	170 835	20 154	2 851	8
Europe	108 496	105 016	18 446	1 720	71 347	274	91 787	12 402	824	3
Austria	1 683	1 928	276	6	1 444	1	1 727	197	4	-
Belgium	3 453	3 440	624	14	2 293	5	2 936	501	3	-
Denmark	1 756	1 667	201	53	1 266	2	1 522	144	1	-
France	10 361	10 904	2 060	62	7 516	20	9 658	1 235	11	-
Germany	18 694	19 190	2 149	137	14 437	27	16 750	2 369	70	1
Ireland	2 237	2 104	484	58	1 251	4	1 797	295	12	-
Italy	4 376	4 054	722	84	2 932	10	3 748	299	7	-
Norway	1 545	1 399	198	1	991	4	1 194	197	8	-
Portugal	4 219	4 016	323	38	2 192	10	2 563	1 448	5	-
Spain	2 310	2 060	287	23	1 561	14	1 885	165	10	-
Sweden	2 590	2 342	398	3	1 669	7	2 077	262	3	-
Switzerland	4 196	4 428	827	62	2 946	8	3 843	541	44	-
The Netherlands	7 442	8 163	2 074	115	4 830	13	7 032	1 104	25	2
UK	36 145	32 322	6 345	973	21 281	111	28 710	3 089	523	-
Other	7 489	6 999	1 478	91	4 738	38	6 345	556	98	-
North America	29 016	29 181	3 004	184	22 634	226	26 048	2 952	181	-
Canada	5 281	5 347	719	60	3 844	5	4 628	689	30	-
USA	23 735	23 833	2 285	124	18 789	221	21 419	2 263	151	-
Other	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
Central and South America	10 143	9 283	164	15	8 446	3	8 628	649	6	-
Argentina	1 241	1 238	10	1	1 172	-	1 183	55	-	-
Brazil	6 792	6 155	44	6	5 629	2	5 681	472	2	-
Chile	325	289	10	1	258	-	269	20	-	-
Other	1 785	1 601	100	7	1 387	1	1 495	102	4	-

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

Country of residence	April		Mode of travel (April 2013)							
	2012	2013	Air					Road	Sea	Unspecified
			Cape Town	K Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total			
Australasia	11 926	13 492	796	115	10 099	37	11 047	877	1 568	-
Australia	10 071	11 552	582	85	8 563	35	9 265	758	1 529	-
New Zealand	1 830	1 893	213	29	1 495	2	1 739	115	39	-
Other	25	47	1	1	41	-	43	4	-	-
Middle East	2 889	2 622	301	21	2 133	1	2 456	162	4	-
Israel	1 629	1 357	67	-	1 198	-	1 265	92	-	-
Lebanon	310	234	31	1	177	1	210	23	1	-
Saudi Arabia	167	246	34	-	204	-	238	8	-	-
Other	783	785	169	20	554	-	743	39	3	-
Asia	33 464	34 254	3 144	429	27 077	219	30 869	3 112	268	5
China	10 277	12 052	1 563	35	9 788	-	11 386	636	30	-
India	9 505	9 815	547	171	7 601	203	8 522	1 233	59	1
Japan	2 671	2 750	138	26	2 473	6	2 643	100	7	-
Pakistan	1 946	1 454	51	71	902	-	1 024	425	3	2
Philippines	1 787	1 389	47	26	1 088	-	1 161	128	100	-
South Korea	1 522	1 304	98	15	1 019	-	1 132	163	9	-
Taiwan	679	849	50	5	662	-	717	129	3	-
Thailand	839	1 227	134	2	1 044	6	1 186	28	13	-
Vietnam	940	635	24	-	604	-	628	7	-	-
Other	3 298	2 779	492	78	1 896	4	2 470	263	44	2
Africa	604 695	607 803	3 350	472	56 565	254	60 641	547 083	76	3
SADC	587 913	589 646	3 133	435	40 370	223	44 161	545 439	46	-
Angola	3 739	4 033	557	-	3 322	6	3 885	146	2	-
Botswana	45 335	38 596	242	2	3 239	49	3 532	35 064	-	-
DRC	2 407	2 419	5	1	1 855	60	1 921	498	-	-
Lesotho	153 925	142 959	6	4	847	2	859	142 094	6	-
Madagascar	419	616	1	-	603	1	605	5	6	-

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

Country of residence	April		Mode of travel (April 2013)							
			Air					Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2012	2013	Cape Town	K Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total			
Malawi	11 199	12 659	11	1	1 957	2	1 971	10 688	-	-
Mauritius	1 656	1 852	322	11	1 378	1	1 712	137	3	-
Mozambique	82 853	93 399	121	52	4 409	18	4 600	88 797	2	-
Namibia	16 814	19 735	1 788	-	4 683	25	6 496	13 224	15	-
Seychelles	196	318	-	-	312	-	312	6	-	-
Swaziland	73 573	69 342	2	2	893	1	898	68 443	1	-
Tanzania	2 988	2 986	7	-	1 756	3	1 766	1 220	-	-
Zambia	14 357	15 760	7	144	4 987	12	5 150	10 609	1	-
Zimbabwe	178 452	184 972	64	218	10 129	43	10 454	174 508	10	-
'Other' Africa	16 782	18 157	217	37	16 195	31	16 480	1 644	30	3
East and Central Africa	6 178	6 827	45	7	6 000	4	6 056	752	18	1
Burundi	117	139	1	-	123	-	124	15	-	-
Cameroon	524	510	7	1	453	-	461	44	5	-
Central African Republic	9	20	-	-	19	-	19	1	-	-
Chad	25	23	2	-	21	-	23	-	-	-
Comoros	20	35	-	-	33	-	33	2	-	-
Congo	304	288	3	-	271	-	274	5	8	1
Djibouti	6	5	-	-	5	-	5	-	-	-
Equatorial Guinea	44	41	-	-	40	-	40	1	-	-
Eritrea	55	66	1	-	60	-	61	5	-	-
Ethiopia	544	763	2	3	676	-	681	82	-	-
Gabon	480	412	2	1	409	-	412	-	-	-
Kenya	2 516	2 964	16	2	2 590	4	2 612	350	2	-
Rwanda	309	286	1	-	271	-	272	14	-	-
Sao Tome and Principe	28	26	2	-	23	-	25	1	-	-
Somalia	19	6	-	-	5	-	5	1	-	-
Tristan Da Cunha	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Uganda	1 178	1 242	8	-	1 001	-	1 009	231	2	-

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

Country of residence	April		Mode of travel (April 2013)							
			Air					Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2012	2013	Cape Town	K Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total			
West Africa	9 295	10 017	89	11	9 055	25	9 180	824	11	2
Benin	105	154	2	1	138	-	141	13	-	-
Burkina Faso	63	83	2	-	81	-	83	-	-	-
Cape Verde Island	54	73	5	-	58	1	64	9	-	-
Côte D'Ivoire	151	245	11	1	218	-	230	15	-	-
Gambia	91	89	-	-	84	-	84	5	-	-
Ghana	1 853	2 168	14	2	1 984	7	2 007	161	-	-
Guinea	239	215	-	-	119	-	119	96	-	-
Guinea-Bissau	17	18	-	-	15	-	15	3	-	-
Liberia	62	54	-	-	50	-	50	4	-	-
Mali	98	93	1	-	76	4	81	12	-	-
Mauritania	16	53	-	1	51	-	52	1	-	-
Niger	25	29	-	1	28	-	29	-	-	-
Nigeria	6 051	6 304	47	5	5 749	11	5 812	482	8	2
Senegal	337	301	2	-	289	2	293	7	1	-
Sierra Leone	79	85	3	-	64	-	67	16	2	-
Togo	54	53	2	-	51	-	53	-	-	-
North Africa	1 309	1 313	83	19	1 140	2	1 244	68	1	-
Algeria	119	105	10	-	88	1	99	5	1	-
Egypt	709	691	33	6	619	-	658	33	-	-
Libya	101	88	10	3	65	-	78	10	-	-
Morocco	117	106	13	4	77	-	94	12	-	-
South Sudan	-	92	-	-	89	-	89	3	-	-
The Sudan	132	122	3	4	111	-	118	4	-	-
Tunisia	129	109	14	2	91	1	108	1	-	-
Western Sahara	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unspecified	2 205	1 824	45	5	1 063	1	1 114	706	4	-

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

Country of residence	April		Purpose of visit (April 2013)			
	2012	2013	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
Total	802 834	803 475	15 294	733 675	7 327	47 179
Overseas	195 934	193 848	7 486	151 033	1 108	34 221
Europe	108 496	105 016	4 486	83 737	650	16 143
Austria	1 683	1 928	49	1 438	11	430
Belgium	3 453	3 440	134	2 835	22	449
Denmark	1 756	1 667	87	1 355	6	219
France	10 361	10 904	434	8 688	62	1 720
Germany	18 694	19 190	657	14 002	87	4 444
Ireland	2 237	2 104	104	1 769	16	215
Italy	4 376	4 054	242	3 133	19	660
Norway	1 545	1 399	50	968	10	371
Portugal	4 219	4 016	82	3 261	21	652
Spain	2 310	2 060	164	1 562	11	323
Sweden	2 590	2 342	136	1 758	22	426
Switzerland	4 196	4 428	85	3 324	13	1 006
The Netherlands	7 442	8 163	298	7 303	52	510
UK	36 145	32 322	1 502	27 056	251	3 513
Other	7 489	6 999	462	5 285	47	1 205
North America	29 016	29 181	938	24 157	145	3 941
Canada	5 281	5 347	142	4 533	19	653
USA	23 735	23 833	796	19 624	126	3 287
Other	-	1	-	-	-	1
Central and South America	10 143	9 283	154	5 293	31	3 805
Argentina	1 241	1 238	12	748	3	475
Brazil	6 792	6 155	62	3 349	14	2 730
Chile	325	289	11	196	1	81
Other	1 785	1 601	69	1 000	13	519

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

Country of residence	April		Purpose of visit (April 2013)			
	2012	2013	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
Australasia	11 926	13 492	235	11 610	36	1 611
Australia	10 071	11 552	200	9 957	27	1 368
New Zealand	1 830	1 893	34	1 640	8	211
Other	25	47	1	13	1	32
Middle East	2 889	2 622	198	2 182	29	213
Israel	1 629	1 357	77	1 141	5	134
Lebanon	310	234	28	172	-	34
Saudi Arabia	167	246	10	232	4	-
Other	783	785	83	637	20	45
Asia	33 464	34 254	1 475	24 054	217	8 508
China	10 277	12 052	362	8 194	26	3 470
India	9 505	9 815	610	7 824	76	1 305
Japan	2 671	2 750	117	1 738	7	888
Pakistan	1 946	1 454	61	1 144	12	237
Philippines	1 787	1 389	20	520	9	840
South Korea	1 522	1 304	63	970	30	241
Taiwan	679	849	14	549	4	282
Thailand	839	1 227	19	1 077	19	112
Vietnam	940	635	6	89	1	539
Other	3 298	2 779	203	1 949	33	594
Africa	604 695	607 803	7 751	581 227	6 212	12 613
SADC	587 913	589 646	7 014	566 659	5 672	10 301
Angola	3 739	4 033	80	2 979	212	762
Botswana	45 335	38 596	312	36 161	896	1 227
DRC	2 407	2 419	53	2 182	85	99
Lesotho	153 925	142 959	54	141 892	653	360
Madagascar	419	616	9	256	6	345

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

Country of residence	April		Purpose of visit (April 2013)			
	2012	2013	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
Malawi	11 199	12 659	272	11 880	47	460
Mauritius	1 656	1 852	82	1 477	24	269
Mozambique	82 853	93 399	1 008	90 420	132	1 839
Namibia	16 814	19 735	2 170	14 813	1 111	1 641
Seychelles	196	318	6	293	-	19
Swaziland	73 573	69 342	515	67 109	1 296	422
Tanzania	2 988	2 986	45	2 436	59	446
Zambia	14 357	15 760	1 073	13 643	182	862
Zimbabwe	178 452	184 972	1 335	181 118	969	1 550
'Other' Africa	16 782	18 157	737	14 568	540	2 312
East and Central Africa	6 178	6 827	293	5 401	302	831
Burundi	117	139	5	108	2	24
Cameroon	524	510	21	344	30	115
Central African Republic	9	20	-	13	2	5
Chad	25	23	2	20	-	1
Comoros	20	35	-	17	1	17
Congo	304	288	5	240	18	25
Djibouti	6	5	1	3	-	1
Equatorial Guinea	44	41	1	32	7	1
Eritrea	55	66	6	54	1	5
Ethiopia	544	763	31	673	14	45
Gabon	480	412	10	339	20	43
Kenya	2 516	2 964	156	2 346	136	326
Rwanda	309	286	4	191	20	71
Sao Tome and Principe	28	26	-	18	-	8
Somalia	19	6	-	6	-	-
Tristan Da Cunha	-	1	-	1	-	-
Uganda	1 178	1 242	51	996	51	144

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

Country of residence	April		Purpose of visit (April 2013)			
	2012	2013	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
West Africa	9 295	10 017	335	8 225	202	1 255
Benin	105	154	7	140	1	6
Burkina Faso	63	83	6	61	2	14
Cape Verde Island	54	73	3	59	2	9
Côte D'Ivoire	151	245	19	188	3	35
Gambia	91	89	3	35	1	50
Ghana	1 853	2 168	62	1 732	17	357
Guinea	239	215	8	149	2	56
Guinea-Bissau	17	18	1	9	2	6
Liberia	62	54	1	44	2	7
Mali	98	93	6	67	-	20
Mauritania	16	53	3	42	-	8
Niger	25	29	3	23	1	2
Nigeria	6 051	6 304	179	5 392	166	567
Senegal	337	301	18	202	1	80
Sierra Leone	79	85	10	53	1	21
Togo	54	53	6	29	1	17
North Africa	1 309	1 313	109	942	36	226
Algeria	119	105	6	81	4	14
Egypt	709	691	59	477	6	149
Libya	101	88	4	46	11	27
Morocco	117	106	9	82	2	13
South Sudan	-	92	11	75	-	6
The Sudan	132	122	9	95	12	6
Tunisia	129	109	11	86	1	11
Western Sahara	2	-	-	-	-	-
Unspecified	2 205	1 824	57	1 415	7	345

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

Sex	Age group	Total	Region (April 2013)			
			Overseas	SADC	'Other' Africa	Unspecified
All	Total	803 475	193 848	589 646	18 157	1 824
	<15	48 319	12 020	35 386	897	16
	15 - 64	718 752	158 477	541 575	16 913	1 787
	65+	35 818	23 267	12 196	335	20
	Unspecified	586	84	489	12	1
Male	Total	455 864	113 711	328 607	12 357	1 189
	<15	24 451	6 268	17 708	468	7
	15 - 64	412 757	94 877	305 021	11 692	1 167
	65+	18 338	12 524	5 609	191	14
	Unspecified	318	42	269	6	1
Female	Total	346 742	79 924	260 390	5 794	634
	<15	23 865	5 752	17 675	429	9
	15 - 64	305 314	63 447	236 029	5 219	619
	65+	17 369	10 696	6 524	143	6
	Unspecified	194	29	162	3	-
Unspecified	Total	869	213	649	6	1
	<15	3	-	3	-	-
	15 - 64	681	153	525	2	1
	65+	111	47	63	1	-
	Unspecified	74	13	58	3	-

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 Department of Home Affairs (DHA). Statistics South Africa (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.

4.2 Purpose of the statistical release

This release reports on arrivals and departures of South African residents and foreign 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.

4.3 Scope and coverage

The release covers data on arrivals and departures 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.

4.4 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 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.
- 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 generally higher than that of the DHA because of, among other reasons, travellers who are in transit and those who boarded airplanes but were refused entry into the country. In April 2013, the DHA data was 3,1% lower than that of ACSA.

4.5 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.

4.6 Definitions of terms

4.6.1 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.

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, 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 fourteen countries, excluding South Africa, which belongs 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

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 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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