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# Statistical release

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## KEY FINDINGS

### 1. Number of travellers

The August 2007 data collected by the Department of Home Affairs' (DHA) immigration officers at the ports of entry into South Africa show that a total of 2 221 348 travellers (arrivals and departures) passed through the ports of entry. As presented in Table 1, these travellers are made up of 736 195 South African residents and 1 485 153 foreign travellers. A further breakdown of the figures indicates that 361 577 and 374 618 South African resident arrivals and departures respectively were recorded. The corresponding volume for foreign arrivals and departures are 788 117 and 697 036. A comparison between the movements in July 2007 and August 2007 indicates that there was an increase in all movements except South African arrivals. The August 2007 figure (361 577) for South African resident arrivals shows an increase of 5,9% compared to the August 2006 figure of 341 592. Similarly, there was an increase of 12,3% for foreign arrivals from 701 991 in August 2006 to 788 117 in August 2007.

### 2. Mode of travel

It is observed from Table 2 that road transport was the most common (67,0%) mode of travel used by 1 488 810 out of the 2 221 348 travellers. The arrival data on South African residents show that 38,9% came by air and 60,8% by road. For their departure, 40,3% and 59,7% used air and road transport respectively. When taking into consideration the countries of residence of travellers, it was found that for foreign arrivals, overseas travellers generally used air (85,3%) compared to road transport (14,5%) whereas travellers from Africa used road (89,5%) more than air transport (8,3%). 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 three quarters (75,4%) of foreign arrivals were from Africa whilst less than one quarter (23,9%) were from overseas countries. Information on the country of residence was not available on 0,7% of the travellers. A comparison of the changes between August 2006 and August 2007 indicates that the number of overseas arrivals increased by 9,8% from 171 356 in 2006 to 188 127 in 2007. Arrivals from Africa increased by 12,8% from 526 957 in August 2006 to 594 540 in August 2007.

#### 3.1 Gender and age distribution

The travellers from Africa comprised of 328 572 males, 264 723 females and 1 245 with unspecified gender. The data on overseas travellers had 104 583 males, 83 382 females and gender was not specified in 162 cases. Overall, more males than females from African (males: 55,3%; females: 44,5%) and overseas countries (males: 55,6%; females: 44,3%) 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 (86,8%) of African travellers is clustered between ages 15-54, peaking at age group 25-29. However, the age distribution of overseas travellers is widely spread. Thus 89,2% of overseas travellers is between ages 15 to 69 years. The percentage of older persons (65 years and older) from overseas countries was significantly higher (6,4%) compared to that among persons from Africa (2,6%). This would have implications for spending capacity.

#### 3.2 Regional and national distribution

Overseas travellers came mainly from Europe (59,9%), followed by North America (17,5%), Asia (12,3%), Australasia (5,4%), Middle East (2,7%) and Central and South America (2,3%). Virtually all arrivals (97,6%) from Africa came from the SADC countries. The distribution of the remaining arrivals from Africa is as follows: West Africa (1,1%), East and Central Africa (1,1%) and North Africa (0,2%). August 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. The number of travellers from overseas countries has been increasing gradually since August 2005. Data presented in Figure 3 indicate that the UK, USA, Germany, France, Italy, Netherlands, Australia and Spain were the eight leading overseas source countries. Travellers from these eight countries constitute 68,3% of all travellers from overseas. The number of travellers from all the leading overseas source countries increased in August 2007 compared to August 2006.

The eight leading source countries from SADC were Lesotho, Mozambique, Swaziland, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Namibia, Zambia and Malawi as shown in Figure 4. The eight leading source countries from 'other' African countries, shown in Figure 5, are Nigeria, Kenya, Ghana, Uganda, Ethiopia, Congo, Cameroon and Egypt. Travellers from the eight SADC countries made up 96,2% of all arrivals from Africa. The number of travellers from these SADC countries was higher in August 2007 compared to August 2006. The number of travellers from 'other' African countries increased with the exception of Congo (54,0% decline from 1 157 in August 2006 to 532 in August 2007).

### **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 on business (2,0%), those who have come for work (1,4%) and those who have come to study (0,9%).

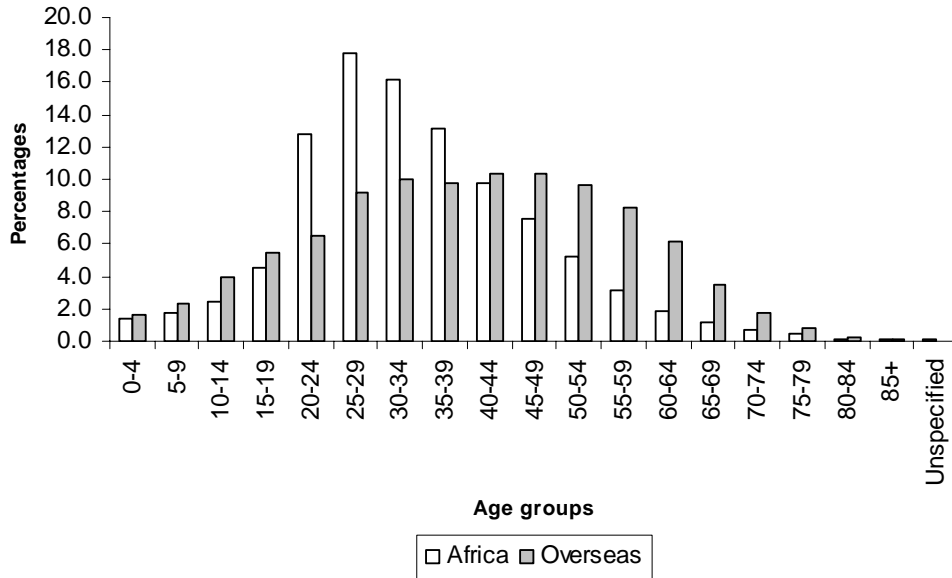
Overall, 92,5% of overseas travellers came to South Africa to visit. A detailed analysis reveals that all the overseas regions had more than 80,0% travellers coming to South Africa for holidays. Travellers from Europe (94,1%), Australasia (95,9%), Central and South America (91,5%), North America (94,5%), the Middle East (92,8%) and Asia (80,2%) 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 (11,8%), business (5,9%) and study (0,9%).

Although the majority (94,2%) 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:

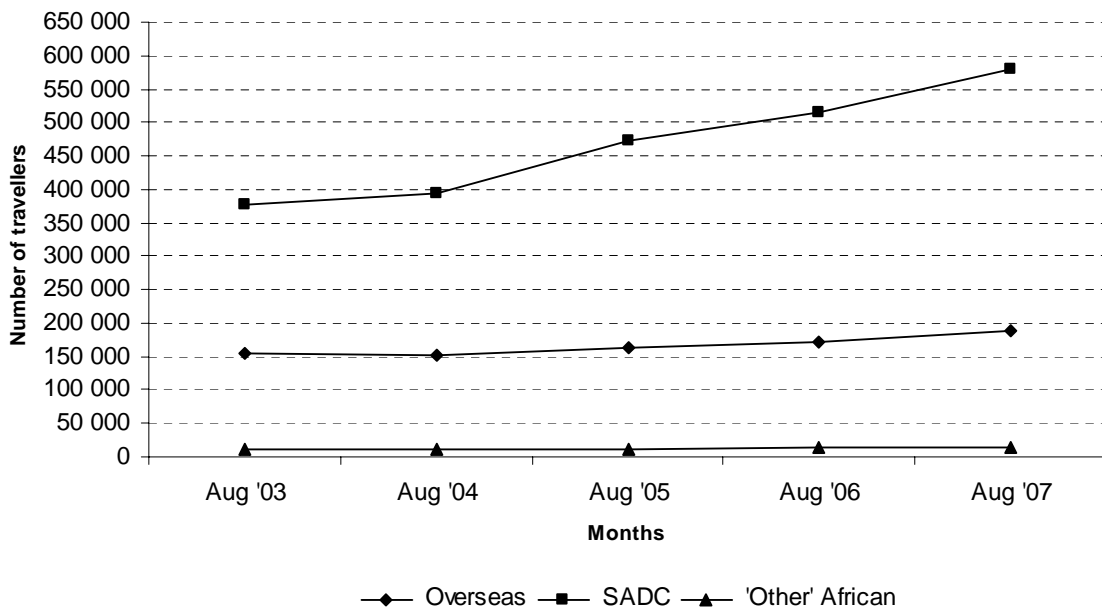
- Whereas 94,5% of travellers from the SADC countries were recorded as on holiday, 82,0% of travellers from 'other' African countries were admitted on visitor's permit. Proportionally, the lowest percentage (70,7%) of visitors came from North Africa, a region where, a large percentage of travellers were in South Africa as business persons (15,7%).
- A relatively higher percentage of 'other' African than SADC travellers were here to study, work or for business.
- Overall, West Africa and East and Central Africa had 6,0% and 6,5% respectively of travellers who were in South Africa for business as compared to only 1,6% among the SADC travellers.

**PJ Lehohla**  
**Statistician-General**

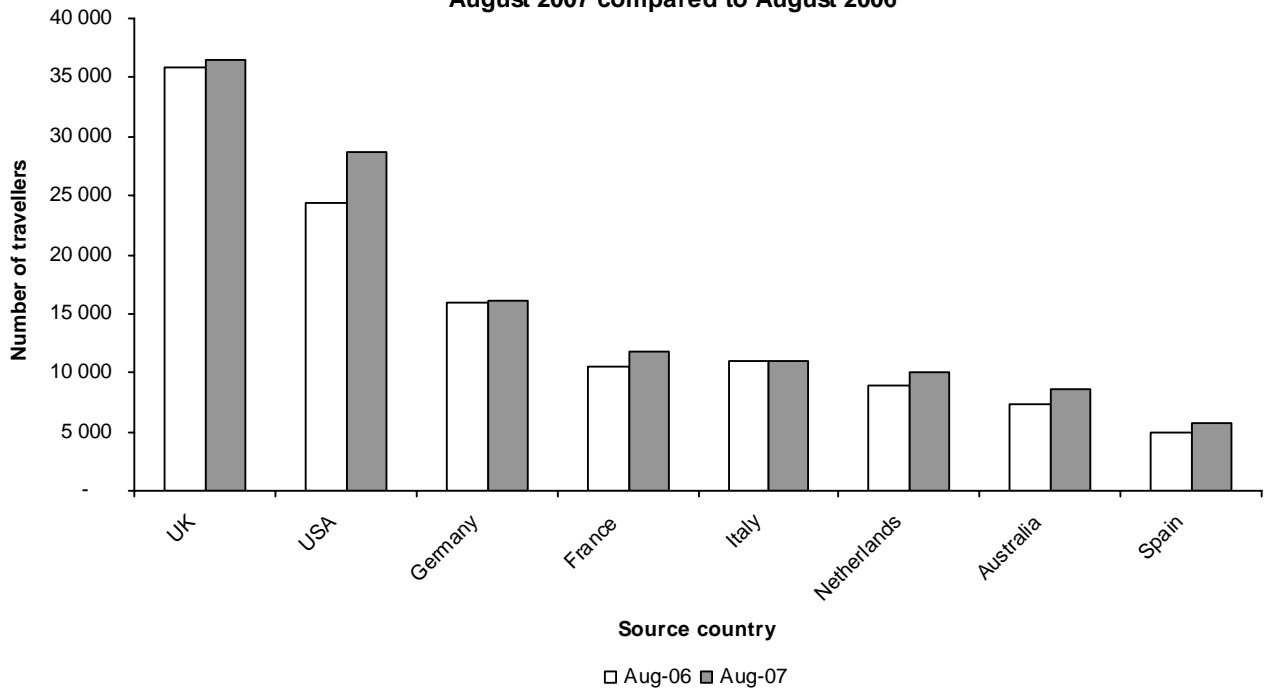
**Figure 1: Percentage distribution of overseas and African arrivals by age groups in August 2007**



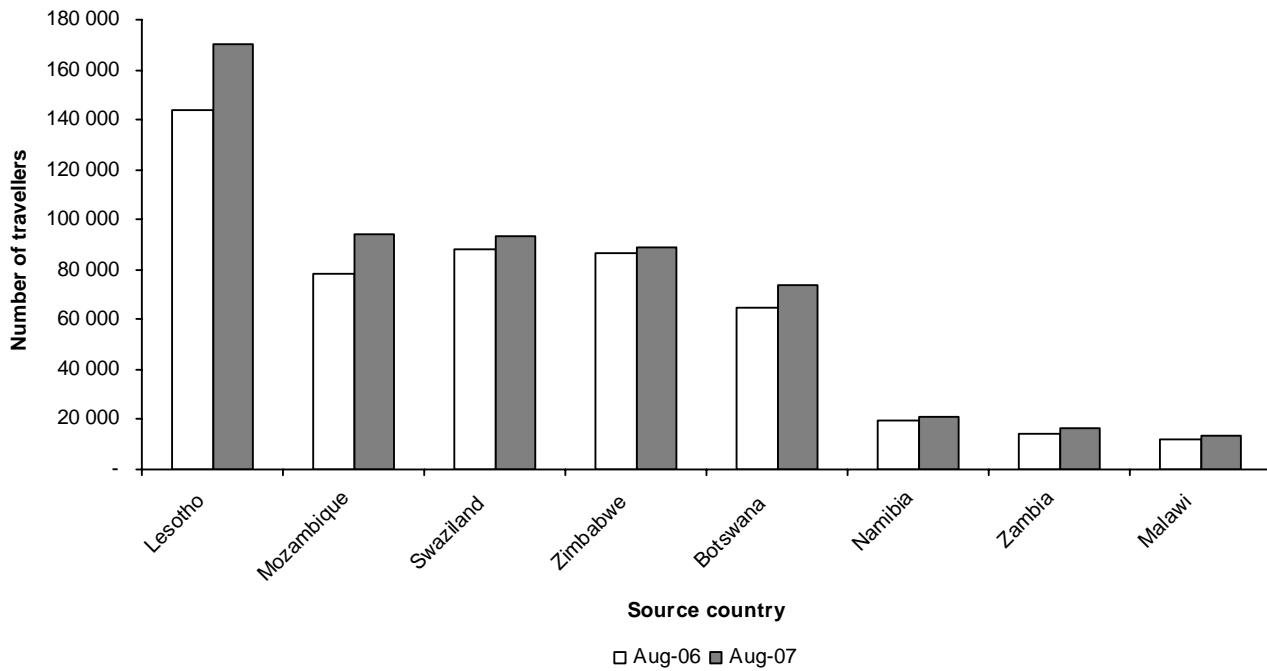
**Figure 2: Number of August arrivals by region (2003 - 2007)**



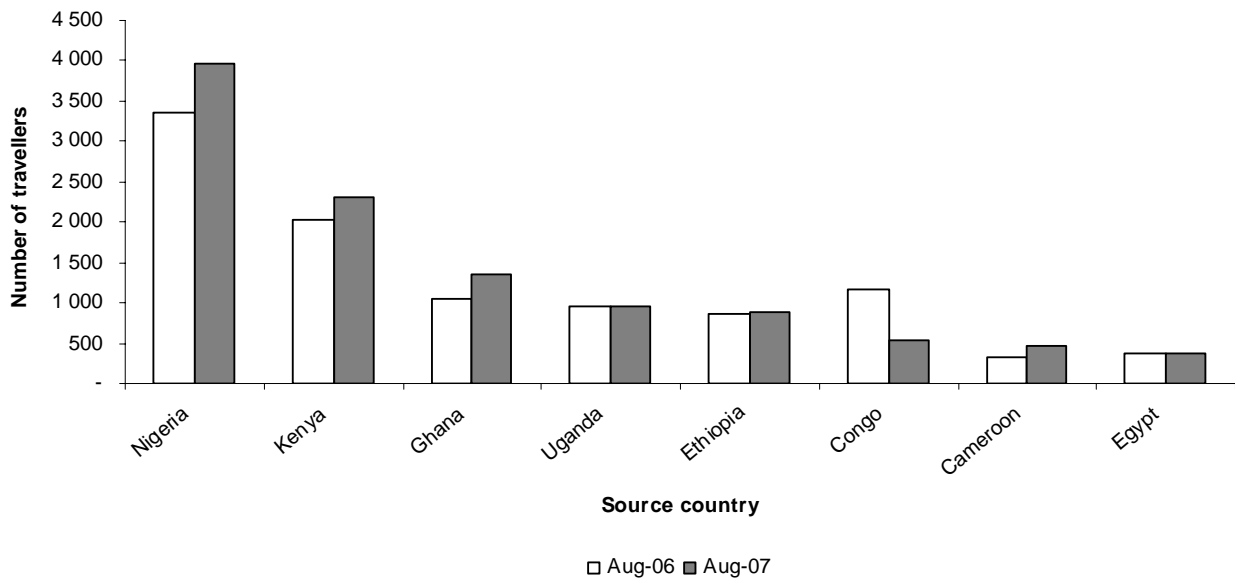
**Figure 3: Number of overseas travellers arriving from leading source countries in August 2007 compared to August 2006**



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



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



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

Travel direction	August	July	August	% change	% change
	2006	2007	2007	Aug 06–Aug 07	Jul 07–Aug 07
<b>South African residents</b>					
Arrivals	341 592	448 652	361 577	5.9	-19.4
Departures	352 025	367 443	374 618	6.4	2.0
<b>Foreign travellers</b>					
Arrivals	701 991	778 725	788 117	12.3	1.2
Departures	613 959	631 981	697 036	13.5	10.3
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>2 009 567</b>	<b>2 226 801</b>	<b>2 221 348</b>	<b>10.5</b>	<b>-0.2</b>

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

Travel direction	Total	Mode of travel (August 2007)								
		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspec.
		(C/Town)	(Durban)	(OR Tambo)	(Other)	Total				
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>2 221 348</b>	<b>93 097</b>	<b>3 178</b>	<b>607 260</b>	<b>11 184</b>	<b>714 719</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>1 488 810</b>	<b>519</b>	<b>16 993</b>
<b>Arrivals:</b>	<b>1 149 694</b>	<b>45 810</b>	<b>1 425</b>	<b>298 816</b>	<b>5 609</b>	<b>351 660</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>780 732</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>16 913</b>
South African residents	361 577	17 039	977	118 640	4 018	140 674	16	219 748	86	1 053
Foreign travellers	788 117	28 771	448	180 176	1 591	210 986	141	560 984	146	15 860
Overseas	188 127	26 548	188	132 724	975	160 435	17	27 275	104	296
Africa	594 540	2 172	260	46 344	602	49 378	124	532 049	38	12 951
Unspecified	5 450	51	-	1 108	14	1 173	-	1 660	4	2 613
<b>Departures:</b>	<b>1 071 654</b>	<b>47 287</b>	<b>1 753</b>	<b>308 444</b>	<b>5 575</b>	<b>363 059</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>708 078</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>80</b>
South African residents	374 618	17 503	1 188	128 222	4 030	150 943	19	223 545	75	36
Foreign travellers	697 036	29 784	565	180 222	1 545	212 116	131	484 533	212	44



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

Country	Mode of travel (August 2007)										
	August		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspec.
	2006	2007	(C/Town)	(Durban)	(OR Tambo)	(Other)	Total				
<b>Grand total</b>	701 991	788 117	28 771	448	180 176	1 591	210 986	141	560 984	146	15 860
<b>Overseas total</b>	171 356	188 127	26 548	188	132 724	975	160 435	17	27 275	104	296
<b>Europe</b>	107 345	112 643	20 578	65	71 576	430	92 649	7	19 843	47	97
Austria	1 373	1 538	377	-	881	4	1 262	-	276	-	-
Belgium	2 996	3 092	379	2	1 924	39	2 344	-	746	1	1
Denmark	1 218	1 176	141	1	851	-	993	-	181	1	1
France	10 530	11 836	881	8	8 743	39	9 671	-	2 155	7	3
Germany	15 934	16 071	4 053	3	8 798	33	12 887	1	3 166	3	14
Greece	776	747	25	-	564	-	589	-	156	-	2
Ireland	2 883	3 177	958	4	1 674	18	2 654	-	517	-	6
Italy	10 972	10 998	2 329	1	6 702	41	9 073	-	1 923	-	2
Netherlands	8 861	10 061	1 876	1	4 784	29	6 690	-	3 355	6	10
Portugal	2 623	2 737	92	8	1 348	8	1 456	-	1 273	1	7
Spain	4 875	5 672	496	2	4 318	4	4 820	-	852	-	-
Sweden	1 358	1 483	277	1	1 023	3	1 304	-	179	-	-
Switzerland	1 903	2 072	337	1	1 308	16	1 662	-	405	-	5
UK	35 834	36 426	7 323	31	24 812	158	32 324	6	4 037	19	40
Other	5 209	5 557	1 034	2	3 846	38	4 920	-	622	9	6
<b>North America</b>	27 757	32 873	2 610	51	26 719	400	29 780	6	3 034	13	40
Canada	3 362	4 104	528	10	3 018	47	3 603	-	497	-	4
USA	24 391	28 760	2 082	41	23 695	353	26 171	6	2 535	12	36
Other	4	9	-	-	6	-	6	-	2	1	-
<b>Central and South America</b>	4 415	4 352	371	4	3 515	13	3 903	-	442	-	7
Argentina	557	576	209	-	328	-	537	-	39	-	-
Brazil	2 525	2 352	45	4	2 076	6	2 131	-	221	-	-
Chile	223	233	19	-	197	-	216	-	17	-	-
Other	1 110	1 191	98	-	914	7	1 019	-	165	-	7

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

Country	Mode of travel (August 2007)										
	August		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspec.
	2006	2007	(C/Town)	(Durban)	(OR Tambo)	(Other)	Total				
<b>Australasia</b>	8 969	10 082	538	19	8 565	41	9 163	-	909	-	10
Australia	7 270	8 578	438	19	7 347	34	7 838	-	737	-	3
New Zealand	1 632	1 435	96	-	1 190	7	1 293	-	142	-	-
Other	67	69	4	-	28	-	32	-	30	-	7
<b>Middle East</b>	4 063	5 069	310	9	4 418	14	4 751	-	317	-	1
Israel	1 356	1 653	26	4	1 479	2	1 511	-	142	-	-
Saudi Arabia	847	1 151	112	-	1 021	3	1 136	-	15	-	-
Turkey	337	550	52	3	431	5	491	-	59	-	-
Other	1523	1 715	120	2	1 487	4	1 613	-	101	-	1
<b>Asia</b>	18 807	23 108	2 141	40	17 931	77	20 189	4	2 730	44	141
China	3 060	4 238	248	11	3 587	2	3 848	-	362	-	28
Hong Kong	522	641	60	-	569	-	629	-	12	-	-
India	4 080	5 202	156	21	4 058	21	4 256	3	878	-	65
Japan	3 107	3 182	203	2	2 820	23	3 048	-	133	1	-
Malaysia	717	1 173	436	1	691	1	1 129	-	43	-	1
Philippines	529	675	44	-	524	3	571	-	58	37	9
Rep of China (Taiwan)	1 260	1 521	309	1	729	2	1 041	-	448	1	31
Rep of Korea	1 671	2 529	129	-	2 161	15	2 305	-	224	-	-
Singapore	832	516	183	1	317	-	501	-	13	2	-
Other	3 029	3 431	373	3	2 475	10	2 861	1	559	3	7

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

Country	Mode of travel (August 2007)										
	August		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspec.
	2006	2007	(C/Town)	(Durban)	(OR Tambo)	(Other)	Total				
<b>Africa total</b>	526 957	594 540	2 172	260	46 344	602	49 378	124	532 049	38	12 951
<b>SADC</b>	514 090	580 515	2 072	252	34 842	473	37 639	121	529 813	37	12 905
Angola	2 178	2 604	102	-	2 324	46	2 472	-	132	-	-
Botswana	65 093	73 741	17	1	2 666	158	2 842	-	70 764	1	134
DRC	2 139	3 134	2	-	2 244	70	2 316	-	817	-	1
Lesotho	143 602	170 358	1	-	684	-	685	-	157 971	-	11 702
Madagascar	185	268	1	-	261	-	262	-	6	-	-
Malawi	11 999	13 674	10	6	2 172	6	2 194	50	11 415	12	3
Mauritius	1 236	1 264	188	117	818	4	1 127	-	134	-	3
Mozambique	78 004	94 379	54	103	2 604	48	2 809	-	90 969	-	601
Namibia	19 506	20 901	1 637	-	2 668	39	4 344	-	16 524	-	33
Swaziland	88 217	93 400	14	23	975	5	1 017	6	92 232	-	145
Tanzania	1 155	1 083	5	1	800	3	809	-	269	1	4
Zambia	14 465	16 613	10	-	6 693	24	6 727	17	9 844	8	17
Zimbabwe	86 311	89 096	31	1	9 933	70	10 035	48	78 736	15	262

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

Country	Mode of travel (August 2007)										
	August		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspec.
	2006	2007	(C/Town)	(Durban)	(OR Tambo)	(Other)	Total				
<b>East and Central Africa</b>	6 571	6 532	26	5	5 048	68	5 147	1	1 359	1	24
Burundi	98	92	-	-	59	4	63	-	29	-	-
Cameroon	315	476	6	2	413	1	422	-	49	-	5
Central African Rep	13	8	-	-	8	-	8	-	-	-	-
Chad	26	36	-	-	36	-	36	-	-	-	-
Comoros	13	18	1	-	16	-	17	-	1	-	-
Congo	1 157	532	3	-	405	9	417	-	114	-	1
Djibouti	8	3	-	-	3	-	3	-	-	-	-
Equatorial Guinea	21	28	-	-	9	-	9	-	19	-	-
Eritrea	43	38	-	-	32	-	32	-	5	-	1
Ethiopia	859	895	1	-	543	12	556	-	333	-	6
Gabon	391	357	2	-	337	13	352	-	5	-	-
Kenya	2 034	2 311	4	1	1 956	24	1 985	-	315	1	10
Reunion	22	56	-	1	53	-	54	-	2	-	-
Rwanda	228	260	2	-	227	-	229	-	30	-	1
Sao Tome and Principe	13	11	-	-	10	-	10	-	1	-	-
Seychelles	198	226	2	1	221	-	224	-	2	-	-
Somalia	173	222	-	-	10	-	10	-	212	-	-
Tristan da Cunha	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Uganda	959	963	5	-	710	5	720	1	242	-	-

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

Country	Mode of travel (August 2007)										
	August		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspec.
	2006	2007	(C/Town)	(Durban)	(OR Tambo)	(Other)	Total				
<b>West Africa</b>	5 411	6 537	41	1	5 643	57	5 742	2	780	-	13
Ascension	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Benin	100	116	2	-	97	-	99	-	17	-	-
Burkina Faso	52	59	-	-	57	1	58	-	1	-	-
Cape Verde Island	42	51	-	-	38	3	41	-	10	-	-
Cote D'Ivoire	212	222	4	-	215	-	219	-	3	-	-
Gambia	46	60	-	-	38	-	38	-	21	-	1
Ghana	1 041	1 346	4	-	1 127	4	1 135	-	211	-	-
Guinea	64	156	3	1	107	-	111	-	45	-	-
Guinea-Bissau	20	48	-	-	30	1	31	-	17	-	-
Liberia	41	32	-	-	28	-	28	-	4	-	-
Madeira Island	4	5	1	-	2	-	3	-	2	-	-
Mali	76	93	1	-	75	-	76	-	16	-	1
Mauritania	8	12	1	-	11	-	12	-	-	-	-
Niger	22	13	-	-	8	5	13	-	-	-	-
Nigeria	3 360	3 968	20	-	3 497	43	3 560	2	395	-	11
St Helena	10	17	4	-	7	-	11	-	6	-	-
Senegal	226	235	-	-	215	-	215	-	20	-	-
Sierra Leone	43	59	1	-	51	-	52	-	7	-	-
Togo	41	45	-	-	40	-	40	-	5	-	-
Western Sahara	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>North Africa</b>	885	956	33	2	811	4	850	-	97	-	9
Algeria	124	160	4	-	107	1	112	-	48	-	-
Egypt	369	375	9	2	334	3	348	-	26	-	1
Libya	68	76	5	-	52	-	57	-	11	-	8
Morocco	89	68	4	-	58	-	62	-	6	-	-
Sudan	179	209	3	-	201	-	204	-	5	-	-
Tunisia	56	68	8	-	59	-	67	-	1	-	-
<b>Unspecified</b>	3 678	5 450	51	-	1 108	14	1 173	-	1 660	4	2 613

**Table 4. Number of foreign arrivals by purpose of travel**

Region	Total	Purpose of travel (August 2007)							Contract worker	Border Traffic
		Business	Holiday	Study	Work	Transit	Unspec.	Total		
<b>Grand total</b>	788 117	15 601	735 379	7 184	10 732	3 366	75	772 337	-	15 780
<b>Overseas total</b>	188 127	5 266	173 959	1 160	6 639	839	8	187 871	-	256
Europe	112 643	2 650	105 997	642	2 864	409	-	112 562	-	81
North America	32 873	745	31 079	232	614	164	-	32 834	-	39
Central and South America	4 352	125	3 980	24	163	60	-	4 352	-	-
Australasia	10 082	237	9 671	12	107	52	-	10 079	-	3
Middle East	5 069	154	4 704	47	153	10	-	5 068	-	1
Asia	23 108	1 355	18 528	203	2 738	144	8	22 976	-	132
<b>Africa total</b>	594 540	10 297	560 317	5 291	3 140	2 521	63	581 629	-	12 911
SADC	580 515	9 332	548 811	4 737	2 336	2 392	40	567 648	-	12 867
East and Central Africa	6 532	424	5 340	306	372	48	19	6 509	-	23
West Africa	6 537	391	5 490	210	358	73	2	6524	-	13
North Africa	956	150	676	38	74	8	2	948	-	8
<b>Unspecified</b>	5 450	38	1 103	733	953	6	4	2 837	-	2 613

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

Country	August		Purpose of travel (August 2007)							Contract worker	Border traffic concession
	2006	2007	Business	Holiday	Study	Work	Transit	Unspec.	Total		
<b>Grand total</b>	701 991	788 117	15 601	735 379	7 184	10 732	3 366	75	772 337	-	15 780
<b>Overseas total</b>	171 356	188 127	5 266	173 959	1 160	6 639	839	8	187 871	-	256
<b>Europe</b>	107 345	112 643	2 650	105 997	642	2 864	409	-	112 562	-	81
Austria	1 373	1 538	42	1 460	3	29	4	-	1 538	-	-
Belgium	2 996	3 092	99	2 861	20	95	16	-	3 091	-	1
Denmark	1 218	1 176	45	1 085	3	38	4	-	1 175	-	1
France	10 530	11 836	189	11 173	98	327	48	-	11 835	-	1
Germany	15 934	16 071	497	14 928	159	423	51	-	16 058	-	13
Greece	776	747	17	695	3	28	4	-	747	-	-
Ireland	2 883	3 177	65	3 032	17	49	8	-	3 171	-	6
Italy	10 972	10 998	67	10 826	13	51	39	-	10 996	-	2
Netherlands	8 861	10 061	172	9 636	72	149	23	-	10 052	-	9
Portugal	2 623	2 737	28	2 652	11	28	11	-	2 730	-	7
Spain	4 875	5 672	33	5 541	5	64	29	-	5 672	-	-
Sweden	1 358	1 483	80	1 250	29	118	6	-	1 483	-	-
Switzerland	1 903	2 072	54	1 951	13	42	7	-	2 067	-	5
UK	35 834	36 426	993	34 395	159	727	119	-	36 393	-	33
Other	5 209	5 557	269	4 512	37	696	40	-	5 554	-	3
<b>North America</b>	27 757	32 873	745	31 079	232	614	164	-	32 834	-	39
Canada	3 362	4 104	116	3 810	29	122	23	-	4 100	-	4
USA	24 391	28 760	629	27 261	203	491	141	-	28 725	-	35
Other	4	9	-	8	-	1	-	-	9	-	-
<b>Central and South America</b>	4 415	4 352	125	3 980	24	163	60	-	4 352	-	-
Argentina	557	576	19	529	7	17	4	-	576	-	-
Brazil	2 525	2 352	44	2 205	7	62	34	-	2 352	-	-
Chile	223	233	8	219	-	6	-	-	233	-	-
Other	1 110	1 191	54	1 027	10	78	22	-	1 191	-	-

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

Country	August		Purpose of travel (August 2007)							Contract worker	Border traffic concession
			Business	Holiday	Study	Work	Transit	Unspec.	Total		
	2006	2007									
<b>Australasia</b>	8 969	10 082	237	9 671	12	107	52	-	10 079	-	3
Australia	7 270	8 578	204	8 232	9	94	36	-	8 575	-	3
New Zealand	1 632	1 435	31	1 387	2	7	8	-	1 435	-	-
Other	67	69	2	52	1	6	8	-	69	-	-
<b>Middle East</b>	4 063	5 069	154	4 704	47	153	10	-	5 068	-	1
Israel	1 356	1 653	51	1 548	1	48	5	-	1 653	-	-
Saudi Arabia	847	1 151	16	1 120	6	7	2	-	1 151	-	-
Turkey	337	550	17	474	8	50	1	-	550	-	-
Other	1523	1 715	70	1 562	32	48	2	-	1 714	-	1
<b>Asia</b>	18 807	23 108	1 355	18 528	203	2 738	144	8	22 976	-	132
China	3 060	4 238	257	3 257	65	619	11	1	4 210	-	28
Hong Kong	522	641	17	611	-	13	-	-	641	-	-
India	4 080	5 202	611	3 942	29	529	28	-	5 139	-	63
Japan	3 107	3 182	87	2 929	16	134	16	-	3 182	-	-
Malaysia	717	1 173	51	1 082	4	29	6	-	1 172	-	1
Philippines	529	675	18	247	6	366	31	-	668	-	7
Rep of China (Taiwan)	1 260	1 521	67	1 105	16	293	10	3	1 494	-	27
Rep of Korea	1 671	2 529	34	2 371	34	74	16	-	2 529	-	-
Singapore	832	516	42	439	1	34	-	-	516	-	-
Other	3 029	3 431	171	2 545	32	647	26	4	3 425	-	6



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

Country	August		Purpose of travel (August 2007)							Contract worker	Border traffic concession
	2006	2007	Business	Holiday	Study	Work	Transit	Unspec.	Total		
<b>Africa total</b>	526 957	594 540	10 297	560 317	5 291	3 140	2 521	63	581 629	-	12 911
<b>SADC</b>	514 090	580 515	9 332	548 811	4 737	2 336	2 392	40	567 648	-	12 867
Angola	2 178	2 604	83	2 250	151	87	33	-	2 604	-	-
Botswana	65 093	73 741	111	71 464	1 291	202	559	-	73 627	-	114
DRC	2 139	3 134	96	2 821	73	96	30	17	3 133	-	1
Lesotho	143 602	170 358	1 136	156 028	597	150	745	-	158 656	-	11 702
Madagascar	185	268	17	239	1	6	5	-	268	-	-
Malawi	11 999	13 674	673	12 834	60	78	21	5	13 671	-	3
Mauritius	1 236	1 264	55	1 137	35	23	11	-	1 261	-	3
Mozambique	78 004	94 379	376	93 023	221	98	63	-	93 781	-	598
Namibia	19 506	20 901	1 922	17 884	511	65	488	-	20 870	-	31
Swaziland	88 217	93 400	403	91 576	913	136	240	-	93 268	-	132
Tanzania	1 155	1 083	98	874	67	32	6	2	1 079	-	4
Zambia	14 465	16 613	2 023	14 305	135	95	38	-	16 596	-	17
Zimbabwe	86 311	89 096	2 339	84 376	682	1 268	153	16	88 834	-	262

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

Country	August		Purpose of travel (August 2007)								Contract worker	Border traffic concession
	2006	2007	Business	Holiday	Study	Work	Transit	Unspec.	Total			
<b>East and Central Africa</b>	6 571	6 532	424	5 340	306	372	48	19	6 509	-	23	
Burundi	98	92	8	76	2	3	-	3	92	-	-	
Cameroon	315	476	38	336	45	49	3	-	471	-	5	
Central African Rep	13	8	1	5	2	-	-	-	8	-	-	
Chad	26	36	5	24	6	1	-	-	36	-	-	
Comoros	13	18	2	16	-	-	-	-	18	-	-	
Congo	1 157	532	17	481	9	22	2	-	531	-	1	
Djibouti	8	3	1	1	-	1	-	-	3	-	-	
Equatorial Guinea	21	28	-	25	3	-	-	-	28	-	-	
Eritrea	43	38	8	27	-	2	-	-	37	-	1	
Ethiopia	859	895	35	800	15	31	-	8	889	-	6	
Gabon	391	357	5	298	47	6	1	-	357	-	-	
Kenya	2 034	2 311	209	1 794	102	180	15	1	2 301	-	10	
Reunion	22	56	-	56	-	-	-	-	56	-	-	
Rwanda	228	260	13	195	34	16	1	1	260	-	-	
Sao Tome and Principe	13	11	2	8	-	1	-	-	11	-	-	
Seychelles	198	226	2	219	4	1	-	-	226	-	-	
Somalia	173	222	1	213	3	-	-	5	222	-	-	
Tristan da Cunha	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Uganda	959	963	77	766	34	59	26	1	963	-	-	

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

Country	August		Purpose of travel (August 2007)							Contract worker	Border traffic concession
	2006	2007	Business	Holiday	Study	Work	Transit	Unspec.	Total		
<b>West Africa</b>	5 411	6 537	391	5 490	210	358	73	2	6 524	-	13
Ascension	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Benin	100	116	11	103	1	1	-	-	116	-	-
Burkina Faso	52	59	8	40	3	5	3	-	59	-	-
Cape Verde Island	42	51	-	47	-	4	-	-	51	-	-
Cote D'Ivoire	212	222	20	145	20	35	2	-	222	-	-
Gambia	46	60	10	43	-	1	5	-	59	-	1
Ghana	1 041	1 346	74	1 156	21	85	10	-	1 346	-	-
Guinea	64	156	16	122	5	2	11	-	156	-	-
Guinea-Bissau	20	48	10	37	-	1	-	-	48	-	-
Liberia	41	32	4	27	-	-	1	-	32	-	-
Madeira Island	4	5	-	5	-	-	-	-	5	-	-
Mali	76	93	7	78	2	3	2	-	92	-	1
Mauritania	8	12	2	7	-	3	-	-	12	-	-
Niger	22	13	-	8	-	4	1	-	13	-	-
Nigeria	3 360	3 968	208	3 396	147	175	29	2	3 957	-	11
St Helena	10	17	-	16	-	-	1	-	17	-	-
Senegal	226	235	14	175	9	31	6	-	235	-	-
Sierra Leone	43	59	2	48	-	7	2	-	59	-	-
Togo	41	45	5	37	2	1	-	-	45	-	-
Western Sahara	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>North Africa</b>	885	956	150	676	38	74	8	2	948	-	8
Algeria	124	160	10	118	14	16	2	-	160	-	-
Egypt	369	375	65	266	3	35	4	2	375	-	-
Libya	68	76	-	57	7	4	-	-	68	-	8
Morocco	89	68	5	51	1	9	2	-	68	-	-
Sudan	179	209	58	132	12	7	-	-	209	-	-
Tunisia	56	68	12	52	1	3	-	-	68	-	-
<b>Unspecified</b>	3 678	5 450	38	1 103	733	953	6	4	2 837	-	2 613

## 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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