

Statistical release

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Tourism and Migration

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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 2 941 571 travellers (arrivals and departures) passed through South African ports of entry in August 2012. As presented in Table 1, these travellers are made up of 802 323 South African residents and 2 139 248 foreign travellers. A further breakdown of the figures for South African residents indicates that there were 389 231 and 413 092 arrivals and departures respectively. The corresponding volumes for foreign arrivals and departures were 1 162 144 and 977 104, respectively.

A comparison between the movements in July 2012 and August 2012 indicates that the volume of arrivals for both South African residents and foreign travellers decreased while the volume of their departures increased. The volume of arrivals for South African residents decreased by 22,0% (from 499 178 in July 2012 to 389 231 in August 2012) while for foreign travellers the arrivals decreased by 2,8% (from 1 195 266 in July 2012 to 1 162 144 in August 2012). For departures, the volume for South African residents increased by 2,0% (from 405 004 in July 2012 to 413 092 in August 2012) and by 4,4% (from 935 495 in July 2012 to 977 104 in August 2012) for foreign travellers.

A comparison between the movements in August 2011 and August 2012 indicates that the volumes of arrivals and departures decreased for South African residents while the volumes increased for foreign travellers. For South African residents, the volume of arrivals decreased by 5,1% (from 409 951 in August 2011 to 389 231 in August 2012) and the volume of departures decreased by 2,6% (from 424 168 in August 2011 to 413 092 in August 2012). Conversely, the volume of arrivals for foreign travellers increased by 8,6% (from 1 069 990 in August 2011 to 1 162 144 in August 2012) and the volume of departures increased by 8,8% (from 898 310 in August 2011 to 977 104 in August 2012).

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 South African immigration officers. 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 August 2012, 58 917 (5,1%) foreign arrivals were classified as non-visitors while 1 103 227 (94,9%) were classified as visitors. The visitors were categorised into three groups:

- i. arrivals only comprising of visitors who entered the country in August 2012 but did not depart in August 2012 [400 443 (36,3%)];
- ii. visitors who came once in August 2012 and left in August 2012 [388 704 (35,2%)];
- iii. those who came and left more than once in August 2012 [314 080 (28,5%)].

Visitors were further grouped as same day visitors [327 607 (29,7%)] and overnight visitors (tourists) [775 620 (70,3%)]. Between July 2012 and August 2012, the volume of same day visitors decreased by 2,9% (from 337 422 in July 2012 to 327 607 in August 2012) and tourists decreased by 2,2% (from 793 245 in July 2012 to 775 620 in August 2012). Furthermore, between August 2011 and August 2012, the volume of same day visitors increased by 6,3% (from 308 047 in August 2011 to 327 607 in August 2012) and the volume of tourists increased by 9,4% (from 708 882 in August 2011 to 775 620 in August 2012).

1.1.2 Mode of travel

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 August 2012, road transport was the most common mode of travel used by 2 120 488 (72,1%) out of the 2 941 571 travellers. The total number of travellers who used air transport was 817 030 (27,8%). The arrivals data on South African residents show that 138 035 (35,5%) came by air and

250 982 (64,5%) came by road. For departures, 151 424 (36,7%) and 261 507 (63,3%) used air and road transport respectively. In the case of foreign travellers, 281 385 (24,2%) arrived by air while those who came by road were 878 847 (75,6%). When departing South Africa, 246 186 (25,2%) foreign travellers left by air whilst 729 152 (74,6%) left by road. As shown in Table 2, an overwhelming majority, 304 783 (93,0%) of same day visitors arrived in the country by road. Only 22 675 (6,9%) same day visitors flew into the country. Data on tourists show that, 544 402 (70,2%) used road transport but 230 952 (29,8%) 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. In August 2012, 172 385 (86,3%) overseas tourists arrived in the country by air whilst 27 195 (13,6%) 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 [514 775 (92,6%)]. Only 41 068 (7,4%) 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 16 302 (90,3%); with 1 722 (9,5%) using road transport.

1.2.2 Regional and national distribution

In August 2012, the distribution of overseas tourists were as follows; Europe, 107 063 (53,6%); Asia, 34 625 (17,3%); North America, 34 127 (17,1%); Australasia, 12 351 (6,2%); Central and South America, 7 906 (4,0%) and Middle East, 3 748 (1,9%). Virtually all tourists from Africa came from the SADC countries, [555 848 (96,9%)]. The distribution of the remaining tourists from Africa is as follows: West Africa, 10 124 (1,8%); East and Central Africa, 6 970 (1,2%) and North Africa 951 (0,2%).

Data presented in Figure 1 indicate that United Kingdom (UK), 31 914 (16,0%); United States of America (USA), 29 459 (14,7%); Germany, 17 239 (8,6%); China 11 368 (5,7%); France, 11 359 (5,7%); Italy, 10 743 (5,4%); Australia, 10 489 (5,2%) and The Netherlands, 8 536 (4,3%) were the eight leading overseas countries in the number of tourists visiting South Africa in August 2012. Tourists from these eight countries constituted 65,6% of all tourists from overseas countries. A comparison between movements in August 2011 and August 2012 shows that the number of tourists increased in all these countries with the exception of UK. China had the highest increase of 47,3% (from 7 720 tourists in August 2011 to 11 368 tourists in August 2012) while UK had a decrease of 0,7% (from 32 153 tourists in August 2011 to 31 914 tourists in August 2012).

The eight leading countries in the number of tourists visiting South Africa in August 2012 from the SADC countries (see Figure 2) were Zimbabwe, 176 988 (31,8%); Lesotho, 119 796 (21,6%); Mozambique, 94 321 (17,0%); Swaziland, 68 485 (12,3%); Botswana, 39 873 (7,2%); Namibia, 17 325 (3,1%); Zambia, 14 644 (2,6%) and Malawi, 12 052 (2,2%). Tourists from these eight countries constituted 97,8% of all tourists from the SADC countries. A comparison between movements in August 2011 and August 2012 shows that the number of tourists increased in six of these countries (Zimbabwe, Botswana, Mozambique, Zambia, Swaziland and Namibia) and decreased in two countries (Malawi and Lesotho). Zimbabwe had the highest increase of 22,9% (from 143 983 tourists in August 2011 to 176 988 tourists in August 2012). The number of tourists from Malawi decreased by 1,9% (from 12 288 tourists in August 2011 to 12 052 tourists in August 2012) and tourists from Lesotho decreased by 0,4% (from 120 244 tourists in August 2011 to 119 796 tourists in August 2012).

The eight leading countries in the number of tourists visiting South Africa in August 2012 from 'other' African countries, shown in Figure 3, were Nigeria, 6 795 (37,7%); Kenya, 2 471 (13,7%); Ghana, 1 929 (10,7%); Uganda, 1 179 (6,5%); Gabon, 1 007 (5,6%); Ethiopia, 744 (4,1%); Cameroon, 534 (3,0%) and Egypt, 499 (2,8%). Tourists from these eight countries constituted 84,0% of all tourists from 'other' African countries. A comparison between movements in August 2011 and August 2012 shows that the number of tourists increased in six countries (Egypt, Cameroon, Gabon, Uganda, Nigeria and Ghana) and decreased in two countries (Ethiopia and Kenya). The increase was highest in Egypt at 57,4% (from 317 tourists in August 2011 to 499 tourists in August 2012) while

Ethiopia had a higher decrease of 10,1% (from 828 tourists in August 2011 to 744 tourists in August 2012), compared to Kenya's 4,2% (from 2 579 tourists in August 2011 to 2 471 tourists in August 2012).

1.2.3 Purpose of visit

As observed from data given in Table 4, in August 2012, an overwhelming majority [708 286 (91,3%)] of tourists were in South Africa for holidays compared to only 14 551 (1,9%) and 5 769 (0,7%) of tourists who were in South Africa for business and study purposes respectively. A detailed analysis reveals that of all the tourists from each of the overseas regions, at least 64,0% came to South Africa for holidays. A total of 3 383 (90,3%) tourists from Middle East; 28 537 (83,6%) from North America; 10 283 (83,3%) from Australasia, 86 500 (80,8%) from Europe, 25 108 (72,5%) from Asia and 5 095 (64,4%) from Central and South America were in South Africa mostly for holidays. Asia and Middle East had a higher proportion (3,7% and 3,5% respectively) of their tourists in South Africa for business compared to other overseas regions.

The majority of African tourists [547 847 (95,5%)] came to South Africa for holidays. However, there were differences between tourists from the SADC countries and 'other' African countries namely:

- Whereas 533 309 (95,9%) of tourists from the SADC countries were on holidays; 14 538 (80,6%) 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 5 723 (82,1%); 8 189 (80,9%) and 626 (65,8%) for East and Central Africa; West Africa and North Africa respectively.
- Business persons constituted 515 (2,9%) of tourists from 'other' African countries compared with 8 232 (1,5%) from the SADC countries. North Africa had the highest proportion 6,2% (59) of its tourists in South Africa for business.
- Students made up 525 (2,9%) of tourists from 'other' African countries compared with 4 088 (0,7%) from the SADC countries. North Africa had the highest proportion 4,1% (39) of their tourists in South Africa for study purposes.

1.2.4 Sex and age distribution

Table 5 shows that, in August 2012, there were 430 419 (55,5%) male and 344 320 (44,4%) female tourists. The overseas tourists were made up of 112 585 (56,3%) male tourists and 87 063 (43,6%) female tourists. There were 304 649 (54,8%) male and 250 495 (45,1%) female tourists from the SADC countries. The tourists from 'other' African countries were made up of 11 960 (66,3%) males and 6 081 (33,7%) 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 690 456 (89,0%) of tourists were aged between 15 and 64 years; 56 466 (7,3%) were aged less than 15 years and 28 084 (3,6%) were aged 65 years and older. Taking the regions of residence into consideration, the results further show that 166 799 (83,5%) of overseas tourists were aged between 15 and 64 years compared with 505 927 (91,0%) and 15 914 (88,2%) of tourists in the same age range from the SADC countries and 'other' African countries respectively.

For tourists aged less than 15 years, higher proportions of 10,3% (1 866) and 8,8% (17 587) were from 'other' African and overseas countries, respectively while the proportions were lower for those from SADC countries [6,7% (36 967)]. There was a higher proportion of young female tourists in comparison to young male tourists from all the three regions (overseas, SADC and 'other' African countries).

A comparison of the three regions shows relatively high proportions of the elderly among both male 7,5% (8 461) and female 7,9% (6 867) tourists from overseas. This is in contrast to tourists from the SADC countries amongst which 1,9% (5 714) of males and 2,7% (6 654) of females were aged 65 years and older. Similarly among tourists from 'other' African countries, 1,5% (176) of males and 1,4% (84) of females were aged 65 years and older.

PJ Lehohla
Statistician-General

2. Figures

Figure 1. Number of tourists from eight leading overseas countries in August 2011 and August 2012

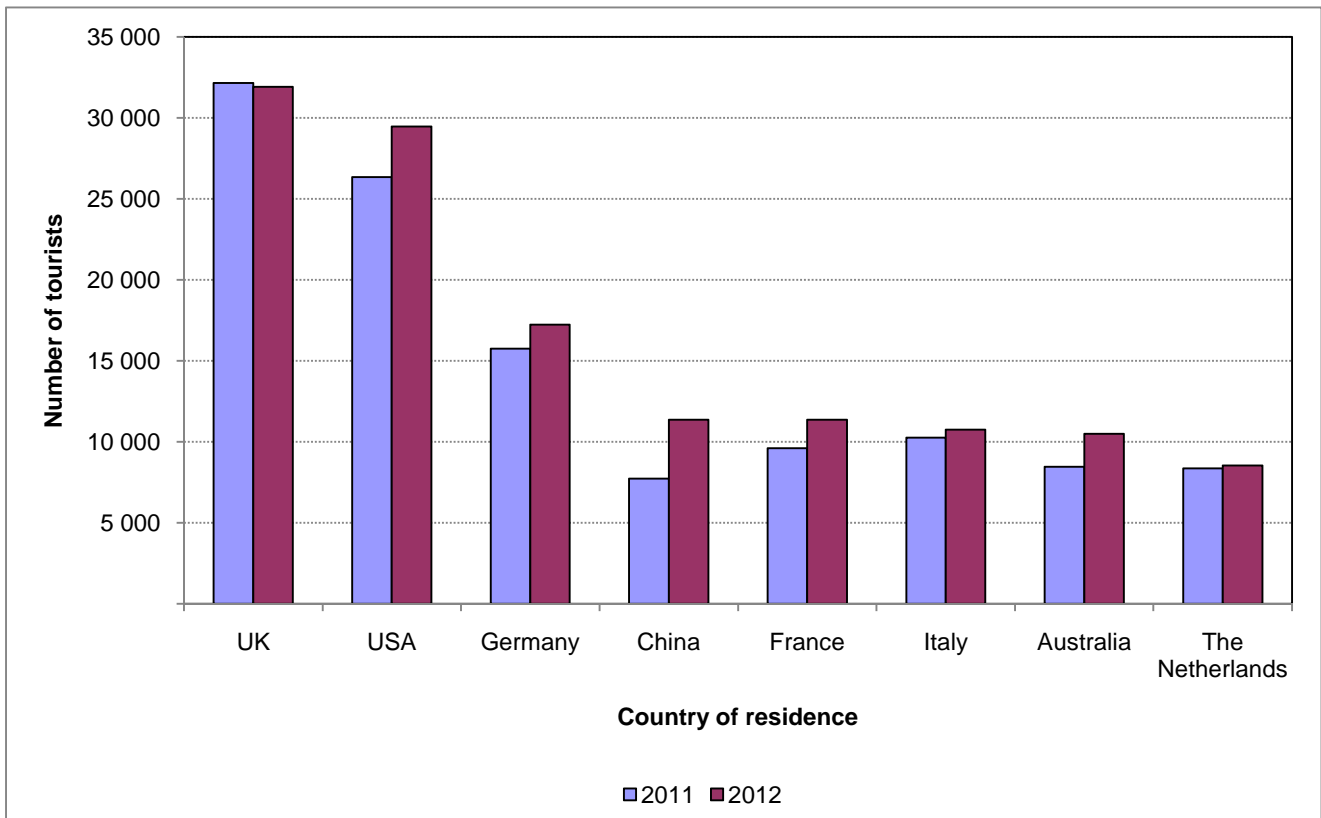


Figure 2. Number of tourists from eight leading Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries in August 2011 and August 2012

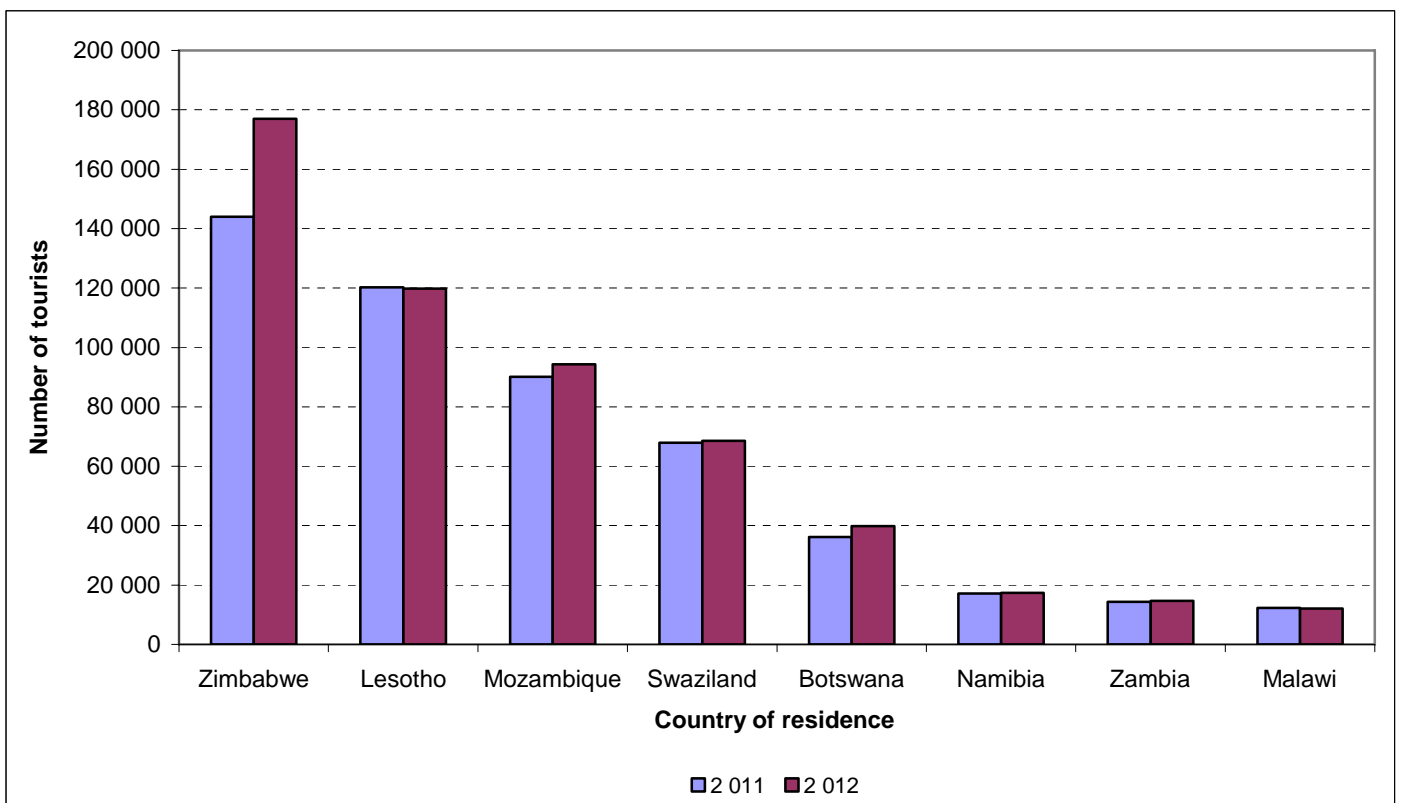
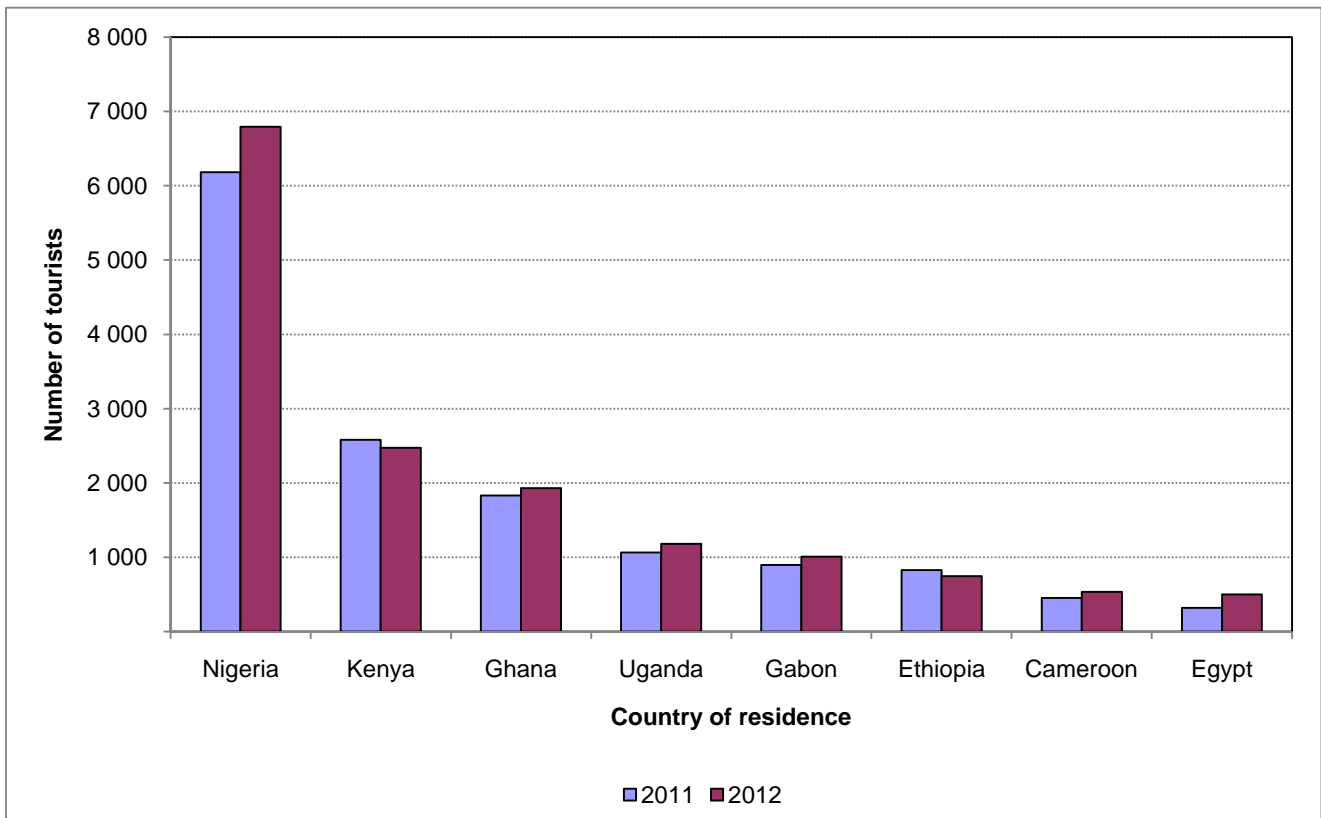


Figure 3. Number of tourists from eight leading 'other' African countries in August 2011 and August 2012



3. Tables

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

Travel direction	August	July	August	% change	
	2011	2012	2012	August 2011 - August 2012	July 2012 - August 2012
Total	2 802 419	3 034 943	2 941 571	5,0	-3,1
South African residents	834 119	904 182	802 323	-3,8	-11,3
Arrivals	409 951	499 178	389 231	-5,1	-22,0
Departures	424 168	405 004	413 092	-2,6	2,0
Foreign travellers	1 968 300	2 130 761	2 139 248	8,7	0,4
Arrivals	1 069 990	1 195 266	1 162 144	8,6	-2,8
Departures	898 310	935 495	977 104	8,8	4,4
Foreign arrivals	1 069 990	1 195 266	1 162 144	8,6	-2,8
Non-visitors	53 061	64 599	58 917	11,0	-8,8
Visitors	1 016 929	1 130 667	1 103 227	8,5	-2,4
Visitors	1 016 929	1 130 667	1 103 227	8,5	-2,4
Arrivals only	361 468	431 698	400 443	10,8	-7,2
Single trips	346 805	315 908	388 704	12,1	23,0
Multiple trips	308 656	383 061	314 080	1,8	-18,0
Visitors	1 016 929	1 130 667	1 103 227	8,5	-2,4
Same day	308 047	337 422	327 607	6,3	-2,9
Overnight (tourists)	708 882	793 245	775 620	9,4	-2,2

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

Travel Direction	August		Mode of travel (August 2012)							
			Air					Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2011	2012	Cape Town	K Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total			
Total	2 802 419	2 941 571	94 077	17 061	696 076	9 816	817 030	2 120 488	4 007	46
South African residents	834 119	802 323	33 516	10 123	239 550	6 270	289 459	512 489	375	-
Arrivals	409 951	389 231	16 164	4 680	114 039	3 152	138 035	250 982	214	-
Departures	424 168	413 092	17 352	5 443	125 511	3 118	151 424	261 507	161	-
Foreign travellers	1 968 300	2 139 248	60 561	6 938	456 526	3 546	527 571	1 607 999	3 632	46
Arrivals	1 069 990	1 162 144	31 010	3 138	245 481	1 756	281 385	878 847	1 866	46
Departures	898 310	977 104	29 551	3 800	211 045	1 790	246 186	729 152	1 766	-
Visitors	1 016 929	1 103 227	27 125	2 296	222 900	1 306	253 627	849 185	386	29
Same day	308 047	327 607	391	33	22 060	191	22 675	304 783	149	-
Overnight (tourists)	708 882	775 620	26 734	2 263	200 840	1 115	230 952	544 402	237	29

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

Country of residence	August		Mode of travel (August 2012)							
	2011	2012	Air					Road	Sea	Unspecified
			Cape Town	K Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total			
Total	708 882	775 620	26 734	2 263	200 840	1 115	230 952	544 402	237	29
Overseas	176 696	199 820	24 138	1 903	145 516	828	172 385	27 195	217	23
Europe	100 894	107 063	15 825	1 300	70 902	269	88 296	18 663	103	1
Austria	1 545	1 724	231	14	1 233	1	1 479	245	-	-
Belgium	3 030	3 342	392	26	2 123	8	2 549	790	3	-
Denmark	1 124	1 200	148	10	885	4	1 047	152	1	-
France	9 595	11 359	1 301	39	7 696	20	9 056	2 302	1	-
Germany	15 760	17 239	2 348	151	11 691	16	14 206	3 033	-	-
Ireland	2 185	1 992	371	65	1 141	8	1 585	406	1	-
Italy	10 251	10 743	2 170	123	6 682	20	8 995	1 748	-	-
Norway	849	1 064	193	10	741	4	948	114	2	-
Portugal	3 049	4 001	235	22	2 096	10	2 363	1 637	1	-
Spain	4 336	4 135	545	8	3 025	-	3 578	557	-	-
Sweden	1 351	1 373	208	11	957	6	1 182	188	3	-
Switzerland	2 275	2 653	282	16	1 952	15	2 265	388	-	-
The Netherlands	8 365	8 536	1 517	93	4 243	9	5 862	2 671	3	-
UK	32 153	31 914	5 022	630	22 258	115	28 025	3 836	52	1
Other	5 026	5 788	862	82	4 179	33	5 156	596	36	-
North America	30 550	34 127	3 005	89	27 698	421	31 213	2 910	4	-
Canada	4 205	4 668	514	18	3 527	39	4 098	570	-	-
USA	26 345	29 459	2 491	71	24 171	382	27 115	2 340	4	-
Central and South America	6 638	7 906	179	13	6 994	17	7 203	702	1	-
Argentina	887	1 170	21	-	1 120	3	1 144	26	-	-
Brazil	4 062	4 945	69	6	4 376	8	4 459	486	-	-
Mexico	223	253	27	-	203	-	230	23	-	-
Other	1 466	1 538	62	7	1 295	6	1 370	167	1	-

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

Country of residence	August		Mode of travel (August 2012)							
	2011	2012	Air					Road	Sea	Unspecified
			Cape Town	K Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total			
Australasia	10 205	12 351	631	60	10 492	47	11 230	1 114	7	-
Australia	8 463	10 489	515	41	8 933	33	9 522	964	3	-
New Zealand	1 711	1 844	116	19	1 541	14	1 690	150	4	-
Other	31	18			18		18			
Middle East	2 885	3 748	630	16	2 876	9	3 531	217	-	-
Iran	276	267	44	3	217	-	264	3	-	-
Israel	1 771	1 793	54	-	1 601	2	1 657	136	-	-
Saudi Arabia	250	643	206	7	430	-	643	-	-	-
Other	588	1 045	326	6	628	7	967	78	-	-
Asia	25 524	34 625	3 868	425	26 554	65	30 912	3 589	102	22
China	7 720	11 368	1 307	42	9 187	14	10 550	813	5	-
India	6 511	8 218	768	179	6 002	26	6 975	1 211	30	2
Indonesia	812	1 055	362	7	675	1	1 045	10	-	-
Japan	2 687	3 278	205	15	2 861	7	3 088	190	-	-
Malaysia	940	1 000	285	16	654	13	968	32	-	-
Pakistan	1 144	1 444	74	71	862	-	1 007	431	-	6
Philippines	881	1 356	217	23	892	2	1 134	165	57	-
South Korea	1 707	1 992	115	4	1 614	-	1 733	254	5	-
Thailand	733	1 599	159	16	1 404	-	1 579	20	-	-
Other	2 389	3 315	376	52	2 403	2	2 833	463	5	14
Africa	530 346	573 893	2 513	354	54 230	273	57 370	516 497	20	6
SADC	513 814	555 848	2 308	332	38 193	235	41 068	514 775	4	1
Angola	3 365	3 430	329	-	2 978	12	3 319	111	-	-
Botswana	36 129	39 873	14	-	3 160	51	3 225	36 648	-	-
DRC	4 051	4 153	8	-	3 380	2	3 390	763	-	-
Lesotho	120 244	119 796	3	1	647	2	653	119 143	-	-
Madagascar	210	385	2	1	377	-	380	5	-	-

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

Country of residence	August		Mode of travel (August 2012)							
	2011	2012	Air					Road	Sea	Unspecified
			Cape Town	K Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total			
Malawi	12 288	12 052	3	2	1 953	20	1 978	10 074	-	-
Mauritius	1 410	1 361	183	91	979	1	1 254	106	1	-
Mozambique	90 128	94 321	75	45	3 608	23	3 751	90 570	-	-
Namibia	17 205	17 325	1 604	5	3 701	28	5 338	11 985	2	-
Seychelles	199	222	1	3	212	-	216	6	-	-
Swaziland	67 904	68 485	-	-	852	5	857	67 628	-	-
Tanzania	2 294	2 813	7	4	1 581	1	1 593	1 220	-	-
Zambia	14 404	14 644	18	160	4 801	16	4 995	9 649	-	-
Zimbabwe	143 983	176 988	61	20	9 964	74	10 119	166 867	1	1
'Other' Africa	16 532	18 045	205	22	16 037	38	16 302	1 722	16	5
East and Central Africa	6 621	6 970	51	10	6 138	23	6 222	745	1	2
Burundi	80	144	-	1	135	-	136	8	-	-
Cameroon	451	534	6	1	486	-	493	40	-	1
Central African Republic	15	16	-	-	16	-	16	-	-	-
Chad	24	53	-	-	48	3	51	2	-	-
Comoros	15	21	-	-	21	-	21	-	-	-
Congo	335	360	-	-	353	-	353	7	-	-
Djibouti	6	6	-	-	6	-	6	-	-	-
Equat Guinea	21	37	-	-	37	-	37	-	-	-
Eritrea	53	56	4	-	42	-	46	10	-	-
Ethiopia	828	744	12	1	656	-	669	75	-	-
Gabon	898	1 007	4	-	976	18	998	9	-	-
Kenya	2 579	2 471	18	5	2 125	2	2 150	320	1	-
Rwanda	235	306	-	-	280	-	280	26	-	-
Sao Tome and Principe	6	12	-	-	12	-	12	-	-	-
Somalia	11	24	1	-	22	-	23	-	-	1
Uganda	1 064	1 179	6	2	923	-	931	248	-	-

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

Country of residence	August		Mode of travel (August 2012)							
	2011	2012	Air					Road	Sea	Unspecified
			Cape Town	K Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total			
West Africa	9 188	10 124	82	2	9 083	15	9 182	926	14	2
Benin	117	136	-	-	122	-	122	14	-	-
Burkina Faso	88	41	1	-	40	-	41	-	-	-
Cape Verde Island	52	49	4	1	40	-	45	4	-	-
Côte D'Ivoire	161	218	3	-	202	-	205	13	-	-
Gambia	70	102	1	-	89	2	92	10	-	-
Ghana	1 833	1 929	41	-	1 725	2	1 768	159	2	-
Guinea	155	237	1	-	133	1	135	102	-	-
Guinea-Bissau	12	20	-	-	18	-	18	2	-	-
Liberia	58	36	1	-	30	1	32	4	-	-
Mali	83	117	1	-	98	-	99	17	-	1
Mauritania	11	17	-	-	17	-	17	-	-	-
Niger	16	24	-	-	24	-	24	-	-	-
Nigeria	6 180	6 795	26	1	6 180	9	6 216	578	-	1
Saint Helena	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	-
Senegal	235	253	-	-	247	-	247	6	-	-
Sierra Leone	73	74	2	-	58	-	60	14	-	-
Togo	44	64	1	-	60	-	61	3	-	-
North Africa	723	951	72	10	816		898	51	1	1
Algeria	101	94	6	-	83	-	89	5	-	-
Egypt	317	499	27	5	432	-	464	33	1	1
Libya	46	37	8	1	27	-	36	1	-	-
Morocco	68	140	24	1	106	-	131	9	-	-
The Sudan	99	65	7	-	57	-	64	1	-	-
Tunisia	92	114	-	3	109	-	112	2	-	-
Western Sahara	-	2	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	-
Unspecified	1 840	1 907	83	6	1 094	14	1 197	710	-	-

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

Country of residence	August		Purpose of visit (August 2012)			
	2011	2012	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
Total	708 882	775 620	14 551	708 286	5 769	47 014
Overseas	176 696	199 820	5 751	158 906	1 144	34 019
Europe	100 894	107 063	3 163	86 500	646	16 754
Austria	1 545	1 724	47	1 238	6	433
Belgium	3 030	3 342	114	2 768	18	442
Denmark	1 124	1 200	66	981	4	149
France	9 595	11 359	242	9 273	161	1 683
Germany	15 760	17 239	516	13 973	101	2 649
Ireland	2 185	1 992	77	1 712	9	194
Italy	10 251	10 743	136	8 802	8	1 797
Norway	849	1 064	30	797	60	177
Portugal	3 049	4 001	41	3 444	18	498
Spain	4 336	4 135	83	2 893	6	1 153
Sweden	1 351	1 373	82	1 064	23	204
Switzerland	2 275	2 653	48	1 876	10	719
The Netherlands	8 365	8 536	263	7 494	76	703
UK	32 153	31 914	1 137	25 698	115	4 964
Other	5 026	5 788	281	4 487	31	989
North America	30 550	34 127	790	28 537	179	4 621
Canada	4 205	4 668	118	3 944	29	577
USA	26 345	29 459	672	24 593	150	4 044
Central and South America	6 638	7 906	122	5 095	21	2 668
Argentina	887	1 170	6	912	-	252
Brazil	4 062	4 945	59	2 910	16	1 960
Mexico	223	253	19	196	1	37
Other	1 466	1 538	38	1 077	4	419

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

Country of residence	August		Purpose of visit (August 2012)			
	2011	2012	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
Australasia	10 205	12 351	268	10 283	18	1 782
Australia	8 463	10 489	237	8 738	18	1 496
New Zealand	1 711	1 844	29	1 532	-	283
Other	31	18	2	13	-	3
Middle East	2 885	3 748	132	3 383	19	214
Iran	276	267	15	229	8	15
Israel	1 771	1 793	61	1 600	2	130
Saudi Arabia	250	643	6	633	4	-
Other	588	1 045	50	921	5	69
Asia	25 524	34 625	1 276	25 108	261	7 980
China	7 720	11 368	375	7 532	38	3 423
India	6 511	8 218	548	6 558	53	1 059
Indonesia	812	1 055	18	904	7	126
Japan	2 687	3 278	94	2 356	9	819
Malaysia	940	1 000	20	833	42	105
Pakistan	1 144	1 444	35	1 148	10	251
Philippines	881	1 356	19	747	19	571
South Korea	1 707	1 992	50	1 503	23	416
Thailand	733	1 599	21	1 490	26	62
Other	2 389	3 315	96	2 037	34	1 148
Africa	530 346	573 893	8 747	547 847	4 613	12 686
SADC	513 814	555 848	8 232	533 309	4 088	10 219
Angola	3 365	3 430	50	2 282	164	934
Botswana	36 129	39 873	196	37 821	522	1 334
DRC	4 051	4 153	60	3 715	119	259
Lesotho	120 244	119 796	200	118 157	1 210	229
Madagascar	210	385	7	208	8	162

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

Country of residence	August		Purpose of visit (August 2012)			
	2011	2012	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
Malawi	12 288	12 052	284	11 235	70	463
Mauritius	1 410	1 361	69	1 034	28	230
Mozambique	90 128	94 321	1 077	91 849	95	1 300
Namibia	17 205	17 325	2 075	13 821	368	1 061
Seychelles	199	222	6	211	-	5
Swaziland	67 904	68 485	1 597	65 665	853	370
Tanzania	2 294	2 813	63	2 304	50	396
Zambia	14 404	14 644	997	12 615	78	954
Zimbabwe	143 983	176 988	1 551	172 392	523	2 522
'Other' African	16 532	18 045	515	14 538	525	2 467
East and Central Africa	6 621	6 970	253	5 723	272	722
Burundi	80	144	2	113	5	24
Cameroon	451	534	24	402	23	85
Central African Republic	15	16	-	15	-	1
Chad	24	53	-	42	7	4
Comoros	15	21	-	19	-	2
Congo	335	360	7	313	22	18
Djibouti	6	6	-	6	-	-
Equat Guinea	21	37	-	27	9	1
Eritrea	53	56	-	45	3	8
Ethiopia	828	744	26	641	14	63
Gabon	898	1 007	4	920	49	34
Kenya	2 579	2 471	139	1 986	91	255
Rwanda	235	306	11	220	17	58
Sao Tome and Principe	6	12	-	8	1	3
Somalia	11	24	3	9	1	11
Uganda	1 064	1 179	37	957	30	155

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

Country of residence	August		Purpose of visit (August 2012)			
	2011	2012	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
West Africa	9 188	10 124	203	8 189	214	1 518
Benin	117	136	4	113	3	16
Burkina Faso	88	41	3	25	-	13
Cape Verde Island	52	49	1	37	-	11
Côte D'Ivoire	161	218	8	178	14	18
Gambia	70	102	2	64	2	34
Ghana	1 833	1 929	40	1 589	19	281
Guinea	155	237	4	172	8	53
Guinea-Bissau	12	20	-	16	-	4
Liberia	58	36	1	28	3	4
Mali	83	117	1	91	4	21
Mauritania	11	17	2	11	-	4
Niger	16	24	1	20	-	3
Nigeria	6 180	6 795	119	5 596	147	933
Saint Helena	-	12	-	12	-	-
Senegal	235	253	8	146	10	89
Sierra Leone	73	74	5	57	4	8
Togo	44	64	4	34	-	26
North Africa	723	951	59	626	39	227
Algeria	101	94	9	75	3	7
Egypt	317	499	34	335	15	115
Libya	46	37	3	20	6	8
Morocco	68	140	10	72	7	51
The Sudan	99	65	1	54	7	3
Tunisia	92	114	2	69	1	42
Western Sahara	-	2	-	1	-	1
Unspecified	1 840	1 907	53	1 533	12	309

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

Sex	Age group	Total	Region (August 2012)			
			Overseas	SADC	'Other' African	Unspecified
All	Total	775 620	199 820	555 848	18 045	1 907
	<15	56 466	17 587	36 967	1 866	46
	15 - 64	690 456	166 799	505 927	15 914	1 816
	65+	28 084	15 364	12 418	260	42
	Unspecified	614	70	536	5	3
Male	Total	430 419	112 585	304 649	11 960	1 225
	<15	28 319	9 264	18 113	914	28
	15 - 64	387 400	94 824	280 538	10 866	1 172
	65+	14 374	8 461	5 714	176	23
	Unspecified	326	36	284	4	2
Female	Total	344 320	87 063	250 495	6 081	681
	<15	28 147	8 323	18 854	952	18
	15 - 64	302 338	71 848	224 801	5 045	644
	65+	13 624	6 867	6 654	84	19
	Unspecified	211	25	186	-	-
Unspecified	Total	881	172	704	4	1
	<15	-	-	-	-	-
	15 - 64	718	127	588	3	-
	65+	86	36	50	-	-
	Unspecified	77	9	66	1	1

4. Explanatory notes

4.1 Introduction

Legal movements across South African borders as well as legal immigration into South Africa fall under the jurisdiction of the DHA. 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 August 2012, the DHA data was 8,7% 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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(012) 310 6937 (technical enquiries)

Email: tshwarog@statssa.gov.za (technical enquiries)
info@statssa.gov.za (user information services)
distribution@statssa.gov.za (orders)

Postal address: Private Bag X44, Pretoria, 0001

Produced by Stats SA