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# Statistical release P0351

# **Tourism and Migration**

December 2015

Embargoed until: 10 February 2016 14:30

Eng	uiries:	

User Information Services Tel.: (012) 310 8600 / 4892 / 8390 Forthcoming issue:

Expected release date:

January 2016

28 March 2016

Statistics South Africa 1 P0351

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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 December 2015. 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.

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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 4 420 777 travellers (arrivals, departures and transits) passed through South African ports of entry in December 2015. As presented in Table 1 on page 9, these travellers were made up of 1 262 047 South African residents and 3 158 730 foreign travellers. A further breakdown of the figures for South African residents indicates that there were 534 979 arrivals, 726 210 departures and 858 travellers in transit. The corresponding volume for foreign arrivals, departures and transit travellers was 1 547 900, 1 549 157 and 61 673 respectively.

A comparison between the movements in December 2014 and December 2015 indicates that the volume of arrivals and transits increased for both South African residents and foreign travellers. Departures decreased for South African residents but increased for foreign travellers. For South African residents, the volume of arrivals increased by 1,1% (from 529 208 in December 2014 to 534 979 in December 2015), departures decreased by 1,0% (from 733 336 in December 2014 to 726 210 in December 2015), and transits increased by 4,8% (from 819 in December 2014 to 858 in December 2015). For foreign travellers, arrivals increased by 6,9% (from 1 447 598 in December 2014 to 1 547 900 in December 2015), departures increased by 8,8% (from 1 423 408 in December 2014 to 1 549 157 in December 2015), and transits increased by 1,0% (from 61 087 in December 2014 to 61 673 in December 2015).

A comparison between the movements in November 2015 and December 2015 indicates that the volume of arrivals and departures increased for both South African residents and foreign travellers. Transits increased for South African residents but decreased for foreign travellers. The volume of arrivals for South African residents increased by 34,1% (from 398 968 in November 2015 to 534 979 in December 2015), departures increased by 86,1% (from 390 175 in November 2015 to 726 210 in December 2015) and transits increased by 6,5% (from 806 in November 2015 to 858 in December 2015). For foreign travellers, the volume of arrivals increased by 18,6% (from 1 305 140 in November 2015 to 1 547 900 in December 2015), departures increased by 32,0% (from 1 173 778 in November 2015 to 1 549 157 in December 2015) and transits decreased by 9,8% (from 68 366 in November 2015 to 61 673 in December 2015).

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 or non-tourists. However, some data are available on foreign arrivals for this categorisation.

As presented in Table 1, in December 2015, 105 062 (6,8%) of foreign arrivals were classified as non-visitors while 1 442 838 (93,2%) were classified as visitors. The visitors were categorised into three groups:

- i. Arrivals only comprising visitors who entered the country in December 2015 but did not depart in December 2015 [328 456 (22,8%)];
- ii. Single trips visitors who came to South Africa once in December 2015 and left in December 2015 [546 371 (37,9%)]; and
- iii. Multiple trips visitors who came to and left South Africa more than once in December 2015 [568 011 (39,4%)].

Visitors were further grouped as same-day visitors and overnight visitors (tourists). In December 2015, there were 550 118 (38,1%) same-day visitors and 892 720 (61,9%) tourists. Between December 2014 and December 2015, the volume of same-day visitors increased by 14,2% (from 481 766 in December 2014 to 550 118 in December 2015) and that of tourists decreased by 4,5% (from 934 699 in December 2014 to 892 720 in December 2015). Between November 2015 and December 2015, the volume of same-day visitors increased by 28,5% (from 428 160 in November 2015 to 550 118 in December 2015), and tourists increased by 15,3% (from to 774 378 in November 2015 to 892 720 in December 2015).

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#### 1.1.2 Mode of travel

Data presented in Table 2 on page 10 show that in December 2015, road transport was the most common mode of travel used by 3 335 754 (75,5%) of the 4 420 777 travellers. The total number of travellers who used air transport was 1 069 030 (24,2%). Compared to use of air and land transport, a much smaller number of travellers, 15 993 (0,4%) used sea transport. The arrivals data for South African residents show that 190 522 (35,6%) came by air, 344 105 (64,3%) came by road and 352 (0,1%) arrived by sea. For departures, 236 280 (32,5%) used air, 489 448 (67,4%) used road and 482 (0,1%) left by sea transport. All travellers in transit (858) used air transport.

In the case of foreign travellers, 303 268 (19,6%) arrived by air, 1 237 896 (80,0%) came by road and 6 736 (0,4%) arrived by sea. When departing South Africa, 276 429 (17,8%) foreign travellers left by air, 1 264 305 (81,6%) left by road and 8 423 (0,5%) left by sea. All travellers in transit (61 673) used air transport. Table 2 further shows that an overwhelming majority [533 432 (97,0%)] of same-day visitors arrived in the country by road. Only 16 593 (3,0%) of same-day visitors flew into the country. Data on tourists show that 619 262 (69,4%) used road transport, 271 841 (30,5%) came by air and 1 617 (0,2%) arrived by sea.

#### 1.2 Tourists

#### 1.2.1 Mode of travel

The country of residence of tourists is used to categorise them according to 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 11. In December 2015, 214 380 (91,4%) of overseas tourists arrived in the country by air, whilst 18 568 (7,9%) came in by road and 1 575 (0,7%) arrived by sea. 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 [599 082 (93,2%)]. Only 43 634 (6,8%) tourists from SADC countries came in by air and five came by sea. The number of tourists who came into South Africa by air from 'other' African countries was 13 057 (89,6%), with 1 472 (10,1%) using road transport and 37 (0,3) sea transport.

#### 1.2.2 Regional and national distribution

In December 2015, the distribution of overseas tourists was as follows: Europe, 153 070 (65,3%); North America, 35 114 (15,0%); Asia, 22 787 (9,7%); Australasia, 15 116 (6,4%); Central and South America, 4 910 (2,1%), and Middle East, 3 526 (1,5%).

Data presented in Figure 1 on page 7 indicate that the United Kingdom (UK), 54 608 (23,3%); United States of America (USA), 28 691 (12,2%); Germany, 27 404 (11,7%); The Netherlands, 12 823 (5,5%); Australia, 12 002 (5,1%); France, 10 700 (4,6%); China, 7 983 (3,4%); Sweden, 6 994 (3,0%); Canada, 6 423 (2,7%) and India, 6 354 (2,7%); were the ten leading overseas countries visiting South Africa in December 2015. Tourists from these ten countries constituted 74,2% of all tourists from overseas countries. A comparison between movements in December 2014 and December 2015 shows that the number of tourists decreased for four of the ten leading overseas countries (Sweden, France, The Netherlands and Canada), and increased for the other six (China, UK, USA, India, Australia and Germany). China had the largest increase of 136,2% (from 3 380 tourists in December 2014 to 7 983 in December 2015), and Sweden had the largest decrease of 7,1% (from 7 532 tourists in December 2014 to 6 994 in December 2015).

Virtually all tourists from Africa, 642 721 (97,8%), came from the SADC countries. The distribution of the remaining tourists from Africa is as follows: West Africa, 7 449 (1,1%); East and Central Africa, 6 058 (0,9%); and North Africa 1 059 (0,2%). The ten leading SADC countries in terms of the number of tourists visiting South Africa in December 2015 were Zimbabwe, 203 522 (31,7%); Lesotho, 113 592 (17,7%); Mozambique, 96 190 (15,0%); Botswana, 82 355 (12,8%); Swaziland, 77 583 (12,1%); Namibia, 26 938 (4,2%); Zambia, 16 975 (2,6%); Malawi, 11 209 (1,7%); Angola, 4 691 (0,7%) and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), 3 977 (0,6%) (see Figure 2 on page 7). Tourists from these ten countries constituted 99,1% of all tourists from the SADC countries. A comparison between movements in December 2014 and December 2015 for the ten leading SADC countries shows that the number of tourists decreased for seven of the ten leading countries (Malawi, Lesotho, Swaziland, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Angola and Zambia), and increased for the other three (Botswana, DRC and Namibia). Malawi showed the largest decrease of 25,6% (from 15 066 tourists in December 2014 to 11 209 tourists in December

2015), while Botswana showed the largest increase of 15,7% (from 71 209 tourists in December 2014 to 82 355 tourists in December 2015).

The ten leading countries in terms of the number of tourists visiting South Africa in December 2015 from 'other' African countries, as shown in Figure 3 on page 8, were: Nigeria, 5 035 (34,6%); Kenya, 2 304 (15,8%); Ghana, 1 319 (9,1%); Uganda, 1 124 (7,7%); Gabon, 877 (6,0%); Ethiopia, 651 (4,5%); Egypt, 532 (3,7%); Cameroon, 368 (2,5%); Congo, 309 (2,1%) and Côte d'Ivoire, 161 (1,1%). Tourists from these ten countries constituted 87,1% of all tourists from 'other' African countries. A comparison between movements in December 2014 and December 2015 shows that the number of tourists increased for four of the ten leading countries (Cameroon, Ethiopia, Côte d'Ivoire, and Egypt, and decreased for the other six (Kenya, Congo, Ghana, Uganda, Nigeria and Gabon). Cameroon had the largest increase of 31,4% (from 280 tourists in December 2014 to 368 in December 2015), while Kenya had the largest decrease of 26,6% (from 3 139 tourists in December 2014 to 2 304 in December 2015).

## 1.2.3 Purpose of visit

As observed from data shown in Table 4 on page 15, in December 2015, the majority of tourists, 873 177 (97,8%), were in South Africa for holidays compared to 16 870 (1,9%) and 2 673 (0,3%) who were in South Africa for business and for study purposes respectively. A detailed analysis reveals that of all the tourists from each of the overseas regions, more than 90,0% came to South Africa for holidays. A total of 15 013 (99,3%) tourists from Australasia, 4 834 (98,5%) from Central and South America, 150 448 (98,3%) from Europe, 34 505 (98,3%) from North America, 3 410 (96,7%) from the Middle East and 21 554 (94,6%) from Asia were in South Africa for holidays. Asia had the highest proportion of tourists who came to South Africa for business [4,7% (1 075)] and for study purposes [0,7% (158)] compared to other overseas regions.

The majority of African tourists, 642 559 (97,8%) came to South Africa for holidays. However, there were differences between tourists from the SADC countries and 'other' African countries, namely:

- Whereas 628 821 (97,8%) of tourists from the SADC countries were on holiday; 13 738 (94,3%) of tourists from 'other' African countries came for the same purpose. Data on the regions of 'other' African countries show that tourists on holiday constituted 95,1% (7 081); 93,9% (5 687) and 91,6% (970) for West Africa, East and Central Africa and North Africa respectively.
- Business persons constituted 3,6% (524) of tourists from 'other' African countries and 1,9% (12 406) from the SADC countries. North Africa had the highest proportion, 6,2% (66) of its tourists to South Africa who came for business purposes.
- Students made up 2,1% (304) of tourists from 'other' African countries compared with 0,2% (1 494) from the SADC countries. North Africa had the highest proportion, 2,2% (23) of student tourists in South Africa.

# 1.2.4 Sex and age distribution

Table 5 on page 19 shows that in December 2015, there were 462 408 (51,8%) male and 430 312 (48,2%) female tourists. Overseas tourists were made up of 123 381 (52,6%) male tourists and 111 142 (47,4%) female tourists. There were 329 679 (51,3%) male and 313 042 (48,7%) female tourists from SADC countries. Tourists from 'other' African countries were made up of 8 831 (60,6%) male and 5 735 (39,4%) female tourists.

The ages of the tourists were categorised into three broad groups: Those younger than 15 years, 15 to 64 years, and 65 years and older. The overall results presented in Table 5 show that 91 101 (10,2%) tourists were aged less than 15 years; 762 309 (85,4%) were aged between 15 and 64 years; and 39 310 (4,4%) were aged 65 years and older.

Taking the regions of residence into consideration, the results further show that 565 681 (88,0%) of SADC and 12 560 (86,2%) of 'other' African countries tourists were aged between 15 and 64 years compared with 183 187 (78,1%) of tourists in the same age range from overseas. The proportion of tourists aged less than 15 years was lower among tourists from SADC countries, 9,6% (61 728), than among those from overseas countries, 11,8% (27 743) and 'other' African countries, 11,0% (1 609).

A comparison of the three regions shows relatively higher proportions of the elderly among both male and female tourists from overseas. Tourists aged 65 years and older comprised 10,2% (12 530) of male tourists and 10,0% (11 063) of female tourists from overseas. This is in contrast to the pattern observed among tourists from the other two regions where tourists aged 65 years and older comprised less than 3,0% of both male and female tourists. From the SADC countries elderly tourists made up 2,0% (6 440) and 2,8% (8 872) of male and female tourists respectively; while in 'other' African countries elderly tourists made up 2,7% (235) and 2,8% (162) of male and female tourists respectively.

# 2. Figures

Figure 1 – Number of tourists from the ten leading overseas countries in December 2014 and December 2015

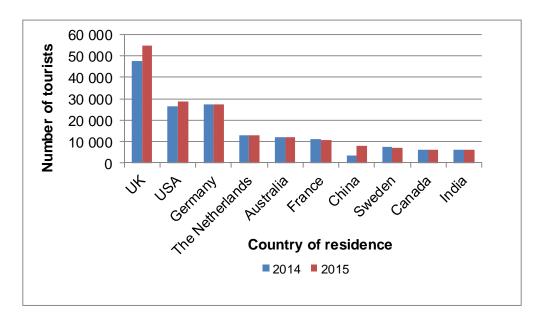


Figure 2 – Number of tourists from the ten leading Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries in December 2014 and December 2015

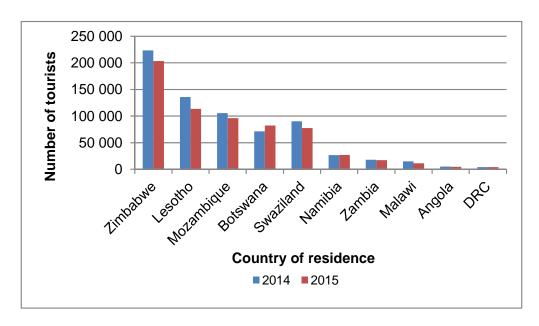
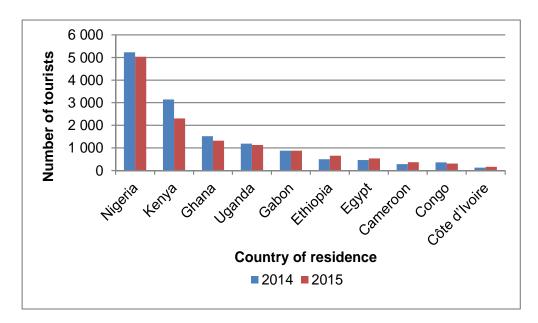


Figure 3 – Number of tourists from the ten leading 'other' African countries in December 2014 and December 2015



# 3. Tables

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

Travel Direction	December	November	December	% Change	% Change
Traver Direction	2014	2015	2015	Nov 2015 - Dec 2015	Dec 2014 - Dec 2015
Total	4 195 456	3 337 233	4 420 777	32,5%	5,4%
South African residents	1 263 363	789 949	1 262 047	59,8%	-0,1%
Arrivals	529 208	398 968	534 979	34,1%	1,1%
Departures	733 336	390 175	726 210	86,1%	-1,0%
Transit	819	806	858	6,5%	4,8%
Foreign travellers	2 932 093	2 547 284	3 158 730	24,0%	7,7%
Arrivals	1 447 598	1 305 140	1 547 900	18,6%	6,9%
Departures	1 423 408	1 173 778	1 549 157	32,0%	8,8%
Transit	61 087	68 366	61 673	-9,8%	1,0%
Foreign arrivals	1 447 598	1 305 140	1 547 900	18,6%	6,9%
Non-Visitors	31 133	102 602	105 062	2,4%	237,5%
Visitors	1 416 465	1 202 538	1 442 838	20,0%	1,9%
Visitors	1 416 465	1 202 538	1 442 838	20,0%	1,9%
Arrived only	419 350	259 415	328 456	26,6%	-21,7%
Single trips	481 156	478 163	546 371	14,3%	13,6%
Multiple trips	515 959	464 960	568 011	22,2%	10,1%
Visitors	1 416 465	1 202 538	1 442 838	20,0%	1,9%
Same day	481 766	428 160	550 118	28,5%	14,2%
Tourist	934 699	774 378	892 720	15,3%	-4,5%

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

				Air				
Travel direction	Total	Cape Town	King Shaka	O.R. Tambo	Other	Total	Road	Sea
Total	4 420 777	194 929	32 126	834 783	7 192	1 069 030	3 335 754	15 993
South African residents	1 262 047	54 072	21 889	348 097	3 602	427 660	833 553	834
Arrivals	534 979	24 186	9 245	155 237	1 854	190 522	344 105	352
Departures	726 210	29 883	12 644	192 005	1 748	236 280	489 448	482
Transit	858	3	-	855	-	858	-	-
Foreign travellers	3 158 730	140 857	10 237	486 686	3 590	641 370	2 502 201	15 159
Arrivals	1 547 900	76 362	5 677	219 587	1 642	303 268	1 237 896	6 736
Departures	1 549 157	64 438	4 560	205 483	1 948	276 429	1 264 305	8 423
Transit	61 673	57	-	61 616	-	61 673	-	-
Visitors	1 442 838	73 705	4 937	208 854	938	288 434	1 152 694	1 710
Same day	550 118	622	32	15 812	127	16 593	533 432	93
Tourist	892 720	73 083	4 905	193 042	811	271 841	619 262	1 617

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

	Dece	mber							
Country of residence	2014	2015	Cape Town	King Shaka	O.R. Tambo	Other	Total	Road	Sea
Total	934 699	892 720	73 083	4 905	193 042	811	271 841	619 262	1 617
Overseas	221 348	234 523	68 261	4 277	141 291	551	214 380	18 568	1 575
Europe	148 884	153 070	55 182	3 241	82 132	137	140 692	11 458	920
Austria	2 748	2 616	1 074	75	1 277	5	2 431	165	20
Belgium	4 414	4 353	1 439	50	2 414	1	3 904	434	15
Denmark	2 478	2 445	703	36	1 569	7	2 315	125	5
France	10 977	10 700	3 022	147	6 366	27	9 562	1 115	23
Germany	27 218	27 404	11 194	258	13 329	7	24 788	2 277	339
Ireland	3 443	3 076	1 038	139	1 682	3	2 862	207	7
Italy	5 736	5 779	1 982	128	3 320	1	5 431	344	4
Norway	2 301	2 072	859	46	1 048	3	1 956	112	4
Portugal	4 824	4 096	671	33	2 119	8	2 831	1 265	-
Spain	1 953	2 114	588	32	1 278	2	1 900	209	5
Sweden	7 532	6 994	3 005	57	3 502	3	6 567	420	7
Switzerland	5 591	5 536	2 197	87	2 837	3	5 124	377	35
The Netherlands	12 982	12 823	4 710	99	6 434	11	11 254	1 558	11
UK	47 714	54 608	19 804	1 875	30 252	49	51 980	2 206	422
Other	8 973	8 454	2 896	179	4 705	7	7 787	644	23
North America	32 640	35 114	6 733	294	24 772	243	32 042	2 541	531
Canada	6 431	6 423	1 568	46	4 091	25	5 730	483	210
USA	26 209	28 691	5 165	248	20 681	218	26 312	2 058	321
Central and South America	5 253	4 910	432	10	3 957	12	4 411	490	9
Argentina	446	519	38	1	431	-	470	48	1
Brazil	3 525	3 032	234	2	2 482	5	2 723	307	2
Mexico	267	331	59	1	253	5	318	11	2
Other	1 015	1 028	101	6	791	2	900	124	4

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

	Dece	ember			Air				
Country of residence	2014	2015	Cape Town	King Shaka	O.R. Tambo	Other	Total	Road	Sea
Australasia	14 916	15 116	1 868	394	12 021	25	14 308	753	5
Australia	11 882	12 002	1 430	285	9 609	23	11 347	610	4
New Zealand	2 991	3 080	410	109	2 406	2	2 927	143	1
Other	43	34	28	-	6	-	34	-	
Middle East	2 651	3 526	699	23	2 476	13	3 211	314	
Iran	-	314	123	2	183	-	308	6	
Israel	1 664	2 075	185	5	1 627	10	1 827	247	
Saudi Arabia	208	328	81	5	232	-	318	10	
Other	779	809	310	11	434	3	758	51	
Asia	17 004	22 787	3 347	315	15 933	121	19 716	3 012	5
China	3 380	7 983	661	36	6 764	108	7 569	412	
India	6 250	6 354	924	157	4 077	3	5 161	1 193	
Japan	3 006	1 625	249	21	1 266	1	1 537	87	
Malaysia	443	605	261	14	301	1	577	28	
Pakistan	1 130	1 064	127	29	512	-	668	395	
Philippines	498	525	104	9	304	-	417	98	1
Singapore	621	941	377	3	521	7	908	31	
South Korea	11	1 450	185	8	1 002	1	1 196	254	
Taiwan	-	413	40	5	271	-	316	95	
Thailand	452	505	154	11	285	-	450	18	3
Other	1 213	1 322	265	22	630	-	917	401	
Africa	711 769	657 287	4 778	622	51 031	260	56 691	600 554	4
SADC	696 438	642 721	4 240	530	38 703	161	43 634	599 082	
Angola	5 090	4 691	1 077	1	3 278	34	4 390	301	
Botswana	71 209	82 355	313	1	1 839	30	2 183	80 172	
DRC	3 787	3 977	34	2	2 882	2	2 920	1 057	
Lesotho	135 717	113 592	20	-	376	1	397	113 195	

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

	Dece	ember			Air	<del></del>			
Country of residence	2014	2015	Cape Town	King Shaka	O.R. Tambo	Other	Total	Road	Sea
Madagascar	201	214	-	-	213	-	213	-	1
Malawi	15 066	11 209	14	3	1 906	5	1 928	9 281	-
Mauritius	1 421	1 440	177	70	1 001	1	1 249	190	1
Mozambique	105 498	96 190	9	37	3 084	13	3 143	93 047	-
Namibia	26 520	26 938	2 325	1	3 296	8	5 630	21 308	_
Seychelles	238	653	1	-	642	-	643	10	-
Swaziland	90 278	77 583	6	1	421	1	429	77 154	-
Tanzania	-	3 382	18	2	2 181	1	2 202	1 180	-
Zambia	17 882	16 975	63	180	3 821	11	4 075	12 900	-
Zimbabwe	223 531	203 522	183	232	13 763	54	14 232	189 287	3
'Other' African	15 331	14 566	538	92	12 328	99	13 057	1 472	37
East and Central Africa	6 664	6 058	225	60	5 100	68	5 453	604	1
Burundi	69	92	11	3	75	-	89	3	-
Cameroon	280	368	9	-	308	-	317	51	_
Central African Republic	4	17	-	-	17	-	17	-	-
Chad	28	36	1	-	20	15	36	-	-
Comoros	4	21	1	-	16	4	21	-	_
Congo	363	309	12	-	265	29	306	3	_
Djibouti	11	21	-	-	21	-	21	-	-
Equatorial Guinea	30	104	17	-	85	-	102	2	-
Eritrea	64	44	4	1	36	-	41	3	-
Ethiopia	501	651	80	51	395	-	526	125	_
Gabon	880	877	8	-	861	4	873	4	-
Kenya	3 139	2 304	70	3	1 977	1	2 051	252	1
Rwanda	77	59	3	-	44	-	47	12	_
São Tomé and Príncipe	7	7	1	-	6	-	7	-	_
Somalia	21	24	1	1	12	7	21	3	_
Uganda	1 186	1 124	7	1	962	8	978	146	-
-									

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

	Decer	mber			Air				
Country of residence	2014	2015	Cape Town	King Shaka	O.R. Tambo	Other	Total	Road	Sea
West Africa	7 668	7 449	142	16	6 419	31	6 608	805	3
Benin	135	122	1	_	95	7	103	19	_
Burkina Faso	30	39	1	_	38	-	39	-	
Cape Verde Island	53	47	7	_	37	_	44	3	
Côte d'Ivoire	130	161	4	_	152	_	156	5	
Gambia	31	32	-	-	31	-	31	1	
Ghana	1 513	1 319	34	3	1 195	1	1 233	85	
Guinea	155	148	_	1	27	3	31	117	
Guinea-Bissau	7	17	-	-	16	-	16	1	
Liberia	23	44	-	-	39	-	39	5	
Mali	102	113	2	-	55	-	57	56	
Mauritania	23	32	1	-	11	20	32	_	
Niger	16	54	-	-	54	-	54	_	
Nigeria	5 235	5 035	85	12	4 450	-	4 547	487	
Saint Helena	-	34	-	-	-	-		_	;
Senegal	157	141	3	-	128	-	131	10	
Sierra Leone	36	52	2	-	38	-	40	12	
Годо	22	59	2	-	53	-	55	4	
North Africa	999	1 059	171	16	809	-	996	63	
Algeria	68	93	11	1	71	-	83	10	
Egypt	465	532	99	9	397	-	505	27	
_ibya	84	37	14	3	16	-	33	4	
Morocco	86	107	16	1	81	-	98	9	
South Sudan	111	127	3	-	123	-	126	1	
The Sudan	89	120	21	1	86	-	108	12	
Tunisia	95	43	7	1	35	-	43	-	
Western Sahara	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Unspecified	1 582	910	44	6	720	-	770	140	

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

Country of modification	Decemb	er	Purpose of visit				
Country of residence	2014	2015	Business	Holiday	Study		
Total	934 699	892 720	16 870	873 177	2 673		
Overseas	221 348	234 523	3 885	229 764	874		
Europe	148 884	153 070	2 097	150 448	525		
Austria	2 748	2 616	20	2 587	9		
Belgium	4 414	4 353	64	4 262	27		
Denmark	2 478	2 445	43	2 399	3		
France	10 977	10 700	233	10 396	71		
Germany	27 218	27 404	358	26 935	111		
Ireland	3 443	3 076	37	3 030	9		
Italy	5 736	5 779	146	5 611	22		
Norway	2 301	2 072	29	2 034	9		
Portugal	4 824	4 096	44	4 037	15		
Spain	1 953	2 114	62	2 047	5		
Sweden	7 532	6 994	60	6 919	15		
Switzerland	5 591	5 536	37	5 478	21		
The Netherlands	12 982	12 823	147	12 629	47		
UK	47 714	54 608	512	53 981	115		
Other	8 973	8 454	305	8 103	46		
North America	32 640	35 114	484	34 505	125		
Canada	6 431	6 423	56	6 353	14		
USA	26 209	28 691	428	28 152	111		
Central and South America	5 253	4 910	50	4 834	26		
Argentina	446	519	7	511	1		
Brazil	3 525	3 032	26	2 996	10		
Mexico	267	331	5	321	5		
Other	1 015	1 028	12	1 006	10		

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

Country of week-law on	Decemb	er		Purpose of visit		
Country of residence	2014	2015	Business	Holiday	Study	
Australasia	14 916	15 116	83	15 013	20	
Australia	11 882	12 002	70	11 913	19	
New Zealand	2 991	3 080	12	3 067	1	
Other	43	34	1	33	-	
Middle East	2 651	3 526	96	3 410	20	
Iran		314	12	298	4	
Israel	1 664	2 075	24	2 048	3	
Saudi Arabia	208	328	8	317	3	
Other	779	809	52	747	10	
Asia	17 004	22 787	1 075	21 554	158	
China	3 380	7 983	397	7 574	12	
India	6 250	6 354	324	5 972	58	
Japan	3 006	1 625	81	1 525	19	
Malaysia	443	605	21	578	6	
Pakistan	1 130	1 064	43	1 010	11	
Philippines	498	525	29	496	-	
Singapore	621	941	9	927	5	
South Korea	11	1 450	29	1 391	30	
Taiwan	-	413	17	390	6	
Thailand	452	505	18	486	1	
Other	1 213	1 322	107	1 205	10	
Africa	711 769	657 287	12 930	642 559	1 798	
SADC	696 438	642 721	12 406	628 821	1 494	
Angola	5 090	4 691	67	4 526	98	
Botswana	71 209	82 355	286	81 876	193	
DRC	3 787	3 977	88	3 766	123	
Lesotho	135 717	113 592	1 331	112 136	125	

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

Country of registeres	Decemb	oer	Purpose of visit				
Country of residence	2014	2015	Business	Holiday	Study		
Madagascar	201	214	10	201	3		
Malawi	15 066	11 209	229	10 955	25		
Mauritius	1 421	1 440	22	1 405	13		
Mozambique	105 498	96 190	5 958	90 184	48		
Namibia	26 520	26 938	1 363	25 418	157		
Seychelles	238	653	1	651	1		
Swaziland	90 278	77 583	322	77 071	190		
Tanzania	-	3 382	61	3 291	30		
Zambia	17 882	16 975	955	15 947	73		
Zimbabwe	223 531	203 522	1 713	201 394	415		
'Other' African	15 331	14 566	524	13 738	304		
East and Central Africa	6 664	6 058	250	5 687	121		
Burundi	69	92	8	82	2		
Cameroon	280	368	16	343	9		
Central African Republic	4	17	1	16	-		
Chad	28	36	3	31	2		
Comoros	4	21	2	19	-		
Congo	363	309	6	289	14		
Djibouti	11	21	-	21	-		
Equatorial Guinea	30	104	12	89	3		
Eritrea	64	44	1	38	5		
Ethiopia	501	651	62	583	6		
Gabon	880	877	7	851	19		
Kenya	3 139	2 304	92	2 177	35		
Rwanda	77	59	2	51	6		
São Tomé and Príncipe	7	7	-	7	-		
Somalia	21	24	1	23	-		
Uganda	1 186	1 124	37	1 067	20		

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

Occupation of manifest to the contract of the	Decem	ber	Purpose of visit				
Country of residence	2014	2015	Business	Holiday	Study		
West Africa	7 668	7 449	208	7 081	400		
	135	122	<b>208</b> 5	114	160		
Benin			_		3		
Burkina Faso	30	39	5	33	1		
Cape Verde Island	53	47	1	46	-		
Côte d'Ivoire	130	161	24	134	3		
Gambia	31	32	2	30			
Ghana	1 513	1 319	43	1 259	17		
Guinea	155	148	1	142	5		
Guinea-Bissau	7	17	-	17	-		
Liberia	23	44	1	43	-		
Mali	102	113	4	109	-		
Mauritania	23	32	1	30	1		
Niger	16	54	6	48	-		
Nigeria	5 235	5 035	98	4 815	122		
Saint Helena	-	34	-	34	-		
Senegal	157	141	7	128	6		
Sierra Leone	36	52	4	46	2		
Togo	22	59	6	53	-		
North Africa	999	1 059	66	970	23		
Algeria	68	93	7	85	1		
Egypt	465	532	28	497	7		
Libya	84	37	1	28	8		
Morocco	86	107	7	100	-		
South Sudan	111	127	9	118	-		
The Sudan	89	120	10	103	7		
Tunisia	95	43	4	39	-		
Western Sahara	1	-	-	-	-		
Unspecified	1 582	910	55	854	1		

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

			Region (December 2015)								
Sex	Age group	Total	Overseas	SADC	'Other' African	Unspecified					
All	Total	892 720	234 523	642 721	14 566	910					
	0-14	91 101	27 743	61 728	1 609	21					
	15-64	762 309	183 187	565 681	12 560	881					
	65+	39 310	23 593	15 312	397	8					
Male	Total	462 408	123 381	329 679	8 831	517					
	0-14	45 180	14 144	30 227	795	14					
	15-64	398 016	96 707	293 012	7 801	496					
	65+	19 212	12 530	6 440	235	7					
Female	Total	430 312	111 142	313 042	5 735	393					
	0-14	45 921	13 599	31 501	814	7					
	15-64	364 293	86 480	272 669	4 759	385					
	65+	20 098	11 063	8 872	162	1					

# 4. Annexure

Annex – Number of tourists: Quarterly changes by country of residence and month of travel

	Quarter 3 - Quarter 4 2015												
Country of residence	Total Jul - Dec	JUL	AUG	SEP	QTR 3	ост	NOV	DEC	QTR 4	% Change: Qtr 3 - Qtr 4			
Total	4 596 548	732 891	731 248	716 750	2 180 889	748 561	774 378	892 720	2 415 659	10,8%			
Overseas	1 158 468	162 733	165 990	166 053	494 776	208 020	221 149	234 523	663 692	34,1%			
Europe	716 627	91 741	96 354	92 552	280 647	136 686	146 224	153 070	435 980	55,3%			
Austria	12 713	1 390	1 478	1 363	4 231	2 408	3 458	2 616	8 482	100,5%			
Belgium	24 150	4 098	3 038	3 256	10 392	4 528	4 877	4 353	13 758	32,4%			
Denmark	12 416	1 662	1 239	1 363	4 264	3 175	2 532	2 445	8 152	91,2%			
France	68 128	8 795	9 685	8 214	26 694	15 631	15 103	10 700	41 434	55,2%			
Germany	138 909	10 609	15 993	18 375	44 977	31 158	35 370	27 404	93 932	108,8%			
Ireland	13 231	1 911	1 634	1 910	5 455	2 250	2 450	3 076	7 776	42,5%			
Italy	32 067	4 181	8 704	4 693	17 578	4 189	4 521	5 779	14 489	-17,6%			
Norway	8 484	1 073	752	992	2 817	1 656	1 939	2 072	5 667	101,2%			
Portugal	20 182	2 782	3 195	2 950	8 927	3 391	3 768	4 096	11 255	26,1%			
Spain	16 840	2 554	4 038	2 764	9 356	2 506	2 864	2 114	7 484	-20,0%			
Sweden	19 757	1 031	1 020	1 525	3 576	4 405	4 782	6 994	16 181	352,5%			
Switzerland	26 768	2 712	2 093	3 476	8 281	6 212	6 739	5 536	18 487	123,2%			
The Netherlands	73 990	15 326	9 774	9 168	34 268	13 559	13 340	12 823	39 722	15,9%			
UK	209 649	29 486	28 540	26 438	84 464	34 936	35 641	54 608	125 185	48,2%			
Other	39 343	4 131	5 171	6 065	15 367	6 682	8 840	8 454	23 976	56,0%			
North America	189 353	32 580	30 280	29 411	92 271	31 174	30 794	35 114	97 082	5,2%			
Canada	29 810	3 504	3 645	4 220	11 369	5 653	6 365	6 423	18 441	62,2%			
USA	159 543	29 076	26 635	25 191	80 902	25 521	24 429	28 691	78 641	-2,8%			

Annex – Number of tourists: Quarterly changes by country of residence and month of travel (continued)

JUL  4 848 457 2 786 431 1 174  10 104 8 242 1 840 22	<b>AUG</b> 3 618 439 2 018 212 949  10 136 8 529 1 587 20	<b>SEP</b> 4 797 488 2 519 596 1 194  11 833 10 086 1 736 11	QTR 3  13 263 1 384 7 323 1 239 3 317  32 073 26 857 5 163 53	OCT  4 715 483 2 795 256 1 181  9 774 8 250 1 496 28	<b>4 025</b> 467 2 205 301 1 052 <b>8 982</b> 7 539 1 422 21	<b>DEC</b> 4 910 519 3 032 331 1 028  15 116 12 002 3 080	QTR 4  13 650 1 469 8 032 888 3 261 33 872 27 791 5 998	% Change: Qtr 3 - Qtr 4 2,9% 6,1% 9,7% -28,3% -1,7% 5,6% 3,5% 16,2%
457 2 786 431 1 174 <b>10 104</b> 8 242 1 840 22	439 2 018 212 949 <b>10 136</b> 8 529 1 587	488 2 519 596 1 194 <b>11 833</b> 10 086 1 736	1 384 7 323 1 239 3 317 32 073 26 857 5 163	483 2 795 256 1 181 9 774 8 250 1 496	467 2 205 301 1 052 8 982 7 539 1 422	519 3 032 331 1 028 <b>15 116</b> 12 002 3 080	1 469 8 032 888 3 261 33 872 27 791	6,1% 9,7% -28,3% -1,7% <b>5,6%</b> 3,5%
457 2 786 431 1 174 <b>10 104</b> 8 242 1 840 22	439 2 018 212 949 <b>10 136</b> 8 529 1 587	488 2 519 596 1 194 <b>11 833</b> 10 086 1 736	1 384 7 323 1 239 3 317 32 073 26 857 5 163	483 2 795 256 1 181 9 774 8 250 1 496	467 2 205 301 1 052 8 982 7 539 1 422	519 3 032 331 1 028 <b>15 116</b> 12 002 3 080	1 469 8 032 888 3 261 33 872 27 791	6,1% 9,7% -28,3% -1,7% <b>5,6%</b> 3,5%
2 786 431 1 174 <b>10 104</b> 8 242 1 840 22	2 018 212 949 <b>10 136</b> 8 529 1 587	2 519 596 1 194 <b>11 833</b> 10 086 1 736	7 323 1 239 3 317 32 073 26 857 5 163	2 795 256 1 181 <b>9 774</b> 8 250 1 496	2 205 301 1 052 <b>8 982</b> 7 539 1 422	3 032 331 1 028 <b>15 116</b> 12 002 3 080	8 032 888 3 261 33 872 27 791	9,7% -28,3% -1,7% <b>5,6</b> % 3,5%
431 1 174 <b>10 104</b> 8 242 1 840 22	212 949 <b>10 136</b> 8 529 1 587	596 1 194 <b>11 833</b> 10 086 1 736	1 239 3 317 32 073 26 857 5 163	256 1 181 <b>9 774</b> 8 250 1 496	301 1 052 <b>8 982</b> 7 539 1 422	331 1 028 <b>15 116</b> 12 002 3 080	888 3 261 33 872 27 791	-28,3% -1,7% <b>5,6%</b> 3,5%
1 174  10 104 8 242 1 840 22	949 <b>10 136</b> 8 529 1 587	1 194 11 833 10 086 1 736	3 317 32 073 26 857 5 163	1 181 <b>9 774</b> 8 250 1 496	1 052 <b>8 982</b> 7 539 1 422	1 028  15 116 12 002 3 080	3 261 33 872 27 791	-1,7% <b>5,6%</b> 3,5%
10 104 8 242 1 840 22	<b>10 136</b> 8 529 1 587	<b>11 833</b> 10 086 1 736	32 073 26 857 5 163	<b>9 774</b> 8 250 1 496	<b>8 982</b> 7 539 1 422	<b>15 116</b> 12 002 3 080	33 872 27 791	<b>5,6%</b> 3,5%
8 242 1 840 22	8 529 1 587	10 086 1 736	26 857 5 163	8 250 1 496	7 539 1 422	12 002 3 080	27 791	3,5%
1 840 22	1 587	1 736	5 163	1 496	1 422	3 080		3,5%
22				1 496				
22								
					۷۱ ا	34	83	56,6%
4 710	4 031	4 677	13 418	2 885	3 075	3 526	9 486	-29,3%
117	198	293	608	188	210	314	712	17,1%
1 567	1 952	2 526	6 045	1 619	1 604	2 075	5 298	-12,4%
1 829	684	897	3 410	315	360	328	1 003	-70,6%
1 197	1 197	961	3 355	763	901	809	2 473	-26,3%
18 750	21 571	22 783	63 104	22 786	28 049	22 787	73 622	16,7%
5 389	7 172	8 260	20 821	7 902	12 519	7 983	28 404	36,4%
								8,2%
								14,3%
							_	1,9%
		_						2,4%
								4,4%
								33,4%
458	515	()()/	. 557		0.0	~		-13,2%
	6 095 1 492 516 945 458	6 095 6 126 1 492 1 965 516 533 945 1 371 458 426	6 095 6 126 6 274 1 492 1 965 1 891 516 533 718 945 1 371 1 074	6 095       6 126       6 274       18 495         1 492       1 965       1 891       5 348         516       533       718       1 767         945       1 371       1 074       3 390         458       426       470       1 354	6 095     6 126     6 274     18 495     5 891       1 492     1 965     1 891     5 348     2 829       516     533     718     1 767     496       945     1 371     1 074     3 390     1 332       458     426     470     1 354     403	6 095     6 126     6 274     18 495     5 891     7 767       1 492     1 965     1 891     5 348     2 829     1 658       516     533     718     1 767     496     699       945     1 371     1 074     3 390     1 332     1 077       458     426     470     1 354     403     485	6 095     6 126     6 274     18 495     5 891     7 767     6 354       1 492     1 965     1 891     5 348     2 829     1 658     1 625       516     533     718     1 767     496     699     605       945     1 371     1 074     3 390     1 332     1 077     1 064       458     426     470     1 354     403     485     525       415     515     607     1 537     491     619     941	6 095         6 126         6 274         18 495         5 891         7 767         6 354         20 012           1 492         1 965         1 891         5 348         2 829         1 658         1 625         6 112           516         533         718         1 767         496         699         605         1 800           945         1 371         1 074         3 390         1 332         1 077         1 064         3 473           458         426         470         1 354         403         485         525         1 413

Annex – Number of tourists: Quarterly changes by country of residence and month of travel (continued)

	Quarter 3 - Quarter 4 2015											
Country of residence	Total Jul - Dec	JUL	AUG	SEP	QTR 3	ост	NOV	DEC	QTR 4	% Change: Qtr 3 - Qtr 4		
Taiwan	2 959	577	427	511	1 515	597	434	413	1 444	-4,7%		
Thailand	2 711	454	403	518	1 375	417	414	505	1 336	-2,8%		
Other	7 283	961	1 199	1 168	3 328	1 395	1 238	1 322	3 955	18,8%		
Africa	3 431 628	569 139	564 272	549 625	1 683 036	539 378	551 927	657 287	1 748 592	3,9%		
SADC	3 343 290	555 589	548 949	534 815	1 639 353	525 305	535 911	642 721	1 703 937	3,9%		
Angola	23 081	3 475	4 021	3 898	11 394	3 434	3 562	4 691	11 687	2,6%		
Botswana	334 202	50 671	47 027	56 983	154 681	49 364	47 802	82 355	179 521	16,1%		
DRC	15 851	2 627	2 827	2 058	7 512	2 021	2 341	3 977	8 339	11,0%		
Lesotho	695 417	124 988	120 861	107 998	353 847	105 400	122 578	113 592	341 570	-3,5%		
Madagascar	1 335	159	243	250	652	248	221	214	683	4,8%		
Malawi	70 687	11 962	10 735	12 136	34 833	12 166	12 479	11 209	35 854	2,9%		
Mauritius	8 843	1 675	1 591	1 113	4 379	1 482	1 542	1 440	4 464	1,9%		
Mozambique	596 921	98 686	105 096	99 730	303 512	99 216	98 003	96 190	293 409	-3,3%		
Namibia	113 112	17 164	18 482	16 590	52 236	17 076	16 862	26 938	60 876	16,5%		
Seychelles	3 629	367	424	409	1 200	736	1 040	653	2 429	102,4%		
Swaziland	431 265	68 271	81 679	66 065	216 015	70 158	67 509	77 583	215 250	-0,4%		
Tanzania	18 859	3 003	2 902	3 088	8 993	3 479	3 005	3 382	9 866	9,7%		
Zambia	81 816	14 254	12 130	13 043	39 427	12 301	13 113	16 975	42 389	7,5%		
Zimbabwe	948 272	158 287	140 931	151 454	450 672	148 224	145 854	203 522	497 600	10,4%		
'Other' African	88 338	13 550	15 323	14 810	43 683	14 073	16 016	14 566	44 655	2,2%		

Annex – Number of tourists: Quarterly changes by country of residence and month of travel (continued)

	Quarter 3 - Quarter 4 2015											
Country of residence	Total Jul - Dec	JUL	AUG	SEP	QTR 3	ост	NOV	DEC	QTR 4	% Change: Qtr 3 - Qtr 4		
East and Central Africa	35 732	5 600	6 366	5 827	17 793	5 530	6 351	6 058	17 939	0,8%		
Burundi	574	57	89	101	247	104	131	92	327	32,4%		
Cameroon	2 680	416	432	459	1 307	408	597	368	1 373	5,0%		
Central African Republic	74	9	12	8	29	14	14	17	45	55,2%		
Chad	198	24	28	32	84	21	57	36	114	35,7%		
Comoros	96	7	13	17	37	23	15	21	59	59,5%		
Congo	1 861	346	378	248	972	279	301	309	889	-8,5%		
Djibouti	77	3	12	3	18	9	29	21	59	227,8%		
Equatorial Guinea	297	29	31	20	80	88	25	104	217	171,3%		
Eritrea	308	64	46	49	159	62	43	44	149	-6,3%		
Ethiopia	3 948	616	748	613	1 977	623	697	651	1 971	-0,3%		
Gabon	4 414	762	1 108	742	2 612	515	410	877	1 802	-31,0%		
Kenya	14 501	2 156	2 359	2 469	6 984	2 370	2 843	2 304	7 517	7,6%		
Réunion	7	2	-	2	4	2	1	-	3	-25,0%		
Rwanda	461	107	82	65	254	66	82	59	207	-18,5%		
São Tomé and Príncipe	64	12	11	8	31	13	13	7	33	6,5%		
Somalia	119	19	15	23	57	20	18	24	62	8,8%		
Uganda	6 053	971	1 002	968	2 941	913	1 075	1 124	3 112	5,8%		
West Africa	45 197	7 064	7 727	7 760	22 551	7 123	8 074	7 449	22 646	0,4%		
Benin	1 159	194	192	176	562	186	289	122	597	6,2%		
Burkina Faso	405	44	83	69	196	64	106	39	209	6,6%		
Cape Verde Island	286	46	34	51	131	56	52	47	155	18,3%		
Côte d'Ivoire	1 237	175	230	237	642	144	290	161	595	-7,3%		
										,		

Annex – Number of tourists: Quarterly changes by country of residence and month of travel (concluded)

	Quarter 3 - Quarter 4 2015											
Country of residence	Total Jul - Dec	JUL	AUG	SEP	QTR 3	ост	NOV	DEC	QTR 4	% Change: Qtr 3 - Qtr 4		
Gambia	265	44	43	30	117	63	53	32	148	26,5%		
Ghana	7 834	1 054	1 280	1 195	3 529	1 431	1 555	1 319	4 305	22,0%		
Guinea	837	109	161	126	396	125	168	148	441	11,4%		
Guinea-Bissau	53	9	11	5	25	6	5	17	28	12,0%		
Liberia	302	60	43	36	139	53	66	44	163	17,3%		
Mali	655	76	94	92	262	97	183	113	393	50,0%		
Mauritania	101	12	12	5	29	17	23	32	72	148,3%		
Niger	217	14	35	27	76	19	68	54	141	85,5%		
Nigeria	29 958	4 980	5 241	5 427	15 648	4 537	4 738	5 035	14 310	-8,6%		
Saint Helena	108	26	6	13	45	10	19	34	63	40,0%		
Senegal	1 196	159	175	176	510	226	319	141	686	34,5%		
Sierra Leone	272	36	48	36	120	43	57	52	152	26,7%		
Togo	312	26	39	59	124	46	83	59	188	51,6%		
North Africa	7 409	886	1 230	1 223	3 339	1 420	1 591	1 059	4 070	21,9%		
Algeria	597	66	100	142	308	132	64	93	289	-6,2%		
Egypt	3 515	440	600	612	1 652	716	615	532	1 863	12,8%		
Libya	329	48	68	44	160	74	58	37	169	5,6%		
Morocco	855	79	121	135	335	151	262	107	520	55,2%		
South Sudan	527	74	79	63	216	103	81	127	311	44,0%		
The Sudan	893	122	168	141	431	141	201	120	462	7,2%		
Tunisia	679	56	91	85	232	95	309	43	447	92,7%		
Western Sahara	14	1	3	1	5	8	1		9	80,0%		
Unspecified	6 452	1 019	986	1 072	3 077	1 163	1 302	910	3 375	9,7%		

# 5. Explanatory notes

#### **NOTICE TO USERS**

Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) has made changes in the *Tourism and Migration* statistical release starting from the January 2014 statistics. This change has become necessary as a result of the implementation of the new Movement Control System (e-MCS) at the country's ports of entry. Currently the new system (e-MCS) is operational at over 80% of the country's ports of entry. The system roll-out is expected to be finalised by the end of 2015/16 financial year. The change affects the identification of Transit Travellers that are currently categorised under Direction instead of Purpose of Movement. The revision, Table 1 and Table 2 in the release now include a category for Transit while all tables reporting on tourists exclude transit travellers.

## 5.1 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), Stats SA then processes, analyses 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 for the following:

- To estimate, monitor and understand salient characteristics of foreign travellers and volumes of South African residents travelling outside South Africa.
- To 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.

## 5.2 Purpose of the statistical release

This release reports on arrivals, departures and transit travellers of South African residents and foreign travellers. Detailed information on the age and sex distribution; mode of travel; national and regional distribution; and purpose of travel of overnight visitors or tourists are also provided.

#### 5.3 Scope and coverage

The release covers data collected by DHA officials on travellers who entered the Republic of South Africa (RSA) through all the air, land and sea ports of entry.

#### 5.4 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 receives downloaded data covering a particular calendar month from the DHA.
- As part of data interrogation, data from the O.R. 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 is
  accompanied by an increase in the volume of travellers recorded by DHA. A similar pattern has been also
  observed when the volume of travellers decreased. In December 2015, the DHA data was 3,1% higher
  than that of ACSA.

#### 5.5 Limitations

Due to technical problems at the data source not all required information could be captured in some of the months. Hence some information was missed on individuals or even countries affecting the volume of tourists from such countries. For example, the *purpose of visit* information that is used to determine whether a traveller is a *visitor* or *non-visitor*, was not recorded for travellers from Tanzania in November and December 2014. Therefore it was not possible to determine the number of tourists from the country during that period. This does not mean that there were no tourists from such countries but rather their volume could not be determined. Likewise either low or no numbers were observed from countries such as South Korea and Taiwan.

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.

## 5.6 Definitions of terms

#### 5.6.1 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.

## 5.6.2 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 and Asia.
- Africa: SADC and 'other' Africa (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 belong to the Southern African Development Community.

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

Overseas refers to all countries outside Africa.

**Trip** refers to the arrival and departure of a visitor in a specified month.

## 5.7 Symbols used

- = nil
- < = less than

#### 6. 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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