

Statistical release

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KEY FINDINGS

1. Travellers

1.1 Number of travellers

The routine data collected by the Department of Home Affairs' (DHA) immigration officers at the ports of entry into South Africa show that a total of 2 399 008 travellers (arrivals and departures) passed through South African ports of entry in February 2011. As presented in Table 1, these travellers are made up of 711 227 South African residents and 1 687 781 foreign travellers. A further breakdown of the figures indicates that there were 351 513 and 359 714 South African residents' arrivals and departures respectively. The corresponding volumes for foreign arrivals and departures were 913 162 and 774 619 respectively. A comparison between the movements in January 2011 and February 2011 indicates that the volume of arrivals and departures declined for both South African residents and foreign travellers. The volume of arrivals declined by 44,0% (from 627 199 in January 2011 to 351 513 in February 2011) for South African residents and by 19,1% (from 1 129 054 in January 2011 to 913 162 in February 2011) for foreign travellers. The volume of departures declined by 14,8% (from 422 214 in January 2011 to 359 714 in February 2011) for South African residents and by 9,6% (from 856 890 in January 2011 to 774 619 in February 2011) for foreign travellers.

A comparison between movements in February 2010 and February 2011 indicates that there was an increase in all movements. Thus, South African residents' arrivals increased by 23,2% from 285 392 in February 2010 to 351 513 in February 2011 and foreign arrivals increased by 11,9% from 816 363 in February 2010 to 913 162 in February 2011. Detailed information on the departure of travellers is not available in the movement data. Data on the purpose of travel and the number of days South African travellers intend to spend or spent abroad are not collected by South Africa immigration officers. Hence, it is not possible to categorise them as tourists and non tourists. However, data are available on foreign arrivals for this categorisation. As presented in Table 1, in February 2011, 14 895 (1,6%) foreign arrivals were classified as non-visitors while 898 267 (98,4%) were visitors. The visitors were categorised into three groups: arrivals only comprising of visitors who entered the country in February 2011 but did not depart in February 2011 (316 907); visitors who came once in February 2011 and left in February 2011 (318 894); and those who came more than once in February 2011 and left in February 2011 (262 466). Visitors were further grouped as same day visitors 274 368 (30,5%) and overnight visitors or tourists 623 899 (69,5%). The volume of same day visitors declined by 11,4% from 309 581 in January 2011 to 274 368 in February 2011 whereas that of tourists declined by 21,7% from 796 526 in January 2011 to 623 899 in February 2011. There was an increase of 35,1% and 6,8% of same day visitors and tourists respectively between February 2010 and February 2011.

1.2 Mode of travel of travellers

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 February 2011, road transport was the most common mode of travel used by 1 706 764 (71,1%) out of the 2 399 008 travellers. The total number of travellers who used air transport was 664 159 (27,7%). The arrivals data on South African residents show that 109 280 (31,1%) came by air and 233 523 (66,4%) by road. For departures, 114 209 (31,7%) and 236 388 (65,7%) used air and road transport respectively. In the case of foreign travellers, 232 161 (25,4%) arrived by air. Those who came by road were 675 824 (74,0%). When departing South Africa, 208 509 (26,9%) foreign travellers left by air whilst 561 029 (72,4%) left by road. As shown in Table 2 an overwhelming majority, 260 790 (95,1%) of same day visitors arrived in the country by road. Only 13 372 (4,9%) same day visitors flew into the country. However, data on tourists show that, 410 243 (65,8%) used road transport whereas 210 649 (33,8%) came by air.

2. Tourists

2.1 Mode of travel of tourists

The country of residence of tourists is used to categorise them into their respective regions and countries. Information on the specific region and country of residence of the tourists and the mode of travel used to enter South Africa is provided in Table 3. In February 2011, 169 195 (88,6%) overseas tourists arrived in the country by air whilst 18 803 (9,9%) came in by road. This is in contrast to tourists from the Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries who came into South Africa predominantly by road 389 149 (93,1%). Only 28 828 (6,9%) tourists from SADC countries came in by air. A relatively high number 11 516 (87,4%) of tourists from 'other' African countries flew into the country, with only 1 636 (12,4%) using road transport.

2.2 Regional and national distribution of tourists

In February 2011, overseas tourists came mainly from Europe, 129 438 (67,8%); followed by North America, 24 033 (12,6%); Asia, 19 918 (10,4%); Australasia, 8 357 (4,4%); Central and South America, 6 351 (3,3%) and Middle East, 2 768 (1,5%). Virtually all tourists from Africa came from the SADC countries, 418 083 (96,9%) and 13 182 (3,1%) came from 'other' African countries. The distribution of the remaining tourists from Africa is as follows: West Africa, 6 689 (1,6%); East and Central Africa, 5 768 (1,3%) and North Africa 725 (0,2%).

Data presented in Figure 1 indicate that United Kingdom (UK), 46 435 (24,3%); Germany, 23 521 (12,3%); United States of America (USA), 18 734 (9,8%); The Netherlands, 10 378 (5,4%); France, 10 071 (5,3%); China, 7 344 (3,8%); Australia 7 167 (3,8%) and Sweden, 5 530 (2,9%) were the eight leading overseas countries. Tourists from these eight countries constitute 67,7% of all tourists from overseas countries. A comparison between movements in February 2010 and February 2011 shows

that the number of tourists increased in most of these countries with the exception of The Netherlands, France and UK. The volume of tourists from The Netherlands declined by 7,3% from 11 200 in February 2010 to 10 378 in February 2011; France declined by 6,3% from 10 752 in February 2010 to 10 071 in February 2011 and UK declined by 0,3% from 46 585 in February 2010 to 46 435 in February 2011.

The eight leading countries from SADC (see Figure 2) were Lesotho, 104 132 (24,9%); Zimbabwe, 103 076 (24,7%); Mozambique 83 959 (20,1%); Swaziland, 47 584 (11,4%); Botswana, 36 541 (8,7%); Namibia, 12 289 (2,9%); Zambia, 11 638 (2,8%) and Malawi, 9 227 (2,2%). Tourists from these eight countries constituted 97,7% of all tourists from SADC countries. A comparison between movements in February 2010 and February 2011 shows that the number of tourists increased in most of these countries with the exception of Mozambique, Zimbabwe, and Zambia. The volume of tourists from Mozambique declined by 3,2% from 86 723 in February 2010 to 83 959 February 2011; Zimbabwe declined by 2,0% from 105 200 in February 2010 to 103 076 in February 2011; and Zambia declined by 2,0% from 11 873 in February 2010 to 11 638 in February 2011.

The eight leading countries from 'other' African countries, shown in Figure 3, were Nigeria, 4 426 (33,6%); Kenya, 2 154 (16,3%); Ghana, 1 332 (10,1%); Uganda, 1 067 (8,1%); Ethiopia, 805 (6,1%); Gabon, 518 (3,9%); Cameroon, 432 (3,3%) and Egypt, 292 (2,2%). Tourists from these eight countries constituted 83,6% of all tourists from 'other' African countries. A comparison between movements in February 2010 and February 2011 shows that whereas the number of tourists increased in Nigeria, Ghana, Uganda and Kenya, the number of tourists declined in Egypt, Cameroon, Gabon and Ethiopia. Nigeria had the highest increase of 38,2% from 3 203 in February 2010 to 4 426 in February 2011. Egypt recorded the greatest decline of 38,4% from 474 in February 2010 to 292 in February 2011.

2.3 Purpose of visit of tourists

As observed from data given in Table 4, in February 2011, an overwhelming majority (95,9%) of tourists were in South Africa for holiday compared to only 2,3% and 1,2% of tourists who were in South Africa for business and study purposes respectively. A detailed analysis reveals that of all the tourists from the overseas regions, at least 87,0% came to South Africa for holiday. Tourists from Europe (95,4%), North America (94,2%), Australasia (93,8%), Middle East (92,1%), Central and South America (90,9%) and Asia (87,5%) were in South Africa mostly for holiday. Though Asia recorded the lowest percentage (87,5%) of tourists on holiday it showed the highest percentage of tourists on business (7,0%).

The majority (96,6%) of African tourists came to South Africa for holiday. There were differences between tourists from SADC countries and 'other' African countries namely:

- Whereas 97,0% of tourists from the SADC countries were on holiday; 86,7% of tourists on holiday came from 'other' African countries;
- Business persons constituted 1,4% from SADC countries compared to 4,7% from 'other' African countries;
- Students made up 1,4% of tourists from SADC countries compared to 6,7% from 'other' African countries; and
- Data on the sub-regions of 'other' African countries indicate that West Africa, North Africa, East and Central Africa had the highest percentage of its tourists in South Africa for holiday, business and study respectively.

2.4 Sex and age distribution of tourists

As indicated in Table 5, in February 2011, there were 363 124 (58,2%) male and 259 868 (41,7%) female tourists. The overseas tourists were made up of 108 918 (57,1%) male tourists and 81 691 (42,8%) female tourists. Tourists from 'other' African countries had a higher proportion (68,8%) of males compared to those from SADC (58,4%). The proportions of female tourists from 'other' African countries and SADC countries were 31,2% and 41,5% respectively.

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 90,4% of tourists were aged between 15 and 64 years; 3,8% were aged less than 15 years and 5,7% were aged 65 years and older. Taking the country of residence into consideration, the results further show that 80,7% of overseas tourists were aged between 15 and 64 years compared to 94,6% and 94,5% of tourists from SADC and 'other' African countries respectively. There were few tourists younger than 15 years and those aged 65 years and older.

A comparison of the three regions however shows relatively high proportions of the elderly among both male (12,8%) and female (14,2%) tourists from overseas. This is in contrast to tourists from SADC countries amongst which 1,9% of males and 2,8% of females were aged 65 years and older. Similarly among tourists from 'other' African countries, 1,3% of males and 1,8% of females were aged 65 years and older.

PJ Lehohla
Statistician-General

Figure 1. Number of tourists from eight leading overseas countries in February 2011 and February 2010

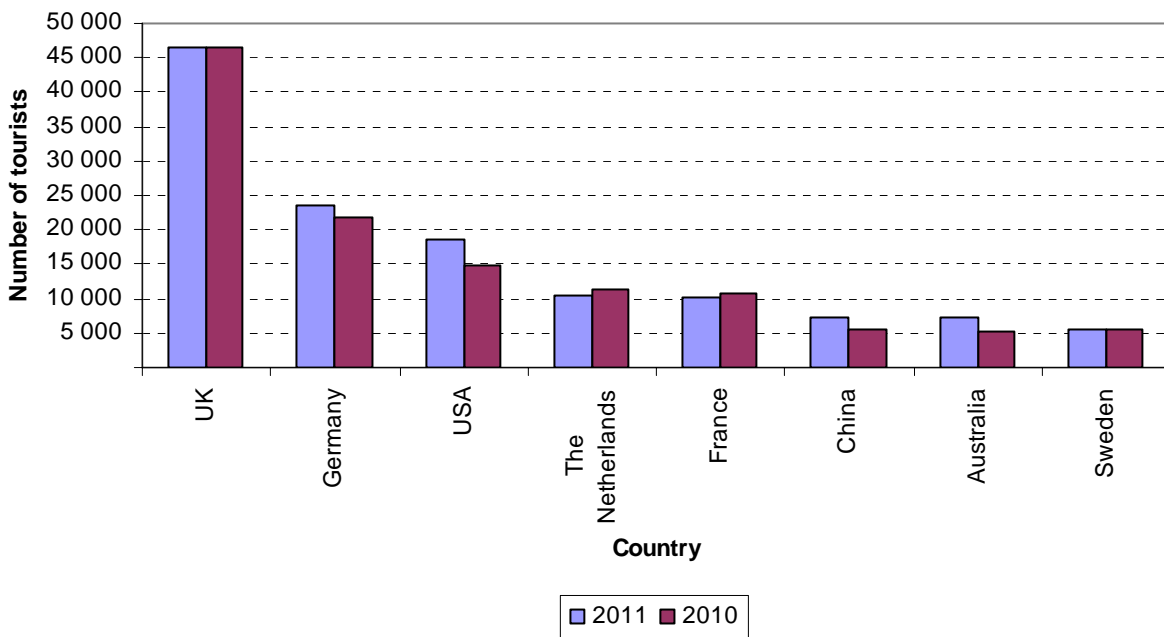


Figure 2. Number of tourists from eight leading Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries in February 2011 and February 2010

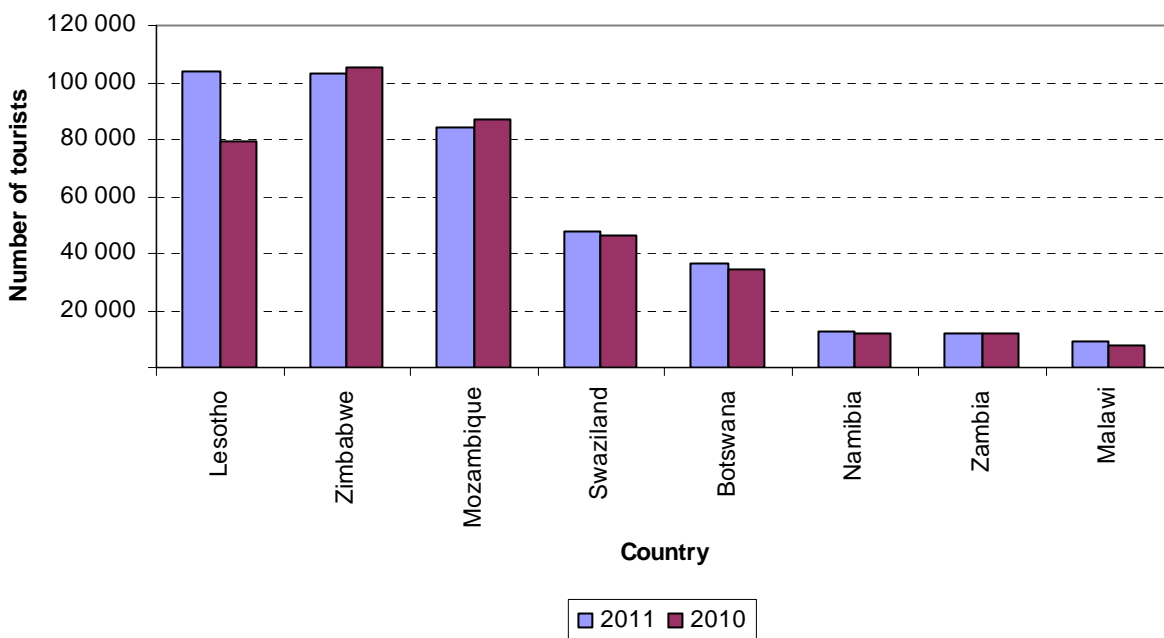


Figure 3. Number of tourists from eight leading 'other' African countries in February 2011 and February 2010

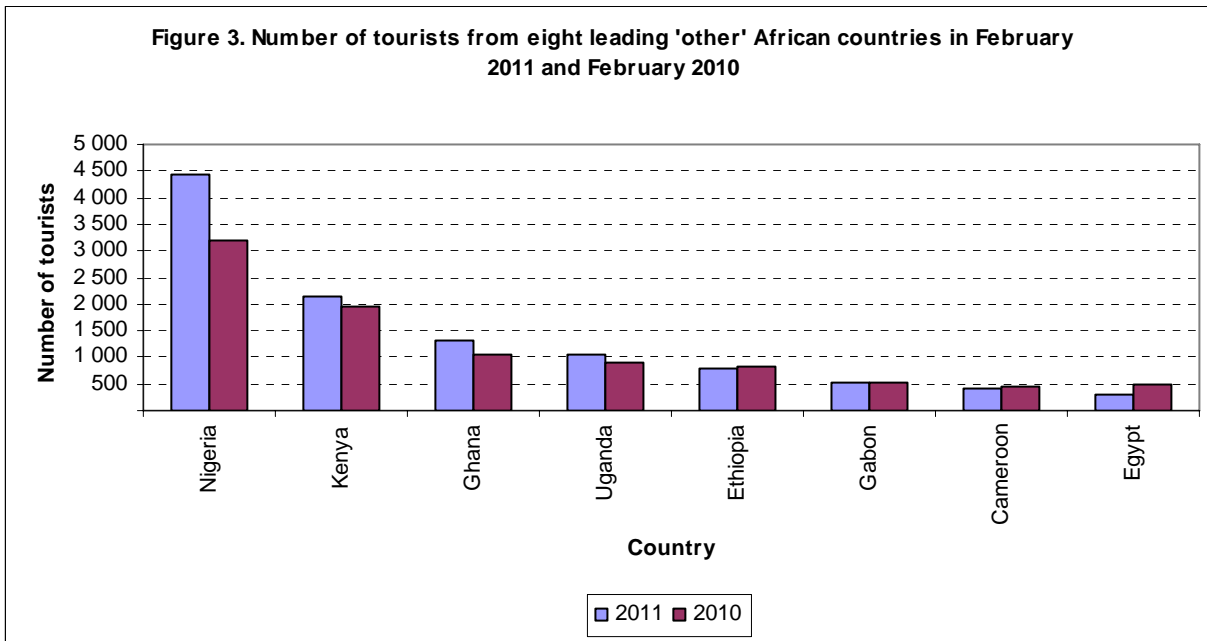


Table 1. Number of South African residents and foreign travellers by travel direction

Travel direction	February	January	February	% change	% change
	2010	2011	2011	February 10 - February 11	January 11 - February 11
Grand total	2 067 143	3 035 357	2 399 008	16,1	-21,0
South African residents	569 424	1 049 413	711 227	24,9	-32,2
Arrivals	285 392	627 199	351 513	23,2	-44,0
Departures	284 032	422 214	359 714	26,6	-14,8
Foreign travellers	1 497 719	1 985 944	1 687 781	12,7	-15,0
Arrivals	816 363	1 129 054	913 162	11,9	-19,1
Departures	681 356	856 890	774 619	13,7	-9,6
Foreign arrivals	816 363	1 129 054	913 162	11,9	-19,1
Non-visitors	29 223	22 947	14 895	-49,0	-35,1
Visitors	787 140	1 106 107	898 267	14,1	-18,8
Visitors	787 140	1 106 107	898 267	14,1	-18,8
Arrivals only	283 409	486 778	316 907	11,8	-34,9
Single trips	313 850	321 684	318 894	1,6	-0,9
Multiple trips	189 881	297 645	262 466	38,2	-11,8
Visitors	787 140	1 106 107	898 267	14,1	-18,8
Same day	203 131	309 581	274 368	35,1	-11,4
Overnight (tourists)	584 009	796 526	623 899	6,8	-21,7

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

Travel direction	February		Mode of travel (February 2011)							
			Air					Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2010	2011	Cape Town	K. Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total			
Grand total	2 067 143	2 399 008	143 663	11 692	501 755	7 049	664 159	1 706 764	27 950	135
South African residents	569 424	711 227	27 090	7 000	184 674	4 725	223 489	469 911	17 823	4
Arrivals	285 392	351 513	13 476	3 142	90 254	2 408	109 280	233 523	8 706	4
Departures	284 032	359 714	13 614	3 858	94 420	2 317	114 209	236 388	9 117	-
Foreign travellers	1 497 719	1 687 781	116 573	4 692	317 081	2 324	440 670	1 236 853	10 127	131
Arrivals	816 363	913 162	60 068	2 522	168 400	1 171	232 161	675 824	5 046	131
Departures	681 356	774 619	56 505	2 170	148 681	1 153	208 509	561 029	5 081	-
Visitors	787 140	898 267	58 262	2 151	162 755	853	224 021	671 033	3 139	74
Same day	203 131	274 368	285	27	12 957	103	13 372	260 790	206	-
Overnight (tourists)	584 009	623 899	57 977	2 124	149 798	750	210 649	410 243	2 933	74

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

Country	Mode of travel (February 2011)									
	February		Air					Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2010	2011	Cape Town	K. Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total			
Total	584 009	623 899	57 977	2 124	149 798	750	210 649	410 243	2 933	74
Overseas	177 165	190 865	55 609	1 913	111 090	583	169 195	18 803	2 823	44
Europe	126 911	129 438	46 633	1 432	66 771	285	115 121	12 935	1 378	4
Austria	2 050	2 548	986	28	1 347	3	2 364	182	2	-
Belgium	3 431	3 702	1 108	4	2 105	20	3 237	462	3	-
Denmark	3 275	3 143	867	10	1 964	1	2 842	297	4	-
France	10 752	10 071	2 075	51	6 771	17	8 914	1 142	15	-
Germany	21 863	23 521	8 995	278	11 806	43	21 122	2 331	68	-
Ireland	2 866	2 661	1 132	15	1 218	5	2 370	253	38	-
Italy	3 397	3 532	1 132	56	2 035	11	3 234	288	10	-
Norway	2 365	2 436	1 012	1	1 139	-	2 152	280	3	1
Portugal	2 325	3 342	299	3	1 606	11	1 919	1 417	6	-
Spain	1 403	1 444	222	7	1 060	2	1 291	117	36	-
Sweden	5 431	5 530	2 257	5	2 653	5	4 920	602	8	-
Switzerland	3 307	3 920	1 350	60	2 113	16	3 539	377	4	-
The Netherlands	11 200	10 378	3 798	48	4 864	12	8 722	1 640	16	-
UK	46 585	46 435	19 236	796	22 170	125	42 327	2 971	1 137	-
Other	6 661	6 775	2 164	70	3 920	14	6 168	576	28	3
North America	18 984	24 033	3 640	67	16 489	202	20 398	2 360	1 275	-
Canada	4 095	5 299	1 222	22	3 356	15	4 615	526	158	-
USA	14 885	18 734	2 418	45	13 133	187	15 783	1 834	1 117	-
Other	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Central and South America	5 028	6 351	801	6	4 964	20	5 791	523	36	1
Argentina	1 341	2 154	608	-	1 480	1	2 089	57	8	-
Brazil	2 494	2 954	75	2	2 524	18	2 619	334	1	-
Chile	315	390	42	-	298	1	341	32	17	-
Other	878	853	76	4	662	-	742	100	10	1

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

Country	Mode of travel (February 2011)									
	February		Air					Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2010	2011	Cape Town	K. Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total			
Australasia	6 215	8 357	1 218	44	6 566	22	7 850	446	61	-
Australia	5 238	7 167	1 061	24	5 640	19	6 744	373	50	-
New Zealand	927	1 174	155	19	914	3	1 091	72	11	-
Other	50	16	2	1	12	-	15	1	-	-
Middle East	3 010	2 768	387	16	2 184	22	2 609	152	7	-
Iran	466	252	85	4	158	-	247	5	-	-
Israel	1 492	1 509	95	-	1 304	6	1 405	102	2	-
Saudi Arabia	278	303	94	3	196	7	300	-	3	-
Other	774	704	113	9	526	9	657	45	2	-
Asia	17 017	19 918	2 930	348	14 116	32	17 426	2 387	66	39
China	5 582	7 344	1 149	46	5 677	1	6 873	467	4	-
India	3 852	5 449	849	149	3 538	9	4 545	876	22	6
Japan	1 248	1 404	119	7	1 179	5	1 310	90	4	-
Korea	1 095	1 236	127	14	999	-	1 140	92	3	1
Malaysia	490	588	239	3	332	-	574	13	1	-
Pakistan	928	990	51	69	550	-	670	306	2	12
Philippines	260	452	37	21	207	4	269	167	16	-
Singapore	367	504	198	3	285	2	488	12	4	-
Taiwan	1 107	667	25	7	501	5	538	121	4	4
Other	2 088	1 284	136	29	848	6	1 019	243	6	16
Africa	403 586	431 265	2 223	202	37 753	166	40 344	390 785	106	30
SADC	391 485	418 083	2 085	173	26 442	128	28 828	389 149	100	6
Angola	3 121	2 915	290	-	2 531	12	2 833	81	-	1
Botswana	34 119	36 541	7	-	1 838	39	1 884	34 653	4	-
DRC	2 126	2 781	2	-	2 105	4	2 111	670	-	-
Lesotho	78 984	104 132	2	-	372	1	375	103 753	4	-
Madagascar	244	187	2	-	174	-	176	11	-	-

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

Country	Mode of travel (February 2011)									
	February		Air					Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2010	2011	Cape Town	K. Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total			
Malawi	7 782	9 227	6	1	1 532	2	1 541	7 685	1	-
Mauritius	1 089	1 234	212	111	725	-	1 048	186	-	-
Mozambique	86 723	83 959	81	46	2 017	16	2 160	81 793	5	1
Namibia	12 130	12 289	1 425	-	2 281	10	3 716	8 501	72	-
Seychelles	226	421	1	-	410	5	416	5	-	-
Swaziland	46 534	47 584	-	2	406	2	410	47 169	5	-
Tanzania	1 334	2 099	6	-	1 326	-	1 332	767	-	-
Zambia	11 873	11 638	12	1	3 992	6	4 011	7 626	1	-
Zimbabwe	105 200	103 076	39	12	6 733	31	6 815	96 249	8	4
'Other' Africa	12 101	13 182	138	29	11 311	38	11 516	1 636	6	24
East and Central Africa	6 059	5 768	39	9	4 814	21	4 883	868	6	11
Burundi	66	65	2	-	57	2	61	4	-	-
Cameroon	443	432	7	1	391	-	399	32	-	1
Central African Republic	12	13	-	-	12	1	13	-	-	-
Chad	15	12	-	-	12	-	12	-	-	-
Comoros	11	14	-	-	12	-	12	2	-	-
Congo	420	239	1	-	197	6	204	31	-	4
Djibouti	2	4	-	-	4	-	4	-	-	-
Equat Guinea	21	18	-	-	18	-	18	-	-	-
Eritrea	43	65	5	-	54	-	59	6	-	-
Ethiopia	820	805	3	6	636	-	645	159	-	1
Gabon	529	518	1	-	512	-	513	4	-	1
Kenya	1 947	2 154	12	2	1 834	12	1 860	288	6	-
Reunion	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rwanda	193	238	-	-	217	-	217	21	-	-
Sao Tome and Principe	9	7	-	-	7	-	7	-	-	-
Somalia	591	117	5	-	5	-	10	107	-	-
Tristan Da Cunha	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Uganda	910	1 067	3	-	846	-	849	214	-	4

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

Country	Mode of travel (February 2011)									
	February		Air					Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2010	2011	Cape Town	K. Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total			
West Africa	5 092	6 689	41	2	5 939	8	5 990	687	-	12
Ascension	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Benin	80	71	-	-	65	-	65	6	-	-
Burkina Faso	28	48	1	-	45	1	47	1	-	-
Cape Verde Island	41	36	6	-	27	1	34	2	-	-
Côte D'Ivoire	152	109	6	-	103	-	109	-	-	-
Gambia	40	37	-	-	34	-	34	3	-	-
Ghana	1 053	1 332	8	-	1 179	-	1 187	144	-	1
Guinea	78	152	2	-	75	1	78	72	-	2
Guinea-Bissau	11	16	1	-	10	-	11	3	-	2
Liberia	48	39	-	-	36	1	37	2	-	-
Madeira Islands	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mali	64	70	1	-	58	1	60	10	-	-
Mauritania	13	37	1	-	34	-	35	2	-	-
Niger	10	26	-	-	24	-	24	2	-	-
Nigeria	3 203	4 426	13	2	3 976	2	3 993	426	-	7
Saint Helena	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Senegal	178	183	1	-	177	-	178	5	-	-
Sierra Leone	48	75	-	-	66	1	67	8	-	-
Togo	23	32	1	-	30	-	31	1	-	-
North Africa	950	725	58	18	558	9	643	81	-	1
Algeria	92	80	5	-	71	-	76	4	-	-
Egypt	474	292	14	4	246	-	264	27	-	1
Libya	69	87	14	-	37	1	52	35	-	-
Morocco	87	93	13	1	65	8	87	6	-	-
The Sudan	136	117	10	10	96	-	116	1	-	-
Tunisia	92	56	2	3	43	-	48	8	-	-
Unspecified	3 258	1 769	145	9	955	1	1 110	655	4	-

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

Country	February		Purpose of visit (February 2011)			
	2010	2011	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
Total	584 009	623 899	14 144	598 173	7 649	3 933
Overseas	177 165	190 865	7 494	179 731	927	2 713
Europe	126 911	129 438	4 443	123 510	502	983
Austria	2 050	2 548	57	2 459	8	24
Belgium	3 431	3 702	151	3 487	33	31
Denmark	3 275	3 143	86	2 999	7	51
France	10 752	10 071	338	9 640	24	69
Germany	21 863	23 521	809	22 430	136	146
Ireland	2 866	2 661	104	2 529	8	20
Italy	3 397	3 532	168	3 329	14	21
Norway	2 365	2 436	61	2 331	10	34
Portugal	2 325	3 342	44	3 239	4	55
Spain	1 403	1 444	68	1 337	4	35
Sweden	5 431	5 530	177	5 280	20	53
Switzerland	3 307	3 920	93	3 786	9	32
The Netherlands	11 200	10 378	326	9 910	96	46
UK	46 585	46 435	1 651	44 414	95	275
Other	6 661	6 775	310	6 340	34	91
North America	18 984	24 033	953	22 628	98	354
Canada	4 095	5 299	302	4 909	23	65
USA	14 885	18 734	651	17 719	75	289
Other	4	-	-	-	-	-
Central and South America	5 028	6 351	103	5 770	21	457
Argentina	1 341	2 154	23	2 026	3	102
Brazil	2 494	2 954	35	2 644	6	269
Chile	315	390	5	348	-	37
Other	878	853	40	752	12	49

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

Country	February		Purpose of visit (February 2011)			
	2010	2011	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
Australasia	6 215	8 357	435	7 836	10	76
Australia	5 238	7 167	362	6 733	9	63
New Zealand	927	1 174	70	1 094	1	9
Other	50	16	3	9	-	4
Middle East	3 010	2 768	169	2 549	35	15
Iran	466	252	30	210	12	-
Israel	1 492	1 509	62	1 437	-	10
Saudi Arabia	278	303	11	283	9	-
Other	774	704	66	619	14	5
Asia	17 017	19 918	1 391	17 438	261	828
China	5 582	7 344	333	6 631	76	304
India	3 852	5 449	717	4 469	67	196
Japan	1 248	1 404	70	1 256	4	74
Korea	1 095	1 236	33	1 123	40	40
Malaysia	490	588	32	531	10	15
Pakistan	928	990	52	897	11	30
Philippines	260	452	16	354	19	63
Singapore	367	504	45	447	1	11
Taiwan	1 107	667	19	618	4	26
Other	2 088	1 284	74	1 112	29	69
Africa	403 586	431 265	6 564	416 814	6 696	1 191
SADC	391 485	418 083	5 942	405 383	5 811	947
Angola	3 121	2 915	51	2 598	211	55
Botswana	34 119	36 541	134	35 394	886	127
DRC	2 126	2 781	108	2 514	154	5
Lesotho	78 984	104 132	232	102 804	1 047	49
Madagascar	244	187	14	159	6	8

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

Country	February		Purpose of visit (February 2011)			
	2010	2011	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
Malawi	7 782	9 227	158	8 884	137	48
Mauritius	1 089	1 234	34	1 085	83	32
Mozambique	86 723	83 959	918	82 844	75	122
Namibia	12 130	12 289	1 743	9 906	510	130
Seychelles	226	421	2	414	5	-
Swaziland	46 534	47 584	1 000	45 609	931	44
Tanzania	1 334	2 099	39	1 882	105	73
Zambia	11 873	11 638	669	10 663	223	83
Zimbabwe	105 200	103 076	840	100 627	1 438	171
'Other' Africa	12 101	13 182	622	11 431	885	244
East and Central Africa	6 059	5 768	306	4 806	549	107
Burundi	66	65	2	61	1	1
Cameroon	443	432	22	317	87	6
Central African Republic	12	13	3	9	-	1
Chad	15	12	-	10	2	-
Comoros	11	14	-	11	3	-
Congo	420	239	9	208	22	-
Djibouti	2	4	-	4	-	-
Equat Guinea	21	18	2	10	6	-
Eritrea	43	65	4	58	2	1
Ethiopia	820	805	36	728	24	17
Gabon	529	518	6	413	95	4
Kenya	1 947	2 154	152	1 807	154	41
Reunion	25	-	-	-	-	-
Rwanda	193	238	16	179	39	4
Sao Tome and Principe	9	7	1	4	-	2
Somalia	591	117	1	116	-	-
Tristan Da Cunha	2	-	-	-	-	-
Uganda	910	1 067	52	871	114	30

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

Country	February		Purpose of visit (February 2011)			
	2010	2011	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
West Africa	5 092	6 689	237	6 040	294	118
Ascension	3	-	-	-	-	-
Benin	80	71	2	66	2	1
Burkina Faso	28	48	7	38	2	1
Cape Verde Island	41	36	-	36	-	-
Côte D'Ivoire	152	109	9	95	4	1
Gambia	40	37	2	28	2	5
Ghana	1 053	1 332	42	1 231	34	25
Guinea	78	152	10	125	10	7
Guinea-Bissau	11	16	1	13	2	-
Liberia	48	39	4	34	1	-
Madeira Islands	14	-	-	-	-	-
Mali	64	70	8	55	3	4
Mauritania	13	37	3	34	-	-
Niger	10	26	5	20	-	1
Nigeria	3 203	4 426	112	4 034	218	62
Saint Helena	5	-	-	-	-	-
Senegal	178	183	27	151	3	2
Sierra Leone	48	75	3	56	10	6
Togo	23	32	2	24	3	3
North Africa	950	725	79	585	42	19
Algeria	92	80	9	67	3	1
Egypt	474	292	40	240	3	9
Libya	69	87	5	73	8	1
Morocco	87	93	13	79	1	-
The Sudan	136	117	9	74	27	7
Tunisia	92	56	3	52	-	1
Unspecified	3 258	1 769	86	1 628	26	29

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

Sex	Age group	Total	Region (February 2011)			
			Overseas	SADC	'Other' Africa	Unspecified
All	Total	623 899	190 865	418 083	13 182	1 769
	<15	23 918	11 179	12 189	514	36
	15-64	563 851	154 023	395 690	12 460	1 678
	65+	35 411	25 566	9 595	196	54
	Unspecified	719	97	609	12	1
Male	Total	363 124	108 918	244 026	9 067	1 113
	<15	12 064	5 655	6 130	263	16
	15-64	331 935	89 283	232 909	8 676	1 067
	65+	18 722	13 920	4 651	121	30
	Unspecified	403	60	336	7	-
Female	Total	259 868	81 691	173 414	4 110	653
	<15	11 852	5 522	6 059	251	20
	15-64	231 202	64 564	162 248	3 780	610
	65+	16 575	11 578	4 899	75	23
	Unspecified	239	27	208	4	-
Unspecified	Total	907	256	643	5	3
	<15	2	2	-	-	-
	15-64	714	176	533	4	1
	65+	114	68	45	-	1
	Unspecified	77	10	65	1	1

Explanatory notes

1. Introduction

Legal movements across South African borders as well as legal immigration into South Africa fall under the jurisdiction of the DHA. 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.

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.

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. 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 higher than that of the DHA because of, among other reasons, travellers who are in transit and those who boarded airplanes but refused entry into the country. In February 2011, the DHA data was 15,9% lower than that of ACSA.

5. Limitations

The information on the total number of arrivals and departures of South African residents is collected from the scanning of passports. However, data are not collected from passengers on country visited; country of final destination, the duration of stay; intended duration of stay and purpose of visit. With this limitation, it is impossible to identify the number of tourists from the data on South African residents.

Due to unavailability of data from the DHA, information on documented immigrants is not included in this current publication. The documented immigration information will be provided as soon as it is made available to Stats SA.

6. Definitions of terms

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

Traveller is someone who moves between different geographical locations for any purpose and any duration.

Visitor refers to any person travelling to a place other than that of his/her usual environment for less than 12 months and whose main purpose of the trip is other than the exercise of an activity remunerated from within the place visited.

Same-day visitor is a visitor who visits a place for less than one night.

Tourist (overnight visitor) is a visitor who stays at least one night in collective or private accommodation in the place visited.

Tourism comprises the activities of persons travelling to, and staying in places outside their usual environment, for not more than one consecutive year, for leisure, business and other purposes. The usual environment of a person consists of a certain area around his/her place of residence, plus all other places he/she frequently visits.

6.2 Definitions used specifically in this report

South African resident refers to either a South African citizen or a non-South African citizen with a South African permanent residence permit.

Foreign traveller refers to a traveller who is not a South African citizen or permanent resident.

Region refers to the following country classification: Overseas: Europe, North America, Central and South America, Australasia, the Middle East, Asia, Africa: SADC, East and Central Africa, West Africa and North Africa.

Country refers to individual countries within a region. The country of residence is used. The country of residence should not be confused with the country from which the visitor travelled.

Africa refers to all the countries in Africa (both mainland and island countries).

SADC refers to the fourteen countries, excluding South Africa, that belong to the Southern African Development Community. Kindly note that Seychelles is now reported under SADC and not under East and Central Africa as was previously done.

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

Overseas refers to all countries outside Africa.

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

7. Symbols and abbreviations used

- = nil

Unspec. = unspecified

General information

Stats SA publishes approximately 300 different statistical releases each year. It is not economically viable to produce them in more than one of South Africa's eleven official languages. Since the releases are used extensively, not only locally but also by international economic and social-scientific communities, Stats SA releases are published in English.

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