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Statistical release

P0351

Tourism and Migration

January 2007

**Embargoed until:
5 June 2007
13:00**

Enquiries:

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

Forthcoming issue:

February 2007

Expected release date

12 June 2007

Statistics South Africa • Mbalom-balo ya Afrika Tshipembe • Tihlayo-tiko ta Afrika-Dzonga • Divalopalo tsa Aforika Borwa • Ezezibalo zaseNingizimu Afrika
Divalopalo tša Afrika Borwa • Divalopalo tsa Afrika Borwa • Ubalom lwaseMzantsi Afrika • Telubalo eNingizimu Afrika • iNanimbalo leSewula Afrika • Statistiek Suid-Afrika

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KEY FINDINGS

1. Number of travellers

The January 2007 data collected by Department of Home Affairs' (DHA) immigration officers at the ports of entry into South Africa show that a total of 2 276 682 travellers (arrivals and departures) passed through the ports of entry. As presented in Table 1, these travellers are made up of 789 276 South African residents and 1 487 406 foreign travellers. A further breakdown of the figures indicates that 473 764 and 315 512 South African resident arrivals and departures respectively were recorded. The corresponding volume for foreign arrivals and departures are 824 249 and 663 157 respectively. A comparison between the movements in December 2006 and January 2007 indicates that there was a decline in all the movements with the exception of arrivals of South Africa residents. The January 2007 figure (473 764) for South African resident arrivals shows an increase of 4,0% compared to the January 2006 figure of 455 310. Similarly, there was an increase of 13,0% for foreign arrivals from 729 249 in January 2006 to 824 249 January 2007.

2. Mode of travel

It is observed from Table 2 that road transport was the most common (62,1%) mode of travel used by 1 413 496 out of the 2 276 682 travellers. Besides road transport, OR Tambo International Airport was used by a quarter (568 904) of all travellers. For arrival, 37,3% South African residents came by air and 60,0% by road. For departures, 43,3% and 54,3% used air and road transport respectively. When taking into consideration the countries of residence of travellers, it was found that for foreign arrivals, overseas travellers generally used air (88,6%) compared to road transport (10,6%) whereas African travellers used road (83,0%) more than air transport (6,4%). Information on specific countries from which travellers came from and the mode of travel used is provided in Table 3.

3. Foreign arrivals

The data on travellers received from the DHA do not provide detailed information on departures neither do they provide any information other than total numbers, travel direction and mode of travel of South African residents. Therefore the findings that follow pertain to foreign arrivals.

Data presented in Table 3 show that more than three quarters (76,0%) of foreign arrivals were from Africa whilst less than a quarter (23,4%) were from overseas countries. Information on the country of residence was not available on 0,6% of the travellers. A comparison of the changes between the January 2006 and January 2007 indicates that the number of overseas arrivals increased by 3,7% from 186 079 in 2006 to 192 972 in 2007. Arrivals from Africa increased by 16,0% from 540 018 in 2006 to 626 404 in 2007.

3.1 Gender and age distribution

The travellers from Africa comprised 359 662 males, 265 426 females and 1316 unspecified gender. The data on overseas travellers were 108 822 males, 83 883 females and 267 unspecified gender. Overall, slightly more males than females from African (males: 57,4%; females: 42,4%) and overseas countries (males: 56,4%; females: 43,5%) came to South Africa. The age distribution of foreign arrivals presented in Figure 1 shows that travellers from Africa are generally younger compared to those from overseas. Thus the bulk (84,8%) of African travellers is clustered between ages 15-49, peaking at 25-29 age group. However, the age distribution of overseas travellers is widely spread. Thus 86,5% of overseas travellers were between ages 20 to 69 years. The percentage of older persons (65 years and older) from overseas countries was significantly higher (11,6%) compared to that among persons from Africa (2,0%). This would have implications for spending capacity.

3.2 Regional and national distribution

The breakdown of the foreign travellers shows that overseas travellers came mainly from Europe (69,8%) followed by North America (11,7%), Asia (9,2%), Australasia (4,7%), Central and South America (2,9%) and Middle East (1,7%). Virtually all arrivals (97,9%) from Africa came from the SADC countries. The distribution of the remaining arrivals from Africa is as follows: East and Central Africa (1,1%), West Africa (0,9%) and North Africa (0,1%). January data for the past five years (see Figure 2) reveals that, unlike overseas and 'other' African countries that show slight increases in the number of arrivals, movement from SADC countries has been escalating since 2004. Data presented in Figure 3 indicates that the UK, Germany, USA, Netherlands, France, Australia, Sweden and Canada were the eight leading overseas source countries. Travellers from these eight countries constitute 67,6% of all travellers from overseas. The number of travellers from these overseas countries was higher in January 2007 compared to January 2006 with the exception of Germany that showed a decline of 8,4% from 25 832 in January 2006 to 23 830 in January 2007.

The eight leading countries from SADC the 'other' African countries are shown in Figures 4 and 5. Whereas travellers from the eight SADC countries made up 96,5% of all arrivals from Africa, the eight 'other' countries from Africa constituted only 1,7%. The number of travellers from these African countries was higher in January 2007 compared to January 2006 with the exception of two countries - Namibia and Rwanda. Travellers from Namibia declined by 3,0% from 18 874 to 18 314 and those from Rwanda by 8,3% from 420 to 385. The largest number of travellers from the SADC countries was from Lesotho (34,9%) whilst travellers from Nigeria made up 26,0% of those from 'other' African countries.

3.3 *Purpose of travel*

As observed in Tables 4 and 5, an overwhelming majority (91,8%) of foreign arrivals was admitted into South Africa on visitors' temporary residence permit. These visitors are mainly made up of same-day travellers as well as tourists and those on holiday. This is in vast contrast to those who have come to study (2,5%), those on business (1,9%) and those who have come for work (1,3%).

Overall, 90,9% of overseas travellers came to South Africa to visit. A detailed analysis reveals that with the exception of Asia (74,8%), all the regions had more than 85,0% travellers coming to South Africa for holidays. For example, travellers from Australasia (93,7%), Europe (93,1%), Central and South America (90,7%), North America (89,6%) and the Middle East (87,4%) were admitted into South Africa on holiday. Travellers from Asia were more diverse in their purpose and consequently Asia had the highest proportion of travellers who came here for work (13,2%), for business (5,8%) and to study (4,2%).

Although the majority (92,6%) of African travellers came into the country on visitors' permits, there is a significant difference between travellers from SADC countries and 'other' African countries, namely:

- Whereas 93,0% of travellers from the SADC countries were recorded as on holiday, less than three quarters (72,0%) of travellers from 'other' African countries were admitted on visitor's permit. The lowest percentage (66,6%) of visitors came from North Africa, a region where proportionally, a substantial percentage of travellers were in South Africa as workers (13,3%) and business persons (12,0%).
- A relatively high percentage of 'other' African travellers were here to study, work or for business.
- Overall, 17,1% and 10,4% of travellers from East and Central Africa and West Africa respectively were admitted on study permits compared to only 2,4% among the SADC travellers.

PJ Lehohla
Statistician-General

Figure.1: Percentage distribution of overseas and African arrivals by age group in January 2007

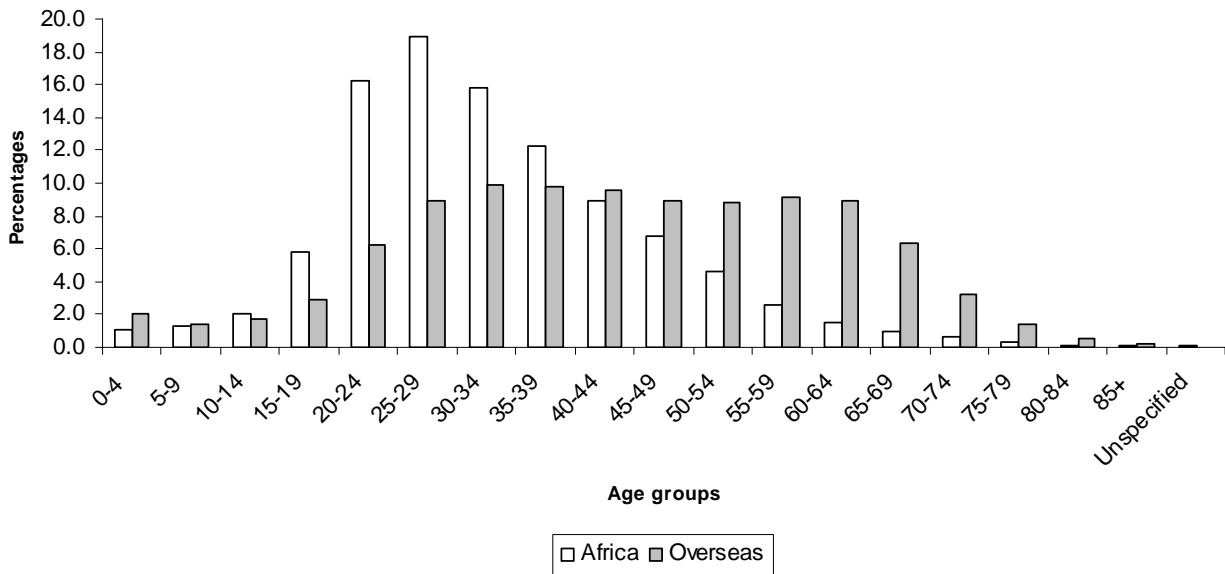


Figure 2: Number of January arrivals by region (2003 - 2007)

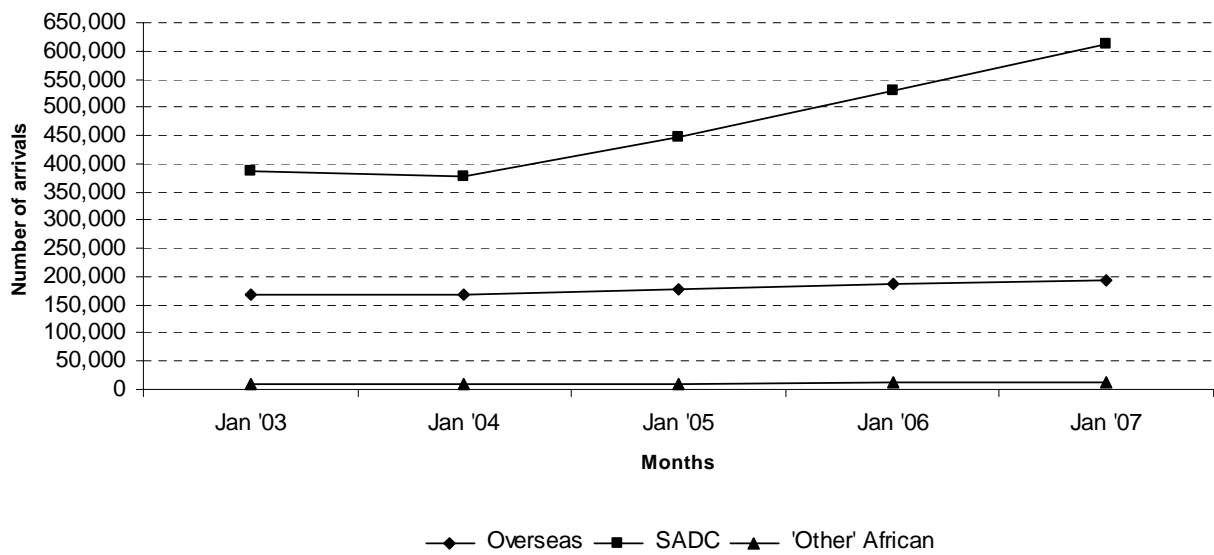


Figure 3: The number of overseas travellers arriving from leading source countries in January 2006 and January 2007

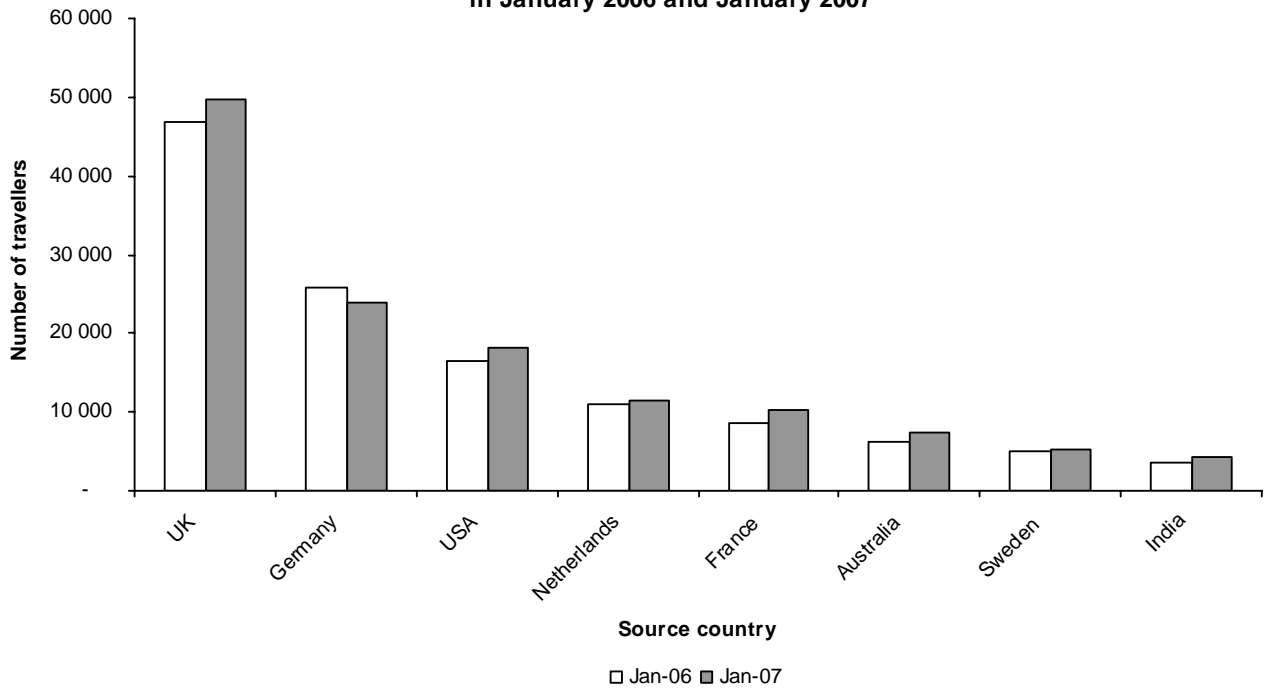


Figure 4: Number of travellers from SADC countries arriving from leading source countries in January 2007 compared to January 2006

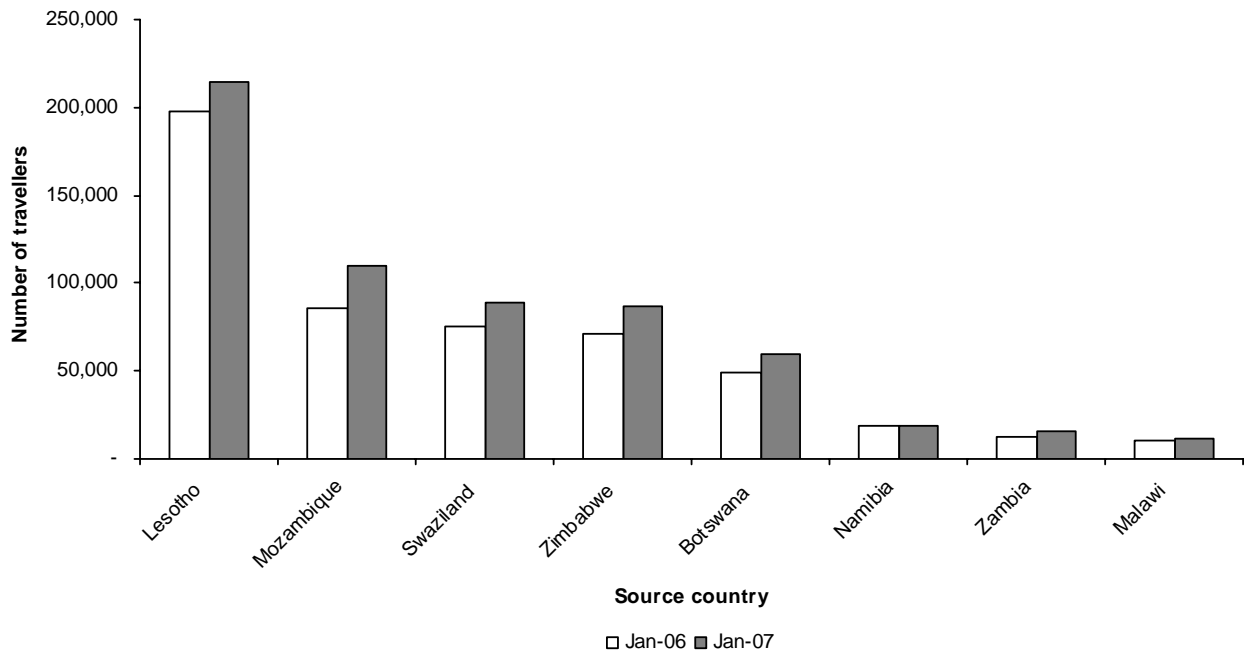


Figure 5: Number of travellers from 'other' African countries arriving from leading source countries in January 2007 compared to January 2006

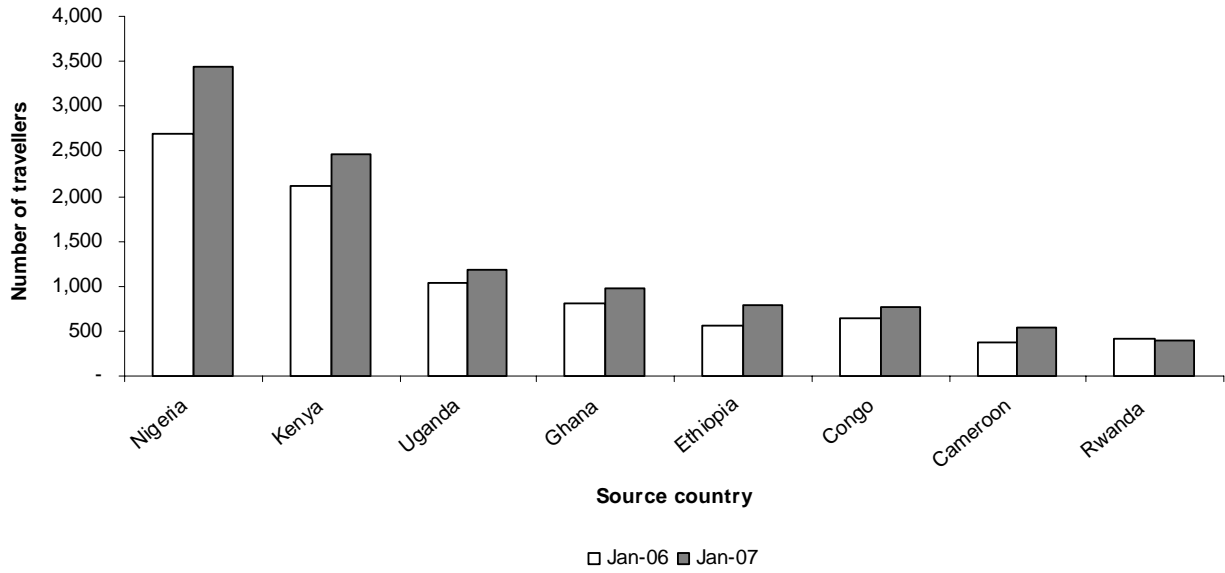


Table 1. Number of South African residents and foreign travellers by travel direction

Travel direction	January	December	January	% change	% change
	2006	2006	2007	Jan 06–Jan 07	Dec 06–Jan 07
South African residents					
Arrivals	455 310	442 149	473 764	4,1	7,2
Departures	295 018	599 363	315 512	6,9	-47,4
Foreign travellers					
Arrivals	729 249	844 665	824 249	13,0	-2,4
Departures	602 170	789 115	663 157	10,1	-16,0
Grand total	2 081 747	2 675 292	2 276 682	9,4	-14,9

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

Travel direction	Total	Mode of travel (January 2007)								
		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspec.
		(C/Town)	(Durban)	(OR Tambo)	(Other)	Total				
Grand total:	2 276 682	162 554	3 439	568 904	6 429	741 326	217	1 413 496	423	121 220
Arrivals:	1 298 013	83 130	1 771	301 090	3 130	389 121	87	824 432	234	84 139
South African residents	473 764	22 539	1 321	150 595	2 225	176 680	3	282 189	38	14 854
Foreign travellers	824 249	60 591	450	150 495	905	212 441	84	542 243	196	69 285
Overseas	192 972	58 521	166	111 731	597	171 015	9	20 420	170	1 358
Africa	626 404	1 991	279	37 828	300	40 398	70	519 948	26	65 962
Unspecified	4 873	79	5	936	8	1 028	5	1 875		1 965
Departures:	978 669	79 424	1 668	267 814	3 299	352 205	130	589 064	189	37 081
South African residents	315 512	17 909	1 121	115 058	2 404	136 492	53	171 465	42	7 460
Foreign travellers	663 157	61 515	547	152 756	895	215 713	77	417 599	147	29 621

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

Country	Mode of travel (January 2007)										
	January		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspec.
	2006	2007	(C/Town)	(Durban)	(OR Tambo)	(Other)	Total				
Grand total	729 249	824 249	60 591	450	150 495	905	212 441	84	542 243	196	69 285
Overseas total	186 079	192 972	58 521	166	111 731	597	171 015	9	20 420	170	1 358
Europe	131 187	134 617	51 930	117	66 652	381	119 080	2	14 852	113	570
Austria	2 344	2 400	1 004	-	1 071	84	2 159	-	238	2	1
Belgium	2 999	3 280	971	1	1 825	20	2 817	-	459	-	4
Denmark	2 452	2 795	907	2	1 567	2	2 478	-	293	13	11
France	8 679	10 162	1 128	49	7 603	39	8 819	-	1 319	2	22
Germany	25 832	23 830	11 537	1	9 033	28	20 599	-	3 079	25	127
Greece	825	776	66	-	560	-	626	-	149	-	1
Ireland	3 565	3 877	2 199	3	1 388	6	3 596	-	270	2	9
Italy	4 305	4 262	1 251	6	2 553	8	3 818	-	430	-	14
Netherlands	11 043	11 389	4 057	2	5 097	17	9 173	-	2 169	17	30
Portugal	2 485	2 608	172	10	1 205	4	1 391	-	1 213	-	4
Spain	1 382	1 525	241	-	1 147	-	1 388	1	129	2	5
Sweden	5 066	5 157	2 296	-	2 326	1	4 623	-	518	9	7
Switzerland	4 331	3 573	901	2	2 097	12	3 012	-	545	2	14
UK	46 751	49 755	22 218	22	23 906	122	46 268	1	3 193	28	265
Other	9 128	9 228	2 982	19	5 274	38	8 313	-	848	11	56
North America	20 617	22 571	3 725	5	16 208	126	20 064	2	2 255	10	240
Canada	4 158	4 403	963	-	2 844	44	3 851	2	507	9	34
USA	16 457	18 162	2 760	5	13 360	82	16 207	-	1 748	1	206
Other	2	6	2	-	4	-	6	-	-	-	-
Central and South America	5 253	5 565	536	-	4 608	5	5 149	1	405	4	6
Argentina	1 335	1 011	362	-	625	-	987	-	24	-	-
Brazil	2 523	3 171	40	-	2 914	4	2 958	-	213	-	-
Chile	317	335	26	-	283	1	310	-	23	-	2
Other	1 078	1 048	108	-	786	-	894	1	145	4	4

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

Country	Mode of travel (January 2007)										
	January		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspec.
	2006	2007	(C/Town)	(Durban)	(OR Tambo)	(Other)	Total				
Australasia	7 535	9 145	863	24	7 286	32	8 205	1	915	6	18
Australia	6 156	7 515	619	24	6 122	28	6 793	1	703	4	14
New Zealand	1 317	1 557	231	-	1 123	4	1 358	-	193	2	4
Other	62	73	13	-	41	-	54	-	19	-	-
Middle East	3 714	3 241	344	-	2 595	14	2 953	-	276	-	12
Israel	1 359	1 471	62	-	1 294	6	1 362	-	108	-	1
Saudi Arabia	256	132	22	-	99	-	121	-	11	-	-
Turkey	1 152	672	160	-	457	-	617	-	52	-	3
Other	947	966	100	-	745	8	853	-	105	-	8
Asia	17 773	17 833	1 123	20	14 382	39	15 564	3	1 717	37	512
China	3 799	2 913	177	-	2 373	-	2 550	-	187	-	176
Hong Kong	1 229	397	66	-	321	-	387	-	9	-	1
India	3 478	4 283	92	14	3 376	10	3 492	-	625	11	155
Japan	1 928	2 134	167	1	1 873	5	2 046	2	81	-	5
Malaysia	618	505	80	-	412	-	492	-	12	-	1
Philippines	519	588	54	1	407	1	463	-	58	13	54
Rep of China (Taiwan)	1 815	1 374	112	1	1 008	19	1 140	-	160	10	64
Rep of Korea	1 930	3 114	182	-	2 757	1	2 940	-	166	-	8
Singapore	319	301	24	-	262	-	286	-	13	-	2
Other	2 138	2 224	169	3	1 593	3	1 768	1	406	3	46

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

Country	Mode of travel (January 2007)										
	January		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspec.
	2006	2007	(C/Town)	(Durban)	(OR Tambo)	(Other)	Total				
Africa total	540 018	626 404	1 991	279	37 828	300	40 398	70	519 948	26	65 962
SADC	528 430	613 153	1 824	243	27 124	246	29 437	70	517 855	25	65 766
Angola	3 491	3 444	209	-	3 067	28	3 304	-	140	-	-
Botswana	49 312	59 207	95	-	2 236	76	2 407	-	56 590	-	210
DRC	1 423	2 215	1	-	1 479	18	1 498	-	715	-	2
Lesotho	197 218	213 928	9	-	484	1	494	69	148 780	-	64 585
Madagascar	178	210	-	-	203	-	203	-	6	-	1
Malawi	10 404	11 994	7	1	1 578	6	1 592	-	10 350	-	52
Mauritius	1 191	1 347	249	146	809	1	1 205	-	125	-	17
Mozambique	85 822	109 929	78	76	1 905	42	2 101	-	107 658	-	170
Namibia	18 874	18 314	1 099	-	1 869	21	2 989	-	15 290	20	15
Swaziland	75 660	89 423	6	6	612	2	626	-	88 588	-	209
Tanzania	1 007	1 245	4	2	877	-	883	-	338	-	24
Zambia	12 921	15 218	13	-	5 484	17	5 514	-	9 567	-	137
Zimbabwe	70 929	86 679	54	12	6 521	34	6 621	1	79 708	5	344

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

Country	Mode of travel (January 2007)										
	January		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspec.
	2006	2007	(C/Town)	(Durban)	(OR Tambo)	(Other)	Total				
East and Central Africa	6 464	7 134	43	35	5 545	29	5 652	-	1 399	1	82
Burundi	109	101	-	-	60	-	60	-	41	-	-
Cameroon	379	536	2	-	477	-	479	-	34	-	23
Central African Rep	4	10	-	-	9	-	9	-	1	-	-
Chad	18	21	1	-	19	-	20	-	1	-	-
Comoros	20	21	3	-	18	-	21	-	-	-	-
Congo	637	761	10	-	590	4	604	-	152	-	5
Djibouti	8	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Equatorial Guinea	39	34	-	-	18	-	18	-	16	-	-
Eritrea	36	78	1	-	32	-	33	-	39	-	6
Ethiopia	565	790	3	-	378	-	381	-	404	-	5
Gabon	493	322	1	-	313	4	318	-	4	-	-
Kenya	2 123	2460	8	-	2 144	17	2 169	-	274	1	16
Reunion	162	52	-	33	18	-	51	-	1	-	-
Rwanda	420	385	-	-	338	-	338	-	45	-	2
Sao Tome and Principe	10	5	-	-	4	-	4	-	1	-	-
Seychelles	239	226	1	2	210	2	215	-	9	-	2
Somalia	164	157	-	-	13	-	13	-	144	-	-
Tristan da Cunha	1	3	-	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	-
Uganda	1 037	1171	13	-	902	2	917	-	231	-	23

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

Country	Mode of travel (January 2007)										
	January		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspec.
	2006	2007	(C/Town)	(Durban)	(OR Tambo)	(Other)	Total				
West Africa	4 319	5 333	76	-	4 549	25	4 650	-	581	-	102
Ascension	3	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Benin	65	79	2	-	65	-	67	-	12	-	-
Burkina Faso	25	24	1	-	23	-	24	-	-	-	-
Cape Verde Island	60	47	3	-	37	-	40	-	7	-	-
Cote D'Ivoire	155	150	21	-	124	-	145	-	3	-	2
Gambia	35	55	2	-	49	-	51	-	1	-	3
Ghana	804	977	6	-	807	3	816	-	138	-	23
Guinea	96	123	-	-	74	16	90	-	33	-	-
Guinea-Bissau	9	20	1	-	3	-	4	-	16	-	-
Liberia	39	44	1	-	31	-	32	-	7	-	5
Madeira Island	12	16	9	-	1	-	10	-	5	-	1
Mali	50	53	1	-	43	-	44	-	9	-	-
Mauritania	10	5	2	-	2	-	4	-	1	-	-
Niger	2	9	-	-	7	-	7	-	1	-	1
Nigeria	2 690	3 441	22	-	3 022	6	3 050	-	325	-	66
St Helena	11	7	1	-	2	-	3	-	4	-	-
Senegal	194	199	1	-	188	-	189	-	9	-	1
Sierra Leone	35	49	-	-	44	-	44	-	5	-	-
Togo	24	34	2	-	27	-	29	-	5	-	-
North Africa	805	784	48	1	610	-	659	-	113	-	12
Algeria	204	133	7	-	54	-	61	-	72	-	-
Egypt	357	347	11	1	314	-	326	-	11	-	10
Libya	32	66	14	-	44	-	58	-	8	-	-
Morocco	65	73	8	-	58	-	66	-	7	-	-
Sudan	104	120	4	-	99	-	103	-	15	-	2
Tunisia	43	45	4	-	41	-	45	-	-	-	-
Unspecified	3 152	4 873	79	5	936	8	1 028	5	1 875	-	1 965

Table 4. Number of foreign arrivals by purpose of travel

Region	Total	Purpose of travel (January 2007)							Contract worker	Border Traffic
		Business	Holiday	Study	Work	Transit	Unspec.	Total		
Grand total	824 249	15 837	756 643	20 422	10 930	2 856	66	806 754	-	17 495
Overseas total	192 972	6 763	175 403	3 112	6 566	770	9	192 623	-	349
Europe	134 617	4 314	125 346	1 448	3 038	405	2	134 553	-	64
North America	22 571	852	20 268	669	625	110	-	22 524	-	47
Central and South America	5 565	127	5 045	93	248	52	-	5 565	-	-
Australasia	9 145	311	8 566	64	144	56	-	9 141	-	4
Middle East	3 241	132	2 832	97	165	12	-	3 238	-	3
Asia	17 833	1 027	13 346	741	2 346	135	7	17 602	-	231
Africa total	626 404	9 038	579 947	16 352	3 718	2 083	57	611 795	-	15 209
SADC	613 153	8 309	570 409	14 522	2 692	2 023	32	597 987	-	15 166
East and Central Africa	7 134	296	5 090	1 219	456	36	24	7 121	-	13
West Africa	5 333	339	3 926	554	466	20	1	5 306	-	27
North Africa	784	94	522	57	104	4	-	781	-	3
Unspecified	4 873	36	1 293	958	646	3	-	2 936	-	1 937

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

Country	January		Purpose of travel (January 2007)							Contract worker	Border traffic concession
	2006	2007	Business	Holiday	Study	Work	Transit	Unspec.	Total		
Grand total	729 249	824 249	15 837	756 643	20 422	10 930	2 856	66	806 754	-	17 495
Overseas total	186 079	192 972	6 763	175 403	3 112	6 566	770	9	192 623	-	349
Europe	131 187	134 617	4 314	125 346	1 448	3 038	405	2	134 553	-	64
Austria	2 344	2 400	42	2 307	16	27	8	-	2 400	-	-
Belgium	2 999	3 280	129	2 992	52	99	7	-	3 279	-	1
Denmark	2 452	2 795	84	2 643	8	50	6	-	2 791	-	4
France	8 679	10 162	313	9 378	111	329	30	-	10 161	-	1
Germany	25 832	23 830	868	22 087	353	476	32	-	23 816	-	14
Greece	825	776	11	709	6	48	2	-	776	-	-
Ireland	3 565	3 877	86	3 706	25	53	5	-	3 875	-	2
Italy	4 305	4 262	165	3 976	27	74	16	-	4 258	-	4
Netherlands	11 043	11 389	303	10 720	165	168	25	-	11 381	-	8
Portugal	2 485	2 608	51	2 471	30	39	13	-	2 604	-	4
Spain	1 382	1 525	69	1 346	17	81	12	-	1 525	-	-
Sweden	5 066	5 157	166	4 837	76	69	7	-	5 155	-	2
Switzerland	4 331	3 573	82	3 406	44	38	2	-	3 572	-	1
UK	46 751	49 755	1 582	46 718	383	866	184	-	49 733	-	22
Other	9 128	9 228	363	8 050	135	621	56	2	9 227	-	1
North America	20 617	22 571	852	20 268	669	625	110	-	22 524	-	47
Canada	4 158	4 403	141	4 043	60	129	24	-	4 397	-	6
USA	16 457	18 162	710	16 220	609	496	86	-	18 121	-	41
Other	2	6	1	5	-	-	-	-	6	-	-
Central and South America	5 253	5 565	127	5 045	93	248	52	-	5 565	-	-
Argentina	1 335	1 011	10	972	9	15	5	-	1 011	-	-
Brazil	2 523	3 171	49	2 963	35	83	41	-	3 171	-	-
Chile	317	335	6	309	2	18	-	-	335	-	-
Other	1 078	1 048	62	801	47	132	6	-	1 048	-	-

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

Country	January		Purpose of travel (January 2007)								Contract worker	Border traffic concession
			Business	Holiday	Study	Work	Transit	Unspec.	Total			
	2006	2007										
Australasia	7 535	9 145	311	8 566	64	144	56	-	9 141	-	4	
Australia	6 156	7 515	273	7 036	44	117	41	-	7 511	-	4	
New Zealand	1 317	1 557	38	1 470	11	25	13	-	1 557	-	-	
Other	62	73	-	60	9	2	2	-	73	-	-	
Middle East	3 714	3 241	132	2 832	97	165	12	-	3 238	-	3	
Israel	1 359	1 471	47	1 363	13	43	5	-	1 471	-	-	
Saudi Arabia	256	132	7	112	8	5	-	-	132	-	-	
Turkey	1 152	672	30	570	17	50	4	-	671	-	1	
Other	947	966	48	787	59	67	3	-	964	-	2	
Asia	17 773	17 833	1 027	13 346	741	2 346	135	7	17 602	-	231	
China	3 799	2 913	165	2 029	164	466	6	-	2 830	-	83	
Hong Kong	1 229	397	15	363	6	12	-	-	396	-	1	
India	3 478	4 283	426	2 963	96	676	43	1	4 205	-	78	
Japan	1 928	2 134	138	1 777	19	191	9	-	2 134	-	-	
Malaysia	618	505	24	401	28	43	9	-	505	-	-	
Philippines	519	588	10	243	7	298	22	-	580	-	8	
Rep of China (Taiwan)	1 815	1 374	85	1 000	85	153	13	5	1 341	-	33	
Rep of Korea	1 930	3 114	54	2 732	272	51	2	-	3 111	-	3	
Singapore	319	301	25	242	1	30	3	-	301	-	-	
Other	2 138	2 224	85	1 596	63	426	28	1	2 199	-	25	

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

Country	January		Purpose of travel (January 2007)							Contract worker	Border traffic concession
			Business	Holiday	Study	Work	Transit	Unspec.	Total		
	2006	2007									
Africa total	540 018	626 404	9 038	579 947	16 352	3 718	2 083	57	611 195	-	15 209
SADC	528 430	613 153	8 309	570 409	14 522	2 692	2 023	32	597 987	-	15 166
Angola	3 491	3 444	58	2 465	803	102	16	-	3 444	-	-
Botswana	49 312	59 207	99	55 385	3 203	273	200	-	59 160	-	47
DRC	1 423	2 215	43	1 864	218	65	8	16	2 214	-	1
Lesotho	197 218	213 928	443	196 224	2 079	214	424	-	199 384	-	14 544
Madagascar	178	210	12	137	14	40	7	-	210	-	-
Malawi	10 404	11 994	519	11 127	226	85	27	1	11 985	-	9
Mauritius	1 191	1 347	34	1 059	186	46	9	-	1 334	-	13
Mozambique	85 822	109 929	206	108 807	551	150	60	-	109 774	-	155
Namibia	18 874	18 314	1 658	13 355	2 305	87	904	-	18 309	-	5
Swaziland	75 660	89 423	422	86 679	1 746	220	229	-	89 296	-	127
Tanzania	1 007	1 245	92	793	281	69	2	2	1 239	-	6
Zambia	12 921	15 218	1 910	12 678	429	129	61	1	15 208	-	10
Zimbabwe	70 929	86 679	2 813	79 836	2 481	1 212	76	12	86 430	-	249

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

Country	January		Purpose of travel (January 2007)							Contract worker	Border traffic concession
	2006	2007	Business	Holiday	Study	Work	Transit	Unspec.	Total		
East and Central Africa	6 464	7 134	296	5 090	1 219	456	36	24	7 121	-	13
Burundi	109	101	5	75	13	4	-	4	101	-	-
Cameroon	379	536	33	350	106	41	1	1	532	-	4
Central African Rep	4	10	2	6	2	-	-	-	10	-	-
Chad	18	21	-	17	4	-	-	-	21	-	-
Comoros	20	21	1	14	2	3	1	-	21	-	-
Congo	637	761	31	633	69	22	4	2	761	-	-
Djibouti	8	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Equatorial Guinea	39	34	-	16	16	2	-	-	34	-	-
Eritrea	36	78	-	72	3	1	-	-	76	-	2
Ethiopia	565	790	28	705	28	29	-	-	790	-	-
Gabon	493	322	6	170	131	15	-	-	322	-	-
Kenya	2 123	2 460	135	1 583	500	230	10	-	2 458	-	2
Reunion	162	52	-	43	8	1	-	-	52	-	-
Rwanda	420	385	14	206	131	19	9	6	385	-	-
Sao Tome and Principe	10	5	-	4	1	-	-	-	5	-	-
Seychelles	239	226	2	197	23	4	-	-	226	-	-
Somalia	164	157	1	142	2	1	-	11	157	-	-
Tristan da Cunha	1	3	-	3	-	-	-	-	3	-	-
Uganda	1 037	1 171	38	853	180	84	11	-	1 166	-	5

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

Country	January		Purpose of travel (January 2007)							Contract worker	Border traffic concession
	2006	2007	Business	Holiday	Study	Work	Transit	Unspec.	Total		
West Africa	4 319	5 333	339	3 926	554	466	20	1	5306	-	27
Ascension	3	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Benin	65	79	5	68	2	4	-	-	79	-	-
Burkina Faso	25	24	1	21	-	1	1	-	24	-	-
Cape Verde Island	60	47	1	36	3	7	-	-	47	-	-
Cote D'Ivoire	155	150	12	107	10	21	-	-	150	-	-
Gambia	35	55	4	44	3	2	-	-	53	-	2
Ghana	804	977	126	665	64	111	7	-	973	-	4
Guinea	96	123	4	89	15	14	1	-	123	-	-
Guinea-Bissau	9	20	-	18	1	1	-	-	20	-	-
Liberia	39	44	3	27	4	5	-	-	39	-	5
Madeira Island	12	16	-	15	-	-	-	-	15	-	1
Mali	50	53	5	31	14	3	-	-	53	-	-
Mauritania	10	5	-	3	1	1	-	-	5	-	-
Niger	2	9	2	7	-	-	-	-	9	-	-
Nigeria	2 690	3 441	133	2 604	419	262	7	1	3 426	-	15
St Helena	11	7	-	7	-	-	-	-	7	-	-
Senegal	194	199	25	130	13	29	2	-	199	-	-
Sierra Leone	35	49	6	35	5	3	-	-	49	-	-
Togo	24	34	12	18	-	2	2	-	34	-	-
North Africa	805	784	94	522	57	104	4	-	781	-	3
Algeria	204	133	16	96	10	9	2	-	133	-	-
Egypt	357	347	32	237	3	71	1	-	344	-	3
Libya	32	66	12	26	22	6	-	-	66	-	-
Morocco	65	73	12	52	1	8	-	-	73	-	-
Sudan	104	120	11	81	20	8	-	-	120	-	-
Tunisia	43	45	11	30	1	2	1	-	45	-	-
Unspecified	3 152	4 873	36	1 293	958	646	3	-	2 936	-	1 937

EXPLANATORY NOTES

1. Introduction

Legal movements across South African borders as well as legal immigration into South Africa fall under the jurisdiction of the Department of Home Affairs (DHA). Statistics South Africa then processes and publishes this information.

Administrative data sources from the DHA, that is, information from all the country's ports of entry and applications for permanent residence constitute the only comprehensive source of information on foreign arrivals and departures, documented immigrants and emigrants. The information from this source of data provides the best national coverage (both in terms of space and time) of the population movements of South African residents and foreign travellers. The data -

- can be used to estimate, monitor and understand salient characteristics of foreign travellers and volumes of South African residents travelling outside South Africa;
- can, in the absence of information on foreign tourists, be further analysed to provide some indication of international tourism; and
- provide information that can be used to (a) assess the extent of government's progress in strengthening bilateral political and economic relations by assessing the number of international tourist arrivals; and (b) benchmark surveys focusing on demand for local tourism services by foreign travellers.

The information on documented migrants provides crucial information on receiving countries of South African emigrants which could be targeted in initiatives geared towards attracting back migrants into the country. In addition, the data on permanent residents are valuable in assessing not only the demographic and economic profiles of immigrants but also their contribution to national social and economic programmes.

2. Purpose of the statistical release

This release reports on arrivals and departures of foreign and South African travellers. Travellers include (a) same-day visitors and tourists and (b) other travellers such as migrant workers from other countries paid in South Africa.

3. Scope and coverage

This release covers all the data as received from the DHA. The arrivals of foreign travellers are more detailed than departures as they are reported by mode of travel, gender, age and purpose of visit whereas statistics on South African residents are reported by mode of travel. Statistics on documented migration, i.e. self-declared emigrants and documented immigrants, are currently not reported due to the unavailability of data from the DHA.

4. Data

Information published in this release is based on data obtained from the following data sources within the DHA.

- Department of Home Affairs' (DHA) database on population Movement Control System (MCS): Data routinely collected by immigration officers at all land, air and sea entry ports on all travellers (South African residents and foreign travellers) arriving into or departing from South Africa are captured into the system. Generally the data are collected directly from travel documents either by scanning or capturing onto the port's electronic database. Individual ports regularly transmit data onto the national database at the head office of the DHA. Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) downloads the data covering a particular calendar month from the mainframe of the State Information Technology Agency (SITA), where the DHA stores its data.
- DHA departure forms: the DHA departure forms are specifically designed for the collection of data from South African residents departing South Africa. The completion of the departure form is a voluntary exercise and as such not all eligible travellers will do so. The completed forms from OR Tambo, Cape Town and Durban international airports covering a particular calendar month are processed and analysed accordingly by Stats SA.
- The database for applicants for South African permanent residence: a printout of data on the successful applicants covering a particular calendar month is issued to Stats SA.

5. Limitations

The main limitation of the published information is its inability to directly measure the volume of tourists. The main aspects of the United Nations World Tourism Organisation's (UNWTO) definition of a tourist are duration of stay and whether individuals are remunerated in the place being visited. Although the intended duration of stay can be inferred from the expiry date of the temporary residence permit, this does not necessarily translate into actual duration of stay. In addition, the data do not provide information on the remuneration status of travellers in South Africa.

The information on the total number of arrivals and departures of South African residents is collected from the scanning of passports. However, data on country of final destination and purpose of visit will be available when the DHA re-introduces the completion of departure forms by South African residents at the three international airports (OR Tambo, Cape Town and Durban).

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

6. Glossary of terms

Key terms used in this release are defined as follows:

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

Border traffic concession is granted to a person who crosses the border on a frequent basis. The concession is granted for a maximum period of six months after which it can be renewed if necessary.

Country refers to individual countries within a region. Note that not all the lists of countries available in the data are reported in the release owing to the few monthly arrivals from those countries. Data on these countries will be made available to individuals on request.

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

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

Overseas refers to all other countries outside Africa.

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

SADC refers to the thirteen countries, excluding South Africa, that belong to the Southern African Development Community.

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

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

Tourism comprises the activities of persons travelling to and staying in places outside their usual environment for not more than one consecutive year for leisure, business and other purposes not related to the exercise of an activity remunerated from within the place visited. The usual environment of a person consists of a certain area around his/her place of residence plus all other places he/she frequently visits. *Even though the data from the DHA used in this release do not provide information on duration of stay and remuneration status of the travellers, activities of most of these travellers will comprise tourism.*

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

Traveller is any person on a trip between two or more localities (e.g. countries). Travellers can include Visitors (same-day and overnight) and other travellers such as workers paid in the country visited, migrants, refugees, diplomats and others within the usual environment.

Visitor is any person travelling to a place other than that of his/her usual environment for less than 12 months and whose main purpose of the trip is other than the exercise of an activity remunerated from within the place visited. However, in this release, the concept visitor is used to indicate an individual that entered the country on visitor's temporary permit.

7. Symbols and abbreviations used

- = nil

Unspec. = unspecified

GENERAL INFORMATION

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

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