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NOTICE

Users who would like to continue using foreign arrivals (rather than tourists) as their base denominator for comparison and trend analysis purposes could send their data request to: TshwaroG@statssa.gov.za or DudzileGu@statssa.gov.za

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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 2 585 359 travellers (arrivals and departures) passed through South African ports of entry in January 2010. As presented in Table 1, these travellers are made up of 842 083 South African residents and 1 743 276 foreign travellers. A further breakdown of the figures indicates that there were 510 940 and 331 143 South African resident arrivals and departures respectively. The corresponding volumes for foreign arrivals and departures were 991 326 and 751 950 respectively. A comparison between the movements in December 2009 and January 2010 indicates that the volume of departures for both South African residents and foreign travellers declined, whereas that of arrivals increased. There was an increase of 13,5% from 450 320 in December 2009 to 510 940 in January 2010 for South African arrivals and a decline of 42,1% from 572 224 in December 2009 to 331 143 in January 2010 for their departure. Foreign arrivals increased by 5,4% from 940 836 in December 2009 to 991 326 in January 2010. A comparison between movements in January 2009 and January 2010 indicates that there was an increase in all movements. Thus, foreign arrivals increased by 7,7% from 920 338 in January 2009 to 991 326 in January 2010. 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. In January 2010, 38 048 (3,8%) foreign arrivals were classified as non-visitors while 953 278 (96,2%) were visitors. The visitors were categorised into three groups: arrivals only comprising of visitors who entered the country in January but did not depart in January (433 063); visitors who came in once and left in January (316 978); and those who came and left more than once in January (203 237). Visitors were further grouped as same day visitors 224 222 (23,5%) and overnight visitors/tourists 729 056 (76,5%).

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 January 2010, road transport was the most common mode of travel used by 1 823 863 (70,5%) out of the 2 585 359 travellers. The number of travellers who used air transport was 750 258 (29,0%). The arrival data on South African residents show that 164 454 (32,2%) came by air and 345 725 (67,7%) by road. For departure, 130 257 (39,3%) and 200 552 (60,6%) used air and road transport respectively. In the case of foreign travellers, 223 889 (22,6%) arrived by air. Those who came by road were 758 930 (76,6%). When departing South Africa, 231 658 (30,8%) foreign travellers left by air whilst 518 656 (69,0%) left by road. As shown in Table 2 an overwhelming majority, 208 425 (93,0%) of same day visitors arrived in the country by road. Only 15 754 (7,0%) same day visitors flew into the country. However, data on overnight visitors/tourists show that, 534 288 (73,3%) used road transport, whereas 194 581 (26,7%) 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 January 2010, a high proportion of overseas tourists arrived in the country by air 149 874 (89,4%) whilst 17 745 (10,6%) came in by road. This is in contrast to tourists from SADC countries who came into South Africa predominantly by road 512 186 (94,6%), whereas 29 148 (5,4%) came in by air. A relatively high proportion 11 616 (84,9%) of tourists from other African countries flew into the country but 2 061 (15,1%) used road transport.

2.2 Regional and national distribution of tourists

In January 2010, overseas tourists came mainly from Europe, 116 299 (69,4%); followed by North America, 20 070 (12,0%); Asia, 15 549 (9,3%); Australasia, 7 585 (4,5%); Central and South America, 5 892 (3,5%); and Middle East, 2 311 (1,4%). Virtually all tourists from Africa came from the SADC countries, 541 423 (97,5%). The distribution of the remaining tourists from Africa is as follows: East and Central Africa, 7 433 (1,3%); West Africa, 5 340 (1,0%) and North Africa 914 (0,2%).

Data presented in Figure 1 indicate that UK, 42 246 (25,2%); Germany, 18 987 (11,3%); USA, 15 963 (9,5%); The Netherlands, 10 882 (6,5%); France, 8 506 (5,1%); Australia, 6 469 (3,9%); Sweden, 4 997 (3,0%); and Canada,

4 103 (2,5%) were the eight leading overseas countries. Tourists from these eight countries constitute 67,0% of all tourists from overseas countries. A comparison between movements in January 2010 and January 2009 shows that the number of tourists increased in all these countries with the exception of France. The volume of tourists from France declined by 5,1% from 9 242 in January 2009 to 8 506 in January 2010.

The eight leading countries from SADC (see Figure 2) were Zimbabwe, 158 248 (29,2%); Lesotho, 131 421 (24,3%); Mozambique, 113 265 (20,9%); Swaziland, 56 328 (10,4%); Botswana, 34 459 (6,4%); Namibia, 15 584 (2,9%); Zambia, 12 877 (2,4%) and Malawi, 9 859 (1,8%). Tourists from these eight countries constitute 98,3% of all tourists from SADC countries. A comparison between movements in January 2010 and January 2009 shows that the number of tourists increased in all these countries with the exception of Malawi. The volume of tourists from Malawi declined by 1,8% from 12 985 in January 2009 to 9 859 in January 2010.

The eight leading countries from other African countries, shown in Figure 3, were Nigeria, 3 491 (25,5%); Kenya, 2 298 (16,8%); Uganda, 1 174 (8,6%); Ghana, 1 014 (7,4%); Ethiopia, 871 (6,4%); Gabon, 703 (5,1%); Cameroon, 635 (4,6%); and Congo, 525 (3,8%). Tourists from these eight countries constitute 78,2% of all tourists from other African countries. A comparison between movements in January 2010 and January 2009 shows that the number of tourists increased in all these countries with the exception of Congo. The volume of tourists from Congo declined by 3,8% from 547 in January 2009 to 525 in January 2010.

2.3 Purpose of visit of tourists

As observed from data given in Table 4, in January 2010, an overwhelming majority (95,8%) of tourists were in South Africa for holidays compared with only 2,9% and 1,3% of tourists who were in South Africa to study and do business respectively. A detailed analysis reveals that all the overseas regions had at least 89,0% of their tourists coming to South Africa for holidays. Tourists from Australasia (96,9%), Europe (96,8%), Central and South America (96,3%), North America (93,2%), Middle East (92,3%), and Asia (89,1%) were in South Africa mostly for holidays. Tourists from Middle East and Asia were more diverse in their purpose of visit. Asia and Middle East had 5,9% and 5,2% respectively of their tourists in South Africa for business. Furthermore, students made up 4,7% and 2,6% of Asia and Middle East tourists respectively.

Although the majority (96,4%) of African tourists came to South Africa for holidays, there were differences between tourists from SADC countries and those from other African countries, namely:

- Whereas 96,8% of tourists from the SADC countries were on holidays; 81,4% of tourists from other African countries were on holidays. Proportionally, the lowest percentage (77,3%) of tourists on holidays came from East and Central Africa, a region from where 19,5% of tourists had come to study.
- Overall, of the tourists from North Africa, East and Central Africa and West Africa, 10,6%, 3,0% and 2,3% respectively were in South Africa for business compared with only 0,8% of business persons among the tourists from SADC countries.
- Similarly, 19,5%; 9,8% and 9,4% of tourists from: East and Central Africa; North Africa and West Africa respectively were students compared with only 2,3% among tourists from SADC countries.

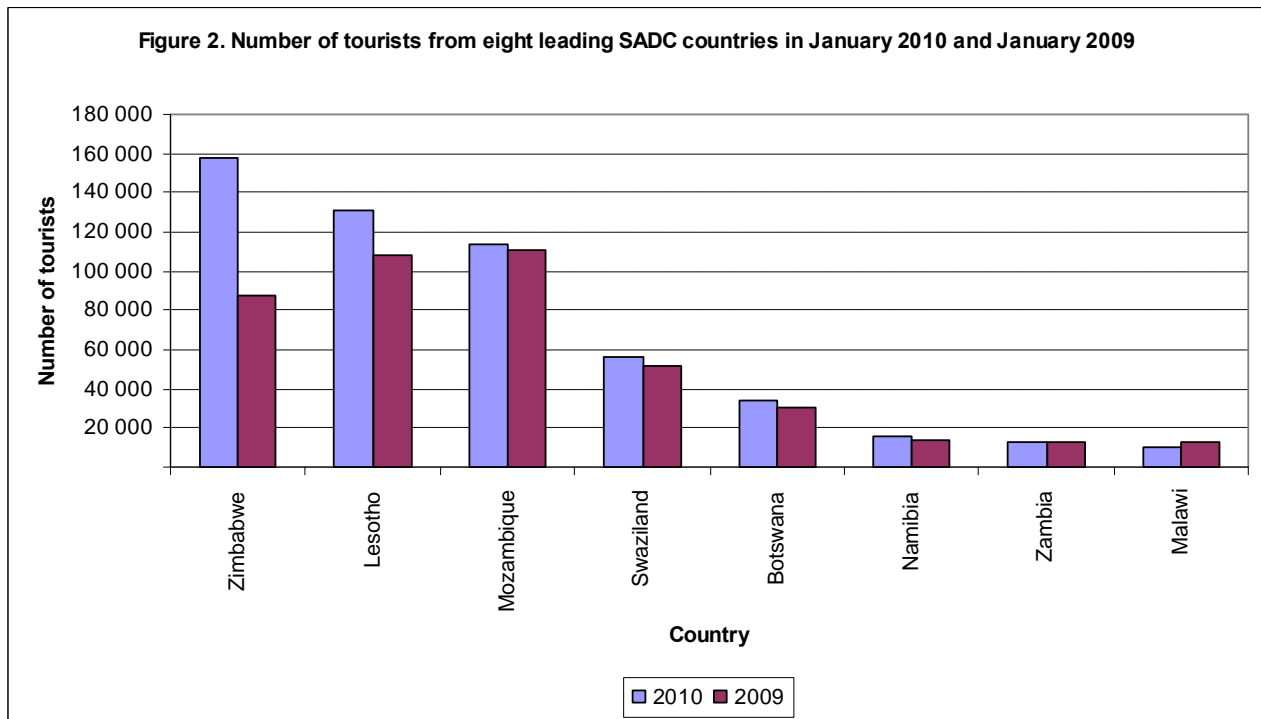
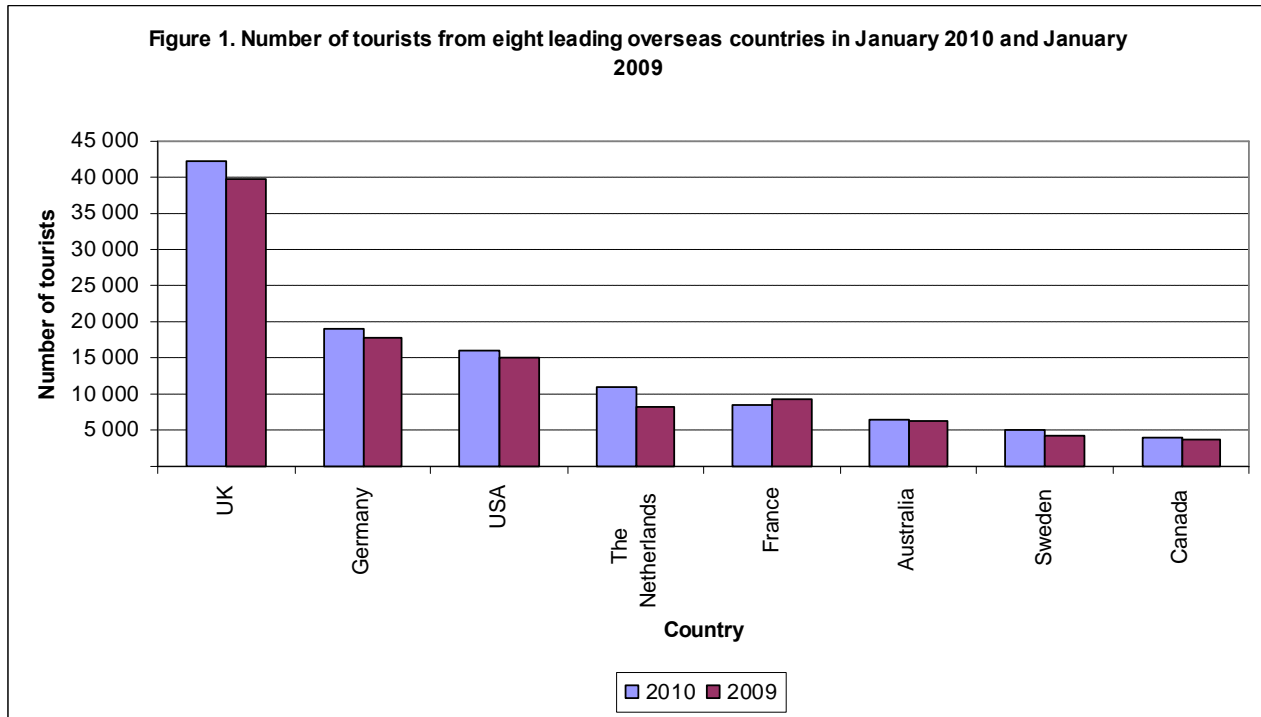
2.4 Sex and age distribution of tourists

According to Table 5, in January 2010, there were 414 037 (56,8%) male and 314 211 (43,1%) female tourists. The overseas tourists were made up of 93 875 (56,0%) male tourists and 73 663 (43,9%) female tourists. Tourists from other African countries had a high proportion (67,1%) of males compared with that of SADC (56,9%). The proportions of female tourists from other African countries and SADC countries were 32,9% and 43,0% respectively.

The ages of the tourists were categorised into three broad groups, namely: those younger than 15 years, those aged between 15 and 64 years, and persons 65 years and older. The overall results presented in Table 5 show that 90,6% of tourists were aged between 15 and 64 years; 5,0% aged less than 15 years and 4,4% 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 with 93,6% and 92,5% of tourists from SADC and other African countries respectively. There were very few tourists younger than 15 years and those aged 65 years and older. The data show relatively high proportions of the elderly among both male (13,7%) and female (14,1%) tourists from overseas. This is in contrast to tourists from SADC countries amongst which 1,2% of males and 2,0% of females were aged 65 years and older. Similarly among tourists from other African countries 1,4% of males and 1,5% of females were aged 65 years and older.



P J Lehohla
Statistician-General



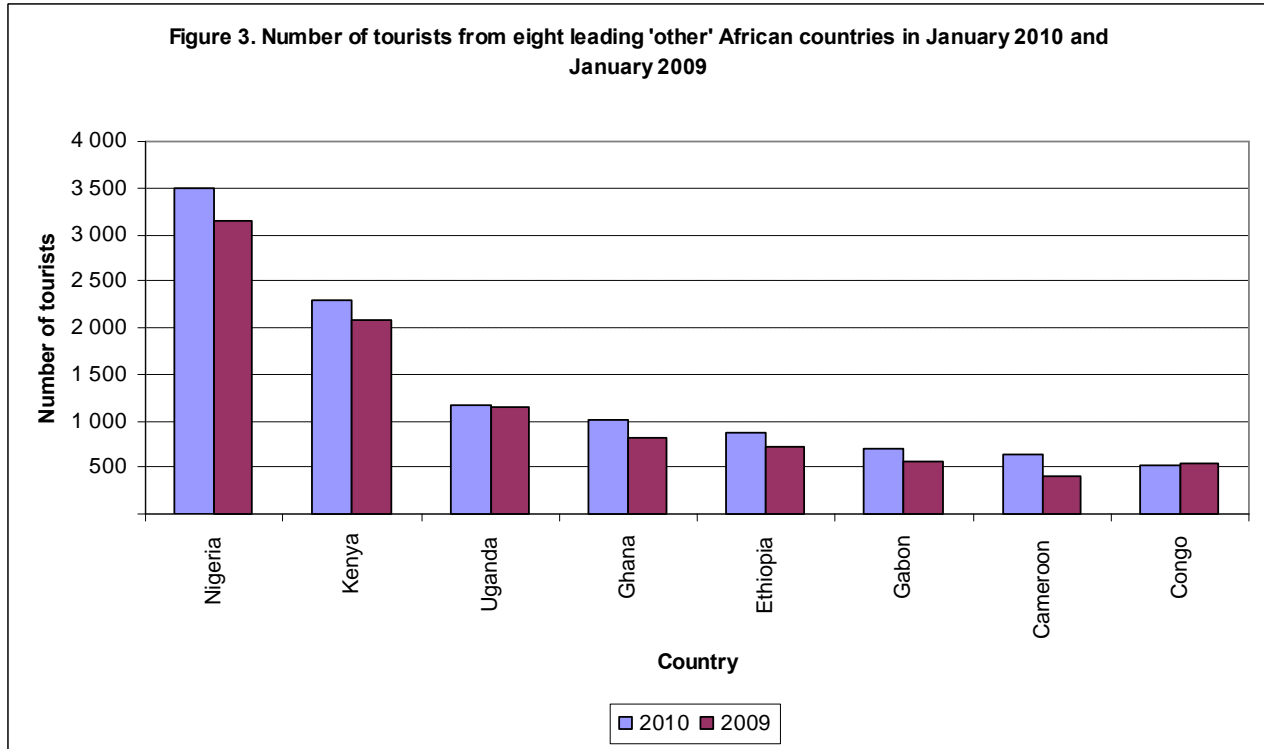


Table 1. Number of South African residents and foreign travellers by travel direction

Travel direction	January	December	January	% change	
	2009	2009	2010	January 09-January 10	December 09-January 10
Grand Total	2 447 857	2 810 599	2 585 359	5.6	-8.0
South African residents	803 207	1 022 544	842 083	4.8	-17.6
Arrivals	482 126	450 320	510 940	6.0	13.5
Departures	321 081	572 224	331 143	3.1	-42.1
Foreign travellers	1 644 650	1 788 055	1 743 276	6.0	-2.5
Arrivals	920 338	940 836	991 326	7.7	5.4
Departures	724 312	847 219	751 950	3.8	-11.2
Foreign arrivals		940 836	991 326		5.4
Non visitors		27 728	38 048		37.2
Visitors		913 108	953 278		4.4
Visitors		913 108	953 278		4.4
Arrivals only		338 236	433 063		28.0
Single trips		371 047	316 978		-14.6
Multiple trips		203 825	203 237		-0.3
Visitors		913 108	953 278		4.4
Same day		240 246	224 222		-6.7
Overnight (tourists)		672 862	729 056		8.4

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

Travel direction	January		Mode of travel (January 2010)								
			Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspecified
			Cape Town	Durban	OR Tambo	Other	Total				
2009	2010										
Grand Total	2 447 857	2 585 359	162 577	15 787	566 061	5 833	750 258	373	1 823 863	2 921	7 944
South African residents	803 207	842 083	39 356	10 134	241 092	4 129	294 711	162	546 277	371	562
Arrivals	482 126	510 940	21 932	5 731	134 862	1 929	164 454	89	345 725	110	562
Departures	321 081	331 143	17 424	4 403	106 230	2 200	130 257	73	200 552	261	-
Foreign Travellers	1 644 650	1 743 276	123 221	5 653	324 969	1 704	455 547	211	1 277 586	2 550	7 382
Arrivals	920 338	991 326	61 020	2 625	159 465	779	223 889	117	758 930	1 008	7 382
Departures	724 312	751 950	62 201	3 028	165 504	925	231 658	94	518 656	1 542	-
Visitors	820 840	953 278	59 289	2 346	148 021	679	210 335	112	742 713	117	1
Same day	213 032	224 222	409	10	15 230	105	15 754	23	208 425	20	-
Overnight (tourists)	607 808	729 056	58 880	2 336	132 791	574	194 581	89	534 288	97	1

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

Country	Mode of travel (January 2010)										
	January		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2009	2010	Cape Town	Durban	OR Tambo	Other	Total				
Grand Total	607 808	729 056	58 880	2 336	132 791	574	194 581	89	534 288	97	1
Overseas	155 228	167 706	56 005	2 153	91 330	386	149 874	2	17 745	85	-
Europe	107 785	116 299	48 424	1 374	53 653	242	103 693	2	12 563	41	-
Austria	1 704	1 977	949	29	841	2	1 821	-	156	-	-
Belgium	2 760	2 808	1 069	2	1 391	9	2 471	-	337	-	-
Denmark	2 367	2 686	890	9	1 497	27	2 423	2	261	-	-
France	9 242	8 506	2 065	36	5 210	20	7 331	-	1 175	-	-
Germany	17 662	18 987	8 479	155	8 131	32	16 797	-	2 187	3	-
Ireland	3 115	3 107	1 589	22	1 212	8	2 831	-	276	-	-
Italy	3 279	3 826	1 373	52	1 987	15	3 427	-	398	1	-
Norway	2 078	2 048	971	7	863	-	1 841	-	206	1	-
Portugal	2 207	2 331	195	22	1 100	15	1 332	-	999	-	-
Spain	1 150	1 293	291	5	900	13	1 209	-	82	2	-
Sweden	4 272	4 997	2 207	4	2 220	4	4 435	-	561	1	-
Switzerland	2 928	3 131	1 028	35	1 680	8	2 751	-	380	-	-
The Netherlands	8 358	10 882	4 257	42	4 578	11	8 888	-	1 994	-	-
UK	39 675	42 246	20 415	882	18 051	68	39 416	-	2 798	32	-
Other	6 988	7 474	2 646	72	3 992	10	6 720	-	753	1	-
North America	18 654	20 070	3 635	82	14 337	85	18 139	-	1 926	5	-
Canada	3 671	4 103	1 064	36	2 491	23	3 614	-	487	2	-
USA	14 978	15 963	2 570	46	11 844	62	14 522	-	1 438	3	-
Other	5	4	1	-	2	-	3	-	1	-	-
Central and South America	4 598	5 892	725	11	4 674	17	5 427	-	465	-	-
Argentina	956	1 417	448	2	915	2	1 367	-	50	-	-
Brazil	2 559	3 208	72	5	2 851	11	2 939	-	269	-	-
Mexico	134	254	86	-	145	3	234	-	20	-	-
Other	949	1 013	119	4	763	1	887	-	126	-	-

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

Country	Mode of travel (January 2010)										
	January		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2009	2010	Cape Town	Durban	OR Tambo	Other	Total				
Australasia	7 318	7 585	905	47	5 858	16	6 826	-	758	1	-
Australia	6 168	6 469	756	21	5 088	16	5 881	-	587	1	-
New Zealand	1 096	1 076	145	24	752	-	921	-	155	-	-
Other	54	40	4	2	18	-	24	-	16	-	-
Middle East	2 089	2 311	309	24	1 774	10	2 117	-	194	-	-
Iran	158	225	45	12	163	-	220	-	5	-	-
Israel	1 005	1 231	58	-	1 061	1	1 120	-	111	-	-
Saudi Arabia	190	182	57	1	120	-	178	-	4	-	-
Other	736	673	149	11	430	9	599	-	74	-	-
Asia	14 784	15 549	2 007	615	11 034	16	13 672	-	1 839	38	-
China	3 398	3 733	354	9	3 214	-	3 577	-	156	-	-
Hong Kong	1 126	350	16	2	324	-	342	-	8	-	-
India	3 478	3 961	432	213	2 727	7	3 379	-	578	4	-
Japan	1 075	1 186	93	13	980	3	1 089	-	72	25	-
Korea	1 418	2 225	418	14	1 622	-	2 054	-	171	-	-
Malaysia	468	405	156	4	224	-	384	-	21	-	-
Pakistan	625	869	51	126	431	-	608	-	254	7	-
Taiwan	1 422	852	121	145	429	-	695	-	157	-	-
Thailand	443	367	102	10	244	-	356	-	11	-	-
Other	1 331	1 601	264	79	839	6	1 188	-	411	2	-
Africa	448 711	555 110	2 693	178	37 707	186	40 764	87	514 247	11	1
SADC	436 647	541 423	2 470	149	26 394	135	29 148	87	512 186	2	-
Angola	4 083	4 175	583	-	3 428	20	4 031	-	144	-	-
Botswana	30 246	34 459	30	1	1 802	31	1 864	60	32 535	-	-
DRC	2 258	2 521	6	-	2 032	2	2 040	-	481	-	-
Lesotho	108 336	131 421	8	-	288	-	296	-	131 125	-	-
Madagascar	223	155	1	-	151	-	152	-	3	-	-

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

Country	Mode of travel (January 2010)										
	January		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2009	2010	Cape Town	Durban	OR Tambo	Other	Total				
Malawi	12 985	9 859	5	2	1 820	2	1 829	1	8 028	1	-
Mauritius	1 229	1 192	337	55	696	2	1 090	-	102	-	-
Mozambique	110 764	113 265	166	79	1 865	17	2 127	21	111 116	1	-
Namibia	13 454	15 584	1 258	1	1 806	15	3 080	-	12 504	-	-
Swaziland	51 274	56 328	3	1	438	1	443	4	55 881	-	-
Tanzania	1 135	1 339	4	2	942	-	948	-	391	-	-
Zambia	12 530	12 877	15	1	4 249	8	4 273	-	8 604	-	-
Zimbabwe	88 130	158 248	54	7	6 877	37	6 975	1	151 272	-	-
'Other' African	12 064	13 687	223	29	11 313	51	11 616	-	2 061	9	1
East and Central Africa	6 352	7 433	87	21	5 879	22	6 009	-	1 418	6	-
Burundi	74	67	-	-	53	1	54	-	13	-	-
Cameroon	403	635	5	1	589	-	595	-	40	-	-
Central African Republic	7	10	1	-	8	-	9	-	1	-	-
Chad	11	23	-	-	19	4	23	-	-	-	-
Comoros	9	21	-	-	21	-	21	-	-	-	-
Congo	547	525	10	-	398	5	413	-	112	-	-
Djibouti	6	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Equat Guinea	37	36	1	-	22	-	23	-	13	-	-
Eritrea	36	49	1	2	37	-	40	-	9	-	-
Ethiopia	710	871	3	15	524	2	544	-	325	2	-
Gabon	557	703	2	-	690	2	694	-	9	-	-
Kenya	2 082	2 298	5	1	2 049	8	2 063	-	233	2	-
Reunion	83	86	46	-	40	-	86	-	-	-	-
Rwanda	295	270	1	-	245	-	246	-	24	-	-
Sao Tome and Principe	7	9	-	-	9	-	9	-	-	-	-
Seychelles	155	208	2	-	198	-	200	-	8	-	-
Somalia	182	444	1	-	7	-	8	-	436	-	-
Tristan Da Cunha	1	3	2	-	1	-	3	-	-	-	-
Uganda	1 150	1 174	7	2	969	-	978	-	194	2	-

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

Country	Mode of travel (January 2010)										
	January		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2009	2010	Cape Town	Durban	OR Tambo	Other	Total				
West Africa	4 848	5 340	56	2	4 712	20	4 790	-	546	3	1
Ascension	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Benin	97	112	1	-	108	-	109	-	3	-	-
Burkina Faso	26	28	2	-	26	-	28	-	-	-	-
Cape Verde Island	70	48	4	-	39	-	43	-	5	-	-
Cote D'Ivoire	184	119	6	-	110	-	116	-	3	-	-
Gambia	31	29	3	-	24	-	27	-	2	-	-
Ghana	823	1 014	2	1	869	9	881	-	133	-	-
Guinea	110	110	3	-	59	8	70	-	40	-	-
Guinea-Bissau	12	23	-	-	9	-	9	-	14	-	-
Liberia	31	33	-	-	31	1	32	-	1	-	-
Madeira Islands	4	15	9	-	1	-	10	-	5	-	-
Mali	53	54	1	-	40	-	41	-	13	-	-
Mauritania	9	20	-	-	20	-	20	-	-	-	-
Niger	19	18	2	-	15	-	17	-	1	-	-
Nigeria	3 147	3 491	18	1	3 168	-	3 187	-	301	2	1
Saint Helena	6	6	1	-	-	-	1	-	4	1	-
Senegal	146	146	1	-	136	-	137	-	9	-	-
Sierra Leone	48	51	1	-	40	-	41	-	10	-	-
Togo	31	23	2	-	17	2	21	-	2	-	-
North Africa	864	914	80	6	722	9	817	-	97	-	-
Algeria	106	92	4	1	75	-	80	-	12	-	-
Egypt	427	357	20	3	307	5	335	-	22	-	-
Libya	60	130	9	2	78	3	92	-	38	-	-
Morocco	67	54	13	-	35	1	49	-	5	-	-
The Sudan	144	193	32	-	142	-	174	-	19	-	-
Tunisia	60	87	2	-	84	-	86	-	1	-	-
Western Sahara	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Unspecified	3 869	6 240	182	5	3 754	2	3 943	-	2 296	1	-

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

Country	January		Purpose of visit (January 2010)			
	2009	2010	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
Grand Total	607 808	729 056	9 114	698 146	20 920	876
Overseas	155 228	167 706	3 924	160 245	3 267	270
Europe	107 785	116 299	2 228	112 543	1 417	111
Austria	1 704	1 977	32	1 923	21	1
Belgium	2 760	2 808	53	2 710	41	4
Denmark	2 367	2 686	25	2 650	11	-
France	9 242	8 506	166	8 167	169	4
Germany	17 662	18 987	404	18 252	321	10
Ireland	3 115	3 107	48	3 027	29	3
Italy	3 279	3 826	100	3 686	35	5
Norway	2 078	2 048	34	1 938	76	-
Portugal	2 207	2 331	19	2 272	31	9
Spain	1 150	1 293	31	1 239	15	8
Sweden	4 272	4 997	77	4 865	52	3
Switzerland	2 928	3 131	50	3 034	46	1
The Netherlands	8 358	10 882	133	10 602	137	10
UK	39 675	42 246	824	41 057	327	38
Other	6 988	7 474	232	7 121	106	15
North America	18 654	20 070	426	18 699	901	44
Canada	3 671	4 103	110	3 920	71	2
USA	14 978	15 963	316	14 775	830	42
Other	5	4	-	4	-	-
Central and South America	4 598	5 892	82	5 675	107	28
Argentina	956	1 417	7	1 399	7	4
Brazil	2 559	3 208	20	3 136	37	15
Mexico	134	254	24	217	8	5
Other	949	1 013	31	923	55	4

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

Country	January		Purpose of visit (January 2010)			
	2009	2010	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
Australasia	7 318	7 585	157	7 350	56	22
Australia	6 168	6 469	140	6 265	45	19
New Zealand	1 096	1 076	16	1 049	9	2
Other	54	40	1	36	2	1
Middle East	2 089	2 311	119	2 132	59	1
Iran	158	225	14	192	19	-
Israel	1 005	1 231	43	1 181	6	1
Saudi Arabia	190	182	12	157	13	-
Other	736	673	50	602	21	-
Asia	14 784	15 549	912	13 846	727	64
China	3 398	3 733	217	3 388	122	6
Hong Kong	1 126	350	7	341	2	-
India	3 478	3 961	427	3 390	131	13
Japan	1 075	1 186	37	1 132	14	3
Korea	1 418	2 225	25	1 896	298	6
Malaysia	468	405	22	359	23	1
Pakistan	625	869	47	801	19	2
Taiwan	1 422	852	16	793	42	1
Thailand	443	367	13	335	17	2
Other	1 331	1 601	101	1 411	59	30
Africa	448 711	555 110	5 036	534 983	14 489	602
SADC	436 647	541 423	4 590	523 837	12 452	544
Angola	4 083	4 175	33	3 328	801	13
Botswana	30 246	34 459	43	32 226	2 122	68
DRC	2 258	2 521	47	2 130	336	8
Lesotho	108 336	131 421	22	130 330	819	250
Madagascar	223	155	4	132	17	2

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

Country	January		Purpose of visit (January 2010)			
	2009	2010	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
Malawi	12 985	9 859	164	9 426	255	14
Mauritius	1 229	1 192	10	957	221	4
Mozambique	110 764	113 265	436	112 519	279	31
Namibia	13 454	15 584	1 416	12 061	2 080	27
Swaziland	51 274	56 328	443	54 145	1 697	43
Tanzania	1 135	1 339	65	1 019	249	6
Zambia	12 530	12 877	671	11 783	411	12
Zimbabwe	88 130	158 248	1 236	153 781	3 165	66
'Other' African	12 064	13 687	446	11 146	2 037	58
East and Central Africa	6 352	7 433	224	5 747	1 446	16
Burundi	74	67	3	48	16	-
Cameroon	403	635	19	409	207	-
Central African Republic	7	10	-	6	4	-
Chad	11	23	3	15	5	-
Comoros	9	21	-	17	4	-
Congo	547	525	20	428	77	-
Djibouti	6	1	1	-	-	-
Equat Guinea	37	36	1	22	13	-
Eritrea	36	49	3	44	2	-
Ethiopia	710	871	20	817	31	3
Gabon	557	703	1	468	234	-
Kenya	2 082	2 298	113	1 680	500	5
Reunion	83	86	-	86	-	-
Rwanda	295	270	8	152	110	-
Sao Tome and Principe	7	9	-	7	2	-
Seychelles	155	208	1	185	22	-
Somalia	182	444	-	443	1	-
Tristan Da Cunha	1	3	-	2	1	-
Uganda	1 150	1 174	31	918	217	8

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

Country	January		Purpose of visit (January 2010)			
	2009	2010	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
West Africa	4 848	5 340	125	4 676	501	38
Ascension	1	-	-	-	-	-
Benin	97	112	3	100	6	3
Burkina Faso	26	28	-	25	3	-
Cape Verde Island	70	48	-	46	2	-
Cote D'Ivoire	184	119	10	90	19	-
Gambia	31	29	3	25	1	-
Ghana	823	1 014	21	900	68	25
Guinea	110	110	2	93	15	-
Guinea-Bissau	12	23	1	21	1	-
Liberia	31	33	2	29	2	-
Madeira Islands	4	15	-	15	-	-
Mali	53	54	2	49	3	-
Mauritania	9	20	1	18	-	1
Niger	19	18	3	14	1	-
Nigeria	3 147	3 491	63	3 066	360	2
Saint Helena	6	6	-	6	-	-
Senegal	146	146	9	128	5	4
Sierra Leone	48	51	5	31	12	3
Togo	31	23	-	20	3	-
North Africa	864	914	97	723	90	4
Algeria	106	92	11	67	11	3
Egypt	427	357	34	307	15	1
Libya	60	130	8	100	22	-
Morocco	67	54	12	38	4	-
The Sudan	144	193	18	138	37	-
Tunisia	60	87	13	73	1	-
Western Sahara	-	1	1	-	-	-
Unspecified	3 869	6 240	154	2 918	3 164	4

Table 5. Number of tourists from overseas, SADC and other African regions by sex and age group, January 2010

Sex	Age group	Total	Region			
			Overseas	SADC	other African	Unspecified
All	Total	729 056	167 706	541 423	13 687	6 240
	<15	36 508	9 044	25 753	828	883
	15-64	660 245	135 363	506 939	12 661	5 282
	65+	31 979	23 269	8 439	197	74
	Unspecified	324	30	292	1	1
Males	Total	414 037	93 875	307 787	9 179	3 196
	<15	18 191	4 754	12 555	428	454
	15-64	378 878	76 260	291 298	8 621	2 699
	65+	16 814	12 850	3 792	129	43
	Unspecified	154	11	142	1	-
Females	Total	314 211	73 663	233 009	4 504	3 035
	<15	18 315	4 290	13 198	398	429
	15-64	280 694	58 990	215 091	4 038	2 575
	65+	15 077	10 367	4 612	68	30
	Unspecified	125	16	108	-	1
Unspecified	Total	808	168	627	4	9
	<15	2	-	-	2	-
	15-64	673	113	550	2	8
	65+	88	52	35	-	1
	Unspecified	45	3	42	-	-

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. 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;
- 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

The purpose of the release is to provide data on tourism and migration on South African residents and non-residents (foreigners). Currently this purpose is not fully achieved because of unavailability and gaps in the data that are received from DHA. Whilst these limitations are being addressed, available data are processed and analysed to provide relevant information particularly on foreign tourists.

3. Scope and coverage

This release covers data on arrival and departure of South African residents and foreign travellers. A detailed analysis on the data of foreign tourists with respect to mode of travel; purpose of visit; sex and age distribution are covered. Statistics on documented migration are currently 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 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 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.
- 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.
- 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 January 2010, the DHA data was 20,3% 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. Definition 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 thirteen countries, excluding South Africa, that 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

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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