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# Statistical release

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## KEY FINDINGS

### 1. Number of travellers

The July 2007 data collected by the Department of Home Affairs' (DHA) immigration officers at the ports of entry into South Africa show that a total of 2 226 801 travellers (arrivals and departures) passed through the ports of entry. As presented in Table 1, these travellers are made up of 816 095 South African residents and 1 410 706 foreign travellers. A further breakdown of the figures indicates that 448 652 and 367 443 South African resident arrivals and departures respectively were recorded. The corresponding volume for foreign arrivals and departures are 778 725 and 631 981. A comparison between the movements in June 2007 and July 2007 indicates that there was an increase in all movements except South African departures. The July 2007 figure (448 652) for South African resident arrivals shows an increase of 0,6% compared to the July 2006 figure of 446 066. Similarly, there was an increase of 8,4% for foreign arrivals from 718 649 in July 2006 to 778 725 in July 2007.

### 2. Mode of travel

It is observed from Table 2 that road transport was the most common (67,0%) mode of travel used by 1 491 469 out of the 2 226 801 travellers. The arrival data on South African residents show that 41,9% came by air and 57,8% by road. For their departure, 40,2% and 59,8% used air and road transport respectively. When taking into consideration the countries of residence of these travellers, it was found that for foreign arrivals, overseas travellers generally used air (87,9%) compared to road transport (11,9%) whereas travellers from Africa used road (89,5%) more than air transport (8,2%). 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 following findings pertain to foreign arrivals.

Data presented in Table 3 show that more than three quarters (76,2%) of foreign arrivals were from Africa whilst less than one quarter (23,0 %) were from overseas countries. Information on the country of residence was not available on 0,8% of the travellers. A comparison of the changes between July 2006 and July 2007 indicates that the number of overseas arrivals increased by 10,6% from 161 831 in 2006 to 178 912 in 2007. Arrivals from Africa increased by 7,3% from 553 147 in July 2006 to 593 560 in July 2007.

#### 3.1 Gender and age distribution

The travellers from Africa comprised of 327 302 males, 264 996 females and 1 262 with unspecified gender. The data on overseas travellers had 101 905 males, 76 818 females and gender was not specified in 189 cases. Overall, more males than females from African (males: 55,1%; females: 44,6%) and overseas countries (males: 57,0%; females: 42,9%) 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 (88,4%) of African travellers is clustered between ages 15-54, peaking at age group 25-29. However, the age distribution of overseas travellers is widely spread. Thus 89,1% of overseas travellers were between ages 15 to 69 years. The percentage of older persons (65 years and older) from overseas countries was significantly higher (4,9%) compared to that among persons from Africa (2,4%). This would have implications for spending capacity.

#### 3.2 Regional and national distribution

Overseas travellers came mainly from Europe (56,5%), followed by North America (20,1%), Asia (11,9%), Australasia (5,5%), Central and South America (3,5%) and Middle East (2,6%). Virtually all arrivals (97,7%) 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 (1,0%) and North Africa (0,2%). July data for the past five years (See figure 2) reveal that, arrivals from 'other' African countries have been quite stable unlike from SADC countries that have been escalating since 2004. The number of travellers from overseas countries has been increasing gradually since July 2005. Data presented in Figure 3 indicates that the UK, USA, Germany, Netherlands, France, Australia, India and Italy were the eight leading overseas source countries. Travellers from these eight countries constitute 67,5% of all travellers from overseas. The number of travellers from all the leading overseas source countries increased in July 2007 compared to July 2006.

The eight leading countries from SADC and the 'other' African countries are shown in Figures 4 and 5. Travellers from the eight SADC countries made up 96,2% of all arrivals from Africa. The number of travellers from these SADC countries was higher in July 2007 compared to July 2006 with the exception of Zimbabwe (5,3% decline from 86 759 in July 2006 to 82 135 in July 2007), Swaziland (1,4% decline from 85 895 in July 2006 to 84 686 in July 2007) and Namibia (7,5% decline from 18 542 in July 2006 to 17 145 in July 2007). The number of travellers from 'other' African countries increased with the exception of Ethiopia (17,7% decline from 844 in July 2006 to 695 in July 2007) and Congo (33,5% decline from 802 in July 2006 to 533 in July 2007).

### 3.3 Purpose of travel

As observed from data given in Table 4, an overwhelming majority (91,7%) 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. This is in vast contrast to those on business (2,1%), those who have come for work (1,3%) and those who have come to study (2,5%).

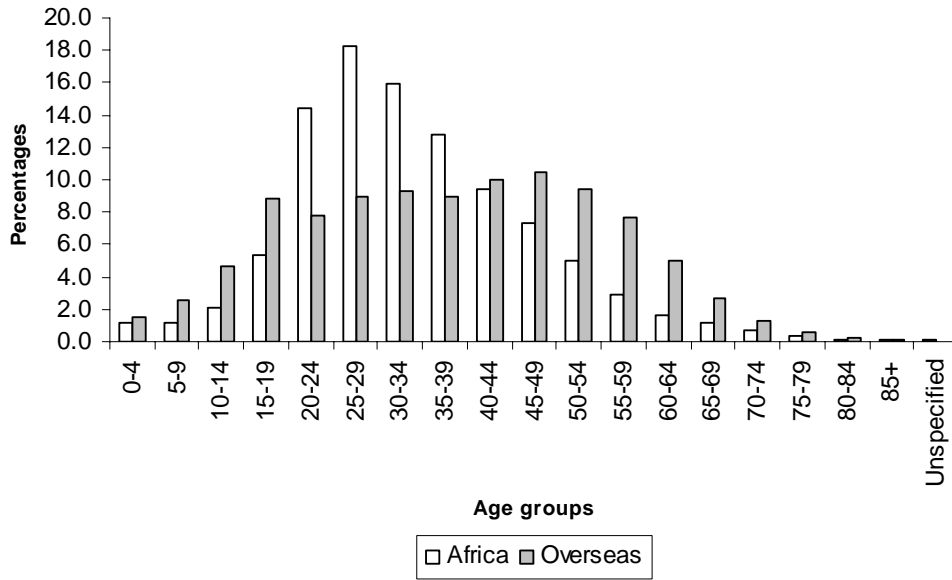
Overall, 91,1% of overseas travellers came to South Africa to visit. A detailed analysis reveals that all the overseas regions had more than 80,0% travellers coming to South Africa for holidays. Travellers from Europe (91,7%), Australasia (94,6%), Central and South America (92,8%), North America (94,6%), the Middle East (89,2%) and Asia (80,1%) were admitted into South Africa as visitors. Travellers from Asia were more diverse in their purpose and consequently Asia had the highest proportion of overseas travellers who came here for work (10,1%), business (6,7%) and study (1,9%).

Although the majority (92,7%) 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:

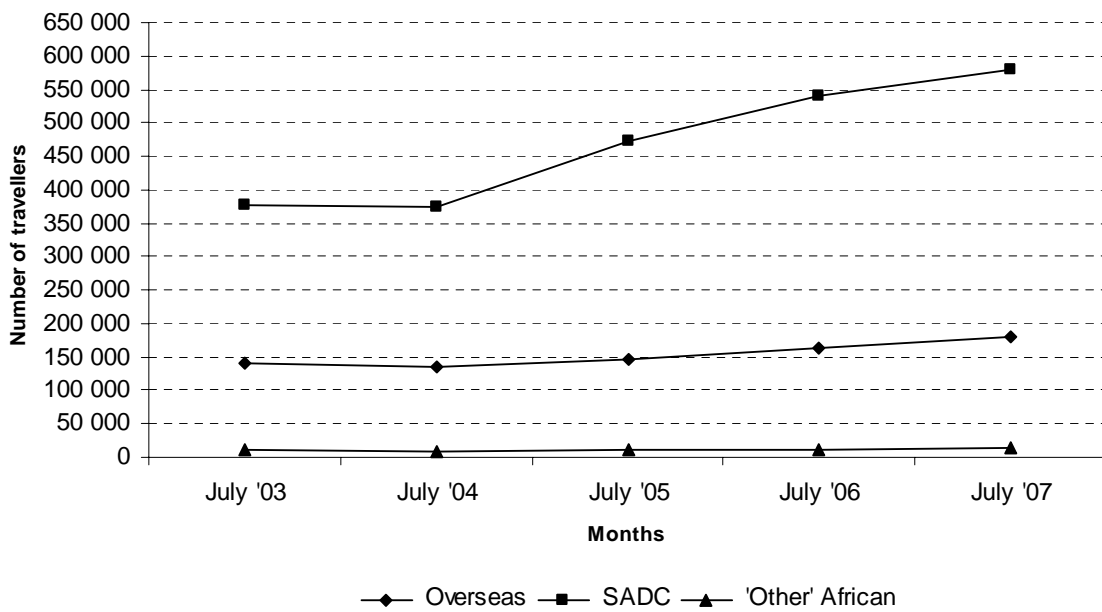
- Whereas 93,0% of travellers from the SADC countries were recorded as on holiday, 77,1% of travellers from 'other' African countries were admitted on visitor's permit. Proportionally, the lowest percentage (74,1%) of visitors came from North Africa, a region where, a large percentage of travellers were in South Africa as business persons (14,5%).
- A relatively high percentage of 'other' African travellers were here to study, work or for business.
- Overall, West Africa and East and Central Africa had 7,2% each of travellers who were in South Africa for business as compared to only 1,6% among the SADC travellers.

**PJ Lehohla**  
**Statistician-General**

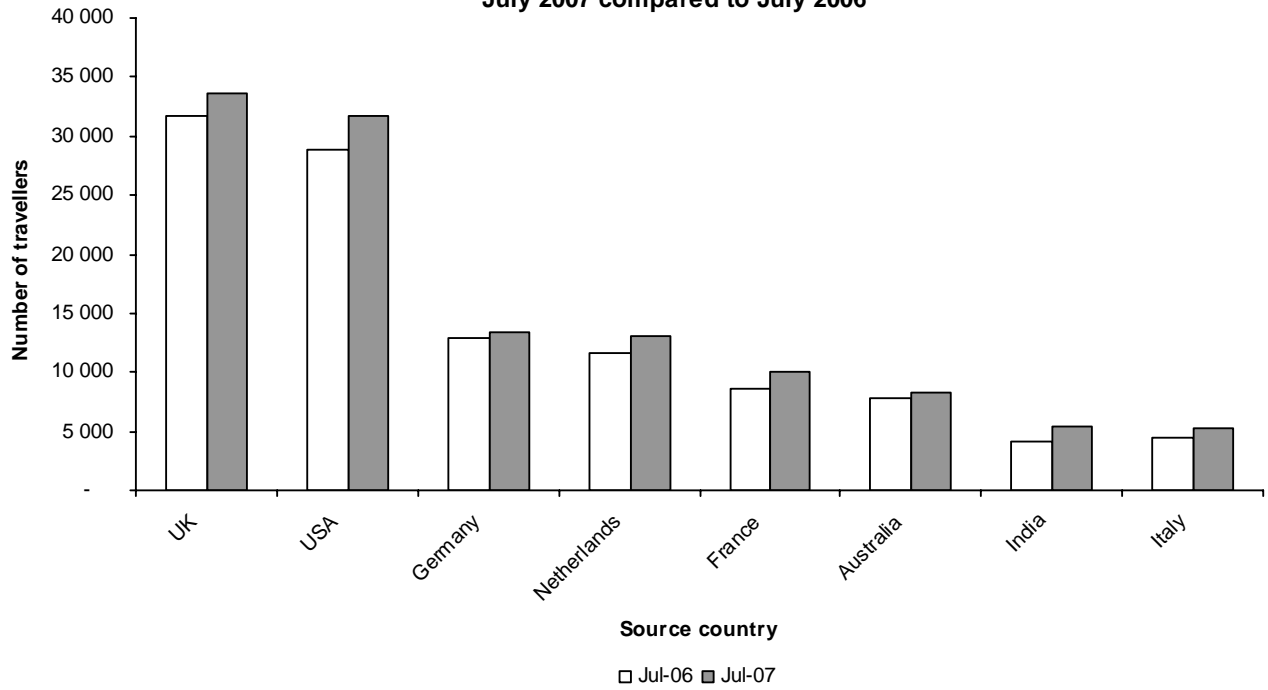
**Figure 1: Percentage distribution of overseas and African arrivals by age groups in July 2007**



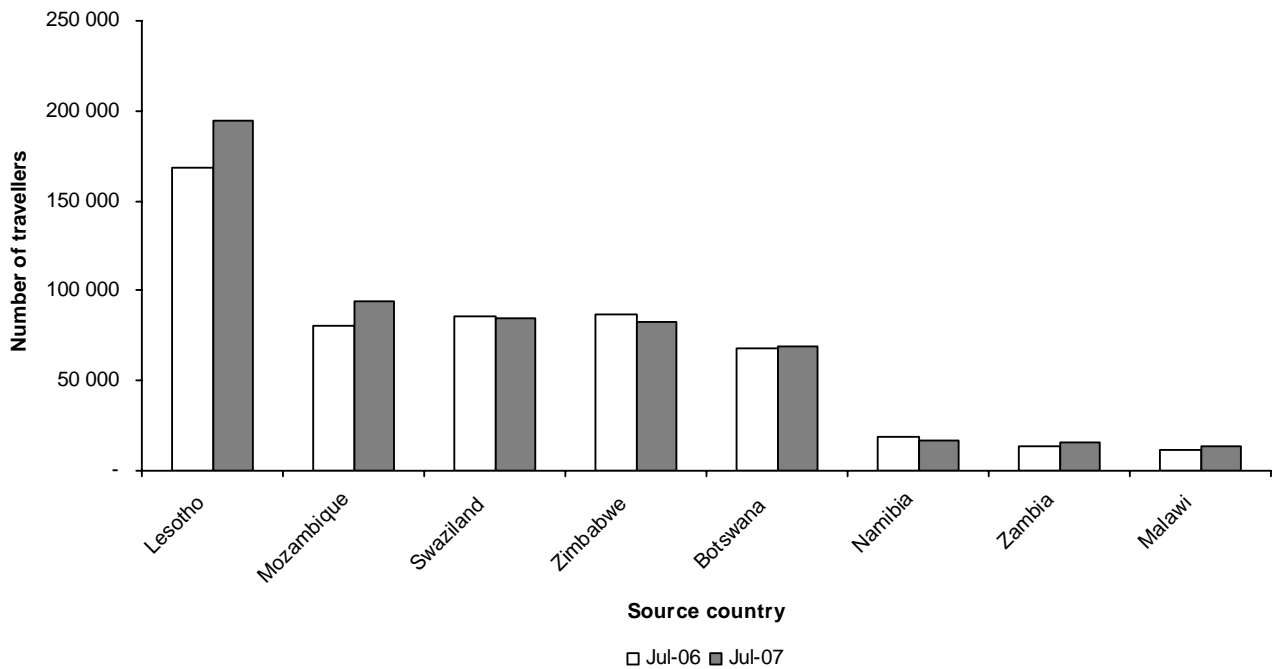
**Figure 2: Number of July arrivals by region (2003 - 2007)**



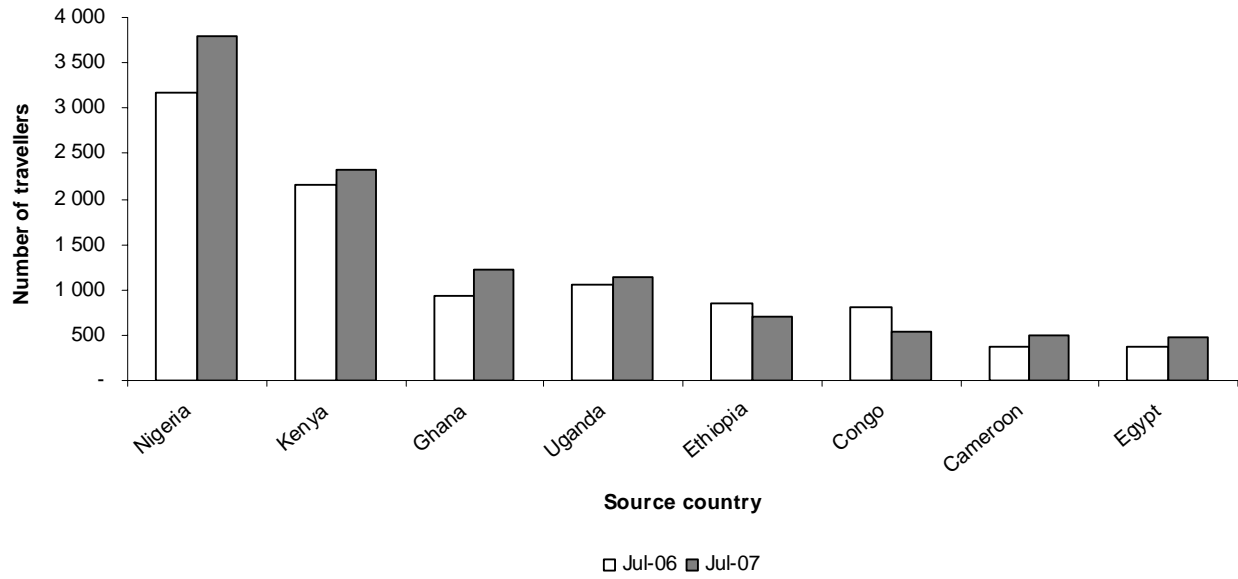
**Figure 3: Number of overseas travellers arriving from leading source countries in July 2007 compared to July 2006**



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



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



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

| Travel direction               | July             | June             | July             | % change      | % change      |
|--------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|
|                                | 2006             | 2007             | 2007             | Jul 06–Jul 07 | Jun 07–Jul 07 |
| <b>South African residents</b> |                  |                  |                  |               |               |
| Arrivals                       | 446 066          | 326 261          | 448 652          | 0.6           | 37.5          |
| Departures                     | 367 988          | 405 792          | 367 443          | -0.1          | -9.5          |
| <b>Foreign travellers</b>      |                  |                  |                  |               |               |
| Arrivals                       | 718 649          | 638 349          | 778 725          | 8.4           | 22.0          |
| Departures                     | 595 353          | 572 923          | 631 981          | 6.2           | 10.3          |
| <b>Grand total</b>             | <b>2 128 056</b> | <b>1 943 325</b> | <b>2 226 801</b> | <b>4.6</b>    | <b>14.6</b>   |

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

| Travel direction        | Total     | Mode of travel (July 2007) |          |            |         |         |      |           |     |         |
|-------------------------|-----------|----------------------------|----------|------------|---------|---------|------|-----------|-----|---------|
|                         |           | Air                        |          |            |         |         | Rail | Road      | Sea | Unspec. |
|                         |           | (C/Town)                   | (Durban) | (OR Tambo) | (Other) | Total   |      |           |     |         |
| <b>Grand total</b>      | 2 226 801 | 92 708                     | 3 585    | 610 677    | 10 448  | 717 418 | 94   | 1 491 469 | 215 | 17 605  |
| <b>Arrivals:</b>        | 1 227 377 | 53 528                     | 1 880    | 334 497    | 5 456   | 395 361 | 93   | 814 246   | 142 | 17 535  |
| South African residents | 448 652   | 25 506                     | 1 256    | 157 508    | 3 908   | 188 178 | 69   | 259 219   | 22  | 1 164   |
| Foreign travellers      | 778 725   | 28 022                     | 624      | 176 989    | 1 548   | 207 183 | 24   | 555 027   | 120 | 16 371  |
| Overseas                | 178 912   | 25 925                     | 255      | 130 129    | 992     | 157 301 | 6    | 21 230    | 105 | 270     |
| Africa                  | 593 560   | 1 933                      | 364      | 45 765     | 492     | 48 554  | 18   | 531 133   | 14  | 13 841  |
| Unspecified             | 6 253     | 164                        | 5        | 1 095      | 64      | 1 328   | -    | 2 664     | 1   | 2 260   |
| <b>Departures:</b>      | 999 424   | 39 180                     | 1 705    | 276 180    | 4 992   | 322 057 | 1    | 677 223   | 73  | 70      |
| South African residents | 367 443   | 18 243                     | 1 209    | 124 419    | 3 720   | 147 591 | 1    | 219 829   | 14  | 8       |
| Foreign travellers      | 631 981   | 20 937                     | 496      | 151 761    | 1 272   | 174 466 | -    | 457 394   | 59  | 62      |



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

| Country                          | Mode of travel (July 2007) |         |          |          |            |         |         |      |         |     |         |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|---------|----------|----------|------------|---------|---------|------|---------|-----|---------|
|                                  | July                       |         | Air      |          |            |         |         | Rail | Road    | Sea | Unspec. |
|                                  | 2006                       | 2007    | (C/Town) | (Durban) | (OR Tambo) | (Other) | Total   |      |         |     |         |
| <b>Grand total</b>               | 718 649                    | 778 725 | 28 022   | 624      | 176 989    | 1 548   | 207 183 | 24   | 555 027 | 120 | 16 371  |
| <b>Overseas total</b>            | 161 831                    | 178 912 | 25 925   | 255      | 130 129    | 992     | 157 301 | 6    | 21 230  | 105 | 270     |
| <b>Europe</b>                    | 93 214                     | 101 035 | 20 127   | 168      | 66 793     | 348     | 87 436  | 1    | 13 444  | 65  | 89      |
| Austria                          | 1 244                      | 1 455   | 308      | 1        | 955        | 6       | 1 270   | -    | 184     | -   | 1       |
| Belgium                          | 4 077                      | 3 850   | 491      | 2        | 2 604      | 17      | 3 114   | -    | 733     | 3   | -       |
| Denmark                          | 1 760                      | 1 923   | 301      | 2        | 1 344      | 3       | 1 650   | -    | 266     | -   | 7       |
| France                           | 8 596                      | 10 036  | 757      | 84       | 7 899      | 24      | 8 764   | -    | 1 268   | 4   | -       |
| Germany                          | 12 954                     | 13 423  | 3 808    | 7        | 7 730      | 28      | 11 573  | 1    | 1 837   | 2   | 10      |
| Greece                           | 575                        | 602     | 44       | -        | 470        | -       | 514     | -    | 88      | -   | -       |
| Ireland                          | 2 543                      | 3 067   | 870      | 9        | 1 768      | 10      | 2 657   | -    | 406     | -   | 4       |
| Italy                            | 4 435                      | 5 270   | 1 204    | 3        | 3 662      | 12      | 4 881   | -    | 387     | -   | 2       |
| Netherlands                      | 11 670                     | 13 110  | 3 154    | 2        | 7 096      | 8       | 10 260  | -    | 2 839   | 9   | 2       |
| Portugal                         | 2 348                      | 2 347   | 147      | 8        | 1 102      | 20      | 1 277   | -    | 1 065   | 1   | 4       |
| Spain                            | 2 877                      | 3 373   | 362      | -        | 2 724      | 9       | 3 095   | -    | 272     | 1   | 5       |
| Sweden                           | 1 499                      | 1 363   | 263      | 2        | 890        | 7       | 1 162   | -    | 200     | -   | 1       |
| Switzerland                      | 2 467                      | 2 522   | 364      | -        | 1 761      | 9       | 2 134   | -    | 377     | 11  | -       |
| UK                               | 31 647                     | 33 673  | 7 071    | 45       | 23 538     | 165     | 30 819  | -    | 2 816   | 1   | 37      |
| Other                            | 4 522                      | 5 021   | 983      | 3        | 3 250      | 30      | 4 266   | -    | 706     | 33  | 16      |
| <b>North America</b>             | 32 820                     | 35 979  | 3 052    | 12       | 28 851     | 413     | 32 328  | -    | 3 607   | 11  | 33      |
| Canada                           | 3 940                      | 4 303   | 599      | 5        | 3 148      | 25      | 3 777   | -    | 517     | 3   | 6       |
| USA                              | 28 880                     | 31 672  | 2 452    | 7        | 25 700     | 388     | 28 547  | -    | 3 090   | 8   | 27      |
| Other                            | -                          | 4       | 1        | -        | 3          | -       | 4       | -    | -       | -   | -       |
| <b>Central and South America</b> | 5 243                      | 6 186   | 425      | 2        | 5 196      | 57      | 5 680   | -    | 504     | -   | 2       |
| Argentina                        | 761                        | 787     | 189      | 1        | 551        | 1       | 742     | -    | 45      | -   | -       |
| Brazil                           | 2 989                      | 3 410   | 53       | -        | 3 052      | 37      | 3 142   | -    | 268     | -   | -       |
| Chile                            | 258                        | 303     | 34       | -        | 247        | -       | 281     | -    | 22      | -   | -       |
| Other                            | 1 235                      | 1 686   | 149      | 1        | 1 346      | 19      | 1 515   | -    | 169     | -   | 2       |

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

| Country                  | Mode of travel (July 2007) |        |          |          |            |         |        |      |       |     |         |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------|----------|----------|------------|---------|--------|------|-------|-----|---------|
|                          | July                       |        | Air      |          |            |         |        | Rail | Road  | Sea | Unspec. |
|                          | 2006                       | 2007   | (C/Town) | (Durban) | (OR Tambo) | (Other) | Total  |      |       |     |         |
| <b>Australasia</b>       | 9 285                      | 9 874  | 507      | 35       | 8 391      | 46      | 8 979  | -    | 878   | 7   | 10      |
| Australia                | 7 873                      | 8 311  | 383      | 33       | 7 160      | 35      | 7 611  | -    | 688   | 6   | 6       |
| New Zealand              | 1 350                      | 1 476  | 120      | 2        | 1 185      | 10      | 1 317  | -    | 158   | 1   | -       |
| Other                    | 62                         | 87     | 4        | -        | 46         | 1       | 51     | -    | 32    | -   | 4       |
| <b>Middle East</b>       | 3 745                      | 4 588  | 272      | 5        | 4 071      | 7       | 4 355  | -    | 227   | 3   | 3       |
| Israel                   | 1 179                      | 1 603  | 35       | -        | 1 489      | 3       | 1 527  | -    | 76    | -   | -       |
| Saudi Arabia             | 920                        | 1 217  | 103      | 3        | 1 086      | -       | 1 192  | -    | 25    | -   | -       |
| Turkey                   | 393                        | 416    | 24       | -        | 350        | 1       | 375    | -    | 37    | 3   | 1       |
| Other                    | 1 253                      | 1 352  | 110      | 2        | 1 146      | 3       | 1 261  | -    | 89    | -   | 2       |
| <b>Asia</b>              | 17 524                     | 21 250 | 1 542    | 33       | 16 827     | 121     | 18 523 | 5    | 2 570 | 19  | 133     |
| China                    | 3 040                      | 3 863  | 233      | 1        | 3 191      | -       | 3 425  | -    | 387   | -   | 51      |
| Hong Kong                | 648                        | 752    | 59       | -        | 684        | -       | 743    | -    | 9     | -   | -       |
| India                    | 4 181                      | 5 345  | 110      | 24       | 4 276      | 30      | 4 440  | 2    | 873   | 4   | 26      |
| Japan                    | 2 651                      | 2 668  | 119      | -        | 2 458      | 6       | 2 583  | -    | 83    | 2   | -       |
| Malaysia                 | 658                        | 787    | 179      | -        | 506        | 77      | 762    | -    | 25    | -   | -       |
| Philippines              | 574                        | 722    | 87       | -        | 535        | -       | 622    | 1    | 75    | 12  | 12      |
| Rep of China<br>(Taiwan) | 1 509                      | 1 483  | 207      | 1        | 854        | 1       | 1 063  | -    | 391   | 1   | 28      |
| Rep of Korea             | 1744                       | 2 316  | 203      | -        | 1 899      | -       | 2 102  | -    | 213   | -   | 1       |
| Singapore                | 403                        | 467    | 143      | -        | 311        | -       | 454    | -    | 13    | -   | -       |
| Other                    | 2 116                      | 2 847  | 202      | 7        | 2 113      | 7       | 2 329  | 2    | 501   | -   | 15      |

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

| Country             | Mode of travel (July 2007) |         |          |          |            |         |        |      |         |     |         |
|---------------------|----------------------------|---------|----------|----------|------------|---------|--------|------|---------|-----|---------|
|                     | July                       |         | Air      |          |            |         |        | Rail | Road    | Sea | Unspec. |
|                     | 2006                       | 2007    | (C/Town) | (Durban) | (OR Tambo) | (Other) | Total  |      |         |     |         |
| <b>Africa total</b> | 553 147                    | 593 560 | 1 933    | 364      | 45 765     | 492     | 48 554 | 18   | 531 133 | 14  | 13 841  |
| <b>SADC</b>         | 540 701                    | 579 894 | 1 818    | 338      | 34 556     | 422     | 37 134 | 16   | 528 914 | 13  | 13 817  |
| Angola              | 2 451                      | 2 760   | 152      | -        | 2 445      | 19      | 2 616  | -    | 144     | -   | -       |
| Botswana            | 68 444                     | 68 914  | 16       | 7        | 2 799      | 175     | 2 997  | -    | 65 867  | -   | 50      |
| DRC                 | 1 826                      | 2 918   | 4        | -        | 1 976      | 25      | 2 005  | -    | 906     | -   | 7       |
| Lesotho             | 167 962                    | 194 400 | 3        | 5        | 772        | 22      | 802    | 1    | 180 682 | -   | 12 915  |
| Madagascar          | 190                        | 254     | 2        | -        | 243        | -       | 245    | -    | 9       | -   | -       |
| Malawi              | 11 700                     | 13 711  | 5        | 1        | 2 262      | 2       | 2 270  | -    | 11 436  | -   | 5       |
| Mauritius           | 1 274                      | 1 473   | 195      | 184      | 939        | -       | 1 318  | -    | 152     | -   | 3       |
| Mozambique          | 80 377                     | 94 244  | 82       | 100      | 2 311      | 21      | 2 514  | 1    | 91 252  | 4   | 473     |
| Namibia             | 18 542                     | 17 145  | 1 303    | 1        | 2 876      | 40      | 4 220  | 6    | 12 911  | -   | 8       |
| Swaziland           | 85 895                     | 84 686  | 3        | 28       | 1 133      | 5       | 1 169  | 2    | 83 402  | 1   | 112     |
| Tanzania            | 1 306                      | 1 403   | 12       | -        | 997        | 4       | 1 013  | -    | 386     | -   | 4       |
| Zambia              | 13 975                     | 15 851  | 13       | -        | 6 401      | 35      | 6 449  | -    | 9 392   | 1   | 9       |
| Zimbabwe            | 86 759                     | 82 135  | 28       | 12       | 9 402      | 74      | 9 516  | 6    | 72 375  | 7   | 231     |

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

| Country                 | Mode of travel (July 2007) |       |          |          |            |         |       |      |       |     |         |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|-------|----------|----------|------------|---------|-------|------|-------|-----|---------|
|                         | July                       |       | Air      |          |            |         |       | Rail | Road  | Sea | Unspec. |
|                         | 2006                       | 2007  | (C/Town) | (Durban) | (OR Tambo) | (Other) | Total |      |       |     |         |
| <b>East and Central</b> | 6 341                      | 6 556 | 54       | 26       | 5 088      | 50      | 5 218 | 2    | 1 326 | -   | 10      |
| Burundi                 | 108                        | 117   | -        | -        | 72         | -       | 72    | -    | 45    | -   | -       |
| Cameroon                | 366                        | 502   | 7        | 1        | 457        | 2       | 467   | -    | 35    | -   | -       |
| Central African Rep     | 11                         | 12    | -        | -        | 11         | -       | 11    | -    | 1     | -   | -       |
| Chad                    | 21                         | 26    | -        | -        | 23         | 2       | 25    | -    | 1     | -   | -       |
| Comoros                 | 20                         | 27    | -        | -        | 27         | -       | 27    | -    | -     | -   | -       |
| Congo                   | 802                        | 533   | 9        | -        | 403        | 6       | 418   | -    | 114   | -   | 1       |
| Djibouti                | 8                          | 5     | -        | -        | 5          | -       | 5     | -    | -     | -   | -       |
| Equatorial Guinea       | 13                         | 35    | -        | -        | 17         | -       | 17    | -    | 18    | -   | -       |
| Eritrea                 | 84                         | 36    | -        | -        | 30         | -       | 30    | -    | 5     | -   | 1       |
| Ethiopia                | 844                        | 695   | 3        | -        | 465        | 11      | 479   | -    | 215   | -   | 1       |
| Gabon                   | 249                        | 271   | 5        | -        | 251        | 13      | 269   | -    | 2     | -   | -       |
| Kenya                   | 2 149                      | 2 325 | 17       | -        | 1 966      | 6       | 1 989 | 2    | 332   | -   | 2       |
| Reunion                 | 59                         | 100   | 6        | 25       | 69         | -       | 100   | -    | -     | -   | -       |
| Rwanda                  | 257                        | 281   | -        | -        | 255        | -       | 255   | -    | 26    | -   | -       |
| Sao Tome and Principe   | 4                          | 13    | -        | -        | 9          | -       | 9     | -    | 4     | -   | -       |
| Seychelles              | 151                        | 169   | 1        | -        | 158        | 3       | 162   | -    | 7     | -   | -       |
| Somalia                 | 145                        | 265   | -        | -        | 17         | -       | 17    | -    | 248   | -   | -       |
| Tristan da Cunha        | 2                          | -     | -        | -        | -          | -       | -     | -    | -     | -   | -       |
| Uganda                  | 1 048                      | 1 144 | 6        | -        | 853        | 7       | 866   | -    | 273   | -   | 5       |

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

| Country             | Mode of travel (July 2007) |       |          |          |            |         |       |      |       |     |         |
|---------------------|----------------------------|-------|----------|----------|------------|---------|-------|------|-------|-----|---------|
|                     | July                       |       | Air      |          |            |         |       | Rail | Road  | Sea | Unspec. |
|                     | 2006                       | 2007  | (C/Town) | (Durban) | (OR Tambo) | (Other) | Total |      |       |     |         |
| <b>West Africa</b>  | 5 156                      | 6 178 | 31       | -        | 5 324      | 18      | 5 373 | -    | 792   | -   | 13      |
| Ascension           | -                          | 1     | -        | -        | -          | -       | -     | -    | 1     | -   | -       |
| Benin               | 89                         | 104   | -        | -        | 87         | -       | 87    | -    | 17    | -   | -       |
| Burkina Faso        | 41                         | 37    | 1        | -        | 36         | -       | 37    | -    | -     | -   | -       |
| Cape Verde Island   | 44                         | 57    | -        | -        | 44         | -       | 44    | -    | 13    | -   | -       |
| Cote D'Ivoire       | 221                        | 192   | 1        | -        | 187        | -       | 188   | -    | 4     | -   | -       |
| Gambia              | 54                         | 49    | -        | -        | 45         | -       | 45    | -    | 4     | -   | -       |
| Ghana               | 929                        | 1 230 | 5        | -        | 1 052      | 5       | 1 062 | -    | 166   | -   | 2       |
| Guinea              | 90                         | 114   | 1        | -        | 68         | 1       | 70    | -    | 44    | -   | -       |
| Guinea-Bissau       | 6                          | 39    | -        | -        | 25         | -       | 25    | -    | 14    | -   | -       |
| Liberia             | 36                         | 27    | -        | -        | 22         | -       | 22    | -    | -     | -   | 5       |
| Madeira Island      | 4                          | 11    | 1        | -        | 2          | -       | 3     | -    | 7     | -   | 1       |
| Mali                | 88                         | 86    | 1        | -        | 71         | 1       | 73    | -    | 13    | -   | -       |
| Mauritania          | 16                         | 14    | -        | -        | 13         | -       | 13    | -    | 1     | -   | -       |
| Niger               | 25                         | 14    | -        | -        | 13         | -       | 13    | -    | 1     | -   | -       |
| Nigeria             | 3 179                      | 3 784 | 16       | -        | 3 278      | 11      | 3 305 | -    | 474   | -   | 5       |
| St Helena           | 12                         | 14    | 3        | -        | 4          | -       | 7     | -    | 7     | -   | -       |
| Senegal             | 239                        | 291   | -        | -        | 275        | -       | 275   | -    | 16    | -   | -       |
| Sierra Leone        | 53                         | 81    | 1        | -        | 70         | -       | 71    | -    | 10    | -   | -       |
| Togo                | 28                         | 32    | 1        | -        | 31         | -       | 32    | -    | -     | -   | -       |
| Western Sahara      | 2                          | 1     | -        | -        | 1          | -       | 1     | -    | -     | -   | -       |
| <b>North Africa</b> | 949                        | 932   | 30       | -        | 797        | 2       | 829   | -    | 101   | 1   | 1       |
| Algeria             | 184                        | 122   | 6        | -        | 70         | 2       | 78    | -    | 44    | -   | -       |
| Egypt               | 381                        | 473   | 4        | -        | 429        | -       | 433   | -    | 38    | 1   | 1       |
| Libya               | 80                         | 63    | 9        | -        | 48         | -       | 57    | -    | 6     | -   | -       |
| Morocco             | 63                         | 82    | 6        | -        | 74         | -       | 80    | -    | 2     | -   | -       |
| Sudan               | 185                        | 137   | 4        | -        | 125        | -       | 129   | -    | 8     | -   | -       |
| Tunisia             | 56                         | 55    | 1        | -        | 51         | -       | 52    | -    | 3     | -   | -       |
| <b>Unspecified</b>  | 3 671                      | 6 253 | 164      | 5        | 1 095      | 64      | 1 328 | -    | 2 664 | 1   | 2 260   |

**Table 4. Number of foreign arrivals by purpose of travel**

| Region                    | Total   | Purpose of travel (July 2007) |         |        |        |         |         |         | Contract worker | Border Traffic |
|---------------------------|---------|-------------------------------|---------|--------|--------|---------|---------|---------|-----------------|----------------|
|                           |         | Business                      | Holiday | Study  | Work   | Transit | Unspec. | Total   |                 |                |
| <b>Grand total</b>        | 778 725 | 16 146                        | 714 125 | 19 074 | 10 039 | 3 182   | 29      | 762 595 | -               | 16 130         |
| <b>Overseas total</b>     | 178 912 | 6 024                         | 162 901 | 2 789  | 6 197  | 805     | 3       | 178 719 | -               | 193            |
| Europe                    | 101 035 | 3 262                         | 92 688  | 1 713  | 2 934  | 391     | 1       | 100 989 | -               | 46             |
| North America             | 35 979  | 700                           | 34 032  | 493    | 611    | 114     | -       | 35 950  | -               | 29             |
| Central and South America | 6 186   | 144                           | 5 740   | 50     | 181    | 69      | -       | 6 184   | -               | 2              |
| Australasia               | 9 874   | 289                           | 9 338   | 50     | 135    | 58      | -       | 9 870   | -               | 4              |
| Middle East               | 4 588   | 214                           | 4 090   | 81     | 185    | 17      | -       | 4 587   | -               | 1              |
| Asia                      | 21 250  | 1 415                         | 17 013  | 402    | 2 151  | 156     | 2       | 21 139  | -               | 111            |
| <b>Africa total</b>       | 593 560 | 10 047                        | 549 943 | 14 378 | 3 120  | 2 372   | 23      | 579 883 | -               | 13 677         |
| SADC                      | 579 894 | 8 993                         | 539 401 | 13 294 | 2 319  | 2 217   | 16      | 566 240 | -               | 13 654         |
| East and Central Africa   | 6 556   | 472                           | 4 931   | 729    | 358    | 50      | 7       | 6 547   | -               | 9              |
| West Africa               | 6 178   | 447                           | 4 920   | 325    | 378    | 95      | -       | 6165    | -               | 13             |
| North Africa              | 932     | 135                           | 691     | 30     | 65     | 10      | -       | 931     | -               | 1              |
| <b>Unspecified</b>        | 6 253   | 75                            | 1 281   | 1 907  | 722    | 5       | 3       | 3 993   | -               | 2 260          |

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

| Country                          | July    |         | Purpose of travel (July 2007) |         |        |        |         |         |         | Contract worker | Border traffic concession |
|----------------------------------|---------|---------|-------------------------------|---------|--------|--------|---------|---------|---------|-----------------|---------------------------|
|                                  |         |         | Business                      | Holiday | Study  | Work   | Transit | Unspec. | Total   |                 |                           |
|                                  | 2006    | 2007    |                               |         |        |        |         |         |         |                 |                           |
| <b>Grand total</b>               | 718 649 | 778 725 | 16 146                        | 714 125 | 19 074 | 10 039 | 3 182   | 29      | 762 595 | -               | 16 130                    |
| <b>Overseas total</b>            | 161 831 | 178 912 | 6 024                         | 162 901 | 2 789  | 6 197  | 805     | 3       | 178 719 | -               | 193                       |
| <b>Europe</b>                    | 93 214  | 101 035 | 3 262                         | 92 688  | 1 713  | 2 934  | 391     | 1       | 100 989 | -               | 46                        |
| Austria                          | 1 244   | 1 455   | 64                            | 1 329   | 18     | 40     | 3       | -       | 1 454   | -               | 1                         |
| Belgium                          | 4 077   | 3 850   | 87                            | 3 640   | 32     | 78     | 13      | -       | 3 850   | -               | -                         |
| Denmark                          | 1 760   | 1 923   | 38                            | 1 796   | 25     | 49     | 8       | -       | 1 916   | -               | 7                         |
| France                           | 8 596   | 10 036  | 268                           | 9 364   | 98     | 258    | 48      | -       | 10 036  | -               | -                         |
| Germany                          | 12 954  | 13 423  | 594                           | 11 680  | 546    | 554    | 42      | -       | 13 416  | -               | 7                         |
| Greece                           | 575     | 602     | 26                            | 522     | 6      | 47     | 1       | -       | 602     | -               | -                         |
| Ireland                          | 2 543   | 3 067   | 57                            | 2 911   | 31     | 56     | 9       | -       | 3 064   | -               | 3                         |
| Italy                            | 4 435   | 5 270   | 187                           | 4 967   | 23     | 66     | 26      | -       | 5 269   | -               | 1                         |
| Netherlands                      | 11 670  | 13 110  | 175                           | 12 568  | 200    | 147    | 19      | -       | 13 109  | -               | 1                         |
| Portugal                         | 2 348   | 2 347   | 38                            | 2 239   | 27     | 29     | 10      | -       | 2 343   | -               | 4                         |
| Spain                            | 2 877   | 3 373   | 68                            | 3 231   | 11     | 42     | 21      | -       | 3 373   | -               | -                         |
| Sweden                           | 1 499   | 1 363   | 69                            | 1 142   | 71     | 73     | 7       | -       | 1 362   | -               | 1                         |
| Switzerland                      | 2 467   | 2 522   | 78                            | 2 345   | 37     | 55     | 7       | -       | 2 522   | -               | -                         |
| UK                               | 31 647  | 33 673  | 1 313                         | 31 042  | 448    | 728    | 122     | -       | 33 653  | -               | 20                        |
| Other                            | 4 522   | 5 021   | 200                           | 3 912   | 140    | 712    | 55      | 1       | 5 020   | -               | 1                         |
| <b>North America</b>             | 32 820  | 35 979  | 700                           | 34 032  | 493    | 611    | 114     | -       | 35 950  | -               | 29                        |
| Canada                           | 3 940   | 4 303   | 113                           | 4 007   | 58     | 99     | 22      | -       | 4 299   | -               | 4                         |
| USA                              | 28 880  | 31 672  | 587                           | 30 022  | 434    | 512    | 92      | -       | 31 647  | -               | 25                        |
| Other                            | -       | 4       | -                             | 3       | 1      | -      | -       | -       | 4       | -               | -                         |
| <b>Central and South America</b> | 5 243   | 6 186   | 144                           | 5 740   | 50     | 181    | 69      | -       | 6 184   | -               | 2                         |
| Argentina                        | 761     | 787     | 13                            | 749     | 5      | 19     | 1       | -       | 787     | -               | -                         |
| Brazil                           | 2 989   | 3 410   | 43                            | 3 199   | 15     | 105    | 48      | -       | 3 410   | -               | -                         |
| Chile                            | 258     | 303     | 8                             | 277     | 2      | 13     | 3       | -       | 303     | -               | -                         |
| Other                            | 1 235   | 1 686   | 80                            | 1 515   | 28     | 44     | 17      | -       | 1 684   | -               | 2                         |

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

| Country               | July               |        | Purpose of travel (July 2007) |        |          |         |       |      |         |         | Contract worker | Border traffic concession |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--------|-------------------------------|--------|----------|---------|-------|------|---------|---------|-----------------|---------------------------|
|                       |                    |        | 2006                          | 2007   | Business | Holiday | Study | Work | Transit | Unspec. |                 |                           |
|                       | <b>Australasia</b> | 9 285  | 9 874                         | 289    | 9 338    | 50      | 135   | 58   | -       | 9 870   |                 |                           |
| Australia             | 7 873              | 8 311  | 246                           | 7 869  | 41       | 99      | 52    | -    | 8 307   | -       | 4               |                           |
| New Zealand           | 1 350              | 1 476  | 36                            | 1 406  | 4        | 28      | 2     | -    | 1 476   | -       | -               |                           |
| Other                 | 62                 | 87     | 7                             | 63     | 5        | 8       | 4     | -    | 87      | -       | -               |                           |
| <b>Middle East</b>    | 3 745              | 4 588  | 214                           | 4 090  | 81       | 185     | 17    | -    | 4 587   | -       | 1               |                           |
| Israel                | 1 179              | 1 603  | 89                            | 1 426  | 15       | 59      | 14    | -    | 1 603   | -       | -               |                           |
| Saudi Arabia          | 920                | 1 217  | 8                             | 1 184  | 14       | 11      | -     | -    | 1 217   | -       | -               |                           |
| Turkey                | 393                | 416    | 26                            | 321    | 17       | 51      | 1     | -    | 416     | -       | -               |                           |
| Other                 | 1253               | 1 352  | 91                            | 1 159  | 35       | 64      | 2     | -    | 1 351   | -       | 1               |                           |
| <b>Asia</b>           | 17 524             | 21 250 | 1 415                         | 17 013 | 402      | 2 151   | 156   | 2    | 21 139  | -       | 111             |                           |
| China                 | 3 040              | 3 863  | 295                           | 2 855  | 116      | 532     | 17    | 1    | 3 816   | -       | 47              |                           |
| Hong Kong             | 648                | 752    | 17                            | 726    | 1        | 5       | 3     | -    | 752     | -       | -               |                           |
| India                 | 4 181              | 5 345  | 623                           | 4 083  | 60       | 526     | 33    | -    | 5 325   | -       | 20              |                           |
| Japan                 | 2 651              | 2 668  | 109                           | 2 416  | 13       | 117     | 13    | -    | 2 668   | -       | -               |                           |
| Malaysia              | 658                | 787    | 28                            | 725    | 7        | 22      | 5     | -    | 787     | -       | -               |                           |
| Philippines           | 574                | 722    | 27                            | 274    | 3        | 380     | 33    | -    | 717     | -       | 5               |                           |
| Rep of China (Taiwan) | 1 509              | 1 483  | 49                            | 1 156  | 31       | 206     | 15    | -    | 1 457   | -       | 26              |                           |
| Rep of Korea          | 1 744              | 2 316  | 50                            | 2 082  | 113      | 59      | 12    | -    | 2 316   | -       | -               |                           |
| Singapore             | 403                | 467    | 39                            | 407    | 1        | 18      | 2     | -    | 467     | -       | -               |                           |
| Other                 | 2 116              | 2 847  | 178                           | 2 289  | 57       | 286     | 23    | 1    | 2 834   | -       | 13              |                           |



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

| Country             | July    |         | Purpose of travel (July 2007) |         |        |       |         |         |         | Contract worker | Border traffic concession |
|---------------------|---------|---------|-------------------------------|---------|--------|-------|---------|---------|---------|-----------------|---------------------------|
|                     |         |         | Business                      | Holiday | Study  | Work  | Transit | Unspec. | Total   |                 |                           |
|                     | 2006    | 2007    |                               |         |        |       |         |         |         |                 |                           |
| <b>Africa total</b> | 553 147 | 593 560 | 10 047                        | 549 943 | 14 378 | 3 120 | 2 372   | 23      | 579 883 | -               | 13 677                    |
| <b>SADC</b>         | 540 701 | 579 894 | 8 993                         | 539 401 | 13 294 | 2 319 | 2 217   | 16      | 566 240 | -               | 13 654                    |
| Angola              | 2 451   | 2 760   | 88                            | 2 196   | 398    | 61    | 17      | -       | 2 760   | -               | -                         |
| Botswana            | 68 444  | 68 914  | 105                           | 65 353  | 2 942  | 225   | 239     | -       | 68 864  | -               | 50                        |
| DRC                 | 1 826   | 2 918   | 76                            | 2 620   | 109    | 92    | 18      | 3       | 2 918   | -               | -                         |
| Lesotho             | 167 962 | 194 400 | 651                           | 178 554 | 1 191  | 150   | 1 091   | -       | 181 637 | -               | 12 763                    |
| Madagascar          | 190     | 254     | 23                            | 205     | 8      | 8     | 10      | -       | 254     | -               | -                         |
| Malawi              | 11 700  | 13 711  | 768                           | 12 637  | 188    | 85    | 29      | -       | 13 707  | -               | 4                         |
| Mauritius           | 1 274   | 1 473   | 41                            | 1 249   | 138    | 24    | 18      | -       | 1 470   | -               | 3                         |
| Mozambique          | 80 377  | 94 244  | 355                           | 92 768  | 456    | 118   | 73      | 1       | 93 771  | -               | 473                       |
| Namibia             | 18 542  | 17 145  | 1 942                         | 12 438  | 2 276  | 53    | 428     | -       | 17 137  | -               | 8                         |
| Swaziland           | 85 895  | 84 686  | 545                           | 82 005  | 1 723  | 163   | 138     | -       | 84 574  | -               | 112                       |
| Tanzania            | 1 306   | 1 403   | 126                           | 1 021   | 207    | 42    | 6       | -       | 1 402   | -               | 1                         |
| Zambia              | 13 975  | 15 851  | 2 032                         | 13 166  | 469    | 131   | 44      | -       | 15 842  | -               | 9                         |
| Zimbabwe            | 86 759  | 82 135  | 2 241                         | 75 189  | 3 189  | 1 167 | 106     | 12      | 81 904  | -               | 231                       |

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

| Country                 | July  |       | Purpose of travel (July 2007) |         |       |      |         |         |       |   | Contract worker | Border traffic concession |
|-------------------------|-------|-------|-------------------------------|---------|-------|------|---------|---------|-------|---|-----------------|---------------------------|
|                         |       |       | Business                      | Holiday | Study | Work | Transit | Unspec. | Total |   |                 |                           |
|                         | 2006  | 2007  |                               |         |       |      |         |         |       |   |                 |                           |
| <b>East and Central</b> | 6 341 | 6 556 | 472                           | 4 931   | 729   | 358  | 50      | 7       | 6 547 | - | 9               |                           |
| Burundi                 | 108   | 117   | 12                            | 90      | 7     | -    | 5       | 3       | 117   | - | -               |                           |
| Cameroon                | 366   | 502   | 56                            | 355     | 52    | 34   | 4       | 1       | 502   | - | -               |                           |
| Central African Rep     | 11    | 12    | 2                             | 7       | 1     | 1    | 1       | -       | 12    | - | -               |                           |
| Chad                    | 21    | 26    | 5                             | 21      | -     | -    | -       | -       | 26    | - | -               |                           |
| Comoros                 | 20    | 27    | 1                             | 23      | -     | 2    | 1       | -       | 27    | - | -               |                           |
| Congo                   | 802   | 533   | 22                            | 467     | 19    | 22   | 2       | -       | 532   | - | 1               |                           |
| Djibouti                | 8     | 5     | 1                             | 2       | -     | 1    | 1       | -       | 5     | - | -               |                           |
| Equatorial Guinea       | 13    | 35    | -                             | 27      | 7     | 1    | -       | -       | 35    | - | -               |                           |
| Eritrea                 | 84    | 36    | 1                             | 32      | 2     | -    | -       | -       | 35    | - | 1               |                           |
| Ethiopia                | 844   | 695   | 33                            | 594     | 36    | 28   | -       | 3       | 694   | - | 1               |                           |
| Gabon                   | 249   | 271   | 1                             | 190     | 63    | 15   | 2       | -       | 271   | - | -               |                           |
| Kenya                   | 2 149 | 2 325 | 205                           | 1 619   | 318   | 174  | 8       | -       | 2 324 | - | 1               |                           |
| Reunion                 | 59    | 100   | -                             | 99      | 1     | -    | -       | -       | 100   | - | -               |                           |
| Rwanda                  | 257   | 281   | 32                            | 163     | 65    | 15   | 6       | -       | 281   | - | -               |                           |
| Sao Tome and Principe   | 4     | 13    | -                             | 8       | 1     | 1    | 3       | -       | 13    | - | -               |                           |
| Seychelles              | 151   | 169   | 3                             | 150     | 12    | 4    | -       | -       | 169   | - | -               |                           |
| Somalia                 | 145   | 265   | 2                             | 260     | 3     | -    | -       | -       | 265   | - | -               |                           |
| Tristan da Cunha        | 2     | -     | -                             | -       | -     | -    | -       | -       | -     | - | -               |                           |
| Uganda                  | 1 048 | 1 144 | 96                            | 824     | 142   | 60   | 17      | -       | 1 139 | - | 5               |                           |

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

| Country             | July  |       | Purpose of travel (July 2007) |         |       |      |         |         |       | Contract worker | Border traffic concession |
|---------------------|-------|-------|-------------------------------|---------|-------|------|---------|---------|-------|-----------------|---------------------------|
|                     |       |       | Business                      | Holiday | Study | Work | Transit | Unspec. | Total |                 |                           |
|                     | 2006  | 2007  |                               |         |       |      |         |         |       |                 |                           |
| <b>West Africa</b>  | 5 156 | 6 178 | 447                           | 4 920   | 325   | 378  | 95      | -       | 6165  | -               | 13                        |
| Ascension           | -     | 1     | -                             | 1       | -     | -    | -       | -       | 1     | -               | -                         |
| Benin               | 89    | 104   | 5                             | 91      | 2     | 5    | 1       | -       | 104   | -               | -                         |
| Burkina Faso        | 41    | 37    | 12                            | 19      | 2     | 3    | 1       | -       | 37    | -               | -                         |
| Cape Verde Island   | 44    | 57    | -                             | 49      | 3     | 5    | -       | -       | 57    | -               | -                         |
| Cote D'Ivoire       | 221   | 192   | 25                            | 146     | 2     | 13   | 6       | -       | 192   | -               | -                         |
| Gambia              | 54    | 49    | 13                            | 28      | 1     | 4    | 3       | -       | 49    | -               | -                         |
| Ghana               | 929   | 1 230 | 76                            | 1 031   | 28    | 90   | 3       | -       | 1 228 | -               | 2                         |
| Guinea              | 90    | 114   | 7                             | 93      | 7     | 6    | 1       | -       | 114   | -               | -                         |
| Guinea-Bissau       | 6     | 39    | 2                             | 30      | -     | 1    | 6       | -       | 39    | -               | -                         |
| Liberia             | 36    | 27    | 5                             | 16      | 1     | -    | -       | -       | 22    | -               | 5                         |
| Madeira Island      | 4     | 11    | -                             | 10      | -     | -    | -       | -       | 10    | -               | 1                         |
| Mali                | 88    | 86    | 11                            | 68      | 2     | 1    | 4       | -       | 86    | -               | -                         |
| Mauritania          | 16    | 14    | -                             | 13      | -     | 1    | -       | -       | 14    | -               | -                         |
| Niger               | 25    | 14    | 1                             | 12      | -     | -    | 1       | -       | 14    | -               | -                         |
| Nigeria             | 3 179 | 3 784 | 247                           | 3 008   | 271   | 194  | 59      | -       | 3 779 | -               | 5                         |
| St Helena           | 12    | 14    | -                             | 12      | -     | 2    | -       | -       | 14    | -               | -                         |
| Senegal             | 239   | 291   | 34                            | 203     | 2     | 43   | 9       | -       | 291   | -               | -                         |
| Sierra Leone        | 53    | 81    | 6                             | 64      | 4     | 6    | 1       | -       | 81    | -               | -                         |
| Togo                | 28    | 32    | 3                             | 25      | -     | 4    | -       | -       | 32    | -               | -                         |
| Western Sahara      | 2     | 1     | -                             | 1       | -     | -    | -       | -       | 1     | -               | -                         |
| <b>North Africa</b> | 949   | 932   | 135                           | 691     | 30    | 65   | 10      | -       | 931   | -               | 1                         |
| Algeria             | 184   | 122   | 10                            | 84      | 11    | 17   | -       | -       | 122   | -               | -                         |
| Egypt               | 381   | 473   | 67                            | 367     | 3     | 33   | 2       | -       | 472   | -               | 1                         |
| Libya               | 80    | 63    | 6                             | 53      | 1     | 2    | 1       | -       | 63    | -               | -                         |
| Morocco             | 63    | 82    | 21                            | 57      | -     | 3    | 1       | -       | 82    | -               | -                         |
| Sudan               | 185   | 137   | 19                            | 92      | 15    | 7    | 4       | -       | 137   | -               | -                         |
| Tunisia             | 56    | 55    | 12                            | 38      | -     | 3    | 2       | -       | 55    | -               | -                         |
| <b>Unspecified</b>  | 3 671 | 6 253 | 75                            | 1 281   | 1 907 | 722  | 5       | 3       | 3 993 | -               | 2 260                     |

## 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 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 re-introduction of the departure forms is in full operational at the three international airports (OR Tambo, Cape Town and Durban). Processing of available departure forms from the three international airports is currently underway.

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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