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# Statistical release

## P0351

# Tourism and Migration

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## KEY FINDINGS

### 1. Number of travellers

The July 2008 data collected by the Department of Home Affairs' (DHA) immigration officers at the ports of entry into South Africa show that a total of 2 309 229 travellers (arrivals and departures) passed through the ports of entry. As presented in Table 1, these travellers are made up of 787 568 South African residents and 1 521 661 foreign travellers. A further breakdown of the figures indicates that 430 287 and 357 281 South African resident arrivals and departures respectively were recorded. The corresponding volume for foreign arrivals and departures are 836 554 and 685 107 respectively. A comparison between the movements in June 2008 and July 2008 indicates that there was an increase in all movements except South African departures that declined by 14,1%. The July 2008 figure (430 287) for South African resident arrivals shows a decline of 4,1% compared to the July 2007 figure of 448 652. Similarly, there was an increase of 7,4% for foreign arrivals from 778 725 in July 2007 to 836 554 in July 2008.

### 2. Mode of travel

It is observed from Table 2 that road transport was the most common (66,3%) mode of travel used by 1 529 932 out of the 2 309 229 travellers. The arrival data on South African residents show that 45,3% came by air and 54,2% by road. For their departure, 42,7% and 57,3% used air and road transport respectively. When taking into consideration the countries of residence of travellers, it was found that for foreign arrivals, overseas travellers generally used air (87,9%) compared to road transport (11,9%) whereas travellers from Africa used road (89,6%) 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 slightly more than three quarters (76,1%) of foreign arrivals were from Africa whilst less than a quarter (23,0%) were from overseas countries. Information on the country of residence was not available on 0,9% of the travellers. A comparison of the changes between July 2007 and July 2008 indicates that the number of overseas arrivals increased by 7,7% from 178 912 in 2007 to 192 591 in 2008. Arrivals from Africa increased by 7,2% from 593 560 in July 2007 to 636 475 in July 2008.

#### 3.1 Gender and age distribution

The travellers from Africa comprised of 347 478 males, 287 893 females and 1 104 with unspecified gender. The data on overseas travellers had 109 285 males, 83 145 females and gender was not specified in 161 cases. Overall, more males than females from African (males: 54,6%; females: 45,2%) and overseas countries (males: 56,7%; females:43,2%) 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. The bulk (83,6%) of African travellers is clustered between ages 20-54, peaking at age group 25-29. However, the age distribution of overseas travellers is widely spread. Thus 77,1% of overseas travellers is between ages 20 to 64 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 (2,3%).

#### 3.2 Regional and national distribution

Overseas travellers came mainly from Europe (56,3%), followed by North America (20,8%), Asia (10,9%), Australasia (5,9%), Central and South America (3,7%) and Middle East (2,5%). 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 stable unlike SADC countries that have been escalating since 2004. The number of travellers from overseas had a steady growth between 2005 and 2008.

Data presented in Figure 3 show the eight leading overseas source countries. These are UK, USA, Netherlands, Germany, France, Australia, India and Italy. Travellers from these eight countries constitute 67,9% of all travellers from overseas. A comparison of figures from overseas for July 2007 and July 2008 shows that there were increases in the number of travellers arriving from UK (10,0% up from 33 673 to 37 044); USA (11,8% up from 31 672 to 35 397); Netherlands (5,6% up from 13 110 to 13 849); Germany (2,2% up from 13 423 to 13 722); France (5,3% up from 10 036 to 10 565); Australia (13,7% up from 8 311 to 9 448) and India (10,9% up from 5 345 to

5 930). However, there was a decline in the number of arrivals from Italy (7,4% down from 5 270 to 4 880). The eight leading source countries from SADC were Lesotho, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Swaziland, Botswana, Zambia, Namibia and Malawi. Figure 4 shows that travellers from these eight SADC countries made up 96,2% of all arrivals from Africa. When comparing arrival figures from the SADC countries for July 2007 and July 2008, there were increases in the number of travellers arriving from Mozambique (22,0% up from 94 244 to 114 954); Zimbabwe (35,0% up from 82 135 to 110 858); Swaziland (4,3% up from 84 686 to 88 338); Zambia (13,3% up from 15 851 to 17 952); Namibia (2,2% up from 17 145 to 17 525) and Malawi (3,2% up from 13 711 to 14 154). However, there was a decline in the number of arrivals from Lesotho (6,1% down from 194 400 to 182 548) and Botswana (4,6% down from 68 914 to 65 726).

The eight leading source countries from 'other' African countries, shown in Figure 5, are Nigeria, Kenya, Ghana, Uganda, Ethiopia, Egypt, Cameroon and Somalia. A comparison of arrivals for 'other' African countries for July 2007 and that of July 2008, shows increases in the number of travellers arriving from Nigeria (8,0% up from 3 784 to 4 085); Kenya (4,9% up from 2 325 to 2 440); Ethiopia (51,8% up from 695 to 1 055); Egypt (4,7% up from 473 to 495) and Somalia (68,3% up from 265 to 446). However, there was a decline in the number of arrivals from Ghana (3,8% down from 1 230 to 1 183); Uganda (4,6% down from 1 144 to 1 091) and Cameroon 8,2% down from 502 to 461).

### 3.3 Purpose of travel

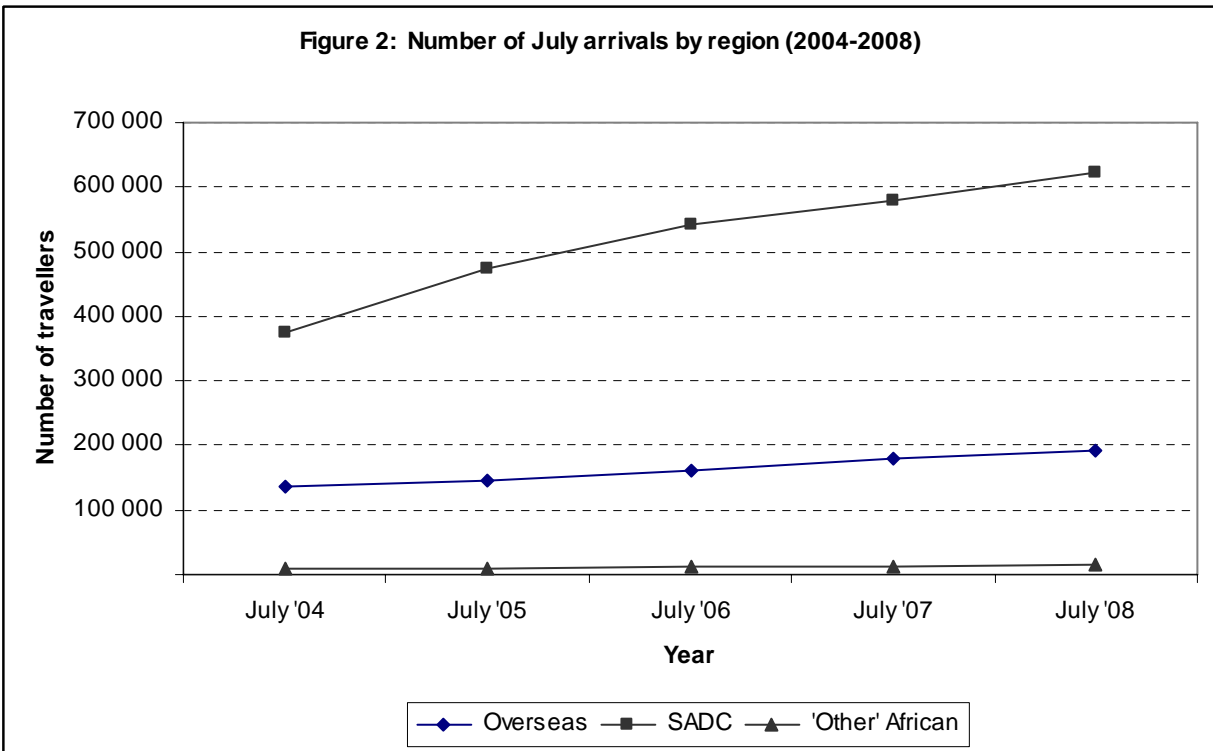
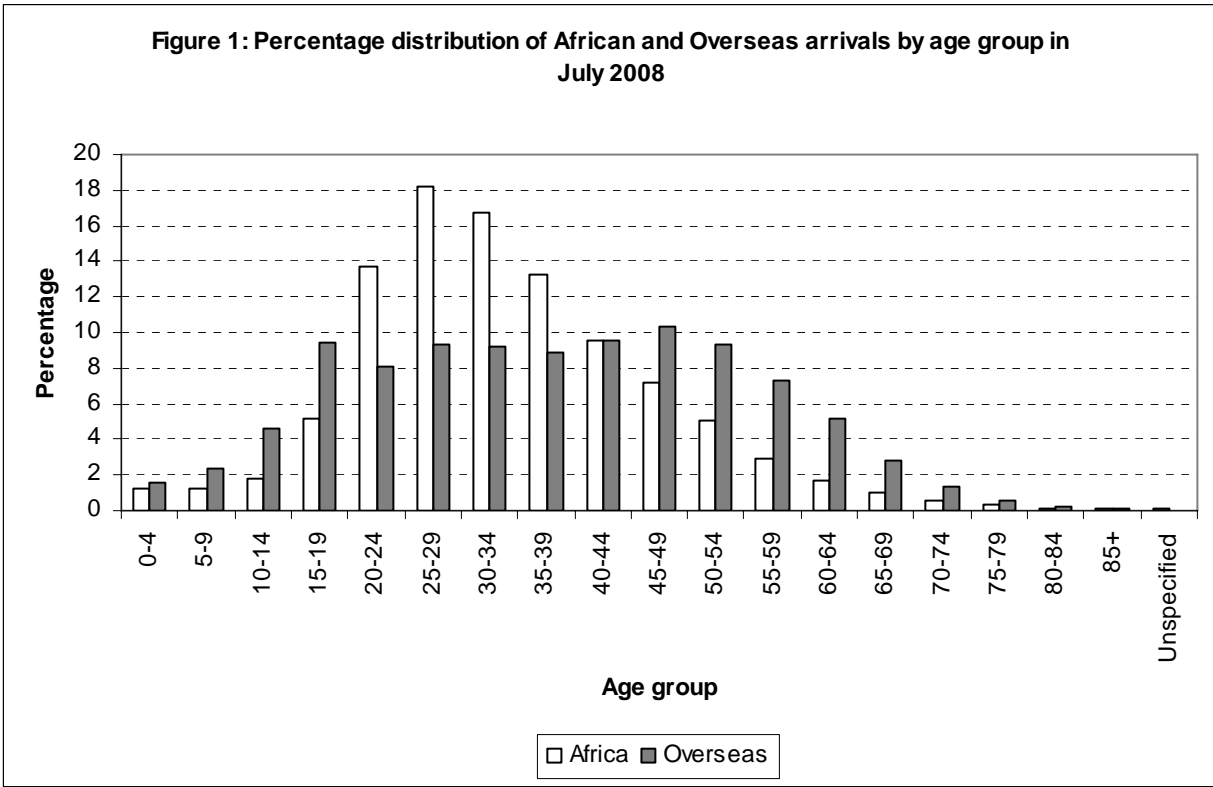
As observed from data given in Table 4, an overwhelming majority (92,14%) of foreign arrivals was admitted into South Africa on visitors' temporary residence permit. These visitors are mainly made up of same-day travellers as well as tourists. This is in vast contrast to those on business (1,8%), those who have come for work (1,5%) and those who have come to study (2,2%).

Overall, 91,7% of overseas travellers came to South Africa to visit. A detailed analysis reveals that all the overseas regions had more than 79,0% travellers coming to South Africa for holidays. Travellers from Australasia (95,7%), North America (94,8%), Central and South America (93,7%), Europe (92,4%) and the Middle East (91,3%) were admitted into South Africa as visitors. Travellers from Asia were more diverse in their purpose, for instance, 79,5% came into the country for holidays, 11,1% for work whereas 6,3% came for business and 1,7% to study.

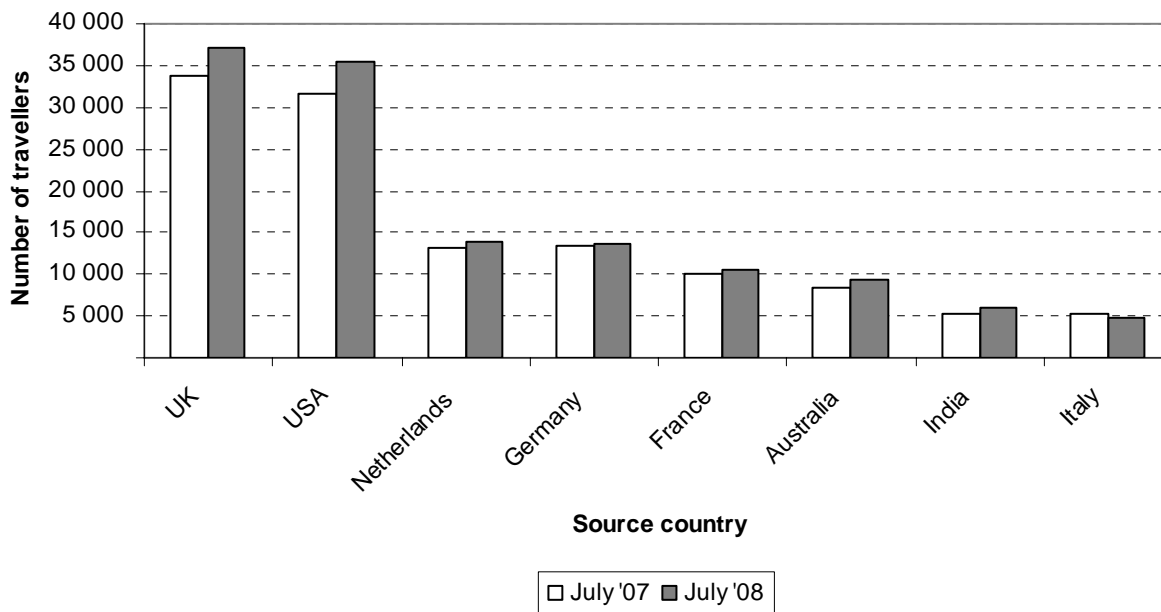
Although the majority (93,0%) of African travellers came into the country on visitors' permits, there is a significant difference between travellers from SADC countries and 'other' African countries, namely:

- Whereas 93,4% of travellers from the SADC countries were recorded as on holiday, 79,2% of travellers from 'other' African countries were admitted on visitor's permit. Proportionally, the lowest percentage (76,2%) of visitors came from East and Central Africa, a region where, a large percentage of travellers were in South Africa for study (11,0%). North Africa had a largest percentage of travellers in South Africa for business (12,2%).
- A relatively higher percentage of 'other' African than SADC travellers were here to study, work or for business.
- Overall, North Africa, West Africa and East and Central Africa had 4,9%; 6,4% and 6,0% respectively of travellers who were in South Africa for work as compared to only 0,5% among the SADC travellers.

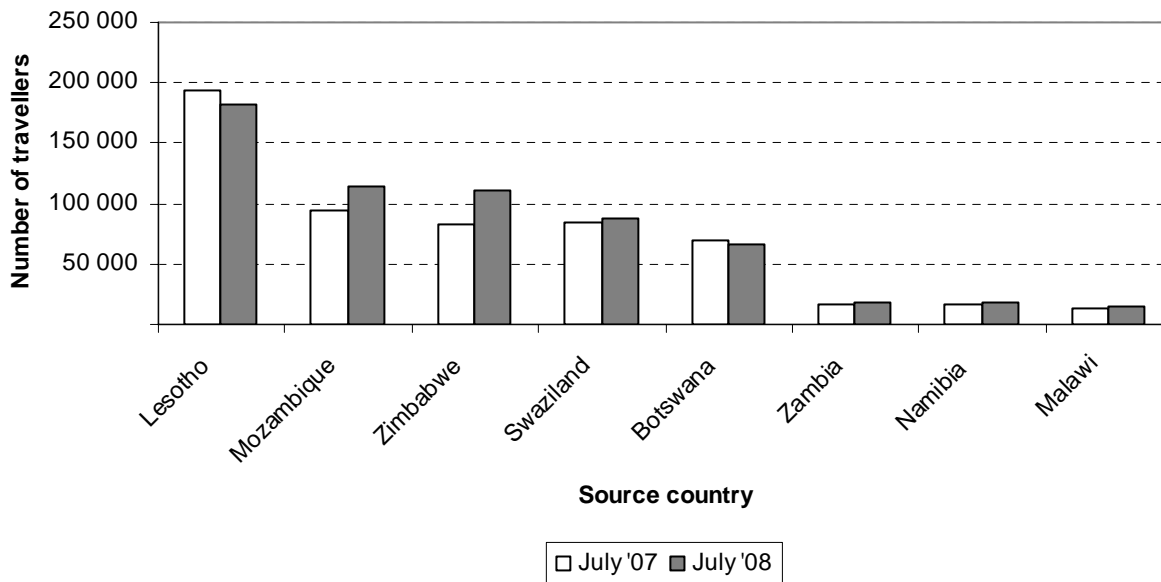
**PJ Lehohla**  
**Statistician-General**

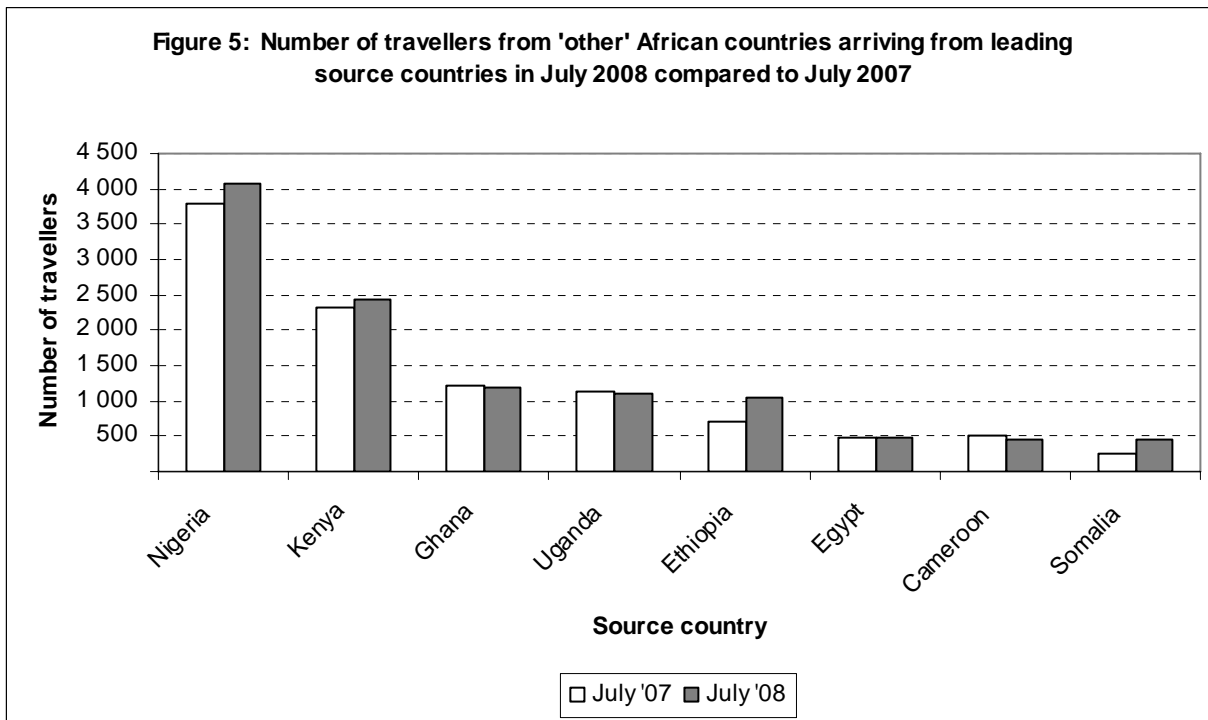


**Figure 3: Number of overseas travellers arriving from leading source countries in July 2008 compared to July 2007**



**Figure 4: Number of travellers from SADC countries arriving from leading source countries in July 2008 compared to July 2007**





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

Travel direction	July	June	July	% change	% change
	2007	2008	2008	July 07–July 08	June 08 – July 08
<b>South African residents</b>					
Arrivals	448 652	359 725	430 287	-4,1	19,6
Departures	367 443	416 130	357 281	-2,8	-14,1
<b>Foreign travellers</b>					
Arrivals	778 725	699 695	836 554	7,4	19,6
Departures	631 981	611 123	685 107	8,4	12,1
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>2 226 801</b>	<b>2 086 673</b>	<b>2 309 229</b>	<b>3,7</b>	<b>10,7</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 2008)								
		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspec.
		(C/Town)	(Durban)	(OR Tambo)	(Other)	Total				
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>2 309 229</b>	<b>113 821</b>	<b>3 591</b>	<b>631 386</b>	<b>11 833</b>	<b>760 631</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>1 529 932</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>18 316</b>
<b>Arrivals:</b>	<b>1 266 841</b>	<b>65 947</b>	<b>1 840</b>	<b>344 902</b>	<b>6 045</b>	<b>418 734</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>829 528</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>18 299</b>
South African residents	430 287	31 670	1 248	157 480	4 395	194 793	43	233 333	46	2 072
Foreign travellers	836 554	34 277	592	187 422	1 650	223 941	87	596 195	104	16 227
Overseas	192 591	31 528	200	136 437	1 114	169 279	33	22 973	36	270
Africa	636 475	2 304	386	48 905	510	52 105	54	570 199	68	14 049
Unspecified	7 488	445	6	2 080	26	2 557	-	3 023	-	1 908
<b>Departures:</b>	<b>1 042 388</b>	<b>47 874</b>	<b>1 751</b>	<b>286 484</b>	<b>5 788</b>	<b>341 897</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>700 404</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>17</b>
South African residents	357 281	22 593	1 200	124 552	4 159	152 504	23	204 734	10	10
Foreign travellers	685 107	25 281	551	161 932	1 629	189 393	20	495 670	17	7



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

Country	Mode of travel (July 2008)										
	July		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspec.
	2007	2008	(C/Town)	(Durban)	(OR Tambo)	(Other)	Total				
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>778 725</b>	<b>836 554</b>	<b>34 277</b>	<b>592</b>	<b>187 422</b>	<b>1 650</b>	<b>223 941</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>596 195</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>16 227</b>
<b>Overseas Total</b>	<b>178 912</b>	<b>192 591</b>	<b>31 528</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>136 437</b>	<b>1 114</b>	<b>169 279</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>22 973</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>270</b>
<b>Europe</b>	<b>101 035</b>	<b>108 432</b>	<b>22 654</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>70 401</b>	<b>398</b>	<b>93 564</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>14 782</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>59</b>
Austria	1 455	1 328	289	-	858	3	1 150	-	177	-	1
Belgium	3 850	4 626	687	2	2 889	50	3 628	-	998	-	-
Denmark	1 923	1 947	310	-	1 322	4	1 636	-	307	1	3
France	10 036	10 565	1 166	61	7 996	29	9 252	-	1 311	1	1
Germany	13 423	13 722	3 778	1	7 905	29	11 713	2	1 991	6	10
Ireland	3 067	2 852	680	2	1 740	12	2 434	1	415	1	1
Italy	5 270	4 880	929	-	3 511	17	4 457	-	422	1	-
Netherlands	13 110	13 849	3 228	3	7 651	14	10 896	3	2 946	-	4
Norway	1 117	1 183	270	2	733	7	1 012	-	171	-	-
Portugal	2 347	2 612	126	11	1 280	16	1 433	-	1 174	-	5
Spain	3 373	3 765	421	-	3 014	6	3 441	-	324	-	-
Sweden	1 363	1 578	316	1	1 033	7	1 357	-	221	-	-
Switzerland	2 522	2 597	434	1	1 777	12	2 224	-	371	-	2
United Kingdom	33 673	37 044	8 685	24	24 721	169	33 599	1	3 418	-	26
Other	4 506	5 884	1 335	3	3 971	23	5 332	2	536	8	6
<b>North America</b>	<b>35 979</b>	<b>40 087</b>	<b>4 957</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>30 872</b>	<b>505</b>	<b>36 341</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3 711</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>30</b>
Canada	4 303	4 681	670	2	3 446	37	4 155	-	522	-	4
USA	31 672	35 397	4 287	5	27 420	468	32 180	3	3 186	2	26
Other	4	9	-	-	6	-	6	-	3	-	-
<b>Central and South America</b>	<b>6 186</b>	<b>7 043</b>	<b>560</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5 723</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>6 332</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>706</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
Argentina	411	735	245	1	456	1	703	-	32	-	-
Brazil	3 410	4 020	56	1	3 541	8	3 606	-	410	1	3
Mexico	654	803	106	-	618	24	748	-	55	-	-
Other	1 711	1 485	153	6	1 108	8	1 275	-	209	1	-

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

Country	Mode of travel (July 2008)										
	July		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspec.
	2007	2008	(C/Town)	(Durban)	(OR Tambo)	(Other)	Total				
<b>Australasia</b>	<b>9 874</b>	<b>11 355</b>	<b>874</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>9 462</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>10 444</b>	-	<b>911</b>	-	-
Australia	8 311	9 448	701	37	7 909	58	8 705	-	743	-	-
New Zealand	1 476	1 860	167	5	1 524	8	1 704	-	156	-	-
Other	87	47	6	-	29	-	35	-	12	-	-
<b>Middle East</b>	<b>4 588</b>	<b>4 732</b>	<b>742</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3 792</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>4 553</b>	-	<b>176</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
Israel	1 603	1 801	66	-	1 635	9	1 710	-	91	-	-
Saudi Arabia	1 217	1 391	267	-	1 114	-	1 381	-	10	-	-
United Arab Emirates	260	416	192	-	219	5	416	-	-	-	-
Other	1 508	1 124	217	2	824	3	1 046	-	75	2	1
<b>Asia</b>	<b>21 250</b>	<b>20 942</b>	<b>1 741</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>16 187</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>18 045</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>2 687</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>177</b>
China	3 863	2 945	96	-	2 443	29	2 568	1	331	-	45
India	5 345	5 930	390	20	4 568	12	4 990	9	895	-	36
Japan	2 668	2 473	171	1	2 214	12	2 398	-	75	-	-
Malaysia	787	831	178	-	618	2	798	-	33	-	-
Pakistan	939	1 200	86	5	770	8	869	3	323	1	4
Philippines	722	688	104	-	490	1	595	-	75	8	10
Korea	2 316	2 634	274	2	2 138	13	2 427	-	198	-	9
Taiwan	1 483	1 247	144	-	720	1	865	6	336	-	40
Thailand	745	608	60	-	523	-	583	-	24	-	1
Other	2 382	2 386	238	2	1 703	9	1 952	2	397	3	32
<b>Africa Total</b>	<b>593 560</b>	<b>636 475</b>	<b>2 304</b>	<b>386</b>	<b>48 905</b>	<b>510</b>	<b>52 105</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>570 199</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>14 049</b>
<b>SADC</b>	<b>579 894</b>	<b>621 701</b>	<b>2 126</b>	<b>376</b>	<b>37 106</b>	<b>365</b>	<b>39 973</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>567 601</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>14 015</b>
Angola	2 760	3 209	133	23	2 842	25	3 023	-	185	-	1
Botswana	68 914	65 726	29	28	3 178	107	3 342	-	62 254	1	129
DRC	2 918	3 080	1	1	2 279	37	2 318	-	762	-	-
Lesotho	194 400	182 548	6	-	721	-	727	5	168 729	-	13 087
Madagascar	254	328	-	-	321	1	322	-	6	-	-
Malawi	13 711	14 154	4	-	2 543	1	2 548	1	11 596	2	7

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

Country	Mode of travel (July 2008)										
	July		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspec.
	2007	2008	(C/Town)	(Durban)	(OR Tambo)	(Other)	Total				
Mauritius	1 473	1 607	193	230	1 039	3	1 465	-	131	-	11
Mozambique	94 244	114 954	128	90	2 872	27	3 117	1	111 615	7	214
Namibia	17 145	17 525	1 540	-	2 952	28	4 520	-	13 003	-	2
Swaziland	84 686	88 338	2	-	886	5	893	28	87 312	-	105
Tanzania	1 403	1 422	9	1	1 116	3	1 129	-	293	-	-
Zambia	15 851	17 952	20	1	6 426	29	6 476	-	11 469	-	7
Zimbabwe	82 135	110 858	61	2	9 931	99	10 093	10	100 246	57	452
<b>East &amp; Central Africa</b>	<b>6 556</b>	<b>7 289</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>5 464</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>5 624</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1 647</b>	-	<b>11</b>
Burundi	117	144	2	-	100	4	106	-	38	-	-
Cameroon	502	461	6	-	400	13	419	-	42	-	-
Central Africa	12	8	-	-	6	2	8	-	-	-	-
Chad	26	21	-	-	19	-	19	-	2	-	-
Comoros	27	35	1	-	34	-	35	-	-	-	-
Congo	533	360	9	-	206	10	225	-	135	-	-
Djibouti	5	7	-	-	5	-	5	-	2	-	-
Equatorial Guinea	35	24	-	-	17	-	17	-	7	-	-
Eritrea	36	66	-	-	54	-	54	-	12	-	-
Ethiopia	695	1 055	5	-	582	8	595	-	459	-	1
Gabon	271	427	2	-	399	18	419	-	7	-	1
Kenya	2 325	2 440	18	1	2 119	25	2 163	5	271	-	1
Reunion	100	100	3	8	88	-	99	-	1	-	-
Rwanda	281	363	1	-	336	1	338	-	25	-	-
Sao Tome and Principe	13	13	2	-	9	2	13	-	-	-	-
Seychelles	169	227	1	-	215	3	219	-	6	-	2
Somalia	265	446	-	-	8	-	8	-	438	-	-
Tristan Da Cunha	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Uganda	1 144	1 091	9	1	867	5	882	2	201	-	6

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

Country	Mode of travel (July 2008)										
	July		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspec.
	2007	2008	(C/Town)	(Durban)	(OR Tambo)	(Other)	Total				
<b>West Africa</b>	<b>6 177</b>	<b>6 411</b>	<b>46</b>	-	<b>5 430</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>5 527</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>863</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>18</b>
Ascension	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Benin	104	106	1	-	79	-	80	-	26	-	-
Burkina Faso	37	44	2	-	42	-	44	-	-	-	-
Cape Verde Island	57	74	-	-	62	-	62	-	12	-	-
Cote D'Ivoire	192	179	1	-	164	-	165	-	14	-	-
Gambia	49	47	2	-	40	-	42	-	4	-	1
Ghana	1 230	1 183	7	-	1 033	5	1 045	-	134	1	3
Guinea	114	163	-	-	79	3	82	-	81	-	-
Guinea-Bissau	39	19	-	-	9	1	10	-	9	-	-
Liberia	27	43	-	-	42	-	42	-	1	-	-
Madeira Island	11	13	3	-	4	-	7	-	5	-	1
Mali	86	61	-	-	54	-	54	-	7	-	-
Mauritania	14	10	-	-	9	-	9	-	1	-	-
Niger	14	13	-	-	7	2	9	-	4	-	-
Nigeria	3 784	4 085	27	-	3 492	38	3 557	2	513	-	13
Saint Helena	14	18	-	-	4	-	4	-	14	-	-
Senegal	291	244	3	-	228	2	233	-	11	-	-
Sierra Leone	81	64	-	-	43	-	43	-	21	-	-
Togo	32	45	-	-	39	-	39	-	6	-	-
<b>North Africa</b>	<b>933</b>	<b>1 074</b>	<b>73</b>	-	<b>905</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>981</b>	-	<b>88</b>	-	<b>5</b>
Algeria	122	143	6	-	113	-	119	-	24	-	-
Egypt	473	495	20	-	440	1	461	-	33	-	1
Libyan	63	55	5	-	25	-	30	-	21	-	4
Morocco	82	89	20	-	62	1	83	-	6	-	-
Sudan	137	132	11	-	117	-	128	-	4	-	-
Tunisia	55	160	11	-	148	1	160	-	-	-	-
Western Sahara	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Unspecified</b>	<b>6 253</b>	<b>7 488</b>	<b>445</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2 080</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>2 557</b>	-	<b>3 023</b>	-	<b>1 908</b>

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

Region	Total	Purpose of travel (July 2008)						Total	Border Traffic Concession
		Business	Holiday	Study	Work	Transit	Unspecified		
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>836 554</b>	<b>15 341</b>	<b>770 609</b>	<b>18 678</b>	<b>12 399</b>	<b>3 412</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>820 462</b>	<b>16 092</b>
<b>Overseas Total</b>	<b>192 591</b>	<b>5 458</b>	<b>176 689</b>	<b>2 775</b>	<b>6 798</b>	<b>656</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>192 376</b>	<b>215</b>
Europe	108 432	2 840	100 230	1 666	3 357	288	-	108 381	51
North America	40 087	724	38 021	558	654	101	-	40 058	29
Central and South America	7 043	118	6 600	71	194	58	-	7 041	2
Australasia	11 355	278	10 863	54	123	37	-	11 355	-
Middle East	4 732	181	4 319	64	153	14	-	4 731	1
Asia	20 942	1 317	16 656	362	2 317	158	-	20 810	132
<b>Africa Total</b>	<b>636 475</b>	<b>9 825</b>	<b>592 073</b>	<b>13 681</b>	<b>4 168</b>	<b>2 739</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>622 503</b>	<b>13 972</b>
SADC	621 701	8 979	580 369	12 500	3 265	2 638	8	607 759	13 942
East and Central Africa	7 289	426	5 552	803	439	54	8	7 282	7
West Africa	6 411	289	5 313	339	411	40	1	6 393	18
North Africa	1 074	131	839	39	53	7	-	1 069	5
<b>Unspecified</b>	<b>7 488</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>1 847</b>	<b>2 222</b>	<b>1 433</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5 583</b>	<b>1 905</b>

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

Country	July		Purpose of travel (July 2008)							Border Traffic Concession
	2007	2008	Business	Holiday	Study	Work	Transit	Unspecified	Total	
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>778 725</b>	<b>836 554</b>	<b>15 341</b>	<b>770 609</b>	<b>18 678</b>	<b>12 399</b>	<b>3 412</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>820 462</b>	<b>16 092</b>
<b>Overseas Total</b>	<b>178 912</b>	<b>192 591</b>	<b>5 458</b>	<b>176 689</b>	<b>2 775</b>	<b>6 798</b>	<b>656</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>192 376</b>	<b>215</b>
<b>Europe</b>	<b>101 035</b>	<b>108 432</b>	<b>2 840</b>	<b>100 230</b>	<b>1 666</b>	<b>3 357</b>	<b>288</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>108 381</b>	<b>51</b>
Austria	1 455	1 328	42	1 233	13	33	6	-	1 327	1
Belgium	3 850	4 626	83	4 412	40	78	13	-	4 626	-
Denmark	1 923	1 947	45	1 820	25	49	5	-	1 944	3
France	10 036	10 565	229	9 860	109	345	21	-	10 564	1
Germany	13 423	13 722	453	12 046	571	610	32	-	13 712	10
Ireland	3 067	2 852	54	2 698	27	64	8	-	2 851	1
Italy	5 270	4 880	121	4 638	20	85	16	-	4 880	-
Netherlands	13 110	13 849	181	13 282	155	206	21	-	13 845	4
Norway	1 117	1 183	23	1 039	73	45	3	-	1 183	-
Portugal	2 347	2 612	31	2 502	31	32	11	-	2 607	5
Spain	3 373	3 765	59	3 617	9	61	19	-	3 765	-
Sweden	1 363	1 578	51	1 361	64	98	4	-	1 578	-
Switzerland	2 522	2 597	75	2 413	32	69	6	-	2 595	2
United Kingdom	33 673	37 044	1 159	34 611	395	779	78	-	37 022	22
Other	4 506	5 884	234	4 698	102	803	45	-	5 882	2
<b>North America</b>	<b>35 979</b>	<b>40 087</b>	<b>724</b>	<b>38 021</b>	<b>558</b>	<b>654</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>40 058</b>	<b>29</b>
Canada	4 303	4 681	101	4 404	37	122	13	-	4 677	4
USA	31 672	35 397	623	33 608	521	532	88	-	35 372	25
Other	4	9	-	9	-	-	-	-	9	-
<b>Central and South America</b>	<b>6 186</b>	<b>7 043</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>6 600</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7 041</b>	<b>2</b>
Argentina	411	735	12	701	5	12	5	-	735	-
Brazil	3 410	4 020	40	3 860	22	61	35	-	4 018	2
Mexico	654	803	31	744	11	13	4	-	803	-
Other	1 711	1 485	35	1 295	33	108	14	-	1 485	-

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

Country	July		Purpose of travel (July 2008)							Border Traffic Concession
	2007	2008	Business	Holiday	Study	Work	Transit	Unspecified	Total	
<b>Australasia</b>	<b>9 874</b>	<b>11 355</b>	<b>278</b>	<b>10 863</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>37</b>	-	<b>11 355</b>	-
Australia	8 311	9 448	231	9 046	42	101	28	-	9 448	-
New Zealand	1 476	1 860	39	1 789	7	18	7	-	1 860	-
Other	87	47	8	28	5	4	2	-	47	-
<b>Middle East</b>	<b>4 588</b>	<b>4 732</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>4 319</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>14</b>	-	<b>4 731</b>	<b>1</b>
Israel	1 603	1 801	71	1 621	12	88	9	-	1 801	-
Saudi Arabia	1 217	1 391	15	1 366	8	2	-	-	1 391	-
United Arab Emirates	260	416	26	360	23	7	-	-	416	-
Other	1 508	1 124	69	972	21	56	5	-	1 123	1
<b>Asia</b>	<b>21 250</b>	<b>20 942</b>	<b>1 317</b>	<b>16 656</b>	<b>362</b>	<b>2 317</b>	<b>158</b>	-	<b>20 810</b>	<b>132</b>
China	3 863	2 945	152	2 219	66	453	10	-	2 900	45
India	5 345	5 930	595	4 568	74	632	34	-	5 903	27
Japan	2 668	2 473	101	2 210	16	133	13	-	2 473	-
Malaysia	787	831	32	746	13	23	17	-	831	-
Pakistan	939	1 200	109	916	11	158	2	-	1 196	4
Philippines	722	688	25	271	7	354	26	-	683	5
Korea	2 316	2 634	46	2 409	111	50	14	-	2 630	4
Taiwan	1 483	1 247	124	889	30	163	2	-	1 208	39
Thailand	745	608	16	484	3	104	1	-	608	-
Other	2 382	2 386	117	1 944	31	247	39	-	2 378	8
<b>Africa Total</b>	<b>593 560</b>	<b>636 475</b>	<b>9 825</b>	<b>592 073</b>	<b>13 681</b>	<b>4 168</b>	<b>2 739</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>622 503</b>	<b>13 972</b>
<b>SADC</b>	<b>579 894</b>	<b>621 701</b>	<b>8 979</b>	<b>580 369</b>	<b>12 500</b>	<b>3 265</b>	<b>2 638</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>607 759</b>	<b>13 942</b>
Angola	2 760	3 209	72	2 364	549	93	131	-	3 209	-
Botswana	68 914	65 726	129	62 476	2 572	249	220	-	65 646	80
DRC	2 918	3 080	83	2 681	170	92	47	7	3 080	-
Lesotho	194 400	182 548	564	166 298	961	180	1 478	-	169 481	13 067
Madagascar	254	328	16	278	6	18	10	-	328	-
Malawi	13 711	14 154	643	13 182	211	83	28	-	14 147	7

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

Country	July		Purpose of travel (July 2008)							Border traffic concession
			Business	Holiday	Study	Work	Transit	Unspecified	Total	
	2007	2008								
Mauritius	1 473	1 607	35	1 381	133	32	15	-	1 596	11
Mozambique	94 244	114 954	429	113 714	400	147	50	-	114 740	214
Namibia	17 145	17 525	1 856	12 838	2 331	66	432	-	17 523	2
Swaziland	84 686	88 338	413	85 867	1 708	156	89	-	88 233	105
Tanzania	1 403	1 422	120	1 052	206	41	3	-	1 422	-
Zambia	15 851	17 952	2 095	15 174	491	149	37	-	17 946	6
Zimbabwe	82 135	110 858	2 524	103 064	2 762	1 959	98	1	110 408	450
<b>East &amp; Central Africa</b>	<b>6 556</b>	<b>7 289</b>	<b>426</b>	<b>5 552</b>	<b>803</b>	<b>439</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>7 282</b>	<b>7</b>
Burundi	117	144	14	105	11	6	-	8	144	-
Cameroon	502	461	42	301	56	59	3	-	461	-
Central African	12	8	-	6	2	-	-	-	8	-
Chad	26	21	6	12	2	1	-	-	21	-
Comoros	27	35	-	31	2	2	-	-	35	-
Congo	533	360	21	278	33	26	2	-	360	-
Djibouti	5	7	2	5	-	-	-	-	7	-
Equatorial Guinea	35	24	1	15	5	3	-	-	24	-
Eritrea	36	66	6	52	2	6	-	-	66	-
Ethiopia	695	1 055	22	957	33	42	-	-	1 054	1
Gabon	271	427	8	315	76	18	10	-	427	-
Kenya	2 325	2 440	205	1 672	352	197	13	-	2 439	1
Reunion	100	100	-	98	2	-	-	-	100	-
Rwanda	281	363	30	251	62	14	6	-	363	-
Sao Tome and Principe	13	13	-	13	-	-	-	-	13	-
Seychelles	169	227	2	202	20	-	1	-	225	2
Somalia	265	446	-	443	3	-	-	-	446	-
Tristan Da Cunha	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
Uganda	1 144	1 091	67	795	142	65	19	-	1 088	3



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

Country	July		Purpose of travel (July 2008)							Border traffic concession
	2007	2008	Business	Holiday	Study	Work	Transit	Unspecified	Total	
	<b>West Africa</b>	<b>6 177</b>	<b>6 411</b>	<b>289</b>	<b>5 313</b>	<b>339</b>	<b>411</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>1</b>	
Ascension	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Benin	104	106	1	102	1	2	-	-	106	-
Burkina Faso	37	44	6	29	3	6	-	-	44	-
Cape Verde Island	57	74	-	68	4	2	-	-	74	-
Cote D'Ivoire	192	179	17	124	16	21	1	-	179	-
Gambia	49	47	4	37	3	1	1	-	46	1
Ghana	1 230	1 183	23	1 044	34	74	5	-	1 180	3
Guinea	114	163	4	146	7	3	3	-	163	-
Guinea-Bissau	39	19	-	18	-	-	1	-	19	-
Liberia	27	43	2	40	-	1	-	-	43	-
Madeira Island	11	13	1	11	-	-	-	-	12	1
Mali	86	61	7	46	4	2	2	-	61	-
Mauritania	14	10	-	10	-	-	-	-	10	-
Niger	14	13	1	12	-	-	-	-	13	-
Nigeria	3 784	4 085	185	3 349	259	266	12	1	4 072	13
Saint Helena	14	18	-	18	-	-	-	-	18	-
Senegal	291	244	34	171	1	24	14	-	244	-
Sierra Leone	81	64	2	49	6	6	1	-	64	-
Togo	32	45	2	39	1	3	-	-	45	-
<b>North Africa</b>	<b>933</b>	<b>1 074</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>839</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1 069</b>	<b>5</b>
Algeria	122	143	10	115	6	12	-	-	143	-
Egypt	473	495	62	400	7	25	-	-	494	1
Libya	63	55	-	40	5	2	4	-	51	4
Morocco	82	89	13	66	2	7	1	-	89	-
Sudan	137	132	18	95	15	3	1	-	132	-
Tunisia	55	160	28	123	4	4	1	-	160	-
Western Sahara	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Unspecified</b>	<b>6 253</b>	<b>7 488</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>1 847</b>	<b>2 222</b>	<b>1 433</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5 583</b>	<b>1 905</b>

## 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.
- 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 slightly 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 July 2008, the DHA data was 3% lower than that of ACSA.

- 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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