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Statistical release

P0351

Tourism and Migration

July 2012

**Embargoed until:
29 October 2012
14:30**

Enquiries:

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

Forthcoming issue:

August 2012

Expected release date:

26 November 2012

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1. Key findings

1.1 Travellers

1.1.1 Number of travellers

The routine data collected by the Department of Home Affairs' (DHA) immigration officers at the ports of entry into South Africa show that a total of 3 034 943 travellers (arrivals and departures) passed through South African ports of entry in July 2012. As presented in Table 1, these travellers are made up of 904 182 South African residents and 2 130 761 foreign travellers. A further breakdown of the figures for South African residents indicates that there were 499 178 and 405 004 arrivals and departures respectively. The corresponding volumes for foreign arrivals and departures were 1 195 266 and 935 495, respectively.

A comparison between the movements in June 2012 and July 2012 indicates that the volume of arrivals for South African residents increased while the volume of their departures decreased. However, the volumes of arrivals and departures for foreign travellers increased. The volume of arrivals for South African residents increased by 36,1% (from 366 698 in June 2012 to 499 178 in July 2012); while for foreign travellers, the arrivals increased by 16,6% (from 1 024 768 in June 2012 to 1 195 266 in July 2012). For departures, the volume decreased by 11,8% (from 459 348 in June 2012 to 405 004 in July 2012) for South African residents and increased by 5,3% (from 888 351 in June 2012 to 935 495 in July 2012) for foreign travellers.

A comparison between the movements in July 2011 and July 2012 indicates that the volumes of arrivals and departures decreased for South African residents while the volumes increased for foreign travellers. For South African residents, the volume of arrivals decreased by 5,0% (from 525 466 in July 2011 to 499 178 in July 2012) and the volume of departures decreased by 10,5% (from 452 390 in July 2011 to 405 004 in July 2012). Conversely, the volume of arrivals for foreign travellers increased by 11,9% (from 1 068 352 in July 2011 to 1 195 266 in July 2012) and the volume of departures increased by 7,3% (from 872 113 in July 2011 to 935 495 in July 2012).

Detailed information on the departure of travellers is not available in the movement control system. Data on the purpose of travel and the number of days South African residents intend to spend or spent abroad are not collected by South African immigration officers. Hence, it is not possible to categorise South African residents as tourists and non-tourists. However, some data are available on foreign arrivals for this categorisation.

As presented in Table 1, in July 2012, 64 599 (5,4%) foreign arrivals were classified as non-visitors while 1 130 667 (94,6%) were classified as visitors. The visitors were categorised into three groups:

- i. arrivals only comprising of visitors who entered the country in July 2012 but did not depart in July 2012 [431 698 (38,2%)];
- ii. visitors who came once in July 2012 and left in July 2012 [315 908 (27,9%)];
- iii. those who came and left more than once in July 2012 [383 061 (33,9%)].

Visitors were further grouped as same day visitors [337 422 (29,8%)] and overnight visitors (tourists) [793 245 (70,2%)]. Between June 2012 and July 2012, the volume of same day visitors increased by 6,5% (from 316 900 in June 2012 to 337 422 in July 2012) and tourists increased by 21,3% (from 653 686 in June 2012 to 793 245 in July 2012). Furthermore, between July 2011 and July 2012, the volume of same day visitors increased by 3,6% (from 325 619 in July 2011 to 337 422 in July 2012) and the volume of tourists increased by 10,4% (from 718 195 in July 2011 to 793 245 in July 2012) during the same period.

1.1.2 Mode of travel

Travellers who cross South Africa's borders rarely use trains and ships since these are mainly used for transporting goods. Data presented in Table 2 show that in July 2012, road transport was the most common mode of travel used by 2 191 494 (72,2%) out of the 3 034 943 travellers. The total number of travellers who used air transport was 838 769 (27,6%). The arrivals data on South African residents show that 194 929 (39,0%) came by air and

304 056 (60,9%) came by road. For departures, 141 611 (35,0%) and 263 091 (65,0%) used air and road transport respectively. In the case of foreign travellers, 297 803 (24,9%) arrived by air while those who came by road were 895 155 (74,9%). When departing South Africa, 204 426 (21,9%) foreign travellers left by air whilst 729 192 (77,9%) left by road. As shown in Table 2, an overwhelming majority, 318 076 (94,3%) of same day visitors arrived in the country by road. Only 19 163 (5,7%) same day visitors flew into the country. Data on tourists show that, 545 995 (68,8%) used road transport but 247 028 (31,1%) came by air.

1.2 Tourists

1.2.1 Mode of travel

The country of residence of tourists is used to categorise them into their respective countries and regions. Information on the specific region and country of residence of the tourists and the mode of travel used to enter South Africa is provided in Table 3. In July 2012, 184 751 (89,4%) overseas tourists arrived in the country by air whilst 21 708 (10,5%) came in by road. This is in contrast to the number of tourists from the Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries who came into South Africa predominantly by road [522 034 (92,0%)]. Only 45 223 (8,0%) tourists from the SADC countries came in by air. The number of tourists who came into South Africa by air from 'other' African countries was 15 669 (90,5%); with 1 640 (9,5%) using road transport.

1.2.2 Regional and national distribution

In July 2012, the distribution of overseas tourists were as follows; Europe, 103 659 (50,2%); North America, 39 969 (19,3%); Asia, 35 088 (17,0%); Australasia, 12 632 (6,1%); Central and South America, 11 798 (5,7%) and Middle East, 3 510 (1,7%). Virtually all tourists from Africa came from the SADC countries, 567 269 (97,0%). The distribution of the remaining tourists from Africa is as follows: West Africa, 9 323 (1,6%); East and Central Africa, 6 797 (1,2%) and North Africa 1 201 (0,2%).

Data presented in Figure 1 indicate that United States of America (USA), 34 833 (16,9%); United Kingdom (UK), 31 522 (15,3%); Germany, 14 981 (7,2%); The Netherlands 12 470 (6,0%); China, 12 075 (5,8%); Australia, 10 678 (5,2%); France, 10 512 (5,1%) and India, 8 720 (4,2%) were the eight leading overseas countries in the number of tourists visiting South Africa in July 2012. Tourists from these eight countries constituted 65,7% of all tourists from overseas countries. A comparison between movements in July 2011 and July 2012 shows that the number of tourists increased in all the eight countries. China had the highest increase of 53,0% (from 7 894 tourists in July 2011 to 12 075 tourists in July 2012) while India had the least increase of 1,3% (from 8 609 tourists in July 2011 to 8 720 tourists in July 2012).

The eight leading countries in the number of tourists visiting South Africa in July 2012 from the SADC countries (see Figure 2) were Zimbabwe, 155 518 (27,4%); Lesotho, 146 965 (25,9%); Mozambique, 100 369 (17,7%); Swaziland, 67 253 (11,9%); Botswana, 39 062 (6,9%); Namibia, 17 329 (3,1%); Zambia, 14 828 (2,6%) and Malawi, 13 373 (2,4%). Tourists from these eight countries constituted 97,8% of all tourists from the SADC countries. A comparison between movements in July 2011 and July 2012 shows that the number of tourists increased in all of these countries except in Botswana. Zimbabwe had the highest increase of 16,3% (from 133 739 tourists in July 2011 to 155 518 tourists in July 2012) while Zambia had the least increase of 5,5% (from 14 059 tourists in July 2011 to 14 828 tourists in July 2012). The number of tourists from Botswana declined by 6,0% (from 41 570 tourists in July 2011 to 39 062 tourists in July 2012).

The eight leading countries in the number of tourists visiting South Africa in July 2012 from 'other' African countries, shown in Figure 3, were Nigeria, 5 980 (34,5%); Kenya, 2 510 (14,5%); Ghana, 1 881 (10,9%); Uganda, 1 383 (8,0%); Ethiopia, 686 (4,0%); Gabon, 672 (3,9%); Egypt, 600 (3,5%) and Cameroon, 542 (3,1%). Tourists from these eight countries constituted 82,3% of all tourists from 'other' African countries. A comparison between movements in July 2011 and July 2012 shows that the number of tourists increased in six countries (Egypt, Ghana, Cameroon, Uganda, Nigeria and Gabon) and decreased in Kenya and Ethiopia. The increase was highest in Egypt at 29,0% (from 465 tourists in July 2011 to 600 tourists in July 2012) while Ethiopia had a higher decrease of 24,6% (from 910 tourists in July 2011 to 686 tourists in July 2012), compared to Kenya's 2,3% (from 2 569 tourists in July 2011 to 2 510 tourists in July 2012).

1.2.3 Purpose of visit

As observed from data given in Table 4, in July 2012, an overwhelming majority 700 674 (88,3%) of tourists were in South Africa for holidays compared to only 17 847 (2,2%) and 14 478 (1,8%) of tourists who were in South Africa for business and study purposes respectively. A detailed analysis reveals that of all the tourists from each of the overseas regions, at least 56,0% came to South Africa for holidays. A total of 2 878 (82,0%) tourists from Middle East; 9 828 (77,8%) from Australasia; 79 295 (76,5%) from Europe, 30 374 (76,0%) from North America, 22 220 (63,3%) from Asia and 6 692 (56,7%) from Central and South America were in South Africa mostly for holidays. Middle East and Asia had a higher proportion (6,0% and 5,8% respectively) of their tourists in South Africa for business compared to other overseas regions.

The majority [547 928 (93,7%)] of African tourists came to South Africa for holidays. However, there were differences between tourists from the SADC countries and 'other' African countries namely:

- Whereas 535 010 (94,3%) of tourists from the SADC countries were on holidays; 12 918 (74,6%) of tourists on holidays came from 'other' African countries. Data on the regions of 'other' African countries show that tourists on holidays constituted 7 103 (76,2%); 5 001 (73,6%) and 814 (67,8%) for West Africa; East and Central Africa and North Africa respectively.
- Business persons constituted 879 (5,1%) of tourists from 'other' African countries compared with 8 090 (1,4%) from the SADC countries. North Africa had the highest proportion 8,7% (105) of its tourists in South Africa for business.
- Students made up 984 (5,7%) of tourists from 'other' African countries compared with 10 545 (1,9%) from the SADC countries. East and Central Africa had the highest proportion 8,7% (591) of their tourists in South Africa for study purposes.

1.2.4 Sex and age distribution

Table 5 shows that, in July 2012, there were 446 090 (56,2%) male and 346 293 (43,7%) female tourists. The overseas tourists were made up of 118 075 (57,1%) male tourists and 88 439 (42,8%) female tourists. There were 314 880 (55,5%) male and 251 675 (44,4%) female tourists from the SADC countries. The tourists from 'other' African countries were made up of 11 819 (68,2%) males and 5 499 (31,7%) females.

The ages of the tourists were categorised into three broad groups namely; those younger than 15 years, 15 to 64 years, and 65 years and older. The overall results presented in Table 5 show that 719 862 (90,7%) of tourists were aged between 15 and 64 years; 48 628 (6,1%) were aged less than 15 years and 24 132 (3,0%) were aged 65 years and older. Taking the regions of residence into consideration, the results further show that 174 645 (84,5%) of overseas tourists were aged between 15 and 64 years compared with 527 350 (93,0%) and 15 946 (92,1%) of tourists in the same age range from the SADC countries and 'other' African countries respectively.

For tourists aged less than 15 years, SADC and 'other' African tourists both had a proportion of 4,9% and 6,6% (27 713 and 1 135 respectively) while overseas countries had a proportion of 9,5% (19 732). There was a higher proportion of young female tourists in comparison to young male tourists from all the three regions (overseas, SADC and 'other' African countries).

A comparison of the three regions shows relatively high proportions of the elderly among both male 5,9% (6 968) and female 5,9% (5 216) tourists from overseas. This is in contrast to tourists from the SADC countries amongst which 1,7% (5 450) of males and 2,4% (6 150) of females were aged 65 years and older. Similarly among tourists from 'other' African countries, 1,4% (167) of males and 1,3% (71) of females were aged 65 years and older.

PJ Lehohla
Statistician-General

2. Figures

Figure 1. Number of tourists from eight leading overseas countries in July 2011 and July 2012

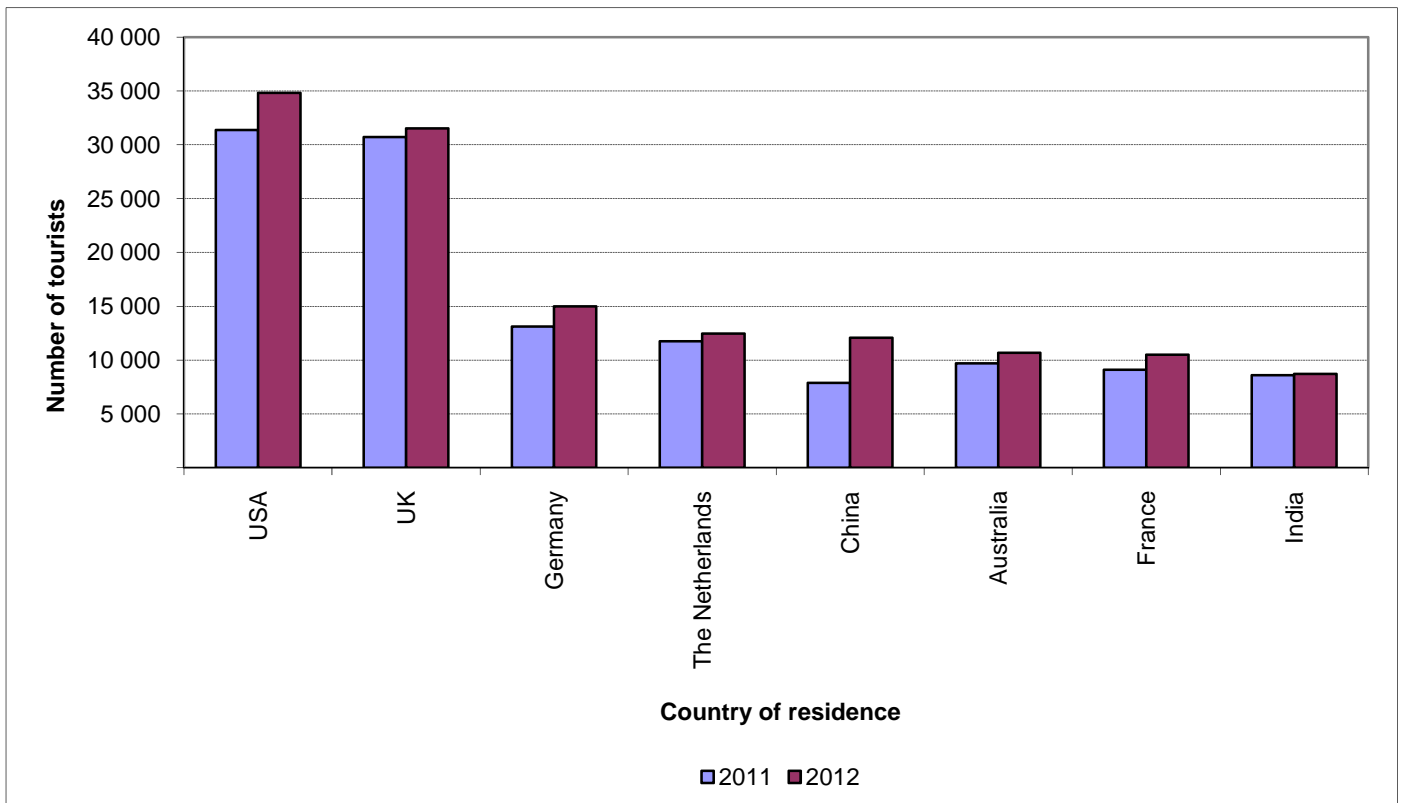


Figure 2. Number of tourists from eight leading Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries in July 2011 and July 2012

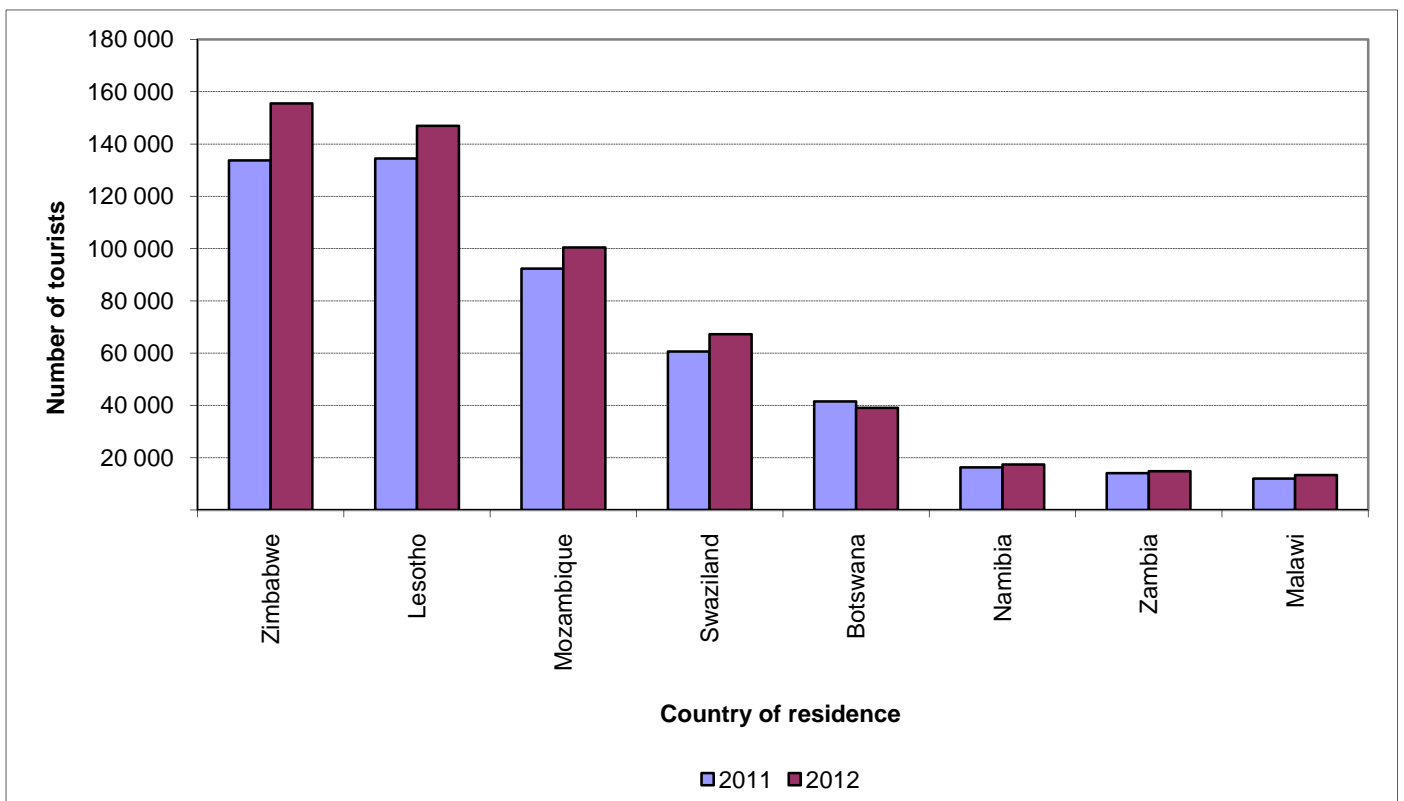
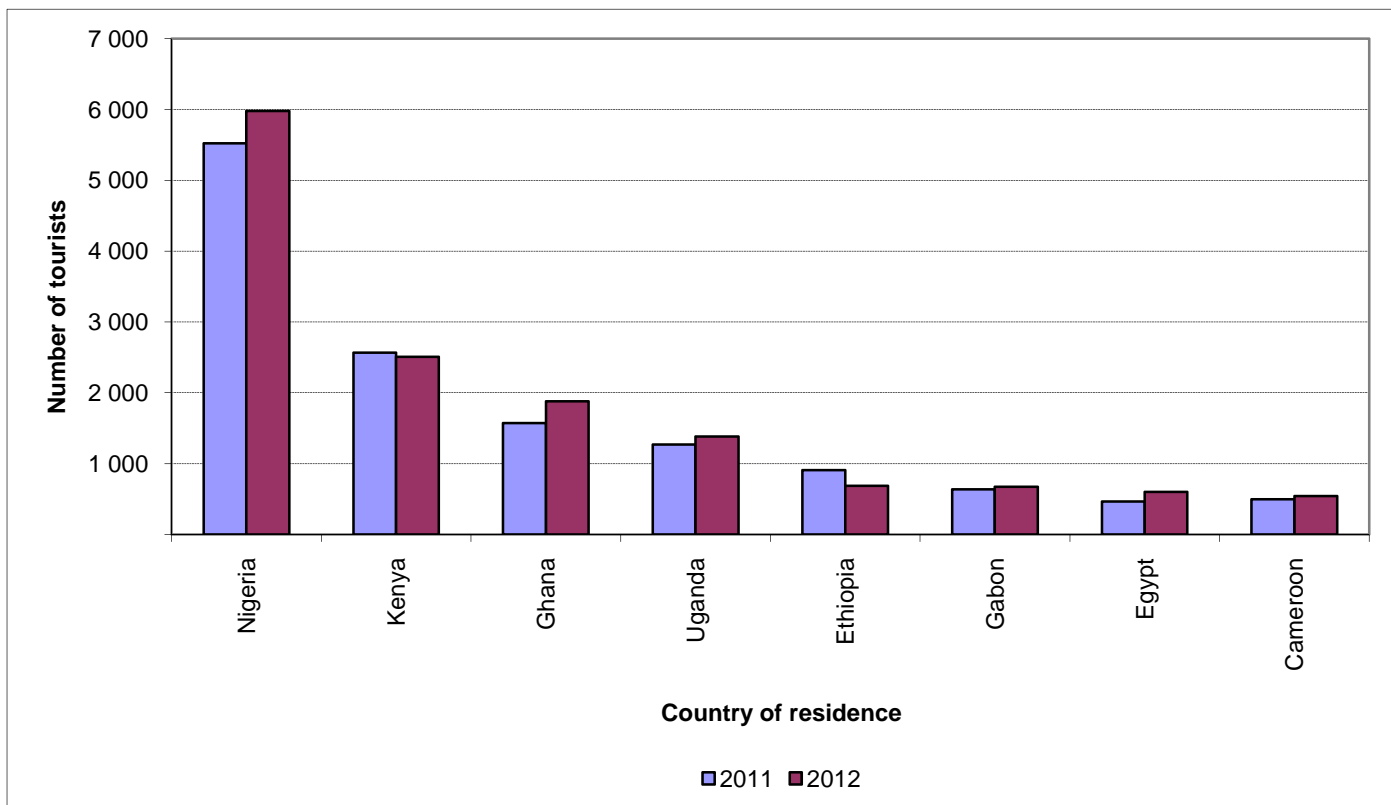


Figure 3. Number of tourists from eight leading 'other' African countries in July 2011 and July 2012



3.Tables

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

Travel direction	July	June	July	% change	% change
	2011	2012	2012	July 2011 - July 2012	June 2012 - July 2012
Total	2 918 321	2 739 165	3 034 943	4,0	10,8
South African residents	977 856	826 046	904 182	-7,5	9,5
Arrivals	525 466	366 698	499 178	-5,0	36,1
Departures	452 390	459 348	405 004	-10,5	-11,8
Foreign travellers	1 940 465	1 913 119	2 130 761	9,8	11,4
Arrivals	1 068 352	1 024 768	1 195 266	11,9	16,6
Departures	872 113	888 351	935 495	7,3	5,3
Foreign arrivals	1 068 352	1 024 768	1 195 266	11,9	16,6
Non-visitors	24 538	54 182	64 599	163,3	19,2
Visitors	1 043 814	970 586	1 130 667	8,3	16,5
Visitors	1 043 814	970 586	1 130 667	8,3	16,5
Arrivals only	375 076	341 434	431 698	15,1	26,4
Single trips	355 857	345 490	315 908	-11,2	-8,6
Multiple trips	312 881	283 662	383 061	22,4	35,0
Visitors	1 043 814	970 586	1 130 667	8,3	16,5
Same day	325 619	316 900	337 422	3,6	6,5
Overnight (tourists)	718 195	653 686	793 245	10,4	21,3

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

Travel Direction	July		Mode of travel (July 2012)							
			Air					Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2011	2012	Cape Town	K Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total			
Total	2 918 321	3 034 943	104 798	20 147	704 713	9 111	838 769	2 191 494	4 646	34
South African residents	977 856	904 182	44 492	13 006	273 326	5 716	336 540	567 147	495	-
Arrivals	525 466	499 178	26 840	7 868	157 329	2 892	194 929	304 056	193	-
Departures	452 390	405 004	17 652	5 138	115 997	2 824	141 611	263 091	302	-
Foreign travellers	1 940 465	2 130 761	60 306	7 141	431 387	3 395	502 229	1 624 347	4 151	34
Arrivals	1 068 352	1 195 266	32 592	3 929	259 787	1 495	297 803	895 155	2 274	34
Departures	872 113	935 495	27 714	3 212	171 600	1 900	204 426	729 192	1 877	-
Visitors	1 043 814	1 130 667	27 878	2 782	234 358	1 173	266 191	864 071	390	15
Same day	325 619	337 422	251	16	18 730	166	19 163	318 076	183	-
Overnight (tourists)	718 195	793 245	27 627	2 766	215 628	1 007	247 028	545 995	207	15

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

Country of residence	July		Mode of travel (July 2012)							
			Air					Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2011	2012	Cape Town	K Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total			
Total	718 195	793 245	27 627	2 766	215 628	1 007	247 028	545 995	207	15
Overseas	183 426	206 656	24 533	2 411	157 042	765	184 751	21 708	187	10
Europe	93 938	103 659	16 513	1 507	72 716	180	90 916	12 626	115	2
Austria	1 325	1 649	219	24	1 227	2	1 472	177	-	-
Belgium	3 929	4 144	526	21	2 868	7	3 422	722	-	-
Denmark	1 651	1 718	231	25	1 321	1	1 578	140	-	-
France	9 109	10 512	1 298	103	7 829	25	9 255	1 255	2	-
Germany	13 122	14 981	2 042	253	10 839	18	13 152	1 822	7	-
Ireland	2 255	2 175	396	41	1 474	-	1 911	262	1	1
Italy	4 485	5 484	1 215	94	3 804	4	5 117	366	1	-
Norway	1 304	1 417	272	2	965	4	1 243	174	-	-
Portugal	2 849	3 458	211	20	2 020	11	2 262	1 196	-	-
Spain	2 812	3 509	528	26	2 674	12	3 240	256	13	-
Sweden	1 384	1 443	231	3	1 054	5	1 293	150	-	-
Switzerland	2 747	3 451	398	34	2 605	7	3 044	405	2	-
The Netherlands	11 757	12 470	2 374	122	7 165	14	9 675	2 794	1	-
UK	30 724	31 522	5 629	622	22 714	54	29 019	2 441	62	-
Other	4 485	5 726	943	117	4 157	16	5 233	466	26	1
North America	35 974	39 969	3 980	263	31 821	412	36 476	3 488	5	-
Canada	4 584	5 136	712	42	3 763	19	4 536	600	-	-
USA	31 390	34 833	3 268	221	28 058	393	31 940	2 888	5	-
Central and South America	9 040	11 798	231	36	10 638	26	10 931	864	3	-
Argentina	1 122	1 421	13	2	1 336	-	1 351	70	-	-
Brazil	5 780	7 732	72	25	6 991	7	7 095	636	1	-
Mexico	436	474	52	2	389	17	460	14	-	-
Other	1 702	2 171	94	7	1 922	2	2 025	144	2	-

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

Country of residence	July		Mode of travel (July 2012)							
			Air					Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2011	2012	Cape Town	K Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total			
Australasia	11 616	12 632	454	71	11 038	81	11 644	985	3	-
Australia	9 699	10 678	371	40	9 377	79	9 867	811	-	-
New Zealand	1 877	1 931	81	31	1 640	2	1 754	174	3	-
Other	40	23	2	-	21	-	23	-	-	-
Middle East	4 259	3 510	511	29	2 724	21	3 285	225	-	-
Iran	220	320	102	9	197	-	308	12	-	-
Israel	1 497	1 755	59	-	1 584	3	1 646	109	-	-
Saudi Arabia	1 295	471	163	13	280	-	456	15	-	-
Other	1 247	964	187	7	663	18	875	89	-	-
Asia	28 599	35 088	2 844	505	28 105	45	31 499	3 520	61	8
China	7 894	12 075	1 039	59	10 245	4	11 347	723	5	-
India	8 609	8 720	495	199	6 646	17	7 357	1 342	20	1
Japan	2 233	2 930	294	28	2 516	1	2 839	91	-	-
Pakistan	1 641	1 883	136	92	1 237	4	1 469	410	1	3
Philippines	854	1 369	65	8	1 087	4	1 164	185	20	-
Singapore	454	724	171	13	519	3	706	18	-	-
South Korea	3 031	2 151	180	26	1 706	9	1 921	229	1	-
Taiwan	715	1 202	100	5	935	-	1 040	161	-	1
Vietnam	657	1 021	6	1	1 012	-	1 019	2	-	-
Other	2 511	3 013	358	74	2 202	3	2 637	359	14	3
Africa	532 779	584 590	3 020	338	57 294	240	60 892	523 674	19	5
SADC	516 493	567 269	2 720	289	42 003	211	45 223	522 034	9	3
Angola	3 264	3 840	411	-	3 279	11	3 701	139	-	-
Botswana	41 570	39 062	25	10	4 049	49	4 133	34 929	-	-
DRC	3 204	3 239	8	-	2 560	12	2 580	659	-	-
Lesotho	134 496	146 965	1	4	865	-	870	146 095	-	-
Madagascar	276	438	4	2	428	-	434	4	-	-

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

Country of residence	July		Mode of travel (July 2012)							
			Air					Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2011	2012	Cape Town	K Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total			
Malawi	12 052	13 373	7	3	2 321	13	2 344	11 028	-	1
Mauritius	1 609	1 692	168	102	1 259	-	1 529	163	-	-
Mozambique	92 291	100 369	127	50	4 579	25	4 781	95 588	-	-
Namibia	16 330	17 329	1 839	-	4 735	21	6 595	10 727	7	-
Seychelles	234	183	2	-	168	-	170	13	-	-
Swaziland	60 653	67 253	1	4	1 215	3	1 223	66 029	-	1
Tanzania	2 716	3 180	11	7	1 761	1	1 780	1 399	1	-
Zambia	14 059	14 828	35	99	5 075	21	5 230	9 598	-	-
Zimbabwe	133 739	155 518	81	8	9 709	55	9 853	145 663	1	1
'Other' Africa	16 286	17 321	300	49	15 291	29	15 669	1 640	10	2
East and Central Africa	6 808	6 797	77	7	5 972	11	6 067	726	2	2
Burundi	94	127	1	-	119	-	120	7	-	-
Cameroon	497	542	7	-	505	-	512	29	1	-
Central African Republic	14	10	-	-	10	-	10	-	-	-
Chad	29	28	5	-	21	1	27	1	-	-
Comoros	16	20	1	-	19	-	20	-	-	-
Congo	368	368	3	-	357	-	360	7	1	-
Djibouti	16	7	-	-	7	-	7	-	-	-
Equatorial Guinea	19	30	1	-	24	4	29	1	-	-
Eritrea	60	79	1	-	71	-	72	7	-	-
Ethiopia	910	686	15	2	581	1	599	86	-	1
Gabon	636	672	5	-	660	-	665	7	-	-
Kenya	2 569	2 510	22	3	2 157	5	2 187	323	-	-
Rwanda	291	291	-	-	259	-	259	32	-	-
Sao Tome and Principe	6	25	2	-	23	-	25	-	-	-
Somalia	14	19	-	-	19	-	19	-	-	-
Uganda	1 269	1 383	14	2	1 140	-	1 156	226	-	1

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

Country of residence	July		Mode of travel (July 2012)							
			Air				Road	Sea	Unspecified	
	2011	2012	Cape Town	K Shaka	OR Tambo	Other				Total
West Africa	8 441	9 323	158	11	8 270	16	8 455	867	1	
Benin	77	138	2	-	130	1	133	5	-	-
Burkina Faso	56	69	2	-	65	-	67	2	-	-
Cape Verde Island	45	50	6	-	37	1	44	6	-	-
Côte D'Ivoire	183	196	10	2	179	-	191	5	-	-
Gambia	81	99	-	-	91	-	91	8	-	-
Ghana	1 573	1 881	62	1	1 662	1	1 726	155	-	-
Guinea	238	235	1	-	100	-	101	134	-	-
Guinea-Bissau	16	22	-	-	20	-	20	2	-	-
Liberia	49	56	4	-	50	-	54	2	-	-
Mali	119	104	1	4	85	-	90	14	-	-
Mauritania	27	21	1	2	17	-	20	1	-	-
Niger	32	29	2	-	26	-	28	1	-	-
Nigeria	5 523	5 980	52	2	5 411	12	5 477	502	1	-
Saint Helena	16	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Senegal	262	290	3	-	281	-	284	6	-	-
Sierra Leone	85	86	3	-	64	-	67	19	-	-
Togo	59	66	8	-	52	1	61	5	-	-
North Africa	1 037	1 201	65	31	1 049	2	1 147	47	7	
Algeria	109	120	4	-	106	-	110	10	-	-
Egypt	465	600	22	5	536	1	564	29	7	-
Libya	59	89	9	-	74	-	83	6	-	-
Morocco	119	109	12	8	87	-	107	2	-	-
The Sudan	142	165	13	5	146	1	165	-	-	-
Tunisia	140	117	5	13	99	-	117	-	-	-
Western Sahara	3	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
Unspecified	1 990	1 999	74	17	1 292	2	1 385	613	1	-

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

Country of residence	July		Purpose of visit (July 2012)			
	2011	2012	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
Total	718 195	793 245	17 847	700 674	14 478	60 246
Overseas	183 426	206 656	8 777	151 287	2 917	43 675
Europe	93 938	103 659	4 753	79 295	1 734	17 877
Austria	1 325	1 649	59	1 171	30	389
Belgium	3 929	4 144	145	3 207	67	725
Denmark	1 651	1 718	73	1 331	26	288
France	9 109	10 512	432	8 341	105	1 634
Germany	13 122	14 981	679	11 288	539	2 475
Ireland	2 255	2 175	121	1 710	31	313
Italy	4 485	5 484	325	4 074	53	1 032
Norway	1 304	1 417	45	1 043	63	266
Portugal	2 849	3 458	108	2 608	34	708
Spain	2 812	3 509	173	2 302	12	1 022
Sweden	1 384	1 443	79	1 014	50	300
Switzerland	2 747	3 451	79	2 226	45	1 101
The Netherlands	11 757	12 470	265	11 263	181	761
UK	30 724	31 522	1 734	23 718	413	5 657
Other	4 485	5 726	436	3 999	85	1 206
North America	35 974	39 969	1 241	30 374	581	7 773
Canada	4 584	5 136	187	4 038	44	867
USA	31 390	34 833	1 054	26 336	537	6 906
Central and South America	9 040	11 798	185	6 692	77	4 844
Argentina	1 122	1 421	34	916	9	462
Brazil	5 780	7 732	71	4 030	38	3 593
Mexico	436	474	18	399	7	50
Other	1 702	2 171	62	1 347	23	739

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

Country of residence	July		Purpose of visit (July 2012)			
	2011	2012	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
Australasia	11 616	12 632	361	9 828	51	2 392
Australia	9 699	10 678	312	8 299	39	2 028
New Zealand	1 877	1 931	48	1 520	10	353
Other	40	23	1	9	2	11
Middle East	4 259	3 510	210	2 878	65	357
Iran	220	320	47	227	28	18
Israel	1 497	1 755	79	1 461	11	204
Saudi Arabia	1 295	471	17	440	9	5
Other	1 247	964	67	750	17	130
Asia	28 599	35 088	2 027	22 220	409	10 432
China	7 894	12 075	629	6 902	77	4 467
India	8 609	8 720	675	6 451	132	1 462
Japan	2 233	2 930	221	1 854	14	841
Pakistan	1 641	1 883	75	1 452	19	337
Philippines	854	1 369	33	566	6	764
Singapore	454	724	60	552	5	107
South Korea	3 031	2 151	84	1 452	83	532
Taiwan	715	1 202	42	862	11	287
Vietnam	657	1 021	3	72	2	944
Other	2 511	3 013	205	2 057	60	691
Africa	532 779	584 590	8 969	547 928	11 529	16 164
SADC	516 493	567 269	8 090	535 010	10 545	13 624
Angola	3 264	3 840	47	2 320	511	962
Botswana	41 570	39 062	238	35 613	1 298	1 913
DRC	3 204	3 239	64	2 743	220	212
Lesotho	134 496	146 965	46	145 718	819	382
Madagascar	276	438	15	198	13	212

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

Country of residence	July		Purpose of visit (July 2012)			
	2011	2012	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
Malawi	12 052	13 373	265	12 198	169	741
Mauritius	1 609	1 692	83	1 196	134	279
Mozambique	92 291	100 369	1 206	96 686	198	2 279
Namibia	16 330	17 329	2 205	11 466	1 955	1 703
Seychelles	234	183	9	157	5	12
Swaziland	60 653	67 253	1 043	63 842	1 766	602
Tanzania	2 716	3 180	90	2 496	147	447
Zambia	14 059	14 828	1 158	12 064	382	1 224
Zimbabwe	133 739	155 518	1 621	148 313	2 928	2 656
'Other' Africa	16 286	17 321	879	12 918	984	2 540
East and Central Africa	6 808	6 797	386	5 001	591	819
Burundi	94	127	6	83	6	32
Cameroon	497	542	33	371	40	98
Central African Republic	14	10	-	8	-	2
Chad	29	28	2	17	4	5
Comoros	16	20	2	17	-	1
Congo	368	368	13	290	42	23
Djibouti	16	7	-	7	-	-
Equatorial Guinea	19	30	1	17	9	3
Eritrea	60	79	3	68	1	7
Ethiopia	910	686	26	551	30	79
Gabon	636	672	6	564	75	27
Kenya	2 569	2 510	206	1 790	246	268
Rwanda	291	291	10	183	33	65
Sao Tome and Principe	6	25	4	9	-	12
Somalia	14	19	-	10	1	8
Uganda	1 269	1 383	74	1 016	104	189

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

Country of residence	July		Purpose of visit (July 2012)			
	2011	2012	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
West Africa	8 441	9 323	388	7 103	349	1 483
Benin	77	138	7	109	6	16
Burkina Faso	56	69	5	34	3	27
Cape Verde Island	45	50	1	38	4	7
Côte D'Ivoire	183	196	15	146	5	30
Gambia	81	99	2	29		68
Ghana	1 573	1 881	107	1 466	29	279
Guinea	238	235	8	169	4	54
Guinea-Bissau	16	22	2	4	-	16
Liberia	49	56	10	37	1	8
Mali	119	104	6	70	-	28
Mauritania	27	21	4	7	-	10
Niger	32	29	5	16	3	5
Nigeria	5 523	5 980	184	4 697	287	812
Saint Helena	16	1	-	1	-	-
Senegal	262	290	16	172	2	100
Sierra Leone	85	86	7	64	4	11
Togo	59	66	9	44	1	12
North Africa	1 037	1 201	105	814	44	238
Algeria	109	120	6	93	2	19
Egypt	465	600	50	397	13	140
Libya	59	89	2	60	7	20
Morocco	119	109	19	63	2	25
The Sudan	142	165	17	116	18	14
Tunisia	140	117	11	85	2	19
Western Sahara	3	1	-	-	-	1
Unspecified	1 990	1 999	101	1 459	32	407

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

Sex	Age group	Total	Region (July 2012)			
			Overseas	SADC	'Other' African	Unspecified
All	Total	793 245	206 656	567 269	17 321	1 999
	<15	48 628	19 732	27 713	1 135	48
	15 - 64	719 862	174 645	527 350	15 946	1 921
	65+	24 132	12 201	11 665	238	28
	Unspecified	623	78	541	2	2
Male	Total	446 090	118 075	314 880	11 819	1 316
	<15	24 478	10 378	13 514	556	30
	15 - 64	408 665	100 691	295 615	11 095	1 264
	65+	12 605	6 968	5 450	167	20
	Unspecified	342	38	301	1	2
Female	Total	346 293	88 439	251 675	5 499	680
	<15	24 150	9 354	14 199	579	18
	15 - 64	310 491	73 835	231 153	4 849	654
	65+	11 445	5 216	6 150	71	8
	Unspecified	207	34	173	-	-
Unspecified	Total	862	142	714	3	3
	<15	-	-	-	-	-
	15 - 64	706	119	582	2	3
	65+	82	17	65	-	-
	Unspecified	74	6	67	1	-

4. Explanatory notes

4.1 Introduction

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

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

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

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

4.2 Purpose of the statistical release

This release reports on arrivals and departures of South African residents and foreign travellers. Detailed information on the gender and age structure; mode of travel; national and regional distribution; and purpose of travel of overnight visitors or tourists are provided.

4.3 Scope and coverage

The release covers data on arrivals and departures of South African residents and foreign travellers. A detailed analysis of the data on foreign tourists with respect to: mode of travel, purpose of visit, sex and age distribution is covered in the release. Statistics on documented migration, that is self-declared emigrants, are not reported due to the unavailability of data.

4.4 Data

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

- Data routinely collected by immigration officers at all road, air and sea entry ports on all travellers (South African residents and foreign travellers) arriving into or departing from South Africa are captured into the DHA's population Movement Control System (MCS). The counts/statistics relate to the number of individual movements, rather than to the number of people. Hence, the multiple movements of individual people during the calendar month are each counted separately. Generally the data are collected directly from travel documents either by scanning or capturing onto the port's electronic database. No forms or cards are used (except in rare occasions when the capturing system is down) to collect information from travellers. Individual ports regularly transmit data onto the national database at the head office of the DHA.
- Stats SA downloads the data covering a particular calendar month from the mainframe of the State Information Technology Agency (SITA), where the DHA stores its data.
- As part of data interrogation, data from the OR Tambo International Airport, which has the highest volume of travellers, are compared with passenger statistics from the Airport Company of South Africa (ACSA). As expected, in any specific month, an increase in the volume of passengers reported by ACSA has been accompanied by an increase in the volume of travellers recorded by DHA. A similar pattern was also observed when the volume of travellers decreased. However, the volume of passengers recorded by ACSA

is generally 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 2012, the DHA data was 1,1% lower than that of ACSA.

4.5 Limitations

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

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

4.6 Definitions of terms

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

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

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

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

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

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

4.6.2 Definitions used specifically in this release

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

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

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

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

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

SADC refers to the fourteen countries, excluding South Africa, which belongs to the Southern African Development Community.

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

Overseas refers to all countries outside Africa.

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

4.7 Symbols used

- = nil

< = less than

5. 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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