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Statistical release

P0351

Tourism and Migration

July 2013

**Embargoed until:
28 October 2013
13:00**

Enquiries:

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

Forthcoming issue:

August 2013

Expected release date:

25 November 2013

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Preface

This monthly statistical release provides information on South African residents and foreign travellers who entered or left South Africa in July 2013. Specific focus is on foreign tourists who entered the country during this month. The tourists are classified by region and country of residence. Details of their mode of travel; purpose of visit; and age and sex distribution are also provided.

PJ Lehohla
Statistician-General

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 3 285 691 travellers (arrivals and departures) passed through South African ports of entry in July 2013. As presented in Table 1 on page 8, these travellers were made up of 899 575 South African residents and 2 386 116 foreign travellers. A further breakdown of the figures for South African residents indicates that there were 490 953 arrivals and 408 622 departures. The corresponding volumes for foreign arrivals and departures were 1 289 022 and 1 097 094, respectively.

A comparison between the movements in June 2013 and July 2013 indicates that the volumes of arrivals increased for both South African residents and foreign travellers while departures decreased for South African residents but increased for foreign travellers. The volume of arrivals for South African residents increased by 20,9% (from 406 096 in June 2013 to 490 953 in July 2013) and their departures decreased by 16,0% (from 486 245 in June 2013 to 408 622 in July 2013). Foreign arrivals increased by 16,2% (from 1 109 391 in June 2013 to 1 289 022 in July 2013) and foreign departures increased by 10,6% (from 992 301 in June 2013 to 1 097 094 in July 2013).

A comparison between the movements in July 2012 and July 2013 indicates that the volumes of arrivals decreased for South African residents and increased for foreign travellers while departures increased for both South African residents and foreign travellers. For South African residents, the volume of arrivals decreased by 1,6% (from 499 178 in July 2012 to 490 953 in July 2013) while the volume of their departures increased by 0,9% (from 405 004 in July 2012 to 408 622 in July 2013). The volume of arrivals for foreign travellers increased by 7,8% (from 1 195 266 in July 2012 to 1 289 022 in July 2013) and the volume of departures increased by 17,3% (from 935 495 in July 2012 to 1 097 094 in July 2013).

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 the DHA. 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 2013, 70 851 (5,5%) foreign arrivals were classified as non-visitors while 1 218 171 (94,5%) were classified as visitors. The visitors were categorised into three groups:

- i. arrivals only – comprising of visitors who entered the country in July 2013 but did not depart in July 2013 [399 246 (32,8%)];
- ii. single trips – visitors who came once in July 2013 and left in July 2013 [430 898 (35,4%)]; and
- iii. multiple trips – visitors who came and left more than once in July 2013 [388 027 (31,9%)].

Visitors were further grouped as same-day visitors and overnight visitors (tourists). In July 2013, there were 429 003 (35,2%) same-day visitors and 789 168 (64,8%) tourists. Between June 2013 and July 2013, the volume of same-day visitors increased by 16,2% (from 369 287 in June 2013 to 429 003 in July 2013) and tourists increased by 16,6% (from 677 085 in June 2013 to 789 168 in July 2013). Furthermore, between July 2012 and July 2013, the volume of same-day visitors increased by 27,1% (from 337 422 in July 2012 to 429 003 in July 2013) while the volume of tourists decreased by 0,5% (from 793 245 in July 2012 to 789 168 in July 2013).

1.1.2 Mode of travel

Travellers who cross South Africa's borders rarely use trains since they are mainly used for transporting goods. Data presented in Table 2 on page 9 show that in July 2013, road transport was the most common mode of travel used by 2 425 215 (73,8%) out of the 3 285 691 travellers. The total number of travellers who used air transport was 853 832 (26,0%). The arrivals data on South African residents show that 192 756 (39,3%) came by air and 298 073 (60,7%) came by road. For departures, 142 514 (34,9%) and 265 944 (65,1%) used air and road transport respectively.

In the case of foreign travellers, 298 248 (23,1%) arrived by air while those who came by road were 987 323 (76,6%). When departing South Africa, 220 314 (20,1%) foreign travellers left by air whilst 873 875 (79,7%) left by road. Table 2 further shows that an overwhelming majority [409 274 (95,4%)] of same-day visitors arrived in the country by road. Only 19 724 (4,6%) same-day visitors flew into the country. Data on tourists show that, 542 620 (68,8%) used road transport but 246 420 (31,2%) 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 on page 10. In July 2013, 182 407 (89,4%) overseas tourists arrived in the country by air whilst 21 617 (10,6%) 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 [518 853 (91,9%)]. Only 45 595 (8,1%) 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 17 389 (91,3%); with 1 634 (8,6%) using road transport.

1.2.2 Regional and national distribution

In July 2013, the distribution of overseas tourists was as follows; Europe, 105 448 (51,7%); North America, 39 124 (19,2%); Asia, 32 277 (15,8%); Australasia, 13 402 (6,6%); Central and South America, 11 052 (5,4%) and Middle East, 2 817 (1,4%). Virtually all tourists from Africa came from the SADC countries, [564 460 (96,7%)]. The distribution of the remaining tourists from Africa is as follows: West Africa, [10 366 (1,8%)]; East and Central Africa, 7 773 (1,3%) and North Africa 904 (0,2%).

Data presented in Figure 1 on page 6 indicate that United States of America (USA), 34 584 (16,9%); United Kingdom (UK), 31 786 (15,6%); Germany, 15 649 (7,7%); The Netherlands, 13 321 (6,5%); China 11 642 (5,7%); Australia, 11 199 (5,5%); France, 9 947 (4,9%); India 7 935 (3,9%); Brazil, 6 916 (3,4%) and Italy, 5 640 (2,8%) were the ten leading overseas countries visiting South Africa in July 2013. Tourists from these ten countries constituted 72,8% of all tourists from overseas countries. A comparison between movements in July 2012 and July 2013 shows that the number of tourists increased in five of these countries (The Netherlands, Australia, Germany, Italy and UK) and decreased in the remaining five (Brazil, India, France, China and USA). The Netherlands had the highest increase of 6,8% (from 12 470 tourists in July 2012 to 13 321 tourists in July 2013) while Brazil had the largest decrease of 10,6% (from 7 732 tourists in July 2012 to 6 916 tourists in July 2013).

The ten leading SADC countries in the number of tourists visiting South Africa in July 2013 were Zimbabwe, 155 745 (27,6%); Lesotho, 132 815 (23,5%); Mozambique, 96 887 (17,2%); Swaziland, 70 783 (12,5%); Botswana, 45 896 (8,1%); Namibia, 17 728 (3,1%); Malawi, 16 624 (2,9%); Zambia, 15 004 (2,7%); Angola, 4 368 (0,8%) and DRC, 3 296 (0,6%) (see Figure 2 on page 6). Tourists from these ten countries constituted 99,1% of all tourists from the SADC countries. A comparison between movements in July 2012 and July 2013 shows that the number of tourists increased in eight of these countries (Malawi, Botswana, Angola, Swaziland, Namibia, DRC, Zambia and Zimbabwe) and decreased in two countries (Lesotho and Mozambique). Malawi had the highest increase of 24,3% (from 13 373 tourists in July 2012 to 16 624 tourists in July 2013) while Lesotho had the largest decrease of 9,6% (from 146 965 tourists in July 2012 to 132 815 tourists in July 2013).

The ten leading countries in the number of tourists visiting South Africa in July 2013 from 'other' African countries, as shown in Figure 3 on page 7, were Nigeria, 6 776 (35,6%); Kenya, 2 974 (15,6%); Ghana, 2 176 (11,4%); Uganda, 1 329 (7,0%); Gabon, 928 (4,9%); Ethiopia, 753 (4,0%); Congo, 557 (2,9%); Cameroon, 519 (2,7%); Egypt, 410 (2,2%); and Rwanda, 357 (1,9%). Tourists from these ten countries constituted 88,1% of all tourists from 'other' African countries. A comparison between movements in July 2012 and July 2013 shows that the number of tourists increased in seven of these countries (Congo, Gabon, Rwanda, Kenya, Ghana, Nigeria and Ethiopia) and decreased for (Egypt, Cameroon and Uganda). Congo had the highest increase of 51,4% (from 368 tourists in July 2012 to 557 tourists in July 2013). Egypt showed the largest decrease of 31,7% (from 600 tourists in July 2012 to 410 tourists in July 2013).

1.2.3 Purpose of visit

As observed from data given in Table 4 on page 14, in July 2013, a majority [710 909 (90,1%)] of tourists were in South Africa for holidays compared to only 51 429 (6,5%), 14 124 (1,8%), and 12 706 (1,6%) of tourists who were in South Africa in transit; for business and for study purposes respectively. A detailed analysis reveals that of all the tourists from each of the overseas regions, at least 61,0% came to South Africa for holidays. A total of 2 392 (84,9%) from Middle East; 10 972 (81,9%) tourists from Australasia; 31 467 (80,4%) from North America; 82 807 (78,5%) from Europe, 22 830 (70,7%) from Asia and 6 778 (61,3%) from Central and South America were in South Africa for holidays. Middle East had a higher proportion (5,2%) of their tourists in South Africa for business compared to other overseas regions while Central and South America (37,1%) had higher proportions of their tourists in transit in South Africa.

The majority of African tourists [552 440 (94,7%)] came to South Africa for holidays. However, there were differences between tourists from the SADC countries and 'other' African countries namely:

- Whereas 537 474 (95,2%) of tourists from the SADC countries were on holidays; 14 966 (78,6%) of tourists from 'other' African countries came for the same purpose. Data on the regions of 'other' African countries show that tourists on holidays constituted 82,5% (8 551); 74,5% (5 791) and 69,0% (624) for West Africa; East and Central Africa; and North Africa, respectively.
- Business persons constituted 3,9% (739) of tourists from 'other' African countries and 1,2% (6 788) from the SADC countries. North Africa had the highest proportion of 5,9% (53) of its tourists in South Africa for business.
- Students made up 5,2% (993) of tourists from 'other' African countries compared with 1,6% (8 886) from the SADC countries. There were higher proportions of students among tourists from East and Central Africa [8,2% (640)] and North Africa [5,2% (47)] than among tourists from West Africa [3,0% (306)].
- The proportion of tourists in transit was higher for those from 'other' African countries [12,3% (2 345)] compared to those from SADC countries [2,0% (11 312)]. North Africa [19,9% (180)] had a relatively higher proportion of their tourists in transit than tourists from East and Central Africa [12,4% (966)] and West Africa [11,6% (1 199)].

1.2.4 Sex and age distribution

Table 5 on page 18 shows that, in July 2013, there were 439 636 (55,7%) male and 348 742 (44,2%) female tourists. Overseas tourists were made up of 115 284 (56,5%) male tourists and 88 671 (43,4%) female tourists. There were 310 609 (55,0%) male and 253 229 (44,9%) female tourists from the SADC countries. The tourists from 'other' African countries were made up of 12 722 (66,8%) males and 6 318 (33,2%) 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 711 922 (90,2%) of tourists were aged between 15 and 64 years; 25 561 (3,2%) were aged 65 years and older; and 51 224 (6,5%) were aged less than 15 years. Taking the regions of residence into consideration, the results further show that 171 358 (83,9%) of overseas tourists were aged between 15 and 64 years compared with 521 502 (92,4%) and 17 560 (92,2%) of tourists in the same age range from the SADC countries and 'other' African countries respectively.

The proportion of tourists aged less than 15 years was higher among tourists from overseas [9,6% (19 634)] and those from 'other' African countries [6,3% (1 202)] than among tourists from the SADC countries [5,4% (30 369)]. A comparison of the three regions shows relatively high proportions of the elderly among both male [6,5% (7 438)] and female [6,3% (5 599)] tourists from overseas. This is in contrast to the pattern observed among tourists from the other two regions. Thus, 1,8% (5 475) of male and 2,6% (6 664) of female tourists from the SADC countries were aged 65 years and older. Likewise 1,4% (183) of male and 1,5% (95) of female tourists from 'other' African countries were aged 65 years and older.

2. Figures

Figure 1. Number of tourists from the ten leading overseas countries in July 2012 and July 2013

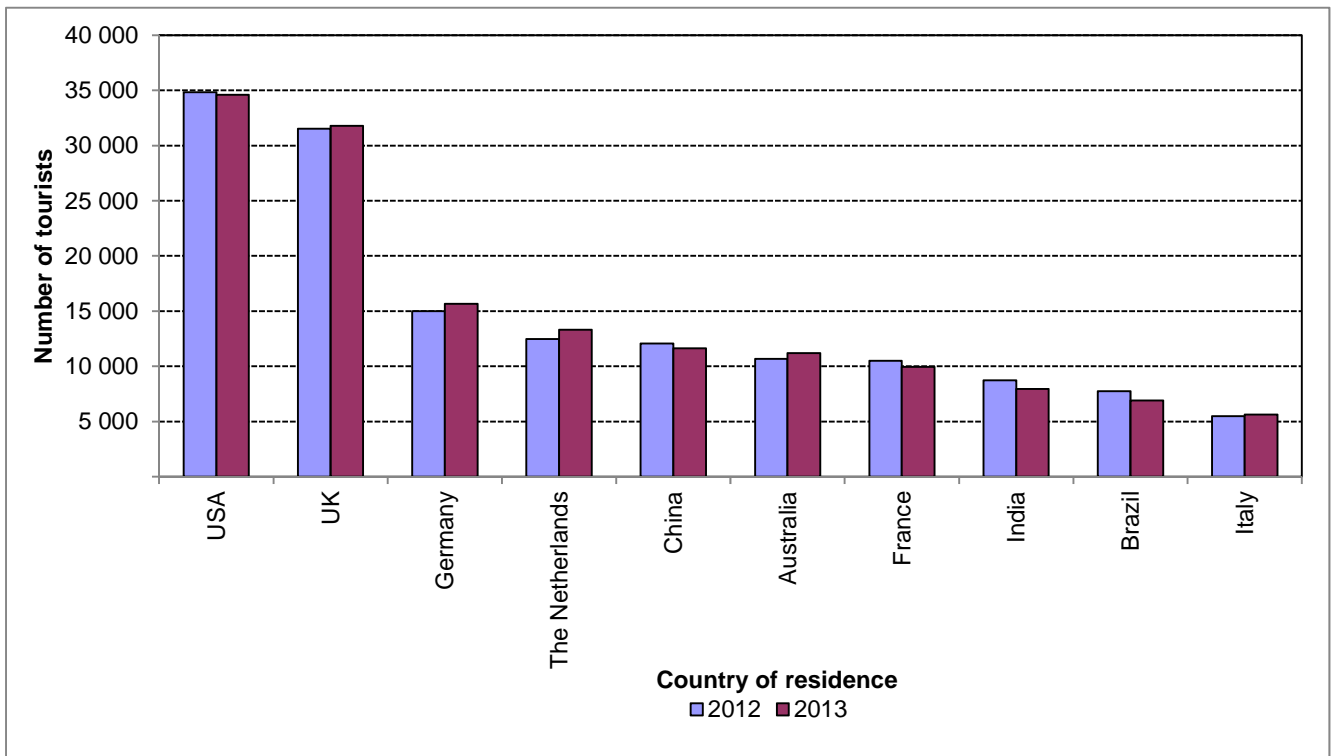


Figure 2. Number of tourists from the ten leading Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries in July 2012 and July 2013

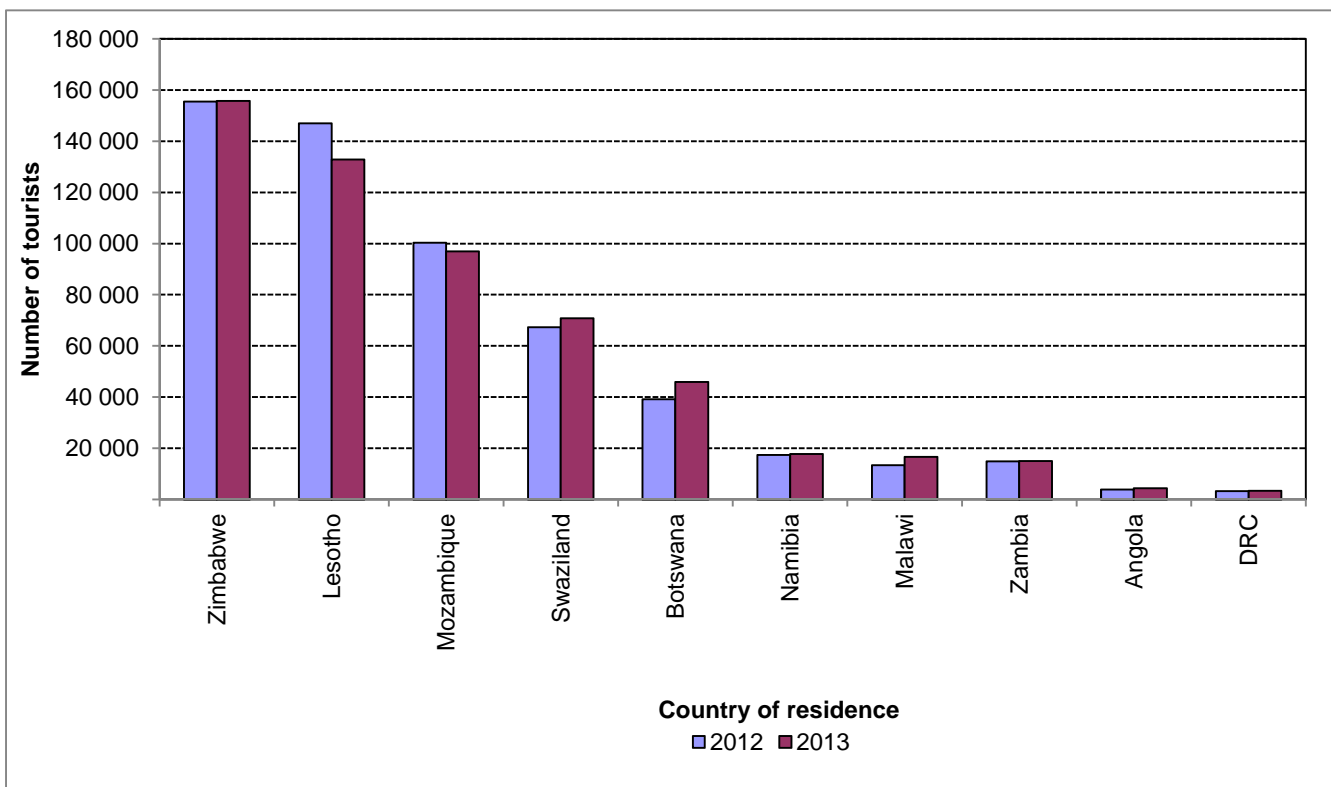
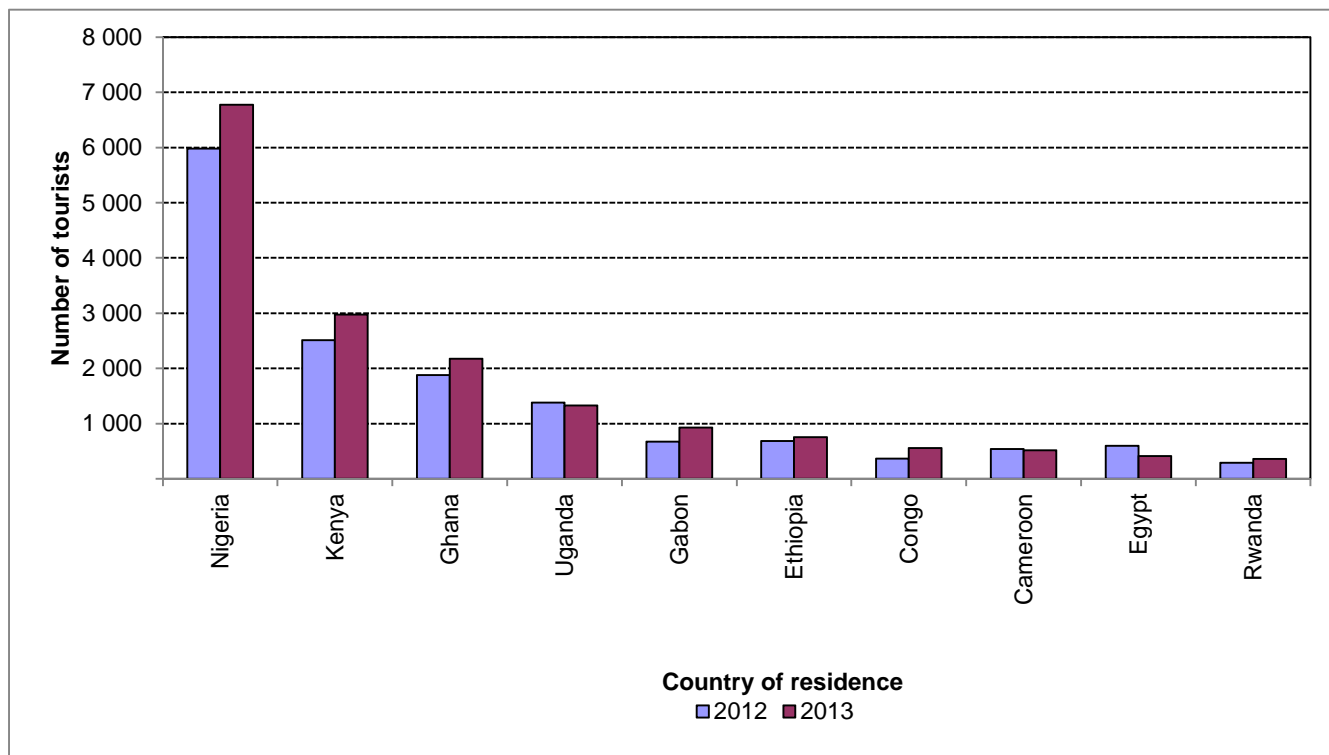


Figure 3. Number of tourists from the ten leading 'other' African countries in July 2012 and July 2013



3. Tables

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

Travel direction	2012	2013		% change	
	July	June	July	July 2012 - July 2013	June 2013 - July 2013
Total	3 034 943	2 994 033	3 285 691	8,3	9,7
South African residents	904 182	892 341	899 575	-0,5	0,8
Arrivals	499 178	406 096	490 953	-1,6	20,9
Departures	405 004	486 245	408 622	0,9	-16,0
Foreign travellers	2 130 761	2 101 692	2 386 116	12,0	13,5
Arrivals	1 195 266	1 109 391	1 289 022	7,8	16,2
Departures	935 495	992 301	1 097 094	17,3	10,6
Foreign arrivals	1 195 266	1 109 391	1 289 022	7,8	16,2
Non-visitors	64 599	63 019	70 851	9,7	12,4
Visitors	1 130 667	1 046 372	1 218 171	7,7	16,4
Visitors	1 130 667	1 046 372	1 218 171	7,7	16,4
Arrivals only	431 698	333 037	399 246	-7,5	19,9
Single trips	383 061	389 785	430 898	12,5	10,5
Multiple trips	315 908	323 550	388 027	22,8	19,9
Visitor	1 130 667	1 046 372	1 218 171	7,7	16,4
Same-day	337 422	369 287	429 003	27,1	16,2
Overnight (Tourists)	793 245	677 085	789 168	-0,5	16,6

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

Travel Direction	July		Mode of travel (July2013)							
			Air					Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2012	2013	Cape Town	K Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total			
Total	3 034 943	3 285 691	91 757	25 217	727 975	8 883	853 832	2 425 215	6 562	82
South African residents	904 182	899 575	39 942	15 925	274 103	5 300	335 270	564 017	288	-
Arrivals	499 178	490 953	23 620	9 604	156 954	2 578	192 756	298 073	124	-
Departures	405 004	408 622	16 322	6 321	117 149	2 722	142 514	265 944	164	-
Foreign travellers	2 130 761	2 386 116	51 815	9 292	453 872	3 583	518 562	1 861 198	6 274	82
Arrivals	1 195 266	1 289 022	27 127	5 079	264 449	1 593	298 248	987 323	3 369	82
Departures	935 495	1 097 094	24 688	4 213	189 423	1 990	220 314	873 875	2 905	-
Visitors	1 130 667	1 218 171	22 194	3 707	239 140	1 103	266 144	951 894	88	45
Same-day	337 422	429 003	238	8	19 395	83	19 724	409 274	5	-
Overnight (Tourists)	793 245	789 168	21 956	3 699	219 745	1 020	246 420	542 620	83	45

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

Country of residence	July		Mode of travel (July 2013)							
	2012	2013	Air					Road	Sea	Unspecified
			Cape Town	K Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total			
Total	793 245	789 168	21 956	3 699	219 745	1 020	246 420	542 620	83	45
Overseas	206 656	204 120	18 980	3 189	159 510	728	182 407	21 617	70	26
Europe	103 659	105 448	12 916	2 349	76 621	163	92 049	13 342	54	3
Austria	1 649	1 796	291	56	1 226	4	1 577	219	-	-
Belgium	4 144	4 545	337	19	3 341	3	3 700	845	-	-
Denmark	1 718	1 688	133	19	1 315	-	1 467	221	-	-
France	10 512	9 947	1 023	74	7 646	15	8 758	1 189	-	-
Germany	14 981	15 649	1 649	286	11 711	13	13 659	1 989	-	1
Ireland	2 175	1 940	243	120	1 322	4	1 689	251	-	-
Italy	5 484	5 640	962	119	4 144	4	5 229	411	-	-
Norway	1 417	1 621	294	2	1 144	-	1 440	181	-	-
Portugal	3 458	3 551	233	65	2 048	11	2 357	1 193	1	-
Spain	3 509	3 000	363	64	2 304	7	2 738	262	-	-
Sweden	1 443	1 276	150	9	1 011	6	1 176	100	-	-
Switzerland	3 451	3 984	365	41	3 146	8	3 560	423	1	-
The Netherlands	12 470	13 321	1 870	307	7 894	15	10 086	3 235	-	-
UK	31 522	31 786	4 237	973	24 102	66	29 378	2 357	51	-
Other	5 726	5 704	766	195	4 267	7	5 235	466	1	2
North America	39 969	39 124	2 669	251	32 655	368	35 943	3 177	1	3
Canada	5 136	4 540	446	70	3 545	20	4 081	459	-	-
USA	34 833	34 584	2 223	181	29 110	348	31 862	2 718	1	3
Central and South America	11 798	11 052	174	17	10 182	47	10 420	632	-	-
Argentina	1 421	1 430	7	2	1 366	-	1 375	55	-	-
Brazil	7 732	6 916	66	9	6 401	12	6 488	428	-	-
Mexico	474	529	37	2	464	7	510	19	-	-
Other	2 171	2 177	64	4	1 951	28	2 047	130	-	-

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

Country of residence	July		Mode of travel (July 2013)							
	2012	2013	Air					Road	Sea	Unspecified
			Cape Town	K Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total			
Australasia	12 632	13 402	444	77	11 629	104	12 254	1 147	1	-
Australia	10 678	11 199	343	61	9 707	100	10 211	988	-	-
New Zealand	1 931	2 133	100	16	1 853	4	1 973	159	1	-
Other	23	70	1	-	69	-	70	-	-	-
Middle East	3 510	2 817	225	82	2 327	10	2 644	173	-	-
Iran	320	208	26	58	122	-	206	2	-	-
Israel	1 755	1 659	84	1	1 459	2	1 546	113	-	-
Lebanon	288	250	29	4	195	8	236	14	-	-
Other	1 147	700	86	19	551	-	656	44	-	-
Asia	35 088	32 277	2 552	413	26 096	36	29 097	3 146	14	20
China	12 075	11 642	916	45	9 901	12	10 874	768	-	-
India	8 720	7 935	420	150	6 171	8	6 749	1 176	8	2
Japan	2 930	3 043	177	27	2 747	1	2 952	91	-	-
Pakistan	1 883	1 537	188	49	897	-	1 134	392	5	6
Philippines	1 369	1 517	249	10	1 161	1	1 421	96	-	-
Singapore	724	690	111	2	557	7	677	13	-	-
South Korea	2 151	2 043	131	11	1 712	7	1 861	182	-	-
Taiwan	1 202	981	91	1	703	-	795	185	-	1
Thailand	586	840	49	75	692	-	816	24	-	-
Other	3 448	2 049	220	43	1 555	-	1 818	219	1	11
Africa	584 590	583 503	2 944	498	59 252	290	62 984	520 487	13	19
SADC	567 269	564 460	2 767	464	42 174	190	45 595	518 853	4	8
Angola	3 840	4 368	657	2	3 566	13	4 238	124	-	6
Botswana	39 062	45 896	215	33	3 453	35	3 736	42 160	-	-
DRC	3 239	3 296	10	4	2 686	10	2 710	586	-	-
Lesotho	146 965	132 815	5	1	882	-	888	131 927	-	-
Madagascar	438	457	2	-	440	1	443	14	-	-

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

Country of residence	July		Mode of travel (July 2013)							
			Air					Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2012	2013	Cape Town	K Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total			
Malawi	13 373	16 624	2	4	1 829	15	1 850	14 774	-	-
Mauritius	1 692	1 609	149	85	1 239	-	1 473	136	-	-
Mozambique	100 369	96 887	141	71	4 511	15	4 738	92 149	-	-
Namibia	17 329	17 728	1 494	2	4 648	46	6 190	11 538	-	-
Seychelles	183	267	-	-	259	-	259	8	-	-
Swaziland	67 253	70 783	-	3	1 116	6	1 125	69 658	-	-
Tanzania	3 180	2 981	13	2	1 776	5	1 796	1 185	-	-
Zambia	14 828	15 004	17	108	4 674	5	4 804	10 200	-	-
Zimbabwe	155 518	155 745	62	149	11 095	39	11 345	144 394	4	2
'Other' Africa	17 321	19 043	177	34	17 078	100	17 389	1 634	9	11
East and Central Africa	6 797	7 773	54	11	6 870	93	7 028	737	2	6
Burundi	127	152	-	-	147	-	147	5	-	-
Cameroon	542	519	5	-	462	2	469	47	1	2
Central African Republic	10	8	-	-	8	-	8	-	-	-
Chad	28	40	1	-	38	-	39	1	-	-
Comoros	20	27	-	-	27	-	27	-	-	-
Congo	368	557	1	-	465	83	549	7	1	-
Djibouti	7	6	1	-	5	-	6	-	-	-
Equatorial Guinea	30	37	4	-	30	-	34	3	-	-
Eritrea	79	59	-	-	55	-	55	4	-	-
Ethiopia	686	753	5	6	665	-	676	75	-	2
Gabon	672	928	2	-	920	2	924	4	-	-
Kenya	2 510	2 974	16	4	2 590	3	2 613	360	-	1
Rwanda	291	357	1	-	341	3	345	12	-	-
Sao Tome and Principe	25	19	-	-	18	-	18	1	-	-
Somalia	19	8	-	-	7	-	7	1	-	-
Uganda	1 383	1 329	18	1	1 092	-	1 111	217	-	1

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

Country of residence	July		Mode of travel (July 2013)							
			Air					Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2012	2013	Cape Town	K Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total			
West Africa	9 323	10 366	65	10	9 410	6	9 491	864	7	4
Benin	138	158	-	-	152	-	152	6	-	-
Burkina Faso	69	56	1	1	54	-	56	-	-	-
Cape Verde Island	50	56	7	-	41	-	48	8	-	-
Côte D'Ivoire	196	227	1	4	216	-	221	5	-	1
Gambia	99	62	-	-	57	-	57	5	-	-
Ghana	1 881	2 176	27	-	1 951	-	1 978	196	1	1
Guinea	235	209	-	-	104	-	104	105	-	-
Guinea-Bissau	22	14	-	-	13	-	13	1	-	-
Liberia	56	44	-	1	40	-	41	3	-	-
Mali	104	101	1	-	78	-	79	22	-	-
Mauritania	21	35	1	-	34	-	35	-	-	-
Niger	29	35	-	-	35	-	35	-	-	-
Nigeria	5 980	6 776	23	3	6 247	6	6 279	492	3	2
Saint Helena	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-
Senegal	290	283	2	-	270	-	272	11	-	-
Sierra Leone	86	66	1	-	58	-	59	7	-	-
Togo	66	65	1	1	60	-	62	3	-	-
North Africa	1 201	904	58	13	798	1	870	33	-	1
Algeria	120	69	7	-	60	-	67	1	-	1
Egypt	600	410	14	1	378	1	394	16	-	-
Libya	89	82	24	2	48	-	74	8	-	-
Morocco	109	90	8	-	79	-	87	3	-	-
South Sudan	-	79	1	-	76	-	77	2	-	-
The Sudan	165	94	3	2	87	-	92	2	-	-
Tunisia	117	79	1	8	69	-	78	1	-	-
Western Sahara	1	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
Unspecified	1 999	1 545	32	12	983	2	1 029	516	-	-

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

Country of residence	July		Purpose of visit (July 2013)			
	2012	2013	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
Total	793 245	789 168	14 124	710 909	12 706	51 429
Overseas	206 656	204 120	6 531	157 246	2 815	37 528
Europe	103 659	105 448	3 863	82 807	1 793	16 985
Austria	1 649	1 796	47	1 282	25	442
Belgium	4 144	4 545	94	3 543	65	843
Denmark	1 718	1 688	53	1 375	20	240
France	10 512	9 947	335	8 018	97	1 497
Germany	14 981	15 649	582	11 277	594	3 196
Ireland	2 175	1 940	99	1 598	39	204
Italy	5 484	5 640	267	4 224	66	1 083
Norway	1 417	1 621	21	1 187	61	352
Portugal	3 458	3 551	117	2 767	39	628
Spain	3 509	3 000	167	2 174	21	638
Sweden	1 443	1 276	65	982	43	186
Switzerland	3 451	3 984	52	2 606	53	1 273
The Netherlands	12 470	13 321	257	11 984	188	892
UK	31 522	31 786	1 423	25 567	378	4 418
Other	5 726	5 704	284	4 223	104	1 093
North America	39 969	39 124	837	31 467	486	6 334
Canada	5 136	4 540	128	3 774	35	603
USA	34 833	34 584	709	27 693	451	5 731
Central and South America	11 798	11 052	125	6 778	53	4 096
Argentina	1 421	1 430	11	878	5	536
Brazil	7 732	6 916	53	3 933	32	2 898
Mexico	474	529	20	471	1	37
Other	2 171	2 177	41	1 496	15	625

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

Country of residence	July		Purpose of visit (July 2013)			
	2012	2013	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
Australasia	12 632	13 402	249	10 972	54	2 127
Australia	10 678	11 199	206	9 146	37	1 810
New Zealand	1 931	2 133	36	1 770	14	313
Other	23	70	7	56	3	4
Middle East	3 510	2 817	146	2 392	60	219
Iran	320	208	14	168	20	6
Israel	1 755	1 659	65	1 457	22	115
Lebanon	288	250	24	171	3	52
Other	1 147	700	43	596	15	46
Asia	35 088	32 277	1 311	22 830	369	7 767
China	12 075	11 642	359	8 158	64	3 061
India	8 720	7 935	510	6 240	115	1 070
Japan	2 930	3 043	119	2 032	11	881
Pakistan	1 883	1 537	63	1 211	13	250
Philippines	1 369	1 517	34	773	4	706
Singapore	724	690	28	535	2	125
South Korea	2 151	2 043	66	1 407	95	475
Taiwan	1 202	981	29	709	19	224
Thailand	586	840	33	619	18	170
Other	3 448	2 049	70	1 146	28	805
Africa	584 590	583 503	7 527	552 440	9 879	13 657
SADC	567 269	564 460	6 788	537 474	8 886	11 312
Angola	3 840	4 368	79	2 964	520	805
Botswana	39 062	45 896	237	42 991	1 116	1 552
DRC	3 239	3 296	63	2 775	218	240
Lesotho	146 965	132 815	121	131 564	739	391
Madagascar	438	457	7	165	16	269

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

Country of residence	July		Purpose of visit (July 2013)			
	2012	2013	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
Malawi	13 373	16 624	232	15 865	137	390
Mauritius	1 692	1 609	76	1 068	127	338
Mozambique	100 369	96 887	682	94 094	158	1 953
Namibia	17 329	17 728	2 308	11 915	1 811	1 694
Seychelles	183	267	13	222	7	25
Swaziland	67 253	70 783	168	68 828	1 267	520
Tanzania	3 180	2 981	78	2 372	143	388
Zambia	14 828	15 004	1 151	12 473	316	1 064
Zimbabwe	155 518	155 745	1 573	150 178	2 311	1 683
'Other' Africa	17 321	19 043	739	14 966	993	2 345
East and Central Africa	6 797	7 773	376	5 791	640	966
Burundi	127	152	10	91	4	47
Cameroon	542	519	24	349	46	100
Central African Republic	10	8	1	6	-	1
Chad	28	40	3	22	7	8
Comoros	20	27	1	20	-	6
Congo	368	557	30	385	41	101
Djibouti	7	6	1	4	-	1
Equatorial Guinea	30	37	4	20	12	1
Eritrea	79	59	2	51	3	3
Ethiopia	686	753	21	626	17	89
Gabon	672	928	10	821	50	47
Kenya	2 510	2 974	193	2 186	284	311
Rwanda	291	357	12	229	54	62
Sao Tome and Principe	25	19	1	14	-	4
Somalia	19	8	1	5	1	1
Uganda	1 383	1 329	62	962	121	184

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

Country of residence	July		Purpose of visit (July 2013)			
	2012	2013	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
West Africa	9 323	10 366	310	8 551	306	1 199
Benin	138	158	1	145	3	9
Burkina Faso	69	56	3	35	3	15
Cape Verde Island	50	56	2	45	1	8
Côte D'Ivoire	196	227	16	168	11	32
Gambia	99	62	-	40	-	22
Ghana	1 881	2 176	73	1 753	37	313
Guinea	235	209	3	163	5	38
Guinea-Bissau	22	14	-	7	1	6
Liberia	56	44	2	33	1	8
Mali	104	101	4	73	4	20
Mauritania	21	35	3	26	-	6
Niger	29	35	1	30	2	2
Nigeria	5 980	6 776	181	5 741	234	620
Saint Helena	1	3	-	3	-	-
Senegal	290	283	14	191	1	77
Sierra Leone	86	66	1	47	2	16
Togo	66	65	6	51	1	7
North Africa	1 201	904	53	624	47	180
Algeria	120	69	5	53	4	7
Egypt	600	410	29	271	8	102
Libya	89	82	1	40	16	25
Morocco	109	90	3	74	4	9
South Sudan	-	79	2	54	7	16
The Sudan	165	94	10	65	7	12
Tunisia	117	79	3	66	1	9
Western Sahara	1	1	-	1	-	-
Unspecified	1 999	1 545	66	1 223	12	244

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

Sex	Age group	Total	Region (July 2013)			
			Overseas	SADC	'Other' Africa	Unspecified
All	Total	789 168	204 120	564 460	19 043	1 545
	<15	51 224	19 634	30 369	1 202	19
	15 - 64	711 922	171 358	521 502	17 560	1 502
	65+	25 561	13 072	12 187	278	24
	Unspecified	461	56	402	3	-
Male	Total	439 636	115 284	310 609	12 722	1 021
	<15	25 644	10 237	14 796	600	11
	15 - 64	400 637	97 576	290 132	11 939	990
	65+	13 116	7 438	5 475	183	20
	Unspecified	239	33	206	-	-
Female	Total	348 742	88 671	253 229	6 318	524
	<15	25 579	9 397	15 572	602	8
	15 - 64	310 644	73 658	230 854	5 620	512
	65+	12 362	5 599	6 664	95	4
	Unspecified	157	17	139	1	-
Unspecified	Total	790	165	622	3	-
	<15	1	-	1	-	-
	15 - 64	641	124	516	1	-
	65+	83	35	48	-	-
	Unspecified	65	6	57	2	-

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 Department of Home Affairs (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 were in transit but whose information was not recorded by immigration and those who boarded airplanes but were refused entry into the country. In July 2013, the DHA data was 4,5% 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, that belong to the Southern African Development Community.

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

Overseas refers to all countries outside Africa.

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

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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