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# Statistical release

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**Contents**

**Page**

**KEY FINDINGS**

1. Number of travellers .....	2
2. Mode of travel .....	2
3. Foreign arrivals .....	2
3.1 <i>Gender and age distribution</i> .....	2
3.2 <i>Regional and national distribution</i> .....	2
3.3 <i>Purpose of travel</i> .....	3

**Figures**

1. Percentage distribution of overseas and African arrivals by age group in June 2008.....	4
2. Number of June arrivals by region (2004 - 2008).....	4
3. Number of overseas travellers arriving from leading source countries in June 2008 compared to June 2007.....	5
4. Number of travellers from SADC countries arriving from leading source countries in June 2008 compared to June 2007.....	5
5. Number of travellers from 'other' African countries arriving from leading source countries in June 2008 compared to June 2007.....	6

**Tables**

1. Number of South African residents and foreign travellers by travel direction .....	7
2. Number of South African residents and foreign travellers by travel direction and mode of travel .....	7
3. Number of foreign arrivals by country and mode of travel .....	8
4. Number of foreign arrivals by purpose of travel .....	12
5. Number of foreign arrivals by country and purpose of travel .....	13

**EXPLANATORY NOTES**

1. Introduction .....	17
2. Purpose of the statistical release .....	17
3. Scope and coverage.....	17
4. Data .....	17
5. Limitations .....	18
6. Glossary of terms .....	18
7. Symbols and abbreviations used .....	19

<b>GENERAL INFORMATION</b> .....	20
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## KEY FINDINGS

### 1. Number of travellers

The June 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 2 086 673 travellers (arrivals and departures) passed through the ports of entry. As presented in Table 1, these travellers are made up of 775 855 South African residents and 1 310 818 foreign travellers. A further breakdown of the figures indicates that 359 725 and 416 130 South African resident arrivals and departures respectively were recorded. The corresponding volume for foreign arrivals and departures are 699 695 and 611 123 respectively. A comparison between the movements in May 2008 and June 2008 indicates that there was a decline in most movements except South African departures increased by 19,5%. The June 2008 figure (359 725) for South African resident arrivals shows an increase of 10,3% compared to the June 2007 figure of 326 261. Similarly, there was an increase of 9,6% for foreign arrivals from 638 349 in June 2007 to 699 695 in June 2008.

### 2. Mode of travel

It is observed from Table 2 that road transport was the most common (67,5%) mode of travel used by 1 408 765 out of the 2 086 673 travellers. The arrival data on South African residents show that 40,2% came by air and 59,4% by road. For their departure, 44,8% and 55,2% 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 (89,4%) compared to road transport (10,3%) whereas travellers from Africa used road (90,3%) more than air transport (7,7%). Information on specific countries from which travellers came from and the mode of travel used is provided in Table 3.

### 3. Foreign arrivals

The data on travellers received from the DHA do not provide detailed information on departures; neither do they provide any information other than total numbers, travel direction and mode of travel of South African residents. Therefore the following findings pertain to foreign arrivals.

Data presented in Table 3 show that more than three quarters (79,4%) of foreign arrivals were from Africa whilst less than a quarter (19,9%) were from overseas countries. Information on the country of residence was not available on 0,7% of the travellers. A comparison of the changes between June 2007 and June 2008 indicates that the number of overseas arrivals increased by 4,7% from 132 849 in 2007 to 139 078 in 2008. Arrivals from Africa increased by 10,6% from 502 083 in June 2007 to 555 372 in June 2008.

#### 3.1 Gender and age distribution

The travellers from Africa comprised of 308 461 males, 245 864 females and 1 047 with unspecified gender. The data on overseas travellers had 83 518 males, 55 421 females and gender was not specified in 139 cases. Overall, more males than females from African (males: 55,5%; females: 44,3%) and overseas countries (males: 60,1%; females: 39,8%) 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 (84,7%) 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 82,8% 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 (6,2%) compared to that among persons from Africa (2,5%).

#### 3.2 Regional and national distribution

Overseas travellers came mainly from Europe (49,8%), followed by North America (25,1%), Asia (13,1%), Australasia (6,7%), Central and South America (3,4%) and Middle East (1,9%). Virtually all arrivals (97,8%) from Africa came from the SADC countries. The distribution of the remaining arrivals from Africa is as follows: East and Central Africa (1,0%), West Africa (1,0%) and North Africa (0,2%). June 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 countries remained fairly stable between 2004 and 2006 and showed slight increase between 2006 and 2008.

Data presented in Figure 3 show the eight leading overseas source countries. These are USA, UK, Germany, Australia, France, Netherlands, India and Canada. Travellers from these eight countries constitute 67,3% of all travellers from overseas. A comparison of figures from overseas for June 2007 and June 2008 shows that there were increases in the number of travellers arriving from Canada (19,7% up from 3 208 to 3 841); India (10,1% up from 4 857 to 5 347); UK (9,7% up from 22 702 to 24 903); Netherlands (9,0% up from 5 069 to 5 527);

France (6,7% up from 5 363 to 5 722); USA (3,3% up from 30 135 to 31 131) and Australia (1,2% up from 7 530 to 7 618). However, there was a decline in the number of arrivals from Germany (0,2% down from 9 501 to 9 479).

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 96,6% of all arrivals from Africa. When comparing arrival figures from the SADC countries for June 2007 and June 2008, indicates that there were increases in the number of travellers arriving from Zimbabwe (23,5% up from 70 578 to 87 193); Mozambique (14,5% up from 82 522 to 94 518); Lesotho (13,7% up from 150 902 to 171 640); Zambia (6,8% up from 14 852 to 15 863); Swaziland (4,8% up from 81 174 to 85 073); and Namibia (3,2% up from 14 452 to 14 916). However, there was a decline in the number of arrivals from Malawi (7,4% down from 10 710 to 9 919) and Botswana (2,3% down from 58 730 to 57 406) .

The eight leading source countries from 'other' African countries, shown in Figure 5, are Nigeria, Kenya, Ghana, Uganda, Ethiopia, Cameroon, Egypt and Somalia. A comparison of arrivals for 'other' African countries for June 2007 and that of June 2008, indicates that there were increases in the number of travellers arriving from Somalia (60,4% up from 202 to 324); Ethiopia (46,9% up from 571 to 839); Cameroon (22,7% up from 352 to 432); Egypt (8,3% up from 360 to 390); Nigeria (5,8% up from 2 939 to 3 110) and Kenya (3,7% up from 1 964 to 2 037). However, there was a decline in the number of arrivals from Ghana (4,0% down from 1 129 to 1 084) and Uganda (3,8% down from 992 to 954).

### 3.3 Purpose of travel

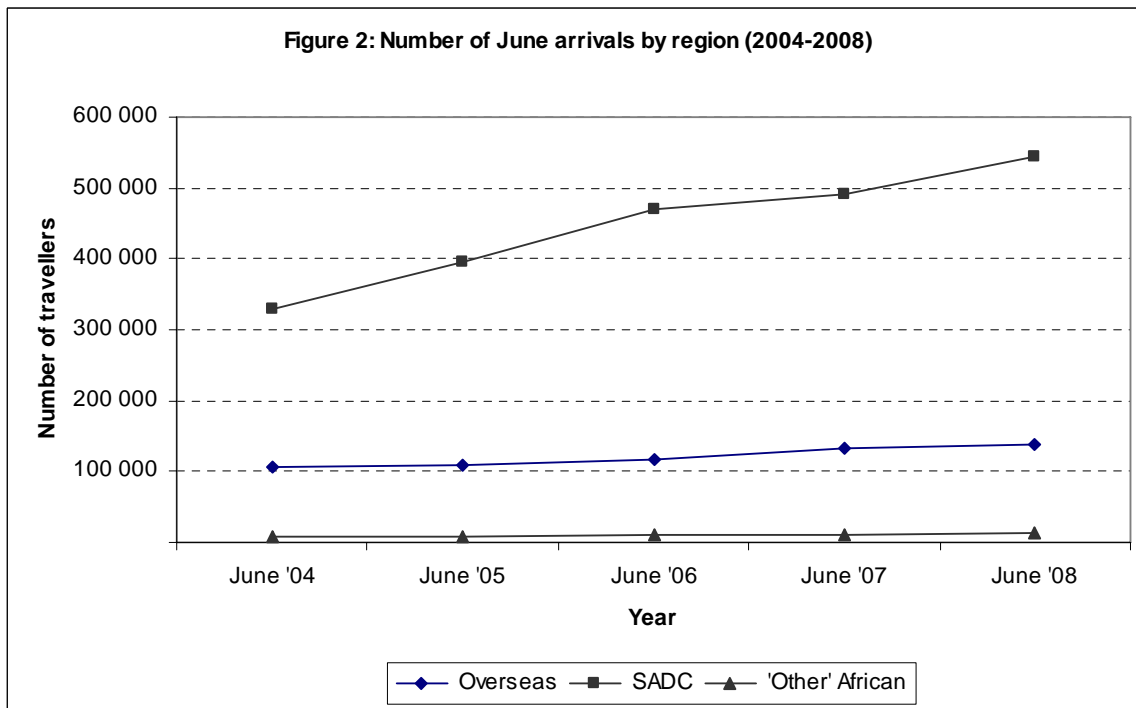
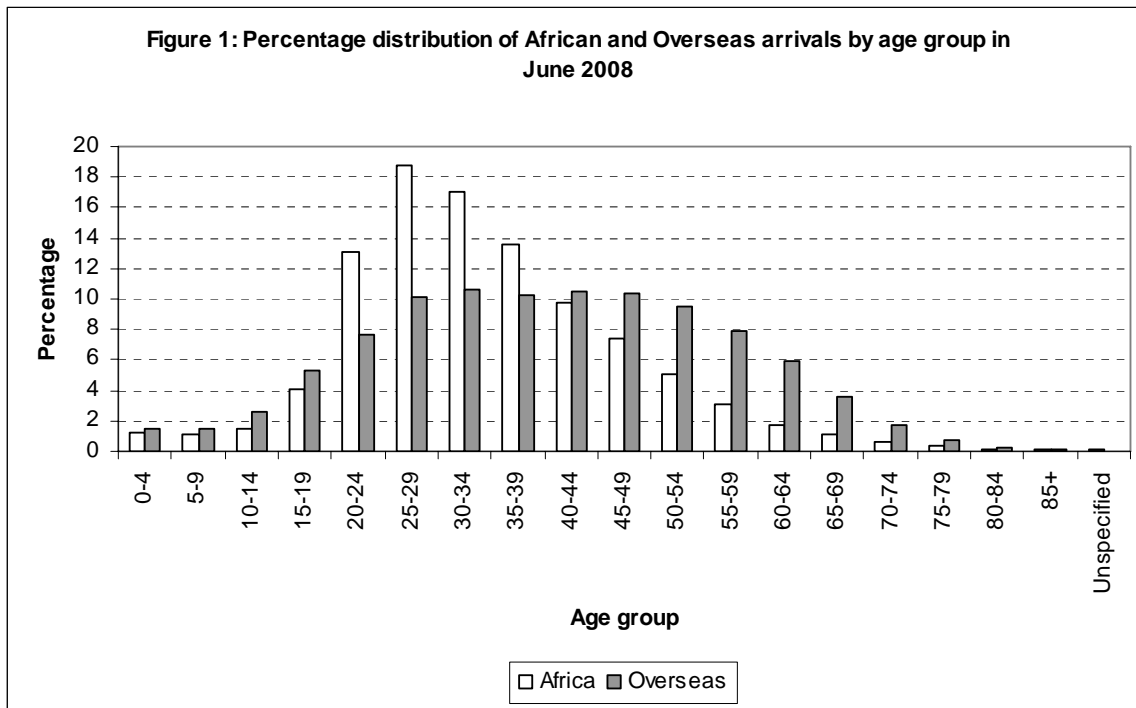
As observed from data given in Table 4, an overwhelming majority (93,4%) of foreign arrivals was admitted into South Africa on visitors' temporary residence permit. These visitors are mainly made up of same-day travellers as well as tourists. This is in vast contrast to those on business (2,1%), those who have come for work (1,6%) and those who have come to study (0,7%).

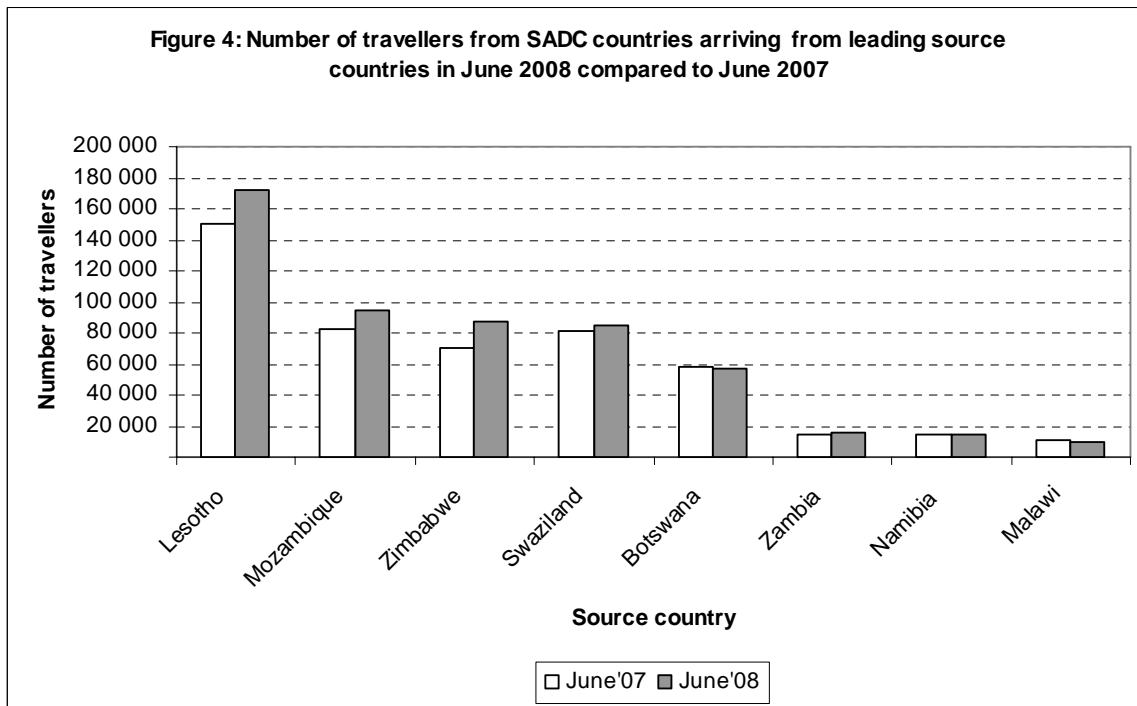
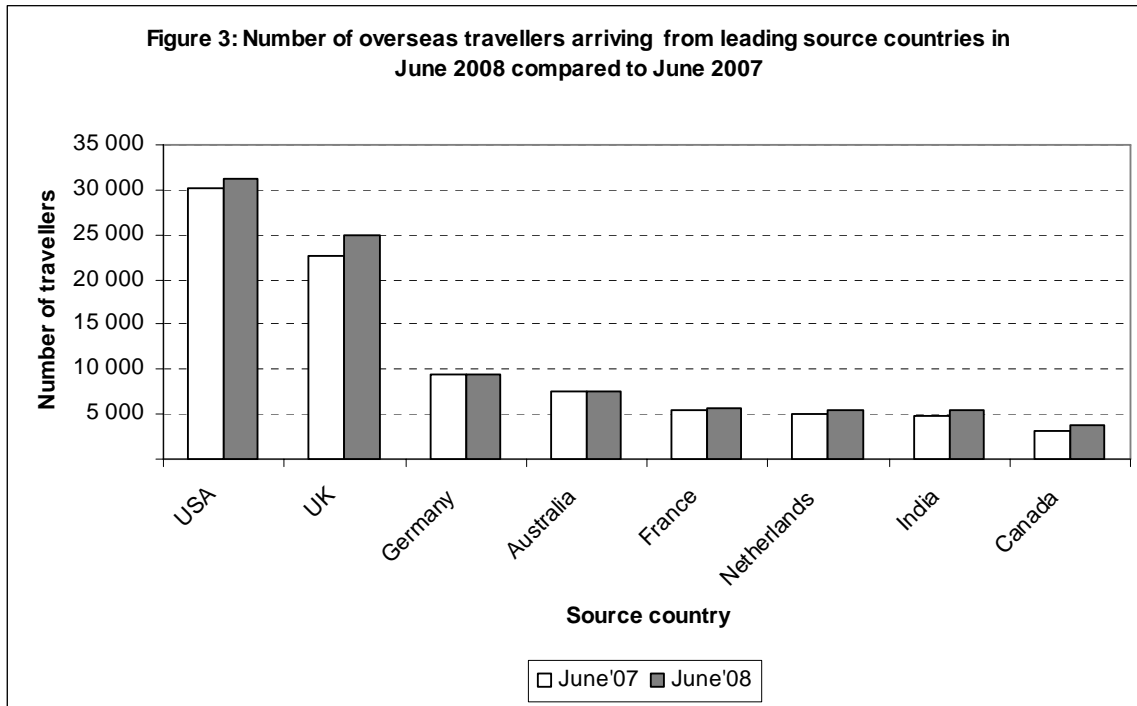
Overall, 91,0% of overseas travellers came to South Africa to visit. A detailed analysis reveals that all the overseas regions except Asia had more than 79,0% travellers coming to South Africa for holidays. Travellers from Australasia (96,2%), North America (95,6%), Central and South America (92,1%), Europe (91,0%) and the Middle East (88,6%) were admitted into South Africa as visitors. Travellers from Asia were more diverse in their purpose, for instance, 78,9% came into the country for holidays, 12,7% for work whereas 6,4% came for business and 0,6% to study.

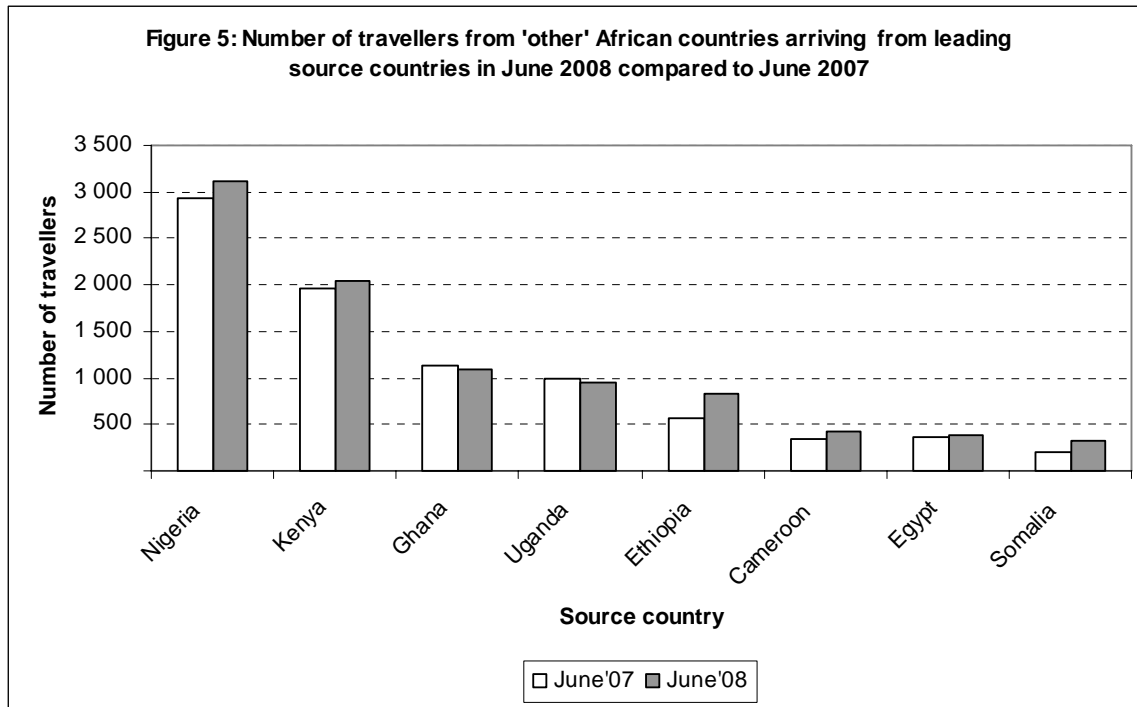
Although the majority (94,6%) of African travellers came into the country on visitors' permits, there is a significant difference between travellers from SADC countries and 'other' African countries, namely:

- Whereas 94,9% of travellers from the SADC countries were recorded as on holiday, 82,2% of travellers from 'other' African countries were admitted on visitor's permit. Proportionally, the lowest percentage (75,2%) of visitors came from North Africa, a region where, a large percentage of travellers were in South Africa for business (12,6%).
- 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 8,6%; 7,3% and 6,5% respectively of travellers who were in South Africa for work as compared to only 0,5% among the SADC travellers.

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







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

Travel direction	June	May	June	% change	% change
	2007	2008	2008	June 07–June 08	May 08 – June 08
<b>South African residents</b>					
Arrivals	326 261	361 496	359 725	10,3	-0,5
Departures	405 792	348 098	416 130	2,5	19,5
<b>Foreign travellers</b>					
Arrivals	638 349	745 809	699 695	9,6	-6,2
Departures	572 923	672 424	611 123	6,7	-9,1
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1 943 325</b>	<b>2 127 827</b>	<b>2 086 673</b>	<b>7,4</b>	<b>-1,9</b>

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

Travel direction	Total	Mode of travel (June 2008)								
		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspec.
		(C/Town)	(Durban)	(OR Tambo)	(Other)	Total				
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>2 086 673</b>	<b>95 490</b>	<b>2 967</b>	<b>555 102</b>	<b>9 165</b>	<b>662 724</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>1 408 765</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>14 913</b>
<b>Arrivals:</b>	<b>1 059 420</b>	<b>43 734</b>	<b>1 280</b>	<b>263 378</b>	<b>4 558</b>	<b>312 950</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>731 492</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>14 784</b>
South African residents	359 725	20 834	961	119 230	3 418	144 443	3	213 823	8	1 448
Foreign travellers	699 695	22 900	319	144 148	1 140	168 507	121	517 669	62	13 336
Overseas	139 078	21 076	120	102 508	661	124 365	92	14 324	49	248
Africa	555 372	1 615	197	40 303	441	42 556	27	501 507	12	11 270
Unspecified	5 245	209	2	1 337	38	1 586	2	1 838	1	1 818
<b>Departures:</b>	<b>1 027 253</b>	<b>51 756</b>	<b>1 687</b>	<b>291 724</b>	<b>4 607</b>	<b>349 774</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>677 273</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>129</b>
South African residents	416 130	29 701	1 348	151 758	3 506	186 313	14	229 737	11	55
Foreign travellers	611 123	22 055	339	139 966	1 101	163 461	26	447 536	26	74



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

Country	Mode of travel (June 2008)										
	June		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspec.
	2007	2008	(C/Town)	(Durban)	(OR Tambo)	(Other)	Total				
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>638 349</b>	<b>699 695</b>	<b>22 900</b>	<b>319</b>	<b>144 148</b>	<b>1 140</b>	<b>168 507</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>517 669</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>13 336</b>
<b>Overseas Total</b>	<b>132 849</b>	<b>139 078</b>	<b>21 076</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>102 508</b>	<b>661</b>	<b>124 365</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>14 324</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>248</b>
<b>Europe</b>	<b>64 189</b>	<b>69 228</b>	<b>12 850</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>47 890</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>61 098</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>8 029</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>59</b>
Austria	799	719	130	-	532	7	669	1	49	-	-
Belgium	1 632	2 011	245	-	1 531	36	1 812	1	192	6	-
Denmark	1 243	1 215	161	1	955	2	1 119	-	93	-	3
France	5 363	5 722	649	9	4 549	45	5 252	2	467	-	1
Germany	9 501	9 479	2 254	7	5 902	18	8 181	-	1 293	-	5
Ireland	2 370	2 407	698	1	1 381	4	2 084	-	320	-	3
Italy	3 494	3 557	514	3	2 732	9	3 258	-	296	-	3
Netherlands	5 069	5 527	1 316	5	3 222	12	4 555	-	970	-	2
Norway	951	1 031	236	-	684	2	922	-	109	-	-
Portugal	1 939	2 153	71	4	1 135	18	1 228	-	921	-	4
Spain	2 135	2 857	209	-	2 499	7	2 715	1	138	2	1
Sweden	1 688	1 655	260	-	1 232	3	1 495	-	160	-	-
Switzerland	1 409	1 330	190	-	934	5	1 129	-	201	-	-
United Kingdom	22 702	24 903	5 081	19	17 295	131	22 526	12	2 337	4	24
Other	3 894	4 662	836	2	3 307	8	4 153	-	483	13	13
<b>North America</b>	<b>33 348</b>	<b>34 975</b>	<b>5 152</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>26 884</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>32 245</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>2 664</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>23</b>
Canada	3 208	3 841	534	1	2 881	29	3 445	-	395	-	1
USA	30 135	31 131	4 618	13	24 000	166	28 797	43	2 269	-	22
Other	5	3	-	-	3	-	3	-	-	-	-
<b>Central and South America</b>	<b>4 315</b>	<b>4 745</b>	<b>286</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4 002</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4 302</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>440</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1</b>
Argentina	411	440	85	-	318	1	404	-	36	-	-
Brazil	2 466	2 775	52	7	2 463	5	2 527	1	247	-	-
Mexico	333	327	24	-	294	-	318	-	9	-	-
Other	1 105	1 203	125	-	927	1	1 053	1	148	-	1

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

Country	Mode of travel (June 2008)										
	June		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspec.
	2007	2008	(C/Town)	(Durban)	(OR Tambo)	(Other)	Total				
<b>Australasia</b>	<b>9 277</b>	<b>9 281</b>	<b>541</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>7 960</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>8 592</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>658</b>	-	<b>20</b>
Australia	7 530	7 618	414	26	6 604	48	7 092	11	496	-	19
New Zealand	1 681	1 605	126	2	1 324	15	1 467	-	138	-	-
Other	66	58	1	-	32	-	33	-	24	-	1
<b>Middle East</b>	<b>2 740</b>	<b>2 674</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2 186</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>2 515</b>	-	<b>159</b>	-	-
Israel	1 076	1 207	27	-	1 095	9	1 131	-	76	-	-
Saudi Arabia	374	422	56	1	355	-	412	-	10	-	-
United Arab Emirates	219	234	97	2	130	5	234	-	-	-	-
Other	1 071	811	121	-	606	11	738	-	73	-	-
<b>Asia</b>	<b>18 980</b>	<b>18 175</b>	<b>1 946</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>13 586</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>15 613</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>2 374</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>145</b>
China	3 152	2 325	143	-	1 838	12	1 993	-	316	-	16
India	4 857	5 347	492	16	4 045	17	4 570	16	699	6	56
Japan	2 578	2 396	127	1	2 202	1	2 331	-	65	-	-
Malaysia	715	782	231	-	509	-	740	-	42	-	-
Pakistan	688	982	58	-	675	10	743	1	234	-	4
Philippines	590	775	82	-	542	3	627	-	99	16	33
Rep Of Korea	1 474	1 443	99	-	1 223	-	1 322	-	121	-	-
Singapore	847	785	239	-	498	-	737	-	47	1	-
Taiwan	1 280	1 045	169	-	458	3	630	2	382	-	31
Other	2 799	2 295	306	-	1 596	18	1 920	-	369	1	5
<b>Africa Total</b>	<b>502 083</b>	<b>555 372</b>	<b>1 615</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>40 303</b>	<b>441</b>	<b>42 556</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>501 507</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>11 270</b>
<b>SADC</b>	<b>490 847</b>	<b>543 384</b>	<b>1 392</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>30 767</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>32 701</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>499 425</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11 229</b>
Angola	2 327	2 068	86	-	1 878	31	1 995	-	73	-	-
Botswana	58 730	57 406	17	-	2 782	159	2 958	1	54 374	-	73
DRC	2 254	2 174	-	-	1 567	6	1 573	-	601	-	-
Lesotho	150 902	171 640	10	-	730	-	740	1	160 560	-	10 339
Madagascar	312	291	2	1	282	-	285	-	6	-	-
Malawi	10 710	9 919	12	-	2 087	8	2 107	1	7 801	-	10

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

Country	Mode of travel (June 2008)										
	June		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspec.
	2007	2008	(C/Town)	(Durban)	(OR Tambo)	(Other)	Total				
Mauritius	964	1 185	100	132	817	6	1 055	-	126	-	4
Mozambique	82 522	94 518	74	56	2 392	33	2 555	-	91 793	-	170
Namibia	14 452	14 916	1 030	-	2 575	18	3 623	2	11 278	10	3
Swaziland	81 174	85 073	1	-	826	3	830	4	84 143	-	96
Tanzania	1 070	1 138	3	-	876	5	884	-	250	-	4
Zambia	14 852	15 863	18	2	6 022	20	6 062	-	9 791	-	10
Zimbabwe	70 578	87 193	39	1	7 933	61	8 034	10	78 629	-	520
<b>East &amp; Central Africa</b>	<b>5 201</b>	<b>5 726</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4 372</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>4 490</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1 214</b>	-	<b>17</b>
Burundi	76	105	13	-	74	9	96	-	9	-	-
Cameroon	352	432	7	-	377	4	388	-	44	-	-
Central African Rep	6	6	-	-	6	-	6	-	-	-	-
Chad	16	26	6	-	20	-	26	-	-	-	-
Comoros	12	15	-	-	15	-	15	-	-	-	-
Congo	459	284	2	-	175	6	183	-	100	-	1
Djibouti	7	6	-	-	5	-	5	-	1	-	-
Equat Guinea	18	46	-	-	28	-	28	-	18	-	-
Eritrea	36	42	1	-	27	1	29	-	13	-	-
Ethiopia	571	839	10	-	530	9	549	-	289	-	1
Gabon	160	214	-	-	203	2	205	-	9	-	-
Kenya	1 964	2 037	15	-	1 772	8	1 795	2	234	-	6
Reunion	37	29	4	2	23	-	29	-	-	-	-
Rwanda	186	221	2	-	193	2	197	-	24	-	-
Sao Tome and Principe	6	13	-	-	13	-	13	-	-	-	-
Seychelles	101	133	-	1	126	3	130	-	3	-	-
Somalia	202	324	-	-	6	-	6	-	318	-	-
Uganda	992	954	6	1	779	4	790	3	152	-	9

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

Country	Mode of travel (June 2008)										
	June		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspec.
	2007	2008	(C/Town)	(Durban)	(OR Tambo)	(Other)	Total				
<b>West Africa</b>	<b>5 187</b>	<b>5 342</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4 481</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>4 598</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>726</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>14</b>
Ascension	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Benin	86	93	-	-	77	-	77	-	15	-	1
Burkina Faso	58	54	1	-	51	-	52	-	2	-	-
Cape Verde Island	48	37	1	-	31	-	32	-	4	1	-
Cote D'Ivoire	186	225	-	-	216	-	216	-	9	-	-
Gambia	45	66	1	-	49	-	50	-	16	-	-
Ghana	1 129	1 084	18	1	932	5	956	-	127	-	1
Guinea	105	123	-	-	70	-	70	-	53	-	-
Guinea-Bissau	16	19	-	-	6	-	6	-	13	-	-
Liberia	36	40	-	-	38	-	38	-	2	-	-
Madeira Island	3	3	-	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	-
Mali	84	70	3	-	54	-	57	-	11	-	2
Mauritania	64	21	-	-	20	-	20	-	1	-	-
Niger	15	17	-	-	16	1	17	-	-	-	-
Nigeria	2 939	3 110	54	-	2 575	26	2 655	3	442	-	10
Saint Helena	6	7	3	-	-	-	3	-	4	-	-
Senegal	264	227	2	-	217	1	220	-	7	-	-
Sierra Leone	65	98	-	-	86	-	86	-	12	-	-
Togo	36	48	-	-	42	-	42	-	6	-	-
<b>North Africa</b>	<b>848</b>	<b>920</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>683</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>767</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>10</b>
Algeria	120	118	4	-	72	1	77	-	41	-	-
Egypt	360	390	32	-	327	3	362	-	26	1	1
Libyan	74	136	16	-	55	4	75	-	53	-	8
Morocco	64	77	7	-	63	-	70	-	7	-	-
Sudan	162	133	13	-	106	1	120	-	12	-	1
Tunisia	68	65	2	-	59	1	62	-	3	-	-
Western Sahara	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
<b>Unspecified</b>	<b>3 417</b>	<b>5 245</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1 337</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>1 586</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1 838</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1 818</b>

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

Region	Total	Purpose of travel (June 2008)						Total	Border Traffic Concession
		Business	Holiday	Study	Work	Transit	Unspecified		
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>699 695</b>	<b>14 812</b>	<b>653 263</b>	<b>5 049</b>	<b>11 007</b>	<b>2 297</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>686 446</b>	<b>13 249</b>
<b>Overseas Total</b>	<b>139 078</b>	<b>5 282</b>	<b>126 415</b>	<b>665</b>	<b>6 029</b>	<b>515</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>138 906</b>	<b>172</b>
Europe	69 228	2 944	62 961	324	2 754	207	-	69 190	38
North America	34 975	685	33 440	167	565	110	-	34 967	8
Central and South America	4 745	125	4 370	29	185	35	-	4 744	1
Australasia	9 281	205	8 931	11	104	28	-	9 279	2
Middle East	2 674	154	2 368	30	116	6	-	2 674	-
Asia	18 175	1 169	14 345	104	2 305	129	-	18 052	123
<b>Africa Total</b>	<b>555 372</b>	<b>9 464</b>	<b>525 409</b>	<b>3 784</b>	<b>3 665</b>	<b>1 773</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>544 113</b>	<b>11 259</b>
SADC	543 384	8 620	515 553	3 455	2 827	1 695	16	532 166	11 218
East and Central Africa	5 726	415	4 704	184	370	34	2	5 709	17
West Africa	5 342	313	4 460	130	389	36	-	5 328	14
North Africa	920	116	692	15	79	8	-	910	10
<b>Unspecified</b>	<b>5 245</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>1 439</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>1 313</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3 427</b>	<b>1 818</b>

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

Country	June		Purpose of travel (June 2008)							Border Traffic Concession
	2007	2008	Business	Holiday	Study	Work	Transit	Unspecified	Total	
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>638 349</b>	<b>699 695</b>	<b>14 812</b>	<b>653 263</b>	<b>5 049</b>	<b>11 007</b>	<b>2 297</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>686 446</b>	<b>13 249</b>
<b>Overseas Total</b>	<b>132 849</b>	<b>139 078</b>	<b>5 282</b>	<b>126 415</b>	<b>665</b>	<b>6 029</b>	<b>515</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>138 906</b>	<b>172</b>
<b>Europe</b>	<b>64 189</b>	<b>69 228</b>	<b>2 944</b>	<b>62 961</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>2 754</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>69 190</b>	<b>38</b>
Austria	799	719	40	652	3	24	-	-	719	-
Belgium	1 632	2 011	99	1 797	13	88	14	-	2 011	-
Denmark	1 243	1 215	38	1 114	5	52	4	-	1 213	2
France	5 363	5 722	253	5 104	36	308	20	-	5 721	1
Germany	9 501	9 479	422	8 487	80	465	20	-	9 474	5
Ireland	2 370	2 407	58	2 289	5	47	5	-	2 404	3
Italy	3 494	3 557	97	3 367	4	74	12	-	3 554	3
Netherlands	5 069	5 527	185	5 106	55	167	12	-	5 525	2
Norway	951	1 031	51	950	12	17	1	-	1 031	-
Portugal	1 939	2 153	29	2 093	2	19	6	-	2 149	4
Spain	2 135	2 857	49	2 748	6	41	12	-	2 856	1
Sweden	1 688	1 655	73	1 472	11	92	7	-	1 655	-
Switzerland	1 409	1 330	51	1 235	2	39	3	-	1 330	-
United Kingdom	22 702	24 903	1 270	22 815	63	689	49	-	24 886	17
Other	3 894	4 662	229	3 732	27	632	42	-	4 662	-
<b>North America</b>	<b>33 348</b>	<b>34 975</b>	<b>685</b>	<b>33 440</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>565</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>34 967</b>	<b>8</b>
Canada	3 208	3 841	80	3 616	18	107	19	-	3 840	1
USA	30 135	31 131	605	29 821	149	458	91	-	31 124	7
Other	5	3	-	3	-	-	-	-	3	-
<b>Central and South America</b>	<b>4 315</b>	<b>4 745</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>4 370</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4 744</b>	<b>1</b>
Argentina	411	440	10	401	3	19	7	-	440	-
Brazil	2 466	2 775	39	2 619	14	86	17	-	2 775	-
Mexico	333	327	18	293	3	13	-	-	327	-
Other	1 105	1 203	58	1 057	9	67	11	-	1 202	1

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

Country	June		Purpose of travel (June 2008)							Border Traffic Concession
	2007	2008	Business	Holiday	Study	Work	Transit	Unspecified	Total	
	<b>Australasia</b>	<b>9 277</b>	<b>9 281</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>8 931</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>28</b>	-	
Australia	7 530	7 618	173	7 327	11	85	21	-	7 617	1
New Zealand	1 681	1 605	27	1 556	-	17	5	-	1 605	-
Other	66	58	5	48	-	2	2	-	57	1
<b>Middle East</b>	<b>2 740</b>	<b>2 674</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>2 368</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>6</b>	-	<b>2 674</b>	-
Israel	1 076	1 207	41	1 105	3	53	5	-	1 207	-
Saudi Arabia	374	422	6	400	4	12	-	-	422	-
United Arab Emirates	219	234	37	178	18	1	-	-	234	-
Other	1 071	811	70	685	5	50	1	-	811	-
<b>Asia</b>	<b>18 980</b>	<b>18 175</b>	<b>1 169</b>	<b>14 345</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>2 305</b>	<b>129</b>	-	<b>18 052</b>	<b>123</b>
China	3 152	2 325	139	1 628	17	511	14	-	2 309	16
India	4 857	5 347	526	4 132	32	578	31	-	5 299	48
Japan	2 578	2 396	89	2 178	1	127	1	-	2 396	-
Malaysia	715	782	26	731	3	18	4	-	782	-
Pakistan	688	982	62	775	4	133	4	-	978	4
Philippines	590	775	21	276	2	402	48	-	749	26
Rep Of Korea	1 474	1 443	46	1 317	23	52	5	-	1 443	-
Singapore	847	785	35	735	-	14	1	-	785	-
Taiwan	1 280	1 045	117	668	10	217	9	-	1 021	24
Other	2 799	2 295	108	1 905	12	253	12	-	2 290	5
<b>Africa Total</b>	<b>502 083</b>	<b>555 372</b>	<b>9 464</b>	<b>525 409</b>	<b>3 784</b>	<b>3 665</b>	<b>1 773</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>544 113</b>	<b>11 259</b>
<b>SADC</b>	<b>490 847</b>	<b>543 384</b>	<b>8 620</b>	<b>515 553</b>	<b>3 455</b>	<b>2 827</b>	<b>1 695</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>532 166</b>	<b>11 218</b>
Angola	2 327	2 068	89	1 785	104	69	21	-	2 068	-
Botswana	58 730	57 406	131	55 729	1 070	221	188	-	57 339	67
DRC	2 254	2 174	71	1 924	44	83	37	15	2 174	-
Lesotho	150 902	171 640	635	159 474	405	159	628	-	161 301	10 339
Madagascar	312	291	12	257	2	8	12	-	291	-
Malawi	10 710	9 919	630	9 151	32	68	28	-	9 909	10

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

Country	June		Purpose of travel (June 2008)							Border traffic concession
	2007	2008	Business	Holiday	Study	Work	Transit	Unspecified	Total	
Mauritius	964	1 185	29	1 106	12	27	7	-	1 181	4
Mozambique	82 522	94 518	388	93 628	170	113	49	-	94 348	170
Namibia	14 452	14 916	1 900	12 234	259	71	450	-	14 914	2
Swaziland	81 174	85 073	409	83 570	707	176	116	-	84 978	95
Tanzania	1 070	1 138	124	928	19	37	26	-	1 134	4
Zambia	14 852	15 863	1 954	13 622	89	155	36	-	15 856	7
Zimbabwe	70 578	87 193	2 248	82 145	542	1 640	97	1	86 673	520
<b>East &amp; Central Africa</b>	<b>5 201</b>	<b>5 726</b>	<b>415</b>	<b>4 704</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5 709</b>	<b>17</b>
Burundi	76	105	16	74	5	9	1	-	105	-
Cameroon	352	432	47	304	32	48	-	1	432	-
Central African Rep	6	6	3	3	-	-	-	-	6	-
Chad	16	26	2	20	1	2	1	-	26	-
Comoros	12	15	-	14	-	1	-	-	15	-
Congo	459	284	22	221	15	17	8	-	283	1
Djibouti	7	6	1	5	-	-	-	-	6	-
Equat Guinea	18	46	-	46	-	-	-	-	46	-
Eritrea	36	42	7	27	1	6	1	-	42	-
Ethiopia	571	839	42	755	6	32	3	-	838	1
Gabon	160	214	4	172	21	16	1	-	214	-
Kenya	1 964	2 037	183	1 623	52	169	4	-	2 031	6
Reunion	37	29	-	28	1	-	-	-	29	-
Rwanda	186	221	16	174	16	11	4	-	221	-
Sao Tome and Principe	6	13	-	13	-	-	-	-	13	-
Seychelles	101	133	-	125	6	2	-	-	133	-
Somalia	202	324	-	323	-	-	-	1	324	-
Uganda	992	954	72	777	28	57	11	-	945	9



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

Country	June		Purpose of travel (June 2008)							Border traffic concession
	2007	2008	Business	Holiday	Study	Work	Transit	Unspecified	Total	
<b>West Africa</b>	<b>5 187</b>	<b>5 342</b>	<b>313</b>	<b>4 460</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>389</b>	<b>36</b>	-	<b>5 328</b>	<b>14</b>
Benin	86	93	1	79	4	8	-	-	92	1
Burkina Faso	58	54	4	44	2	3	1	-	54	-
Cape Verde Island	48	37	2	32	1	1	1	-	37	-
Cote D'Ivoire	186	225	30	158	8	29	-	-	225	-
Gambia	45	66	6	48	3	3	6	-	66	-
Ghana	1 129	1 084	50	950	9	69	5	-	1 083	1
Guinea	105	123	4	108	1	4	6	-	123	-
Guinea-Bissau	16	19	-	17	1	-	1	-	19	-
Liberia	36	40	6	30	1	3	-	-	40	-
Madeira Island	3	3	-	3	-	-	-	-	3	-
Mali	84	70	10	50	2	4	2	-	68	2
Mauritania	64	21	4	15	-	2	-	-	21	-
Niger	15	17	1	15	1	-	-	-	17	-
Nigeria	2 939	3 110	160	2 613	90	233	4	-	3 100	10
Saint Helena	6	7	-	7	-	-	-	-	7	-
Senegal	264	227	27	169	4	22	5	-	227	-
Sierra Leone	65	98	5	81	3	5	4	-	98	-
Togo	36	48	3	41	-	3	1	-	48	-
<b>North Africa</b>	<b>848</b>	<b>920</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>692</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>8</b>	-	<b>910</b>	<b>10</b>
Algeria	120	118	8	94	4	9	3	-	118	-
Egypt	360	390	55	295	-	37	2	-	389	1
Libya	74	136	8	109	1	9	1	-	128	8
Morocco	64	77	17	50	3	6	1	-	77	-
Sudan	162	133	13	99	6	13	1	-	132	1
Tunisia	68	65	15	45	1	4	-	-	65	-
Western Sahara	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-
<b>Unspecified</b>	<b>3 417</b>	<b>5 245</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>1 439</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>1 313</b>	<b>9</b>	-	<b>3 427</b>	<b>1 818</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.
- 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.

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**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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