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Tourism and Migration

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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 2 739 165 travellers (arrivals and departures) passed through South African ports of entry in June 2012. As presented in Table 1, these travellers are made up of 826 046 South African residents and 1 913 119 foreign travellers. A further breakdown of the figures for South African residents indicates that there were 366 698 and 459 348 arrivals and departures respectively. The corresponding volumes for foreign arrivals and departures were 1 024 768 and 888 351, respectively.

A comparison between the movements in May 2012 and June 2012 indicates that the volume of arrivals decreased while the volume of departures increased for both South African residents and foreign travellers. The volume of arrivals for South African residents decreased by 2,6% (from 376 540 in May 2012 to 366 698 in June 2012); while for foreign travellers, the arrivals decreased by 4,0% (from 1 067 556 in May 2012 to 1 024 768 in June 2012). For departures, the volume increased by 28,4% (from 357 713 in May 2012 to 459 348 in June 2012) for South African residents and increased by 1,2% (from 877 997 in May 2012 to 888 351 in June 2012) for foreign travellers.

A comparison between the movements in June 2011 and June 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 10,0% (from 407 272 in June 2011 to 366 698 in June 2012) and departures decreased by 5,2% (from 484 417 in June 2011 to 459 348 in June 2012). Conversely, the volume of arrivals for foreign travellers increased by 11,4% (from 920 061 in June 2011 to 1 024 768 in June 2012) and departures increased by 12,9% (from 786 784 in June 2011 to 888 351 in June 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 June 2012, 54 182 (5,3%) foreign arrivals were classified as non-visitors while 970 586 (94,7%) were classified as visitors. The visitors were categorised into three groups: arrivals only comprising of visitors who entered the country in June 2012 but did not depart in June 2012 [341 434 (35,2%)]; visitors who came once in June 2012 and left in June 2012 [345 490 (35,6%)]; and those who came and left more than once in June 2012 [283 662 (29,2%)]. Visitors were further grouped as same day visitors [316 900 (32,7%)] and overnight visitors (tourists) [653 686 (67,3%)]. Between May 2012 and June 2012, the volume of same day visitors increased by 0,7% (from 314 654 in May 2012 to 316 900 in June 2012) but tourists decreased by 5,5% (from 692 046 in May 2012 to 653 686 in June 2012). Furthermore, between June 2011 and June 2012, the volume of same day visitors increased by 5,4% (from 300 632 in June 2011 to 316 900 in June 2012) and the volume of tourists increased by 9,0% (from 599 800 in June 2011 to 653 686 in June 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 June 2012, road transport was the most common mode of travel used by 1 975 263 (72,1%) out of the 2 739 165 travellers. The total number of travellers who used air transport was 759 820 (27,7%). The arrivals data on South African residents show that 141 307 (38,5%) came by air and 225 250 (61,4%) came by road. For departures, 183 720 (40,0%) and 275 451 (60,0%) used air and road transport respectively. In the case of foreign travellers, 240 847 (23,5%) arrived by air while those who came by road were 781 887 (76,3%). When departing South Africa, 193 946 (21,8%) foreign travellers left by air whilst 692 675 (78,0%) left by road. As shown in Table 2, an overwhelming majority, 300 896 (94,9%) of same day visitors arrived in the country by road. Only 15 953 (5,0%) same day visitors flew into the country. Data on tourists show that, 456 968 (69,9%) used road transport but 196 587 (30,1%) 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 June 2012, 141 026 (90,7%) overseas tourists arrived in the country by air whilst 14 324 (9,2%) 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 [440 455 (91,9%)]. Only 38 987 (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 15 126 (90,3%); with 1 606 (9,6%) using road transport.

1.2.2 Regional and national distribution

In June 2012, the distribution of overseas tourists were as follows; Europe, 64 060 (41,2%); North America, 35 360 (22,7%); Asia, 32 420 (20,9%); Australasia, 11 692 (7,5%); Central and South America, 8 150 (5,2%) and Middle East, 3 782 (2,4%). Virtually all tourists from Africa came from the SADC countries, 479 442 (96,6%). The distribution of the remaining tourists from Africa is as follows: West Africa, 9 683 (2,0%); East and Central Africa, 5 976 (1,2%) and North Africa 1 088 (0,2%).

Data presented in Figure 1 indicate that United States of America (USA), 31 406 (20,2%); United Kingdom (UK), 21 971 (14,1%); India, 10 006 (6,4%); Australia, 9 868 (6,3%); Germany, 9 386 (6,0%); China, 9 308 (6,0%); Brazil, 5 413 (3,5%) and France, 5 330 (3,4%) were the eight leading overseas countries in the number of tourists visiting South Africa in June 2012. Tourists from these eight countries constituted 66,1% of all tourists from overseas countries. A comparison between movements in June 2011 and June 2012 shows that the number of tourists increased in all of these countries. China had the highest increase of 46,7% (from 6 343 tourists in June 2011 to 9 308 tourists in June 2012) while Germany had the least increase of 2,0% (from 9 204 tourists in June 2011 to 9 386 tourists in June 2012).

The eight leading countries in the number of tourists visiting South Africa in June 2012 from the SADC countries (see Figure 2) were Zimbabwe, 133 905 (27,9%); Lesotho, 122 564 (25,6%); Mozambique, 84 031 (17,5%); Swaziland, 59 938 (12,5%); Botswana, 31 773 (6,6%); Zambia, 13 626 (2,8%); Namibia, 13 206 (2,8%) and Malawi, 10 535 (2,2%). Tourists from these eight countries constituted 97,9% of all tourists from the SADC countries. A comparison between movements in June 2011 and June 2012 shows that the number of tourists increased in five countries (Swaziland, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Mozambique and Lesotho) but declined in Botswana, Malawi and Namibia. Swaziland had the highest increase of 17,1% (from 51 169 tourists in June 2011 to 59 938 tourists in June 2012) while Botswana had the greatest decrease of 4,3% (from 33 186 tourists in June 2011 to 31 773 tourists in June 2012).

The eight leading countries in the number of tourists visiting South Africa in June 2012 from 'other' African countries, shown in Figure 3, were Nigeria, 6 149 (36,7%); Kenya, 2 323 (13,9%); Ghana, 1 964 (11,7%); Uganda, 1 206 (7,2%); Cameroon, 616 (3,7%); Ethiopia, 592 (3,5%); Egypt, 503 (3,0%) and Gabon, 430 (2,6%). Tourists from these eight countries constituted 82,3% of all tourists from 'other' African countries. A comparison between movements in June 2011 and June 2012 shows that the number of tourists increased in six countries (Cameroon, Nigeria, Gabon, Ghana, Uganda and Kenya) and decreased in Ethiopia and Egypt. The increase was highest in Cameroon at 60,0% (from 385 tourists in June 2011 to 616 tourists in June 2012) while Ethiopia had a higher decline of 25,7% (from 797 tourists in June 2011 to 592 tourists in June 2012), compared to Egypt's 3,6% (from 522 tourists in June 2011 to 503 tourists in June 2012).

1.2.3 Purpose of visit

As observed from data given in Table 4, in June 2012, an overwhelming majority 580 003 (88,7%) of tourists were in South Africa for holidays compared to only 15 668 (2,4%) and 3 516 (0,5%) 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 51,0% came to South Africa for holidays. A total of 3 218 (85,1%) tourists from Middle East; 9 292 (79,5%) from Australasia; 27 070 (76,6%) from North America, 46 316 (72,3%) from Europe, 20 042 (61,8%) from Asia and 4 223 (51,8%) from Central and South America were in South Africa mostly for holidays. Europe and Asia had a higher proportion (6,5% and 5,1% respectively) of their tourists in South Africa for business compared to other overseas regions.

The majority [468 422 (94,4%)] 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 455 899 (95,1%) of tourists from the SADC countries were on holidays; 12 523 (74,8%) of tourists on holidays came from 'other' African countries. Data on the regions of 'other' African countries show that tourists on holidays constituted 7 549 (78,0%); 4 300 (72,0%) and 674 (61,9%) for West Africa; East and Central Africa and North Africa respectively.
- Business persons constituted 846 (5,1%) of tourists from 'other' African countries compared with 7 318 (1,5%) from the SADC countries. North Africa had the highest proportion 8,5% (93) of its tourists in South Africa for business.
- Students made up 386 (2,3%) of tourists from 'other' African countries compared with 2 386 (0,5%) from the SADC countries. East and Central Africa had the highest proportion 3,4% (201) of their tourists in South Africa for study purposes.

1.2.4 Sex and age distribution

Table 5 shows that, in June 2012, there were 371 302 (56,8%) male and 281 619 (43,1%) female tourists. The overseas tourists were made up of 94 699 (60,9%) male tourists and 60 629 (39,0%) female tourists. There were 263 806 (55,0%) male and 215 013 (44,8%) female tourists from the SADC countries. The tourists from 'other' African countries were made up of 11 447 (68,4%) males and 5 297 (31,6%) 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 599 655 (91,7%) of tourists were aged between 15 and 64 years; 30 145 (4,6%) were aged less than 15 years and 23 353 (3,6%) were aged 65 years and older. Taking the regions of residence into consideration, the results further show that 133 534 (85,9%) of overseas tourists were aged between 15 and 64 years compared with 448 339 (93,5%) and 15 821 (94,5%) 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 4,0% (19 278 and 667 respectively) while overseas countries had a proportion of 6,5% (10 160). 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 7,2% (6 780) and female 8,0% (4 878) tourists from overseas. This is in contrast to tourists from the SADC countries amongst which 2,0% (5 249) of males and 2,8% (6 087) of females were aged 65 years and older. Similarly among tourists from 'other' African countries, 1,6% (182) of males and 1,4% (74) of females were aged 65 years and older.

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2. Figures

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

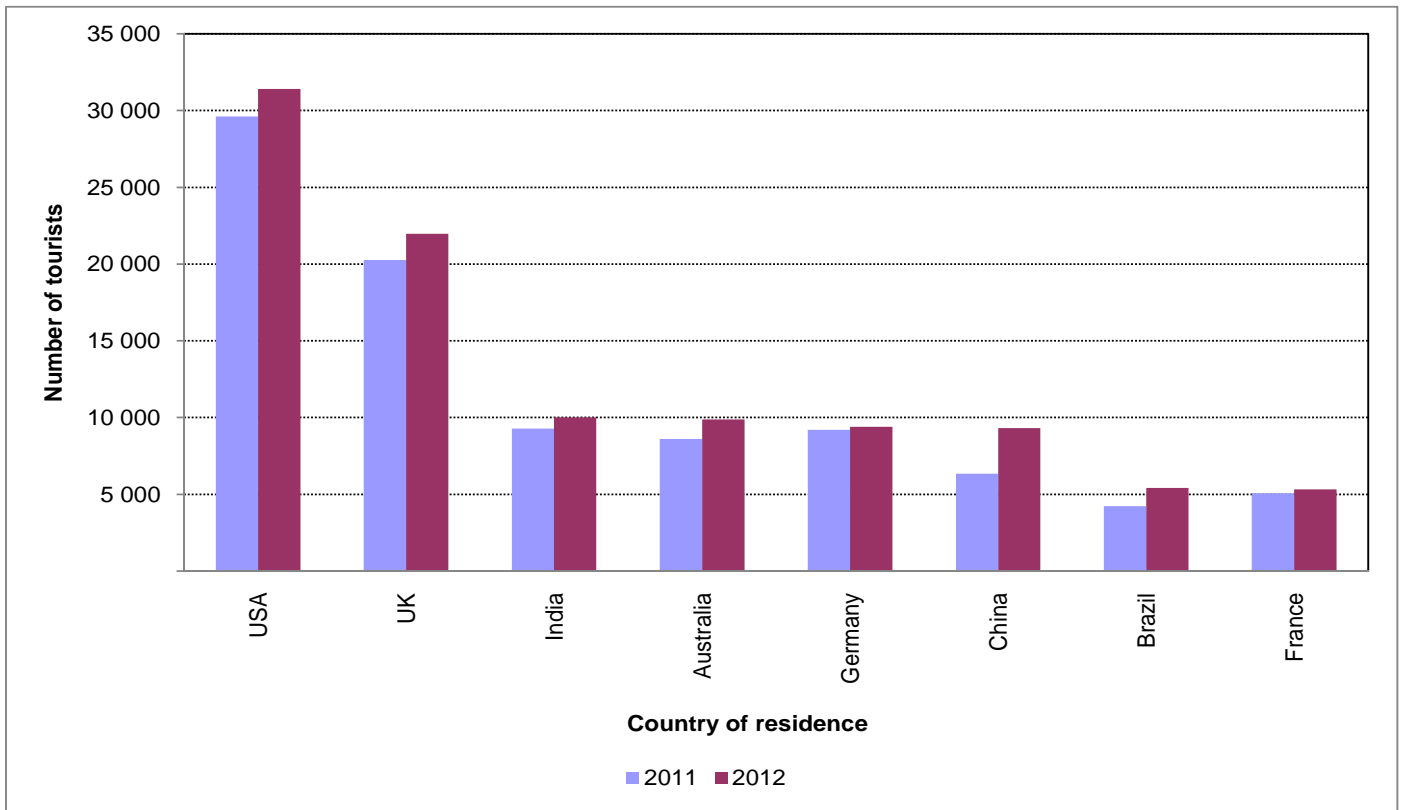


Figure 2. Number of tourists from eight leading Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries in June 2011 and June 2012

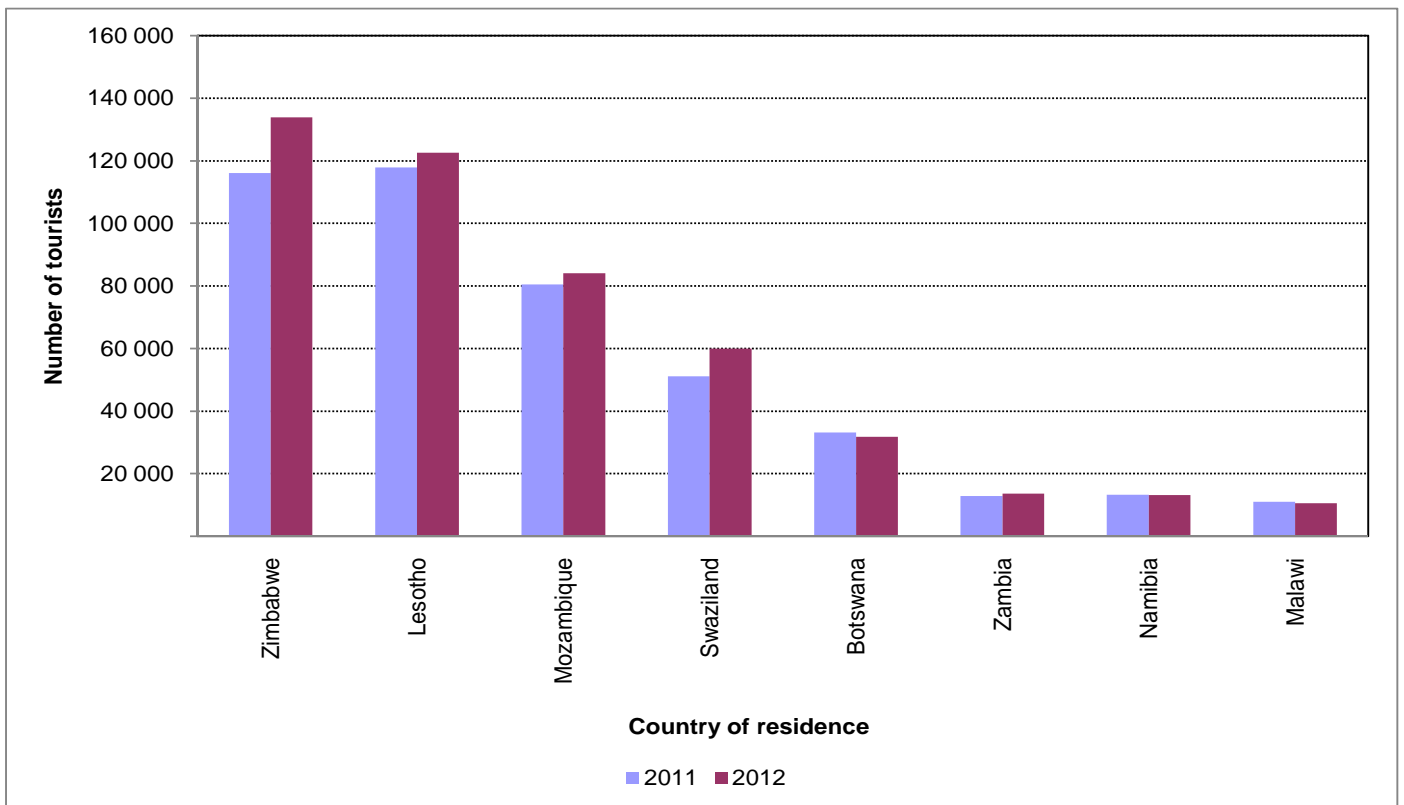
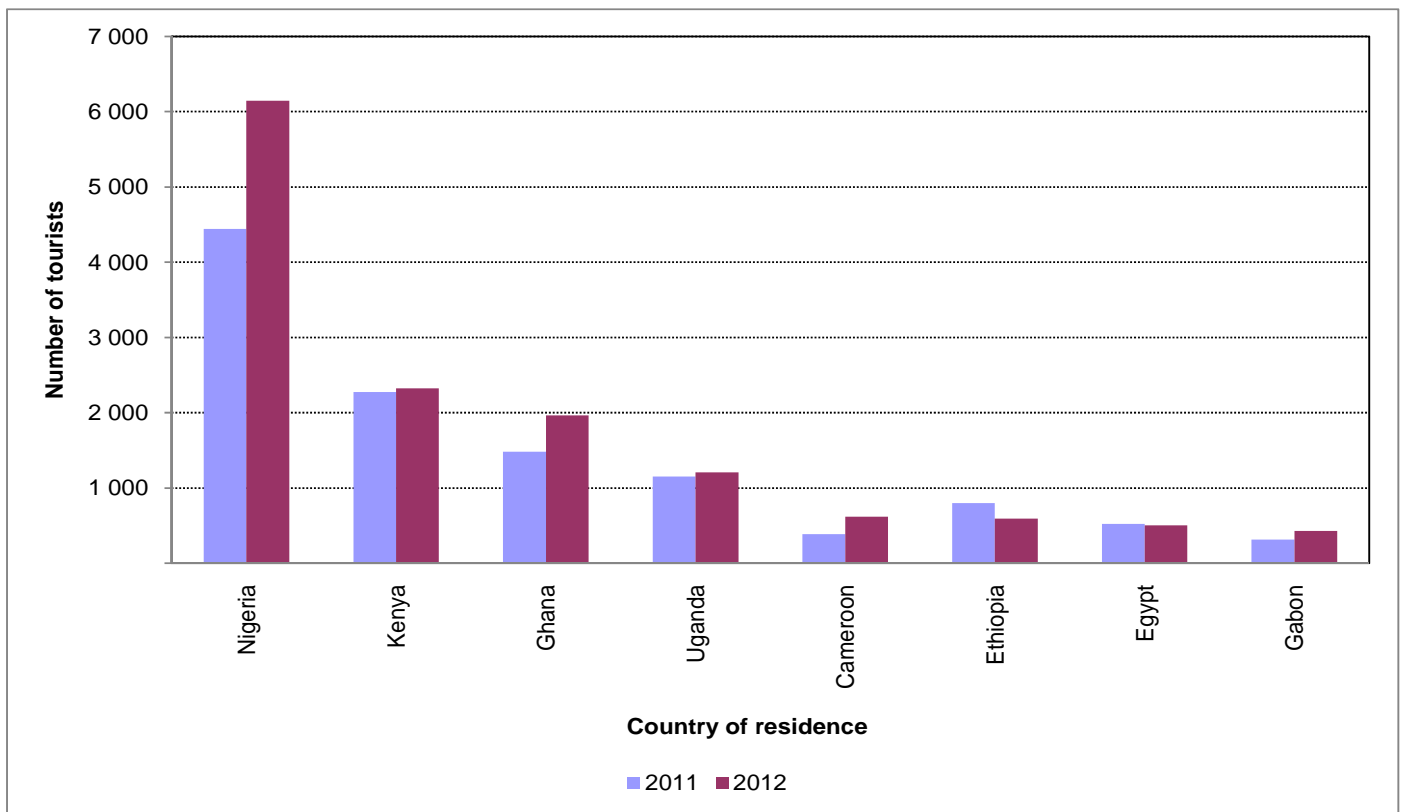


Figure 3. Number of tourists from eight leading 'other' African countries in June 2011 and June 2012



3. Tables

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

Travel direction	June	May	June	% change	
	2011	2012	2012	June 2011 - June 2012	May 2012 - June 2012
Total	2 598 534	2 679 806	2 739 165	5,4	2,2
South African residents	891 689	734 253	826 046	-7,4	12,5
Arrivals	407 272	376 540	366 698	-10,0	-2,6
Departures	484 417	357 713	459 348	-5,2	28,4
Foreign travellers	1 706 845	1 945 553	1 913 119	12,1	-1,7
Arrivals	920 061	1 067 556	1 024 768	11,4	-4,0
Departures	786 784	877 997	888 351	12,9	1,2
Foreign arrivals	920 061	1 067 556	1 024 768	11,4	-4,0
Non-visitors	19 629	60 856	54 182	176,0	-11,0
Visitors	900 432	1 006 700	970 586	7,8	-3,6
Visitors	900 432	1 006 700	970 586	7,8	-3,6
Arrivals only	316 379	364 551	341 434	7,9	-6,3
Single trips	305 290	345 494	345 490	13,2	0,0
Multiple trips	278 763	296 655	283 662	1,8	-4,4
Visitors	900 432	1 006 700	970 586	7,8	-3,6
Same day	300 632	314 654	316 900	5,4	0,7
Overnight (tourists)	599 800	692 046	653 686	9,0	-5,5

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

Travel Direction	June		Mode of travel (June 2012)							
			Air					Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2011	2012	Cape Town	K Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total			
Total	2 598 534	2 739 165	94 139	18 572	637 789	9 320	759 820	1 975 263	4 063	19
South African residents	891 689	826 046	46 325	12 678	260 539	5 485	325 027	500 701	318	-
Arrivals	407 272	366 698	19 078	5 471	113 991	2 767	141 307	225 250	141	-
Departures	484 417	459 348	27 247	7 207	146 548	2 718	183 720	275 451	177	-
Foreign travellers	1 706 845	1 913 119	47 814	5 894	377 250	3 835	434 793	1 474 562	3 745	19
Arrivals	920 061	1 024 768	23 000	2 962	212 961	1 924	240 847	781 887	2 015	19
Departures	786 784	888 351	24 814	2 932	164 289	1 911	193 946	692 675	1 730	-
Visitors	900 432	970 586	19 072	1 793	190 210	1 465	212 540	757 864	179	3
Same day	300 632	316 900	207	18	15 602	126	15 953	300 896	51	-
Overnight (tourists)	599 800	653 686	18 865	1 775	174 608	1 339	196 587	456 968	128	3

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

Country of residence	June		Mode of travel (June 2012)							
			Air					Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2011	2012	Cape Town	K Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total			
Total	599 800	653 686	18 865	1 775	174 608	1 339	196 587	456 968	128	3
Overseas	139 063	155 464	16 834	1 620	121 576	996	141 026	14 324	112	2
Europe	60 346	64 060	8 886	987	46 723	417	57 013	6 987	59	1
Austria	768	826	110	14	628	1	753	73	-	-
Belgium	1 699	1 751	206	9	1 332	8	1 555	196	-	-
Denmark	1 154	1 168	109	7	944	2	1 062	106	-	-
France	5 063	5 330	546	37	4 265	14	4 862	461	7	-
Germany	9 204	9 386	1 040	89	7 147	13	8 289	1 097	-	-
Ireland	1 641	1 839	377	42	1 228	9	1 656	182	-	1
Italy	3 285	3 586	692	73	2 587	7	3 359	226	1	-
Norway	1 141	1 010	164	16	749	-	929	81	-	-
Portugal	2 820	3 215	151	14	1 695	39	1 899	1 315	1	-
Spain	1 977	1 952	239	5	1 557	10	1 811	139	2	-
Sweden	1 547	1 337	177	4	1 011	2	1 194	142	1	-
Switzerland	1 539	1 672	161	25	1 313	5	1 504	168	-	-
The Netherlands	4 209	4 602	967	65	2 700	227	3 959	642	1	-
UK	20 271	21 971	3 399	504	16 109	69	20 081	1 856	34	-
Other	4 028	4 415	548	83	3 458	11	4 100	303	12	-
North America	33 172	35 360	3 498	154	28 526	446	32 624	2 730	6	-
Canada	3 547	3 954	442	19	3 013	16	3 490	463	1	-
USA	29 625	31 406	3 056	135	25 513	430	29 134	2 267	5	-
Central and South America	6 557	8 150	156	13	7 360	28	7 557	592	1	-
Argentina	616	855	14	3	807	2	826	29	-	-
Brazil	4 235	5 413	41	5	4 933	16	4 995	418	-	-
Mexico	310	320	36	-	275	9	320	-	-	-
Other	1 396	1 562	65	5	1 345	1	1 416	145	1	-

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

Country of residence	June		Mode of travel (June 2012)							
			Air					Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2011	2012	Cape Town	K Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total			
Australasia	10 094	11 692	455	73	10 416	52	10 996	695	1	-
Australia	8 613	9 868	358	42	8 856	44	9 300	567	1	-
New Zealand	1 450	1 804	97	31	1 540	8	1 676	128	-	-
Other	31	20	-	-	20	-	20	-	-	-
Middle East	2 795	3 782	903	25	2 718	2	3 648	134	-	-
Israel	1 067	1 144	70	-	1 006	1	1 077	67	-	-
Saudi Arabia	713	1 342	480	7	853	-	1 340	2	-	-
United Arab Emirates	126	306	151	1	154	-	306	-	-	-
Other	889	990	202	17	705	1	925	65	-	-
Asia	26 099	32 420	2 936	368	25 833	51	29 188	3 186	45	1
China	6 343	9 308	777	36	7 838	12	8 663	643	2	-
India	9 281	10 006	1 124	193	7 425	20	8 762	1 229	15	-
Japan	2 221	2 955	128	16	2 723	6	2 873	82	-	-
Pakistan	1 460	2 043	91	75	1 402	2	1 570	469	3	1
Philippines	940	1 393	36	5	1 174	2	1 217	159	17	-
Singapore	889	800	205	1	527	6	739	61	-	-
South Korea	1 454	1 275	110	6	1 034	1	1 151	124	-	-
Taiwan	623	858	59	1	696	-	756	99	3	-
Vietnam	505	1 033	3	-	1 030	-	1 033	-	-	-
Other	2 383	2 749	403	35	1 984	2	2 424	320	5	-
Africa	458 688	496 189	1 988	152	51 634	339	54 113	442 061	14	1
SADC	444 700	479 442	1 773	120	36 851	243	38 987	440 455	-	-
Angola	2 911	2 983	293	-	2 539	27	2 859	124	-	-
Botswana	33 186	31 773	18	5	3 739	58	3 820	27 953	-	-
DRC	1 988	2 284	7	1	1 640	16	1 664	620	-	-
Lesotho	117 867	122 564	3	2	901	2	908	121 656	-	-
Madagascar	343	335	4	-	323	4	331	4	-	-

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

Country of residence	June		Mode of travel (June 2012)							
			Air					Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2011	2012	Cape Town	K Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total			
Malawi	10 963	10 535	4	-	2 174	16	2 194	8 341	-	-
Mauritius	1 173	1 318	100	63	988	-	1 151	167	-	-
Mozambique	80 477	84 031	82	38	4 505	36	4 661	79 370	-	-
Namibia	13 264	13 206	1 182	1	4 062	23	5 268	7 938	-	-
Seychelles	175	149	1	1	144	-	146	3	-	-
Swaziland	51 169	59 938	1	3	1 102	1	1 107	58 831	-	-
Tanzania	2 244	2 795	7	-	1 646	-	1 653	1 142	-	-
Zambia	12 871	13 626	24	-	4 722	16	4 762	8 864	-	-
Zimbabwe	116 069	133 905	47	6	8 366	44	8 463	125 442	-	-
'Other' Africa	13 988	16 747	215	32	14 783	96	15 126	1 606	14	1
East and Central Africa	5 617	5 976	44	6	5 153	76	5 279	691	5	1
Burundi	73	134	-	-	130	-	130	4	-	-
Cameroon	385	616	8	1	550	1	560	55	1	-
Central African Republic	12	19	-	-	19	-	19	-	-	-
Chad	27	31	1	-	29	-	30	1	-	-
Comoros	26	13	-	-	13	-	13	-	-	-
Congo	221	232	1	1	225	-	227	5	-	-
Djibouti	12	9	-	-	9	-	9	-	-	-
Equatorial Guinea	33	34	-	-	15	16	31	3	-	-
Eritrea	35	65	3	-	50	-	53	12	-	-
Ethiopia	797	592	4	1	513	-	518	72	1	1
Gabon	316	430	2	-	378	42	422	7	1	-
Kenya	2 277	2 323	17	2	1 985	3	2 007	314	2	-
Rwanda	227	247	-	1	226	-	227	20	-	-
Sao Tome and Principe	17	8	-	-	6	2	8	-	-	-
Somalia	7	17	-	-	13	-	13	4	-	-
Uganda	1 152	1 206	8	-	992	12	1 012	194	-	-

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

Country of residence	June		Mode of travel (June 2012)							
			Air				Road	Sea	Unspecified	
	2011	2012	Cape Town	K Shaka	OR Tambo	Other				Total
West Africa	7 269	9 683	102	7	8 701	17	8 827	848	8	-
Ascension	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
Benin	141	176	1	-	165	3	169	7	-	-
Burkina Faso	65	74	-	-	74	-	74	-	-	-
Cape Verde Island	48	42	3	-	35	-	38	4	-	-
Côte D'Ivoire	149	239	3	2	230	-	235	4	-	-
Gambia	104	99	-	-	87	1	88	11	-	-
Ghana	1 480	1 964	55	-	1 759	-	1 814	150	-	-
Guinea	194	288	2	-	162	-	164	124	-	-
Guinea-Bissau	31	25	1	-	23	-	24	1	-	-
Liberia	64	58	1	-	55	1	57	1	-	-
Mali	88	88	-	-	75	-	75	13	-	-
Mauritania	30	21	2	-	18	-	20	1	-	-
Niger	24	22	-	-	22	-	22	-	-	-
Nigeria	4 440	6 149	33	5	5 594	12	5 644	498	7	-
Senegal	265	280	1	-	270	-	271	8	1	-
Sierra Leone	93	84	-	-	61	-	61	23	-	-
Togo	53	73	-	-	70	-	70	3	-	-
North Africa	1 102	1 088	69	19	929	3	1 020	67	1	-
Algeria	92	106	3	-	95	-	98	8	-	-
Egypt	522	503	26	9	435	1	471	31	1	-
Libya	73	96	25	-	66	-	91	5	-	-
Morocco	81	93	8	1	76	2	87	6	-	-
The Sudan	228	201	5	4	180	-	189	12	-	-
Tunisia	105	88	2	5	76	-	83	5	-	-
Western Sahara	1	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
Unspecified	2 049	2 033	43	3	1 398	4	1 448	583	2	-

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

Country of residence	June		Purpose of visit (June 2012)			
	2011	2012	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
Total	599 800	653 686	15 668	580 003	3 516	54 499
Overseas	139 063	155 464	7 437	110 161	732	37 134
Europe	60 346	64 060	4 135	46 316	360	13 249
Austria	768	826	79	509	12	226
Belgium	1 699	1 751	122	1 318	8	303
Denmark	1 154	1 168	77	769	5	317
France	5 063	5 330	448	3 728	43	1 111
Germany	9 204	9 386	529	6 324	81	2 452
Ireland	1 641	1 839	102	1 460	6	271
Italy	3 285	3 586	233	2 558	7	788
Norway	1 141	1 010	41	683	8	278
Portugal	2 820	3 215	81	2 484	8	642
Spain	1 977	1 952	169	1 324	4	455
Sweden	1 547	1 337	104	886	10	337
Switzerland	1 539	1 672	74	1 013	11	574
The Netherlands	4 209	4 602	285	3 819	47	451
UK	20 271	21 971	1 506	16 440	76	3 949
Other	4 028	4 415	285	3 001	34	1 095
North America	33 172	35 360	1 048	27 070	135	7 107
Canada	3 547	3 954	177	3 015	15	747
USA	29 625	31 406	871	24 055	120	6 360
Central and South America	6 557	8 150	160	4 223	23	3 744
Argentina	616	855	10	456	-	389
Brazil	4 235	5 413	78	2 589	14	2 732
Mexico	310	320	21	263	-	36
Other	1 396	1 562	51	915	9	587

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

Country of residence	June		Purpose of visit (June 2012)			
	2011	2012	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
Australasia	10 094	11 692	289	9 292	15	2 096
Australia	8 613	9 868	254	7 800	13	1 801
New Zealand	1 450	1 804	34	1 481	1	288
Other	31	20	1	11	1	7
Middle East	2 795	3 782	166	3 218	67	331
Israel	1 067	1 144	69	884	6	185
Saudi Arabia	713	1 342	20	1 288	31	3
United Arab Emirates	126	306	6	298	2	-
Other	889	990	71	748	28	143
Asia	26 099	32 420	1 639	20 042	132	10 607
China	6 343	9 308	439	4 480	14	4 375
India	9 281	10 006	688	7 800	62	1 456
Japan	2 221	2 955	143	1 589	2	1 221
Pakistan	1 460	2 043	69	1 652	7	315
Philippines	940	1 393	21	531	5	836
Singapore	889	800	34	628	2	136
South Korea	1 454	1 275	87	849	21	318
Taiwan	623	858	20	501	2	335
Vietnam	505	1 033	6	93	-	934
Other	2 383	2 749	132	1 919	17	681
Africa	458 688	496 189	8 164	468 422	2 772	16 831
SADC	444 700	479 442	7 318	455 899	2 386	13 839
Angola	2 911	2 983	89	1 934	134	826
Botswana	33 186	31 773	163	29 330	354	1 926
DRC	1 988	2 284	67	1 959	51	207
Lesotho	117 867	122 564	56	121 329	717	462
Madagascar	343	335	8	155	3	169

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

Country of residence	June		Purpose of visit (June 2012)			
	2011	2012	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
Malawi	10 963	10 535	233	9 511	35	756
Mauritius	1 173	1 318	64	942	14	298
Mozambique	80 477	84 031	1 175	80 380	49	2 427
Namibia	13 264	13 206	1 736	9 640	214	1 616
Seychelles	175	149	8	122	-	19
Swaziland	51 169	59 938	1 274	57 644	455	565
Tanzania	2 244	2 795	88	2 221	29	457
Zambia	12 871	13 626	1 090	11 085	46	1 405
Zimbabwe	116 069	133 905	1 267	129 647	285	2 706
'Other' Africa	13 988	16 747	846	12 523	386	2 992
East and Central Africa	5 617	5 976	360	4 300	201	1 115
Burundi	73	134	3	90	4	37
Cameroon	385	616	23	427	32	134
Central African Republic	12	19	1	13	-	5
Chad	27	31	4	19	2	6
Comoros	26	13	-	8	2	3
Congo	221	232	3	185	13	31
Djibouti	12	9	-	6	-	3
Equatorial Guinea	33	34	-	30	2	2
Eritrea	35	65	2	49	3	11
Ethiopia	797	592	35	456	14	87
Gabon	316	430	6	344	12	68
Kenya	2 277	2 323	177	1 634	79	433
Rwanda	227	247	16	163	12	56
Sao Tome and Principe	17	8	-	5	1	2
Somalia	7	17	-	10	-	7
Uganda	1 152	1 206	90	861	25	230

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

Country of residence	June		Purpose of visit (June 2012)			
	2011	2012	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
West Africa	7 269	9 683	393	7 549	153	1 588
Ascension	-	1	-	1	-	-
Benin	141	176	18	146	3	9
Burkina Faso	65	74	7	53	1	13
Cape Verde Island	48	42	-	38	1	3
Côte D'Ivoire	149	239	23	188	4	24
Gambia	104	99	1	32	-	66
Ghana	1 480	1 964	84	1 500	24	356
Guinea	194	288	4	174	1	109
Guinea-Bissau	31	25	1	7	-	17
Liberia	64	58	5	34	2	17
Mali	88	88	4	55	2	27
Mauritania	30	21	1	7	-	13
Niger	24	22	1	16	-	5
Nigeria	4 440	6 149	221	5 026	108	794
Senegal	265	280	10	172	2	96
Sierra Leone	93	84	3	61	3	17
Togo	53	73	10	39	2	22
North Africa	1 102	1 088	93	674	32	289
Algeria	92	106	5	76	4	21
Egypt	522	503	47	303	7	146
Libya	73	96	9	75	9	3
Morocco	81	93	10	62	1	20
The Sudan	228	201	12	119	10	60
Tunisia	105	88	10	39	1	38
Western Sahara	1	1	-	-	-	1
Unspecified	2 049	2 033	67	1 420	12	534

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

Sex	Age group	Total	Region (June 2012)			
			Overseas	SADC	'Other' African	Unspecified
All	Total	653 686	155 464	479 442	16 747	2 033
	<15	30 145	10 160	19 278	667	40
	15 - 64	599 655	133 534	448 339	15 821	1 961
	65+	23 353	11 684	11 383	256	30
	Unspecified	533	86	442	3	2
Male	Total	371 302	94 699	263 806	11 447	1 350
	<15	15 048	5 248	9 448	331	21
	15 - 64	343 708	82 612	248 861	10 932	1 303
	65+	12 236	6 780	5 249	182	25
	Unspecified	310	59	248	2	1
Female	Total	281 619	60 629	215 013	5 297	680
	<15	15 097	4 912	9 830	336	19
	15 - 64	255 321	50 816	198 963	4 886	656
	65+	11 044	4 878	6 087	74	5
	Unspecified	157	23	133	1	-
Unspecified	Total	765	136	623	3	3
	<15	-	-	-	-	-
	15 - 64	626	106	515	3	2
	65+	73	26	47	-	-
	Unspecified	66	4	61	-	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 June 2012, the DHA data was 1,2% 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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