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# Statistical release

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## NOTICE

**Users who would like to continue using foreign arrival (rather than tourists) as their base denominator for comparison and trend analysis purposes could send their data request to: [TshwaroG@statssa.gov.za](mailto:TshwaroG@statssa.gov.za) or [DuduzileGu@statssa.gov.za](mailto:DuduzileGu@statssa.gov.za)**

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## KEY FINDINGS

### 1. Travellers

#### 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 2 305 958 travellers (arrivals and departures) passed through South African ports of entry in March 2010. As presented in Table 1, these travellers are made up of 692 357 South African residents and 1 613 601 foreign travellers. A further breakdown of the figures indicates that there were 327 444 and 364 913 South African resident arrivals and departures respectively. The corresponding volumes for foreign arrivals and departures were 862 333 and 751 268 respectively. A comparison between the movements in February 2010 and March 2010 indicates that the volume of arrivals and departures for both South African residents and foreign travellers increased. There was an increase of 14,7% from 285 392 in February 2010 to 327 444 in March 2010 for South African arrivals and an increase of 28,5% from 284 032 in February 2010 to 364 913 in March 2010 for South African departures. Foreign arrivals increased by 5,6% from 816 363 in February 2010 to 862 333 in March 2010 and foreign departures increased by 10,3% from 681 356 in February 2010 to 751 268 in March 2010.

A comparison between movements in March 2009 and March 2010 indicates that there was an increase in all movements. Thus, foreign arrivals increased by 8,9% from 791 935 in March 2009 to 862 333 in March 2010. Detailed information on the departure of travellers is not available in the movement data. Data on the purpose of travel and the number of days South African travellers intend to spend or spent abroad are not collected by South Africa immigration officers. Hence, it is not possible to categorise them as tourists and non tourists. However, data are available on foreign arrivals for this categorisation. In March 2010, 33 355 (3,9%) foreign arrivals were classified as non-visitors while 828 978 (96,1%) were visitors. The visitors were categorised into three groups: arrivals only comprising of visitors who entered the country in March but did not depart in March (286 405); single trips comprising of visitors who came in once and left in March (328 138); and multiple trips comprising of visitors who came and left more than once in March (214 435). Visitors were further grouped as same day visitors 225 499 (27,2%) and overnight visitors / tourists 603 479 (72,8%).

#### 1.2 Mode of travel of travellers

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 March 2010, road transport was the most common mode of travel used by 1 544 617 (67,0%) out of the 2 305 958 travellers. The number of travellers who used air transport was 748 564 (32,5%). The arrival data on South African residents show that 131 487 (40,2%) came by air and 194 883 (59,5%) by road. For departure, 154 730 (42,4%) and 209 886 (57,5%) used air and road transport respectively. In the case of foreign travellers, 232 450 (27,0%) arrived by air. Those who came by road were 620 410 (71,9%). When departing South Africa, 229 897 (30,6%) foreign travellers left by air, whilst 519 438 (69,1%) left by road. As shown in Table 2 an overwhelming majority, 208 392 (92,4%) of same day visitors arrived in the country by road. Only 17 047 (7,6%) same day visitors flew into the country. However, data on overnight visitors / tourists show that, 398 353 (66,0%) used road transport, whereas 204 659 (33,9%) came by air.

### 2. Tourists

#### 2.1 Mode of travel of tourists

The country of residence of tourists is used to categorise them into their respective regions and countries. 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 March 2010, a high proportion of overseas tourists arrived in the country by air 163 753 (90,4%) whilst 17 010 (9,4%) came in by road. This is in contrast to tourists from SADC countries who came into South Africa predominantly by road 378 066 (93,0%) whereas 28 230 (6,9%) came in by air. A relatively high proportion 10 814 (83,6%) of tourists from 'other' African countries flew into the country, but 2 111 (16,3%) used road transport.

#### 2.2 Regional and national distribution of tourists

In March 2010, overseas tourists came mainly from Europe, 120 256 (66,4%); followed by North America, 26 138 (14,4%); Asia, 15 272 (8,4%); Australasia, 9 643 (5,3%); Central and South America, 5 696 (3,1%); and Middle East, 4 120 (2,3%). Virtually all tourists from Africa came from the SADC countries, 406 395 (96,9%). The distribution of the remaining tourists from Africa is as follows: East and Central Africa, 6 403 (1,5%); West Africa, 5 594 (1,3%) and North Africa 934 (0,2%). Data presented in Figure 1 indicate that UK, 43 776 (24,2%); Germany, 24 432 (13,5%); USA, 21 548 (11,9%); France, 9 860 (5,4%); The Netherlands, 8 513 (4,7%); Australia, 7 985 (4,4%); Canada 4 587 (2,5%); Sweden, 4 021 (2,2%) were the eight leading overseas countries. Tourists from these eight countries constitute 68,8% of all tourists from overseas countries. A comparison between movements in

March 2009 and March 2010 shows that the number of tourists increased in all these countries with the exception of France. The volume of tourists from France declined by 1,0% from 9 959 in March 2009 to 9 860 in March 2010.

The eight leading countries from SADC (see Figure 2) were Zimbabwe, 114 471 (28,2%); Lesotho, 85 482 (21,0%); Mozambique, 80 221 (19,7%); Swaziland, 46 429 (11,4%); Botswana, 35 672 (8,8%); Namibia, 15 455 (3,8%); Zambia, 12 355 (3,0%) and Malawi, 8 620 (2,1%). Tourists from these eight countries constitute 98,0% of all tourists from SADC countries. A comparison between movements in March 2009 and March 2010 shows that the number of tourists increased in all these countries with the exception of Malawi. The volume of tourists from Malawi declined by 24,5% from 11 413 in March 2009 to 8 620 in March 2010.

The eight leading countries from 'other' African countries, shown in Figure 3, were Nigeria, 3 621 (28,0%); Kenya, 1 931 (14,9%); Ghana, 1 038 (8,0%); Uganda, 987 (7,6%); Ethiopia, 841 (6,5%); Somalia, 599 (4,6%); Congo, 576 (4,5%); and Egypt, 456 (3,5%). Tourists from these eight countries constitute 77,6% of all tourists from 'other' African countries. A comparison between movements in March 2009 and March 2010 shows that the number of tourists increased in five countries and declined in Nigeria, Kenya and Ethiopia. The volume of tourists from Nigeria fell by 2,3% from 3 707 to 3 621; Kenya, by 2,8% from 1 986 to 1 931 and Ethiopia by 17,8% from 1 023 to 841 between March 2009 and March 2010.

### 2.3 Purpose of visit of tourists

As observed from data given in Table 4, in March 2010, an overwhelming majority (97,4%) of tourists were in South Africa for holidays compared to only 1,7% and 0,8% of tourists who were in South Africa to do business and to study respectively. A detailed analysis reveals that all the overseas regions had at least 91,0% of their tourists coming to South Africa for holidays. Tourists from Australasia (98,4%), Central and South America (97,5%), Europe (97,2%), North America (96,7%), Middle East (95,7%), and Asia (91,1%) were in South Africa mostly for holidays. Tourists from Middle East and Asia were more diverse in their purpose. Asia and Middle East had 7,5% and 3,7% respectively of their tourists in South Africa for business. Furthermore, students made up 1,1% and 0,5% of Asia and Middle East tourists respectively.

Although the majority (97,8%) of African tourists came to South Africa for holidays, there were differences between tourists from SADC countries and those from 'other' African countries, namely:

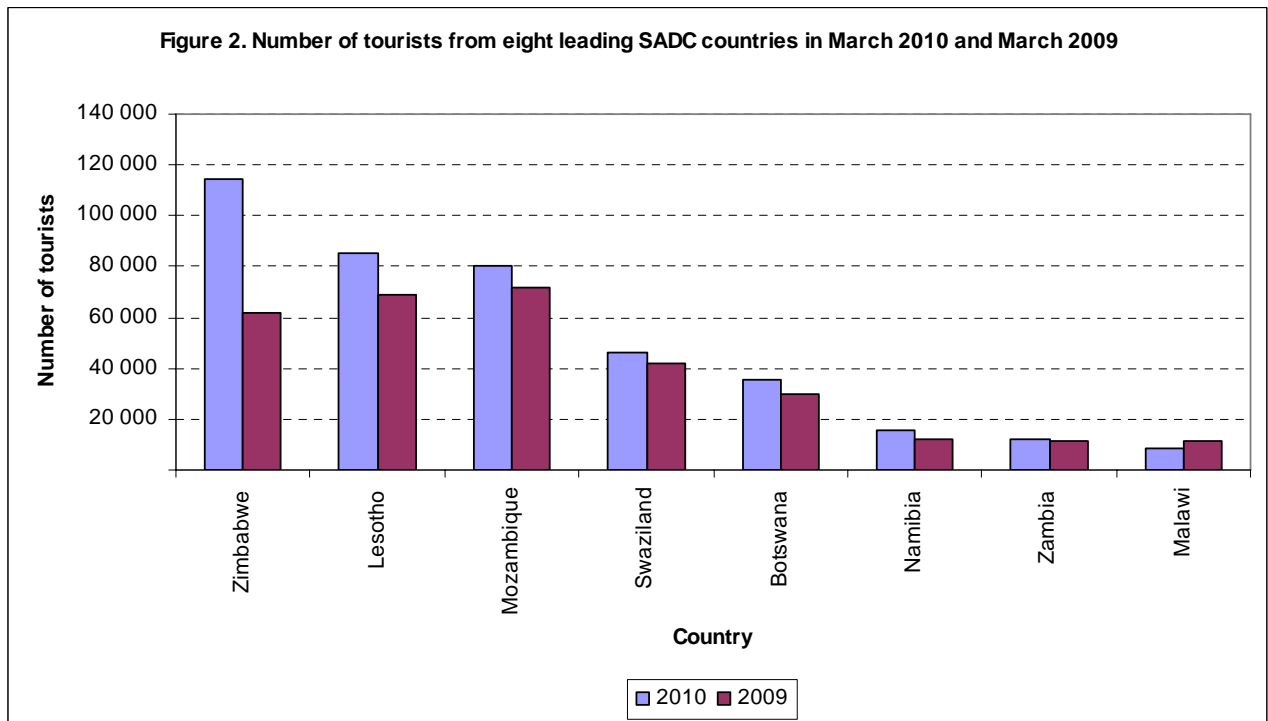
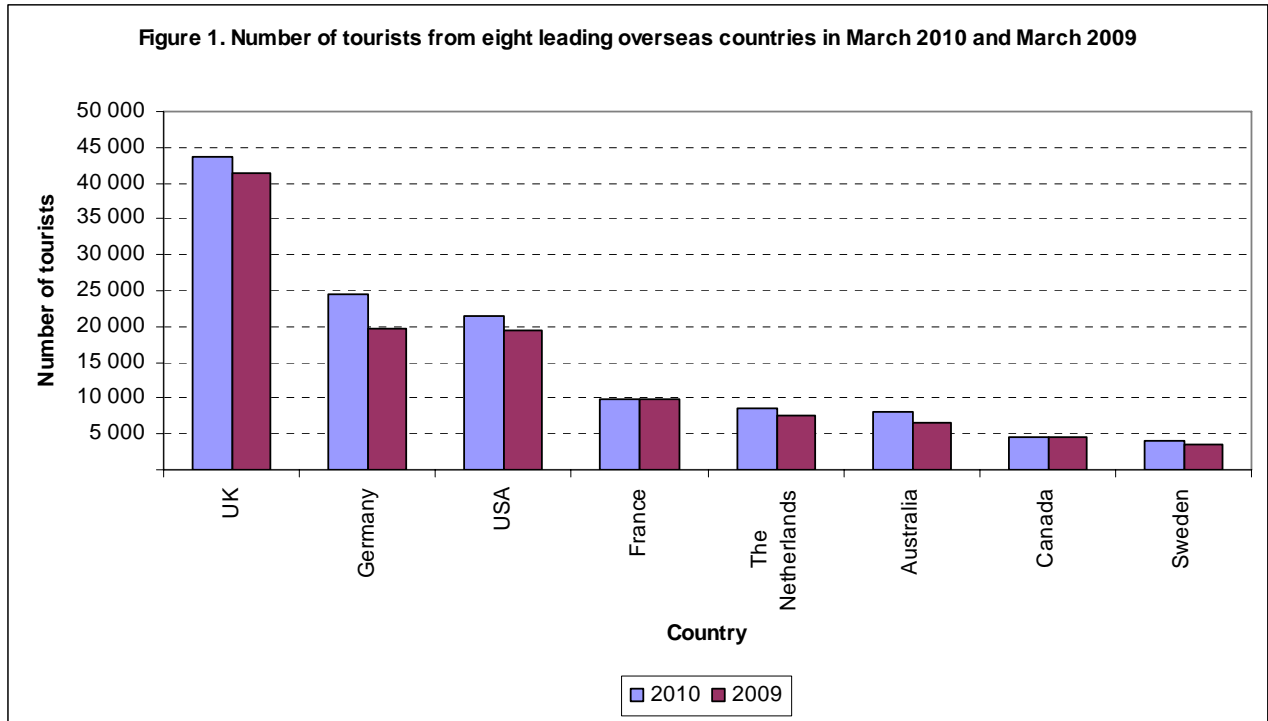
- Whereas 98,0% of tourists from the SADC countries were on holidays; 92,6% of tourists from 'other' African countries were on holidays. Proportionally, the lowest percentage (84,7%) of tourists on holidays came from North Africa, a region from where 11,6% of tourists had come to do business.
- Overall, of the tourists from North Africa, East and Central Africa and West Africa, 11,6%, 3,4% and 3,0% respectively were in South Africa for business compared with only 1,1% of business persons among the tourists from SADC countries.
- Similarly, 4,0%; 3,5% and 2,6% of tourists from: East and Central Africa; North Africa and West Africa respectively were students compared with only 0,7% among tourists from SADC countries.

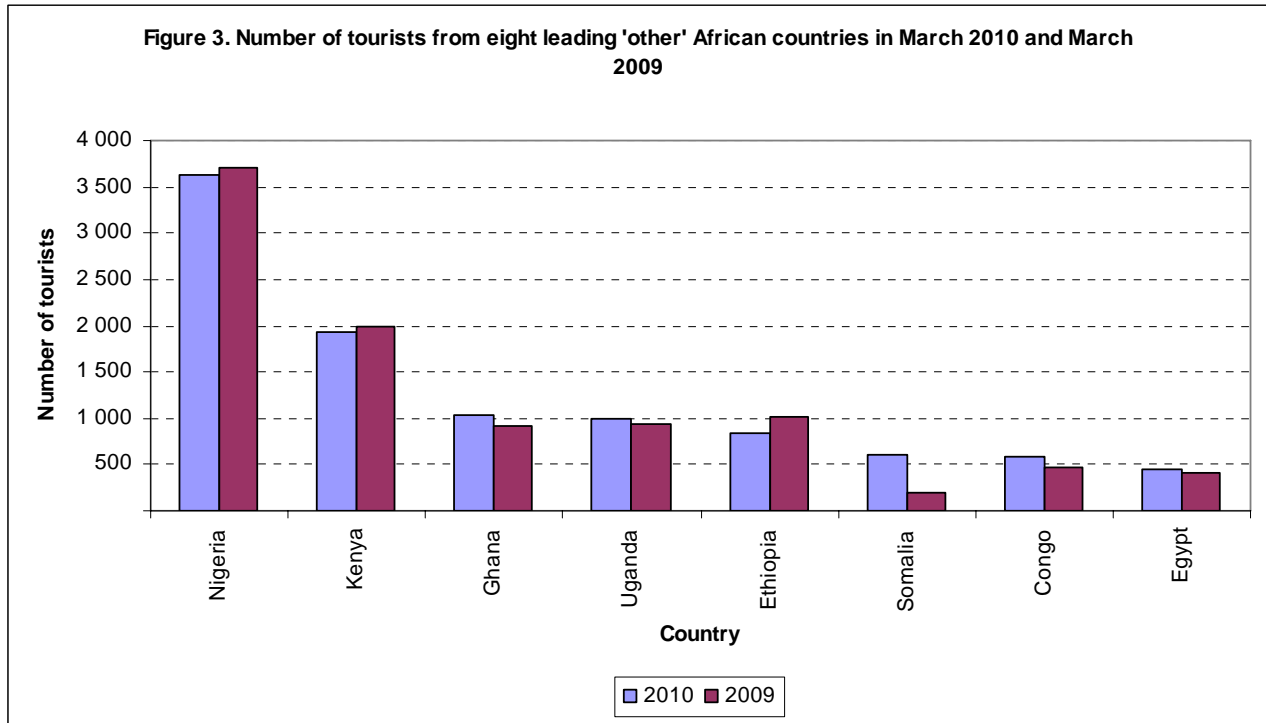
### 2.4 Sex and age distribution of tourists

According to Table 5, in March 2010, there were 335 028 (55,5%) male and 267 719 (44,4%) female tourists. The overseas tourists were made up of 102 088 (56,4%) male tourists and 78 853 (43,5%) female tourists. Tourists from 'other' African countries had a high proportion (69,5%) of males compared with that of SADC (54,7%). The proportions of female tourists from 'other' African countries and SADC countries were 30,5% and 45,2% respectively.

The ages of the tourists were categorised into three broad groups, namely those younger than 15 years, those aged between 15 and 64 years, and persons 65 years and older. The overall results presented in Table 5 show that 90,5% of tourists were aged between 15 and 64 years; 4,4% aged less than 15 years and 5,0% aged 65 years and older. Taking the country of residence into consideration, the results further show that 81,6% of overseas tourists were aged between 15 and 64 years compared with 94,3% and 94,2% of tourists from SADC and 'other' African countries respectively. There were very few tourists younger than 15 years and those aged 65 years and older. The data show relatively high proportions of the elderly among both male (10,8%) and female (11,9%) tourists from overseas. This is in contrast to tourists from SADC countries amongst which 1,9% of males and 2,8% of females were aged 65 years and older. Similarly among tourists from 'other' African countries 1,7% of males and 2,0% of females were aged 65 years and older.

**P J Lehohla**  
Statistician-General







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

Travel direction	March	February	March	% change	% change
	2009	2010	2010	March 09 - March 10	February 10 - March 10
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>2 131 152</b>	<b>2 067 143</b>	<b>2 305 958</b>	<b>8,2</b>	<b>11,6</b>
<b>South African residents</b>	<b>632 581</b>	<b>569 424</b>	<b>692 357</b>	<b>9,4</b>	<b>21,6</b>
Arrivals	310 862	285 392	327 444	5,3	14,7
Departures	321 719	284 032	364 913	13,4	28,5
<b>Foreign travellers</b>	<b>1 498 571</b>	<b>1 497 719</b>	<b>1 613 601</b>	<b>7,7</b>	<b>7,7</b>
Arrivals	791 935	816 363	862 333	8,9	5,6
Departures	706 636	681 356	751 268	6,3	10,3
<b>Foreign arrivals</b>		<b>816 363</b>	<b>862 333</b>		<b>5,6</b>
Non visitors		29 223	33 355		14,1
Visitors		787 140	828 978		5,3
<b>Visitors</b>		<b>787 140</b>	<b>828 978</b>		<b>5,3</b>
Arrivals only		283 409	286 405		1,1
Single trips		313 850	328 138		4,6
Multiple trips		189 881	214 435		12,9
<b>Visitors</b>		<b>787 140</b>	<b>828 978</b>		<b>5,3</b>
Same day		203 131	225 499		11,0
Overnight (tourists)		584 009	603 479		3,3



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

Travel direction	March		Mode of travel (March 2010)								
			Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2009	2010	Cape Town	Durban	OR Tambo	Other	Total				
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>2 131 152</b>	<b>2 305 958</b>	<b>153 716</b>	<b>15 867</b>	<b>572 698</b>	<b>6 283</b>	<b>748 564</b>	<b>443</b>	<b>1 544 617</b>	<b>3 656</b>	<b>8 678</b>
<b>South African residents</b>	<b>632 581</b>	<b>692 357</b>	<b>35 410</b>	<b>8 670</b>	<b>237 750</b>	<b>4 387</b>	<b>286 217</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>404 769</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>827</b>
Arrivals	310 862	327 444	16 495	3 909	108 903	2 180	131 487	97	194 883	161	816
Departures	321 719	364 913	18 915	4 761	128 847	2 207	154 730	109	209 886	177	11
<b>Foreign travellers</b>	<b>1 498 571</b>	<b>1 613 601</b>	<b>118 306</b>	<b>7 197</b>	<b>334 948</b>	<b>1 896</b>	<b>462 347</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>1 139 848</b>	<b>3 318</b>	<b>7 851</b>
Arrivals	791 935	862 333	56 978	4 221	170 330	921	232 450	125	620 410	1 497	7 851
Departures	706 636	751 268	61 328	2 976	164 618	975	229 897	112	519 438	1 821	-
<b>Visitors</b>	<b>689 148</b>	<b>828 978</b>	<b>55 416</b>	<b>3 873</b>	<b>161 587</b>	<b>830</b>	<b>221 706</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>606 745</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>17</b>
Same day	195 589	225 499	765	4	16 176	102	17 047	30	208 392	24	6
Overnight (tourists)	493 559	603 479	54 651	3 869	145 411	728	204 659	88	398 353	368	11

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

Country	Mode of travel (March 2010)										
	March		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2009	2010	Cape Town	Durban	OR Tambo	Other	Total				
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>493 559</b>	<b>603 479</b>	<b>54 651</b>	<b>3 869</b>	<b>145 411</b>	<b>728</b>	<b>204 659</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>398 353</b>	<b>368</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Overseas</b>	<b>162 562</b>	<b>181 125</b>	<b>52 083</b>	<b>3 539</b>	<b>107 643</b>	<b>488</b>	<b>163 753</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>17 010</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Europe</b>	<b>109 457</b>	<b>120 256</b>	<b>42 980</b>	<b>2 234</b>	<b>62 464</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>107 870</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>12 094</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>5</b>
Austria	1 411	1 855	605	27	1 026	-	1 658	-	196	1	-
Belgium	2 581	3 054	955	10	1 666	15	2 646	-	407	1	-
Denmark	2 134	2 435	713	10	1 529	2	2 254	-	180	1	-
France	9 959	9 860	2 614	59	6 010	30	8 713	2	1 138	7	-
Germany	19 667	24 432	9 558	242	11 386	16	21 202	-	3 057	173	-
Ireland	3 308	2 994	1 289	22	1 441	4	2 756	-	238	-	-
Italy	3 201	3 314	1 164	79	1 879	4	3 126	-	188	-	-
Norway	1 857	2 255	866	13	1 126	-	2 005	-	250	-	-
Portugal	2 093	2 457	257	14	1 329	8	1 608	-	848	1	-
Spain	1 658	1 974	423	10	1 422	2	1 857	-	105	12	-
Sweden	3 594	4 021	1 316	10	2 181	6	3 513	-	507	-	1
Switzerland	2 546	2 892	783	64	1 718	11	2 576	-	312	4	-
The Netherlands	7 574	8 513	2 663	38	4 233	8	6 942	2	1 562	7	-
UK	41 479	43 776	17 880	1 504	21 707	77	41 168	1	2 533	72	2
Other	6 395	6 424	1 894	132	3 811	9	5 846	-	573	3	2
<b>North America</b>	<b>23 906</b>	<b>26 138</b>	<b>4 016</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>19 372</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>23 794</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2 314</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>5</b>
Canada	4 547	4 587	1 131	55	2 860	24	4 070	-	513	2	2
USA	19 353	21 548	2 885	134	16 511	193	19 723	-	1 799	23	3
Other	6	3	-	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	-
<b>Central and South America</b>	<b>4 436</b>	<b>5 696</b>	<b>1 258</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>4 049</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5 333</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>-</b>
Argentina	831	1 692	982	2	676	1	1 661	-	31	-	-
Brazil	2 611	2 368	62	9	2 141	-	2 212	-	155	1	-
Mexico	181	258	34	-	202	1	237	-	21	-	-
Other	813	1 378	180	11	1 030	2	1 223	-	153	2	-

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

Country	Mode of travel (March 2010)										
	March		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2009	2010	Cape Town	Durban	OR Tambo	Other	Total				
<b>Australasia</b>	<b>7 926</b>	<b>9 643</b>	<b>937</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>8 058</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>9 171</b>	-	<b>471</b>	<b>1</b>	-
Australia	6 586	7 985	715	53	6 793	52	7 613	-	372	-	-
New Zealand	1 279	1 618	213	66	1 251	4	1 534	-	83	1	-
Other	61	40	9	1	14	-	24	-	16	-	-
<b>Middle East</b>	<b>3 585</b>	<b>4 120</b>	<b>903</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>2 928</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3 901</b>	-	<b>217</b>	<b>2</b>	-
Iran	1 260	1 348	488	43	808	2	1 341	-	7	-	-
Israel	1 208	1 809	194	-	1 485	5	1 684	-	125	-	-
Jordan	169	189	20	2	118	-	140	-	49	-	-
Other	948	774	201	17	517	1	736	-	36	2	-
<b>Asia</b>	<b>13 252</b>	<b>15 272</b>	<b>1 989</b>	<b>912</b>	<b>10 772</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>13 684</b>	-	<b>1 554</b>	<b>34</b>	-
Bangladesh	196	379	32	97	137	2	268	-	109	2	-
China	2 926	3 779	480	4	3 159	-	3 643	-	136	-	-
India	3 300	3 822	382	370	2 588	4	3 344	-	473	5	-
Japan	1 394	1 862	196	8	1 544	1	1 749	-	113	-	-
Korea	990	1 034	113	4	821	-	938	-	96	-	-
Malaysia	457	487	187	4	268	-	459	-	28	-	-
Pakistan	792	1 013	110	201	408	1	720	-	274	19	-
Singapore	376	406	102	5	283	-	390	-	16	-	-
Taiwan	750	657	78	110	367	-	555	-	100	2	-
Other	2 071	1 833	309	109	1 197	3	1 618	-	209	6	-
<b>Africa</b>	<b>329 102</b>	<b>419 326</b>	<b>2 452</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>36 031</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>39 044</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>380 177</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>SADC</b>	<b>316 556</b>	<b>406 395</b>	<b>2 277</b>	<b>268</b>	<b>25 530</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>28 230</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>378 066</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>1</b>
Angola	2 993	2 954	314	2	2 507	21	2 844	-	110	-	-
Botswana	29 658	35 672	23	24	1 845	48	1 940	63	33 669	-	-
DRC	2 096	2 183	1	-	1 731	8	1 740	-	443	-	-
Lesotho	68 824	85 482	-	1	450	1	452	-	85 029	-	1
Madagascar	174	204	2	-	194	1	197	-	7	-	-

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

Country	Mode of travel (March 2010)										
	March		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2009	2010	Cape Town	Durban	OR Tambo	Other	Total				
Malawi	11 413	8 620	9	5	1 708	4	1 726	-	6 894	-	-
Mauritius	1 021	1 126	173	132	748	1	1 054	1	71	-	-
Mozambique	71 651	80 221	85	85	1 850	9	2 029	11	78 176	5	-
Namibia	12 261	15 455	1 610	-	2 351	17	3 978	-	11 475	2	-
Swaziland	42 140	46 429	-	6	465	-	471	4	45 954	-	-
Tanzania	1 185	1 223	10	1	831	3	845	-	378	-	-
Zambia	11 577	12 355	13	4	4 221	2	4 240	2	8 112	1	-
Zimbabwe	61 563	114 471	37	8	6 629	40	6 714	2	107 748	7	-
<b>'Other' African</b>	<b>12 546</b>	<b>12 931</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>10 501</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>10 814</b>	-	<b>2 111</b>	<b>6</b>	-
<b>East and Central Africa</b>	<b>5 946</b>	<b>6 403</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>4 792</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>4 928</b>	-	<b>1 472</b>	<b>3</b>	-
Burundi	72	74	1	1	49	-	51	-	23	-	-
Cameroon	321	411	9	-	381	2	392	-	19	-	-
Central African Republic	5	8	-	-	8	-	8	-	-	-	-
Chad	17	13	-	-	13	-	13	-	-	-	-
Comoros	17	12	-	-	12	-	12	-	-	-	-
Congo	473	576	1	3	406	35	445	-	131	-	-
Djibouti	11	6	-	-	4	-	4	-	2	-	-
Equat Guinea	18	17	-	-	9	-	9	-	8	-	-
Eritrea	34	45	2	2	41	-	45	-	-	-	-
Ethiopia	1 023	841	3	3	542	1	549	-	291	1	-
Gabon	312	385	3	-	363	13	379	-	6	-	-
Kenya	1 986	1 931	15	4	1 706	9	1 734	-	196	1	-
Reunion	109	50	-	-	50	-	50	-	-	-	-
Rwanda	232	209	1	1	190	-	192	-	17	-	-
Sao Tome and Principe	11	9	-	-	8	-	8	-	1	-	-
Seychelles	184	230	9	3	215	1	228	-	2	-	-
Somalia	192	599	-	1	8	-	9	-	590	-	-
Uganda	929	987	4	8	787	1	800	-	186	1	-

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

Country	Mode of travel March 2010)										
	March		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2009	2010	Cape Town	Durban	OR Tambo	Other	Total				
<b>West Africa</b>	<b>5 649</b>	<b>5 594</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>4 965</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>5 043</b>	-	<b>549</b>	<b>2</b>	-
Benin	100	113	5	-	104	-	109	-	4	-	-
Burkina Faso	55	32	-	-	32	-	32	-	-	-	-
Cape Verde Island	59	39	-	-	36	-	36	-	3	-	-
Cote D'Ivoire	200	148	1	1	142	-	144	-	4	-	-
Gambia	52	33	-	-	22	-	22	-	11	-	-
Ghana	910	1 038	7	2	928	-	937	-	101	-	-
Guinea	92	83	-	-	57	-	57	-	26	-	-
Guinea-Bissau	7	26	-	-	2	-	2	-	24	-	-
Liberia	32	35	-	-	32	-	32	-	3	-	-
Madeira Islands	11	12	3	-	5	-	8	-	4	-	-
Mali	64	62	1	-	51	-	52	-	10	-	-
Mauritania	9	15	1	-	14	-	15	-	-	-	-
Niger	26	16	1	-	13	-	14	-	2	-	-
Nigeria	3 707	3 621	25	10	3 239	13	3 287	-	333	1	-
Saint Helena	2	6	1	-	1	-	2	-	3	1	-
Senegal	212	231	2	5	215	-	222	-	9	-	-
Sierra Leone	53	52	-	-	43	-	43	-	9	-	-
Togo	58	32	-	-	29	-	29	-	3	-	-
<b>North Africa</b>	<b>951</b>	<b>934</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>744</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>843</b>	-	<b>90</b>	<b>1</b>	-
Algeria	129	107	6	-	83	1	90	-	17	-	-
Egypt	407	456	31	4	389	5	429	-	26	1	-
Libya	55	66	10	1	38	-	49	-	17	-	-
Morocco	93	86	11	2	70	-	83	-	3	-	-
The Sudan	144	154	19	6	104	-	129	-	25	-	-
Tunisia	123	63	3	-	58	-	61	-	2	-	-
Western Sahara	-	2	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-
<b>Unspecified</b>	<b>1 895</b>	<b>3 028</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1 737</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1 862</b>	-	<b>1 166</b>	-	-

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

Country	March		Purpose of visit (March 2010)			
	2009	2010	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>493 559</b>	<b>603 479</b>	<b>10 216</b>	<b>587 501</b>	<b>4 777</b>	<b>985</b>
<b>Overseas</b>	<b>162 562</b>	<b>181 125</b>	<b>4 987</b>	<b>175 023</b>	<b>867</b>	<b>248</b>
<b>Europe</b>	<b>109 457</b>	<b>120 256</b>	<b>2 973</b>	<b>116 840</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>101</b>
Austria	1 411	1 855	46	1 806	1	2
Belgium	2 581	3 054	86	2 952	15	1
Denmark	2 134	2 435	75	2 355	3	2
France	9 959	9 860	219	9 591	41	9
Germany	19 667	24 432	439	23 882	96	15
Ireland	3 308	2 994	68	2 923	3	-
Italy	3 201	3 314	142	3 160	10	2
Norway	1 857	2 255	51	2 182	21	1
Portugal	2 093	2 457	22	2 424	7	4
Spain	1 658	1 974	62	1 901	9	2
Sweden	3 594	4 021	106	3 903	11	1
Switzerland	2 546	2 892	65	2 813	12	2
The Netherlands	7 574	8 513	223	8 251	32	7
UK	41 479	43 776	1 066	42 621	58	31
Other	6 395	6 424	303	6 076	23	22
<b>North America</b>	<b>23 906</b>	<b>26 138</b>	<b>521</b>	<b>25 278</b>	<b>299</b>	<b>40</b>
Canada	4 547	4 587	72	4 490	17	8
USA	19 353	21 548	449	20 785	282	32
Other	6	3	-	3	-	-
<b>Central and South America</b>	<b>4 436</b>	<b>5 696</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>5 555</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>27</b>
Argentina	831	1 692	8	1 673	8	3
Brazil	2 611	2 368	12	2 327	10	19
Mexico	181	258	17	230	9	2
Other	813	1 378	42	1 325	8	3

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

Country	March		Purpose of visit (March 2010)			
	2009	2010	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
<b>Australasia</b>	<b>7 926</b>	<b>9 643</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>9 493</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>17</b>
Australia	6 586	7 985	105	7 861	6	13
New Zealand	1 279	1 618	14	1 596	4	4
Other	61	40	4	36	-	-
<b>Middle East</b>	<b>3 585</b>	<b>4 120</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>3 942</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>7</b>
Iran	1 260	1 348	14	1 334	-	-
Israel	1 208	1 809	33	1 770	-	6
Jordan	169	189	7	181	1	-
Other	948	774	98	657	18	1
<b>Asia</b>	<b>13 252</b>	<b>15 272</b>	<b>1 139</b>	<b>13 915</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>56</b>
Bangladesh	196	379	6	369	3	1
China	2 926	3 779	342	3 388	41	8
India	3 300	3 822	471	3 305	33	13
Japan	1 394	1 862	78	1 774	4	6
Korea	990	1 034	16	966	49	3
Malaysia	457	487	19	464	4	-
Pakistan	792	1 013	47	956	9	1
Singapore	376	406	28	378	-	-
Taiwan	750	657	23	626	4	4
Other	2 071	1 833	109	1 689	15	20
<b>Africa</b>	<b>329 102</b>	<b>419 326</b>	<b>5 112</b>	<b>410 286</b>	<b>3 199</b>	<b>729</b>
<b>SADC</b>	<b>316 556</b>	<b>406 395</b>	<b>4 615</b>	<b>398 313</b>	<b>2 765</b>	<b>702</b>
Angola	2 993	2 954	68	2 748	123	15
Botswana	29 658	35 672	44	34 900	675	53
DRC	2 096	2 183	73	2 037	51	22
Lesotho	68 824	85 482	27	84 796	231	428
Madagascar	174	204	8	189	4	3

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

Country	March		Purpose of visit (March 2010)			
	2009	2010	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
Malawi	11 413	8 620	181	8 391	38	10
Mauritius	1 021	1 126	25	1 089	9	3
Mozambique	71 651	80 221	217	79 877	99	28
Namibia	12 261	15 455	1 826	13 143	447	39
Swaziland	42 140	46 429	231	45 609	567	22
Tanzania	1 185	1 223	76	1 120	24	3
Zambia	11 577	12 355	800	11 471	76	8
Zimbabwe	61 563	114 471	1 039	112 943	421	68
<b>'Other' African</b>	<b>12 546</b>	<b>12 931</b>	<b>497</b>	<b>11 973</b>	<b>434</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>East and Central Africa</b>	<b>5 946</b>	<b>6 403</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>5 914</b>	<b>256</b>	<b>14</b>
Burundi	72	74	2	70	2	-
Cameroon	321	411	14	360	34	3
Central African Republic	5	8	-	8	-	-
Chad	17	13	2	11	-	-
Comoros	17	12	-	12	-	-
Congo	473	576	12	525	38	1
Djibouti	11	6	-	6	-	-
Equat Guinea	18	17	1	15	1	-
Eritrea	34	45	2	42	1	-
Ethiopia	1 023	841	19	812	9	1
Gabon	312	385	1	344	40	-
Kenya	1 986	1 931	105	1 738	85	3
Reunion	109	50	-	50	-	-
Rwanda	232	209	15	181	13	-
Sao Tome and Principe	11	9	1	7	-	1
Seychelles	184	230	2	226	2	-
Somalia	192	599	1	598	-	-
Uganda	929	987	42	909	31	5



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

Country	March		Purpose of visit (March 2010)			
	2009	2010	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
<b>West Africa</b>	<b>5 649</b>	<b>5 594</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>5 268</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>11</b>
Benin	100	113	2	109	2	-
Burkina Faso	55	32	5	26	1	-
Cape Verde Island	59	39	-	38	1	-
Cote D'Ivoire	200	148	17	123	6	2
Gambia	52	33	-	31	-	2
Ghana	910	1 038	15	1 010	13	-
Guinea	92	83	6	77	-	-
Guinea-Bissau	7	26	-	26	-	-
Liberia	32	35	2	32	1	-
Madeira Islands	11	12	-	12	-	-
Mali	64	62	5	57	-	-
Mauritania	9	15	-	15	-	-
Niger	26	16	1	15	-	-
Nigeria	3 707	3 621	85	3 419	117	-
Saint Helena	2	6	-	6	-	-
Senegal	212	231	22	201	2	6
Sierra Leone	53	52	6	43	2	1
Togo	58	32	4	28	-	-
<b>North Africa</b>	<b>951</b>	<b>934</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>791</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>2</b>
Algeria	129	107	9	92	6	-
Egypt	407	456	64	389	3	-
Libya	55	66	5	54	7	-
Morocco	93	86	13	73	-	-
The Sudan	144	154	10	125	17	2
Tunisia	123	63	7	56	-	-
Western Sahara	-	2	-	2	-	-
<b>Unspecified</b>	<b>1 895</b>	<b>3 028</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>2 192</b>	<b>711</b>	<b>8</b>

**Table 5. Number of tourists from overseas, SADC and 'other' African regions by sex and age group, March 2010**

Sex	Age group	Total	Region			
			Overseas	SADC	'other' African	Unspecified
<b>All</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>603 479</b>	<b>181 125</b>	<b>406 395</b>	<b>12 931</b>	<b>3 028</b>
	<15	26 821	12 740	13 296	515	270
	15-64	546 134	147 834	383 425	12 183	2 692
	65+	30 212	20 517	9 399	231	65
	Unspecified	312	34	275	2	1
<b>Males</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>335 028</b>	<b>102 088</b>	<b>222 242</b>	<b>8 991</b>	<b>1 707</b>
	<15	13 575	6 493	6 692	273	117
	15-64	305 811	84 507	211 188	8 565	1 551
	65+	15 496	11 071	4 235	151	39
	Unspecified	146	17	127	2	-
<b>Females</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>267 719</b>	<b>78 853</b>	<b>183 612</b>	<b>3 938</b>	<b>1 316</b>
	<15	13 246	6 247	6 604	242	153
	15-64	239 714	63 192	171 769	3 616	1 137
	65+	14 638	9 401	5 131	80	26
	Unspecified	121	13	108	-	-
<b>Unspecified</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>732</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>541</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>
	<15	-	-	-	-	-
	15-64	609	135	468	2	4
	65+	78	45	33	-	-
	Unspecified	45	4	40	-	1

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

### 1. Introduction

Legal movements across South African borders as well as legal immigration into South Africa fall under the jurisdiction of the DHA. 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;
- 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. 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.

### 3. Scope and coverage

The release covers data on arrival and departure 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. 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 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 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.
- Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) downloads the data covering a particular calendar month from the mainframe of the State Information Technology Agency (SITA), where the DHA stores its data.
- As part of data interrogation, data from the OR Tambo International Airport, which has the highest volume of travellers, are compared with passenger statistics from the Airport Company of South Africa (ACSA). As expected, in any specific month, an increase in the volume of passengers reported by ACSA has been accompanied by an increase in the volume of travellers recorded by DHA. A similar pattern was also observed when the volume of travellers decreased. However, the volume of passengers recorded by ACSA is 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 March 2010, the DHA data was 19,0% lower than that of ACSA.

## 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.

## 6. Definitions of terms

### 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.

### 6.2 Definitions used specifically in this report

**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 thirteen 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

## 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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