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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 or DudzileGu@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 2 287 646 travellers (arrivals and departures) passed through South African ports of entry in May 2010. As presented in Table 1, these travellers are made up of 685 958 South African residents and 1 601 688 foreign travellers. A further breakdown of the figures indicates that there were 345 695 and 340 263 South African residents' arrivals and departures respectively. The corresponding volumes for foreign arrivals and departures were 855 222 and 746 466 respectively. A comparison between the movements in April 2010 and May 2010 indicates that the volume of arrivals and departures for both South African residents and foreign travellers decreased. There was a decline of 17,4% from 418 434 in April 2010 to 345 695 in May 2010 for South African arrivals and a decline of 12,6% from 389 148 in April 2010 to 340 263 in May 2010 for their departures. Foreign arrivals declined by 4,0% from 890 590 in April 2010 to 855 222 in May 2010 and foreign departures declined by 2,8% from 768 196 in April 2010 to 746 466 in May 2010. A comparison between movements in May 2009 and May 2010 indicate that there was an increase in all movements. Thus, South African residents arrivals increased by 2,5% from 337 142 in May 2009 to 345 695 in May 2010 and foreign arrivals increased by 11,8% from 764 700 in May 2009 to 855 222 in May 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. As presented in Table 1, in May 2010, 28 506 (3,3%) foreign arrivals were classified as non-visitors while 826 716 (96,7%) were visitors. The visitors were categorised into three groups: arrivals only comprising of visitors who entered the country in May but did not depart in May 300 865 (36,4%); visitors who came once and left in May 321 631 (38,9%); and those who came more than once and left in May 204 220 (24,7%). Visitors were further grouped as same day visitors 220 173(26,6%) and overnight visitors/tourists 606 543 (73,4%).

1.2 Mode of travel of travellers and same day visitors

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 May 2010, road transport was the most common mode of travel used by 1 303 662 (57,0%) out of the 2 287 646 travellers. The total number of travellers who used air transport was 974 840 (42,6%). The arrivals data on South African residents show that 180 199 (52,1%) came by air and 164 527 (47,6%) by road. For departures, 176 136 (51,8%) and 163 414 (48,0%) used air and road transport respectively. In the case of foreign travellers, 326 762 (38,2%) arrived by air. Those who came by road were 522 636 (61,1%). When departing South Africa, 291 743 (39,1%) foreign travellers left by air whilst 453 085 (60,7%) left by road. As shown in Table 2 an overwhelming majority, 163 929 (74,5%) of same day visitors arrived in the country by road. Only 56 189 (25,5%) same day visitors flew into the country. However, data on overnight visitors/tourists show that, 345 983 (57,0%) used road transport whereas 259 934 (42,9%) 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 May 2010, a high number of overseas tourists arrived in the country by air 127 625 (92,3%) whilst 10 254 (7,4%) came in by road. This is in contrast to tourists from SADC countries who came into South Africa predominantly by road 284 506 (72,3%) whereas 108 868 (27,7%) came in by air. A relatively high number 12 075 (88,2%) of tourists from 'other' African countries flew into the country while 1 581 (11,5%) used road transport.

2.2 Regional and national distribution of tourists

In May 2010, overseas tourists came mainly from Europe, 71 814 (51,9%); followed by North America, 27 108 (19,6%); Asia, 21 872 (15,8%); Australasia, 8 673 (6,3%); Central and South America, 6 506 (4,7%); and Middle East, 2 288 (1,7%). Virtually all tourists from Africa came from the SADC countries, 393 579 (96,6%). The distribution of the remaining tourists from Africa is as follows: West Africa, 6 556 (1,6%); East and Central Africa, 6 059 (1,5%) and North Africa 1 074 (0,3%).

Data presented in Figure 1 indicate that UK, 28 011 (20,3%); USA, 23 101 (16,7%); India, 8 317 (6,0%); Australia, 7 300 (5,3%); France, 6 887 (5,0%); The Netherlands, 6 508 (4,7%); Germany, 6 315 (4,6%); and China, 4 954 (3,6%) were the eight leading overseas countries. Tourists from these eight countries constitute 66,2% of all tourists from overseas countries. A comparison between movements in May 2009 and May 2010 shows that the number of tourists increased in all these countries with the exception of Germany and India. The volume of tourists from Germany decreased by 33,9% from 9 550 in May 2009 to 6 315 in May 2010 and the tourists from India decreased by 20,7% from 10 493 in May 2009 to 8 317 in May 2010.

The eight leading countries from SADC (see Figure 2) were Lesotho, 87 504 (22,2%); Mozambique, 81 958 (20,8%); Zimbabwe, 75 992 (19,3%); Swaziland, 55 919 (14,2%); Botswana, 41 310 (10,5%); Namibia, 17 683 (4,5%); Zambia, 14 253 (3,6%) and Malawi, 10 643 (2,7%). Tourists from these eight countries constitute 97,8% of all tourists from SADC countries.

A comparison between movements in May 2009 and May 2010 shows that the number of tourists increased in all these countries with the exception of Zimbabwe, Swaziland and Mozambique. The volume of tourists from Zimbabwe decreased by 23,4% from 99 224 in May 2009 to 75 992 in May 2010, the volume of tourists from Swaziland decreased by 1,4% from 56 723 in May 2009 to 55 919 in May 2010 and the tourists from Mozambique decreased by 0,1% from 82 063 in May 2009 to 81 958 in May 2010.

The eight leading countries from 'other' African countries, shown in Figure 3, were Nigeria, 3 971 (29,0%); Kenya, 2 355 (17,2%); Ghana, 1 273 (9,3%); Uganda, 1 100 (8,0%); Ethiopia, 671 (4,9%); Cameroon, 506 (3,7%); Egypt, 504 (3,7%); and Senegal, 400 (2,9%). Tourists from these eight countries constitute 78,7% of all tourists from 'other' African countries. A comparison between movements in May 2009 and May 2010 shows that the number of tourists increased in all these countries with the exception of Ethiopia. The volume of tourists from Ethiopia declined by 36,3% from 1 053 in May 2009 to 671 in May 2010.

2.3 Purpose of visit of tourists

As observed from data given in Table 4, in May 2010, an overwhelming majority (97,6%) of tourists were in South Africa for holidays compared to only 0,5% and 1,9% of tourists who were in South Africa to study and do business. A detailed analysis reveals that all the overseas regions had at least 92,0% of their tourists coming to South Africa for holidays. Tourists from Australasia (98,2%), Central and South America (97,8%), North America (97,0%), Europe (95,9%), Asia (93,6%), and Middle East (92,8%) were in South Africa mostly for holidays. Tourists from Middle East and Asia were more diverse in their purpose. Middle East and Asia had 6,1% and 5,8% respectively of their tourists in South Africa for business. Furthermore, students made up 0,9% and 0,4% of Middle East and Asia tourists respectively.

Although the majority (98,0%) of African tourists came to South Africa for holidays, there were differences between tourists from SADC countries and those from 'other' African countries, namely:

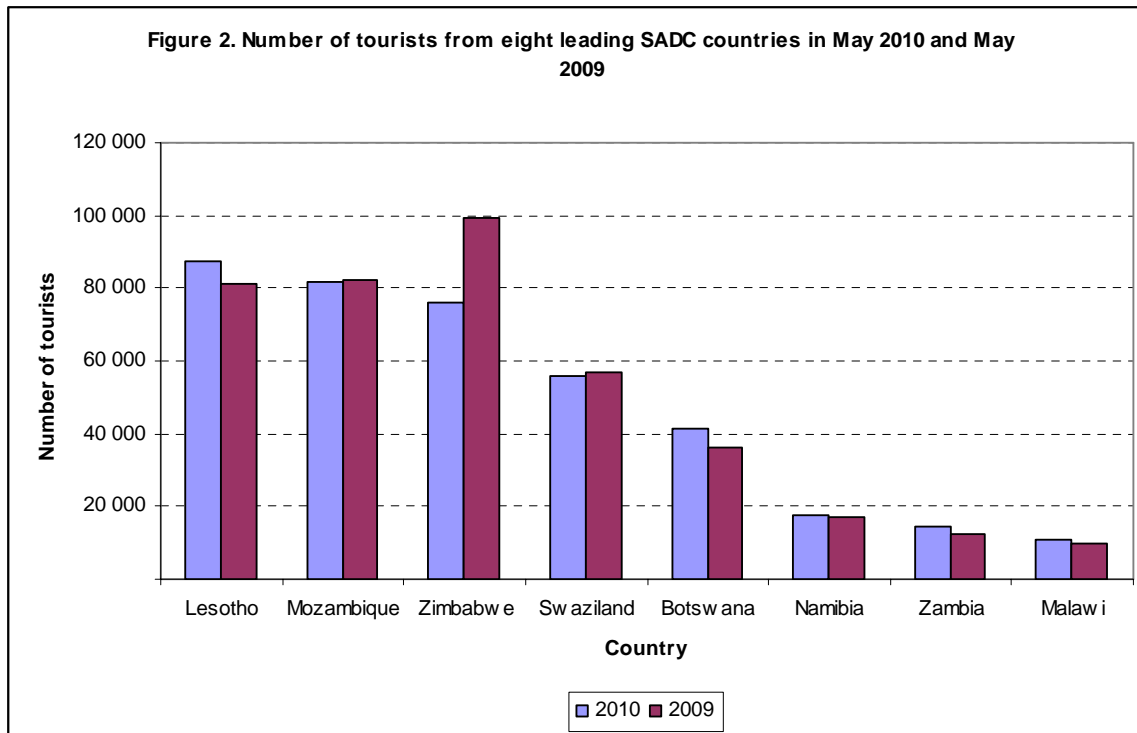
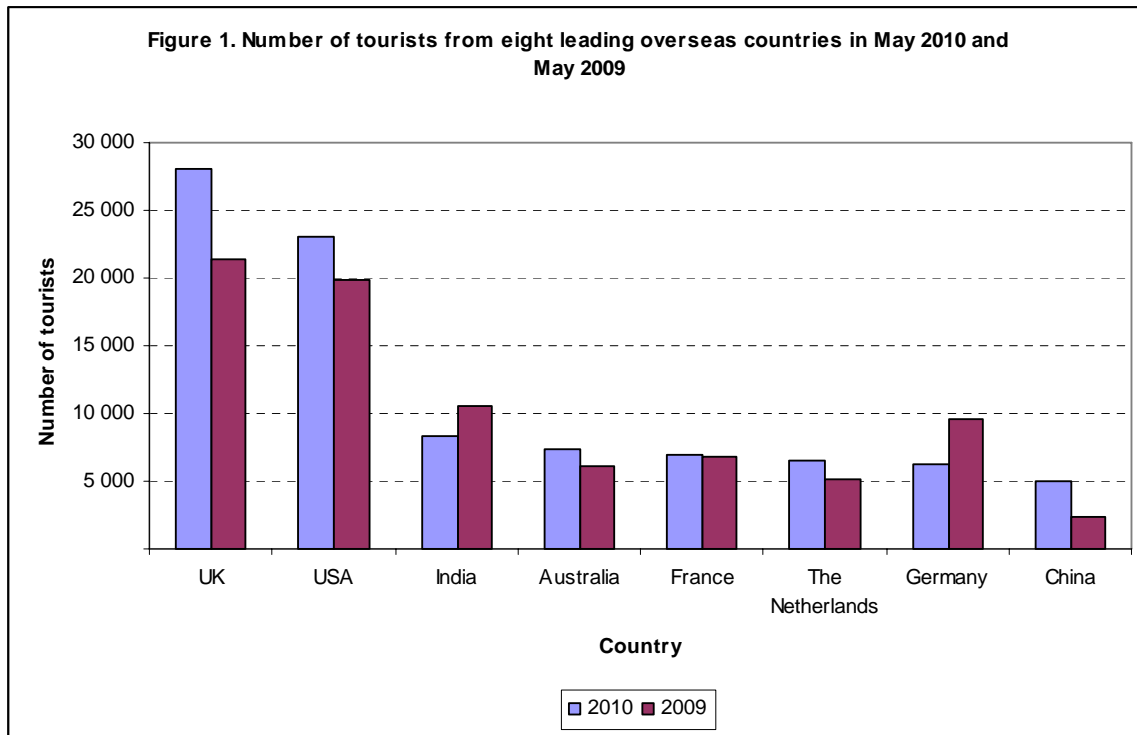
- Whereas 98,2% of tourists from the SADC countries were on holidays; 93,3% of tourists from 'other' African countries were on holidays. Proportionally, the lowest percentage (87,9%) of tourists on holidays came from North Africa, a region from where 2,0% of tourists had come to study.
- Overall, of the tourists from North Africa, East and Central Africa and West Africa, 10,1%, 5,2% and 3,3% respectively were in South Africa for business compared with only 1,3% of business persons among the tourists from SADC countries.
- Similarly, 2,4%; 2,0% and 1,6% of tourists from: East and Central Africa; North Africa and West Africa respectively were students compared with only 0,5% among tourists from SADC countries.

2.4 Sex and age distribution of tourists

As indicated in Table 5, in May 2010, there were 345 932 (57,0%) male and 259 014 (42,7%) female tourists. The overseas tourists were made up of 85 535 (61,9%) male tourists and 52 402 (37,9%) female tourists. Tourists from 'other' African countries had a high proportion (70,2%) of males compared with that of SADC (55,5%). The proportions of female tourists from 'other' African countries and SADC countries were 29,7% and 44,2% 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 85,3% of tourists were aged between 15 and 64 years; 3,1% aged less than 15 years and 3,2% aged 65 years and older. Taking the country of residence into consideration, the results further show that 68,2% of overseas tourists were aged between 15 and 64 years compared to 91,4% and 71,4% of tourists from SADC and 'other' African countries respectively. There were 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 (6,3%) and female (7,5%) 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 1,0% of males and 1,2% of females were aged 65 years and older.

P J Lehohla
Statistician-General



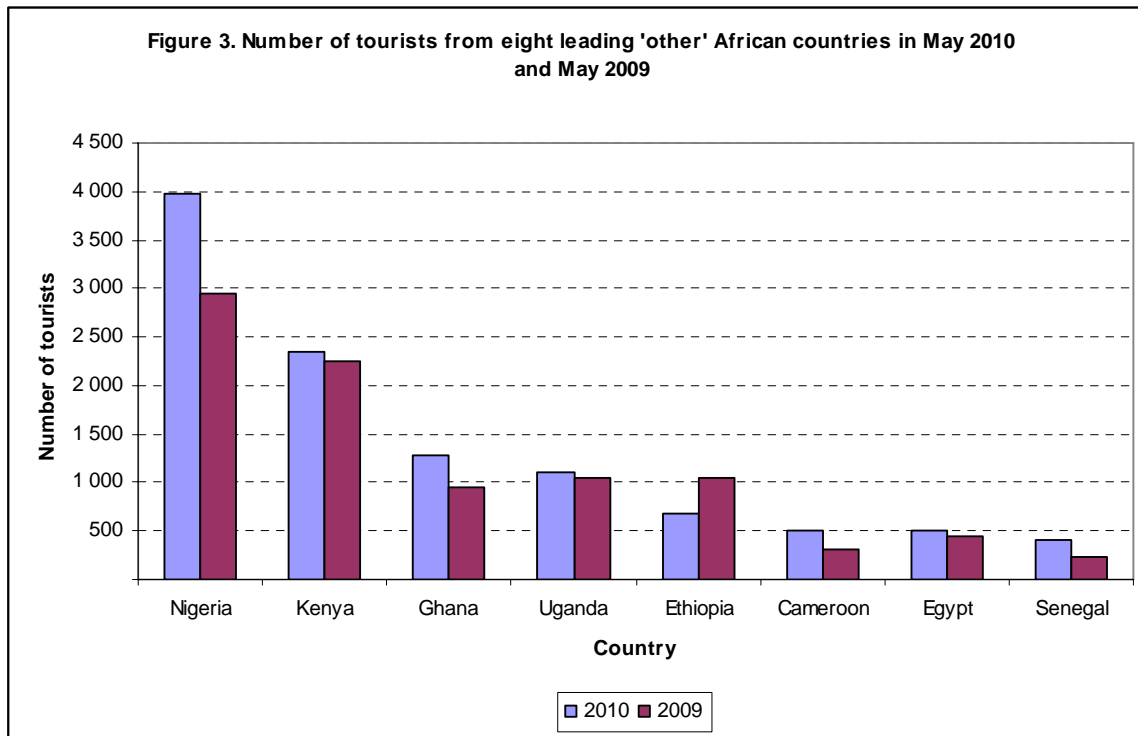


Table 1. Number of South African residents and foreign travellers by travel direction

Travel direction	May	April	May	% change	% change
	2009	2010	2010	May 09 - May 10	April 10 - May 10
Grand total	2 100 901	2 466 368	2 287 646	8,9	-7,2
South African residents	666 124	807 582	685 958	3,0	-15,1
Arrivals	337 142	418 434	345 695	2,5	-17,4
Departures	328 982	389 148	340 263	3,4	-12,6
Foreign travellers	1 434 777	1 658 786	1 601 688	11,6	-3,4
Arrivals	764 700	890 590	855 222	11,8	-4,0
Departures	670 077	768 196	746 466	11,4	-2,8
Foreign arrivals	764 700	890 590	855 222	11,8	-4,0
Non-visitors	29 064	32 279	28 506	-1,9	-11,7
Visitors	735 636	858 311	826 716	12,4	-3,7
Visitors	735 636	858 311	826 716	12,4	-3,7
Arrivals only	233 350	305 623	300 865	28,9	-1,6
Single trips	311 327	351 518	321 631	3,3	-8,5
Multiple trips	190 959	201 170	204 220	6,9	1,5
Visitors	735 636	858 311	826 716	12,4	-3,7
Same day	199 589	216 140	220 173	10,3	1,9
Overnight (tourists)	536 047	642 171	606 543	13,2	-5,5

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

Travel direction	May		Mode of travel (May 2010)								
			Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2009	2010	Cape Town	Durban	OR Tambo	Other	Total				
Grand total	2 100 901	2 287 646	80 255	12 951	536 326	345 308	974 840	949	1 303 662	3 329	4 866
South African residents	666 124	685 958	29 521	6 486	208 389	111 939	356 335	466	327 941	775	441
Arrivals	337 142	345 695	13 986	3 353	105 391	57 469	180 199	215	164 527	315	439
Departures	328 982	340 263	15 535	3 133	102 998	54 470	176 136	251	163 414	460	2
Foreign travellers	1 434 777	1 601 688	50 734	6 465	327 937	233 369	618 505	483	975 721	2 554	4 425
Arrivals	764 700	855 222	23 739	3 360	168 590	131 073	326 762	229	522 636	1 195	4 400
Departures	670 077	746 466	26 995	3 105	159 347	102 296	291 743	254	453 085	1 359	25
Visitors	735 636	826 716	22 277	3 146	161 147	129 553	316 123	219	509 912	190	272
Same day	199 589	220 173	231	14	17 082	38 862	56 189	39	163 929	6	10
Overnight (tourists)	536 047	606 543	22 046	3 132	144 065	90 691	259 934	180	345 983	184	262

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

Country	Mode of travel (May 2010)										
	May		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2009	2010	Cape Town	Durban	OR Tambo	Other	Total				
Total	536 047	606 543	22 046	3 132	144 065	90 691	259 934	180	345 983	184	262
Overseas	118 718	138 261	19 148	2 768	99 657	6 052	127 625	10	10 254	143	229
Europe	62 010	71 814	11 877	1 614	48 053	3 740	65 284	9	6 276	90	155
Austria	734	1 085	116	15	825	38	994	-	91	-	-
Belgium	1 647	2 131	297	9	1 528	97	1 931	-	195	-	5
Denmark	1 191	1 246	242	25	841	53	1 161	-	83	2	-
France	6 857	6 887	891	47	5 087	448	6 473	3	400	11	-
Germany	9 550	6 315	1 046	104	4 010	284	5 444	6	864	1	-
Ireland	1 683	1 880	368	28	1 217	120	1 733	-	147	-	-
Italy	3 163	3 543	626	85	2 541	138	3 390	-	152	1	-
Norway	634	791	149	5	500	37	691	-	100	-	-
Portugal	1 957	3 090	131	20	1 622	811	2 584	-	505	1	-
Spain	1 677	1 964	214	5	1 607	54	1 880	-	82	-	2
Sweden	1 312	1 585	284	3	1 115	74	1 476	-	107	2	-
Switzerland	1 520	1 962	253	35	1 418	75	1 781	-	179	2	-
The Netherlands	5 119	6 508	1 376	67	3 690	338	5 471	-	1 035	1	1
UK	21 370	28 011	5 066	1 036	18 710	1 043	25 855	-	1 979	59	118
Other	3 596	4 816	818	130	3 342	130	4 420	-	357	10	29
North America	22 899	27 108	3 389	182	20 493	1 151	25 215	1	1 887	4	1
Canada	3 020	4 007	650	67	2 664	179	3 560	-	445	2	-
USA	19 873	23 101	2 739	115	17 829	972	21 655	1	1 442	2	1
Other	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Central and South America	3 987	6 506	386	9	5 639	217	6 251	-	240	1	14
Argentina	722	1 259	145	3	1 070	20	1 238	-	21	-	-
Brazil	2 178	3 298	59	3	2 964	141	3 167	-	131	-	-
Mexico	154	453	51	1	385	12	449	-	4	-	-
Other	933	1 496	131	2	1 220	44	1 397	-	84	1	14

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

Country	Mode of travel (May 2010)										
	May		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2009	2010	Cape Town	Durban	OR Tambo	Other	Total				
Australasia	7 661	8 673	499	89	7 331	284	8 203	-	437	5	28
Australia	6 168	7 300	386	56	6 258	231	6 931	-	338	4	27
New Zealand	1 436	1 363	112	33	1 073	52	1 270	-	91	1	1
Other	57	10	1	-	-	1	2	-	8	-	-
Middle East	1 761	2 288	245	37	1 860	45	2 187	-	96	-	5
Iran	169	157	38	11	98	2	149	-	4	-	4
Israel	782	1 211	36		1 110	14	1 160	-	50	-	1
Lebanon	154	183	22	1	139	15	177	-	6	-	-
Other	656	737	149	25	513	14	701	-	36	-	-
Asia	20 400	21 872	2 752	837	16 281	615	20 485	-	1 318	43	26
China	2 363	4 954	636	28	3 966	114	4 744	-	209	1	-
India	10 493	8 317	1 083	310	6 164	234	7 791	-	521	4	1
Japan	1 255	1 935	147	17	1 711	10	1 885	-	50	-	-
Korea	898	1 333	183	10	1 044	37	1 274	-	59	-	-
Malaysia	739	519	154	2	350	4	510	-	9	-	-
Pakistan	759	1 476	94	225	873	109	1 301	-	153	22	-
Philippines	315	410	60	19	241	34	354	-	27	9	20
Taiwan	598	617	39	125	354	25	543	-	68	4	2
Thailand	326	592	139	7	412	5	563	-	29	-	-
Other	2 654	1 719	217	94	1 166	43	1 520	-	193	3	3
Africa	414 608	407 268	2 197	254	35 311	83 181	120 943	170	286 087	36	32
SADC	402 027	393 579	2 011	205	23 846	82 806	108 868	170	284 506	5	30
Angola	3 148	2 760	286	-	2 294	81	2 661	-	99	-	-
Botswana	36 049	41 310	7	-	1 885	4 685	6 577	147	34 586	-	-
DRC	1 883	2 533	3	-	2 008	41	2 052	-	481	-	-
Lesotho	81 034	87 504	2	-	399	24 429	24 830	-	62 674	-	-
Madagascar	272	214	1	-	207	4	212	-	2	-	-

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

Country	Mode of travel May 2010)										
	May		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2009	2010	Cape Town	Durban	OR Tambo	Other	Total				
Malawi	9 984	10 643	5	2	1 895	191	2 093	1	8 549	-	-
Mauritius	1 074	1 186	103	122	848	26	1 099	-	87	-	-
Mozambique	82 063	81 958	43	68	1 876	39 066	41 053	9	40 895	1	-
Namibia	16 847	17 683	1 521	2	2 954	1 118	5 595	-	12 086	2	-
Swaziland	56 723	55 919	-	2	560	10 542	11 104	4	44 810	1	-
Tanzania	1 326	1 624	1	4	1 044	63	1 112	-	512	-	-
Zambia	12 400	14 253	19	1	4 476	1 403	5 899	-	8 353	1	-
Zimbabwe	99 224	75 992	20	4	3 400	1 157	4 581	9	71 372	-	30
'Other' African	12 581	13 689	186	49	11 465	375	12 075	-	1 581	31	2
East and Central Africa	6 414	6 059	63	17	4 936	141	5 157	-	898	4	-
Burundi	67	77	1	-	69	3	73	-	4	-	-
Cameroon	319	506	8	-	449	13	470	-	36	-	-
Central African Republic	22	10	-	-	9	1	10	-	-	-	-
Chad	21	13	3	-	10	-	13	-	-	-	-
Comoros	20	29	-	-	29	-	29	-	-	-	-
Congo	575	255	8	-	177	10	195	-	60	-	-
Djibouti	9	2	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-
Equat Guinea	61	17	-	-	10	2	12	-	5	-	-
Eritrea	71	39	4	3	26	-	33	-	6	-	-
Ethiopia	1 053	671	-	4	526	17	547	-	123	1	-
Gabon	339	335	4	-	307	23	334	-	1	-	-
Kenya	2 256	2 355	8	5	2 043	48	2 104	-	250	1	-
Reunion	50	13	1	-	12	-	13	-	-	-	-
Rwanda	185	223	5	1	205	-	211	-	12	-	-
Sao Tome and Principe	19	5	-	-	5	-	5	-	-	-	-
Seychelles	175	226	16	2	205	2	225	-	-	1	-
Somalia	115	182	-	-	9	1	10	-	172	-	-
Tristan Da Cunha	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Uganda	1 056	1 100	5	2	843	21	871	-	228	1	-

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

Country	Mode of travel (May 2010)										
	May		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2009	2010	Cape Town	Durban	OR Tambo	Other	Total				
West Africa	5 003	6 556	65	8	5 635	208	5 916	-	614	25	1
Ascension	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Benin	113	79	1	-	68	2	71	-	8	-	-
Burkina Faso	59	42	-	-	36	6	42	-	-	-	-
Cape Verde Island	60	45	-	-	28	12	40	-	5	-	-
Cote D'Ivoire	176	243	12	1	226	-	239	-	4	-	-
Gambia	59	52	1	-	42	3	46	-	6	-	-
Ghana	946	1 273	5	-	1 146	19	1 170	-	102	-	1
Guinea	102	134	3	-	81	32	116	-	17	1	-
Guinea-Bissau	11	18	-	-	15	-	15	-	3	-	-
Liberia	46	41	2	-	37	-	39	-	2	-	-
Madeira Islands	4	2	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-
Mali	62	82	3	-	61	10	74	-	8	-	-
Mauritania	10	12	-	-	12	-	12	-	-	-	-
Niger	18	21	-	1	20	-	21	-	-	-	-
Nigeria	2 952	3 971	32	6	3 391	110	3 539	-	429	3	-
Saint Helena	24	26	1	-	-	2	3	-	2	21	-
Senegal	231	400	2	-	384	2	388	-	12	-	-
Sierra Leone	85	75	1	-	53	8	62	-	13	-	-
Togo	43	40	2	-	34	2	38	-	2	-	-
North Africa	1 164	1 074	58	24	894	26	1 002	-	69	2	1
Algeria	92	102	1	-	95	-	96	-	6	-	-
Egypt	447	504	18	8	452	4	482	-	19	2	1
Libya	316	97	11	2	36	15	64	-	33	-	-
Morocco	78	79	6	1	68	1	76	-	3	-	-
The Sudan	155	175	18	5	141	5	169	-	6	-	-
Tunisia	73	117	4	8	102	1	115	-	2	-	-
Western Sahara	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unspecified	2 721	61 014	701	110	9 097	1 458	11 366	-	49 642	5	1

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

Country	May		Purpose of visit (May 2010)			
	2009	2010	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
Total	536 047	606 543	11 306	591 689	3 107	441
Overseas	118 718	138 261	4 902	132 655	561	143
Europe	62 010	71 814	2 601	68 893	245	75
Austria	734	1 085	39	1 045	1	-
Belgium	1 647	2 131	84	2 032	9	6
Denmark	1 191	1 246	40	1 205	1	-
France	6 857	6 887	276	6 556	53	2
Germany	9 550	6 315	207	6 080	28	-
Ireland	1 683	1 880	61	1 817	2	-
Italy	3 163	3 543	168	3 371	2	2
Norway	634	791	29	754	8	-
Portugal	1 957	3 090	40	3 048	2	-
Spain	1 677	1 964	63	1 900	1	-
Sweden	1 312	1 585	98	1 482	4	1
Switzerland	1 520	1 962	70	1 881	11	-
The Netherlands	5 119	6 508	189	6 274	45	-
UK	21 370	28 011	1 018	26 907	56	30
Other	3 596	4 816	219	4 541	22	34
North America	22 899	27 108	646	26 296	163	3
Canada	3 020	4 007	118	3 874	15	-
USA	19 873	23 101	528	22 422	148	3
Other	6	-	-	-	-	-
Central and South America	3 987	6 506	108	6 360	37	1
Argentina	722	1 259	18	1 240	1	-
Brazil	2 178	3 298	40	3 248	10	-
Mexico	154	453	11	437	5	-
Other	933	1 496	39	1 435	21	1

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

Country	May		Purpose of visit (May 2010)			
	2009	2010	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
Australasia	7 661	8 673	136	8 519	6	12
Australia	6 168	7 300	113	7 172	4	11
New Zealand	1 436	1 363	23	1 337	2	1
Other	57	10	-	10	-	-
Middle East	1 761	2 288	139	2 124	21	4
Iran	169	157	24	121	8	4
Israel	782	1 211	43	1 167	1	-
Lebanon	154	183	16	164	3	-
Other	656	737	56	672	9	-
Asia	20 400	21 872	1 272	20 463	89	48
China	2 363	4 954	368	4 561	25	-
India	10 493	8 317	471	7 811	28	7
Japan	1 255	1 935	80	1 853	2	-
Korea	898	1 333	73	1 246	14	-
Malaysia	739	519	31	485	3	-
Pakistan	759	1 476	67	1 405	4	-
Philippines	315	410	19	359	3	29
Taiwan	598	617	32	576	4	5
Thailand	326	592	16	575	1	-
Other	2 654	1 719	115	1 592	5	7
Africa	414 608	407 268	5 657	399 131	2 183	297
SADC	402 027	393 579	5 017	386 363	1 917	282
Angola	3 148	2 760	56	2 592	112	-
Botswana	36 049	41 310	61	40 781	455	13
DRC	1 883	2 533	80	2 390	61	2
Lesotho	81 034	87 504	31	87 038	246	189
Madagascar	272	214	3	209	2	-

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

Country	May		Purpose of visit (May 2010)			
	2009	2010	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
Malawi	9 984	10 643	186	10 432	24	1
Mauritius	1 074	1 186	20	1 157	9	-
Mozambique	82 063	81 958	395	81 494	64	5
Namibia	16 847	17 683	1 958	15 478	220	27
Swaziland	56 723	55 919	619	54 800	490	10
Tanzania	1 326	1 624	92	1 517	15	-
Zambia	12 400	14 253	921	13 275	52	5
Zimbabwe	99 224	75 992	595	75 200	167	30
'Other' African	12 581	13 689	640	12 768	266	15
East and Central Africa	6 414	6 059	316	5 593	143	7
Burundi	67	77	7	70	-	-
Cameroon	319	506	26	459	21	-
Central African Republic	22	10	2	8	-	-
Chad	21	13	1	11	1	-
Comoros	20	29	2	26	1	-
Congo	575	255	11	230	7	7
Djibouti	9	2	-	2	-	-
Equat Guinea	61	17	-	16	1	-
Eritrea	71	39	2	36	1	-
Ethiopia	1 053	671	11	657	3	-
Gabon	339	335	3	303	29	-
Kenya	2 256	2 355	182	2 122	51	-
Reunion	50	13	1	12	-	-
Rwanda	185	223	8	202	13	-
Sao Tome and Principe	19	5	-	4	1	-
Seychelles	175	226	8	218	-	-
Somalia	115	182	-	182	-	-
Tristan Da Cunha	1	1	-	1	-	-
Uganda	1 056	1 100	52	1 034	14	-

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

Country	May		Purpose of visit (May 2010)			
	2009	2010	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
West Africa	5 003	6 556	216	6 231	102	7
Ascension	2	-	-	-	-	-
Benin	113	79	3	75	1	-
Burkina Faso	59	42	2	40	-	-
Cape Verde Island	60	45	1	44	-	-
Cote D'Ivoire	176	243	19	221	3	-
Gambia	59	52	4	48	-	-
Ghana	946	1 273	39	1 224	9	1
Guinea	102	134	6	124	4	-
Guinea-Bissau	11	18	-	17	1	-
Liberia	46	41	3	35	3	-
Madeira Islands	4	2	-	2	-	-
Mali	62	82	4	78	-	-
Mauritania	10	12	1	11	-	-
Niger	18	21	1	20	-	-
Nigeria	2 952	3 971	108	3 784	76	3
Saint Helena	24	26	-	26	-	-
Senegal	231	400	18	379	3	-
Sierra Leone	85	75	2	70	-	3
Togo	43	40	5	33	2	-
North Africa	1 164	1 074	108	944	21	1
Algeria	92	102	9	91	2	-
Egypt	447	504	57	441	5	1
Libya	316	97	5	87	5	-
Morocco	78	79	6	73	-	-
The Sudan	155	175	21	148	6	-
Tunisia	73	117	10	104	3	-
Western Sahara	3	-	-	-	-	-
Unspecified	2 721	61 014	747	59 903	363	1

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

Sex	Age group	Total	Region			
			Overseas	SADC	'other' African	Unspecified
All	Total	606 543	138 261	393 579	13 689	61 014
	<15	18 806	4 420	13 048	317	1 021
	15-64	517 570	94 291	359 729	9 776	53 774
	65+	19 559	9 312	9 170	146	931
	Unspecified	50 608	30 238	11 632	3 450	5 288
Males	Total	345 932	85 535	218 439	9 607	32 351
	<15	9 449	2 298	6 434	159	558
	15-64	297 183	60 130	201 397	7 090	28 566
	65+	10 214	5 366	4 208	99	541
	Unspecified	29 086	17 741	6 400	2 259	2 686
Females	Total	259 014	52 402	174 119	4 065	28 428
	<15	9 345	2 119	6 606	158	462
	15-64	219 577	33 961	157 848	2 682	25 086
	65+	9 253	3 908	4 917	47	381
	Unspecified	20 839	12 414	4 748	1 178	2 499
Unspecified	Total	1 597	324	1 021	17	235
	<15	12	3	8	-	1
	15-64	810	200	484	4	122
	65+	92	38	45	-	9
	Unspecified	683	83	484	13	103

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; 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. 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 May 2010, the DHA data was 22,1% 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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