



Statistical release

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Tourism and Migration

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CONTENTS

KEY FINDINGS	2
1. Travellers	2
1.1 Number of travellers	2
1.2 Mode of travel of travellers.....	2
2. Tourists.....	2
2.1 Mode of travel of tourists	2
2.2 Regional and national distribution of tourists	2
2.3 Purpose of visit of tourists.....	3
2.4 Sex and age distribution of tourists	3
FIGURES	4
Figure 1. Number of tourists from eight leading overseas countries in May 2011 and May 2010	4
Figure 2. Number of tourists from eight leading Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries in May 2011 and May 2010.....	4
Figure 3. Number of tourists from eight leading 'other' African countries in May 2011 and May 2010	5
TABLES.....	6
Table 1. Number of South African residents and foreign travellers by travel direction	6
Table 2. Number of South African residents and foreign travellers by travel direction and mode of travel.....	7
Table 3. Number of tourists by country of residence and mode of travel	8
Table 4. Number of tourists by country of residence and purpose of visit	12
Table 5. Number of tourists from overseas, SADC and 'other' African regions by sex and age group	16
EXPLANATORY NOTES.....	17
1. Introduction	17
2. Purpose of the statistical release	17
3. Scope and coverage	17
4. Data.....	17
5. Limitations	18
6. Definitions of terms	18
6.1 Definitions used by the United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO)	18
6.2 Definitions used specifically in this report.....	18
7. Symbols and abbreviations used	18
GENERAL INFORMATION	19

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 2 674 487 travellers (arrivals and departures) passed through South African ports of entry in May 2011. As presented in Table 1, these travellers are made up of 859 628 South African residents and 1 814 859 foreign travellers. A further breakdown of the figures indicates that there were 456 026 and 403 602 South African residents' arrivals and departures respectively. The corresponding volumes for foreign arrivals and departures were 982 056 and 832 803 respectively. A comparison between the movements in April 2011 and May 2011 indicates that the volume of arrivals and departures declined for both South African residents and foreign travellers. The volume of arrivals declined by 8,7% (from 499 516 in April 2011 to 456 026 in May 2011) for South African residents and by 3,8% (from 1 020 453 in April 2011 to 982 056 in May 2011) for foreign travellers. The volume of departures declined by 26,7% (from 550 502 in April 2011 to 403 602 in May 2011) for South African residents and by 8,9% (from 914 059 in April 2011 to 832 803 in May 2011) for foreign travellers.

A comparison between movements in May 2010 and May 2011 indicates that there was an increase in both arrivals and departures of South African residents and foreign travellers. Thus, South African residents' arrivals increased by 31,9% from 345 695 in May 2010 to 456 026 in May 2011 and foreign arrivals increased by 14,8% from 855 222 in May 2010 to 982 056 in May 2011. 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 African immigration officers. Hence, it is not possible to categorise them as tourists and non-tourists. However, some data are available on foreign arrivals for this categorisation. As presented in Table 1, in May 2011, 22 200 (2,3%) foreign arrivals were classified as non-visitors while 959 856 (97,7%) were visitors. The visitors were categorised into three groups: arrivals only comprising of visitors who entered the country in May 2011 but did not depart in May 2011 (325 682); visitors who came once in May 2011 and left in May 2011 (329 012); and those who came more than once in May 2011 and left in May 2011 (305 162). Visitors were further grouped as same day visitors 313 071 (32,6%) and overnight visitors/tourists 646 785 (67,4%). The volume of same day visitors increased by 3,7% from 301 949 in April 2011 to 313 071 in May 2011 whereas overnight visitors/tourists declined by 7,4% from 698 399 in April 2011 to 646 785 in May 2011. There was an increase of 42,2% and 6,6% of same day visitors and tourists respectively between May 2010 and May 2011.

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 May 2011, road transport was the most common mode of travel used by 1 973 389 (73,8%) out of the 2 674 487 travellers. The total number of travellers who used air transport was 695 422 (26,0%). The arrivals data on South African residents show that 161 435 (35,4%) came by air and 294 163 (64,5%) by road. For departures, 154 407 (38,3%) and 248 253 (61,5%) used air and road transport respectively. In the case of foreign travellers, 192 994 (19,7%) arrived by air. Those who came by road were 786 939 (80,1%). When departing South Africa, 186 586 (22,4%) foreign travellers left by air whilst 644 034 (77,3%) left by road. As shown in Table 2 an overwhelming majority, 295 437 (94,4%) of same day visitors arrived in the country by road. Only 17 629 (5,6%) same day visitors flew into the country. However, data on overnight visitors/tourists show that, 479 575 (74,1%) used road transport whereas 166 848 (25,8%) 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 2011, 119 847 (88,2%) overseas tourists arrived in the country by air whilst 15 775 (11,6%) came in by road. This is in contrast to tourists from the Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries who came into South Africa predominantly by road 461 661 (93,5%). Only 31 971 (6,5%) tourists from the SADC countries came in by air. A relatively high number 13 611 (89,9%) of tourists from 'other' African countries flew into the country with only 1 471 (9,7%) using road transport.

2.2 Regional and national distribution of tourists

In May 2011, overseas tourists came mainly from Europe, 66 436 (48,9%); followed by North America, 27 954 (20,6%); Asia, 25 478 (18,7%); Australasia, 8 530 (6,3%); Central and South America, 5 174 (3,8%) and Middle East, 2 350 (1,7%). Virtually all tourists from Africa came from the SADC countries, 493 644 (97,0%). The distribution of the remaining tourists from Africa is as follows: West Africa, 8 170 (1,6%); East and Central Africa, 5 932 (1,2%) and North Africa 1 030 (0,2%).

Data presented in Figure 1 indicate that United States of America (USA), 24 034 (17,7%); United Kingdom (UK), 22 484 (16,5%); Germany, 10 552 (7,8%); India 10 333 (7,6%); Australia, 7 325 (5,4%); France, 6 456 (4,7%); China, 5 676 (4,2%) and The Netherlands, 5 055 (3,7%) were the eight leading overseas countries. Tourists from these eight countries constituted 67,6% of all tourists from overseas countries. A comparison between movements in May 2010 and May 2011 shows that, the number of tourists increased in five of these countries. Germany had the highest increase of 67,1% from 6 315 in May 2010 to 10 552 in May 2011 and The Netherlands had the worst decline of 22,3% from 6 508 to 5 055 in May 2011.

The eight leading countries from the SADC (see Figure 2) were Zimbabwe, 134 168 (27,2%); Lesotho, 130 224 (26,4%); Mozambique 88 202 (17,9%); Swaziland, 56 227 (11,4%); Botswana, 36 094 (7,3%); Namibia, 15 802 (3,2%); Zambia, 13 272 (2,7%) and Malawi, 10 004 (2,0%). Tourists from these eight countries constituted 98,0% of all tourists from the SADC countries. A comparison between movements in May 2010 and May 2011 shows that, the number of tourists increased in four of these countries with the exception of Botswana, Namibia, Zambia and Malawi. Zimbabwe had the highest increase of 76,6% from 75 992 in May 2010 to 134 168 in May 2011. The volume of tourists from Botswana declined by 12,6% from 41 310 in May 2010 to 36 094 in May 2011.

The eight leading countries from 'other' African countries, shown in Figure 3, were Nigeria, 5 480 (36,2%); Kenya, 2 391 (15,8%); Ghana, 1 412 (9,3%); Uganda, 1 183 (7,8%); Ethiopia, 761 (5,0%); Egypt, 449 (3,0%); Cameroon, 443 (2,9%) and Gabon, 417 (2,8%). Tourists from these eight countries constituted 82,8% of all tourists from 'other' African countries. A comparison between movements in May 2010 and May 2011 shows that the number of tourists increased in all these countries with the exception of Egypt and Cameroon. The volume of tourists from Cameroon declined by 12,5% from 506 in May 2010 to 443 in May 2011. Nigeria had the highest increase of 38,0% from 3 971 in May 2010 to 5 480 in May 2011.

2.3 Purpose of visit of tourists

As observed from data given in Table 4, in May 2011, an overwhelming majority (95,1%) of tourists were in South Africa for holidays compared to only 2,2% and 1,0% of tourists who were in South Africa for business and study purposes respectively. A detailed analysis reveals that of all the tourists from the overseas regions, at least 86,0% came to South Africa for holidays. Tourists from Australasia (93,5%), North America (92,0%), Europe (89,5%), Middle East (88,3%), Asia (86,3%) and Central and South America (86,0%) were in South Africa mostly for holidays. Middle East and Europe had the highest proportion (6,8% and 5,4% respectively) of its tourists in South Africa for business compared to the other overseas regions.

The majority (96,7%) of African tourists came to South Africa for holidays. There were differences between tourists from the SADC countries and 'other' African countries namely:

- Whereas 96,9% of tourists from the SADC countries were on holidays; 88,4% of tourists on holiday came from 'other' African countries. Data on the regions of 'other' African countries show that tourists on holiday constituted 90,2%; 86,9% and 82,5% for West Africa; East and Central Africa and North Africa respectively.
- Business persons constituted 5,2% from 'other' African countries compared with 1,4% from the SADC countries. North Africa had the highest proportion (10,4%) of tourists in South Africa for business.
- Students made up 2,5% of tourists from 'other' African countries compared with 1,1% from the SADC countries.

2.4 Sex and age distribution of tourists

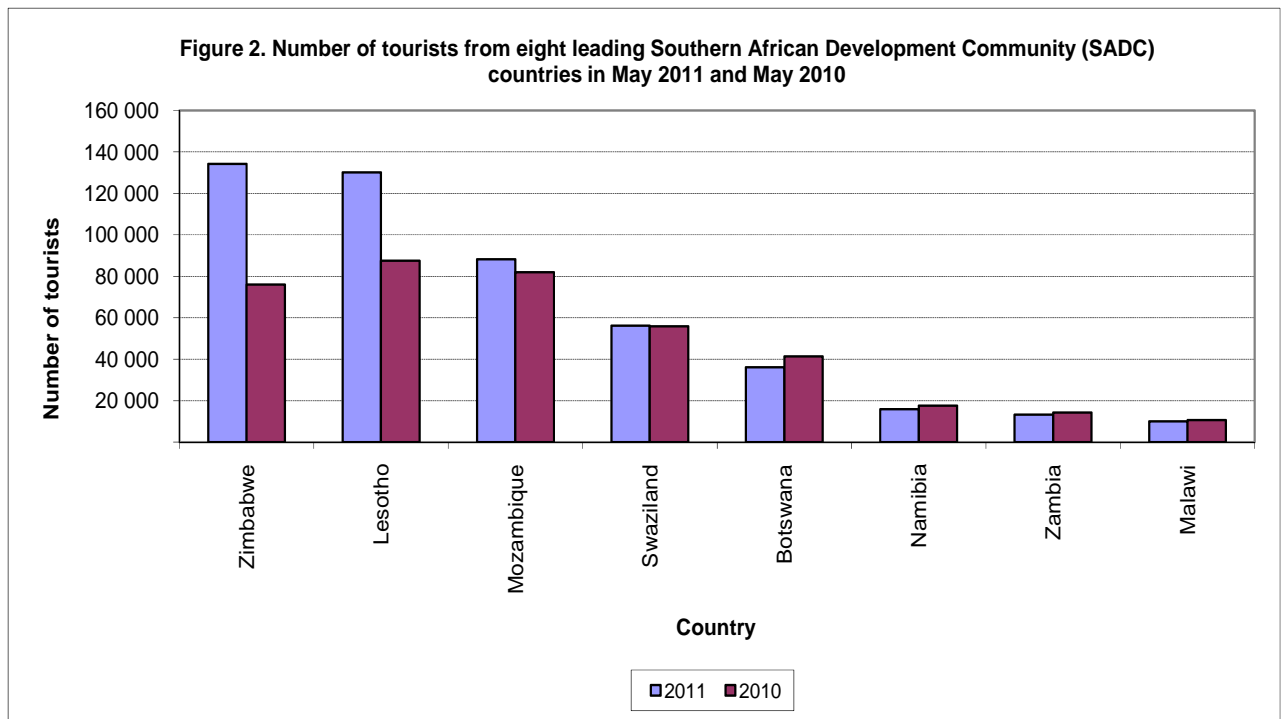
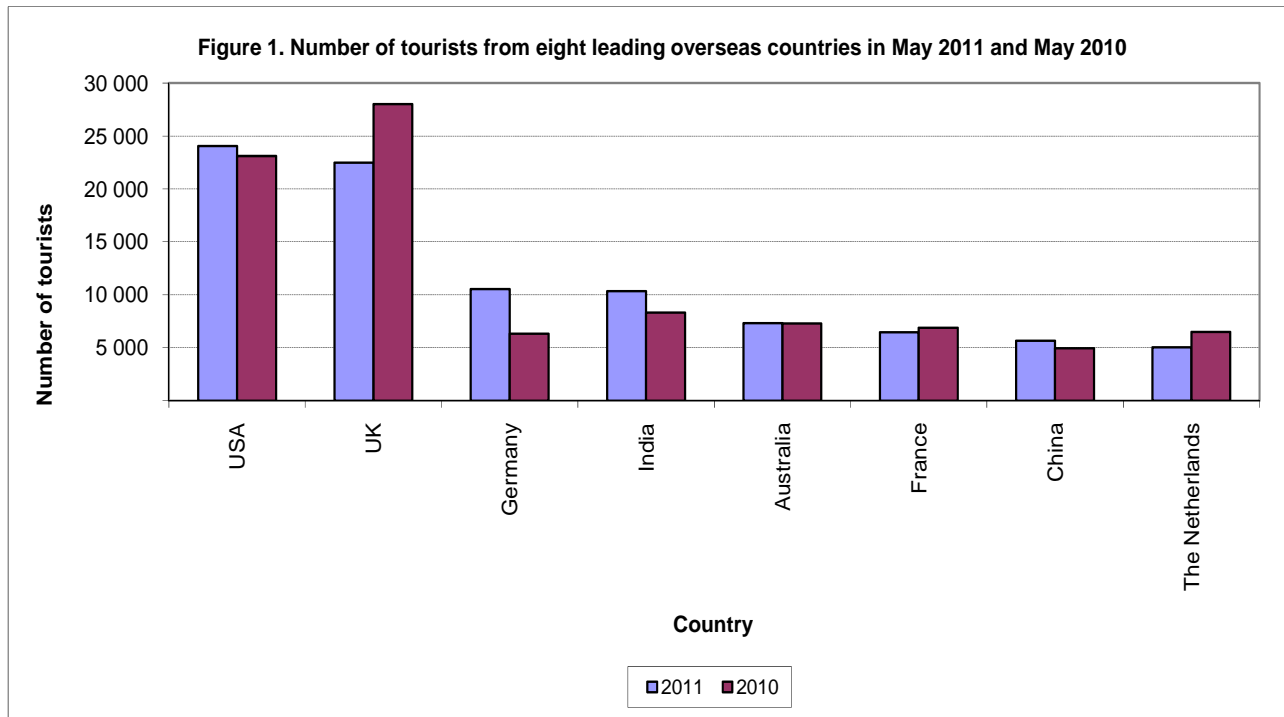
As indicated in Table 5, in May 2011, there were 375 562 (58,1%) male and 270 286 (41,8%) female tourists. The overseas tourists were made up of 82 526 (60,7%) male tourists and 53 239 (39,2%) female tourists. Tourists from 'other' African countries had a higher proportion (68,9%) of males compared to those from the SADC countries (57,0%). The proportions of female tourists from 'other' African countries and the SADC countries were 31,1% and 42,9% respectively.

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 92,5% of tourists were aged between 15 and 64 years; 3,7% were aged less than 15 years and 3,7% were aged 65 years and older. Taking the country of residence into consideration, the results further show that 86,1% of overseas tourists were aged between 15 and 64 years compared with 95,0% and 94,2% of tourists from 'other' African countries and the SADC countries respectively.

Overseas tourists had a higher proportion of tourists aged less than 15 years (5,1%) as compared to those from 'other' African countries (3,3%) and the SADC countries (3,4%). There was a higher proportion of young female tourists in comparison to young male tourists for overseas, the SADC and 'other' African countries.

A comparison of the three regions shows relatively high proportions of the elderly among both male (8,2%) and female (9,6%) tourists from overseas. This is in contrast to tourists from the SADC countries amongst which 1,9% of males and 2,9% of females were aged 65 years and older. Similarly among tourists from 'other' African countries, 1,7% of males and 1,9% of females were aged 65 years and older.

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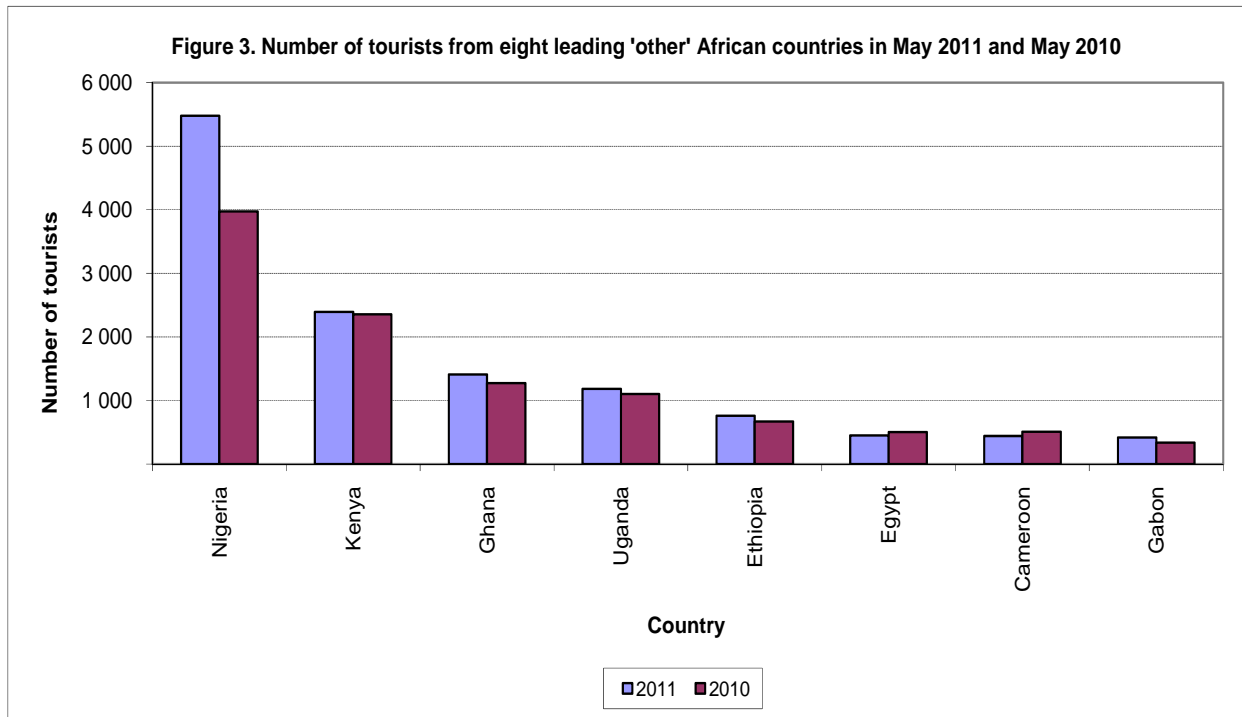


Table 1. Number of South African residents and foreign travellers by travel direction

Travel direction	May	April	May	% change	% change
	2010	2011	2011	May 10 - May 11	April 11 - May 11
Grand total	2 287 646	2 984 530	2 674 487	16,9	-10,4
South African residents	685 958	1 050 018	859 628	25,3	-18,1
Arrivals	345 695	499 516	456 026	31,9	-8,7
Departures	340 263	550 502	403 602	18,6	-26,7
Foreign travellers	1 601 688	1 934 512	1 814 859	13,3	-6,2
Arrivals	855 222	1 020 453	982 056	14,8	-3,8
Departures	746 466	914 059	832 803	11,6	-8,9
Foreign arrivals	855 222	1 020 453	982 056	14,8	-3,8
Non-visitors	28 506	20 105	22 200	-22,1	10,4
Visitors	826 716	1 000 348	959 856	16,1	-4,0
Visitors	826 716	1 000 348	959 856	16,1	-4,0
Arrivals only	300 865	327 401	325 682	8,2	-0,5
Single trips	321 631	376 318	329 012	2,3	-12,6
Multiple trips	204 220	296 629	305 162	49,4	2,9
Visitors	826 716	1 000 348	959 856	16,1	-4,0
Same day	220 173	301 949	313 071	42,2	3,7
Overnight (tourists)	606 543	698 399	646 785	6,6	-7,4

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

Travel direction	May		Mode of travel (May 2011)							
			Air					Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2010	2011	Cape Town	K. Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total			
Total	2 287 646	2 674 487	84 501	15 430	587 643	7 848	695 422	1 973 389	5 552	124
South African Residents	685 958	859 628	39 504	10 650	260 458	5 230	315 842	542 416	1 370	-
Arrivals	345 695	456 026	19 088	5 664	134 161	2 522	161 435	294 163	428	-
Departures	340 263	403 602	20 416	4 986	126 297	2 708	154 407	248 253	942	-
Foreign travellers	1 601 688	1 814 859	44 997	4 780	327 185	2 618	379 580	1 430 973	4 182	124
Arrivals	855 222	982 056	20 138	2 287	169 313	1 256	192 994	786 939	1 999	124
Departures	746 466	832 803	24 859	2 493	157 872	1 362	186 586	644 034	2 183	-
Visitors	826 716	959 856	18 689	1 851	163 032	905	184 477	775 012	295	72
Same day	220 173	313 071	190	47	17 227	165	17 629	295 437	5	-
Overnight (Tourists)	606 543	646 785	18 499	1 804	145 805	740	166 848	479 575	290	72

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

Country of residence	Mode of travel (May 2011)									
	May		Air					Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2010	2011	Cape Town	K. Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total			
Total	606 543	646 785	18 499	1 804	145 805	740	166 848	479 575	290	72
Overseas	138 261	135 922	16 243	1 590	101 519	495	119 847	15 775	256	44
Europe	71 814	66 436	9 837	814	46 583	207	57 441	8 946	46	3
Austria	1 085	959	105	5	742	3	855	104	-	-
Belgium	2 131	1 921	283	5	1 395	13	1 696	225	-	-
Denmark	1 246	1 122	105	2	903	1	1 011	111	-	-
France	6 887	6 456	800	33	4 865	23	5 721	733	2	-
Germany	6 315	10 552	1 156	101	7 704	20	8 981	1 571	-	-
Ireland	1 880	1 590	311	6	1 029	7	1 353	233	4	-
Italy	3 543	2 969	481	37	2 194	3	2 715	253	1	-
Norway	791	1 015	196	3	684	1	884	131	-	-
Portugal	3 090	2 789	120	13	1 488	19	1 640	1 149	-	-
Spain	1 964	1 748	148	3	1 431	3	1 585	162	1	-
Sweden	1 585	1 547	171	1	1 197	1	1 370	177	-	-
Switzerland	1 962	1 788	249	16	1 276	9	1 550	236	2	-
The Netherlands	6 508	5 055	1 096	55	2 911	8	4 070	984	-	1
UK	28 011	22 484	3 958	471	15 534	77	20 040	2 409	35	-
Other	4 816	4 441	658	63	3 230	19	3 970	468	1	2
North America	27 108	27 954	2 810	215	22 039	186	25 250	2 693	11	-
Canada	4 007	3 920	543	81	2 750	13	3 387	526	7	-
USA	23 101	24 034	2 267	134	19 289	173	21 863	2 167	4	-
Central and South America	6 506	5 174	179	13	4 412	16	4 620	553	-	1
Argentina	1 259	661	60	2	547	4	613	48	-	-
Brazil	3 298	3 214	47	2	2 788	10	2 847	367	-	-
Chile	323	211	10	1	178	-	189	22	-	-
Other	1 626	1 088	62	8	899	2	971	116	-	1

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

Country of residence	Mode of travel (May 2011)									
	May		Air					Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2010	2011	Cape Town	K. Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total			
Australasia	8 673	8 530	433	52	7 308	24	7 817	704	9	-
Australia	7 300	7 325	328	43	6 332	21	6 724	595	6	-
New Zealand	1 363	1 191	103	9	968	2	1 082	106	3	-
Other	10	14	2	-	8	1	11	3	-	-
Middle East	2 288	2 350	234	18	1 944	13	2 209	140	-	1
Iran	157	210	55	-	145	-	200	10	-	-
Israel	1 211	1 235	32	-	1 135	4	1 171	63	-	1
Lebanon	183	244	13	3	184	3	203	41	-	-
Other	737	661	134	15	480	6	635	26	-	-
Asia	21 872	25 478	2 750	478	19 233	49	22 510	2 739	190	39
China	4 954	5 676	624	53	4 350	8	5 035	641	-	-
India	8 317	10 333	874	226	8 167	10	9 277	1 047	-	9
Japan	1 935	2 190	147	12	1 768	13	1 940	67	183	-
Korea	1 333	1 186	122	7	941	-	1 070	116	-	-
Malaysia	519	1 237	468	19	706	4	1 197	39	1	-
Pakistan	1 476	1 353	68	109	872	1	1 050	288	2	13
Philippines	410	658	52	20	410	4	486	171	-	1
Taiwan	617	562	26	1	412	-	439	116	3	4
Thailand	592	534	91	5	419	3	518	11	-	5
Other	1 719	1 749	278	26	1 188	6	1 498	243	1	7
Africa	407 268	508 776	2 161	212	42 970	239	45 582	463 132	34	28
SADC	393 805	493 644	1 849	183	29 737	202	31 971	461 661	7	5
Angola	2 760	2 751	239	-	2 400	13	2 652	98	-	1
Botswana	41 310	36 094	4	-	2 540	67	2 611	33 483	-	-
DRC	2 533	2 726	10	-	2 050	8	2 068	658	-	-
Lesotho	87 504	130 224	3	-	536	3	542	129 682	-	-
Madagascar	214	187	1	-	175	6	182	5	-	-

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

Country of residence	Mode of travel (May 2011)									
	May		Air					Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2010	2011	Cape Town	K. Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total			
Malawi	10 643	10 004	3	5	1 785	4	1 797	8 205	2	-
Mauritius	1 186	1 211	103	95	801	1	1 000	211	-	-
Mozambique	81 958	88 202	93	59	2 467	23	2 642	85 558	-	2
Namibia	17 683	15 802	1 325	-	3 011	14	4 350	11 450	2	-
Seychelles	226	232	-	5	216	-	221	11	-	-
Swaziland	55 919	56 227	-	1	594	9	604	55 622	-	1
Tanzania	1 624	2 544	16	3	1 574	2	1 595	948	1	-
Zambia	14 253	13 272	12	4	4 334	6	4 356	8 916	-	-
Zimbabwe	75 992	134 168	40	11	7 254	46	7 351	126 814	2	1
'Other' African	13 463	15 132	312	29	13 233	37	13 611	1 471	27	23
East and Central Africa	5 833	5 932	76	17	5 146	23	5 262	655	1	14
Burundi	77	88	-	-	81	1	82	5	-	1
Cameroon	506	443	7	-	411	1	419	22	1	1
Central African Republic	10	17	2	-	14	-	16	1	-	-
Chad	13	31	2	-	29	-	31	-	-	-
Comoros	29	12	-	-	11	-	11	1	-	-
Congo	255	242	1	-	213	6	220	13	-	9
Djibouti	2	10	-	-	10	-	10	-	-	-
Equat Guinea	17	28	5	-	20	-	25	2	-	1
Eritrea	39	73	2	1	62	-	65	8	-	-
Ethiopia	671	761	-	12	666	-	678	82	-	1
Gabon	335	417	29	-	381	3	413	4	-	-
Kenya	2 355	2 391	15	3	2 065	8	2 091	299	-	1
Reunion	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rwanda	223	212	2	-	199	-	201	11	-	-
Sao Tome and Principe	5	11	1	-	10	-	11	-	-	-
Somalia	182	13	3	-	8	2	13	-	-	-
Tristan Da Cunha	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Uganda	1 100	1 183	7	1	966	2	976	207	-	-

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

Country of residence	Mode of travel (May 2011)									
	May		Air					Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2010	2011	Cape Town	K. Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total			
West Africa	6 556	8 170	159	3	7 237	10	7 409	726	26	9
Benin	79	158	2	-	148	-	150	8	-	-
Burkina Faso	42	85	49	-	33	1	83	2	-	-
Cape Verde Island	45	33	3	-	26	-	29	4	-	-
Cote D'Ivoire	243	152	57	-	87	1	145	7	-	-
Gambia	52	64	-	-	61	-	61	3	-	-
Ghana	1 273	1 412	11	-	1 286	1	1 298	114	-	-
Guinea	134	138	-	-	72	-	72	66	-	-
Guinea-Bissau	18	13	-	-	13	-	13	-	-	-
Liberia	41	50	-	-	41	-	41	9	-	-
Madeira Islands	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mali	82	120	-	-	95	-	95	25	-	-
Mauritania	12	19	1	-	17	-	18	1	-	-
Niger	21	20	4	-	16	-	20	-	-	-
Nigeria	3 971	5 480	28	2	4 974	5	5 009	462	-	9
Saint Helena	26	26	-	-	-	-	-	-	26	-
Senegal	400	259	2	1	247	-	250	9	-	-
Sierra Leone	75	73	1	-	56	1	58	15	-	-
Togo	40	68	1	-	65	1	67	1	-	-
North Africa	1 074	1 030	77	9	850	4	940	90	-	-
Algeria	102	123	5	-	101	4	110	13	-	-
Egypt	504	449	29	5	392	-	426	23	-	-
Libya	97	67	15	-	12	-	27	40	-	-
Morocco	79	101	8	1	88	-	97	4	-	-
The Sudan	175	222	18	-	194	-	212	10	-	-
Tunisia	117	68	2	3	63	-	68	-	-	-
Unspecified	61 014	2 087	95	2	1 316	6	1 419	668	-	-

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

Country of residence	May		Purpose of visit (May 2011)			
	2010	2011	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
Total	606 543	646 785	14 038	615 331	6 783	10 633
Overseas	138 261	135 922	6 270	121 640	718	7 294
Europe	71 814	66 436	3 569	59 443	373	3 051
Austria	1 085	959	46	826	2	85
Belgium	2 131	1 921	92	1 751	6	72
Denmark	1 246	1 122	56	1 004	5	57
France	6 887	6 456	302	5 823	48	283
Germany	6 315	10 552	475	9 477	52	548
Ireland	1 880	1 590	103	1 415	10	62
Italy	3 543	2 969	153	2 646	13	157
Norway	791	1 015	69	878	6	62
Portugal	3 090	2 789	49	2 603	9	128
Spain	1 964	1 748	88	1 573	6	81
Sweden	1 585	1 547	113	1 352	4	78
Switzerland	1 962	1 788	73	1 542	9	164
The Netherlands	6 508	5 055	278	4 614	42	121
UK	28 011	22 484	1 361	20 079	139	905
Other	4 816	4 441	311	3 860	22	248
North America	27 108	27 954	833	25 715	128	1 278
Canada	4 007	3 920	132	3 583	18	187
USA	23 101	24 034	701	22 132	110	1 091
Central and South America	6 506	5 174	132	4 450	9	583
Argentina	1 259	661	13	593	2	53
Brazil	3 298	3 214	49	2 724	5	436
Chile	323	211	9	189	-	13
Other	1 626	1 088	61	944	2	81

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

Country of residence	May		Purpose of visit (May 2011)			
	2010	2011	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
Australasia	8 673	8 530	236	7 974	18	302
Australia	7 300	7 325	206	6 842	16	261
New Zealand	1 363	1 191	27	1 121	2	41
Other	10	14	3	11	-	-
Middle East	2 288	2 350	160	2 074	38	78
Iran	157	210	25	172	9	4
Israel	1 211	1 235	51	1 144	-	40
Lebanon	183	244	20	206	2	16
Other	737	661	64	552	27	18
Asia	21 872	25 478	1 340	21 984	152	2 002
China	4 954	5 676	471	4 504	22	679
India	8 317	10 333	479	9 358	58	438
Japan	1 935	2 190	69	1 935	7	179
Korea	1 333	1 186	70	1 032	21	63
Malaysia	519	1 237	50	1 136	2	49
Pakistan	1 476	1 353	66	1 215	5	67
Philippines	410	658	23	446	22	167
Taiwan	617	562	17	466	2	77
Thailand	592	534	11	509	-	14
Other	1 719	1 749	84	1 383	13	269
Africa	407 268	508 776	7 634	491 828	6 048	3 266
SADC	393 805	493 644	6 845	478 450	5 667	2 682
Angola	2 760	2 751	80	2 370	124	177
Botswana	41 310	36 094	83	34 865	797	349
DRC	2 533	2 726	110	2 513	80	23
Lesotho	87 504	130 224	258	128 464	1 403	99
Madagascar	214	187	7	152	1	27

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

Country of residence	May		Purpose of visit (May 2011)			
	2010	2011	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
Malawi	10 643	10 004	207	9 576	55	166
Mauritius	1 186	1 211	44	1 089	8	70
Mozambique	81 958	88 202	935	86 906	82	279
Namibia	17 683	15 802	2 058	12 589	793	362
Seychelles	226	232	4	212	1	15
Swaziland	55 919	56 227	1 071	53 579	1 468	109
Tanzania	1 624	2 544	67	2 305	75	97
Zambia	14 253	13 272	833	12 014	105	320
Zimbabwe	75 992	134 168	1 088	131 816	675	589
'Other' African	13 463	15 132	789	13 378	381	584
East and Central Africa	5 833	5 932	402	5 157	196	177
Burundi	77	88	7	74	4	3
Cameroon	506	443	35	361	14	33
Central African Republic	10	17	1	16	-	-
Chad	13	31	8	23	-	-
Comoros	29	12	-	10	2	-
Congo	255	242	11	217	11	3
Djibouti	2	10	3	7	-	-
Equat Guinea	17	28	2	23	2	1
Eritrea	39	73	4	63	3	3
Ethiopia	671	761	32	698	8	23
Gabon	335	417	23	370	16	8
Kenya	2 355	2 391	213	2 032	90	56
Reunion	13	-	-	-	-	-
Rwanda	223	212	12	180	16	4
Sao Tome and Principe	5	11	-	9	-	2
Somalia	182	13	3	10	-	-
Tristan Da Cunha	1	-	-	-	-	-
Uganda	1 100	1 183	48	1 064	30	41

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

Country of residence	May		Purpose of visit (May 2011)			
	2010	2011	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
West Africa	6 556	8 170	280	7 371	150	369
Benin	79	158	14	140	1	3
Burkina Faso	42	85	16	62	2	5
Cape Verde Island	45	33	2	30	1	-
Cote D'Ivoire	243	152	24	117	2	9
Gambia	52	64	3	40	1	20
Ghana	1 273	1 412	46	1 256	22	88
Guinea	134	138	3	110	1	24
Guinea-Bissau	18	13	2	11	-	-
Liberia	41	50	2	43	1	4
Madeira Islands	2	-	-	-	-	-
Mali	82	120	9	104	-	7
Mauritania	12	19	4	15	-	-
Niger	21	20	5	14	-	1
Nigeria	3 971	5 480	125	5 066	118	171
Saint Helena	26	26	-	26	-	-
Senegal	400	259	19	213	-	27
Sierra Leone	75	73	2	67	1	3
Togo	40	68	4	57	-	7
North Africa	1 074	1 030	107	850	35	38
Algeria	102	123	9	102	10	2
Egypt	504	449	50	373	4	22
Libya	97	67	3	54	9	1
Morocco	79	101	14	83	-	4
The Sudan	175	222	22	187	12	1
Tunisia	117	68	9	51	-	8
Unspecified	61 014	2 087	134	1 863	17	73

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

Sex	Age group	Total	Region (May 2011)			
			Overseas	SADC	'Other' African	Unspecified
All	Total	646 785	135 922	493 644	15 132	2 087
	<15	24 188	6 968	16 692	494	34
	15-64	598 117	116 967	464 772	14 373	2 005
	65+	23 725	11 866	11 553	261	45
	Unspecified	755	121	627	4	3
Male	Total	375 562	82 526	281 251	10 429	1 356
	<15	12 244	3 567	8 404	260	13
	15-64	350 656	72 153	267 202	9 993	1 308
	65+	12 240	6 736	5 296	174	34
	Unspecified	422	70	349	2	1
Female	Total	270 286	53 239	211 620	4 699	728
	<15	11 944	3 401	8 288	234	21
	15-64	246 682	44 697	196 912	4 377	696
	65+	11 391	5 099	6 194	87	11
	Unspecified	269	42	226	1	-
Unspecified	Total	937	157	773	4	3
	<15	-	-	-	-	-
	15-64	779	117	658	3	1
	65+	94	31	63	-	-
	Unspecified	64	9	52	1	2

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. 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.

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.

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. 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 May 2011, the DHA data was 16,4% 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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