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KEY FINDINGS

1. Number of travellers

The November 2007 data collected by the Department of Home Affairs' (DHA) immigration officers at the ports of entry into South Africa show that a total of 2 182 317 travellers (arrivals and departures) passed through the ports of entry. As presented in Table 1, these travellers are made up of 661 116 South African residents and 1 521 201 foreign travellers. A further breakdown of the figures indicates that 321 643 and 339 473 South African resident arrivals and departures respectively were recorded. The corresponding volume for foreign arrivals and departures are 805 400 and 715 801. A comparison between the movements in October 2007 and November 2007 indicates that there was an increase in all movements except the arrivals of South Africans. The November 2007 figure (321 643) for South African resident arrivals shows an increase of 4,2% compared to the November 2006 figure of 308 821. Similarly, there was an increase of 6,5% for foreign arrivals from 756 440 in November 2006 to 805 400 in November 2007.

2. Mode of travel

It is observed from Table 2 that road transport was the most common (64,1%) mode of travel used by 1 399 162 out of the 2 182 317 travellers. The arrival data on South African residents show that 40,4% came by air and 59,2% by road. For their departure, 40,9% and 59,1% used air and road transport respectively. When taking into consideration the countries of residence of travellers, it was found that for foreign arrivals, overseas travellers generally used air (85,8%) compared to road transport (14,0%) whereas travellers from Africa used road (89,0%) more than air transport (8,7%). Information on specific countries from which travellers came from and the mode of travel used is provided in Table 3.

3. Foreign arrivals

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

Data presented in Table 3 show that more than two thirds (70,6%) of foreign arrivals were from Africa whilst slightly over a quarter (28,7%) were from overseas countries. Information on the country of residence was not available on 0,7% of the travellers. A comparison of the changes between November 2006 and November 2007 indicates that the number of overseas arrivals increased by 4,0% from 222 636 in 2006 to 231 585 in 2007. Arrivals from Africa increased by 7,3% from 529 882 in November 2006 to 568 308 in November 2007.

3.1 Gender and age distribution

The travellers from Africa comprised of 307 618 males, 259 510 females and 1 180 with unspecified gender. The data on overseas travellers had 132 528 males, 98 819 females and gender was not specified in 238 cases. Overall, more males than females from African (males: 54,1%; females: 45,7%) and overseas countries (males: 57,2%; females: 42,7%) came to South Africa. The age distribution of foreign arrivals presented in Figure 1 shows that travellers from Africa are generally younger compared to those from overseas. Thus the bulk (87,8%) of African travellers is clustered between ages 15-54, peaking at age group 25-29. However, the age distribution of overseas travellers is widely spread. Thus 93,9% of overseas travellers is between ages 20 to 74 years, peaking at the age group 55-59. The percentage of older persons (65 years and older) from overseas countries was significantly higher (12,9%) compared to that among persons from Africa (2,6%). This would have implications for spending capacity.

3.2 Regional and national distribution

Overseas travellers came mainly from Europe (70,8%), followed by North America (11,7%), Asia (9,6%), Australasia (4,2%), Central and South America (2,2%) and Middle East (1,6%). Virtually all arrivals (97,5%) from Africa came from the SADC countries. The distribution of the remaining arrivals from Africa is as follows: West Africa (1,1%), East and Central Africa (1,2%) and North Africa (0,2%). November data for the past five years (See figure 2) reveal that, arrivals from 'other' African countries have been quite stable unlike from SADC countries that have been escalating since 2004. The number of travellers from overseas countries has been increasing gradually since November 2006. Data presented in Figure 3 indicate that the UK, Germany, USA, Netherlands, France, Australia, Sweden and Ireland were the eight leading overseas source countries. Travellers from these eight countries constitute 67,2% of all travellers from overseas. The number of travellers from these leading overseas

source countries increased with the exception of Germany (3,0% decline from 35 859 in November 2006 to 34 794 in November 2007) and Netherlands (2,8% decline from 15 560 in November 2006 to 15 132 in November 2007).

The eight leading source countries from SADC were Lesotho, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Swaziland, Botswana, Namibia, Zambia and Malawi as shown in Figure 4. The eight leading source countries from 'other' African countries, shown in Figure 5, are Nigeria, Kenya, Ghana, Uganda, Ethiopia, Egypt, Congo and Cameroon. Travellers from the eight SADC countries made up 95,9% of all arrivals from Africa. The number of travellers from these SADC countries increased for all the countries. The number of travellers from 'other' African countries increased with the exception of Congo (43,5% decline from 787 in November 2006 to 445 in November 2007) and Egypt (2,4% decline from 463 in November 2006 to 452 in November 2007).

3.3 Purpose of travel

As observed from data given in Table 4, an overwhelming majority (93,2%) of foreign arrivals was admitted into South Africa on visitors' temporary residence permit. These visitors are mainly made up of same-day travellers as well as tourists. This is in vast contrast to those on business (2,6%), those who have come for work (1,3%) and those who have come to study (0,6%).

Overall, 93,1% of overseas travellers came to South Africa to visit. A detailed analysis reveals that all the overseas regions had at least 80,0% travellers coming to South Africa for holidays. Travellers from Europe (94,8%), Australasia (95,1%), Central and South America (92,5%), North America (93,6%), the Middle East (88,2%) and Asia (80,0%) were admitted into South Africa as visitors. Travellers from Asia were more diverse in their purpose for instance, 10,8% of travellers came into the country for work, 6,9% for business and 0,6% for study.

Although the majority (93,9%) of African travellers came into the country on visitors' permits, there is a significant difference between travellers from SADC countries and 'other' African countries, namely:

- Whereas 94,2% of travellers from the SADC countries were recorded as on holiday, 82,0% of travellers from 'other' African countries were admitted on visitor's permit. Proportionally, the lowest percentage (73,6%) of visitors came from North Africa, a region where, a large percentage of travellers were in South Africa as business persons (18,4%).
- A relatively higher percentage of 'other' African than SADC travellers were here to study, work or for business.
- Overall, East and Central Africa and West Africa had 8,4% and 7,4% respectively of travellers who were in South Africa for business as compared to only 2,0% among the SADC travellers.

PJ Lehohla
Statistician-General

Figure 1: Percentage distribution of overseas and African arrivals by age groups in November 2007

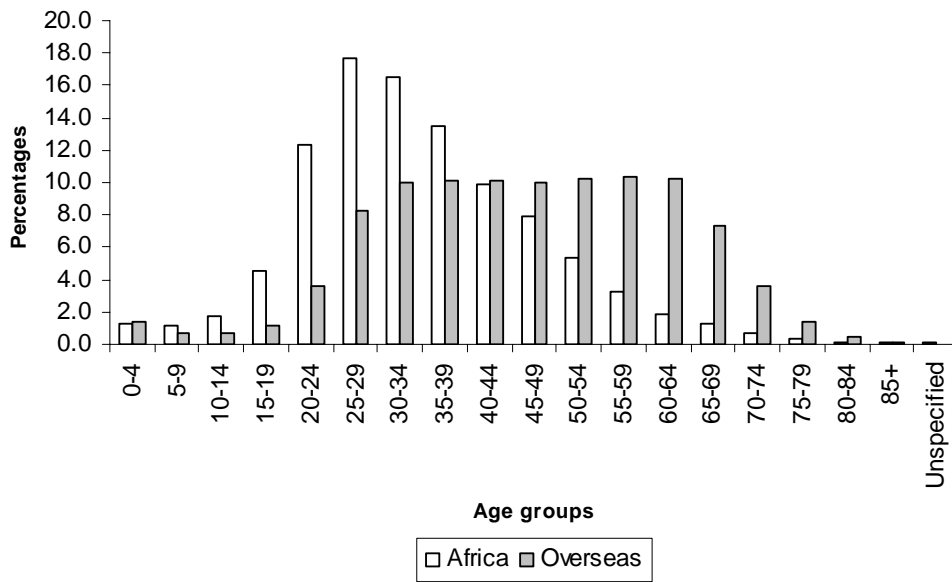


Figure 2: Number of November arrivals by region (2003 - 2007)

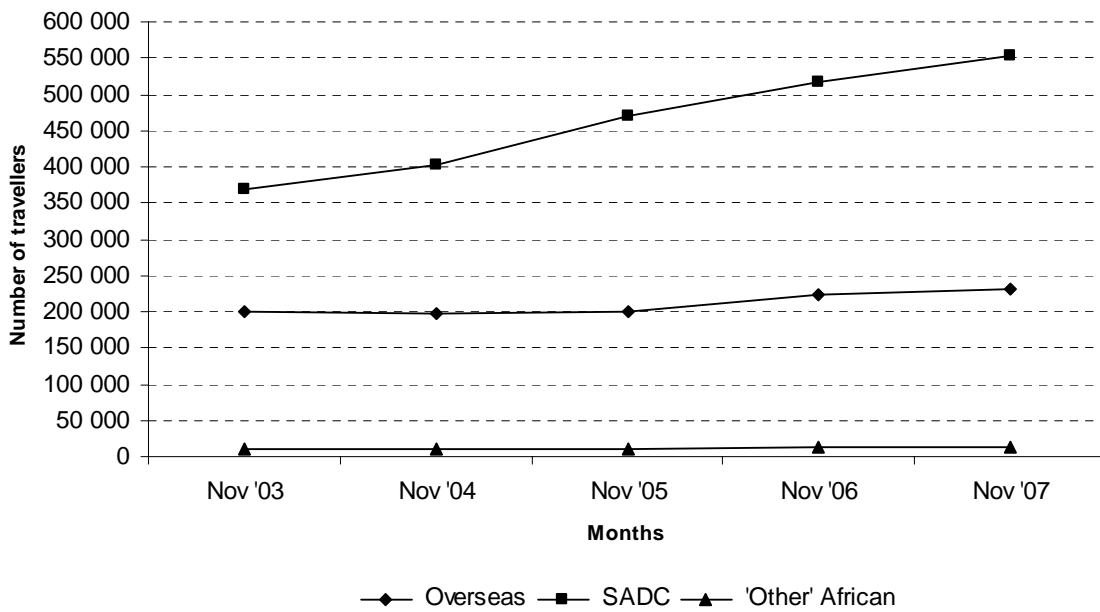


Figure 3: Number of overseas travellers arriving from leading source countries in November 2007 compared to November 2006

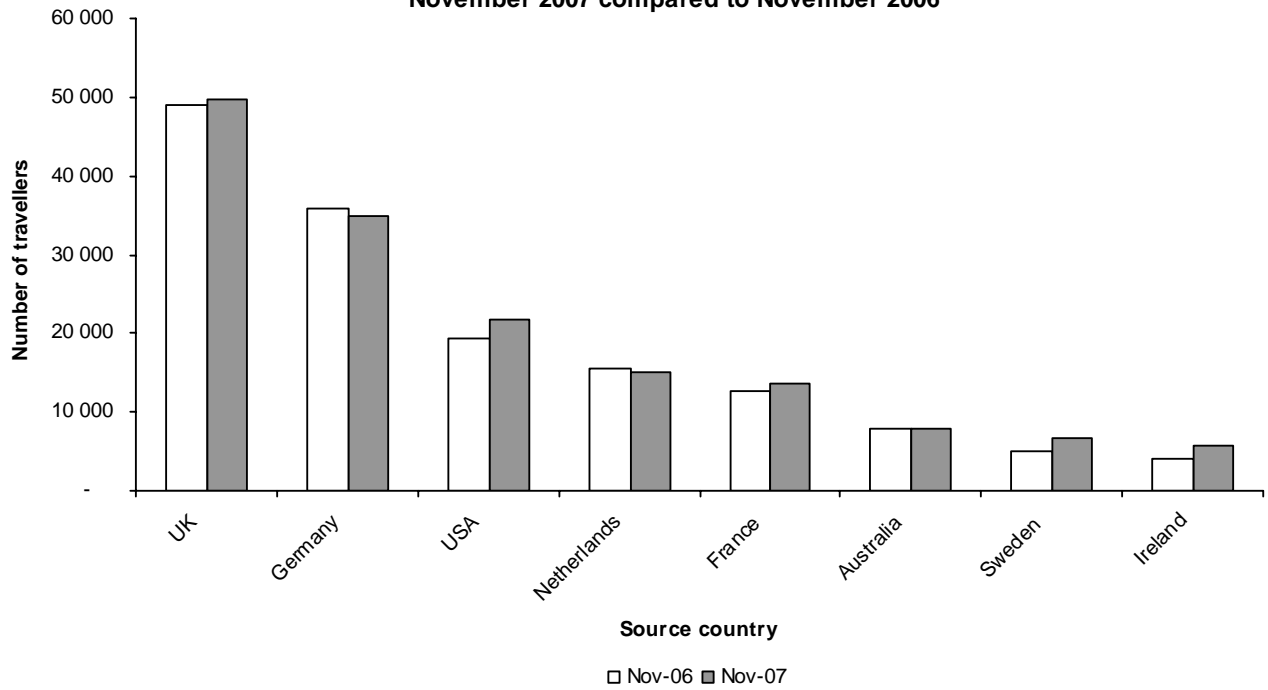


Figure 4: Number of travellers from SADC countries arriving from leading source countries in November 2007 compared to November 2006

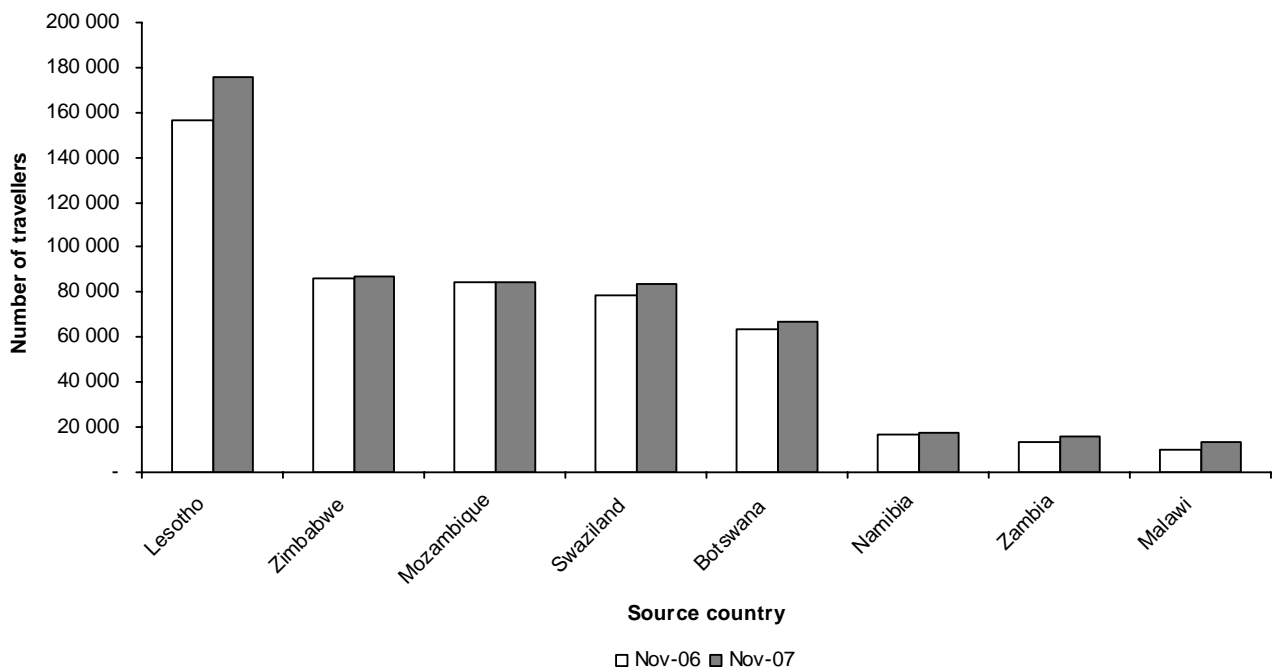


Figure 5: Number of travellers from 'other' African countries arriving from leading source countries in November 2007 compared to November 2006

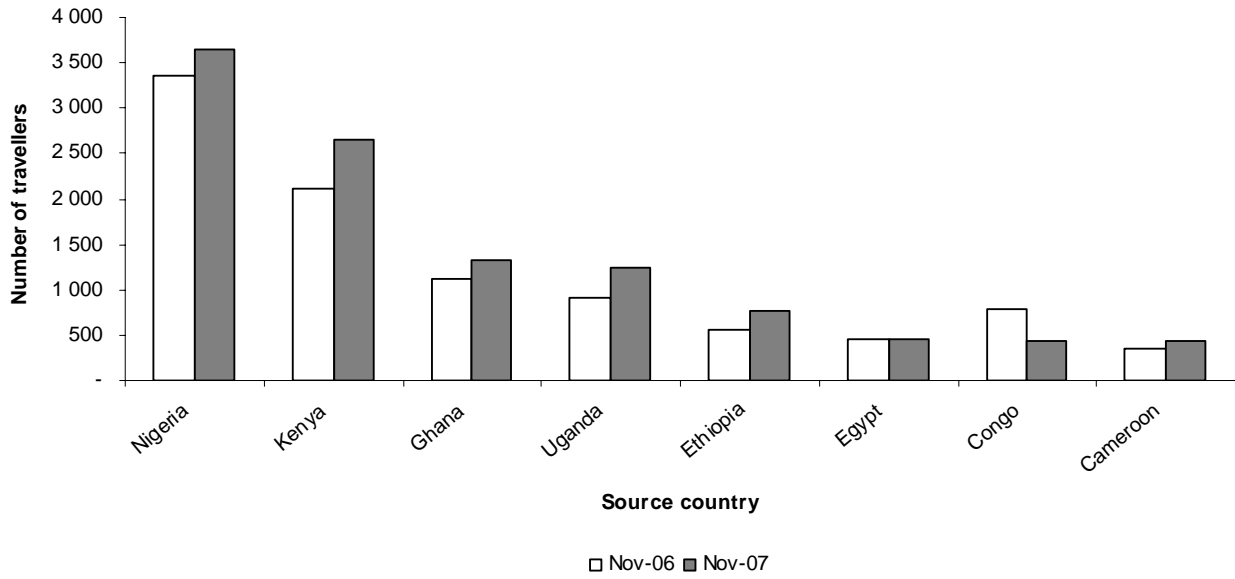


Table 1. Number of South African residents and foreign travellers by travel direction

Travel direction	November	October	November	% change	% change
	2006	2007	2007	Nov 06–Nov 07	Oct 07–Nov 07
South African residents					
Arrivals	308 821	346 791	321 643	4,2	-7,3
Departures	315 228	317 525	339 473	7,7	6,9
Foreign travellers					
Arrivals	756 440	802 652	805 400	6,5	0,3
Departures	683 848	680 931	715 801	4,7	5,1
Grand total	2 064 337	2 147 899	2 182 317	5,7	1,6

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

Travel direction	Total	Mode of travel (November 2007)								
		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspec.
		(C/Town)	(Durban)	(OR Tambo)	(Other)	Total				
Grand total	2 182 317	161 535	3 079	591 201	9 218	765 033	107	1 399 162	547	17 468
Arrivals:	1 127 043	82 164	1 503	290 688	4 856	379 211	23	730 086	285	17 438
South African residents	321 643	15 770	1 056	109 797	3 353	129 976	7	190 558	73	1 029
Foreign travellers	805 400	66 394	447	180 891	1 503	249 235	16	539 528	212	16 409
Overseas	231 585	64 160	164	133 416	918	198 658	6	32 380	190	351
Africa	568 308	2 166	278	46 172	572	49 188	10	505 622	22	13 466
Unspecified	5 507	68	5	1 303	13	1 389	-	1 526	-	2 592
Departures:	1 055 274	79 371	1 576	300 513	4 362	385 822	84	669 076	262	30
South African residents	339 473	14 958	1 130	119 505	3 228	138 821	32	200 555	64	1
Foreign travellers	715 801	64 413	446	181 008	1 134	247 001	52	468 521	198	29

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

Country	Mode of travel (November 2007)										
	November		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspec.
	2006	2007	(C/Town)	(Durban)	(OR Tambo)	(Other)	Total				
Grand total	756 440	805 400	66 394	447	180 891	1 503	249 235	16	539 528	212	16 409
Overseas total	222 636	231 585	64 160	164	133 416	918	198 658	6	32 380	190	351
Europe	159 992	163 850	56 569	83	81 660	377	138 689	2	24 991	84	84
Austria	3 230	3 131	1 196	4	1 386	7	2 593	-	537	-	1
Belgium	4 968	5 548	1 062	3	3 034	24	4 123	-	1 424	-	1
Denmark	2 776	2 924	775	-	1 738	10	2 523	-	395	4	2
France	12 599	13 600	2 280	11	8 991	32	11 314	-	2 283	2	1
Germany	35 859	34 794	14 001	-	14 013	26	28 040	1	6 733	5	15
Greece	899	733	113	1	522	1	637	-	92	2	2
Ireland	4 060	5 752	3 521	5	1 724	9	5 259	-	487	-	6
Italy	4 192	4 371	1 216	2	2 739	15	3 972	1	396	-	2
Netherlands	15 560	15 132	4 172	2	6 616	12	10 802	-	4 315	9	6
Portugal	2 715	2 963	191	14	1 494	9	1 708	-	1 252	-	3
Spain	2 677	2 584	400	-	1 985	5	2 390	-	192	2	-
Sweden	5 037	6 788	2 798	1	3 022	11	5 832	-	956	-	-
Switzerland	5 562	5 000	1 248	3	2 984	18	4 253	-	746	-	1
UK	49 050	49 703	19 721	32	25 867	142	45 762	-	3 902	7	32
Other	10 808	10 827	3 875	5	5 545	56	9 481	-	1 281	53	12
North America	24 415	27 152	3 549	10	20 407	273	24 239	1	2 870	6	36
Canada	5 006	5 371	901	3	3 713	39	4 656	-	703	2	10
USA	19 402	21 775	2 648	7	16 690	234	19 579	1	2 165	4	26
Other	7	6	-	-	4	-	4	-	2	-	-
Central and South America	4 768	5 007	388	3	4 146	33	4 570	-	436	-	1
Argentina	704	583	160	1	380	2	543	-	40	-	-
Brazil	2 543	2 843	37	1	2 595	12	2 645	-	198	-	-
Chile	319	298	46	1	227	-	274	-	24	-	-
Other	1 202	1 283	145	-	944	19	1 108	-	174	-	1

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

Country	Mode of travel (November 2007)										
	November		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspec.
	2006	2007	(C/Town)	(Durban)	(OR Tambo)	(Other)	Total				
Australasia	9 397	9 631	989	36	7 800	78	8 903	-	721	2	5
Australia	7 878	8 007	784	30	6 564	53	7 431	-	571	2	3
New Zealand	1 444	1 540	197	6	1 183	25	1 411	-	127	-	2
Other	75	84	8	-	53	-	61	-	23	-	-
Middle East	3 168	3 773	519	7	2 955	23	3 504	-	268	-	1
Israel	1 447	1 862	124	3	1 585	3	1 715	-	146	-	1
Saudi Arabia	246	216	21	-	170	8	199	-	17	-	-
Turkey	435	777	271	-	472	1	744	-	33	-	-
Other	1 040	918	103	4	728	11	846	-	72	-	-
Asia	20 896	22 172	2 146	25	16 448	134	18 753	3	3 094	98	224
China	4 030	4 984	320	-	4 009	68	4 397	-	548	-	39
Hong Kong	627	619	31	1	512	-	544	-	74	1	-
India	4 584	4 687	130	16	3 528	10	3 684	2	904	20	77
Japan	3 119	2 871	217	-	2 530	34	2 781	-	80	10	-
Malaysia	974	774	260	2	492	1	755	-	18	-	1
Philippines	921	801	75	-	563	1	639	-	118	35	9
Rep of China (Taiwan)	1 471	1 527	298	-	668	2	968	1	480	19	59
Rep of Korea	1 477	1 314	152	-	1 040	6	1 198	-	116	-	-
Singapore	629	860	328	1	518	-	847	-	11	-	2
Other	3 064	3 735	335	5	2 588	12	2 940	-	745	13	37

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

Country	Mode of travel (November 2007)										
	November		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspec.
	2006	2007	(C/Town)	(Durban)	(OR Tambo)	(Other)	Total				
Africa total	529 882	568 308	2 166	278	46 172	572	49 188	10	505 622	22	13 466
SADC	517 354	554 027	1 920	270	34 501	472	37 163	8	503 421	21	13 414
Angola	2 544	3 143	164	3	2 799	44	3 010	-	132	1	-
Botswana	63 741	66 667	25	8	2 936	218	3 187	-	63 361	-	119
DRC	1 880	2 728	1	-	1 780	19	1 800	-	928	-	-
Lesotho	156 263	175 370	6	-	837	4	847	-	162 672	4	11 847
Madagascar	245	284	3	-	265	-	268	-	16	-	-
Malawi	10 387	13 733	12	-	2 365	5	2 382	-	11 347	-	4
Mauritius	1 355	1 391	205	131	923	-	1 259	-	127	-	5
Mozambique	84 335	84 344	77	92	2 493	22	2 684	-	80 807	1	852
Namibia	17 017	17 862	1 362	-	2 826	28	4 216	2	13 640	-	4
Swaziland	78 401	83 846	7	31	1 004	2	1 044	2	82 675	-	125
Tanzania	1 194	1 457	5	2	1 107	5	1 119	-	332	-	6
Zambia	13 783	16 225	12	-	6 415	30	6 457	-	9 758	-	10
Zimbabwe	86 209	86 977	41	3	8 751	95	8 890	4	77 626	15	442

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

Country	Mode of travel (November 2007)										
	November		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspec.
	2006	2007	(C/Town)	(Durban)	(OR Tambo)	(Other)	Total				
East and Central Africa	5 836	6 741	59	8	5 363	62	5 492	2	1 225	-	22
Burundi	125	89	-	-	79	-	79	-	10	-	-
Cameroon	349	439	8	-	388	2	398	-	41	-	-
Central African Rep	29	12	-	-	12	-	12	-	-	-	-
Chad	48	21	-	-	20	1	21	-	-	-	-
Comoros	23	50	-	-	49	-	49	-	1	-	-
Congo	787	445	5	-	291	6	302	-	142	-	1
Djibouti	7	5	-	-	4	1	5	-	-	-	-
Equatorial Guinea	26	40	-	-	14	-	14	-	26	-	-
Eritrea	63	47	1	-	42	-	43	-	4	-	-
Ethiopia	565	764	2	-	595	5	602	-	161	-	1
Gabon	189	225	1	-	208	11	220	-	5	-	-
Kenya	2 121	2 661	15	1	2 261	28	2 305	2	348	-	6
Reunion	18	25	2	2	20	1	25	-	-	-	-
Rwanda	239	253	-	-	215	3	218	-	35	-	-
Sao Tome and Principe	17	14	1	-	13	-	14	-	-	-	-
Seychelles	178	224	1	5	216	1	223	-	1	-	-
Somalia	139	175	-	-	15	-	15	-	157	-	3
Tristan da Cunha	4	2	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-
Uganda	909	1 250	23	-	919	3	945	-	294	-	11

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

Country	Mode of travel (November 2007)										
	November		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspec.
	2006	2007	(C/Town)	(Durban)	(OR Tambo)	(Other)	Total				
West Africa	5 677	6 311	60	-	5 344	32	5 436	-	858	-	17
Ascension	2	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Benin	105	131	2	-	115	-	117	-	14	-	-
Burkina Faso	53	62	1	-	61	-	62	-	-	-	-
Cape Verde Island	57	65	-	-	54	-	54	-	11	-	-
Cote D'Ivoire	191	237	5	-	228	1	234	-	3	-	-
Gambia	60	68	-	-	61	-	61	-	7	-	-
Ghana	1 121	1 327	14	-	1 094	10	1 118	-	205	-	4
Guinea	140	142	2	-	77	-	79	-	63	-	-
Guinea-Bissau	14	20	1	-	13	-	14	-	6	-	-
Liberia	48	46	3	-	37	1	41	-	5	-	-
Madeira Island	13	11	5	-	3	-	8	-	3	-	-
Mali	82	87	1	-	74	-	75	-	12	-	-
Mauritania	29	15	-	-	15	-	15	-	-	-	-
Niger	32	27	-	-	25	-	25	-	2	-	-
Nigeria	3 350	3 644	20	-	3 090	19	3 129	-	504	-	11
St Helena	34	11	1	-	7	-	8	-	3	-	-
Senegal	232	283	4	-	267	-	271	-	12	-	-
Sierra Leone	76	76	1	-	65	1	67	-	7	-	2
Togo	37	57	-	-	56	-	56	-	1	-	-
Western Sahara	1	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
North Africa	1 015	1 229	127	-	964	6	1 097	-	118	1	13
Algeria	177	188	18	-	127	1	146	-	42	-	-
Egypt	463	452	17	-	404	3	424	-	25	1	2
Libya	78	95	5	-	71	-	76	-	10	-	9
Morocco	85	105	11	-	85	2	98	-	7	-	-
Sudan	149	292	56	-	203	-	259	-	31	-	2
Tunisia	63	97	20	-	74	-	94	-	3	-	-
Unspecified	3 922	5 507	68	5	1 303	13	1 389	-	1 526	-	2 592

Table 4. Number of foreign arrivals by purpose of travel

Region	Total	Purpose of travel (November 2007)							Contract worker	Border Traffic
		Business	Holiday	Study	Work	Transit	Unspec.	Total		
Grand total	805 400	20 931	750 706	4 729	10 278	2 373	12	789 029	-	16 371
Overseas total	231 585	8 384	215 620	539	6 221	500	1	231 265	-	320
Europe	163 850	5 105	155 359	249	2 846	219	-	163 778	-	72
North America	27 152	1 021	25 412	108	531	44	-	27 116	-	36
Central and South America	5 007	157	4 629	14	184	22	-	5 006	-	1
Australasia	9 631	311	9 155	19	118	27	-	9 630	-	1
Middle East	3 773	267	3 329	20	147	9	-	3 772	-	1
Asia	22 172	1 523	17 736	129	2 395	179	1	21 963	-	209
Africa total	568 308	12 490	533 811	3 651	3 022	1 868	7	554 849	-	13 459
SADC	554 027	11 237	522 095	3 337	2 232	1 714	4	540 619	-	13 408
East and Central Africa	6 741	563	5 596	166	315	77	3	6 720	-	21
West Africa	6 311	464	5 216	134	409	71	-	6 294	-	17
North Africa	1 229	226	904	14	66	6	-	1 216	-	13
Unspecified	5 507	57	1 275	539	1 035	5	4	2 915	-	2 592

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

Country	November		Purpose of travel (November 2007)							Contract worker	Border traffic concession
	2006	2007	Business	Holiday	Study	Work	Transit	Unspec.	Total		
Grand total	756 440	805 400	20 931	750 706	4 729	10 278	2 373	12	789 029	-	16 371
Overseas total	222 636	231 585	8 384	215 620	539	6 221	500	1	231 265	-	320
Europe	159 992	163 850	5 105	155 359	249	2 846	219	-	163 778	-	72
Austria	3 230	3 131	76	3 020	2	32	-	-	3 130	-	1
Belgium	4 968	5 548	124	5 323	8	87	5	-	5 547	-	1
Denmark	2 776	2 924	93	2 773	2	51	3	-	2 922	-	2
France	12 599	13 600	454	12 864	33	236	12	-	13 599	-	1
Germany	35 859	34 794	810	33 483	61	400	25	-	34 779	-	15
Greece	899	733	30	660	2	35	6	-	733	-	-
Ireland	4 060	5 752	123	5 562	4	54	3	-	5 746	-	6
Italy	4 192	4 371	221	4 086	4	52	6	-	4 369	-	2
Netherlands	15 560	15 132	304	14 624	28	164	6	-	15 126	-	6
Portugal	2 715	2 963	53	2 860	8	30	9	-	2 960	-	3
Spain	2 677	2 584	79	2 448	4	42	11	-	2 584	-	-
Sweden	5 037	6 788	214	6 472	9	89	4	-	6 788	-	-
Switzerland	5 562	5 000	142	4 806	9	41	1	-	4 999	-	1
UK	49 050	49 703	1 900	46 962	53	709	49	-	49 673	-	30
Other	10 808	10 827	482	9 416	22	824	79	-	10 823	-	4
North America	24 415	27 152	1 021	25 412	108	531	44	-	27 116	-	36
Canada	5 006	5 371	175	5 047	15	111	13	-	5 361	-	10
USA	19 402	21 775	846	20 359	93	420	31	-	21 749	-	26
Other	7	6	-	6	-	-	-	-	6	-	-
Central and South America	4 768	5 007	157	4 629	14	184	22	-	5 006	-	1
Argentina	704	583	23	548	1	9	2	-	583	-	-
Brazil	2 543	2 843	42	2 727	7	56	11	-	2 843	-	-
Chile	319	298	17	249	-	32	-	-	298	-	-
Other	1 202	1 283	75	1 105	6	87	9	-	1 282	-	1

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

Country	November		Purpose of travel (November 2007)							Contract worker	Border traffic concession
			Business	Holiday	Study	Work	Transit	Unspec.	Total		
	2006	2007									
Australasia	9 397	9 631	311	9 155	19	118	27	-	9 630	-	1
Australia	7 878	8 007	273	7 605	7	98	23	-	8 006	-	1
New Zealand	1 444	1 540	29	1 492	-	16	3	-	1 540	-	-
Other	75	84	9	58	12	4	1	-	84	-	-
Middle East	3 168	3 773	267	3 329	20	147	9	-	3 772	-	1
Israel	1 447	1 862	96	1 704	3	53	5	-	1 861	-	1
Saudi Arabia	246	216	8	201	1	6	-	-	216	-	-
Turkey	435	777	39	682	2	50	4	-	777	-	-
Other	1 040	918	124	742	14	38	-	-	918	-	-
Asia	20 896	22 172	1 523	17 736	129	2 395	179	1	21 963	-	209
China	4 030	4 984	369	4 041	28	489	17	1	4 945	-	39
Hong Kong	627	619	16	599	-	4	-	-	619	-	-
India	4 584	4 687	536	3 529	21	488	40	-	4 614	-	73
Japan	3 119	2 871	166	2 550	2	146	7	-	2 871	-	-
Malaysia	974	774	31	704	6	26	6	-	773	-	1
Philippines	921	801	51	314	4	380	48	-	797	-	4
Rep of China (Taiwan)	1 471	1 527	67	1 115	11	255	26	-	1 474	-	53
Rep of Korea	1 477	1 314	69	1 159	16	65	5	-	1 314	-	-
Singapore	629	860	38	789	-	31	-	-	858	-	2
Other	3 064	3 735	180	2 936	41	511	30	-	3 698	-	37

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

Country	November		Purpose of travel (November 2007)							Contract worker	Border traffic concession
			Business	Holiday	Study	Work	Transit	Unspec.	Total		
	2006	2007									
Africa total	529 882	568 308	12 490	533 811	3 651	3 022	1 868	7	554 849	-	13 459
SADC	517 354	554 027	11 237	522 095	3 337	2 232	1 714	4	540 619	-	13 408
Angola	2 544	3 143	115	2 826	90	77	35	-	3 143	-	-
Botswana	63 741	66 667	146	64 768	1 207	213	214	-	66 548	-	119
DRC	1 880	2 728	87	2 485	43	86	25	2	2 728	-	-
Lesotho	156 263	175 370	1 852	160 368	497	122	689	-	163 528	-	11 842
Madagascar	245	284	15	243	5	14	7	-	284	-	-
Malawi	10 387	13 733	717	12 893	40	62	17	-	13 729	-	4
Mauritius	1 355	1 391	46	1 304	8	20	8	-	1 386	-	5
Mozambique	84 335	84 344	439	82 759	156	89	49	-	83 492	-	852
Namibia	17 017	17 862	2 019	15 132	223	64	420	-	17 858	-	4
Swaziland	78 401	83 846	349	82 542	551	192	88	-	83 722	-	124
Tanzania	1 194	1 457	186	1 169	33	41	22	-	1 451	-	6
Zambia	13 783	16 225	2 343	13 664	72	112	24	-	16 215	-	10
Zimbabwe	86 209	86 977	2 923	81 942	412	1 140	116	2	86 535	-	442

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

Country	November		Purpose of travel (November 2007)								Contract worker	Border traffic concession
	2006	2007	Business	Holiday	Study	Work	Transit	Unspec.	Total			
East and Central Africa	5 836	6 741	563	5 596	166	315	77	3	6 720	-	21	
Burundi	125	89	8	77	-	4	-	-	89	-	-	
Cameroon	349	439	51	326	32	21	9	-	439	-	-	
Central African Rep	29	12	4	8	-	-	-	-	12	-	-	
Chad	48	21	8	11	-	2	-	-	21	-	-	
Comoros	23	50	-	48	1	1	-	-	50	-	-	
Congo	787	445	16	395	18	12	3	-	444	-	1	
Djibouti	7	5	1	4	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	
Equatorial Guinea	26	40	-	38	2	-	-	-	40	-	-	
Eritrea	63	47	3	38	1	5	-	-	47	-	-	
Ethiopia	565	764	43	681	16	19	3	1	763	-	1	
Gabon	189	225	9	193	18	5	-	-	225	-	-	
Kenya	2 121	2 661	278	2 127	44	174	33	-	2 656	-	5	
Reunion	18	25	1	24	-	-	-	-	25	-	-	
Rwanda	239	253	19	212	9	8	5	-	253	-	-	
Sao Tome and Principe	17	14	1	11	-	-	2	-	14	-	-	
Seychelles	178	224	2	219	-	1	2	-	224	-	-	
Somalia	139	175	3	167	-	-	-	2	172	-	3	
Tristan da Cunha	4	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	
Uganda	909	1 250	116	1 015	25	63	20	-	1 239	-	11	

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

Country	November		Purpose of travel (November 2007)							Contract worker	Border traffic concession
	2006	2007	Business	Holiday	Study	Work	Transit	Unspec.	Total		
West Africa	5 677	6 311	464	5 216	134	409	71	-	6 294	-	17
Ascension	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Benin	105	131	9	117	-	4	1	-	131	-	-
Burkina Faso	53	62	11	47	1	2	1	-	62	-	-
Cape Verde Island	57	65	2	50	2	8	3	-	65	-	-
Cote D'Ivoire	191	237	34	174	3	21	5	-	237	-	-
Gambia	60	68	9	43	1	2	13	-	68	-	-
Ghana	1 121	1 327	45	1 169	8	95	6	-	1 323	-	4
Guinea	140	142	16	115	5	2	4	-	142	-	-
Guinea-Bissau	14	20	-	17	3	-	-	-	20	-	-
Liberia	48	46	3	38	-	4	1	-	46	-	-
Madeira Island	13	11	-	11	-	-	-	-	11	-	-
Mali	82	87	16	68	-	1	2	-	87	-	-
Mauritania	29	15	2	11	-	1	1	-	15	-	-
Niger	32	27	5	22	-	-	-	-	27	-	-
Nigeria	3 350	3 644	267	2 993	109	244	20	-	3 633	-	11
St Helena	34	11	-	11	-	-	-	-	11	-	-
Senegal	232	283	35	213	2	21	12	-	283	-	-
Sierra Leone	76	76	4	66	-	2	2	-	74	-	2
Togo	37	57	6	49	-	2	-	-	57	-	-
Western Sahara	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
North Africa	1 015	1 229	226	904	14	66	6	-	1 216	-	13
Algeria	177	188	34	138	2	13	1	-	188	-	-
Egypt	463	452	68	355	2	22	3	-	450	-	2
Libya	78	95	8	66	3	8	1	-	86	-	9
Morocco	85	105	24	74	1	6	-	-	105	-	-
Sudan	149	292	74	196	5	14	1	-	290	-	2
Tunisia	63	97	18	75	1	3	-	-	97	-	-
Unspecified	3 922	5 507	57	1 275	539	1 035	5	4	2 915	-	2 592

EXPLANATORY NOTES

1. Introduction

Legal movements across South African borders as well as legal immigration into South Africa fall under the jurisdiction of the Department of Home Affairs (DHA). Statistics South Africa then processes and publishes this information.

Administrative data sources from the DHA, that is, information from all the country's ports of entry and applications for permanent residence constitute the only comprehensive source of information on foreign arrivals and departures, documented immigrants and emigrants. The information from this source of data provides the best national coverage (both in terms of space and time) of the population movements of South African residents and foreign travellers. The data -

- can be used to estimate, monitor and understand salient characteristics of foreign travellers and volumes of South African residents travelling outside South Africa;
- can, in the absence of information on foreign tourists, be further analysed to provide some indication of international tourism; and
- provide information that can be used to (a) assess the extent of government's progress in strengthening bilateral political and economic relations by assessing the number of international tourist arrivals; and (b) benchmark surveys focusing on demand for local tourism services by foreign travellers.

The information on documented migrants provides crucial information on receiving countries of South African emigrants which could be targeted in initiatives geared towards attracting back migrants into the country. In addition, the data on permanent residents are valuable in assessing not only the demographic and economic profiles of immigrants but also their contribution to national social and economic programmes.

2. Purpose of the statistical release

This release reports on arrivals and departures of foreign and South African travellers. Travellers include (a) same-day visitors and tourists and (b) other travellers such as migrant workers from other countries paid in South Africa.

3. Scope and coverage

This release covers all the data as received from the DHA. The arrivals of foreign travellers are more detailed than departures as they are reported by mode of travel, gender, age and purpose of visit whereas statistics on South African residents are reported by mode of travel. Statistics on documented migration, i.e. self-declared emigrants and documented immigrants, are currently not reported due to the unavailability of data from the DHA.

4. Data

Information published in this release is based on data obtained from the following data sources within the DHA.

- Department of Home Affairs' (DHA) database on population Movement Control System (MCS): Data routinely collected by immigration officers at all land, air and sea entry ports on all travellers (South African residents and foreign travellers) arriving into or departing from South Africa are captured into the system. Generally the data are collected directly from travel documents either by scanning or capturing onto the port's electronic database. Individual ports regularly transmit data onto the national database at the head office of the DHA. Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) downloads the data covering a particular calendar month from the mainframe of the State Information Technology Agency (SITA), where the DHA stores its data.
- DHA departure forms: the DHA departure forms are specifically designed for the collection of data from South African residents departing South Africa. The completed forms from OR Tambo, Cape Town and Durban international airports covering a particular calendar month are processed and analysed accordingly by Stats SA.
- The database for applicants for South African permanent residence: a printout of data on the successful applicants covering a particular calendar month is issued to Stats SA.

5. Limitations

The main limitation of the published information is its inability to directly measure the volume of tourists. The main aspects of the United Nations World Tourism Organisation's (UNWTO) definition of a tourist are duration of stay and whether individuals are remunerated in the place being visited. Although the intended duration of stay can be inferred from the expiry date of the temporary residence permit, this does not necessarily translate into actual duration of stay. In addition, the data do not provide information on the remuneration status of travellers in South Africa.

The information on the total number of arrivals and departures of South African residents is collected from the scanning of passports. However, data on country of final destination and purpose of visit will be available when the re-introduction of the departure forms is in full operational at the three international airports (OR Tambo, Cape Town and Durban). Processing of available departure forms from the three international airports is currently underway.

Due to unavailability of data from the DHA, information on documented immigrants is not included in this current publication. The documented immigration information will be provided as soon as it is made available to Stats SA.

6. Glossary of terms

Key terms used in this release are defined as follows:

Africa refers to all the countries in Africa (both mainland and island countries).

Border traffic concession is granted to a person who crosses the border on a frequent basis. The concession is granted for a maximum period of six months after which it can be renewed if necessary.

Country refers to individual countries within a region. Note that not all the lists of countries available in the data are reported in the release owing to the few monthly arrivals from those countries. Data on these countries will be made available to individuals on request.

Foreign traveller refers to a traveller who is not a South African citizen or permanent resident.

'Other' African countries refers to all African non SADC member countries.

Overseas refers to all other countries outside Africa.

Region refers to the following country classification: Europe, North America, Central and South America, Australasia, the Middle East, Asia and Africa.

SADC refers to the thirteen countries, excluding South Africa, that belong to the Southern African Development Community.

Same-day visitor is a visitor who visits a place for less than one night.

South African resident refers to either a South African citizen or a non-South African citizen with a South African permanent residence permit.

Tourism comprises the activities of persons travelling to and staying in places outside their usual environment for not more than one consecutive year for leisure, business and other purposes not related to the exercise of an activity remunerated from within the place visited. The usual environment of a person consists of a certain area around his/her place of residence plus all other places he/she frequently visits. *Even though the data from the DHA used in this release do not provide information on duration of stay and remuneration status of the travellers, activities of most of these travellers will comprise tourism.*

Tourist (overnight visitor) is a visitor who stays at least one night in collective or private accommodation in the place visited. An international tourist is an international visitor who stays at least one night in collective or private accommodation in the country visited.

Traveller is any person on a trip between two or more localities (e.g. countries). Travellers can include Visitors (same-day and overnight) and other travellers such as workers paid in the country visited, migrants, refugees, diplomats and others within the usual environment.

Visitor is any person travelling to a place other than that of his/her usual environment for less than 12 months and whose main purpose of the trip is other than the exercise of an activity remunerated from within the place visited. However, in this release, the concept visitor is used to indicate an individual that entered the country on visitor's temporary permit.

7. Symbols and abbreviations used

- = nil
Unspec. = unspecified

General information

Stats SA publishes approximately 300 different statistical releases each year. It is not economically viable to produce them in more than one of South Africa's eleven official languages. Since the releases are used extensively, not only locally but also by international economic and social-scientific communities, Stats SA releases are published in English.

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