

Statistical release

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Tourism and Migration

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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 DuduzileGu@statssa.gov.za

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KEY FINDINGS

1. Travellers

1.1 Number of travellers

The routine data collected by the Department of Home Affairs' (DHA) immigration officers at the ports of entry into South Africa show that a total of 2 686 363 travellers (arrivals and departures) passed through South African ports of entry in November 2010. As presented in Table 1, these travellers are made up of 817 858 South African residents and 1 868 505 foreign travellers. A further breakdown of the figures indicates that there were 408 001 and 409 857 South African residents' arrivals and departures respectively. The corresponding volumes for foreign arrivals and departures were 1 003 953 and 864 552 respectively. A comparison between the movements in October 2010 and November 2010 indicates that the volume of arrivals decreased for South African residents and increased marginally for foreign travellers. The South African residents' departures declined whereas foreign departures increased. There was a decline of 12,5% from 466 104 in October 2010 to 408 001 in November 2010 for South African arrivals and a decline of 4,9% from 431 075 in October 2010 to 409 857 in November 2010 for South African departures. Foreign arrivals increased by 0,03% from 1 003 661 in October 2010 to 1 003 953 in November 2010 and foreign departures increased by 3,9% from 831 732 in October 2010 to 864 552 in November 2010.

A comparison between movements in November 2009 and November 2010 indicates that there was an increase in the movements of South African residents and foreign travellers. Thus, South African residents arrivals increased by 22,8% from 332 355 in November 2009 to 408 001 in November 2010 and foreign arrivals increased by 16,1% from 864 808 in November 2009 to 1 003 953 in November 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 November 2010, 14 762 (1,5%) foreign arrivals were classified as non-visitors while 989 191 (98,5%) were visitors. The visitors were categorised into three groups: arrivals only comprising of visitors who entered the country in November 2010 but did not depart in November 2010 (338 940); visitors who came once in November 2010 and left in November 2010 (339 763); and those who came more than once in November 2010 and left in November 2010 (310 488). Visitors were further grouped as same day visitors 309 287 (31,3%) and overnight visitors/tourists 679 904 (68,7%).

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 November 2010, road transport was the most common mode of travel used by 1 942 048 (72,3%) out of the 2 686 363 travellers. The total number of travellers who used air transport was 740 022 (27,5%). The arrivals data on South African residents show that 136 939 (33,6%) came by air and 270 563 (66,3%) by road. For departures, 134 811 (32,9%) and 274 886 (67,1%) used air and road transport respectively. In the case of foreign travellers, 246 764 (24,6%) arrived by air. Those who came by road were 754 695 (75,2%). When departing South Africa, 221 508 (25,6%) foreign travellers left by air whilst 641 904 (74,2%) left by road. As shown in Table 2 an overwhelming majority, 290 603 (94,0%) of same day visitors arrived in the country by road. Only 18 655 (6,0%) same day visitors flew into the country. Data on overnight visitors/tourists show that, 459 895 (67,6%) used road transport whereas 218 835 (32,2%) 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 November 2010, 171 315 (86,6%) overseas tourists arrived in the country by air whilst 25 454 (12,9%) came in by road. This is in contrast to tourists from SADC countries who came into South Africa predominantly by road 431 618 (92,9%). Only 32 823 (7,1%) tourists from SADC countries came in by air. A relatively high number 13 166 (88,5%) of tourists from 'other' African countries flew into the country with only 1 710 (11,5%) using road transport.

2.2 Regional and national distribution of tourists

In November 2010, overseas tourists came mainly from Europe, 130 214 (65,8%); followed by North America, 24 794 (12,5%); Asia, 23 526 (11,9%); Australasia, 10 199 (5,2%); Central and South America, 5 897 (3,0%); and Middle East, 3 300 (1,7%). Virtually all tourists from Africa came from the SADC countries, 464 444 (96,9%). The distribution of the remaining tourists from Africa is as follows: West Africa, 6 918 (1,4%); East and Central Africa, 6 914 (1,5%) and North Africa 1 051 (0,2%).

Data presented in Figure 1 indicate that UK, 38 539 (19,5%); Germany, 26 228 (13,3%); USA, 19 808 (10,0%); The Netherlands, 11 982 (6,1%); France, 11 808 (6,0%); Australia, 8 530 (4,3%); China, 7 524 (3,8%) and India 7 130 (3,6%) were the eight leading overseas countries. Tourists from these eight countries constitute 66,5% of all tourists from overseas countries. A comparison between movements in November 2009 and November 2010 shows that the number of tourists increased in all these countries with the exception of UK and The Netherlands. The volume of tourists from UK declined by 4,9% from 40 505 in November 2009 to 38 539 in November 2010 and the number of tourists from The Netherlands declined by 12,2% from 13 641 in November 2009 to 11 982 in November 2010.

The eight leading countries from SADC (see Figure 2) were Zimbabwe, 125 707 (27,1%); Lesotho, 117 776 (25,4%); Mozambique, 83 920 (18,1%); Swaziland, 46 817 (10,1%); Botswana, 41 316 (8,9%); Namibia, 14 118 (3,0%); Zambia, 12 972 (2,8%) and Malawi, 12 577 (2,7%). Tourists from these eight countries constituted 98,0% of all tourists from SADC countries. A comparison between movements in November 2009 and November 2010 shows that the number of tourists from all these countries increased with the exception of Swaziland and Botswana. The volume of tourists from Swaziland declined by 3,9% from 48 705 in November 2009 to 46 817 in November 2010 and the tourists from Botswana declined by 0,1% from 41 345 in November 2009 to 41 316 in November 2010.

The eight leading countries from 'other' African countries, shown in Figure 3, were Nigeria, 4 259 (28,6%); Kenya, 2 754 (18,5%); Ghana, 1 428 (9,6%); Uganda, 1 330 (8,9%); Ethiopia, 807 (5,4%); Egypt, 424 (2,8%); Cameroon, 404 (2,7%) and Seychelles, 396 (2,7%). Tourists from these eight countries constituted 79,3% of all tourists from 'other' African countries. A comparison between movements in November 2009 and November 2010 shows that the number of tourists increased in all these countries with the exception of Ethiopia and Egypt. The volume of tourists from Ethiopia declined by 34,3% from 1 229 in November 2009 to 807 in November 2010 and the tourists from Egypt declined by 12,4% from 484 in November 2009 to 424 in November 2010.

2.3 Purpose of visit of tourists

As observed from data given in Table 4, in November 2010, an overwhelming majority (92,6%) of tourists were in South Africa for holidays compared to only 4,4% and 0,4% 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 76,5% came to South Africa for holidays. Tourists from Australasia (92,9%), Europe (91,9%), North America (90,1%), Middle East (86,5%), Asia (79,5%) and Central and South America (76,5%) were in South Africa mostly for holidays. Tourists from Asia and Central and South America were more diverse in terms of visit. Asia and Central and South America had 7,1% and 2,8% respectively of their tourists in South Africa for business. Furthermore, students made up 0,4% of tourists from Asia and 0,1% of tourists from Central and South America.

The majority (93,8%) of African tourists came to South Africa for holidays. There were differences between tourists from the sub-regions of Africa, namely:

- Whereas 94,1% of tourists from SADC countries were on holidays; 86,3% of tourists on holiday came from East and Central Africa; 85,4% from West Africa and 76,0% from North Africa.
- Business persons constituted 17,8% of tourists from North Africa compared with 6,5% from East and Central Africa, 4,4% from SADC and 4,1% from West Africa.
- Students made up 2,3% of tourists from North Africa compared with 2,0% from East and Central Africa, 1,3% from West Africa and 0,5% from SADC countries.

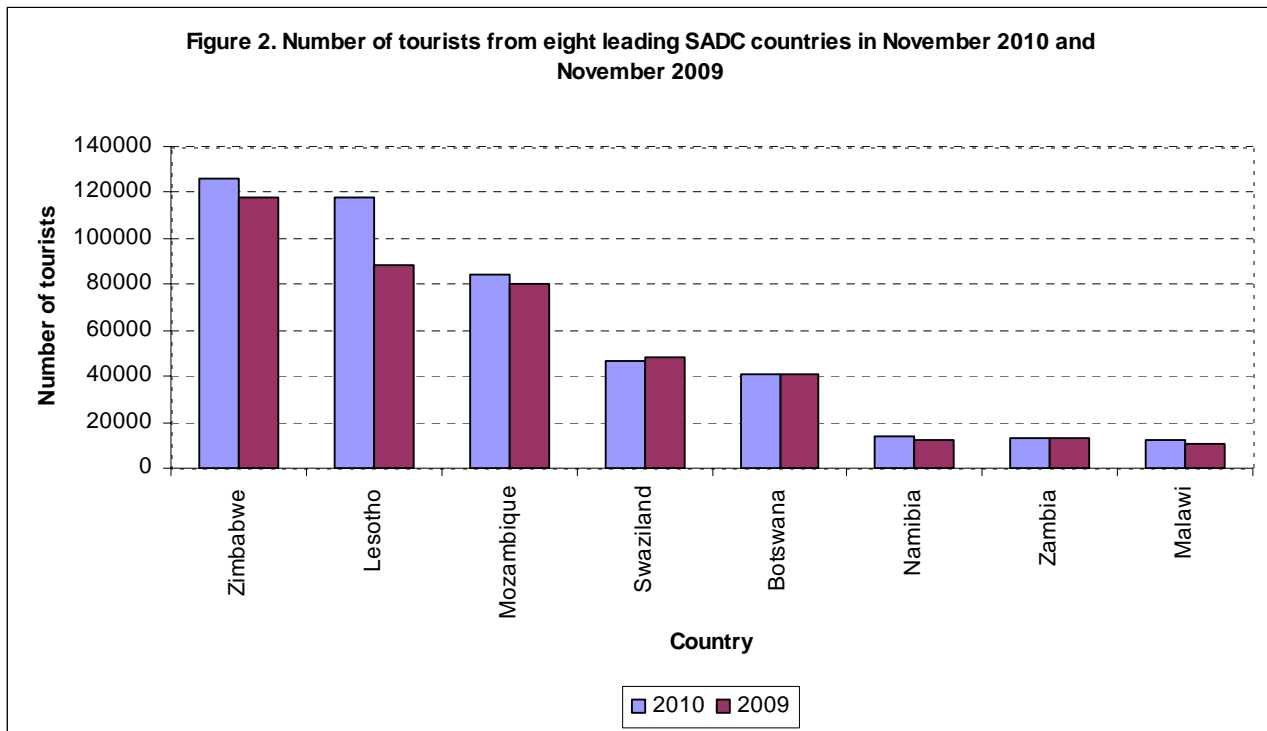
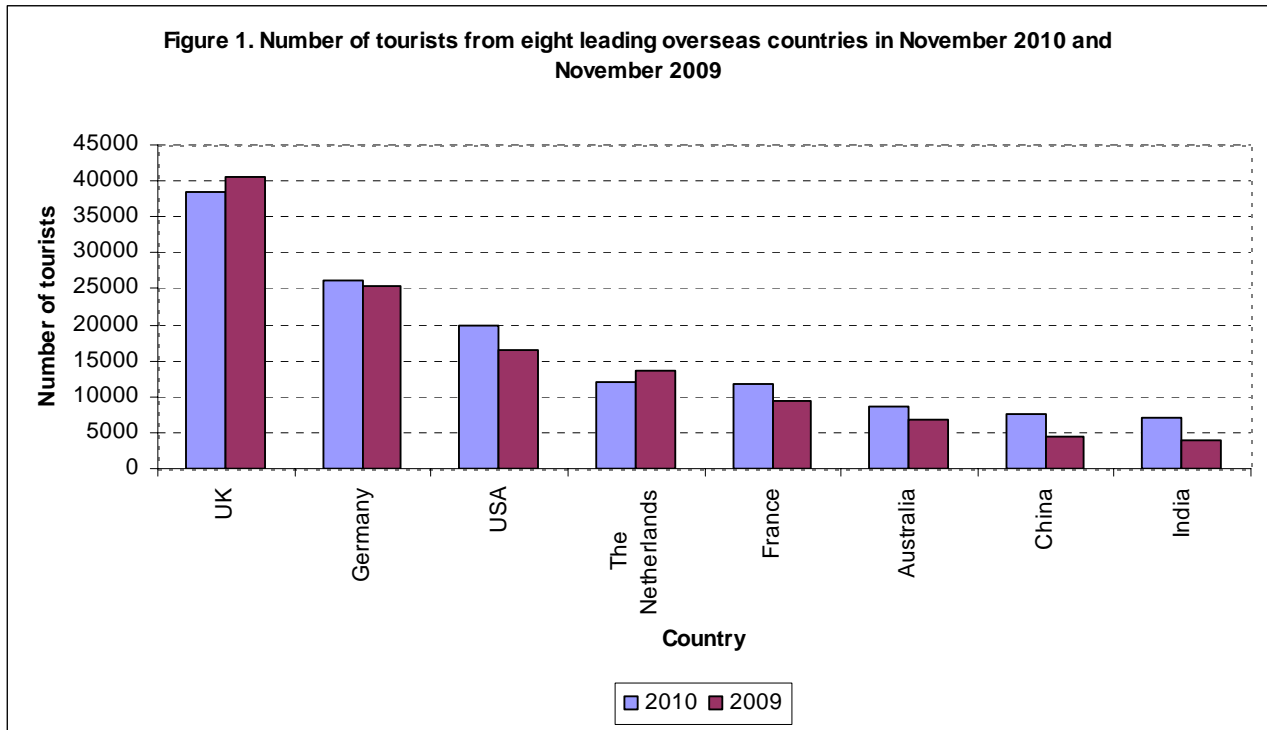
2.4 Sex and age distribution of tourists

As indicated in Table 5, in November 2010, there were 395 043 (58,1%) male and 283 856 (41,7%) female tourists. The overseas tourists were made up of 114 468 (57,8%) male tourists and 83 214 (42,0%) female tourists. Tourists from 'other' African countries had a high proportion (68,1%) of males compared with those from SADC (57,8%). The proportions of female tourists from 'other' African countries and SADC countries were 31,9% and 42,0% 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 90,9% of tourists were aged between 15 and 64 years; 3,5% were aged less than 15 years and 5,4% were aged 65 years and older. Taking the country of residence into consideration, the results further show that 83,3% of overseas tourists were aged between 15 and 64 years compared with 94,0% and 94,8% of tourists from SADC and 'other' African countries respectively. There were few tourists younger than 15 years and those aged 65 years and older.

A comparison of the three regions shows relatively high proportions of the elderly among both male (11,9%) and female (14,2%) tourists from overseas. This is in contrast to tourists from SADC countries amongst which 2,0% of males and 2,9% of females were aged 65 years and older. Similarly among tourists from 'other' African countries, 1,8% of males and 1,6% of females were aged 65 years and older.

PJ Lehohla
Statistician-General



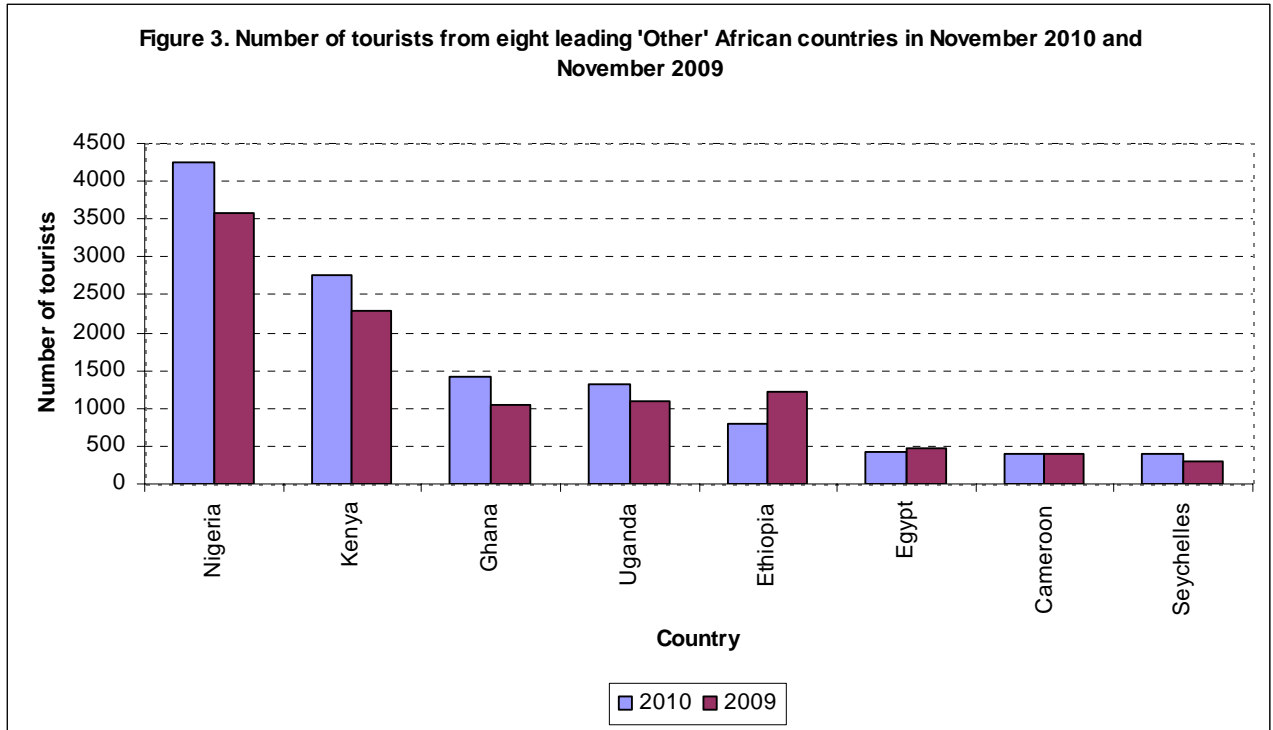


Table 1. Number of South African residents and foreign travellers by travel direction

Travel direction	November	October	November	% change	
	2009	2010	2010	November 09 - November 10	October 10 - November 10
Grand total	2 272 937	2 732 572	2 686 363	18,2	-1,7
South African residents	654 713	897 179	817 858	24,9	-8,8
Arrivals	332 355	466 104	408 001	22,8	-12,5
Departures	322 358	431 075	409 857	27,1	-4,9
Foreign travellers	1 618 224	1 835 393	1 868 505	15,5	1,8
Arrivals	864 808	1 003 661	1 003 953	16,1	0,03
Departures	753 416	831 732	864 552	14,8	3,9
Foreign arrivals	864 808	1 003 661	1 003 953	16,1	0,03
Non-visitors	30 754	14 757	14 762	-52,0	0,03
Visitors	834 054	988 904	989 191	18,6	0,03
Visitors	834 054	988 904	989 191	18,6	0,03
Arrivals only	276 085	367 568	338 940	22,8	-7,8
Single trips	352 659	331 733	339 763	-3,7	2,4
Multiple trips	205 310	289 603	310 488	51,2	7,2
Visitors	834 054	988 904	989 191	18,6	0,03
Same day	214 789	282 065	309 287	44,0	9,7
Overnight (tourists)	619 265	706 839	679 904	9,8	-3,8

Table 2. Number of South African residents and foreign travellers by travel direction and mode of travel											
Travel direction	November		Mode of travel (November 2010)								
			Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2009	2010	Cape Town	K. Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total				
Grand total	2 272 937	2 686 363	139 217	14 279	577 651	8 875	740 022	11	1 942 048	4 194	88
South African residents	654 713	817 858	32 067	9 407	225 338	4 938	271 750	-	545 449	639	20
Arrivals	332 355	408 001	16 766	4 986	112 782	2 405	136 939	-	270 563	479	20
Departures	322 358	409 857	15 301	4 421	112 556	2 533	134 811	-	274 886	160	-
Foreign travellers	1 618 224	1 868 505	107 150	4 872	352 313	3 937	468 272	11	1 396 599	3 555	68
Arrivals	864 808	1 003 953	54 313	2 381	188 065	2 005	246 764	11	754 695	2 415	68
Departures	753 416	864 552	52 837	2 491	164 248	1 932	221 508	-	641 904	1 140	-
Visitors	834 054	989 191	52 139	1 925	182 213	1 213	237 490	1	750 498	1 173	29
Same day	214 789	309 287	561	59	17 857	178	18 655	-	290 603	29	-
Overnight (tourists)	619 265	679 904	51 578	1 866	164 356	1 035	218 835	1	459 895	1 144	29

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

Country	Mode of travel (November 2010)										
	November		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2009	2010	Cape Town	K. Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total				
Total	619 265	679 904	51 578	1 866	164 356	1 035	218 835	1	459 895	1 144	29
Overseas	181 923	197 930	49 190	1 617	119 745	763	171 315	-	25 454	1 132	29
Europe	128 471	130 214	40 730	1 056	68 951	340	111 077	-	18 486	625	26
Austria	2 287	2 603	770	13	1 353	1	2 137	-	403	63	-
Belgium	4 237	4 233	949	14	2 318	11	3 292	-	934	7	-
Denmark	2 019	2 137	475	12	1 373	1	1 861	-	256	20	-
France	9 509	11 808	2 836	43	6 774	24	9 677	-	2 119	12	-
Germany	25 396	26 228	9 239	180	12 929	73	22 421	-	3 693	110	4
Ireland	3 522	3 174	1 640	14	1 270	4	2 928	-	239	7	-
Italy	3 527	3 735	894	51	2 349	9	3 303	-	409	23	-
Norway	2 097	1 935	776	13	940	5	1 734	-	197	4	-
Portugal	2 454	3 278	241	8	1 733	19	2 001	-	1 275	-	2
Spain	1 971	2 071	348	9	1 532	15	1 904	-	163	4	-
Sweden	5 053	5 350	1 713	6	2 666	8	4 393	-	951	6	-
Switzerland	4 043	4 604	1 198	44	2 599	23	3 864	-	650	83	7
The Netherlands	13 641	11 982	3 455	32	5 413	10	8 910	-	2 991	78	3
UK	40 505	38 539	13 562	533	20 732	74	34 901	-	3 443	185	10
Other	8 210	8 537	2 634	84	4 970	63	7 751	-	763	23	-
North America	20 616	24 794	3 628	86	17 722	179	21 615	-	2 720	456	3
Canada	4 015	4 986	1 021	37	3 161	14	4 233	-	618	135	-
USA	16 594	19 808	2 607	49	14 561	165	17 382	-	2 102	321	3
Other	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Central and South America	4 704	5 897	475	17	4 863	10	5 365	-	522	10	-
Argentina	667	882	225	-	631	-	856	-	26	-	-
Brazil	2 705	3 601	84	9	3 155	-	3 248	-	350	3	-
Chile	204	240	24	-	183	-	207	-	33	-	-
Other	1 128	1 174	142	8	894	10	1 054	-	113	7	-

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

Country	Mode of travel (November 2010)										
	November		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2009	2010	Cape Town	K.Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total				
Australasia	8 336	10 199	763	108	8 649	28	9 548	-	639	12	-
Australia	6 886	8 530	616	60	7 286	26	7 988	-	531	11	-
New Zealand	1 394	1 633	146	47	1 331	1	1 525	-	107	1	-
Other	56	36	1	1	32	1	35	-	1	-	-
Middle East	2 860	3 300	642	13	2 483	20	3 158	-	140	2	-
Iran	319	336	119	1	204	-	324	-	12	-	-
Israel	1 247	1 614	95	-	1 462	2	1 559	-	53	2	-
Saudi Arabia	453	418	133	2	283	-	418	-	-	-	-
Other	841	932	295	10	534	18	857	-	75	-	-
Asia	16 936	23 526	2 952	337	17 077	186	20 552	-	2 947	27	-
China	4 328	7 524	885	34	5 951	15	6 885	-	639	-	-
India	3 857	7 130	800	130	5 107	43	6 080	-	1 045	5	-
Japan	1 526	1 552	210	8	1 245	2	1 465	-	85	2	-
Korea	1 259	1 142	137	1	857	10	1 005	-	137	-	-
Malaysia	931	887	264	6	571	-	841	-	46	-	-
Pakistan	771	1 083	107	43	628	3	781	-	286	16	-
Philippines	327	980	39	41	606	68	754	-	224	2	-
Singapore	792	629	203	2	409	2	616	-	13	-	-
Taiwan	762	675	30	4	475	5	514	-	159	2	-
Other	2 383	1 924	277	68	1 228	38	1 611	-	313	-	-
Africa	434 804	479 327	2 258	243	43 234	254	45 989	1	433 328	9	-
SADC	420 898	464 444	1 960	220	30 472	171	32 823	1	431 618	2	-
Angola	3 156	2 827	253	-	2 426	8	2 687	-	140	-	-
Botswana	41 345	41 316	9	-	2 339	58	2 406	-	38 910	-	-
DRC	2 743	2 545	6	-	1 864	2	1 872	-	673	-	-
Lesotho	88 178	117 776	2	3	677	3	685	-	117 091	-	-
Madagascar	206	273	2	-	251	14	267	-	6	-	-

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

Country	Mode of travel (November 2010)										
	November		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2009	2010	Cape Town	K.Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total				
Malawi	10 888	12 577	8	-	1 990	4	2 002	-	10 575	-	-
Mauritius	1 249	1 467	224	128	937	1	1 290	-	177	-	-
Mozambique	80 084	83 920	85	73	2 604	16	2 778	-	81 142	-	-
Namibia	12 555	14 118	1 309	2	2 775	15	4 101	-	10 016	1	-
Swaziland	48 705	46 817	-	1	720	5	726	-	46 091	-	-
Tanzania	1 315	2 129	8	1	1 445	1	1 455	-	673	1	-
Zambia	12 823	12 972	12	-	4 577	11	4 600	-	8 372	-	-
Zimbabwe	117 651	125 707	42	12	7 867	33	7 954	1	117 752	-	-
'Other' African	13 906	14 883	298	23	12 762	83	13 166	-	1 710	7	-
East and Central Africa	7 073	6 914	62	7	6 036	35	6 140	-	769	5	-
Burundi	82	70	1	-	61	-	62	-	8	-	-
Cameroon	401	404	4	-	372	1	377	-	27	-	-
Central African Republic	12	19	-	-	17	2	19	-	-	-	-
Chad	25	24	1	-	23	-	24	-	-	-	-
Comoros	12	27	-	-	24	-	24	-	3	-	-
Congo	430	340	4	1	300	-	305	-	35	-	-
Djibouti	9	15	-	-	15	-	15	-	-	-	-
Equat Guinea	37	42	-	-	18	23	41	-	1	-	-
Eritrea	60	48	1	-	43	-	44	-	4	-	-
Ethiopia	1 229	807	3	3	754	-	760	-	47	-	-
Gabon	364	345	14	-	326	2	342	-	3	-	-
Kenya	2 286	2 754	20	-	2 374	6	2 400	-	350	4	-
Reunion	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rwanda	247	258	1	1	227	-	229	-	29	-	-
Sao Tome and Principe	19	16	1	-	14	-	15	-	-	1	-
Seychelles	310	396	3	2	390	-	395	-	1	-	-
Somalia	432	19	2	-	15	-	17	-	2	-	-
Tristan Da Cunha	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Uganda	1 101	1 330	7	-	1 063	1	1 071	-	259	-	-

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

Country	Mode of travel (November 2010)										
	November		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2009	2010	Cape Town	K.Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total				
West Africa	5 791	6 918	68	3	5 958	47	6 076	-	840	2	-
Ascension	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Benin	99	105	1	-	93	1	95	-	10	-	-
Burkina Faso	53	72	2	-	69	-	71	-	1	-	-
Cape Verde Island	40	68	9	-	52	-	61	-	7	-	-
Cote D'Ivoire	201	144	10	-	133	-	143	-	1	-	-
Gambia	56	86	4	-	77	-	81	-	5	-	-
Ghana	1 036	1 428	9	2	1 277	-	1 288	-	140	-	-
Guinea	135	209	3	-	86	39	128	-	81	-	-
Guinea-Bissau	21	14	-	-	9	-	9	-	5	-	-
Liberia	66	32	-	-	30	-	30	-	2	-	-
Madeira Islands	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mali	79	95	2	-	70	-	72	-	23	-	-
Mauritania	10	21	2	-	19	-	21	-	-	-	-
Niger	23	19	-	-	19	-	19	-	-	-	-
Nigeria	3 579	4 259	23	1	3 683	7	3 714	-	545	-	-
Saint Helena	48	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
Senegal	204	215	3	-	206	-	209	-	6	-	-
Sierra Leone	85	91	-	-	80	-	80	-	11	-	-
Togo	41	57	-	-	55	-	55	-	2	-	-
North Africa	1 042	1 051	168	13	768	1	950	-	101	-	-
Algeria	87	78	8	-	63	-	71	-	7	-	-
Egypt	484	424	35	3	365	1	404	-	20	-	-
Libya	78	151	23	-	76	-	99	-	52	-	-
Morocco	85	121	45	1	70	-	116	-	5	-	-
The Sudan	183	189	33	9	135	-	177	-	12	-	-
Tunisia	122	88	24	-	59	-	83	-	5	-	-
Western Sahara	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unspecified	2 538	2 647	130	6	1 377	18	1 531	-	1 113	3	-

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

Country	November		Purpose of visit (November 2010)			
	2009	2010	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
Total	619 265	679 904	29 843	629 587	2 984	17 490
Overseas	181 923	197 930	8 218	177 499	470	11 743
Europe	128 471	130 214	5 034	119 603	238	5 339
Austria	2 287	2 603	68	2 406	8	121
Belgium	4 237	4 233	140	3 912	4	177
Denmark	2 019	2 137	73	1 965	-	99
France	9 509	11 808	482	10 740	19	567
Germany	25 396	26 228	775	24 376	71	1 006
Ireland	3 522	3 174	183	2 913	3	75
Italy	3 527	3 735	242	3 250	8	235
Norway	2 097	1 935	85	1 723	6	121
Portugal	2 454	3 278	64	3 056	4	154
Spain	1 971	2 071	100	1 806	5	160
Sweden	5 053	5 350	198	4 897	5	250
Switzerland	4 043	4 604	96	4 091	11	406
The Netherlands	13 641	11 982	371	11 357	25	229
UK	40 505	38 539	1 657	35 474	55	1 353
Other	8 210	8 537	500	7 637	14	386
North America	20 616	24 794	831	22 339	98	1 526
Canada	4 015	4 986	170	4 476	13	327
USA	16 594	19 808	661	17 863	85	1 199
Other	7	-	-	-	-	-
Central and South America	4 704	5 897	168	4 514	7	1 208
Argentina	667	882	28	689	-	165
Brazil	2 705	3 601	45	2 688	3	865
Chile	204	240	13	203	-	24
Other	1 128	1 174	82	934	4	154

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

Country	November		Purpose of visit (November 2010)			
	2009	2010	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
Australasia	8 336	10 199	202	9 477	9	511
Australia	6 886	8 530	177	7 921	8	424
New Zealand	1 394	1 633	23	1 527	-	83
Other	56	36	2	29	1	4
Middle East	2 860	3 300	320	2 855	17	108
Iran	319	336	67	263	1	5
Israel	1 247	1 614	95	1 458	4	57
Saudi Arabia	453	418	26	385	4	3
Other	841	932	132	749	8	43
Asia	16 936	23 526	1 663	18 711	101	3 051
China	4 328	7 524	601	5 828	18	1 077
India	3 857	7 130	623	5 822	28	657
Japan	1 526	1 552	63	1 289	4	196
Korea	1 259	1 142	53	966	10	113
Malaysia	931	887	36	770	2	79
Pakistan	771	1 083	75	879	2	127
Philippines	327	980	25	520	15	420
Singapore	792	629	35	551	2	41
Taiwan	762	675	22	520	4	129
Other	2 383	1 924	130	1 566	16	212
Africa	434 804	479 327	21 510	449 748	2 486	5 583
SADC	420 898	464 444	20 593	437 074	2 236	4 541
Angola	3 156	2 827	59	2 346	56	366
Botswana	41 345	41 316	199	40 333	334	450
DRC	2 743	2 545	86	2 343	58	58
Lesotho	88 178	117 776	2 767	113 872	861	276
Madagascar	206	273	3	224	4	42

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

Country	November		Purpose of visit (November 2010)			
	2009	2010	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
Malawi	10 888	12 577	94	12 176	18	289
Mauritius	1 249	1 467	50	1 266	4	147
Mozambique	80 084	83 920	11 770	71 654	54	442
Namibia	12 555	14 118	2 493	10 901	195	529
Swaziland	48 705	46 817	1 603	44 553	424	237
Tanzania	1 315	2 129	73	1 806	16	234
Zambia	12 823	12 972	789	11 601	42	540
Zimbabwe	117 651	125 707	607	123 999	170	931
'Other' African	13 906	14 883	917	12 674	250	1 042
East and Central Africa	7 073	6 914	448	5 964	135	367
Burundi	82	70	6	55	2	7
Cameroon	401	404	26	341	17	20
Central African Republic	12	19	1	18	-	-
Chad	25	24	2	15	1	6
Comoros	12	27	-	20	7	-
Congo	430	340	17	307	9	7
Djibouti	9	15	3	12	-	-
Equat Guinea	37	42	2	40	-	-
Eritrea	60	48	2	39	1	6
Ethiopia	1 229	807	28	736	13	30
Gabon	364	345	12	302	17	14
Kenya	2 286	2 754	241	2 322	46	145
Reunion	16	-	-	-	-	-
Rwanda	247	258	14	214	7	23
Sao Tome and Principe	19	16	-	12	-	4
Seychelles	310	396	8	378	-	10
Somalia	432	19	6	13	-	-
Tristan Da Cunha	1	-	-	-	-	-
Uganda	1 101	1 330	80	1 140	15	95

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

Country	November		Purpose of visit (November 2010)			
	2009	2010	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
West Africa	5 791	6 918	282	5 911	91	634
Ascension	2	1	-	1	-	-
Benin	99	105	6	90	-	9
Burkina Faso	53	72	8	52	1	11
Cape Verde Island	40	68	4	56	-	8
Cote D'Ivoire	201	144	21	109	2	12
Gambia	56	86	4	44	2	36
Ghana	1 036	1 428	34	1 272	10	112
Guinea	135	209	1	171	6	31
Guinea-Bissau	21	14	3	10	-	1
Liberia	66	32	-	26	1	5
Madeira Islands	13	-	-	-	-	-
Mali	79	95	9	70	-	16
Mauritania	10	21	3	16	-	2
Niger	23	19	3	13	-	3
Nigeria	3 579	4 259	155	3 694	68	342
Saint Helena	48	2	-	2	-	-
Senegal	204	215	24	173	1	17
Sierra Leone	85	91	2	68	-	21
Togo	41	57	5	44	-	8
North Africa	1 042	1 051	187	799	24	41
Algeria	87	78	8	66	3	1
Egypt	484	424	60	326	4	34
Libya	78	151	15	122	14	-
Morocco	85	121	42	77	1	1
The Sudan	183	189	48	138	2	1
Tunisia	122	88	14	70	-	4
Western Sahara	3	-	-	-	-	-
Unspecified	2 538	2 647	115	2 340	28	164

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

Sex	Age group	Total	Region			
			Overseas	SADC	'other' African	Unspecified
All	Total	679 904	197 930	464 444	14 883	2 647
	<15	23 922	7 351	16 014	499	58
	15-64	618 055	164 907	436 534	14 108	2 506
	65+	36 863	25 519	11 004	258	82
	Unspecified	1 064	153	892	18	1
Males	Total	395 043	114 468	268 531	10 140	1 904
	<15	12 114	3 804	8 034	240	36
	15-64	363 046	96 893	254 619	9 710	1 824
	65+	19 287	13 672	5 392	180	43
	Unspecified	596	99	486	10	1
Females	Total	283 856	83 214	195 158	4 741	743
	<15	11 808	3 547	7 980	259	22
	15-64	254 194	67 835	181 280	4 397	682
	65+	17 474	11 791	5 566	78	39
	Unspecified	380	41	332	7	-
Unspecified	Total	1 005	248	755	2	-
	<15	-	-	-	-	-
	15-64	815	179	635	1	-
	65+	102	56	46	-	-
	Unspecified	88	13	74	1	-

Explanatory notes

1. Introduction

Legal movements across South African borders as well as legal immigration into South Africa fall under the jurisdiction of the DHA. Stats SA then processes and publishes this information.

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

- can be used to estimate, monitor and understand salient characteristics of foreign travellers and volumes of South African residents travelling outside South Africa; 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 November 2010, the DHA data was 16,7% 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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