



**stats sa**

Department:  
Statistics South Africa  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

Private Bag X44, Pretoria, 0001, South Africa, ISibalo House, Koch Street, Salvokop, Pretoria, 0002  
www.statssa.gov.za, info@statssa.gov.za, Tel +27 12 310 8911

## **STATISTICAL RELEASE**

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**Preface**

The release is compiled and published by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) according to a framework of International Recommendations for Tourism Statistics 2008 (IRTS 2008) developed by the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO). The IRTS is one element of a System of Tourism Statistics (STS) that provides information for understanding and monitoring the impact of tourism over time and the other element of the STS for South Africa include use of border statistics from National Department of Home Affairs.

This monthly statistical release provides information on South African residents and foreign travellers who entered or left South Africa in November 2022. Specific focus is on foreign tourists who entered the country in the month of November 2022. The tourists are classified by region and country of residence. Details of their mode of travel; purpose of visit; age and sex distribution are also provided.



**Risenga Maluleke**  
**Statistician-General**

## 1. Key findings

### 1.1 Travellers

#### 1.1.1 Number of travellers

The routine data collected by the Department of Home Affairs' (DHA) immigration officers at the ports of entry into and out of South Africa shows that a total of 2 092 882 travellers (arrivals, departures and transits) passed through South African ports of entry/exit in November 2022. As presented in Table 1 on page 9, these travellers were made up of 566 031 South African residents and 1 526 851 foreign travellers. A further breakdown of the figures for South African residents indicates that there were 283 731 arrivals, 281 862 departures and 438 travellers in transit. The corresponding volume for foreign arrivals, departures and travellers in transit was 818 002, 678 982 and 29 867 respectively.

A comparison between the movements in November 2021 and November 2022 indicates that the volume of arrivals, departures and travellers in transit increased for both South African residents and foreign travellers. For South African residents, the volume of arrivals increased by 68,4% (from 168 490 in November 2021 to 283 731 in November 2022). Departures increased by 66,8% (from 168 973 in November 2021 to 281 862 in November 2022) and transits increased by 80,2% (from 243 in November 2021 to 438 in November 2022). For foreign travellers, arrivals increased by 120,1% (from 371 649 in November 2021 to 818 002 in November 2022), departures increased by 108,4% (from 325 842 in November 2021 to 678 982 in November 2022), and transits increased by 64,9% (from 18 114 in November 2021 to 29 867 in November 2022).

A comparison between the movements in October 2022 and November 2022 indicates that the volume of arrivals decreased for South African residents but increased for foreign travellers while the volume of departures decreased for both groups of travellers. Travellers in transit increased for both South African residents and foreign travellers. For South African residents, the volume of arrivals decreased by 18,9% (from 349 974 in October 2022 to 283 731 in November 2022), departures decreased by 12,4% (from 321 857 in October 2022 to 281 862 in November 2022) and transits increased by 16,2% (from 377 in October 2022 to 438 in November 2022). For foreign travellers, arrivals increased by 0,3% (from 815 889 in October 2022 to 818 002 in November 2022), departures decreased by 3,1% (from 700 953 in October 2022 to 678 982 in November 2022) and transits increased by 7,0% (from 27 912 in October 2022 to 29 867 in November 2022).

Detailed information on the departure of travellers is not available in the movement control system. Data on the purpose of travel and the number of days South African residents intend to spend or spent abroad are not collected by the DHA. It is therefore not possible to categorise South African residents as tourists or non-tourists. However, some data are available on foreign arrivals for this categorisation.

As presented in Table 1 on page 9, in November 2022, 75 764 (9,3%) of foreign arrivals were classified as non-visitors, while 742 238 (90,7%) were classified as visitors. Visitors were categorised into three groups:

- i. Arrivals only – comprising visitors who entered the country in November 2022 but did not depart in November 2022 [240 334 (32,4%)];
- ii. Single trips – visitors who came to South Africa once in November 2022 and left in November 2022 [263 654 (35,5%)]; and
- iii. Multiple trips – visitors who came to and left South Africa more than once in November 2022 [238 250 (32,1%)].

Visitors were further grouped as same-day visitors and overnight visitors (tourists). In November 2022, there were 176 480 (23,8%) same-day visitors and 565 758 (76,2%) tourists. Between November 2021 and November 2022, the volume of same-day visitors increased by 239,1% (from 52 043 in November 2021 to 176 480 in November 2022) and that of tourists increased by 105,2% (from 275 647 in November 2021 to 565 758 in November 2022). Between October 2022 and November 2022, the volume of same-day visitors decreased by 4,9% (from 185 516 in October 2022 to 176 480 in November 2022) and that of tourists decreased by less than 0,1% (from 565 862 in October 2022 to 565 758 in November 2022).

### 1.1.2 Mode of travel of travellers

Information presented in Table 2 on page 10, shows the number of South African residents and foreign travellers by travel direction and mode of travel. In November 2022, road transport was the most common mode of travel used by 1 332 300 (63,7%) of the 2 092 882 travellers. The total number of travellers who used air transport was 745 198 (35,6%). Compared to air and land transport, a smaller number of travellers, 15 384 (0,7%) used sea transport into and out of South Africa. Information on arrivals of South African residents shows that 134 435 (47,4%) came by air, 147 035 (51,8%) came by road and 2 261 (0,8%) arrived by sea. For departures, 133 399 (47,3%) used air, 144 503 (51,3%) used road and 3 960 (1,4%) left by sea. All travellers in transit, 438 (100,0%) used air transport.

In the case of foreign travellers, 218 988 (26,8%) arrived by air, 594 165 (72,6%) came by road and 4 849 (0,6%) arrived by sea transport. When departing South Africa, 228 071 (33,6%) foreign travellers left by air, 446 597 (65,8%) left by road and 4 314 (0,6%) left by sea. All travellers in transit, 29 867 (100,0%) used air transport. Table 2 further shows that of the 176 480 same-day visitors, a majority, 160 908 (91,2%) arrived in the country by road, 15 547 (8,8%) flew into the country and 25 (less than 0,1%) arrived by sea. Information on tourists shows that 370 958 (65,6%) used road transport, 193 698 (34,2%) came by air transport and 1 102 (0,2%) arrived by sea transport.

## 1.2 Tourists

### 1.2.1 Mode of travel of tourists

Tourists are categorised by their countries of residence and regions. Information on the specific region and country of residence of tourists and the mode of travel used to enter South Africa is provided in Table 3 on pages 11 to 14. In November 2022, 149 671 (93,7%) of the 159 771 overseas tourists arrived in the country by air transport, whilst 9 068 (5,7%) came in by road transport and 1 032 (0,6%) arrived by sea. Tourists from the Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries, on the other hand, came predominantly by road, 360 995 (91,5%), whilst 33 585 (8,5%) came by air and 70 (less than 0,1%) arrived by sea. The number of tourists who came into South Africa by air from 'other' African countries was 9 575 (93,5%); while 665 (6,5%) used road transport and none used sea transport.

### 1.2.2 Regional and national distribution

In November 2022, the distribution of overseas tourists was as follows: Europe, 107 479 (67,3%); North America, 26 690 (16,7%); Asia, 12 071 (7,6%); Australasia, 7 284 (4,6%); The Middle East, 3 417 (2,1%); and Central and South America, 2 830 (1,8%).

Figure 1 on page 7 indicates that the ten leading overseas countries in terms of the number of tourists visiting South Africa in November 2022 were: United Kingdom (UK), 28 730 (18,0%); Germany, 25 954 (16,2%); United States of America (USA), 22 667 (14,2%); The Netherlands, 10 374 (6,5%); France, 8 234 (5,2%); Australia, 6 042 (3,8%); India, 5 370 (3,4%); Switzerland, 4 613 (2,9%); Canada, 4 023 (2,5%) and Belgium, 3 393 (2,1%). Tourists from these ten countries constituted 74,7% of all tourists from overseas countries. A comparison of movements in the ten leading countries between November 2021 and November 2022 shows that the number of tourists increased for all ten leading countries. Australia had the highest increase of 586,6% (from 880 tourists in November 2021 to 6 042 tourists in November 2022).

Virtually, most tourists from Africa, 394 650 (97,5%), came from SADC countries. The distribution of the remaining tourists from Africa was as follows: East and Central Africa, 5 012 (1,2%); West Africa, 3 945 (1,0%) and North Africa 1 283 (0,3%). Ten leading SADC countries in terms of the number of tourists visiting South Africa in November 2022 were: Zimbabwe, 122 754 (31,1%); Mozambique, 92 796 (23,5%); Lesotho, 79 703 (20,2%); Eswatini, 29 911 (7,6%); Botswana, 26 017 (6,6%); Malawi, 12 504 (3,2%); Namibia, 11 177 (2,8%); Zambia, 10 657 (2,7%); Angola, 3 138 (0,8%) and Tanzania, 2 510 (0,6%) (see Figure 2 on page 7). Tourists from these ten countries constituted 99,1% of all tourists from the SADC countries. A comparison of movements in the ten leading countries between November 2021 and November 2022 shows that the number of tourists increased for all ten leading countries. Zimbabwe showed the highest increase of 196,6% (from 41 386 tourists in November 2021 to 122 754 in November 2022).

The ten leading countries in terms of the number of tourists visiting South Africa in November 2022 from 'other' African countries, as shown in Figure 3 on page 8, were: Kenya, 2 290 (22,4%); Nigeria, 1 559 (15,2%); Ghana, 1 229 (12,0%); Uganda 1 103 (10,8%); Egypt, 506 (4,9%); Ethiopia, 453 (4,4%); Cameroon, 340 (3,3%); Gabon, 273 (2,7%); Côte d'Ivoire, 230 (2,2%) and Morocco, 196 (1,9%). Tourists from these ten countries constituted 79,9% of all tourists from 'other' African countries. A comparison between movements in November 2021 and November 2022 shows that the number of tourists increased for six of ten leading countries. Morocco showed the highest increase of 232,2% (from 59 tourists in November 2021 to 196 in November 2022).

### 1.2.3 Purpose of visit

Table 4 on pages 15 to 18, shows the number of tourists by country of residence and purpose of visit. It is observed that in November 2022, the majority of tourists, 541 171 (95,7%), were in South Africa for holiday<sup>1</sup> compared to 22 217 (3,9%); 1 899 (0,3%) and 471 (0,1%) who were in South Africa for business, study and medical treatment respectively.

Within the overseas regions, Australasia, 98,8% (7 193) had the highest proportion of tourists who came for holiday followed by North America, 97,5% (26 015); Europe, 97,2% (104 450); The Middle East, 93,9% (3 210); Central and South America, 93,3% (2 640) and Asia, 89,3% (10 779).

Asia, 9,8% (1 188) had the highest proportion of tourists who came to South Africa for business, followed by Central and South America, 5,8% (163); The Middle East, 4,8% (163); Europe, 2,6% (2 799); North America, 2,1% (573) and Australasia, 1,2% (87).

The Middle East, 1,3% (44) had the highest proportion of tourists who came to study, followed by Central and South America, 1,0% (27); Asia, 0,8% (95); North America, 0,3% (89); Europe, 0,2% (189) and Australasia, less than 0,1% (3).

Asia, 0,1% (9) had the highest proportion of tourists who came to South Africa for medical treatment. North America (13), Europe (41) and Australasia (1) had less than 0,1% of medical treatment tourists, whereas The Middle East and Central and South America had none.

The majority of African tourists, 385 869 (95,3%) came to South Africa for holiday. However, the following differences in terms of reasons for travel were observed between tourists from the SADC countries and 'other' African countries, namely:

- Holiday makers constituted 95,6% (377 102) of tourists from SADC countries compared to 85,6% (8 767) from 'other' African countries. Information on the regions of 'other' African countries shows that 88,3% (3 484) of tourists from West Africa were on holiday, followed by tourists from East and Central Africa, 84,4% (4 229) and those from North Africa, 82,2% (1 054).
- Business persons constituted 4,0% (15 968) of tourists from SADC countries compared to 11,7% (1 197) from 'other' African countries. North Africa, 14,9% (191) had the highest proportion of tourists who came to South Africa for business purposes, followed by East and Central Africa, 13,1% (656) and West Africa, 8,9% (350).
- Students constituted 0,3% (1 226) of tourists from SADC countries compared with 2,2% (225) from 'other' African countries. North Africa, 2,7% (35) had the highest proportion of tourists who came to South Africa for study purposes, followed by West Africa, 2,2% (87) and East and Central Africa, 2,1% (103).
- Tourists who came for medical treatment constituted 0,1% (354) of tourists from SADC countries, while those from 'other' African countries constituted 0,5% (51). West Africa, 0,6% (24) had the highest proportion of tourists who came for medical treatment, followed by East and Central Africa, 0,5% (24) and North Africa, 0,2% (3).

<sup>1</sup> The holiday category includes tourists who came for vacation, visiting friends and relatives, shopping and other personal reasons. See section 5.5.2 on page 25 for a more detailed discussion.

#### 1.2.4 Sex and age distribution

Table 5 on page 19, shows the number of tourists by country of residence, sex and age group. There were 329 048 (58,2%) male and 236 710 (41,8%) female tourists. Overseas tourists were made up of 87 203 (54,6%) males and 72 568 (45,4%) females. There were 234 539 (59,4%) male and 160 111 (40,6%) female tourists from SADC countries. Tourists from 'other' African countries were made up of 6 619 (64,6%) males and 3 621 (35,4%) females.

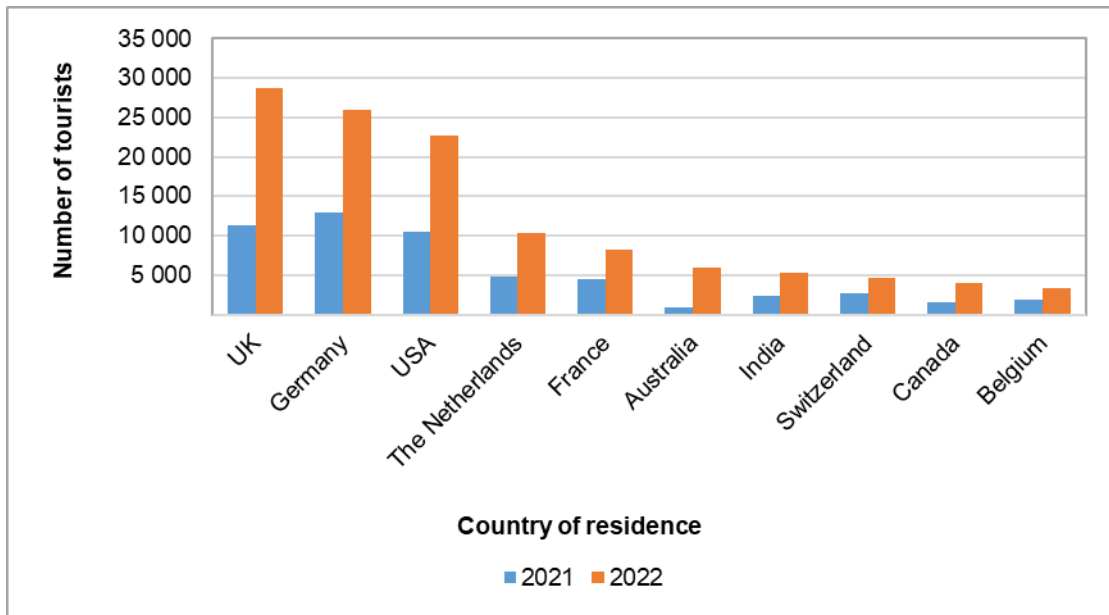
The ages of tourists were categorised into seven broad groups (see Table 5 for a detailed classification). The results presented in Table 5 further shows that the majority of tourists were aged between 35 and 44 years [166 537 (29,4%)]. Taking the regions of residence into consideration, the results show that the highest proportion of tourists from overseas countries [33 035 (20,7%)] were aged between 25 and 34 years, whereas tourists from SADC countries [134 777 (34,2%)] and those from 'other' African countries [3 488 (34,1%)] were aged between 35 and 44 years.

The second highest proportion of tourists from overseas countries [27 911 (17,5%)] were aged between 35 and 44 years, whereas tourists from SADC countries [106 551 (27,0%)] and those from 'other' African countries [2 613 (25,5%)] were aged between 25 and 34 years. The median ages of tourists from overseas, SADC and 'other' African countries were 46, 38 and 39 years respectively. The proportion of tourists younger than 15 years was higher among tourists from overseas countries, 4,2% (6 747) and those from SADC countries, 4,0% (15 773) compared with those from 'other' African countries, 2,1% (212).

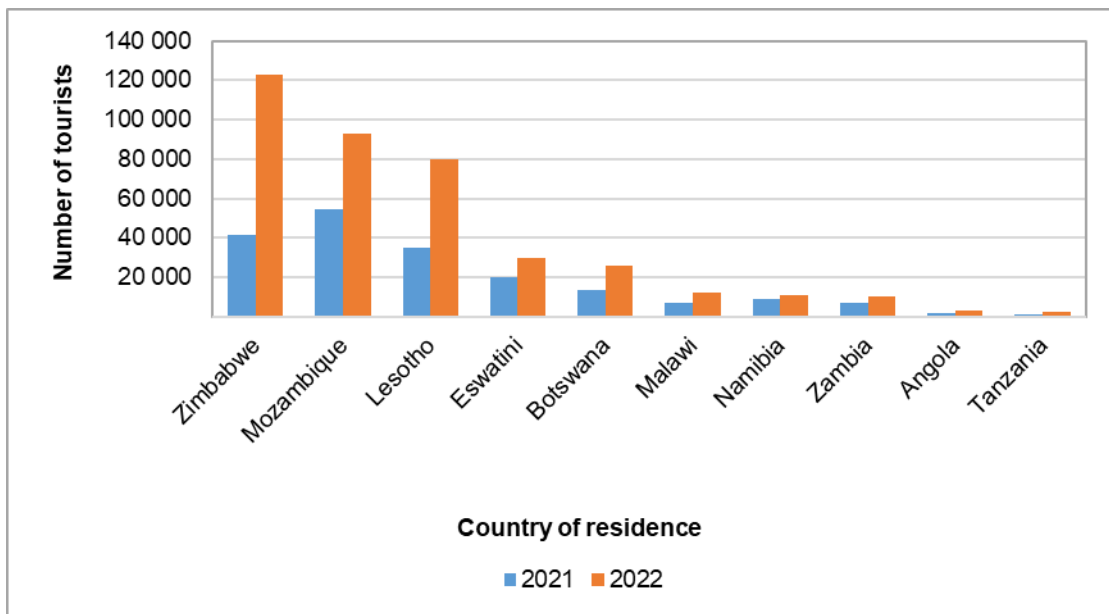
A comparison of the three regions shows higher proportions of the elderly (those aged 65 years and older) among both male and female tourists from overseas. This comprised of 15,2% (13 277) males and 16,2% (11 778) females from overseas countries. However, tourists aged 65 years and older from the other two regions (SADC and 'other' African countries) comprised of less than 3,5% of both male and female tourists. Elderly tourists from SADC countries were made up of 2,1% (4 937) male and 3,3% (5 307) female; while in 'other' African countries elderly tourists were made up of 3,1% (204) and 3,0% (109) of male and female respectively.

## 2. Figures

**Figure 1 – Number of tourists from the ten leading overseas countries in November 2021 and November 2022**

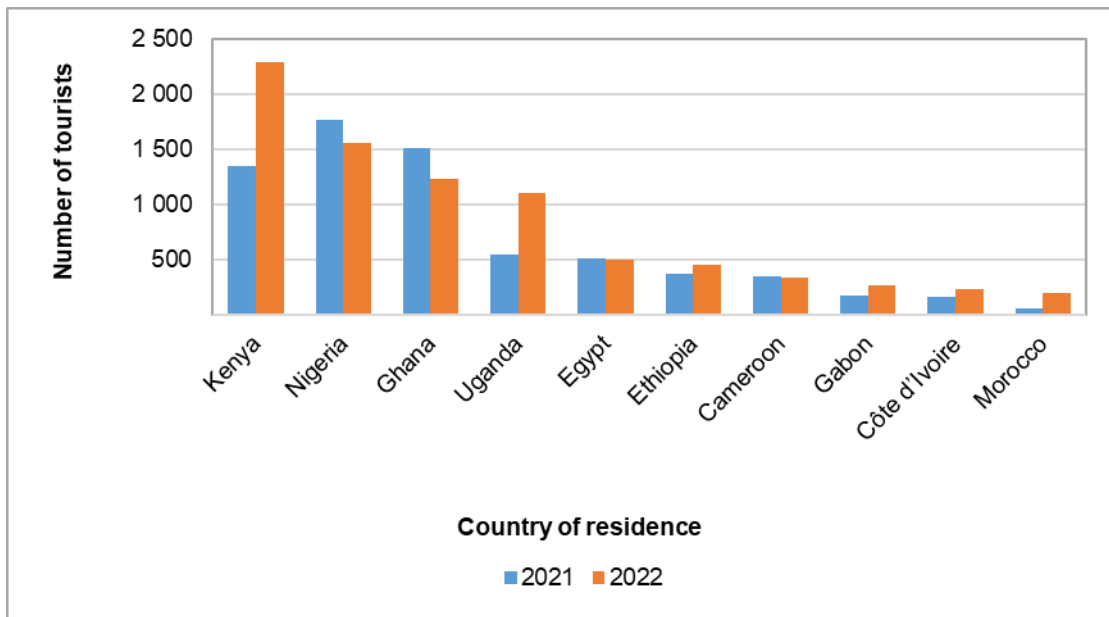


**Figure 2 – Number of tourists from the ten leading Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries in November 2021 and November 2022**





**Figure 3 – Number of tourists from the ten leading 'other' African countries in November 2021 and November 2022**



### 3. Tables

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

Travel Direction	November 2021	October 2022	November 2022	% Change Oct 2022 – Nov 2022	% Change Nov 2021 – Nov 2022
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 053 311</b>	<b>2 216 962</b>	<b>2 092 882</b>	<b>-5,6%</b>	<b>98,7%</b>
<b>South African residents</b>	<b>337 706</b>	<b>672 208</b>	<b>566 031</b>	<b>-15,8%</b>	<b>67,6%</b>
Arrivals	168 490	349 974	283 731	-18,9%	68,4%
Departures	168 973	321 857	281 862	-12,4%	66,8%
Transits	243	377	438	16,2%	80,2%
<b>Foreign travellers</b>	<b>715 605</b>	<b>1 544 754</b>	<b>1 526 851</b>	<b>-1,2%</b>	<b>113,4%</b>
Arrivals	371 649	815 889	818 002	0,3%	120,1%
Departures	325 842	700 953	678 982	-3,1%	108,4%
Transits	18 114	27 912	29 867	7,0%	64,9%
<b>Foreign arrivals</b>	<b>371 649</b>	<b>815 889</b>	<b>818 002</b>	<b>0,3%</b>	<b>120,1%</b>
Non-visitors	43 959	64 511	75 764	17,4%	72,4%
Visitors	327 690	751 378	742 238	-1,2%	126,5%
<b>Visitors</b>	<b>327 690</b>	<b>751 378</b>	<b>742 238</b>	<b>-1,2%</b>	<b>126,5%</b>
Arrivals only	102 539	236 705	240 334	1,5%	134,4%
Single trips	121 590	254 497	263 654	3,6%	116,8%
Multiple trips	103 561	260 176	238 250	-8,4%	130,1%
<b>Visitors</b>	<b>327 690</b>	<b>751 378</b>	<b>742 238</b>	<b>-1,2%</b>	<b>126,5%</b>
Same-day	52 043	185 516	176 480	-4,9%	239,1%
Overnight (Tourists)	275 647	565 862	565 758	-0,02%	105,2%

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

Travel direction	Total	Air					Road	Sea
		Cape Town	King Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total		
<b>Total</b>	<b>2 092 882</b>	<b>213 089</b>	<b>18 185</b>	<b>509 346</b>	<b>4 578</b>	<b>745 198</b>	<b>1 332 300</b>	<b>15 384</b>
<b>South African residents</b>	<b>566 031</b>	<b>51 956</b>	<b>11 463</b>	<b>202 291</b>	<b>2 562</b>	<b>268 272</b>	<b>291 538</b>	<b>6 221</b>
Arrivals	<b>283 731</b>	26 759	5 588	100 953	1 135	<b>134 435</b>	147 035	2 261
Departures	<b>281 862</b>	25 197	5 875	100 900	1 427	<b>133 399</b>	144 503	3 960
Transit	<b>438</b>	-	-	438	-	<b>438</b>	-	-
<b>Foreign travellers</b>	<b>1 526 851</b>	<b>161 133</b>	<b>6 722</b>	<b>307 055</b>	<b>2 016</b>	<b>476 926</b>	<b>1 040 762</b>	<b>9 163</b>
Arrivals	<b>818 002</b>	80 885	3 089	134 224	790	<b>218 988</b>	594 165	4 849
Departures	<b>678 982</b>	80 034	3 583	143 228	1 226	<b>228 071</b>	446 597	4 314
Transit	<b>29 867</b>	214	50	29 603	-	<b>29 867</b>	-	-
<b>Visitors</b>	<b>742 238</b>	<b>78 089</b>	<b>2 325</b>	<b>128 153</b>	<b>678</b>	<b>209 245</b>	<b>531 866</b>	<b>1 127</b>
Same-day	<b>176 480</b>	958	26	14 461	102	<b>15 547</b>	160 908	25
Tourist	<b>565 758</b>	77 131	2 299	113 692	576	<b>193 698</b>	370 958	1 102

**Table 3 – Number of tourists by country of residence and mode of travel, November 2022**

Country of residence	November		November 2022						
	2021	2022	Air					Road	Sea
			Cape Town	King Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total		
<b>Total</b>	<b>275 647</b>	<b>565 758</b>	<b>77 131</b>	<b>2 299</b>	<b>113 692</b>	<b>576</b>	<b>193 698</b>	<b>370 958</b>	<b>1 102</b>
<b>Overseas</b>	<b>73 679</b>	<b>159 771</b>	<b>69 625</b>	<b>1 877</b>	<b>77 677</b>	<b>492</b>	<b>149 671</b>	<b>9 068</b>	<b>1 032</b>
<b>Europe</b>	<b>50 860</b>	<b>107 479</b>	<b>52 655</b>	<b>1 112</b>	<b>46 454</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>100 471</b>	<b>6 002</b>	<b>1 006</b>
Austria	1 050	2 179	1 277	36	729	3	2 045	115	19
Belgium	1 930	3 393	1 390	22	1 647	1	3 060	333	-
Denmark	702	1 623	448	38	1 063	16	1 565	58	-
France	4 479	8 234	3 096	33	4 383	10	7 522	704	8
Germany	12 897	25 954	15 263	165	8 295	76	23 799	1 252	903
Ireland	871	2 178	1 184	42	868	2	2 096	77	5
Italy	1 224	2 996	1 246	34	1 516	7	2 803	190	3
Portugal	1 198	1 745	451	19	738	5	1 213	530	2
Russian Federation	1 743	2 607	1 547	15	943	16	2 521	85	1
Spain	1 157	2 334	865	17	1 267	11	2 160	170	4
Sweden	1 051	2 566	1 304	40	1 071	3	2 418	145	3
Switzerland	2 741	4 613	2 548	28	1 725	21	4 322	279	12
The Netherlands	4 786	10 374	5 462	114	4 077	7	9 660	701	13
UK	11 340	28 730	13 025	404	14 412	46	27 887	820	23
Other	3 691	7 953	3 549	105	3 720	26	7 400	543	10
<b>North America</b>	<b>12 218</b>	<b>26 690</b>	<b>10 119</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>15 207</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>25 630</b>	<b>1 054</b>	<b>6</b>
Canada	1 646	4 023	1 524	22	2 273	19	3 838	181	4
USA	10 572	22 667	8 595	104	12 934	159	21 792	873	2
<b>Central and South America</b>	<b>1 641</b>	<b>2 830</b>	<b>1 068</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>1 443</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2 528</b>	<b>293</b>	<b>9</b>
Argentina	104	233	100	4	107	2	213	20	-
Brazil	952	1 452	600	4	639	-	1 243	201	8
Mexico	167	306	126	1	172	2	301	4	1
Other	418	839	242	4	525	-	771	68	-

**Table 3 – Number of tourists by country of residence and mode of travel, November 2022 (continued)**

Country of residence	November		November 2022						
	2021	2022	Air					Road	Sea
			Cape Town	King Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total		
<b>Australasia</b>	<b>1 058</b>	<b>7 284</b>	<b>1 209</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>5 740</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>7 131</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>-</b>
Australia	880	6 042	964	112	4 822	24	5 922	120	-
New Zealand	175	1 228	244	40	906	6	1 196	32	-
Other	3	14	1	-	12	-	13	1	-
<b>Middle East</b>	<b>2 423</b>	<b>3 417</b>	<b>1 521</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>1 814</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3 363</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>-</b>
Israel	766	1 392	338	11	1 020	5	1 374	18	-
Lebanon	111	223	80	1	130	-	211	12	-
Saudi Arabia	1 127	1 031	808	2	221	-	1 031	-	-
Other	419	771	295	9	443	-	747	24	-
<b>Asia</b>	<b>5 479</b>	<b>12 071</b>	<b>3 053</b>	<b>451</b>	<b>7 019</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>10 548</b>	<b>1 512</b>	<b>11</b>
Bangladesh	429	612	89	50	405	-	544	68	-
China	668	1 510	227	14	1 020	2	1 263	247	-
India	2 392	5 370	1 555	142	3 099	2	4 798	567	5
Japan	159	617	117	46	423	2	588	29	-
Malaysia	58	323	122	6	172	1	301	22	-
Pakistan	834	1 153	72	135	662	1	870	283	-
Philippines	256	361	93	14	175	1	283	73	5
Singapore	45	467	229	4	215	16	464	3	-
South Korea	205	573	182	14	318	-	514	59	-
Thailand	118	260	117	10	122	-	249	11	-
Other	315	825	250	16	408	-	674	150	1
<b>Africa</b>	<b>201 307</b>	<b>404 890</b>	<b>7 434</b>	<b>420</b>	<b>35 224</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>43 160</b>	<b>361 660</b>	<b>70</b>
<b>SADC</b>	<b>193 232</b>	<b>394 650</b>	<b>5 415</b>	<b>268</b>	<b>27 829</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>33 585</b>	<b>360 995</b>	<b>70</b>
Angola	1 619	3 138	1 198	-	1 542	12	2 752	386	-
Botswana	13 434	26 017	380	3	2 199	17	2 599	23 413	5
DRC	1 331	1 227	45	4	1 015	2	1 066	161	-
Eswatini	20 016	29 911	6	5	544	2	557	29 354	-

**Table 3 – Number of tourists by country of residence and mode of travel, November 2022 (continued)**

Country of residence	November		November 2022						
	2021	2022	Air					Road	Sea
			Cape Town	King Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total		
Lesotho	35 082	79 703	2	1	437	-	440	79 251	12
Madagascar	50	212	26	-	177	-	203	9	-
Malawi	6 993	12 504	54	2	1 541	2	1 599	10 905	-
Mauritius	426	1 534	477	2	998	1	1 478	56	-
Mozambique	54 586	92 796	201	2	2 513	9	2 725	90 037	34
Namibia	9 139	11 177	1 413	2	1 819	3	3 237	7 925	15
Seychelles	149	510	10	1	482	-	493	17	-
Tanzania	1 579	2 510	266	3	1 330	5	1 604	906	-
Zambia	7 442	10 657	27	3	3 174	11	3 215	7 442	-
Zimbabwe	41 386	122 754	1 310	240	10 058	9	11 617	111 133	4
<b>'Other' African</b>	<b>8 075</b>	<b>10 240</b>	<b>2 019</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>7 395</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9 575</b>	<b>665</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>East and Central Africa</b>	<b>3 130</b>	<b>5 012</b>	<b>1 263</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3 464</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4 734</b>	<b>278</b>	<b>-</b>
Burundi	40	126	24	-	99	-	123	3	-
Cameroon	350	340	62	1	262	-	325	15	-
Central African Republic	3	8	-	-	8	-	8	-	-
Chad	26	37	1	-	35	-	36	1	-
Comoros	16	35	12	-	21	-	33	2	-
Congo	105	160	32	-	123	-	155	5	-
Djibouti	7	19	5	-	14	-	19	-	-
Equatorial Guinea	36	9	3	-	6	-	9	-	-
Eritrea	32	30	3	1	21	-	25	5	-
Ethiopia	373	453	101	-	308	-	409	44	-
Gabon	181	273	27	-	235	-	262	11	-
Kenya	1 349	2 290	688	1	1 481	3	2 173	117	-
Rwanda	45	81	19	-	52	-	71	10	-
São Tomé and Príncipe	2	4	-	-	4	-	4	-	-
Somalia	13	44	9	-	11	-	20	24	-
Uganda	552	1 103	277	1	784	-	1 062	41	-

**Table 3 – Number of tourists by country of residence and mode of travel, November 2022 (concluded)**

Country of residence	November		November 2022						
	2021	2022	Air					Road	Sea
			Cape Town	King Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total		
<b>West Africa</b>	<b>4 008</b>	<b>3 945</b>	<b>435</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>3 143</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3 593</b>	<b>352</b>	<b>-</b>
Benin	63	129	21	-	103	-	124	5	-
Burkina Faso	30	66	14	-	51	-	65	1	-
Cape Verde Island	9	32	5	-	10	1	16	16	-
Côte d'Ivoire	165	230	28	2	194	-	224	6	-
Gambia	27	50	8	-	39	-	47	3	-
Ghana	1 518	1 229	104	3	1 096	-	1 203	26	-
Guinea	89	184	13	1	78	-	92	92	-
Guinea-Bissau	5	4	-	-	3	-	3	1	-
Liberia	37	42	14	-	28	-	42	-	-
Mali	56	106	7	-	56	3	66	40	-
Mauritania	23	15	7	-	8	-	15	-	-
Niger	30	35	3	-	32	-	35	-	-
Nigeria	1 774	1 559	173	1	1 230	-	1 404	155	-
Saint Helena	-	7	-	-	7	-	7	-	-
Senegal	98	169	29	2	135	1	167	2	-
Sierra Leone	24	50	5	-	39	1	45	5	-
Togo	60	38	4	-	34	-	38	-	-
<b>North Africa</b>	<b>937</b>	<b>1 283</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>788</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1 248</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>-</b>
Algeria	136	126	19	48	55	-	122	4	-
Egypt	518	506	105	11	379	-	495	11	-
Libya	37	91	12	11	63	-	86	5	-
Morocco	59	196	51	38	102	-	191	5	-
South Sudan	65	72	17	-	50	-	67	5	-
The Sudan	51	151	71	2	75	-	148	3	-
Tunisia	71	140	46	29	63	-	138	2	-
Western Sahara	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-
<b>Unspecified</b>	<b>661</b>	<b>1 097</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>791</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>867</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>-</b>

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

Country of residence	November			Purpose of visit (November 2022)			
	2021	2022	% change 2021–2022	Business	Holiday	Study	Medical treatment
<b>Total</b>	<b>275 647</b>	<b>565 758</b>	<b>105,2%</b>	<b>22 217</b>	<b>541 171</b>	<b>1 899</b>	<b>471</b>
<b>Overseas</b>	<b>73 679</b>	<b>159 771</b>	<b>116,8%</b>	<b>4 973</b>	<b>154 287</b>	<b>447</b>	<b>64</b>
<b>Europe</b>	<b>50 860</b>	<b>107 479</b>	<b>111,3%</b>	<b>2 799</b>	<b>104 450</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>41</b>
Austria	1 050	2 179	107,5%	41	2 134	4	-
Belgium	1 930	3 393	75,8%	91	3 291	9	2
Denmark	702	1 623	131,2%	37	1 579	7	-
France	4 479	8 234	83,8%	310	7 883	40	1
Germany	12 897	25 954	101,2%	405	25 500	45	4
Ireland	871	2 178	150,1%	72	2 100	4	2
Italy	1 224	2 996	144,8%	143	2 848	5	-
Portugal	1 198	1 745	45,7%	54	1 685	2	4
Russian Federation	1 743	2 607	49,6%	49	2 555	3	-
Spain	1 157	2 334	101,7%	99	2 231	4	-
Sweden	1 051	2 566	144,1%	94	2 468	3	1
Switzerland	2 741	4 613	68,3%	56	4 550	7	-
The Netherlands	4 786	10 374	116,8%	187	10 168	11	8
UK	11 340	28 730	153,4%	878	27 818	21	13
Other	3 691	7 953	115,5%	283	7 640	24	6
<b>North America</b>	<b>12 218</b>	<b>26 690</b>	<b>118,4%</b>	<b>573</b>	<b>26 015</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>13</b>
Canada	1 646	4 023	144,4%	112	3 906	4	1
USA	10 572	22 667	114,4%	461	22 109	85	12
<b>Central and South America</b>	<b>1 641</b>	<b>2 830</b>	<b>72,5%</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>2 640</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>-</b>
Argentina	104	233	124,0%	19	214	-	-
Brazil	952	1 452	52,5%	56	1 381	15	-
Mexico	167	306	83,2%	24	274	8	-
Other	418	839	100,7%	64	771	4	-



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

Country of residence	November			Purpose of visit (November 2022)			
	2021	2022	% change 2021–2022	Business	Holiday	Study	Medical treatment
<b>Australasia</b>	<b>1 058</b>	<b>7 284</b>	<b>588,5%</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>7 193</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>
Australia	880	6 042	586,6%	73	5 967	1	1
New Zealand	175	1 228	601,7%	14	1 212	2	-
Other	3	14	366,7%	-	14	-	-
<b>Middle East</b>	<b>2 423</b>	<b>3 417</b>	<b>41,0%</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>3 210</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>-</b>
Israel	766	1 392	81,7%	43	1 348	1	-
Lebanon	111	223	100,9%	35	183	5	-
Saudi Arabia	1 127	1 031	-8,5%	9	1 008	14	-
Other	419	771	84,0%	76	671	24	-
<b>Asia</b>	<b>5 479</b>	<b>12 071</b>	<b>120,3%</b>	<b>1 188</b>	<b>10 779</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>9</b>
Bangladesh	429	612	42,7%	25	584	3	-
China	668	1 510	126,0%	231	1 268	9	2
India	2 392	5 370	124,5%	580	4 748	41	1
Japan	159	617	288,1%	64	547	4	2
Malaysia	58	323	456,9%	10	306	7	-
Pakistan	834	1 153	38,2%	88	1 057	5	3
Philippines	256	361	41,0%	25	334	1	1
Singapore	45	467	937,8%	13	454	-	-
South Korea	205	573	179,5%	59	510	4	-
Thailand	118	260	120,3%	13	239	8	-
Other	315	825	161,9%	80	732	13	-
<b>Africa</b>	<b>201 307</b>	<b>404 890</b>	<b>101,1%</b>	<b>17 165</b>	<b>385 869</b>	<b>1 451</b>	<b>405</b>
<b>SADC</b>	<b>193 232</b>	<b>394 650</b>	<b>104,2%</b>	<b>15 968</b>	<b>377 102</b>	<b>1 226</b>	<b>354</b>
Angola	1 619	3 138	93,8%	93	2 970	35	40
Botswana	13 434	26 017	93,7%	937	24 848	82	150
DRC	1 331	1 227	-7,8%	58	1 103	46	20
Eswatini	20 016	29 911	49,4%	1 472	28 381	57	1

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

Country of residence	November			Purpose of visit (November 2022)			
	2021	2022	% change 2021–2022	Business	Holiday	Study	Medical treatment
Lesotho	35 082	79 703	127,2%	630	78 465	582	26
Madagascar	50	212	324,0%	21	188	2	1
Malawi	6 993	12 504	78,8%	335	12 131	34	4
Mauritius	426	1 534	260,1%	40	1 481	9	4
Mozambique	54 586	92 796	70,0%	2 388	90 354	29	25
Namibia	9 139	11 177	22,3%	3 473	7 593	93	18
Seychelles	149	510	242,3%	5	504	1	-
Tanzania	1 579	2 510	59,0%	125	2 332	33	20
Zambia	7 442	10 657	43,2%	3 293	7 320	36	8
Zimbabwe	41 386	122 754	196,6%	3 098	119 432	187	37
<b>'Other' African</b>	<b>8 075</b>	<b>10 240</b>	<b>26,8%</b>	<b>1 197</b>	<b>8 767</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>51</b>
<b>East and Central Africa</b>	<b>3 130</b>	<b>5 012</b>	<b>60,1%</b>	<b>656</b>	<b>4 229</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>24</b>
Burundi	40	126	215,0%	14	110	2	-
Cameroon	350	340	-2,9%	43	277	11	9
Central African Republic	3	8	166,7%	-	8	-	-
Chad	26	37	42,3%	4	30	3	-
Comoros	16	35	118,8%	4	31	-	-
Congo	105	160	52,4%	13	137	7	3
Djibouti	7	19	171,4%	2	16	1	-
Equatorial Guinea	36	9	-75,0%	3	5	1	-
Eritrea	32	30	-6,3%	2	28	-	-
Ethiopia	373	453	21,4%	63	380	7	3
Gabon	181	273	50,8%	7	258	6	2
Kenya	1 349	2 290	69,8%	332	1 914	39	5
Rwanda	45	81	80,0%	13	67	1	-
São Tomé and Príncipe	2	4	100,0%	-	4	-	-
Somalia	13	44	238,5%	18	25	1	-
Uganda	552	1 103	99,8%	138	939	24	2

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

Country of residence	November			Purpose of visit (November 2022)			
	2021	2022	% change 2021–2022	Business	Holiday	Study	Medical treatment
<b>West Africa</b>	<b>4 008</b>	<b>3 945</b>	<b>-1,6%</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>3 484</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>24</b>
Benin	63	129	104,8%	8	118	3	-
Burkina Faso	30	66	120,0%	7	59	-	-
Cape Verde Island	9	32	255,6%	3	29	-	-
Côte d'Ivoire	165	230	39,4%	18	211	1	-
Gambia	27	50	85,2%	10	40	-	-
Ghana	1 518	1 229	-19,0%	118	1 089	15	7
Guinea	89	184	106,7%	13	168	1	2
Guinea-Bissau	5	4	-20,0%	1	3	-	-
Liberia	37	42	13,5%	8	34	-	-
Mali	56	106	89,3%	3	98	-	5
Mauritania	23	15	-34,8%	6	8	1	-
Niger	30	35	16,7%	1	34	-	-
Nigeria	1 774	1 559	-12,1%	110	1 376	66	7
Saint Helena	-	7	-	-	7	-	-
Senegal	98	169	72,4%	33	136	-	-
Sierra Leone	24	50	108,3%	4	43	-	3
Togo	60	38	-36,7%	7	31	-	-
<b>North Africa</b>	<b>937</b>	<b>1 283</b>	<b>36,9%</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>1 054</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>3</b>
Algeria	136	126	-7,4%	13	112	1	-
Egypt	518	506	-2,3%	67	425	14	-
Libya	37	91	145,9%	5	80	6	-
Morocco	59	196	232,2%	30	162	4	-
South Sudan	65	72	10,8%	8	61	2	1
The Sudan	51	151	196,1%	40	105	5	1
Tunisia	71	140	97,2%	28	108	3	1
Western Sahara	-	1	-	-	1	-	-
<b>Unspecified</b>	<b>661</b>	<b>1 097</b>	<b>66,0%</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>1 015</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>

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

Sex	Age group	November		Region (November 2022)			
		2021	2022	Overseas	SADC	'Other' African	Unspecified
<b>All</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>275 647</b>	<b>565 758</b>	<b>159 771</b>	<b>394 650</b>	<b>10 240</b>	<b>1 097</b>
	0-14	10 569	22 734	6 747	15 773	212	2
	15-24	16 017	39 899	8 091	31 192	604	12
	25-34	65 718	142 322	33 035	106 551	2 613	123
	35-44	86 177	166 537	27 911	134 777	3 488	361
	45-54	54 050	100 606	27 757	70 320	2 169	360
	55-64	28 641	58 033	31 175	25 792	841	225
	65+	14 475	35 626	25 055	10 244	313	14
	Unspecified	-	1	-	1	-	-
<b>Male</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>174 474</b>	<b>329 048</b>	<b>87 203</b>	<b>234 539</b>	<b>6 619</b>	<b>687</b>
	0-14	5 302	11 234	3 384	7 745	105	
	15-24	8 319	20 912	3 972	16 557	373	10
	25-34	39 033	79 138	16 577	61 045	1 457	59
	35-44	59 619	104 476	16 863	85 037	2 356	220
	45-54	36 874	62 642	16 350	44 504	1 557	231
	55-64	17 497	32 220	16 780	14 713	567	160
	65+	7 830	18 425	13 277	4 937	204	7
	Unspecified	-	1	-	1	-	-
<b>Female</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>101 173</b>	<b>236 710</b>	<b>72 568</b>	<b>160 111</b>	<b>3 621</b>	<b>410</b>
	0-14	5 267	11 500	3 363	8 028	107	2
	15-24	7 698	18 987	4 119	14 635	231	2
	25-34	26 685	63 184	16 458	45 506	1 156	64
	35-44	26 558	62 061	11 048	49 740	1 132	141
	45-54	17 176	37 964	11 407	25 816	612	129
	55-64	11 144	25 813	14 395	11 079	274	65
	65+	6 645	17 201	11 778	5 307	109	7

## 4. Annexures

### 4.1 Annexure A – Number of tourists' difference between Jan – Nov 2021 and Jan – Nov 2022 by country of residence

Country of residence	Jan – Nov 2021	Jan – Nov 2022	Difference between Jan – Nov 2021 and Jan – Nov 2022	% change between Jan – Nov 2021 and Jan – Nov 2022
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 992 591</b>	<b>5 020 224</b>	<b>3 027 633</b>	<b>151,9%</b>
<b>Overseas</b>	<b>326 288</b>	<b>1 260 004</b>	<b>933 716</b>	<b>286,2%</b>
<b>Europe</b>	<b>182 410</b>	<b>778 222</b>	<b>595 812</b>	<b>326,6%</b>
Austria	3 381	12 059	8 678	256,7%
Belgium	7 684	30 534	22 850	297,4%
Denmark	3 143	12 720	9 577	304,7%
France	18 340	67 548	49 208	268,3%
Germany	38 580	148 692	110 112	285,4%
Ireland	3 095	17 584	14 489	468,1%
Italy	5 914	28 395	22 481	380,1%
Portugal	5 336	14 304	8 968	168,1%
Russian Federation	9 614	13 660	4 046	42,1%
Spain	6 193	21 157	14 964	241,6%
Sweden	3 554	13 615	10 061	283,1%
Switzerland	9 400	28 981	19 581	208,3%
The Netherlands	16 785	79 489	62 704	373,6%
UK	34 132	241 607	207 475	607,9%
Other	17 259	47 877	30 618	177,4%
<b>North America</b>	<b>78 351</b>	<b>260 167</b>	<b>181 816</b>	<b>232,1%</b>
Canada	6 488	30 080	23 592	363,6%
USA	71 863	230 087	158 224	220,2%
<b>Central and South America</b>	<b>8 944</b>	<b>25 279</b>	<b>16 335</b>	<b>182,6%</b>
Argentina	531	2 147	1 616	304,3%
Brazil	4 846	13 018	8 172	168,6%
Mexico	1 249	3 144	1 895	151,7%
Other	2 318	6 970	4 652	200,7%

**Annexure A – Number of tourists' difference between Jan – Nov 2021 and Jan – Nov 2022 by country of residence (continued)**

Country of residence	Jan – Nov 2021	Jan – Nov 2022	Difference between Jan – Nov 2021 and Jan – Nov 2022	% change between Jan – Nov 2021 and Jan – Nov 2022
<b>Australasia</b>	<b>4 098</b>	<b>52 933</b>	<b>48 835</b>	<b>1191,7%</b>
Australia	3 360	43 976	40 616	1208,8%
New Zealand	723	8 779	8 056	1114,2%
Other	15	178	163	1086,7%
<b>Middle East</b>	<b>12 166</b>	<b>37 670</b>	<b>25 504</b>	<b>209,6%</b>
Israel	3 228	15 740	12 512	387,6%
Saudi Arabia	5 408	11 009	5 601	103,6%
United Arab Emirates	241	2 969	2 728	1132,0%
Other	3 289	7 952	4 663	141,8%
<b>Asia</b>	<b>40 319</b>	<b>105 733</b>	<b>65 414</b>	<b>162,2%</b>
Bangladesh	2 598	6 824	4 226	162,7%
China	6 261	10 981	4 720	75,4%
India	16 162	49 909	33 747	208,8%
Japan	1 122	4 686	3 564	317,6%
Malaysia	523	2 459	1 936	370,2%
Pakistan	6 032	11 547	5 515	91,4%
Philippines	2 952	3 849	897	30,4%
Singapore	193	2 371	2 178	1128,5%
South Korea	1 194	4 377	3 183	266,6%
Thailand	1 116	2 513	1 397	125,2%
Other	2 166	6 217	4 051	187,0%
<b>Africa</b>	<b>1 662 400</b>	<b>3 751 149</b>	<b>2 088 749</b>	<b>125,6%</b>
<b>SADC</b>	<b>1 617 265</b>	<b>3 662 525</b>	<b>2 045 260</b>	<b>126,5%</b>
Angola	8 486	28 855	20 369	240,0%
Botswana	89 376	223 604	134 228	150,2%
DRC	10 898	15 592	4 694	43,1%
Eswatini	157 124	369 683	212 559	135,3%

**Annexure A – Number of tourists' difference between Jan – Nov 2021 and Jan – Nov 2022 by country of residence (continued)**

Country of residence	Jan – Nov 2021	Jan – Nov 2022	Difference between Jan – Nov 2021 and Jan – Nov 2022	% change between Jan – Nov 2021 and Jan – Nov 2022
Lesotho	312 477	747 039	434 562	139,1%
Madagascar	223	1 569	1 346	603,6%
Malawi	49 908	103 467	53 559	107,3%
Mauritius	1 247	9 753	8 506	682,1%
Mozambique	469 441	845 224	375 783	80,0%
Namibia	80 485	118 953	38 468	47,8%
Seychelles	350	2 389	2 039	582,6%
Tanzania	11 853	23 166	11 313	95,4%
Zambia	61 601	103 979	42 378	68,8%
Zimbabwe	363 796	1 069 252	705 456	193,9%
<b>'Other' African</b>	<b>45 135</b>	<b>88 624</b>	<b>43 489</b>	<b>96,4%</b>
<b>East and Central Africa</b>	<b>19 246</b>	<b>42 830</b>	<b>23 584</b>	<b>122,5%</b>
Burundi	329	706	377	114,6%
Cameroon	1 806	3 178	1 372	76,0%
Central African Republic	49	102	53	108,2%
Chad	137	291	154	112,4%
Comoros	80	303	223	278,8%
Congo	904	1 413	509	56,3%
Djibouti	34	69	35	102,9%
Equatorial Guinea	138	231	93	67,4%
Eritrea	127	382	255	200,8%
Ethiopia	2 539	4 567	2 028	79,9%
Gabon	1 769	2 532	763	43,1%
Kenya	7 133	19 266	12 133	170,1%
Rwanda	245	648	403	164,5%
São Tomé and Príncipe	10	47	37	370,0%
Somalia	162	956	794	490,1%
Uganda	3 784	8 139	4 355	115,1%

**Annexure A – Number of tourists' difference between Jan – Nov 2021 and Jan – Nov 2022 by country of residence (concluded)**

Country of residence	Jan – Nov 2021	Jan – Nov 2022	Difference between Jan – Nov 2021 and Jan – Nov 2022	% change between Jan – Nov 2021 and Jan – Nov 2022
<b>West Africa</b>	<b>21 304</b>	<b>36 208</b>	<b>14 904</b>	<b>70,0%</b>
Benin	435	1 054	619	142,3%
Burkina Faso	135	529	394	291,9%
Cape Verde Island	51	227	176	345,1%
Côte d'Ivoire	603	1 734	1 131	187,6%
Gambia	93	310	217	233,3%
Ghana	7 181	13 414	6 233	86,8%
Guinea	468	930	462	98,7%
Guinea-Bissau	27	43	16	59,3%
Liberia	200	392	192	96,0%
Mali	373	685	312	83,6%
Mauritania	39	121	82	210,3%
Niger	97	200	103	106,2%
Nigeria	10 737	14 603	3 866	36,0%
Saint Helena	9	56	47	522,2%
Senegal	590	1 191	601	101,9%
Sierra Leone	142	419	277	195,1%
Togo	124	300	176	141,9%
<b>North Africa</b>	<b>4 585</b>	<b>9 586</b>	<b>5 001</b>	<b>109,1%</b>
Algeria	390	902	512	131,3%
Egypt	2 288	4 389	2 101	91,8%
Libya	362	572	210	58,0%
Morocco	336	1 108	772	229,8%
South Sudan	318	591	273	85,8%
The Sudan	610	1 229	619	101,5%
Tunisia	275	788	513	186,5%
Western Sahara	6	7	1	16,7%
<b>Unspecified</b>	<b>3 903</b>	<b>9 071</b>	<b>5 168</b>	<b>132,4%</b>



## **5. Explanatory notes**

### **5.1 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). Stats SA then processes, analyses 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 for the following:

- To estimate, monitor and understand salient characteristics of foreign travellers and volumes of South African residents travelling outside South Africa.
- To 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 the demand for local tourism services by foreign travellers.

### **5.2 Purpose of the statistical release**

This release reports on arrivals, departures and transit travellers of South African residents and foreign travellers. Detailed information on the age and sex distribution; mode of travel; national and regional distribution; and purpose of travel of overnight visitors or tourists are also provided.

### **5.3 Scope and coverage**

The release covers data collected by DHA officials on travellers who departed from or entered the Republic of South Africa (RSA).

### **5.4 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 ports' electronic database. No forms or cards are used (except on 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 receives downloaded data covering a particular calendar month from the DHA.
- As part of data interrogation, data from O.R. Tambo International Airport, which has the highest volume of travellers, are compared with passenger statistics from the Airports Company of South Africa (ACSA). As expected, in any specific month, an increase in the volume of passengers reported by ACSA is also reflected in an increase in the volume of travellers recorded by DHA. A similar pattern is observed when the volume of travellers decreases. In November 2022, the DHA data was 1,7% lower than that of ACSA.

## 5.5 Limitations

### 5.5.1 Outbound tourists

The information on the total number of arrivals and departures of South African residents is collected from the scanning of passports. However, data on the country visited; country of final destination; intended duration of stay and purpose of visit are not collected from passengers. With this limitation, it is impossible to identify the number of tourists from the data on South African residents.

### 5.5.2 Purpose of visit

The holiday category includes tourists who came for vacation, visiting friends and relatives, shopping and other personal reasons such as attending weddings. While it's possible to separate 'visiting friends and relatives' from the broad category of holiday, shopping and other reasons for visiting South Africa are all combined with vacation in the DHA's Movement Control System. Discussions are in progress with the Department of Home Affairs to capture vacation and shopping as separate categories for a clearer breakdown of tourists by purpose of visit.

## 5.6 Definition of terms

### 5.6.1 Definitions used by the United Nations World Tourism Organization (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 the other places he/she frequently visits.

### 5.6.2 Definitions used specifically in this release

**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 and Asia.
- Africa: SADC and 'other' Africa (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 fourteen countries, excluding South Africa, which 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.

## 5.7 Symbols used

- = nil

< = less than

## 5.8 Rounding off

Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

## 6. 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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### Advance release calendar

An advance release calendar is disseminated at [www.statssa.gov.za](http://www.statssa.gov.za)

### Stats SA products

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Fax: (012) 310 8500/ 8495 (user information services)  
(012) 310 6937 (technical enquiries)

Email: TshwaroG@statssa.gov.za (technical enquiries)  
info@statssa.gov.za (user information services)

Postal address: Private Bag X44, Pretoria, 0001

*Produced by Stats SA*