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KEY FINDINGS

1. Number of travellers

The October 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 2 147 899 travellers (arrivals and departures) passed through the ports of entry. As presented in Table 1, these travellers are made up of 664 316 South African residents and 1 483 583 foreign travellers. A further breakdown of the figures indicates that 346 791 and 317 525 South African resident arrivals and departures respectively were recorded. The corresponding volume for foreign arrivals and departures are 802 652 and 680 931. A comparison between the movements in September 2007 and October 2007 indicates that there was a decrease in all movements of South African residents and an increase in those of foreign travellers. The October 2007 figure (346 791) for South African resident arrivals shows an increase of 0,5% compared to the October 2006 figure of 344 965. Similarly, there was an increase of 4,9% for foreign arrivals from 765 182 in October 2006 to 802 652 in October 2007.

2. Mode of travel

It is observed from Table 2 that road transport was the most common (63,8%) mode of travel used by 1 371 363 out of the 2 147 899 travellers. The arrival data on South African residents show that 45,6% came by air and 54,0% by road. For their departure, 44,2% and 55,7% 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 (86,5%) compared to road transport (13,3%) whereas travellers from Africa used road (89,5%) more than air transport (8,1%). 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 (71,0%) of foreign arrivals were from Africa whilst slightly over a quarter (28,3%) 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 October 2006 and October 2007 indicates that the number of overseas arrivals increased by 4,2% from 218 107 in 2006 to 227 357 in 2007. Arrivals from Africa increased by 4,9% from 543 356 in October 2006 to 569 720 in October 2007.

3.1 Gender and age distribution

The travellers from Africa comprised of 316 148 males, 252 410 females and 1 162 with unspecified gender. The data on overseas travellers had 125 860 males, 101 310 females and gender was not specified in 187 cases. Overall, more males than females from African (males: 55,5%; females: 44,3%) and overseas countries (males: 55,4%; females: 44,6%) 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 (88,1%) 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 91,6% of overseas travellers is between ages 20 to 74 years, peaking at the age group 60-64. The percentage of older persons (65 years and older) from overseas countries was significantly higher (13,3%) 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 (67,0%), followed by North America (13,3%), Asia (11,0%), Australasia (4,5%), Central and South America (2,7%) 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%). October 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 October 2005. Data presented in Figure 3 indicate that the UK, Germany, USA, Netherlands, France, Australia, Belgium and Japan 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 (2,9% decline from 31 151 in October 2006 to 30 251 in

October 2007), Netherlands (6,1% decline from 19 631 in October 2006 to 18 427 in October 2007) and Japan (7,4% decline from 6 261 in October 2006 to 5 799 in October 2007).

The eight leading source countries from SADC were Lesotho, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Swaziland, Botswana, Zambia, Namibia 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, Congo, Cameroon and Egypt. Travellers from the eight SADC countries made up 96,0% of all arrivals from Africa. The number of travellers from these SADC countries increased with the exception of Zimbabwe (1,7% decline from 86 848 in October 2006 to 85 367 in October 2007), Swaziland (3,8% decline from 80 146 in October 2006 to 77 133 in October 2007) and Namibia (9,0% decline from 17 271 in October 2006 to 15 722 in October 2007). The number of travellers from 'other' African countries increased with the exception of Congo (40,4% decline from 836 in October 2006 to 498 in October 2007) and Nigeria (2,5% decline from 3 779 in October 2006 to 3 685 in October 2007).

3.3 Purpose of travel

As observed from data given in Table 4, an overwhelming majority (93,4%) 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 (2,2%), those who have come for work (1,2%) and those who have come to study (0,8%).

Overall, 93,9% of overseas travellers came to South Africa to visit. A detailed analysis reveals that all the overseas regions had more than 84,0% travellers coming to South Africa for holidays. Travellers from Europe (95,2%), Australasia (95,1%), Central and South America (94,8%), North America (94,8%), the Middle East (89,1%) and Asia (84,3%) were admitted into South Africa as visitors. Travellers from Asia were more diverse in their purpose and consequently Asia had slightly high proportion of overseas travellers who came here for work (7,8%), business (5,5%) and study (1,0%).

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, 81,0% of travellers from 'other' African countries were admitted on visitor's permit. Proportionally, the lowest percentage (78,1%) of visitors came from North Africa, a region where, a large percentage of travellers were in South Africa as business persons (13,3%).
- A relatively higher percentage of 'other' African than SADC travellers were here to study, work or for business.
- Overall, West Africa and East and Central Africa had 8,4% and 8,0% respectively of travellers who were in South Africa for business as compared to only 1,9% among the SADC travellers.

PJ Lehohla
Statistician-General

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

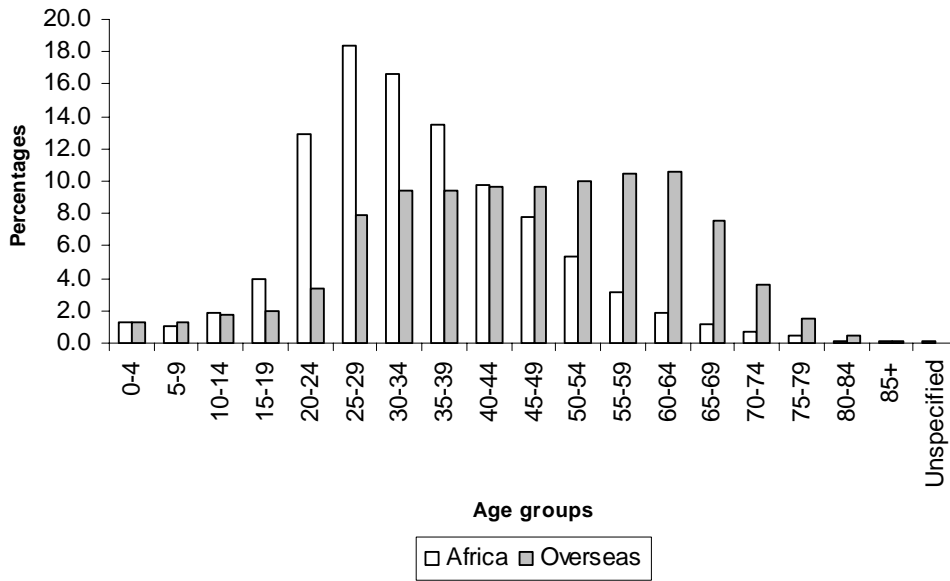


Figure 2: Number of October arrivals by region (2003 - 2007)

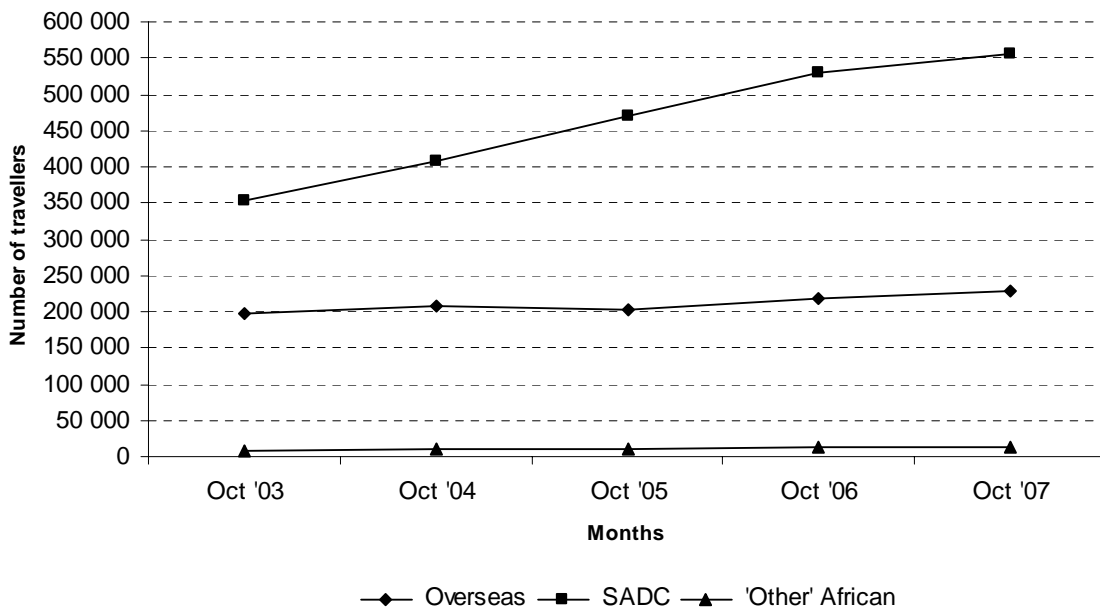


Figure 3: Number of overseas travellers arriving from leading source countries in October 2007 compared to October 2006

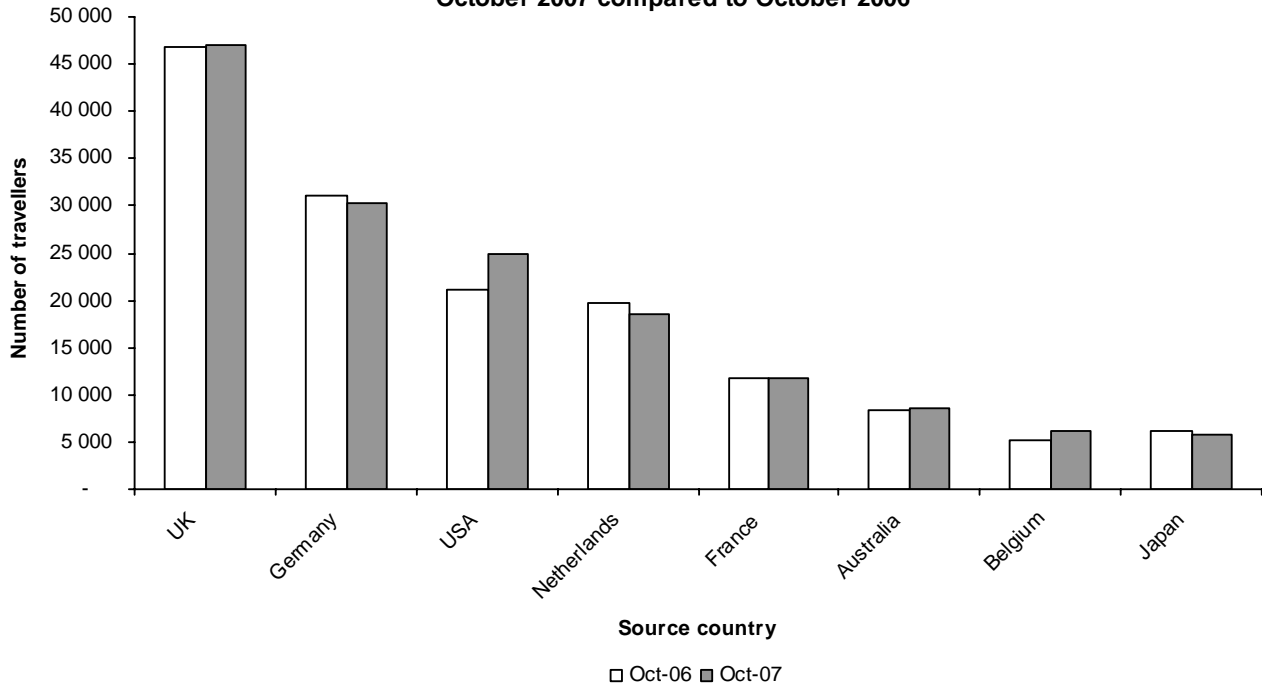


Figure 4: Number of travellers from SADC countries arriving from leading source countries in October 2007 compared to October 2006

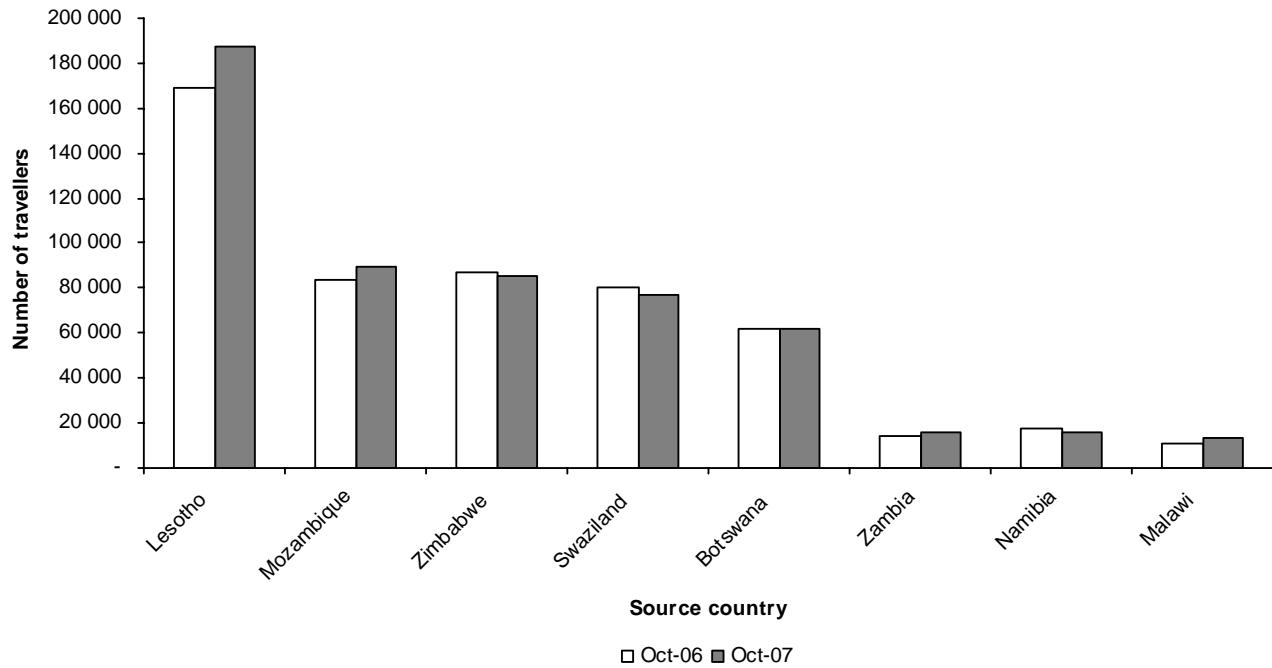


Figure 5: Number of travellers from 'other' African countries arriving from leading source countries in October 2007 compared to October 2006

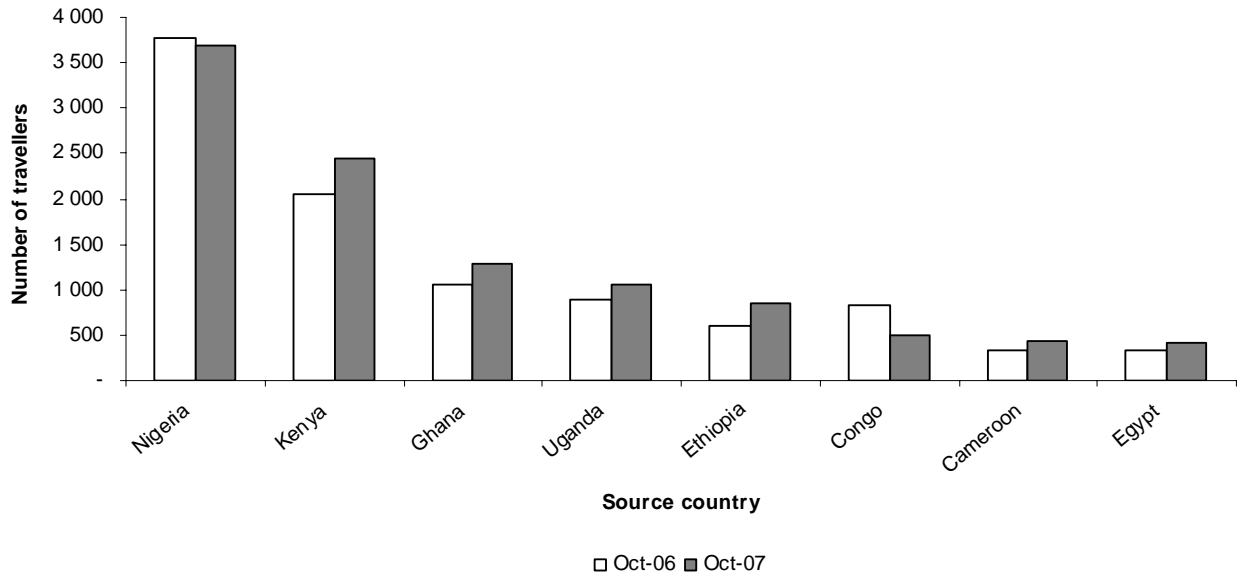


Table 1. Number of South African residents and foreign travellers by travel direction

Travel direction	October	September	October	% change	% change
	2006	2007	2007	Oct 06–Oct 07	Sept 07–Oct 07
South African residents					
Arrivals	344 965	382 857	346 791	0,5	-9,4
Departures	304 985	384 699	317 525	4,1	-17,5
Foreign travellers					
Arrivals	765 182	754 272	802 652	4,9	6,4
Departures	647 500	661 091	680 931	5,2	3,0
Grand total	2 062 632	2 182 919	2 147 899	4,1	-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 (October 2007)								
		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspec.
		(C/Town)	(Durban)	(OR Tambo)	(Other)	Total				
Grand total	2 147 899	112 556	3 600	631 561	10 255	757 972	118	1 371 363	830	17 616
Arrivals:	1 149 443	60 696	1 823	334 830	4 984	402 333	107	728 894	504	17 605
South African residents	346 791	16 005	1 261	137 332	3 634	158 232	18	187 154	82	1 305
Foreign travellers	802 652	44 691	562	197 498	1 350	244 101	89	541 740	422	16 300
Overseas	227 357	42 584	257	152 882	838	196 561	51	30 131	393	221
Africa	569 720	2 042	305	43 403	504	46 254	29	509 845	28	13 564
Unspecified	5 575	65	-	1 213	8	1 286	9	1 764	1	2 515
Departures:	998 456	51 860	1 777	296 731	5 271	355 639	11	642 469	326	11
South African residents	317 525	12 986	1 345	122 297	3 816	140 444	1	177 009	70	1
Foreign travellers	680 931	38 874	432	174 434	1 455	215 195	10	465 460	256	10

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

Country	Mode of travel (October 2007)										
	October		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspec.
	2006	2007	(C/Town)	(Durban)	(OR Tambo)	(Other)	Total				
Grand total	765 182	802 652	44 691	562	197 498	1 350	244 101	89	541 740	422	16 300
Overseas total	218 107	227 357	42 584	257	152 882	838	196 561	51	30 131	393	221
Europe	151 316	152 226	36 775	167	91 463	494	128 899	44	23 008	196	79
Austria	2 582	2 794	686	2	1 668	4	2 360	4	429	1	-
Belgium	5 128	6 137	917	2	3 764	53	4 736	3	1 392	5	1
Denmark	3 257	3 280	543	3	2 301	14	2 861	-	403	7	9
France	11 824	11 819	1 056	76	9 122	52	10 306	1	1 506	5	1
Germany	31 151	30 251	8 885	3	15 448	87	24 423	15	5 783	22	8
Greece	976	622	28	-	523	2	553	-	61	8	-
Ireland	3 875	3 834	1 446	6	1 951	10	3 413	-	417	1	3
Italy	4 212	4 725	890	4	3 465	11	4 370	2	351	-	2
Netherlands	18 631	18 427	3 916	-	9 024	22	12 962	5	5 433	18	9
Portugal	2 325	2 510	110	14	1 251	17	1 392	-	1 112	1	5
Spain	3 255	2 718	191	9	2 166	11	2 377	-	331	10	-
Sweden	4 498	4 791	1 354	-	2 937	5	4 296	-	484	6	5
Switzerland	5 417	4 725	805	-	3 191	20	4 016	2	707	-	-
UK	46 814	46 934	13 765	47	29 251	147	43 210	12	3 660	19	33
Other	7 371	8 659	2 183	1	5 401	39	7 624	-	939	93	3
North America	25 854	30 189	2 144	20	24 984	222	27 370	1	2 747	45	26
Canada	4 776	5 292	642	3	3 944	28	4 617	1	660	11	3
USA	21 072	24 893	1 502	17	21 037	194	22 750	-	2 086	34	23
Other	6	4	-	-	3	-	3	-	1	-	-
Central and South America	5 219	6 026	382	10	5 070	23	5 485	-	536	4	1
Argentina	600	622	168	5	421	2	596	-	26	-	-
Brazil	3 171	3 691	45	2	3 379	6	3 432	-	259	-	-
Chile	244	335	34	1	267	-	302	-	32	1	-
Other	1 204	1 378	135	2	1 003	15	1 155	-	219	3	1

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

Country	Mode of travel (October 2007)										
	October		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspec.
	2006	2007	(C/Town)	(Durban)	(OR Tambo)	(Other)	Total				
Australasia	9 999	10 126	682	41	8 416	27	9 166	3	933	16	8
Australia	8 444	8 636	555	38	7 236	21	7 850	1	770	8	7
New Zealand	1 479	1 403	123	3	1 134	6	1 266	-	136	-	1
Other	76	87	4	-	46	-	50	2	27	8	-
Middle East	3 108	3 708	362	1	3 095	21	3 479	-	222	6	1
Israel	1 556	1 729	43	-	1 583	9	1 635	-	94	-	-
Saudi Arabia	179	237	19	-	209	1	229	-	8	-	-
Turkey	498	780	250	-	479	2	731	-	48	1	-
Other	875	962	50	1	824	9	884	-	72	5	1
Asia	22 611	25 082	2 239	18	19 854	51	22 162	3	2 685	126	106
China	3 484	4 639	179	-	3 992	1	4 172	-	452	-	15
Hong Kong	524	428	12	-	400	-	412	-	16	-	-
India	4 332	5 293	74	14	4 199	10	4 297	2	938	30	26
Japan	6 261	5 799	364	-	5 373	2	5 739	-	54	6	-
Malaysia	711	920	335	1	549	-	885	-	35	-	-
Philippines	696	728	119	-	405	1	525	-	115	70	18
Rep of China (Taiwan)	1 779	1 332	251	-	733	3	987	-	321	3	21
Rep of Korea	1 520	1 713	123	-	1 471	11	1 605	-	106	-	2
Singapore	516	527	175	1	328	-	504	-	23	-	-
Other	2 788	3 703	607	2	2 404	23	3 036	1	625	17	24

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

Country	Mode of travel (October 2007)										
	October		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspec.
	2006	2007	(C/Town)	(Durban)	(OR Tambo)	(Other)	Total				
Africa total	543 356	569 720	2 042	305	43 403	504	46 254	29	509 845	28	13 564
SADC	530 588	555 644	1 865	295	31 814	381	34 355	26	507 705	27	13 531
Angola	2 334	2 860	145	-	2 561	26	2 732	-	127	1	-
Botswana	61 910	61 973	8	-	2 572	172	2 752	6	59 081	-	134
DRC	1 660	2 558	1	-	1 783	20	1 804	-	754	-	-
Lesotho	169 287	187 741	5	2	705	1	713	-	174 959	-	12 069
Madagascar	276	237	-	-	223	-	223	-	13	-	1
Malawi	11 088	13 436	3	1	2 042	4	2 050	-	11 380	-	6
Mauritius	1 116	1 301	151	171	876	-	1 198	-	102	-	1
Mozambique	83 443	89 526	62	93	2 324	17	2 496	3	86 310	5	712
Namibia	17 271	15 722	1 428	-	2 992	31	4 451	7	11 258	-	6
Swaziland	80 146	77 133	6	23	1 043	27	1 099	3	75 885	4	142
Tanzania	1 158	1 474	10	1	1 143	-	1 154	2	318	-	-
Zambia	14 051	16 316	13	-	6 293	5	6 311	-	9 996	2	7
Zimbabwe	86 848	85 367	33	4	7 257	78	7 372	5	77 522	15	453

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

Country	Mode of travel (October 2007)										
	October		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspec.
	2006	2007	(C/Town)	(Durban)	(OR Tambo)	(Other)	Total				
East and Central Africa	6 031	6 858	99	6	5 361	46	5 512	2	1 337	-	7
Burundi	107	107	1	-	80	-	81	-	26	-	-
Cameroon	336	440	4	-	385	1	390	-	50	-	-
Central African Rep	18	18	-	-	17	-	17	-	1	-	-
Chad	16	30	-	-	30	-	30	-	-	-	-
Comoros	11	17	-	-	16	-	16	-	1	-	-
Congo	836	498	11	-	344	6	361	-	136	-	1
Djibouti	7	7	-	-	7	-	7	-	-	-	-
Equatorial Guinea	21	17	-	-	7	-	7	-	10	-	-
Eritrea	76	54	1	-	48	-	49	-	5	-	-
Ethiopia	600	842	2	-	592	5	599	-	242	-	1
Gabon	163	288	1	-	275	7	283	-	5	-	-
Kenya	2 062	2 454	10	1	2 176	14	2 201	1	249	-	3
Reunion	49	168	62	3	101	-	166	-	2	-	-
Rwanda	260	287	1	-	260	5	266	-	21	-	-
Sao Tome and Principe	17	12	1	-	10	-	11	-	1	-	-
Seychelles	194	215	-	2	208	2	212	-	3	-	-
Somalia	361	343	-	-	5	-	5	-	338	-	-
Tristan da Cunha	9	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Uganda	888	1 060	5	-	799	6	810	1	247	-	2

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

Country	Mode of travel (October 2007)										
	October		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspec.
	2006	2007	(C/Town)	(Durban)	(OR Tambo)	(Other)	Total				
West Africa	5 871	6 197	46	1	5 346	72	5 465	1	719	1	11
Ascension	-	2	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-
Benin	89	121	-	-	99	3	102	-	19	-	-
Burkina Faso	50	54	-	-	54	-	54	-	-	-	-
Cape Verde Island	68	71	2	-	61	-	63	-	8	-	-
Cote D'Ivoire	170	190	3	-	183	-	186	-	4	-	-
Gambia	64	66	-	-	55	-	55	-	10	-	1
Ghana	1 050	1 282	4	-	1 100	19	1 123	-	155	-	4
Guinea	92	134	-	1	98	-	99	-	35	-	-
Guinea-Bissau	19	19	-	-	13	-	13	-	6	-	-
Liberia	30	52	-	-	51	-	51	-	-	1	-
Madeira Island	12	16	6	-	5	-	11	-	5	-	-
Mali	73	80	-	-	70	-	70	-	10	-	-
Mauritania	17	27	-	-	26	-	26	-	1	-	-
Niger	23	33	-	-	33	-	33	-	-	-	-
Nigeria	3 779	3 685	25	-	3 168	44	3 237	1	442	-	5
St Helena	29	8	2	-	3	-	5	-	3	-	-
Senegal	191	253	2	-	240	-	242	-	10	-	1
Sierra Leone	73	64	2	-	48	6	56	-	8	-	-
Togo	39	37	-	-	34	-	34	-	3	-	-
Western Sahara	3	3	-	-	3	-	3	-	-	-	-
North Africa	866	1 021	32	3	882	5	922	-	84	-	15
Algeria	133	175	7	-	133	1	141	-	34	-	-
Egypt	341	411	5	-	376	3	384	-	26	-	1
Libya	46	103	8	3	69	-	80	-	12	-	11
Morocco	61	88	4	-	77	-	81	-	6	-	1
Sudan	164	119	3	-	110	1	114	-	4	-	1
Tunisia	121	125	5	-	117	-	122	-	2	-	1
Unspecified	3 719	5 575	65	-	1 213	8	1 286	9	1 764	1	2 515

Table 4. Number of foreign arrivals by purpose of travel

Region	Total	Purpose of travel (October 2007)							Contract worker	Border Traffic
		Business	Holiday	Study	Work	Transit	Unspec.	Total		
Grand total	802 652	17 944	749 299	6 629	9 739	2 729	43	786 383	-	16 269
Overseas total	227 357	6 408	213 395	851	5 757	728	7	227 146	-	211
Europe	152 226	3 591	144 993	400	2 860	303	-	152 147	-	79
North America	30 189	817	28 619	109	536	82	-	30 163	-	26
Central and South America	6 026	135	5 710	20	125	35	-	6 025	-	1
Australasia	10 126	286	9 633	15	141	43	-	10 118	-	8
Middle East	3 708	190	3 304	65	133	10	5	3 707	-	1
Asia	25 082	1 389	21 136	242	1 962	255	2	24 986	-	96
Africa total	569 720	11 493	534 714	4 953	2 984	1 998	35	556 177	-	13 543
SADC	555 644	10 290	523 308	4 435	2 183	1 891	27	542 134	-	13 510
East and Central Africa	6 858	546	5 619	251	378	50	7	6 851	-	7
West Africa	6 197	521	4 990	247	372	55	1	6 186	-	11
North Africa	1 021	136	797	20	51	2	-	1 006	-	15
Unspecified	5 575	43	1 190	825	998	3	1	3 060	-	2 515

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

Country	October		Purpose of travel (October 2007)							Contract worker	Border traffic concession
	2006	2007	Business	Holiday	Study	Work	Transit	Unspec.	Total		
Grand total	765 182	802 652	17 944	749 299	6 629	9 739	2 729	43	786 383	-	16 269
Overseas total	218 107	227 357	6 408	213 395	851	5 757	728	7	227 146	-	211
Europe	151 316	152 226	3 591	144 993	400	2 860	303	-	152 147	-	79
Austria	2 582	2 794	50	2 722	1	20	1	-	2 794	-	-
Belgium	5 128	6 137	116	5 924	8	76	12	-	6 136	-	1
Denmark	3 257	3 280	62	3 178	1	27	3	-	3 271	-	9
France	11 824	11 819	255	11 243	51	252	17	-	11 818	-	1
Germany	31 151	30 251	563	29 134	84	442	20	-	30 243	-	8
Greece	976	622	20	560	1	36	5	-	622	-	-
Ireland	3 875	3 834	77	3 675	8	66	5	-	3 831	-	3
Italy	4 212	4 725	133	4 521	8	51	10	-	4 723	-	2
Netherlands	18 631	18 427	236	17 976	16	177	13	-	18 418	-	9
Portugal	2 325	2 510	35	2 416	12	33	9	-	2 505	-	5
Spain	3 255	2 718	52	2 570	7	68	21	-	2 718	-	-
Sweden	4 498	4 791	149	4 509	18	106	4	-	4 786	-	5
Switzerland	5 417	4 725	70	4 591	16	43	5	-	4 725	-	-
UK	46 814	46 934	1 454	44 492	138	744	73	-	46 901	-	33
Other	7 371	8 659	319	7 482	31	719	105	-	8 656	-	3
North America	25 854	30 189	817	28 619	109	536	82	-	30 163	-	26
Canada	4 776	5 292	140	5 018	26	95	10	-	5 289	-	3
USA	21 072	24 893	676	23 598	83	441	72	-	24 870	-	23
Other	6	4	1	3	-	-	-	-	4	-	-
Central and South America	5 219	6 026	135	5 710	20	125	35	-	6 025	-	1
Argentina	600	622	13	593	2	14	-	-	622	-	-
Brazil	3 171	3 691	47	3 564	7	49	24	-	3 691	-	-
Chile	244	335	9	318	-	6	2	-	335	-	-
Other	1 204	1 378	66	1 235	11	56	9	-	1 377	-	1

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

Country	October		Purpose of travel (October 2007)							Contract worker	Border traffic concession
			Business	Holiday	Study	Work	Transit	Unspec.	Total		
	2006	2007									
Australasia	9 999	10 126	286	9 633	15	141	43	-	10 118	-	8
Australia	8 444	8 636	250	8 240	9	101	29	-	8 629	-	7
New Zealand	1 479	1 403	32	1 332	3	29	6	-	1 402	-	1
Other	76	87	4	61	3	11	8	-	87	-	-
Middle East	3 108	3 708	190	3 304	65	133	10	5	3 707	-	1
Israel	1 556	1 729	43	1 627	3	55	1	-	1 729	-	-
Saudi Arabia	179	237	11	218	6	2	-	-	237	-	-
Turkey	498	780	36	715	5	20	4	-	780	-	-
Other	875	962	100	744	51	56	5	5	961	-	1
Asia	22 611	25 082	1 389	21 136	242	1 962	255	2	24 986	-	96
China	3 484	4 639	312	3 707	29	546	29	1	4 624	-	15
Hong Kong	524	428	11	413	-	4	-	-	428	-	-
India	4 332	5 293	648	4 044	54	464	57	-	5 267	-	26
Japan	6 261	5 799	90	5 577	3	118	11	-	5 799	-	-
Malaysia	711	920	23	833	27	29	8	-	920	-	-
Philippines	696	728	24	323	16	264	92	1	720	-	8
Rep of China (Taiwan)	1 779	1 332	59	1 082	8	152	10	-	1 311	-	21
Rep of Korea	1 520	1 713	38	1 586	25	58	4	-	1 711	-	2
Singapore	516	527	29	481	4	12	1	-	527	-	-
Other	2 788	3 703	155	3 090	76	315	43	-	3 679	-	24

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

Country	October		Purpose of travel (October 2007)							Contract worker	Border traffic concession
			Business	Holiday	Study	Work	Transit	Unspec.	Total		
	2006	2007									
Africa total	543 356	569 720	11 493	534 714	4 953	2 984	1 998	35	556 177	-	13 543
SADC	530 588	555 644	10 290	523 308	4 435	2 183	1 891	27	542 134	-	13 510
Angola	2 334	2 860	79	2 546	127	89	19	-	2 860	-	-
Botswana	61 910	61 973	129	59 802	1 389	241	299	-	61 860	-	113
DRC	1 660	2 558	98	2 273	40	73	65	9	2 558	-	-
Lesotho	169 287	187 741	1 560	172 551	551	97	913	-	175 672	-	12 069
Madagascar	276	237	19	205	4	4	4	-	236	-	1
Malawi	11 088	13 436	703	12 581	58	60	28	-	13 430	-	6
Mauritius	1 116	1 301	33	1 188	48	27	4	-	1 300	-	1
Mozambique	83 443	89 526	441	87 930	304	85	54	-	88 814	-	712
Namibia	17 271	15 722	1 716	13 153	523	56	268	-	15 716	-	6
Swaziland	80 146	77 133	372	75 744	678	106	91	-	76 991	-	142
Tanzania	1 158	1 474	180	1 205	46	43	-	-	1 474	-	-
Zambia	14 051	16 316	2 319	13 710	117	127	36	-	16 309	-	7
Zimbabwe	86 848	85 367	2 641	80 420	550	1 175	110	18	84 914	-	453

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

Country	October		Purpose of travel (October 2007)							Contract worker	Border traffic concession
	2006	2007	Business	Holiday	Study	Work	Transit	Unspec.	Total		
East and Central Africa	6 031	6 858	546	5 619	251	378	50	7	6 851	-	7
Burundi	107	107	15	83	1	7	-	1	107	-	-
Cameroon	336	440	40	320	24	52	4	-	440	-	-
Central African Rep	18	18	2	15	-	-	1	-	18	-	-
Chad	16	30	7	22	-	1	-	-	30	-	-
Comoros	11	17	2	13	-	2	-	-	17	-	-
Congo	836	498	21	443	16	11	5	1	497	-	1
Djibouti	7	7	3	3	1	-	-	-	7	-	-
Equatorial Guinea	21	17	1	13	1	2	-	-	17	-	-
Eritrea	76	54	7	43	1	3	-	-	54	-	-
Ethiopia	600	842	42	736	9	50	4	-	841	-	1
Gabon	163	288	3	228	51	6	-	-	288	-	-
Kenya	2 062	2 454	279	1 901	88	170	13	-	2 451	-	3
Reunion	49	168	1	159	7	1	-	-	168	-	-
Rwanda	260	287	16	224	20	21	6	-	287	-	-
Sao Tome and Principe	17	12	1	11	-	-	-	-	12	-	-
Seychelles	194	215	5	206	4	-	-	-	215	-	-
Somalia	361	343	2	337	-	-	-	4	343	-	-
Tristan da Cunha	9	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Uganda	888	1 060	99	861	28	52	17	1	1 058	-	2

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

Country	October		Purpose of travel (October 2007)							Contract worker	Border traffic concession
	2006	2007	Business	Holiday	Study	Work	Transit	Unspec.	Total		
West Africa	5 871	6 197	521	4 990	247	372	55	1	6 186	-	11
Ascension	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
Benin	89	121	7	106	-	7	1	-	121	-	-
Burkina Faso	50	54	4	40	2	8	-	-	54	-	-
Cape Verde Island	68	71	-	67	2	2	-	-	71	-	-
Cote D'Ivoire	170	190	23	139	10	16	2	-	190	-	-
Gambia	64	66	3	54	-	4	4	-	65	-	1
Ghana	1 050	1 282	47	1 139	11	79	2	-	1 278	-	4
Guinea	92	134	11	107	2	4	10	-	134	-	-
Guinea-Bissau	19	19	2	14	1	2	-	-	19	-	-
Liberia	30	52	9	37	-	5	1	-	52	-	-
Madeira Island	12	16	1	15	-	-	-	-	16	-	-
Mali	73	80	9	67	-	4	-	-	80	-	-
Mauritania	17	27	6	19	-	1	1	-	27	-	-
Niger	23	33	8	20	-	5	-	-	33	-	-
Nigeria	3 779	3 685	341	2 894	218	199	27	1	3 680	-	5
St Helena	29	8	-	8	-	-	-	-	8	-	-
Senegal	191	253	38	178	-	30	6	-	252	-	1
Sierra Leone	73	64	6	54	1	2	1	-	64	-	-
Togo	39	37	5	28	-	4	-	-	37	-	-
Western Sahara	3	3	1	2	-	-	-	-	3	-	-
North Africa	866	1 021	136	797	20	51	2	-	1 006	-	15
Algeria	133	175	31	118	9	16	1	-	175	-	-
Egypt	341	411	41	346	2	21	-	-	410	-	1
Libya	46	103	11	69	6	6	-	-	92	-	11
Morocco	61	88	17	70	-	-	-	-	87	-	1
Sudan	164	119	20	92	2	4	-	-	118	-	1
Tunisia	121	125	16	102	1	4	1	-	124	-	1
Unspecified	3 719	5 575	43	1 190	825	998	3	1	3 060	-	2 515

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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