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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 South Africa show that a total of 2 955 466 travellers (arrivals and departures) passed through South African ports of entry in October 2012. As presented in Table 1, these travellers are made up of 792 036 South African residents and 2 163 430 foreign travellers. A further breakdown of the figures for South African residents indicates that there were 410 208 and 381 828 arrivals and departures respectively. The corresponding volumes for foreign arrivals and departures were 1 189 515 and 973 915, respectively.

A comparison between the movements in September 2012 and October 2012 indicates that the volumes of arrivals and departures of South Africa residents increased and decreased respectively. The volume of arrivals for South African residents increased by 1,7% (from 403 196 in September 2012 to 410 208 in October 2012) while the volume of departures for South African residents decreased by 10,6% (from 427 123 in September 2012 to 381 828 in October 2012). However, both the volume of arrivals and departures of foreign travellers increased. Foreign arrivals increased by 3,6% (from 1 148 598 in September 2012 to 1 189 515 in October 2012) while foreign departures increased by 1,4% (from 960 843 in September 2012 to 973 915 in October 2012).

A comparison between the movements in October 2011 and October 2012 indicates that the volumes of arrivals and departures decreased for South African residents while the volumes of arrivals and departures increased for foreign travellers. For South African residents, the volume of arrivals decreased by 5,1% (from 432 107 in October 2011 to 410 208 in October 2012) and the volume of departures decreased by 5,5% (from 403 918 in October 2011 to 381 828 in October 2012). Similarly, the volume of arrivals for foreign travellers increased by 8,7% (from 1 094 813 in October 2011 to 1 189 515 in October 2012) and the volume of departures increased by 5,2% (from 926 095 in October 2011 to 973 915 in October 2012).

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. Hence, it is not possible to categorise South African residents as tourists and non-tourists. However, some data are available on foreign arrivals for this categorisation.

As presented in Table 1, in October 2012, 59 050 (5,0%) foreign arrivals were classified as non-visitors while 1 130 465 (95,0%) were classified as visitors. The visitors were categorised into three groups:

- i. arrivals only – comprising of visitors who entered the country in October 2012 but did not depart in October 2012 [402 507 (35,6%)];
- ii. single trips – visitors who came once in October 2012 and left in October 2012 [400 303 (35,4%)]; and
- iii. multiple trips – visitors who came and left more than once in October 2012 [327 655 (29,0%)].

Visitors were further grouped as same day visitors and overnight visitors (tourists). In October 2012, there were 345 603 (30,6%) same day visitors and 784 862 (69,4%) tourists. Between September 2012 and October 2012, the volume of same day visitors increased by 7,4% (from 321 821 in September 2012 to 345 603 in October 2012) and tourists increased by 2,5% (from 765 398 in September 2012 to 784 862 in October 2012). Furthermore, between October 2011 and October 2012, the volume of same day visitors increased by 8,8% (from 317 561 in October 2011 to 345 603 in October 2012) and the volume of tourists increased by 8,5% (from 723 247 in October 2011 to 784 862 in October 2012).

1.1.2 Mode of travel

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 October 2012, road transport was the most common mode of travel used by 2 089 036 (70,7%) out of the 2 955 466 travellers. The total number of travellers who used air transport

was 859 783 (29,1%). The arrivals data on South African residents show that 158 434 (38,6%) came by air and 251 522 (61,3%) came by road. For departures, 137 214 (35,9%) and 244 499 (64,0%) used air and road transport respectively. In the case of foreign travellers, 322 792 (27,1%) arrived by air while those who came by road were 863 421 (72,6%). When departing South Africa, 241 343 (24,8%) foreign travellers left by air whilst 729 594 (74,9%) left by road. As shown in Table 2, an overwhelming majority, 326 799 (94,6%) of same day visitors arrived in the country by road. Only 18 761 (5,4%) same day visitors flew into the country. Data on tourists show that, 507 385 (64,6%) used road transport but 276 497 (35,2%) came by air.

1.2 Tourists

1.2.1 Mode of travel

The country of residence of tourists is used to categorise them into their respective countries and regions. 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 October 2012, 214 234 (88,4%) overseas tourists arrived in the country by air whilst 27 298 (11,3%) came in by road. This is in contrast to the number of tourists from the Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries who came into South Africa predominantly by road [477 786 (91,7%)]. Only 43 496 (8,3%) tourists from the SADC countries came in by air. The number of tourists who came into South Africa by air from 'other' African countries was 17 138 (91,2%); with 1 632 (8,7%) using road transport.

1.2.2 Regional and national distribution

In October 2012, the distribution of overseas tourists were as follows; Europe, 146 550 (60,4%); Asia, 35 805 (14,8%); North America, 34 311 (14,2%); Australasia, 11 638 (4,8%); Central and South America, 10 822 (4,5%) and Middle East, 3 349 (1,4%). Virtually all tourists from Africa came from the SADC countries, [521 290 (96,5%)]. The distribution of the remaining tourists from Africa is as follows: West Africa, 10 345 (1,9%); East and Central Africa, 7 084 (1,3%) and North Africa 1 366 (0,3%).

Data presented in Figure 1 indicate that United Kingdom (UK), 39 787 (16,4%); Germany, 31 080 (12,8%); United States of America (USA), 27 378 (11,3%); The Netherlands, 14 094 (5,8%); France, 13 379 (5,5%); China 11 404 (4,7%); Australia, 9 733 (4,0%) and India, 8 600 (3,5%) were the eight leading overseas countries in the number of tourists visiting South Africa in October 2012. Tourists from these eight countries constituted 64,1% of all tourists from overseas countries. A comparison between movements in October 2011 and October 2012 shows that the number of tourists increased in all of these countries except The Netherlands. China had the highest increase of 57,1% (from 7 258 tourists in October 2011 to 11 404 tourists in October 2012) while The Netherlands had a decrease of 1,8% (from 14 357 tourists in October 2011 to 14 094 tourists in October 2012).

The eight leading countries in the number of tourists visiting South Africa in October 2012 from the SADC countries (see Figure 2) were Zimbabwe, 145 868 (28,0%); Lesotho, 133 321 (25,6%); Mozambique, 90 191 (17,3%); Swaziland, 61 522 (11,8%); Botswana, 35 397 (6,8%); Namibia, 16 123 (3,1%); Zambia, 14 557 (2,8%) and Malawi, 12 224 (2,3%). Tourists from these eight countries constituted 97,7% of all tourists from the SADC countries. A comparison between movements in October 2011 and October 2012 shows that the number of tourists increased in six of these countries (Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Zambia, Namibia, Swaziland, and Lesotho) and decreased in two countries (Malawi and Botswana). Zimbabwe had the highest increase of 12,9% (from 129 248 tourists in October 2011 to 145 868 tourists in October 2012). The number of tourists from Malawi decreased by 4,2% (from 12 756 tourists in October 2011 to 12 224 tourists in October 2012) and tourists from Botswana decreased by 3,6% (from 36 708 tourists in October 2011 to 35 397 tourists in October 2012).

The eight leading countries in the number of tourists visiting South Africa in October 2012 from 'other' African countries, shown in Figure 3, were Nigeria, 6 406 (34,1%); Kenya, 3 149 (16,8%); Ghana, 2 083 (11,1%); Uganda, 1 256 (6,7%); Egypt, 717 (3,8%); Ethiopia, 650 (3,5%); Cameroon, 536 (2,9%) and Gabon, 456 (2,4%). Tourists from these eight countries constituted 81,2% of all tourists from 'other' African countries. A comparison between movements in October 2011 and October 2012 shows that the number of tourists increased in all these countries. The increase was highest in Egypt at 41,7% (from 506 tourists in October 2011 to 717 tourists in October 2012) while Nigeria had the least increase of 6,8% (from 5 998 tourists in October 2011 to 6 406 tourists in October 2012).

1.2.3 Purpose of visit

As observed from data given in Table 4, in October 2012, an overwhelming majority [704 690 (89,8%)] of tourists were in South Africa for holidays compared to only 17 565 (2,2%) and 5 697 (0,7%) of tourists who were in South Africa for business and study purposes respectively. A detailed analysis reveals that of all the tourists from each of the overseas regions, at least 55,0% came to South Africa for holidays. A total of 2 860 (85,4%) tourists from Middle East; 121 719 (83,1%) from Europe; 28 456 (82,9%) from North America; 9 575 (82,3%) from Australasia; 24 265 (67,8%) from Asia and 5 967 (55,1%) from Central and South America were in South Africa mostly for holidays. Middle East and Asia had higher proportions (5,8% and 4,0% respectively) of their tourists in South Africa for business compared to other overseas regions.

The majority of African tourists [510 103 (94,4%)] came to South Africa for holidays. However, there were differences between tourists from the SADC countries and 'other' African countries namely:

- Whereas 495 520 (95,1%) of tourists from the SADC countries were on holidays; 14 583 (77,6%) of tourists from 'other' African countries came for the same purpose. Data on the regions of 'other' African countries show that tourists on holidays constituted 78,7% (8 141); 77,3% (5 473) and 70,9% (969) for West Africa; East and Central Africa and North Africa respectively.
- Business persons constituted 4,9% (917) of tourists from 'other' African countries compared with 1,6% (8 430) from the SADC countries. North Africa had the highest proportion 7,6% (104) of its tourists in South Africa for business.
- Students made up 2,0% (381) of tourists from 'other' African countries compared with 0,9% (4 571) from the SADC countries. East and Central Africa had the highest proportion 2,9% (207) of their tourists in South Africa for study purposes.

1.2.4 Sex and age distribution

Table 5 shows that, in October 2012, there were 445 140 (56,7%) male and 338 782 (43,2%) female tourists. The overseas tourists were made up of 137 186 (56,6%) male tourists and 105 024 (43,3%) female tourists. There were 293 342 (56,3%) male and 227 278 (43,6%) female tourists from the SADC countries. The tourists from 'other' African countries were made up of 13 178 (70,1%) males and 5 612 (29,9%) females.

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 703 258 (89,6%) of tourists were aged between 15 and 64 years; 46 368 (5,9%) were aged 65 years and older and 34 637 (4,4%) were aged less than 15 years. Taking the regions of residence into consideration, the results further show that 196 212 (80,9%) of overseas tourists were aged between 15 and 64 years compared with 487 015 (93,4%) and 17 818 (94,8%) of tourists in the same age range from the SADC countries and 'other' African countries respectively.

For tourists aged less than 15 years, a higher proportion of 5,0% (12 196) were from overseas while the proportions for tourists from SADC and 'other' African countries were 4,2% (21 774) and 3,3% (629) respectively. There was a higher proportion of young female tourists in comparison to young male tourists for all the three regions.

A comparison of the three regions shows relatively high proportions of the elderly among both male 13,0% (17 768) and female 15,4% (16 152) tourists from overseas. This is in contrast to the pattern observed among tourists from the other two regions. Thus 1,8% (241) of male and 1,8% (100) of female tourists from 'other' African countries were aged 65 years and older. Likewise 1,9% (5 560) of male and 2,8% (6 386) of female tourists from the SADC countries were aged 65 years and older.

PJ Lehohla
Statistician-General

2. Figures

Figure 1. Number of tourists from eight leading overseas countries in October 2011 and October 2012

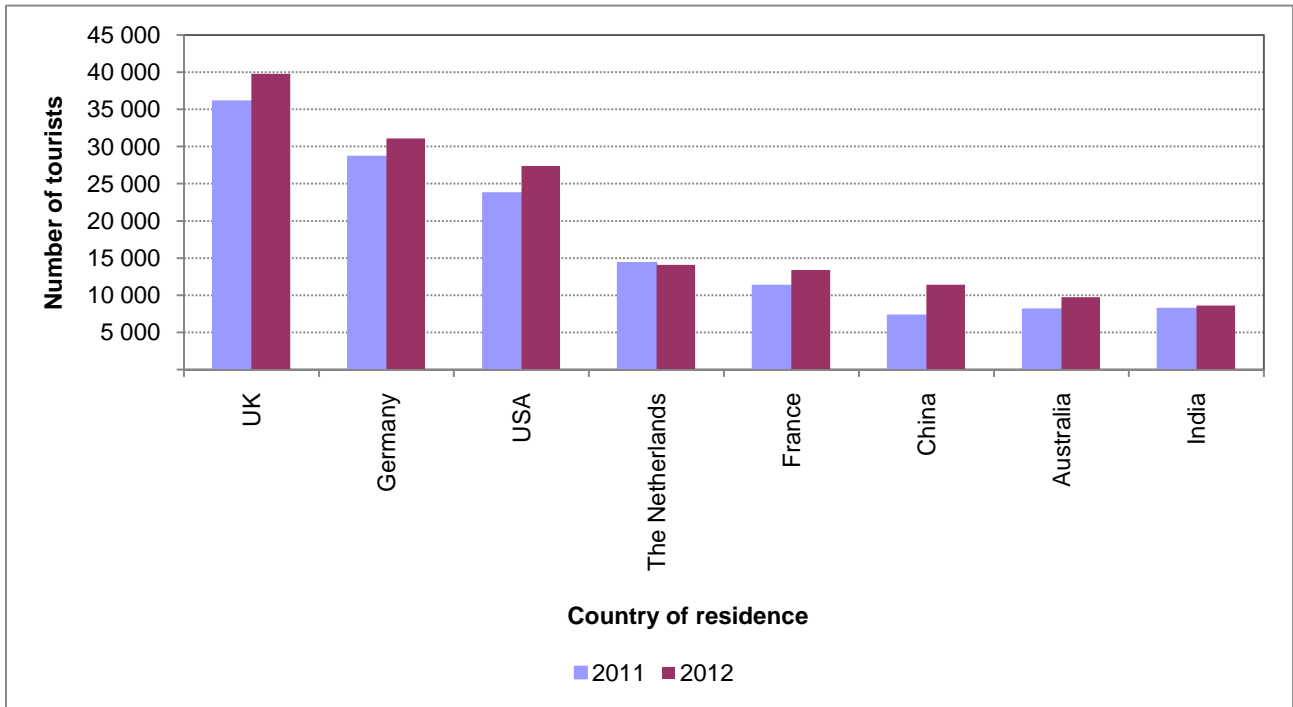


Figure 2. Number of tourists from eight leading Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries in October 2011 and October 2012

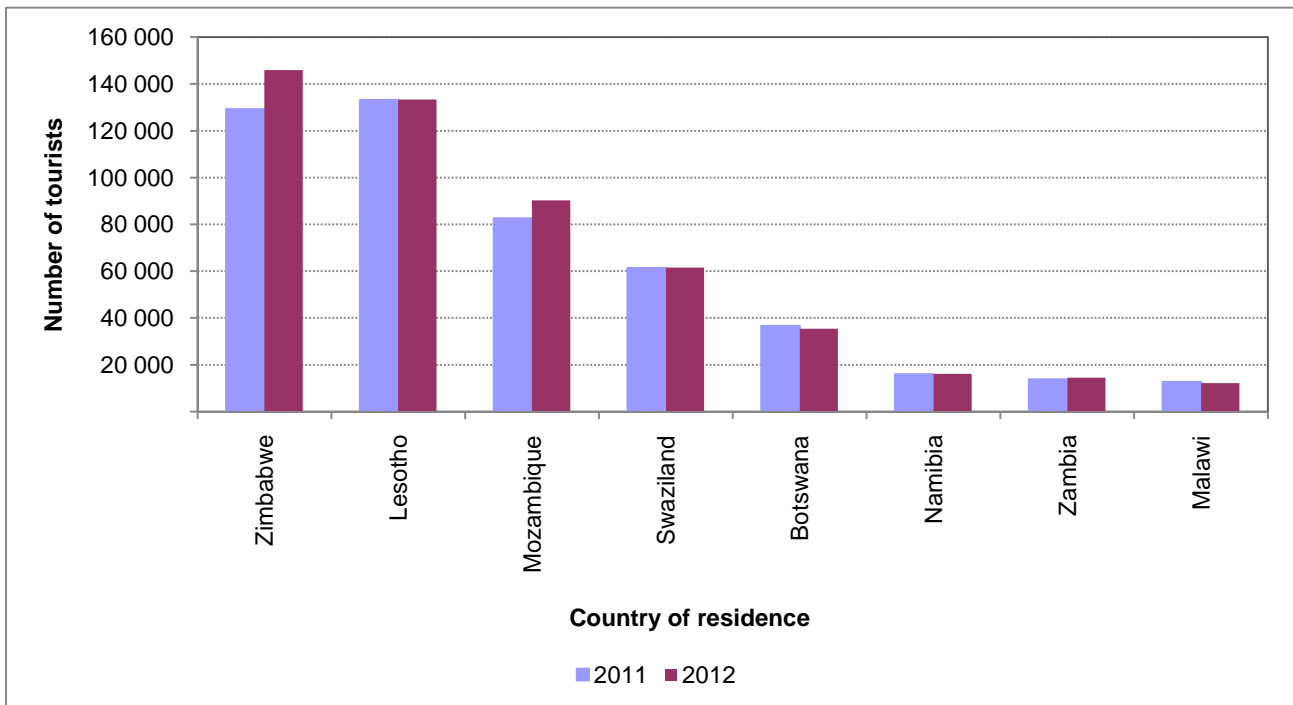
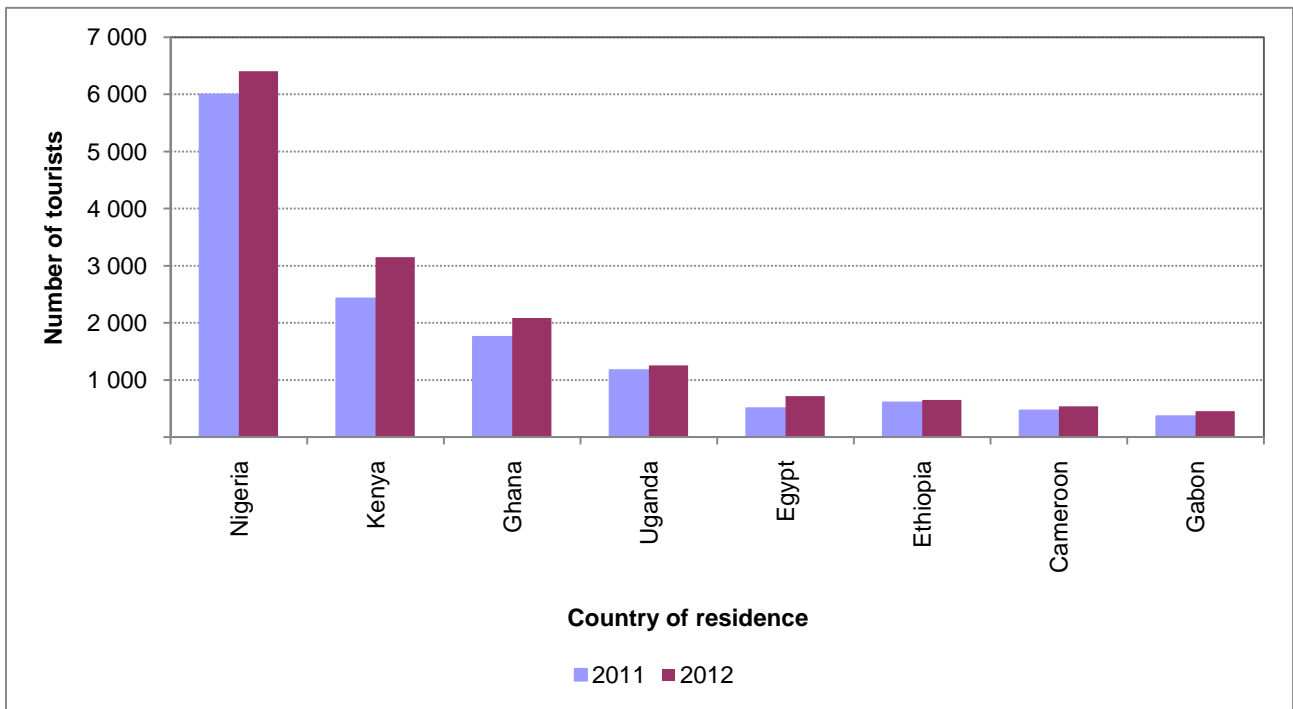


Figure 3. Number of tourists from eight leading 'other' African countries in October 2011 and October 2012



3. Tables

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

Travel direction	October	September	October	% change	
	2011	2012	2012	October 2011 - October 2012	September 2012 - October 2012
Total	2 856 933	2 939 760	2 955 466	3,4	0,5
South African residents	836 025	830 319	792 036	-5,3	-4,6
Arrivals	432 107	403 196	410 208	-5,1	1,7
Departures	403 918	427 123	381 828	-5,5	-10,6
Foreign travellers	2 020 908	2 109 441	2 163 430	7,1	2,6
Arrivals	1 094 813	1 148 598	1 189 515	8,7	3,6
Departures	926 095	960 843	973 915	5,2	1,4
Foreign arrivals	1 094 813	1 148 598	1 189 515	8,7	3,6
Non-visitors	54 005	61 379	59 050	9,3	-3,8
Visitors	1 040 808	1 087 219	1 130 465	8,6	4,0
Visitors	1 040 808	1 087 219	1 130 465	8,6	4,0
Arrivals only	353 702	399 660	402 507	13,8	0,7
Single trips	370 725	388 624	400 303	8,0	3,0
Multiple trips	316 381	298 935	327 655	3,6	9,6
Visitors	1 040 808	1 087 219	1 130 465	8,6	4,0
Same day	317 561	321 821	345 603	8,8	7,4
Overnight (tourists)	723 247	765 398	784 862	8,5	2,5

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

Travel Direction	October		Mode of travel (October 2012)							
			Air					Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2011	2012	Cape Town	K Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total			
Total	2 856 933	2 955 466	101 741	18 017	730 999	9 026	859 783	2 089 036	6 624	23
South African residents	836 025	792 036	27 840	10 890	251 453	5 465	295 648	496 021	367	-
Arrivals	432 107	410 208	15 112	6 044	134 645	2 633	158 434	251 522	252	-
Departures	403 918	381 828	12 728	4 846	116 808	2 832	137 214	244 499	115	-
Foreign travellers	2 020 908	2 163 430	73 901	7 127	479 546	3 561	564 135	1 593 015	6 257	23
Arrivals	1 094 813	1 189 515	39 213	3 912	277 998	1 669	322 792	863 421	3 279	23
Departures	926 095	973 915	34 688	3 215	201 548	1 892	241 343	729 594	2 978	-
Visitors	1 040 808	1 130 465	35 444	2 895	255 614	1 305	295 258	834 184	1 017	6
Same day	317 561	345 603	230	3	18 353	175	18 761	326 799	43	-
Overnight (tourists)	723 247	784 862	35 214	2 892	237 261	1 130	276 497	507 385	974	6

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

Country of residence	October		Mode of travel (October 2012)							
	2011	2012	Air					Road	Sea	Unspecified
			Cape Town	K Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total			
Total	723 247	784 862	35 214	2 892	237 261	1 130	276 497	507 385	974	6
Overseas	208 141	242 475	32 569	2 528	178 258	879	214 234	27 298	940	3
Europe	130 456	146 550	26 106	1 903	99 092	402	127 503	18 829	218	-
Austria	2 294	3 221	454	40	2 245	3	2 742	479	-	-
Belgium	4 980	5 132	902	19	3 338	10	4 269	863	-	-
Denmark	2 474	2 921	358	40	2 269	2	2 669	250	2	-
France	11 285	13 379	2 104	76	9 594	22	11 796	1 577	6	-
Germany	28 634	31 080	5 211	244	20 964	30	26 449	4 621	10	-
Ireland	2 191	2 353	578	65	1 469	12	2 124	224	5	-
Italy	4 484	5 257	851	61	3 916	14	4 842	409	6	-
Norway	1 991	2 090	438	13	1 401	-	1 852	228	10	-
Portugal	3 371	3 944	220	18	2 271	17	2 526	1 416	2	-
Spain	2 428	3 131	415	32	2 430	6	2 883	245	3	-
Sweden	3 643	4 409	813	29	3 146	8	3 996	408	5	-
Switzerland	5 460	7 196	1 225	80	5 012	16	6 333	855	8	-
The Netherlands	14 357	14 094	2 900	121	7 625	12	10 658	3 433	3	-
UK	36 095	39 787	8 005	957	27 523	155	36 640	3 018	129	-
Other	6 769	8 556	1 632	108	5 889	95	7 724	803	29	-
North America	29 330	34 311	2 744	83	27 259	347	30 433	3 363	515	-
Canada	5 597	6 932	905	22	4 966	22	5 915	995	22	-
USA	23 731	27 378	1 839	61	22 292	325	24 517	2 368	493	-
Other	2	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
Central and South America	7 823	10 822	177	16	9 932	21	10 146	668	8	-
Argentina	1 112	1 190	18	2	1 112	-	1 132	58	-	-
Brazil	5 072	7 396	80	8	6 834	9	6 931	461	4	-
Colombia	129	348	10	1	327	-	338	9	1	-
Other	1 510	1 888	69	5	1 659	12	1 745	140	3	-

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

Country of residence	October		Mode of travel (October 2012)							
	2011	2012	Air					Road	Sea	Unspecified
			Cape Town	K Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total			
Australasia	9 490	11 638	679	80	9 749	59	10 567	1 009	62	-
Australia	8 106	9 733	523	58	8 248	56	8 885	799	49	-
New Zealand	1 360	1 873	154	22	1 477	3	1 656	210	7	-
Other	24	32	2	-	24		26	-	6	-
Middle East	3 328	3 349	329	41	2 779	7	3 156	192	1	-
Israel	1 847	1 564	71	-	1 359	1	1 431	133	-	-
Lebanon	227	263	19	3	222	1	245	17	1	-
Saudi Arabia	501	641	99	6	532	4	641	-	-	-
Other	753	881	140	32	666	1	839	42	-	-
Asia	27 714	35 805	2 534	405	29 447	43	32 429	3 237	136	3
China	7 258	11 404	931	54	9 622	2	10 609	788	7	-
India	8 191	8 600	305	160	6 952	14	7 431	1 138	30	1
Japan	3 955	5 256	264	22	4 889	2	5 177	79	-	-
Malaysia	855	1 010	296	32	606	14	948	60	2	-
Pakistan	1 302	1 537	82	53	1 003	1	1 139	391	6	1
Philippines	863	1 425	55	5	1 149	7	1 216	148	61	-
South Korea	1 193	1 434	70	3	1 177	1	1 251	183	-	-
Taiwan	794	1 109	106	-	869	-	975	130	4	-
Vietnam	501	918	19	1	890	-	910	5	3	-
Other	2 802	3 112	406	75	2 290	2	2 773	315	23	1
Africa	512 624	540 085	2 538	350	57 503	243	60 634	479 418	30	3
SADC	496 550	521 290	2 288	317	40 691	200	43 496	477 786	6	2
Angola	3 289	3 980	377	-	3 430	5	3 812	168	-	-
Botswana	36 708	35 397	28	3	3 849	66	3 946	31 451	-	-
DRC	2 650	2 777	4	1	2 140	36	2 181	596	-	-
Lesotho	133 157	133 321	44	-	898	1	943	132 378	-	-
Madagascar	343	354	1	-	335	2	338	16	-	-

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

Country of residence	October		Mode of travel (October 2012)							
			Air					Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2011	2012	Cape Town	K Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total			
Malawi	12 756	12 224	5	1	2 141	7	2 154	10 070	-	-
Mauritius	1 483	1 509	165	73	1 153	-	1 391	118	-	-
Mozambique	82 664	90 191	88	70	4 489	13	4 660	85 531	-	-
Namibia	15 971	16 123	1 527	1	5 034	18	6 580	9 539	4	-
Seychelles	289	203	-	1	196	-	197	6	-	-
Swaziland	61 398	61 522	-	1	1 226	6	1 233	60 289	-	-
Tanzania	2 725	3 264	9	-	1 800	1	1 810	1 454	-	-
Zambia	13 869	14 557	11	156	4 928	11	5 106	9 451	-	-
Zimbabwe	129 248	145 868	29	10	9 072	34	9 145	136 719	2	2
'Other' Africa	16 074	18 795	250	33	16 812	43	17 138	1 632	24	1
East and Central Africa	5 856	7 084	41	11	6 279	19	6 350	718	16	-
Burundi	76	144	1	-	134	-	135	9	-	-
Cameroon	463	536	2	-	461	1	464	70	2	-
Central African Republic	12	20	-	-	19	1	20	-	-	-
Chad	31	43	-	-	42	-	42	1	-	-
Comoros	20	20	1	-	13	-	14	6	-	-
Congo	296	330	9	-	307	1	317	10	3	-
Djibouti	7	4	-	-	4	-	4	-	-	-
Equatorial Guinea	67	39	2	1	28	8	39	-	-	-
Eritrea	63	70	-	-	63	1	64	6	-	-
Ethiopia	605	650	5	7	567	-	579	65	6	-
Gabon	365	456	3	-	451	-	454	1	1	-
Kenya	2 424	3 149	11	3	2 791	4	2 809	339	1	-
Reunion	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rwanda	227	326	-	-	307	3	310	16	-	-
Sao Tome and Principe	16	17	3	-	14	-	17	-	-	-
Somalia	10	24	-	-	24	-	24	-	-	-
Uganda	1 173	1 256	4	-	1 054	-	1 058	195	3	-

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

Country of residence	October		Mode of travel (October 2012)							
			Air					Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2011	2012	Cape Town	K Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total			
West Africa	9 145	10 345	117	4	9 332	23	9 476	860	8	1
Benin	113	166	1	-	152	2	155	11	-	-
Burkina Faso	62	82	1	-	78	-	79	3	-	-
Cape Verde Island	39	49	3	-	43	-	46	3	-	-
Côte D'Ivoire	165	298	7	-	282	2	291	7	-	-
Gambia	88	99	-	-	88	-	88	11	-	-
Ghana	1 757	2 083	43	1	1 857	2	1 903	178	2	-
Guinea	217	270	6	-	154	-	160	110	-	-
Guinea-Bissau	30	25	-	-	20	-	20	5	-	-
Liberia	51	70	7	-	61	-	68	2	-	-
Mali	146	149	2	-	137	-	139	10	-	-
Mauritania	20	33	2	1	30	-	33	-	-	-
Niger	26	36	-	-	34	-	34	2	-	-
Nigeria	5 998	6 406	36	2	5 851	16	5 905	494	6	1
Senegal	269	358	7	-	339	-	346	12	-	-
Sierra Leone	121	128	2	-	114	-	116	12	-	-
Togo	43	93	-	-	92	1	93	-	-	-
North Africa	1 073	1 366	92	18	1 201	1	1 312	54	-	-
Algeria	128	194	10	-	173	-	183	11	-	-
Egypt	506	717	29	9	644	-	682	35	-	-
Libya	52	88	20	-	60	1	81	7	-	-
Morocco	144	144	20	3	120	-	143	1	-	-
The Sudan	165	121	9	4	108	-	121	-	-	-
Tunisia	78	101	4	2	95	-	101	-	-	-
Western Sahara	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
Unspecified	2 482	2 302	107	14	1 500	8	1 629	669	4	-

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

Country of residence	October		Purpose of visit (October 2012)			
	2011	2012	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
Total	723 247	784 862	17 565	704 690	5 697	56 910
Overseas	208 141	242 475	8 118	192 842	733	40 782
Europe	130 456	146 550	5 008	121 719	411	19 412
Austria	2 294	3 221	62	2 585	4	570
Belgium	4 980	5 132	136	4 453	6	537
Denmark	2 474	2 921	76	2 450	13	382
France	11 285	13 379	503	10 651	45	2 180
Germany	28 634	31 080	586	26 377	68	4 049
Ireland	2 191	2 353	115	2 040	10	188
Italy	4 484	5 257	234	4 060	14	949
Norway	1 991	2 090	79	1 646	29	336
Portugal	3 371	3 944	95	3 213	14	622
Spain	2 428	3 131	162	2 109	2	858
Sweden	3 643	4 409	172	3 718	15	504
Switzerland	5 460	7 196	99	5 204	13	1 880
The Netherlands	14 357	14 094	358	12 936	37	763
UK	36 095	39 787	1 902	33 404	112	4 369
Other	6 769	8 556	429	6 873	29	1 225
North America	29 330	34 311	1 013	28 456	92	4 750
Canada	5 597	6 932	176	5 840	17	899
USA	23 731	27 378	837	22 615	75	3 851
Other	2	1	-	1	-	-
Central and South America	7 823	10 822	174	5 967	16	4 665
Argentina	1 112	1 190	25	693	1	471
Brazil	5 072	7 396	70	3 807	6	3 513
Colombia	129	348	11	279	3	55
Other	1 510	1 888	68	1 188	6	626

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

Country of residence	October		Purpose of visit (October 2012)			
	2011	2012	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
Australasia	9 490	11 638	291	9 575	21	1 751
Australia	8 106	9 733	248	7 980	13	1 492
New Zealand	1 360	1 873	39	1 582	5	247
Other	24	32	4	13	3	12
Middle East	3 328	3 349	195	2 860	36	258
Israel	1 847	1 564	87	1 332	5	140
Lebanon	227	263	21	184	2	56
Saudi Arabia	501	641	8	619	11	3
Other	753	881	79	725	18	59
Asia	27 714	35 805	1 437	24 265	157	9 946
China	7 258	11 404	355	7 648	33	3 368
India	8 191	8 600	513	6 518	44	1 525
Japan	3 955	5 256	162	3 361	9	1 724
Malaysia	855	1 010	62	761	5	182
Pakistan	1 302	1 537	57	1 137	7	336
Philippines	863	1 425	37	656	6	726
South Korea	1 193	1 434	62	991	25	356
Taiwan	794	1 109	11	870	4	224
Vietnam	501	918	10	105	7	796
Other	2 802	3 112	168	2 218	17	709
Africa	512 624	540 085	9 347	510 103	4 952	15 683
SADC	496 550	521 290	8 430	495 520	4 571	12 769
Angola	3 289	3 980	111	2 780	122	967
Botswana	36 708	35 397	217	32 791	575	1 814
DRC	2 650	2 777	71	2 485	71	150
Lesotho	133 157	133 321	75	131 823	1 035	388
Madagascar	343	354	8	217	4	125

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

Country of residence	October		Purpose of visit (October 2012)			
	2011	2012	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
Malawi	12 756	12 224	290	11 235	34	665
Mauritius	1 483	1 509	70	1 116	4	319
Mozambique	82 664	90 191	1 149	86 830	92	2 120
Namibia	15 971	16 123	2 168	11 530	599	1 826
Seychelles	289	203	4	193	1	5
Swaziland	61 398	61 522	1 189	58 413	1 291	629
Tanzania	2 725	3 264	76	2 686	38	464
Zambia	13 869	14 557	1 305	12 081	99	1 072
Zimbabwe	129 248	145 868	1 697	141 340	606	2 225
'Other' Africa	16 074	18 795	917	14 583	381	2 914
East and Central Africa	5 856	7 084	393	5 473	207	1 011
Burundi	76	144	8	98	4	34
Cameroon	463	536	19	377	22	118
Central African Republic	12	20	3	13	-	4
Chad	31	43	-	33	4	6
Comoros	20	20	-	16	3	1
Congo	296	330	12	220	19	79
Djibouti	7	4	1	3	-	-
Equatorial Guinea	67	39	8	28	3	-
Eritrea	63	70	3	56	-	11
Ethiopia	605	650	30	559	7	54
Gabon	365	456	4	371	25	56
Kenya	2 424	3 149	215	2 512	87	335
Reunion	1	-	-	-	-	-
Rwanda	227	326	13	206	6	101
Sao Tome and Principe	16	17	3	10	-	4
Somalia	10	24	2	9	2	11
Uganda	1 173	1 256	72	962	25	197

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

Country of residence	October		Purpose of visit (October 2012)			
	2011	2012	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
West Africa	9 145	10 345	420	8 141	147	1 637
Benin	113	166	6	108	8	44
Burkina Faso	62	82	7	59	2	14
Cape Verde Island	39	49	-	39	-	10
Côte D'Ivoire	165	298	22	209	5	62
Gambia	88	99	2	45	-	52
Ghana	1 757	2 083	99	1 604	15	365
Guinea	217	270	4	167	2	97
Guinea-Bissau	30	25	5	12	-	8
Liberia	51	70	10	50	3	7
Mali	146	149	4	97	-	48
Mauritania	20	33	5	20	-	8
Niger	26	36	2	29	1	4
Nigeria	5 998	6 406	230	5 346	109	721
Senegal	269	358	15	235	-	108
Sierra Leone	121	128	7	80	2	39
Togo	43	93	2	41	-	50
North Africa	1 073	1 366	104	969	27	266
Algeria	128	194	9	146	9	30
Egypt	506	717	48	520	2	147
Libya	52	88	3	64	11	10
Morocco	144	144	14	95	-	35
The Sudan	165	121	18	93	5	5
Tunisia	78	101	12	50	-	39
Western Sahara	-	1	-	1	-	-
Unspecified	2 482	2 302	100	1 745	12	445

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

Sex	Age group	Total	Region (October 2012)			
			Overseas	SADC	'Other' African	Unspecified
All	Total	784 862	242 475	521 290	18 795	2 302
	<15	34 637	12 196	21 774	629	38
	15 - 64	703 258	196 212	487 015	17 818	2 213
	65+	46 368	33 977	12 001	341	49
	Unspecified	599	90	500	7	2
Male	Total	445 140	137 186	293 342	13 178	1 434
	<15	17 181	6 343	10 472	349	17
	15 - 64	404 024	113 023	277 030	12 584	1 387
	65+	23 597	17 768	5 560	241	28
	Unspecified	338	52	280	4	2
Female	Total	338 782	105 024	227 278	5 612	868
	<15	17 456	5 853	11 302	280	21
	15 - 64	298 482	82 994	209 430	5 232	826
	65+	22 659	16 152	6 386	100	21
	Unspecified	185	25	160	-	-
Unspecified	Total	940	265	670	5	-
	<15	-	-	-	-	-
	15 - 64	752	195	555	2	-
	65+	112	57	55	-	-
	Unspecified	76	13	60	3	-

4. Explanatory notes

4.1 Introduction

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

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

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

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

4.2 Purpose of the statistical release

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

4.3 Scope and coverage

The release covers data on arrivals and departures of South African residents and foreign travellers. A detailed analysis of the data on foreign tourists with respect to: mode of travel, purpose of visit, sex and age distribution is covered in the release. Statistics on documented migration, that is self-declared emigrants, are not reported due to the unavailability of data.

4.4 Data

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

- Data routinely collected by immigration officers at all road, air and sea entry ports on all travellers (South African residents and foreign travellers) arriving into or departing from South Africa are captured into the DHA's population Movement Control System (MCS). The counts/statistics relate to the number of individual movements, rather than to the number of people. Hence, the multiple movements of individual people during the calendar month are each counted separately. Generally the data are collected directly from travel documents either by scanning or capturing onto the port's electronic database. No forms or cards are used (except in rare occasions when the capturing system is down) to collect information from travellers. Individual ports regularly transmit data onto the national database at the head office of the DHA.
- Stats SA downloads the data covering a particular calendar month from the mainframe of the State Information Technology Agency (SITA), where the DHA stores its data.
- As part of data interrogation, data from the OR Tambo International Airport, which has the highest volume of travellers, are compared with passenger statistics from the Airport Company of South Africa (ACSA). As expected, in any specific month, an increase in the volume of passengers reported by ACSA has been accompanied by an increase in the volume of travellers recorded by DHA. A similar pattern was also

observed when the volume of travellers decreased. However, the volume of passengers recorded by ACSA is generally higher than that of the DHA because of, among other reasons, travellers who are in transit and those who boarded airplanes but were refused entry into the country. In October 2012, the DHA data was 1,4% lower than that of ACSA.

4.5 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.

4.6 Definitions of terms

4.6.1 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.

4.6.2 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, 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 fourteen countries, excluding South Africa, which belongs 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.

4.7 Symbols used

- = nil

< = less than

5. 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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