



The South Africa I know, the home I understand



Statistical release

P0351

Tourism and Migration

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Preface

This monthly statistical release provides information on South African residents and foreign travellers who entered or left South Africa in October 2013. Specific focus is on foreign tourists who entered the country during this month. The tourists are classified by region and country of residence. Details of their mode of travel; purpose of visit; and age and sex distribution are also provided.

PJ Lehohla
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 South Africa show that a total of 3 185 067 travellers (arrivals and departures) passed through South African ports of entry in October 2013. As presented in Table 1 on page 8, these travellers were made up of 788 878 South African residents and 2 396 189 foreign travellers. A further breakdown of the figures for South African residents indicates that there were 401 853 arrivals and 387 025 departures. The corresponding volumes for foreign arrivals and departures were 1 283 885 and 1 112 304, respectively.

A comparison between the movements in September 2013 and October 2013 indicates that the volumes of arrivals and departures decreased for South African residents while the volume of arrivals and departures increased for foreign travellers. The volume of arrivals for South African residents decreased by 8,1% (from 437 427 in September 2013 to 401 853 in October 2013) and their departures decreased by 12,6% (from 442 597 in September 2013 to 387 025 in October 2013). Foreign arrivals increased by 2,5% (from 1 252 142 in September 2013 to 1 283 885 in October 2013) and foreign departures increased by 2,6% (from 1 083 862 in September 2013 to 1 112 304 in October 2013).

A comparison between the movements in October 2012 and October 2013 indicates that the volumes of arrivals decreased for South African residents and increased for foreign travellers while departures increased for both South African residents and foreign travellers. The volume of arrivals for South African residents decreased by 2,0% (from 410 208 in October 2012 to 401 853 in October 2013) while the volume of their departures increased by 1,4% (from 381 828 in October 2012 to 387 025 in October 2013). Similarly, the volume of arrivals for foreign travellers increased by 7,9% (from 1 189 515 in October 2012 to 1 283 885 in October 2013) and the volume of their departures increased by 14,2% (from 973 915 in October 2012 to 1 112 304 in October 2013).

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 2013, 67 394 (5,2%) foreign arrivals were classified as non-visitors while 1 216 491 (94,8%) were classified as visitors. The visitors were categorised into three groups:

- i. arrivals only – comprising of visitors who entered the country in October 2013 but did not depart in October 2013 [377 711 (31,0%)];
- ii. single trips – visitors who came once in October 2013 and left in October 2013 [447 659 (36,8%)]; and
- iii. multiple trips – visitors who came and left more than once in October 2013 [391 121 (32,2%)].

Visitors were further grouped as same-day visitors and overnight visitors (tourists). In October 2013, there were 421 997 (34,7%) same-day visitors and 794 494 (65,3%) tourists. Between September 2013 and October 2013, the volume of same-day visitors increased by 5,9% (from 398 322 in September 2013 to 421 997 in October 2013) and tourists increased by 1,3% (from 783 933 in September 2013 to 794 494 in October 2013). Likewise, between October 2012 and October 2013, the volume of same-day visitors increased by 22,1% (from 345 603 in October 2012 to 421 997 in October 2013) while the volume of tourists increased by 1,2% (from 784 862 in October 2012 to 794 494 in October 2013).

1.1.2 Mode of travel

Travellers who cross South Africa's borders rarely use trains since they are mainly used for transporting goods. Data presented in Table 2 on page 9 show that in October 2013, road transport was the most common mode of travel used by 2 284 010 (71,7%) out of the 3 185 067 travellers. The total number of travellers who used air transport was 892 196 (28,0%). The arrivals data on South African residents show that 153 051 (38,1%) came by air and 248 438 (61,8%) came by road. For departures, 135 518 (35,0%) and 251 063 (64,9%) used air and road transport respectively.

In the case of foreign travellers, 349 119 (27,2%) arrived by air while those who came by road were 930 356 (72,5%). When departing South Africa, 254 508 (22,9%) foreign travellers left by air whilst 854 153 (76,8%) left by road. Table 2 further shows that an overwhelming majority [403 042 (95,5%)] of same-day visitors arrived in the country by road. Only 18 943 (4,5%) same-day visitors flew into the country. Data on tourists show that, 495 023 (62,3%) used road transport while 299 046 (37,6%) 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 on page 10. In October 2013, 230 091 (89,1%) overseas tourists arrived in the country by air whilst 27 942 (10,8%) 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 [465 227 (90,5%)]. Only 49 092 (9,5%) 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 18 461 (92,7%); with 1 384 (6,9%) using road transport.

1.2.2 Regional and national distribution

In October 2013, the distribution of overseas tourists was as follows; Europe, 158 322 (61,3%); Asia, 36 572 (14,2%); North America, 36 234 (14,0%); Australasia, 12 569 (4,9%); Central and South America, 11 196 (4,3%) and Middle East, 3 487 (1,3%). Virtually all tourists from Africa came from the SADC countries, [514 328 (96,3%)]. The distribution of the remaining tourists from Africa is as follows: West Africa, [10 900 (2,0%)]; East and Central Africa, 7 337 (1,4%) and North Africa 1 677 (0,3%).

Data presented in Figure 1 on page 6 indicate that United Kingdom (UK), 39 543 (15,3%); Germany, 36 545 (14,1%); United States of America (USA), 29 180 (11,3%); France, 15 775 (6,1%); The Netherlands, 14 987 (5,8%); China, 11 084 (4,3%); Australia 10 580 (4,1%); India, 8 357 (3,2%); Switzerland, 8 274 (3,2%) and Brazil, 7 121 (2,8%) were the ten leading overseas countries visiting South Africa in October 2013. Tourists from these ten countries constituted 70,2% of all tourists from overseas countries. A comparison between movements in October 2012 and October 2013 shows that the number of tourists increased in six countries (France, Germany, Switzerland, Australia, USA and The Netherlands) and decreased in four countries (Brazil, India, China and UK). France had the highest increase of 17,9% (from 13 379 tourists in October 2012 to 15 775 tourists in October 2013) while Brazil had the largest decrease of 3,7% (from 7 396 tourists in October 2012 to 7 121 tourists in October 2013).

The ten leading SADC countries in the number of tourists visiting South Africa in October 2013 were Zimbabwe, 151 407 (29,4%); Lesotho, 102 846 (20,0%); Mozambique, 92 717 (18,0%); Swaziland, 64 645 (12,6%); Botswana, 39 318 (7,6%); Namibia, 18 514 (3,6%); Malawi, 15 909 (3,1%); Zambia, 15 055 (2,9%); Angola, 5 030 (1,0%) and Tanzania, 3 501 (0,7%) (see Figure 2 on page 6). Tourists from these ten countries constituted 99,0% of all tourists from the SADC countries. A comparison between movements in October 2012 and October 2013 shows that the number of tourists increased in nine countries (Malawi, Angola, Namibia, Botswana, Tanzania, Swaziland, Zimbabwe, Zambia and Mozambique) and decreased in one country (Lesotho). Malawi had the highest increase of 30,1% (from 12 224 tourists in October 2012 to 15 909 tourists in October 2013) while Lesotho had a decrease of 22,9% (from 133 321 tourists in October 2012 to 102 846 tourists in October 2013).

The ten leading countries in the number of tourists visiting South Africa in October 2013 from 'other' African countries, as shown in Figure 3 on page 7, were Nigeria, 6 821 (34,3%); Kenya, 3 039 (15,3%); Ghana, 2 214 (11,1%); Uganda, 1 342 (6,7%); Ethiopia, 825 (4,1%); Egypt, 810 (4,1%); Gabon, 598 (3,0%); Cameroon, 488 (2,5%); Senegal, 388 (1,9%) and Congo, 331 (1,7%). Tourists from these ten countries constituted 84,6% of all tourists from 'other' African countries. A comparison between movements in October 2012 and October 2013 shows that the number of tourists increased in eight countries (Gabon, Ethiopia, Egypt, Senegal, Uganda, Nigeria, Ghana and Congo) and decreased in two countries (Cameroon and Kenya). Gabon had the highest increase of 31,1% (from 456 tourists in October 2012 to 598 tourists in October 2013). Cameroon showed the largest decrease of 9,0% (from 536 tourists in October 2012 to 488 tourists in October 2013).

1.2.3 Purpose of visit

As observed from data given in Table 4 on page 14, in October 2013, a majority [705 637 (88,8%)] of tourists were in South Africa for holidays compared to only 68 851 (8,7%), 16 082 (2,0%) and 3 924 (0,5%) of tourists who were in South Africa in transit; for business and for study purposes respectively. A detailed analysis reveals that of all the tourists from each of the overseas regions, at least 54,0% came to South Africa for holidays. A total of 2 963 (85,0%) from Middle East; 10 223 (81,3%) tourists from Australasia; 29 191 (80,6%) from North America; 126 063 (79,6%) from Europe, 24 078 (65,8%) from Asia and 6 092 (54,4%) from Central and South America were in South Africa for holidays. Middle East had a higher proportion (5,2%) of its tourists for business while Central and South America (43,5%) had a higher proportion of its tourists in transit compared to other overseas regions.

The majority of African tourists [505 683 (94,7%)] came to South Africa for holidays. However, there were differences between tourists from the SADC countries and 'other' African countries namely:

- Whereas 490 435 (95,4%) of tourists from the SADC countries were on holidays; 15 248 (76,6%) 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% (8 573); 74,5% (5 464) and 72,2% (1 211) for West Africa; East and Central Africa; and North Africa, respectively.
- Business persons constituted 4,9% (970) of tourists from 'other' African countries and 1,3% (6 758) from the SADC countries. North Africa had the highest proportion of 6,7% (113) of its tourists in South Africa for business.
- Students made up 2,5% (497) of tourists from 'other' African countries compared with 0,5% (2 728) from the SADC countries.
- The proportion of tourists in transit was higher for those from 'other' African countries [16,1% (3 199)] compared to those from SADC countries [2,8% (14 407)].

1.2.4 Sex and age distribution

Table 5 on page 18 shows that, in October 2013, there were 447 212 (56,3%) male and 346 476 (43,6%) female tourists. Overseas tourists were made up of 142 653 (55,2%) male tourists and 115 516 (44,7%) female tourists. There were 289 680 (56,3%) male and 224 061 (43,6%) female tourists from the SADC countries. The tourists from 'other' African countries were made up of 13 626 (68,4%) males and 6 284 (31,6%) 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 35 157 (4,4%) tourists were aged less than 15 years; 706 904 (89,0%) were aged between 15 and 64 years; and 51 938 (6,5%) were aged 65 years and older. Taking the regions of residence into consideration, the results further show that 205 770 (79,6%) of overseas tourists were aged between 15 and 64 years compared with 480 469 (93,4%) and 18 843 (94,6%) of tourists in the same age range from the SADC countries and 'other' African countries respectively.

The proportion of tourists aged less than 15 years was slightly higher among tourists from overseas [5,0% (13 023)] than among tourists from SADC countries [4,2% (21 492)] and those from 'other' African countries [3,1% (627)].

A comparison of the three regions shows relatively high proportions of the elderly among both male [14,1% (20 116)] and female [16,7% (19 336)] tourists from overseas. This is in contrast to the pattern observed among tourists from the other two regions. Thus, 1,9% (5 639) of male and 2,8% (6 251) of female tourists from the SADC countries were aged 65 years and older. Likewise 2,0% (278) of male and 2,6% (162) of female tourists from 'other' African countries were aged 65 years and older.

2. Figures

Figure 1. Number of tourists from the ten leading overseas countries in October 2012 and October 2013

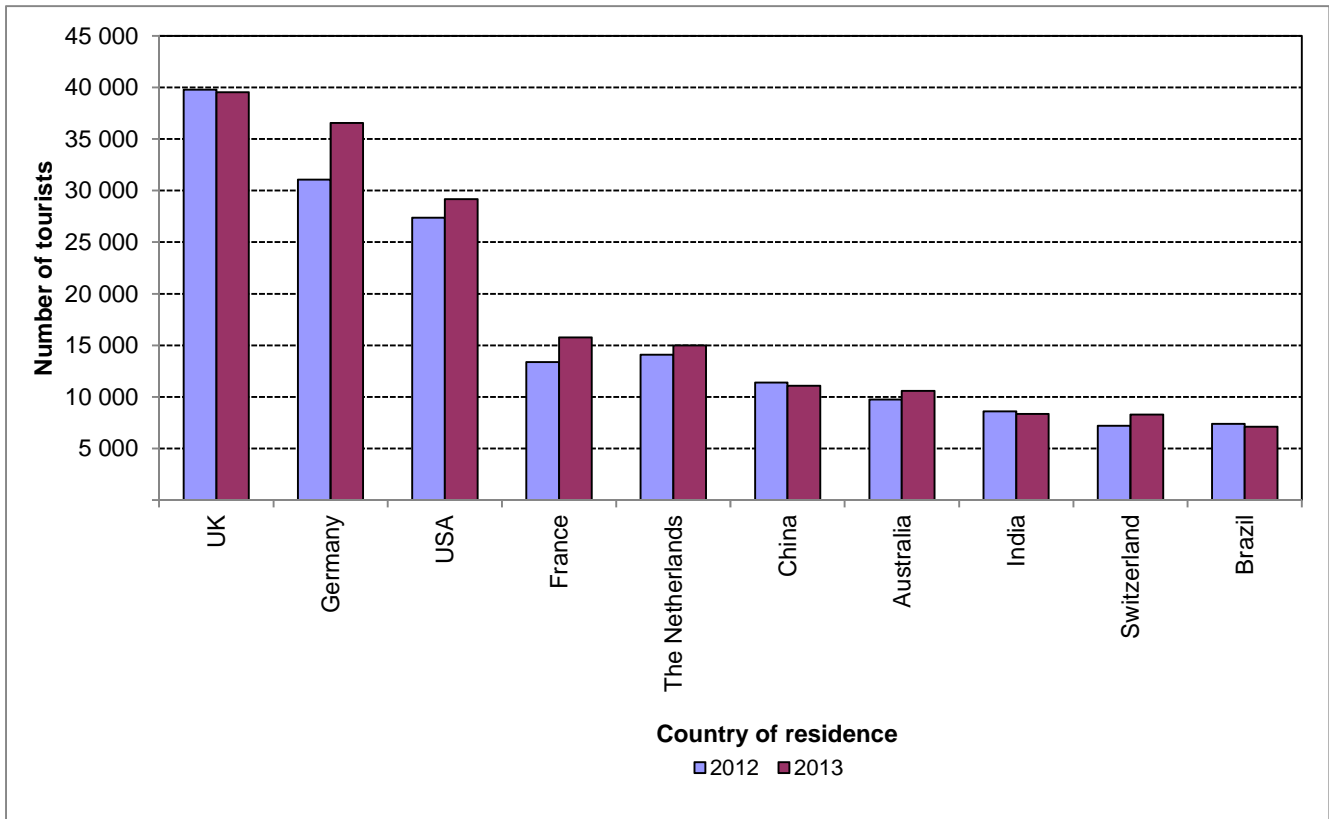


Figure 2. Number of tourists from the ten leading Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries in October 2012 and October 2013

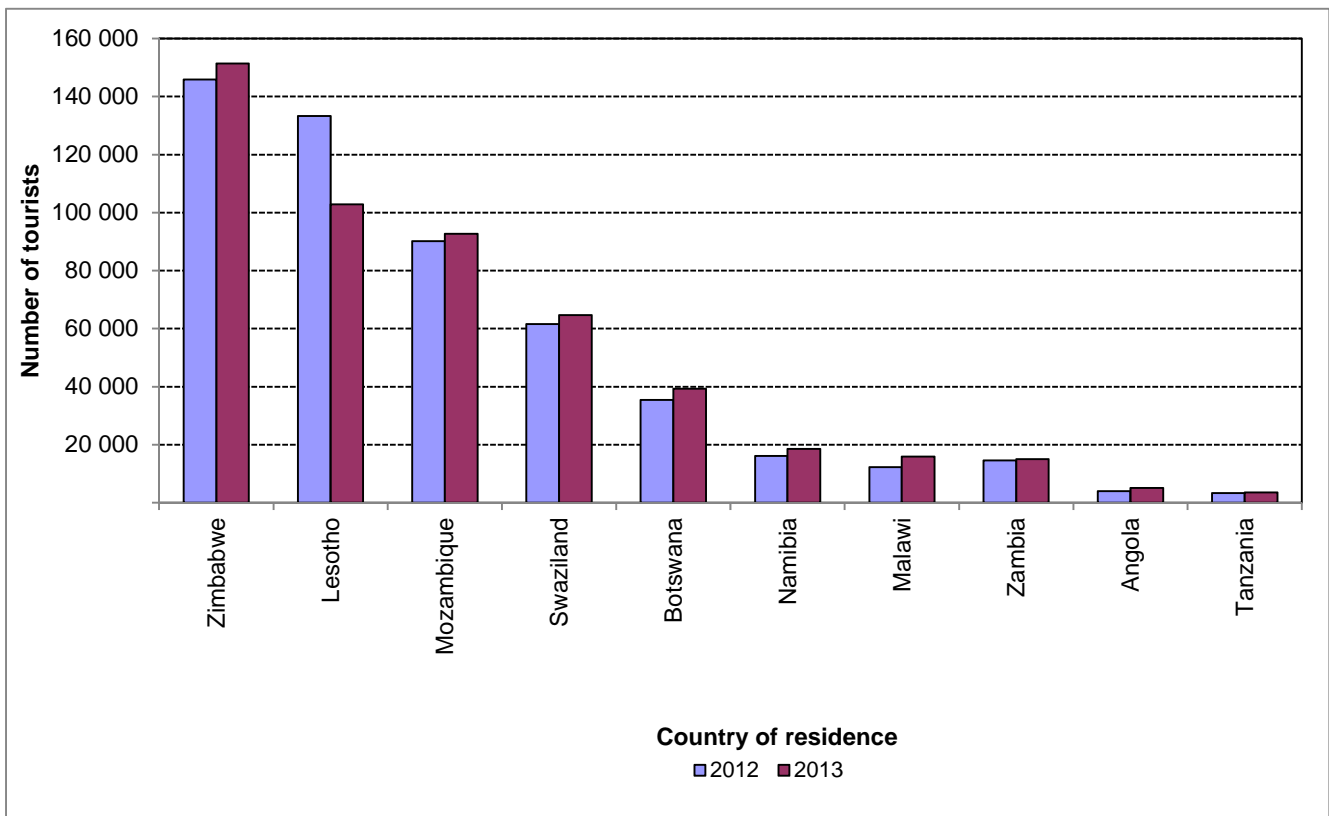
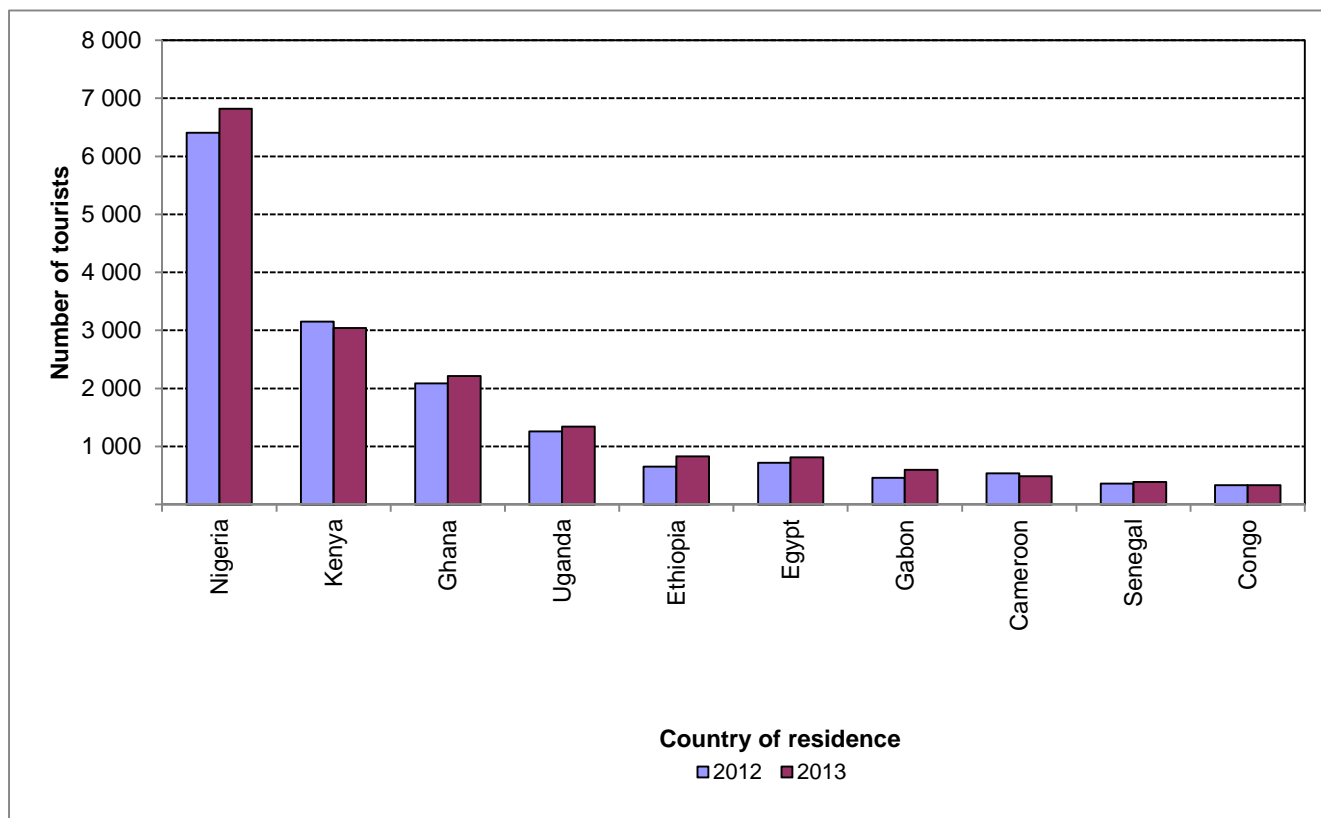


Figure 3. Number of tourists from the ten leading 'other' African countries in October 2012 and October 2013



3. Tables

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

Travel direction	2012	2013		% change	
	October	September	October	October 2012 - October 2013	September 2013 - October 2013
Total	2 955 466	3 216 028	3 185 067	7,8	-1,0
South African residents	792 036	880 024	788 878	-0,4	-10,4
Arrivals	410 208	437 427	401 853	-2,0	-8,1
Departures	381 828	442 597	387 025	1,4	-12,6
Foreign travellers	2 163 430	2 336 004	2 396 189	10,8	2,6
Arrivals	1 189 515	1 252 142	1 283 885	7,9	2,5
Departures	973 915	1 083 862	1 112 304	14,2	2,6
Foreign arrivals	1 189 515	1 252 142	1 283 885	7,9	2,5
Non-visitors	59 050	69 887	67 394	14,1	-3,6
Visitors	1 130 465	1 182 255	1 216 491	7,6	2,9
Visitors	1 130 465	1 182 255	1 216 491	7,6	2,9
Arrivals only	402 507	390 184	377 711	-6,2	-3,2
Single trips	400 303	434 939	447 659	11,8	2,9
Multiple trips	327 655	357 132	391 121	19,4	9,5
Visitor	1 130 465	1 182 255	1 216 491	7,6	2,9
Same-day	345 603	398 322	421 997	22,1	5,9
Overnight (Tourists)	784 862	783 933	794 494	1,2	1,3

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

Travel Direction	October		Mode of travel (October 2013)							
			Air					Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2012	2013	Cape Town	K Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total			
Total	2 955 466	3 185 067	115 152	22 686	745 139	9 219	892 196	2 284 010	8 754	107
South African residents	792 036	788 878	32 242	13 118	237 316	5 893	288 569	499 501	808	-
Arrivals	410 208	401 853	17 650	7 124	125 419	2 858	153 051	248 438	364	-
Departures	381 828	387 025	14 592	5 994	111 897	3 035	135 518	251 063	444	-
Foreign travellers	2 163 430	2 396 189	82 910	9 568	507 823	3 326	603 627	1 784 509	7 946	107
Arrivals	1 189 515	1 283 885	44 660	5 180	297 552	1 727	349 119	930 356	4 303	107
Departures	973 915	1 112 304	38 250	4 388	210 271	1 599	254 508	854 153	3 643	-
Visitors	1 130 465	1 216 491	39 546	3 710	273 526	1 207	317 989	898 065	358	79
Same-day	345 603	421 997	298	29	18 499	117	18 943	403 042	12	-
Overnight (Tourists)	784 862	794 494	39 248	3 681	255 027	1 090	299 046	495 023	346	79

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

Country of residence	October		Mode of travel (October 2013)							
	2012	2013	Air					Road	Sea	Unspecified
			Cape Town	K Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total			
Total	784 862	794 494	39 248	3 681	255 027	1 090	299 046	495 023	346	79
Overseas	242 475	258 380	36 241	3 071	189 882	897	230 091	27 942	302	45
Europe	146 550	158 322	28 525	2 312	107 027	291	138 155	19 938	223	6
Austria	3 221	3 026	460	31	2 180	5	2 676	349	1	-
Belgium	5 132	5 231	758	11	3 633	6	4 408	822	-	1
Denmark	2 921	3 338	423	29	2 532	1	2 985	352	1	-
France	13 379	15 775	2 392	89	10 984	61	13 526	2 232	17	-
Germany	31 080	36 545	6 438	373	24 574	24	31 409	5 127	8	1
Ireland	2 353	2 362	495	78	1 532	1	2 106	251	5	-
Italy	5 257	6 092	1 152	93	4 420	30	5 695	395	2	-
Norway	2 090	2 166	421	2	1 529		1 952	210	4	-
Portugal	3 944	4 353	384	43	2 439	17	2 883	1 469	1	-
Spain	3 131	3 129	446	52	2 293	13	2 804	324	-	1
Sweden	4 409	4 474	977	104	3 047	2	4 130	338	6	-
Switzerland	7 196	8 274	1 545	54	5 738	14	7 351	921	2	-
The Netherlands	14 094	14 987	2 689	107	8 628	12	11 436	3 537	11	3
UK	39 787	39 543	7 946	1 096	27 370	77	36 489	2 900	154	-
Other	8 556	9 027	1 999	150	6 128	28	8 305	711	11	-
North America	34 311	36 234	3 061	176	29 125	500	32 862	3 362	9	1
Canada	6 932	7 054	909	43	5 114	34	6 100	947	6	1
USA	27 378	29 180	2 152	133	24 011	466	26 762	2 415	3	-
Other	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Central and South America	10 822	11 196	225	31	10 322	30	10 608	584	4	-
Argentina	1 190	1 605	14		1 537	2	1 553	51	1	-
Brazil	7 396	7 121	81	11	6 629	16	6 737	382	2	-
Mexico	254	367	38	2	309	4	353	14	-	-
Other	1 982	2 103	92	18	1 847	8	1 965	137	1	-

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

Country of residence	October		Mode of travel (October 2013)							
	2012	2013	Air					Road	Sea	Unspecified
			Cape Town	K Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total			
Australasia	11 638	12 569	690	115	10 647	46	11 498	1 049	22	-
Australia	9 733	10 580	550	80	9 046	38	9 714	852	14	-
New Zealand	1 873	1 949	129	35	1 575	8	1 747	194	8	-
Other	32	40	11	-	26	-	37	3	-	-
Middle East	3 349	3 487	305	26	2 947	11	3 289	194	3	1
Israel	1 564	1 725	56	-	1 518	8	1 582	141	2	-
Lebanon	263	267	25	6	217	-	248	19	-	-
Saudi Arabia	641	572	57	7	508	-	572	-	-	-
Other	881	923	167	13	704	3	887	34	1	1
Asia	35 805	36 572	3 435	411	29 814	19	33 679	2 815	41	37
China	11 404	11 084	1 013	57	9 348	-	10 418	666	-	-
India	8 600	8 357	764	189	6 513	1	7 467	876	9	5
Japan	5 256	6 366	284	6	5 899	3	6 192	174	-	-
Malaysia	1 010	1 023	329	34	643	1	1 007	16	-	-
Pakistan	1 537	1 289	94	37	755	-	886	391	5	7
Philippines	1 425	1 299	62	14	1 128	-	1 204	88	7	-
Singapore	722	919	286	14	585	12	897	22	-	-
South Korea	1 434	1 734	120	18	1 400	1	1 539	195	-	-
Taiwan	1 109	1 311	96	-	1 085	-	1 181	115	1	14
Other	3 308	3 190	387	42	2 458	1	2 888	272	19	11
Africa	540 085	534 242	2 949	601	63 813	190	67 553	466 611	44	34
SADC	521 290	514 328	2 744	519	45 665	164	49 092	465 227	3	6
Angola	3 980	5 030	591	-	4 265	18	4 874	155	-	1
Botswana	35 397	39 318	193	2	4 080	47	4 322	34 996	-	-
DRC	2 777	2 553	9	-	1 989	12	2 010	543	-	-
Lesotho	133 321	102 846	-	3	1 012	2	1 017	101 829	-	-
Madagascar	354	517	1	-	506	-	507	10	-	-

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

Country of residence	October		Mode of travel (October 2013)							
			Air					Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2012	2013	Cape Town	K Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total			
Malawi	12 224	15 909	4	8	2 076	8	2 096	13 813	-	-
Mauritius	1 509	1 750	171	121	1 327	7	1 626	124	-	-
Mozambique	90 191	92 717	96	74	5 830	18	6 018	86 699	-	-
Namibia	16 123	18 514	1 600	1	5 376	8	6 985	11 527	1	1
Seychelles	203	566	-	1	560	-	561	5	-	-
Swaziland	61 522	64 645	1	1	1 228	1	1 231	63 414	-	-
Tanzania	3 264	3 501	10	3	2 323	2	2 338	1 163	-	-
Zambia	14 557	15 055	18	146	5 137	6	5 307	9 747	1	-
Zimbabwe	145 868	151 407	50	159	9 956	35	10 200	141 202	1	4
'Other' Africa	18 795	19 914	205	82	18 148	26	18 461	1 384	41	28
East and Central Africa	7 084	7 337	45	26	6 596	19	6 686	629	8	14
Burundi	144	170	-	-	158	-	158	12	-	-
Cameroon	536	488	4	5	439	-	448	38	1	1
Central African Republic	20	18	-	-	18	-	18	-	-	-
Chad	43	42	-	-	42	-	42	-	-	-
Comoros	20	32	-	-	30	-	30	2	-	-
Congo	330	331	1	-	309	4	314	5	5	7
Djibouti	4	12	-	-	12	-	12	-	-	-
Equatorial Guinea	39	80	-	1	68	11	80	-	-	-
Eritrea	70	37	2	-	34	-	36	1	-	-
Ethiopia	650	825	5	8	755	-	768	54	2	1
Gabon	456	598	2	-	591	-	593	5	-	-
Kenya	3 149	3 039	20	9	2 692	2	2 723	315	-	1
Rwanda	326	295	1	-	272	1	274	21	-	-
Sao Tome and Principe	17	15	3	-	10	-	13	2	-	-
Somalia	24	13	-	-	9	-	9	2	-	2
Uganda	1 256	1 342	7	3	1 157	1	1 168	172	-	2

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

Country of residence	October		Mode of travel (October 2013)							
	2012	2013	Air					Road	Sea	Unspecified
			Cape Town	K Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total			
West Africa	10 345	10 900	61	20	10 059	6	10 146	711	31	12
Benin	166	177	1	-	169	-	170	7	-	-
Burkina Faso	82	135	1	4	129	-	134	1	-	-
Cape Verde Island	49	58	7	-	42	-	49	9	-	-
Côte D'Ivoire	298	243	2	2	230	-	234	9	-	-
Gambia	99	122	-	-	118	-	118	4	-	-
Ghana	2 083	2 214	27	5	2 028	-	2 060	152	-	2
Guinea	270	252	1	-	148	-	149	103	-	-
Guinea-Bissau	25	20	-	-	14	-	14	6	-	-
Liberia	70	69	1	-	65	-	66	3	-	-
Mali	149	137	1	1	114	-	116	21	-	-
Mauritania	33	30	1	-	29	-	30	-	-	-
Niger	36	42	1	-	41	-	42	-	-	-
Nigeria	6 406	6 821	15	7	6 403	6	6 431	376	4	10
Saint Helena	-	27	-	-	-	-	-	-	27	-
Senegal	358	388	1	1	375	-	377	11	-	-
Sierra Leone	128	103	1	-	94	-	95	8	-	-
Togo	93	62	1	-	60	-	61	1	-	-
North Africa	1 366	1 677	99	36	1 493	1	1 629	44	2	2
Algeria	194	141	10	1	128	-	139	-	1	1
Egypt	717	810	24	9	752	-	785	23	1	1
Libya	88	135	34	9	84	-	127	8	-	-
Morocco	144	146	15	5	121	1	142	4	-	-
South Sudan	-	108	-	-	107	-	107	1	-	-
The Sudan	121	135	8	4	123	-	135	-	-	-
Tunisia	101	194	8	8	170	-	186	8	-	-
Western Sahara	1	8	-	-	8	-	8	-	-	-
Unspecified	2 302	1 872	58	9	1 332	3	1 402	470	-	-

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

Country of residence	October		Purpose of visit (October 2013)			
	2012	2013	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
Total	784 862	794 494	16 082	705 637	3 924	68 851
Overseas	242 475	258 380	8 295	198 610	693	50 782
Europe	146 550	158 322	5 081	126 063	409	26 769
Austria	3 221	3 026	65	2 109	7	845
Belgium	5 132	5 231	204	4 381	18	628
Denmark	2 921	3 338	86	2 783	3	466
France	13 379	15 775	459	12 091	44	3 181
Germany	31 080	36 545	726	28 696	74	7 049
Ireland	2 353	2 362	94	2 021	4	243
Italy	5 257	6 092	250	4 322	24	1 496
Norway	2 090	2 166	45	1 600	14	507
Portugal	3 944	4 353	107	3 470	20	756
Spain	3 131	3 129	160	2 041	7	921
Sweden	4 409	4 474	206	3 604	4	660
Switzerland	7 196	8 274	82	5 726	10	2 456
The Netherlands	14 094	14 987	314	13 645	28	1 000
UK	39 787	39 543	1 762	32 571	116	5 094
Other	8 556	9 027	521	7 003	36	1 467
North America	34 311	36 234	950	29 191	83	6 010
Canada	6 932	7 054	162	5 796	14	1 082
USA	27 378	29 180	788	23 395	69	4 928
Other	1	-	-	-	-	-
Central and South America	10 822	11 196	202	6 092	36	4 866
Argentina	1 190	1 605	17	901	4	683
Brazil	7 396	7 121	89	3 570	16	3 446
Mexico	254	367	20	268	5	74
Other	1 982	2 103	76	1 353	11	663

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

Country of residence	October		Purpose of visit (October 2013)			
	2012	2013	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
Australasia	11 638	12 569	297	10 223	23	2 026
Australia	9 733	10 580	256	8 570	20	1 734
New Zealand	1 873	1 949	33	1 631	2	283
Other	32	40	8	22	1	9
Middle East	3 349	3 487	183	2 963	23	318
Israel	1 564	1 725	83	1 448	2	192
Lebanon	263	267	30	169	-	68
Saudi Arabia	641	572	8	557	4	3
Other	881	923	62	789	17	55
Asia	35 805	36 572	1 582	24 078	119	10 793
China	11 404	11 084	383	6 893	29	3 779
India	8 600	8 357	618	6 130	35	1 574
Japan	5 256	6 366	145	3 957	1	2 263
Malaysia	1 010	1 023	69	844	3	107
Pakistan	1 537	1 289	55	940	11	283
Philippines	1 425	1 299	27	424	7	841
Singapore	722	919	33	724	1	161
South Korea	1 434	1 734	83	1 268	15	368
Taiwan	1 109	1 311	19	936	4	352
Other	3 308	3 190	150	1 962	13	1 065
Africa	540 085	534 242	7 728	505 683	3 225	17 606
SADC	521 290	514 328	6 758	490 435	2 728	14 407
Angola	3 980	5 030	130	3 607	164	1 129
Botswana	35 397	39 318	298	36 709	415	1 896
DRC	2 777	2 553	77	2 169	102	205
Lesotho	133 321	102 846	62	101 791	516	477
Madagascar	354	517	11	184	12	310

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

Country of residence	October		Purpose of visit (October 2013)			
	2012	2013	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
Malawi	12 224	15 909	266	15 047	27	569
Mauritius	1 509	1 750	78	1 244	16	412
Mozambique	90 191	92 717	593	89 282	78	2 764
Namibia	16 123	18 514	2 495	13 671	346	2 002
Seychelles	203	566	9	525	1	31
Swaziland	61 522	64 645	151	63 389	494	611
Tanzania	3 264	3 501	109	2 787	47	558
Zambia	14 557	15 055	1 081	12 686	114	1 174
Zimbabwe	145 868	151 407	1 398	147 344	396	2 269
'Other' Africa	18 795	19 914	970	15 248	497	3 199
East and Central Africa	7 084	7 337	456	5 464	211	1 206
Burundi	144	170	5	101	2	62
Cameroon	536	488	21	323	18	126
Central African Republic	20	18	-	9	-	9
Chad	43	42	-	31	6	5
Comoros	20	32	-	24	1	7
Congo	330	331	7	262	24	38
Djibouti	4	12	1	9	-	2
Equatorial Guinea	39	80	24	42	6	8
Eritrea	70	37	-	33	1	3
Ethiopia	650	825	52	650	9	114
Gabon	456	598	3	486	24	85
Kenya	3 149	3 039	240	2 276	86	437
Rwanda	326	295	14	208	10	63
Sao Tome and Principe	17	15	-	14	-	1
Somalia	24	13	-	10	-	3
Uganda	1 256	1 342	89	986	24	243

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

Country of residence	October		Purpose of visit (October 2013)			
	2012	2013	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
West Africa	10 345	10 900	401	8 573	228	1 698
Benin	166	177	9	146	2	20
Burkina Faso	82	135	14	71	2	48
Cape Verde Island	49	58	-	53	-	5
Côte D'Ivoire	298	243	20	162	3	58
Gambia	99	122	9	61	3	49
Ghana	2 083	2 214	120	1 719	21	354
Guinea	270	252	3	174	1	74
Guinea-Bissau	25	20	-	10	-	10
Liberia	70	69	3	52	1	13
Mali	149	137	9	80	1	47
Mauritania	33	30	1	17	-	12
Niger	36	42	1	35	-	6
Nigeria	6 406	6 821	174	5 665	191	791
Saint Helena	-	27	-	27	-	-
Senegal	358	388	23	198	2	165
Sierra Leone	128	103	9	62	-	32
Togo	93	62	6	41	1	14
North Africa	1 366	1 677	113	1 211	58	295
Algeria	194	141	11	109	5	16
Egypt	717	810	59	542	7	202
Libya	88	135	5	79	25	26
Morocco	144	146	12	114	1	19
South Sudan	-	108	1	94	4	9
The Sudan	121	135	17	97	14	7
Tunisia	101	194	8	170	2	14
Western Sahara	1	8	-	6	-	2
Unspecified	2 302	1 872	59	1 344	6	463

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

Sex	Age group	Total	Region (October 2013)			
			Overseas	SADC	'Other' Africa	Unspecified
All	Total	794 494	258 380	514 328	19 914	1 872
	<15	35 157	13 023	21 492	627	15
	15-16	706 904	205 770	480 469	18 843	1 822
	65+	51 938	39 508	11 955	441	34
	Unspecified	495	79	412	3	1
Male	Total	447 212	142 653	289 680	13 626	1 253
	<15	17 574	6 718	10 529	317	10
	15-64	403 325	115 777	273 299	13 030	1 219
	65+	26 057	20 116	5 639	278	24
	Unspecified	256	42	213	1	-
Female	Total	346 476	115 516	224 061	6 284	615
	<15	17 583	6 305	10 963	310	5
	15-164	302 959	89 851	206 697	5 810	601
	65+	25 758	19 336	6 251	162	9
	Unspecified	176	24	150	2	-
Unspecified	Total	806	211	587	4	4
	15-164	620	142	473	3	2
	65+	123	56	65	1	1
	Unspecified	63	13	49	-	1

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 Department of Home Affairs (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 were in transit but whose information was not recorded by immigration and those who boarded airplanes but were refused entry into the country. In October 2013, the DHA data was 0,4% 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, that belong to the Southern African Development Community.

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

Overseas refers to all countries outside Africa.

Trip refers to the arrival and departure of a visitor in a specified month.

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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