



The South Africa I know, the home I understand

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# Statistical release

## P0351

# Tourism and Migration

October 2015

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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 2015. 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.

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**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 3 378 084 travellers (arrivals, departures and transits) passed through South African ports of entry in October 2015. As presented in Table 1 on page 9, these travellers were made up of 890 783 South African residents and 2 487 301 foreign travellers. A further breakdown of the figures for South African residents indicates that there were 452 153 arrivals, 437 758 departures and 872 travellers in transit. The corresponding volume for foreign arrivals, departures and transit travellers was 1 269 749, 1 142 021 and 75 531 respectively.

A comparison between the movements in October 2014 and October 2015 indicates that the volume of arrivals, departures and transits increased for both South African residents and foreign travellers. For South African residents, the volume of arrivals increased by 2,6% (from 440 730 in October 2014 to 452 153 in October 2015), departures increased by 1,5% (from 431 378 in October 2014 to 437 758 in October 2015), and transits increased by 15,6% (from 754 in October 2014 to 872 in October 2015). For foreign travellers, arrivals increased by 3,0% (from 1 233 249 in October 2014 to 1 269 749 in October 2015), departures increased by 3,0% (from 1 108 479 in October 2014 to 1 142 021 in October 2015), and transits increased by 8,5% (from 69 598 in October 2014 to 75 531 in October 2015).

A comparison between the movements in September 2015 and October 2015 indicates that the volume of arrivals increased for both South African residents and foreign travellers. Departures decreased for South African residents, but increased for foreign travellers, and transits decreased for both South African residents and foreign travellers. The volume of arrivals for South African residents increased by 2,3% (from 441 941 in September 2015 to 452 153 in October 2015), departures decreased by 2,4% (from 448 673 in September 2015 to 437 758 in October 2015) and transits decreased by 6,8% (from 936 in September 2015 to 872 in October 2015). For foreign travellers, the volume of arrivals increased by 3,5% (from 1 226 735 in September 2015 to 1 269 749 in October 2015), departures increased by 2,9% (from 1 110 258 in September 2015 to 1 142 021 in October 2015) and transits decreased by 5,7% (from 80 064 in September 2015 to 75 531 in October 2015).

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 or non-tourists. However, some data are available on foreign arrivals for this categorisation.

As presented in Table 1, in October 2015, 97 324 (7,7%) of foreign arrivals were classified as non-visitors while 1 172 425 (92,3%) were classified as visitors. The visitors were categorised into three groups:

- i. Arrivals only – comprising visitors who entered the country in October 2015 but did not depart in October 2015 [260 400 (22,2%)];
- ii. Single trips – visitors who came to South Africa once in October 2015 and left in October 2015 [456 494 (38,9%)];
- iii. Multiple trips – visitors who came to and left South Africa more than once in October 2015 [455 531 (38,9%)].

Visitors were further grouped as same-day visitors and overnight visitors (tourists). In October 2015, there were 423 864 (36,2%) same-day visitors and 748 561 (63,8%) tourists. Between October 2014 and October 2015, the volume of same-day visitors increased by 11,4% (from 380 369 in October 2014 to 423 864 in October 2015) and that of tourists decreased by 8,8% (from 820 675 in October 2014 to 748 561 in October 2015). Between September 2015 and October 2015, the volume of same-day visitors increased by 0,5% (from 421 571 in September 2015 to 423 864 in October 2015), and tourists increased by 4,4% (from 716 750 in September 2015 to 748 561 in October 2015).

### 1.1.2 Mode of travel

Data presented in Table 2 on page 10 show that in October 2015, road transport was the most common mode of travel used by 2 394 718 (70,9%) of the 3 378 084 travellers. The total number of travellers who used air transport was 973 362 (28,8%). Compared to use of air and land transport, a much smaller number of travellers, 10 004 (0,3%) used sea transport. The arrivals data for South African residents show that 193 989 (42,9%) came by air, 257 862 (57,0%) came by road and 302 (0,1%) arrived by sea. For departures, 169 433 (38,7%) used air, 268 014 (61,2%) used road and 311 (0,1%) sea transport. All travellers in transit (872) used air transport.

In the case of foreign travellers, 276 238 (21,8%) arrived by air, 988 316 (77,8%) came by road and 5 195 (0,4%) arrived by sea. When departing South Africa, 257 299 (22,5%) foreign travellers left by air, 880 526 (77,1%) left by road and 4 196 (0,4%) left by sea. All travellers in transit, (75 531) used air transport. Table 2 further shows that an overwhelming majority [403 976 (95,3%)] of same-day visitors arrived in the country by road. Only 19 874 (4,7%) of same-day visitors flew into the country. Data on tourists show that 510 879 (68,2%) used road transport, 236 892 (31,6%) came by air and 790 (0,1%) arrived by sea.

## 1.2 Tourists

### 1.2.1 Mode of travel

The country of residence of tourists is used to categorise them according to 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 11. In October 2015, 185 449 (89,1%) of overseas tourists arrived in the country by air, whilst 21 792 (10,5%) 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 [487 854 (92,9%)]. Only 37 450 (7,1%) tourists from SADC countries came in by air. The number of tourists who came into South Africa by air from 'other' African countries was 12 970 (92,2%), with 1 094 (7,8%) using road transport. Very few tourists from SADC (one person) and 'other' Africa (9) came to South Africa by sea.

### 1.2.2 Regional and national distribution

In October 2015, the distribution of overseas tourists was as follows: Europe, 136 686 (65,7%); North America, 31 174 (15,0%); Asia, 22 786 (11,0%); Australasia, 9 774 (4,7%); Central and South America, 4 715 (2,3%), and Middle East, 2 885 (1,4%).

Data presented in Figure 1 on page 7 indicate that the United Kingdom (UK), 34 936 (16,8%); Germany, 31 158 (15,0%); United States of America (USA), 25 521 (12,3%); France, 15 631 (7,5%); The Netherlands, 13 559 (6,5%); Australia, 8 250 (4,0%); China, 7 902 (3,8%); Switzerland, 6 212 (3,0%); India, 5 891 (2,8%); and Canada, 5 653 (2,7%) were the ten leading overseas countries visiting South Africa in October 2015. Tourists from these ten countries constituted 74,4% of all tourists from overseas countries. A comparison between movements in October 2014 and October 2015 shows that the number of tourists decreased for seven (The Netherlands, India, Canada, Germany, UK, Switzerland and Australia) of the ten leading overseas countries and increased in the other three (China, USA and France). The Netherlands had the largest decrease of 14,2% (from 15 797 tourists in October 2014 to 13 559 in October 2015) and China had the largest increase of 95,6% (from 4 039 tourists in October 2014 to 7 902 in October 2015)

Virtually all tourists from Africa, 525 305 (97,4%), came from the SADC countries. The distribution of the remaining tourists from Africa is as follows: West Africa, 7 123 (1,3%); East and Central Africa, 5 530 (1,0%); and North Africa 1 420 (0,3%). The ten leading SADC countries in terms of the number of tourists visiting South Africa in October 2015 were Zimbabwe, 148 224 (28,2%); Lesotho, 105 400 (20,1%); Mozambique, 99 216 (18,9%); Swaziland, 70 158 (13,4%); Botswana, 49 364 (9,4%); Namibia, 17 076 (3,3%); Zambia, 12 301 (2,3%); Malawi, 12 166 (2,3%); Tanzania, 3 479 (0,7%) and Angola, 3 434 (0,7%) (see Figure 2 on page 7). Tourists from these ten countries constituted 99,1% of all tourists from the SADC countries. A comparison between movements in October 2014 and October 2015 for the ten leading SADC countries shows that the number of tourists decreased in eight (Malawi, Lesotho, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Swaziland, Angola, Mozambique and Namibia) of the ten leading countries and increased in two (Botswana and Tanzania). Malawi showed the largest decrease of 22,2% (from 15 628 tourists in October 2014 to 12 166 in October 2015). Botswana had the largest increase of 10,2% (from 44 780 in October 2014 to 49 364 in October 2015).

The ten leading countries in terms of the number of tourists visiting South Africa in October 2015 from 'other' African countries, as shown in Figure 3 on page 8, were: Nigeria, 4 537 (32,2%); Kenya, 2 370 (16,8%); Ghana, 1 431 (10,2%); Uganda, 913 (6,5%); Egypt, 716 (5,1%); Ethiopia, 623 (4,4%); Gabon, 515 (3,7%); Cameroon, 408 (2,9%); Congo, 279 (2,0%); and Senegal, 226 (1,6%). Tourists from these ten countries constituted 85,4% of all tourists from 'other' African countries. A comparison between movements in October 2014 and October 2015 shows that the number of tourists increased in seven (Egypt, Cameroon, Senegal, Gabon, Kenya, Uganda and Ethiopia; and decreased in three (Nigeria, Ghana and Congo) of the ten leading countries. Egypt had the largest increase of 30,9% (from 547 tourists in October 2014 to 716 in October 2015), while Nigeria had the largest decrease of 13,0% (from 5 214 tourists in October 2014 to 4 537 in October 2015).

### 1.2.3 Purpose of visit

As observed from data shown in Table 4 on page 15, in October 2015, the majority of tourists, 714 944 (95,5%), were in South Africa for holidays compared to 28 691 (3,8%) and 4 926 (0,7%) who were in South Africa for business and for study purposes respectively. A detailed analysis reveals that of all the tourists from each of the overseas regions, more than 90,0% came to South Africa for holidays. A total of 9 460 (96,8%) tourists from Australasia, 4 534 (96,2%) from Central and South America, 29 943 (96,1%) from North America, 131 133 (95,9%) from Europe, 20 997 (92,1%) from Asia, and 2 603 (90,2%) from the Middle East were in South Africa for holidays. The Middle East had the highest proportion of tourists who came to South Africa for business [8,6% (247)] and for study purposes [1,2% (35)] compared to other overseas regions.

The majority of African tourists, 515 210 (95,5%) came to South Africa for holidays. However, there were differences between tourists from the SADC countries and 'other' African countries, namely:

- Whereas 502 556 (95,7%) of tourists from the SADC countries were on holiday; 12 654 (89,9%) of tourists from 'other' African countries came for the same purpose. Data on the regions of 'other' African countries show that tourists on holiday constituted 92,5% (6 588); 88,5% (4 892) and 82,7% (1 174) for West Africa, East and Central Africa and North Africa respectively.
- Business persons constituted 6,7% (949) of tourists from 'other' African countries and 3,7% (19 300) from the SADC countries. North Africa had the highest proportion, 12,4% (176) of its tourists to South Africa who came for business purposes.
- Students made up 3,3% (470) of tourists from 'other' African countries compared with 0,7% (3 449) from the SADC countries. North Africa had the highest proportion, 4,9% (70) of student tourists in South Africa.

### 1.2.4 Sex and age distribution

Table 5 on page 19 shows that in October 2015, there were 413 385 (55,2%) male and 335 175 (44,8%) female tourists. Overseas tourists were made up of 112 285 (54,0%) male tourists and 95 735 (46,0%) female tourists. There were 291 029 (55,4%) male and 234 275 (44,6%) female tourists from SADC countries. Tourists from 'other' African countries were made up of 9 323 (66,2%) male and 4 750 (33,8%) female tourists.

The ages of the tourists were categorised into three broad groups: Those younger than 15 years, 15 to 64 years, and 65 years and older. The overall results presented in Table 5 show that 32 916 (4,4%) tourists were aged less than 15 years; 669 626 (89,5%) were aged between 15 and 64 years; and 46 018 (6,1%) were aged 65 years and older.

Taking the regions of residence into consideration, the results further show that 490 595 (93,4%) of SADC and 13 377 (95,1%) of 'other' African countries tourists were aged between 15 and 64 years compared with 164 520 (79,1%) of tourists in the same age range from overseas. The proportion of tourists aged less than 15 years was lower among tourists from 'other' African countries, 2,8% (391), than among those from SADC countries, 4,0% (21 018) and overseas countries, 5,5% (11 503).

A comparison of the three regions shows relatively higher proportions of the elderly among both male and female tourists from overseas. Tourists aged 65 years and older comprised 14,7% (16 558) of male tourists and 16,1% (15 439) of female tourists from overseas. This is in contrast to the pattern observed among tourists from the other two regions where tourists aged 65 years and older comprised less than 3,5% of both male and female tourists. From the SADC countries elderly tourists made up 2,1% (6 090) and 3,2% (7 601) of male and female tourists respectively; while in 'other' African countries elderly tourists made up 2,1% (199) and 2,2% (106) of male and female tourists respectively.

## 2. Figures

Figure 1 – Number of tourists from the ten leading overseas countries in October 2014 and October 2015

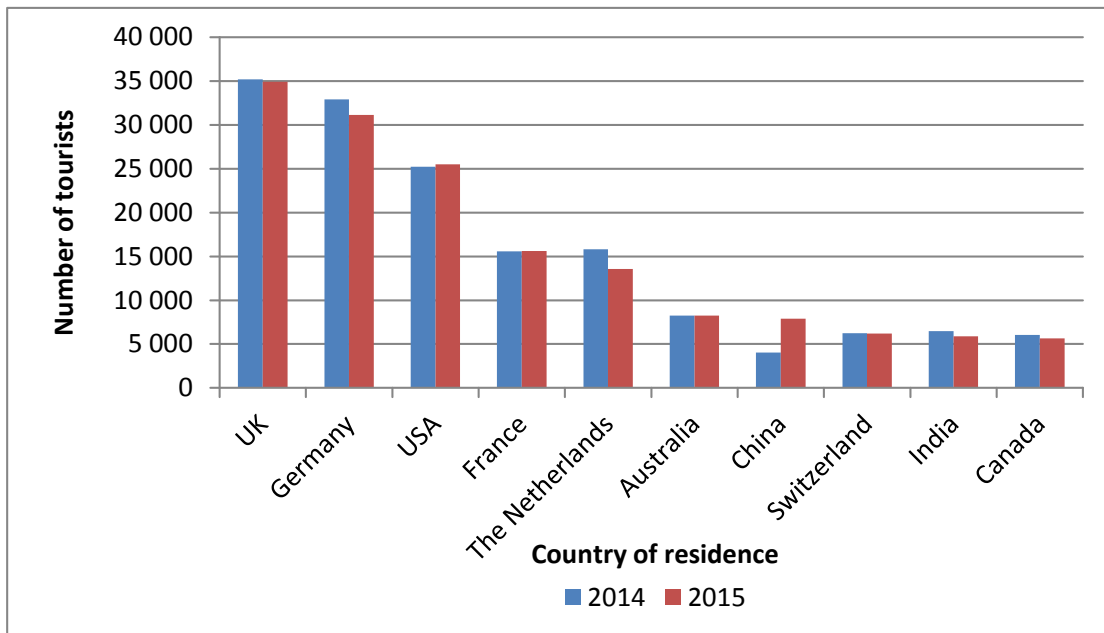
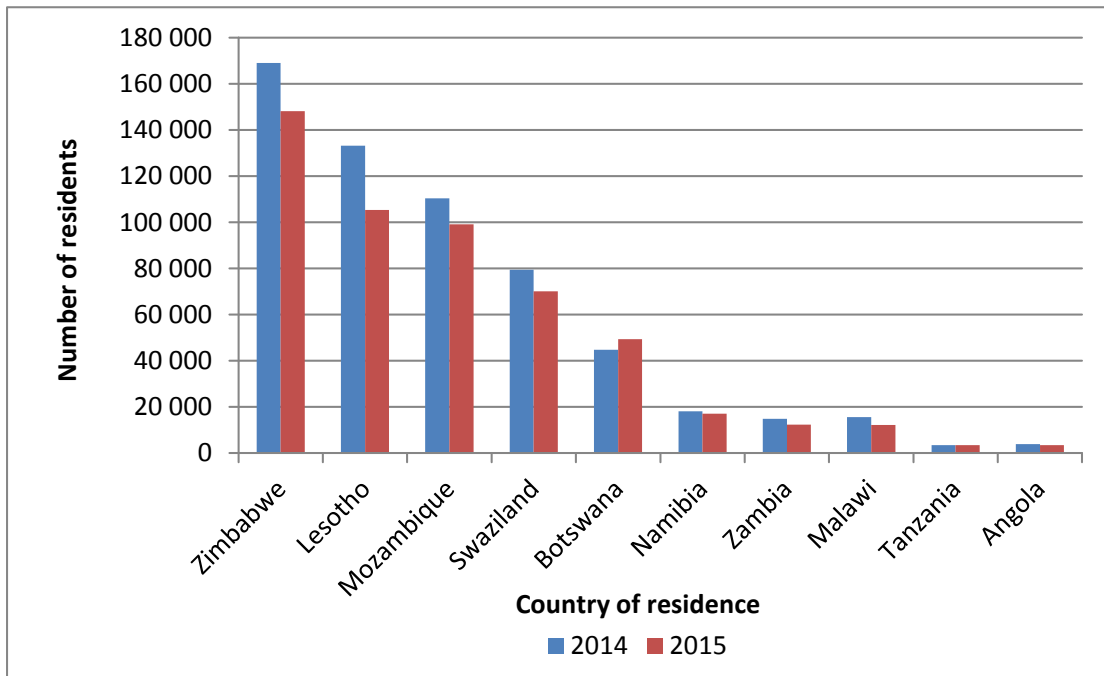
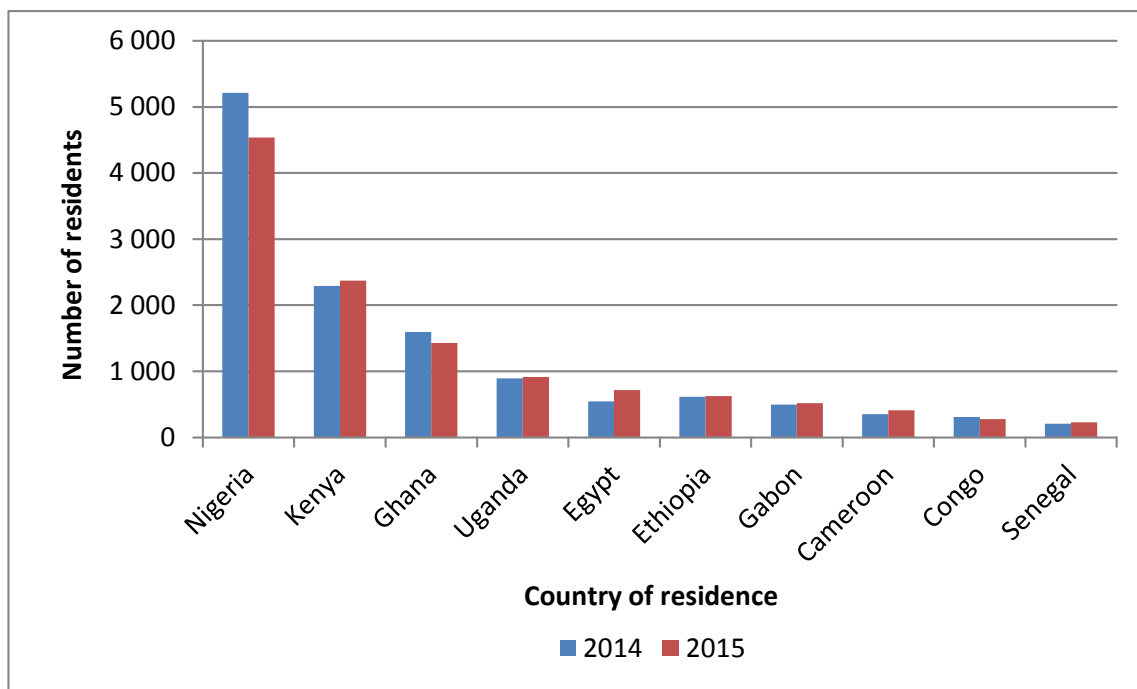


Figure 2 – Number of tourists from the ten leading Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries in October 2014 and October 2015





**Figure 3 – Number of tourists from the ten leading 'other' African countries in October 2014 and October 2015**



### 3. Tables

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

Travel Direction	October 2014	September 2015	October 2015	% Change	
				September 2015 - October 2015	October 2014 - October 2015
<b>Total</b>	<b>3 284 188</b>	<b>3 308 607</b>	<b>3 378 084</b>	<b>2,1%</b>	<b>2,9%</b>
<b>South African residents</b>	<b>872 862</b>	<b>891 550</b>	<b>890 783</b>	<b>-0,1%</b>	<b>2,1%</b>
Arrivals	440 730	441 941	452 153	2,3%	2,6%
Departures	431 378	448 673	437 758	-2,4%	1,5%
Transit	754	936	872	-6,8%	15,6%
<b>Foreign travellers</b>	<b>2 411 326</b>	<b>2 417 057</b>	<b>2 487 301</b>	<b>2,9%</b>	<b>3,2%</b>
Arrivals	1 233 249	1 226 735	1 269 749	3,5%	3,0%
Departures	1 108 479	1 110 258	1 142 021	2,9%	3,0%
Transit	69 598	80 064	75 531	-5,7%	8,5%
<b>Foreign Arrivals</b>	<b>1 233 249</b>	<b>1 226 735</b>	<b>1 269 749</b>	<b>3,5%</b>	<b>3,0%</b>
Non-Visitors	32 205	88 414	97 324	10,1%	202,2%
Visitors	1 201 044	1 138 321	1 172 425	3,0%	-2,4%
<b>Visitors</b>	<b>1 201 044</b>	<b>1 138 321</b>	<b>1 172 425</b>	<b>3,0%</b>	<b>-2,4%</b>
Arrived only	358 339	254 475	260 400	2,3%	-27,3%
Single trips	400 016	432 612	456 494	5,5%	14,1%
Multiple trips	442 689	451 234	455 531	1,0%	2,9%
<b>Visitors</b>	<b>1 201 044</b>	<b>1 138 321</b>	<b>1 172 425</b>	<b>3,0%</b>	<b>-2,4%</b>
Same day	380 369	421 571	423 864	0,5%	11,4%
Tourist	820 675	716 750	748 561	4,4%	-8,8%

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

Travel direction	Total	Mode of travel (October 2015)						
		Air					Road	Sea
		Cape Town	King Shaka	O.R. Tambo	Other	Total		
<b>Total</b>	<b>3 378 084</b>	<b>147 020</b>	<b>23 388</b>	<b>793 729</b>	<b>9 225</b>	<b>973 362</b>	<b>2 394 718</b>	<b>10 004</b>
<b>South African residents</b>	<b>890 783</b>	<b>44 947</b>	<b>15 207</b>	<b>299 042</b>	<b>5 098</b>	<b>364 294</b>	<b>525 876</b>	<b>613</b>
Arrivals	<b>452 153</b>	24 514	8 054	158 860	2 561	<b>193 989</b>	<b>257 862</b>	<b>302</b>
Departures	<b>437 758</b>	20 432	7 153	139 311	2 537	<b>169 433</b>	<b>268 014</b>	<b>311</b>
Transit	<b>872</b>	1	-	871	-	<b>872</b>	-	-
<b>Foreign travellers</b>	<b>2 487 301</b>	<b>102 073</b>	<b>8 181</b>	<b>494 687</b>	<b>4 127</b>	<b>609 068</b>	<b>1 868 842</b>	<b>9 391</b>
Arrivals	<b>1 269 749</b>	54 488	4 035	215 492	2 223	<b>276 238</b>	<b>988 316</b>	<b>5 195</b>
Departures	<b>1 142 021</b>	47 535	4 146	203 714	1 904	<b>257 299</b>	<b>880 526</b>	<b>4 196</b>
Transit	<b>75 531</b>	50	-	75 481	-	<b>75 531</b>	-	-
<b>Visitors</b>	<b>1 172 425</b>	<b>51 272</b>	<b>2 989</b>	<b>201 322</b>	<b>1 183</b>	<b>256 766</b>	<b>914 855</b>	<b>804</b>
Same day	<b>423 864</b>	565	26	19 199	84	<b>19 874</b>	<b>403 976</b>	<b>14</b>
Tourist	<b>748 561</b>	50 707	2 963	182 123	1 099	<b>236 892</b>	<b>510 879</b>	<b>790</b>

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

Country of residence	October		Air					Road	Sea
	2014	2015	Cape Town	King Shaka	O.R. Tambo	Other	Total		
<b>Total</b>	<b>820 675</b>	<b>748 561</b>	<b>50 707</b>	<b>2 963</b>	<b>182 123</b>	<b>1 099</b>	<b>236 892</b>	<b>510 879</b>	<b>790</b>
<b>Overseas</b>	<b>208 263</b>	<b>208 020</b>	<b>47 004</b>	<b>2 682</b>	<b>135 131</b>	<b>632</b>	<b>185 449</b>	<b>21 792</b>	<b>779</b>
<b>Europe</b>	<b>140 786</b>	<b>136 686</b>	<b>38 577</b>	<b>2 015</b>	<b>80 095</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>120 944</b>	<b>15 358</b>	<b>384</b>
Austria	2 395	2 408	614	31	1 446	6	2 097	307	4
Belgium	4 888	4 528	1 144	31	2 667	3	3 845	683	-
Denmark	2 889	3 175	538	62	2 290	2	2 892	281	2
France	15 593	15 631	4 120	114	8 452	13	12 699	2 899	33
Germany	32 916	31 158	9 673	347	18 003	23	28 046	3 101	11
Ireland	2 186	2 250	750	75	1 272	3	2 100	145	5
Italy	4 426	4 189	1 081	54	2 665	6	3 806	382	1
Norway	1 702	1 656	652	33	855	9	1 549	106	1
Portugal	3 501	3 391	461	24	1 688	9	2 182	1 209	-
Spain	2 263	2 506	513	50	1 584	5	2 152	350	4
Sweden	4 185	4 405	1 510	24	2 521	17	4 072	327	6
Switzerland	6 239	6 212	1 915	61	3 561	54	5 591	619	2
The Netherlands	15 797	13 559	3 615	96	7 341	7	11 059	2 493	7
UK	35 206	34 936	10 014	948	21 618	79	32 659	1 979	298
Other	6 600	6 682	1 977	65	4 132	21	6 195	477	10
<b>North America</b>	<b>31 290</b>	<b>31 174</b>	<b>4 302</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>23 324</b>	<b>306</b>	<b>28 116</b>	<b>2 727</b>	<b>331</b>
Canada	6 055	5 653	1 152	37	3 801	30	5 020	572	61
USA	25 235	25 521	3 150	147	19 523	276	23 096	2 155	270
<b>Central and South America</b>	<b>4 455</b>	<b>4 715</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>3 913</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>4 213</b>	<b>493</b>	<b>9</b>
Argentina	347	483	20	5	430	-	455	26	2
Brazil	2 790	2 795	143	2	2 312	3	2 460	333	2
Mexico	215	256	32	-	204	8	244	10	2
Other	1 103	1 181	82	4	967	1	1 054	124	3

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

Country of residence	October		Air					Road	Sea
	2014	2015	Cape Town	King Shaka	O.R. Tambo	Other	Total		
<b>Australasia</b>	<b>10 113</b>	<b>9 774</b>	<b>664</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>8 171</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>8 998</b>	<b>736</b>	<b>40</b>
Australia	8 256	8 250	523	84	6 983	43	7 633	591	26
New Zealand	1 844	1 496	138	34	1 164	2	1 338	144	14
Other	13	28	3	-	24	-	27	1	-
<b>Middle East</b>	<b>3 236</b>	<b>2 885</b>	<b>456</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>2 272</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2 741</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>-</b>
Israel	2 106	1 619	99	1	1 434	1	1 535	84	-
Lebanon	208	234	41	6	160	-	207	27	-
Saudi Arabia	263	315	56	1	251	-	308	7	-
Other	659	717	260	4	427	-	691	26	-
<b>Asia</b>	<b>18 383</b>	<b>22 786</b>	<b>2 728</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>17 356</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>20 437</b>	<b>2 334</b>	<b>15</b>
Bangladesh	327	499	40	6	319	-	365	134	-
China	4 039	7 902	934	37	6 566	6	7 543	357	2
India	6 465	5 891	654	142	4 419	-	5 215	674	2
Japan	2 896	2 829	270	28	2 429	-	2 727	99	3
Malaysia	461	496	89	40	343	-	472	23	1
Pakistan	949	1 332	103	44	682	-	829	503	-
Singapore	402	491	119	4	355	2	480	10	1
South Korea	807	1 033	146	16	705	-	867	165	1
Taiwan	609	597	19	5	414	-	438	159	-
Thailand	410	417	128	3	273	-	404	11	2
Other	1 018	1 299	226	17	851	3	1 097	199	3
<b>Africa</b>	<b>610 849</b>	<b>539 378</b>	<b>3 664</b>	<b>280</b>	<b>46 009</b>	<b>467</b>	<b>50 420</b>	<b>488 948</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>SADC</b>	<b>596 582</b>	<b>525 305</b>	<b>3 129</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>33 652</b>	<b>436</b>	<b>37 450</b>	<b>487 854</b>	<b>1</b>
Angola	3 876	3 434	781	-	2 458	4	3 243	191	-
Botswana	44 780	49 364	135	-	2 001	36	2 172	47 192	-
DRC	1 930	2 021	10	-	1 524	-	1 534	487	-
Lesotho	133 158	105 400	2	1	488	4	495	104 905	-
Madagascar	203	248	7	1	234	2	244	4	-

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

Country of residence	October		Air					Road	Sea
	2014	2015	Cape Town	King Shaka	O.R. Tambo	Other	Total		
Malawi	15 628	12 166	4	-	1 925	7	1 936	10 230	-
Mauritius	1 293	1 482	172	59	1 139	-	1 370	112	-
Mozambique	110 392	99 216	5	62	3 308	31	3 406	95 810	-
Namibia	18 113	17 076	1 905	1	3 160	295	5 361	11 715	-
Seychelles	559	736	4	1	727	-	732	4	-
Swaziland	79 421	70 158	1	-	548	2	551	69 607	-
Tanzania	3 364	3 479	9	1	2 428	-	2 438	1 041	-
Zambia	14 859	12 301	19	32	3 216	5	3 272	9 029	-
Zimbabwe	169 006	148 224	75	75	10 496	50	10 696	137 527	1
<b>'Other' African</b>	<b>14 267</b>	<b>14 073</b>	<b>535</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>12 357</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>12 970</b>	<b>1 094</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>East and Central Africa</b>	<b>5 282</b>	<b>5 530</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>4 888</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5 082</b>	<b>448</b>	<b>-</b>
Burundi	82	104	5	-	93	-	98	6	-
Cameroon	349	408	11	-	372	1	384	24	-
Central African Republic	12	14	-	-	14	-	14	-	-
Chad	19	21	1	-	19	-	20	1	-
Comoros	25	23	-	1	20	-	21	2	-
Congo	308	279	17	-	252	-	269	10	-
Djibouti	7	9	1	-	8	-	9	-	-
Equatorial Guinea	37	88	22	-	66	-	88	-	-
Eritrea	49	62	4	-	54	-	58	4	-
Ethiopia	612	623	40	1	500	-	541	82	-
Gabon	497	515	7	1	498	-	506	9	-
Kenya	2 289	2 370	47	10	2 134	2	2 193	177	-
Réunion	7	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
Rwanda	59	66	3	-	51	-	54	12	-
São Tomé and Príncipe	20	13	2	-	10	-	12	1	-
Somalia	15	20	5	-	11	-	16	4	-
Uganda	895	913	11	1	786	1	799	114	-

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

Country of residence	October		Air					Road	Sea
	2014	2015	Cape Town	King Shaka	O.R. Tambo	Other	Total		
<b>West Africa</b>	<b>7 853</b>	<b>7 123</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>6 322</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>6 514</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>9</b>
Benin	141	186	4	1	179	-	184	2	-
Burkina Faso	51	64	7	-	55	-	62	2	-
Cape Verde Island	63	56	23	-	29	-	52	4	-
Côte d'Ivoire	146	144	2	-	142	-	144	-	-
Gambia	55	63	4	-	54	-	58	5	-
Ghana	1 594	1 431	24	5	1 314	-	1 343	88	-
Guinea	127	125	3	-	43	-	46	79	-
Guinea-Bissau	10	6	-	-	5	-	5	1	-
Liberia	6	53	1	-	50	-	51	2	-
Mali	105	97	4	-	60	-	64	33	-
Mauritania	41	17	1	-	16	-	17	-	-
Niger	27	19	1	-	18	-	19	-	-
Nigeria	5 214	4 537	66	8	4 068	26	4 168	369	-
Saint Helena	5	10	1	-	-	-	1	-	9
Senegal	207	226	6	-	214	-	220	6	-
Sierra Leone	21	43	1	-	33	-	34	9	-
Togo	40	46	4	-	42	-	46	-	-
<b>North Africa</b>	<b>1 132</b>	<b>1 420</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>1 147</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1 374</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>-</b>
Algeria	98	132	30	3	98	1	132	-	-
Egypt	547	716	71	7	614	-	692	24	-
Libya	65	74	28	7	31	-	66	8	-
Morocco	116	151	31	2	115	-	148	3	-
South Sudan	105	103	1	-	100	-	101	2	-
The Sudan	116	141	35	-	98	-	133	8	-
Tunisia	77	95	11	-	83	-	94	1	-
Western Sahara	8	8	-	-	8	-	8	-	-
<b>Unspecified</b>	<b>1 563</b>	<b>1 163</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>983</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1 023</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>1</b>

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

Country of residence	October		Purpose of visit		
	2014	2015	Business	Holiday	Study
<b>Total</b>	<b>820 675</b>	<b>748 561</b>	<b>28 691</b>	<b>714 944</b>	<b>4 926</b>
<b>Overseas</b>	<b>208 263</b>	<b>208 020</b>	<b>8 343</b>	<b>198 670</b>	<b>1 007</b>
<b>Europe</b>	<b>140 786</b>	<b>136 686</b>	<b>4 983</b>	<b>131 133</b>	<b>570</b>
Austria	2 395	2 408	65	2 334	9
Belgium	4 888	4 528	150	4 366	12
Denmark	2 889	3 175	101	3 066	8
France	15 593	15 631	534	15 022	75
Germany	32 916	31 158	698	30 363	97
Ireland	2 186	2 250	94	2 146	10
Italy	4 426	4 189	278	3 886	25
Norway	1 702	1 656	103	1 545	8
Portugal	3 501	3 391	112	3 260	19
Spain	2 263	2 506	181	2 312	13
Sweden	4 185	4 405	166	4 223	16
Switzerland	6 239	6 212	82	6 108	22
The Netherlands	15 797	13 559	382	13 139	38
UK	35 206	34 936	1 536	33 242	158
Other	6 600	6682	501	6121	60
<b>North America</b>	<b>31 290</b>	<b>31 174</b>	<b>1 101</b>	<b>29 943</b>	<b>130</b>
Canada	6 055	5 653	196	5 431	26
USA	25 235	25 521	905	24 512	104
<b>Central and South America</b>	<b>4 455</b>	<b>4 715</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>4 534</b>	<b>48</b>
Brazil	2 790	2 795	43	2 719	33
Argentina	347	483	10	468	5
Mexico	215	256	21	234	1
Other	1 103	1 181	59	1 113	9



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

Country of residence	October		Purpose of visit		
	2014	2015	Business	Holiday	Study
<b>Australasia</b>	<b>10 113</b>	<b>9 774</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>9 460</b>	<b>30</b>
Australia	8 256	8 250	238	7 987	25
New Zealand	1 844	1 496	40	1 451	5
Other	13	28	6	22	-
<b>Middle East</b>	<b>3 236</b>	<b>2 885</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>2 603</b>	<b>35</b>
Israel	2 106	1 619	68	1 545	6
Lebanon	208	234	42	191	1
Saudi Arabia	263	315	25	286	4
Other	659	717	112	581	24
<b>Asia</b>	<b>18 383</b>	<b>22 786</b>	<b>1 595</b>	<b>20 997</b>	<b>194</b>
Bangladesh	327	499	40	454	5
China	4 039	7 902	434	7 415	53
India	6 465	5 891	517	5 322	52
Japan	2 896	2 829	182	2 636	11
Malaysia	461	496	29	460	7
Pakistan	949	1 332	101	1 222	9
Singapore	402	491	48	442	1
South Korea	807	1 033	104	903	26
Taiwan	609	597	21	569	7
Thailand	410	417	20	390	7
Other	1 018	1 299	99	1 184	16
<b>Africa</b>	<b>610 849</b>	<b>539 378</b>	<b>20 249</b>	<b>515 210</b>	<b>3 919</b>
<b>SADC</b>	<b>596 582</b>	<b>525 305</b>	<b>19 300</b>	<b>502 556</b>	<b>3 449</b>
Angola	3 876	3 434	78	3 200	156
Botswana	44 780	49 364	394	48 581	389
DRC	1 930	2 021	94	1 819	108
Lesotho	133 158	105 400	1 667	103 223	510
Madagascar	203	248	18	224	6

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

Country of residence	October		Purpose of visit		
	2014	2015	Business	Holiday	Study
Malawi	15 628	12 166	280	11 838	48
Mauritius	1 293	1 482	78	1 385	19
Mozambique	110 392	99 216	11 196	87 853	167
Namibia	18 113	17 076	2 362	14 088	626
Seychelles	559	736	10	724	2
Swaziland	79 421	70 158	431	69 107	620
Tanzania	3 364	3 479	114	3 285	80
Zambia	14 859	12 301	801	11 397	103
Zimbabwe	169 006	148 224	1 777	145 832	615
<b>'Other' African</b>	<b>14 267</b>	<b>14 073</b>	<b>949</b>	<b>12 654</b>	<b>470</b>
<b>East and Central Africa</b>	<b>5 282</b>	<b>5 530</b>	<b>419</b>	<b>4 892</b>	<b>219</b>
Burundi	82	104	5	98	1
Cameroon	349	408	23	368	17
Central African Republic	12	14	-	14	-
Chad	19	21	-	17	4
Comoros	25	23	1	21	1
Congo	308	279	11	229	39
Djibouti	7	9	1	8	-
Equatorial Guinea	37	88	23	64	1
Eritrea	49	62	2	58	2
Ethiopia	612	623	52	560	11
Gabon	497	515	5	483	27
Kenya	2 289	2 370	236	2 059	75
Réunion	7	2	-	2	-
Rwanda	59	66	5	52	9
São Tomé and Príncipe	20	13	-	13	-
Somalia	15	20	6	14	-
Uganda	895	913	49	832	32

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

Country of residence	October		Purpose of visit		
	2014	2015	Business	Holiday	Study
<b>West Africa</b>	<b>7 853</b>	<b>7 123</b>	<b>354</b>	<b>6 588</b>	<b>181</b>
Benin	141	186	14	170	2
Burkina Faso	51	64	7	57	-
Cape Verde Island	63	56	4	52	-
Côte d'Ivoire	146	144	13	127	4
Gambia	55	63	3	60	-
Ghana	1 594	1 431	76	1 327	28
Guinea	127	125	3	120	2
Guinea-Bissau	10	6	-	6	-
Liberia	6	53	4	47	2
Mali	105	97	6	89	2
Mauritania	41	17	3	14	-
Niger	27	19	1	18	-
Nigeria	5 214	4 537	184	4 214	139
Saint Helena	5	10	-	10	-
Senegal	207	226	27	198	1
Sierra Leone	21	43	2	40	1
Togo	40	46	7	39	-
<b>North Africa</b>	<b>1 132</b>	<b>1 420</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>1 174</b>	<b>70</b>
Algeria	98	132	25	101	6
Egypt	547	716	94	606	16
Libya	65	74	5	40	29
Morocco	116	151	25	126	-
South Sudan	105	103	9	92	2
The Sudan	116	141	12	113	16
Tunisia	77	95	6	88	1
Western Sahara	8	8	-	8	-
<b>Unspecified</b>	<b>1 563</b>	<b>1 163</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>1 064</b>	<b>-</b>

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

Sex	Age group	Total	Region (October 2015)			
			Overseas	SADC	'Other' African	Unspecified
<b>All</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>748 561</b>	<b>208 020</b>	<b>525 305</b>	<b>14 073</b>	<b>1 163</b>
	0-14	32 916	11 503	21 018	391	4
	15-64	669 626	164 520	490 595	13 377	1 134
	65+	46 018	31 997	13 691	305	25
<b>Male</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>413 385</b>	<b>112 285</b>	<b>291 029</b>	<b>9 323</b>	<b>748</b>
	0-14	16 619	5 909	10 512	197	1
	15-64	373 899	89 818	274 427	8 927	727
	65+	22 867	16 558	6 090	199	20
<b>Female</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>335 175</b>	<b>95 735</b>	<b>234 275</b>	<b>4 750</b>	<b>415</b>
	0-14	16 297	5 594	10 506	194	3
	15-64	295 727	74 702	216 168	4 450	407
	65+	23 151	15 439	7 601	106	5
<b>Unspecified</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
	15-64	1	-	1	-	-

## 4. Explanatory notes

### NOTICE TO USERS

Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) has made changes in the *Tourism and Migration* statistical release starting from the January 2014 statistics. This change has become necessary as a result of the implementation of the new Movement Control System (e-MCS) at the country's ports of entry. Currently the new system (e-MCS) is operational at over 80% of the country's ports of entry. The system roll-out is expected to be finalised by the end of 2015/16 financial year. The change affects the identification of Transit Travellers that are currently categorised under Direction instead of Purpose of Movement. The revision, Table 1 and Table 2 in the release now include a category for Transit while all tables reporting on tourists exclude transit travellers.

#### 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), Stats SA then processes, analyses and publishes this information.

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

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

#### 4.2 Purpose of the statistical release

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

#### 4.3 Scope and coverage

The release covers data collected by DHA officials on travellers who entered the Republic of South Africa (RSA) through all the air, land and sea ports of entry.

#### 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 DHA database.
- As part of data interrogation, data from the O.R. 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. In October 2015, the DHA data was 2,1% higher 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.

#### 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 and Asia.
- Africa: SADC and 'other' Africa (East and Central Africa, West Africa and North Africa).

**Country** refers to individual countries within a region. The country of residence is used. The country of residence should not be confused with the country from which the visitor travelled.

**Africa** refers to all the countries in Africa (both mainland and island countries).

**SADC** refers to the fourteen countries, excluding South Africa, which belong to the Southern African Development Community.

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

**Overseas** refers to all countries outside Africa.

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

#### **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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