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NOTICE

Users who would like to continue using foreign arrival (rather than tourists) as their base denominator for comparison and trend analysis purposes could send their data request to: TshwaroG@statssa.gov.za or DuduzileGu@statssa.gov.za

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KEY FINDINGS

1. Travellers

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 2 720 480 travellers (arrivals and departures) passed through South African ports of entry in September 2010. As presented in Table 1, these travellers are made up of 944 171 South African residents and 1 776 309 foreign travellers. A further breakdown of the figures indicates that there were 460 444 and 483 727 South African residents' arrivals and departures respectively. The corresponding volumes for foreign arrivals and departures were 960 976 and 815 333 respectively. A comparison between the movements in August 2010 and September 2010 indicates that the volume of arrivals declined for both South African residents and foreign travellers. The South African residents' departures increased whereas foreign departures declined. There was a decline of 1,2% from 465 993 in August 2010 to 460 444 in September 2010 for South African arrivals and an increase of 3,0% from 469 512 in August 2010 to 483 727 in September 2010 for South African departures. Foreign arrivals declined by 8,0% from 1 044 418 in August 2010 to 960 976 in September 2010 and foreign departures declined by 6,0% from 867 762 in August 2010 to 815 333 in September 2010.

A comparison between movements in September 2009 and September 2010 indicates that there was an increase in all movements. Thus, South African residents' arrivals increased by 22,8% from 374 993 in September 2009 to 460 444 in September 2010 and foreign arrivals increased by 16,3% from 826 403 in September 2009 to 960 976 in September 2010. Detailed information on the departure of travellers is not available in the movement data. Data on the purpose of travel and the number of days South African travellers intend to spend or spent abroad are not collected by South Africa immigration officers. Hence, it is not possible to categorise them as tourists and non tourists. However, data are available on foreign arrivals for this categorisation. As presented in Table 1, in September 2010, 15 797 (1,6%) foreign arrivals were classified as non-visitors while 945 179 (98,4%) were visitors. The visitors were categorised into three groups: arrivals only comprising of visitors who entered the country in September 2010 but did not depart in September 2010 (348 408); visitors who came once in September 2010 and left in September 2010 (314 677); and those who came more than once in September 2010 and left in September 2010 (282 094). Visitors were further grouped as same day visitors 286 614 (30,3%) and overnight visitors/tourists 658 565 (69,7%).

1.2 Mode of travel of travellers and same day visitors

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 September 2010, road transport was the most common mode of travel used by 1 952 320 (71,8%) out of the 2 720 480 travellers. The total number of travellers who used air transport was 765 682 (28,1%). The arrivals data on South African residents show that 168 989 (36,7%) came by air and 291 297 (63,3%) by road. For departures, 177 099 (36,6%) and 306 323 (63,3%) used air and road transport respectively. In the case of foreign travellers, 233 865 (24,3%) arrived by air. Those who came by road were 725 893 (75,5%). When departing South Africa, 185 729 (22,8%) foreign travellers left by air whilst 628 807 (77,1%) left by road. As shown in Table 2 an overwhelming majority, 263 360 (91,9%) of same day visitors arrived in the country by road. Only 23 233 (8,1%) same day visitors flew into the country. However, data on overnight visitors/tourists show that, 457 232 (69,4%) used road transport whereas 201 133 (30,5%) came by air.

2. Tourists

2.1 Mode of travel of tourists

The country of residence of tourists is used to categorise them into their respective regions and countries. 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 September 2010, 151 380 (88,4%) overseas tourists arrived in the country by air whilst 19 665 (11,5%) came in by road. This is in contrast to tourists from SADC countries who came into South Africa predominantly by road 435 239 (92,3%). Only 36 111 (7,7%) tourists from SADC countries came in by air. A relatively high number 12 026 (88,0%) of tourists from 'other' African countries flew into the country with only 1 627 (11,9%) using road transport.

2.2 Regional and national distribution of tourists

In September 2010, overseas tourists came mainly from Europe, 94 167 (55,0%); followed by North America, 27 193 (15,9%); Asia, 25 925 (15,1%); Australasia, 14 360 (8,4%); Central and South America, 6 536 (3,8%); and Middle East, 2 977 (1,7%). Virtually all tourists from Africa came from the SADC countries, 471 429 (97,2%). The distribution of the remaining tourists from Africa is as follows: West Africa, 6 257 (1,3%); East and Central Africa, 6 205 (1,3%) and North Africa 1 199 (0,2%).

Data presented in Figure 1 indicate that UK, 31 028 (18,1%); USA, 23 256 (13,6%); Germany, 16 291 (9,5%); Australia, 12 194 (7,1%); The Netherlands, 9 018 (5,3%); France, 7 297 (4,3%); China, 7 209 (4,2%); and India, 7 057 (4,1%) were the eight leading overseas countries. Tourists from these eight countries constitute 66,2% of all tourists from overseas countries. A comparison between movements in September 2009 and September 2010 shows that the number of tourists increased in all these countries with the exception of The Netherlands. The volume of tourists from The Netherlands declined by 2,7% from 9 272 in September 2009 to 9 018 in September 2010.

The eight leading countries from SADC (see Figure 2) were Zimbabwe, 128 158 (27,2%); Lesotho, 111 321 (23,6%); Mozambique, 83 841 (17,8%); Swaziland, 53 967 (11,4%); Botswana, 44 558 (9,5%); Namibia, 15 653 (3,3%); Zambia, 13 025 (2,8%) and Malawi, 12 298 (2,6%). Tourists from these eight countries constituted 98,2% of all tourists from SADC countries.

A comparison between movements in September 2009 and September 2010 shows that the number of tourists from all these countries increased with the exception of Botswana and Malawi. The volume of tourists from Botswana declined by 1,8% from 45 365 in September 2009 to 44 558 in September 2010, the volume of tourists from Malawi declined by 1,1% from 12 435 in September 2009 to 12 298 in September 2010.

The eight leading countries from 'other' African countries, shown in Figure 3, were Nigeria, 3 752 (27,5%); Kenya, 2 314 (16,9%); Ghana, 1 260 (9,2%); Uganda, 1 167 (8,5%); Ethiopia, 741 (5,4%); Gabon, 556 (4,1%); Egypt, 481 (3,5%); and Cameroon, 430 (3,1%). Tourists from these eight countries constituted 78,3% of all tourists from 'other' African countries. A comparison between movements in September 2009 and September 2010 shows that the number of tourists increased in all these countries.

2.3 Purpose of visit of tourists

As observed from data given in Table 4, in September 2010, an overwhelming majority (91,0%) of tourists were in South Africa for holidays compared to only 0,9% and 4,2% of tourists who were in South Africa to study and for business purposes respectively. A detailed analysis reveals that of all the tourists from the overseas regions, at least 72,0% came to South Africa for holidays. Tourists from Australasia (92,9%), Middle East (88,8%), North America (87,9%), Europe (86,7%), Asia (74,2%), and Central and South America (72,1%) were in South Africa mostly for holidays. Tourists from Asia and Central and South America were more diverse in terms of visit. Asia and Central and South America had 6,3% and 1,8% respectively of their tourists in South Africa for business. Furthermore, students made up 1,1% and 0,3% of tourists from Asia and Central and South America respectively.

Although the majority (93,1%) of African tourists came to South Africa for holidays, there were differences between tourists from SADC countries and those from 'other' African countries, namely:

- Whereas 93,4% of tourists from the SADC countries were on holidays; 81,9% of tourists from 'other' African countries were on holidays. Proportionally, the lowest percentage (79,2%) of tourists on holidays came from North Africa, a region from where 2,8% of tourists had come to study and 10,1% had come for business.
- Students from 'other' African countries made up over 2% of tourists (3,6% in East and Central Africa; 2,8% in North Africa; and 2,4% in West Africa) compared to only 0,8% from SADC countries.

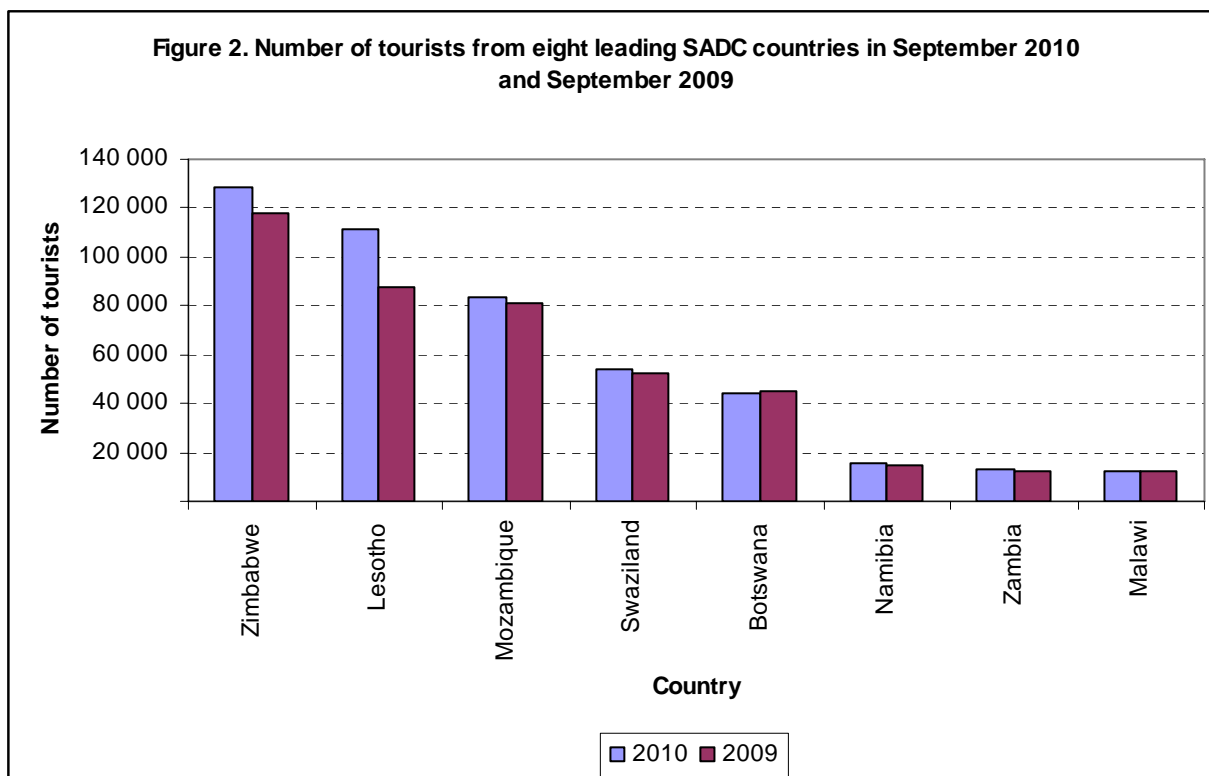
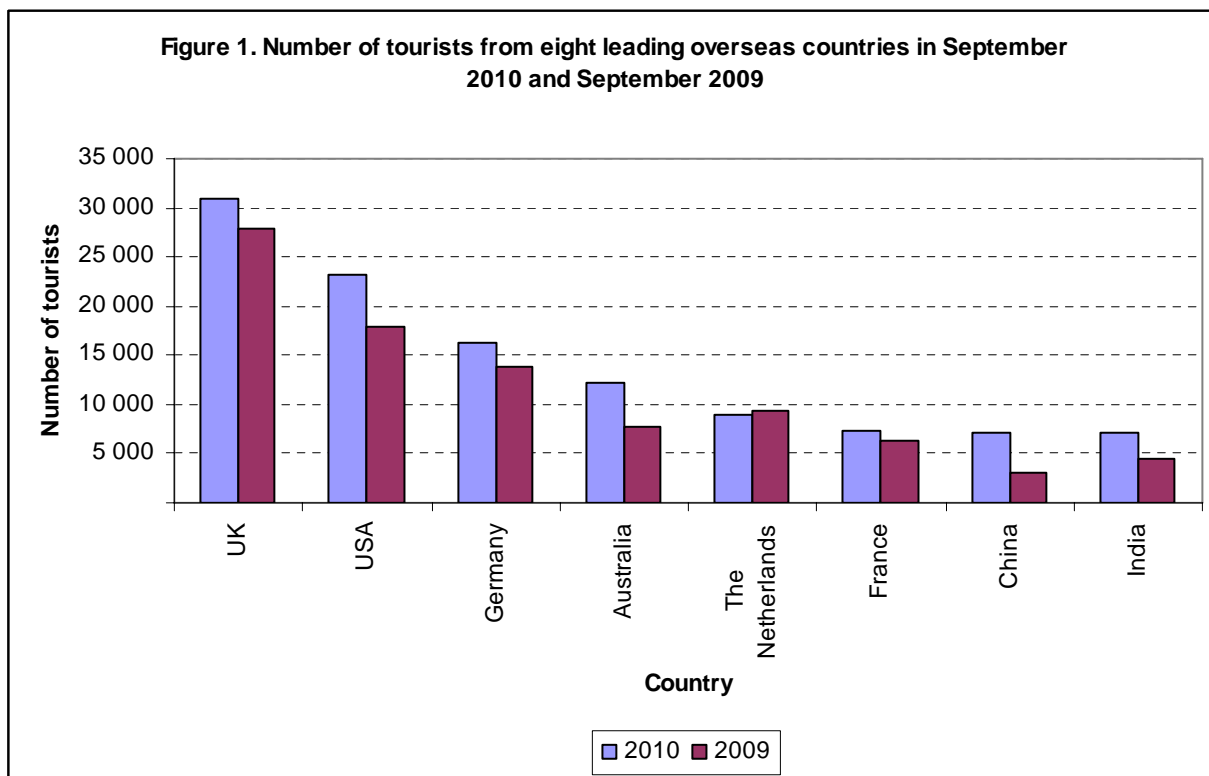
2.4 Sex and age distribution of tourists

As indicated in Table 5, in September 2010, there were 384 742 (58,4%) male and 272 758 (41,4%) female tourists. The overseas tourists were made up of 99 510 (58,1%) male tourists and 71 452 (41,7%) female tourists. Tourists from 'other' African countries had a high proportion (66,8%) of males compared with those from SADC (58,3%). The proportions of female tourists from 'other' African countries and SADC countries were 33,2% and 41,6% respectively.

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 91,3% of tourists were aged between 15 and 64 years; 4,7% were aged 65 years and older and 3,8% were aged less than 15 years. Taking the country of residence into consideration, the results further show that 84,0% of overseas tourists were aged between 15 and 64 years compared to 94,0% and 91,4% of tourists from SADC and 'other' African countries respectively. There were few tourists younger than 15 years and those aged 65 years and older.

A comparison of the three regions however shows relatively high proportions of the elderly among both male (10,4%) and female (12,4%) tourists from overseas. This is in contrast to tourists from SADC countries amongst which 2,0% of males and 3,1% of females were aged 65 years and older. Similarly among tourists from 'other' African countries, 1,4% of males and 2,1% of females were aged 65 years and older.

PJ Lehohla
Statistician-General



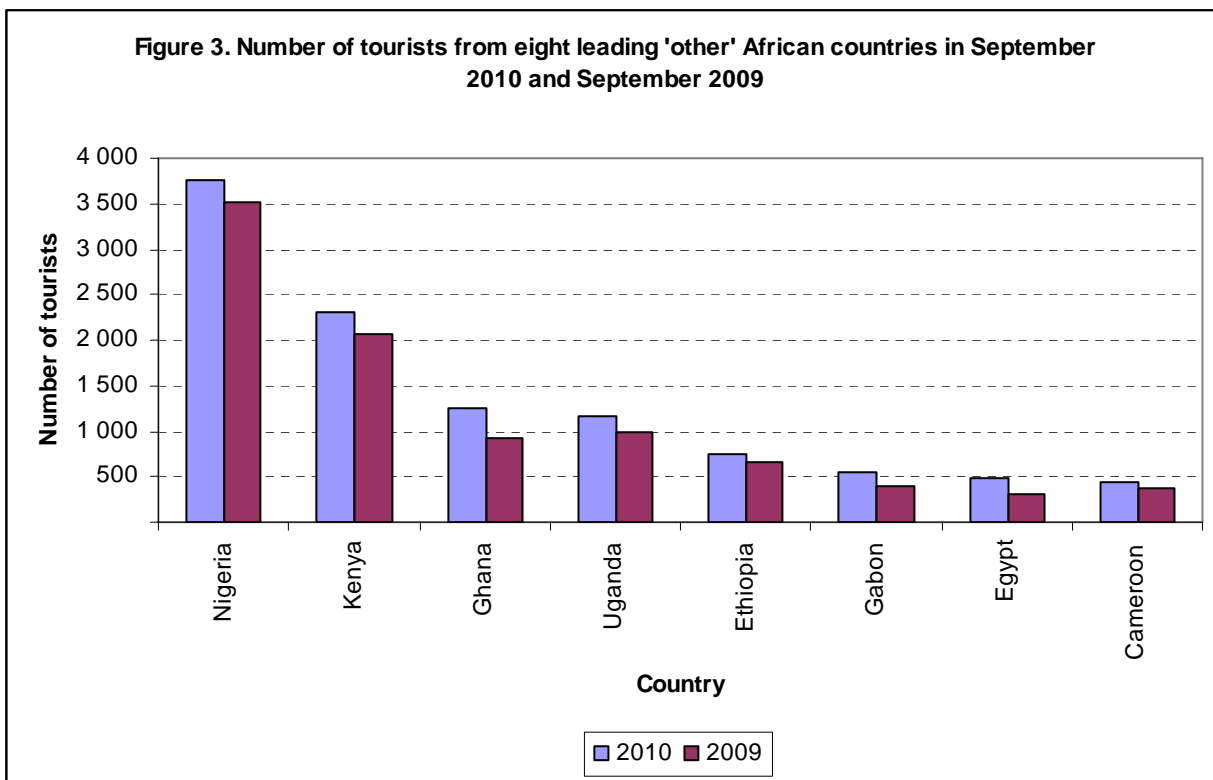


Table 1. Number of South African residents and foreign travellers by travel direction

Travel direction	September	August	September	% change	
	2009	2010	2010	September 09 - September 10	August 10 - September 10
Grand total	2 304 704	2 847 685	2 720 480	18,0	-4,5
South African residents	765 722	935 505	944 171	23,3	0,9
Arrivals	374 993	465 993	460 444	22,8	-1,2
Departures	390 729	469 512	483 727	23,8	3,0
Foreign travellers	1 538 982	1 912 180	1 776 309	15,4	-7,1
Arrivals	826 403	1 044 418	960 976	16,3	-8,0
Departures	712 579	867 762	815 333	14,4	-6,0
Foreign arrivals	826 403	1 044 418	960 976	16,3	-8,0
Non-visitors	30 467	18 313	15 797	-48,2	-13,7
Visitors	795 936	1 026 105	945 179	18,8	-7,9
Visitors	795 936	1 026 105	945 179	18,8	-7,9
Arrivals only	266 631	374 233	348 408	30,7	-6,9
Single trips	202 813	334 728	314 677	55,2	-6,0
Multiple trips	326 492	317 144	282 094	-13,6	-11,1
Visitors	795 936	1 026 105	945 179	18,8	-7,9
Same day	212 584	307 085	286 614	34,8	-6,7
Overnight (tourists)	583 352	719 020	658 565	12,9	-8,4

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

Travel direction	September		Mode of travel (September 2010)								
			Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2009	2010	Cape Town	K. Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total				
Grand total	2 304 704	2 720 480	93 965	15 486	633 314	22 917	765 682	413	1 952 320	1 885	180
South African residents	765 722	944 171	39 932	10 988	283 896	11 272	346 088	218	597 620	232	13
Arrivals	374 993	460 444	19 182	4 702	137 777	7 328	168 989	88	291 297	57	13
Departures	390 729	483 727	20 750	6 286	146 119	3 944	177 099	130	306 323	175	-
Foreign travellers	1 538 982	1 776 309	54 033	4 498	349 418	11 645	419 594	195	1 354 700	1 653	167
Arrivals	826 403	960 976	28 563	2 398	194 681	8 223	233 865	92	725 893	959	167
Departures	712 579	815 333	25 470	2 100	154 737	3 422	185 729	103	628 807	694	-
Visitors	795 936	945 179	26 867	2 021	188 370	7 108	224 366	78	720 592	38	105
Same day	212 584	286 614	222	33	19 490	3 488	23 233	17	263 360	2	2
Overnight (tourists)	583 352	658 565	26 645	1 988	168 880	3 620	201 133	61	457 232	36	103

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

Country	Mode of travel (September 2010)										
	September		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2009	2010	Cape Town	K. Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total				
Total	583 352	658 565	26 645	1 988	168 880	3 620	201 133	61	457 232	36	103
Overseas	136 767	171 158	24 400	1 816	124 207	957	151 380	-	19 665	27	86
Europe	83 873	94 167	17 707	1 163	62 363	356	81 589	-	12 550	9	19
Austria	1 081	1 354	148	10	1 028	5	1 191	-	163	-	-
Belgium	3 225	3 378	487	6	2 250	11	2 754	-	624	-	-
Denmark	1 521	1 498	174	3	1 179	4	1 360	-	138	-	-
France	6 211	7 297	1 095	28	5 221	32	6 376	-	918	3	-
Germany	13 889	16 291	2 408	185	11 224	40	13 857	-	2 432	2	-
Ireland	2 230	2 200	528	18	1 396	11	1 953	-	247	-	-
Italy	4 129	4 645	954	51	3 249	4	4 258	-	387	-	-
Norway	1 239	1 150	289	5	742	3	1 039	-	111	-	-
Portugal	2 026	2 876	168	9	1 592	27	1 796	-	1 080	-	-
Spain	2 277	2 514	272	3	1 946	9	2 230	-	284	-	-
Sweden	1 590	1 898	479	3	1 241	3	1 726	-	172	-	-
Switzerland	2 405	3 277	503	20	2 351	22	2 896	-	381	-	-
The Netherlands	9 272	9 018	2 054	60	5 073	12	7 199	-	1 814	-	5
UK	27 869	31 028	6 932	696	19 981	110	27 719	-	3 300	3	6
Other	4 909	5 743	1 216	66	3 890	63	5 235	-	499	1	8
North America	21 122	27 193	2 318	84	21 923	350	24 675	-	2 515	1	2
Canada	3 256	3 937	539	22	2 932	55	3 548	-	389	-	-
USA	17 857	23 256	1 779	62	18 991	295	21 127	-	2 126	1	2
Other	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Central and South America	4 624	6 536	379	4	5 716	12	6 111	-	424	-	1
Argentina	703	1 134	241	-	862	-	1 103	-	31	-	-
Brazil	2 618	3 791	37	2	3 480	9	3 528	-	262	-	1
Chile	206	285	21	1	238	3	263	-	22	-	-
Other	1 097	1 326	80	1	1 136	-	1 217	-	109	-	-

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

Country	Mode of travel (September 2010)										
	September		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2009	2010	Cape Town	K.Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total				
Australasia	9 185	14 360	758	65	12 320	63	13 206	-	1 148	6	-
Australia	7 640	12 194	631	40	10 505	58	11 234	-	954	6	-
New Zealand	1 501	2 150	126	25	1 803	5	1 959	-	191	-	-
Other	44	16	1	-	12	-	13	-	3	-	-
Middle East	2 535	2 977	456	19	2 261	20	2 756	-	220	1	-
Iran	405	374	98	-	271	-	369	-	4	1	-
Israel	1 298	1 489	36	-	1 290	1	1 327	-	162	-	-
Saudi Arabia	317	442	196	2	244	-	442	-	-	-	-
Other	515	672	126	17	456	19	618	-	54	-	-
Asia	15 428	25 925	2 782	481	19 624	156	23 043	-	2 808	10	64
China	2 979	7 209	795	34	5 792	20	6 641	-	568	-	-
India	4 466	7 057	702	287	4 893	42	5 924	-	1 122	1	10
Indonesia	455	832	147	-	679	2	828	-	4	-	-
Japan	1 981	2 677	94	5	2 417	3	2 519	-	158	-	-
Korea	1 032	1 371	140	8	1 096	1	1 245	-	124	-	2
Malaysia	564	1 488	475	3	985	-	1 463	-	25	-	-
Pakistan	757	1 125	68	66	689	3	826	-	293	6	-
Philippines	246	859	57	15	528	61	661	-	167	-	31
Taiwan	834	800	41	-	612	4	657	-	126	3	14
Other	2 114	2 507	263	63	1 933	20	2 279	-	221	-	7
Africa	443 578	485 090	2 116	168	43 204	2 649	48 137	61	436 866	9	17
SADC	431 359	471 429	1 900	152	31 513	2 546	36 111	61	435 239	2	16
Angola	2 939	3 267	287	-	2 793	20	3 100	-	150	1	16
Botswana	45 365	44 558	9	2	2 774	82	2 867	61	41 630	-	-
DRC	2 732	2 295	9	-	1 745	15	1 769	-	526	-	-
Lesotho	87 879	111 321	4	1	716	2 270	2 991	-	108 330	-	-
Madagascar	189	209	-	-	199	5	204	-	5	-	-

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

Country	Mode of travel (September 2010)										
	September		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2009	2010	Cape Town	K.Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total				
Malawi	12 435	12 298	4	2	2 245	10	2 261	-	10 037	-	-
Mauritius	976	1 256	93	77	864	11	1 045	-	211	-	-
Mozambique	81 006	83 841	61	57	2 415	16	2 549	-	81 292	-	-
Namibia	14 501	15 653	1 384	-	3 188	25	4 597	-	11 056	-	-
Swaziland	52 140	53 967	2	3	751	8	764	-	53 203	-	-
Tanzania	1 330	1 581	4	-	1 068	3	1 075	-	506	-	-
Zambia	12 193	13 025	9	-	4 643	20	4 672	-	8 352	1	-
Zimbabwe	117 674	128 158	34	10	8 112	61	8 217	-	119 941	-	-
'Other' African	12 219	13 661	216	16	11 691	103	12 026	-	1 627	7	1
East and Central Africa	6 058	6 205	60	-	5 323	14	5 397	-	804	3	1
Burundi	107	65	1	-	60	-	61	-	4	-	-
Cameroon	381	430	2	-	383	-	385	-	44	1	-
Central African Republic	7	17	2	-	13	1	16	-	1	-	-
Chad	21	21	1	-	20	-	21	-	-	-	-
Comoros	8	21	-	-	21	-	21	-	-	-	-
Congo	561	304	12	-	257	1	270	-	34	-	-
Djibouti	6	10	-	-	10	-	10	-	-	-	-
Equat Guinea	18	16	2	-	14	-	16	-	-	-	-
Eritrea	47	49	1	-	38	-	39	-	10	-	-
Ethiopia	667	741	7	-	639	-	646	-	95	-	-
Gabon	399	556	8	-	540	7	555	-	1	-	-
Kenya	2 058	2 314	11	-	1 952	2	1 965	-	346	2	1
Reunion	26	13	1	-	12	-	13	-	-	-	-
Rwanda	222	202	2	-	185	-	187	-	15	-	-
Sao Tome and Principe	13	10	-	-	10	-	10	-	-	-	-
Seychelles	150	238	-	-	233	1	234	-	4	-	-
Somalia	365	31	5	-	23	-	28	-	3	-	-
Tristan Da Cunha	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Uganda	999	1 167	5	-	913	2	920	-	247	-	-

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

Country	Mode of travel (September 2010)										
	September		Air					Rail	Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2009	2010	Cape Town	K.Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total				
West Africa	5 411	6 257	43	4	5 410	87	5 544	-	711	2	-
Benin	107	91	3	-	81	-	84	-	7	-	-
Burkina Faso	66	55	-	-	53	-	53	-	2	-	-
Cape Verde Island	54	55	2	-	48	-	50	-	5	-	-
Cote D'Ivoire	150	140	6	1	132	-	139	-	1	-	-
Gambia	43	81	-	-	76	-	76	-	5	-	-
Ghana	914	1 260	5	-	1 094	4	1 103	-	157	-	-
Guinea	119	193	3	-	124	17	144	-	49	-	-
Guinea-Bissau	13	16	3	-	11	-	14	-	2	-	-
Liberia	40	51	1	-	47	1	49	-	2	-	-
Madeira Islands	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mali	54	91	1	-	77	1	79	-	12	-	-
Mauritania	4	11	-	-	11	-	11	-	-	-	-
Niger	36	73	-	-	24	49	73	-	-	-	-
Nigeria	3 527	3 752	17	3	3 265	15	3 300	-	450	2	-
Saint Helena	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Senegal	187	266	1	-	261	-	262	-	4	-	-
Sierra Leone	61	66	-	-	51	-	51	-	15	-	-
Togo	29	56	1	-	55	-	56	-	-	-	-
North Africa	750	1 199	113	12	958	2	1 085	-	112	2	-
Algeria	84	118	25	-	86	-	111	-	7	-	-
Egypt	316	481	19	3	434	-	456	-	23	2	-
Libya	86	174	5	3	112	-	120	-	54	-	-
Morocco	56	136	27	1	99	-	127	-	9	-	-
The Sudan	149	148	15	4	114	2	135	-	13	-	-
Tunisia	58	141	22	1	112	-	135	-	6	-	-
Western Sahara	1	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Unspecified	3 007	2 317	129	4	1 469	14	1 616	-	701	-	-

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

Country	September		Purpose of visit (September 2010)			
	2009	2010	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
Total	583 352	658 565	27 877	598 970	5 629	26 089
Overseas	136 767	171 158	5 932	145 503	1 247	18 476
Europe	83 873	94 167	3 182	81 682	609	8 694
Austria	1 081	1 354	39	1 125	3	187
Belgium	3 225	3 378	89	2 995	22	272
Denmark	1 521	1 498	54	1 264	6	174
France	6 211	7 297	251	6 168	68	810
Germany	13 889	16 291	397	13 787	107	2 000
Ireland	2 230	2 200	59	1 999	12	130
Italy	4 129	4 645	172	4 041	14	418
Norway	1 239	1 150	61	853	52	184
Portugal	2 026	2 876	52	2 546	6	272
Spain	2 277	2 514	65	2 132	9	308
Sweden	1 590	1 898	157	1 583	30	128
Switzerland	2 405	3 277	29	2 588	29	631
The Netherlands	9 272	9 018	257	8 348	58	355
UK	27 869	31 028	1 110	27 481	160	2 277
Other	4 909	5 743	390	4 772	33	548
North America	21 122	27 193	694	23 894	282	2 323
Canada	3 256	3 937	92	3 476	50	319
USA	17 857	23 256	602	20 418	232	2 004
Other	9	-	-	-	-	-
Central and South America	4 624	6 536	117	4 712	22	1 685
Argentina	703	1 134	17	922	2	193
Brazil	2 618	3 791	34	2 501	7	1 249
Chile	206	285	9	245	-	31
Other	1 097	1 326	57	1 044	13	212

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

Country	September		Purpose of visit (September 2010)			
	2009	2010	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
Australasia	9 185	14 360	141	13 335	18	866
Australia	7 640	12 194	118	11 313	11	752
New Zealand	1 501	2 150	22	2 011	6	111
Other	44	16	1	11	1	3
Middle East	2 535	2 977	154	2 645	27	151
Iran	405	374	43	315	5	11
Israel	1 298	1 489	20	1 419	3	47
Saudi Arabia	317	442	23	401	10	8
Other	515	672	68	510	9	85
Asia	15 428	25 925	1 644	19 235	289	4 757
China	2 979	7 209	592	4 816	22	1 779
India	4 466	7 057	602	5 482	65	908
Indonesia	455	832	21	734	5	72
Japan	1 981	2 677	62	2 033	13	569
Korea	1 032	1 371	40	1 159	34	138
Malaysia	564	1 488	51	1 330	40	67
Pakistan	757	1 125	88	850	20	167
Philippines	246	859	34	442	11	372
Taiwan	834	800	36	604	1	159
Other	2 114	2 507	118	1 785	78	526
Africa	443 578	485 090	21 865	451 618	4 242	7 365
SADC	431 359	471 429	21 180	440 424	3 838	5 987
Angola	2 939	3 267	69	2 619	119	460
Botswana	45 365	44 558	334	42 954	568	702
DRC	2 732	2 295	103	2 059	65	68
Lesotho	87 879	111 321	3 580	106 495	1 003	243
Madagascar	189	209	9	141	7	52

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

Country	September		Purpose of visit (September 2010)			
	2009	2010	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
Malawi	12 435	12 298	145	11 698	49	406
Mauritius	976	1 256	52	1 026	25	153
Mozambique	81 006	83 841	12 350	70 753	94	644
Namibia	14 501	15 653	2 256	12 055	554	788
Swaziland	52 140	53 967	774	52 159	788	246
Tanzania	1 330	1 581	95	1 220	63	203
Zambia	12 193	13 025	636	11 596	99	694
Zimbabwe	117 674	128 158	777	125 649	404	1 328
'Other' Africa	12 219	13 661	685	11 194	404	1 378
East and Central Africa	6 058	6 205	356	5 046	222	581
Burundi	107	65	11	44	7	3
Cameroon	381	430	25	356	25	24
Central African Republic	7	17	1	16	-	-
Chad	21	21	2	15	1	3
Comoros	8	21	1	15	3	2
Congo	561	304	25	258	12	9
Djibouti	6	10	2	3	-	5
Equat Guinea	18	16	4	10	2	-
Eritrea	47	49	5	35	3	6
Ethiopia	667	741	24	631	11	75
Gabon	399	556	2	522	19	13
Kenya	2 058	2 314	164	1 818	93	239
Reunion	26	13	1	12	-	-
Rwanda	222	202	23	155	12	12
Sao Tome and Principe	13	10	1	8	-	1
Seychelles	150	238	1	223	-	14
Somalia	365	31	7	21	-	3
Tristan Da Cunha	3	-	-	-	-	-
Uganda	999	1 167	57	904	34	172

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

Country	September		Purpose of visit (September 2010)			
	2009	2010	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
West Africa	5 411	6 257	208	5 198	149	702
Benin	107	91	8	74	2	7
Burkina Faso	66	55	1	38	1	15
Cape Verde Island	54	55	1	50	2	2
Cote D'Ivoire	150	140	15	97	5	23
Gambia	43	81	10	33	-	38
Ghana	914	1 260	26	1 089	20	125
Guinea	119	193	4	118	7	64
Guinea-Bissau	13	16	2	6	1	7
Liberia	40	51	5	39	1	6
Madeira Islands	6	-	-	-	-	-
Mali	54	91	6	52	4	29
Mauritania	4	11	-	9	-	2
Niger	36	73	1	68	-	4
Nigeria	3 527	3 752	94	3 228	101	329
Saint Helena	1	-	-	-	-	-
Senegal	187	266	25	214	4	23
Sierra Leone	61	66	2	45	1	18
Togo	29	56	8	38	-	10
North Africa	750	1 199	121	950	33	95
Algeria	84	118	10	100	1	7
Egypt	316	481	51	379	2	49
Libya	86	174	10	132	8	24
Morocco	56	136	5	119	10	2
The Sudan	149	148	32	100	11	5
Tunisia	58	141	13	119	1	8
Western Sahara	1	1	-	1	-	-
Unspecified	3 007	2 317	80	1 849	140	248

Table 5. Number of tourists from overseas, SADC and 'other' African regions by sex and age group, September 2010

Sex	Age group	Total	Region			
			Overseas	SADC	'other' African	Unspecified
All	Total	658 565	171 158	471 429	13 661	2 317
	<15	24 782	8 051	15 695	951	85
	15-64	601 585	143 731	443 210	12 480	2 164
	65+	31 142	19 187	11 668	221	66
	Unspecified	1 056	189	856	9	2
Males	Total	384 742	99 510	274 610	9 124	1 498
	<15	13 152	4 640	7 887	578	47
	15-64	354 950	84 441	260 683	8 416	1 410
	65+	16 030	10 301	5 564	125	40
	Unspecified	610	128	476	5	1
Females	Total	272 758	71 452	195 952	4 536	818
	<15	11 629	3 411	7 807	373	38
	15-64	245 756	59 144	181 796	4 063	753
	65+	15 018	8 850	6 046	96	26
	Unspecified	355	47	303	4	1
Unspecified	Total	1 065	196	867	1	1
	<15	1		1	-	-
	15-64	879	146	731	1	1
	65+	94	36	58	-	-
	Unspecified	91	14	77	-	-

Explanatory notes

1. Introduction

Legal movements across South African borders as well as legal immigration into South Africa fall under the jurisdiction of the DHA. 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.

2. Purpose of the statistical release

This release reports on arrivals and departures of foreign and South African 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.

3. Scope and coverage

The release covers data on arrival and departure 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. 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 land, air and sea entry ports on all travellers (South African residents and foreign travellers) arriving into or departing from South Africa are captured into the 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.
- Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) downloads the data covering a particular calendar month from the mainframe of the State Information Technology Agency (SITA), where the DHA stores its data.
- 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 higher than that of the DHA because of, among other reasons, travellers who are in transit and those who boarded airplanes but refused entry into the country. In September 2010, the DHA data was 12,3% lower than that of ACSA.

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.

6. Definitions of terms

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.

6.2 Definitions used specifically in this report

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 thirteen 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.

7. Symbols and abbreviations used

- = nil

Unspec. = unspecified

General information

Stats SA publishes approximately 300 different statistical releases each year. It is not economically viable to produce them in more than one of South Africa's eleven official languages. Since the releases are used extensively, not only locally but also by international economic and social-scientific communities, Stats SA releases are published in English.

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