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1. Key findings

1.1 Travellers

1.1.1 Number of travellers

The routine data collected by the Department of Home Affairs' (DHA) immigration officers at the ports of entry into South Africa show that a total of 2 939 760 travellers (arrivals and departures) passed through South African ports of entry in September 2012. As presented in Table 1, these travellers are made up of 830 319 South African residents and 2 109 441 foreign travellers. A further breakdown of the figures for South African residents indicates that there were 403 196 and 427 123 arrivals and departures respectively. The corresponding volumes for foreign arrivals and departures were 1 148 598 and 960 843, respectively.

A comparison between the movements in August 2012 and September 2012 indicates that the volumes of arrivals and departures for South African residents increased while the volumes decreased for foreign travellers. The volume of arrivals for South African residents increased by 3,6% (from 389 231 in August 2012 to 403 196 in September 2012) while for foreign travellers the arrivals decreased by 1,2% (from 1 162 144 in August 2012 to 1 148 598 in September 2012). For departures, the volume for South African residents increased by 3,4% (from 413 092 in August 2012 to 427 123 in September 2012) and decreased by 1,7% (from 977 104 in August 2012 to 960 843 in September 2012) for foreign travellers.

A comparison between the movements in September 2011 and September 2012 indicates that the volumes of arrivals and departures decreased for South African residents while the volumes increased for foreign travellers. For South African residents, the volume of arrivals decreased by 0,2% (from 404 130 in September 2011 to 403 196 in September 2012) and the volume of departures decreased by 0,7% (from 430 348 in September 2011 to 427 123 in September 2012). Conversely, the volume of arrivals for foreign travellers increased by 11,1% (from 1 033 426 in September 2011 to 1 148 598 in September 2012) and the volume of departures increased by 8,8% (from 883 309 in September 2011 to 960 843 in September 2012).

Detailed information on the departure of travellers is not available in the movement control system. Data on the purpose of travel and the number of days South African residents intend to spend or spent abroad are not collected by the DHA. Hence, it is not possible to categorise South African residents as tourists and non-tourists. However, some data are available on foreign arrivals for this categorisation.

As presented in Table 1, in September 2012, 61 379 (5,3%) foreign arrivals were classified as non-visitors while 1 087 219 (94,7%) were classified as visitors. The visitors were categorised into three groups:

- i. arrivals only comprising of visitors who entered the country in September 2012 but did not depart in September 2012 [399 660 (36,8%)];
- ii. visitors who came once in September 2012 and left in September 2012 [388 624 (35,7%)];
- iii. those who came and left more than once in September 2012 [298 935 (27,5%)].

Visitors were further grouped as same day visitors [321 821 (29,6%)] and overnight visitors (tourists) [765 398 (70,4%)]. Between August 2012 and September 2012, the volume of same day visitors decreased by 1,8% (from 327 607 in August 2012 to 321 821 in September 2012) and tourists decreased by 1,3% (from 775 620 in August 2012 to 765 398 in September 2012). Furthermore, between September 2011 and September 2012, the volume of same day visitors increased by 5,9% (from 303 986 in September 2011 to 321 821 in September 2012) and the volume of tourists increased by 13,2% (from 676 433 in September 2011 to 765 398 in September 2012).

1.1.2 Mode of travel

Travellers who cross South Africa's borders rarely use trains and ships since these are mainly used for transporting goods. Data presented in Table 2 show that in September 2012, road transport was the most common mode of travel used by 2 096 217 (71,3%) out of the 2 939 760 travellers. The total number of travellers who used air transport was 838 930 (28,5%). The arrivals data on South African residents show that 154 939 (38,4%) came by air and 248 064 (61,5%) came by road. For departures, 168 315 (39,4%) and 258 516 (60,5%) used air and road

transport respectively. In the case of foreign travellers, 297 716 (25,9%) arrived by air while those who came by road were 848 890 (73,9%). When departing South Africa, 217 960 (22,7%) foreign travellers left by air whilst 740 747 (77,1%) left by road. As shown in Table 2, an overwhelming majority, 303 176 (94,2%) of same day visitors arrived in the country by road. Only 18 613 (5,8%) same day visitors flew into the country. Data on tourists show that, 516 287 (67,5%) used road transport but 248 833 (32,5%) came by air.

1.2 Tourists

1.2.1 Mode of travel

The country of residence of tourists is used to categorise them into their respective countries and regions. Information on the specific region and country of residence of the tourists and the mode of travel used to enter South Africa is provided in Table 3. In September 2012, 184 901 (88,8%) overseas tourists arrived in the country by air whilst 23 053 (11,1%) 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 [490 918 (91,6%)]. Only 44 772 (8,4%) tourists from the SADC countries came in by air. The number of tourists who came into South Africa by air from 'other' African countries was 17 654 (91,0%); with 1 721 (8,9%) using road transport.

1.2.2 Regional and national distribution

In September 2012, the distribution of overseas tourists were as follows; Europe, 108 104 (51,9%); Asia, 35 939 (17,3%); North America, 33 690 (16,2%); Australasia, 16 395 (7,9%); Central and South America, 10 141 (4,9%) and Middle East, 3 934 (1,9%). Virtually all tourists from Africa came from the SADC countries, [535 699 (96,5%)]. The distribution of the remaining tourists from Africa is as follows: West Africa, 10 368 (1,9%); East and Central Africa, 7 490 (1,3%) and North Africa 1 536 (0,3%).

Data presented in Figure 1 indicate that United Kingdom (UK), 31 843 (15,3%); United States of America (USA), 28 491 (13,7%); Germany, 22 171 (10,6%); Australia, 13 848 (6,7%); China 13 030 (6,3%); India, 9 077 (4,4%); The Netherlands, 8 923 (4,3%) and France, 8 169 (3,9%); were the eight leading overseas countries in the number of tourists visiting South Africa in September 2012. Tourists from these eight countries constituted 65,1% of all tourists from overseas countries. A comparison between movements in September 2011 and September 2012 shows that the number of tourists increased in all of these countries. China had the highest increase of 67,7% (from 7 770 tourists in September 2011 to 13 030 tourists in September 2012) while UK had the least increase of 7,2% (from 29 694 tourists in September 2011 to 31 843 tourists in September 2012).

The eight leading countries in the number of tourists visiting South Africa in September 2012 from the SADC countries (see Figure 2) were Zimbabwe, 146 515 (27,4%); Lesotho, 131 271 (24,5%); Mozambique, 92 949 (17,4%); Swaziland, 65 771 (12,3%); Botswana, 43 825 (8,2%); Namibia, 15 848 (3,0%); Zambia, 14 028 (2,6%) and Malawi, 13 061 (2,4%). Tourists from these eight countries constituted 97,7% of all tourists from the SADC countries. A comparison between movements in September 2011 and September 2012 shows that the number of tourists increased in six of these countries (Zimbabwe, Zambia, Lesotho, Swaziland, Malawi and Mozambique) and decreased in two countries (Botswana and Namibia). Zimbabwe had the highest increase of 18,4% (from 123 783 tourists in September 2011 to 146 515 tourists in September 2012). The number of tourists from Namibia decreased by 1,8% (from 16 144 tourists in September 2011 to 15 848 tourists in September 2012) and tourists from Botswana decreased by 1,7% (from 44 597 tourists in September 2011 to 43 825 tourists in September 2012).

The eight leading countries in the number of tourists visiting South Africa in September 2012 from 'other' African countries, shown in Figure 3, were Nigeria, 6 469 (33,4%); Kenya, 3 165 (16,3%); Ghana, 2 176 (11,2%); Uganda, 1 318 (6,8%); Egypt, 792 (4,1%); Ethiopia, 782 (4,0%); Gabon, 638 (3,3%) and Cameroon, 486 (2,5%). Tourists from these eight countries constituted 81,6% of all tourists from 'other' African countries. A comparison between movements in September 2011 and September 2012 shows that the number of tourists increased in of these countries. The increase was highest in Gabon at 38,4% (from 461 tourists in September 2011 to 638 tourists in September 2012) while Nigeria had the least increase of 6,5% (from 6 076 tourists in September 2011 to 6 469 tourists in September 2012).

1.2.3 Purpose of visit

As observed from data given in Table 4, in September 2012, an overwhelming majority [682 990 (89,2%)] of tourists were in South Africa for holidays compared to only 17 970 (2,3%) and 5 913 (0,8%) of tourists who were in South Africa for business and study purposes respectively. A detailed analysis reveals that of all the tourists from each of the overseas regions, at least 55,0% came to South Africa for holidays. A total of 3 336 (84,8%) tourists from Middle East; 13 601 (83,0%) from Australasia; 27 156 (80,6%) from North America, 83 812 (77,5%) from Europe; 24 236 (67,4%) from Asia and 5 654 (55,8%) from Central and South America were in South Africa mostly for holidays. Middle East and Asia had a higher proportion (5,8% and 5,3% respectively) of their tourists in South Africa for business compared to other overseas regions.

The majority of African tourists [523 641 (94,3%)] came to South Africa for holidays. However, there were differences between tourists from the SADC countries and 'other' African countries namely:

- Whereas 508 946 (95,0%) of tourists from the SADC countries were on holidays; 14 695 (75,8%) 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 7 939 (76,6%); 5 720 (76,4%) and 1 036 (67,4%) for West Africa; East and Central Africa and North Africa respectively.
- Business persons constituted 928 (4,8%) of tourists from 'other' African countries compared with 7 886 (1,5%) from the SADC countries. North Africa had the highest proportion 8,5% (130) of its tourists in South Africa for business.
- Students made up 563 (2,9%) of tourists from 'other' African countries compared with 4 023 (0,8%) from the SADC countries. East and Central Africa had the highest proportion 306 (4,1%) of their tourists in South Africa for study purposes.

1.2.4 Sex and age distribution

Table 5 shows that, in September 2012, there were 435 889 (56,9%) male and 328 521 (42,9%) female tourists. The overseas tourists were made up of 121 278 (58,2%) male tourists and 86 709 (41,6%) female tourists. There were 299 643 (55,9%) male and 235 290 (43,9%) female tourists from the SADC countries. The tourists from 'other' African countries were made up of 13 585 (70,0%) males and 5 803 (29,9%) females.

The ages of the tourists were categorised into three broad groups namely; those younger than 15 years, 15 to 64 years, and 65 years and older. The overall results presented in Table 5 show that 693 149 (90,6%) of tourists were aged between 15 and 64 years; 33 157 (4,3%) were aged less than 15 years and 38 481 (5,0%) were aged 65 years and older. Taking the regions of residence into consideration, the results further show that 174 169 (83,7%) of overseas tourists were aged between 15 and 64 years compared with 498 808 (93,1%) and 18 139 (93,5%) of tourists in the same age range from the SADC countries and 'other' African countries respectively.

For tourists aged less than 15 years, a higher proportion of 5,0% (972) were from 'other' African while the proportions were the same for tourists from SADC [4,3% (23 298)] and overseas countries, [4,3% (8 856)]. There was a higher proportion of young female tourists in comparison to young male tourists from all the three regions (overseas, SADC 'other' African countries).

A comparison of the three regions shows relatively high proportions of the elderly among both male 11,2% (13 555) and female 13,3% (11 495) tourists from overseas. This is in contrast to tourists from the SADC countries amongst whom 2,0% (5 898) of males and 3,0% (7 094) of females were aged 65 years and older. Similarly among tourists from 'other' African countries, 1,5% (207) of males and 1,3% (73) of females were aged 65 years and older.

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Statistician-General

2. Figures

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

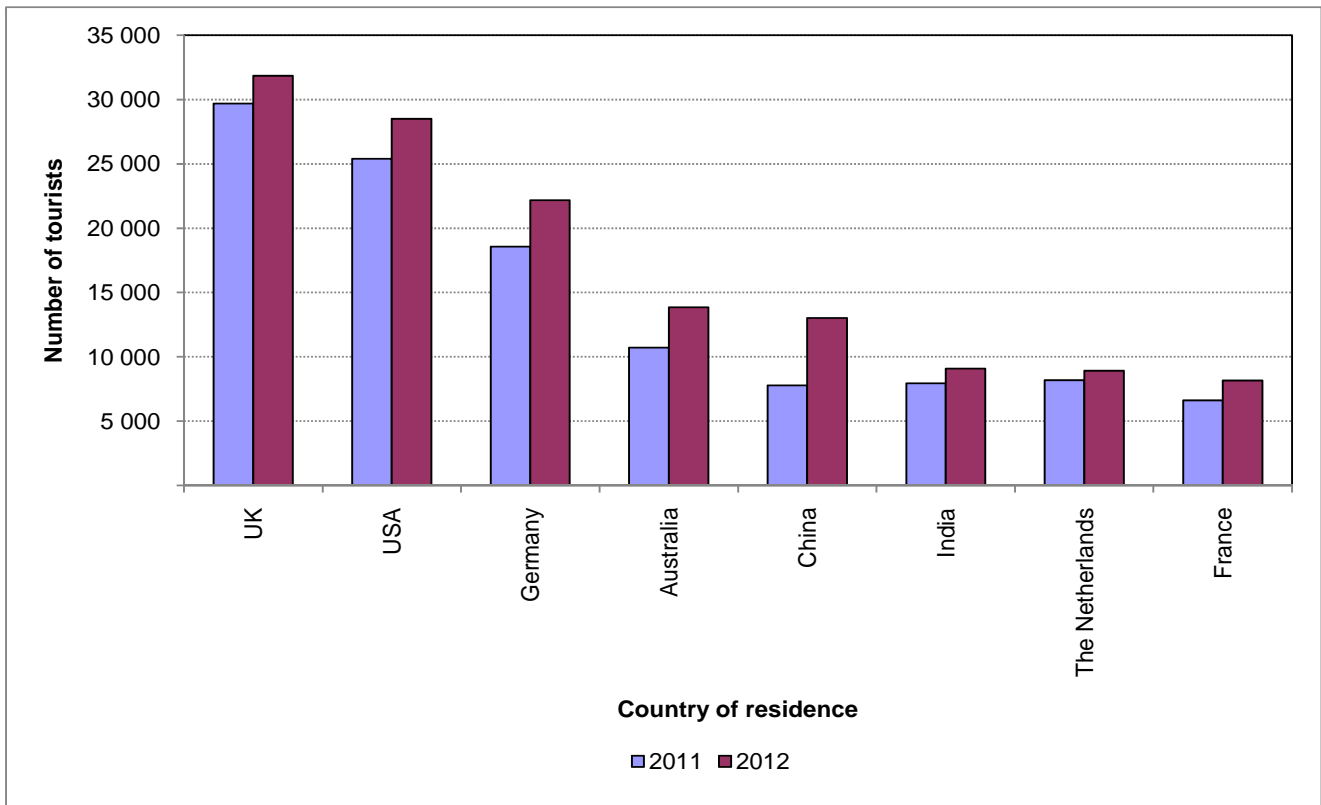


Figure 2. Number of tourists from eight leading Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries in September 2011 and September 2012

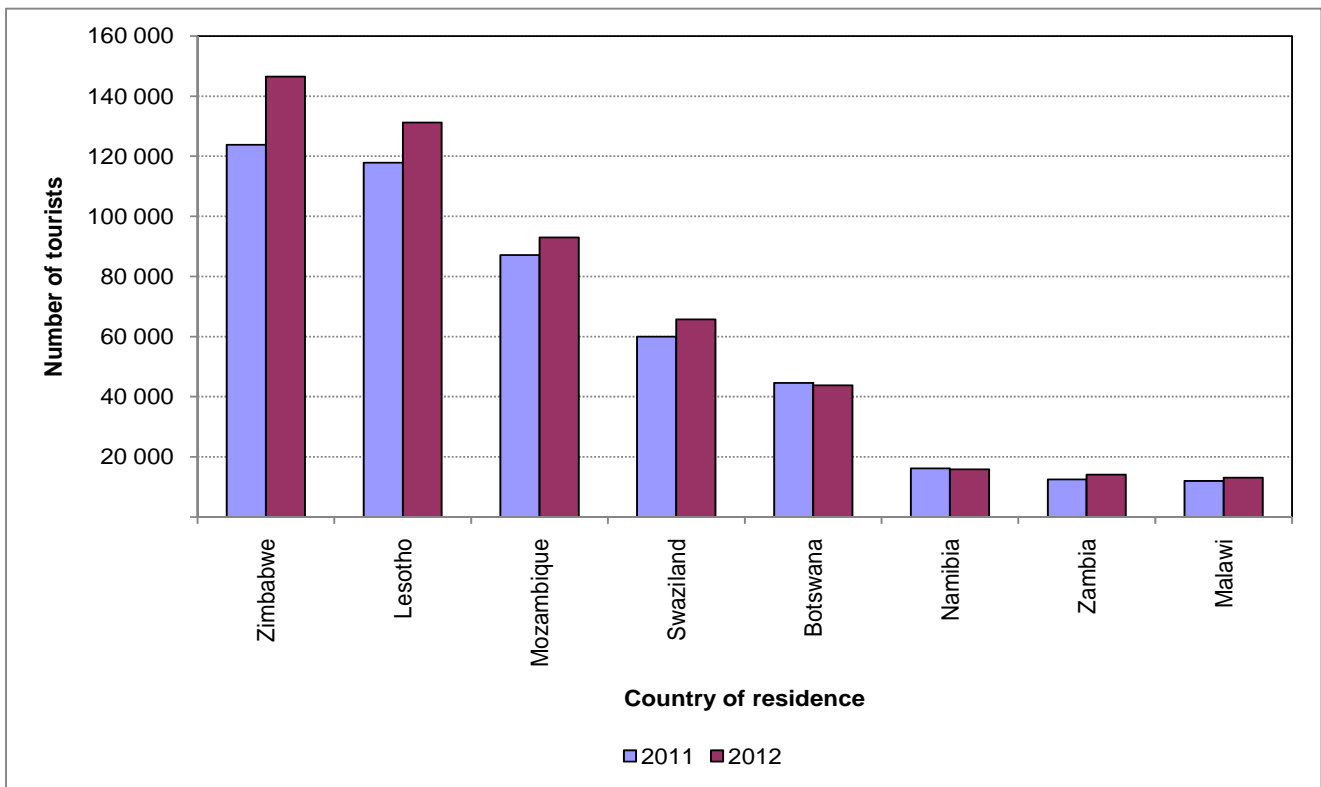
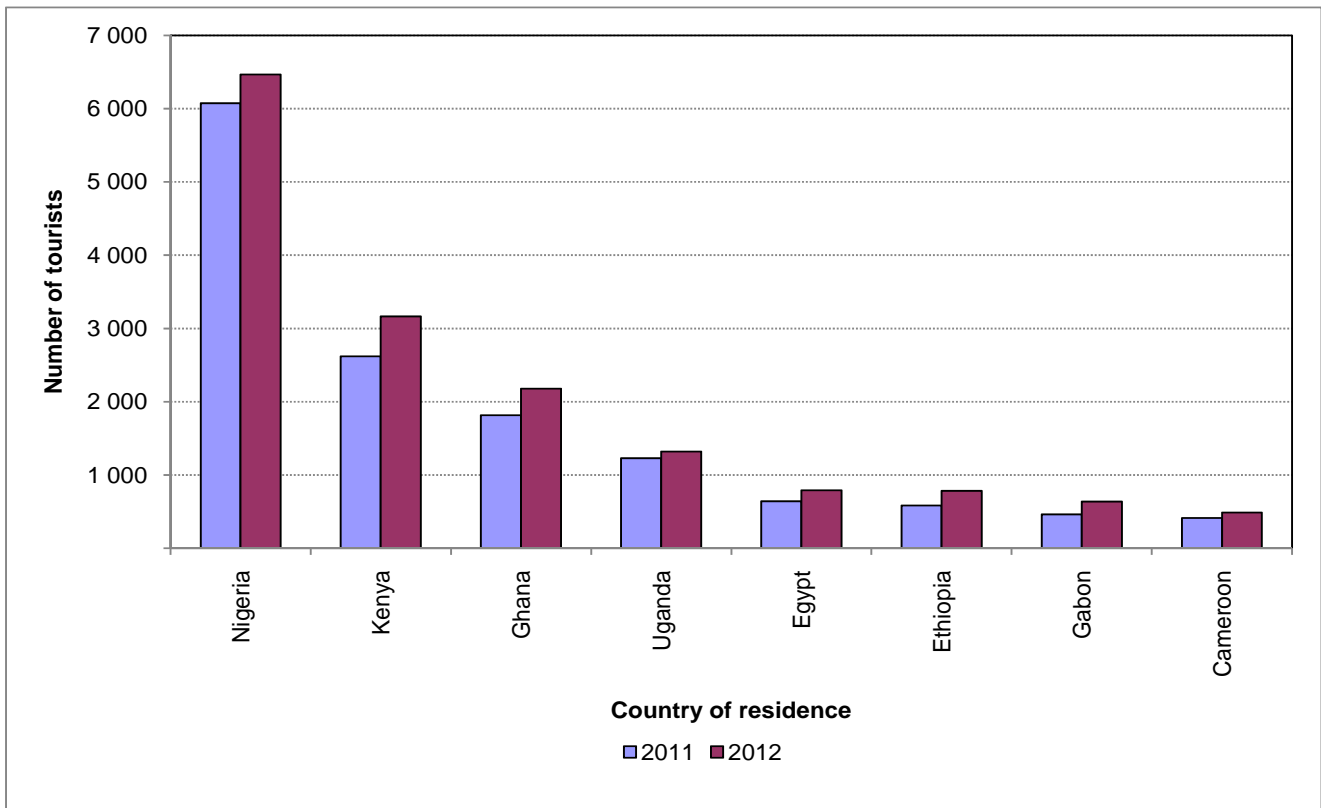


Figure 3. Number of tourists from eight leading 'other' African countries in September 2011 and September 2012



3. Tables

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

Travel direction	September	August	September	% change	
	2011	2012	2012	September 2011 - September 2012	August 2012 - September 2012
Total	2 751 213	2 941 571	2 939 760	6,9	-0,1
South African residents	834 478	802 323	830 319	-0,5	3,5
Arrivals	404 130	389 231	403 196	-0,2	3,6
Departures	430 348	413 092	427 123	-0,7	3,4
Foreign travellers	1 916 735	2 139 248	2 109 441	10,1	-1,4
Arrivals	1 033 426	1 162 144	1 148 598	11,1	-1,2
Departures	883 309	977 104	960 843	8,8	-1,7
Foreign arrivals	1 033 426	1 162 144	1 148 598	11,1	-1,2
Non-visitors	53 007	58 917	61 379	15,8	4,2
Visitors	980 419	1 103 227	1 087 219	10,9	-1,5
Visitors	980 419	1 103 227	1 087 219	10,9	-1,5
Arrivals only	344 910	400 443	399 660	15,9	-0,2
Single trips	337 839	388 704	388 624	15,0	0,0
Multiple trips	297 670	314 080	298 935	0,4	-4,8
Visitors	980 419	1 103 227	1 087 219	10,9	-1,5
Same day	303 986	327 607	321 821	5,9	-1,8
Overnight (tourists)	676 433	775 620	765 398	13,2	-1,3

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

Travel Direction	September		Mode of travel (September 2012)							
			Air					Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2011	2012	Cape Town	K Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total			
Total	2 751 213	2 939 760	87 020	18 564	724 635	8 711	838 930	2 096 217	4 607	6
South African residents	834 478	830 319	33 488	11 859	272 633	5 274	323 254	506 580	485	-
Arrivals	404 130	403 196	15 703	5 264	131 298	2 674	154 939	248 064	193	-
Departures	430 348	427 123	17 785	6 595	141 335	2 600	168 315	258 516	292	-
Foreign travellers	1 916 735	2 109 441	53 532	6 705	452 002	3 437	515 676	1 589 637	4 122	6
Arrivals	1 033 426	1 148 598	28 035	3 530	264 497	1 654	297 716	848 890	1 986	6
Departures	883 309	960 843	25 497	3 175	187 505	1 783	217 960	740 747	2 136	-
Visitors	980 419	1 087 219	24 515	2 428	239 260	1 243	267 446	819 463	308	2
Same day	303 986	321 821	207	45	18 195	166	18 613	303 176	32	-
Overnight (tourists)	676 433	765 398	24 308	2 383	221 065	1 077	248 833	516 287	276	2

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

Country of residence	September		Mode of travel (September 2012)							
			Air					Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2011	2012	Cape Town	K Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total			
Total	676 433	765 398	24 308	2 383	221 065	1 077	248 833	516 287	276	2
Overseas	173 497	208 203	22 067	1 965	160 048	821	184 901	23 053	248	1
Europe	93 756	108 104	15 333	1 259	76 971	283	93 846	14 104	154	-
Austria	1 454	1 779	205	25	1 318	1	1 549	230	-	-
Belgium	3 047	3 675	451	6	2 568	12	3 037	638	-	-
Denmark	1 578	1 680	164	12	1 363	-	1 539	141	-	-
France	6 625	8 169	1 068	58	5 929	37	7 092	1 074	3	-
Germany	18 563	22 171	2 867	173	15 643	35	18 718	3 450	3	-
Ireland	1 870	2 006	386	31	1 390	5	1 812	194	-	-
Italy	4 912	5 441	1 054	54	3 861	2	4 971	469	1	-
Norway	1 269	1 541	191	4	1 231	-	1 426	114	1	-
Portugal	3 368	4 175	194	16	2 378	16	2 604	1 571	-	-
Spain	2 595	2 800	294	15	2 198	7	2 514	286	-	-
Sweden	1 810	2 026	268	5	1 580	8	1 861	165	-	-
Switzerland	3 272	4 665	546	32	3 628	24	4 230	435	-	-
The Netherlands	8 184	8 923	1 802	107	5 186	13	7 108	1 813	2	-
UK	29 694	31 843	4 852	649	23 159	96	28 756	2 973	114	-
Other	5 515	7 210	991	72	5 539	27	6 629	551	30	-
North America	29 912	33 690	2 610	101	27 718	363	30 792	2 881	17	-
Canada	4 517	5 199	677	26	3 945	20	4 668	528	3	-
USA	25 395	28 491	1 933	75	23 773	343	26 124	2 353	14	-
Central and South America	8 004	10 141	164	14	9 356	18	9 552	587	2	-
Argentina	1 064	1 130	8	-	1 086	3	1 097	33	-	-
Brazil	5 215	6 774	69	11	6 264	9	6 353	421	-	-
Chile	265	375	5	-	345	-	350	25	-	-
Other	1 460	1 862	82	3	1 661	6	1 752	108	2	-

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

Country of residence	September		Mode of travel (September 2012)							
	2011	2012	Air					Road	Sea	Unspecified
			Cape Town	K Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total			
Australasia	12 188	16 395	828	87	14 174	90	15 179	1 216	-	-
Australia	10 719	13 848	701	67	11 950	79	12 797	1 051	-	-
New Zealand	1 447	2 509	124	20	2 190	11	2 345	164	-	-
Other	22	38	3	-	34	-	37	1	-	-
Middle East	2 898	3 934	340	24	3 274	13	3 651	282	1	-
Iran	424	347	53	2	280	-	335	12	-	-
Israel	1 332	2 443	90	1	2 114	3	2 208	235	-	-
Saudi Arabia	315	278	70	3	205	-	278	-	-	-
Other	827	866	127	18	675	10	830	35	1	-
Asia	26 739	35 939	2 792	480	28 555	54	31 881	3 983	74	1
China	7 770	13 030	1 150	46	11 067	-	12 263	766	1	-
India	7 940	9 077	412	186	6 766	37	7 401	1 654	22	-
Japan	2 605	3 508	222	84	3 082	4	3 392	116	-	-
Malaysia	830	1 138	315	41	718	2	1 076	56	6	-
Pakistan	1 500	1 898	97	74	1 221	-	1 392	501	4	1
Philippines	948	1 385	98	4	1 067	3	1 172	189	24	-
Singapore	607	719	169	3	520	3	695	24	-	-
South Korea	1 194	1 429	95	11	1 135	1	1 242	187	-	-
Taiwan	731	976	53	7	769	-	829	146	1	-
Other	2 614	2 779	181	24	2 210	4	2 419	344	16	-
Africa	500 714	555 093	2 140	409	59 621	256	62 426	492 639	27	1
SADC	484 139	535 699	1 887	368	42 287	230	44 772	490 918	9	-
Angola	3 517	3 954	301	-	3 509	27	3 837	116	1	-
Botswana	44 597	43 825	13	1	4 618	81	4 713	39 111	1	-
DRC	2 149	2 918	3	-	2 158	40	2 201	717	-	-
Lesotho	117 858	131 271	2	2	955	-	959	130 312	-	-
Madagascar	312	472	4	-	448	-	452	18	2	-

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

Country of residence	September		Mode of travel (September 2012)							
			Air					Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2011	2012	Cape Town	K Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total			
Malawi	11 967	13 061	7	3	2 334	6	2 350	10 711	-	-
Mauritius	1 435	1 591	75	84	1 256	-	1 415	176	-	-
Mozambique	87 104	92 949	103	102	4 573	8	4 786	88 163	-	-
Namibia	16 144	15 848	1 297	-	4 734	20	6 051	9 795	2	-
Seychelles	199	262	3	2	249	-	254	8	-	-
Swaziland	59 937	65 771	1	1	1 367	3	1 372	64 399	-	-
Tanzania	2 679	3 234	12	1	1 996	2	2 011	1 222	1	-
Zambia	12 458	14 028	13	156	4 898	11	5 078	8 950	-	-
Zimbabwe	123 783	146 515	53	16	9 192	32	9 293	137 220	2	-
'Other' African	16 575	19 394	253	41	17 334	26	17 654	1 721	18	1
East and Central Africa	6 050	7 490	47	12	6 626	3	6 688	796	5	1
Burundi	101	130	-	1	123	2	126	4	-	-
Cameroon	412	486	8	1	428	-	437	48	1	-
Central African Republic	7	23	-	-	23	-	23	-	-	-
Chad	30	41	3	-	37	-	40	1	-	-
Comoros	16	49	1	-	45	-	46	3	-	-
Congo	239	423	1	-	406	1	408	14	-	1
Djibouti	10	17	-	-	16	-	16	1	-	-
Equatorial Guinea	34	25	-	-	25	-	25	-	-	-
Eritrea	48	106	-	-	99	-	99	7	-	-
Ethiopia	582	782	2	4	688	-	694	86	2	-
Gabon	461	638	6	-	631	-	637	1	-	-
Kenya	2 619	3 165	16	5	2 750	-	2 771	393	1	-
Rwanda	234	248	1	-	231	-	232	16	-	-
Sao Tome and Principe	16	19	-	-	19	-	19	-	-	-
Somalia	12	20	-	-	18	-	18	1	1	-
Uganda	1 229	1 318	9	1	1 087	-	1 097	221	-	-

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

Country of residence	September		Mode of travel (September 2012)							
			Air					Road	Sea	Unspecified
	2011	2012	Cape Town	K Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total			
West Africa	9 261	10 368	74	13	9 384	14	9 485	870	13	-
Benin	112	164	3	-	154	-	157	7	-	-
Burkina Faso	60	95	-	-	91	-	91	4	-	-
Cape Verde Island	57	53	6	-	44	-	50	3	-	-
Cote D'Ivoire	205	241	5	4	228	-	237	4	-	-
Gambia	96	103	1	-	92	-	93	10	-	-
Ghana	1 814	2 176	28	2	1 973	1	2 004	172	-	-
Guinea	192	253	1	-	153	-	154	99	-	-
Guinea-Bissau	16	21	-	-	20	-	20	1	-	-
Liberia	60	67	1	-	63	-	64	3	-	-
Mali	118	116	1	-	100	-	101	15	-	-
Mauritania	17	26	-	-	26	-	26	-	-	-
Niger	25	30	1	1	28	-	30	-	-	-
Nigeria	6 076	6 469	24	6	5 897	12	5 939	529	1	-
Saint Helena	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	-
Senegal	292	366	1	-	356	1	358	8	-	-
Sierra Leone	70	89	-	-	75	-	75	14	-	-
Togo	51	87	2	-	84	-	86	1	-	-
North Africa	1 264	1 536	132	16	1 324	9	1 481	55	-	-
Algeria	97	159	13	-	134	-	147	12	-	-
Egypt	640	792	47	6	712	1	766	26	-	-
Libya	81	71	23	3	42	-	68	3	-	-
Morocco	123	239	32	2	191	8	233	6	-	-
The Sudan	167	147	12	1	127	-	140	7	-	-
Tunisia	154	127	5	4	117	-	126	1	-	-
Western Sahara	2	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
Unspecified	2 222	2 102	101	9	1 396	-	1 506	595	1	-

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

Country of residence	September		Purpose of visit (September 2012)			
	2011	2012	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
Total	676 433	765 398	17 970	682 990	5 913	58 525
Overseas	173 497	208 203	9 048	157 795	1 312	40 048
Europe	93 756	108 104	5 181	83 812	616	18 495
Austria	1 454	1 779	60	1 293	13	413
Belgium	3 047	3 675	139	3 021	29	486
Denmark	1 578	1 680	99	1 304	8	269
France	6 625	8 169	539	6 090	70	1 470
Germany	18 563	22 171	712	17 369	106	3 984
Ireland	1 870	2 006	116	1 644	12	234
Italy	4 912	5 441	263	4 168	13	997
Norway	1 269	1 541	55	1 089	23	374
Portugal	3 368	4 175	98	3 323	11	743
Spain	2 595	2 800	127	1 715	20	938
Sweden	1 810	2 026	190	1 464	22	350
Switzerland	3 272	4 665	106	3 208	28	1 323
The Netherlands	8 184	8 923	367	7 858	62	636
UK	29 694	31 843	1 713	25 040	163	4 927
Other	5 515	7 210	597	5 226	36	1 351
North America	29 912	33 690	1 154	27 156	296	5 084
Canada	4 517	5 199	211	4 210	64	714
USA	25 395	28 491	943	22 946	232	4 370
Central and South America	8 004	10 141	189	5 654	51	4 247
Argentina	1 064	1 130	18	654	3	455
Brazil	5 215	6 774	84	3 552	17	3 121
Chile	265	375	11	255	2	107
Other	1 460	1 862	76	1 193	29	564

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

Country of residence	September		Purpose of visit (September 2012)			
	2011	2012	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
Australasia	12 188	16 395	380	13 601	39	2 375
Australia	10 719	13 848	332	11 525	22	1 969
New Zealand	1 447	2 509	47	2 050	14	398
Other	22	38	1	26	3	8
Middle East	2 898	3 934	230	3 336	42	326
Iran	424	347	13	306	16	12
Israel	1 332	2 443	65	2 213	2	163
Saudi Arabia	315	278	35	230	10	3
Other	827	866	117	587	14	148
Asia	26 739	35 939	1 914	24 236	268	9 521
China	7 770	13 030	579	8 301	47	4 103
India	7 940	9 077	646	7 008	51	1 372
Japan	2 605	3 508	197	2 177	2	1 132
Malaysia	830	1 138	80	856	38	164
Pakistan	1 500	1 898	96	1 445	10	347
Philippines	948	1 385	25	525	32	803
Singapore	607	719	48	568	-	103
South Korea	1 194	1 429	66	1 052	23	288
Taiwan	731	976	35	721	3	217
Other	2 614	2 779	142	1 583	62	992
Africa	500 714	555 093	8 814	523 641	4 586	18 052
SADC	484 139	535 699	7 886	508 946	4 023	14 844
Angola	3 517	3 954	74	2 512	182	1 186
Botswana	44 597	43 825	244	40 859	528	2 194
DRC	2 149	2 918	80	2 520	99	219
Lesotho	117 858	131 271	150	129 873	831	417
Madagascar	312	472	17	250	11	194

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

Country of residence	September		Purpose of visit (September 2012)			
	2011	2012	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
Malawi	11 967	13 061	255	11 999	62	745
Mauritius	1 435	1 591	102	1 091	37	361
Mozambique	87 104	92 949	1 180	89 627	79	2 063
Namibia	16 144	15 848	1 966	11 494	528	1 860
Seychelles	199	262	12	225	-	25
Swaziland	59 937	65 771	1 059	63 036	919	757
Tanzania	2 679	3 234	123	2 500	49	562
Zambia	12 458	14 028	1 063	11 483	127	1 355
Zimbabwe	123 783	146 515	1 561	141 477	571	2 906
'Other' African	16 575	19 394	928	14 695	563	3 208
East and Central Africa	6 050	7 490	430	5 720	306	1 034
Burundi	101	130	2	87	2	39
Cameroon	412	486	28	323	29	106
Central African Republic	7	23	-	17	3	3
Chad	30	41	1	33	5	2
Comoros	16	49	3	26	2	18
Congo	239	423	14	328	34	47
Djibouti	10	17	-	16	-	1
Equatorial Guinea	34	25	2	21	2	-
Eritrea	48	106	3	85	1	17
Ethiopia	582	782	29	639	15	99
Gabon	461	638	5	556	35	42
Kenya	2 619	3 165	253	2 398	115	399
Rwanda	234	248	7	177	16	48
Sao Tome and Principe	16	19	-	13	-	6
Somalia	12	20	1	15	2	2
Uganda	1 229	1 318	82	986	45	205

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

Country of residence	September		Purpose of visit (September 2012)			
	2011	2012	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
West Africa	9 261	10 368	368	7 939	198	1 863
Benin	112	164	7	134	7	16
Burkina Faso	60	95	4	56	3	32
Cape Verde Island	57	53	3	41	2	7
Côte D'Ivoire	205	241	20	169	3	49
Gambia	96	103	2	48	-	53
Ghana	1 814	2 176	99	1 621	16	440
Guinea	192	253	8	160	2	83
Guinea-Bissau	16	21	-	11	-	10
Liberia	60	67	8	42	1	16
Mali	118	116	5	76	3	32
Mauritania	17	26	-	20	1	5
Niger	25	30	2	21	2	5
Nigeria	6 076	6 469	189	5 194	157	929
Saint Helena	-	12	-	12	-	-
Senegal	292	366	15	227	1	123
Sierra Leone	70	89	4	60	-	25
Togo	51	87	2	47	-	38
North Africa	1 264	1 536	130	1 036	59	311
Algeria	97	159	9	131	5	14
Egypt	640	792	67	536	9	180
Libya	81	71	5	38	18	10
Morocco	123	239	22	157	9	51
The Sudan	167	147	19	106	14	8
Tunisia	154	127	8	68	4	47
Western Sahara	2	1	-	-	-	1
Unspecified	2 222	2 102	108	1 554	15	425

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

Sex	Age group	Total	Region (September 2012)			
			Overseas	SADC	'Other' African	Unspecified
All	Total	765 398	208 203	535 699	19 394	2 102
	<15	33 157	8 856	23 298	972	31
	15 - 64	693 149	174 169	498 808	18 139	2 033
	65+	38 481	25 099	13 064	280	38
	Unspecified	611	79	529	3	
Male	Total	435 889	121 278	299 643	13 585	1 383
	<15	16 468	4 503	11 459	488	18
	15 - 64	399 392	103 177	281 987	12 887	1 341
	65+	19 684	13 555	5 898	207	24
	Unspecified	345	43	299	3	-
Female	Total	328 521	86 709	235 290	5 803	719
	<15	16 689	4 353	11 839	484	13
	15 - 64	292 973	70 837	216 198	5 246	692
	65+	18 676	11 495	7 094	73	14
	Unspecified	183	24	159	-	-
Unspecified	Total	988	216	766	6	-
	<15	-	-	-	-	-
	15 - 64	784	155	623	6	-
	65+	121	49	72	-	-
	Unspecified	83	12	71	-	-

4. Explanatory notes

4.1 Introduction

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

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

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

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

4.2 Purpose of the statistical release

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

4.3 Scope and coverage

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

4.4 Data

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

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

observed when the volume of travellers decreased. However, the volume of passengers recorded by ACSA is generally higher than that of the DHA because of, among other reasons, travellers who are in transit and those who boarded airplanes but were refused entry into the country. In September 2012, the DHA data was 2,1% lower than that of ACSA.

4.5 Limitations

The information on the total number of arrivals and departures of South African residents is collected from the scanning of passports. However, data are not collected from passengers on country visited; country of final destination, the duration of stay; intended duration of stay and purpose of visit. With this limitation, it is impossible to identify the number of tourists from the data on South African residents.

Due to unavailability of data from the DHA, information on documented immigrants is not included in this current publication. The documented immigration information will be provided as soon as it is made available to Stats SA.

4.6 Definitions of terms

4.6.1 Definitions used by the United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO)

Traveller is someone who moves between different geographical locations for any purpose and any duration.

Visitor refers to any person travelling to a place other than that of his/her usual environment for less than 12 months and whose main purpose of the trip is other than the exercise of an activity remunerated from within the place visited.

Same-day visitor is a visitor who visits a place for less than one night.

Tourist (overnight visitor) is a visitor who stays at least one night in collective or private accommodation in the place visited.

Tourism comprises the activities of persons travelling to, and staying in places outside their usual environment, for not more than one consecutive year, for leisure, business and other purposes. The usual environment of a person consists of a certain area around his/her place of residence, plus all other places he/she frequently visits.

4.6.2 Definitions used specifically in this release

South African resident refers to either a South African citizen or a non-South African citizen with a South African permanent residence permit.

Foreign traveller refers to a traveller who is not a South African citizen or permanent resident.

Region refers to the following country classification: Overseas: Europe, North America, Central and South America, Australasia, the Middle East, Asia, Africa: SADC, East and Central Africa, West Africa and North Africa.

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

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

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

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

Overseas refers to all countries outside Africa.

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

4.7 Symbols used

- = nil

< = less than

5. General information

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

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