

**TOURISM Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban
International Airports
P0351.1**

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THE NUMBER OF OVERSEAS ARRIVALS INCREASED BY 6,3% IN DECEMBER 1998.

Total foreign travellers

The number of arriving foreign travellers increased by 5,7% in December 1998, as compared to December 1997.

The total number of foreign travellers from mainland Africa, overseas and unspecified countries who visited the RSA, arriving through the three international airports of Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban during the month of December 1998 was 143 619. The December 1998 figure represents an increase of 5,7% as compared with December 1997. Figure 1 shows the trend in arrivals of overseas travellers shown separately from that of arrivals from mainland Africa from January 1996 to December 1998.

Overseas foreign travellers: Purpose of visit

Most (86,9%) overseas travellers visited RSA for the purpose of spending a holiday

For December 1998, the number of overseas travellers arriving at the RSA through the three International Airports, was 121 519. The December 1998 figures represent an increase of 6,3% over the number of overseas travellers arriving during December 1997. Regarding the purpose of visit, as stated by overseas travellers arriving during December 1998, the single largest category was holiday (86,8%) followed by business (7,2%) and transit (3,6%). Those overseas travellers visiting the RSA for either study or work purposes accounted for 2,5% in December 1998.

Overseas foreign travellers: Leading source countries

Of the total overseas travellers, 27,2% came from the UK making it the leading source country of overseas travellers.

For December 1998, the top six overseas countries from which most foreign travellers came (arriving through the three international airports) were as follows: the UK (27,2%), Germany (12,9%), the USA (9,9%), the Netherlands (5,2%), France (4,3%) and Australia (4,0%). Upon comparing the number of arrivals in December 1998 to the number of arrivals in December 1997 for all these leading overseas source countries, it can be seen that there were increases from France by 22,4%, the Netherlands by 13,7%, the UK by 10,3%, the USA by 6,7%, and Australia by 4,9%. There was a decrease in the number of arrivals from Germany by 3,9% as shown in Figure 2.

Travellers from mainland Africa: Purpose of visit

Over (70,9%) of all travellers from mainland Africa visited the RSA for the purpose of spending a holiday.

For December 1998, the number of travellers from mainland Africa, arriving at the RSA through the three International airports was 21 719. The December 1998 figures represent an increase of 2,5% over the number of travellers from mainland Africa arriving during December 1997. Regarding the purpose of visit as stated by travellers from mainland Africa arriving during December 1998, the largest category was holiday (70,9%), followed by business (16,3%) and transit (9,1%). Those travellers from mainland Africa visiting the RSA for either study or work purposes accounted for less than 4,0% in December 1998.

Travellers from mainland Africa: Leading source countries

Of the arriving travellers from mainland Africa 25,2% came from Zimbabwe making it the leading source country travellers from mainland Africa.

For December 1998, the top seven mainland African countries from which most foreign travellers came (arriving through the three international airports) were as follows: Zimbabwe (25,2%), Namibia (11,1%), Kenya (8,3%), Zambia (5,9%), Botswana (5,5%), Malawi (5,3%) and Mozambique (5,0%). Upon comparing the number of arrivals in December 1998 to the number of arrivals in December 1997 for all these leading mainland African source countries, it can be seen that there were increases from Mozambique (15,5%), Zimbabwe (14,4%), Kenya (13,3%) and Botswana (8,7%). The rest of the leading source countries showed decreases in the number of arrivals as shown in Figure 3.

Returning South African residents and those temporarily departing

The number of returning South African residents increased by 7,9%.

The number of returning South African residents during December 1998 was 86 318. This December 1998 figure represents an increase of 7,9% as compared with December 1997. For the same month in 1998, the number of South African residents departing temporarily was 115 773, an increase of 4,3% over those temporarily departing during the same month in 1997.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Source of data and background

Legal movements across South African borders fall under the jurisdiction of the Department of Home Affairs (DHA). The information in this release pertains to arrivals into and departures from the RSA, of both foreign travellers and South African residents, as recorded at the three international airports of Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban. Information on these arrivals and departures are captured by DHA and loaded into the mainframe computer at Bureau Nucleus. Stats SA accesses this data remotely and processes the information to produce this report.

There is also another regular statistical release on tourism and migration (P0351), which contains data on all ports of entry to the RSA. The issues discussed below refer to both releases.

Comparison of air arrivals data as obtained from the three international airports, and as obtained from all airports.

Table A gives a comparison of air arrivals through the three international airports and air arrivals through all airports.

Glossary of terms used in tourism statistics

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 s/he frequently visits.

Tourist (overnight visitor) is a visitor who stays at least one night in a collective or private accommodation in the place visited. An international tourist is an **international visitor** who stays at least one night in a collective or private accommodation in the country visited. **Domestic tourist** refers to a domestic visitor who stays at least one night in a collective or private accommodation in the place visited.

Travellers refers to any person on a trip between two or more localities. **International travellers** refers to any person on a trip between two or more localities in different countries. **Domestic traveller** refers to any person on a trip between two or more localities in his/her country of residence.

Trip is used to describe tourism from the standpoint of the generating place or country (the origin) and covers the whole period that the person travels away from home.

Visit is the word used to describe tourism from the standpoint of the receiving place or country (the destination). "Duration of stay" refers to the time spent in this place or country. The word "stay" is used only in relation to duration.

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

International visitor refers to any person travelling to a country other than the one in which s/he has his/her usual residence, but outside his/her usual environment, for less than 12 consecutive months and whose main purpose of trip is other than the exercise of an activity remunerated from within the place visited.

Domestic visitor refers to any person residing in a country, who travels to a place within a country other than the one in which s/he has his/her usual environment, for less than 12 consecutive months and whose main purpose of trip is other than the exercise of an activity remunerated from within the place visited.

Table A: Comparison of foreign travellers and overseas travellers arriving in the RSA as recorded at the three international airports (reported in P0351.1) and at all airports (reported in P0351), 1998

Month	Overseas travellers			Foreign travellers		
	Arriving through the three international airports (P0351.1)	Arriving through all airports (P0351)	%	Arriving through the three international airports (P0351.1)	Arriving through all airports (P0351)	%
Jan	103 383	104 417	99,0	121 656	123 178	98,8
Feb	112 988	113 548	99,5	130 913	132 031	99,2

Mar	111 869	112 763	99,2	130 564	132 002	98,9
Apr	93 669	94 495	99,1	114 022	115 307	98,9
May	76 037	76 621	99,2	95 832	97 108	98,7
Jun	63 379	64 052	98,9	79 524	81 063	98,1
Jul	86 231	87 045	99,1	106 558	108 354	98,3
Aug	97 999*	98 826	99,2	119 893*	121 617	98,6
Sep	94 853	95 667	99,1	114 722	116 647	98,3
Oct	125 320	126 207	99,3	145 503	147 272	98,8
Nov	121 951	122 713	99,4	141 841	143 153	99,1
Dec	121 519	122 173	99,5	143 619	145 103	99,0

* Revised figure

1. TOURISM - JOHANNESBURG, CAPE TOWN AND DURBAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORTS
1.1 Arrivals and departures of foreign travellers and South African residents
1.1.1 Purpose of visit

Purpose of visit	December		Year		
	1997	1998	1998	1997	1996
(a) ARRIVALS: GRAND TOTAL	215 840	229 937	2 486 161	2 210 212	2 062 591
(i) Foreign travellers					
. Total	135 832	143 619	1 444 656	1 312 206	1 204 990
. Business	11 774	12 059	269 824	237 822	237 251
. Holiday	115 304	121 370	1 021 741	932 799	813 091
. Study	637	713	19 339	16 718	13 566
. Work	3 041	3 153	53 672	47 410	43 735
. Contract workers	-	-	-	-	-
. Border traffic concession	-	-	-	-	-
. Transit	5 016	6 251	79 386	76 264	96 436
. Unspecified	60	73	694	1 193	911
(ii) South African residents returning	80 008	86 318	1 041 505	898 006	857 601

(b) DEPARTURES: GRAND TOTAL	220 047	236 758	2 439 760	2 093 592	1 989 261
(i) Foreign travellers	109 003	120 985	1 376 856	1 175 963	1 106 234
(ii) South African residents departing temporarily	111 044	115 773	1 062 904	917 629	883 027

1. TOURISM - JOHANNESBURG, CAPE TOWN AND DURBAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORTS

1.2 Foreign travellers

1.2.1 Arrivals by country of residence and purpose of visit

Country	Foreign travellers											
	December		Purpose of visit								Jan.-Dec.Cum.Total	
	1997	1998	Business	Holiday	Study	Work	Transit	Contract worker	Border traffic	Unspec.	1998	1997
	December 1998											
GRAND TOTAL	135 832	143 619	12 059	121 370	713	3 153	6 251	-	-	73	1 444 656	1 312 206
OVERSEAS TOTAL	114 280	121 519	8 494	105 822	385	2 569	4 217	-	-	32	1 209 200	1 090 455
EUROPE	78 601	83 811	5 109	74 940	204	1 538	2 001	-	-	19	788 959	706 516
Austria	2 220	1 967	73	1 844	2	25	23	-	-	-	21 353	19 963
Belgium	2 077	2 421	159	2 146	6	46	64	-	-	-	28 357	23 351
Denmark	1 065	1 167	101	990	1	25	50	-	-	-	12 286	10 809
France	4 243	5 192	610	4 237	28	189	125	-	-	3	59 860	53 010
Germany	16 354	15 715	803	14 401	73	267	168	-	-	3	159 832	156 170
Greece	749	782	47	670	2	13	50	-	-	-	5 194	4 649
Ireland	1 560	1 555	79	1 408	3	34	31	-	-	-	15 180	12 101
Italy	3 424	3 778	194	3 395	5	60	123	-	-	1	31 409	28 004
Netherlands	5 553	6 313	281	5 842	16	97	77	-	-	-	60 809	51 850
Norway	659	892	70	698	3	24	95	-	-	2	7 888	6 274
Portugal	1 388	1 845	101	1 617	5	13	109	-	-	-	13 687	10 218
Spain	590	1 020	44	839	-	15	122	-	-	-	12 994	8 443
Sweden	2 223	2 020	165	1 759	5	42	49	-	-	-	16 701	15 046
Switzerland	3 713	3 128	129	2 899	5	40	55	-	-	-	31 162	29 219
UK	30 009	33 085	1 989	29 972	44	576	500	-	-	4	285 476	252 624
Other	2 774	2 931	264	2 223	6	72	360	-	-	6	26 771	24 785
NORTH AMERICA	13 846	14 641	1 227	12 399	65	461	488	-	-	1	173 738	143 487
Canada	2 616	2 657	147	2 370	7	52	81	-	-	-	23 275	21 387
USA	11 230	11 984	1 080	10 029	58	409	407	-	-	1	150 463	122 090
CENTRAL & SOUTH AMERICA	3 137	3 884	135	3 393	7	59	290	-	-	-	40 199	36 569
Argentina	900	1 079	21	989	3	5	61	-	-	-	13 672	12 919
Brazil	1 585	1 863	43	1 687	3	19	111	-	-	-	15 484	13 652
Chile	194	147	16	87	-	4	40	-	-	-	3 136	4 036
Other	458	795	55	630	1	31	78	-	-	-	7 907	5 962
AUSTRALASIA	5 462	5 912	314	5 243	8	90	257	-	-	-	58 675	53 935
Australia	4 574	4 800	260	4 246	7	67	220	-	-	-	48 689	45 310

New Zealand	839	1 063	52	957	1	23	30	-	-	-	9 550	8 164
Other	49	49	2	40	-	-	7	-	-	-	436	461

1. TOURISM - JOHANNESBURG, CAPE TOWN AND DURBAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORTS

1.2 Foreign travellers

1.2.1 Arrivals by country of residence and purpose of visit (concluded)

Country	Foreign travellers											Jan.-Dec.Cum.Total	
	December		Purpose of visit								1998	1997	
	1997	1998	Business	Holiday	Study	Work	Transit	Contract worker	Border traffic	Unspec.			
	December 1998												
MIDDLE EAST	2 390	2 233	261	1 825	12	50	84	-	-	1	25 482	22 630	
Israel	1 229	1 123	101	963	7	16	35	-	-	1	13 334	12 116	
Other	1 161	1 110	160	862	5	34	49	-	-	-	12 148	10 514	
ASIA	9 819	10 042	1 345	7 243	77	366	1 000	-	-	11	109 933	116 428	
Hong Kong	1 685	1 269	63	1 185	2	7	12	-	-	-	14 331	17 238	
India	1 004	1 026	242	528	3	85	165	-	-	3	15 645	15 968	
Japan	2 220	2 499	224	2 021	5	103	146	-	-	-	22 019	21 602	
Malaysia	670	501	46	379	3	18	55	-	-	-	6 877	10 538	
Philippines	313	372	15	93	1	14	249	-	-	-	3 820	3 293	
Rep of China (Taiwan)	964	1 025	98	798	21	35	69	-	-	4	15 558	15 294	
Rep of Korea	303	534	109	358	12	21	34	-	-	-	4 691	5 250	
Singapore	1 108	968	89	862	-	7	10	-	-	-	6 288	7 950	
Thailand	249	397	16	374	-	3	3	-	-	1	3 200	3 675	
Other	1 303	1 451	443	645	30	73	257	-	-	3	17 504	15 620	
INDIAN OCEAN ISLANDS	1 025	996	103	779	12	5	97	-	-	-	12 214	10 890	
Mauritius	796	809	93	617	11	5	83	-	-	-	9 927	8 620	
Other	229	187	10	162	1	-	14	-	-	-	2 287	2 270	
AFRICA	21 197	21 719	3 528	15 372	316	487	1 976	-	-	40	230 952	216 516	
Botswana	1 088	1 183	225	698	13	18	227	-	-	2	14 542	11 920	
Egypt	216	222	45	142	-	8	27	-	-	-	3 021	2 658	
Kenya	1 584	1 795	298	1 345	19	37	93	-	-	3	13 691	11 801	
Lesotho	317	339	42	189	4	8	95	-	-	1	5 283	4 805	
Malawi	1 158	1 145	286	702	3	15	132	-	-	7	12 282	13 508	
Mozambique	945	1 091	108	728	14	30	206	-	-	5	14 207	12 000	
Namibia	2 702	2 408	335	1 861	10	19	182	-	-	1	29 863	28 114	
Swaziland	314	347	38	189	4	7	107	-	-	2	5 361	4 719	
Zaire	287	249	72	126	5	24	22	-	-	-	3 040	4 467	
Zambia	1 304	1 271	230	847	11	29	150	-	-	4	15 194	15 998	
Zimbabwe	4 779	5 468	783	4 363	48	74	197	-	-	3	45 937	44 127	
Other	6 503	6 201	1 066	4 182	185	218	538	-	-	12	68 531	62 399	
UNSPECIFIED	355	381	37	176	12	97	58	-	-	1	4 504	5 235	

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