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## Tourist accommodation

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## Key findings as at the end of March 2007

**Table A - Key estimates as at the end of March 2007**

Estimates	March 2007	% change between March 2006 and March 2007	January 2006 to March 2006	January 2007 to March 2007	% change between January 2006 to March 2006 and January 2007 to March 2007
<b>Stay units available ('000)</b>	102,0	+0,6	101,4	102,0	+0,5
<b>Stay unit nights sold ('000)</b>	1 651,6	+2,0	4 470,6	4 637,5	+3,7
<b>Occupancy rate (%)</b>	52,2	+1,4	48,9	50,5	+3,1
<b>Average income per stay unit night sold (Rand)</b>	539,3	+15,8	483,3	546,1	+12,9
<b>Income from accommodation (R million)</b>	890,8	+18,2	2 160,7	2 532,6	+17,2
<b>Total income (R million)</b>	1 341,9	+20,8	3 184,7	3 727,0	+17,0

**Note:**

1. Stay unit refers to the unit of accommodation that is available to be charged out to guests, for example, a powered site in a caravan park or a room in a hotel.
2. Figures have been rounded off. Therefore, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and the totals.

### Number of stay unit nights sold increases

The number of stay unit nights sold during the first quarter of 2007 increased by 3,7% (from 4 470 600 to 4 637 500) compared to the first quarter of 2006. The corresponding growth rate for the first quarter of 2006 was 0,4%.

Furthermore, the number of stay unit nights sold during March 2007 increased by 2,0% (from 1 617 700 to 1 651 600) compared to March 2006.

### Occupancy rate increases

The occupancy rate during the first quarter of 2007 increased by 3,1% (from 48,9% to 50,5%) compared to the first quarter of 2006. The corresponding growth rate for the first quarter of 2006 was 0,4%.

Furthermore, the occupancy rate for March 2007 increased by 1,4% (from 51,4% to 52,2%) compared to March 2006.

### Income from accommodation increases

Income from accommodation during the first quarter of 2007 increased by 17,2% (R371,9 million) compared to the first quarter of 2006. This increase is partly due to an increase in the 'number of stay unit nights sold' and the 'average income per stay unit night sold' during the first quarter of 2007 compared to the first quarter of 2006. The corresponding growth rate for the first quarter of 2006 was 9,0%.

Furthermore, income from accommodation in March 2007 increased by 18,2% (R137,8 million) compared to March 2006.

**Table B - Contribution of the types of accommodation to the percentage change in income from accommodation for the first quarter of 2007 compared to the first quarter of 2006**

Type of accommodation	January 2006 to March 2006	Weight	January 2007 to March 2007	% change between January 2006 to March 2006 and January 2007 to March 2007	% change contribution
<b>Hotels</b>	1 471,8	68,1	1 664,7	+13,1	+8,9
<b>Caravan parks and camping sites</b>	30,1	1,3	33,7	+11,8	+0,1
<b>Guest-houses and guest-farms</b>	242,8	11,2	328,7	+35,3	+3,9
<b>Other accommodation</b>	415,9	19,2	505,5	+21,5	+4,1
<b>Total industry</b>	2 160,7	100,0	2 532,6	+17,2	+17,2

The contributors to the increase of 17,2% in the income from accommodation for the first quarter of 2007 compared to the first quarter of 2006 were hotels (+8,9 percentage points), other accommodation (+4,1 percentage points), guest-houses and guest-farms (+3,9 percentage points) and caravan parks and camping sites (+0,1 of a percentage point).

**Table C - Contribution of the types of accommodation to the percentage change in income from accommodation for March 2007 compared to March 2006**

Type of accommodation	March 2006	Weight	March 2007	% change between March 2006 and March 2007	% change contribution
<b>Hotels</b>	519,0	68,9	593,4	+14,3	+9,8
<b>Caravan parks and camping sites</b>	11,5	1,5	12,0	+4,0	+0,0
<b>Guest-houses and guest-farms</b>	80,6	10,7	109,1	+35,3	+3,7
<b>Other accommodation</b>	141,8	18,8	176,3	+24,2	+4,5
<b>Total industry</b>	753,0	100,0	890,8	+18,2	+18,2

The contributors to the increase of 18,2% in the income from accommodation for March 2007 compared to March 2006 were hotels (+9,8 percentage points), other accommodation (+4,5 percentage points) and guest-houses and guest-farms (+3,7 percentage points). However, caravan parks and camping sites did not have a significant effect on the increase in income from accommodation for March 2007 compared to March 2006.

**P J Lehohla**  
**Statistician-General**





## Explanatory notes

### Introduction

The results presented in this publication are derived from the monthly survey of the tourist accommodation industry. This survey is based on a sample drawn from the 2006 Business Sampling Frame (BSF) that contains businesses registered for value-added tax (VAT) and income tax.

### Purpose of the survey

The 'Tourist accommodation' survey is a monthly survey covering a sample of public and private enterprises involved in the short-stay accommodation industry in South Africa.

The results of the survey are used to compile estimates of the Tourism Satellite Accounts (TSA), and the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and its components, which are used to develop and monitor government policy. These statistics are also used in the analysis of comparative business and industry performance.

### Scope of the survey

This survey covers the following **tax registered** private and public enterprises that are **mainly** engaged in providing short-stay commercial accommodation:

- Hotels,
- Caravan parks and camping sites,
- Guest-houses and guest-farms, and
- Other accommodation.

### Response rate

The average response rate for the 'Tourist accommodation' survey for the first quarter of 2007 was 80,9%.

### Classification by industry

The 1993 edition of the *Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities (SIC)*, Fifth Edition, Report No. 09-09-02, was used to classify the statistical units in the survey. The SIC is based on the 1990 *International Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities (ISIC)* with suitable adaptations for local conditions. Statistics in this publication are presented at 5-digit SIC level. Each enterprise is classified to an industry, which reflects its predominant activity.

### Size groups

The enterprises are divided into four size groups according to turnover. Large enterprises are enterprises with an annual turnover of R13 million and more. The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) cut-off points defining the size groups, namely large, medium, small and micro enterprises, are given in table B.

**Table B – Size groups for the tourist accommodation industry**

Size group	Turnover
Large	> R 13 000 000
Medium	R 6 000 000 to < R 13 000 000
Small	R 5 100 000 to < R 6 000 000
Micro	< R 5 100 000

### Statistical unit

The statistical units for the collection of the information are enterprises and establishments.

### Survey methodology and design

The survey was conducted by mail, fax and telephone.

The 2006 sample of approximately 850 enterprises was drawn from a population of approximately 6 100 enterprises using stratified simple random sampling. The enterprises were first stratified at 5-digit level according to the SIC and then by size of enterprises. All large enterprises are completely enumerated. Turnover was used as the measure of size for stratification.

### Weighting methodology

For those strata not completely enumerated, the weights to produce estimates are the inverse ratio of the sampling fraction, modified to take account of non-response in the survey. Stratum estimates are calculated and then aggregated with the completely enumerated stratum to form division estimates. These procedures, which are in line with international best practice, are described in more detail on the Stats SA website at: <http://www.statssa.gov.za/publications/statsdownload.asp?ppn=DiscussSamplingMeth&SCH=2286>

**Relative standard error**

Data presented in this publication are based on information obtained from a sample and are, therefore, subject to sampling variability; that is, they may differ from the figures that would have been produced if the data had been obtained from all enterprises in the tourist accommodation industry in South Africa.

One measure of the likely difference is given by the standard error (SE), which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample of enterprises was used. The relative standard error (RSE) provides an immediate indication of the percentage errors likely to have occurred due to sampling, and thus avoids the need to refer to the size of the estimate.

**Table A – Estimates of total industry income by type of enterprise within 95% confidence limits – March 2007**

	Lower limit R million	Estimate R million	Upper limit R million	Relative standard error %
<b>Total Income</b>	1 245,2	1 341,9	1 438,6	3,7

**Non-sampling errors**

Inaccuracies may occur because of imperfections in reporting by enterprises and errors made in the collection and processing of the data. Inaccuracies of this kind are referred to as non-sampling errors. Every effort is made to minimise non-sampling errors by careful design of questionnaires, testing them in pilot studies, editing reported data and implementing efficient operating procedures. Non-sampling errors occur in both sample surveys and censuses.

**Revised figures**

Revised figures are due to respondents reporting revisions or corrections to their figures and late submission of their data to Stats SA. Figures for the last twelve months will be regarded as preliminary.

**Seasonal adjustment**

Seasonally adjusted estimates will not be published until there are sufficient data points for the new survey. As soon as sufficient data points are available, Stats SA will consider publishing seasonally adjusted estimates.

**Symbols and abbreviations**

GDP	Gross Domestic Product
IT	Income Tax
SARS	South African Revenue Services
SIC	Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities
Stats SA	Statistics South Africa
VAT	Value added tax
*	Revised figures

**Comparability with previously published information**

The information in this statistical release and the discontinued monthly Hotels' Trading Statistics statistical release is not strictly comparable. The Hotels' Trading Statistics survey was conducted using a list of all hotels graded by the then South African Tourism Board (Satour) when the grading of hotels was still compulsory by law. This survey is conducted from a sample drawn from a new business register of **all** enterprises registered for value-added tax (VAT) and income tax.

The higher levels from this survey can be mainly attributed to the following:

- The coverage of all types of tourist accommodation enterprises including hotels; and
- The improved coverage of the new register, especially of small and micro enterprises.

**Rounding of figures**

Where figures have been rounded off, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and the totals.

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## Glossary

<b>Average income per stay unit night sold</b>	Average rate per stay unit i.e. rate per room in a hotel or powered site in a caravan park. The total income from accommodation divided by the number of stay units sold in the survey period multiplied by 1000.
<b>Establishment</b>	An enterprise or part of an enterprise that is situated in a single location and in which only a single (non-ancillary) productive activity is carried out or in which the principal productive activity accounts for most of the value added.
<b>Income from accommodation</b>	Income from amounts charged for stay units. Other income is excluded (e.g. income from meals).
<b>Income from restaurant and bar sales</b>	Income from meals, banqueting and beverages and tobacco sales.
<b>Industry</b>	Group of establishments engaged in the same or similar kinds of economic activity. Industries are defined in the <i>System of National Accounts (SNA)</i> in the same way as in the <i>Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities, Fifth Edition, Report No. 09-90-02 of January 1993 (SIC)</i> .
<b>Occupancy rate</b>	The number of stay unit nights sold, divided by the product of the number of room nights available and the number of days in the survey period, expressed as a percentage.
<b>Other accommodation</b>	Includes lodges, bed and breakfast establishments, self-catering establishments and other establishments not elsewhere classified.
<b>Stay unit</b>	The unit of accommodation available to be charged out to guests, for example, a powered site in a caravan park or a room in a hotel.
<b>Stay unit night sold</b>	The total number of stay units occupied on each night during the survey period.
<b>Total income</b>	Includes income from accommodation, income from restaurant and bar sales and other income.
<b>Tourist</b>	A visitor who stays at least one night in the place visited.

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