



The South Africa I know, the home I understand

Statistical release

P0351

Tourism and Migration

July 2016

Embargoed until:
19 September 2016
09:00

Enquiries:

User Information Services
Tel.: (012) 310 8600 / 4892 / 8390

Forthcoming issue:

August 2016

Expected release date:

17 October 2016

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Preface

This monthly statistical release provides information on South African residents and foreign travellers who entered or left South Africa in July 2016. Specific focus is on foreign tourists who entered the country during this month. The tourists are classified by region and country of residence. Details of their mode of travel; purpose of visit; and age and sex distribution are also provided.

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Statistician-General

1. Key findings

1.1 Travellers

1.1.1 Number of travellers

The routine data collected by the Department of Home Affairs' (DHA) immigration officers at the ports of entry into South Africa show that a total of 3 560 114 travellers (arrivals, departures and transits) passed through South African ports of entry in July 2016. As presented in Table 1 on page 9, these travellers were made up of 1 012 278 South African residents and 2 547 836 foreign travellers. A further breakdown of the figures for South African residents indicates that there were 543 725 arrivals, 467 673 departures and 880 travellers in transit. The corresponding volume for foreign arrivals, departures and transit travellers was 1 319 955, 1 145 550 and 82 331 respectively.

A comparison between the movements in July 2015 and July 2016 indicates that the volume of arrivals and departures increased for both South African residents and foreign travellers, while the volume of transits decreased for South African residents but increased for foreign travellers. For South African residents, the volume of arrivals increased by 5,7% (from 514 248 in July 2015 to 543 725 in July 2016), departures increased by 2,6% (from 455 663 in July 2015 to 467 673 in July 2016), and transits decreased by 4,7% (from 923 in July 2015 to 880 in July 2016). For foreign travellers, arrivals increased by 5,1% (from 1 255 430 in July 2015 to 1 319 955 in July 2016), departures increased by 4,9% (from 1 092 179 in July 2015 to 1 145 550 in July 2016), and transits increased by 1,3% (from 81 250 in July 2015 to 82 331 in July 2016).

A comparison between the movements in June 2016 and July 2016 indicates that the volume of arrivals increased for both South African residents and foreign travellers. Departures decreased for South African residents but increased for foreign travellers, while the volume of transits increased for both groups of travellers. For South African residents, the volume of arrivals increased by 33,2% (from 408 261 in June 2016 to 543 725 in July 2016), departures decreased by 2,7% (from 480 628 in June 2016 to 467 673 in July 2016) and transits increased by 4,9% (from 839 in June 2016 to 880 in July 2016). For foreign travellers, the volume of arrivals increased by 12,3% (from 1 175 811 in June 2016 to 1 319 955 in July 2016), departures increased by 6,2% (from 1 078 980 in June 2016 to 1 145 550 in July 2016), and transits increased by 21,2% (from 67 910 in June 2016 to 82 331 in July 2016).

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

As presented in Table 1, in July 2016, 86 078 (6,5%) of foreign arrivals were classified as non-visitors while 1 233 877 (93,5%) were classified as visitors. The visitors were categorised into three groups:

- i. Arrivals only – comprising visitors who entered the country in July 2016 but did not depart in July 2016 [305 522 (24,8%)];
- ii. Single trips – visitors who came to South Africa once in July 2016 and left in July 2016 [421 228 (34,1%)]; and
- iii. Multiple trips – visitors who came to and left South Africa more than once in July 2016 [507 127 (41,1%)].

Visitors were further grouped as same-day visitors and overnight visitors (tourists). In July 2016, there were 411 461 (33,3%) same-day visitors and 822 416 (66,7%) tourists. Between July 2015 and July 2016, the volume of same-day visitors decreased by 4,7% (from 431 673 in July 2015 to 411 461 in July 2016) and that of tourists increased by 12,2% (from 732 891 in July 2015 to 822 416 in July 2016). Between June 2016 and July 2016, the volume of same-day visitors increased by 0,4% (from 409 708 in June 2016 to 411 461 in July 2016), while tourists increased by 18,9% (from 691 414 in June 2016 to 822 416 in July 2016).

1.1.2 Mode of travel

Data presented in Table 2 on page 10 show that in July 2016, road transport was the most common mode of travel used by 2 564 913 (72,0%) of the 3 560 114 travellers. The total number of travellers who used air transport was 988 777 (27,8%). Compared to use of air and land transport, a smaller number of travellers, 6 424 (0,2%) used sea transport. The arrivals data for South African residents show that 220 635 (40,6%) came by air, 322 888 (59,4%) came by road and 202 (less than 0,1%) arrived by sea. For departures, 166 117 (35,5%) used air, 301 313 (64,4%) used road and 243 (0,1%) left by sea transport. All travellers in transit (880) used air transport.

In the case of foreign travellers, 276 231 (20,9%) arrived by air, 1 040 626 (78,8%) came by road and 3 098 (0,2%) arrived by sea. When departing South Africa, 242 583 (21,2%) foreign travellers left by air, 900 086 (78,6%) left by road and 2 881 (0,3%) left by sea. All travellers in transit (82 331) used air transport. Table 2 further shows that an overwhelming majority [388 755 (94,5%)] of same-day visitors arrived in the country by road. Only 22 704 (5,5%) of same-day visitors flew into the country. Data on tourists show that 586 567 (71,3%) used road transport, 235 781 (28,7%) came by air and 68 (less than 0,1%) arrived by sea.

1.2 Tourists

1.2.1 Mode of travel

The country of residence of tourists is used to categorise them according to their respective countries and regions. Information on the specific region and country of residence of the tourists and the mode of travel used to enter South Africa is provided in Table 3 on page 11. In July 2016, 177 962 (88,6%) of overseas tourists arrived in the country by air, whilst 22 879 (11,4%) came in by road and 60 (less than 0,1%) arrived by sea. 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 [562 317 (93,1%)], 41 442 (6,9%) by air and 4 (less than 0,1%) by sea. The number of tourists who came into South Africa by air from 'other' African countries was 15 436 (92,5%), with 1 251 (7,5%) using road transport and 4 (less than 0,1%) using sea transport.

1.2.2 Regional and national distribution

In July 2016, the distribution of overseas tourists was as follows: Europe, 107 971 (53,7%); North America, 41 069 (20,4%); Asia, 27 691 (13,8%); Australasia, 11 757 (5,9%); Middle East, 6 384 (3,2%) and Central and South America, 6 029 (3,0%).

Data presented in Figure 1 on page 7 indicate that the United States of America (USA), 36 596 (18,2%); United Kingdom (UK), 30 937 (15,4%); The Netherlands, 17 503 (8,7%); Germany, 13 279 (6,6%); France, 12 315 (6,1%); Australia, 9 582 (4,8%); China, 8 827 (4,4%); India, 7 856 (3,9%); Belgium, 5 332 (2,7%) and Italy, 5 281 (2,6%) were the ten leading overseas countries visiting South Africa in July 2016. Tourists from these ten countries constituted 73,4% of all tourists from overseas countries. A comparison between movements in July 2015 and July 2016 shows that the number of tourists increased for all of the ten leading overseas countries. China had the largest increase of 63,8% (from 5 389 tourists in July 2015 to 8 827 in July 2016), while the UK had the smallest increase of 4,9% (from 29 486 tourists in July 2015 to 30 937 in July 2016).

Virtually all tourists from Africa, 603 763 (97,3%), came from the SADC countries. The distribution of the remaining tourists from Africa is as follows: West Africa, 8 205 (1,3%); East and Central Africa, 7 236 (1,2%); and North Africa 1 250 (0,2%). The ten leading SADC countries in terms of the number of tourists visiting South Africa in July 2016 were: Lesotho, 162 392 (26,9%); Zimbabwe, 145 776 (24,1%); Mozambique, 97 910 (16,2%); Swaziland, 80 353 (13,3%); Botswana, 60 788 (10,1%); Namibia, 16 386 (2,7%); Zambia, 15 101 (2,5%); Malawi, 13 414 (2,2%); Tanzania, 3 280 (0,5%) and Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), 3 067 (0,5%) (see Figure 2 on page 7). Tourists from these ten countries constituted 99,1% of all tourists from the SADC countries. A comparison between movements in July 2015 and July 2016 for the ten leading SADC countries shows that, with the exception of Zimbabwe, Namibia and Mozambique where the number of tourists decreased, the number of tourists increased for the other seven leading countries. Lesotho showed the largest increase of 29,9% (from 124 988 tourists in July 2015 to 162 392 tourists in July 2016), while Zimbabwe showed the largest decrease of 7,9% (from 158 287 tourists in July 2015 to 145 776 tourists in July 2016).

The ten leading countries in terms of the number of tourists visiting South Africa in July 2016 from 'other' African countries, as shown in Figure 3 on page 8, were: Nigeria, 5 869 (35,2%); Kenya, 2 630 (15,8%); Uganda, 1 548 (9,3%); Ghana, 1 221 (7,3%); Gabon, 1 064 (6,4%); Ethiopia, 757 (4,5%); Egypt, 649 (3,9%); Cameroon, 502 (3,0%); Congo, 352 (2,1%) and Côte d'Ivoire, 226 (1,4%). Tourists from these ten countries constituted 88,8% of all tourists from 'other' African countries. A comparison between movements in July 2015 and July 2016 shows that the number of tourists increased for all of the ten leading countries. Uganda showed the largest increase of 59,4% (from 971 tourists in July 2015 to 1 548 tourists in July 2016), while Congo showed the smallest increase of 1,7% (from 346 tourists in July 2015 to 352 tourists in July 2016).

1.2.3 Purpose of visit

As observed from data shown in Table 4 on page 15, in July 2016, the majority of tourists, 788 915 (95,9%), were in South Africa for holiday compared to 19 971 (2,4%) and 13 530 (1,6%) who were in South Africa for business and for study purposes respectively. A detailed analysis reveals that of all the tourists from each of the overseas regions, more than 90,0% came to South Africa for holiday. A total of 11 511 (97,9%) tourists from Australasia, 5 818 (96,5%) from Central and South America, 39 325 (95,8%) from North America, 102 861 (95,3%) from Europe, 6 062 (95,0%) from the Middle East and 25 784 (93,1%) from Asia were in South Africa for holiday. Asia had the highest proportion of tourists who came to South Africa for business [4,9% (1 361)] while the Middle East had the highest proportion of tourists who came for study purposes [2,0% (127)] compared to other overseas regions.

The majority of African tourists, 596 562 (96,1%) came to South Africa for holiday. However, there were differences between tourists from the SADC countries and 'other' African countries, namely:

- Whereas 581 946 (96,4%) of tourists from the SADC countries were on holiday; 14 616 (87,6%) of tourists from 'other' African countries came for the same purpose. Data on the regions of 'other' African countries show that tourists on holiday constituted 91,3% (7 495); 84,4% (6 107); and 81,1% (1 014) for West Africa, East and Central Africa and North Africa respectively.
- Business persons constituted 5,8% (970) of tourists from 'other' African countries and 2,1% (12 768) from the SADC countries. North Africa had the highest proportion, 10,2% (127) of its tourists to South Africa who came for business purposes.
- Students made up 6,6% (1 105) of tourists from 'other' African countries compared with 1,5% (9 049) from the SADC countries. North Africa had the highest proportion, 8,7% (109) of its tourists who came to South Africa for study purposes.

1.2.4 Sex and age distribution

Table 5 on page 19 shows that in July 2016, there were 448 404 (54,5%) male and 374 012 (45,5%) female tourists. Overseas tourists were made up of 107 269 (53,4%) male tourists and 93 632 (46,6%) female tourists. There were 330 028 (54,7%) male and 273 735 (45,3%) female tourists from the SADC countries. Tourists from 'other' African countries were made up of 10 499 (62,9%) male and 6 192 (37,1%) female tourists.

The ages of the tourists were categorised into three broad groups: Those younger than 15 years, 15 to 64 years, and 65 years and older. The overall results presented in Table 5 show that 49 567 (6,0%) tourists were aged less than 15 years; 744 528 (90,5%) were aged between 15 and 64 years; and 28 321 (3,4%) were aged 65 years and older.

Taking the regions of residence into consideration, the results further show that 562 159 (93,1%) of SADC and 15 118 (90,6%) of 'other' African countries' tourists were aged between 15 and 64 years compared with 166 234 (82,7%) of tourists in the same age range from overseas. The proportion of tourists aged less than 15 years was lower among tourists from SADC countries, 4,6% (27 707), than among those from 'other' African countries, 7,7% (1 277) and overseas countries, 10,2% (20 565).

A comparison of the three regions shows relatively higher proportions of the elderly among both male and female tourists from overseas. Tourists aged 65 years and older comprised 7,0% (7 529) of male and 7,0% (6 573) of female tourists from overseas. This is in contrast to the pattern observed among tourists from the other two regions where tourists aged 65 years and older comprised less than 3,0% of both male and female tourists. From the SADC countries elderly tourists made up 1,9% (6 119) and 2,8% (7 778) of male and female tourists respectively; while in 'other' African countries elderly tourists made up 1,6% (172) and 2,0% (124) of male and female tourists respectively.

2. Figures

Figure 1 – Number of tourists from the ten leading overseas countries in July 2015 and July 2016

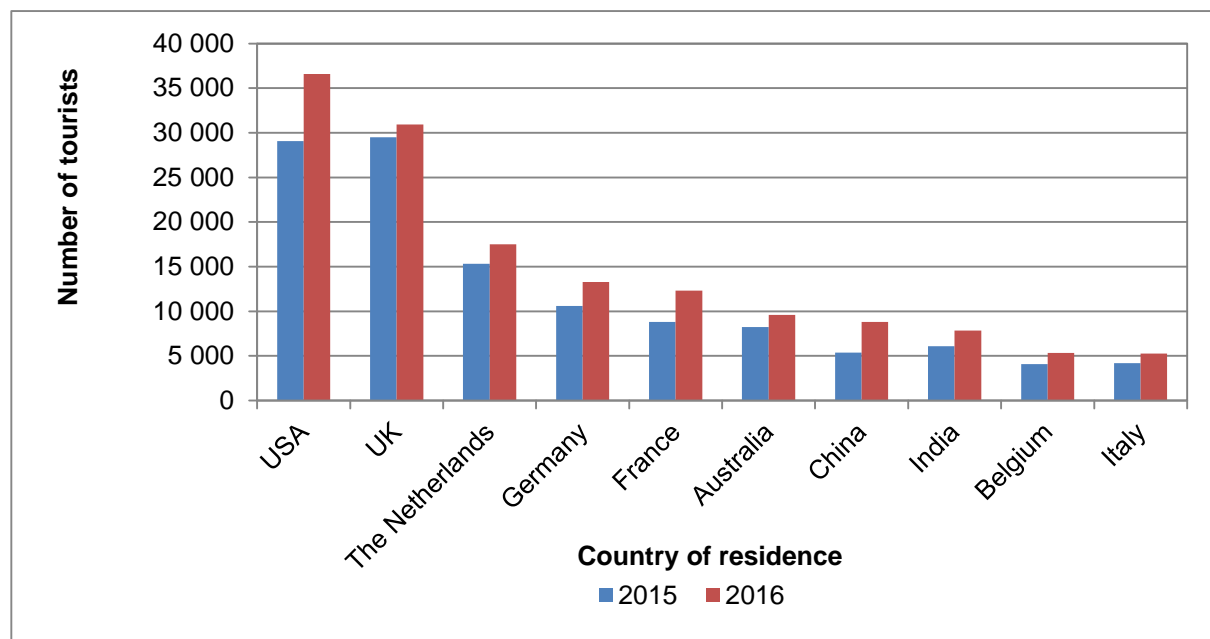


Figure 2 – Number of tourists from the ten leading Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries in July 2015 and July 2016

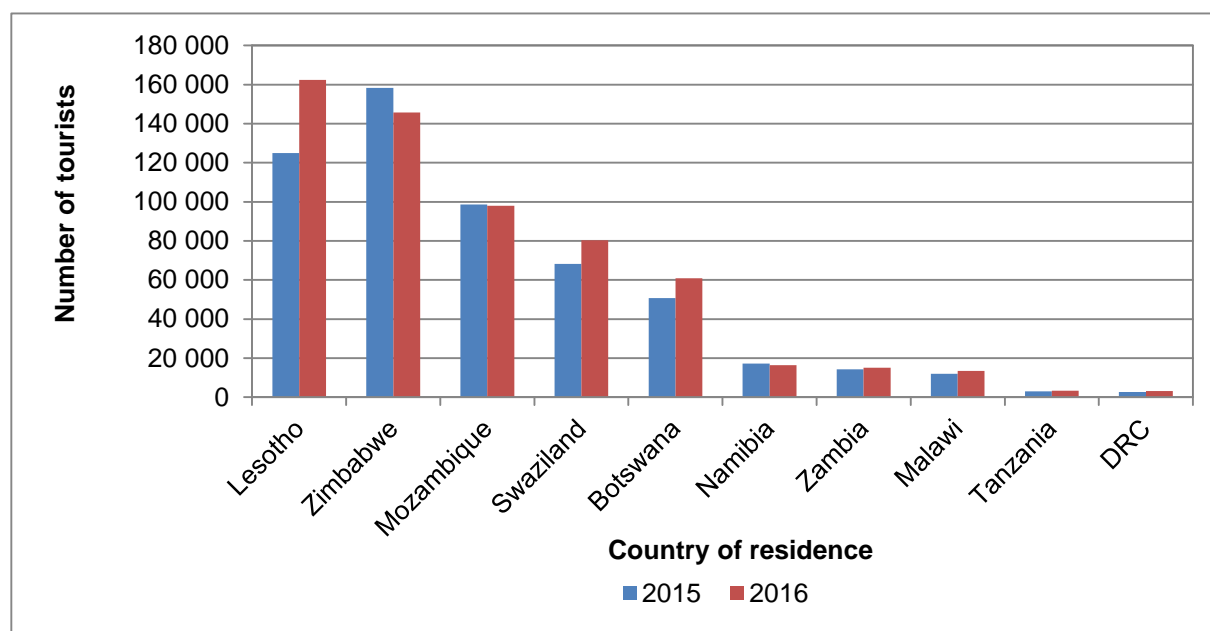
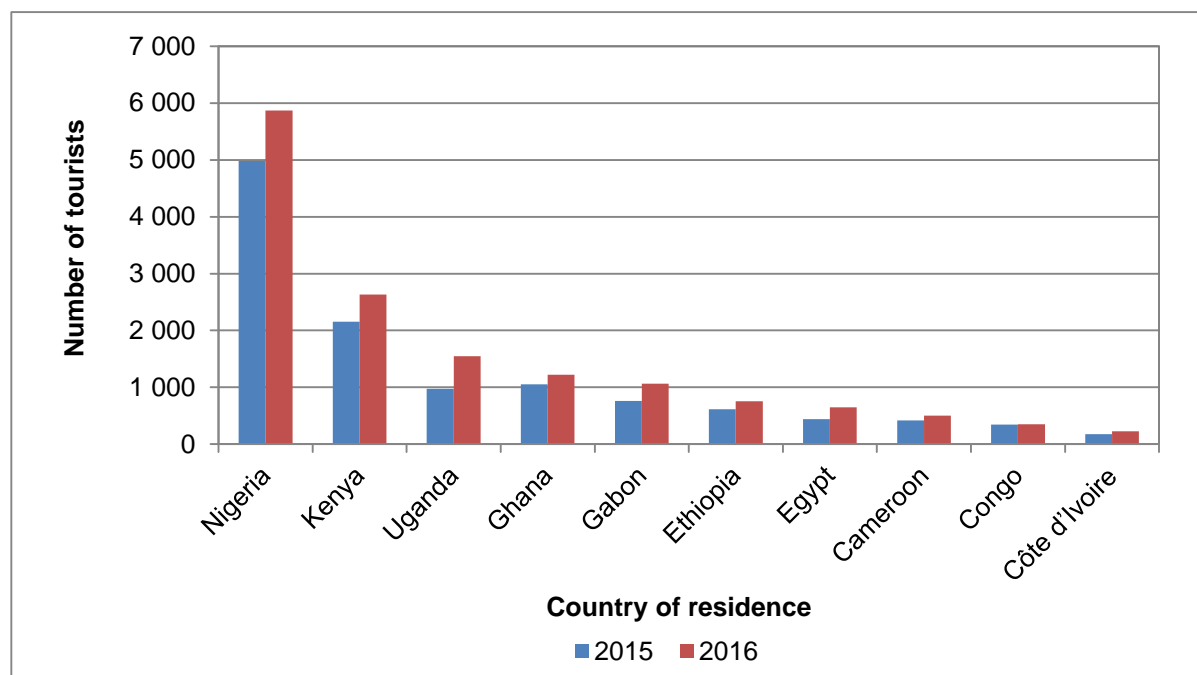


Figure 3 – Number of tourists from the ten leading 'other' African countries in July 2015 and July 2016

3. Tables

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

Travel Direction	July 2015	June 2016	July 2016	% Change	% Change
				June - July 2016	July 2015 - July 2016
Total	3 399 693	3 212 429	3 560 114	10,8%	4,7%
South African residents	970 834	889 728	1 012 278	13,8%	4,3%
Arrivals	514 248	408 261	543 725	33,2%	5,7%
Departures	455 663	480 628	467 673	-2,7%	2,6%
Transit	923	839	880	4,9%	-4,7%
Foreign travellers	2 428 859	2 322 701	2 547 836	9,7%	4,9%
Arrivals	1 255 430	1 175 811	1 319 955	12,3%	5,1%
Departures	1 092 179	1 078 980	1 145 550	6,2%	4,9%
Transit	81 250	67 910	82 331	21,2%	1,3%
Foreign arrivals	1 255 430	1 175 811	1 319 955	12,3%	5,1%
Non-visitors	90 866	74 689	86 078	15,2%	-5,3%
Visitors	1 164 564	1 101 122	1 233 877	12,1%	6,0%
Visitors	1 164 564	1 101 122	1 233 877	12,1%	6,0%
Arrivals only	282 611	258 159	305 522	18,3%	8,1%
Single trips	421 327	384 912	421 228	9,4%	0,0%
Multiple trips	460 626	458 051	507 127	10,7%	10,1%
Visitors	1 164 564	1 101 122	1 233 877	12,1%	6,0%
Same-Day	431 673	409 708	411 461	0,4%	-4,7%
Overnight (Tourists)	732 891	691 414	822 416	18,9%	12,2%

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

Travel direction	Total	Air					Road	Sea
		Cape Town	King Shaka	O. R. Tambo	Other Airports	Total		
Total	3 560 114	136 690	35 418	808 169	8 500	988 777	2 564 913	6 424
South African residents	1 012 278	61 079	20 992	300 893	4 668	387 632	624 201	445
Arrivals	543 725	35 605	11 547	171 081	2 402	220 635	322 888	202
Departures	467 673	25 470	9 445	128 936	2 266	166 117	301 313	243
Transit	880	4	-	876	-	880	-	-
Foreign travellers	2 547 836	75 611	14 426	507 276	3 832	601 145	1 940 712	5 979
Arrivals	1 319 955	41 515	7 182	225 862	1 672	276 231	1 040 626	3 098
Departures	1 145 550	33 960	7 244	199 219	2 160	242 583	900 086	2 881
Transit	82 331	136	-	82 195	-	82 331	-	-
Visitors	1 233 877	38 479	6 065	212 626	1 315	258 485	975 322	70
Same day	411 461	623	34	21 976	71	22 704	388 755	2
Tourist	822 416	37 856	6 031	190 650	1 244	235 781	586 567	68

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

Country of residence	July		Air					Road	Sea
	2015	2016	Cape Town	King Shaka	O.R. Tambo	Other	Total		
Total	732 891	822 416	37 856	6 031	190 650	1 244	235 781	586 567	68
Overseas	162 733	200 901	33 533	5 355	137 970	1 104	177 962	22 879	60
Europe	91 741	107 971	20 296	3 234	69 445	246	93 221	14 699	51
Austria	1 390	1 552	261	69	990	3	1 323	229	-
Belgium	4 098	5 332	807	74	3 362	2	4 245	1 087	-
Denmark	1 662	1 996	276	36	1 437	-	1 749	247	-
France	8 795	12 315	1 918	228	8 321	33	10 500	1 812	3
Germany	10 609	13 279	2 335	334	8 902	16	11 587	1 689	3
Ireland	1 911	2 083	554	94	1 231	4	1 883	200	-
Italy	4 181	5 281	1 411	156	3 308	17	4 892	389	-
Portugal	2 782	2 996	272	84	1 372	11	1 739	1 257	-
Spain	2 554	3 509	878	89	2 079	22	3 068	441	-
Sweden	1 031	1 355	290	60	776	1	1 127	228	-
Switzerland	2 712	3 414	576	108	2 237	7	2 928	485	1
The Netherlands	15 326	17 503	3 606	182	10 118	12	13 918	3 585	-
Turkey	830	1 158	243	85	648	-	976	182	-
UK	29 486	30 937	5 876	1 400	21 291	92	28 659	2 238	40
Other	4 374	5 261	993	235	3 373	26	4 627	630	4
North America	32 580	41 069	6 436	1 119	29 606	485	37 646	3 421	2
Canada	3 504	4 473	684	135	3 171	32	4 022	451	-
USA	29 076	36 596	5 752	984	26 435	453	33 624	2 970	2
Central and South America	4 848	6 029	352	59	5 063	44	5 518	511	-
Argentina	457	671	34	2	599	2	637	34	-
Brazil	2 786	3 358	115	16	2 861	-	2 992	366	-
Mexico	431	542	78	10	418	27	533	9	-
Other	1 174	1 458	125	31	1 185	15	1 356	102	-

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

Country of residence	July		Air					Road	Sea
	2015	2016	Cape Town	King Shaka	O.R. Tambo	Other	Total		
Australasia	10 104	11 757	607	92	9 939	136	10 774	979	4
Australia	8 242	9 582	475	67	8 153	121	8 816	765	1
New Zealand	1 840	2 152	126	25	1 771	15	1 937	213	2
Other	22	23	6	-	15	-	21	1	1
Middle East	4 710	6 384	1 852	53	4 230	42	6 177	207	-
Israel	1 567	1 815	160	21	1 506	3	1 690	125	-
Saudi Arabia	1 829	2 442	709	2	1 721	10	2 442	-	-
United Arab Emirates	374	706	489	6	183	23	701	5	-
Other	940	1 421	494	24	820	6	1 344	77	-
Asia	18 750	27 691	3 990	798	19 687	151	24 626	3 062	3
China	5 389	8 827	994	101	7 312	10	8 417	410	-
India	6 095	7 856	1 191	355	5 210	110	6 866	987	3
Japan	1 492	2 046	225	43	1 685	2	1 955	91	-
Malaysia	516	915	243	42	565	2	852	63	-
Pakistan	945	1 477	218	62	658	1	939	538	-
Philippines	458	683	141	17	428	11	597	86	-
Singapore	415	684	193	6	449	8	656	28	-
South Korea	1 448	1 852	276	21	1 283	6	1 586	266	-
Taiwan	577	739	44	22	506	-	572	167	-
Thailand	454	704	147	56	468	-	671	33	-
Other	961	1 908	318	73	1 123	1	1 515	393	-
Africa	569 139	620 454	4 304	651	51 783	140	56 878	563 568	8
SADC	555 589	603 763	3 505	490	37 322	125	41 442	562 317	4
Angola	3 475	2 969	739	-	2 092	1	2 832	137	-
Botswana	50 671	60 788	215	5	2 345	26	2 591	58 197	-
DRC	2 627	3 067	54	3	2 442	-	2 499	567	1
Lesotho	124 988	162 392	10	3	575	1	589	161 803	-

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

Country of residence	July		Air					Road	Sea
	2015	2016	Cape Town	King Shaka	O.R. Tambo	Other	Total		
Madagascar	159	165	10	-	149	1	160	5	-
Malawi	11 962	13 414	12	1	2 373	11	2 397	11 017	-
Mauritius	1 675	1 752	146	138	1 314	1	1 599	153	-
Mozambique	98 686	97 910	13	67	2 850	16	2 946	94 964	-
Namibia	17 164	16 386	2 088	2	3 579	14	5 683	10 701	2
Seychelles	367	410	1	-	399	-	400	10	-
Swaziland	68 271	80 353	2	4	582	-	588	79 765	-
Tanzania	3 003	3 280	29	3	2 100	7	2 139	1 141	-
Zambia	14 254	15 101	50	114	3 709	10	3 883	11 218	-
Zimbabwe	158 287	145 776	136	150	12 813	37	13 136	132 639	1
'Other' African	13 550	16 691	799	161	14 461	15	15 436	1 251	4
East and Central Africa	5 600	7 236	425	56	6 210	8	6 699	537	-
Burundi	57	91	11	3	73	-	87	4	-
Cameroon	416	502	27	2	429	1	459	43	-
Central African Republic	9	12	3	-	8	-	11	1	-
Chad	24	30	3	-	27	-	30	-	-
Comoros	7	11	-	-	11	-	11	-	-
Congo	346	352	28	1	320	1	350	2	-
Djibouti	3	5	1	-	4	-	5	-	-
Equatorial Guinea	29	41	3	-	35	-	38	3	-
Eritrea	64	61	5	-	49	-	54	7	-
Ethiopia	616	757	63	32	570	1	666	91	-
Gabon	762	1 064	69	-	987	-	1 056	8	-
Kenya	2 156	2 630	177	7	2 237	4	2 425	205	-
Réunion	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rwanda	107	93	5	4	74	-	83	10	-
São Tomé and Príncipe	12	7	1	-	6	-	7	-	-
Somalia	19	32	1	-	28	-	29	3	-
Uganda	971	1 548	28	7	1 352	1	1 388	160	-

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

Country of residence	July		Air					Road	Sea
	2015	2016	Cape Town	King Shaka	O.R. Tambo	Other	Total		
West Africa	7 064	8 205	171	66	7 296	5	7 538	663	4
Benin	194	179	2	2	166	-	170	9	-
Burkina Faso	44	54	5	3	39	-	47	7	-
Cape Verde Island	46	39	5	-	25	-	30	9	-
Côte d'Ivoire	175	226	7	1	215	-	223	3	-
Gambia	44	43	6	-	34	-	40	3	-
Ghana	1 054	1 221	46	12	1 093	-	1 151	70	-
Guinea	109	119	4	3	54	-	61	58	-
Guinea-Bissau	9	11	2	1	7	-	10	1	-
Liberia	60	41	2	-	37	-	39	2	-
Mali	76	96	1	1	38	-	40	56	-
Mauritania	12	10	2	-	8	-	10	-	-
Niger	14	23	4	-	19	-	23	-	-
Nigeria	4 980	5 869	78	40	5 312	5	5 435	434	-
Saint Helena	26	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Senegal	159	177	7	2	167	-	176	1	-
Sierra Leone	36	61	-	-	52	-	52	9	-
Togo	26	32	-	1	30	-	31	1	-
North Africa	886	1 250	203	39	955	2	1 199	51	-
Algeria	66	86	11	3	71	-	85	1	-
Egypt	440	649	68	19	538	2	627	22	-
Libya	48	76	33	1	36	-	70	6	-
Morocco	79	135	26	8	90	-	124	11	-
South Sudan	74	42	1	-	39	-	40	2	-
The Sudan	122	188	55	6	118	-	179	9	-
Tunisia	56	70	9	2	59	-	70	-	-
Western Sahara	1	4	-	-	4	-	4	-	-
Unspecified	1 019	1 061	19	25	897	-	941	120	-

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

Country of residence	July		Purpose of visit		
	2015	2016	Business	Holiday	Study
Total	732 891	822 416	19 971	788 915	13 530
Overseas	162 733	200 901	6 167	191 361	3 373
Europe	91 741	107 971	3 131	102 861	1 979
Austria	1 390	1 552	39	1 485	28
Belgium	4 098	5 332	83	5 172	77
Denmark	1 662	1 996	44	1 922	30
France	8 795	12 315	274	11 852	189
Germany	10 609	13 279	413	12 327	539
Ireland	1 911	2 083	72	1 984	27
Italy	4 181	5 281	244	4 960	77
Portugal	2 782	2 996	84	2 886	26
Spain	2 554	3 509	125	3 352	32
Sweden	1 031	1 355	48	1 260	47
Switzerland	2 712	3 414	72	3 265	77
The Netherlands	15 326	17 503	219	17 072	212
Turkey	830	1 158	63	1 061	34
UK	29 486	30 937	1 052	29 460	425
Other	4 374	5 261	299	4 803	159
North America	32 580	41 069	1 150	39 325	594
Canada	3 504	4 473	129	4 291	53
USA	29 076	36 596	1 021	35 034	541
Central and South America	4 848	6 029	137	5 818	74
Argentina	457	671	15	651	5
Brazil	2 786	3 358	52	3 280	26
Mexico	431	542	12	521	9
Other	1 174	1 458	58	1 366	34

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

Country of residence	July		Purpose of visit		
	2015	2016	Business	Holiday	Study
Australasia	10 104	11 757	193	11 511	53
Australia	8 242	9 582	164	9 383	35
New Zealand	1 840	2 152	26	2 109	17
Other	22	23	3	19	1
Middle East	4 710	6 384	195	6 062	127
Israel	1 567	1 815	73	1 719	23
Saudi Arabia	1 829	2 442	19	2 369	54
United Arab Emirates	374	706	11	694	1
Other	940	1 421	92	1 280	49
Asia	18 750	27 691	1 361	25 784	546
China	5 389	8 827	330	8 430	67
India	6 095	7 856	579	7 132	145
Japan	1 492	2 046	89	1 929	28
Malaysia	516	915	34	798	83
Pakistan	945	1 477	45	1 404	28
Philippines	458	683	22	651	10
Singapore	415	684	31	651	2
South Korea	1 448	1 852	38	1 718	96
Taiwan	577	739	30	701	8
Thailand	454	704	48	643	13
Other	961	1 908	115	1 727	66
Africa	569 139	620 454	13 738	596 562	10 154
SADC	555 589	603 763	12 768	581 946	9 049
Angola	3 475	2 969	43	2 471	455
Botswana	50 671	60 788	427	59 620	741
DRC	2 627	3 067	66	2 757	244
Lesotho	124 988	162 392	1 958	159 608	826

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

Country of residence	July		Purpose of visit		
	2015	2016	Business	Holiday	Study
Madagascar	159	165	1	157	7
Malawi	11 962	13 414	401	12 861	152
Mauritius	1 675	1 752	61	1 551	140
Mozambique	98 686	97 910	3 211	94 374	325
Namibia	17 164	16 386	1 866	12 916	1 604
Seychelles	367	410	7	394	9
Swaziland	68 271	80 353	312	78 400	1 641
Tanzania	3 003	3 280	100	2 975	205
Zambia	14 254	15 101	1 346	13 393	362
Zimbabwe	158 287	145 776	2 969	140 469	2 338
'Other' African	13 550	16 691	970	14 616	1 105
East and Central Africa	5 600	7 236	535	6 107	594
Burundi	57	91	2	82	7
Cameroon	416	502	49	413	40
Central African Republic	9	12	2	10	-
Chad	24	30	3	24	3
Comoros	7	11	-	11	-
Congo	346	352	10	291	51
Djibouti	3	5	-	4	1
Equatorial Guinea	29	41	1	33	7
Eritrea	64	61	3	58	-
Ethiopia	616	757	68	667	22
Gabon	762	1 064	8	967	89
Kenya	2 156	2 630	262	2 117	251
Réunion	2	-	-	-	-
Rwanda	107	93	8	69	16
São Tomé and Príncipe	12	7	-	7	-
Somalia	19	32	-	31	1
Uganda	971	1 548	119	1 323	106

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

Country of residence	July		Purpose of visit		
	2015	2016	Business	Holiday	Study
West Africa	7 064	8 205	308	7 495	402
Benin	194	179	9	164	6
Burkina Faso	44	54	8	45	1
Cape Verde Island	46	39	-	38	1
Côte d'Ivoire	175	226	16	199	11
Gambia	44	43	4	38	1
Ghana	1 054	1 221	73	1 083	65
Guinea	109	119	5	108	6
Guinea-Bissau	9	11	1	9	1
Liberia	60	41	3	36	2
Mali	76	96	1	92	3
Mauritania	12	10	2	7	1
Niger	14	23	3	19	1
Nigeria	4 980	5 869	158	5 413	298
Saint Helena	26	4	-	4	-
Senegal	159	177	15	160	2
Sierra Leone	36	61	5	56	-
Togo	26	32	5	24	3
North Africa	886	1 250	127	1 014	109
Algeria	66	86	10	71	5
Egypt	440	649	74	536	39
Libya	48	76	2	47	27
Morocco	79	135	18	114	3
South Sudan	74	42	2	36	4
The Sudan	122	188	13	151	24
Tunisia	56	70	8	55	7
Western Sahara	1	4	-	4	-
Unspecified	1 019	1 061	66	992	3

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

Sex	Age group	July		Region			
		2015	2016	Overseas	SADC	'Other' African	Unspecified
All	Total	732 891	822 416	200 901	603 763	16 691	1 061
	<15	41 495	49 567	20 565	27 707	1 277	18
	15-64	666 859	744 528	166 234	562 159	15 118	1 017
	65+	24 537	28 321	14 102	13 897	296	26
Male	Total	403 862	448 404	107 269	330 028	10 499	608
	<15	20 945	24 803	10 644	13 520	632	7
	15-64	370 913	409 761	89 096	310 389	9 695	581
	65+	12 004	13 840	7 529	6 119	172	20
Female	Total	329 029	374 012	93 632	273 735	6 192	453
	<15	20 550	24 764	9 921	14 187	645	11
	15-64	295 946	334 767	77 138	251 770	5 423	436
	65+	12 533	14 481	6 573	7 778	124	6

4. Explanatory notes

NOTICE TO USERS

Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) has made changes in the *Tourism and Migration* statistical release starting from the January 2014 statistics. This change has become necessary as a result of the implementation of the enhanced Movement Control System (e-MCS) at the country's ports of entry. Currently the new system (e-MCS) is operational at over 80% of the country's ports of entry. The system roll-out is expected to be finalised by the end of 2016/17 financial year. The change affects the identification of Transit Travellers that are currently categorised under Direction instead of Purpose of Movement. The revision, Table 1 and Table 2 in the release now include a category for Transit while all tables reporting on tourists exclude transit travellers.

4.1 Introduction

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

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

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

4.2 Purpose of the statistical release

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

4.3 Scope and coverage

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

4.4 Data

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

- Data routinely collected by immigration officers at all road, air and sea entry ports on all travellers (South African residents and foreign travellers) arriving into or departing from South Africa are captured into the DHA's population Movement Control System (MCS). The counts/statistics relate to the number of individual movements, rather than to the number of people. Hence, the multiple movements of individual people during the calendar month are each counted separately. Generally the data are collected directly from travel documents either by scanning or capturing onto the port's electronic database. No forms or cards are used (except in rare occasions when the capturing system is down) to collect information from travellers. Individual ports regularly transmit data onto the national database at the head office of the DHA
- Stats SA receives downloaded data covering a particular calendar month from the DHA.

- As part of data interrogation, data from the O.R. Tambo International Airport, which has the highest volume of travellers, are compared with passenger statistics from the Airport Company of South Africa (ACSA). As expected, in any specific month, an increase in the volume of passengers reported by ACSA is accompanied by an increase in the volume of travellers recorded by DHA. A similar pattern has been also observed when the volume of travellers decreased. In July 2016, the DHA data was 1,9% higher than that of ACSA.

4.5 Limitations

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

4.6 Definitions of terms

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

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

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

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

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

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

4.6.2 Definitions used specifically in this release

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

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

Region refers to the following country classification:

- Overseas: Europe, North America, Central and South America, Australasia, the Middle East and Asia.
- Africa: SADC and 'other' Africa (East and Central Africa, West Africa and North Africa).

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

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

SADC refers to the fourteen countries, excluding South Africa, which 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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