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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 2018. 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; the purpose of visit; 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 shows that a total of 3 562 603 travellers (arrivals, departures and transits) passed through South African ports of entry in July 2018. As presented in Table 1 on page 9, these travellers were made up of 1 085 384 South African residents and 2 477 219 foreign travellers. A further breakdown of the figures for South African residents indicates that there were 592 301 arrivals, 492 322 departures and 761 travellers in transit. The corresponding volume for foreign arrivals, departures and transit travellers was 1 303 293, 1 109 388 and 64 538, respectively.

A comparison between the movements in July 2017 and July 2018 indicates that the volume of arrivals increased for South African residents but decreased for foreign travellers. Departures and transits decreased for both groups of travellers. For South African residents, the volume of arrivals increased by 2,5% (from 578 028 in July 2017 to 592 301 in July 2018), departures decreased by 7,1% (from 530 077 in July 2017 to 492 322 in July 2018), and transits decreased by 8,5% (from 832 in July 2017 to 761 in July 2018). For foreign travellers, arrivals decreased by 3,3% (from 1 347 125 in July 2017 to 1 303 293 in July 2018), departures decreased by 6,5% (from 1 186 438 in July 2017 to 1 109 388 in July 2018), and transits decreased by 5,7% (from 68 437 in July 2017 to 64 538 in July 2018).

A comparison between the movements in June 2018 and July 2018 indicates that the volume of arrivals and transits increased for both South African residents and foreign travellers, departures decreased for South African residents but increased for foreign travellers. For South African residents, the volume of arrivals increased by 38,3% (from 428 421 in June 2018 to 592 301 in July 2018), departures decreased by 8,2% (from 536 234 in June 2018 to 492 322 in July 2018), and transits increased by 1,7% (from 748 in June 2018 to 761 in July 2018). For foreign travellers, arrivals increased by 12,3% (from 1 160 094 in June 2018 to 1 303 293 in July 2018), departures increased by 4,0% (from 1 066 717 in June 2018 to 1 109 388 in July 2018), and transits increased by 18,5% (from 54 482 in June 2018 to 64 538 in July 2018).

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 therefore 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 on page 9, in July 2018, 80 068 (6,1%) of foreign arrivals were classified as non-visitors while 1 223 225 (93,9%) were classified as visitors. The visitors were categorised into three groups:

- i. Arrivals only – comprising visitors who entered the country in July 2018 but did not depart in July 2018 [336 387 (27,5%)];
- ii. Single trips – visitors who came to South Africa once in July 2018 and left in July 2018 [419 548 (34,3%)];
and
- iii. Multiple trips – visitors who came to and left South Africa more than once in July 2018 [467 290 (38,2%)].

Visitors were further grouped as same-day visitors and overnight visitors (tourists). In July 2018, there were 367 319 (30,0%) same-day visitors and 855 906 (70,0%) tourists. Between July 2017 and July 2018, the volume of same-day visitors decreased by 8,2% (from 400 187 in July 2017 to 367 319 in July 2018) and that of tourists decreased by 0,7% (from 861 731 in July 2017 to 855 906 in July 2018). Between June 2018 and July 2018, the volume of same-day visitors increased by 1,8% (from 360 870 in June 2018 to 367 319 in July 2018), and tourists increased by 17,3% (from 729 374 in June 2018 to 855 906 in July 2018).

1.1.2 Mode of travel

Information presented in Table 2 on page 10 shows that in July 2018, road transport was the most common mode of travel used by 2 496 044 (70,1%) of the 3 562 603 travellers. The total number of travellers who used air transport was 1 059 637 (29,7%). Compared to the use of air and land transport, a small number of travellers, 6 922 (0,2%) used sea transport. Information on arrivals of South African residents shows that 262 049 (44,2%) came by air, 329 993 (55,7%) came by road and 259 (less than 0,1%) arrived by sea transport. For departures, 200 174 (40,7%) used air, 291 941 (59,3%) used road and 207 (less than 0,1%) left by sea transport. All travellers in transit, 761 (100,0%) used air transport.

In the case of foreign travellers, 283 420 (21,7%) arrived by air, 1 016 506 (78,0%) came by road and 3 367 (0,3%) arrived by sea transport. When departing South Africa, 248 695 (22,4%) foreign travellers left by air, 857 604 (77,3%) left by road and 3 089 (0,3%) left by sea transport. All travellers in transit 64 538 (100,0%) used air transport. Table 2 on page 10 further shows that of the 367 319 same-day visitors, an overwhelming majority, 343 728 (93,6%) arrived in the country by road, 23 586 (6,4%) flew into the country, and 5 (less than 0,1%) arrived by sea transport. Information on tourists shows that 613 706 (71,7%) used road transport, 242 182 (28,3%) came by air transport and 18 (less than 0,1%) arrived by sea transport.

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 pages 11 to 14. In July 2018, 184 236 (89,4%) of the 206 076 overseas tourists arrived in the country by air, whilst 21 827 (10,6%) came in by road and 13 (less than 0,1%) arrived by sea. Tourists from the Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries, on the other hand, came predominantly by road, 590 400 (93,2%), followed by air travel, 43 336 (6,8%) and 4 (less than 0,1%) arrived by sea transport. The number of tourists who came into South Africa by air from 'other' African countries was 13 815 (91,7%), with 1 249 (8,3%) using road transport and 1 (less than 0,1%) using sea transport.

1.2.2 Regional and national distribution

In July 2018, the distribution of overseas tourists was as follows: Europe, 109 834 (53,3%); North America, 41 816 (20,3%); Asia, 27 375 (13,3%); Australasia, 11 226 (5,4%); Central and South America, 10 765 (5,2%) and the Middle East, 5 060 (2,5%).

Figure 1 on page 7 and Table 3 on pages 11 to 12 indicate that the ten leading overseas countries in terms of the number of tourists visiting South Africa in July 2018 were the United States of America (USA), 37 560 (18,2%); United Kingdom (UK), 27 553 (13,4%); The Netherlands, 17 624 (8,6%); Germany, 15 069 (7,3%); France, 12 970 (6,3%); Australia, 9 921 (4,8%); China, 9 697 (4,7%); India, 7 204 (3,5%); Brazil, 6 880 (3,3%) and Belgium, 6 744 (3,3%). Tourists from these ten countries constituted 73,4% of all tourists from overseas countries. A comparison of movements in the ten leading countries between July 2017 and July 2018 shows that the number of tourists increased for six of the ten leading countries (China, Brazil, Belgium, Germany, Australia and USA), but decreased for The Netherlands, UK, France and India. China had the largest increase of 35,9% (from 7 137 tourists in July 2017 to 9 697 in July 2018), while The Netherlands had the largest decrease of 11,1% (from 19 832 tourists in July 2017 to 17 624 in July 2018). Annexure A on pages 20 to 21 shows that cumulatively, for January to July, the number of tourists from the overseas countries decreased by 1,5% between 2017 and 2018 (from 1 502 561 in 2017 to 1 479 315 in 2018). While the countries of Central and South America and North America grew by 7,1% and 1,1% respectively, those of the Middle East, Asia, Europe and Australasia dropped by 11,3%, 2,9%, 2,3% and 1,4% respectively.

Virtually all tourists from Africa, 633 740 (97,7%), came from the SADC countries (table 3, page 12). The distribution of the remaining tourists from Africa is as follows: West Africa, 7 435 (1,1%); East and Central Africa, 6 351 (1,0%); and North Africa 1 279 (0,2%). The ten leading SADC countries in terms of the number of tourists visiting South Africa in July 2018 were: Zimbabwe, 168 191 (26,5%); Lesotho, 165 478 (26,1%); Mozambique, 114 857 (18,1%); Swaziland, 72 133 (11,4%); Botswana, 51 743 (8,2%); Malawi, 18 142 (2,9%); Namibia, 15 469 (2,4%); Zambia

14 210 (2,2%); Angola, 4 266 (0,7%) and DRC, 3 751 (0,6%). (See Figure 2 on page 7 and Table 3 on pages 12 to 13). Tourists from these ten countries constituted 99,1% of all tourists from the SADC countries. A comparison between movements in July 2017 and July 2018 for the ten leading SADC countries shows that the number of tourists increased for four of the ten leading countries (Angola, DRC, Malawi and Zimbabwe) and decreased for six (Botswana, Mozambique, Swaziland, Zambia, Namibia and Lesotho). Angola showed the largest increase of 22,8% (from 3 474 tourists in July 2017 to 4 266 in July 2018), while Botswana showed the largest decrease of 8,2% (from 56 367 tourists in July 2017 to 51 743 in July 2018). Cumulatively, for January to July, Annexure A on pages 21 to 22 shows that the number of tourists from SADC countries increased by 3,6% between 2017 and 2018 (from 4 271 216 in 2017 to 4 424 171 in 2018).

The ten leading countries in terms of the number of tourists visiting South Africa in July 2018 from 'other' African countries, as shown in Figure 3 on page 8 and Table 3 on pages 13 to 14, were: Nigeria, 4 415 (29,3%); Kenya, 2 363 (15,7%); Ghana, 1 700 (11,3%); Uganda, 1 160 (7,7%); Ethiopia, 732 (4,9%); Gabon, 709 (4,7%); Egypt, 597 (4,0%); Cameroon, 536 (3,6%); Congo, 329 (2,2%) and Côte d'Ivoire, 286 (1,9%). Tourists from these ten countries constituted 85,1% of all tourists from 'other' African countries. A comparison between movements in July 2017 and July 2018 shows that the number of tourists increased for seven of the ten leading countries (Côte d'Ivoire, Cameroon, Ghana, Uganda, Nigeria, Congo and Kenya) and decreased for the other three leading countries (Gabon, Egypt and Ethiopia). Côte d'Ivoire showed the largest increase of 43,0% (from 200 tourists in July 2017 to 286 in July 2018). Gabon showed the largest decrease of 14,9% (from 833 tourists in July 2017 to 709 in July 2018). Annexure A on page 22 to 23 shows that for January to July cumulatively, the number of tourists from 'other' African countries decreased by 0,8% between 2017 and 2018 (from 98 450 in 2017 to 97 636 in 2018).

1.2.3 Purpose of visit

As observed in Table 4 on pages 15 to 18, in July 2018, the majority of tourists, 823 725 (96,2%), were in South Africa for holiday¹ compared to 19 879 (2,3%); 11 769 (1,4%) and 533 (0,1%) who were in South Africa for business, study and for medical treatment respectively.

A total of 11 033 (98,3%) tourists from Australasia, 10 520 (97,7%) from Central and South America, 40 637 (97,2%) from North America, 104 878 (95,5%) from Europe, 4 746 (93,8%) from the Middle East and 25 121 (91,8%) from the Middle East were in South Africa for holiday. Compared to other overseas regions, Europe had the highest number of tourists, 104 878 (53,3%) who came for holiday, 3 135 (51,2%) who came for business, 1 759 (60,3%) who came for study and 62 (62,0%) who came for medical treatment.

Purpose of visit comparisons within each region show that Asia had the highest proportion of its tourists who came to South Africa for business, 6,4% (1 752) and the Middle East had the highest proportion of its tourists who came to study, 2,7% (135).

The majority of African tourists, 625 820 (96,5%) came to South Africa for holiday. However, the following differences in terms of reasons for travel were observed between tourists from the SADC countries and 'other' African countries, namely:

- Whereas 613 065 (96,7%) of tourists from the SADC countries were on holiday; 12 755 (84,7%) of tourists from 'other' African countries came for the same purpose. Information on the regions of 'other' African countries shows that tourists on holiday constituted 88,8% (6 599); 81,1% (5 148); and 78,8% (1 008) for West Africa, East and Central Africa and North Africa respectively.
- Business persons constituted 7,4% (1 122) of tourists from 'other' African countries and 2,0% (12 587) from the SADC countries. North Africa had the highest proportion, 12,4% (159) of its tourists who came to South Africa for business purposes.
- Students made up the highest proportion, 7,5% (1 124) of tourists from 'other' African countries compared with 1,2% (7 725) from the SADC countries. East and Central Africa had the highest proportion of its tourists, 9,4% (596) who came to South Africa for study purposes.

¹ The holiday category includes tourists who came for vacation, visiting friends and relatives, shopping and other personal reasons.

1.2.4 Sex and age distribution

Table 5 on page 19 shows that in July 2018, there were 470 991 (55,0%) male and 384 915 (45,0%) female tourists. Overseas tourists were made up of 108 794 (52,8%) male tourists and 97 282 (47,2%) female tourists. There were 351 949 (55,5%) male and 281 791 (44,5%) female tourists from the SADC countries. Tourists from 'other' African countries were made up of 9 600 (63,7%) male and 5 465 (36,3%) female tourists.

The ages of the tourists were categorised into three broad groups: Those younger than 15 years, those that were 15 to 64 years old, and those that were 65 years and older. The overall results presented in Table 5 on page 19 show that 53 767 (6,3%) tourists were aged less than 15 years; 769 364 (89,9%) were aged between 15 and 64 years and 32 775 (3,8%) were aged 65 years and older.

Taking the regions of residence into consideration, the results further show that 586 185 (92,5%) tourists from SADC countries and 13 669 (90,7%) tourists from 'other' African countries were aged between 15 and 64 years, compared to 168 517 (81,8%) overseas tourists in the same age range. The proportion of tourists aged less than 15 years was lower among tourists from SADC countries, 5,0% (31 588) and 'other' African countries, 7,4% (1 119) compared to those from overseas, 10,2% (21 052).

A comparison of the three regions shows higher proportions of the elderly among both male and female tourists from overseas. Tourists aged 65 years and older comprised 8,0% (8 676) of male and 8,0% (7 831) 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 3,5% of both male and female tourists. From the SADC countries, elderly tourists made up 2,0% (7 024) and 3,2% (8 943) of male and female tourists respectively; while in 'other' African countries elderly tourists made up 1,6% (156) and 2,2% (121) of male and female tourists respectively.

2. Figures

Figure 1 – Number of tourists from the ten leading overseas countries in July 2017 and July 2018

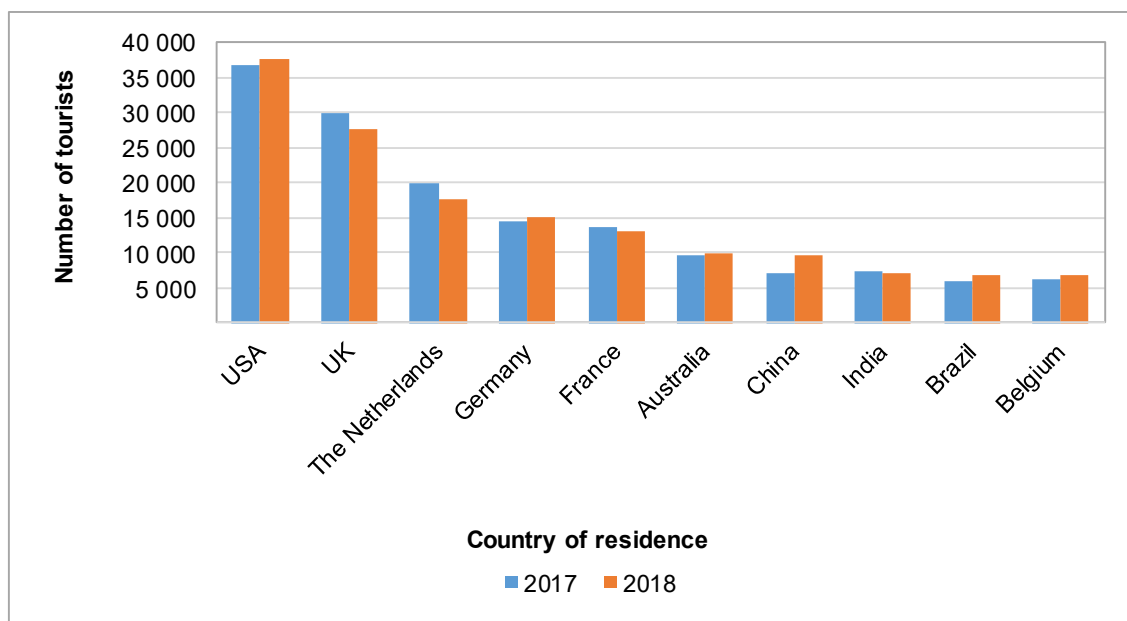


Figure 2 – Number of tourists from the ten leading Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries in July 2017 and July 2018

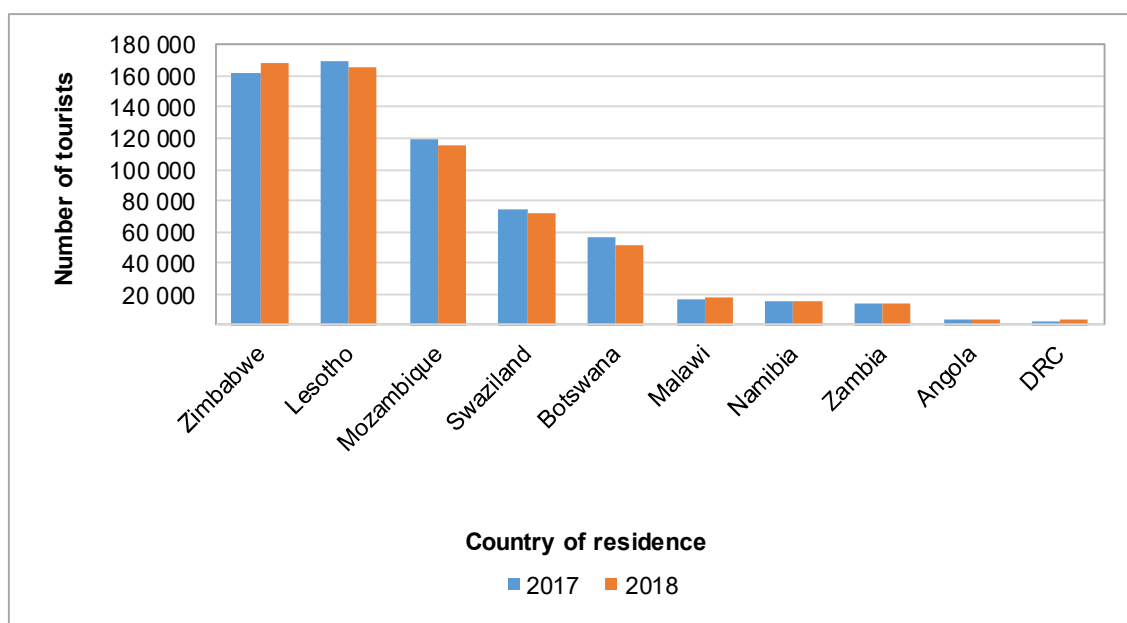
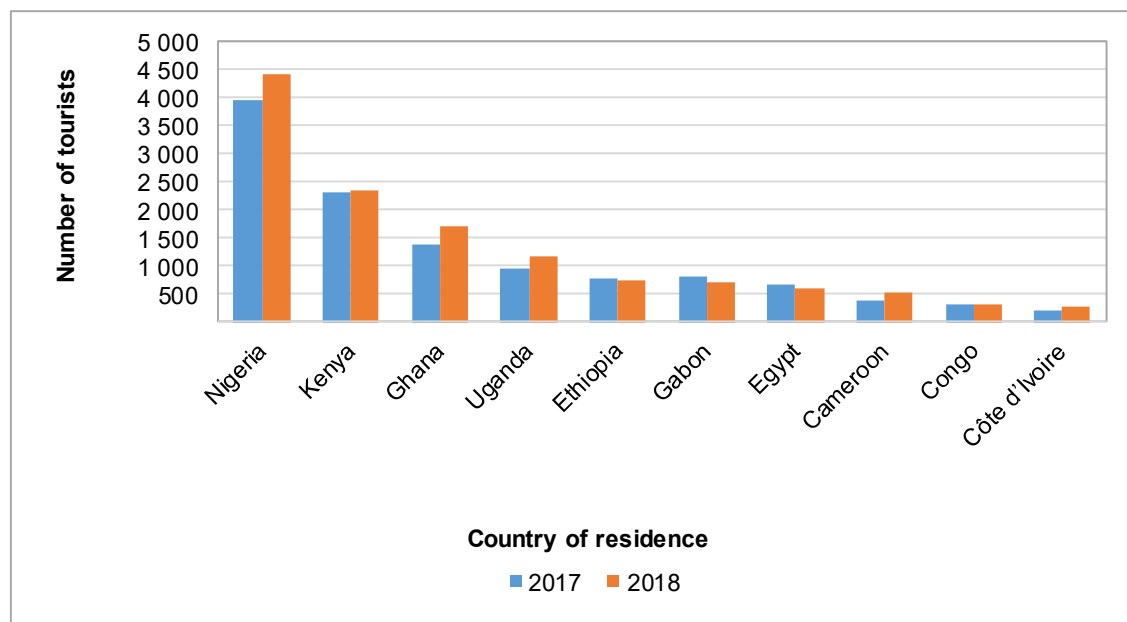


Figure 3 – Number of tourists from the ten leading ‘other’ African countries in July 2017 and July 2018

3. Tables

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

Travel direction	Jul 2017	Jun 2018	Jul 2018	% change Jun 2018 – Jul 2018	% change Jul 2017 – Jul 2018
Total	3 710 937	3 246 696	3 562 603	9,7	-4,0
South African residents	1 108 937	965 403	1 085 384	12,4	-2,1
Arrivals	578 028	428 421	592 301	38,3	2,5
Departures	530 077	536 234	492 322	-8,2	-7,1
Transits	832	748	761	1,7	-8,5
Foreign travellers	2 602 000	2 281 293	2 477 219	8,6	-4,8
Arrivals	1 347 125	1 160 094	1 303 293	12,3	-3,3
Departures	1 186 438	1 066 717	1 109 388	4,0	-6,5
Transits	68 437	54 482	64 538	18,5	-5,7
Foreign arrivals	1 347 125	1 160 094	1 303 293	12,3	-3,3
Non-visitors	85 207	69 850	80 068	14,6	-6,0
Visitors	1 261 918	1 090 244	1 223 225	12,2	-3,1
Visitors	1 261 918	1 090 244	1 223 225	12,2	-3,1
Arrivals only	325 791	270 374	336 387	24,4	3,3
Single trips	423 096	394 859	419 548	6,3	-0,8
Multiple trips	513 031	425 011	467 290	9,9	-8,9
Visitors	1 261 918	1 090 244	1 223 225	12,2	-3,1
Same-Day	400 187	360 870	367 319	1,8	-8,2
Overnight (Tourists)	861 731	729 374	855 906	17,3	-0,7

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	3 562 603	183 630	34 139	832 287	9 581	1 059 637	2 496 044	6 922
South African residents	1 085 384	89 465	24 338	344 884	4 297	462 984	621 934	466
Arrivals	592 301	52 589	13 459	193 730	2 271	262 049	329 993	259
Departures	492 322	36 874	10 879	150 395	2 026	200 174	291 941	207
Transit	761	2	-	759	-	761	-	-
Foreign travellers	2 477 219	94 165	9 801	487 403	5 284	596 653	1 874 110	6 456
Arrivals	1 303 293	51 780	5 018	224 549	2 073	283 420	1 016 506	3 367
Departures	1 109 388	42 265	4 783	198 436	3 211	248 695	857 604	3 089
Transit	64 538	120	-	64 418	-	64 538	-	-
Visitors	1 223 225	48 428	4 217	211 683	1 440	265 768	957 434	23
Same day	367 319	528	17	22 936	105	23 586	343 728	5
Tourist	855 906	47 900	4 200	188 747	1 335	242 182	613 706	18

Table 3 – Number of tourists by country of residence and mode of travel (July 2018)

Country of residence	July		Air					Road	Sea
	2017	2018	Cape Town	King Shaka	O.R. Tambo	Other	Total		
Total	861 731	855 906	47 900	4 200	188 747	1 335	242 182	613 706	18
Overseas	206 737	206 076	41 720	3 533	137 841	1 142	184 236	21 827	13
Europe	113 098	109 834	24 605	2 278	68 544	294	95 721	14 104	9
Austria	1 869	1 863	460	43	1 122	4	1 629	234	-
Belgium	6 326	6 744	1 246	39	4 070	6	5 361	1 383	-
Denmark	1 998	1 942	333	49	1 377	-	1 759	183	-
France	13 687	12 970	3 054	175	7 776	11	11 016	1 953	1
Germany	14 419	15 069	3 329	231	9 642	11	13 213	1 855	1
Ireland	2 228	1 994	634	113	1 066	9	1 822	172	-
Italy	5 102	5 250	1 732	65	3 109	59	4 965	285	-
Portugal	2 381	2 125	276	23	1 006	1	1 306	819	-
Russian Federation	709	1 664	237	108	1 232	7	1 584	80	-
Spain	4 057	4 214	941	23	2 827	22	3 813	401	-
Sweden	1 327	1 185	311	41	733	6	1 091	94	-
Switzerland	3 412	3 345	757	70	2 062	12	2 901	444	-
The Netherlands	19 832	17 624	4 200	152	9 900	21	14 273	3 351	-
UK	30 076	27 553	5 729	976	18 584	116	25 405	2 141	7
Other	5 675	6 292	1 366	170	4 038	9	5 583	709	-
North America	40 686	41 816	9 109	512	28 618	534	38 773	3 043	-
Canada	4 008	4 256	992	30	2 881	9	3 912	344	-
USA	36 678	37 560	8 117	482	25 737	525	34 861	2 699	-
Central and South America	9 866	10 765	1 121	39	8 886	42	10 088	677	-
Argentina	1 149	1 284	18	2	1 215	1	1 236	48	-
Brazil	6 092	6 880	668	8	5 677	15	6 368	512	-
Mexico	768	708	206	8	458	22	694	14	-
Other	1 857	1 893	229	21	1 536	4	1 790	103	-

Table 3 – Number of tourists by country of residence and mode of travel (July 2018) (continued)

Country of residence	July		Air					Road	Sea
	2017	2018	Cape Town	King Shaka	O.R. Tambo	Other	Total		
Australasia	11 513	11 226	881	95	9 202	114	10 292	933	1
Australia	9 591	9 921	758	84	8 163	110	9 115	805	1
New Zealand	1 896	1 286	119	11	1 025	4	1 159	127	-
Other	26	19	4	-	14	-	18	1	-
Middle East	6 310	5 060	1 570	59	3 230	39	4 898	161	1
Israel	1 758	1 892	367	23	1 384	5	1 779	112	1
Saudi Arabia	2 356	1 308	386	1	901	17	1 305	3	-
United Arab Emirates	782	663	480	8	159	15	662	1	-
Other	1 414	1 197	337	27	786	2	1 152	45	-
Asia	25 264	27 375	4 434	550	19 361	119	24 464	2 909	2
China	7 137	9 697	1 616	83	7 600	42	9 341	356	-
India	7 315	7 204	948	230	5 001	16	6 195	1 009	-
Japan	2 181	2 136	302	29	1 690	12	2 033	102	1
Malaysia	677	506	124	33	303	-	460	46	-
Pakistan	1 488	1 438	155	47	685	1	888	550	-
Philippines	722	752	107	13	503	31	654	97	1
Singapore	801	783	234	3	524	5	766	17	-
South Korea	2 088	2 197	604	21	1 325	6	1 956	241	-
Taiwan	813	675	60	1	474	-	535	140	-
Thailand	591	543	126	5	384	1	516	27	-
Other	1 451	1 444	158	85	872	5	1 120	324	-
Africa	653 985	648 805	6 149	662	50 148	192	57 151	591 649	5
SADC	640 193	633 740	4 819	592	37 770	155	43 336	590 400	4
Angola	3 474	4 266	1 400	2	2 503	8	3 913	353	-
Botswana	56 367	51 743	29	151	2 607	22	2 809	48 934	-
DRC	3 059	3 751	165	2	2 927	3	3 097	653	1
Lesotho	169 080	165 478	8	8	597	-	613	164 865	-

Table 3 – Number of tourists by country of residence and mode of travel (July 2018) (continued)

Country of residence	July		Air					Road	Sea
	2017	2018	Cape Town	King Shaka	O.R. Tambo	Other	Total		
Madagascar	188	216	19	-	195	-	214	2	-
Malawi	16 423	18 142	26	2	2 306	6	2 340	15 802	-
Mauritius	1 708	1 878	296	148	1 305	6	1 755	122	1
Mozambique	119 689	114 857	15	23	2 639	10	2 687	112 170	-
Namibia	15 833	15 469	1 834	114	3 054	10	5 012	10 457	-
Seychelles	412	258	2	3	248	-	253	5	-
Swaziland	74 716	72 133	2	5	512	37	556	71 577	-
Tanzania	3 183	3 148	109	-	1 871	5	1 985	1 163	-
Zambia	14 569	14 210	29	99	3 484	6	3 618	10 592	-
Zimbabwe	161 492	168 191	885	35	13 522	42	14 484	153 705	2
'Other' African	13 792	15 065	1 330	70	12 378	37	13 815	1 249	1
East and Central Africa	6 000	6 351	703	13	5 021	7	5 744	607	-
Burundi	65	63	9	-	53	-	62	1	-
Cameroon	406	536	72	1	424	4	501	35	-
Central African Republic	5	11	-	-	11	-	11	-	-
Chad	29	26	4	-	22	-	26	-	-
Comoros	27	30	6	-	24	-	30	-	-
Congo	309	329	89	-	237	-	326	3	-
Djibouti	14	8	1	-	6	-	7	1	-
Equatorial Guinea	32	25	1	-	23	-	24	1	-
Eritrea	81	69	3	-	55	-	58	11	-
Ethiopia	793	732	54	6	577	-	637	95	-
Gabon	833	709	94	1	612	-	707	2	-
Kenya	2 305	2 363	283	2	1 867	3	2 155	208	-
Réunion	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rwanda	72	124	6	1	105	-	112	12	-
São Tomé and Príncipe	4	4	-	-	4	-	4	-	-
Somalia	58	162	16	1	32	-	49	113	-
Uganda	962	1 160	65	1	969	--	1 035	125	-

Table 3 – Number of tourists by country of residence and mode of travel (July 2018) (concluded)

Country of residence	July		Air					Road	Sea
	2017	2018	Cape Town	King Shaka	O.R. Tambo	Other	Total		
West Africa	6 513	7 435	413	9	6 455	30	6 907	527	1
Benin	150	131	3	-	126	-	129	2	-
Burkina Faso	62	56	7	-	47	-	54	2	-
Cape Verde Island	42	27	5	-	20	-	25	2	-
Côte d'Ivoire	200	286	26	1	257	-	284	2	-
Gambia	60	36	1	1	29	-	31	5	-
Ghana	1 381	1 700	92	-	1 511	27	1 630	70	-
Guinea	133	146	6	-	82	-	88	58	-
Guinea-Bissau	10	11	-	-	9	-	9	2	-
Liberia	57	73	9	-	59	-	68	5	-
Mali	117	105	4	-	63	-	67	38	-
Mauritania	6	7	-	-	7	-	7	-	-
Niger	16	30	-	-	27	1	28	2	-
Nigeria	3 973	4 415	246	3	3 848	2	4 099	315	1
Saint Helena	21	11	-	-	11	-	11	-	-
Senegal	188	233	3	4	211	-	218	15	-
Sierra Leone	52	53	2	-	44	-	46	7	-
Togo	45	115	9	-	104	-	113	2	-
North Africa	1 279	1 279	214	48	902	-	1 164	115	-
Algeria	94	70	8	2	58	-	68	2	-
Egypt	668	597	82	11	462	-	555	42	-
Libya	61	98	15	8	20	-	43	55	-
Morocco	111	129	19	6	95	-	120	9	-
South Sudan	59	68	7	1	59	-	67	1	-
The Sudan	196	202	62	6	128	-	196	6	-
Tunisia	90	111	21	14	76	-	111	-	-
Western Sahara	-	4	-	-	4	-	4	-	-
Unspecified	1 009	1 025	31	5	758	1	795	230	-

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

Country of residence	July		Purpose of visit (July 2018)			
	2017	2018	Business	Holiday	Study	Medical treatment
Total	861 731	855 906	19 879	823 725	11 769	533
Overseas	206 737	206 076	6 125	196 935	2 916	100
Europe	113 098	109 834	3 135	104 878	1 759	62
Austria	1 869	1 863	40	1 797	26	-
Belgium	6 326	6 744	86	6 590	68	-
Denmark	1 998	1 942	44	1 874	24	-
France	13 687	12 970	281	12 518	170	1
Germany	14 419	15 069	463	14 137	468	1
Ireland	2 228	1 994	87	1 883	23	1
Italy	5 102	5 250	239	4 920	89	2
Portugal	2 381	2 125	66	2 017	36	6
Russian Federation	709	1 664	124	1 533	7	-
Spain	4 057	4 214	121	4 044	49	-
Sweden	1 327	1 185	32	1 117	36	-
Switzerland	3 412	3 345	50	3 219	76	-
The Netherlands	19 832	17 624	191	17 224	193	16
UK	30 076	27 553	985	26 201	336	31
Other	5 675	6 292	326	5 804	158	4
North America	40 686	41 816	774	40 637	389	16
Canada	4 008	4 256	103	4 107	46	-
USA	36 678	37 560	671	36 530	343	16
Central and South America	9 866	10 765	147	10 520	97	1
Argentina	1 149	1 284	11	1 266	7	-
Brazil	6 092	6 880	69	6 751	59	1
Mexico	768	708	14	687	7	-
Other	1 857	1 893	53	1 816	24	-

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

Country of residence	July		Purpose of visit (July 2018)			
	2017	2018	Business	Holiday	Study	Medical treatment
Australasia	11 513	11 226	140	11 033	49	4
Australia	9 591	9 921	126	9 757	36	2
New Zealand	1 896	1 286	12	1 261	12	1
Other	26	19	2	15	1	1
Middle East	6 310	5 060	177	4 746	135	2
Israel	1 758	1 892	80	1 787	24	1
Saudi Arabia	2 356	1 308	9	1 257	42	-
United Arab Emirates	782	663	8	653	2	-
Other	1 414	1 197	80	1 049	67	1
Asia	25 264	27 375	1 752	25 121	487	15
China	7 137	9 697	629	8 999	68	1
India	7 315	7 204	668	6 372	158	6
Japan	2 181	2 136	125	1 984	26	1
Malaysia	677	506	32	430	44	-
Pakistan	1 488	1 438	55	1 353	29	1
Philippines	722	752	35	709	4	4
Singapore	801	783	36	740	7	-
South Korea	2 088	2 197	44	2 057	96	-
Taiwan	813	675	34	634	7	-
Thailand	591	543	10	529	4	-
Other	1 451	1 444	84	1 314	44	2
Africa	653 985	648 805	13 709	625 820	8 849	427
SADC	640 193	633 740	12 587	613 065	7 725	363
Angola	3 474	4 266	59	3 768	390	49
Botswana	56 367	51 743	775	50 193	630	145
DRC	3 059	3 751	104	3 378	243	26
Lesotho	169 080	165 478	1 479	163 255	743	1

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

Country of residence	July		Purpose of visit (July 2018)			
	2017	2018	Business	Holiday	Study	Medical treatment
Madagascar	188	216	14	189	12	1
Malawi	16 423	18 142	485	17 447	201	9
Mauritius	1 708	1 878	72	1 673	129	4
Mozambique	119 689	114 857	2 393	112 127	313	24
Namibia	15 833	15 469	2 058	11 851	1 535	25
Seychelles	412	258	9	242	7	-
Swaziland	74 716	72 133	147	71 053	928	5
Tanzania	3 183	3 148	102	2 805	233	8
Zambia	14 569	14 210	1 538	12 326	319	27
Zimbabwe	161 492	168 191	3 352	162 758	2 042	39
'Other' African	13 792	15 065	1 122	12 755	1 124	64
East and Central Africa	6 000	6 351	566	5 148	596	41
Burundi	65	63	5	53	5	-
Cameroon	406	536	36	402	81	17
Central African Republic	5	11	-	10	1	-
Chad	29	26	2	17	4	3
Comoros	27	30	1	22	7	-
Congo	309	329	4	280	41	4
Djibouti	14	8	-	8	-	-
Equatorial Guinea	32	25	1	20	3	1
Eritrea	81	69	2	63	3	1
Ethiopia	793	732	42	669	19	2
Gabon	833	709	8	633	67	1
Kenya	2 305	2 363	330	1 779	246	8
Réunion	5	-	-	-	-	-
Rwanda	72	124	12	102	10	-
São Tomé and Príncipe	4	4	-	4	-	-
Somalia	58	162	21	138	2	1
Uganda	962	1 160	102	948	107	3

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

Country of residence	July		Purpose of visit (July 2018)			
	2017	2018	Business	Holiday	Study	Medical treatment
West Africa	6 513	7 435	397	6 599	418	21
Benin	150	131	5	123	2	1
Burkina Faso	62	56	6	43	6	1
Cape Verde Island	42	27	2	24	1	-
Côte d'Ivoire	200	286	25	249	11	1
Gambia	60	36	4	30	2	-
Ghana	1 381	1 700	95	1 546	57	2
Guinea	133	146	4	137	4	1
Guinea-Bissau	10	11	2	8	1	-
Liberia	57	73	4	68	1	-
Mali	117	105	5	95	5	-
Mauritania	6	7	2	5	-	-
Niger	16	30	2	27	1	-
Nigeria	3 973	4 415	207	3 879	315	14
Saint Helena	21	11	-	11	-	-
Senegal	188	233	21	207	5	-
Sierra Leone	52	53	6	43	3	1
Togo	45	115	7	104	4	-
North Africa	1 279	1 279	159	1 008	110	2
Algeria	94	70	11	54	5	-
Egypt	668	597	79	479	39	-
Libya	61	98	4	77	17	-
Morocco	111	129	23	104	2	-
South Sudan	59	68	4	56	6	2
The Sudan	196	202	19	146	37	-
Tunisia	90	111	19	88	4	-
Western Sahara	-	4	-	4	-	-
Unspecified	1 009	1 025	45	970	4	6

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

Sex	Age group	July		Region (July 2018)			
		2017	2018	Overseas	SADC	'Other' African	Unspecified
All	Total	861 731	855 906	206 076	633 740	15 065	1 025
	0-14	51 711	53 767	21 052	31 588	1 119	8
	15-64	780 170	769 364	168 517	586 185	13 669	993
	65+	29 850	32 775	16 507	15 967	277	24
Male	Total	475 180	470 991	108 794	351 949	9 600	648
	0-14	26 067	26 807	10 904	15 318	580	5
	15-64	434 467	428 309	89 214	329 607	8 864	624
	65+	14 646	15 875	8 676	7 024	156	19
Female	Total	386 551	384 915	97 282	281 791	5 465	377
	0-14	25 644	26 960	10 148	16 270	539	3
	15-64	345 703	341 055	79 303	256 578	4 805	369
	65+	15 204	16 900	7 831	8 943	121	5

4. Annexures

4.1 Annexure A – Cumulative number of tourists: Jan – Jul, 2017 – 2018, changes by country of residence

Country of residence	January – July			
	2017	2018	Difference 2017 – 2018	% change 2017 – 2018
Total	5 879 067	6 008 445	129 378	2,2
Overseas	1 502 561	1 479 315	-23 246	-1,5
Europe	897 218	876 884	-20 334	-2,3
Austria	15 699	15 971	272	1,7
Belgium	29 012	30 644	1 632	5,6
Denmark	17 392	16 904	-488	-2,8
France	105 494	101 936	-3 558	-3,4
Germany	178 328	176 740	-1 588	-0,9
Ireland	17 553	17 418	-135	-0,8
Italy	28 856	29 673	817	2,8
Norway	11 514	11 809	295	2,6
Portugal	22 443	17 846	-4 597	-20,5
Spain	19 541	20 214	673	3,4
Sweden	25 996	26 734	738	2,8
Switzerland	30 831	30 186	-645	-2,1
The Netherlands	82 989	77 198	-5 791	-7,0
UK	259 039	246 063	-12 976	-5,0
Other	52 531	57 548	5 017	9,6
North America	252 183	254 847	2 664	1,1
Canada	36 503	36 570	67	0,2
USA	215 680	218 277	2 597	1,2
Central and South America	63 329	67 816	4 487	7,1
Argentina	10 187	12 996	2 809	27,6
Brazil	38 460	40 120	1 660	4,3
Chile	3 911	4 119	208	5,3
Other	10 771	10 581	-190	-1,8

Annexure A – Cumulative number of tourists: Jan – Jul, 2017 – 2018, changes by country of residence (continued)

Country of residence	January – July			
	2017	2018	Difference 2017 – 2018	% change 2017 – 2018
Australasia	72 378	71 330	-1 048	-1,4
Australia	63 105	63 130	25	0,0
New Zealand	9 083	8 065	-1 018	-11,2
Other	190	135	-55	-28,9
Middle East	32 426	28 746	-3 680	-11,3
Iran	3 670	2 641	-1 029	-28,0
Israel	13 796	13 985	189	1,4
Saudi Arabia	6 689	4 912	-1 777	-26,6
Other	8 271	7 208	-1 063	-12,9
Asia	185 027	179 692	-5 335	-2,9
Bangladesh	2 875	3 155	280	9,7
China	56 310	55 058	-1 252	-2,2
India	59 157	57 219	-1 938	-3,3
Japan	14 475	14 658	183	1,3
Malaysia	4 921	4 098	-823	-16,7
Pakistan	9 522	8 858	-664	-7,0
Philippines	4 199	4 240	41	1,0
Singapore	6 424	4 657	-1 767	-27,5
South Korea	13 037	13 501	464	3,6
Thailand	3 854	4 003	149	3,9
Other	10 253	10 245	-8	-0,1
Africa	4 369 666	4 521 807	152 141	3,5
SADC	4 271 216	4 424 171	152 955	3,6
Angola	27 687	37 634	9 947	35,9
Botswana	357 067	363 240	6 173	1,7
DRC	15 603	18 471	2 868	18,4
Lesotho	1 082 127	1 093 341	11 214	1,0

Annexure A – Cumulative number of tourists: Jan – Jul, 2017 – 2018, changes by country of residence (continued)

Country of residence	January – July			
	2017	2018	Difference 2017 – 2018	% change 2017 – 2018
Madagascar	1 466	1 434	-32	-2,2
Malawi	94 918	108 943	14 025	14,8
Mauritius	10 645	10 929	284	2,7
Mozambique	777 875	800 688	22 813	2,9
Namibia	115 312	110 883	-4 429	-3,8
Seychelles	4 963	3 038	-1 925	-38,8
Swaziland	492 662	494 318	1 656	0,3
Tanzania	20 768	20 394	-374	-1,8
Zambia	97 276	94 177	-3 099	-3,2
Zimbabwe	1 172 847	1 266 681	93 834	8,0
‘Other’ African	98 450	97 636	-814	-0,8
East and Central Africa	41 141	39 749	-1 392	-3,4
Burundi	449	442	-7	-1,6
Cameroon	3 060	2 923	-137	-4,5
Central African Republic	72	101	29	40,3
Chad	183	213	30	16,4
Comoros	112	180	68	60,7
Congo	1 895	1 651	-244	-12,9
Djibouti	74	61	-13	-17,6
Equatorial Guinea	295	220	-75	-25,4
Eritrea	367	399	32	8,7
Ethiopia	4 901	5 379	478	9,8
Gabon	4 380	3 421	-959	-21,9
Kenya	16 634	15 530	-1 104	-6,6
Réunion	48	15	-33	-68,8
Rwanda	566	569	3	0,5
São Tomé and Príncipe	40	73	33	82,5
Somalia	226	714	488	215,9
Uganda	7 839	7 858	19	0,2

Annexure A – Cumulative number of tourists: Jan – Jul, 2017 – 2018, changes by country of residence (concluded)

Country of residence	January – July			
	2017	2018	Difference 2017 – 2018	% change 2017 – 2018
West Africa	47 691	48 820	1 129	2,4
Benin	936	776	-160	-17,1
Burkina Faso	383	409	26	6,8
Cape Verde Island	338	195	-143	-42,3
Côte d'Ivoire	1 440	1 568	128	8,9
Gambia	335	303	-32	-9,6
Ghana	9 748	11 425	1 677	17,2
Guinea	841	901	60	7,1
Guinea-Bissau	107	99	-8	-7,5
Liberia	404	386	-18	-4,5
Mali	919	855	-64	-7,0
Mauritania	149	122	-27	-18,1
Niger	200	180	-20	-10,0
Nigeria	29 579	29 406	-173	-0,6
Saint Helena	124	85	-39	-31,5
Senegal	1 455	1 407	-48	-3,3
Sierra Leone	384	323	-61	-15,9
Togo	349	380	31	8,9
North Africa	9 618	9 067	-551	-5,7
Algeria	620	549	-71	-11,5
Egypt	5 068	4 592	-476	-9,4
Libya	553	497	-56	-10,1
Morocco	944	1 094	150	15,9
South Sudan	465	459	-6	-1,3
The Sudan	1 254	1 237	-17	-1,4
Tunisia	703	619	-84	-11,9
Western Sahara	11	20	9	81,8
Unspecified	6 840	7 323	483	7,1

5. 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 95% of the country's ports of entry. The change affects the identification of Transit Travellers that are currently categorised under Direction instead of Purpose of Movement. With this revision, Table 1 and Table 2 in the release now include a category for Transit while all tables reporting on tourists exclude transit travellers.

5.1 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 the demand for local tourism services by foreign travellers.

5.2 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.

5.3 Scope and coverage

The release covers data collected by DHA officials on travellers who entered the Republic of South Africa (RSA).

5.4 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 ports' electronic database. No forms or cards are used (except on 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 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 also reflected in an increase in the volume of travellers recorded by DHA. A similar pattern has also been observed when the volume of travellers decreased. In July 2018, the DHA data was 0,7% higher than that of ACSA.

5.5 Limitations

The information on the total number of arrivals and departures of South African residents is collected from the scanning of passports. However, data on the country visited are not collected from passengers; 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.

5.6 Definition of terms

5.6.1 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 the other places he/she frequently visits.

5.6.2 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 belong 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.

5.7 Symbols used

- = nil

< = less than

5.8 Rounding off

Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

6. 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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