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www.statssa.gov.za
info@statssa.gov.za
T +27 12 310 8911
F +27 12 310 8500

Private Bag X44, Pretoria, 0001, South Africa
ISibalo House, Koch Street, Salvokop, Pretoria, 0002



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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 November 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.

Risenga Maluleke
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 3 504 147 travellers (arrivals, departures and transits) passed through South African ports of entry in November 2018. As presented in Table 1 on page 9, these travellers were made up of 892 799 South African residents and 2 611 348 foreign travellers. A further breakdown of the figures for South African residents indicates that there were 436 946 arrivals, 455 068 departures and 785 travellers in transit. The corresponding volume for foreign arrivals, departures and transit travellers was 1 341 316, 1 200 690 and 69 342, respectively.

A comparison between the movements in November 2017 and November 2018 indicates that the volume of arrivals increased for both South African residents and foreign arrivals whereas the volume of departures increased for South African residents but decreased for foreign travellers. Travellers in transit increased for both groups. For South African residents, the volume of arrivals increased by 6,7% (from 409 446 in November 2017 to 436 946 in November 2018), departures increased by 8,2% (from 420 665 in November 2017 to 455 068 in November 2018), and transits increased by 1,4% (from 774 in November 2017 to 785 in November 2018). For foreign travellers, arrivals increased by 0,9% (from 1 329 025 in November 2017 to 1 341 316 in November 2018), departures decreased by 1,2% (from 1 215 768 in November 2017 to 1 200 690 in November 2018), and transits increased by 5,4% (from 65 809 in November 2017 to 69 342 in November 2018).

A comparison between the movements in October 2018 and November 2018 indicates that the volume of arrivals decreased for South African residents but increased for foreign travellers, while the volume of departures increased for both South African residents and foreign travellers. Travellers in transit increased for both groups. For South African residents, the volume of arrivals decreased by 13,1% (from 502 528 in October 2018 to 436 946 in November 2018), departures increased by 0,5% (from 452 652 in October 2018 to 455 068 in November 2018), and transits increased by 0,1% (from 784 in October 2018 to 785 in November 2018). For foreign travellers, arrivals increased by 1,3% (from 1 323 652 in October 2018 to 1 341 316 in November 2018), departures increased by 3,0% (from 1 166 107 in October 2018 to 1 200 690 in November 2018), and transits increased by 4,2% (from 66 573 in October 2018 to 69 342 in November 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 November 2018, 78 770 (5,9%) of foreign arrivals were classified as non-visitors while 1 262 546 (94,1%) were classified as visitors. The visitors were categorised into three groups:

- i. Arrivals only – comprising visitors who entered the country in November 2018 but did not depart in November 2018 [307 132 (24,3%)];
- ii. Single trips – visitors who came to South Africa once in November 2018 and left in November 2018 [481 538 (38,1%)]; and
- iii. Multiple trips – visitors who came to and left South Africa more than once in November 2018 [473 876 (37,5%)].

Visitors were further grouped as same-day visitors and overnight visitors (tourists). In November 2018, there were 387 374 (30,7%) same-day visitors and 875 172 (69,3%) tourists. Between November 2017 and November 2018, the volume of same-day visitors decreased by 2,4% (from 396 826 in November 2017 to 387 374 in November 2018) and that of tourists increased by 3,1% (from 848 966 in November 2017 to 875 172 in November 2018). Between October 2018 and November 2018, the volume of same-day visitors increased by 1,8% (from 380 474 in October 2018 to 387 374 in November 2018), and tourists increased by 1,5% (from 862 046 in October 2018 to 875 172 in November 2018).

1.1.2 Mode of travel

Information presented in Table 2 on page 10 shows that in November 2018, road transport was the most common mode of travel used by 2 400 577 (68,5%) of the 3 504 147 travellers. The total number of travellers who used air transport was 1 061 826 (30,3%). Compared to the use of air and land transport, a small number of travellers, 41 744 (1,2%) used sea transport. Information on arrivals of South African residents shows that 164 589 (37,7%) came by air, 258 828 (59,2%) came by road and 13 529 (3,1%) arrived by sea transport. For departures, 166 360 (36,6%) used air, 273 612 (60,1%) used road and 15 096 (3,3%) left by sea transport. All travellers in transit, 785 (100,0%) used air transport.

In the case of foreign travellers, 325 548 (24,3%) arrived by air, 1 007 513 (75,1%) came by road and 8 255 (0,6%) arrived by sea transport. When departing South Africa, 335 202 (27,9%) foreign travellers left by air, 860 624 (71,7%) left by road and 4 864 (0,4%) left by sea transport. All travellers in transit 69 342 (100,0%) used air transport. Table 2 on page 10 further shows that of the 387 374 same-day visitors, an overwhelming majority, 365 851 (94,4%) arrived in the country by road, 20 931 (5,4%) flew into the country; and 592 (0,2%) arrived by sea transport. Information on tourists shows that 582 801 (66,6%) used road transport, 289 607 (33,1%) came by air transport and 2 764 (0,3%) 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 tourists and the mode of travel used to enter South Africa is provided in Table 3 on pages 11 to 14. In November 2018, 227 012 (88,5%) of the 256 537 overseas tourists arrived in the country by air transport, whilst 27 094 (10,6%) came in by road transport and 2 431 (0,9%) arrived by sea transport. Tourists from the Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries, on the other hand, came predominantly by road, 554 184 (92,3%), followed by air travel, 45 992 (7,7%) and sea transport, 331 (0,1%). The number of tourists who came into South Africa by air from 'other' African countries was 15 304 (92,4%), with 1 263 (7,6%) using road transport and 2 (less than 0,1%) using sea transport.

1.2.2 Regional and national distribution

In November 2018, the distribution of overseas tourists was as follows: Europe, 171 540 (66,9%); North America, 34 244 (13,3%); Asia, 27 965 (10,9%); Central and South America, 9 555 (3,7%); Australasia, 9 137 (3,6%) and the Middle East, 4 096 (1,6%).

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 November 2018 were Germany, 42 851 (16,7%); United Kingdom (UK), 39 672 (15,5%); United States of America (USA), 27 374 (10,7%); France, 20 063 (7,8%); The Netherlands, 15 247 (5,9%); India, 9 315 (3,6%); China, 9 274 (3,6%); Australia, 8 143 (3,2%); Switzerland, 7 698 (3,0%) and Canada, 6 870 (2,7%). Tourists from these ten countries constituted 72,7% of all tourists from overseas countries. A comparison of movements in the ten leading countries between November 2017 and November 2018 shows that the number of tourists increased for six of the ten leading countries (India, Australia, Canada, USA, China and Switzerland), but decreased for France, The Netherlands, Germany and UK. India had the largest increase of 25,6% (from 7 418 tourists in November 2017 to 9 315 in November 2018), while France had the largest decrease of 10,2% (from 22 354 tourists in November 2017 to 20 063 in November 2018). Annexure A on pages 20 to 21 shows that cumulatively, for January to November, the number of tourists from overseas countries decreased by 1,6% between 2017 and 2018 (from 2 451 405 in 2017 to 2 412 743 in 2018). While the countries of Central and South America and North America grew by 10,1% and 1,6% respectively, those of the Middle East, Europe, Asia and Australasia dropped by 11,4%, 2,8%, 2,0% and 1,0% respectively.

Virtually all tourists from Africa, 600 507 (97,3%), came from the SADC countries. The distribution of the remaining tourists from Africa is as follows: West Africa, 8 834 (1,4%); East and Central Africa, 6 209 (1,0%); and North Africa 1 526 (0,2%). The ten leading SADC countries in terms of the number of tourists visiting South Africa in November 2018 were: Zimbabwe, 175 726 (29,3%); Lesotho, 121 722 (20,3%); Mozambique, 109 669 (18,3%);

Swaziland, 74 540 (12,4%); Botswana, 57 004 (9,5%); Malawi, 17 911 (3,0%); Namibia, 15 726 (2,6%); Zambia 13 638 (2,3%); Angola, 5 151 (0,9%) and Tanzania, 3 537 (0,6%). (See Figure 2 on page 7 and Table 3 on pages 12 to 13). Tourists from these ten countries constituted 99,0% of all tourists from the SADC countries. A comparison between movements in November 2017 and November 2018 for the ten leading SADC countries shows that the number of tourists increased for seven of the ten leading countries (Angola, Malawi, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Swaziland and Namibia) and decreased for the other three (Zambia, Lesotho and Mozambique). Angola showed the largest increase of 40,5% (from 3 667 tourists in November 2017 to 5 151 in November 2018), while Zambia showed the largest decrease of 4,1% (from 14 215 tourists in November 2017 to 13 638 in November 2018). Cumulatively, for January to November, Annexure A on pages 21 to 22 shows that the number of tourists from SADC countries increased by 3,1% between 2017 and 2018 (from 6 672 570 in 2017 to 6 879 844 in 2018).

The ten leading countries in terms of the number of tourists visiting South Africa in November 2018 from 'other' African countries, as shown in Figure 3 on page 8 and Table 3 on pages 13 to 14, were: Nigeria, 5 353 (32,3%); Kenya, 2 815 (17,0%); Ghana, 2 035 (12,3%); Uganda, 1 041 (6,3%); Ethiopia, 706 (4,3%); Egypt, 693 (4,2%); Gabon, 417 (2,5%); Cameroon, 402 (2,4%); Côte d'Ivoire, 287 (1,7%) and Senegal, 240 (1,4%). Tourists from these ten countries constituted 84,4% of all tourists from 'other' African countries. A comparison between movements in November 2017 and November 2018 shows that the number of tourists increased for five of the ten leading countries (Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria, Gabon, Ghana and Kenya) and decreased for the other five leading countries (Egypt, Senegal, Uganda, Cameroon and Ethiopia). Côte d'Ivoire showed the largest increase of 44,2% (from 199 tourists in November 2017 to 287 in November 2018), while Egypt showed the largest decrease of 18,8% (from 853 tourists in November 2017 to 693 in November 2018). Annexure A on pages 22 to 23 shows that for January to November cumulatively, the number of tourists from 'other' African countries increased by 1,3% between 2017 and 2018 (from 157 922 in 2017 to 160 010 in 2018). While countries of West Africa grew by 5,6%, those of North Africa and East and Central Africa dropped by 5,2% and 2,2% respectively.

1.2.3 Purpose of visit

As observed in Table 4 on pages 15 to 18, in November 2018, the majority of tourists, 845 422 (96,6%), were in South Africa for holiday¹ compared to 26 075 (3,0%); 3 046 (0,3%) and 629 (0,1%) who were in South Africa for business, study and for medical treatment respectively.

Compared to other overseas regions, Europe had the highest numbers of tourists, 164 762 (67,2%) who came for holiday, 6 433 (60,5%) who came for business, 257 (47,7%) who came for study and 88 (72,7%) who came for medical treatment.

Within overseas regions, Central and South America had the highest proportion of its tourists who came for holiday, 97,7% (9 334), followed by Australasia, 97,1% (8 868), North America, 96,2% (32 950), Europe, 96,0% (164 762), Asia, 91,6% (25 618), and the Middle East, 90,7% (3 717).

The Middle East, 8,4% (343) had the highest proportion of its tourists who came to South Africa for business, followed by Asia, 7,9% (2 202), Europe, 3,8% (6 433), North America, 3,5% (1 197), Australasia, 2,9% (265), and Central and South America, 2,0% (188).

The Middle East, 0,8% (33) had the highest proportion of its tourists who came to study, followed by Asia, 0,5% (140), Central and South America, 0,3% (31), North America, 0,2% (77), Europe, 0,1% (257), and Australasia 0,01% (1).

Middle East, North America and Europe had 0,1% of their tourists who came for medical treatment. For the other overseas regions, less than 0,1% of their tourists came for medical treatment.

¹ The holiday category includes tourists who came for vacation, visiting friends and relatives, shopping and other personal reasons. See section 5.5.2 for a more detailed discussion.

The majority of African tourists, 598 779 (97,0%) 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:

- A higher proportion of tourists from SADC countries, 97,3% (584 504) were on holiday, compared to 86,2% (14 275) from 'other' African countries who came for the same purpose. Information on the regions of 'other' African countries shows that tourists on holiday constituted 90,8% (8 022); 82,0% (5 094); and 76,0% (1 159) for West Africa, East and Central Africa and North Africa respectively.
- Business persons constituted 10,5% (1 744) of tourists from 'other' African countries and 2,3% (13 542) from SADC countries. North Africa had the highest proportion, 18,5% (282) of its tourists who came to South Africa for business purposes, followed closely by East and Central Africa, 13,7% (848).
- Students constituted 2,8% (461) of tourists from 'other' African countries compared with 0,3% (2 046) from SADC countries. North Africa, 5,5% (84) had the highest proportion of its tourists who came to South Africa for study purposes.
- Medical treatment tourists constituted 0,5% (89) of tourists from 'other' African countries, while those from SADC constituted 0,1% (415) of its tourists. West Africa, 0,3% (27) had the highest proportion of its tourists who came for medical treatment.

1.2.4 Sex and age distribution

Table 5 on page 19 shows that in November 2018, there were 483 988 (55,3%) male and 391 184 (44,7%) female tourists. Overseas tourists were made up of 137 711 (53,7%) male tourists and 118 826 (46,3%) female tourists. There were 334 470 (55,7%) male and 266 037 (44,3%) female tourists from SADC countries. Tourists from 'other' African countries were made up of 10 871 (65,6%) male and 5 698 (34,4%) female tourists.

The ages of the tourists were categorised into seven broad groups. The results presented in Table 5 on page 19 show that the majority of tourists were aged between 25 and 34 years [241 825 (27,6%)], followed closely by the age group 35 to 44 years [233 941 (26,7%)]. Taking the regions of residence into consideration, the results show that the highest proportion of tourists from SADC countries [186 418 (31,0%)] and those from 'other' African countries [5 382 (32,5%)] were aged between 35 and 44 years, followed by those aged between 25 and 34 years for both SADC [185 155 (30,8%)] and 'other' African countries [4 947 (29,9%)]. The median ages of tourists from SADC and 'other' African countries were 36 and 38 years respectively. Most tourists from overseas [53 165 (20,7%)] were aged between 55 and 64 years, followed by those aged between 25 and 34 years, [51 538 (20,1%)], with a median age of 48 years. The proportion of tourists aged less than 15 years was higher among tourists from SADC countries, 4,0% (24 132) compared to those from overseas countries, 3,0% (7 738), and those from 'other' African countries, 2,8% (467).

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 16,6% (22 806) of male and 17,9% (21 249) 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 SADC countries, elderly tourists made up 2,2% (7 195) and 3,2% (8 606) of male and female tourists respectively; while in 'other' African countries elderly tourists made up 2,5% (269) and 3,2% (183) of male and female tourists respectively.

2. Figures

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

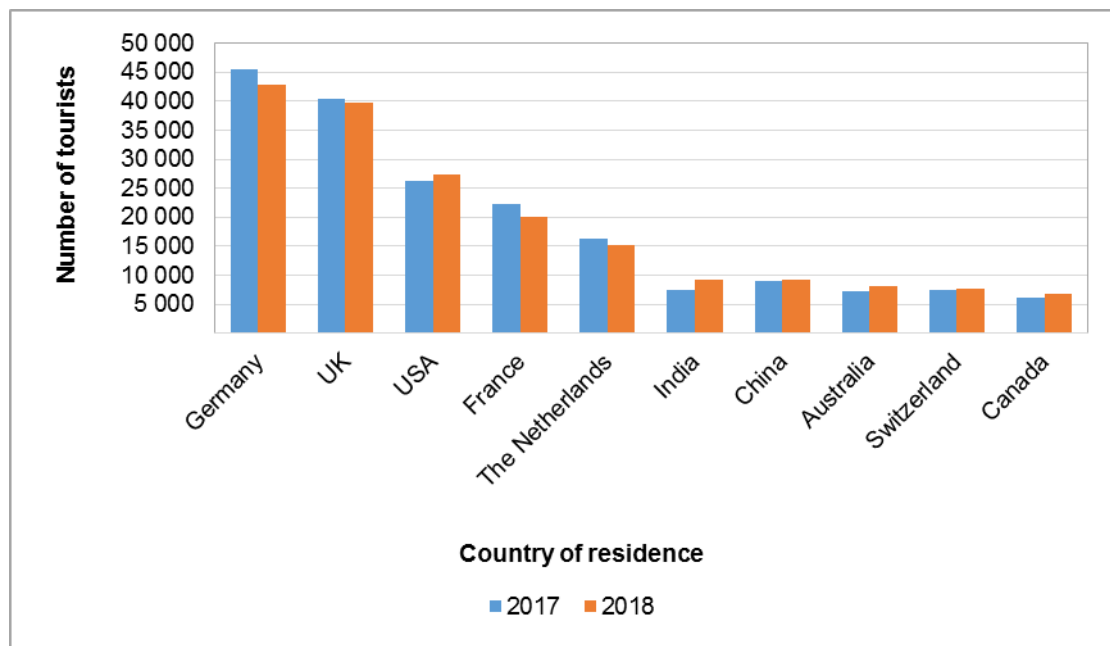


Figure 2 – Number of tourists from the ten leading Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries in November 2017 and November 2018

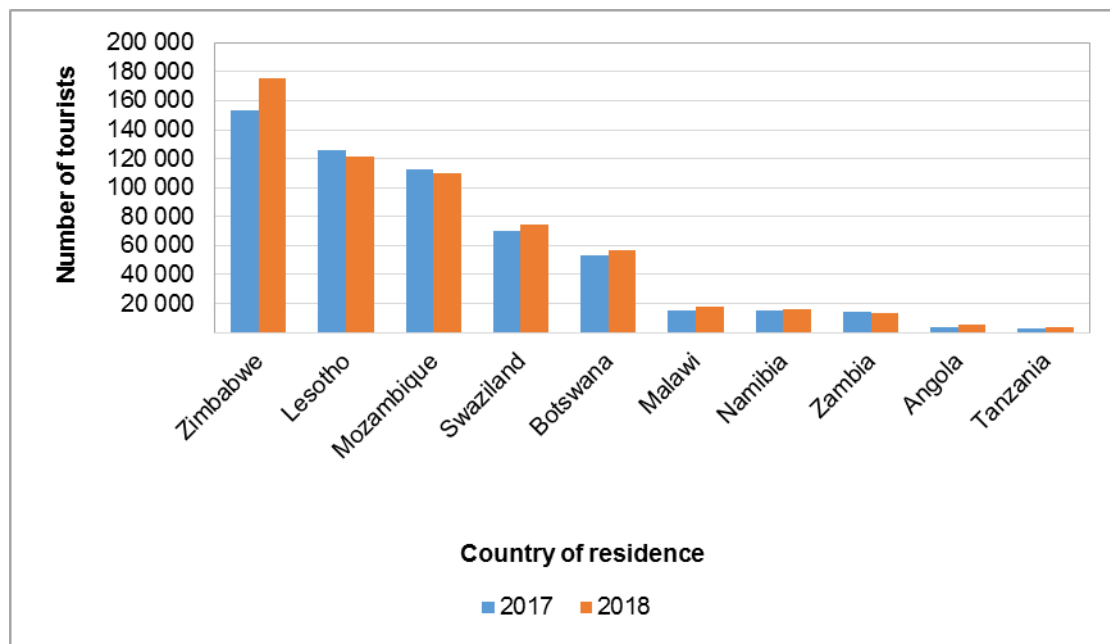
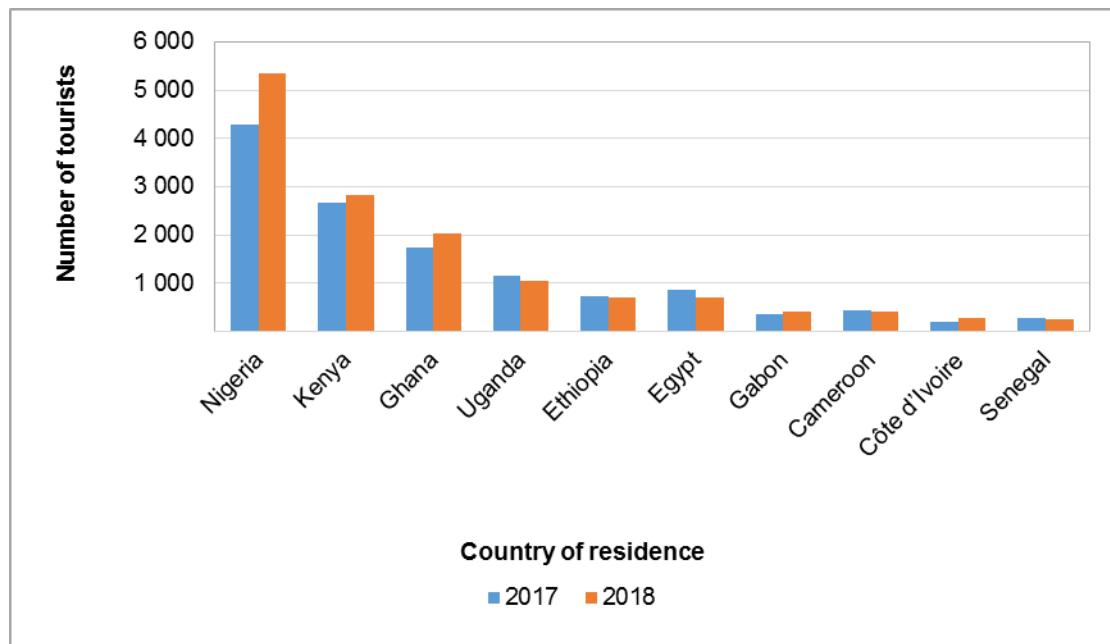


Figure 3 – Number of tourists from the ten leading 'other' African countries in November 2017 and November 2018



3. Tables

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

Travel Direction	November 2017	October 2018	November 2018	% Change Oct – Nov 2018	% Change Nov 2017 – Nov 2018
Total	3 441 487	3 512 296	3 504 147	-0,2	1,8
South African residents	830 885	955 964	892 799	-6,6	7,5
Arrivals	409 446	502 528	436 946	-13,1	6,7
Departures	420 665	452 652	455 068	0,5	8,2
Transits	774	784	785	0,1	1,4
Foreign travellers	2 610 602	2 556 332	2 611 348	2,2	0,03
Arrivals	1 329 025	1 323 652	1 341 316	1,3	0,9
Departures	1 215 768	1 166 107	1 200 690	3,0	-1,2
Transits	65 809	66 573	69 342	4,2	5,4
Foreign arrivals	1 329 025	1 323 652	1 341 316	1,3	0,9
Non-visitors	83 233	81 132	78 770	-2,9	-5,4
Visitors	1 245 792	1 242 520	1 262 546	1,6	1,3
Visitors	1 245 792	1 242 520	1 262 546	1,6	1,3
Arrivals only	291 069	310 428	307 132	-1,1	5,5
Single trips	457 920	446 333	481 538	7,9	5,2
Multiple trips	496 803	485 759	473 876	-2,4	-4,6
Visitors	1 245 792	1 242 520	1 262 546	1,6	1,3
Same-day	396 826	380 474	387 374	1,8	-2,4
Overnight (Tourists)	848 966	862 046	875 172	1,5	3,1

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	Total		
Total	3 504 147	253 397	29 521	772 837	6 071	1 061 826	2 400 577	41 744
South African residents	892 799	52 606	17 724	258 094	3 310	331 734	532 440	28 625
Arrivals	436 946	26 622	8 423	127 982	1 562	164 589	258 828	13 529
Departures	455 068	25 980	9 301	129 331	1 748	166 360	273 612	15 096
Transits	785	4	-	781	-	785	-	-
Foreign travellers	2 611 348	200 791	11 797	514 743	2 761	730 092	1 868 137	13 119
Arrivals	1 341 316	99 607	5 502	219 355	1 084	325 548	1 007 513	8 255
Departures	1 200 690	101 049	6 295	226 181	1 677	335 202	860 624	4 864
Transits	69 342	135	-	69 207	-	69 342	-	-
Visitors	1 262 546	95 995	4 707	208 923	913	310 538	948 652	3 356
Same-day	387 374	736	39	20 053	103	20 931	365 851	592
Overnight (Tourists)	875 172	95 259	4 668	188 870	810	289 607	582 801	2 764

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

Country of residence	November		Air				Road	Sea	
	2017	2018	Cape Town	King Shaka	O.R. Tambo	Other			Total
Total	848 966	875 172	95 259	4 668	188 870	810	289 607	582 801	2 764
Overseas	259 805	256 537	86 825	4 120	135 466	601	227 012	27 094	2 431
Europe	180 402	171 540	66 441	2 810	79 358	249	148 858	20 644	2 038
Austria	3 860	3 859	1 849	48	1 406	5	3 308	452	99
Belgium	5 665	5 963	1 976	61	2 746	7	4 790	1 163	10
Denmark	2 762	2 473	727	39	1 547	1	2 314	145	14
France	22 354	20 063	6 278	161	8 966	22	15 427	4 606	30
Germany	45 558	42 851	18 458	345	17 671	21	36 495	5 243	1 113
Ireland	2 975	3 196	1 487	90	1 432	3	3 012	169	15
Italy	4 835	5 033	1 700	83	2 858	15	4 656	360	17
Norway	2 332	2 138	1 118	45	859	-	2 022	116	-
Portugal	3 611	2 968	624	22	1 353	10	2 009	953	6
Spain	3 312	3 578	837	49	2 247	17	3 150	410	18
Sweden	6 401	5 829	2 529	61	2 880	10	5 480	343	6
Switzerland	7 536	7 698	3 794	85	2 735	30	6 644	814	240
The Netherlands	16 371	15 247	5 974	118	6 473	7	12 572	2 630	45
UK	40 489	39 672	14 643	1 421	20 994	82	37 140	2 154	378
Other	12 341	10 972	4 447	182	5 191	19	9 839	1 086	47
North America	32 520	34 244	9 590	238	20 914	247	30 989	3 132	123
Canada	6 215	6 870	2 320	53	3 353	44	5 770	1 011	89
USA	26 305	27 374	7 270	185	17 561	203	25 219	2 121	34
Central and South America	8 281	9 555	980	19	7 937	27	8 963	555	37
Argentina	881	1 437	33	-	1 315	-	1 348	73	16
Brazil	5 482	5 979	575	4	5 044	20	5 643	322	14
Mexico	282	462	101	5	326	6	438	22	2
Other	1 636	1 677	271	10	1 252	1	1 534	138	5

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

Country of residence	November		Air					Road	Sea
	2017	2018	Cape Town	King Shaka	O.R. Tambo	Other	Total		
Australasia	8 351	9 137	1 135	196	7 073	41	8 445	498	194
Australia	7 284	8 143	969	161	6 347	38	7 515	437	191
New Zealand	1 048	966	162	35	706	2	905	58	3
Other	19	28	4	-	20	1	25	3	-
Middle East	4 255	4 096	1 261	30	2 615	9	3 915	176	5
Israel	2 356	2 566	680	3	1 769	7	2 459	103	4
Lebanon	270	336	127	8	179	-	314	22	-
Saudi Arabia	499	412	111	3	293	-	407	5	-
Other	1 130	782	343	16	374	2	735	46	1
Asia	25 996	27 965	7 418	827	17 569	28	25 842	2 089	34
Bangladesh	573	572	75	60	239	-	374	198	-
China	9 000	9 274	2 345	44	6 620	-	9 009	262	3
India	7 418	9 315	2 260	472	5 848	6	8 586	712	17
Japan	2 048	1 882	483	41	1 267	4	1 795	87	-
Malaysia	761	585	237	30	284	1	552	30	3
Pakistan	1 259	1 361	315	96	560	-	971	390	-
Philippines	581	562	135	16	347	6	504	56	2
Singapore	806	876	374	6	476	11	867	8	1
South Korea	1 663	1 359	495	17	713	-	1 225	128	6
Thailand	384	486	165	6	297	-	468	17	1
Other	1 503	1 693	534	39	918	-	1 491	201	1
Africa	587 931	617 076	8 330	537	52 222	207	61 296	555 447	333
SADC	572 896	600 507	5 968	501	39 341	182	45 992	554 184	331
Angola	3 667	5 151	1 809	15	2 865	23	4 712	435	4
Botswana	53 622	57 004	37	118	2 887	37	3 079	53 894	31
DRC	2 134	2 458	99	-	1 818	3	1 920	538	-
Lesotho	125 427	121 722	22	2	618	-	642	120 978	102

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

Country of residence	November		Air				Road	Sea	
	2017	2018	Cape Town	King Shaka	O.R. Tambo	Other			Total
Madagascar	214	262	12	-	247	-	259	3	-
Malawi	15 381	17 911	19	3	2 054	7	2 083	15 820	8
Mauritius	2 114	2 277	484	90	1 601	2	2 177	100	-
Mozambique	112 832	109 669	5	1	2 977	13	2 996	106 668	5
Namibia	15 410	15 726	2 163	183	3 137	18	5 501	10 141	84
Seychelles	926	886	17	4	862	-	883	3	-
Swaziland	70 167	74 540	19	24	626	-	669	73 847	24
Tanzania	3 085	3 537	155	1	1 923	1	2 080	1 454	3
Zambia	14 215	13 638	43	42	3 582	12	3 679	9 958	1
Zimbabwe	153 702	175 726	1 084	18	14 144	66	15 312	160 345	69
'Other' African	15 035	16 569	2 362	36	12 881	25	15 304	1 263	2
East and Central Africa	5 975	6 209	1 057	11	4 591	16	5 675	534	-
Burundi	112	74	18	-	55	-	73	1	-
Cameroon	427	402	71	-	308	-	379	23	-
Central African Republic	15	26	12	-	14	-	26	-	-
Chad	35	32	4	-	27	-	31	1	-
Comoros	24	25	5	-	20	-	25	-	-
Congo	220	239	91	-	139	5	235	4	-
Djibouti	14	15	4	-	11	-	15	-	-
Equatorial Guinea	27	37	9	-	28	-	37	-	-
Eritrea	50	49	6	-	39	-	45	4	-
Ethiopia	731	706	84	7	553	-	644	62	-
Gabon	344	417	83	-	328	1	412	5	-
Kenya	2 674	2 815	534	2	2 071	1	2 608	207	-
Réunion	3	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
Rwanda	73	163	16	-	133	7	156	7	-
São Tomé and Príncipe	10	15	5	-	9	-	14	1	-
Somalia	54	152	22	-	28	-	50	102	-
Uganda	1 162	1 041	93	2	828	1	924	117	-

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

Country of residence	November		Air					Road	Sea
	2017	2018	Cape Town	King Shaka	O.R. Tambo	Other	Total		
West Africa	7 468	8 834	869	15	7 274	5	8 163	669	2
Benin	203	147	25	-	118	-	143	4	-
Burkina Faso	87	81	13	-	66	-	79	2	-
Cape Verde Island	48	43	9	-	33	-	42	1	-
Côte d'Ivoire	199	287	49	-	232	-	281	6	-
Gambia	48	55	12	-	40	-	52	3	-
Ghana	1 733	2 035	144	-	1 800	-	1 944	91	-
Guinea	153	169	10	-	73	-	83	86	-
Guinea-Bissau	13	12	2	-	6	-	8	4	-
Liberia	48	68	19	-	49	-	68	-	-
Mali	152	117	19	-	48	-	67	50	-
Mauritania	31	29	8	-	21	-	29	-	-
Niger	40	44	13	-	30	1	44	-	-
Nigeria	4 291	5 353	510	8	4 424	4	4 946	405	2
Saint Helena	30	12	-	-	12	-	12	-	-
Senegal	290	240	21	7	206	-	234	6	-
Sierra Leone	61	87	11	-	65	-	76	11	-
Togo	41	55	4	-	51	-	55	-	-
North Africa	1 592	1 526	436	10	1 016	4	1 466	60	-
Algeria	148	123	41	-	76	4	121	2	-
Egypt	853	693	131	4	533	-	668	25	-
Libya	88	86	48	1	22	-	71	15	-
Morocco	163	218	70	4	136	-	210	8	-
South Sudan	55	73	4	-	68	-	72	1	-
The Sudan	195	224	109	1	109	-	219	5	-
Tunisia	89	108	32	-	72	-	104	4	-
Western Sahara	1	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
Unspecified	1 230	1 559	104	11	1 182	2	1 299	260	-

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

Country of residence	November		Purpose of visit (November 2018)			
	2017	2018	Business	Holiday	Study	Medical treatment
Total	848 966	875 172	26 075	845 422	3 046	629
Overseas	259 805	256 537	10 628	245 249	539	121
Europe	180 402	171 540	6 433	164 762	257	88
Austria	3 860	3 859	82	3 769	8	-
Belgium	5 665	5 963	196	5 752	11	4
Denmark	2 762	2 473	90	2 378	4	1
France	22 354	20 063	710	19 316	33	4
Germany	45 558	42 851	1 047	41 734	67	3
Ireland	2 975	3 196	142	3 048	4	2
Italy	4 835	5 033	337	4 682	14	-
Norway	2 332	2 138	73	2 054	11	-
Portugal	3 611	2 968	109	2 856	3	-
Spain	3 312	3 578	200	3 373	5	-
Sweden	6 401	5 829	222	5 598	6	3
Switzerland	7 536	7 698	132	7 554	12	-
The Netherlands	16 371	15 247	361	14 853	22	11
UK	40 489	39 672	2 008	37 578	29	57
Other	12 341	10 972	724	10 217	28	3
North America	32 520	34 244	1 197	32 950	77	20
Canada	6 215	6 870	255	6 604	8	3
USA	26 305	27 374	942	26 346	69	17
Central and South America	8 281	9 555	188	9 334	31	2
Argentina	881	1 437	27	1 408	2	-
Brazil	5 482	5 979	76	5 881	20	2
Mexico	282	462	15	443	4	-
Other	1 636	1 677	70	1 602	5	-

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

Country of residence	November		Purpose of visit (November 2018)			
	2017	2018	Business	Holiday	Study	Medical treatment
Australasia	8 351	9 137	265	8 868	1	3
Australia	7 284	8 143	233	7 908	1	1
New Zealand	1 048	966	28	937	-	1
Other	19	28	4	23	-	1
Middle East	4 255	4 096	343	3 717	33	3
Israel	2 356	2 566	139	2 424	3	-
Lebanon	270	336	60	275	1	-
Saudi Arabia	499	412	36	371	5	-
Other	1 130	782	108	647	24	3
Asia	25 996	27 965	2 202	25 618	140	5
Bangladesh	573	572	39	531	2	-
China	9 000	9 274	618	8 643	13	-
India	7 418	9 315	793	8 473	45	4
Japan	2 048	1 882	185	1 694	3	-
Malaysia	761	585	63	519	3	-
Pakistan	1 259	1 361	112	1 238	10	1
Philippines	581	562	45	499	18	-
Singapore	806	876	42	834	-	-
South Korea	1 663	1 359	101	1 245	13	-
Thailand	384	486	21	457	8	-
Other	1 503	1 693	183	1 485	25	-
Africa	587 931	617 076	15 286	598 779	2 507	504
SADC	572 896	600 507	13 542	584 504	2 046	415
Angola	3 667	5 151	108	4 931	62	50
Botswana	53 622	57 004	835	55 875	169	125
DRC	2 134	2 458	122	2 204	86	46
Lesotho	125 427	121 722	1 081	119 897	743	1

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

Country of residence	November		Purpose of visit (November 2018)			
	2017	2018	Business	Holiday	Study	Medical treatment
Madagascar	214	262	36	219	5	2
Malawi	15 381	17 911	427	17 450	23	11
Mauritius	2 114	2 277	97	2 159	17	4
Mozambique	112 832	109 669	2 854	106 736	49	30
Namibia	15 410	15 726	2 416	13 051	220	39
Seychelles	926	886	17	868	-	1
Swaziland	70 167	74 540	270	73 987	278	5
Tanzania	3 085	3 537	144	3 350	32	11
Zambia	14 215	13 638	1 886	11 666	52	34
Zimbabwe	153 702	175 726	3 249	172 111	310	56
'Other' African	15 035	16 569	1 744	14 275	461	89
East and Central Africa	5 975	6 209	848	5 094	206	61
Burundi	112	74	11	59	4	-
Cameroon	427	402	53	305	27	17
Central African Republic	15	26	9	17	-	-
Chad	35	32	4	26	1	1
Comoros	24	25	2	23	-	-
Congo	220	239	35	157	42	5
Djibouti	14	15	2	13	-	-
Equatorial Guinea	27	37	6	27	3	1
Eritrea	50	49	6	43	-	-
Ethiopia	731	706	85	598	17	6
Gabon	344	417	18	366	29	4
Kenya	2 674	2 815	455	2 296	54	10
Réunion	3	1	-	-	-	1
Rwanda	73	163	14	143	2	4
São Tomé and Príncipe	10	15	2	13	-	-
Somalia	54	152	12	138	1	1
Uganda	1 162	1 041	134	870	26	11

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

Country of residence	November		Purpose of visit (November 2018)			
	2017	2018	Business	Holiday	Study	Medical treatment
West Africa	7 468	8 834	614	8 022	171	27
Benin	203	147	20	119	6	2
Burkina Faso	87	81	10	68	3	-
Cape Verde Island	48	43	4	39	-	-
Côte d'Ivoire	199	287	50	232	3	2
Gambia	48	55	13	37	3	2
Ghana	1 733	2 035	158	1 851	22	4
Guinea	153	169	8	158	2	1
Guinea-Bissau	13	12	-	11	-	1
Liberia	48	68	17	51	-	-
Mali	152	117	15	99	3	-
Mauritania	31	29	3	26	-	-
Niger	40	44	7	37	-	-
Nigeria	4 291	5 353	256	4 961	121	15
Saint Helena	30	12	-	12	-	-
Senegal	290	240	37	203	-	-
Sierra Leone	61	87	9	72	6	-
Togo	41	55	7	46	2	-
North Africa	1 592	1 526	282	1 159	84	1
Algeria	148	123	30	86	6	1
Egypt	853	693	126	547	20	-
Libya	88	86	4	45	37	-
Morocco	163	218	39	174	5	-
South Sudan	55	73	7	65	1	-
The Sudan	195	224	52	161	11	-
Tunisia	89	108	23	81	4	-
Western Sahara	1	1	1	-	-	-
Unspecified	1 230	1 559	161	1 394	-	4

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

Sex	Age group	November		Region (November 2018)			
		2017	2018	Overseas	SADC	'Other' African	Unspecified
All	Total	848 966	875 172	256 537	600 507	16 569	1 559
	0-14	29 649	32 341	7 738	24 132	467	4
	15-24	72 240	72 471	11 522	60 062	873	14
	25-34	236 376	241 825	51 538	185 155	4 947	185
	35-44	221 122	233 941	41 649	186 418	5 382	492
	45-54	136 080	139 685	46 870	89 211	3 073	531
	55-64	92 301	94 579	53 165	39 728	1 375	311
	65+	61 198	60 330	44 055	15 801	452	22
Male	Total	476 471	483 988	137 711	334 470	10 871	936
	0-14	14 774	16 077	3 988	11 871	218	-
	15-24	36 647	37 094	5 139	31 458	489	8
	25-34	130 682	130 923	26 094	101 749	2 974	106
	35-44	136 298	140 869	25 531	111 281	3 773	284
	45-54	78 948	80 184	26 935	50 708	2 217	324
	55-64	48 114	48 556	27 218	20 208	931	199
	65+	31 008	30 285	22 806	7 195	269	15
Female	Total	372 495	391 184	118 826	266 037	5 698	623
	0-14	14 875	16 264	3 750	12 261	249	4
	15-24	35 593	35 377	6 383	28 604	384	6
	25-34	105 694	110 902	25 444	83 406	1 973	79
	35-44	84 824	93 072	16 118	75 137	1 609	208
	45-54	57 132	59 501	19 935	38 503	856	207
	55-64	44 187	46 023	25 947	19 520	444	112
	65+	30 190	30 045	21 249	8 606	183	7

4. Annexures

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

Country of residence	January – November			
	2017	2018	Difference 2017 – 2018	% change 2017 – 2018
Total	9 293 618	9 464 950	171 332	1,8
Overseas	2 451 405	2 412 743	-38 662	-1,6
Europe	1 493 116	1 451 523	-41 593	-2,8
Austria	26 442	26 585	143	,5
Belgium	48 932	51 973	3 041	6,2
Denmark	26 259	25 279	-980	-3,7
France	181 801	172 561	-9 240	-5,1
Germany	316 651	309 901	-6 750	-2,1
Ireland	27 581	27 460	-121	-0,4
Italy	55 364	57 468	2 104	3,8
Norway	16 921	17 017	96	0,6
Portugal	34 965	28 524	-6 441	-18,4
Spain	37 112	38 750	1 638	4,4
Sweden	40 025	39 773	-252	-0,6
Switzerland	52 614	52 355	-259	-0,5
The Netherlands	144 558	132 371	-12 187	-8,4
UK	397 265	380 692	-16 573	-4,2
Other	86 626	90 814	4 188	4,8
North America	396 787	403 048	6 261	1,6
Canada	60 024	60 717	693	1,2
USA	336 763	342 331	5 568	1,7
Central and South America	96 450	106 234	9 784	10,1
Argentina	13 954	18 079	4 125	29,6
Brazil	59 701	63 816	4 115	6,9
Chile	5 688	6 242	554	9,7
Other	17 107	18 097	990	5,8

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

Country of residence	January – November			
	2017	2018	Difference 2017 – 2018	% change 2017 – 2018
Australasia	118 708	117 466	-1 242	-1,0
Australia	103 499	104 027	528	0,5
New Zealand	14 892	13 200	-1 692	-11,4
Other	317	239	-78	-24,6
Middle East	52 297	46 355	-5 942	-11,4
Iran	5 089	3 146	-1 943	-38,2
Israel	23 691	24 124	433	1,8
Saudi Arabia	10 756	7 579	-3 177	-29,5
Other	12 761	11 506	-1 255	-9,8
Asia	294 047	288 117	-5 930	-2,0
Bangladesh	4 735	5 353	618	13,1
China	91 793	91 230	-563	-0,6
India	89 882	86 405	-3 477	-3,9
Japan	25 645	25 544	-101	-0,4
Malaysia	8 344	6 783	-1 561	-18,7
Pakistan	14 310	13 786	-524	-3,7
Philippines	6 625	6 673	48	0,7
Singapore	9 562	7 952	-1 610	-16,8
South Korea	20 339	20 154	-185	-0,9
Thailand	6 341	7 158	817	12,9
Other	16 471	17 079	608	3,7
Africa	6 830 492	7 039 854	209 362	3,1
SADC	6 672 570	6 879 844	207 274	3,1
Angola	42 006	58 068	16 062	38,2
Botswana	587 185	598 399	11 214	1,9
DRC	25 558	30 541	4 983	19,5
Lesotho	1 609 457	1 606 663	-2 794	-0,2

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

Country of residence	January – November			
	2017	2018	Difference 2017 – 2018	% change 2017 – 2018
Madagascar	2 305	2 380	75	3,3
Malawi	159 982	181 803	21 821	13,6
Mauritius	17 475	17 766	291	1,7
Mozambique	1 226 919	1 244 228	17 309	1,4
Namibia	182 196	175 204	-6 992	-3,8
Seychelles	7 413	5 343	-2 070	-27,9
Swaziland	792 703	795 036	2 333	0,3
Tanzania	32 742	32 764	22	0,1
Zambia	156 176	149 881	-6 295	-4,0
Zimbabwe	1 830 453	1 981 768	151 315	8,3
'Other' African	157 922	160 010	2 088	1,3
East and Central Africa	65 931	64 500	-1 431	-2,2
Burundi	806	738	-68	-8,4
Cameroon	4 707	4 647	-60	-1,3
Central African Republic	131	161	30	22,9
Chad	318	312	-6	-1,9
Comoros	210	280	70	33,3
Congo	3 090	2 473	-617	-20,0
Djibouti	121	99	-22	-18,2
Equatorial Guinea	416	338	-78	-18,8
Eritrea	604	608	4	0,7
Ethiopia	7 978	8 461	483	6,1
Gabon	7 103	5 790	-1 313	-18,5
Kenya	26 302	25 744	-558	-2,1
Réunion	68	18	-50	-73,5
Rwanda	888	999	111	12,5
São Tomé and Príncipe	69	110	41	59,4
Somalia	519	1 335	816	157,2
Uganda	12 601	12 387	-214	-1,7

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

Country of residence	January – November			
	2017	2018	Difference 2017 – 2018	% change 2017 – 2018
West Africa	76 761	81 065	4 304	5,6
Benin	1 611	1 389	-222	-13,8
Burkina Faso	738	672	-66	-8,9
Cape Verde Island	560	346	-214	-38,2
Côte d'Ivoire	2 294	2 533	239	10,4
Gambia	536	484	-52	-9,7
Ghana	16 170	19 049	2 879	17,8
Guinea	1 391	1 465	74	5,3
Guinea-Bissau	143	138	-5	-3,5
Liberia	627	614	-13	-2,1
Mali	1 466	1 313	-153	-10,4
Mauritania	233	201	-32	-13,7
Niger	311	301	-10	-3,2
Nigeria	46 842	49 039	2 197	4,7
Saint Helena	231	129	-102	-44,2
Senegal	2 447	2 223	-224	-9,2
Sierra Leone	642	609	-33	-5,1
Togo	519	560	41	7,9
North Africa	15 230	14 445	-785	-5,2
Algeria	1 140	976	-164	-14,4
Egypt	7 797	7 075	-722	-9,3
Libya	899	794	-105	-11,7
Morocco	1 553	1 795	242	15,6
South Sudan	751	751	-	0,0
The Sudan	1 987	2 062	75	3,8
Tunisia	1 083	970	-113	-10,4
Western Sahara	20	22	2	10,0
Unspecified	11 721	12 353	632	5,4

5. Explanatory notes

NOTE 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 departed from or 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 Airports 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 November 2018, the DHA data was 2,6% higher than that of ACSA.

5.5 Limitations

5.5.1 Outbound tourists

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.

5.5.2 Purpose of visit

The holiday category includes tourists who came for vacation, visiting friends and relatives, shopping and other personal reasons such as attending weddings. While it's possible to separate 'visiting friends and relatives' from the broad category of Holiday, shopping and other reasons for visiting South Africa are all combined with vacation in the DHA movement control system. Discussions are in progress with the Department of Home Affairs to capture vacation and shopping as separate categories for a clearer breakdown of tourists by purpose of visit.

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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Enquiries

Telephone: (012) 310 8600 (user information services)
(012) 406 3301 (technical enquiries)
(012) 310 8251 (orders)
(012) 310 4883/4885/8018 (library)

Fax: (012) 310 8500/ 8495 (user information services)
(012) 310 6937 (technical enquiries)

Email: RamadimetjaM@statssa.gov.za (technical enquiries)
info@statssa.gov.za (user information services)

Postal address: Private Bag X44, Pretoria, 0001

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