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Domestic Tourism Survey

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1. Summary of key findings

The number of day trips undertaken in Quarter 1 and Quarter 2 was almost the same (3,8 million). There was a decrease in the number of overnight trips between Quarter 1 and Quarter 2, from 6,6 million to 5,4 million, respectively.

During Quarter 1 and Quarter 2, most day travellers visited Gauteng, Western Cape and Limpopo. Limpopo was the main destination for tourists in both Quarter 1 and Quarter 2. In Quarter 1, the second most visited province was Gauteng and Eastern Cape. In Quarter 2, the second most visited province remained Gauteng followed by KwaZulu-Natal.

Day trips expenditure decreased from R2,8 billion in Quarter 1 to R2,3 billion in Quarter 2. On the other hand, overnight expenditure decreased from R9,3 billion in Quarter 1 to R7,0 billion in Quarter 2.

In both quarters, day travellers spent most of their money on shopping, domestic transport, food and beverages. The same pattern of spending was observed during overnight trips.

In Quarter 1 and Quarter 2, most day travellers undertook trips mainly for shopping, followed by visiting friends and relatives and leisure. In both quarters, most tourists undertook trips to visit friends and relatives followed by leisure and religious purposes.

The modes of transport mostly used during day and overnight trips, in both quarters, were cars followed by taxis.

Staying with friends and relatives was used by tourists as the principal form of accommodation during their stay at their destinations, followed by those who used holiday homes, hotels and self-catering establishments.

PJ Lehohla
Statistician-General

2. Key findings

Table 1: Summary table of key findings – Most recent trips

Key metrics		2016	
		Quarter 1	Quarter 2
Travel indicators			
Travel incidence			
Most recent trips by quarter	Day trips	3 773	3 759
	Overnight trips	6 584	5 435
Main destination	Day trips	Gauteng: 23,0% Western Cape: 14,3% Limpopo: 13,6%	Gauteng: 25,2% Limpopo: 16,7% Western Cape: 11,1%
	Overnight trips	Limpopo: 17,4% Gauteng: 14,8% Eastern Cape: 14,3%	Limpopo: 17,9% Gauteng: 13,5% KwaZulu-Natal: 12,7%
Total quarterly spend	Day trips	R2,8 billion	R2,3 billion
	Overnight trips	R9,3 billion	R7,0 billion
Expenditure	Day trips	Shopping: R1,7 billion Domestic transport: R609 million Food and beverages: R330 million	Shopping: R1,2 billion Domestic transport: R562 million Food and beverages: R347 million
	Overnight trips	Shopping: R3,2 billion Domestic transport: R3,0 billion Food and beverages: R1,6 billion	Domestic transport: R2,5 billion Shopping: R2,0 billion Food and beverages: R1,1 billion
Main purpose	Day trips	Shopping: 29,3% Visiting friends and relatives: 21,5% Leisure: 12,6%	Shopping: 25,9% Visiting friends and relatives: 21,1% Leisure: 12,2%
	Overnight trips	Visiting friends and relatives: 48,2% Leisure: 18,5% Religion: 9,7%	Visiting friends and relatives: 47,5% Leisure: 15,9% Religion: 5,0%
Mode of transport	Day trips	Car: 61,6% Taxi: 30,3%	Car: 62,6% Taxi: 29,0%
	Overnight	Car: 48,5% Taxi: 38,6%	Car: 48,7% Taxi: 35,3%
Type of accommodation	Overnight	Stayed with friends and relatives: 72,3% Holiday home/second home: 4,5% Self-catering establishment: 3,8%	Stayed with friends and relatives: 75,3% Hotel: 4,2% Self-catering establishment: 4,2%

2.1 Number of most recent day and overnight trips inside South Africa

Table 2: Number of most recent person day and overnight trips, January–June, 2016

Type of trip	Number of most recent person trips (‘000)	
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2
Day trip in South Africa	3 773	3 759
Overnight trip in South Africa	6 584	5 435

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Table 2 indicates that the number of most recent day trips were approximately the same for Quarter 1 and Quarter 2 of 2016 (3,8 million). The number of most recent overnight trips decreased from 6,6 million in Quarter 1 to 5,4 million in Quarter 2.

Table 3a: Number of most recent person day trips, January–June, 2016

Month	Most recent person day trips	
	Number (‘000)	Per cent
Quarter 1		
January	1 144	30,3
February	1 587	42,1
March	1 042	27,6
Total	3 773	100,0
Quarter 2		
April	1 049	27,9
May	1 256	33,4
June	1 453	38,7
Total	3 759	100,0

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Table 3a shows the most recent day trips by quarter for the reference period January to June 2016. In Quarter 1, most day trips were undertaken in February (42,1%), whereas in Quarter 2, most day trips were undertaken in June (38,7%).

Table 3b: Number of most recent person overnight trips, January–June, 2016

Month	Most recent person overnight trips	
	Number ('000)	Per cent
Quarter 1		
January	2 342	35,6
February	1 712	26,0
March	2 530	38,4
Total	6 584	100,0
Quarter 2		
April	1 602	29,5
May	1 863	34,3
June	1 971	36,3
Total	5 435	100,0

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

As displayed in Table 3b, in Quarter 1 of 2016, most overnight trips were undertaken in March (38,4%) while fewer trips were recorded for February (26,0%). In Quarter 2, most overnight trips were undertaken during June (36,3%). April had the least number of overnight trips in Quarter 2 (29,5%).

2.2 Main purpose of trips

Table 4a: Main purpose of most recent day trips, January–June, 2016

Main purpose	Day trip			
	Quarter 1		Quarter 2	
	Number ('000)	Per cent	Number ('000)	Per cent
Leisure	475	12,6	459	12,2
Shopping	1 106	29,3	972	25,9
Sporting	113	3,0	232	6,2
Visiting friends and relatives	811	21,5	793	21,1
Business	195	5,2	179	4,8
Religion	189	5,0	158	4,2
Other*	833	22,1	958	25,5
Unspecified	51	1,4	8	0,2
Total	3 773	100,0	3 759	100,0

*Other' includes 'Funeral', 'Study/educational', 'Medical/health', 'Wellness', 'Child care', 'Cultural occasion' and 'Other social events'

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Table 4a summarises day trips by main purpose for which day trips were undertaken from January to June of 2016. In Quarter 1, most day travellers undertook trips mainly for shopping (29,3%), followed by visiting friends and relatives (VFR) - 21,5%. In Quarter 2, slightly above a quarter (25,9%) of day trips were undertaken for shopping purposes. This reason was followed by visiting friends and relatives (21,1%) and leisure (12,2%).

Table 4b: Main purpose of most recent overnight trips, January–June, 2016

Main purpose	Overnight trip			
	Quarter 1		Quarter 2	
	Number ('000)	Per cent	Number ('000)	Per cent
Leisure	1 221	18,5	865	15,9
Shopping	34	0,5	27	0,5
Sporting	27	0,4	27	0,5
Visiting friends and relatives	3 172	48,2	2 582	47,5
Business	174	2,6	154	2,8
Religion	635	9,7	274	5,0
Other*	1 320	20,1	1 352	24,9
Unspecified	0	0,0	154	2,8
Total	6 584	100,0	5 435	100,0

*Other' includes 'Funeral', 'Study/educational', 'Medical/health', 'Wellness', 'Child care', 'Cultural occasion' and 'Other social events'

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals

In 2016, tourists undertook overnight trips to visit friends and relatives (VFR). In both Quarter 1 and Quarter 2, the percentage of such trips was almost half of all trips taken. Leisure was the second most popular reason provided for travel, with 18,5% in Quarter 1 and 15,9% in Quarter 2.

2.3 Province of destination for trips

Table 5a: Province of destination by most recent day trips, January–June, 2016

Main destination	Day trip			
	Quarter 1		Quarter 2	
	Number ('000)	Per cent	Number ('000)	Per cent
Western Cape	538	14,3	418	11,1
Eastern Cape	507	13,4	405	10,8
Northern Cape	142	3,8	176	4,7
Free State	133	3,5	176	4,7
KwaZulu-Natal	283	7,5	310	8,2
North West	400	10,6	313	8,3
Gauteng	868	23,0	949	25,2
Mpumalanga	305	8,1	326	8,7
Limpopo	515	13,6	629	16,7
Unspecified	82	2,2	58	1,5
Total	3 773	100,0	3 759	100,0

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

The main destination for day trips in Quarter 1 of 2016 was Gauteng (23,0%), followed by Western Cape (14,3%). Eastern Cape and Limpopo had almost the same proportion of persons visiting the provinces (13,4% and 13,6%, respectively). At 3,5%, Free State had the least number of day trips in Quarter 1. In Quarter 2, the results show that Gauteng (25,2%) and Limpopo (16,7%) were the most visited provinces by day travellers.

Table 5b: Province of destination by most recent overnight trips, January–June, 2016

Main destination	Overnight trip			
	Quarter 1		Quarter 2	
	Number ('000)	Per cent	Number ('000)	Per cent
Western Cape	641	9,7	411	7,6
Eastern Cape	943	14,3	619	11,4
Northern Cape	176	2,7	139	2,6
Free State	302	4,6	217	4,0
KwaZulu-Natal	786	11,9	690	12,7
North West	451	6,8	472	8,7
Gauteng	971	14,8	732	13,5
Mpumalanga	616	9,4	644	11,9
Limpopo	1 149	17,4	975	17,9
Unspecified	548	8,3	536	9,9
Total	6 584	100,0	5 435	100,0

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Table 5b shows that in Quarter 1 of 2016, Limpopo (17,4%) and Gauteng (14,8%) were the most visited destinations during overnight trips. A similar trend was observed in Quarter 2, where most tourists also visited Limpopo (17,9%) and Gauteng (13,5%). Northern Cape was the least popular destination in both Quarter 1 and Quarter 2.

2.4 Expenditure

Table 6a: Most recent day trips expenditure, January–June, 2016

Expenditure	Day trips	
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2
	(R'000)	
Food and beverages	330 214	346 976
Domestic transport	608 748	561 735
Recreation and culture	39 130	20 463
Shopping	1 681 261	1 197 785
Other	149 441	152 998
Total	2 808 794	2 279 955

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Table 6a shows that the total spending incurred by day travellers was R2,8 billion in Quarter 1 and R2,3 billion in Quarter 2 of 2016. Both quarters reflect a similar trend, as day travellers spent most of their money on shopping, followed by expenditure on domestic transport and then food and beverages.

Table 6b: Most recent overnight trips expenditure, January–June, 2016

Expenditure	Overnight trips	
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2
	(R'000)	
Accommodation	1 078 567	990 089
Food and beverages	1 564 628	1 073 725
Domestic transport	3 009 787	2 540 064
Recreation and culture	104 505	66 678
Shopping	3 180 093	2 033 060
Other	365 566	278 850
Total	9 303 147	6 982 466

*Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

There was a decrease in overnight expenditure in Quarter 1 and Quarter 2 of 2016 (from R9,3 billion to R7,0 billion). In Quarter 1, most money was spent on shopping, domestic transport and food and beverages with R3,2 billion, R3,0 billion and R1,6 billion, respectively. A different pattern was found in Quarter 2, where most of the expenditure was on domestic transport, shopping and then food and beverages with R2,5 billion, R2,0 billion and R1,1 billion, respectively.

2.5 Main mode of transport used by travellers

Table 7a: Main mode of transport by most recent day trips, January–June, 2016

Mode of transport	Day trips			
	Quarter 1		Quarter 2	
	Number ('000)	Per cent	Number ('000)	Per cent
Air	22	0,6	2	0,0
Bus	123	3,2	174	4,6
Car	2 323	61,6	2 351	62,6
Taxi	1 145	30,3	1 090	29,0
Other	113	3,0	125	3,3
Unspecified	48	1,3	16	0,4
Total	3 773	100,0	3 759	100,0

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Table 7a shows that cars were the mode of transport mostly used by day travellers in both Quarter 1 and Quarter 2. The other main mode of transport that was used most often was taxis, followed by buses.

Table 7b: Main mode of transport by most recent overnight trips, January–June, 2016

Mode of transport	Overnight trips			
	Quarter 1		Quarter 2	
	Number ('000)	Per cent	Number ('000)	Per cent
Air	150	2,3	215	4,0
Bus	536	8,1	490	9,0
Car	3 192	48,5	2 645	48,7
Taxi	2 539	38,6	1 919	35,3
Other	135	2,1	137	2,5
Unspecified	31	0,5	29	0,5
Total	6 584	100,0	5 435	100,0

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Table 7b shows the number of overnight trips undertaken by tourists using different modes of transport in Quarter 1 and Quarter 2 of 2016. Similar to day travellers, tourists used cars in Quarter 1 (48,5%) and Quarter 2 (48,7%). Taxis were the second most used mode of transport with more than a third of tourists choosing this mode in both quarters of 2016.

2.6 Main types of accommodation used by travellers

Table 8: Overnight trips principal type of accommodation, January–June, 2016

Type of accommodation	Quarter 1		Quarter 2	
	('000)	%	('000)	%
Hotel	168	2,6	228	4,2
Guest house/farm	83	1,3	151	2,8
Bed and Breakfast	167	2,5	84	1,5
Lodge	135	2,1	145	2,7
Hostel/Backpackers	15	0,2	23	0,4
Self-catering establishments	247	3,8	230	4,2
Stayed with friends and relatives	4 758	72,3	4 091	75,3
Holiday home/second home	296	4,5	175	3,2
Campsite	213	3,2	62	1,1
Caravan park	11	0,2	13	0,2
Other	375	5,7	156	2,9
Unspecified	114	1,7	77	1,4
Total	6 584	100,0	5 435	100,0

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Tourists stayed with friends and relatives during overnight trips undertaken from January to June 2016. In Quarter 1, 72,3% of tourists stayed with friends and relatives during their trips, while in Quarter 2, about three-quarters (75,3%) of tourists chose the same type of accommodation. The second most preferred type of accommodation in Quarter 1 was holiday home/second home (4,5%). In Quarter 2, the second most preferred type of accommodation was self-catering establishments and hotels with the same proportion of tourists staying in both (4,2%).

3. Definition of terms

Quarter 1 refers to the period January to March.

Quarter 2 refers to the period April to June.

4. Abbreviations

DTS = Domestic Tourism Survey

VFR = Visiting friends and relatives

5. Source of data

1. Domestic Tourism Survey 2016, January – June

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