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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 August 2026. Specific focus is on foreign tourists who entered the country in August 2026. Tourists are classified by region and country of residence. Details of their mode of travel, purpose of visit, age and sex distribution are also provided.

The March, June, September and December releases include summaries of the number of tourists for the current quarter and comparisons with previous periods.

Note: Users are advised that some ports of entry and exit are missing data due to a lack of network coverage at those ports; however, the Department of Home Affairs (DHA) is addressing this issue. Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) is in constant communication with the department, and more ports of entry/exit will have data, thereby improving coverage.

1. Highlights of the results

In August 2026, 3 222 690 travellers (arrivals, departures and transits) entered and exited South Africa. They were made up of 762 531 (23,7%) South African residents and 2 460 159 (76,3%) foreign travellers. Foreign arrivals were made up of 33 530 (2,6%) non-visitors and 1 271 233 (97,4%) visitors. Visitors consisted of 265 947 (20,9%) same-day visitors and 1 005 286 (79,1%) overnight visitors/tourists.

Tourists

Overseas tourists constituted 20,2% (203 376) of all tourists. United States of America (USA) (37 134), United Kingdom (UK) (25 749) and Germany (14 731) contributed 38,2% to overseas tourists. Tourists from Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries constituted 78,3% (787 231) of all tourists. Mozambique (231 398), Zimbabwe (224 686) and Lesotho (135 672) contributed 75,2% to SADC tourists. 'Other' African countries (non-SADC) tourists were 1,4% (13 933) of all tourists. Kenya (4 430), Ghana (2 673) and Nigeria (1 753) contributed 63,6% to 'other' African tourists. The country of residence of 746 (0,1%) tourists was classified as unspecified.

Purpose of visit

'Holiday'¹ continues to be the main purpose of visit. About 97,6% of all the tourists were in South Africa for holiday purposes.



Risenga Maluleke
Statistician-General

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

2. Key findings

2.1 Travellers

2.1.1 Number of travellers

The routine data collected by the DHA immigration officers at the ports of entry into and out of South Africa shows that a total of 3 222 690 travellers (arrivals, departures and transits) passed through South African ports in August 2026. As presented in Table 1 below, these travellers were made up of 762 531 South African residents and 2 460 159 foreign travellers. A further breakdown of the figures for South African residents indicates that there were 373 843 arrivals, 387 967 departures and 721 travellers in transit. The corresponding volumes for foreign arrivals, departures and travellers in transit were 1 304 763, 1 090 191 and 65 205, respectively.

A comparison of movements in July 2026 and August 2026 shows that, for South African residents, the volume of arrivals and departures decreased, while that of transits increased. However, for foreign travellers, the volume of arrivals, departures and transits increased. For South African residents, the volume of arrivals decreased by 17,8% (from 454 834 in July 2026 to 373 843 in August 2026), departures decreased by 0,3% (from 389 093 in July 2026 to 387 967 in August 2026), and transits increased by 25,2% (from 576 in July 2026 to 721 in August 2026). For foreign travellers, arrivals increased by 2,4% (from 1 273 663 in July 2026 to 1 304 763 in August 2026), departures increased by 10,7% (from 984 479 in July 2026 to 1 090 191 in August 2026) and transits increased by 25,2% (from 52 080 in July 2026 to 65 205 in August 2026).

A comparison of movements in August 2025 and August 2026 indicates that, for South African residents, the volume of arrivals and departures decreased, while that of transits increased. For foreign travellers, the volume of arrivals and transits increased, while that of departures decreased. For South African residents, the volume of arrivals decreased by 1,3% (from 378 714 in August 2025 to 373 843 in August 2026), departures decreased by 5,1% (from 408 654 in August 2025 to 387 967 in August 2026) whereas transits increased by 20,0% (from 601 in August 2025 to 721 in August 2026). For foreign travellers, arrivals increased by 3,2% (from 1 263 873 in August 2025 to 1 304 763 in August 2026), departures decreased by 0,7% (from 1 097 522 in August 2025 to 1 090 191 in August 2026) and transits increased by 3,3% (from 63 114 in August 2025 to 65 205 in August 2026).

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

Travel Direction	August 2025	July 2026	August 2026	% Change Jul 2026 – Aug 2026	% Change Aug 2025 – Aug 2026
Total	3 212 478	3 154 725	3 222 690	2,2	0,3
South African residents	787 969	844 503	762 531	-9,7	-3,2
Arrivals	378 714	454 834	373 843	-17,8	-1,3
Departures	408 654	389 093	387 967	-0,3	-5,1
Transits	601	576	721	25,2	20,0
Foreign travellers	2 424 509	2 310 222	2 460 159	6,5	1,5
Arrivals	1 263 873	1 273 663	1 304 763	2,4	3,2
Departures	1 097 522	984 479	1 090 191	10,7	-0,7
Transits	63 114	52 080	65 205	25,2	3,3

2.1.2 Mode of travel of travellers

Information presented in Table 2 below shows the number of South African residents and foreign travellers by travel direction and mode of travel. In August 2026, road was the most common mode of travel used by 2 192 522 (68,0%) of the 3 222 690 travellers. The total number of air travellers was 1 028 914 (31,9%). Compared to air and road, a smaller number of travellers, 1 254 (less than 0,1%) used sea transport into and out of South Africa. Information on arrivals of South African residents shows that 160 367 (42,9%) came by air, 213 460 (57,1%) came by road and 16 (less than 0,1%) came by sea. For departures, 179 061 (46,2%) used air, 208 862 (53,8%) used road and 44 (less than 0,1%) left by sea. All travellers in transit, 721 (100,0%) used air.

In the case of foreign travellers, 301 791 (23,1%) arrived by air, 1 002 360 (76,8%) came by road and 612 (less than 0,1%) arrived by sea. When departing South Africa, 321 769 (29,5%) foreign travellers left by air, 767 840 (70,4%) left by road and 582 (0,1%) left by sea. All travellers in transit, 65 205 (100,0%) used air.

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	OR Tambo	Other	Total		
Total	3 222 690	224 423	21 654	780 232	2 605	1 028 914	2 192 522	1 254
South African residents	762 531	56 016	12 984	269 585	1 564	340 149	422 322	60
Arrivals	373 843	28 575	5 233	125 795	764	160 367	213 460	16
Departures	387 967	27 429	7 751	143 081	800	179 061	208 862	44
Transit	721	12	-	709	-	721	-	-
Foreign travellers	2 460 159	168 407	8 670	510 647	1 041	688 765	1 770 200	1 194
Arrivals	1 304 763	78 708	3 812	218 730	541	301 791	1 002 360	612
Departures	1 090 191	88 745	4 858	227 682	484	321 769	767 840	582
Transit	65 205	954	-	64 235	16	65 205	-	-
Visitors	1 271 233	75 672	3 432	212 296	302	291 702	979 530	1
Same-day	265 947	2 272	33	32 686	55	35 046	230 901	-
Overnight visitors/ Tourists	1 005 286	73 400	3 399	179 610	247	256 656	748 629	1

2.2 Visitors

Detailed information on the departure of travellers is not available in the enhanced Movement Control System (eMCS). Data on the purpose of travel and the number of days South African residents intend to spend or have spent abroad are not collected by the DHA. 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 3 on page 4, in August 2026, 33 530 (2,6%) of foreign arrivals were classified as non-visitors, while 1 271 233 (97,4%) were classified as visitors. Visitors were categorised into three groups:

- Arrivals only – comprising visitors who entered the country in August 2026 but did not depart in August 2026 [523 621 (41,2%)].
- Single trips – visitors who came to South Africa once in August 2026 and left in August 2026 [388 714 (30,6%)].
- Multiple trips – visitors who came to and left South Africa more than once in August 2026 [358 898 (28,2%)].

Visitors were further grouped as same-day visitors and overnight visitors/tourists. In August 2026, there were 265 947 (20,9%) same-day visitors and 1 005 286 (79,1%) tourists. Between July 2026 and August 2026, the volume of same-day visitors increased by 5,9% (from 251 049 in July 2026 to 265 947 in August 2026) and that of tourists increased by 1,4% (from 991 696 in July 2026 to 1 005 286 in August 2026). Between August 2025 and August 2026, the volume of same-day visitors decreased by 11,5% (from 300 487 in August 2025 to 265 947 in August 2026) whereas that of tourists increased by 7,4% (from 935 738 in August 2025 to 1 005 286 in August 2026).

Table 2 on page 3 further shows that of the 265 947 same-day visitors, a majority, 230 901 (86,8%) arrived in the country by road, 35 046 (13,2%) arrived by air and none arrived by sea. Information on tourists shows that 748 629 (74,5%) used road, 256 656 (25,5%) used air and one (less than 0,1%) used sea.

Table 3 – Number of visitors by type of visitor

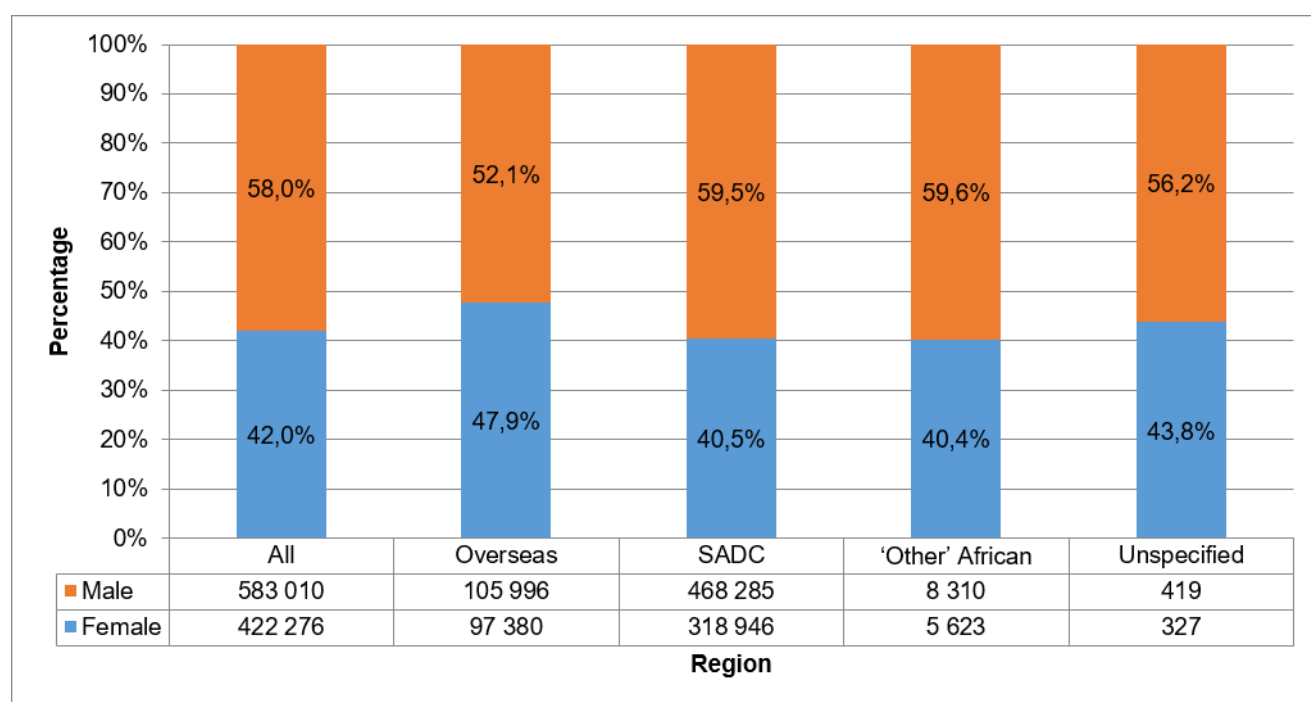
Travel Direction	August 2025	July 2026	August 2026	% Change Jul 2026 – Aug 2026	% Change Aug 2025 – Aug 2026
Foreign arrivals	1 263 873	1 273 663	1 304 763	2,4	3,2
Non-visitors	27 648	30 918	33 530	8,4	21,3
Visitors	1 236 225	1 242 745	1 271 233	2,3	2,8
Visitors	1 236 225	1 242 745	1 271 233	2,3	2,8
Arrivals only	439 215	568 698	523 621	-7,9	19,2
Single trips	401 608	329 499	388 714	18,0	-3,2
Multiple trips	395 402	344 548	358 898	4,2	-9,2
Visitors	1 236 225	1 242 745	1 271 233	2,3	2,8
Same-day	300 487	251 049	265 947	5,9	-11,5
Overnight visitors/Tourists	935 738	991 696	1 005 286	1,4	7,4

2.3 Tourists

2.3.1 Sex and age distribution of tourists

Sex

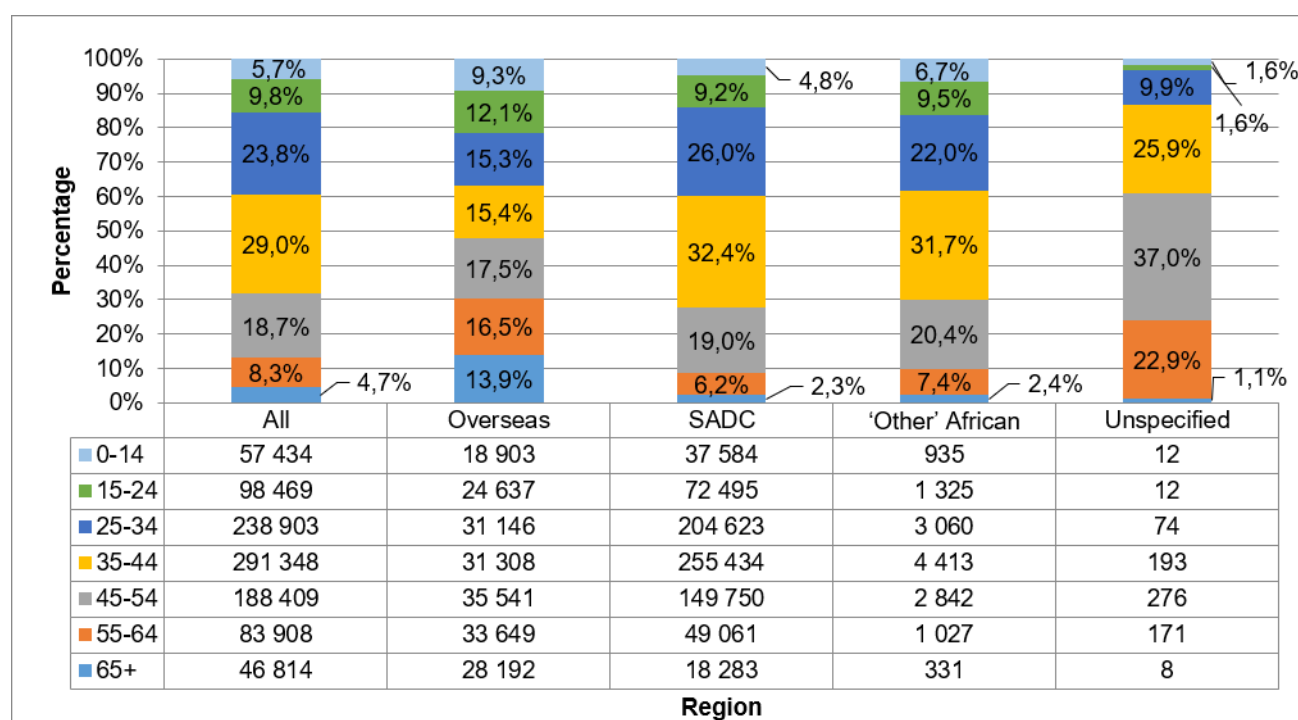
Figure 1 on page 5 shows that there were more male [583 010 (58,0%)] than female [422 276 (42,0%)] tourists. Male tourists constituted the majority of tourists for all three regions, SADC countries [468 285 (59,5%)], overseas countries [105 996 (52,1%)] and 'other' African countries [8 310 (59,6%)]. Similarly, the largest portion of female tourists was from SADC countries [318 946 (40,5%)], followed by overseas countries [97 380 (47,9%)] and 'other' African countries [5 623 (40,4%)].

Figure 1 – Percentage distribution of tourists by region of residence and sex, August 2026

Age

The age distribution indicates that out of all tourists, [5,7% (57 434)] were aged younger than 15; [9,8% (98 469)] were aged between 15 and 24; [23,8% (238 903)] were aged between 25 and 34; [29,0% (291 348)] were aged between 35 and 44; [18,7% (188 409)] were aged between 45 and 54; [8,3% (83 908)] were aged between 55 and 64 and [4,7% (46 814)] were aged 65 and above (see Figure 2 on page 6).

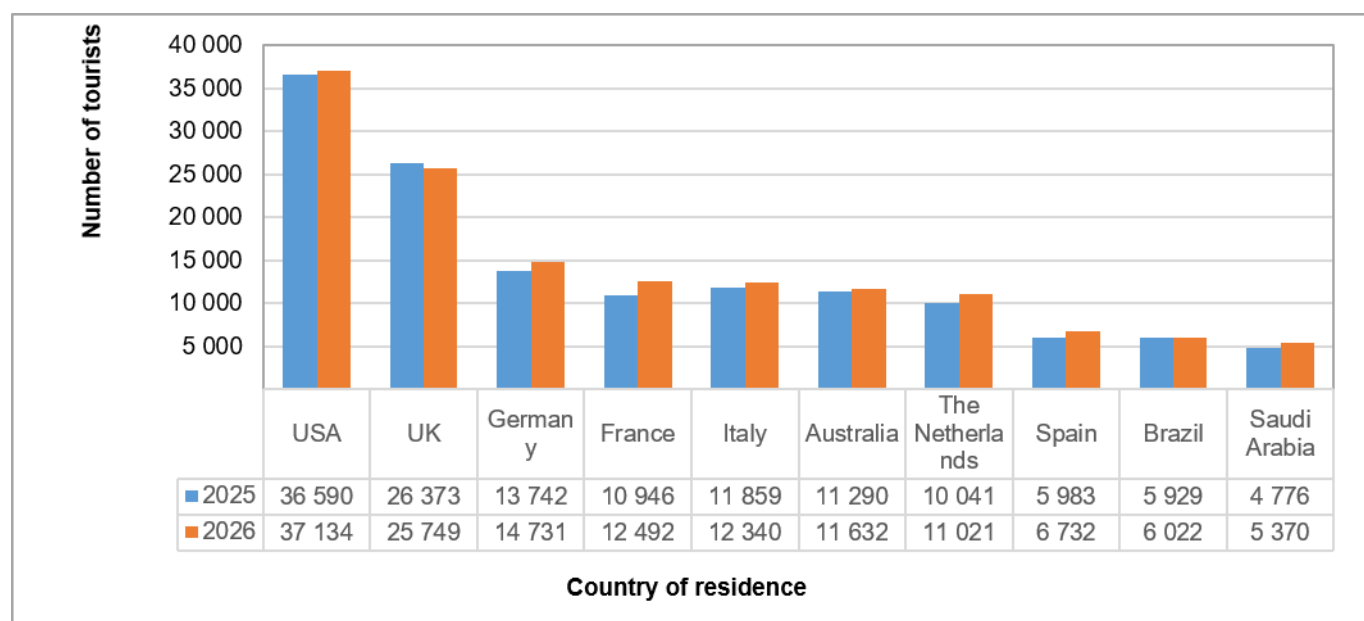
Taking the region of residence into consideration, the results show that the highest proportion of tourists from SADC countries [32,4% (255 434)] and 'other' African countries [31,7% (4 413)] were aged between 35 and 44, whereas those from overseas countries [17,5% (35 541)] were aged between 45 and 54. The second highest proportion of tourists from SADC countries [26,0% (204 623)] and those from 'other' African countries [22,0% (3 060)] were aged between 25 and 34, while those from overseas countries [16,5% (33 649)] were aged between 55 and 64. The proportion of tourists younger than 15 was higher among tourists from overseas countries, 9,3% (18 903) compared with tourists from 'other' African countries, 6,7% (935) and from SADC countries, 4,8% (37 584). The median ages of tourists from overseas, SADC and 'other' African countries were 43, 38 and 38 years, respectively.

Figure 2 – Percentage distribution of tourists by region of residence and age, August 2026

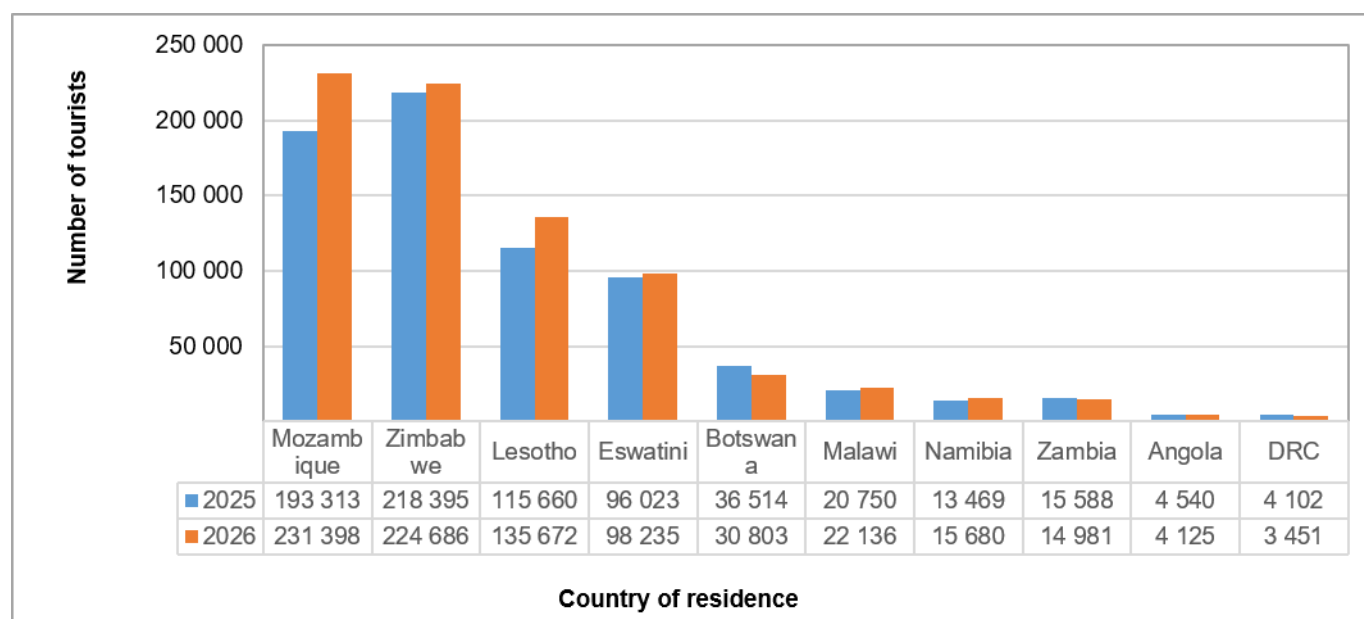
2.3.2 Regional and national distribution of tourists

In August 2026, the distribution of overseas tourists was as follows: Europe, 105 641 (51,9%); North America, 40 995 (20,2%); Asia, 18 195 (8,9%); Australasia, 16 639 (8,2%); Middle East, 13 467 (6,6%) and Central and South America, 8 439 (4,1%) (see Table 4 on page 9).

Figure 3 on page 7 indicates that the 10 leading overseas countries in terms of the number of tourists visiting South Africa in August 2026 were: USA, 37 134 (18,3%); UK, 25 749 (12,7%); Germany, 14 731 (7,2%); France, 12 492 (6,1%); Italy, 12 340 (6,1%); Australia, 11 632 (5,7%); The Netherlands, 11 021 (5,4%); Spain, 6 732 (3,3%); Brazil, 6 022 (3,0%) and Saudi Arabia, 5 370 (2,6%). Tourists from these 10 countries constituted 70,4% of all tourists from overseas countries. A comparison of movements in the 10 leading countries between August 2025 and August 2026 shows that the number of tourists increased for 9 of the 10 leading countries. France had the highest increase of 14,1% (from 10 946 tourists in August 2025 to 12 492 tourists in August 2026).

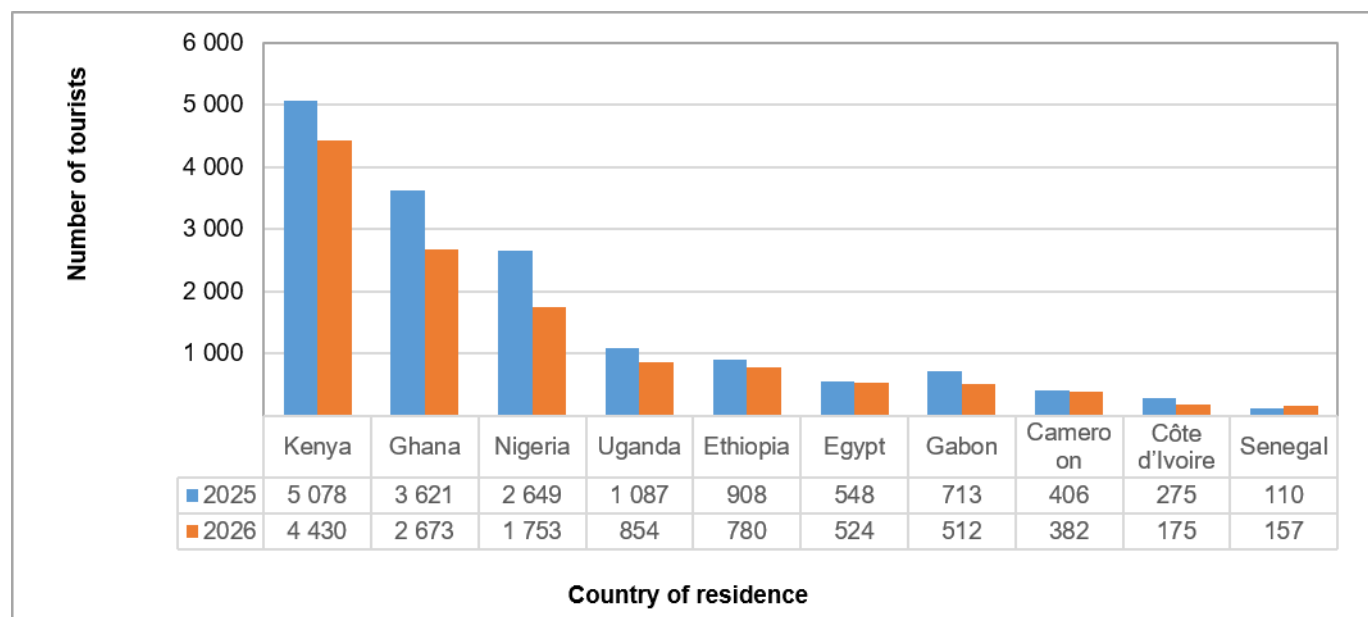
Figure 3 – Number of tourists from the 10 leading overseas countries in August 2025 and August 2026

Virtually, most tourists from Africa, 787 231 (98,3%), came from SADC countries (see Table 4 on page 9). The distribution of the remaining tourists from Africa was as follows: East and Central Africa, 7 390 (0,9%); West Africa, 5 383 (0,7%) and North Africa, 1 160 (0,1%). The 10 leading SADC countries in terms of the number of tourists visiting South Africa in August 2026 are shown in Figure 4 below. The highest number of tourists were from Mozambique, 231 398 (29,4%); Zimbabwe, 224 686 (28,5%); Lesotho, 135 672 (17,2%); Eswatini, 98 235 (12,5%); Botswana, 30 803 (3,9%); Malawi, 22 136 (2,8%); Namibia, 15 680 (2,0%); Zambia, 14 981 (1,9%); Angola, 4 125 (0,5%) and DRC, 3 451 (0,4%). Tourists from these 10 countries constituted 99,2% of all tourists from the SADC countries. A comparison of movements in the 10 leading countries between August 2025 and August 2026 shows that the number of tourists increased for 6 of the 10 leading countries. Mozambique showed the highest increase of 19,7% (from 193 313 tourists in August 2025 to 231 398 tourists in August 2026).

Figure 4 – Number of tourists from the 10 leading SADC countries in August 2025 and August 2026

The 10 leading countries in terms of the number of tourists visiting South Africa in August 2026 from 'other' African countries, as shown in Figure 5 below, were: Kenya, 4 430 (31,8%); Ghana, 2 673 (19,2%); Nigeria, 1 753 (12,6%); Uganda, 854 (6,1%); Ethiopia, 780 (5,6%); Egypt, 524 (3,8%); Gabon, 512 (3,7%); Cameroon, 382 (2,7%); Côte d'Ivoire, 175 (1,3%) and Senegal, 157 (1,1%). Tourists from these 10 countries constituted 87,8% of all tourists from 'other' African countries. A comparison between movements in August 2025 and August 2026 shows that the number of tourists increased for 1 of the 10 leading countries. The number of tourists from Senegal showed an increase of 42,7% (from 110 tourists in August 2025 to 157 tourists in August 2026).

Figure 5 – Number of tourists from the 10 leading 'other' African countries in August 2025 and August 2026



2.3.3 Purpose of visit of tourists

Table 4 on page 9, shows the number of tourists by region, sub-region and purpose of visit. Detailed data on the country of residence and purpose of visit is presented in Annexure C on pages 19 to 22. It is observed that in August 2026, the majority of tourists, 981 604 (97,6%), were in South Africa for holiday compared to 20 195 (2,0%); 3 186 (0,3%) and 301 (less than 0,1%) who were in South Africa for business, study and medical treatment, respectively.

Within the overseas regions, Australasia, 99,8% (16 604) had the highest proportion of tourists who came for holiday, followed by Middle East, 99,1% (13 352); North America, 99,1% (40 627); Europe, 98,7% (104 231); Central and South America, 98,6% (8 322) and Asia, 95,9% (17 452).

Asia, 2,9% (528) had the highest proportion of tourists who came to South Africa for business, followed by Central and South America, 0,8% (70); Europe, 0,8% (874); North America, 0,6% (261); Middle East, 0,6% (80) and Australasia, 0,2% (29).

Asia, 1,1% (205) had the highest proportion of tourists who came to study, followed by Central and South America, 0,5% (43); Europe, 0,5% (497); Middle East, 0,3% (34); North America, 0,2% (96) and Australasia, (2) with less than 0,1%.

Asia, 0,1% (10) had the highest proportion of tourists who came for medical treatment, followed by Europe (39), North America (11), Central and South America (4), Australasia (4) and Middle East (1), with each having less than 0,1% of the tourists.

Majority of African tourists, 780 298 (97,4%) 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:

- Holiday makers constituted 97,5% (767 280) of tourists from SADC countries compared with 93,4% (13 018) from 'other' African countries. Information on the regions of 'other' African countries shows that 94,0% (6 950) of tourists from East and Central Africa and 94,0% (5 062) tourists from West Africa were on holiday compared with 86,7% (1 006) from North Africa.
- Business persons constituted 2,3% (17 924) of tourists from SADC countries compared with 2,9% (404) from 'other' African countries. North Africa, 5,6% (65) had the highest proportion of tourists who came to South Africa for business purposes, followed by East and Central Africa, 3,0% (224) and West Africa, 2,1% (115).
- Students constituted 0,2% (1 827) of tourists from SADC countries compared with 3,4% (480) from 'other' African countries. North Africa, 7,4% (86) had the highest proportion of tourists who came to South Africa for study purposes, followed by West Africa, 3,6% (194) and East and Central Africa, 2,7% (200).
- Tourists who came for medical treatment constituted less than 0,1% (200) of tourists from SADC countries, while those from 'other' African countries constituted 0,2% (31). North Africa, 0,3% (3) had the highest proportion of tourists who came for medical treatment, followed by West Africa, 0,2% (12) and East and Central Africa, 0,2% (16).

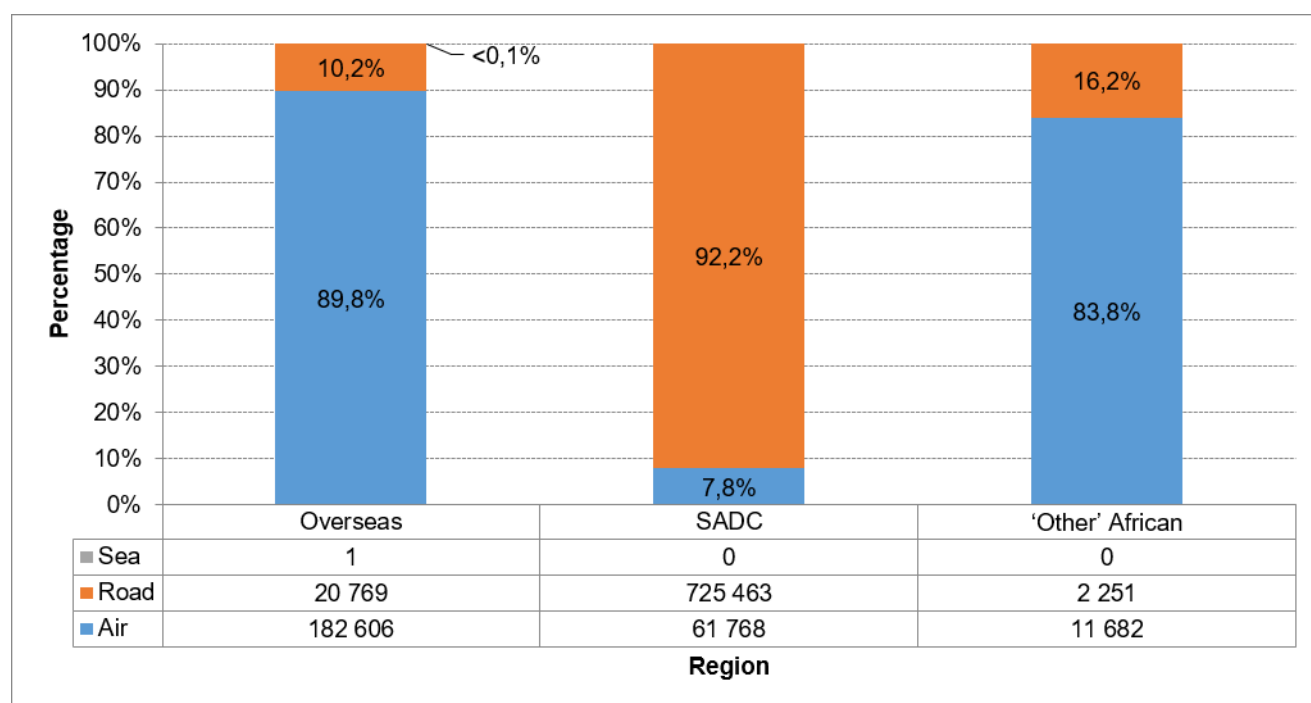
Table 4 – Number of tourists by region of residence and purpose of visit

Region of residence	August 2026	Business	Holiday	Study	Medical treatment
Total	1 005 286	20 195	981 604	3 186	301
Overseas	203 376	1 842	200 588	877	69
Europe	105 641	874	104 231	497	39
North America	40 995	261	40 627	96	11
Central and South America	8 439	70	8 322	43	4
Australasia	16 639	29	16 604	2	4
Middle East	13 467	80	13 352	34	1
Asia	18 195	528	17 452	205	10
Africa	801 164	18 328	780 298	2 307	231
SADC	787 231	17 924	767 280	1 827	200
'Other' African	13 933	404	13 018	480	31
East and Central Africa	7 390	224	6 950	200	16
West Africa	5 383	115	5 062	194	12
North Africa	1 160	65	1 006	86	3
Unspecified	746	25	718	2	1

2.3.4 Mode of travel of tourists

Tourists are categorised by their countries of residence 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 Annexure B on pages 15 to 18, whereas the port of entry used by tourists is provided in Annexure E on page 27. As shown in Figure 6 below, 182 606 (89,8%) overseas tourists arrived in the country by air, whilst 20 769 (10,2%) came by road and one (less than 1,0%) came by sea. Tourists from the SADC countries, on the other hand, came predominantly by road, 725 463 (92,2%), 61 768 (7,8%) came by air and none arrived by sea. The number of tourists who came into South Africa by air from 'other' African countries was 11 682 (83,8%); while 2 251 (16,2%) used road transport and none preferred sea. Most tourists who arrived by road came through Lebombo port (230 831) in Mpumalanga and Beit Bridge port (175 757) in Limpopo. The majority of tourists who came by air entered through OR Tambo International Airport (179 610) and Cape Town International Airport (73 400). Tourists who arrived by sea came through Cape Town Harbour (1).

Figure 6 – Percentage distribution of tourists by region of residence and mode of travel, August 2026



3. Annexures

Annexure A – Number of tourists' difference between August 2025 and August 2026 by country of residence

Country of residence	August 2025	August 2026	Difference between August 2025 and August 2026	% change between August 2025 and August 2026
Total	935 738	1 005 286	69 548	7,4
Overseas	193 135	203 376	10 241	5,3
Europe	98 178	105 641	7 463	7,6
Austria	1 364	1 572	208	15,2
Belgium	3 531	4 330	799	22,6
France	10 946	12 492	1 546	14,1
Germany	13 742	14 731	989	7,2
Ireland	1 783	2 100	317	17,8
Italy	11 859	12 340	481	4,1
Poland	1 003	1 111	108	10,8
Portugal	1 744	1 710	-34	-1,9
Russian Federation	2 002	2 508	506	25,3
Spain	5 983	6 732	749	12,5
Switzerland	1 965	1 927	-38	-1,9
The Netherlands	10 041	11 021	980	9,8
Turkey	927	1 121	194	20,9
UK	26 373	25 749	-624	-2,4
Other	4 915	6 197	1 282	26,1
North America	40 819	40 995	176	0,4
Canada	4 229	3 861	-368	-8,7
USA	36 590	37 134	544	1,5
Central and South America	8 447	8 439	-8	-0,1
Argentina	603	599	-4	-0,7
Brazil	5 929	6 022	93	1,6
Peru	272	414	142	52,2
Other	1 643	1 404	-239	-14,5

Annexure A – Number of tourists' difference between August 2025 and August 2026 by country of residence (continued)

Country of residence	August 2025	August 2026	Difference between August 2025 and August 2026	% change between August 2025 and August 2026
Australasia	13 483	16 639	3 156	23,4
Australia	11 290	11 632	342	3,0
New Zealand	2 180	4 983	2 803	128,6
Other	13	24	11	84,6
Middle East	11 574	13 467	1 893	16,4
Israel	900	1 296	396	44,0
Saudi Arabia	4 776	5 370	594	12,4
United Arab Emirates	3 536	5 121	1 585	44,8
Other	2 362	1 680	-682	-28,9
Asia	20 634	18 195	-2 439	-11,8
Bangladesh	729	760	31	4,3
China	3 255	2 604	-651	-20,0
India	5 838	4 523	-1 315	-22,5
Japan	2 271	2 165	-106	-4,7
Malaysia	1 052	1 161	109	10,4
Pakistan	2 013	1 770	-243	-12,1
Philippines	843	768	-75	-8,9
Singapore	1 162	1 276	114	9,8
South Korea	1 258	1 372	114	9,1
Taiwan	566	550	-16	-2,8
Other	1 647	1 246	-401	-24,3
Africa	741 738	801 164	59 426	8,0
SADC	724 406	787 231	62 825	8,7
Angola	4 540	4 125	-415	-9,1
Botswana	36 514	30 803	-5 711	-15,6
DRC	4 102	3 451	-651	-15,9
Eswatini	96 023	98 235	2 212	2,3

Annexure A – Number of tourists' difference between August 2025 and August 2026 by country of residence (continued)

Country of residence	August 2025	August 2026	Difference between August 2025 and August 2026	% change between August 2025 and August 2026
Lesotho	115 660	135 672	20 012	17,3
Madagascar	406	570	164	40,4
Malawi	20 750	22 136	1 386	6,7
Mauritius	1 843	1 736	-107	-5,8
Mozambique	193 313	231 398	38 085	19,7
Namibia	13 469	15 680	2 211	16,4
Seychelles	316	330	14	4,4
Tanzania	3 487	3 428	-59	-1,7
Zambia	15 588	14 981	-607	-3,9
Zimbabwe	218 395	224 686	6 291	2,9
'Other' African	17 332	13 933	-3 399	-19,6
East and Central Africa	8 829	7 390	-1 439	-16,3
Burundi	119	94	-25	-21,0
Cameroon	406	382	-24	-5,9
Central African Republic	14	15	1	7,1
Chad	56	32	-24	-42,9
Comoros	61	27	-34	-55,7
Congo	171	80	-91	-53,2
Djibouti	8	3	-5	-62,5
Equatorial Guinea	16	14	-2	-12,5
Eritrea	30	31	1	3,3
Ethiopia	908	780	-128	-14,1
Gabon	713	512	-201	-28,2
Kenya	5 078	4 430	-648	-12,8
Rwanda	72	68	-4	-5,6
São Tomé and Príncipe	8	14	6	75,0
Somalia	82	54	-28	-34,1
Uganda	1 087	854	-233	-21,4

Annexure A – Number of tourists' difference between August 2025 and August 2026 by country of residence (concluded)

Country of residence	August 2025	August 2026	Difference between August 2025 and August 2026	% change between August 2025 and August 2026
West Africa	7 391	5 383	-2 008	-27,2
Benin	220	138	-82	-37,3
Burkina Faso	62	48	-14	-22,6
Cape Verde Island	29	34	5	17,2
Côte d'Ivoire	275	175	-100	-36,4
Gambia	47	31	-16	-34,0
Ghana	3 621	2 673	-948	-26,2
Guinea	99	67	-32	-32,3
Guinea-Bissau	4	8	4	100,0
Liberia	56	114	58	103,6
Mali	67	69	2	3,0
Mauritania	16	13	-3	-18,8
Niger	18	20	2	11,1
Nigeria	2 649	1 753	-896	-33,8
Senegal	110	157	47	42,7
Sierra Leone	67	23	-44	-65,7
Togo	51	60	9	17,6
North Africa	1 112	1 160	48	4,3
Algeria	68	106	38	55,9
Egypt	548	524	-24	-4,4
Libya	50	45	-5	-10,0
Morocco	127	123	-4	-3,1
South Sudan	73	87	14	19,2
The Sudan	119	130	11	9,2
Tunisia	124	145	21	16,9
Western Sahara	3	-	-3	-100,0
Unspecified	865	746	-119	-13,8

Annexure B – Number of tourists by country of residence and mode of travel, August 2026

Country of residence	August 2026	Air					Road	Sea
		Cape Town	King Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total		
Total	1 005 286	73 400	3 399	179 610	247	256 656	748 629	1
Overseas	203 376	63 033	2 426	116 985	162	182 606	20 769	1
Europe	105 641	28 881	1 728	60 827	83	91 519	14 122	-
Austria	1 572	464	20	945	-	1 429	143	-
Belgium	4 330	848	88	2 535	3	3 474	856	-
France	12 492	2 452	561	7 543	10	10 566	1 926	-
Germany	14 731	4 359	130	8 278	23	12 790	1 941	-
Ireland	2 100	759	46	1 101	6	1 912	188	-
Italy	12 340	4 606	70	5 970	5	10 651	1 689	-
Poland	1 111	316	12	638	-	966	145	-
Portugal	1 710	284	6	928	-	1 218	492	-
Russian Federation	2 508	1 326	38	1 002	4	2 370	138	-
Spain	6 732	1 566	22	4 072	1	5 661	1 071	-
Switzerland	1 927	497	12	1 193	3	1 705	222	-
The Netherlands	11 021	2 470	61	5 222	9	7 762	3 259	-
Turkey	1 121	458	44	517	-	1 019	102	-
UK	25 749	6 660	490	17 159	17	24 326	1 423	-
Other	6 197	1 816	128	3 724	2	5 670	527	-
North America	40 995	13 170	162	25 887	36	39 255	1 740	-
Canada	3 861	1 176	51	2 379	3	3 609	252	-
USA	37 134	11 994	111	23 508	33	35 646	1 488	-
Central and South America	8 439	3 124	20	4 837	8	7 989	450	-
Argentina	599	208	-	360	3	571	28	-
Brazil	6 022	2 386	4	3 370	3	5 763	259	-
Peru	414	84	1	321	-	406	8	-
Other	1 404	446	15	786	2	1 249	155	-

Annexure B – Number of tourists by country of residence and mode of travel, August 2026 (continued)

Country of residence	August 2026	Air					Road	Sea
		Cape Town	King Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total		
Australasia	16 639	2 724	93	13 217	19	16 053	586	-
Australia	11 632	1 807	61	9 254	14	11 136	496	-
New Zealand	4 983	908	32	3 948	5	4 893	90	-
Other	24	9	-	15	-	24	-	-
Middle East	13 467	10 889	132	2 081	-	13 102	365	-
Israel	1 296	356	2	876	-	1 234	62	-
Saudi Arabia	5 370	5 067	5	284	-	5 356	14	-
United Arab Emirates	5 121	4 393	121	371	-	4 885	236	-
Other	1 680	1 073	4	550	-	1 627	53	-
Asia	18 195	4 245	291	10 136	16	14 688	3 506	1
Bangladesh	760	95	42	485	-	622	138	-
China	2 604	372	15	1 676	3	2 066	538	-
India	4 523	823	104	2 318	8	3 253	1 269	1
Japan	2 165	637	12	1 341	1	1 991	174	-
Malaysia	1 161	386	7	698	1	1 092	69	-
Pakistan	1 770	188	42	833	-	1 063	707	-
Philippines	768	233	18	423	1	675	93	-
Singapore	1 276	370	5	889	-	1 264	12	-
South Korea	1 372	614	8	534	2	1 158	214	-
Taiwan	550	151	10	268	-	429	121	-
Other	1 246	376	28	671	-	1 075	171	-
Africa	801 164	10 332	973	62 061	84	73 450	727 714	-
SADC	787 231	8 020	945	52 728	75	61 768	725 463	-
Angola	4 125	1 853	8	1 519	-	3 380	745	-
Botswana	30 803	277	20	2 728	4	3 029	27 774	-
DRC	3 451	112	9	3 138	-	3 259	192	-
Eswatini	98 235	118	187	901	2	1 208	97 027	-

Annexure B – Number of tourists by country of residence and mode of travel, August 2026 (continued)

Country of residence	August 2026	Air					Road	Sea
		Cape Town	King Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total		
Lesotho	135 672	8	2	715	-	725	134 947	-
Madagascar	570	16	9	524	-	549	21	-
Malawi	22 136	32	1	3 462	2	3 497	18 639	-
Mauritius	1 736	565	2	1 105	-	1 672	64	-
Mozambique	231 398	233	33	3 826	5	4 097	227 301	-
Namibia	15 680	2 587	16	2 689	8	5 300	10 380	-
Seychelles	330	3	7	294	-	304	26	-
Tanzania	3 428	301	1	1 786	3	2 091	1 337	-
Zambia	14 981	263	2	4 492	3	4 760	10 221	-
Zimbabwe	224 686	1 652	648	25 549	48	27 897	196 789	-
'Other' African	13 933	2 312	28	9 333	9	11 682	2 251	-
East and Central Africa	7 390	1 375	4	5 236	6	6 621	769	-
Burundi	94	27	-	59	-	86	8	-
Cameroon	382	47	-	317	-	364	18	-
Central African Republic	15	2	-	13	-	15	-	-
Chad	32	2	-	30	-	32	-	-
Comoros	27	17	-	10	-	27	-	-
Congo	80	23	-	52	-	75	5	-
Djibouti	3	2	-	1	-	3	-	-
Equatorial Guinea	14	-	-	14	-	14	-	-
Eritrea	31	6	-	19	-	25	6	-
Ethiopia	780	113	-	588	-	701	79	-
Gabon	512	42	-	465	-	507	5	-
Kenya	4 430	928	3	2 922	6	3 859	571	-
Rwanda	68	4	-	55	-	59	9	-
São Tomé and Príncipe	14	-	-	13	-	13	1	-
Somalia	54	7	-	35	-	42	12	-
Uganda	854	155	1	643	-	799	55	-

Annexure B – Number of tourists by country of residence and mode of travel, August 2026 (concluded)

Country of residence	August 2025	Air					Road	Sea
		Cape Town	King Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total		
West Africa	5 383	650	9	3 307	1	3 967	1 416	-
Benin	138	20	-	101	1	122	16	-
Burkina Faso	48	8	-	39	-	47	1	-
Cape Verde Island	34	6	-	23	-	29	5	-
Côte d'Ivoire	175	12	-	161	-	173	2	-
Gambia	31	-	-	30	-	30	1	-
Ghana	2 673	192	5	1 273	-	1 470	1 203	-
Guinea	67	2	-	43	-	45	22	-
Guinea-Bissau	8	-	-	6	-	6	2	-
Liberia	114	6	-	108	-	114	-	-
Mali	69	4	-	31	-	35	34	-
Mauritania	13	3	-	10	-	13	-	-
Niger	20	3	-	17	-	20	-	-
Nigeria	1 753	352	4	1 279	-	1 635	118	-
Senegal	157	31	-	118	-	149	8	-
Sierra Leone	23	6	-	13	-	19	4	-
Togo	60	5	-	55	-	60	-	-
North Africa	1 160	287	15	790	2	1 094	66	-
Algeria	106	9	1	70	-	80	26	-
Egypt	524	140	4	374	-	518	6	-
Libya	45	16	1	28	-	45	-	-
Morocco	123	27	2	83	-	112	11	-
South Sudan	87	11	-	73	2	86	1	-
The Sudan	130	49	6	66	-	121	9	-
Tunisia	145	35	1	96	-	132	13	-
Unspecified	746	35	-	564	1	600	146	-

Annexure C – Number of tourists by country of residence and purpose of visit, August 2026

Country of residence	August 2026	Purpose of visit			
		Business	Holiday	Study	Medical Treatment
Total	1 005 286	20 195	981 604	3 186	301
Overseas	203 376	1 842	200 588	877	69
Europe	105 641	874	104 231	497	39
Austria	1 572	9	1 560	3	-
Belgium	4 330	22	4 286	22	-
France	12 492	59	12 284	145	4
Germany	14 731	100	14 552	78	1
Ireland	2 100	26	2 069	4	1
Italy	12 340	44	12 280	16	-
Poland	1 111	13	1 094	3	1
Portugal	1 710	16	1 688	2	4
Russian Federation	2 508	29	2 468	11	-
Spain	6 732	19	6 700	13	-
Switzerland	1 927	11	1 894	21	1
The Netherlands	11 021	56	10 930	28	7
Turkey	1 121	34	1 058	29	-
UK	25 749	346	25 327	58	18
Other	6 197	90	6 041	64	2
North America	40 995	261	40 627	96	11
Canada	3 861	30	3 820	11	-
USA	37 134	231	36 807	85	11
Central and South America	8 439	70	8 322	43	4
Argentina	599	2	594	3	-
Brazil	6 022	43	5 954	25	-
Peru	414	-	413	-	1
Other	1 404	25	1 361	15	3

Annexure C – Number of tourists by country of residence and purpose of visit, August 2026 (continued)

Country of residence	August 2026	Purpose of visit			
		Business	Holiday	Study	Medical Treatment
Australasia	16 639	29	16 604	2	4
Australia	11 632	20	11 606	2	4
New Zealand	4 983	7	4 976	-	-
Other	24	2	22	-	-
Middle East	13 467	80	13 352	34	1
Israel	1 296	7	1 289	-	-
Saudi Arabia	5 370	11	5 344	15	-
United Arab Emirates	5 121	14	5 104	3	-
Other	1 680	48	1 615	16	1
Asia	18 195	528	17 452	205	10
Bangladesh	760	19	734	6	1
China	2 604	84	2 480	38	2
India	4 523	279	4 145	95	4
Japan	2 165	22	2 125	17	1
Malaysia	1 161	10	1 150	-	1
Pakistan	1 770	24	1 731	15	-
Philippines	768	13	751	3	1
Singapore	1 276	5	1 271	-	-
South Korea	1 372	25	1 329	18	-
Taiwan	550	7	541	2	-
Other	1 246	40	1 195	11	-
Africa	801 164	18 328	780 298	2 307	231
SADC	787 231	17 924	767 280	1 827	200
Angola	4 125	42	3 910	140	33
Botswana	30 803	543	29 994	248	18
DRC	3 451	29	3 283	111	28
Eswatini	98 235	3 070	95 020	129	16

Annexure C – Number of tourists by country of residence and purpose of visit, August 2026 (continued)

Country of residence	August 2026	Purpose of visit			
		Business	Holiday	Study	Medical Treatment
Lesotho	135 672	382	134 944	346	-
Madagascar	570	9	555	6	-
Malawi	22 136	290	21 800	39	7
Mauritius	1 736	28	1 691	14	3
Mozambique	231 398	1 834	229 501	47	16
Namibia	15 680	3 869	11 623	164	24
Seychelles	330	6	323	-	1
Tanzania	3 428	123	3 241	48	16
Zambia	14 981	3 295	11 621	52	13
Zimbabwe	224 686	4 404	219 774	483	25
'Other' African	13 933	404	13 018	480	31
East and Central Africa	7 390	224	6 950	200	16
Burundi	94	10	80	1	3
Cameroon	382	18	333	28	3
Central African Republic	15	-	14	-	1
Chad	32	-	31	1	-
Comoros	27	5	20	2	-
Congo	80	7	67	6	-
Djibouti	3	1	2	-	-
Equatorial Guinea	14	-	14	-	-
Eritrea	31	-	28	3	-
Ethiopia	780	21	730	27	2
Gabon	512	2	497	11	2
Kenya	4 430	106	4 243	77	4
Rwanda	68	1	67	-	-
São Tomé and Príncipe	14	-	14	-	-
Somalia	54	7	45	2	-
Uganda	854	46	765	42	1

Annexure C – Number of tourists by country of residence and purpose of visit, August 2026 (concluded)

Country of residence	August 2026	Purpose of visit			
		Business	Holiday	Study	Medical Treatment
West Africa	5 383	115	5 062	194	12
Benin	138	5	129	4	-
Burkina Faso	48	3	44	1	-
Cape Verde Island	34	1	31	2	-
Côte d'Ivoire	175	12	151	10	2
Gambia	31	1	29	1	-
Ghana	2 673	33	2 620	17	3
Guinea	67	2	63	1	1
Guinea-Bissau	8	1	4	3	-
Liberia	114	7	104	1	2
Mali	69	2	64	3	-
Mauritania	13	-	10	3	-
Niger	20	2	13	5	-
Nigeria	1 753	24	1 590	136	3
Senegal	157	16	137	3	1
Sierra Leone	23	4	15	4	-
Togo	60	2	58	-	-
North Africa	1 160	65	1 006	86	3
Algeria	106	2	102	2	-
Egypt	524	37	459	27	1
Libya	45	-	40	5	-
Morocco	123	3	108	12	-
South Sudan	87	11	68	6	2
The Sudan	130	5	102	23	-
Tunisia	145	7	127	11	-
Unspecified	746	25	718	2	1

Annexure D – Number of tourists' difference between Jan – Aug 2025 and Jan – Aug 2026 by country of residence

Country of residence	Jan – Aug 2025	Jan – Aug 2026	Difference between Jan – Aug 2025 and Jan – Aug 2026	% change between Jan – Aug 2025 and Jan – Aug 2026
Total	6 787 894	7 581 455	793 561	11,7
Overseas	1 489 478	1 573 119	83 641	5,6
Europe	845 046	931 486	86 440	10,2
Austria	13 697	15 560	1 863	13,6
Belgium	30 458	33 436	2 978	9,8
Denmark	12 439	12 368	-71	-0,6
France	83 877	93 776	9 899	11,8
Germany	155 995	181 160	25 165	16,1
Ireland	18 914	20 205	1 291	6,8
Italy	37 940	38 261	321	0,8
Portugal	12 588	14 100	1 512	12,0
Russian Federation	22 368	27 800	5 432	24,3
Spain	22 181	24 497	2 316	10,4
Sweden	15 206	15 675	469	3,1
Switzerland	25 753	29 640	3 887	15,1
The Netherlands	85 299	95 023	9 724	11,4
UK	251 431	260 369	8 938	3,6
Other	56 900	69 616	12 716	22,3
North America	303 573	301 810	-1 763	-0,6
Canada	38 916	39 389	473	1,2
USA	264 657	262 421	-2 236	-0,8
Central and South America	60 382	70 476	10 094	16,7
Argentina	5 360	6 727	1 367	25,5
Brazil	40 272	50 047	9 775	24,3
Chile	2 792	3 094	302	10,8
Other	11 958	10 608	-1 350	-11,3

Annexure D – Number of tourists' difference between Jan – Aug 2025 and Jan – Aug 2026 by country of residence (continued)

Country of residence	Jan – Aug 2025	Jan – Aug 2026	Difference between Jan – Aug 2025 and Jan – Aug 2026	% change between Jan – Aug 2025 and Jan – Aug 2026
Australasia	90 770	96 777	6 007	6,6
Australia	75 996	80 380	4 384	5,8
New Zealand	14 580	16 279	1 699	11,7
Other	194	118	-76	-39,2
Middle East	45 103	44 947	-156	-0,3
Israel	5 624	6 197	573	10,2
Saudi Arabia	19 300	19 666	366	1,9
United Arab Emirates	9 880	11 737	1 857	18,8
Other	10 299	7 347	-2 952	-28,7
Asia	144 604	127 623	-16 981	-11,7
Bangladesh	4 710	5 105	395	8,4
China	26 929	20 635	-6 294	-23,4
India	48 494	34 048	-14 446	-29,8
Japan	12 825	14 776	1 951	15,2
Malaysia	4 997	5 346	349	7,0
Pakistan	12 676	12 877	201	1,6
Philippines	4 989	4 305	-684	-13,7
Singapore	6 491	8 208	1 717	26,5
South Korea	9 301	9 006	-295	-3,2
Thailand	3 840	3 887	47	1,2
Other	9 352	9 430	78	0,8
Africa	5 290 668	6 001 535	710 867	13,4
SADC	5 169 265	5 879 708	710 443	13,7
Angola	27 390	27 000	-390	-1,4
Botswana	253 867	246 466	-7 401	-2,9
DRC	25 092	23 858	-1 234	-4,9
Eswatini	613 465	624 538	11 073	1,8

Annexure D – Number of tourists' difference between Jan – Aug 2025 and Jan – Aug 2026 by country of residence (continued))

Country of residence	Jan – Aug 2025	Jan – Aug 2026	Difference between Jan – Aug 2025 and Jan – Aug 2026	% change between Jan – Aug 2025 and Jan – Aug 2026
Lesotho	947 975	1 093 834	145 859	15,4
Madagascar	2 835	3 142	307	10,8
Malawi	160 233	161 320	1 087	0,7
Mauritius	12 823	12 776	-47	-0,4
Mozambique	1 346 238	1 734 280	388 042	28,8
Namibia	110 399	109 479	-920	-0,8
Seychelles	2 635	2 814	179	6,8
Tanzania	26 633	29 199	2 566	9,6
Zambia	108 190	120 069	11 879	11,0
Zimbabwe	1 531 490	1 690 933	159 443	10,4
'Other' African	121 403	121 827	424	0,3
East and Central Africa	58 826	60 721	1 895	3,2
Burundi	839	859	20	2,4
Cameroon	3 218	3 116	-102	-3,2
Central African Republic	102	90	-12	-11,8
Chad	339	338	-1	-0,3
Comoros	249	143	-106	-42,6
Congo	1 199	820	-379	-31,6
Djibouti	71	39	-32	-45,1
Equatorial Guinea	155	126	-29	-18,7
Eritrea	294	233	-61	-20,7
Ethiopia	5 870	5 885	15	0,3
Gabon	2 822	2 992	170	6,0
Kenya	33 902	36 497	2 595	7,7
Réunion	14	22	8	57,1
Rwanda	538	599	61	11,3
São Tomé and Príncipe	71	92	21	29,6
Somalia	550	521	-29	-5,3
Uganda	8 593	8 349	-244	-2,8

Annexure D – Number of tourists' difference between Jan – Aug 2025 and Jan – Aug 2026 by country of residence (concluded)

Country of residence	Jan – Aug 2025	Jan – Aug 2026	Difference between Jan – Aug 2025 and Jan – Aug 2026	% change between Jan – Aug 2025 and Jan – Aug 2026
West Africa	52 860	51 165	-1 695	-3,2
Benin	1 374	1 033	-341	-24,8
Burkina Faso	510	499	-11	-2,2
Cape Verde Island	233	208	-25	-10,7
Côte d'Ivoire	1 581	1 519	-62	-3,9
Gambia	281	333	52	18,5
Ghana	26 148	26 073	-75	-0,3
Guinea	741	548	-193	-26,0
Guinea-Bissau	76	49	-27	-35,5
Liberia	440	471	31	7,0
Mali	656	733	77	11,7
Mauritania	170	183	13	7,6
Niger	183	178	-5	-2,7
Nigeria	18 572	17 611	-961	-5,2
Saint Helena	15	3	-12	-80,0
Senegal	1 074	1 067	-7	-0,7
Sierra Leone	416	316	-100	-24,0
Togo	390	341	-49	-12,6
North Africa	9 717	9 941	224	2,3
Algeria	655	756	101	15,4
Egypt	4 984	4 338	-646	-13,0
Libya	405	286	-119	-29,4
Morocco	1 141	1 248	107	9,4
South Sudan	409	434	25	6,1
The Sudan	693	677	-16	-2,3
Tunisia	1 417	2 193	776	54,8
Western Sahara	13	9	-4	-30,8
Unspecified	7 748	6 801	-947	-12,2

Annexure E – Number of tourists' difference between Aug 2019 and Aug 2026 by port of entry and province (excluding ports in Aug 2019 with missing data in Aug 2026)

Port of entry and province	August 2019	August 2026	Difference between Aug 2019 and Aug 2026	% Change between Aug 2019 and Aug 2026
Total	877 147	1 005 286	128 139	14,6
Western Cape	53 077	73 401	20 324	38,3
Cape Town Harbour	12	1	-11	-91,7
Cape Town International Airport	53 065	73 400	20 335	38,3
Eastern Cape	3 272	3 523	251	7,7
Telle Bridge	3 272	3 523	251	7,7
Northern Cape	9 020	10 853	1 833	20,3
Nakop	3 684	5 293	1 609	43,7
Vioolsdrift	5 336	5 560	224	4,2
Free State	112 060	134 886	22 826	20,4
Caledonspoort	9 810	17 997	8 187	83,5
Ficksburg	43 172	54 194	11 022	25,5
Maseru Bridge	47 905	51 745	3 840	8,0
Van Rooyens Gate	11 173	10 950	-223	-2,0
KwaZulu Natal	33 578	37 286	3 708	11,0
King Shaka International Airport	5 067	3 399	-1 668	-32,9
Golela	22 830	22 231	-599	-2,6
Kosibay	5 681	11 656	5 975	105,2
North West	52 132	32 741	-19 391	-37,2
Kopfontein	28 214	17 873	-10 341	-36,7
Ramatlabama	8 020	6 193	-1 827	-22,8
Skilpad Gate	12 156	6 621	-5 535	-45,5
Swartkopfontein Gate	3 742	2 054	-1 688	-45,1
Gauteng	184 447	179 857	-4 590	-2,5
Lanseria International Airport	498	222	-276	-55,4
OR Tambo International Airport	183 949	179 610	-4 339	-2,4
Waterkloof Military Airbase	-	25	25	-
Mpumalanga	203 702	333 070	129 368	63,5
Emahlatini	5 725	5 815	90	1,6
Jeppes Reef	14 172	18 948	4 776	33,7
Lebombo	117 872	230 831	112 959	95,8
Mahamba	9 780	9 884	104	1,1
Mananga	10 141	10 268	127	1,3
Nerston	1 318	1 144	-174	-13,2
Oshoek	44 694	56 180	11 486	25,7
Limpopo	225 859	199 669	-26 190	-11,6
Beit Bridge	198 119	175 757	-22 362	-11,3
Groblers Bridge	27 740	23 912	-3 828	-13,8

Annexure F – Number of tourists' difference between Aug 2025 and Aug 2026 by port of entry and province (excluding ports in Aug 2026 with missing data in Aug 2025)

Port of entry and province	August 2025	August 2026	Difference between Aug 2025 and Aug 2026	% Change between Aug 2025 and Aug 2026
Total	935 738	1 005 261	69 523	7,4
Western Cape	68 826	73 401	4 575	6,6
Cape Town Harbour	3	1	-2	-66,7
Cape Town International Airport	68 823	73 400	4 577	6,7
Eastern Cape	3 728	3 523	-205	-5,5
Telle Bridge	3 728	3 523	-205	-5,5
Northern Cape	9 046	10 853	1 807	20,0
Nakop	4 564	5 293	729	16,0
Vioolsdrift	4 482	5 560	1 078	24,1
Free State	113 153	134 886	21 733	19,2
Caledonspoort	12 019	17 997	5 978	49,7
Ficksburg	43 775	54 194	10 419	23,8
Maseru Bridge	53 181	51 745	-1 436	-2,7
Van Rooyens Gate	4 178	10 950	6 772	162,1
KwaZulu Natal	34 345	37 286	2 941	8,6
King Shaka International Airport	3 020	3 399	379	12,5
Golela	20 678	22 231	1 553	7,5
Kosibay	10 647	11 656	1 009	9,5
North West	36 715	32 741	-3 974	-10,8
Kopfontein	20 533	17 873	-2 660	-13,0
Ramatlabama	7 166	6 193	-973	-13,6
Skilpad Gate	7 563	6 621	-942	-12,5
Swartkopfontein Gate	1 453	2 054	601	41,4
Gauteng	178 626	179 832	1 206	0,7
Lanseria International Airport	201	222	21	10,4
OR Tambo International Airport	178 425	179 610	1 185	0,7
Mpumalanga	289 539	333 070	43 531	15,0
Emahlatini	6 941	5 815	-1 126	-16,2
Jeppes Reef	17 015	18 948	1 933	11,4
Lebombo	192 450	230 831	38 381	19,9
Mahamba	9 030	9 884	854	9,5
Mananga	11 819	10 268	-1 551	-13,1
Nerston	833	1 144	311	37,3
Oshoek	51 451	56 180	4 729	9,2
Limpopo	201 760	199 669	-2 091	-1,0
Beit Bridge	177 262	175 757	-1 505	-0,8
Groblers Bridge	24 498	23 912	-586	-2,4

Annexure G – Number of tourists' difference between Jan – Aug 2025 and Jan – Aug 2026 by port of entry and province (excluding ports with missing data at any point between Jan – Aug, 2025 – 2026)

Port of entry and province	Jan – Aug 2025	Jan – Aug 2026	Difference between Jan – Aug 2025 and Jan – Aug 2026	% Change between Jan – Aug 2025 and Jan – Aug 2026
Total	6 688 498	7 480 032	791 534	11,8
Western Cape	648 563	701 906	53 343	8,2
Cape Town International Airport	648 563	701 906	53 343	8,2
Northern Cape	69 385	69 820	435	0,6
Nakop	35 825	36 557	732	2,0
Violsdrift	33 560	33 263	-297	-0,9
Free State	926 803	1 089 260	162 457	17,5
Caledonspoort	95 776	121 571	25 795	26,9
Ficksburg	374 798	451 713	76 915	20,5
Maseru Bridge	424 150	454 681	30 531	7,2
Van Rooyens Gate	32 079	61 295	29 216	91,1
KwaZulu Natal	213 599	229 080	15 481	7,2
King Shaka International Airport	27 392	19 569	-7 823	-28,6
Golela	109 529	119 485	9 956	9,1
Kosibay	76 678	90 026	13 348	17,4
North West	285 998	246 773	-39 225	-13,7
Kopfontein	170 282	140 882	-29 400	-17,3
Ramathlabama	50 337	51 201	864	1,7
Skilpad Gate	65 379	54 690	-10 689	-16,3
Gauteng	1 223 274	1 271 295	48 021	3,9
Lanseria International Airport	1 807	1 815	8	0,4
Oliver Tambo International Airport	1 221 467	1 269 480	48 013	3,9
Mpumalanga	1 907 114	2 347 359	440 245	23,1
Emahlatini	43 798	42 771	-1 027	-2,3
Jeppes Reef	105 243	122 007	16 764	15,9
Lebombo	1 333 066	1 716 269	383 203	28,7
Mananga	81 435	71 462	-9 973	-12,2
Nerston	3 092	7 578	4 486	145,1
Oshoek	340 480	387 272	46 792	13,7
Limpopo	1 413 762	1 524 539	110 777	7,8
Beit Bridge	1 260 910	1 339 413	78 503	6,2
Groblers Bridge	152 852	185 126	32 274	21,1

4. Explanatory notes

4.1 Introduction

Legal movements across South African borders, as well as legal immigration into South Africa, fall under the jurisdiction of the 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 (in terms of both 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.

4.2 Purpose of the statistical release

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

4.3 Scope and coverage

The release covers data collected by DHA officials on travellers who departed from or entered the Republic of South Africa (RSA). It is crucial to note that unlike data from census or sample surveys that count individual persons, border statistics by their nature, measure events i.e. movements of persons rather than the physical persons. The reason is that the same person can cross the border several times during a specified time and his or her information is recorded every time he or she passes through the border.

4.4 Data

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

- Data routinely collected by immigration officers at all road, air and sea entry ports on all travellers (South African residents and foreign travellers) arriving into or departing from South Africa are captured into the DHA's population Movement Control System (MCS). The counts/statistics relate to the number of individual movements, rather than to the number of people. Hence, the multiple movements of individual people during the calendar month are each counted separately. Generally, the data are collected directly from travel documents either by scanning or capturing onto the ports' electronic database. 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 OR 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/decrease in the volume of passengers reported by ACSA is also reflected with an increase/decrease in the volume of travellers recorded by DHA. In August 2026, the DHA data was 1,0% lower than that of ACSA.

4.5 Limitations

4.5.1 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, country of final destination, intended duration of stay, and purpose of visit are not collected from passengers. Given this limitation, it is impossible to determine the number of tourists from data on South African residents.

4.6 Definition of terms

4.6.1 Definitions used by the United Nations Tourism (UN Tourism)

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.

4.6.2 Definitions used specifically in this release

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

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

Region refers to the following country classification:

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

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

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

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

4.7 Symbols used

- = nil

< = less than

4.8 Rounding off

Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

5. General information

Stats SA publishes approximately 300 different statistical releases each year. It is not economically viable to produce them in more than one of South Africa's 12 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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