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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 February 2026. Specific focus is on foreign tourists who entered the country in February 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 February 2026, 2 689 619 travellers (arrivals, departures and transits) entered and exited South Africa. They were made up of 594 114 (22,1%) South African residents and 2 095 505 (77,9%) foreign travellers. Foreign arrivals were made up of 26 115 (2,3%) non-visitors and 1 100 156 (97,7%) visitors. Visitors consisted of 235 622 (21,4%) same-day visitors and 864 534 (78,6%) overnight visitors/tourists.

Tourists

Overseas tourists constituted 25,8% (222 978) of all tourists. United Kingdom (UK) (45 404), Germany (39 866) and United States of America (USA) (22 555) contributed 48,4% to overseas tourists. Tourists from Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries constituted 72,2% (624 294) of all tourists. Mozambique (210 925), Zimbabwe (165 583) and Lesotho (94 924) contributed 75,5% to SADC tourists. 'Other' African countries (non-SADC) tourists were 1,9% (16 487) of all tourists. Kenya (4 660), Ghana (3 333) and Nigeria (2 805) contributed 65,5% to 'other' African tourists. The country of residence of 775 (0,1%) tourists was classified as unspecified.

Purpose of visit

'Holiday'¹ continues to be the main purpose of visit. About 97,0% 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 2 689 619 travellers (arrivals, departures and transits) passed through South African ports in February 2026. As presented in Table 1 below, these travellers were made up of 594 114 South African residents and 2 095 505 foreign travellers. A further breakdown of the figures for South African residents indicates that there were 296 413 arrivals, 297 220 departures and 481 travellers in transit. The corresponding volumes for foreign arrivals, departures and travellers in transit were 1 126 271, 935 359 and 33 875, respectively.

A comparison of movements in January 2026 and February 2026 shows that the volumes of arrivals, departures and transits decreased for both groups of travellers. For South African residents, the volume of arrivals decreased by 43,9% (from 528 664 in January 2026 to 296 413 in February 2026), departures decreased by 17,8% (from 361 592 in January 2026 to 297 220 in February 2026), and transits decreased by 19,0% (from 594 in January 2026 to 481 in February 2026). For foreign travellers, arrivals decreased by 21,8% (from 1 439 386 in January 2026 to 1 126 271 in February 2026), departures decreased by 7,1% (from 1 007 203 in January 2026 to 935 359 in February 2026) and transits decreased by 7,2% (from 36 492 in January 2026 to 33 875 in February 2026).

A comparison of movements in February 2025 and February 2026 indicates that the volumes of arrivals and departures decreased for South African residents but increased for foreign travellers, while that of transits increased for both groups of travellers. For South African residents, the volume of arrivals decreased by 0,3% (from 297 388 in February 2025 to 296 413 in February 2026), departures decreased by 1,8% (from 302 781 in February 2025 to 297 220 in February 2026) whereas transits increased by 24,3% (from 387 in February 2025 to 481 in February 2026). For foreign travellers, arrivals increased by 9,9% (from 1 024 787 in February 2025 to 1 126 271 in February 2026), departures increased by 8,5% (from 861 915 in February 2025 to 935 359 in February 2026) and transits increased by 11,8% (from 30 293 in February 2025 to 33 875 in February 2026).

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

Travel Direction	February 2025	January 2026	February 2026	% Change Jan 2026 – Feb 2026	% Change Feb 2025 – Feb 2026
Total	2 517 551	3 373 931	2 689 619	-20,3	6,8
South African residents	600 556	890 850	594 114	-33,3	-1,1
Arrivals	297 388	528 664	296 413	-43,9	-0,3
Departures	302 781	361 592	297 220	-17,8	-1,8
Transits	387	594	481	-19,0	24,3
Foreign travellers	1 916 995	2 483 081	2 095 505	-15,6	9,3
Arrivals	1 024 787	1 439 386	1 126 271	-21,8	9,9
Departures	861 915	1 007 203	935 359	-7,1	8,5
Transits	30 293	36 492	33 875	-7,2	11,8

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 February 2026, road was the most common mode of travel used by 1 751 418 (65,1%) of the 2 689 619 travellers. The total number of air travellers was 895 939 (33,3%). Compared to air and road, a smaller number of travellers, 42 262 (1,6%) used sea transport into and out of South Africa. Information on arrivals of South African residents shows that 127 036 (42,9%) came by air, 154 445 (52,1%) came by road and 14 932 (5,0%) came by sea. For departures, 124 980 (42,0%) used air, 157 948 (53,1%) used road and 14 292 (4,8%) left by sea. All travellers in transit, 481 (100,0%) used air.

In the case of foreign travellers, 302 231 (26,8%) arrived by air, 819 884 (72,8%) came by road and 4 156 (0,4%) arrived by sea. When departing South Africa, 307 336 (32,9%) foreign travellers left by air, 619 141 (66,2%) left by road and 8 882 (0,9%) left by sea. All travellers in transit, 33 875 (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	2 689 619	296 288	19 647	578 104	1 900	895 939	1 751 418	42 262
South African residents	594 114	42 169	12 116	196 959	1 253	252 497	312 393	29 224
Arrivals	296 413	23 733	5 860	96 841	602	127 036	154 445	14 932
Departures	297 220	18 433	6 256	99 640	651	124 980	157 948	14 292
Transit	481	3	-	478	-	481	-	-
Foreign travellers	2 095 505	254 119	7 531	381 145	647	643 442	1 439 025	13 038
Arrivals	1 126 271	125 603	3 566	172 729	333	302 231	819 884	4 156
Departures	935 359	128 265	3 965	174 792	314	307 336	619 141	8 882
Transit	33 875	251	-	33 624	-	33 875	-	-
Visitors	1 100 156	122 574	2 857	167 506	219	293 156	805 047	1 953
Same-day	235 622	962	8	14 814	40	15 824	219 363	435
Overnight/ Tourist	864 534	121 612	2 849	152 692	179	277 332	585 684	1 518

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 February 2026, 26 115 (2,3%) of foreign arrivals were classified as non-visitors, while 1 100 156 (97,7%) were classified as visitors. Visitors were categorised into three groups:

- Arrivals only – comprising visitors who entered the country in February 2026 but did not depart in February 2026 [477 316 (43,4%)].
- Single trips – visitors who came to South Africa once in February 2026 and left in February 2026 [341 708 (31,1%)].
- Multiple trips – visitors who came to and left South Africa more than once in February 2026 [281 132 (25,6%)].

Visitors were further grouped as same-day visitors and overnight visitors/tourists. In February 2026, there were 235 622 (21,4%) same-day visitors and 864 534 (78,6%) tourists. Between January 2026 and February 2026, the volume of same-day visitors decreased by 10,7% (from 263 888 in January 2026 to 235 622 in February 2026) and that of tourists decreased by 23,7% (from 1 133 533 in January 2026 to 864 534 in February 2026). Between February 2025 and February 2026, the volume of same-day visitors decreased by 0,4% (from 236 553 in February 2025 to 235 622 in February 2026) whereas that of tourists increased by 13,1% (from 764 111 in February 2025 to 864 534 in February 2026).

Table 2 on page 3 further shows that of the 235 622 same-day visitors, a majority, 219 363 (93,1%) arrived in the country by road, 15 824 (6,7%) arrived by air and 435 (0,2%) arrived by sea. Information on tourists shows that 585 684 (67,7%) used road, 277 332 (32,1%) used air and 1 518 (0,2%) used sea.

Table 3 – Number of visitors by type of visitor

Travel Direction	February 2025	January 2026	February 2026	% Change Jan 2026 – Feb 2026	% Change Feb 2025 – Feb 2026
Foreign arrivals	1 024 787	1 439 386	1 126 271	-21,8	9,9
Non-visitors	24 123	41 965	26 115	-37,8	8,3
Visitors	1 000 664	1 397 421	1 100 156	-21,3	9,9
Visitors	1 000 664	1 397 421	1 100 156	-21,3	9,9
Arrivals only	392 097	710 181	477 316	-32,8	21,7
Single trips	316 717	354 858	341 708	-3,7	7,9
Multiple trips	291 850	332 382	281 132	-15,4	-3,7
Visitors	1 000 664	1 397 421	1 100 156	-21,3	9,9
Same-day	236 553	263 888	235 622	-10,7	-0,4
Overnight/Tourists	764 111	1 133 533	864 534	-23,7	13,1

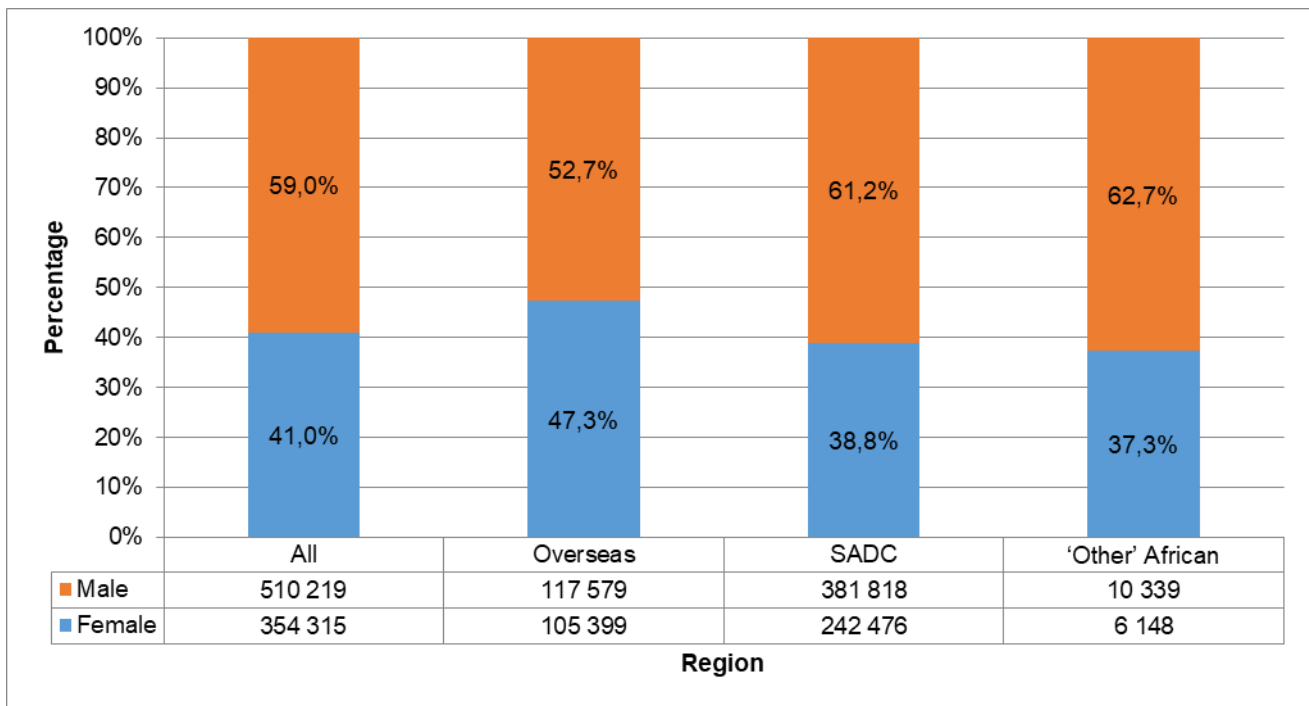
2.3 Tourists

2.3.1 Sex and age distribution of tourists

Sex

Figure 1 on page 5 shows that there were more male [510 219 (59,0%)] than female [354 315 (41,0%)] tourists. Male tourists constituted the majority of tourists for all three regions, SADC countries [381 818 (61,2%)], overseas countries [117 579 (52,7%)] and 'other' African countries [10 339 (62,7%)]. Similarly, the largest portion of female tourists was from SADC countries [242 476 (38,8%)], followed by overseas countries [105 399 (47,3%)] and 'other' African countries [6 148 (37,3%)].

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

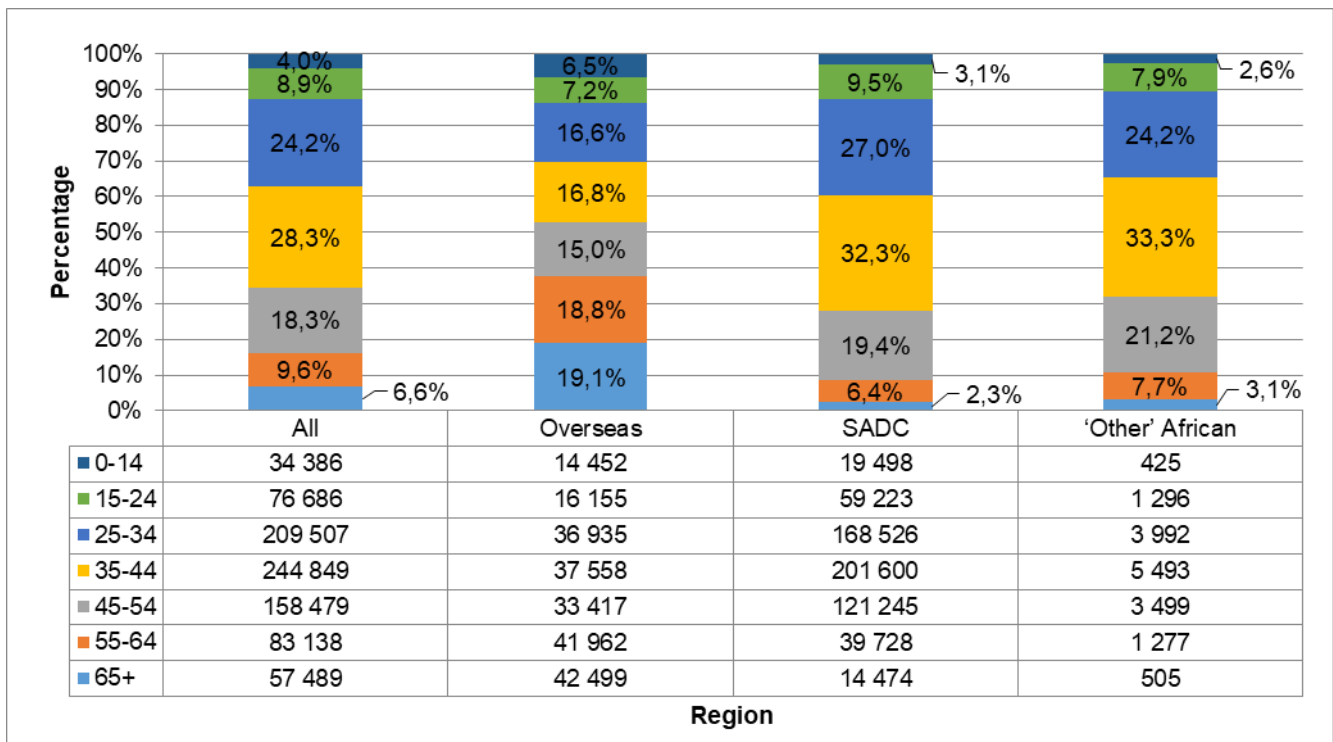


Age

The age distribution indicates that out of all tourists, [4,0% (34 386)] were aged younger than 15; [8,9% (76 686)] were aged between 15 and 24; [24,2% (209 507)] were aged between 25 and 34; [28,3% (244 849)] were aged between 35 and 44; [18,3% (158 479)] were aged between 45 and 54; [9,6% (83 138)] were aged between 55 and 64; and [6,6% (57 489)] were aged 65 and older (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 [32,3% (201 600)] and those from 'other' African countries [33,3% (5 493)] were aged between 35 and 44, whereas those from overseas countries [19,1% (42 499)] were aged 65 and older. The second highest proportion of tourists from SADC countries [27,0% (168 526)] and those from 'other' African countries [24,2% (3 992)] were aged between 25 and 34, while those from overseas countries [18,8% (41 962)] were aged between 55 and 64. The proportion of tourists aged younger than 15 was higher among tourists from overseas countries, 6,5% (14 452) compared with tourists from SADC countries, 3,1% (19 498) and from 'other' African countries, 2,6% (425). The median ages of tourists from overseas, SADC and 'other' African countries were 46, 38 and 39 years, respectively.

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

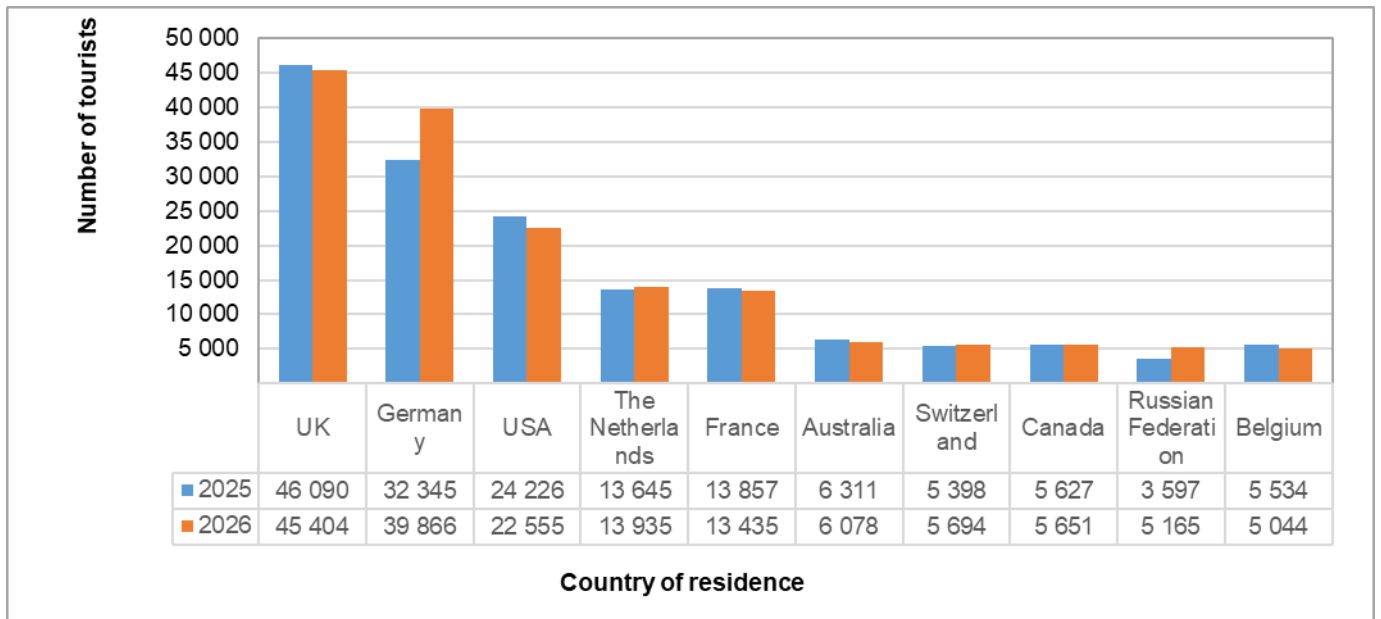


2.3.2 Regional and national distribution of tourists

In February 2026, the distribution of overseas tourists was as follows: Europe, 161 707 (72,5%); North America, 28 206 (12,6%); Asia, 15 804 (7,1%); Central and South America, 8 146 (3,7%); Australasia, 7 111 (3,2%) and Middle East, 2 004 (0,9%) (see Table 4 on page 9).

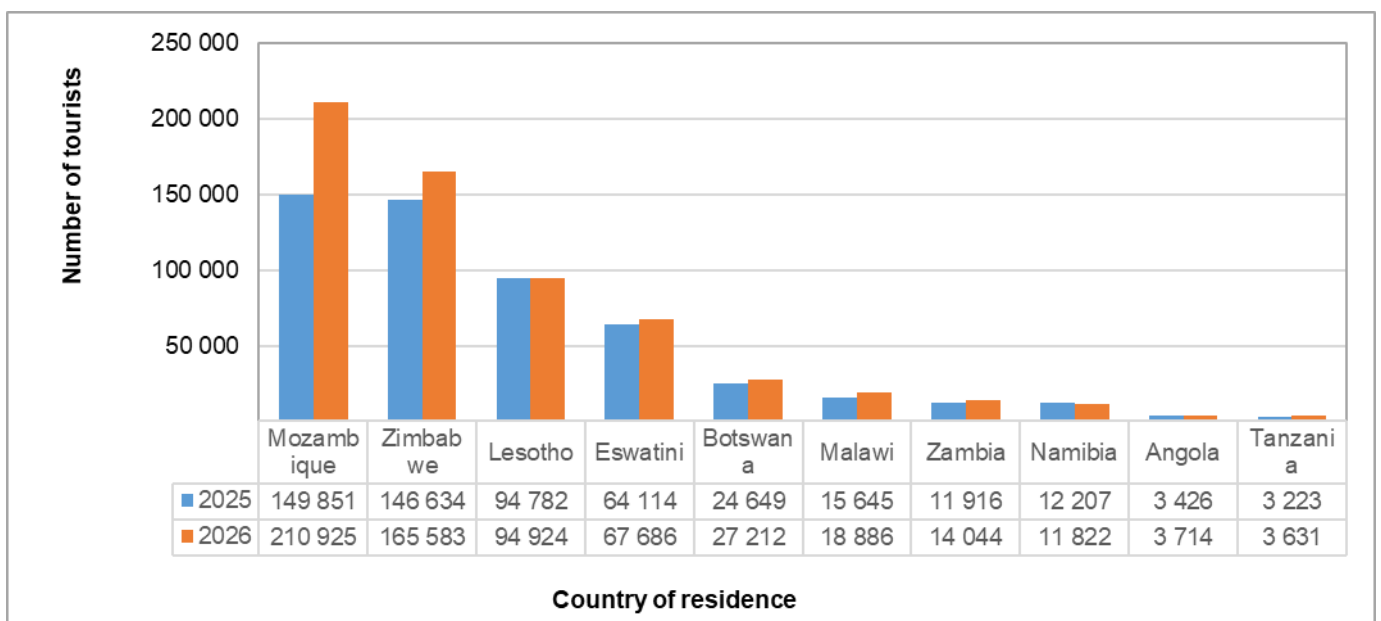
Figure 3 on page 7 indicates that the 10 leading overseas countries in terms of the number of tourists visiting South Africa in February 2026 were: UK, 45 404 (20,4%); Germany, 39 866 (17,9%); USA, 22 555 (10,1%); The Netherlands, 13 935 (6,2%); France, 13 435 (6,0%); Australia, 6 078 (2,7%); Switzerland, 5 694 (2,6%); Canada, 5 651 (2,5%); Russian Federation, 5 165 (2,3%) and Belgium, 5 044 (2,3%). Tourists from these 10 countries constituted 73,0% of all tourists from overseas countries. A comparison of movements in the 10 leading countries between February 2025 and February 2026 shows that the number of tourists increased for 5 of the 10 leading countries. Russian Federation had the highest increase of 43,6% (from 3 597 tourists in February 2025 to 5 165 tourists in February 2026).

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



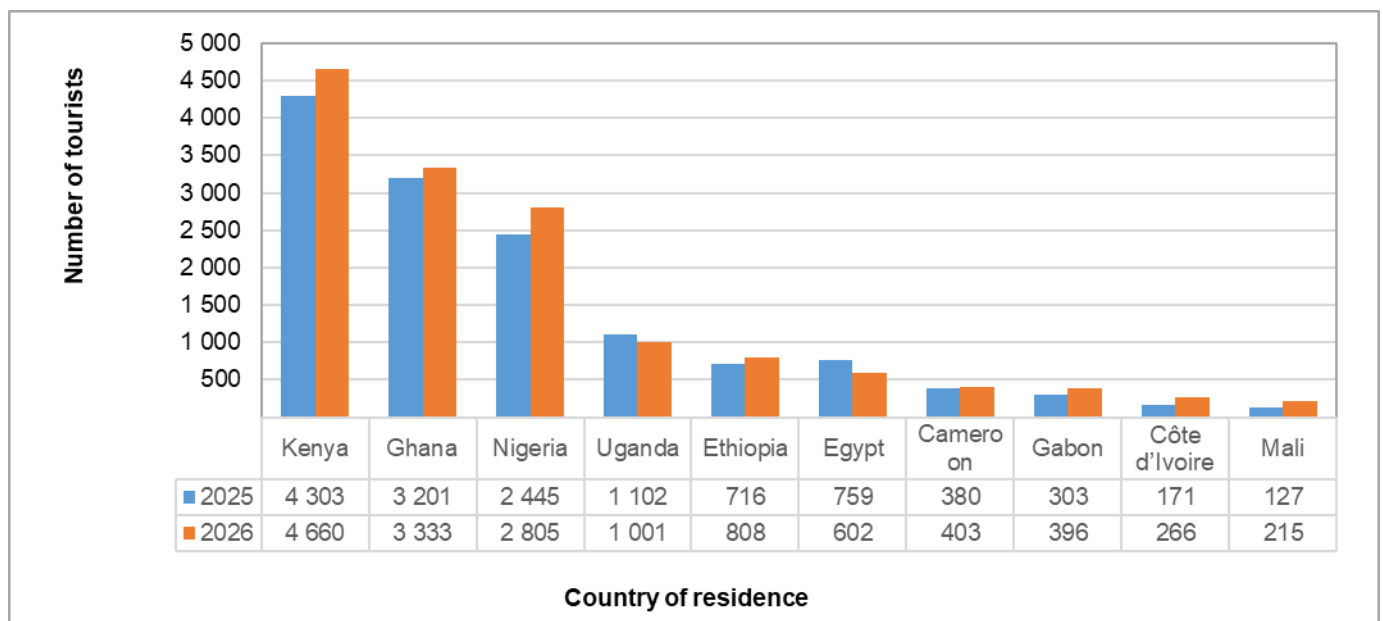
Virtually, most tourists from Africa, 624 294 (97,4%), came from SADC countries (see Table 4 on page 9). The distribution of the remaining tourists from Africa was as follows: East and Central Africa, 7 740 (1,2%); West Africa, 7 584 (1,2%) and North Africa, 1 163 (0,2%). The 10 leading SADC countries in terms of the number of tourists visiting South Africa in February 2026 are shown in Figure 4 below. The highest number of tourists were from Mozambique, 210 925 (33,8%); Zimbabwe, 165 583 (26,5%); Lesotho, 94 924 (15,2%); Eswatini, 67 686 (10,8%); Botswana, 27 212 (4,4%); Malawi, 18 886 (3,0%); Zambia, 14 044 (2,2%); Namibia, 11 822 (1,9%); Angola, 3 714 (0,6%) and Tanzania, 3 631 (0,6%). Tourists from these 10 countries constituted 99,1% of all tourists from the SADC countries. A comparison of movements in the 10 leading countries between February 2025 and February 2026 shows that the number of tourists increased for 9 of the 10 leading countries. Mozambique showed the highest increase of 40,8% (from 149 851 tourists in February 2025 to 210 925 tourists in February 2026).

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



The 10 leading countries in terms of the number of tourists visiting South Africa in February 2026 from 'other' African countries, as shown in Figure 5 below, were: Kenya, 4 660 (28,3%); Ghana, 3 333 (20,2%); Nigeria, 2 805 (17,0%); Uganda, 1 001 (6,1%); Ethiopia, 808 (4,9%); Egypt, 602 (3,7%); Cameroon, 403 (2,4%); Gabon, 396 (2,4%); Côte d'Ivoire, 266 (1,6%) and Mali, 215 (1,3%). Tourists from these 10 countries constituted 87,9% of all tourists from 'other' African countries. A comparison between movements in February 2025 and February 2026 shows that the number of tourists increased for 8 of the 10 leading countries. Mali showed the highest increase of 69,3% (from 127 tourists in February 2025 to 215 tourists in February 2026), followed by Côte d'Ivoire which increased by 55,6% (from 171 tourists in February 2025 to 266 tourists in February 2026).

Figure 5 – Number of tourists from the 10 leading 'other' African countries in February 2025 and February 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 February 2026, the majority of tourists, 838 236 (97,0%), were in South Africa for holiday compared to 21 399 (2,5%); 4 672 (0,5%) and 227 (less than 0,1%) who were in South Africa for business, study and medical treatment, respectively.

Within the overseas regions, Central and South America, 98,7% (8 037) had the highest proportion of tourists who came for holiday, followed by Europe, 98,3% (158 969); Australasia, 97,9% (6 964); North America, 97,4% (27 474); Middle East, 93,6% (1 876) and Asia, 93,4% (14 754).

Asia, 4,9% (773) had the highest proportion of tourists who came to South Africa for business, followed by Middle East, 4,6% (92); North America, 2,3% (636); Australasia, 2,0% (145); Europe, 1,5% (2 347) and Central and South America, 1,0% (85).

Middle East, 1,8% (36) had the highest proportion of tourists who came to study, followed by Asia, 1,7% (271); North America, 0,3% (91); Central and South America, 0,3% (23); Europe, 0,2% (345) and Australasia had no student tourists.

Europe (46), Asia (6), North America (5), Australasia (2), Central and South America (1) had less than 0,1% of tourists who came for medical treatment whereas Middle East had none.

Majority of African tourists, 619 435 (96,7%) 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 96,8% (604 506) of tourists from SADC countries compared to 90,6% (14 929) from 'other' African countries. Information on the regions of 'other' African countries shows that 91,0% (7 043) of tourists from East and Central Africa were on holiday, followed by tourists from West Africa, 90,9% (6 895) and those from North Africa, 85,2% (991).
- Business persons constituted 2,6% (16 418) of tourists from SADC countries compared to 5,2% (859) from 'other' African countries. North Africa, 9,6% (112) had the highest proportion of tourists who came to South Africa for business purposes, followed by West Africa, 5,1% (384) and East and Central Africa, 4,7% (363).
- Students constituted 0,5% (3 242) of tourists from SADC countries compared to 4,0% (662) from 'other' African countries. North Africa, 5,1% (59) had the highest proportion of tourists who came to South Africa for study purposes, followed by East and Central Africa, 4,0% (308) and West Africa, 3,9% (295).
- Tourists who came for medical treatment constituted less than 0,1% (128) of tourists from SADC countries, while those from 'other' African countries constituted 0,2% (37). East and Central Africa, 0,3% (26) had the highest proportion of tourists who came for medical treatment, followed by West Africa, 0,1% (10) and North Africa, 0,1% (1).

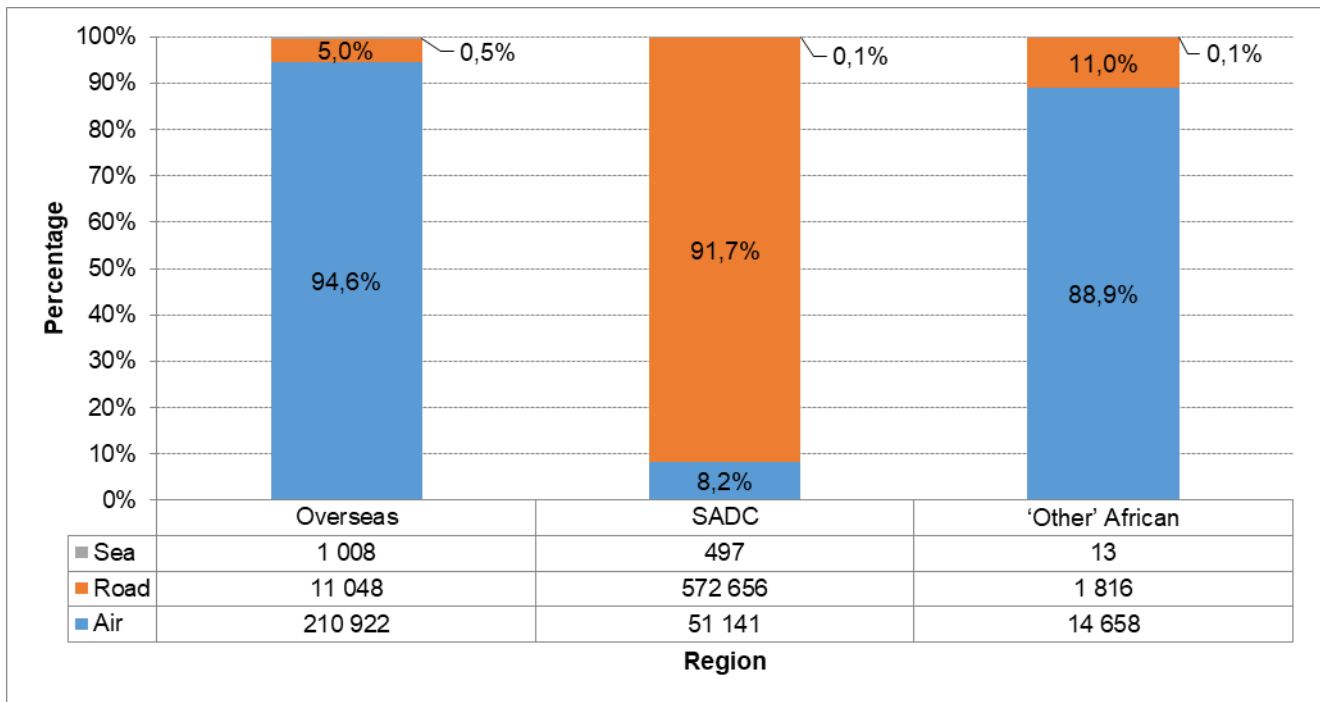
Table 4 – Number of tourists by region of residence and purpose of visit

Region of residence	February 2026	Business	Holiday	Study	Medical treatment
Total	864 534	21 399	838 236	4 672	227
Overseas	222 978	4 078	218 074	766	60
Europe	161 707	2 347	158 969	345	46
North America	28 206	636	27 474	91	5
Central and South America	8 146	85	8 037	23	1
Australasia	7 111	145	6 964	-	2
Middle East	2 004	92	1 876	36	-
Asia	15 804	773	14 754	271	6
Africa	640 781	17 277	619 435	3 904	165
SADC	624 294	16 418	604 506	3 242	128
'Other' African	16 487	859	14 929	662	37
East and Central Africa	7 740	363	7 043	308	26
West Africa	7 584	384	6 895	295	10
North Africa	1 163	112	991	59	1
Unspecified	775	44	727	2	2

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, 210 922 (94,6%) overseas tourists arrived in the country by air, whilst 11 048 (5,0%) came by road and 1 008 (0,5%) came by sea. Tourists from the SADC countries, on the other hand, came predominantly by road, 572 656 (91,7%), 51 141 (8,2%) came by air and 497 (0,1%) arrived by sea. The number of tourists who came into South Africa by air from 'other' African countries was 14 658 (88,9%); while 1 816 (11,0%) used road transport and 13 (0,1%) preferred sea. Most tourists who arrived by road came through Lebombo port (203 977) in Mpumalanga and Beit Bridge port (132 406) in Limpopo. The majority of tourists who came by air entered through OR Tambo International Airport (152 692) and Cape Town International Airport (121 612). Tourists who arrived by sea came through Cape Town Harbour (894) and Durban Harbour (624).

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



3. Annexures

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

Country of residence	February 2025	February 2026	Difference between February 2025 and February 2026	% change between February 2025 and February 2026
Total	764 111	864 534	100 423	13,1
Overseas	215 830	222 978	7 148	3,3
Europe	151 506	161 707	10 201	6,7
Austria	3 217	3 369	152	4,7
Belgium	5 534	5 044	-490	-8,9
Denmark	2 723	2 764	41	1,5
France	13 857	13 435	-422	-3,0
Germany	32 345	39 866	7 521	23,3
Ireland	3 048	3 141	93	3,1
Italy	3 708	3 575	-133	-3,6
Norway	2 112	2 177	65	3,1
Portugal	1 677	2 054	377	22,5
Russian Federation	3 597	5 165	1 568	43,6
Sweden	4 119	4 134	15	0,4
Switzerland	5 398	5 694	296	5,5
The Netherlands	13 645	13 935	290	2,1
UK	46 090	45 404	-686	-1,5
Other	10 436	11 950	1 514	14,5
North America	29 853	28 206	-1 647	-5,5
Canada	5 627	5 651	24	0,4
USA	24 226	22 555	-1 671	-6,9
Central and South America	7 106	8 146	1 040	14,6
Argentina	1 158	1 776	618	53,4
Brazil	4 020	4 672	652	16,2
Chile	689	609	-80	-11,6
Other	1 239	1 089	-150	-12,1

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

Country of residence	February 2025	February 2026	Difference between February 2025 and February 2026	% change between February 2025 and February 2026
Australasia	7 505	7 111	-394	-5,2
Australia	6 311	6 078	-233	-3,7
New Zealand	1 137	1 021	-116	-10,2
Other	57	12	-45	-78,9
Middle East	2 698	2 004	-694	-25,7
Israel	766	785	19	2,5
Lebanon	204	215	11	5,4
Saudi Arabia	817	412	-405	-49,6
Other	911	592	-319	-35,0
Asia	17 162	15 804	-1 358	-7,9
Bangladesh	589	744	155	26,3
China	3 306	2 623	-683	-20,7
India	5 991	4 677	-1 314	-21,9
Japan	1 633	1 646	13	0,8
Pakistan	1 381	1 742	361	26,1
Philippines	374	427	53	14,2
Singapore	409	593	184	45,0
South Korea	1 789	1 473	-316	-17,7
Taiwan	359	422	63	17,5
Thailand	325	374	49	15,1
Other	1 006	1 083	77	7,7
Africa	547 233	640 781	93 548	17,1
SADC	531 644	624 294	92 650	17,4
Angola	3 426	3 714	288	8,4
Botswana	24 649	27 212	2 563	10,4
DRC	2 858	3 541	683	23,9
Eswatini	64 114	67 686	3 572	5,6

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

Country of residence	February 2025	February 2026	Difference between February 2025 and February 2026	% change between February 2025 and February 2026
Lesotho	94 782	94 924	142	0,1
Madagascar	329	366	37	11,2
Malawi	15 645	18 886	3 241	20,7
Mauritius	1 511	1 415	-96	-6,4
Mozambique	149 851	210 925	61 074	40,8
Namibia	12 207	11 822	-385	-3,2
Seychelles	499	545	46	9,2
Tanzania	3 223	3 631	408	12,7
Zambia	11 916	14 044	2 128	17,9
Zimbabwe	146 634	165 583	18 949	12,9
'Other' African	15 589	16 487	898	5,8
East and Central Africa	7 351	7 740	389	5,3
Burundi	79	99	20	25,3
Cameroon	380	403	23	6,1
Central African Republic	17	19	2	11,8
Chad	56	50	-6	-10,7
Comoros	22	14	-8	-36,4
Congo	138	99	-39	-28,3
Equatorial Guinea	20	20	-	-
Eritrea	47	33	-14	-29,8
Ethiopia	716	808	92	12,8
Gabon	303	396	93	30,7
Kenya	4 303	4 660	357	8,3
Réunion	-	13	13	-
Rwanda	74	53	-21	-28,4
São Tomé and Príncipe	2	9	7	350,0
Somalia	80	63	-17	-21,3
Uganda	1 102	1 001	-101	-9,2

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

Country of residence	February 2025	February 2026	Difference between February 2025 and February 2026	% change between February 2025 and February 2026
West Africa	6 815	7 584	769	11,3
Benin	167	140	-27	-16,2
Burkina Faso	113	154	41	36,3
Cape Verde Island	24	22	-2	-8,3
Côte d'Ivoire	171	266	95	55,6
Gambia	45	30	-15	-33,3
Ghana	3 201	3 333	132	4,1
Guinea	138	140	2	1,4
Guinea-Bissau	8	7	-1	-12,5
Liberia	68	65	-3	-4,4
Mali	127	215	88	69,3
Mauritania	38	61	23	60,5
Niger	25	44	19	76,0
Nigeria	2 445	2 805	360	14,7
Saint Helena	3	1	-2	-66,7
Senegal	147	153	6	4,1
Sierra Leone	57	72	15	26,3
Togo	38	76	38	100,0
North Africa	1 423	1 163	-260	-18,3
Algeria	75	98	23	30,7
Egypt	759	602	-157	-20,7
Libya	80	25	-55	-68,8
Morocco	174	163	-11	-6,3
South Sudan	54	50	-4	-7,4
The Sudan	83	81	-2	-2,4
Tunisia	196	143	-53	-27,0
Western Sahara	2	1	-1	-50,0
Unspecified	1 048	775	-273	-26,0

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

Country of residence	February 2026	Air					Road	Sea
		Cape Town	King Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total		
Total	864 534	121 612	2 849	152 692	179	277 332	585 684	1 518
Overseas	222 978	111 505	2 301	97 004	112	210 922	11 048	1 008
Europe	161 707	90 427	1 576	61 432	60	153 495	7 244	968
Austria	3 369	2 068	49	1 115	2	3 234	113	22
Belgium	5 044	2 624	28	2 149	2	4 803	238	3
Denmark	2 764	832	119	1 667	2	2 620	144	-
France	13 435	5 456	38	6 774	1	12 269	1 160	6
Germany	39 866	25 406	187	11 734	2	37 329	1 691	846
Ireland	3 141	1 931	53	1 097	1	3 082	56	3
Italy	3 575	1 821	46	1 511	2	3 380	187	8
Norway	2 177	1 121	104	889	-	2 114	62	1
Portugal	2 054	695	11	772	4	1 482	572	-
Russian Federation	5 165	3 126	19	1 852	1	4 998	167	-
Sweden	4 134	2 400	64	1 569	-	4 033	99	2
Switzerland	5 694	3 495	36	1 911	6	5 448	235	11
The Netherlands	13 935	8 360	72	4 535	3	12 970	958	7
UK	45 404	25 367	548	18 484	26	44 425	951	28
Other	11 950	5 725	202	5 373	8	11 308	611	31
North America	28 206	13 117	171	13 768	38	27 094	1 103	9
Canada	5 651	2 636	33	2 670	-	5 339	308	4
USA	22 555	10 481	138	11 098	38	21 755	795	5
Central and South America	8 146	1 768	25	6 027	1	7 821	321	4
Argentina	1 776	212	4	1 539	-	1 755	21	-
Brazil	4 672	1 183	2	3 331	1	4 517	152	3
Chile	609	52	-	543	-	595	13	1
Other	1 089	321	19	614	-	954	135	-

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

Country of residence	February 2026	Air					Road	Sea
		Cape Town	King Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total		
Australasia	7 111	1 472	74	5 424	7	6 977	130	4
Australia	6 078	1 213	53	4 694	2	5 962	112	4
New Zealand	1 021	256	21	721	5	1 003	18	-
Other	12	3	-	9	-	12	-	-
Middle East	2 004	929	29	964	1	1 923	81	-
Israel	785	329	8	401	1	739	46	-
Lebanon	215	57	5	149	-	211	4	-
Saudi Arabia	412	274	9	125	-	408	4	-
Other	592	269	7	289	-	565	27	-
Asia	15 804	3 792	426	9 389	5	13 612	2 169	23
Bangladesh	744	99	53	449	-	601	143	-
China	2 623	474	26	1 874	2	2 376	245	2
India	4 677	675	115	3 118	2	3 910	761	6
Japan	1 646	570	64	946	-	1 580	66	-
Pakistan	1 742	269	80	843	-	1 192	550	-
Philippines	427	98	39	243	1	381	36	10
Singapore	593	277	1	314	-	592	1	-
South Korea	1 473	759	3	521	-	1 283	189	1
Taiwan	422	114	2	217	-	333	89	-
Thailand	374	114	15	240	-	369	3	2
Other	1 083	343	28	624	-	995	86	2
Africa	640 781	10 024	547	55 161	54	65 799	574 472	510
SADC	624 294	6 410	505	44 172	54	51 141	572 656	497
Angola	3 714	1 514	-	1 651	3	3 168	545	1
Botswana	27 212	311	1	2 806	11	3 129	24 046	37
DRC	3 541	130	-	3 234	6	3 370	169	2
Eswatini	67 686	177	61	1 018	-	1 256	66 397	33

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

Country of residence	February 2026	Air					Road	Sea
		Cape Town	King Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total		
Lesotho	94 924	3	2	528	-	533	94 255	136
Madagascar	366	22	2	338	-	362	4	-
Malawi	18 886	19	2	2 582	1	2 604	16 269	13
Mauritius	1 415	411	2	945	-	1 358	57	-
Mozambique	210 925	291	4	3 628	7	3 930	206 931	64
Namibia	11 822	1 710	1	2 850	3	4 564	7 197	61
Seychelles	545	10	2	515	-	527	18	-
Tanzania	3 631	398	1	2 109	-	2 508	1 123	-
Zambia	14 044	140	2	4 761	2	4 905	9 118	21
Zimbabwe	165 583	1 274	425	17 207	21	18 927	146 527	129
'Other' African	16 487	3 614	42	10 989	13	14 658	1 816	13
East and Central Africa	7 740	1 964	15	4 956	8	6 943	792	5
Burundi	99	7	-	84	-	91	8	-
Cameroon	403	77	2	297	-	376	26	1
Central African Republic	19	12	-	7	-	19	-	-
Chad	50	6	-	44	-	50	-	-
Comoros	14	2	-	12	-	14	-	-
Congo	99	25	-	70	1	96	3	-
Equatorial Guinea	20	-	-	20	-	20	-	-
Eritrea	33	-	2	31	-	33	-	-
Ethiopia	808	106	2	605	2	715	93	-
Gabon	396	67	-	324	-	391	5	-
Kenya	4 660	1 457	7	2 659	4	4 127	530	3
Réunion	13	13	-	-	-	13	-	-
Rwanda	53	7	-	39	-	46	7	-
São Tomé and Príncipe	9	1	-	8	-	9	-	-
Somalia	63	5	1	26	-	32	31	-
Uganda	1 001	179	1	730	1	911	89	1

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

Country of residence	February 2026	Air					Road	Sea
		Cape Town	King Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total		
West Africa	7 584	1 375	3	5 193	4	6 575	1 002	7
Benin	140	16	-	117	-	133	7	-
Burkina Faso	154	66	-	86	-	152	2	-
Cape Verde Island	22	10	-	12	-	22	-	-
Côte d'Ivoire	266	46	-	220	-	266	-	-
Gambia	30	1	-	29	-	30	-	-
Ghana	3 333	346	2	2 181	-	2 529	799	5
Guinea	140	46	-	69	-	115	25	-
Guinea-Bissau	7	1	-	5	-	6	1	-
Liberia	65	11	-	50	-	61	4	-
Mali	215	118	-	81	-	199	16	-
Mauritania	61	34	-	27	-	61	-	-
Niger	44	15	-	28	-	43	-	1
Nigeria	2 805	574	-	2 085	3	2 662	142	1
Saint Helena	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
Senegal	153	48	1	100	-	149	4	-
Sierra Leone	72	37	-	33	-	70	2	-
Togo	76	6	-	70	-	76	-	-
North Africa	1 163	275	24	840	1	1 140	22	1
Algeria	98	4	1	90	-	95	2	1
Egypt	602	135	6	449	1	591	11	-
Libya	25	1	4	19	-	24	1	-
Morocco	163	52	4	106	-	162	1	-
South Sudan	50	15	-	34	-	49	1	-
The Sudan	81	13	3	63	-	79	2	-
Tunisia	143	55	6	78	-	139	4	-
Western Sahara	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-
Unspecified	775	83	1	527	-	611	164	-

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

Country of residence	February 2026	Purpose of visit			
		Business	Holiday	Study	Medical Treatment
Total	864 534	21 399	838 236	4 672	227
Overseas	222 978	4 078	218 074	766	60
Europe	161 707	2 347	158 969	345	46
Austria	3 369	33	3 329	7	-
Belgium	5 044	76	4 952	15	1
Denmark	2 764	23	2 740	1	-
France	13 435	258	13 141	36	-
Germany	39 866	314	39 453	98	1
Ireland	3 141	52	3 082	6	1
Italy	3 575	84	3 478	8	5
Norway	2 177	27	2 109	41	-
Portugal	2 054	54	1 992	5	3
Russian Federation	5 165	53	5 105	7	-
Sweden	4 134	47	4 075	12	-
Switzerland	5 694	51	5 635	6	2
The Netherlands	13 935	144	13 742	37	12
UK	45 404	825	44 520	40	19
Other	11 950	306	11 616	26	2
North America	28 206	636	27 474	91	5
Canada	5 651	147	5 495	7	2
USA	22 555	489	21 979	84	3
Central and South America	8 146	85	8 037	23	1
Argentina	1 776	5	1 770	1	-
Brazil	4 672	36	4 622	14	-
Chile	609	6	602	1	-
Other	1 089	38	1 043	7	1

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

Country of residence	February 2026	Purpose of visit			
		Business	Holiday	Study	Medical Treatment
Australasia	7 111	145	6 964	-	2
Australia	6 078	137	5 939	-	2
New Zealand	1 021	7	1 014	-	-
Other	12	1	11	-	-
Middle East	2 004	92	1 876	36	-
Israel	785	12	773	-	-
Lebanon	215	18	197	-	-
Saudi Arabia	412	23	379	10	-
Other	592	39	527	26	-
Asia	15 804	773	14 754	271	6
Bangladesh	744	12	721	10	1
China	2 623	84	2 515	24	-
India	4 677	389	4 126	160	2
Japan	1 646	101	1 537	8	-
Pakistan	1 742	28	1 692	22	-
Philippines	427	10	403	12	2
Singapore	593	51	542	-	-
South Korea	1 473	18	1 444	11	-
Taiwan	422	27	394	-	1
Thailand	374	8	365	1	-
Other	1 083	45	1 015	23	-
Africa	640 781	17 277	619 435	3 904	165
SADC	624 294	16 418	604 506	3 242	128
Angola	3 714	121	3 430	141	22
Botswana	27 212	661	26 286	259	6
DRC	3 541	88	3 249	160	44
Eswatini	67 686	2 085	65 384	216	1

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

Country of residence	February 2026	Purpose of visit			
		Business	Holiday	Study	Medical Treatment
Lesotho	94 924	582	93 303	1 036	3
Madagascar	366	3	361	2	-
Malawi	18 886	224	18 562	99	1
Mauritius	1 415	22	1 357	33	3
Mozambique	210 925	2 197	208 652	67	9
Namibia	11 822	3 281	8 198	330	13
Seychelles	545	3	541	-	1
Tanzania	3 631	156	3 378	92	5
Zambia	14 044	3 142	10 802	96	4
Zimbabwe	165 583	3 853	161 003	711	16
'Other' African	16 487	859	14 929	662	37
East and Central Africa	7 740	363	7 043	308	26
Burundi	99	4	87	5	3
Cameroon	403	30	331	30	12
Central African Republic	19	5	13	-	1
Chad	50	3	38	9	-
Comoros	14	1	13	-	-
Congo	99	4	89	4	2
Equatorial Guinea	20	-	17	3	-
Eritrea	33	-	32	1	-
Ethiopia	808	36	746	25	1
Gabon	396	6	357	32	1
Kenya	4 660	195	4 340	121	4
Réunion	13	-	13	-	-
Rwanda	53	3	49	1	-
São Tomé and Príncipe	9	-	9	-	-
Somalia	63	10	51	2	-
Uganda	1 001	66	858	75	2

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

Country of residence	February 2026	Purpose of visit			
		Business	Holiday	Study	Medical Treatment
West Africa	7 584	384	6 895	295	10
Benin	140	7	128	5	-
Burkina Faso	154	35	116	3	-
Cape Verde Island	22	2	20	-	-
Côte d'Ivoire	266	34	225	7	-
Gambia	30	1	26	3	-
Ghana	3 333	78	3 230	22	3
Guinea	140	27	100	11	2
Guinea-Bissau	7	1	6	-	-
Liberia	65	6	58	1	-
Mali	215	48	165	1	1
Mauritania	61	14	47	-	-
Niger	44	7	37	-	-
Nigeria	2 805	78	2 487	236	4
Saint Helena	1	-	1	-	-
Senegal	153	31	120	2	-
Sierra Leone	72	7	62	3	-
Togo	76	8	67	1	-
North Africa	1 163	112	991	59	1
Algeria	98	3	91	4	-
Egypt	602	59	518	24	1
Libya	25	1	22	2	-
Morocco	163	28	135	-	-
South Sudan	50	3	33	14	-
The Sudan	81	3	64	14	-
Tunisia	143	15	127	1	-
Western Sahara	1	-	1	-	-
Unspecified	775	44	727	2	2

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

Country of residence	Jan – Feb 2025	Jan – Feb 2026	Difference between Jan – Feb 2025 and Jan – Feb 2026	% change between Jan – Feb 2025 and Jan – Feb 2026
Total	1 778 095	1 998 067	219 972	12,4
Overseas	426 539	458 036	31 497	7,4
Europe	294 292	327 310	33 018	11,2
Austria	5 711	6 708	997	17,5
Belgium	9 549	9 672	123	1,3
Denmark	5 271	5 454	183	3,5
France	23 814	25 012	1 198	5,0
Germany	63 640	78 172	14 532	22,8
Ireland	6 177	6 820	643	10,4
Italy	7 170	7 621	451	6,3
Norway	3 963	3 921	-42	-1,1
Poland	3 763	4 184	421	11,2
Russian Federation	7 510	10 595	3 085	41,1
Sweden	8 168	8 467	299	3,7
Switzerland	10 342	11 375	1 033	10,0
The Netherlands	28 172	30 195	2 023	7,2
UK	91 453	95 117	3 664	4,0
Other	19 589	23 997	4 408	22,5
North America	60 504	57 936	-2 568	-4,2
Canada	10 872	11 058	186	1,7
USA	49 632	46 878	-2 754	-5,5
Central and South America	15 464	18 526	3 062	19,8
Argentina	2 257	3 019	762	33,8
Brazil	9 474	12 066	2 592	27,4
Chile	1 059	1 025	-34	-3,2
Other	2 674	2 416	-258	-9,6

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

Country of residence	Jan – Feb 2025	Jan – Feb 2026	Difference between Jan – Feb 2025 and Jan – Feb 2026	% change between Jan – Feb 2025 and Jan – Feb 2026
Australasia	16 573	17 609	1 036	6,3
Australia	13 927	15 172	1 245	8,9
New Zealand	2 570	2 413	-157	-6,1
Other	76	24	-52	-68,4
Middle East	5 532	4 993	-539	-9,7
Israel	1 480	1 619	139	9,4
Lebanon	396	427	31	7,8
Saudi Arabia	1 876	1 620	-256	-13,6
Other	1 780	1 327	-453	-25,4
Asia	34 174	31 662	-2 512	-7,4
Bangladesh	1 093	1 365	272	24,9
China	7 044	5 094	-1 950	-27,7
India	11 893	9 994	-1 899	-16,0
Japan	2 963	3 080	117	3,9
Malaysia	798	741	-57	-7,1
Pakistan	2 691	3 513	822	30,5
Philippines	724	818	94	13,0
Singapore	717	984	267	37,2
South Korea	3 524	3 201	-323	-9,2
Taiwan	902	724	-178	-19,7
Other	1 825	2 148	323	17,7
Africa	1 349 714	1 538 542	188 828	14,0
SADC	1 319 204	1 506 317	187 113	14,2
Angola	6 854	6 902	48	0,7
Botswana	50 627	55 195	4 568	9,0
DRC	5 609	6 404	795	14,2
Eswatini	138 270	148 318	10 048	7,3

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

Country of residence	Jan – Feb 2025	Jan – Feb 2026	Difference between Jan – Feb 2025 and Jan – Feb 2026	% change between Jan – Feb 2025 and Jan – Feb 2026
Lesotho	271 332	273 453	2 121	0,8
Madagascar	593	694	101	17,0
Malawi	33 790	40 436	6 646	19,7
Mauritius	2 890	2 902	12	0,4
Mozambique	332 619	434 051	101 432	30,5
Namibia	25 309	24 402	-907	-3,6
Seychelles	891	988	97	10,9
Tanzania	6 325	7 191	866	13,7
Zambia	24 377	28 573	4 196	17,2
Zimbabwe	419 718	476 808	57 090	13,6
'Other' African	30 510	32 225	1 715	5,6
East and Central Africa	14 442	15 231	789	5,5
Burundi	174	198	24	13,8
Cameroon	753	815	62	8,2
Central African Republic	35	25	-10	-28,6
Chad	109	88	-21	-19,3
Comoros	52	33	-19	-36,5
Congo	353	219	-134	-38,0
Djibouti	22	7	-15	-68,2
Equatorial Guinea	57	41	-16	-28,1
Eritrea	88	61	0	-30,7
Ethiopia	1 294	1 568	274	21,2
Gabon	607	745	138	22,7
Kenya	8 149	9 036	887	10,9
Réunion	6	13	7	116,7
Rwanda	162	134	-28	-17,3
São Tomé and Príncipe	20	15	-5	-25,0
Somalia	145	150	5	3,4
Uganda	2 416	2 083	-333	-13,8

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

Country of residence	Jan – Feb 2025	Jan – Feb 2026	Difference between Jan – Feb 2025 and Jan – Feb 2026	% change between Jan – Feb 2025 and Jan – Feb 2026
West Africa	13 178	14 600	1 422	10,8
Benin	315	252	-63	-20,0
Burkina Faso	164	193	29	17,7
Cape Verde Island	57	48	-9	-15,8
Côte d'Ivoire	393	400	7	1,8
Gambia	76	77	1	1,3
Ghana	6 289	6 613	324	5,2
Guinea	242	212	-30	-12,4
Guinea-Bissau	30	8	-22	-73,3
Liberia	138	100	-38	-27,5
Mali	254	263	9	3,5
Mauritania	64	76	12	18,8
Niger	53	65	12	22,6
Nigeria	4 652	5 824	1 172	25,2
Saint Helena	5	2	-3	-60,0
Senegal	259	269	10	3,9
Sierra Leone	107	107	-	-
Togo	80	91	11	13,8
North Africa	2 890	2 394	-496	-17,2
Algeria	228	225	-3	-1,3
Egypt	1 440	1 226	-214	-14,9
Libya	132	65	-67	-50,8
Morocco	426	280	-146	-34,3
South Sudan	107	113	6	5,6
The Sudan	187	211	24	12,8
Tunisia	366	273	-93	-25,4
Western Sahara	4	1	-3	-75,0
Unspecified	1 842	1 489	-353	-19,2

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

Port of entry and province	February 2019	February 2026	Difference between Feb 2019 and Feb 2026	% Change between Feb 2019 and Feb 2026
Total	778 319	864 534	86 215	11,1
Western Cape	97 872	122 506	24 634	25,2
Cape Town Harbour	36	894	858	2383,3
Cape Town International Airport	97 836	121 612	23 776	24,3
Northern Cape	6 716	7 349	633	9,4
Nakop	2 714	3 985	1 271	46,8
Violsdrift	4 002	3 364	-638	-15,9
Free State	100 003	96 201	-3 802	-3,8
Caledonspoort	8 159	9 817	1 658	20,3
Ficksburg	40 210	37 214	-2 996	-7,5
Maseru Bridge	41 684	44 481	2 797	6,7
Van Rooyens Gate	9 950	4 689	-5 261	-52,9
KwaZulu Natal	23 425	28 629	5 204	22,2
Durban Harbour	341	624	283	83,0
King Shaka International Airport	4 898	2 849	-2 049	-41,8
Golela	12 691	11 862	-829	-6,5
Kosibay	5 495	13 294	7 799	141,9
North West	37 425	28 659	-8 766	-23,4
Kopfontein	19 954	15 696	-4 258	-21,3
Ramatlabama	5 885	5 331	-554	-9,4
Skilpad Gate	8 248	5 482	-2 766	-33,5
Swartkopfontein Gate	3 338	2 150	-1 188	-35,6
Gauteng	181 441	152 871	-28 570	-15,7
Lanseria International Airport	147	179	32	21,8
OR Tambo International Airport	181 294	152 692	-28 602	-15,8
Mpumalanga	172 193	278 529	106 336	61,8
Emahlatini	4 477	4 823	346	7,7
Jeppes Reef	10 150	12 814	2 664	26,2
Lebombo	108 471	203 977	95 506	88,0
Mahamba	7 089	6 593	-496	-7,0
Mananga	7 709	8 039	330	4,3
Nerston	1 132	647	-485	-42,8
Oshoek	33 165	41 636	8 471	25,5
Limpopo	159 244	149 790	-9 454	-5,9
Beit Bridge	144 191	132 406	-11 785	-8,2
Groblers Bridge	15 053	17 384	2 331	15,5

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

Port of entry and province	February 2025	February 2026	Difference between Feb 2025 and Feb 2026	% Change between Feb 2025 and Feb 2026
Total	761 591	862 384	100 793	13,2
Western Cape	118 697	122 506	3 809	3,2
Cape Town Harbour	492	894	402	81,7
Cape Town International Airport	118 205	121 612	3 407	2,9
Northern Cape	7 977	7 349	-628	-7,9
Nakop	4 108	3 985	-123	-3,0
Violsdrift	3 869	3 364	-505	-13,1
Free State	93 809	96 201	2 392	2,5
Caledonspoort	9 342	9 817	475	5,1
Ficksburg	33 431	37 214	3 783	11,3
Maseru Bridge	44 546	44 481	-65	-0,1
Van Rooyens Gate	6 490	4 689	-1 801	-27,8
KwaZulu Natal	25 129	28 629	3 500	13,9
Durban Harbour	1 236	624	-612	-49,5
King Shaka International Airport	3 361	2 849	-512	-15,2
Golela	11 169	11 862	693	6,2
Kosibay	9 363	13 294	3 931	42,0
North West	27 538	26 509	-1 029	-3,7
Kopfontein	15 537	15 696	159	1,0
Ramatlabama	5 326	5 331	5	0,1
Skilpad Gate	6 675	5 482	-1 193	-17,9
Gauteng	142 109	152 871	10 762	7,6
Lanseria International Airport	229	179	-50	-21,8
OR Tambo International Airport	141 880	152 692	10 812	7,6
Mpumalanga	214 935	278 529	63 594	29,6
Emahlatini	4 105	4 823	718	17,5
Jeppes Reef	11 335	12 814	1 479	13,0
Lebombo	146 355	203 977	57 622	39,4
Mahamba	6 056	6 593	537	8,9
Mananga	9 799	8 039	-1 760	-18,0
Nerston	165	647	482	292,1
Oshoek	37 120	41 636	4 516	12,2
Limpopo	131 397	149 790	18 393	14,0
Beit Bridge	116 265	132 406	16 141	13,9
Groblers Bridge	15 132	17 384	2 252	14,9

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

Port of entry and province	Jan – Feb 2025	Jan – Feb 2026	Difference between Jan – Feb 2025 and Jan – Feb 2026	% Change between Jan – Feb 2025 and Jan – Feb 2026
Total	1 533 995	1 993 542	459 547	30,0
Western Cape	233 941	257 011	23 070	9,9
Cape Town Harbour	664	5 813	5 149	775,5
Cape Town International Airport	233 277	251 198	17 921	7,7
Northern Cape	17 018	15 848	-1 170	-6,9
Nakop	8 308	7 978	-330	-4,0
Violsdrift	8 710	7 870	-840	-9,6
Free State	264 535	276 190	11 655	4,4
Caledonspoort	26 485	29 083	2 598	9,8
Ficksburg	108 860	120 257	11 397	10,5
Maseru Bridge	109 844	118 237	8 393	7,6
Van Rooyens Gate	19 346	8 613	-10 733	-55,5
KwaZulu Natal	55 599	61 372	5 773	10,4
Durban Harbour	2 554	1 313	-1 241	-48,6
King Shaka International Airport	6 056	5 578	-478	-7,9
Golela	24 315	25 096	781	3,2
Kosibay	22 674	29 385	6 711	29,6
North West	65 298	57 875	-7 423	-11,4
Kopfontein	38 535	33 994	-4 541	-11,8
Ramathlabama	11 647	12 310	663	5,7
Skilpad Gate	15 116	11 571	-3 545	-23,5
Gauteng	286 363	309 133	22 770	8,0
Lanseria International Airport	408	411	3	0,7
OR Tambo International Airport	285 955	308 722	22 767	8,0
Mpumalanga	458 668	572 109	113 441	24,7
Emahlatini	8 848	12 016	3 168	35,8
Jeppes Reef	25 088	27 817	2 729	10,9
Lebombo	316 168	413 846	97 678	30,9
Mahamba	14 045	15 099	1 054	7,5
Mananga	16 812	14 947	-1 865	-11,1
Nerston	266	1 385	1 119	420,7
Oshoek	77 441	86 999	9 558	12,3
Limpopo	386 514	444 004	57 490	14,9
Beit Bridge	353 328	397 425	44 097	12,5
Groblers Bridge	33 186	46 579	13 393	40,4

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 February 2026, the DHA data was 2,1% 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 are not collected from passengers; country of final destination; intended duration of stay and purpose of visit. With this limitation, it is impossible to identify the number of tourists from the data on South African residents.

4.6 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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