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STATISTICAL RELEASE

P0350

International tourism

July 2026

Scope: This release is based on information on population movements across South Africa's ports of entry/exit covering the period 1 to 31 July 2026.

Embargoed until:
26 August 2026
10:00

ENQUIRIES:
Tshwaro Gae
Tel: (012) 310 8692

FORTHCOMING ISSUE:
August 2026

EXPECTED RELEASE DATE:
30 September 2026

Dipalopalo tsa Aforikaborwa • Dipalopalo tsa Aforika Borwa • Ezazibalo zaseNingizimu Afrika • Tshitatistika Afrika Tshipembe • Tinhlayo Afrika-Dzonga

Statistieke Suid-Afrika • Dipalopalo tsa Aforika Borwa • Telubalo zaseNingizimu Afrika • EzeeNkcukacha maNani zoMzantsi Afrika • Iimbalobalo zeSewula Afrika

IMPROVING LIVES THROUGH DATA ECOSYSTEMS



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Preface

This monthly statistical release provides information on South African residents and foreign travellers who entered or left South Africa in July 2026. Specific focus is on foreign tourists who entered the country in July 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 July 2026, 3 154 725 travellers (arrivals, departures and transits) entered and exited South Africa. They were made up of 844 503 (26,8%) South African residents and 2 310 222 (73,2%) foreign travellers. Foreign arrivals were made up of 30 918 (2,4%) non-visitors and 1 242 745 (97,6%) visitors. Visitors consisted of 251 049 (20,2%) same-day visitors and 991 696 (79,8%) overnight visitors/tourists.

Tourists

Overseas tourists constituted 19,5% (193 637) of all tourists. United States of America (USA) (37 310), United Kingdom (UK) (25 024) and The Netherlands (17 066) contributed 41,0% to overseas tourists. Tourists from Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries constituted 79,2% (785 469) of all tourists. Mozambique (235 677), Zimbabwe (210 324) and Lesotho (173 671) contributed 78,9% to SADC tourists. 'Other' African countries (non-SADC) tourists were 1,2% (11 751) of all tourists. Kenya (3 355), Ghana (2 274) and Nigeria (1 551) contributed 61,1% to 'other' African tourists. The country of residence of 839 (0,1%) tourists was classified as unspecified.

Purpose of visit

'Holiday'¹ continues to be the main purpose of visit. About 97,5% 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 3 154 725 travellers (arrivals, departures and transits) passed through South African ports in July 2026. As presented in Table 1 below, these travellers were made up of 844 503 South African residents and 2 310 222 foreign travellers. A further breakdown of the figures for South African residents indicates that there were 454 834 arrivals, 389 093 departures and 576 travellers in transit. The corresponding volumes for foreign arrivals, departures and travellers in transit were 1 273 663, 984 479 and 52 080, respectively.

A comparison of movements in June 2026 and July 2026 shows that, for both groups of travellers, the volume of arrivals and departures increased, while that of transits decreased for South African residents and increased for foreign travellers. For South African residents, the volume of arrivals increased by 35,9% (from 334 781 in June 2026 to 454 834 in July 2026), departures increased by 2,4% (from 380 090 in June 2026 to 389 093 in July 2026), and transits decreased by 9,4% (from 636 in June 2026 to 576 in July 2026). For foreign travellers, arrivals increased by 17,3% (from 1 085 557 in June 2026 to 1 273 663 in July 2026), departures increased by 4,4% (from 942 772 in June 2026 to 984 479 in July 2026) and transits increased by 15,6% (from 45 065 in June 2026 to 52 080 in July 2026).

A comparison of movements in July 2025 and July 2026 indicates that the volume of arrivals and departures decreased for South African travellers 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 2,4% (from 466 075 in July 2025 to 454 834 in July 2026), departures decreased by 5,8% (from 412 857 in July 2025 to 389 093 in July 2026) whereas transits increased by 0,7% (from 572 in July 2025 to 576 in July 2026). For foreign travellers, arrivals increased by 6,0% (from 1 201 015 in July 2025 to 1 273 663 in July 2026), departures increased by 4,3% (from 943 827 in July 2025 to 984 479 in July 2026) and transits increased by 6,3% (from 49 014 in July 2025 to 52 080 in July 2026).

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

Travel Direction	July 2025	June 2026	July 2026	% Change Jun 2026 – Jul 2026	% Change Jul 2025 – Jul 2026
Total	3 073 360	2 788 901	3 154 725	13,1	2,6
South African residents	879 504	715 507	844 503	18,0	-4,0
Arrivals	466 075	334 781	454 834	35,9	-2,4
Departures	412 857	380 090	389 093	2,4	-5,8
Transits	572	636	576	-9,4	0,7
Foreign travellers	2 193 856	2 073 394	2 310 222	11,4	5,3
Arrivals	1 201 015	1 085 557	1 273 663	17,3	6,0
Departures	943 827	942 772	984 479	4,4	4,3
Transits	49 014	45 065	52 080	15,6	6,3

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 July 2026, road was the most common mode of travel used by 2 154 406 (68,3%) of the 3 154 725 travellers. The total number of air travellers was 997 948 (31,6%). Compared to air and road, a smaller number of travellers, 2 371 (0,1%) used sea transport into and out of South Africa. Information on arrivals of South African residents shows that 232 721 (51,2%) came by air, 222 081 (48,8%) came by road and 32 (less than 0,1%) came by sea. For departures, 179 351 (46,1%) used air, 209 719 (53,9%) used road and 23 (less than 0,1%) left by sea. All travellers in transit, 576 (100,0%) used air.

In the case of foreign travellers, 276 467 (21,7%) arrived by air, 996 587 (78,2%) came by road and 609 (less than 0,1%) arrived by sea. When departing South Africa, 256 753 (26,1%) foreign travellers left by air, 726 019 (73,7%) left by road and 1 707 (0,2%) left by sea. All travellers in transit, 52 080 (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	3 154 725	214 113	28 833	752 536	2 466	997 948	2 154 406	2 371
South African residents	844 503	80 756	20 505	309 937	1 450	412 648	431 800	55
Arrivals	454 834	48 771	11 761	171 428	761	232 721	222 081	32
Departures	389 093	31 981	8 744	137 937	689	179 351	209 719	23
Transit	576	4	-	572	-	576	-	-
Foreign travellers	2 310 222	133 357	8 328	442 599	1 016	585 300	1 722 606	2 316
Arrivals	1 273 663	71 471	4 318	200 164	514	276 467	996 587	609
Departures	984 479	61 398	4 010	190 845	500	256 753	726 019	1 707
Transit	52 080	488	-	51 590	2	52 080	-	-
Visitors	1 242 745	68 483	3 753	194 430	365	267 031	975 710	4
Same-day	251 049	1 797	16	27 246	99	29 158	221 890	1
Overnight visitors/ Tourists	991 696	66 686	3 737	167 184	266	237 873	753 820	3

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 July 2026, 30 918 (2,4%) of foreign arrivals were classified as non-visitors, while 1 242 745 (97,6%) were classified as visitors. Visitors were categorised into three groups:

- Arrivals only – comprising visitors who entered the country in July 2026 but did not depart in July 2026 [568 698 (45,8%)].
- Single trips – visitors who came to South Africa once in July 2026 and left in July 2026 [329 499 (26,5%)].
- Multiple trips – visitors who came to and left South Africa more than once in July 2026 [344 548 (27,7%)].

Visitors were further grouped as same-day visitors and overnight visitors/tourists. In July 2026, there were 251 049 (20,2%) same-day visitors and 991 696 (79,8%) tourists. Between June 2026 and July 2026, the volume of same-day visitors increased by 7,9% (from 232 711 in June 2026 to 251 049 in July 2026) and that of tourists increased by 20,4% (from 823 365 in June 2026 to 991 696 in July 2026). Between July 2025 and July 2026, the volume of same-day visitors decreased by 14,2% (from 292 683 in July 2025 to 251 049 in July 2026) whereas that of tourists increased by 12,5% (from 881 393 in July 2025 to 991 696 in July 2026).

Table 2 on page 3 further shows that of the 251 049 same-day visitors, a majority, 221 890 (88,4%) arrived in the country by road, 29 158 (11,6%) arrived by air and one (less than 0,1%) arrived by sea. Information on tourists shows that 753 820 (76,0%) used road, 237 873 (24,0%) used air and three (less than 0,1%) used sea.

Table 3 – Number of visitors by type of visitor

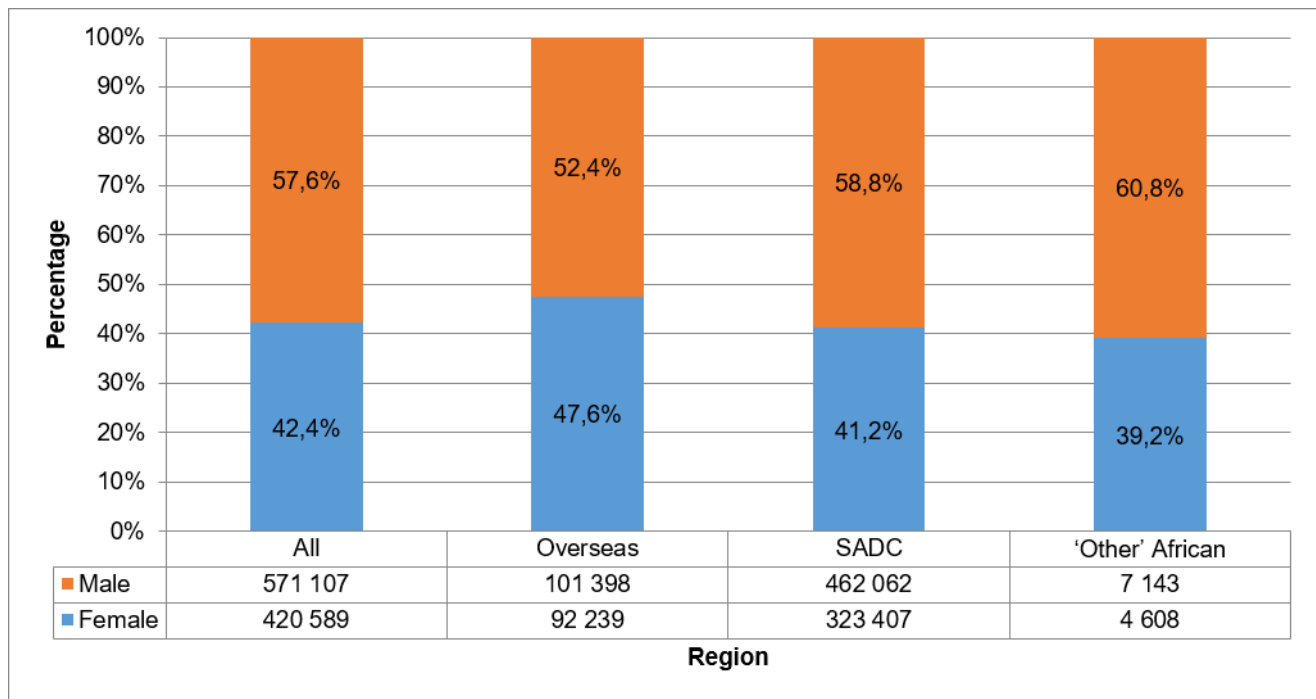
Travel Direction	July 2025	June 2026	July 2026	% Change Jun 2026 – Jul 2026	% Change Jul 2025 – Jul 2026
Foreign arrivals	1 201 015	1 085 557	1 273 663	17,3	6,0
Non-visitors	26 939	29 481	30 918	4,9	14,8
Visitors	1 174 076	1 056 076	1 242 745	17,7	5,8
Visitors	1 174 076	1 056 076	1 242 745	17,7	5,8
Arrivals only	458 415	439 317	568 698	29,5	24,1
Single trips	339 745	320 108	329 499	2,9	-3,0
Multiple trips	375 916	296 651	344 548	16,1	-8,3
Visitors	1 174 076	1 056 076	1 242 745	17,7	5,8
Same-day	292 683	232 711	251 049	7,9	-14,2
Overnight visitors/Tourists	881 393	823 365	991 696	20,4	12,5

2.3 Tourists

2.3.1 Sex and age distribution of tourists

Sex

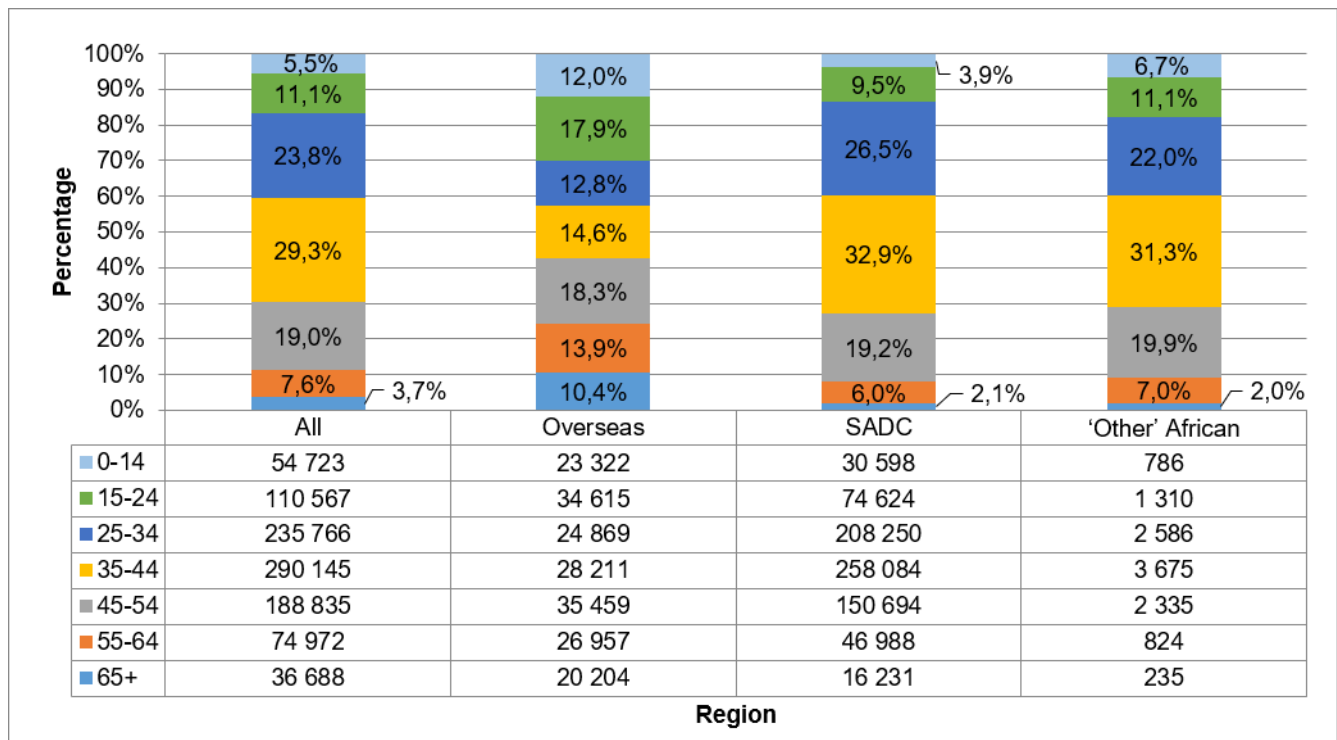
Figure 1 on page 5 shows that there were more male [571 107 (57,6%)] than female [420 589 (42,4%)] tourists. Male tourists constituted the majority of tourists for all three regions, SADC countries [462 062 (58,8%)], overseas countries [101 398 (52,4%)] and 'other' African countries [7 143 (60,8%)]. Similarly, the largest portion of female tourists was from SADC countries [323 407 (41,2%)], followed by overseas countries [92 239 (47,6%)] and 'other' African countries [4 608 (39,2%)].

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

Age

The age distribution indicates that out of all tourists, [5,5% (54 723)] were aged younger than 15; [11,1% (110 567)] were aged between 15 and 24; [23,8% (235 766)] were aged between 25 and 34; [29,3% (290 145)] were aged between 35 and 44; [19,0% (188 835)] were aged between 45 and 54; [7,6% (74 972)] were aged between 55 and 64 and [3,7% (36 688)] were aged 65 and above (see Figure 2 on page 6).

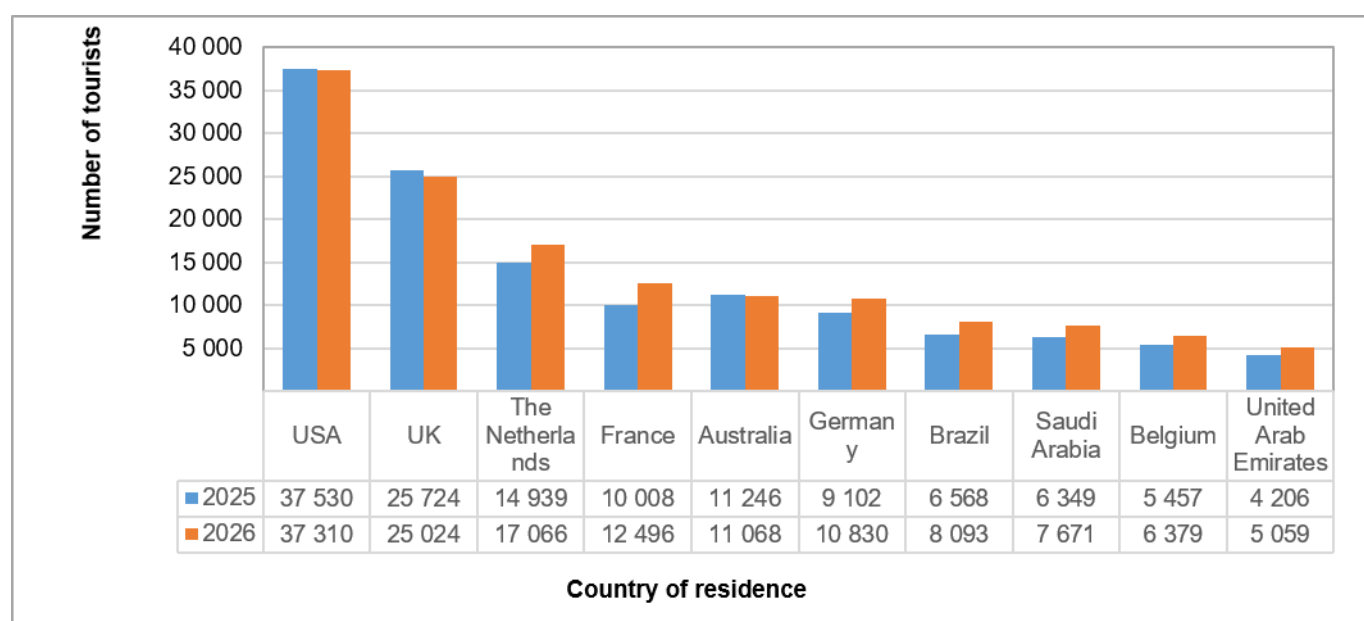
Taking the region of residence into consideration, the results show that the highest proportion of tourists from SADC countries [32,9% (258 084)] and 'other' African countries [31,3% (3 675)] were aged between 35 and 44, whereas those from overseas countries [18,3% (35 459)] were aged between 45 and 54. The second highest proportion of tourists from SADC countries [26,5% (208 250)] and those from 'other' African countries [22,0% (2 586)] were aged between 25 and 34, while those from overseas countries [17,9% (34 615)] were aged between 15 and 24. The proportion of tourists younger than 15 was higher among tourists from overseas countries, 12,0% (23 322) compared with tourists from 'other' African countries, 6,7% (786) and from SADC countries, 3,9% (30 598). The median ages of tourists from overseas, SADC and 'other' African countries were 40, 38 and 38 years, respectively.

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

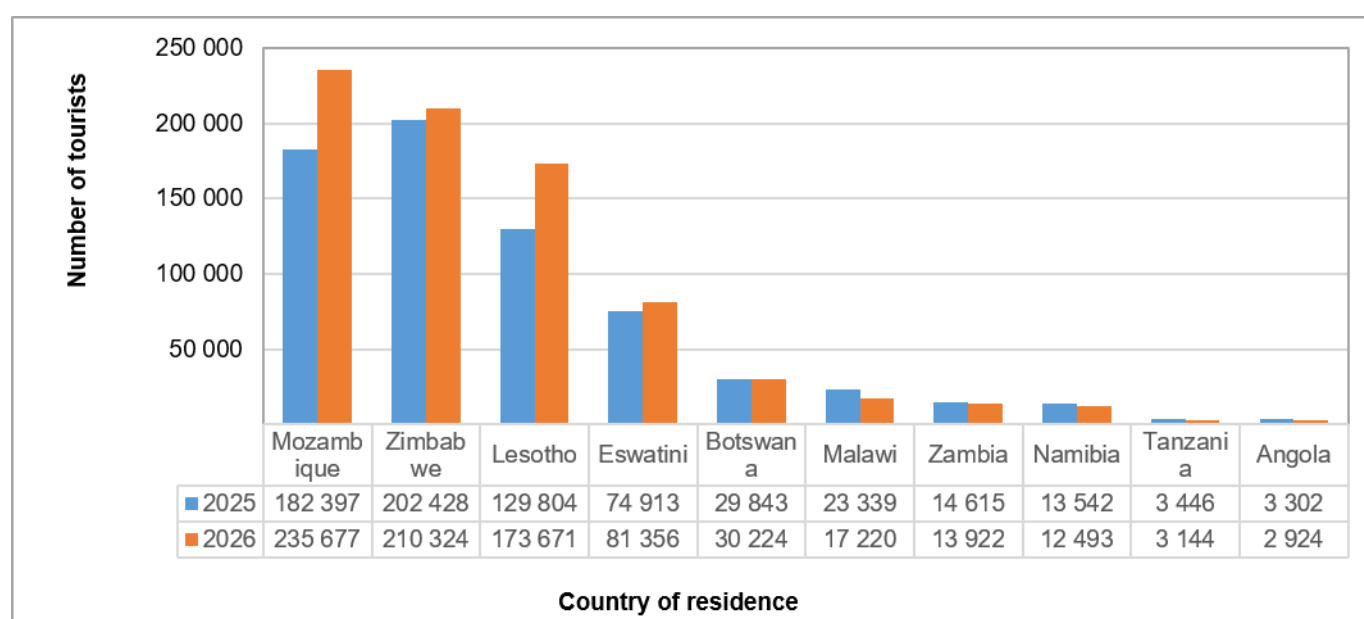
2.3.2 Regional and national distribution of tourists

In July 2026, the distribution of overseas tourists was as follows: Europe, 97 461 (50,3%); North America, 41 037 (21,2%); Asia, 15 827 (8,2%); Middle East, 15 799 (8,2%); Australasia, 12 997 (6,7%) and Central and South America, 10 516 (5,4%) (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 July 2026 were: USA, 37 310 (19,3%); UK, 25 024 (12,9%); The Netherlands, 17 066 (8,8%); France, 12 496 (6,5%); Australia, 11 068 (5,7%); Germany, 10 830 (5,6%); Brazil, 8 093 (4,2%); Saudi Arabia, 7 671 (4,0%); Belgium, 6 379 (3,3%) and United Arab Emirates, 5 059 (2,6%). Tourists from these 10 countries constituted 72,8% of all tourists from overseas countries. A comparison of movements in the 10 leading countries between July 2025 and July 2026 shows that the number of tourists increased for 7 of the 10 leading countries. France had the highest increase of 24,9% (from 10 008 tourists in July 2025 to 12 496 tourists in July 2026).

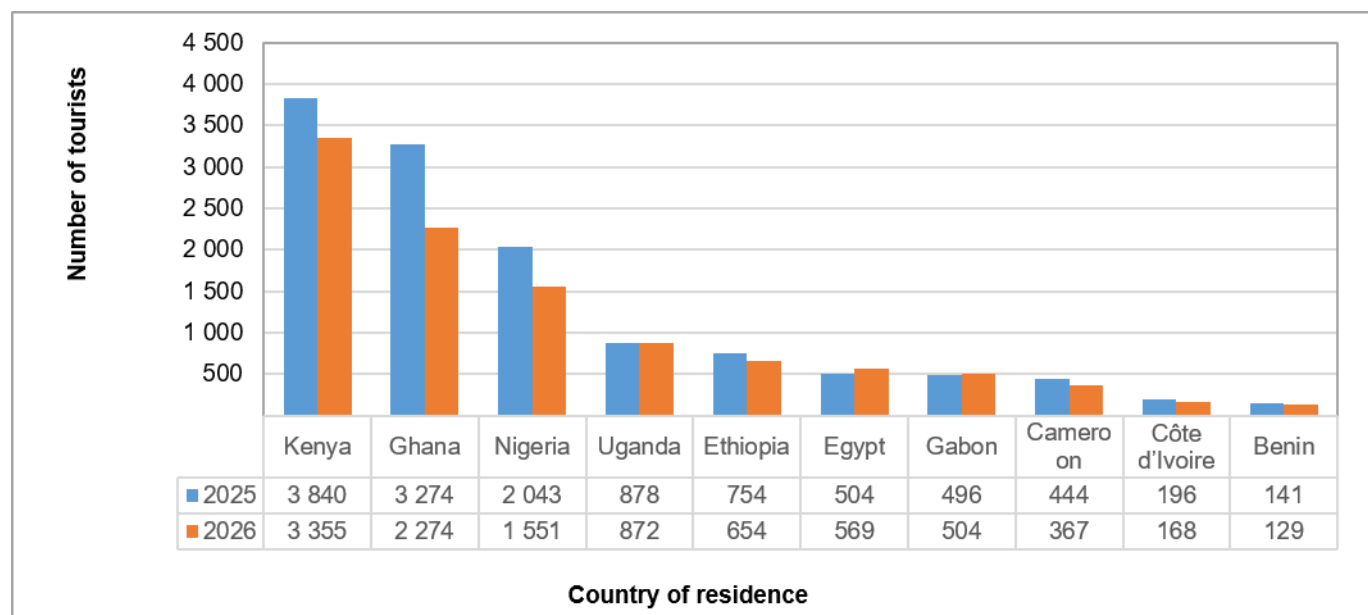
Figure 3 – Number of tourists from the 10 leading overseas countries in July 2025 and July 2026

Virtually, most tourists from Africa, 785 469 (98,5%), 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, 6 138 (0,8%); West Africa, 4 544 (0,6%) and North Africa, 1 069 (0,1%). The 10 leading SADC countries in terms of the number of tourists visiting South Africa in July 2026 are shown in Figure 4 below. The highest number of tourists were from Mozambique, 235 677 (30,0%); Zimbabwe, 210 324 (26,8%); Lesotho, 173 671 (22,1%); Eswatini, 81 356 (10,4%); Botswana, 30 224 (3,8%); Malawi, 17 220 (2,2%); Zambia, 13 922 (1,8%); Namibia, 12 493 (1,6%); Tanzania, 3 144 (0,4%) and Angola, 2 924 (0,4%). Tourists from these 10 countries constituted 99,4% of all tourists from the SADC countries. A comparison of movements in the 10 leading countries between July 2025 and July 2026 shows that the number of tourists increased for 5 of the 10 leading countries. Lesotho showed the highest increase of 33,8% (from 129 804 tourists in July 2025 to 173 671 tourists in July 2026).

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

The 10 leading countries in terms of the number of tourists visiting South Africa in July 2026 from 'other' African countries, as shown in Figure 5 below, were: Kenya, 3 355 (28,6%); Ghana, 2 274 (19,4%); Nigeria, 1 551 (13,2%); Uganda, 872 (7,4%); Ethiopia, 654 (5,6%); Egypt, 569 (4,8%); Gabon, 504 (4,3%); Cameroon, 367 (3,1%); Côte d'Ivoire, 168 (1,4%) and Benin, 129 (1,1%). Tourists from these 10 countries constituted 88,9% of all tourists from 'other' African countries. A comparison between movements in July 2025 and July 2026 shows that the number of tourists increased for 2 of the 10 leading countries. Egypt showed the highest increase of 12,9% (from 504 tourists in July 2025 to 569 tourists in July 2026).

Figure 5 – Number of tourists from the 10 leading 'other' African countries in July 2025 and July 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 July 2026, the majority of tourists, 966 757 (97,5%), were in South Africa for holiday compared to 18 688 (1,9%); 5 997 (0,6%) and 254 (less than 0,1%) who were in South Africa for business, study and medical treatment, respectively.

Within the overseas regions, Australasia, 99,6% (12 944) had the highest proportion of tourists who came for holiday, followed by Middle East, 99,2% (15 668); North America, 98,8% (40 565); Central and South America, 98,8% (10 388); Europe, 97,8% (95 358) and Asia, 95,1% (15 056).

Asia, 3,0% (473) had the highest proportion of tourists who came to South Africa for business, followed by Europe, 0,9% (908); Central and South America, 0,7% (69); North America, 0,6% (247); Middle East, 0,6% (89) and Australasia, 0,4% (46).

Asia, 1,9% (298) had the highest proportion of tourists who came to study, followed by Europe, 1,2% (1 145); Central and South America, 0,6% (59); North America, 0,5% (216); Middle East, 0,3% (41) and Australasia, (6) with less than 0,1%.

Europe, 0,1% (50) had the highest proportion of tourists who came for medical treatment, followed by North America (9), Australasia (1) and Middle East (1), with less than 0,1% of the tourists, while Asia and Central and South America had none.

Majority of African tourists, 775 973 (97,3%) 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 97,4% (765 117) of tourists from SADC countries compared with 92,4% (10 856) from 'other' African countries. Information on the regions of 'other' African countries shows that 93,9% (4 268) of tourists from West Africa were on holiday, followed by tourists from East and Central Africa, 92,0% (5 650) and those from, North Africa, 87,7% (938).
- Business persons constituted 2,1% (16 439) of tourists from SADC countries compared with 3,3% (389) from 'other' African countries. North Africa, 8,0% (85) had the highest proportion of tourists who came to South Africa for business purposes, followed by East and Central Africa, 3,1% (192) and West Africa, 2,5% (112).
- Students constituted 0,5% (3 744) of tourists from SADC countries compared with 4,1% (484) from 'other' African countries. East and Central Africa, 4,6% (284) had the highest proportion of tourists who came to South Africa for study purposes, followed by North Africa, 4,3% (46) and West Africa, 3,4% (154).
- Tourists who came for medical treatment constituted less than 0,1% (169) of tourists from SADC countries, while those from 'other' African countries constituted 0,2% (22). West Africa, 0,2% (10) had the highest proportion of tourists who came for medical treatment, followed by East and Central Africa, 0,2% (12), whereas North Africa had none.

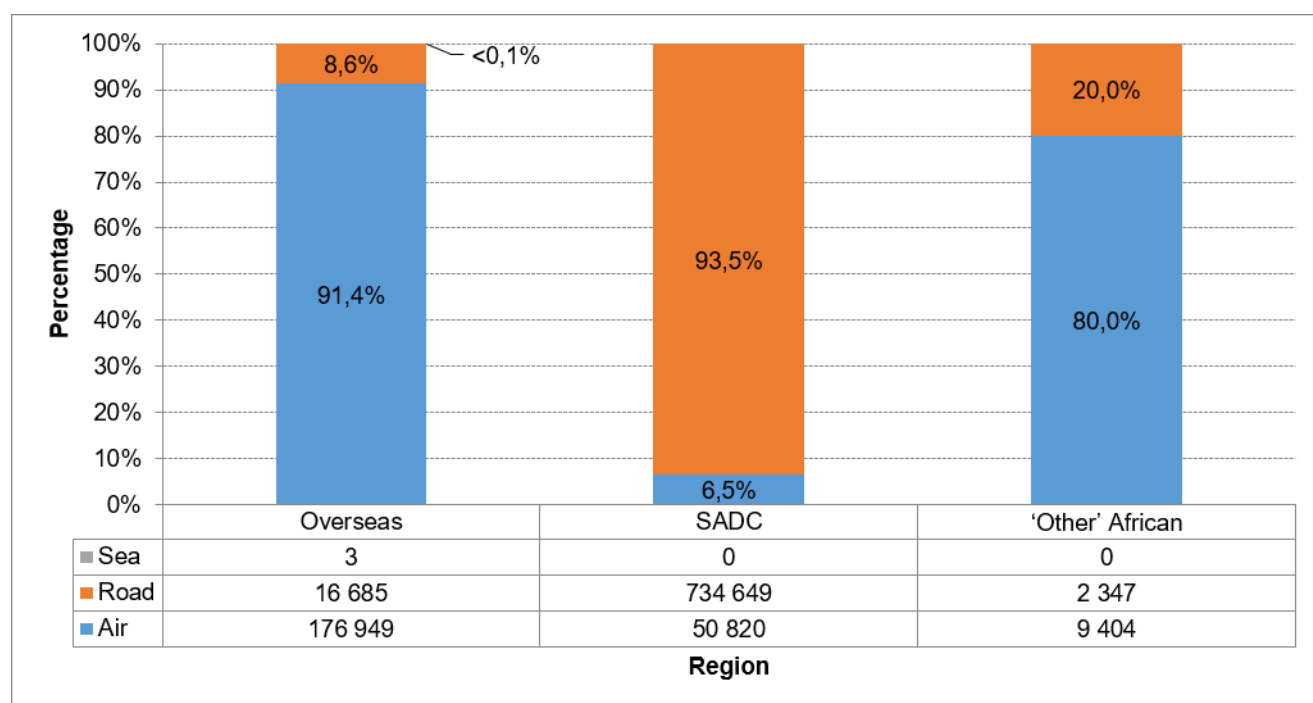
Table 4 – Number of tourists by region of residence and purpose of visit

Region of residence	July 2026	Business	Holiday	Study	Medical treatment
Total	991 696	18 688	966 757	5 997	254
Overseas	193 637	1 832	189 979	1 765	61
Europe	97 461	908	95 358	1 145	50
North America	41 037	247	40 565	216	9
Central and South America	10 516	69	10 388	59	-
Australasia	12 997	46	12 944	6	1
Middle East	15 799	89	15 668	41	1
Asia	15 827	473	15 056	298	-
Africa	797 220	16 828	775 973	4 228	191
SADC	785 469	16 439	765 117	3 744	169
'Other' African	11 751	389	10 856	484	22
East and Central Africa	6 138	192	5 650	284	12
West Africa	4 544	112	4 268	154	10
North Africa	1 069	85	938	46	-
Unspecified	839	28	805	4	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, 176 949 (91,4%) overseas tourists arrived in the country by air, whilst 16 685 (8,6%) came by road and three (less than 1,0%) came by sea. Tourists from the SADC countries, on the other hand, came predominantly by road, 734 649 (93,5%), 50 820 (6,5%) came by air and none arrived by sea. The number of tourists who came into South Africa by air from 'other' African countries was 9 404 (80,0%); while 2 347 (20,0%) used road transport and none preferred sea. Most tourists who arrived by road came through Lebombo port (235 892) in Mpumalanga and Beit Bridge port (160 354) in Limpopo. The majority of tourists who came by air entered through OR Tambo International Airport (167 184) and Cape Town International Airport (66 686). Tourists who arrived by sea came through Cape Town Harbour (3).

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



3. Annexures

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

Country of residence	July 2025	July 2026	Difference between July 2025 and July 2026	% change between July 2025 and July 2026
Total	881 393	991 696	110 303	12,5
Overseas	182 597	193 637	11 040	6,0
Europe	87 674	97 461	9 787	11,2
Austria	1 201	1 331	130	10,8
Belgium	5 457	6 379	922	16,9
Denmark	1 274	1 138	-136	-10,7
France	10 008	12 496	2 488	24,9
Germany	9 102	10 830	1 728	19,0
Ireland	1 848	1 970	122	6,6
Italy	4 535	4 608	73	1,6
Portugal	1 356	1 350	-6	-0,4
Russian Federation	1 435	1 702	267	18,6
Spain	3 268	4 237	969	29,7
Switzerland	2 401	3 090	689	28,7
The Netherlands	14 939	17 066	2 127	14,2
Turkey	964	1 052	88	9,1
UK	25 724	25 024	-700	-2,7
Other	4 162	5 188	1 026	24,7
North America	41 449	41 037	-412	-1,0
Canada	3 919	3 727	-192	-4,9
USA	37 530	37 310	-220	-0,6
Central and South America	9 430	10 516	1 086	11,5
Argentina	556	721	165	29,7
Brazil	6 568	8 093	1 525	23,2
Chile	349	325	-24	-6,9
Other	1 957	1 377	-580	-29,6

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

Country of residence	July 2025	July 2026	Difference between July 2025 and July 2026	% change between July 2025 and July 2026
Australasia	13 229	12 997	-232	-1,8
Australia	11 246	11 068	-178	-1,6
New Zealand	1 978	1 916	-62	-3,1
Other	5	13	8	160,0
Middle East	13 168	15 799	2 631	20,0
Israel	801	1 379	578	72,2
Saudi Arabia	6 349	7 671	1 322	20,8
United Arab Emirates	4 206	5 059	853	20,3
Other	1 812	1 690	-122	-6,7
Asia	17 647	15 827	-1 820	-10,3
Bangladesh	615	708	93	15,1
China	3 335	2 669	-666	-20,0
India	5 209	3 808	-1 401	-26,9
Japan	1 303	1 405	102	7,8
Malaysia	779	731	-48	-6,2
Pakistan	1 684	1 811	127	7,5
Philippines	812	819	7	0,9
Singapore	1 011	976	-35	-3,5
South Korea	1 090	1 145	55	5,0
Thailand	488	545	57	11,7
Other	1 321	1 210	-111	-8,4
Africa	697 801	797 220	99 419	14,2
SADC	683 518	785 469	101 951	14,9
Angola	3 302	2 924	-378	-11,4
Botswana	29 843	30 224	381	1,3
DRC	3 720	2 495	-1 225	-32,9
Eswatini	74 913	81 356	6 443	8,6

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

Country of residence	July 2025	July 2026	Difference between July 2025 and July 2026	% change between July 2025 and July 2026
Lesotho	129 804	173 671	43 867	33,8
Madagascar	375	339	-36	-9,6
Malawi	23 339	17 220	-6 119	-26,2
Mauritius	1 667	1 525	-142	-8,5
Mozambique	182 397	235 677	53 280	29,2
Namibia	13 542	12 493	-1 049	-7,7
Seychelles	127	155	28	22,0
Tanzania	3 446	3 144	-302	-8,8
Zambia	14 615	13 922	-693	-4,7
Zimbabwe	202 428	210 324	7 896	3,9
'Other' African	14 283	11 751	-2 532	-17,7
East and Central Africa	7 030	6 138	-892	-12,7
Burundi	175	90	-85	-48,6
Cameroon	444	367	-77	-17,3
Central African Republic	12	5	-7	-58,3
Chad	46	47	1	2,2
Comoros	19	7	-12	-63,2
Congo	154	108	-46	-29,9
Djibouti	12	2	-10	-83,3
Equatorial Guinea	13	6	-7	-53,8
Eritrea	47	31	-16	-34,0
Ethiopia	754	654	-100	-13,3
Gabon	496	504	8	1,6
Kenya	3 840	3 355	-485	-12,6
Rwanda	60	53	-7	-11,7
São Tomé and Príncipe	6	13	7	116,7
Somalia	74	24	-50	-67,6
Uganda	878	872	-6	-0,7

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

Country of residence	July 2025	July 2026	Difference between July 2025 and July 2026	% change between July 2025 and July 2026
West Africa	6 272	4 544	-1 728	-27,6
Benin	141	129	-12	-8,5
Burkina Faso	63	31	-32	-50,8
Cape Verde Island	29	22	-7	-24,1
Côte d'Ivoire	196	168	-28	-14,3
Gambia	27	29	2	7,4
Ghana	3 274	2 274	-1 000	-30,5
Guinea	60	47	-13	-21,7
Guinea-Bissau	7	5	-2	-28,6
Liberia	72	36	-36	-50,0
Mali	69	84	15	21,7
Mauritania	33	13	-20	-60,6
Niger	22	8	-14	-63,6
Nigeria	2 043	1 551	-492	-24,1
Saint Helena	2	-	-2	-100,0
Senegal	148	102	-46	-31,1
Sierra Leone	47	20	-27	-57,4
Togo	39	25	-14	-35,9
North Africa	981	1 069	88	9,0
Algeria	76	91	15	19,7
Egypt	504	569	65	12,9
Libya	56	45	-11	-19,6
Morocco	107	106	-1	-0,9
South Sudan	50	36	-14	-28,0
The Sudan	89	100	11	12,4
Tunisia	98	120	22	22,4
Western Sahara	1	2	1	100,0
Unspecified	995	839	-156	-15,7

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

Country of residence	July 2026	Air					Road	Sea
		Cape Town	King Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total		
Total	991 696	66 686	3 737	167 184	266	237 873	753 820	3
Overseas	193 637	59 444	3 039	114 274	192	176 949	16 685	3
Europe	97 461	24 506	2 176	59 724	54	86 460	11 000	1
Austria	1 331	440	38	736	2	1 216	115	-
Belgium	6 379	1 158	111	3 627	9	4 905	1 474	-
Denmark	1 138	186	37	851	-	1 074	64	-
France	12 496	2 233	376	8 223	3	10 835	1 660	1
Germany	10 830	2 857	165	6 642	8	9 672	1 158	-
Ireland	1 970	690	82	1 077	-	1 849	121	-
Italy	4 608	1 999	66	2 255	-	4 320	288	-
Portugal	1 350	256	28	717	1	1 002	348	-
Russian Federation	1 702	763	35	766	-	1 564	138	-
Spain	4 237	917	63	2 905	3	3 888	349	-
Switzerland	3 090	818	80	1 849	4	2 751	339	-
The Netherlands	17 066	4 500	108	9 183	4	13 795	3 271	-
Turkey	1 052	303	77	565	-	945	107	-
UK	25 024	5 889	775	17 227	17	23 908	1 116	-
Other	5 188	1 497	135	3 101	3	4 736	452	-
North America	41 037	12 866	266	25 926	88	39 146	1 890	1
Canada	3 727	1 031	62	2 440	1	3 534	193	-
USA	37 310	11 835	204	23 486	87	35 612	1 697	1
Central and South America	10 516	4 065	42	5 996	17	10 120	396	-
Argentina	721	209	-	482	1	692	29	-
Brazil	8 093	3 309	27	4 485	-	7 821	272	-
Chile	325	128	1	181	2	312	13	-
Other	1 377	419	14	848	14	1 295	82	-

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

Country of residence	July 2026	Air					Road	Sea
		Cape Town	King Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total		
Australasia	12 997	1 698	84	10 504	11	12 297	700	-
Australia	11 068	1 390	50	9 026	10	10 476	592	-
New Zealand	1 916	305	34	1 469	1	1 809	107	-
Other	13	3	-	9	-	12	1	-
Middle East	15 799	13 231	54	2 382	3	15 670	129	-
Israel	1 379	400	22	894	-	1 316	63	-
Saudi Arabia	7 671	7 109	5	553	-	7 667	4	-
United Arab Emirates	5 059	4 693	9	353	3	5 058	1	-
Other	1 690	1 029	18	582	-	1 629	61	-
Asia	15 827	3 078	417	9 742	19	13 256	2 570	1
Bangladesh	708	74	54	438	-	566	142	-
China	2 669	306	40	2 015	12	2 373	296	-
India	3 808	495	103	2 214	4	2 816	991	1
Japan	1 405	267	12	1 057	2	1 338	67	-
Malaysia	731	199	43	436	-	678	53	-
Pakistan	1 811	276	59	841	-	1 176	635	-
Philippines	819	315	39	428	-	782	37	-
Singapore	976	271	2	690	-	963	13	-
South Korea	1 145	364	22	635	-	1 021	124	-
Thailand	545	143	11	372	-	526	19	-
Other	1 210	368	32	616	1	1 017	193	-
Africa	797 220	7 196	696	52 261	71	60 224	736 996	-
SADC	785 469	5 353	659	44 755	53	50 820	734 649	-
Angola	2 924	1 234	2	1 209	2	2 447	477	-
Botswana	30 224	247	-	2 611	4	2 862	27 362	-
DRC	2 495	71	-	2 278	3	2 352	143	-
Eswatini	81 356	112	96	1 082	2	1 292	80 064	-

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

Country of residence	July 2026	Air					Road	Sea
		Cape Town	King Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total		
Lesotho	173 671	5	5	744	-	754	172 917	-
Madagascar	339	8	-	317	-	325	14	-
Malawi	17 220	15	1	2 780	2	2 798	14 422	-
Mauritius	1 525	384	3	1 074	-	1 461	64	-
Mozambique	235 677	168	129	3 295	3	3 595	232 082	-
Namibia	12 493	1 774	-	2 799	1	4 574	7 919	-
Seychelles	155	12	-	124	-	136	19	-
Tanzania	3 144	290	2	1 580	9	1 881	1 263	-
Zambia	13 922	100	2	3 971	3	4 076	9 846	-
Zimbabwe	210 324	933	419	20 891	24	22 267	188 057	-
'Other' African	11 751	1 843	37	7 506	18	9 404	2 347	-
East and Central Africa	6 138	964	14	4 281	13	5 272	866	-
Burundi	90	16	-	59	7	82	8	-
Cameroon	367	71	-	277	-	348	19	-
Central African Republic	5	-	-	3	1	4	1	-
Chad	47	7	-	39	-	46	1	-
Comoros	7	3	-	4	-	7	-	-
Congo	108	34	-	73	-	107	1	-
Djibouti	2	-	-	2	-	2	-	-
Equatorial Guinea	6	1	-	5	-	6	-	-
Eritrea	31	2	2	24	-	28	3	-
Ethiopia	654	92	5	492	-	589	65	-
Gabon	504	60	-	436	-	496	8	-
Kenya	3 355	542	6	2 132	3	2 683	672	-
Rwanda	53	5	1	37	-	43	10	-
São Tomé and Príncipe	13	3	-	1	-	4	9	-
Somalia	24	9	-	9	-	18	6	-
Uganda	872	119	-	688	2	809	63	-

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

Country of residence	July 2025	Air					Road	Sea
		Cape Town	King Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total		
West Africa	4 544	622	7	2 467	5	3 101	1 443	-
Benin	129	23	-	82	2	107	22	-
Burkina Faso	31	8	-	22	1	31	-	-
Cape Verde Island	22	4	-	13	-	17	5	-
Côte d'Ivoire	168	6	1	158	-	165	3	-
Gambia	29	2	-	24	-	26	3	-
Ghana	2 274	158	-	887	-	1 045	1 229	-
Guinea	47	2	2	31	-	35	12	-
Guinea-Bissau	5	1	-	4	-	5	-	-
Liberia	36	2	-	27	1	30	6	-
Mali	84	16	-	33	-	49	35	-
Mauritania	13	2	-	10	-	12	1	-
Niger	8	2	-	6	-	8	-	-
Nigeria	1 551	371	2	1 058	-	1 431	120	-
Senegal	102	19	2	79	-	100	2	-
Sierra Leone	20	4	-	10	1	15	5	-
Togo	25	2	-	23	-	25	-	-
North Africa	1 069	257	16	758	-	1 031	38	-
Algeria	91	9	-	81	-	90	1	-
Egypt	569	146	11	398	-	555	14	-
Libya	45	6	-	30	-	36	9	-
Morocco	106	21	1	79	-	101	5	-
South Sudan	36	14	-	22	-	36	-	-
The Sudan	100	27	-	68	-	95	5	-
Tunisia	120	34	4	78	-	116	4	-
Western Sahara	2	-	-	2	-	2	-	-
Unspecified	839	46	2	649	3	700	139	-

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

Country of residence	July 2026	Purpose of visit			
		Business	Holiday	Study	Medical Treatment
Total	991 696	18 688	966 757	5 997	254
Overseas	193 637	1 832	189 979	1 765	61
Europe	97 461	908	95 358	1 145	50
Austria	1 331	11	1 304	14	2
Belgium	6 379	36	6 301	40	2
Denmark	1 138	12	1 109	17	-
France	12 496	69	12 339	85	3
Germany	10 830	90	10 333	404	3
Ireland	1 970	24	1 936	10	-
Italy	4 608	56	4 466	84	2
Portugal	1 350	15	1 313	21	1
Russian Federation	1 702	20	1 667	14	1
Spain	4 237	41	4 173	23	-
Switzerland	3 090	15	3 041	34	-
The Netherlands	17 066	72	16 850	118	26
Turkey	1 052	36	999	17	-
UK	25 024	320	24 562	132	10
Other	5 188	91	4 965	132	-
North America	41 037	247	40 565	216	9
Canada	3 727	23	3 694	9	1
USA	37 310	224	36 871	207	8
Central and South America	10 516	69	10 388	59	-
Argentina	721	5	709	7	-
Brazil	8 093	50	8 007	36	-
Chile	325	2	320	3	-
Other	1 377	12	1 352	13	-

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

Country of residence	July 2026	Purpose of visit			
		Business	Holiday	Study	Medical Treatment
Australasia	12 997	46	12 944	6	1
Australia	11 068	34	11 028	6	-
New Zealand	1 916	10	1 905	-	1
Other	13	2	11	-	-
Middle East	15 799	89	15 668	41	1
Israel	1 379	13	1 355	11	-
Saudi Arabia	7 671	11	7 652	7	1
United Arab Emirates	5 059	23	5 032	4	-
Other	1 690	42	1 629	19	-
Asia	15 827	473	15 056	298	-
Bangladesh	708	14	682	12	-
China	2 669	77	2 533	59	-
India	3 808	230	3 457	121	-
Japan	1 405	22	1 356	27	-
Malaysia	731	13	708	10	-
Pakistan	1 811	50	1 742	19	-
Philippines	819	15	798	6	-
Singapore	976	12	964	-	-
South Korea	1 145	9	1 110	26	-
Thailand	545	3	540	2	-
Other	1 210	28	1 166	16	-
Africa	797 220	16 828	775 973	4 228	191
SADC	785 469	16 439	765 117	3 744	169
Angola	2 924	40	2 653	191	40
Botswana	30 224	497	29 119	594	14
DRC	2 495	32	2 303	130	30
Eswatini	81 356	2 601	78 480	266	9

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

Country of residence	July 2026	Purpose of visit			
		Business	Holiday	Study	Medical Treatment
Lesotho	173 671	415	172 754	496	6
Madagascar	339	2	333	4	-
Malawi	17 220	333	16 815	67	5
Mauritius	1 525	28	1 469	27	1
Mozambique	235 677	1 710	233 817	138	12
Namibia	12 493	3 920	7 944	614	15
Seychelles	155	1	153	1	-
Tanzania	3 144	113	2 923	97	11
Zambia	13 922	2 941	10 862	113	6
Zimbabwe	210 324	3 806	205 492	1 006	20
'Other' African	11 751	389	10 856	484	22
East and Central Africa	6 138	192	5 650	284	12
Burundi	90	5	83	2	-
Cameroon	367	20	324	18	5
Central African Republic	5	1	3	-	1
Chad	47	3	38	6	-
Comoros	7	1	6	-	-
Congo	108	4	91	11	2
Djibouti	2	-	2	-	-
Equatorial Guinea	6	-	5	1	-
Eritrea	31	-	28	3	-
Ethiopia	654	26	604	23	1
Gabon	504	3	491	10	-
Kenya	3 355	91	3 123	140	1
Rwanda	53	4	48	1	-
São Tomé and Príncipe	13	-	13	-	-
Somalia	24	4	19	1	-
Uganda	872	30	772	68	2

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

Country of residence	July 2026	Purpose of visit			
		Business	Holiday	Study	Medical Treatment
West Africa	4 544	112	4 268	154	10
Benin	129	8	117	3	1
Burkina Faso	31	6	23	-	2
Cape Verde Island	22	1	21	-	-
Côte d'Ivoire	168	6	158	4	-
Gambia	29	-	28	1	-
Ghana	2 274	27	2 218	24	5
Guinea	47	-	36	10	1
Guinea-Bissau	5	-	5	-	-
Liberia	36	-	35	1	-
Mali	84	4	78	2	-
Mauritania	13	1	12	-	-
Niger	8	-	8	-	-
Nigeria	1 551	48	1 404	99	-
Senegal	102	6	88	8	-
Sierra Leone	20	2	16	1	1
Togo	25	3	21	1	-
North Africa	1 069	85	938	46	-
Algeria	91	10	78	3	-
Egypt	569	55	500	14	-
Libya	45	2	41	2	-
Morocco	106	7	98	1	-
South Sudan	36	5	24	7	-
The Sudan	100	1	82	17	-
Tunisia	120	5	113	2	-
Western Sahara	2	-	2	-	-
Unspecified	839	28	805	4	2

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

Country of residence	Jan – Jul 2025	Jan – Jul 2026	Difference between Jan – Jul 2025 and Jan – Jul 2026	% change between Jan – Jul 2025 and Jan – Jul 2026
Total	5 852 156	6 576 169	724 013	12,4
Overseas	1 296 343	1 369 743	73 400	5,7
Europe	746 868	825 845	78 977	10,6
Austria	12 333	13 988	1 655	13,4
Belgium	26 927	29 106	2 179	8,1
France	72 931	81 284	8 353	11,5
Germany	142 253	166 429	24 176	17,0
Ireland	17 131	18 105	974	5,7
Italy	26 081	25 921	-160	-0,6
Portugal	10 844	12 390	1 546	14,3
Russian Federation	20 366	25 292	4 926	24,2
Spain	16 198	17 765	1 567	9,7
Sweden	14 530	14 893	363	2,5
Switzerland	23 788	27 713	3 925	16,5
The Netherlands	75 258	84 002	8 744	11,6
Turkey	10 279	11 800	1 521	14,8
UK	225 058	234 620	9 562	4,2
Other	52 891	62 537	9 646	18,2
North America	262 754	260 815	-1 939	-0,7
Canada	34 687	35 528	841	2,4
USA	228 067	225 287	-2 780	-1,2
Central and South America	51 935	62 037	10 102	19,5
Argentina	4 757	6 128	1 371	28,8
Brazil	34 343	44 025	9 682	28,2
Chile	2 464	2 776	312	12,7
Other	10 371	9 108	-1 263	-12,2

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

Country of residence	Jan – Jul 2025	Jan – Jul 2026	Difference between Jan – Jul 2025 and Jan – Jul 2026	% change between Jan – Jul 2025 and Jan – Jul 2026
Australasia	77 287	80 138	2 851	3,7
Australia	64 706	68 748	4 042	6,2
New Zealand	12 400	11 296	-1 104	-8,9
Other	181	94	-87	-48,1
Middle East	33 529	31 480	-2 049	-6,1
Israel	4 724	4 901	177	3,7
Saudi Arabia	14 524	14 296	-228	-1,6
United Arab Emirates	6 344	6 616	272	4,3
Other	7 937	5 667	-2 270	-28,6
Asia	123 970	109 428	-14 542	-11,7
Bangladesh	3 981	4 345	364	9,1
China	23 674	18 031	-5 643	-23,8
India	42 656	29 525	-13 131	-30,8
Japan	10 554	12 611	2 057	19,5
Malaysia	3 945	4 185	240	6,1
Pakistan	10 663	11 107	444	4,2
Philippines	4 146	3 537	-609	-14,7
Singapore	5 329	6 932	1 603	30,1
South Korea	8 043	7 634	-409	-5,1
Thailand	3 098	3 440	342	11,0
Other	7 881	8 081	200	2,5
Africa	4 548 930	5 200 371	651 441	14,3
SADC	4 444 859	5 092 477	647 618	14,6
Angola	22 850	22 875	25	0,1
Botswana	217 353	215 663	-1 690	-0,8
DRC	20 990	20 407	-583	-2,8
Eswatini	517 442	526 303	8 861	1,7

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

Country of residence	Jan – Jul 2025	Jan – Jul 2026	Difference between Jan – Jul 2025 and Jan – Jul 2026	% change between Jan – Jul 2025 and Jan – Jul 2026
Lesotho	832 315	958 162	125 847	15,1
Madagascar	2 429	2 572	143	5,9
Malawi	139 483	139 184	-299	-0,2
Mauritius	10 980	11 040	60	0,5
Mozambique	1 152 925	1 502 882	349 957	30,4
Namibia	96 930	93 799	-3 131	-3,2
Seychelles	2 319	2 484	165	7,1
Tanzania	23 146	25 771	2 625	11,3
Zambia	92 602	105 088	12 486	13,5
Zimbabwe	1 313 095	1 466 247	153 152	11,7
'Other' African	104 071	107 894	3 823	3,7
East and Central Africa	49 997	53 331	3 334	6,7
Burundi	720	765	45	6,3
Cameroon	2 812	2 734	-78	-2,8
Central African Republic	88	75	-13	-14,8
Chad	283	306	23	8,1
Comoros	188	116	-72	-38,3
Congo	1 028	740	-288	-28,0
Djibouti	63	36	-27	-42,9
Equatorial Guinea	139	112	-27	-19,4
Eritrea	264	202	-62	-23,5
Ethiopia	4 962	5 105	143	2,9
Gabon	2 109	2 480	371	17,6
Kenya	28 824	32 067	3 243	11,3
Réunion	14	22	8	57,1
Rwanda	466	531	65	13,9
São Tomé and Príncipe	63	78	15	23,8
Somalia	468	467	-1	-0,2
Uganda	7 506	7 495	-11	-0,1

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

Country of residence	Jan – Jul 2025	Jan – Jul 2026	Difference between Jan – Jul 2025 and Jan – Jul 2026	% change between Jan – Jul 2025 and Jan – Jul 2026
West Africa	45 469	45 782	313	0,7
Benin	1 154	895	-259	-22,4
Burkina Faso	448	451	3	0,7
Cape Verde Island	204	174	-30	-14,7
Côte d'Ivoire	1 306	1 344	38	2,9
Gambia	234	302	68	29,1
Ghana	22 527	23 400	873	3,9
Guinea	642	481	-161	-25,1
Guinea-Bissau	72	41	-31	-43,1
Liberia	384	357	-27	-7,0
Mali	589	664	75	12,7
Mauritania	154	170	16	10,4
Niger	165	158	-7	-4,2
Nigeria	15 923	15 858	-65	-0,4
Saint Helena	15	3	-12	-80,0
Senegal	964	910	-54	-5,6
Sierra Leone	349	293	-56	-16,0
Togo	339	281	-58	-17,1
North Africa	8 605	8 781	176	2,0
Algeria	587	650	63	10,7
Egypt	4 436	3 814	-622	-14,0
Libya	355	241	-114	-32,1
Morocco	1 014	1 125	111	10,9
South Sudan	336	347	11	3,3
The Sudan	574	547	-27	-4,7
Tunisia	1 293	2 048	755	58,4
Western Sahara	10	9	-1	-10,0
Unspecified	6 883	6 055	-828	-12,0

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

Port of entry and province	July 2019	July 2026	Difference between Jul 2019 and Jul 2026	% Change between Jul 2019 and Jul 2026
Total	771 544	991 696	220 152	28,5
Western Cape	45 362	66 689	21 327	47,0
Cape Town Harbour	12	3	-9	-75,0
Cape Town International Airport	45 350	66 686	21 336	47,0
Eastern Cape	4 014	6 397	2 383	59,4
Telle Bridge	4 014	6 397	2 383	59,4
Northern Cape	6 703	7 977	1 274	19,0
Nakop	2 969	4 685	1 716	57,8
Vioolsdrift	3 734	3 292	-442	-11,8
Free State	120 343	167 705	47 362	39,4
Caledonspoort	10 985	19 406	8 421	76,7
Ficksburg	46 669	71 931	25 262	54,1
Maseru Bridge	50 062	68 094	18 032	36,0
Van Rooyens Gate	12 627	8 274	-4 353	-34,5
KwaZulu Natal	25 922	33 479	7 557	29,2
King Shaka International Airport	5 225	3 737	-1 488	-28,5
Golela	15 617	17 438	1 821	11,7
Kosibay	5 080	12 304	7 224	142,2
North West	47 857	34 851	-13 006	-27,2
Kopfontein	24 915	18 789	-6 126	-24,6
Ramatlabama	6 920	7 002	82	1,2
Skilpad Gate	11 828	7 117	-4 711	-39,8
Swartkopfontein Gate	4 194	1 943	-2 251	-53,7
Gauteng	172 169	167 450	-4 719	-2,7
Lanseria International Airport	240	266	26	10,8
OR Tambo International Airport	171 929	167 184	-4 745	-2,8
Mpumalanga	177 953	325 804	147 851	83,1
Emahlatini	4 603	4 895	292	6,3
Jeppes Reef	11 325	16 613	5 288	46,7
Lebombo	106 478	235 892	129 414	121,5
Mahamba	8 373	6 362		
Mananga	9 297	9 581	284	3,1
Nerston	1 025	1 215	190	18,5
Oshoek	36 852	51 246	14 394	39,1
Limpopo	171 221	181 344	10 123	5,9
Beit Bridge	153 014	160 354	7 340	4,8
Groblers Bridge	18 207	20 990	2 783	15,3

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

Port of entry and province	July 2025	July 2026	Difference between Jul 2025 and Jul 2026	% Change between Jul 2025 and Jul 2026
Total	881 390	989 750	108 360	12,3
Western Cape	59 945	66 686	6 741	11,2
Cape Town International Airport	59 945	66 686	6 741	11,2
Eastern Cape	5 982	6 397	415	6,9
Telle Bridge	5 982	6 397	415	6,9
Northern Cape	8 318	7 977	-341	-4,1
Nakop	4 856	4 685	-171	-3,5
Vioolsdrift	3 462	3 292	-170	-4,9
Free State	124 583	167 705	43 122	34,6
Caledonspoort	12 310	19 406	7 096	57,6
Ficksburg	52 710	71 931	19 221	36,5
Maseru Bridge	56 885	68 094	11 209	19,7
Van Rooyens Gate	2 678	8 274	5 596	209,0
KwaZulu Natal	25 939	33 479	7 540	29,1
King Shaka International Airport	4 154	3 737	-417	-10,0
Golela	13 129	17 438	4 309	32,8
Kosibay	8 656	12 304	3 648	42,1
North West	33 910	32 908	-1 002	-3,0
Kopfontein	19 887	18 789	-1 098	-5,5
Ramatlabama	6 286	7 002	716	11,4
Skilpad Gate	7 737	7 117	-620	-8,0
Gauteng	167 403	167 450	47	0,0
Lanseria International Airport	188	266	78	41,5
OR Tambo International Airport	167 215	167 184	-31	0,0
Mpumalanga	272 173	325 804	53 631	19,7
Emahlatini	6 609	4 895	-1 714	-25,9
Jeppes Reef	11 164	16 613	5 449	48,8
Lebombo	190 543	235 892	45 349	23,8
Mahamba	7 621	6 362	-1 259	-16,5
Mananga	12 498	9 581	-2 917	-23,3
Nerston	515	1 215	700	135,9
Oshoek	43 223	51 246	8 023	18,6
Limpopo	183 137	181 344	-1 793	-1,0
Beit Bridge	163 579	160 354	-3 225	-2,0
Groblers Bridge	19 558	20 990	1 432	7,3

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

Port of entry and province	Jan – Jul 2025	Jan – Jul 2026	Difference between Jan – Jul 2025 and Jan – Jul 2026	% Change between Jan – Jul 2025 and Jan – Jul 2026
Total	5 766 974	6 490 233	723 259	12,5
Western Cape	579 740	628 506	48 766	8,4
Cape Town International Airport	579 740	628 506	48 766	8,4
Northern Cape	60 339	58 967	-1 372	-2,3
Nakop	31 261	31 264	3	0,0
Vioolsdrift	29 078	27 703	-1 375	-4,7
Free State	813 650	954 374	140 724	17,3
Caledonspoort	83 757	103 574	19 817	23,7
Ficksburg	331 023	397 519	66 496	20,1
Maseru Bridge	370 969	402 936	31 967	8,6
Van Rooyens Gate	27 901	50 345	22 444	80,4
KwaZulu Natal	179 254	191 794	12 540	7,0
King Shaka International Airport	24 372	16 170	-8 202	-33,7
Golela	88 851	97 254	8 403	9,5
Kosibay	66 031	78 370	12 339	18,7
North West	250 736	216 086	-34 650	-13,8
Kopfontein	149 749	123 009	-26 740	-17,9
Ramathlabama	43 171	45 008	1 837	4,3
Skilpad Gate	57 816	48 069	-9 747	-16,9
Gauteng	1 044 648	1 091 463	46 815	4,5
Lanseria International Airport	1 606	1 593	-13	-0,8
Oliver Tambo International Airport	1 043 042	1 089 870	46 828	4,5
Mpumalanga	1 626 605	2 024 173	397 568	24,4
Emahlatini	36 857	36 956	99	0,3
Jeppes Reef	88 228	103 059	14 831	16,8
Lebombo	1 140 616	1 485 438	344 822	30,2
Mananga	69 616	61 194	-8 422	-12,1
Nerston	2 259	6 434	4 175	184,8
Oshoek	289 029	331 092	42 063	14,6
Limpopo	1 212 002	1 324 870	112 868	9,3
Beit Bridge	1 083 648	1 163 656	80 008	7,4
Groblers Bridge	128 354	161 214	32 860	25,6

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 July 2026, the DHA data was 0,8% 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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