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## **STATISTICAL RELEASE**

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# Tourism and migration

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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 December 2021. Specific focus is on foreign tourists who entered the country during this month. The tourists are classified by region and country of residence. Details of their mode of travel; purpose of visit; age and sex distribution are also provided.

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**Statistician-General**

## 1. Key findings

### 1.1 Travellers

#### 1.1.1 Number of travellers

The routine data collected by the Department of Home Affairs' (DHA) immigration officers at the ports of entry into and out of South Africa shows that a total of 1 171 244 travellers (arrivals, departures and transits) passed through South African ports of entry/exit in December 2021. As presented in Table 1 on page 9, these travellers were made up of 424 900 South African residents and 746 344 foreign travellers. A further breakdown of the figures for South African residents indicates that there were 182 489 arrivals, 242 289 departures and 122 travellers in transit. The corresponding volume for foreign arrivals, departures and travellers in transit was 347 188, 389 490 and 9 666 respectively.

A comparison between the movements in December 2020 and December 2021 indicates that the volume of arrivals, departures and travellers in transit increased for both South African residents and foreign travellers. For South African residents, the volume of arrivals increased by 20,6% (from 151 362 in December 2020 to 182 489 in December 2021). Departures increased by 33,0% (from 182 144 in December 2020 to 242 289 in December 2021), and transits increased by 67,1% (from 73 in December 2020 to 122 in December 2021). For foreign travellers, arrivals increased by 24,2% (from 279 539 in December 2020 to 347 188 in December 2021), departures increased by 23,3% (from 315 824 in December 2020 to 389 490 in December 2021), and transits increased by 57,3% (from 6 143 in December 2020 to 9 666 in December 2021).

A comparison between the movements in November 2021 and December 2021 indicates that the volume of arrivals increased for South African residents but decreased for foreign travellers. The volume of departures increased for both groups of travellers. Travellers in transit decreased for both South African residents and foreign travellers. For South African residents, the volume of arrivals increased by 8,3% (from 168 490 in November 2021 to 182 489 in December 2021), departures increased by 43,4% (from 168 973 in November 2021 to 242 289 in December 2021) and transits decreased by 49,8% (from 243 in November 2021 to 122 in December 2021). For foreign travellers, arrivals decreased by 6,6% (from 371 649 in November 2021 to 347 188 in December 2021), departures increased by 19,5% (from 325 842 in November 2021 to 389 490 in December 2021) and transits decreased by 46,6% (from 18 114 in November 2021 to 9 666 in December 2021).

Detailed information on the departure of travellers is not available in the movement control system. Data on the purpose of travel and the number of days South African residents intend to spend or spent abroad are not collected by the DHA. It is therefore not possible to categorise South African residents as tourists or non-tourists. However, some data are available on foreign arrivals for this categorisation.

As presented in Table 1 on page 9, in December 2021, 35 078 (10,1%) of foreign arrivals were classified as non-visitors while 312 110 (89,9%) were classified as visitors. The visitors were categorised into three groups:

- i. Arrivals only – comprising visitors who entered the country in December 2021 but did not depart in December 2021 [111 998 (35,9%)];
- ii. Single trips – visitors who came to South Africa once in December 2021 and left in December 2021 [103 495 (33,2%)];
- iii. Multiple trips – visitors who came to and left South Africa more than once in December 2021 [96 617 (31,0%)].

Visitors were further grouped as same-day visitors and overnight visitors (tourists). In December 2021, there were 49 002 (15,7%) same-day visitors and 263 108 (84,3%) tourists. Between December 2020 and December 2021, the volume of same-day visitors increased by 15,6% (from 42 378 in December 2020 to 49 002 in December 2021) and that of tourists increased by 32,8% (from 198 059 in December 2020 to 263 108 in December 2021). Between November 2021 and December 2021, the volume of same-day visitors decreased by 5,8% (from 52 043 in November 2021 to 49 002 in December 2021) and that of tourists decreased by 4,5% (from 275 647 in November 2021 to 263 108 in December 2021).

### 1.1.2 Mode of travel of travellers

Information presented in Table 2 on page 10, shows the number of South African residents and foreign travellers by travel direction and mode of travel. In December 2021, road transport was the most common mode of travel used by 856 912 (73,2%) of the 1 171 244 travellers. The total number of travellers who used air transport was 312 191 (26,7%). Compared to air and land transport, a smaller number of travellers, 2 141 (0,2%) used sea transport into and out of South Africa. Information on arrivals of South African residents shows that 70 970 (38,9%) came by air, 111 393 (61,0%) came by road and 126 (0,1%) arrived by sea. For departures, 59 546 (24,6%) used air, 182 384 (75,3%) used road and 359 (0,1%) left by sea. All travellers in transit, 122 (100,0%) used air transport.

In the case of foreign travellers, 87 012 (25,1%) arrived by air, 259 528 (74,8%) came by road and 648 (0,2%) arrived by sea transport. When departing South Africa, 84 875 (21,8%) foreign travellers left by air, 303 607 (77,9%) left by road and 1 008 (0,3%) left by sea. All travellers in transit, 9 666 (100,0%) used air transport. Table 2 further shows that of the 49 002 same-day visitors, a majority, 43 997 (89,8%) arrived in the country by road, 4 998 (10,2%) flew into the country and 7 (less than 0,1%) arrived by sea. Information on tourists shows that 185 648 (70,6%) used road transport, 77 423 (29,4%) came by air transport and 37 (less than 0,1%) arrived by sea transport.

## 1.2 Tourists

### 1.2.1 Mode of travel of tourists

The country of residence of tourists is used to categorise them according to their respective countries and regions. Information on the specific region and country of residence of tourists and the mode of travel used to enter South Africa is provided in Table 3 on pages 11 to 14. In December 2021, 47 723 (92,6%) of the 51 516 overseas tourists arrived in the country by air transport, whilst 3 757 (7,3%) came in by road transport and 36 (0,1%) arrived by sea. Tourists from the Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries, on the other hand, came predominantly by road, 181 158 (87,8%), whilst 25 190 (12,2%) came by air and one tourist (less than 0,1%) arrived by sea. The number of tourists who came into South Africa by air from 'other' African countries was 4 298 (88,4%); 562 (11,6%) used road transport and none used sea transport.

### 1.2.2 Regional and national distribution

In December 2021, the distribution of overseas tourists was as follows: Europe, 34 831 (67,6%); North America, 11 163 (21,7%); Asia, 3 335 (6,5%); Central and South America, 945 (1,8%); Australasia, 834 (1,6%) and The Middle East, 408 (0,8%).

Figure 1 on page 7 indicates that the ten leading overseas countries in terms of the number of tourists visiting South Africa in December 2021 were: United Kingdom (UK), 11 645 (22,6%); United States of America (USA), 10 157 (19,7%); Germany, 5 808 (11,3%); The Netherlands, 4 972 (9,7%); Switzerland, 1 975 (3,8%); India, 1 500 (2,9%); Belgium, 1 422 (2,8%); France, 1 421 (2,8%); Sweden, 1 318 (2,6%) and Russian Federation, 1 011 (2,0%). Tourists from these ten countries constituted 80,0% of all tourists from overseas countries. A comparison of movements in the ten leading countries between December 2020 and December 2021 shows that the number of tourists increased for nine of ten leading countries. USA had the highest increase of 162,4% (from 3 871 tourists in December 2020 to 10 157 tourists in December 2021).

Virtually, most tourists from Africa, 206 349 (97,7%), came from SADC countries. The distribution of the remaining tourists from Africa is as follows: West Africa, 2 366 (1,1%); East and Central Africa, 2 172 (1,0%) and North Africa 322 (0,2%). Ten leading SADC countries in terms of the number of tourists visiting South Africa in December 2021 were: Mozambique, 53 425 (25,9%); Zimbabwe, 46 934 (22,7%); Lesotho, 42 778 (20,7%); Eswatini, 20 526 (9,9%); Botswana, 13 782 (6,7%); Namibia, 10 986 (5,3%); Zambia, 7 068 (3,4%); Malawi, 6 405 (3,1%); Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), 2 020 (1,0%) and Tanzania, 1 395 (0,7%) (see Figure 2 on page 7). Tourists from these ten countries constituted 99,5% of all tourists from the SADC countries. A comparison between movements in December 2020 and December 2021 for the ten leading SADC countries shows that the number of tourists increased for nine of ten leading countries. Lesotho showed the highest increase of 130,1% (from 18 592 tourists in December 2020 to 42 778 in December 2021).

The ten leading countries in terms of the number of tourists visiting South Africa in December 2021 from 'other' African countries, as shown in Figure 3 on page 8, were: Ghana, 1 068 (22,0%); Nigeria, 998 (20,5%); Kenya, 813 (16,7%); Uganda 518 (10,7%); Ethiopia, 305 (6,3%); Cameroon, 203 (4,2%); Egypt, 114 (2,3%); Congo, 99 (2,0%); Algeria, 68 (1,4%) and Guinea, 67 (1,4%). Tourists from these ten countries constituted 87,5% of all tourists from 'other' African countries. A comparison between movements in December 2020 and December 2021 shows that the number of tourists increased for eight of the ten leading countries. Algeria showed the highest increase of 466,7% (from 12 tourists in December 2020 to 68 in December 2021).

### 1.2.3 Purpose of visit

Table 4 on pages 15 to 18, shows the number of tourists by country of residence and purpose of visit. It is observed that in December 2021, the majority of tourists, 247 944 (94,2%), were in South Africa for holiday<sup>1</sup> compared to 13 805 (5,2%); 1 180 (0,4%) and 179 (0,1%) who were in South Africa for business, study and medical treatment respectively.

Within the overseas regions, Australasia had the highest proportion of its tourists who came for holiday, 99,5% (830), followed by North America, 99,4% (11 093); Europe, 99,2% (34 548); Central and South America, 98,4% (930); Asia, 96,4% (3 215) and The Middle East, 92,9% (379).

Asia, 1,8% (59) had the highest proportion of its tourists who came to South Africa for business, followed by Europe, 0,3% (119); North America, 0,3% (29); The Middle East, 0,2% (1); Central and South America, 0,2% (2) and Australasia, 0,1% (1).

The Middle East, 6,9% (28) had the highest proportion of tourists who came to study, followed by Asia, 1,7% (56); Central and South America, 1,4% (13); Europe, 0,4% (141); North America, 0,3% (36) and Australasia, 0,2% (2).

Asia, Australasia and Europe had the same proportion of its tourists who came for medical treatment. Asia, 0,1% (5); Australasia, 0,1% (1) and Europe, 0,1% (23) followed by North America, less than 0,1% (5). The Middle East and Central and South America had no tourists who came to South Africa for medical treatment.

The majority of African tourists, 196 573 (93,1%) 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 93,7% (4 556) of tourists from 'other' African countries compared to 93,1% (192 017) from SADC countries. Information on the regions of 'other' African countries shows that 94,7% (2 240) of tourists from West Africa were on holiday, followed by tourists from East and Central Africa, 93,9% (2 040); and those from North Africa 85,7% (276).
- Business persons constituted 6,5% (13 488) of tourists from SADC countries compared to 2,1% (100) from 'other' African countries. North Africa, 2,8% (9) had the highest proportion of its tourists who came to South Africa for business purposes, followed by East and Central Africa, 2,2% (48) and West Africa, 1,8% (43).
- Students constituted 3,7% (181) of tourists from 'other' African countries compared with 0,4% (723) from SADC countries. North Africa, 11,5% (37) had the highest proportion of its tourists who came to South Africa for study purposes, followed by East and Central Africa, 3,2% (70) and West Africa, 3,1% (74).
- Tourists who came for medical treatment constituted 0,5% (23) of tourists from 'other' African countries, while those from SADC constituted 0,1% (121). East and Central Africa, 0,6% (14) had the highest proportion of tourists who came for medical treatment, followed by West Africa, 0,4% (9). North Africa had no tourists who came to South Africa for medical treatment.

<sup>1</sup> The holiday category includes tourists who came for vacation, visiting friends and relatives, shopping and other personal reasons. See section 5.5.2 on page 25 for a more detailed discussion.

#### 1.2.4 Sex and age distribution

Table 5 on page 19, shows the number of tourists by country of residence, sex and age group. There were 161 128 (61,2%) male and 101 980 (38,8%) female tourists. Overseas tourists were made up of 26 991 (52,4%) male tourists and 24 525 (47,6%) female tourists. There were 131 113 (63,5%) male and 75 236 (36,5%) female tourists from SADC countries. Tourists from 'other' African countries were made up of 2 774 (57,1%) male and 2 086 (42,9%) female.

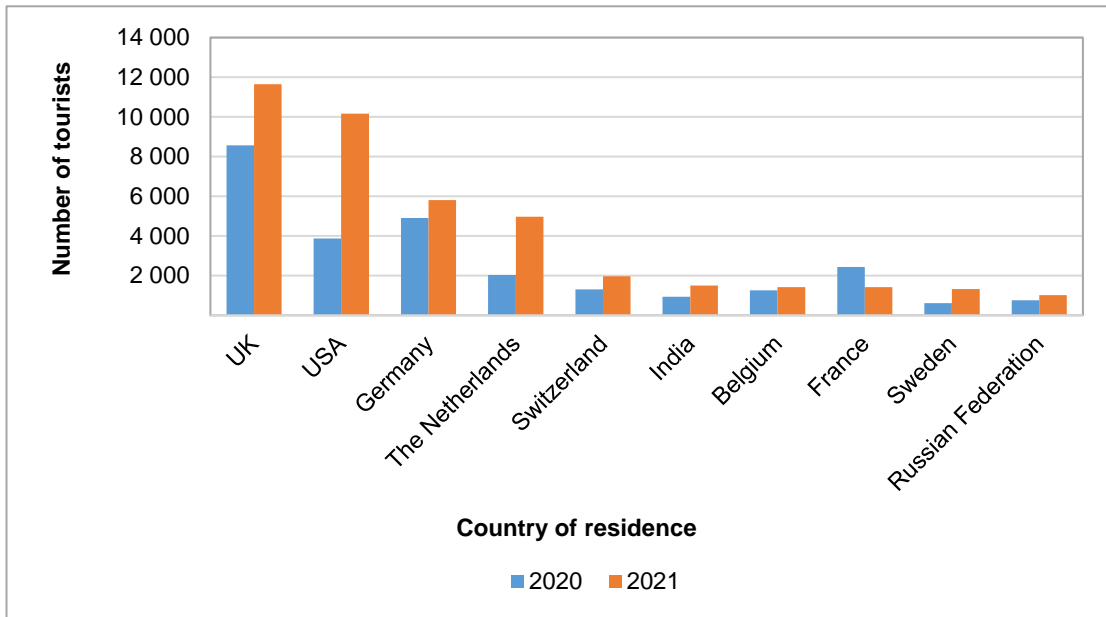
The ages of tourists were categorised into seven broad groups (see Table 5 for a detailed classification). The results presented in Table 5 further show that the majority of tourists were aged between 35 and 44 years [81 309 (30,9%)]. Taking the regions of residence into consideration, the results show that the highest proportion of tourists from 'other' African countries [1 520 (31,3%)] and those from overseas countries [10 534 (20,4%)] were aged between 25 and 34 years, whereas those from SADC countries [70 670 (34,2%)] were aged between 35 and 44 years.

The second highest proportion of tourists from 'other' African countries [1 327 (27,3%)] and those from overseas countries [9 185 (17,8%)] were aged between 35 and 44 years, whereas those from SADC countries [49 702 (24,1%)] were aged between 25 and 34 years. The median ages of tourists from overseas, SADC and 'other' African countries were 36, 38 and 34 years respectively. The proportion of tourists younger than 15 years was higher among tourists from overseas countries, 15,2% (7 805) followed by those from 'other' African countries, 8,8% (430) and those from SADC countries, 6,6% (13 697).

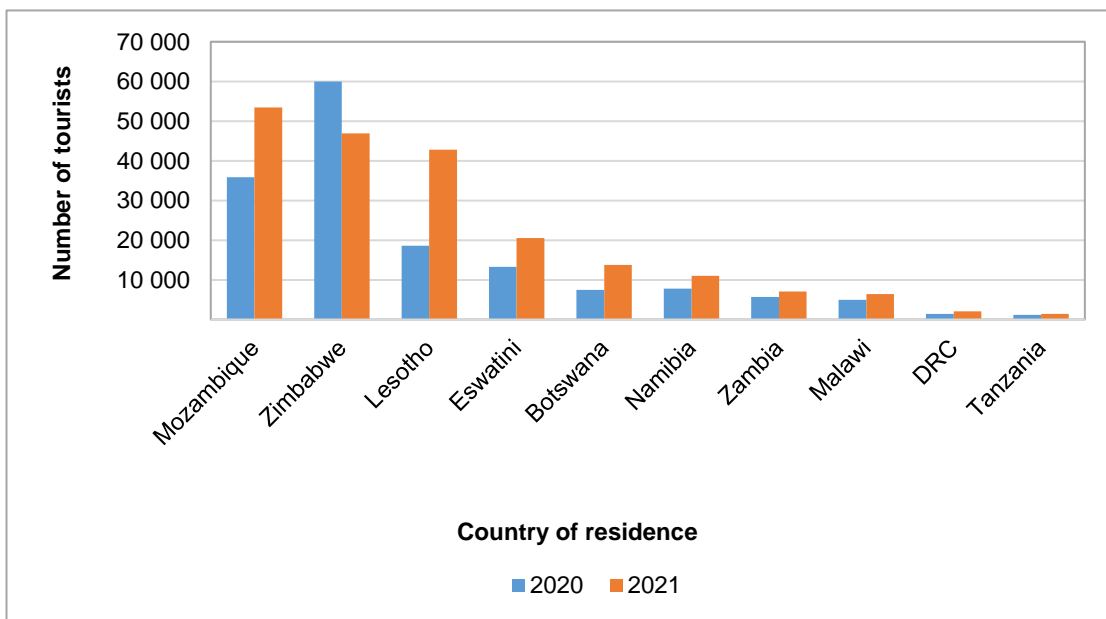
A comparison of the three regions shows higher proportions of the elderly (those aged 65+) among both male and female tourists from overseas. This comprised of 8,5% (2 294) males and 9,0% (2 216) females from overseas countries. However, tourists aged 65 years and older from the other two regions comprised of less than 4,0% of both male and female tourists: from SADC countries, elderly tourists were made up of 1,8% (2 304) males and 3,4% (2 574) females; while in 'other' African countries elderly tourists made up 2,1% (58) and 3,7% (77) of male and female tourists respectively.

**2. Figures**

**Figure 1 – Number of tourists from the ten leading overseas countries in December 2020 and December 2021**

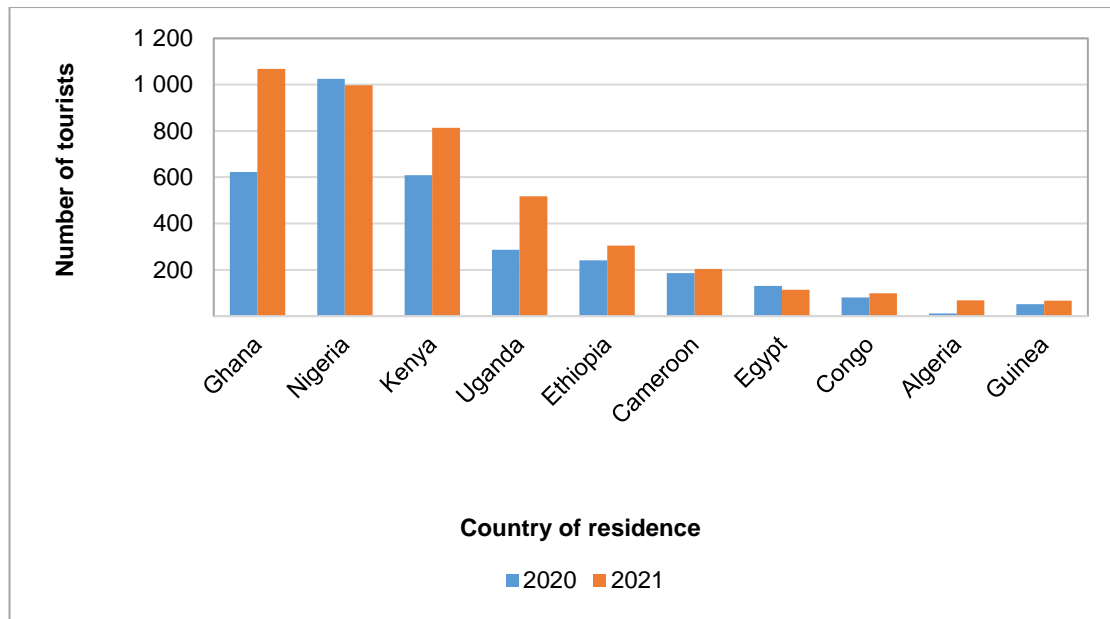


**Figure 2 – Number of tourists from the ten leading Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries in December 2020 and December 2021**





**Figure 3 – Number of tourists from the ten leading 'other' African countries in December 2020 and December 2021**



### 3. Tables

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

Travel Direction	December 2020	November 2021	December 2021	% Change Nov 2021 – Dec 2021	% Change Dec 2020 – Dec 2021
<b>Total</b>	<b>935 085</b>	<b>1 053 311</b>	<b>1 171 244</b>	<b>11,2%</b>	<b>25,3%</b>
<b>South African residents</b>	<b>333 579</b>	<b>337 706</b>	<b>424 900</b>	<b>25,8%</b>	<b>27,4%</b>
Arrivals	151 362	168 490	182 489	8,3%	20,6%
Departures	182 144	168 973	242 289	43,4%	33,0%
Transits	73	243	122	-49,8%	67,1%
<b>Foreign travellers</b>	<b>601 506</b>	<b>715 605</b>	<b>746 344</b>	<b>4,3%</b>	<b>24,1%</b>
Arrivals	279 539	371 649	347 188	-6,6%	24,2%
Departures	315 824	325 842	389 490	19,5%	23,3%
Transits	6 143	18 114	9 666	-46,6%	57,3%
<b>Foreign arrivals</b>	<b>279 539</b>	<b>371 649</b>	<b>347 188</b>	<b>-6,6%</b>	<b>24,2%</b>
Non-visitors	39 102	43 959	35 078	-20,2%	-10,3%
Visitors	240 437	327 690	312 110	-4,8%	29,8%
<b>Visitors</b>	<b>240 437</b>	<b>327 690</b>	<b>312 110</b>	<b>-4,8%</b>	<b>29,8%</b>
Arrivals only	86 968	102 539	111 998	9,2%	28,8%
Single trips	73 761	121 590	103 495	-14,9%	40,3%
Multiple trips	79 708	103 561	96 617	-6,7%	21,2%
<b>Visitors</b>	<b>240 437</b>	<b>327 690</b>	<b>312 110</b>	<b>-4,8%</b>	<b>29,8%</b>
Same-day	42 378	52 043	49 002	-5,8%	15,6%
Overnight (Tourists)	198 059	275 647	263 108	-4,5%	32,8%

**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		
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 171 244</b>	<b>75 031</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>234 745</b>	<b>2 128</b>	<b>312 191</b>	<b>856 912</b>	<b>2 141</b>
<b>South African residents</b>	<b>424 900</b>	<b>25 322</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>103 531</b>	<b>1 632</b>	<b>130 638</b>	<b>293 777</b>	<b>485</b>
Arrivals	<b>182 489</b>	14 005	87	56 151	727	<b>70 970</b>	111 393	126
Departures	<b>242 289</b>	11 316	66	47 259	905	<b>59 546</b>	182 384	359
Transit	<b>122</b>	1	-	121	-	<b>122</b>	-	-
<b>Foreign travellers</b>	<b>746 344</b>	<b>49 709</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>131 214</b>	<b>496</b>	<b>181 553</b>	<b>563 135</b>	<b>1 656</b>
Arrivals	<b>347 188</b>	26 925	19	59 853	215	<b>87 012</b>	259 528	648
Departures	<b>389 490</b>	22 730	115	61 749	281	<b>84 875</b>	303 607	1 008
Transit	<b>9 666</b>	54	-	9 612	-	<b>9 666</b>	-	-
<b>Visitors</b>	<b>312 110</b>	<b>25 640</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>56 623</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>82 421</b>	<b>229 645</b>	<b>44</b>
Same-day	<b>49 002</b>	185	-	4 801	12	<b>4 998</b>	43 997	7
Tourist	<b>263 108</b>	25 455	14	51 822	132	<b>77 423</b>	185 648	37

**Table 3 – Number of tourists by country of residence and mode of travel, December 2021**

Country of residence	December		December 2021						
	2020	2021	Air					Road	Sea
			Cape Town	King Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total		
<b>Total</b>	<b>198 059</b>	<b>263 108</b>	<b>25 455</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>51 822</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>77 423</b>	<b>185 648</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Overseas</b>	<b>36 357</b>	<b>51 516</b>	<b>21 035</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>26 596</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>47 723</b>	<b>3 757</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Europe</b>	<b>26 880</b>	<b>34 831</b>	<b>16 802</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>16 135</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>32 975</b>	<b>1 836</b>	<b>20</b>
Austria	538	533	365	-	148		513	20	-
Belgium	1 261	1 422	640	-	696	3	1 339	83	-
France	2 443	1 421	454	-	756	5	1 215	199	7
Germany	4 909	5 808	3 668	2	1 816	2	5 488	320	-
Ireland	607	825	336	-	450	-	786	38	1
Italy	727	662	299	-	312	-	611	49	2
Poland	362	304	145	-	151	-	296	8	-
Portugal	443	578	85	-	285	3	373	205	-
Russian Federation	758	1 011	628	-	339	-	967	44	-
Spain	415	416	180	-	192	1	373	43	-
Sweden	608	1 318	785	-	466	7	1 258	60	-
Switzerland	1 299	1 975	1 128	-	787	1	1 916	59	-
The Netherlands	2 031	4 972	2 885	-	1 929	3	4 817	148	7
UK	8 567	11 645	4 381	1	6 858	9	11 249	393	3
Other	1 912	1 941	823	1	950	-	1 774	167	-
<b>North America</b>	<b>4 665</b>	<b>11 163</b>	<b>3 507</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7 057</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>10 605</b>	<b>556</b>	<b>2</b>
Canada	794	1 006	270	-	650	-	920	86	-
USA	3 871	10 157	3 237	3	6 407	38	9 685	470	2
<b>Central and South America</b>	<b>591</b>	<b>945</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>536</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>775</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>7</b>
Argentina	60	56	21	-	23	-	44	8	4
Brazil	319	520	131	-	278	-	409	108	3
Mexico	35	119	25	-	89	2	116	3	-
Other	177	250	60	-	146	-	206	44	-

**Table 3 – Number of tourists by country of residence and mode of travel, December 2021 (continued)**

Country of residence	December		December 2021						
	2020	2021	Air					Road	Sea
			Cape Town	King Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total		
<b>Australasia</b>	<b>601</b>	<b>834</b>	<b>117</b>	-	<b>649</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>769</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>4</b>
Australia	486	699	89	-	561	3	653	45	1
New Zealand	114	134	28	-	87	-	115	16	3
Other	1	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-
<b>Middle East</b>	<b>748</b>	<b>408</b>	<b>126</b>	-	<b>238</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>369</b>	<b>39</b>	-
Israel	395	146	43	-	86	-	129	17	-
Lebanon	79	58	12	-	39	5	56	2	-
Saudi Arabia	34	53	27	-	24	-	51	2	-
Other	240	151	44	-	89	-	133	18	-
<b>Asia</b>	<b>2 872</b>	<b>3 335</b>	<b>246</b>	-	<b>1 981</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2 230</b>	<b>1 102</b>	<b>3</b>
Bangladesh	151	246	23	-	181	-	204	42	-
China	475	316	24	-	142	-	166	150	-
India	939	1 500	76	-	956	3	1 035	464	1
Japan	114	72	13	-	44	-	57	15	-
Pakistan	352	570	31	-	310	-	341	229	-
Philippines	271	95	11	-	49	-	60	33	2
South Korea	118	169	12	-	105	-	117	52	-
Sri Lanka	67	44	-	-	8	-	8	36	-
Taiwan	44	68	3	-	9	-	12	56	-
Thailand	145	60	12	-	33	-	45	15	-
Other	196	195	41	-	144	-	185	10	-
<b>Africa</b>	<b>161 358</b>	<b>211 209</b>	<b>4 401</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>25 034</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>29 488</b>	<b>181 720</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>SADC</b>	<b>157 258</b>	<b>206 349</b>	<b>3 777</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>21 368</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>25 190</b>	<b>181 158</b>	<b>1</b>
Angola	911	826	238	-	405	-	643	183	-
Botswana	7 493	13 782	280	6	1 194	10	1 490	12 292	-
DRC	1 449	2 020	201	-	1 593	14	1 808	212	-
Eswatini	13 260	20 526	2	-	195	1	198	20 328	-

**Table 3 – Number of tourists by country of residence and mode of travel, December 2021 (continued)**

Country of residence	December		December 2021						
	2020	2021	Air					Road	Sea
			Cape Town	King Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total		
Lesotho	18 592	42 778	5	-	190	-	195	42 583	-
Madagascar	53	18	7	-	9	-	16	2	-
Malawi	4 986	6 405	51	-	1 231	3	1 285	5 120	-
Mauritius	65	128	3	-	72	-	75	53	-
Mozambique	35 856	53 425	10	-	1 240	5	1 255	52 170	-
Namibia	7 769	10 986	1 457	-	1 203	1	2 661	8 324	1
Seychelles	18	58	3	-	49	-	52	6	-
Tanzania	1 147	1 395	121	-	679	-	800	595	-
Zambia	5 708	7 068	29	-	1 915	1	1 945	5 123	-
Zimbabwe	59 951	46 934	1 370	1	11 393	3	12 767	34 167	-
<b>'Other' African</b>	<b>4 100</b>	<b>4 860</b>	<b>624</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3 666</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4 298</b>	<b>562</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>East and Central Africa</b>	<b>1 845</b>	<b>2 172</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1 554</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1 906</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>-</b>
Burundi	26	51	14	-	36	-	50	1	-
Cameroon	185	203	27	-	163	1	191	12	-
Central African Republic	2	13	-	-	8	-	8	5	-
Chad	15	27	1	-	25	1	27	-	-
Comoros	18	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
Congo	80	99	28	-	67	-	95	4	-
Djibouti	2	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-
Equatorial Guinea	12	12	-	-	10	2	12	-	-
Eritrea	10	35	3	-	27	-	30	5	-
Ethiopia	241	305	27	-	201	1	229	76	-
Gabon	316	47	3	-	39	-	42	5	-
Kenya	609	813	173	-	551	2	726	87	-
Rwanda	16	18	-	-	10	-	10	8	-
São Tomé and Príncipe	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
Somalia	27	28	6	-	20	-	26	2	-
Uganda	286	518	60	-	396	1	457	61	-

**Table 3 – Number of tourists by country of residence and mode of travel, December 2021 (concluded)**

Country of residence	December		December 2021						
	2020	2021	Air					Road	Sea
			Cape Town	King Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total		
<b>West Africa</b>	<b>1 949</b>	<b>2 366</b>	<b>243</b>	-	<b>1 862</b>	-	<b>2 105</b>	<b>261</b>	-
Benin	57	57	7	-	47	-	54	3	-
Burkina Faso	10	8	1	-	7	-	8	-	-
Cape Verde Island	9	7	2	-	5	-	7	-	-
Côte d'Ivoire	53	39	4	-	27	-	31	8	-
Gambia	-	5	1	-	3	-	4	1	-
Ghana	622	1 068	96	-	939	-	1 035	33	-
Guinea	52	67	1	-	14	-	15	52	-
Guinea-Bissau	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Liberia	16	19	-	-	17	-	17	2	-
Mali	38	40	4	-	14	-	18	22	-
Mauritania	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Niger	3	5	1	-	4	-	5	-	-
Nigeria	1 025	998	122	-	740	-	862	136	-
Senegal	42	29	3	-	26	-	29	-	-
Sierra Leone	12	20	-	-	17	-	17	3	-
Togo	5	3	1	-	2	-	3	-	-
<b>North Africa</b>	<b>306</b>	<b>322</b>	<b>37</b>	-	<b>250</b>	-	<b>287</b>	<b>35</b>	-
Algeria	12	68	7	-	56	-	63	5	-
Egypt	130	114	8	-	97	-	105	9	-
Libya	32	39	10	-	15	-	25	14	-
Morocco	25	12	1	-	11	-	12	-	-
South Sudan	21	35	-	-	35	-	35	-	-
The Sudan	63	38	11	-	24	-	35	3	-
Tunisia	23	15	-	-	11	-	11	4	-
Western Sahara	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-
<b>Unspecified</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>383</b>	<b>19</b>	-	<b>192</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>171</b>	-

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

Country of residence	December			Purpose of visit (December 2021)			
	2020	2021	% change 2020–2021	Business	Holiday	Study	Medical treatment
<b>Total</b>	<b>198 059</b>	<b>263 108</b>	<b>32,8%</b>	<b>13 805</b>	<b>247 944</b>	<b>1 180</b>	<b>179</b>
<b>Overseas</b>	<b>36 357</b>	<b>51 516</b>	<b>41,7%</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>50 995</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>Europe</b>	<b>26 880</b>	<b>34 831</b>	<b>29,6%</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>34 548</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>23</b>
Austria	538	533	-0,9%	1	529	3	-
Belgium	1 261	1 422	12,8%	5	1 414	3	-
France	2 443	1 421	-41,8%	9	1 387	22	3
Germany	4 909	5 808	18,3%	16	5 756	36	-
Ireland	607	825	35,9%	3	822	-	-
Italy	727	662	-8,9%	3	657	2	-
Poland	362	304	-16,0%	6	295	3	-
Portugal	443	578	30,5%	4	573	-	1
Russian Federation	758	1 011	33,4%	6	1 002	3	-
Spain	415	416	0,2%	1	410	4	1
Sweden	608	1 318	116,8%	3	1 309	6	-
Switzerland	1 299	1 975	52,0%	4	1 963	8	-
The Netherlands	2 031	4 972	144,8%	18	4 932	13	9
UK	8 567	11 645	35,9%	15	11 598	23	9
Other	1 912	1 941	1,5%	25	1 901	15	-
<b>North America</b>	<b>4 665</b>	<b>11 163</b>	<b>139,3%</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>11 093</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>5</b>
Canada	794	1 006	26,7%	1	1 001	3	1
USA	3 871	10 157	162,4%	28	10 092	33	4
<b>Central and South America</b>	<b>591</b>	<b>945</b>	<b>59,9%</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>930</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>-</b>
Argentina	60	56	-6,7%	-	56	-	-
Brazil	319	520	63,0%	1	513	6	-
Mexico	35	119	240,0%	-	114	5	-
Other	177	250	41,2%	1	247	2	-



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

Country of residence	December			Purpose of visit (December 2021)			
	2020	2021	% change 2020–2021	Business	Holiday	Study	Medical treatment
<b>Australasia</b>	<b>601</b>	<b>834</b>	<b>38,8%</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>830</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
Australia	486	699	43,8%	1	695	2	1
New Zealand	114	134	17,5%	-	134	-	-
Other	1	1	0,0%	-	1	-	-
<b>Middle East</b>	<b>748</b>	<b>408</b>	<b>-45,5%</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>379</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>-</b>
Israel	395	146	-63,0%	-	144	2	-
Lebanon	79	58	-26,6%	-	57	1	-
Saudi Arabia	34	53	55,9%	-	47	6	-
Other	240	151	-37,1%	1	131	19	-
<b>Asia</b>	<b>2 872</b>	<b>3 335</b>	<b>16,1%</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>3 215</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>5</b>
Bangladesh	151	246	62,9%	7	237	2	-
China	475	316	-33,5%	8	301	7	-
India	939	1 500	59,7%	23	1 452	23	2
Japan	114	72	-36,8%	1	67	3	1
Pakistan	352	570	61,9%	5	563	2	-
Philippines	271	95	-64,9%	1	92	-	2
South Korea	118	169	43,2%	6	158	5	-
Sri Lanka	67	44	-34,3%	-	44	-	-
Taiwan	44	68	54,5%	6	62	-	-
Thailand	145	60	-58,6%	-	60	-	-
Other	196	195	-0,5%	2	179	14	-
<b>Africa</b>	<b>161 358</b>	<b>211 209</b>	<b>30,9%</b>	<b>13 588</b>	<b>196 573</b>	<b>904</b>	<b>144</b>
<b>SADC</b>	<b>157 258</b>	<b>206 349</b>	<b>31,2%</b>	<b>13 488</b>	<b>192 017</b>	<b>723</b>	<b>121</b>
Angola	911	826	-9,3%	1	806	18	1
Botswana	7 493	13 782	83,9%	658	13 048	62	14
DRC	1 449	2 020	39,4%	39	1 905	62	14
Eswatini	13 260	20 526	54,8%	1 432	19 046	45	3

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

Country of residence	December			Purpose of visit (December 2021)			
	2020	2021	% change 2020–2021	Business	Holiday	Study	Medical treatment
Lesotho	18 592	42 778	130,1%	855	41 756	133	34
Madagascar	53	18	-66,0%	-	15	3	-
Malawi	4 986	6 405	28,5%	302	6 072	21	10
Mauritius	65	128	96,9%	3	123	2	-
Mozambique	35 856	53 425	49,0%	1 697	51 706	16	6
Namibia	7 769	10 986	41,4%	2 421	8 474	76	15
Seychelles	18	58	222,2%	-	58	-	-
Tanzania	1 147	1 395	21,6%	69	1 305	20	1
Zambia	5 708	7 068	23,8%	2 272	4 766	25	5
Zimbabwe	59 951	46 934	-21,7%	3 739	42 937	240	18
<b>'Other' African</b>	<b>4 100</b>	<b>4 860</b>	<b>18,5%</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>4 556</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>East and Central Africa</b>	<b>1 845</b>	<b>2 172</b>	<b>17,7%</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>2 040</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>14</b>
Burundi	26	51	96,2%	5	43	3	-
Cameroon	185	203	9,7%	2	188	10	3
Central African Republic	2	13	550,0%	-	13	-	-
Chad	15	27	80,0%	1	22	3	1
Comoros	18	1	-94,4%	-	-	1	-
Congo	80	99	23,8%	1	89	9	-
Djibouti	2	1	-50,0%	-	1	-	-
Equatorial Guinea	12	12	0,0%	-	9	1	2
Eritrea	10	35	250,0%	-	35	-	-
Ethiopia	241	305	26,6%	9	293	2	1
Gabon	316	47	-85,1%	-	39	8	-
Kenya	609	813	33,5%	19	773	18	3
Rwanda	16	18	12,5%	-	17	1	-
São Tomé and Príncipe	-	1	-	-	1	-	-
Somalia	27	28	3,7%	2	24	2	-
Uganda	286	518	81,1%	9	493	12	4

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

Country of residence	December			Purpose of visit (December 2021)			
	2020	2021	% change 2020–2021	Business	Holiday	Study	Medical treatment
<b>West Africa</b>	<b>1 949</b>	<b>2 366</b>	<b>21,4%</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>2 240</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>9</b>
Benin	57	57	0,0%	-	55	2	-
Burkina Faso	10	8	-20,0%	-	8	-	-
Cape Verde Island	9	7	-22,2%	-	7	-	-
Côte d'Ivoire	53	39	-26,4%	1	34	4	-
Gambia	-	5	-	-	5	-	-
Ghana	622	1 068	71,7%	25	1 025	16	2
Guinea	52	67	28,8%	-	66	1	-
Guinea-Bissau	4	1	-75,0%	-	1	-	-
Liberia	16	19	18,8%	-	19	-	-
Mali	38	40	5,3%	1	39	-	-
Mauritania	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Niger	3	5	66,7%	1	4	-	-
Nigeria	1 025	998	-2,6%	15	929	51	3
Senegal	42	29	-31,0%	-	28	-	1
Sierra Leone	12	20	66,7%	-	17	-	3
Togo	5	3	-40,0%	-	3	-	-
<b>North Africa</b>	<b>306</b>	<b>322</b>	<b>5,2%</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>-</b>
Algeria	12	68	466,7%	1	63	4	-
Egypt	130	114	-12,3%	1	107	6	-
Libya	32	39	21,9%	-	28	11	-
Morocco	25	12	-52,0%	1	7	4	-
South Sudan	21	35	66,7%	6	29	-	-
The Sudan	63	38	-39,7%	-	26	12	-
Tunisia	23	15	-34,8%	-	15	-	-
Western Sahara	-	1	-	-	1	-	-
<b>Unspecified</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>383</b>	<b>11,3%</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>376</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1</b>

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

Sex	Age group	December		Region (December 2021)			
		2020	2021	Overseas	SADC	'Other' African	Unspecified
<b>All</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>198 059</b>	<b>263 108</b>	<b>51 516</b>	<b>206 349</b>	<b>4 860</b>	<b>383</b>
	0-14	12 841	21 933	7 805	13 697	430	1
	15-24	16 055	22 419	5 692	16 172	539	16
	25-34	49 812	61 823	10 534	49 702	1 520	67
	35-44	64 043	81 309	9 185	70 670	1 327	127
	45-54	35 156	46 172	7 795	37 624	637	116
	55-64	14 388	19 925	5 995	13 606	272	52
	65+	5 764	9 527	4 510	4 878	135	4
<b>Male</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>127 829</b>	<b>161 128</b>	<b>26 991</b>	<b>131 113</b>	<b>2 774</b>	<b>250</b>
	0-14	6 371	10 901	3 964	6 705	232	-
	15-24	8 184	11 166	2 846	8 034	275	11
	25-34	30 416	36 354	5 136	30 403	772	43
	35-44	45 651	55 391	5 126	49 323	860	82
	45-54	24 798	30 769	4 296	25 976	421	76
	55-64	9 358	11 890	3 329	8 368	156	37
	65+	3 051	4 657	2 294	2 304	58	1
<b>Female</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>70 230</b>	<b>101 980</b>	<b>24 525</b>	<b>75 236</b>	<b>2 086</b>	<b>133</b>
	0-14	6 470	11 032	3 841	6 992	198	1
	15-24	7 871	11 253	2 846	8 138	264	5
	25-34	19 396	25 469	5 398	19 299	748	24
	35-44	18 392	25 918	4 059	21 347	467	45
	45-54	10 358	15 403	3 499	11 648	216	40
	55-64	5 030	8 035	2 666	5 238	116	15
	65+	2 713	4 870	2 216	2 574	77	3

## 4. Annexures

### 4.1 Annexure A – Cumulative number of tourists' difference between Jan – Dec 2020 and Jan – Dec 2021 by country of residence

Country of residence	Jan – Dec 2020	Jan – Dec 2021	Difference between Jan – Dec 2020 and Jan – Dec 2021	% change between Jan – Dec 2020 and Jan – Dec 2021
<b>Total</b>	<b>2 802 320</b>	<b>2 255 699</b>	<b>-546 621</b>	<b>-19,5%</b>
<b>Overseas</b>	<b>661 030</b>	<b>377 804</b>	<b>-283 226</b>	<b>-42,8%</b>
<b>Europe</b>	<b>446 653</b>	<b>217 241</b>	<b>-229 412</b>	<b>-51,4%</b>
Austria	9 463	3 914	-5 549	-58,6%
Belgium	12 726	9 106	-3 620	-28,4%
Denmark	8 764	3 424	-5 340	-60,9%
France	41 023	19 761	-21 262	-51,8%
Germany	106 092	44 388	-61 704	-58,2%
Ireland	8 755	3 920	-4 835	-55,2%
Italy	11 447	6 576	-4 871	-42,6%
Portugal	7 233	5 914	-1 319	-18,2%
Russian Federation	6 494	10 625	4 131	63,6%
Spain	6 399	6 609	210	3,3%
Sweden	14 082	4 872	-9 210	-65,4%
Switzerland	15 697	11 375	-4 322	-27,5%
The Netherlands	35 026	21 757	-13 269	-37,9%
UK	132 384	45 777	-86 607	-65,4%
Other	31 068	19 223	-11 845	-38,1%
<b>North America</b>	<b>89 504</b>	<b>89 514</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0,0%</b>
Canada	17 545	7 494	-10 051	-57,3%
USA	71 959	82 020	10 061	14,0%
<b>Central and South America</b>	<b>30 368</b>	<b>9 889</b>	<b>-20 479</b>	<b>-67,4%</b>
Argentina	4 891	587	-4 304	-88,0%
Brazil	19 388	5 366	-14 022	-72,3%
Mexico	951	1 368	417	43,8%
Other	5 138	2 568	-2 570	-50,0%

**Annexure A – Cumulative number of tourists' difference between Jan – Dec 2020 and Jan – Dec 2021 by country of residence (continued)**

Country of residence	Jan – Dec 2020	Jan – Dec 2021	Difference between Jan – Dec 2020 and Jan – Dec 2021	% change between Jan – Dec 2020 and Jan – Dec 2021
<b>Australasia</b>	<b>24 651</b>	<b>4 932</b>	<b>-19 719</b>	<b>-80,0%</b>
Australia	20 720	4 059	-16 661	-80,4%
New Zealand	3 890	857	-3 033	-78,0%
Other	41	16	-25	-61,0%
<b>Middle East</b>	<b>12 399</b>	<b>12 574</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>1,4%</b>
Israel	5 998	3 374	-2 624	-43,7%
Jordan	615	821	206	33,5%
Saudi Arabia	3 225	5 461	2 236	69,3%
Other	2 561	2 918	357	13,9%
<b>Asia</b>	<b>57 455</b>	<b>43 654</b>	<b>-13 801</b>	<b>-24,0%</b>
Bangladesh	1 987	2 844	857	43,1%
China	12 592	6 577	-6 015	-47,8%
India	18 892	17 662	-1 230	-6,5%
Japan	5 236	1 194	-4 042	-77,2%
Malaysia	1 398	541	-857	-61,3%
Pakistan	4 847	6 602	1 755	36,2%
Philippines	1 901	3 047	1 146	60,3%
South Korea	4 222	1 363	-2 859	-67,7%
Taiwan	1 210	760	-450	-37,2%
Thailand	1 380	1 176	-204	-14,8%
Other	3 790	1 888	-1 902	-50,2%
<b>Africa</b>	<b>2 137 524</b>	<b>1 873 609</b>	<b>-263 915</b>	<b>-12,3%</b>
<b>SADC</b>	<b>2 096 671</b>	<b>1 823 614</b>	<b>-273 057</b>	<b>-13,0%</b>
Angola	15 443	9 312	-6 131	-39,7%
Botswana	129 467	103 158	-26 309	-20,3%
DRC	9 062	12 918	3 856	42,6%
Eswatini	214 947	177 650	-37 297	-17,4%

**Annexure A – Cumulative number of tourists' difference between Jan – Dec 2020 and Jan – Dec by country of residence (continued)**

Country of residence	Jan – Dec 2020	Jan – Dec 2021	Difference between Jan – Dec 2020 and Jan – Dec 2021	% change between Jan – Dec 2020 and Jan – Dec 2021
Lesotho	448 745	355 255	-93 490	-20,8%
Madagascar	646	241	-405	-62,7%
Malawi	53 365	56 313	2 948	5,5%
Mauritius	4 633	1 375	-3 258	-70,3%
Mozambique	422 537	522 866	100 329	23,7%
Namibia	54 511	91 471	36 960	67,8%
Seychelles	1 306	408	-898	-68,8%
Tanzania	10 977	13 248	2 271	20,7%
Zambia	46 486	68 669	22 183	47,7%
Zimbabwe	684 546	410 730	-273 816	-40,0%
<b>'Other' African</b>	<b>40 853</b>	<b>49 995</b>	<b>9 142</b>	<b>22,4%</b>
<b>East and Central Africa</b>	<b>17 450</b>	<b>21 418</b>	<b>3 968</b>	<b>22,7%</b>
Burundi	229	380	151	65,9%
Cameroon	1 332	2 009	677	50,8%
Central African Republic	71	62	-9	-12,7%
Chad	103	164	61	59,2%
Comoros	168	81	-87	-51,8%
Congo	562	1 003	441	78,5%
Djibouti	14	35	21	150,0%
Equatorial Guinea	101	150	49	48,5%
Eritrea	114	162	48	42,1%
Ethiopia	2 076	2 844	768	37,0%
Gabon	1 825	1 816	-9	-0,5%
Kenya	6 899	7 946	1 047	15,2%
Réunion	17	-	-17	-100,0%
Rwanda	230	263	33	14,3%
São Tomé and Príncipe	47	11	-36	-76,6%
Somalia	152	190	38	25,0%
Uganda	3 510	4 302	792	22,6%

**Annexure A – Cumulative number of tourists' difference between Jan – Dec 2020 and Jan – Dec by country of residence (concluded)**

Country of residence	Jan – Dec 2020	Jan – Dec 2021	Difference between Jan – Dec 2020 and Jan – Dec 2021	% change between Jan – Dec 2020 and Jan – Dec 2021
<b>West Africa</b>	<b>18 610</b>	<b>23 670</b>	<b>5 060</b>	<b>27,2%</b>
Benin	476	492	16	3,4%
Burkina Faso	166	143	-23	-13,9%
Cape Verde Island	64	58	-6	-9,4%
Côte d'Ivoire	630	642	12	1,9%
Gambia	120	98	-22	-18,3%
Ghana	5 257	8 249	2 992	56,9%
Guinea	364	535	171	47,0%
Guinea-Bissau	36	28	-8	-22,2%
Liberia	136	219	83	61,0%
Mali	315	413	98	31,1%
Mauritania	47	39	-8	-17,0%
Niger	73	102	29	39,7%
Nigeria	10 191	11 735	1 544	15,2%
Saint Helena	41	9	-32	-78,0%
Senegal	392	619	227	57,9%
Sierra Leone	180	162	-18	-10,0%
Togo	122	127	5	4,1%
<b>North Africa</b>	<b>4 793</b>	<b>4 907</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>2,4%</b>
Algeria	333	458	125	37,5%
Egypt	2 555	2 402	-153	-6,0%
Libya	268	401	133	49,6%
Morocco	498	348	-150	-30,1%
South Sudan	249	353	104	41,8%
The Sudan	542	648	106	19,6%
Tunisia	347	290	-57	-16,4%
Western Sahara	1	7	6	600,0%
<b>Unspecified</b>	<b>3 766</b>	<b>4 286</b>	<b>520</b>	<b>13,8%</b>



## 5. Explanatory notes

### 5.1 Introduction

Legal movements across South African borders, as well as legal immigration into South Africa, fall under the jurisdiction of the Department of Home Affairs (DHA). Stats SA then processes, analyses and publishes this information.

Administrative data sources from the DHA, that is, information from all the country's ports of entry and applications for permanent residence, constitute the only comprehensive source of information on foreign arrivals and departures, documented immigrants and emigrants. The information from this source of data provides the best national coverage (both in terms of space and time) of the population movements of South African residents and foreign travellers. The data can be used for the following:

- To estimate, monitor and understand salient characteristics of foreign travellers and volumes of South African residents travelling outside South Africa.
- To provide information that can be used to (a) assess the extent of government's progress in strengthening bilateral political and economic relations by assessing the number of international tourist arrivals, and (b) benchmark surveys focusing on the demand for local tourism services by foreign travellers.

### 5.2 Purpose of the statistical release

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

### 5.3 Scope and coverage

The release covers data collected by DHA officials on travellers who departed from or entered the Republic of South Africa (RSA).

### 5.4 Data

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

- Data routinely collected by immigration officers at all road, air and sea entry ports on all travellers (South African residents and foreign travellers) arriving into or departing from South Africa are captured into the DHA's population Movement Control System (MCS). The counts/statistics relate to the number of individual movements, rather than to the number of people. Hence, the multiple movements of individual people during the calendar month are each counted separately. Generally, the data are collected directly from travel documents either by scanning or capturing onto the ports' electronic database. No forms or cards are used (except on rare occasions when the capturing system is down) to collect information from travellers. Individual ports regularly transmit data onto the national database at the head office of the DHA.
- Stats SA receives downloaded data covering a particular calendar month from the DHA.
- As part of data interrogation, data from O.R. Tambo International Airport, which has the highest volume of travellers, are compared with passenger statistics from the Airports Company of South Africa (ACSA). As expected, in any specific month, an increase in the volume of passengers reported by ACSA is also reflected in an increase in the volume of travellers recorded by DHA. A similar pattern is observed when the volume of travellers decreases. In December 2021, the DHA data was 4,9% higher than that of ACSA.

## 5.5 Limitations

### 5.5.1 Outbound tourists

The information on the total number of arrivals and departures of South African residents is collected from the scanning of passports. However, data on the country visited are not collected from passengers; country of final destination; intended duration of stay and purpose of visit. With this limitation, it is impossible to identify the number of tourists from the data on South African residents.

### 5.5.2 Purpose of visit

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

## 5.6 Definition of terms

### 5.6.1 Definitions used by the United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO)

**Traveller** is someone who moves between different geographical locations for any purpose and any duration.

**Visitor** refers to any person travelling to a place other than that of his/her usual environment for less than 12 months and whose main purpose of the trip is other than the exercise of an activity remunerated from within the place visited.

**Same-Day visitor** is a visitor who visits a place for less than one night.

**Tourist** (overnight visitor) is a visitor who stays at least one night in collective or private accommodation in the place visited.

**Tourism** comprises the activities of persons travelling to, and staying in places outside their usual environment, for not more than one consecutive year, for leisure, business and other purposes. The usual environment of a person consists of a certain area around his/her place of residence, plus all the other places he/she frequently visits.

### 5.6.2 Definitions used specifically in this release

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

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

**Region** refers to the following country classification:

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

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

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

**SADC** refers to the fourteen countries, excluding South Africa, which belong to the Southern African Development Community.

**'Other' African** refers to all non-SADC African countries.

**Overseas** refers to all countries outside Africa.

**Trip** refers to the arrival and departure of a visitor in a specified month.

## 5.7 Symbols used

- = nil

< = less than

## 5.8 Rounding off

Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

## 6. General information

Stats SA publishes approximately 300 different statistical releases each year. It is not economically viable to produce them in more than one of South Africa's eleven official languages, since the releases are used extensively, not only locally but also by international economic and social-scientific communities. Stats SA releases are published in English.

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### Advance release calendar

An advance release calendar is disseminated at [www.statssa.gov.za](http://www.statssa.gov.za)

### Stats SA products

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