

stats sa

Department: Statistics South Africa REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X44, Pretoria, 0001, South Africa, ISIbalo House, Koch Street, Salvokop, Pretoria, 0002 www.statssa.gov.za, info@statssa.gov.za, Tel +27 12 310 8911

STATISTICAL RELEASE P0351

Tourism and Migration

February 2024

Embargoed until: 26 March 2024 10:00

ENQUIRIES: Tshwaro Gae Tel: (012) 310 8692 FORTHCOMING ISSUE: March 2024 EXPECTED RELEASE DATE: April 2024



Dipalopalo tsa Aforikaborwa • Dipalopalo tsa Aforika Borwa • EzazIbalo zaseNingizimu Afrika • Tshitatistika Afrika Tshipembe • Tinhlayo Afrika-Dzong

Statistieke Suid-Afrika • Dipalopalo tša Aforika Borwa • Telubalo zaseNingizimu Afrika • EzeeNkcukacha maNani zoMzantsi Afrika • limbalobalo zeSewula Afrika

Contents

List of tablesi	i
List of figuresi	i
Annexuresi	i
Prefaceii	i
1. Highlights of the results	I
2. Key findings	2
2.1 Travellers	2
2.1.1 Number of travellers	2
2.1.2 Mode of travel of travellers	3
2.2 Visitors	3
2.3 Tourists	1
2.3.1 Sex and age distribution of tourists	1
2.3.2 Regional and national distribution of tourists ϵ	3
2.3.3 Purpose of visit of tourists	3
2.3.4 Mode of travel and ports of entry of tourists10)
3. Annexures11	I
4. Explanatory notes	3
4.1 Introduction	1
4.2 Purpose of the statistical release	1
4.3 Scope and coverage	1
4.4 Data	1
4.5 Limitations	5
4.5.1 Outbound tourists	5
4.6 Definition of terms	5
4.6.1 Definitions used by the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO)25	5
4.6.2 Definitions used specifically in this release	5
4.7 Symbols used	5
4.8 Rounding off	3
5. General information	3

List of tables

Table 1 – Number of South African residents and foreign travellers by travel direction	2
Table 2 – Number of South African residents and foreign travellers by travel direction and mode of travel	3
Table 3 – Number of visitors by type of visitor	4
Table 4 – Number of tourists by region of residence and purpose of visit	9

ii

List of figures

Figure 1 – Percentage distribution of tourists by region of residence and sex, February 2024	5
Figure 2 – Percentage distribution of tourists by region of residence and age, February 2024	6
Figure 3 – Number of tourists from the 10 leading overseas countries in February 2023 and February 2024	7
Figure 4 – Number of tourists from the 10 leading Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries in February 2023 and February 2024	7
Figure 5 – Number of tourists from the 10 leading 'other' African countries in February 2023 and February 2024	8
Figure 6 – Percentage distribution of tourists by region of residence and mode of travel, February 20241	0

Annexures

3.1 Annexure A – Number of tourists' difference between February 2023 and February 2024 by country of	
residence	11
3.2 Annexure B – Number of tourists by country of residence and mode of travel, February 2024	14
3.3 Annexure C – Number of tourists by country of residence and purpose of visit, February 2024	17
3.4 Annexure D – Number of tourists' difference between Jan–Feb 2023 and Jan–Feb 2024 by country of residence	20
3.5 Annexure E – Number of tourists by port of entry, February 2024	

Preface

This monthly statistical release provides information on South African residents and foreign travellers who entered or left South Africa in February 2024. Specific focus is on foreign tourists who entered the country in February 2024. 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 number of tourists for the current quarter and comparisons with previous periods.

1. Highlights of the results

In February 2024, 2 397 507 travellers (arrivals, departures and transits) entered and exited South Africa. They were made up of 25,5% (611 457) South African residents and 74,5% (1 786 050) foreign travellers. For foreign arrivals, 955 283 were made up of 2,8% (26 418) non-visitors and 97,2% (928 865) visitors. For visitors, 928 865 consisted of 21,9% same-day visitors and 78,1% overnight visitors (tourists).

Tourists

Overseas tourists constituted 28,9% (209 545) of all tourists. United Kingdom (UK) (43 007), Germany (32 168) and United States of America (USA) (24 815) contributed 47,7% to overseas tourists. Tourists from Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries constituted 69,1% (501 743) of all tourists. Zimbabwe (159 127), Mozambique (122 060) and Lesotho (90 842) contributed 74,1% to SADC tourists. 'Other' African countries (non-SADC) tourists were 1,9% (13 502) of all tourists. Kenya (3 441), Ghana (2 776) and Nigeria (2 011) contributed 60,9% to 'other' African tourists. The country of residence of 884 (0,1%) tourists was classified as unspecified.

Purpose of visit

'Holiday'¹ continues to be the main purpose of visit. About 96,3% of all the tourists were in South Africa for holiday purposes.

Inlele a

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 Department of Home Affairs' (DHA) immigration officers at the ports of entry into and out of South Africa shows that a total of 2 397 507 travellers (arrivals, departures, and transits) passed through South African ports in February 2024. As presented in Table 1 below, these travellers were made up of 611 457 South African residents and 1 786 050 foreign travellers. A further breakdown of the figures for South African residents that there were 303 987 arrivals, 307 099 departures and 371 travellers in transit. The corresponding volume for foreign arrivals, departures and travellers in transit was 955 283, 800 664 and 30 103, respectively.

A comparison between the movements in January 2024 and February 2024 indicates that the volume of arrivals, departures and transits decreased for both South African residents and foreign travellers. For South African residents, the volume of arrivals decreased by 40,8% (from 513 276 in January 2024 to 303 987 in February 2024), departures decreased by 14,0% (from 357 249 in January 2024 to 307 099 in February 2024) and transits decreased by 26,8% (from 507 in January 2024 to 371 in February 2024). For foreign travellers, arrivals decreased by 23,8% (from 1 253 216 in January 2024 to 955 283 in February 2024), departures decreased by 8,9% (from 879 052 in January 2024 to 800 664 in February 2024) and transits decreased by 0,1% (from 30 131 in January 2024 to 30 103 in February 2024).

A comparison between the movements in February 2023 and February 2024 indicates that the volume of arrivals, departures and travellers in transit increased for both groups of travellers. For South African residents, the volume of arrivals increased by 12,9% (from 269 301 in February 2023 to 303 987 in February 2024), departures increased by 8,9% (from 282 063 in February 2023 to 307 099 in February 2024) and transits increased by 11,1% (from 334 in February 2023 to 371 in February 2024). For foreign travellers, arrivals increased by 15,8% (from 824 868 in February 2023 to 955 283 in February 2024), departures increased by 13,2% (from 707 396 in February 2023 to 800 664 in February 2024) and transits increased by 31,1% (from 22 961 in February 2023 to 30 103 in February 2024).

Travel Direction	February	January	February	% Change	% Change
	2023	2024	2024	Jan 2024 – Feb 2024	Feb 2023 – Feb 2024
Total	2 106 923	3 033 431	2 397 507	-21,0%	13,8%
South African residents	551 698	871 032	611 457	-29,8%	10,8%
Arrivals	269 301	513 276	303 987	-40,8%	12,9%
Departures	282 063	357 249	307 099	-14,0%	8,9%
Transits	334	507	371	-26,8%	11,1%
Foreign travellers	1 555 225	2 162 399	1 786 050	-17,4%	14,8%
Arrivals	824 868	1 253 216	955 283	-23,8%	15,8%
Departures	707 396	879 052	800 664	-8,9%	13,2%
Transits	22 961	30 131	30 103	-0,1%	31,1%

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

2.1.2 Mode of travel of travellers

Information presented in Table 2 below shows the number of South African residents and foreign travellers by travel direction and mode of travel. In February 2024, road was the most common mode of travel used by 1 503 786 (62,7%) of the 2 397 507 travellers. Total number of travellers who used air was 830 314 (34,6%). Compared to air and land, a smaller number of travellers, 63 407 (2,6%) used sea into and out of South Africa. Information on arrivals of South African residents shows that 121 315 (39,9%) came by air, 161 265 (53,0%) came by road and 21 407 (7,0%) arrived by sea. For departures, 126 431 (41,2%) used air, 160 294 (52,2%) used road and 20 374 (6,6%) left by sea. All travellers in transit, 371 (100,0%) used air.

In the case of foreign travellers, 270 853 (28,4%) arrived by air, 673 518 (70,5%) came by road and 10 912 (1,1%) arrived by sea. When departing South Africa, 281 241 (35,1%) foreign travellers left by air, 508 709 (63,5%) left by road and 10 714 (1,3%) left by sea. All travellers in transit, 30 103 (100,0%) used air.

Travel	Total		Road	Sea				
direction	Total	Cape Town	King Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total	Road	Sea
Total	2 397 507	291 913	19 525	517 036	1 840	830 314	1 503 786	63 407
South African residents	611 457	49 863	11 967	185 120	1 167	248 117	321 559	41 781
Arrivals	303 987	24 733	5 538	90 399	645	121 315	161 265	21 407
Departures	307 099	25 121	6 429	94 359	522	126 431	160 294	20 374
Transit	371	9	-	362	-	371	-	-
Foreign travellers	1 786 050	242 050	7 558	331 916	673	582 197	1 182 227	21 626
Arrivals	955 283	118 851	3 504	148 096	402	270 853	673 518	10 912
Departures	800 664	122 978	4 052	153 940	271	281 241	508 709	10 714
Transit	30 103	221	2	29 880	-	30 103	-	-
Visitors	928 865	115 971	2 974	143 783	255	262 983	659 433	6 449
Same-day	203 191	1 074	41	12 007	51	13 173	187 866	2 152
Tourist	725 674	114 897	2 933	131 776	204	249 810	471 567	4 297

Table 2 - Number of South African residents and foreign travellers by travel direction and mode of travel

2.2 Visitors

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 3 on page 4, in February 2024, 26 418 (2,8%) of foreign arrivals were classified as non-visitors, while 928 865 (97,2%) were classified as visitors. Visitors were categorised into three groups:

- i. Arrivals only comprising visitors who entered the country in February 2024 but did not depart in February 2024 [362 583 (39,0%)].
- ii. Single trips visitors who came to South Africa once in February 2024 and left in February 2024 [299 888 (32,3%)].
- iii. Multiple trips visitors who came to and left South Africa more than once in February 2024 [266 394 (28,7%)].

Visitors were further grouped as same-day visitors and overnight visitors (tourists). In February 2024, there were 203 191 (21,9%) same-day visitors and 725 674 (78,1%) tourists. Between January 2024 and February 2024, the volume of same-day visitors decreased by 17,0% (from 244 749 in January 2024 to 203 191 in February 2024) whereas that of tourists decreased by 25,3% (from 971 846 in January 2024 to 725 674 in February 2024). Between February 2023 and February 2024, the volume of same-day visitors increased by 9,4% (from 185 650 in February 2023 to 203 191 in February 2024) whereas that of tourists increased by 18,3% (from 613 432 in February 2023 to 725 674 in February 2024).

Table 2 on page 3 further shows that of the 203 191 same-day visitors, a majority, 187 866 (92,5%) arrived in the country by road, 13 173 (6,5%) arrived by air and 2 152 (1,1%) arrived by sea. Information on tourists shows that 471 567 (65,0%) used road, 249 810 (34,4%) came by air and 4 297 (0,6%) arrived by sea.

	February	January	February	% Change	% Change
Travel Direction	2023	2024	2024	Jan 2024 – Feb 2024	Feb 2023 – Feb 2024
Foreign arrivals	824 868	1 253 216	955 283	-23,8%	15,8%
Non-visitors	25 786	36 621	26 418	-27,9%	2,5%
Visitors	799 082	1 216 595	928 865	-23,7%	16,2%
Visitors	799 082	1 216 595	928 865	-23,7%	16,2%
Arrivals only	292 680	590 447	362 583	-38,6%	23,9%
Single trips	265 148	301 591	299 888	-0,6%	13,1%
Multiple trips	241 254	324 557	266 394	-17,9%	10,4%
Visitors	799 082	1 216 595	928 865	-23,7%	16,2%
Same-day	185 650	244 749	203 191	-17,0%	9,4%
Overnight (Tourists)	613 432	971 846	725 674	-25,3%	18,3%

2.3 Tourists

2.3.1 Sex and age distribution of tourists

Sex

Figure 1 on page 5 shows that there were more male [425 220 (58,6%)] than female [300 454 (41,4%)] tourists in February 2024. Male tourists constituted most tourists for all three regions, SADC countries [306 083 (61,0%)], overseas countries [110 118 (52,6%)] and 'other' African countries [8 478 (62,8%)]. Similarly, the largest portion of female tourists was from SADC countries [195 660 (39,0%)], followed by overseas countries [99 427 (47,4%)] and 'other' African countries [5 024 (37,2%)].

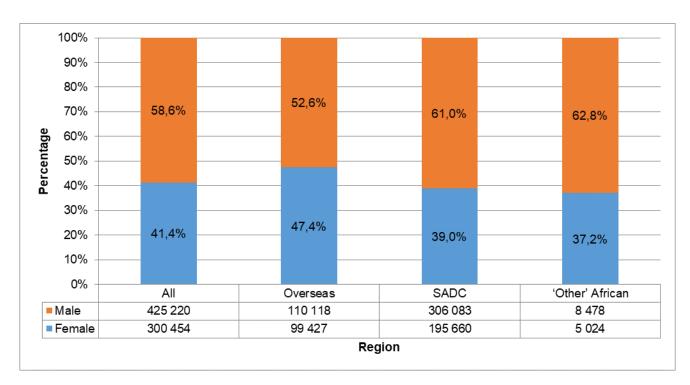


Figure 1 – Percentage distribution of tourists by region of residence and sex, February 2024

Age

The age distribution indicates that out of all tourists, $[29\ 377\ (4,0\%)]$ were aged younger than 15 years; $[54\ 893\ (7,6\%)]$ were aged between 15 and 24 years; $[170\ 113\ (23,4\%)]$ were aged between 25 and 34 years; $[210\ 591\ (29,0\%)]$ were aged between 35 and 44 years; $[132\ 587\ (18,3\%)]$ were aged between 45 and 54 years; $[75\ 175\ (10,4\%)]$ were aged between 55 and 64 years and $[52\ 938\ (7,3\%)]$ were aged 65 years and older. (see Figure 2 on page 6).

Taking the region of residence into consideration, the results show that the highest proportion of tourists from SADC countries [170 860 (34,1%)] and those from 'other' African countries [4 519 (33,5%)] were aged between 35 and 44 years whereas those from overseas countries [39 752 (19,0%)] were aged between 55 and 64 years. The second highest proportion of tourists from SADC countries [131 514 (26,2%)] and those from 'other' African countries [3 464 (25,7%)] were aged between 25 and 34 years whereas those from overseas countries [39 595 (18,9%)] were aged 65 years and older. The median ages of tourists from overseas, SADC and 'other' African countries were 47, 38 and 39 years respectively. The proportion of tourists aged younger than 15 years was higher among tourists from overseas countries, 6,5% (13 644) compared to those from SADC countries, 3,1% (15 337) and those from 'other' African countries African countries, 2,8% (383).

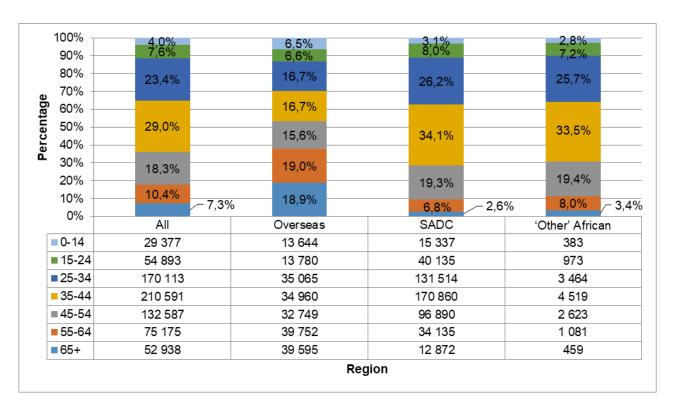


Figure 2 – Percentage distribution of tourists by region of residence and age, February 2024

2.3.2 Regional and national distribution of tourists

In February 2024, the distribution of overseas tourists was as follows: Europe, 145 532 (69,5%); North America, 30 462 (14,5%); Asia, 17 778 (8,5%); Australasia, 7 064 (3,4%); Central and South America, 5 738 (2,7%) and Middle East, 2 971 (1,4%).

Figure 3 on page 7 indicates that the 10 leading overseas countries in terms of the number of tourists visiting South Africa in February 2024 were: UK, 43 007 (20,5%); Germany, 32 168 (15,4%); USA, 24 815 (11,8%); The Netherlands, 13 393 (6,4%); France, 12 803 (6,1%); Australia, 5 861 (2,8%); Canada, 5 647 (2,7%); India, 5 482 (2,6%); Switzerland, 5 356 (2,6%) and Belgium, 5 100 (2,4%). Tourists from these 10 countries constituted 73,3% of all tourists from overseas countries. A comparison of movements in the 10 leading countries between February 2023 and February 2024 shows that the number of tourists increased for seven of the 10 leading countries. Canada showed the highest year-on-year increase of 15,4%.

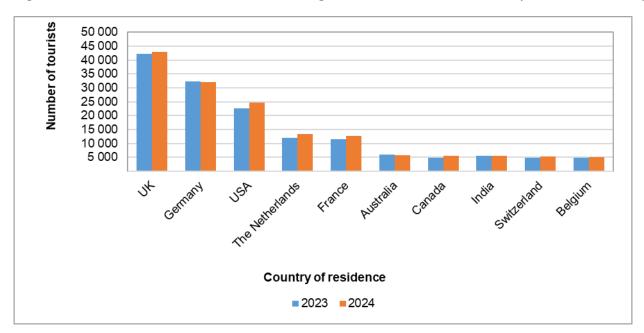


Figure 3 – Number of tourists from the 10 leading overseas countries in February 2023 and February 2024

Virtually, most tourists from Africa, 501 743 (97,4%), came from SADC countries. The distribution of the remaining tourists from Africa was as follows: East and Central Africa, 6 305 (1,2%); West Africa, 5 924 (1,1%) and North Africa 1 273 (0,2%). Ten leading SADC countries in terms of the number of tourists visiting South Africa in February 2024 were: Zimbabwe, 159 127 (31,7%); Mozambique, 122 060 (24,3%); Lesotho, 90 842 (18,1%); Eswatini, 56 254 (11,2%); Botswana, 25 933 (5,2%); Zambia, 12 370 (2,5%); Namibia, 11 989 (2,4%); Malawi, 11 708 (2,3%); Angola, 3 457 (0,7%) and Tanzania, 3 029 (0,6%) (see Figure 4 below). Tourists from these 10 countries constituted 99,0% of all tourists from the SADC countries. A comparison of movements in the 10 leading countries between February 2023 and February 2024 shows that the number of tourists increased for nine of the 10 leading countries. Mozambique showed the highest year-on-year increase of 31,1%.

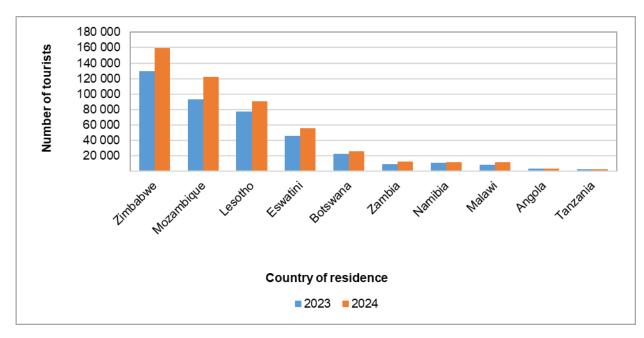


Figure 4 – Number of tourists from the 10 leading Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries in February 2023 and February 2024

The 10 leading countries in terms of the number of tourists visiting South Africa in February 2024 from 'other' African countries, as shown in Figure 5 below, were: Kenya, 3 441 (25,5%); Ghana, 2 776 (20,6%); Nigeria, 2 011 (14,9%); Uganda, 1 082 (8,0%); Egypt, 614 (4,5%); Ethiopia, 593 (4,4%); Cameroon, 359 (2,7%); Gabon, 310 (2,3%); Côte d'Ivoire, 223 (1,7%) and Morocco, 191 (1,4%). Tourists from these 10 countries constituted 85,9% of all tourists from 'other' African countries. A comparison between movements in February 2023 and February 2024 shows that the number of tourists increased for seven of the 10 leading countries. Ghana showed the highest year-on-year increase of 246,1%.

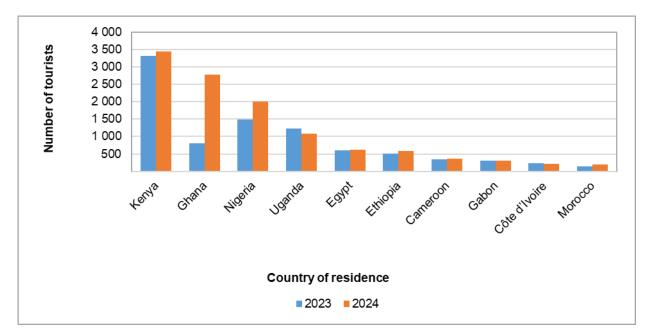


Figure 5 – Number of tourists from the 10 leading 'other' African countries in February 2023 and February 2024

2.3.3 Purpose of visit of tourists

Table 4 on page 9, shows the number of tourists by region and sub-region. Detailed data on the country of residence and purpose of visit is presented in Annexure C on pages 17 to 19. It is observed that in February 2024, the majority of tourists, 699 135 (96,3%), were in South Africa for holiday compared to 21 311 (2,9%); 4 948 (0,7%) and 280 (less than 0,1%) who were in South Africa for business, study and medical treatment respectively.

Within the overseas regions, Central and South America, 98,3% (5 639) had the highest proportion of tourists who came for holiday followed by Europe, 98,0% (142 560); North America, 97,9% (29 827); Australasia, 97,1% (6 856); Middle East, 95,3% (2 831) and Asia, 94,2% (16 743).

Asia, 4,5% (801) had the highest proportion of tourists who came to South Africa for business, followed by Middle East, 3,6% (108); Australasia, 2,8% (198); North America, 1,7% (507); Europe, 1,7% (2 406) and Central and South America, 1,3% (77).

Asia, 1,3% (227) had the highest proportion of tourists who came to study, followed by Middle East, 1,1% (32); North America, 0,4% (122); Central and South America, 0,4% (21); Europe, 0,4% (522) and Australasia, 0,1% (9).

Europe (44), Asia (7), North America (6), Central and South America (1) and Australasia (1) had less than 0,1% of medical treatment tourists whereas Middle East had none.

- Holiday makers constituted 96,0% (481 923) of tourists from SADC countries compared to 88,2% (11 908) from 'other' African countries. Information on the regions of 'other' African countries shows that 89,1% (5 276) of tourists from West Africa were on holiday, followed by tourists from East and Central Africa, 88,5% (5 580) and those from North Africa, 82,6% (1 052).
- Business persons constituted 3,2% (16 232) of tourists from SADC countries compared to 7,0% (946) from 'other' African countries. North Africa, 13,7% (174) had the highest proportion of tourists who came to South Africa for business purposes, followed by West Africa, 6,7% (398) and East and Central Africa, 5,9% (374).
- Students constituted 0,7% (3 406) of tourists from SADC countries compared with 4,5% (609) from 'other' African countries. East and Central Africa, 5,2% (331) had the highest proportion of tourists who came to South Africa for study purposes, followed by West Africa, 3,9% (232) and North Africa, 3,6% (46).
- Tourists who came for medical treatment constituted less than 0,1% (182) of tourists from SADC countries, while those from 'other' African countries constituted 0,3% (39). East and Central Africa, 0,3% (20) had the highest proportion of tourists who came for medical treatment, followed by West Africa, 0,3% (18) and North Africa, 0,1% (1).

Region of residence	February 2024	Business	Holiday	Study	Medical treatment
Total	725 674	21 311	699 135	4 948	280
Overseas	209 545	4 097	204 456	933	59
Europe	145 532	2 406	142 560	522	44
North America	30 462	507	29 827	122	6
Central and South America	5 738	77	5 639	21	1
Australasia	7 064	198	6 856	9	1
Middle East	2 971	108	2 831	32	-
Asia	17 778	801	16 743	227	7
Africa	515 245	17 178	493 831	4 015	221
SADC	501 743	16 232	481 923	3 406	182
'Other' African	13 502	946	11 908	609	39
East and Central Africa	6 305	374	5 580	331	20
West Africa	5 924	398	5 276	232	18
North Africa	1 273	174	1 052	46	1
Unspecified	884	36	848	-	-

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

2.3.4 Mode of travel and ports of entry 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 14 to 16 whereas ports of entry used by tourists is provided in Annexure E on page 23. As shown in Figure 6 below, 195 169 (93,1%) overseas tourists arrived in the country by air, whilst 10 649 (5,1%) came in by road and 3 727 (1,8%) arrived by sea. Tourists from the SADC countries, on the other hand, came predominantly by road, 459 589 (91,6%), whilst 41 597 (8,3%) came by air and 557 (0,1%) arrived by sea. The number of tourists who came into South Africa by air from 'other' African countries was 12 377 (91,7%); while 1 112 (8,2%) used road transport and 13 (0,1%) preferred sea. Most tourists who arrived by road came through Beit Bridge port, 125 873 (26,7%) and Lebombo, 123 900 (26,3%). The majority of tourists who came by air entered through OR Tambo International Airport, 131 776 (52,8%) and Cape Town International Airport, 114 897 (46,0%). Tourists who arrived by sea came through Cape Town Harbour, 2 441 (56,8%) and Durban Harbour, 1 856 (43,2%).

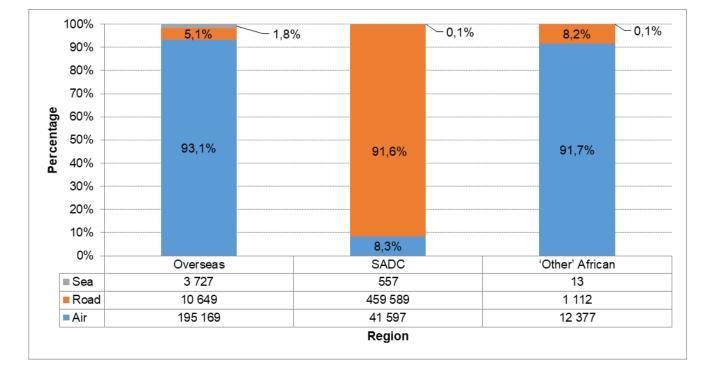


Figure 6 – Percentage distribution of tourists by region of residence and mode of travel, February 2024

3. Annexures

3.1 Annexure A – Number of tourists' difference between February 2023 and February 2024 by country of residence

Country of residence	February 2023	February 2024	Difference between February 2023 and February 2024	% change between February 2023 and February 2024
Total	613 432	725 674	112 242	18,3%
Overseas	192 835	209 545	16 710	8,7%
Europe	138 394	145 532	7 138	5,2%
Austria	2 817	3 053	236	8,4%
Belgium	4 844	5 100	256	5,3%
Denmark	2 727	2 721	-6	-0,2%
France	11 545	12 803	1 258	10,9%
Germany	32 336	32 168	-168	-0,5%
Ireland	2 536	2 872	336	13,2%
Italy	3 269	3 644	375	11,5%
Norway	1 914	2 139	225	11,8%
Russian Federation	2 786	3 013	227	8,1%
Spain	1 770	2 108	338	19,1%
Sweden	3 675	3 897	222	6,0%
Switzerland	4 889	5 356	467	9,6%
The Netherlands	11 992	13 393	1 401	11,7%
UK	42 263	43 007	744	1,8%
Other	9 031	10 258	1 227	13,6%
Other	3 001	10 200	1 221	10,070
North America	27 570	30 462	2 892	10,5%
Canada	4 895	5 647	752	15,4%
USA	22 675	24 815	2 140	9,4%
Central and South America	3 149	5 738	2 589	82,2%
Argentina	389	493	104	26,7%
Brazil	1 515	3 717	2 202	145,3%
Chile	232	490	258	111,2%
Other	1 013	1 038	250	2,5%
Outer	1010	1 000	20	2,070
Australasia	7 210	7 064	-146	-2,0%
Australia	6 087	5 861	-226	-3,7%
New Zealand	1 108	1 181	73	6,6%
Other	15	22	7	46,7%
Middle East	3 361	2 971	-390	-11,6%
Israel	1 870	785	-1 085	-58,0%
Jordan	176	284	108	61,4%
Saudi Arabia	523	1 095	572	109,4%
Other	792	807	15	1,9%
Asia	13 151	17 778	4 627	35,2%
Bangladesh	618	489	-129	-20,9%
China	2 107	3 819	1 712	81,3%
India	5 488	5 482	-6	-0,1%
Japan	800	2 567	1 767	220,9%
Malaysia	289	438	149	51,6%
Pakistan	1 007	1 035	28	2,8%
Philippines	370	423	53	14,3%
Singapore	288	621	333	115,6%

Annexure A – Number of tourists' difference between February 2023 and February 2024 by country of residence (continued)

Country of residence	February 2023	February 2024	Difference between February 2023 and February 2024	% change between February 2023 and February 2024
South Korea	941	1 267	326	34,6%
Taiwan	279 964	506	227 167	81,4%
Other		1 131	-	17,3%
Africa	419 576	515 245	95 669	22,8%
SADC	408 631	501 743	93 112	22,8%
Angola	3 604	3 457	-147	-4,1%
Botswana	22 691	25 933	3 242	14,3%
DRC	1 706	2 502	796	46,7%
Eswatini Lesotho	46 286 77 131	56 254 90 842	9 968 13 711	21,5% 17,8%
Madagascar	224	90 842 355	13 711	58,5%
Madagascar Malawi	8 953	355 11 708	2 755	30,8%
Mauritius	1 194	1 594	400	33,5%
Mozambique	93 095	122 060	28 965	31,1%
Namibia	10 862	11 989	1 127	10,4%
Seychelles	601	523	-78	-13,0%
Tanzania	2 561	3 029	468	18,3%
Zambia	9 697	12 370	2 673	27,6%
Zimbabwe	130 026	159 127	29 101	22,4%
'Other' African	10 945	13 502	2 557	23,4%
East and Central Africa	6 104	6 305	201	3,3%
Burundi	75	86	11	14,7%
Cameroon	337	359	22 6	6,5%
Central African Republic Chad	18 30	24 27	-3	33,3% -10,0%
Comoros	19	13	-5 -6	-31,6%
Congo	90	120	30	33,3%
Djibouti	4	8	4	100,0%
Equatorial Guinea	20	24	4	20,0%
Eritrea	36	20	-16	-44,4%
Ethiopia	504	593	89	17,7%
Gabon	314	310	-4	-1,3%
Kenya	3 308	3 441	133	4,0%
Réunion	_	1	1	
Rwanda	77	95	18	23,4%
São Tomé and Príncipe	6	21	15	250,0%
Somalia Uganda	39 1 227	81 1 082	42 -145	107,7% -11,8%
West Africa	3 462	5 924	2 462	71,1%
Benin	120	144	24	20,0%
Burkina Faso	92	83	-9	-9,8%
Cape Verde Island	38	23	-15	-39,5%
Côte d'Ivoire	226	223	-3	-1,3%
Gambia	22	41	19	86,4%
Ghana	802	2 776	1 974	246,1%
Guinea	138	132	-6	-4,3%
Guinea-Bissau	9	8	-1	-11,1%
Liberia	39	46	7	17,9%

Country of residence	February 2023	February 2024	Difference between February 2023 and February 2024	% change between February 2023 and February 2024
Mali	202	123	-79	-39,1%
Mauritania	30	35	5	16,7%
Niger	34	27	-7	-20,6%
Nigeria	1 492	2 011	519	34,8%
Saint Helena	3	2	-1	-33,3%
Senegal	149	137	-12	-8,1%
Sierra Leone	43	74	31	72,1%
Тодо	23	39	16	69,6%
North Africa	1 379	1 273	-106	-7,7%
Algeria	90	96	6	6,7%
Egypt	598	614	16	2,7%
Libya	82	43	-39	-47,6%
Morocco	141	191	50	35,5%
South Sudan	91	70	-21	-23,1%
The Sudan	233	98	-135	-57,9%
Tunisia	142	158	16	11,3%
Western Sahara	2	3	1	50,0%
Unspecified	1 021	884	-137	-13,4%

Annexure A – Number of tourists' difference between February 2023 and February 2024 by country of residence (concluded)

3.2 Annexure B – Number of tourists by country of residence and mode of travel, February 2024

	February			Air				
Country of residence	2024	Cape Town	King Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total	Road	Sea
Total	725 674	114 897	2 933	131 776	204	249 810	471 567	4 297
Overseas	209 545	105 738	2 406	86 881	144	195 169	10 649	3 727
Europe	145 532	81 141	1 564	54 342	88	137 135	7 091	1 306
Austria	3 053	1 953	61	915	2	2 931	114	8
Belgium	5 100	2 795	36	1 963	2	4 796	288	16
Denmark	2 721	846	82	1 657	1	2 586	132	3
France	12 803	5 217	55	6 654	-	11 926	859	18
Germany	32 168	20 969	214	9 425	16	30 624	1 373	171
Ireland	2 872	1 736	69	974	4	2 783	67	22
Italy	3 644	1 889	53	1 432	1	3 375	257	12
Norway	2 139	1 180	92	779	-	2 051	82	6
Russian Federation	3 013	1 633	25	1 176	-	2 834	157	22
Spain	2 108	904	27	1 025	1	1 957	135	16
Sweden	3 897	2 238	43	1 445	-	3 726	170	1
Switzerland	5 356	3 140	28	1 940	14	5 122	227	7
The Netherlands	13 393	7 642	71	4 541	5	12 259	1 111	23
UK	43 007	24 213	536	16 394	30	41 173	891	943
Other	10 258	4 786	172	4 022	12	8 992	1 228	38
North America	30 462	14 791	127	13 642	29	28 589	1 256	617
Canada	5 647	2 760	19	2 449	-	5 228	283	136
USA	24 815	12 031	108	11 193	29	23 361	973	481
Central and South America	5 738	1 520	10	3 900	6	5 436	264	38
Argentina	493	95	-	384	1	480	10	3
Brazil	3 717	1 014	3	2 503	3	3 523	182	12
Chile	490	47	3	420	-	470	16	4
Other	1 038	364	4	593	2	963	56	19
Australasia	7 064	2 065	106	4 633	8	6 812	157	95
Australia	5 861	1 677	67	3 901	5	5 650	136	75
New Zealand	1 181	387	37	714	3	1 141	20	20
Other	22	1	2	18	-	21	1	-
Middle East	2 971	1 553	25	1 328	-	2 906	59	6
Israel	785	177	-	587	-	764	16	5
Jordan	284	131	5	137	-	273	11	-
Saudi Arabia	1 095	916	3	176	-	1 095	-	-
Other	807	329	17	428	-	774	32	1
Asia	17 778	4 668	574	9 036	13	14 291	1 822	1 665
Bangladesh	489	92	73	232	-	397	92	-
China	3 819	949	79	2 443	1	3 472	155	192
India	5 482	1 371	187	3 113	3	4 674	778	30
Japan	2 567	490	54	936	-	1 480	49	1 038
Malaysia	438	153	17	204	-	374	6	58
Pakistan	1 035	115	86	437	-	638	397	-
Philippines	423	132	39	194	-	365	25	33
Singapore	621	259	-	233	-	492	3	126

Annexure B – Number of tourists by country of residence and mode of travel, February 2024 (continued)

	February			Air				[
Country of residence	2024	Cape Town	King Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total	Road	Sea
South Korea	1 267	579	19	493	9	1 100	123	44
Taiwan	506	164	1	170	-	335	67	104
Other	1 131	364	19	581	-	964	127	40
Africa	515 245	9 099	525	44 291	59	53 974	460 701	570
SADC	501 743	6 280	498	34 769	50	41 597	459 589	557
Angola	3 457	1 255	-	1 561	5	2 821	593	43
Botswana	25 933	312	13	2 088	8	2 421	23 481	31
DRC	2 502	142	2	2 133	6	2 283	218	1
Eswatini	56 254	120	52	677	1	850	55 384	20
Lesotho	90 842	2	-	433	-	435	90 303	104
Madagascar	355	19	-	314	2	335	6	14
Malawi	11 708	22	2	1 573	1	1 598	10 094	16
Mauritius	1 594	630	4	897	-	1 531	56	7
Mozambique	122 060	823	5	4 043	5	4 876	117 075	109
Namibia	11 989	1 302	1	2 202	6	3 511	8 391	87
Seychelles	523	7	-	505	-	512	11	-
Tanzania	3 029	379	1	1 544	-	1 924	1 097	8
Zambia	12 370	151	53	3 392	4	3 600	8 739	31
Zimbabwe	159 127	1 116	365	13 407	12	14 900	144 141	86
Other' African	13 502	2 819	27	9 522	9	12 377	1 112	13
East and Central Africa	6 305	1 460	10	4 201	6	5 677	620	8
Burundi	86	18	-	62	-	80	6	-
Cameroon	359	58	-	287	-	345	14	-
Central African Republic	24	6	-	17	-	23	1	-
Chad	27	7	-	20	-	27	-	-
Comoros	13	5	-	8	-	13	-	-
Congo	120	24	-	89	3	116	4	-
Djibouti	8	3	-	5	-	8	-	-
Equatorial Guinea	24	1	-	21	1	23	1	-
Eritrea	20	4	-	14	-	18	2	-
Ethiopia	593	105	4	418	2	529	64	-
Gabon	310	52	-	253	-	305	5	-
Kenya	3 441	953	4	2 072	-	3 029	407	5
Réunion	1	1	-		-	1	-	-
Rwanda	95	13	-	67	-	80	15	-
São Tomé and Príncipe	21	6	1	11	-	18		3
Somalia	81	7	1	47	-	55	26	-
Uganda	1 082	197	-	810	-	1 007	75	-
West Africa	5 924	1 048	4	4 421	3	5 476	443	5
Benin	144	16	-	127	-	143	1	-
Burkina Faso	83	37	-	45	1	83	-	-
Cape Verde Island	23	5	-	15	-	20	3	- 1
Côte d'Ivoire	223	40	-	182	-	222	1	- 1
Gambia	41	10	-	29	-	39	1	1
Ghana	2 776	367	1	2 162	-	2 530	243	3
Guinea	132	26		61	-	87	45	-
Guinea-Bissau	8	20	-	5	-	7		- 1
				J Ű			•	

Country of regidence	February			Air			Road	Sea
Country of residence	2024	Cape Town	King Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total	Road	Sea
Liberia	46	7	-	39	-	46	-	-
Mali	123	54	-	55	-	109	14	-
Mauritania	35	26	-	9	-	35	-	-
Niger	27	8	-	19	-	27	-	-
Nigeria	2 011	371	2	1 507	2	1 882	128	1
Saint Helena	2	-	-	2	-	2	-	-
Senegal	137	40	1	96	-	137	-	-
Sierra Leone	74	30	-	39	-	69	5	-
Тодо	39	9	-	29	-	38	1	-
North Africa	1 273	311	13	900	-	1 224	49	-
Algeria	96	16	-	66	-	82	14	-
Egypt	614	113	5	486	-	604	10	-
Libya	43	7	-	30	-	37	6	-
Morocco	191	56	5	127	-	188	3	-
South Sudan	70	18	-	51	-	69	1	-
The Sudan	98	29	-	57	-	86	12	-
Tunisia	158	72	3	80	-	155	3	-
Western Sahara	3	-	-	3	-	3	-	-
Unspecified	884	60	2	604	1	667	217	-

Annexure B – Number of tourists by country of residence and mode of travel, February 2024 (concluded)

3.3 Annexure C – Number of tourists by country of residence and purpose of visit, February 2024

Country of residence	February			ose of visit	Г
	2024	Business	Holiday	Study	Medical Treatment
Total	725 674	21 311	699 135	4 948	280
Overseas	209 545	4 097	204 456	933	59
Europe	145 532	2 406	142 560	522	44
Austria	3 053	28	3 017	6	2
Belgium	5 100	63	5 013	23	1
Denmark	2 721	31	2 686	4	
France	12 803	271	12 333	198	1
Germany	32 168	338	31 719	108	3
Ireland	2 872	58	2 809	4	1
Italy	3 644	104	3 528	11	1
Norway	2 139	39	2 070	30	
Russian Federation	3 013	27	2 982	4	
Spain	2 108	72	2 026	10	
Sweden	3 897	46	3 847	4	
Switzerland	5 356	57	5 283	16	
The Netherlands	13 393	143	13 206	31	13
UK	43 007	844	42 103	43	17
Other	10 258	285	9 938	30	5
North America	30 462	507	29 827	122	6
Canada	5 647	136	5 506	5	
USA	24 815	371	24 321	117	6
Central and South America	5 738	77	5 639	21	1
Argentina	493	5	485	3	
Brazil	3 717	31	3 679	7	
Chile	490	6	484	-	
Other	1 038	35	991	11	1
Australasia	7 064	198	6 856	9	1
Australia	5 861	182	5 669	9	1
New Zealand	1 181	13	1 168	-	
Other	22	3	19	-	
Middle East	2 971	108	2 831	32	
Israel	785	11	774	-	-
Jordan	284	13	270	1	-
Saudi Arabia	1 095	27	1 063	5	-
Other	807	57	724	26	· · ·
Asia	17 778	801	16 743	227	7
Bangladesh	489	17	460	12	·
China	3 819	150	3 632	37	
India	5 482	376	5 012	92	
Japan	2 567	84	2 473	10	
Malaysia	438	7	426	5	
Pakistan	1 035	41	964	30	
Philippines	423	12	403	8	
Singapore	621	41	578	1	-

Country of rasidence	February		Purp	oose of visit	
Country of residence	2024	Business	Holiday	Study	Medical Treatment
South Korea	1 267	20	1 237	6	4
Taiwan	506	4	488	14	
Other	1 131	49	1 070	12	
Africa	515 245	17 178	493 831	4 015	221
SADC	501 743	16 232	481 923	3 406	182
Angola	3 457	104	3 208	118	27
Botswana	25 933	721	24 810	379	23
DRC	2 502	124	2 237	118	23
Eswatini	56 254	1 710	54 296	241	7
Lesotho	90 842	703	89 144	980	15
Madagascar	355	20	327	7	
Malawi	11 708	246	11 369	83	1(
Mauritius	1 594	22	1 544	26	2
Mozambique	122 060	3 304	118 653	88	15
Namibia	11 989	3 010	8 472	490	17
Seychelles	523	3	517	-30	1
Tanzania	3 029	125	2 823	74	7
Zambia	12 370	3 456	8 795	113	6
Zimbabwe	159 127	2 684	155 728	687	28
Zimbabwe	155 127	2 004	155720	007	20
Other' African	13 502	946	11 908	609	39
East and Central Africa	6 305	374	5 580	331	20
Burundi	86	6	74	4	2
Cameroon	359	24	300	29	6
Central African Republic	24	2	22	-	
Chad	27	4	22	1	
Comoros	13	3	9	1	
Congo	120	7	95	18	
Djibouti	8	2	5	1	
Equatorial Guinea	24	6	8	9	1
Eritrea	20	-	20	-	
Ethiopia	593	45	519	23	6
Gabon	310	4	269	37	
Kenya	3 441	168	3 161	109	3
Réunion	1	-	1	-	
Rwanda	95	4	89	2	
São Tomé and Príncipe	21	2	19	-	
Somalia	81	10	65	6	
Uganda	1 082	87	902	91	2
West Africa	5 924	398	5 276	232	18
Benin	144	8	127	7	2
Burkina Faso	83	26	53	1	3
Cape Verde Island	23	1	22		
Côte d'Ivoire	223	31	191	1	
Gambia	41	7	31	3	
Ghana	2 776	128	2 619	24	5
Guinea	132	20	108	24	
Guinea-Bissau	8	20	8	3	
Juillea-Dissau	Ŏ	-	o	-	

Annexure C – Number of tourists by country of residence and purpose of visit, February 2024 (continued)

Country of regidence	February		Purpo	se of visit	
Country of residence	2024	Business	Holiday	Study	Medical Treatment
Liberia	46	4	39	2	1
Mali	123	26	94	2	1
Mauritania	35	18	15	2	-
Niger	27	6	21	-	-
Nigeria	2 011	78	1 747	181	5
Saint Helena	2	-	2	-	-
Senegal	137	29	106	2	-
Sierra Leone	74	10	60	4	-
Тодо	39	6	33	-	-
North Africa	1 273	174	1 052	46	1
Algeria	96	9	83	4	-
Egypt	614	73	527	13	1
Libya	43	-	36	7	-
Morocco	191	54	134	3	-
South Sudan	70	8	59	3	-
The Sudan	98	14	70	14	-
Tunisia	158	16	140	2	-
Western Sahara	3	-	3	-	-
Unspecified	884	36	848	-	-

Annexure C – Number of tourists by country of residence and purpose of visit, February 2024 (concluded)

3.4 Annexure D – Number of tourists' difference between Jan–Feb 2023 and Jan–Feb 2024 by country of residence

Country of residence	Jan – Feb 2023	Jan – Feb 2024	Difference between Jan – Feb 2023 and Jan – Feb 2024	% change between Jan – Feb 2023 and Jan – Feb 2024
Total	1 463 107	1 697 520	234 413	16,0%
Overseas	380 024	404 968	24 944	6,6%
Europe	267 292	280 900	13 608	5,1%
Austria	5 389	5 624	235	4,4%
Belgium	8 262	8 899	637	7,7%
Denmark	4 969	4 933	-36	-0,7%
France	20 561	22 873	2 312	11,2%
Germany	61 699	63 240	1 541	2,5%
Ireland	5 203	5 980	777	14,9%
Italy	6 946	7 119	173	2,5%
Portugal	3 570	3 641	71	2,0%
Russian Federation	5 733	5 897	164	2,9%
Spain	3 574	3 820	246	6,9%
Sweden	7 120	7 488	368	5,2%
Switzerland	9 275	9 719	444	4,8%
The Netherlands	24 922	27 957	3 035	12,2%
UK	82 307	83 524	1 217	1,5%
Other	17 762	20 186	2 424	13,6%
North America	58 991	57 712	-1 279	-2,2%
Canada	10 138	10 450	312	3,1%
USA	48 853	47 262	-1 591	-3,3%
Central and South America	6 838	12 887	6 049	88,5%
Argentina	925	1 216	291	31,5%
Brazil	3 362	8 714	5 352	159,2%
Chile	407	762	355	87,2%
Other	2 144	2 195	51	2,4%
Australasia	14 662	15 058	396	2,7%
Australia	12 232	12 513	281	2,3%
New Zealand	2 409	2 511	102	4,2%
Other	21	34	13	61,9%
Middle East	6 623	5 412	-1 211	-18,3%
Israel	3 732	1 396	-2 336	-62,6%
Jordan	344	474	130	37,8%
Saudi Arabia	1 175	2 142	967	82,3%
Other	1 372	1 400	28	2,0%
Asia	25 618	32 999	7 381	28,8%
Bangladesh	1 321	1 009	-312	-23,6%
China	3 281	6 599	3 318	101,1%
India	11 053	11 006	-47	-0,4%
Japan	1 453	3 588	2 135	146,9%
Malaysia	548	805	257	46,9%
Pakistan	2 031	2 107	76	3,7%
Philippines	788	881	93	11,8%

Annexure D – Number of tourists' difference between Jan–Feb 2023 and Jan–Feb 2024 by country of residence (continued)

Country of residence	Jan – Feb 2023	Jan – Feb 2024	Difference between Jan – Feb 2023 and Jan – Feb 2024	% change between Jan – Feb 2023 and Jan – Feb 2024
Singapore	563	1 009	446	79,2%
South Korea	1 928	2 929	1 001	51,9%
Taiwan	642	777	135	21,0%
Other	2 010	2 289	279	13,9%
Africa	1 081 182	1 290 896	209 714	19,4%
SADC	1 061 023	1 266 445	205 422	19,4%
Angola	6 755	6 304	-451	-6,7%
Botswana	46 964	52 615	5 651	12,0%
DRC	3 046	4 242	1 196	39,3%
Eswatini	95 052	119 933	24 881	26,2%
Lesotho	232 318	256 077	23 759	10,2%
Madagascar	421	675	254	60,3%
Malawi	20 624	27 746	7 122	34,5%
Mauritius	2 3 0 2 4	2 840	538	23,4%
Mozambique	246 571	298 160	51 589	20,9%
Namibia	22 344	23 810	1 466	6,6%
Seychelles	962	951	-11	-1,1%
Tanzania	5 007	5 676	669	13,4%
Zambia	19 997	24 320	4 323	21,6%
Zimbabwe	358 660	443 096	84 436	23,5%
'Other' African	20 159	24 451	4 292	21,3%
East and Central Africa	44 570	44 754	470	4 50/
	11 573	11 751	178	1,5%
Burundi	159	182	23	14,5%
Cameroon	634	590	-44	-6,9%
Central African Republic	34	34	-	0,0%
Chad	54	58	4	7,4%
Comoros	43	30	-13	-30,2%
Congo	210	209	-1	-0,5%
Djibouti	14	17	3	21,4%
Equatorial Guinea	39	47	8	20,5%
Eritrea	76	66	-10	-13,2%
Ethiopia	921	1 057	136	14,8%
Gabon	593	619	26	4,4%
Kenya	6 251	6 442	191	3,1%
Réunion	6	21	15	250,0%
Rwanda	165	186	21	12,7%
São Tomé and Príncipe	17	26	9	52,9%
Somalia Uganda	98 2 259	137 2 030	39 -229	39,8% -10,1%
West Africa	6 331	10 505	4 174	65,9%
Benin	242	265	23	9,5%
Burkina Faso	133	111	-22	-16,5%
Cape Verde Island	69	37	-32	-46,4%
	00	51	52	

Annexure D – Number of tourists' difference between Jan–Feb 2023 and Jan–Feb 2024 by country of residence (concluded)

Country of residence	Jan – Feb 2023	Jan – Feb 2024	Difference between Jan – Feb 2023 and Jan – Feb 2024	% change between Jan – Feb 2023 and Jan – Feb 2024
Gambia	52	69	17	32,7%
Ghana	1 493	4 983	3 490	233,8%
Guinea	252	233	-19	-7,5%
Guinea-Bissau	19	14	-5	-26,3%
Liberia	63	70	7	11,1%
Mali	247	179	-68	-27,5%
Mauritania	37	47	10	27,0%
Niger	51	52	1	2,0%
Nigeria	2 965	3 737	772	26,0%
Saint Helena	4	7	3	75,0%
Senegal	238	218	-20	-8,4%
Sierra Leone	78	100	22	28,2%
Togo	45	56	11	24,4%
North Africa	2 255	2 195	-60	-2,7%
Algeria	151	149	-2	-1,3%
Egypt	1 005	1 058	53	5,3%
Libya	135	113	-22	-16,3%
Morocco	228	333	105	46,1%
South Sudan	146	125	-21	-14,4%
The Sudan	362	163	-199	-55,0%
Tunisia	226	248	22	9,7%
Western Sahara	2	6	4	200,0%
Unspecified	1 901	1 656	-245	-12,9%

3.5 Annexure E – Number of tourists by port of entry, February 2024

PortName	Province	Frequency
Cape Town International Airport	Western Cape	114 897
Cape Town Harbour	Western Cape	2 441
Telle Bridge	Eastern Cape	2 826
Vioolsdrift	Northern Cape	3 974
Nakop	Northern Cape	3 785
Other	Northern Cape	399
Ficksburg	Free State	35 278
Maseru Bridge	Free State	38 416
Caledonspoort	Free State	9 780
Other	Free State	6 142
Kosibay	KwaZulu Natal	8 265
Golela	KwaZulu Natal	10 265
Durban International	KwaZulu Natal	2 933
Durban Habour Passengers	KwaZulu Natal	1 856
Kopfontein	North West	16 681
Schilpad Gate	North West	6 438
Ramathlabama	North West	4 864
Oliver Tambo International		
Airport	Gauteng	131 776
Lanseria International Airport	Gauteng	204
Lebombo	Mpumalanga	123 900
Oshoek	Mpumalanga	31 611
Jeppes Reef	Mpumalanga	8 267
Mananga	Mpumalanga	10 792
Other	Mpumalanga	8 015
Beit Bridge	Limpopo	125 873
Groblers Bridge	Limpopo	15 996
Total		725 674

4.1 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 (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).

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. 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 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 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 has also been observed when the volume of travellers decreased. In February 2024, the DHA data was 4,5% lower than that of ACSA.

4.5 Limitations

4.5.1 Outbound tourists

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

4.6 Definition of terms

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

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

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

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

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

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

4.6.2 Definitions used specifically in this release

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

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

Region refers to the following country classification:

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

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

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

SADC refers to the 14 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.

Stats SA has copyright on this publication. Users may apply the information as they wish, provided that they acknowledge Stats SA as the source of the basic data wherever they process, apply, utilise, publish or distribute the data; and also that they specify that the relevant application and analysis (where applicable) result from their own processing of the data.

Advance release calendar

An advance release calendar is disseminated at www.statssa.gov.za.

Stats SA products

A complete set of Stats SA publications is available at the Stats SA Library and the following libraries:

National Library of South Africa, Pretoria Division National Library of South Africa, Cape Town Division Natal Society Library, Pietermaritzburg Library of Parliament, Cape Town Bloemfontein Public Library Johannesburg Public Library Eastern Cape Library Services, Qonce Central Regional Library, Polokwane Central Reference Library, Mbombela Central Reference Collection, Kimberley Central Reference Library, Mmabatho

Stats SA also provides a subscription service.

Electronic services

A large range of data are available via online services, CD and computer printouts. For more details about our electronic data, contact user information services.

You can visit us on the Internet at www.statssa.gov.za.

Enquiries

Telephone:	 (012) 310 8600 (user information services) (079) 511 9917 (technical enquiries) (012) 310 8251 (orders) (012) 310 4883/4885/8018 (library)
Fax:	(012) 310 8500/ 8495 (user information services) (012) 310 6937 (technical enquiries)
Email:	TshwaroG@statssa.gov.za (technical enquiries) info@statssa.gov.za (user information services)

Postal address: Private Bag X44, Pretoria, 0001

Produced by Stats SA