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STATISTICAL RELEASE

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Tourist accommodation (Preliminary)

August 2026

The results in this publication are based on a new sample. This is an annual procedure which typically affects the levels of tourist accommodation statistics. To avoid breaks in time series and to minimise revisions to historical growth rates, historical levels were revised (i.e. they were linked to the estimates based on the new sample).

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IMPROVING LIVES THROUGH DATA ECOSYSTEMS



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Results for August 2026

Table A – Year-on-year percentage change in tourist accommodation statistics (income at current prices)

	Mar-26	Apr-26	May-26	Jun-26	Jul-26	Aug-26
Stay units available	0,1	-0,1	-0,1	-0,1	-0,1	-0,1
Stay unit nights sold	13,0	11,0	1,1	1,3	6,9	3,9
Average income per stay unit night sold	3,1	-2,0	4,2	2,1	2,8	3,6
Income from accommodation	16,6	8,8	5,3	3,4	9,9	7,6
Total income ¹	13,8	7,0	5,0	1,3	7,5	6,0

¹ Includes restaurant and bar sales and 'other' income.

Measured in nominal terms (current prices), total income for the tourist accommodation industry increased by 6,0% in August 2026 compared with August 2025.

Income from accommodation increased by 7,6% year-on-year in August 2026, the result of a 3,9% increase in the number of stay unit nights sold and a 3,6% increase in the average income per stay unit night sold.

Table B – Year-on-year percentage change in income from accommodation at current prices by type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	Mar-26	Apr-26	May-26	Jun-26	Jul-26	Aug-26
Hotels	13,0	7,1	5,3	3,1	3,9	5,9
Caravan parks and camping sites	-7,8	22,4	-16,2	-2,4	-1,6	-21,0
Guest-houses and guest-farms	30,9	24,3	-1,3	-5,0	28,7	22,4
Other accommodation	22,6	8,4	7,7	5,5	18,3	10,1
Total income from accommodation ¹	16,6	8,8	5,3	3,4	9,9	7,6

¹ Excludes restaurant and bar sales and 'other' income.

In August 2026, the main contributors to the 7,6% year-on-year increase in income from accommodation were:

- 'other' accommodation (10,1% and contributing 3,7 percentage points); and
- hotels (5,9% and contributing 3,3 percentage points) – see Table B and Table 6.

Table C – Income from accommodation at current prices for the latest three months by type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	Jun – Aug 2025 (R million)	Weight (%)	Jun – Aug 2026 (R million)	% change between Jun – Aug 2025 and Jun – Aug 2026	Contribution (% points) to the total % change
Hotels	5 510,0	57,6	5 750,8	4,4	2,5
Caravan parks and camping sites	207,5	2,2	188,8	-9,0	-0,2
Guest-houses and guest-farms	452,3	4,7	520,6	15,1	0,7
Other accommodation	3 396,3	35,5	3 786,6	11,5	4,1
Total income from accommodation ¹	9 566,1	100,0	10 246,8	7,1	7,1

¹ Excludes restaurant and bar sales and 'other' income.

Income from accommodation increased by 7,1% in the three months ended August 2026 compared with the three months ended August 2025. The main contributors to this increase were:

- 'other' accommodation (11,5% and contributing 4,1 percentage points); and
- hotels (4,4% and contributing 2,5 percentage points) – see Table C.

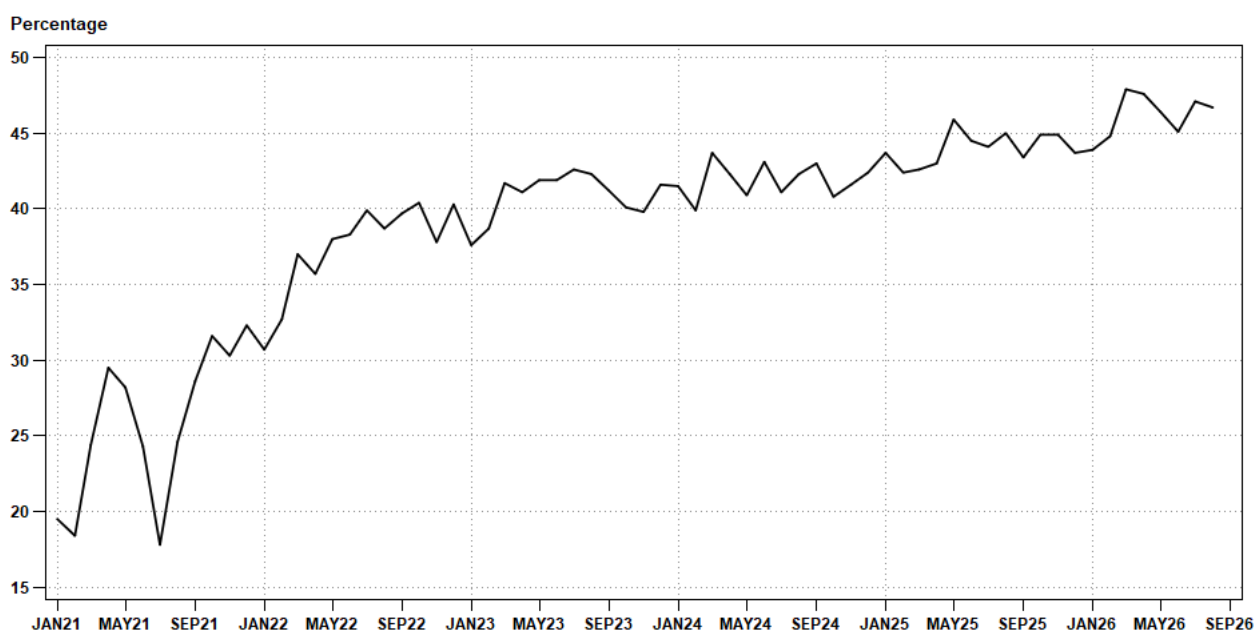
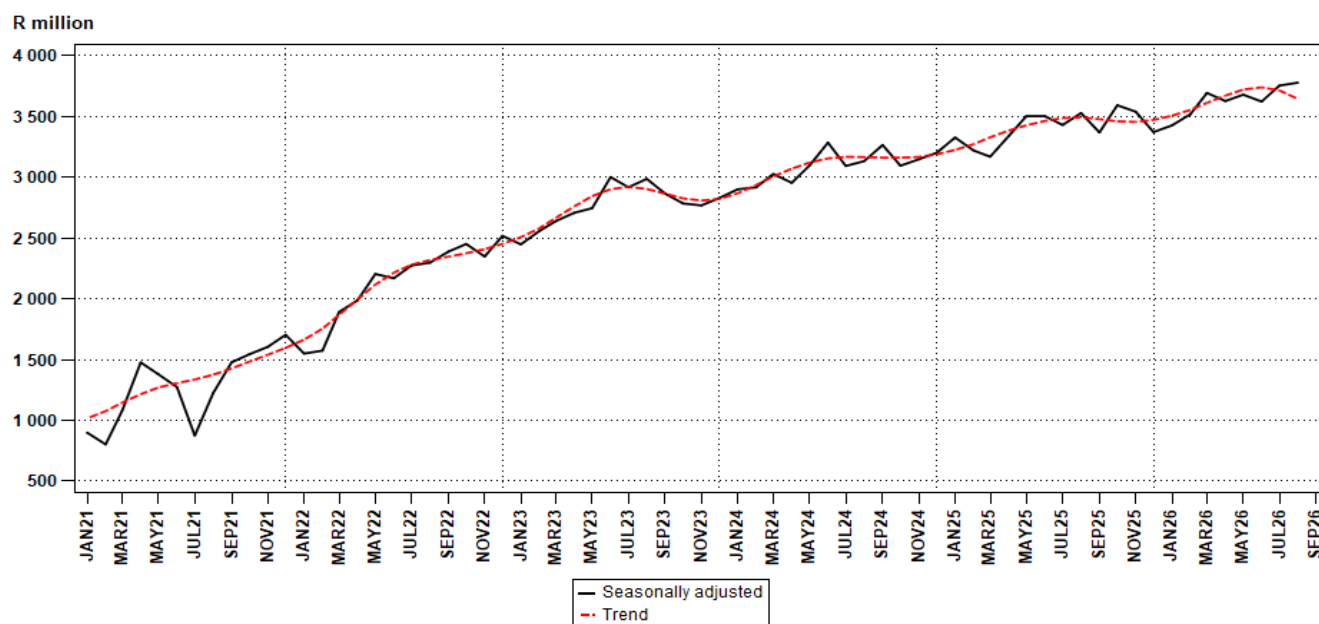
Figure 1 – Seasonally adjusted occupancy rate for the accommodation industry

Figure 2 – Income from accommodation at current prices

Seasonally adjusted income from accommodation increased by 0,6% month-on-month in August 2026 following an increase of 3,6% month-on-month in July 2026 – see Table 3.



Risenga Maluleke
Statistician-General

Note: Changes to the survey and the impact on the statistical series

Statistical business register and samples

This statistical release contains results for the monthly survey of tourist accommodation from a new sample drawn in May 2026, which replaces the previous sample that was drawn in April 2025. The sample was drawn from a statistical business register of enterprises with an annual turnover of at least R3 127 974 and that are required to register with the South African Revenue Service (SARS) for value-added tax (VAT).

Owing to the evolving nature of business, the statistical business register is maintained on a continuous basis. The maintenance process is aimed, amongst other things, at capturing changes related to new businesses, ceased businesses, merged businesses and classification changes. In addition, Stats SA undertakes quality improvement surveys related to the statistical business register, the primary objective of which is to capture up-to-date information about the structures and activities of large and complex businesses. This process enables Stats SA to review classification codes for these businesses. These changes are an essential part of the statistical architecture.

Comparison between the previous (revised) and new samples for the tourist accommodation industry

The reported level of total income for the monthly survey of tourist accommodation for the months May to July 2026 based on the new sample was 1,1% lower than the level of total income from the previous sample (see Table D and Figure 3). The previous sample was drawn in April 2025 and was operational for the last half of 2025 and the first seven months of 2026.

Table D – Estimates for the previous and new samples for May to July 2026

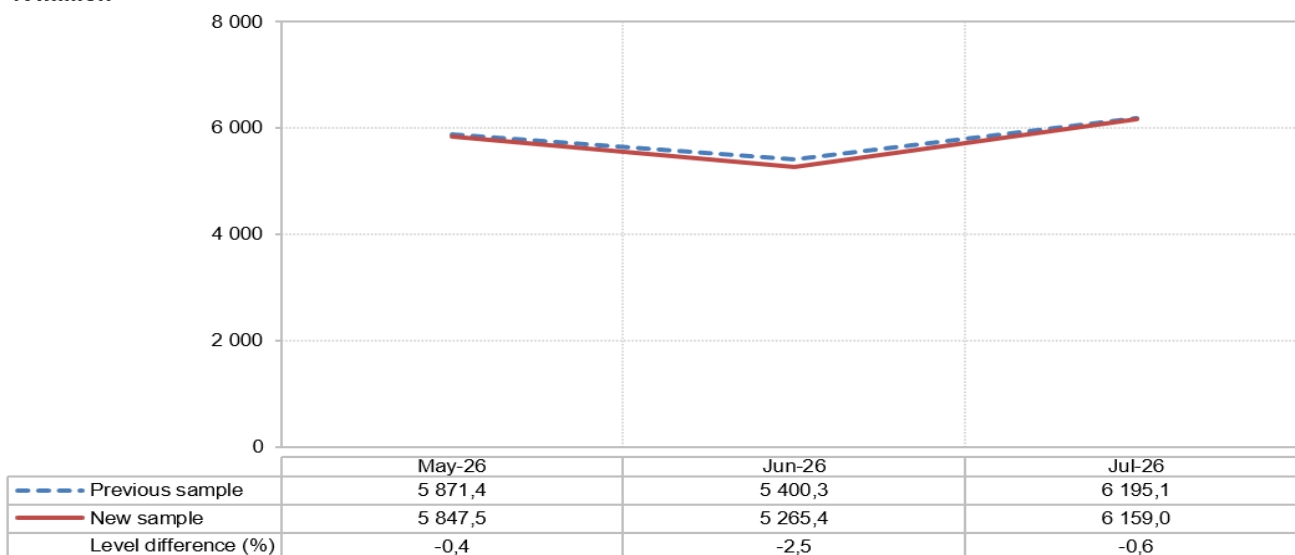
Tourist accommodation industry	Previous sample	New sample	Difference	Difference (%) ¹
Stay units available (000) (average)	146,1	144,7	-1,4	-0,9
Stay unit nights sold (000)	5 626,8	5 719,6	92,8	1,6
Income from accommodation (R million)	9 616,5	9 698,6	82,1	0,9
Income from restaurant and bar sales (R million)	2 968,0	2 709,5	-258,5	-8,7
Other income (R million)	4 882,3	4 863,8	-18,5	-0,4
Total income for the accommodation industry (R million) ²	17 466,8	17 271,9	-194,9	-1,1

¹ The percentage difference is the new sample minus the previous sample, divided by the previous sample, multiplied by 100.

² Includes restaurant and bar sales and 'other' income.

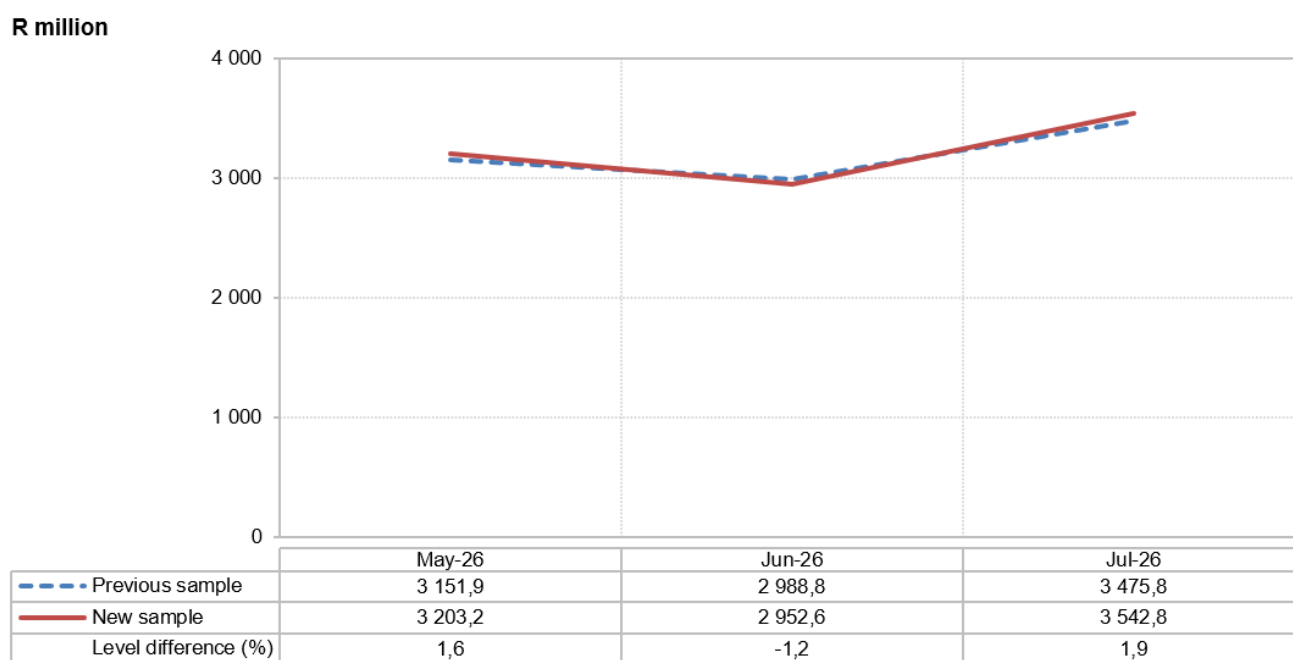
Figure 3 – Total income: monthly levels for previous and new samples for May to July 2026

R million



The reported level of income from accommodation for the months May to July 2026 based on the new sample was 0,9% higher than the level of income from accommodation from the previous sample (see Table D on page 5 and Figure 4).

Figure 4 – Income from accommodation: monthly levels for previous and new samples for May to July 2026



The reported level of stay units available for the months May to July 2026 based on the new sample was 0,9% lower than the level of stay units available from the previous sample (see Table D on page 5 and Figure 5).

Figure 5 – Stay units available: monthly levels for previous and new samples for May to July 2026

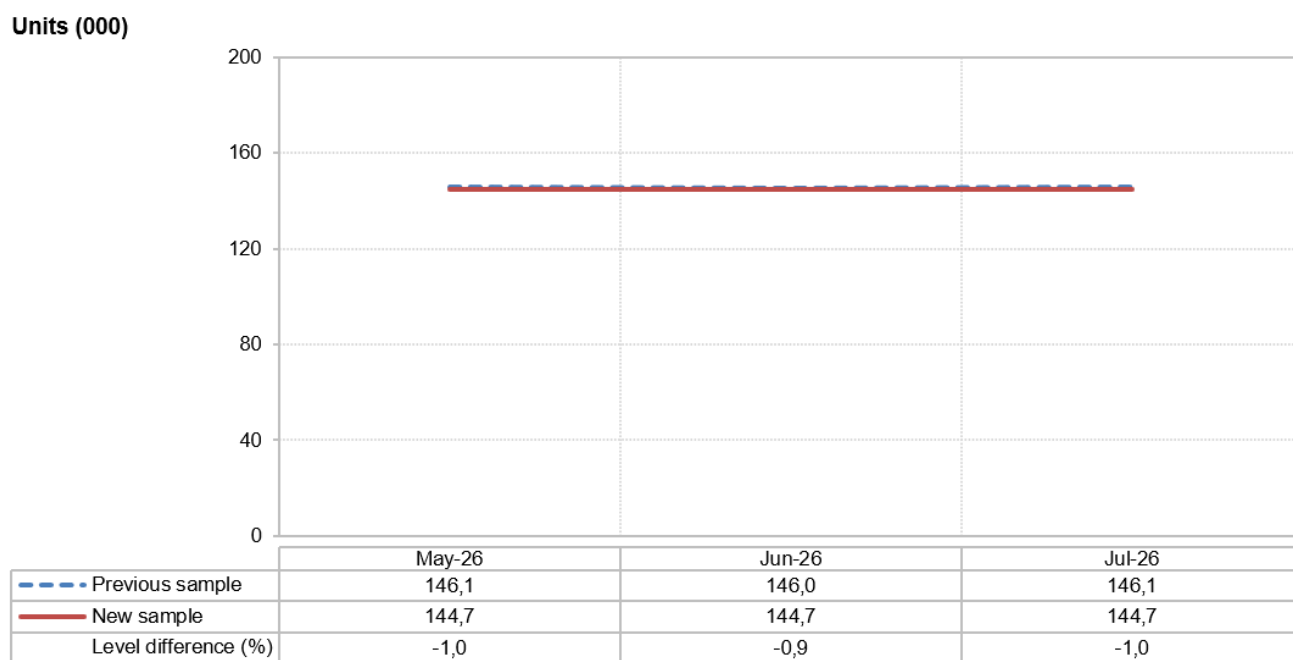


Table E – Total income for the previous and new samples by type of accommodation for May to July 2026

Type of accommodation	Previous sample (R million)	New sample (R million)	Difference (R million)	Difference (%) ¹
Hotels	12 177,4	12 352,9	175,5	1,4
Caravan parks and camping sites	174,4	210,3	35,9	20,6
Guest-houses and guest-farms	504,4	565,3	60,9	12,1
Other accommodation	4 610,6	4 143,4	-467,2	-10,1
Total income ²	17 466,8	17 271,9	-194,9	-1,1

¹ The percentage difference is the new sample minus the previous sample, divided by the previous sample, multiplied by 100.

² Includes restaurant and bar sales and 'other' income.

The largest differences were recorded for the following types of accommodation:

- 'other' accommodation (R467,2 million or 10,1% lower in the new sample);
- hotels (R175,5 million or 1,4% higher in the new sample); and
- guest-houses and guest-farms (R60,9 million or 12,1% higher in the new sample) – see Table E.

Backcasting

To avoid breaks in the time series and to minimise revisions to historical growth rates, historical levels were revised (i.e. they were linked to the estimates based on the new sample).

Tables

Note that income from accommodation excludes restaurant and bar sales and 'other' income.

Table 1 – Income from accommodation at current prices (R million)

Month	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Jan	932,4	1 604,5	2 527,7	2 983,9	3 416,9	3 512,5
Feb	809,9	1 627,2	2 641,6	2 990,1	3 323,0	3 610,7
Mar	1 128,6	1 985,7	2 771,8	3 160,5	3 315,0	3 863,8
Apr	1 407,6	1 885,8	2 566,9	2 803,7	3 172,0	3 449,8
May	1 159,8	1 880,0	2 360,9	2 675,1	3 042,5	3 203,2
Jun	1 038,3	1 770,2	2 449,5	2 682,1	2 856,3	2 952,6
Jul	817,4	2 111,7	2 726,1	2 904,7	3 224,7	3 542,8
Aug	1 189,2	2 230,7	2 919,3	3 083,2	3 485,1	3 751,4
Sep	1 475,5	2 378,2	2 855,7	3 254,0	3 352,5	
Oct	1 680,7	2 657,4	3 019,2	3 353,9	3 891,6	
Nov	1 727,8	2 536,3	2 986,0	3 393,1	3 819,4	
Dec	2 047,8	2 985,2	3 343,2	3 764,2	3 956,5	
Total	15 415,0	25 652,9	33 167,9	37 048,5	40 855,5	

Table 2 – Year-on-year percentage change in income from accommodation at current prices

Month	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2026 year-to-date
Jan	72,1	57,5	18,0	14,5	2,8	2,8
Feb	100,9	62,3	13,2	11,1	8,7	5,7
Mar	75,9	39,6	14,0	4,9	16,6	9,3
Apr	34,0	36,1	9,2	13,1	8,8	9,1
May	62,1	25,6	13,3	13,7	5,3	8,4
Jun	70,5	38,4	9,5	6,5	3,4	7,7
Jul	158,3	29,1	6,6	11,0	9,9	8,0
Aug	87,6	30,9	5,6	13,0	7,6	7,9
Sep	61,2	20,1	13,9	3,0		
Oct	58,1	13,6	11,1	16,0		
Nov	46,8	17,7	13,6	12,6		
Dec	45,8	12,0	12,6	5,1		
Total	66,4	29,3	11,7	10,3		

Table 3 – Seasonally adjusted income from accommodation at current prices

Month	R million				Month-on-month % change			
	2023	2024	2025	2026	2023	2024	2025	2026
Jan	2 447,0	2 899,8	3 325,8	3 425,2	-2,8	2,5	3,9	1,6
Feb	2 556,4	2 916,0	3 219,5	3 517,1	4,5	0,6	-3,2	2,7
Mar	2 638,8	3 025,9	3 167,6	3 692,3	3,2	3,8	-1,6	5,0
Apr	2 706,6	2 953,1	3 336,7	3 625,8	2,6	-2,4	5,3	-1,8
May	2 744,5	3 096,0	3 501,8	3 678,2	1,4	4,8	4,9	1,4
Jun	3 000,3	3 283,8	3 502,0	3 621,6	9,3	6,1	0,0	-1,5
Jul	2 916,5	3 091,7	3 428,9	3 753,0	-2,8	-5,8	-2,1	3,6
Aug	2 985,6	3 131,7	3 526,7	3 777,2	2,4	1,3	2,9	0,6
Sep	2 863,4	3 264,3	3 367,8		-4,1	4,2	-4,5	
Oct	2 783,4	3 093,8	3 591,3		-2,8	-5,2	6,6	
Nov	2 767,5	3 146,9	3 538,4		-0,6	1,7	-1,5	
Dec	2 828,0	3 200,0	3 370,6		2,2	1,7	-4,7	

Table 4 – Tourist accommodation statistics by type of accommodation (income at current prices)

		Mar-26	Apr-26	May-26	Jun-26	Jul-26	Aug-26
Hotels	Stay units available (000)	70,1	70,1	70,1	70,1	70,1	70,1
	Stay unit nights sold (000)	1 475,6	1 340,2	1 321,5	1 229,2	1 395,6	1 464,6
	Occupancy rate (%)	67,9	63,7	60,8	58,4	64,2	67,4
	Average income per stay unit night sold (Rand)	1 530,2	1 448,1	1 423,5	1 387,8	1 403,4	1 424,5
	Total income (R million)	4 654,7	4 220,0	4 265,9	3 784,7	4 302,3	4 546,1
	Income from accommodation (R million)	2 258,0	1 940,7	1 881,2	1 705,9	1 958,6	2 086,3
	Income from restaurant and bar sales (R million)	872,8	771,7	808,8	689,8	770,6	842,1
	Other income (R million)	1 523,9	1 507,6	1 575,9	1 389,0	1 573,1	1 617,7
Caravan parks and camping sites	Stay units available (000)	9,3	9,3	9,3	9,3	9,3	9,3
	Stay unit nights sold (000)	87,9	109,2	86,8	86,1	95,2	90,9
	Occupancy rate (%)	30,5	39,1	30,1	30,9	33,0	31,5
	Average income per stay unit night sold (Rand)	779,3	865,4	688,9	708,5	708,0	664,5
	Total income (R million)	74,7	102,9	64,7	68,4	77,2	70,9
	Income from accommodation (R million)	68,5	94,5	59,8	61,0	67,4	60,4
	Income from restaurant and bar sales (R million)	4,3	5,6	3,0	4,9	7,4	6,6
	Other income (R million)	1,9	2,8	1,9	2,5	2,4	3,9
Guest-houses and guest-farms	Stay units available (000)	15,1	15,1	15,1	15,1	15,1	15,1
	Stay unit nights sold (000)	173,3	148,0	139,6	128,3	145,1	135,3
	Occupancy rate (%)	37,0	32,7	29,8	28,3	31,0	28,9
	Average income per stay unit night sold (Rand)	1 274,1	1 281,8	1 105,3	1 120,8	1 192,3	1 506,3
	Total income (R million)	270,0	234,6	187,0	171,1	207,2	239,8
	Income from accommodation (R million)	220,8	189,7	154,3	143,8	173,0	203,8
	Income from restaurant and bar sales (R million)	39,9	34,7	24,4	19,1	26,0	22,7
	Other income (R million)	9,3	10,2	8,3	8,2	8,2	13,3
Other accommodation	Stay units available (000)	50,3	50,2	50,2	50,2	50,2	50,2
	Stay unit nights sold (000)	428,5	409,7	361,5	334,5	396,2	395,7
	Occupancy rate (%)	27,5	27,2	23,2	22,2	25,5	25,4
	Average income per stay unit night sold (Rand)	3 072,3	2 989,7	3 064,7	3 114,8	3 391,7	3 540,3
	Total income (R million)	1 560,8	1 459,3	1 329,9	1 241,2	1 572,3	1 666,7
	Income from accommodation (R million)	1 316,5	1 224,9	1 107,9	1 041,9	1 343,8	1 400,9
	Income from restaurant and bar sales (R million)	145,8	143,1	126,3	108,7	120,5	149,2
	Other income (R million)	98,5	91,3	95,7	90,6	108,0	116,6
Total industry	Stay units available (000)	144,8	144,7	144,7	144,7	144,7	144,7
	Stay unit nights sold (000)	2 165,3	2 007,1	1 909,4	1 778,1	2 032,1	2 086,5
	Occupancy rate (%)	48,2	46,2	42,6	41,0	45,3	46,5
	Average income per stay unit night sold (Rand)	1 784,4	1 718,8	1 677,6	1 660,5	1 743,4	1 797,9
	Total income (R million)	6 560,2	6 016,8	5 847,5	5 265,4	6 159,0	6 523,5
	Income from accommodation (R million)	3 863,8	3 449,8	3 203,2	2 952,6	3 542,8	3 751,4
	Income from restaurant and bar sales (R million)	1 062,8	955,1	962,5	822,5	924,5	1 020,6
	Other income (R million)	1 633,6	1 611,9	1 681,8	1 490,3	1 691,7	1 751,5

Table 5 – Year-on-year percentage change in tourist accommodation statistics by type of accommodation (income at current prices)

		Mar-26	Apr-26	May-26	Jun-26	Jul-26	Aug-26
Hotels	Stay units available	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
	Stay unit nights sold	12,7	8,3	1,3	1,1	3,3	4,0
	Average income per stay unit night sold	0,2	-1,1	4,0	2,0	0,6	1,8
	Total income	10,8	5,0	4,7	0,4	3,5	3,8
	Income from accommodation	13,0	7,1	5,3	3,1	3,9	5,9
	Income from restaurant and bar sales	11,5	5,4	4,3	-3,0	-2,2	-2,8
	Other income	7,2	2,1	4,1	-1,1	6,0	4,9
Caravan parks and camping sites	Stay units available	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
	Stay unit nights sold	-13,7	2,8	-9,2	-6,2	2,0	-9,9
	Average income per stay unit night sold	6,9	19,1	-7,8	4,1	-3,6	-12,4
	Total income	-6,7	24,0	-13,0	2,5	2,4	-15,5
	Income from accommodation	-7,8	22,4	-16,2	-2,4	-1,6	-21,0
	Income from restaurant and bar sales	26,5	64,7	130,8	113,0	48,0	50,0
	Other income	-20,8	16,7	11,8	31,6	26,3	30,0
Guest-houses and guest-farms	Stay units available	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
	Stay unit nights sold	16,6	16,9	-15,3	-12,5	5,8	-5,6
	Average income per stay unit night sold	12,2	6,3	16,5	8,5	21,6	29,6
	Total income	28,0	19,1	-2,5	-6,0	30,2	20,4
	Income from accommodation	30,9	24,3	-1,3	-5,0	28,7	22,4
	Income from restaurant and bar sales	30,8	0,6	-11,6	-20,4	45,3	-6,2
	Other income	-21,2	4,1	6,4	24,2	18,8	58,3
Other accommodation	Stay units available	0,2	-0,2	-0,2	-0,2	-0,2	-0,2
	Stay unit nights sold	20,2	21,2	11,6	10,8	24,0	11,0
	Average income per stay unit night sold	2,0	-10,6	-3,5	-4,8	-4,6	-0,8
	Total income	22,5	10,4	8,5	5,2	17,4	11,6
	Income from accommodation	22,6	8,4	7,7	5,5	18,3	10,1
	Income from restaurant and bar sales	33,4	35,0	11,0	2,3	11,1	30,9
	Other income	8,7	6,4	14,9	5,1	14,0	9,7
Total industry	Stay units available	0,1	-0,1	-0,1	-0,1	-0,1	-0,1
	Stay unit nights sold	13,0	11,0	1,1	1,3	6,9	3,9
	Average income per stay unit night sold	3,1	-2,0	4,2	2,1	2,8	3,6
	Total income	13,8	7,0	5,0	1,3	7,5	6,0
	Income from accommodation	16,6	8,8	5,3	3,4	9,9	7,6
	Income from restaurant and bar sales	14,8	9,0	4,8	-2,5	0,6	1,1
	Other income	7,1	2,4	4,7	-0,6	6,5	5,5

Table 6 – Contribution of each type of accommodation to the year-on-year percentage change in income from accommodation at current prices (percentage points)

Type of accommodation	Mar-26	Apr-26	May-26	Jun-26	Jul-26	Aug-26
Hotels	7,8	4,1	3,1	1,8	2,3	3,3
Caravan parks and camping sites	-0,2	0,5	-0,4	-0,1	0,0	-0,5
Guest-houses and guest-farms	1,6	1,2	-0,1	-0,3	1,2	1,1
Other accommodation	7,3	3,0	2,6	1,9	6,4	3,7
Total income from accommodation ¹	16,6	8,8	5,3	3,4	9,9	7,6

¹ Excludes restaurant and bar sales and 'other' income.

Table 7 – Seasonally adjusted tourist accommodation statistics by type of accommodation (income at current prices)

		Apr-26	May-26	Jun-26	Jul-26	Aug-26	Month-on-month % change
Hotels	Stay unit nights sold (000)	1 405,2	1 391,8	1 386,1	1 421,9	1 451,5	2,1
	Occupancy rate (%)	66,8	65,4	65,1	66,6	67,3	
	Average income per stay unit night sold (Rand)	1 489,0	1 530,1	1 463,5	1 497,3	1 527,4	2,0
	Total income (R million)	4 465,3	4 545,7	4 385,9	4 524,3	4 599,3	1,7
	Income from accommodation (R million)	2 111,8	2 124,9	2 102,2	2 138,4	2 195,8	2,7
	Income from restaurant and bar sales (R million)	834,4	858,0	798,8	824,1	839,9	1,9
	Other income (R million)	1 519,2	1 562,8	1 484,9	1 561,8	1 563,6	0,1
Caravan parks and camping sites	Stay unit nights sold (000)	101,1	91,0	91,6	96,8	87,0	-10,1
	Occupancy rate (%)	35,7	32,2	32,4	34,3	30,7	
	Average income per stay unit night sold (Rand)	857,3	772,7	791,4	771,7	766,2	-0,7
	Total income (R million)	97,4	76,4	83,5	84,8	72,6	-14,4
	Income from accommodation (R million)	89,1	69,7	74,2	76,2	63,3	-16,9
	Income from restaurant and bar sales (R million)	5,4	4,8	6,9	6,2	5,4	-12,9
	Other income (R million)	2,8	1,9	2,5	2,4	3,9	62,5
Guest-houses and guest-farms	Stay unit nights sold (000)	149,9	151,1	147,9	148,4	135,2	-8,9
	Occupancy rate (%)	33,2	33,4	32,8	32,7	29,5	
	Average income per stay unit night sold (Rand)	1 270,1	1 286,1	1 271,2	1 351,7	1 529,4	13,1
	Total income (R million)	236,8	220,3	216,0	240,0	239,1	-0,4
	Income from accommodation (R million)	194,4	182,1	179,1	195,9	200,2	2,2
	Income from restaurant and bar sales (R million)	32,3	28,2	26,1	33,4	25,6	-23,4
	Other income (R million)	10,2	10,0	10,9	10,7	13,4	25,2
Other accommodation	Stay unit nights sold (000)	407,0	394,3	381,0	400,6	392,7	-2,0
	Occupancy rate (%)	27,1	25,8	24,8	26,3	25,6	
	Average income per stay unit night sold (Rand)	3 014,8	3 304,8	3 277,5	3 305,7	3 375,3	2,1
	Total income (R million)	1 472,5	1 546,7	1 504,0	1 587,2	1 572,8	-0,9
	Income from accommodation (R million)	1 230,5	1 301,5	1 266,1	1 342,5	1 317,9	-1,8
	Income from restaurant and bar sales (R million)	145,4	135,0	129,1	132,8	143,6	8,1
	Other income (R million)	96,7	110,3	108,7	112,0	111,2	-0,7
Total industry	Stay unit nights sold (000)	2 063,3	2 028,1	2 006,6	2 067,7	2 066,4	-0,1
	Occupancy rate (%)	47,6	46,4	45,1	47,1	46,7	
	Average income per stay unit night sold (Rand)	1 741,7	1 823,9	1 795,8	1 814,4	1 837,6	1,3
	Total income (R million)	6 272,1	6 389,1	6 189,4	6 436,3	6 483,7	0,7
	Income from accommodation (R million)	3 625,8	3 678,2	3 621,6	3 753,0	3 777,2	0,6
	Income from restaurant and bar sales (R million)	1 017,5	1 025,9	960,9	996,5	1 014,5	1,8
	Other income (R million)	1 628,9	1 685,0	1 607,0	1 686,9	1 692,1	0,3

Explanatory notes

- Introduction** 1 The results presented in this publication are derived from the monthly survey of the tourist accommodation industry. This survey is based on a sample drawn from the 2026 statistical business register (SBR) that contains businesses registered for value-added tax (VAT).
- Purpose of the survey** 2 The Tourist accommodation survey is a monthly survey covering a sample of public and private enterprises involved in the short-stay accommodation industry in South Africa.
- The results of the survey are used to compile estimates of the tourism satellite accounts (TSA) and the gross domestic product (GDP) and its components, which are used to develop and monitor government policy. These statistics are also used in the analysis of comparative business and industry performance.
- Scope of the survey** 3 This survey covers the following tax registered private and public enterprises that are mainly engaged in providing short-stay commercial accommodation:
- hotels, motels, botels and inns;
 - caravan parks and camping sites;
 - guest-houses and guest-farms; and
 - 'other' accommodation.
- Collection rate** 4 The preliminary collection rate for the survey on tourist accommodation for August 2026 was 79,3%. The collection rate for July 2026 for the new sample was 83,2%.
- Classification by industry** 5 The 1993 edition of the *Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities* (SIC), Fifth Edition, Report No. 09-90-02 was used to classify the statistical units in the survey. The SIC is based on the 1990 *International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities* (ISIC) with suitable adaptations for local conditions. Each enterprise is classified to an industry, which reflects its predominant activity. Statistics in this publication are presented at five-digit SIC level.
- Statistical unit** 6 The statistical units for the collection of the information are enterprises and establishments.
- Revised figures** 7 Revised figures are mainly due to late submission of data to Stats SA, or respondents reporting revisions or corrections to their figures. The reasons for routine revisions are outlined in the following schedule. Any unscheduled revisions will be promptly indicated in relevant tables to maintain transparency and accuracy. It is important to note that seasonally adjusted figures are revised monthly.

Statistical release	Reason for revision	Period subject to revision
Aug-26	Additional information from respondents New sample	Sep-04–Jul-26
Sep-26	Additional information from respondents	Aug-26
Oct-26	Additional information from respondents	Sep-26
Nov-26	Additional information from respondents	Oct-26
Dec-26	Additional information from respondents	Nov-26
Jan-27	Additional information from respondents	Dec-26
Feb-27	Additional information from respondents	Jan-27
Mar-27	Additional information from respondents	Feb-27
Apr-27	Additional information from respondents	Mar-27
May-27	Additional information from respondents	Apr-27
Jun-27	Additional information from respondents	May-27
Jul-27	Additional information from respondents	Jun-27

- Rounding-off of figures** 8 Where figures have been rounded off, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and the totals.
- Historical data** 9 Historical tourist accommodation data are available on the Stats SA website. To access the data electronically, use the following link: [Click to download historical data](#).
- Past publications** 10 Past tourist accommodation releases are available on the Stats SA website. To access the releases electronically, use the following link: [Click to download past releases](#).
- Comparability with discontinued Hotels' Trading Statistics** 11 The information in this statistical release and the discontinued monthly Hotels' trading statistics statistical release are not strictly comparable. The Hotels' Trading Statistics survey was conducted using a list of all hotels graded by the then South African Tourism Board (Satour) when the grading of hotels was still compulsory by law. This survey is conducted from a sample drawn from a statistical business register (SBR) of all enterprises registered for value-added tax (VAT) and income tax.

The higher levels from this survey can be mainly attributed to the following:

- the coverage of all types of tourist accommodation enterprises including hotels; and
- the improved coverage of the SBR, especially of small and micro enterprises.

Technical notes

- Survey methodology and design** 1 The survey was conducted by email and telephone.
- The 2026 sample of 1 000 enterprises was drawn from a sampling frame of 2 672 enterprises using stratified simple random sampling. The enterprises were first stratified at 5-digit level according to the SIC and then by size of enterprise. All large and medium enterprises are completely enumerated. Turnover was used as the measure of size for stratification.
- Size groups** 2 The enterprises are divided into four size groups according to turnover. All large and medium enterprises (size groups one and two) are completely enumerated. Simple random sampling is applied to size groups three and four (small and very small) enterprises. The total income of the large and medium (size groups one and two) is added to the weighted totals of size groups three and four to reflect the total income.

Measure of size classes (Rand)

Enterprise size	Size group	Lower limit	Upper limit
Very small	4	3 127 974	12 750 000
Small	3	12 750 001	15 000 000
Medium	2	15 000 001	32 500 000
Large	1	32 500 001	

- Sample weighting** 3 For those strata not completely enumerated, the weights to produce estimates are the inverse ratio of the sampling fraction, modified to take account of non-response in the survey. Stratum estimates are calculated and then aggregated with the completely enumerated stratum to form subgroup estimates. These procedures are in line with international best practice.
- Reliability of estimates** 4 Data presented in this publication are based on information obtained from a sample and are, therefore, subject to sampling variability; that is, they may differ from the figures that would have been produced if the data had been obtained from all enterprises in the tourist accommodation industry in South Africa.

- 5 One measure of the likely difference is given by the standard error (SE), which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample of enterprises was used. The relative standard error (RSE) provides an immediate indication of the percentage errors likely to have occurred due to sampling, and thus avoids the need to refer to the size of the estimate.

Relative standard error

Table F – Estimates of total industry income within 95% confidence limits – August 2026

	Lower limit (R million)	Estimate (R million)	Upper limit (R million)	Relative standard error (RSE) %
Total income	6 130,0	6 523,5	6 917,0	3,1

Non-sampling errors

- 6 Inaccuracies may occur because of imperfections in reporting by enterprises and errors made in the collection and processing of the data. Inaccuracies of this kind are referred to as non-sampling errors. Every effort is made to minimise non-sampling errors by careful design of questionnaires, testing them in pilot studies, editing reported data and implementing efficient operating procedures. Non-sampling errors occur in both sample surveys and censuses.

Year-on-year percentage change

- 7 The year-on-year percentage change in a variable for any given period is the change between that period and the corresponding period of the previous year, expressed as a percentage of the latter.

Contribution (percentage points)

- 8 The contribution (percentage points) to the year-on-year percentage change for any given period is calculated by multiplying the percentage change of each type of accommodation by its corresponding weight, divided by 100. The weight is the percentage contribution of each type of accommodation to the total accommodation income in the corresponding period of the previous year. The same result is given by $\%T \times [\Delta C / \Delta T]$, where $\%T$ = % change in the total, ΔC = change in the component (in rands), and ΔT = change in the total (in rands).

Seasonal adjustment

- 9 Seasonally adjusted estimates are generated each month using the X-12-ARIMA Seasonal Adjustment Program developed by the United States Census Bureau. Seasonal adjustment is a means of removing the estimated effects of normal seasonal variation from the series so that the effects of other influences on the series can be recognised more clearly. Seasonal adjustment does not aim to remove irregular or non-seasonal influences which may be present in any particular month. Influences that are volatile or unsystematic can still make it difficult to interpret the movement of the series even after adjustment for seasonal variations. Therefore, the month-to-month movements of seasonally adjusted estimates may not be reliable indicators of trend behaviour. The X-12-ARIMA procedure for tourist accommodation is described in more detail on the Stats SA website at:
[Click to download seasonal adjustment tourist accommodation March 2022.](#)

Trend cycle

- 10 The trend is the long-term pattern or movement of a time series. The X-12-ARIMA Seasonal Adjustment Program is used for smoothing seasonally adjusted estimates to estimates of the underlying trend cycle.

Glossary

Average income per stay unit night sold

Average rate per stay unit (i.e. rate per room in a hotel or powered site in a caravan park) is calculated by dividing the total income from accommodation by the number of stay unit nights sold in the survey period.

Enterprise

An enterprise is a legal unit or combination of legal units that includes and directly controls all functions to carry out its activities.

Establishment

An enterprise or part of an enterprise that is situated in a single location and in which only a single (non-ancillary) productive activity is carried out or in which the principal productive activity accounts for most of the value added.

Income from accommodation	Income from amounts charged for stay units. 'Other' income is excluded (e.g. income from meals).	
Income from restaurant and bar sales	Income from meals, banqueting and beverages, and tobacco sales.	
Other income	Income from casino gambling, laundry and telephone services, rentals and fees received for transport services, offices, shops, garages, etc.	
Occupancy rate	The number of stay unit nights sold, divided by the product of the number of stay units available and the number of days in the survey period, expressed as a percentage.	
Other accommodation	Includes lodges, bed-and-breakfast establishments, self-catering establishments and 'other' establishments not elsewhere classified.	
Stay unit	The unit of accommodation available to be charged out to guests, for example, a powered site in a caravan park or a room in a hotel.	
Stay unit nights sold	The total number of stay units occupied on each night during the survey period.	
Symbols and abbreviations	GDP	Gross domestic product
	RSE	Relative standard error
	SARS	South African Revenue Service
	SBR	Statistical business register
	SE	Standard error
	SIC	Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities
	Stats SA	Statistics South Africa
	TSA	Tourism satellite accounts
	VAT	Value-added tax
	*	Revised figures
Total income	Includes income from accommodation, income from restaurant and bar sales and 'other' income.	
Tourist	A visitor who spends at least one night in the place visited.	

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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 locally and by international economic and social-scientific communities, Stats SA releases are published in English only.

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