

# Statistical release

## P0351

### Tourism and Migration

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## NOTICE

**Users who would like to continue using foreign arrival (rather than tourists) as their base denominator for comparison and trend analysis purposes could send their data request to: [TshwaroG@statssa.gov.za](mailto:TshwaroG@statssa.gov.za) or [DuduzileGu@statssa.gov.za](mailto:DuduzileGu@statssa.gov.za)**

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## KEY FINDINGS

### 1. Travellers

#### 1.1 Number of travellers

The routine data collected by the Department of Home Affairs' (DHA) immigration officers at the ports of entry into South Africa show that a total of 3 502 670 travellers (arrivals and departures) passed through South African ports of entry in December 2010. As presented in Table 1, these travellers are made up of 1 305 568 South African residents and 2 197 102 foreign travellers. A further breakdown of the figures indicates that there were 555 061 and 750 507 South African residents' arrivals and departures respectively. The corresponding volumes for foreign arrivals and departures were 1 126 332 and 1 070 770 respectively. A comparison between the movements in November 2010 and December 2010 indicates that the volume of arrivals and departures increased for both South African residents and foreign travellers. There was an increase of 36,0% from 408 001 in November 2010 to 555 061 in December 2010 for South African arrivals and an increase of 83,1% from 409 857 in November 2010 to 750 507 in December 2010 for South African departures. Foreign arrivals increased by 12,2% from 1 003 953 in November 2010 to 1 126 332 in December 2010 and foreign departures increased by 23,9% from 864 552 in November 2010 to 1 070 770 in December 2010.

A comparison between movements in December 2009 and December 2010 indicates that there was an increase in all movements. Thus, South African residents arrivals increased by 23,3% from 450 320 in December 2009 to 555 061 in December 2010 and foreign arrivals increased by 19,7% from 940 836 in December 2009 to 1 126 332 in December 2010. Detailed information on the departure of travellers is not available in the movement data. Data on the purpose of travel and the number of days South African travellers intend to spend or spent abroad are not collected by South Africa immigration officers. Hence, it is not possible to categorise them as tourists and non tourists. However, data are available on foreign arrivals for this categorisation. As presented in Table 1, in December 2010, 14 315 (1,3%) foreign arrivals were classified as non-visitors while 1 112 197 (98,7%) were visitors. The visitors were categorised into three groups: arrivals only comprising of visitors who entered the country in December 2010 but did not depart in December 2010 (367 607); visitors who came once in December 2010 and left in December 2010 (384 841); and those who came more than once in December 2010 and left in December 2010 (359 749). Visitors were further grouped as same day visitors 369 956 (33,3%) and overnight visitors/tourists 742 241 (66,7%).

#### 1.2 Mode of travel of travellers and same day visitors

Travellers who cross South Africa's borders rarely use trains and ships since these are mainly used for transporting goods. Data presented in Table 2 show that in December 2010, road transport was the most common mode of travel used by 2 646 523 (75,6%) out of the 3 502 670 travellers. The total number of travellers who used air transport was 851 593 (24,3%). The arrivals data on South African residents show that 174 316 (31,4%) came by air and 379 908 (68,4%) by road. For departures, 207 972 (27,7%) and 542 350 (72,3%) used air and road transport respectively. In the case of foreign travellers, 260 819 (23,2%) arrived by air. Those who came by road were 863 392 (76,7%). When departing South Africa, 208 486 (19,5%) foreign travellers left by air whilst 860 873 (80,4%) left by road. As shown in Table 2 an overwhelming majority, 351 306 (95,0%) of same day visitors arrived in the country by road. Only 18 609 (5,0%) same day visitors flew into the country. However, data on overnight visitors/tourists show that, 506 653 (68,3%) used road transport whereas 234 485 (31,6%) came by air.

### 2. Tourists

#### 2.1 Mode of travel of tourists

The country of residence of tourists is used to categorise them into their respective regions and countries. Information on the specific region and country of residence of the tourists and the mode of travel used to enter South Africa is provided in Table 3. In December 2010, 184 044 (89,1%) overseas tourists arrived in the country by air whilst 21 411 (10,4%) came in by road. This is in contrast to tourists from SADC countries who came into South Africa predominantly by road 482 638 (93,0%). Only 36 109 (7,0%) tourists from SADC countries came in by air. A relatively high number 13 164 (86,5%) of tourists from 'other' African countries flew into the country with only 2 063 (13,5%) using road transport.

#### 2.2 Regional and national distribution of tourists

In December 2010, overseas tourists came mainly from Europe, 133 740 (64,7%); followed by North America, 28 007 (13,6%); Asia, 20 738 (10,0%); Australasia, 13 059 (6,3%); Central and South America, 8 068 (3,9%); and Middle East, 2 943 (1,4%). Virtually all tourists from Africa came from the SADC countries, 518 748 (97,1%). The distribution of the remaining tourists from Africa is as follows: West Africa, 6 984 (1,3%); East and Central Africa, 6 909 (1,3%) and North Africa 1 334 (0,2%).

Data presented in Figure 1 indicate that UK, 48 277 (23,4%); Germany, 22 978 (11,1%); USA, 21 994 (10,6%); The Netherlands, 11 916 (5,8%); Australia, 10 426 (5,0%); France, 8 853 (4,3%); India 6 549 (3,2%) and Sweden, 6 020 (2,9%) were the eight leading overseas countries. Tourists from these eight countries constitute 66,3% of all tourists from overseas countries. A comparison between movements in December 2009 and December 2010 shows that the number of tourists increased in all these countries with the exception of UK, USA and Sweden. The volume of tourists from UK declined by 7,6% from 52 222 in December 2009 to 48 277 in December 2010; the number of tourists from USA declined by 2,6% from 22 584 in December 2009 to 21 994 in December 2010, and the number of tourists from Sweden declined by 0,6% from 6 056 in December 2009 to 6 020 in December 2010.

The eight leading countries from SADC (see Figure 2) were Zimbabwe, 146 078 (28,2%); Lesotho, 114 968 (22,2%); Mozambique, 82 905 (16,0%); Botswana, 56 857 (11,0%); Swaziland, 56 008 (10,8%); Namibia, 23 893 (4,6%); Zambia, 15 664 (3,0%) and Malawi, 11 358 (2,2%). Tourists from these eight countries constituted 97,9% of all tourists from SADC countries. A comparison between movements in December 2009 and December 2010 shows that the number of tourists increased in all these countries.

The eight leading countries from 'other' African countries, shown in Figure 3, were Nigeria, 4 523 (29,7%); Kenya, 2 889 (19,0%); Ghana, 1 529 (10,0%); Uganda, 1 175 (7,7%); Ethiopia, 793 (5,2%); Gabon, 687 (4,5%); Egypt, 413 (2,7%); and Cameroon, 333 (2,2%). Tourists from these eight countries constituted 81,1% of all tourists from 'other' African countries. A comparison between movements in December 2009 and December 2010 shows that the number of tourists increased in all these countries with the exception of Uganda, Ethiopia and Cameroon. The volume of tourists from Uganda declined by 2,2% from 1 201 in December 2009 to 1 175 in December 2010; the tourists from Ethiopia declined by 6,4% from 847 in December 2009 to 793 in December 2010; and the tourists from Cameroon declined by 8,5% from 364 in December 2009 to 333 in December 2011.

### 2.3 Purpose of visit of tourists

As observed from data given in Table 4, in December 2010, an overwhelming majority (96,5%) of tourists were in South Africa for holidays compared to only 2,0% and 0,3% of tourists who were in South Africa for business and study purposes respectively. A detailed analysis reveals that of all the tourists from the overseas regions, at least 86,0% came to South Africa for holidays. Tourists from Australasia (97,2%), Europe (97,0%), North America (95,8%), Middle East (94,6%), Central and South America (89,4%) and Asia (86,9%) were in South Africa mostly for holidays. Tourists from Asia and Middle East were more diverse in terms of visit. Asia and Middle East had 3,6% and 3,0% respectively of their tourists in South Africa for business. Furthermore, students made up 0,6% of tourists from each of these two countries.

The majority (96,9%) of African tourists came to South Africa for holidays. There were differences between tourists from the sub-regions of Africa, namely:

- Whereas 97,1% of tourists from the SADC countries were on holidays; 93,1% of tourists on holiday came from East and Central Africa; 91,5% from West Africa and 89,2% from North Africa.
- Business persons constituted 5,8% of tourists from North Africa compared with 2,2% from SADC; 1,8% from East and Central Africa; and 1,7% from West Africa.
- Students made up 2,2% of tourists from North Africa compared with 1,7% from East and Central Africa; 1,4% from West Africa and 0,3% from SADC countries.

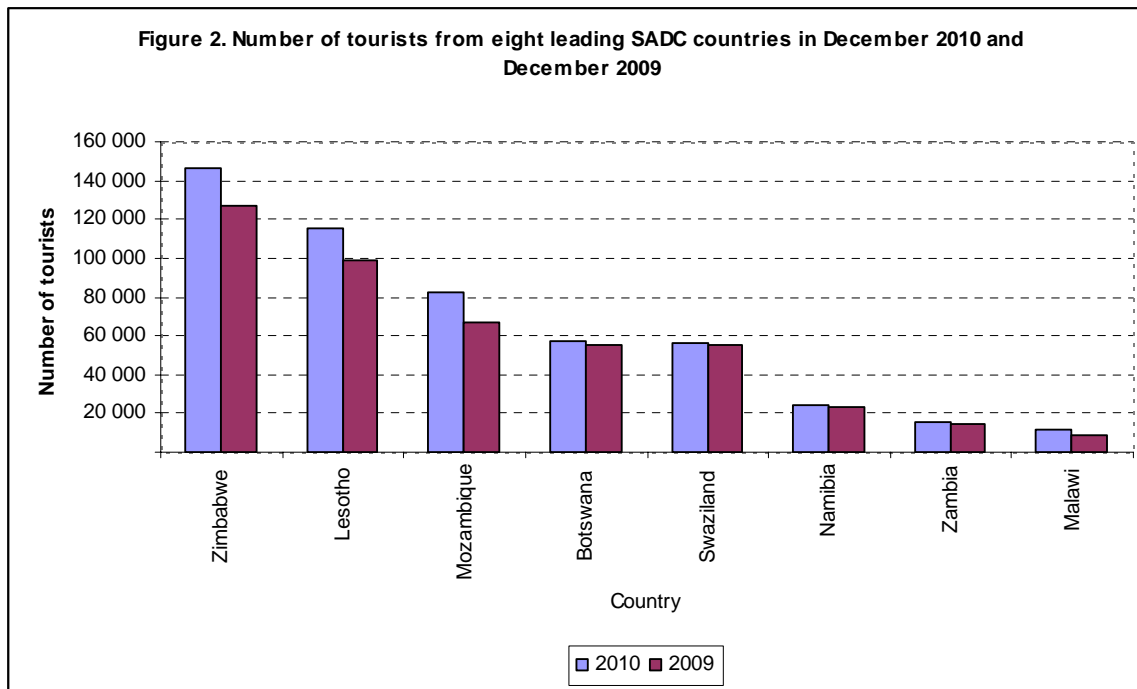
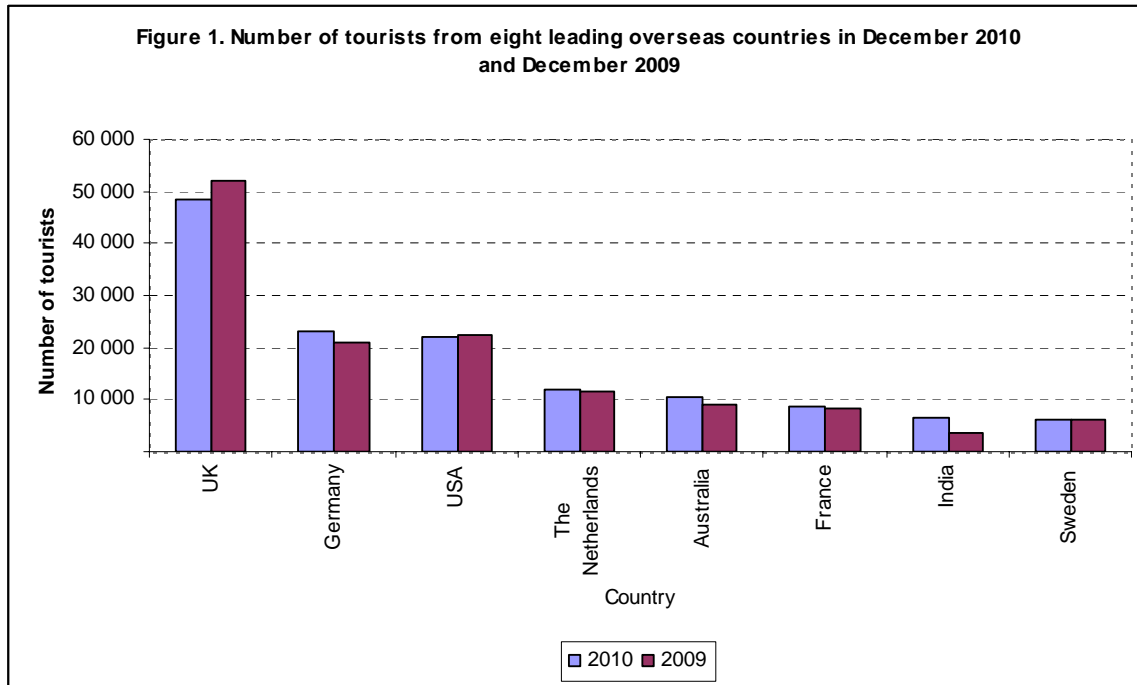
### 2.4 Sex and age distribution of tourists

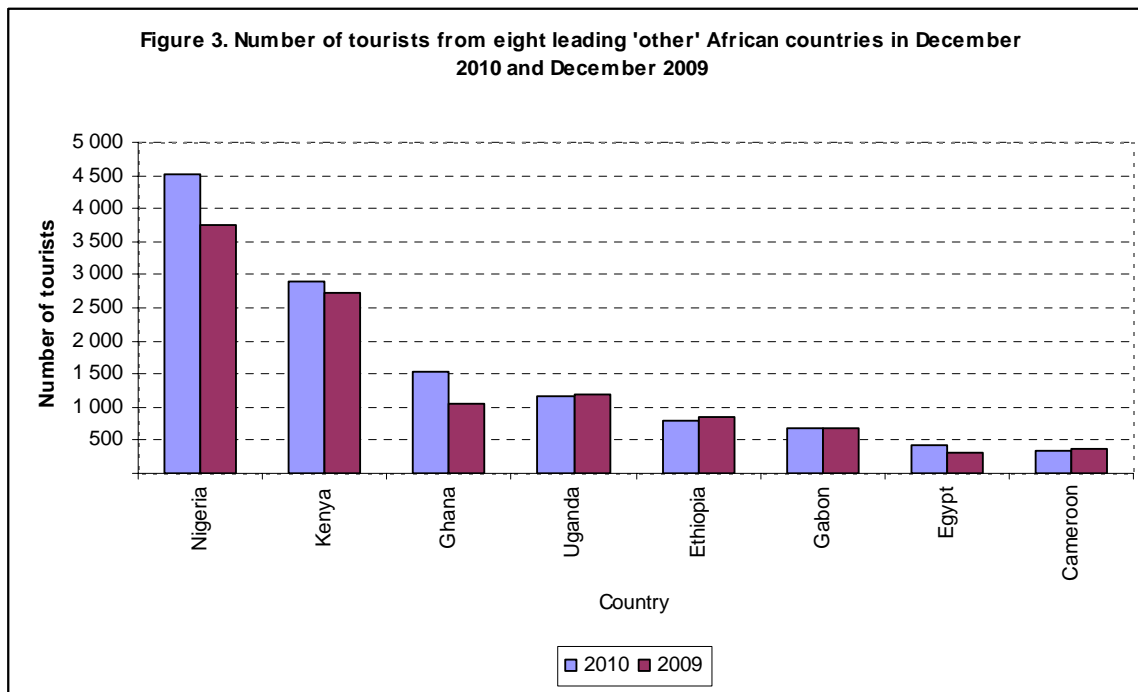
As indicated in Table 5, in December 2010, there were 401 458 (54,1%) male and 339 539 (45,7%) female tourists. The overseas tourists were made up of 111 255 (53,9%) male tourists and 94 950 (46,0%) female tourists. Tourists from 'other' African countries had a high proportion (60,0%) of males compared with those from SADC (54,0%). The proportions of female tourists from 'other' African countries and SADC countries were 40,0% and 45,9% respectively.

The ages of the tourists were categorised into three broad groups namely; those younger than 15 years, 15 to 64 years, and 65 years and older. The overall results presented in Table 5 show that 86,7% of tourists were aged between 15 and 64 years; 9,2% were aged less than 15 years and 3,9% were aged 65 years and older. Taking the country of residence into consideration, the results further show that 79,3% of overseas tourists were aged between 15 and 64 years compared to 89,7% and 85,1% of tourists from SADC and 'other' African countries respectively. There were few tourists younger than 15 years and those aged 65 years and older.

A comparison of the three regions however shows relatively high proportions of the elderly among both male (7,7%) and female (8,2%) tourists from overseas. This is in contrast to tourists from SADC countries amongst which 2,0% of males and 2,8% of females were aged 65 years and older. Similarly among tourists from 'other' African countries, 1,5% of males and 2,1% of females were aged 65 years and older.

**PJ Lehohla**  
**Statistician-General**





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

Travel direction	December	November	December	% change	
	2009	2010	2010	December 09 - December 10	November 10 - December 10
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>2 810 599</b>	<b>2 686 363</b>	<b>3 502 670</b>	<b>24,6</b>	<b>30,4</b>
<b>South African residents</b>	<b>1 022 544</b>	<b>817 858</b>	<b>1 305 568</b>	<b>27,7</b>	<b>59,6</b>
Arrivals	450 320	408 001	555 061	23,3	36,0
Departures	572 224	409 857	750 507	31,2	83,1
<b>Foreign travellers</b>	<b>1 788 055</b>	<b>1 868 505</b>	<b>2 197 102</b>	<b>22,9</b>	<b>17,6</b>
Arrivals	940 836	1 003 953	1 126 332	19,7	12,2
Departures	847 219	864 552	1 070 770	26,4	23,9
<b>Foreign arrivals</b>	<b>940 836</b>	<b>1 003 953</b>	<b>1 126 332</b>	<b>19,7</b>	<b>12,2</b>
Non-visitors	27 728	14 762	14 135	-49,0	-4,2
Visitors	913 108	989 191	1 112 197	21,8	12,4
<b>Visitors</b>	<b>913 108</b>	<b>989 191</b>	<b>1 112 197</b>	<b>21,8</b>	<b>12,4</b>
Arrivals only	338 236	338 940	367 607	8,7	8,5
Single trips	371 047	339 763	384 841	3,7	13,3
Multiple trips	203 825	310 488	359 749	76,5	15,9
<b>Visitors</b>	<b>913 108</b>	<b>989 191</b>	<b>1 112 197</b>	<b>21,8</b>	<b>12,4</b>
Same day	240 246	309 287	369 956	54,0	19,6
Overnight (tourists)	672 862	679 904	742 241	10,3	9,2

<b>Table 2. Number of South African residents and foreign travellers by travel direction and mode of travel</b>										
<b>Travel direction</b>	<b>December</b>		<b>Mode of travel (December 2010)</b>							
			<b>Air</b>					<b>Road</b>	<b>Sea</b>	<b>Unspecified</b>
	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	Cape Town	K. Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total			
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>2 810 599</b>	<b>3 502 670</b>	<b>153 686</b>	<b>18 868</b>	<b>669 800</b>	<b>9 239</b>	<b>851 593</b>	<b>2 646 523</b>	<b>4 524</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>South African residents</b>	<b>1 022 544</b>	<b>1 305 568</b>	<b>48 610</b>	<b>13 623</b>	<b>315 114</b>	<b>4 941</b>	<b>382 288</b>	<b>922 258</b>	<b>1 016</b>	<b>6</b>
Arrivals	450 320	555 061	22 639	5 936	143 115	2 626	174 316	379 908	831	6
Departures	572 224	750 507	25 971	7 687	171 999	2 315	207 972	542 350	185	-
<b>Foreign travellers</b>	<b>1 788 055</b>	<b>2 197 102</b>	<b>105 076</b>	<b>5 245</b>	<b>354 686</b>	<b>4 298</b>	<b>469 305</b>	<b>1 724 265</b>	<b>3 508</b>	<b>24</b>
Arrivals	940 836	1 126 332	59 482	3 231	195 945	2 161	260 819	863 392	2 097	24
Departures	847 219	1 070 770	45 594	2 014	158 741	2 137	208 486	860 873	1 411	-
<b>Visitors</b>	<b>913 108</b>	<b>1 112 197</b>	<b>57 759</b>	<b>2 886</b>	<b>190 802</b>	<b>1 647</b>	<b>253 094</b>	<b>857 959</b>	<b>1 144</b>	<b>-</b>
Same day	240 246	369 956	586	47	17 776	200	18 609	351 306	41	-
Overnight (tourists)	672 862	742 241	57 173	2 839	173 026	1 447	234 485	506 653	1 103	-



**Table 3. Number of tourists by country of residence and mode of travel**

Country	Mode of travel (December 2010)								
	December		Air					Road	Sea
	2009	2010	Cape Town	K. Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total		
<b>Total</b>	<b>672 862</b>	<b>742 241</b>	<b>57 173</b>	<b>2 839</b>	<b>173 026</b>	<b>1 447</b>	<b>234 485</b>	<b>506 653</b>	<b>1 103</b>
<b>Overseas</b>	<b>195 739</b>	<b>206 555</b>	<b>54 126</b>	<b>2 633</b>	<b>126 422</b>	<b>863</b>	<b>184 044</b>	<b>21 411</b>	<b>1 100</b>
<b>Europe</b>	<b>132 266</b>	<b>133 740</b>	<b>44 251</b>	<b>1 737</b>	<b>73 090</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>119 473</b>	<b>13 563</b>	<b>704</b>
Austria	2 001	2 217	768	38	1 114	3	1 923	197	97
Belgium	3 304	3 945	1 176	15	2 225	14	3 430	504	11
Denmark	1 964	1 849	513	8	1 131	9	1 661	187	1
France	8 285	8 853	1 434	73	6 291	37	7 835	1 008	10
Germany	20 807	22 978	8 935	243	11 085	41	20 304	2 571	103
Ireland	3 530	3 654	1 442	31	1 864	4	3 341	309	4
Italy	5 422	5 009	1 550	87	2 975	15	4 627	358	24
Norway	1 809	1 988	764	13	1 006	1	1 784	204	-
Portugal	2 967	4 026	413	14	2 176	17	2 620	1 406	-
Spain	1 648	1 751	263	4	1 294	9	1 570	181	-
Sweden	6 056	6 020	2 110	13	3 247	4	5 374	638	8
Switzerland	3 589	3 937	1 137	42	2 264	14	3 457	427	53
The Netherlands	11 744	11 916	4 187	77	5 726	9	9 999	1 773	144
UK	52 222	48 277	17 379	960	26 391	113	44 843	3 194	240
Other	6 918	7 320	2 180	119	4 301	105	6 705	606	9
<b>North America</b>	<b>27 623</b>	<b>28 007</b>	<b>4 517</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>20 058</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>24 911</b>	<b>2 735</b>	<b>361</b>
Canada	5 036	6 013	1 331	72	3 887	26	5 316	617	80
USA	22 584	21 994	3 186	61	16 171	177	19 595	2 118	281
Other	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Central and South America</b>	<b>6 650</b>	<b>8 068</b>	<b>512</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>6 939</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>7 489</b>	<b>579</b>	<b>-</b>
Argentina	1 090	913	203	1	672	1	877	36	-
Brazil	3 894	5 252	90	22	4 776	1	4 889	363	-
Cuba	43	337	1	-	309	-	310	27	-
Other	1 623	1 566	218	6	1 182	7	1 413	153	-

**Table 3. Number of tourists by country of residence and mode of travel (continued)**

Country	Mode of travel (December 2010)								
	December		Air					Road	Sea
	2009	2010	Cape Town	K.Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total		
<b>Australasia</b>	<b>11 089</b>	<b>13 059</b>	<b>1 823</b>	<b>298</b>	<b>10 076</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>12 222</b>	<b>814</b>	<b>23</b>
Australia	8 875	10 426	1 350	165	8 240	23	9 778	630	18
New Zealand	2 135	2 579	444	132	1 818	-	2 394	180	5
Other	79	54	29	1	18	2	50	4	-
<b>Middle East</b>	<b>2 543</b>	<b>2 943</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>2 227</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>2 769</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>5</b>
Iran	280	384	111	-	255	-	366	18	-
Israel	1 356	1 291	103	-	1 087	3	1 193	93	5
Lebanon	144	271	45	2	195	9	251	20	-
Other	763	997	227	33	690	9	959	38	-
<b>Asia</b>	<b>15 568</b>	<b>20 738</b>	<b>2 537</b>	<b>401</b>	<b>14 032</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>17 180</b>	<b>3 551</b>	<b>7</b>
China	2 778	4 902	425	77	3 690	27	4 219	683	-
India	3 665	6 549	503	127	4 336	73	5 039	1 509	1
Japan	2 231	1 362	135	20	1 135	-	1 290	72	-
Korea	1 421	1 248	172	13	865	4	1 054	193	1
Malaysia	749	722	360	10	314	-	684	38	-
Pakistan	803	1 064	62	61	575	4	702	360	2
Philippines	264	730	72	27	381	69	549	180	1
Singapore	793	936	424	8	466	-	898	38	-
Taiwan	719	595	35	1	418	-	454	140	1
Other	2 145	2 630	349	57	1 852	33	2 291	338	1
<b>Africa</b>	<b>474 058</b>	<b>533 975</b>	<b>2 949</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>45 569</b>	<b>558</b>	<b>49 273</b>	<b>484 701</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>SADC</b>	<b>460 350</b>	<b>518 748</b>	<b>2 738</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>32 665</b>	<b>537</b>	<b>36 109</b>	<b>482 638</b>	<b>1</b>
Angola	3 202	3 451	434	-	2 584	283	3 301	150	-
Botswana	55 297	56 857	12	1	2 197	51	2 261	54 596	-
DRC	3 776	3 939	13	-	3 087	18	3 118	821	-
Lesotho	98 917	114 968	3	-	346	-	349	114 619	-
Madagascar	301	209	-	-	156	32	188	21	-

**Table 3. Number of tourists by country of residence and mode of travel (continued)**

Country	Mode of travel (December 2010)								
	December		Air					Road	Sea
	2009	2010	Cape Town	K.Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total		
Malawi	8 726	11 358	6	-	1 686	2	1 694	9 664	-
Mauritius	1 331	1 355	350	125	576	-	1 051	304	-
Mozambique	67 381	82 905	149	28	2 138	26	2 341	80 564	-
Namibia	23 453	23 893	1 643	-	2 505	20	4 168	19 724	1
Swaziland	54 849	56 008	1	2	421	3	427	55 581	-
Tanzania	1 237	2 063	9	2	1 148	3	1 162	901	-
Zambia	14 789	15 664	17	2	5 844	45	5 908	9 756	-
Zimbabwe	127 091	146 078	101	9	9 977	54	10 141	135 937	-
<b>'other' African</b>	<b>13 708</b>	<b>15 227</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>12 904</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>13 164</b>	<b>2 063</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>East and Central Africa</b>	<b>7 314</b>	<b>6 909</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5 788</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>5 889</b>	<b>1 020</b>	<b>-</b>
Burundi	56	84	-	-	68	1	69	15	-
Cameroon	364	333	4	-	286	-	290	43	-
Central African Republic	18	12	-	-	12	-	12	-	-
Chad	23	16	-	-	13	-	13	3	-
Comoros	7	12	-	-	11	-	11	1	-
Congo	550	283	3	-	236	5	244	39	-
Djibouti	5	3	-	-	3	-	3	-	-
Equat Guinea	19	12	-	-	8	1	9	3	-
Eritrea	51	71	4	-	52	-	56	15	-
Ethiopia	847	793	5	3	699	-	707	86	-
Gabon	676	687	2	-	679	2	683	4	-
Kenya	2 718	2 889	27	-	2 388	5	2 420	469	-
Reunion	36	7	7	-	-	-	7	-	-
Rwanda	196	234	-	-	202	-	202	32	-
Sao Tome and Principe	23	8	-	-	5	-	5	3	-
Seychelles	194	275	13	2	258	-	273	2	-
Somalia	329	15	4	-	6	-	10	5	-
Tristan Da Cunha	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Uganda	1 201	1 175	10	-	862	3	875	300	-

**Table 3. Number of tourists by country of residence and mode of travel (concluded)**

Country	Mode of travel (December 2010)								
	December		Air					Road	Sea
	2009	2010	Cape Town	K.Shaka	OR Tambo	Other	Total		
<b>West Africa</b>	<b>5 626</b>	<b>6 984</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5 978</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6 038</b>	<b>946</b>	<b>-</b>
Ascension	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Benin	82	94	-	-	77	-	77	17	-
Burkina Faso	28	25	-	-	23	-	23	2	-
Cape Verde Island	43	40	6	-	31	-	37	3	-
Cote D'Ivoire	144	112	1	-	105	-	106	6	-
Gambia	31	31	-	-	30	-	30	1	-
Ghana	1 042	1 529	13	-	1 308	1	1 322	207	-
Guinea	105	158	-	-	67	-	67	91	-
Guinea-Bissau	24	7	-	-	5	-	5	2	-
Liberia	34	36	-	-	32	-	32	4	-
Madeira Islands	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mali	61	48	-	-	29	-	29	19	-
Mauritania	11	16	1	-	15	-	16	-	-
Niger	12	11	3	-	8	-	11	-	-
Nigeria	3 741	4 523	23	6	3 928	3	3 960	563	-
Saint Helena	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Senegal	158	232	2	-	220	-	222	10	-
Sierra Leone	71	88	1	-	67	-	68	20	-
Togo	24	34	-	-	33	-	33	1	-
<b>North Africa</b>	<b>768</b>	<b>1 334</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>1 138</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1 237</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>-</b>
Algeria	89	168	5	1	156	-	162	6	-
Egypt	302	413	26	3	354	-	383	30	-
Libya	87	186	16	9	121	-	146	40	-
Morocco	64	275	10	1	258	-	269	6	-
The Sudan	148	148	12	2	124	-	138	10	-
Tunisia	77	59	13	1	40	-	54	5	-
Western Sahara	1	85	-	-	85	-	85	-	-
<b>Unspecified</b>	<b>3 065</b>	<b>1 711</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1 035</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>1 168</b>	<b>541</b>	<b>2</b>

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

Country	December		Purpose of visit (December 2010)			
	2009	2010	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
<b>Total</b>	<b>672 862</b>	<b>742 241</b>	<b>14 715</b>	<b>716 373</b>	<b>2 292</b>	<b>8 861</b>
<b>Overseas</b>	<b>195 739</b>	<b>206 555</b>	<b>2 933</b>	<b>197 240</b>	<b>577</b>	<b>5 805</b>
<b>Europe</b>	<b>132 266</b>	<b>133 740</b>	<b>1 604</b>	<b>129 699</b>	<b>312</b>	<b>2 125</b>
Austria	2 001	2 217	17	2 162	2	36
Belgium	3 304	3 945	72	3 822	7	44
Denmark	1 964	1 849	30	1 755	4	60
France	8 285	8 853	125	8 525	27	176
Germany	20 807	22 978	289	22 235	109	345
Ireland	3 530	3 654	32	3 578	2	42
Italy	5 422	5 009	65	4 864	9	71
Norway	1 809	1 988	31	1 910	8	39
Portugal	2 967	4 026	24	3 867	2	133
Spain	1 648	1 751	19	1 667	3	62
Sweden	6 056	6 020	76	5 866	9	69
Switzerland	3 589	3 937	39	3 824	4	70
The Netherlands	11 744	11 916	123	11 688	25	80
UK	52 222	48 277	499	46 973	76	729
Other	6 918	7 320	163	6 963	25	169
<b>North America</b>	<b>27 623</b>	<b>28 007</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>26 827</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>745</b>
Canada	5 036	6 013	51	5 809	18	135
USA	22 584	21 994	296	21 018	70	610
Other	3	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Central and South America</b>	<b>6 650</b>	<b>8 068</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>7 214</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>761</b>
Argentina	1 090	913	5	772	3	133
Brazil	3 894	5 252	14	4 719	11	508
Cuba	43	337	1	309	3	24
Other	1 623	1 566	44	1 414	12	96

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

Country	December		Purpose of visit (December 2010)			
	2009	2010	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
<b>Australasia</b>	<b>11 089</b>	<b>13 059</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>12 689</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>283</b>
Australia	8 875	10 426	59	10 108	8	251
New Zealand	2 135	2 579	11	2 534	3	31
Other	79	54	6	47	-	1
<b>Middle East</b>	<b>2 543</b>	<b>2 943</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>2 785</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>53</b>
Iran	280	384	9	370	4	1
Israel	1 356	1 291	11	1 260	2	18
Lebanon	144	271	9	241	-	21
Other	763	997	59	914	11	13
<b>Asia</b>	<b>15 568</b>	<b>20 738</b>	<b>754</b>	<b>18 026</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>1 838</b>
China	2 778	4 902	251	4 023	22	606
India	3 665	6 549	295	5 801	34	419
Japan	2 231	1 362	31	1 219	1	111
Korea	1 421	1 248	22	1 132	33	61
Malaysia	749	722	8	657	8	49
Pakistan	803	1 064	38	945	6	75
Philippines	264	730	13	532	2	183
Singapore	793	936	9	889	2	36
Taiwan	719	595	7	536	1	51
Other	2 145	2 630	80	2 292	11	247
<b>Africa</b>	<b>474 058</b>	<b>533 975</b>	<b>11 727</b>	<b>517 566</b>	<b>1 692</b>	<b>2 990</b>
<b>SADC</b>	<b>460 350</b>	<b>518 748</b>	<b>11 404</b>	<b>503 554</b>	<b>1 444</b>	<b>2 346</b>
Angola	3 202	3 451	45	3 116	66	224
Botswana	55 297	56 857	124	56 090	315	328
DRC	3 776	3 939	52	3 804	63	20
Lesotho	98 917	114 968	1 119	113 498	277	74
Madagascar	301	209	1	176	2	30

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

Country	December		Purpose of visit (December 2010)			
	2009	2010	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
Malawi	8 726	11 358	32	11 181	20	125
Mauritius	1 331	1 355	10	1 276	6	63
Mozambique	67 381	82 905	6 350	76 341	16	198
Namibia	23 453	23 893	1 941	21 521	146	285
Swaziland	54 849	56 008	806	55 002	133	67
Tanzania	1 237	2 063	18	1 919	26	100
Zambia	14 789	15 664	561	14 797	51	255
Zimbabwe	127 091	146 078	345	144 833	323	577
<b>other' African</b>	<b>13 708</b>	<b>15 227</b>	<b>323</b>	<b>14 012</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>644</b>
<b>East and Central Africa</b>	<b>7 314</b>	<b>6 909</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>6 435</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>228</b>
Burundi	56	84	2	76	1	5
Cameroon	364	333	14	297	16	6
Central African Republic	18	12	1	11	-	-
Chad	23	16	-	15	-	1
Comoros	7	12	2	8	2	-
Congo	550	283	6	260	8	9
Djibouti	5	3	-	3	-	-
Equat Guinea	19	12	1	10	1	-
Eritrea	51	71	1	68	2	-
Ethiopia	847	793	14	736	10	33
Gabon	676	687	1	667	18	1
Kenya	2 718	2 889	57	2 704	38	90
Reunion	36	7	-	7	-	-
Rwanda	196	234	6	218	4	6
Sao Tome and Principe	23	8	-	7	-	1
Seychelles	194	275	3	250	-	22
Somalia	329	15	-	15	-	-
Tristan Da Cunha	1	-	-	-	-	-
Uganda	1 201	1 175	19	1 083	19	54

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

Country	December		Purpose of visit (December 2010)			
	2009	2010	Business	Holiday	Study	Transit
<b>West Africa</b>	<b>5 626</b>	<b>6 984</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>6 387</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>380</b>
Ascension	3	-	-	-	-	-
Benin	82	94	-	93	-	1
Burkina Faso	28	25	1	23	-	1
Cape Verde Island	43	40	2	38	-	-
Cote D'Ivoire	144	112	1	99	5	7
Gambia	31	31	1	16	-	14
Ghana	1 042	1 529	13	1 426	10	80
Guinea	105	158	1	139	6	12
Guinea-Bissau	24	7	-	7	-	-
Liberia	34	36	-	36	-	-
Madeira Islands	4	-	-	-	-	-
Mali	61	48	2	37	1	8
Mauritania	11	16	1	14	-	1
Niger	12	11	2	9	-	-
Nigeria	3 741	4 523	69	4 149	76	229
Saint Helena	8	-	-	-	-	-
Senegal	158	232	18	202	-	12
Sierra Leone	71	88	7	75	-	6
Togo	24	34	-	24	1	9
<b>North Africa</b>	<b>768</b>	<b>1 334</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>1 190</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>36</b>
Algeria	89	168	5	162	-	1
Egypt	302	413	31	357	2	23
Libya	87	186	9	151	19	7
Morocco	64	275	9	263	2	1
The Sudan	148	148	14	125	7	2
Tunisia	77	59	5	52	-	2
Western Sahara	1	85	5	80	-	-
<b>Unspecified</b>	<b>3 065</b>	<b>1 711</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>1 567</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>66</b>



**Table 5. Number of tourists from overseas, SADC and 'other' African regions by sex and age group, December 2010**

Sex	Age group	Total	Region			
			Overseas	SADC	'other' African	Unspecified
<b>All</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>742 241</b>	<b>206 555</b>	<b>518 748</b>	<b>15 227</b>	<b>1 711</b>
	<15	68 586	26 092	40 413	1 998	83
	15-64	643 682	163 889	465 267	12 957	1 569
	65+	28 973	16 435	12 213	267	58
	Unspecified	1 000	139	855	5	1
<b>Males</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>401 458</b>	<b>111 255</b>	<b>279 959</b>	<b>9 142</b>	<b>1 102</b>
	<15	34 234	13 392	19 803	996	43
	15-64	352 408	89 176	254 207	8 002	1 023
	65+	14 262	8 606	5 480	140	36
	Unspecified	554	81	469	4	-
<b>Females</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>339 539</b>	<b>94 950</b>	<b>237 897</b>	<b>6 085</b>	<b>607</b>
	<15	34 349	12 699	20 608	1 002	40
	15-64	290 246	74 443	210 303	4 955	545
	65+	14 588	7 764	6 675	127	22
	Unspecified	356	44	311	1	-
<b>Unspecified</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>1 244</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>892</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2</b>
	<15	3	1	2	-	-
	15-64	1 028	270	757	-	1
	65+	123	65	58	-	-
	Unspecified	90	14	75	-	1

## Explanatory notes

### 1. Introduction

Legal movements across South African borders as well as legal immigration into South Africa fall under the jurisdiction of the DHA. Stats SA then processes 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 to estimate, monitor and understand salient characteristics of foreign travellers and volumes of South African residents travelling outside South Africa; and
- 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 demand for local tourism services by foreign travellers.

The information on documented migrants provides crucial information on receiving countries of South African emigrants which could be targeted in initiatives geared towards attracting back migrants into the country. In addition, the data on permanent residents are valuable in assessing not only the demographic and economic profiles of immigrants but also their contribution to national social and economic programmes.

### 2. Purpose of the statistical release

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

### 3. Scope and coverage

The release covers data on arrival and departure of South African residents and foreign travellers. A detailed analysis of the data on foreign tourists with respect to: mode of travel, purpose of visit, sex and age distribution is covered in the release. Statistics on documented migration, that is self-declared emigrants, are not reported due to the unavailability of data.

### 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 land, 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 port's electronic database. No forms or cards are used (except in 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.
- Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) downloads the data covering a particular calendar month from the mainframe of the State Information Technology Agency (SITA), where the DHA stores its data.
- As part of data interrogation, data from the OR Tambo International Airport, which has the highest volume of travellers, are compared with passenger statistics from the Airport Company of South Africa (ACSA). As expected, in any specific month, an increase in the volume of passengers reported by ACSA has been accompanied by an increase in the volume of travellers recorded by DHA. A similar pattern was also observed when the volume of travellers decreased. However, the volume of passengers recorded by ACSA is higher than that of the DHA because of, among other reasons, travellers who are in transit and those who boarded airplanes but refused entry into the country. In December 2010, the DHA data was 14,8% lower than that of ACSA.

## 5. Limitations

The information on the total number of arrivals and departures of South African residents is collected from the scanning of passports. However, data are not collected from passengers on country visited; country of final destination, the duration of stay; 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.

Due to unavailability of data from the DHA, information on documented immigrants is not included in this current publication. The documented immigration information will be provided as soon as it is made available to Stats SA.

## 6. Definitions of terms

### 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 other places he/she frequently visits.

### 6.2 Definitions used specifically in this report

**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, Asia, Africa: SADC, 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 thirteen countries, excluding South Africa, that 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.

## 7. Symbols and abbreviations used

- = nil

Unspec. = unspecified

## 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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