

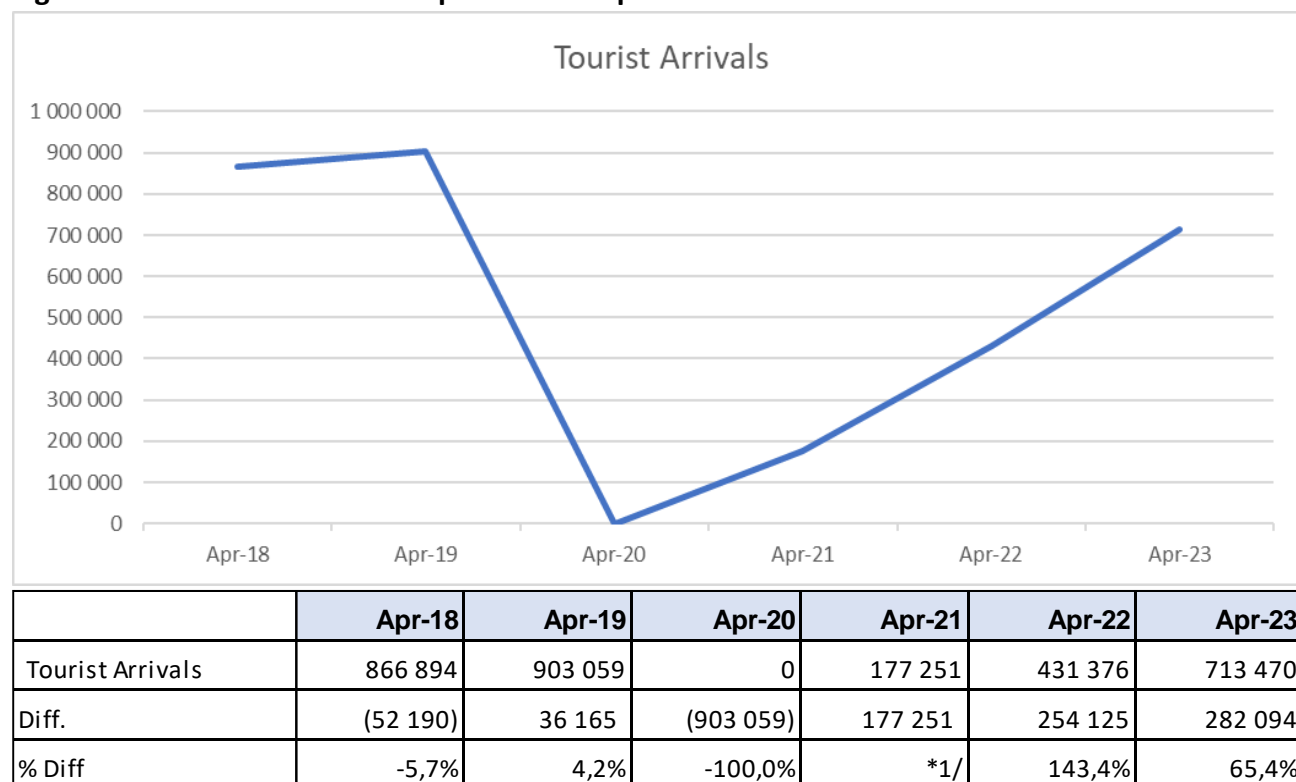
SUMMARY ANALYSIS OF SOUTH AFRICA'S TOURIST ARRIVALS FOR APRIL 2023

Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) has published data on the number of tourists for April 2023 and this report provides further analysis of the tourists that travelled to South Africa during this period.

TREND ANALYSIS: APRIL 2018 – APRIL 2023

A total of 713,470 tourist arrivals was recorded in April 2023, which was an increase of 65.4% (+282,094) compared to the same month in 2022. Figure 1 below indicates tourist arrivals for the period April 2018 to April 2023. Tourist arrivals increased from 866,894 in 2018 to 903,059 in 2019, which was an increase of 4.2% (+36,165). Tourist arrivals decreased from 903,059 in 2019 to 0 in 2020 due to the impact of COVID-19. Tourist arrivals then went up from 0 in 2020 to 177,251 in 2021. Tourist arrivals increased by 143.4% (+254,125) in 2022 compared to 2021. Tourist arrivals recorded during April 2023 was at -21.0% level of tourist arrivals recorded in 2019, pre-COVID period.

Figure 1: Total Tourist Arrivals April 2018 to April 2023



**Changes from zero in the preceding period cannot be calculated as a percentage
Source: Stats SA Tourism and Migration report, April 2023 and tourist arrivals data cuts*

APRIL 2023 COMPARED TO APRIL 2022 BY REGION

Table 1 below indicates tourist arrivals by region for April 2023 compared to the same month in 2022. All regions experienced a growth in tourist arrivals during this month compared to the same month of the previous year. With regards to percentage growth, Asia recorded the highest increase of 100.7% (+7,983) followed by Australasia (93.9%; +4,824), Central and South America (48.8%; +1,046), North America (48.5%; +10,130), Middle East (35.4%; +868) and Europe with (20.1%; 16,278) respectively. Africa recorded an increase of 77.3% (+240,574) and this region remains the main source of tourist arrivals to the country, accounting for 77.3% (551,661) of total tourist arrivals during April 2023.

Table 1: Total Tourist Arrivals by Region: April 2023 vs. April 2022

	April 2022	April 2023	Diff	% Diff
EUROPE	80,965	97,243	16,278	20.1%
NORTH AMERICA	20,899	31,029	10,130	48.5%
CENTRAL & SOUTH AMERICA	2,142	3,188	1,046	48.8%
AUSTRALASIA	5,135	9,959	4,824	93.9%
MIDDLE EAST	2,450	3,318	868	35.4%
ASIA	7,927	15,910	7,983	100.7%
TOTAL OVERSEAS	119,518	160,647	41,129	34.4%
TOTAL AFRICA	311,087	551,661	240,574	77.3%
Unspecified	771	1,162	391	50.7%
GRAND TOTAL	431,376	713,470	282,094	65.4%

Source: Stats SA Tourism and Migration Report, April 2023 and tourist arrivals data cuts

JANUARY-APRIL 2023 COMPARED TO JANUARY-APRIL 2022

Tourist arrivals figures by region for the period January-April 2023 compared to the same period in 2022 are indicated in table 2 below. Total tourist arrivals went up by 91.7% (+1,356,347) for the period January-April 2023 compared the same period in 2022. Total tourist arrivals from the overseas market increased by 88.1% (+341,197). Australasia (181.5%) recorded the highest increase followed by Asia (115.1%), Central & South America (106.3%), North America (105.7%), Middle East (93.8%) and Europe (76.9%).

In Australasia, Australia recorded the highest increase in volume having an increase of 17,597 (165.0%) followed by New Zealand (+4,627; 288.3%). The United Kingdom had recorded the highest increase in volume (+51,986; 55.2%) in the Europe region. In North America, USA has recorded the highest increase in volume (+52,694; 99.0%). Israel had recorded the highest increase in volume for the Middle East region with an addition 3,639 tourists compared to January-April 2022. In Central

and South America, Brazil had recorded the highest increase in volume (+3,122: 94.4%) for the period under review.

Tourist arrivals from Africa increased by 93.0% (+1,013,384) during the same period under review. In terms of volume, the increase recorded from the continent was driven by an increase of (+430,551; 165.8%) from Zimbabwe, followed by Lesotho (+190,744; 80.8%) and Mozambique (+163,981; 58.0%), refer to table 2.1 below.

Table 2: Total Tourist Arrivals by Region: January-April 2023 vs. January-April 2022

	Jan-April 2022	Jan-April 2023	Diff	% Diff
EUROPE	273,914	484,539	210,625	76.9%
NORTH AMERICA	61,155	125,824	64,669	105.7%
CENTRAL & SOUTH AMERICA	6,486	13,383	6,897	106.3%
AUSTRALASIA	12,287	34,582	22,295	181.5%
MIDDLE EAST	7,426	14,393	6,967	93.8%
ASIA	25,837	55,581	29,744	115.1%
TOTAL OVERSEAS	387,105	728,302	341,197	88.1%
TOTAL AFRICA	1,089,400	2,102,784	1,013,384	93.0%
Unspecified	2,429	4,195	1,766	72.7%
GRAND TOTAL	1,478,934	2,835,281	1,356,347	91.7%

Source: Stats SA Tourism and Migration Report, April 2023 and tourist arrivals data cuts

Table 2.1 below gives the rankings of the top ten African source markets for the period January-April 2023 compared to January-April 2022. Seven of the top ten African source markets remained in the same position namely; Lesotho, Eswatini, Botswana, Namibia, Zambia, Malawi and Angola which ranked 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th position during both periods. Zimbabwe moved up from 2nd to 1st position in 2023 when compared to 2022. Kenya replaced Tanzania in the top 10 during this period. All top ten countries recorded a positive growth with Zimbabwe recording the highest increase of 165.8% followed by Kenya (132.5%) and Eswatini (127.5%).

Table 2.1: South Africa's Top 10 African Source Markets: January-April 2023 vs. January-April 2022

Country	Rank: January-April 2023	Tourist Arrivals January-April 2023	Rank: January-April 2022	Tourist Arrivals January-April 2022	% Change
Zimbabwe	1	690,157	2	259,606	165.8%
Mozambique	2	446,518	1	282,537	58.0%
Lesotho	3	426,933	3	236,189	80.8%
Eswatini	4	223,256	4	98,144	127.5%
Botswana	5	106,481	5	60,214	76.8%
Namibia	6	50,257	6	40,364	24.5%

Zambia	7	42,320	7	32,537	30.1%
Malawi	8	38,022	8	29,033	31.0%
Angola	9	14,304	9	8,530	67.7%
Kenya	10	12,905	12	5,550	132.5%

Source: Stats SA Tourism and Migration Report, April 2023 and tourist arrivals data cuts

Table 2.2 shows the rankings of the top ten overseas source markets. Comparing January-April 2023 with January-April 2022, all top 10 overseas markets recorded an increase in tourist arrivals with Australia recording the highest increase of 165.0%. Half of the top ten overseas markets moved positions except for UK, Germany, USA, Netherlands, and France which remained 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th position respectively for the period under review. UK remained the main source market from overseas with regards to volume, recording a growth of 55.2%.

Table 2.2: South Africa's Top 10 Overseas Source Markets: January-April 2023 vs. January-April 2022

Country	Rank: January-April 2023	Tourist Arrivals January-April 2023	Rank: January-April 2022	Tourist Arrivals January-April 2022	% Change
UK	1	146,243	1	94,257	55.2%
Germany	2	107,883	2	56,779	90.0%
USA	3	105,899	3	53,205	99.0%
The Netherlands	4	44,876	4	25,034	79.3%
France	5	43,215	5	20,442	111.4%
Australia	6	28,259	8	10,662	165.0%
India	7	22,297	6	11,274	97.8%
Canada	8	19,925	10	7,950	150.6%
Switzerland	9	16,836	7	11,165	50.8%
Belgium	10	15,558	9	9,302	67.3%

Source: Stats SA Tourism and Migration Report, April 2023 and tourist arrivals data cuts

REFERENCES

1. Statistics South Africa 30 May 2023, April 2023 Tourism and Migration report.