

Over 4m travellers for SA in December

More than 4-million people entered and left South Africa through all its national points of entry over the past month, the Department of Home Affairs has reported.



Throngs of passengers at OR Tambo International. More than 4-million people entered or left South Africa through all active border posts over the festive season. Image: [AFD](#)

During the between December and January, 4.2m travellers were recorded on South Africa's movement control system, which operates at border posts, sea ports and airports.

Of this total, 1.99m represented arrivals while 2.24m people left the country.

"The top SADC (Southern African Development Community) destinations which recorded the highest traveller movements are Zimbabwe, Lesotho, Mozambique, Swaziland, Botswana, Namibia, Malawi, Angola and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

"On the other hand the top country destinations outside the SADC region included the UK, US, Germany, Netherlands, Australia, France, India, People's Republic of China, Nigeria, Sweden and Canada," the department's spokesman, Ronnie Mamoepa, said in a statement.

The top 10 ports of entry which recorded the highest numbers of travellers remained OR Tambo International Airport, Beit Bridge, Lebombo, Maseru Bridge, Ficksburg, Oshoek, Cape Town International Airport, Kopfontein, Ramatlabama and Golela.

The department said the processing of more than 4m travellers was made more efficient and effective through co-operation with state agencies such as the South African Revenue Service, the South African National Defence Force, the South

African Police Service and local metropolitan police, and the departments of health and agriculture.

More immigration officials were deployed and the operational hours for all ports of entry were extended during the festive season.

"These current measures being deployed in all ports of entry will remain in place for the multitudes of travellers expected to return to South Africa following the festive season.

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