

THE ROAD TO RECOVERY REPORT

Volume 4 - September 2021



SOUTH AFRICAN TOURISM



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

International Tourism

	Pre-COVID-19 Average (per month)	Recovery Average (per month)*	Percent change**
Total arrivals	915 914	581 549	▼ 37%
Overseas arrivals	187 328	143 128	▼ 24%
African arrivals	662 837	438 421	▼ 34%

*The recovery period starts from October 2020 when South African borders reopened, and spanned until the latest available arrival data, that is June 2021 (International Tourism) and July 2021 (Domestic Tourism).

**This percentage change is between the per month average of the respective periods and not over the last month as per the recovery graphs in the rest of the document.

International arrival volumes continue to improve, with South Africa still outperforming the global recovery average. This recovery is primarily driven by African land arrivals, with similar green shoots starting to show from the Middle East and North America.

Lighter travel restrictions in key priority markets should start to encourage more international travel into South Africa. Most notable was the removal of South Africa from the UK red list as of 11 October 2021, given the importance of this market to South Africa's international tourism.

There is little evidence that the riots and looting in July had a lasting impact on international perceptions or travel intentions. Continued vaccination roll-out and vaccine passport deployment will build international confidence in the safety of South Africa as a destination and should remain a priority.

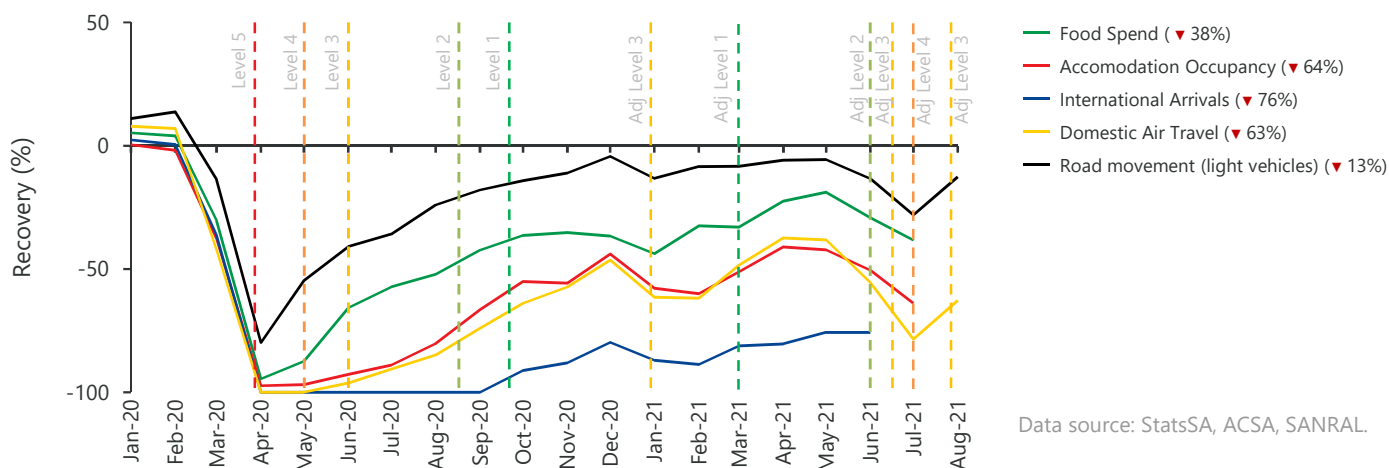
Domestic Tourism

	Pre-COVID-19 Average (per month)	Recovery Average* (per month)	Percent change**
Domestic overnight trips*	3 333 812	1 258 186	▼ 62%
Accommodation occupancy**	48%	22%	▼ 54%
Food spending**	5 747 750	4 323 120	▼ 25%

The rise of the pandemic's third wave and subsequent travel restrictions predictably resulted in a drop in domestic day trips, air travel, road travel and accommodation occupancy rates. Indications are, however, that these activities have started to recover in August, and will likely continue to improve as restrictions are lowered and infections remain low.

Retail spending dipped across all categories, likely as a result of restrictions, but certainly compounded by looting activity. Sit-down food services were negatively impacted by the restrictions imposed on the industry, but take-out services remained robust throughout the period and has sustained better than pre-pandemic performance consistently since the beginning of 2021.

FIGURE 1: PERCENT RECOVERY OF TOURISM INDICATOR METRICS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC RELATIVE TO 2019 LEVELS



Data source: StatsSA, ACSA, SANRAL.

INTRODUCTION

The period between May and July 2021 was particularly challenging for South Africa as a country, and consequently for the tourism sector. The rise of the third wave of COVID-19 infections and subsequent stricter lockdown restrictions were quickly followed by severe social unrest resulting in significant damage to various retail establishments, not to mention confidence in the country's social stability. While South Africa is notoriously resilient as a nation and has largely been able to weather these challenges, there has been a mark left on the country, and more specifically the domestic tourism and hospitality industry.

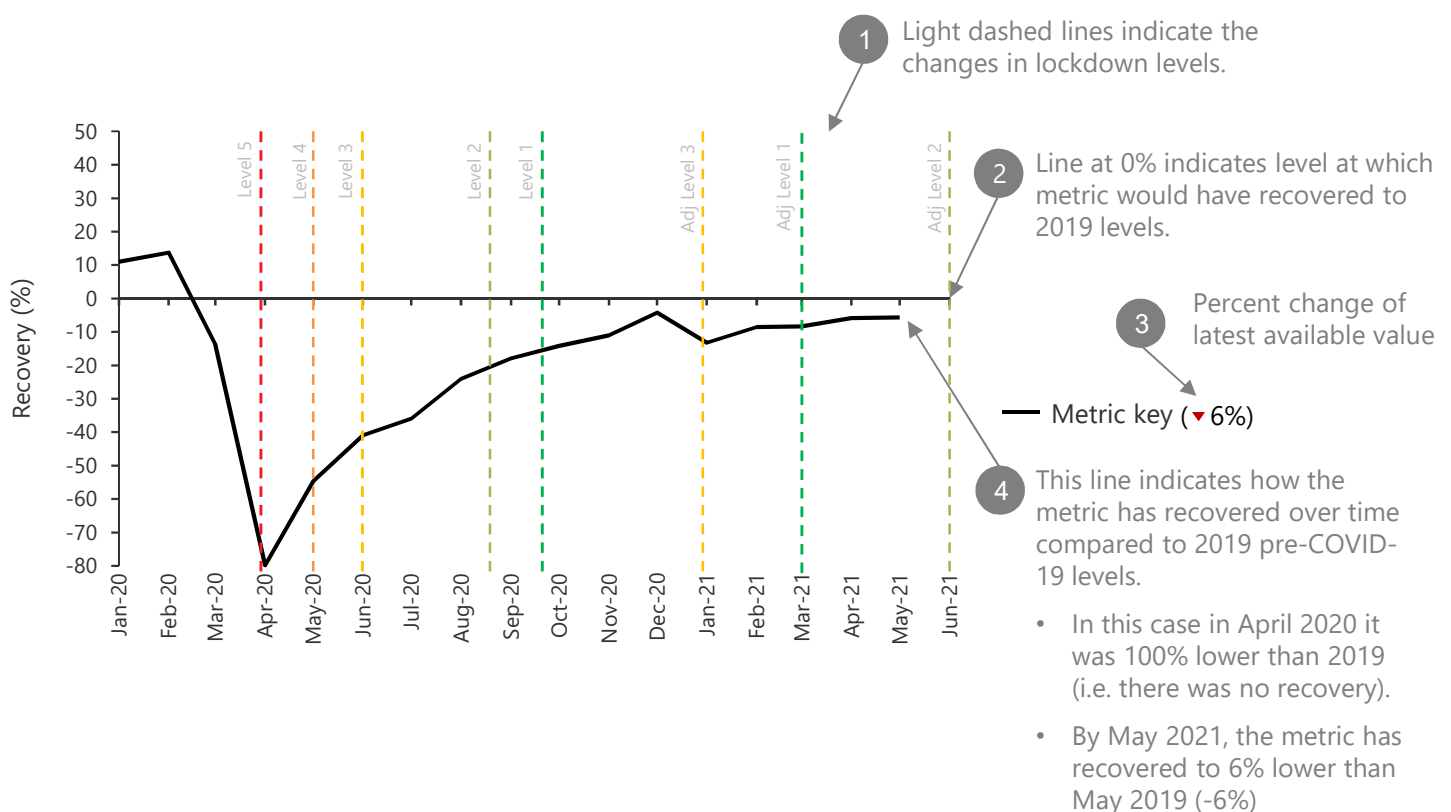
The period was not without positives however, with the announcement that COVID-19 vaccines would be available for all individuals 18 and older from 20 August. The ramp up in vaccination rates should serve to open the country even further with less disruptive lockdowns, and ultimately allow for international travel into and out of the country to resume in due course.

In this report we unpack the following to understand where we are on the road to recovery:

- The levels of international tourism and arrivals into South Africa and the trends behind these, including a brief status of the pandemic and vaccination rollouts
- The impact of the riots and extended lockdowns
- Levels of domestic tourism recovery and related sectors.

How to read the recovery graphs:

Recovery of the sector is consistently measured throughout the report by comparing current performance to the comparable period in 2019. The chart below details how to interpret this analysis:



A grayscale photograph of a person's hand holding the handle of a suitcase. A white face mask is hanging from the handle. The background is blurred, showing what appears to be an airport or travel setting.

UNDERSTANDING KEY TRENDS IN INTERNATIONAL TOURISM



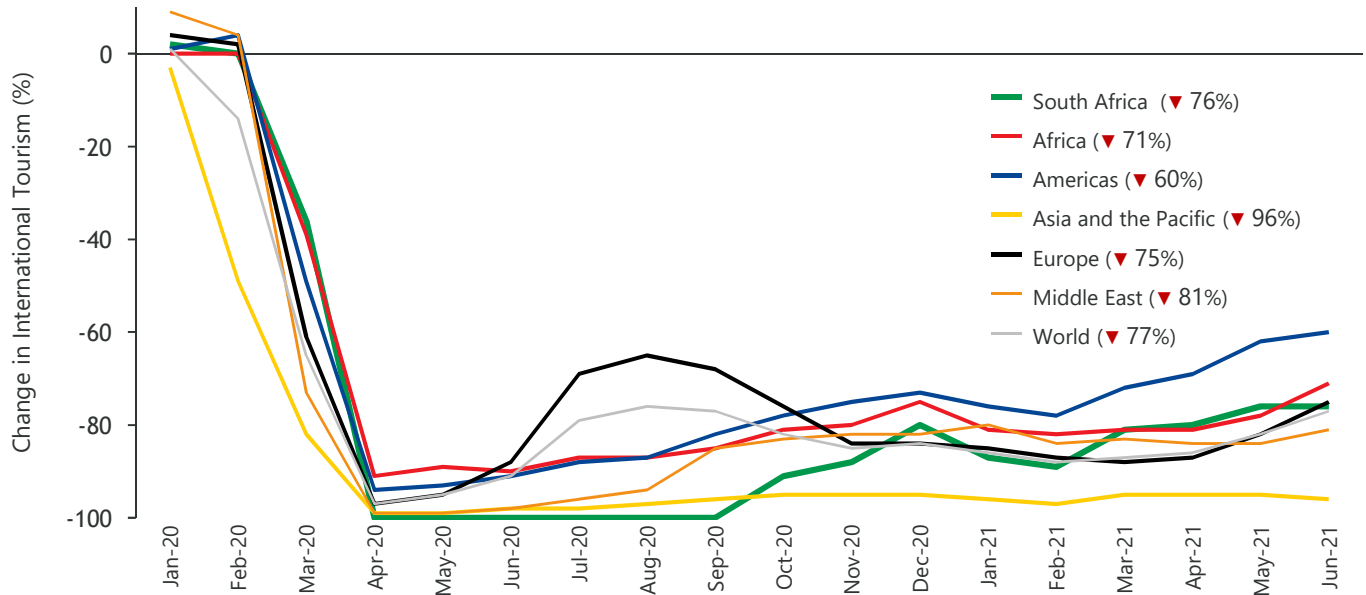
INTERNATIONAL TOURISM

How does international tourism recovery compare across the globe?

- International tourist arrivals into **South Africa** continue to improve, now at 76% lower than 2019, improving from -81% in March 2021. This recovery is very similar to that of **European** markets.
- The rest of **Africa** shows a slightly better level of recovery.
- South Africa's performance is, however, better than the **global average, Middle East** and **Asia and the Pacific**, with the latter having the slowest recovery, being 95% lower than in 2019.
- While **the Americas** saw the best recovery in international tourism, despite being 60% lower than the same period in 2019.

Although still 76% lower than 2019, recovery of international tourism into South Africa is on par if not better than most other global regions.

FIGURE 2: CHANGE IN INTERNATIONAL TOURIST ARRIVALS INTO EACH WORLD REGION RELATIVE TO SAME MONTH IN 2019



Data source: UNWTO Recovery Tracker



Regional contribution to international tourism recovery in South Africa

- June 2021 saw most regions recover to their highest levels since the start of the year, with the distinct exception of African markets.
- Africa Land markets continue to make the greatest contribution to arrivals into South Africa but are still 73% lower than in 2019.
- Middle East and North America have all improved and are respectively 72% and 76% lower than 2019. This was brought upon by an 8-9% recovery within the last month of available data.
- Whereas arrivals from Australasia and Central & South America are still more than 91% lower than in 2019.
- The associated increase in travel due to the removal of a barrier to re-entry signals that similar easing of restrictions in other regions would speed up the recovery of the industry and allow vaccinated travelers to resume travel to South Africa.

FIGURE 3: RECOVERY OF INTERNATIONAL TOURIST ARRIVALS INTO SOUTH AFRICA RELATIVE TO SAME MONTH IN 2019

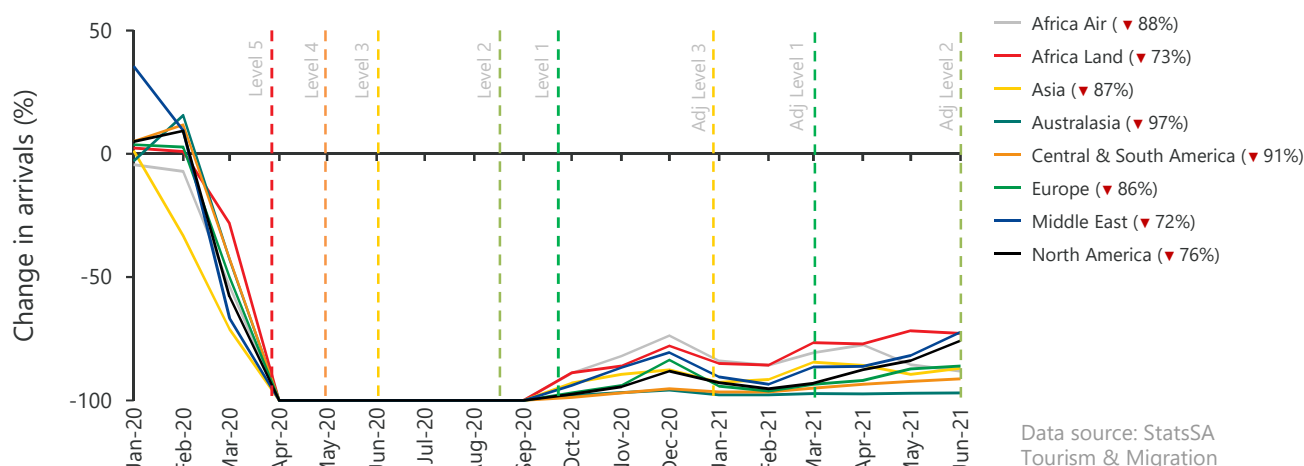
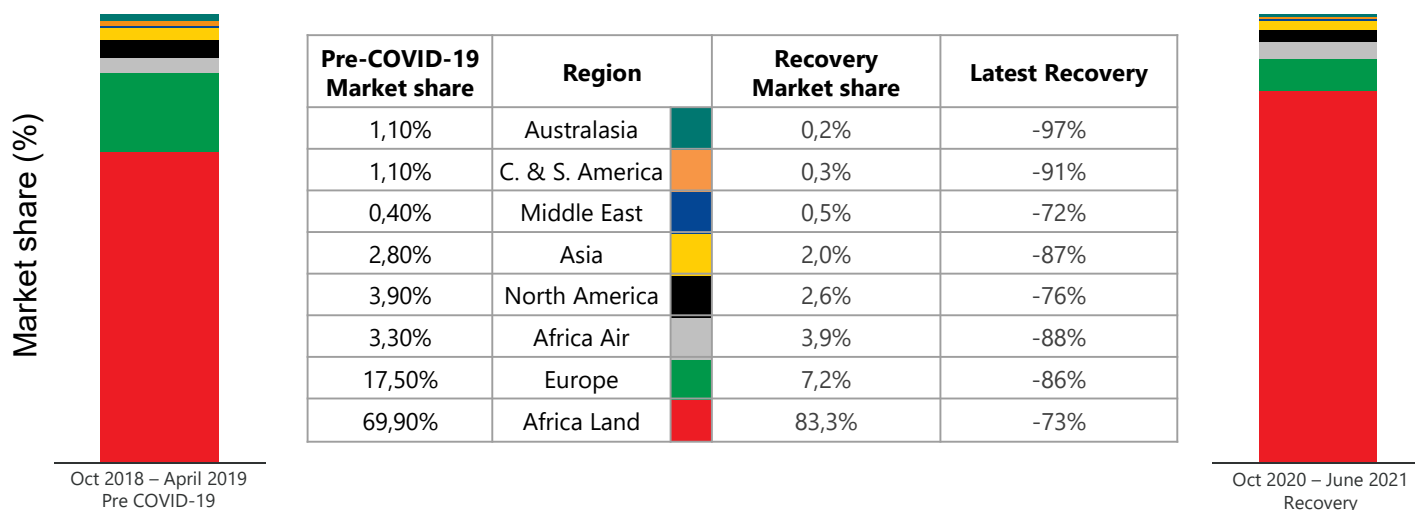


FIGURE 4: MARKET SHARE OF INTERNATIONAL TOURIST ARRIVALS BY COUNTRY BEFORE COVID-19 COMPARED TO DURING COVID-19



Data source: StatsSA Tourism & Migration



Which priority markets are driving overseas recovery?

- Russia and India saw a marked decline in recovery in May 2021 – India ostensibly due to the effect of the Delta variant in the country. There was however, a slight improvement in June 2021 for both countries.
- The three countries with the highest numbers and market share of arrivals into South Africa are the UK, Germany and the United States. This was also the case pre-COVID-19. The US however, currently has the highest market share of arrivals into South Africa, moving up from third position pre-COVID-19.
- The UK contributed the second highest proportion of overseas travellers into South Africa, even though SA was still on the UK red list during the period of investigation. This is however still 91% lower than 2019 volumes
- Russia continues to show a distinctly higher recovery than all other priority markets. While its pre-COVID share is low and therefore the absolute recovery is relatively small, understanding what is driving this spurt in travel from Russia could enable similar effects from other regions.

FIGURE 5: RECOVERY OF OVERSEAS TOURIST ARRIVALS PER COUNTRY RELATIVE TO SAME MONTH IN 2019

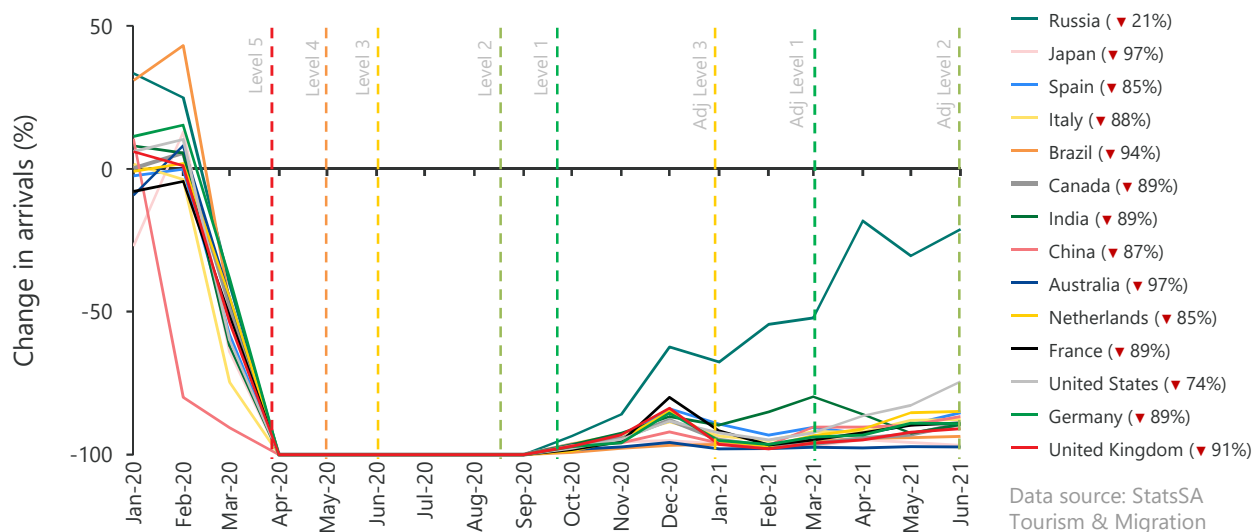
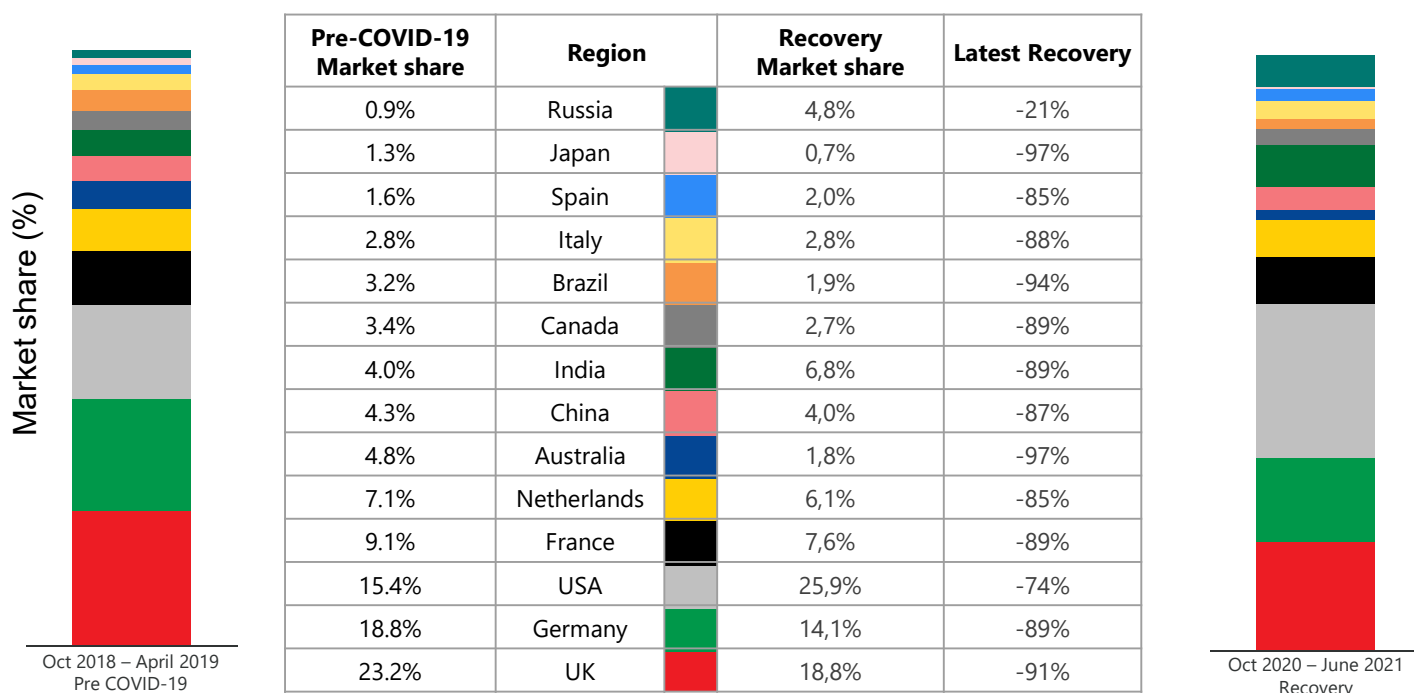


FIGURE 6: MARKET SHARE OF PRIORITY OVERSEAS ARRIVALS BY COUNTRY BEFORE COVID-19 COMPARED TO DURING COVID-19



Which priority markets are driving African recovery?

- Namibia, Zambia and Mozambique continue to lead African recovery, with the former two countries showing a slight decrease in June 2021. Mozambique, however, has flattened at -56% recovery since reaching this mark in April 2021.
- Although Zimbabwe maintains its position having the highest market share of inbound African travelers; travel from Zimbabwe is still 79% lower than in 2019.
- Botswana's recovery remains the slowest in the region but is starting to show signs of improvement.

FIGURE 7: RECOVERY OF AFRICAN TOURIST ARRIVALS PER COUNTRY RELATIVE TO SAME MONTH IN 2019

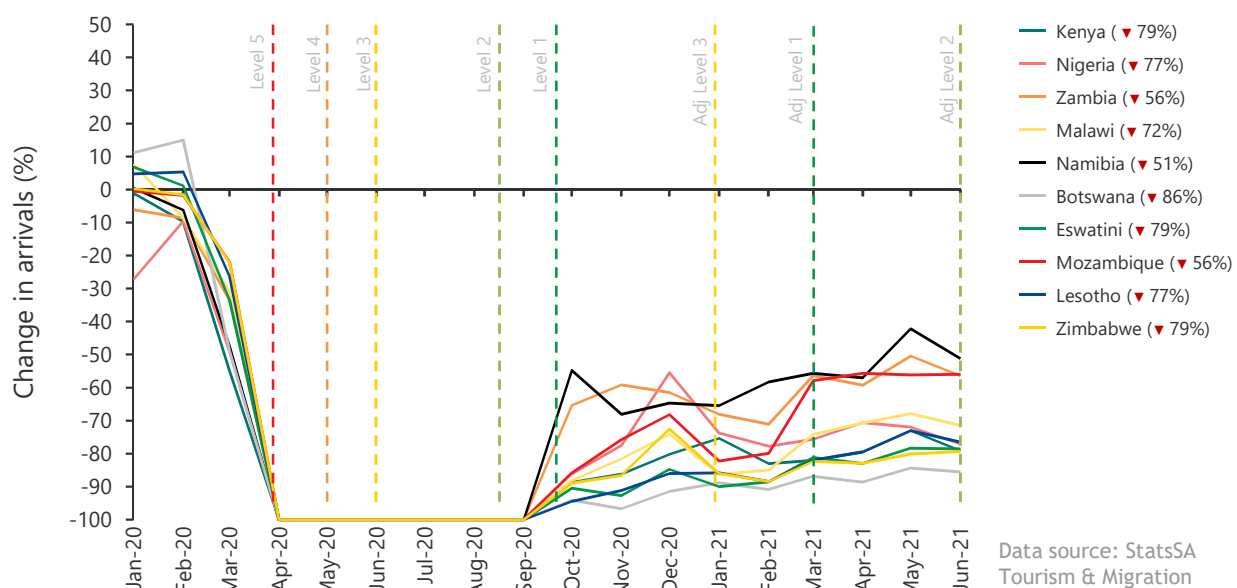
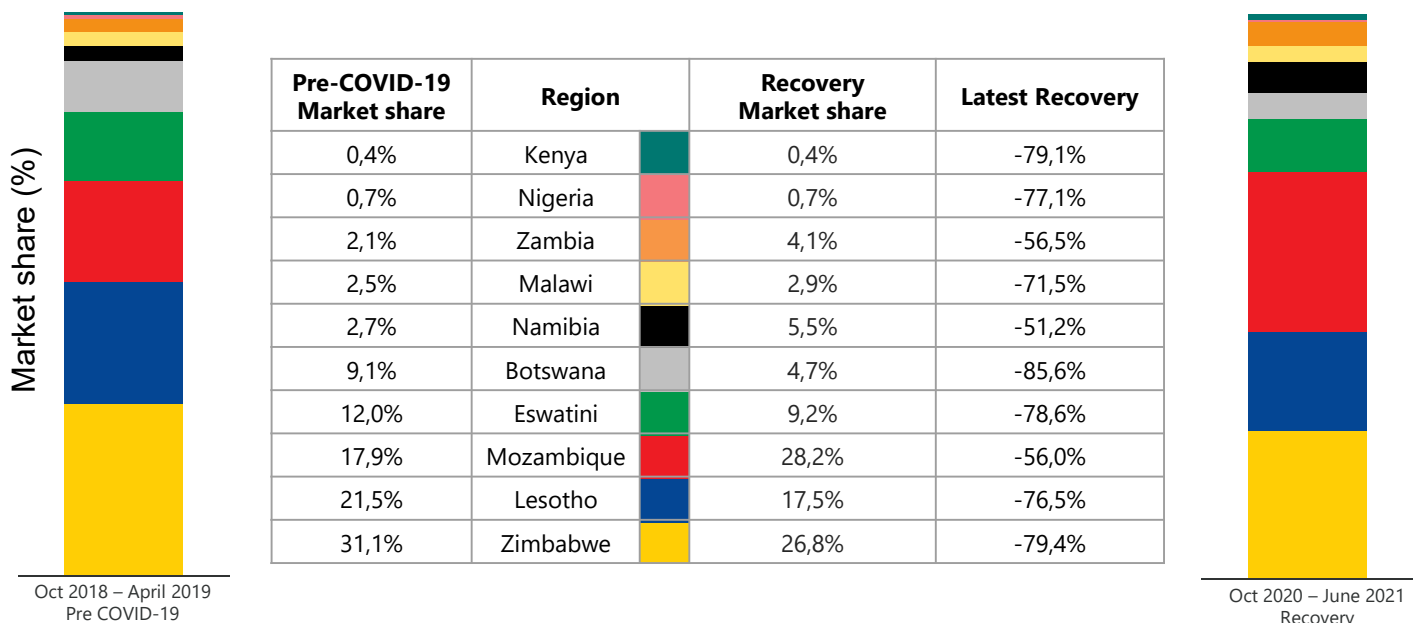


FIGURE 8: MARKET SHARE OF PRIORITY AFRICAN ARRIVALS BY COUNTRY BEFORE COVID-19 COMPARED TO DURING COVID-19



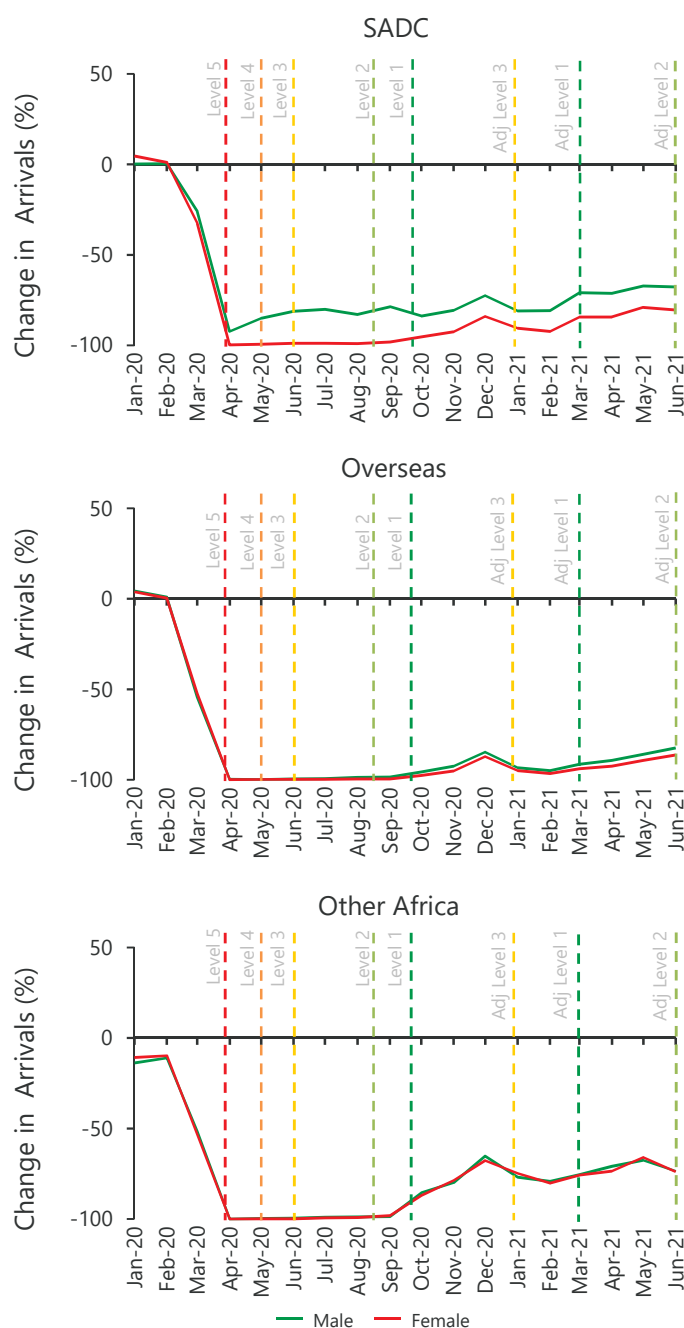
Have traveller demographics shifted during the COVID-19 pandemic?

GENDER

In Southern African Development Community (SADC) regions, a trend of more male visitors than female visitors persists.

In Overseas and Other African markets, little difference exists in the recovery of travel between males and females.

FIGURE 9: RECOVERY OF TOURIST ARRIVALS BY GENDER COMPARED TO 2019



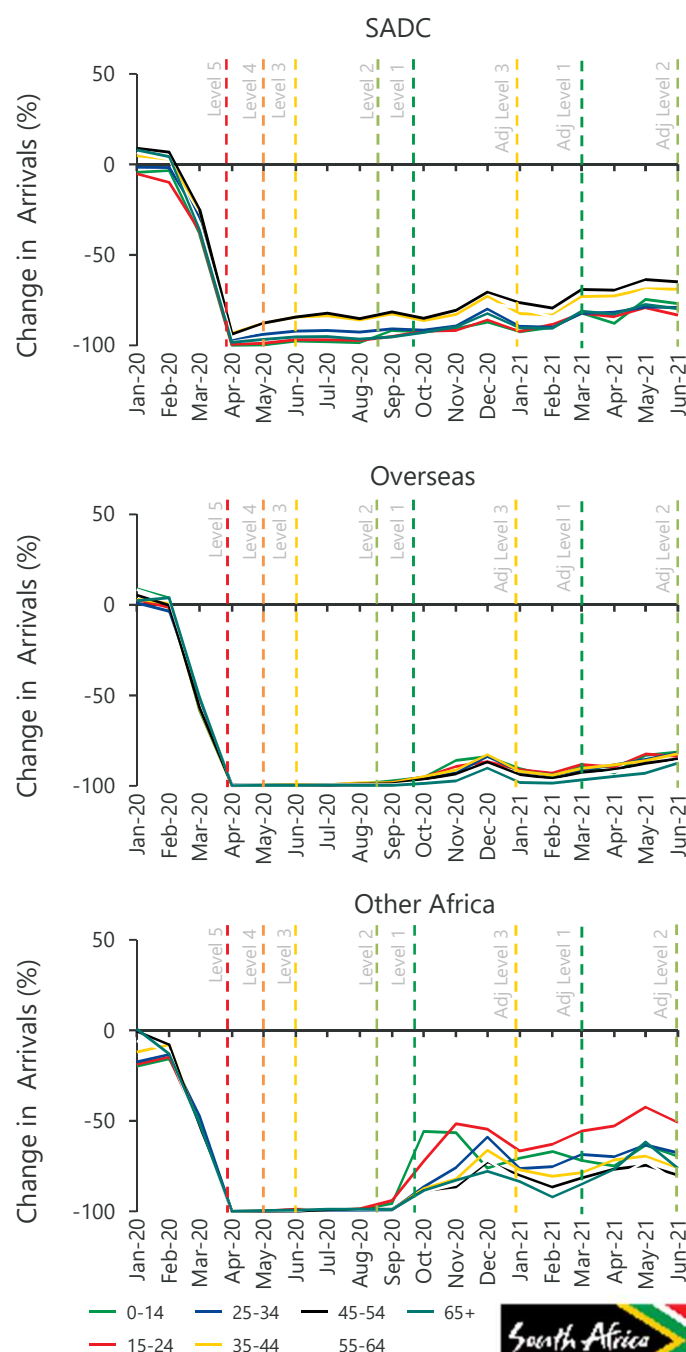
Data source: StatsSA Tourism & Migration

AGE GROUPS

Varying patterns are seen in the age distribution of travelers to South Africa from Other African countries, with younger travelers (15-24) having the strongest recovery.

In the SADC and Overseas countries, the recovery over all age groups has a similar pattern.

FIGURE 10: RECOVERY OF TOURIST ARRIVALS BY AGE GROUP RELATIVE TO SAME MONTH IN 2019



TRACKING THE PANDEMIC IN PRIORITY SOURCE MARKETS

Understanding the state of the COVID-19 pandemic in South Africa's prioritised source markets helps to inform an understanding of where travel is likely to resume.

Key metrics to track are the combination of how much COVID-19 is still spreading (measured by new cases per week) and the progress made in vaccination rollouts.

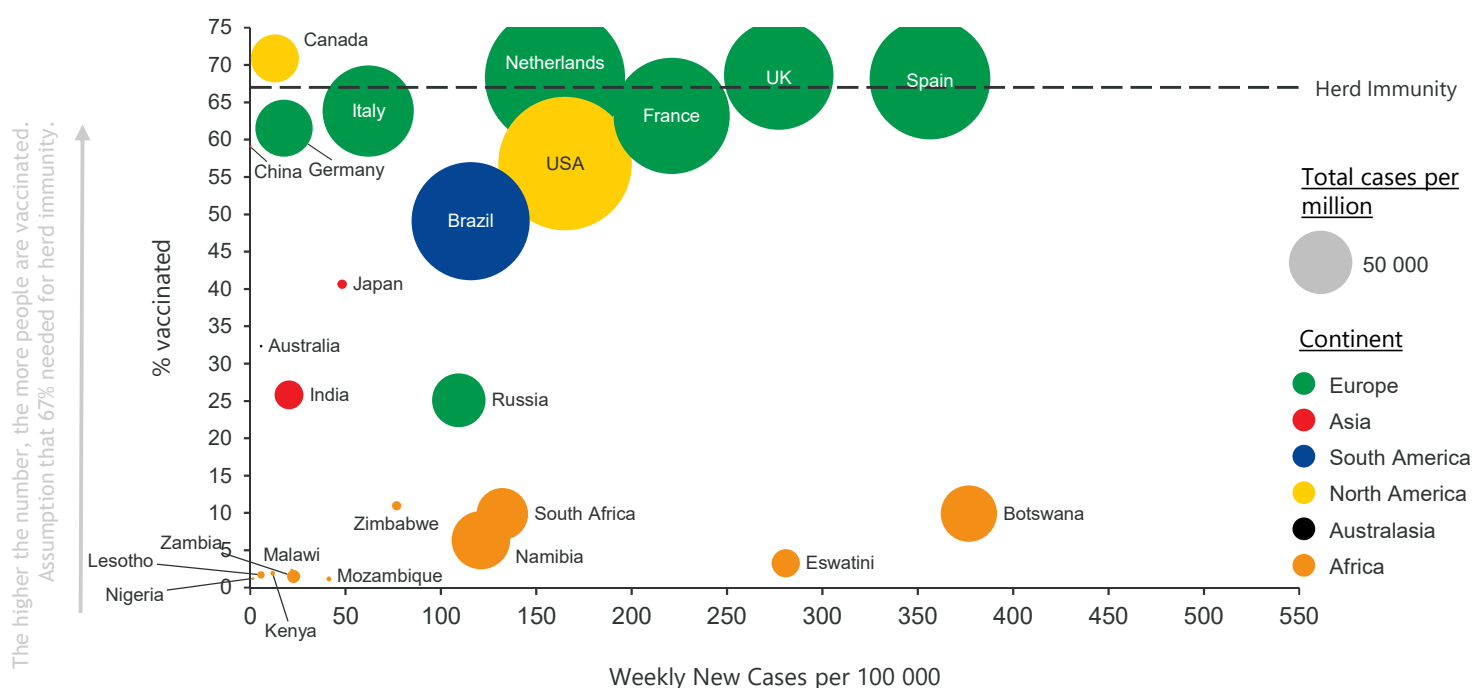
Ideally, countries should have high levels of vaccinations and low numbers of new cases per week (top, left corner of Figure 11 below). This would indicate relative progress in curbing the COVID-19 pandemic in that country and potential change in consumer readiness to travel.

Currently, in key source markets:

- **North American** key markets have had advanced vaccine rollout efforts. While the US vaccine rate, although relatively high, has slowed to some extent, Canada has surpassed hypothetical herd immunity. In addition, Canada has very low weekly new case rates. This is not true for the United States who are experiencing a weekly new case rate > 150 per 100,000.

- In **Europe**, most key source markets are making positive progress in moving towards herd immunity vaccination levels. Weekly new caseloads have all but stabilised at lower risk levels for most of the European Nations. Exclusions however are the United Kingdom, Spain and Netherlands. Despite high vaccination levels, these countries are experiencing increasing weekly new COVID-19 cases likely associated with the rapid spread of new corona virus variants.
- Most **African** source markets have relatively lower weekly new case rates with notable exceptions being Botswana, Eswatini and Namibia. The former having the highest new case rate of all our source markets, that is > 370.
- **South Africa**, within a third wave of infections during July 2021, was experiencing relatively high weekly new case rates, > 130 new cases per 100 000 people per week. The vaccine roll out is progressing steadily with the expectation that herd immunity will be reached by the end of 2021.

FIGURE 11: WEEKLY NEW COVID-19 CASES VS NUMBER OF PEOPLE VACCINATED IN SA TOURISM'S PRIORITY SOURCE MARKETS



Data source: Our World In Data as of 29 September 2021 for July 2021

Slide 10

LM19 Should we update this?
Letitia Moodley, 10/11/2021



PRIORITY SOURCE MARKETS TRAVEL PROSPECTS

Based on current travel restrictions applying to South Africa (see Table 1 in the Appendix), travel prospects from priority source markets differ by region.

- **AFRICA:** Travel from regional African countries is still more likely than most other markets, with Africa Land making up the majority of arrivals. This is due lower restrictions on re-entry from South Africa. However, the exception being Lesotho whose borders are open, but still does not allow tourism.
- **EUROPE:** Spain and the UK have the highest weekly new case rates in Europe, however, both countries have already reached herd immunity. This will have a strong impact on demand for resuming pre-COVID-19 behaviour patterns, including travel. The realisation of this demand strongly depends on the removal of barriers to re-entry and fortunately South Africa was removed from the UK red list. This is believed to create increased travel between the countries, which is beneficial since it was one of our main international source markets. Similarly, South Africa was removed as one of the 'very high risk' countries in the Netherlands. However, for Italy, travel from South Africa is prohibited.

- **AUSTRALASIA:** While COVID-19 levels in key Australasian source markets are still very low, these countries have been relatively slower in rolling-out vaccinations. In addition, Australia's borders are currently closed, and this remains a large barrier to travel. South African travelers are also prohibited from entering Japan at the present time.
- **AMERICAS:** Travel from Canada is more likely than most of the other overseas markets, due to a low rate of weekly new infections, a strong progression in their vaccine roll out as well as low barriers to re-entry. This is also true for the United States, although the weekly rate of infections has increased significantly in the last three months. Prospects for travel from Brazil remains very low due to travel from South Africa being prohibited.

As South Africa moves away from high-risk status, we expect increased levels of travel into South Africa.

FIGURE 12: NEAR-TERM TRAVEL PROSPECTS FROM SA TOURISM'S PRIORITY SOURCE MARKETS





IMPACT OF THE RIOTS



IMPACT OF THE RIOTS ON TOURISM

On 9 July 2021, a spate of civil unrest started firstly in the province of Kwazulu-Natal, spreading thereafter to Gauteng on 11 July. The week-long riots and looting received media attention both locally and internationally, potentially harming perceptions of South Africa and dissuading potential travellers from visiting the country.

Global Travel Guidance

There was limited change in global travel advice across priority source markets in the wake of the unrest, with only Botswana, the United States of America, the United Kingdom and Australia issuing warnings related to the riots.

Botswana	Ministry of International Affairs and Cooperation made a statement urging citizens to avoid unnecessary travel South Africa, particularly to Gauteng and Kwa-Zulu Natal. They also urged Botswana residents in South Africa to exercise extreme caution and avoid unnecessary movement.
United States of America	<i>"Demonstrations, protests, and strikes occur frequently. These can develop quickly without prior notification, often interrupting traffic, transportation, and other services; such events have the potential to turn violent."</i>
United Kingdom	<i>"There are regular protest marches, demonstrations, and periodic incidents of public disorder across South Africa, which can become violent. Gauteng and KwaZulu-Nata provinces recently experienced violent incidents, looting and arson, with some transport routes disrupted. The President has deployed the military in affected areas to support the police. The unrest has stopped, but the military continue to have a visible presence in affected areas."</i>
Australia	<i>"Violent incidents and looting recently occurred in KwaZulu Natal and Gauteng provinces. Shopping malls and other business premises were targeted. There may be disruptions to essential services and supplies. Monitor local and social media for updates. Avoid areas where protests are taking place. Don't attempt to cross protester roadblocks. Shelter in place if caught in a violent situation. Strict lockdown measures due to COVID-19 apply across the country. Wear a face mask in public and follow the advice of local authorities."</i>

Media Coverage

There was global coverage of the South African riots, with all major international news outlets as well as a wide range of regional news outlets detailing aspects of the riots as it progressed. For most of the international news outlets, there was a large focus on violence and death within these articles, with most including updates of the death toll and number of people arrested. There were many circulated videos from news sites on social media platforms depicting the looting, which included scenes of the burning of shopping malls and warehouses, in addition to the destruction of property and theft of merchandise.

The narrative in many of the African news articles differed slightly due to the inclusion of a call from governments to have their citizens in South Africa exercise extra caution in movement within South Africa and stay away from the protests and looting. This could be attributed to past occurrences of xenophobia against foreign African nationals.

Another source market with a different narrative was India. The focus of most of the articles was on the impact of the Indian community in South Africa. There were numerous regional articles detailing the alleged racial tension present in Durban between black and Indian South Africans.

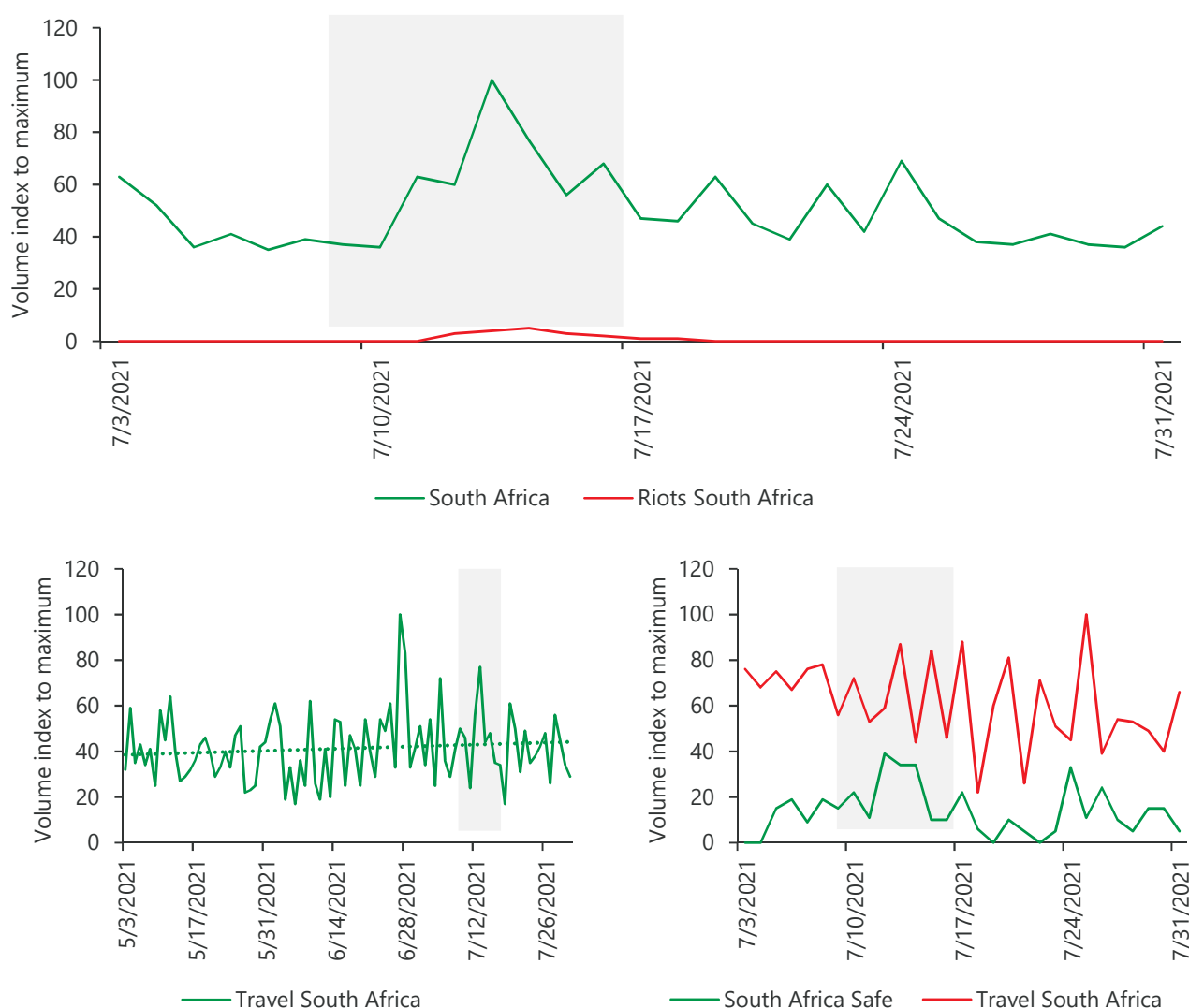
Many of the international news outlets also covered the end of the unrest, including a call for unity by President Ramaphosa as well as clean-up of the affected areas.

Consumer Search Trends

The riot activity drove increased interest in South Africa as evidenced by Google search activity during that time period, but regional origin of interest seems to have remained relatively consistent. Search activity specifically related to the riots made up a small proportion of all activity related to the country (between 4 and 5 searches for every search related to South Africa as a whole) and only lasted for about a week. Outside of South Africa, the primary interest in the riots originated from New Zealand, Australia, and the United Kingdom.

Interest in travel to South Africa does not seem to have been negatively affected by the protest activity. Search activity related to safety in South Africa picked up for three days between 12 and 14 July, with New Zealand again being the main contributor to that outside of South Africa. Comparing interest in safety to interest in travel however reveals a consistently higher interest in travel than in safety concerns, even at the peak of the riots.

FIGURE 13: RELATIVE FREQUENCY OF SEARCH TERMS OVER JULY 2021



Conclusion

We conclude that while the civil unrest generated significant media attention as well as some international consumer interest, this analysis suggests that it did not have any considerable negative impact on the tourism industry. Limited changes in travel advice, continued consumer interest in travel to South Africa and short-lived interest in safety issues suggest the riots did not have a lasting impact on travel intent.



TRACKING TOURISM SECTOR RECOVERY ON THE GROUND

DOMESTIC TOURISM

Domestic tourism remains key to the resilience of the tourism sector. Here, total overnight trips are 46% lower than pre-COVID-19 levels as opposed to the 76% reduction seen in international tourism.

Domestic tourism resumed in late July 2020 and was followed by a period of increased domestic peaks but has been significantly affected by the onset of higher adjusted levels of lockdown from the end of May 2021.

Holiday trips, however, showed a significant increase in June to decrease considerably in July.

This decrease coincided with the Adjustment Level 4 of lockdown. Similar decreases were seen for all types of trips, to a lesser extent, except for MICE which significantly increased in June.

Demand for day trips remains low and seem to following a downward trend. However, by number, these trips contribute the most trips to the domestic tourism landscape. Considering constraints and mindsets regarding travel during the COVID-19 pandemic, significant potential exists to target growth in resuming day trips.

FIGURE 14: DOMESTIC OVERNIGHT TRIPS BY PURPOSE

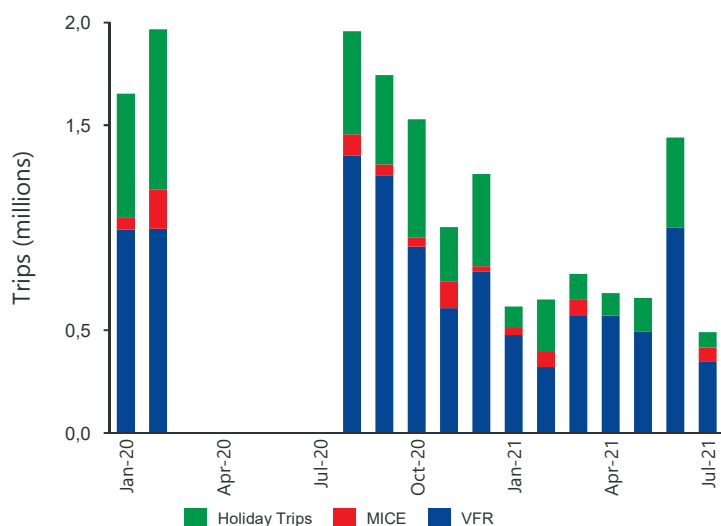
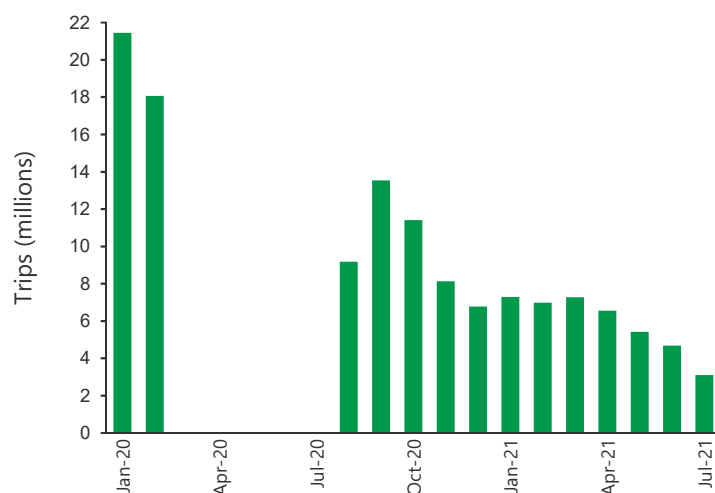
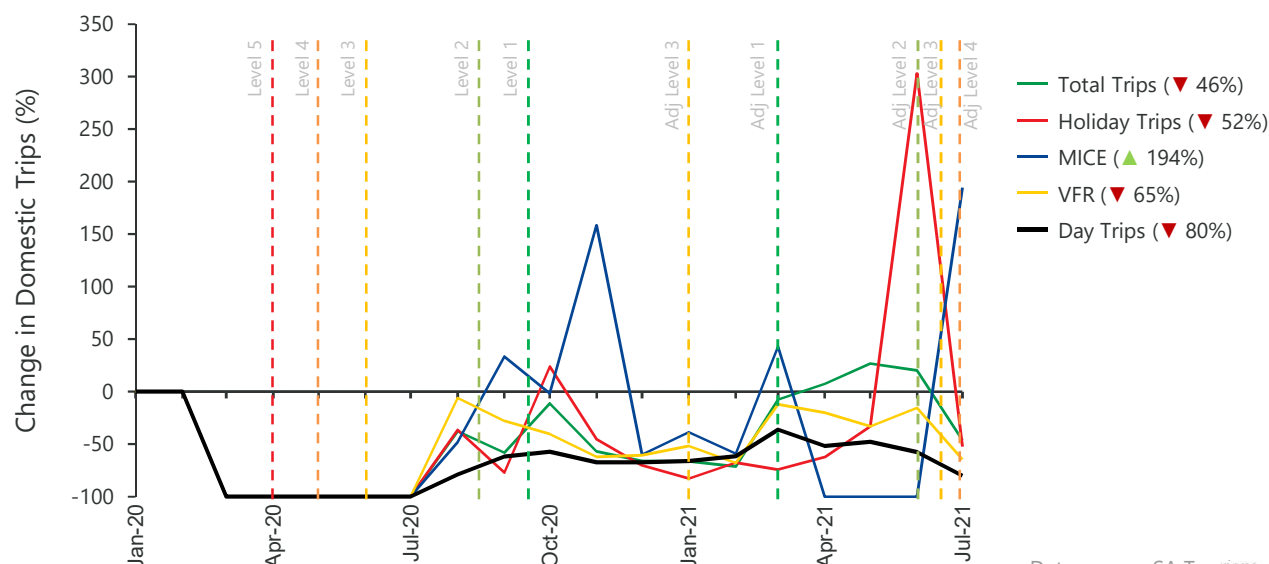


FIGURE 15: DOMESTIC DAY TRIPS



Data source: SA Tourism

FIGURE 16: RECOVERY OF DOMESTIC TRIPS BY TRIP TYPE RELATIVE TO SAME MONTH IN 2019



Data source: SA Tourism

TRANSPORT

Domestic air travel dropped significantly in July after showing steady recovery in previous months. This can be attributed to travel restrictions imposed by the adjusted level 4 lockdown, specifically barring travel into and out of Gauteng. August has already shown signs of recovery however and is now 63% lower than that in 2019. Regional and international air travel is still hovering between 76% - 81% lower than 2019 levels and has not seen much improvement in the last three months.

Travel by light motor vehicle, following a decline in May and June, is showing an uptick with long-term heavy vehicles being 8% higher than the corresponding 2019 value. All other vehicles are still lower than 2019 values, with medium-heavy and light vehicles being the slowest to recover.

FIGURE 17: PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN AIR TRAVEL RELATIVE TO SAME MONTH IN 2019

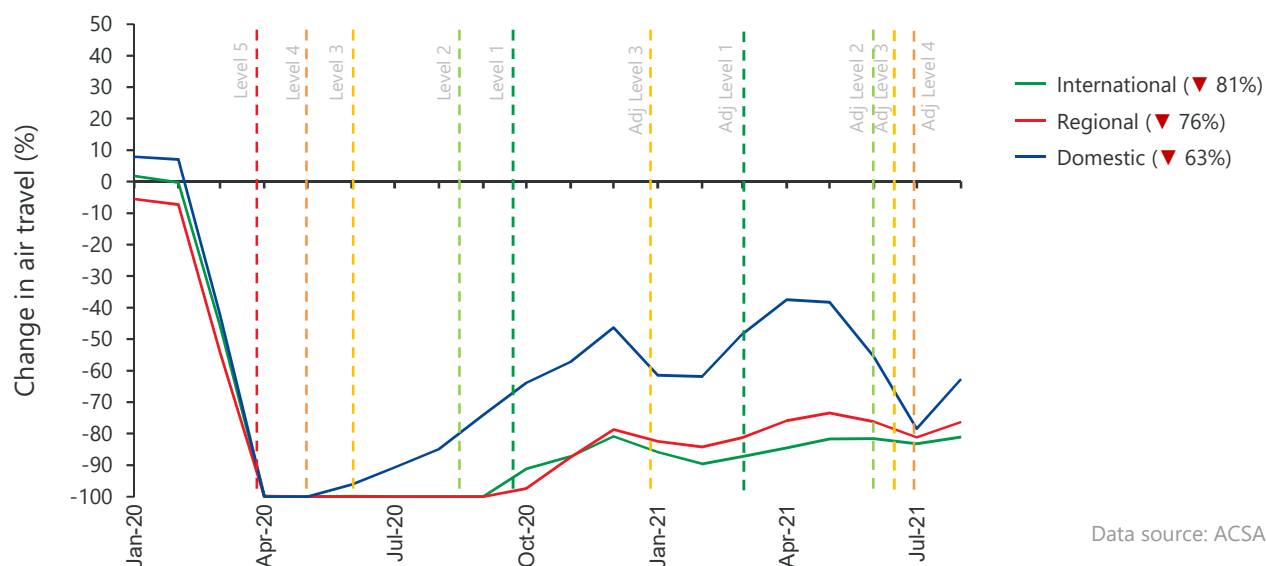
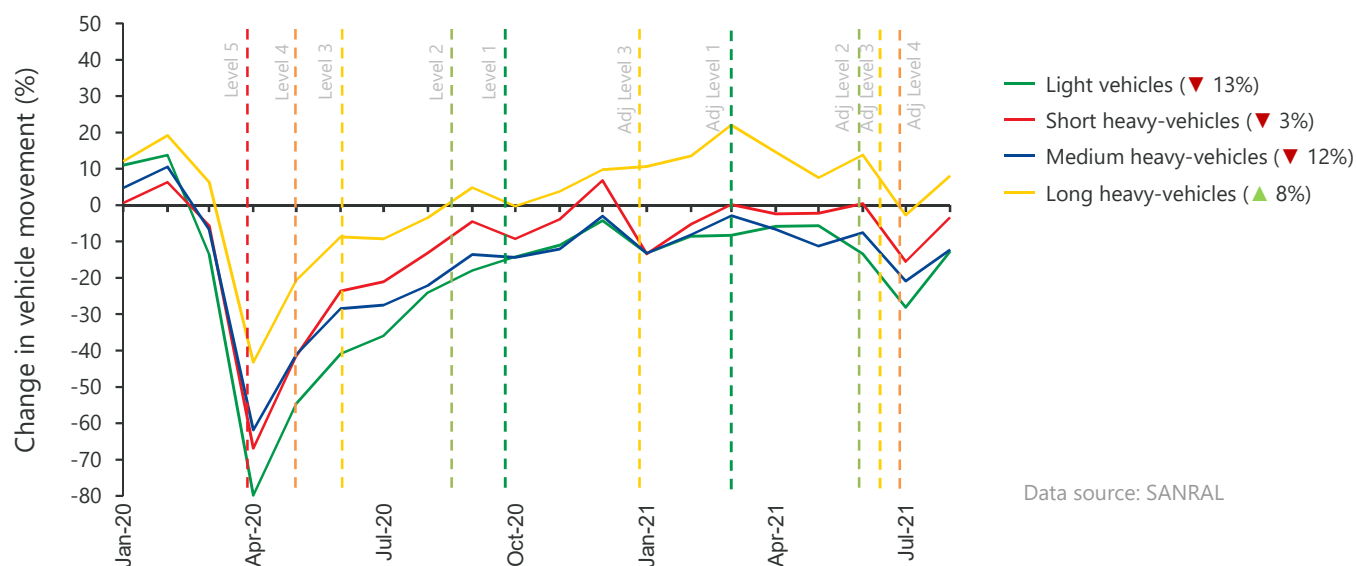


FIGURE 18: PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN ROAD TRAVEL RELATIVE TO SAME MONTH IN 2019

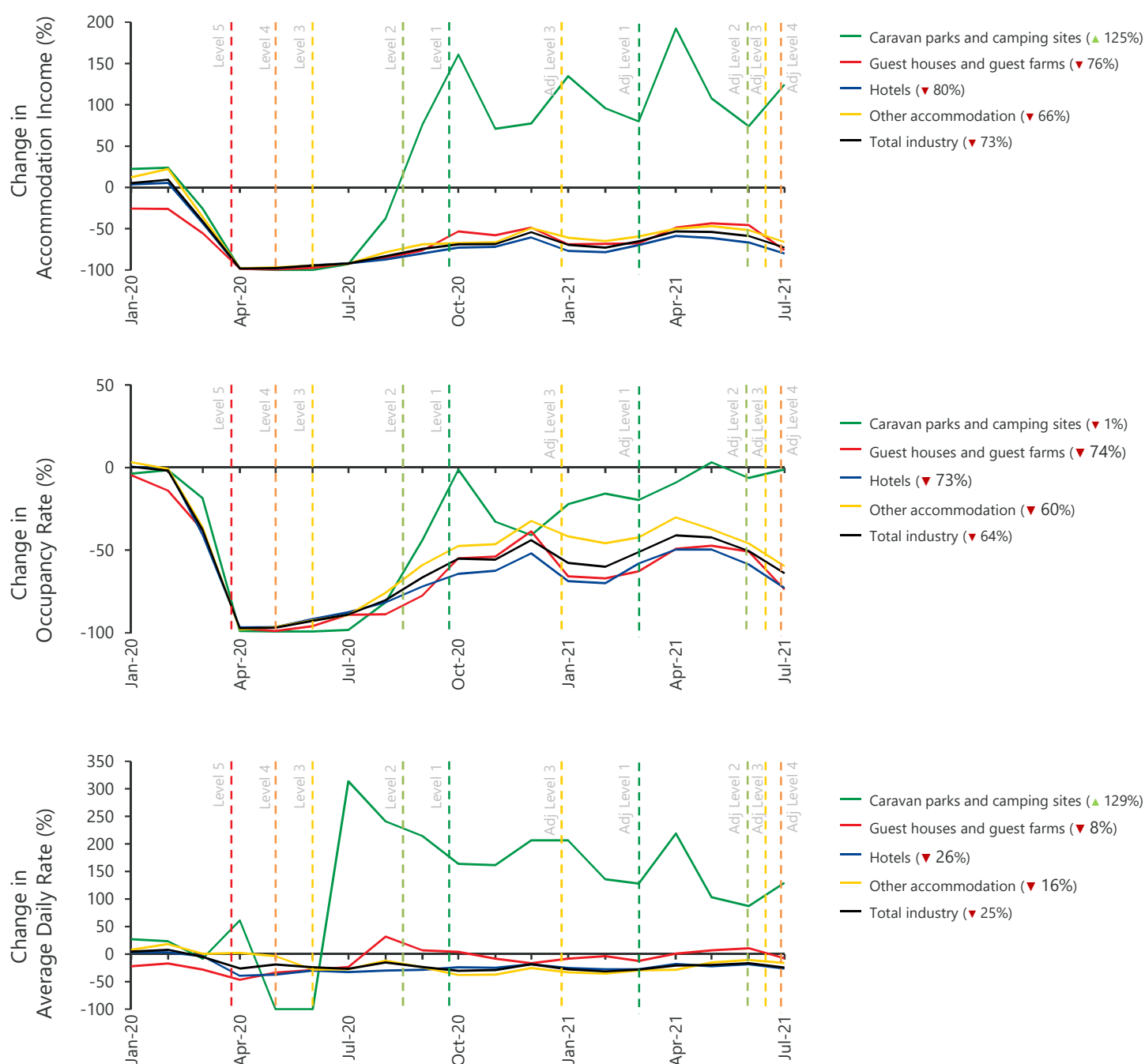


ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation trends provide an indication of the level of engagement with tourism services. Total industry income has dipped over the months from April 2021 and is now 73% lower than July 2019 levels. Caravan and camping continues to show significant improvement and has surpassed 2019 levels, with July occupancy rates 125% higher than that of July 2019.

Occupancy rates have also declined over the past three months with total industry figures being 64% lower than 2019. Guest houses and guest farms have had the lowest recovery to date whereas caravan and camping have had the best, being almost level with figures for 2019. Daily rates for all except caravans & camping have maintained low but level values over the last three months, leading to the consistently lower income.

FIGURE 19: PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN ACCOMMODATION INCOME, AVERAGE DAILY RATE AND OCCUPANCY RATE RELATIVE TO SAME MONTH IN 2019



SPEND

Spend indicators can signal consumers' economic readiness to return to pre-COVID-19 spending behaviours. Retail spending levels have decreased across the board in the last month with Total Retail Spending in July 2021 being less 4% than that for July 2019. Spending in the food and hospitality sector, is still severely impacted.

Over the last 3 months, total retail spend has declined. Although the take-away and fast-food industry is on a downward trend, it is still showing positive growth in July 2021 compared to 2019 levels. However, restaurants and catering services continue to show depressed spending likely due to ongoing restrictions placed on these industries.

FIGURE 20: PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN RETAIL SPEND RELATIVE TO SAME MONTH IN 2019

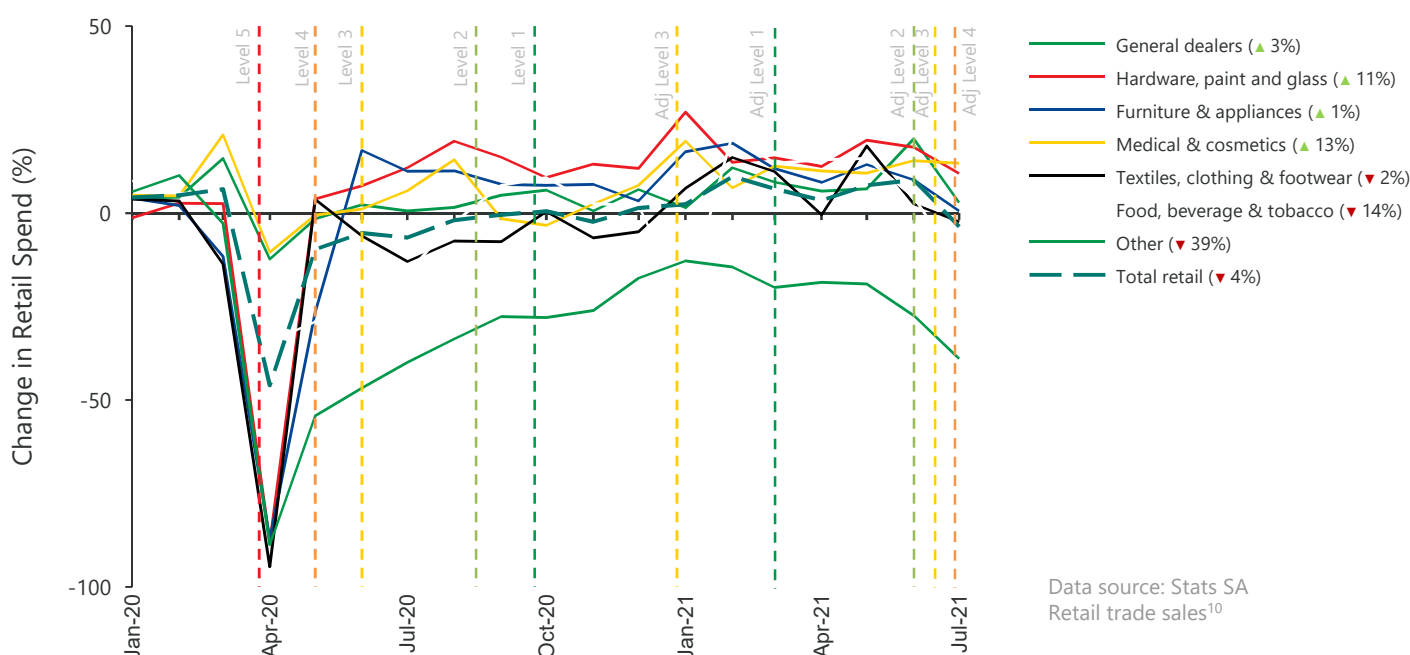
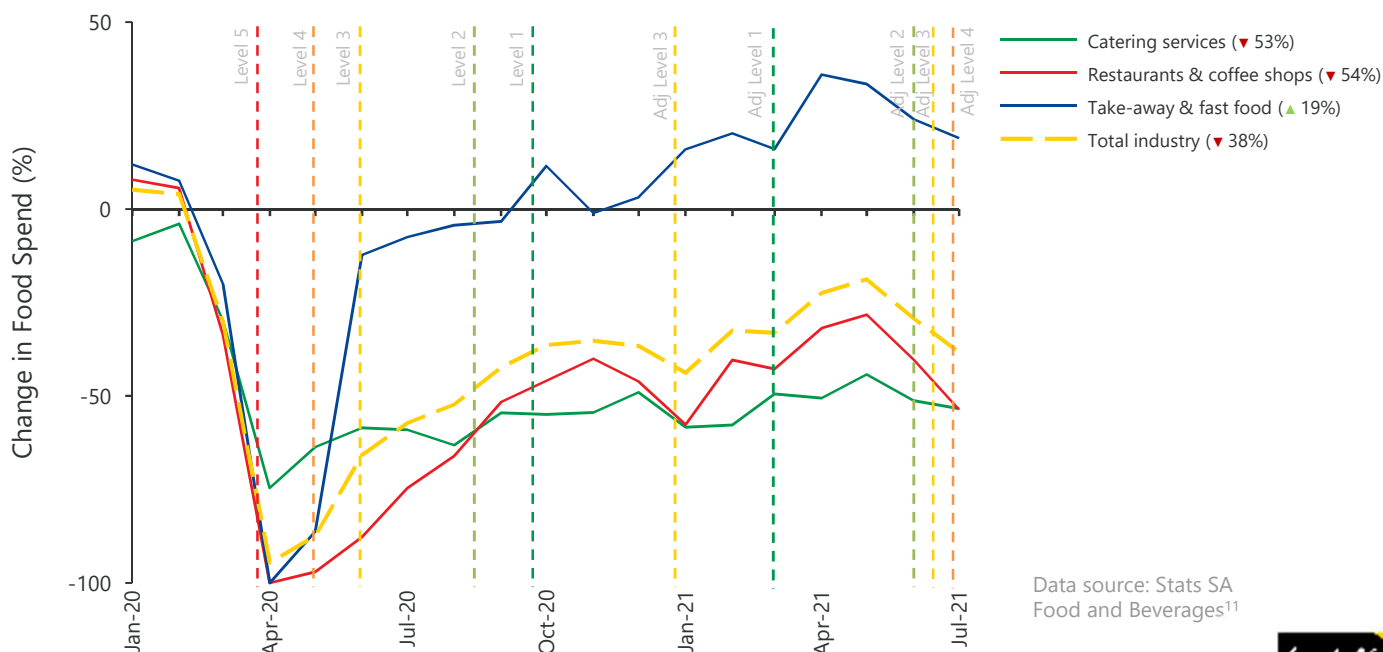


FIGURE 21: PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN FOOD SPEND RELATIVE TO SAME MONTH IN 2019





OUTLOOK

The previous volume of this report ended on a sombre note, with the country having just entered an extension of an adjusted level 4 lockdown. We conclude this volume with a much more optimistic tone, driven by a number of positive developments:

Conclusion of the third wave

At the time of writing this report, South Africa was officially declared to be out of the third wave of COVID-19 infections and is operating at an adjusted level 1 lockdown. This creates the opportunity for the economy to operate at near to normal levels and will ultimately lead to further recovery in the tourism, hospitality and food services sectors. Infection rates remain low and further lifting of restrictions, notably the nightly curfew and restaurant operating times, will serve to further drive industry recovery.

Sustained improvement in vaccine roll-out

The continued roll-out of COVID-19 vaccines across the country and the opening of vaccinations to all adults 18 and older are causes for cautious optimism that a fourth wave could be less devastating when it is predicted to arrive in December. With a fully vaccinated rate of 20% and a current seven-day daily average number of vaccines administered of approximately 117,000, South Africa should be almost 70% of the way to its 67% herd immunity target by December 2021. Continued improvement in the number of individuals being vaccinated is fundamental to the sustained opening of the domestic industry, and will ultimately be instrumental in building international confidence and driving the international tourism industry.

Contained impact of civil unrest

While the civil unrest generated significant media attention as well as some international consumer interest, there has been limited changes in travel advice, continued consumer interest in travel to South Africa and short-lived interest in safety issues which suggests that the riots did not have a lasting impact on travel intent.

Lifting of international travel restrictions

With key priority source markets starting to lift travel restrictions including the removal of South Africa's red list status in the UK, there is some indication that international tourism will slowly start to recover.

As a sector and a community, we remain committed to identifying opportunities for faster recovery in a constantly changing and unpredictable environment. While domestic and regional tourism remain the most realistic opportunities in the short term, the cautious lifting of travel restrictions internationally poses an opportunity to recover these markets through a concerted effort of targeting travellers while maintaining adherence to health protocols to imbue traveller trust.



REFERENCES

- ¹ <https://www.unwto.org/unwto-tourism-recovery-tracker>
- ² <https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2021/p0402-travel-guidance-vaccinated-people.html>
- ³ <https://ourworldindata.org/coronavirus>
- ⁴ <https://ourworldindata.org/covid-vaccinations>
- ⁵ <https://www.airports.co.za/airports/or-tambo-international-airport/statistics/passenger> (+ Cape Town & Durban International airports)
- ⁶ http://www.statssa.gov.za/?page_id=1854&PPN=P6410&SCH=728647
- ⁷ http://www.statssa.gov.za/?page_id=1854&PPN=P6420&SCH=72866
- ⁸ http://www.statssa.gov.za/?page_id=1854&PPN=P0351&SCH=72959
- ⁹ http://www.statssa.gov.za/?page_id=1854&PPN=P6242.1&SCH=72859
- ¹⁰ <https://www.iol.co.za/travel/travel-news/botswana-issues-south-africa-travel-alert-due-to-violence-looting-ca322831-7795-5ab7-9442-61e1c88f76b1>
- ¹¹ <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories/south-africa-travel-advisory.html>
- ¹² <https://www.smarttraveller.gov.au/crisis/covid-19-and-travel>
- ¹³ <https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/south-africa>
- ¹⁴ <http://www.trends.google.com>



APPENDIX: REGULATIONS

TABLE 1: REGULATIONS OF RE-ENTRY FOR CITIZENS OF PRIORITY SOURCE MARKETS

Disclaimer: Information on travel restrictions has been collated from multiple sources. Every effort has been made to provide information that is factual and up to date. However, with frequently changing regulations we can not guarantee error-free information

Country	Re-entry regulations after travel to South Africa
AUSTRALASIA	
India	All persons must submit an online health declaration form and proof of a negative RT-PCR result for COVID-19 issued no more than 72 hours prior to departure using the "Air Suvidha" system. All persons on flights originating from South Africa, must self-isolate for 7 days, undergo an additional test for COVID-19 and monitor their health status for a further 7 days.
Japan	Foreign nationals from South Africa below are denied permission to enter Japan for the time being, unless there are exceptional circumstances.
Australia	Australia's borders are currently closed and international travel from Australia remains strictly controlled to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. International travel from Australia is only available if you are exempt or you have been granted an individual exemption, for example for work, medical treatment, etc.
China	All persons must provide proof of negative results for COVID-19 using both a nucleic acid test and a serological test for IgM antibodies – performed no more than 48 hours prior to departure. All persons must undergo a 14-day quarantine at a designated location upon arrival. Persons entering via Shanghai can undergo a 7-day quarantine in a designated location followed by 7 days of self-isolation at home.
AMERICAS	
United States	Prior to boarding a flight to the United States, all passengers (> 2yrs old) must provide proof of a negative COVID-19 viral test taken within 3 days of travel or documentation from a licensed health care provider confirming recovery from COVID-19 in the 90 days preceding travel. Unvaccinated travellers are recommended to self isolate for 7 days after travel.
Brazil	Entry into Brazil by foreign nationals is restricted to arrivals by air. Foreign nationals who, within 14 days of their intended arrival in Brazil, have visited or transited through India, South Africa, or the United Kingdom are prohibited from entering Brazil.
Canada	Advisory against non-essential travel. Note on caution into South Africa due to high levels of crime. All travellers must register on ArriveCan, provide proof of a negative COVID-19 molecular test up to 72 hours before departure, take a COVID-19 test on arrival, mandatory 3-night quarantine at a government authorised hotel (own cost) await test results. Followed by the remainder of a total 14-day quarantine with a COVID-19 test on day 8. Exemptions for fully vaccinated travellers who meet specific conditions may be exempt from quarantine, hotel stopover (for air travellers), day-8 testing requirement. Final determination of whether or not you qualify for the exemption is made by a government representative at the border.

**TABLE 1 CONT. : REGULATIONS OF RE-ENTRY FOR CITIZENS OF PRIORITY SOURCE MARKETS**

Country	Re-entry regulations after travel to South Africa
EUROPE	
Netherlands	South Africa is considered a very high-risk area. Travelers must be able to show a negative PCR test and Self-quarantine is mandatory if you travel/return to the Netherlands after staying in very high-risk countries. You must always be able to show a completed, printed and signed quarantine declaration if you travel from a very high-risk country.
France	If you are vaccinated, you must simply present proof of your vaccination status and a sworn statement certifying the absence of COVID-19 symptoms and of any contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19. If you are not vaccinated, you must present the transport company and border control authorities with a negative PCR or antigenic test taken less than 48 hours prior to departure (departure of first flight in case of connecting flights). Children aged below twelve years are exempt from testing.
Spain	Anyone who has been fully vaccinated can enter Spain for a vacation without proof of a negative Covid test, even if they are arriving from destinations categorized as risk spots, including South Africa. No quarantine is needed.
Italy	Travel for tourism is not permitted. Travel to List E countries (including South Africa) is only allowed for specific reasons including work, health, study, urgency or return to Italy. If arriving from list E countries you must provide a negative molecular or antigenic swab within 72 hours of travel, complete a digital Passenger Location Form, undergo fiduciary isolation and health surveillance for 10 days. Undergo an additional molecular or antigenic swab at the end of the 10-day isolation period and are required to travel to desired destination only via private transport.
United Kingdom	As of 11 October 2021, South Africa was taken off the UK red list. No hotel quarantine is needed. Fully vaccinated people and under Eligible fully vaccinated passengers and eligible under 18s returning from countries and territories not on the red list, can do so with just a day 2 test. Other passengers who are not fully vaccinated with an authorised vaccine returning from a non-red destination must still take a pre-departure test, a day 2 and day 8 test and complete 10 days self-isolation (with the option of Test to Release on day 5).
Germany	South Africa is no longer listed as a high-risk area. Travelers aged twelve years or older must hold proof of the following upon entering Germany : a negative COVID-19 test result or proof of a full COVID-19 vaccination or proof of recovery from an infection. This proof must be held prior to entering the country and must be presented to the airline before departure where applicable.
Russia	South African nationals are now allowed to travel to Russia. A negative PCR test needs to be taken 3 days before arrival.

**TABLE 1 CONT. : REGULATIONS OF RE-ENTRY FOR CITIZENS OF PRIORITY SOURCE MARKETS**

AFRICA	
Namibia	All non-Namibian travelers must provide a negative COVID-19 PCR test result that is not older than 7 days (168) hours old at Port of Entry or will be subjected to a 7-day quarantine and testing at own cost.
Botswana	All travelers need to provide proof of a negative COVID-19 PCR test no more than 72 hours old before arrival and must also take an COVID-19 antigen test at the port of entry. If no negative test result is provided, if the test at the border is positive, or if any COVID-19 symptoms are present, travelers may be refused entry or be required to undergo 14 days isolation or quarantine at own expense.
Eswatini	Travelers into the Kingdom of Eswatini must provide a negative PCR COVID-19 test certificate not older than 72 hours. Returning residents who fail to produce a negative PCR COVID-19 certificate will be subject to the test at the point of entry and may be required to undergo quarantine not exceeding 14 days or isolation.
Lesotho	Lesotho is open to foreigners and returning Lesotho residents but is not yet open to tourism. There are limited flights and land border gates are open over allocated periods of time. To enter Lesotho, a negative PCR test is required to be taken within 72 hours of entry.
Zambia	Returning residents must have proof that they have tested negative for COVID-19 in the 72 hours before their arrival. South Africa is no longer a high-risk country. If your body temperature is equal to, or above 38.0, or you have a COVID-19 related symptom (a cough, shortness of breath, a headache, loss of taste or smell, or a sore throat), you will be tested and taken to either your home or a government facility for treatment and quarantine until your tests results are known.
Zimbabwe	Travelers must carry proof of a negative result for COVID-19 issued no more than 48 hours prior to departure using a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test. Persons who lack such proof or who are exhibiting symptoms consistent with COVID-19 must undergo testing and a 10-day quarantine in a dedicated facility. Upon arrival, all persons must self-isolate for 10-days at their residence or a suitable location. All persons arriving from locations with confirmed transmission of the SARS-CoV-2 Alpha and Delta variants must, at their own expense, undergo testing for COVID-19 on the 1st, 3rd, 5th, and 10th day following their arrival.
Mozambique	All passengers will need proof of a negative COVID-19 test issued in their country of departure issued no more than 72 hours prior travel to enter Mozambique. Children under 11 years old are exempt from the requirement to present a COVID-19 PCR test. Anyone testing positive, or in contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 will be required to self-isolate for a period of 14 days.
Kenya	All passengers must provide a negative COVID-19 PCR certificate taken no more than 96 hours before departure. Diplomatic passport holders' negative PCR test must be done within 7 days before arrival. All travelers will have to complete an online registration form before departure and submit to medical screening on arrival in Kenya. Travelers must comply with the need to undergo quarantine if necessary.
Malawi	In June 2021 Malawi's borders were again closed to all but Malawi citizens and residents. They were re-opened in August 2021 to allow entry for all travelers with a negative PCR test obtained no more than 72 hours prior to arrival.
Nigeria	Passengers must test negative by polymerase chain reaction (PCR) from the country of exit 3 days (72 hours) before departure. Tests done more than 72 hours before departure are not valid Prior to boarding, passengers are requested to upload their COVID-19 PCR NEGATIVE results on to the national payment portal and have an electronic or hard copy for presentation at the airport All intending passengers are required to register via – http://nitp.ncdc.gov.ng and pay for a repeat (second) PCR test to be done upon arrival in Nigeria. At the time of boarding, all travelers will undergo temperature screening and questioned for COVID-19 symptoms. Passengers with COVID-19 related signs and symptoms will not be allowed to board the flight.



SOURCES OF INFORMATION FOR TABLE 1: REGULATIONS OF RE-ENTRY FOR CITIZENS OF PRIORITY SOURCE MARKETS

Disclaimer: Information on travel restrictions has been collated from multiple sources. Every effort has been made to provide information that is factual and up to date. However, with frequently changing regulations we can not guarantee error-free information

Country	Source of travel restriction information
Australia:	https://covid19.homeaffairs.gov.au/leaving-australia
Botswana:	https://travelbans.org/africa/botswana/
Brazil:	https://www.trip.com/travel-restrictions-covid-19/
Canada:	https://travel.gc.ca/destinations/south-africa
China:	https://www.trip.com/travel-restrictions-covid-19/
Eswatini:	https://www.thekingdomofeswatini.com/travel-advice/
France:	https://www.interieur.gouv.fr/Actualites/L-actu-du-Ministere/Certificate-of-international-travel
Germany:	https://southafrica.diplo.de/sa-en/sa-consular/-/2473370
India:	https://www.trip.com/travel-restrictions-covid-19/
Italy:	http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/nuovocoronavirus/dettaglioContenutiNuovoCoronavirus.jsp?lingua=italiano&id=5412&area=nuovoCoronavirus&menu=vuoto&tab=5
Japan:	https://www.japan.travel/en/coronavirus/
Kenya:	https://www.kenyanevisa.com/entry-restrictions/
Lesotho:	https://travelbans.org/africa/lesotho/
Malawi:	https://www.malawitourism.com/travel-advice/
Mozambique:	https://www.dfa.ie/travel/travel-advice/a-z-list-of-countries/mozambique/
Namibia:	https://namibiaturism.com.na/page/covid-19-updates
Netherlands:	https://www.government.nl/topics/coronavirus-covid-19/tackling-new-coronavirus-in-the-netherlands/travel-and-holidays
Nigeria:	https://covid19.ncdc.gov.ng/advisory/
Russia:	https://www.trip.com/travel-restrictions-covid-19/
Spain:	https://edition.cnn.com/travel/article/spain-travel-covid-19/index.html
United Kingdom:	https://www.gov.uk/government/news/travel-update-47-countries-and-territories-removed-from-red-list
United States:	https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/ea/covid-19-information.html
Zambia:	https://travelbans.org/africa/zambia/
Zimbabwe:	https://www.trip.com/travel-restrictions-covid-19/