REPUBLIC OF RWANDA

TRAVEL EXPENDITURE SURVEY REPORT:
Compilation methodology and results

January - September 2023

October 2023

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

BOP	: Balance of Payments
BPM6	: Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual 6th Edition
DGIE	: Directorate General of Immigration and Emigration
DRC	: Democratic Republic of Congo
EAC	: East African Community
EU	: European Union
FRW	: Franc Rwandais
GDP	: Gross Domestic Product
ID	: Identity card
ITRS	: International Transactions Reporting System
KIA	: Kigali International Airport
MCS	: Movement Control System
MSITS 2010	: Manual of Statistics of International Trade in Services 2010
NBR	: National Bank of Rwanda
NISR	: National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda
RDB	: Rwanda Development Board
TES	: Travel Expenditure Survey
USD	: United States Dollar
VFR	: Visiting Friends and Relatives

PREFACE

In the framework of improving sources and methods for the compilation of the Balance of Payment (BOP) and the National Accounts (NA), the National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR) in partnership with the Directorate General of Immigration and Emigration (DGIE), the National Bank of Rwanda (NBR) and the Rwanda Development Board (RDB) conduct the bi-annual Travel Expenditure Survey (TES). This survey is conducted twice a year from October to January and from May to July. The survey captures expenditures of non-residents visiting Rwanda (inbound) and expenditures of Rwandan residents abroad (outbound). This survey is conducted following concepts and recommendations of Manual on Statistics of International Trade in Services 2010 (MSITS 2010) and Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual 6th Edition (BPM6). The methodology is replacing the settlements data collected in the International Transactions Reporting System (ITRS) formerly known as foreign exchange record systems.

The current methodology to estimate travel services, consist of using survey results (average daily expenditure and length of stay) multiplied by the number of Rwandan resident travellers abroad and non-resident visitors to Rwanda, provided by the DGIE. This report presents the travel estimates for the period that runs from January to September 2023.

NISR would like to acknowledge the effort and commitment made by the TES technical Staff and enumerators to fulfil this task.

MURANGWA Yusuf
Director General

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Travel services cover expenditures on goods and services acquired by travellers during their visits to an economy other than their country of residence. Two flows in particular are therefore considered for the compilation of exports and imports of travel services for the Balance of Payments:

1. Non-resident visitors to Rwanda (exports / travel credit)
2. Rwandan residents travelling abroad (imports / travel debit)

This publication presents the estimates of travel services for the first three quarters of the year 2023, the survey methodology and the results. Travel services comprise of expenditure of non-residents in Rwanda (Credit) and expenditure of Rwandan residents abroad (Debit).

This report is made of four chapters as follows; Chapter 1 covers the methodology for estimating travel expenditure, Chapter 2 shows survey results for the second and third quarters of 2023, Chapter 3 presents official figures of arrivals and departures of Rwanda and Chapter 4 presents grossed up results of total travel expenditure (credits and debits) disaggregated by modes of travel, travel purposes and country groupings.

KEY FINDINGS

Total credits are expenditures of non-residents visitors to Rwanda and total debits are expenditures of Rwandan residents while abroad. Total credits and debits are estimated using inputs from survey multiplied by the number of non-resident visitors to Rwanda and Rwandan resident travellers abroad, respectively. The following are the key survey results:

- The total travel credit equalled 113.9 million USD in the first quarter of 2023, 120.4 million USD and 168.0 million USD in the second and third quarters of 2023, respectively.
- The total travel debit amounted to 68.5 million USD in the first quarter of 2023, 77.6 million USD and 100.2 million USD in the second and third quarters of 2023, respectively.
- As result, the travel service surplus reached 45.3 million USD in the first quarter of 2023, 42.7 million USD and 67.8 million USD in the second and third quarters of 2023, respectively
- Figure 1 displays the quarterly series and the balance.

Figure 1. Travel services by flow in million USD
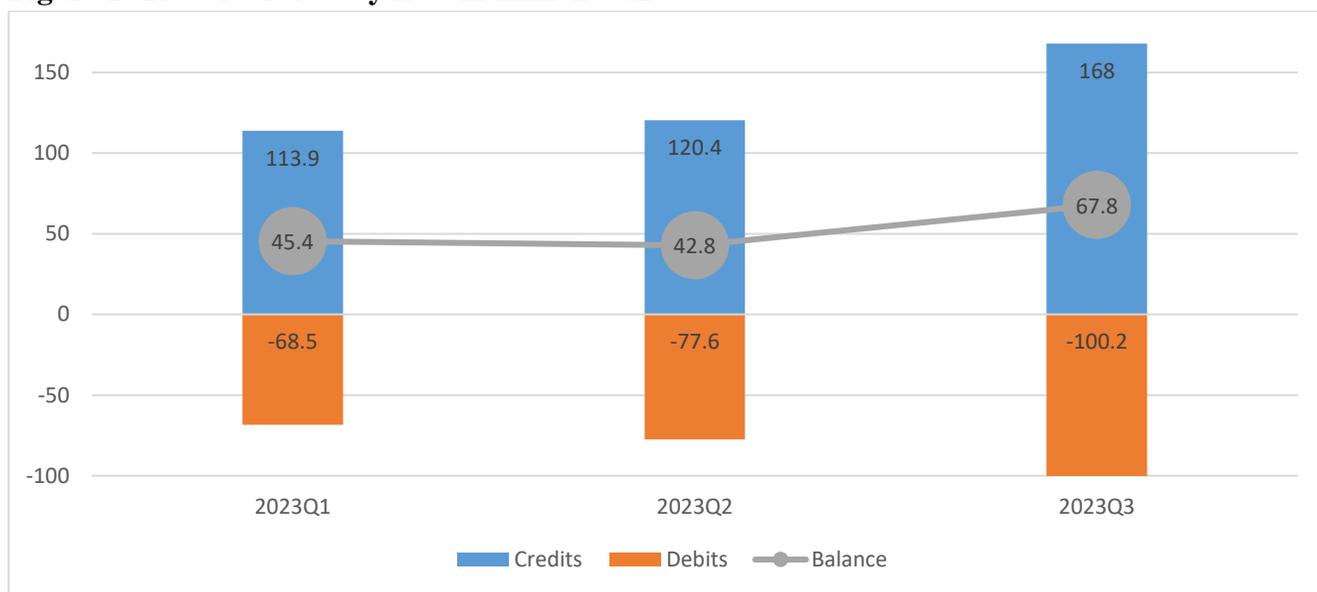
Source: TES 2023Q1- NISR.

CHAPTER 1. METHODOLOGY

1.1.   Introduction

In the framework of improving sources and methods for the compilation of the Balance of Payment (BOP) and the National Accounts (NA), the National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR) in partnership with the Directorate General of Immigration and Emmigration (DGIE), the National Bank of Rwanda (NBR) and the Rwanda Development Board (RDB) conduct the bi-annual Travel Expenditure Survey (TES).

This survey is conducted twice a year from October to January and from May to July. The survey captures expenditures of non-residents visiting Rwanda (inbound) and expenditures of Rwandan residents abroad (outbound). This survey is conducted following concepts and recommentations of Manual on Statistics of International Trade in Services 2010 (MSITS 2010) and Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual 6th Edition (BPM6). The methodology is replacing the settlements data collected in the International Transactions Reporting System (ITRS) formerly known as foreign exchange record systems.

Travel is a key component of trade in services within the BOP and the NA. The aim of this chapter is to present the methodology used to collect data of the travel expenditure survey in Rwanda.

1.2.   Methodology for TES

Travel covers expenditures on goods and services acquired by travellers during their visits to an economy other than their country of residence. Expenses of non-resident visitors to Rwanda are recorded as exports of travel services, while expenditures abroad by Rwandan resident travellers are recorded as imports of travel services.
The survey based approach for measuring travel expenditures is based on the following standard model depicted in Figure 2.

The approach requires two main sources of information:

(1) The TES to produce the average daily expenditure per person and the average length of stay for both non-resident and resident travellers.

(2) DGIE records of total travellers for land and air borders, by nationality.

The counts of total arrivals (entry data) to Rwanda are used as a grossing factor to estimate total travel expenditure. These data are provided with a breakdown by country grouping based on nationality and purpose of travel, while for estimating travel, the residence and visited regions are required to apply proportions of residence and visited regions for each purpose of travel from the survey.

The following additional treatment are also made:
  i.   Combined Business, Conference and Official Mission purposes into a single group under the name of Business;
  ii.   Combined Holiday and Relaxation categories into a single Holiday category;

Figure 2. Estimation of travel expenditure
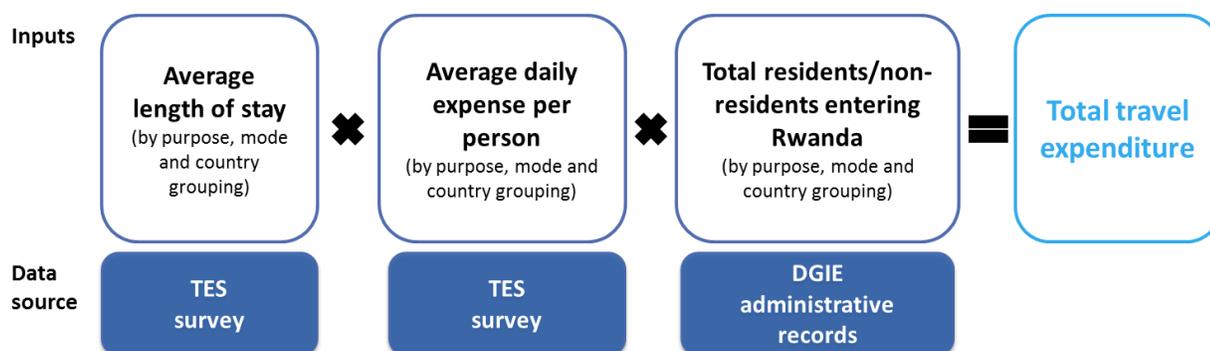
Input data is broken down by purpose of visit, mode of travel and country grouping (Figure 2)

- **Purpose of visit** is the main reason that motivated the travel, for example, whether business or holiday though the traveller may have also visited friends or relatives, or vice versa.
- **Mode of travel** refers to border point type (airport or land border.
- **Country grouping** refers to country of residence for the non-resident traveller and main country visited for the resident traveller. There are five regions groupings, namely Asia, East African Community/EAC, Europe, Rest of Africa, North America and Rest of the world. In DGIE data, country of residence and country visited by resident travellers were not available. Therefore, to estimate travel expenditures by geographical breakdown, we used the proportions of the TES country groupings. *The total travel expenditure is obtained by multiplying the average length of stay* with *average daily expenditure per person* broken down by purpose, mode and country grouping with DGIE data. Appendix provides additional definitions for key terms and concepts used in this report.

1.3. Sample selection

The methodology for selecting travellers followed a two-stage process. In the first stage, the selection of borders was purposive, chosen based on DGIE border flows data[1]. In total, 11 borders were selected namely Kigali International Airport, Rusumo, Kagitumba, Gatuna, Cyanika, Rusizi I, Rusizi II, Akanyaru Haut, Nemba, Corniche and Poids Lourds. In the second stage, travellers at each border were screened based on their residence.

1.4. Sampling procedure

The screening of passengers was done to ensure only targeted travellers were interviewed: non-resident visitors to Rwanda exiting the country (travel credit) and Rwandan residents who travelled abroad entering Rwanda (travel debit).

Data collection takes place at the end of the trip, when travellers have a complete picture of what has been spent on goods and services acquired on their visit. For *non-residents*, data collection takes place

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[1] The selection of borders was done based on DGIE data by selecting those borders with high volume of travellers.

at the exit point when they are leaving Rwanda. For *residents*, this is at the entry point when residents are returning from their trip abroad.

Figure 3. Flows and when data are collected
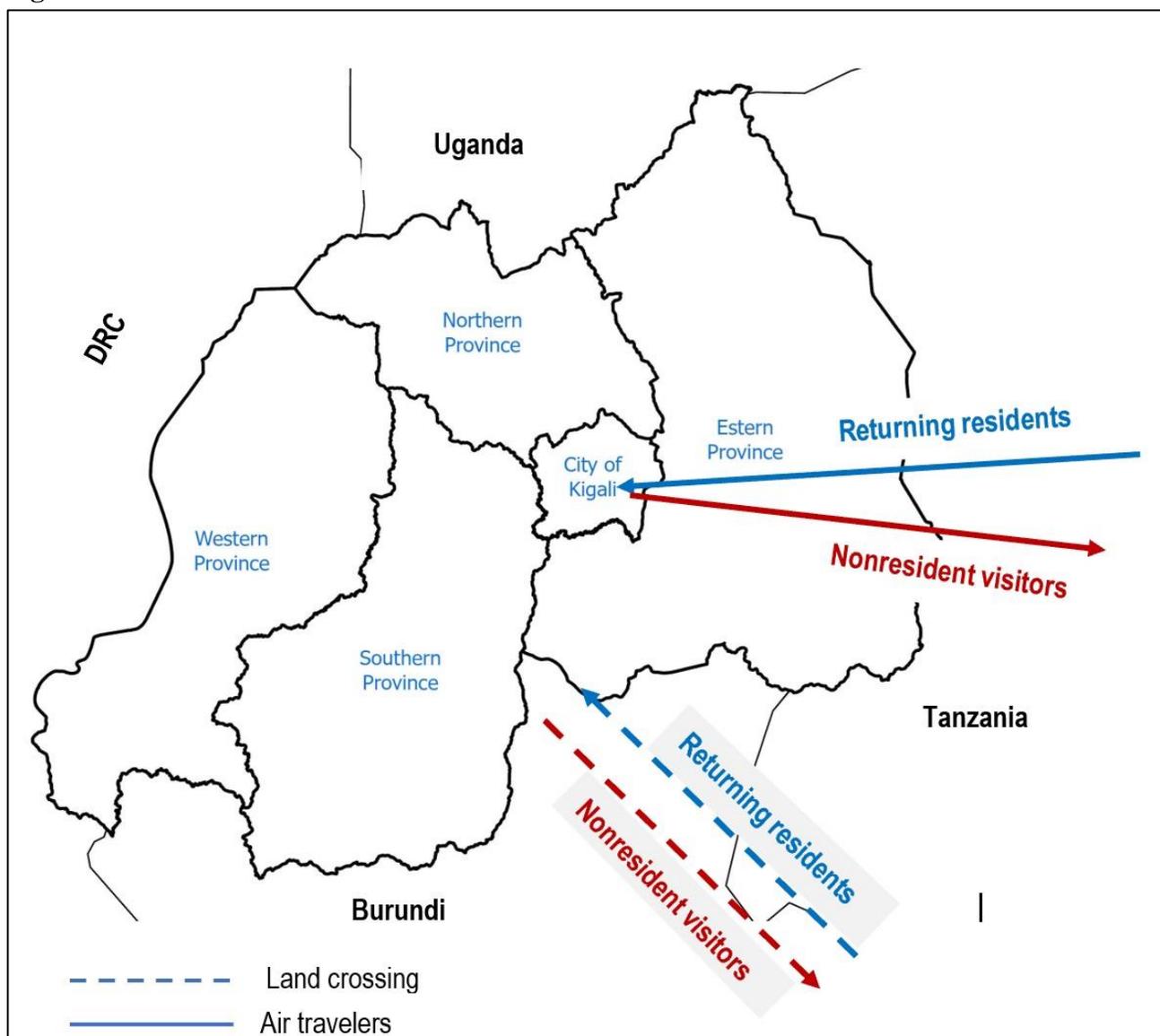
Source: NISR, 2023

TES enumerators conducted as many interviews as possible to eligible travellers. The interviews were administered face-to-face on a voluntary basis using CAPI.

1.5. Number of respondents

Table 1 summarises the total number of respondents of the survey[2], broken down by mode of travel (air or land) and whether a resident (R) or non-resident (NR) survey was conducted. In addition, the table provides information on months of data collection and borderposts selected for data collection.

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[2] Sample sizes shown are sample sizes used for analysis, following data cleaning and exclusions of questionnaires not

Table 1. June to August 2023 TES respondents by mode of travel and residence

		Mode of travel	June-August 2023

- Kigali International Airport (KIA)
- With Burundi:
  ▪ Akanyaru Haut and Nemba
- With DRC:
  ▪ Poids Lourds[3], Corniche[4], Rusizi I and Rusizi II
- With Tanzania:
  ▪ Rusumo
- With Uganda:
  ▪ Cyanika, Gatuna and Kagitumba
	Residents	Air	4,136

		Land	23,573
		Total	**27,709**
	Non-Residents	Air	4,076
		Land	15,047
		Total	**19,123**

Source: TES 2023- NISR

1.6. Survey instruments

For all surveys, four separate survey instruments were used to collect information: non-resident visitors via air, non-resident visitors via land, and returning Rwandan residents via air and land to accommodate questions specific to air and land transport.

The resulting survey forms cover the following groups of travellers:
1) **Non-resident visitors** – via Kigali International Airport (KIA)
2) **Non-resident visitors** – via land border crossings
3) **Rwandan Residents** – via KIA
4) **Rwandan Residents** – via land border crossings

The basic structure of all survey instruments is the same. All travel expenditure survey forms collected specific information from travellers following the MSITS 2010 international recommendations, namely their nationality, country of residence, main purpose of travel, length of stay, and patterns of expenditure including number of persons included in the expenditure reported and type (accommodation, food and beverage, sightseeing, etc.).

In addition to these questions, the questionnaires administered to returning residents collected data on the country visited where they spent most time in. Similarly, the questionnaires administered to non-residents visitors to Rwanda collected information about the country of residence of visitors and information for tourism statistics purposes about activities done in Rwanda, places of stay during their visit to Rwanda and basic demographic data.

Finally, the non-resident instrument via KIA, included questions about prepaid expenses for their trip to Rwanda.

A series of key concepts and definitions used in the TES is included in Appendix A.

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complying with the objectives of the survey. More information on this issue is detailed on Appendix B.

[3] Poids Lourds is commonly referred to as 'Petite Barrière' although volume of travellers in this border is greater than at La Corniche.

[4] La Corniche border post is commonly referred to as 'Grande Barrière'

CHAPTER 2. RESULTS FROM THE TRAVEL EXPENDITURE SURVEY

The objective of this Chapter is to present the main results from June to August 2023 Travel Expenditure Survey. The results under consideration are mainly *average daily expenditure per person* and *average length of stay,* both inputs used in the methodology for estimating travel credit and debit (See Chapter 1).

2.1. Export of travel services

This section highlights the average length of stay and average daily expenditure per person of nonresident visitors to Rwanda.

2.1.1. Average length of stay

Tables 4 and 5 show the average length of stay by purpose of visit and mode of travel for air and land, respectively.

- *Air travellers*

Table 2 displays the average length of stay of non-resident travellers to Rwanda by air broken down by country groupings and travel purposes.

Table 2. Average length of stay of non-resident visitors to Rwanda, Air

Country grouping	Business	Education	Health	Holiday	VFR	Transit
Asia	31	84	-	13	17	1
EAC	9	25	25	13	10	1
Europe	16	22	13	9	19	1
North America	13	27	25	8	19	1
Rest of Africa	14	210	53	12	12	1
Rest of the World	7	34	-	5	12	2
Overall average	**15**	**67**	**29**	**10**	**15**	**1**

Source: TES 2023- NISR

- *Land travellers*

Table 3 displays the average length of stay of non-resident travellers to Rwanda by land broken down by country groupings and travel purposes.

Table 3. Average length of stay of non-resident visitors to Rwanda, Land

Country grouping	Business	Education	Health	Holiday	VFR*	Transit
Asia	23	300	-	7	5	1
EAC	5	60	18	5	10	2
Europe	31	18	-	8	6	1
North America	8	-	-	6	23	1
Rest of Africa	42	212	14	6	15	1
Rest of the World	18	206	330	5	19	2
Overall average	**6**	**94**	**17**	**1**	**8**	**1**

Source: TES 2023- NISR
* VFR stands for Visiting Friends and Relatives

2.1.2. Average daily expenditure per person

- *Air travellers*

In Table 4 shows the daily average expenditure of non-resident travellers abroad by air broken down by country groupings and travel purposes are presented.

Table 4. Average daily expenditure per person of non-resident visitors, by air (value in USD)

Country grouping	Business	Education	Health	Holiday	VFR	Transit
Asia	118	220	-	147	47	87
EAC	117	98	125	123	61	87
Europe	124	103	94	158	60	105
North America	124	146	48	193	75	122
Rest of Africa	115	61	97	139	54	84
Rest of the World	151	93	-	176	85	191
Overall average	**125**	**120**	**91**	**156**	**63**	**113**

Source: TES 2023- NISR

- *Land travellers*

Table 5 shows daily average expenditure of non-resident travellers abroad by land broken down by country groupings and travel purposes.

Table 5. Average daily expenditure per person of non-resident visitors, by land (value in USD)

Country grouping	Business	Education	Health	Holiday	VFR	Transit
Asia	37	6	-	55	28	45
EAC	22	12	25	41	12	21
Europe	47	20	-	53	29	50
North America	52	-	-	52	48	56
Rest of Africa	33	14	68	54	16	42
Rest of the world	50	9	12	52	36	48
Overall average	**40**	**12**	**35**	**51**	**28**	**44**

Source: TES 2023- NISR

2.2. Import of travel services

This section highlights the average length of stay and average daily expenditure per person of Rwandan residents who have travelled abroad.

2.2.1. Average length of stay

Tables 6 and 7 illustrate the average length of stay of resident travellers abroad. Results are presented separately for air (Table 6) and for land (Table 7).

- *Air travellers*

Table 6 displays the average length of stay of resident travellers abroad by air broken down by country groupings and travel purposes.

Table 6. Average length of stay of residents on their trip abroad, by air

Country grouping	Business	Education	Health	Holiday	VFR
Asia	32	54	288	11	31
EAC	15	11	114	12	17
Europe	22	87	291	18	26
North America	32	14	361	16	29
Rest of Africa	36	22	294	12	21
Rest of the world	91	13	401	4	22
Overall average	**38**	**33**	**291**	**12**	**24**

Source: TES 2023- NISR

- *Land travellers*

Table 7 displays the average length of stay of resident travellers abroad by land broken down by country groupings and travel purposes.

Table 7. Average length of stay of residents on their trip abroad, by land

Country grouping	Business	Education	Health	Holiday	VFR
EAC	19	5	20	7	11
Rest of Africa	3	15	7	4	6
Overall average	**7**	**9**	**10**	**4**	**7**

Source: TES 2023- NISR

2.2.2. Average daily expenditure per person

The tables 8 and 9 present the average length of stay of resident travellers abroad for all main purposes of travel collected. Results are presented separately for air (Table 11) and for land (Table 12).

- *Air travellers*

Table 8 displays daily average expenditure of resident travellers abroad by air broken down by country groupings and travel purposes.

Table 8. Average daily expenditure per person of residents on their trip abroad, by air (value in USD)

Country grouping	Business	Education	Health	Holiday	VFR
Asia	22	57	29	10	40
EAC	72	72	17	120	24
Europe	202	97	60	148	163
North America	225	113	302	138	91
Rest of Africa	26	32	218	17	47
Rest of the world	43	3	122	0	27
Overall average	**98**	**62**	**125**	**72**	**65**

Source: TES 2023- NISR

- *Land travellers*

Table 9 displays daily average expenditure of resident travellers abroad by air disaggregated by country groupings and travel purposes.

Table 9. Average daily expenditure per resident abroad, by land (value in USD)

Country grouping	Business	Education	Health	Holiday	VFR
EAC	9	9	13	7	9
Rest of Africa	8	7	12	12	9
Overall average	**9**	**8**	**13**	**9**	**9**

Source: TES 2023- NISR

CHAPTER 3.   ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE MIGRATION FLOWS

3.1.   Introduction

The Directorate General of Immigration and Emigration (DGIE), under its mandate of managing borders, records all movements of travellers entering or leaving Rwanda. These data are processed, analysed and used for grossing up survey results.

3.2.   Data used for estimating travel debit and credit

This sub-section presents the derived data and tables to be used for estimating total travel credits and debits in Chapter 4.

3.2.1.   Non-resident visitors to Rwanda

The total number of travellers to Rwanda is based on total arrivals and is shown in Table 13 (Air) for 2023Q2, Table 14 (Air) for 2023Q3, Table 14 (Land) for 2023Q2 and Table 15 (Land) for 2023Q3. These tables present data which are disaggregated by purpose of travel and residents' country grouping.

3.2.1.1.   Air travellers

The total number of non-resident travellers to Rwanda by air during the second and third quarters of 2023 is 64,465 and 89,511, respectively (Tables 10 and 11).

Table 10. Non-residents visitors to Rwanda by Air[5] for 2023Q2

Country grouping	Business	Education	Health	Holiday	VFR	Transit	Total
Asia	2,751	18	4	1,010	1,711	344	**5,838**
EAC	4,373	237	37	1,274	6,930	3,101	**15,952**
Europe	3,595	89	12	4,167	4,670	1,201	**13,734**
North America	1,642	114	14	4,629	3,804	450	**10,653**
Rest of Africa	6,686	492	23	3,417	3,631	2,614	**16,863**
Rest of the world	419	1	-	573	270	162	**1,425**
Total	**19,466**	**951**	**90**	**15,070**	**21,016**	**7,872**	**64,465**

Source: DGIE

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[5]Air transits encompass travellers in transit who have exited the airport, it is assumed that all transit travellers make some expenditure in Rwanda, such as on taxi services, food, souvenirs, and more. It is important to highlight that land transits are subject to a distinct treatment.

Table 11. Non-residents visitors to Rwanda by Air for 2023Q3

Country grouping	Business	Education	Health	Holiday	VFR	Transit	Total
Asia	3,029	53	3	1,597	2,321	427	**7,430**
EAC	5,869	252	47	2,016	10,909	4,671	**23,764**
Europe	3,517	110	6	6,564	7,063	2,150	**19,410**
North America	2,425	73	18	7,199	4,375	662	**14,752**
Rest of Africa	7,982	1,016	38	3,947	5,211	3,732	**21,926**
Rest of the world	605	5	1	1,022	344	252	**2,229**
Total	**23,427**	**1,509**	**113**	**22,345**	**30,223**	**11,894**	**89,511**

Source: DGIE

3.2.1.2. Land travellers

Tables 12 and 13 illustrate the total number of non-resident travellers to Rwanda by land. The total number of arrivals of non-resident visitors by land is 425,154 and 534,319 for second and third quarters of 2023, repectively .

Table 12. Non-residents visitors to Rwanda by Land6 for 2023Q2

Country grouping	Business	Education	Health	Holiday	VFR	Transit	Total
Asia	473	-	-	95	818	526	1,912
EAC	56,521	2,342	1,014	4,824	101,874	249,588	416,163
Europe	460	9	-	287	1,507	928	3,191
North America	193	-	14	130	713	407	1,457
Rest of Africa	502	30	3	71	764	535	1,905
Rest of the world	72	-	1	64	257	132	526
Total	**58,221**	**2,381**	**1,032**	**5,471**	**105,933**	**252,116**	**425,154**

Source: DGIE

Table 13. Non-residents visitors to Rwanda by Land for 2023Q3

Country grouping	Business	Education	Health	Holiday	VFR	Transit	Total
Asia	1,281	19	118	752	1,710	939	4,819
EAC	66,313	1,886	1,661	7,900	121,298	306,862	505,920
Europe	1,267	34	309	2,698	4,124	2,492	10,924
North America	317	19	3	1,100	1,195	667	3,301
Rest of Africa	2,197	379	186	820	2,416	1,878	7,876
Rest of the world	192	5	38	419	479	346	1,479
Total	**71,567**	**2,342**	**2,315**	**13,689**	**131,222**	**313,184**	**534,319**

Source: DGIE

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[6] For estimating total land credits in Chapter 5, land transits are considered except for DRC residents who transit between borders without spending any money in Rwanda except few of them. However, after analysing migration raw data, only 20 per cent of Congolese transiting though spend money in Rwanda.

3.2.2. Rwandan Residents

- *Air travellers*

Tables 14 and 15 show the total number of returning Rwandan residents from abroad via air for second and third quarters of 2023. The total number of Rwandan residents travelling by air is 36,269 and 47,311 for second and third quarters of 2023, respectively.

Table 14: Rwandan Resident travellers by Air for 2023Q2

Country grouping	Business	Education	Health	Holiday	VFR	Total
Asia	536	2	2	419	876	**1,835**
EAC	13,593	1,252	412	4,752	7,885	**27,894**
Europe	570	18	2	731	1,568	**2,888**
North America	275	5	-	378	757	**1,415**
Rest of Africa	446	21	4	504	1,112	**2,088**
Rest of the world	42	-	-	37	70	**149**
Total	**15,463**	**1,298**	**419**	**6,821**	**12,269**	**36,269**

Source: DGIE

Table 15: Rwandan Resident travellers by Air for 2023Q3

Country grouping	Business	Education	Health	Holiday	VFR	Total
Asia	648	37	-	547	1,096	**2,327**
EAC	13,586	4,043	425	7,259	10,336	**35,650**
Europe	776	36	10	1,202	1,913	**3,938**
North America	492	43	-	610	986	**2,131**
Rest of Africa	628	47	5	782	1,558	**3,020**
Rest of the world	48	-	-	66	132	**245**
Total	**16,177**	**4,206**	**441**	**10,466**	**16,021**	**47,311**

Source: DGIE

- *Land Travellers*

Tables 16 and 17 display the total number of resident travellers returning from abroad by land. The total number of returning Rwandan residents by land was 220,749 and 269,390 for second and third quarters of 2023, respectively.

Table 16: Rwandan Resident travellers by land for 2023Q2

Country grouping	Business	Education	Health	Holiday	VFR	Total
EAC	154,948	1,564	500	25,325	35,233	**217,569**
Rest of Africa	249	3	-	260	157	**669**
Total	**155,197**	**1,566**	**500**	**25,585**	**35,390**	**218,238**

Source: DGIE

Table 17: Rwandan Resident travellers by land for 2023Q2

Country grouping	Business	Education	Health	Holiday	VFR	Total
EAC	195,432	2,686	311	17,242	49,139	**264,811**
Rest of Africa	1,137	2	-	63	41	**1,244**
Total	**196,570**	**2,689**	**311**	**17,306**	**49,180**	**266,055**

Source: DGIE

CHAPTER 4.TRAVEL CREDITS AND DEBITS

This Chapter presents the estimates of total travel expenditure for the first three quarters of the year 2023.

4.1. Travel credit, debit and balance

- *Overall*

Figure 1 presents estimates of total travel expenditure for the first three quarters of the year 2023 by flow while Table 18 and Table 19 contain the findings by the purpose of travel for credit and debit respectively.

Table 18: Total travel credit by the purpose of travel in USD million

Purpose	2023Q1	2023Q2	2023Q3
Business	25	43.8	55.4
Education	16.9	9.7	17.8
Health	0.4	0.7	1.3
Holiday	38.3	24.2	37.7
VFR	17.9	32.7	44.2
Transit	15.4	9.2	11.8
Total	**113.9**	**120.3**	**168.2**

Source: TES 2023-NISR

Table 19: Total travel debit by the purpose of travel in USD million

Purpose	2023Q1	2023Q2	2023Q3
Business	42.5	46.7	56.4
Education	2.1	1.2	3.7
Health	1.1	1.2	1.4
Holiday	8.3	10.8	15.7
VFR	14.5	17.8	23
Transit	-	-	-
Total	**68.5**	**77.7**	**100.2**

Source: TES 2023-NISR

- *Credit by air*

Tables 20 and 21 show total expenditure in Rwanda of air non-resident travellers to Rwanda for the first three quarters of 2023 by country groupings and purpose of travel respectively.

Table 20: Total credit for air passengers by country groupings in thousand USD

Country grouping	2023Q1	2023Q2	2023Q3
Asia	10,131	13,740	17,040
EAC	9,104	12,062	17,542
Europe	26,367	18,579	24,684
North America	15,937	15,382	21,112
Rest of Africa	27,918	25,370	36,296
Rest of the world	2,695	1,307	2,036
Total	**92,152**	**86,440**	**118,710**

Source: TES 2023-NISR

Table 21: Total credit for air passengers by purpose of travel in thousand USD

Country grouping	2023Q1	2023Q2	2023Q3
Business	18,984	35,705	41,762
Education	12,444	7,903	15,241
Health	47	262	368
Holiday	36,460	22,974	33,844
VFR	11,320	18,792	26,272
Transit	12,897	804	1,223
Total	**92,152**	**86,440**	**118,710**

Source: TES 2023-NISR

- *Credit by land*

Tables 22 and 23 show total expenditure in Rwanda of land non-resident travellers to Rwanda for the first three quarters of 2023 by country groupings and purpose of travel respectively.

Table 22: Total credit for land passengers by country grouping in million USD

Country grouping	2023Q1	2023Q2	2023Q3
Asia	841	582	1,660
EAC	15,721	29,995	35,937
Europe	3,195	1,116	3,856
North America	543	948	1,858
Rest of Africa	1,338	1,026	5,348
Rest of the world	87	274	654
Total	**21,725**	**33,941**	**49,313**

Source: TES 2023-NISR

Table 23: Total credit for land passengers by purpose of travel in million USD

Country grouping	2023Q1	2023Q2	2023Q3
Business	5,987	8,145	13,628
Education	4,477	1,776	2,517
Health	399	449	908
Holiday	1,802	1,263	3,820
Visit	6,582	13,882	17,884
Transit	2,479	8,426	10,557
Total	**21,726**	**33,941**	**49,314**

Source: TES 2023-NISR

4.2. Debit

- *Debit by air*

Tables 24 and 25 illustrate the total amount spent abroad by returned Rwandan residents by air by the country groupings and the purpose of travel.

Table 24: Total debit for air passengers by country grouping in thousand USD

Country grouping	2023Q1	2023Q2	2023Q3
Asia	1,497	1,547	2,009
EAC	20,450	26,328	32,967
Europe	10,858	11,209	15,134
North America	5,163	4,841	7,577
Rest of Africa	1,648	1,902	2,685
Rest of the world	266	204	263
Total	**39,882**	**46,031**	**60,635**

Source: TES 2023-NISR

Table 25: Total debit for air passengers by purpose of travel in thousand USD

Country grouping	2023Q1	2023Q2	2023Q3
Business	18,000	20,108	22,819
Education	1,533	1,130	3,590
Health	969	1,081	1,331
Holiday	7,069	9,526	14,853
VFR	12,311	14,186	18,042
Total	39,882	46,031	60,635

Source: TES 2023-NISR

- *Debit by land*

Fogure 4 and Table 26 illustrate the total amount spent abroad by returned Rwandan residents by air by the country groupings and the purpose of travel respectively. More survey findings are presented in Appendix E (TES 2023 Survey Results).

Figure 4. Total debit for land passengers by country grouping in thousand USD
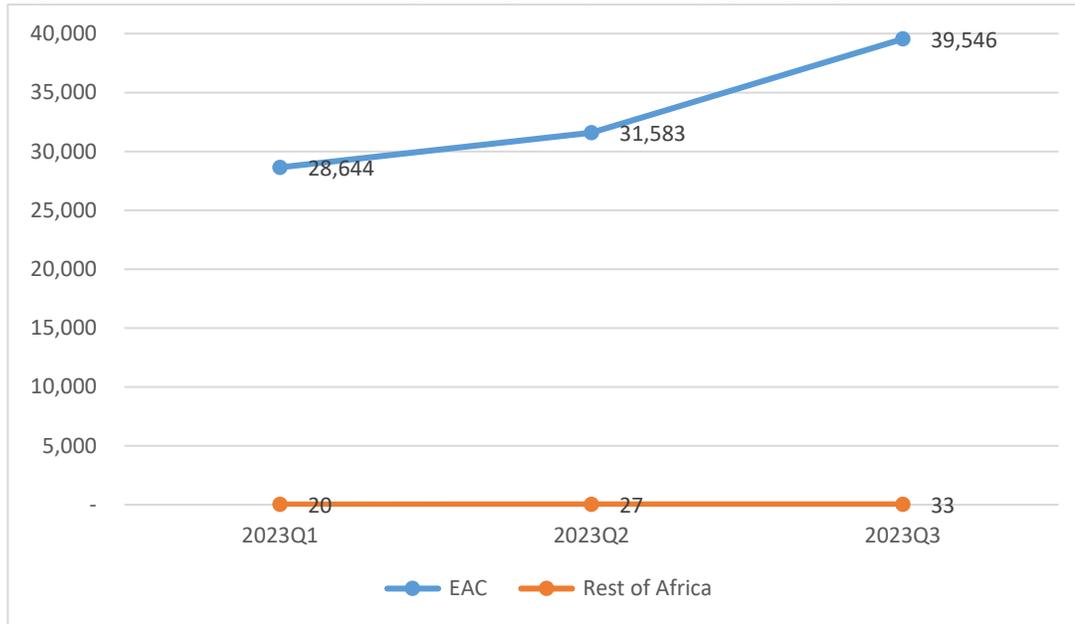
Source: TES 2023-NISR

Table 26: Total debit for land passengers by the purpose of travel in thousand USD

Country grouping	2023Q1	2023Q2	2023Q3
Business	24,532	26,579	33,544
Education	587	71	121
Health	121	131	81
Holiday	1,265	1,244	842
VFR	2,159	3,585	4,991
Total	**28,664**	**31,610**	**39,579**

Source: TES 2023-NISR

APPENDIXES

APPENDIX A: Key concepts and definitions in TES

1. **Number of visits and flow:** The **number of visits** relate to the number of **completed visits** (i.e**.** the data collected relate to the number of visits, not the number or visitors), counted upon arrival as Rwandan residents return from their stay abroad and upon exit as non-residents leave Rwanda. This is to ensure interviews take place at the end of the traveller's visit when factual information on expenditure and duration is available. Consequently, the travel expenditure survey does not include Rwandan residents departing from Rwanda neither non-residents visitors arriving in Rwanda.

2. **Length of stay:** In the case of Rwandan residents, length of stay covers the time spent outside Rwanda; this is the number of nights Rwandan residents spent abroad. For non-residents, length of stay covers the time spent in Rwanda; it refers to the number of nights spent within Rwanda.

3. **Non-residents visitors:** A **non-resident visitor** is a person who is a permanent resident in another country other than Rwanda. Includes foreigners who live abroad and Rwandan passport holders (or nationals) who have been living and/or working abroad (diaspora).[7] Country of residence is therefore **used to derive country grouping in the non-resident samples.**

4. **Rwandan residents**: Rwandan resident is a person who is a permanent resident[8] of Rwanda. Includes Rwandan citizens and foreign passport holders who live in Rwanda. Rwandan nationals abroad travelling for special purposes such as education, health, diplomatic mission, military operations/ missions are considered Rwandan residents.

5. **Country visited**: A country visited by a traveller that is different from his resident country. When a resident of Rwanda has visited more than one country, the entire visit, expenditure and stay is allocated to the country **where the resident spent most time of his/her travel**. Although information is collected at the country level, estimates in this report are shown aggregated at the regional level. **Country visited is used to derive country grouping categories in the resident samples.**

6. **Purpose of travel:** Purpose of travel is the main reason why a person is travelling. The main purposes of travel are Business (including mission and conference), Holiday, Visiting friends and relatives, Education, Health. Transits are also considered as a purpose of travel exclusively for non-residents transiting through Rwanda. **Miscellaneous/other purposes** such as attending sporting or religious events are allocated to one of the five main categories mentioned above.

7. **Daily average expenditure per person:** It is defined as the sum of all expenses divided by number of nights and number of travellers included in the calculation of the expenses. This is calculated for a specific country grouping and with a specific purpose of travel**.** Expenditure figures reported

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[7] With the exception of students and patients who are considered as residing in their home country.
[8] To be considered as permanent resident of a country, any of the following conditions should be met: (1) the person has lived in a country for more than 12 months; or intends to stay in a country for more than 12 months, even if the person has not lived there for that full length; or intends to have permanent home in a country.

on foreign currencies are converted to dollars **using the average foreign exchange rate** of the data collection period. Data in this report is shown in U.S. dollars.

a. **Rwandan resident's expenditure data**: For Rwandan residents, the survey collected **travel expenditure** of Rwandan residents travelling abroad for six broad categories: accommodation; food and beverages; entertainment; sightseeing excursions, souvenirs and gifts; transportation within the countries travelled to; and other expenses (excluding international transportation costs for air travellers). These include amounts paid for the trip by other Rwandan residents (such as an employer) and any amount spent for the trip prior to the departure, excluding the cost of international flights.

b. **Non-resident expenditure data**: For non-resident visitors, the survey collected **travel expenditure** of non-residents visitors in Rwanda for six broad categories: accommodation; food and beverages; entertainment; sightseeing excursions, souvenirs and gifts; transportation within the countries travelled to; and other expenses (excluding international transportation costs for air travellers). These include amounts paid for the trip by other non- residents (such as an employer), excluding the cost of international flights. In addition, travel expenditure paid before arriving (e.g. such as part of a package or independently arranged) is also collected and combined with additional the expenditures made while being in Rwanda to have the total expenditure.

8. **Average length of stay:** It is defined as the average number of nights spent by a traveller from a specific country grouping and with a specific purpose of travel.

9. **Country groupings (geographical areas):**
   - **Asia**: All countries in Asia plus the Middle East countries.
   - **EAC**[9]: Rwanda, Kenya, United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda and Burundi.
   - **Rest of Africa**: All non-EAC countries, including the Democratic Republic of Congo.
   - **Europe**: All European countries.
   - **North America:** Includes United States and Canada.
   - **Rest of World**: Central and South America, Australia and New Zealand, and other Oceania countries and Pacific Islands.

10. **Current-dollar estimates** are valued in the prices of the period when the transactions occurred, that is, at "market value." Also referred to as "nominal estimates" or as "current-price estimates."

11. **Exclusions**
   a. Expenditure on goods for sale since are declared in customs and accounted in merchandise goods.
   b. Expenditure on international transportation, included in international passenger services survey.
   c. Travellers interviewed reporting no expenses.
   d. Travellers interviewed who report stays of more than 90 days (apart from education and health purposes) were excluded from the analysis on this report.

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[9] South Sudan is only included in DGIE official annual figures of 2016.

e. Day-visits (that is trips that do not involve overnight stay) are included in the survey, but were recoded as 1 night during fieldwork.

f. Border community travellers' are not included in the survey.

APPENDIX B: Data cleaning procedure

The data cleaning followed comparable approaches in each of the survey rounds. Data cleaning was done in Stata.

1. For checking duplicates, the record ID is used to check for duplicates and identified duplicates records or ID were cleaned accordingly.

2. The CAPI used in data collection contributed to response consistency.

3. Outliers were checked and cleaned accordingly. The following checks is done on:
   - Number of nights
   - International exits via land borders
   - Number of travellers
   - Expenditure per traveller per night, by type of expenditure

4. Once data entry errors were corrected, all expenditure on local transportation for air travellers was reviewed. In the case where observations clearly included cost of international transportation, these results were adjusted to a plausible amount by subtracting the cheapest cost of air fares available over the same period or adjusting the fares based on a cut-off of 2000 USD per person.

5. Interviews that selected 'other purpose of travel' were reviewed. Those with a purpose of travel specified were re-assigned to either of the following categories: Holiday, VFR, Business, Health, and Education. The following decision was made:
   - Business included: Assignment, digging, labour force, conference (church mission, evangelism, preach, research, training, visit church/pray), and official missions
   - VFR included: Burial, wedding
   - Holiday included: Sport, leisure, tourism & festival

Exclusions from analysis

6. Cases reporting no expenses in either of the different types of expenditure categories were excluded from analysis.

7. Questionnaires without record of 'purpose of travel' were reviewed against hard copies. Where no data was found, it was removed as there was no purpose of travel.

8. Stays of more than 90 days (apart from education and health purposes) were also removed from analysis, as these travellers were considered to be resident of the country being visited.

Winsorization/outlier treatment

9. Winsorization is a technique that replaces extreme data values with less extreme values. We use this technique to further deal with outliers in the data. The procedure we have followed is the following:

   9.1. By travel mode (air and land) and for each type of expenditure category (accommodation, food and beverages, entertainment, sightseeing, transportation within country, and other expenses) and by major regions, we create a new variable which transform the original variables into their log.[10]

   9.2. For each transformed variable (and by air and land separately), we trim values above 3 standard deviations on each tail of the distribution.

   9.3. Then for each of these variables, we estimate the value on the second standard deviation (critical value of 1.96 for a 95% confidence interval, 2.5% in each tail) and replace more extreme values with the value estimated at the threshold. We not only do this by air and land but also by the following regions of destination/residence. For land travellers we consider EAC and non-EAC. For air travellers, we consider EAC, Rest of Africa, Europe/America, and Rest of the world.

Once this is done, we take the exponential of each of the variables (to bring the data back to normal) and include the original zeros that were excluded from this technique, which are considered genuine.

As a robustness check, we repeat step 8 for the following thresholds:
- No threshold= no winsorization after trimming
- Critical value of 2.33 for a 99% confidence interval, 1% each tail
- Critical value of 1.645 for a 90% confidence interval, 5% each tail

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[10] The distributions of expenses were positively skewed with a couple of outliers at the top and bunching of zero expenses at the bottom. We do this to have a more normal distribution which do not takes into account the zeros at the bottom.

APPENDIX C: Travel disclaimer

1. Annual figures shown in this publication are final estimates but subject to revision in light of additional passenger data obtained. DGIE estimates are revised in line with the DGIE revisions policy.

2. Planned revisions usually arise from either the receipt of revised passenger traffic data or the correction of errors to existing data identified later in the annual processing cycle. Those of significant magnitude will be highlighted and explained.

3. Revisions to published DGIE estimates can be expected in the report of the annual Travel Expenditure Survey.

APPENDIX D: TES 2023 Survey Results

Table E1: Travel services by purpose for 2023Q1 (in million USD)

	Business	Education	Health	Holiday	VFR	Transit	Total
Credits	25.0	16.9	0.4	38.3	17.9	15.4	**113.9**
Debits	42.5	2.1	1.1	8.3	14.5	-	**68.5**
Balance	**-17.6**	**14.8**	**-0.6**	**29.9**	**3.4**	**15.4**	**45.3**

Source: TES 2023Q1- NISR.

Table E2: Travel services by purpose for 2023Q2 (in million USD)

	Business	Education	Health	Holiday	VFR	Transit	Total
Credits	43.8	9.7	0.7	24.2	32.7	9.2	120.4
Debits	46.7	1.2	1.2	10.8	17.8	-	77.6
Balance	**-2.8**	**8.5**	**-0.5**	**13.5**	**14.9**	**9.2**	**42.7**

Source: TES 2023-NISR

Table E3: Travel services by purpose for 2023Q3 (in million USD)

	Business	Education	Health	Holiday	VFR	Transit	Total
Credits	55.4	17.8	1.3	37.7	44.2	11.8	168.0
Debits	56.4	3.7	1.4	15.7	23.0	-	100.2
Balance	**-1.0**	**14.0**	**-0.1**	**22.0**	**21.1**	**11.8**	**67.8**

Source: TES 2023-NISR

Table E4: Total Credit by air in 2023Q2 (value in thousand USD)

Country grouping	Business	Education	Health	Holiday	VFR	Transit	Total
Asia	10,051	332	-	1,980	1,347	30	**13,740**
EAC	4,819	568	114	2,066	4,207	288	**12,062**
Europe	7,041	200	14	6,028	5,164	132	**18,579**
North America	2,684	452	17	6,796	5,373	61	**15,382**
Rest of Africa	10,660	6,347	118	5,580	2,429	237	**25,370**
Rest of the world	450	3	-	524	273	57	**1,307**
Total	**35,705**	**7,903**	**262**	**22,974**	**18,792**	**804**	**86,439**

Source: TES 2023-NISR

Table E5: Total Credit by air in 2023Q3 (value in thousand USD)

Country grouping	Business	Education	Health	Holiday	VFR	Transit	Total
Asia	11,067	979	-	3,131	1,827	37	**17,040**
EAC	6,468	604	144	3,269	6,622	434	**17,542**
Europe	6,888	247	7	9,496	7,810	237	**24,684**
North America	3,963	290	21	10,569	6,179	89	**21,112**
Rest of Africa	12,726	13,106	195	6,446	3,486	338	**36,296**
Rest of the world	650	16	-	934	348	88	**2,036**
Total	**41,762**	**15,241**	**368**	**33,844**	**26,272**	**1,223**	**118,710**

Source: TES 2023-NISR

Table E6: Total credit by land in 2023Q2 (value in million USD)

Country grouping	Business	Education	Health	Holiday	VFR	Transit	Total
Asia	400	-	-	35	115	32	**582**
EAC	6,218	1,682	446	1,026	12,359	8,265	**29,995**
Europe	675	3	-	119	257	62	**1,116**
North America	83	-	-	40	795	30	**948**
Rest of Africa	704	91	3	25	177	26	**1,026**
Rest of the world	65	-	-	18	179	11	**274**
Total	**8,145**	**1,776**	**449**	**1,263**	**13,882**	**8,426**	**33,940**

Source: TES 2023-NISR

Table E7: Total credit by land in 2023Q3 (value in million USD)

Country grouping	Business	Education	Health	Holiday	VFR	Transit	Total
Asia	1,083	-	-	280	240	57	**1,660**
EAC	7,295	1,354	731	1,680	14,715	10,161	**35,937**
Europe	1,858	12	-	1,116	703	167	**3,856**
North America	136	-	-	341	1,332	49	**1,858**
Rest of Africa	3,083	1,151	177	285	559	93	**5,348**
Rest of the world	173	-	-	117	335	30	**654**
Total	**13,628**	**2,517**	**908**	**3,820**	**17,884**	**10,557**	**49,314**

Source: TES 2023-NISR

Table E8: Total debit by air in 2023Q2 (value in thousand USD)

Country grouping	Business	Education	Health	Holiday	VFR	Total
Asia	388	5	14	44	1,096	**1,547**
EAC	14,681	951	789	6,548	3,359	**26,328**
Europe	2,486	151	31	1,980	6,559	**11,209**
North America	1,962	8	-	849	2,022	**4,841**
Rest of Africa	428	15	246	105	1,108	**1,902**
Rest of the world	162	-	-	-	42	**204**
Total	**20,108**	**1,130**	**1,081**	**9,526**	**14,186**	**46,031**

Source: TES 2023-NISR

Table E9: Total debit by air in 2023Q3 (value in thousand USD)

Country grouping	Business	Education	Health	Holiday	VFR	Total
Asia	469	112	-	57	1,371	**2,009**
EAC	14,673	3,072	815	10,002	4,403	**32,967**
Europe	3,385	305	181	3,260	8,003	**15,134**
North America	3,504	68	-	1,371	2,634	**7,577**
Rest of Africa	601	32	335	164	1,553	**2,685**
Rest of the world	185	-	-	-	78	**263**
Total	**22,819**	**3,590**	**1,331**	**14,853**	**18,042**	**60,635**

Source: TES 2023-NISR

Table E10: Total debit by land in 2023Q2 (value in thousand USD)

Country grouping	Business	Education	Health	Holiday	VFR	Total
EAC	26,573	70	131	1,232	3,577	**31,583**
Rest of Africa	6	-	-	12	8	**27**
Total	**26,579**	**71**	**131**	**1,244**	**3,585**	**31,610**

Source: TES 2023-NISR

Table E11: Total debit by land in 2023Q3 (value in thousand USD)

Country grouping	Business	Education	Health	Holiday	VFR	Total
EAC	33,517	121	81	839	4,989	**39,546**
Rest of Africa	27	-	-	3	2	**33**
Total	**33,544**	**121**	**81**	**842**	**4,991**	**39,579**

Source: TES 2023-NISR

APPENDIX E: TES 2023 Survey Staff

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