

**PARLIAMENT OF THE
PROVINCE OF THE
WESTERN CAPE**

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QUESTION PAPER

WRITTEN REPLY

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Note: * Indicates translated version.

FRIDAY, 7 FEBRUARY 2025

15. Mr N P Masipa to ask Dr I H Meyer, Minister of Agriculture, Economic Development and Tourism:

(a) What is the impact of the current Air Traffic and Navigation Systems (ATNS) failures on tourism in the province, (b) what is the (i) estimated loss in tourism numbers and (ii) resulting economic cost and (c) what actions are being taken to resolve these issues?

Response:

15 (a) What is the impact of the current Air Traffic and Navigation Systems (ATNS) failures on tourism in the province

The Department and Wesgro do not have access to the data that would allow us to ascertain the loss in tourism numbers and the economic cost because of ATNS failures.

15 (b) what is the (i) estimated loss in tourism numbers and (ii) resulting economic cost and

The Cape Town Air Access catalytic project has access to data provided by Airports Company South Africa, which provides an overall view of two-way passenger movements through the domestic and international terminals at Cape Town International Airport, as well as the domestic terminal at George Airport. This data is included in the tables below.

Passenger data for George Airport (supplied by ACSA):

Year/Month	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024						2024 FY
						Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
Two-way passengers	840 804	346 223	539 637	747 848	792 735	61 966	65 321	70 369	67 978	66 099	92 795	817 248
YoY change percentage*	0.5%	-59%	56%	39%	6%	-4%	5%	9%	-1%	4%	11%	3%

International Passenger data for Cape Town International Airport (supplied by ACSA):

Year/Month	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024						2024 FY
						Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
Two-way passengers	2 606 398	810 811	525 441	1 895 975	2 807 431	201 732	213 289	224 044	250 729	303 202	331 295	3 079 944
YoY growth percentage*	1%	-69%	-35%	261%	48%	1%	7%	12%	6%	11%	4%	10%

The Department deduced that the greatest impact of ATNS challenges has been at the George Airport with numerous flight cancellations since the withdrawal of the flight instrument procedures on 19 July. This is however not reflected in the passenger data above, as George Airport achieved a 3% year-on-year growth rate for 2024, compared to 2023.

In addition, Cape Town International Airport has achieved strong growth, recording 22 months of consecutive growth at the international terminal, reaching a 10% growth rate for 2024, compared to 2023.

15 (c) what actions are being taken to resolve these issues?

According to a media release by the Department of Transport, the Minister of Transport, Ms Barbara Creecy, established a Committee of Aviation Experts on 12 December 2024 to investigate the root cause of problems that have affected the ATNS. This committee of experts includes Wesgro CEO, Wrenelle Stander, and will function for a period of

six months. A draft diagnostics report with recommendations was submitted to the Minister at the end of January 2025. Further information on interventions by the Department of Transport should be directed to that department. Feedback on this is provided at the air access steering committee engagements which occur quarterly.

**PARLEMENT VAN DIE
PROVINSIE VAN DIE
WES-KAAP**

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VRAELYS

SKRIFTELIKE BEANTWOORDING

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Nota: * Dui vertaalde weergawe aan.

VRYDAG, 7 FEBRUARIE 2025

***15. Mnr N P Masipa vra dr I H Meyer, Minister van Landbou, Ekonomiese Ontwikkeling en Toerisme:**

- (a) Wat die impak op toerisme in die provinsie is van die onlangse mislukkings van die Lugverkeer-en-navigasiesistelsels (“Air Traffic and Navigation Systems” of ATNS),
- (b) wat die (i) beraamde verlies in getal toeriste en (ii) gevolglike ekonomiese koste is en
- (c) watter stappe gedoen word om hierdie kwessies op te los?

Antwoord:

15 (a) Wat is die impak op toerisme in die provinsie van die onlangse probleme by die Lugverkeer-en-navigasiesistelsels?

Die Departement en Wesgro het nie toegang tot die data wat ons sal toelaat om die verlies in toerismegetalle en die ekonomiese koste weens die ATNS se foute te bepaal nie.

15 (b) Wat is die (i) beraamde verlies in die getal toeriste en (ii) die gevolglike ekonomiese koste?

Die Cape Town Air Access katalitiese projek het toegang tot data wat deur die Lughawensmaatskappy van Suid-Afrika verskaf is, wat ’n geheelbeeld op tweerigting

passasiersbeweging deur die binnelandse en internasionale terminale by Kaapstad Internasionale Lughawe voorsien, sowel as dié van die binnelandse terminaal by die George Lughawe. Hierdie data word in die volgende tabelle verskaf.

Passasiersdata van George Lughawe (deur ACSA verskaf):

Year/Month	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024						2024 FY
						Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
Two-way passengers	840 804	346 223	539 637	747 848	792 735	61 966	65 321	70 369	67 978	66 099	92 795	817 248
YoY change percentage*	0.5%	-59%	56%	39%	6%	-4%	5%	9%	-1%	4%	11%	3%

Internasionale Passasiersdata vir Kaapstad Internasionale Lughawe (deur ACSA verskaf):

Year/Month	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024						2024 FY
						Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
Two-way passengers	2 606 398	810 811	525 441	1 895 975	2 807 431	201 732	213 289	224 044	250 729	303 202	331 295	3 079 944
YoY growth percentage*	1%	-69%	-35%	261%	48%	1%	7%	12%	6%	11%	4%	10%

Die Departement het afgelei dat die grootste impak van die uitdagings by ATNS by die George Lughawe ondervind is, met talle vlugkansellasies sedert die vuginstrumentprosedures op 19 Julie onttrek is. Dit word egter nie in die passasiersdata hier bo weerspieël nie, aangesien George Lughawe, in vergelyking met 2023, ’n jaarlikse groeikoers van 3% vir 2024 behaal het.

Daarby het Kaapstad Internasionale Lughawe ’n sterk groeikoers behaal en 22 maande van opeenvolgende groei is by die internasionale terminaal waargeneem, en in vergelyking met 2023 is ’n 10% groeikoers in 2024 behaal.

16 (c) Watter stappe word gedoen om hierdie kwessies op te los?

Luidens ’n persverklaring deur die Departement van Vervoer, het die Minister van Vervoer, me. Barbara Creecy, op 12 Desember 2024 ’n Komitee van Lugvaartkenners aangestel om die kernoorsaak te ondersoek van probleme wat die ATNS geaffekteer het. Hierdie komitee van kenners sluit Wesgro HUB Wrenelle Stander in en sal vir ’n tydperk van ses maande werksaam wees. ’n Konsep- diagnostiese verslag met aanbevelings is aan die einde van Januarie 2025 by die Minister ingedien. Verdere

inligting oor ingrypings deur die Departement van Vervoer moet van daardie departement aangevra word. Terugvoering hieroor word by die kwartaallikse vergaderings van die lugtoegangsbestuurskomitee voorsien.