

Belgium

September 2022

Executive Summary

This country fact sheet provides key trade, investment, and tourism related statistics for Belgium. Specifically, it shows global trade and investment flows including an analysis of top markets and products for Belgium in relation to South Africa and the Western Cape, highlighting the largest and fastest growing products. The key highlights in the fact sheet are provided below:

Economy

Belgium is classified as a high-income country, with a real gross domestic product (GDP) of US\$495.81 billion in 2021. The country's 11.59 million inhabitants had a real GDP per capita of US\$42 787.3 in 2021.

Trade

In 2021, South Africa exported R52.30 billion worth of goods to Belgium and was ranked as the 23rd supplying market for products imported by the European country. The main products that South Africa exported to Belgium were diamonds, motor vehicles for the transport of goods, and sulphates; alums; peroxosulphates. South Africa's imports from Belgium increased by 39.25% y-o-y to R20.23 billion in 2021. Non-crude petroleum oils, original equipment components, and insecticides; rodenticides; etc. were the main products.

The rand value of the Western Cape's exports to Belgium was R2.60 billion in 2021, with the top products being flat-rolled products of iron or non-alloy steel, diamonds, and wine of fresh grapes. On the other hand, the province's main imports from Belgium in 2021 were non-crude petroleum oils, cyclic hydrocarbons, and dish washing machines and other machinery. Total imports increased from R1.23 billion in 2012 to R5.07 billion in 2021.

Investment

Between January 2003 and December 2020, a total of 16 FDI projects were recorded from Belgium to South Africa. These projects represent a total capital investment of USD1,05bn, which is an average investment of USD65,79m per project. During the period, a total of 1 572 jobs were created.

Tourism

In 2021, the Western Cape welcomed over 5,000 tourists from Belgium and recorded the highest share of tourist arrivals from this market amongst all provinces.

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1. Country Overview

Belgium is situated in Northwestern Europe, bordering the North Sea to the northeast, France to the southwest, Netherlands to the north and Luxembourg to the southeast. With a total land area of 30 280 km² and a population of 11.59 million in 2021, Belgium is one of the most densely populated countries in Europe. It's Human Development Index (HDI) of 0.937 in 2021 was ranked 13 out of 191 countries and placed the country in the very high human development category. The country got its independence from the Netherlands in 1830. Belgium is a federal state with three culturally different regions: Flanders, Wallonia, and the capital city of Brussels. Political divisions between the Dutch-speaking Flemish of the north and the French-speaking Walloons of the south have led in recent years to constitutional amendments granting these regions formal recognition and autonomy. Brussels is the headquarters of the European Union (EU) and the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO), making it home to many international diplomats and civil servants (CIA World Factbook, 2021).



Table 1: General information

Demographics of Belgium	
Capital	Brussels
Population (2021)	11 587 882
Political system	Federal constitutional monarchy
Head of state	King Philippe
Head of Government	Prime Minister: Alexander De Croo
Life expectancy (2020)	81 years
Official Language(s)	Dutch, French and German
Religion(s) (2018 est.)	Roman Catholic (57.1%); Protestant (2.3%); Other Christian (2.8%); Muslim (6.8%); Other (1.7%); Atheist (9.1%); and Nonbelievers/agnostic (20.2%)
Human Development Index (2021)	0.937

Sources: CIA World Factbook (2022); World Bank (2022); UNDP (2022); EU (2022)

2. Economic Overview

Belgium's central geographic location and highly developed transport network have helped develop a well-diversified economy, with a broad mix of transport, services, manufacturing, and high tech. Service and high-tech industries are concentrated in the northern Flanders region, while the southern region of Wallonia is home to industries like coal and steel manufacturing. Belgium is completely reliant on foreign sources of fossil fuels, and the planned closure of its seven nuclear plants by 2025 should increase its dependence on foreign energy. Its role as a regional logistical hub makes its economy vulnerable to shifts in foreign demand, particularly with EU trading partners.

Belgium is classified as a high-income country, with a real gross domestic product (GDP) of US\$495.81 billion in 2021. The country's 11.59 million inhabitants had a real GDP per capita of US\$42 787.3 in 2021, according to the World Bank (2022). Belgium's consumer inflation increased from 0.74% in 2020 to 2.44% in 2021.

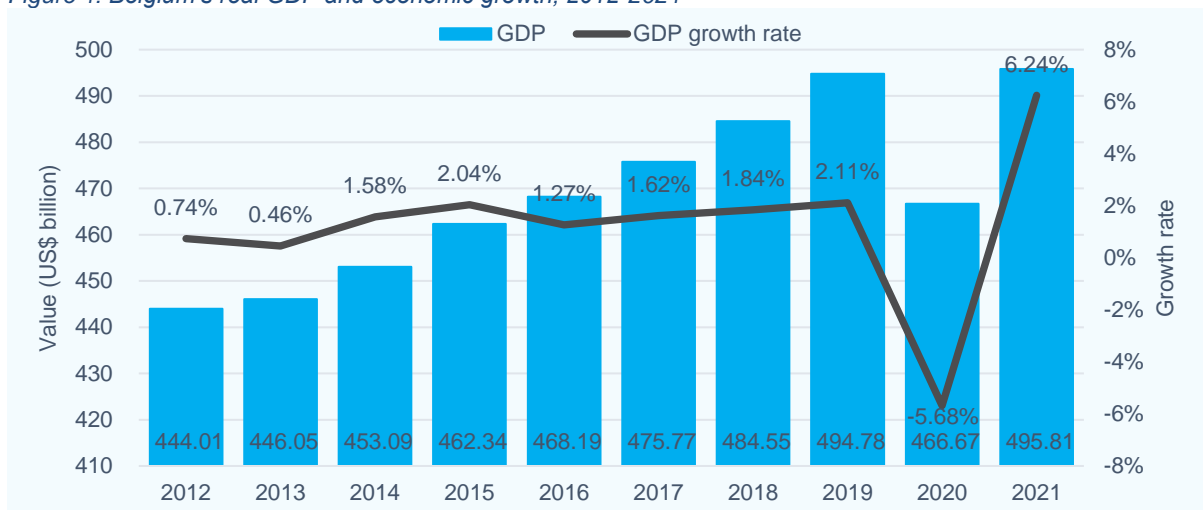
Table 2: Economic information

Variable	Value
Real GDP (2021)	US\$495.81bn
Real GDP growth (2021)	6.24%
Real GDP per capita (2021)	US\$42787.3
Inflation rate (2021)	2.44%
Unemployment rate (2021)	6.42%
Total Exports (2021)	US\$549.50bn
Total Imports (2021)	US\$532.55bn

Sources: World Bank (2022); International Trade Centre (2022)

After years of positive growth, Belgium’s GDP declined by 5.68% in 2020 as the coronavirus pandemic forced the global economy into a recession. However, the economy bounced back in 2021, recording a GDP growth rate of 6.24% as shown in Figure 1.

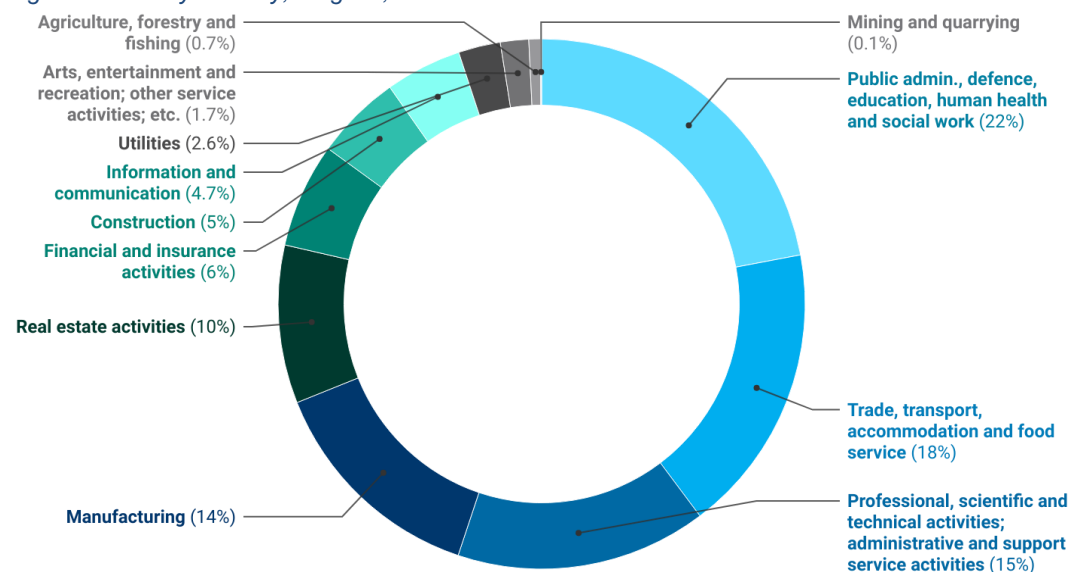
Figure 1: Belgium’s real GDP and economic growth, 2012-2021



Sources: World Bank (2022)

The contributions of Belgium’s economic sectors to gross value added in 2020 are shown in Figure 2 below. Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities (22%); wholesale and retail trade, transport, accommodation and food services (18%); and professional, scientific and technical activities, administrative and support services (15%) were the most important industries of the Belgian economy.

Figure 2: GVA by industry, Belgium, 2020



Source: Eurostat (2022)

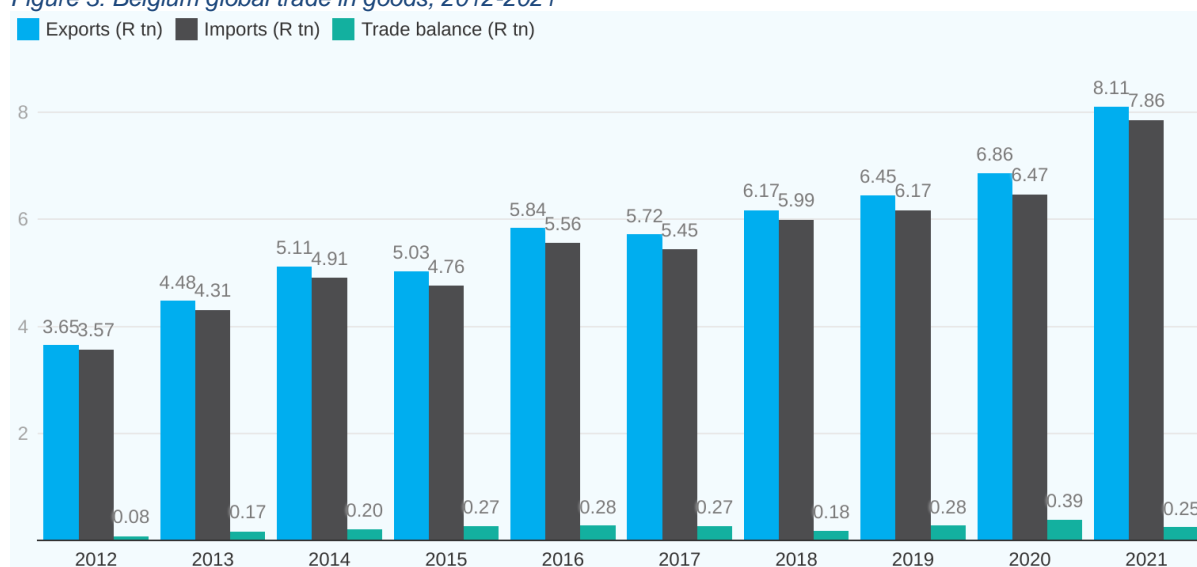
3. Trade

This section analyses Belgium's trade with the rest of the world, South Africa and the Western Cape.

3.1 Belgium's trade with the rest of the world

In 2021, Belgium was the 10th largest global exporter of goods, with a share of 2.5% of world exports. The country was also the 12th largest importer of goods in the same year, accounting for 2.5% of global imports. As can be seen in Figure 3, Belgium was a net exporter of goods between 2012 and 2021. The country's exports and imports increased by 18.22% and 26.41% respectively in 2021.

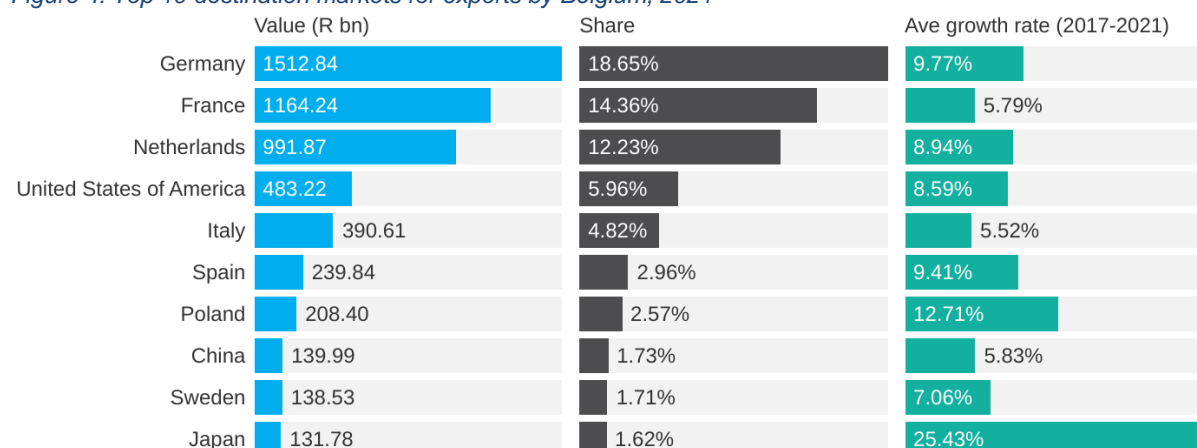
Figure 3: Belgium global trade in goods, 2012-2021



Source: International Trade Centre (2022)

Most of the top 10 destination markets for Belgium's exports are European Union (EU) member states. Germany (18.65%), France (14.36%) and the Netherlands (12.23%) were the top three largest export market for Belgium in 2021. The United States, China and Japan were the only countries outside the EU in the top 10. Among the top 10 destination markets for Belgium's exports, Japan recorded the highest average growth rate between 2017 and 2021.

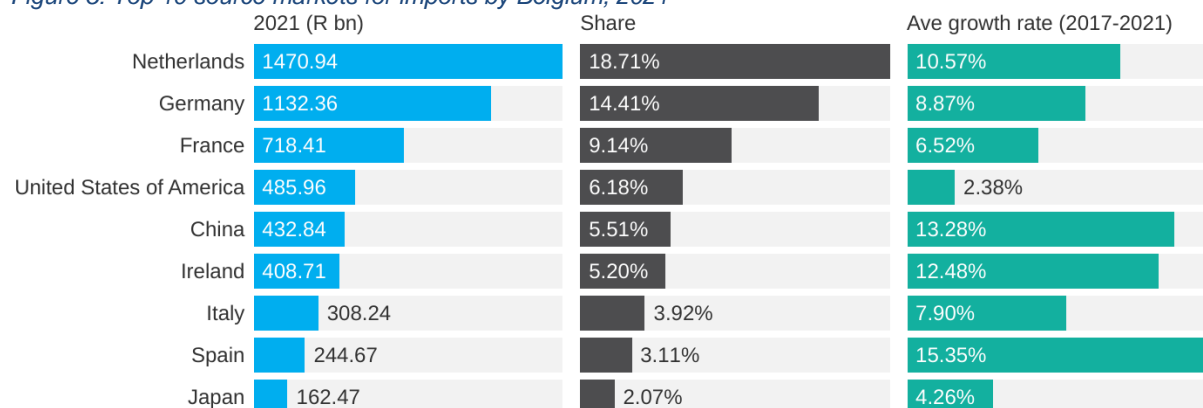
Figure 4: Top 10 destination markets for exports by Belgium, 2021



Source: International Trade Centre (2022)

The Netherlands, with a share of 18.71%, was Belgium's top supplier of imported products in 2021, followed by Germany (14.41%) and France (9.14%). Outside the EU, 6.18% of Belgium's imports came from the United States, 5.51% from China and 2.07% from Japan. Between 2017 and 2021, Belgium's imports from Spain increase at an average annual rate of 15.35%, the highest among the top 10 source markets.

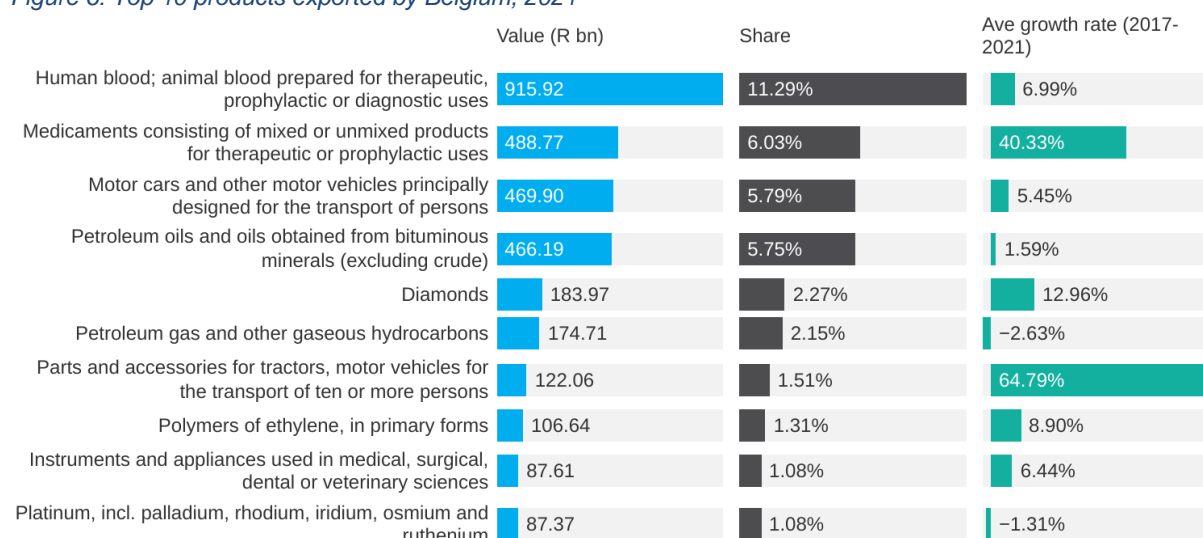
Figure 5: Top 10 source markets for imports by Belgium, 2021



Source: International Trade Centre (2022)

As shown in Figure 6 below, human and animal blood prepared for therapeutic, prophylactic or diagnostic uses, were Belgium's top exported product in 2021, accounting for 11.297% of its global exports. Medicaments (6.03%), and motor cars and other vehicles principally designed for the transport of person (5.79%) were, respectively, the second and third largest categories of the country's goods exports. With an average annual growth rate of 64.79% between 2017 and 2021, parts and accessories for tractors and motor vehicles for the transport of 10 or more persons, recorded the average highest increase over the past 5 years.

Figure 6: Top 10 products exported by Belgium, 2021



Source: International Trade Centre (2022)

In turn, human blood, animal blood prepared for therapeutic, prophylactic or diagnostic uses (7.93%); motor cars and other vehicles principally designed for the transport of person (6%); and medicaments (4.75%) were the top three products imported by Belgium in 2021 as shown in Figure 7 below.

Figure 7: Top 10 products imports by Belgium, 2021

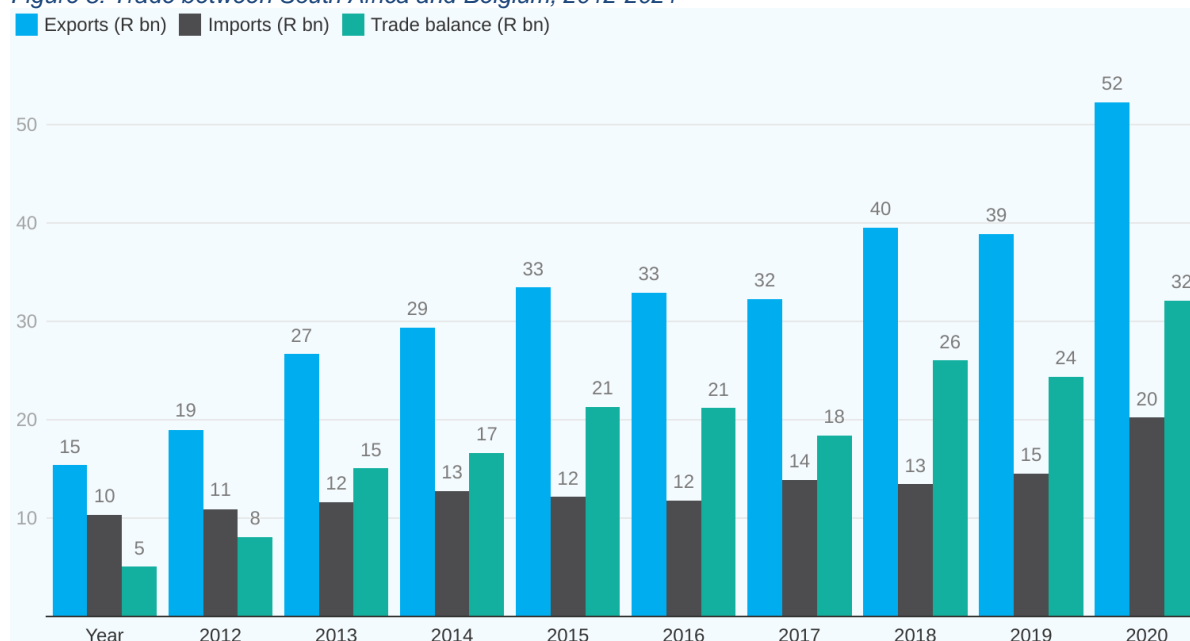
	Value (R bn)	Share	Ave growth rate (2017-2021)
Human blood; animal blood prepared for therapeutic, prophylactic or diagnostic uses	623.35	7.93%	31.52%
Motor cars and other motor vehicles principally designed for the transport of persons	471.44	6.00%	-0.15%
Medicaments consisting of mixed or unmixed products for therapeutic or prophylactic uses	373.23	4.75%	4.77%
Petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous minerals (excluding crude)	346.24	4.41%	10.34%
Petroleum gas and other gaseous hydrocarbons	302.29	3.85%	50.61%
Petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous minerals, crude	275.90	3.51%	16.33%
Nucleic acids and their salts; heterocyclic compounds	179.18	2.28%	178.68%
Diamonds	169.16	2.15%	-4.00%
Parts and accessories for tractors, motor vehicles for the transport of ten or more persons	150.59	1.92%	7.34%
Waste and scrap of precious metal or of metal clad with precious metal	94.22	1.20%	8226.28%

Source: International Trade Centre (2022)

3.2 Belgium's Trade with South Africa

In 2021, South Africa was ranked as the 23rd supplying market for products imported by Belgium and the 36th importing market for products exported by the European country. Figure 8 shows South Africa's trade in goods with Belgium between 2012 and 2021. South Africa's exports to Belgium are more than its imports. In 2021, South Africa exported R52.30 billion worth of goods to Belgium, whereas R20.23 billion worth of goods moved in the opposite direction. The country's exports to Belgium increased by 34.47% in 2021, following a decline of 1.53% in the previous year. Whereas the growth rate of imports increased from 7.88% in 2020 to 39.25% in 2021.

Figure 8: Trade between South Africa and Belgium, 2012-2021



Source: Quantec (2022)

South Africa's top exported products to Belgium in 2021 were diamonds (R8.84bn), motor vehicles for the transport of goods (R7.69bn) and sulphates; alums; peroxosulphates (R7.53bn). Of the top 10 exported products, the highest average annual growth in exports between 2017 and 2021, was recorded for sulphates; alums; peroxosulphates (48.09%).

Figure 9: South Africa's top 10 exports to Belgium, 2021

	Value (R bn)	Share	Ave growth rate (2017-2021)
Diamonds	8.84	16.91%	8.91%
Motor vehicles for the transport of goods	7.69	14.71%	7.75%
Sulphates; alums; peroxosulphates (persulphates)	7.53	14.40%	48.09%
Motor cars and other motor vehicles principally designed for the transport of persons	3.93	7.52%	-0.34%
Waste and scrap of precious metal or of metal clad with precious metal	3.76	7.19%	30.20%
Ferro-alloys	3.38	6.46%	17.02%
Acyclic alcohols and their halogenated, sulphonated, nitrated or nitrosated derivatives	1.97	3.78%	29.96%
Ketones and quinones, and their halogenated, sulphonated, nitrated or nitrosated derivatives	1.32	2.53%	33.78%
Acyclic hydrocarbons	0.86	1.65%	7.25%
Flat-rolled products of iron or non-alloy steel, of a width of 600 mm or more	0.85	1.62%	20.00%

Source: Quantec (2022)

As shown in Figure 10, the top three products of Belgian origin that were imported into South Africa in 2021 were non-crude petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous minerals (R2.50bn); original equipment components (R1.56bn); and insecticides, rodenticides, fungicides, etc. (R787.17m). Moreover, non-crude petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous minerals (251.84%) and original equipment components (247.31%) recorded the highest average annual growth rates between 2017 and 2021.

Figure 10: South Africa's top 10 imports from Belgium, 2021

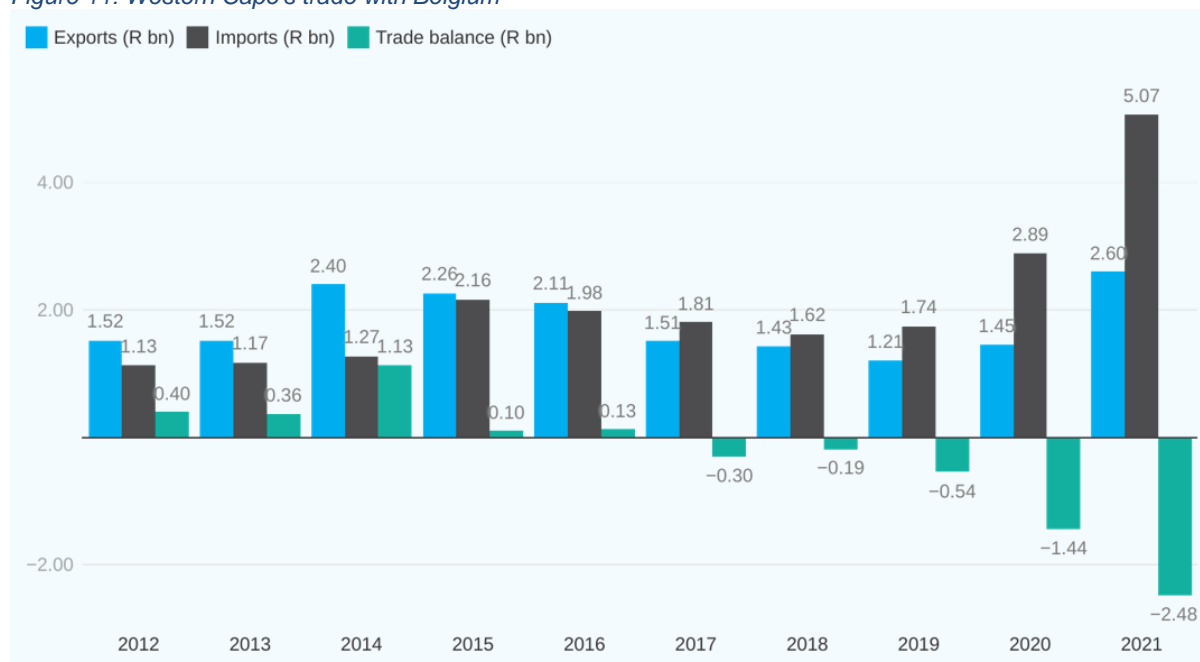
	Value (R bn)	Share	Ave growth rate (2017-2021)
Petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous minerals, other than crude	2.50	12.35%	251.84%
Original equipment components	1.56	7.73%	247.31%
Insecticides, rodenticides, fungicides, herbicides, anti-sprouting products and plant-growth regulators, disinfectants and similar products	0.79	3.89%	4.06%
Copper wire	0.58	2.85%	7.83%
Medicaments consisting of mixed or unmixed products for therapeutic or prophylactic uses	0.43	2.12%	-0.16%
Malt	0.36	1.80%	14.21%
Anti-knock preparations, oxidation inhibitors, gum inhibitors, viscosity improvers, anti-corrosive preparations and other prepared additives	0.35	1.71%	-6.97%
Chocolate and other food preparations containing cocoa	0.26	1.30%	15.78%
Polymers of styrene, in primary forms	0.25	1.25%	12.66%
Other vegetables prepared or preserved otherwise than by vinegar or acetic acid, frozen	0.25	1.24%	32.47%

Source: Quantec (2022)

3.3 Trade with the Western Cape

Figure 11 highlights the Western Cape's trade with Belgium for the period, 2012-2021. Belgium was the Western Cape's 19th largest export market and 12th largest imports market in 2021. The rand value of the Western Cape's goods exports to Belgium was R2.60 billion in 2021. On the other hand, the province imported goods worth R5.07 billion from the European country over the same period. The province has been recording a trade deficit with Belgium since 2017. In 2021, the Western Cape's exports to and imports from Belgium increased by 79.27% and 75.53% respectively.

Figure 11: Western Cape's trade with Belgium



Source: Quantec (2022)

Flat-rolled products of iron or non-alloy steel (clad, plated or coated) accounted for approximately 33% of the Western Cape's exports to Belgium in 2021. Diamonds (23.78%) and wine of fresh grapes (11.66%), respectively, constituted the second and third largest exported products from the province to Belgium as shown in Figure 12. The province's export of cigar, cheroots, cigarillos and cigarettes to Belgium rose sharply over the five-year period analysed.

Figure 12: Western Cape's top 10 exports to Belgium, 2021

	Value (R m)	Share	Ave growth rate (2017-2021)
Flat-rolled products of iron or non-alloy steel, of a width of 600 mm or more, clad, plated or coated	846.17	32.61%	20.00%
Diamonds	617.10	23.78%	-6.75%
Wine of fresh grapes, including fortified wines	302.70	11.66%	9.78%
Flat-rolled products of iron or non-alloy steel, of a width of 600 mm or more, cold-rolled (cold-reduced), not clad, plated or coated	222.96	8.59%	0.00%
Ceramic wares for laboratory, chemical or other technical uses;	75.70	2.92%	-7.65%
Parts and accessories of the motor vehicles of headings 87.01 to 87.05	72.37	2.79%	78.41%
Citrus fruit, fresh or dried	67.23	2.59%	37.16%
Beauty or make-up preparations and preparations for the care of the skin (other than medicaments)	55.88	2.15%	6.75%
Cigars, cheroots, cigarillos and cigarettes, of tobacco or of tobacco substitutes	27.46	1.06%	3902.85%
Printing ink, writing or drawing ink and other inks	22.09	0.85%	-0.36%

Source: Quantec (2022)

About 44% of products imported from Belgium into the Western Cape were refined petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous minerals, followed by cyclic hydrocarbons (2.95%) and dish washing machines and machinery for cleaning and drying bottles (2.62%). The value of the province's import of electrical machines and apparatus from Belgium experienced a very high increase over the five-year period.

Figure 13: Western Cape's top 10 imports from Belgium, 2021

	Value (R m)	Share	Ave growth rate (2017-2021)
Petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous minerals, other than crude	2213.66	43.66%	191.94%
Cyclic hydrocarbons	149.35	2.95%	282.94%
Dish washing machines; machinery for cleaning or drying bottles or other containers;	132.70	2.62%	626.37%
Electrical machines and apparatus, having individual functions	80.23	1.58%	7414.15%
Other vegetables prepared or preserved otherwise than by vinegar or acetic acid, frozen, other than products of heading 20.06	76.77	1.51%	87.50%
Other printed matter	73.12	1.44%	12.46%
Anti-knock preparations, oxidation inhibitors, gum inhibitors, viscosity improvers, anti-corrosive preparations and other prepared additives	59.91	1.18%	83.16%
Chocolate and other food preparations containing cocoa	50.45	0.99%	39.95%
Primary cells and primary batteries	47.45	0.94%	824.64%
Polymers of propylene or of other olefins, in primary forms	42.76	0.84%	22.38%

Source: Quantec (2022)

3.4 Trade Agreement

With Belgium being a member of the EU and South Africa being part of the Southern African Development Community (SADC), the two countries form part of the SADC-EU Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA). The SADC-EU EPA is a reciprocal trade agreement, meaning both the EU and the SADC EPA group offer preferential market access to each other. However, the EU provides greater preferential and duty-free access, while the SADC EPA group are allowed to maintain protection of sensitive sectors. The EPA provides preferential access to the EU market for 98.7% of South African goods (96.2% fully duty free and 2.5% partially). Goods that are partially duty free are subject to Tariff Rate Quotas (TRQs). To benefit from preferential access under the EPA TRQs, exporters need to apply for quota allocation. Certain products require application to the Department of Agriculture, Land Reforms and Rural Development (DALRRD). Other products only need an application to SARS for a EUR1 certificate, allocation is on a first-come-first-served basis. Quota allocation by DALRRD is based on their preferential market access allocation system and permits are valid 1 January to 31 December.

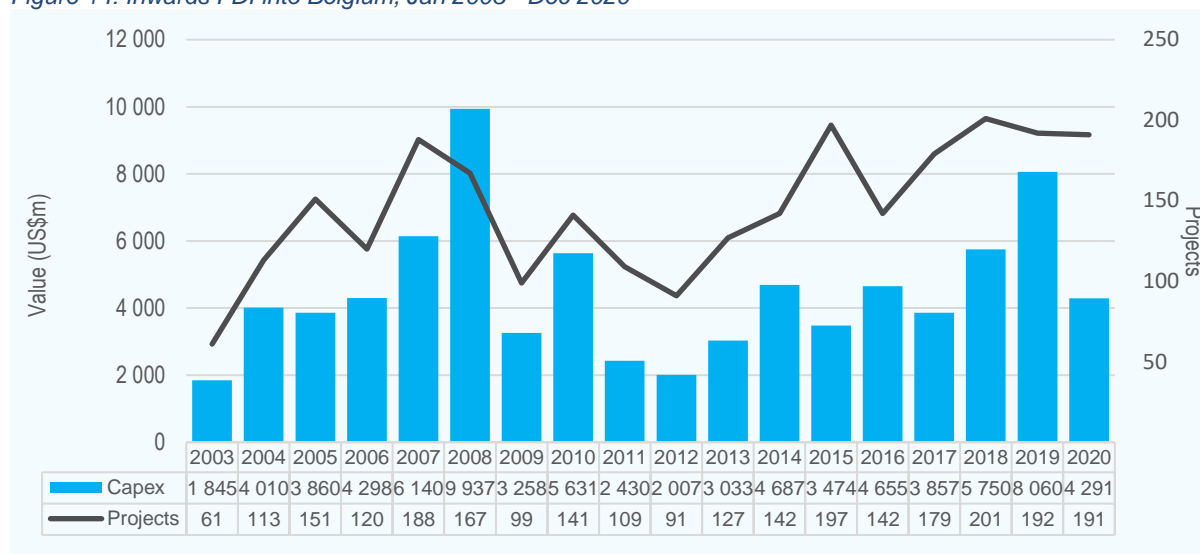
4. Foreign Direct Investment

This section analyses Belgium's foreign direct investment (FDI) flows with the rest of the world, South Africa, and the Western Cape between January 2003 and December 2020.

4.1 Inward FDI into Belgium

Between January 2003 and December 2020, a total of 2 611 FDI projects were recorded into Belgium. These projects represent a total capital investment of US\$81 231.60 billion, which is an average investment of US\$31.1 million per project. During this period, a total of 148 669 jobs were created. Figure 14 shows that capex into Belgium peaked at US\$9.94 billion in 2008, while the number of projects peaked in 2018 with a total of 201 projects.

Figure 14: Inwards FDI into Belgium, Jan 2003 - Dec 2020



Source: FDI Intelligence (2021)

As shown in Table 3 below, the United States was the largest source market for inward FDI into Belgium in terms of projects, with 617 FDI projects (which accounted for 23.63% of total projects). France and Germany ranked second and third, accounting for 11.11% and 10.15%, respectively.

Table 3: Top 10 source markets for inwards FDI into Belgium, Jan 2003 - Dec 2020

Rank	Country	Projects	% Projects	Capex (US\$m)	% Capex	Jobs
1	United States	617	23.63%	617	0.76%	46027
2	France	290	11.11%	290	0.36%	11128
3	Germany	265	10.15%	265	0.33%	16283
4	Netherlands	247	9.46%	247	0.30%	10024
5	United Kingdom	218	8.35%	218	0.27%	11842
6	Japan	154	5.90%	154	0.19%	7824
7	Switzerland	102	3.91%	102	0.13%	6253
8	China	79	3.03%	79	0.10%	4854
9	Sweden	63	2.41%	63	0.08%	8601
10	India	53	2.03%	53	0.07%	2300
TOTAL		2 611	100.00%	81 231.60	100.00%	148 669

Source: FDI Intelligence (2021)

The table below gives a list of the companies for FDI inflow into Belgium. The leading company was BASF Antwerpen with 16 investment projects valued at approximately US\$1.48 billion. Spaces was the second largest investing company with 14 projects.

Table 4: Top 10 companies (by number of projects) investing in Belgium, Jan 2003 – Dec 2020

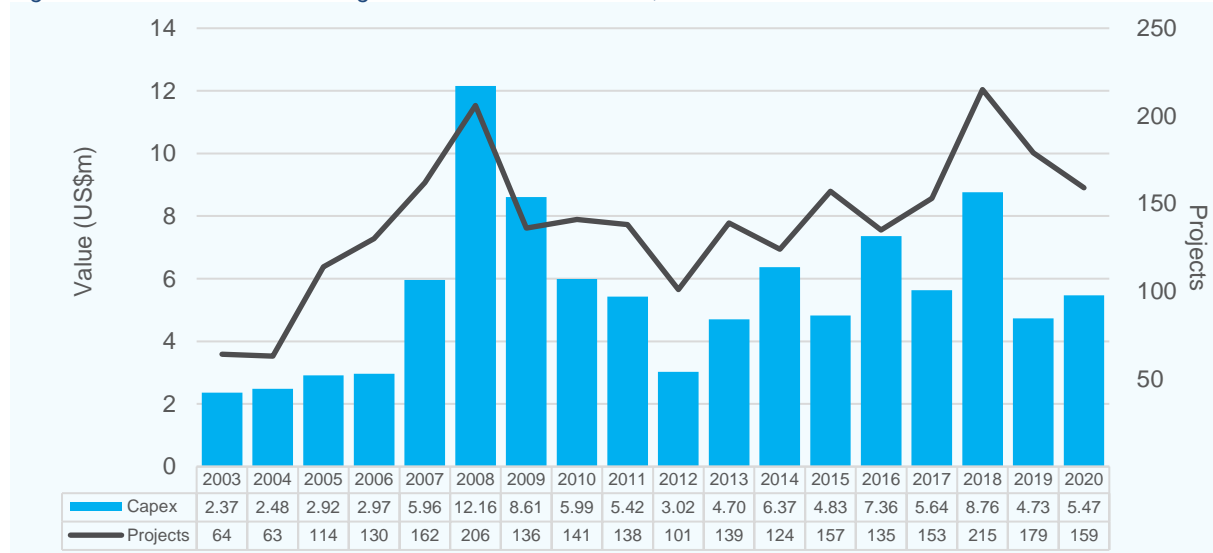
Rank	Country	Projects	% Projects	Capex (US\$m)	% Capex	Jobs
1	BASF Antwerpen	16	0.61%	1 478	1.82%	501
2	Spaces	14	0.54%	27	0.03%	112
3	Ford Motor Company	11	0.42%	2 577	3.17%	9347
4	Pfizer	11	0.42%	651	0.80%	1402
5	Cargill	10	0.38%	424	0.52%	388
6	DB Schenker	9	0.34%	212	0.26%	567
7	Lanxess	9	0.34%	244	0.30%	229
8	Nike	9	0.34%	692	0.85%	2426
9	Volvo Trucks	9	0.34%	314	0.39%	1368
10	DAF Trucks	8	0.31%	471	0.58%	1536
TOTAL		2 611	100.00%	81 231.60	100.00%	148 669

Source: FDI Intelligence (2021)

4.2 Outward FDI from Belgium

Between January 2003 and December 2020, a total of 2 516 outward FDI projects were recorded from Belgium to the rest of the world. These projects represented a total capital investment of US\$99.74 billion, which is an average investment of US\$39.6 million per project. During this period, a total of 353 529 jobs were created. Figure 15 shows that outward capex from Belgium peaked in 2008 at a value of US\$12.16 billion, whereas the number of projects peaked in 2008 with 206 projects.

Figure 15: Outward FDI from Belgium to the rest of the world, Jan 2003 - Dec 2020



Source: FDI Intelligence (2021)

Table 5 shows the destination markets for outward FDI from Belgium during the period under consideration. The United States was the largest destination market in terms of projects, with 309 FDI projects, which accounted for 12.28% of all projects. France ranked second accounting for 10.89% of all projects.

Table 5: Top 10 destination markets for outward FDI from Belgium, Jan 2003 – Dec 2020

Rank	Country	Projects	% Projects	Capex (US\$m)	% Capex	Jobs
1	United States	309	12.28%	5 522,9	5.54%	14713
2	France	274	10.89%	7 602,9	7.62%	21844
3	Germany	154	6.12%	4 781,9	4.79%	7311
4	Netherlands	143	5.68%	2 816,1	2.82%	7577
5	United Kingdom	142	5.64%	6 612,3	6.63%	20305
6	Japan	111	4.41%	5 774,6	5.79%	36946
7	Switzerland	95	3.78%	2 640,6	2.65%	10164
8	China	91	3.62%	2 893,5	2.90%	16269
9	Sweden	90	3.58%	6 710,4	6.73%	21712
10	India	88	3.50%	5 904,7	5.92%	79858
TOTAL		2 516	100.00%	99 740.00	100.00%	353 529

Source: FDI Intelligence (2021)

The leading investing company was Solvay, with the company investing in 105 projects in the chemicals sector, with a capex of US\$7.35 billion. Radisson Hospitality was the second largest investing company by project, with 47 projects. Park Inn was the third largest investing company investing in 39 projects.

Table 6: Top 10 Belgian companies (by projects) investing in the rest of the world, Jan 2003 - Dec 2020

Rank	Country	Projects	% Projects	Capex (US\$m)	%Capex	Jobs
1	Solvay	105	4,17%	7 352,9	7,37%	12490
2	Radisson Hospitality (Rezidor Hotel Group)	47	1,87%	4 908,9	4,92%	11233
3	Park Inn	39	1,55%	3 472,8	3,48%	7024
4	Umicore	31	1,23%	1 582,2	1,59%	5918
5	Anheuser-Busch InBev (AB InBev)	30	1,19%	1 134,5	1,14%	4141
6	Puratos	27	1,07%	605,0	0,61%	2975
7	Radisson Blu (Radisson SAS Hotels & Resorts)	27	1,07%	2 626,6	2,63%	4922
8	Ageas (Fortis)	22	0,87%	820,3	0,82%	3564
9	Azelis	21	0,83%	207,4	0,21%	790
10	Warehouses De Pauw (WDP)	21	0,83%	1 522,6	1,53%	19575
TOTAL		2 516	100,00%	99 740,00	100,00%	353 529

Source: FDI Intelligence (2021)

4.3 FDI inflows into South Africa from Belgium

Between January 2003 and December 2020, a total of 16 FDI projects were recorded from Belgium to South Africa. These projects represent a total capital investment of US\$1.05 billion, which is an average investment of USD65.79 million per project. During the period, a total of 1 572 jobs were created.

Table 7: Belgian companies investing in South Africa, Jan 2003 - Dec 2020

Date	Investing company	Destination state	Sector	Cluster	Capex (US\$m)	Jobs created
Sep-19	South African Breweries	Western Cape	Food & Beverages	Agribusiness	524	17
Sep-19	TVH Parts South Africa	KwaZulu-Natal	Industrial equipment	Industrial	3	12
Jul-17	South African Breweries	Gauteng	Food & Beverages	Agribusiness	104.55	35
Jul-17	South African Breweries	Gauteng	Food & Beverages	Agribusiness	104.55	35
Jun-14	Ixerv	KwaZulu-Natal	Software & IT services	ICT & Electronics	5.5	137
Jun-14	Keestrack	Mpumalanga	Industrial equipment	Industrial	11.5	48
May-14	Helion Research	Gauteng	Business services	Creative Industries	12.1	75
Oct-13	Belgacom International Carrier Services (BICS)	Not Specified	Communications	ICT & Electronics	4.7	37
Dec-10	Sarens South Africa	Western Cape	Industrial equipment	Industrial	2.9	17
Nov-10	Park Inn	Western Cape	Hotels & tourism	Tourism	129.8	219
Nov-10	Radisson Blu (Radisson SAS Hotels & Resorts)	Not Specified	Hotels & tourism	Tourism	129.8	219
Sep-09	Electrawinds	Eastern Cape	Renewable energy	Environmental Technology	159	31
Nov-08	Radisson Hospitality (Rezidor Hotel Group)	Eastern Cape	Hotels & tourism	Tourism	129.8	219
Jan-08	Park Inn	Gauteng	Hotels & tourism	Tourism	129.8	219
Nov-04	Candico	Gauteng	Food & Beverages	Agribusiness	5	33
Feb-03	Radisson Hospitality (Rezidor Hotel Group)	Not Specified	Hotels & tourism	Tourism	115.4	219
Total					1,052.64	1 572

Source: FDI Intelligence (2021)

4.4 FDI outflows from South Africa to Belgium

Between January 2003 and December 2020, a total of 10 outward FDI projects were recorded from South Africa to Belgium. These projects represent a total capital investment of US\$303 million, which is an average investment of US\$30.3 million per project. During the period, a total of 309 jobs were created.

Table 8: South African companies investing in Belgium, Jan 2003 - Dec 2020

Date	Investing company	Source city	Sector	Cluster	Capex (US\$m)	Jobs
Dec 2020	Simera Sense	Somerset West	Space & defence	ICT & Electronics	0.5	5
Apr 2020	GlueData	Cape Town		ICT & Electronics	3.6	2
Apr 2018	Broekhuizen Metal Pressings	Cape Town	Metals	Industrial	0.8	8
May 2017	Metacom	Cape Town	Communications	ICT & Electronics	2.2	6
Feb 2017	Sappi	Johannesburg	Paper, printing & packaging	Wood, Apparel & Related Products	136.5	150
Oct 2015	The Airplane Factory	Johannesburg	Aerospace	Transport Equipment	3.5	3
Aug 2014	Bidvest Deli XL	Johannesburg	Food & Beverages	Agribusiness	13.6	14
Apr 2010	Mondi Coatings	Johannesburg	Plastics	Consumer Goods	13.7	23
Apr 2010	ECHO Group	Not Specified	Building materials	Construction	17.2	46
Feb 2008	Dimension Data Europe	Johannesburg	Software & IT services	ICT & Electronics	111.4	52
Total					303	309

Source: FDI Intelligence (2021)

5. Tourism

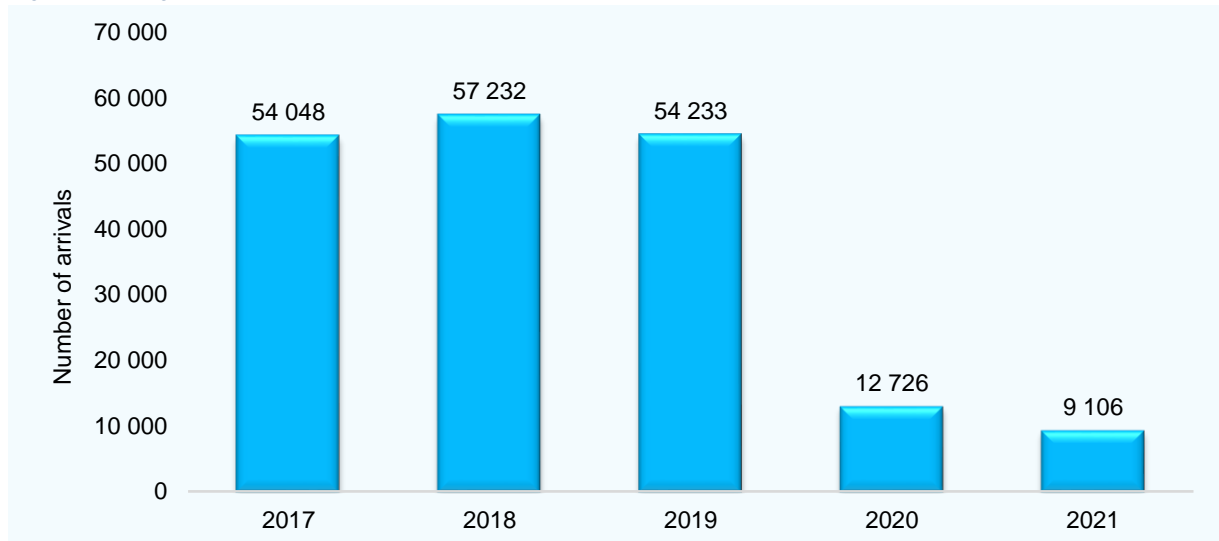
This section looks at Belgian tourist arrivals in South Africa as well as the Western Cape.

5.1 Belgian Tourist Arrivals in South Africa

Travellers from Belgium to South Africa predominantly visit for holiday purposes or to visit family and friends. A fair number also visit for business and MICE (Meetings, Incentives, Conferencing and Exhibitions). In 2021, Belgian travellers stayed in South Africa for an average of 18.6 nights. However, arrivals from Belgium have been on a declining trend as of 2019, the numbers were further affected by COVID-19 pandemic.

Figure 16 below highlights total tourist arrivals from Belgium into South Africa from 2017 to 2021. In 2021, South Africa received over 9000 tourists from Belgium, reflecting a 28.4% decline when compared to 2020. The average spend among these tourists increased from R22 200 in 2020 to R23 600 in 2021 and total foreign direct spend (TFDS) reached R241 million in 2021.

Figure 16: Belgian tourist arrivals in South Africa, 2017 - 2021

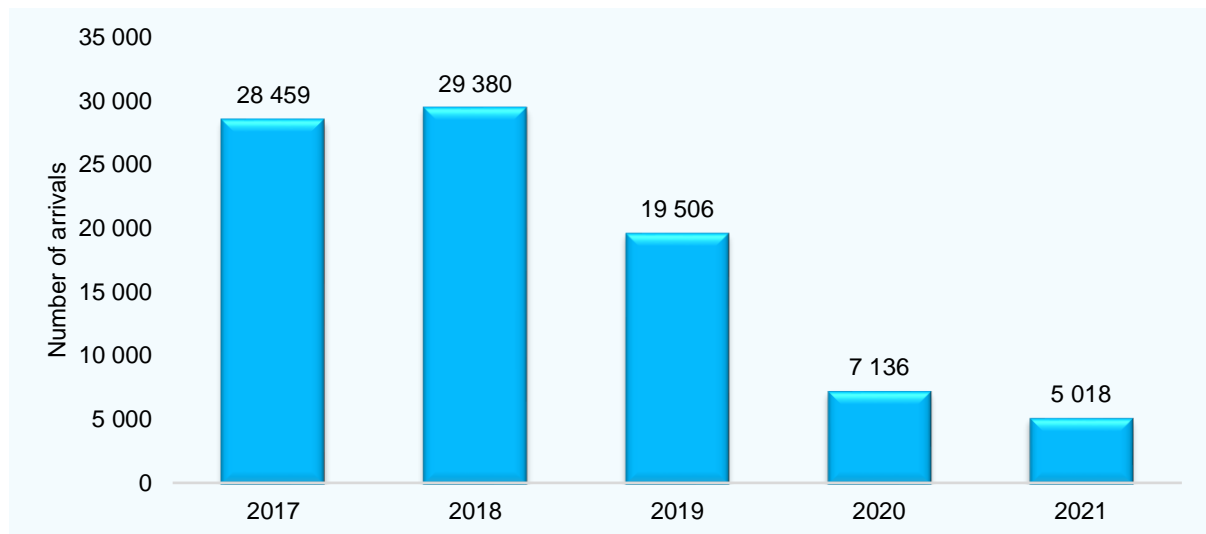


Source: SA Tourism (2022)

5.2 Belgian Tourist Arrivals in the Western Cape

In 2021, the Western Cape welcomed over 5000 tourists from Belgium and recorded the highest share of tourist arrivals from this market amongst the nine provinces.

Figure 17: Belgian tourist arrivals in the Western Cape, 2017 - 2021



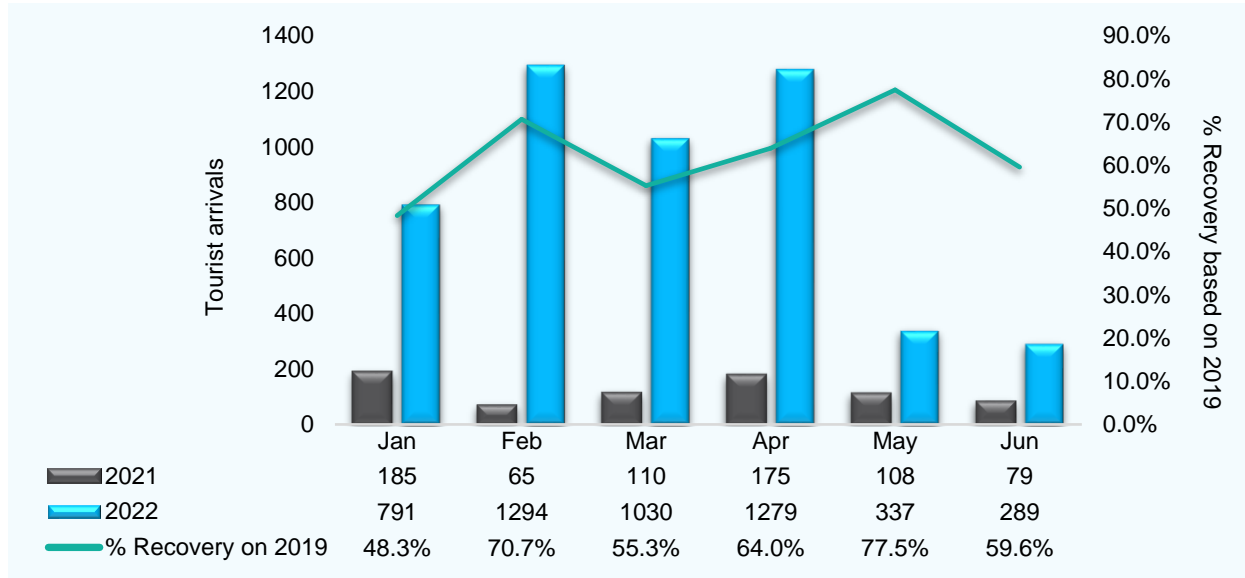
Source: SA Tourism (2022)

5.2.1 Belgian Tourist Arrivals to Cape Town (via Air)

The data represented in Figure 18 below illustrates the tourist arrival numbers obtained from the Jan-Jun 2022 Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) Tourism and Migration publications.

Between January and June 2022, just over 5000 tourists from Belgium travelled to Cape Town (via Air), representing a 595% year-on-year growth and a recovery of 61% when compared to the same period in 2019. The months of February (1 294), March (1 030) and April (1 279) welcomed the largest number of tourist arrivals with respect to volume. In terms of recovery, February (70.7%), April (64.0%) and May (77.5%) recorded the highest rate when compared to 2019.

Figure 18: Belgian tourist arrivals in Cape Town (via air),



Source: Stats SA (2022)

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