



OVERSEAS ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES

AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) WED 16 FEB 2000

DECEMBER 1999 PRELIMINARY

	Dec 1999 '000s	% change between Nov 1999 and Dec 1999	Jan 1999 to Dec 1999 '000s	% change on previous corresponding period
Short-term				
Visitor arrivals				
Trend	379.9	-1.1	..	..
Original	454.5	..	4,453.2	6.9

NOVEMBER 1999 KEY FIGURES

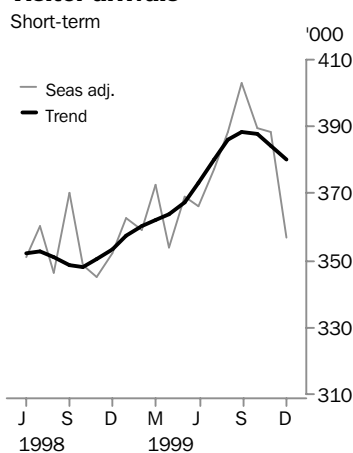
	Nov 1999 '000	% change between Oct 1999 and Nov 1999	Jan 1999 to Nov 1999 '000	% change on previous corresponding period
Short-term				
Visitor arrivals				
Trend	384.2	-0.8	..	..
Original	416.7	..	3 998.7	7.8
Resident departures				
Trend	277.3	-0.1	..	..
Original	244.3	..	2 900.7	2.0
Permanent(a)				
Arrivals	7.2	..	79.3	7.6
Departures	2.9	..	34.7	14.9
Total permanent & long-term(a)				
Arrivals	23.0	..	261.8	7.1
Departures	15.2	..	165.0	2.4

(a) Original

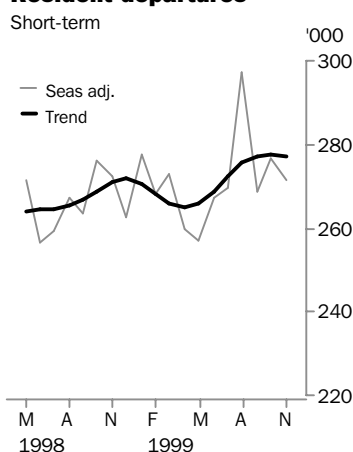
KEY POINTS

- In 1999 there were nearly 4.5 million short-term visitors to Australia, 7% higher than 1998 and 3% higher than 1997. The trend estimate declined in December 1999, revised trend estimates showing declines for the past three months.
- There were 2.9 million short-term resident departures during the 11 months to November 1999, 2% more than the corresponding period in 1998.
- During the 11 months to November 1999 the net gain of permanent and long-term arrivals over permanent and long-term departures was 96,800, 16% higher than for the same period ending November 1998 (83,300).
- Over the last ten years the number of short-term visitors from Singapore have increased from 3% of all short-term visitors in 1988-89 to 6% in 1998-99. (For more information see special article on page 4).

Visitor arrivals



Resident departures



- For further information about these and related statistics, contact Client Services in any ABS office as shown on the back of this publication, or Amanda Dobson on Canberra 02 6252 5640.

NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES	<i>ISSUE</i>	<i>EXPECTED RELEASE DATE</i>
	January 2000	27 March 2000

.....

DATA NOTES For data quality issues see Appendix 2 on page 21.

.....

CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE There are no changes in this issue.

.....

TREND REVISIONS Each time new seasonally adjusted estimates become available, trend estimates of short-term arrivals and departures are revised (see paragraph 19 of the Explanatory Notes).

The examples in the graphs below show two illustrative scenarios and the consequent revisions to previous trend estimates of visitor arrivals and resident departures.

1 The seasonally adjusted estimate for:

January visitor arrivals is 2.95% higher than December

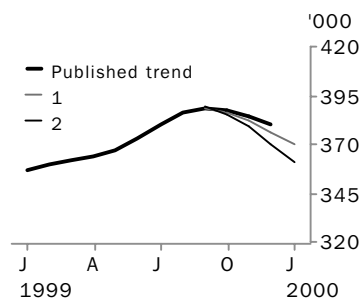
December resident departures is 3.39% higher than November

2 The seasonally adjusted estimate for:

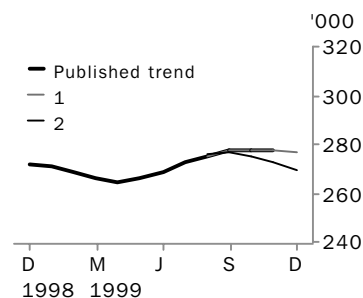
January visitor arrivals is 2.95% lower than December

December resident departure is 3.39% lower than November

VISITOR ARRIVALS



RESIDENT DEPARTURES



The percentage changes of 2.95% and 3.39% were chosen because they represent the average absolute monthly percentage changes between months for visitor arrivals and resident departures respectively over the last four years.

W. McLennan
Australian Statistician

ANALYSES AND COMMENTS

SHORT-TERM MOVEMENTS

VISITOR ARRIVALS

There were an estimated 454,500 short-term visitor arrivals to Australia during December 1999 bringing the total number of visitor arrivals for 1999 to 4,453,200, 7% higher than the number of overseas visitors arriving during 1998 (4,167,200).

The major source countries of short-term visitor arrivals to Australia in 1999 were New Zealand and Japan (each 16% of all arrivals), the United Kingdom (12%), the United States of America (9%) and Singapore (6%). Compared to 1998, there were increases in the number of visitor arrivals from New Zealand (up by 3%), the United Kingdom (up by 13%), the United States of America (up 11%) and Germany (up by 14%). Japan and Taiwan were the only source countries in the top ten to record a decline in visitor arrivals, falling by 6% and 2% respectively. All other Asian countries in the top ten source countries recorded an increase in arrivals.

RESIDENT DEPARTURES

There were 244,300 short-term departures of Australian residents in November 1999, bringing the total for the 11 months to November 1999 to 2,900,700, an increase of 2% on the 11 months to November 1998 (2,842,900). The main destinations of Australian residents departing short-term during the 11 months to November 1999 were New Zealand (15%), the United States of America (11%), the United Kingdom (10%) and Indonesia (9%).

During the 11 months to November 1999;

424,800 Australian residents mainly visited New Zealand, an increase of 3%;

316,600 mainly visited the United States of America, an increase of 9%;

285,000 mainly visited the United Kingdom, a decrease of 4%;

263,800 mainly visited Indonesia, a decrease of 18%;

131,500 mainly visited Singapore, an increase of 17%; and

126,800 mainly visited Hong Kong, a decrease of 2%.

MAIN REASON FOR JOURNEY

Over half (56%) of all short-term visitors to Australia during the 11 months to November 1999 stated on arrival that they had come here mainly for a holiday (2,230,900). A further 19% stated that they were visiting friends and relatives (743,800), 10% were on business trips (414,000), while 4% (146,200) arrived for educational purposes and 3% (103,500) arrived for a convention or conference.

MAIN STATE OF STAY

Overseas visitors departing Australia during the 11 months to November 1999 stated that they had spent most of their time in New South Wales (42%), Queensland (29%), Victoria (14%) or Western Australia (10%). Compared to the 11 months to November 1998, all of these States recorded higher visitor numbers, although the proportionate distribution of visitors across the States remained unchanged. (See Appendix 2 for Northern Territory data quality issues).

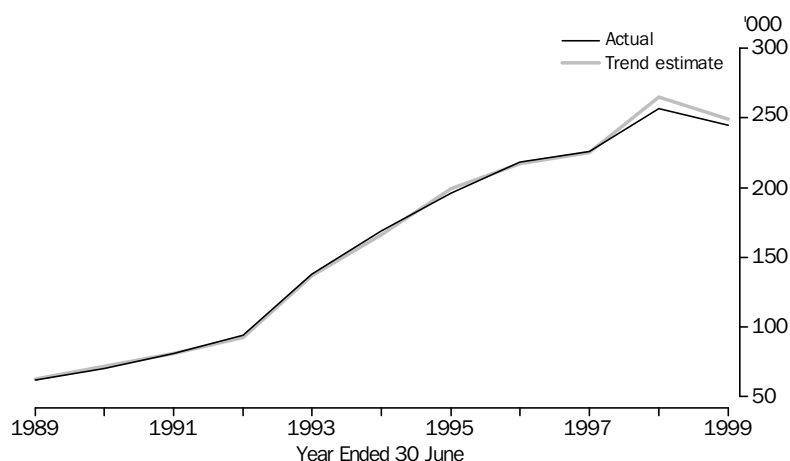
SHORT-TERM VISITOR ARRIVALS FROM SINGAPORE: LAST TEN YEARS

Singapore residents visiting Australia for less than a year (short-term arrivals) in 1998–99 ranked fifth after Japan, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America in terms of the number of visitors coming from a country. Over the last ten years their numbers have increased from 62,400 or 3% of all short-term visitors to Australia in 1988-89 to 244,500 or 6% of all short-term visitors in 1998-99. This is a 292% increase as compared to the increase in visitors from Japan (100%), the United Kingdom (79%), New Zealand (43%), and the United States of America (26%) over the same period. Among countries in the Asian regions, Singapore ranked as the second major source country after Japan, contributing 13% of all short-term visitor arrivals from countries in the Asian regions in 1998–99.

TRENDS

During the last ten years, the number of short-term visitor arrivals from Singapore increased yearly with the exception of 1998–99 when a decline was recorded. However, during the first five months to November 1999 visitor arrivals from Singapore have been higher than in the corresponding months of 1998. Short-term visitor arrivals from all countries in the Asian regions increased from 1988–89 to 1995–96 and fell in the last three years (1996–1997 to 1998–99). However, the visitor arrivals from Singapore fell in 1998–99 while visitor arrivals from Japan and Taiwan declined as early as 1996–97 and visitor arrivals from Hong Kong, Malaysia, Indonesia, Korea, Thailand and the Philippines dropped in 1997–98.

SHORT-TERM VISITOR ARRIVALS FROM SINGAPORE: 1989–99



SEX AND AGE

Over the last ten years, the number of short-term visitor arrivals from Singapore has been male dominated with the exception of the years 1991–92 to 1995–96 when more female than male visitors arrived. In 1998–99 there were 9,500 more male than female visitor arrivals. Short-term visitor arrivals consisted mainly of people aged 25–44 years, 48% in 1998–99. Female visitors tended to be younger than male visitors. In the last ten years, the median age of female visitors from Singapore averaged 32 years while that of male visitors averaged 35 years.

ANALYSES AND COMMENTS

SHORT-TERM VISITOR ARRIVALS FROM SINGAPORE: LAST TEN YEARS

continued

MAIN REASON FOR JOURNEY The majority of visitor arrivals from Singapore came mainly for a holiday (63% in 1998–99), business and for visiting friends and relatives (11% each in 1998–99). Among the holiday-makers in 1998–99, the proportion of female visitors (52%) was higher than that of male visitors (48%).

INTENDED LENGTH OF STAY The bulk of short-term visitors from Singapore intended to stay in Australia for less than two weeks (77% in 1998–99). Over the last ten years, the median duration of intended stay fluctuated between 8 and 9 days. For visitors who came for a holiday, median duration of intended stay remained at 8 days over the 10 year-period. Visitors of friends and relatives intended to stay slightly longer (21 days in 1988–89 to 11 days in 1998–99) and business visitors intended to stay for a shorter period (8 days in 1988–89 to 6 days in 1998–99). Students had the longest (92 days in 1998–99) and most variable median duration of intended stay (ranging from 13 days in 1988–89 to 122 days in 1997–98).

STATE OF INTENDED ADDRESS Over the last 10 years, Western Australia, Queensland, and New South Wales have been the most popular State of intended address for short-term visitors from Singapore. However, Queensland and Western Australia decreased in popularity as indicated by their decreasing share of total arrivals (Western Australia from 1989–90 and Queensland in the last five years). The drop in Western Australia's share was influenced greatly by the drop in the proportion having a holiday in that State. Victoria in particular has attracted an increasing proportion of visitor arrivals in recent years; most of this growth consisted of holiday-makers. Western Australia, which has about one-third of the Singapore-born population in Australia, attracted the highest number of people visiting friends and relatives.

SHORT-TERM VISITOR ARRIVALS FROM SINGAPORE, STATE OF INTENDED ADDRESS

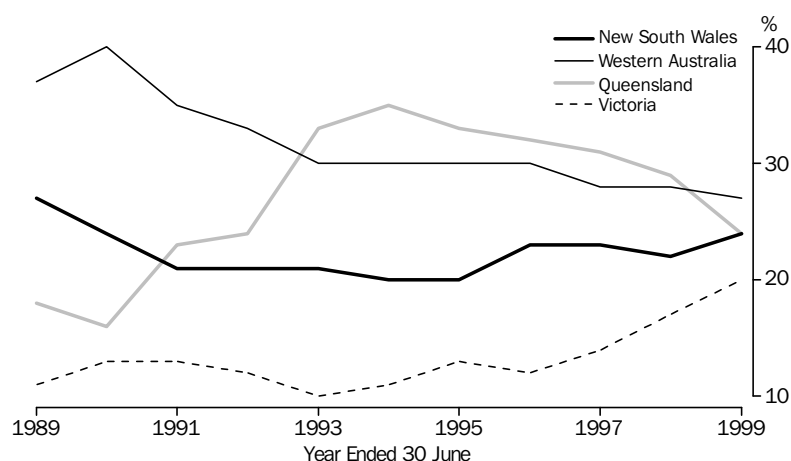


TABLE 1. TOTAL MOVEMENT — ARRIVALS: CATEGORY OF MOVEMENT

Period	Permanent arrivals Settlers	Long-term arrivals		Total permanent and long-term arrivals	Short-term arrivals(a) (‘000)				Total arrivals (a) (‘000)
		Australian residents	Overseas visitors		Australian residents	Overseas visitors (Original)	Overseas visitors (Seasonally adjusted b)	Overseas visitors (Trend estimate c)	
<i>Year ended 31 December —</i>									
1997	78,230	81,800	100,190	260,220	2,897.2	4,317.9	..	..	7,475.3
1998	81,070	75,320	112,000	268,380	3,143.9	4,167.2	..	..	7,579.5
1999p	79,290	63,630	118,910	261,820	3,017.8	4,453.2	..	..	7,278.3
<i>Year ended 30 June —</i>									
1997	85,750	80,170	95,080	261,000	2,786.0	4,252.7	..	..	7,299.7
1998	77,330	84,360	103,760	265,440	3,020.1	4,220.0	..	..	7,505.5
1999	84,140	67,910	119,890	271,950	3,191.6	4,288.0	..	..	7,751.6
<i>1998 —</i>									
October	6,920	5,280	8,300	20,490	355.8	354.8	348.5	348.1	731.0
November	6,550	5,960	6,370	18,870	251.4	367.9	345.1	350.1	638.2
December	7,380	10,670	5,890	23,930	199.3	457.6	352.4	353.4	680.9
<i>1999 —</i>									
January	7,930	5,750	18,230	31,910	371.5	351.0	362.6	357.2	754.3
February	6,930	5,360	20,790	33,080	221.7	398.6	359.3	360.2	653.4
March	7,100	5,250	8,090	20,440	226.3	389.0	372.4	362.0	635.7
April	6,650	4,360	8,030	19,040	248.7	334.1	353.7	364.0	601.9
May	6,920	4,360	6,420	17,710	234.2	298.1	368.9	367.4	550.0
June	6,730	5,300	6,820	18,850	230.8	317.1	366.0	373.3	566.7
July	7,420	6,480	18,100	31,990	314.3	388.5	377.4	380.3	734.8
August	7,680	5,690	7,790	21,160	268.5	355.6	388.6	385.9	645.3
September	7,450	6,250	7,930	21,630	299.3	353.1	403.1	388.4	674.0
October	7,310	6,490	9,260	23,060	356.0	397.0	389.8	387.5	776.0
November	7,170	8,340	7,450	22,950	246.7	416.7	388.3	384.2	686.3
December p	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	454.5	357.0	379.9	n.y.a

(a) Figures for short-term movement are based on a sample and are subject to sampling error. See paragraphs 9 and 10 of the Explanatory Notes for more detail. (b) See paragraphs 14 and 15 of the Explanatory Notes. (c) See paragraphs 16 and 17 of the Explanatory Notes.

TABLE 2. TOTAL MOVEMENT — DEPARTURES: CATEGORY OF MOVEMENT

Period	Permanent departures	Long-term departures		Total permanent and long-term departures	Short-term departures(a) (‘000)				Total departures (a) (‘000)
		Australian residents	Overseas visitors		Australian residents (Original)	Australian residents (Seasonally adjusted b)	Australian residents (Trend estimate c)	Overseas visitors	
<i>Year ended 31 December —</i>									
1996	28,480	70,960	58,820	158,260	2,732.0	..	..	4,110.8	7,001.1
1997	30,340	77,180	69,040	176,560	2,932.8	..	..	4,281.2	7,390.5
1998	33,430	81,060	65,110	179,600	3,161.1	..	..	4,150.2	7,490.9
<i>Year ended 30 June —</i>									
1997	29,860	73,780	62,970	166,610	2,837.2	..	..	4,217.0	7,220.8
1998	31,990	79,420	74,870	186,280	3,031.9	..	..	4,198.3	7,416.5
1999	35,180	82,860	57,420	175,460	3,188.7	..	..	4,279.1	7,643.3
<i>1998 —</i>									
September	2,250	5,310	3,990	11,550	313.5	263.3	266.8	296.3	621.4
October	2,480	5,620	3,570	11,660	268.0	276.2	268.9	337.3	616.9
November	2,470	5,460	5,160	13,090	256.5	272.4	271.1	365.3	634.8
December	3,210	6,660	8,610	18,480	318.1	262.4	271.8	374.7	711.3
<i>1999 —</i>									
January	4,640	12,010	4,630	21,270	232.7	277.7	270.8	448.6	702.6
February	2,870	7,070	3,960	13,890	198.5	268.4	268.3	362.8	575.1
March	3,160	7,390	4,640	15,180	268.9	272.7	265.9	381.6	665.6
April	3,140	7,060	3,590	13,790	244.3	260.0	264.9	381.7	639.8
May	2,730	6,480	4,090	13,290	262.4	256.7	266.0	319.2	594.9
June	2,680	5,540	5,500	13,720	289.3	267.1	268.8	316.7	619.7
July	3,170	6,810	5,620	15,600	286.6	269.7	272.4	336.0	638.2
August	3,650	7,710	4,790	16,150	281.1	297.3	275.5	402.0	699.3
September	2,870	5,820	5,110	13,790	330.7	268.8	277.1	331.2	675.6
October	2,930	5,740	4,450	13,120	262.0	276.4	277.7	364.6	639.7
November	2,910	5,720	6,560	15,190	244.3	271.5	277.3	412.7	672.2

(a) Figures for short-term movement are based on a sample and are subject to sampling error. See paragraphs 9 and 10 of the Explanatory Notes for more detail. (b) See paragraphs 14 and 15 of the Explanatory Notes. (c) See paragraphs 16 and 17 of the Explanatory Notes.

TABLE 3. SHORT-TERM MOVEMENT(a) — ARRIVALS OF OVERSEAS VISITORS AND DEPARTURES OF AUSTRALIAN RESIDENTS BY INTENDED LENGTH OF STAY AND MAIN REASON FOR JOURNEY(b) ('000)

	<i>Year ended</i>		<i>Quarter ended</i>		<i>Eleven months to</i>		<i>Month of</i>	
	<i>31 December</i>		<i>30 September</i>		<i>November</i>		<i>November</i>	
	1997	1998	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
ARRIVALS								
Intended length of stay								
Under 1 week	1,363.2	1,171.2	277.0	294.5	1,079.1	1,121.6	101.5	121.6
1 and under 2 weeks	1,303.2	1,289.3	334.2	348.0	1,156.6	1,276.4	115.0	128.3
2 weeks and under 1 month	793.7	840.1	212.2	240.1	714.0	793.3	71.1	77.1
1 and under 2 months	379.5	388.6	85.0	94.9	325.1	334.0	34.0	33.4
2 and under 3 months	124.0	125.9	24.9	27.9	110.7	117.5	15.0	15.8
3 and under 6 months	167.4	167.2	39.6	42.0	150.2	165.5	17.7	22.4
6 and under 12 months	186.9	185.0	46.8	49.8	173.9	190.5	13.7	18.0
Total(c)	4,317.9	4,167.2	1,019.8	1,097.2	3,709.6	3,998.7	367.9	416.7
Main reason for journey(b)								
Convention/conference	112.6	105.7	33.1	31.4	101.7	103.5	11.5	11.4
Business	436.1	443.8	108.9	110.3	417.2	414.0	42.2	44.2
Visiting friends/relatives	817.6	865.5	187.6	191.3	735.6	743.8	81.3	83.6
Holiday	2,534.5	2,285.8	549.9	616.0	2,028.9	2,230.9	199.6	237.0
Employment	28.6	36.9	11.4	11.5	33.4	41.6	3.6	3.9
Education	143.5	138.6	43.0	44.3	133.8	146.2	4.9	5.8
Other and not stated(d)	245.0	291.0	86.0	92.4	259.0	318.7	24.8	30.8
Total	4,317.9	4,167.2	1,019.8	1,097.2	3,709.6	3,998.7	367.9	416.7
DEPARTURES								
Intended length of stay								
Under 1 week	339.5	386.0	98.4	105.3	362.1	368.0	39.5	37.5
1 and under 2 weeks	752.0	893.5	250.2	267.0	825.6	854.2	78.9	72.7
2 weeks and under 1 month	759.1	820.6	223.3	240.8	724.8	769.9	52.6	54.5
1 and under 2 months	539.3	531.0	146.6	153.1	440.0	437.1	33.8	30.0
2 and under 3 months	210.3	199.6	55.7	52.9	179.4	166.7	25.8	23.3
3 and under 6 months	184.6	177.6	41.1	44.4	168.2	162.6	16.5	16.4
6 and under 12 months	147.9	152.7	34.8	34.9	142.8	142.4	9.4	9.9
Total(c)	2,932.8	3,161.1	850.2	898.4	2,842.9	2,900.7	256.5	244.3
Main reason for journey(b)								
Convention/conference	113.0	116.4	28.5	44.2	111.4	137.2	9.0	11.0
Business	523.6	503.0	119.7	134.2	477.7	500.8	45.1	49.1
Visiting friends/relatives	697.4	753.3	176.8	199.3	637.9	686.4	64.1	62.4
Holiday	1,372.6	1,494.2	421.1	445.9	1,347.5	1,324.0	110.3	99.1
Employment	76.9	81.3	21.0	19.8	73.9	74.4	6.1	6.8
Education	41.8	41.0	12.2	15.6	37.1	41.3	4.1	3.7
Other and not stated(d)	107.4	172.0	70.8	39.3	157.4	136.8	17.9	12.4
Total	2,932.8	3,161.1	850.2	898.4	2,842.9	2,900.7	256.5	244.3

(a) Figures for short-term movement are based on a sample and are subject to sampling error. See paragraphs 9 and 10 of the Explanatory Notes for more detail. (b) Data for September quarter 1998 has been revised. See Appendix 2 for more detail. (c) Includes not stated. (d) Includes 'Exhibition' from July 1998.

TABLE 4. PERMANENT (SETTLER) ARRIVALS: COUNTRY OF BIRTH(a)

<i>Country of birth(a)</i>	<i>Year ended</i>		<i>Quarter ended</i>		<i>Eleven months to</i>		<i>Month of</i>	
	<i>31 December</i>		<i>30 September</i>		<i>November</i>		<i>November</i>	
	1997	1998	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
Major group —								
Oceania and Antarctica	17,360	19,950	4,940	5,650	17,930	21,640	1,640	1,840
Europe and the Former USSR	19,250	20,340	5,150	5,020	18,640	17,520	1,850	1,770
Middle East and North Africa	5,820	5,750	1,500	1,440	5,310	4,820	450	530
Southeast Asia	10,080	9,820	2,400	2,840	8,830	10,440	820	810
Northeast Asia	11,840	10,480	3,090	2,930	9,650	9,850	690	760
Southern Asia	5,390	5,080	1,370	1,950	4,630	5,880	370	630
The Americas	2,980	2,530	670	640	2,300	2,190	190	240
Africa (excluding North Africa)	5,480	7,080	1,900	2,080	6,350	6,880	540	590
Total(b)	78,230	81,070	21,040	22,550	73,690	79,290	6,550	7,170
Major source countries —								
Bosnia-Herzegovina	1,640	2,310	560	160	2,170	650	110	40
China	5,310	5,090	1,620	1,790r	4,640	5,850	420	460
Fiji	1,360	1,300	360	580	1,120	1,610	120	100
Former USSR and Baltic States	1,320	950	240	250	870	840	70	110
Yugoslavia, Federal Republic of(c)	1,600	2,510	840	550	2,270	2,120	300	170
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	3,470	2,570	620	390r	2,430	1,470	120	110
India	2,770	2,440	590	890	2,220	2,940	160	320
New Zealand	13,950	16,500	3,970	4,560	14,880	18,100	1,390	1,570
Philippines	2,880	2,960	810	860	2,670	3,090	260	240
South Africa	3,710	4,770	1,300	1,640	4,250	5,020	350	400
Taiwan	1,940	1,610	550	430	1,500	1,350	70	90
United Kingdom	9,010	8,820	2,030	2,700	8,040	8,990	900	990
United States of America	1,370	1,120	280	280	1,020	950	80	90
Viet Nam	2,310	2,390	580	390	2,220	1,580	220	120

(a) See paragraphs 6 and 7 of the Explanatory Notes. (b) Includes not stated. (c) Includes vague responses which cannot be coded to any other category.

**TABLE 5. SHORT-TERM MOVEMENT(a) — ARRIVALS OF OVERSEAS VISITORS
COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE(b)
(‘000)**

Country of residence(b)	Year ended		Quarter ended		Eleven months to		Month of	
	31 December	1998	30 September	1999	November	1999	November	1999
	1997	1998	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
OCEANIA & ANTARCTICA —								
Fiji	20.0	22.7	4.3	5.8	19.4	22.3	2.6	2.8
New Caledonia	21.8	23.7	4.4	5.0	21.5	22.9	1.5	2.0
New Zealand	685.7	709.4	212.3	215.7	649.4	670.6	53.5	60.4
Papua New Guinea	44.0	44.9	11.6	12.8	38.9	44.5	3.7	3.7
Other	31.2	36.4	10.6	8.4	30.7	33.0	2.9	3.3
<i>Total</i>	<i>802.6</i>	<i>837.0</i>	<i>243.2</i>	<i>247.7</i>	<i>759.9</i>	<i>793.2</i>	<i>64.2</i>	<i>72.2</i>
EUROPE & THE FORMER USSR —								
Austria	19.6	16.9	4.6	4.5	14.9	15.1	1.7	1.8
Belgium	9.3	9.4	2.6	2.6	8.4	8.5	0.9	1.0
Denmark	17.0	18.2	3.4	4.2	16.1	16.4	1.8	1.7
Former USSR & Baltic States	9.0	9.5	2.0	2.0	8.3	7.7	0.7	1.0
France	40.0	43.0	13.3	14.3	38.1	43.5	4.4	5.1
Germany	128.9	127.4	26.2	29.6	113.8	125.9	12.7	14.9
Greece	9.1	8.4	1.9	2.0	6.6	7.3	1.0	1.0
Ireland	25.3	31.0	7.8	9.4	27.4	36.1	3.2	4.6
Italy	45.8	47.8	15.5	16.4	41.0	43.0	3.9	4.4
Netherlands	42.0	47.0	11.4	13.2	41.5	46.9	5.2	5.8
Norway	9.4	10.6	2.2	2.8	9.3	10.2	0.9	1.0
Spain	9.4	10.6	4.0	4.6	9.8	11.9	1.3	1.4
Sweden	24.0	26.8	4.9	4.8	21.8	23.9	2.8	3.8
Switzerland	38.6	40.3	9.2	9.9	34.7	38.6	4.5	5.3
United Kingdom	410.6	467.5	78.3	107.9	398.3	471.3	55.8	67.6
Other	36.1	37.1	8.0	8.0	31.8	35.3	4.7	5.3
<i>Total</i>	<i>874.2</i>	<i>951.5</i>	<i>195.4</i>	<i>236.4</i>	<i>821.8</i>	<i>941.5</i>	<i>105.4</i>	<i>125.6</i>
MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA —								
Israel	10.6	11.0	2.8	3.1	9.7	11.1	0.9	1.2
Other	25.5	31.1	13.6	17.4	27.6	35.0	1.9	2.3
<i>Total</i>	<i>36.1</i>	<i>42.1</i>	<i>16.4</i>	<i>20.5</i>	<i>37.3</i>	<i>46.2</i>	<i>2.9</i>	<i>3.4</i>
SOUTHEAST ASIA —								
Brunei	6.8	7.7	1.6	1.5	6.6	5.5	0.5	0.6
Indonesia	160.4	93.0	22.2	20.4	81.7	82.2	6.0	3.8
Malaysia	143.7	112.1	29.1	33.4	99.4	125.1	9.5	12.5
Philippines	41.1	35.4	7.4	8.8	31.5	36.5	3.0	3.3
Singapore	239.3	247.1	44.5	55.6	210.8	231.6	24.8	34.3
Thailand	68.6	49.1	13.0	12.6	42.1	56.0	2.9	4.3
Other	9.4	11.8	3.1	2.5	10.5	10.6	1.0	1.0
<i>Total</i>	<i>669.2</i>	<i>556.2</i>	<i>120.9</i>	<i>134.7</i>	<i>482.7</i>	<i>547.6</i>	<i>47.7</i>	<i>59.7</i>
NORTHEAST ASIA —								
China (c)	65.8	76.5	19.5	22.8r	69.6	83.5	6.4	9.0
Hong Kong (SAR of China) (c)	151.7	143.4	34.5	36.9r	128.9	126.3	10.1	10.4
Japan	813.9	751.1	200.9	188.1	685.8	649.0	58.2	57.8
Korea	233.8	66.6	17.7	24.6	57.0	94.0	8.2	12.4
Taiwan	153.2	150.0	37.6	40.0	139.5	137.4	10.2	9.9
Other	2.4	3.0	0.8	0.8	2.6	2.9	0.2	0.2
<i>Total</i>	<i>1,420.9</i>	<i>1,190.7</i>	<i>311.0</i>	<i>313.1</i>	<i>1,083.4</i>	<i>1,093.1</i>	<i>93.3</i>	<i>99.6</i>
SOUTHERN ASIA —								
India	26.1	29.4	6.2	7.4	26.5	30.4	2.5	2.9
Other	11.7	13.4	3.4	3.5	11.6	13.0	1.1	1.3
<i>Total</i>	<i>37.8</i>	<i>42.8</i>	<i>9.6</i>	<i>10.9</i>	<i>38.1</i>	<i>43.4</i>	<i>3.6</i>	<i>4.2</i>
THE AMERICAS —								
Canada	64.8	71.7	15.2	15.3	62.9	68.7	7.3	8.4
United States of America	329.6	373.9	82.6	95.0	337.8	372.0	33.6	34.2
Other	25.8	28.0	6.8	6.9	24.3	28.0	2.3	2.3
<i>Total</i>	<i>420.1</i>	<i>473.6</i>	<i>104.6</i>	<i>117.2</i>	<i>425.0</i>	<i>468.7</i>	<i>43.2</i>	<i>44.9</i>
AFRICA (excluding North Africa) —								
South Africa	45.2	56.9	14.7	13.0	47.6	50.7	6.1	5.3
Other	11.1	14.0	3.1	2.5	11.7	10.9	1.3	1.2
<i>Total</i>	<i>56.2</i>	<i>70.9</i>	<i>17.8</i>	<i>15.5</i>	<i>59.3</i>	<i>61.6</i>	<i>7.5</i>	<i>6.5</i>
Not stated	0.8	2.5	0.9	1.2	2.1	3.5	0.2	0.4
Total	4,317.9	4,167.2	1,019.8	1,097.2	3,709.6	3,998.7	367.9	416.7

(a) Figures for short-term movement are based on a sample and are subject to sampling error. See paragraphs 9 and 10 of the Explanatory Notes for more detail. (b) See paragraphs 6 and 7 of the Explanatory Notes. (c) See paragraph on September 1999 processing in Appendix 2

**TABLE 6. SHORT-TERM MOVEMENT(a) — ARRIVALS OF OVERSEAS VISITORS
COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE(b)
(‘000)**

<i>Country of residence(b)</i>	<i>Quarter ended</i>			<i>Year ended</i>			<i>Month of</i>	
	<i>31 December</i>		<i>% change</i>	<i>31 December</i>		<i>% change</i>	<i>December</i>	
	<i>1998</i>	<i>1999p</i>		<i>1998</i>	<i>1999p</i>		<i>1998</i>	<i>1999p</i>
OCEANIA & ANTARCTICA —								
New Zealand	184.0	192.3	4.5	709.4	730.6	3.0	60.0	60.1
<i>Total</i>	223.2	232.0	4.0	837.0	868.3	3.7	77.1	75.2
EUROPE & THE FORMER USSR —								
Germany	39.7	51.1	28.8	127.4	144.6	13.5	13.6	18.7
Italy	15.0	17.3	15.8	47.8	51.8	8.3	6.9	8.8
Netherlands	16.4	18.2	10.9	47.0	52.4	11.5	5.5	5.4
Sweden	10.9	12.3	13.4	26.8	29.5	9.8	5.0	5.6
Switzerland	14.2	16.6	16.9	40.3	44.6	10.7	5.7	6.0
United Kingdom	163.4	180.7	10.6	467.5	530.0	13.4	69.2	58.7
<i>Total</i>	322.9	368.2	14.1	951.5	1,070.4	12.5	129.7	128.8
MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA —								
<i>Total</i>	10.5	11.6	10.0	42.1	51.3	22.0	4.8	5.1
SOUTHEAST ASIA —								
Indonesia	25.5	17.9	-29.9	93.0	90.9	-2.2	11.3	8.7
Malaysia	30.4	38.1	25.5	112.1	140.2	25.1	12.6	15.0
Philippines	9.9	10.0	1.3	35.4	39.9	12.9	3.9	3.4
Singapore	77.0	88.3	14.6	247.1	266.9	8.0	36.3	35.3
Thailand	14.8	17.0	15.2	49.1	61.3	24.8	7.0	5.4
<i>Total</i>	163.1	176.4	8.1	556.2	617.7	11.1	73.5	70.1
NORTHEAST ASIA —								
China	19.9	28.3	42.2	76.5	93.2	21.8	7.0	9.8
Japan	176.2	169.2	-4.0	751.1	705.9	-6.0	65.3	56.9
Korea	23.9	37.6	57.8	66.6	109.1	63.7	9.7	15.2
Taiwan	29.9	27.5	-7.8	150.0	147.3	-1.8	10.4	9.8
<i>Total</i>	286.6	297.3	3.7	1,190.7	1,197.9	0.6	107.3	104.9
THE AMERICAS —								
Canada	22.5	24.9	10.7	71.7	77.9	8.7	8.8	9.2
United States of America	104.8	112.2	7.1	373.9	413.6	10.6	36.1	41.6
<i>Total</i>	135.4	144.8	7.0	473.6	522.1	10.2	48.6	53.4
AFRICA (excluding North Africa) —								
South Africa	20.7	18.0	-12.7	56.9	59.1	3.9	9.3	8.4
<i>Total</i>	25.6	23.0	-10.0	70.9	73.0	2.9	11.6	11.3
Total	1,180.3	1,268.1	7.4	4,167.2	4,453.2	6.9	457.6	454.5

(a) Figures for short-term movement are based on a sample and are subject to sampling error. See paragraphs 9 and 10 of the Explanatory Notes for more detail. (b) See paragraphs 4, 6, and 7 of the Explanatory Notes.

**TABLE 7. SHORT-TERM MOVEMENT(a) — DEPARTURES OF AUSTRALIAN RESIDENTS
MAIN DESTINATION(b)
(‘000)**

Main destination(b)	Year ended		Quarter ended		Eleven months to		Month of	
	31 December		30 September		November		November	
	1997	1998	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
OCEANIA & ANTARCTICA —								
Fiji	76.0	99.2	26.3	37.1	89.4	105.8	8.4	8.3
New Caledonia	14.4	12.4	3.3	3.5	11.0	10.7	1.5	1.5
New Zealand	406.9	470.1	119.4	123.9	414.3	424.8	41.0	44.1
Norfolk Island	22.9	27.7	7.4	6.4	25.3	25.2	2.6	2.2
Papua New Guinea	42.4	39.8	10.4	11.6	36.3	37.8	3.8	4.5
Vanuatu	24.3	32.3	9.6	10.4	28.8	29.0	4.0	2.3
Other	28.4	31.8	7.2	9.6	25.9	29.3	3.2	3.2
<i>Total</i>	<i>615.3</i>	<i>713.4</i>	<i>183.6</i>	<i>202.5</i>	<i>631.0</i>	<i>662.5</i>	<i>64.5</i>	<i>65.9</i>
EUROPE & THE FORMER USSR —								
France	34.6	39.6	11.5	12.9	36.0	38.9	2.2	2.7
Germany	36.0	39.3	11.0	10.9	36.4	36.0	2.8	2.4
Greece	38.7	42.1	15.7	14.6	40.3	36.1	1.4	1.4
Ireland	21.1	20.9	6.8	8.0	18.8	21.3	0.9	1.0
Italy	62.5	63.0	23.1	19.9	59.1	60.5	2.4	3.5
Netherlands	14.6	18.8	4.9	5.4	17.3	16.2	1.2	1.2
Poland	6.4	7.2	1.9	2.5	6.7	7.2	0.3	0.6
Spain	9.5	12.9	3.2	4.4	12.0	14.2	1.1	0.6
Switzerland	9.7	11.6	3.7	3.6	10.0	11.0	0.5	0.9
United Kingdom	322.3	322.4	96.9	98.7	297.6	285.0	17.4	19.3
Other	83.7	93.7	29.5	33.2	87.3	84.1	4.4	5.5
<i>Total</i>	<i>639.1</i>	<i>671.6</i>	<i>208.3</i>	<i>214.1</i>	<i>621.5</i>	<i>610.4</i>	<i>34.7</i>	<i>39.1</i>
MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA —								
Israel	10.2	9.6	2.2	2.1	8.4	8.0	0.4	0.6
Lebanon	18.8	18.1	6.2	6.9	16.6	19.0	1.3	1.6
Turkey	15.4	17.7	5.2	4.9	17.0	15.0	0.9	0.5
Other	23.9	27.9	7.4	6.6	24.6	27.6	3.3	2.7
<i>Total</i>	<i>68.3</i>	<i>73.3</i>	<i>21.0</i>	<i>20.4</i>	<i>66.5</i>	<i>69.6</i>	<i>5.9</i>	<i>5.4</i>
SOUTHEAST ASIA —								
Indonesia	310.7	349.6	106.9	92.0	323.5	263.8	31.7	10.2
Malaysia	98.4	111.9	28.7	33.9	100.2	107.8	8.9	8.2
Philippines	60.4	57.4	10.3	10.4	48.6	48.9	4.5	4.8
Singapore	105.1	122.6	32.0	39.6	112.3	131.5	10.9	10.7
Thailand	89.1	135.8	38.5	37.8	123.2	126.7	12.1	13.7
Viet Nam	43.3	48.2	10.2	9.6	40.5	45.2	5.4	3.1
Other	10.1	10.7	1.9	1.8	9.2	9.8	1.4	1.4
<i>Total</i>	<i>717.1</i>	<i>836.2</i>	<i>228.5</i>	<i>225.1</i>	<i>757.4</i>	<i>733.8</i>	<i>75.0</i>	<i>52.2</i>
NORTHEAST ASIA —								
China (c)	72.3	82.0	20.2	22.0r	72.8	75.2	5.6	7.1
Hong Kong (SAR of China) (c)	156.2	147.4	29.6	35.4r	129.5	126.8	14.6	11.8
Japan	56.4	56.1	15.1	16.9	51.4	59.8	4.9	5.9
Korea	16.9	17.6	4.2	4.2	15.8	15.8	1.6	1.4
Taiwan	35.0	33.1	7.5	7.1	28.8	27.5	3.3	3.1
Other	1.9	1.0	0.2	0.6	1.0	2.0	0.1	—
<i>Total</i>	<i>338.7</i>	<i>337.2</i>	<i>76.8</i>	<i>86.3</i>	<i>299.3</i>	<i>307.1</i>	<i>30.2</i>	<i>29.3</i>
SOUTHERN ASIA —								
India	37.0	39.1	6.6	6.6	32.8	34.3	7.1	6.4
Sri Lanka	12.9	11.5	2.4	3.2	8.9	10.8	1.3	1.8
Other	15.6	16.4	2.7	3.4	14.7	16.6	2.7	3.4
<i>Total</i>	<i>65.5</i>	<i>67.0</i>	<i>11.8</i>	<i>13.2</i>	<i>56.4</i>	<i>61.7</i>	<i>11.1</i>	<i>11.5</i>
THE AMERICAS —								
Canada	50.3	48.7	15.3	16.7	42.7	49.5	2.9	2.7
United States of America	351.9	322.7	80.0	93.7	289.3	316.6	23.3	28.9
Other	26.8	28.2	6.2	7.1	23.7	29.2	3.8	3.8
<i>Total</i>	<i>429.1</i>	<i>399.6</i>	<i>101.6</i>	<i>117.5</i>	<i>355.8</i>	<i>395.3</i>	<i>30.1</i>	<i>35.3</i>
AFRICA (excluding North Africa) —								
South Africa	29.9	29.3	8.2	9.7	25.4	28.8	2.0	2.9
Other	23.2	22.5	6.5	6.1	19.8	18.3	2.0	1.8
<i>Total</i>	<i>53.1</i>	<i>51.8</i>	<i>14.6</i>	<i>15.9</i>	<i>45.2</i>	<i>47.1</i>	<i>4.0</i>	<i>4.7</i>
Not stated	6.5	11.0	3.9	3.3	9.9	13.2	1.0	1.0
Total	2,932.8	3,161.1	850.2	898.4	2,842.9	2,900.7	256.5	244.3

(a) Figures for short-term movement are based on a sample and are subject to sampling error. See paragraphs 9 and 10 of the Explanatory Notes for more detail. (b) See paragraphs 6 and 7 of the Explanatory Notes. (c) See paragraph on September 1999 processing in Appendix 2

**TABLE 8. SHORT-TERM MOVEMENT(a) — DEPARTURES OF OVERSEAS VISITORS
STATE/TERRITORY IN WHICH MOST TIME WAS SPENT
(‘000)**

State/Territory in which most time was spent(b)	Year ended		Quarter ended		Eleven months to		Month of	
	31 December		30 September		November		November	
	1997	1998	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
New South Wales	1,841.8	1,740.3	398.3	425.9	1,590.6	1,700.2	150.5	172.0
Victoria	584.6	597.4	129.7	136.2	536.1	580.5	56.8	61.9
Queensland	1,247.2	1,202.8	332.0	359.8	1,105.7	1,184.0	105.4	119.8
South Australia	91.5	94.5	18.6	22.8	83.3	95.6	8.7	8.1
Western Australia	400.1	403.9	83.5	95.1	358.8	387.2	34.8	40.9
Tasmania	26.8	24.9	2.5	3.9	21.0	26.1	2.0	3.4
Northern Territory	44.3	45.5	16.2	16.7	43.1	45.6	3.2	3.4
Australian Capital Territory	33.2	32.1	7.2	7.5	29.2	29.9	2.9	3.1
Other Territories(c)	11.8	2.6	0.3	1.2	2.5	2.9	0.1	0.1
Total(d)	4,281.2	4,150.2	991.3	1,069.1	3,775.5	4,057.0	365.3	412.7

(a) Figures for short-term movement are based on a sample and are subject to sampling error. See paragraphs 9 and 10 of the Explanatory Notes for more detail. (b) Data for August to October 1998 inclusive has been revised. See Appendix 2 for more detail. (c) Not available prior to February 1995. Includes Territories of Christmas Island, Cocos (Keeling) Islands and Jervis Bay. (d) Includes not stated.

**TABLE 9. SHORT-TERM MOVEMENT(a) — ARRIVALS OF OVERSEAS VISITORS
COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE(b) AND MAIN REASON FOR JOURNEY(c)**

	Eleven months to November						Percentage change 1997 to 1998	Percentage change 1998 to 1999
	1997		1998		1999			
	(‘000)	%	(‘000)	%	(‘000)	%		
Country of residence(b)								
Major group —								
Oceania and Antarctica	728.6	18.8	759.9	20.5	793.2	19.8	4.3	4.4
Europe and the Former USSR	754.9	19.5	821.8	22.2	941.5	23.5	8.9	14.6
Middle East and North Africa	32.6	0.8	37.3	1.0	46.2	1.2	14.2	23.9
Southeast Asia	591.3	15.3	482.7	13.0	547.6	13.7	-18.4	13.4
Northeast Asia	1,303.3	33.7	1,083.4	29.2	1,093.1	27.3	-16.9	0.9
Southern Asia	33.8	0.9	38.1	1.0	43.4	1.1	12.7	14.0
The Americas	376.9	9.7	425.0	11.5	468.7	11.7	12.8	10.3
Africa (excluding North Africa)	47.4	1.2	59.3	1.6	61.6	1.5	25.0	4.0
Total(c)	3,869.6	100.0	3,709.6	100.0	3,998.7	100.0	-4.1	7.8
Selected source countries(b) —								
Germany	113.8	2.9	113.8	3.1	125.9	3.1	—	10.6
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	136.6	3.5	128.9	3.5	126.3	3.2	-5.6	-2.0
Indonesia	147.5	3.8	81.7	2.2	82.2	2.1	-44.6	0.7
Japan	738.8	19.1	685.8	18.5	649.0	16.2	-7.2	-5.4
Korea	223.7	5.8	57.0	1.5	94.0	2.4	-74.5	64.9
Malaysia	130.0	3.4	99.4	2.7	125.1	3.1	-23.5	25.8
New Zealand	625.3	16.2	649.4	17.5	670.6	16.8	3.9	3.3
Singapore	199.5	5.2	210.8	5.7	231.6	5.8	5.7	9.9
Taiwan	143.0	3.7	139.5	3.8	137.4	3.4	-2.4	-1.5
United Kingdom	351.3	9.1	398.3	10.7	471.3	11.8	13.4	18.3
United States of America	297.5	7.7	337.8	9.1	372.0	9.3	13.6	10.1
Main reason for journey(d)								
Convention/conference	109.1	2.8	101.7	2.7	103.5	2.6	-6.8	1.8
Business	407.9	10.5	417.2	11.2	414.0	10.4	2.3	-0.8
Visiting friends/relatives	685.3	17.7	735.6	19.8	743.8	18.6	7.3	1.1
Holiday	2,275.3	58.8	2,028.9	54.7	2,230.9	55.8	-10.8	10.0
Employment	26.5	0.7	33.4	0.9	41.6	1.0	26.4	24.6
Education	140.0	3.6	133.8	3.6	146.2	3.7	-4.4	9.3
Other and not stated(e)	225.6	5.8	259.0	7.0	318.7	8.0	14.8	23.0
Total	3,869.6	100.0	3,709.6	100.0	3,998.7	100.0	-4.1	7.8

(a) Figures for short-term movement are based on a sample and are subject to sampling error. See paragraphs 9 and 10 of the Explanatory Notes for more detail. (b) See paragraphs 6 and 7 of the Explanatory Notes for more detail. (c) Includes not stated. (d) Data for September quarter 1998 has been revised. See Appendix 2 for more detail. (e) Includes 'Exhibition' from July 1998.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 This publication contains statistics of persons arriving in, and departing from, Australia, together with the major characteristics of travellers. More detailed statistics can be made available on request (see paragraph 21).

SOURCE OF THE STATISTICS

2 Persons arriving in, or departing from, Australia provide information in the form of incoming and outgoing passenger cards (see Appendix 1). Incoming persons also provide information in visa applications, apart from people travelling as Australian and New Zealand citizens. These and other information available to the Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs (DIMA) serve as a source for statistics of overseas arrivals and departures.

3 As from July 1998, DIMA has revised incoming and outgoing passenger cards and associated procedures as well as computer systems. Following these changes, some questions on the passenger cards will no longer be compulsory and answers to these questions will no longer be checked by Customs officers. The question on marital status has been deleted. Data on marital status is derived from visa applications (only for certain visa classes) and is therefore not available for Australian or New Zealand citizens. The changes also affect the data for 'Previous country of residence' which is imputed for Australian and New Zealand citizens. For more information see the May 1998 issue of this publication.

4 The preliminary estimates of visitor arrivals by country of residence (see Table 6, page 9) are based on data from DIMA's Travel and Immigration Processing System (TRIPS). The TRIPS system produces a limited range of data, including country of citizenship, which is used by ABS to produce preliminary estimates by country of usual residence. These preliminary estimates will be revised in the next issue of this publication, when final data is available. For more information see pages 3 and 4 of the June 1997 and the September 1998 issues of this publication.

SCOPE

5 The statistics in this publication relate to the number of movements of travellers rather than the number of travellers (i.e. multiple movements of individual persons during a given reference period are each counted separately). The statistics exclude the movements of operational air and ships' crew, of transit passengers who pass through Australia but are not cleared for entry, and of passengers on pleasure cruises commencing and finishing in Australia aboard ships not then engaged on regular voyages. Similarly, these statistics exclude those persons not travelling under standard visa conditions, such as 'boat people' and the 1999 intake of Kosovo refugees.

COUNTRY CLASSIFICATION

6 The classification of countries in this publication is the *Australian Standard Classification of Countries for Social Statistics* (ASCCSS). For more detailed information refer to the ABS publication *Australian Standard Classification of Countries for Social Statistics* (Cat. no. 1269.0).

7 The statistics on country of birth, citizenship, residence or main destination have certain limitations because of reporting on passenger cards. For instance, United Kingdom includes England, Scotland and Wales. Similarly Korea includes both the Republic of Korea and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

STATE AND TERRITORY CLASSIFICATION

8 Following the 1992 amendment to the *Acts Interpretation Act* to include the Indian Ocean Territories of Christmas Island and the Cocos (Keeling) Islands as part of geographic Australia, population estimates commencing with the September quarter 1993 include estimates for these two territories. To reflect this change, another category of the State/Territory classification has been created, known as Other Territories. Other Territories includes Jervis Bay Territory, Christmas Island and the Cocos (Keeling) Islands.

ESTIMATION METHOD

9 Overseas arrival and departure statistics are derived from a combination of full enumeration and sampling. All permanent movements and all movements with a duration of stay of one year or more are fully enumerated. All movements with a duration of stay of less than one year are sampled. Statistics relating to these movements are therefore estimates which may differ from statistics which would have been obtained if details of all these movements had been processed.

10 Since January 1997 variable sample skips have been used in the selection of records to be sampled. Separate skips are applied for each country of citizenship and the skips may vary for each processing month. Over a year about 3.5% of all short term movements are selected for sampling.

11 The statistics in this publication have been rounded to the nearest 100 for short-term movements and to the nearest 10 for permanent and long-term movements. In tables showing both short-term and permanent and long-term movements the total movements have been rounded to the nearest 100. The sums of the components may, due to rounding, not add exactly to totals.

CORRECTIONS AND IMPUTATIONS

12 The imprecision due to sampling errors should not be confused with errors arising from imperfections in reporting, which may occur in any data collection, whether sampled or not. Every effort is made to minimise such errors, both through careful design of the passenger cards and through checks on the information once it is received. During the edit process some items are corrected where they conflict with other known information. Missing replies to certain items such as age and country of birth are also imputed by reference to other related items. Information on non-sampling errors appears in Appendix 2.

13 Errors of this kind differ from discrepancies arising from the fact that certain information reflects the travellers' intentions at the time the passenger cards were completed. These intentions are, of course, subject to change. Particularly affected is the distinction between permanent and temporary movement and in the latter case, length of intended stay, country in which most time will be spent and main reason for journey.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT AND TREND ESTIMATES

14 Original and seasonally adjusted short-term overseas visitor arrivals and short-term Australian resident departures are shown in Tables 1 and 2 respectively. In the seasonally adjusted series, account has been taken of normal seasonal factors and trading day effects (arising from the varying numbers of Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays etc. in the month) and the effect of movement in the date of Easter which may, in successive years, affect figures for different months.

15 Seasonal adjustment is a means of removing the estimated effects of normal seasonal variation from the series so that the effects of other influences on the series may be more clearly recognised. Seasonal adjustment procedures do not aim to remove the irregular or non-seasonal influences which may be present in any particular month, such as the effect of major sporting and cultural events, changes in airfares and the fluctuation of \$A relative to other currencies. Irregular influences that are highly volatile can make it difficult to interpret the movement of the series even after adjustment for seasonal variation.

16 The trend estimates for short-term overseas visitor arrivals and short-term Australian resident departures are shown in Tables 1 and 2 respectively. These trend estimates are derived by applying a 13-term Henderson-weighted moving average to all months of the respective seasonally adjusted series except the first and last six months. Trend series are created for the last six months by applying surrogates of the Henderson weighted moving average to the seasonally adjusted series.

17 While this technique enables smoothed data for the latest period to be produced, it does result in revisions to the smoothed series, principally of recent months, as additional observations become available. There may also be revisions as a result of the re-estimation of the seasonal factors. For further information, see *A Guide to Interpreting Time Series—Monitoring Trends, an Overview* (Cat. no. 1348.0).

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

18 Users of these statistics may also wish to refer to the following ABS publications:

- *Australian Demographic Statistics* (Cat. no. 3101.0)—issued quarterly
- *Migration, Australia* (Cat. no. 3412.0)—issued annually
- *Tourism Indicators, Australia* (Cat. no. 8634.0)—issued quarterly.

19 Related statistics are also published by the Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs, the Department of Transport and Regional Services and the Bureau of Tourism Research.

20 Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products, Australia* (Cat. no. 1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Release Advice* (Cat. no. 1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. Both are available from any ABS office or the ABS website.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

ADDITIONAL STATISTICS AVAILABLE **21** As well as the statistics included in this and related publications, other relevant unpublished data are available for the following variables:

Citizenship (Nationality)

Country of birth

Age (Date of birth)

Sex

Marital status (not available for Australia or New Zealand citizens)

Category of travel

Permanent migrant

 Previous/future country of residence

 State of intended address/lived

Overseas visitor

 Intended/actual length of stay

 Main reason for journey

 Country of residence

 State of intended address/in which most time spent

Australian residents

 Intended/actual time away from Australia

 Country spent/intend to spend most time in

 State of intended address/lived

Occupation (not available for short-term movements)

State of intended/actual address

Country of embarkation/disembarkation

Airport/Port of arrival/departure

Arrival/departure date

Intention to live in Australia for next 12 months (not available for short-term movements)

22 This publication draws extensively on information provided by the Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs. This continued cooperation is very much appreciated: without it, the statistics published would not be available. Information received by the ABS is treated in strict confidence as required by the *Census and Statistics Act 1905*.

SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES

—	nil or rounded to zero
..	not applicable
p	preliminary
n.a.	not available
n.f.d.	not further defined
n.y.a.	not yet available
r	revised

G L O S S A R Y

Australian resident	Australian residence is self-defined as reported by travellers when completing Incoming and Outgoing Passenger Cards.
Category of movement	<p>Overseas Arrivals and Departures are classified according to length of stay (in Australia or overseas), recorded in months and days by travellers on passenger cards. There are three main <i>categories of movement</i>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ permanent movements▪ long-term movements▪ short-term movements. <p>A significant number of travellers (i.e. overseas visitors to Australia on arrival and Australian residents going abroad) state exactly 12 months or one year as their intended period of stay. Many of them stay for less than that period and on their departure from, or return to, Australia are therefore classified as short-term. Accordingly in an attempt to maintain consistency between arrivals and departures, movements of travellers who report their actual or intended period of stay as being one year exactly are randomly allocated to long-term or short-term, in proportion to the number of movements of travellers who report their actual length of stay as up to one month more, or one month less, than one year.</p>
Country of residence	Country of residence refers to the country in which travellers regard themselves as living or as last having lived.
Intended length of stay	On arrival in Australia, all overseas visitors are asked to state their 'Intended length of stay in Australia'. On departure from Australia, all Australian residents are asked to state their 'Intended length of stay abroad'.
Long-term arrivals	Long-term arrivals comprise: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ overseas visitors who intend to stay in Australia for 12 months or more (but not permanently); and▪ Australian residents returning after an absence of 12 months or more overseas.
Long-term departures	Long-term departures comprise: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Australian residents who intend to stay abroad for 12 months or more (but not permanently); and▪ overseas visitors departing who stayed 12 months or more in Australia.
Main destination	Australian residents travelling overseas are asked on departure for the name of the country in which they intend to spend most time.

GLOSSARY

Main reason for journey On arrival in, or departure from, Australia all overseas visitors and Australian residents are asked to state their purpose of journey. From September 1994, all statistics relating to *main reason for journey* have been published using the following categories:

- convention/conference
- business
- visiting friends/relatives
- holiday
- employment
- education
- other

In tabulations of data collected before September 1994, the 'Other' category includes 'In transit' and the 'Holiday' category includes both 'Student vacation' and 'Accompanying business visitor'.

Main State/Territory of stay Overseas visitors are asked on departure for the name of the State or Territory in which they spent the most time.

Overseas Arrivals and Departures (OAD) Overseas Arrivals and Departures refer to the arrival or departure of Australian residents or overseas visitors, through Australian airports (or sea ports), which have been recorded on Incoming or Outgoing Passenger Cards. Statistics on Overseas Arrivals and Departures relate to the number of movements of travellers rather than the number of travellers (i.e. the multiple movements of individual persons during a given reference period are all counted).

Permanent arrivals Permanent arrivals (settlers) comprise:

- travellers who hold migrant visas (regardless of stated intended period of stay);
- New Zealand citizens who indicate an intention to settle; and
- those who are otherwise eligible to settle (e.g. overseas born children of Australian citizens).

This definition of settlers is used by the Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs. Prior to 1985 the definition of settlers used by the ABS was the stated intention of the traveller only. Numerically the effect of the change in definition is insignificant. The change was made to avoid the confusion caused by minor differences between data on settlers published separately by the ABS and the Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs.

Permanent departures Permanent departures are Australian residents (including former settlers) who on departure state that they intend to settle permanently in another country.

Short-term arrivals Short-term arrivals comprise:

- overseas visitors whose intended stay in Australia is less than 12 months; and
- Australian residents returning after an absence of less than 12 months overseas.

Short-term departures Short-term departures comprise:

- Australian residents who intend to stay abroad for less than 12 months; and
- overseas visitors departing who stayed less than 12 months in Australia.

STANDARD ERRORS

RELIABILITY OF ESTIMATES

1 Estimates based on a sample are subject to sampling variability i.e. they may differ from those that would be obtained from full enumeration.

2 The sampling error associated with any estimate can be estimated from the sample results and one measure so derived is the standard error. Given an estimate and the standard error on that estimate, there are about two chances in three that the sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained from full enumeration, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors. The relative standard error is the standard error on the estimate expressed as a percentage of the estimate.

3 It would be impractical to publish estimates of standard errors for all figures in individual tables. However, the following tables of standard errors and relative standard errors give an indication of the magnitude of the sampling error associated with any estimate of a particular size for short-term and total movement.

APPROXIMATE STANDARD ERRORS ON ESTIMATES FOR STRATIFIED SAMPLE

<i>Estimated number of persons</i>	SHORT-TERM DEPARTURE OR ARRIVAL OF AUSTRALIAN RESIDENTS			SHORT-TERM ARRIVAL OR DEPARTURE OF OVERSEAS VISITORS		TOTAL ARRIVALS OR DEPARTURES	
	<i>Standard error</i>	<i>Relative standard error</i>	<i>Standard error</i>	<i>Relative standard error</i>	<i>Standard error</i>	<i>Relative standard error</i>	
	no.	%					no.	%	no.	%
10 000	550	6	490	5	550	6	
5 000	450	9	330	7	410	8	
2 000	280	14	230	11	250	13	
1 000	200	20	150	15	170	17	
750	180	24	140	19	150	20	
500	130	26	110	22	125	25	
400	120	30	100	25	115	29	
300	110	36	84	28	97	32	
200	90	45	70	35	80	40	
100	63	63	49	49	56	56	

4 An example of the use of this table is as follows. If the estimate of the number of Australian resident departures for short-term visits abroad is 500, then the standard error on this estimate is 130 i.e. there are two chances in three that the actual number of Australian resident departures for short-term visits abroad will lie between 370 and 630 and nineteen chances in twenty that it will lie between 240 and 760.

5 The larger the size of an estimate the smaller the relative standard error. For any estimate of greater than 10,000 the relative standard error will be less than 6%.

STANDARD ERRORS

RELIABILITY OF ESTIMATES

continued

6 The estimate of the difference between an estimate in two different periods or between different estimates from the same period is also subject to sampling error. The standard error on the difference between any two estimates which are subject to sampling error can be approximated by using the larger standard error of the estimates inflated by a factor of 1.4.

7 An example of the use of this procedure is as follows. Assume the estimates of the number of arrivals to Australia from Taiwan during January 1994 and January 1995 are 1,500 and 750 respectively. The difference between the 1994 and 1995 figures is 750 and the standard errors on these estimates are approximately 190 and 140. The standard error on the difference is approximately 266 (1.4×190), and there are nineteen chances in twenty that the estimate of the difference between the two years will lie between 218 and 1,282.

APPENDIX 2 — DATA QUALITY ISSUES

NON-RESPONSE RATES PRIOR TO IMPUTATION NOVEMBER 1999(a)

	Incoming Variables	Outgoing Variables
OAD variables	%	%
Citizenship (Nationality)	0.20	0.30
Country of birth	0.00	0.10
Age (Date of birth)	0.00	0.00
Sex	0.00	0.00
Marital Status(b)	40.84	42.55
Category of Travel	1.40	0.60
Permanent migrant		
Previous/future country of residence	0.00	0.00
State of intended address/lived	n.a.	n.a.
Overseas visitor		
Intended/actual length of stay	1.90	0.00
Main reason for journey	3.20	..
Country of residence	n.a.	..
State of intended address/in which most time was spent	n.a.	n.a.
Australian residents		
Actual/Intended time away from Australia	0.10	1.00
Main reason for journey	..	2.30
Country spent/intend to spend most time in	n.a.	n.a.
State of intended address/lived	n.a.	n.a.
Occupation(c)	0.00	0.00
Country of embarkation/disembarkation	0.00	0.00
Airport/Port of arrival/departure	0.00	0.00
Arrival/departure date	0.00	0.00
Intention to live in Australia for next 12 months(c)	1.20	..

(a) Non-response rates are unweighted.

(c) Not available for short-term movements.

(b) Not available for Australia or New Zealand.

DURATION OF STAY

From July 1998 the Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs (DIMA) are able to determine the actual length of stay for departing overseas visitors and arriving Australian residents which was previously collected from information on intended length of stay supplied on the arrival or departure card by the passenger. This new method has resulted in a change in data distribution with the number of passengers staying for one year exactly declining significantly.

INTENDED LENGTH OF STAY / TIME AWAY FROM AUSTRALIA

Non-response rates are available for these data items from November 1998. For data prior to November 1998, imputation carried out as part of processing by the Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs (DIMA) has prevented reliable estimation of non-response rates for these two data items.

MAIN REASON FOR JOURNEY

Before the introduction of the redesigned passenger card in July 1998, 5% of short-term visitor arrivals, on average, were recorded as having a reason for journey of 'Other' or 'Not Stated'. This percentage rose to 14% for July, 16% in August and 29% in September 1998 as a result of processing problems. These problems have now been addressed by DIMA, with the percentage of 'Other' and 'Not Stated' dropping in October 1998 to 8% and 7% in November 1998.

From the January 1999 issue of this publication, published figures (Table 3 and Table 9 in this publication) referencing these three months have been revised. The revised data were calculated by estimating the number of persons responding 'Other / Not Stated' using past trends for each country of citizenship and proportionally allocating any persons in excess of the estimated 'Other / Not Stated' total amongst the remaining categories. 'Not Stated' rates are now separately available from February 1999 onwards.

APPENDIX 2 — DATA QUALITY ISSUES

STATE IN WHICH MOST TIME WAS SPENT For the months of August 1998, September 1998 and October 1998, data entry problems experienced by DIMA caused an overstatement of the Northern Territory as the main State of stay with a corresponding understatement for the remaining States and Territories. These numbers have returned in November 1998 to levels more comparable with previous years, with DIMA indicating that they have instigated data quality procedures to address this issue.

From the January 1999 issue of this publication, published figures (Table 8 in this publication) referencing these months have been revised. The revised data were calculated by estimating the number of persons indicating the Northern Territory as their main State of stay using past trends and proportionally allocating any persons in excess of these estimates amongst the remaining States and Territories.

SEPTEMBER 1998 PROCESSING A problem was experienced in the processing of OAD data for movement dates between 6 September 1998 and 16 September 1998, following the introduction of changes to DIMA's input processing system. This problem may affect in the order of 10% of all September records used in estimation and result in incorrect details for citizenship, date of birth, sex and country of birth.

DATA IMPUTATIONS Data are imputed for certain variables when no responses are recorded on the respective passenger cards. These variables and the information used to impute for them are listed in the table below.

DATA ITEM	IMPUTATION
Category of travel	Includes references to citizenship (Australia, New Zealand, Other), corresponding migration visa, intended length of stay and intention to live in Australia for next 12 months
Intended length of stay	10 days
Country of residence	Country of departure, if it also matches country of citizenship
State lived / in which most time was spent	State of clearance

SEPTEMBER 1999 PROCESSING September 1999 overseas arrivals and departures data are revised for migrants from China (excl SARs and Taiwan Province) and Hong Kong (SAR of China) in respect of three variables: country of birth, country of citizenship and country of residence/stay. Changes to 'country of birth' and 'country of citizenship' have been made from data supplied by DIMA. Changes to 'country of residence/stay' have been made by assuming the average proportion of country of birth to country of residence/stay for migrants from China (excl SARs and Taiwan Province) and Hong Kong (SAR of China) in September over the last 4 years (1995 to 1998).

SELF-HELP ACCESS TO STATISTICS

- CPI INFOLINE* For current and historical Consumer Price Index data, call 1902 981 074 (call cost 75c per minute).
- DIAL-A-STATISTIC* For the latest figures for National Accounts, Balance of Payments, Labour Force, Average Weekly Earnings, Estimated Resident Population and the Consumer Price Index call 1900 986 400 (call cost 75c per minute).
- INTERNET* www.abs.gov.au
- LIBRARY* A range of ABS publications is available from public and tertiary libraries Australia-wide. Contact your nearest library to determine whether it has the ABS statistics you require.

WHY NOT SUBSCRIBE?

- PHONE* +61 1300 366 323
- FAX* +61 03 9615 7848

CONSULTANCY SERVICES

ABS offers consultancy services on a user pays basis to help you access published and unpublished data. Data that is already published and can be provided within 5 minutes is free of charge. Statistical methodological services are also available. Please contact:

<i>INQUIRIES</i>	<i>City</i>	<i>By phone</i>	<i>By fax</i>
	Canberra	02 6252 6627	02 6207 0282
	Sydney	02 9268 4611	02 9268 4668
	Melbourne	03 9615 7755	03 9615 7798
	Brisbane	07 3222 6351	07 3222 6283
	Perth	08 9360 5140	08 9360 5955
	Adelaide	08 8237 7400	08 8237 7566
	Hobart	03 6222 5800	03 6222 5995
	Darwin	08 8943 2111	08 8981 1218

POST Client Services, ABS, PO Box 10, Belconnen ACT 2616

EMAIL client.services@abs.gov.au



2340100012991
ISSN 1031-0495

RRP \$16.50