

**OVERSEAS ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES, AUSTRALIA
APRIL 1989**

PHONE INQUIRIES

- *about these statistics and the availability of related unpublished statistics*—contact Mr Mark Patton on Canberra (062) 52 6671 or any ABS State office.
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MAIN FEATURES

The number of overseas movements in April 1989 was 655,000 compared with 614,000 in April 1988, an increase of 7%. There were 319,500 arrivals (6% more than in April 1988) and 335,500 departures (7% more than in April 1988).

Permanent movement

In April 1989:

. 11,350 settlers arrived in Australia, 10% less than in April 1988.

. 2,090 permanent departures were recorded, 16% more than in April 1988.

Arrivals of visitors for short-term visits

In April 1989:

. 160,100 arrivals of overseas visitors for short-term visits were recorded, compared with 160,500 in April 1988. In seasonally adjusted terms, arrivals were 2% higher than in March 1989.

. Arrivals from New Zealand numbered 33,000 (21% of total), a decrease of 6% compared with April 1988.

. Arrivals from Japan numbered 27,900 (17% of total), an increase of 8% compared with April 1988.

. Arrivals from the U.S.A. numbered 23,900 (15% of total), a decrease of 10% compared with April 1988.

. Arrivals from the U.K. and Ireland numbered 23,400 (15% of total), an increase of 26% compared with April 1988.

. 82,300 arrivals (51%) were for the purpose of 'holiday', 35,200 (22%) for 'visiting relatives' and 22,000 (14%) for 'business'.

. 71% of visitor arrivals were for less than one month, 50% intended to stay for less than 2 weeks.

Departures of Australian residents for short-term trips abroad

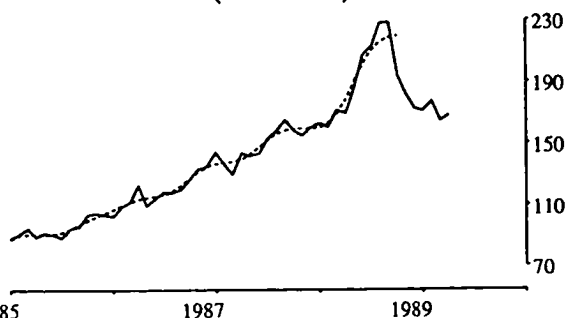
In April 1989:

. 153,000 departures of Australian residents for short-term overseas trips were recorded, 16% more than in April 1988. This continues the trend of growth since March 1988.

. The most popular overseas destinations were the U.K. and Ireland (16%), New Zealand (14%), the U.S.A. (11%), and Singapore, Indonesia and Hong Kong (each with 6%).

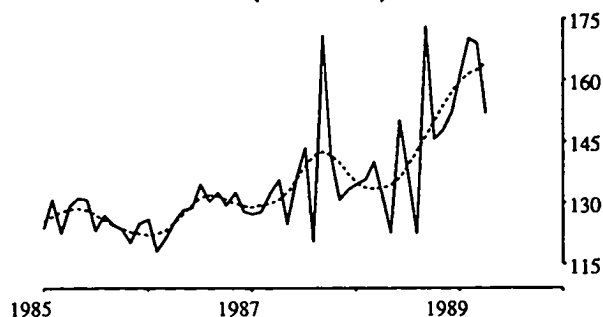
. 77,900 departures (51%) were for the purpose of 'holiday', 28,800 (19%) for 'business' and 27,100 (18%) for 'visiting relatives'.

**SHORT-TERM VISITOR ARRIVALS
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED AND TREND ESTIMATE (a)
(Thousands)**



(a) Refer to paragraph 20 of the Explanatory Notes at the back of this publication.

**SHORT-TERM RESIDENT DEPARTURES
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED AND TREND ESTIMATE
(Thousands)**



Trend estimate ----
Seasonally adjusted ———

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)				Total arrivals (a)
		Australian residents	Overseas visitors		Australian residents	Overseas visitors (Actual)	Overseas visitors (Seasonally adjusted)	Overseas visitors (Trend estimate) (b)	
<i>Year ended 31 December -</i>									
1986	103,330	55,870	38,130	197,320	1,513,200	1,429,400	..	..	3,139,900
1987	128,290	54,030	39,940	222,260	1,586,300	1,784,900	..	..	3,593,500
1988	151,550	54,990	47,330	253,860	r1,637,900	r2,249,300	..	..	r4,141,100
<i>1988 -</i>									
January	14,160	5,570	7,330	27,050	196,400	161,300	162,900	160,000	384,800
February	11,840	3,910	6,430	22,170	112,200	180,400	160,400	162,900	314,800
March	12,780	3,860	3,960	20,590	107,600	185,200	171,000	168,700	313,400
April	12,580	3,450	3,300	19,320	121,000	160,500	169,700	178,300	300,800
May	11,470	3,380	2,640	17,490	104,000	157,100	185,200	189,800	278,600
June	11,380	4,190	3,060	18,630	118,800	163,800	206,600	201,100	301,200
July	12,490	4,640	4,090	21,220	162,400	203,300	212,400	210,000	386,900
August	13,560	3,910	3,220	20,690	136,900	196,900	227,800	215,800	354,400
September	12,780	4,220	3,600	20,600	160,600	179,600	228,000	218,600	360,800
October	12,660	4,220	3,660	20,550	188,400	207,300	193,900	219,300	416,200
November	13,010	5,120	3,070	21,190	128,600	208,000	182,200	n.a.	357,800
December	12,860	8,540	2,980	24,380	101,200	245,800	172,600	n.a.	371,400
<i>1989 -</i>									
January	12,600	5,240	8,200	26,030	222,200	168,900	171,000	n.a.	417,200
February	10,790	3,770	8,080	22,640	129,100	191,100	176,900	n.a.	342,800
March	11,650	3,670	3,930	19,240	132,100	180,000	164,700	n.a.	331,400
April	11,350	3,250	3,720	18,310	141,100	160,100	167,900	n.a.	319,500

(a) Figures for short term movement are largely based on a sample and are subject to sampling error. See paragraph 10 of the Explanatory Notes for more detail. (b) See paragraph 18 to 20 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)			Overseas visitors	Total departures (a)
		Australian residents	Overseas visitors		Australian residents (Actual)	Australian residents (Seasonally adjusted)	Australian residents (Trend estimate) (b)		
<i>Year ended 31 December -</i>									
1986	18,820	48,560	27,190	94,570	1,539,600	..	..	1,363,800	2,997,900
1987	20,420	50,280	31,720	102,420	1,622,300	..	..	1,701,200	3,425,900
1988	20,320	54,120	30,330	104,770	r1,697,600	..	..	r2,174,100	3,976,500
<i>1988 -</i>									
January	1,880	6,570	2,540	10,990	113,200	134,600	134,900	207,700	331,900
February	1,660	4,320	2,110	8,080	94,400	135,700	133,800	175,200	277,700
March	1,720	4,650	2,610	8,980	138,600	140,100	133,400	176,600	324,200
April	1,810	4,620	1,980	8,400	132,400	131,500	133,800	172,400	313,200
May	1,750	4,130	2,000	7,880	129,200	122,900	134,400	182,500	319,600
June	1,570	3,920	2,280	7,770	165,700	150,200	136,200	143,400	316,900
July	1,800	4,670	2,370	8,830	153,300	136,300	139,200	171,900	334,000
August	1,530	5,070	2,030	8,630	141,900	122,700	142,700	200,300	350,800
September	1,440	3,950	1,980	7,360	170,300	172,900	146,300	181,600	359,300
October	1,520	3,660	1,790	6,970	127,800	145,600	r150,000	192,500	327,300
November	1,610	3,690	2,610	7,910	124,100	147,600	r153,500	198,200	330,200
December	2,050	4,880	6,050	12,980	206,700	151,900	r156,900	171,800	391,500
<i>1989 -</i>									
January	2,060	7,360	3,250	12,670	131,700	161,000	r159,600	221,700	366,100
February	1,860	5,140	2,320	9,320	112,700	170,100	r161,600	170,900	292,900
March	2,080	5,420	3,150	10,640	170,900	168,900	r162,400	187,300	368,900
April	2,090	5,260	2,500	9,860	153,000	151,900	164,300	172,700	335,500

(a) Figures for short term movement are largely based on a sample and are subject to sampling error. See paragraph 10 of the Explanatory Notes for more detail. (b) See paragraph 18 to 20 of the Explanatory Notes.

TABLE 3. SHORT-TERM MOVEMENT : ARRIVALS OF OVERSEAS VISITORS AND DEPARTURES OF AUSTRALIAN RESIDENTS, INTENDED LENGTH OF STAY AND PURPOSE OF JOURNEY

	Year ended		Quarter ended		January to		Month of	
	31 December		31 March		April		April	
	1987	1988	1988	1989	1988	1989	1988	1989
ARRIVALS								
Intended length of stay								
Under 1 week	441,100	495,200	119,900	127,400	158,000	167,700	38,200	40,300
1 and under 2 weeks	410,100	567,800	118,800	123,200	160,500	163,200	41,600	40,000
2 weeks and under 1 month	403,600	541,200	115,100	110,500	150,800	144,400	35,700	33,800
1 and under 2 months	224,900	279,500	71,500	71,400	90,100	90,800	18,600	19,400
2 and under 3 months	85,800	99,300	28,200	27,800	34,900	35,000	6,700	7,200
3 and under 6 months	93,400	110,300	28,000	30,700	35,700	38,900	7,700	8,200
6 and under 12 months	115,300	146,100	42,200	49,000	53,200	60,100	10,900	11,200
Not stated	10,700	9,700	3,100	—	4,200	—	1,100	—
Total	1,784,900	2,249,300	527,000	540,000	687,400	700,100	160,500	160,100
Purpose of journey								
In Transit	100,900	88,700	25,500	22,600	32,300	28,800	6,800	6,200
Attending convention	31,100	56,700	7,500	6,700	12,300	8,600	4,800	2,000
Business	195,300	234,300	56,500	57,100	76,600	79,100	20,100	22,000
Accompanying business traveller	18,900	23,000	5,200	5,900	7,200	7,400	2,000	1,500
Visiting relatives	370,200	448,500	107,100	106,800	139,400	142,000	32,300	35,200
Holiday	938,300	1,237,000	282,200	291,700	365,100	374,000	82,800	82,300
Employment	21,300	26,600	6,900	8,100	9,300	11,000	2,400	2,900
Education	35,200	47,800	17,700	23,200	21,100	26,700	3,400	3,500
Other and not stated	73,700	86,600	18,400	18,000	24,200	22,500	5,800	4,500
Total	1,784,900	2,249,300	527,000	540,000	687,400	700,100	160,500	160,100
DEPARTURES								
Intended length of stay								
Under 1 week	103,400	138,300	29,900	36,800	41,800	51,900	11,800	15,000
1 and under 2 weeks	377,900	402,300	94,600	114,700	128,100	150,700	33,500	36,100
2 weeks and under 1 month	468,400	480,200	107,500	128,500	139,900	166,400	32,400	37,900
1 and under 2 months	292,000	302,300	48,700	59,500	67,800	82,800	19,100	23,300
2 and under 3 months	135,300	145,400	18,100	19,200	29,000	31,800	10,800	12,600
3 and under 6 months	125,000	126,500	18,700	22,800	32,000	38,000	13,200	15,100
6 and under 12 months	87,300	96,300	27,100	32,600	38,200	45,400	11,100	12,800
Not stated	33,000	6,300	1,600	1,100	1,900	1,300	400	100
Total	1,622,300	1,697,600	346,200	415,300	478,600	568,300	132,400	153,000
Purpose of journey								
Attending convention	37,000	37,200	7,500	8,800	10,800	14,100	3,300	5,300
Business	227,500	264,400	59,200	69,200	83,500	97,900	24,300	28,800
Accompanying business traveller	27,700	28,700	6,500	7,900	9,600	10,800	3,100	2,900
Visiting relatives	332,600	343,400	60,600	72,400	85,800	99,600	25,200	27,100
Holiday	874,100	912,000	186,100	226,000	253,900	303,900	67,900	77,900
Employment	24,300	28,400	7,000	9,000	9,700	12,400	2,700	3,400
Education	13,500	15,300	3,400	4,500	4,400	5,800	900	1,300
Other and not stated	85,600	68,200	15,900	17,400	21,000	23,800	5,100	6,300
Total	1,622,300	1,697,600	346,200	415,300	478,600	568,300	132,400	153,000

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

Country of birth (Summary)	Year ended		Quarter ended		January to		Month of	
	31 December		31 March		April		April	
	1987	1988	1988	1989	1988	1989	1988	1989
Total Africa	9,060	8,150	2,510	1,550	3,260	1,990	760	440
Total America	7,440	7,800	2,030	1,800	2,640	2,350	620	550
Asia-								
East and South East Asia	37,970	45,500	11,380	11,520	15,130	15,800	3,750	4,270
South Central Asia	7,900	8,920	2,100	1,810	2,750	2,400	650	590
Western Asia (Middle East)	7,000	7,000	1,980	1,400	2,680	1,700	690	300
Total Asia	52,870	61,430	15,470	14,730	20,560	19,890	5,100	5,160
Europe-								
U.K. and Ireland	24,030	29,030	6,890	6,280	9,350	8,580	2,460	2,300
Other Europe	15,390	15,590	4,120	3,070	5,270	3,920	1,150	850
Total Europe	39,420	44,630	11,010	9,360	14,610	12,500	3,610	3,140
Oceania-								
New Zealand	15,360	24,870	6,430	6,530	8,650	8,300	2,210	1,770
Other Oceania	4,140	4,660	1,330	1,070	1,620	1,350	290	280
Total Oceania	19,490	29,530	7,760	7,600	10,260	9,650	2,500	2,050
At sea and not stated	—	10	—	10	—	10	—	—
Total	128,290	151,550	38,770	35,040	51,350	46,380	12,580	11,350

TABLE 5. SHORT-TERM MOVEMENT : ARRIVALS OF OVERSEAS VISITORS, COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE

Country of residence	Year ended		Quarter ended		January to		Month of	
	31 December	1988	31 March	1989	April	1989	April	1989
AFRICA -								
South Africa	9,600	9,400	2,100	2,000	2,900	2,600	800	600
Other	7,900	10,900	2,300	2,400	3,400	2,900	1,000	600
<i>Total Africa</i>	<i>17,500</i>	<i>20,300</i>	<i>4,500</i>	<i>4,300</i>	<i>6,300</i>	<i>5,500</i>	<i>1,800</i>	<i>1,200</i>
AMERICA -								
Canada	52,700	66,700	15,400	17,500	20,900	21,800	5,400	4,200
U.S.A.	309,000	322,300	77,700	72,500	104,200	96,400	26,500	23,900
Other	11,300	15,400	3,500	3,500	4,300	4,300	800	800
<i>Total America</i>	<i>373,100</i>	<i>404,400</i>	<i>96,600</i>	<i>93,500</i>	<i>129,300</i>	<i>122,400</i>	<i>32,700</i>	<i>28,900</i>
ASIA -								
China	10,900	18,000	2,900	7,300	4,400	8,900	1,500	1,600
Hong Kong	42,700	49,400	14,200	15,400	17,900	18,400	3,700	3,000
India	7,400	10,700	2,200	2,200	3,200	3,200	1,000	1,000
Indonesia	21,500	29,600	5,200	6,700	6,900	8,700	1,700	2,000
Israel	4,400	5,200	1,300	1,400	1,700	1,800	400	400
Japan	215,600	352,300	80,300	94,200	106,100	122,100	25,800	27,900
Korea	6,900	9,200	2,300	2,500	3,100	3,300	700	800
Malaysia	47,100	52,100	13,200	11,900	19,000	16,500	5,800	4,600
Philippines	12,200	13,400	2,700	2,900	4,000	4,000	1,300	1,100
Singapore	57,000	63,500	13,300	13,100	17,400	17,300	4,100	4,200
Taiwan	16,000	19,200	6,600	6,900	8,100	8,000	1,500	1,100
Thailand	11,200	15,800	2,800	4,700	4,500	6,800	1,700	2,100
Other	18,200	21,900	4,900	5,200	7,200	7,100	2,300	1,900
<i>Total Asia</i>	<i>470,900</i>	<i>660,300</i>	<i>151,800</i>	<i>174,300</i>	<i>203,400</i>	<i>226,100</i>	<i>51,600</i>	<i>51,800</i>
EUROPE -								
Denmark	8,700	11,400	3,300	2,900	4,000	3,400	700	600
Finland	4,200	5,700	1,300	1,500	1,600	1,700	300	200
France	17,100	21,000	5,400	5,100	6,900	6,500	1,500	1,400
Germany(a)	53,300	65,900	21,600	22,200	25,100	26,800	3,500	4,600
Greece	7,100	8,100	1,900	1,700	2,400	2,000	500	400
Ireland(b)	9,800	13,100	3,700	3,600	4,400	4,800	700	1,100
Italy	19,300	25,200	6,000	4,900	7,200	5,900	1,200	1,100
Netherlands	17,300	22,400	6,700	5,800	7,900	7,100	1,200	1,300
Norway	4,300	5,200	1,900	1,300	2,200	1,500	300	200
Sweden	21,900	26,900	8,800	9,200	10,000	10,500	1,300	1,300
Switzerland	21,300	26,000	7,800	8,300	9,500	10,300	1,800	2,000
United Kingdom	198,900	260,300	81,900	84,200	99,700	106,500	17,800	22,300
Yugoslavia	6,300	6,800	1,900	1,600	2,200	2,000	400	400
Other	22,300	31,700	7,600	8,000	9,500	10,200	2,000	2,200
<i>Total Europe</i>	<i>411,900</i>	<i>529,600</i>	<i>159,800</i>	<i>160,100</i>	<i>192,800</i>	<i>199,200</i>	<i>33,000</i>	<i>39,000</i>
OCEANIA -								
Fiji	16,500	19,300	4,400	4,300	6,000	5,900	1,500	1,500
New Caledonia	14,400	17,200	6,100	5,800	6,900	6,600	800	700
New Zealand	427,300	534,300	90,500	83,000	125,700	116,000	35,200	33,000
Papua New Guinea	32,800	37,800	8,500	8,900	10,700	11,100	2,200	2,200
Other	14,700	19,800	3,900	4,600	5,100	6,000	1,200	1,400
<i>Total Oceania</i>	<i>505,800</i>	<i>628,200</i>	<i>113,500</i>	<i>106,700</i>	<i>154,500</i>	<i>145,600</i>	<i>41,000</i>	<i>38,900</i>
Other and not stated	5,700	6,600	900	1,000	1,300	1,400	400	400
Total	1,784,900	2,249,300	527,000	540,000	687,400	700,100	160,500	160,100

(a) Comprises the German Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany. (b) Includes Republic of Ireland and Ireland, undefined.

TABLE 6. SHORT-TERM MOVEMENT : DEPARTURES OF AUSTRALIAN RESIDENTS, COUNTRY OF INTENDED STAY

Country of intended stay	Year ended		Quarter ended		January to		Month of	
	31 December		31 March		April		April	
	1987	1988	1988	1989	1988	1989	1988	1989
AFRICA -								
Egypt	4,100	4,900	1,200	1,500	1,400	2,100	200	600
South Africa	7,700	8,300	1,500	2,300	2,200	3,200	700	900
Other	8,800	9,700	1,800	2,000	2,400	2,800	600	800
<i>Total Africa</i>	<i>20,600</i>	<i>22,900</i>	<i>4,600</i>	<i>5,900</i>	<i>6,100</i>	<i>8,100</i>	<i>1,500</i>	<i>2,200</i>
AMERICA -								
Canada	20,400	23,700	3,900	4,800	5,200	6,400	1,200	1,600
U.S.A.	174,100	196,300	35,500	50,000	51,900	66,500	16,400	16,500
Other	20,400	23,900	4,200	4,600	5,300	5,800	1,100	1,200
<i>Total America</i>	<i>215,000</i>	<i>243,900</i>	<i>43,700</i>	<i>59,300</i>	<i>62,400</i>	<i>78,600</i>	<i>18,700</i>	<i>19,300</i>
ASIA -								
China	17,200	19,100	3,900	3,800	5,200	5,300	1,300	1,500
Hong Kong	103,300	104,700	25,300	31,200	33,000	39,800	7,800	8,600
India	20,000	19,300	4,300	5,300	5,500	6,800	1,200	1,400
Indonesia	117,400	133,600	30,200	31,800	40,100	40,600	9,800	8,800
Israel	7,000	6,000	1,300	1,200	2,000	1,900	600	600
Japan	25,600	30,100	6,200	7,600	8,400	11,000	2,300	3,500
Lebanon	6,300	5,300	900	1,200	1,400	1,400	500	200
Malaysia	47,200	48,400	11,400	13,900	14,600	17,900	3,100	4,000
Philippines	33,500	35,700	8,700	10,800	11,500	14,500	2,900	3,700
Singapore	83,700	93,400	21,200	27,800	28,800	37,300	7,600	9,400
Thailand	48,800	59,800	14,700	20,500	19,100	26,100	4,400	5,700
Turkey	5,600	6,300	900	700	1,500	1,400	600	600
Other	31,800	38,100	8,400	10,700	10,900	14,600	2,500	3,900
<i>Total Asia</i>	<i>547,400</i>	<i>599,900</i>	<i>137,300</i>	<i>166,600</i>	<i>181,900</i>	<i>218,600</i>	<i>44,600</i>	<i>51,900</i>
EUROPE -								
France	15,800	16,300	2,900	3,800	3,900	5,100	1,000	1,300
Germany(a)	26,100	26,900	3,700	4,800	6,200	8,500	2,500	3,600
Greece	33,900	33,600	4,500	4,400	8,400	8,500	3,900	4,100
Ireland(b)	6,700	8,100	800	1,200	1,500	1,900	700	700
Italy	40,100	39,300	5,400	6,500	8,600	10,700	3,100	4,200
Netherlands	14,100	12,700	1,700	2,200	3,200	3,700	1,400	1,500
Switzerland	7,400	8,100	1,800	2,200	2,500	3,100	700	800
United Kingdom	207,400	213,400	31,000	38,900	53,500	62,800	22,500	23,900
Yugoslavia	17,600	16,000	1,500	1,900	2,700	3,200	1,200	1,300
Other	39,100	42,500	5,600	7,200	8,600	11,000	3,000	3,800
<i>Total Europe</i>	<i>408,200</i>	<i>416,900</i>	<i>59,000</i>	<i>73,300</i>	<i>99,000</i>	<i>118,500</i>	<i>40,000</i>	<i>45,200</i>
OCEANIA -								
Fiji	60,500	73,200	17,200	18,100	20,900	24,500	3,700	6,400
New Caledonia	10,800	10,300	2,100	2,700	2,800	3,700	700	900
New Zealand	275,300	247,100	65,100	69,100	81,900	90,000	16,900	20,900
Norfolk Is.	18,400	15,000	4,100	4,100	5,600	5,600	1,500	1,500
Papua New Guinea	27,500	32,700	6,900	8,700	9,100	11,300	2,300	2,600
Vanuatu	5,700	9,100	1,700	1,600	2,400	1,900	600	300
Other	19,000	19,700	3,500	4,700	5,000	6,200	1,400	1,500
<i>Total Oceania</i>	<i>417,400</i>	<i>407,100</i>	<i>100,600</i>	<i>109,000</i>	<i>127,700</i>	<i>143,300</i>	<i>27,200</i>	<i>34,200</i>
Other and not stated	13,700	6,900	1,100	1,100	1,600	1,200	400	100
Total	1,622,300	1,697,600	346,200	415,300	478,600	568,300	132,400	153,000

(a) Comprises the German Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany. (b) Includes Republic of Ireland and Ireland, undefined.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

1. This series of publications contains statistics of overseas arrivals and departures in summary form for the latest available month during which the movement occurred. More detailed statistics can be made available, on request, in unpublished form.

Scope

2. The statistics in this publication relate to the number of movements rather than the number of travellers (i.e. the 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.

Definitions

Category of movement

3. Category of movement is primarily determined by the traveller's selection of their own category on the passenger card. This selection is accepted provided it is consistent with other information on the passenger card.

Permanent movement

4. 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). Permanent departures are Australian residents (including former settlers) who on departure state they do not intend to return to Australia.

Long-term movement

5. Long-term arrivals comprise overseas visitors (except those that hold migrant visas—see paragraph 4 above) who intend to stay in Australia for 12 months or more and Australian residents returning after an absence of 12 months or more overseas. Long-term departures comprise Australian residents who intend to stay abroad for 12 months or more and overseas visitors departing who stayed 12 months or more in Australia.

Short-term movement

6. Movements of travellers whose intended or actual length of stay is less than twelve months are classified as short-term, except those who on arrival hold migrant visas (see paragraph 4 above).

7. A significant number of travellers state exactly 12 months or one year as their intended period of stay. Many of these stay for less than that period and on their departure from, or return to, Australia are therefore classified as short-term. 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.

Country of birth or residence

8. The grouping of countries into regions in Asia in Table 4 is based on United Nations' classification of world regions. Applying this classification, the region which includes most 'middle east' countries is included in Asia and is called 'Western Asia (Middle East)'.

9. Statistics on country of birth or residence have certain limitations because of inadequate reporting on passenger cards. For instance, it is not possible to make a distinction between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland, or to separately identify England, Scotland and Wales. Similarly 'Germany' could refer to the Federal Republic or to the Democratic Republic.

Estimation method

10. 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 and processed. All movements with a duration of stay of less than one year are sampled and 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.

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.

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 purpose of journey.

Seasonal adjustment

14. Original and seasonally adjusted short-term overseas visitor arrivals and short-term Australian resident depar-

tures 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 may be carried out by various methods and the results may vary slightly according to the procedure adopted. Accordingly, seasonally adjusted statistics should not be regarded as in any way definitive. In interpreting particular seasonally adjusted statistics it is important to bear in mind the methods by which they have been derived and the limitations to which the methods used are subject.

16. 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 structure and the fluctuation of SA 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.

17. The seasonally adjusted series can, however, be smoothed to reduce the impact of the irregular component in the adjusted series. There are a number of ways of accomplishing this, depending on the intended uses of the smoothed series. If importance is attached to measuring the underlying change in the most recent periods, moving averages employing appropriate weighting patterns should be adopted; the choice of averaging technique will determine in part the degree of smoothness of the derived series. The longer the term of the moving average the longer is the time series affected by revisions resulting from more recent data. In order to ensure that the underlying trend-cycle of a series is reflected in the trend estimate series, the degree of smoothness alone cannot always be used as the sole criterion in determining which moving average is appropriate.

18. The trend estimate short-term overseas visitor arrivals and short-term Australian resident departures statistics are shown in Tables 1 and 2 respectively. The trend estimate has been derived by applying a 13-term Henderson-weighted moving average to the series.

19. 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 concerning the smoothing

process refer to an Information Paper *A Guide to Smoothing Time Series — Estimates of "Trend"* (1316.0).

20. With the conclusion of World Expo 88 in October 1988 an abrupt dislocation may have occurred in the trend path of the Short-term Overseas Visitor Arrivals series. In these circumstances there are insufficient data available to estimate reliably the current trend movements, therefore the trend estimate from November 1988 onwards is not published. As subsequent data become available this situation with regard to estimates of trend movements will be monitored, and will be released when considered reliable.

Related publications

21. Comprehensive definitions and explanations, and detailed data are contained in:

Overseas Arrivals and Departures, Australia (3402.0)—
issued quarterly

Overseas Arrivals and Departures, Australia (3404.0)—
issued annually

22. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications, Australia* (1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Publications Advice* (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Publications Advice are available from any ABS office.

Symbols and other usages

- nil or rounded to zero
- .. not applicable
- r figures or series revised since previous issue.

Electronic services

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