

**OVERSEAS ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES, AUSTRALIA
SEPTEMBER 1991**

MAIN FEATURES

The total number of overseas movements in September 1991 was 805,600, 3 per cent more than in September 1990 (780,700). There were 400,100 arrivals and 405,500 departures (both 3% more than in September 1990).

**Permanent and long-term movement
In September 1991:**

- 9,440 settlers arrived in Australia, 9 per cent less than in September 1990. Settler arrivals from Northeast Asia continued to increase with 1,620 recorded in September 1991 (an increase of 17% when compared with September 1990).
- 2,030 permanent departures were recorded, 11 per cent less than in September 1990. This is the lowest number of permanent departures since October 1989 when 1,190 persons left Australia.
- Long-term visitor arrivals (4,080) were 16 per cent higher than September 1990 (3,530).
- Australian residents departing long-term (4,410) decreased 8 per cent compared with September 1990 (4,770).

**Arrivals of overseas visitors for short-term visits
In September 1991:**

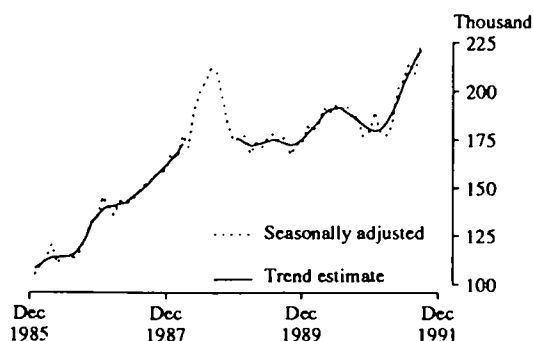
- The number of overseas visitor arrivals was 197,400, 21 per cent more than in September 1990 (162,700). In seasonally adjusted terms, visitor arrivals were 7 per cent more than in August 1991. The trend estimate of visitor arrivals continues to show strong growth since January 1991.
- The major source countries were: New Zealand with 49,200 (25% of total), Japan with 45,500 (23%), the U.S.A. with 29,200 (15%) and the United Kingdom with 13,900 (7%). These four major source countries accounted for 70 per cent of all visitor arrivals. When compared with September 1990, the number of visitors increased from the U.S.A. (68%), New Zealand (35%), the United Kingdom (9%) and Japan (7%).

- The number of Japanese visitors for the year to September 1991 (375,100) has already surpassed the total number which arrived in 1989 (349,500).
- The main purposes for visiting Australia remain 'holiday' (61%) and 'visiting relatives' (19%). The proportion of visitors arriving for the purpose of 'holiday' increased 34 per cent while those 'visiting relatives' increased 29 per cent compared with September 1990. However, the number arriving for 'business' decreased 11 per cent compared with September 1990.
- Visitors intending to stay for 1 week and less than 2 weeks increased by 26 per cent and those staying for 2 weeks and less than 1 month increased 55 per cent compared with September 1990. Visitors intending to stay for less than 2 weeks accounted for 56 per cent of total short-term visitor arrivals.

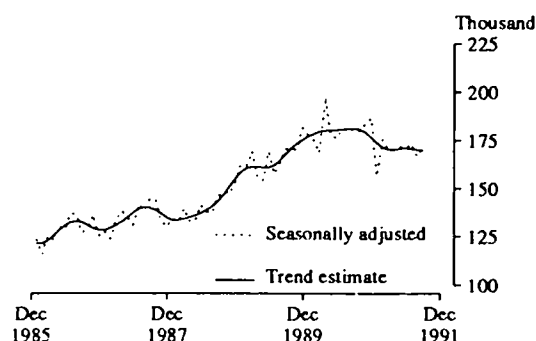
**Departures of Australian residents for short-term trips
abroad
In September 1991:**

- 203,100 Australian residents departed for short-term visits overseas, a decrease of 5 per cent compared with September 1990. In seasonally adjusted terms the number of departures rose 2 per cent compared with August 1991.
- The most popular destinations were: the U.S.A. with 33,800 (17%), New Zealand with 29,000 (14%), the United Kingdom with 19,300 (10%), Indonesia with 19,200 (9%) and Hong Kong with 13,100 (6%). When compared with September 1990, resident departures increased to Hong Kong, Indonesia (both 18%) and the U.S.A. (2%) while departures to the United Kingdom and New Zealand decreased 25 and 2 per cent respectively.
- Departures for 'holidays' (120,100) decreased 6 per cent compared with September 1990 (127,600) while residents departing for the purpose of 'attending convention' decreased 27 per cent compared with September 1990.

SHORT-TERM VISITOR ARRIVALS (a)



SHORT-TERM RESIDENT DEPARTURES (b)



(a) Refer to paragraph 20 of the Explanatory Notes. (b) Refer to paragraph 21 of the Explanatory Notes.

INQUIRIES

- for further information about statistics in this publication and the availability of related unpublished statistics, contact Robert Chibnall on Canberra (06) 252 6671 or any ABS State office.
- for information about other ABS statistics and services please refer to the back page of this publication.

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>									
1988	151,550	54,990	47,330	253,860	1,637,900	2,249,300	..	..	4,141,100
1989	131,060	53,440	53,540	238,050	1,912,700	2,080,300	..	..	4,231,000
1990	121,560	56,370	56,120	234,050	2,109,300	2,214,900	..	..	4,558,300
<i>1990 —</i>									
July	10,390	4,790	5,650	20,830	211,600	185,400	190,700	191,700	417,800
August	11,320	4,440	3,770	19,540	182,000	178,200	193,300	189,400	379,700
September	10,390	4,420	3,530	18,340	205,800	162,700	185,800	187,700	386,900
October	9,990	4,570	3,750	18,300	230,800	190,600	187,800	185,200	439,700
November	10,650	4,960	3,040	18,650	157,200	198,600	176,600	182,900	374,400
December	10,700	9,510	3,050	23,260	123,000	253,100	179,600	180,600	399,400
<i>1991 —</i>									
January	9,680	6,250	8,740	24,670	260,000	177,400	189,600	179,500	462,100
February	9,690	4,430	10,250	24,370	135,100	190,600	178,100	180,500	350,100
March	10,890	4,480	4,070	19,450	141,300	189,200	177,300	183,900	350,000
April	8,050	3,270	3,590	14,900	124,000	168,000	182,800	189,200	306,900
May	9,410	3,510	2,860	15,780	131,600	161,400	201,300	195,700	308,800
June	10,530	4,440	3,350	18,320	151,700	172,200	206,300	204,000	342,200
July	11,290	5,030	6,140	22,450	196,800	208,300	215,000	209,900	427,600
August	10,900	4,600	4,080	19,580	169,100	199,300	209,300	216,500	388,000
September	9,440	4,550	4,080	18,070	184,600	197,400	224,800	221,100	400,100

(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 paragraphs 18 to 21 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)			Total departures (a)	
		Australian residents	Overseas visitors		Australian residents (Actual)	Australian residents (Seasonally adjusted)	Australian residents (Trend estimate b)		Overseas visitors
<i>Year ended 31 December —</i>									
1988	20,320	54,120	30,330	104,770	1,697,600	..	..	2,174,100	3,976,500
1989	24,830	59,220	35,990	120,040	1,989,800	..	..	2,020,400	4,130,300
1990	30,370	66,300	40,810	137,470	2,169,900	..	..	2,162,700	4,470,100
<i>1990 —</i>									
July	2,590	5,740	3,090	11,420	198,400	181,600	181,000	156,300	366,100
August	2,560	6,300	2,720	11,590	184,300	179,500	181,400	188,000	383,900
September	2,290	4,770	2,550	9,600	214,300	181,800	181,400	170,000	393,800
October	2,530	4,280	2,480	9,290	156,200	179,900	181,000	162,000	327,400
November	2,430	4,510	4,130	11,060	154,900	184,200	179,500	193,300	359,200
December	3,230	5,800	7,490	16,530	251,200	186,900	176,800	179,200	446,900
<i>1991 —</i>									
January	2,820	8,110	3,650	14,580	127,900	156,500	173,800	243,600	386,200
February	2,770	5,860	3,710	12,350	125,100	175,800	171,600	180,000	317,400
March	2,900	6,100	4,020	13,020	171,500	170,200	170,500	197,600	382,100
April	2,400	5,720	3,020	11,140	167,000	170,600	170,500	180,900	359,100
May	2,450	4,820	2,960	10,230	163,900	172,200	171,000	175,000	349,100
June	2,160	4,890	3,790	10,830	200,900	171,200	171,400	167,900	379,600
July	2,620	5,460	3,560	11,640	188,900	173,700	171,000	180,000	380,600
August	2,550	6,500	3,370	12,420	168,000	167,000	170,400	214,600	395,000
September	2,030	4,410	2,980	9,420	203,100	170,600	170,200	192,900	405,500

(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 paragraphs 18 to 21 of the Explanatory Notes.

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

	<i>Year ended</i>		<i>Quarter ended</i>		<i>January to</i>		<i>Month of</i>	
	<i>31 December</i>		<i>30 September</i>		<i>September</i>		<i>September</i>	
	1989	1990	1990	1991	1990	1991	1990	1991
ARRIVALS								
Intended length of stay								
Under 1 week	499,800	563,100	140,800	166,800	422,200	449,700	50,800	55,500
1 and under 2 weeks	494,000	571,100	136,300	170,500	399,900	471,800	44,200	55,900
2 weeks and under 1 month	448,500	459,000	115,800	142,200	322,000	354,200	28,200	43,700
1 and under 2 months	265,600	268,000	59,100	60,200	176,400	173,600	14,900	18,600
2 and under 3 months	98,900	98,300	19,700	18,200	66,000	59,600	6,200	6,300
3 and under 6 months	110,700	104,500	22,000	19,900	71,400	62,900	8,000	7,600
6 and under 12 months	162,700	150,700	32,600	27,200	114,700	92,100	10,400	9,600
Total (a)	2,080,300	2,214,900	526,300	605,000	1,572,600	1,663,800	162,700	197,400
Purpose of Journey								
In transit	78,600	70,200	17,700	17,400	53,500	50,400	6,300	5,400
Attending convention	25,400	32,500	12,100	9,700	24,700	32,600	3,400	3,600
Business	230,800	231,100	56,100	54,500	174,000	162,400	20,100	17,800
Accompanying business traveller	19,400	21,800	6,600	5,500	16,900	15,600	1,800	1,900
Visiting relatives	459,900	456,000	102,700	112,900	306,400	314,800	29,500	38,100
Holiday	1,107,000	1,233,700	291,400	374,200	862,600	984,300	90,800	121,300
Employment	30,000	29,600	7,300	7,000	23,400	20,200	2,200	2,600
Education	62,800	64,600	14,700	15,200	56,900	50,000	3,200	4,000
Other and not stated	66,400	75,300	17,700	8,600	54,000	33,500	5,400	2,600
Total	2,080,300	2,214,900	526,300	605,000	1,572,600	1,663,800	162,700	197,400
DEPARTURES								
Intended length of stay								
Under 1 week	175,900	189,600	46,200	54,100	139,200	144,600	15,200	18,500
1 and under 2 weeks	487,800	523,600	148,800	147,900	396,100	390,400	59,400	57,900
2 weeks and under 1 month	565,200	604,800	167,400	157,700	447,600	416,900	69,600	67,800
1 and under 2 months	353,300	389,200	109,500	91,300	269,900	243,000	38,300	31,300
2 and under 3 months	158,500	181,500	54,600	43,600	128,900	110,900	14,200	11,600
3 and under 6 months	139,800	157,500	41,300	35,900	126,800	108,100	9,400	8,600
6 and under 12 months	108,100	123,600	29,200	29,500	99,000	102,400	8,200	7,400
Total (a)	1,989,800	2,169,900	596,900	560,000	1,607,700	1,516,400	214,300	203,100
Purpose of Journey								
Attending convention	47,700	55,300	15,600	13,600	44,600	33,400	6,600	4,800
Business	302,200	306,900	78,700	80,200	235,700	231,600	29,000	29,800
Accompanying business traveller	33,000	31,600	8,600	7,500	25,000	20,600	3,200	2,800
Visiting relatives	387,600	439,200	109,500	105,000	305,900	309,300	34,800	32,300
Holiday	1,085,500	1,193,900	346,200	315,500	885,900	810,500	127,600	120,100
Employment	35,700	41,500	11,000	12,600	31,000	38,300	4,000	4,100
Education	19,400	24,100	7,600	7,000	19,200	18,000	2,900	2,700
Other and not stated	78,700	77,300	19,700	18,700	60,400	54,600	6,200	6,500
Total	1,989,800	2,169,900	596,900	560,000	1,607,700	1,516,400	214,300	203,100

(a) Includes not stated.

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

	<i>Year ended</i>		<i>Quarter ended</i>		<i>January to</i>		<i>Month of</i>	
	<i>31 December</i>		<i>30 September</i>		<i>September</i>		<i>September</i>	
	1989	1990	1990	1991	1990	1991	1990	1991
Major geographic group —								
Oceania and Antarctica	21,390	12,780	3,010	2,370	10,110	7,650	1,010	840
Europe and the USSR	39,630	34,820	8,620	7,600	26,310	22,800	2,840	2,460
Middle East and North Africa	6,580	6,390	1,710	1,760	4,330	5,150	580	460
Southeast Asia	29,690	30,520	7,720	6,430	22,060	19,670	2,680	2,110
Northeast Asia	16,290	18,860	6,010	7,250	14,010	18,490	1,390	1,620
Southern Asia	5,780	7,760	2,320	3,390	5,540	8,240	1,060	1,180
The Americas	7,460	6,600	1,840	2,090	5,030	5,240	590	590
Africa (excluding North Africa)	4,190	3,800	860	740	2,800	2,620	240	190
Total (b)	131,060	121,560	32,100	31,630	90,230	89,880	10,390	9,440
Major source countries —								
China	3,440	3,270	950	1,020	2,490	2,550	220	270
Hong Kong	7,400	10,520	3,480	4,550	7,500	11,590	750	940
India	2,990	3,760	1,140	1,840	2,700	4,730	530	760
Malaysia	6,920	6,210	1,500	1,030	4,510	3,580	600	340
New Zealand	17,340	8,970	2,220	1,490	7,200	4,970	770	570
Philippines	6,940	6,150	1,720	1,760	4,710	4,990	580	610
Sri Lanka	2,010	3,120	980	670	2,230	2,070	450	230
Taiwan	2,910	3,140	1,030	1,200	2,480	2,990	260	300
United Kingdom	23,090	22,040	5,430	4,140	16,600	14,030	1,800	1,300
Viet Nam	10,050	13,730	3,540	2,760	9,660	8,410	1,180	840

(a) See paragraphs 8 and 9 of the Explanatory Notes. (b) Includes other and not stated.

TABLE 5. SHORT-TERM MOVEMENT : ARRIVALS OF OVERSEAS VISITORS
COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE (a)

Country of residence	Year ended		Quarter ended		January to		Month of	
	31 December	1990	30 September	1991	September	1991	September	1991
	1989	1990	1990	1991	1990	1991	1990	1991
OCEANIA & ANTARCTICA —								
Fiji	17,500	16,000	3,400	3,300	11,100	10,700	1,200	1,200
New Caledonia	13,400	14,400	2,700	3,000	11,100	11,200	800	800
New Zealand	449,300	418,400	122,200	152,700	307,200	356,800	36,500	49,200
Papua New Guinea	34,800	34,600	8,300	8,500	24,700	25,100	3,000	3,100
Other	18,400	17,200	4,100	4,600	12,400	12,700	1,300	1,700
Total	533,500	500,700	140,700	172,000	366,700	416,500	42,900	56,100
EUROPE & THE USSR —								
Austria	9,200	9,600	2,300	2,300	6,300	6,700	700	700
Belgium	3,700	4,200	1,200	1,000	2,900	2,500	200	300
Denmark	10,200	9,900	2,000	2,000	6,600	6,200	800	900
Finland	5,200	5,800	1,200	900	3,600	3,600	400	400
France	20,100	21,100	6,100	6,100	14,900	14,900	1,400	1,500
Germany, Fed Rep	68,100	74,200	16,600	16,800	51,600	50,700	6,300	6,400
Greece	7,400	7,500	1,800	1,100	4,900	3,400	400	400
Ireland, Republic of	12,200	10,600	1,900	2,200	7,200	6,400	600	900
Italy	20,500	24,400	7,900	6,900	16,100	15,500	1,400	1,500
Netherlands	20,100	21,100	4,500	3,900	13,400	12,300	1,400	1,500
Norway	3,700	4,400	1,000	800	3,000	2,600	300	300
Sweden	24,100	22,000	3,200	2,700	13,700	10,800	1,000	1,100
Switzerland	27,400	29,500	5,400	5,100	17,700	18,200	2,000	1,700
United Kingdom	272,900	277,700	48,000	42,400	182,900	174,700	12,800	13,900
USSR & Baltic States	5,400	5,300	1,400	1,000	3,800	3,200	400	200
Yugoslavia	6,400	5,800	1,100	1,200	3,600	3,300	300	400
Other	15,300	16,500	4,200	3,300	11,000	8,900	1,200	1,000
Total	531,700	549,500	109,600	99,600	363,300	343,700	31,700	33,000
MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA —								
Israel	5,400	5,300	1,300	1,300	3,800	3,500	400	400
Other	11,600	12,100	3,100	2,700	9,000	6,600	600	700
Total	17,000	17,400	4,400	4,000	12,900	10,000	1,000	1,100
SOUTHEAST ASIA —								
Indonesia	29,000	34,400	7,800	8,100	24,200	25,500	2,100	2,300
Malaysia	44,300	46,600	9,200	9,500	33,100	33,300	3,400	3,500
Philippines	11,000	13,600	3,200	3,200	10,000	11,300	1,100	1,300
Singapore	65,200	75,900	13,400	15,500	46,700	53,800	5,000	6,100
Thailand	17,300	19,600	3,600	4,700	13,700	16,600	1,100	1,500
Other	3,900	5,000	1,200	1,600	3,600	4,200	400	500
Total	170,600	195,000	38,400	42,400	131,300	144,800	13,000	15,200
NORTHEAST ASIA —								
China	29,100	23,700	3,400	4,100	20,000	11,400	1,200	1,400
Hong Kong	54,100	54,500	11,000	17,400	39,800	47,700	3,100	3,700
Japan	349,500	479,900	128,500	140,500	355,100	375,100	42,600	45,500
Korea	10,400	14,100	3,700	6,900	10,000	17,400	900	1,300
Taiwan	21,500	25,300	4,300	8,200	19,700	21,100	900	2,200
Other	500	500	200	300	400	600	—	—
Total	465,200	597,900	151,100	177,300	445,000	473,200	48,800	54,000
SOUTHERN ASIA —								
India	10,900	11,000	2,600	2,300	8,500	7,400	1,000	900
Sri Lanka	4,000	3,900	900	1,100	3,000	2,900	300	500
Other	3,300	3,000	800	700	2,300	1,800	200	200
Total	18,200	17,800	4,200	4,100	13,700	12,200	1,600	1,600
THE AMERICAS —								
Brazil	2,500	2,900	600	500	1,900	1,800	200	300
Canada	54,200	53,700	12,100	13,400	37,000	37,400	3,900	4,700
United States of America (b)	261,700	251,600	58,800	85,500	182,500	205,400	17,400	29,200
Other	8,200	8,800	2,100	1,800	6,100	5,600	700	700
Total	326,600	317,000	73,600	101,200	227,600	250,300	22,200	34,900
AFRICA (excluding North Africa) —								
South Africa	8,000	9,100	1,500	1,800	5,600	5,700	600	800
Zimbabwe	3,600	3,600	900	600	2,600	2,100	300	200
Other	3,900	4,200	900	800	2,700	3,200	300	400
Total	15,500	16,900	3,300	3,200	10,900	11,000	1,200	1,300
Total (c)	2,080,300	2,214,900	526,300	605,000	1,572,600	1,663,800	162,700	197,400

(a) See paragraphs 8 and 9 of the Explanatory Notes. (b) Includes America undefined. (c) Includes other and not stated.

TABLE 6. SHORT-TERM MOVEMENT : DEPARTURES OF AUSTRALIAN RESIDENTS
COUNTRY OF INTENDED STAY (a)

Country of intended stay	Year ended		Quarter ended		January to		Month of	
	31 December		30 September		September		September	
	1989	1990	1990	1991	1990	1991	1990	1991
OCEANIA & ANTARCTICA —								
Fiji	93,900	102,000	31,300	25,300	74,200	64,800	10,400	8,600
New Caledonia	14,500	14,900	4,800	5,500	11,000	12,600	1,800	2,500
New Zealand	297,300	320,200	74,700	79,700	224,800	223,900	29,500	29,000
Norfolk Island	12,200	14,200	3,200	3,500	9,500	11,700	1,700	1,500
Papua New Guinea	34,400	34,000	9,000	9,400	25,200	28,100	3,400	3,500
Vanuatu	12,800	17,200	4,800	4,800	11,600	13,000	2,200	1,600
Other	27,300	27,400	7,300	6,300	19,300	17,600	3,600	2,500
Total	492,400	529,900	135,000	134,400	375,700	371,600	52,600	49,200
EUROPE & THE USSR —								
Austria	6,400	7,600	2,300	1,900	6,100	5,200	700	600
France	20,500	24,100	7,700	6,600	18,700	16,800	3,200	2,500
Germany, Fed Rep	30,800	34,500	10,700	8,900	26,900	24,600	4,100	3,000
Greece	31,700	32,900	10,000	8,800	28,600	22,100	1,800	1,900
Ireland, Republic of	10,100	11,900	3,700	3,200	8,800	8,200	700	900
Italy	41,600	45,000	14,900	12,800	37,700	30,100	4,200	3,500
Netherlands	13,300	15,900	4,300	4,200	12,300	10,900	1,300	900
Poland	5,400	6,300	1,400	1,500	4,900	4,200	600	300
Spain	5,600	6,300	1,900	1,800	5,100	4,200	700	600
Sweden	4,200	4,900	1,800	1,300	4,000	3,800	500	400
Switzerland	9,000	9,500	2,400	2,200	7,500	7,100	1,100	900
United Kingdom	237,500	252,800	82,000	61,400	205,200	170,100	25,900	19,300
Yugoslavia	15,200	17,500	5,900	1,500	14,900	6,900	1,000	100
Other	32,400	40,100	13,200	9,700	33,800	26,600	3,300	2,500
Total	463,600	509,200	162,300	125,700	414,600	340,800	48,800	37,300
MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA —								
Egypt	6,300	4,800	900	1,000	3,400	2,600	300	500
Israel	6,200	4,800	1,000	1,000	4,100	3,000	400	400
Lebanon	5,000	7,700	2,500	4,200	6,200	8,900	500	1,100
Turkey	6,900	8,400	1,900	1,400	7,400	4,300	400	300
Other	7,100	6,300	1,600	2,300	5,300	4,900	400	1,000
Total	31,400	32,100	7,900	10,000	26,400	23,800	2,000	3,200
SOUTHEAST ASIA —								
Indonesia	146,100	158,000	48,700	54,500	119,800	129,700	16,300	19,200
Malaysia	62,300	75,100	18,900	18,300	52,200	48,200	7,300	7,400
Philippines	41,900	40,500	7,500	8,200	27,200	27,100	2,500	3,000
Singapore	117,800	105,500	26,300	23,600	76,800	68,000	9,800	9,200
Thailand	86,600	99,100	25,600	17,100	71,900	49,600	10,400	6,600
Other	7,100	9,000	2,000	2,900	5,700	9,200	800	600
Total	461,600	487,200	129,100	124,600	353,700	331,800	47,000	46,000
NORTHEAST ASIA —								
China	13,900	12,800	3,500	3,900	8,800	10,600	1,600	1,700
Hong Kong	116,800	120,500	28,300	32,100	83,400	91,400	11,100	13,100
Japan	40,600	47,900	13,300	11,700	35,100	33,600	5,800	5,700
Korea	7,800	8,000	2,100	2,300	5,800	5,900	900	800
Taiwan	10,600	13,600	3,000	4,300	8,900	11,500	1,100	1,700
Other	300	400	100	200	300	300	—	100
Total	190,000	203,200	50,300	54,500	142,300	153,500	20,500	23,200
SOUTHERN ASIA —								
India	23,200	22,100	4,400	4,100	13,600	11,900	2,300	2,300
Sri Lanka	3,500	7,200	1,900	1,900	4,400	4,900	900	700
Other	7,900	8,000	1,500	1,500	4,600	3,900	900	800
Total	34,600	37,300	7,800	7,500	22,600	20,700	4,100	3,900
THE AMERICAS —								
Canada	30,100	32,500	10,700	9,300	25,400	22,200	3,100	2,900
United States of America (b)	247,200	300,200	86,000	84,700	224,400	227,200	33,300	33,800
Other	15,800	15,400	2,900	3,100	8,600	9,200	1,300	1,300
Total	293,100	348,100	99,700	97,100	258,400	258,700	37,700	38,100
AFRICA (excluding North Africa) —								
South Africa	11,600	10,400	1,500	1,900	6,300	5,600	400	700
Other	9,200	9,300	2,600	3,100	6,000	7,300	1,000	1,000
Total	20,900	19,600	4,100	4,900	12,300	12,900	1,300	1,700
Total (c)	1,989,800	2,169,900	596,900	560,000	1,607,700	1,516,400	214,300	203,100

(a) See paragraphs 8 and 9 of the Explanatory Notes. (b) Includes America undefined. (c) Includes other and not stated.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

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 who 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. Classifications previously used in the ABS for social, demographic and labour statistics were adaptations of the United Nations (UN) country classification. Major Australian users indicated that the UN classification did

not meet their requirements for analytical purposes. Hence the ABS has developed a new classification of countries called the Australian Standard Classification of Countries for Social Statistics (ASCCSS). In this classification, neighbouring countries are grouped into progressively broader geographic areas on the basis of social, cultural, political and economic similarities. As part of this process emphasis was given to developing aggregations which satisfied the requirements of Australian users. Unlike the previous UN classification, the ASCCSS does not take the conventional notion of continents as a constraint in the design of the classification structure. However, the base units of ASCCSS are broadly compatible with those of the UN classification and it is possible to aggregate statistics based on the ASCCSS to the UN classifications for purposes of comparison. The ASCCSS has been applied to Overseas Arrivals and Departures statistics from January 1991. The major changes are as follows:

- 'Africa' has been separated into two groups: 'Middle East and North Africa' and 'Africa (excluding North Africa)' which includes all other African countries.
- There is no longer a single category 'Asia'. Separate categories 'Southeast Asia', 'Northeast Asia' and 'Southern Asia' have been created. 'Middle East' countries formerly included in 'Asia' are now included in the new category 'Middle East and North Africa'.
- 'Cyprus' has been included in Europe (formerly included in Asia).
- 'Tahiti' has been included with 'French Polynesia'.

For more detailed information on the classification of countries refer to the ABS publication *Australian Standard Classification of Countries for Social Statistics* (1269.0).

9. Statistics on country of birth, residence or citizenship have certain limitations because of inadequate reporting on passenger cards. For instance, it is not possible to identify separately England, Scotland and Wales. Similarly 'Korea' includes both the Republic of Korea and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. U.S.A. includes 'America (undefined)'. Germany refers to all people who list country of birth as either 'Germany, Federal Republic' or 'Germany, Democratic Republic' as a result of the unification of Germany in 1990.

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. 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 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 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. The adjustment procedure used for the short-term visitor arrivals and resident departures data is an aggregative adjustment. Prior to the July 1989 issue these data were adjusted at the category total level only (for visitor arrivals and resident departures separately). The aggregative method adjusts the major components separately (in this instance, the main countries of each category). The adjusted category total is obtained by summing the adjusted components. For more detail, contact the Supervisor, Time Series Analysis, A.B.S. on (06) 252 6103.

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 \$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.

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 pat-

terns 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 opening of World Expo 88 in April 1988 and at its conclusion in October 1988, abrupt dislocations occurred in the trend path of the short-term overseas visitor arrivals series. As different countries displayed varied timings of this effect, the trend path between April and October 1988 is suppressed. Estimates of the trend path are now available from November 1988 onwards.

21. The reliability of the provisional trend estimate for January 1991 may have been adversely affected by the presence of temporary irregular effects associated with the commencement of the Gulf War. However, these influences are not expected to affect the reliability of the seasonally adjusted series, because they are neither seasonal nor trading-day type influences.

Related publications

22. 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

23. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products, 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.

Unpublished statistics

24. As well as the statistics included in this and related publications, the ABS may have other relevant unpublished data available. Inquiries should be made to Mr Robert Chibnall on Canberra (06) 252 6671.

Symbols and other usages

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

J. L. CARROLL
Acting Australian Statistician



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