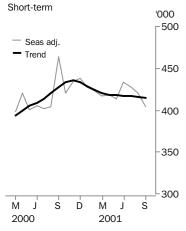


OVERSEAS ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES

AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) TUES 23 OCT 2001

Visitor arrivals



SEPTEMBER 2001 PRELIMINARY

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5

KEY POINTS

- There were 358,000 short-term visitor arrivals to Australia during September 2001.
- The total number of short-term visitor arrivals during the nine months to September 2001 amounted to 3.6 million, an increase of 3% compared to the nine months to September 2000 (3.5 million).
- The trend estimate for short-term visitor arrivals was steady during the month of September 2001.
- New Zealand (16%) and Japan (15%) were the main source countries of short-term visitor arrivals to Australia during the nine months to September 2001. Compared to the nine months to September 2000, the number of visitor arrivals from New Zealand decreased by −5% while the number of visitor arrivals from Japan increased by 3%.
- Short-term visitor arrivals from China (127,900) during the nine months to September 2001 showed the fastest increase (50%) over the equivalent period ending September 2000.
- Over the past 10 years, the number of Australian residents departing overseas for less than 12 months (short-term) has risen considerably. (For more information see the special article on page 4).

■ For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070, or Amanda Dobson on Canberra 02 6252 5640.

NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

The Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs (DIMA) has advised that data from its new processing system should now arrive at the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) by November 2001 (revised from October 2001). DIMA has informed the ABS that it plans to process the backlog of passenger card data (from August 2000 onwards) at the rate of 3 reference months per calendar month.

In accordance with these plans, the ABS intends to publish this backlog of data in quarterly supplementary publications. These supplementary publications will be made available free of charge to subscribers of *Overseas Arrivals and Departures, Australia (Cat. No. 3401.0)*. Each quarterly supplement will contain the tables that appear in *Overseas Arrivals and Departures, Australia (Cat. No. 3401.0)*, for each of the 3 reference months of the quarter. These supplements containing quarterly data will continue to be published at the rate of one quarter per month until the backlog of Overseas Arrivals and Departures data has been published. AusStats time series data will be updated in accordance with the release of the quarterly supplements.

In addition, preliminary estimates of short term visitor arrivals will continue to be published in the main publication of *Overseas Arrivals and Departures*, *Australia (Cat. No. 3401.0)*.

CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

This issue of 3401.0 contains preliminary estimates of short-term visitor arrivals in September 2000 through to September 2001. There is no final data on short-term visitor arrivals, short-term resident departures and permanent and long-term movements for these months. Only tables 1 and 6 of the standard publication are included.

TREND REVISIONS

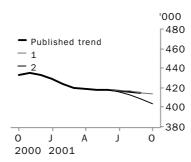
Each time new seasonally adjusted estimates become available, trend estimates of short-term arrivals are revised (see paragraphs 14 to 17 of the Explanatory Notes).

The example in the graph below shows the illustrative scenario and the consequent revisions to previous trend estimates of visitor arrivals.

The seasonally adjusted estimate for:

- 1 October visitor arrivals is 2.90% higher than September, and
- 2 October visitor arrivals is 2.90% lower than September.

VISITOR ARRIVALS



The percentage change of 2.90 was chosen because it represents the average absolute monthly percentage changes between months for visitor arrivals over the last four years.

Dennis Trewin Australian Statistician

MAIN FEATURES

SHORT-TERM MOVEMENTS

VISITOR ARRIVALS

There were an estimated 358,000 short-term visitor arrivals to Australia in September 2001 bringing the total number of visitor arrivals during the nine months January 2001 to September 2001 to 3.6 million, 3% higher than the number of overseas visitor arrivals in the nine months to September 2000 (3.5 million).

The major source countries of short-term visitor arrivals to Australia during the nine months to September 2001 were New Zealand (16%), Japan (15%), the United Kingdom (12%), the United States of America (10%), Singapore (6%), China (4%) and Korea (4%).

Comparing the nine months to September 2001 to the corresponding period to September 2000, there were increases in the number of short-term visitor arrivals from seven out of the ten top source countries. The number of short-term visitor arrivals from Japan, the second main source country, increased by 3%, bringing this country close to that of New Zealand for the second month in a row. The United Kingdom, the third main source country, increased by 11%. New Zealand, the main source country, decreased by -5%, the United States of America, the fourth source country, decreased by -4% and Taiwan, the tenth, decreased by -14%. Of all countries, the number of short-term visitor arrivals from China showed the fastest increase (50%), bringing this country from tenth main source country in previous months, to sixth, followed by Thailand (13%). Meanwhile, the number of short-term arrivals from the Philippines (-20%) and Taiwan (-14%) showed the fastest decreases.

Of the top ten source countries for short-term visitor arrivals during the nine months to September 2001:

566,200 short-term visitors came from New Zealand a decrease of –5%, compared to the nine months to September 2000;

542,600 came from Japan, an increase of 3%;

411,500 came from the United Kingdom, an increase of 11%;

341,500 came from the United States of America, a decrease of -4%;

196,900 came from Singapore, an increase of 10%;

127,900 came from China, an increase of 50%;

127,500 came from Korea, an increase of 9%;

115,700 came from Malaysia, an increase of 7%;

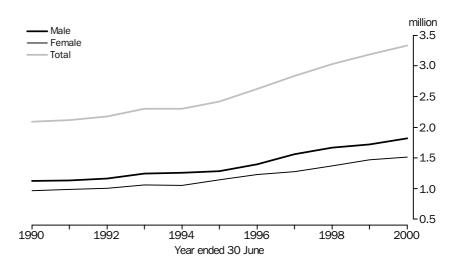
 $106,\!400~came~from~Germany, an increase~of~8\%;$

94,000 came from Taiwan, a decrease of -14%.

AUSTRALIAN SHORT-TERM RESIDENT DEPARTURES : THE LAST TEN YEARS

Over the past 10 years, the number of Australian residents departing overseas for less than 12 months (short-term) has risen considerably. In 1989–90, 2.1 million Australian residents travelled overseas short-term. By 1999–2000 this figure had increased by 60% to 3.3 million people, with annual growth averaging 4.8% since 1989–90.

SHORT-TERM RESIDENT DEPARTURES



AGE AND SEX

In 1989–90, 54% of the total short-term resident departures were male and 46% were female. By 1999–2000 this figure had only changed slightly, to 55% male and 45% female. The median age (that is the age where half were older and half were younger) of all short-term Australian residents departing overseas was 37.3 years, 38.6 years for males and 35.5 years for females. Ten years later in 1999–2000 this had risen to 40.2 years for all short-term resident departures, 41.3 years for males and 38.5 years for females.

The three most predominant age groups for short-term resident departures during 1999–2000 were the 40–49 years age group (representing 21% of all short-term resident departures), the 30–39 years age group (20%) and the 50–59 years age group (18%). The 50–59 year age group showed the fastest increase (132%), with 351,200 people departing in 1999-2000 compared to 151,100 in 1989-90.

INTENDED DURATION OF STAY

For residents departing short-term in 1999–2000, the intended duration of stay varied according to both their main reason for journey and their country of destination. Business and convention/conference travellers intended to have shorter stays (with a median duration of stay of 9 days and 10 days, respectively) than those visiting friends and relatives (28 days). Those travelling mainly for employment had the longest intended stay abroad (30 days).

Of the top 10 main destination countries for Australian residents, travellers to long haul destinations such as the United Kingdom had the longest median duration of stay of 30 days, followed by travellers to the United States of America (17 days), Hong Kong (13 days), Malaysia, Japan and Thailand (12 days each), Fiji, New Zealand and Indonesia (10 days each), and Singapore (8 days).

AUSTRALIAN SHORT-TERM RESIDENT DEPARTURES : THE LAST TEN YEARS

MAIN REASON FOR JOURNEY

STATE OF RESIDENCE

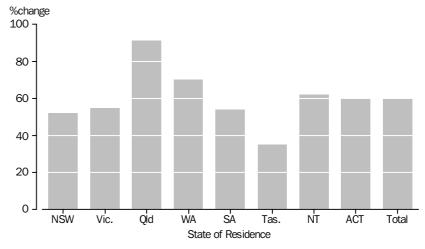
In each year from 1989–90 to 1999–2000 the main reason for Australians departing to overseas destinations was for a holiday (45% in 1999–2000). The number of Australian holiday makers rose by 400,000 people or 38% between 1989–90 and 1999–2000. The next main reason for journey in 1999–2000 was to visit friends and relatives, accounting for 25% of short-term residents departing.

Resident departures for employment and education reasons showed the biggest increase over the ten years, increasing by 130% and 110% respectively.

The majority of short-term resident departures on a State by State basis were from New South Wales, with 1.3 million resident departures during 1999–2000 or 40% of all resident departures. Victoria was second with 800,000 or 24% of departures and Queensland was third with 500,000 or 15%. However, Western Australia was the State with the largest share of travellers compared to the total State population. In 1999–2000, the 413,000 short-term departures from Western Australia equated to 22% of that State's population, compared to 17.5% nationally. In contrast, Tasmanians were least likely to travel overseas short-term, with 31,000 departures (equivalent to 6.6% of the population).

Queensland recorded the largest percentage increase in short-term resident departures, from 265,300 in 1989–90 to 507,000 in 1999–2000 (91%).

PERCENTAGE CHANGE BY STATE OF RESIDENCE—1989-90 TO 1999-2000



RESIDENT DEPARTURE EXPENDITURE

According to the Bureau of Tourism Research, Australian residents travelling overseas short-term spent an estimated 13.9 billion dollars during 1999–2000. Of this total, expenditure in the United States of America (the second most popular destination for short-term resident departures) accounted for \$2.5 billion (18%), making it the top source country for expenditure by Australian travellers. The second highest country for expenditure was the United Kingdom (the main destination for short-term resident departures), where travellers spent \$2.4 billion (17%), followed by New Zealand with \$1 billion (7%) and Indonesia with \$700 million (5%).

Expenditure by State of residence showed travellers from the New South Wales were the biggest spenders. Of the estimated \$13.9 billion spent by Australian residents, \$5.9 billion or 43% was spent by people from NSW. This represents expenditure of \$4,538 per resident departure from NSW, compared with \$4,212 per resident departures nationally. The second highest State expenditure came from Victoria, with resident departures from that State spending \$3.2 billion (23%), followed by Queensland with \$1.8 billion (13%) and Western Australia with \$1.5 billion (11%).

TABLE 1. TOTAL MOVEMENT—ARRIVALS: CATEGORY OF MOVEMENT

		Long-term o	arrivals	Total		Short-term a			
Period	Permanent arrivals Settlers	Australian residents	Overseas visitors	permanent and long-term arrivals	Australian residents	Overseas visitors (original)	Overseas visitors (Seasonally adjusted b)	Overseas visitors (Trend estimate c)	Total arrivals (a) ('000)
Year ended 31 December -									
1998	81,070	75,320	112,000	268,380	3,143.9	4,167.2			7,579.5
1999	87,140	76,130	125,730	289,000	3,226.1	4,459.5			7,974.6
2000 p	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	4,946.2	• •	• •	n.y.a.
Year ended 30 June —									
1999	84,140	67,910	119,890	271,950	3,191.6	4,288.0			7,751.6
2000	92,270	79,650	133,200	305,120	3,299.9	4,651.8			8,255.9
2001 p	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	5,061.3			n.y.a
2000 —									
July	8,240	6,690	19,790	34,720	330.4	429.0	402.0	414.0	794.2
August p	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	368.3	404.1	420.3	n.y.a
September p	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	406.5	463.5	427.3	n.y.a
October p	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	435.6	421.0	432.9	n.y.a
November p	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	460.9	434.4	435.1	n.y.a
December p	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	565.7	438.3	433.3	n.y.a
2001 —									
January p	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	425.9	427.1	428.7	n.y.a
February p	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	438.7	422.5	423.4	n.y.a
March p	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	434.5	417.4	419.9	n.y.a
April p	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	402.6	418.6	418.4	n.y.a
May p	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	328.0	412.9	417.6	n.y.a
June p	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	365.7	433.8	417.5	n.y.a
July p	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	447.0	427.0	417.0	n.y.a
August p	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	379.9	420.6	415.9	n.y.a
September p	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	358.0	403.6	414.6	n.y.a

September p n.y.a n.y.a n.y.a n.y.a n.y.a n.y.a n.y.a 358.0 403.6 (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 6. SHORT-TERM MOVEMENT(a) — ARRIVALS OF OVERSEAS VISITORS COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE(b)

('000')

Country of residence(b)	Quarter end 30 Septemb			wine monti	1S		Month of	
Country of residence(b)	30 Septemi	Quarter ended 30 September		Nine months to September			Septembe	
	2000	2001p	% change	2000p	2001p	% change	2000p	2001p
OCEANIA & ANTARCTICA —	2000	2001p	% cnange	2000p	2001p	% change	2000p	2001p
New Zealand	229.6	203.1	-11.6	596.5	566.2	-5.1	73.6	68.4
Total	262.4	233.9	-11.0 -10.9	692.9	662.8	-3.1 -4.3	86.0	79.4
10itti	202.4	233.9	-10.9	092.9	002.8	-4.3	80.0	/9.4
EUROPE & THE FORMER USSR	_							
Germany	31.6	35.9	13.5	98.2	106.4	8.3	13.4	12.8
Italy	18.9	15.9	-15.9	39.9	34.8	-12.9	5.7	3.7
Netherlands	15.0	14.4	-4.4	39.1	39.8	1.6	5.8	5.5
Sweden	7.1	5.8	-18.0	22.9	21.2	-7.6	3.6	2.2
Switzerland	10.8	11.2	3.7	32.0	32.7	1.9	5.0	5.0
United Kingdom	103.8	115.3	11.1	371.1	411.5	10.9	33.7	37.0
Total	266.2	260.0	-2.3	791.1	816.5	3.2	105.2	86.3
MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRIC	`A							
Total	22.4	23.2	3.6	41.7	47.7	14.4	6.0	4.2
SOUTHEAST ASIA —								
Indonesia	24.2	22.8	-5.8	67.7	67.6	-0.1	7.0	6.7
Malaysia	32.0	38.6	20.7	107.7	115.7	7.4	10.4	15.7
Philippines	9.6	7.1	-25.6	29.9	23.9	-20.1	3.3	2.4
Singapore	46.6	59.0	26.5	179.7	196.9	9.6	15.3	19.3
Thailand	14.7	17.3	17.9	52.6	59.6	13.4	4.8	5.9
Total	131.7	150.4	14.2	454.6	480.7	5.7	42.4	51.4
NORTHEAST ASIA —								
China	30.5	45.4	49.2	85.0	127.9	50.4	8.2	12.5
Japan	178.6	189.4	6.1	525.3	542.6	3.3	47.4	50.5
Korea	39.0	42.3	8.5	116.7	127.5	9.2	12.1	12.2
Taiwan	35.8	29.5	-17.7	109.0	94.0	-13.8	7.2	7.3
Total	319.0	347.1	8.8	953.5	1 016.2	6.6	82.0	91.6
THE AMERICAS —								
Canada	20.9	18.6	-11.1	60.2	65.8	9.2	8.4	5.9
United States of America	129.4	104.6	-19.2	355.6	341.5	-4.0	53.6	24.1
Total	165.1	132.1	-20.0	448.6	436.1	-2.8	70.4	32.8
AFRICA (excluding North Africa) -								
South Africa	15.6	16.2	4.1	43.3	46.9	8.2	5.8	5.9
Total	22.1	20.5	-7.5	57.7	60.0	3.9	9.1	7.1
Total	1 203.8	1 184.8	-1.6	3 484.0	3 580.0	2.8	406.5	358.0

⁽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.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

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.

1 This publication contains statistics of persons arriving in, and departing

- **3** In July 1998, DIMA revised the incoming and outgoing passenger cards and associated procedures as well as computer systems. Following these changes, some questions on the passenger cards were not compulsory and answers to these questions were not checked by Customs officers. The question on marital status was deleted. Data on marital status is now 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. Since July 1998, there have been additional minor changes to both passenger cards.
- **4** The preliminary estimates of visitor arrivals by country of residence (see Table 6, page 7) 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.
- **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.

SCOPE

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

- **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 main reason for journey.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT AND TREND ESTIMATES

- **14** Original and seasonally adjusted short-term overseas visitor arrivals are shown in Table 1. 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 are shown in Table 1. 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 length of stay overseas

Country spent/intend to spend most time abroad

State or Territory of intended address/State or Territory lived

Occupation (not available for short-term movements)

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 preliminary not available n.a. not further defined n.f.d. not yet available n.y.a. revised

GLOSSARY

Australian resident

Australian residence is self-defined as reported by travellers when completing Incoming and Outgoing Passenger Cards.

Category of movement

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 *categories of movement*:

- permanent movements
- long-term movements
- short-term movements.

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.

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 overseas'.

Long-term arrivals

Long-term arrivals comprise:

- 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:

- 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 main reason for 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'.

State/Territory of address/lived

Overseas visitors are asked on arrival in Australia for their State of intended address. On departure from Australia overseas visitors are asked the State where they spent most time.

Australian residents are asked on departure for the State in which they live/lived. Residents returning to Australia are asked for their State of intended address.

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 of 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

	DEPARTU	DEPARTURE OR ARRIVAL OF AUSTRALIAN RESIDENTS		ERM OR DEPARTURE SEAS VISITORS	TOTAL ARRIVALS OR DEPARTURES	
Estimated		Relative		Relative		Relative
number of	Standard	standard	Standard	standard	Standard	standard
persons	error	error	error	error	error	error
	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

- $\bf 6$ 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 x 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 1— PASSENGER CARDS(a)

Incoming passenger card • Austra	IIA YOU MUST ANSWER EVERY QUESTION – IF UNSURE, 🔀 Yes	
PLEASE COMPLETE IN ENGLISH	► Are you bringing into Australia:	
	Goods that may be prohibited or subject to restrictions, such as	
Family/surname	medicines, steroids, firearms, weapons of any kind or illicit drugs?	Yes 📙 No 📙
Given names	2. More than 1125ml of alcohol or 250gm of tobacco products?	Yes 🗌 No 🗌
Passport number	3. Goods obtained overseas or purchased duty or tax free in Australia with a combined total price of more than AUD\$400, including gifts?	Yes No No
	4. Goods/samples for business/commercial use?	Yes No
Flight number or name of ship	4. Goods/samples for business/commercial use? 5. AUD\$10,000 or more in Australian or foreign currency equivalent?	Yes No
Intended address in Australia	6. Food of any type – includes dried, fresh, preserved, cooked, uncooked	103 🗀 110 🗀
This is a decrease in Additional	- anything you can eat or cook?	Yes No No
	7. Wooden articles, parts of plants, traditional medicines or herbs, seeds,	
State , ,	bulbs, straw, nuts?	Yes 🗌 No 🗌
Do you intend to live in Australia for	8. Animals, parts of animals and products in contact with animals including	
the next 12 months? Yes N	equipment, eggs, biologicals, specimens, birds, fish, insects, coral, shells, bees, bee products, pet food?	Yes No No
If you are NOT an Australian citizen:	9. Soil, or articles with soil attached, i.e. sporting equipment, shoes, etc?	Yes No
Do you suffer from tuberculosis? Yes 🗌 N	0 ☐ 10. Have you visited a farm outside Australia in the past 30 days?	Yes No
Do you have any criminal conviction/s? Yes 🔲 N	0 ☐ ► 11. Have you been in Africa or South America in the last 6 days?	Yes No No
DECLADATION V	OUR SIGNATURE	
The information I have given is true, correct and	DAY MONTH YEAR	TURN OVER
complete. I understand failure to answer any		THE CARD
questions may have serious consequences.		English
		<u> </u>
ICOMING CARD – BACK		
PLEASE COMPLETE IN ENGLISH PLEASE AN	D ANSWER A OR B OR C	
In which country did you		
board this flight or ship? Migrating permaner		sident returning
to Austral		Australia
What is your usual occupation?		y where you
What is your asaa occupation:		nost time abroad
	➤ Your country of residence	
Nationality as shown on passport	➤ Your main reason for coming to Australia (X one only)	
Nationality as shown on passport	Your main reason for coming to Australia (X one only)	IRE YOU HAVE COMPLETED
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(a) Incoming card used from November 1999. Outgoing card used from July 2000 when a new question on currency was added to the reverse side. See paragraph 3 of the Explanatory Notes for information on passenger card changes.

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