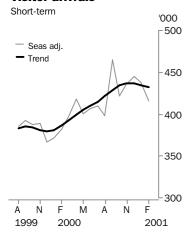


OVERSEAS ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES

AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) TUES 20 MAR 2001

Visitor arrivals



Feb 2001 Jan 2001 and Feb 2001 corresponding Feb 2001 '000s 000 period Short-term Visitor arrivals Trend 431.9 -0.6Original 438.7 3 530.5 11.5

KEY POINTS

- There were 438,700 short-term visitor arrivals to Australia during February 2001.
- The total number of short-term visitor arrivals for the eight months July 2000 to February 2001 amounted to 3.5 million, an increase of 11% compared to the eight months July 1999 to February 2000 (3.2 million).
- The trend estimate for short-term visitor arrivals marginally decreased in February 2001
- New Zealand (16%) was the main source country of short-term visitor arrivals to Australia during the eight months to February 2001, 12% more than in the eight months to February 2000.
- Japan (14%) remained the second largest source country of short-term visitor arrivals during the eight months to February 2001.
- Short-term visitor arrivals from China during the eight months to February 2001 showed the fastest increase (47%) over the equivalent period ending February 2000. Korea showed the second fastest (25%) and the United States of America showed the third fastest increase (17%).
- Queensland has been the second most popular State of intended address for short-term overseas visitors since 1986–87, after New South Wales. Prior to that, it was the third most popular State of intended address, after Victoria and New South Wales. (For more information see the special article on page 4).

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

NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

Final overseas arrival and departure data for August 2000 onwards are not expected to be published before August 2001. Data from passenger cards completed by persons arriving in or departing from Australia, together with other information available to Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs (DIMA), serve as a source for statistics on overseas arrivals and departures. DIMA is currently automating the processing of passenger cards and ABS has yet to receive relevant data.

ISSUE	EXPECTED RELEASE DATE
March 2001	19 April 2001
April 2001	22 May 2001
May 2001	21 June 2001

CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

This issue of 3401.0 contains preliminary estimates of short-term visitor arrivals in August, September, October, November, December 2000 and January and February 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.

Also in this issue, seasonally adjusted and trend data have been revised due to the change in the occurrence of the Chinese new year (January in 2001 compared to February 2000).

TREND REVISIONS

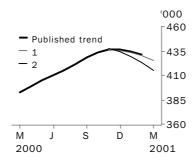
Each time new seasonally adjusted estimates become available, trend estimates of short-term arrivals are revised (see paragraph 14 to 17 of the Explanatory Notes).

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 March visitor arrivals is 2.90% higher than February and
- **2** March visitor arrivals is 2.90% lower than February.

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 438,700 short-term visitor arrivals to Australia during February 2001 bringing the total number of visitor arrivals for the eight months to February 2001 to 3.5 million, 11% higher than the number of overseas visitor arrivals in the eight months to February 2000 (3.2 million).

The major source countries of short-term visitor arrivals to Australia during the eight months to February 2001 were New Zealand (16%), Japan (14%), the United Kingdom (12%), the United States of America (10%), Singapore (5%) and Korea (3%).

Comparing the eight months to February 2001 to the corresponding period to February 2000, there were increases in the number of visitor arrivals from seven out of the ten top source countries. The number of short-term visitor arrivals from China showed the fastest increase (47%), followed by Korea (25%) and the United States of America (17%). The number of short-term visitor arrivals from Japan, the second main source country, increased by 4%. Conversely, the number of short-term visitor arrivals declined from Singapore and Germany (each less than -1%) and Taiwan (-12%).

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

559,600 short-term visitors came from New Zealand, an increase of 12% compared to the eight months to February 2000;

498,500 came from Japan, an increase of 4%;

435,600 came from the United Kingdom, an increase of 11%;

336,000 came from the United States of America, an increase of 17%;

178,400 came from Singapore, a marginal decrease;

118,100 came from Korea, an increase of 25%;

108,700 came from Germany, a marginal decrease;

107,900 came from China, an increase of 47%;

103,100 came from Malaysia, an increase of 5%; and

83,000 came from Taiwan, a decrease of 12%.

SHORT-TERM VISITOR ARRIVALS TO QUEENSLAND

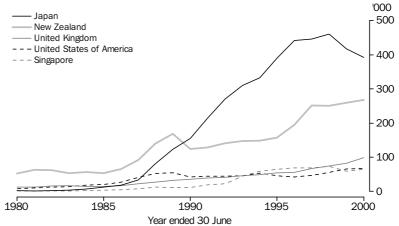
Queensland has been the second most popular State of intended address for short-term overseas visitors since 1986–87, after New South Wales. Prior to that, it was the third most popular State of intended address, after Victoria and New South Wales. The number as well as the percentage of short-term visitors to this State has increased from 105,000 (12%) in 1979–80 to 1.3 million (29%) in 1999–2000.

Queensland attracts a high proportion of visitors from the countries in the Asian regions, from 8% in 1979–80 to 65% in 1995–96 and 52% in 1999–2000. Overall, the increase in the number of short-term visitors to Queensland was partly due to an increase in short-term visitor arrivals from Japan, from 3,100 in 1981–82 to 461,000 in 1997–98, an average annual increase of 37%.

COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE

In 1999–2000, the five main source countries of short-term visitors to Queensland were Japan (30%), New Zealand (20%), the United Kingdom (7%), the United States of America and Singapore (5% each). For all other States and Territories, New Zealand or the United Kingdom was the top source country. Japan became the number one source country of visitors to Queensland in 1989–90. Between 1986–87 and 1997–98, the number of short-term visitors from Japan to Queensland increased substantially compared to the number of visitors from New Zealand, United Kingdom and the United States of America. Over the past two years there has been a slight decline in Japanese visitors to Queensland (down by 15% in 1999–2000 compared to 1997–98).

SHORT-TERM VISITOR ARRIVALS TO QUEENSLAND(a)



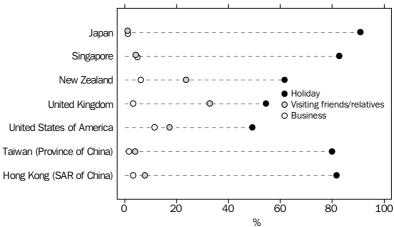
(a) State of intended address.

MAIN REASON FOR JOURNEY

In 1999–2000, the percentage of holiday-makers having Queensland as State of intended address (71%) was much higher than the comparable percentages for other States and Territories (between 25% for the Australian Capital Territory and 64% for the Northern Territory). Holiday makers came from Japan (91% of Japanese visitors), Singapore (83%), New Zealand (62%), the United Kingdom (55%) and the United States of America (49%). In the same year, a further 13% of visitors to Queensland came to visit friends and relatives and 4% came for business. Education and attendance at conventions or conferences accounted for 2% each and employment for 1% in 1999–2000.

SHORT-TERM VISITOR ARRIVALS TO QUEENSLAND

MAIN REASON FOR JOURNEY AND COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE



AGE AND SEX

Short-term visitors with an intended address in Queensland were generally younger than the visitors to the other States and Territories. The median age of short-term visitors to Queensland in 1999–2000 was 35.7 years (the age at which half of the visitors were younger and half were older), compared to 37.4 years for Australia as a whole, 37.4 years for New South Wales and 38.9 years for Victoria. Over the 20 years to 1999–2000, the number of female visitors to Queensland slowly increased. The sex ratio peaked at 113 males per 100 females in 1982–83 and declined to 101 males per 100 females in 1991–92 and to 96 males per 100 females in 1999–2000. The majority of holiday-makers and those visiting friends or relatives in 1999–2000 were females (53% and 56% respectively) while those visiting for mainly business or to attend a convention or conference were males (77% and 67% respectively).

INTENDED LENGTH OF STAY

Over the past two decades, the median length of intended stay of short-term visitors to Queensland has declined, from 21 days in 1979-80 to 9 days in 1999-2000. Short-term visitors to Queensland during 1999-2000 had the shortest median length of intended stay (9 days), compared to 10 days for short-term visitors to New South Wales and 11 days each for Victoria and the Australian Capital Territory. The rest of the States and Territories had a median length of intended stay of 13 days or higher in 1999-2000. The shorter median length of intended stay for visitors to Queensland in 1999-2000 could be influenced by the fact that there were more holiday-makers in this State from Japan whose median length of intended stay was short (6 days), compared to holiday-makers from the other top source countries who had longer median length of intended stay (of between 8 days for Singapore and 21 days for the United Kingdom visitors). For holiday-makers and visitors of friends and relatives, the median length of intended stay was either the same or shorter for short-term visitors to Queensland than to the other States and Territories. In 1999-2000, the median length of intended stay for visitors to Queensland was highest for students (62 days) and visitors of friends and relatives (17 days), and lowest for those who came for business (7 days). Holiday-makers and those who attended conventions or conferences had a median length of intended stay of 8 days each.

Further detailed information is available from the Bureau of Tourism Research's *International Visitor Suvey*.

TABLE 1. TOTAL MOVEMENT—ARRIVALS: CATEGORY OF MOVEMENT

		LE I. IOIAL				Short-term a	rrivals (a)		
	_	Long-term o	ırrivals	Total_		('00	/		en . 1
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		residents	visitors	arrivals	restaents	(Original)	aajusiea v)	estimate c)	(000)
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 —									
1998	77,330	84,360	103,760	265,440	3,020.1	4,220.0			7,505.5
1999	84,140	67,910	119,890	271,950	3,191.6	4,288.0			7,751.6
2000	92,270	79,650	133,200	305,120	3,299.9	4,651.8	• •		8,255.9
1999 —									
December	7,980	12,500	6,830	27,300	208.3	460.8	367.0	379.6	696.3
2000 —									
January	9,990	6,610	18,550	35,150	357.5	360.8	371.4	381.1	753.4
February	7,240	5,820	24,810	37,880	236.5	434.6	382.2	386.3	708.9
March	7,170	5,310	8,350	20,830	230.8	411.9	396.8	392.7	663.5
April	7,800	6,080	8,440	22,320	279.6	405.6	418.4	399.2	707.5
May	7,010	4,560	7,550	19,120	256.1	319.3	400.8	405.0	594.5
June	7,310	5,520	8,150	20,980	246.4	347.9	406.0	409.8	615.3
July	8,240	6,690	19,790	34,720	330.4	429.0	409.5	414.7	794.2
August p	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	368.3	398.6	421.2	n.y.a
September p	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	406.5	465.3	428.3	n.y.a
October p	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	435.6	421.7	434.0	n.y.a
November p	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	460.9	435.3	436.5	n.y.a
December p	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	565.7	444.8	436.3	n.y.a
2001 —									
January p	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	425.9	438.0	434.6	n.y.a
February p	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	438.7	415.9	431.9	n.y.a

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

	Quarter en		,	Eight mont			Month of	
<u> </u>	31 Decemb			to Februa	ry		February	,
Country of residence(b)	1999	2000p	% change	2000	2001p	% change	2000	2001p
OCEANIA & ANTARCTICA —								
New Zealand	190.5	224.6	17.9	499.0	559.6	12.1	45.0	50.7
Total	230.3	264.4	14.8	593.8	656.1	10.5	55.1	61.7
EUROPE & THE FORMER USSE	R —							
Germany	51.0	46.4	-9.0	109.5	108.7	-0.7	14.7	17.1
Italy	17.0	18.3	7.6	42.6	45.5	6.8	4.8	4.2
Netherlands	18.1	22.0	21.5	42.3	48.9	15.6	6.1	6.5
Sweden	12.3	14.3	15.9	25.3	29.7	17.4	4.1	4.4
Switzerland	17.1	16.4	-4.1	36.8	37.0	0.5	4.6	4.4
United Kingdom	179.1	206.9	15.5	393.5	435.6	10.7	60.1	66.7
Total	370.2	410.8	11.0	824.5	917.5	11.3	117.2	127.2
MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRIC	CA —							
Total	12.3	14.9	21.7	40.8	46.7	14.4	3.7	4.6
SOUTHEAST ASIA —								
Indonesia	17.9	33.9	88.7	58.0	75.5	30.0	9.5	9.8
Malaysia	37.7	45.8	21.6	98.0	103.1	5.2	18.0	13.7
Philippines	10.3	9.2	-11.0	24.5	23.0	-6.1	2.7	2.2
Singapore	88.4	96.4	9.1	178.9	178.4	-0.3	24.6	17.4
Thailand	17.5	21.6	23.3	38.8	46.0	18.6	4.8	4.9
Total	176.8	211.9	19.9	410.8	440.9	7.3	61.6	50.6
NORTHEAST ASIA —								
China	27.6	39.3	42.2	73.3	107.9	47.3	14.0	16.2
Japan	170.7	195.0	14.3	477.5	498.5	4.4	68.5	64.3
Korea	37.2	43.5	17.0	94.2	118.1	25.4	12.7	14.7
Taiwan	27.8	26.0	-6.2	94.2	83.0	-11.9	16.4	10.4
Total	298.1	345.0	15.7	844.0	915.8	8.5	132.6	121.7
THE AMERICAS —								
Canada	25.4	28.9	14.2	57.5	69.9	21.7	8.6	10.3
United States of America	115.7	126.5	9.4	287.2	336.0	17.0	41.6	43.6
Total	150.4	168.3	11.9	368.8	442.1	19.9	53.3	57.5
AFRICA (excluding North Africa)	_							
South Africa	16.8	22.1	31.4	38.1	47.7	25.0	4.5	5.8
Total	21.2	28.0	31.9	48.1	63.8	32.7	6.0	7.8
Total	1,274.4	1,462.2	14.7	3 167.0	3 530.5	11.5	434.6	438.7

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

⁽b) See paragraphs 4, 6 and 7 of the Explanantory Notes.

INTRODUCTION

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

SOURCE OF THE STATISTICS

- **2** Persons arriving in, or departing from, Australia provide information in the form of incoming and outgoing passenger cards (see Appendix 1). Incoming persons also provide information in visa applications, apart from people travelling as Australian and New Zealand citizens. These and other information available to the Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs (DIMA) serve as a source for statistics of overseas arrivals and departures.
- **3** 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

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. Information on non-sampling errors appears in Appendix 2.
- **13** Errors of this kind differ from discrepancies arising from the fact that certain information reflects the travellers' intentions at the time the passenger cards were completed. These intentions are, of course, subject to change. Particularly affected is the distinction between permanent and temporary movement and in the latter case, length of intended stay, country in which most time will be spent and main reason for journey.

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.

ADDITIONAL STATISTICS AVAILABLE

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

Citizenship (Nationality)

Country of birth

Age (Date of birth)

Sex

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

Category of travel

Permanent migrant

Previous/future country of residence

State of intended address/lived

Overseas visitor

Intended/actual length of stay

Main reason for journey

Country of residence

State of intended address/in which most time spent

Australian residents

Intended/actual time away from Australia

Country spent/intend to spend most time in

State of intended address/lived

Occupation (not available for short-term movements)

State of intended/actual address

Country of embarkation/disembarkation

Airport/Port of arrival/departure

Arrival/departure date

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

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

SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES

nil or rounded to zero

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

r revised

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 abroad'.

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 purpose of journey. From September 1994, all statistics relating to *main reason for journey* have been published using the following categories:

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

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

Main State/Territory of stay

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

Overseas Arrivals and Departures (OAD)

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

Permanent arrivals

Permanent arrivals (settlers) comprise:

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

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

Permanent departures

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

Short-term arrivals

Short-term arrivals comprise:

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

Short-term departures

Short-term departures comprise:

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

STANDARD ERRORS

RELIABILITY OF ESTIMATES

- **1** Estimates based on a sample are subject to sampling variability i.e. they may differ from those that would be obtained from full enumeration.
- **2** The sampling error associated with any estimate can be estimated from the sample results and one measure so derived is the standard error. Given an estimate and the standard error on that estimate, there are about two chances in three that the sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained from full enumeration, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors. The relative standard error is the standard error on the estimate expressed as a percentage of the estimate.
- **3** It would be impractical to publish estimates of standard errors for all figures in individual tables. However, the following tables of standard errors and relative standard errors give an indication of the magnitude of the sampling error associated with any estimate of a particular size for short-term and total movement.

APPROXIMATE STANDARD ERRORS ON ESTIMATES FOR STRATIFIED SAMPLE

		SHORT-TERM DEPARTURE OR ARRIVAL		SHORT-TERM ARRIVAL OR DEPARTURE		TOTAL ARRIVALS OR	
	2 2. 7	OF AUSTRALIAN RESIDENTS			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		
PLEASE COMPLETE IN ENGLISH		Are you bringing into Australia:	
Family/surname		1. Goods that may be prohibited or subject to restrictions, such as	Yes No No
Given names		medicines, steroids, firearms, weapons of any kind or illicit drugs? 2. More than 1125ml of alcohol or 250gm of tobacco products?	Yes No No
		3. Goods obtained overseas or purchased duty or tax free in Australia	res 🗀 NO 🗀
Passport number		with a combined total price of more than AUD\$400, including gifts?	Yes 🗌 No 🗌
		4. Goods/samples for business/commercial use?	Yes No
Flight number or name of ship		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	
		- anything you can eat or cook?	Yes 🗀 No 🗀
	01-1-	7. Wooden articles, parts of plants, traditional medicines or herbs, seeds,	v 🗆 🗆
	State , ,	bulbs, straw, nuts?	Yes 🔲 No 🔲
Do you intend to live in Australia for the next 12 months?	Yes 🗆 N	8. Animals, parts of animals and products in contact with animals including equipment, eggs, biologicals, specimens, birds, fish, insects, coral,	
	169 🗀 1	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 No
•		► 10. Have you visited a farm outside Australia in the past 30 days?	Yes No
Do you have any criminal conviction/s?	Yes 🔲 N	■ 11. Have you been in Africa or South America in the last 6 days?	Yes No No
DECLARATION	Y	R SIGNATURE	
The information I have given is true, correct		DAY MONTH YEAR	TURN OVER
complete. I understand failure to answer a	any		THE CARD
questions may have serious consequences	es.		English
NCOMING CARD – BACK			
	ASE 🔀 AN	ANSWER A OR B OR C	
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	to Austra	YEARS MONTHS DAYS	Australia
What is your usual occupation?			y where you
			most time abroad
		▶ Your country of residence	
Nationality as shown on passport		➤ Your main reason for coming to Australia (X one only)	
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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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