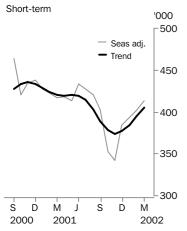


OVERSEAS ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES

AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) MON 22 APR 2002

Visitor arrivals



MARCH 2	002	PRELIM	INARY	
	Mar 2002 '000s	% change between Feb 2002 and Mar 2002	Jul 2001 to Mar 2002 '000s	% change on previous corresponding period
Short-term				
Visitor arrivals				
Trend	404.7	2.6		
Seasonally adjusted	413.5	2.8		
Original	438.0		3.687.7	-7.0

KEY POINTS

- There were 438,000 short-term visitor arrivals to Australia during March 2002.
- The trend estimate for short-term visitor arrivals increased in March 2002 by 2.6%, while the seasonally adjusted estimate increased by 2.8% compared to February 2002.
- The seasonally adjusted estimate for short-term visitor arrivals for March 2002 was 21% higher than the low for November 2001.
- The total number of short-term visitor arrivals for the nine months to March 2002 amounted to 3.7 million, a decrease of 7% compared to the nine months to March 2001 (4.0 million).
- The United Kingdom and Japan (each 14%) were the main source countries of short-term visitor arrivals to Australia for the nine months to March 2002. New Zealand (13%) was the third main source country of visitor arrivals. Compared to the nine months to March 2001, the number of visitor arrivals from Japan decreased by 10%, and the number from New Zealand decreased by 20%. The number of visitor arrivals from the United Kingdom increased by 5%.

■ 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

There have been significant delays in the receipt of final Overseas Arrivals and Departures (OAD) data from August 2000 onwards from the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs (DIMIA). Because of the use of overseas arrivals and departures data in population estimates which affects State and Territory Government funding, DIMIA has given priority to processing passenger cards for July 2001 and subsequent months before finalising processing for earlier months - August 2000 through to June 2001.

The ABS has received final monthly OAD data for July 2001 to December 2001 from DIMIA. It is expected that the ABS will publish final monthly OAD data for July to September 2001 in a quarterly compendium "Overseas Arrivals and Departures, Australia, September Quarter 2001" (Cat. no. 3401.0) on 9 May 2002. These data will revise preliminary estimates published for those months and will include other series not included in the preliminary release. Revised seasonally adjusted and trend estimates for this period will not be available until the full backlog of data has been processed.

Final data for other outstanding months will be published in quarterly compendiums. Preliminary estimates of short-term visitor arrivals will continue to be published monthly. Further information on the expected release of final OAD data will be updated on the Demography Theme page on the ABS website site <www.abs.gov.au>, then select Themes, then Demography, and in future issues of this publication.

The ABS has received a request to change Table 6 to include an aggregation for the calendar year to the current month. The ABS would appreciate comments from other readers on this suggestion by 6 May 2002 to Valerie Pearson on (02) 6252 6522 or email valerie.pearson@abs.gov.au.

CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

This issue of 3401.0 contains preliminary estimates of short-term visitor arrivals in August 2000 through to March 2002. 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

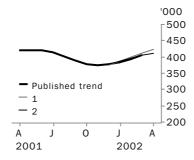
Each time new seasonally adjusted estimates become available, trend estimates of short-term arrivals are revised (see paragraphs 14 to 17 of the Explanatory Notes).

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

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 438,000 short-term visitor arrivals to Australia in March 2002 bringing the total number of visitor arrivals for the nine months to March 2002 to 3.7 million, 7% lower than the number of overseas visitor arrivals for the nine months to March 2001 (4.0 million), a period which includes the 2000 Olympic Games.

The total number of short-term visitor arrivals for the March quarter 2002 was 1.3 million, a decrease of 2.5% compared to the March quarter 2001. During these periods there were no unusual world events such as the Olympic Games and the September 11 events in the United States of America that could impact on the number of short-term visitor arrivals to Australia.

The major source countries of short-term visitor arrivals to Australia for the nine months to March 2002 were the United Kingdom and Japan (each 14%), New Zealand (13%), the United States of America (9%), Singapore (5%) and China and Korea (each 4%). However, in this period the order of the main source countries has changed compared to the nine months to March 2001, where New Zealand was the main source country followed by Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States of America of short-term visitor arrivals.

For the first time, during the nine months to March 2002, Canada entered into the top ten source countries as number ten, replacing Taiwan.

Comparing the nine months to March 2002 to the corresponding period ending March 2001, there were increases in the number of short-term visitor arrivals from five out of the ten top source countries. For the four main source countries, the number of short-term visitor arrivals during the nine months to March 2002 increased from the United Kingdom (5%) and decreased from New Zealand (down 20%), Japan (down 10%) and the United States of America (down 13%).

Of the top ten source countries for short-term visitor arrivals during the nine months to March 2002:

517,700 short-term visitors came from the United Kingdom, an increase of 5% compared to the nine months to March 2001;

509,700 came from Japan, a decrease of 10%;

496,300 came from New Zealand, a decrease of 20%;

334,700 came from the United States of America, a decrease of 13%;

183,700 came from Singapore, a decrease of 9%;

152,100 came from China, an increase of 28%;

147,700 came from Korea, an increase of 13%;

127,600 came from Germany, an increase of 4%;

111,600 came from Malaysia, a decrease of 3%;

80,900 came from Canada, an increase of 1%.

TABLE 1. TOTAL MOVEMENT—ARRIVALS: CATEGORY OF MOVEMENT

		Long-term arr		Total	Short-term arrivals (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
2001 p	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	4,816.6			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 —									
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	419.5	n.y.a
May p	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	328.0	412.9	420.4	n.y.a
June p	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	365.7	433.8	419.7	n.y.a
July p	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	447.0	427.0	414.0	n.y.a
August p	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	379.9	420.6	403.0	n.y.a
September p	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	358.0	403.5	389.3	n.y.a
October p	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	365.2	352.4	378.2	n.y.a
November p	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	366.4	342.4	373.8	n.y.a
December p	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	504.9	384.3	376.7	n.y.a
2002—									
January p	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	385.1	393.1	384.7	n.y.a
February p	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	443.4	402.3	394.3	n.y.a
March p	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	438.0	413.5	404.7	n.y.a

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

⁽b) See paragraphs 14 and 15 of the Explanatory Notes.

⁽c) See paragraphs 16 and 17 of the Explanatory Notes.

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

('000')

	Quarter en 31 Marci		(000)	Nine mont to March			Month of March	•
Country of residence(b)	2001p	2002p	% change	2001p	2002p	% change	2001p	2002p
OCEANIA & ANTARCTICA —	Î	Î		•	•	Ĭ	•	
New Zealand	164.7	129.6	-21.3	618.9	496.3	-19.8	59.3	50.8
Total	198.7	163.3	-17.8	725.5	594.6	-18.0	69.4	61.5
EUROPE & THE FORMER USS	R —							
Germany	44.7	44.1	-1.4	122.8	127.6	3.9	14.1	14.2
Italy	11.4	9.5	-16.9	48.6	38.0	-21.9	3.1	3.1
Netherlands	16.9	16.2	-4.0	53.9	50.7	-5.9	5.0	4.8
Sweden	11.1	10.9	-2.0	32.5	29.1	-10.4	2.9	3.1
Switzerland	14.1	13.5	-4.4	41.4	41.3	-0.1	4.3	4.1
United Kingdom	184.5	202.4	9.8	495.2	517.7	4.5	59.5	72.4
Total	348.8	363.4	4.2	1 025.8	1 004.5	-2.1	108.2	122.8
MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFR	ICA —							
Total	14.1	12.9	-9.0	51.5	47.5	-7.7	4.8	4.4
SOUTHEAST ASIA —								
Indonesia	26.5	24.3	-8.2	83.3	79.8	-4.1	7.8	8.6
Malaysia	37.5	35.8	-4.6	115.4	111.6	-3.3	12.3	11.3
Philippines	7.1	7.7	8.4	25.9	22.5	-13.0	2.8	3.6
Singapore	59.6	54.0	-9.4	202.6	183.7	-9.4	24.3	21.7
Thailand	17.0	17.7	4.1	53.3	53.4	0.1	7.3	7.9
Total	153.9	146.4	-4.9	497.5	469.1	-5.7	56.6	55.6
NORTHEAST ASIA —								
China	49.6	62.8	26.7	119.3	152.1	27.5	11.4	14.6
Japan	195.5	181.6	-7.1	569.1	509.7	-10.4	70.5	69.6
Korea	48.5	52.3	7.7	131.1	147.7	12.7	12.9	15.2
Taiwan	30.3	29.5	-2.5	92.1	80.5	-12.6	9.1	8.0
Total	371.4	371.9	0.1	1 035.4	1 010.7	-2.4	119.6	122.2
THE AMERICAS —								
Canada	30.4	33.0	8.6	80.3	80.9	0.8	10.4	10.3
United States of America	127.4	125.8	-1.3	383.4	334.7	-12.7	47.4	42.6
Total	170.2	168.2	-1.2	503.6	441.5	-12.3	61.6	56.1
AFRICA (excluding North Africa)								
South Africa	16.0	15.6	-2.3	53.7	51.5	-4.0	6.0	6.6
Total	21.1	21.5	1.8	71.2	66.1	-7.2	7.5	8.4
Total	1 299.1	1 266.4	-2.5	3 965.1	3 687.7	-7.0	434.5	438.0

⁽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.

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 and Indigenous Affairs (DIMIA) serve as a source for statistics of overseas arrivals and departures.
- **3** In July 1998, DIMIA 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 5) are based on data from DIMIA'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 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 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.
- Demography working paper 2001/7 Statistical requirements for Overseas Arrivals and Departures Data at September 2001
- **19** Related statistics are also published by the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous 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 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 and Indigenous 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 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.

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'.

GLOSSARY

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

Estimated	SHORT-TERM DEPARTURE OR ARRIVAL OF AUSTRALIAN RESIDENTS Relative		OF OVER	OR DEPARTURE SEAS VISITORS Relative	TOTAL ARRIVALS OR DEPARTURES 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

- **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 218and 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:	
Family/surname	Goods that may be prohibited or subject to restrictions, such as	
	medicines, steroids, firearms, weapons of any kind or illicit drugs?	Yes No No
▶ Given names	2. More than 1125ml of alcohol or 250gm of tobacco products?	Yes L No L
▶ 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	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	100 🖂 110 🖂
,	- anything you can eat or cook?	Yes 🔲 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 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,	
	shells, bees, bee products, pet food?	Yes 🗌 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 L N	lo ☐ ► 10. Have you visited a farm outside Australia in the past 30 days?	Yes 🗌 No 🗌
Do you have any criminal conviction/s? Yes 🗌 N	lo □ ► 11. Have you been in Africa or South America in the last 6 days?	Yes 🗌 No 🗌
DECLARATION	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
INCOMING CARD DAGG		
INCOMING CARD – BACK		
PLEASE COMPLETE IN ENGLISH PLEASE X AN	D ANOUED A OD D OD C	
	D ANSWER A OR B OR C	
In which country did you board this flight or ship? Migrating		sident returning
permane	nuy to	Australia
to Austral	YEARS MONTHS DAYS	
► What is your usual occupation?		y where you most time abroad
		iilost tiirie abroau
Nationality as shown on passport	► Your country of residence	
Thansand as shown on passpore	► Your main reason for coming to Australia (X one only)	
		JRE YOU HAVE COMPLETED
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of birth	Business 2 Education 5 Other 8 Visiting friends or relatives 3 Exhibition 6	H SIDES OF THIS CARD. NT THIS CARD ON ARRIVAL ITH YOUR PASSPORT.
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Date of birth	Business	H SIDES OF THIS CARD. YIT THIS CARD ON ARRIVAL THY YOUR PASSPORT. Commonwealth of Australia 1999 15 (Design date 06/99) Australian resident departing
Date of birth	Business	H SIDES OF THIS CARD. IT THIS CARD ON ARRIVAL ITH YOUR PASSPORT. Commonwealth of Australia 1999 15 (Design date 06/99) Australian resident departing permanently In which State did you live?
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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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