

OVERSEAS ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES

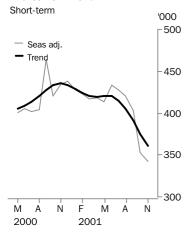
342.4

366.4

AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) THURS 20 DEC 2001

Visitor arrivals



NOVEMBER 2001 PRELIMINAR % change % change on Jan 2001 to previous between Nov 2001 Oct 2001 and Nov 2001 corresponding '000s Nov 2001 '000 period Short-term Visitor arrivals Trend 360.5 -4.0. .

-2.8

4 311.7

-1.6

KEY POINTS

Seasonally adjusted

Original

- There were 366,400 short-term visitor arrivals to Australia during November 2001.
- The trend estimate for short-term visitor arrivals decreased in November 2001 by 4.0%, while the seasonally adjusted estimate fell by 2.8% compared to October 2001.
- The total number of short-term visitor arrivals during the eleven months to November 2001 amounted to 4.3 million, a decrease of 1.6% compared to the eleven months to November 2000 (4.4 million).
- New Zealand (16%) and Japan (15%) were the main source countries of short-term visitor arrivals to Australia during the eleven months to November 2001. Compared to the eleven months to November 2000, the number of visitor arrivals from New Zealand decreased by 9% while the number of visitor arrivals from Japan showed a decrease of 4%.
- Short-term visitor arrivals from China (157,200) during the eleven months to November 2001 showed the largest increase (44%) over the equivalent period ending November 2000.
- Over the past 20 years it has been more common for Australian females to take short-term holidays overseas than Australian males, with an average annual percentage of 53% for females and 47% for males. (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 Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) has yet to receive August and September 2000 final Overseas Arrivals and Departrures data from the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs (DIMIA). As yet no firm revised date has been given for its completion and arrival at the ABS.

Because of the use of overseas arrivals and departures data in population estimates which affect State and Territory Government funding, DIMIA will give priority to processing July 2001 and subsequent months before processing October 2000 to June 2001 data.

Preliminary estimates of short-term visitor arrivals will continue to be published in this publication.

ABS WORKING PAPER

A Demography working paper (2001/7) — *Statistical Requirements for Overseas*Arrivals and Departures Data at September 2001 — is available from the ABS Website at <<u>www.abs.gov.au</u>>; from the navigation bar select Themes, Demography.

CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

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

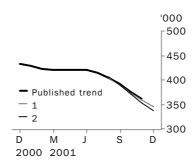
Each time new seasonally adjusted estimates become available, trend estimates of short-term arrivals are revised (see paragraphs 14 to 17 of the Explanatory Notes).

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 December visitor arrivals is 2.90% higher than November, and
- **2** December visitor arrivals is 2.90% lower than November.

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 366,400 short-term visitor arrivals to Australia in November 2001 bringing the total number of visitor arrivals during the eleven months January 2001 to November 2001 to 4.3 million, 1.6% lower than the number of overseas visitor arrivals in the eleven months to November 2000 (4.4 million).

The major source countries of short-term visitor arrivals to Australia during the eleven months to November 2001 were New Zealand (16%), Japan (15%), the United Kingdom (12%), the United States of America (9%), Singapore (5%), China (4%) and Korea (4%).

Comparing the eleven months to November 2001 to the corresponding period to November 2000, there were increases in the number of short-term visitor arrivals from only six out of the ten top source countries. The United Kingdom, the third main source country, increased by 7% from 489,600 arrivals to 522,800 arrivals. Singapore, the fifth main source country increased by 2% from 232,500 arrivals to 236,100 arrivals, while China, the sixth main source country showed the fastest increase of 44% from 109,200 to 157,200 arrivals.

In contrast, New Zealand, the first main source country, decreased by 9%, Japan, the second main source country decreased by 4%, the United States of America, the fourth source country decreased by 7%, and Taiwan, the tenth showed the largest decrease of 15%.

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

675,800 short-term visitors came from New Zealand a decrease of 9%, compared to the eleven months to November 2000;

625,400 came from Japan, a decrease of 4%;

522,800 came from the United Kingdom, an increase of 7%;

403,600 came from the United States of America, a decrease of 7%;

236,100 came from Singapore, an increase of 2%;

157,200 came from China, an increase of 44%;

155,300 came from Korea, an increase of 9%;

138,800 came from Germany, an increase of 7%;

135,900 came from Malaysia, an increase of 1%;

107,400 came from Taiwan, a decrease of 15%.

WHERE DO AUSTRALIANS GO FOR HOLIDAYS?

During 1999–2000 1.5 million Australian residents, or 45% of all Australian resident short-term departures, went overseas on a short-term holiday (Australian residents who intended to stay abroad for less than 12 months and whose main reason for journey was a holiday). This was an increase of 3% compared with 1998–99 and an increase of 38% compared with a decade ago. Over the past 20 years it has been more common for Australian females to take short-term holidays than Australian males, with an average annual percentage of 53% for females and 47% for males. In 1999–2000 this pattern continued, with 54% of short-term residents departing for holidays being female.

DESTINATION OF HOLIDAY

The main holiday destinations for Australian residents have remained quite consistent over the past decade, with nine of the top ten main destinations in 1999-2000 also being in the top ten in 1989-90.

The top ten main destinations for Australians going on a short-term holiday in 1999–2000 were Indonesia, which includes Bali (13%), New Zealand (12%), the United States of America (11%), the United Kingdom (10%), Thailand (7%), Fiji (5%), Malaysia (4%), Singapore (4%), Hong Kong (3%) and Italy (2%). There was little difference between males and females in the order of these countries with the exception of males holidaying to Canada more frequently than Italy.

New Zealand and Thailand were the only two countries in the top ten to have more male Australian residents holidaying there than female Australian residents, with sex ratios of 104 males per 100 female Australian residents departing and 102 males per 100 females respectively.

MAIN DESTINATIONS FOR AUSTRALIAN RESIDENTS DEPARTING ON HOLIDAYS

| | 1989-90 | | | 1999–2000 | | | | |
|------|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|-------------------------------|-------|------------------------|--|--|
| Rank | Country | % | Sex ratio | Country | % | Sex ratio ¹ | | |
| | | • • • • • | | • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • | | | | |
| 1 | United States of America | 14.3 | 95.1 | Indonesia | 13.0 | 93.3 | | |
| 2 | United Kingdom | 11.3 | 77.6 | New Zealand | 12.1 | 104.2 | | |
| 3 | Indonesia | 11.1 | 87.6 | United States of America | 11.1 | 87.4 | | |
| 4 | New Zealand | 10.6 | 96.0 | United Kingdom | 9.7 | 81.4 | | |
| 5 | Fiji | 7.1 | 95.6 | Thailand | 7.2 | 102.4 | | |
| 6 | Thailand | 6.6 | 99.2 | Fiji | 5.0 | 86.1 | | |
| 7 | Singapore | 6.3 | 72.6 | Malaysia | 4.1 | 91.1 | | |
| 8 | Hong Kong | 5.4 | 70.9 | Singapore | 3.8 | 77.0 | | |
| 9 | Malaysia | 3.3 | 92.7 | Hong Kong | 3.5 | 66.5 | | |
| 10 | Greece | 1.7 | 93.1 | Italy | 2.4 | 74.7 | | |
| | Total | 100.0 | 90.1 | Total | 100.0 | 89.7 | | |
| | | | | | | | | |

^{1.}The sex ratio relates to the number of males per 100 females

WHERE DO AUSTRALIANS GO FOR HOLIDAYS?

INTENDED DURATION OF HOLIDAY The median intended duration of stay (the duration at which half the Australian residents stayed less time overseas on their holiday and half stayed longer) for all short-term holiday travellers was 15.0 days.

> The United Kingdom and Italy, two of the most distant holiday destinations, were the two main destinations where Australian holiday travellers intended to stay the longest (with a median of 35.3 and 30.6 days respectively), while Australians visiting Singapore had the shortest intended duration of stay (9.2 days).

There are some small differences between the median intended duration of stay for males and females for individual countries with males staying slightly longer in Thailand and Hong Kong.

AGE OF HOLIDAY TRAVELLERS

The median age of holiday travellers (the age at which half of the Australian holiday travellers were younger and half were older) was 38.0 years. Male holiday travellers had a higher median age than females at 38.3 years, 0.7 years older than female travellers (37.6 years).

Of those Australian residents holidaying in the top ten destination countries, travellers to Fiji had the lowest median age (33.6 overall and 35.7 years for males and 32.4 years for females). Travellers to Singapore had the highest median age (43.8 years), while females travelling to Singapore had the highest median age of all female holiday makers (44.1 years). The highest median age for all male holiday travellers was 44.5 years for those holidaying in Italy.

SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS, 1999-2000

| | MEDIAN | N AGE (YEA | RS) | MEDIAN DURATION | | | |
|--------------------------|--------|------------|---------|-----------------|---------|---------|--|
| Destination | Males | Females | Persons | Males | Females | Persons | |
| | | | | | | | |
| Indonesia | 36.3 | 34.0 | 35.0 | 10.6 | 10.3 | 10.5 | |
| United States of America | 35.5 | 37.2 | 36.3 | 20.6 | 20.9 | 20.8 | |
| United Kingdom | 38.8 | 41.8 | 40.4 | 35.4 | 35.3 | 35.3 | |
| Thailand | 38.9 | 33.7 | 36.3 | 14.3 | 12.7 | 13.7 | |
| Fiji | 35.7 | 32.4 | 33.6 | 10.0 | 9.5 | 9.7 | |
| Malaysia | 40.6 | 37.0 | 38.4 | 12.4 | 12.2 | 12.3 | |
| Singapore | 43.2 | 44.1 | 43.8 | 9.3 | 9.2 | 9.2 | |
| Hong Kong | 40.4 | 41.6 | 41.3 | 12.6 | 11.0 | 11.6 | |
| Italy | 44.5 | 41.6 | 43.2 | 30.5 | 30.7 | 30.6 | |
| All Countries | 38.3 | 37.6 | 38.0 | 15.1 | 14.9 | 15.0 | |

TABLE 1. TOTAL MOVEMENT—ARRIVALS: CATEGORY OF MOVEMENT

| | | Long-term o | ırrivals | Total | | Short-term a | ' ' | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---|-------------------------|------------------------------------|--|---|------------------------------------|
| <u>Period</u> | 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 — | | | | | | | | | |
| 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 | 420.0 | n.y.a |
| July p | n.y.a | n.y.a | n.y.a | n.y.a | n.y.a | 447.0 | 427.0 | 415.1 | n.y.a |
| August p | n.y.a | n.y.a | n.y.a | n.y.a | n.y.a | 379.9 | 420.6 | 404.8 | n.y.a |
| September p | n.y.a | n.y.a | n.y.a | n.y.a | n.y.a | 358.0 | 403.5 | 390.8 | n.y.a |
| October p | n.y.a | n.y.a | n.y.a | n.y.a | n.y.a | 365.2 | 352.4 | 375.3 | n.y.a |
| November p | n.y.a | n.y.a | n.y.a | n.y.a | n.y.a | 366.4 | 342.4 | 360.5 | 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.

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⁽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 ended | | Eleven months | | | Month of | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|---------|---------------|-----------|---------|----------|----------|-------|
| <u> </u> | 30 Septemb | | | to Novemb | | | November | |
| Country of residence(b) | 2000.0 | 2001p | % change | 2000p | 2001p | % change | 2000p | 2001p |
| OCEANIA & ANTARCTICA — | | | | | | | | |
| New Zealand | 229.6 | 203.1 | -11.6 | 745.3 | 675.8 | -9.3 | 72.5 | 49.9 |
| Total | 262.3 | 233.9 | -10.9 | 865.3 | 792.5 | -8.4 | 83.3 | 59.9 |
| EUROPE & THE FORMER USSR - | _ | | | | | | | |
| Germany | 31.6 | 35.9 | 13.5 | 129.5 | 138.8 | 7.1 | 14.9 | 14.8 |
| Italy | 18.9 | 15.9 | -16.0 | 50.7 | 41.8 | -17.5 | 4.8 | 3.4 |
| Netherlands | 15.0 | 14.4 | -4.1 | 54.2 | 53.1 | -2.0 | 6.9 | 6.0 |
| Sweden | 7.1 | 5.8 | -17.7 | 30.9 | 27.7 | -10.4 | 4.1 | 3.4 |
| Switzerland | 10.8 | 11.2 | 3.7 | 41.9 | 42.6 | 1.7 | 4.9 | 5.2 |
| United Kingdom | 103.8 | 115.3 | 11.1 | 489.6 | 522.8 | 6.8 | 63.6 | 59.0 |
| Total | 266.1 | 260.0 | -2.3 | 1 040.0 | 1 040.8 | 0.1 | 125.2 | 113.8 |
| MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA | ۸_ | | | | | | | |
| Total | 22.4 | 23.2 | 3.7 | 50.2 | 54.0 | 7.6 | 3.7 | 3.0 |
| SOUTHEAST ASIA — | | | | | | | | |
| Indonesia | 24.1 | 22.8 | -5.6 | 86.6 | 81.2 | -6.3 | 6.1 | 5.1 |
| Malaysia | 32.0 | 38.6 | 20.6 | 134.4 | 135.9 | 1.1 | 15.8 | 11.2 |
| Philippines | 9.5 | 7.1 | -25.5 | 36.0 | 28.5 | -20.8 | 2.9 | 2.2 |
| Singapore | 46.6 | 59.0 | 26.6 | 232.5 | 236.1 | 1.6 | 33.9 | 24.2 |
| Thailand | 14.7 | 17.3 | 17.9 | 67.1 | 71.2 | 6.2 | 5.0 | 4.2 |
| Total | 131.7 | 150.4 | 14.2 | 573.3 | 573.2 | 0.0 | 65.2 | 48.4 |
| NORTHEAST ASIA — | | | | | | | | |
| China | 30.4 | 45.4 | 49.3 | 109.2 | 157.2 | 44.0 | 11.7 | 13.8 |
| Japan | 178.5 | 189.4 | 6.1 | 648.8 | 625.4 | -3.6 | 68.9 | 41.7 |
| Korea | 39.1 | 42.3 | 8.4 | 142.5 | 155.3 | 9.0 | 14.6 | 15.3 |
| Taiwan | 35.8 | 29.5 | -17.7 | 126.8 | 107.4 | -15.3 | 9.1 | 6.1 |
| Total | 318.9 | 347.1 | 8.8 | 1 166.1 | 1 188.5 | 1.9 | 116.7 | 85.4 |
| THE AMERICAS — | | | | | | | | |
| Canada | 20.9 | 18.6 | -11.0 | 77.8 | 82.7 | 6.4 | 9.3 | 9.3 |
| United States of America | 129.5 | 104.6 | -19.2 | 435.9 | 403.6 | -7.4 | 40.3 | 32.3 |
| Total | 165.1 | 132.1 | -20.0 | 554.1 | 519.3 | -6.3 | 52.9 | 43.7 |
| AFRICA (excluding North Africa) — | - | | | | | | | |
| South Africa | 15.6 | 16.2 | 4.4 | 55.5 | 57.6 | 3.7 | 6.5 | 5.9 |
| Total | 22.1 | 20.5 | -7.4 | 73.5 | 73.0 | -0.7 | 8.1 | 7.1 |
| Total | 1 203.8 | 1 184.8 | -1.6 | 4 380.4 | 4 311.7 | -1.6 | 460.9 | 366.4 |

⁽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

SOURCE OF THE STATISTICS

- **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).
- **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 7) 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.
- 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*
 - **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.

Standard Classification of Countries for Social Statistics (Cat. no. 1269.0).

SCOPE

COUNTRY CLASSIFICATION

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.

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.

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 and Indigenous 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 and Indigenous 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

| SHORT-TERM DEPARTURE OR ARRIVAL OF AUSTRALIAN RESIDENTS Estimated Relative | | | OR DEPARTURE | 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

- $\bf 6$ 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 (1.4×190) , 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 • Aust | tralia YOU MUST ANSWER EVERY QUESTION – IF UNSURE, 🔀 Yes | |
|--|--|------|
| PLEASE COMPLETE IN ENGLISH | ► Are you bringing into Australia: | |
| | 1. Goods that may be prohibited or subject to restrictions, such as | |
| Family/surname | medicines, steroids, firearms, weapons of any kind or illicit drugs? | |
| 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 | |
| | 4. Goods/samples for business/commercial use? | |
| Flight number or name of ship | 5. AUD\$10,000 or more in Australian or foreign currency equivalent? | |
| Intended address in Australia | 6. Food of any type – includes dried, fresh, preserved, cooked, uncooked | |
| There are a decree in 7 habitalia | - 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 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 \square | No 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 \Box | No ☐ ► 10. Have you visited a farm outside Australia in the past 30 days? Yes ☐ No ☐ | |
| Do you have any criminal conviction/s? Yes | No ☐ ▶ 11. Have you been in Africa or South America in the last 6 days? Yes ☐ No ☐ | |
| DEGLADATION | | |
| DECLARATION The information I have given is true, correct and | POUR SIGNATURE DAY MONTH YEAR TURN OVER | |
| complete. I understand failure to answer any | THE CARD | |
| questions may have serious consequences. | English | |
| | | |
| ICOMING CARD – BACK | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| PLEASE COMPLETE IN ENGLISH PLEASE X | AND ANSWER A OR B OR C | |
| In which country did you | | \ |
| board this flight or ship? A Migrat | ting B Visitor or temporary entrant C Resident returning C | |
| to Aus | | |
| | | |
| | ▶ Your intended length of OR ▶ Country where you | |
| What is your usual occupation? | ► Your intended length of stay in Australia • Vour intended length of stay in Australia • Country where you spent most time abroad | |
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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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DIAL-A-STATISTIC For the latest figures for National Accounts, Balance of

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