

OVERSEAS ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES

AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) THURS 12 OCT 2000

Visitor arrivals Short-term '0000 — Seas adj. — Trend — 420 — 390 — 360 — 330

2000

| AUGUST | 2000 | PRELI | MINAR | Υ |
|------------------|-------------------|---|---------------------------------|---|
| | Aug 2000 '000s | % change between Jul 2000 and Aug 2000 | Jan 2000 to Aug 2000 '000 | % change on previous corresponding period |
| Short-term | | | | |
| Visitor arrivals | | | | |
| Trend | 409.0 | -0.1 | | |
| Original | 368.3 | | 3 085.3 | 8.9 |

KEY POINTS

- There were 3.1 million short-term visitor arrivals to Australia during the first eight months of 2000, 9% more than in January to August 1999.
- The trend estimate for short-term visitor arrivals marginally decreased in August 2000.
- New Zealand (17%) was the main source country of short-term visitor arrivals to
 Australia during January to August 2000, 13% more than in January to August 1999.
 Japan (16%) was the second main source country, declining by 1% over the
 corresponding period in 1999.
- New South Wales has been the most popular State of intended address of short-term visitors to Australia since 1979. (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

The Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs is currently automating the processing of passenger cards. Delays are expected in publishing the **final** Overseas Arrivals and Departures data in future issues of this publication:

| MONTH OF FINAL DATA | RELEASE OF FINAL DATA |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| July 2000 | November 2000 |
| August 2000 | December 2000 |
| September 2000 | December 2000/Janua |

September 2000 December 2000/January 2001
October 2000 December 2000/January 2001
November 2000 December 2000/January 2001
December 2000 January/February 2001

CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

This issue of 3401.0 contains preliminary data for short-term visitor arrivals in July and August 2000. 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

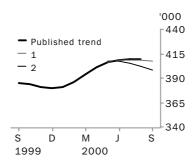
Each time new seasonally adjusted estimates become available, trend estimates of short-term arrivals and departures are revised (see paragraph 14 to 17 of the Explanatory Notes).

The examples in the graphs below show two illustrative scenarios and the consequent revisions to previous trend estimates of visitor arrivals and resident departures.

The seasonally adjusted estimate for:

- ${\bf 1}\,$ September visitor arrivals is 2.82% higher than August, and
- **2** September visitor arrivals is 2.82% lower than August.

VISITOR ARRIVALS



The percentage change of 2.82 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 368,300 short-term visitor arrivals to Australia during August 2000 bringing the total number of visitor arrivals for January to August 2000 to 3.1 million, 9% higher than the number of overseas visitors arriving in the corresponding period in 1999 (2.8 million).

The major source countries of short-term visitor arrivals to Australia during the eight months to August 2000 were New Zealand (17%), Japan (16%), the United Kingdom (11%), the United States of America (10%) and Singapore (5%). Compared to the eight months to August 1999, there were increases in the number of visitor arrivals from New Zealand, the United Kingdom, and Korea. Japan and Taiwan were the only source countries in the top ten to record a decline in visitor arrivals. All other Asian countries in the top ten source countries recorded an increase in arrivals.

During January to August 2000:

523,700 short-term visitor arrivals came from New Zealand, an increase of 13% over the corresponding period in 1999;

478,400 came from Japan, a decrease of 1%;

336,300 came from the United Kingdom, an increase of 9%;

302,500 came from the United States of America, an increase of 10%;

164,200 came from Singapore, an increase of 5%;

103,900 came from Korea, an increase of 61%; and

101,900 came from Taiwan, a decrease of 7%.

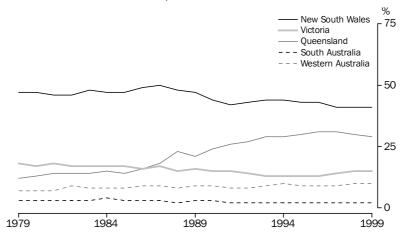
SHORT-TERM VISITOR ARRIVALS TO NEW SOUTH WALES

New South Wales has been the most popular State of intended stay of short-term visitors to Australia since 1979, although its share of the total short-term visitors to Australia has declined over the past 20 years. In 1999, 1.8 million short-term overseas visitors intended to stay in New South Wales, an average annual increase of 8% over the period 1979–99.

Only in 1989, 1990 and 1998 did the number of short-term visitors to New South Wales drop compared to the previous year. The drops in 1989 and 1998 were experienced not only in New South Wales but also in most States and the whole of Australia. The drop in 1989 was expected after a surge in short-term visitors in 1988 who attended the Bicentennial celebrations of Australia. The drop in short-term visitor arrivals in 1998 was related to the Asian Currency Crisis.

The proportion of short-term visitors who intended to stay in New South Wales has declined from 47% in 1979 to 41% in 1999. This has resulted primarily from the increased popularity of Queensland as a State of intended stay. The proportion of short-term visitor arrivals who intended to stay in Queensland has increased from 12% in 1979 to 29% in 1999.

SHORT-TERM VISITOR ARRIVALS, SELECTED STATES OF INTENDED ADDRESS



SEX AND AGE

In 1999, there were 967,000 (53%) male and 863,000 (47%) female short-term visitors who intended to stay in New South Wales. Since 1979, the number of short-term visitor arrivals to New South Wales has been male dominated except in 1995. The number of female short-term visitor arrivals to New South Wales has been increasing, with the sex ratio decreasing from 122 males per 100 females in 1979 to 112 males per 100 females in 1999.

In 1999, one-third (605,000) of short-term visitor arrivals who intended to stay in New South Wales were young adults aged 20–34 years, over a quarter (492,000) were people aged 35–49 years and a fifth (379,000) were aged 50–64 years. People aged under 20 years and over 64 years accounted for 205,000 (11%) and 149,000 (8%), respectively. The median age of short-term visitors who intended to stay in New South Wales in 1999 was 40 years (that is where half were younger than 40 years and half were older), two years lower than the median age of all short-term visitors to Australia (42 years in 1999), a higher median age than Victoria (39 years in 1999) and a lower median age than Queensland (45 years in 1999).

SHORT-TERM VISITOR ARRIVALS TO NEW SOUTH WALES

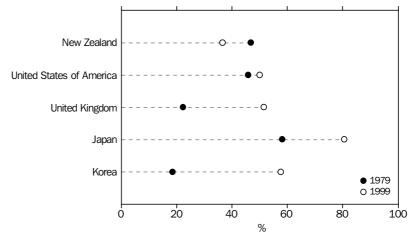
MAIN REASON FOR JOURNEY

Over half of all short-term visitor arrivals who intended to stay in New South Wales in 1999 came mainly for a holiday (962,000 or 53%), a further 19% came to visit friends and relatives (354,000), and 12% came for business (224,000). In the same year, education and attendance at conventions or conferences accounted for 3% each (56,000 and 52,000 respectively) and employment 1% (22,000). The majority of holiday-makers and those who visited friends and relatives in 1999 were females (52% and 56% respectively) while those who visited for business and to attend a convention or conference were males (81% and 71% respectively).

COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE

In 1999, the five main source countries of short-term visitor arrivals who intended to stay in New South Wales were New Zealand (290,000 or 16%), the United States of America (238,000 or 13%), the United Kingdom (230,000 or 13%), Japan (201,000 or 11%), and Korea (72,000 or 4%). Holiday was cited as the main reason for coming to Australia by visitors from the top five source countries but the proportion of holiday-makers differed greatly from one country to another (Japan, 81%; Korea, 58%; the United Kingdom, 52%; the United States of America, 50%; New Zealand, 37%).

PROPORTION OF HOLIDAY-MAKERS IN SELECTED SOURCE COUNTRIES



INTENDED LENGTH OF STAY

The majority (1.1 million or 61%) of short-term visitors to New South Wales in 1999 intended to stay in Australia for less than two weeks. The median duration of intended stay in 1999 was 10 days for those who came for a holiday, 18 days for those visiting friends and relatives, 7 days for those who came for business reasons, 31 days for students, 8 days for those who attended conventions or conferences, and 11 days for employment. Over the past 20 years, the median duration of intended stay has fluctuated (between 11 to 15 days in the period 1979–89 and between 9 to 11 days in the period 1989–99), showing an overall decline.

TABLE 1. TOTAL MOVEMENT—ARRIVALS: CATEGORY OF MOVEMENT

| | | I. IOIAL MO | | | | Short-term a | | | |
|--------------------------|----------|-------------|----------|------------------|------------|--------------|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| | | Long-term a | ırrivals | Total | | ('000 | 9) | | |
| | | | | permanent and | | Overseas | Overseas visitors | Overseas visitors | Total arrivals |
| | arrivals | Australian | Overseas | long-term | Australian | visitors | (Seasonally | (Trend | (a) |
| Period | Settlers | residents | visitors | arrivals | residents | (original) | adjusted b) | estimate c) | ('000') |
| Year ended 31 December — | | | | | | | | | |
| 1997 | 78,230 | 81,800 | 100,190 | 260,220 | 2,897.2 | 4,317.9 | | | 7,475.3 |
| 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 |
| 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 | 91,400 | 79,650 | 133,200 | 304,250 | 3,299.9 | 4,651.8 | | | 8,255.9 |
| 1999 — | | | | | | | | | |
| June | 6,730 | 5,300 | 6,820 | 18,850 | 230.8 | 317.1 | 368.3 | 371.1 | 566.7 |
| July | 7,420 | 6,480 | 18,100 | 31,990 | 314.3 | 388.5 | 374.5 | 377.3 | 734.8 |
| August | 7,680 | 5,690 | 7,790 | 21,160 | 268.5 | 355.6 | 384.9 | 382.8 | 645.3 |
| September | 7,450 | 6,250 | 7,930 | 21,630 | 299.3 | 353.1 | 392.9 | 385.3 | 674.0 |
| October | 7,310 | 6,490 | 9,260 | 23,060 | 356.0 | 397.0 | 387.8 | 384.1 | 776.0 |
| November | 7,170 | 8,340 | 7,450 | 22,950 | 246.7 | 416.7 | 389.0 | 381.1 | 686.3 |
| December | 7,850 | 12,500 | 6,830 | 27,180 | 208.3 | 460.8 | 366.6 | 379.6 | 696.3 |
| 2000 — | | | | | | | | | |
| January | 9,990 | 6,610 | 18,550 | 35,150 | 357.5 | 360.8 | 371.4 | 380.9 | 753.4 |
| February | 7,240 | 5,820 | 24,810 | 37,880 | 236.5 | 434.6 | 382.2 | 386.1 | 708.9 |
| March | 7,170 | 5,310 | 8,350 | 20,830 | 230.8 | 411.9 | 396.8 | 393.8 | 663.5 |
| April | 7,800 | 6,080 | 8,440 | 22,320 | 279.6 | 405.6 | 418.4 | 401.3 | 707.5 |
| May | 7,010 | 4,560 | 7,550 | 19,120 | 256.1 | 319.3 | 400.8 | 406.4 | 594.5 |
| June | 7,310 | 5,520 | 8,150 | 20,980 | 246.4 | 347.9 | 406.0 | 408.8 | 615.3 |
| July p | n.y.a | n.y.a | n.y.a | n.y.a | n.y.a | 436.8 | 417.0 | 409.6 | n.y.a |
| August p | n.y.a | n.y.a | n.y.a | n.y.a | n.y.a | 368.3 | 398.6 | 409.0 | 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 er | ıded | (1000) | Eight mon | ths | | Month of | f |
|---------------------------------|------------|----------|----------|-----------|---------|----------|----------|-------|
| _ | 30 June | e | | to Augus | t | | August | |
| Country of residence(b) | 1999 | 2000 | % change | 1999 | 2000p | % change | 1999 | 2000p |
| OCEANIA & ANTARCTICA — | | | | | | | | _ |
| New Zealand | 179.6 | 212.4 | 18.3 | 463.0 | 523.7 | 13.1 | 73.0 | 73.7 |
| Total | 211.8 | 242.9 | 14.7 | 550.1 | 608.4 | 10.6 | 81.5 | 83.0 |
| EUROPE & THE FORMER USSR | R — | | | | | | | |
| Germany | 23.5 | 24.6 | 5.0 | 82.6 | 84.9 | 2.6 | 9.0 | 8.4 |
| Italy | 7.7 | 8.3 | 7.2 | 30.3 | 34.0 | 12.2 | 7.3 | 7.2 |
| Netherlands | 7.4 | 8.3 | 11.3 | 29.2 | 33.5 | 14.5 | 3.4 | 3.9 |
| Sweden | 3.7 | 4.5 | 21.7 | 15.4 | 19.4 | 26.0 | 1.1 | 1.5 |
| Switzerland | 5.9 | 7.6 | 27.8 | 24.0 | 27.2 | 13.0 | 2.2 | 2.4 |
| United Kingdom | 81.2 | 105.4 | 29.9 | 310.1 | 336.3 | 8.4 | 33.4 | 31.5 |
| Total | 164.4 | 203.3 | 23.6 | 619.6 | 686.4 | 10.6 | 72.4 | 73.7 |
| MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRIC | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 8.2 | 8.4 | 1.8 | 37.0 | 37.3 | 2.0 | 7.0 | 7.3 |
| SOUTHEAST ASIA — | | | | | | | | |
| Indonesia | 22.4 | 20.2 | -9.9 | 68.0 | 61.1 | -9.9 | 6.0 | 5.3 |
| Malaysia | 35.4 | 36.6 | 3.4 | 88.5 | 97.9 | 10.7 | 10.0 | 11.3 |
| Philippines | 11.8 | 11.8 | -0.4 | 27.0 | 26.7 | -1.1 | 3.1 | 3.1 |
| Singapore | 70.4 | 74.4 | 5.8 | 157.0 | 164.2 | 4.6 | 16.9 | 14.9 |
| Thailand | 20.2 | 23.0 | 13.7 | 40.9 | 48.2 | 17.8 | 3.9 | 4.2 |
| Total | 164.5 | 169.7 | 3.2 | 393.2 | 412.8 | 5.0 | 41.1 | 40.4 |
| NORTHEAST ASIA — | | | | | | | | |
| China | 19.4 | 24.4 | 26.0 | 58.0 | 77.9 | 34.2 | 7.2 | 9.8 |
| Japan | 154.9 | 154.7 | -0.1 | 482.1 | 478.4 | -0.8 | 69.8 | 68.3 |
| Korea | 20.4 | 32.9 | 61.2 | 64.7 | 103.9 | 60.7 | 8.3 | 11.3 |
| Taiwan | 39.4 | 36.5 | -7.2 | 109.7 | 101.9 | -7.1 | 12.3 | 11.7 |
| Total | 262.2 | 284.6 | 8.6 | 811.3 | 870.3 | 7.2 | 108.8 | 112.1 |
| THE AMERICAS — | | | | | | | | |
| Canada | 12.3 | 14.2 | 15.5 | 48.0 | 52.1 | 8.4 | 4.6 | 5.9 |
| United States of America | 92.5 | 107.3 | 16.0 | 274.2 | 302.5 | 10.2 | 30.1 | 32.1 |
| Total | 111.0 | 128.8 | 16.0 | 342.5 | 378.9 | 10.4 | 36.4 | 40.9 |
| AFRICA (excluding North Africa) | _ | | | | | | | |
| South Africa | 11.9 | 14.0 | 17.1 | 37.0 | 37.8 | 3.4 | 4.0 | 4.8 |
| Total | 14.1 | 17.6 | 25.2 | 44.7 | 49.0 | 9.4 | 4.6 | 6.7 |
| Total | 949.3 | 1,072.90 | 13.0 | 2 831.9 | 3 085.3 | 8.9 | 355.6 | 368.3 |

⁽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.

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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 9) 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 and short-term Australian resident departures are shown in Tables 1 and 2 respectively. In the seasonally adjusted series, account has been taken of normal seasonal factors and trading day effects (arising from the varying numbers of Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays etc. in the month) and the effect of movement in the date of Easter which may, in successive years, affect figures for different months.
- **15** Seasonal adjustment 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 and short-term Australian resident departures are shown in Tables 1 and 2 respectively. 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 stav):
- 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 OF AUSTRALIAN RESIDENTS | | | OR DEPARTURE | TOTAL ARRIVALS OR DEPARTURES | | |
|-----------|---|----------|----------|--------------|------------------------------------|----------|--|
| Estimated | OI AUSTI | Relative | OI OVLIN | Relative | DLIANIO | 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.

A P P E N D I X 1 — P A S S E N G E R C A R D S (a)

| Incoming passenger card • Austral | ia 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 |
| ▶ Given names | 2. More than 1125ml of alcohol or 250gm of tobacco products? | Yes 🔲 No 🔲 |
| ▶ Passport number | 3. Goods obtained overseas or purchased duty or tax free in Australia with a combined total price of more than AUD\$400, including gifts? | Yes No No |
| | 4. Goods/samples for business/commercial use? | Yes No 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 [140 [|
| Internacia address in Australia | - anything you can eat or cook? | Yes No No |
| | 7. Wooden articles, parts of plants, traditional medicines or herbs, seeds, | |
| State , , | bulbs, straw, nuts? | Yes No 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 No | equipment, eggs, biologicals, specimens, birds, fish, insects, coral, shells, bees, bee products, pet food? | Yes 🗌 No 🗌 |
| ▶ If you are NOT an Australian citizen: | Soil, or articles with soil attached, i.e. sporting equipment, shoes, etc? | Yes No |
| Do you suffer from tuberculosis? Yes 🗌 No | 10. Have you visited a farm outside Australia in the past 30 days? | Yes No 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 No |
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| | DUR SIGNATURE | TURN OVER |
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| questions may have serious consequences. | | English |
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| Nationality as shown on passport | ➤ Your main reason for coming to Australia (X one only) | |
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(a) Revised card used from November 1999, see paragraphs 3 and 4 of the Explanatory Notes for information on passenger card changes.

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