

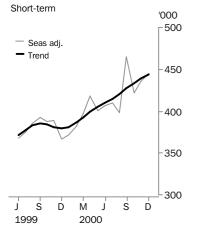


# **OVERSEAS ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES**

AUSTRALIA

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

#### **Visitor arrivals**



## DECEMBER 2000 PRELIMINARY

Short-term	Dec 2000 '000s	% change between Nov 2000 and Dec 2000	Jan 2000 to Dec 2000 '000	% change on o previous corresponding period
Visitor arrivals				
Trend	443.3	0.9		
Original	565.7		4 946.2	10.9

#### KEY POINTS

- There were 565,700 short-term visitor arrivals to Australia during December 2000, 23% more than in December 1999 and the highest number of visitors to arrive ever in any one month.
- The total number of short-term arrivals for 2000, the Sydney Olympics year, increased by 11% (to 4.9 million) compared to 1999 (4.5 million).
- The trend estimate for short-term visitor arrivals increased in December 2000.
- New Zealand (17%) was the main source country of short-term visitor arrivals to Australia during 2000, 13% more than in 1999.
- The number of short-term visitor arrivals from Japan during 2000 increased by 2% compared to 1999. Japan (15%) remained the second main source country of these arrivals to Australia in 2000.
- In 2000, the fastest increases in short-term visitor arrivals from all countries occurred in those from Korea (48%), China (34%) and Sweden (26%) compared to the previous year. Korea is Australia's sixth main source country while China is tenth and Sweden is not among the top ten countries of visitor arrivals.
- The proportion of all short-term visitors whose State of intended address was Victoria has declined from 18% in 1979–80 to 15% in 1999–00, while the actual number of visitors has increased. (For more information see the special article on page 4).

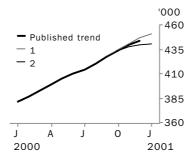
 For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information Service on 1300 135 070, or Amanda Dobson on Canberra 02 6252 5640.

#### N O T E S

FORTHCOMING ISSUES	The Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs is currently automating the				
	processing of passenger cards. Delays are expected in publishing <b>final</b> Overseas Arrivals				
	and Departures data in future issues of this publication:				
	MONTH OF FINAL DATA	RELEASE OF FINAL DATA			
	August 2000	March 2001			
	September 2000	March 2001			
	October 2000	March/April 2001			
	•••••	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •			
CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE	August, September, October, November short-term visitor arrivals, short-term rea	y estimates of short-term visitor arrivals in and December 2000. There is no final data on sident departures and permanent and long-term es 1 and 6 of the standard publication are			
	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •			
TREND REVISIONS	Each time new seasonally adjusted estin short-term arrivals and departures are re Explanatory Notes).	nates become available, trend estimates of evised (see paragraph 14 to 17 of the			
	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:				
	<b>1</b> January visitor arrivals is 2.90% highe	r than December and			

**2** January visitor arrivals is 2.90% lower than December

#### 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

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#### SHORT-TERM MOVEMENTS

VISITOR ARRIVALS

There were an estimated 565,700 short-term visitor arrivals to Australia during December 2000 bringing the total number of visitor arrivals for 2000 to 4.9 million, 11% higher than the number of overseas visitor arrivals in 1999 (4.5 million) and the highest number of visitors to arrive in any one month.

The major source countries of short-term visitor arrivals to Australia during 2000 were New Zealand (17%), Japan (15%), the United Kingdom (12%), the United States of America (10%) and Singapore (6%). Compared to 1999, there were increases in the number of visitor arrivals from New Zealand, Japan, the United Kingdom, and Korea. Taiwan was the only source country in the top ten to record a decline in visitor arrivals. The number of short-term visitor arrivals from Japan during 2000 was 2% higher than in 1999. While the proportion of short-term visitors from Japan declined (from 16% to 15%) over the same period, Japan (15%) remained the second main source country of short-term visitor arrivals to Australia. All other Asian countries in the top ten source countries recorded an increase in arrivals.

In 2000, the fastest increases in short-term visitor arrivals from all countries occurred in those from Korea (48%), China (34%) and Sweden (26%) compared to the previous year. Korea is Australia's sixth main source country while China is tenth and Sweden is not among the top ten countries of visitor arrivals.

During 2000:

821,100 short-term visitors came from New Zealand, an increase of 13% compared to 1999;

720,300 came from Japan, an increase of 2%;

578,000 came from the United Kingdom, an increase of 9%;

482,200 came from the United States of America, an increase of 16%;

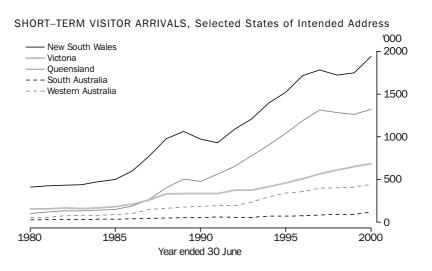
276,100 came from Singapore, an increase of 3%;

160,200 came from Korea, an increase of 48%; and

135,000 came from Taiwan, a decrease of 8%.

#### SHORT - TERM VISITOR ARRIVALS TO VICTORIA

Victoria, after New South Wales and Queensland, has been the third most popular State of intended address in Australia for short-term visitor arrivals since 1986–87. Before then, Victoria was the second most popular State. The proportion of short-term visitors to Victoria has declined from 18% in 1979–80 to 15% in 1999–00, while the actual number of visitors has increased. In 1999–00, 686,000 short-term overseas visitors' intended address was Victoria, an average annual increase of 8% since 1979–80. Over the past few years, the number of short-term visitors to Victoria has not been affected by the Asian Currency Crisis. Between 1996–97 and 1997–98, Victoria experienced a 7% increase in visitors while New South Wales and Queensland experienced a loss due to the Asian Currency Crisis. This is because Victoria usually receives less short-term visitors from the Asian regions compared to New South Wales and Queensland.



MAIN REASON FOR JOURNEY In 1999–00, two-fifths (

In 1999–00, two-fifths (41%) of all short-term visitor arrivals whose State of intended address was Victoria came mainly for a holiday, 27% came to visit friends and relatives, and 15% came for business. In the same year, education accounted for 6%, attendance at conventions or conferences for 3%, and employment for 1%.

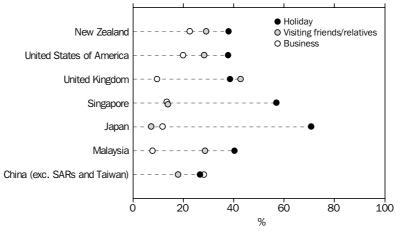
The majority of holiday-makers and those who visited friends and relatives in 1999–00 were females (52% and 55% respectively) while those who visited for business and to attend conventions or conferences were predominantly males (83% and 71% respectively).

Holiday-makers, as a proportion of all visitors with an intended address in Victoria in 1999–00 (41%), was lower compared to the equivalent figures for most other States and Territories (Queensland, 71%; Northern Territory, 64%; New South Wales and Western Australia, 52% each; Tasmania, 47%; South Australia, 39%).

#### SHORT - TERM VISITOR ARRIVALS TO VICTORIA

AGE AND SEX Short-term visitors whose intended State of address was Victoria tended to be slightly older than visitors to the other States and Territories. In 1999-00, the median age of short-term visitors to Victoria was 39 years (that is where half of the visitors were younger than 39 years and half were older), compared to 37 years for all short-term visitors to Australia as a whole, 37 years for New South Wales, and 36 years for Oueensland. In 1999–00, over half (54%) of all short-term visitor arrivals to Victoria were males. Since 1979-80, short-term visitors to Victoria have been predominantly males. COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE In 1999–00, the five main source countries of short-term visitor arrivals whose intended address was Victoria were New Zealand (20%), the United States and the United Kingdom (11% each), Singapore (8%) and Japan (7%). Except for the United Kingdom, holiday was the main reason for the majority of visitors to Victoria. The bulk of the short-term visitors from the United Kingdom to Victoria visited friends and relatives (43% in 1999-00) compared to 39% who came for a holiday. The proportions of holiday-makers from Japan and Singapore (71% and 57% respectively) were much higher than for those from New Zealand and the United States of America (38% each in 1999-00).

SHORT-TERM VISITOR ARRIVALS, Main Reason by Country of Residence, 1999-00



INTENDED LENGTH OF STAY

Short-term visitors to Victoria, intended to stay longer than visitors to New South Wales, Queensland and the Australian Capital Territory. In 1999–00, the median length of intended stay was 11.0 days for Victoria, 10.5 days for New South Wales, 8.8 days for Queensland and 10.8 days for the Australian Capital Territory. Short-term visitors to all other States and Territories had longer median length of intended stay than to Victoria (between 13.0 days to 16.6 days in 1999–00).

The median length of intended stay for short-term visitors to Victoria varied according to the reason for visit to Australia. The median length of intended stay was 11 days for holiday-makers, 20 days for those visiting friends and relatives, 7 days for those who came for business and to attend conventions or conferences, and 31 days for those who came for education. Over the past 20 years, the median length of intended stay for short-term visitors to Victoria has declined by 4 days for holiday-makers and 11 days for those visiting friends and relatives while it has varied for those who came for employment and education (between 11 and 75 days for employment; between 18 and 91 days for education).

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						Short-term a	rrivals (a)		
		Long-term a	urrivals	Total		('00	0)		
	Permanent arrivals	Australian	Overseas	permanent and long-term	Australian	Overseas visitors	Overseas visitors (Seasonally	Overseas visitors (Trend	Total arrivals (a)
Period	Settlers	residents	visitors	arrivals	residents	(original)	(Seasonally adjusted b)	estimate c)	('000)
Year ended 31 December -		residents	visitors	<i>currents</i>	restaents	(Original)	uujusieu b)	estimate c)	( 000)
1998	81,070	75,320	112,000	268,380	3,143.9	4,167.2			7,579.5
1999	87,140	76,130	125,730	289,000	3,226.1	4,459.5	••		7,974.6
2000 p	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	4,946.2			n.y.a.
Year ended 30 June —									
1998	77,330	84,360	103,760	265,440	3,020.1	4,220.0			7,505.5
1999	84,140	67,910	119,890	271,950	3,191.6	4,288.0			7,751.6
2000	92,270	79,650	133,200	305,120	3,299.9	4,651.8			8,255.9
1999 —									
October	7,500	6,490	9,260	23,250	356.0	397.0	387.8	384.1	776.0
November	7,260	8,340	7,450	23,040	246.7	416.7	389.0	381.1	686.3
December	7,980	12,500	6,830	27,300	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	381.1	753.4
February	7,240	5,820	24,810	37,880	236.5	434.6	382.2	386.3	708.9
March	7,170	5,310	8,350	20,830	230.8	411.9	396.8	392.7	663.5
April	7,800	6,080	8,440	22,320	279.6	405.6	418.4	399.2	707.5
May	7,010	4,560	7,550	19,120	256.1	319.3	400.8	405.0	594.5
June	7,310	5,520	8,150	20,980	246.4	347.9	406.0	409.8	615.3
July	8,240	6,690	19,790	34,720	330.4	429.0	409.5	414.5	794.2
August p	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	368.3	398.6	420.3	n.y.a
September p	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	406.5	465.3	427.1	n.y.a
October p	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	435.6	421.7	433.7	n.y.a
November p	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	460.9	435.3	439.3	n.y.a
December p	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	565.7	444.8	443.3	n.y.a

#### TABLE 1. TOTAL MOVEMENT—ARRIVALS: CATEGORY OF MOVEMENT

(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.

			('000)					
	Quarter end			Year ende			Month of	
	31 Decemb	er		31 Deceml	ber		December	r
Country of residence(b)	1999	2000p	% change	1999	2000p	% change	1999	2000p
OCEANIA & ANTARCTICA —								
New Zealand	190.5	224.6	17.9	728.8	821.1	12.7	58.2	75.8
Total	230.3	264.4	14.8	866.6	957.3	10.5	73.5	92.0
EUROPE & THE FORMER USSR	<b>κ</b>							
Germany	51.0	46.4	-9.0	144.5	144.7	0.1	18.6	15.1
Italy	17.0	18.3	7.6	51.4	58.2	13.2	8.5	7.5
Netherlands	18.1	22.0	21.5	52.3	61.2	17.0	5.3	7.0
Sweden	12.3	14.3	15.9	29.5	37.2	26.4	5.6	6.3
Switzerland	17.1	16.4	-4.1	45.1	48.4	7.4	6.5	6.5
United Kingdom	179.1	206.9	15.5	528.4	578.0	9.4	57.2	88.4
Total	370.2	410.8	11.0	1,072.3	1,201.9	12.1	130.8	161.9
MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRIC	CA —							
Total	12.3	14.9	21.7	51.9	56.7	9.2	6.1	6.5
SOUTHEAST ASIA —								
Indonesia	17.9	33.9	88.7	91.0	101.6	11.6	8.8	18.2
Malaysia	37.7	45.8	21.6	139.8	153.5	9.8	14.7	19.1
Philippines	10.3	9.2	-11.0	40.3	39.1	-2.9	3.7	3.1
Singapore	88.4	96.4	9.1	267.0	276.1	3.4	35.4	43.6
Thailand	17.5	21.6	23.3	61.8	74.2	19.9	5.9	7.1
Total	176.8	211.9	19.9	618.0	666.5	7.8	70.5	93.2
NORTHEAST ASIA —								
China	27.6	39.3	42.2	92.6	124.3	34.2	9.1	15.1
Japan	170.7	195.0	14.3	707.5	720.3	1.8	58.4	71.5
Korea	37.2	43.5	17.0	108.6	160.2	47.5	14.7	17.7
Taiwan	27.8	26.0	-6.2	147.5	135.0	-8.4	10.1	8.2
Total	298.1	345.0	15.7	1,198.8	1,295.5	8.1	105.7	129.4
THE AMERICAS —								
Canada	25.4	28.9	14.2	78.4	89.2	13.7	9.7	11.4
United States of America	115.7	126.5	9.4	417.0	482.2	15.6	45.1	46.3
Total	150.4	168.3	11.9	527.6	616.9	16.9	59.0	62.8
AFRICA (excluding North Africa)	_							
South Africa	16.8	22.1	31.4	57.9	65.5	13.0	7.2	9.9
Total	21.2	28.0	31.9	71.3	85.7	20.3	9.2	12.2
Total	1,274.4	1,462.2	14.7	4,459.5	4,946.2	10.9	460.8	565.7

#### TABLE 6. SHORT-TERM MOVEMENT(a) — ARRIVALS OF OVERSEAS VISITORS COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE(b) ('000)

(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	<b>1</b> 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	<b>2</b> 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.
	<b>3</b> 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.
	<b>4</b> The preliminary estimates of visitor arrivals by country of residence (see Table 6, page 7) are based on data from DIMA's Travel and Immigration Processing System (TRIPS). The TRIPS system produces a limited range of data, including country of citizenship, which is used by ABS to produce preliminary estimates by country of usual residence. These preliminary estimates will be revised in the next issue of this publication, when final data is available. For more information see pages 3 and 4 of the June 1997 and the September 1998 issues of this publication.
SCOPE	<b>5</b> 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	<ul> <li>6 The classification of countries in this publication is the <i>Australian Standard Classification of Countries for Social Statistics</i> (ASCCSS). For more detailed information refer to the ABS publication <i>Australian Standard Classification of Countries for Social Statistics</i> (Cat. no. 1269.0).</li> <li>7 The statistics on country of birth, citizenship, residence or main destination have certain limitations because of reporting on passenger</li> </ul>
	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.

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STATE AND TERRITORY CLASSIFICATION	<b>8</b> Following the 1992 amendment to the <i>Acts Interpretation Act</i> 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	<b>9</b> 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.
	<b>10</b> 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.
	<b>11</b> 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	<b>12</b> 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.
	<b>13</b> 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).

### **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	<b>21</b> As well as th	e statistics included in this and related publications, other				
	relevant unpubli	shed data are available for the following variables:				
	Citizenship (Nati	ionality)				
	Country of birth					
	Age (Date of birth)					
	Sex					
	Marital status (not available for Australia or New Zealand citizens)					
	Category of travel					
	Permanent migrant					
	Previous/futur	re country of residence				
	State of inten	ded 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)					
	Country of emba	urkation/disembarkation				
	Airport/Port of a	rrival/departure				
	Arrival/departure date					
	Intention to live in Australia for next 12 months (not available for					
	short-term movements)					
	<b>22</b> This publication draws extensively on information provided by the					
	Department of In	mmigration and Multicultural Affairs. This continued				
	cooperation is ve	ery much appreciated: without it, the statistics published				
	would not be ava	ailable. Information received by the ABS is treated in strict				
	confidence as re	quired by the Census and Statistics Act 1905.				
SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES	_	nil or rounded to zero				
		not applicable				
	р	preliminary				
	n.a.	not available				
	n.f.d.	not further defined				
	n.y.a.	not yet available				
	r	revised				

#### GLOSSARY

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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 <i>categories of movement</i> :
	<ul><li>permanent movements</li><li>long-term movements</li><li>short-term movements.</li></ul>
	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:
	<ul> <li>overseas visitors who intend to stay in Australia for 12 months or more (but not permanently); and</li> <li>Australian residents returning after an absence of 12 months or more overseas.</li> </ul>
Long-term departures	Long-term departures comprise:
	<ul> <li>Australian residents who intend to stay abroad for 12 months or more (but not permanently); and</li> <li>overseas visitors departing who stayed 12 months or more in Australia.</li> </ul>
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

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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 <i>main reason for journey</i> have been published using the following categories: <ul> <li>convention/conference</li> <li>business</li> <li>visiting friends/relatives</li> <li>holiday</li> <li>employment</li> </ul>
	<ul><li>education</li><li>other</li></ul>
	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	<ul> <li>Permanent arrivals (settlers) comprise:</li> <li>travellers who hold migrant visas (regardless of stated intended period of stay);</li> <li>New Zealand citizens who indicate an intention to settle; and</li> <li>those who are otherwise eligible to settle (e.g. overseas born children of Australian citizens).</li> </ul>
	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	<ul> <li>Short-term arrivals comprise:</li> <li>overseas visitors whose intended stay in Australia is less than 12 months; and</li> <li>Australian residents returning after an absence of less than 12 months overseas.</li> </ul>
Short-term departures	<ul> <li>Short-term departures comprise:</li> <li>Australian residents who intend to stay abroad for less than 12 months; and</li> <li>overseas visitors departing who stayed less than 12 months in Australia.</li> </ul>

#### 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

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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 ( $1.4 \times 190$ ), and there are nineteen chances in twenty that the estimate of the difference between the two years will lie between 218 and 1,282.

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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.

From July 2000, a new question on currency was added to the outgoing passenger card.

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