

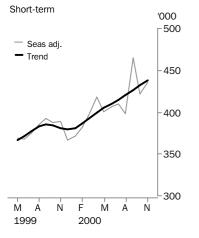


# **OVERSEAS ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES**

AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) THURS 21 DEC 2000

#### Visitor arrivals



## NOVEMBER 2000 PRELIMINARY

	Nov 2000 '000s	% change between Oct 2000 and Nov 2000	Jan 2000 to Nov 2000 '000	% change on o previous corresponding period
Short-term				
Visitor arrivals				
Trend	438.0	1.3		
Original	460.9		4 380.4	9.5

### KEY POINTS

- There were 460,900 short-term visitor arrivals to Australia during November 2000, 11% more than in November 1999.
- The total number of short-term arrivals for the eleven months to November 2000 increased by 10% (to 4.4 million) compared to the eleven months to November 1999 (4.0 million).
- The trend estimate for short-term visitor arrivals increased in November 2000.
- New Zealand (17%) was the main source country of short-term visitor arrivals to Australia during January to November 2000, 11% more than in January to November 1999.
- The number of short-term visitor arrivals from Japan during the eleven months to November 2000 was virtually the same as in the corresponding period the previous year. While the proportion of short-term visitors from Japan has declined, from 16% to 15% of total short-term visitors, Japan remains the second main source country of these arrivals to Australia.
- Visitor arrivals to Australia for the main reason of education make an important contribution to all short-term and long-term arrivals. Increasingly, Australian residents are also travelling overseas for education reasons. (For more information see the special article on page 4).

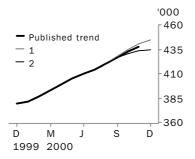
 For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information Service on 1300 135 070, or Amanda Dobson on Canberra 02 6252 5640.

### N O T E S

FORTHCOMING ISSUES	The Department of Immigration and M	ulticultural Affairs is currently automating the
	processing of passenger cards. Delays a	re 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 and Nover visitor arrivals, short-term resident dep	ry estimates for short-term visitor arrivals in nber 2000. There is no final data on short-term artures and permanent and long-term les 1 and 6 of the standard publication are
	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	
TREND REVISIONS	Each time new seasonally adjusted estin short-term arrivals and departures are r Explanatory Notes).	nates become available, trend estimates of evised (see paragraph 14 to 17 of the
		v two illustrative scenarios and the consequent visitor arrivals and resident departures.
	The seasonally adjusted estimate for:	
	<b>1</b> December visitor arrivals is 2.90% high	gher 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

#### SHORT-TERM MOVEMENTS

VISITOR ARRIVALS

There were an estimated 460,900 short-term visitor arrivals to Australia during November 2000 bringing the total number of visitor arrivals for January to November 2000 to 4.4 million, 10% higher than the number of overseas visitors arriving in the corresponding period in 1999 (4.0 million).

The major source countries of short-term visitor arrivals to Australia during the eleven months to November 2000 were New Zealand (17%), Japan (15%), the United Kingdom (11%), the United States of America (10%) and Singapore (5%). Compared to the eleven months to November 1999, there were increases in the number of visitor arrivals from New Zealand, 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 the eleven months to November 2000 was virtually the same as in the corresponding period the previous year. However, the proportion of short-term visitors from Japan declined (from 16% to 15%) over the same period. Japan still remains 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.

During January to November 2000:

745,300 short-term visitor arrivals came from New Zealand, an increase of 11% over the corresponding period in 1999;

648,800 came from Japan, a marginal decline;

489,600 came from the United Kingdom, an increase of 4%;

435,900 came from the United States of America, an increase of 17%;

232,500 came from Singapore, a marginal increase;

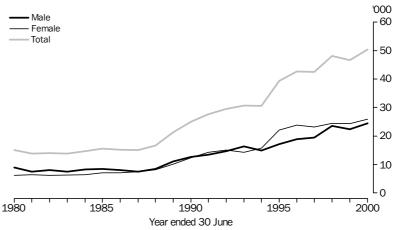
142,500 came from Korea, an increase of 52%; and

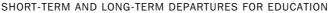
126,800 came from Taiwan, a decrease of 8%.

### WHERE DO AUSTRALIAN DEPARTURES FOR EDUCATION GO?

Visitor arrivals to Australia for the main reason of education make an important contribution to all short-term and long-term arrivals (See 'Education Arrivals' in the September 2000 issue of this publication'). Increasingly, Australian residents are also travelling overseas for education. Australian's departing for education can be either travelling to gain education or to provide education at their destination. However, these two education categories cannot be separated in migration statistics. Departures for the main reason of education accounted for 1% of all short-term and 6% of all long-term resident departures in 1999–00. In the same year, 90% of departures for education were short-term (for less than 12 months) with the remaining 10% long-term (for 12 months or more).

In 1999–00 there were 50,400 short-term and long-term Australian resident departures for education. In the 20 years from 1979–80 departures for education have increased by 35,400 (235%). Most of this increase (25,400) has occurred in the last 10 years, with departures for the main reason of education increasing by 101% since 1989–90. Over the same 10 year period total short-term and long-term resident departures have increased by 60% and 36%, respectively.





#### MAIN DESTINATION COUNTRIES

The top ten destinations countries for education travel in 1999–00 were the United States of America (14%), Japan (11%), New Zealand (9%), the United Kingdom (8%), China and Singapore (each 4%) Hong Kong (SAR of China), New Caledonia, Germany and France (each 3%).

Ten years ago Indonesia (4%), Italy, Malaysia and Fiji (each 3%) ranked among the top ten destination countries for education travel, while in 1979–80 Indonesia (3%), Papua New Guinea and Israel (each 2%) were among the top ten destinations.

The main destination countries for education travel in 1999–00 were similar among males and females, although more males travelled to the United States of America (16%) and New Zealand (11%) than females (11% and 6%, respectively). Japan was a more common education destination for females (15%) than males (7%). Papua New Guinea was among the top ten education destinations for males, while Indonesia was among the top ten destinations for females.

#### WHERE DO AUSTRALIAN DEPARTURES FOR EDUCATION GO?

			<b>F</b>		<b>T</b> -+-1	
	Males		Females		Total	
Country	no.	%	no.	%	no.	%
• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	• • • • • • • •	••••	• • • • • • • • •	••••	• • • • • • • • •	••••
United States of America	3 986	16.3	2 930	11.3	6 916	13.7
Japan	1 610	6.6	3 897	15.0	5 507	10.9
New Zealand	2 606	10.7	1 685	6.5	4 291	8.5
United Kingdom	1 830	7.5	2 270	8.7	4 100	8.1
China (excludes SARs and						
Taiwan Province)	1 425	5.8	812	3.1	2 237	4.4
Singapore	1 260	5.2	604	2.3	1 864	3.7
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	902	3.7	829	3.2	1 731	3.4
New Caledonia	570	2.3	1 123	4.3	1 693	3.4
Germany	783	3.2	886	3.4	1 669	3.3
France	533	2.2	1 117	4.3	1 650	3.3
Other	8 925	36.5	9 823	37.8	18 747	37.2
Total	24 430	100.0	25 976	100.0	50 405	100.0

#### MAIN DESTINATIONS OF DEPARTURES FOR EDUCATION

#### SEX AND AGE

In 1999–00 there were more female residents departing mainly for education reasons than males, although this has not always been the case. The sex ratio for education departures in 1999–00 was 94 males per 100 females, while in 1979–80 the sex ratio was 144 males per 100 females, and in 1989–90 was 102 males per 100 females. In 1999–00, Australian residents departing for education were younger than overall short-term and long-term departures. The median age of those departing for education was 21.8 years (that is where half were younger than 21.8 years and half were older), compared with an overall median age of 39.8 years. Males departing for education in 1999–00 were generally older than females, with median ages at departure of 23.7 years for males and 19.9 years for females. The median age of persons departing for education has lowered over time, from 26.9 years in 1979–80 and 24.2 years in 1989–90.

DURATION OF STAY Of the Australian residents departing for an intended stay away of less than 12 months (short-term), those departing for education intended to stay overseas longer than all resident departures. In 1999–00, the median duration of short-term overseas trips for education was 19.8 days, compared to 15.1 days for all short-term departures. Among the top destination countries, Australian residents stayed longest for education in the long-haul destinations like the United Kingdom and Germany, with median durations of 30 and 32 days, respectively.

> In contrast, among Australian residents departing for an intended stay away of more than 12 months (long-term), trips for education were slightly shorter than total long-term departures, with a median duration of 2.0 years compared to 2.2 years overall. For long-term trips, Australian residents stayed longest in New Zealand and Hong Kong, with a median duration of 2.3 years for education travel to each of these countries.

						Short-term a	( )		
	_	Long-term a	ırrivals	Total		('00	0)		
	Permanent			permanent and		Overseas	Overseas visitors	Overseas visitors	Total arrivals
	arrivals	Australian	Overseas	long-term	Australian	visitors	(Seasonally	(Trend	<i>(a)</i>
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	92,270	79,650	133,200	305,120	3,299.9	4,651.8			8,255.9
1999 —									
September	7,600	6,250	7,930	21,780	299.3	353.1	392.9	385.3	674.0
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	414.6	794.2
August p	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	368.3	398.6	420.4	n.y.a
September p	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	406.5	465.3	426.8	n.y.a
October p	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	435.6	421.7	432.5	n.y.a
November p	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	n.y.a	460.9	435.0	438.0	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 en	led		Eleven mor			Month of	
	30 Septeml	per		to Novemb	per		November	r
Country of residence(b)	1999	2000p	% change	1999	2000p	% change	1999	2000p
OCEANIA & ANTARCTICA —								
New Zealand	215.7	229.6	6.4	670.6	745.3	11.1	60.4	72.5
Total	247.7	262.3	5.9	793.2	865.4	9.1	72.2	83.3
EUROPE & THE FORMER USSR -	_							
Germany	29.6	31.6	7.0	125.9	129.5	2.9	14.9	14.9
Italy	16.4	18.9	15.1	43.0	50.7	17.9	4.4	4.8
Netherlands	13.2	15.0	13.9	46.9	54.2	15.4	5.8	6.9
Sweden	4.8	7.1	47.7	23.9	30.9	29.5	3.8	4.1
Switzerland	9.9	10.8	9.0	38.6	41.9	8.6	5.3	4.9
United Kingdom	107.9	103.8	-3.9	471.3	489.6	3.9	67.6	63.6
Total	236.4	266.1	12.6	941.5	1 040.0	10.5	125.6	125.2
MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA	A —							
Total	20.4	22.4	9.7	45.8	50.2	9.6	3.3	3.7
SOUTHEAST ASIA —								
Indonesia	20.4	22.9	12.3	82.2	83.3	1.3	3.8	6.1
Malaysia	33.4	32.0	-4.3	125.1	134.4	7.4	12.5	15.8
Philippines	8.8	9.5	8.7	36.5	36.0	-1.5	3.3	2.9
Singapore	55.6	46.6	-16.2	231.6	232.5	0.4	34.3	33.9
Thailand	12.6	14.7	16.5	56.0	67.1	19.9	4.3	5.0
Total	134.7	131.7	-2.3	547.6	573.3	4.7	59.7	65.2
NORTHEAST ASIA —								
China	22.8	30.4	33.3	83.5	109.2	30.8	9.0	11.7
Japan	188.1	178.5	-5.1	649.0	648.8	0.0	57.8	68.9
Korea	24.6	39.1	59.1	94.0	142.5	51.7	12.4	14.6
Taiwan	40.0	35.8	-10.4	137.4	126.8	-7.7	9.9	9.1
Total	313.1	318.9	1.9	1 093.1	1 166.1	6.7	99.6	116.7
THE AMERICAS —								
Canada	15.3	20.9	37.0	68.7	77.8	13.2	8.4	9.3
United States of America	95.0	129.5	36.3	372.0	435.9	17.2	34.2	40.3
Total	117.2	165.1	40.9	468.7	554.1	18.2	44.9	52.9
AFRICA (excluding North Africa) —	-							
South Africa	13.0	15.6	19.4	50.7	55.5	9.5	5.3	6.5
Total	15.6	22.1	41.8	61.6	73.4	19.2	6.7	8.1
Total	1 097.2	1 203.8	9.7	3 998.7	4 380.4	9.5	416.7	460.9

#### 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.

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 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.
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</li> </ul>
	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.

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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	onality)
	Country of birth	
	Age (Date of birt	h)
	Sex	
	Marital status (no	ot available for Australia or New Zealand citizens)
	Category of trave	
	Permanent migra	
		re country of residence
		ded address/lived
	Overseas visitor	
	Intended/actu	al length of stay
	Main reason f	or journey
	Country of rea	sidence
	State of inten	ded address/in which most time spent
	Australian reside	nts
	Intended/actu	al time away from Australia
	Country spen	t/intend to spend most time in
	State of inten	ded address/lived
	Occupation (not	available for short-term movements)
	State of intended	l/actual address
	Country of emba	urkation/disembarkation
	Airport/Port of an	rrival/departure
	Arrival/departure	e date
	Intention to live	in Australia for next 12 months (not available for
	short-term move	ements)
	<b>22</b> This publica	tion 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> <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

Estimated number of persons		ERM RE OR ARRIVAL RALIAN RESIDENTS Relative standard error		OR DEPARTURE	TOTAL ARRIVALS DEPARTU Standard error	
	no.	%	no.	%	no.	%
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2 000	430 280	14	230	11	250	13
1 000	200	20	150	15	170	17
750	180	24	140	19	150	20
500	130	26	110	22	125	25
400	120	30	100	25	115	29
300	110	36	84	28	97	32
200	90	45	70	35	80	40
100	63	63	49	49	56	56

**4** An example of the use of this table is as follows. If the estimate of the number of Australian resident departures for short-term visits abroad is 500, then the standard error on this estimate is 130 i.e. there are two chances in three that the actual number of Australian resident departures for short-term visits abroad will lie between 370 and 630 and nineteen chances in twenty that it will lie between 240 and 760.

**5** The larger the size of an estimate the smaller the relative standard error. For any estimate of greater than 10,000 the relative standard error will be less than 6%.

#### STANDARD ERRORS

RELIABILITY OF ESTIMATES continued **6** The estimate of the difference between an estimate in two different periods or between different estimates from the same period is also subject to sampling error. The standard error on the difference between any two estimates which are subject to sampling error can be approximated by using the larger standard error of the estimates inflated by a factor of 1.4.

**7** An example of the use of this procedure is as follows. Assume the estimates of the number of arrivals to Australia from Taiwan during January 1994 and January 1995 are 1,500 and 750 respectively. The difference between the 1994 and 1995 figures is 750 and the standard errors on these estimates are approximately 190 and 140. The standard error on the difference is approximately 266 ( $1.4 \times 190$ ), 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.

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