



Australian Bureau of Statistics

CATALOGUE NO. 3401.0

EMBARGOED UNTIL 11.30 A.M. 31 MAY 1993

OVERSEAS ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES, AUSTRALIA MARCH 1993

MAIN FEATURES

In March 1993, 854,700 movements into and out of Australia were recorded, an increase of 9 per cent compared with March 1992 (784,300).

Permanent movement In March 1993:

- 5,440 settlers arrived in Australia. In the first three months of 1993 15,920 settlers arrived, significantly fewer than in the first three months of 1992 when 24,760 settlers arrived. Settler arrivals from all major regions declined compared with 1992.
- 2,580 permanent departures were recorded, 2 per cent more than in March 1992 (2,520).

Arrivals of overseas visitors for short-term visits In March 1993:

- The strong growth continued, as indicated by the trend estimate. In seasonally adjusted terms short-term visitor arrivals were 8 per cent higher than in February 1993, while the actual number of overseas visitors (257,900) increased by 18 per cent compared with March 1992.
- Japan continued to provide more visitors to Australia than any other country with 57,900 arrivals (22% of the total). The other major source countries were the United Kingdom, New Zealand and the United States of America.

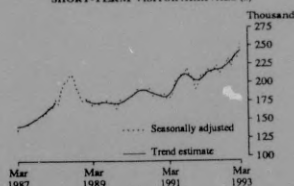
- More visitors came to Australia for a 'holiday' than any other reason (61%). 61 per cent of all visitors intended to stay in Australia for less than 2 weeks.

Departures of Australian residents for short-term trips abroad

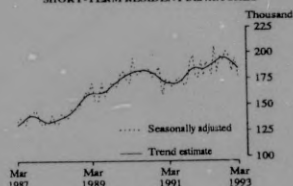
In March 1993:

- Resident departures declined as indicated by the trend estimate. In seasonally adjusted terms the number of resident departures was 9 per cent lower than in February 1993, while the actual number of resident departures (171,900) was much the same as in March 1992.
- The most popular destinations for Australian residents travelling overseas were New Zealand (18% of the total), the United States of America (14%) and the United Kingdom (11%). Indonesia and Hong Kong remained popular, each attracting 7 per cent of Australian travellers.
- As for visitors arriving, the majority of Australian resident departures were for a 'holiday'. 38 per cent of the total intended to be absent from Australia for less than 2 weeks with a further 26 per cent intending to be overseas for between 2 weeks and 1 month.

SHORT-TERM VISITOR ARRIVALS (a)



SHORT-TERM RESIDENT DEPARTURES



(a) Refer to paragraph 20 of the Explanatory Notes.

INQUIRIES

- for further information about statistics in this publication and the availability of related unpublished statistics, contact Matthew Montgomery on Canberra (06) 252 6671 or any ABS State office.
- for information about other ABS statistics and services please refer to the back page of this publication.

TABLE 1. TOTAL MOVEMENT — ARRIVALS: CATEGORY OF MOVEMENT

Period	Permanent arrivals Settlers	Long-term arrivals		Total permanent and long-term arrivals	Short-term arrivals (a)			Total arrivals (a)
		Australian residents	Overseas visitors		Australian residents	Overseas visitors (Actual)	Overseas visitors (Seasonally adjusted)	Overseas visitors (Trend estimate b)
Year ended 31 December —								
1990	121,560	56,370	56,120	234,050	2,109,300	2,214,900	..	4,558,300
1991	116,650	61,260	59,330	237,230	2,009,700	2,370,400	..	4,617,300
1992	94,250	66,160	60,050	220,450	2,166,300	2,603,300	..	4,990,100
1992 —								
January	8,410	6,400	10,030	24,840	256,900	196,100	199,300	202,800
February	8,740	5,030	13,680	27,450	146,600	238,200	210,700	205,400
March	7,600	4,390	4,010	16,000	141,900	217,800	208,800	209,000
April	8,480	4,270	3,850	16,600	158,900	203,800	217,600	213,700
May	7,770	3,680	3,020	14,470	152,300	175,200	213,700	215,300
June	7,990	4,270	2,810	15,070	150,000	176,900	216,100	216,300
July	8,320	5,650	6,710	20,680	222,400	219,300	222,600	217,700
August	7,940	4,800	3,550	16,290	188,100	199,100	212,000	217,800
September	7,050	5,090	2,260	15,410	202,800	190,000	217,900	219,400
October	6,830	5,270	3,690	15,800	246,500	229,300	222,500	222,200
November	7,080	6,310	2,630	16,020	169,700	255,000	232,400	225,800
December	8,030	11,000	2,810	21,840	130,300	302,400	221,500	229,800
1993 —								
January	5,460	6,990	9,170	21,620	273,800	242,800	238,600	234,600
February	5,020	5,260	13,450	23,730	161,800	245,500	233,400	240,200
March	5,440	5,220	3,290	13,940	143,100	257,900	253,100	243,200

(a) Figures for short-term movement are largely based on a sample and are subject to sampling error. See Paragraph 10 of the Explanatory Notes for more detail. (b) See paragraphs 18 to 20 of the Explanatory Notes.

TABLE 2. TOTAL MOVEMENT — DEPARTURES: CATEGORY OF MOVEMENT

Period	Permanent departures	Long-term departures		Total permanent and long-term departures	Short-term departures (a)			Total departures (a)
		Australian residents	Overseas visitors		Australian residents (Actual)	Australian residents (Seasonally adjusted)	Australian residents (Trend estimate b)	Overseas visitors
Year ended 31 December —								
1990	30,370	66,300	40,810	137,470	2,169,900	..	..	2,162,700
1991	29,900	66,130	47,680	143,710	2,099,400	..	..	2,350,800
1992	28,140	66,980	48,540	143,660	2,276,300	..	..	2,533,500
1992 —								
January	2,810	8,480	4,200	15,480	141,400	176,100	184,900	250,000
February	2,540	6,380	3,690	12,610	140,600	192,000	184,100	216,300
March	2,520	6,060	3,540	12,110	172,200	177,500	183,900	224,300
April	2,470	5,670	3,400	11,550	192,900	191,100	185,000	211,700
May	2,310	5,370	3,010	10,690	178,700	185,800	186,800	197,000
June	2,080	4,600	3,610	10,290	204,600	178,800	188,500	198,500
July	2,130	5,780	3,980	11,890	222,900	205,900	190,300	185,400
August	2,390	6,200	3,160	11,750	179,900	181,200	192,400	214,100
September	2,060	4,530	3,020	9,610	229,900	196,600	194,300	187,500
October	2,050	3,870	2,710	8,630	173,100	192,800	195,200	200,400
November	1,930	4,390	5,060	11,370	174,600	201,200	194,700	242,900
December	2,850	5,660	9,170	17,690	265,400	196,700	192,900	235,200
1993 —								
January	2,770	8,830	4,320	15,920	147,600	182,000	190,500	300,800
February	2,320	5,580	3,320	11,230	140,800	194,900	188,100	230,000
March	2,580	5,740	3,320	11,640	171,900	177,300	184,600	256,100

(a) Figures for short-term movement are largely based on a sample and are subject to sampling error. See Paragraph 10 of the Explanatory Notes for more detail. (b) See paragraphs 18 to 20 of the Explanatory Notes.

TABLE 3. SHORT-TERM MOVEMENT: ARRIVALS OF OVERSEAS VISITORS AND DEPARTURES OF AUSTRALIAN RESIDENTS BY INTENDED LENGTH OF STAY AND PURPOSE OF JOURNEY

	Year ended 31 December			Quarter ended 31 March			Month of March		
	1990	1991	1992	1991	1992	1993	1991	1992	1993
ARRIVALS									
Intended length of stay									
Under 1 week	563,100	626,500	759,900	130,500	182,400	223,900	42,500	61,300	75,500
1 and under 2 weeks	571,100	677,500	748,600	156,700	187,100	222,700	57,700	67,600	81,500
2 weeks and under 1 month	459,000	498,600	510,600	113,600	118,900	129,800	44,400	42,100	50,300
1 and under 2 months	268,000	263,500	284,900	65,300	72,100	77,300	21,900	24,600	27,400
2 and under 3 months	98,300	88,400	93,800	22,900	25,900	27,500	6,800	7,600	9,100
3 and under 6 months	104,500	94,400	98,500	25,700	25,700	26,300	7,200	6,700	7,100
6 and under 12 months	150,700	121,400	107,200	42,500	40,000	38,700	8,800	7,900	7,200
Total (a)	2,214,900	2,370,400	2,603,300	557,200	652,100	746,200	189,200	217,800	257,900
Purpose of journey									
In transit	70,200	70,300	78,400	17,600	21,200	26,300	5,700	6,500	7,500
Attending convention	32,500	42,800	32,300	7,400	7,100	8,300	2,000	3,400	3,200
Business	389,200	221,900	236,300	50,600	60,300	64,100	18,600	24,100	25,400
Accompanying business traveller	21,800	20,900	20,100	4,800	5,000	5,600	1,600	1,900	1,800
Visiting relatives	456,000	473,900	489,500	104,100	111,200	125,100	40,100	39,100	49,000
Holiday	1,233,700	1,414,600	1,595,300	324,800	403,800	462,200	110,000	133,900	158,600
Employment	29,600	26,900	23,700	5,900	7,200	6,400	1,700	2,300	1,900
Education	64,600	57,400	61,300	24,400	26,600	28,000	3,700	3,100	2,800
Other and not stated	75,300	41,700	66,300	17,500	9,700	20,100	5,900	3,700	7,700
Total	2,214,900	2,370,400	2,603,300	557,200	652,100	746,200	189,200	217,800	257,900
DEPARTURES									
Intended length of stay									
Under 1 week	189,600	203,800	227,600	40,700	52,200	55,900	17,500	22,600	23,700
1 and under 2 weeks	523,600	570,300	558,500	118,600	115,700	121,300	50,400	44,700	42,400
2 weeks and under 1 month	604,800	574,100	619,700	120,900	130,300	144,900	44,900	45,300	43,900
1 and under 2 months	389,200	363,100	410,100	61,300	67,600	63,800	24,000	25,900	26,100
2 and under 3 months	181,500	161,900	184,100	22,900	23,600	23,200	10,100	9,200	10,100
3 and under 6 months	157,500	139,300	148,400	23,400	25,900	26,100	11,600	10,700	14,500
6 and under 12 months	123,600	126,500	127,900	36,800	38,200	39,500	13,000	17,900	14,200
Total (a)	2,169,900	2,099,400	2,276,300	424,500	454,200	460,300	171,500	172,200	171,900
Purpose of journey									
Attending convention	55,300	42,600	52,600	7,000	9,700	9,600	2,500	4,500	3,300
Business	306,900	305,100	338,800	65,600	80,500	86,600	24,500	30,600	33,100
Accompanying business traveller	31,600	27,200	27,700	6,600	6,800	7,200	2,300	2,000	1,900
Visiting relatives	439,200	453,600	491,000	88,800	94,900	93,100	37,900	34,800	37,300
Holiday	1,193,900	1,124,100	1,179,600	223,000	223,900	221,800	92,400	87,000	83,000
Employment	41,500	48,700	50,200	12,500	13,100	13,800	3,400	4,100	4,100
Education	24,100	23,500	26,500	5,600	6,800	6,300	1,300	1,800	1,500
Other and not stated	77,300	74,500	109,900	15,400	19,400	22,000	7,100	7,400	7,600
Total	2,169,900	2,099,400	2,276,300	424,500	454,200	460,300	171,500	172,200	171,900

(a) Includes not stated.

TABLE 4. PERMANENT (SETTLER) ARRIVALS: COUNTRY OF BIRTH (a)

Country of birth (Summary)	Year ended 31 December			Quarter ended 31 March			Month of March		
	1990	1991	1992	1991	1992	1993	1991	1992	1993
Major group —									
Oceania and Antarctica	12,780	10,280	10,320	2,980	2,910	2,510	890	870	810
Europe and the Former USSR	34,820	30,230	24,790	7,770	6,000	4,540	2,540	1,950	1,680
Middle East and North Africa	6,390	6,800	7,100	1,700	1,440	950	560	430	340
Southeast Asia	30,520	25,250	18,000	6,470	5,150	2,990	2,270	1,840	1,110
Northeast Asia	18,860	23,490	17,200	6,330	4,990	2,610	2,810	1,130	730
Southern Asia	7,760	10,580	9,400	2,440	2,250	1,020	990	810	340
The Americas	6,620	6,620	4,580	1,480	1,290	720	570	390	240
Africa (excluding North Africa)	3,800	3,370	2,800	1,100	710	570	270	180	180
Total (b)	121,560	116,650	94,250	30,270	24,760	15,910	10,890	7,600	5,440
Major source countries —									
China	3,270	3,390	3,360	800	780	620	330	230	210
Croatia, Slovenia, Yugoslavia	1,200	2,300	3,000	420	370	1,000	180	110	450
Hong Kong	10,520	14,490	9,820	4,180	2,950	1,310	2,060	530	340
India	3,760	5,790	5,110	1,370	1,300	600	580	480	220
New Zealand	8,970	6,730	7,310	2,010	2,120	1,860	610	670	600
Philippines	6,150	6,480	4,930	1,520	1,560	670	520	580	230
Sri Lanka	3,120	2,800	2,490	830	600	240	300	210	70
Taiwan	3,140	3,710	2,220	880	770	280	290	200	70
United Kingdom	22,040	18,080	11,640	5,080	3,170	2,020	1,610	1,030	700
Viet Nam	13,730	10,670	7,390	2,510	2,020	1,260	1,000	820	540

(a) See paragraphs 8 and 9 of the Explanatory Notes. (b) Includes other and not stated.

TABLE 5. SHORT-TERM MOVEMENT: ARRIVALS OF OVERSEAS VISITORS
COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE (a)

Country of residence	Year ended 31 December			Quarter ended 31 March			Month of March		
	1990	1991	1992	1991	1992	1992	1991	1992	1992
OCEANIA & ANTARCTICA —									
Fiji	16,000	16,800	16,300	4,100	4,500	4,600	1,500	1,100	1,800
New Caledonia	14,400	15,200	18,000	5,900	7,000	7,000	1,000	900	900
New Zealand	418,400	480,600	447,600	90,100	75,400	90,700	37,300	31,300	35,400
Papua New Guinea	34,600	35,200	37,000	8,500	8,200	9,500	2,400	2,100	2,100
Other	17,200	17,900	19,100	4,600	4,300	4,700	1,500	1,200	1,400
Total	500,700	565,700	537,900	113,300	99,400	116,500	43,700	36,600	41,600
EUROPE & THE FORMER USSR —									
Austria	9,600	10,300	10,800	2,500	2,600	3,200	600	700	900
Belgium	4,200	4,100	4,200	900	900	1,000	300	200	300
Denmark	9,900	9,900	10,300	2,600	3,100	3,400	700	800	1,000
Finland	5,800	5,700	5,100	1,600	1,400	1,200	400	400	300
Former USSR & Baltic States	5,300	4,300	4,500	1,300	1,100	1,000	500	500	400
France	21,100	22,700	25,400	4,700	5,900	7,100	1,400	1,900	2,000
Germany, Fed Rep	74,200	77,700	89,900	21,200	24,900	29,400	6,400	8,000	11,000
Greece	7,500	5,800	6,100	1,300	1,500	1,500	400	400	400
Ireland	10,600	9,600	8,800	2,400	2,300	2,900	800	700	1,300
Italy	24,400	24,300	27,400	4,200	6,200	6,000	1,300	2,100	1,900
Netherlands	21,100	21,400	23,500	5,400	6,100	6,900	1,800	2,100	2,000
Norway	4,400	4,100	4,500	1,100	1,300	1,400	300	400	400
Sweden	22,000	19,100	19,100	5,700	6,600	5,100	1,500	1,800	1,500
Switzerland	29,500	29,600	29,000	8,800	8,900	8,600	2,500	3,000	2,400
United Kingdom	277,700	263,800	289,900	79,400	87,900	95,100	28,200	30,900	38,100
Other	22,300	18,500	18,500	4,700	4,700	4,600	1,300	1,700	1,500
Total	549,500	530,800	577,000	147,700	165,200	178,300	48,400	55,600	65,600
MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA —									
Israel	5,300	4,900	4,600	1,200	1,300	1,500	400	400	600
Other	12,100	9,900	12,600	1,800	3,100	3,400	700	1,000	1,500
Total	17,400	14,800	17,300	3,000	4,300	4,900	1,000	1,400	2,100
SOUTHEAST ASIA —									
Indonesia	34,400	37,000	45,900	7,800	9,100	16,300	2,100	2,500	7,800
Malaysia	46,600	48,000	60,400	12,300	15,100	18,800	3,900	3,600	6,700
Philippines	13,600	15,700	16,100	3,800	3,900	4,100	1,700	1,400	1,400
Singapore	75,900	87,500	116,800	16,700	20,400	28,800	6,300	6,100	10,100
Thailand	19,600	24,700	33,600	4,800	6,900	7,900	1,900	2,500	3,100
Other	5,000	6,200	9,000	1,500	2,300	2,600	600	1,000	1,100
Total	195,000	219,100	281,800	47,100	57,800	78,400	16,500	17,100	30,100
NORTHEAST ASIA —									
China	23,700	16,400	18,700	3,900	4,900	4,700	1,400	1,600	1,600
Hong Kong	54,500	62,800	74,700	19,800	22,400	25,500	5,800	4,100	7,100
Japan	479,900	528,500	629,900	119,600	166,700	178,500	36,500	54,000	57,900
Korea	14,100	23,600	33,600	4,600	9,900	16,800	1,100	2,300	3,500
Taiwan	25,300	34,700	63,500	8,300	21,800	35,000	1,800	6,200	9,100
Other	500	800	900	200	300	300	100	100	100
Total	587,900	666,900	821,300	156,400	226,000	260,800	46,600	68,300	79,200
SOUTHERN ASIA —									
India	11,000	9,800	9,600	2,000	2,100	2,300	800	1,000	800
Sri Lanka	3,900	4,100	3,800	900	1,200	1,000	300	600	300
Other	3,000	2,500	2,500	400	800	600	100	300	200
Total	17,800	16,400	16,000	3,300	4,100	3,900	1,200	1,800	1,300
THE AMERICAS —									
Brazil	2,900	2,500	2,500	800	700	700	100	200	200
Canada	53,700	53,400	48,900	15,100	14,800	15,100	5,200	5,300	4,900
United States of America (b)	251,600	271,800	262,900	63,200	69,900	76,300	23,800	27,600	28,500
Other	8,800	8,500	9,400	2,200	2,900	2,900	1,100	1,100	1,100
Total	317,000	336,200	323,600	81,300	88,200	95,000	29,700	34,200	34,700
AFRICA (excluding North Africa) —									
South Africa	9,100	9,200	15,300	2,300	3,400	4,600	1,000	1,600	2,000
Zimbabwe	3,600	3,000	2,500	900	800	500	300	300	200
Other	4,200	4,900	5,300	1,400	1,500	1,600	400	500	500
Total	16,900	17,100	23,100	4,500	5,700	6,700	1,700	2,300	2,700
Total (c)	2,214,900	2,370,400	2,603,300	557,200	652,100	746,200	189,200	217,800	257,900

(a) See paragraphs 8 and 9 of the Explanatory Notes. (b) Includes America undefined. (c) Includes other and not stated.

TABLE 6. SHORT-TERM MOVEMENT : DEPARTURES OF AUSTRALIAN RESIDENTS
COUNTRY OF INTENDED STAY (a)

Country of intended stay	Year ended 31 December			Quarter ended 31 March			Month of March		
	1990	1991	1992	1991	1992	1993	1991	1992	1993
OCEANIA & ANTARCTICA —									
Fiji	102,000	90,000	86,700	21,300	16,100	16,200	8,200	6,000	6,200
New Caledonia	14,900	17,400	15,500	3,400	3,100	3,100	1,500	1,000	800
New Zealand	320,200	318,300	340,700	81,100	85,900	86,300	30,300	30,900	30,100
Norfolk Island	14,200	16,900	18,000	3,700	4,300	4,100	1,500	1,800	1,600
Papua New Guinea	34,000	37,000	37,600	9,000	8,900	7,400	3,400	3,100	2,700
Vanuatu	17,200	18,500	22,300	4,100	3,900	4,900	2,100	1,600	1,800
Other	27,400	24,300	25,800	4,900	4,200	4,700	1,700	1,200	1,600
Total	529,900	522,400	546,600	127,500	126,400	128,700	48,700	45,500	44,800
EUROPE & THE FORMER USSR —									
Austria	7,600	6,900	7,200	1,400	1,300	1,200	500	400	400
France	24,100	22,400	25,400	3,900	3,900	3,800	1,900	1,700	1,200
Germany, Fed Rep	34,500	31,500	32,000	5,800	6,300	6,500	2,300	2,800	2,900
Greece	32,900	27,400	30,100	3,300	4,300	4,400	1,900	2,400	2,800
Ireland	11,900	10,700	13,200	1,800	1,500	1,200	800	600	600
Italy	45,000	37,500	44,800	4,900	6,800	5,200	2,200	3,000	2,600
Netherlands	15,900	13,800	16,500	1,800	2,200	2,400	800	1,000	1,000
Poland	6,300	5,600	6,300	400	800	600	300	500	300
Spain	6,300	5,900	11,500	1,000	1,500	1,200	600	700	600
Sweden	4,900	4,700	4,600	700	700	800	200	400	300
Switzerland	9,500	8,700	10,100	1,900	1,900	2,000	600	800	800
United Kingdom	252,800	220,600	240,400	39,000	40,500	37,400	18,500	19,500	18,700
Other	57,500	41,500	48,800	6,400	7,000	6,400	3,100	3,600	3,200
Total	509,200	437,200	491,000	72,400	78,700	75,000	33,600	37,300	35,400
MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA —									
Egypt	4,800	4,500	6,200	400	1,100	1,400	200	500	500
Israel	4,800	5,100	7,600	700	1,500	1,600	400	700	1,100
Lebanon	7,700	11,600	12,600	600	1,600	2,200	400	700	1,200
Turkey	8,400	5,500	7,300	500	1,100	1,200	300	600	900
Other	6,300	7,000	10,300	700	2,000	1,900	300	700	700
Total	32,100	33,800	44,000	2,900	7,400	8,400	1,700	3,100	4,300
SOUTHEAST ASIA —									
Indonesia	158,000	174,700	185,200	34,300	33,400	39,600	13,200	11,700	12,100
Malaysia	75,100	70,700	78,400	14,400	15,800	18,600	4,400	4,600	5,600
Philippines	40,500	39,900	41,100	9,000	8,700	9,400	4,100	3,100	2,900
Singapore	105,500	100,200	101,000	22,100	23,800	20,600	9,200	7,700	7,400
Thailand	99,100	71,700	70,300	15,300	15,000	15,900	5,500	4,400	4,800
Other	9,000	15,800	25,900	3,500	5,500	8,500	1,100	1,400	2,200
Total	487,200	472,900	502,000	98,500	102,200	112,500	37,500	32,800	34,900
NORTHEAST ASIA —									
China	12,800	14,700	19,900	2,400	3,600	4,900	1,000	1,000	2,200
Hong Kong	120,500	130,400	140,100	29,900	30,300	30,000	13,800	11,400	11,600
Japan	47,900	47,300	47,600	9,500	10,600	9,700	4,300	3,900	3,700
Korea	8,000	8,600	11,500	1,400	2,000	2,600	600	800	1,000
Taiwan	13,600	18,800	24,000	3,200	5,000	5,300	1,000	1,400	2,200
Other	400	700	500	—	100	100	—	—	—
Total	203,200	220,500	243,500	46,400	51,500	52,600	20,700	18,600	20,700
SOUTHERN ASIA —									
India	22,100	20,300	18,000	4,400	4,700	4,900	1,500	2,000	1,600
Sri Lanka	7,200	8,100	10,500	1,400	2,000	1,400	500	600	400
Other	8,000	6,700	8,600	1,500	1,800	2,100	500	700	600
Total	37,300	35,100	37,000	7,300	8,500	8,400	2,500	3,300	2,500
THE AMERICAS —									
Canada	32,500	29,100	32,500	4,400	4,500	3,700	1,600	1,700	1,300
United States of America (b)	300,200	308,700	334,600	57,000	66,700	63,800	22,700	27,400	24,100
Other	15,400	15,600	16,300	3,600	3,200	4,000	900	700	1,400
Total	348,100	353,500	383,200	65,000	74,300	71,500	25,300	29,700	26,800
AFRICA (excluding North Africa) —									
South Africa	10,400	9,100	6,300	2,000	2,000	2,500	900	700	700
Other	9,300	11,700	18,600	1,800	2,200	3,400	400	800	1,200
Total	19,600	20,800	24,800	3,800	4,200	5,900	1,300	1,500	1,900
Total (c)	2,169,900	2,099,400	2,276,300	424,500	454,200	460,300	171,500	172,200	171,900

(a) See paragraphs 8 and 9 of the Explanatory Notes. (b) Includes America undefined. (c) Includes other and not stated.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

This series of publications contains statistics of overseas arrivals and departures in summary form for the latest available month during which the movement occurred. More detailed statistics can be made available, on request, in unpublished form.

Scope

2. The statistics in this publication relate to the number of movements rather than the number of travellers (i.e. the 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.

Definitions*Category of movement*

3. Category of movement is primarily determined by the traveller's selection of their own category on the passenger card. This selection is accepted provided it is consistent with other information on the passenger card.

Permanent movement

4. Permanent arrivals (settlers) comprise travellers who hold migrant visas, (regardless of stated intended period of stay). New Zealand citizens who indicate an intention to settle and those who are otherwise eligible to settle (e.g. overseas born children of Australian citizens). Permanent departures are Australian residents (including former settlers) who on departure state they do not intend to return to Australia.

Long-term movement

5. Long-term arrivals comprise overseas visitors (except those who hold migrant visas—see paragraph 4 above) who intend to stay in Australia for 12 months or more and Australian residents returning after an absence of 12 months or more overseas. Long-term departures comprise Australian residents who intend to stay abroad for 12 months or more and overseas visitors departing who stayed 12 months or more in Australia.

Short-term movement

6. Movements of travellers whose intended or actual length of stay is less than twelve months are classified as short-term, except those who on arrival hold migrant visas (see paragraph 4 above).

7. A significant number of travellers state exactly 12 months or one year as their intended period of stay. Many of these stay for less than that period and on their departure from, or return to, Australia are therefore classified as short-term. 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 birth or residence

8. The classification of countries in this publication is based on 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* (1269.0).

Since the publication of the ASCSS, political developments in Europe and the Former USSR have resulted in a number of changes to the country classification. These changes have affected some of the categories in this publication and are detailed in Revision 1.02 of the ASCSS.

9. Statistics on country of birth, residence or citizenship have certain limitations because of inadequate reporting on passenger cards. For instance, it is not possible to identify separately England, Scotland and Wales. Similarly 'Korea' includes both the Republic of Korea and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. U.S.A. includes 'America (undefined)'.

Estimation method

10. 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 and processed. 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.

11. The statistics in this publication have been rounded, to the nearest 100 for short-term movements and to the nearest 10 for permanent and long-term movements. In tables showing both short-term and permanent and long-term movements the total movements have been rounded to the nearest 100. The sums of the components may, due to rounding, not add exactly to totals.

Corrections and imputations

12. The imprecision due to sampling errors should not be confused with errors arising from imperfections in reporting, which may occur in any data collection, whether sampled or not. Every effort is made to minimise such errors, both through careful design of the passenger cards and through checks on the information once it is received. During the edit process some items are corrected where they conflict with other known information. Missing replies to certain items such as age and country of birth are also imputed by reference to other related items.

13. Errors of this kind differ from discrepancies arising from the fact that certain information reflects the travellers' intentions, at the time the passenger cards were completed. These intentions are of course subject to change. Particularly affected is the distinction between permanent and temporary movement and in the latter case, length of intended stay, country in which most time will be spent and purpose of journey.

Seasonal adjustment

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 may be carried out by various methods and the results may vary slightly according to the procedure adopted. Accordingly, seasonally adjusted statistics should not be regarded as in any way definitive. In interpreting particular seasonally adjusted statistics it is important to bear in mind the methods by which they have been derived and the limitations to which the methods used are subject. The adjustment procedure used for the short-term visitor arrivals and resident departures data is an aggregative adjustment. Prior to the July 1989 issue these data were adjusted at the category total level only (for visitor arrivals and resident departures separately). The aggregative method adjusts the major components separately (in this instance, the main countries of each category). The adjusted category total is obtained by summing the adjusted components. For more detail, contact the Supervisor, Time Series Analysis, ABS on (06) 252 6103.

16. 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 structure 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.

17. The seasonally adjusted series can, however, be smoothed to reduce the impact of the irregular component in the adjusted series. There are a number of ways of accomplishing this, depending on the intended uses of the smoothed series. If importance is attached to measuring the underlying change in the most recent periods, moving averages employing appropriate weighting patterns should be adopted; the choice of averaging technique will determine in part the degree of smoothness of the derived series. The longer the term of the moving average the longer is the time series affected by revisions resulting from more recent data. In order to ensure that the underlying trend-cycle of a series is reflected in the trend estimate series, the degree of smoothness alone cannot

always be used as the sole criterion in determining which moving average is appropriate.

18. The trend estimate short-term overseas visitor arrivals and short-term Australian resident departures statistics are shown in Tables 1 and 2 respectively. The trend estimate has been derived by applying a 13-term Henderson-weighted moving average to the series.

19. 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 concerning the smoothing process refer to an Information Paper *A Guide to Smoothing Time Series — Estimates of 'Trend'* (1316.0).

20. With the opening of World Expo 88 in April 1988 and at its conclusion in October 1988, abrupt dislocations occurred in the trend path of the short-term overseas visitor arrivals series. As different countries displayed varied timings of this effect, the trend path between April and October 1988 is suppressed. Estimates of the trend path are now available from November 1988 onwards.

Related publications

21. Comprehensive definitions and explanations, and detailed data are contained in:

Overseas Arrivals and Departures, Australia (3402.0)—issued quarterly

Overseas Arrivals and Departures, Australia (3404.0)—issued annually

22. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products, Australia* (1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Publications Advice* (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The *Catalogue* and *Publications Advice* are available from any ABS office.

Unpublished statistics

23. As well as the statistics included in this and related publications, the ABS may have other relevant unpublished data available. Inquiries should be made to Matthew Montgomery on Canberra (06) 252 6671.

Symbols and other usages

- nil or rounded to zero
- .. not applicable
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