

OVERSEAS ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES, AUSTRALIA JANUARY 1990

PHONE INQUIRIES

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MAIN FEATURES

The number of overseas movements in January 1990 was 839,900, 7% more than in January 1989. There were 452,800 arrivals (9% more than January 1989) and 387,000 departures (6% more than January 1989).

Permanent movement

In January 1990:

- 9,890 settlers arrived in Australia, 21% less than January 1989 (12,600), making this the seventh consecutive month in which permanent arrivals were lower than a year earlier. Permanent arrivals in January 1990 of persons born in East Asia and South East Asia (3,100) were 16% lower than in January 1989 (3,700), while arrivals of those born in New Zealand declined 61% to 1,060 in January 1990 from 2,660 in January 1989. Arrivals of those born in the United Kingdom and Ireland, however, have remained at about the same level as in January 1989. (2,320 in January 1990 compared with 2,360 a year ago).
- 2,580 permanent departures were recorded, 26% more than January 1989 (2,060).

Arrivals of visitors for short-term visits

In January 1990:

- The number of short-term visitor arrivals for the month was 176,200, 4% more than in January 1989 (168,900) and 9% higher than January 1988 (161,300). In seasonally adjusted terms, January 1990 short-term visitor arrivals were 10% more than in December 1989.
- 56% of short-term visitor arrivals were for the purpose of "holiday" and 18% for "visiting relatives" compared with 53% and 19% respectively in January 1989. There were 11,900 short-term visitor arrivals for the purpose of "education", an increase of 20%

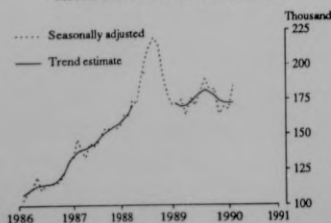
compared with January 1989 (9,900). The major source countries in this category were China, Hong Kong and Malaysia.

- 84,000 (48%) visitors intended to stay for less than two weeks and a further 52,500 (30%) intended to stay for between two weeks and two months. These proportions were 43% and 33% respectively in January 1989.
- The major source countries were: Japan with 38,200 (22% of total), the U.K. with 22,200 (13%), New Zealand with 22,000 (13%), and the U.S.A. with 19,000 (11%). Of these four countries, Japan was the only one to show an increase (30%) relative to January 1989 while the U.K. decreased by 7% and New Zealand and the U.S.A. both decreased by 17%. China, Hong Kong, Singapore and Taiwan all showed large increases in visitor arrivals compared with January 1989.

Departures of Australian residents for short-term trips abroad

- The number of Australian residents departing for short-term visits overseas continued to increase, numbering 146,700 in January 1990. This was 11% more than in January 1989 (131,700) and 30% more than in January 1988 (113,200). The trend estimate of short-term resident departures (see graph below) shows strong growth during 1988 and 1989.
- The most popular destinations were: New Zealand (19% of total), the U.S.A. (11%), Indonesia (9%) and the U.K. (7%).
- There were 84,100 (57% of total) departures for "holiday" and 25,300 (17%) for "visiting relatives". "Business" travellers decreased by 8% to 19,400 in January 1990 compared with 21,200 in January 1989.

SHORT-TERM VISITOR ARRIVALS (a)



(a) Refer to paragraph 20 of the Explanatory Notes at the back of this publication.

SHORT-TERM RESIDENT DEPARTURES

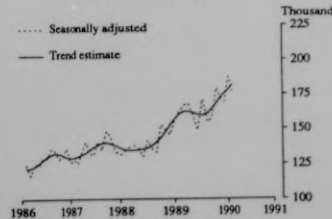


TABLE 1. TOTAL MOVEMENT — ARRIVALS: CATEGORY OF MOVEMENT

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 —									
1987	128,290	54,030	39,940	222,260	1,586,300	1,784,900	..	..	3,593,500
1988	151,550	54,990	47,330	253,860	1,637,900	2,249,300	..	..	4,141,100
1989	131,060	53,440	53,540	238,050	1,912,700	2,080,300	..	..	4,231,000
1988 —									
October	12,660	4,220	3,660	20,540	188,400	207,300	194,500	197,500	416,200
November	13,010	5,120	3,070	21,200	128,600	208,000	179,300	181,800	357,800
December	12,860	8,540	2,980	24,380	101,200	245,800	171,700	176,100	371,400
1989 —									
January	12,600	5,240	8,200	26,040	222,200	168,900	172,900	172,200	417,200
February	10,790	3,770	8,080	22,640	129,100	191,100	175,200	170,400	342,800
March	11,650	3,670	3,930	19,250	132,100	180,000	164,400	171,100	331,400
April	11,350	3,250	3,720	18,320	141,100	160,100	176,500	173,400	319,500
May	10,180	3,040	3,020	16,240	121,200	136,600	171,000	177,200	274,000
June	11,400	4,190	3,210	18,800	139,700	142,700	181,100	180,000	301,200
July	10,740	4,400	4,870	20,010	197,900	175,400	190,100	182,200	393,300
August	11,500	4,140	3,680	19,320	159,000	161,400	182,200	180,500	339,800
September	10,620	3,970	3,540	18,130	187,300	149,900	182,900	177,800	355,400
October	9,740	4,210	3,630	17,580	218,000	174,100	164,900	174,600	409,600
November	10,770	4,960	3,510	19,240	151,400	192,700	170,100	173,000	363,300
December	9,730	8,600	4,160	22,490	113,700	247,400	168,100	172,600	383,600
1990 —									
January	9,890	5,490	8,610	23,990	252,600	176,200	184,800	172,800	452,800

(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 paragraph 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 —									
1987	20,420	50,280	31,720	102,420	1,622,300	..	..	1,701,200	3,425,900
1988	20,320	54,120	30,330	104,770	1,697,600	..	..	2,174,100	3,976,500
1989	24,830	59,220	35,990	120,040	1,989,800	..	..	2,020,400	4,130,300
1988 —									
October	1,520	3,660	1,790	6,970	127,800	149,400	147,900	192,500	327,300
November	1,610	3,690	2,610	7,910	124,100	145,500	152,600	198,200	330,200
December	2,050	4,880	6,050	12,980	206,700	155,900	157,000	171,800	391,500
1989 —									
January	2,060	7,360	3,250	12,670	131,700	161,800	160,400	221,700	366,100
February	1,860	5,140	2,320	9,320	112,700	167,000	162,400	170,900	292,900
March	2,080	5,420	3,150	10,650	170,900	168,200	162,600	187,300	368,900
April	2,090	5,260	2,500	9,850	153,000	159,500	161,500	172,700	335,500
May	1,820	4,430	2,260	8,510	146,700	149,000	160,200	162,000	317,200
June	1,810	4,210	2,950	8,970	197,800	171,000	159,800	127,000	333,700
July	2,150	4,940	2,720	9,810	173,800	154,700	161,300	150,600	334,200
August	2,160	5,570	2,340	10,070	165,400	157,600	164,600	178,400	353,900
September	1,890	4,170	2,280	8,340	201,700	179,300	168,800	149,700	359,700
October	1,990	3,620	2,160	7,770	147,000	172,500	172,800	154,800	309,600
November	2,100	4,070	3,230	9,400	144,200	169,600	176,100	177,000	330,500
December	2,840	5,040	6,830	14,710	244,900	187,400	178,800	168,300	427,900
1990 —									
January	2,580	7,920	3,730	14,240	146,700	177,400	181,700	226,100	387,000

(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 paragraph 18 to 20 of the Explanatory Notes.

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

	Year ended 31 December			Quarter ended 31 December			Month of January		
	1987	1988	1989	1987	1988	1989	1988	1989	1990
ARRIVALS									
Intended length of stay									
Under 1 week	441,100	495,300	499,800	129,700	146,100	141,300	33,400	38,300	42,800
1 and under 2 weeks	410,100	567,800	494,000	129,300	162,400	141,900	32,000	33,500	41,100
2 weeks and under 1 month	403,600	541,200	448,500	128,200	148,800	130,100	35,500	33,400	32,100
1 and under 2 months	224,900	279,500	265,600	78,900	90,300	85,700	21,400	22,500	20,300
2 and under 3 months	85,800	99,300	98,900	30,300	31,100	31,500	10,000	9,900	9,800
3 and under 6 months	93,400	110,300	110,700	34,500	39,200	36,100	11,400	11,600	10,500
6 and under 12 months	113,300	146,100	162,700	37,100	42,000	47,500	16,600	19,700	19,400
Total (a)	1,784,900	2,249,300	2,080,300	571,600	661,000	614,100	161,300	168,900	176,200
Purpose of Journey									
In Transit	100,900	88,700	78,600	26,600	22,000	19,400	8,100	7,800	6,900
Attending convention	31,100	56,700	25,400	8,500	16,100	6,200	2,300	1,800	1,300
Business	195,300	234,300	230,800	52,900	60,600	58,800	14,700	14,800	15,400
Accompanying business traveller	18,900	23,000	19,400	4,700	6,500	4,300	2,000	2,100	1,900
Visiting relatives	370,200	448,500	459,900	133,500	152,400	158,400	32,700	32,400	31,300
Holiday	938,300	1,237,000	1,107,000	314,500	363,200	327,800	84,500	90,200	98,300
Employment	21,300	26,600	30,000	5,300	6,700	6,700	2,900	3,800	3,400
Education	35,200	47,800	62,800	7,200	8,100	16,100	8,000	9,900	11,900
Other and not stated	73,700	86,600	66,400	18,600	25,300	16,600	6,100	6,100	5,800
Total	1,784,900	2,249,300	2,080,300	571,600	661,000	614,100	161,300	168,900	176,200
DEPARTURES									
Intended length of stay									
Under 1 week	103,400	138,300	175,900	26,000	37,200	47,500	7,900	9,600	10,800
1 and under 2 weeks	377,900	402,300	487,800	89,700	103,800	124,800	33,100	36,400	41,400
2 weeks and under 1 month	468,400	480,200	565,200	121,600	129,600	152,700	38,200	44,000	48,500
1 and under 2 months	292,000	302,300	353,300	87,200	97,100	112,700	15,300	19,800	21,600
2 and under 3 months	135,300	145,400	158,500	36,800	45,000	49,800	5,200	5,600	6,500
3 and under 6 months	125,000	126,600	139,800	21,400	25,600	27,500	4,200	5,300	5,800
6 and under 12 months	87,300	96,300	108,100	15,400	18,600	21,100	8,800	10,700	12,000
Total (a)	1,622,300	1,697,600	1,989,800	411,400	458,600	536,200	113,200	131,700	146,700
Purpose of Journey									
Attending convention	37,000	37,200	47,700	6,800	8,000	8,200	1,900	2,300	2,200
Business	227,500	264,400	302,200	54,500	64,400	72,100	17,400	21,200	19,400
Accompanying business traveller	27,700	28,800	33,000	5,800	6,100	7,500	2,300	2,400	2,400
Visiting relatives	332,600	343,400	387,600	93,200	108,000	124,200	17,800	21,600	25,300
Holiday	874,100	912,000	1,085,500	216,000	243,900	291,100	63,800	72,800	84,100
Employment	24,300	28,400	35,700	4,800	6,900	8,800	2,900	3,500	3,800
Education	13,500	15,300	19,400	3,000	3,700	4,600	1,800	2,100	2,400
Other and not stated	85,600	68,200	78,700	27,300	17,600	19,800	5,500	5,900	7,000
Total	1,622,300	1,697,600	1,989,800	411,400	458,600	536,200	113,200	131,700	146,700

(a) Includes not stated.

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

Country of birth (Summary)	Year ended 31 December			Quarter ended 31 December			Month of January		
	1987	1988	1989	1987	1988	1989	1988	1989	1990
Total Africa	9,060	8,150	5,360	2,380	1,800	1,220	970	620	610
Total America	7,440	7,800	7,460	1,770	1,770	2,000	710	610	610
Asia-									
East and South East Asia	37,970	45,500	45,970	10,530	12,480	10,460	4,080	3,700	3,100
South Central Asia	7,900	8,920	6,740	1,890	2,120	1,450	780	660	590
Western Asia (Middle East)	7,000	7,000	4,810	2,270	1,660	1,180	630	510	320
Total Asia	52,870	61,430	57,520	14,690	16,260	13,090	5,500	4,870	4,000
Europe-									
U.K. and Ireland	24,030	29,030	26,490	7,190	7,230	6,500	2,710	2,360	2,320
Other Europe	15,390	15,590	12,830	4,340	4,010	3,600	1,370	1,100	920
Total Europe	39,420	44,630	39,320	11,530	11,230	10,100	4,080	3,460	3,240
Oceania-									
New Zealand	15,360	24,870	17,340	4,620	6,240	2,850	2,320	2,660	1,060
Other Oceania	4,140	4,660	4,040	1,380	1,230	960	580	390	370
Total Oceania	19,490	29,530	21,390	6,010	7,460	3,810	2,900	3,050	1,430
Total (a)	128,290	151,550	131,060	36,380	38,530	30,230	14,160	12,600	9,890

(a) Includes not stated.

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

Country of residence	Year ended 31 December		Quarter ended 31 December		Month of January			
	1987	1988	1987	1988	1987	1988	1989	1990
AFRICA -								
South Africa	9,600	9,400	8,000	3,200	3,700	3,000	700	800
Other	7,900	10,900	9,300	2,700	3,500	3,000	800	900
Total Africa	17,500	20,300	17,300	5,800	7,200	5,900	1,500	1,700
AMERICA -								
Canada	52,700	66,700	54,200	18,900	21,000	16,600	5,300	6,200
U.S.A.	309,000	322,300	260,700	95,700	90,000	67,700	26,600	22,800
Other	11,300	15,400	11,700	3,900	5,900	3,300	1,200	1,600
Total America	373,100	404,400	326,600	118,500	116,900	87,600	33,200	25,400
ASIA -								
China	10,900	18,000	29,100	4,100	6,100	13,000	900	1,700
Hong Kong	42,700	49,400	54,100	11,300	10,300	13,700	3,100	3,200
India	7,400	10,700	10,900	2,100	2,600	2,900	600	800
Indonesia	21,500	28,600	29,000	6,800	8,300	8,400	2,000	2,200
Israel	4,400	5,200	5,400	1,100	1,600	1,500	400	500
Japan	215,600	352,300	349,500	71,800	103,700	90,500	20,500	29,500
Korea (a)	6,900	9,200	10,400	2,300	2,700	3,000	900	900
Malaysia	47,100	52,100	44,300	15,300	14,600	13,600	3,600	3,200
Philippines	12,200	13,400	11,000	2,900	3,200	2,600	700	900
Singapore	57,000	63,500	65,200	21,300	22,400	25,100	3,000	2,500
Taiwan	16,000	19,200	21,500	5,900	5,900	7,900	1,200	1,100
Thailand	11,200	15,800	17,300	3,200	4,600	4,800	700	1,000
Other	18,200	21,900	22,900	5,900	6,200	7,000	1,700	1,500
Total Asia	470,900	660,300	670,500	153,900	192,200	194,000	39,400	48,600
EUROPE -								
Austria	6,400	9,100	9,200	2,700	2,900	3,100	1,200	1,100
Denmark	8,700	11,400	10,200	3,400	3,700	3,300	1,100	1,100
Finland	4,200	5,700	5,200	1,900	2,400	2,000	500	600
France	17,100	21,000	20,100	4,600	6,200	5,700	2,100	2,000
Germany (a)	53,300	65,900	68,100	20,100	21,700	21,200	6,600	7,500
Greece	7,100	8,100	7,400	2,900	3,500	3,200	600	600
Ireland (a)	9,800	13,100	12,200	3,800	4,400	3,300	1,100	1,200
Italy	19,300	25,200	20,500	6,400	9,100	6,600	1,800	1,600
Netherlands	17,300	22,400	20,100	5,700	7,700	6,900	2,500	1,800
Norway	4,300	5,200	3,700	1,900	1,500	1,200	500	500
Poland	3,400	4,100	4,400	1,300	1,400	1,400	200	300
Sweden	21,900	26,900	24,100	9,400	11,000	8,400	3,300	3,500
Switzerland	21,300	26,000	27,400	8,600	9,500	9,600	2,600	3,000
United Kingdom	198,900	260,300	272,900	72,100	90,100	93,100	23,600	23,900
U.S.S.R. (a)	1,500	2,900	5,400	700	1,100	1,800	100	300
Yugoslavia	6,300	6,800	6,400	2,400	2,600	2,600	600	500
Other	11,000	15,500	13,500	4,400	5,100	4,600	900	1,000
Total Europe	411,900	529,600	530,700	152,400	183,900	177,700	49,400	50,200
OCEANIA -								
Fiji	16,500	19,300	17,500	5,200	6,100	5,000	1,600	1,300
New Caledonia	14,400	17,200	13,400	3,700	3,500	2,900	3,100	2,700
New Zealand	427,300	534,300	449,300	117,100	131,500	126,000	27,200	26,700
Papua New Guinea	32,800	37,800	34,800	10,000	10,700	9,900	4,100	4,500
Other	14,700	19,800	18,400	4,400	6,100	5,100	1,500	1,600
Total Oceania	505,800	628,200	535,500	140,300	157,900	148,900	37,500	32,300
Total (b)	1,784,900	2,249,300	2,080,300	571,600	661,000	614,100	161,300	168,900

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

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

Country of intended stay	Year ended			Quarter ended			Month of		
	31 December			31 December			January		
	1987	1988	1989	1987	1988	1989	1988	1989	1990
AFRICA -									
Egypt	4,100	4,900	6,300	1,500	1,900	2,200	400	600	600
South Africa	7,700	8,300	11,600	3,400	3,600	4,600	500	700	700
Other	8,800	9,700	10,300	2,600	3,500	3,400	700	800	600
Total Africa	20,600	22,900	28,300	7,500	9,000	10,100	1,500	2,100	1,900
AMERICA -									
Canada	20,400	23,700	30,100	4,100	5,400	6,500	1,100	1,200	1,200
U.S.A.	174,100	196,300	241,700	45,500	53,100	62,900	10,200	15,000	16,800
Other	20,400	23,900	21,200	8,000	9,000	7,400	900	1,500	1,400
Total America	215,000	243,900	293,100	57,600	67,500	76,700	12,200	17,800	19,400
ASIA -									
China	17,200	19,100	13,900	3,600	4,900	3,200	1,200	1,100	500
Cyprus	3,100	3,200	3,600	600	800	600	100	100	200
Hong Kong	103,300	104,700	116,800	28,200	31,900	34,200	9,500	9,700	8,600
India	20,000	19,300	23,200	7,800	8,400	9,100	1,700	2,200	2,200
Indonesia	117,400	133,600	146,100	30,200	34,000	39,000	12,300	11,600	13,000
Israel	7,000	6,000	6,200	2,600	2,000	2,200	400	400	300
Japan	25,600	30,100	40,600	8,000	9,300	12,200	2,000	2,600	3,100
Korea (a)	4,700	7,400	7,800	1,400	2,000	2,100	200	300	600
Lebanon	6,300	5,300	5,000	1,100	1,200	1,700	200	500	400
Malaysia	47,200	48,400	62,300	12,100	13,100	18,600	4,000	5,100	7,000
Philippines	33,500	35,700	41,900	10,100	11,800	11,900	2,900	3,600	3,400
Singapore	83,700	93,400	117,800	21,000	25,100	32,000	8,000	8,300	9,200
Taiwan	6,700	8,000	10,600	2,000	2,700	3,300	400	700	900
Thailand	48,800	59,800	86,600	14,200	18,200	25,800	5,100	7,100	9,000
Turkey	5,600	6,300	6,900	900	1,200	1,300	300	100	300
Other	17,300	19,500	25,800	5,200	6,100	8,500	1,900	2,300	2,700
Total Asia	547,400	599,900	714,900	149,200	172,600	205,800	50,300	55,900	61,100
EUROPE -									
Austria	5,100	5,300	6,400	1,300	1,300	1,800	500	600	600
France	15,800	16,300	20,500	3,500	4,300	5,100	1,000	1,400	1,000
Germany (a)	26,100	26,900	30,800	6,000	6,400	7,000	1,200	1,500	1,900
Greece	33,900	33,600	31,700	5,400	5,100	4,500	800	1,000	1,000
Ireland (a)	6,700	8,100	10,100	1,600	2,000	2,700	300	200	200
Italy	40,100	39,300	41,600	7,000	7,800	7,600	1,200	2,000	1,300
Malta	4,800	5,300	5,000	700	900	900	100	100	100
Netherlands	14,100	12,700	13,300	2,700	2,500	2,700	400	700	700
Poland	3,100	3,900	5,400	400	700	1,100	—	100	100
Spain	5,100	5,000	5,600	1,200	1,300	1,700	200	200	200
Sweden	3,000	3,900	4,200	700	800	900	100	200	200
Switzerland	7,400	8,100	9,000	1,900	1,900	1,700	500	900	700
United Kingdom	207,400	213,400	237,500	39,900	46,100	50,400	7,700	9,100	10,600
Yugoslavia	17,600	16,000	15,200	2,200	2,200	2,800	300	300	400
Other	18,000	19,000	23,700	3,000	3,400	4,400	600	800	1,100
Total Europe	408,200	416,900	460,000	77,400	86,600	95,300	14,700	19,000	20,000
OCEANIA -									
Cook Islands	4,000	4,100	4,000	1,000	1,000	1,100	300	300	200
Fiji	60,500	73,200	93,900	10,100	19,900	26,700	5,900	6,900	7,700
New Caledonia	10,800	10,300	14,500	3,100	3,800	4,700	1,100	1,300	1,600
New Zealand	275,300	247,100	297,300	85,600	74,300	92,800	21,700	20,900	27,500
Norfolk Is.	18,400	15,000	12,200	5,300	3,800	2,600	1,300	1,200	800
Papua New Guinea	27,500	32,700	34,400	7,300	9,000	8,500	2,300	3,700	2,700
Solomon Islands	4,100	3,600	3,600	1,000	800	700	200	300	300
Tahiti	5,100	5,200	6,800	1,300	1,900	1,300	500	800	400
Vanuatu	5,700	9,100	12,800	2,300	2,400	4,700	500	600	1,300
Other	5,800	6,800	13,000	1,800	2,500	4,900	500	500	1,700
Total Oceania	417,400	407,100	492,400	118,900	119,500	148,100	34,300	36,400	44,300
Total (b)	1,622,300	1,697,600	1,989,800	411,400	458,600	536,200	113,200	131,700	146,700

(a) See paragraph 9 of the Explanatory Notes. (b) 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 that 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 grouping of countries into regions in Asia in Table 4 is based on United Nations' classification of world regions. Applying this classification, the region which includes most 'middle east' countries is included in Asia and is called 'Western Asia (Middle East)'.

9. Statistics on country of birth or residence have certain limitations because of inadequate reporting on passenger cards. For instance, it is not possible to make a distinction between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland, or to separately identify England, Scotland and Wales. Similarly 'Germany' could refer to the Federal Republic or to the Democratic Republic and 'Korea' could refer to North or South Korea. The U.S.S.R. includes Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and the Ukraine.

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 and 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, A.B.S. 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 Mr Mark Patton on Canberra (06) 252 6671.

Symbols and other usages

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IAN CASTLES
Australian Statistician

Printed by R.D. RUBIE, Commonwealth Government Printer, Canberra
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Recommended retail price: \$5.00



2034010001908

ISSN 1031-0495