

OVERSEAS ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES, AUSTRALIA DECEMBER 1990

MAIN FEATURES

The number of overseas movements in December 1990 was 846,300 comprising 399,400 arrivals and 446,900 departures. These figures were 4 per cent higher than in December 1989. In the year 1990, the total number of movements was 9.03 million, an increase of 9 per cent over 1989.

Permanent movement

In December 1990, 10,700 settlers arrived in Australia, 10 per cent more than in December 1989 (9,730). Settlers from East and South East Asia continued to increase in number, (33% more than in December 1989) making up 43 per cent of all settler arrivals. For the year 1990, however, the number of settler arrivals (121,560) was 7 per cent lower than in 1989 and 20 per cent lower than in 1988.

In December 1990, 3,230 permanent departures were recorded, 14 per cent more than in December 1989 (2,840). This continues the higher level of departures since late 1989 compared with previous years. In the year 1990, permanent departures numbered 30,370, an increase of 22 per cent compared with 1989 and 49 per cent compared with 1988.

Arrivals of overseas visitors for short-term visits In December 1990:

- The number of short-term overseas visitor arrivals for the month was 253,100, 2 per cent more than in December 1989 (247,400). In seasonally adjusted terms, short-term visitor arrivals were 1 per cent more than in November 1990. The trend estimate of visitor arrivals continues to show a decline.
- The main purposes for visiting Australia remain 'holiday' (58%) and 'visiting relatives' (29%). The proportions of visitors arriving for the purposes of 'education' and 'visiting relatives' both decreased

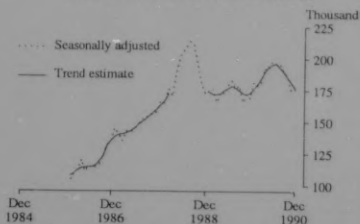
compared with December 1989 (79% and 8% less respectively). The major portion of the decrease in short-term arrivals for educational purposes was attributable to the reduction in Chinese students arriving.

- The major source countries were: Japan with 47,700 (19% of total), the U.K. and Ireland with 42,200 (17%), New Zealand with 40,100 (16%), and the U.S.A. with 22,000 (9%). Among these four major source countries, which accounted for 60 per cent of all visitor arrivals, only visitors from Japan showed a significant increase (36%), while arrivals from New Zealand declined 11 per cent compared with December 1989.

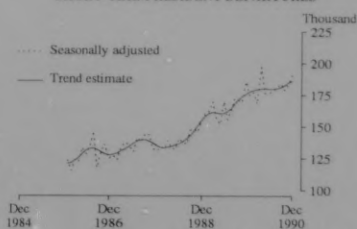
Departures of Australian residents for short-term trips abroad In December 1990:

- 251,200 Australian residents departed for short-term visits overseas, 3 per cent more than in December 1989 (244,900). In seasonally adjusted terms there was a rise of 4 per cent compared with November 1990.
- The most popular destinations were: New Zealand (18% of total), the U.S.A. (14%), the U.K. and Ireland (9%) and Hong Kong (7%). When compared with December 1989, visits to the U.S.A. and Hong Kong increased (19% and 8% respectively), while visits to the U.K. and Ireland and New Zealand decreased (15% and 5% respectively). Other significant changes in destination popularity were shown by increases of 24 per cent for Philippines and 15 per cent for Malaysia, while Israel and Greece decreased (67% and 24% respectively) when compared with December 1989.

SHORT-TERM VISITOR ARRIVALS (a)



SHORT-TERM RESIDENT DEPARTURES



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

INQUIRIES

- for further information about statistics in this publication and the availability of related unpublished statistics, contact Andrew Major 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
		Australian residents	Overseas visitors		Overseas visitors (Actual)	Overseas visitors (Seasonally adjusted)	Overseas visitors (Trend estimate b)		
Year ended 31 December —									
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
1990	121,560	56,370	56,120	234,050	2,109,300	2,214,900	..	..	4,558,300
1989 —									
October	9,740	4,210	3,630	17,580	218,000	174,100	166,200	172,800	409,600
November	10,770	4,960	3,510	19,240	151,400	192,700	172,000	172,100	363,300
December	9,730	8,600	4,160	22,490	113,700	247,400	169,100	173,200	383,600
1990 —									
January	9,890	5,490	8,610	23,990	252,600	176,200	181,500	176,100	452,800
February	9,220	3,980	10,040	23,250	155,600	192,800	178,900	179,900	371,600
March	9,610	3,630	3,840	17,080	137,500	189,100	180,900	184,300	343,700
April	10,250	3,560	4,240	18,050	158,600	181,100	192,200	189,800	357,700
May	9,060	2,930	3,240	15,230	144,800	149,900	192,100	193,800	309,900
June	10,100	4,080	3,360	17,540	149,700	157,300	198,500	195,700	324,600
July	10,390	4,790	5,650	20,830	211,600	185,400	196,500	196,400	417,800
August	11,320	4,440	3,770	19,540	182,000	178,200	196,600	193,100	379,700
September	10,390	4,420	3,530	18,340	205,800	162,700	190,300	189,800	386,900
October	9,990	4,570	3,750	18,300	230,800	190,600	186,100	185,000	439,700
November	10,650	4,960	3,040	18,650	157,200	198,600	174,800	181,100	374,400
December	10,700	9,510	3,050	23,260	123,000	253,100	176,000	176,600	399,400

(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	
		Australian residents	Overseas visitors		Australian residents (Actual)	Australian residents (Seasonally adjusted)	Australian residents (Trend estimate b)	Overseas visitors		
Year ended 31 December —										
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
1990	30,370	66,300	40,810	137,470	2,169,900	—	—	—	2,162,700	4,470,100
1989 —										
October	1,990	3,620	2,160	7,770	147,000	171,100	171,800	—	154,800	309,600
November	2,100	4,070	3,230	9,400	142,200	169,600	174,100	—	177,000	330,500
December	2,840	5,040	6,830	14,710	244,900	185,800	176,100	—	168,300	427,900
1990 —										
January	2,580	7,920	3,730	14,240	146,700	174,800	177,700	226,100	—	387,000
February	2,310	5,390	2,670	10,370	124,400	177,200	178,800	178,400	—	313,200
March	2,450	5,800	3,070	11,310	168,600	168,200	179,500	197,000	—	376,900
April	2,600	5,800	2,740	11,130	193,400	197,700	180,000	188,000	—	392,600
May	2,550	5,230	2,770	10,550	167,900	176,500	180,200	175,500	—	353,900
June	2,250	4,770	3,360	10,380	209,800	176,300	180,100	149,000	—	369,200
July	2,590	5,740	3,090	11,420	198,400	179,400	180,000	156,300	—	366,100
August	2,560	6,300	2,720	11,590	184,300	179,900	180,200	188,000	—	383,900
September	2,290	4,770	2,550	9,600	214,300	184,400	181,100	170,000	—	393,800
October	2,530	4,280	2,480	9,290	156,200	179,000	182,800	162,000	—	327,400
November	2,430	4,510	4,130	11,060	154,900	183,300	184,800	193,300	—	359,200
December	3,230	5,800	7,490	16,530	251,200	190,900	186,400	179,200	—	446,900

(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 INTENDED LENGTH OF STAY AND PURPOSE OF JOURNEY

	Year ended 31 December			Quarter ended 31 December			Month of December		
	1988	1989	1990	1988	1989	1990	1988	1989	1990
ARRIVALS									
Intended length of stay									
Under 1 week	495,300	499,800	563,100	146,100	141,300	141,000	46,600	44,700	45,100
1 and under 2 weeks	567,800	494,000	571,100	162,400	141,900	171,200	49,100	49,400	59,000
2 weeks and under 1 month	541,200	448,500	459,000	148,800	130,100	137,000	60,200	58,700	62,600
1 and under 2 months	279,500	265,600	268,000	90,300	85,700	91,600	47,500	47,300	49,400
2 and under 3 months	99,300	98,900	98,300	31,100	31,500	32,300	14,600	15,100	14,800
3 and under 6 months	110,300	110,700	104,500	39,200	36,100	33,200	15,100	13,200	11,400
6 and under 12 months	146,100	162,700	150,700	42,000	47,500	36,100	12,600	19,100	10,900
Total (a)	2,249,300	2,080,300	2,214,900	661,000	614,100	642,300	245,800	247,400	253,100
Purpose of Journey									
In transit	88,700	78,600	70,200	22,000	19,400	16,700	7,800	6,900	5,600
Attending convention	56,700	25,400	32,500	16,100	6,200	7,800	2,200	800	1,100
Business	234,300	230,800	231,100	60,600	58,800	57,100	12,800	13,000	12,100
Accompanying business traveller	23,000	19,400	21,800	6,500	4,300	4,800	1,600	1,000	1,200
Visiting relatives	448,500	459,900	456,000	152,400	158,400	149,600	76,900	80,900	74,400
Holiday	1,237,000	1,107,000	1,233,700	363,200	327,800	371,100	132,400	127,100	148,000
Employment	26,600	30,000	29,600	6,700	6,700	6,200	1,600	2,100	2,100
Education	47,800	62,800	64,600	8,100	16,100	7,700	2,100	9,200	1,900
Other and not stated	86,600	66,400	75,300	25,300	16,600	21,300	8,500	6,400	6,800
Total	2,249,300	2,080,300	2,214,900	661,000	614,100	642,300	245,800	247,400	253,100
DEPARTURES									
Intended length of stay									
Under 1 week	138,300	175,900	189,600	37,200	47,500	50,400	10,600	15,600	13,300
1 and under 2 weeks	402,300	487,800	523,600	103,800	124,800	127,500	33,400	37,200	37,300
2 weeks and under 1 month	480,200	565,200	604,800	129,600	152,700	157,200	59,800	70,600	73,800
1 and under 2 months	302,300	353,300	389,200	97,100	112,700	119,300	63,200	75,300	80,500
2 and under 3 months	145,400	158,500	181,500	45,000	49,800	52,600	23,700	28,400	26,900
3 and under 6 months	126,600	139,800	157,500	25,600	27,500	30,700	8,700	10,300	10,600
6 and under 12 months	96,300	108,100	123,600	18,600	21,100	24,600	6,800	7,500	8,800
Total (a)	1,697,600	1,989,800	2,169,900	458,600	536,200	562,300	206,700	244,900	251,200
Purpose of Journey									
Attending convention	37,200	47,700	55,300	8,400	8,200	10,800	1,400	1,500	2,000
Business	264,400	302,200	306,900	64,000	72,100	71,200	14,700	18,000	18,000
Accompanying business traveller	28,800	33,000	31,600	6,100	7,500	6,600	2,200	2,600	2,400
Visiting relatives	343,400	387,600	439,200	108,000	124,200	133,300	62,200	73,700	77,300
Holiday	912,000	1,085,500	1,193,900	243,900	291,100	308,100	114,700	135,300	139,500
Employment	28,400	35,700	41,500	6,900	8,800	10,500	2,600	2,600	3,200
Education	15,300	19,400	24,100	3,700	4,600	4,900	1,600	2,100	2,100
Other and not stated	68,200	78,700	77,300	17,600	19,800	17,000	7,400	9,100	6,700
Total	1,697,600	1,989,800	2,169,900	458,600	536,200	562,300	206,700	244,900	251,200

(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 December		
	1988	1989	1990	1988	1989	1990	1988	1989	1990
Total Africa	8,130	5,360	4,610	1,800	1,220	1,250	660	450	490
Total America	7,800	7,460	6,600	1,770	2,000	1,570	650	850	600
Asia —									
East and South East Asia	45,500	45,970	49,380	12,480	10,460	13,310	4,510	3,480	4,630
South Central Asia	8,920	6,740	8,620	2,120	1,450	2,460	820	490	990
Western Asia (Middle East)	7,000	4,810	4,920	1,660	1,180	1,610	550	350	490
Total Asia	61,430	57,520	62,930	16,260	13,090	17,380	5,880	4,320	6,110
Europe —									
U.K. and Ireland	29,030	26,490	23,520	7,230	6,500	5,700	1,740	1,540	1,530
Other Europe	15,590	12,830	11,100	4,010	3,600	2,750	1,170	1,140	860
Total Europe	44,630	39,320	34,620	11,230	10,100	8,450	2,920	2,680	2,390
Oceania —									
New Zealand	24,870	17,340	8,970	6,240	2,850	1,780	2,270	1,060	710
Other Oceania	4,660	4,040	3,810	1,230	960	900	490	380	390
Total Oceania	29,530	21,380	12,780	7,460	3,810	2,680	2,760	1,440	1,110
Total (a)	151,550	131,060	121,560	38,530	30,230	31,330	12,860	9,730	10,700

(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 December		
	1988	1989	1990	1988	1989	1990	1988	1989	1990
AFRICA —									
South Africa	9,400	8,000	9,100	3,700	3,000	3,500	1,800	1,300	1,500
Other	10,900	9,300	9,300	3,500	3,000	2,900	1,700	1,500	1,400
Total Africa	20,300	17,300	18,400	7,200	5,900	6,400	3,500	2,800	2,900
AMERICA —									
Canada	66,700	54,200	53,700	21,000	16,600	16,700	6,700	5,400	5,900
U.S.A.	322,300	260,700	250,700	90,000	67,700	68,800	25,200	21,500	22,000
Other	15,400	11,700	12,600	5,900	3,300	3,900	2,300	1,700	2,000
Total America	404,400	326,600	317,000	116,900	87,600	89,400	34,200	28,500	29,900
ASIA —									
China	18,000	29,100	23,700	6,100	13,000	3,700	2,000	9,300	1,300
Hong Kong	49,400	54,100	54,500	10,300	13,700	14,700	4,900	6,300	7,100
India	10,700	10,900	11,000	2,600	2,900	2,500	900	1,200	1,000
Indonesia	29,600	29,000	34,400	8,300	8,400	10,200	4,100	4,500	5,800
Israel	5,200	5,400	5,300	1,600	1,500	1,400	600	600	600
Japan	352,300	349,500	479,900	103,700	90,500	124,800	35,500	35,100	47,700
Korea (a)	9,200	10,400	14,100	2,700	3,000	4,100	800	1,200	1,800
Malaysia	52,100	44,300	46,600	14,600	13,600	13,500	5,600	3,600	3,900
Philippines	13,400	11,000	13,600	3,200	2,600	3,500	1,000	1,000	1,400
Singapore	63,500	65,200	75,900	22,400	25,100	29,200	11,300	12,600	14,000
Taiwan	19,200	21,500	25,300	5,900	7,900	5,500	1,700	2,500	2,400
Thailand	15,800	17,300	19,600	4,600	4,800	6,000	1,200	1,100	1,700
Other	21,900	22,900	24,300	6,200	7,000	6,300	2,600	3,100	2,700
Total Asia	660,300	670,500	828,000	192,200	194,000	225,400	72,300	82,100	91,300
EUROPE —									
Austria	9,100	9,200	9,600	2,900	3,100	3,300	1,100	1,100	1,200
Denmark	11,400	11,200	9,900	3,700	3,300	3,300	1,300	1,300	1,300
Finland	5,700	5,200	5,800	2,400	2,000	2,200	700	800	1,100
France	21,000	20,100	21,100	6,200	5,700	6,200	2,200	2,200	2,400
Germany (a)	65,900	68,100	74,200	21,700	21,200	22,600	8,300	8,600	8,700
Greece	8,100	7,400	7,500	3,500	3,200	2,600	1,600	1,600	1,500
Ireland (a)	13,100	12,200	10,600	4,400	3,300	3,300	1,400	1,200	1,200
Italy	25,200	20,500	24,400	9,100	6,600	8,300	3,900	3,200	4,200
Netherlands	22,400	20,100	21,100	7,700	6,900	7,600	2,700	2,800	2,600
Norway	5,200	3,700	4,400	1,500	1,200	1,500	500	400	500
Poland	4,100	4,400	3,700	1,400	1,400	1,100	600	400	300
Sweden	26,900	24,100	22,000	11,000	8,400	8,300	4,800	3,500	3,900
Switzerland	26,000	27,400	29,500	9,500	9,600	11,700	3,700	4,400	4,600
United Kingdom	260,300	272,900	277,700	90,100	93,100	94,800	40,100	42,300	41,000
U.S.S.R. (a)	2,900	5,400	5,300	1,100	1,800	1,500	400	800	700
Yugoslavia	6,800	6,400	5,800	2,600	2,600	2,300	1,100	1,200	1,100
Other	15,500	13,500	15,800	5,100	4,600	5,200	1,800	1,600	2,100
Total Europe	529,600	530,700	548,400	183,900	177,700	185,800	76,100	77,700	78,400
OCEANIA —									
Fiji	19,300	17,500	16,000	6,100	5,000	4,900	2,800	2,500	2,300
New Caledonia	17,200	13,400	14,400	3,500	2,900	3,300	1,600	1,500	1,500
New Zealand	534,300	449,300	418,400	131,500	126,000	111,200	45,900	45,000	40,100
Papua New Guinea	37,800	34,800	34,600	10,700	9,900	9,800	4,900	4,900	4,500
Other	19,800	18,400	17,200	6,100	5,100	4,700	2,500	2,400	2,000
Total Oceania	628,200	533,500	500,700	157,900	148,900	134,000	57,700	56,300	50,400
Total (b)	2,249,300	2,080,300	2,214,900	661,000	614,100	642,300	245,800	247,400	253,100

(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 31 December			Quarter ended 31 December			Month of December		
	1988	1989	1990	1988	1989	1990	1988	1989	1990
AFRICA —									
Egypt	4,900	6,300	4,800	1,900	2,200	1,400	1,100	1,100	500
South Africa	8,300	11,600	10,400	3,600	4,600	4,000	2,300	2,500	2,200
Other	9,700	10,300	11,100	3,500	3,400	3,800	1,900	1,700	2,100
Total Africa	22,900	28,300	26,300	9,000	10,100	9,300	5,300	5,300	4,800
AMERICA —									
Canada	23,700	30,100	32,500	5,400	6,500	7,100	2,700	3,800	4,200
U.S.A.	196,300	241,700	290,500	53,100	62,900	73,000	20,800	28,600	34,000
Other	23,900	21,200	25,100	9,000	7,400	9,600	4,500	4,300	4,500
Total America	243,900	293,100	348,100	67,500	76,700	89,700	27,900	36,600	42,700
ASIA —									
China	19,100	13,900	12,800	4,900	3,200	4,000	1,700	900	1,700
Cyprus	3,200	3,600	3,900	800	600	600	300	300	400
Hong Kong	104,700	116,800	120,500	31,900	34,200	37,100	13,400	15,600	16,800
India	19,300	23,200	22,100	8,400	9,100	8,500	5,000	5,500	5,200
Indonesia	133,600	146,100	158,000	34,000	39,000	38,200	12,400	14,300	14,800
Israel	6,000	6,200	4,800	2,000	2,200	800	1,300	1,300	400
Japan	30,100	40,600	47,900	9,300	12,200	12,800	3,300	4,200	4,500
Korea (a)	7,400	7,800	8,000	2,000	2,100	2,200	700	900	900
Lebanon	5,300	5,000	7,700	1,200	1,700	1,500	600	700	500
Malaysia	48,400	62,300	75,100	13,100	18,600	22,900	6,300	9,400	10,800
Philippines	35,700	41,900	40,500	11,800	11,900	13,300	5,900	6,100	7,500
Singapore	93,400	117,800	105,500	25,100	32,000	28,700	9,600	11,800	11,900
Taiwan	8,000	10,600	13,600	2,700	3,300	4,800	1,200	1,800	2,200
Thailand	59,800	86,600	99,100	18,200	25,800	27,200	7,300	9,700	10,500
Turkey	6,300	6,900	8,400	1,200	1,300	1,000	500	400	400
Other	19,500	25,800	31,400	6,100	8,500	10,800	3,000	4,700	6,400
Total Asia	599,900	714,900	759,300	172,600	205,800	214,200	72,600	87,700	94,900
EUROPE —									
Austria	5,300	6,400	7,600	1,300	1,800	1,500	600	1,100	900
France	16,300	20,500	24,100	4,300	5,100	5,400	2,200	2,300	2,700
Germany (a)	26,900	30,800	34,500	6,400	7,000	7,600	2,600	2,600	3,000
Greece	33,600	31,700	32,900	5,100	4,500	4,400	2,000	2,400	1,800
Ireland (a)	8,100	10,100	11,900	2,000	2,700	3,100	1,100	1,800	1,900
Italy	39,300	41,600	45,000	7,800	7,600	7,300	3,600	3,300	3,700
Malta	5,300	5,000	5,300	900	900	600	400	500	200
Netherlands	12,700	13,300	15,900	2,500	2,700	3,600	1,000	1,100	1,300
Poland	3,900	5,400	6,300	700	1,100	1,400	400	500	700
Spain	5,000	5,600	6,300	1,300	1,700	1,200	600	700	400
Sweden	3,900	4,200	4,900	800	900	800	400	400	400
Switzerland	8,100	9,000	9,500	1,900	1,700	2,100	1,100	900	1,200
United Kingdom	213,400	237,500	252,800	46,100	50,400	47,600	21,700	24,200	20,200
Yugoslavia	16,000	15,200	17,500	2,200	2,800	2,500	900	1,300	700
Other	19,000	23,700	30,900	3,400	4,400	5,000	1,500	1,900	2,300
Total Europe	416,900	460,000	505,300	86,600	95,300	94,000	40,000	44,800	41,400
OCEANIA —									
Cook Islands	4,100	4,000	3,700	1,000	1,100	1,300	400	600	300
Fiji	73,200	93,900	102,000	19,900	26,700	27,900	8,900	10,700	10,300
New Caledonia	10,300	14,500	14,900	3,800	4,700	3,800	1,500	2,000	1,500
New Zealand	247,100	297,300	320,200	74,300	92,800	95,400	39,200	48,400	46,100
Norfolk Is.	15,000	12,200	14,200	3,800	2,600	4,700	1,500	900	1,400
Papua New Guinea	32,700	34,400	34,000	9,000	8,500	8,800	3,500	3,500	3,200
Solomon Islands	3,600	3,600	4,000	800	700	1,100	400	300	300
Tahiti	5,200	6,800	5,800	1,900	1,300	1,300	700	500	300
Vanuatu	9,100	12,800	17,200	2,400	4,700	5,500	900	1,400	1,600
Other	6,800	13,000	13,800	2,500	4,900	4,400	1,200	2,200	2,100
Total Oceania	407,100	492,400	529,900	119,500	148,100	154,200	58,100	70,500	67,100
Total (b)	1,697,600	1,989,800	2,169,900	458,600	536,200	562,300	206,700	244,900	251,200

(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 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 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. 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 Robert Chibnall on Canberra (06) 252 6671.

Symbols and other usages

- nil or rounded to zero
- .. not applicable
- r figures or series revised since previous issue

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