



Australian Bureau of Statistics

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OVERSEAS ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES, AUSTRALIA SEPTEMBER 1990

PHONE INQUIRIES	• about these statistics and the availability of related unpublished statistics — contact Mr Robert Chibnall on Canberra (06) 252 6671 or any ABS State office. • about other statistics and ABS services — contact Information Services on Canberra (06) 252 6007, 252 6627, 252 5402 or any ABS State office.
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MAIN FEATURES

The total number of overseas movements in September 1990 was 780,700 (9% more than in September 1989) comprising 386,900 arrivals (9% more than September 1989) and 393,800 departures (9% more than September 1989).

Permanent and long-term movement In September 1990:

- 10,390 settlers arrived in Australia, 2 per cent less than in September 1989 (10,620). Settlers born in East and South East Asia increased 9 per cent compared with September 1989, and made up 39 per cent of the total.
- Long-term visitor arrivals (3,530) decreased marginally from September 1989 (3,540).
- 2,290 permanent departures were recorded, 21 per cent more than September 1989 (1,890).
- Australian residents departing long-term (4,770) increased 14 per cent from September 1989 (4,170).

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

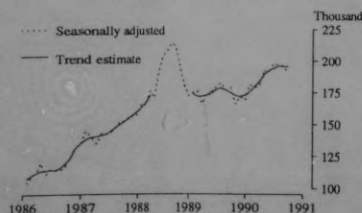
- The number of short-term overseas visitor arrivals for the month was 162,700, 9 per cent more than in September 1989 (149,900). In seasonally adjusted terms, short-term visitor arrivals were 3 per cent less than in August 1990. The trend estimate of visitor arrivals appears to be stabilising.
- The main purposes for visiting Australia remain 'holiday' (56%), 'visiting relatives' (18%) and 'business and attending convention' (14%). The proportion of visitors stating their intention to stay in Australia for less than 2 weeks was 58 per cent compared with 52 per cent in September 1989.

- The major source countries were: Japan with 42,600 (26% of total), New Zealand with 36,500 (22%), the U.S.A. with 17,400 (11%) and the U.K. and Ireland with 13,300 (8%). Among these four major source countries, which accounted for 68 per cent of all visitor arrivals, visitors from Japan and New Zealand showed increases of 54 per cent and 1 per cent respectively, while arrivals from the U.S.A. and the U.K. and Ireland declined 14 and 7 per cent respectively compared with September 1989. Other countries to record significant increases were Germany (21%) and Malaysia (17%). Visitors from Hong Kong recorded a 6 per cent decrease.

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

- 214,300 Australian residents departed for short-term visits overseas, 6 per cent more than in September 1989 (201,700). In seasonally adjusted terms, short-term resident departures were 3 per cent higher than in August 1990.
- The most popular destinations were: the U.S.A. (15% of total), New Zealand (14%), the U.K. and Ireland (12%) and Indonesia (8%). When compared with September 1989, resident departures to the U.S.A., Thailand and Germany increased 29, 25 and 16 per cent respectively, while departures to Singapore decreased 18 per cent.
- There were 127,600 (60%) departures for 'holiday', the highest number in percentage terms since September 1987, 34,800 (16%) for 'visiting relatives' and 29,000 (14%) for 'business'. Australian residents travelling overseas for 'employment' and 'education' increased 40 and 27 per cent respectively compared with September 1989.

SHORT-TERM VISITOR ARRIVALS (a)



SHORT-TERM RESIDENT DEPARTURES

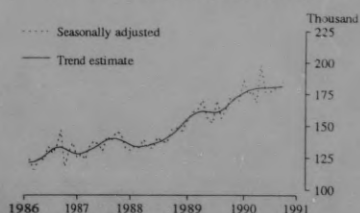


TABLE 1. TOTAL MOVEMENT — ARRIVALS: CATEGORY OF MOVEMENT

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)	
<i>Year ended 31 December —</i>									
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
<i>1989 —</i>									
July	10,740	4,400	4,870	20,010	197,900	175,400	183,000	178,700	393,300
August	11,500	4,140	3,680	19,320	159,000	161,400	176,900	177,000	339,800
September	10,620	3,970	3,540	18,130	187,300	149,900	179,200	175,200	355,400
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
<i>1990 —</i>									
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	189,500	357,700
May	9,060	2,930	3,240	15,230	144,800	149,900	192,100	192,800	309,900
June	10,100	4,080	3,360	17,540	149,700	157,300	198,500	194,300	324,600
July	10,390	4,790	5,650	20,830	211,600	185,400	196,500	196,100	417,800
August	11,320	4,440	3,770	19,540	182,000	178,200	196,600	195,600	379,700
September	10,390	4,420	3,530	18,340	205,800	162,700	190,300	195,900	386,900

(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 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	
<i>Year ended 31 December —</i>									
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
<i>1989 —</i>									
July	2,150	4,940	2,720	9,810	173,800	155,900	162,100	150,600	334,200
August	2,160	5,570	2,340	10,070	165,400	163,800	164,900	178,400	353,900
September	1,890	4,170	2,280	8,340	201,700	172,400	168,600	149,700	359,700
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	144,200	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
<i>1990 —</i>									
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	179,900	188,000	392,600
May	2,550	5,230	2,770	10,550	167,900	176,500	180,100	175,500	353,900
June	2,250	4,770	3,360	10,380	209,800	176,300	180,300	149,000	369,200
July	2,590	5,740	3,090	11,420	198,400	179,400	180,500	156,300	366,100
August	2,560	6,300	2,720	11,580	184,300	179,900	180,700	188,000	383,900
September	2,290	4,770	2,550	9,600	214,300	184,400	181,200	170,000	393,800

(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 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		Quarter ended		January to		Month of	
	31 December		30 September		September		September	
	1988	1989	1989	1990	1989	1990	1989	1990
ARRIVALS								
Intended length of stay								
Under 1 week	495,300	499,800	119,300	140,800	358,500	422,200	41,100	50,800
1 and under 2 weeks	567,800	494,000	114,100	136,300	352,100	399,900	37,500	44,200
2 weeks and under 1 month	541,200	448,500	116,200	115,800	318,400	322,000	29,300	28,200
1 and under 2 months	279,500	265,600	60,500	59,100	179,900	176,400	15,700	14,900
2 and under 3 months	99,300	98,900	19,900	19,700	67,400	66,000	6,000	6,200
3 and under 6 months	110,300	110,700	22,100	22,000	74,500	71,400	8,300	8,000
6 and under 12 months	146,100	162,700	34,600	32,600	115,200	114,700	12,000	10,400
Total (a)	2,249,300	2,080,300	486,700	526,300	1,466,100	1,572,600	149,900	162,700
Purpose of journey								
In transit	88,700	78,600	19,200	17,700	59,300	53,500	6,100	6,300
Attending convention	56,700	25,400	6,400	12,100	19,200	24,700	3,300	3,400
Business	234,300	230,800	57,600	56,100	172,000	174,000	19,900	20,100
Accompanying business traveller	23,000	19,400	5,000	6,600	15,100	16,900	1,700	1,800
Visiting relatives	448,500	459,900	101,500	102,700	301,500	306,400	29,400	29,500
Holiday	1,237,000	1,107,000	258,400	291,400	779,300	862,600	78,600	90,800
Employment	26,600	30,000	7,400	7,300	23,300	23,400	2,700	2,200
Education	47,800	62,800	14,200	14,700	46,700	56,900	3,700	3,200
Other and not stated	86,600	66,400	17,000	17,700	49,800	54,000	4,500	5,400
Total	2,249,300	2,080,300	486,700	526,300	1,466,100	1,572,600	149,900	162,700
DEPARTURES								
Intended length of stay								
Under 1 week	138,300	175,800	46,900	46,200	128,400	139,200	17,200	15,200
Under 1 and under 2 weeks	402,300	487,800	136,200	148,800	363,100	396,100	55,600	59,400
2 weeks and under 1 month	480,200	565,200	150,500	167,400	412,500	447,600	64,400	69,600
1 and under 2 months	302,300	353,300	95,700	109,500	240,600	269,900	35,700	38,300
2 and under 3 months	145,400	158,500	47,500	54,600	108,700	128,900	13,100	14,200
3 and under 6 months	126,600	139,800	39,100	41,300	112,300	126,800	9,200	9,400
6 and under 12 months	96,300	108,100	25,000	29,200	87,000	99,000	6,500	8,200
Total (a)	1,697,600	1,989,800	540,900	596,900	1,453,700	1,607,700	201,700	214,300
Purpose of journey								
Attending convention	37,200	47,700	16,100	15,600	39,500	44,600	5,900	6,600
Business	264,400	302,200	77,500	78,700	230,200	235,700	27,800	29,000
Accompanying business traveller	28,800	33,000	9,200	8,600	25,600	25,000	3,900	3,200
Visiting relatives	343,400	387,600	95,700	109,500	263,400	305,900	30,700	34,800
Holiday	912,000	1,085,500	306,700	346,200	794,500	885,900	120,500	127,600
Employment	28,400	35,700	8,500	11,000	26,900	31,000	2,900	4,000
Education	15,300	19,400	5,300	7,600	14,700	19,200	2,300	2,900
Other and not stated	68,200	78,700	21,600	19,700	59,000	60,400	7,600	6,200
Total	1,697,600	1,989,800	540,900	596,900	1,453,700	1,607,700	201,700	214,300

(a) Includes not stated.

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

Country of birth (Summary)	Year ended		Quarter ended		January to		Month of	
	31 December		30 September		September		September	
	1988	1989	1989	1990	1989	1990	1989	1990
Total Africa	8,150	5,360	1,350	1,070	4,140	3,360	400	310
Total America	7,800	7,460	1,940	1,840	5,460	5,030	680	590
Asia —								
East and South East Asia	45,500	45,970	11,790	13,730	35,510	36,070	3,730	4,070
South Central Asia	8,920	6,740	1,790	2,600	5,280	6,160	630	1,150
Western Asia (Middle East)	7,000	4,810	1,200	1,280	3,630	3,310	330	440
Total Asia	61,430	57,520	14,780	17,600	44,430	45,550	4,690	5,650
Europe —								
U.K. and Ireland	29,030	26,490	7,070	5,800	19,990	17,820	2,380	1,920
Other Europe	15,590	12,830	3,370	2,780	9,230	8,350	1,090	910
Total Europe	44,630	39,320	10,440	8,580	29,220	26,170	3,470	2,830
Oceania —								
New Zealand	24,870	17,340	3,340	2,220	14,490	7,200	1,040	770
Other Oceania	4,660	4,040	1,020	800	3,080	2,910	340	250
Total Oceania	29,530	21,390	4,370	3,010	17,570	10,110	1,380	1,010
Total (a)	151,550	131,060	32,870	32,100	100,830	90,230	10,620	10,390

(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 30 September		January to September		Month of September	
	1988	1989	1989	1990	1989	1990	1989	1990
AFRICA —								
South Africa	9,400	8,000	1,600	1,500	5,100	5,600	700	600
Other	10,900	9,300	2,100	2,100	6,300	6,500	800	700
Total Africa	20,300	17,300	3,700	3,600	11,400	12,000	1,400	1,300
AMERICA —								
Canada	66,700	54,200	10,700	12,100	37,600	37,000	3,600	3,900
U.S.A.	322,300	260,700	60,800	58,500	193,000	181,800	20,300	17,400
Other	15,400	11,700	2,700	3,000	8,400	8,800	900	900
Total America	404,400	326,600	74,200	73,600	239,000	227,600	24,900	22,200
ASIA —								
China	18,000	29,100	3,400	3,400	16,100	20,000	1,100	1,200
Hong Kong	49,400	54,100	16,400	11,000	40,400	39,800	3,300	3,100
India	10,700	10,900	2,600	2,600	8,000	8,500	1,000	1,000
Indonesia	29,600	29,000	6,500	7,800	20,500	24,200	2,000	2,100
Israel	5,200	5,400	1,400	1,300	3,900	3,800	400	400
Japan	352,300	349,500	88,400	128,500	259,000	355,100	27,700	42,600
Korea (a)	9,200	10,400	2,700	3,700	7,400	10,000	800	900
Malaysia	52,100	44,300	9,000	9,200	30,600	33,100	2,900	3,400
Philippines	13,400	11,000	2,300	3,200	8,300	10,000	800	1,100
Singapore	63,500	65,200	11,400	13,400	40,100	46,700	4,700	5,000
Taiwan	19,200	21,500	4,300	4,300	13,600	19,700	1,200	900
Thailand	15,800	17,300	3,300	3,600	12,600	13,700	1,200	1,100
Other	21,900	22,900	6,000	6,100	15,900	17,900	1,900	1,500
Total Asia	660,300	670,500	157,800	198,000	476,500	602,500	49,200	64,400
EUROPE —								
Austria	9,100	9,200	2,100	2,300	6,100	6,300	800	700
Denmark	11,400	10,200	2,400	2,000	6,900	6,600	1,000	800
Finland	5,700	5,200	900	1,200	3,300	3,600	400	400
France	21,000	20,100	5,800	6,100	14,500	14,900	1,600	1,400
Germany (a)	65,900	68,100	14,200	16,600	46,800	51,600	5,200	6,300
Greece	8,100	7,400	1,400	1,800	4,200	4,900	400	400
Ireland (a)	13,100	12,200	2,400	1,900	8,900	7,200	600	600
Italy	25,200	20,500	6,100	7,900	13,900	16,100	1,300	1,400
Netherlands	22,400	20,100	4,300	4,500	13,200	13,400	1,300	1,100
Norway	5,200	3,700	700	1,000	2,500	3,000	300	300
Poland	4,100	4,400	1,100	800	3,000	2,700	400	300
Sweden	26,900	24,100	3,300	3,200	15,700	13,700	1,300	1,400
Switzerland	26,000	27,400	5,100	5,400	17,800	17,700	1,800	2,000
United Kingdom	260,300	272,900	46,900	48,000	179,800	182,900	13,700	12,800
U.S.S.R. (a)	2,900	5,400	1,100	1,400	3,600	3,800	400	400
Yugoslavia	6,800	6,400	1,200	1,100	3,900	3,600	300	300
Other	15,500	13,500	3,600	4,400	9,000	10,500	1,000	1,100
Total Europe	529,600	530,700	102,600	109,400	353,000	362,500	31,600	31,600
OCEANIA —								
Fiji	19,300	17,500	3,900	3,400	12,500	11,100	1,300	1,200
New Caledonia	17,200	13,400	2,300	2,700	10,500	11,100	500	800
New Zealand	534,300	449,300	128,500	122,200	323,300	307,200	36,300	36,500
Papua New Guinea	37,800	34,800	9,200	8,300	25,000	24,700	3,000	3,000
Other	19,800	18,400	4,600	4,200	13,300	12,500	1,700	1,300
Total Oceania	628,200	533,500	148,500	140,700	384,600	366,700	42,800	42,900
Total (b)	2,249,300	2,080,300	486,700	526,300	1,466,100	1,572,600	149,900	162,700

(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 30 September		January to September		Month of September	
	1988	1989	1988	1990	1989	1990	1989	1990
AFRICA —								
Egypt	4 900	6 300	1 400	900	4 100	3 400	600	300
South Africa	8 300	11 600	2 500	1 500	7 100	6 300	1 100	400
Other	9 700	10 300	2 500	3 200	7 000	7 300	900	1 100
<i>Total Africa</i>	<i>22 900</i>	<i>28 300</i>	<i>6 300</i>	<i>5 500</i>	<i>18 100</i>	<i>17 000</i>	<i>2 700</i>	<i>1 700</i>
AMERICA —								
Canada	23 700	30 100	9 800	10 700	23 700	25 400	3 100	3 100
U.S.A.	196 300	241 700	67 200	82 400	178 900	217 600	25 100	32 400
Other	23 900	21 200	4 500	6 600	13 800	15 500	1 900	2 200
<i>Total America</i>	<i>243 900</i>	<i>293 100</i>	<i>81 600</i>	<i>99 700</i>	<i>216 300</i>	<i>258 400</i>	<i>30 200</i>	<i>37 700</i>
ASIA —								
China	19 100	13 900	2 500	3 500	10 700	8 800	1 400	1 600
Cyprus	3 200	3 600	1 200	1 000	2 900	3 300	400	200
Hong Kong	104 700	116 800	26 500	28 300	82 500	83 400	11 100	11 100
India	19 300	23 200	5 000	4 400	14 100	13 600	3 000	2 300
Indonesia	133 600	146 100	41 300	48 700	107 100	119 800	15 200	16 300
Israel	6 000	6 200	1 100	1 000	4 000	4 100	500	400
Japan	30 100	40 600	10 500	13 300	28 400	35 100	5 000	5 800
Korea (a)	7 400	7 800	2 200	2 100	5 700	5 800	900	900
Lebanon	5 300	5 000	1 300	2 500	3 200	6 200	300	500
Malaysia	48 400	62 300	17 000	18 900	43 700	52 200	6 400	7 300
Philippines	35 700	41 900	9 000	7 500	30 000	27 200	3 300	2 500
Singapore	93 400	117 800	30 800	26 300	85 800	76 800	12 000	9 800
Taiwan	8 000	10 600	2 100	3 000	7 300	8 900	700	1 100
Thailand	59 800	86 600	21 500	25 600	60 700	71 900	8 300	10 400
Turkey	6 300	6 900	2 100	1 900	5 600	7 400	500	400
Other	19 500	25 800	5 200	7 200	17 300	20 600	2 300	3 000
<i>Total Asia</i>	<i>599 900</i>	<i>714 900</i>	<i>179 100</i>	<i>193 400</i>	<i>509 000</i>	<i>545 000</i>	<i>71 300</i>	<i>73 600</i>
EUROPE —								
Austria	5 300	6 400	1 900	2 300	4 500	6 100	600	700
France	16 300	20 500	5 600	7 700	15 400	18 700	2 500	3 200
Germany (a)	26 900	30 800	9 400	10 700	23 800	26 900	3 500	4 100
Greece	33 600	31 700	10 100	10 000	27 200	28 600	2 600	1 800
Ireland (a)	8 100	10 100	3 200	3 700	7 300	8 800	1 000	700
Italy	39 300	41 600	13 600	14 900	34 000	37 700	4 500	4 200
Malta	5 300	5 000	1 600	1 800	4 200	4 700	200	400
Netherlands	12 700	13 300	3 800	4 300	10 600	12 300	1 200	1 300
Poland	3 900	5 400	1 300	1 400	4 300	4 900	500	600
Spain	5 000	5 600	1 800	1 900	3 900	5 100	700	700
Sweden	3 900	4 200	1 200	1 800	3 300	4 000	500	500
Switzerland	8 100	9 000	2 300	2 400	7 300	7 500	700	1 100
United Kingdom	213 400	237 500	74 400	82 000	187 100	205 200	25 400	25 900
Yugoslavia	16 000	15 200	5 300	5 900	12 500	14 900	1 200	1 000
Other	19 000	23 700	8 000	10 400	19 300	25 900	1 900	2 700
<i>Total Europe</i>	<i>416 900</i>	<i>460 000</i>	<i>143 600</i>	<i>161 200</i>	<i>364 600</i>	<i>411 300</i>	<i>46 900</i>	<i>48 600</i>
OCEANIA —								
Cook Islands	4 100	4 000	1 100	1 200	2 800	2 500	500	600
Fiji	73 200	93 900	27 900	31 300	67 200	74 200	10 500	10 400
New Caledonia	10 300	14 500	4 100	4 800	9 800	11 000	1 900	1 800
New Zealand	247 100	297 300	75 800	74 700	204 500	224 800	29 800	29 500
Norfolk Is.	15 000	12 200	1 900	3 200	9 500	9 500	500	1 700
Papua New Guinea	32 700	34 400	8 400	9 000	25 900	25 200	3 000	3 400
Solomon Islands	3 600	3 600	1 100	1 000	2 800	2 900	400	500
Tahiti	5 200	6 800	1 800	1 700	5 500	4 500	700	900
Vanuatu	9 100	12 800	4 100	4 800	8 100	11 600	1 500	2 200
Other	6 800	13 000	4 000	3 400	8 100	9 500	1 800	1 700
<i>Total Oceania</i>	<i>407 100</i>	<i>492 400</i>	<i>130 200</i>	<i>135 000</i>	<i>344 300</i>	<i>375 700</i>	<i>50 600</i>	<i>52 600</i>
Total (b)	1 697 600	1 989 800	540 900	596 900	1 453 700	1 607 700	201 700	214 300

(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
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