

**OVERSEAS ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES, AUSTRALIA
MARCH 1989**

PHONE INQUIRIES

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ELECTRONIC SERVICES

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MAIN FEATURES

The number of overseas movements in March 1989 was 700,200 compared with 637,500 in March 1988, an increase of 10%. There were 331,400 arrivals (6% more than in March 1988) and 368,900 departures (14% more than in March 1988).

Permanent movement

In March 1989:

- 11,650 settlers arrived in Australia, 9% less than in March 1988.
- 2,080 permanent departures were recorded, 21% more than in March 1988.

Arrivals of visitors for short-term visits

In March 1989:

- 180,000 arrivals of overseas visitors for short-term visits were recorded, 3% less than in March 1988. In seasonally adjusted terms, arrivals were 7% lower than in February 1989.
- Arrivals from New Zealand numbered 32,700 (18% of total), a decrease of 8% compared with March 1988.
- Arrivals from Japan numbered 32,300 (18% of total), an increase of 5% compared with March 1988.

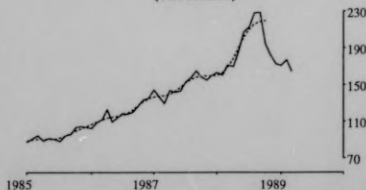
- Arrivals from the U.K. and Ireland numbered 31,500 (17% of total), a decrease of 14% compared with March 1988.
- Arrivals from the U.S.A. numbered 22,200 (12% of total), a decrease of 7% compared with March 1988.
- 96,300 arrivals (53%) were for the purpose of 'holiday', 38,600 (21%) for 'visiting relatives' and 20,900 (12%) for 'business'.
- 72% of visitor arrivals were for less than one month, 50% intended to stay for less than 2 weeks.

Departures of Australian residents for short-term trips abroad

In March 1989:

- 170,900 departures of Australian residents for short-term overseas trips were recorded, 23% more than in March 1988.
- The most popular overseas destinations were New Zealand (16%), the U.K. and Ireland (12%), the U.S.A. (12%) and Hong Kong (8%).
- 97,300 departures (57%) were for the purpose of 'holiday', 30,700 (18%) for 'visiting relatives' and 24,400 (14%) for 'business'.

**SHORT-TERM VISITOR ARRIVALS
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED AND TREND ESTIMATE (a)
(Thousands)**



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

**SHORT-TERM RESIDENT DEPARTURES
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED AND TREND ESTIMATE
(Thousands)**



Trend estimate -----
Seasonally adjusted ———

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 (Actual)	Overseas visitors (Actual)	Overseas visitors (Seasonally adjusted estimate) (b)	
<i>Year ended 31 December -</i>								
1986	103,330	55,870	38,130	197,320	1,513,200	1,429,400	..	3,139,900
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	1,636,600	2,249,400	..	4,139,900
<i>1987 -</i>								
December	11,860	8,410	2,520	22,780	88,500	222,800	159,900	334,100
<i>1988 -</i>								
January	14,160	5,570	7,330	27,050	196,400	161,300	162,900	384,800
February	11,840	3,910	6,430	22,170	112,200	180,400	160,400	314,800
March	12,780	3,860	3,960	20,590	107,600	185,200	171,000	318,400
April	12,580	3,450	3,300	19,320	121,000	160,500	169,700	300,800
May	11,470	3,380	2,640	17,490	104,000	157,100	185,200	278,600
June	11,380	4,190	3,060	18,630	118,800	163,800	206,600	301,200
July	12,490	4,640	4,090	21,220	162,400	203,300	212,400	386,900
August	13,560	3,910	3,220	20,690	136,900	196,900	227,800	354,400
September	12,780	4,220	3,600	20,600	160,600	179,600	228,000	360,800
October	12,660	4,220	3,660	20,550	188,400	207,300	193,900	416,200
November	13,010	5,120	3,070	21,190	128,600	208,000	182,200	357,800
December	12,860	8,540	2,980	24,380	101,200	245,800	172,600	371,400
<i>1989 -</i>								
January	12,600	5,240	8,200	26,030	222,200	168,900	171,000	417,200
February	10,790	3,770	8,080	22,640	129,100	191,100	176,900	342,800
March	11,650	3,670	3,930	19,240	132,100	180,000	164,700	331,400

(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 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)	Overseas visitors (Seasonally adjusted)	Overseas visitors (Trend estimate) (b)	
<i>Year ended 31 December -</i>								
1986	18,820	48,560	27,190	94,570	1,539,600	..	1,363,800	2,997,900
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	1,697,700	..	2,174,000	3,976,500
<i>1987 -</i>								
December	1,970	3,990	5,010	10,970	175,000	133,300	137,200	333,500
<i>1988 -</i>								
January	1,880	6,570	2,540	10,990	113,200	134,600	134,900	302,700
February	1,660	4,320	2,110	8,080	94,400	135,700	133,800	277,700
March	1,720	4,650	2,610	8,980	138,600	140,100	133,400	322,200
April	1,810	4,620	1,980	8,400	132,400	131,500	133,800	313,200
May	1,750	4,130	2,000	7,880	129,200	122,900	134,400	319,600
June	1,570	3,920	2,280	7,770	165,700	150,200	136,200	316,900
July	1,800	4,670	2,370	8,830	153,300	136,300	139,200	334,000
August	1,530	5,070	2,030	8,630	141,900	122,700	142,700	305,800
September	1,440	3,950	1,980	7,360	170,300	172,900	146,300	359,300
October	1,520	3,660	1,790	6,970	127,800	145,600	149,600	323,300
November	1,610	3,690	2,610	7,910	124,100	147,600	152,900	330,200
December	2,050	4,880	6,050	12,980	206,700	151,900	156,700	371,500
<i>1989 -</i>								
January	2,060	7,360	3,250	12,670	131,700	161,000	160,500	366,100
February	1,860	5,140	2,320	9,320	112,700	170,100	164,300	292,900
March	2,080	5,420	3,150	10,640	170,900	168,900	166,100	309,800

(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 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			Month of		
	31 December		31 March			March		
	1987	1988	1987	1988	1989	1987	1988	1989
ARRIVALS								
Intended length of stay								
Under 1 week	441,100	495,200	111,900	119,900	127,400	38,200	42,000	44,800
1 and under 2 weeks	410,100	567,800	88,900	118,800	123,200	31,000	44,100	45,200
2 weeks and under 1 month	403,600	541,200	91,800	115,100	110,500	30,600	41,900	39,400
1 and under 2 months	224,900	279,500	58,400	71,500	71,400	21,000	27,000	23,100
2 and under 3 months	85,800	99,300	23,100	28,200	27,800	7,900	9,200	7,300
3 and under 6 months	93,400	110,300	23,300	28,000	30,700	7,500	8,200	8,000
6 and under 12 months	115,300	146,100	32,800	42,200	49,000	8,000	11,800	12,200
Not stated	10,700	9,700	2,600	3,100	—	900	1,000	—
Total	1,784,900	2,249,300	432,800	527,000	540,000	145,200	185,200	180,000
Purpose of journey								
In Transit	100,900	88,700	27,100	25,500	22,600	8,800	8,600	7,300
Attending convention	31,100	56,700	5,000	7,500	6,700	1,500	2,800	2,500
Business	195,300	234,300	46,900	56,500	57,100	18,500	20,100	20,900
Accompanying business traveller	18,900	23,000	4,900	5,200	5,900	1,400	1,600	2,100
Visiting relatives	370,200	448,500	85,400	107,100	106,800	34,000	43,300	38,600
Holiday	938,300	1,237,000	225,100	282,200	291,700	70,900	96,800	96,300
Employment	21,300	26,600	5,800	6,900	8,100	1,700	2,100	2,400
Education	35,200	47,800	12,900	17,700	23,200	1,800	3,100	4,000
Other and not stated	73,700	86,600	19,500	18,400	18,000	6,600	6,800	6,100
Total	1,784,900	2,249,300	432,800	527,000	540,000	145,200	185,200	180,000
DEPARTURES								
Intended length of stay								
Under 1 week	103,400	138,300	21,400	29,900	36,800	9,100	12,000	15,600
1 and under 2 weeks	377,900	402,300	79,400	94,600	114,700	31,100	37,700	49,600
2 weeks and under 1 month	468,400	480,200	101,700	107,500	128,500	36,900	40,100	48,900
1 and under 2 months	292,000	302,300	47,300	48,700	59,500	18,900	19,100	23,900
2 and under 3 months	135,300	145,400	19,400	18,100	19,200	9,900	8,500	9,200
3 and under 6 months	125,000	126,500	20,000	18,700	22,800	11,100	9,400	11,800
6 and under 12 months	87,300	96,300	27,600	27,100	32,600	12,600	11,100	11,700
Not stated	33,000	6,300	8,000	1,600	1,100	3,000	700	100
Total	1,622,300	1,697,600	324,700	346,200	415,300	132,500	138,600	170,900
Purpose of journey								
Attending convention	37,000	37,200	8,900	7,500	8,800	3,800	3,800	3,600
Business	227,500	264,400	50,900	59,200	69,200	20,700	21,600	24,400
Accompanying business traveller	27,700	28,700	6,100	6,500	7,900	2,000	2,300	2,900
Visiting relatives	332,600	343,400	58,100	60,600	72,400	26,900	27,000	30,700
Holiday	874,100	912,000	172,200	186,100	226,000	69,200	74,500	97,300
Employment	24,300	28,400	6,800	7,000	9,000	2,100	2,200	3,200
Education	13,500	15,300	3,200	3,400	4,500	900	900	1,500
Other and not stated	85,600	68,200	18,600	15,900	17,400	6,900	6,300	7,300
Total	1,622,300	1,697,600	324,700	346,200	415,300	132,500	138,600	170,900

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

Country of birth (Summary)	Year ended		Quarter ended			Month of		
	31 December		31 March			March		
	1987	1988	1987	1988	1989	1987	1988	1989
Total Africa	9,060	8,150	2,620	2,510	1,550	660	760	420
Total America	7,440	7,800	1,750	2,030	1,800	670	650	620
Asia-								
East and South East Asia	37,970	45,500	8,490	11,380	11,520	3,320	3,870	4,150
South Central Asia	7,900	8,920	1,860	2,100	1,810	620	690	710
Western Asia (Middle East)	7,000	7,000	1,330	1,980	1,400	470	710	410
Total Asia	52,870	61,430	11,690	15,470	14,730	4,420	5,280	5,260
Europe-								
U.K. and Ireland	24,030	29,030	5,630	6,890	6,280	1,980	2,290	2,100
Other Europe	15,390	15,590	3,400	4,120	3,070	1,210	1,360	980
Total Europe	39,420	44,630	9,030	11,010	9,360	3,190	3,640	3,080
Oceania-								
New Zealand	15,360	24,870	3,470	6,430	6,530	1,170	2,150	1,960
Other Oceania	4,140	4,660	830	1,330	1,070	290	290	300
Total Oceania	19,490	29,530	4,300	7,760	7,600	1,460	2,440	2,260
At sea and not stated	—	10	—	—	10	—	—	—
Total	128,290	151,550	29,370	38,770	35,040	10,400	12,780	11,650

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

Country of residence	Year ended		Quarter ended			Month of		
	31 December		31 March			March		
	1987	1988	1987	1988	1989	1987	1988	1989
AFRICA -								
South Africa	9,600	9,400	2,400	2,100	2,000	700	700	700
Other	7,900	10,900	1,800	2,300	2,400	600	700	600
<i>Total Africa</i>	<i>17,500</i>	<i>20,300</i>	<i>4,200</i>	<i>4,500</i>	<i>4,300</i>	<i>1,300</i>	<i>1,500</i>	<i>1,300</i>
AMERICA -								
Canada	52,700	66,700	15,000	15,400	17,500	4,400	4,500	5,300
U.S.A.	309,000	322,300	83,900	77,700	72,500	24,500	24,000	22,200
Other	11,300	15,400	2,700	3,500	3,500	800	800	1,000
<i>Total America</i>	<i>373,100</i>	<i>404,400</i>	<i>101,500</i>	<i>96,600</i>	<i>93,500</i>	<i>29,700</i>	<i>29,300</i>	<i>28,500</i>
ASIA -								
China	10,900	18,000	1,900	2,900	7,300	700	1,100	2,600
Hong Kong	42,700	49,400	11,300	14,200	15,400	2,700	3,600	4,300
India	7,400	10,700	1,500	2,200	2,200	600	900	800
Indonesia	21,500	29,600	5,200	5,200	6,700	1,700	1,300	2,300
Israel	4,400	5,200	1,000	1,300	1,400	300	400	400
Japan	215,600	352,300	51,700	80,300	94,200	19,500	30,800	32,300
Korea	6,900	9,200	1,400	2,300	2,500	500	600	900
Malaysia	47,100	52,100	10,800	13,200	11,900	3,300	4,200	3,600
Philippines	12,200	13,400	3,000	2,700	2,900	1,300	1,300	1,300
Singapore	57,000	63,500	6,300	6,300	4,700	1,300	1,300	1,300
Taiwan	16,000	19,200	11,900	13,300	13,100	4,100	4,400	5,000
Thailand	11,200	15,800	2,700	6,600	6,500	1,400	1,700	1,400
Other	18,200	21,900	4,100	4,900	5,200	1,100	1,000	2,000
<i>Total Asia</i>	<i>470,900</i>	<i>660,300</i>	<i>112,900</i>	<i>151,800</i>	<i>174,300</i>	<i>38,500</i>	<i>53,100</i>	<i>58,900</i>
EUROPE -								
Denmark	8,700	11,400	2,400	3,300	2,900	600	1,200	800
Finland	4,200	5,700	900	1,300	1,500	200	400	400
France	17,100	21,000	4,000	5,400	5,100	1,200	1,700	1,700
Germany(a)	53,300	65,900	15,600	21,600	22,200	4,900	6,400	6,700
Greece	7,100	8,100	1,700	1,900	1,700	500	500	300
Ireland(b)	9,800	13,100	2,300	3,700	3,600	1,000	1,600	1,300
Italy	19,300	25,200	5,400	6,000	4,900	1,500	1,900	1,200
Netherlands	17,300	22,400	5,800	6,700	5,800	1,600	1,700	1,700
Norway	4,300	5,200	1,100	1,900	1,300	300	900	300
Sweden	21,900	26,900	6,600	8,800	9,200	2,100	2,700	2,400
Switzerland	21,300	26,000	5,900	7,800	8,300	1,700	2,200	2,300
United Kingdom	198,900	260,300	61,200	81,900	84,200	26,100	35,000	30,200
Yugoslavia	6,300	6,800	1,900	1,900	1,600	500	600	500
Other	22,300	31,700	5,000	7,600	8,000	1,500	2,500	2,400
<i>Total Europe</i>	<i>411,900</i>	<i>529,600</i>	<i>119,800</i>	<i>159,800</i>	<i>160,100</i>	<i>43,800</i>	<i>59,200</i>	<i>52,300</i>
OCEANIA -								
Fiji	16,500	19,300	3,600	4,400	4,300	1,000	1,600	1,400
New Caledonia	14,400	17,200	5,300	6,100	5,800	700	1,000	800
New Zealand	427,300	534,300	71,100	90,500	83,000	26,600	35,600	32,700
Papua New Guinea	32,800	37,800	8,400	8,500	8,900	2,000	2,500	2,200
Other	14,700	19,800	3,600	3,900	4,600	1,000	1,200	1,500
<i>Total Oceania</i>	<i>505,800</i>	<i>628,200</i>	<i>92,000</i>	<i>113,500</i>	<i>106,700</i>	<i>31,200</i>	<i>41,900</i>	<i>38,600</i>
Other and not stated	5,700	6,600	2,400	900	1,000	700	200	400
Total	1,784,900	2,249,300	432,800	527,000	540,000	145,200	185,200	180,000

(a) Comprises the German Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany. (b) Includes Republic of Ireland and Ireland, undefined.

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 March			March		
	1987	1988	1987	1988	1989	1987	1988	1989
AFRICA -								
Egypt	4,100	4,900	800	1,200	1,500	400	400	600
South Africa	7,700	8,300	1,300	1,500	2,300	500	600	1,300
Other	8,800	9,700	1,800	1,800	2,000	700	700	600
<i>Total Africa</i>	<i>20,600</i>	<i>22,900</i>	<i>3,900</i>	<i>4,600</i>	<i>5,900</i>	<i>1,600</i>	<i>1,800</i>	<i>2,500</i>
AMERICA -								
Canada	20,400	23,700	2,600	3,900	4,800	1,200	1,400	2,000
U.S.A.	174,100	196,300	31,500	35,500	50,000	13,900	14,700	20,400
Other	20,400	23,900	4,000	4,200	4,600	1,400	1,800	1,500
<i>Total America</i>	<i>215,000</i>	<i>243,900</i>	<i>38,200</i>	<i>43,700</i>	<i>59,300</i>	<i>16,500</i>	<i>17,800</i>	<i>23,800</i>
ASIA -								
China	17,200	19,100	4,100	3,900	3,800	2,200	1,700	1,900
Hong Kong	103,300	104,700	22,800	25,300	31,200	8,500	9,100	13,300
India	20,000	19,300	4,600	4,300	5,300	1,300	1,300	1,800
Indonesia	117,400	133,600	24,500	30,200	31,800	8,400	9,700	12,800
Israel	7,000	6,000	1,100	1,300	1,200	500	600	600
Japan	25,600	30,100	4,600	6,200	7,600	2,100	2,500	3,400
Lebanon	6,300	5,300	500	900	1,200	100	400	300
Malaysia	47,200	48,400	9,300	11,400	13,900	3,000	4,500	5,500
Philippines	33,500	35,700	7,400	8,700	10,800	2,200	3,400	4,200
Singapore	83,700	93,400	18,600	21,200	27,800	6,500	8,300	12,000
Thailand	48,800	59,800	10,800	14,700	20,500	4,200	5,900	7,600
Turkey	5,600	6,300	800	900	700	400	400	500
Other	31,800	38,100	7,300	8,400	10,700	2,400	3,400	4,500
<i>Total Asia</i>	<i>547,400</i>	<i>599,900</i>	<i>116,400</i>	<i>137,300</i>	<i>166,600</i>	<i>42,100</i>	<i>51,200</i>	<i>67,700</i>
EUROPE -								
France	15,800	16,300	2,700	2,900	3,800	1,100	1,200	1,200
Germany(a)	26,100	26,900	4,000	3,700	4,800	2,000	1,500	1,900
Greece	33,900	33,600	4,500	4,500	4,400	2,600	2,900	2,400
Ireland(b)	6,700	8,100	700	800	1,200	500	300	700
Italy	40,100	39,300	6,000	5,400	6,500	3,300	3,000	3,100
Netherlands	14,100	12,700	2,800	1,700	2,200	1,500	800	1,100
Switzerland	7,400	8,100	1,800	1,800	2,200	500	600	800
United Kingdom	207,400	213,400	35,300	31,000	38,900	21,100	15,900	19,100
Yugoslavia	17,600	16,000	2,000	1,500	1,900	1,300	900	1,200
Other	39,100	42,500	5,900	5,600	7,200	2,700	2,600	3,500
<i>Total Europe</i>	<i>408,200</i>	<i>416,900</i>	<i>65,700</i>	<i>59,000</i>	<i>73,300</i>	<i>36,600</i>	<i>29,600</i>	<i>34,800</i>
OCEANIA -								
Fiji	60,500	73,200	11,600	17,200	18,100	4,100	7,500	7,000
New Caledonia	10,800	10,300	2,700	2,100	2,700	600	700	1,100
New Zealand	275,300	247,100	64,300	65,100	69,100	23,200	23,300	27,100
Norfolk Is.	18,400	15,000	5,100	4,100	4,100	1,900	1,700	1,600
Papua New Guinea	27,500	32,700	5,800	6,900	8,700	1,800	2,500	2,700
Vanuatu	5,700	9,100	1,100	1,700	1,600	300	800	700
Other	19,000	19,700	3,500	3,500	4,700	1,400	1,300	1,500
<i>Total Oceania</i>	<i>417,400</i>	<i>407,100</i>	<i>94,200</i>	<i>100,600</i>	<i>109,000</i>	<i>33,300</i>	<i>37,700</i>	<i>41,800</i>
Other and not stated	13,700	6,900	6,300	1,100	1,100	2,500	500	300
Total	1,622,300	1,697,600	324,700	346,200	415,300	132,500	138,600	170,900

(a) Comprises the German Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany. (b) Includes Republic of Ireland and Ireland, undefined.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

1. 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.

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

tures 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.

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 SA 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 conclusion of World Expo 88 in October 1988 an abrupt dislocation may have occurred in the trend path of the Short-term Overseas Visitor Arrivals series. In these circumstances there are insufficient data available to estimate reliably the current trend movements, therefore the trend estimate from November 1988 onwards is not published. As subsequent data become available this situation with regard to estimates of trend movements will be monitored, and will be released when considered reliable.

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, 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.

Symbols and other usages

- nil or rounded to zero
- . . . not applicable
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