

**OVERSEAS ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES, AUSTRALIA  
FEBRUARY 1991**

**MAIN FEATURES**

The total number of overseas movements in February 1991 was 667,500, 3 per cent less than in February 1990. There were 350,100 arrivals (6 per cent less than in February 1990) and 317,400 departures (1 per cent more than in February 1990). The lower number of arrivals in February 1991 compared with February 1990 reflects both a small decline in visitors arriving and a 13 per cent decline in the number of Australian residents returning after a short-term trip abroad. The number of Australians returning in February 1991 follows the significant decline in January 1991, probably caused by the effect of the Gulf War, in the number of Australian residents departing for tours abroad.

*Permanent and long-term movement*  
In February 1991:

- 9,690 settlers arrived in Australia, 5 per cent more than in February 1990 (9,220). Settlers from Northeast Asia increased 80 per cent compared with February 1990. Settler arrivals from New Zealand continued to decline (35% less when compared with February 1990).
- Long-term visitor arrivals (10,250) increased 2 per cent from February 1990 (10,040).
- 2,770 permanent departures were recorded, 20 per cent more than in February 1990 (2,310). This continues the higher level of departures since late 1989 compared with previous years.
- Australian residents departing long-term (5,860) increased 9 per cent from February 1990 (5,390).

*Arrivals of overseas visitors for short-term visits*  
In February 1991:

- The number of short-term overseas visitor arrivals recorded for the month was 190,600, 1 per cent less than in February 1990 (192,800). In seasonally adjusted terms, short-term visitor arrivals were 6 per

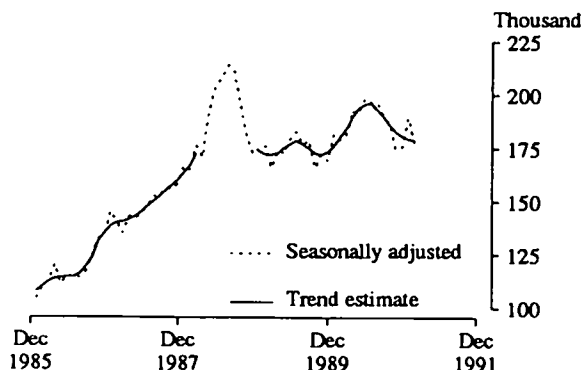
cent less than in January 1991. The trend estimate of visitor arrivals continues to show a decline.

- The main purposes for visiting Australia remain 'holiday' (57%) and 'visiting relatives' (18%). The number of visitors arriving for the purposes of 'holiday' increased 6 per cent and for 'business' decreased 21 per cent compared with February 1990.
- The major source countries were: Japan with 36,500 (19% of total), the U.K. and Ireland with 30,600 (16%), New Zealand with 26,600 (14%) and the U.S.A. with 21,900 (11%). For these four major source countries, which accounted for 61 per cent of all visitor arrivals, visitors from New Zealand increased 23 per cent while arrivals from the U.K. and Ireland, the U.S.A. and Japan all decreased compared with February 1990.

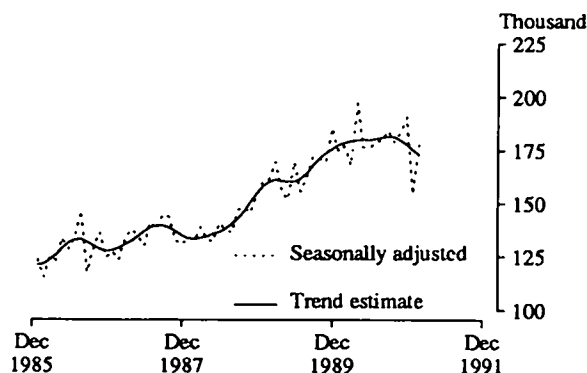
*Departures of Australian residents for short-term trips abroad*  
In February 1991:

- 125,100 Australian residents departed for short-term visits overseas, 1 per cent more than in February 1990 (124,400). In seasonally adjusted terms the number of departures increased by 15 per cent compared with January 1991.
- The most popular destinations were: New Zealand (22% of total), the U.S.A. (13%) and the U.K. and Ireland (10%). When compared with February 1990, visits to Malaysia, Fiji, Indonesia and New Zealand increased (21, 17, 10 and 8% respectively) while visitors to Thailand, Singapore and the U.S.A. decreased (30, 8 and 7% respectively).
- There were 62,600 (50%) departures for 'holiday', 27,400 (22%) for 'visiting relatives' and 22,000 (18%) for 'business'. Australian residents travelling overseas for 'visiting relatives' and 'employment' both increased 24 per cent compared with February 1990.

**SHORT-TERM VISITOR ARRIVALS (a)**



**SHORT-TERM RESIDENT DEPARTURES (b)**



(a) Refer to paragraph 20 of the Explanatory Notes. (b) Refer to paragraph 21 of the Explanatory Notes.

**INQUIRIES**

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

TABLE 1. TOTAL MOVEMENT — ARRIVALS: CATEGORY OF MOVEMENT

Period	Permanent arrivals Settlers	Long-term arrivals		Total permanent and long-term arrivals	Short-term arrivals (a)			Total arrivals (a)	
		Australian residents	Overseas visitors		Australian residents	Overseas visitors (Seasonally adjusted)	Overseas visitors (Trend estimate b)		
<i>Year ended 31 December —</i>									
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
<i>1989 —</i>									
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	189,800	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	196,300	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	185,600	439,700
November	10,650	4,960	3,040	18,650	157,200	198,600	174,800	182,800	374,400
December	10,700	9,510	3,050	23,260	123,000	253,100	176,000	180,500	399,400
<i>1991 —</i>									
January	9,680	6,250	8,740	24,670	260,000	177,400	189,600	179,400	462,100
February	9,690	4,430	10,250	24,370	135,100	190,600	177,700	178,700	350,100

(a) Figures for short-term movement are largely based on a sample and are subject to sampling error. See Paragraph 10 of the Explanatory Notes for more detail. (b) See paragraphs 18 to 21 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 (Seasonally adjusted)	Australian residents (Trend estimate b)	Overseas visitors		
<i>Year ended 31 December —</i>									
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
<i>1989 —</i>									
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	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	180,600	156,300	366,100
August	2,560	6,300	2,720	11,590	184,300	179,900	181,200	188,000	383,900
September	2,290	4,770	2,550	9,600	214,300	184,400	181,600	170,000	393,800
October	2,530	4,280	2,480	9,290	156,200	179,000	181,400	162,000	327,400
November	2,430	4,510	4,130	11,060	154,900	183,300	180,100	193,300	359,200
December	3,230	5,800	7,490	16,530	251,200	190,900	177,800	179,200	446,900
<i>1991 —</i>									
January	2,820	8,110	3,650	14,580	127,900	154,900	175,300	243,600	386,200
February	2,770	5,860	3,710	12,350	125,100	177,800	173,000	180,000	317,400

(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 21 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 February		
	1988	1989	1990	1988	1989	1990	1989	1990	1991
<b>ARRIVALS</b>									
<b>Intended length of stay</b>									
Under 1 week	495,300	499,800	563,100	146,100	141,300	141,000	44,300	49,100	43,600
1 and under 2 weeks	567,800	494,000	571,100	162,400	141,900	171,200	44,500	42,100	51,000
2 weeks and under 1 month	541,200	448,500	459,000	148,800	130,100	137,000	37,700	37,400	38,500
1 and under 2 months	279,500	265,600	268,000	90,300	85,700	91,600	25,900	25,200	23,900
2 and under 3 months	99,300	98,900	98,300	31,100	31,500	32,300	10,500	10,000	8,000
3 and under 6 months	110,300	110,700	104,500	39,200	36,100	33,200	11,200	10,300	8,800
6 and under 12 months	146,100	162,700	150,700	42,000	47,500	36,100	17,100	18,700	16,800
<b>Total (a)</b>	<b>2,249,300</b>	<b>2,080,300</b>	<b>2,214,900</b>	<b>661,000</b>	<b>614,100</b>	<b>642,300</b>	<b>191,100</b>	<b>192,800</b>	<b>190,600</b>
<b>Purpose of journey</b>									
In transit	88,700	78,600	70,200	22,000	19,400	16,700	7,500	7,100	6,200
Attending convention	56,700	25,400	32,500	16,100	6,200	7,800	2,400	1,100	3,700
Business	234,300	230,800	231,100	60,600	58,800	57,100	21,500	23,100	18,300
Accompanying business traveller	23,000	19,400	21,800	6,500	4,300	4,800	1,800	1,700	1,100
Visiting relatives	448,500	459,900	456,000	152,400	158,400	149,600	35,900	37,900	35,200
Holiday	1,237,000	1,107,000	1,233,700	363,200	327,800	371,100	105,200	102,400	108,000
Employment	26,600	30,000	29,600	6,700	6,700	6,200	1,900	2,500	1,700
Education	47,800	62,800	64,600	8,100	16,100	7,700	9,200	11,700	10,900
Other and not stated	86,600	66,400	75,300	25,300	16,600	21,300	5,700	5,500	5,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,249,300</b>	<b>2,080,300</b>	<b>2,214,900</b>	<b>661,000</b>	<b>614,100</b>	<b>642,300</b>	<b>191,100</b>	<b>192,800</b>	<b>190,600</b>
<b>DEPARTURES</b>									
<b>Intended length of stay</b>									
Under 1 week	138,300	175,900	189,600	37,200	47,500	50,400	11,600	14,300	12,700
1 and under 2 weeks	402,300	487,800	523,600	103,800	124,800	127,500	28,700	33,900	33,000
2 weeks and under 1 month	480,200	565,200	604,800	129,600	152,700	157,200	35,700	37,500	35,300
1 and under 2 months	302,300	353,300	389,200	97,100	112,700	119,300	15,900	15,500	20,300
2 and under 3 months	145,400	158,500	181,500	45,000	49,800	52,600	4,400	6,400	6,100
3 and under 6 months	126,600	139,800	157,500	25,600	27,500	30,700	5,700	6,500	6,500
6 and under 12 months	96,300	108,100	123,600	18,600	21,100	24,600	10,200	10,300	11,100
<b>Total (a)</b>	<b>1,697,600</b>	<b>1,989,800</b>	<b>2,169,900</b>	<b>458,600</b>	<b>536,200</b>	<b>562,300</b>	<b>112,700</b>	<b>124,400</b>	<b>125,100</b>
<b>Purpose of journey</b>									
Attending convention	37,200	47,700	55,300	8,000	8,200	10,800	3,000	3,600	2,600
Business	264,400	302,200	306,900	64,400	72,100	71,200	23,600	23,800	22,000
Accompanying business traveller	28,800	33,000	31,600	6,100	7,500	6,600	2,700	2,400	1,500
Visiting relatives	343,400	387,600	439,200	108,000	124,200	133,300	20,100	22,000	27,400
Holiday	912,000	1,085,500	1,193,900	243,900	291,100	308,100	55,900	63,400	62,600
Employment	28,400	35,700	41,500	6,900	8,800	10,500	2,300	3,200	3,900
Education	15,300	19,400	24,100	3,700	4,600	4,900	1,000	1,500	1,300
Other and not stated	68,200	78,700	77,300	17,600	19,800	17,000	4,200	4,700	3,900
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,697,600</b>	<b>1,989,800</b>	<b>2,169,900</b>	<b>458,600</b>	<b>536,200</b>	<b>562,300</b>	<b>112,700</b>	<b>124,400</b>	<b>125,100</b>

(a) Includes not stated.

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

Country of birth (Summary)	Year ended 31 December			Quarter ended 31 December			Month of February		
	1988	1989	1990	1988	1989	1990	1989	1990	1991
<b>OCEANIA AND ANTARCTICA —</b>									
New Zealand	24,870	17,340	8,970	6,240	2,850	1,780	1,910	880	570
Other	4,660	4,040	3,810	1,230	960	900	380	370	290
<b>Total</b>	<b>29,530</b>	<b>21,390</b>	<b>12,780</b>	<b>7,460</b>	<b>3,810</b>	<b>2,680</b>	<b>2,290</b>	<b>1,250</b>	<b>860</b>
<b>EUROPE AND THE USSR —</b>									
United Kingdom and Ireland	29,030	26,490	23,520	7,230	6,500	5,700	1,820	1,860	1,720
Other	16,140	13,140	11,300	4,140	3,700	2,810	1,030	900	780
<b>Total</b>	<b>45,180</b>	<b>39,630</b>	<b>34,820</b>	<b>11,360</b>	<b>10,200</b>	<b>8,510</b>	<b>2,850</b>	<b>2,760</b>	<b>2,500</b>
<i>Middle East and North Africa</i>	9,410	6,580	6,390	2,200	1,490	2,050	670	410	550
<i>Southeast Asia</i>	30,920	29,690	30,520	8,570	6,840	8,460	2,270	2,470	2,220
<i>Northeast Asia</i>	14,580	16,290	18,860	3,910	3,620	4,850	1,410	1,220	2,180
<i>Southern Asia</i>	7,560	5,780	7,760	1,910	1,250	2,220	380	390	670
<i>The Americas</i>	7,800	7,460	6,600	1,770	2,000	1,570	570	460	430
<i>Africa (excluding North Africa)</i>	6,530	4,190	3,800	1,340	1,020	990	340	260	270
<b>Total (b)</b>	<b>151,550</b>	<b>131,060</b>	<b>121,560</b>	<b>38,530</b>	<b>30,230</b>	<b>31,330</b>	<b>10,790</b>	<b>9,220</b>	<b>9,690</b>

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

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

Country of residence	Year ended 31 December			Quarter ended 31 December			Month of February		
	1988	1989	1990	1988	1989	1990	1989	1990	1991
<b>OCEANIA &amp; ANTARCTICA —</b>									
Fiji	19,300	17,500	16,000	6,100	5,000	4,900	1,300	1,400	1,000
New Caledonia	17,200	13,400	14,400	3,500	2,900	3,300	1,900	2,000	2,400
New Zealand	534,300	449,300	418,400	131,500	126,000	111,200	23,700	21,600	26,600
Papua New Guinea	37,800	34,800	34,600	10,700	9,900	9,800	2,200	1,900	1,900
Other	19,800	18,400	17,200	6,100	5,100	4,700	1,500	1,500	1,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>628,200</b>	<b>533,500</b>	<b>500,700</b>	<b>157,900</b>	<b>148,900</b>	<b>134,000</b>	<b>30,500</b>	<b>28,400</b>	<b>33,600</b>
<b>EUROPE &amp; THE USSR —</b>									
Austria	9,100	9,200	9,600	2,900	3,100	3,300	900	900	800
Belgium	4,300	3,700	4,200	1,400	1,300	1,300	300	500	200
Denmark	11,400	10,200	9,900	3,700	3,300	3,300	1,000	1,100	900
Finland	5,700	5,200	5,800	2,400	2,000	2,200	400	600	500
France	21,000	20,100	21,100	6,200	5,700	6,200	1,400	1,900	1,400
Germany, Fed Rep	65,900	68,100	74,200	21,700	21,200	22,600	8,000	8,400	8,600
Greece	8,100	7,400	7,500	3,500	3,200	2,600	700	800	400
Ireland, Republic of	13,100	12,200	10,600	4,400	3,300	3,300	1,200	1,200	1,000
Italy	25,200	20,500	24,400	9,100	6,600	8,300	2,200	1,400	1,200
Netherlands	22,400	20,100	21,100	7,700	6,900	7,600	2,400	2,400	2,000
Norway	5,200	3,700	4,400	1,500	1,200	1,500	500	400	300
Sweden	26,900	24,100	22,000	11,000	8,400	8,300	3,300	2,600	1,800
Switzerland	26,000	27,400	29,500	9,500	9,600	11,700	2,900	3,100	2,800
United Kingdom	260,300	272,900	277,700	90,100	93,100	94,800	30,200	32,500	29,700
USSR & Baltic States	2,900	5,400	5,300	1,100	1,800	1,500	500	600	400
Yugoslavia	6,800	6,400	5,800	2,600	2,600	2,300	600	600	400
Other	16,400	15,300	16,500	5,700	5,100	5,500	1,200	1,500	1,400
<b>Total</b>	<b>530,700</b>	<b>531,700</b>	<b>549,500</b>	<b>184,400</b>	<b>178,200</b>	<b>186,200</b>	<b>57,700</b>	<b>60,400</b>	<b>53,900</b>
<b>MIDDLE EAST &amp; NORTH AFRICA —</b>									
Israel	5,200	5,400	5,300	1,600	1,500	1,400	500	600	400
Other	11,600	11,600	12,100	3,400	3,400	3,100	900	800	500
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,800</b>	<b>17,000</b>	<b>17,400</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>4,900</b>	<b>4,500</b>	<b>1,400</b>	<b>1,400</b>	<b>1,000</b>
<b>SOUTHEAST ASIA —</b>									
Indonesia	29,600	29,000	34,400	8,300	8,400	10,200	2,200	2,800	2,600
Malaysia	52,100	44,300	46,600	14,600	13,600	13,500	5,100	5,000	5,500
Philippines	13,400	11,000	13,600	3,200	2,600	3,500	1,000	1,200	1,100
Singapore	63,500	65,200	75,900	22,400	25,100	29,200	5,600	4,600	6,900
Thailand	15,800	17,300	19,600	4,600	4,800	6,000	1,700	1,600	1,700
Other	3,700	3,900	5,000	800	1,200	1,400	300	500	600
<b>Total</b>	<b>178,100</b>	<b>170,600</b>	<b>195,000</b>	<b>53,900</b>	<b>55,700</b>	<b>63,700</b>	<b>15,900</b>	<b>15,600</b>	<b>18,400</b>
<b>NORTHEAST ASIA —</b>									
China	18,000	29,100	23,700	6,100	13,000	3,700	3,100	2,500	1,200
Hong Kong	49,400	54,100	54,500	10,300	13,700	14,700	7,900	5,500	9,600
Japan	352,300	349,500	479,900	103,700	90,500	124,800	32,400	39,700	36,500
Korea	9,200	10,400	14,100	2,700	3,000	4,100	700	1,100	1,200
Taiwan	19,200	21,500	25,300	5,900	7,900	5,500	4,400	5,000	4,500
Other	600	500	500	100	100	100	100	—	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>448,700</b>	<b>465,200</b>	<b>597,900</b>	<b>128,800</b>	<b>128,200</b>	<b>152,900</b>	<b>48,600</b>	<b>53,900</b>	<b>53,000</b>
<b>SOUTHERN ASIA —</b>									
India	10,700	10,900	11,000	2,600	2,900	2,500	600	800	600
Sri Lanka	3,200	4,000	3,900	1,200	1,300	900	300	400	300
Other	3,500	3,300	3,000	800	900	700	200	300	200
<b>Total</b>	<b>17,400</b>	<b>18,200</b>	<b>17,800</b>	<b>4,700</b>	<b>5,100</b>	<b>4,100</b>	<b>1,100</b>	<b>1,500</b>	<b>1,000</b>
<b>THE AMERICAS —</b>									
Brazil	2,600	2,500	2,900	700	700	1,000	200	200	200
Canada	66,700	54,200	53,700	21,000	16,600	16,700	6,000	5,100	5,200
United States of America (b)	326,900	261,700	251,600	92,700	67,800	69,000	27,700	24,100	21,900
Other	8,200	8,200	8,800	2,500	2,500	2,700	600	800	800
<b>Total</b>	<b>404,400</b>	<b>326,600</b>	<b>317,000</b>	<b>116,900</b>	<b>87,600</b>	<b>89,400</b>	<b>34,400</b>	<b>30,200</b>	<b>28,000</b>
<b>AFRICA (excluding North Africa) —</b>									
South Africa	9,400	8,000	9,100	3,700	3,000	3,500	600	700	700
Zimbabwe	3,700	3,600	3,600	1,200	1,000	1,000	300	300	200
Other	5,200	3,900	4,200	1,700	1,500	1,500	300	400	600
<b>Total</b>	<b>18,200</b>	<b>15,500</b>	<b>16,900</b>	<b>6,500</b>	<b>5,500</b>	<b>6,000</b>	<b>1,200</b>	<b>1,400</b>	<b>1,500</b>
<b>Total (c)</b>	<b>2,249,300</b>	<b>2,080,300</b>	<b>2,214,900</b>	<b>661,000</b>	<b>614,100</b>	<b>642,300</b>	<b>191,100</b>	<b>192,800</b>	<b>190,600</b>

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

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

Country of intended stay	Year ended 31 December			Quarter ended 31 December			Month of February		
	1988	1989	1990	1988	1989	1990	1989	1990	1991
<b>OCEANIA &amp; ANTARCTICA —</b>									
Fiji	73,200	93,900	102,000	19,900	26,700	27,900	4,200	4,600	5,300
New Caledonia	10,300	14,500	14,900	3,800	4,700	3,800	300	400	700
New Zealand	247,100	297,300	320,200	74,300	92,800	95,400	21,000	25,000	27,000
Norfolk Island	15,000	12,200	14,200	3,800	2,600	4,700	1,300	900	1,200
Papua New Guinea	32,700	34,400	34,000	9,000	8,500	8,800	2,400	2,400	2,500
Vanuatu	9,100	12,800	17,200	2,400	4,700	5,500	400	900	800
Other	19,700	27,300	27,400	6,300	8,100	8,100	1,300	1,700	1,300
<b>Total</b>	<b>407,100</b>	<b>492,400</b>	<b>529,900</b>	<b>119,500</b>	<b>148,100</b>	<b>154,200</b>	<b>30,900</b>	<b>35,900</b>	<b>38,800</b>
<b>EUROPE &amp; THE USSR —</b>									
Austria	5,300	6,400	7,600	1,300	1,800	1,500	400	400	500
France	16,300	20,500	24,100	4,300	5,100	5,400	1,200	900	1,000
Germany, Fed Rep	26,900	30,800	34,500	6,400	7,000	7,600	1,400	1,500	1,700
Greece	33,600	31,700	32,900	5,100	4,500	4,400	1,100	1,100	900
Ireland, Republic of	8,100	10,100	11,900	2,000	2,700	3,100	400	400	500
Italy	39,300	41,600	45,000	7,800	7,600	7,300	1,400	1,400	1,400
Netherlands	12,700	13,300	15,900	2,500	2,700	3,600	500	500	500
Poland	3,900	5,400	6,300	700	1,100	1,400	—	200	100
Spain	5,000	5,600	6,300	1,300	1,700	1,200	200	300	200
Sweden	3,900	4,200	4,900	800	900	800	200	200	300
Switzerland	8,100	9,000	9,500	1,900	1,700	2,100	600	500	500
United Kingdom	213,400	237,500	252,800	46,100	50,400	47,600	10,800	11,300	11,900
Yugoslavia	16,000	15,200	17,500	2,200	2,800	2,500	400	600	400
Other	27,600	32,400	40,100	5,100	6,000	6,300	1,100	1,400	1,100
<b>Total</b>	<b>420,200</b>	<b>463,600</b>	<b>509,200</b>	<b>87,400</b>	<b>96,000</b>	<b>94,700</b>	<b>19,700</b>	<b>20,600</b>	<b>21,200</b>
<b>MIDDLE EAST &amp; NORTH AFRICA —</b>									
Egypt	4,900	6,300	4,800	1,900	2,200	1,400	300	400	100
Israel	6,000	6,200	4,800	2,000	2,200	800	300	200	200
Lebanon	5,300	5,000	7,700	1,200	1,700	1,500	400	400	100
Turkey	6,300	6,900	8,400	1,200	1,300	1,000	300	200	100
Other	5,300	7,100	6,300	1,200	1,800	1,100	300	400	200
<b>Total</b>	<b>27,900</b>	<b>31,400</b>	<b>32,100</b>	<b>7,400</b>	<b>9,200</b>	<b>5,800</b>	<b>1,500</b>	<b>1,700</b>	<b>700</b>
<b>SOUTHEAST ASIA —</b>									
Indonesia	133,600	146,100	158,000	34,000	39,000	38,200	7,800	8,500	9,300
Malaysia	48,400	62,300	75,100	13,100	18,600	22,900	3,300	4,000	4,800
Philippines	35,700	41,900	40,500	11,800	11,900	13,300	3,000	2,700	2,500
Singapore	93,400	117,800	105,500	25,100	32,000	28,700	7,500	6,800	6,300
Thailand	59,800	86,600	99,100	18,200	25,800	27,200	5,800	7,100	4,900
Other	2,900	7,100	9,000	1,100	2,700	3,200	200	200	1,200
<b>Total</b>	<b>373,800</b>	<b>461,600</b>	<b>487,200</b>	<b>103,300</b>	<b>130,100</b>	<b>133,500</b>	<b>27,600</b>	<b>29,200</b>	<b>29,000</b>
<b>NORTHEAST ASIA —</b>									
China	19,100	13,900	12,800	4,900	3,200	4,000	800	800	900
Hong Kong	104,700	116,800	120,500	31,900	34,200	37,100	8,200	8,900	8,700
Japan	30,100	40,600	47,900	9,300	12,200	12,800	1,600	2,300	2,200
Korea	7,400	7,800	8,000	2,000	2,100	2,200	500	400	500
Taiwan	8,000	10,600	13,600	2,700	3,300	4,800	900	1,000	1,000
Other	300	300	400	100	100	100	—	—	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>169,600</b>	<b>190,000</b>	<b>203,200</b>	<b>50,900</b>	<b>55,200</b>	<b>60,900</b>	<b>12,000</b>	<b>13,300</b>	<b>13,300</b>
<b>SOUTHERN ASIA —</b>									
India	19,300	23,200	22,100	8,400	9,100	8,500	1,300	1,600	800
Sri Lanka	3,400	3,500	7,200	800	1,300	2,900	200	200	300
Other	7,400	7,900	8,000	2,900	2,700	3,400	400	500	200
<b>Total</b>	<b>30,000</b>	<b>34,600</b>	<b>37,300</b>	<b>12,100</b>	<b>13,100</b>	<b>14,700</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>2,200</b>	<b>1,300</b>
<b>THE AMERICAS —</b>									
Canada	23,700	30,100	32,500	5,400	6,500	7,100	1,600	1,500	1,600
United States of America (b)	207,500	247,200	300,200	56,200	63,900	75,800	14,900	17,800	16,400
Other	12,700	15,800	15,400	5,800	6,400	6,800	1,200	1,000	1,100
<b>Total</b>	<b>243,900</b>	<b>293,100</b>	<b>348,100</b>	<b>67,500</b>	<b>76,700</b>	<b>89,700</b>	<b>17,600</b>	<b>20,300</b>	<b>19,000</b>
<b>AFRICA (excluding North Africa) —</b>									
South Africa	8,300	11,600	10,400	3,600	4,600	4,000	400	600	700
Other	8,400	9,200	9,300	3,000	3,100	3,300	600	400	800
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,700</b>	<b>20,900</b>	<b>19,600</b>	<b>6,700</b>	<b>7,700</b>	<b>7,300</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>1,500</b>
<b>Total (c)</b>	<b>1,697,600</b>	<b>1,989,800</b>	<b>2,169,900</b>	<b>458,600</b>	<b>536,200</b>	<b>562,300</b>	<b>112,700</b>	<b>124,400</b>	<b>125,100</b>

(a) See paragraphs 8 and 9 of the Explanatory Notes. (b) Includes America undefined. (c) Includes 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. Classifications previously used in the ABS for social, demographic and labour statistics were adaptations of the United Nations (UN) country classification. Major Australian users indicated that the UN classification did not meet their requirements for analytical purposes.

Hence the ABS has developed a new classification of countries called the Australian Standard Classification of Countries for Social Statistics (ASCCSS). In this classification, neighbouring countries are grouped into progressively broader geographic areas on the basis of social, cultural, political and economic similarities. As part of this process emphasis was given to developing aggregations which satisfied the requirements of Australian users. Unlike the previous UN classification, the ASCSS does not take the conventional notion of continents as a constraint in the design of the classification structure. However, the base units of ASCSS are broadly compatible with those of the UN classification and it is possible to aggregate statistics based on the ASCSS to the UN classifications for purposes of comparison. The ASCSS has been applied to Overseas Arrivals and Departures statistics from January 1991. The major changes are as follows:

- 'Africa' has been separated into two groups: 'Middle East and North Africa' and 'Africa (excluding North Africa)' which includes all other African countries.
- There is no longer a single category 'Asia'. Separate categories 'Southeast Asia', 'Northeast Asia' and 'Southern Asia' have been created. 'Middle East' countries formerly included in 'Asia' are now included in the new category 'Middle East and North Africa'.
- 'Cyprus' has been included in Europe (formerly included in Asia).
- 'Tahiti' has been included with 'French Polynesia'.

For more detailed information on the classification of countries refer to the ABS publication *Australian Standard Classification of Countries for Social Statistics* (1269.0).

9. Statistics on country of birth, residence or citizenship have certain limitations because of inadequate reporting on passenger cards. For instance, it is not possible to identify separately England, Scotland and Wales. Similarly 'Korea' includes both the Republic of Korea and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. U.S.A. includes 'America (undefined)'. Germany refers to all people who list country of birth as either 'Germany, Federal Republic' or 'Germany, Democratic Republic' as a result of the unification of Germany in 1990.

#### **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.

21. The reliability of the provisional trend estimate for January 1991 may have been adversely affected by the presence of temporary irregular effects associated with the commencement of the Gulf War. However, these influences are not expected to affect the reliability of the seasonally adjusted series, because they are neither seasonal nor trading-day type influences.

### Related publications

22. 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

23. 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

24. 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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