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OVERSEAS ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES, AUSTRALIA OCTOBER 1990

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MAIN FEATURES

The total number of overseas movements in October 1990 was 767,200 (7% more than in October 1989) comprising 439,700 arrivals (7% more than October 1989) and 327,400 departures (6% more than October 1989).

Permanent and long-term movement In October 1990:

- 9,990 settlers arrived in Australia, 2 per cent more than in October 1989 (9,740). Arrivals of settlers born in New Zealand declined 42 per cent compared with October 1989 continuing the general downward trend, evident since January 1989.
- Long-term visitor arrivals (3,750) increased 3 per cent from October 1989 (3,630).
- 2,530 permanent departures were recorded, 27 per cent more than October 1989 (1,990).
- Australian residents departing long-term (4,280) increased 18 per cent from October 1989 (3,620).

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

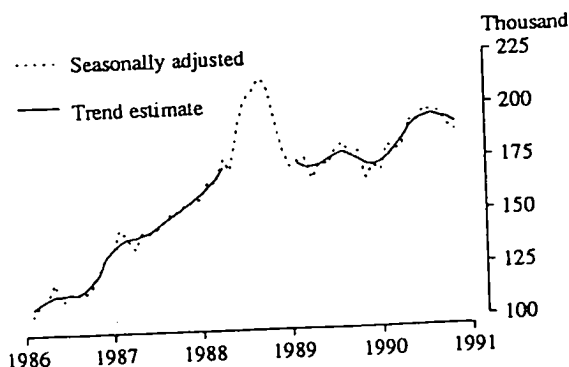
- The number of short-term overseas visitor arrivals for the month was 190,900, 10 per cent more than in October 1989 (174,100). In seasonally adjusted terms, short-term visitor arrivals were 1 per cent less than in September 1990. The trend estimate of visitor arrivals is showing signs of a decline.
- The main purposes for visiting Australia remain 'holiday' (57%), 'visiting relatives' (18%) and 'business and attending convention' (13%). The proportion of visitors stating their intention to stay in Australia for less than 2 weeks was 53 per cent compared with 50 per cent in October 1989. There was a 29 per cent increase in the number staying 1 week and less than 2 weeks compared with October 1989.

- The major source countries were: Japan with 36,600 (19% of total), New Zealand with 36,100 (19%), the U.K. and Ireland with 25,700 and the U.S.A. with 24,000 (both 13%). Among these four major source countries, which accounted for 64 per cent of all visitor arrivals, visitors from Japan, the U.S.A. and the U.K. and Ireland showed increases of 40 per cent, 1 per cent and 1 per cent respectively, while arrivals from New Zealand declined 8 per cent compared with October 1989. Other countries to record significant increases were Hong Kong (70%) and Singapore (45%).

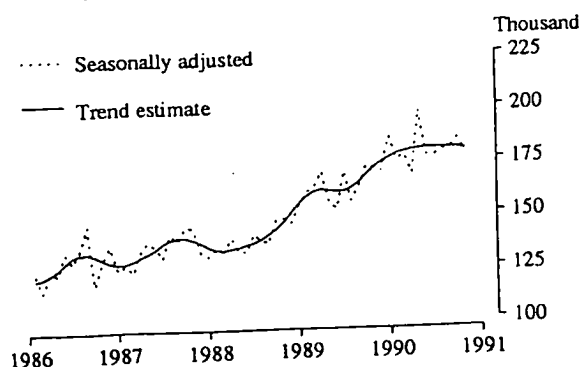
Departures of Australian residents for short-term trips abroad In October 1990:

- 156,100 Australian residents departed for short-term visits overseas, 6 per cent more than in October 1989 (147,000). In seasonally adjusted terms there was a fall of 3 per cent compared with September 1990. The trend estimate shows stability since February 1990.
- The most popular destinations were: New Zealand (16% of total), the U.S.A. (13%), the U.K. and Ireland (9%) and Indonesia (8%). When compared with October 1989, resident departures to New Zealand, Hong Kong and the U.S.A. increased 23, 18 and 9 per cent respectively, while departures to Singapore and Indonesia decreased 16 and 11 per cent respectively.
- There were 86,600 (55%) departures for 'holiday', 26,900 (17%) for 'business' and 25,500 (16%) for 'visiting relatives'. Australian residents travelling overseas for 'attending convention' and 'visiting relatives' increased 73 and 18 per cent respectively compared with October 1989.

SHORT-TERM VISITOR ARRIVALS (a)



SHORT-TERM RESIDENT DEPARTURES



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

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>								
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>								
August	11,500	4,140	3,680	19,320	159,000	161,400	176,900	339,800
September	10,620	3,970	3,540	18,130	187,300	149,900	179,200	355,400
October	9,740	4,210	3,630	17,580	218,000	174,100	166,200	409,600
November	10,770	4,960	3,510	19,240	151,400	192,700	172,000	363,300
December	9,730	8,600	4,160	22,490	113,700	247,400	169,100	383,600
<i>1990 —</i>								
January	9,890	5,490	8,610	23,990	252,600	176,200	181,500	452,800
February	9,220	3,980	10,040	23,250	155,600	192,800	178,900	371,600
March	9,610	3,630	3,840	17,080	137,500	189,100	180,900	343,700
April	10,250	3,560	4,240	18,050	158,600	181,100	192,200	357,700
May	9,060	2,930	3,240	15,230	144,800	149,900	192,100	309,900
June	10,100	4,080	3,360	17,540	149,700	157,300	198,500	324,600
July	10,390	4,790	5,650	20,830	211,600	185,400	196,500	417,800
August	11,320	4,440	3,770	19,540	182,000	178,200	196,600	379,700
September	10,390	4,420	3,530	18,340	205,800	162,700	190,300	386,900
October	9,990	4,570	3,750	18,300	230,500	190,900	187,600	439,700

(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 (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
1988	20,320	54,120	30,330	104,770	1,697,600	2,174,100
1989	24,830	59,220	35,990	120,040	1,989,800	2,020,400
<i>1989 —</i>								
August	2,160	5,570	2,340	10,070	165,400	163,800	164,900	353,900
September	1,890	4,170	2,280	8,340	201,700	172,400	168,600	359,700
October	1,990	3,620	2,160	7,770	147,000	171,100	171,800	309,600
November	2,100	4,070	3,230	9,400	144,200	169,600	174,100	330,500
December	2,840	5,040	6,830	14,710	244,900	185,800	176,100	427,900
<i>1990 —</i>								
January	2,580	7,920	3,730	14,240	146,700	174,800	177,700	387,000
February	2,310	5,390	2,670	10,370	124,400	177,200	178,800	313,200
March	2,450	5,800	3,070	11,310	168,600	168,200	179,500	376,900
April	2,600	5,800	2,740	11,130	193,400	197,700	180,000	392,600
May	2,550	5,230	2,770	10,550	167,900	176,500	180,200	353,900
June	2,250	4,770	3,360	10,380	209,800	176,300	180,400	369,200
July	2,590	5,740	3,090	11,420	198,400	179,400	180,300	366,100
August	2,560	6,300	2,720	11,590	184,300	179,900	180,200	383,900
September	2,290	4,770	2,550	9,600	214,300	184,400	180,300	393,800
October	2,530	4,280	2,480	9,290	156,100	178,700	179,400	327,400

(a) Figures for short-term movement are largely based on a sample and are subject to sampling error. See Paragraph 10 of the Explanatory Notes for more detail. (b) See paragraphs 18 to 20 of the Explanatory Notes.

**TABLE 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		October		October	
	1988	1989	1989	1990	1989	1990	1989	1990
ARRIVALS								
Intended length of stay	495,300	499,800	119,300	140,800	402,500	467,500	44,000	45,400
Under 1 week	567,800	494,000	114,100	136,300	395,000	455,500	42,900	55,500
1 and under 2 weeks	541,200	448,500	116,200	115,800	355,900	361,100	37,500	39,100
2 weeks and under 1 month	279,500	265,600	60,500	59,100	199,700	198,300	19,900	21,800
1 and under 2 months	99,300	98,900	19,900	19,700	74,300	73,900	6,900	7,900
2 and under 3 months	110,300	110,700	22,100	22,000	84,200	80,400	9,600	9,100
3 and under 6 months	146,100	162,700	34,600	32,600	128,500	126,800	13,300	12,100
6 and under 12 months	2,249,300	2,080,300	486,700	526,300	1,640,200	1,763,500	174,100	190,900
Total (a)								
DEPARTURES								
Intended length of stay	138,300	175,900	46,900	46,200	143,400	155,600	15,000	16,400
Under 1 week	402,300	487,800	136,200	148,800	410,800	445,300	47,700	49,200
1 and under 2 weeks	480,200	565,200	150,500	167,400	458,100	494,900	45,600	47,300
2 weeks and under 1 month	302,300	353,300	95,700	109,500	260,200	289,400	19,600	19,500
1 and under 2 months	145,400	158,500	47,500	54,600	115,500	137,200	6,800	8,300
2 and under 3 months	126,600	139,800	39,100	41,300	118,600	134,300	6,300	7,500
3 and under 6 months	96,300	108,100	25,000	29,200	93,000	107,000	6,000	7,900
6 and under 12 months	1,697,600	1,989,800	540,900	596,900	1,600,700	1,763,800	147,000	156,100
Total (a)								
Purpose of journey	37,200	47,700	16,100	15,600	42,300	49,400	2,800	4,800
Attending convention	264,400	302,200	77,500	78,700	258,600	262,600	28,400	26,900
Business	28,800	33,000	9,200	8,600	28,100	27,000	2,600	2,000
Accompanying business traveller	343,400	387,600	95,700	109,500	285,000	331,500	21,700	25,500
Visiting relatives	912,000	1,085,500	306,700	346,200	876,500	972,500	82,000	86,600
Holiday	28,400	35,700	8,900	11,000	29,900	34,700	3,000	3,700
Employment	15,300	19,400	5,300	7,600	15,900	20,600	1,100	1,400
Education	68,200	78,700	21,600	19,700	64,400	65,600	5,400	5,300
Other and not stated	1,697,600	1,989,800	540,900	596,900	1,600,700	1,763,800	147,000	156,100
Total								

(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		October		October	
	1988	1989	1989	1990	1989	1990	1989	1990
Total Africa	8,150	5,360	1,350	1,070	4,450	3,690	310	330
Total America	7,800	7,460	1,940	1,840	6,090	5,570	620	540
Asia —								
East and South East Asia	45,500	45,970	11,790	13,730	38,880	40,120	3,370	4,050
South Central Asia	8,920	6,740	1,790	2,600	5,760	6,880	480	720
Western Asia (Middle East)	7,000	4,810	1,200	1,280	4,030	3,820	400	500
Total Asia	61,430	57,520	14,780	17,600	48,670	50,820	4,240	5,270
Europe —								
U.K. and Ireland	29,030	26,490	7,070	5,800	22,110	19,940	2,120	2,120
Other Europe	15,590	12,830	3,370	2,780	10,460	9,280	1,230	930
Total Europe	44,630	39,320	10,440	8,580	32,570	29,220	3,350	3,050
Oceania —								
New Zealand	24,870	17,340	3,340	2,220	15,420	7,740	930	540
Other Oceania	4,660	4,040	1,020	800	3,370	3,160	290	260
Total Oceania	29,530	21,390	4,370	3,010	18,790	10,900	1,220	800
Total (a)	151,550	131,060	32,870	32,100	110,570	100,210	9,740	9,990

(a) Includes not stated.

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

Country of residence	Year ended		Quarter ended		January to		Month of	
	31 December		30 September		October		October	
	1988	1989	1989	1990	1989	1990	1989	1990
AFRICA —								
South Africa	9,400	8,000	1,600	1,500	5,700	6,300	600	700
Other	10,900	9,300	2,100	2,100	6,900	7,000	600	600
<i>Total Africa</i>	<i>20,300</i>	<i>17,300</i>	<i>3,700</i>	<i>3,600</i>	<i>12,600</i>	<i>13,300</i>	<i>1,200</i>	<i>1,300</i>
AMERICA —								
Canada	66,700	54,200	10,700	12,100	42,700	42,200	5,100	5,100
U.S.A.	322,300	260,700	60,800	58,500	216,700	205,900	23,700	24,000
Other	15,400	11,700	2,700	3,000	9,300	9,700	800	1,000
<i>Total America</i>	<i>404,400</i>	<i>326,600</i>	<i>74,200</i>	<i>73,600</i>	<i>268,700</i>	<i>257,800</i>	<i>29,700</i>	<i>30,200</i>
ASIA —								
China	18,000	29,100	3,400	3,400	17,400	21,100	1,300	1,100
Hong Kong	49,400	54,100	16,400	11,000	44,100	46,000	3,700	6,200
India	10,700	10,900	2,600	2,600	8,900	9,300	1,000	800
Indonesia	29,600	29,000	6,500	7,800	22,600	26,400	2,100	2,200
Israel	5,200	5,400	1,400	1,300	4,200	4,200	400	400
Japan	352,300	349,500	88,400	128,500	285,300	391,700	26,200	36,600
Korea (a)	9,200	10,400	2,700	3,700	8,300	11,100	800	1,100
Malaysia	52,100	44,300	9,000	9,200	34,800	37,100	4,200	4,000
Philippines	13,400	11,000	2,300	3,200	9,200	11,200	900	1,100
Singapore	63,500	65,200	11,400	13,400	44,300	52,800	4,200	6,100
Taiwan	19,200	21,500	4,300	4,300	16,000	21,000	2,400	1,300
Thailand	15,800	17,300	3,300	3,600	14,900	16,300	2,300	2,700
Other	21,900	22,900	6,000	6,100	17,700	19,600	1,800	1,700
<i>Total Asia</i>	<i>660,300</i>	<i>670,500</i>	<i>157,800</i>	<i>198,000</i>	<i>527,700</i>	<i>667,800</i>	<i>51,200</i>	<i>65,300</i>
EUROPE —								
Austria	9,100	9,200	2,100	2,300	7,100	7,400	1,000	1,000
Denmark	11,400	10,200	2,400	2,000	7,800	7,600	900	1,000
Finland	5,700	5,200	900	1,200	3,700	4,200	500	600
France	21,000	20,100	5,800	6,100	16,100	16,800	1,600	1,900
Germany (a)	65,900	68,100	14,200	16,600	53,500	59,000	6,700	7,400
Greece	8,100	7,400	1,400	1,800	4,700	5,400	500	500
Ireland (a)	13,100	12,200	2,400	1,900	10,000	8,400	1,100	1,200
Italy	25,200	20,500	6,100	7,900	15,300	18,100	1,400	2,000
Netherlands	22,400	20,100	4,300	4,500	14,500	15,800	1,300	2,400
Norway	5,200	3,700	700	1,000	2,800	3,400	400	500
Poland	4,100	4,400	1,100	800	3,400	3,000	400	300
Sweden	26,900	24,100	3,300	3,200	17,800	15,800	2,100	2,100
Switzerland	26,000	27,400	5,100	5,400	20,300	21,300	2,600	3,600
United Kingdom	260,300	272,900	46,900	48,000	204,100	207,400	24,300	24,500
U.S.S.R (a)	2,900	5,400	1,100	1,400	4,000	4,100	500	400
Yugoslavia	6,800	6,400	1,200	1,100	4,400	4,100	500	500
Other	15,500	13,500	3,600	4,400	10,200	12,200	1,200	1,600
<i>Total Europe</i>	<i>529,600</i>	<i>530,700</i>	<i>102,600</i>	<i>109,400</i>	<i>399,900</i>	<i>413,900</i>	<i>47,000</i>	<i>51,300</i>
OCEANIA —								
Fiji	19,300	17,500	3,900	3,400	13,500	12,100	1,000	1,000
New Caledonia	17,200	13,400	2,300	2,700	11,200	11,900	700	800
New Zealand	534,300	449,300	128,500	122,200	362,700	343,300	39,400	36,100
Papua New Guinea	37,800	34,800	9,200	8,300	27,500	27,300	2,600	2,600
Other	19,800	18,400	4,600	4,200	14,700	13,900	1,400	1,400
<i>Total Oceania</i>	<i>628,200</i>	<i>533,500</i>	<i>148,500</i>	<i>140,700</i>	<i>429,600</i>	<i>408,600</i>	<i>45,000</i>	<i>41,900</i>
Total (b)	2,249,300	2,080,300	486,700	526,300	1,640,200	1,763,500	174,100	190,900

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

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

Country of intended stay	Year ended		Quarter ended		January to		Month of	
	31 December		30 September		October		October	
	1988	1989	1989	1990	1989	1990	1989	1990
AFRICA —								
Egypt	4,900	6,300	1,400	900	4,500	3,700	400	300
South Africa	8,300	11,600	2,500	1,500	7,700	6,700	600	400
Other	9,700	10,300	2,500	3,200	7,700	8,000	700	700
<i>Total Africa</i>	<i>22,900</i>	<i>28,300</i>	<i>6,300</i>	<i>5,500</i>	<i>19,800</i>	<i>18,400</i>	<i>1,700</i>	<i>1,400</i>
AMERICA —								
Canada	23,700	30,100	9,800	10,700	24,800	26,800	1,100	1,400
U.S.A.	196,300	241,700	67,200	82,400	198,200	238,700	19,300	21,100
Other	23,900	21,200	4,500	6,600	15,200	17,600	1,500	2,100
<i>Total America</i>	<i>243,900</i>	<i>293,100</i>	<i>81,600</i>	<i>99,700</i>	<i>238,200</i>	<i>283,000</i>	<i>21,800</i>	<i>24,600</i>
ASIA —								
China	19,100	13,900	2,500	3,500	12,100	10,200	1,500	1,400
Cyprus	3,200	3,600	1,200	1,000	3,000	3,300	100	—
Hong Kong	104,700	116,800	26,500	28,300	91,800	94,300	9,300	10,900
India	19,300	23,200	5,000	4,400	15,800	14,700	1,700	1,100
Indonesia	133,600	146,100	41,300	48,700	120,700	132,000	13,600	12,200
Israel	6,000	6,200	1,100	1,000	4,500	4,200	500	200
Japan	30,100	40,600	10,500	13,300	33,000	39,700	4,600	4,600
Korea (a)	7,400	7,800	2,200	2,100	6,400	6,500	700	700
Lebanon	5,300	5,000	1,300	2,500	3,600	6,600	400	400
Malaysia	48,400	62,300	17,000	18,900	48,500	57,500	4,900	5,300
Philippines	35,700	41,900	9,000	7,500	32,700	30,100	2,700	2,900
Singapore	93,400	117,800	30,800	26,300	95,800	85,200	10,000	8,400
Taiwan	8,000	10,600	2,100	3,000	8,100	10,000	800	1,100
Thailand	59,800	86,600	21,500	25,600	69,200	81,000	8,500	9,100
Turkey	6,300	6,900	2,100	1,900	6,000	7,700	400	300
Other	19,500	25,800	5,200	7,200	19,300	22,500	1,900	1,900
<i>Total Asia</i>	<i>599,900</i>	<i>714,900</i>	<i>179,100</i>	<i>195,400</i>	<i>570,500</i>	<i>605,600</i>	<i>61,500</i>	<i>60,500</i>
EUROPE —								
Austria	5,300	6,400	1,900	2,300	4,900	6,300	300	200
France	16,300	20,500	5,600	7,700	16,900	20,000	1,500	1,300
Germany (a)	26,900	30,800	9,400	10,700	25,900	29,100	2,100	2,100
Greece	33,600	31,700	10,100	10,000	28,000	29,800	800	1,200
Ireland (a)	8,100	10,100	3,200	3,700	7,700	9,200	400	400
Italy	39,300	41,600	13,600	14,900	36,000	39,300	2,100	1,600
Malta	5,300	5,000	1,600	1,800	4,300	4,900	200	200
Netherlands	12,700	13,300	3,800	4,300	11,400	13,200	900	900
Poland	3,900	5,400	1,300	1,400	4,600	5,000	400	200
Spain	5,000	5,600	1,800	1,900	4,300	5,500	400	400
Sweden	3,900	4,200	1,200	1,800	3,500	4,200	200	200
Switzerland	8,100	9,000	2,300	2,400	7,700	8,000	400	500
United Kingdom	213,400	237,500	74,400	82,000	199,700	218,600	12,500	13,300
Yugoslavia	16,000	15,200	5,300	5,900	13,100	15,700	600	800
Other	19,000	23,700	8,000	10,400	20,500	27,000	1,100	1,100
<i>Total Europe</i>	<i>416,900</i>	<i>460,000</i>	<i>143,600</i>	<i>161,200</i>	<i>388,500</i>	<i>435,800</i>	<i>23,800</i>	<i>24,500</i>
OCEANIA —								
Cook Islands	4,100	4,000	1,100	1,200	3,100	2,800	300	400
Fiji	73,200	93,900	27,900	31,300	76,000	83,600	8,700	9,400
New Caledonia	10,300	14,500	4,100	4,800	11,400	12,400	1,600	1,400
New Zealand	247,100	297,300	75,800	74,700	224,700	249,700	20,200	24,800
Norfolk Is.	15,000	12,200	1,900	3,200	10,500	11,000	900	1,500
Papua New Guinea	32,700	34,400	8,400	9,000	28,300	27,900	2,400	2,600
Solomon Islands	3,600	3,600	1,100	1,000	3,100	3,400	200	500
Tahiti	5,200	6,800	1,800	1,700	5,900	5,200	400	700
Vanuatu	9,100	12,800	4,100	4,800	10,000	14,000	1,900	2,400
Other	6,800	13,000	4,000	3,400	9,600	10,600	1,500	1,100
<i>Total Oceania</i>	<i>407,100</i>	<i>492,400</i>	<i>130,200</i>	<i>135,000</i>	<i>382,500</i>	<i>420,500</i>	<i>38,100</i>	<i>44,800</i>
Total (b)	1,697,600	1,989,800	540,900	596,900	1,600,700	1,763,800	147,000	156,100

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

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

This series of publications contains statistics of overseas arrivals and departures in summary form for the latest available month during which the movement occurred. More detailed statistics can be made available, on request, in unpublished form.

Scope

2. The statistics in this publication relate to the number of movements rather than the number of travellers (i.e. the multiple movements of individual persons during a given reference period are each counted separately). The statistics exclude the movements of operational air and ships' crew, of transit passengers who pass through Australia but are not cleared for entry, and of passengers on pleasure cruises commencing and finishing in Australia aboard ships not then engaged on regular voyages.

Definitions*Category of movement*

3. Category of movement is primarily determined by the traveller's selection of their own category on the passenger card. This selection is accepted provided it is consistent with other information on the passenger card.

Permanent movement

4. Permanent arrivals (settlers) comprise travellers who hold migrant visas, (regardless of stated intended period of stay), New Zealand citizens who indicate an intention to settle and those who are otherwise eligible to settle (e.g. overseas born children of Australian citizens). Permanent departures are Australian residents (including former settlers) who on departure state they do not intend to return to Australia.

Long-term movement

5. Long-term arrivals comprise overseas visitors (except those who hold migrant visas—see paragraph 4 above) who intend to stay in Australia for 12 months or more and Australian residents returning after an absence of 12 months or more overseas. Long-term departures comprise Australian residents who intend to stay abroad for 12 months or more and overseas visitors departing who stayed 12 months or more in Australia.

Short-term movement

6. Movements of travellers whose intended or actual length of stay is less than twelve months are classified as short-term, except those who on arrival hold migrant visas (see paragraph 4 above).

7. A significant number of travellers state exactly 12 months or one year as their intended period of stay. Many of these stay for less than that period and on their departure from, or return to, Australia are therefore classified as short-term. To maintain consistency between arrivals and departures, movements of travellers who report their actual or intended period of stay as being one year exactly are randomly allocated to long-term or short-term, in proportion to the number of movements of travellers who report their actual length of stay as up to one month more, or one month less, than one year.

Country of birth or residence

8. The grouping of countries into regions in Asia in Table 4 is based on United Nations' classification of world regions. Applying this classification, the region which includes most 'middle east' countries is included in Asia and is called 'Western Asia (Middle East)'.

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

Estimation method

10. Overseas arrival and departure statistics are derived from a combination of full enumeration and sampling. All permanent movements and all movements with a duration of stay of one year or more are fully enumerated and processed. All movements with a duration of stay of less than one year are sampled. Statistics relating to these movements are therefore estimates which may differ from statistics which would have been obtained if details of all these movements had been processed.

11. The statistics in this publication have been rounded, to the nearest 100 for short-term movements and to the nearest 10 for permanent and long-term movements. In tables showing both short-term and permanent and long-term movements the total movements have been rounded to the nearest 100. The sums of the components may, due to rounding, not add exactly to totals.

Corrections and imputations

12. The imprecision due to sampling errors should not be confused with errors arising from imperfections in reporting, which may occur in any data collection, whether sampled or not. Every effort is made to minimise such errors, both through careful design of the passenger cards and through checks on the information once it is received. During the edit process some items are corrected where they conflict with other known information. Missing replies to certain items such as age and country of birth are also imputed by reference to other related items.

13. Errors of this kind differ from discrepancies arising from the fact that certain information reflects the travellers' intentions, at the time the passenger cards were completed. These intentions are of course subject to change. Particularly affected is the distinction between permanent and temporary movement and in the latter case, length of intended stay, country in which most time will be spent and purpose of journey.

Seasonal adjustment

14. Original and seasonally adjusted short-term overseas visitor arrivals and short-term Australian resident departures are shown in Tables 1 and 2 respectively. In the seasonally adjusted series, account has been taken of normal seasonal factors and 'trading day' effects (arising

from the varying numbers of Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays, etc. in the month) and the effect of movement in the date of Easter which may in successive years, affect figures for different months.

15. Seasonal adjustment may be carried out by various methods and the results may vary slightly according to the procedure adopted. Accordingly, seasonally adjusted statistics should not be regarded as in any way definitive. In interpreting particular seasonally adjusted statistics it is important to bear in mind the methods by which they have been derived and the limitations to which the methods used are subject. The adjustment procedure used for the short-term visitor arrivals and resident departures data is an aggregative adjustment. Prior to the July 1989 issue these data were adjusted at the category total level only (for visitor arrivals and resident departures separately). The aggregative method adjusts the major components separately (in this instance, the main countries of each category). The adjusted category total is obtained by summing the adjusted components. For more detail, contact the Supervisor, Time Series Analysis, A.B.S. on (06) 252 6103.

16. Seasonal adjustment is a means of removing the estimated effects of normal seasonal variation from the series so that the effects of other influences on the series may be more clearly recognised. Seasonal adjustment procedures do not aim to remove the irregular or non-seasonal influences which may be present in any particular month, such as the effect of major sporting and cultural events, changes in airfares structure and the fluctuation of \$A relative to other currencies. Irregular influences that are highly volatile can make it difficult to interpret the movement of the series even after adjustment for seasonal variation.

17. The seasonally adjusted series can, however, be smoothed to reduce the impact of the irregular component in the adjusted series. There are a number of ways of accomplishing this, depending on the intended uses of the smoothed series. If importance is attached to measuring the underlying change in the most recent periods, moving averages employing appropriate weighting patterns should be adopted; the choice of averaging technique will determine in part the degree of smoothness of the derived series. The longer the term of the moving average the longer is the time series affected by revisions resulting from more recent data. In order to ensure that the underlying trend-cycle of a series is reflected in the trend estimate series, the degree of smoothness alone cannot always be used as the sole criterion in determining which moving average is appropriate.

18. The trend estimate short-term overseas visitor arrivals and short-term Australian resident departures statistics are shown in Tables 1 and 2 respectively. The trend estimate has been derived by applying a 13-term Henderson-weighted moving average to the series.

19. While this technique enables smoothed data for the latest period to be produced, it does result in revisions to the smoothed series, principally, of recent months as additional observations become available. There may also be revisions as a result of the re-estimation of the seasonal factors. For further information concerning the smoothing

process refer to an Information Paper *A Guide to Smoothing Time Series — Estimates of 'Trend'* (1316.0).

20. With the opening of World Expo 88 in April 1988 and at its conclusion in October 1988, abrupt dislocations occurred in the trend path of the short-term overseas visitor arrivals series. As different countries displayed varied timings of this effect, the trend path between April and October 1988 is suppressed. Estimates of the trend path are now available from November 1988 onwards.

Related publications

21. Comprehensive definitions and explanations, and detailed data are contained in:

Overseas Arrivals and Departures, Australia (3402.0)—issued quarterly

Overseas Arrivals and Departures, Australia (3404.0)—issued annually

22. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products, Australia* (1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Publications Advice* (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Publications Advice are available from any ABS office.

Unpublished statistics

23. As well as the statistics included in this and related publications, the ABS may have other relevant unpublished data available. Inquiries should be made to Mr Robert Chibnall on Canberra (06) 252 6671.

Symbols and other usages

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

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