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INTERSTATE AND OVERSEAS VISITORS, NORTHERN TERRITORY 1993

This publication contains a selection of findings from a household survey conducted throughout the Northern Territory in October 1993.

The survey was designed to provide a range of information about interstate and overseas visiting friends and relatives who stayed for 4 nights or more, during the 12 months to September 1993.

Additional information is available on request.

MAIN FEATURES

There were 53,105 interstate and overseas visiting friends and relatives during the year ending September 1993 who stayed for 4 nights or more at Northern Territory private dwellings. They accumulated 819,675 visitor nights and had an average length of stay of 15.44 days.

Relatives (average stay of 17.53 days) visited for a longer period than did friends (average stay of 11.07 days).

The visitors comprised 46,297 interstate visitors and 6,808 overseas visitors. Relatives accounted for 70% (32,189) of the interstate visitors and 54% (3,700) of the overseas visitors.

The most popular time for visiting was during the April-September period (in the Top End the dry season) with 71% (37,482) of the visits occurring during this time. 77% of friends and 68% of relatives visited during this period. The months of June and July 1993 had the highest number of visitors with 8,766 and 8,932 respectively.

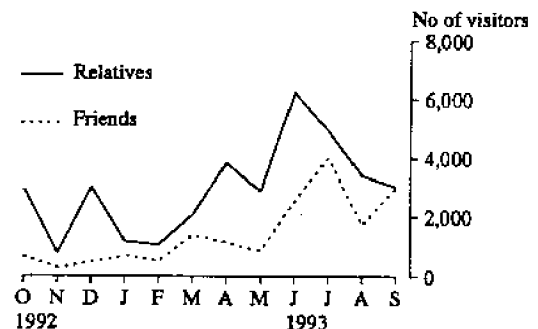
Information obtained about the most recent set of visitors indicates that 56% of visitors were female and that 42% were 45 years or older. For the 45 years or older age group, 61% of the most recent visitors were female.

Holiday (60%) and family reasons (33%) were the main purpose of the visit by recent visitors.

Travel by visitors to and from the Northern Territory was mainly facilitated by airlines (around 56%), with private motor vehicles (around 35%) being the next most important.

The greatest proportion of interstate visitors were from South Australia (25%), Queensland (24%), New South Wales (19%) and Victoria (17%).

VISITORS BY MONTH



INQUIRIES

- for further information about statistics in this publication and the availability of related unpublished statistics, contact Tim Power on Darwin (089) 432 131 or any ABS State Office.
- for information about other ABS statistics and services please contact Information Services on Darwin (089) 432 111 or any ABS State Office.

**TABLE 1 TOTAL VISITOR SUMMARY DETAILS (a) ,
YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 1993, BY TYPE OF VISITOR**

| <i>Summary details</i> | <i>Friends</i> | <i>Relatives</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|-------------------------------|----------------|------------------|--------------|
| Visitor numbers | 17,215 | 35,890 | 53,105 |
| Visitor nights | 190,552 | 629,123 | 819,675 |
| Average length of stay (days) | 11.07 | 17.53 | 15.44 |

**TABLE 2 TOTAL NUMBER OR VISITORS (a) , YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 1993,
BY LENGTH OF STAY AND TYPE OF VISITOR**

| <i>Number of nights</i> | <i>Friends</i> | <i>Relatives</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|-------------------------|----------------|------------------|---------------|
| 4 to 7 | 9,235 | 11,539 | 20,774 |
| 8 to 14 | 5,556 | 15,357 | 20,913 |
| 15 to 21 | 786 | 4,773 | 5,558 |
| 22 to 28 | 552 | 1,148 | 1,700 |
| Greater than 28 | 1,087 | 3,073 | 4,159 |
| Total | 17,215 | 35,890 | 53,105 |

**TABLE 3 TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITORS (a), YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 1993,
BY MONTH OF VISIT AND TYPE OF VISITOR**

| <i>Month visit commenced</i> | <i>Friends</i> | <i>Relatives</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|------------------------------|----------------|------------------|---------------|
| Don't know | - | 589 | 589 |
| October, 1992 | 658 | 2,944 | 3,601 |
| November, 1992 | 284 | 795 | 1,079 |
| December, 1992 | 494 | 3,002 | 3,496 |
| January, 1993 | 673 | 1,166 | 1,839 |
| February, 1993 | 497 | 1,067 | 1,563 |
| March, 1993 | 1,378 | 2,076 | 3,453 |
| April, 1993 | 1,121 | 3,822 | 4,943 |
| May, 1993 | 846 | 2,863 | 3,710 |
| June, 1993 | 2,543 | 6,223 | 8,766 |
| July, 1993 | 4,021 | 4,912 | 8,932 |
| August, 1993 | 1,731 | 3,414 | 5,144 |
| September, 1993 | 2,970 | 3,017 | 5,987 |
| Total | 17,215 | 35,890 | 53,105 |

**TABLE 4 TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITORS (a), YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 1993
BY WHETHER FROM INTERSTATE OR OVERSEAS**

| <i>Usual residence</i> | <i>Friends</i> | <i>Relatives</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|------------------------|----------------|------------------|---------------|
| Interstate | 14,108 | 32,189 | 46,297 |
| Overseas | 3,107 | 3,700 | 6,808 |
| Total | 17,215 | 35,889 | 53,105 |

TABLE 5 NUMBER OF MOST RECENT VISITORS (a), YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 1993, BY AGE AND SEX

| <i>Age</i> | <i>Females</i> | <i>Males</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|--------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| Less than 14 years | 1,425 | 1,987 | 3,412 |
| 14 to 19 years | 719 | 775 | 1,494 |
| 20 to 24 years | 2,181 | 1,382 | 3,563 |
| 25 to 34 years | 2,796 | 1,997 | 4,793 |
| 35 to 44 years | 1,939 | 2,057 | 3,996 |
| 45 to 59 years | 3,546 | 1,923 | 5,469 |
| 60 years and over | 3,922 | 2,918 | 6,840 |
| Total | 16,529 | 13,039 | 29,567 |

TABLE 6 NUMBER OF MOST RECENT VISITORS (a), YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 1993, BY MONTH OF VISIT AND PURPOSE OF VISIT

| <i>Month visit commenced</i> | <i>Main purpose of visit</i> | | | | <i>Total</i> |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------|---------------|
| | <i>Family</i> | <i>Holiday</i> | <i>Business</i> | <i>Other</i> | |
| Don't know | 589 | - | - | - | 589 |
| October, 1992 | 765 | 1,377 | - | - | 2,143 |
| November, 1992 | 363 | 274 | 100 | - | 736 |
| December, 1992 | 162 | 733 | - | - | 895 |
| January, 1993 | 166 | 81 | 91 | - | 338 |
| February, 1993 | 75 | 457 | - | - | 532 |
| March, 1993 | 75 | 1,094 | - | - | 1,170 |
| April, 1993 | 448 | 1,958 | - | 488 | 2,894 |
| May, 1993 | 628 | 1,016 | 99 | 172 | 1,915 |
| June, 1993 | 1,428 | 1,934 | - | 203 | 3,565 |
| July, 1993 | 2,519 | 2,829 | 253 | - | 5,601 |
| August, 1993 | 1,142 | 2,049 | 95 | - | 3,286 |
| September, 1993 | 1,324 | 4,018 | 167 | 393 | 5,903 |
| Total | 9,685 | 17,821 | 805 | 1,257 | 29,567 |

TABLE 7 NUMBER OF MOST RECENT VISITORS (a), YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 1993, BY MODE OF TRAVEL TO AND FROM NORTHERN TERRITORY

| <i>Mode of travel</i> | <i>To</i> | <i>From</i> |
|-----------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Don't know | 92 | - |
| Private motor vehicle | 9,815 | 10,631 |
| Bus/coach | 1,483 | 2,028 |
| Air | 16,899 | 16,014 |
| Fly/drive package | 725 | 725 |
| Train | 169 | 169 |
| Other | 383 | - |
| Total | 29,567 | 29,567 |

TABLE 8 NUMBER OF MOST RECENT VISITORS (a), YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 1993, BY PLACE OF USUAL RESIDENCE

| <i>Usual residence</i> | <i>Number</i> | <i>Percentage</i> |
|------------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Overseas | 3,790 | 12.9 |
| NSW | 4,926 | 16.8 |
| Vic | 4,454 | 15.2 |
| Qld | 6,051 | 20.6 |
| SA | 6,297 | 21.4 |
| WA | 2,331 | 7.9 |
| Tas | 523 | 1.8 |
| ACT | 1,002 | 3.4 |
| Total | 29,374 | 100.0 |

(a) who stayed for 4 nights or more

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Survey Design

The Interstate and Overseas Visitors Survey was a supplement to the ABS October 1993 Monthly Labour Force Survey which is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (houses, flats, etc) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc). The supplementary survey collected data about visitors to Northern Territory households from the residents of selected private dwellings. Questions were asked about all visitors, with greatest detail being obtained about the most recent visitors.

The information was obtained from any responsible adult (ie any usual resident 18 years or over) via personal interviews by specially trained interviewers. Interviews were conducted over a two week period in mid October 1993.

Scope and Coverage

Data was collected on interstate and overseas visitors who stayed in the selected dwelling for 4 nights or more in the 12 months to September 1993. Northern Territory (intrastate) people visiting friends and relatives were out of scope of the survey, as were boarders.

Data Quality

Statistics contained in this publication are subject to sampling error as they are based on data obtained from a sample rather than a complete enumeration of the population. That is, they may differ from the figures that would have been obtained if all households had been included in the survey.

In addition, other inaccuracies, referred to collectively as non-sample error, may occur for a number of reasons. Inaccuracies may occur because of imperfections in information provided by respondents or in processing by the ABS. Although considerable care is taken in questionnaire design, in the instructions given to field interviewers, and in editing the completed questionnaires, these inaccuracies may occur in any enumeration, whether it be a full count or a sample.

For further information on sampling error and other data quality issues contact the client serving area of the ABS Darwin Office on (089) 432123.

Definitions

Households - A group of one or more persons in a private dwelling who consider themselves to be separate from other persons (if any) in the dwelling and who make regular provision to take meals separately from other persons, ie at different times or in different rooms.

Interstate and overseas visitors - Visitors whose usual place of residence is not located in the Northern Territory. Northern Territory (intrastate) visitors and boarders are excluded.

Friends and relatives - Relatives were those the respondent considered to be 'family' and may include cousins, uncles/aunts, in-laws, etc. Friends were considered to be all other visitors and may include sporting billets, etc.

Visitor nights - For visitors who stayed for 4 nights or more during the 12 months period to September 1993, visitor nights are calculated by multiplying the number of visitors by the number of nights stayed.

Average length of stay - This is expressed in number of days and has been calculated by dividing total visitor nights by the number of visitors.

Unpublished Statistics

The ABS may make available on request a limited amount of unpublished information from the Interstate and Overseas Visitors Survey. A charge may be made for this information.

Related Publications

Tourism related information is published in a variety of ABS publications.

Directory of Tourism Statistics, 1991 - (1130.0) (irregular)
Overseas Arrivals & Departures, Australia - (3401.0) (mthly)
Tourist Accommodation, Australia - (8635.0) (quarterly)
Tourist Accommodation Northern Territory (8635.7) (qrterly)
Tourism Indicators Australia - (8634.0) (quarterly)

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 *Publication 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

Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between totals and the sums of the component items.

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Statistician, Northern Territory

