

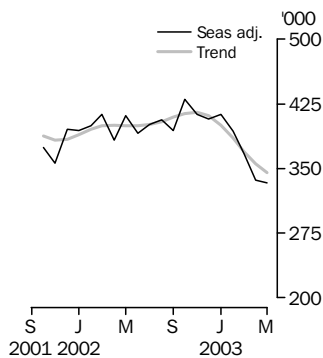
OVERSEAS ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES

AUSTRALIA

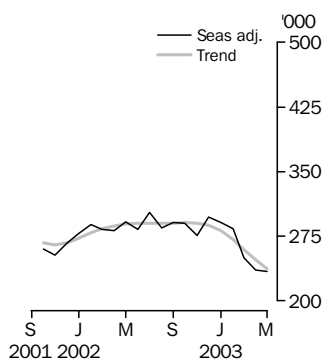
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MAY 2003 KEY FIGURES

Visitor arrivals Short-term



Resident departures Short-term



	May 2003 '000	% change between Apr 2003 and May 2003	Jul 2002 to May 2003 '000	% change on corresponding period in 2001/2002
Short-term				
Visitor arrivals				
Trend	345.1	-3.0	..	..
Seasonally Adjusted	333.4	-0.8	..	..
Original	260.9	..	4,347.5	-1.8
Resident departures				
Trend	237.6	-4.1	..	..
Seasonally Adjusted	233.9	-0.7	..	..
Original	236.3	..	3,017.8	-1.0

TAKE CARE!
Trend estimates are revised as new monthly data become available. See note on page 2.

KEY POINTS

The ABS has recently undertaken a review of the dissemination strategy for Overseas Arrival and Departure Statistics. Based on feedback on ABS Demography Working Paper 2003/4 — *A New Dissemination Strategy for Overseas Arrival and Departure Statistics*, a number of changes will be made to this publication over the coming months. Details of the changes introduced in this issue are explained on page 2.

International reports of an atypical pneumonia known as Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) in several Asian countries (and subsequently other countries) leading to a World Health Organisation emergency travel advisory on 15 March 2003, and the anticipation and commencement of military action in Iraq on 20 March 2003, have had a significant impact on overseas arrivals and departures, particularly short-term movements.

- There were 260,900 short-term visitor arrivals to Australia during May 2003. The trend estimate for short-term visitor arrivals for May (345,100) continued to decline since the revised series peaked in November 2002 (down 17%).
- The seasonally adjusted estimate of short-term visitor arrivals for May (333,400) represents a decrease of 1% compared to the previous month. This monthly decline was lower than April (down 9%) and March (down 7%).
- There were 236,300 short-term departures of Australian residents during May 2003. The trend estimate for short-term resident departures in May (237,600) indicates a continuing down-turn in the revised series since October 2002 (down 18%).
- The seasonally adjusted estimate for short-term resident departures for May 2003 (233,900) represents a decrease of 1% from the previous month. This is the lowest monthly decline since January 2003 (down 2%).

INQUIRIES

- For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070, or Olivia Agius on Canberra 02 6252 5640.

NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES	ISSUE	EXPECTED RELEASE DATE
	June 2003	11 August 2003
	July 2003	10 September 2003
	August 2003	10 October 2003

DATA NOTES For data quality and revision issues see appendix 2 on page 18.

Caution must be exercised when assessing trend estimates for recent months. For further information see paragraph 18 of the Explanatory Notes.

CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE There is no special article included in this issue.

Table 1: *Total Movement — Arrivals: Category of Movement* no longer includes preliminary estimates of short-term visitors arrivals.

Table 6: *Short-term Movement — Arrivals of Overseas Visitors, Country of Residence* is no longer included in this publication.

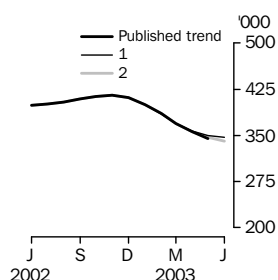
Preliminary estimates of short-term visitor arrivals to Australia for June 2003 can be found on the ABS website <http://www.abs.gov.au> by going to the homepage and selecting Main Features (located under Statistical Products and Services) and then 34. Migration. Select *Short-term Visitor Arrivals to Australia, Preliminary* (cat. no. 3401.0.55.001).

TREND REVISIONS Each time new seasonally adjusted estimates become available, trend estimates of short-term arrivals are revised (see paragraphs 14 to 18 of Explanatory Notes).

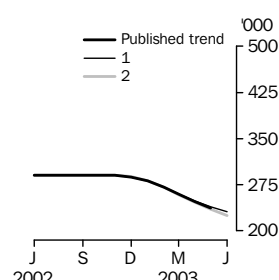
The examples in the graphs below shows an illustrative scenario and the consequent revision to previous trend estimates of visitor arrivals and resident departures.

- 1 The seasonally adjusted estimate for June visitor arrivals and resident departures is 3.30% higher than May.
- 2 The seasonally adjusted estimate for June visitor arrivals and resident departures is 3.30% lower than May.

VISITOR ARRIVALS



RESIDENT DEPARTURES



The percentage change of 3.30 was chosen because it represents the average absolute monthly percentage change for visitor arrivals and resident departures over the last ten years.

Dennis Trewin
Australian Statistician

MAIN FEATURES

SHORT-TERM MOVEMENTS

VISITOR ARRIVALS

There were 260,900 short-term visitor arrivals to Australia during May 2003. This brought the total for the eleven months to May 2003 to 4,347,500, a decrease of 2% compared to the corresponding period to May 2002.

Of the top ten source countries for the eleven months to May 2003, there was an increase in the number of short-term visitors from Korea (up 7%), China (up 7%), Japan (up 3%), the United Kingdom (up 3%) and New Zealand (up 1%), compared to the same period in 2002. There was a decrease in the number of short-term visitors from Singapore (down 12%), Malaysia (down 8%), Hong Kong (down 8%) and Germany (down 1%).

VISITOR DEPARTURES

Compared to the eleven months to May 2002, Queensland experienced the largest increase (up 38,800) in the number of overseas visitors who stated that Queensland was their main state of stay. The fastest increase was experienced by Tasmania (up 4%). New South Wales experienced the largest decline (down 85,600) and the Northern Territory experienced the fastest decline (down 19%).

RESIDENT DEPARTURES

During May 2003 there were 236,300 short-term departures of Australian residents, bringing the total for the eleven months to May 2003 to 3,017,800, a decrease of 1% from the corresponding period to May 2002.

Of the top 10 destinations for short-term departures of Australian residents for the eleven months to May 2003, there was an increase in the number of residents departures to Fiji (up 15%), the United States (up 5%), New Zealand (up 4%), and China (up 2%) compared to the same period in 2002. There was a decrease in the number of resident departures to Indonesia (down 27%), Singapore (down 25%), Hong Kong (down 18%), Malaysia (down 8%) and Thailand (down 5%).

PERMANENT AND LONG-TERM MOVEMENTS

There were 8,000 permanent (settler) arrivals in Australia during May 2003. This brought the total for the eleven months to May 2003 to 84,400, an increase of 5% compared to the corresponding period in 2002. New Zealand was the main source country for settler arrivals in the eleven months to May 2003, accounting for 14% of all permanent arrivals. The United Kingdom (13%) was the second largest source country.

During May 2003 there were nearly 4,000 permanent departures from Australia. This brought the total number of permanent departures to 46,900 for the eleven months to May 2003. This was 4% higher than in the corresponding period in 2002. The net gain from permanent and long-term migration during the eleven months to May 2003 was 144,100 people. This was 15% higher than the net gain for the eleven months to May in 2002 (125,500 people).

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) (‘000)				Total arrivals (a) (‘000)
		Australian residents	Overseas visitors		Australian residents	Overseas visitors (Original)	Overseas visitors (Seasonally adjusted)(b)	Overseas visitors (Trend estimate)(b)	
<i>Year ended 31 December</i>									
2000	97,180	80,310	140,080	317,560	3,423.0	4,931.4	..	..	8,671.9
2001	100,890	85,130	170,390	356,410	3,449.9	4,855.7	..	..	8,662.1
2002	89,350	92,400	180,240	361,990	3,394.9	4,841.2	..	..	8,598.1
<i>Year ended 30 June</i>									
2000	92,270	79,650	133,200	305,120	3,299.9	4,651.8	..	..	8,256.8
2001	107,370	82,890	158,310	348,570	3,543.0	5,031.3	..	..	8,922.9
2002	88,900	88,600	175,870	353,370	3,345.0	4,768.3	..	..	8,466.6
<i>2002(c) —</i>									
March	7,310	7,440	14,660	29,400	253.9	446.5	413.4	399.9	729.8
April	7,080	5,580	11,380	24,030	265.6	360.3	382.6	400.7	649.9
May	7,300	5,290	8,870	21,460	246.9	329.9	411.2	399.5	598.3
June	8,180	6,610	10,020	24,810	260.8	339.4	391.3	399.2	625.0
July	7,590	7,570	25,790	40,950	342.9	418.2	401.1	401.0	802.0
August	8,230	7,200	11,940	27,370	292.3	371.9	406.5	404.6	691.6
September	7,570	7,010	10,680	25,250	308.3	358.6	393.7	409.4	692.1
October	6,780	7,360	13,300	27,450	372.5	428.9	430.2	413.8	828.8
November	7,210	8,520	9,780	25,500	252.4	437.0	413.2	415.3	714.9
December	7,250	14,790	9,200	31,230	204.6	534.0	407.1	411.1	769.8
<i>2003 —</i>									
January	7,870	8,610	24,690	41,170	401.1	396.6	413.1	400.3	838.9
February	7,310	7,310	35,040	49,670	243.5	427.5	393.5	385.4	720.6
March	8,410	7,370	15,360	31,140	249.2	392.5	367.6	369.6	672.8
April	8,230	7,250	9,880	25,350	227.2	321.5	336.2	355.9	574.1
May	8,000	5,660	8,250	21,910	205.1	260.9	333.4	345.1	487.9

(a) Figures for short-term movement are based on a sample and are subject to sampling error. See paragraphs 9 and 10 of the Explanatory Notes for more detail. (b) See paragraphs 14 to 18 of the Explanatory Notes. (c) Monthly numbers do not add to yearly total because of rounding.

TABLE 2. TOTAL MOVEMENT—DEPARTURES: CATEGORY OF MOVEMENT

Period	Permanent departures	Long-term departures		Total permanent and long-term departures	Short-term departures (a) (‘000)				Total departures (a) (‘000)
		Australian residents	Overseas visitors		Australian residents (Original)	Australian residents (Seasonally adjusted)(b)	Australian residents (Trend estimate)(b)	Overseas visitors	
<i>Year ended 31 December</i>									
2000	43,820	88,090	74,210	206,120	3,498.2	..	..	4,911.5	8,615.8
2001	47,600	93,460	75,070	216,130	3,442.6	..	..	4,918.1	8,576.8
2002	49,080	89,990	83,870	222,940	3,461.0	..	..	4,894.7	8,578.7
<i>Year ended 30 June</i>									
2000	41,080	84,920	71,850	197,850	3,332.3	..	..	4,635.2	8,165.3
2001	46,520	92,950	73,430	212,900	3,577.3	..	..	5,055.8	8,846.1
2002	48,240	92,070	79,380	219,690	3,367.9	..	..	4,837.8	8,425.3
<i>2002(c) —</i>									
March	4,080	7,980	6,510	18,570	283.5	282.7	284.0	441.4	743.4
April	4,190	8,030	5,150	17,370	267.9	281.4	287.2	419.5	704.8
May	3,470	7,280	5,530	16,280	294.5	291.8	289.2	356.7	667.5
June	3,280	5,730	7,650	16,650	318.6	283.4	290.1	347.5	682.7
July	4,070	7,530	7,590	19,200	318.7	302.8	290.4	369.4	707.3
August	4,600	8,510	6,190	19,300	283.4	284.6	290.2	432.6	735.3
September	3,490	5,660	5,980	15,130	351.6	290.9	290.2	337.5	704.2
October	3,470	5,600	5,370	14,430	268.4	289.9	290.6	392.9	675.7
November	3,550	5,310	7,920	16,790	251.1	276.1	290.4	455.2	723.1
December	4,510	6,870	13,050	24,430	365.1	297.1	287.5	446.9	836.4
<i>2003 —</i>									
January	6,840	12,620	7,440	26,900	249.1	290.5	281.1	510.5	786.5
February	3,980	7,170	5,910	17,050	216.4	283.9	271.2	397.7	631.1
March	4,230	7,340	6,080	17,660	245.5	250.2	259.5	421.6	684.7
April	4,180	6,850	5,210	16,240	232.1	235.5	247.8	350.1	598.5
May	3,970	7,060	4,730	15,760	236.3	233.9	237.6	288.3	540.4

(a) Figures for short-term movement are based on a sample and are subject to sampling error. See paragraphs 9 and 10 of the Explanatory Notes for more detail. (b) See paragraphs 14 to 18 of the Explanatory Notes. (c) Monthly numbers do not add to yearly total because of rounding.

TABLE 3. SHORT-TERM MOVEMENT(a)—ARRIVALS OF OVERSEAS VISITORS AND DEPARTURES OF AUSTRALIAN RESIDENTS BY INTENDED LENGTH OF STAY AND MAIN REASON FOR JOURNEY ('000)

	<i>Year ended December</i>		<i>Quarter ended March</i>		<i>Eleven months to May</i>		<i>Month of May</i>	
	<i>2001</i>	<i>2002</i>	<i>2002</i>	<i>2003</i>	<i>2002</i>	<i>2003</i>	<i>2002</i>	<i>2003</i>
ARRIVALS								
Intended length of stay								
Under 1 week	1,300.9	1,357.9	342.0	345.0	1,188.4	1,197.6	117.8	84.7
1 and under 2 weeks	1,509.9	1,435.5	360.1	329.8	1,339.7	1,251.8	106.6	76.2
2 weeks and under 1 month	1,037.5	997.8	255.0	231.5	941.1	923.9	51.1	50.4
1 and under 2 months	420.5	411.0	109.7	105.9	389.1	380.3	18.7	17.6
2 and under 3 months	139.7	150.3	41.0	40.3	133.3	134.6	8.6	8.0
3 and under 6 months	205.3	228.7	63.6	64.7	201.1	208.7	15.0	12.1
6 and under 12 months	242.1	260.0	91.7	99.4	236.3	250.7	12.0	11.9
Total(b)	4,855.7	4,841.2	1,263.0	1,216.6	4,428.9	4,347.5	329.9	260.9
Main reason for journey								
Convention/conference	135.6	129.9	23.6	26.1	127.4	117.2	15.2	14.8
Business	434.5	442.5	107.1	113.8	395.7	397.6	39.1	33.9
Visiting friends/relatives	942.4	847.6	221.1	213.7	798.1	804.9	45.7	52.7
Holiday	2,484.3	2,401.5	592.2	616.3	2,134.6	2,204.7	159.2	119.3
Employment	56.8	81.9	25.8	18.3	73.7	62.1	6.5	4.3
Education	209.6	218.9	82.5	92.7	197.4	210.4	9.2	7.9
Other and not stated(c)	592.6	719.0	210.7	135.8	702.0	550.5	55.0	28.0
Total	4,855.7	4,841.2	1,263.0	1,216.6	4,428.9	4,347.5	329.9	260.9
DEPARTURES								
Intended length of stay								
Under 1 week	439.9	415.3	107.0	96.9	396.0	346.2	37.8	28.2
1 and under 2 weeks	1,046.4	1,008.5	224.7	206.5	903.5	873.9	75.3	56.9
2 weeks and under 1 month	881.2	924.2	198.3	200.2	791.5	822.6	67.7	55.3
1 and under 2 months	538.2	567.2	94.3	91.7	475.9	498.8	52.7	44.7
2 and under 3 months	183.4	193.7	29.4	27.1	164.5	163.9	20.8	16.7
3 and under 6 months	182.2	183.5	33.4	33.6	156.8	156.9	24.6	18.6
6 and under 12 months	171.3	168.6	54.5	54.9	161.0	155.5	15.7	16.0
Total(b)	3,442.6	3,461.0	741.6	711.0	3,049.3	3,017.8	294.5	236.3
Main reason for journey								
Convention/conference	134.9	135.2	29.8	29.2	115.8	110.9	14.1	10.0
Business	552.4	560.4	137.0	133.8	494.4	483.7	49.2	45.0
Visiting friends/relatives	851.2	879.7	177.0	178.2	746.4	783.7	76.8	60.9
Holiday	1,522.0	1,479.2	296.7	271.2	1,330.2	1,274.4	123.5	92.5
Employment	95.8	101.4	28.6	28.5	90.1	91.3	9.0	8.2
Education	49.7	44.0	9.8	9.3	42.2	39.5	2.3	2.3
Other and not stated(c)	236.6	261.0	62.7	60.8	230.2	234.3	19.6	17.4
Total	3,442.6	3,461.0	741.6	711.0	3,049.3	3,017.8	294.5	236.3

(a) Figures for short-term movement are based on a sample and are subject to sampling error. See paragraphs 9 and 10 of the Explanatory Notes for more detail.

(b) Includes not stated. (c) Includes 'Exhibition' from July 1998.

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

<i>Country of birth(a)</i>	<i>Year ended December</i>		<i>Quarter ended March</i>		<i>Eleven months to May</i>		<i>Month of May</i>	
	<i>2001</i>	<i>2002</i>	<i>2002</i>	<i>2003</i>	<i>2002</i>	<i>2003</i>	<i>2002</i>	<i>2003</i>
Major group —								
Oceania and Antarctica	25,770	17,230	5,570	4,730	17,650	14,320	1,440	1,160
Europe and the Former USSR	17,780	18,500	4,000	4,940	15,750	18,460	1,490	1,640
Middle East and North Africa	6,260	8,210	1,260	2,530	5,210	9,540	510	890
Southeast Asia	14,440	14,520	3,140	3,560	13,060	13,600	1,450	1,380
Northeast Asia	13,690	10,740	2,770	2,570	9,730	9,430	930	780
Southern Asia	10,690	9,130	2,270	2,320	8,290	8,720	830	1,150
The Americas	2,780	2,910	590	750	2,390	2,940	190	240
Africa (excluding North Africa)	9,450	8,090	2,560	2,180	8,640	7,420	450	750
Total(b)	100,890	89,350	22,160	23,580	80,720	84,440	7,300	8,000
Major source countries —								
Bosnia-Herzegovina	510	270	80	30	370	140	30	20
China	8,090	6,950	1,800	1,620	6,070	6,070	600	500
Fiji	2,140	1,410	370	530	1,480	1,460	120	100
Former USSR and Baltic States	1,220	1,210	220	230	1,030	1,000	110	60
Yugoslavia, Federal Republic of(c)	2,200	1,820	370	320	1,920	1,470	230	130
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	1,330	950	220	290	840	960	80	60
India	6,230	4,720	1,200	1,420	4,630	5,050	380	750
Indonesia	4,730	3,060	780	690	3,880	2,720	230	230
New Zealand	21,210	14,080	4,660	3,810	14,440	11,440	1,170	940
Philippines	2,750	3,270	590	710	2,420	2,890	350	290
South Africa	6,190	4,670	1,640	1,190	5,330	4,030	220	420
Taiwan	2,400	1,360	460	340	1,610	1,030	110	80
United Kingdom	8,500	10,160	2,210	3,070	7,880	11,070	740	1,040
United States of America	1,220	1,230	250	270	1,000	1,180	80	90
Viet Nam	1,650	2,280	460	590	1,760	2,280	190	230

(a) See paragraphs 7 and 8 of the Explanatory Notes. (b) Includes not stated/inadequately described. (c) Includes vague responses which cannot be coded to any other category.

**TABLE 5. SHORT-TERM MOVEMENT(a)—ARRIVALS OF OVERSEAS VISITORS
COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE(b)**
(‘000)

<i>Country of residence(b)</i>	<i>Year ended December</i>		<i>Quarter ended March</i>		<i>Eleven months to May</i>		<i>Month of May</i>	
	2001	2002	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
OCEANIA AND ANTARCTICA —								
Fiji	24.5	23.2	5.6	6.1	22.3	21.8	1.5	1.3
New Caledonia	28.7	30.5	10.6	11.8	27.8	30.3	2.6	2.3
New Zealand	814.9	790.1	159.9	150.7	717.6	725.2	60.3	67.0
Papua New Guinea	39.0	31.2	8.5	5.8	33.0	24.4	2.7	2.0
Other	33.2	30.0	7.1	6.8	28.5	26.6	2.4	2.1
<i>Total</i>	<i>940.3</i>	<i>905.0</i>	<i>191.7</i>	<i>181.2</i>	<i>829.1</i>	<i>828.4</i>	<i>69.5</i>	<i>74.8</i>
EUROPE & THE FORMER USSR —								
Austria	17.9	19.0	5.7	5.3	18.2	18.1	0.6	0.9
Belgium	10.5	10.8	2.4	2.4	10.3	10.1	0.6	0.4
Denmark	18.3	18.9	5.9	5.6	17.4	17.5	0.8	0.5
Former USSR & Baltic States	9.9	8.9	2.3	2.2	8.8	8.1	0.6	0.4
France	50.0	49.6	12.8	12.1	48.8	43.6	2.7	1.8
Germany	147.6	134.8	38.2	38.8	130.9	129.2	6.2	6.7
Greece	7.1	7.0	1.7	1.2	6.8	5.1	0.7	0.2
Ireland	51.6	48.0	13.2	12.9	46.3	43.2	2.3	2.1
Italy	43.3	43.3	8.6	10.1	38.7	40.8	2.3	1.5
Netherlands	56.5	53.0	15.2	14.9	52.3	49.7	2.3	2.0
Norway	16.6	16.9	5.9	6.0	15.5	16.4	0.5	0.5
Spain	12.4	12.5	2.6	2.7	12.0	11.4	0.7	0.6
Sweden	31.7	30.9	9.5	10.2	28.9	30.4	1.1	0.9
Switzerland	46.2	41.5	12.0	12.5	41.7	39.6	2.1	1.6
United Kingdom	617.2	642.7	206.7	196.3	600.1	615.4	28.5	28.0
Other	42.2	42.8	11.6	10.9	40.7	37.3	2.8	1.5
<i>Total</i>	<i>1,179.0</i>	<i>1,180.5</i>	<i>354.2</i>	<i>344.2</i>	<i>1,117.4</i>	<i>1,115.8</i>	<i>54.8</i>	<i>49.4</i>
MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA —								
Israel	14.6	15.1	4.8	3.7	14.9	12.6	1.1	0.8
Other	41.6	36.4	7.7	8.5	37.9	34.4	1.6	1.6
<i>Total</i>	<i>56.2</i>	<i>51.5</i>	<i>12.5</i>	<i>12.1</i>	<i>52.8</i>	<i>47.0</i>	<i>2.7</i>	<i>2.4</i>
SOUTHEAST ASIA —								
Brunei	7.3	7.2	2.1	1.8	7.6	5.9	0.6	0.3
Indonesia	97.9	89.4	22.1	19.9	87.3	79.0	5.8	5.9
Malaysia	149.4	159.0	35.2	33.2	144.7	133.7	19.1	10.0
Philippines	30.4	28.5	7.5	5.5	28.1	23.5	3.2	2.5
Singapore	296.0	286.9	64.2	58.3	263.9	231.3	26.1	13.7
Thailand	79.9	82.7	18.8	18.7	75.4	70.7	7.1	4.7
Other	18.1	20.2	5.4	4.5	18.8	17.7	1.1	1.7
<i>Total</i>	<i>679.0</i>	<i>673.8</i>	<i>155.3</i>	<i>141.9</i>	<i>625.7</i>	<i>561.8</i>	<i>63.0</i>	<i>38.9</i>
NORTHEAST ASIA —								
China	158.0	190.0	53.9	62.1	161.7	172.6	12.6	3.1
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	154.1	150.9	43.0	33.6	138.2	127.7	9.1	6.0
Japan	673.6	715.5	177.3	176.1	609.1	629.1	50.5	29.5
Korea	175.6	189.7	51.5	60.2	169.6	181.7	12.2	10.7
Taiwan	110.1	97.4	28.1	25.8	91.6	77.0	8.9	2.3
Other	2.9	1.9	0.5	0.5	1.9	1.7	0.1	—
<i>Total</i>	<i>1,274.3</i>	<i>1,345.5</i>	<i>354.2</i>	<i>358.3</i>	<i>1,172.1</i>	<i>1,189.8</i>	<i>93.5</i>	<i>51.6</i>
SOUTHERN ASIA —								
India	48.2	45.0	10.3	10.4	43.9	37.7	7.3	4.3
Other	15.8	13.9	3.8	3.7	13.3	13.1	0.9	1.0
<i>Total</i>	<i>64.0</i>	<i>58.9</i>	<i>14.1</i>	<i>14.1</i>	<i>57.2</i>	<i>50.8</i>	<i>8.3</i>	<i>5.3</i>
THE AMERICAS —								
Canada	93.1	90.9	32.4	29.0	89.0	82.5	4.8	4.4
United States of America	446.4	434.5	121.1	112.9	384.7	385.0	27.2	28.3
Other	37.9	30.8	8.9	7.3	31.2	25.2	2.3	1.4
<i>Total</i>	<i>577.4</i>	<i>556.2</i>	<i>162.4</i>	<i>149.3</i>	<i>504.9</i>	<i>492.7</i>	<i>34.3</i>	<i>34.0</i>
AFRICA (excluding North Africa) —								
South Africa	54.9	51.0	13.0	10.7	52.0	44.2	3.1	3.3
Other	16.6	16.3	4.9	3.9	15.8	14.3	0.6	1.0
<i>Total</i>	<i>71.5</i>	<i>67.3</i>	<i>17.9</i>	<i>14.6</i>	<i>67.9</i>	<i>58.5</i>	<i>3.7</i>	<i>4.3</i>
Not Stated	14.0	2.6	0.8	0.9	2.0	2.7	0.1	0.1
Total	4,855.7	4,841.2	1,263.0	1,216.6	4,428.9	4,347.5	329.9	260.9

(a) Figures for short-term movement are based on a sample and are subject to sampling error. See paragraphs 9 and 10 of the Explanatory Notes for more detail.

(b) See paragraphs 7 and 8 of the Explanatory Notes.

**TABLE 6. SHORT-TERM MOVEMENT(a) — DEPARTURES OF AUSTRALIAN RESIDENTS
MAIN DESTINATION(b)**

('000)

Main destination(b)	Year ended December		Quarter ended March		Eleven months to May		Month of May	
	2001	2002	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
OCEANIA AND ANTARCTICA —								
Fiji	94.2	128.3	27.1	25.1	100.9	116.0	9.6	10.0
New Caledonia	19.8	17.3	2.9	2.9	16.5	14.5	1.8	0.9
New Zealand	599.5	597.3	154.7	162.9	554.3	576.4	37.5	38.7
Norfolk Island	28.0	27.4	7.1	8.9	23.0	28.5	2.0	2.2
Papua New Guinea	33.4	33.3	8.2	8.0	28.2	30.7	2.5	2.6
Vanuatu	37.1	28.7	6.0	5.3	28.2	25.2	2.0	1.9
Other	37.1	33.7	7.4	6.8	30.0	32.2	1.9	3.6
<i>Total</i>	<i>849.1</i>	<i>865.9</i>	<i>213.3</i>	<i>219.9</i>	<i>781.1</i>	<i>823.5</i>	<i>57.3</i>	<i>59.9</i>
EUROPE & THE FORMER USSR —								
France	45.9	51.0	7.6	7.4	38.7	44.7	6.1	5.4
Germany	42.8	44.5	7.3	6.5	38.2	37.3	4.2	5.0
Greece	40.0	37.2	3.3	3.2	31.2	27.9	5.3	3.9
Ireland	26.8	25.5	4.0	4.1	23.0	21.4	3.1	2.1
Italy	74.6	75.0	8.8	8.3	62.1	63.1	9.6	8.0
Netherlands	14.9	15.9	2.0	3.4	11.2	15.9	1.8	2.0
Poland	9.0	8.3	1.0	0.7	8.5	5.2	1.6	1.0
Spain	16.0	18.1	3.4	2.8	15.0	16.3	2.6	2.0
Switzerland	11.6	13.4	2.2	3.1	10.0	13.0	0.8	1.3
United Kingdom	300.8	318.3	54.1	51.4	274.3	274.5	40.4	33.4
Other	105.4	107.6	13.2	13.2	85.0	91.0	15.6	13.8
<i>Total</i>	<i>688.0</i>	<i>714.7</i>	<i>106.9</i>	<i>104.1</i>	<i>597.3</i>	<i>610.3</i>	<i>91.0</i>	<i>77.8</i>
MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA —								
Israel	6.0	5.5	1.5	1.0	4.8	4.9	0.3	0.5
Lebanon	18.5	21.0	2.7	2.2	14.7	17.0	2.5	1.6
Turkey	18.5	18.3	2.4	0.9	16.8	10.7	3.5	2.2
Other	39.9	38.6	8.8	9.5	32.4	35.7	2.5	2.3
<i>Total</i>	<i>82.9</i>	<i>83.5</i>	<i>15.4</i>	<i>13.6</i>	<i>68.6</i>	<i>68.3</i>	<i>8.8</i>	<i>6.7</i>
SOUTHEAST ASIA —								
Indonesia	288.8	241.7	51.2	30.2	242.4	178.0	19.1	11.8
Malaysia	116.5	109.5	27.1	23.7	98.9	90.8	7.1	4.3
Philippines	56.1	60.3	15.3	12.6	53.7	52.0	5.1	4.7
Singapore	160.2	149.2	38.2	33.1	149.4	111.8	12.0	3.6
Thailand	166.0	168.9	35.3	28.1	148.9	141.1	11.7	6.9
Viet Nam	65.3	79.1	20.8	22.6	61.8	69.5	5.8	2.6
Other	28.2	30.3	7.0	7.9	26.2	28.7	1.8	2.4
<i>Total</i>	<i>881.1</i>	<i>839.0</i>	<i>195.0</i>	<i>158.1</i>	<i>781.3</i>	<i>672.1</i>	<i>62.5</i>	<i>36.2</i>
NORTHEAST ASIA —								
China (excl. SARs and Taiwan)	109.3	136.9	29.0	30.9	110.8	113.3	10.1	1.6
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	149.6	140.5	34.1	31.7	131.7	108.6	11.8	2.7
Japan	71.5	71.4	14.8	17.1	65.1	66.1	5.8	5.2
Korea	23.5	24.6	4.8	5.4	21.5	22.6	2.2	1.9
Taiwan	34.8	36.8	8.6	9.2	32.5	31.8	2.4	0.8
Other	2.1	1.9	0.3	0.4	1.6	1.6	0.3	0.1
<i>Total</i>	<i>390.9</i>	<i>412.2</i>	<i>91.5</i>	<i>94.7</i>	<i>363.3</i>	<i>344.1</i>	<i>32.6</i>	<i>12.4</i>
SOUTHERN ASIA —								
India	46.7	45.8	12.3	12.4	43.4	44.0	2.2	2.4
Sri Lanka	14.1	17.4	3.6	3.8	12.5	17.6	0.4	0.7
Other	19.5	16.6	4.2	5.0	16.4	16.6	0.8	0.4
<i>Total</i>	<i>80.3</i>	<i>79.7</i>	<i>20.1</i>	<i>21.2</i>	<i>72.3</i>	<i>78.3</i>	<i>3.4</i>	<i>3.5</i>
THE AMERICAS —								
Canada	71.0	68.8	13.8	15.2	57.1	63.6	6.6	7.5
United States of America	293.5	299.1	65.1	57.5	246.7	259.0	26.9	25.7
Other	34.3	33.5	6.2	10.7	28.1	38.1	1.3	2.4
<i>Total</i>	<i>398.8</i>	<i>401.4</i>	<i>85.1</i>	<i>83.4</i>	<i>332.0</i>	<i>360.8</i>	<i>34.8</i>	<i>35.6</i>
AFRICA (excluding North Africa) —								
South Africa	32.7	41.4	9.0	10.7	32.1	40.2	2.5	2.9
Other	17.8	20.8	4.8	4.6	19.0	18.0	1.5	1.3
<i>Total</i>	<i>50.5</i>	<i>62.2</i>	<i>13.8</i>	<i>15.3</i>	<i>51.1</i>	<i>58.2</i>	<i>4.0</i>	<i>4.1</i>
Not stated/Inadequately described	21.1	2.3	0.6	0.7	2.2	2.3	0.1	0.1
Total	3,442.6	3,461.0	741.6	711.0	3,049.3	3,017.8	294.5	236.3

(a) Figures for short-term movement are based on a sample and are subject to sampling error. See paragraphs 9 and 10 of the Explanatory Notes for more detail.

(b) See paragraphs 7 and 8 of the Explanatory Notes.

**TABLE 7. SHORT-TERM MOVEMENT(a) — DEPARTURES OF OVERSEAS VISITORS
STATE/TERRITORY IN WHICH MOST TIME WAS SPENT**

State/Territory in which most time was spent	('000)							
	Year ended December		Quarter ended March		Eleven months to May		Month of May	
	2001	2002	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
New South Wales	2,100.4	2,058.3	600.4	589.1	1,916.2	1,830.6	160.4	118.5
Victoria	753.9	762.8	226.2	218.5	702.5	682.3	51.8	44.1
Queensland	1,333.1	1,347.8	304.8	320.8	1,196.3	1,235.1	94.5	81.1
South Australia	116.5	114.1	34.0	32.3	108.3	103.9	7.1	7.4
Western Australia	458.6	460.4	129.3	134.5	415.6	419.6	32.4	28.3
Tasmania	33.0	38.9	16.0	13.5	35.6	37.1	1.6	2.3
Northern Territory(b)	75.4	70.6	13.8	11.0	71.7	58.0	6.0	4.0
Australian Capital Territory	44.3	41.3	11.9	9.9	43.4	35.7	2.8	2.6
Other Territories(c)	2.9	0.6	0.2	0.1	0.7	0.4	—	—
Total	4,918.1	4,894.7	1,336.7	1,329.8	4,490.3	4,402.6	356.7	288.3

(a) Figures for short-term movement are based on a sample and are subject to sampling error. See paragraphs 9 and 10 of the Explanatory Notes for more detail.

(b) See paragraph on state of stay in appendix 2. (c) Not available prior to February 1995. Includes territories of Christmas Island, Cocos (Keeling) Islands and Jervis Bay.

**TABLE 8. SHORT-TERM MOVEMENT(a) — ARRIVAL OF OVERSEAS VISITORS
COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE(b) AND MAIN REASON FOR JOURNEY**

Country of Residence	Five months to May						Percentage change 2001 to 2002	Percentage change 2002 to 2003
	2001		2002		2003			
	('000)	%	('000)	%	('000)	%		
Major Group—								
Oceania and Antarctica	355.0	17.7	330.7	16.9	332.6	18.5	-6.8	0.6
Europe and the Former USSR	479.1	23.8	484.4	24.8	474.6	26.4	1.1	-2.0
Middle East and North Africa	17.2	0.9	18.3	0.9	17.4	1.0	6.5	-5.2
Southeast Asia	270.7	13.5	274.8	14.1	219.8	12.2	1.5	-20.0
Northeast Asia	561.4	27.9	553.1	28.3	487.8	27.1	-1.5	-11.8
Southern Asia	29.3	1.5	27.8	1.4	23.9	1.3	-4.9	-14.2
The Americas	258.2	12.8	235.0	12.0	217.7	12.1	-9.0	-7.4
Africa (excluding North Africa)	27.8	1.4	28.1	1.4	24.2	1.3	1.1	-14.0
Total(c)	2,010.1	100.0	1,953.3	100.0	1,799.0	100.0	-2.8	-7.9
Selected source countries(b) —								
Germany	63.6	3.2	54.1	2.8	54.4	3.0	-14.9	0.5
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	66.1	3.3	61.9	3.2	49.1	2.7	-6.4	-20.6
Indonesia	38.1	1.9	34.3	1.8	31.3	1.7	-9.8	-8.9
Japan	300.9	15.0	285.4	14.6	249.2	13.9	-5.1	-12.7
Korea	73.8	3.7	78.8	4.0	82.3	4.6	6.8	4.4
Malaysia	63.2	3.1	67.3	3.4	51.6	2.9	6.6	-23.3
New Zealand	300.9	15.0	281.0	14.4	286.3	15.9	-6.6	1.9
Singapore	106.4	5.3	108.6	5.6	84.9	4.7	2.0	-21.8
Taiwan	50.1	2.5	44.7	2.3	31.8	1.8	-10.8	-28.7
United Kingdom	256.4	12.8	275.2	14.1	274.9	15.3	7.3	-0.1
United States of America	197.1	9.8	178.4	9.1	168.6	9.4	-9.5	-5.5
Main Reason for Journey								
Convention/conference	53.9	2.7	54.5	2.8	49.1	2.7	1.1	-9.9
Business	191.8	9.5	186.3	9.5	174.9	9.7	-2.8	-6.1
Visiting friends/relatives	404.3	20.1	329.9	16.9	343.9	19.1	-18.4	4.2
Holiday	1 072.2	53.3	929.7	47.6	894.9	49.7	-13.3	-3.8
Employment	20.8	1.0	40.8	2.1	26.8	1.5	96.7	-34.4
Education	101.3	5.0	104.9	5.4	110.5	6.1	3.5	5.3
Other and not stated(d)	165.8	8.2	307.0	15.7	199.0	11.1	85.2	-35.2
Total	2,010.1	100.0	1,953.3	100.0	1,799.0	100.0	-2.8	-7.9

(a) Figures for short-term movement are based on a sample and are subject to sampling error. See paragraphs 9 and 10 of the Explanatory Notes for more detail. (b) See paragraphs 7 and 8 of the Explanatory Notes for more detail. (c) Includes not stated. (d) Includes 'Exhibition' from July 1998.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 This publication contains statistics of persons arriving in, and departing from, Australia, together with the major characteristics of travellers. More detailed statistics can be made available on request (see paragraph 22).

SOURCE OF THE STATISTICS

2 Persons arriving in, or departing from, Australia provide information in the form of incoming and outgoing passenger cards (see appendix 1). Incoming persons also provide information in visa applications, apart from people travelling as Australian and New Zealand citizens. These and other information available to the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs (DIMIA) serve as a source for statistics of overseas arrivals and departures.

3 In July 1998, DIMIA revised the incoming and outgoing passenger cards and associated procedures as well as computer systems. Following these changes, some questions on the passenger cards were not compulsory and answers to these questions were not checked by Customs officers. The question on marital status was deleted. Data on marital status is now derived from visa applications (only for certain visa classes) and is therefore not available for Australian or New Zealand citizens. The changes also affect the data for 'previous country of residence' which is imputed for Australian and New Zealand citizens. For more information see the May 1998 issue of this publication. Since July 1998, there have been additional minor changes to both incoming and outgoing passenger cards.

4 From July 2001, DIMIA adopted a new passenger card processing system which involved electronic imaging of passenger cards and intelligent character recognition of the data stored in the images. This process has yielded several improvements to the processing of passenger card data, most notably the detailed information about missing values. There have also been several changes to data quality. Information on these changes appears in appendix 2.

SCOPE

5 The statistics in this publication relate to the number of movements of travellers rather than the number of travellers (i.e. 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. Similarly, these statistics exclude those persons not travelling under standard visa conditions, that is, unauthorised arrivals.

STATE AND TERRITORY CLASSIFICATION

6 Following the 1992 amendment to the *Acts Interpretation Act* to include the Indian Ocean Territories of Christmas Island and the Cocos (Keeling) Islands as part of geographic Australia, population estimates commencing with the September quarter 1993 include estimates for these two territories. To reflect this change, another category of the state/territory classification has been created, known as Other Territories. Other Territories includes Jervis Bay Territory, Christmas Island and the Cocos (Keeling) Islands.

COUNTRY CLASSIFICATION

7 The classification of countries in this publication is the Australian Standard Classification of Countries for Social Statistics (ASCCSS). For more detailed information refer to the ABS publication *Australian Standard Classification of Countries for Social Statistics* (cat. no. 1269.0).

8 The statistics on country of birth, citizenship, residence or main destination have certain limitations because of reporting on passenger cards. For instance, United Kingdom includes England, Scotland and Wales. Similarly Korea includes both the Republic of Korea and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

ESTIMATION METHOD

9 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. 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.

10 Since January 1997 variable sample skips have been used in the selection of records to be sampled. Separate skips are applied for each country of citizenship and the skips may vary for each processing month. Over a year about 3.5% of all short term movements are selected for sampling.

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. 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. Information on non-response rates and data imputation appears in appendix 2.

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 main reason for journey.

SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT AND TREND ESTIMATES

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 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 and the fluctuation of the Australian dollar 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.

16 The trend estimates for short-term overseas visitor arrivals and short-term Australian resident departures are shown in tables 1 and 2 respectively. These trend estimates are derived by applying a 13-term Henderson-weighted moving average to all months of the respective seasonally adjusted series except the first and last six months. Trend series are created for the last six months by applying surrogates of the Henderson weighted moving average to the seasonally adjusted series.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT

AND TREND ESTIMATES continued

17 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, see *A Guide to Interpreting Time Series—Monitoring 'Trends', an Overview* (cat. no. 1348.0).

18 The trend estimates are a measure of underlying behaviour and, in the short term, may be adversely affected by unusual influences recorded in the original data. As the March and April 2003 original and seasonally adjusted estimates include the effect of international reports of SARS, and the anticipation and commencement of military action in Iraq, users are advised to exercise caution when assessing the most recent trend estimates, which will be revised in future publications, as new monthly data become available.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

19 Users of these statistics may also wish to refer to the following ABS publications:

- *Short-term Visitor Arrivals to Australia, Preliminary* (cat. no. 3401.0.55.001) — issued monthly
- *Australian Demographic Statistics* (cat. no. 3101.0)—issued quarterly
- *Migration, Australia* (cat. no. 3412.0)—issued annually

20 Related statistics are also published by the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs, the Department of Transport and Regional Services and the Bureau of Tourism Research.

21 Current publications and other products produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products, Australia* (cat. no. 1101.0). The Catalogue is available from any ABS office or the ABS web site <www.abs.gov.au>. The ABS also issues a daily *Release Advice* on the web site which details the products to be released in the week ahead.

ADDITIONAL STATISTICS AVAILABLE

22 As well as the statistics included in this and related publications, other relevant unpublished data are available for the following variables:

Citizenship (Nationality)

Country of birth

Age (Date of birth)

Sex

Marital status (not available for Australian or New Zealand citizens)

Category of travel

Permanent migrant

Previous/future country of residence

State of intended address/lived

Overseas visitor

Intended/actual length of stay

Main reason for journey

Country of residence

State of intended address/in which most time spent

Australian residents

Intended/actual length of stay overseas

Country spent/intend to spend most time abroad

State or territory of intended address/state or territory lived

Occupation (not available for short-term movements)

Country of embarkation/disembarkation

Airport/Port of arrival/departure

Arrival/departure date

Intention to live in Australia for next 12 months (not available for short-term movements)

EXPLANATORY NOTES

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

23 This publication draws extensively on information provided by DIMIA. This continued cooperation is very much appreciated; without it, the statistics published would not be available. Information received by the ABS is treated in strict confidence as required by the *Census and Statistics Act 1905*.

SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ASCCSS	Australian Standard Classification of Countries for Social Statistics
DIMIA	Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs
OAD	Overseas Arrivals and Departures
SAR	Special Administrative Region
SARS	Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome
TRIPS	Travel and Immigration Processing System
—	nil or rounded to zero
..	not applicable

G L O S S A R Y

Australian resident	Australian residence is self-defined as reported by travellers when completing Incoming and Outgoing Passenger Cards.
Category of movement	<p>Overseas Arrivals and Departures are classified according to length of stay (in Australia or overseas), recorded in months and days by travellers on passenger cards. There are three main <i>categories of movement</i>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ permanent movements▪ long-term movements▪ short-term movements. <p>A significant number of travellers (i.e. overseas visitors to Australia on arrival and Australian residents going abroad) state exactly 12 months or one year as their intended period of stay. Many of them stay for less than that period and on their departure from, or return to, Australia are therefore classified as short-term. Accordingly in an attempt 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.</p>
Country of residence	Country of residence refers to the country in which travellers regard themselves as living or as last having lived.
Intended length of stay	On arrival in Australia, all overseas visitors are asked to state their 'Intended length of stay in Australia'. On departure from Australia, all Australian residents are asked to state their 'Intended length of stay abroad'.
Long-term arrivals	Long-term arrivals comprise: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ overseas visitors who intend to stay in Australia for 12 months or more (but not permanently); and▪ Australian residents returning after an absence of 12 months or more overseas.
Long-term departures	Long-term departures comprise: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Australian residents who intend to stay abroad for 12 months or more (but not permanently); and▪ overseas visitors departing who stayed 12 months or more in Australia.
Main destination	Australian residents travelling overseas are asked on departure for the name of the country in which they intend to spend most time.

G L O S S A R Y

Main reason for journey On arrival in, or departure from, Australia all overseas visitors and Australian residents are asked to state their purpose of journey. From September 1994, all statistics relating to *main reason for journey* have been published using the following categories:

- convention/conference
- business
- visiting friends/relatives
- holiday
- employment
- education
- other

In tabulations of data collected before September 1994, the 'Other' category includes 'In transit' and the 'Holiday' category includes both 'Student vacation' and 'Accompanying business visitor'.

Main state/territory of stay Overseas visitors are asked on departure for the name of the state or territory in which they spent the most time.

Overseas Arrivals and Departures (OAD) Overseas Arrivals and Departures refer to the arrival or departure of Australian residents or overseas visitors, through Australian airports (or sea ports), which have been recorded on Incoming or Outgoing Passenger Cards. Statistics on Overseas Arrivals and Departures relate to the number of movements of travellers rather than the number of travellers (i.e. the multiple movements of individual persons during a given reference period are all counted).

Permanent arrivals 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).

This definition of settlers is used by the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs (DIMIA). Prior to 1985 the definition of settlers used by the ABS was the stated intention of the traveller only. Numerically the effect of the change in definition is insignificant. The change was made to avoid the confusion caused by minor differences between data on settlers published separately by the ABS and DIMIA.

Permanent departures Permanent departures are Australian residents (including former settlers) who on departure state that they intend to settle permanently in another country.

Short-term arrivals Short-term arrivals comprise:

- overseas visitors whose intended stay in Australia is less than 12 months; and
- Australian residents returning after an absence of less than 12 months overseas.

Short-term departure Short-term departures comprise:

- Australian residents who intend to stay abroad for less than 12 months; and
- overseas visitors departing who stayed less than 12 months in Australia.

S T A N D A R D E R R O R S

RELIABILITY OF ESTIMATES

1 Estimates based on a sample are subject to sampling variability i.e. they may differ from those that would be obtained from full enumeration.

2 The sampling error associated with any estimate can be estimated from the sample results and one measure so derived is the standard error. Given an estimate and the standard error on that estimate, there are about two chances in three that the sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained from full enumeration, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors. The relative standard error is the standard error on the estimate expressed as a percentage of the estimate.

3 It would be impractical to publish estimates of standard errors for all figures in individual tables. However, the following table of standard errors and relative standard errors gives an indication of the magnitude of the sampling error associated with any estimate of a particular size for short-term and total movement.

APPROXIMATE STANDARD ERRORS ON ESTIMATES FOR STRATIFIED SAMPLE

<i>Estimated number of persons</i>	SHORT-TERM DEPARTURE OR ARRIVAL OF AUSTRALIAN RESIDENTS		SHORT-TERM ARRIVAL OR DEPARTURE OF OVERSEAS VISITORS		TOTAL ARRIVALS OR DEPARTURES.....	
	<i>Standard error</i>	<i>Relative standard error</i>	<i>Standard error</i>	<i>Relative standard error</i>	<i>Standard error</i>	<i>Relative standard error</i>
	no.	%	no.	%	no.	%
10 000	550	6	490	5	550	6
5 000	450	9	330	7	410	8
2 000	280	14	230	11	250	13
1 000	200	20	150	15	170	17
750	180	24	140	19	150	20
500	130	26	110	22	125	25
400	120	30	100	25	115	29
300	110	36	84	28	97	32
200	90	45	70	35	80	40
100	63	63	49	49	56	56

4 An example of the use of this table is as follows. If the estimate of the number of Australian resident departures for short-term visits abroad is 500, then the standard error on this estimate is 130 i.e. there are two chances in three that the actual number of Australian resident departures for short-term visits abroad will lie between 370 and 630 and nineteen chances in twenty that it will lie between 240 and 760.

5 The larger the size of an estimate the smaller the relative standard error. For any estimate of greater than 10,000 the relative standard error will be less than 6%.

6 The estimate of the difference between an estimate in two different periods or between different estimates from the same period is also subject to sampling error. The standard error on the difference between any two estimates which are subject to sampling error can be approximated by using the larger standard error of the estimates inflated by a factor of 1.4.

7 An example of the use of this procedure is as follows. Assume the estimates of the number of arrivals to Australia from Taiwan during January 2002 and January 2003 are 1,500 and 750 respectively. The difference between the 2002 and 2003 figures is 750 and the standard errors on these estimates are approximately 190 and 140. The standard error on the difference is approximately 266 (1.4 x 190), and there are nineteen chances in twenty that the estimate of the difference between the two years will lie between 218 and 1,282.

APPENDIX 1 — PASSENGER CARDS (a)

INCOMING CARD - FRONT

Incoming passenger card • Australia
PLEASE COMPLETE IN ENGLISH WITH A BLUE OR BLACK PEN

▶ Family/surname
▶ Given names
▶ Passport number

◆ Flight number or name of ship
▶ Intended address in Australia
State

▶ Do you intend to live in Australia for the next 12 months? Yes No

▶ If you are NOT an Australian citizen:
Do you suffer from tuberculosis? Yes No
Do you have any criminal conviction/s? Yes No

DECLARATION
The information I have given is true, correct and complete. I understand failure to answer any questions may have serious consequences.

YOUR SIGNATURE
Day Month Year

TURN OVER THE CARD
English

YOU MUST ANSWER EVERY QUESTION – IF UNSURE, X Yes

▶ Are you bringing into Australia:

- Goods that may be prohibited or subject to restrictions, such as medicines, steroids, firearms, weapons of any kind or illicit drugs? Yes No
- More than 1125mL of alcohol or 250 cigarettes or 250g of tobacco products? Yes No
- Goods obtained overseas or purchased duty and/or tax free in Australia with a combined total price of more than AUD\$400, including gifts? Yes No
- Goods/samples for business/commercial use? Yes No
- AUD\$10,000 or more in Australian or foreign currency equivalent? Yes No
- Any food - includes dried, fresh, preserved, cooked, uncooked? Yes No
- Wooden articles, plants, parts of plants, traditional medicines or herbs, seeds, bulbs, straw, nuts? Yes No
- Animals, parts of animals and animal products including equipment, eggs, biologicals, specimens, birds, fish, insects, shells, bee products, pet food? Yes No
- Soil, or articles with soil attached, ie, sporting equipment, shoes, etc? Yes No
- Have you visited a rural area or been in contact with, or near, farm animals outside Australia in the past 30 days? Yes No
- Have you been in Africa or South America in the last 6 days? Yes No

INCOMING CARD - BACK

PLEASE COMPLETE IN ENGLISH

▶ In which country did you board this flight or ship?
◆ What is your usual occupation?
▶ Nationality as shown on passport
▶ Date of birth Day Month Year

PLEASE X AND ANSWER A OR B OR C

A Migrating permanently to Australia
B Visitor or temporary entrant
▶ Your intended length of stay in Australia Years Months Days
▶ Your country of residence
▶ Your main reason for coming to Australia (X one only)
Convention/conference 1 Employment 4 Holiday 7
Business 2 Education 5 Other 8
Visiting friends or relatives 3 Exhibition 6

C Resident returning to Australia
▶ Country where you spent most time abroad

MAKE SURE YOU HAVE COMPLETED BOTH SIDES OF THIS CARD. PRESENT THIS CARD ON ARRIVAL WITH YOUR PASSPORT.

Information sought on this form is required to administer immigration, customs, quarantine, statistical, health, wildlife and currency laws of Australia and its collection is authorised by legislation. It will be disclosed only to agencies administering these areas and those entitled to receive it under Australian law. The leaflet Safeguarding your personal information is available at Australian ports and airports.

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OUTGOING CARD

Outgoing passenger card • Australia
PLEASE COMPLETE IN ENGLISH WITH A BLUE OR BLACK PEN

▶ Family/surname
▶ Given names
▶ Passport number
▶ Flight number or name of ship
▶ Country where you will get off this flight
▶ What is your usual occupation?
◆ Nationality as shown on passport
▶ Date of birth Day Month Year

PLEASE X AND ANSWER D OR E OR F

D Visitor or temporary entrant departing
▶ City or State where you spent most time
▶ Country of Residence

E Australian resident departing temporarily
▶ In which State do you live? NSW Vic Qld
SA WA Tas
NT ACT Other
▶ Intended length of stay overseas Years Months Days
▶ Country where you will spend most time abroad
▶ Main reason for overseas travel (X one only):
Convention/conference 1 Employment 5
Business 2 Education 6
Visiting friends or relatives 3 Exhibition 7
Holiday 4 Other 8

F Australian resident departing permanently
▶ In which State did you live? NSW Vic
Qld SA
WA Tas
NT ACT
Other
▶ What is your country of future residence?

DECLARATION The information I have given is true, correct and complete.
YOUR SIGNATURE Day Month Year

TURN OVER THE CARD
English

(a) Incoming card used from November 1999. Outgoing card used from July 2000 when a new question on currency was added to the reverse side. See paragraph 3 of the Explanatory Notes for information on passenger card changes

APPENDIX 2 — DATA QUALITY ISSUES

SCANNING AND IMAGING

The introduction of a new passenger card processing system from July 2001 has meant that information is now available on the frequency and impact of data item imputation. Much of this information has not been available previously. Additionally, the move to a new processing system has also given rise to new data quality issues directly associated with scanning and imaging.

DEFECTIVE CARDS

There are a small number of unreadable or damaged passenger cards for each month. ABS receives the count of these cards from the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs (DIMIA) by movement direction, box type and port of clearance. The information on these cards is then physically processed by the ABS and included in the estimates presented here.

DURATION OF STAY

From July 1998 DIMIA are able to determine the actual length of stay for departing overseas visitors and arriving Australian residents which was previously collected from information on intended length of stay supplied on the arrival and departure card by the passenger. This new method had resulted in a change in data distribution with the number of passengers staying for one year exactly declining significantly when compared with movements prior to July 1998.

The introduction of the new passenger card processing system from July 2001 has shown further evidence of rounding to exactly one year in intended duration of stay/travel as reported by visitors arriving in Australia and Australian residents departing the country. To reflect the historical movement patterns, the records with a reported duration of exactly one year are allocated to short-term and long-term. For visitors, 75% of such records are allocated to short-term and 25% to long-term. The ratio is 67:33 for residents departing Australia.

TRIPS AND MATCHING OF MOVEMENTS ON THE SECOND LEG OF TRAVEL

Each month there are records for long-term residents returning to Australia and long-term visitors departing Australia which could not be matched with DIMIA's Travel and Immigration Processing System (TRIPS) records. Records have been created directly from TRIPS for records that did not match with a passenger card and then added to the ABS processing system.

NEW ZEALAND CITIZENS

Travellers on New Zealand (NZ) passports do not need a visa to enter Australia. As a result, on arrival in Australia their visa documentation cannot be used to determine whether they are either a permanent migrant or a temporary visitor, or an Australian resident returning from New Zealand. DIMIA believes that a substantial proportion of holders of NZ passports tick Box A (migrating to Australia) each time they arrive in the country, causing an overcount of NZ migrants entering Australia. To correct the overcounting of NZ migrants, with the introduction of the new processing system from July 2001, DIMIA coded all NZ citizen arrivals who had ticked Box A and had been to Australia previously (based on immigration records) to resident returning (Box C). If these people were visitors previously, this recoding had the effect of incorrectly reducing the number of NZ migrants whilst at the same time incorrectly increasing the number of NZ citizen returning residents. This problem was overcome by moving the NZ citizens that have been changed by DIMIA from Box A to Box C back to Box A. DIMIA are currently investigating methods to allocate NZ citizens to the correct category of travel.

APPENDIX 2 — DATA QUALITY ISSUES

NON-RESPONSE

A1. NON-RESPONSE RATES PRIOR TO IMPUTATION, MAY 2003(a)

.....

May.....

<i>OAD variables</i>	<i>Incoming</i>	<i>Outgoing</i>
	%	%
Citizenship (Nationality)	0.1	0.1
Country of birth	0.6	1.1
Age (Date of birth)	—	—
Sex	—	—
Marital Status(b)	34.3	51.1
Category of travel	1.5	0.9
Permanent migrant		
Previous/future country of residence	19.6	6.4
Overseas visitor		
Intended/actual length of stay	4.4	1.6
Main reason for journey	6.1	..
Australian residents		
Actual/intended time away from		
Australia	1.5	3.5
Main reason for journey	..	5.2
Occupation(c)	6.4	5.0
Country of		
embarkation/disembarkation	3.2	2.3
Whether intend to live in Australia for next 12 months	28.4	..

.....

(a) Non-response rates are unweighted.

(b) Not available for Australian or New Zealand citizens.

(c) Not available for short-term movements.

INTENDED LENGTH OF STAY / TIME AWAY FROM AUSTRALIA

Non-response rates are available for these data items from November 1998. For data prior to November 1998, imputation carried out as part of processing by DIMIA has prevented reliable estimation of non-response rates for these two data items.

MAIN REASON FOR JOURNEY

Before the introduction of the redesigned passenger card in July 1998, 5% of short-term visitor arrivals, on average, were recorded as having a reason for journey of 'Other' or 'Not Stated'. This percentage rose to 14% for July, 16% in August and 29% in September 1998 as a result of processing problems. These problems have now been addressed by DIMIA, with the percentage of 'Other' and 'Not Stated' dropping in October 1998 to 8% and 7% in November 1998.

From the January 1999 issue of this publication, published figures (table 3 in this publication) referencing these three months have been revised. The revised data were calculated by estimating the number of persons responding 'Other / Not Stated' using past trends for each country of citizenship and proportionally allocating any persons in excess of the estimated 'Other / Not Stated' total amongst the remaining categories. 'Not Stated' rates are now separately available from February 1999 onwards.

APPENDIX 2 — DATA QUALITY ISSUES

STATE IN WHICH MOST TIME WAS SPENT

For the months of August 1998, September 1998 and October 1998, data entry problems experienced by DIMIA caused an overstatement of the Northern Territory as the main state of stay with a corresponding understatement for the remaining states and territories. These numbers have returned in November 1998 to levels more comparable with previous years, with DIMIA indicating that they have instigated data quality procedures to address this issue.

From the January 1999 issue of this publication, published figures (table 8 in this publication) referencing these months have been revised. The revised data were calculated by estimating the number of persons indicating the Northern Territory as their main state of stay using past trends and proportionally allocating any persons in excess of these estimates amongst the remaining states and territories.

With the introduction of the new processing system from July 2001, DIMIA have provided the ABS with data on all missing values of state of stay and state of usual residence. These missing values are now imputed.

SEPTEMBER 1998 PROCESSING

A problem was experienced in the processing of OAD data for movement dates between 6 September 1998 and 16 September 1998, following the introduction of changes to DIMIA's input processing system. This problem may affect in the order of 10% of all September records used in estimation and result in incorrect details for citizenship, date of birth, sex and country of birth.

DATA IMPUTATIONS

Data was imputed for non-response for state of stay/residence. For state of stay, non-responses were imputed at the category of traveller and state of clearance level. Non-response rates for state of stay are presented in the table below:

A2. DISTRIBUTION OF NON-RESPONSE RATES FOR STATE OF STAY BY CATEGORY OF TRAVELLER, MAY 2003(a)

<i>Category of traveller</i>	<i>May</i>
	%
Permanent arrivals—Settlers	5.6
Long-term residents returning	1.2
Long-term visitors arriving	3.7
Short-term residents returning	0.4
Short-term visitors arriving	6.8
Residents departing permanently	3.1
Long-term residents departing	2.8
Long-term visitors departing	28.2
Short-term residents departing	2.2
Short-term visitors departing	7.9

(a) Non-response rates are weighted.

Non-responses for country of stay and country of usual residence were imputed in two stages. In the first stage, records with country of stay/residence missing were set to country of disembarkation/embarkation if a response was available. In the second stage, for remaining records where country of stay/residence was missing, values were imputed at the category of traveller, reason for journey and country of citizenship level based on responses to other cards within each subgroup. Accordingly, the level of records with data for country of stay/residence not stated has been minimised.

APPENDIX 2 — DATA QUALITY ISSUES

DATA IMPUTATIONS CONTINUED

Table A3 below presents the percentage of records with country of stay/residence missing as supplied by DIMIA and prior to imputation.

A3. COUNTRY OF STAY/RESIDENCE NON-RESPONSE RATES BY PASSENGER CARD BOX TYPE, MAY 2003(a)

Box type	May
	%
A: Migrating permanently to Australia	19.6
B: Visitor or temporary entrant	10.1
C: Resident returning to Australia	8.2
D: Visitor or temporary entrant departing	13.4
E: Australian resident departing temporarily	1.4
F: Australian resident departing permanently	6.4

(a) As on initial data supplied by DIMIA.

Table A4 shows the non-response rates for country of stay/residence following the application of the first stage of imputation.

A4. COUNTRY OF STAY/RESIDENCE NON-RESPONSE RATES BY CATEGORY OF TRAVELLER, MAY 2003(a)(b)

Category of traveller	May
	%
Permanent arrivals—Settlers	7.0
Long-term residents returning	0.9
Long-term visitors arriving	0.6
Short-term residents returning	0.9
Short-term visitors arriving	0.8
Residents departing permanently	0.5
Long-term residents departing	0.1
Long-term visitors departing	0.4
Short-term residents departing	0.3
Short-term visitors departing	0.3

(a) Following imputation based on country of disembarkation/embarkation.

(b) Non-response rates are weighted.

SEPTEMBER 1999 PROCESSING

September 1999 overseas arrivals and departures data are revised for movements from, and to, China (excl. SARs and Taiwan) and Hong Kong (SAR of China) in respect of three variables: country of birth, country of citizenship and country of residence/stay. Changes to 'country of birth' and 'country of citizenship' have been made from data supplied by DIMIA. Changes to 'country of residence/stay' have been made by assuming the average proportion of country of birth to country of residence/stay for migrants from China (excl. SARs and Taiwan) and Hong Kong (SAR of China) in September 1995 to September 1998.

PERMANENT ARRIVALS DURING 1999

The number of permanent arrivals during July to December 1999 were revised in October 2000, as advised by DIMIA.

SEPTEMBER QUARTER 2000 PROCESSING

A processing error has been identified which affected the distribution of short-term resident departures by reason for journey for the months of August and September 2000. Affected data have been re-processed, and a revised copy of table 3 for the September quarter 2000 has been reissued in the October to December 2000 edition of this publication.

FOR MORE INFORMATION...

- INTERNET* **www.abs.gov.au** the ABS web site is the best place to start for access to summary data from our latest publications, information about the ABS, advice about upcoming releases, our catalogue, and Australia Now—a statistical profile.
- LIBRARY* A range of ABS publications is available from public and tertiary libraries Australia-wide. Contact your nearest library to determine whether it has the ABS statistics you require, or visit our web site for a list of libraries.
- CPI INFOLINE* For current and historical Consumer Price Index data, call 1902 981 074 (call cost 77c per minute).
- DIAL-A-STATISTIC* For the latest figures for National Accounts, Balance of Payments, Labour Force, Average Weekly Earnings, Estimated Resident Population and the Consumer Price Index call 1900 986 400 (call cost 77c per minute).

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