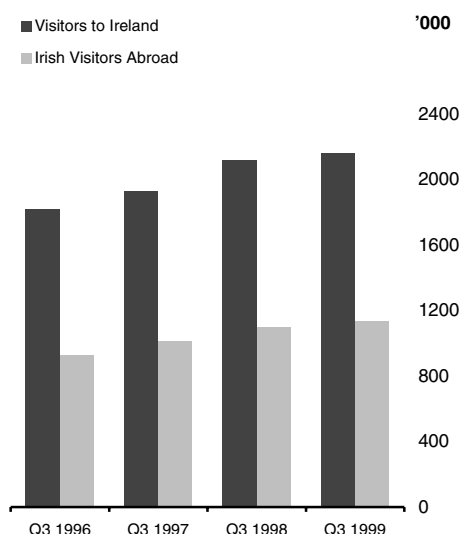


17 December 1999

Tourism and Travel

Third Quarter 1999

Number of Visits



	Visitors to Ireland	Irish Visitors Abroad '000
Jul - Sep 1998	2,120	1,096
Jul - Sep 1999	2,166	1,133
% change	+2.2%	+3.4%

Visitors on Transatlantic routes up 14%

There were 2,166,000 Overseas Visitors to Ireland between July and September 1999 compared with 2,120,000 in the same period last year, an increase of 2.2%. *See Table 1 and Graph.* The number of Overseas Visitors on Transatlantic routes increased by 14.1% on the same quarter last year.

In the Third Quarter of 1999, the number of visits abroad by Irish Residents was 1,133,000, an increase of 3.4% on the corresponding quarter in 1998. *See Table 6 and Graph.* Irish Visitors travelling abroad on Transatlantic routes increased by 18.0% compared with the Third Quarter in 1998.

The expenditure figures for April - June 1999 show a net inflow of £158m - earnings from Visitors to Ireland accounted for £684m while expenditure by Irish Visitors Abroad amounted to £526m. *See Table 8.*

The Tourism figures in this release also show that:

- ◆ Between July and September 1999, there was an increase of 10.4% in the number of Visitors to Ireland from USA and Canada by comparison with the same period in 1998.
- ◆ There were 115,000 same-day Visitors to Ireland in the Second Quarter of 1999, of which, 105,000 were visitors from Great Britain. *See Tables 2 and 3.*
- ◆ The average length of stay for Visitors to Ireland during the period April - June 1999 was 7.2 nights. This compares with 8.5 nights for Irish Residents going abroad. *See Tables 5 and 7.*

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Table 1 Overseas Visitors to Ireland – Estimated Number of Overseas Visits Classified by Route of Travel, Area of Residence and Reason for Journey

'000

Visits	1998	1998				1999		
		Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep
Total Overseas Visits	5,716	867	1,568	2,120	1,161	1,000	1,684	2166
Route of Travel								
Air Cross-Channel	2,570	495	666	794	615	580	748	859
Sea Cross-Channel	1,753	205	521	728	299	207	523	667
Continental European	974	114	271	427	162	137	289	446
Transatlantic	419	53	110	170	85	76	125	194
Area of Residence								
Great Britain	3,383	574	917	1,132	760	645	1,005	1,137
Other Europe	1,262	149	349	568	197	177	355	572
USA & Canada	855	114	245	336	159	141	267	371
Other Areas	216	30	56	84	45	36	58	86
Reason for Journey ¹								
Business	891	212	206	243	230	229	228	
Tourist	3,097	349	961	1,258	529	-	-	
Holiday/Leisure/ Recreation ²	-	-	-	-	-	439	1055	
Visit to Friends/ Relatives	1,290	230	283	450	327	274	331	
Other	438	76	117	169	76	58	70	

¹ Data on Reason for Journey are issued one quarter in arrears on each occasion

² A change in classification was introduced from the start of 1999 - see notes page 7

Table 2 Overseas Visits to Ireland by Non-Residents distinguishing Same-Day Visits

'000

Visits	1998	1998				1999	
		Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun
Total Overseas Visits	5,716	867	1,568	2,120	1,161	1,000	1,684
Same-day visits (i.e. no overnight in Ireland)	364	60	89	126	89	66	115
Visits with at least one overnight in Ireland	5,352	807	1,479	1,994	1,072	934	1,569

Data on Same-Day Visits are issued one quarter in arrears on each occasion

Table 3 Overseas Same-day Visits to Ireland by Non-Residents – Classified by Area of Residence and Reason for Journey, Apr - Jun 1999

						'000
Visits	Reason for Journey ¹				Total	
	Business	Holiday/Leisure/ Recreation ²	Visit to Friends/ Relatives	Other		
Total Same-day Visits (i.e. no overnight in Ireland)	33	65	10	7	115	
Area of Residence						
Great Britain	29	62	9	5	105	
Other Europe	3	1	1	2	7	
USA & Canada	1	1	0	0	2	
Other Areas	0	0	0	0	1	

¹ Data on Reason for Journey are issued one quarter in arrears on each occasion

² A change in classification was introduced from the start of 1999 - see notes page 7

Table 4 Overseas Visits to Ireland by Non-Residents, with at least one overnight in Ireland – Classified by Area of Residence and Reason for Journey, Apr - Jun 1999

						'000
Visits	Reason for Journey ¹				Total	
	Business	Holiday/Leisure/ Recreation ²	Visit to Friends/ Relatives	Other		
Total Visits with at least one overnight in Ireland	195	990	321	63	1,569	
Area of Residence						
Great Britain	102	522	240	35	900	
Other Europe	60	232	35	22	348	
USA & Canada	23	202	34	5	264	
Other Areas	9	34	12	1	57	

¹ Data on Reason for Journey are issued one quarter in arrears on each occasion

² A change in classification was introduced from the start of 1999 - see notes page 7

Table 5 Overseas Visits to Ireland by Non-Residents with at least one overnight in Ireland – Estimated Average Length of Stay (Nights) Classified by Route of Travel, Area of Residence and Reason for Journey

		Nights ¹					
Length of Stay	1998	1998				1999	
		Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun
Total Visits with at least one overnight in Ireland	8.1	6.8	7.8	9.3	7.4	6.6	7.2
Route of Travel							
Air Cross-Channel	6.2	5.6	5.8	7.2	5.9	5.6	5.4
Sea Cross-Channel	8.9	7.6	8.5	9.9	8.4	7.0	7.5
Continental European	10.4	8.9	10.7	11.0	9.4	8.7	9.9
Transatlantic	10.8	10.2	9.4	12.1	10.5	9.2	9.9
Area of Residence							
Great Britain	6.3	5.3	6.1	7.5	5.7	4.8	5.5
Other Europe	10.8	9.1	10.8	11.5	9.7	9.2	10.0
USA & Canada	9.6	9.1	8.9	10.3	10.1	9.3	8.5
Other Areas	12.0	13.6	9.8	12.3	13.0	14.3	9.6
Reason for Journey							
Business	5.1	4.3	5.1	5.3	5.5	5.1	5.2
Tourist	8.0	5.9	7.7	9.2	6.6	-	-
Holiday/Leisure/ Recreation ²	-	-	-	-	-	5.3	7.2
Visit to Friends/Relatives	9.0	8.6	8.0	9.9	8.8	8.8	7.1
Other	12.4	11.4	12.4	13.0	11.8	11.9	13.9

¹ Data on Number of Nights are issued one quarter in arrears on each occasion

² A change in classification was introduced from the start of 1999 - see notes page 7

Table 6 Visits Abroad by Irish Residents – Estimated Number of Visits Classified by Route of Travel and Reason for Journey

'000

Visits	1998	1998				1999		
		Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep
Total Overseas Visits	3,330	616	894	1,096	724	710	972	1,133
Route of Travel								
Air Cross-Channel	1,641	367	418	457	399	398	412	422
Sea Cross-Channel	490	70	129	189	101	68	132	168
Continental European	1,022	147	304	389	182	202	376	471
Transatlantic	178	32	43	61	42	42	52	72
Reason for Journey ¹								
Business	596	142	146	156	152	137	139	
Tourist	1,474	219	425	575	255	-	-	
Holiday/Leisure/ Recreation ²	-	-	-	-	-	295	530	
Visit to Friends/ Relatives	917	184	221	272	240	213	227	
Other	344	71	102	93	78	65	77	

¹ Data on Reason for Journey are issued one quarter in arrears on each occasion

² A change in classification was introduced from the start of 1999 - see notes page 7

Table 7 Visits Abroad by Irish Residents – Estimated Average Length of Stay (Nights) Classified by Route of Travel and Reason for Journey

Nights¹

Length of Stay	1998	1998				1999	
		Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun
All Overseas Visits	9.3	7.5	8.5	10.8	8.7	7.8	8.5
Route of Travel							
Air Cross-Channel	8.9	7.3	8.3	10.1	8.5	8.1	8.5
Sea Cross-Channel	6.9	6.3	6.6	7.9	5.6	5.9	5.6
Continental European	9.5	7.5	8.6	11.3	9.1	6.9	8.9
Transatlantic	17.3	13.0	13.8	22.4	16.9	12.1	13.4
Reason for Journey							
Business	6.1	5.8	6.5	6.3	5.6	5.9	6.8
Tourist	9.5	7.5	8.8	11.3	8.0	-	-
Holiday/Leisure/ Recreation ²	-	-	-	-	-	8.6	8.9
Visit to Friends/ Relatives	9.4	8.2	8.5	9.7	9.9	8.0	8.3
Other	12.9	9.4	9.6	18.6	13.6	7.7	10.1

¹ Data on Number of Nights are issued one quarter in arrears on each occasion

² A change in classification was introduced from the start of 1999 - see notes page 7

Table 8 Tourism and Travel Estimated Earnings and Expenditure

				£ Million
Period		Earnings from all Visitors to Ireland ¹	Expenditure by all Irish Visitors abroad ²	Balance ³
1993	Year	1,367	834	+ 533
1994	Year	1,498	1,072	+ 426
1995	Year	1,679	1,267	+ 412
1996	Year	1,889	1,371	+ 518
1997	Year	2,105	1,466	+ 639
1998 ⁴	Year	2,289	1,665	+ 624
1993	January – March	171	118	+ 53
	April – June	354	199	+ 155
	July – September	590	351	+ 239
	October – December	252	165	+ 87
1994	January – March	217	164	+ 53
	April – June	376	244	+ 132
	July – September	605	427	+ 178
	October – December	300	236	+ 64
1995	January – March	242	210	+ 32
	April – June	420	298	+ 122
	July – September	686	489	+ 197
	October – December	332	270	+ 62
1996	January – March	265	245	+ 20
	April – June	518	337	+ 181
	July – September	741	514	+ 227
	October – December	366	276	+ 90
1997	January – March	294	252	+ 42
	April – June	569	365	+ 204
	July – September	823	556	+ 267
	October – December	418	293	+ 125
1998	January – March	333	279	+ 54
	April – June	621	444	+ 177
	July – September	867	616	+ 251
	October – December ⁴	468	326	+ 142
1999	January – March ⁴	388	332	+ 56
	April – June ⁴	684	526	+ 158

¹ Expenditure (excluding international fares) plus passenger fare receipts of Irish carriers from visitors to Ireland

² Expenditure (including international fares) less passenger fare payments by Irish visitors abroad to Irish carriers

³ + = Net inflow

⁴ Provisional

Background Notes

- Introduction** This quarterly series gives details on the number of visits made by Overseas Visitors to Ireland and by Irish Residents travelling abroad for the quarter. It includes data on the reason for journey, average number of nights and expenditure which is issued one quarter in arrears on each occasion. Additional information on overseas same day visits to Ireland by non-residents was first introduced for the quarter January to March 1997. The quarterly series supplements the annual release which provides more extensive annual information on tourism and travel.
- Reason for Journey** From the 1st January 1999, the classification by reason for journey was changed in accordance with Council Directive 95/57/EC. The new classification (business, holiday/leisure/recreation, visit to friends/relatives and other) also accords with the recommendations of the World Tourism Organisation (W.T.O.).
- Sources** Two sample surveys of passengers, the Country of Residence Survey and the Passenger Card Inquiry are carried out by the Central Statistics Office. These are used in conjunction with passenger movement figures supplied by the transport companies to provide estimates for overseas tourism and travel.

The Country of Residence Survey is a continuous sample survey of passengers (both inward and outward) at all major air and sea ports to provide an estimated distribution of passengers by country of residence. This distribution is applied to the total passenger movement figures to provide estimates of Irish residents travelling abroad and visits to Ireland by non-residents. Visitors to Ireland are further broken down into the areas of residence shown in this release.

The Passenger Card Inquiry is a continuous sample survey of incoming and departing passengers at air and sea ports. This survey provides information on the reason for journey, area of residence, length of stay, expenditure and fare costs. The results are combined with the overall visitor estimates from the Country of Residence Survey to provide the overseas tourism and travel estimates shown in this release.