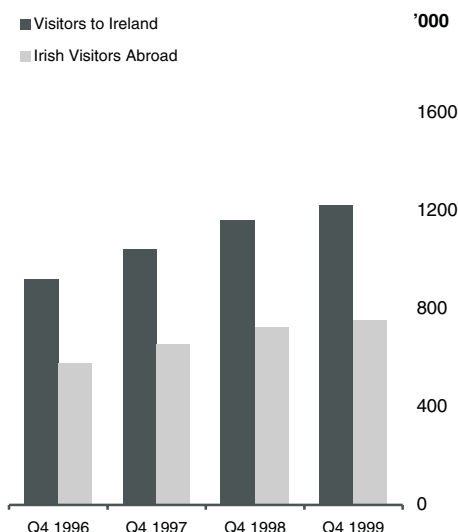




Number of Visits



Tourism and Travel

Fourth Quarter 1999

	Visitors to Ireland	Irish Visitors Abroad '000
Oct - Dec 1998	1,161	724
Oct - Dec 1999	1,221	751
% change	+5.2%	+3.7%

Visitors to Ireland exceed 6 million in 1999

There were 1,221,000 Overseas Visitors to Ireland in the Fourth Quarter of 1999 compared with 1,161,000 in the same period last year, an increase of 5.2%. *See Table 1 and Graph.* This brought the total number of Visitors to Ireland for the year 1999 to over 6 million (6,068,000).

In the fourth quarter of 1999, the number of Overseas Visitors on Continental routes increased by 18.5% while the number on Transatlantic routes increased by 11.8% on the same quarter in 1998.

The number of Irish Visitors going abroad between October and December 1999 was 751,000, an increase of 3.7% on the corresponding period last year. *See Table 6 and Graph.* Irish residents travelling abroad on Continental routes increased by 23.1% compared with the fourth quarter in 1998.

The expenditure figures for July-September 1999 show a net inflow of £217m - earnings from Visitors to Ireland accounted for £918m while expenditure by Irish Visitors Abroad amounted to £701m. *See Table 8.*

The Tourism figures in this release also show that:

- ◆ In the Fourth Quarter of 1999, the number of Visitors to Ireland from Other Europe increased by 15.2% compared with the same period in 1998.
- ◆ As table 3 shows, in the period July - September 1999, there were 78,000 same-day visitors from Great Britain.
- ◆ The average length of stay for visitors to Ireland during the period July - September 1999 was 8.9 nights. This compares with 11.2 nights for Irish Residents going abroad. *See Table 5 and Table 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	1999	1998				1999			
			Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar ³	Apr-Jun ³	Jul-Sep ³	Oct-Dec
Total Overseas Visits	5,716	6,068	867	1,568	2,120	1,161	999	1,679	2,168	1,221
Route of Travel										
Air Cross-Channel	2,570	2,836	495	666	794	615	580	744	859	654
Sea Cross-Channel	1,753	1,677	205	521	728	299	207	523	667	280
Continental European	974	1,065	114	271	427	162	137	289	448	192
Transatlantic	419	489	53	110	170	85	76	124	194	95
Area of Residence										
Great Britain	3,383	3,558	574	917	1,132	760	645	1,003	1,137	773
Other Europe	1,262	1,333	149	349	568	197	178	355	574	227
USA & Canada	855	943	114	245	336	159	141	264	371	167
Other Areas	216	233	30	56	84	45	36	57	87	54
Reason for Journey¹										
Business	891		212	206	243	230	229	226	265	
Tourist	3,097		349	961	1,258	529	-	-	-	
Holiday/Leisure/ Recreation ²	-		-	-	-	-	438	1,052	1,289	
Visits to Friends/ Relatives	1,290		230	283	450	327	273	330	482	
Other	438		76	117	169	76	60	70	132	

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

³ Revised

Table 2 Overseas Visits to Ireland by Non-Residents distinguishing Same-Day Visits¹

'000

Visits	1998	1998				1999		
		Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar ²	Apr-Jun ²	Jul-Sep
Total Overseas Visits	5,716	867	1,568	2,120	1,161	999	1,679	2,168
Same-day visits (i.e. no overnight in Ireland)	364	60	89	126	89	66	115	93
Visits with at least one overnight in Ireland	5,352	807	1,479	1,994	1,072	933	1,565	2,074

¹Data on Same-Day Visits are issued one quarter in arrears on each occasion

² Revised

Table 3 Overseas Same-day Visits to Ireland by Non-Residents – Classified by Area of Residence and Reason for Journey, Jul - Sep 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)	28	56	8	2	93
Area of Residence					
Great Britain	25	46	6	1	78
Other Europe	2	5	1	0	9
USA & Canada	0	4	0	0	5
Other Areas	0	1	0	0	1

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

²A 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, Jul - Sep 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	237	1,233	474	130	2,074
Area of Residence					
Great Britain	130	561	331	37	1,059
Other Europe	67	366	59	72	564
USA & Canada	31	251	67	17	366
Other Areas	10	55	17	5	86

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

²A 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 ³	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep
Total Visits with at least one overnight in Ireland	8.1	6.8	7.8	9.3	7.4	6.6	7.2	8.9
Route of Travel								
Air Cross-Channel	6.2	5.6	5.8	7.2	5.9	5.6	5.4	6.8
Sea Cross-Channel	8.9	7.6	8.5	9.9	8.4	7.0	7.5	8.9
Continental European	10.4	8.9	10.7	11.0	9.4	8.7	9.9	11.6
Transatlantic	10.8	10.2	9.4	12.1	10.5	9.2	9.9	11.9
Area of Residence								
Great Britain	6.3	5.3	6.1	7.5	5.7	4.8	5.5	7.0
Other Europe	10.8	9.1	10.8	11.5	9.7	9.2	10.0	11.4
USA & Canada	9.6	9.1	8.9	10.3	10.1	9.3	8.5	10.2
Other Areas	12.0	13.6	9.8	12.3	13.0	13.8	9.6	11.1
Reason for Journey								
Business	5.1	4.3	5.1	5.3	5.5	5.0	5.2	6.6
Tourist	8.0	5.9	7.7	9.2	6.6	-	-	-
Holiday/Leisure/ Recreation ²	-	-	-	-	-	5.3	7.2	8.7
Visit to Friends/Relatives	9.0	8.6	8.0	9.9	8.8	8.7	7.1	9.4
Other	12.4	11.4	12.4	13.0	11.8	11.7	13.8	13.2

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

³ Revised

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

											'000
Visits	1998	1999	1998				1999				
			Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar ³	Apr-Jun ³	Jul-Sep ³	Oct-Dec	
Total Overseas Visits	3,330	3,576	616	894	1,096	724	714	971	1,140	751	
Route of Travel											
Air Cross-Channel	1,641	1,618	367	418	457	399	401	411	423	383	
Sea Cross-Channel	490	454	70	129	189	101	69	133	169	83	
Continental European	1,022	1,276	147	304	389	182	202	375	476	224	
Transatlantic	178	227	32	43	61	42	42	52	72	61	
Reason for Journey ¹											
Business	596		142	146	156	152	137	138	158		
Tourist	1,474		219	425	575	255	-	-	-		
Holiday/Leisure/ Recreation ²	-		-	-	-	-	295	527	638		
Visit to Friends/ Relatives	917		184	221	272	240	214	226	279		
Other	344		71	102	93	78	65	77	62		

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

³ Revised

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

									Nights ¹
Length of Stay	1998	1998				1999			
		Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	
All Overseas Visits	9.3	7.5	8.5	10.8	8.7	7.8	8.5	11.2	
Route of Travel									
Air Cross-Channel	8.9	7.3	8.3	10.1	8.5	8.1	8.5	10.1	
Sea Cross-Channel	6.9	6.3	6.6	7.9	5.6	5.9	5.6	7.4	
Continental European	9.5	7.5	8.6	11.3	9.1	6.9	8.9	11.6	
Transatlantic	17.3	13.0	13.8	22.4	16.9	12.1	13.3	23.9	
Reason for Journey									
Business	6.1	5.8	6.5	6.3	5.6	5.9	6.8	7.0	
Tourist	9.5	7.5	8.8	11.3	8.0	-	-	-	
Holiday/Leisure/ Recreation ²	-	-	-	-	-	8.6	8.9	11.8	
Visit to Friends/ Relatives	9.4	8.2	8.5	9.7	9.9	8.0	8.3	10.4	
Other	12.9	9.4	9.6	18.6	13.6	7.7	10.1	20.2	

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 ⁵	387	332	+ 55
	April – June ⁵	680	521	+ 159
	July – September ⁴	918	701	+ 217

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

⁵ Revised

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; visits to friend or relatives and other) also accords with 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.