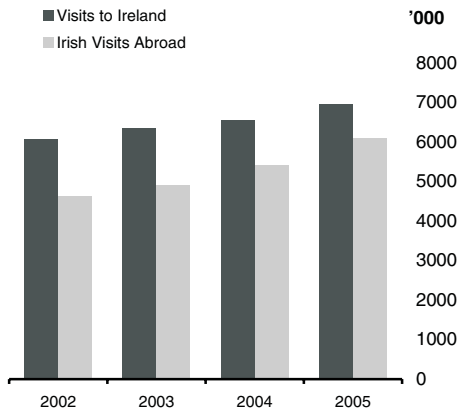




Tourism and Travel 2005

Number of Visits



	Visits to Ireland '000	Irish Visits Abroad '000
2002	6,065	4,634
2003	6,369	4,929
2004	6,574	5,409
2005	6,977	6,113

13% increase in Number of Overseas Visits by Irish Residents in 2005

The number of Overseas Visits by Irish Residents in the year 2005 was 6,113,000 compared with 5,409,000 in 2004, an increase of 13%. The number of Overseas Visits by Irish Residents on Continental European routes in 2005 increased by 17% on 2004. Overseas Visits by Irish Residents on Sea Cross-Channel routes in 2005 fell by 12% on 2004 while the number on Transatlantic routes grew by 16%. *See Table 13 and Graph.*

There were 6,977,000 Overseas Visits to Ireland in the year 2005, compared with 6,574,000 in 2004, an increase of 6%. The number of Overseas Visits on Continental European routes in 2005 increased by 21% on 2004. The number of Overseas Visits on Cross-Channel Air routes grew by 5% while the number on Cross-Channel Sea routes fell by 9%. Although the number of Visits on Transatlantic routes in 2005 grew by 6% on 2004, the number of Visits by residents of the USA and Canada fell by 2% on 2004. *See Table 3 and Graph.*

The expenditure figures for the year 2005 show a net outflow of €501m - earnings from Visits to Ireland accounted for €4,272m, while expenditure by Irish Visitors Abroad amounted to €4,773m. *See Table 17.*

The Tourism figures in this release also show that:

- ◆ The number of Bednights spent in Ireland by Overseas Visitors in 2005 increased by 6% when compared with the 2004 figure. *See Table 8.*
- ◆ In 2005 the number of Bednights spent in Rented houses/Apartments by Overseas Visitors to Ireland grew by 10% on 2004. However, the number of Bednights spent in Guest houses/B&Bs by Overseas Visitors to Ireland fell by 8% on the 2004 figure. *See Table 8.*
- ◆ The average length of stay of Overseas Visits to Ireland during 2005 was 7.6 nights. This compares with an average of 8.4 nights for Irish visits abroad. *See Tables 7 and 16.*

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Table 1 Visits to Ireland by Non-Residents - Estimated Expenditure (Classified by Route of Travel) and Total International Tourism and Travel Earnings

€ million

Estimated Expenditure	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Route of Travel					
Air Cross-Channel	1,244	1,282	1,334	1,388	1,372
Sea Cross-Channel	513	566	515	487	493
Continental European	690	747	794	841	1,076
Transatlantic	445	451	555	488	513
All Overseas Routes	2,893	3,045	3,198	3,204	3,455
Cross-Border	222	221	226	228 ¹	235
Total Expenditure (excluding international fares)	3,115	3,266	3,424	3,432¹	3,689
Passenger fare receipts of Irish carriers from Visits to Ireland	820	723	633	634 ¹	583
Total international tourism and travel earnings²	3,935	3,989	4,057	4,065¹	4,272

¹ Revised

² Total Expenditure (excl. international fares) plus passenger fare receipts of Irish carriers from visits to Ireland

Table 2 Overseas Visits to Ireland by Non-Residents - Estimated Expenditure (Excluding International Fares) Classified by Area of Residence and Reason for Journey

€ million

Estimated Expenditure	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Total Expenditure (excluding international fares)	2,893	3,045	3,198	3,204	3,455
Area of Residence					
Great Britain	1,163	1,251	1,295	1,253	1,257
Other Europe	810	862	884	927	1,232
USA and Canada	713	705	784	769	731
Other Areas	207	227	235	255	234
Reason for Journey					
Business	460	445	402	424	457
Holiday/Leisure/Recreation	1,594	1,696	1,779	1,774	1,822
Visit to Friends/Relatives	648	675	708	755	884
Other	191	230	309	251	292

Table 3 Visits to Ireland - Estimated Number of Overseas Visits by Non-Residents (Classified by Route of Travel, Area of Residence and Reason for Journey) and of Cross-Border Visits on Rail and Scheduled Bus Services

'000

Visits	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Total Overseas Visits	5,990	6,065	6,369	6,574	6,977
Route of Travel					
Air Cross-Channel	2,969	3,073	3,253	3,413	3,595
Sea Cross-Channel	1,313	1,335	1,262	1,192	1,085
Continental European	1,170	1,173	1,287	1,408	1,705
Transatlantic	539	484	567	561	592
Area of Residence					
Great Britain	3,462	3,579	3,719	3,681	3,822
Other Europe	1,357	1,392	1,497	1,600	1,917
USA and Canada	912	849	904	977	953
Other Areas	260	245	249	317	285
Reason for Journey					
Business	975	906	854	926	967
Holiday/Leisure/Recreation	3,177	3,242	3,334	3,413	3,428
Visit to Friends/Relatives	1,566	1,603	1,736	1,807	2,125
Other	273	314	445	429	457
Cross Border Visits					
Rail					
Length of Stay - 1 Day or less	99	95	102	89 ¹	87
- Over 1 day	151	141	145	126 ¹	123
Scheduled Bus					
Length of Stay - 1 Day or less	126	119	115	113	107
- Over 1 day	192	176	162	160	152

¹ Revised

Table 4 Overseas Visits to Ireland by Non-Residents Distinguishing Same-Day Visits

		'000
Visits	2004	2005
Total Overseas Visits	6,574	6,977
Same-day visits (i.e. no overnight in Ireland)	349	367
Visits with at least one overnight in Ireland	6,225	6,610

Table 5 Overseas Same-Day Visits to Ireland by Non-Residents - Classified by Area of Residence and Reason for Journey, 2005

	Reason for Journey				'000
Visits	Business	Holiday/Leisure/ Recreation	Visit to Friends/ Relatives	Other	Total
Total Same-day Visits (i.e. no overnight in Ireland)	135	135	63	34	367
Great Britain	114	109	44	21	288
Other Europe	13	9	10	7	39
USA & Canada	6	13	8	6	33
Other Areas	2	3	1	1	7

Table 6 Overseas Visits to Ireland by Non-Residents, with at least one overnight in Ireland - Classified by Area of Residence and Reason for Journey, 2005

	Reason for Journey				'000
Visits	Business	Holiday/Leisure/ Recreation	Visit to Friends/ Relatives	Other	Total
Total Visits with at least one overnight in Ireland	831	3,294	2,062	424	6,610
Great Britain	409	1,620	1,310	195	3,534
Other Europe	321	935	446	176	1,878
USA & Canada	68	603	209	40	920
Other Areas	33	135	97	13	278

Table 7 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

Length of Stay	Nights	
	2004	2005
All Overseas Visits	7.5	7.6
Route of Travel		
Air Cross-Channel	5.7	5.5
Sea Cross-Channel	7.7	8.2
Continental European	10.5	10.5
Transatlantic	9.9	10.0
Area of Residence		
Great Britain	5.0	4.8
Other Europe	10.5	10.9
USA and Canada	9.3	9.5
Other Areas	14.0	13.4
Reason for Journey		
Business	5.4	5.5
Holiday/Leisure/Recreation	7.0	7.1
Visit to Friends/Relatives	7.9	8.2
Other	13.6	12.2

Table 8 Overseas Visits to Ireland by Non-Residents with at least one overnight in Ireland - Number of Bednights Classified by Type of Accommodation used

Bednights	'000					
	2004	2005	2005			
			Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec
Accommodation	46,604	49,451	7,875	12,173	18,973	10,430
Hotel	10,663	10,615	1,807	3,026	3,645	2,137
Guest house/B&B	6,979	6,409	602	1,882	3,009	916
Rented house/Apartment	8,818	9,739	1,688	2,440	3,398	2,213
Caravan/Camping	970	848	15	323	469	41
Hostel	1,624	1,555	248	363	647	297
Friends/Relatives	13,031	15,914	2,909	3,182	5,870	3,953
Other	4,519	4,371	606	957	1,935	873

Table 9 Overseas Visits to Ireland by Non-Residents with at least one overnight in Ireland - Number of Bednights Classified by Area of Residence and Type of Accommodation used

'000

Bednights	2004	2005	2005			
			Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec
Great Britain	16,986	16,961	2,998	4,119	6,401	3,443
Hotel	4,034	4,075	824	1,047	1,308	895
Guest house/B&B	1,891	1,649	188	502	715	244
Rented house/Apartment	3,012	2,320	357	692	954	318
Caravan/Camping	334	276	4	88	182	3
Hostel	255	209	43	67	66	33
Friends/Relatives	6,615	7,413	1,405	1,473	2,750	1,785
Other	845	1,019	177	250	426	165
Other Europe	16,481	19,981	2,950	4,666	8,079	4,285
Hotel	2,795	3,086	462	919	1,064	640
Guest house/B&B	2,930	2,817	232	733	1,463	390
Rented house/Apartment	3,806	5,446	947	1,214	2,027	1,258
Caravan/Camping	573	515	11	224	247	33
Hostel	822	895	132	171	405	187
Friends/Relatives	3,186	4,718	822	930	1,640	1,326
Other	2,369	2,504	344	475	1,233	451
USA & Canada	8,790	8,765	1,219	2,434	3,314	1,798
Hotel	3,199	2,984	417	930	1,129	508
Guest house/B&B	1,692	1,494	131	521	651	191
Rented house/Apartment	1,167	1,308	199	398	315	396
Caravan/Camping	21	11	1	2	7	1
Hostel	315	281	50	83	94	54
Friends/Relatives	1,713	2,199	373	419	939	468
Other	683	488	48	81	179	180
Other Areas	4,348	3,746	709	954	1,177	904
Hotel	635	471	104	130	143	94
Guest house/B&B	466	449	50	127	180	92
Rented house/Apartment	833	665	186	136	102	241
Caravan/Camping	42	46	0	9	33	4
Hostel	233	170	23	42	82	22
Friends/Relatives	1,517	1,585	310	359	540	375
Other	622	360	36	151	97	76

Table 10 Overseas Visits to Ireland by Non-Residents with at least one overnight in Ireland - Number of Bednights Classified by Type of Accommodation used and Reason for Journey, 2005

'000

Bednights	Reason for Journey				Total
	Business	Holiday/Leisure/ Recreation	Visit to Friends/ Relatives	Other	
Accommodation Used	4,565	23,320	16,684	4,883	49,451
Hotel	2,024	7,215	942	433	10,615
Guest house/B&B	331	4,765	864	450	6,409
Rented house/Apartment	1,189	4,987	2,189	1,374	9,739
Caravan/Camping	10	723	109	6	848
Hostel	77	1,154	163	161	1,555
Friends/Relatives	509	2,858	11,740	808	15,914
Other	425	1,618	677	1,651	4,371

Table 11 Visits Abroad by Irish Residents - Estimated Expenditure (Including International Fares) Classified by Route of Travel and Total Net International Tourism and Travel Expenditure

€ million

Estimated Expenditure	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Route of Travel					
Air Cross-Channel	1,265	1,464	1,393	1,419	1,610
Sea Cross-Channel	208	213	220	211	202
Continental European	1,699	2,237	2,452	2,480	2,846
Transatlantic	429	395	521	551	612
All Overseas Routes	3,600	4,310	4,586	4,661	5,270
Cross-Border ¹	121	120	127	128 ²	131
Total Expenditure (including international fares)	3,721	4,429	4,713	4,789²	5,401
Passenger fare payments by Irish Visitors abroad to Irish carriers	497	477	555	610 ²	629
Total net international tourism and travel expenditure³	3,224	3,952	4,158	4,179²	4,773

¹ Estimates are for tourist expenditure only

² Revised

³ Total Expenditure (incl. international fares) less passenger fare payments by Irish Visitors abroad to Irish carriers

Table 12 Overseas Visits by Irish Residents - Estimated Expenditure (Including International Fares) Classified by Reason for Journey

€ million

Estimated Expenditure	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Total Expenditure (including international fares)	3,600	4,310	4,586	4,661	5,270
Reason for Journey					
Business	521	581	605	612	708
Holiday/Leisure/Recreation	2,205	2,720	2,895	2,882	3,220
Visit to Friends/Relatives	678	754	796	862	945
Other	196	255	290	304	397

Table 13 Visits Abroad by Irish Residents - Estimated Number of Overseas Visits (Classified by Route of Travel and Reason for Journey) and of Cross-Border Visits on Rail and Scheduled Bus Services

'000

Visits	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Total Overseas Visits	4,216	4,634	4,929	5,409	6,113
Route of Travel					
Air Cross-Channel	1,670	1,825	1,825	1,982	2,215
Sea Cross-Channel	439	413	408	384	336
Continental European	1,864	2,190	2,438	2,735	3,205
Transatlantic	243	206	259	309	357
Reason for Journey					
Business	542	559	597	671	738
Holiday/Leisure/Recreation	2,402	2,706	2,876	3,081	3,518
Visit to Friends/Relatives	1,048	1,099	1,170	1,296	1,416
Other	224	270	287	361	441
Cross Border Visits					
Rail					
Length of Stay - 1 Day or less	112	131	152	132 ¹	129
- Over 1 day	56	58	58	50 ¹	49
Scheduled Bus					
Length of Stay - 1 Day or less	142	163	170	168	159
- Over 1 day	71	72	65	64	60

¹Revised

Table 14 Overseas Visits by Irish Residents Distinguishing Same-Day Visits

		'000
Visits	2004	2005
Total Overseas Visits	5,409	6,113
Same-day visits (i.e. no overnight abroad)	195	195
Visits with at least one overnight abroad	5,212	5,918

Table 15 Overseas Same-Day Visits by Irish Residents - Classified by Reason for Journey and Route of Travel, 2005

	Reason for Journey				'000
Visits	Business	Holiday/Leisure/ Recreation	Visit to Friends/ Relatives	Other	Total
Total Same-day Visits (i.e. no overnight abroad)	81	64	39	11	195
Route of Travel					
Air Cross-Channel	67	21	19	5	113
Sea Cross-Channel	8	30	10	3	50
Continental European	6	12	9	3	30
Transatlantic	1	1	0	0	2

**Table 16 Overseas Visits by Irish Residents - Estimated Average Length of Stay (Nights)
Classified by Route of Travel and Reason for Journey**

	Nights				
Length of Stay	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
All Overseas Visits	9.8	9.6	9.3	8.5	8.4
Route of Travel					
Air Cross-Channel	9.4	9.6	8.9	8.4	8.3
Sea Cross-Channel	7.4	8.0	8.2	8.4	6.5
Continental European	9.8	9.3	9.0	8.0	8.3
Transatlantic	15.6	16.6	16.9	14.3	11.7
Reason for Journey					
Business	7.2	7.6	7.3	6.3	6.6
Holiday/Leisure/Recreation	10.4	10.0	9.6	8.7	8.4
Visit to Friends/Relatives	8.9	9.2	8.8	8.8	9.1
Other	13.7	11.3	12.9	9.6	8.8

Table 17 Tourism and Travel Estimated Earnings and Expenditure

	€ million				
Estimated Earnings and Expenditure	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
International Tourism and Travel					
Earnings from visits to Ireland	3,935	3,989	4,057	4,065 ¹	4272
Net International Tourism and Travel					
Expenditure by Irish Visitors abroad	3,224	3,952	4158	4,179 ¹	4773
Tourism and Travel Balance	+711	+37	-101	-114¹	-501

¹ Revised

Background Notes

Introduction This annual series gives details on the number of overseas visits to Ireland and Irish visits abroad for the year. It includes data on the reason for journey, average length of stay (nights) and expenditure.

Commercial Drivers From the 1st January, 2000 Commercial Drivers on sea routes are excluded from visitor numbers.

The agreed European interpretation of Annex 1 of Commission Decision of 9 December 1998 implementing Council Directive 95/57/EC is that commercial drivers should be considered travellers rather than visitors.

One of the fundamental criteria that are used to distinguish a visitor from a traveller is that the *trip should be to a place other than that of the usual environment*. Places that are frequently visited are part of a person's *usual environment* even though they may be located at a considerable distance (or in another country) from the place of residence. Persons who work in means of transport are included in visitor numbers under "Business" unless their trips consist of frequent routine travel, in which case they may be excluded by the *usual environment* criterion.

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.

Passenger fare payments by non-residents to Irish carriers refer to total fare payments to Irish carriers, that is, including fares for non-Irish travel.

The *Country of Residence Survey* is a continuous sample survey of passengers (both inward and outward) at all major air and seaports 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 the numbers of Irish visits abroad and visits to Ireland by non-residents. Visits to Ireland are further categorised into the areas of residence shown in this release. The sample size in the 2005 *Country of Residence Survey* was 685 thousand passengers.

The *Passenger Card Inquiry* is a continuous sample survey of incoming and departing passengers at major air and seaports. 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 the tables. The sample size in the 2005 *Passenger Card Inquiry* at air and seaports was 386 thousand passengers (207 thousand inward and 179 thousand outward).

The estimates for cross-border visits on rail and scheduled bus services are derived from the *Passenger Card Inquiry* on rail services and from passenger movement statistics. In this case the *Passenger Card Inquiry* results are used to estimate the country of residence distribution in addition to the reason for journey, average length of stay, expenditure and fare costs. The estimates of expenditure by cross-border visitors using private cars (or un-scheduled bus services) are based on very limited information and must be regarded as subject to error.